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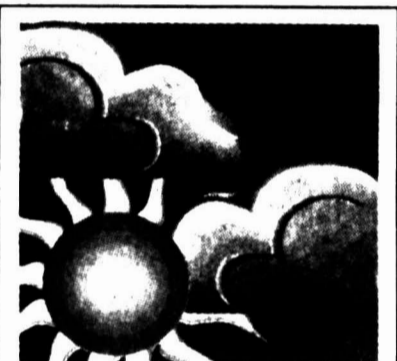
Pampa

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 For weather details see
 Page 2

Ad calls not related to The Pampa News

PAMPA — At least two Pampa businesses were contacted Thursday by a caller who said he is working with *The Pampa News* in conjunction with a special business advertising promotion. The caller does not represent *The Pampa News* or its publisher L.W. McCall. The newspaper is not working with any outside group on any projects.

MDA lockup on tap Monday

PAMPA — The Muscular Dystrophy Association will once again be rounding up and issuing warrants for notorious Pampa citizens from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday, Feb. 5, in an effort to raise funds for local clients battling neuro-muscular disease. The "jail" for the community lock-up will be Texas Rose Steakhouse.

Following lock-up, the jailbirds will be read their rights, sentenced and given access to a phone in order to start raising bail. In addition, the inmates will be treated to plenty of "bread and water" and have their mug-shot taken.

Monies raised through the annual lock-up go towards free comprehensive medical care, monthly support groups, summer youth camp, wheelchair purchase and repair and much more. For more information, contact MDA at (806) 359-3141.

Need some quick cash? Sell those unwanted items using the classified section of *The Pampa News*. To place your ad call 669-2525.

- Willie J. 'Bill' Cook, 69, owner of Cook's Garage.
- Nickie C. Gordon, 100, retired fourth-grade teacher.
- John Phillip Smith, 86, former vocational agriculture teacher.

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Commission OKs courthouse bonds

By NANCY YOUNG
 Managing Editor

Either pay now or pay later was the issue facing Gray County Commissioners when a majority voted to finance its 28 percent courthouse restoration matching funds with certificates of obligation.

In order to accept a \$3.8 million grant from the Texas Historical Commission, Gray County is required by THC to furnish an additional \$1.5 million under the 72-28 percent match.

Gray County is a grant recipient as part of the governor's program to restore county courthouses and aid them in maintaining the facilities.

The local project will include replacing the wiring which includes some original wiring installed when the courthouse was built in 1930. Plumbing system upgrades, refurbishing the heating and air conditioning in the building, foundation and basement repair, repair and rehabilitation of the windows, a new elevator, asbestos/lead paint abatement and bringing the building into compliance with the American Disabilities Act are also in the plan.

After considerable discussion in

"I own my own business. If I had a chance to receive \$3.8 million and me furnish an additional \$1.5 million for my business, I'd take it."

— Precinct One Commissioner Joe Wheelley

Thursday's meeting, the commissioners voted 4-1 to finance the county's portion of the \$5.3 million project.

Precinct Two County Commissioner Jim Greene cast the dissenting vote. He told *The Pampa News* this morning his main opposition is due to the economic condition of the county. He believes a decision to put taxpayers in debt for 20 years should go to a public vote.

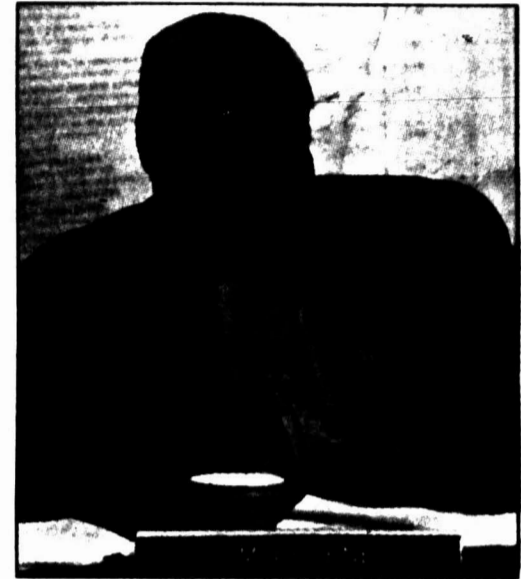
Greene said the county has never been in debt and he doesn't want to put it in debt to do the project. Greene also expressed concern about the possibility of the county's tax base going down. He also said all constituents who have contacted him regarding the restoration indicated they support a public vote on the bond plan. He believes \$1.5 million will not be

enough for the project to be completed adequately. He said during Thursday's meeting he thinks it will take \$2 million, and he reaffirmed that statement Friday. "If we're going to do it, let's do it A-Number-One," he said.

