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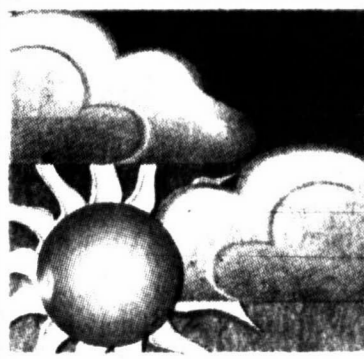
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SHOPPER

Vol. 92 No. 31 • Pampa, Texas
50¢ Daily • Sunday *1



High today high-50s.
Low tonight 42.

MIAMI — The Miami school board will be interviewing a new superintendent applicant tonight during their special meeting here.

Miami Independent School District Superintendent Danny R. Cochran is leaving to take a position with Boy's Ranch.

The Miami ISD board of trustees began their search for a replacement after Cochran announced his move last month. Tonight's meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at the Miami ISD administration office, 321 Custer.

CANADIAN — A 27-year-old woman started her probation today after pleading guilty to theft in 31st District Court here Monday.

Monica Clawson was sentenced to two years in a state jail facility, probated to five years. Judge Steven Emmert also ordered Clawson to pay \$4,400 in restitution and a \$500 fine.

The charges stem from missing receipts on the Fourth of July weekend, 1998, from Century Fuels, a Canadian business where Clawson was the manager.

Authorities said several others have been indicted as a result of the investigation. Their trials are pending.

AMARILLO — A Borger teenager was in satisfactory condition today at an Amarillo hospital after the truck she was driving rolled north of White Deer last week.

Christi Walser, 18, was southbound about 11:30 a.m. Wednesday on FM 294 between White Deer and Skellytown when the white Chevrolet truck she was driving went off the west side of the highway into a muddy bar ditch. Authorities said the pickup hit a culvert and rolled, coming to rest on its roof.

Walser was rushed to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo where she was listed in serious condition. Hospital officials said today that her condition had improved to satisfactory.

- Margaret Heide, 87, Wheeler Christian Center Church member.
- Joseph Edward Wortham, 64, former Pampa resident.
- Madge C. 'Granny' Hankins, 87, Pampa and Lefors resident of 60 years.
- John David 'Froggie' Whitmarsh, 62, Pampa truck driver.
- James 'J.D.' Meeks, 57, oil field worker, mechanic.

Classified8
Comics5
Editorial4
Sports6

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Lefors council reviews possible bookkeeping improprieties

By JEFF WEST
Staff Writer

Records, bookkeeping, and taxes once again dominated a meeting of the Lefors City Council Monday night.

Shirley Jernigan of Jernigan Bookkeeping Service gave a report on several items she said had not been done properly by the previous bookkeeper for the city, Tom Grantham of Grantham, Corey Call and Heare.

"We finally got all the information that was available from Grantham's office," Jernigan said. "Nothing has been done except payroll reports since September 30. No financial or any posting we're going to have to bring that up to current."

She said she was concerned because the city apparently has been paying the old firm to do all the reports and yet has not received the services. She asked if the council wanted her to prepare a bill to send to Grantham for the work she is going to have to do to bring the records up to date.

City Secretary Judy Williams said Grantham had voluntarily sent a refund of \$500, which is about one month's bill but Mayor J.W. Franks said if the work hasn't been done since September, that would be closer to \$3,000. Williams said Grantham blamed computer problems around the first of the year.

"I wasn't aware of the problem until the first of February when we start

See LEFORS, page 2

Man in satisfactory condition

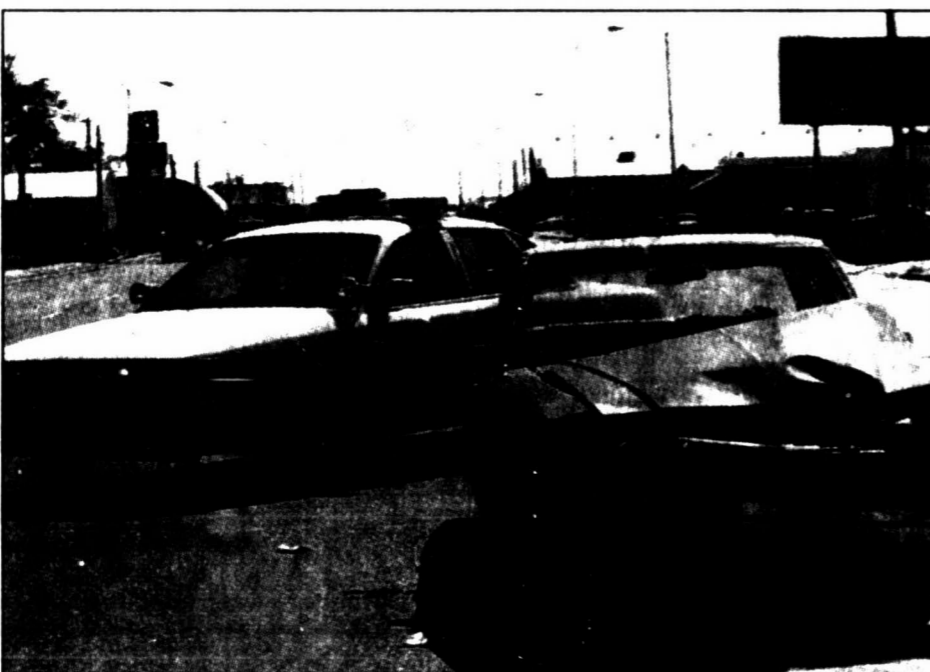
AMARILLO — A Pampa man's condition was upgraded to satisfactory today at an Amarillo hospital with injuries suffered in a fall last week.

William Cross, 21, was in Northwest Texas Hospital today with a broken leg, cuts and bruises suffered Wednesday when he fell from a Pampa motor bank facility

while working on its roof.

