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Pampan vows fight to help stop attacks

by Rachel Stennett
 rstennett@thepampanews.com

Tina Shawn waited in Municipal Court Thursday, hoping for justice for her injured Chihuahua-mix who had punctured stomach lining from a pit bull attack. Tharron C. Rodgers, the owner of the pit bull who attacked her dog, pleaded no contest to charges for animal at large, animal nuisance, and no rabies vaccination.

She may have literally had her day in court Thursday (Jan. 22), with her 80-year-old father standing with her for moral support, and a blue manila folder filled with legal papers concerning dog attacks. But she's not through fighting yet.

Shawn said that this was only the first step into gaining justice, and hopefully bringing awareness to Pit Bull attacks in Pampa.

Shawn wanted justice for her dog but even more, she wanted to see and end to these attacks.

"This is a serious problem and it needs to be addressed," Shawn said. "As citizens, (we) are given the freedom to have whatever animals we want but we should be held accountable for what damage they do to other animals, people and their property..."

On Nov. 16, Shawn and her father witnessed her Chihuahua attacked by a black and white pit bull who had escaped from his home and came on to her property.

See Attacks, Page 3

Board sides with evolution in debate

AUSTIN (AP) — The State Board of Education tentatively decided to amend school science curriculum standards Thursday, dropping a 20-year-old requirement that critics say is used to undermine the theory of evolution.

The change in curriculum drops the mandate that science teachers address both "strengths and weaknesses" of scientific theory. It would be in place for the next decade.

A panel of science teachers had recommended that the language be dropped.

Kathy Miller, president of the watchdog group Texas Freedom Network, has argued that the word weaknesses "has become a code word in the culture wars to attack evolution and promote creationism."

Federal courts have ruled against forcing the teaching of creationism and the similar theory of intelligent design.

Education board member Cynthia Dunbar, R-Richmond, offered failed amendments to keep "strengths and weaknesses" or similar wording in place. Dunbar argued that changing the requirement could be potentially damaging.

"The language as it exists has gone without a challenge for more than two decades," she said.

But, the 15-member board overruled her.

"The language has not worked," said board member Mavis Knight, D-Dallas. "It has taken on a different meaning and I am opposed."

See Science, Page 3

BLUEGRASS JAMBOREE



staff photo by David Bowser

Eudell Gifford of Lefors gets down during a jam session at the 2009 Indoor Bluegrass Jamboree in Amarillo.

Jammin' through Saturday

by David Bowser
 dbowser@thepampanews.com

It's not as unique as the Pickin' Shack in Lefors, but the Fifth Seasons Inn in Amarillo is a nice venue and the crowd is almost as large.

In a smoke-filled room off the swimming pool, Eudell Gifford of Lefors, Wayne Tolbert of Amarillo and Bill Murry of Borger pick out "Faded Love" and "I Saw the Light" on guitar, mandolin and fiddle as Bluegrass aficionados gather at the Fifth Seasons Inn for the 2009 Indoor Bluegrass Jamboree this weekend.

Surrounded by Bluegrass musicians from Texas, New Mexico, Kansas, Oklahoma and Colorado, Jack Selby's fiddle played a melancholy tune in the atrium.

Bluegrass music rippled from jam sessions in the atrium and a number of rooms on the first and second floor of the Amarillo hotel.

"This is an annual event," said Eva McKnight of Wildorado, treasurer of the Panhandle Bluegrass and Old-Tyme Music Association.

Musicians and fans began to gather Thursday night. Jam session will go on continually through Saturday night. There is no set program or agenda. There are just spontaneous musical interludes.

"Just jammin'," McKnight said. "All we do is visit and eat and pick."

The meeting room in the front of the hotel serves as the registration point and buffet and snack room.

"We all bring snacks," McKnight said. "Everybody just snacks when they get ready to, then they go back to pickin'."

Pampa groundwater meeting set for Feb.10

by David Bowser
 dbowser@thepampanews.com

WHITE DEER — The Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District will hold a series of informational meetings beginning next month concerning their activities, including the their weather modification program.

The meetings will be held in each county in the district with the first one tentatively scheduled for Feb. 10 in Pampa. The second one is tentatively scheduled Feb. 12 in Clarendon.

District officials said the public meetings will be advertised once the times, dates and places are scheduled.

At the PGWCD monthly meeting Wednesday here, the district's board of directors considered donating property to the Panhandle Independent School District, reconsidered a tax abatement to Sue Stiles in Wheeler, reviewed their ag loan fund, approved two drilling permits for domestic wells, deferred a request to turn an old oil

well into a water well and approved an exception to their spacing rule in connection with the drilling of a new well.

They also heard from the City of Amarillo concerning transportation of water from Carson County to the city, and they discussed the Groundwater Management Area's proposed desired future condition of the Ogallala Aquifer in the Texas Panhandle.

The board also approved a well drilling permit for secondary oil recovery requested by Petco

Petroleum Corporation following a public hearing.

Petco Petroleum Corporation requested a drilling permit for a 50-gallon per minute well about 15 miles south of Pampa. The water would be pumped back into the ground to flood an old oil field and flush more oil out of it.

Dennis Laycock with Petco said the company had enjoyed some success with the method near Bowers City, but he admitted that such methods don't always work.

Laycock said in their Bowers City operation they had started using fresh water, but as the project progressed, they used more and more salt water.

The board also donated their part of tax delinquent properties south of the Panhandle school to the Panhandle Independent School District for a new parking lot. PGWCD General Manager C.E. Williams said each of the taxing entities involved in those properties were

See Water, Page 3

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PAMPA FORECAST

Saturday	Sunday	Monday
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High 38 Low 14	High 61 Low 23	High 33 Low 20
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Saturday: Partly sunny, with a high near 38. Wind chill values between 5 and 15. North northeast wind 10 to 15 mph becoming south southeast.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 14. Wind chill values between zero and 10. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 61. South southeast wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 23. East wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Monday: Partly sunny, with a high near 33. East wind around 10 mph.

Monday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 20. East southeast wind 10 to 15 mph becoming north. Winds could gust

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Grain prices

The following grain quotations are provided by Atterbury Grain of White Deer. Prices quoted are for the close of the last market day.

Wheat.....	\$4.93
Milo.....	\$4.96
Corn.....	\$6.74

Cash Five Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 37-22-5-32-19.
Number matching five of five: 0.
Matching four of five: 80. Prize: \$452
Matching three of five: 2,578. Prize: \$11
Matching two of five: 25,968. Prize: \$2
Next Cash 5 drawing: Friday night.

Texas Two Step results

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Thursday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 29-21-26-24. Bonus Ball: 9.
Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.
Number matching four of four: 8. Prize: \$1,791.
Number matching three of four, plus Bonus Ball: 30. Prize: \$59.
Number matching three of four: 1,110. Prize: \$21.
Number matching two of four, plus Bonus Ball: 751. Prize: \$21.
Number matching one of four, plus Bonus Ball: 5,215. Prize: \$7.
Number matching Bonus Ball alone: 9,343. Prize: \$5.
Estimated jackpot for Monday night drawing: \$450,000.

Fire destroys 7 homes

HAWLEY, Texas (AP) — Fire crews were patrolling a 2,000-acre fire that destroyed seven West Texas homes, forcing residents in Jones County to be evacuated, according to officials.

