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The PAMPA NEWS

TODAY IN SPORTS



Thursday, July 31, 2014 www.thepampanews.com Volume 110 • No. 82

75¢ Tales from the Final Frontier Special guest column from Tim Howsare | **p4** From the Press Box: Johnny Football Photos from Harvester football camp | **p6,10**

School board approves bus purchases

District-wide construction continues on schedule.

By JOHN LEE
 jlee@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Independent School District Board of Trustees met on Monday evening in a standard meeting at the Pampa ISD administration building. Up first was an update from both construction companies concerning the several projects across the district. NextEra spoke first, they are the company in charge of the stadium lighting and HVAC units at the elementary schools. NextEra's representative said that the stadium lights should be finished by the week of August 11 and the HVAC units are on track to be done on time.

Jason Allstead of Wylie Hicks construction spoke about the remodel at Austin and Lamar, the work at McNeely Field House and the emergency repairs at Pampa Junior High. All projects are going according to plan. Austin's kitchen repairs are finished, Lamar should be done by the end of the week and McNeely should be done by middle-to-late next week. The emergency work at Pampa Junior High should be done by Aug. 6. The consent agenda items were approved, and next to speak was executive director of curriculum and instruction Tanya Larkin, who spoke about some

curriculum adjustments. Larkin's presentation led to the board approved the suspension of portions of the policy EIE (Local), which focuses on this retention and promotion. Pampa ISD superintendent Dr. David young presented the board with the proposal to purchase buses and accept bids on the purchase of vehicles for the district. Dr. Young showed the current roster of buses, including two that are older than 15 years old and out of their replacement schedule. They also have a 1996 Chevy Suburban that has more than 247,000 miles. Dr. Young proposed that the Board approve the purchase of two Blue Bird route buses that can hold 77 passengers (at its capacity). Each bus will cost \$89,890 for a total

SCHOOL cont. on page 2

County Commissioners to meet Friday

STAFF REPORT

The Gray County Commissioners will meet on Friday, Aug. 1 for its first regular session meeting of the month. The Commissioners will discuss and consider taking action on the following agenda items:

- Pay bills and salaries as approved by the County Auditor.
- Line item transfers.
- Allowing investment officer to invest Gray County money into the federally insured cash account.
- Clarendon College's FY2015 budget.
- A refund from Gray County Tax Office to taxpayer in an amount of more than \$2,500, per Sec 31.11 Texas Property Tax Code.
- Tax bids in the City of Pampa per letter dated July 17, 2014 from Tax Assessor-Collector.
- Continuing longevity for FY2015.
- Providing flu shots for employees and dependents covered under Gray County health insurance and charging others \$20.

COUNTY cont. on page 2

Today's golden horseshoe hint

SUBMITTED

The Top O' Texas Rodeo Association is sponsoring the "Golden Horseshoe Treasure Hunt" again in conjunction with the Top O' Texas Rodeo, August 7, 8 and 9. A "Golden Horseshoe" has been hidden in the area and clues will be given each day that will help locate the horseshoe. The lucky person who finds the horseshoe will receive a Box Seat to all three performances of the 68TH Annual Top O' Texas Rodeo. The Box Seat is valued at \$150.00. They will also be able to ride in the rodeo parade on Saturday, August 9. This year the clues will be placed in selected stores in Pampa and you can only get the clues by going into that store. Hints as to the location of these stores will be given each day in the newspaper and over the radio. No clues will be given in the paper or on the radio as to where the horseshoe is hidden. Merchants have been asked not to give any information out over the telephone. If you have any questions concerning the Top O' Texas Rodeo or the Golden Horseshoe Hunt, please call Cindy Kempf at the rodeo office, (806) 669-0434. **Tuesday's hint: Clothes, gift items. Oh, what fun this store is!**

CLOUD OR SHINE, BBQ FOR THEIR COMMUNITY



Photo by Lindsey Tomaschik

IntegraCare had its annual community lunch on Wednesday. The event was free to the public, and the company provided hot dogs, tea, lemonade and information about its services to all in attendance. Pictured, from left, are Tyler True, Sarah Deaver, Gay Duggan, Nita Hogue, Gayla Chester and Ginny Elliff.

Community Christian School gets new administrator

SUBMITTED

Pat Farmer is Community Christian School's new administrator. She was born and raised in Pampa and graduated from Pampa High School in 1963. Farmer then obtained a bachelor of science degree in education from Texas Tech University and a masters degree in education and administrative certification from West Texas A&M University.



Pat Farmer

She spent 18 years as an elementary school teacher in Pampa and 14 additional years serving as principal for various schools in town (assistant principal at Pampa High School, principal at Pampa Learning Center and principal at Lamar Elementary). In addition to all this, Farmer is the Young Mothers Life Group Leader at Trinity Fellowship Church and is a former board member/volunteer for the Pregnancy Support Center. She is the mother of two sons, Jason Farmer and wife

Dane and Jeremy Farmer and wife Sara, all of Pampa and grandmother of three, Kourtney Farmer, Koen Farmer and Dace Farmer, also of Pampa.

About Community Christian School

Community Christian School is currently accepting new students for the 2014-2015 school year. The school provides its students with a safe, nurturing Christian environment and has a strong academic program starting in pre-k. The school's staff has experienced, accredited teachers and provides the community with smaller class sizes. CCS also offers music and physical education for its students. There is an after-school program as well. CCS also has reasonable, competitive tuition costs. CCS's ultimate goal is to provide an accelerated educational opportunity that is both academically challenging and Christ-centered in nature. The staff provides an educational program that capitalizes on small student/teacher

FARMER cont. on page 2

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Shoes that are ready to be filled

SUBMITTED BY THE TEXAS WELFARE BOARD

The Shoe Dept, located at 2733 Perryton Parkway in Pampa, recently provided assistance to the children of Gray County who are placed in foster homes.

"Through the generosity of the folks at THE SHOE DEPT, we were able, along with a grant and some of the Board's funds, to purchase 32 pair of good quality shoes to help get our kids in foster care ready for school," said Lisa Blandford, Vice-President of the Gray County Child Welfare Board.

"In a three-hour long 'shoe-shopping-marathon,' staff at THE SHOE DEPT assisted Chris Kirkpatrick, Gray County Child Welfare Board member, in picking out the correct sizes in the

correct genders for all the children. "I was buying for kids all the way from newborn to those who are already wearing adult sizes, and many in between," said Kirkpatrick. "It got confusing at times, but the staff was very helpful."

Local store manager Ory Gamez, upon realizing what the project was all about and to whom the shoes would be going, offered a generous discount to the Gray County Child Welfare Board to enable their limited funds to go even further.

"We are very thankful to have local businesses who willingly 'give back' to the community when needs are expressed," said Blandford.

The Gray County Child Welfare Board is a United Way Agency.



Crop circle in Germany attracts many visitors

BERLIN (AP) — Thousands of people are trekking to a Bavarian farmer's field to check out a mysterious set of crop circles.

The ornate design was discovered by a balloonist last week and news of the find quickly spread online.

Farmer Christoph Huttner, who owns the wheat field near Weilheim, couldn't be reached for comment Wednesday but told the dpa news agency Tuesday he didn't create the circle himself.

He suggests students on summer holiday may have cut the image with a 75-meter diameter (246 feet) into his field.

The news agency says thousands of visitors have come to sing, dance and even swing pendulums in the giant image.

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County

Continued From Page 1

- Sheriffs' and Constables' Fees for 2015.
- Repairs to the Gray County Annex.
- Tax abatement regarding Grandview Wind Farm II.

- Constable Pct. 2 report.
- Recognize Constable Pct. 2 continuing education.
- Discuss FY2015 budget.

The County Commissions meetings are held in the second floor court room of the Gray County Courthouse, 205 N. Russell.

Farmer

Continued From Page 1

ratios, and they seek to foster independent critical thinking, personal accountability, high personal standards for academics and behavior social skills and an awareness of independent gifts and talents from which each child

is designed to serve God and positively impact the community.

We want the community of Pampa to know that they have wonderful options for their children's education. Anyone who has questions about our school or wants more information is encouraged to call the school at 806-665-3393. PO BOX 51 409 Frost St, Pampa TX 79066-0051.

School

Continued From Page 1

cost of \$179,780. He also proposed the purchase of a Blue Bird 14-passenger minibus at \$58,335.

The total cost for all the vehicles is \$238,115.

They also approved the district to seek bids on a nine-passenger SUV and five-passenger sedan.

With the replacement of an old bus with a new bus, the state will grant the District an amount of \$25,915.07.

The Board approved the purchase of this action item.

There were some adjustments made to the PISD Technology Responsible Use Plan, which director of information technology, Melody Baker, presented to the Board. These changes, which the Board approved, will be reflected in this year's Student Code of Conduct policy.

The Board selected members Lance DeFever and David Teichmann as delegate and alternate, respectively, to attend the Texas Association of School Boards conven-

tion. They will represent the District at this convention.