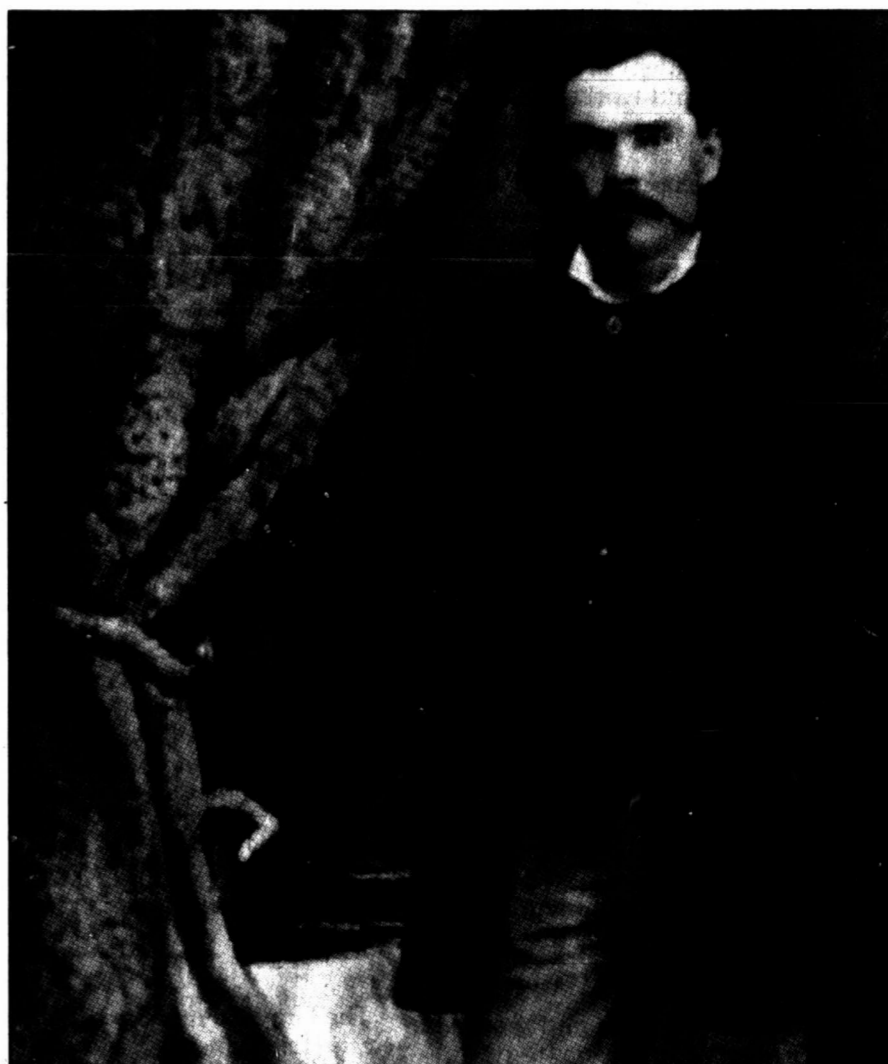
Cross fell from the roof of FirstBank Southwest's drive-in bank about 1:20 p.m.

Wednesday at 300 West Kingsmill. Authorities said he fell about 15 feet into the back of a pickup. He was airlifted to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.



Joy Yvonne Bybee, 36, 617 Christy, was treated and released from Pampa Regional Medical Center after her 1982 Fairmont hit a GMC pickup driven by Timothy Mack Thornburg, 43, 1809 N. Zimmers, at Cuyler and Brown about 4:40 Monday afternoon. The accident is still under investigation.

White Deer Land Museum presents ...



Scout Billy Dixon, an outstanding figure in the Red River War, was a hero in the Battle of Adobe Walls and was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his bravery at the Hemphill County Buffalo Wallow Battle.

Red River War revisited in lecture, new summer exhibit

By MIRANDA G. BAILEY
Managing Editor

A leading historian and authority on the Texas Panhandle, Dr. Fred Rathjen of WTAMU will be presenting a discussion on the Red River War at the Lovett Memorial Library on Sun., May 16 at 2 p.m.

The lecture is in conjunction with the White Deer Land Museum's new summer exhibit, "The Red River War, 1874-75."

The summer exhibit will first open up

to the public on Sat., May 15 from 1 to 4 p.m., while the display will be available for viewing for the duration of the summer from 10 to 4 p.m. Tues.-Sun. after Memorial Day.

"This exhibit was designed by Larry Franklin and shown when the new Holland Wing was opened in 1995," according to the museum's Anne Davidson. "The display has been revised by the White Deer Land Museum Exhibits Committee and will feature arti-

See MUSEUM, page 2

Congress investigates sale of weapons

By DAVID BOWSER
Staff Writer

While the nation's attention is turned to 9mm semi-automatic weapons and handguns light of the Littleton, Colo., high school shooting, Congress is investigating the sale and manufacture of larger caliber weapons.

A Congressional hearing

earlier this month indicated that there is a spread of .50-caliber sniper rifles and armor piercing bullets.

GAO agent Robert Hast testified before a House committee that the long range weapon gained popularity after they were used against Iraqi tanks during the Persian Gulf War.

The weapons are highly accurate up to 2,000 yards,

more than a mile, and can be effective at distances of 7,500 yards.

"It's really hard to understand why somebody would need a .50-caliber sniper's weapon although I think there's people who are legitimately interested in firearms and ammunition," said Pampa's Police Chief Charlie Morris. "It's a hobby with

See WEAPONS, page 2

Quite frankly... What are your summer vacation plans?



"Visiting relatives out of town."

-- Charles Vance



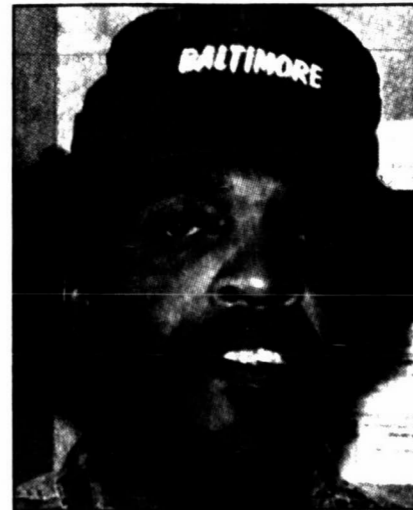
"Go camping in Arizona."

