



**AUGUST
20TH**

**NATIONAL
HOMELESS
ANIMALS
DAY**

Century 21 **PAMPA REALTY INC.**
 More POWER to you 312 N. Gray 669-0007

Brown's SHOE
 "We Measure Your Feet"
 1500 N. Hobart • 806-665-5691
 Mon-Sat 9am-7pm Sun 1pm-5pm

NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE
 an office of First National Bank, Waupaca, WI
 Member FDIC
 1224 N. Hobart Pampa, Tx 806-665-0022
 501 Commerce St. Childress, Tx 940-937-2514
 305 N. Main Shamrock, Tx. 806-256-2181

THE PAMPA NEWS
 "Your Hometown Newspaper"

403 W. Atchison • 806.669.2525
www.thepampanews.com

FIRST STATE BANK OF MIAMI
 Main Bank • 100 S. Main • Miami, TX • 806-868-2771 • Pampa Branch
 120 W. Kingsmill • Pampa, TX • 806-665-3669 • Member FDIC

Apartment Living For Seniors
Pam Apartments
 1200 N. Wells • 669-2594

Tested and proven in 1000's of commercial & residential locations all across North America.
BATH FITTER®
 of Amarillo
 1-888-465-4978 Toll Free

Schneider House Apartments
 Senior Living At Its Finest
 120 S. Russell • Pampa, TX • 665-0415

PEGGY'S PLACE
 Open 7 Days a Week
 5 A.M. to 10 P.M.
 1801 ALCOCK • 665-7830

Massage Therapy
 Cathy Potter • RMT
 1221 N. Hobart • NBC Plaza II • Ste 9 • 669-0013

PARSLEYS SHEET METAL & ROOFING
 214 E. TYNG AVENUE
 800-442-4668 • 806-669-6461

DORMAN TIRE & SERVICE CO., INC.
 1800 N. Hobart 665-5302
 665-6441
 800-665-5302

LEFORS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
 835-2773
 117 W. 2ND STREET • LEFORS, TEXAS

Johnson Home Furnishings
 801 W. Francis 665-3361

Culberson - Stowers, Inc.
 805 N. Hobart • (806) 665-1665
rstowers@pan-tex.net

WARREN CHISUM
 STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Johnson Home Entertainment Center
 2211 Perryton Parkway 665-0504

B&B PHARMACY
 669-1076-OR-665-5788 EMERGENCY 665-2892
 300 N. Ballard

Viewpoints

Newsmaker Interviews: What's next for Cuba?

Fidel Castro looks like he'll soon be joining his comrades Stalin and Mao in the communist hereafter. After 47 years of abusing the Cuban people and wrecking their economy, Fidel — hospitalized, possibly dying or already dead — has “temporarily” passed his dictatorial powers to Raul Castro, his vice president and younger brother.

No one is sure what will happen next. But Frank Calzon knows as much about what's going in Cuba and in the Cuban community in Miami as almost anyone. No friend of Fidel, Calzon is executive director of the Center for a Free Cuba, which calls itself “an independent, non-partisan institution dedicated to promoting human rights and a transition to democracy and the rule of law on the island.” I talked to the Havana-born activist the other day by phone from his offices in Washington, D.C.

Q: Do think Fidel is really already dead?

A: There's no way of knowing that. You don't have an independent media. You don't have a media stakeout. You don't have film of a wife going into visit him. You don't have the kind of coverage that allows Americans to answer questions like about their leaders when they are sick.

Q: How have the people in Cuba reacted to the news?

A: Very quietly, very concerned. The Committees for the Defense of the Revolution have been called to increase their vigilance. The army apparently has been mobilized in several provinces. So the Cubans are going to wait and even if Castro dies, we're dealing with a Castro dynasty now. We're just going to have to wait. We don't know how Cuba is going to be the day after Castro is dead.

Q: When he dies, what do you think will happen in the short and medium runs?

A: In the short term, something along the lines of what you have now, which is a military government. It's

interesting that Fidel, in his letter, not only transferred power to Raul but issued specific orders mentioning a number of other generals, and they are hard-liners in Havana. That's immediate. After that ... it's going to be very tricky, because we don't know how many people among the leaders of the government think differently than what they have said until now.

Q: What would you like to see happen in Cuba?

