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Meeting held at Lake Meredith Water Authority Board considers cuts in allocations to member cities



staff photo by David Bowser

Kent Satterwhite, general manager of the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority, describes water supply scenarios involving Lake Meredith and groundwater from Roberts County.

By David Bowser
 The Pampa News

SANFORD -- The good news/bad news scenario turned into the bad news/worse news scenario this week as the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority board of directors gathered overlooking Lake Meredith for their quarterly meeting.

Chad Pernell, deputy general manager of the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority, told the board that water levels had been following a projection of 50 percent of the three year lows from 2001 to 2003, but more recently had dropped even more and was now following a 25 percent projection of the three year average.

Pernell blamed the high winds and high evaporation of the past month for the drop.

See WATER, Page 8

City to PEDC: Where's the retail?

By David Bowser
 The Pampa News

The EDC may have a lot of ongoing activities, but city officials want some additional emphasis on recruiting retail businesses.

Ken May, president of the Pampa Economic Development Corporation, delivered an update on what the EDC is doing to the Pampa City Commission Tuesday.

Despite the laundry list of projects that May recited, City Commissioner Bill Allison wanted to know if the EDC was doing anything about bringing retail businesses to Pampa.

"We need retail," Allison told May.

May replied that in his discussions with national retail outlets, they told him that Pampa doesn't have the draw to justify moving here.

Pampa Economic Development Corporation Executive Director Dwight Fiveash said he had talked to two consultants about recruiting retail stores.

"We have a big leakage that goes to Amarillo," Allison said.

"We want to look at that," May replied. "We'll leave no stone unturned."

City Commissioner Bob Dixon said he was impressed by May's presentation and was excited about the possibility for a new theater, but he hasn't seen any progress from the EDC as far as new jobs coming to Pampa.

He said the only business that they had brought to Pampa was MXT and that was three years ago.

Dixon indicated that he

was concerned about Celanese leaving.

"Celanese built this town," Dixon said.

Mayor Lonny Robbins said he would like to see more eating establishments, theaters and retail stores.

He said Pampa is getting a lot of free publicity at the moment with Boone Pickens touting Pampa as the new wind capital of the world on national television. Robbins said he would like to have an update from the EDC at least quarterly.

"In November," May said, "the Pampa Economic Development Corporation will have been in legal status for three years."

That's when voters decided to reinstitute an economic development corporation under different rules than the one they have voted to shut down the previous year.

May said the new board of directors began organizing the present EDC in January, 2006.

"We opened up our office in March, 2006," he said, "and we began receiving tax revenues in September, 2006."

He said the EDC has \$2,044,000 in the bank at the moment.

"We have been blessed by the strong economic conditions of Pampa and Gray County," May said.

Of that \$2 million, May said that \$1.7 million is invested in certificates of deposits.

"We are liquid," he said, "and we are capable of funding projects that we believe to be in the best interest of the city and the county."

May said the EDC has pro-

vided financing for the MXT Corporation, which makes packing material and pet treats.

"They moved from Amarillo to Pampa about 18 months ago," May said. "They had requested from us a grant of \$75,000 for improvements to their facility. They also requested a loan of \$75,000 that was to be repaid to us over a 60-month period. They are current on the repayment of that loan."

He said their project with Hampton Village, a company that was to build low to medium income housing, fell behind because of the sub prime loan disruptions in the mortgage market, but those problems have been straightened out and construction should be starting soon.

"That project is just getting underway now," he said. "There was a problem with

See PEDC, Page 8

Grand Jury indicts 17 people

By Marilyn Powers
 The Pampa News

A Gray County grand jury handed up 18 indictments Monday in 223rd District Court. The indictments were for three first-degree felonies, eight second-degree felonies, one third-degree felony and six state jail felonies.

Houath Meng Lim, 30, was indicted for manufacture/delivery of 400 grams or more of a controlled substance. Bond on the first-degree felony was set at \$50,000.

On Nov. 22, 2007, Lim allegedly possessed with intent to deliver 400 grams or more of methamphetamine.

Lyndon Luc, 26, was indicted for manufacture/delivery of 400 grams or more of a controlled substance. Bond on the first-degree felony was set at \$50,000.

On Nov. 22, 2007, Luc allegedly possessed with intent to deliver 400 grams or more of methamphetamine.

Pasha Jeelan Patterson, 26, was indicted for manufacture/delivery of 400 grams or more of a controlled substance.

See INDICTMENTS, Page 3

Rain!






Pampa News photo by Marilyn Powers

Pampa's drainage system got a workout Wednesday afternoon when heavy rains entered the area. A single bird at the water's edge at Evergreen Park seems to be pondering the temporary change in the landscape. Pampa received an inch of rain Wednesday according to information gathered by an automated weather station located near Recreation Park.

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Saturday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 86.
Saturday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 67.

Sunday: Partly cloudy, with a high near 87.
Sunday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 67.

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Obituaries

Diana Castillo, 19



Diana Castillo, 19, of Pampa, Texas, died July 8, 2008, in Ochiltree County, Texas. Services will be at 12:30 p.m. Friday, July 11, 2008, at Iglesia Casa Del Alfarero with Pastor Agustine Vasquez officiating. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, July 11, 2008, at Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Miss Castillo was born Oct. 26, 1988, in Hobbs, N.M. She attended Pampa schools, graduating from Pampa High School in 2007. She will be greatly missed by family and friends.

Survivors Castillo include her parents, Fernando and Cecelia Castillo, of the home; one brother, Fernando Castillo, Jr., of the home; one sister, Aracely Michelle Castillo, of the home; her grandparents, Ruben and Delia Castillo; her aunts, Adela Benavidez, Nena Sanchez and Ramona Bencomo; and her uncles, Socorro Sanchez, Dulces Sanchez, Braulio

Sanchez, Ruben Castillo, Miguel A. Castillo, Pedro A. Castillo, Jesus M. Castillo and Ivan R. Perez.
MEMORIALS: Iglesia Casa Del Alfarero, 500 N. Duncan, Pampa, TX 79065.
SPECIAL NOTICE: The body will lie in state at 1133 Starkweather in Pampa.
—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

Radcliff of Denton; one great-granddaughter, Kaylee Rose Radcliff of Denton; one niece, Kelly Kemmerling of Seattle, Wash.; and one nephew, Randy Kemmerling of West Palm Beach, Fla.
Bette was preceded in death by a son, Stephen Lantz in 1968; and one brother, Larry Peters in 1981.
MEMORIALS: St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 727 W. Browning, Pampa, TX 79065, or St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 3150 Vogel Street, Abilene, TX 79603.
—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

Bette Peters Lantz Fitzgerald, 78

Bette Peters Lantz Fitzgerald, 78, of Pampa, Texas, died July 7, 2008, at Pampa.

Memorial services are pending. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Fitzgerald was born April 7, 1930, in Marlin where she lived until moving to Abilene when she was 15. She attended and graduated from Abilene High School.

Bette married Donald Allison in 1947 in Abilene. She later married John Alton Lantz in July of 1950. She then married Edd Fitzgerald in 1971. He preceded her in death in 2005.

She moved to Borger in 1978, living there until moving to Pampa in 1996.

Bette was a founding member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Abilene where she taught Sunday School and Bible School, and where she participated in the building of the library.

She conducted many missions with her children, spreading the gospel to the Navajo Indians.

Bette was also a member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Borger and St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Pampa.

She was a member of Beta Sigma Phi sorority. She spent many years counseling peo-

ple and working with them as a professional astrologer.

Bette will be greatly missed by her family, extended family and friends.

Survivors include two daughters, Linda Lantz of Pampa and Lorri Lantz-Profit and husband Jeff of Abilene; one sister, Bobbe Vollrath of Columbus, Ohio; one brother, Don Peters and wife Sue of Enterprise, Ala.; four grandchildren, Stephen Radcliff and wife Jenn of Denton, Mason Profit of Abilene, David Radcliff and wife Julie of Ft. Sill, Okla., and Michael Landsverk of Pampa; one granddaughter, Dana Vickers of Abilene; one great-grandson, Corwin

Las Vegas, Nev.; her sister-in-law, Frieda Calder of Pampa; and several nieces and nephews.
She was preceded in death by two brothers, Norman Calder and Eugene "Blackie" Calder.
—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

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Vivian Morrell, 87



Vivian Morrell, 87, of Pampa, Texas, died July 9, 2008, at San Antonio, Texas.

Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Friday, July 11, 2008, at Fairview Cemetery with the Rev. Jim Fox, chaplain of Vista Care Hospice of Amarillo, officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Morrell was born May 8, 1921, in Mills County, Texas. She married Ernest Morrell on Dec. 6, 1941, in Coleman. He preceded her in death on Jan. 16, 1966.

Whatley Funeral Directors.

William W. (Bill) Passmore, 73, of Pampa, Texas, died July 10, 2008, at Pampa. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Passmore was born March 7, 1935, in Kilgore, to Tony and Elma Passmore where he was reared. He was a 1953 graduate of Kilgore High School. He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, serving during the Korean Conflict.

Following his years in the service, he came to Pampa where he met and married Wanda Guthrie on Nov. 11, 1958, in Clayton, N.M. They would have been married 50 years this November. A year following their marriage, they moved to California.

Most of those years were spent in Fresno, Calif., where Bill worked as district manager for Ford Motor Company in the after market sales. He later owned his own auto parts company with his brother, Tony.

In 1989, Bill opted to retire and sold his share of the business to his brother, and he and Wanda returned to Pampa in 1991. Bill was a member of the Elks Lodge in Fresno and the Moose Lodge in Pampa.

The family wishes to extend a special thanks to BSA Hospice for their care. Survivors include his wife, Wanda Passmore, of the home; one son, Lee

William W. (Bill) Passmore, 73

Passmore of Midland; two sisters, Shirley Warnock and husband Bob of Willis, and Ellen Sue Carpenter and husband Jackie Don of White Oak; three brothers, Tony Passmore and wife Sally of Clovis, Calif., Richard Passmore and wife Susan of La Porte, and Robert Passmore and wife Kathy of Houston; a sister-in-law, Carole Passmore of Sugar Land; and many nieces and nephews.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents; and three brothers, George, Bowden and John.
—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

Mary Beth Tindall, 51

LEWISVILLE — Mary Beth Tindall, 51, a former Pampa and Borger resident, died July 6, 2008, of cancer.

Services are scheduled at 11 a.m. Friday in Chapel of Flower Mound Family Funeral Home at Flower Mound with burial in DFW National Cemetery in Dallas.

Mrs. Tindall was born Dec. 20, 1956, at Pampa, to Francis Paul and Ona Rae Lefebvre. She attended Pampa High School as well as Clarendon and Frank Phillips colleges.

She enjoyed antique hunting and selling items in her e-bay store, where she developed a worldwide network of friends. She was also an accomplished cross-stitcher.

Mrs. Tindall was preceded in death by a brother, Leon,

in 1973; her father in 1983; and her mother in 1997.

Survivors include her husband, Gordon of Lewisville; a son, Tommy Miller of Borger; a daughter, Whitney Miller of Dallas; a sister, Paulette Moreland of Highland Village; a brother, Wendell "Jerry" Cox of Pampa; and two grandchildren.
To convey condolences online, visit www.flowermoundfuneralhome.com.

—Sign the on-line register book at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

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Services tomorrow

CASTILLO, Diana — 12:30 p.m., Iglesia Casa Del Alfarero, Pampa. Graveside services, 2 p.m., Fairview Cemetery, Pampa.

MORRELL, Vivian — Graveside services, 10 a.m., Fairview Cemetery, Pampa.

TINDALL, Mary Beth — 11 a.m., Chapel of Flower Mound Family Funeral Home, Flower Mound.

Indictments

Continued from Front Page

controlled substance. Bond on the first-degree felony was set at \$50,000.

On Nov. 22, 2007, Patterson allegedly possessed with intent to deliver 400 grams or more of methamphetamine.

Latoria Qiana Anderson, 21, was indicted for possession of 2,000 pounds or less but more than 50 pounds of marijuana. Bond on the second-degree felony was set at \$20,000.

On Aug. 11, 2007, Anderson allegedly possessed 2,000 pounds or less but more than 50 pounds of marijuana.

Carl Wayne Dunn Sr., 53, was indicted for possession of less than one gram of a controlled substance, enhanced. Bond on the second-degree felony was set at \$10,000.

On Dec. 24, 2007, Dunn allegedly possessed less than one gram of cocaine.

On May 19, 1977, Dunn was convicted in 31st District Court in Gray County of the felony offense of burglary. On Aug. 1, 1989, he was convicted in 31st District Court in Gray County of the felony offense of forgery by passing.

David Ernest Hiser, 59, was indicted for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. Bond on the second-degree felony was set at \$10,000.

On Dec. 29, 2007, Hiser allegedly caused bodily injury to a person by hitting the person on the head with a beer bottle.

William David Hiser, 26, was indicted for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. Bond on the second-degree felony was set at \$10,000.

On Dec. 29, 2007, he allegedly caused bodily injury to a person by cutting the person with a knife.

Jesse Tyler Riley, 22, was indicted for burglary of a habitation. Bond on the second-degree felony was set at \$10,000.

On Feb. 5, Riley allegedly entered a habitation without the effective consent of the owner and with intent to commit theft.

Jacob Nacona Rowsey, 21, was indicted for arson. Bond on

the second-degree felony was set at \$10,000.

On Feb. 21, 2007, Rowsey allegedly started a fire or caused an explosion by igniting incendiary material with intent to damage or destroy a vehicle.

Joshiah Weeks, 17, was indicted for burglary of a habitation. Bond on the second-degree felony was set at \$10,000.

On Feb. 5, Weeks allegedly entered a habitation without the effective consent of the owner and with intent to commit theft.

Jose Zamora, 25, was indicted for burglary of a habitation. Bond on the second-degree felony was set at \$10,000.

On May 28, 2007, Zamora allegedly entered a habitation with out the effective consent of the owner and with intent to assault the owner.

Benjamin Eugene Crocker III, 45, was indicted for possession of less than one gram of a controlled substance, enhanced. Bond on the third-degree felony was set at \$5,000.

On Nov. 27, 2007, Crocker allegedly possessed less than one gram of methamphetamine.

On Aug. 30, 2002, Crocker was convicted in 31st District Court in Gray County of the felony offense of possession of a controlled substance. On Sept. 12, 2002, he was convicted in 181st District Court in Randall County of the felony offense of evading detention.

Ricardo Gaspar Hernandez, 36, was indicted for possession of less than one gram of a controlled substance. Bond on the state jail felony was set at \$2,500.

On Oct. 29, 2007, Hernandez

allegedly possessed less than one gram of cocaine.

Josue Rodriguez, 27, was indicted for the state jail felonies of evading arrest/detention with a vehicle and possession of five pounds or less but more than four ounces of marijuana. Bond on the evading charge was set at \$25,000. Bond on the possession charge was set at \$10,000.

On Oct. 11, 2007, Rodriguez allegedly used a vehicle to flee from a peace officer who was attempting lawfully to arrest or detain him. On July 26, 2007, Rodriguez allegedly possessed five pounds or less but more than four ounces of marijuana.

Stacy Allen Sandoval, 33, was indicted for possession of less than one gram of a controlled substance. Bond on the state jail felony was set at \$5,000.

On Oct. 23, 2007, Sandoval allegedly possessed less than one gram of methamphetamine.

Kala Dawn Seymour, 19, was indicted for possession of less than one gram of a controlled substance. Bond on the state jail felony was set at \$3,000.

On Dec. 7, 2007, Seymour allegedly possessed less than one gram of methamphetamine.

Joseph Edward Wark, 42, was indicted for possession of less than one gram of a controlled substance. Bond on the state jail felony was set at \$3,500.

On Nov. 13, 2007, Wark allegedly possessed less than one gram of cocaine.

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Viewpoints

Never underestimate the power of common sense

Marilyn Powers, dear friend and co-worker here at The News, is forever lamenting the death of common sense. The more I observe the world around us, the more I tend to agree that, as a nation, we are badly in want of a healthy dose of reality mixed with no less than a heaping portion of practicality and, yes, good old-fashioned common sense.