-- Kenneth Gunter



"Go to the mountains, do some fishing, relax."

-- Russell Ward



"I'm going to San Antonio to visit Six flags and Sea World."

-- Dave Parker

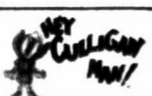


"I'm going to see my dad in San Angelo."

-- Jessica Land

Culligan

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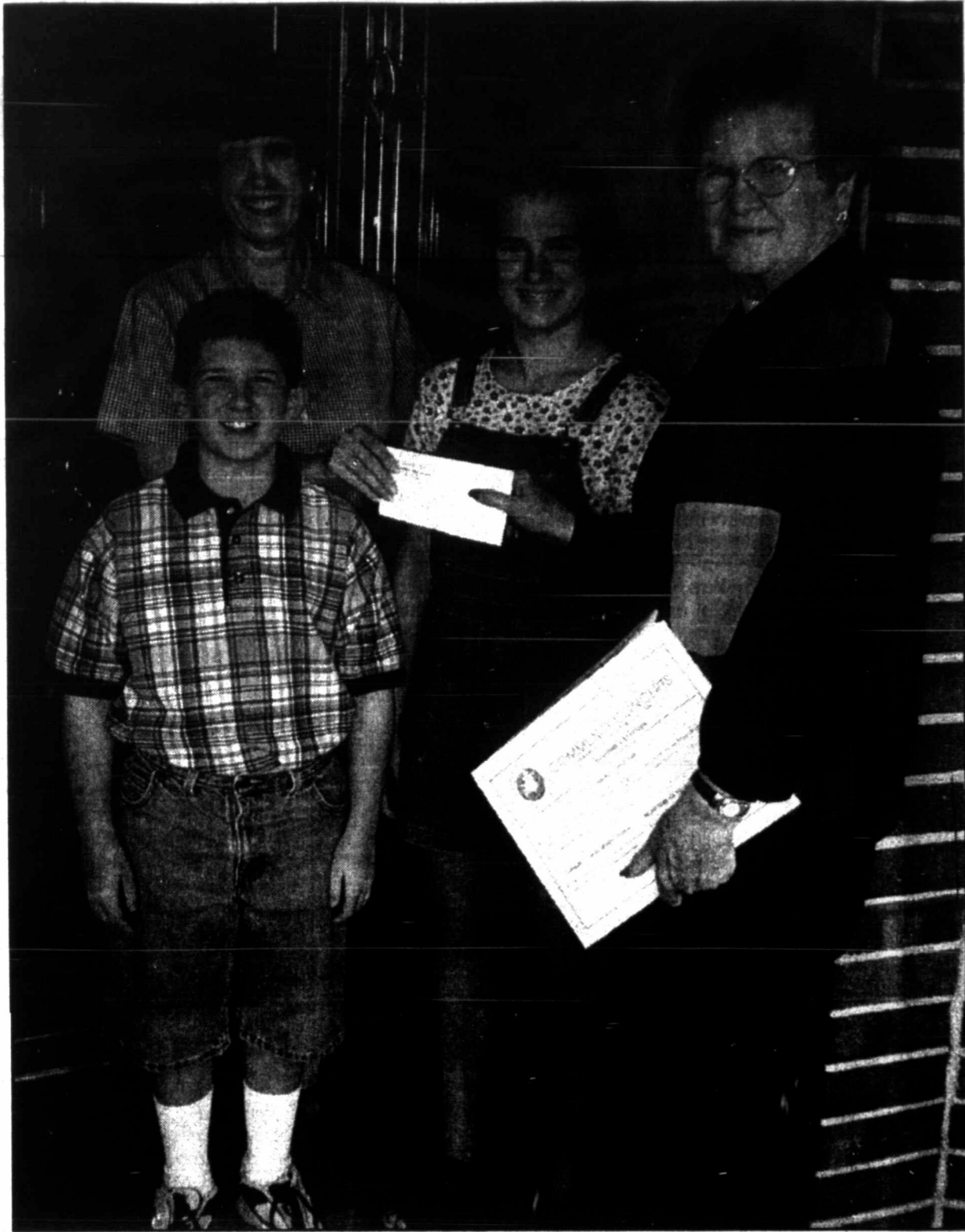
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PCCA membership drive



(Community Camera photo)

Evelyn Johnson, right, top sales person for the Pampa Community Concert Association, is shown renewing a family membership to Leslie Schaffer, son Garnett and daughter Anna. Attendance is by membership in Pampa Community Concert Association. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$10 for students and \$60 for family memberships. For more information contact Evelyn Johnson, 665-1065, recording secretary for the organization, or Lillith Brainard, membership secretary at 665-0343. Membership drive is underway for the four shows for the upcoming 1999-2000 season.

National Stuttering Awareness Week being celebrated, astronaut's wife chairs event

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — When John Glenn returned to space last year, most people may not have known that there is another family member who also has "the right stuff."

Annie Glenn, wife of the former senator and the first American to orbit the earth, has confronted fear and overcome adversity every bit as tough as the NASA hero. Annie Glenn has learned to come to grips with a significant stuttering problem — and changed her life in the process.

Imagine her anxiety on Feb. 20, 1962, when she waited for her husband to return safely from space flight. Mrs. Glenn also knew that hundreds of reporters would want her to speak publicly afterwards. Humiliated and embarrassed by her incapacity to speak without a significant struggle, she chose to let her children answer questions from the media. Trying to get out the words smoothly and fluently before the cameras was impossible.