A: The Czech model — a transition to democracy along the lines of what happened in Prague. The emergence of a leader with the kind of ethical projection that Vaclav Havel has had. What Raul is looking for, however, is the North Korean model.

Q: How should U.S. policy treat this event?

A: U.S. policy should be thoughtful and careful and not be rushing to any decisions overnight. Secondly, I think the United States ought to reach out and make explicit to the Cuban people that the United States is not interested in controlling the destiny of Cuba, but that the United States is ready and willing to help with humanitarian assistance, with supplies, with know-how, if and when the Cuban people ask for it. And that's exactly what the administration has done.

Q: Can you compare Fidel the Socialist Hero with the real Fidel?

A: Well, Fidel is not a socialist hero if one thinks of the socialism in Sweden or Europe. If we are talking about Soviet socialism, that's what he is. In that sense, he's more like Stalin. I think Fidel has more followers outside Cuba than inside Cuba.

Q: The real Fidel — is he ...

A: The real Fidel has always put power ahead of everything. Ahead of his personal relationships, ahead of the well-being of the Cuban people. There is no reason for Cuba to be in such poor economic condition. Fidel

could have easily said to Cubans on the island, “You get remittances from the United States. You use that money to buy seeds or machinery or to engage in trade.” He would not do that, although that by itself will have a tremendous impact on economic recovery. He wants to control. He's running Cuba the way his father used to run his plantation. The old man used to pay his workers in tickets. They didn't get money. They would get these pieces of paper and they would go to the company store. That's what Castro is doing today.

Bill Steigerwald
Columnist

tem of apartheid where Cubans cannot enter hotels, beaches, restaurants that are set aside for foreigners. That includes medical care. Cuba has a program called *Servimed* for “health tourism.” They have all the medicine and any antibiotics they might need for foreigners but there are great shortages in Cuban hospitals and local pharmacies.

Q: The friends of Fidel would always argue that, “Yeah, but they have that free health care and free education.”

A: It's true that they have education but I'm not sure that it is free. Cuban teenagers go to high school in the countryside hundreds of miles away from their homes. Sometimes they don't see their parents for a couple of months. They go to school in the morning and they work five or six hours in the afternoon. So, I don't know how “free” that is.

As far as health care, yes, there are many doctors in Cuba. Fidel cares — for propaganda reasons — about hav-

ing doctors. But the health care of the Cuban people is severely limited. If you have food shortages, how does that have an impact on health? He also manipulates the health statistics. For example, Cuba, it is true, has a very low infant-mortality rate. But if you look at another page of the report you'll find out that Cuba has a very very high abortion rate. When a woman has a problem pregnancy, the Cuban government policy is to strongly encourage her to have an abortion. So if you kill all the sick people, of course, you have better health for the others.

Q: Even if Fidel dies this weekend, is it too soon for the exiles in Miami and elsewhere to begin making plans to return to Cuba?

