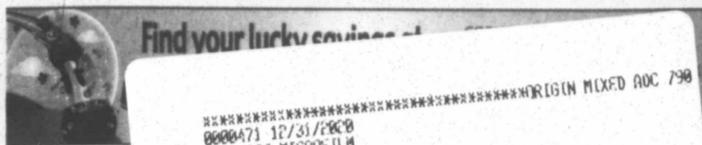


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Volume 104 • No. 287      Weekend Edition      Saturday and Sunday, March 14-15, 2009      50¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

## Lessons learned, systems upgraded since massive wild fires of 2006

by David Bowser  
 dbowser@thepampanews

No matter how well prepared a fire department is, local firefighters agree, it's never enough.

That was one of the lessons learned three years ago as wildfires whipped across the Texas Panhandle, burning almost a million acres and killing 12 people, including one firefighter.

Gray County Emergency Coordinator Joe Millican said that lessons learned during the massive wildfires that swept across Hutchinson, Carson, Gray and Roberts Counties, threatening Skellytown, Pampa, Lefors, Alanreed, McLean and Miami, are still being put into practice.

Next week, the county will begin making letters and numbers to post on the tops of county vehicles so they can be identified by aircraft above a fire scene and directed more efficiently.

Much of the old fire fighting equipment in the area that had been damaged or lost during the wildfires has been replaced and upgraded.

*"Chief, you don't understand, there's fire as far as we can see."*

— firefighter on booster truck when directed to get ahead of the fire.

Most importantly, Millican said, the communications equipment has been improved.

He said the communications systems now still aren't perfect, but they're much better than what they were.

"We all worked on communications, radio communications and secondary phone communications," Millican said.

He said that operations and accountability in keeping up with the firefighters has improved.

"Not only can we keep up with the fire-



Firefighters from Hoover Volunteer Fire Department douse flames along a canyon ridge north of Pampa March 13, 2006.

fighters now," Millican said, "now we can keep up with county employees or anybody else that comes in to help. Our accountability system is a whole lot better."

While the equipment replacements and upgrades from funding through state and federal sources took time, the management strategies began to be developed quickly.

"There were a few lessons learned," Millican said. "The state says it's coming from Katrina, but up here in the panhandle we know where these thoughts are coming from. It may come from us and go to Austin and come back, but we know where a lot of this is coming from."

"Those days are pretty well embedded

**Fires— cont. on page 3**

### FAMILY SETS UP TRAINING FUND

The children of a Borger grandmother who lost her life trying to save her elderly neighbors during the 2006 wildfires established a scholarship fund this week for grants to fire and rescue personnel in the Texas Panhandle for training.

The Kathy Ryan Rural Fire and Rescue Endowment was announced Thursday afternoon in Amarillo by Kathy Ryan's daughters, Pam Ayers and Tonya Griffin and son Donald Ryan.

As two devastating wildfires swept across the panhandle destroying almost a million acres of grass,

**Fund— cont. on page 3**



A windmill is silhouetted against raging grass fire that eventually burned across several hundred thousand acres in the Texas Panhandle in this March 12, 2006 file photo. The spike in the flames indicates that the wildfire is hot enough and big enough to generate its own winds.

### Texas cattle losses approach \$1 bil

By BETSY BLANEY LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — Agriculture officials said Friday that ranchers in the nation's largest cattle-producing state have already lost nearly \$1 billion because of Texas' ongoing drought.

Officials said cattle raisers have lost \$829 million since last summer, \$569 million of that since

November. Recent rains across much of the state, though welcome, came too late. Ranchers have spent substantial money on hay, supplemental feed and the cost of trucking in additional hay. The drought losses also include failed wheat crops usually used for grazing.

All of Texas is in some

stage of drought for the second straight week, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor map released Thursday.

Worst hit is Central Texas and the Hill Country, where exceptional drought, the most severe designation, has persisted for months and is the driest

**Loss— cont. on page 3**

What do these people have in common?  
 Our readers think they are "The Best."  
 See Pages 1B-5B

### County meets Monday

The county jail, the airport and drag racing are on the agenda for the Gray County Commissioners Court Monday morning.

The county commission will consider going out for bids to cut hay at Perry Lefors Airport when they meet Monday morning. They will also consider bids for an old Ford tractor at the airport. In addition, they will discuss allowing drag races at the airport as part of June 14, Burnin' the Bricks celebration.

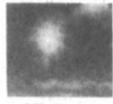
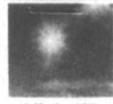
The commission will also consider contracting with Justice Benefits, Inc., concerning federal funding for housing illegal aliens in the Gray County Jail.

They will consider a contract with Carrier for heating and air conditioning maintenance services for the courthouse and jail.

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**PAMPA FORECAST**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
		
High 71 Low 38	High 75 Low 41	High 78 Low 42

**Tonight:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 38. South wind between 10 and 15 mph.  
**Sunday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 71. Wind chill values between 30 and 40 early. South southwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.  
**Sunday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 38. Southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.  
**Monday:** Sunny, with a high near 75. West southwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.  
**Monday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 41. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.  
**Tuesday:** Sunny, with a high near 78. West southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.  
**Tuesday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 42. North northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

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**Obituaries**

**Lupe Martinez, 67**

Pampa— Lupe Martinez, 67, died March 12, 2009, in Amarillo, Texas.

Vigil services will be at 4:00 PM Monday, March 16, 2009, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel, and funeral mass will be at 10:00 AM Tuesday, March 17, 2009, at St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church, with Rev. Joseph Ravi, associate pastor, officiating.

Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Martinez was born January 22, 1942 in El Paso, and she was a lifelong resident of Pampa. She married Jesse D. Martinez on February 27, 1962 in Pampa. Lupe worked for the Pampa Country Club for over 15 years before retiring in 2001. She was a member of St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church. She loved reading and spending time with her family.

Survivors include her husband, Jesse D. Martinez of the home, two sons; Larry Martinez and wife Cindy of Wichita Falls, and Bobby Martinez and wife Caryn of Amarillo, one daughter, Lisa Wilson and husband Joe of Pampa, five brothers; John Garza of



Martinez

Graham, Gilbert Garza and wife Beth, and Ruben Garza, all of Comanche, Oklahoma, and Mike Garza and Leon Garza, both of Duncan, Oklahoma, four sisters; Isabel Rodriguez and husband Luis of Bakersfield, California, Mary Ochoa and husband Ben of Abilene, Mary Estella Henry and husband Curtis of Pampa, and Gloria Garza of Austin, seven grandchildren; Macy Martinez and Hunter Martinez, both of Wichita Falls, Parker Martinez and Faith Martinez, both of Amarillo, Jessica Shelton and Lauren Cortez, both of Pampa, and Joe Wilson, Jr., of Virginia, two great-grandsons; Alec Cortez and Maxwell Neff, both of Pampa.

**MEMORIALS:** St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church, 810 W. 23rd, Pampa, Texas 79065.

Sign the on-line register at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com)

**Workers who smuggle goods rarely punished**

AUSTIN (AP) — Guards and correction employees who have smuggled prohibited and illicit goods into prisons rarely face harsh punishment when caught, a Houston Chronicle review found.

Between 2003 and 2008, records show that almost 300 employees — many lowly paid correctional officers — were reprimanded for possessing prohibited items at 20 prison units with the most pervasive contraband problems.

Of the 263 employees disciplined only for contraband, about 75 percent were given probation. There were 35 fired and 26 who got no punishment. Contraband trafficking got national attention last fall when a death row inmate used a smuggled cell phone to threaten a law-maker.

**For the record**

**Obituaries**

**Miguel Angel Villegas, 24**

Pampa— Miguel Angel Villegas, 24, died March 12, 2009, in Amarillo, Texas.

Vigil and rosary will be held at 5 p.m. Sunday, March 15, 2009, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel, and funeral mass will be held at 10:00 AM Monday, March 16, 2009, at St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church, with Rev. Joseph Ravi, associate pastor, officiating.

Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Villegas was born

August 9, 1984 in Los Angeles, California. He had been a resident of Pampa for the past 16 years, graduating from Pampa High School in 2002. He married Jessica Silva on February 27, 2007 in Pampa. Miguel worked as a floor hand for Unit Drilling. He was a loving husband, father, son and brother. He was a Catholic. His contagious laugh and smile will be greatly missed.

Survivors include his wife, Jessica Villegas, and their unborn son, Miguel Angel Villegas, Jr., of the home, his son, Xavier Ortega of the home, par-

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Villegas

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ents; Jesus and Eulogia Villegas of Pampa, two sisters; Maria Hernandez and husband Carlos, and Lupita Vallez and husband Cesar, all of Pampa, three brothers; Jesus Villegas, Jr., and wife Rosalinda, Armando Villegas and wife Lacey, and Daniel Villegas, all of Pampa, several nieces and nephews, special friends; Adam Slater, Thomas Roby and David Sigala, all of Pampa.

**MEMORIALS:** to a favorite charity.

**Mildred Rhoten, 90**

White Deer— Mildred Rhoten, 90, died March 10, 2009, in Bakersfield, California.

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 17, 2009, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel in Pampa, with Rev. Thacker Haynes, pastor of the United Methodist Church of McLean, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Rhoten was born

October 11, 1918 in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, to Louis and Marie Robinson and was reared in Turley, Oklahoma. She moved to Pampa where she married Rhuie Rhoten on August 27, 1940 in Pampa. He preceded her in death in 1993. She moved to McLean in 1960 and then to White Deer in 1982. She moved to Bakersfield, California in 2003 to be closer to her daughter. Mildred was a devout Christian. She was a bookkeeper and a home-maker.

Survivors include two daughters; Joyce Killough and husband H. M. of White Deer, and Judie Canard and husband Greg of Bakersfield, California, 14 grandchildren, numerous great and great-great grandchildren. Mildred was preceded in death by a daughter; Sherry Kay Hancock and two sons; Leo Dean Rhoten and

Tommy Rhoten.

Sign the on-line register at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com)

**Cash Five Texas**

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

Winning numbers drawn: 12-7-27-31-36.  
 Number matching five of five: 2. Prize: \$13,727  
 Winning tickets purchased in: Killeen, Harlingen  
 Matching four of five: 68. Prize: \$182  
 Matching three of five: 2,769. Prize: \$10  
 Matching two of five: 27,993. Prize: \$2  
 Next Cash 5 drawing: Saturday night.

**Hunter busted for bolting antlers on doe**

BURLINGTON, Vt. (AP) — A man who bolted antlers to the head of a dead doe and posed for a photograph with the deer was fined \$400 and jailed for game violations.

Marcel Fournier, 19, shot the deer the evening of Nov. 22 and used lag bolts and epoxy to attach a 10-point rack, officials said. He then checked in the kill as lawful game at Bernie's Market.

It's illegal to kill an antlerless deer, and it's also illegal to hunt at night.

The Concord resident admitted to the killing and led a game warden to the deer's remains after an anonymous caller alerted authorities. Fournier said he had "quite a time" drilling and fastening the antlers, authorities said.

The family of Mrs. Mildred Laycock would like to thank each & every one for the cards, flowers, & words of encouragement during the loss of our loved one.  
 Dr. Laycock & Family

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## Lessons learned

Fires— cont. from page 1

in my memory," said Deputy Chief Randy Dunham with the Pampa Fire Department.

The city's firefighters started off that morning with a structure fire in town.

"The grass fire started right after that," Dunham said. "It was one of those things that just escalated very quickly. It was really bad, really fast."

That morning, it was Sunday morning, March 12, the Hoover Fire Department got paged out about 10 a.m. to go assist Pampa because we had a wind driven fire in the city," Millican said. "It was jumping from house to house."

Hoover rolled an engine and a tanker to deal with that.

