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See expanded weather on Page 2

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THE PAMPA NEWS

Monday, April 28, 2008

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New community service organization begun by Pampa high school students

By **JULIE ANN THOMPSON**
The Pampa News

It was on a trip to Italy, the birthplace of the Renaissance, that senior Claire Boyd was inspired. However, it wasn't the cathedrals or works of art that inspired her, but a sense of community she hoped to bring back with her to Pampa.

Boyd recently traveled to Reggio Emilo, Italy on short-term student exchange and was moved by her host father's children and their participation in their local Rotarian Interact Club. Upon her return, she immediately set into motion the foundation for what is now Pampa's own Interact Club, of which she is now president.

"I was really inspired by how much fun they were having and how much they were able to do for their community," Boyd said. "I wanted to share my experience with kids in Pampa."

Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 14 to 18. Interact clubs are sponsored by individual rotary clubs, which provide support and guidance, but they are self-governing and self-supporting. Each year, Interact clubs complete at least two community service projects, one of which furthers international understanding and goodwill. Interact has more than 10,700 clubs in 109 countries and geographical areas and has become a worldwide phenomenon with



Submitted photo

Interact members stand by as President Claire Boyd (center) holds the club's new charter. Front row, from left: Kayla Ware, Victoria Campbell, Rachel Heuston, Mary McKay, Lauren Sutherland, Sarah Smith, Kayla Mendoza, Jesse Finney and Andrew Hatcher. Back row, from left: Jack Ware, Matt Smith, Brenna Albracht, Greg Wariner, Taryn Eubank and Olin Boyd.

almost 200,000 young people involved.

"I really have to give Claire the credit," Rotary Club President Clay Rice said. "She really was the driving force."

The Interact Club, according to Boyd, is for any high

school student who is strong willed and would like to see a change in the community.

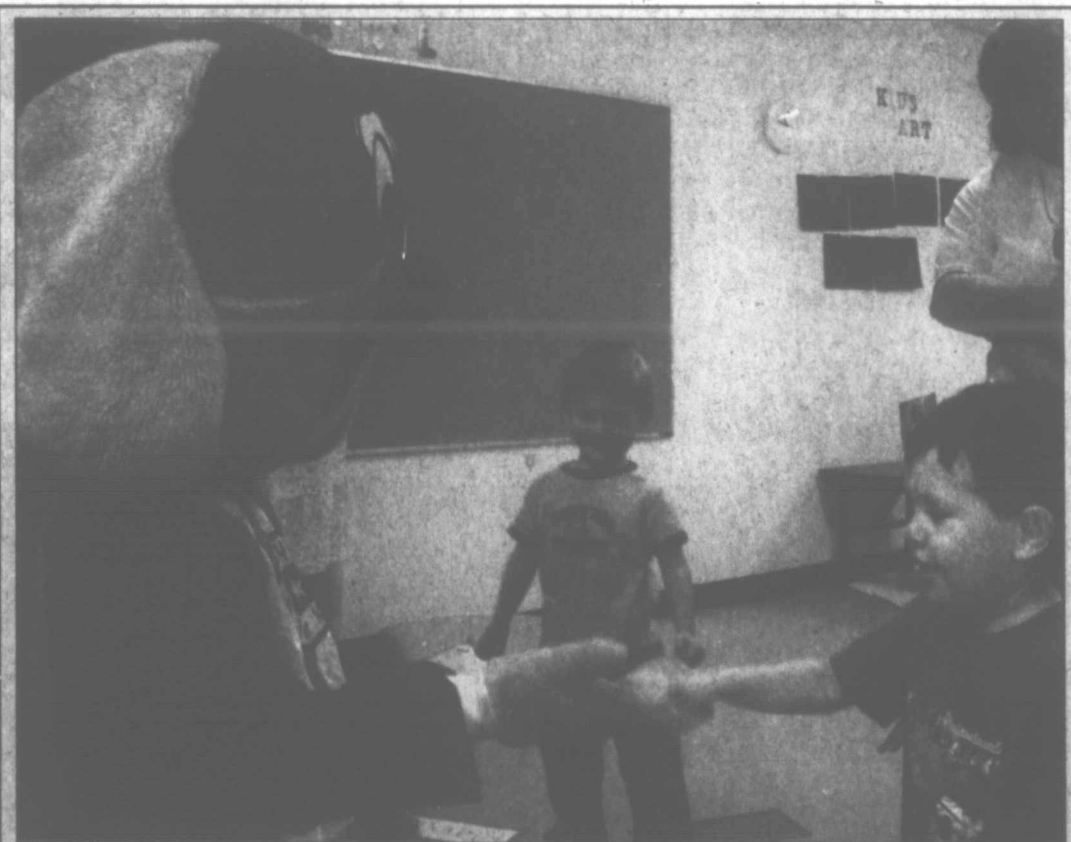
"It's a service organization with the goal of promoting international understanding and develop relationships with other cultures and lifestyles," Boyd said.