Greene said Friday morning he voted the way he thought he should Thursday. But, he said he is joining the other four commissioners court in going forward with the project. "It carried 4-1 and I was outvoted. We're going to all work together," he said.

An audience of approximately 30 people, which included eight or 10 elected county officials, listened as the four other commissioners explained their decision to vote in favor of the bonds.

(See VOTE, Page 10)



(Pampa News photo by Nancy Young)

Though he cast the lone vote against issuing bonds, Commissioner Jim Greene said he will work with the majority who favor the bonds to cover the county's match of restoration funds.

Commissioners hear details of how bond issue would work

By NANCY YOUNG
 Managing Editor

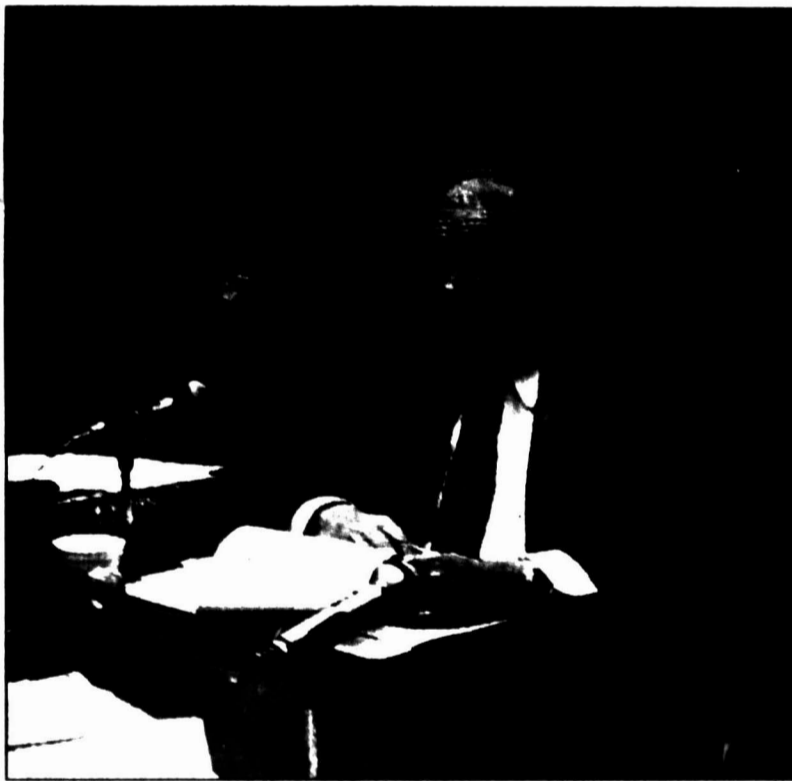
Kenneth Smith of Southwest Securities in Dallas has been authorized by county commissioners to proceed with the bond-issuing process for courthouse restoration.

He estimated Gray County will probably receive a rate of 4 3/4 percent on the bonds. "That is good for you. The rate is the lowest I have seen it in many years," said Smith. He said there is a big demand for tax exempt securities.

Smith said the \$1.5 million in bonds would cost \$125,000 a year, and he estimated an increase of \$01.25 to \$01.3 per \$100 valuation increase in taxes. He said the tax increase on a \$50,000 home would be approximately \$6-\$7 a year.

He said while the bonds would cost \$125,000, he estimated the maintenance budget could be reduced by \$125,000 with the restoration program.

Precinct One Commissioner Joe Wheelley said he had been asked if local investors or local banks could participate



(Pampa News photo by Nancy Young)

Ken Smith of Southwest Securities in Dallas tells county commissioners that the bond interest rate could be under 5 percent.

in the purchase of the municipal bonds for the restoration project. (See DETAILS, Page 10)

Dead tot's mom faces two child injury charges

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
 Staff Writer

CANADIAN — Hemphill County authorities confirmed today that Caryn Lynn Brown of Canadian, mother of a murdered 2-year-old, has been arrested in connection with two of three sealed indictments issued by a Hemphill County Grand Jury Monday.

Hemphill County Sheriff Dean Butcher said the 19-year-old woman was in his custody at press time today. She is being held on indictments charging her with injury of a child - first degree and injury of a child - third degree, he said. Bond has been set at \$15,000 for the first degree felony and \$5,000 for the third degree.

Police investigation and autopsy reports show that Brendan Brown, Caryn Brown's 2-year-old son, died between 11 p.m., May 24, 1999, and 8 a.m., May 25, 1999 of blunt force trauma to the abdomen.

Another Canadian resident, Leland Milburn, 24, was acquitted of capital murder by an Amarillo jury last year in connection with the toddler's death.

Testimony in the capital murder trial indicated the baby had died of internal bleeding after being struck in the abdomen. Bruises and burns also marked the child's body, the autopsy revealed.