Nothing less will counteract the current cultural morass of drama, self-absorption and disrespect swamping the land: America, as far as I am concerned, has been mired in hysteria and hyperbole for

quite long enough.

In the news earlier this week is the sad tale of 12-year-old Brooke Bennett, discovered dead recently in close proximity to her uncle's residence. According to the Associated Press, the uncle was a "registered" sex offender who authorities now indicate is heavily involved in a child sex ring.

If I correctly comprehend the AP, the girl's ex-stepfather has somehow been implicated in the case as well — either in the murder of Bennett or in the child sex ring, I am not completely sure. The girl was found in Vermont.

The uncle, according to

what AP reports, was earlier convicted of rape.

First of all, I think the nation's present-day justice system should differentiate between 15-, 16- and 17-year-old girls who engage in consensual sex with men in their late teens and early twenties versus children who are the victims of molestation and violent sexual acts. One is rape and/or molestation. The other, in my view, is not.

Admittedly, Bennett's uncle was not incarcerated,

that I know of, for any acts against children. Violent sexual predators, however, should be kept off the streets.

With DNA evidence and sophisticated modern forensics, the case for innocent convictions is becoming less and less likely with each case that goes to trial. I devoutly believe the law and the courts should err on the side of caution and on the side of taxpayers who fund the system and expect — no

DESERVE — to be protected

and to have their sons and daughters protected.

That said, I regard all child molesters and child rapists as beyond rehabilitation though not necessarily beyond redemption. Child rape or molestation should carry a mandatory life sentence with absolutely no possibility of parole or release. In my opinion, these offenders have so violated society's trust as to forever be treated with extreme caution and even prejudice if that means their sentences should be upheld and served out to the fullest extent of the law.

Furthermore, child sex offenders should not warrant

special treatment behind bars. Child sexual predators should be locked up and not segregated from the general prison population.

Why is discrimination acceptable in certain instances and not in others? Discrimination is discrimination, is it not? Why should a child rapist be given special consideration in deference to his crimes? Talk about a lack of common sense. Tsk. Tsk. Tsk. If these guys are afraid to go to prison, then they should not be slaking their perverted desires with vulnerable children and adolescents in the first place!

Skyla Bryant

City Editor

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, July 10, the 192nd day of 2008. There are 174 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 10, 1940, during World War II, the Battle of Britain began as Nazi forces began attacking southern England by air.

On this date:

In 1850, Vice President Millard Fillmore assumed the presidency, taking the oath of office following the death of President Zachary Taylor.

In 1890, Wyoming became the 44th state.

In 1908, William Jennings Bryan was nominated for president by the Democratic National Convention in Denver.

'There are only two distinct classes of people on this earth: those who espouse enthusiasm and those who despise it.'

— Germaine de Stael
French author
(1766-1817)

In 1919, President Woodrow Wilson personally delivered the Treaty of Versailles to the Senate, and urged its ratification.

In 1951, armistice talks aimed at ending the Korean War began at Kaesong.

In 1962, the Telstar communications satellite was launched from Cape Canaveral, Fla.

In 1973, the Bahamas became fully independent after three centuries

of British colonial rule.

In 1978, ABC-TV launched its reformatted evening newscast, "World News Tonight," with anchors Frank Reynolds, Peter Jennings and Max Robinson.

In 1985, bowing to pressure from irate customers, the Coca-Cola Co. said it would resume selling old-formula Coke, while continuing to sell New Coke.

In 1991, Boris N. Yeltsin took the oath of office as the first elected president of the Russian republic.

Ten years ago: The Diocese of Dallas agreed to pay \$23.4 million to nine former altar boys who said they'd been molested by a priest.

Five years ago: During a visit to Botswana, President Bush pledged to the nation with the world's highest AIDS infection rate that it would have a strong partner in his administration in fighting the disease. Spain opened its first mosque in 500 years. Astronomers announced they had found the oldest and most distant planet yet, a huge, gaseous sphere 13 billion years old and 5,600 light years away. Lord Shawcross, Britain's chief prosecutor at the Nazi war crimes trials in Nuremberg, died in Cowbeech, England, at age 101.

One year ago: China executed the former head of its food and drug agency for approving untested medicine in exchange for cash. A judge in Los Angeles sentenced pizza deliveryman Chester Turner to death for murdering 10 women and a fetus during the 1980s and '90s.



Attitude to pets gone to the dogs ...

Our civilization may be nearing its end. I offer proof: Bottled water for dogs.

According to a Sun of Baltimore blog, Century Foods, a maker of nutritional supplements, has introduced three types of bottled water for dogs — one to promote healthy hips and joints, one to ensure healthy aging and a third to replace electrolytes after exercise.

According to the company's director of sales, dogs need special water — water that undergoes a triple-filtered, reverse-osmosis purification process before it is fortified with essential doggy nutrients.

And why not bottled water for dogs?

According to the American Pet Products Manufacturers Association, two-thirds of American households have at least one

pet — up from 56 percent of households only a decade ago.

Americans are spending billions on them, too. The pet products people say we spent about \$42 billion in 2007 and will spend nearly \$44 billion in 2008.

Dogs these days dine on expensive gourmet foods. They're pampered during the day at upscale doggy day-care centers and pampered more at night at high-end doggy spas.

Dogs have personal walkers and personal trainers, dentists, custom-made furniture, custom clothing.

And when the best doctors and surgeons can no longer keep them alive, there are

dog obituaries, dog funerals and dog graveyards and headstones ("Here lies Rover down by the levy, we sure do wish he saw that Chevy.")



Tom Purcell
Columnist

Why the obsession with our pets? In part, it's because we can afford the obsession.

According to LiveScience.com, only the wealthy kept pets as companions throughout much of human history. Most folks who had dogs or cats needed them to herd cattle or keep mice out of the barn.

That began to change after World War II. As Americans became more affluent and moved to the suburbs, they had the dough and the space

to have pets as companions. A lot of families had dogs when I was a kid in the 1970s.

Though at least we were sane about it. There was a clear pecking order between humans and dogs back then. My childhood dog Jingles replenished most of her fluids by drinking out of the toilet bowl. She dined daily on a can of Ken-L Ration — a bowl of stinky hamburger-looking stuff that she devoured.

To be sure, the only time she ate "people" food was when my father made one hamburger too many. When nobody at the table would eat it, he'd grumble, "I hate like hell to give this to the dog," and he loved her more than any of us.

Dogs used to be like Lassie and Old Yeller. Not See PURCELL, Page 7

THE PAMPA NEWS

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Texas Thoughts

By The Associated Press

A sample of editorial opinion around Texas:

■ June 28
San Antonio Express-News on Head Start cutbacks:

Leaders of Head Start programs across the country are upset about funding levels proposed for the fiscal year 2009 budget, and they are right to be concerned.

Head Start is an effective early childhood development program that helps low-income children obtain educational achievement and move out of poverty.

The country can't afford to have effective programs like this reduced. However, over the last six years the Head Start program has endured drastic funding cuts.

Under 2009 budget proposals, Head Start programs across the country would see enrollment cut by up to 14,000. Already, Head Start programs serve only two of five eligible children.

The Early Head Start programs serving children less than three years of age assist only 2 percent of the eligible children.

It makes no sense to reduce funding for a program that helps at-risk children succeed and start on a level playing field when they begin public school.

Instead of cutting Head Start funding, it would make more sense to beef up a program that has a proven success record.

A study of 600 Head Start graduates in San Bernardino County, Calif. showed that each dollar invested in the program brought a \$9 return. The benefits included increased earning poten-

tial, decreased dependency on welfare programs, family stability and a reduction in crime.

The nation has 2,600 Head Start programs with more than a million children enrolled. The National Head Start Association reported that 77 percent of the programs are "at or near the breaking point" due to the fiscal year 2008 budget cuts and new unfunded mandates imposed by the 2007 Head Start Reauthorization Act.

This is not pork. If the administration and Congress have issues with the way some of the programs are being managed, they should address those problems specifically.