The Sanderosa blaze was not under control late Thursday and was only about 20 percent contained, said Nick Harrison, a spokesman for the Texas Forest Service. Firefighters used bulldozers to dig up the ground and cut down grass and brush that helped fuel the fire.

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For the Record

Death notice

Jay Richards, 28, died January 22, 2009 in Pampa, Texas.
Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Emergency Services

FIRE
Pampa Fire Department reported the following call between 7 a.m. Thursday and 7 a.m. today.
Thursday, Jan. 22
10:45 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 11000 block of Highway 60 on a motor vehicle accident. No injuries were reported.

PAMPA PD
Pampa Police Department reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Thursday and 7 a.m. today.
Thursday, Jan. 22
Officers conducted five traffic stops.
Eleven calls and/or stops concerning animals were made.
Disorderly conduct was reported in the 2400 block of North Charles, Pampa High School, 111 East Harvester, and the 1900 block of North Duncan.
Fraud was reported in the lobby of the PD.
Theft was reported in the 1300 block of North Garland, where a wallet with contents estimated at \$310 was reportedly taken; and the 1100 block of South Dwight, where a toolbox was damaged and the tools inside were taken, valued at \$2,260.
A burglary was reported in the 1700 block of North Coffee, where private documents were taken.

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AMBULANCE
Guardian EMS ambulance service reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Thursday and 7 a.m. today.
Thursday, Jan. 22
7:41 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to Pampa Regional Medical Center and transported a patient to Baptist St. Anthony's in Amarillo.
9:16 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1100 block of Terry and transported a patient to PRMC.
9:58 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1900 block of Hilton Road and transported a patient to PRMC.
3:30 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1100 block of Huff and transported a patient to PRMC.
6:55 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1400 block of Somerville and transported a patient to PRMC.
10:44 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 11800 block of Highway 60. No patients were transported.
Friday, Jan. 23
1:33 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 500 block of North Dwight and transported a patient to PRMC.
6:30 a.m. A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transported a patient to North West Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

Man convicted of strangling executed

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — Prosecutors say condemned prisoner Reginald Perkins had managed to get away with murder in the past and win parole to get out of prison for other crimes.
No more.
Perkins, 53, suspected of at least five other slayings in Texas and Ohio, was executed Thursday night for the strangulation of his stepmother in Fort Worth more than eight years ago. Perkins became the second inmate in as many nights and the third in Texas to die this year.
"He's not stupid," said Kevin Rousseau, the Tarrant County district attorney who won a death sentence against Perkins. "He's very cunning."
"I'd like to know how many other victims are out there."
Perkins already was a convicted rapist when he was arrested for the slaying of Gertie Perkins, 64, whose body was found in Fort Worth in the trunk of her Cadillac more than eight years ago.
He said little from the death chamber gurney, although he was laughing and cheerful. Perkins even told one of his victim's sisters, who was witnessing the execution, that he loved her. Asked by the warden to give a final statement, he referred to comments he gave to a prison official.
"I am innocent and I did not do this," he said about an hour before his execution. "They didn't link me to nothing. I did not kill my stepmom. I loved her. Texas is going to kill an innocent man."
He also denied involvement in other killings.
"I don't know what they're talking about," he said. "I can't tell you who killed them. I ain't killed nobody. I've never killed."
Perkins led his father and police to his stepmother's body. Authorities suspected him but couldn't get enough evidence to charge him with five other murders — investigators believe he committed in Fort Worth and Cleveland, Ohio, during the relatively brief times over a 20-year period when he wasn't in prison.
Perkins pleaded guilty to the 1980 rape and attempted rape of two 12-year-old girls in Ohio and was sentenced to life in prison.
He also was linked to the 1980 strangling of Paula Nelson at her Cleveland home. Perkins was living with the victim's twin sister and later married her. He was suspected of the 1981 strangling of Jenny Morman, 43, at her Cleveland apartment, and the strangling three weeks later of Jerry Thomas, whose daughter he was convicted of trying to rape.
In 1988, he was paroled and moved to Fort Worth. A DNA database tied Perkins last year to the 1991 stranglings in Fort Worth of Shirley Douglas, 44, and her aunt, Hattie Wilson, 79. Police said Perkins had dated Wilson's granddaughter.
A parole violation returned him to Ohio in 1993 and he remained in prison until 2000, when he was paroled again and returned again to Fort Worth. His stepmother's slaying occurred 10 months later.
Evidence at his trial showed Perkins pawned his stepmother's wedding ring and wrote fraudulent checks from the account of

the family trucking business in Fort Worth. He became a suspect after detectives learned of his previous convictions in Ohio for rape and attempted rape and that he had been a suspect in the Cleveland slayings. A Tarrant County jury in 2002 deliberated 30 minutes before deciding he should die.
"This day was a long time coming, but thank God for this day," Gertie Perkins' family said in a statement. "Now we can close this chapter in our life."
"Thank you Texas, for a day we will always remember, this day of justice for Gertie Mae Perkins."
From death row last week, he denied pawning the ring, saying although his driver's license was used to verify the transaction, the license had been lost and he wasn't the person using it. He said he was framed for her killing and that the rape convictions were the result of false testimony and bad advice from his lawyer.
Three executions are scheduled on consecutive evenings next week in Texas, beginning with Larry Swearingen, 37, condemned for the 1998 abduction and slaying of Melissa Trotter, a 19-year-old college student from Montgomery County near Houston.

Texas poker great beaten up, robbed

AMARILLO, Texas (AP) — Texas poker great Amarillo Slim was beaten and robbed while trying to take collateral on a \$3,000 gambling debt he was owed, police said Thursday.
Amarillo Police Lt. Jim McKenny said the 80-year-old former world champion poker player, whose real name is Thomas Preston, was beaten after being lured to a field Tuesday night expecting to retrieve a four-wheeler as collateral. Preston went to the hospital with a broken jaw, hand and

thumb, he told the Amarillo Globe-News.
He said he was robbed of \$8,000 cash and a diamond ring worth \$85,000, McKenny said.
"That would not be that unusual for him to have that kind of money," he said.
It wasn't the first time he's been robbed either, McKenny said.
Amarillo Slim won the 1972 World Series of Poker and has been a member of the Poker Hall of Fame since 1992.

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MCLEAN DANCE Club, Sat., Jan. 24th, 7:30-11pm.

NEW TUESDAY Classified Line Ad Deadline is Monday before 2pm (beginning Mon. Jan. 26th). The Pampa News.

Water

Continued from Page 1

being asked to donate the land to the school system.

The groundwater district board also revisited their decision to grant tax abatement to Sue A. Stiles for a \$650,000 day care center in Wheeler. While the district approved the tax abatement in December, the Texas Secretary of State has ruled that no tax abatement can be made until either the city or the county established a tax abatement zone. The board amended their tax abatement motion from December, pending action by the City of Wheeler to create a tax abatement zone.

The board also voted to return up to 45 percent of the million dollars they borrowed from the state for their ag loan program. The low interest money has traditionally been held in certificates of deposits to offset the interest the district has had to pay, but Williams said that deposit rates had dropped to the point where it would cost the district money to hold the money borrowed from the state.

