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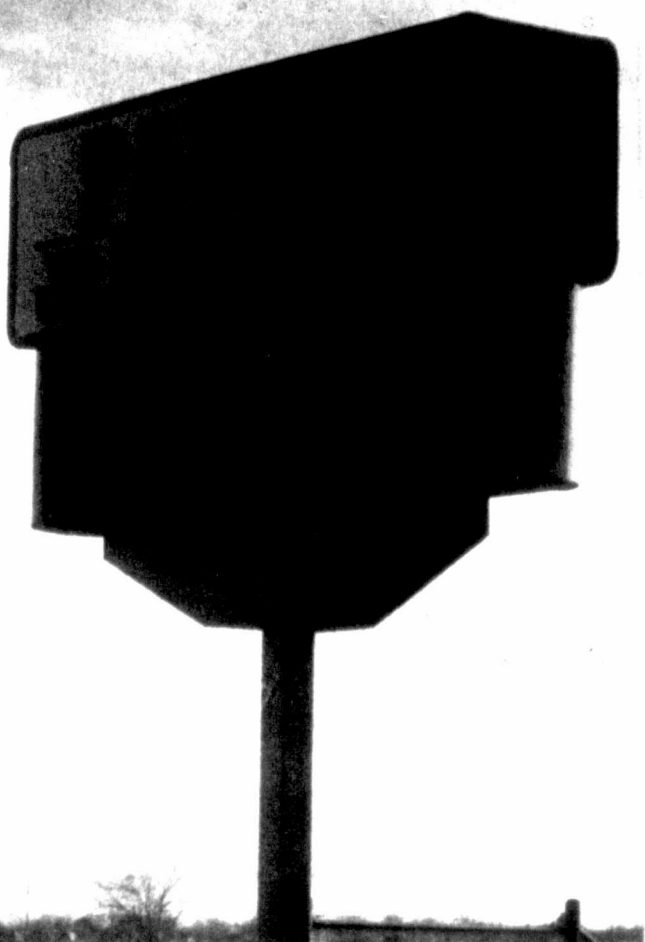
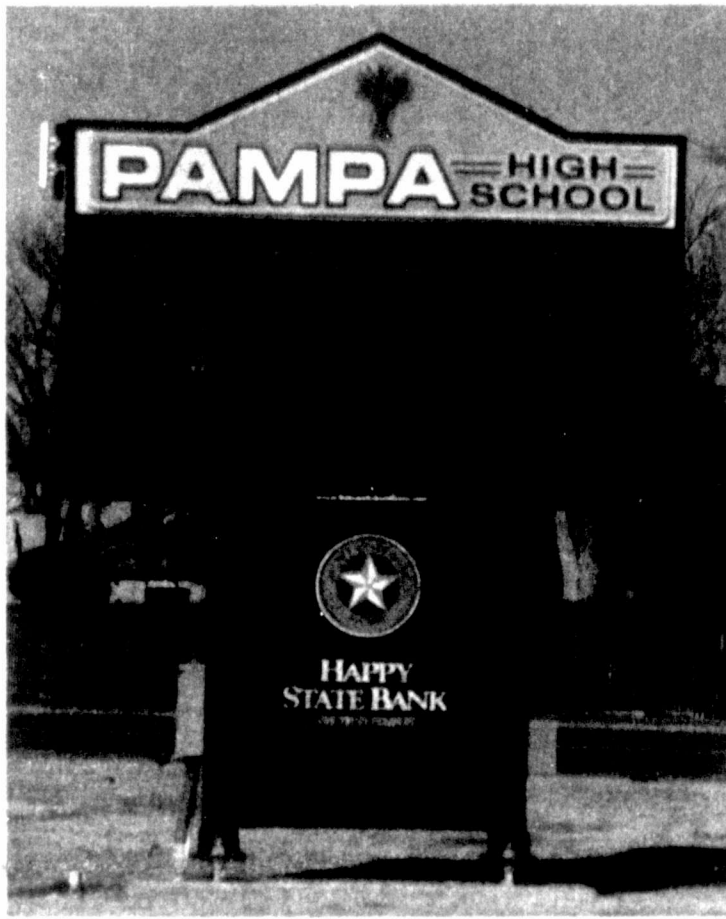


Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2012 www.thepampanews.com Volume 107 • No. 223

75¢ Community Calendar
 \$1.50 weekend Is your event/meeting listed? | p2

Aiming for Par
 Lady Harvesters to face Bushland tonight | p10

Pampa gives a warm welcome to 2012



An unusually warm New Year's Day dawned in Pampa as the signs above attest.

Agents see 'improved' housing market

MOLLIE BRYANT
 mbryant@thepampanews.com

The housing market was a mixed bag across the nation this year, with some areas recovering faster than others. An S&P/Case-Shiller report released last Tuesday found that home prices decreased 3.4 percent from a year earlier during the period from September through October.

As far as Texas goes, home sales improved slightly during the latter half of 2011, outpacing 2010 sales for six out of the 11 months for which data is available.

And here in Pampa, real estate agents report an improved market that still has a way to go before reaching full recovery.

"It's been a great year, and as good as last year," said Patti Hudson, owner of Re/Max Hometown. "Some reports say that Texas has done better in 2011 than 2010. Some agents say they've had their worst year, but one agent in my office said they had their best year ever, so it depends."

"I think the economy has picked up, and people are spending more money," said Gary Winton of TruStar Real Estate. "2011 was definitely better than 2010 by quite a bit, but we would like to see more business come in."

"We actually did have sales up tremendously from 2010," he added. "Foreclosure rates also were up over previous years, and we do a lot of foreclosures."

Winton believes that foreclosures and higher end houses have been selling the best at TruStar, but noted that the era of easily obtainable loans has ended.

"We're noticing people have not been getting the financing they used to get in the past," he said. "Banks have tightened up lending procedures, and require higher down payments and credit scores. They probably needed to, because for a while they were lax. We see a lot more sales fall through, because people don't get a loan."

"Lenders are a lot stricter on appraisals, and your credit has to be better, which probably needed to happen," said Judi Edwards of Quentin Williams Realtors.

She said that home prices aren't where REAL ESTATE cont. on page 5A

2011: Record drought hit central Texas very hard

ANITA MILLER
 San Marcos Daily Record

AP - Recent rains have greened up the Central Texas landscape but it's only a temporary reprieve from what some are calling the worst drought the area has ever seen.

In other words, 2012 may look a lot like 2011. The lack of rain and its far-reaching implications - including the ever-present threat of wildfire - never really left the headlines this year.

Texas wildfire warnings were first issued on Jan. 3, with the Texas Division of Emergency Management singling out the area around the IH-35 Corridor as "especially prone to fire danger."

Already, wildfires had destroyed more than 5,000 acres in Texas. Also by that time, burn bans were in effect in Hays, Caldwell and many other Texas counties.

By the end of January, Hays Fire Marshal Mark Chambers suggested to the Commissioners Court that a weekly item address the burn ban. That way, he argued, the county would be better positioned to take advantage of brief, wet periods to temporarily lift it.

The drought drumbeat continued in March with new warnings - issuing specific pointers for residents around their homes and while driving.

As spring rolled around, the Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA) was urging water conservation in advance of the seasonal rise in consumption due to spring plantings.

In a moment of prescience, the EAA warned it could enter State One of its Critical Management Plan as early as late April or early May. Urging voluntary conservation, the agency hoped to head off mandatory restrictions that nonetheless followed, just as predicted, in April. Independent of the EAA, the city of San Marcos also enacted Stage 1 rules that month.

By the end of April, Hays County Judge Bert Cobb signed a "local disaster declaration" that banned the use of all fireworks in the county. The ban would extend through the Fourth of July, when even the professional display usually a part of San Marcos' Summerfest celebration was nixed. The city also banned the use of portable grills in parks, preserves and green spaces.

It wasn't but a few weeks until city officials were looking at Stage 2, as the level of the Edwards Aquifer in the J-17 Index Well at Fort Sam Houston and the flow from San Marcos Springs both declined. The EAA declared Stage 2 in June.

By the middle of June, the aquifer was dropping a foot a day. At that time, only 4.37 inches of rain had fallen on San Marcos all year, with none at all in April or June.

In April, the U.S. Department of Agriculture urged farmers in Hays and surrounding counties to apply for emergency loans to help offset their losses due to the drought. More became eligible for the loans in late June, when Hays and other counties were declared "primary natural disaster areas"

DROUGHT cont. on page 5A

Rotary Club says goodbye to two beloved members in 2011

ANDREW GLOVER
 aglover@thepampanews.com

The Rotary Club continued old traditions and said goodbye to two long-standing members in 2011.

E.E. "Shelly" Shellhammer, 98 died June 26 and Curt Beck, 87, died Dec. 3. Shellhammer won the Paul Harris Fellowship Award in 2008 and was a past president of the Rotary Club. Beck was also a past president and served as Rotary Regional president and as a Paul Harris Fellow.

The Rotary Club held its annual pancake breakfast at Chautauqua last September. Club President Ray



Jaramillo

Jaramillo said the pancake breakfast is the organization's main fundraising event.

"It went fine," Jaramillo said. "We made about the same as we do every year. It's pretty consistent."

The Rotary Club helped with the Salvation Army bell ringing in December and Jaramillo said it was very successful.

"We collected more money for them in one day than Salvation

Army has had before," Jaramillo said.

The president said the first thing on the agenda for 2012 is electing a new board.

"The second Friday of the month is when we have our board meeting," Jaramillo said. "We will get our new members in place and start planning the rest of 2012."

Jaramillo said he is looking for an increase in membership this year.

"I'm looking forward to an aggressive membership drive," Jaramillo said. "The Rotary Club continues to serve the community and help out anyway it can. It's a great civic organization and we would like to encourage potential members to join."

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Obituaries

Shirley Barnett Barker

Dumas — Shirley Barnett Barker died Jan. 1, 2012 in Amarillo. She was 63.

Mrs. Barker was born February 9, 1948 in Pampa, graduating from Pampa High School in 1966. She had been a resident of Dumas most of her life. Shirley was a lifetime member of Beta Sigma Phi and she was a Baptist.

Survivors included a daughter, Alicia Barker Venzor of Dumas; two sisters, Regina Linder and husband Larry of Richardson, and Lana Vencill and husband Clark of Amarillo; and two grandchildren, Madison Barker and Aiden Venzor, both of Dumas.

Shirley was preceded in death by her parents, Frank and Johnnie Barnett.