Yet the story does not end here. Annie Glenn was not going to be conquered by her speech disability or be less than a full partner in her husband's future public service career. She attended an intensive program for stuttering. Slowly, painfully, she learned to speak in a new way. Hesitations, blocks, repetitions of sounds — none of those magically disappeared. But, through perseverance and sheer determination, Annie Glenn learned to talk with more ease and self-confidence. Over the years, her problem finally stopped being a problem.

For her remarkable achievements, the nonprofit Stuttering Foundation of America is pleased to announce that Mrs. Annie Glenn will be the 1999 Honorary Chair of National Stuttering Awareness Week, May 10-16.

"Congress authorized this annual awareness week because it knows that stuttering can tremen-

dously impact a wide cross-section of Americans," said Jane Fraser, president of the Stuttering Foundation. "Despite her isolation in those tough early years, Annie Glenn was never alone. Not enough people realize that approximately three million Americans every day cope with a stuttering disorder. But most can be helped with professional speech therapy."

"It is difficult to exaggerate how much stuttering can impact a child or adult," Glenn added. "For years, I avoided speaking on the telephone, giving directions to someone, or even asking questions concerning my children at the school's parent-teacher conferences." Like her father, she was faced with a severe stuttering problem as long as she could remember.

"Annie Glenn is an excellent role model because she succeeded in the especially tough task of confronting stuttering in her adult years," remarked the SFA's Fraser.

"There is no magic cure for stuttering," admonishes Glenn, "but there is a lot that can be done to help someone speak more freely. Unfortunately, many parents, teachers and stutterers themselves are not made aware of the therapy and self-help possibilities." Glenn now speaks without debilitating fear or embarrassment at public events and has successfully participated in many television and radio interviews.

For a free copy of the National Stuttering Awareness Week brochure featuring 14 famous people who stutter, call the Stuttering Foundation toll-free at 1-800-992-9392, or visit www.stutterSFA.org. The Foundation was started in 1947 by the late philanthropist and business leader, Malcolm Fraser, who, like Glenn, also learned to cope effectively with a significant stuttering problem later in life.

Red River War Archeology project receives grant

AUSTIN — The Amarillo Area Foundation recently awarded \$50,000 to the Texas Historical Commission. The THC also received grants from the

Summerlee Foundation and the National Park Service's American Battlefields Protection Program bringing the total monies awarded to \$127,000.

In 1998, the THC began investigating several major battle sites associated with the 1874 Red River War. The archeological sites stretch across the Texas Panhandle and include Hutchinson, Armstrong, Briscoe, Gray and Hemphill Counties.

The THC will use the grant money to achieve the Red River War Battle Sites Project goals including: precisely locating sites, generating site records and maps, nominating sites to the National Register of Historic Places and working with area museums to exhibit findings.

During the initial investigation, the THC researched key sites relating to the historic war in which the U.S. military attempted to oust the Plains Indians from their homeland. The war, which brought an end to Native American control of the southern plains, may have involved as many as 20 battles.

Another project goal is the development of a tourism plan to help the public learn more about the battle sites and this phase of Texas history. Plans also include acquiring descriptions of the Native American perspective on the war.

For more information, contact Pat Mercado-Allinger, Archeology Division, THC, (512) 463-8882.

Foundation announces summer camp

GAINESVILLE — Southwestern Diabetic Foundation in Gainesville has announced the dates for the summer camping season at Camp Sweeney as follows: first session — May 30-June 18; second session — June 20-July 9; third session — July 11-July 30; mini-camp — August 1-7. Located just north of Highway 82 between Gainesville and Whitesboro, Camp Sweeney has been in continuous operation since 1950, and is the largest camp of its kind in the U.S.

Camp Sweeney is designed to promote a healthy life-style for children with diabetes. It teaches youth life-saving medical management skills for their disorder.

Each camper learns to test their own blood glucose levels at least four times a day and administer their own insulin when necessary. There is a medical team on duty around the clock to monitor the children and prescribe dosages.

Each counselor receives extensive training in the care of children with diabetes. They lead activities such as archery, tennis, lacrosse, boating, fishing and crafts. There is a ratio of one counselor to every four campers.

Camp Sweeney's summer camp session is for children with diabetes ages 6-18. Enrollment is limited and is on a first come, first serve basis. For more information, write Camp Sweeney, P.O. Box 918, Gainesville, TX 76241, or call (940) 665-9502.

Calendar of events

PAMPA CHESS CLUB
The Pampa Chess Club meets every Tuesday night at Yummie's Pizza in the Pampa Mall at 7:30 p.m. We offer casual yet competitive games, free instruction, and a quarterly newsletter. For more information contact James A. Shook at 669-0227.

TOASTMASTERS
The Toastmasters will meet every Wednesday night from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. at the Furr's Cafeteria.

TRALEE CRISIS CENTER FOR WOMEN
Tralee Crisis Center for Women is offering an in-house support group for victims of family violence. Meetings will be Tuesday's from 11 a.m.-12 noon and on Thursday's from 7-8 p.m. For more information call (806) 669-1131. All calls are kept confidential.

TOTS-N-TRAINING
Each Wednesday at the times and locations listed below you will receive a newsletter and free materials that will help you get your child ready for school.

—Frank's Thriftway #1, 300 E. Brown, 10-11 a.m. & 3-4 p.m. & 5:30-6:30 p.m.

—Woodrow Wilson School, 801 E. Browning, 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

—Albertson's, 1233 N. Hobart, 10-11 a.m. & 3:00-5:00 p.m.

—Community Day Care, 1100 Gwendolyn, 4:30-6 p.m.

PAMPA PRISON MINISTRY
The Pampa Prison Ministry meets the first Tuesday of every month at Central Baptist Church

located at Francis and Starkweather at 7 p.m. sharp. For further information call Bob Andersen 665-4252 or J.B Walker at 669-2266.

PANHANDLE ALLIANCE FOR THE MENTALLY ILL

A support group for the mentally ill and family members meet the second Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at 218 N. Russell. There is no charge. For more information or if you need a ride call Sharon King, 665-2818.