Dr. Young presented the Board with a demographic report which displayed the continued growth of the District. Pampa Junior High is at capacity, Austin is at capacity but getting portables to help with the growing need and several other campuses are getting close.

The Board asked the Dr. Young to get the administration together and look at options and research how to address the growing need.

The School Board received an update on the Gifted and Talented program.

Larkin presented the data and told the Board that the District is meeting and has always met the standards for the program, but are consistently looking at ways to get better. The ways they look to make the program better is by holding focus groups with gifted and talented students, parents and teachers.

The final item on the agenda was the hiring of a new director of instructional technology and assessment.



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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Friday	Saturday
		
High 80 Low 60	High 82 Low 63	High 81 Low 61

Today: Mostly sunny with a high of 80. Chance of rain: 10 percent. Winds north-northeast at 11 mph. Sunrise at 6:51 a.m.

Tonight: Partly cloudy with a low of 60. Winds southeast at 9 mph. Sunset at 8:48 p.m.

Friday: Partly cloudy with a high of 82. Winds northwest at 6 mph. Sunrise at 6:52 a.m.

Friday night: Partly cloudy with a low of 63. Winds southeast at 7 mph. Sunset at 8:48 p.m.

Saturday: Partly cloudy with a high of 81. Chance of rain: 10 percent. Winds south-southwest at 8 mph. Sunrise at 6:53 a.m.

Saturday night: Partly cloudy with a low of 61. Winds south-southeast at 7 mph. Sunset at 8:47 p.m.

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Obituaries

Neal M. Shorter, Sr.



Neal M. Shorter, Sr.

Neal M. Shorter, Sr., 60, of Pampa, died July 29, 2014 in Pampa. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors. Mr. Shorter was born Aug. 24, 1953 in Modesto, Calif. He moved to Pampa when he was a young child and had been a lifelong resident. Neal married Erma Villarreal on Feb. 28, 1976 in Pampa. He worked for Wal-Mart Tire and Maintenance for the past 10 years.

Neal was preceded in death by a son, Migel Shorter; by his father, Gene Shorter; by a daughter, Christina Shorter and by his grandparents. Survivors include his wife, Erma Shorter of the home; four sons, Neal Shorter, Jr., and wife Tara of Oklahoma City, Jason Shorter, Abel Shorter and wife Meagan and Antonio Shorter, all of Pampa; a daughter, April Siebert and husband Kevin of Pflugerville; his mother, Louise Shorter of White Deer; a brother, Don Gene Shorter and wife Cathy of Broken Arrow, Okla.; two sisters, Judy Cloud of Mobeetie and Tina Whiteley and husband Terry of Pampa and eight grandchildren. *Sign the online guest register at www.carmichael-whately.com.*

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 5:45 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month at the new administration building on North Hobart Street.

Immunization clinic 3 times a month

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) hosts an immunization clinic in Pampa three times a month. The clinics are held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from 1 to 3 p.m. on the first three Wednesdays of each month. The first 10 people in line for the morning and first 10 in the afternoon will always receive shots. However, if there are more than 10, they still may be able to accommodate the patients, or ask them to come back at another time. For more information, call 665-4752 or 806-874-3211. The clinic is located at 736 S. Cuyler St.

PAWS meets first Tuesdays

Pampa Animal Welfare Society meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Pampa Animal Shelter, 811 S. Hobart St. The meetings are at 6:30 p.m. and are open to the public.

There is a desperate need for more members. PAWS members are needed to work at the shelter from 3 to 5:30 p.m. each day and to work adoption days or take animals to the vets when needed, but mostly people are needed to love and work with the animals where they will be more adoptable.

For more information, call the shelter after 3 p.m. at 669-5775 and ask for the PAWS volunteer.

County Commission meetings

The Gray County Commission meets at 9 a.m. on the first and 15th 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.

TOT Republican Women's Club

Top O' Texas Republican Women's Club meets at noon on the third Wednesday of every month at the Pampa Senior Citizens Center, 500 W. Francis St. For more information call 806-669-1990.

Jam sessions every Friday night

The Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center has a jam session 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 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.

Monday night dance club

The Monday night dance club meets from 7 to 9 p.m., each Monday, in the Pampa Chamber of

Commerce building on the corner of Ballard and Kingsmill. Admission is \$3.50. Cold drinks and coffee are offered. The club plays country music. For more information, call Della at 806-663-1136.

PPQG Meets fourth Thursdays

Panhandle Piecemakers Quilt Guild meets the fourth Thursday of each month, January through October, at the Pampa Senior Citizens Center at 500 W. Francis St.

The meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. and membership is open to adult quilters of all ages. Dues are \$15 annually. Meetings consist of a short business discussion followed by a program featuring quilting techniques. For more information, call 806-662-2909.

Editor's note: Email submissions to jclee@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.

Area support groups

The following is a list of support groups that meet regularly each week in Pampa. Information for each meeting is submitted to The Pampa News office and may not be completely updated or accurate. Please notify the newsroom if a change is necessary.

The Pampa News welcomes all submitted materials for area support groups. Please include the meeting time, date and location and, if applicable, provide a contact number for each group.

■ **Victims of domestic violence and sexual assault,** meet at 6 p.m., Thursdays, starting June 26 at the Tralee Crisis Center, 308 S. Cuyler St. For more info, call the Center at 806-669-1131.

■ **Narcotics Anonymous — The Pampa Group** meets at 7:30 p.m., Tuesdays, and at 6 p.m., Saturdays, at 805 N. Gray St. **Narcotics Anonymous — Rufe Jordan Unit** also meets at 6 p.m., Mondays, and at 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays, at 1992 Hilton Road.

■ **Cancer Support** meets from 12-1 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Central Baptist Church. For more info, contact Beth Kean at 800-274-4673

■ **Alcoholics Anonymous** Open Door Club meets daily at noon and 8 p.m. at 910 W. Kentucky Ave. **Al-Anon** meets at noon on Mondays. For more information, call 665-9072.

■ **Alcoholics Anonymous** Primary Purpose meets daily at noon and 8 p.m. at 112 W. Foster Ave.

■ **Alcoholics Anonymous** Keep It Simple meets Thursdays at 6 p.m. at the Methodist church in White Deer.

■ **Pampa Caregiver Support** meets at the Pampa Nursing Center on 1321 W. Kentucky Ave. at 6 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. For more information call 806-669-2551.

■ **Accolade Home Care** sponsors a **Parkinson's Support Group** the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. The group meets at Accolade at 1313 N. Hobart St. For more information, call Lindsey Been at 806-665-9700 or 806-324-3230.

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3 sentenced for Texas human smuggling operation

HOUSTON (AP) — Three men involved in a human-smuggling ring that held 115 people captive in a small Houston home were sentenced to at least nine years in prison on Wednesday, federal prosecutors said.

The men pleaded guilty in April to charges that included conspiracy to harbor and transport illegal immigrants.

Authorities have said the captives were held against their will until a ransom was paid to allow their illegal entry into the U.S. They were found in March, crammed into a home of less than 1,300 square feet and stripped of their shoes and most of their clothing to keep them from escaping.

They had been threatened with violence if they did not comply, and there were instances of some being kicked and beaten and females being groped, according to a criminal com-

plaint. One pregnant girl was among people struck with a wooden paddle.

Jonathan Solorzano-Tavala, 30, was sentenced to 10 years in prison, while Eugenio Sesmas-Borja, 20, and Jose Cesmas-Borja, 26, were each sentenced to more than nine years.

They were among five men, all from Mexico, arrested March 19 when investigators discovered the house. The other two men have also pleaded guilty and are scheduled to be sentenced in September.

The men admitted obtaining "substantial" profits as a result of the operation, prosecutors said in a news release. In one instance, the men contacted the mother of one of the captives and told her to pay an additional \$13,000 for her daughter and two granddaughters. She was told that if she didn't pay, the men would "make her family disappear," according to the release.

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Tales from the Final Frontier

Alleged Final Fantasy VII remakes tease fans again.



JOHN LEE

For years upon years, trailers of the legendary Final Fantasy installment, Final Fantasy VII, with its graphics revamped have tortured fans of the franchise. It seems like every time there is a new generation of PlayStation, there is another trailer which promises a better, prettier and (if it's even possible) more awesome Final Fantasy VII. But those games never come to fruition and we get let down.

While the newer installments of the Final Fantasy franchise have their upside, many older fans are dying for their remake. There is hope, yet again. Gaming website, dualshockers.com, has an article concerning a remake in the works. "Recently industry insider Verendus, that is known to have very strong connections within the Japanese gaming industry, posted on NeoGAF mentioning that the project is happening," the article reads. "It's happening. He's obviously not going to give any indication as such though so it hardly matters until they're ready to announce something. His comments make sense. It's a huge project that will take a lot of effort, and demand a lot from him personally, in order to ensure the end result is something satisfactory." The article also states the news

should be taken with "a pinch of salt" because of the rumor-driven nature of the topic, it would be horrible to get Final Fantasy faithfuls' hopes up. There have been several articles focused on the obstacles in front of a remake putting a damper on any opportunity for optimism. Regardless of if the remake happens or not, even hearing that the project could be happening is reason enough for Final Fantasy fans to get a little excited.