The club meets twice monthly to work on projects for the community. At present, the club is involved in a recycling project in which members collect aluminum cans and newspapers and recycle them for charity. Proceeds go to Heifer

International, an organization devoted to eradicating poverty and hunger by promoting family reliance.

"We gave each member a target area in Pampa," Boyd said. "Our first collection day

See **INTERACT** Page 3



Pampa News photo by Julie Ann Thompson

Officer J.C. Blackburn, dressed as Superman in a presentation to help kids meet police officers, high-fives preschooler Tony Soria at Pampa's First Baptist Church Daycare. Watching is Hayden Teakell (center) and Tonie Bolin.

EDC to consider grant for 'Moving Wall'

Pampa Economic Development Corp. will hold a public hearing May 8 to discuss a grant in the amount of \$3,000 for Post 1657 of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars to help fund a Moving Wall War Memorial in Pampa on Veteran's Day.

The EDC will convene the public meeting at 11 a.m. in the Nona S. Payne Room of Pampa Community Building (Chamber building), 200 N. Ballard.

'Longest Walk' pauses at Pampa Rec. Park

Members of The Longest Walk, an organized effort to bring attention to the "environmental disharmony of Mother Earth," passed through Pampa on Saturday and stopped to rest at Recreation Park.

"This is a moving prayer across the country," Participant Kid Valance said.

"We're taking our message that all life is sacred on the road."

This is the 30th anniversary of the Longest Walk, which started this year on February 11 with a ceremony at Alcatraz Island. It will end on July 11 in Washington DC

See **WALK**, Page 3

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Pampa News photo by Julie Ann Thompson

Longest Walk participant Kid Valance ran 22 miles on Saturday before stopping at Recreation Park in Pampa to rest and regroup.

Walk

Continued from Front Page

after an estimated 4,400 mile journey.

Valance has been a runner all his life and had run 22

miles on Saturday alone. In 1996, Pampa was the halfway point for the walk.

"We ran 30 miles a day back then. It was intense," Valance said.

According to Valance, the group is compiling what they call a Sacred Site Manifesto which they will

present in Washington DC.

"Every place we go we seem to find another sacred site being violated and destroyed," Valance said. "They see the land as money."

For more information go to www.longestwalk.org

Continental Airlines tells employees it won't seek merger

DALLAS (AP) — Continental Airlines Inc. said Sunday it would not pursue a combination with another carrier right away, a surprising move after weeks of growing speculation that it would join with United Airlines to create the world's biggest airline.

Continental Chairman and Chief Executive Lawrence Kellner said in a message to employees that the Houston-based airline was better off alone than merging.

"We have significant cultural, operational and financial strengths compared to the rest of the industry, and we want to protect and enhance those strengths — which we believe would be placed at risk in a merger with another carrier in today's environment," Kellner told employees.

Although it reported an \$80 million loss in the first

quarter, Continental is widely viewed as the second-strongest U.S. carrier in financial terms, behind only Southwest Airlines Co., which has indicated it isn't interested in a merger.