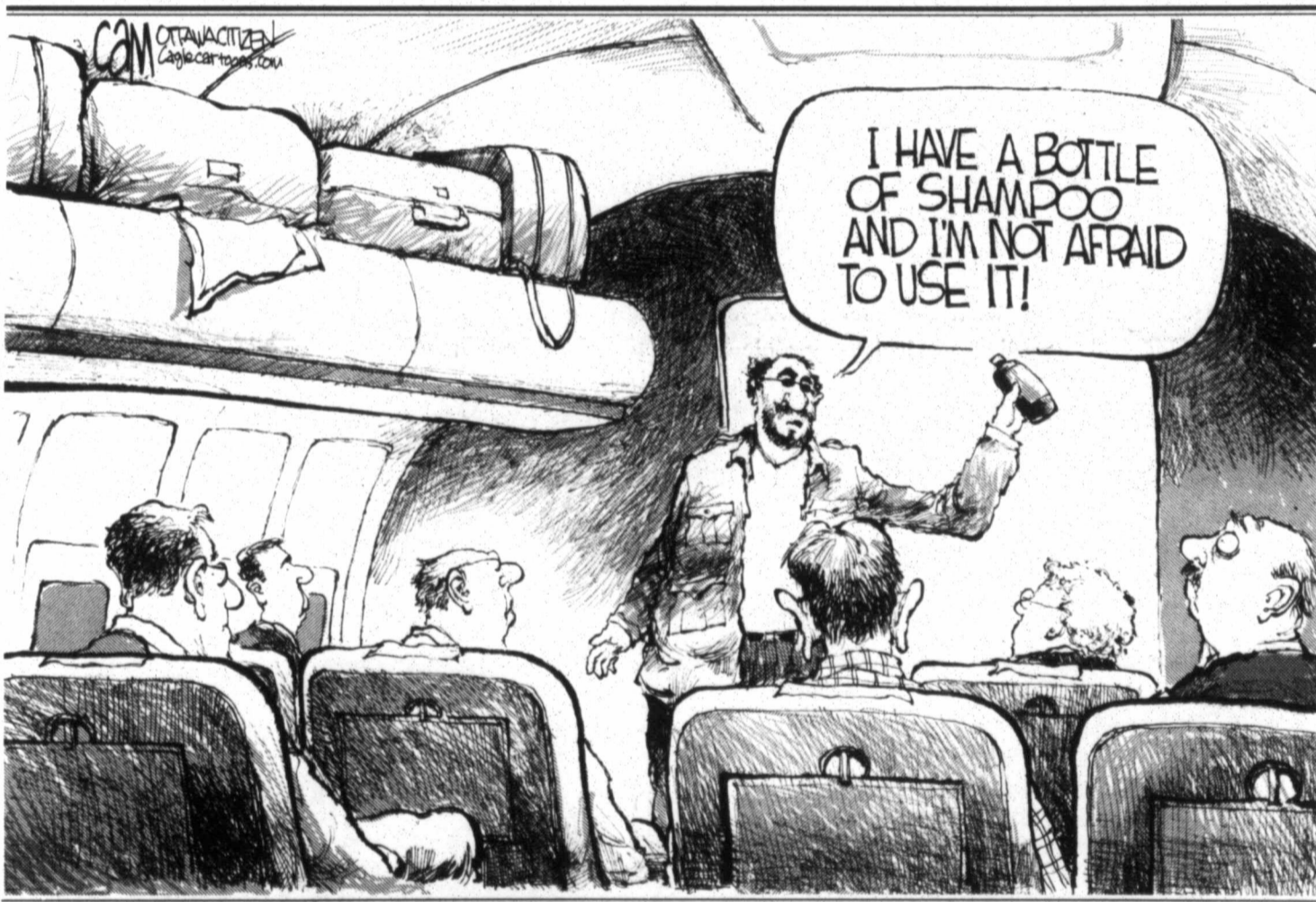
A: I'm not really sure. You're not talking about exiles who arrived a year ago. You're talking about thousands of people who came in more than 40 years ago. They married here. They had children. Their children married here. They have had children. These are folks who have spent two generations in the United States. They are elected to Congress, they pay taxes,

they serve in the armed forces. I am sure that some Cuban-Americans will go back to stay in Cuba and many others will go back to visit. But I think a large percentage of Cubans now living in the United States after Castro is gone are going to discover that they see themselves more like Irish-Americans in Boston or American Jews in New York or German-Americans in the Pittsburgh area.

Q: Has anyone ever talked about Cuba becoming the 51st state some day?

A: That was discussed a couple of hundred years ago, but I don't think it has any appeal beyond just a very small number of folks. I don't think the United States is ready to take over a poor island like that. The experiment with Puerto Rico continues to be an experiment. I think it would be much better to have a free, democratic and independent Cuba with a Cuban-American community here that would certainly help Cuba. But there's no need or any desire for such a thing as statehood.

—Bill Steigerwald is a columnist at the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review.



Ways to link the outside world to the 'Net

Throughout my career, people have told me that “computers will be used for everything!” After attending some of the high tech trade shows and conventions, I find myself believing them. The Internet, however, has always seemed pretty straightforward. After all, there's only so much you can do online, right?

Well, get ready folks. Some inventive individuals are coming up with a slew of imaginative ideas for cyberspace.

First, let's start with the Coke machines. Yes, you heard right: Coke Machines. Back in 1984, two students at Carnegie Mellon University, John Zsarnay and Lawrence Butcher, hooked a Coke machine up to the college network. The computer would monitor the little “empty lights” on the machine. At any time, the students could check the status of those lights from their computers by typing the “Coke” command.

Eventually, the college network connected to the Internet and now anyone can check the status of the machine. When people asked them why they did it, the two inventors simply shrugged their shoulders and

said, “We got tired of making the long trip to the machine only to find it out of our favorite beverage.”