Williams said the district usually got most of their loan requests between December and February and had made only one loan in the current cycle. He said that if more loans were made, the district could reapply for more money from the state program.

Emmett Autrey, the utilities director with the City of Amarillo, appeared before the board to explain the amount of water the city had pumped from its Carson County well field last year. He said that because of an oversight, the city had failed to scale back pumping following the summer demand as planned. Normally, he said, the city would have relied on its allocation of water from the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority after August.

Because of the oversight, Autrey said the city ended up with 20 percent of its

CRMWA allocation not being used and a higher than expected electric bill because of the pumping in Carson County.

Autrey also said the city would be working on its state mandated water conservation plan in the summer and requested the help of the water district's staff.

"A key goal of the Water Conservation Plan will be to reduce per capita water usage throughout the system by developing more aggressive per capita water usage goals for the upcoming plan period," Autrey said.

The water conservation plan is expected to be presented to the Amarillo City Commission late in the calendar year.

The district deferred action on the proposed desired future condition of the Ogallala Aquifer until after a groundwater model is completed in February. The district will consider the subject again at their Feb. 18 meeting.

The proposed desired future condition of the aquifer is the result of negotiations among the four water districts that form Groundwater Management Area 1 that covers the panhandle.

Groundwater Management Areas around the state are required to submit desired future conditions to the Texas Water Development Board in 2010.

The Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District board of directors also approved a one-inch domestic well near Amarillo in Potter County for David Fragoso and a two-inch well near Howardwick in Donley County for Chris Britten.

They deferred a request by R.A. Ramming to convert an oil well to a water well until they could consult with the Texas Railroad Commission.

The board approved a spacing exception for an eight-inch well near Lelia Lake in Donley County for the Howard Fuqua Trust. The well is 33 yards closer to a windmill than the district rules allow, but the windmill also belongs to the Howard Fuqua Trust.

Science

Continued from Page 1

Critics of dropping the weaknesses mandate blame "left-wing ideology," for trying to stifle free speech.

"It's outrageous that our highest elected education officials voted to silence teachers and students in science class," said Jonathan Saenz, a lobbyist for the Free Market Foundation. "Despite being overwhelmed by e-mails and phone calls to keep strengths and weaknesses, the divided State Board of Education ignored constituents and sided with a small group of activists."

"This decision shows that science has evolved into a political popularity contest. The truth has been expelled from the science classroom."

The standards adopted also will dictate how publishers handle the topic in textbooks. The vote, which capped two days of heated debate, was part of a series of votes on the standards that is expected to be finalized in March.

A more specific challenge to evolution was approved, in an amendment by Republican board member Don McLeroy, a College Station dentist. The amendment involved challenging the ancestry of different species.

"Keeping 'strengths and weaknesses' out of the standards is a huge victory for Texas students," Miller said. "But it's astonishing that a dentist would presume to know more about evolution than the professional scientists and teachers who wrote the draft standards. What he did is a ridiculous way to craft education policy and simply complicates the standards."

Highlights from the Legislature

AUSTIN (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry, bracing for a fight over property rights in the 2010 Republican primary, said Thursday he wants legislation passed to amend the state constitution to further protect private landowners from eminent domain. He says it shouldn't be used to take land for commercial purposes and that a fair value should be offered for condemned land.

The governor made the remarks with a group of lawmakers and property rights activists at a Texas Public Policy Foundation meeting in Austin. He said he wants to cement into the Texas constitution legislation passed in 2005 to protect against taking private land for economic development or private purposes.

Sen. Robert Duncan, a Lubbock Republican, said there are too many legislative opportunities for loopholes if it's not placed in

the constitution. The state law was passed after a U.S. Supreme Court decision that allowed property to be taken through eminent domain for economic development projects, not just for public uses like roads.

In attempting to pass the amendment, legislators will debate how to define "public use," Duncan said. He said the legislation could affect land condemnation for sports stadiums.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE

Saying there are nearly one million children in Texas who are missing out on the chance to get government health insurance, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst promised to find the money to put them on the rolls if they sign up.

Dewhurst, a Republican, said even with a tight budget this year he wants more kids to enroll in the Children's Health

Insurance Program, or CHIP, a state-administered health insurance program for low-income Texas children. About 550,000 Texas kids are enrolled in CHIP, but Dewhurst said 900,000 children who are currently eligible have not signed up. "If I had a magic wand, I would get them all enrolled," Dewhurst said.

Asked how he would pay for the increased costs during fiscally tough times, Dewhurst said "we'll just have to find the money."

"I can't imagine a person with a heart not wanting to make sure that kids get their shots, their immunizations and get an annual physical," Dewhurst said.

If you know this cowboy he's 28 today!
Happy B-day Randall
Love, Your Family

Attacks

Continued from Page 1

According to Shawn, the Chihuahua mix (Samson) and the Boston terrier she owns were tied up to cables in her backyard when the pit bull entered her unfenced property.

"I saw a black and white flash outside and went to see what it was and the pit bull was shaking my dog in it's mouth," Shawn explained.

Shawn and her father tried to stop the fight. Her father was restraining a yellow and gray pit bull that had escaped with the black and white, and Shawn had scooped the Chihuahua in her hands and was kicking the pit bull, aiming for it's wind pipe to stop the fight.

"The fight was over. After a five hour surgery, Samson recovered. Shawn expected some reconciliation from the neighbors with the multiple Pit Bulls, but it never came.

"No one from the house. No one stopped by or called. They showed no respect," she said in relation to her injured dog. However, while Shawn and her father guarded their dogs against the Pit Bulls, a teenage neighbor did come over and apologize for the attack and was able to deter the dogs and send them home.

Rodgers, who resides in the 1100 block of South Christy, was ticketed as the owner of both pit bulls. The pit bull who attacked the Chihuahua was left at Rodgers residence, Shawn said.

According to Shawn, the pit bull attacked two other Chihuahuas's the same week. The attacked dogs actually live at the

Medication safety

Statistics

- In 1999, approximately 7,000 patient deaths were linked to errors in the prescribing and administering of medications.
- One person dies each day, and 1.3 million people are injured each year due to medication errors.
- Adverse drug effects (ADE) may exist between the drug and underlying causes of death.
- The annual cost of drug-related morbidity and mortality is estimated to be \$177 billion in the U.S.
- At greatest risk for medication-related problems are American seniors. While medications are probably the single most important factor in improving the quality of life for seniors, this population remains especially susceptible to medication-related problems.
- Doctors have a duty of care to some medication, which carries the risk for falls in seniors.

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Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

6	8	7	9	4	1	3	2	5
4	3	9	6	5	2	1	7	8
2	5	1	8	3	7	9	4	6
1	7	5	3	2	8	4	6	9
9	2	6	5	1	4	8	3	7
8	4	3	7	6	9	5	1	2
7	1	8	2	9	3	6	5	4
5	9	4	1	7	6	2	8	3
3	6	2	4	8	5	7	9	1

Level: Intermediate

					1			
	9	8			3			
			5					
9					7			2
4	3			9				
		1		5	8			7
								3
1	6		2					
					8			7

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Viewpoints

Today in History

By The Associated Press
Today is Friday, Jan. 23, the 23rd day of 2009. There are 342 days left in the year.
Today's Highlight in History:
On Jan. 23, 1968, North Korea seized the Navy intelligence ship USS Pueblo, charging its crew with being on a spying mission. (The crew was released 11 months later.)
On this date:
In 1789, Georgetown University was established in present-day Washington, D.C.
In 1845, Congress decided all national elections would be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.
In 1932, New York Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt announced his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination.