Cutting funding across the board only hurts some of the most vulnerable children in our communities. URL: <http://www.mysa.com>

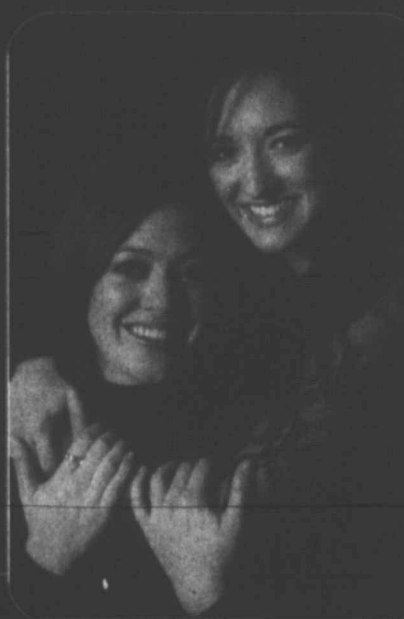
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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am a single parent, although I never intended to be. Last fall, I was asked to baby-sit a 14-year-old boy. He has been in my custody ever since. His mother abandoned him. Only in the last month have I actually gotten legal custody of him from Social Services. The problems he had prior to being with me have caused me legal expenses I never could have imagined. (They are all paid now.) I sold my truck and moved out of my original apartment, so I don't have much. We have no furniture other than the beds we sleep on and a dining room table we received as a gift. I have no idea where to go for help. I have no idea what I am doing as a parent. But I made a promise to that boy, and I fully intend to make sure that I carry it through. What do I need to know? — **NEW FATHER IN NORTH CAROLINA**

DEAR NEW FATHER: Congratulations on becoming a father. You have already mastered the most important lesson on becoming a parent — and that's being there for your child. The library is filled with books on parenting, and I'm sure you will find some answers there. But you are already a stable influence, and that's what the boy needs. You should also know that there is money available to take care of your boy, and the Department of Social Services should be able to help you get it.

DEAR ABBY: Due to years of abuse at the hands of my parents, I decided I could no longer continue a relationship with them. Ten years ago, for the sake of my mental health, I took control and cut the "disease" out of my life. It was one of the hardest things I have ever had to do, but it was also one of the best decisions I ever made. I am now a happier, healthier person and have no regrets. My problem is people who hear about my decision feel the need to tell me about the "inevitable regret" I will feel, and that I should forget the past and make amends. My decision was not made lightly.

I gave it considerable thought and, while it may not be the right choice for everyone, it was the right one for me. People are entitled to their opinion, but I am tired of feeling as though I have to defend myself. Please encourage your readers to respect the decisions of others, even if they don't always agree.

— **PEACE AT LAST IN TORONTO**

DEAR PEACE AT LAST: Do not feel you have to defend yourself. Those who are trying to warn you about your "inevitable regret" are speaking through the filter of their own experience. They do not understand that some family relationships are toxic rather than nurturing, so don't argue the issue. Accept that they mean well and tune them out. You have suffered enough.

DEAR ABBY: I'm starting a small business and have begun to purchase office equipment. When any recent purchase comes up in conversation, the next thing out of people's mouths is, "How much did that cost?" I think that question is extremely presumptuous. I don't ask them how much their new car or their new house cost them. What's the best way to politely ignore the question? — **JUST WONDERING IN ITHACA, N.Y.**

DEAR JUST WONDERING: If you bring up the subject of a new purchase, it is natural for people to be curious. The way to avoid a problem like yours is not to "go there" in the first place. My advice is to stop talking about the items you're buying, and your problem will resolve itself.

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



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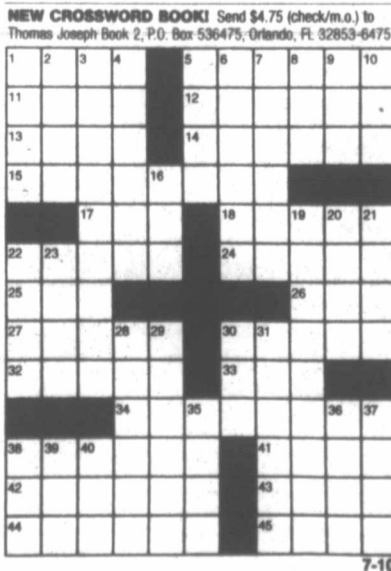
Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

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|---------------|-------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Colleen | 1 Guffaw, |
| 5 Join | informally |
| forces | 2 Field |
| 11 Ibuprofen | unit |
| target | 3 Protected |
| 12 Five-time | 4 Sofa's |
| Derby | cousin |
| winner | 5 Snack in |
| 13 Worry | a shell |
| 14 Baby | 6 Goofs |
| rocker | 7 Maine |
| 15 Was | park |
| enjoyable | 8 Ticked |
| 17 Assam | off |
| export | 9 Web |
| 18 Stair part | address |
| 22 Get some | 10 Usher's |
| shuteye | creator |
| 24 Handled | 16 Opening |
| 25 Lot sight | 19 Suffered |
| 26 Put away | in the |
| 27 Not | heat |

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EEL PEST
OBESSE HOP
ROWER STOVE
ISLE ELAN
CLOSE CALLS
HOG ALAMO
STEP WHO
MIMOSA ALAN
ARAMIS RENE
REPENT EGGS

Yesterday's answer
20 List-
ending
31 Atlas
section
15 Was
abbr. 35 Saloon
order
8 Ticked
bad 36 Scarlett's
home
22 Flat-
bottomed 37 Run-down
boat area
23 Kilauea 38 Perform
flow 39 Pi
28 Take back
follower
29 Spell 40 Manx,
e.g.
30 Big snake



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The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



Flo & Friends



U.S.-India nuclear deal not likely soon

WASHINGTON (AP) — Even with India's last-minute revival of a languishing civil nuclear accord with the United States, it may be too late for time-pressed U.S. lawmakers to ratify what has been one of President Bush's top foreign policy initiatives.

The Bush administration hopes the agreement will form the cornerstone of a closer relationship with a democratic, economically vibrant country that borders nuclear-armed China.

After months of deadlock, India is confident it now has the political support at home

for the deal. But it could be weeks, or even months, before the accord is taken up by crucial international organizations and, if approved, is then sent to Congress for final approval.

By then, lawmakers probably would have only a handful of days left in their legislative calendar. The lack of time even has supporters skeptical about the immediate future of the deal, which would allow shipments of atomic fuel and technology to India.

"There's not that many days left to do this, assuming they act yesterday," Democratic Rep. Gary Ackerman, chairman of the House

Foreign Affairs subcommittee on South Asia and the self-described "lead cheerleader" for the deal, said in an interview. "It's not impossible but highly unlikely that they've done this thing in time."

The next president could take up the accord when he takes over in January. Failure to secure approval under Bush, however, would leave it to an uncertain fate. Both leading candidates for president, Democrat Barack Obama and Republican John McCain, have indicated support for the deal, but it is not clear that either would consider it a priority as president. The new

administration also would be working without many of the high-level Bush officials who led painstaking talks with India and then persuaded skeptical U.S. lawmakers to give their approval.

Christine Fair, a South Asia specialist at the RAND Corp. think tank, said "the underbelly of this deal, as Bush envisioned it, was that, with our help, India was going to become a global power, and that meant becoming a global nuclear power. I just don't know if McCain or Obama are going to embrace that."

Agriculture

GrainGenes Web site speeds gene discovery

By MARCIA WOOD
ARS News

Even though there's much about wheat that's familiar and ordinary, one feature of this ancient crop — its genetic makeup — remains relatively unknown. In fact, the everyday wheat plant doesn't just have one genome; it has several. In all, wheat's genetic makeup is gargantuan and complex. And it isn't yielding easily to scientists' probing.

To help accelerate discovery of this familiar crop's mostly unfamiliar genes, Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientists in Albany, Calif., and Ithaca, N.Y., developed GrainGenes. This specialized website provides some of the newest and best research information for a range of viewers interested in wheat, barley, oats, rye and triticale.

For example, it offers content useful not only to those who are investigating the structure and function of cereal crop genes, but also to those who carry out traditional crop breeding to develop superior plants for tomorrow.