The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2012, at Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Home in Pampa.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2012 at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel in Pampa, with Rev. Danny Logan, pastor of Bell Ave. Baptist Church of Amarillo, officiating.

The family asks that memorials be given to a favorite charity.

Sign the on-line register at www.carmichael-whitley.com

Lois Dahl

Pampa — Lois Dahl died Dec. 31, 2011 in Pampa. She was 88.

Mrs. Dahl was born on Nov. 14, 1923 in Beaumont, Texas. She graduated from high school in Beaumont. She was a nurse for most of her life. In May 1967, Lois married Duane Dahl in Mexico. They moved to Pampa in 2000 to be closer to their family. She was a very loving wife, mother and grandmother.

Survivors include her husband, Duane Dahl of the home; two sons, Johnnie Lester and wife, Lucille, of Jacksonville, and Travis Lester of Pampa; five grandsons, Richie Hardy and wife Julie, Billy Hardy and wife Tonya, Ray Lester, Jeffrey Lester, all of Pampa, Michael Lester of Jacksonville; two granddaughters, Teresa Lester of Pampa, Tiffany Matello and husband Ricky, of El Paso.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2012 at Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel, with Pastor Joel Osborne, pastor of Fellowship Baptist Church, officiating.

Memorials should be made to the Salvation Army, 701 N. Cuyler, Pampa, Texas 79065.

Sign the on-line register at www.carmichael-whitley.com

PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Wednesday	Thursday
		
High 54 Low 32	High 56 Low 32	High 65 Low 33

Today: Sunny, with a high near 54! Wind chill values between 14 and 24 early. Breezy, with a south southwest wind 5 to 15 mph becoming west northwest. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

Tonight Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 32. Wind chill values between 25 and 30. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 56. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 32. West northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 65. Breezy, with a west southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 33. Breezy, with a southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

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Servicio Miércoles: 6:00pm



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Willy Jaramillo

COMMUNITYcalendar

Wednesday, Jan. 4

•Pampa Rotary Club meets, noon at the M.K. Brown Room of the Chamber office.

Thursday, Jan. 5

•Pampa Lions Club meets, noon at the First United Methodist Church.

Friday, Jan. 6

•Pampa Kiwanis Club meets, noon in the basement of the First Methodist Church.

•Jam night at the Woody Guthrie Music Center, 6:30 p.m. All instruments welcome.

Tuesday, Jan. 9

•Diabetic Support Group meets, 7 p.m. at the Pampa Regional Medical Center cafeteria.

Tuesday and Thursday, Jan. 7 & 8

•Top O' Texas Livestock Show at the Rodeo Grounds

Tuesday, Jan. 10

•Diabetic Support Group - PRMC Hospital Cafeteria. 7pm. (2nd Tues of each month)

Wednesday, Jan. 11

•Pampa Rotary Club meets, noon at the M.K. Brown Room of the Chamber office.

•Pampa Young Professionals meet, noon at Dixie's Cafe.

Thursday, Jan. 12

•Pampa Lions Club meets, noon at the First United Methodist Church.

Friday, Jan. 13

•Pampa Kiwanis Club meets, noon in the basement of the First Methodist Church.

Monday, Jan. 16

•Pampa ISD Showcase, 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. open house at Pampa High School.

Tuesday, Jan. 17

•Bariatric Support - PRMC Hospital Cafeteria. 7pm. (3rd Tues of each month)

•Pampa Chamber of Commerce monthly luncheon, noon in the M.K. Brown room of the Chamber building.

•Tea and Talk, a bookclub sponsored by Lovett Memorial Library

Wednesday, Jan. 18

•Pampa Rotary Club meets, noon at the M.K. Brown Room of the Chamber office.

Thursday, Jan. 19

•Pampa Lions Club meets, noon at the First United Methodist Church.

Friday, Jan. 20

•Pampa Kiwanis Club meets, noon in the basement of the First Methodist Church.

•Jam night at the Woody Guthrie Music Center, 6:30 p.m. All instruments welcome.

Saturday, Jan. 21

•Gray County Livestock Show at the Rodeo Grounds.

Monday, Jan. 23

•Gray County Sale at the M.K. Brown Civic Auditorium.

Tuesday, Jan. 24

•Cancer Support Group - PRMC 2nd Floor Classroom. 6:30-8 pm.

Led by Dietitian Cynthia Ackley. (4th Tues of each month)

Wednesday, Jan. 25

•Pampa Rotary Club meets, noon at the M.K. Brown Room of the Chamber office.

Thursday, Jan. 26

•Pampa Lions Club meets, noon at the First United Methodist Church.

Friday, Jan. 27

•Pampa Kiwanis Club meets, noon in the basement of the First Methodist Church.

Thursday, March 1

•The Chamber of Commerce Annual Citizen and Business of the Year Banquet in the Heritage Room at the M.K. Brown Civic Auditorium.

If your nonprofit or community organization has an upcoming meeting or event, submit it to The Pampa News Community Calendar at least one week in advance by e-mailing to rpribble@thepampanews.com

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US auto industry looks ahead to another good year

DETROIT (AP) — After hitting a 30-year low in 2009, U.S. auto sales are poised for a second straight year of growth in 2012 — the result of easier credit, low interest rates and pent-up demand for cars and trucks created by the Great Recession.

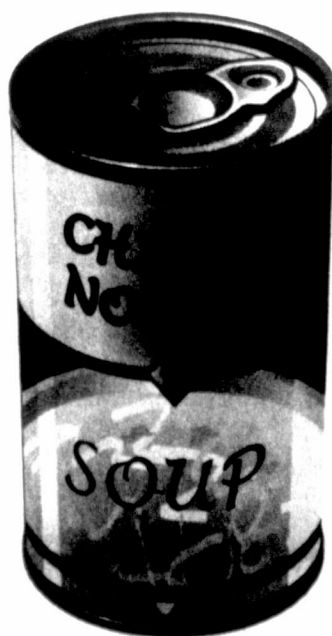
The sales forecast bodes well for the industry's continued recovery and for the broader American economy.

Just two years ago, Detroit automakers were in peril. Car sales plunged as unemployment soared, and loans became harder to get. Chrysler and General Motors filed for bankruptcy protection. Ford avoided bankruptcy only by borrowing billions.

Now credit is more available, interest rates are low and Americans need to replace old cars and trucks they kept during and after the downturn. Millions of drivers in their teens and 20s are expected to buy vehicles, too. That could mean more jobs, more factory shifts and overall growth.

In their effort to survive, all three automakers downsized and positioned themselves to turn profits — even if sales remained depressed. Now that sales are rising, the outlook has brightened considerably.

Automakers report U.S. sales for 2011 on Wednesday. When final figures are calculated, sales of new cars and trucks are expected to reach 12.7 million, up from 11.5 million in 2010 and 10.4 million in 2009, the worst year since 1982.



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Edward Jones
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Doctor who treated JFK dies

DALLAS (AP) - An anesthesiologist who attached a heart monitor to President John F. Kennedy in a Dallas hospital's emergency room and interviewed wounded Texas Gov. John Connally for surgery has died. Dr. Adolph H. "Buddy" Giesecke Jr. was 79.

The doctor's son, Martin Giesecke, says his father died Dec. 24 at his home in the Dallas suburb of Irving. The elder Giesecke was working at Parkland Hospital on Nov. 22, 1963, when Kennedy was assassinated and Connally was struck while riding in the same vehicle. The son says Dr. Giesecke recalled that the president didn't flinch while he inserted heart probes into Kennedy's skin.

Giesecke spent most of his career at Parkland's neighboring University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. He was chairman of the anesthesiology department from 1981 to 1992.

Northrop to lay off 210

FORT WORTH (AP) - The manufacturer of the B-2 bomber and unmanned aircraft used by the U.S. military says about 210 people working at the company's facility in Fort Worth will be laid off in February.

Herndon, Va.-based Northrop Grumman Technical Services, Inc. says in a letter to the Texas Workforce Commission the employees will lose their jobs around Feb. 29. The company was required under the Worker Adjustment Retraining and Notification (WARN) Act to inform the commission of the layoffs.

The company manufactures and produces an array of aerospace, navigation, radar and other systems used by the U.S. military.

It's unclear how many people work at the company's Fort Worth facility.

Yellowstone wolves helping trees

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) - Scientists say in a new study that the return of gray wolves has dramatically altered the landscape in portions of Yellowstone National Park by curbing foraging elk herds that prevented new aspen, willow and cottonwood trees from taking root.

Study author William Ripple from Oregon State University said tree stands are expanding in areas where for decades dense elk populations prevented new growth.

Wolves were reintroduced to Yellowstone in 1995 and 1996 after being killed off early last century. About 100 now roam the park, and elk numbers have dropped sharply.

As fewer elk allows the trees to rebound, Ripple says they are providing new habitat for songbirds and more food for beavers.

The findings from Ripple and co-author Robert Beschta will be published in the scientific journal Biological Conservation.

Guilty plea in foreclosure scam

AUSTIN (AP) - A Lakeway man accused of participating in a scam that collected \$1.6 million and caused the delay of more than 1,100 foreclosures has agreed to plead guilty to the charges.

According to court documents reported in the Austin American-Statesman on Monday 53-year-old Frederic Alan Gladle will plead guilty Friday. He faces up to seven years in prison.

Gladle is accused of charging clients about \$750 a month to delay foreclosure on their property.

Gladle's associates would have them transfer a share of their property to the company. Those shares would be transferred to an unrelated person who had filed for bankruptcy and was unaware of the transaction. Bankruptcy proceedings automatically delay foreclosure.

In this way, prosecutors say Gladle collected \$1.6 million from clients and delayed more than 1,100 foreclosures.

Powerball tickets increase to \$2

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) - Powerball lottery organizers are betting that bigger jackpots will entice more people to play, but gamblers are going to have to dig deeper into their wallets to try their luck.

Tickets for the multistate game are doubling in price to \$2 beginning Jan 15. While the odds of winning one of the game's giant jackpots also are improving, those in charge of the lottery are gambling that people are willing to pay more for the hope of becoming a millionaire in a down economy.

"With the price of everything else going up, there's not much you can get for a dollar anymore," said 28-year-old Ryan Raker, of Des Moines, Iowa, who buys a ticket once a month. He says he'll probably play less frequently now.

Lotteries have long sold regular people on the hope of becoming rich quick by simply picking a lucky combination of numbers. Some play loved ones' birthdays or anniversaries in the hope that fate may point them in the direction of a jackpot. Selling that hope is easy; less so is predicting consumers' sensitivity to price changes.

