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TODAY IN SPORTS

Saturday, December 29, 2012 www.thepampanews.com Volume 108 • No. 210

\$1.50 Pampa's motel situation is bleak | Democracy a notable success in 2012 | **p4**
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2012 Pampa sports Year in Review
 Lady Harvesters open tournament with a win | **p1-3B**

Looking back: 2012 Year in Review

BY SASHA HELLER
 sheller@thepampanews.com

The Pampa News staff looks back at the top stories that made headlines in 2012. From the City of Pampa's centennial celebration to the Celanese plant demolition, from the city election to a fatal shooting in front of Subway, the following stories captured the attention of our readers this past year.

11 — The Pampa News promotes, hires new staff
 The Pampa News welcomed new faces this past year who bring a wealth of talent and experience to our community paper. ReDonn Woods took over publisher duties in April after serving as an advertising representative for 15 years. Editor Timothy Howsare stepped in to direct news operations in October. Zachary Green filled the vacant sports editor position in November and reporter Sasha Heller joined the news staff in December. Ad rep Kristina Liberty also joined The Pampa News in December.

10 — Major meth bust
 While Pampa can feel a bit like Mayberry, with its community spirit and small-town charm, the city must at times deal with social issues like drug abuse. In February, the Gray County Sheriff's Office arrested 20-year-old Benjamin Griffin for possession of 15 grams of methamphetamine. Deputies had initially pulled Griffin over on a routine traffic stop and, upon searching him, discovered more than a half-ounce of crystal meth on his person.

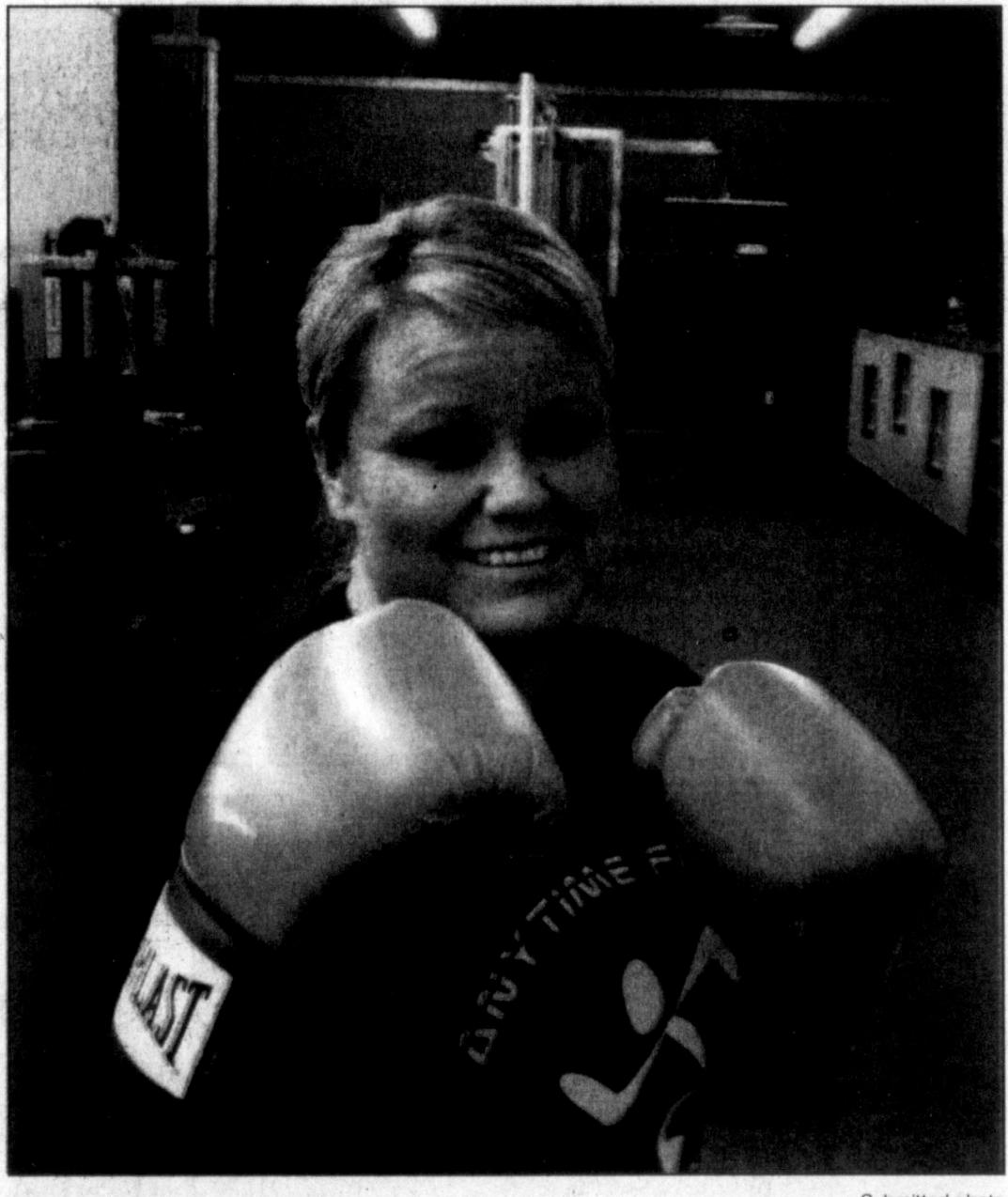
9 — Top Rodeo honors
 The Top O' Texas Rodeo, a local favor-

ite, was named 2012 Rodeo of the Year in September by the Texas Rodeo and Cowboy Association. The popular rodeo event was held from Aug. 9-12 at the Top O' Texas Bowers Arena and drew record crowds, eclipsing 2011's attendance totals by almost 800 people. The Top O' Texas Rodeo also earned top honors in 2010 and was named Newcomer of the Year in 2008.

8 — Streets on fire
 In August, the streets of Pampa were engulfed in flames as a grass fire that started on South Campbell Street spread

REVIEW cont. on page 3

NO MORE FADS



HAPPY TIMES. Monica Velasquez has turned her life around with a lifetime commitment to healthy dieting and plenty of exercise.

Making the commitment: Pampa resident loses 230 pounds

BY TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE
 thowsare@thepampanews.com

Fad diets and exercise programs that promise spectacular results always get a lot of attention at the beginning of a new year as people make resolutions to lose weight and get in shape. Monica Velasquez, club manager at Anytime Fitness in Pampa, is all too familiar

with the hype. Two years ago, Velasquez, who is only 5 feet tall, weighed 445 pounds. "I always struggled back and forth — I lost and I gained," said the 36-year-old. "But in the last couple of years I decided to make health a lifestyle and not a just diet." In the past two years she has lost almost 230 pounds, and, according to her coworker,

Monty DeMaroney, easily can do 60 minutes at "level 20" on the club's elliptical machines. "The first time I got on an elliptical machine I could only do five minutes and I was crying," she said. Velasquez now does cardio "seven days a week." She circuit trains on the club's weight machines, **FITNESS** cont. on page 5

Snow, freezing rain for New Year's Eve?

BY ZACHARY GREEN
 zgreen@thepampanews.com

Snow and ice are still on our roadways from Tuesday's snowfall but we are already looking at the possibility of more winter weather impacting the Panhandle early next week. Kristin Scotten, warnings coordinator with the National Weather Service in Amarillo, said the best shot for more winter weather is from Sunday night through Monday evening. "Last week the question was about how much snowfall we will receive," she said. "This week the question is about what type of precipitation it will be. It does look like that Monday could be a hazardous travel day." Scotten said we probably won't get as much snow this time because of warmer temperatures. "It looks like it will start as rain then change to freezing rain and then finally change to snow," Scotten added. Scotten said the farther west you go, the less likely you will see snow. "The southeastern and eastern Texas Panhandle, Oklahoma and North Texas look like they will have the highest snowfall amounts," she said. The good news is that any snow that will fall will be the wet, heavy, pretty stuff and not the blowing snow like we saw on Christmas Day, Scotten said. "It looks like a pretty brief shot," she said. "We are still in the phase where we are five days out and the models haven't gotten into complete agreement yet to determine precipitation types and precipitation amounts. However, models are in good agreement on the track." The NWS' current forecast for Pampa is for a 30 percent chance of freezing rain on Sunday night with a low of 25 **WEATHER** cont. on page 3

County Commission to meet Wednesday

BY SASHA HELLER
 sheller@thepampanews.com

The Gray County Commission will hold a special session at 9 a.m., Jan. 2, at the Gray County Courthouse. At the meeting, the Commission will recognize Gray County's emergency management coordinator for a recent training session held with the National Weather Service. The Commission also intends to go into executive session to consider the purchase of land. A spokeswoman with Judge Richard Peet's office on Friday could not provide specific details regarding what property the county is considering to purchase. The Gray County Courthouse is located at 205 N. Russell St.

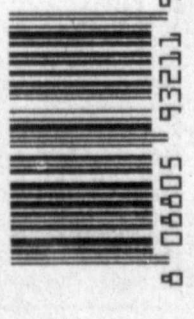
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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Sunday	Monday
		
High 41 Low 22	High 39 Low 27	High 33 Low 16

Saturday: Mostly sunny with a high of 41. No chance of rain. Winds west southwest at 8 mph. Sunrise at 7:53 a.m.

Saturday night: Mostly clear with a low of 22. Ten percent chance of rain. Winds south at 15 mph. Sunset at 5:40 p.m.

Sunday: Mostly cloudy with a high of 39. No chance of rain. Winds south southwest at 21 mph. Sunrise at 7:53 a.m.

Sunday night: Cloudy with a low of 27. Ten percent chance of rain. Winds south at 10 mph. Sunset at 5:41 p.m.

Monday: Snow shower with a high of 33. Fifty percent chance of snow. Winds west northwest at 11 mph. Sunrise at 7:53 a.m.

Monday night: Partly cloudy with a low of 16. Ten percent chance of snow. Winds north northwest at 11 mph. Sunset at 5:42 p.m.

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THE PAMPA NEWS will be open till Noon on Monday, December 31st and closed Tuesday January 1st. There will be no paper on Tuesday January 1st!

Texas builds hurricane safety domes

EDNA, Texas (AP) — Most of the time, the windowless building with the dome-shaped roof will be a typical high school gymnasium filled with cheering fans watching basketball and volleyball games.

But come hurricane season, the structure that resembles a miniature version of the famed Astrodome will double as a hurricane shelter, part of an ambitious storm-defense system that is taking shape along hundreds of miles of the Texas Gulf Coast.

Its brawny design — including double-layer cinder-block walls reinforced by heavy duty steel bars and cement piers that plunge 30 feet into the ground — should allow it to withstand winds up to 200 mph.

"There is nothing standard" about the building, said Bob Wells, superintendent of the Edna school district, as he stood inside the \$2.5 million gym, which is set to be completed by March. "The only standard stuff is going to be the stuff we do inside."

The Edna dome is one of 28 such buildings planned to protect sick, elderly and special-needs residents who might be unable to evacuate ahead of a hurricane. First-responders and local leaders will also be able to take refuge in the domes, allowing them to begin recovery efforts faster after a storm has passed.

Storm-defense structures are getting increased attention in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, which inflicted heavy damage on the East Coast in October. The city of New York, for instance, is considering a multi-billion-dollar system of sea barriers.

For Texas, a state always in danger during hurricane season, the domes offer the extra benefit of serving as recreation or community centers when not needed as shelters. They are being erected with help from the federal Emergency Management Agency.

"I think it's good for FEMA, and I think it's good for us. And I think it's good for the taxpayers," Wells said.

The gym in Edna, a town of 5,500 people about 100 miles southwest of Houston, is the second hurricane dome in Texas. The first was built in 2011 in Woodsboro, near Corpus Christi. Most of the domes will be around 20,000 square feet.

The plan calls for structures in 11 counties in the Rio Grande Valley, around Corpus Christi and along the coast from Victoria to Newton counties, said Tom Vinger, a spokesman for the Texas Department of Public Safety.

So far, \$34.5 million has been awarded. This month, FEMA approved funds for a hurricane dome that will serve as a community center in Brownsville, one that will serve as a wellness center and physical rehabilitation facility in Bay City and two that will serve as multi-purpose training centers in Kingsville.

Inside the gym in Edna, Wells' voice echoed as he pointed to the ceiling, which has layers of sprayed-on concrete, insulation and rebar, all of which are under a heavy duty fabric that gives the structure its distinctive wind-resistant shape.

The doorways are covered by awnings of heavy gauge metal and supported by concrete girders that go 15 feet into the ground.

FEMA is paying for 75 percent of the dome structures, with local communities picking up the remaining cost.

The funding is part of the agency's initiative to help homeowners and communities build hardened shelters that provide protection from extreme weather.

Nationwide, more than \$683 million has been awarded in 18 states, including Texas, Alabama, Michigan and South Carolina.

Walking around the gym, Wells said it reminded him of when, as a teenager, he first walked into the Astrodome after it opened in 1965 in Houston.

"It was like, 'Oh, wow, this is so cool,'" he said. "I'm still kind of in the 'oh, wow' stage with this."

Hazing rules ignored before college student's death

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — A blistering state report released Friday contends that Florida A&M University officials failed to follow state laws and regulations on hazing in the years leading up to the death of a FAMU drum major.

A 32-page report from the Florida Board of Governors inspector general's office concludes that the school lacked internal controls to prevent or detect hazing, citing a lack of communication among top university officials, the police department and the office responsible for disciplining students.

But investigators said

there was insufficient evidence to conclude whether university officials ignored allegations of hazing given to them by the former director of The Marching 100 band shortly before the November 2011 death of Robert Champion.

FAMU has 15 business days to officially respond to the report. University officials on Friday did not immediately respond to request for comment.

The report comes at a critical time for FAMU. Earlier this month a regional accrediting organization placed the school on probation for 12 months.

The university has one year to prove it is turning

itself around or its accreditation could be revoked. FAMU officials say they have already made sweeping changes in the aftermath of Champion's death, which also resulted in the retirement of the band director and the resignation of the university president.

But State University System Chancellor Frank Brogan stated in a memo sent out Friday that a series of problems detailed in recent months at the university "did not happen simply by accident, nor did they result from benign neglect."

"The problems that have permeated FAMU for more than a year were

a direct result of action or inaction by FAMU personnel, who either had not developed adequate policies or simply did not enforce policies that were in place," Brogan wrote.

Friday's report comes from the Florida Board of Governors, which oversees the state university system. Conducted more than 35 interviews and reviewed more than 7,000 pages of documents.

Champion's family has filed a lawsuit contending that the school failed to take action to stop hazing. That lawsuit cites the Nov. 2011 meeting as an example of inaction by top FAMU officials.

For the record

■ 19-year-old Scotty Calvillo, Wichita Falls, was arrested Thursday by the Gray County Sheriff's Office for burglary of a

building.
■ 23-year-old Angel Renee Whinery, Pampa, was arrested Thursday by the Pampa Police Department for failure to ID.

7 arrested in \$11.5M gold heist

WILLEMSTAD, Curacao (AP) — Police in the Dutch Caribbean island of Curacao have arrested seven suspects in connection with the recent heist of 70 gold bars worth an estimated \$11.5 million.

Police spokesman Reginald Huggins said Friday that one of the men is from Bonaire, three are from Venezuela and the remainder from Curacao. One of the suspects was later released while the others are still being interrogated, Huggins said.

Authorities have not said where the gold was being delivered, but one of the ship's crew members said they were delivering the gold to an unidentified company in Curacao.