'A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.'

— Proverbs 17:22

In 1964, the 24th amendment to the Constitution, eliminating the poll tax in federal elections, was ratified.

In 1973, President Richard M. Nixon announced an accord had been reached to end the Vietnam War.

In 1989, surrealist artist Salvador Dali died in his native Figueres, Spain, at age 84.

In 2002, Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl was abducted in Karachi, Pakistan, by a group demanding the return of prisoners from the Afghan campaign; he was later slain.

In 2005, former "Tonight Show" host Johnny Carson died in Malibu, Calif., at age 79.

Five years ago: The Illinois Supreme Court upheld former Gov. George Ryan's powers to commute sentences, keeping 32 spared inmates off death row. The enduring situation comedy "Friends" filmed its final episode in front of an invitation-only audience. Bob Keeshan, TV's "Captain Kangaroo," died in Windsor, Vt., at age 76.

One year ago: Tens of thousands of Palestinians poured into Egypt from Gaza after Palestinian militants used land mines to breach a barrier dividing the border town of Rafah. French Open winner Michael Chang was elected to the International Tennis Hall of Fame, and IMG creator Mark McCormack and Tennis Week magazine founder Eugene Scott were selected posthumously.

Today's Birthdays: Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg, D-N.J., is 85. Actress Jeanne Moreau is 81. Actress Chita Rivera is 76. Actor-director Lou Antonio is 75. Actor Gil Gerard is 66. Actor Rutger Hauer is 65. Rhythm-and-blues singer Jerry Lawson (The Persuasions) is 65. Sen. Thomas R. Carper, D-Del., is 62. Singer Anita Pointer is 61. Actor Richard Dean Anderson is 59. Rock musician Bill Cunningham is 59. Rock singer Robin Zander (Cheap Trick) is 56. Princess Caroline of Monaco is 52. Singer Anita Baker is 51. Reggae musician Earl Falconer (UB40) is 50. Actress Gail O'Grady is 46. Actress Mariska Hargitay is 45. Rhythm-and-blues singer Marc Nelson is 38. Actress Tiffani Thiessen is 35. Rock musician Nick Harmer (Death Cab for Cutie) is 34.

That Was Easy

By Martha Randolph Carr

The inauguration is over and the recession is still here. Many of us are evaluating just where we are in our lives. The temptation right about now is to draw up a list of what we know we ought to be doing. If we only would we know our lives would be better. This is in spite of the pounds of evidence that show not much good ever comes from resolutions except for some added guilt.

Change is inevitable and necessary. I know that even if I do protest when I'm in the middle of some big shift. I have even been known to reevaluate every decision looking for a loophole that might get me out of the corner I'm in at the moment. That never works. I even love lists but I've noticed that what I love is making the list. The sentiment really doesn't go much beyond that.

But maybe there's a better way to get a little closer to that image we have of ourselves in our heads. How about the next time we are about to make a decision and feel that slight lurch in our stomach we just hesitate?

Don't limit this to the big stuff like buying a new car, getting engaged, going back to school. A reasonable person knows to look both ways before entering into decisions that will change the landscape in a big way.

Try to hesitate even at the smallest of flutters like when you're about to buy that sugary cereal in the grocery store for your kids knowing that you're the one who's going to eat bowl after bowl late at night. Or when you're about to say yes to someone for a favor you never wanted to do in the first place, can't fit into your schedule and aren't even sure how you'll accomplish anyway. Or when you're about to say no to someone who asked you out for coffee because it doesn't feel like a love match and besides what do you really know about the person anyway. Hesitate there and take a breath. Give your brain a chance to catch up to your old patterns and then make a different choice.

Make the different choice just to see what else could happen. Trust that you didn't need to know

the ending or even what was beyond the next step. Let it all be that simple and that small. No grand ambitions down the road because we're just sticking to today and this small moment.

The plain truth of our lives is that anything we have built was accomplished because of a thousand little decisions built one on top of the other. We raised our children one small moment at a time taking care of the sniffles before tackling the model of the solar system and then baking 35 cupcakes with Barbie candles. That's why as parents we're so amazed at our children's graduations to be looking at this young adult. We were so involved in all of those moments we weren't obsessing quite so much over the final product. We already knew, one way or the other, they were getting to adulthood.

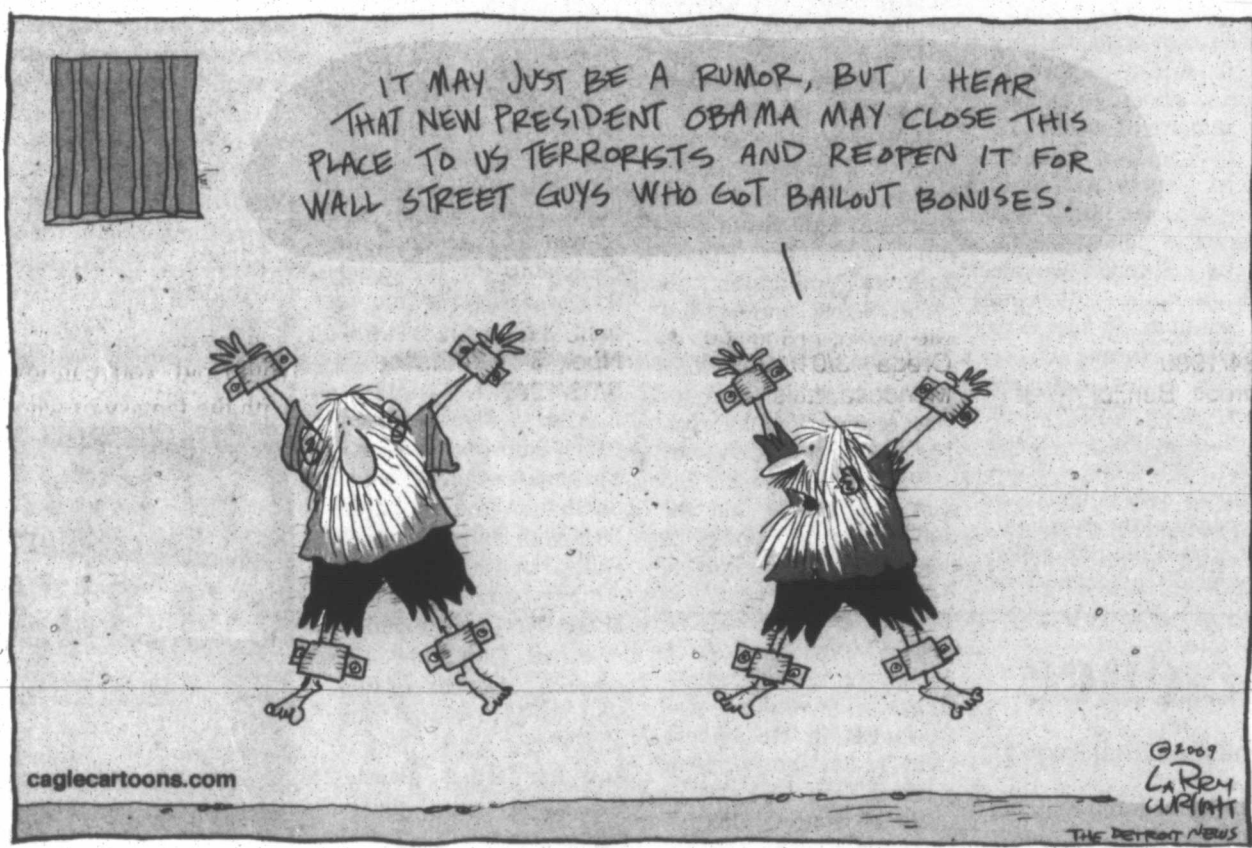
Well, that little tip is key to every other ongoing project in our lives. Keep doing the small stuff and eventually it adds up even during a recession.