Continental's decision stunned United's parent, UAL Corp., which had been in advanced talks with Continental and expected to complete a deal by early May.

But last week, UAL reported a \$537 million loss in the first quarter — its biggest loss since emerging from bankruptcy in 2006, and larger than Wall Street expected. UAL's stock market value plunged 35 percent.

Glenn Tilton, UAL's chairman and CEO, signaled late Sunday that he would still pursue mergers even after Continental's pullout.

"Consolidation is underway — ensuring you have

the right partner is everything," Tilton said in a statement. "We will pursue all options to ensure a strong, sustainable future for our airline and will not shy away from the tough choices necessary to create value for our shareholders and benefit our employees and customers."

Ray Neidl, an analyst with Calyon Securities, said Continental's exit leaves US Airways Group Inc. as a potential merger partner for United.

The CEOs of United and US Airways are both vocal proponents of airline mergers. But US Airways lacks the strong international routes that made Continental an attractive partner.

A US Airways spokesman declined to comment.

Continental's board held a special meeting Sunday and voted unanimously to abandon a merger.

Interact

Continued from Front Page

we had a very good response. We went out in big ol' trucks and collected everything. We raised \$52."

Boyd first contacted Rice in an effort to start Pampa's Interact chapter last November. Together, they got in touch with local district governors and Rotary International to find out what they needed to do to get the group running. They discovered they needed a charter and that it must be authorized. The charter came back in January and it was then that the club had its first meeting.

"Thirty kids signed the charter," Boyd said. "Since then we've had a great attendance."

The group also adopted a local park. They will visit Almaeda Park, located between the high school and middle school, Saturday to begin clean-up efforts there. Their goal is to plant trees and clean it up once per month, as well as the fence-line by Wal-Mart.

Boyd expressed her desire to start new recruitment techniques this summer for junior high kids who might be interested in joining Interact. She will graduate in May, so it is her goal to build a foundation for the club before she leaves.

"I want to build a strong base while I'm here that I

hope will allow kids who want to be involved in the future and help them get to a new level of understanding," Boyd said.

When asked if she will continue to be apart of Rotary after she leaves Pampa, she is quick to reply.

"If I have to start a club in college, I'll do it," Boyd said. "Rotary has always been such a stronghold for me. My father is a Rotarian. It has made a big impact on my life."

To participate in Interact's recycling program or if you would like to join the club, send e-mails to pampainteract@yahoo.com.

Gap remains between Hispanic population and Hispanic voters

HOUSTON (AP) — The number of Houston-area Hispanic voters has tripled since 1990, making it the region's fastest-growing voting group, according to a newspaper study.

But Hispanics have yet to harness their voting power, as Harris County has the largest Hispanic population in the United States that has never sent a Hispanic to Congress.

Hispanics make up nearly 40 percent of the county's population but just 15 percent of its electorate, officials said. Age and residency status are the biggest reasons. People younger than 18 and those who are not citizens cannot vote, categories that are thought to apply to 1 million Hispanics in Harris County.

Hispanics are expected to outnumber non-Hispanic whites in Texas by 2020. But the number of voting-age Hispanics are not expected to exceed non-Hispanic white voters until about 2050, the Houston Chronicle reported on its Web site Monday.

Some political experts compared Hispanic voters to a sleeping giant.

"The giant is waking up, and he's making a pot of coffee," Houston political consultant Marc Campos said.

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Pampa News photo by David Bower

Jim Moyer of Pampa leans against his 1968 Dodge Charger at Sunday's car show at Hooter's in Amarillo. He also entered his 1968 Dodge pickup. This is the first Hooter's car show of the season. They will be held the fourth Sunday of each month through the fall.