John Lee is the editor of The Pampa News and a self-proclaimed nerd. He can be reached at jlee@thepampanews.com.



Healthy profits?

I'm the underachiever in my family. My parents also produced Harvard Medical School research director Thomas Stossel. Mom called him the one who had "a real job." For years, my brother annoyed me by not embracing the libertarianism that changed my life. It bored him. He was comfortable in his Harvard cocoon.

But then he realized that the anti-capitalist activists who fight with me on my TV show are also the people who make life more difficult for doctors, and for patients who want cures.

Lately, the anti-capitalists have become obsessed with "conflict of interest" in science — any trace of corporate money must poison honest medical research. Obamacare includes a rule called the Physician Payment Sunshine Act. It orders companies that make medical products to disclose even bagels they serve doctors and anything valued above \$10. On my TV show this week, Tom calls that "the conflict of interest mania ... taking normal competition ... into a witch hunt."

But doesn't corporate money tempt doctors to push inferior treatments and drugs? "People cheat for money," replied Tom. "But evidence that collaborations compromise clinical integrity and patient care is practically nonexistent. A voluminous 2009 Institute of Medicine report on 'Conflict of Interest in Medical Research' was unable to find evidence of a negative effect on patient outcomes."

How much good comes from corporate/research collaboration? I assumed that most new drugs and improved medical treatments come because of government-funded research. Tom's reply: "I've lived off government-funded research my whole life. I've panhandled off your tax money. It's important. But the vast predomance of what gets products to patients comes from the private sector."

His epiphany came when he did work for the biotech company Biogen. Its board included Nobel Prize winners. One helped develop the hepatitis vaccine.

That probably wouldn't happen today, says Tom, because now the stock options the Nobel winner got are forbidden at research institutions like Harvard. But without government regulation, what prevents greedy doctors and greedy

medical device makers or drug companies from colluding?

Market competition. Other scientists will try to replicate dramatic findings and debunk false claims and sloppy scientists. Companies worry about scandal, lawsuits, the FDA and recalls. They can't get rich unless their reputation is good.

The scientific process doesn't work through activists swooping in and pretending to be the guardians of careful research. As Tom writes in a forthcoming book, "Science's credibility derives from its delivery of durable discoveries." Similarly, sustained profits require products that actually work.

Currently, the conflict of interest zealots have won the debate. Obamacare regulators are implementing the Sunshine Act. Who wins from the new regulation?

"The Sunshine Act is a boondoggle for accountants, compliance bureaucrats and the legions of lawyers whom companies will hire to manage the regulations," says Tom. "These parasites will muddle through endless complexities, such as which entity of a global company actually pays physicians and must report the payments. There will be the questions of how to identify which physicians are being paid for what, such as how to account for \$25 worth of bagels brought into a group practice office when it's unclear who actually ate the bagels."

Who loses? Patients. Few have the competence to interpret the disclosures, and because of the new rules, they'll have fewer new drugs. Hundreds of millions of dollars once applied to innovation will shift to "Sunshine" management.

"Do you want your doctor pilloried for eating a corporate bagel while getting useful product information that might benefit you?" asks Tom. "Do you want your hospital hiring compliance officers instead of nurses or laboratory technicians? Do you want medical researchers censured for being paid by industry for discoveries that might save your life? ... This will benefit predators: the media who want to embarrass doctors, the lawyers who sue doctors and drug companies."

Markets do not automatically taint science. As with every other service the market provides, it is the anti-capitalist attitude that does more harm.

John Stossel is host of "Stossel" on the Fox Business Network. He's the author of "No They Can't: Why Government Fails, but Individuals Succeed."



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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Letters
The Pampa News
403 W. Atchison
Pampa, Texas
79065

By E-mail:
jlee@thepampanews.com

Texas still lives on in heart of this ZZ Top fan

When I told my former work mates at The Pampa News that I was moving to Roswell to accept the editor position here, I said that although I would miss them all I was happy to get away from the relentless Panhandle winds. The one who had lived in Silver City for several years quipped, "East New Mexico might as well be West Texas."

To be politically correct as a new citizen of The Land of Enchantment (and so I don't get angry phone calls and emails), perhaps I should now switch it around and say, "West Texas might as well be East New Mexico."

Two things both states have in common — whether you live north, south, east or west, in the mountains or in the lowlands — is a gubernatorial election coming this Nov. 4.

In New Mexico, Republican incumbent Susana Martinez is challenged by Democrat and sitting Attorney General Gary King. In Texas, another sitting attorney general, Republican Greg Abbott, is facing Democrat and state Senator Wendy Davis.

Before November's election, the editorial staff at the Roswell Daily Record will come up with a list of questions to ask both candidates. This list will certainly query the candidates on what they will do to stimulate the economy, improve education and save taxpayers money while still providing services they expect from state government, such as law enforcement.

If I were still working at The Pampa News, I would do the same for the Texas governor's race. However,

there is one very important question I would add: "Mr. Abbott or Ms. Davis, if elected governor of Texas, would you name ZZ Top the Official Band of Texas?"

ZZ Top was formed in Houston in the late 1960s and still has the same three band members, Billy Gibbons on guitar and lead vocals, Dusty Hill on bass and vocals and Frank Beard — the only member who doesn't have a beard — on drums.

The mere facts that they survived this long without a member overdosing on drugs or each one going his own way to flop in an unsuccessful "solo career" are reason enough for the Lone Star State to give "That Lit'le Ol' Band from Texas" high honors.

I am a huge fan and, to me, the music of ZZ Top captures the true essence of "all that is Texas."

When I listen to their early albums like Tejas, Tres Hombres and Fandango!, I can close my eyes and envision the endless stretches of two-lane state highways that transverse the state, with tumbleweeds blowin' in the wind and the occasional road-side diner with a big neon sign that reads, "EAT."

The song "Heard It on the X" gives a glimpse into some of the band's early musical influences — an out-law radio station rudely invading the South Texas airwaves from across the Mexican border.

There weren't any mushy love songs in Top's early repertoire.

"Blue Jean Blues" is a love song in true Texas redneck style:
I done ran into my baby
And fin'ly found my old blue jean
I done ran into my baby
And fin'ly found my old blue jean
I could tell that they was mine

From the oil and the gasoline

And then, of course, there's the Top-40 radio hit, "LaGrange," which discloses the not-so-secret location of "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas." A how-how-how-how.

Last, there's "Precious and Grace," a song about a "supernatural delight" with two lovely lovelies in Gibbons "flat-head Ford."

Were Precious and Grace real or apparitions brought to life by a case of Corona and peyote buttons? A lot of strange things happen in the Texas desert at night. It's a secret Billy and Dusty will surely take to their graves. I heard the case is still unsolved and in the X-files of the Texas Rangers.

In the 1980s the band made a radical shift, replacing their raw blues-based sound with pounding drum machines, synthesizer riffs and disco grooves.

Though many of the purists were appalled by the transformation, their mainstream success as the reinvented ZZ was unprecedented when compared to any of their endeavors during the '70s, which included touring with Mick and the Boys, aka The Rolling Stones.

MTV, which went on the air in 1981, was still in its infancy when ZZ Top's triumvirate of stylish videos featuring Gibbon's Eliminator hot rod and equally hot babes — "Legs," "Sharp Dressed Man" and "Gimme All Your Lovin'" — raised the bar for kitschy music

videos.

Perhaps the newer, hipper ZZ Top was a nod to rapid urbanization of Texas in both the band's hometown of Houston or the I-35 corridor, which links the Dallas Metroplex, Austin and San Antonio. That growth — to the aggravation of most West Texans who cherish wide open spaces and the simple life — continues today in a very big way.

Regardless of whether you prefer the original barrel-house sound of the '70s or the band's hip '80s groove (I like both), what makes ZZ Top cook are the growling blues-based riff of delightfully eccentric guitarist Billy Gibbons, who many fans call "The Reverend."

Surely, Gibbons' intense, gutsy style comes from a deeply spiritual place — a place that I call the "natural blues."

As a guest on the Johnny Carson Show, rock legend Jimi Hendrix was asked by Carson who he thought would be the next great rock guitarist and Hendrix, without hesitation, named Billy Gibbons.

I'm sure words of praise from the late Hendrix, who in the language of the Pima Indians of the Southwest would be called the "Ho-Ho-Kam," in English the Great One Who Has Gone Before, have meant more to Gibbons than the band's 2004 induction to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Timothy P. Howsare is the editor of the Roswell Daily Record.



Thornberry testifies on behalf of Red River Landowners

SUBMITTED BY MAC THORNBERRY'S OFFICE WASHINGTON, D.C.
 — The land dispute between the federal government and Texans who live along the Red River was the subject of a hearing in the U.S. House today as the Resources Committee explored the "Red River Private Property Protection Act (H.R. 4979)," introduced by area Congressman Mac Thornberry (R-Clarendon).
 "I think the bill was well-received, and I appreciated the chance to explain it to the Committee and answer whatever questions they had," said Thornberry.