"Just as we got to that scene and started putting out a few hot spots around the houses," Millican said, "we got paged to the I-40 fire."

Half of Hoover's force headed south to deal with that.

"That was around 11 a.m.," Millican said.

Pampa released Hoover about that time and within the hour had been dis-

patched toward Skellytown where the Borger fire blew eastward.

"I had my troops divided up between the I-40 fire and the Borger fire," he said.

The Pampa Fire Department mobilized and called in their off-duty personnel, sending firefighting units to both the Borger fire that was headed for Skellytown and that eventually burned its way around the north side of Pampa and on into Roberts and Hemphill Counties and the Interstate 40 fire near Groom that would eventually threaten McLean.

One of the things that sticks in Dunham's mind is talking to a fire truck on the line north of Pampa that first day.

"Just at the beginning of the fires," Dunham said, "I was talking to one of our booster trucks."

Dunham told the crew to get to the head of the fire, which is a standard procedure.

"His response was 'Chief, you don't understand,'" Dunham said. "There's fire as far as we can see."

That was the first realiza-

tion as to the magnitude of the situation.

"I paused and said, 'Just do the best that you can,'" he said.

The next day, the Texas Forest Service brought in 'belly dumpers,' aircraft that could bomb the flames with fire retardant material.

"I was on the second story of the fire house, and I could see them flying over to the north," Dunham said. "That was probably the best sight I've seen in my life. I knew they could get to places that we couldn't and do a lot of good."

Dunham said Pampa was fortunate that no one from the department was injured during the fire.

Lefors lost a truck to the fire.

A firefighter from Howardwick was killed when the truck he was in rolled off an embankment in the heavy smoke along I-40.

Four oilfield workers were stranded and killed by the fire in Roberts County.

Four people were killed in a seven-car pile up on I-40 when heavy smoke obscured the highway near

Groom. Three died near Borger as the blaze spread eastward.

Much of the rest of the firefighting equipment was punished from traveling over rough ground.

Dunham was at the Emergency Operations Center for some 72 hours straight.

Millican, chief of the Hoover Volunteer Fire Department then, was at the department's barn on Price Road, juggling cell phones and landlines.

"What sticks in my mind," Millican said, "is the magnitude of how large and how fast it was all happening."

"We had a lot of mutual aid from all the surrounding communities," Dunham said. "By the next day, we had departments from as far away as South Dakota."

"Firefighters came from everywhere to help," Millican said.

Millican said one of the things that he remembers is the amount of support

from the citizens of Pampa and Gray County that firefighters got.

"There was a lot of stuff offered and a lot of stuff done that the private citizens didn't have to do," Millican said, "but they felt like they wanted to do something."

He said they came to help, offering trucks and shovels and heavy equipment. They also showed up at staging areas with sandwiches and food.

"That was kind of overwhelming," Millican said.

At one time there were some 22 volunteer fire departments involved.

"Friday morning,"

Millican said, "the Borger fire ended up outside of Canadian. We were on it until Friday morning. That's when we had the snowstorm come in."

In front of the snowstorm, Millican said there was a thunderstorm that moved through the area.

"We were out that Friday morning," he said, "fighting fires here in Gray County caused by lightning strikes on grass that hadn't been burned yet."

It snowed most of the day Friday.

"That pretty well killed every fire," he said.



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## Training fund

Fires— cont. from page 1

homes, buildings and vehicles went up in flames. Twelve people were killed, including a volunteer fireman from Howardwick.

One of those who died in

the fires was Kathy Ryan, who after saving some of her neighbors went back to help others on that fateful Sunday, March 12, 2006.

The Amarillo Area Foundation will manage

and administer the endowment. Donations to it can be made to the Amarillo Area Foundation, 801 S. Fillmore, Suite 700, Amarillo, Texas 79101.

## Cattle loss could top \$1 billion

Loss— cont. from page 1

area in the U.S. Texas just had its driest December-February stretch on record.

More than 60 percent of the state's beef cows are in

counties with severe to exceptional drought — the three worst stages.

In 2006, drought-related crop and livestock losses were the state's worst for a

single year, totaling \$4.1 billion.

The effects of the drought on livestock aren't short-term, Anderson said.



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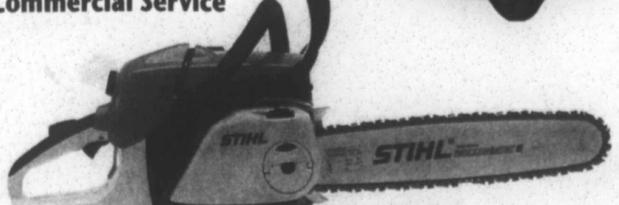
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**SESSION 1 9:00-9:55**

- A. Do you have a Finicky Eater-Is an Eating Disorder on the Horizon?
- B. Grandparents as Parents. Wow...What a Journey!
- C. Ready...Set...Read!
- D. Drugs in Texas Schools...Yes, In Pampa!

**SESSION 2 10:00-10:55**

- A. Newer Street Drugs
- B. You Can Help Save a Life.. Suicide Prevention
- C. Abuso en la Familia (En Español)
- D. Restos de la familia en Nuestros Tiempos (En Español)

**SESSION 3 11:00-11:55**

- A. Earn Your PHD in Parenting
- B. Love Notes
- C. Qué Hacer Cuando Su Nino no Sige las Reglas (En Español Sólomente)
- D. Understanding Generational Differences

**SESSION 4 1:00-1:55**

- A. College Preparation
- B. Listo...Lee!! (En Español)
- C. Tools for Helping Grieving Children
- D. Burnout to Parent Power... Coping with the Stress of Parenting

**SESSION 5 2:00-2:55**

- A. Violence in the Media
- B. Child Abuse, What is it & What Can I Do About It
- C. Having "The Talk" (How to talk to your kids about sex)
- D. Just Cut it Out! (Self-injury/Cutting)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION or to Pre-Register**  
Sabrina East @ 669-4700  
For Spanish call Debbie Doss @ 661-3410

**Registration**  
March 27 from 8:30 - 9:00 a.m.  
8:30 - 8:50 a.m. Coffee and Donuts  
8:50 a.m. Informational Session

Adults Only - Solamente Adultos  
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# Viewpoints

## Today in History

Today is Saturday, March 14, the 73rd day of 2009. There are 292 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1558 - Ferdinand I assumes title of Holy Roman Emperor without being crowned by the Pope.

1689 - Convention Parliament meets in Scotland, and William and Mary are proclaimed King and Queen of England.

1757 - British Admiral John Byng is executed for neglect of duty resulting in loss of Menorca.

1794 - American Eli Whitney receives a patent for the cotton gin.

1840 - Constitution in Rome is promulgated by Pope Pius IX.

1923 - U.S. President Warren Harding becomes the first chief executive to file an income tax report.

1939 - The Republic of Czechoslovakia is dissolved, opening the way for Nazi occupation.

1951 - United Nations forces recapture Seoul during the Korean War.

1964 - A jury in Dallas finds Jack Ruby guilty of murdering Lee Harvey Oswald, the suspected assassin of U.S. President John F. Kennedy, in November 1963.

1965 - Israel's cabinet formally approves establishment of diplomatic relations with West Germany.

*'The most dangerous creation of any society is that man who has nothing to lose.'*

—James Baldwin  
American writer

1987 - At least 12 people are killed in escalated communist insurgency in Philippines with congressional elections almost two months away.

1988 - Iran and Iraq unleash missiles on each other's capitals as so-called "war of the cities" erupts.

1993 - An independent U.N.-sponsored commission releases a report blaming the bulk of atrocities committed during El Salvador's civil war on the country's military.

1995 - Astronaut Norman Thagard becomes the first American to enter space aboard a Russian rocket as he and two cosmonauts blast off aboard a Soyuz spacecraft, headed for the Mir space station.

1998 - India's Congress party appoints as its president Sonia Gandhi, the Italian-born widow of assassinated prime minister Rajiv Gandhi.

1999 - Afghanistan's Taliban Islamic group and opposition factions agree in principle to a create a coalition government and end decades of fighting.

2004 - Brushing off U.S. criticism of a one-sided election campaign, Russian President Vladimir Putin claims victory after voters hand him an expected landslide 71 percent win for a second four-year term.

2008 - Protests by Buddhist monks in Tibet turn violent. Shops and vehicles are set on fire and gunshots are heard in the streets of the capital, Lhasa. The Dalai Lama calls on China to stop using force against protesters.

Today's Birthdays:

Casey Jones, U.S. railroad engineer (1864-1900); Maxim Gorky, Russian novelist (1868-1936); Albert Einstein, German-born physicist (1879-1955); Michael Caine, English actor (1933-); Quincy Jones, U.S. music producer (1933-); Wolfgang Petersen, U.S. director (1941-); Billy Crystal, U.S. actor/comedian (1948-).



Sunshine week March 15-20

## AP CEO Tom Curley on open government effort

By The Associated Press

Tom Curley, president and CEO of The Associated Press, is one of the news media's foremost advocates for open government and freedom of information.

In 2007 and 2008 he earned national awards for his work on First Amendment and open records issues, and this year he received a national citation for journalistic excellence from the William Allen White Foundation.

In question-and-answer form, he discusses the 2009 Sunshine Week initiative spearheaded by media organizations.

Q. Sunshine Week 2009 marks the fifth year of the national effort to initiate a public dialogue in the United States about the people's right to know. What's different, compared to previous years?

A. I'm sure the Sunshine Week brand and the goals and values behind it are becoming familiar to more people than ever. But for me the biggest payback for five years of intense annual open government teamwork is to get us used to working together on these issues. A united front is the only way we hold down our end of the checks and balances that make the system work. Our progress has been significant because so many grasped the threat to democratic processes.

Q. Upon taking office, President Barack Obama rolled back some of the policies instituted by George W. Bush and promised greater openness and accountability. Do you expect the Obama administration to initiate significant changes in the rules of engagement between the military and the media?

A. There are promising signs that make it seem possible, but we can't assume it will happen. Where the military is engaged in combat, everything it does is expected to serve the mission. We've seen the Pentagon devoting enormous resources to developing doctrines

and tactics for turning news reporting in all media into an offensive weapon where possible, or, at least neutralizing any effects of news reporting that are viewed as interfering with the mission. We have to remain ready to evade or challenge such efforts. That's part of our mission. We've reached out to the military and are hopeful we might find important areas of common ground. After all, we both serve the American people.

Q. An Obama administration team has been tasked with the responsibility of writing an "open government" directive that will outline how agencies and departments in the federal government will be more transparent. What concrete idea would you recommend to put teeth into such a directive?

A. Appointing the "chief technology officer" who's supposed to coordinate the writing of that directive would be a good start. But the only thing that will really make all these good intentions effective is a work environment in government in which compliance with open records law carries incentives and rewards for government employees. Right now, even with the good messages coming from the new administration, disclosing information carries only burdens and risks to the agency executive who makes the call on a sensitive request. It still takes courage just to obey the law. That's got to change.

Q. Any movement on calls to Congress to make its records as available to the public as records from the executive branch of government?

A. Not that I'm aware of.

Q: What is the outlook for a federal shield law?

A. The people I talk to say there's a better than even chance a bill will go to the White House this summer. I hope that's true. The legislation as it stands now certainly isn't perfect. I know some in our business are

unhappy with the definition of a journalist, and others are unhappy that government should be allowed to define a journalist at all. And there are more if's, and's, and whereas's than any of us would prefer in the provisions that say when the shield is effective. But on balance, I think it would be an acceptable deal for protection we need.

Q. Sunshine Week's government transparency project this year is enlisting journalists, educators and students, openness advocates and others to develop a snapshot of public records that states make available on their Web sites. Is progress being made in opening up government records without legal recourse on the state level?