Powerball's move follows the model of scratch ticket games, which once were all \$1 but now are offered at higher prices with the chance for bigger prizes.

The evolution of scratch tickets and the creation of families of games that offer tickets at different prices has proven successful across the country, said Rebecca Hargrove, president of the Tennessee Lottery. Scratch games like Win for Life in Illinois, Jumbo Bucks in Tennessee and the Crosswords game in Iowa have all been successful, Hargrove said.

"The more choices you gave players the higher the sales were," Hargrove said. "A family of games at multiple price points created the most excitement. Once those kinds of games were introduced we saw a dramatic increase in sales."

Powerball is the big fish of the various lottery games states offer, and typically has some of the biggest payouts. There are nine ways to win the game, from a \$3 prize for matching the Power Ball number to various payouts for different combinations of winning numbers.

Odds of winning are improving because of changes the game is making in the numbers players can choose. The number of Power Ball numbers to choose from will decrease from 39 to 35. That will raise the odds of winning from 1 in 192 million to 1 in 175 million.

Online tool revolutionizes bill paying

TERRY SAVAGE
Creator's Syndicate

The Savage Truth on money

The shopping is done; the feasts have finished — and now you're left to prepare for the bills that will arrive in the new year. Well, I'm about to show you a bill-paying system that will absolutely change your life — freeing you from mounds of paper and getting you financially organized in a way that never existed before.

The U.S. Postal Service estimates that businesses mail nearly 48 billion account notices, statements, offers and bills to their customers every year. Online bill payment cut into the volume of mail, as we all have learned to click and pay. But here comes the next step: online bill presentation!

It all starts with Manilla, a new free online service that collects and organizes your bills — everything from credit card and mortgage payments to student loan debt and auto payments. It's better than scurrying around the Internet to find the companies that already post your bills online at their websites. Now all the bills come to you in one place — electronically.

Signing up for Manilla marks the end of most paper bills, return envelopes and all those annoying bits of paper stuffed into the bill. Instead, your bills will be presented to you online, in your secure account at <http://www.manilla.com>, and on your smart-phone, with a free Manilla app.

This is truly the next step in the paperless economy — saving millions of trees and even more money for both you and the companies that no longer have to pay to send all that paper through the mail. In fact, that's why Manilla's service is free — because the billing companies pay for it, still saving money over sending out paper bills. And they can post important

notices, such as required privacy forms or billing practices, online for each customer to read in his or her own account.

No more going to your mailbox or post office box or risking late payments because you were traveling. Now the bills arrive in your Manilla account, where you can see the exact bill that would have arrived in paper form. You can see the exact details — even more than many billers send in the mail. And you can reach out to contact the biller or dispute a charge, just as if you had received a paper bill.

Manilla will notify you when bills are coming due, so all you have to do is click and pay securely. And if you have several bank accounts (for business and household, for example), you can choose which account to pay from when you are paying your bill.

There's a handy calendar on your secure home page, showing you regular monthly bills that you receive and the date by which they must be paid. Plus, Manilla will send you reminders by text or email when regular bills are scheduled to arrive — or if you've failed to pay a bill on time.

The service started in early 2011 and already has all major banks, credit card issuers, cable companies, department stores and utility billers available, with the numbers growing monthly.

The venture funding for the company comes from Hearst Corp., which has made a huge commitment to its success.

Manilla is about more than cur-

rent bill payments; it is about free records storage, too.

If you save every paid bill for years — as I admit to doing — this new paperless process will be revolutionary. Yes, you might want to look back at year-end to see how much you spent in various categories. And you can do that online, because Manilla securely stores your paid bills for years. In fact, it allows you to search bills faster than you could by going through a stack of rubber-banded envelopes.

It can track all your financial accounts, including credit cards and bank loans. Amazingly, it even can keep track of your travel rewards at various airlines and credit card issuers, so your points or miles never expire worthless! And it tracks expiration dates of all your subscriptions.

Your home page becomes your own searchable file box — dividing accounts into various categories: Household, Financial, Subscriptions, Travel & Rewards Points.

It's never too late to try something new, so why not start with just one or two companies, perhaps receiving your cable bill and credit card bills through Manilla? I'm guessing that you (and I) will expand to using many more billers.

No, Manilla won't make your credit card balances go away! But it will make your credit card bills a thing of the past. That's a step in the right direction. And that's The Savage Truth.

Terry Savage is a registered investment adviser and is on the board of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. She appears weekly on WMAQ-Channel 5's 4:30 p.m. newscast, and can be reached at www.terrysavage.com. She is the author of the new book, "The New Savage Number: How Much Money Do You Really Need to Retire?"

Obama, Congress begin 2012 in oil pipeline dispute

MATTHEW DALY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Barack Obama and Congress are starting the election year locked in a tussle over a proposed 1,700-mile oil pipeline from Canada to Texas that will force the White House to make a politically risky choice between two key Democratic constituencies.

Some unions say the Keystone XL pipeline would create thousands of jobs. Environmentalists fear it could lead to an oil spill disaster.

A law Obama signed just before Christmas that temporarily extended the payroll tax cut included a Republican-written provision compelling him to make a speedy decision on whether to build the pipeline. The administration is warning it would rather say no than rush a decision in an election year.

It's a dicey proposition for Obama, who enjoyed strong support from both organized labor and environmentalists in his winning 2008 campaign for the White House.

Environmental advocates, already disappointed with his failure to achieve climate change legislation and the administration's decision delay new smog standards, have made it clear that approval of the pipeline would dampen their enthusiasm for Obama in this November's election.

Some liberal donors even threatened to cut off funds to Obama's re-election campaign to protest the project, which opponents say would transport "dirty oil" that requires huge amounts of energy to extract.

If he rejects the pipeline, Obama risks losing support from organized labor, a key part of the Democratic

base, for thwarting thousands of jobs.

Obama appeared to have skirted what some dubbed the "Keystone conundrum" last month when the U.S. State Department announced it was postponing a decision on the pipeline until after the 2012 election. Officials said they needed extra time to study routes that avoid an environmentally sensitive area of Nebraska that supplies water to eight states.

The affected area stretches just 65 miles through the Sandhills region of northern Nebraska, but the concerns were serious enough that the state's governor and senators opposed the project until the pipeline was moved.

Republican Gov. Dave Heineman, who opposed the initial route, says he supports efforts to accelerate the project, noting that provisions in the payroll tax bill allow the project developer to find a new route avoiding the Sandhills.

The new route would have to be approved by Nebraska environmental officials and the State

Department, which has authority because the pipeline would cross an international border.

The pipeline would carry oil from tar sands in western Canada to refineries in Texas, passing through Montana, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma. The project's developer, Calgary-based TransCanada, says the pipeline could create as many as 20,000 jobs, a figure opponents say is inflated. A State Department report last summer said the pipeline would create up to 6,000 jobs during construction.

PIPELINE cont. on page 6A

Cinema 4

Movies Showing
Friday, December 23 through
Thursday, January 5

The Adventures of Tintin (PG)
Fri/Sat 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:00
Mon 2:00 4:30 7:00
Tue/Thur 7:00

We Bought A Zoo (PG)
Fri/Sat 2:00 4:30 7:15 9:45
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:15
Mon 2:00 4:30 7:15
Tue/Thur 7:15

Sherlock Holmes (PG-13)
Fri/Sat 2:00 4:30 7:30 10:00
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:30
Mon 2:00 4:30 7:30
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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 3, the third day of 2012. There are 363 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 3, 1959, Alaska became the 49th state as President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a proclamation.

On this date:

In 1521, Martin Luther was excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church by Pope Leo X.

In 1777, Gen. George Washington's army routed the British in the Battle of Princeton, N.J.

In 1861, more than two weeks before Georgia seceded from the Union, the state militia seized Fort Pulaski at the order of Gov. Joseph E. Brown. The Delaware House and Senate voted to oppose secession from the Union.

In 1911, the first postal savings banks were opened by the U.S. Post Office. (The banks were abolished in 1966.)

In 1938, the March of Dimes campaign to fight polio was organized.

In 1949, in a pair of rulings, the U.S. Supreme Court said that states had the right to ban closed shops.

In 1958, the first six members of the newly formed U.S. Commission on Civil Rights held their first meeting at the White House.

In 1961, President Dwight D. Eisenhower announced the United States was formally terminating diplomatic and consular relations with Cuba.

In 1967, Jack Ruby, the man who shot and killed accused presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald, died in a Dallas hospital.

In 1980, conservationist Joy Adamson, author of "Born Free," was killed in northern Kenya by a former employee.

In 1990, ousted Panamanian leader Manuel Noriega surrendered to U.S. forces, 10 days after taking refuge in the Vatican's diplomatic mission.

In 1993, President George H.W. Bush and Russian President Boris Yeltsin signed a historic nuclear missile-reduction treaty in Moscow.

Ten years ago: A judge in Alabama ruled that former Ku Klux Klansman Bobby Frank Cherry was mentally competent to stand trial on murder charges in the 1963 Birmingham church bombing that killed four black girls. (Cherry was later convicted, and served a life sentence until his death in Nov. 2004.)

Five years ago: Gerald R. Ford was laid to rest on the grounds of his presidential museum in Grand Rapids, Mich., during a ceremony watched by thousands of onlookers.

One year ago: Prosecutors in Dallas declared Cornelius Dupree Jr. innocent of a rape and robbery that had put him in prison for 30 years, longer than any other DNA exoneree in Texas.

Today's Birthdays: Record producer Sir George Martin is 86. Actor Robert Loggia is 82. Actor Dabney Coleman is 80. Journalist-author Betty Rollin is 76. Singer-songwriter-producer Van Dyke Parks is 69. Musician Stephen Stills is 67. Rock musician John Paul Jones (Led Zeppelin) is 66. Actress Victoria Principal is 62. Actor-director Mel Gibson is 56. Actress Shannon Sturges is 44. Actor Jason Marsden is 37. Actress Danica McKellar is 37. Actor Nicholas Gonzalez is 36. Actor Alex D. Linz is 23.

Thought for Today: "Not all who wander are lost." — J.R.R. Tolkien, English author (born this date in 1892, died in 1973)



Iowa caucuses should not be downplayed

Beating up on Iowa -- and the Hawkeye State's Jan. 3 first-in-the-nation presidential caucuses -- is once again in the Eastern Time Zone.

Readers of The New York Times are urged to read the gifted Gail Collins' column so that they can "Feel Free to Ignore Iowa."

If that's not enough, The Washington Post trumpets "The Idiocy of Iowa" in recommending Matt Miller's column. I emphatically disagree.