"The BLM stated once again that they wanted to work with us, and I am certainly open to making specific improvements in the legislation to ensure certainty to local landowners. I will continue to push it forward in the process," he continued.
 Thornberry presented his bill to the Committee and testified about how it would resolve the land dispute. The bill, which was also introduced in the U.S. Senate by Senators John Cornyn and Ted Cruz, seeks to settle all federal ownership claims by providing legal certainty to landowners along the Red River.

It directs the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to relinquish and transfer quit claim deeds to landowners who can prove ownership through official State and county records. It also prevents the BLM from including any privately owned acres in a current or future Resource Management Plan.
 Pat Canan, a Wichita County landowner and Captain Game Warden at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, testified at the hearing. Canan, whose land lies along the disputed area, said, "I am concerned about private property rights and I think this legislation is a good

start to getting things back to the way they need to be. The hearing went well and I feel good about it."
 Concern arose last December when the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announced it was beginning the process to revise its Resource Management Plan (RMP) for lands it manages.
 At the time, the agency said there are thousands of acres along the Red River on the border between Texas and Oklahoma that may be considered public domain. The stretch of land is located in Wilbarger, Wichita, and Clay counties.
 "Certainty for local land-



Submitted photo Representative Mac Thornberry speaking in the U.S. House of Representatives.

owners is critical. Perhaps an even bigger point in our efforts is providing protection for private property against government overreach, which seems to be happening more and more. This bill sends the signal that the House is going to fight this federal intrusion every step of the way," Thornberry said.

Improving soil health, no-till practices topic of Aug. 14 four-county field day

SUBMITTED BY TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE RESEARCH VERNON — A Rolling Plains field tour, "Practices to Improve Soil Health and Soil/Water Conservation," will be held Aug. 14 by Texas A&M AgriLife Research, the U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service and local Soil and Water Conservation districts.
 Registration will begin at 8 a.m. at the Punkin Center Volunteer Fire Department of Haynesville, located 0.3 miles south of the intersection of State

Highway 240 and State Highway 3 miles north of Electra.
 The tour will run from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., with field stops in Archer, Baylor, Wichita and Wilbarger counties. Admission is free, and lunch and transportation will be provided, according to Dr. Paul DeLaune, AgriLife Research environmental soil scientist in Vernon and organizer of the event.
 RSVPs are required by Aug. 6 to Sloane Montano at Sloane.Montano@ag.tamu.edu or 940-552-

9941, extension 206.
 The day's discussion will be led by DeLaune and Ray Archuleta, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service soil health specialist/agronomist at the East National Technology Center in Greensboro, North Carolina.
 Archuleta teaches soil health and the principles of agroecology throughout the country, DeLaune said, adding, "His infectious enthusiasm for soil health has earned him the moniker, Ray the Soils Guy."

"We are fortunate to have Ray join us for the field tour. He has visited the area before, speaking at a Soil Health Workshop at the Chilled Research Station in Fall 2012 prior to the release of the current USDA-NRCS Soil Health Initiative.
 "I know that Ray is excited not only to share his knowledge, but to learn more about the practices and challenges facing producers in the harsh environmental conditions that exist within the Texas Rolling Plains,"

DeLaune said.
 Attendees also will hear from experienced and beginning no-till producers at four stops, providing an opportunity to see what peers are doing and how they have overcome challenges in no-till, he said.
 DeLaune said each of the stops will also include fields with cover crops. There will be a variety of options, ranging from cover crops that have already been terminated to cover crops that have recently been planted.
 The program will ben-

efit both experienced and beginning no-till producers, DeLaune said.
 Field tour stops will provide information on:
 - Infiltration, runoff, nutrient cycling and soil health in no till cropping systems.
 - Challenges in no-till.
 - Cover crop water use.
 - Incorporating cover crops in wheat cropping systems.
 - Grazing wheat and cover crops in no till systems.
 - First-hand knowledge from experienced and beginning no-till producers.

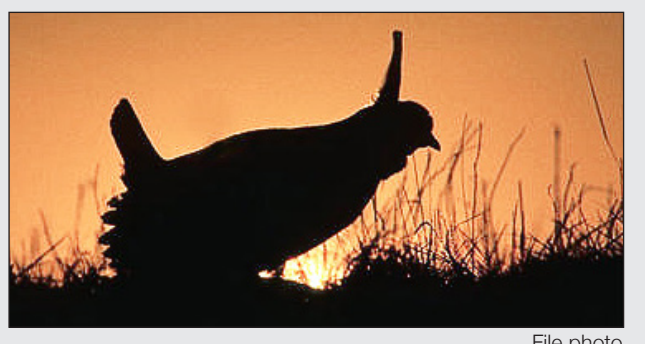
Thornberry pushes for more transparency in the Endangered Species Act

SUBMITTED BY THE OFFICE OF MAC THORNBERRY WASHINGTON, D.C.
 — Area Congressman Mac Thornberry voted on Tuesday to reform the Endangered Species Act (ESA) to increase transparency and ensure the listings of species are both accurate and reasonable.
 "ESA listings drastically affect our landowners, farmers, ranchers, and small business owners, and they all deserve to know the facts," says Rep. Thornberry. "As we saw earlier this year with the listing of the Lesser Prairie-Chicken as threatened, the listing process under the Endangered Species Act is severely flawed, misused, and often manipulated behind closed doors. This bill helps to correct these issues by requiring increased transparency in decision-making and ensuring our states, counties,

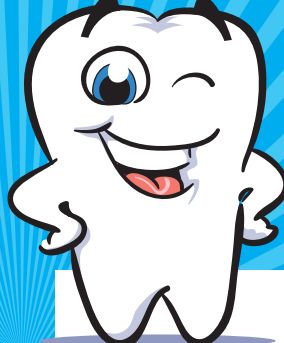
and the people these decisions affect get a voice."
 According to current law, the decision to list a species as "endangered" or "threatened" must be based on the best available scientific data. However, these ESA listings are often based on professional opinions rather than actual data - opinions typically not made known to the public. In addition to this lack of transparency, the number of listing petitions has skyrocketed over the past several years. Decisions are being made behind closed doors based on sue-and-settle tactics and on questionable data.
 To correct this problem, H.R. 4315, the "Endangered Species Transparency and Reasonableness Act," changes the Endangered Species Act to require public disclosure of the data used to determine the listings of species. Specific-

ly, the bill requires:
 - The Secretary of the Interior to publicize data used to make ESA listing decisions on the Internet;
 - The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service to provide states, tribes, and local governments with the data used to formulate a listing decision before the final decision is made;
 - The Secretary of Interior to submit a report annually outlining the federal government's expenditures for covered lawsuits along

with a description of each suit;
 - Attorney fees to be capped at \$125 per hour for any suit filed under the Endangered Species Act. This same cap applies to claims under the Equal Access to Justice Act where small businesses, veterans, and benefit recipients may sue and recover fees from the government. Currently, the ESA fees range between \$400-\$700 on the taxpayer's dime. Therefore, this cap protects the taxpayer from unnecessary expenses.



File photo



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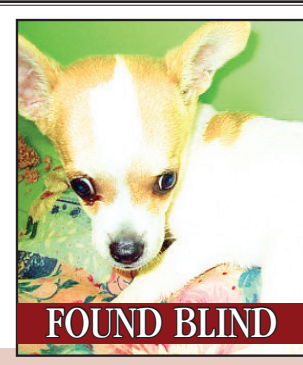
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 "Clovis"
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PampaSports

From the Press Box

My opinion: Johnny Manziel will NOT start; at least not right away.

This will break the heart of some Texas A&M fans but I firmly believe, barring any injuries to incumbent Browns quarterback Brian Hoyer, Johnny Manziel will be sitting most of this season out.

JOHN LEE

Supporting my theory even further, ESPN.com's Cleveland Browns reporter Pat McManamon said that Johnny Manziel is struggling to learn the offense.

For a while I compared the Johnny Manziel phenomenon to the Tim

Tebow phenomenon. Even though it's different because of those involved and Bryan Hoyer is an Ohio native (as pointed out in

yesterday's season preview for the Cleveland Browns), it's still the same because the Manziel zealots are now Cleveland fans too.

It's also the same in that Hoyer, at the moment, is clearly the better quarterback and is mostly a pocket-passer, as Orton was in Denver during the Tebow era; while Manziel has terrific improvisation ability.

But Manziel won't start for several reasons.

One, the owner and coaches have expressed their strong desire for Hoyer.

"We were very frank with him that 'You're the backup quarterback. This is a hardworking, blue-collar town. This isn't Hollywood,'" Haslam said. "'We want you to come in here, work hard and work as hard as anybody on the team.' He's not the starter. Brian Hoyer is our starting quarterback. Johnny is the backup."

"He made some mistakes. We expect better from him," Browns owner Jimmy Haslam told reporters last week after camp opened. "I'm sure he'll perform. We're anxious to see what he can do on the field, which is what really counts."