A. It varies from state to state. The examples to emulate are states like Connecticut that have commissions or ombudsmen to help citizens use open records laws and in some cases mediate disputes before anybody has to go to court. Last year's federal FOIA amendment established the first step for such assistance at the federal level. It won't be up and running for a while, but it will fill an important gap in the ability of ordinary citizens to get information that should be public but which government resists disclosing.

Q. Does a weak economy hinder or help open government initiatives?

A. It certainly adds to the overall angst, but it doesn't have to hinder. The laws already on the books are powerful levers, and together we advocates of open government can speak loudly in persuading governments to abide by those laws. That costs will and energy, but it doesn't have to cost a lot of money.

Q. Any change expected in the media's traditional role as a watchdog of government activity on behalf of the public?

A. None whatsoever. Media businesses may be changing, but their role stays the same.

## THE PAMPA NEWS

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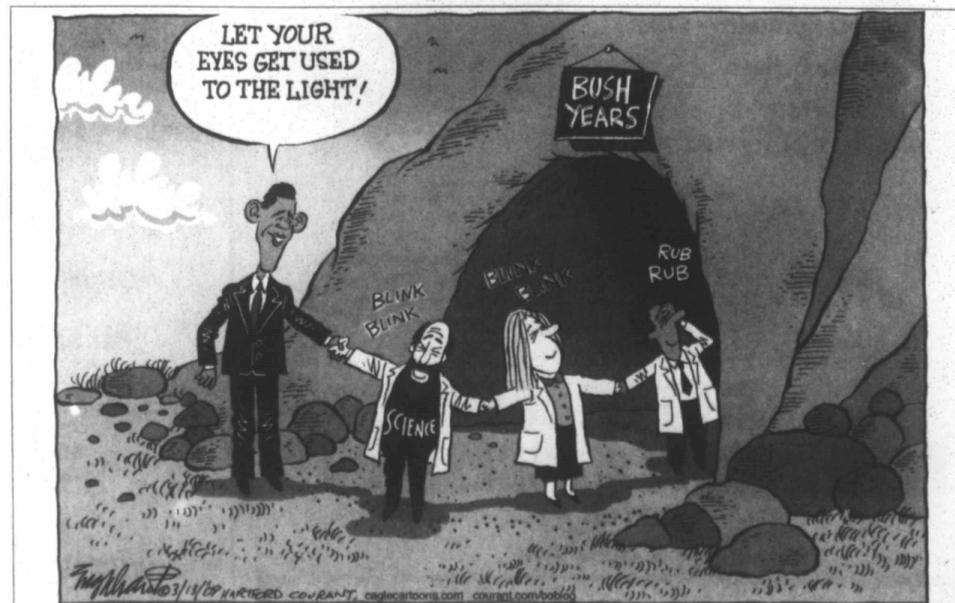
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This newspaper (UPS 781-540) is published daily, except Sundays, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day, by The Pampa News. Periodicals postage, paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198.

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

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# Around town

## Washingtons celebrate 60th anniversary



Emily and Bill Washington will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on March 18, 2009. Bill married the former Emily Lancaster in Pampa on March 18, 1949. Bill was born in Pampa and thinks there is no other place to live and Emily agrees.

Bill retired from Dorchester Corporation in 1983 and Emily retired from Cabot Corporation in 1988. They are active members of the Bible Church of Pampa.

Children of the couple are Sherry and Deon Watson, Tommy, and Tracy Washington of Pampa, and the late Terry Gene Washington. They are the proud grandparents of Michelle Watson, of Amarillo, Ryan Watson of Washington D.C., Angela Washington of Stillwater, Okla., and Camron and Nathan Washington, of Pampa.

## Postcard arrives in Ohio 47 years late

HUDSON, Ohio (AP) — A woman's postcard bearing greetings from Montana has finally arrived in northeastern Ohio — 47 years later.

Insurance agent Dave Conn opened his post office box in the community of Hudson last week and found the mailing sent from Helena, Mont., in 1962. It was sent to Marion White, the previous renter of the box, who had died in 1988. The writer signed the postcard "Fran" and mentioned having "had a marvelous time in Montana."

After asking around, Conn says he determined the card must have come from White's well-traveled friend Frances Murphey, a longtime reporter at the Akron Beacon Journal. She died in 1998 at age 75.

## Sales tax revenue slips for Texas cities, counties

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Comptroller Susan Combs says sluggish sales are hurting sales tax revenue for Texas cities and counties.

Combs reported Friday that local governments got \$433 million from sales tax in March. That's a drop from \$665.6 million returned to local governments last month.

The state's revenue from sales tax also dropped \$180 million to \$1.74 billion in February.

Though revenue had been up in previous months, the comptroller's office doesn't expect to see funding bounce back right away.

## Amtrak train hits truck

GAINESVILLE, Texas (AP) — Four people were hurt when an Amtrak train hit a water tank truck that was blocking the track south of Gainesville.

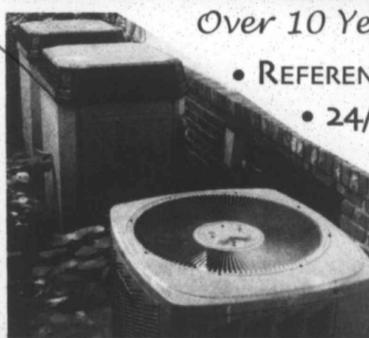
Amtrak spokesman Marc Magliari (mag-lee-AIR'-ee) says three passengers with minor injuries were taken to a hospital after the accident Friday morning.

Amtrak's Heartland Flyer was on its way from Oklahoma City to Fort Worth.

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# MENUS

## Meals on Wheels

**Monday, March 16**

BBQ Chicken  
Baked beans  
cole slaw  
Peaches cobbler

**Tuesday, March 17**

Polish sausage  
Cheese grits  
Mixed greens  
Cake

**Wednesday, March 18**

Tater tot casserole  
Cabbage  
Black-eyed peas  
Mixed fruit

**Thursday, March 19**

Ham  
Okra/tomatoes  
Pinto beans  
Cornbread  
Pudding

**Friday, March 20**

Spaghetti/meatsauce  
Green beans  
Bread sticks  
Salad  
Cookies

salad  
Strawberry shortcake  
or chocolate sundae cups  
Hot rolls or cornbread

**Thursday...** Chicken

strips or smothered steak  
AuGratin potatoes,  
fried okra, carrots, beans  
Slaw, tossed, Jello  
salad

Spice cake or butter-  
scotch pie

Hot rolls or cornbread

**Friday...** Catfish and

hushuppies or 3-way  
chili  
Potato wedges, cheese  
grits, beans  
Slaw, tossed, Jello  
salad

Cinnamon rolls or tapi-  
oca cups

Garlic breadsticks, hot  
rolls, cornbread

## Pampa Senior Citizens

**Monday...** chicken

friend steak or chicken  
and noodles  
Mashed potatoes,  
spinach, beets, beans  
Slaw, tossed, Jello  
salad

Pineapple cake or blue-  
berry pie

Hot rolls or cornbread

**Tuesday...** Corned beef

and cabbage or chili rel-  
lenos  
Boiled potatoes, green  
beans, cheese hominy,  
beans  
Slaw, tossed, Jello  
salad

Chocolate pistachio  
bundt cake or lemon ice-  
box pie

Hot rolls or cornbread

**Wednesday...** Roast

beef brisket/brown gravy  
or cook's choice  
Mashed potatoes, pas,  
buttered corn, beans  
Slaw, tossed, Jello

# Hidden Hills results

Seniors Scramble  
Hidden Hills  
Golf Course  
March 3, 2009

**1st Place (60)**

H. Knutson  
H. Wells  
J. Mabry

**2nd Place (60)**

R. Baker  
Jerry Davis  
M. Driver  
D. Butler

**3rd Place (62)**

E. Maxwell  
J. Gilbert  
J. Lee  
B. Brown

**4th Place (63)**

J. Brashears

J.L. Davis

J.L. Ferguson

J. Osbourne

**5th Place (64)**

G. McCave

R. Porter

B. Millican

G. Winegeart

**Cloest to the Pin**

J. Gilbert (#6)

H. Wells (#15)

**Hole in One**

J. Gilbert (#6)



Frank Slazenski is the Coronado Healthcare Center's Resident of the Month for March. He has lived in Pampa 27 years. He served in the military for about 30 years. He enjoys participating in basketball, horsehoes, tennis, ring and ball toss, Bingo, dominoes, resident council and current events.

## The McLean Dance Club

The McLean Dance Club hosts dances on every 2nd and 4th Saturday of every month to live Country and Western music, from 7:30 - 11 p.m. Charges are \$8 per person, dress is casual. All dances are open to the public. Located in McLean, Texas just north of the Red River Steak House and left after the cemetery on FM 273. Watch for sign on the west side of the road. For more information call 806-323-8515.



## FORD FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC WELCOMES JOSH LINK, MSPT



Joshua J. Link, MSPT

In a continuing effort to accommodate practice growth and demand, Ford Family Chiropractic is pleased to welcome Joshua Link, MSPT, who has recently joined our practice and will be providing full service physical therapy procedures.

Josh is a native of Texas and received his MSPT degree from Walsh University in Canton, OH and is licensed by the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners.

Call to set up an appointment to discuss a care program for you that may include specific spinal adjustments, exercise recommendations, nutritional advice or other conservative methods of care based on your health history, age, current condition and lifestyle.

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**Transportation taxation—stopping unfair taxes on your car**

During the 80th Texas Legislature, we prevailed in exempting your personal auto from ad-valorem taxation. With passage of a November 2007 statewide referendum, you'll never have to worry about this unfair tax again.

**Mortgage fraud—curbing abuses preserves strong market**

Texas REALTORS® played a major role in passing comprehensive legislation to curb mortgage fraud, protecting your clients and ensuring a viable real estate market.

**Title companies—ensuring transactions didn't come to a grinding halt**

The influence of your association was never more apparent than in early 2007. In February, county clerks around the state closed their doors following a Texas attorney general's opinion that they could be held criminally liable for releasing documents containing customers' Social Security numbers. We encouraged the AG to suspend the ruling for 60 days, then fixed the problem with emergency legislation.

**MLS and central appraisal districts—protecting clients' information**

We helped pass legislation to allow multiple-listing services to once again establish working relationships with central appraisal districts without violating consumers' rights to privacy.

**Transfer-fee—keeping a bad idea from taking root**

At the 11th hour of the 80th session, Texas REALTORS® stopped a bad idea from gaining a foothold in Texas. A private transfer fee is a scheme (many call it a scam) where a person sells his home but files a covenant on the property requiring future transfer fees be paid to the party who filed the covenant. The payment - perhaps one percent of the purchase price - is required every time the property is sold for a defined period, often 99 years. No surprise here - the company setting this up gets a large chunk of the fee. Every time. We urged quick legislation that prohibits private-transfer-fee arrangements and makes any attempts to create them unenforceable.

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The 2008 "Pride" photo contest winner was this photo of one-year-old Emma Grace Searl, sent in by Linda Searl.

## PHOTO CONTEST



The Pampa News' annual amateur photo contest will feature two categories this year - "Family and Friends" and "Gray County Scenes."

### Family and Friends

Photos should be non-posed snapshots of people doing things together. They can also be individual shots, but the key is to make them candid photos that show a slice of life in Gray County. The photos that "tell a story" will also be given a higher rating.

### Gray County Scenes

Send us your best shots of local scenery. Photos may be sunsets, storms, old buildings, cityscapes, wildlife or domestic animals.

**The deadline for entries is 5 p.m. Friday, March 20.**

Winners in each category will be selected by our editorial staff. The top photographers in each category will receive \$100 and their photos will be published in the newspaper's annual "Pride" issue to be published in March. Second place winners in each category will receive \$50. Third Place winners in each category will receive \$25.