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Review

Continued From Page 1

wildly, ultimately destroying six structures. Pampa and Hoover firefighters were joined by members of the Pampa Police Department and GCSO, as well as representatives from the Eastern Texas Panhandle Red Cross who distributed pizza, Gatorade and water. The blaze covered two city blocks, spreading from Campbell Street between Osborne and Henry, all the way to Frederic Avenue.

7 — Coronado Center facelift

The Pampa Economic Development Corporation (PEDC) in June announced its acquisition of Coronado Center for \$1.7 million. The PEDC intends to rebrand the center as Las Pampas Square and will remodel the square to attract new businesses.

"In the months to come, you will see changes at the square that will upgrade the condition of the buildings and surroundings, and increase the appeal to the area," PEDC board President Gary Sutherland said in a June interview.

The property as a whole will also see improvement to the vacant Albertson's grocery store as the Pampa Independent School District plans to move its administration facility into the square in 2013.

6 — Heliport at the hospital

Gray County spent most of 2012 constructing a heliport behind Pampa Regional Medical Center to serve as housing for an emergency medical helicopter and three ambulances. The \$1.3 million facility will help the hospital treat patients requiring trauma services who must be flown to hospitals in Amarillo.

5 — To mix (drinks) or not to mix?

The most recent news story to make its way into the year in review countdown is the ongoing



Photos by Timothy P. Howsare



Top, selling PinkOut! T-shirts at Pampa High School in October. Above, the Wounded Warrior procession arrives downtown in early November. Right, an officer-involved shooting on North Hobart Street in late November.



debate over whether the city should allow restaurants to serve mixed drinks. The Pampa News received multiple letters to the editor and guest columns written by community members who alternately expressed their support and dismay toward the subject. Those who shared support for the issue said allowing mixed drinks to be served inside city limits would spur national restaurant chains like Chili's and Applebee's to con-

sider opening restaurants in town, which would boost sales tax revenues for the city. However, those against the issue cited how allowing the sale of mixed drinks could further escalate what they feel is a decline in social morality. A petition has been circulating around town in an attempt to get the item on an upcoming city ballot. Stay tuned to 'The Pampa News' coverage of this issue in 2013 to see how the mixed drink debate unfolds.

4 — Shooting in front of Subway

In November, the city suffered its first officer-involved fatal shooting in 18 years as 45-year-old David Scott was shot in front of the Subway restaurant on North Hobart Street. The shooting occurred around 4:30 p.m., Nov. 28, at the Plaza 21 strip mall. Scott was shot by two Pampa officers who were later cleared by a grand jury.

"They arrived at the scene and Mr. Scott pointed a handgun at them," Department of Public Safety Trooper Daniel Hawthorne said in a November interview. "Officers fired and Mr. Scott was killed."

3 — Puppy dog eyes

The City of Pampa held its election in May in which 71 percent of voters supported a bond issue to build a new animal shelter. The nearly \$3 million facility will serve the city's less fortunate pets who are resigned to a life on the streets before being picked up by the city's animal control officers and ultimately placed into the pound. Voters also approved a measure, with 68 percent voting in favor, to lengthen the terms of city officials from two years to four years.

2 — End of an era

Pampans experienced the end of an era in December when the former Celanese Chemical Plant was destroyed with explosives. More than 100 community members attended the demolition and watched from their vehicles as the structures were razed. Community members took to The Pampa News' Facebook page to share their memories of the plant, which once served as one of Pampa's largest and highest-paying employers. Energy company Enbridge has moved in on the north side of the property and Pampa Fuels plans to utilize the remaining space to construct a new methanol plant.

1 — 100 years young

2012 was a big year for the City of Pampa as the municipality celebrated its centennial anniversary. On the Fourth of July, the city hosted a public celebration at Recreation

Park, capped off by a colorful fireworks show. To commemorate its 100th birthday, the city released a commemorative centennial coin featuring various images representative of Pampa, including a cowboy, an oil pump, a music staff for hometown legend Woody Guthrie and a water slide for the recently-built Pampa H20 Aquatic Center. The City of Pampa incorporated in 1912.

As we wave goodbye to 2012, we look to welcome 2013 with open arms. The city experienced its share of highs and lows this past year but, true to its nature, stuck together as a community through some of the more challenging times.

A fatal shooting and major meth bust won't be enough to break this community's spirit, which shines during events like the city's centennial celebration.

The Pampa News wishes all of our readers a healthy, happy new year and thanks you for your continued support.

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Weather

Continued From Page 1

degrees. For Monday, there is a 40 percent chance of rain or snow with a high of 33 degrees. And for Monday night, there is a 30 percent chance of snow with a low of 17 degrees.

Since we are still a little ways out the forecast can and will change.

"I feel very confident that we will get moisture," Scotten said. "The question will be what type of precipitation. Right now it looks more and more like it will be just rain and freezing rain."

Continue to check The Pampa News' Facebook page and for updates on the weather system.

Got A Sports Story or Photo?

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Viewpoints

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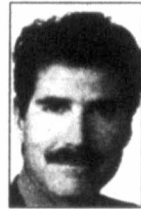
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Charity begins with wealth creation

Charity — helping people who have trouble helping themselves — is a good thing two times over. It's good for the beneficiary and good for the donor, too. Stephen Post's fine book, "The Hidden Gifts of Helping," reveals that 76 percent of Americans say that helping others is what makes them most happy.



JOHN STOSSEL

Giving money makes us feel good, and helping face-to-face is even better. People say it makes them feel physically healthier. They sleep better.

Private charity is unquestionably better than government efforts to help people. Government squanders money. Charities sometime squander money, too, but they usually don't. Proof of the superiority of private over government efforts is everywhere.

Catholic charities do a better job educating children than government — for much less money. New York City's government left Central Park a dangerous mess. Then a private charity rescued it. But while charity is important, let's not overlook something more important: Before we can help anyone, we first need something to give. Production precedes donation. Advocates of big government forget this.

We can't give unless we (or someone) first creates. Yet wealth creators are encouraged to feel guilt. "Bill Gates, or any billionaire, for that matter," Yaron Brook, author of "Free Market Revolution" and president of the Ayn Rand Institute, said on my TV show, "how did they become a billionaire?"

By creating a product or great service that benefits everybody. And we know it benefits us because we pay for it. We pay less than what it's worth to us.

That's why we trade — we get more value than what we give up. So, our lives are better off. Bill Gates improved hundreds of millions of lives around the world.

That's how he became a billionaire."

Gates walks in the footprints of earlier creators, like John D. Rockefeller, who got rich by lowering the price of oil products, and Cornelius Vanderbilt, who did the same for transportation. The clueless media called them robber barons, but they were neither robbers nor barons.

They and other creators didn't just give us products to improve our lives, they also employed people.

That's the charity that keeps on giving, because employees keep working and keep supporting their families. "That's not charity," Brook said. "(It's) another trade. You pay your employees and get something in return. But the employee is better off, and you are better off."

"And when you start thinking about the multiplier effect, \$50 billion for Bill Gates? That's nothing compared to the value he added to the world. That is much greater than the value he'll ever add in any kind of charitable activity." Gates now donates billions and applies his critical thinking skills to charity.

He tested ideas in education, like small high schools, and dumped them when they didn't work. Good. But if he reinvested his charity money in Microsoft, might he have helped more people? Maybe.

Brook points out that Gates gets credit for his charity, but little credit for having created wealth. "Quite the contrary," Brook said. "We sent the Justice Department to go after him. He's considered greedy, in spite of all the hundreds of millions of people he's helped, because he benefited at the same time. (When) he shifted to charity, suddenly he's a good guy. My complaint is not that he's doing the charity. It's that we as a society value not the creation, not the building, not the accumulation of wealth.

John Stossel is host of "Stossel" on the Fox Business Network. To find out more about John Stossel, visit his site at johnstossel.com.

Pampa's motel situation is bleak

By **SASHA HELLER**
sheller@thepampanews.com

As a new resident to Pampa, I have experienced firsthand how bleak the motel situation in town is. It's not that there aren't enough rooms to go around — seven motels and hotels are enough to serve the community and transient oil workers. It's the fact that these motels and hotels are gouging their customers with inflated prices based on perceived demand.

It starts with the three motels: Black Gold, Star and Western. These motels offer one-star, barely economy rooms and charge \$50 per night or more. Equivalent, one-star motels in Amarillo charge \$30 for the same services. It's despicable how the motel owners have set their rates so high — it's essentially price gouging, similar to how OPEC can dictate the oil market.

These cheap motels can get away with inflated rates because they know the rooms will book

— as long as the oil keeps pumping. As soon as the oil dries up, and the transient workers move on to the next boom town, the prices will drop to more reasonable rates. Trust me. No one's going to pay \$50 a night for a room at the Star — unless they have to.

And so the hotels in town that offer nicer rooms and more amenities — Best Western, Holiday Inn Express, Hampton Inn and AmericInn Lodge — set their rates accordingly, based on the one-star motels' inflated prices.

Just last week, I called the Best Western to inquire about renting a room for the week. They wanted \$550. That's obscene.

That's more than \$85 a night for a room at a Best Western, which would normally cost between \$60 and \$70 in any other town. A room at the Hampton Inn for a week would run more than \$800. Outrageous.

Many community members who don't normally rent rooms in town may not be aware of the situation. But I am here to tell

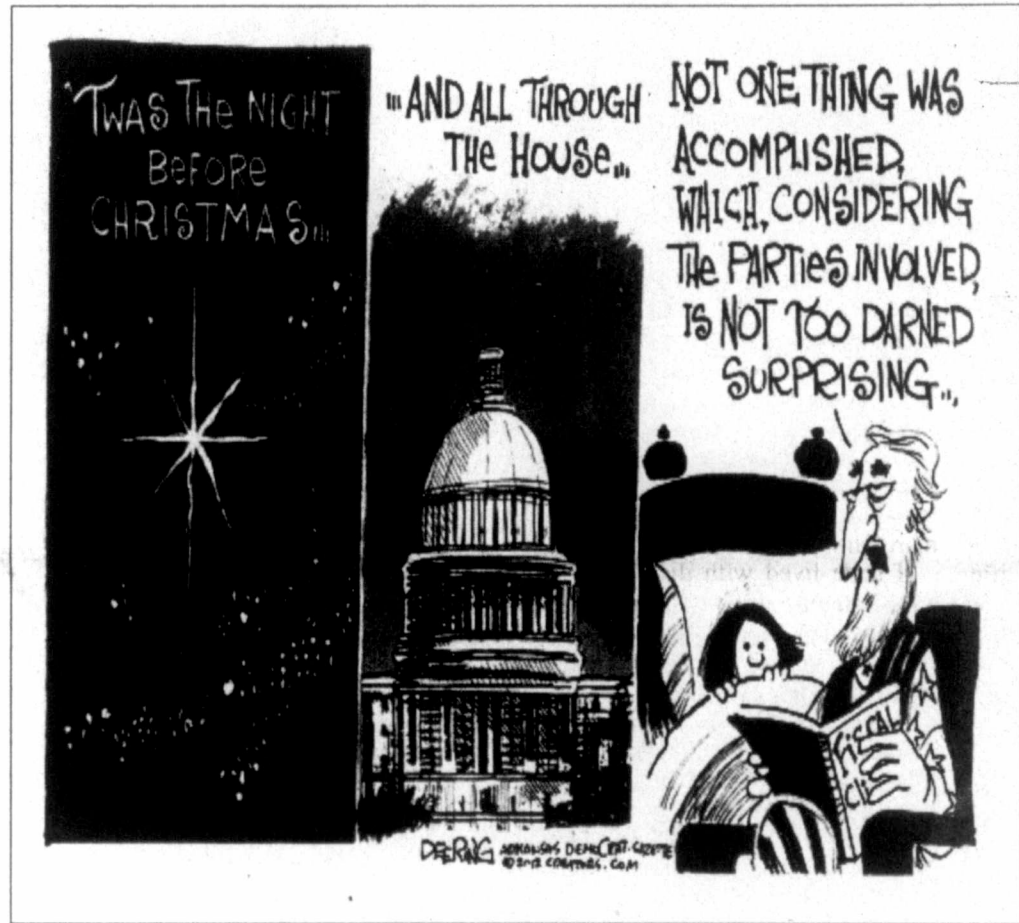
you just how bleak the situation is. The prices are so inflated that they can serve as a deterrent to tourists looking to make their dollars stretch. By doing so, tourists may end up spending their money elsewhere which can affect the city coffers.

These are tough economic times and people are looking to save money wherever they can.

I am set to move into an apartment here in Pampa on Jan. 1 so I am still renting motel rooms locally. I decided to rent a room at the Budget Inn in Panhandle because it costs \$10 less per night than a similar room here in town.

Of course, I have to eat as well so I spent even more money in Panhandle to keep my belly full. If the motel rates in Pampa were more reasonable, I would have chosen to stay in town and would have spent even more money at local restaurants.

But I didn't. Because I am not an idiot. These motel owners are gouging the public because they can and it's a shame.



How To Write Us

The Pampa News welcomes letters to the editor. When submitting a letter, please include the writer's name, address and signatures.

We reserve the right to edit letters or not to publish certain letters.

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Democracy a notable success in 2012

This being the season of giving, it's worth looking back at some special gifts from November's election that received little acknowledgement at the time.

These victories came in campaigns that had no candidates — no Democrats, Republicans or other party designations. Rather, they were ballot initiatives — policy ideas put to a vote of people themselves.



JIM HIGHTOWER

This is an exercise in direct democracy that was first proposed by the historic Populist movement of the 1870s. It's presently available to citizens in 26 states and hundreds of cities — and in this past year, it produced some serious progressive wins.

Unfortunately, corporations and super-wealthy individuals have now glommed onto this democratic innovation with deep-pocket vengeance, using their silos of money and expertise in PR deceit to pass some awful proposals and kill some great ones. Still, though, progressives are making good use of the initiative alternative to build winning coalitions around many big issues that the power structure refuses to address.

They achieved several important public policy victories in November, even in red and purple states, showing again that populist issues can open minds, shove aside right-wing orthodoxy and overcome corporate money.

Many of these came in grassroots efforts to overturn Citizens United. This Supreme Court-sanctioned daylight robbery of the people's democratic authority should have been at the center of Barack Obama's campaign against Mr. "Corporations-Are-People" Romney.

It certainly warranted a presidential push, and it would have been a winning issue, even among rank-and-file tea partiers — but, zilch.

Beneath the national radar, however, democracy organizers in two states and dozens of cities built formidable campaigns this year to pass initiatives that say "no" to the court's edict allowing a tidal wave of corporate cash to engulf our elections. Here are just a few of the successes:

— A whopping 72 percent of Colorado voters approved Amendment 65, directing their legislature to demand that Congress draft a constitutional amendment overturning Citizens United and send it to the states for ratification.

— An even-more-whopping 76 percent of

Montanans said "yes" to Initiative 166, declaring that corporations do not have constitutional rights.

— Seventy-four percent of Chicago voters (including 73 percent of Republicans) approved a local initiative demanding that Congress propose an amendment reversing Citizens United.

— Citizens of the burg of Brecksville, Ohio, had to battle their own city hall just to get Issue 25 on the ballot. Theirs was a unique proposal, requiring that city officials convene a biennial "Democracy Day" for residents to express themselves on the impact of corporate cash in their elections.

It then required the mayor to send a letter to Congress detailing the people's objections.

Sometimes you can win on your own initiatives, and sometimes by not losing on theirs. Progressives were engaged in both kinds of big fights in this election.

A terrific victory for union rights and political fairness was scored this go 'round on California's Proposition 32 — a wad of ugliness put forth by the Koch boys and their malicious cadre of big-money, anti-union ideologues. Gussied up as a good government reform, the proposition essentially would have gutted labor's participation in political campaigns. It cost unions and their grassroots allies

tens of millions of dollars, but they effectively exposed Prop 32 as a right-wing corporate sham — and voters rejected it with a solid 56 percent.