Located on the Web at <http://wheat.pw.usda.gov>, GrainGenes gar-

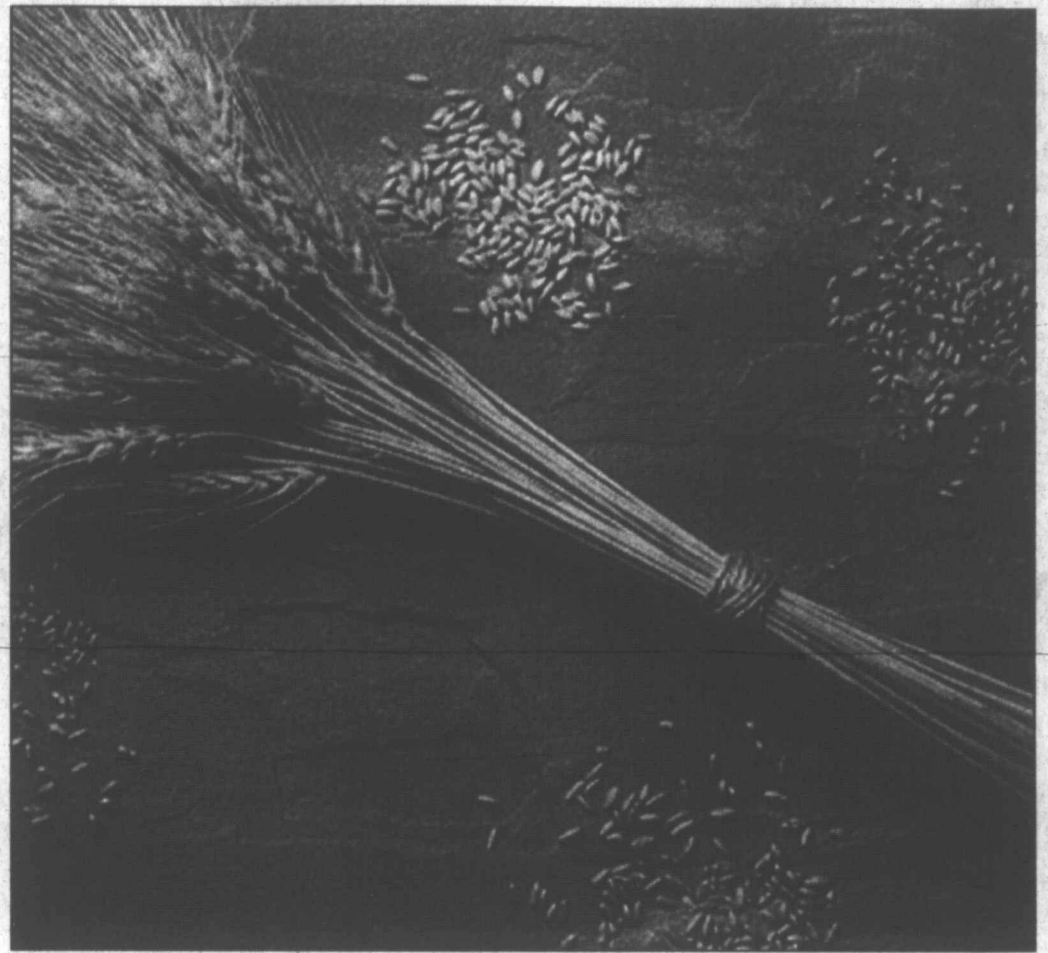
ners enthusiastic repeat visits from researchers worldwide. That's because the site is comprehensive, user-friendly and packed with interesting, helpful information.

Olin D. Anderson, research leader of the ARS Genomics and Gene Discovery Research Unit, along with plant geneticist Gerard R. Lazo and bioinformaticist David E. Matthews, manage GrainGenes. Anderson and Lazo are based at the Western Regional Research Center in Albany. Matthews works in Ithaca.

This ongoing assignment includes collating, cross-indexing and curating the more than 2 million pages that make up the site. Every business day, the team adds "need-to-know" text and graphics, including findings from the research team's own laboratories.

Read more about this research in the May/June, 2008 issue of Agricultural Research magazine.

ARS is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's chief scientific research agency.



Courtesy photo by Scott Bauer

GrainGenes, a Web site managed by ARS scientists, contains information about the structure and function of thousands of genes in small grains, including wheat like the one shown here. Click the image for more information about it.

Events calendar

- **Amarillo Botanical Gardens** will conduct its "Music in the Gardens" featuring various musicians and vocal artists from 7:30-8:30 p.m. every Monday now through August. Gates will open at 7 p.m. Performances will last from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Visitors must provide their own lawn chairs, blankets and sunscreen. Admission will be \$4 for adults, \$3 for seniors and \$2 for children 2-12. Children under 2 are free. Membership Card holders also get in free. For more information, call the gardens at (806) 352-6513. Summer hours for the gardens are 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. week days.
- **Larry and Jodi's Good-Time Gospel Jamboree** will feature The Relations Quartet, Ronnie Warren and 7-year-old violinist Kayla Richardson during its next performance scheduled at 7 p.m. July 10 at the Church at Quail Creek in Amarillo. For more information, call (806) 944-5255.
- **Cornerstone Baptist Church** in Pampa will kick-off its "Powerlab" Vacation Bible School at 3 p.m. July 12 at the water tower park in the North Crest Addition. The VBS will be conducted from 6-9 p.m. July 14-18 at

- the church for 4 year olds through fifth-graders. For more information, call the church office at 669-6509.
- **The Texas Department of State Health Services** will be offering immunization clinics for vaccines that give protection against several childhood diseases. The TDH will charge money to help with the cost of keeping the clinic open. The amount charged will be based on family income and size, and the ability to pay. The following clinic(s) will be offered: 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 1-3 p.m., July 16, TDH, 736 S. Cuyler, Pampa.
- **The deadline to register** for a Texas Alliance for Water Conservation field day is July 15. The field day will be conducted July 31 at the Floyd County Unity Center in Muncy. The program will highlight current and future production and water management project activities and what has been discovered from past production practices and research efforts. The event will include on-farm demos and a commodity leader panel discussion. For more information, visit <http://depts.ttu.edu/tawc> on the Internet.
- **The reunion committee** for the PHS Class of 1969 will meet at 7:30 p.m. July 17 at Innovative Staffing Solutions, 1327 N. Hobart, in Pampa.
- **Copper Breaks State Park** at Quanah will host a Summer Art Exhibition July 19-Aug. 17 at park headquarters. For more information or to enter, contact the park during normal business hours at (940) 839-4331.

- **The deadline to enter** a Golden Poets Guild free poetry contest is July 26. A grand-prize will be awarded. To enter, send one poem of 21 lines or less to Free Poetry Contest, 601 16th St # C-115 Golden, CO 80401, or enter via the Internet at www.freecontest.com.
- **The deadline for local businesses to purchase** a rodeo banner in lieu of the upcoming Top 'O' Texas Rodeo is July 30. The 62nd annual rodeo is scheduled Aug. 14-16 at Top 'O' Texas Rodeo Arena in Pampa. For more information, contact the rodeo office at 669-0434.
- **The deadline to enter the Name the Mascot Contest** being sponsored by Amarillo Botanical Gardens is Aug. 20. The name will be applied to a new statue erected at the gardens of a six-foot "frog musician." The winner will be announced at the season finale of "Music in the Gardens" on Aug. 25. If more than one entry supplies the winning name, the first to submit the name will be considered the winner. To enter, choose a name for the mascot and submit the name to Amarillo Botanical Gardens, Name the Mascot Contest, 1400 Streit Dr., Amarillo, TX 79106.
- **Texas Medical Board** will host a town hall meeting Sept. 9-10 at Texas Tech University Health Science Center in Amarillo.

Purcell

Continued from Page 4

only were they not pampered by humans, they were forever risking their lives to get humans out of scrapes. Lassie dragged people out of burning houses. Old Yeller got rabies from fighting a rabid wolf to protect his family.