Any photos submitted to the contest must be taken by the person submitting them and must have been taken in Gray County since Jan. 1, 2008. The photos cannot have appeared previously in any other publication or contest.

You can submit as many photos to the contest categories as you like.

The best way to submit your photo is to send them via E-mail, as an attachment, to editor@thepampa.com. The photos should be in a .jpg format, preferably shot on the "fine" setting on a digital camera or higher.

Do not edit the photo. We need to make changes in resolution to run photos in the newspaper. If you are entering more than one photo, please send them individually as an E-mail attachment.

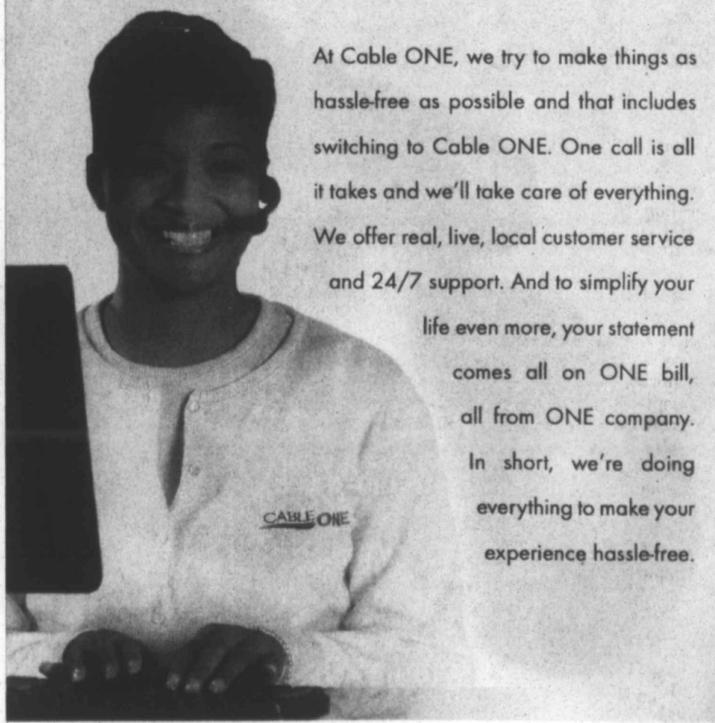
Include your name, address, telephone number for verification and a description of the photograph. Identify the people in the photo if possible. Any photo without this information included will be disqualified.

If you would rather submit your entries as prints, send them with the information to: Photography Contest, The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison Avenue, Pampa, TX. If you wish the prints returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your entry.

The Pampa News will publish the winners and many of the other submissions in a special section of our annual Pride issue in March.

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## Pampa shuts out Abilene Wylie

Behind a solid pitching performance by Blake Sieck, Pampa shut out Abilene Wylie 5-0 in the first game of the Burk Burnett tournament. Sieck pitched six innings, striking out 13 and walking only one. The only hit he gave up was an infield single. Brett Powell recorded a save by pitching the 7th inning for Pampa.

Pampa jumped out to an early lead in the first after Sieck doubled and Powell bunted for an infield single putting runners at first and third. Ryan Funderburg singled up the middle to score Sieck. Powell stole 2nd and was moved to third on a sacrifice fly by

Braden Hunt. Powell would then score on wild pitch.

Pampa added a run in the second after Casey Trimble walked with twoouts. Trimble took 2nd on a wild pitch then score when Sieck's line drive to third was booted for an error.

In the 5th, Pampa scored some insurance runs— Mitchell Killgo hit his fourth home run of the season over the left center field wall to score Powell and himself.

Pampa's defense was solid all day only committing one error.

## Harvesters defeat Wichita Falls Rider 2-1

On a cold, wet Friday afternoon in Burk Burnett, Pampa's solid pitching and defense continued as they held on to defeat Wichita Falls Rider by a score of 2-1.

Brett Powell pitched a complete game, giving up only 1 run on 5 hits. Powell walked 2 and hit 1 batter and he struck out 1.

Pampa would score their 2 runs in the top of the first inning, after Powell walked with 1 out. Ryan Funderburg, reached safely on an error by the 2nd baseman, putting runners at 1st and 2nd. After the runners moved up a base on a passed ball, Mitchell Killgo delivered a single that scored Powell and Funderburg.

Pampa would threaten in the 4th, when Braden Hunt led off with a double and Madison Wilson walked. With 1 out, Anthony Allen drew a walk to load the bases. However, the next 2 Pampa hitter would not be able to advance the runners, and they would leave the bases loaded. In the 6th inning, Jeremy Maxwell got a 2 out single, but he was stranded on 1st base.

Rider would threaten in the bottom of the 7th after a lead off double put the tying run on 2nd base with no outs. However, as has been the case for the Harvester this year, they buckled down and got 2 quick outs and after an intentional walk to put run-

ners on 1st and 2nd with 2 outs, the game ended on a ground ball to Allen at 3rd base who stepped on 3rd for the force out to end the game.

The real story of this game was Powell's control and Pampa's defense. Pampa did suffer 2 errors, but each time the team battled its way through those errors and in the end neither error hurt the Harvesters. Time and time again, the defense stepped up and made big plays when Rider was threatening.

Pampa stands at 2-0 in the tournament, and with the loss, Wichita Falls Rider falls to 2-1.

## Sports in brief

### GOLF

**DORAL, Fla. (AP)** — Phil Mickelson chipped in for another birdie and wound up with a 6-under 66 to build a two-shot lead in the CA Championship, putting him in the last group at Doral for the first time in three years.

The only difference this time will be the company he keeps.

Tiger Woods, his nemesis on the Blue Monster, was 10 shots behind.

Mickelson was at 13-under 131 and will have to settle on Saturday for Buick Invitational winner Nick Watney, who shot a 67 and will join Lefty in the final group.

Rory McIlroy, the 19-year-old from Northern Ireland who is trying to become the youngest PGA Tour winner in history, finished with an eagle and a birdie on two dangerous holes for a 66 and was two shots behind. He was tied with 48-year-old Kenny Perry, who has three children older than McIlroy.

Woods looked like just another player in the field.

He again struggled with his distance control, the frustration growing with every shot too long or too short, leaving him few birdie chances. He made some progress, though — a 70, one shot better than the day before. But he was at 3-under 141 and in a tie for 35th in the 80-man field in this World Golf Championship.

**RIO GRANDE, Puerto Rico (AP)** — Matt Jones shot a 30 on his back nine and finished with an 8-under 64 to match the course record, giving him a share of the 36-hole lead with fellow Australian Jason Day in the Puerto Rico Open.

Jones tied the course record set last year by Bo Van Pelt in the inaugural event. Day had a 68 in swirling wind and occasional rain to match Jones at 10-under 134 on the Trump International Golf Club along the island's northeast coast.

Bart Bryant, whose victories include the Memorial and Tour Championship, was a shot back after a 68.

**SANTA CLARITA, Calif. (AP)** — Joey Sindelar shot an 8-under 64 to take a one-stroke lead over two-time winner Tom Purtzer in the AT&T Champions Classic.

The 50-year-old

Sindelar, winless in 22 starts on the Champions Tour after winning seven times on the PGA Tour, hasn't had a bogey in 38 holes. On Sunday in Newport Beach, he shot a 63 to tie for second behind Eduardo Romero in the Toshiba Classic.

Jay Haas and David Edwards opened with 67s, and Bernhard Langer, Bruce Lietzke, Ben Crenshaw and John Cook shot 68s.

### FOOTBALL

**ST. LOUIS (AP)** — The St. Louis Rams released wide receiver Torry Holt, parting ways with one of the last remaining holdovers from their "Greatest Show on Turf" glory days.

The move came three days after the Rams released offensive tackle Orlando Pace, another mainstay from the era when the Rams won their only Super Bowl and lost another on the game's final play. Both Holt and Pace are seven-time Pro Bowl selections.

Holt is 32 and Pace is 33 and combined the moves created \$14 million in salary cap space. Holt was due a \$1.25 million roster bonus on Tuesday.

Only defensive end Leonard Little and quarterback Marc Bulger remain from the team that lost the 2002 Super Bowl to the New England Patriots, and Bulger was an inactive third-string quarterback for every game that season.

### PRO BASKETBALL

**BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Mich. (AP)** — Detroit Pistons owner Bill Davidson, a noted philanthropist who was inducted into the basketball Hall of Fame last year, has died. He was 86.

Davidson died Friday at his Bloomfield Hills home, team spokesman Matt Dobek said.

Services are scheduled for Tuesday at Congregation Shaarey Zedek in Southfield, according to the Ira Kaufman Chapel Funeral Home. A cause of death was not immediately known.

Davidson also owned the WNBA's Detroit Shock.

### WINTER SPORTS

**RICHMOND, British Columbia (AP)** — Trevor Marsicano of the United States won the 1,000 meters and teammate Shani Davis was third at

the world single distances championships.

Marsicano finished in 1 minute, 8.96 seconds, beating Canada's Denny Morrison by 0.04 seconds. Davis, who set the 1,000-meter world record last week in Salt Lake City, finished in 1:09.02.

Anni Friesinger of Germany won the women's 1,500 in 1:58.66 after Kristina Groves of Canada, who finished first, was disqualified for hitting one of the pucks used to divide the lanes. Ireen Wust of Netherlands moved up to second in 1:58.83 and Christine Nesbitt of Canada took over third with a time of 1:58.88.

### TENNIS

**INDIAN WELLS, Calif. (AP)** — Top-seeded Dinara Safina fought off three set points in a first-set tiebreaker and beat Tina Pironkova of Bulgaria, 7-6 (8), 6-2 in a second-round match at the BNP Paribas Open.

Safina, the younger sister of 2000 U.S. Open champion and former men's No. 1 Marat Safin, can replace Serena Williams atop the WTA Tour rankings by reaching the final of this 12-day event. Williams, who beat Safina in the Australian Open final six weeks ago, is not playing here.

Amelie Mauresmo, coming back from yet another of the injuries that have plagued her in recent years, advanced to the third round with a 5-7, 6-3, 6-4 victory over Anna-Lena Groenefeld.

### COLLEGES

**EUGENE, Ore. (AP)** — Mike Bellotti is stepping down as Oregon's football coach to become the school's athletic director, and offensive coordinator Chip Kelly will be promoted to head coach.

Bellotti, who has coached the Ducks for the past 14 seasons, takes over his new position July 1, replacing athletic director Pat Kilkenny. Kelly becomes coach on March 30, the opening day of spring practice, the school announced.

Bellotti, 58, was 116-55 as coach of the Ducks. This past season Oregon went 10-3 with a 42-31 win over Oklahoma State in the Holiday Bowl. The Ducks finished the season ranked No. 10.

## Pampa 3-0 in tourney, after defeating Sequoyah

The solid defense that Pampa showed early in this tournament took a vacation Friday night against Sequoyah. Pampa was charged with 6 errors, but managed score 4 runs in the bottom of the last inning for a 7-6 win.

Braden Hunt pitched all six innings for Pampa, giving up only 3 hits, 2 singles and a double. Hunt walked 2 and hit 2 and he struck out 7.

Pampa would score first in the second inning. Hunt singled to left field. Garrett Ericson came on as a courtesy runner for Hunt and after Ericson stole second base, scored on a 2-out single by Jeremy Maxwell.

In the bottom of the fourth, and down 2-1, Pampa tied the game when Hunt struck out, but reached first base when the catcher missed the third strike. Ericson again was called to run, and scored from third on a fielders choice by Casey Trimble.

In the bottom of the fifth and down 3-2, Pampa tied the game again when Brett Powell led off by getting hit by a pitch. With two outs, Hunt singled again to left field to move to Powell to second. Powell advanced to third on a wild pitch and scored when Madison Wilson grounded to the shortstop, but he made a bad throw to first.