After the success of the Internet Coke machine started making the rounds, other students started connecting more devices, the most popular being coffee machines. (Funny how all of these inventions revolve around caffeine.) While trivial in their use, these initial experiments in connecting items to the Net led to bigger and better things.

Take for instance the Telegarden (<http://telegarden.aec.at/>). Started back in 1995 by the University of Southern California, this project allowed people on the Internet to plant, cultivate, and harvest small crops in a small garden plot via an industrial robot arm. The circular garden allowed thousands of people to plant whatever they wanted and monitor the results of their care. Recently, the whole garden was transferred to Austria where it is on display at the “Ars Electronica

Center.”

One of the more “useful” sites you'll find is the Micro Observatory at Harvard (<http://moo-www.harvard.edu/MicroObservatory/>). Students, by invitation only, can control the

movements of five automated telescopes from their computers, viewing the results on a n y

Internet-connected computer. Classes halfway around the world have used the service to teach Astronomy. Of course, taking your daytime class “halfway around the world” allows you to view live nighttime images from the telescopes.

For a more down to earth experience, check out Mori (<http://memento.ieor.berkeley.edu/>). The scientists at Berkeley have hooked up a seismograph to the Internet. The device monitors the micro-shakings of the Hayward Fault in California. These vibrations are then displayed in real-time on your screen in the form of a planet-based EKG. I get the feeling from the writings on this site, that its creators are

trying to send a political message ...

In the “most extreme” department, a guy in the Netherlands hooked hundreds of household devices to the Net. While you couldn't control them (imagine that nightmare), you could monitor the last time the microwave door was opened, or the exact moment “Sparky” the cat used the litter box.

Nine different Web cams monitored various events in the house, and a barcode scanner on the trashcan let you know EXACTLY what was being discarded. It was taken down a while back for obvious reasons ...

Finally, in case you haven't had enough, yet, check out David McNulty's Web-wired remote controlled car (<http://www.hellspark.com/dm/>). You can actually drive it around his house. The screen is updated quickly so you can avoid bumping into walls.

What's next? Well, if you can imagine it, chances are, someone is already working on an interface to tie it into the world's largest network. Bet on it.

I'll see you in Cyberspace!

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Aug. 17, the 229th day of 2006. There are 136 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 17, 1807, Robert Fulton's North River Steam Boat began heading up New York's Hudson River on its successful round-trip to Albany.

On this date:

In 1863, Federal batteries and ships bombarded Fort Sumter in Charleston, S.C., harbor during the Civil War.

In 1896, a prospecting party discovered gold in Alaska, a finding that touched off the Klondike gold rush.

THE PAMPA NEWS

403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065

806-669-2525 • 800-687-3348

Fax: 806-669-2520

email: editor@thepampanews.com

Publisher: Sean Smith

Editor: Dennis Spies

Advertising Director: ReDonn Woods

Composing Supervisor: Brenda Cook

This newspaper (UPS 781-540) is published daily, except Saturdays, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day, by The Pampa News. Periodicals postaged paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198.

All carriers are independent contractors and The Pampa News is not responsible for advance payments of two or more months made to the carrier. Please pay directly to the Pampa News any payment that exceeds the current collection period. There are no mail subscriptions available within the city limits of Pampa. Mail subscriptions must be paid three months in advance.

© 2005 The Pampa News

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: In response to "Wondering in Eau Claire, Wis." (June 5), who asked about proper attire at funerals: In modern times black is generally the approved color for mourning, white caskets are still customary for children, and purple is used to designate death and mourning for royalty and many Christian groups. However, in medieval times it was believed that black should be worn to funerals so that the spirit of the deceased couldn't recognize the family or friends and follow them home. My opinion: Wear any color you choose, as long as you go. — **R.G.K., FUNERAL DIRECTOR, GREENVILLE, TENN.**

DEAR R.G.K.: I couldn't wait to share your tidbit about the origin of the tradition of wearing black at funerals. It reminds me of another tradition from the Middle Ages -- saying "God bless you!" when someone sneezes because it was believed that when one sneezed, the soul left the body and could be "snatched" by an evil spirit. And bless my readers for sharing the choices about what they wore at the funerals of their loved ones:

DEAR ABBY: When my mother passed away a year ago, I couldn't bring myself to wear a somber color to her funeral. I wore an ivory pantsuit. Wearing a color other than black or gray helped me get through that already more than somber day. — **WENDY IN VICTORVILLE, CALIF.**

DEAR ABBY: My brother, Dave, often wore bright Aloha (Hawaiian) shirts. When he died at 55, we buried him in one. A few hours before his funeral, one of his daughters mentioned that she had considered wearing an Aloha shirt to the service. She almost didn't mention it for fear of offending someone. But Dave's wife, his other daughters and I all agreed -- we had to wear Aloha shirts. We tried to get the word out, but reached only a portion of the attendees. Half the guests wore Aloha shirts.