Haslam also said, "The really great athletes make their news on the field, not off the field."

Two, Hoyer is clearly the better quarterback right now, but he has also been on the team for two years (even though this is a different offense). Let's remember, Manziel is a rookie.

I was a long defender of Manziel and his partying which mirrors Will Ferrell in "Old School." Until his owner told him to tone it down and he fired back to the media with this statement.

"I'm not going to change for anybody," Manziel said. "I'm going to enjoy my time off. 'I don't think I'm doing anything wrong. Everybody on the weekends goes out and enjoys their life. Just for them, they don't have people that when they walk into a place pull out their phone and all they want to do is follow me around and record everything.'"

Hey Mr. Football, if you want to continue to keep receiving paychecks I would listen to your owner.

He isn't doing anything wrong, but if a quarterback wants to be great like the Mannings, Tom Brady and Drew Brees, they need to have the same behavior.

Only time will tell if Johnny Manziel is successful in the NFL. If he comes out and wins football games, I will gladly retract any negative statements I make about him. I may even write an "I was wrong about him" column.

But no one is going to be under the microscope like he already is.

John Lee is the editor of The Pampa News. He can be reached at jlee@thepampanews.com.

NFL 2014 Season Preview

Atlanta Falcons search for return to winning seasons

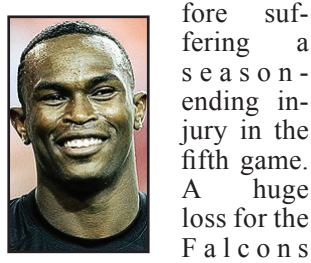
By FORREST GRIMES
fgrimes@thepampanews.com

After five consecutive winning seasons under head coach Mike Smith, the Atlanta Falcons went a dreadful 4-12 last season.

One of the main reasons behind this was their porous defense. The Falcons finished 21st in pass defense and 31st in rush defense. To help fix this the Falcons signed defensive tackles Tyson Jackson and Paul Soliai, as well as cornerback Javier Arenas. They also drafted seven defensive players including Minnesota defensive tackle Ra'Shede Hageman in the second round and Wisconsin safety Dez Southard in the third round. Southard will be looking to step into the shoes of Thomas DeCoud, who had 65 tackles last season and is now with the Panthers.

They return most of their receiving core with Harry Douglas, Roddy White

and Julio Jones, who had 41 catches for 580 yard and two touchdowns before suffering a season-ending injury in the fifth game. A huge loss for the Falcons was the retirement of future hall-of-fame tight end Tony Gonzalez who had 83 catches for 859 yards and eight touchdowns last season. There will be several tight ends competing to fill his spot. There will be no questions at quarterback, as Matt Ryan is still the guy.



Julio Jones

Despite having the seventh best passing offense, the Falcons' offense still struggled. They had the league's worst rushing offense, averaging 77.9 yards per game. Atlanta still has Steven Jackson and Jacquizz Rodgers at running back. They also

drafted Florida State's Devonta Freeman in the fourth round.

The Falcons also beefed up their offensive line by adding tackle Gabe Carimi and guard Jon Asamoah. They also drafted Texas A&M tackle Jake Matthews with the sixth-overall pick.

Atlanta's other draft picks were Notre Dame linebacker Prince Shembo, Purdue cornerback Ricardo Allen, Syracuse linebacker Marquis Spruill, Connecticut linebacker Yawin Smallwood and South Dakota linebacker Tyler Starr. The Falcons also added return specialist Devin Hester, linebacker Tim Dobbins and tight end Bear Pascoe via free agency. One of these new linebackers will need to replace Akeem Dent, who had 5 tackles last season and is now with the Texans.

The Falcons' first two games will be rough facing the New Orleans Saints and the Cincinnati Bengals. However, their next

two games are against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Minnesota Vikings. Both are games they should win. The Falcons' next four games are versus the New York Giants, Chicago Bears, Baltimore Ravens and Detroit Lions. All four are winnable games, but I'm calling a split here.

After their bye week, Atlanta faces off with the Buccaneers for a second time. This will be a good chance for the Falcons to pick up another win. However, they then have to turn around and travel to Carolina to face the Panthers. The next two games are against the Cleveland Browns and Arizona Cardinals. The Falcons will need to at least split these two games.

Atlanta ends the season versus the Green Bay Packers, Pittsburgh Steelers, New Orleans Saints and Carolina Panthers. I think they steal one of those games, but drop the rest to finish the season 7-9.

Pampa All-Stars end year in regional tournament

By FORREST GRIMES
fgrimes@thepampanews.com

After winning the West Texas State Tournament, the Pampa 13-15 All-Stars traveled to Silome Springs, Ark. Where they went 1-2. They won their first game versus Louisiana before dropping their next two, including one to the eventual tournament champions. They finished fifth out of the eight teams in the regional tournament.

Coach Mike Woelfle said he believes the team

performed well, but may have been somewhat nervous.

"There were a lot of nerves, and they knew they were playing some good teams," he said. "You could just kind of hear them saying 'man he's got a good arm' or 'man he's fast'. A majority of them seemed to psych themselves out before the game, unfortunately it showed up in some of the games."

Woelfle said the players still performed well and that they will help make Pampa High School base-

ball successful in the future.

"I thank them for letting me be their coach, because this just the beginning of what we as parents in the community could kind of get use to for a team to perform and succeed at the next level," he said. "As far as Pampa High School baseball is concerned, it has a bright future with this group."

Woelfle said the players have nothing to be ashamed of.

"They deserved to be there," he said. "They

earned the right. At one point, when we won our first game as a team, we went 9-0 and then lost the next two against teams that I promise you have playing together a lot longer than they have. Just with how we do our league and how quick our league is. We had two weeks to get ready for these tournaments. They beat some good teams in the state tournaments to get there. So they should not be ashamed about how they did as a team as a whole."

Cowboys rookie DeMarcus Lawrence out 2-3 months

OXNARD, Calif. (AP) — Dallas Cowboys rookie defensive end DeMarcus Lawrence will miss at least two months after breaking his right foot in practice at training camp.

A person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press on Wednesday that Lawrence would have surgery and miss eight to 12 weeks. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the team had not announced the injury.

Lawrence was in a one-on-one drill with Pro Bowl tackle Tyron Smith on Tuesday when his foot got caught as Smith pushed him to the ground.

Dallas could place Lawrence on the short-term injured list. He would miss the first six weeks of practice and the first eight games in the regular season.

The Cowboys moved to near the top of the second round to draft Lawrence

out of Boise State after releasing franchise sacks leader DeMarcus Ware in a salary cap move in March.

The Ware move signaled an overhaul of the defensive front for Dallas. The Cowboys let tackle Jason Hatcher go to NFC East rival Washington in free agency after he led them with a career-high 11 sacks last year. Ware signed with Denver.

Lawrence was work-

ing with the second team behind veteran free agent Jeremy Mincey in camp, but would have been given every opportunity to become a starter.

The Cowboys acknowledged overpaying by giving up their third-round pick in a trade with the Redskins to move up 13 spots to the 34th overall selection. They thought Lawrence was the last player on their board who had a chance to fill the void after Ware's release.

Hidden Hills Monday Night scramble

1st - 30	Cody Smith
RD Stephens	
George Hearon	
Mike Lowrey	
Wendell shutts	
3rd- 32	
Craig Dencklau	
Dale Francis	
Rob Snead	
Kendell Snead	
2nd - 30	
Brian Brauchi	
Ben Woodington	
Joe Walter	

FINAL STANDINGS			
2014 Summer Mixed Softball			
	W - L	W - L	
	Conf.	Overall	
Mixed D1			
Ammons	3-0	11-1	
We Got the Hitz	2-1	9-3	
Glistening Tans	1-2	10-2	
SWM	0-3	4-8	
Mixed D2			
I'd Hit That	4-0	8-4	
Under Dogz	3-1	6-6	
The Plaza	2-2	4-8	
DMC	1-3	2-10	
Aces of Bases	0-4	0-12	

Final Standings Summer 2014 Kickball			
	W - L	W - L	
	Conf.	Overall	
Mixed			
That Team Over There	9-0	12-0	
Rip Squad	6-3	8-4	
The Average Hosea's	3-6	4-8	
MMFA	0-9	0-12	

Watch the Pros

Baseball
Angels/Orioles or Reds/Marlins.....MLBN 6 p.m.