With the game tied 3-3 in the top of the sixth inning, Pampa was charged with four errors, and a timely single by Sequoyah, led to 3 runs for and a 6-3 lead going into the bottom of the last inning.

Down to their last at bat, because the time limit had expired, Pampa came roaring back. Back to back singles by Jeremy Busse and Casey Trimble put

runners on first and second. Blake Sieck then hit a long triple over the center fielders head that would score Busse and Trimble.

After a strike out, Ryan Funderburg hit a high fly ball that the right fielder misplayed scoring Sieck, to tie the game at 6-6. Mitchell Killgo then hit a towering fly ball to right field that again was misplayed by the right fielder

putting runners at second and third. Hunt was intentionally walked loading the bases with one out.

Madison Wilson delivered a hard ground ball that the third baseman misplayed, scoring Funderburg with the winning run.

The win improves Pampa's record to 3-0 in the tournament.

## HARVESTER SPORTS SCHEDULE

2009

### BASEBALL

**TUESDAY - MARCH 17**  
Harvesters VS Randall • 5:00 pm at Pampa

**FRIDAY - MARCH 20**  
Harvesters JV VS Palo Duro • 5:00 pm at Palo Duro

### SOFTBALL

**MONDAY - MARCH 16**  
Lady Harvesters VS Randall • 3:30 pm at Pampa  
Lady Harvester JV VS Randall • 5:00 pm at Pampa

**TUESDAY - MARCH 17**  
Lady Harvesters JV VS Levelland • 2:00 pm at Levelland  
Lady Harvesters VS Levelland • 4:00 pm at Levelland

**THURSDAY - MARCH 19**  
Lady Harvesters JV VS Palo Duro • 11:00 am at Palo Duro  
Lady Harvesters VS Palo Duro • 1:00 pm at Palo Duro

**SATURDAY - MARCH 21**  
Lady Harvesters JV VS Plainview • 1:00 pm at Plainview  
Lady Harvesters VS Plainview • 3:00 at Plainview

### GOLF

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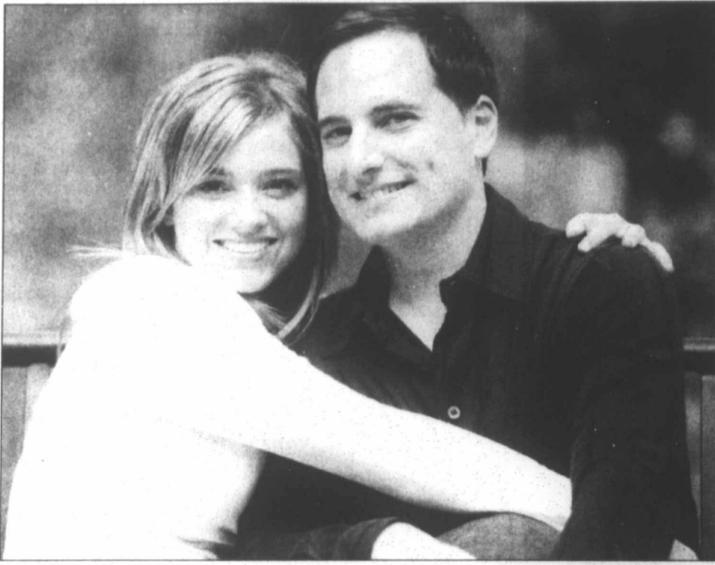
## Browne, Street to wed

Mr. and Mrs. Matthew and Janie Street from Pampa Texas are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Brittney Carol Street to Ryan Jon Browne, son of Dr. Jon and Angela Browne of Leawood, Kansas.

The future bride is a 2000 graduate of Pampa High School and a 2004 graduate of Texas Tech University where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications. She is currently a District Service Manager for General Motors in Dallas Texas.

The groom is a 1993 graduate of University of Notre Dame with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Government and International Studies and a 1996 graduate of Southern Methodist University School of Law with a Juris Doctor. He is currently a Principal with the law firm of Heygood, Orr, Reyes, Pearson, & Bartolomei in Dallas Texas.

The couple is planning to wed on May 2, 2009, at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Amarillo.



Brittney Carol Street and Ryan Jon Browne

## Man saves girl in flooded drain

RICHLAND HILLS, Texas (AP) — A man leaped into a flooded drainage area Friday and saved a 9-year-old girl after noticing a boy crying and pointing to his sister in the cold water.

Richland Hills Fire Chief David Anderson says Brittney Williams, her 7-year-old brother, Hayden, and good Samaritan Richard Harper, whose "heroic efforts" saved her, were transported to hospitals.

The children were heading home from school around 3:45 p.m. Friday when they "climbed down

into the drain to walk in the water," Anderson said. "She lost her footing and slid."

Hayden climbed out on his own. Brittney was clinging to the concrete of the open system, which leads to an enclosed area, Anderson said.

Harper, who'd been driving by with another person, jumped into the water and held on to the girl and a concrete pipe until rescuers arrived, the fire chief said.

"He was in the right place at the right time. His heroic efforts definitely saved her life," Anderson said.



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Who is Pampa's favorite teacher?

See the results of Best of Gray County in today's B section.

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## WELCOME

*Jaden Nicole Allen*



Jaden Nicole Allen was welcomed into the world on January 1, 2009 at Pampa Regional Medical Center by her mother Denise Allen and grandmother Sue West, of Pampa. Jaden weighed 3 lbs - 7 ozs, and was 14 3/4 inches long at birth.

## Annual book review slated

Chapter CS, the local chapter of the P.E.O. sisterhood, will again present its annual book review with Carol Smith Headerick at 1:30 p.m. March 29 at the First Christian Church Fellowship Hall. Ms. Headerick will review "The Life of Ellen H. Richards — Pioneer in Conservation by Caroline L. Hunt.

Ellen Richards lived from 1842-1911. Friends and co-workers who gathered following Mrs. Richards' funeral to share their loss and memories decided to create a permanent record of the influence she had on their lives. This book, published in 1912, was the result. Richards was the first woman accepted as a student to Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Through her scientific studies, she became a national authority on air, water, and food. She established the profession of dieticians and was the founder of Home Economics.

Carol Smith Headerick is a Texas native and a speech-language pathologist. She reviews one book each spring and has been presenting book reviews to

the public for 16 years. She memorizes text and presents the review in first-person.

The book review will be open to the public. Tickets are \$20 each and will be available at the door. To

purchase a ticket in advance, please contact Judy Stutton at 665-7064. Proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the chapter's scholarship fund.

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## Texas job growth numbers up

AUSTIN — Texas' seasonally adjusted nonagricultural employment rose by 19,900 jobs in the past 12 months, compared with job losses of 3.5 million nationwide during the same period, according to revised seasonally adjusted data released Wednesday by the U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor

Statistics. The federal revisions added 25,200 jobs to original January employment estimates released last week.

Revised data show Texas employers lost 50,600 jobs in January, rather than the loss of 75,800 jobs as reported March 5, 2009. January Manufacturing

employment was revised to include 25,100 more jobs than originally estimated.

The statistical revisions are pursuant to additional data that became available after the March 5, 2009 data release of January 2009 figures.

The Pampa News 669-2525



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# Texas: Clearing Big Bend air will take 146 years

BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK, Texas (AP) — Growing up in Terlingua, a speck of a desert town in the heart of Texas' Big Bend region, Delia White once had picturesque views of rugged mountains in every direction.

On a clear day, she could see jagged peaks a 100 miles away. But now, on most summer days the 53-year-old convenience store owner can barely make out some of the highest peaks of the nearby Big Bend National Park.

"I remember clear views in every direction," White said on a recent hazy day, recalling the vistas of 20 years ago.

The thick brown haze that hovers over the massive national park on warm days has been a problem for at least two decades, according to those who live in the area. And federal and state environmental officials agree that the cloud of pollution caused by factories and power plants hundreds or thousands of miles away in the U.S. and Mexico — is a problem that needs to be cleaned up.

But officials differ, by about 91 years, on how long it should take.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has asked states to clean up areas they've dubbed "Regional Class I Areas," a group of sites that include national parks and other federal lands, by 2064. But officials at the Texas Commission for Environmental Quality have decided it will likely take until 2155 to clear the air over the park.

TCEQ officials say the haze problem is complicated because the pollution is funneled to Big Bend by winds from east Texas, the Ohio River Valley and north-eastern Mexico.

"This is not the end of the process, it's actually the beginning of a local goal," TCEQ attorney John Minter said of the agency's recently approved regional haze plan. "When they (EPA) set up the goal, they were setting the goal for the entire nation. It's a goal, it is not like an air quality standard."

Dale Kemery, an EPA spokesman, said many states have missed the deadline to turn in regional haze plans. But of those that did, Texas is the only state to miss the 2064 target.

The lengthy plan, which includes reducing haze in the Guadalupe Mountains National Park by 2081, does not call for any pollution reductions for Texas facilities. It was unanimously approved by TCEQ's three-member board last month.

Margaret Earnest, a TCEQ planner, said specific reductions weren't necessary because other air quality plans already in

place will eventually help cut haze at Big Bend and the Guadalupe Mountains.

But not everyone agrees.

Ken Kramer, director of the Sierra Club's Lone Star Chapter, called the TCEQ plan a "virtually absurdist approach."

"There are a number of things that could be done to clamp down on power plants in the state," Kramer said. "Many of those plants were built decades ago and although their pollution controls may have been improved slightly over time, they are still not using the best available technology."

Retrofitting pollution-emitting plants in Texas would cost about \$300 million, a price tag that Earnest said TCEQ officials didn't deem necessary right now.

"We've made reductions in other plans that affect haze in Houston and Dallas," Earnest said. "Because we have spent so much time and money on rules and controls in those areas, there was a decision not to add additional controls."

Park officials had also hoped the state could have come up with a plan to clear the park's haze sooner, rather than up to 146 years later.

Views from the park's highest peaks used to include the Guadalupe Mountains hundreds of miles to the north, said Raymond Skiles, the acting chief of science and resource management at Big Bend.

"I know there's been disagreement ... as to the statewide contribution of haze," Skiles said. "We do have ... data indicating that yes there are contributors outside the state. But in the state, as a land area, there are sources that are significant contributors."

The commissioners who approved the plan agree the state could have done better.

"We look ridiculous saying it will take us 146 years to achieve this," Commissioner Larry Soward told the Houston Chronicle last month. "We're checking a box. We're getting the EPA off our back for 24 months. But it won't do anything to reduce one microgram" of pollution.

Skiles said the environmental effects of the haze on the park is unclear — park service scientists are only now starting environmental reviews. But it's clear from complaints by visitors and local outdoor outfitters that the lack of visibility on the hottest, steamiest days of the year is affecting tourism at the park, which attracts 300,000 to 400,000 visitors annually.

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*Our readers  
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*And the  
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The votes have been cast and tabulated in the first annual Pampa News' "Best of Gray County" awards.

The newspaper picked the categories, but our readers picked the individuals, businesses and organizations they deemed outstanding.

The tabulation took the newspaper staff the better part of the week, since there were as many as a dozen nominees in some of the categories.

From "Best Taco" to "Best Teacher," from "Best Pizza" to Friendliest Bank Teller," the results are shown on the next three pages.

You may or may not agree with the majority vote, but there is always next year with a clean slate and a new set of categories.

The only real surprise to us was the fact that overwhelmingly the "Best Place to Hear Gossip" was "church." We'll let our communities ministers sort that out.

However, this just for fun exercise is intended to be just that — not the final word — but a good aspiration for the coming year.

To everyone who was nominated, who won, and who voted — our best to you.



Managers Joy Contreras (left) and Belinda Nolte of Peggy's Place, hold three "Best of" awards given to them by the readers of The Pampa News.