But nowadays we've turned our dogs into sissies — particularly in the large metro regions that are populated with lots of single folks and childless couples. Our pampered pets are filling the void that a spouse or child used to fill. Our pets are often preferable over spouses and children, too, as they lack the ability to talk back.

And so we go weak in the knees when somebody mentions their name. We fall to pieces if we have to go away for a few days and are unable to see them. And we lavish them with every amenity, making them as soft, self-absorbed and overly emotional as we've let ourselves become.

I love dogs as much as the next fellow, but we have to get hold of ourselves.

I fear our obsession with pets is a reflection of our softening state of mind — our national trend toward giving in to our emotions and abandoning any ability to think and reason. Like it or not, the world is a hard, tough, competitive place. We need to keep a stiff upper lip.

Who knows, maybe Osama bin Laden is a dog lover, but I assure you he isn't hydrating his pup with bottled water for dogs.

—Tom is a humor columnist nationally syndicated exclusively by Cagle Cartoons.

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Edward Jones

PEDC

Continued from Front Page

the sub prime mortgage problems and the ability for the project to be funded. Those issues have been resolved."

The EDC approved a 24-month \$525,000 loan, but May said that money was only to be used once the project was 80 percent complete.

"That money is currently approved," he said, "but is not being used."

May said the EDC also provided \$9,000 for the five new entrance signs that the Pampa Rotary Club erected around the city, and they paid \$50,000 for the new digital marquee sign to be erected on Hobart near M.K. Brown Auditorium.

He said they also approved a \$3,000 grant to the Pampa VFW post for the mobile Vietnam Veterans Wall Memorial, which will be coming to Pampa for Veteran's Day.

"Finally," May said, "we have just approved an education grant to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice in cooperation with Clarendon College to provide training classes to perspective guards for the

prison here in the county."

He said that \$8,400 grant is in the 60-day waiting period before it can be funded.

"That grant is enough to fund the training and education for 20 perspective students," May said. "Based on what the TDCJ told us, they are in dire need of personnel out at the prison."

May said the EDC is looking at a new theater and entertainment center for Pampa.

"We have been working with a consultant," he said, "and we have been working with the existing theater operators on the potential for some significant improvement in entertainment venues here in the city for our young people."

Based on a feasibility study, he says Pampa could have a profitable and nice entertainment center around some new theaters.

"That project is currently in the feasibility study stage," he said. "We would certainly like to fund a project here in the city that would attract young people and have some entertainment possibilities."

May said he hopes to proceed with that project in the coming months.

He said the EDC has been involved in the developing wind energy industry in the area.

He said Boone Pickens is proposing to bring considerable investment into Gray and Roberts Counties for a wind energy project. Babcock and Brown, who recently purchased the Celanese site is planning on installing significant wind energy capacity.

"If you take a look at the sum of all these projects," May said, "this could provide substantial capital investment and employment opportunities for Pampa and Gray County."

He said he wants to make sure that the Pampa EDC is a significant player in the wind energy develop and all the associated infrastructure.

May said the EDC is putting together a tour of the Sweetwater wind energy facilities next month.

"We believe that Sweetwater is probably two to three years ahead of us in terms of wind energy industry and investment," May said. "We really believe based on what we have been hearing that Sweetwater could be a model for Pampa not only in terms of attract-

ing wind energy but also all of the infrastructure, the maintenance and repair requirements for that equipment and potentially even some manufacturing facilities here for the wind energy industry."

May said the EDC is supporting wind energy technician classes at Clarendon College.

"Clarendon is one of the few places where they're actively engaged in professional education for technicians for being able to work on the turbines and the electronics associated with the wind turbines that would be installed in this area," May said. "That certainly provides an opportunity for high school graduates from Pampa High to be able to move into a local industry that in general is a fairly well-paying industry in terms of technical education and technical support."

May said the EDC has been working with local contractors on the possibility of new housing and creating additional subdivisions in Pampa.

"I think if you take a look at the big picture on what's going on in terms of a potential for future employment

here in the city, we are going to be in need of some good housing," May said.

He says he thinks there will be a market for \$100,000 to \$150,000 single-family homes.

"We would really like to see some builders make some commitments," May said. "We're willing to work with builders to be able to assist them with financial guarantees when the right project comes along that will aid in the housing crunch that we believe is coming."

He said the EDC has also looked into potential uses for the Pampa Mall.

"We think that is a valuable asset in the future, especially as the economy here in Pampa continues to grow," May said. "We'd like to see what opportunity the Pampa EDC can be involved in as far as improving that property and being able to use it for office and retail space. This may be an opportunity for an entity like Mesa Power to use that facility to some extent to house their projections for future employees. We think there is an opportunity there that we want to explore with the owner of that property and convert that into an economic asset."

May said the EDC has had some contact with Babcock and Brown concerning economic incentives as they convert the Celanese plant to a power generation facility.

"That's going to happen over the next two-and-a-half to three years," May said. "I'm intimately involved in that project."

He said he thinks there is also a chance of significant future investment by Babcock and Brown and employment opportunities with that group over the next three to five years.

May said the EDC has been contacted by a group wanting to build assisted living facilities in Pampa.

He said the EDC is putting up \$50,000 to establish a Gray Pampa Community Fund through the Amarillo Area Foundation. The Amarillo Area Foundation will match that money and administer the fund.

"We're looking for office space," May said.

The EDC is also looking for an administrative assistant that can write grant proposals.

Water

Continued from Front Page

"I don't guess anyone knows exactly where we're headed," he said.

The lake level as of Wednesday, when the board met at the CRMWA offices overlooking the lake, was at 45.25 feet, a record low set Tuesday.

Using 50 percent of the average three year low, the lake level is projected to drop to 35 feet by January, 2010. Using the 25 percent projection of the three-year low, the water level would be 27 feet by January, 2010. Using the zero percent projection, no inflow, the lake would run dry by November, 2009.

The concern is how much inflow they've had into the lake this year, or rather the lack of inflow.

"It's pretty scary," Pernell said.

The lowest one-year inflow recorded for Lake Meredith was in 2006. The inflow that year was slightly more than 30,000 acre-feet. The average total inflow since 1965 has been almost 120,000 acre-feet.

For the last nine months, Pernell said, the inflow has been less than 10,000 acre-feet.

"The rains we've had the last couple of weeks," Pernell said, "have not done much for the lake, but that's about the only rains we've had."

For the last nine months, he said, the inflow has been almost zero.

"Granted, we still have a

few more months for potential rains," Pernell said.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's drought monitor map indicated that drought would continue through June, then the weather would change.

"That's pretty much the way that things have turned out," Pernell said under cloudy skies at the lake Wednesday.

While NOAA is forecasting improved rain chances in parts of the U.S., Pernell said it doesn't appear to include the entire Canadian River watershed, but it does include part of the watershed.

"That's a positive sign," he said. "I don't know if that will translate into runoff or not. I guess we'll see."

The night before their meeting, Boys Ranch, upstream on the Canadian River received a three-inch rain. Pernell said they saw an increase at one of the monitoring stations on the river above the lake of over 1,000 cubic feet per second.

"But that's nowhere near what we need," he added, "unless it held that way for a long time."

That's the good news.

The bad news is that Kent Satterwhite, general manager of the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority, indicated that the allocations for next year to the 11 member cities of CRMWA may have to be cut.

The annual allocations will be made for CRMWA's

11 member cities, including Pampa, later this year.

Initially, CRMWA had planned to provide 80,000 acre-feet in 2009 as they are doing this year. While projecting the lake level to continue to drop, they had planned to increase the amount of water in their mix from their well field in Roberts County to make up for a lack of water available from Lake Meredith.

This year, they're using 50,000 acre-feet from the well field and 30,000 acre-feet from the lake. Next year, they had planned to increase the groundwater to 55,000 acre-feet and decrease the lake water to 25,000 acre-feet.

"This time last year," Satterwhite said, "the well field produced 51,000 acre-feet. We've added two more wells in Phase II, now the well field is producing just under 51,000 acre-feet."

He said the capacity of the well field has dropped rapidly over the past year.

"We're pumping it hard," Satterwhite said.

He said they are now projecting 45,000 acre-feet from the well field for next year.