Write that book one page at a time. Start saving this year with one dollar at

a time. Quit eating foods that don't make you feel very good one box of cereal at a time and let that be something to feel good about. Celebrate your new choice and keep going.

One page a day adds up to a book. One dollar a day adds up to \$365 more dollars on the plus side than you had last year. And one less box of Cocoa Puffs is one less inch around your middle. It all counts. Along the way you're going to notice two things: that you really can change your life and move toward that image in your head and you didn't have to have all the answers up front in order to do it. Now take a deep breath. More adventures to follow.

Martha Randolph Carr's latest book, *A Place to Call Home*, a memoir about the reemergence of U.S. orphanages is available wherever books are sold. Martha's *Big Adventure* coming soon to World Talk Radio and Voice America. Email Martha at Martha@caglecartoons.com or visit www.martharandolphcarr.com.



Other editors say

The Dallas Morning News on the challenges facing President Barack Obama:

Last week, as Washington hummed and hammered in preparation for the inauguration, President-elect Barack Obama paid a low-key visit to his transition offices. As former Ronald Reagan speechwriter Peggy Noonan tells it: "Someone had given him a basketball; he dribbled it as he walked down the hall. Suddenly a young veteran of the campaign turned to another and said, 'The black guy with the basketball is the next president.'"

It's that kind of moment in American history. The election victory of Barack Obama, born in 1961 into an America where little children with his skin color too often still lived in apartheid, is a moral victory for us all. He, and we, have overcome. Or, at the very least, begun to.

What will be accomplished today when Obama puts one hand on Lincoln's Bible, raises the other and takes the oath of office as the 44th U.S. president is so meaningful and such a testimony to the power and the promise of hope that more than a few of us will be looking at the incredible event and whispering, "Oh, my God."

As it happens, that very phrase was uttered last

week by Rep. John Boehner, the top Republican in the House, when he learned the incredible cost of the proposed Democratic stimulus plan. And even that \$850 billion may not be enough to save this critically wounded economy from a depression.

Awesome times, these are. The new president will walk the tightrope strung between twin peaks, Mt. Hope and Mt. Doom. It is hard to recall a president who took office with such a vast reservoir of good will and high expectations. And it is hard to recall a president who faced such dire and overwhelming threats to the economic well being of the nation.

Everywhere one looks, the fiscal numbers are in free fall not only in the United States, but all around the world. The unfolding economic catastrophe in China, Europe and other nations will not only affect our economy but our national security, as financial instability potentially leads to strife overseas.

Moreover, when the current crisis subsides, Obama still faces a tsunami of red ink mounting just over the horizon as baby boomers start to draw on Social Security and Medicare. Absent deep and serious reform, these entitlements threaten to bankrupt America.

Taking the wheel of the ship of the most powerful state on earth in this global tempest is a 47-year-old Chicago lawyer and community organizer who has never wielded executive authority. Fortunately, Obama's great gifts include a fierce intelligence, an unflappable demeanor, poise, charisma and an admirable ability to work well with others, even those who don't share his views.

Obama has riled some of his fellow liberals with his moves toward the center, but we find his emphasis of pragmatism over ideology to be refreshing and confidence-inspiring. This extraordinary crisis moment demands strong, bold policy leadership, but it also requires putting naked partisanship aside for the sake of political consensus-building.

Though the first two years of his term will almost certainly be dominated by the economy, Obama faces critical foreign policy challenges. He will have to manage America's slow withdrawal from Iraq and its steady increase of commitment to Afghanistan. The prospect that nuclear-armed Pakistan could fall apart under Islamist militia assault and that Mexico's escalating drug wars could lead to a failed state on our southern border will command much of his atten-

tion. Obama also will have to manage America's critical relationship with China, as well as strengthen frayed ties with European allies, re-engage Russia and work toward settling the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Dealing with any one of those challenges would be a full-time job. The new president has to manage them all. It is a Herculean task, and he cannot do it alone.

The new administration will need the help of Congress and the American people.

This is no ordinary time in the history of our democracy, and none of us can afford to behave like ordinary people. Every patriot must wish for the new president to succeed. These wintry days are gloomy indeed, but the dawn of the Barack Obama era brings with it the light of hope. Not false optimism, but rather the assurance that though we must walk through a dark valley for a time, if we keep our eyes on the mountaintop, we can make it through, together.

"Trouble is in the land; confusion all around," the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. said in 1968. "But I know, somehow, that only when it is dark enough can you see the stars."

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PAMPA POLICE DEPARTMENT WARRANT LIST

The following people had outstanding fines and warrants with the City of Pampa as of January 10, 2009.

If you have paid your fine since January 10, your name may still appear due to the time spent on preparing the list for print. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience.

In order to null the warrant with Pampa Municipal Court and Pampa Police Department and Gray County, appear in person at the Municipal Court in Pampa Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or mail payment to Pampa Municipal Court, P.O. Box 2499, Pampa TX 79066. If sending payment, no personal checks or accepted. Pay in person, mail with cash or money order. Call 806-669-5785 to pay by Discover, MasterCard or Visa. The court has reported those with warrants to DPS for non-renewal of your driver's license.

Pay fines now to avoid going to jail. Warning-if mailing payment, the warrant(s) will remain active and you remain subject to arrest until payment is received and posted by the appropriate court. Call to confirm payment.

The final portion of the list will run in the Saturday, January 24 edition.