Neighbors said they heard the baby's mother, then 17 years old, screaming for help shortly after 8 a.m. on May 25, 1999. One neighbor called 9-1-1 while her husband tried to revive the baby. The child was taken to the Hemphill County Hospital emergency room where he was pronounced dead by Justice of the Peace Frankie Hill.

Sheriff Butcher said the third sealed indictment is unrelated to the baby's death. He said he could not release any further information regarding the third indictment at this time.

Police nab fugitive during burglary call

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
 Staff Writer

City police officers checking on a possible burglary in progress early today ended up arresting a 29-year-old Pampa man wanted by Texas and Oklahoma authorities with a governor's extradition warrant against him.

At 1:16 a.m. today, Officer David R. Conner responded to a possible burglary in progress at 2909 Rosewood.

Deputy Chief Terry Young said a woman living at the residence called the police. He said she told officers the man first came to her front door and asked to use her telephone. After she told him she did not have a phone, he left, but then returned several minutes later and insisted she let him come in.

When officers arrived they saw a man turn away from the front door of the residence and walk toward the street, according to police reports.

While Conner questioned the man, Officer Shawn Waters and Lt. Charlie Love arrived on the scene. Lt. Love determined the first name the man had given was false, police said.

Then Gray County Sheriff's Department notified the city officers that they had a governor's extradition warrant out of Oklahoma for concealing and receiving stolen property. The warrant had been issued and signed by then-Governor George W. Bush.

Police arrested the suspect, Richard Shawn Reed, 29, 2112 N. Coffee, and took him to Gray County Jail where they

(See FUGITIVE, Page 2)

Chief: Crime stats reflect fewer officers on city streets

By DEE DEE LARAMORE
 Staff Writer

Pampa Police Chief Charlie Morris said his department's annual activity report reflects the effects of having fewer police officers on the streets.

"You can tell we had lost three officers," he said after reviewing the activity and accident report for calendar year 2000.

Morris said the department also operated most of the year with three vacancies open for police officers.

When the Pampa Police Department first switched to a team concept, it consisted of three seven-member teams. Staff

"One of the most notable differences was the number of (traffic) citations was down," said Police Chief Charlie Morris.

In 1999, Pampa Police Department reported 5,865 traffic stops for the year. Last year, 2,609 traffic stops were recorded. Traffic warnings fell by 1,100 from 2,511 in 1999 to 1,450 in 2000, as well, records show.

cuts and vacancies reduced the force to three five-member teams with three officers patrolling city streets per shift, Morris explained.

"One of the most notable differences was the number of (tra-

fic) citations was down," he said.

In 1999, Pampa Police Department reported 5,865 traffic stops for the year. Last year, 2,609 traffic stops were recorded. Traffic warnings fell by 1,100

(See CRIME, page 2)

Two school buses pass through the city's most dangerous intersection, at the most dangerous time, on the most dangerous day of the week, according to Pampa Police Department's record of injury accidents for the year 2000.

FEB 02 2001

This Devotional Directory Is Made Possible By The Following Businesses Who Encourage All Of Us To Attend Worship Services

Adventist

Faith Advent Christian Fellowship
 Grant Johnson.....324 Rider
 Adventist Seventh-day
 Mel Matthews, Minister.....425 N. Ward

Apostolic

Pampa Chapel
 Rev. Ron Noble.....711 E. Harvester

Assembly of God

Calvary Assembly of God
 Rev. Jerry Pollard.....Crawford & Love
 Carpenter's Church Assemblies of God
 Independent
 Fred C. Palmer, Minister 639 S. Barnes
 Cornerstone Christian Center (White Deer)
 Robben Epperson, Pastor.....201 S. Swift St.
 First Assembly of God
 Rev. Michael Moss.....500 S. Cuyler
 New Life Assembly of God
 Harold & Wendy Eggert.....1435 N. Sumner
 Skellytown Assembly of God Church
 Rev. Danny Trussell.....411 Chamberlain

Baptist

Barrett Baptist Church
 Rev. J.C. Burt.....903 Beryl
 Bible Baptist Church
 Bob Hudson, Pastor.....500 E. Kingsmill
 Calvary Baptist Church
 Rev. Richard Bartel.....900 E. 23rd St.
 Central Baptist Church
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Starkweather & Browning
 Fellowship Baptist Church
 Charles Lowry, Pastor.....217 N. Warren
 First Baptist Church
 Rev. Randy White.....203 N. West
 First Baptist Church (Mobeetie)
Mobeetie Tx.
 First Baptist Church (Lefors)
 Lewis Ellis, Pastor.....315 E. 4th
 First Baptist Church (Skellytown)
 Fines Marchman.....306 Roosevelt
 First Baptist Church (Groom)
 Byron Williamson.....407 E. 1St.