Anyone who knew my brother understood we were honoring him by breaking with tradition. My one regret was that we didn't contact the minister. He later assured us that if we had thought to call him, he would have worn one, too. — **CRAIG C., ORLANDO, FLA.**

DEAR ABBY: These days, hardly anyone wears black to funerals. I have attended five funerals over the past year or so. Three were for bikers, and their friends came dressed accordingly. Also, my religion dictates that at funerals, one should wear green or sage, as those are the colors associated with the crossing over of the spirit. — **KRISTI, ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.**

DEAR ABBY: That letter brought back a vivid memory for me. My father died of lung cancer in 1987. The last time I visited him at the hospital, I wore a blue silk dress. His last words to me were, "You look so beautiful in that dress! I love you." He passed nine days before his 61st birthday, and I wore the blue silk dress to his funeral. I still treasure it. — **"LOVE IS BLUE" IN CALIFORNIA**

DEAR ABBY: When my husband died after a debilitating illness, I asked all family members to wear white to celebrate his release from a long, sad illness. Here in Alabama, many funerals are celebrations of the beginning of a new and better life. People wear clothes of many colors. Their respect and care for the family are demonstrated by their presence at the funeral. — **ROSEMARY IN MOBILE, ALA.**

DEAR ABBY: After my father's funeral, I could tell you who was there, but not what one single person was wearing. Sometimes what you wear doesn't matter. The respect people show outweighs everything else. — **LINDA T., HARRISON, N.Y.**

For Better Or For Worse



Zits



Garfield



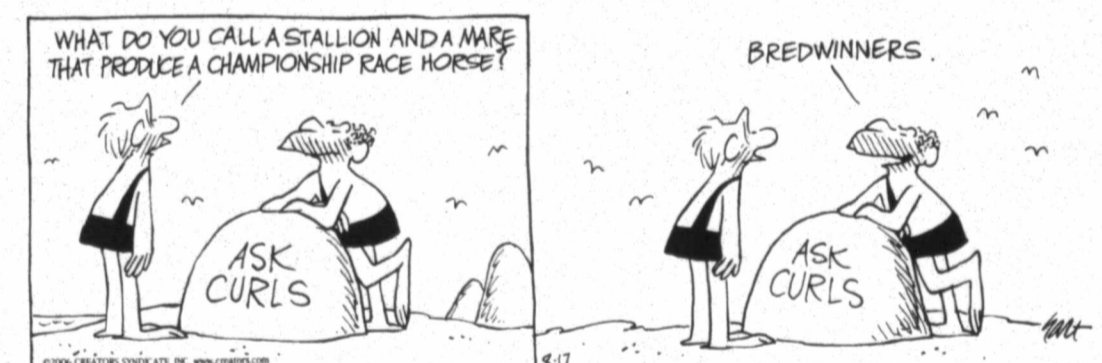
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Crossword Puzzle

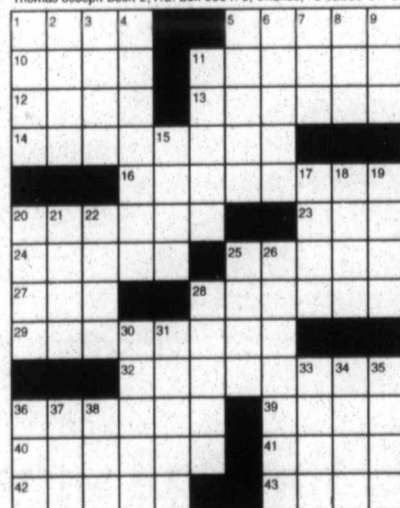
CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Unruly groups
- 5 Kind of basin
- 10 Pennsylvania port
- 11 Italian sandwiches
- 12 Shaker stuff
- 13 Lengthen
- 14 Comment on love and war
- 16 Licorice candy
- 20 Circle spoke
- 23 Fine
- 24 Cast out
- 25 Ship of 1492
- 27 Co-star of Betty and Rue
- 28 Croquet hoop
- 29 Cookie flavoring
- 32 Standout players
- 36 One kind of equality
- 39 Decisive win
- 40 Berserk state
- 41 Opposed to
- 42 River part
- 43 Calendar span