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: The wedding season is fast approaching, and every year, starry-eyed brides plan to release white doves to "freedom" as part of their wedding celebration. Abby, when white doves, born and raised in captivity with no clue how to live on their own, are released to "freedom," they face certain death! Have you ever seen white doves flying about, nesting in the wild? No. That's because they cannot survive on their own. Please spread the word that this awful practice needs to stop. A little education would go a long way. -- **SOMEONE WHO CARES, ORANGEVALE, CALIF.**

DEAR SOMEONE: Thank you for the heads-up. I discussed your comments with a docent at a local zoo, who explained that not only do doves raised in captivity know nothing about predators, being released into an unknown area disorients the poor creatures. In order to survive, they would have to join with another flock -- and spreading their wings brings no guarantee they will be accepted.

DEAR ABBY: I feel fortunate to be writing this. "Blessed" would be a better word. You see, my family could have been planning my husband's and my funeral today. We were driving on a busy street when another driver raced out of the post office driveway as we were passing. It happened so fast, we couldn't see who it was -- just an object hurtling toward us. Thank God, my husband had sharp enough reflexes to swerve over the double line. Miraculously, no oncoming traffic was approaching. If it had been, we'd have been hit head-on. Had

my husband not gotten out of the way, my side of the car would have been hit broadside. Why in the name of heaven don't people realize that an automobile is a potential weapon? I hope my letter is worth space in your column. Life is fragile. This happened yesterday, and I am ... **STILL SHAKEN IN FORT WORTH**

DEAR STILL SHAKEN: Your letter is well worth space in my column. The driver may have been high, angry, sleep-deprived or distracted. Not only could you have been killed, but the person driving that car could have also been severely injured. While cars and bumpers used to be made of sturdy metal, today they are made of plastic. When we start our engines, no one should ever forget that fact.

DEAR ABBY: My 14-year-old grandson was recently treated to an all-expense-paid vacation to visit his aunt and uncle in Washington, D.C. Because his family is struggling financially, I gave my grandson \$50 to treat his hosts to dinner. He seemed excited about it and readily agreed that he would do it. I found out inadvertently that he did not use the money as intended, and, in fact, I don't know what he did with it. Should I confront him or let it go, since I know he didn't have much spending money? -- **GRANDMA ON A LIMITED INCOME**

DEAR GRANDMA: To ask your grandson what he did with the money does not need to be "confrontational." Simply tell him that you have learned that he didn't take his aunt and uncle out to dinner as planned. True, he may have spent the money on himself. However, he may have offered and the offer was declined. Give him a chance to explain.

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

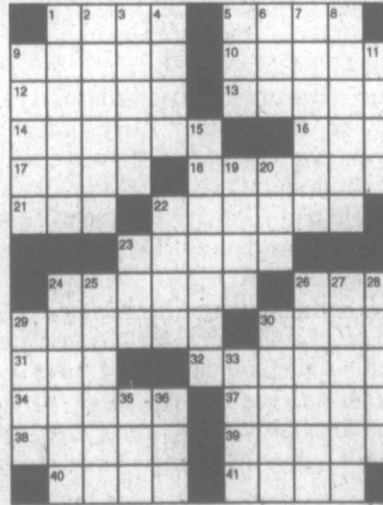
- ACROSS** 40 Hearty
1 Small fastener
5 Swimming spot
9 Pebble
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12 Test the flavor of
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18 Roleo contestant
21 Senator Kennedy
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23 Game piece
24 Confine
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29 Former name of Ho Chi Minh City
30 Minnow's home
31 Brooch
32 Haunted house spirits
34 Nay voters
37 Mindful
38 Tent anchor
39 Majestic
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1 Park art
2 Snacked
3 Poker costs
4 Hammer part
5 Mom's mate
6 Need to pay
7 Anxious
8 Imposed
9 Kick off
11 Forest creature
15 Way to serve chicken
19 Yoked animals
20 Collins base
22 Dorothy's dog
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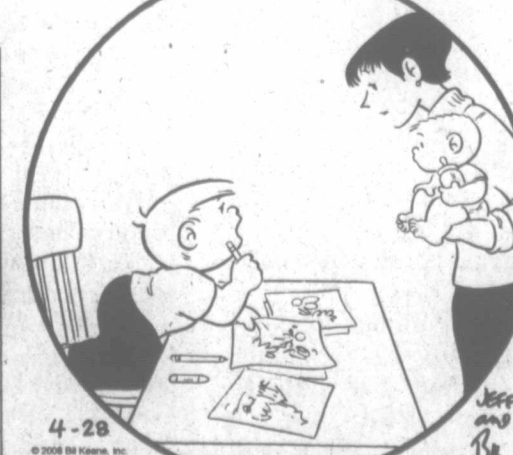
Marmaduke



"Marmaduke hibernates every day."