First Baptist Church (White Deer)

John Collis, Minister.....411 Omohundro St.
 First Baptist Church (McLean)
 Pastor James Martindale.....206 E. 1st St.
 First Free Will Baptist
 Rev. Tom Smith.....731 Sloan St.
 Grace Baptist Church
 Bro. Kyle Ohsfeldt.....824 S. Barnes
 Highland Baptist Church
 Paul Nachtigall, Pastor.....1301 N. Banks
 Hobart Baptist Church
 Rev. Jim Powell 1100 W. Crawford
 Iglesia Bautista Emmanuel
 Bilingual
 Dr. Jimmy Flynn, Pastor.....1021 S. Barnes
 Macedonia Baptist Church
 Rev. I.L. Patrick 441 Elm. St.
 New Hope Baptist Church
 Rev. Thomas J. Patterson.....912 S. Gray
 Primera Idlesia Bautista Mexicana
 Rev. Heliodoro Silva.....1541 Hamilton
 Progressive Baptist Church
 Rev. Bob Davis 836 S. Gray
 Trinity Baptist Church (McLean)
 Pastor: James Mantooth. 603 Commerce St.

Catholic

Sacred Heart (White Deer)
 Monsignor Kevin Hand.....500 N. Main
 St. Mary's (Groom)
 Father Neal Dee.....400 Ware
 St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
 Father John Valdez.....810 W. 23rd

Christian

Church of the Brethren
600 N. Frost
 First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
 Senior Pastor Barry Loving ...1633 N. Nelson
 Hi-Land Christian Church
 Mike Sublett, Minister 1615 N. Banks

Church of Christ

Central Church of Christ
 Tom Russell, Minister.....500 N. Somerville
 Church of Christ (Lefors)
 Rick Pierce.....215 E. 3rd

Church of Christ

Tim Walker, Pulpit Minister
Mary Ellen & Harvester
 Church of Christ (Groom)
 Dale Meadows.....101 Newcome
 Church of Christ (McLean)
 Jim Reyna.....4th and Clarendon St.
 Church of Christ (White Deer)
 Don Stone.....501 Doucette
 McCullough Street Church of Christ
 Frankie L. Lemons, Minister 738 McCullough
 Skellytown Church of Christ
 Kenneth Burkett, Preacher 108 5th
 Wells Street Church of Christ.....400 N. Wells
 Westside Church of Christ
 Michael Gibson, Minister 1612 W. Kentucky

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Church of God
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Jehovah's Witness

.....1701 Coffee

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Zion Lutheran Church
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 Rev. Thacker Haynes.....219 N. Gray
 First United Methodist Church (White Deer)
 Rev. Robert P. Kelley 101 W. 8th

Groom United Methodist Church

Rev. Tom Moore 303 E. 2nd
 Lefors United Methodist Church
 Rev. Jim Teeter311 E. 5th. Lefors
 St. Marks Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
 Rev. Raymond McKever 406 Elm
 St. Paul United Methodist Church
 Rev. Jim Teeter.....511 N. Hobart

Mormon

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
 Bishop Roger L. Roundy.....29th & Aspen

Nazarene

Church of The Nazarene
 Rev. Doug Yates.....500 N. West

Non-Denominational

Bible Church of Pampa
 Pastor Don Yates 300 W. Browning
 Iglesia Biblica Del Pueblo
 Alfonso Lozano, Pastor 712 Lefors St.
 Iglesia Nueva Vida - New Life Church -
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 Pastor Pedro Hernandez .. 801 E. Campbell
 Redeeming Grace Mission
 Liz Sculthrop, Mission Pastor..422 West St.
 Salvation Army
 Lt. Guy Watts
 & Lt. Dolores Watts.....S. Cuyler at Thut
 Trinity Fellowship Church
 Lonny Robbins, Pastor 1200 S. Sumner

Pentecostal

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 Rev. Ben Corbitt, Pastor.....610 Naida
 First Pentecostal Holiness Church
 Rev. Albert Maggard.....1700 Alcock
 HiLand Pentecostal Holiness Church
 Nathan Hopson, Pastor.....1733 N. Banks

Presbyterian

First Presbyterian Church
 Dr. Edwin M. Cooley525 N. Gray

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 <p>DIAMOND SHOP "May God Be With You During The Week" Ken & Stephens Rheims</p>	 <p>SONIC America's Drive-In 1418 N. Hobart Pampa, Texas 669-3171</p>	 <p>WELDON HOLLEY, INC. DBA Culligan 314 S. STARKWEATHER 665-5729</p>	<p>LARRY BAKER PLUMBING HEATING & AIR 2711 Alcock TACLA003191 665-4392</p>
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 <p>669-7171 Borger Hwy. - Pampa Jerry E. Carlson, Pres.</p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">The Pampa News</h1>		<p>Pampa Concrete Co., Inc. 220 W. Tyng Ave. • 669-3111</p>