And in the "red" states of Idaho and South Dakota, teachers came out on top. In Idaho, teachers won big with three initiatives to boost teacher rights and education funding, and South Dakota voters repealed an anti-teacher state law that GOP legislators had passed earlier in a burst of ideological idiocy. Likewise, marriage equality for gays and lesbians gained landmark victories, with wins on all four proposals put on the ballot (Maine, Maryland, Minnesota and Washington). Also, the nation's absurdly expensive and ineffective "war on drugs" took a drubbing, with voters OK'ing medical use of cannabis in Massachusetts and Montana, and with Colorado and Washington becoming the first states to legalize marijuana for personal recreational consumption.

An old bumper sticker declares, "If the people lead, the leaders will follow." In 2012, the people were way ahead of the "leaders."

To find out more about Jim Hightower, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.

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It's husband number 3 for actress Kate Winslet

NEW YORK (AP) — Kate Winslet has tied the knot again. The Oscar-winning actress wed Ned Rocknroll in New York earlier this month. The private ceremony was attended by Winslet's two children as well as a few friends and family members, her representative said Thursday.



Kate Winslet

It is the third marriage for the 37-year-old Winslet, who won a Best Actress Oscar for her performance in the 2008 film "The Reader." She was previously married to film directors Jim Threapleton and Sam Mendes.

The 34-year-old Rocknroll, who was born Abel Smith, is a nephew of billionaire Virgin Group founder Richard Branson. The couple had been engaged since last summer.

In August 2011, Winslet and her children were staying at Branson's house in the Caribbean when it caught fire during a tropical storm and burned down. Winslet carried Branson's 90-year-old mother to safety.

Texas school board facing cheating names new head

CANUTILLO, Texas (AP) — A West Texas school board has promoted an associate superintendent after it ousted the previous superintendent during a cheating scandal.

The Canutillo Independent School District Thursday night named Annette Brigham as interim superintendent, less than a month after suspending former superintendent Damon Murphy.

A district audit showed possible attempts to cheat on federal accountability standards.

The Texas Education Agency has since said it will investigate cheating allegations at Canutillo.

Brigham is a 25-year veteran of the district. She has denied knowing about any wrongdoing that may have occurred.

The neighboring El Paso schools have also been embroiled in a cheating scandal.

Fitness

Continued From Page 1

doing upper and lower body on alternate days. Another way she burns calories is with occasional rounds of cardio boxing with DeMaroney, who looks like he could actually be a boxer.

"Then I can't lift my arms for days," she quipped.

With exercise, Velazquez said her energy level through the day is "100 times better."

For diet, Velazquez said there aren't any specific foods she recommends or stays away from. However, she does count calories and reads labels while grocery shopping.

"I learned portion control," she said. "That's a big thing with me."

There's one thing, however, that's strictly a no-no, she said.

"I haven't drank a Coke in years," she said. "I drink lots of water."

DeMaroney, regional director for Anytime Fitness, said he has supported Velazquez' efforts right from the start.

"Two years ago Monica decided she was going to make a life change," he said. "She has accomplished small goals all along to commit to her long-term goals."

DeMaroney is nominating Velazquez for Anytime Fitness corporation's Success Story of the Year for 2012.

The overall winner from all the corporation's 2,000 franchises will be announced during a corporate convention

in September in Amelia Island, Fla.

DeMaroney and Valesquez are currently drafting a nomination letter, which describes some of the challenges Velazquez faced when she was overweight.

The letter is titled, "Do not judge me! My story is still being written. One day I will tell it to the world!"

In the letter, Velazquez wrote she has always been either too short or weighed too much to do many things.

"I have lived with disappointment after disappointment my whole life," she writes.

Simple daily activities, taken for granted by most people, were often embarrassing situations for her.

"Take for example going to dinner when the host seats you," she wrote. "She asks you, 'Table or a booth?' and you have to ask for a table to avoid the embarrassment of not fitting into a booth. Then whoever you're with is questioning you why. Then the tables are always right in the middle of everyone and they are staring at you thinking only God knows what."

Though she has lost literally half her weight since she started, Velazquez said she is still trimming pounds but hasn't set a specific number as a target weight.

"I know I am not perfect and haven't reached my weight-loss goal," she said. "It's not a specific weight. It's just where I will feel comfortable."

Activists say airstrike in north Syria kills 14

BEIRUT (AP) — Anti-regime activists say a government airstrike on a town in north Syria has killed 14 people, including two women and eight children.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the 14 were killed in a strike Friday on the town of al-Safira, south of the northern city of Aleppo.

An activist who spoke anonymously because of security reasons gave the names of the dead and said the government often strikes the town because rebels are attacking a large military complex on its outskirts.

Rebels clashed with soldiers there on Friday, he said. Activists say the regime often takes revenge for rebel advances by bombing residential areas.

They say more than 40,000 have been killed in Syria since the start of the uprising against President Bashar Assad in March 2011.

Houston man charged with shooting girlfriend, teen

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston police have charged a 44-year-old man with capital murder after his girlfriend and her daughter were found fatally shot on Christmas Eve.

Curtis James Adams has been charged with the deaths of Latasha Jones and her 13-year-old daughter.

Investigators believe Adams shot Jones and her daughter, then left with his 7-year-old son.

Police say the boy saw one of the shootings. Police say

Adams went to a family member's home, where he said things that eventually led relatives to go to Jones' home.

Adams was arrested by Missouri City police after allegedly threatening a family member with a pistol.

He remains held in Fort Bend County jail on aggravated assault and firearm possession charges.

An attorney has not been appointed to represent him.

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TABLE • 4 CHAIRS

PAMPA Chamber of Commerce

The Greater Area Pampa Chamber of Commerce, Board of Directors and Staff would like to wish you a **Happy & Safe New Year!**

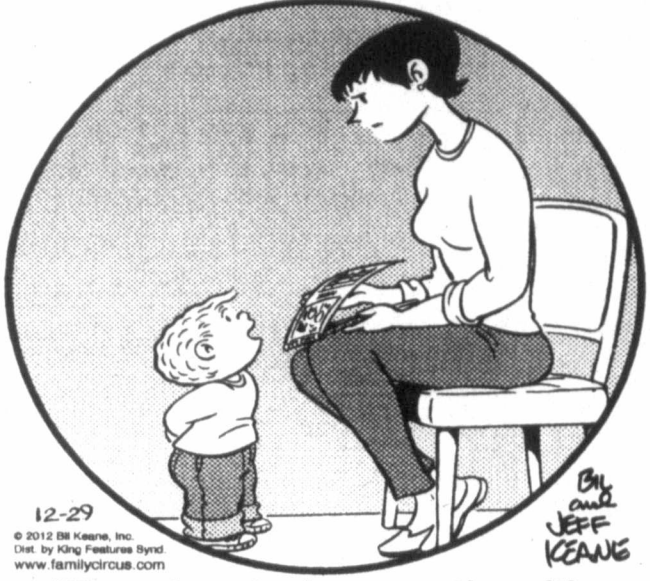
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"First there's January, then it's February, then Marchuary..."

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads

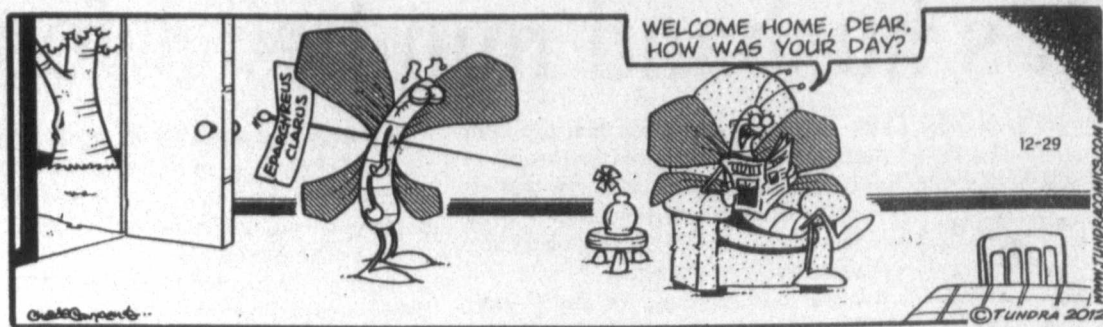


daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, Dec. 31, 2012:
This year you enjoy relating on a one-on-one level. Though you love to socialize, you also appreciate the exchange that goes on just between two people. If you are single, you attract people from out of the blue and in odd situations. Others generally see you as being touchy and perhaps even somewhat volatile this year. You don't tolerate the same behavior from others, so ask yourself why you act this way. If you are attached, the two of you love going on getaways together. Make sure you plan plenty of them. LEO understands you perhaps better than you understand yourself!
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)
★★★★ Your imagination dominates most situations. Do not sit on your anger, otherwise, sarcasm and harsh words might fly out of your mouth. Only by having calm discussions and expressing a lot of caring can you patch up the situation. Tonight: Express your anger effectively.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Decide to make New Year's plans that involve having a party at your house. It's OK if this is a last-minute decision. Invite your favorite neighbors and friends over to join in the fun. With good vibes around you, you'll start the new year off on the right note. Tonight: Anchor in.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Make calls early in the day. You could wonder where a situation ends and/or begins. Does it make that much of a difference? Stay present. You will find that you can enjoy yourself even in a difficult situation. Tonight: If you haven't made your resolutions yet, do it now.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Help a friend let go of a difficult year. Your caring is appreciated by this person, but be careful, as a loved one could become jealous as a result. Remember your sweetie and how important your bond is. Tonight: Ring in the new year by hugging the one you love.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You know what to do. You feel it in your bones as you go off to wish people a Happy New Year. A spontaneous decision to visit a friend in the early afternoon could set off the celebrations. Tonight: Nobody likes the snap, crackle

and pop of a party more than you do!
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Make it OK to decline an invitation to a celebration. You'll perk up after having the right conversation with a friend. Your nurturing qualities start to emerge, and once more, you are beaming. A long-overdue chat with someone makes you smile. Tonight: Get into the moment.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Your smile tells everyone how you feel. You sense that the new year will be a good one, and you're probably right. Where the parties are and where your friends are is where you want to be. Even with your sweetie, you still gravitate to crowds. Tonight: Cheer in the new year.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You make a great leader, which is fortunate, as that is your role. Friends and acquaintances seem to be scattered until you set the mood. Be sure to share your New Year's resolutions with someone who cares deeply. Tonight: Pop a bottle of bubbly at just the right moment.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Keep reaching out to someone at a distance. This person offers you a different perspective. Simply by speaking to him or her, you will be taken to a whole other intellectual realm. Detach, and you'll see life through new eyes. Tonight: When New Year's rolls in, think of a wish.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You will be happiest relating to others individually. You might not be up for superficiality at this point. The intensity between you and a friend occupies your thoughts. Deal with an unexpected development on the homefront. Tonight: Togetherness and New Year's go together.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You can sit back and relax. You might want to take a nap or clean out a drawer in order to start fresh for the new year. In any case, you won't be alone for any length of time, as friends surround you. Tonight: Pop some bubbly, make resolutions and greet the new year in style.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You might be stuck playing the role of host or hostess for the night, even if it's not at your own celebration. Pick up an item you have wanted today. Start your new year off with something new. Do not swallow your anger. Tonight: Be a role model. Live it up!

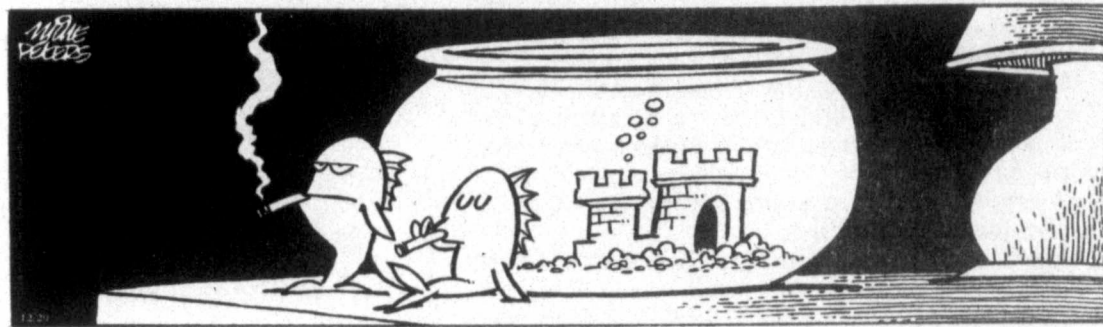
Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



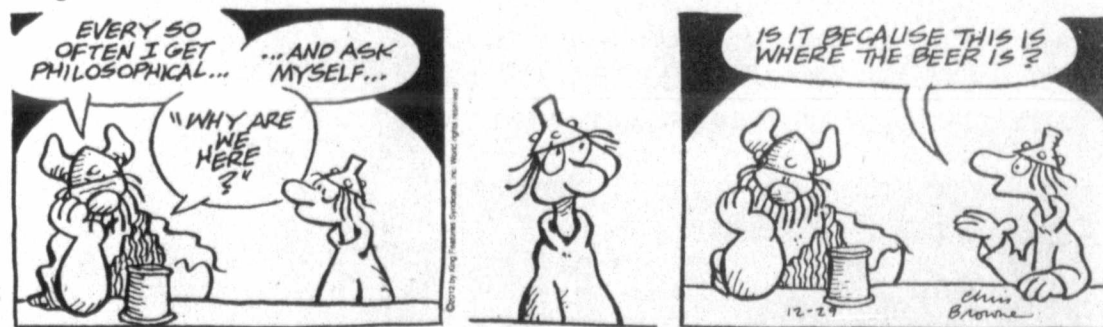
Beetle Bailey



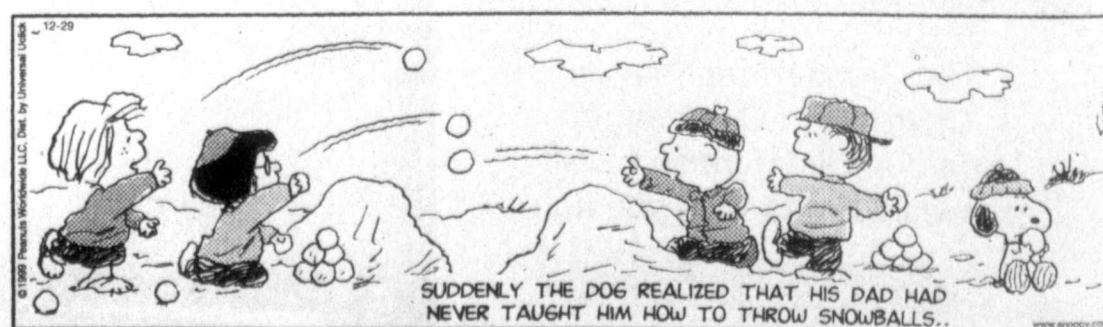
Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Video released of NYC suspect in fatal subway push

NEW YORK (AP) — Police searched for a woman who killed a man by pushing him in front of a subway train and released surveillance video Friday of her running away from the station.

Commuters, meanwhile, absorbed the news of the second fatal subway shove in the city this month.

"It's just a really sad commentary on the world and on human beings, period," said Howard Roth, who takes the subway daily.

He said the deadly push was food for thought about subway safety, "but I guess the best thing is what they tell you — don't stand near the edge, and keep your eyes open."

The suspect in Thursday night's killing had been following the man closely on a Queens platform and mumbling to herself, witnesses told police.