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
Pampa Chapter No. 65, Order of the Eastern Star, has changed their meeting nights from the first and third Tuesdays to the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. at 420 West Kingsmill.

OPEN DOOR ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
Open Door Alcoholics Anonymous at 910 Kentucky (across from Albertson's) meeting schedule - seven days a week - two meetings a day - noon till 1 p.m. no smoking, and Tuesday and Thursday 8-9 p.m. call 665-9702 for information.

MASONIC LODGE #966
Pampa Lodge #966 will meet Thursday, May 13 for Past Master's Night, fellowcraft proficiency and Master Masons degree. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.

PAMPA JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
Pampa John Birch Society will have a recruitment meeting on

Friday, May 14 at 7 p.m. in the Lovett Library Auditorium.

EASTERN STAR CHAPTER #65

The Eastern Star Chapter #65 will meet Tuesday the 11th. We will honor Pro-tems and have Obligation. Officers wear your chapter dresses.

CAVALRY REUNION

The First Cavalry Division Association will be conducting its 52nd Annual Reunion in Killeen Aug. 4-8. The reunion headquarters will be located in the Plaza Hotel, Killeen. Veterans attending will range the history of the First Team from the Horse Soldier to today's modern day troopers. All First Team veterans and their families are invited to attend any or all activities, but must be registered. Registration will begin on Wednesday, Aug. 4, from 1-6 p.m. in the foyer of the Plaza Hotel, Killeen.

For more information or to register for attendance, 1st Cav. Div. veterans may contact the Association headquarters at 302 N. Main, Copperas Cove, TX 79522-1799 (254) 547-6537 or E-Mail: <firstcav@vvm.com>

Gem Theatre to host Blue Prairie concert

CLAUDE — Blue Prairie will present "Salute to the Sons of the Pioneers" at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, May 15, at the Gem Theatre in Claude. The concert is dedicated to the rugged cowboy of the high plains of West Texas — the men who inspired the legendary music of the Great American Cowboy.

Members of the Lubbock group are: Dave Benson, vocals, guitar, banjo; Tim McKenzie, vocals, bass fiddle, harmonica; and Philip Payne, vocals, fiddle.

For reservations or for more information, call (806) 944-5383 or (806) 226-2451.

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Fri. & Sat. 7:10 & 9:05
Sun. thru Thurs. 7:10
Sat. & Sun. Matinees 1:55

3rd Run
10 Things I Hate About You (PG-13)
Fri. & Sat. 7:15 & 9:05
Sun. thru Thurs. 7:15
Sat. & Sun. Matinees 2:00

2nd Week
Never Been Kissed (PG-13)
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VIEWPOINTS

Everything I do is south

I think I'm becoming a small town driver and I don't think I like it.

When I first came to Pampa from Amarillo I was amazed at how quickly you could get anywhere in the city and the lack of traffic jams and how there didn't seem to be a single car on the streets after 10 (except at Hastings).

Now I don't go to some stores here because they are too far away, or to the left. See, almost everything I do is south, or to the right of where I live. Downtown, the newspaper office, most traffic accidents, all to the right. A few things are slightly to my left but I manage that occasionally.

I once heard a story that J. Edgar Hoover, who was driven in a government limousine, once was in an accident while making a left hand turn. From then on, so the story goes, his driver could only make right hand turns.

While I may not like turning left when



Jeff West

Pampa News staff

"going to town" I do it quite a bit during the day and I found that left turns are a problem for a lot of Pampa. Apparently people are afraid of left turners.

See, here's the scene. I pull up to a stop sign with my left blinker on. I have the left blinker on because I'm planning to turn left. Another car, pickup, van, SUV (short for super ugly vehicle in car lingo), motorcycle, bicycle, unicycle, whatever, pulls up at the other stop sign at the same time.

should wait. Invariably that causes the other driver to start up. So I wait and wait and wait for the driver who now has parked again and is starting to set up camp.

I don't want to go. I remember Coach whats-his-name in high school driving class stressing the rule that cars going straight have right of way.

For those of you who have misplaced your Texas Drivers Handbook, trust me it's there.

I was going to write about this problem earlier but something got in my way. I was driving around town thinking about small town drivers when I found myself at a stop sign, there was somebody facing me, not moving.

Be good to one another and be good to yourselves.

Inside the Beltway with Rep. Mac Thornberry



Nominating youth to service academies

One of the more uplifting parts of my job in Congress is being able to nominate young people to our nation's military service academies.

I recently hosted a pair of meetings to give students and their parents more information about the service academies, what they have to offer, and what those interested in attending need to do to apply.

As a member of Congress, I can nominate up to five students for each service academy. This number varies depending on how many students from the 13th District are attending an academy at the time of nomination.

Applications for nomination are due in to me by Nov. 1 of a student's senior year. I then pass these nominations onto the service academies. They make the final decisions on who is eventually selected.

Obviously, service academies aren't for everyone. But for young people who are looking for a top-notch education and a chance to serve their country, I think it's an opportunity that can't be beat.

If you'd like more information on military service academies and how to go about being nominated, please contact me at either my Wichita Falls or Amarillo office, or through my website at ww.house.gov/thornberry/.

Thought for today

"When one has been threatened with a great injustice, one accepts a smaller as a favour."

—Richard Bethell, Lord Westbury

Your representatives

- State Rep. Warren Chisum
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Pampa Phone: 665-3552
Austin Address: P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768-2910
Austin Phone: (512) 463-0736
State Sen. Teel Bivins
Amarillo Address: P.O. Box 9155, Amarillo, TX 79105
Amarillo Phone: (806) 374-8994
Austin Address: P.O. Box 12068, Austin, TX 78711
Austin Phone: (512) 463-0131
U.S. Rep. William M. "Mac" Thornberry
Amarillo Address: 724 S. Polk, Suite 400, Amarillo, TX 79101
Amarillo Phone: (806) 371-8844
Washington Address: 131 Cannon Building, Washington, D.C. 20515
Washington Phone: (202) 225-3706
U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison
Washington Address: 283 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510
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Permissiveness costs society

Dr. Amyim Palmer is the founder and headmaster of Marcus Garvey School. After several invitations to tour the institution, I finally managed a visit on one of my trips to Los Angeles. Marcus Garvey School exemplifies black academic excellence and Palmer — and I think I would, too — is willing to match his students against any other students in the country.