JESUS CHRIST, THE SAME YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND FOREVER

HEBREWS 13:8

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Pet-Proofing Kitchen Includes Hanging Towels Out of Sight

DEAR ABBY: I am grief-stricken. Yesterday my husband and I faced the awful experience of putting our 3-year-old chocolate Labrador to sleep. For two or three days, he wouldn't eat or drink, and was lethargic and vomiting. We took him to the emergency vet hospital. The vet examined him and found "something" in his abdomen, which would require surgery to remove. What they found in his intestines was part of a kitchen towel.



Abigail Van Buren
SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

DEAR KELLE: Please accept my sympathy for the sad loss of your dog. I'm printing your letter as a warning to pet owners. While I thought what happened to your beloved pet was a freak accident, a staff member recalled that something similar had happened to a dog belonging to one of his relatives.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby's "Keepers," P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$3.95 (\$4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

dry my hands, remove things from the oven, etc. The towel probably smelled like food, which prompted him to chew it. To top it off, when we came home from the surgery, our 1-year-old puppy threw up the other portion of the towel!

Abby, please make other pet owners aware of this potential hazard. If sharing my story can spare someone else the devastation of losing a pet to something so avoidable, I'll gain some comfort.

KELLE IN TEMECULA, CALIF.

Horoscope

SUNDAY, FEB. 4, 2001

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) ***** Optimism marks your reactions, even when you're stunned and surprised. You find the words to deal with even the strangest of circumstances. Give loved ones and friends the benefit of the doubt. Make plans to go to an art gallery or a movie. Visit with friends. Tonight: Put up your feet.

This week: Deal with fundamentals, then allow the creative process to soar. You find unusual answers that make an idea possible that was tossed in the garbage.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ***** What is wrong with indulging another? What is wrong with indulging yourself? Today, you simply cannot see a reason why you shouldn't let go and enjoy. Optimism surrounds money and communication. You feel as if no one can say no to you. Ask for what you want. Tonight: Munchies with friends.

This week: Speak your mind. A boss wants feedback, and he appreciates your efforts. Don't limit yourself. Nearly anything is possible, if you are willing to commit.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ***** You beam, and others respond. You understand the role of your charisma and upbeat spirit. Make the impossible possible. Refuse to understand the word "no." Laughter surrounds friendship and sharing. Accept an invitation that involves more than one person. "The more, the merrier" works. Tonight: Your treat.

This week: Talk about what is on your mind. Reach out for someone at a distance. Seek out experts. It's amazing what you learn.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ***** Your smile draws another toward you. You might want to indulge an older relative or friend. Your instincts direct you, and you naturally do the right thing. Return calls and try to reach out for another. Caring abounds. Get some extra 'ZZZ's, as the unexpected could keep you

up late. Tonight: Anything goes.

This week: You beam as the week begins. You deal with financial matters with a great deal of sophistication and savvy. Trust yourself.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ***** Your mood swings like a pendulum. Work on being positive. If faced with a problem or decision, be optimistic. Only good can come of this attitude. A partner's mind could be overactive. Talk about what is really going on with each of you. Bonding occurs through vulnerability. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

This week: Take a step backward. Don't worry so much. Stay comfortable and within yourself. Anything is possible if you just relax and brainstorm.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ***** All eyes turn to you for ideas. Bring friends together for a movie and a meal. Being with others adds to the friendly mood. Relax and don't worry so much about time. Let go of restrictions, and you'll find that anything can happen. A friendship deepens considerably. Tonight: Zero in on what you want.

This week: Network on Monday and Tuesday. You mull over options for the remainder of the week. Take your time.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ***** Reach out to someone at a distance. Caring enhances a special friendship. Pull back some and give up being so reactive. You will make good decisions. Trust yourself. Someone makes his feelings quite clear. Be more nurturing to those around you. Express your happy-go-lucky side. Tonight: Get a head start on tomorrow's work.

This week: You're in the limelight. Success greets you: You can barely do anything wrong.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ***** Reach out for another. Allow more caring to flow between you and a special friend. Feelings deepen. Someone expresses his feelings. Seek out a person who sometimes pulls back or is shy. You add that "magic" to any situation. Allow your feelings to flow. Tonight: Hop on the Internet.

This week: Make an effort to reach out to others. News comes from a distance. Take charge on Wednesday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ***** Others knock on your door. Popularity soars, and you have many

invitations. Discussions with a family member lead to a strong decision. Don't kid yourself about another's role in your life. Discuss what you want from a relationship. Look to the long term. Tonight: Be with your favorite person.