The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



"Whatever it was that you told me to do, I can't remember not doing it."

B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Cox

Continued from Page 4

In the course of her university research, Knott found a Blanco County farmer named John Cox (no relation to the author) who learned both fence-building and some philosophy from his father.

"I remember a day that he was building fences and I was learning," Knott quoted Cox. "...Rocks must fit as close as words," he said as he put a rock in place. He never put a stone where it didn't want to stay. 'Work with nature, not against it - if you want a fence to stand.'"

As for Grosz, after repaying his relative by laboring at fence building, he moved on to easier ways of making money like blacksmithing, furniture building, stone cutting and farming. In

between, he and his wife raised 11 children.

Though Grosz could do many things, he must have been pretty handy at the work that paid for his immigration. He continued to hire out periodically as a fence builder. When his sons had grown strong enough, he put them to work hauling rocks while he did the stacking that required more experience. He continued to build stone fences even after wire made them obsolete.

Like railroad workers laying track, the Grosz' stayed in the field until they finished a job, moving their camp site as their enduring handiwork slowly progressed across a field. Twice a week, Grosz would send his boys home to fetch more grub while he stayed in camp near the fence in progress.

A relapse of measles, not hard work, killed Grosz at the age of 45 in the spring of 1899. They buried him in the Gooch Cemetery on the eastern edge of Mason. Most, if not all, of his rock fences still stand.

Events calendar

• The deadline to enter the 2008 Miss Rodeo Top O' Texas Pageant will be 5 p.m., May 1. All entries must be received at the rodeo office by the deadline. The pageant will be staged Aug. 14-16 in conjunction with the 62nd annual Top O' Texas Rodeo. Information packets are available at the rodeo office, 200 N. Ballard. For more information, call 669-0434, Pageant Director Gina Greenhouse at 665-6093 or e-mail totrodeo@gmail.com.

• The National Day of Prayer will be celebrated locally

from 12-1 p.m. May 1 at M.K. Brown Auditorium. The Rev. Paul Nachtigall, coordinator of the annual event, said participants will move inside the building in case of inclement weather. The event is open to everyone and will be staged in the parking lot.

• Guymon Pioneer Days Rodeo in Guymon, Okla., will be staged at 7:30 p.m. May 2; 2 and 7:30 p.m. May 3; and 2 p.m. May 4 at Henry C. Hitch Pioneer Arena. For tickets, call (580) 338-3376.

Reese

Continued from Page 4

ing now is unlikely to become manifest in the actions of the winner. Americans should have become accustomed to candidates saying one thing on the campaign stump and doing the opposite once they are in office. Presidential candidates have been doing it since at least Franklin Roosevelt.

I expect to be disappointed no matter who wins, though not disillusioned, since I scrapped all of those illusions some years ago. It's not that candidates don't have good intentions. I believe most of them do. The problem is that when they get to Washington, it's like falling down Alice in Wonderland's rabbit hole or entering Narnia through a closet. They ran for office in one world; they serve in office in an entirely different world. Since Washington is self-sufficient for politicians (they can raise their next campaign kitty right there), it's a rare man or woman who doesn't begin to see the hometown folks as strangers.

Americans should remember that if it's a messiah or salvation they seek, neither is to be found in politics or in government.

—Write to Charley Reese at P.O. Box 2446, Orlando, FL 32802.