As Palmer was escorting me from class to class, a kid hip-hopped by us. Palmer, telling me the kid was new in the school, excused himself and approached the kid and in just a few seconds the kid walked away normally, sans hip-hop. Palmer had asked the kid whether his legs were hurting. When the kid responded no, Palmer told the kid, "We don't walk that way at Marcus Garvey." The case was closed.

Knowing Palmer, I'm sure had the kid disobeyed, and after an attempt parental consultation to gain compliance, expulsion would have followed. But what might have happened in a public school? The kid might have warned Palmer about his constitutional rights. Had Palmer persisted, the kid's parents might have summoned some ACLU lawyers to sue the school, alleging the kids' First Amendment rights to freedom of expression were violated.

Forget the hip-hopping at Marcus Garvey for a moment and turn to the tragedy at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., where 14 stu-



Walter Williams

Syndicated columnist

dents and one teacher died. According to news reports, teachers and students were well aware of the atypical behavior by the two murderers. They donned black dusters, openly expressed hatred for athletes and admiration for Hitler, and belonged to an organization known as the "Trench Coat Mafia."

Suppose the school principal harbored suspicions about the killers, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold — what could he have done? Could he have called the boys into his office to discuss their behavior and attitude without risking a suit alleging violation of privacy rights? Suppose he suspected their lockers contained contraband or unsavory material, could he have inspected their lockers without worrying about some ACLU lawyers suing him for violating Fourth Amendment protections against "unreasonable" search and seizure?

Today's kids have rights, and teachers and principals must heed due process. But, rights

and due process cost. Let's return to the hip-hopping at Marcus Garvey to ask: If Dr. Palmer had to spend time and effort documenting the kid's hip-hopping, consult with legal counsel and take other "due process" measures, would he have approached the kid, or said to himself, "It's not worth the grief" and let it slide? I'm guessing the latter.

The same human response applies to teachers' suspicions about student locker contents, gang membership, foul language and bizarre dress. A lot of student behavior that teachers know is not quite kosher goes unsanctioned and uninvestigated, degrading the school ambiance, because "it's not worth it."

What are Americans really concerned about? We're concerned about whether children smoke cigarettes. Education is going to rot. Children are making babies. They use foul language to and in the presence of adults. And every now and then kill one another. And from the White House to the outhouse, the nation's top concern is children smoking.

I'm 63. When I was young, a lot of kids smoked. But they didn't use foul language to and in the presence of adults, make a bunch of babies, or murder and assault one another, and they could read and write. Plus, we dressed civilized for school (sneakers were no-no's and so were jeans for girls).

I'll take cigarette-smoking civilized kids any day.

Self-government requires discipline

Gannett News Service recently reported some statistics that show the true nature of our two-tier economy.

According to the story, one-third of Americans have no savings, no investments and are in debt. A fifth have zero assets. Ten million households don't even have a bank account — an indication they are literally going from one check to the next.

It's important to understand the difference between wealth and money. Wealth consists of assets houses, businesses, land, tools, vehicles and so forth. Money is a medium of exchange. The difference can be shown by example.

Let's say a person owns a home, owns a car and is debt-free. That person can live on a modest income of money. Now the next person owns nothing but has a good-paying job. He rents or pays on a mortgage, he pays for club memberships, he leases a fancy car, he borrows for vacations and other stuff. Outwardly, he appears to be living the good life, but in reality, he is extremely vulnerable and on the edge of disaster.

Let him get laid off and what happens? He loses everything. He was living on the basis of monthly payments, and now his cash flow has gone 100 percent negative — all out, no in. Unless he can find a new job quickly, he will lose his house, his car and everything else.

If indeed a third of Americans have no savings, no investments and are in debt, then they



Charley Reese

Syndicated columnist

are living on the edge of economic disaster and certainly not really sharing in the prosperity touted by the politicians and academics. There is a big difference between statistical prosperity and real, flesh-and-blood prosperity. A person may be counted as employed, but if a person is employed in a low-pay, no-future job, then that person is not participating in prosperity. One reason we have a low unemployment rate is that many people are in part-time positions, where generally they have no benefits like vacation time or medical insurance.

Another reason is that people who have given up looking for work are not even counted as unemployed. Never trust government statistics. One good argument for a frugal government is that extravagant governments will dump most of the tax burden on the poorest people. Why? Because the very wealthy people can and will use their wealth to purchase political influence and protect their assets. My own state has

such a regressive tax system that it even manages to nail the homeless. (If a homeless man bums \$5 and buys a hamburger, he has to pay sales tax.)

We certainly need a fairer tax system, not only at the federal level but at the state and local level. Tax increases by local and state governments have been tremendous in recent years.

The problem is, though, that government spending is what drives taxes, and until Americans wean themselves from the idea that governments can solve all human, social and personal problems, it is pointless to talk about tax reform. The politicians may play games, like lowering a rate while eliminating deductions, but they won't — they can't really — reduce the tax load until they end many, many government programs.

They won't do that until people demand it. Put plainly, a politician earns no Brownie points by ending a spending program, while starting a spending program always pleases at least the people who benefit from it. In all my years of sitting through government meetings at one level or another, I never heard any citizen come forward and say, "Cut spending." Everyone always wanted government to spend money on some project they favored.

Self-government requires self-discipline on the part of citizens, and we aren't quite there yet, though some are working on it.

Today in history

By The Associated Press
Today is Tuesday, May 11, the 131st day of 1999. There are 234 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:
On May 11, 1946, the first packages from the relief agency CARE (Cooperative for American Remittances to Europe) arrived in Europe, at Le Havre, France.