This week: Deal with others one-on-one. Anything is possible, once you set your mind on the goal at hand. Say yes to possibilities.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ***** Dig into a project and get it done. You might want to share a favorite pastime with a loved one. You might not see eye to eye with another. Discuss options with someone who plays a major role in your life. Accept an invitation to join others later. Tonight: Out and about.

This week: Defer to others. Let others put their cards on the table. You gain by doing little and simply observing. Work with others one-on-one financially from Wednesday on.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ***** You naturally want to frolic. You naturally want to risk. Almost nothing stops you. Allow greater creativity in your plans. You don't always need to do the tried and true. An expenditure might make you uncomfortable. If you want to cut back plans and just be lazy, do so. Make this a perfect day for you. Tonight: Do only what is relaxing.

This week: Charge into work and get the job done. Clear out as much as you can before Wednesday, because after that you will want to put on your dancing shoes.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ***** Once you have thought through an important decision, speak your mind. Deal with family or a roommate early on. Allow more time for a loved one. Good feelings flow between you and a special friend. Do something you both love. Tonight: Play the night away.

This week: Your imagination roams. Put your mental ingenuity into your work, if you can. You are juggling fun and your job. The real question is whether you can do it successfully.

BORN TODAY
Singer Alice Cooper (1948), feminist Betty Friedan (1921), boxer Oscar de la Hoya (1973)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.
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For Better or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



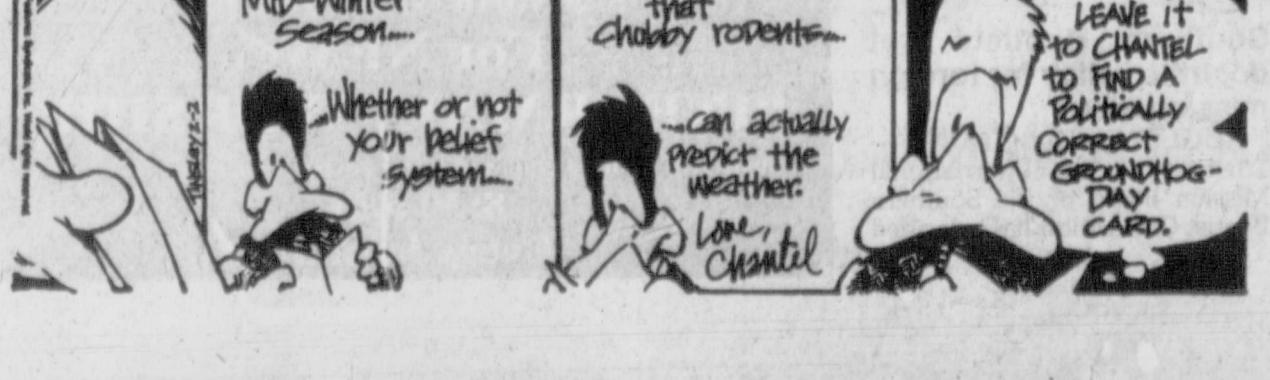
Peanuts



Blondie



Mallard Filmore



Crossword Puzzle

By **THOMAS JOSEPH**

ACROSS
1 Analyzes
6 CD player part
11 Dominant
12 Bobbing goal
13 Docking spots
14 Pound creations
15 Amount
17 Highlander
18 Rose's love
20 Opposed
22 Stephen of "The Crying Game"
23 Past time
26 Singer Moore
28 Hold up
29 Like OR instruments
31 Stole stuff
32 Do clerical work
33 Speck
34 Departed
36 Engine sound
38 "Awake and Sing" playwright
40 Cuzco dwellers
43 "I give up!"
44 Painter Rivera
45 Passé
46 English country

DOWN
1 Spigot
2 Yale player
3 Bit of movie
4 Spasm
5 Be pert
6 Track circuit
7 Missionary
8 Army training
9 "Sesame Street" character
10 Take it easy
16 "The Way" broken
18 Keep at length
19 Symbol of redness
21 Protuberance
23 Kite part
24 Not lax
25 "Jane" —
27 Easily broken
30 Writer Wallace
33 Some skirts
34 Vociferous
35 Writer Ferber
37 Trading post buy
38 Brut, to Brutus
41 Epoch
42 Boston team, briefly

Yesterday's answer

19 Symbol of redness
21 Protuberance
23 Kite part
24 Not lax
25 "Jane" —
27 Easily broken
30 Writer Wallace
33 Some skirts
34 Vociferous
35 Writer Ferber
37 Trading post buy
38 Brut, to Brutus
41 Epoch
42 Boston team, briefly

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.

Marmaduke



The Family Circus



"Grandma, how come your CDs are so big?"