Iowa, we are told, is unrepresentative of the nation. The state's Republicans are more conservative and the state's Democrats more dovish than the respective national parties.

How politically unrepresentative is Iowa? "Let's," as the Happy Warrior, New York Gov. Al Smith, used to say, "look at the record."

In November 2008, Democrat Barack Obama won 53 percent of the popular vote nationally, while in Iowa he won 54 percent of the popular vote. In 2004, George W. Bush carried Iowa with 50 percent of the vote and the country with 50.7 percent. In 2000, Democrat Al Gore won the U.S. popular vote by one half of one percent and Iowa by one third of one percent. Maybe then 1996?

That year, Democrat Bill Clinton captured 49 percent of the national vote and 50 percent of the Iowa vote. Tell me: How representative of the nation can one state be?

To listen to much of the coastal criticism (with more than a whiff of smugness) of Iowa, the state's residents are -- appealingly straightforward but -- well, with the state fair and its butter sculptures -- just not that sophisticated.

Could we have the envelope, please? Of the 50 states, Iowa has the second-lowest murder rate, the fifth-lowest rate of motor vehicle thefts, a poverty rate 36 percent lower than the nation's at large and the U.S.'s third-lowest divorce rate. Iowa's public school students are tied for eighth in basic math skills.

With a high-school graduation rate of 90.5 percent, Iowa ranks sixth in the nation -- and comfortably ahead of coastal powerhouses such as New Jersey, Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts, Oregon, Washington, Maryland and Virginia. Tied for fourth among the 50 states in percentage of its residents who are literate, Iowans are good citizens, too, ranking fifth among the states in voter turnout.

The critics may well be right. In education achievements, marital stability, infrequency of crime, as well as civic participation, Iowa is not rep-

resentative of the United States. No, Iowa is better.

It's true that Iowa voters do take their first-in-the-nation responsibility seriously. They show up at candidate events, listen attentively and ask good questions. I always feel better, more optimistic, about America after I've been in Iowa.

One other reason to visit Iowa is to go to Waterloo, the home of the five Sullivan brothers -- Joe, Matt, Al, George and Frank -- who all enlisted in the Navy on Jan. 3, 1942, shortly after Pearl Harbor. Ten months later, the Sullivans were all serving on the USS Juneau in the naval battle of Guadalcanal when their light cruiser was twice hit by Japanese torpedoes. All five Sullivan boys perished in the Pacific. National policy was changed to separate siblings in combat.

If you're anywhere near Waterloo, you must visit the Sullivan Brothers Iowa War Veterans museum. It's worth the trip.

Finally, if the state is so unrepresentative and so uncool, then how has Iowa -- for 11 consecutive national elections -- managed to keep its coveted first-in-the-nation, dominant influence in choosing our presidents?

Mark Shields is a nationally syndicated columnist.



MARK SHIELDS

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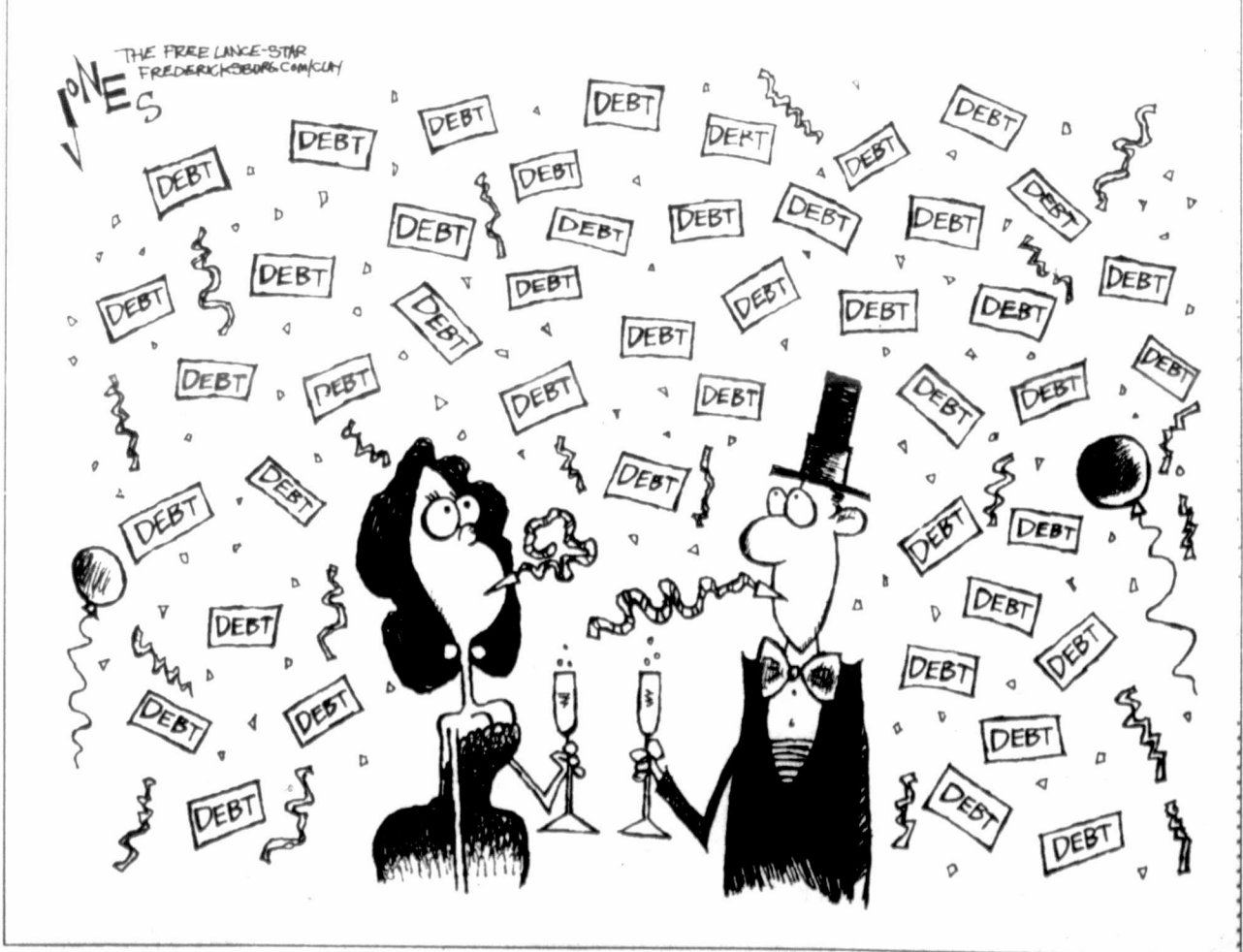
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We welcome your letters

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- Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.
- All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification.

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Real Estate Market

they used to be, but they have been leveling off.

"It's definitely been better, but not wonderful like in 2008," said Edwards. "More people are coming in. We've seen some (people with) Halliburton, some with oil companies and there have definitely been people moving here from out of town."

Hudson, on the other hand, says there are fewer

properties on the market than usual.

"A lot of people are trying to stay put, because of the economy, probably," she said.

Winton noticed a trend of people moving away from, rather than relocating to, Pampa during 2011.

"We're not hearing about as many people coming into town as leav-

ing," he said. "For about every house that sells, there are four that go on the market."

While home sales are an important part of the real estate market, rentals are another aspect, especially given Pampa's strong demand for rental property.

"We have calls every day for rental property," said Hudson. "Most peo-

ple who move here can't start out buying a house, and need to rent."

TruStar is the only local real estate company that deals in rental property, and Winton found that during 2011, people were investing more in rentals. Still, there is a gap between the need for this kind of property and the how available it actually is.

"We don't have enough higher end rental property, around \$700 to \$1,000," said Winton. "Rental property is in high demand, and we're not seeing a huge turnover, but the demand is there. We're seeing more people putting money into renting than owning."

Predictions for the national housing market for 2012 remain mixed,

cont. from page 1

but locally, optimism is the watchword.

"2012 should be a good year, or at least equivalent to 2011," said Winton.

"I'm optimistic for this year, and hope it will be even better than last year," said Edwards.

Drought

by the U.S.D.A.

By mid-summer, local cattle ranchers were selling off their herds and, in the case of Don Meador's Dreamcatcher Angus, arranging for baled corn stalks because there was no available hay.

In what was a surprise at the time, San Marcos civic

leaders said in late June that they would not invoke Stage 3 restrictions until at least October, unless necessary to achieve limits imposed by the EAA or the Guadalupe Blanco River Authority (GBRA).

That move was possible because the city now draws most of its municipi-

pal water from Lake Dunlap. Only about 20 percent of San Marcos' water is still drawn from the Edwards.

The lack of rainfall coupled with weeks of 100 plus degrees took its toll not only on crops but trees as well, many of which had never recovered from

tinderbox conditions in 2009. Arborist Robert Hager told the Record in late July that even 200 to 300 year old oaks trees had succumbed.

Also by July, authorities at Texas A&M University said the period from February through June was the driest on record,

with a statewide rain average of only 4.26 inches.

By late in the year, forecasters were predicting more dry weather in the future, partly on account of a lingering La Nina phenomenon.

But the area got a break in December with several days of slow soaking

cont. from page 1A

rains. That allowed counties to lift burn bans and allow sale of fireworks.

Also, the professional fireworks display that was canceled at Summerfest was rescheduled for New Years Eve.

Pope names cleric for ex-Anglicans

VATICAN CITY (AP) - Pope Benedict XVI on Sunday named a married priest and former sports-writer who converted from Anglicanism to head the first organizational structure for U.S. converts to Roman Catholicism wanting to retain some of their Anglican heritage.

A Vatican announcement said that the Rev. Jeffrey Neil Steenson, a former rector at an Episcopal church in Texas, will lead the Personal Ordinariate, the equivalent of a diocese. The Vatican created the first such ordinariate in Britain last year.

Benedict in 2009 issued an unprecedented invitation for Anglicans to join the Catholic Church in groups or as parishes. Formerly, converts were accepted case by case.

Married Anglican priests who convert can stay married and become priests in the Roman Catholic Church, an exception to the Vatican's celibacy rule.

Steenson previously served as a bishop in the Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, from 2004-2007. But while the Vatican allows married priests who convert to be priests in the Catholic Church, it does not allow married bishops to keep that rank when converting. Thus, Steenson is a priest but not a bishop in the Roman Catholic Church.

U.S. Cardinal Donald Wuerl had announced in November that Anglicans who want to become Roman Catholics would have a formal body to oversee their conversion starting on Jan. 1.