She got up from a nearby bench and shoved the man, who was standing with his back to her, as the train pulled into the platform. He was pinned under the train as it pulled to a stop, police said.

It did not appear the man noticed her before he was shoved onto the tracks, police said, adding that the condition of the man's body was making it difficult to identify him.

The woman was described as Hispanic, in her 20s, heavyset and about 5-foot-5, wearing a blue, white and gray ski jacket and Nike sneakers with gray on top and red on the bottom.

It was unclear whether the man and the woman knew each other.

And it's also unclear whether anyone tried to help the man up before he was struck — or whether there was enough time for anyone to do anything.

The surveillance video was taken at a nearby intersection.

It shows a woman dashing from a crosswalk and down a sidewalk.

Asked about the episode at the station on Queens Boulevard in the Sunnyside neighborhood, Mayor Michael Bloomberg pointed Friday to legal and policy changes that led to the release of many mentally ill people from psychiatric institutions from the 1960s through 1990s.

"The courts or the law have changed and said, no, you can't do that unless they're a danger to society; our laws protect you. That's fair enough," Bloomberg said on "The John Gambling Show with Mayor Mike" on WOR-AM.

On Dec. 3, 58-year-old Ki-Suck Han was pushed in front of a train in Times Square. Apparently no other passenger tried to help Han.

A photograph of him on the tracks a split second before he was killed was published on the front of the New York Post the next day, causing an uproar and debate over whether the photographer, who had been waiting for a train, should have tried to help him and whether the newspaper should have run the image.

A homeless man, 30-year-old Naem Davis, was charged with murder in Han's death and was ordered held without bail. He has pleaded not guilty and has said that Han was the aggressor and had attacked him first.

The two men hadn't met before.

Being pushed onto the train tracks is a silent fear for many commuters who ride the city's subway a total of more than 5.2 million times on an average weekday, but deaths are rare.

Among the more high-profile cases was the January 1999 death of aspiring screenwriter Kendra Webdale, who was shoved by a former mental patient.

The man, Andrew Goldstein, was convicted of murder after unsuccessfully arguing he was too mentally ill to understand what he was doing. The case prompted the state Legislature to pass Kendra's Law, which lets mental health authorities supervise patients who live outside institutions to make sure they are taking their medications and aren't threats to safety.

Earlier this year, restaurant cook Jose Rojas was convicted of assault for knocking a woman into the side of a moving train in 2010. His lawyers argued he simply stumbled into her in a drunken accident. The victim was seriously hurt but survived.

Like many subway riders, Micah Siegel follows her own set of safety precautions during her daily commute: stand against a wall or pillar to keep someone from coming up behind you, watch out when navigating a crowded or narrow platform to avoid being knocked — even accidentally — onto the tracks.

"I do try to be aware of what's around me and who's around me, especially as a young woman," Siegel, a 21-year-old college student, said as she waited at Pennsylvania Station on Friday.

So does Roth, who's 60. "It sounds a little wimpy if you're like, 'Who's going to push me?' But it's better to be safe than sorry," he said.

Planned Parenthood seeks funding

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Planned Parenthood has asked a Texas court to order the state to continue funding the organization's preventive health care for poor women.

The judge said he would issue a decision on Monday.

The Republican-controlled Legislature doesn't want any money going to doctors or clinics affiliated with Planned Parenthood, even if all they provide is birth control.

Planned Parenthood complains that the new rule set to take effect on Jan. 1 is unconstitutional.

Federal authorities are cutting off funding effective Dec. 31 because they say the affiliate rule violates federal law by denying a woman the right to choose her doctor.

That forced the Texas Department of Health and Human Services to start a new Women's Health Program on Jan. 1 without federal funding.

Numbers on U.S. bank failures since 2008

The pace of U.S. bank failures has slowed sharply since peaking in 2010 with 157.

Since the start of 2008, the year the financial crisis erupted, 465 banks have failed. But their depositors haven't lost any money. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. insures accounts up to \$250,000 per depositor per bank.

Some numbers related to the bank failures:

— From 2008 through 2011, bank failures cost the federal deposit insurance fund an estimated \$88 billion.

The FDIC expects failures from 2012 through 2016 to cost about \$10 billion more.

The insurance fund is replenished by fees paid by banks. The fund fell into the red in 2009.

But with failures slowing, its balance turned positive in the second quarter of last year. It stood at \$25.2 billion as of Sept. 30.

— There were 7,181 federally insured U.S. banks as of Sept. 30, down from 8,533 on Jan. 1, 2008. The ranks have been thinned by closings and mergers.

—The 157 failures in 2010 were the most in any year since the height of

the savings and loan crisis in 1992.

The wave of collapses started in 2008 with 25. The number jumped to 140 in 2009. Ninety-two banks failed in 2011. So far this year, 51 have failed.

—Since mid-2010, nearly all the failed banks have been small.

The five biggest banks to fail since 2008 are: Washington Mutual, based in Seattle, September 2008, \$307 billion in assets; IndyMac Bank, Pasadena, Calif., July 2008, \$32 billion; Colonial Bank, Montgomery, Ala., August 2009, \$25 billion; Guaranty Bank, Austin, Texas, August 2009, \$13 billion; and BankUnited, Coral Gables, Fla., May 2009, \$12.8 billion.

—The states with the most bank failures from 2008 through 2012 are Georgia, 84; Florida, 66; Illinois, 55; and California, 39.

—The number of employees at U.S. banks fell to 2,105,833 as of Sept. 30, down from 2,212,766 as of March 31, 2008.

Wilson is jailed in the slashing case and is expected to face murder and kidnapping charges in Jade Morris' disappearance.

Fans to join Beyonce onstage at Super Bowl

NEW YORK (AP) — All the single ladies — and fellas — will have a chance to join Beyonce onstage at the upcoming Super Bowl.



Beyonce

Pepsi announced Friday that 100 fans will hit the stage when the Grammy-winning diva performs on Feb. 3 at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome in New Orleans.

A contest that kicks off Saturday will allow fans to submit photos of themselves in various poses, including head bobbing, foot tapping and hip shaking.

Those pictures will be used in a TV ad introducing Beyonce's halftime

performance, and 50 people — along with a friend — will be selected to join the singer onstage.

The photo contest — Pepsi.com/halftime — ends Jan. 19, but Jan. 11 is the cut-off date for those interested in appearing onstage with Beyonce.

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Longshoremen strike averted at East Coast ports after agreement reached

NEW YORK (AP) — The union for longshoremen along the East Coast and Gulf of Mexico has agreed to extend its contract for 30 days, averting a possible strike that could have crippled operations at ports that handle about 40 percent of all U.S. container cargo, a federal mediator announced Friday.

The extension came after the union and an alliance of port operators and shipping lines resolved one of the stickier points in their months-long contract negotiations, involving royalty payments to the longshoremen for each container they unload.

Negotiations will continue until at least midnight Jan. 28.

Some important contract issues remain to be resolved, but the head of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, George Cohen, said the agreement on royalties was "a major positive step forward."

"While some significant issues remain in contention, I am cautiously optimistic that they can be resolved in the upcoming 30-day extension period," he said.

The terms of the royalty agreement were not announced. The master

contract between the International Longshoremen's Association and the U.S. Maritime Alliance originally expired in September.

The two sides agreed to extend it once before, for 90 days, but it had been set to expire again at 12:01 a.m. Sunday.

As recently as Dec. 19, the president of the longshoremen, Harold Daggett, had said a strike was expected.

A work stoppage would have idled shipments of a vast number of consumer products, from electronics to clothing, and kept U.S. manufacturers from getting parts and raw materials delivered easily.

Business groups expressed relief that the two sides had agreed to keep the ports open.

"A coast-wide port shutdown is not an option. It would have severe economic ramifications for the local, national and even global economies and wreak havoc on the supply chain," said National Retail Federation President Matthew Shay.

Major ports that would have been frozen included the massive terminals serving New York City overseen by the Port Authority

of New York and New Jersey, and critical seaports in Savannah, Ga., Houston, and Hampton Roads, Va.

New York Shipping Association President Joseph Curto said avoiding a strike is critical "to thousands of workers who depend on port activities for their livelihood."

Other ports that would have been affected by a strike are in Boston; the Philadelphia area; Baltimore; Wilmington, N.C.; Charleston, S.C.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Port Everglades, Fla.; Miami; Tampa, Fla.; Mobile, Ala.; and New Orleans.

Longshoremen on the West Coast have a separate collective bargaining agreement.

Sheriff considers armed school posse

PHOENIX (AP) — An Arizona sheriff has announced plans to deploy an armed volunteer posse to protect Phoenix-area students in the wake of the mass shooting at a Connecticut elementary school.

Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio says he has the authority to mobilize private citizens to fight crime but hasn't talked to specific districts. He says he doesn't

plan to put posse members inside schools but will have them posted around the perimeters.

Arpaio is known as one of the nation's most high-profile supporters of strict U.S.-Mexico border policy.

His plan announced Thursday comes after two other Arizona officials released ideas for boosting school security.

Attorney General Tom Horne proposed firearms training for one person in each school.

And Pinal County Sheriff

Paul Babeu proposed training multiple educators per school to carry guns.

Couple says chicken alerted them to blaze

ALMA CENTER, Wis. (AP) — A Wisconsin couple says fire clucks, not fire trucks, helped them escape a blaze at their home.

Alma Center Fire Chief Jeff Gaede says the couple's pet chicken woke them at about 6:15 a.m. Thursday.

He says the smoke alarms didn't go off when the fire started in the attic of their

attached garage.

He says the chicken and a cat also escaped, but another cat died.

Neighbor Brad Krueger says that he raised the chicken on his farm until dogs chased it away.

The couple then started caring for it.

Gaede says he's heard of dogs and cats alerting people to fires but he was amazed to hear about the chicken.

The fire destroyed the house. The cause is still being investigated.

Community Calendar

City Commission meetings

The Pampa City Commission meets at 4 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. The meetings are held on the third floor of City Hall.

School board meetings

The Pampa Independent School District board meets at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Check The Pampa News for meeting locations.

County Commission meetings

The Gray County Commission meets at 9 a.m. on the 15th and 30th of each month. If the date falls on a Saturday, the meeting will be held on Friday. If the date falls on a Sunday, the meeting will be held on Monday. The meetings are held on the second floor of the Gray County Courthouse.

Meredith House presents live music

Meredith House, an assisted-living facility at 812 W. 25th Ave., has a band performing at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Saturday night. Join them for Western music, gospel and the classics. For more information, call 806-665-5668.

Jam sessions every Friday night

The Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center has a

jam sessions every Friday night starting at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to play or listen. The center is located at 320 S. Cuyler St. For more information, call 806-664-0824.

Meredith House chili supper

All members of the community are invited to stay warm with a hearty bowl of home-cooked chili. Join the staff and residents from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 10.

Pampa News New Year's hours

The Pampa News will close at noon, Monday, Dec. 31. The office will be closed on New Year's Day. There will be no paper on New Year's Day.

Pampa City Hall New Year's hours

Pampa City Hall will be closed on Monday Dec. 24 and closed Christmas Day. City Hall will be open on Dec. 31 and closed New Year's Day.

Editor's note: Email submissions to thowsare@thepampanews.com. Submissions should be 100 words or less and written in the third person. Please include the title of the event, the date and time, physical address, the admission cost or whether it is a free event and a contact number and/or email address for the public.

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Statewide gasoline price average increases 4 cents

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Many travelers are still out for the holidays and may be through New Year's Day, Jan. 1, 2013. This week the statewide average for a gallon of regular unleaded in Texas increased four cents and is \$3.07, according to the AAA Texas Weekend Gas Watch. Motorists in Texarkana are paying the most on average at \$3.12, and drivers in Beaumont are paying the least at \$3.02.

The average price for fuel in the Lone Star State is 19 cents less than the national average of \$3.26. Whether gas prices continue to rise or again turn lower will be impacted by action, or inaction, in Washington surrounding the "fiscal cliff." If a deal is reached before the end-of-year deadline it will likely be seen as positive for the U.S. economy, which could send crude prices and gas prices higher. If a deal is not reached, markets are likely to slump and gas prices could go even lower.

In addition to watching winter gas prices, AAA Texas reminds winter travelers to stay safe on the road. Motorists will encounter a variety of winter road conditions as they make their way home.

AAA Texas recommends motorists follow the simple guidelines below:

- Plan ahead.
- Clear your windows, head lights, tail lights, mirrors, roof, trunk and hood before driving.
- Take it slow.
- Focus only on driving.
- Get your car serviced for winter conditions.
- Keep a winter emergency kit in your car.

"As travelers return home from the holidays and prepare for the New Year, please remember to plan ahead and focus only on driving as you may encounter wintry weather on the road," said AAA Texas/New Mexico Representative Sarah Schimmer. "Our wish is for everyone to arrive home safely after their holiday journeys."

To help consumers identify quality auto repair shops that can assist in the maintenance and repair of their vehicles, AAA offers the Approved Auto Repair program as a free public service. AAA-approved repair facilities meet and maintain high professional standards for training, equipment, cleanliness and customer service.

Family quiet on former President George H.W. Bush's condition

HOUSTON (AP) — Former President George H.W. Bush is unlikely to leave the Houston hospital where he's being cared for anytime soon but would tell well-wishers to "put the harps back in the closet," a longtime aide said.



George H.W. Bush

Jean Becker said in a statement Thursday evening that the 88-year-old, who has been hospitalized for longer than a month, is receiving excellent care after a "terrible case of bronchitis which then triggered a series of complications."

Bush, the oldest living former president, has been in intensive care since Sunday. He was admitted to Methodist Hospital in Houston on Nov. 23 for treatment of what his spokesman Jim McGrath described as a "stubborn" cough. He had spent about a week there earlier in November for treatment of the same condition.

McGrath and a hospital spokesman did not provide any new information on the president's health Friday morning. McGrath said previously that only changes in Bush's condition would prompt updates about his health. Becker, Bush's longtime

Houston chief of staff, said "most of the civilized world" contacted her Wednesday after word spread that Bush had been placed in intensive care unit when physicians were having difficulty bringing a fever under control.

"Someday President George H.W. Bush might realize how beloved he is, but of course one of the reasons why he is so beloved is because he has no idea," Becker said in the at-times lighthearted statement that made multiple references to jokes and the former president's sense of humor.

She said updates about Bush's condition have been limited "out of respect for President Bush and the Bush family who, like most of us, prefer to deal with health issues in privacy." She said another factor was "because he is so beloved we knew everyone would overreact."

"I hope you all know how much your love, concern and support are appreciated," Becker said.

While the president's treatment was "unequaled anywhere," she said prayers also were needed and welcomed.

"I am thinking heaven has not seen such a barrage of prayer intentions since 'It's a Wonderful Life,'" she said, referring to the classic Christmas movie.

It was hoped Bush would be well enough to spend Christmas at home. But while his cough eased, he developed a persistent fever and his condition was downgraded to "guarded."

The former president has had visits from family and friends, including longtime friend James Baker III, his former Secretary of State. Bush's daughter, Dorothy, arrived Wednesday from her home in Bethesda, Md. Other visitors have included his sons George W. Bush, the 43rd president, and Jeb Bush, the former Florida governor.

Bush and his wife, Barbara, live in Houston during the winter and spend their summers at a home in Kennebunkport, Maine. Bush, the 41st president, had served two terms as Ronald Reagan's vice president when he was elected in 1988 to succeed Reagan. Four years later, after a term highlighted by the success of the 1991 Gulf War in Kuwait, he lost to Democrat Bill Clinton amid voters' concerns about the economy.