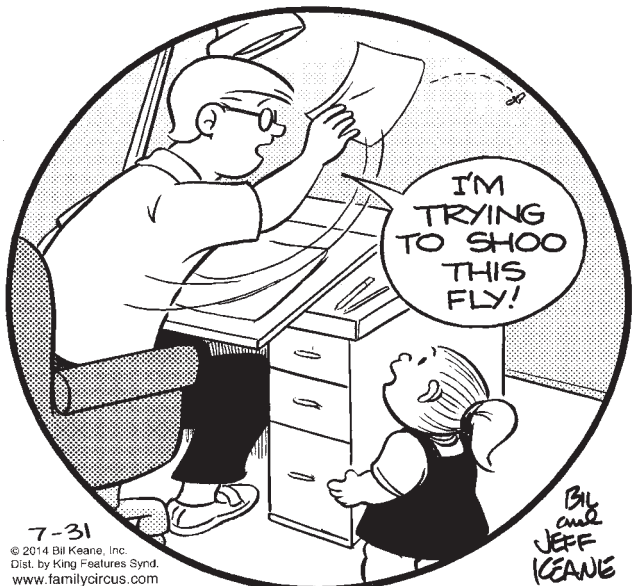
Golf
WGC-Bridgestone Invitational.....GOLF 12:30 p.m.
Barracuda Championship.....GOLF 5:30 p.m.

Soccer
Bayern Munich vs. Chivas Guadalajara....ESPN 7 p.m.

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

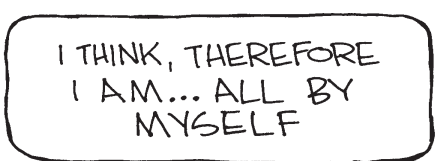
comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



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 "You're silly, Daddy. You know you can only shoe horses, not flies."
 Bil and Jeff Keane

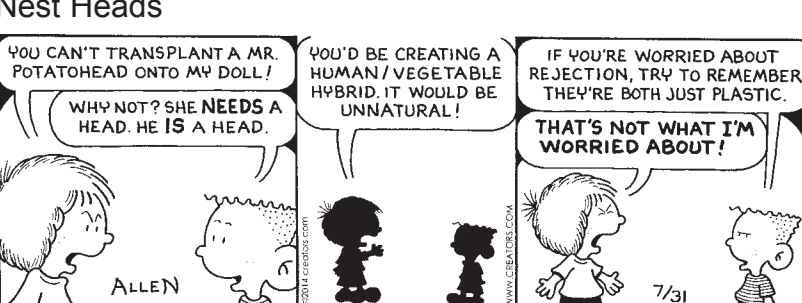
Non Sequitur



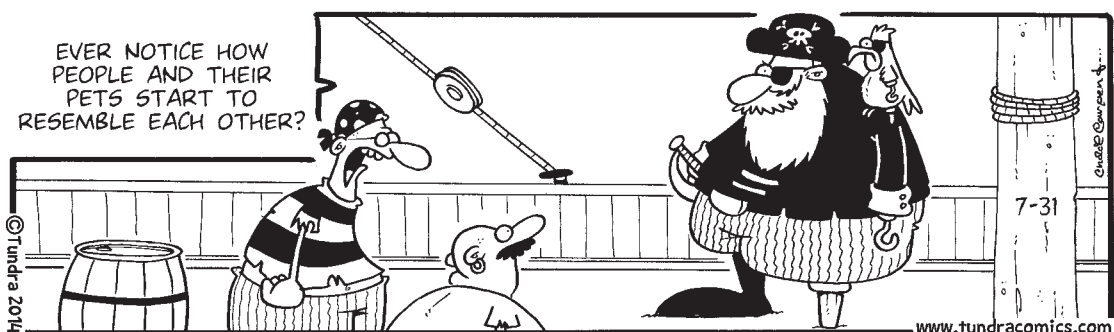
THE EVOLUTION OF SENTIENCE

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Nest Heads



Tundra



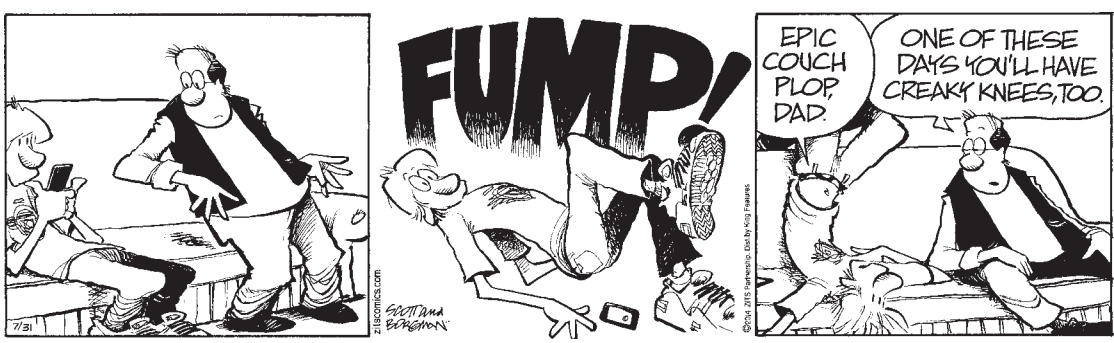
Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



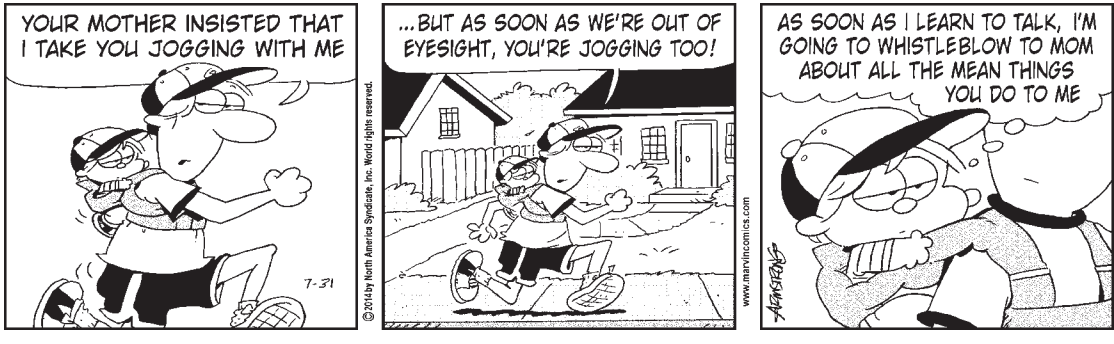
Garfield



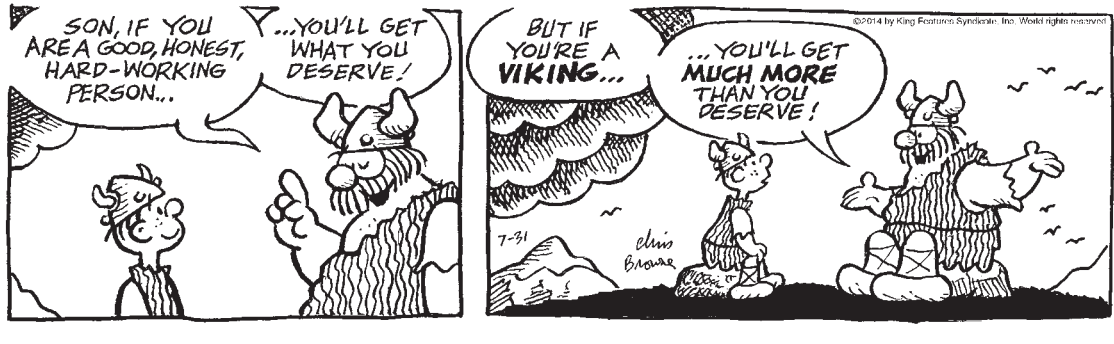
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