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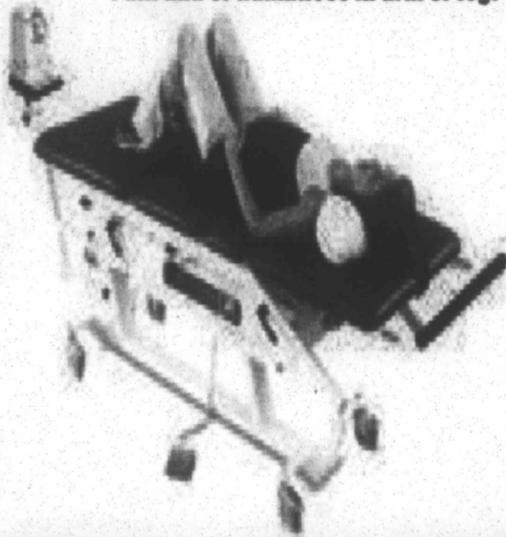
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3. Best BBQ— *Dyer's Bar-B-Q*
4. Best place to buy jewelry— *Rheams Diamond Shop*
5. Best place to buy furniture— *Johnson's Home Furniture*
6. Best place to buy flowers— *Roberta's*
7. Best place to buy gas— *Phillips 66*
8. Best place to buy clothes— *Wayne's Western Wear*
9. Best place to drink coffee— *Coffee Shop*
10. Best place to hear gossip— *Church*
11. Best place to have lunch— *Vicary House Tea Room*
12. Best place for dinner— *Texas Rose*
13. Best plumber— *Mike's Plumbing*
14. Best insurance agent— *Jim Bruton*
15. Best real estate agent— *Katrina Bigham (Century 21)*



*Best place to drink coffee  
- The Coffee Shop*

Coffee Shop employees Eden Green (left) and Kelsey Watson display their "Best of Gray County Award".

*The friendliest bank teller  
in Gray County  
— Katie Kirkpatrick*



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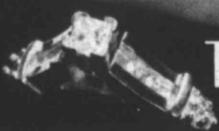
We'll see you on Friday, March 27 from 10 am to 2 pm.



Look forward to morning!

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- 16. Best city official— **Brad Pingel**
- 17. Best county official— **Joe Millican**
- 18. Best mechanic— **Culberson's**
- 19. Best electrician— **B&G**
- 20. Best physician— **Dr. L Kammani**
- 21. Best dentist— **Jim Alexander**
- 22. Best veterinarian— **Ron Easley**
- 23. Best eye care provider— **Broome Optical**
- 24. Best teacher— **Jennifer Plunk**
- 25. Best place to buy fresh produce— **United Supermarket**
- 26. Best place to buy a soda— **Easy's Pop Shop**
- 27. Best pizza— **Pizza Hut**
- 28. Best fried chicken— **Kentucky Fried Chicken**
- 29. Best bakery— **United Supermarket**
- 30. Restaurant with the best service— **Peggy's Place**
- 31. Friendliest bank teller— **Katie Kirkpatrick**



Ed Robinson, the owner of The Hamburger Station, holds a platter of the best hamburger and fries in Gray County.

*Best burger and fries —  
The Hamburger Station*

Ed Robinson's dad once told him: "If you don't what to do, sell a man a hamburger and you'll always have a little money."

Ed's first love is training race horses - Quarter Horses, Thoroughbreds and Paints, but to make a little money, he transformed the old Hudson Filling Station 25 1/2 years ago into The Hamburger Station, where customers stop by for a filling breakfast and a great plate of fries and a hamburger.

The fries are hand cut every morning and the burgers are patted from custom-made ground beef from Clint and Son's in White Deer.

Pampa News readers say it is the best hamburger and fries in the county, but maybe that opinion is also framed by the friendly atmosphere in the quaint little shop, where Ed greets every customer and the customers generally greet each other.

Ken Rheams and Crystal Lewis of Rheam's Diamond Shop.



Nick Dyer of Dyer's Barbeque.

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Melissa Bye



Robin Scott



Katrina Bigham

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**Best Place to Buy Produce**

**& Best Place to Buy Gas**

THE **Best** of Gray County

**United Supermarkets**

As selected by the readers of THE PAMPA NEWS



- 32. Best community event— *Relay for life*
- 33. Best place for kids to have fun — *Movies*
- 34. Best hotel/motel— *AmericInn*
- 35. Best beautician— *Robin Scott*
- 36. Best nail tech— *Melissa Bye*
- 37. Best place to buy tires— *Hudson Tires*
- 38. Best convenience store— *Taylor Mart*
- 39. Best car salesman— *Jay Holmes*
- 40. Best place to buy auto parts— *Auto Zone*
- 41. Best place to buy antiques— *Jim's Tradin' City*
- 42. Best place to buy breakfast— *Peggy's Place*
- 43. Best waiter/waitress— *Peggy's Place*
- 44. Best law enforcement officer— *Det. Sgt. Casey Ingersoll*
- 45. Best firefighter— *Brian Snapp*
- 46. Best place to have your taxes prepared— *Johnson Business and Financial Services*



*Your favorite teacher— Jennifer Plunk, Wilson Elementary*

With only three years of teaching under her belt, Jennifer Plunk, third grade teacher at Travis Elementary never expected she would be voted best teacher in Gray County.

"I'm really surprised," Plunk said receiving the award. "I feel so underserving. It's only my third year of teaching, I feel like I still have so much to learn."

In a short time, Plunk has made a big impact in the lives of her third grade students. According to Plunk, the key to her success must be in her personal relationships with her students.

"I'm close to all of the kids," she explained, "I don't have kids of my own, so they all feel like my children."

Plunk teaches third grade science and social studies classes, which are her two passions.

"It's easy and the kids thrive on it. It's my passion."



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Katie Kirkpatrick

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# Thanks



Thank you to all of our  
Physicians,  
Patients,  
Employees,  
and Friends  
for their votes  
and support in  
voting us  
**Best Elderly Care Provider**  
in Gray County!

**SHEPARD'S CROOK NURSING AGENCY**

47. L  
48. L  
49. L  
A&  
50. L  
Shep  
51. L  
Hol  
52. L  
Jess  
  
Best Way  
  
Seth S  
  
Best A&  
  
Pedro



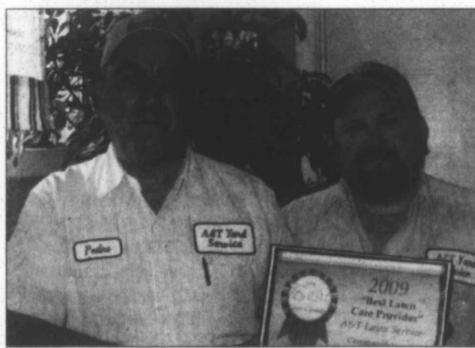
- 47. Best ice cream—**Braum's**
- 48. Best phone service—**Sprint**
- 49. Best lawn care provider—**A&T Yard Service**
- 50. Best elderly care provider—**Shepard's Crook**
- 51. Best place to buy active wear—**Holmes Sports Center**
- 52. Best place for family photos—**Jessica Whiteley**

Best place to buy clothing—**Waynes Western Wear**



Seth Stribling and Carol Stribling-Chatham.

Best Lawn Care Provider —**A&T Yard Service**



Pedro and David Arreola

The staff of the Vicary House Tea Room offers our grateful appreciation to our customers who voted us the Best Place to Eat Lunch in Gray County.

The Vicary House Tea Room  
303 N. Frost  
669-0122

## Best Community Event—Relay for Life



Linda Lantz, chairman, Pam Dalton, regional task force director for American Cancer Society, and LaGayla Wheat, co-chair for this year's event, accept the award for best community event.

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An office of First National Bank Waupaca, WI



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- Music player
- GPS-capable

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**Hersford**  
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**Pampa**  
1329 N. Hobart | (806) 659-3425

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Comm. Connection | (806) 249-8411

**Hersford**  
Whiteface Cellular | (806) 363-2740

**Pampa**  
Comm. Connection | (806) 669-1551

**Perryton**  
Perryton Office Supply | (806) 435-4812

**Shamrock**  
Mehken RadioShack | (806) 256-2782

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# Alaska Gov. Palin's daughter, fiance break up

WASILLA, Alaska (AP) — Levi Johnston and Bristol Palin, the teenage daughter of Gov. Sarah Palin, have broken off their engagement, he said Wednesday, about 2 1/2 months after the couple had a baby.

Johnston, 19, told The Associated Press that he and 18-year-old Bristol Palin mutually decided "a while ago" to end their relationship. He declined to elaborate as he stood outside his family's home in Wasilla, about 40 miles north of Anchorage.

He also said some details of the breakup, rumors of which had been swirling on the Internet, were inaccurate.

Bristol Palin said in a statement that she was devastated about a report on Star magazine's Web site

that quoted Levi's sister, Mercede, as saying Bristol "makes it nearly impossible" to visit the teenagers' infant son, Tripp. The baby was born Dec. 27.

"Unfortunately, my family has seen many people say and do many things to 'cash in' on the Palin name," said the statement, which was issued through the governor's political action committee. "Sometimes that greed clouds good judgment and the truth."

SarahPAC spokeswoman Meghan Stapleton did not immediately respond to calls seeking further information. The governor's spokesman, Bill McAllister, declined comment.

Sarah Palin revealed her daughter's pregnancy just days after being

named John McCain's running mate on the Republican presidential ticket. She had said in December that her daughter and Johnston "are committed to accomplish what millions of other young parents have accomplished, to provide a loving and secure environment for their child."

In an interview that aired on Fox News last month, Bristol Palin said her fiance saw the baby every day and described him as a "hands-on" dad.

Johnston and Palin had said they were considering a summer wedding.

"We both love each other," he told the AP in October. "We both want to marry each other. And that's what we are going to do."

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Advanced

## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips



**DEAR ABBY:** I am so lonely. My husband refuses to communicate with me or do anything with me. The only outlet I have is work and school. I would like to end this misery, but I don't know where to begin. We have been married for 17 years. I have never been unfaithful to him, although I have thought about it -- not for the physical aspect, but for the communication. -- **DESPERATE FOR SOMEONE TO TALK TO**

**DEAR DESPERATE:** Has your marriage always been this way? When did this "great silence" begin? Most important, why have you tolerated an emotional "starvation diet" for so long?

If you think your marriage is worth saving, offer your husband the chance to repair it through marriage counseling -- but be prepared for it to take some time, because old habits are hard to break. If not, then accept the fact that

you have suffered enough, and formalize the reality that you haven't really been married in a very long time.

**DEAR ABBY:** I am shy. I am by no means painfully shy, but I tend to be more of an observer when I first meet people. Once I'm comfortable I can open up and be myself. Sometimes it's only minutes, but other times I need to meet someone more than once. Many of my friends have told me their first impression of me was that I was extremely snotty. This is wrong. I'm a very kind person.

I have accepted this personality trait, but it may be interfering with my finding a job. I was recently laid off, and I'm applying for and interviewing for a new one. However, after numerous interviews I have not been invited back for a second one.

I work in public relations, where personality can be a key in hiring. I believe my shyness is hin-

dering me from "wowing" potential employers. How can I overcome it and give a better first interview? -- **WANTS TO BE HIRED IN WISCONSIN**

**DEAR WANTS TO BE HIRED:** Public relations is a form of sales, and in sales first impressions are essential. An interview is not a social situation, where you can look someone over and decide whether or not to open up. This is business, and if you're going to get hired you are going to have to sell yourself. So start working on your sales pitch. Tell potential employers what makes you the right person for the job.

Your friends and family can help you by role-playing practice interviews. Ask them to honestly critique you. If you have been working with a placement agency, discuss this with the person who has been sending you on these interviews. His or her input could also be helpful.