- M**
- Macias, Jose A - 7/09/1981
 - Maddox Martin, Kristi Gayle - 1/24/1976
 - Maddox, Kendra Seeman - 3/22/1950
 - Madrid, Jesus - 12/25/1973
 - Madron, Steven Ray - 8/23/1989
 - Magallanes, Jose A - 6/30/1981
 - Mahan, Jeffery Lee - 5/15/1971
 - Maldonado, Aaron - 4/24/1980
 - Marcos, Benito Vallejo - 9/12/1983
 - Marez, Jennifer Michelle - 2/24/1975
 - Mariscal, Julio - 5/07/1975
 - Marquez, Guadalupe - 1/08/1988
 - Marquez, Guillermo Jr - 8/11/1981
 - Marquez, Luis Carlos - 11/08/1973
 - Marquez-Ramos, Marcelino - 11/08/1977
 - Marrero, Luis Alberto - 11/16/1981
 - Martin, Danny Lee - 5/27/1959
 - Martin, Howard Othello Jr - 8/12/1968
 - Martin, Kathy Renea J - 8/07/1968
 - Martin, Kile Eugene - 7/24/1986
 - Martin, William Carlton - 12/17/1963
 - Martinez, Aldo Abraham - 7/22/1986
 - Martinez, Arturo - 11/17/1966
 - Martinez, Cindy Nell - 11/04/1965
 - Martinez, George Luis - 7/12/1954
 - Martinez, Jose Luis - 3/09/1971
 - Martinez, Juan Lupe - 2/14/1983
 - Martinez, Lucia Daniela - 8/07/1988
 - Martinez, Mark Edmond - 5/12/1971
 - Martinez, Mona - 2/23/1976
 - Martinez, Paula Ann - 7/08/1982
 - Martinez, Sherry Lynn - 1/31/1972
 - Martinez, Susana - 6/07/1975
 - Martinez, Tiffany Renee - 12/19/1984
 - Mata, Alfonso - 10/11/1965
 - Mata, Angel Andres III - 1/15/1990
 - Mata, Francisco Portillo - 2/13/1957
 - Mata, Pedro - 11/11/1967
 - Mathews, Gerald Orlando - 9/22/1965
 - Mathis, Melvin Jack - 4/02/1953
 - Matonte, Refel - 12/28/1978
 - Matthysse, Joseph Christian - 9/15/1988
 - Mattiza, Justin Barry - 5/02/1979

- Mccarthy, Austin Chase - 9/15/1986
- Mccolm, Tony R - 8/23/1952
- Mccormick, Christopher D - 6/29/1977
- Mccooy, Eunice Marie - 6/20/1962
- Mccooy, Zachary Ryan - 5/12/1985
- Mcduffie, Phillip Brandon - 7/13/1977
- Mcelroy, Tannys W - 2/08/1966
- Mcgee, Cloteal Pamela - 10/02/1965
- Mcgee, Melissa Ann - 12/18/1961
- Mckinley, Sue - 9/19/1967
- Mckissick, Brady Shane - 6/27/1987
- Mcknight, William Carl - 3/05/1952
- McLemore, Jason Oneal - 12/05/1972
- McLennan, Dierre Lionel - 7/25/1979
- Mcmahon, Leo Francis - 9/10/1957
- Mcmeekan, David Daniel - 12/08/1981
- Mcneal, Johna Martee - 7/12/1972
- Mcneil, Daryl Lamonica - 12/19/1970
- Mcnelly, Buddy Jay - 7/21/1985
- Mcswain, Jason Cole - 4/16/1972
- Medina-Pimentel, Jose - 11/12/1980
- Medina-Pimentel, Luis - 1/19/1982
- Meek, Ulysses Roy - 10/18/1966
- Meeks, Cynthia Ann - 7/13/1959
- Mehaffey, Gary Martin - 5/21/1960
- Mejia, Jesus - 11/15/1989
- Mejia, Jesus Gallardo - 1/14/1976
- Meja, Ricardo - 11/25/1985
- Mendez, Frank Jr - 6/08/1973
- Mendoza, Elias Joe - 12/05/1962
- Mendoza, Erik - 12/20/1973
- Mendoza, Francisco Orega - 3/01/1959
- Mendoza, Luis - 9/12/1979
- Mendoza, Maira Garcia - 9/28/1983
- Mendoza, Roberto - 8/15/1969
- Menefield, Billy Don - 6/07/1965
- Menefield, Randel Allen - 12/11/1958
- Merrifield, David Aaron - 12/09/1964
- Mestas, Steven S - 4/10/1975
- Meza, Nefi - 9/21/1982
- Miles, Charles Lee - 5/17/1985
- Miller, Bennie - 8/16/1954
- Miller, Broadey Lee - 11/26/1990
- Miller, Christopher Glenn - 5/15/1970
- Miller, Lisa Marie - 8/06/1981
- Miller/Hink, Marcy Dawn - 8/08/1969
- Minyard, Donna Lynn - 9/24/1951
- Mitchell, Melanie Annette - 9/09/1972
- Mitchell, Royce Boyd - 1/02/1960
- Mize, Danasty Dawn - 7/25/1985
- Moble, Barry Lee - 11/28/1972
- Mojica, Eric Shawn - 8/28/1980
- Moman, Misty Diane - 12/23/1983
- Montes, Saul Manuel - 12/28/1983
- Montes-Martinez, Julian - 2/16/1955
- Montoya, Pedro Venegas - 1/22/1976
- Moore, Angela Elizabeth - 2/09/1963
- Moore, James W - 4/05/1933
- Moore, Mike - 8/01/1958
- Moore, Sam - 5/07/1975
- Moore, Terry Bob - 3/11/1949
- Mora, Gabriel Jr - 2/07/1981
- Morales, Griselda Rangel - 1/08/1971
- Morales, Salomon Cordova - 7/18/1964
- Moreno, Amparo - N/A
- Morgan, Alicia Yvette - 10/25/1983
- Morgan, Wanda Ann - 10/16/1938
- Morris, Joseph III - 3/24/1966
- Morris, Sammy Jay -

- 3/03/1960
- Moss, Angie Renae - 6/16/1987
- Moss, Melodie Alisa - 5/17/1980
- Motonoto, Raphiel - 12/28/1978
- Moya, Regino Michael - 9/07/1968
- Mulanax, Sonia Patricia - 8/27/1965
- Mundell, Donald Mark - 3/12/1970
- Munoz, Abel Arthur - 8/09/1981
- Munoz, Homero - 7/10/1982
- Munsell, Will - 12/05/1979
- Muro, Jose Inez Sosa - 4/20/1975
- Murphy, Pamela Ann - 7/11/1985
- Murrah, Kailey Renae - 6/14/1989
- Murray, Howard Kirwin - 6/28/1967
- Murray, Shane Newton - 7/30/1974
- Murrill, James Willard - 7/20/1933
- Music, Deeanna Louise - 8/04/1972
- Music, Delbert Dwayne - 1/18/1986
- Myers, Bryan Louall - 9/30/1958

- N**
- Nanez, Refugio Sirto - 4/06/1954
 - Nash, Melissa Ann - 2/22/1966
 - Nation, Jayme Lynne - 8/19/1975
 - Nava, Nancy Saldierna - 5/05/1971
 - Nebbs, Marline Murry - 1/11/1964
 - Neighbors, John Scott - 7/08/1971
 - Netters, Tristan - 12/18/1982
 - Nichols, Martha Rena - 1/23/1984
 - Nichols, Pattric Jackson - 12/30/1984
 - Nickleberry, Michael Duane - 12/18/1966
 - Nicodemus, Earl F - 11/29/1941
 - Nino, Noe - 6/29/1955
 - Noel, Billie Christine - 3/08/1967
 - Norris, Cynthia Dee - 9/04/1960
 - Nunes, Debora A - 9/13/1961
 - Nunley, Sherry Lee - 10/12/1971
 - Nunn, Bobbie Pairsh Reid - 8/05/1970

- O**
- Ochoa, Gorge - 5/09/1988
 - Ochoa-Marquez, Agustin David - 7/29/1974
 - Oliva, Enrique J - 1/03/1976
 - Olivas, Alejandra - 8/04/1986
 - Olivas, Everett Lee - 5/10/1986
 - Olva, Kenneth D - 5/09/1969
 - Olvera, Cindy Beatrice - 7/29/1988
 - Orona, Anthony - 8/19/1988
 - Otega, Amparo Moreno - 11/23/1960
 - Ortiz, Arturo E - 5/09/1975
 - Ortiz, Josue Eduardo - 3/10/1989
 - Ott, Milo Macarthur - 7/28/1942
 - Overland, Jody Robert -

- 6/02/1959
- Oviedo, Homan - 1/02/1985

- Owens, Don - 10/05/1942
- Ozuna, Lee - 11/20/1976

- Ozzello, Liciano Joseph - 3/31/1975



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My heart is broken. I don't know how to fix it, and sometimes I want to kill myself. I'm in love with my children's father and he knows it. "Brad" comes over to have sex with me, but we're not together. He tells me he's single, but I know he's with someone else. I want him to be honest -- give me that much respect -- because I have two kids by him.