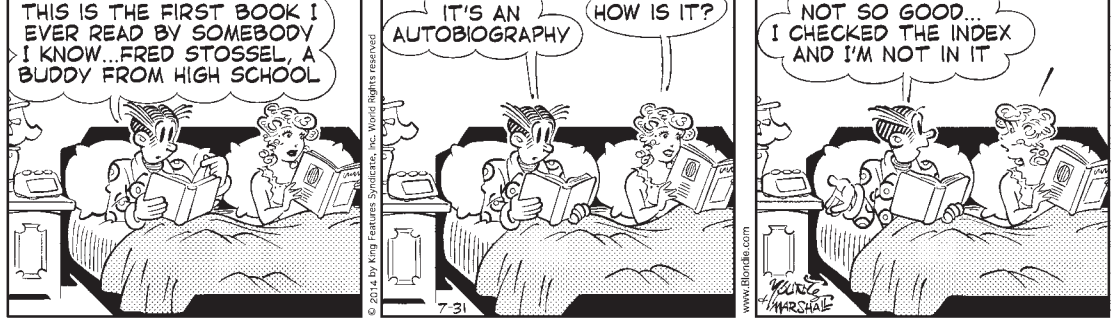
Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, Aug. 1, 2014:
 This year you develop such a nice way of telling people off that they don't even realize they've been chastised until hours later. This skill will prove to be quite helpful. The next 12 months set off a new luck cycle. If you are single, you will draw many people toward you, so be conscious of your choices. You could meet someone quite significant. If you are attached, you enjoy the company of your sweetie even more than usual. You rekindle the romance between you. LIBRA can be quite the diplomat. The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
 ★★★★★ You are very skilled at dealing with a partner, and both of you will come to a mutual decision about a serious matter. Don't be surprised if there is a last-minute power play that mars your day. Avoid a combustible situation. Tonight: Go out and have some fun.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 ★★★★★ You might feel as if a partner is in agreement because of his or her silence. You'll wonder what is going on with someone at a distance. Don't wonder -- just call. You could discover that someone is upset, and you'll adapt your plans as a result. Tonight: Make it casual.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 ★★★★★ You'll have no reason to hold back once you complete what you must. In fact, you have so much energy that you could pick a fight without realizing it. Don't worry about someone's attitude; he or she will open up soon enough. Tonight: Lead the way into the weekend.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ★★★★★ Play nice with a family member. You won't want this person to become difficult, as you have seen what happens in that case. Do your best to dodge someone else's attempt to gain the upper hand. Accept a compliment. Tonight: Funnel your energy into fun.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 ★★★★★ You seem to enjoy people even more than usual right now. Others could become full-blown chatterboxes around you. You might be stressed by a last-minute request. Don't allow someone to trigger your frustration. Tonight: Out on the town.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 ★★★★★ You might want to gain a greater sense of direction before you make a decision. Choose your plans carefully. Don't overspend and mess up your budget. Your instincts will prove to be right-on with a risk or money matter. Tonight: You can have a good time without going out.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ★★★★★ An obstacle could stop you right now, but know that you have the option to bypass the issue. Recognize that, in many ways, the problems you experience mostly are created by you. Do not allow a personal problem to get out of control. Tonight: All smiles.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ★★★★★ You could become more vocal than you usually are. You can't hold in your feelings and not expect to lash out at someone who likely has little to do with the problem at hand. Take a walk to cool down, if need be. Tonight: Don't be available. Get some much-needed R and R.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 ★★★★★ You might need to approach a meeting with a little more direction. Otherwise, the time that was allotted will be gone and nothing will be accomplished. Some more forethought could maximize your time, as well as others'. Tonight: Join friends for TGIF!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ★★★★★ You might feel as if you need to forgo your plans in order to make the most of an opportunity to be with a respected associate or relative. At some point, you could notice that you are in a power struggle. There is little you can do; just refuse to get involved. Tonight: Out late.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ★★★★★ If you can take off and make this a long weekend, do. You need an escape from your daily life. Head toward a friend's place where you always have an invitation. A parent could be quite difficult, so give him or her some space. Tonight: Opt for something different.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ★★★★★ Someone clearly needs your attention and time. Make it your pleasure, but complete what you must first. A child or loved one will show his or her appreciation for your time and thoughtfulness. News from a distance could be irritating. Tonight: Keep it intimate.



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Legals / Public Notice
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Norma Jeanne Sims, Deceased, were issued on July 28, 2014, in Cause 10139, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, to: Harold Sims. All persons having claims against this Es-

Legals / Public Notice
 tate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 c/o Vanessa G. Buzzard
 Attorney at Law
 208 N. Russell St.
 Pampa, TX 79065
 DATED the 30th day of June, 2014.
 Vanessa G. Buzzard

Legals / Public Notice
 Attorney for Harold Sims
 State Bar No.: 03547900
 208 N. Russell St. Pampa, TX 79065
 Telephone: (806) 665-7281
 Facsimile: (806) 669-0972
 E-mail: vbuzzard@nts-online.net
 G-33 July 31, 2014

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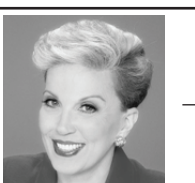
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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 21-year-old man who has been a successful swimmer in high school and now in college. Over the past few months, I have become obsessed with developing six-pack abs. I have never had much success with women, and I thought that looking like a movie star might finally get me noticed and make me feel good about myself.

As a result, I have become obsessive about my diet. I have dropped 10 pounds, mostly muscle, and my performance in the pool has suffered. If I don't see perfect definition between every ab and don't exercise for at least 2 1/2 hours a day, I feel fat and guilty whenever I eat. I have awakened in the middle of the night worrying about what I'll eat the next day. I'm concerned for the future when my metabolism will inevitably slow down.

I have begun to think that death is a better scenario than being fat, or feeling that way. I want to be able to enjoy eating again and get my life back. I don't want to tell my parents or friends for fear of seeming weak-minded. Where can I go for help? — FEELING LOST IN NEW MEXICO

DEAR FEELING LOST: Physical perfection is no guarantee that you'll find love. Liking yourself and accepting yourself for who you are is what attracts others.

Although "looking like a movie star" can be an asset — depending upon who the movie star is — unless you are secure about who you are and what you have to offer, you can't maintain a healthy relationship. (If you don't believe me, look at the tabloids and start counting how many movie star romances resemble a game of musical chairs.)

If you truly think that

death might be preferable to being fat, then you are in trouble. You may have a serious eating disorder, one that could shorten your life. Most people who have an eating disorder need professional help to overcome it, so the place to go is to your student health center. Ask to speak with a mental health counselor about what you're doing and how you're feeling. It is important that you understand what has caused this so you can be successfully treated.

DEAR ABBY: My parents' 25th wedding anniversary is coming up. I thought it would be nice to have a dinner with the 12 to 14 people who were in their wedding party.

If I had it at a nice restaurant, would it be rude to ask them to pay their own way for dinner? I am only 21 and just graduated from college, so I can't manage it on my own. Any advice? — SON OF "SILVER" PARENTS IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR SON: I think the

sentiment is sweet, but if you are going to have this kind of an anniversary party for your parents, you should wait until you can afford to host it. For this one, invite your parents out for dinner, and give them the kind of party you're planning on their 30th.

 Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

 Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

BANANAGRAMS!

For each of the three words below, change one letter to an **E**, and then rearrange the letters to spell the last name of a famous fictional character.

LEVEL

PLANS
 [] [] [] [] []

SHOUT
 [] [] [] [] []

GARLANDS
 [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

Yesterday's Answer: MENU, DISH, BOOTH, ENTRÉE 7.31

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Bistro's kin
 - 5 Hun leader
 - 11 Privy to
 - 12 Sowing machine
 - 13 Bender
 - 14 Shortly
 - 15 Charges
 - 17 Guitarist Paul
 - 18 Tests the weight of
 - 22 Closet pairs
 - 24 Intent look
 - 25 Overly
 - 26 Convent occupant
 - 27 Good quality
 - 30 Betrayed nervousness
 - 32 Davis of "Beetle-juice"
 - 33 Writer Tan
 - 34 Stowe tows
 - 38 Subscription units
 - 41 Faucet problem
 - 42 Impulse relay
 - 43 Big rig
 - 44 Sidewalk stuff
- DOWN**
- 1 Refer to
 - 2 Shortly, in poems
 - 3 Unencumbered
 - 4 Menu choice
 - 5 Tag sale words
 - 6 Decimal fractions
 - 7 China buy
 - 8 Check-cashing needs
 - 9 Rebel general
 - 10 Pendulum path
 - 16 Battleship letters
 - 19 Unencumbered
 - 20 Factual
 - 21 Dispatch
 - 22 Antlered animal
 - 23 Garden aid
 - 28 Guarantee
 - 29 Hire
 - 30 Buddy
 - 31 In the thick of
 - 35 "— It Roman-tic?"
 - 36 Clock reading
 - 37 Take turns
 - 38 Co. abbr.
 - 39 Behold
 - 40 Total

J	A	C	K	S	C	A	R	A	B	
O	B	O	E	C	U	R	A	T	E	
A	L	L	Y	A	B	A	T	E	D	
N	E	O	S	L	A	B				
			R	I	S	E	N	C	O	P
F	L	I	R	T		S	H	O	V	E
L	I	Z	A			A	L	E	C	
E	V	E	N	T		S	T	O	R	K
W	E	D			A	L	I	E	N	
			F	L	A	X		I	A	M
G	O	B	L	E	T		E	Z	R	A
O	R	I	E	N	T		R	E	I	N
D	E	B	A	T	E		A	D	D	S

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10
11					12					
13					14					
15					16					
			17			18		19	20	21
22	23					24				
25								26		
27			28	29		30	31			
32						33				
			34		35				36	37
38	39	40						41		
42								43		
44								45		

MORE FROM HARVESTER FOOTBALL CAMP



Photos by Forrest Grimes

The Pampa Harvesters are holding their football camp through today. The students are learning the basic fundamentals of the game.



Dubai, European airlines divert flights over Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP) — European airlines and a Dubai-based carrier are rerouting flights over Iraqi airspace as a security precaution amid fears that militants with the Islamic State group have weapons capable of shooting down planes, despite Iraq saying its skies are safe.

A number of European carriers, including Virgin Atlantic, KLM and Air France, say they have devised alternate flight plans for their planes. Air France specifically said it detected a "potential threat" on July 24 which triggered the airline's decision, said Eric Prevot, a spokesman for the Air France's Flight Operations Center.

The decisions come after a Malaysia Airlines flight crashed over rebel-held territory in eastern Ukraine on July 17, killing all 298 people on board. U.S. and Ukrainian officials say it was shot down by a missile from rebel territory, most likely by mistake.

many in the aviation industry reconsidering flight paths as hot spots from West Africa to Central Asia could potentially put passengers at risk. Though experts say the skies are largely safe, there is a danger of militants using sophisticated weapons.