If this doesn't

make your job search more successful, then perhaps it's time to extend your search into other fields besides public relations.

**DEAR ABBY:** Is there a polite response to the question, "How are you?" in situations when your life is horrible, but you would rather not talk about it (i.e., divorce)? -- **DEVASTATED IN HIGHLAND, UTAH**

**DEAR DEVASTATED:** If you would really prefer not to talk about "it," the response you should give is, "Fine, thanks -- and how are you?" This will deflect attention from yourself and onto the other person.

When you are ready to deal with follow-up questions, all you have to say is, "How am I? I've had better days!" And nine times out of 10 the person will pounce on the opening.

## THANK YOU! 2009 GRAY COUNTY LIVESTOCK SHOW & AUCTION

Junior Livestock Show Auction Bidders, individuals & businesses who gave donations to the livestock auction pool.

Adobe Operating-Doreen Bruce  
Allen Hose & Supply  
Armstrong & Culligan Coffee Service  
Attebury Grain  
B&B Solvent  
BAD Cattle Co.  
Ruben and Lora Baggerman  
Brent & Misty Baten  
Jerry & Malen Baten  
Bartlett's Lumber  
Curt Beck  
Bee Equipment  
Diane Birdsell  
Blade's Racing Stables  
Ronald & Donna Brauchi  
Brainard Ranch/Canadian Ranch  
EH Brainard Estate  
Swayze & Stacie Brainard  
Shane Brinning  
Britten Feed and Sees  
Ken & Lynn Bruger  
Cabot Corporation  
Cabot NOI & Employees CU  
Campbell Ranch/Don Campbell  
Canadian RediMix  
Capital Farm Credit  
Ken Cargill  
Carmichael Whatley  
CarQuest  
Carson County Gin  
Doug & Delpha Cates  
Celanese  
Chisum Campaign  
Chisum Ranch  
Mr. & Mrs. Warren Chisum  
Clay Farms  
Steve & Berkleee Clements

Coney Island Cafe  
Cookya Inc. (Subway)  
Joe Coutts  
Culberson Stowers  
John & Faustina Curry  
Jimmy & Theresa Davis  
Debruce Grain  
DE Chase  
Donley County Gin  
Duncan, Fraser & Bridges Insurance  
Jason Dyer & the Dixie Cafe  
Enbridge Pipeline  
Engine Parts & Supply  
Mary Fatheree  
Tim & Sue Fatheree & the  
Culligan Crew  
Fellers Bookeeping  
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Ken Fields-Underwood Attorneys  
& Counselors  
First Bank Southwest  
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Freeman Brothers  
Frank Oil  
Gebo's  
Charlie Neal Gee  
Randy Gray  
Gray/Roberts Farm Bureau  
Gray County Vet Clinic  
HC Grady Jr.  
WH Greene Estate  
Martha Hadley  
Jeff & Molly Haley  
David Hampton  
RM & Harriette Hampton  
Hansford Implement, Inc.

Harvey Tire  
Sharon Haynes  
JR & Sarah Hollis  
Scott & Barbara Hon  
Kevin Huddleston Cotton Sales  
Ronald & Sharon Hurst  
Insurance Management Services -  
IMS  
JBR Farmer's Equipment  
JRP  
Kellys Mart  
KGRO/KOMX Radio  
Kiker Ranch  
Don & Suzanne Lane  
Larry Baker Plumbing  
Lazy 11 Ranch - Dean Burger  
LeJan Inc.  
Todd Lorenz  
Buddy & Billie Lowrey  
Lee & Lena Lowrey  
Mrs. Raymond Maddox  
Mel & Trudy Manhart  
Donald Martin  
McGinty Cattle  
McLean Boosters  
Miller Insurance Agency  
Minco Oil & Gas  
Clay & Kimberly Montgomery  
National Bank of Commerce  
National Oilwell  
Mary Nelson  
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Jerry & Nancy O'Neal  
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Parts N General  
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Dr. Pierrat  
Bruce Pickens, Jr.  
Premier Well Service  
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Ronnie & Jo Rice  
Roberta's Flowers  
Rocking H Ranch-Patricia  
Youngblood  
Artie Sailor & Bettie Gordon  
Marvin Slaymaker  
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Dr. Sparkman  
Spearman Cattle  
Sunrise Agri-Services-Don Zumstein  
Judy Sutton  
Tejas Feeders  
Terry Cattle Co.  
Texas Furniture  
Topographic  
Top Of Texas Gin  
Top Of Texas Rodeo Association  
Triangle Well Service  
Upshaw Insurance  
Joe & Janie Vanzandt  
Vultex  
Waters Ranch  
Gary Willoughby  
Winning Enterprises  
Yellowhouse Machinery  
Lick's Feed  
**Thank you to all donors whose names were not available at Press time!**

### THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING:

Thank you to all Board members, FFA and 4-H family members, and Gray County Employees who helped prepare the show barn for this years show. There were a lot of long cold hours preparing for this years show. Also, Thank you to the following: Kimberly Payne, Nancy Jacoby and all FFA and 4-H family members who made this years concession stand a huge success. Bebo & Dana Terry and Don Campbell for preparing the fund raising raffle, to all exhibitors for selling the raffle tickets and to those who purchased the tickets. Smithfield Genetics for a great meal at the Sale on Monday night. James Hefley-Auctioneer Service, Bid Hawkers Neal Fulton and Michael Craig. Randy and his class members for the preparing the video for the sale.

### WITH SINCERE THANKS & APPRECIATION TO THE GRAY COUNTY LIVESTOCK BOARD:

President Jeff Chisum and Board members: Scott Reed, Charlotte Hendricks, Christy Wyant, Brandon McGinty, Randy Dunn and Bruce Pickens, Temberly Mercer, all Committee members and members at large

### SPECIAL THANK YOU:

The Gray County exhibitors would like to thank the parents and leaders who put in hours and hours of hard work, their own personal time, personal equipment, and donated materials to build the new washrack at the show-barn. It looks great!

### 2009 WAYNE STRIBLING CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Jessica Baggerman-Gray County 4-H & Pampa FFA member

### 2009 GRAY COUNTY LIVESTOCK SHOW CHAMPIONS & BUYERS

Grand Champion Steer-	Garret Coutts	Bought by Terry Cattle Co.
Reserve Champion Steer-	Blake Chisum	Bought by Jeff & Molly Haley
Grand Champion Barrow-	Rayven Siebarth	Bought by JRP
Reserve Champion Barrow-	Emily Terry	Bought by Parts In General
Grand Champion Lamb-	Kayleen Wyant	Bought by Donley Co. Gin
Reserve Champion Lamb-	Kayleen Wyant	Bought by Farm Bureau
Grand Champion Goat-	Hilary Thomas	Bought by Chisum Campaign
Reserve Champion Goat-	Riley Didway	Bought by Fenton Motors
Grand Champion Heifer-	Blake Chisum	did not sale
Grand Champion Heifer-	London Lowrey	did not sale

### 2009 WAYNE STRIBLING CITIZENSHIP BUCKLE DONORS:

Pampa Chamber of Commerce & Holmes Gift Shoppe & Sports Center

### SHOWMANSHIP AWARDS DONATED BY:

Ashlee Lucus	Gray Co. Vet Clinic
Pioneer Fishing & Rental Service	Monkey Wrench & Roustabout Service
Brandon & Connie McGinty	T-Shirts & More
Top of Texas New & Used Cars	Premier Well Service
Lions Club	First Ag Credit
B & G Electric	

### CHAMPION BUCKLES DONATED BY:

Curtis Well Service	Quality Sales/Ted Hutto
Panhandle Plains Land Bank	Jimmy & Teresa Davis
First State Bank of Miami	National Bank of Commerce
Atmos Energy	Happy State Bank
Pampa Kiwanis Club	

**\$1000 GASOLINE RAFFLE WINNER:** Barry Hicks



# Comics

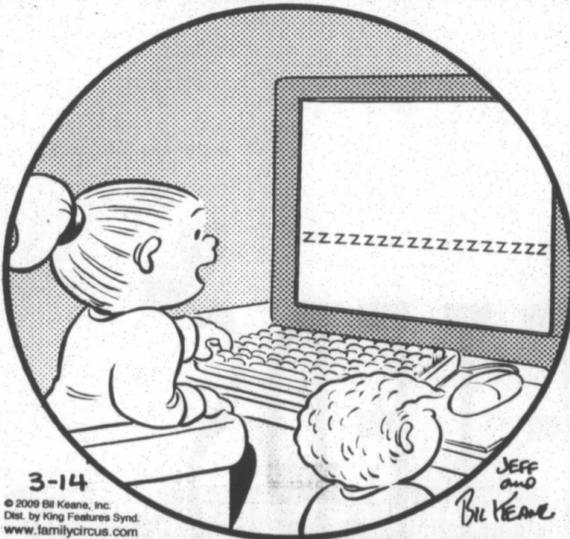
## Marmaduke



"Call it... winner washes the car, loser washes Marmaduke."

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



3-14  
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"See. If you hold your finger on the 'Z' you get a whole line of sleep."

## Daily Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 40 Tuckered out
  - 1 Prepares veggies
  - 7 Stadium group
  - 11 Young hen
  - 12 Infamous czar
  - 13 Working
  - 14 Oz visitor
  - 15 Waits
  - 16 Parish leader
  - 17 Goofs
  - 18 Last number
  - 19 Bring home
  - 21 Per-formed
  - 22 Boxer Walcott
  - 25 Upper limit
  - 26 Soccer legend
  - 27 Wows
  - 29 Flag creator
  - 33 Early physician
  - 34 Leonardo's birthplace
  - 35 Some mines
  - 36 Parish leader
  - 37 Rapper-turned-actor
  - 38 Odorless gas
  - 39 George of "CSI"
- DOWN**
- 1 Wheel part
  - 2 DVR
  - 3 Town leader
  - 4 Four-time Indy winner
  - 5 1969 World Series champs
  - 6 Messy room
  - 7 Conform
  - 8 Green hue
  - 9 Wood of Hollywood
  - 10 Was a bad bunk-mate
  - 16 Record material
  - 18 Lets loose
  - 20 Colorado resort
  - 22 Reggae's birth-place
  - 23 Noble
  - 24 City near the Dead Sea
  - 25 Raucous bird
  - 28 Lemon rind strips
  - 30 Available
  - 31 Crumpet's cousin
  - 32 Begat
  - 34 Nix
  - 36 Workout unit

S	E	R	V	O	P	A	C	E	S
T	R	A	I	L	E	V	A	D	E
R	O	P	E	D	R	A	P	I	D
I	D	A	C	U	P	A	S	A	
P	E	C	O	N	S	C	O	N	
E	D	I	T	O	R	P	I	N	S
O	N	T	A	R	I	O			
P	O	U	T	T	I	E	U	P	S
I	R	S	R	E	V	S	E	A	
G	I	N	O	D	E	N	A		
P	O	E	M	S	T	E	E	N	Y
E	L	S	I	E		E	N	S	U
N	E	S	T	S		R	E	S	T

### Yesterday's answer

- 10 Was a bad bunk-mate
- 16 Record material
- 18 Lets loose
- 20 Colorado resort
- 22 Reggae's birth-place
- 23 Noble
- 24 City near the Dead Sea
- 25 Raucous bird
- 28 Lemon rind strips
- 30 Available
- 31 Crumpet's cousin
- 32 Begat
- 34 Nix
- 36 Workout unit

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11							12		
13							14		
15						16			
17						18			
		19	20					21	
		22	23					24	
25						26			
27			28				29	30	31
33								34	
35								36	
37								38	
39								40	

## For Better Or Worse



## Zits



## Garfield



## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin



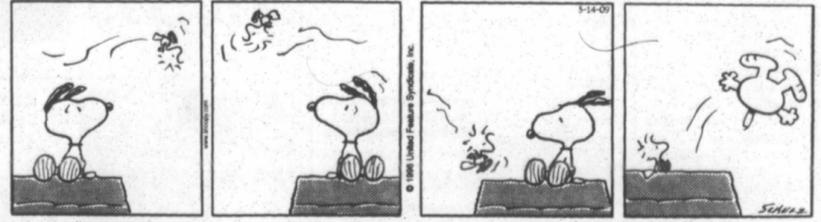
## B.C.