Anglicans have their roots in the Church of England. They split from the Holy See in 1534 when English King Henry VIII was refused a marriage annulment.

Steenson, 59, who converted to Catholicism in 2007, was married in 1974

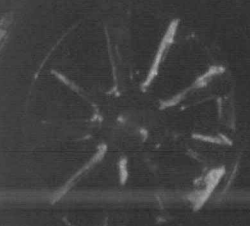
and has three adult children. He was ordained a priest in the Catholic church in 2009 and assigned to the diocese of Santa Fe, in New Mexico.

He has a doctorate from the University of Oxford and a masters degree from Harvard Divinity School, among other degrees.

The pope's choice has eclectic interests. Steenson's resume, according to the Vatican, includes a passion for flying, and notes that he has private and commercial flying licenses. Steenson worked as a sportswriter for The News-Sun in Waukegan, Illinois, from 1972-1979, including while studying for an undergraduate degree in history.

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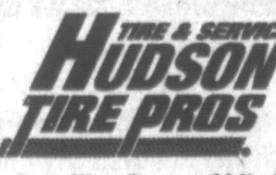


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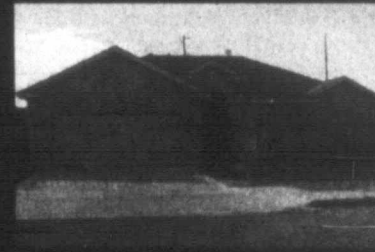
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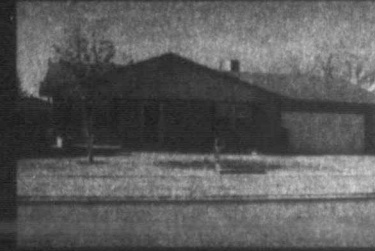
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503 Ware, Groom \$128,000



4 Bed | 2.75 Bath | 1 Car Garage
Groom, TX 2,828 SF/CCAD

2113 Lynn St. \$125,900



4 Bed | 2 Bath | 2 Car Garage
Travis District 2,077 SF/GCAD

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Sports

Tide will halt Louisiana's national title celebration

After going 7-5 in the first column, I rebounded with a 10-2 record in the second. So, I think you'll find this column somewhat credible. Finally we get to the games that matter with the teams we are used to seeing on Sportscenter every week. Hopefully this will be a strong finish.

This was supposed to be already published in the weekend issue but things happen. So here's my quick rundown of Monday's bowls. Georgia wins Outback Bowl, Nebraska wins Capital One Bowl, Florida wins Gator Bowl, Oregon wins Rose Bowl and Stanford wins the Fiesta Bowl.

Sugar Bowl, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Michigan (10-2) vs. Virginia Tech (11-2).

The Wolverines are playing in their first bowl game since 2008 and first BCS Bowl since 2007. Junior multi-threat quarterback Denard Robinson will look to lead Michigan to its first BCS bowl win since 2000.

The Hokies look to end on a high note as Clemson dashed their chances at playing in the title game. Logan Thomas has been solid behind center and is only a sophomore. Junior running back David Wilson has been tough to stop on the ground with 1,627 yards rushing.

This should be a competitive game but the Hokies have had more experience lately in the BCS Bowls. 37-27, Va Tech.

Orange Bowl, 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, West Virginia (9-3) vs. Clemson (10-3).

The Tigers are playing in their first BCS bowl game. Clemson is hoping to reverse its trend in postseason as they've lost four of their last five bowl games. Sophomore quarterback Tajh Boyd could be key to that as he is one of the leading passers in the nation.

The Mountaineers are playing their final game as a Big East team. West Virginia will be looking for its third BCS bowl win in the last seven seasons. The Mountaineers are one of the best passing teams under Mike Leach protégé Dana Holgorsen. Geno Smith leads their attack as he is closing in on 4,000 yards passing.

This will come down to the wire with the more experienced Mountaineers prevailing 31-28.

Cotton Bowl, 7 p.m., Friday, Kansas State (10-2) vs. Arkansas (10-2).

This is probably the best of the non-BCS bowl games. The Wildcats hope to end the SEC's run in this game as seven of the last eight match-ups have gone to the SEC. Multi-threat quarterback Collin Klein will lead Kansas State offensively with 12 passing touchdowns and 26 rushing.

The Razorbacks have one of the top passing attacks in the nation with Tyler Wilson leading the charge. Wilson has thrown



ANDREW GLOVER

22 touchdowns to six interceptions. Defensively, Arkansas ranks in the top half of the NCAA while Kansas State doesn't. The SEC will continue its domination of this bowl with a 34-17 victory.

Compass Bowl, 12 p.m. January 7, SMU (7-5) vs. Pittsburgh (6-6).

This is just another bowl game so someone can come home with a participation trophy. SMU sports a good spread attack engineered by senior J.J. McDermott who has over 3,000 yards passing.

The Panthers aren't really impressive in any specific area. Pittsburgh is going through a coaching change. The Panthers should end an abysmal 2011 with a victory, 26-25.

GoDaddy.com Bowl, 8 p.m., January 8, Northern Illinois (10-3) vs. Arkansas State (10-2).

The only thing intriguing about this game is the name. I have to admit both teams are pretty good. Sun Belt Champion Arkansas State has a pretty good passing game with junior Ryan Aplin throwing for over 3,000 yards and 18 touchdowns.

The MAC Champion Huskies pride themselves on running the ball. Senior quarterback Chandler Hamish leads their attack with 11 touchdowns. Northern Illinois doesn't have the best defense, but should control the clock by running the ball, 39-33 Huskies.

BCS National Championship, 7:30 p.m., January 9, LSU (13-0) vs. Alabama (11-1).

This will be the first inter-conference title game. The Tigers have a strong rushing attack averaging over 200 yards per game. LSU is probably most impressive on defense only allowing opponents 10 points per game. Leading the defense is Heisman candidate Tyrann Mathieu who had 71 tackles.

The Crimson Tide also prides themselves on defense but has one of the best running backs in Heisman candidate Trent Richardson who rushed for over 1,500 yards and 20 touchdowns.

The game will be almost a home-game for the Tigers at the Superdome but hold on Mardi Gras. It's difficult to beat someone twice in the same year, rematch goes to the Tide 17-7.

Andrew Glover is The Pampa News sports reporter. He can be reached online at aglover@thepampanews.com

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

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 12 Scout unit
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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married 11 years. We went through eight years of fertility treatments before having our twins. When they were a year old, we discovered I was pregnant with our third child. The twins are now 2 1/2 and the baby is almost a year old.

For the first time in our marriage, my husband and I are at an impasse. We have two embryos left and need to decide what to do. We either use them or destroy them. I think we need to give the embryos the chance they were meant to have. However, my husband is concerned only with the financial side of it as we have been living on one salary and things are tight.

My heart aches over this. Do I do what I believe is right and stand by my religious and moral beliefs, and take the chance my husband will resent me for the rest of our marriage? I'm afraid I'll resent him if I have to destroy them. I'd appreciate some words of wisdom. — DEAD-LOCKED IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR DEAD-LOCKED: This isn't an either/or question. I discussed it with Diane Goodman, the past president of the Academy of California Family Formation Lawyers, who suggests a third option. Your embryos could be donated for embryo adoption by a couple who have been unable to conceive, and who would love to raise them. For more information, you should contact an attorney who specializes in family formation, or contact the Snowflakes Frozen Embryo Adoption and Donation

Program. Its phone number is 714-693-5437 and its website is www.nightlight.org.

DEAR ABBY: I am 29 and met my birth mother last month for the first time. She abandoned two other children besides me. "Angie" is an alcoholic and has cirrhosis of the liver. When I met her she was in rehab and had been sober for two weeks. The day after she was released she was rearrested for driving with a revoked license. The following day she was arrested for DUI.

It's obvious that my birth mother has a major addiction, and my heart breaks for her because she has no support system. Should I reach out and help her or continue on with my life? My friends and family are afraid I'll get hurt, but it's hard to sit back and do nothing. Any words of wisdom will help. — CONFUSED AND TORN IN ST. LOUIS

DEAR CONFUSED AND TORN: Before involving yourself any further with Angie, take some time to visit Al-Anon (listed in your phone directory) and Adult Children of Alcoholics (adultchildren.org). That you want to help her is laudable, but it's important that you fully understand what you're letting yourself in for if you do.

Much as you might wish to, you cannot "fix" other people — only they can do that. The Serenity Prayer from AA says it clearly: "God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the dif-

ference." It applies to you.

DEAR ABBY: My ex-wife, from whom I was divorced for many years, died recently. Our middle-aged daughter, who grew up in her mother's care, was unhappy that I chose not to attend the funeral. (Actually, I never considered going.)

Not only would plane fare have been a financial burden, my ex and I hadn't communicated with each other for more than 30 years. She remarried and I didn't.

Was I wrong for not being there? I don't understand our daughter's feelings in the matter. — MEANT NO DISRESPECT, MESA, ARIZ.

DEAR MEANT NO DISRESPECT: Funerals aren't for the deceased as much as they are for the living. Because you didn't mention whether you had maintained contact with your daughter since your divorce from her mother, I can only guess that she felt she needed your emotional support during that sad time, and that would explain her reaction to your absence.

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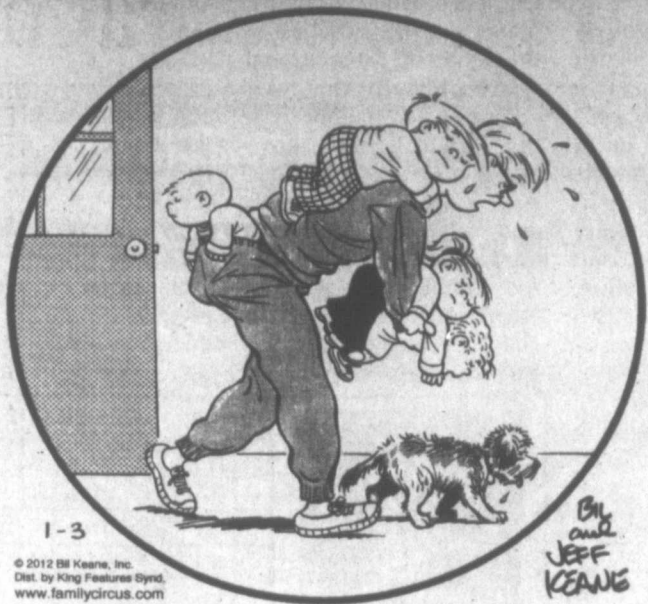
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Non S
 WHY WAN CHAI FLO IT'S THE IT
 Nest f
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 HAPPY 3, 2012:
 Your ir be dealt w ybu are p level. Oth ir, a new Your creat ing your li you more could mee chemistry, attached, y ing period. are changi sweetie. L out the bes The Star Have: 5- 2 So-so; 2. ARIES ★★★★★ die a prob could be q it could costs. You tated. Toni TAURU ★★★★★ and go that Someone a the near fut ngw, what night: Be th GEMIN ★★★★★ say less or create a lot need to. Y your own c sixth sense. CANCE ★★★★★ general dra for more o you get tire without an get the feed Tonight: W LEO (Ju ★★★★★ boss or son need to mal are hearing lax and thin without fee be dealt wit

comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



1-3
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Dist. by King Features Syndicate
www.familycircus.com

"Hereafter I go jogging alone."