Bush was a naval aviator in World War II — at one point the youngest in the Navy — and was shot down over the Pacific. He's skydived on at least three of his birthdays since leaving the White House, most recently when he turned 85.

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Desert Storm commander Norman Schwarzkopf dies

WASHINGTON (AP) — Truth is, retired Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf didn't care much for his popular "Stormin'" Norman" nickname.

The seemingly no-nonsense Desert Storm commander's reputed temper with aides and subordinates supposedly earned him that rough-and-ready moniker.



Norman Schwarzkopf But others around the general, who died Thursday in Tampa, Fla., at age 78 of complications from pneumonia, knew him as a friendly, talkative and even jovial figure who preferred the somewhat milder sobriquet given by his troops: "The Bear."

That one perhaps suited him better later in his life, when he supported various national causes and children's charities while eschewing the spotlight and resisting efforts to draft him to run for political office.

He lived out a quiet retirement in Tampa, where he'd served his last military assignment and where an elementary school bearing his name is testament to his standing in the community.

Schwarzkopf capped an illustrious military career by commanding the U.S.-led international coalition that drove Saddam Hussein's forces out of Kuwait in 1991 — but he'd managed to keep a low profile in the public debate over the second Gulf War against Iraq, saying at one point that he doubted victory would be as easy as the White House and the Pentagon predicted.

Schwarzkopf was named commander in chief of U.S. Central Command at Tampa's MacDill Air Force Base in 1988, overseeing the headquarters for U.S. military and security concerns in nearly two dozen countries stretching across the Middle East to Afghanistan and the rest of central Asia, plus Pakistan.

When Saddam invaded Kuwait two years later to punish it for allegedly stealing Iraqi oil reserves, Schwarzkopf commanded Operation Desert Storm, the coalition of some 30 countries organized by President George H.W. Bush that succeeded in driving the Iraqis out.

At the peak of his postwar national celebrity, Schwarzkopf — a self-proclaimed political independent — rejected suggestions that he run for office, and remained far more private than other generals, although he did serve briefly as a military commentator for NBC.

While focused primarily on charitable enterprises in his later years, he campaigned for President George W. Bush in 2000, but was ambivalent about the 2003 invasion of Iraq. In early 2003 he told The Washington Post that the outcome was an unknown: "What is postwar Iraq going to look like, with the

Kurds and the Sunnis and the Shiites? That's a huge question, to my mind. It really should be part of the overall campaign plan."

Initially Schwarzkopf had endorsed the invasion, saying he was convinced that Secretary of State Colin Powell had given the United Nations powerful evidence of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction. After that proved false, he said decisions to go to war should depend on what U.N. weapons inspectors found.

He seldom spoke up during the conflict, but in late 2004 he sharply criticized Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld and the Pentagon for mistakes that included erroneous judgments about Iraq and inadequate training for Army reservists sent there.

"In the final analysis I think we are behind schedule. ... I don't think we counted on it turning into jihad (holy war)," he said in an NBC interview.

Schwarzkopf was born Aug. 24, 1934, in Trenton, N.J., where his father, Col. H. Norman Schwarzkopf, founder and commander of the New Jersey State Police, was then leading the investigation of the Lindbergh kidnap case. That investigation ended with the arrest and 1936 execution of German-born carpenter Richard Hauptmann for murdering famed aviator Charles Lindbergh's infant son.

The elder Schwarzkopf was named Herbert, but when the son was asked what his "H" stood for, he would reply, "H."

As a teenager Norman accompanied his father to Iran, where the elder Schwarzkopf trained the Iran's national police force and was an adviser to Reza Pahlavi, the young Shah of Iran.

Young Norman studied there and in Switzerland, Germany and Italy, then followed in his father's footsteps to West Point, graduating in 1956 with an engineering degree.

After stints in the U.S. and abroad, he earned a master's degree in engineering at the University of Southern California and later taught missile engineering at West Point.

In 1966 he volunteered for Vietnam and served two tours, first as a U.S. adviser to South Vietnamese paratroops and later as a battalion commander in the U.S. Army's Americal Division. He earned three Silver Stars for valor — including one for saving troops from a minefield — plus a Bronze Star, a Purple Heart and three Distinguished Service Medals.

While many career officers left military service embittered by Vietnam, Schwarzkopf was among those who opted to stay and help rebuild the tattered Army into a potent, modernized all-volunteer force.

After Saddam invaded Kuwait in August 1990, Schwarzkopf played a key diplomatic role by helping persuade Saudi Arabia's King Fahd to allow U.S. and other foreign troops to deploy on Saudi territory

as a staging area for the war to come.

On Jan. 17, 1991, a five-month buildup called Desert Shield became Operation Desert Storm as allied aircraft attacked Iraqi bases and Baghdad government facilities. The six-week aerial campaign climaxed with a massive ground offensive on Feb. 24-28, routing the Iraqis from Kuwait in 100 hours before U.S. officials called a halt.

Schwarzkopf said afterward he agreed with Bush's decision to stop the war rather than drive to Baghdad to capture Saddam, as his mission had been only to oust the Iraqis from Kuwait.

But in a desert tent meeting with vanquished Iraqi generals, he allowed a key concession on Iraq's use of helicopters, which later backfired by enabling Saddam to crack down more easily on rebellious Shiites and Kurds.

While he later avoided the public second-guessing by academics and think tank experts over the ambiguous outcome of the first Gulf War and its impact on the second Gulf War, he told The Washington Post in 2003, "You can't help but ... with 20/20 hindsight, go back and say, 'Look, had we done something different, we probably wouldn't be facing what we are facing today.'"

After retiring from the Army in 1992, Schwarzkopf wrote a best-selling autobiography, "It Doesn't Take A Hero." Of his Gulf War role, he said: "I like to say I'm not a hero. I was lucky enough to lead a very successful war." He was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II and honored with decorations from France, Britain, Belgium, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Bahrain.

Schwarzkopf was a national spokesman for prostate cancer awareness and for Recovery of the Grizzly Bear, served on the Nature Conservancy board of governors and was active in various charities for chronically ill children.

Schwarzkopf and his wife, Brenda, had three children: Cynthia, Jessica and Christian.

Trains playing major role in Plains oil boom

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — Energy companies behind the oil boom sweeping the Northern Plains increasingly are turning to trains to move their crude across the U.S.

The move comes as pipeline plans stall and existing pipelines can't keep up with demand.

Delivering oil by rail to refineries thousands of miles away on the East, West and Gulf coasts costs more. But it can bring increased profits — of \$10 or more a barrel.

It also means a steady parade of trains carrying the hazardous material rumbling out of North Dakota and Montana and across the country.

Experts and federal regulators say rail transport is less safe than pipelines. That's raised concerns the proliferation of oil trains could lead to a major derailment and spill. Companies say they are making track upgrades and other improvements.

Teen that escaped prison gets 4 years

WACO, Texas (AP) — The second of three inmates who tried to escape from a Central Texas detention center for juveniles has been given four years in prison.

The Waco Tribune-Herald reports that the three teenagers were charged as adults after the July escape attempt.

All three are 18 years old. One of them, Larry Jefferson Burge, pleaded guilty Thursday in Waco. Burge and two others slipped through a hole in a perimeter fence at the McLennan County State Juvenile Correctional Facility.

They were caught in a wooded area about two miles away, three hours after their escape.

Burge's attorney declined to comment afterward.

Another of the inmates also got four years in prison. The third has asked for a court hearing to be rescheduled to next year.

Shooting at N.J. police station

GLOUCESTER TOWNSHIP, N.J. (AP) — A man being processed on a domestic violence charge grabbed a gun and shot and injured three officers at a police station in southern New Jersey before he was killed.

It happened at the Gloucester Township police station in Camden County.

Police say gunfire erupted inside the station at about 5:45 a.m. Friday.

As the man was being processed on the complaint, he grabbed a gun and began firing.

Three officers were hit before the suspect was shot and killed. Deputy Police Chief David Harkins says one officer suffered a gunshot wound to the abdomen and was undergoing surgery. Two other officers suffered minor injuries.

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Obama could reshape 5th Circuit during 2nd term

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals is widely viewed as one of the nation's most conservative federal appellate courts, but President Barack Obama could get a chance to change that perception in his second term.



Barack Obama

Ten of the 15 active judges serving on the New Orleans-based court were nominated by Republican presidents. But six of those GOP-nominated judges are eligible for senior status or will be in the next four years, a change that would allow the Democratic president to nominate their replacements.

The court, which reviews cases from Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi, also has two open seats that already can be filled.

Federal judges don't have a mandatory retirement age and aren't obligated to take senior status, a form of semi-retirement that allows them to continue hearing cases. While there's no telling how many seats may open up, even a handful of vacancies would give Obama an opportunity to reshape the court's ideological bent during his second term.

Russell Wheeler, a Brookings Institution visiting fellow who is an expert on judicial selections, said it's plausible that the Democratic-nominated

judges among active 5th Circuit judges go from being a 2-to-1 minority to holding a slim majority before Obama leaves office.

"I wouldn't call that math. I'd call that informed speculation," he cautioned. "It really all depends on the degree to which (Obama) can find nominees that Republican senators find acceptable."

A senator from the state where a vacant seat is located can block a hearing on a nomination. Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi each have at least one Republican senator. And, practically speaking, Senate rules allow any senator to prevent a confirmation vote on a nominee.

Judges aren't immune from basing their retirement decisions on political considerations, so the 5th Circuit's Republican-nominated judges may be inclined to wait out Obama's second term before vacating their seats.

"Some (judges) don't consider it at all," Wheeler said of timing. "For others, it's an important consideration."

Two judges nominated by Obama already serve on the 5th Circuit. Of the remaining active judges, six were nominated by George W. Bush; four were tapped by Ronald Reagan; two were picked by Bill Clinton and one was nominated by Jimmy Carter. The court also has seven senior judges, five of whom were nominated by Republican presidents.

The 5th Circuit is one of 13 federal circuit courts. Obama has made a deeper

imprint on the Richmond, Va.-based 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, long considered an equally conservative court. He nominated six of the 15 active judges on the 4th Circuit, swinging the court's majority in favor of Democratic nominees.

"It's a little early to tell, but there's a feeling (the 4th Circuit) is not as conservative as it was and has shifted away from that conservative reputation," University of Richmond law professor Carl Tobias said.

However, Tobias said tallying up the number of Democratic- and Republican-nominated judges would be a "crude instrument" for assessing a court's ideological leanings.

"Judges are not automatons," he added.

Case in point: When the U.S. Supreme Court considered the constitutionality of the Obama health care law's individual mandate, Chief Justice John Roberts, who was nominated by George W. Bush, sided with the Democratic-nominated justices in upholding the law.

The 5th Circuit has a reputation for being a corporation-friendly, pro-prosecutor foe of death penalty appeals and abortion rights advocates. It also tends to favor employers over employees and shows more tolerance for organized, state-sanctioned prayer than other circuits.

University of Houston Law Center professor David Dow, who clerked for 5th Circuit Judge Caro-

lyn Dineen King in the mid-1980s, said judges' decisions are guided by Supreme Court precedent and statutory language far more than their personal ideology.

"There's frequently room for people to disagree on what a statute means, but there's usually not a wide range of disagreement," he said. "The significance of ideology in most cases can be overstated."

Dow, who founded the Texas Innocence Network and has represented more than 100 death row inmates in state and federal appeals, estimated that 95 percent of the cases on the 5th Circuit's docket would be decided the same way no matter which direction the court leans.

Even if Obama is able to fill several 5th Circuit seats, legal experts doubt he would try to stack the court with liberal-leaning judges. Sheldon Goldman, a University of Massachusetts at Amherst political science professor who has studied the politics of judicial selection, said he would expect Obama to nominate candidates with centrist credentials to avoid opposition from Republican senators who could hold up the nominations.

"A moderate is the best any Republican can hope for from the Obama administration," he said.

Obama has nominated 42 circuit court judges and has had 30 confirmed as of early December, according to Wheeler.

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Coin flip decides Texas city council race

SEGUIN, Texas (AP) — The only thing separating two city council candidates near San Antonio is a coin flip.

Jeannette "Jet" Crabb and Ben Amador were both running for city council in Seguin. They finished tied after a Dec. 18 runoff, 141-141.

So city Mayor Don Keil decided the race Thursday by flipping a coin.

Crabb and Amador each received slips of paper — one that said "heads," one with "tails."

Then Keil threw a silver dollar in the air. It landed on the table as tails. Crabb won. She was immediately sworn in to begin a four-year term. The Texas Election Code allows ties to be settled by a "casting of lots."

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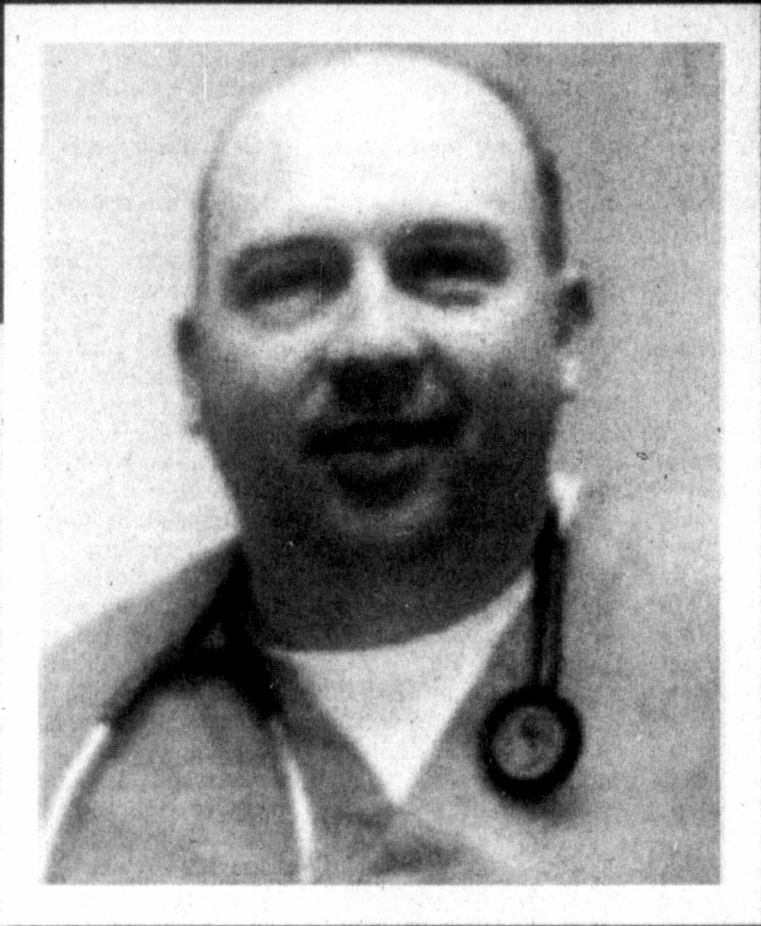
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PampaSports

TOMBOYS FUNDRAISER



Submitted Photo
The girls fast pitch traveling team called the Tomboys recently hosted a fundraiser to get new uniforms. The girls on the team are age 12 and under. Tickets were \$10 a ticket and the winning ticket received an AR-15 rifle. Kyle Parnell says that they sold 500 tickets. The Tomboys season will start in March. Pictured above is Kay West, left, assisting Kyle Parnell to draw the winning ticket for the AR-15. The winner was Ryan Roden.

Got A Sports Story or Photo?
Send them to zgreen@thepampanews.com or bring it to the paper!

Lady Harvesters open tourney with win

By ZACHARY GREEN
zgreen@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Lady Harvesters are in Lubbock for the Caprock Tournament. They opened the tournament against the Morton Maidens on Thursday.

After the first quarter thanks to a couple of three-pointers by the Maidens, Pampa trailed 12-9.