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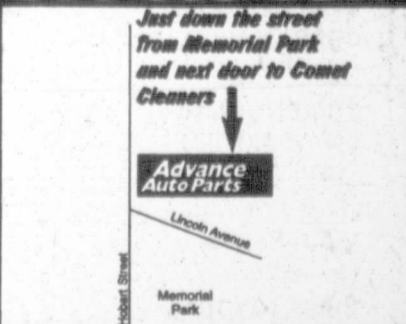


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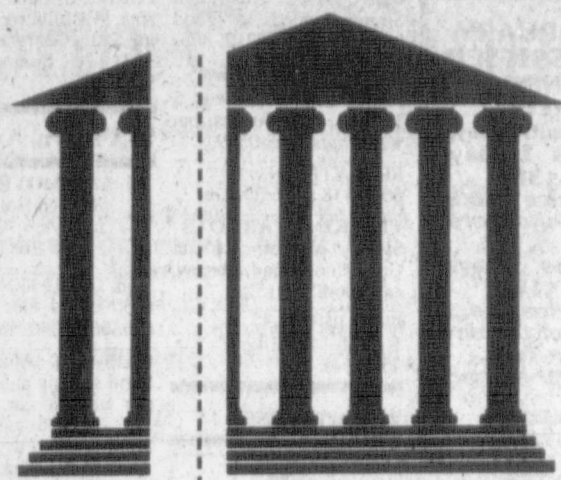


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Gray County - 28% of costs
Texas Historical Commission - 72% of costs

GRAY COUNTY COURTHOUSE PROJECT
OVERVIEW OF PROJECT ELEMENTS AND COSTS

PROJECT ELEMENT:	Total Estimated Cost	THC's Cost Share	County's Cost Share
ELECTRICAL SYSTEM REPLACEMENT New wiring, conduit, electrical ductbank, transformer relocation, service & distribution	\$ 538,322	\$ 386,681	\$ 151,641
PLUMBING SYSTEM UPGRADES ADA-compliant fixtures, piping, new site utilities	\$ 181,601	\$ 130,446	\$ 51,156
CONSTRUCTION associated with the Electrical/Plumbing systems integration	\$ 37,230	\$ 28,740	\$ 10,490
HVAC SYSTEM INSTALLATION 90-ton air cooled chiller, boiler and pumps, ducts & air distribution, piping, controls	\$ 1,078,777	\$ 774,895	\$ 303,882
CONSTRUCTION associated with the HVAC system integration	\$ 106,591	\$ 76,585	\$ 30,026
LIFE SAFETY (FIRE PROTECTION) New fire stair, lightning protection system, fire alarm/detection system	\$ 220,825	\$ 158,620	\$ 62,204
THERMAL PROTECTION IMPROVEMENTS Steel window repair and rehabilitation, roof	\$ 272,787	\$ 195,945	\$ 76,842
FOUNDATION AND BASEMENT REPAIR East Entry foundation, basement retaining wall	\$ 107,835	\$ 77,459	\$ 30,376
INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR DEMOLITION To facilitate electrical, plumbing, HVAC work and interior rehabilitation work	\$ 444,233	\$ 319,096	\$ 125,137
NEW ELEVATOR	\$ 191,970	\$ 137,894	\$ 54,076
INTERIOR REHABILITATION Restroom, office, mechanical room rehabilitation, ADA signage, paint, plaster and	\$ 228,323	\$ 162,570	\$ 63,753
UPGRADED LIGHTING SYSTEMS	\$ 206,634	\$ 148,427	\$ 58,207
EXTERIOR REHABILITATION Clean and repoint masonry and stone, terra cotta rehabilitation, chimney reconstruction	\$ 557,780	\$ 400,658	\$ 157,122
ASBESTOS/LEAD PAINT ABATEMENT	\$ 74,000	\$ 53,155	\$ 20,845
CONTINGENCIES	\$ 531,189	\$ 381,543	\$ 149,626
ARCHITECTURAL FEES	\$ 550,000	\$ 395,070	\$ 154,930
TOTALS	\$ 5,326,085	\$ 3,825,772	\$ 1,500,312

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

VOTE

"I have agonized over the issue of putting Gray County taxpayers in debt to do this project," said Precinct Four County Commissioner James Hefley. "I know this work has to be done on the courthouse, and I know the economic times are hard in the county," said Hefley. "I see it in my own personal business."

He said, however, the opportunity of obtaining a \$3.8 million grant for the restoration project will never come to Gray County again if this one is turned down. "I don't like to put the taxpayers in debt for 20 years but I think this is the best way to do the project," he said. "The work has to be done."

Hefley added, "If the voters of the county feel this is wrong they can get a petition and call the matter to a vote. That is their right."