Brad is the only person I'm having sex with. I told him I'm getting too old to play games. I'm trying to get on with my life, but still we have sex.

When do I say enough is enough? I tell Brad I need to drop the kids off, and he tells me no. But I need some alone time, too. If I had known our relationship would turn out like this, I would never have gotten involved with him. I love him with all my heart. Please tell me what to do. -- HEARTSICK IN KANSAS

DEAR HEARTSICK: For the sake of your mental health and for your children's future, wake up and realize that you are not "in love" with Brad. You're in love with the fantasy of who you would LIKE him to be.

The person you have described is immature, a liar and so selfish he doesn't care who is hurt by his behavior -- not you and not his children. He will never change. Allowing this man in your life is fruitless, and you will not become stronger until you finally accept that fact.

If you haven't already done so, contact the social services department in your state to ensure that Brad contributes something to the children's care. If you need alone time, trade favors with another single mother or a trusted friend or family member. But please, do not continue on the path you're on because it's leading you nowhere.

DEAR ABBY: Help me decide -- should I stay or should I go? My companion, "Ted," and I have known each other for more than two years and have lived together for a year. We have a good relationship and enjoy many of the same things. He pays all the bills, and if we go anywhere, he pays for our trip.

Friends keep asking when Ted and I are going to get married. He is 78 and I am 61. I would like to be married, but Ted says "never," he's "too old to get married."

He was married to his late wife for 45 years. I have been married three times. My last two husbands died, so I understand loss. Ted says he now wants only a girlfriend.

Our family members get along well. One of his children even asked me when we're tying the knot. Abby, is there really an age when it's too old to marry? -- YOUNG AT HEART IN FLORIDA

DEAR YOUNG AT HEART: No, couples older than you and Ted have married. What your companion is telling you is that HE doesn't want to make that kind of commitment again. If a live-in relationship with Ted is something you enjoy and his paying the travel expenses is enough, then stay. However, if a lifetime commitment is what you're really looking for, then you'll have to look elsewhere.

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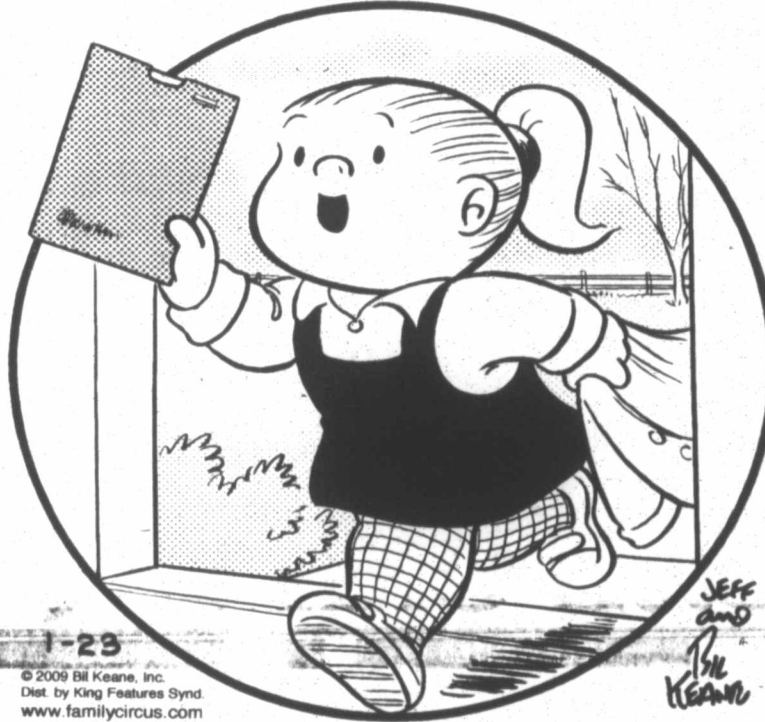
Marmaduke



"Out there, somewhere, is the book the library says is overdue."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"Who wants to admire my report card?"

Daily Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 46 Nymph chaser
 - 1 Butler's portrayer
 - 6 Dangerous gas
 - 11 Skirt
 - 12 Bouquet
 - 13 Purple shade
 - 14 Like some situations
 - 15 Gambling mecca
 - 17 Golden Rule word
 - 18 Collars
 - 20 Lucy's co-star
 - 22 Wall St. debut
 - 23 Payback
 - 26 Realty listing
 - 28 Trimmed
 - 29 Letter after delta
 - 31 Mrs., in Madrid
 - 32 Narrated
 - 33 Snifter part
 - 34 Painter Chagall
 - 36 Costly
 - 38 Staggering
 - 40 Stab
 - 43 Singer Della
 - 44 1993 NBA Rookie of the Year
 - 45 Unable to eat another bite
- DOWN**
- 1 Whale group
 - 2 One of Frank's wives
 - 3 French Quarter site
 - 4 Biographies'
 - 5 First place
 - 6 Operated
 - 7 Woke
 - 8 London site
 - 9 Leave out
 - 10 Billionth: Pref.
 - 16 Poem type
 - 18 Pleasant
 - 19 Each
 - 21 Tied up
 - 23 Dice turn
 - 24 "Power" player
 - 25 Dutch export
 - 27 Bishop's realm
 - 30 Peculiar
 - 33 Hot spot
 - 34 Earth's neighbor
 - 35 Neighborhood
 - 37 Swelled heads
 - 39 Was ahead
 - 41 Utter
 - 42 Camera type