If the lake continues with near zero inflow, he said the lake will only be able to supply 15,000 acre-feet and would be unusable by August, 2009.

Satterwhite said that the worst-case scenario on the lake.

"We don't expect that," Satterwhite said, "but then we didn't expect any of this."

The bottom line is that their projections have now changed from 80,000 acre-feet to 60,000 acre-feet that will be available next year.

"That's a 25 percent decrease," Satterwhite said.

Depending upon funding, Satterwhite said that in the next 12 months, CRMWA plans to drill between three and eight new wells in Phase III of their well field expansion plan in Roberts County (See related story).

"We expect that to be online near the end of next year," he said.

That won't help in 2009, he said, but it would help in 2010 and beyond.

CRMWA has a conservation plan, but Satterwhite said he feels that they have no power to impose conservation on its member cities.

"We can set allocations," he said, "but the cities need to decide whether they need conservation plans or not."

Tom Edmonds, a board member from Borger, said the cities need to start dusting off their conservation plans.

"Our drought contingency plan says we need to have a three year supply of water," Satterwhite said. "With less than three years, you go into stage one of the drought contingency plan and then it steps up from that."

The member city drought contingency plans are tied to the water authority's.

"When we go to stage one, the cities go to stage one, too," Satterwhite said, "but we've hesitated to do that, to

ram anything down our cities' throats, so we've adjusted what we're taking from the lake in order to keep a three year supply."

The water authority maintains a legitimate three-year supply and the cities are aware of what's going on.

"They can go into their drought contingency plans without us," Satterwhite said.

The question now, he said, is whether there's a three-year supply left. Depending upon the projection chosen, the answer may be yes, but it may be no.

Satterwhite said CRMWA has been operating off a three-year average of low inflows.

"We thought that was about as conservative as we could be," Satterwhite said, "but now we're not so sure anymore."

He said the lake could get better.

"Who knows," Satterwhite said. "It could make up the difference."

Satterwhite said the old well field could be expanded in an effort to increase production, but he said he doesn't think that would be a good use of the money in the long term.

That well field is being hit so hard, Satterwhite said, that in 20 years the areas with the heaviest pumping would be completely dry. Overall, the field would still meet its obligation to the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District and Regional Water Planning

Group to have 50 percent of the water in storage that was there in 1998 (known as the 50-50 rule), but areas within the field would be dry.

Expanding the existing well field would only be a short-term fix, he said.

The third phase of the groundwater expansion plan calls for the new wells to be drilled east of the existing well field.

"There's good water out there," said Norman Wright, president of the board and board member from Plainview.

But there would have to be a 12-mile pipeline and power lines from the Phase III well field to the existing infrastructure.

Costs of developing the new well field have also gone up.

When they budgeted \$20 million for Phase III, Satterwhite said, they assumed the well field would be adjacent and northwest of the existing field.

The wells were expected to be smaller and less expensive to run, but moving Phase III to a new area east of the existing well field puts it over a much better water source.

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THE PAMPA NEWS

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REWARD for information leading to the safe return of the dog that was taken from Garage Sale at 2531 Mary Ellen, Sat., June 28th, 2008. Call 806-688-0024

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AMA apologizes to black doctors

CHICAGO (AP) — The American Medical Association on Thursday issued a formal apology for more than a century of discriminatory policies that excluded blacks from participating in a group long considered the voice of U.S. doctors.

The apology stems from initiatives at the nation's largest doctors' group to reduce racial disparities in medicine — from the paltry number of black physicians to the disproportionate burden of disease among blacks and other minorities.

"The AMA is committed to improving its relationship with minority physicians and to increasing the ranks of minority physicians so that the work force accurately represents the diversity of America's patients," Dr. Ronald Davis, the group's immediate past president, said in a statement posted on the AMA's Web site.

Davis said that "by confronting the past we can embrace the future."

The apology comes more than 40 years after AMA delegates denounced policies at state and local medical societies dating to the 1800s that barred blacks. For decades, AMA delegates resisted efforts to get them to speak out forcefully against discrimination or to condemn the smaller medical groups that historically have had a big role in shaping AMA policy.

The apology issued Thursday might seem belated, but it isn't the AMA's first for its discriminatory history. Dr. John Nelson, then AMA's president, offered a similar apology at a 2005 meeting on improving health care and eliminating disparities, sponsored by the government's Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

That came a year after the AMA joined the National Medical Association, a black doctors' group, and other minority doctors' groups in forming the Commission to End Health Care Disparities.

The commission has been working on raising awareness of health disparities, including disproportionate rates of many diseases among blacks and other minorities.

The new apology is a more formal acknowledgment of the AMA's embarrassing past, and is also part of the AMA's efforts to improve an image that in recent years

has lost its luster. In many circles, the AMA is seen as a stodgy trade group focused on doctors' rather than patients' best interests.

Many black physicians applauded the AMA's move.

"It is true that what the AMA did historically was awful," said Dr. Otis Brawley, the American Cancer Society's chief medical officer. "There were AMA local chapters that actually had rules against black members well into the late 1960s, and policies that made blacks not feel comfortable well into the 1980s."

Brawley, who is black, said he's never been an AMA member, but that the apology "certainly makes me much more interested in working with them."

Dr. Nelson Adams, president of the National Medical Association, said the apology is courageous and "extremely important."

AMA's discriminatory actions hurt black doctors and kept many from working and caring for patients, Adams said. That's because in many places doctors couldn't work in hospitals unless they were members of local medical societies, he said.

He said there's evidence that black patients fare better when treated by black doctors, so these policies could have contributed to poor health care for blacks.

While blacks represent roughly 13 percent of the U.S. population, less than 3 percent of the nation's 1 million doctors and medical students are black, Adams noted.

And according to 2006 data on AMA's Web site, less than 2 percent of AMA members and voting delegates are black.

"We've got a lot of work to do," Adams said.

Dr. Monica Peek, a Chicago internist and member of the AMA and National Medical Association, said the apology "creates an open and healthy dialogue for addressing these issues" that black doctors have long been aware of.

But she said AMA's actions don't lessen the need for a separate group representing black doctors.

Addressing health disparities hasn't always been a part of AMA's mission "but it's something that has never been off of NMA's radar," Peek said.

'It is true that what the AMA did historically was awful. There were AMA local chapters that actually had rules against black members well into the late 1960s, and policies that made blacks not feel comfortable well into the 1980s.'

— Dr. Otis Brawley
American Cancer Society's chief medical officer

BLM: Grazing doesn't fit Ore. National Monument

GRANTS PASS, Ore. (AP) — Federal rangeland managers said continuing to allow cattle to graze on the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument is harming the rare plants, fish and wildlife the monument was created eight years ago to protect.

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management was to issue an assessment of the health of the monument rangeland on Thursday, concluding that the current level of grazing is incompatible with the biological values the monument was meant to protect, said monument Assistant Manager Howard Hunter.

Dave Willis, of the Soda Mountain Wilderness Council, said he hoped the long overdue finding will help pass special legislation pending in the Senate that would make it possible for conservation groups to pay ranchers to retire their grazing leases.

The monument was created in 2000 by President Clinton from 53,000 acres of BLM land near Ashland to protect the unique area, sometimes referred to as the Klamath Knot, where the Siskiyou Mountains connect to the Cascade Range.

The area is home to 111 species of butterflies, as well as the rare Keene Creek pebblesnail and the Jenny Creek red-band trout.

The proclamation Clinton signed put an end to the small amount of logging and mining within the monument, but left it up to BLM to settle the thorny question of whether to continue allowing 11 ranchers to put up to 2,417 cows with calves on the monument to graze part of the year.

The rangeland health assessment found the cattle were harming sensitive streams and springs.

The finding marks the third straight study — one by BLM and another by scientists working for conservation groups — to find that cattle were harming the monument, said Dominic DellaSala, director of the National Center for Conservation Science and Policy in Ashland.

Hunter said the bureau would go through a formal assessment of whether grazing could be modified somehow to allow cattle to remain on the monument.