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

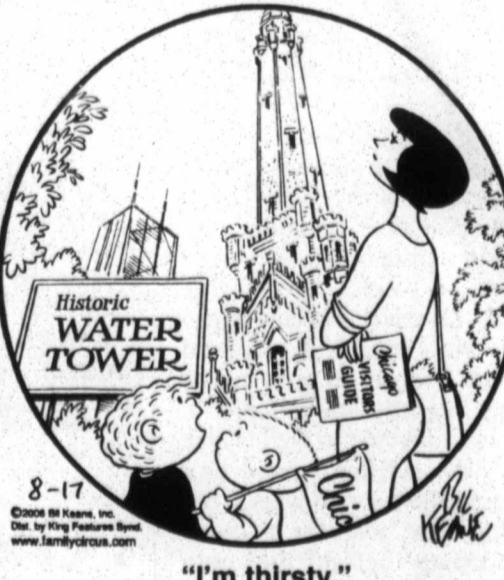


Marmaduke



The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



Flo & Friends



ECONOMY

Job claims fall by largest amount in month

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of newly laid off workers filing claims for unemployment benefits fell last week by the largest amount in a month.

The Labor Department reported that 312,000 workers applied for jobless benefits, down by 10,000 from the previous week.

That was a larger-than-expected drop but was not likely to change economists' view that the labor market is softening under the impact of a slowing economy.

The decline of 10,000 in jobless applications was the biggest since a drop of 29,000 in the week of July 15. Even with the drop, the four-week moving average of claims increased slightly to 311,250, compared to 309,500 in the previous week.

The unemployment rate jumped to

a five-month high of 4.8 percent in July as employers added just 113,000 new jobs, the fourth-straight month of mediocre job gains.

The Federal Reserve last week broke a two-year string of increases in a key interest rate, declaring that they believed the slowing economy would lower inflation pressures.

So far the economic slowdown that began in the spring has not triggered a sharp rise in layoffs. Employers

have been content to trim their hiring plans but hang on to existing workers as they wait to see how severe the drop-off in economic activity will become.

The Federal Reserve last week broke a two-year string of increases in a key interest rate, declaring that they believed the slowing economy would lower inflation pressures.

Reports this week that core inflation, which excludes energy and food, had declined at both the wholesale and consumer levels spurred a big stock market rally on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Investors are hoping that the lower inflation readings along with reports showing economic growth is slowing will convince the Fed to refrain from raising interest rates further.

PPHM to hold interactive event

CANYON — Turquoise owners have a rare opportunity to have their gems identified and evaluated by Joe Lowry, owner of the Turquoise Museum in Albuquerque, N.M. Participants may bring one or two turquoise items to "Pieces of the Sky" from 2-3:30 p.m. Aug. 26 in Hazlewood Lecture Hall of Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum in Canyon.

Lowry's family has been at the center of the turquoise trade for three generations. He will present a hands-on lecture on the geology, history, cultural significance and mythology of turquoise.

He will also sign copies of his book "Turquoise Unearthed: An Illustrated Guide" which will be offered for sale at the museum.

The upcoming program is being held in conjunction with the Duval Collection, an exhibition of gems, which continues through Jan. 29, 2007, at PPHM.

Pieces from the Duval Collection are taken from around the world and represent a variety of form and color. A highlight of the exhibit is one of the world's largest "gem quality" turquoise nuggets.

The fee for "Pieces of the Sky" will be \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. Participants should RSVP to Amy David by Aug. 18 at (806) 651-2233 or adavid@pphm.wtamu.edu.