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Yesterday's answer

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1-23

For Better Or Worse



Zits



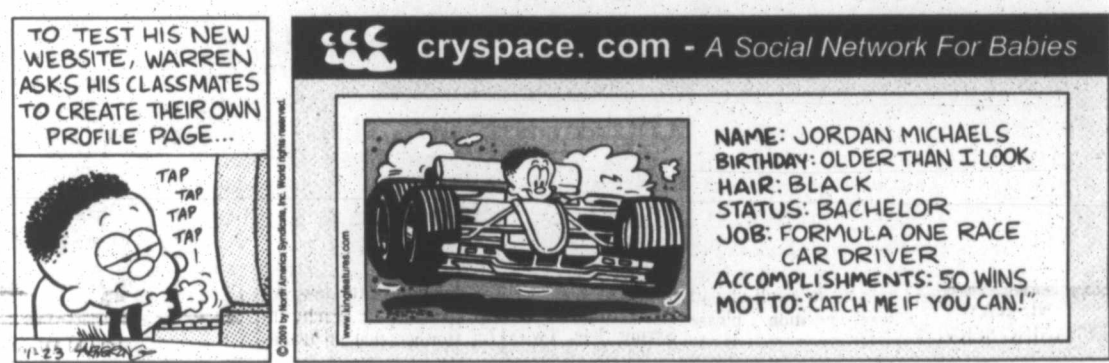
Garfield



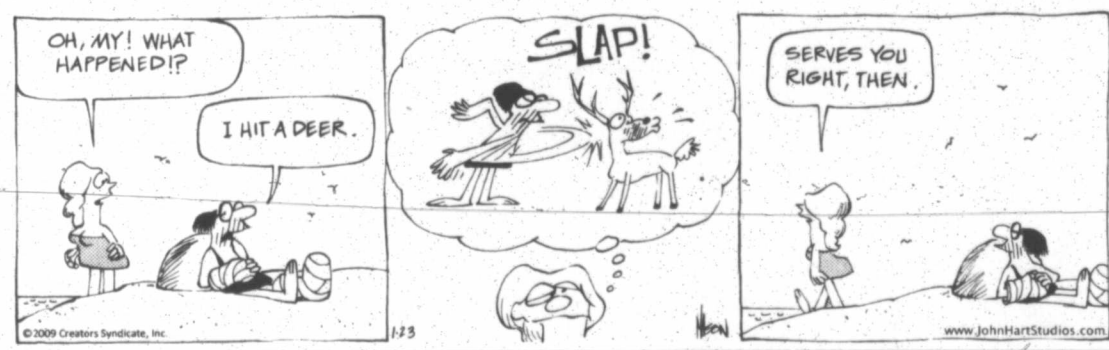
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



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Praise & Worship

Are you too busy?

By: Annette Bridges

I often suffer from self-imposed tunnel vision. This means my visual field and focus becomes severely constricted. In fact, I've had friends walking toward me who practically had to tackle me to get my attention.

A forwarded email has given me reason to reevaluate the pace of my life. Apparently, The Washington Post conducted a social experiment that won them a Pulitzer for a story published in April 2007.

The feature told about a cold January morning when a man sat at a metro station in Washington, DC and played the violin. He played six Bach pieces for 45 minutes. Of the thousands of people who saw and heard this man, only six stopped and stayed for awhile, and about 20 gave him money as they continued to walk their normal pace. The one who paid the most attention was a three-year-old child. But his mom soon forced him to move along. He did this reluctantly, turning his head back as he walked in order to see the violinist. It seems several other children also repeated this action.

It turns out the man playing incognito was violin virtuoso Joshua Bell. The concluding question of the email was: "If we do not have a moment to stop and listen to one of the best musicians in the world playing the best music ever written, how many other things are we missing?"

When I finished reading the email, I was immediately reminded of the country song by Alabama titled, "I'm in a hurry (And don't know why)." And I must admit I usually don't know why.

My husband suggested that perhaps many of the people were on their way to work and maybe even running late so they couldn't have stopped to listen to the violinist even if they had wanted to. And I suppose this might have been the case.

But are there times when we should "stop to hear the music"? Must our obligations and responsibilities keep us from taking time to appreciate what's happening around us? Should we ever be so busy that we're unavailable to our friends and family, unable to find the time for a sunset or a single mindful breath?

I suspect many of us would concur that most days we are booked solid with little or no time to rest. I came across a study a while back that said during the last 25 years American's leisure time had declined by 37 percent and our work week had increased by a full day. The result has caused many Americans to complain about feeling depleted, stressed, frustrated and pulled in every direction.

And in January 2007 in Washington, DC, thousands were so busy or in such a hurry they missed a free opportunity to hear music that two days before people in Boston paid an average of \$100 to hear.

I just don't want to be that busy anymore. My new priority is to experience life more fully. I want to grasp each moment of my day. I want to take time to look around me and give my full attention to those I'm with. I want to eat slower and take more walks. I want more time to simply be quiet, to reflect, to ponder, to pray.

And I want to give more time to having fun! How often do you not act on an urge to do something fun because you believe you are so busy that you don't have time?

No more of that for me, my friends! I plan to hear more music in 2009! And I hope you do, too!

Annette Bridges is a freelance writer who lives on a north Texas ranch with her husband, John. For the past 28 years, she has been a student of Christian Science, the method of healing explained in Mary Baker Eddy's book, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures." Visit her website and participate in her blog at AnnetteBridges.com and send her an email at annettebridges@gmail.com. © copyright 2009 by Annette Bridges.

ONGOING EVENTS

CHAPEL BUILDERS. Jordan Chapel Builders holds its board meetings at 7 p.m. the second Monday of each month at Zion Lutheran Church of Pampa. The group presides over an ongoing effort to build a chapel at the Jordan prison unit. Meetings are open to the public.

FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN COWBOYS. The Fellowship of Christian Cowboys potluck will meet on the fourth Saturday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Clyde Carruth Pavilion. For more information, contact Jim Greene at 665-8067 and Bill Kidwell at 669-6347. For memorials or donations write Fellowship of Christian Cowboys, P.O. Box 91, Pampa, TX 79065.

GOSPEL SINGING. First Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock, hosts a Gospel Singing from 2-4 p.m. every second Sunday of the month. Pastor Albert Maggard and the congregation of First Pentecostal cordially invites the public to attend. Singers and musicians from area churches participate in this informal congregational singing and enjoy various special vocal and instrumental presentations.

HIGHLAND BAPTIST. Highland Baptist Church, 1301 N. Banks, will host prayer time from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., each Thursday with a special time of prayer from 12:15-12:30 p.m. For more information, contact the church office at 669-6509.

PRISON MINISTRY. The Pampa Prison Ministry meets the first Tuesday of every month at Central Baptist Church located at Francis and Starkweather at 7 p.m. sharp. For further information, call J.B. Walker at 669-2266.

RCIA. St. Vincent de Paul Catholic

Church hosts Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) beginning at 7:15 p.m., Wednesdays at 2004 Williston. For more information, call Aloise Martin at 883-4901 or Peggy Rodriguez at 669-2683.

ST. MARK. St. Mark will host a monthly breakfast the first Saturday of every month from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Donations will be accepted.

HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL. First Presbyterian Church, 525 N. Gray, is currently accepting aluminum cans for recycling. Proceeds will benefit Heifer Project International, an Arkansas-based service organization which provides livestock (chickens, pigs, sheep, cattle) along with training and support services to families and communities worldwide. HPI is a non-denominational not-for-profit agency. For more information, call the church office at 665-1031. Office hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-12 noon, Friday and before 10:45 a.m. Sunday. For more information about HPI, call 1-800-422-0474 or visit <http://www.heifer.org> on the Internet.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST. Macedonia Baptist Church, 441 Elm, will hold daily prayer services at 7:30 a.m., 12 noon and 6 p.m. for the citizens of Pampa — churches, schools, etc. The prayer services are open to everyone. For more information, call 665-4926.

Moms in Touch Informational will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, January 27, at 2310 Chestnut Drive. Moms in Touch International is a world-wide interdenominational ministry of mothers praying for their children and schools. For more information call Christy Reeves, 669-6311.

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