Hayley Burnett fueled a big second quarter for the Harvesters with two three-pointers. Pampa would overtake the lead and head into the locker room ahead 23-17.

The Lady Harvesters struggled out of the

locker room only scoring four points in the entire third quarter.

Morton struggled as well though so Pampa was able to maintain a 27-24 lead heading into the final quarter.

Burnett again led the charge for Pampa in the fourth quarter. Thanks to her 10 points and Taylor Eubank's five points Pampa was able to hold off the Maidens and win the game 50-40.

Burnett led Pampa with three three-pointers and 20 points. She also went 7-13, or 54 percent, from the free-throw line. Eubank added 13 points and went 5-7, or 71 percent, from the free-throw line. Rachel Andrews scored eight points and went 2-2 from the free-throw line. Madison Brown and Bailey Wichert each added four points. Allison Ceyanes scored one point.

As a team Pampa shot

15-24, or 63 percent, from the free-throw line. Morton went 5-17, or 29 percent, from the free-throw line. Free-throws made the difference in the game on Thursday.

Pampa played Wall on Friday night but the results did not make it before press time.

Look for the rest of their tournament results in Wednesday's paper.

With the win, Pampa's record moves to 6-10.



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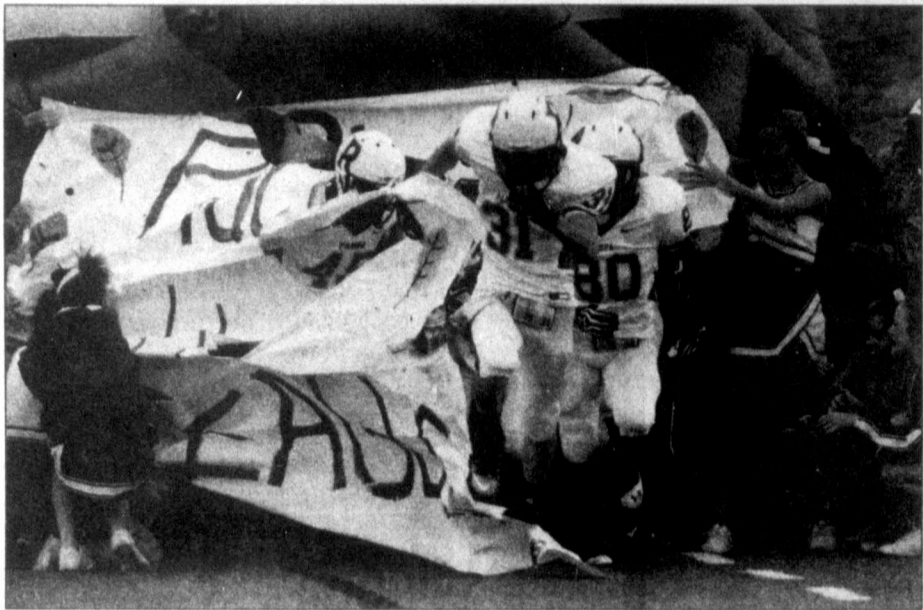
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PampaSports

Looking back: Pampa sports 2012 Year in Review



Staff photos

Above, the Pampa Harvesters football team runs through the banner at a home game this past season. Below, Terra Truitt runs at a meet this past season.



By ZACHARY GREEN
zgreen@thepampapnews.com

Another year is in the books, and it has been a fun ride for Pampa athletics this season. We take a look back at the top moments The Pampa News has chosen over the course of this past season.

Narrowing down the list to 11 was challenging, and many great sporting events were left out in creating this list.

Join with us now as we count down our list for some of the Pampa sports highlights for 2012.

11 — Harvesters and Lady Harvesters basketball teams make 2011-12 playoffs

In February, both boys and girls basketball teams clinched spots in the playoffs.

A victory over rival Borger secured the Lady Har-

vesters a playoff spot and eliminated Borger from the playoffs.

The boys team missed out on a second straight district title, but finished second and earned a trip to the playoffs.

The Lady Harvesters lost in the first round to Shallowater. The Harvesters lost in the first round on a buzzer beater to Lamesa.

10 — Chris Rivera named Defensive Player of Year

Senior linebacker Chris Rivera made the Class 3A, District 1 All-District team as the Defensive Player of the Year.

Six other Pampa players made the All-District first or second teams.

9 — Broadcaster Warren Hasse dies

In February, the Pampa community lost a dear friend, Warren Hasse. Hasse announced Pampa Oilers' games in the 1950s and broadcasted the Harvesters basketball games when Clifton McNeely took Pampa to state.

Hasse worked as the sports editor for The Pampa News in 1948 and started broadcasting for KPDN in 1949. He was inducted into the Panhandle Sports Hall of Fame in 1981. Hasse was active in the community with perfect attendance in the Kwanis Club for 41 years.

8 — Three wrestlers are district champions

In February, senior Robert Radke, senior Ryan Pearson and junior Bella Wilson all won individual district championships in their re-

spective weight classes.

7 — River Road Tournament victory

In late November, the Harvesters varsity boys basketball team went 4-0 and won the River Road Tournament.

Pampa won every game by 24 points or more.

"This weekend was a great example of what team basketball looks like. The scoring was spread out and balanced and the effort was maxed out all four games," said Pampa Coach Matt Embry.

"We still have a long way to go but we took a step in the right direction this weekend. Very proud of my guys and the way they represented our community both on the floor and off."

6 — Terra Truitt wins silver at state

In November, Terra Truitt won silver in the cross country state meet.

Later that month, Truitt was also awarded a spot on the Class 3A first team All-State team.

5 — Twice as nice

In March, Latigo Collins made the Texas Basketball Coaches Association All-Region team for the second straight year. "I'm just honored," Collins said. "I thank my teammates, coaches and God. It is an individual selection, but I didn't do it by myself."

Later in the year, Collins signed a scholarship to play basketball at Northwestern Oklahoma State University.

4 — Coach pitch team wins tournament

In April, a coach pitch

traveling team was honored by The Pampa News for their undefeated tournament performance.

The Pampa Patriots went 7-0 and won the Spring Classic Tournament in Canyon.

The championship was won thanks to a walk-off home run by Samuel Anguiano.

3 — Lady Harvesters golf team repeats as district champions

In April, the Pampa Lady Harvesters golf team won their second straight district title.

The Lady Harvesters shot 388 in the second round, bringing its total to 763.

Pampa finished 29 strokes ahead of second place rival Borger.

2 — James Thompson throws no-hitter

In April, junior James Thompson threw a no-hitter in the Harvesters' baseball season opener against Dalhart. Pampa won the game 18-0.

1 — Swim teams win 13th straight district title

In January, the Harvesters and Lady Harvesters swimming teams both won district.

Both teams won the district title for the 13th season in a row. Seventeen swimmers advanced to regionals in 22 events. The swim teams hope to make it 14 straight district titles in January.

Let's hope 2013 brings some fantastic sports memories for the Pampa community just like 2012.

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PampaSports

PHS Harvesters bounce back on day two of Caprock Classic with win over Bovina 51-42

By ZACHARY GREEN
zgreen@thepampanews.com

After suffering a loss to Vega on Thursday, the Pampa Harvesters found themselves in the consolation bracket with a match-up against the Bovina Mustangs.

The first quarter was competitive with Pampa gaining a slim 8-7 lead after the first.

Pampa went into the locker room with a 23-15 lead after a good offensive showing as a team in the second quarter.

In the third quarter both teams scored nine points which let Pampa maintain the eight point lead at 32-24 after three quarters. Gabe Garcia had two of those three-pointers, including one that Head Coach Matt Embry said "banked in, and was huge at keeping the momentum."

In the fourth quarter the Mustangs had an 8-0 run to tie the game at 36 all before Embry called a timeout.

Cade Engle lit a spark for Pampa after that scoring 11 of Pampa's 19 fourth quarter points. Engle scored 11 points, including two three-pointers to keep Pampa from losing the lead. The Harvesters went on to win the game 51-42.

As a team Pampa shot 3-14, or 21 percent, from the free-throw line. "Free-throw shooting is our biggest

struggle right now. It's all mental. We have got to overcome that mental part of the game to be successful in future games. Once we fix that, we will score an extra 10-15 points a game. That is crucial for district play," said Embry.

"Cade and Gabe played great in different parts of the game to help us a lot today," added Embry.

Engle and Garcia finished with 13 points and two three-pointers each. Derrek Pollard and Jake Green each added eight points. Green also added two three-pointers. Cory Ponce scored five points and Patterson Alvey added four points.

Abel Rocha scored 13 points and Joseph Casas added 11 points to lead Bovina scorers.

Bovina shot 9-16, or 56 percent, from the free-throw line.

With the win, Pampa improves to 6-9 on the season.

The next game in the tournament for Pampa was on Friday night against the Sands Mustangs.

Coach Embry said Sands is the No. 3 team in Class 1A. That game did not make it in before press time. Look for that result in Wednesday's paper.

Check The Pampa News' Facebook page for later updates on the boys and girls games from the Caprock Classic.

Pampa 4x4 volleyball winter 2013 signups

STAFF REPORT

Sign ups for the Pampa 4x4 volleyball leagues are ongoing through 5 p.m., Jan. 4, 2013. All rosters must be sent in and all fees must be paid by the deadline or the team will not be scheduled.

There is a \$100 entry fee, which is usually the sponsor's fee. The players fee is \$15 per person and there must be at least six players on a team.

There are women's, men's and mixed 4x4 divisions. Schedules will be available on Jan. 11, 2013 in the Recreation Office at M.K. Brown Memorial Auditorium. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Play will begin the week of Jan. 14, 2013. There will be 12 matches that are rally scoring as well as a post-season tournament.

There are first-place, second-place and third-place awards for each division. Those will be sponsor plaques. There will also be first and second place individual awards in each division.

The minimum age to sign up is 14 years old. All players must turn in a waiver form to be eligible to play.

For more information contact Autumn Schaub at 806-669-1044 or by email at pamparecreation@gmail.com.

Got A Sports Story or Photo? Send them to us!
zgreen@thepampanews.com or bring it to the paper!

Indians sell TV network to Fox Sports Media Group

CLEVELAND (AP) — The Cleveland Indians sold their regional TV sports network and telecast rights for Indians baseball games to Fox Sports Media Group, in a deal announced Friday.

Fox Sports Media Group said it will have the exclusive long-term local telecast rights for the Indians.

While no financial terms were released, The Plain Dealer reported that Fox Sports is paying an estimated \$230 million for SportsTime Ohio and \$400 million over 10 years to broadcast the games.

Since the 2006 season, the team's games have been on SportsTime Ohio, a Cleveland-based regional

sports network created by Indians owners Paul and Larry Dolan.

The Dolans had hoped that owning their own network would give the team more revenue and allow them to control programming much like the New York Yankees' YES Network and the Boston Red Sox's New England Sports Network.

Paul Dolan said in a statement Friday that the sale of SportsTime Ohio will strengthen the franchise and help its ability to build competitive teams.

Fox Sports Media Group, which is owned by News Corp., already owns 20 U.S. regional sports networks. News Corp. in November said it was



acquiring a 49 percent stake in the Yankees' YES Network.

The addition of rights to Indians games gives Fox Sports Ohio adds to its lineup of the Cincinnati Reds, Cleveland Cavaliers, Columbus Blue Jackets, Columbus Crew, Xavier Musketeers, and Cincinnati Bearcats.

SportsTime Ohio also has carried Mid-American Conference football and basketball and high school sports.

"The acquisition of SportsTime Ohio solidifies our business in Ohio," said Jeff Krolik, executive vice president of Fox Sports Networks.

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The new home will offer services such as Rehab to Home, in which you or your family member can come in, stay in a private room, receive any or all of the three therapy services offered for your need and go home. They offer physical, occupational, and speech therapy.

Caprock Nursing & Rehabilitation will offer Rehab to Go, an outpatient therapy program for those who do not need an in-house stay, but still need the expertise of therapy services.

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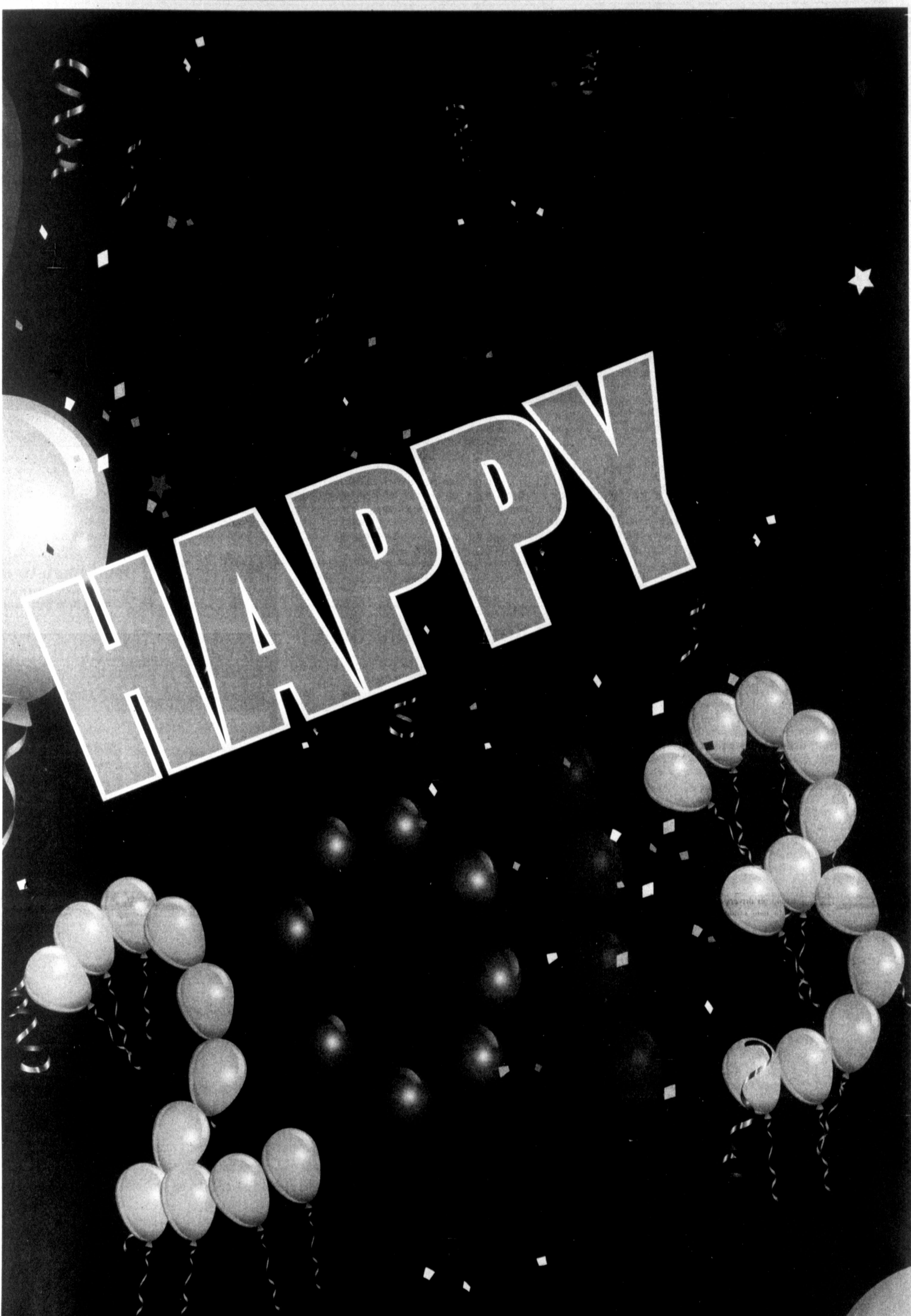
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 3 bedroom brick, 2 full baths- 1 remodeled, fireplace in living room,. New roof & chain link fence. Lots of amenities. Huge workshop with 14' overhead door, wired for 220. Super condition. Call Irvine to see. 9547
- ✪ **PRICE REDUCED** ✪
 Gorgeous 5 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath brick home has elegance galore. Fabulous scenic views from patio and balcony. Call Lilith to see. 9571
- ✪ **GREAT FLOOR PLAN** ✪
 3 bedroom brick, 1 3/4, 1/2 baths, fireplace in large den, living room, dining room. Half bath in utility. Sit on the covered patio and enjoy the view. Great neighborhood. Call Lilith for appt. OE
- ✪ **NICE LOCATION** ✪
 3 bedroom on corner lot, 3 bedroom home features open floor plan and plenty of storage. Fenced backyard and covered patio. Call Lilith to see. 9519
- ✪ **EXCELLENT INVESTMENT** ✪
 Tumbleweed acres mobile home park on Kentucky Street. Utilities in good condition. Paved streets, curbs and gutters. Community storm shelter. Call Irvine. OE

Bobbie Nisbet BKR 662-8118
 Irvine Riphahn GRI 665-4534
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120 Autos

2002 Z71 SUBURBAN White
 Nice Tan Leather Interior Sunroof Good Tires 242,000 mi. \$5000
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 FOR Sale 2009 GMC Yukon Denali, 4 wd, 64K miles, leather int., bucket seats w/3rd row seat, ent. system, sunroof, excellent condition! \$35,000 OBO. Call 663-0454.
 FOR Sale 1987 Ford Econoline, good work van \$1,500 OBO. Call 665-2880.