Pope

Continued from Page 4

scandal to fester and undermined public confidence in the church." True. Perhaps the pope and his American bishops believe that to have top churchmen face real consequences for grievous wrongdoing would make people doubt the church's moral authority. The opposite is likely true and that's their tragedy. URL: <http://www.dallasnews.com>

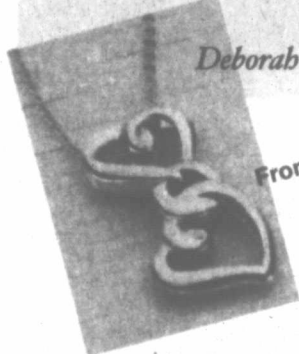
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And helped me when I needed
To turn things around.

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I don't think you knew.
I'm proud you are my mother!
For I am a reflection of you!

Deborah J Birdoes



Front of pendant



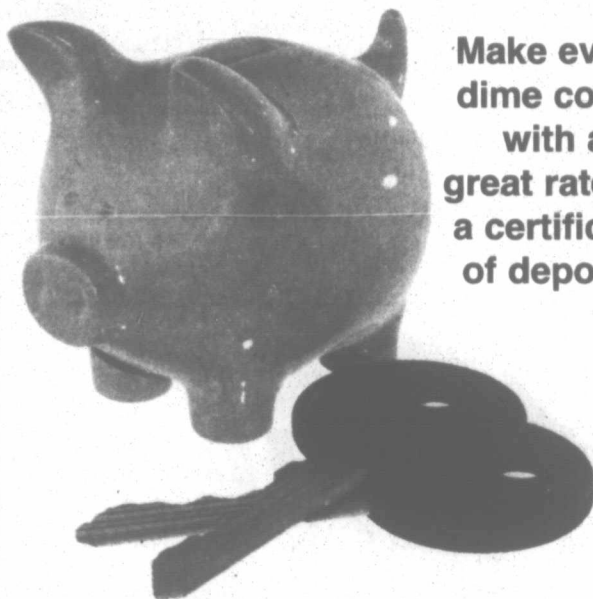
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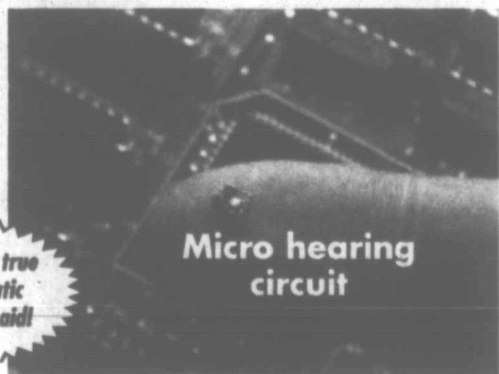
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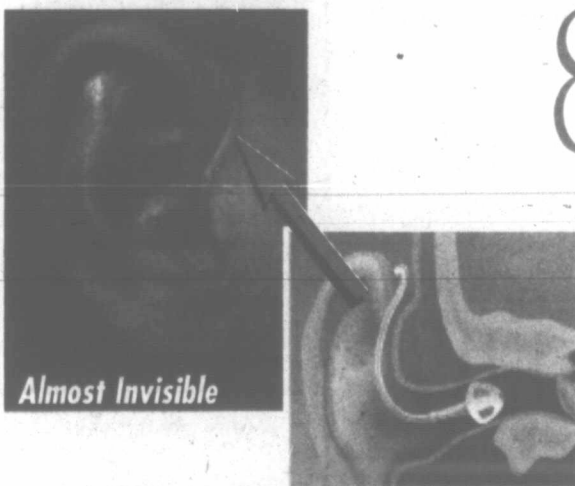


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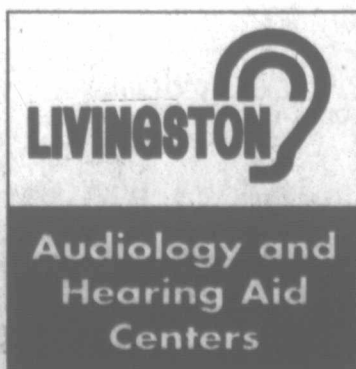
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