Iraq is facing its worst crisis since the 2011 withdrawal of U.S. troops amid the blitz offensive launched last month by al-Qaida breakaway Islamic State group, which captured large swaths of land in the country's west and north, including Iraq's second-largest city, Mosul.

When the group overran the cities of Mosul and Tikrit in June, Iraqi security forces virtually collapsed. In most cases, police and soldiers simply ran, abandoning arsenals of heavy weapons. Some fear the militants may have captured some sophisticated weapons, such as ground-to-air missiles capable of shooting down airplanes.

Many international com-

mercial flights said they were continuing to fly normally over militant-held areas in western and northern Iraq until recent days, when Dubai-based Emirates publicly announced it would avoid the regions.

Air France said it is currently avoiding numerous routes over Iraq, Syria and Libya, as well as eastern Ukraine and Crimea. Amsterdam-based KLM said it stopped flying over Iraq

last week, adding that it has suspend some flights to Israel in recent days as a conflict between Israelis and Hamas in the Gaza Strip enters its fourth week.

U.S. carrier Delta Air Lines has no-fly zones over Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, North Korea and Ukraine.

Abu Dhabi-based Etihad Airways said in a statement that it maintains "a set of contingencies relative to Iraq" but added that

it sees "no evidence that either the capability or the intent exists to target aircraft overflying Iraq, by either side of the current conflict."

The Iraqi government also dismissed the fears, saying that Iraqi skies and airports are safe.

"The Baghdad airport is highly secured," said Nasir Bandar, head of the Iraqi Civil Aviation Authority. "There is no threat

to airplanes passing over the Iraqi skies."

However, an airplane landing at Baghdad's airport has been targeted before. In November 2003, a missile struck a DHL cargo plane on its approach to Baghdad's airport, forcing it to make an emergency landing with its wing aflame. A U.S. military investigation later indicated the plane was hit by a surface-to-air missile.

Strike on crowded Gaza area kills 16, wounds 150

JEBALIYA REFUGEE CAMP, Gaza Strip (AP) — An Israeli airstrike hit a crowded Gaza shopping area on Wednesday, killing at least 16 people and wounding more than 150, hours after Israeli tank shells slammed into a U.N. school sheltering displaced Palestinians, killing 15 people, Gaza health officials said.

The latest deadly strikes came on the heels of an escalation in the embattled coastal territory, with Israel and Gaza's Hamas rulers stepping up attacks after more than three weeks of fighting that has killed more than 1,300 Palestinians and more than 50 Israelis.

Gaza health ministry official Ashraf al-Kidra and witnesses said the shopping area was busy because residents, and many who had taken shelter in the area from fighting elsewhere, thought a cease-fire was in place. The Palestinian Red Crescent confirmed the death toll.

The Israeli military had no immediate comment on the strike on the shopping area and said it was investigating the report.

Israel had earlier announced a "humanitarian window" in certain parts of the territory. But it said it would not halt fire in other areas, including in Shijaiyah, where the strike took place. Hamas dismissed the cease-fire, and Gaza militants fired 27 rockets at Israel after it began.

Eyewitnesses said an airstrike hit a warehouse on the edge of Shijaiyah, causing a fire and sending a large cloud of black smoke billowing into the sky. Firefighters and medical vehicles arrived at the scene, according to an Associated Press photographer.

The second airstrike struck an area about 500 meters away, according to witnesses, immediately killing at least 16 people, among them local Palestinian photographer Rami Rayan, who was wearing a press vest at the time.

"People were in the street and in the market, mostly women and kids. Suddenly more than 10 shells landed in the area, the market, in the Turkman area, and next to the gas station," said Salim Qadum, 26, who witnessed the strike.

blood bath, everyone is wounded or killed. People lost their limbs and were screaming for help. It's a massacre. I vomited when I saw what happened."

Israeli airstrikes and shelling killed more than 108 Palestinians across the coastal territory throughout the day Wednesday.

The military had declared a four-hour humanitarian cease-fire in parts of Gaza beginning at 3:00 p.m., but Hamas spokesman Sami Abu Zuhri said it lacked any "value" because it excluded border areas from where Hamas wanted to evacuate the wounded.

Gaza militants fired 84 rockets at Israel Wednesday, including more than 26 after the cease-fire was announced, the military said. Al-Kidra, the Gaza health official, said seven Palestinians were killed by an Israeli airstrike in the same period.

The Israeli military said three of its soldiers were killed Wednesday when a house Palestinian militants had rigged with explosives collapsed after they identified an entrance to a tunnel inside. More than a dozen soldiers were wounded in heavy fighting Wednesday, it said.

The latest violence further dimmed hopes of a sustainable truce in the fighting, now in its fourth week.

Israel escalated its campaign on Tuesday, with airstrikes destroying key symbols of Hamas power, including the home of the top Hamas leader. Gaza's only power plant was shut down after shells set its fuel tank on fire.

On Wednesday tank shells hit the U.N. school in the Jebaliya refugee camp before dawn, said Adnan Abu Hasna, a spokesman for the U.N. Relief and Works Agency, which is sheltering more than 200,000 people displaced by the fighting at dozens of U.N. schools across the strip.

Assad Sabah said he and his five children were huddling under desks in one of the classrooms because of the constant sound of tank fire throughout the night.

"We were scared to death," he said. "After 4:30 a.m., tanks started firing more. Three explosions shook the school."

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The Pampa News' Best in town 2014

Who makes the best hamburgers? Who is your favorite coach? Who is the best florist? Who is your favorite mechanic?

Just fill out the form below and we will tabulate the results and print them in the paper. We will also present all your "favorites" with a special certificate and recognition in The Pampa News.

So, sharpen your pencils and vote for all your favorites. You may vote up to ten times, but the ballots can't be copied. Only newspaper pages will be counted as official ballots. All ballots must be turned in by 4 p.m., Friday, August 8. Selections must be businesses or individuals from Gray County.

Let the rest of Pampa know who's the BEST by voting for YOUR favorites!

Please fill in the following information:

Your Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Best of Pampa 2014 Categories

BUSINESSES AND SERVICES

1. Best pet groomer _____
2. Best cake baker _____
3. Best hair stylist/barber _____
4. Best nail tech _____
5. Best plumber _____
6. Best real estate agent _____
7. Best handyman service _____
8. Best mechanic _____
9. Best roofer _____
10. Best car salesman _____
11. Best salesman (non-car) _____
12. Best waitress/waiter _____
13. Best storage unit _____
14. Best veterinarian _____
15. Best salon _____
16. Best local boutique _____
17. Best carpet/flooring _____
18. Best convenience store _____
19. Best furniture store _____
20. Best tanning salon _____
21. Best grocery store _____
22. Best jewelry store _____
23. Best new car dealership _____
24. Best used car dealership _____
25. Best greenhouse _____
26. Best florist _____
26. Best specialty store _____
27. Best liquor store _____
28. Best tire store _____
29. Best western wear store _____
30. Best cell phone carrier _____
31. Best daycare _____
32. Best real estate company _____
33. Best baked goods _____
34. Best pharmacy _____
35. Best gym _____
36. Best air conditioning/heating repair _____
37. Best apartment complex _____
38. Best auto body repair _____
39. Best auto service _____
40. Best bank _____
41. Best cable/satellite _____
42. Best car wash _____
43. Best chiropractor _____
44. Best credit union _____
45. Best customer service _____

46. Best dentist _____
47. Best dry cleaners _____
48. Best gymnastics/dance _____
49. Best insurance agent _____
50. Best internet provider _____
51. Best investment service _____
52. Best landscape service _____
53. Best law firm _____
54. Best oil change service _____
55. Best optometrist _____
56. Best orthodontist _____
57. Best pest control service _____
58. Best kid's party _____
59. Best photographer _____
60. Best new business _____

FOOD

61. Best BBQ _____
62. Best breakfast _____
63. Best burger _____
64. Best catering _____
65. Best fast food _____
66. Best steak _____
67. Best coffee _____
68. Best sandwich _____
69. Best dessert _____
70. Best pizza _____
71. Best fountain drink _____
72. Best Mexican food _____
73. Best Chinese food _____
74. Best overall food _____
75. Best salsa _____
76. Best takeout _____
77. Best late night snack _____

COMMUNITY

78. Best community event _____
79. Best local band _____
80. Friendliest church _____
81. Friendliest citizen _____
82. Best teacher (Past or present) _____
83. Best coach (Past or present) _____
84. Best firefighter _____
85. Best law enforcement officer _____
86. Best EMT/paramedic _____
87. Best physician _____
88. Best nurse _____
89. Write in your own category _____

Bring your entries to the Pampa News office at 403 W. Atchison or mail them to "The Best of Gray Co." c/o The Pampa News, PO Box 2198, Pampa, Texas 79065. All ballots must be received by 4 p.m., Friday, August 8.