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads



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daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2012:

Your imagination makes you a force to be dealt with. You are in a period in which you are processing on a deep, emotional level. Others are constantly viewing you in a new light as you process and grow. Your creativity emerges more often, making your life and the lives of those around you more exciting. If you are single, you could meet someone very special. A unique chemistry attracts the two of you. If you are attached, you rebuild the heat of your dating period. Part of the stimulus is how you are changing, remaining exciting to your sweetie. Let it all happen. **TAURUS** draws out the best in you.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You are more than ready to handle a problem or move forward. Someone could be quite demanding without realizing it. It could even be you! Avoid a scene at all costs. You could be very tired and debilitated. Tonight: Treat yourself well.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You seem to be able to stretch and go that extra mile when others cannot. Someone appreciates your efforts. Travel in the near future becomes a possibility. Right now, whatever you choose is perfect. Tonight: Be the all-around Bull.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Know when you would prefer to say less or nothing at all. Sometimes you create a lot of problems when there is no need to. You would be best off keeping your own counsel right now. Listen to your sixth sense. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Meetings and interactions in general draw success. Don't hesitate to ask for more of what you desire. Sometimes you get tired of pushing for the same idea without any response. Today you finally get the feedback you have been looking for. Tonight: Where your friends are.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You could be taken back by a boss or someone you look up to. You only need to make an adjustment. The news you are hearing isn't a problem if you just relax and think. Be willing to state your case without feeling judged. Tonight: Success is dealt with all night.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Think outside the box, and success will follow. Sometimes you underestimate your case. Don't. Brainstorm with a trusted friend who plays devil's advocate well. Handle a situation differently. Think positively. Tonight: Put on a movie.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You enjoy dealing with someone directly. Together you let go of many of the issues that interfere when you are not together. Having fewer people vying for your attention also makes a big difference. You can focus. Tonight: Continue the theme.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Maintain your limits with another person. He or she is on top of the world, no matter what anyone says or does. Stay even despite a totally different perspective. Be aware of how you might want to revise your financial situation. Tonight: Follow another's lead.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Be aware of the costs of holding the line or assuming a particular point of view. You might be considering a change regarding the management of your money. Extra effort pays off, whether it might be taking a second job or cutting back on an expensive habit. Tonight: Go that extra step.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Your ingenuity comes out in nearly everything you do. You might not even notice it, as it is probably well integrated into whatever you do. Let the kid in you emerge. Sometimes more levity is healthy. Tonight: Make the most of the night.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Home is where your mind — if not heart — is wandering to. Focusing on matters that aren't involved with the issue at hand could be difficult at best. Perhaps you need to change your routine and handle what is preoccupying your thoughts. Tonight: Whatever suits you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Your presence has an impact in a meeting, perhaps more than you want. You do wow a friend. Knowing the power of your charisma today, where would you most like to make an impact? What you want easily could become a reality if you see. Tonight: Think again: What do you want?

Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



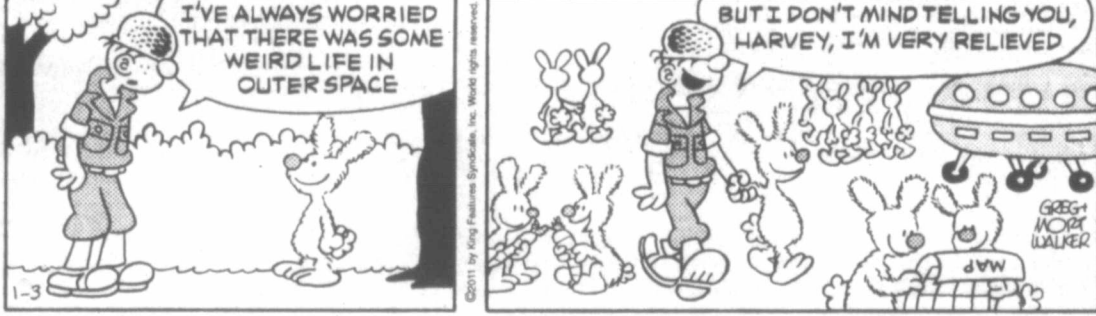
Zits



Garfield



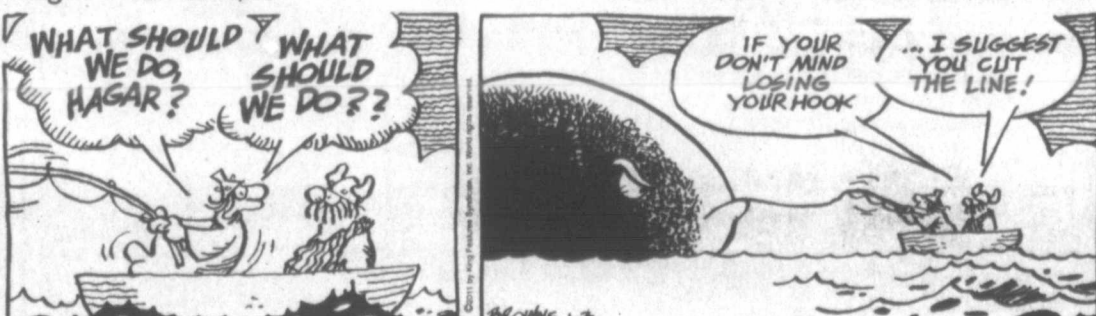
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Pipeline

The payroll tax cut law gives the Obama administration 60 days to decide whether to allow construction of the pipeline.

An "arbitrary deadline" for the permit decision would compromise the process, short-circuiting time needed to conduct required environmental reviews and preventing the issuance of a permit, the State Department warned in a written statement on Dec. 12. Obama administration officials confirmed that view after the payroll tax bill was approved.

Republicans call the threat little more than an excuse that allows Obama to placate environmental groups while not rejecting the pipeline outright.

"The only thing arbitrary about this decision is the decision by the president to say, 'Well, let's wait until after the next election,'" said House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio.

Boehner and other Republicans say the pipeline would help Obama achieve his top priority of creating jobs without costing a dime of taxpayer money. They hope to portray Obama's reluctance to approve the pipeline as a sign he favors environmentalists over jobs.

Russ Girling, TransCanada's president and chief executive, said his company would do whatever is necessary to

make sure the project is approved.

"We've had more than enough surprises on this," said TransCanada spokesman Shawn Howard.

In Nebraska, where the pipeline faces strong resistance, state officials are awaiting an environmental study that will determine a new route. Officials have said the review will take six to nine months.

Some landowners in the Sandhills celebrated the decision to reroute the project, but the pipeline's strongest opponents say they still have concerns about the prospect of the government using its power of eminent domain to seize land, as well as liability issues in case of a spill.

"Republicans have bullied their way to get a reckless rider attached to a bill that was supposed to be about helping middle-class families," said Jane Kleeb, executive director of the group Bold Nebraska, which opposes the pipeline.

With the bill signed into law, Obama "must do the right thing for our land, water and families' health by denying the pipeline permit," Kleeb said.

Project supporters say U.S. rejection of the pipeline would not stop it from being built. Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper has said TransCanada could pursue an alternative route

through Canada to the West Coast, where oil could be shipped to China and other Asian markets.

"Canada is going to develop this no matter what, and that oil is either going to come to the United States or it's going to go to a place like China. We want it here," said Rep. Fred Upton, R-Mich., chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

Opponents call the West Coast option farfetched, noting that Canadian regulators have announced a one-year delay for a simi-

lar project that would carry tar sands oil to British Columbia, on Canada's western coast.

Native groups strongly oppose both the Keystone XL and the Northern Gateway pipeline proposed by TransCanada rival Enbridge. Canada's First Nations have constitutionally protected treaty rights and unsettled land claims that could allow them to block or significantly delay both pipelines.

Unions are watching closely. Unemployment in construction is far high-

er than other industries, with more than 1.1 million construction workers jobless, said Brent Bookers, director of construction at the Laborers' International Union of North America.

"For many members of the Laborers, this project is not just a pipeline, it is a lifeline," Bookers said, adding, "Too many hard-working Americans are out of work, and the Keystone XL pipeline will change that dire situation for thousands of them."

cont. from page 3A
Roger Toussaint, international vice president of the Transport Workers Union, opposes the pipeline.

"The dangers of the pipeline are compelling, and no one should believe the claims of either the Republican leadership or the energy companies, with respect to the project being shovel ready or with respect to the number of jobs it's going to produce," he said.

BANANAGRAMS!

Each of the two-letter groups below may be extended both on the right and the left to form a six-letter word. Use the tiles directly above each group to fill in the blanks.

LEVEL

A E E H P R S
 □ □ D O □ □

A B D E P R U
 □ □ M I □ □

A A D E L M P
 □ □ N U □ □

A N O S T T Y
 □ □ P I □ □

Yesterday's Answer: EITHER, ERSATZ, GEYSER, GENIAL

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

6	2	5	7	3	4	1	8	9
8	7	1	6	2	9	4	5	3
9	3	4	8	5	1	7	2	6
7	9	2	1	6	5	8	3	4
1	6	3	9	4	8	5	7	2
5	4	8	2	7	3	9	6	1
2	1	9	5	8	6	3	4	7
4	5	6	3	9	7	2	1	8
3	8	7	4	1	2	6	9	5

Sudoku

	5		6	3				4
7		1		4		9	3	
					8			2
3		4			8	2		
9				2	6	3		
		6	9					
	9	8			7		4	
	7	5				6	2	9
4				1				7

Level: Beginner



The Pampa News'

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CONOCOPHILLIPS Borger Refinery Borger, Texas

ConocoPhillips is an international, integrated energy company with operations in more than 30 countries. As the third-largest integrated energy company in the United States, ConocoPhillips' goal is to deliver energy in a safe, environmentally and socially responsible manner.