On this date:
In 1647, Peter Stuyvesant arrived in New Amsterdam to become governor.

In 1858, Minnesota became the 32nd state of the Union.

In 1910, Glacier National Park in Montana was established.

In 1944, Allied forces launched a major offensive in central Italy.

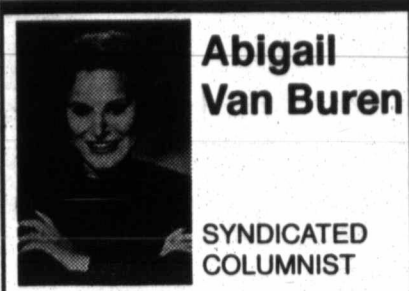
In 1949, Siam changed its name to Thailand.

In 1973, charges against Daniel Ellsberg for his role in the "Pentagon Papers" case were dismissed by Judge William M. Byrne, who cited government misconduct.

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Boy's Sleeping Arrangements Are Cause of Cousin's Concern

DEAR ABBY: My cousin is the single mother of a 9-year-old boy, "Kenneth." He is an only child. Kenneth has never slept in his own room. After his father left, my cousin used this as her excuse to let him sleep with her. He doesn't want to be alone and is afraid his mother will leave him, too, so that's the excuse she uses to justify allowing him to sleep with her.



Abigail Van Buren

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

Abby, his father left four years ago! I spoke to my cousin about this, and she said, "It's no big deal; plenty of people do it." The truth of the matter is that she doesn't have the patience to listen to him scream and cry all night if she tries to make him sleep in his own room. It's obvious to the family that Kenneth is in charge of their household.

I'm afraid this boy will have serious problems due to the sleeping arrangements. I'm also worried that a state agency will get wind of this strange situation and investigate my cousin.

Do you agree that this boy will become maladjusted? Perhaps if she sees it in your column, she'll wise up.

NAMELESS

DEAR NAMELESS: Kenneth should not be sleeping in the same bed with his mother. If your cousin doesn't know how abnormal this situation is, she should be told in no uncertain terms that she's doing her son a terrible disservice with this

sleeping arrangement. Further, at age 9, Kenneth is too old to be "screaming and crying all night" when he's left alone. The boy needs counseling to overcome his fears of abandonment.

DEAR ABBY: As a state trooper, I would like to comment on your advice that drivers pull over before using their cellular phones. While it is dangerous to drive while using the phone, it can be equally dangerous to just "pull over" while on the highway.

Many vehicles stop in the breakdown lane for this purpose without realizing that the most serious accidents take place when there is a large variance in the speeds of the objects colliding. This occurs most frequently when a stationary car or person is only inches away from traffic traveling in excess of 60 to 70 mph. It takes only a moment's inattention for a tragedy to occur. Many fatal accidents are the result of a truck or car straying only slightly

over the white line near a stopped vehicle.

Because of this danger, our state and many others prohibit the use of the breakdown lane unless there is a mechanical or medical emergency.

Abby, please urge your readers to use caution when pulling over. Look for a safe place to stop well away from the flow of traffic such as rest areas or parking lots, and of course, always wear seat belts.

Thank you for all your good work on behalf of police officers everywhere.

TROOPER STEVE EARLE,
MASSACHUSETTS
STATE POLICE

DEAR TROOPER EARLE: Your advice to stop well away from high-speed traffic is a safety tip that could save the lives of many. Thank you for it, and for the reminder that a moment's distraction can occur during a long highway journey even with the safest of drivers. It is absolutely vital that motorists stay fully alert at all times.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

walk through them. A risk is OK. Tonight: Party away.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) *** Build on what you know, if you're feeling a bit insecure. New information is important, though it could shake you up. Financial matters appear to take a new turn. Be careful — they could be unstable. Consider what you need in order for you to function on the highest level, then make choices accordingly. Tonight: At home.

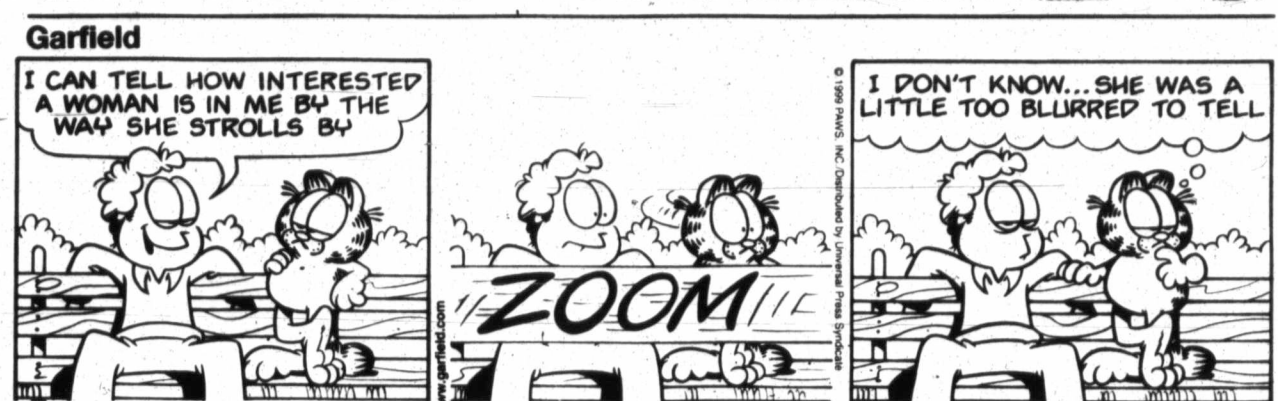
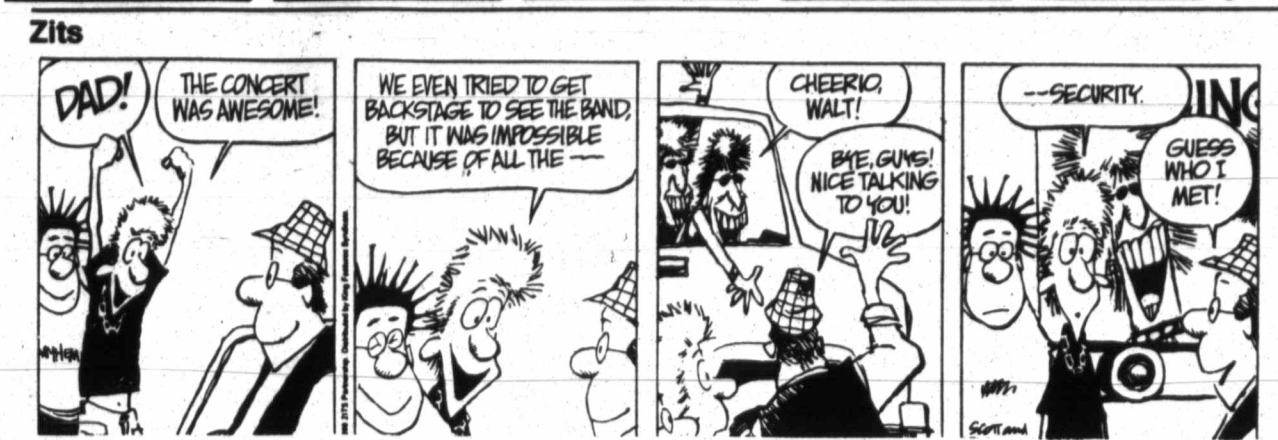
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ***** Communication is very important. Take strong action when you need to. A friendship has changed a lot. The unexpected happens when dealing with friends; you are the "wild card," however! Reach out for others, take in new information. Say what you think. Tonight: Catch up on news.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) *** Your intuition helps you with your career. You have been considering making certain changes; don't hold back. Finances play into your final decision. Check in with someone you respect both professionally and emotionally. You will benefit from another point of view. Tonight: Pay bills.