122 Motorcycles

2005 EXTTOX CYCLE VISION
 Replica of Easy Rider 6 spd 124cc S&S
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 2010 POLARIS RZR 800, 3500 Winch, Great Shape, \$12,500. Would take smaller older car or Tahoe in partial trade. Ron 806-662-5823



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Gary Winton: Realtor@Office Manager
 806-440-1698
 1712 N. Hobart (806) 665-4595

FEATURED LISTINGS



113/115 Kingsmill
 Remodeled Store used as a neat book store but could be any type of business. Half of the store is rented. Store only for sale. Good downtown location. Call Roberta Babb - 665-6158.

2424 Mary Ellen
 Great 3BR starter home, close to shopping! Neat and clean with original hardwood floors. Oversized double garage with a large storage room. Great back yard with a deck! Lots of light! Call Christy Parker - 898-8542.



60 Household

DOUBLE oven cook stove, dressers, chests, coffee tables, tables, & what not. 662-7557

69 Misc.

NEW Mattresses. Qu Set \$246. Full \$236. Tw \$200. Red Barn, 1424 S. Barnes 665-2767

RIC Firewood- Locust \$170. Oak \$175, mesquite \$185, delivery avail., 669-9532, 664-1900, lv. mess.

WHEAT Hay-75 love grass-65 fertilized, irrigated & net wrapped delivery avail., lv. mess. 669-9532, 664-1900.

COTTONWOOD for sale \$150 per cord, cut to any size you want. Will deliver. Call 202-9322

GOLD'S Gym 410 Treadmill, about 1 yr old, great condition. \$200 OBO. Call 669-1971.

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FREE 3/4 Pitbull mix, 4 male, 2 female. On the corner of Schneider & Crawford.

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MINUTES from downtown-efficiencies. Short term leases avail. 806-665-4274, 663-2579

98 Unfurn. Houses

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

3 bd \$625. 4 bd, carport & storage building new flooring, Austin school district \$850. Call 806-881-9798

701 E. 15th, 3/1, fireplace, c h/a, 2 living areas. \$750 per mo. Owner/Agent Jan Phillips. 469-647-8552.

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.

103 Homes For Sale

COZY Family home 3+2, w/upgrades, 1 car, workshop, fenced. Worth a look. \$59,888. 665-0544 or 440-9100

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VERY Clean 3 BR, Brick 2 BA. Recently Remodeled. Lg. back yard. Patio. 1773 SF, 560 SF gar. Austin Sch. \$135,000. 665-5258 or 665-6815 for appt.

106 Coml. Property

RETAILS and garage space. Centrally located. Great value. 665-1875 or 881-8518

114 Recre. Veh.

1986 Interbox 33 foot Toy Hauler All Steel, Wench, Auto Jack, Tie Downs, Cabinets, 3 new tires, 3 axle.
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120 Autos

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2004 Monte Carlo SS. 31,000 Miles. White. Loaded. \$12,500. 669-3001

FOR SALE: 1998 Ford Crown Victoria, 100,000 miles, runs good. \$2,400 OBO Call 806-664-1046

IDEAL FOR COLLECTORS! 1979 Pontiac TransAm. White / blue, lrg bird on hood. One owner! 24,500 actual miles, 6.6 L, 403 Eng. Auto. transmission. All original. Good price. \$21,900. Call 806-665-4836

1986 Dodge Mini Pickup, 4 Cylinder, std trans, runs good, easy on gas, \$2,200.00. Call 664-3900.

121 Trucks

2002 Chevy Silverado Single cab, orange metallic. Boss rims. 5.3 V-8. Only 86,000 miles. Asking NADA \$8500 806-662-4909

2011 Dodge Ram Pickup, crew cab, 42,000 miles. \$24,000. call 440-2535

122 Motorcycles

2005 Yamaha Royal Star with trike kit. 10,000 miles, black with silver, back rest & windshield. Mint condition Asking \$9,000. Call 662-3497

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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.

12-29 CRYPTOQUOTE

S V S U U G R V K C X V Z Z X R S A ' F
 N T R O B T X . Y K A T ' C C V S A L
 S B Z O A X Y G A T R H C K H T S
 B S K A N Z J , F V S F ' M S C C , K A M F T S X
 Z E S A Z Z M T . — V Z B F T A M T
 R S C K M V T B

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: I BELIEVE THAT A SCIENTIST LOOKING AT NONSCIENTIFIC PROBLEMS IS JUST AS DUMB AS THE NEXT GUY. — RICHARD FEYNMAN



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Jim Davidson (BKR/OWNER)662-9021
 Linda Lapacka, (BKR Assoc. GR. #P2).....662-9611
 Andrea Walling.....664-6227
 Zeb Sallors.....664-0312
 Donna Courter.....595-0779
 Katrina Bigham.....898-8510
 John Goddard (BKR Assoc)595-1234
 Sandra Schuneman (BKR Assoc.) .662-7291

Pampa MLS & Amarillo MLS

AUSTIN SCHOOL DISTRICT North and Northeast

1101 Christine St	\$415,000	4/3/2	- 4278 SF/GCAD
2417 Navajo Rd.	\$146,000	3/1.75/1	- 2100 SF/Owner
2541 Christine St	\$129,500	3/1.75/2	- 2050 SF/GCAD
2222 Williston	\$119,500	3/2/2	- 1936 SF/GCAD
2705 Navajo Rd.	\$89,900	3/1.75/1	- 1125 SF/GCAD
2133 Mary Ellen	\$89,000	2/1/2	- 1516 SF/GCAD
2133 Mary Ellen	\$89,000	2/1/2	- 1516 SF/GCAD
1804 Hamilton	\$77,000	3/1.75/1	- 1232 SF/GCAD
2542 Charles St	\$67,500	2/2/2	- 1597 SF/GCAD
1510 Williston St	\$65,000	4/1.5/1	- 1404 SF/GCAD
2137 Hamilton St	\$46,000	2/1/1	- 998 SF/GCAD

LAMAR SCHOOL DISTRICT Southwest

310 West St	\$81,000	4/1.75/2	- 1917 SF/GCAD
947 S Hobart St.	\$48,500	1/1/1	- 672 SF/GCAD
409 N Nelson St	\$40,000	3/1/1	- 1008 SF/GCAD
1107 Finley St	\$25,000	3/1.5/1	- 1244 SF/GCAD

TRAVIS SCHOOL DISTRICT West and Northwest

1424-1426 Dwight	\$149,000		2704 SF/GCAD Duplex
1048-1050 N Dwight St.	\$115,900		2407 SF/GCAD Duplex
1510 N Wells St	\$112,900	3/1.75/2	- 1544 SF/GCAD
2128 N Dwight St	\$59,500	3/1/1	- 1064 SF/GCAD
932 Terry Rd	\$54,900	3/1.75/2	- 1510 SF/GCAD

WILSON SCHOOL DISTRICT Southeast Pampa

1004 E Darby Av	\$39,000	3/1/0	- 1162 SF/GCAD
825 Bradley Dr	\$36,500	2/1/2	- 2008 SF/GCAD

OTHER AREAS Outside Pampa City Limits

612 Ware Av, Groom	\$130,000	3/1.75/4	- 1637 SF/CCAD
300 W 5th, Mobeetie	\$94,900	4/1.75/2	- 1926 WCAD
705 E 6th St, Lefors	\$87,900	3/2.50/0	- 2128 SF/GCAD
600 W 3rd Av, WD	\$67,500	3/1/1	- 1104 SF/CCAD
400 S. Popham, WD	\$51,500	3/1/0	- 1494 SF/CCAD
1106 Hedgecoke Dr, Borger	\$26,900	3/1/2	- 1120 SF/HCAD

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY & LAND

Perryton Parkway	\$2,503,828	9.58 acres east of hospital
120 S. Gillespie St	\$4,100/mo	For Lease - 7,372 SF/GCAD
30th & Charles St	\$1,400,000	45.9 acres of land N of Walmart
30th & Charles	\$653,400	5 acres-\$3 sqft
FM 14 Rd, Lefors	\$530,000	530 acres w/water well
500 W Harvester Av	\$350,000	Lots south of United
748 S Price Rd	\$350,000	3 Ac. + 14,400 Warehouse, Offices
302-308 W Foster	\$309,900	4 Retail Outlets 10,874 SF/GCAD
117 - 121 Ballard	\$230,000	24,500 SF/GCAD
854 S Hobart/900 Wilks St	\$175,000	4 Lots + 10' on north
420 W Foster Av	\$165,000	Houston Lumb & Gas Station
Harvester St	\$150,000	60 x 110 Bldg Lots
1421 N Hobart St	\$137,500	1,816 SF/GCAD Smokehouse
1435 Alcock St	\$135,000	2 Bldg, 3,200 SF/GCAD; 1,020 SF/GCAD
523 W Foster Av	\$105,000	7,598 SF/GCAD
301 & 305 W Foster Av	\$75,000	3,500 SF/GCAD each
23rd & Crescent Dr	\$65,000	Lot 4 Blk 1 North Crest Sec 1
220 E Francis	\$45,000	Lots 13 & 14 Blck 25 Original Town
Chaumont Addition	\$35,000	Lots 1 & 2 Block 2
Dogwood Ln	\$22,000	Lots 15-17 & 40' of 18
27th Ave	\$10,000	Lot 8, Blk 71 Fraser Annex
Dogwood Ln	\$9,000	Lot 2 & 40.35' of Lot 1
Jupiter St	\$9,000	Lot 3 Blk 4 Country Club Heights
Jupiter St	\$9,000	Lot 7 Blk 3 Country Club Heights

Office Hours: M-F 8-5, Sat. 9-2, Sun call our agents.
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Century 21 Pampa Realty Inc has not verified these square footages and makes no guarantee or warranty of square footage data. They are derived from 3rd parties or appraisal districts.



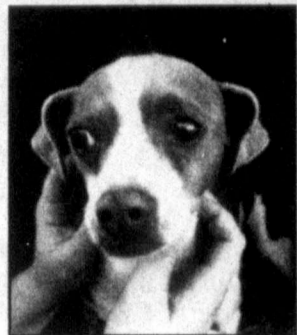
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“Jingle”
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“Winter”
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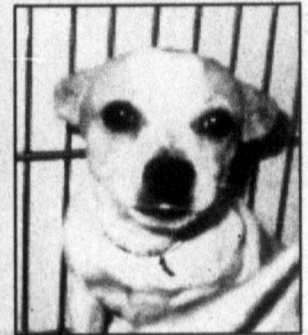
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Chi Male, Happy #6219

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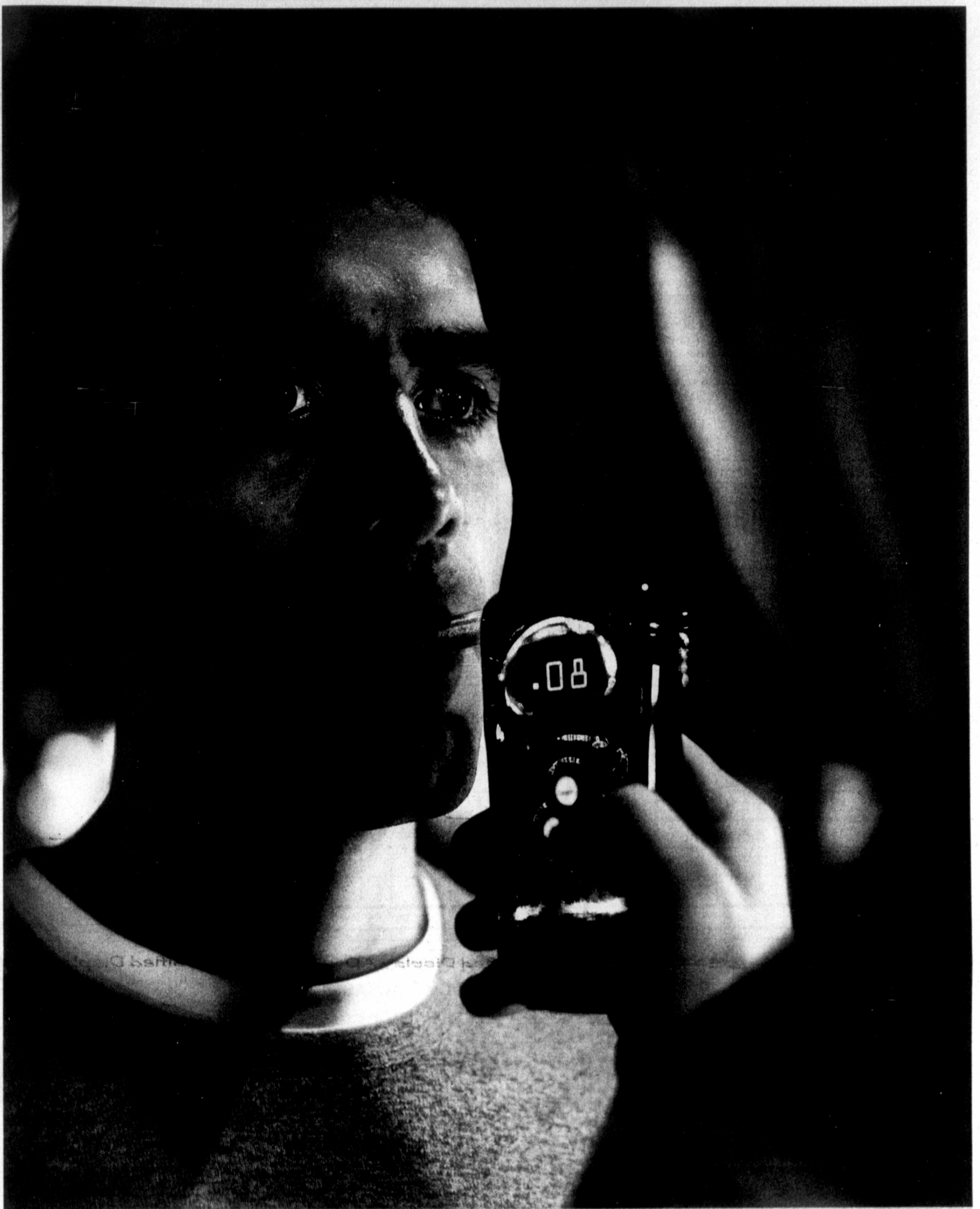
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1112 E Francis

MLS# 12-9528

OWNER Has textured and painted entire inside of this home. It is a 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 living area, spacious kitchen, utility room off of Kitchen-attached to one bedroom is another room with closet-could be playroom, office, use for large closet and dressing area-Great neighborhood with New Roof-Makes a great investment or starter home-COME CHECK THIS ONE OUT

1020 E Fisher St

MLS# 12-9553

LOOKING For A Great Starter? Nice older, established neighborhood? Here it is a 2 bedroom could be 3, 1 bath, 2 spacious living areas. This could be it. Take a look today.