More than 29,700 ConocoPhillips employees work worldwide to consistently deliver top performance and value to maintain the company's global market position. Employees' individual talents and strengths combine to create a diverse and energized work force within ConocoPhillips. Headquartered in Houston, Texas, ConocoPhillips stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "COP."

The ConocoPhillips Borger Refinery is located in Borger, Texas, in the Texas Panhandle approximately 50 miles northeast of Amarillo, Texas. The refinery processes 146 mbpd of medium and heavy gravity sour crudes plus fractionates 50 mbpd of mixed natural gas liquids. The Borger Refinery produces LPGs and motor fuels products for the Rocky Mountains, West Texas and Central U.S. market areas. Additionally, the refinery produces pentane and heptane solvents for specialty products applications. The refinery also markets coke as a fuel for cement manufacturing and power generation facilities.

We have opportunities at our Borger Refinery in Borger, Texas as a Yardman which is an entry level maintenance position. The Borger Refinery provides extensive training to employees, both classroom and on-the-job. Below are some of the basic requirements as well as some job specific requirements for this position.

- High school diploma or GED equivalent
- Minimum of 2 years of continuous recent full-time work experience
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must have a valid driver's license
- Legally authorized to work in the United States on a regular full-time basis without restrictions
- Willingness to perform/comply with the following:
 - o To work at least an 8-hour rotating shift and up to a 12-hour rotating shift, which includes some weekends and holidays
 - o To work overtime
 - o To work in enclosed spaces, such as tanks and silos
 - o To work near large, hot, high-speed machines
 - o To climb up to 250 feet in height
 - o To lift a minimum of 50 pounds
 - o To work around chemicals, including acids and bases
 - o To wear fire retardant clothing and personal protective equipment (such as steel-toe shoes, ear and eye protection)
 - o To maintain your face daily so that a respirator/face mask can seal properly (some examples include being free of facial hair and/or clean shaven)
 - o To perform fire fighting duties
 - o To work outside in harsh weather conditions
 - o To work with petroleum products that are under high pressure and heat
 - o To read technical procedures and materials in English
 - o To learn computer software associated with process operations

A Yardman performs a wide variety of manual labor tasks with varying day-to-day work assignments. A Yardman position is an entry level position at the Borger Refinery with excellent progression opportunities into Operations and Maintenance crafts. The entry level rate of pay for this position is \$17.91/hr with a pay increase after 9 months to \$20.76/hr and again in another 9 months to \$22.71/hr. From a Yardman position, an employee has the opportunity to progress into Operations or Maintenance. The entry level rate of pay for an Operator is \$25.12/hr with an increase every 12 months reaching top Operator pay of \$32.16/hr after 36 months. The entry level rate of pay for a Maintenance craftsman is \$25.09/hr with an increase every 12 months reaching top craftsman pay of \$33.53/hr after 48 months.

For consideration and more information on the specific qualifications for this position, apply online at www.conocophillips.com/careers and click on "enter" in the ConocoPhillips Careers section, then on "search" in the Job Search area. You can search by job titles or job requisition numbers. This job is called Yardman - Entry Level Position - Borger Refinery Requisition #00E33.

All applications must be submitted electronically via the ConocoPhillips website by January 22, 2012. An electronic resume must be attached to your electronic application. To seek computer help with the on-line application visit your local area Workforce Commission office.

ConocoPhillips is an equal opportunity employer

SELL IT FAST IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

Recycle This Newspaper

Please and Thank you.

1 Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Pampa Independent School district will receive SEALED PROPOSALS for the following insurance policies until 4:00p.m., Thursday, February 2, 2012 at Carver Center, 321 W. Albert, Pampa, Texas: Property and Contents General Liability Personal Injury Liability Employee Benefits Liability Professional Liability Vehicle Crime Boiler and Machinery Band and Choir Equipment

1 Public Notice

Contractors Equipment Proposals. specifications and additional information may be obtained from Betty Meadows, Purchasing Director, 321 W. Albert, Pampa, Texas 79065, phone (806)669-4700, or betty.meadows@pampaisd.net. Proposals may be delivered or mailed to 321 W. Albert, Pampa, Texas 79065-Attention Betty Meadows. sealed envelopes should be plainly marked "INSURANCE PROPOSALS". The school district reserves the right to accept any or all proposals submitted and to waive informalities and technicalities. The Board of Education will consider proposals for award at the scheduled meeting in February, 2012. B-41 Dec 30, 2011, Jan 3, 2012

GL ACCOUNTANT

Immediate opening for a degreed accountant. Successful candidate will coordinate and review monthly, quarterly and year end closing procedures; produce monthly, quarterly and annual reports for internal reporting; manage and prepare all SOX quarterly walkthroughs and testing; develop the annual budget in coordination with manufacturing plant and service region managers; and monitor against approved budgets. Will conduct special projects and analysis in the areas of standard costing and cost control. Bachelor's Degree required. CPA or CMA is desired, but other certifications related to accounting in a manufacturing environment will be taken into consideration. 3-5 yrs. experience in all areas.

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5 Special Notices

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OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347, 806-663-0192.

14e Carpet Serv.
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14g Elec. Contr.
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14th Gen. Serv.

HOUSE Cracking? In bricks or walls? Childers Brothers, Inc. 800-299-9563, 806-352-9563

21 Help Wanted

NOTICE Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

21 Help Wanted

EXPERIENCED Cook needed. Apply in person at Granny's Home Cookin', 328 E. Frederic. No Phone Call Please.

21 Help Wanted

NOW taking applications for all positions, managers, line & prep cooks. Apply in person between 2pm-5pm, Chubby's Burrito Company, 1328 N. Hobart.

21 Help Wanted

EXPERIENCED Heavy Equipment Mechanic wanted. Apply in person 315 S. Price Rd. FAMILY Owned Local business is looking for full time customer service/light office duties person. Paid medical insurance, holidays, & vacation included. Ref. req. Send resume to Box 18 c/o The Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, Tx. 79066.

21 Help Wanted

RN WEEKEND SUPERVISOR Licensed Required If you're a compassionate caregiver, we are looking for you to join our team! BOE. For more info, please call (806)665-5746 or apply in person: CORONADO HEALTHCARE CENTER 1504 W. Kentucky Pampa

21 Help Wanted

Hospice Care of the Southwest We are currently seeking to fill the following position: Full-Time CNA Part-Time Spiritual Care / Chaplain Pampa Area Call 806-356-0026 for more info. Submit resumes to: Fax: 806-358-3114.

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MINUTES from downtown-efficiencies. Short term leases avail. 806-665-4274.

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FULLY Furnished Executive Home, previously rented by oil company in Pampa. 3 bdr., 2 ba., 2 car gar., 2 liv areas. C h/a. \$1500 mo.+ utilities. Call 972-468-6111.

2 bdr, 1 ba., 1 car gar. Stove, refrig, some furni. Stor. bldg. \$550. 413 N. Nelson. 662-0620.

98 Unfurn. Houses

PICK up rental list, in the Black Box, at 125 S. Houston, Pampa.

1 bdr. \$300 mo., 2 bdr. \$450, 3 bdr. \$750, 5 bdr. \$1500. Call 662-7557

3 bedroom, 421 Doyle. 2 bedroom, 608 Reid. Call 662-1394 or check at 612 Reid.

LRG. 2 bdr., central heat. Carport, fenced back yard. 614 West. \$550 mo. 662-0620

1426 N Dwight. 2 bdr, 2 ba, dbl gar. \$700 mo. \$400 dep. Call 806-622-2033, 282-1871.

SMALL 3 room house. Perfect for single. \$250 mth, \$300 dep. 665-8550, 662-4675

99 Stor. Bldgs.

TUMBLEWEED Acres, self storage units. Various sizes. 665-0079, 665-2450.

102 Bus. Rental

DOWNTOWN office space for rent. Utilities & cleaning service provided. Ample parking. 669-6823

OFFICE Space for rent, ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841.

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RENTAL house for sale, 3 bdr, 1ba. Un-occupied. As is. 806-886-1674.

OWNER will carry. 313 Miami. 2 bdr., 1 ba. 665-4595. Trustar RE

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TUMBLEWEED Acres, Storm Shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079, 665-2450.

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stucco, cement. Remodeling, floor, shower, kitchen. Texture, painting, dry wall. Free est. 665-3453 leave message, Jesus Barraza.

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SIVALLS Inc. is looking

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Local CPA Firm is searching

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BOX 17 Pampa News Po Box 2198 Pampa, Tx 79066 or bring by 403 W. Atchison M-Fri 8am-3pm

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Apply in Person 8am-3pm Mon-Fri The Pampa News 403 W. Atchison Pampa No phone calls please

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About 25 hrs. per week. Must work every Sat., have driver's license & be 18 yrs. old or older.

ASPLUNDH Tree Expert Co., is seeking Trimmers to work in the Texas Panhandle. Qualified applicants must have a valid D.L. and be able to pass a background check. (Full-Time/Year-Round Employment) In order to be considered an applicant, you must complete a pre employment application. Interested applicants should contact Truman Beck at (806) 544-6894, between 8 am & 5 pm Monday thru Friday. DRUG FREE WORKPLACE EOE:AA-M/F/V/D

69 Misc.

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95 Furn. Apts.

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All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." State law also forbids discrimination based on these factors. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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Table with columns: Address, Price, and Details (e.g., 2200 Dogwood Ln., \$192,500, 4/2/2 - 2629 SF/GCAD)

Table with columns: Address, Price, and Details (e.g., 8463 Western St., \$225,000, 2/1/2 - 1225 SF/GCAD)

Table with columns: Address, Price, and Details (e.g., 533 Powell St., \$69,900, 3/1/2 - 1372 SF/GCAD)

Table with columns: Address, Price, and Details (e.g., 612 Ware Av., Groom, \$130,000, 3/1.75/4 - 1637 SF/CCAD)

Table with columns: Address, Price, and Details (e.g., Perryton Parkway, \$2,503,828, 9.58 acres east of hospital)

Office Hours: M-F 8-5, Saturday 9-2, Sunday call our agents. Visit our web page at: www.pamparealtor.com

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

1-3 CRYPTOQUOTE

PESX YNED YNX UEMX, FXY PXGSX CY EL CYM

MYXA - XIRGUIZ

QDPRXU - PFYYEL

Yesterday's Cryptquote: WELL, SINCE YOU GOT HERE BY NOT THINKING, IT SEEMS REASONABLE TO EXPECT THAT, IN ORDER TO GET OUT, YOU MUST START THINKING. — NORTON JUSTER

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Sports

Lady Harvesters look to finish strong in non-district

ANDREW GLOVER
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After a strong outing at the Fibermax Caprock Classic, the Pampa Lady Harvesters seek to finish their non-district slate on a high note as they host Bushland 6 p.m. today at McNeely Fieldhouse.