BORN TODAY
Comedian George Carlin (1937), actress Kim Fields (1969), singer Steve Winwood (1948)

For a personal consultation with a psychic, call (900) 000-0000, \$2.95 per minute. You can request your favorite psychic, and Spanish-speaking psychics are available. Rotary or touch-tone phones. Must be 18 or older to call. A service of InterMedia Inc., Jenkintown, Pa.

For Better or For Worse



Horoscope

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 1999
BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

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) ***** Dig into your resources, and you'll gain important information. Find another who has more expertise. You could even surprise yourself with the answers you come up with. Listen carefully to a friend, even though he can be weird and strange at times. Tonight: Whatever makes you happy.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) *** A partner is full of important information. You don't have to agree with him, but there is a lot going on here. In some way, the way he twists and rearranges your budget surprises you. You have a lot to gain here. Unexpected developments at work provoke a strong intuitive response. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ***** Things are changing. Clearly, what you thought was a given may not be. Stay centered; realize what you need to do. Others might not be in complete agreement; new information sends you back to the drawing board. You get what you want. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ***** Demands weigh upon you. Regroup and prioritize different work-related matters. Your efficiency and organization are tested. Interactions bring forth new financial information. A partner helps you by

using his unusual and dynamic thinking process. Tap into it. Tonight: With a favorite item.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ***** Let your mind expand and open up to new ideas. Daydreaming, brainstorming and research all help you see events, issues and information in a new light. Creativity seems to well up from another. Letting go of control in a key relationship helps. Tonight: Take in a movie.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ***** Relating opens doors and provides a special opportunity to grow. You exude enormous amounts of energy and creativity. A decision to approach work and life differently could surprise others, but it ultimately is good for you. Tonight: Get feedback from a loved one.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ***** Because it is so important for you to get along with others, you allow them to take charge. Observe different styles and learn more about those close to you. Exchange ideas with a special friend. Watch who you flirt with — another could misread your intentions. Tonight: Having a good time!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ***** Make a new start; use your resourcefulness. Be willing to let go of rigidity and strong ideas. You move into a new dimension and see others in a new light. Open up to your potential and what could happen. You might need to rearrange your budget. Tonight: Pace yourself.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ***** Others respond to the new and transformed you. You have graciously accepted many changes. Be sensitive; you could still be jolted by news that comes your way. New information opens doors —

Crossword Puzzle

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS
1 Oscar's roommate
6 Sound
11 Without help
12 Steer clear of
13 "Out of Africa" subject
15 Conducted
16 Mine find
17 Topper
18 Fists, slangily
20 Mubarak's predecessor
23 Valerie Harper series
27 Way to go
28 Scent
29 Handed over
31 Baseball's George
32 Dunkable treat
34 Yonder miss
37 Battle
38 Noah's creation
41 Real name of 13-Across
44 "Lucy" puzzle
46 Tough
47 Sticky stuff
- DOWN
1 Go bankrupt
2 Different
3 Burden
4 Pen contents
5 Struck, in a way
6 Furniture surface
7 Heady brew
8 Verdant
9 Brainstorm
10 Fender mark
14 Annoy
18 Passé
19 Concise
20 Jiffy
21 Chopping tool
22 Performed
24 Keats work
25 Morse E
26 Museum topic
30 Depressing experience
14 Annoy
18 Passé
19 Concise
20 Jiffy
21 Chopping tool
22 Performed
24 Keats work
25 Morse E
26 Museum topic
30 Depressing experience
35 Angel topper
36 Cupid
38 Line of symmetry
39 Take it easy
40 Leg feature
42 Eden name
43 Writer Levin



Yesterday's answer

- 22 Performed
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25 Morse E
26 Museum topic
30 Depressing experience
35 Angel topper
36 Cupid
38 Line of symmetry
39 Take it easy
40 Leg feature
42 Eden name
43 Writer Levin

Marmaduke



The Family Circus



Peanuts



Bjondle



Mallard Filmore



STUMPED?
For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-454-7377! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

"Mr. Haerberlein wants to borrow his wheelbarrow for a while."

MAY