720 N Main, McLean

MLS# 12-9415

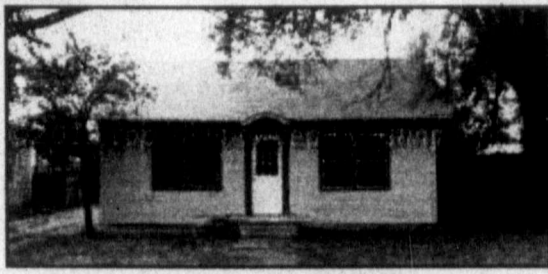
Looking for a Smaller, friendly community just 30 minutes from Pampa and Amarillo? This 3 bedroom 1.75 bath home, located on a nice corner lot with shade trees, Permatone, sided eaves, oversize 2 car detached garage, and a basement with a smaller safe room attached-THIS IS A MUST SEE.



1044 W Crane St

MLS# 12-9446

A Great 3 bedroom, 1.75 bath, fireplace in Family Room, Newer built in cook top, dishwasher which are stainless steel, newer disposal. The heating and air is 2 years old, roof 2 1/2, carpet is 3 years, new gas lines and water lines and located on a CORNER LOT. This home has it all and is close to Travis School, shopping and restaurants. Check this one out today



1940 N Faulkner St

MLS# 12-9600

Looking for An Unique home in established neighborhood? This home has 2 Bedrooms (1) has Bay window and oversize closet, a Bonus Room above converted garage could be 3rd Bedroom, storm Cellar with access from inside of home, 2 living areas, 1 bath and a large entrance area from Carport with a ramp-Come and Check This One Out Today



#31- 4800 LL Greenbelt

MLS# 12-9608

Looking for a place to unwind and have a little piece and quiet? HERE IT IS. A 2 bedroom 1.75 bath with nice open floor plan and a spacious sun room, 2 car detached garage for all of your Lake toys. New Roof December 2012. Nice drive and relaxing.



1813 Grape St

MLS# 12-9294

Looking for a nice neighborhood, Austin School District? This home is a 3 bedroom, 1.75 bath, enclosed patio, nice family room with a fenced backyard. Look at this one Today and make it your next home.



2236 N Charles St

MLS# 12-9510

A VERY Unique home with a view of the Spacious backyard from 3 different glass interior angles, the kitchen/dining, hall and den area. This home has a Double Brick Fireplace-kitchen/dining and also Den side. Has 3 bedroom, full bath in master, jack & jill with the middle 2 bedrooms and full bath in mother-in-law quarters-CORNER LOT-All calling your name-COME CHECK IT OUT



1924 Lynn St

MLS# 12-9582

LOOKING for a Floor Plan that is Family Friendly? This 3 bedroom, 1.75 bath, updated Kitchen with Dining area, Family Room, Library and a Sun Room has the square footage for a growing family. Has a Hot Tub to relax in after a long day. Located in an established neighborhood.



1801 Lynn St

MLS# 12-9583

Looking for a 4 bedroom 2 bath home, corner lot, brick with many Updates, in a nice neighborhood? Wood Burning Fireplace in the Living Area, Utility Room off Kitchen? Screened in Patio? Well this could be the one for you and just in time for the Holiday Season. Look today and make it yours tomorrow



2313 Dogwood Ln

MLS# 12-9468

Spacious home with 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2 car garage, brick, covered eaves for easy maintenance, 2 living areas, large kitchen with nice breakfast nook with built-in china cabinets, circle drive, storage building and single garage with alley entrance, covered patio-Come take a look for yourself and make it your next home.



220 W Wichita St

MLS# 12-9606

Looking for a Nice Community to Raise your Family, Retire or just plain Relax and Enjoy? Miami is it. This spectacular, 2 Story, 4 Bedroom, 1.75 bath, Nice Living Room and with Fireplace from Fort Elliott, separate Dining room, Spacious enough for any and all China's, Beautiful and Large Kitchen with Spanish Marble and Tile. Has Nice Bedroom down stairs with full bath and utility.



8667 Co Rd 5

MLS# 12-9568

Country Living with Room and Amenities TOO! This 3 bedroom 1 bath brick home with newer paint, texture and flooring. Living Area has wood burning fireplace, kitchen is open. This 8 acre property also has a 4 Room, open kitchen and living area guest home, rental or mother-in-law quarters. The detached 30 x 60 shop/garage has 3 overhead doors as well as 2 walk-in doors. We have 2 water wells.



8618 Co Rd 4

MLS# 12-9490

2 Miles From Pampa, Middle of Countryside, situated on 5 Acres, lots of trees with their own drip system is a nice 3 bedroom, isolated master, 2 full bath and a very user friendly floor plan. Updates include newer windows, flooring, paint, plumbing to the (2) septic and new mechanisms for the propane and last but not least, you will need to look for yourself, a storm cellar. Take a short drive .



804 N Wells

MLS# 12-9605

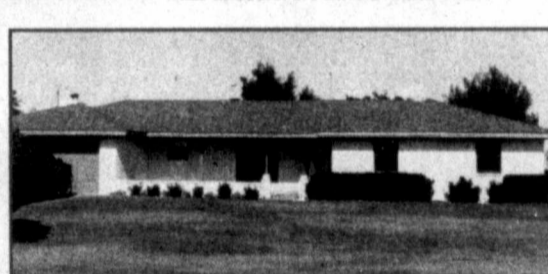
Cute 3 Bedroom, Large 3/4 Bath home with an Attached Carport, 3 Storage Buildings, Patio and Storm Cellar in Backyard



8640 Keller Estates

MLS# 12-9499

LOOKING FOR A Place in the Country but not far from Town? Close to Shopping, Hospital and Schools? HERE IT IS. A Beautiful 3 bedroom 2.5 bath 2 car garage brick home on over 1 acre. Interior is all New texture, paint and flooring. This home features an Open Floor Plan, 2 Fireplaces, 2 Living Areas, Granite counter top in Kitchen Sun Room, Patio, Lots of Trees



149 E Ocla, Borger

MLS# 12-9557

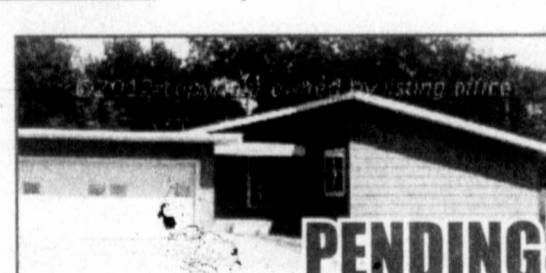
Nice 3 bedroom 2 bath home in the Fairlanses-All Brick, metal roof and sided eaves for easy care-Updated kitchen with appliances



2200 N Duncan

MLS# 12-9488

Looking for a 4 bedroom home, 2 Living Areas, close to Austin Elementary with a 2 Car Attached Garage and a Yard with plenty of room to Play? Well look at this home and make it your next one.



1309 Starkweather

MLS# 12-9295

THIS HOME has a beautiful updated spacious kitchen, tile floors, dining area, Den with a wood burning fireplace-open floor plan, 3 nice bedrooms with double and walk-in closets, full master bath and a nice .75 with a corner shower. The home is sided for easy care. Included is an above ground pool and hot tub. CALL TODAY TO VIEW THIS HOME.



1540 Coffee St

MLS# 12-9603

CORNER Lot, 2 Car Detached Garage, Large Back Yard with 2 Storage Buildings and we haven't Even Started on the Home Yet. This Home Features 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, Spacious Living Room, separate Dining Area, Kitchen with plentiful cabinets and Breakfast area, Master is Isolated, Did I Mention another Room for Office or Den?



2244 N Christine

MLS# 12-9303

HERE is an extremely maintained and updated home. 4 bedroom with .75 bath, open kitchen, dining and living room-Could turn 4th bedroom into office/den/playroom-MANY Possibilities. All brick home with sided eaves, newer fence, 2 car detached garage side entrance, storage building, located on corner lot with circle drive.



1109 Clyde St

MLS# 12-9516

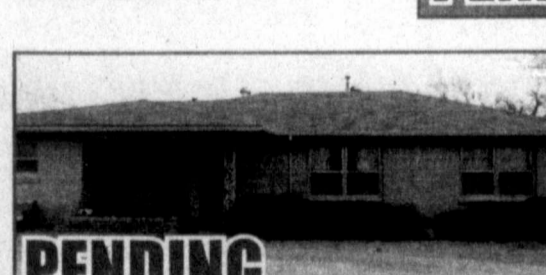
AMARILLO, TX-Updated in Country Club/Avondale. Fresh paint, flooring, Kitchen Counter top, range,oven and many other misc. Updates make this home move-in ready. Great open floor plan featuring 4 spacious bedrooms and 2.5 baths, 2 living areas, open kitchen and basement to boot. Bring your last buyers and make this your last stop.



1929 Lynn St

MLS# 12-9395

This home is calling your name. Extremely nice 3 bedroom, 1.75 bath, spacious open floor plan with a fireplace in the Living Area, updated Kitchen with granite counter tops and gorgeous back splash, tastefully textured and painted. Come Take a Look and Make it your next HOME.



2125 N Chestnut Dr

MLS# 12-9572

Nice Updated Home with 3 Bedrooms, 1.75 Baths and 2 living Areas, hardwood floors in dining area, nice backyard with children's fort, 10' x 10' storm cellar and 2 patio areas. A very nice open kitchen with bar area and large pantry. Take a look Today!!!

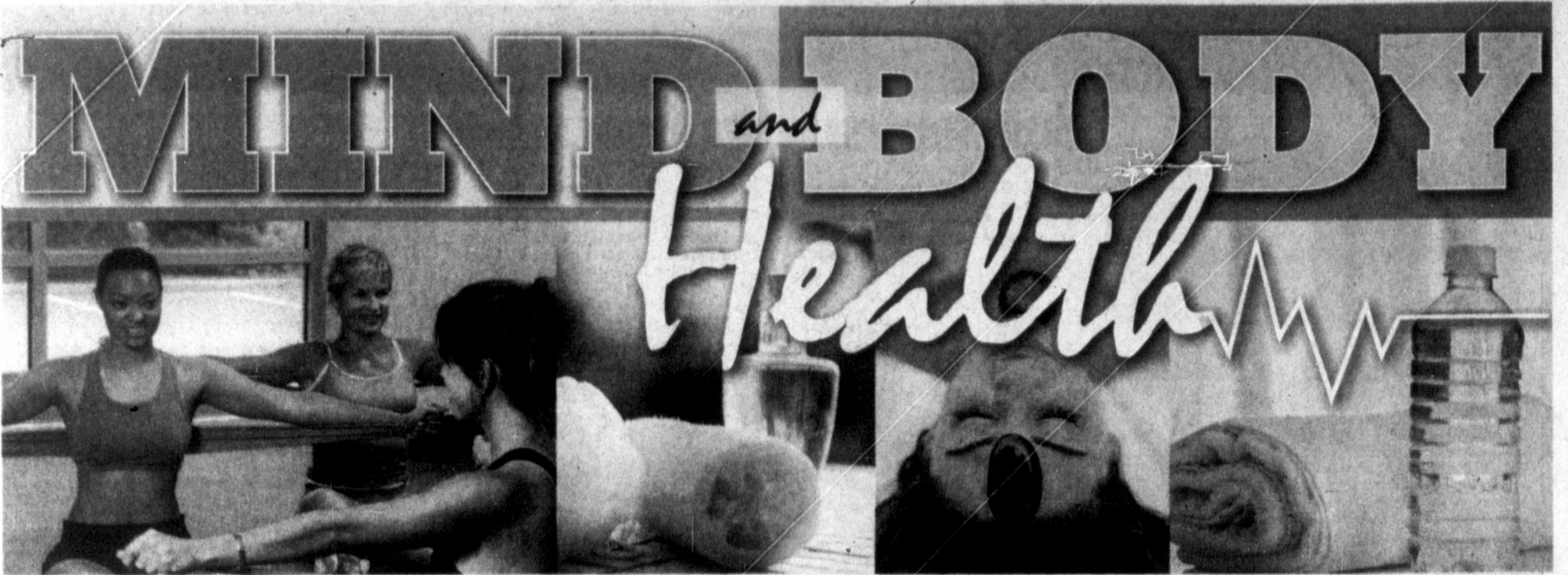


HouseHunters Realtor

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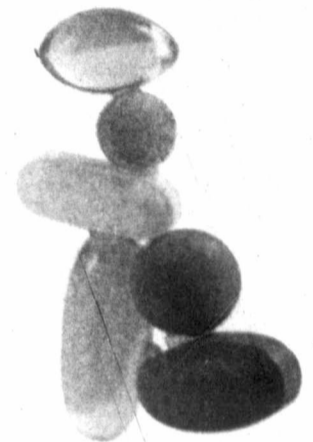
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MIND *and* BODY Health

Vitamin supplements and cancer prevention



People take daily vitamin supplements for a variety of reasons. Many believe that vitamins will serve as an insurance policy of sorts should they not be consuming the necessary vitamins and minerals through their diets. Others believe that vitamin supplements will ease certain ailments or help prevent diseases, such as cancer. Beliefs such as these have

helped the dietary supplements business become a billion-dollar industry.

There have been many clinical studies conducted to look into the correlation between vitamin supplements and the prevention of certain types of cancer. Understanding the results can be confusing. There is no magic formula for consuming a broad-spectrum vitamin supplement to serve as a blanket remedy for preventing cancer. However, there have been some studies that show certain vitamins may help lower risk for specific cancers. For example, a study published in 2010 found women who had high levels of vitamin A and C in their bodies, whether from diet or supplement use, had fewer cases of cervical cancer compared to women with lower levels of these vitamins. Vitamin B6 has been known to have various benefits,

including reducing a person's risk of developing lung, breast and colon cancer. Those with high blood levels of B6 have a lower risk, but there is no proof that taking B6 supplements will have the same benefits. Some studies indicate that vitamin E supplements may reduce men's risk of developing prostate cancer. Studies in

the 1970s suggested that high doses of vitamin C could be an alternative cancer treatment, says The Mayo Clinic. These findings were debunked when it was discovered the research methods used to reach the conclusions were flawed. Subsequent studies did not corroborate the 1970s results. However, more attention is now be-

ing paid to administering vitamin C intravenously, which has different effects than when the vitamin is taken orally. Until clinical trials are completed, researchers cannot say for sure if intravenous vitamin C will be the new all-natural cancer cure.

It is important to note that taking vitamin supplements at the suggested lev-

els recommended should be relatively safe for most people. Individuals should not super-dose vitamins in an effort to achieve better health results. Also, people should discuss any vitamin supplement use with doctors, as some supplements may cause potentially harmful interactions with certain medications.

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