Valentine

Pampa enters the game on its 3-1 performance at the Caprock Classic. This will be the second meeting this season between the two teams. Pampa won 48-33 at Bushland on November 15. Head coach Gene Valentine said he expects the game to be physical.

"Obviously both of us has gotten better," Valentine said. "It will be a good game to play and get ready for Borger at our place."



Burnett

The Lady Harvesters have improved defensively, only allowing opponents 37 points per game in their last five. The five previous games, Pampa was allowing 53.

The Lady Falcons (12-8) are coming off a 2-2 performance at the Littlefield Tournament. Bushland's main scoring threat is Kaitlyn Bauer. She scored 11 in the first meeting with Pampa.

A victory against the Lady Falcons would give the Lady Harvesters three straight at home and bring their record to .500 for the first time since November 18. Sophomore Hayley Burnett said a win would be huge.

"It would be very much needed," Burnett said.

Senior Delaney Clendening said it would be nice for the team to continue its momentum.

"It would be better than last year," Clendening said.

The Lady Harvesters start district play January 10 at home with Borger.



Clendening

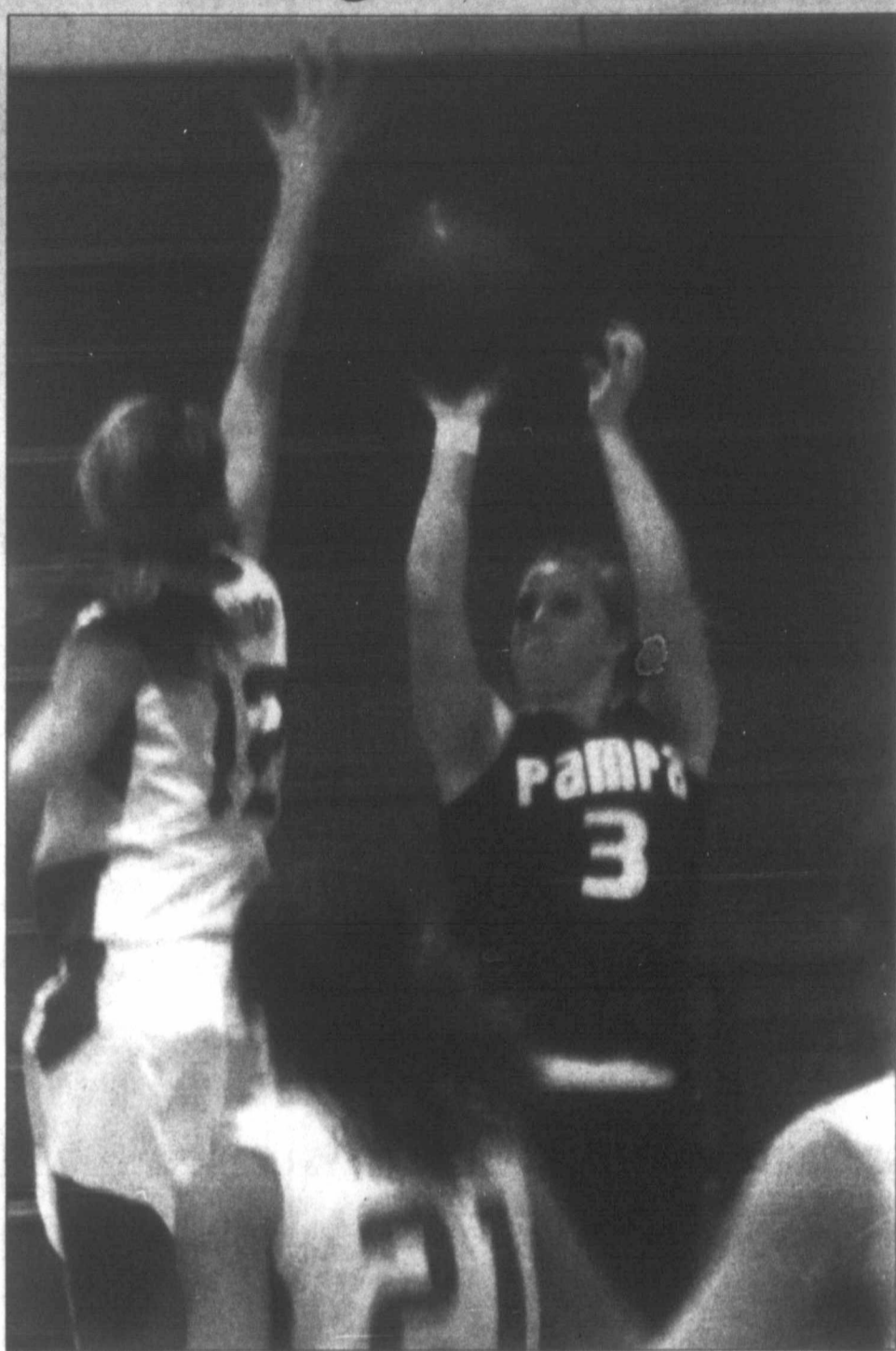


photo courtesy of Sherri Murray

Senior Kirsten Kuhn shoots a jumper with a Floydada defender contesting Friday. Pampa rematches with Bushland and is looking to improve to .500.

Pampa swimming continued district domination in 2011

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The Pampa Harvesters and Lady Harvesters swim teams continued their district domination with their 12 straight district titles. Both teams advanced to regionals but no one qualified for state. The Lady Harvesters finished eighth. Then-senior Jessica Gutierrez finished ninth in the 500 yard freestyle. The girls 200-freestyle relay. Then-junior Kendle Ramey finished ninth in the 100-yard backstroke. The girls 400-freestyle relay finished seventh.

The Harvesters finished eighth. Then-junior Spencer Estes finished eighth in the 50-yard freestyle and sixth in the 100-yard backstroke. Then-senior Cory Hudson finished sixth in the 100-yard breaststroke. Pampa finished eighth in the 400-yard relay.

The Harvesters' tennis team sent a pair to state. Then-seniors Holly Gage and Aaron Silva advanced as mixed doubles team. The team split their matches to finish third. Pampa also qualified several others for regionals. Then-junior David Moore made it to the quarterfinals in boys singles. Then-junior Logan Karbo and then-sophomore Nick Nelson qualified in boys doubles. Junior Camilla Vallejo made it to the quarterfinals in girls singles.

The Lady Harvesters golf team finished 2010-

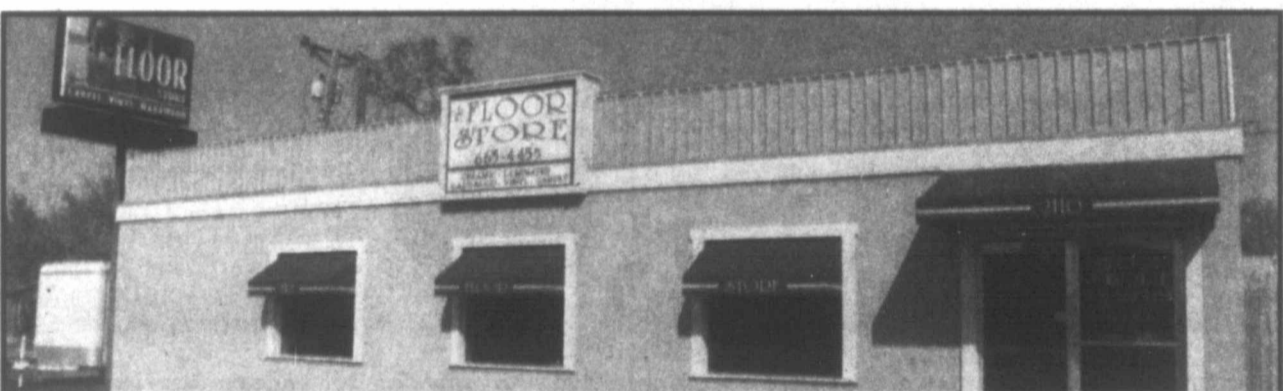
11 strong, winning the district title and advanced to regionals. Pampa finished eighth. Then-senior Liz Hoelting was awarded Athlete of the Month by the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce. On the boys' side, then-junior Logan Reagan advanced to regionals with a fifth place finish in the district meet.

The Pampa Harvesters and Lady Harvesters had a full bus go to the regional meet. Both teams finished third in district but had several regional qualifiers. Then-sophomore Samuel Smith won the 100-meter (11.23) and 200-meter (23.04) dashes and advanced with the 400-meter relay and the 800-meter relay teams. Then-sophomore Zane Robles also advanced to regionals in the 100 with a third place finish (11.75). Robles was a member of the 400 and 800-meter relay teams. Then-junior Reid Miller advanced in the 110-meter hurdles and the 400 and 800-meter relay teams. Then-junior Trent McAnear advanced in the 3200 and 1600-meter runs.

Representing the Lady Harvesters was J'Cee Holmes in the 3200 and 1600-meter runs, Kristin Ladd in the 100-meter dash, Francheska Bridwell in the 400-meter dash, Savanna Hulsey advanced in the 100-meter hurdles, Joleen Pittman in the 800-meter run, Kailyn Troxell in the high jump, Maddie Fatheree in the triple jump

and the 400, 800 and 1600-meter relay teams. Pampa wasn't able to send any to Austin.

Then-freshman Krysten Miller advanced to state in wrestling and finished fifth. Then-junior Robert Radke advanced to regionals in the 140-pound weight class. Last season was head coach Billy Smith's last.



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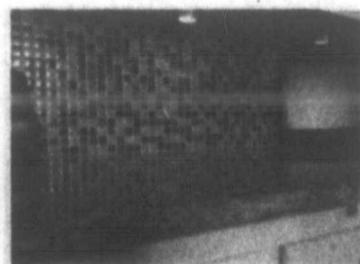
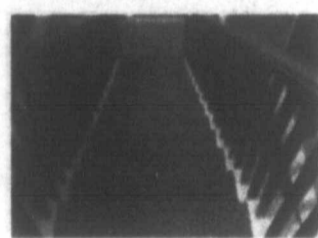


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