County Judge Richard Peet said he was elected by the voters to take care of the county's business and felt the county commission could make the decision on the certificates of obligation. "I have taken care of county business on a daily basis, and have expended county money necessary to conduct the county business," said Peet. "I do this in a fair manner. I, too, am a taxpayer in Gray County because I am a property owner. I don't live in another county."

During the meeting Peet cited the lack of electrical outlets throughout the offices in the building. "In this room (the county courtroom), we only have one electrical outlet," said Peet.

Precinct One Commissioner Joe Wheeley said, "If most of the voters agree with the commissioners court decision to finance the county's portion of the project by certificates of obligation, they will support it. If they don't, it will go to a vote," he said.

"I own my own business. If I had a chance to receive \$3.8 million and me furnish an additional \$1.3 million for my business, I'd take it," he said.

Wheeley continued, "Areas of this courthouse are worn out and outdated, even though the building has been maintained. I had a Master Electrician go through this building with me recently. I told him I

estimated an approximate cost of \$700,000 for the electrical needs of the building. He said his guess would be between \$700,000-\$1 million.

Wheeley said the current main wiring in the county courthouse is paper wrapped wiring. "The wiring was put in when the building was built in 1930. Some has been replaced over the years, but the big majority is still the original wiring. It doesn't meet the needs of the county today with all the computers and other electrical equipment in the county offices. It is a definite hazard. The Master Electrician said he was surprised someone hasn't been hurt," he said.

"The current local economy is not what it was in the 1980s, but this work has to be done on the building," he said. "Or we'll have to piecemeal it." He added, "This is a perfect opportunity for the county."

"The commissioners court has already accepted the grant, secured and signed the contract with architects, ArchiTexas and engaged him," said Wheeley.

Precinct Three Commissioner Gerald Wright also voiced support to obtain financing by certificates of obligation.

"Since May when it was announced we were selected to receive \$3.8 million we have known the county was going to have to come up with the matching dollars to obtain this grant," he said. "If we don't do this (finance with certificates of obligation), we're looking at paying for the entire \$5.3 million project ourselves if we're going to continue using the courthouse. We have an opportunity we'll never get again, and we need to take advantage of it."

Peet said part of the expenses which would be paid by the \$1.5 million include rent for offices while county offices are housed in an alternate location as well as the moving expenses from the courthouse. He said these expenses could not be paid with the \$3.8 million because only direct restoration expenses are allowed due to requirements of the grant.

The judge said the county has already been reimbursed approximately \$17,000 for expenses incurred with the project.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

DETAILS

Smith said anyone locally who wanted these bonds should contact their broker or any broker. He said those bonds are usually sold within hours of the day of the sale which is March 1.

Anyone objecting to the issuance of certificates of obligation for the courthouse restoration project may circulate a petition calling for a county-wide election on the issue, said Smith. He said deadline for the petition to be received by the county is March 1.

He said five percent of the qualified voters in the county would be required to sign the petition. County Judge Richard Peet said the petition would have to be presented to the county commission and the signatures verified.

Jan Woods of the Gray County Tax Assessor's office said the county has 14,616 eligible voters, and approximately 730 signatures would be required on a petition.

Bonds would be available to the county April 1 if an election is not called, said Smith. If a

bond election is called and the voters should choose to pass it, the bonds would be available Aug. 1.

If an election is called and the voters override the commissioners court vote to purchase the certificates of obligation, the \$3.8 million grant would revert back to the Texas Historical Commission to be distributed to other counties.

Project Manager John Kiehl said \$200 million in requests are pending in Austin from Texas counties wanting funds for their courthouse restoration projects. He said the THC will only award one-fourth of those requests based on the funding available. He added, "If Gray County doesn't take the funds, someone else will."

Lyman Labry of the Texas Historical Commission was at Thursday's meeting.

"I'm glad Lyman is here today. I'm glad he's witnessing this and watching this," said Kiehl.

"It's important he's here to watch you groan and struggle with this issue. If you have to ask for slack on THC require-

ments later on in the courthouse restoration, he will have a better understanding."

Also on hand for the meeting was ArchiTexas architect Larry Irsik.

Smith gave several dates important to the sale of certificates of obligation. He said the first publication of the notice of intent to sell the bonds will be Feb. 8 and the second date will be Feb. 15.

The date to receive the preliminary official statement/notice of bond sale will be on Feb. 16. He said the municipal bond rating will be received Feb. 28 along with the notice of qualification for insurance.

On March 1 the commissioners court will meet to open bids and adopt an order authorizing and selling the certificates of obligation.

Smith explained to the commissioners court the bids for the municipal bonds are now accepted over the internet as well as the traditional sealed bids. He said the bids are not seen until the bid opening time. He will be in Pampa for the bid opening March 1.