DellaSala said it was "game over" for grazing. Building the fences to keep cattle out of sensitive springs and streams

AP, TV organizations pull questioned tornado video

NEW YORK (AP) — The Associated Press and video services operated by CBS and NBC have pulled video allegedly taken of a tornado in Nebraska last weekend after questions were raised about its authenticity.

A tornado chaser has claimed that the video was a doctored version of pictures he had taken of a twister that touched down four years ago in Rock, Kan.

The AP paid another storm chaser, Andy Fabel, \$295 for footage of a tornado that briefly touched down Saturday afternoon near Valentine, Neb. The video was sent Sunday to nearly 2,000 Web sites that subscribe to the AP's Online Video Network, and more than 60 large digital customers that buy AP's online content individually.

Yet on Tuesday, a person who asked that his name not be used contacted the AP and said the supposed Nebraska footage was really video he had taken four years ago. The image was "flipped" to make it seem the tornado was pointed in another direction, and the action sped up. The Nebraska images add power lines and abstracts trees that were in the Kansas pictures.

Upon seeing the video evidence, the AP eliminated Fabel's video from the Online Video Network late Tuesday and contacted its other customers to urge them not to use it, said Kevin Roach, the AP's acting head of domestic broadcast news operations.

"We never want to mislead people," Roach said. "Based on evidence provided to us, we believe that the video was not authentic."

Fabel did not immediately return an e-mail and message left on his cell phone by the AP. Officials with NBC News Channel and CBS News Path said they had talked to Fabel and he had insisted his pictures were authentic.

Both the NBC and CBS services provide video to the network's affiliates. Both had purchased Fabel's video and sent it out, then took it off their servers on Tuesday after suspicions were raised about its authenticity, representatives said.

Obama accepts Jackson's apology for crude remark

CHICAGO (AP) — Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama shrugged off a crude comment aimed at him by the Rev. Jesse Jackson, accepting an apology for a remark Jackson made as he contended that Obama wasn't speaking to issues important to the black community.

Unaware that his microphone was on during a break for a Fox News program last Sunday, Jackson used a slang reference to wanting to cut off Obama's testicles. When he learned Wednesday that the Fox News program "The O'Reilly Factor" would air his comments that night, Jackson apologized for "hurtful and wrong" remarks.

The Obama campaign took a measured response to the incident, contending in a statement that Obama has spoken for many years about parental responsibility as well as "jobs, justice and opportunity for all."

"He will continue to speak out about our responsibilities to ourselves and

each other, and he of course accepts Rev. Jackson's apology," Obama campaign spokesman Bill Burton said.

During a break from taping "Fox & Friends" on Sunday, a fellow guest asked Jackson about speeches on morality Obama has given at black churches. Jackson said at a news conference Wednesday that he responded that Obama's speeches can come off as speaking down to black people and that there were other important issues to be addressed, such as unemployment, the mortgage crisis and the number of blacks in prison.

"It was not a public speech or a declaration," Jackson said, adding that the comments "will not be helpful."

"For any harm or hurt that this hot mic private conversation may have caused, I apologize," he said in a written apology released Wednesday. "My support for Sen. Obama's campaign is wide, deep and unequivocal."

Jackson said he called Obama's cam-

paign to apologize.

Though Jackson supports Obama, the two are not close.

In September, The State newspaper in South Carolina reported that Jackson had said Obama was "acting like he's white" in his response to the arrest of six black juveniles in Jena, La. Jackson disputed the quote.

Jackson's comments sparked something of a family feud. His son, Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr., said he was disappointed by his father's "reckless statements."

"His divisive and demeaning comments about the presumptive Democratic nominee — and I believe the next president of the United States — contradict his inspiring and courageous career," the younger Jackson said.

The comments are not the first the elder Jackson has had to explain after believing he was off the record.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, July 11, 2008:

Your instincts come through this year. You will discover that by approaching your reactions and studying them, you become far more evolved and transformed. Travel and education are highlighted. If you are single, someone quite exotic could enter your life out of the blue. This person not only will open your heart but also your mind. If you are attached, a long-talked-about vacation could add to the happiness between you. SCORPIO feels open with you.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ You'll want to work with others individually. You discover just how important you are. Open up to conversations with an eye to positive financial growth. Your efforts pay off, slowly, if nothing else. Tonight: Dinner for two.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ You might want to defer to others. You might not be as sure of yourself as you would like. Rethink a personal issue with an eye to positive changes. You are full of flurry, direction and energy. You encounter someone like you but even more determined. Tonight: Easy does it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Easy does it. You have the ability to make headway and allow greater give-and-take. How you handle an important project impacts your day. Fatigue transforms to enthusiasm when a job is well done. Think positively about opportunities in the near future. Tonight: Put your feet up.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Resist hitting your head against a brick wall. Stop and don't follow the group. Demonstrate independent thought and a strong sense of direction. You do make a difference, and quickly at that. Evaluate a positive offer. You might be a lot more pushy than you realize. Tonight: Hang out.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ You cannot always call the shots. Right now others want to air out their feelings. When you least expect it, someone comes on like gangbusters. Listen, but know that you need not agree. You are your own person. Investigate an opportunity. Tonight: Happy close to home.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ You say what you think and you mean what you say. Others might have difficulty grasping how very sure you are of yourself and your needs. Don't get into a boxing match with someone who has very different ideas. Rather, try to understand where he or she is coming from. Tonight: Getting wiser by the second.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Your need to indulge comes out despite nearly all attempts at self-discipline. You might wonder what is going on, as might many. Keep going within for financial direction. You don't want to go so overboard that you cannot come back. Tonight: Balance your checkbook.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ You smile, and the world smiles with you. At first no one wants to, but commitment pays off, though you might need to rethink a personal matter. Your energy directed makes you a formidable opponent. Think about others before you home in on a goal. Tonight: All smiles.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Slow down and pace yourself. You might be overwhelmed by everything you need to do in such a short time. By relaxing you'll come up with working solutions. Take needed timeouts. If you pace yourself, you will get a lot more done. Tonight: Trust your hunches.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ You feel that others demand a lot. This situation won't change until you stop doing so much. You are the controller here. Start creating more of what you want. A meeting proves to be fruitful and provocative. Try not to always step up to the plate. Tonight: Start the weekend festivities well.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Defer to others knowing your limits. A partner pushes you to accept more responsibility, which you probably will do. Still, realize that you know what works for you and what is too much. Follow your instincts. A financial associate could be tough to deal with. Tonight: A must appearance.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Look to ramifications, not just the obvious. A call or news demands more information before you act on it. You know what you want. Zero in on making it so. You have a strong sense of balance. Someone might not budge. Tonight: Take off ASAP.

BORN TODAY

Scottish King Robert the Bruce (1274), writer E.B. White (1899), President John Quincy Adams (1767)

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

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TECHNOLOGY

Yahoo opens search toolkit in quest to beef up advertising

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Having fallen so far behind Google Inc. that it became a takeover target, Yahoo Inc. is banking on the creativity of other Web developers to help preserve its independence and regain ground in the lucrative Internet search advertising market.

Yahoo will try to unleash the pent-up innovation Thursday with a new service called "Build Your Own Search," or BOSS, that will share the Sunnyvale-based company's technology with third parties.

That means any Web site will be able to assemble a search engine using Yahoo's system for indexing information and images on the Internet. Yahoo figures plenty of Web developers will be interested because it's providing access to a set of tools that would cost more than \$300 million to build from scratch.

All Yahoo will seek in return is the right to display ads alongside the results of any search

engine that piggybacks on its technology. That way, Yahoo figures it will lessen Google's dominance.

Two specialty search services, Hakia and Medium, already have agreed to participate in the BOSS program.

"Our goal is to disrupt the search market and allow more entrants to come in," said Prabhakar Raghavan, Yahoo's chief strategist for search.

But a payoff from the new service may not come soon enough to extricate Yahoo from a shareholder revolt that could culminate in the company's sale to Microsoft Corp., which also is scrambling to catch up to Google in Internet search advertising.

Shareholders are upset with Yahoo's board, including Chief Executive Jerry Yang, for rejecting a \$47.5 billion takeover offer from Microsoft, even though the company's stock had plummeted to a four-year low shortly before the bid was first made.