**Panhandle-Plains
LAND BANK**

Variable Rate **6.73%*** Fixed Rate **7.25%***

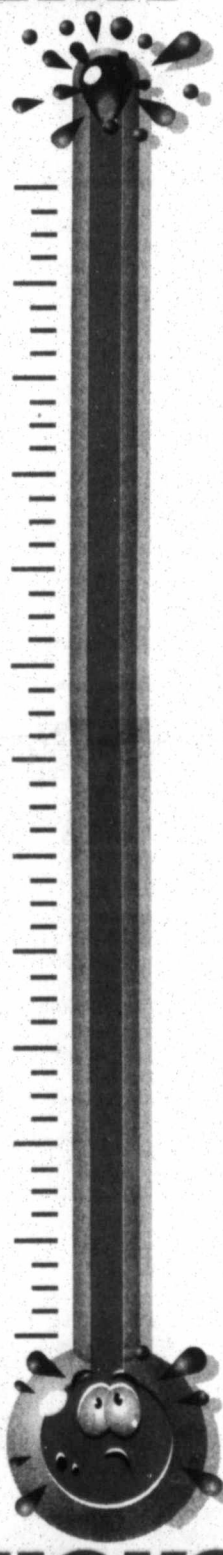
Farm - Ranch - Rural Recreational
Agribusiness and Rural Home Tracts

Amarillo 806-353-6688 Perryton 806-435-4319
Pampa 806-669-1126 Plainview 806-296-5579

*Monthly Variable and 15 year Fixed Rates good through August 21, 2006, call for a current quote.
APR for variable rate is 6.92% to 7.11% depending on term of the loan.

Guess The
HIGH TEMP

On
September 8
2006



And Win
\$100
PAMPA BUCKS

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

High Temperature On Sept. 8, 2006 _____

CONTEST RULES

Mail or bring an original entry form, no copies please, to
**THE PAMPA NEWS
403 W. ATCHISON
PAMPA, TEXAS 79065**
"OT"
**P.O. BOX 2198
PAMPA, TEXAS 79066**

Temperature will be taken from the official National Weather Service in Amarillo. You may change your guess from week to week, however, only your LAST temperature guess will be used as your official entry. In the case of more than one correct entry, the winner will be drawn at random from all correct entries. The winner will be announced in the September 11 edition of The Pampa News. Entries must be received by 5pm on September 6.

NEW MANAGER SALE

Say "HI" To New Store Manager
Doug Boyll - And Get An Extra

**10% OFF
ALL SALE ITEMS**

"More Shoes ... More Footwear ... More Friendly"

Brown's SHOE *Est. 1904*

1500 N. Hobart - Pampa Texas
Open 9-7 Monday-Saturday

MIX 3D UPS

mini golf & more
neon golf • pool tables
arcade • party room

**523 W FOSTER
806-665-NEON**

dish SOLUTIONS

dish
NETWORK
Better TV for all.

806-665-4442
call us for
dish, home security, satellite radio, and
NOW home phone service

change is in the air...

clearwire broadband internet access means you have a better choice.

It's time to cut the cord and ditch the dial-up. With Clearwire, simply sign up and plug our wireless modem into any power outlet in your home, office or any other location in our service area and you are online.

Now That's Choice!

**PAMPA
COMMUNICATIONS INC**

**641 N. HOBART
806.665.1663**

Authorized Representative Of
clearwire®
wireless broadband

Come In & Shop For All Your Beauty Needs!

BEAUTY CO.
123 N Cuyler • 669-6013

HOME FURNISHINGS
801 W FRANCIS • 665-3361

DINING SETS •
BEDROOM SETS •
APPLIANCES •
& MUCH MORE.....

MONDAY - SATURDAY 9AM TO 5PM

WATSON FRANCIS

• TELEVISIONS
• VCR'S
• STEREO'S
& MUCH MORE.....

2211 PERRYTON PKWY • 665-8504
HOME ENTERTAINMENT

WAYNES WESTERN WEAR

WHETHER ITS OLE FASHION WESTERN
OR THE LATEST TRENDY STYLES ...
WE HAVE THE CLOTHING TO PLEASE

WAYNE'S WESTERN WEAR
1504 N. HOBART 806-665-2925

OPEN DAILY 9AM-6PM • THURSDAY 9AM-8PM • CLOSED SUNDAY
VISA • MASTERCARD • DISCOVER

**TOP O' TEXAS
OILFIELD SERVICES**

PO BOX 2354 • PAMPA, TEXAS

**HYDROSTATIC TUBING
TRANSPORT TRUCKS
WORKOVER RIGS
FRAC TANKS
STEAMER**

408 S. PRICE ROAD • 806-665-2501