## Haggar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Blondie



## Flo & Friends



# DAILY HOROSCOPE

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Monday, March 16, 2009. You are in the final year of an 11-year cycle. What hasn't really worked during this time needs to be let go of before your next birthday. Your life will become much harder if you insist on holding on to untenable situations. Release and relax. If you are single, you don't need to spend money in order to impress a member of the opposite sex. You want to be loved for who you really are, not for the person you project. It is important to be authentic. If you are attached, make the budget a mutual project, and you both will be happier. A mutual commitment can bring a lot of happiness. SAGITTARIUS pushes you into the limelight.

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) **\*\*\*\*** A somewhat-challenging situation should be used to continue to explore options. What haven't you been looking at? Everyone has blinders; try to discern yours and remove them. That clarity will be hard to replace. Tonight: Find an expert or a friend to play devil's advocate.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) **\*\*\*\*** Relate on a close level, and you'll get past a problem effectively. Discussions bring up many new points of view. If you are feeling frustrated, angry or hurt, express those concerns. Holding back makes you like a bull in a china shop. Tonight: Chat over dinner.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) **\*\*\*\*** Others run with the ball. You might feel that someone is pushing you too hard. Note how you handle this situation.

Look at the pressure that is building, and find a way to defuse the situation. Don't allow a relationship to corner you. Tonight: Let someone else choose.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) **\*\*\*\*** Keep a higher-up's objective in mind, and you will succeed beyond your wildest dreams. Your ability to get past a problem is marked by energy — sometimes triggering many different potential ideas. Sit back and watch what happens. Tonight: Put your feet up.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) **\*\*\*\*** With so much going on, don't be surprised if something blows or someone becomes very frustrated. Yes, you might have too many irons in the fire, but the big Cat will land on all four feet. Your creativity emerges in difficult and not-so-difficult situations. Tonight: Aren't we naughty!

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) **\*\*\*\*** Curb being a bit outrageous, and you will return to being somewhat more like yourself. If you are depressed, open up and discuss your intense feelings or lack of feelings. Honor who you are emotionally and take care of yourself first. Center. Tonight: Sign up for a zodiac class.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) **\*\*\*\*** Use your ability to express yourself. In an explosive situation, quality communication can emerge, putting out a fire while it is still small and smoking. Demonstrate your diplomatic style and understanding of situations. Tonight: Hang out with a pal, or answer e-mail.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) **\*\*\*\*** Know when you cannot do anymore. Honor your body's natural boundaries and your mind's limits. Say that you have enough on your plate. You need a break. Tonight: Let someone else treat

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) **\*\*\*\*** You are all smiles. With this attitude, you can accomplish what you need and more. Someone respects your natural style and leadership. Let your creativity earmark a solution. You find that everything naturally falls into place. Tonight: Live each moment.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) **\*\*\*\*** Know when to kick back and say you have had enough. You might have a lot coming up. Dealing with this personal/emotional issue could have you very tired and questioning. Make it OK to take a personal day to recharge. Tonight: Screen your calls.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) **\*\*\*\*** Your words might come off much harder than you realize. Understand that everyone has times when he or she has had enough. Why should you be any different? Be careful using machinery when irritated. Tap into a special friend. Tonight: Where the gang is.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) **\*\*\*\*** A situation could force your hand financially. You will need to take the right step. Carefully listen to feedback, but make up your own mind. The one who will be held responsible is you. Tonight: Express your concerns.

**BORN TODAY**  
Comedian Jerry Lewis (1926), first lady Patricia Nixon (1912), director Bernardo Bertolucci (1940)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at [www.jacquelinebigar.com](http://www.jacquelinebigar.com).

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# DAILY HOROSCOPE

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Sunday, March 15, 2009. This is the final year of an 11-year cycle in which you will open up spaces for new and better experiences. Be honest about what doesn't work, and if you cannot make it work, let it go. If you are single, be skeptical if you fall head over heels in love. There could be an element of deception here. If you are attached, don't judge your sweetie so harshly. He or she might be having a tougher time than you realize. Give him or her understanding and time. SCORPIO serves as a visionary of sorts.

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) **\*\*\*\*** Work with a loved one. Honor fatigue. Your instincts could be right-on. The unexpected comes out with a friend. Could this friend have played a game that backfired? Tonight: Get extra sleep.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) **\*\*\*\*** Listen to a loved one who is very serious. The unexpected occurs, bringing new insight and/or opportunity. Don't allow a respected friend or loved one to influence your plans. This person might want more than you can give. Tonight: Listen to an offer.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) **\*\*\*\*** Relax and put your feet up. You often run around without stopping — now is your time to stop. Others could be very demanding or have strong expectations. Watch a movie; read the paper; don't feel like you have to do anything. You don't — not today. Tonight: Early to bed.

This Week: Invitations surround you left and right. Can you justify an Irish jig as networking? Give it a shot, but don't have great expectations.

you decide what would please you. Allow a child to play a strong role right now. News could provide a surprise opening. Tonight: Act like there is no tomorrow.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) **\*\*\*\*** Be ready to take the lead on the home front if you want something done a specific way. Family and home matters dominate, perhaps because you don't want to go far. A partner only adds confusion to a situation. Tonight: Order in.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) **\*\*\*\*** What you say makes an impression. Make Sunday calls, and touch base with the people in your thoughts. Catching up on news could lead to getting together for dinner or a visit. Enjoy what is happening. Tonight: Out and about.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) **\*\*\*\*** Be aware of the costs you are incurring. You could be out of sorts and tired. A risk could backfire. A child or loved one could be adorable but confusing. You are subject to moments of high energy and then depletion. Tonight: Meet a friend for dinner.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) **\*\*\*\*** Your personality melts barriers. A child or loved one could be full of fun and surprises as you try to keep up with his or her unexpected behavior. Do give up a need to control, because it will get you nowhere. Could a roommate be withholding something? Tonight: Do what you want.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) **\*\*\*\*** Right now, you might be happiest pulling back and doing nothing.

Remember, everyone needs a lazy day or two — you are no different. You might be confused by what someone really means, as you might be hurt by his or her words. Tonight: Don't explain. Do your thing.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) **\*\*\*\*** You can be found with groups of people — be it at a baseball game or the movies. You have much to smile about. Be careful with a surprising situation. You suddenly might lose money or your wallet. Count your change; know what you are doing. Tonight: And the party continues.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) **\*\*\*\*** You might add confusion when trying to clarify a situation. You could wonder what to do: Assume more responsibility. If you want something done a certain way, do it yourself. Unexpected behavior could cost you. Handle a stern partner with care. Tonight: Could be late.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) **\*\*\*\*** Go on a day trip or do something very different. A new setting, as well as a new type of activity, revitalizes your thoughts, feelings and way of handling yourself. You might do a reversal after reading between the lines. Let a loved one be a bit withdrawn. Tonight: Daydream to music, or go to a movie. The theme is "escape."

**BORN TODAY**  
Guitarist Samuel "Lightnin'" Hopkins (1912), singer Sly Stone (1943), model Fabio (1961)

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### 1 Public Notice

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning and Zoning Commission of the City of Pampa will conduct a Public Hearing at 5:00 p.m. on March 30, 2009 at City Hall, 201 W. Foster Street, Pampa, Texas on the 3rd floor in the City Commission Chambers. This will be a public hearing for the purpose of receiving public comments concerning the following request:

Trinity Fellowship Church of Pampa requests to re-zone the following described property from Single Family 2 and Commercial and Commercial: All of Block Numbers Thirty (30), Thirty-One (31), Thirty-Four (34), and all of Lot Numbers Twelve (12) through Twenty-Two (22), inclusive, out of Block Number Twenty-Eight (28); and all of Lot Numbers One (1), Thirteen (13) through Twenty-One (21), inclusive, and the North One-Half (N/2) of Lot Number Two (2), all in Block Number Twenty-Nine (29), all of said Lots and Blocks being a part of the said Section IV, North Crest Addition, an addition to the City of Pampa, Section 117, Block 3, 1 & G.N. Survey, Gray County, Texas, the above associated Blocks, Lots, Streets and Alleys are all included. The applicant proposes to use the property for the future development of the property to include an assisted living facility and potential multi-family apartments. The Public is encouraged to attend this hearing. Public comments on the proposed zoning change are welcome and will be heard. C-46 Mar. 15, 22, 2009

### 3 Personal

**\*\*Adopt\*\*** A beautiful Christian Home filled with music, crafts, puppy outdoor fun lovingly waits for your baby. Expenses Paid. Valey 1-800-989-6766

### 5 Special Notices

**ADVERTISING** Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

### 13 Bus. Opp.

**HUDDLE HOUSE**  
NEIGHBORHOOD OWNER

**EXCEPTIONAL FRANCHISE OPPORTUNITY**

Seeking hands-on entrepreneurs for unique restaurant ownership. Opp. available in Pampa, TX. Minimum \$200K liquidity and \$500K in assets.

Contact Jim Carr (800)418-9555 x1256 [www.huddlehouse.com](http://www.huddlehouse.com)

**GREAT** Investment opp. Pampa motel. Retired couple or individual. 665-1875, 806-383-1985.

### 14a Air Cond.

**BROWNING** Heating & Air Cond., 665-1212. Free est. on new equip! We service all brands!

### 14d Carpentry

**Carpentry, Roofing,** Replacement Windows, steel siding & trim. Continuous gutters. Jerry Nicholas 669-9991, 662-8169

**CUSTOM** Building & Remodeling. Replacement windows. Ref. avail. Shawn Deaver Const. 662-2977 or 665-0354.

**OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR** Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

### 14e Carpet Serv.

**NU-WAY** CLEANING SERVICE. Bob Marx Owner-Operator. Call 665-3541.

### 14h Gen. Serv.

**JH Concrete Work.** Stamps, driveways, addition, fences, patios. Free Est. 806-382-5408.

**CERAMIC** tile work. Remodeling floor, shower, kitchen. Texture, painting, dry wall. Free est. Call 665-3453 leave message. Jesus Barraza.

**HOUSE** Cracking? In bricks or walls? Childers Brothers, Inc. 800-299-9563, 806-352-9563

**COX Fence Company.** Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

### 14r Plowing/Yard

**CLEAN** Up, Landscaping, tree trimming, gardens. All types of jobs. Clean up, haul off, Rototilling. Free estimates. 486-1311.

### 14s Plumbing/Heat

**JACK'S** Plumbing, 715 W. Foster, 665-7115.

### 21 Help Wanted

**NOTICE:** All ads that contain phone numbers or give reference to a number with an area code of 809 or a prefix of 011, are international toll numbers and you will be charged international long distance rates. For more information regarding the investigation of work at home opportunities and job lists, The Pampa News urges its readers to contact the Better Business Bureau of South Texas, 609 S. International Blvd., Weslaco, Tx. 78596, (210) 968-3678.

**NOTICE:** Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

**2005 BUICK RENDEVOUS**  
MUST SEE • VERY CLEAN  
•STK# T08057B

**\$8,999**

**2003 CHEVY TAHOE**  
4 WD • Z71  
•STK# 3820B

**\$10,995**

**2005 CHEVY PICKUP**  
EXTENDED CAB • 4X4  
•STK# G08079A

**\$10,995**

**2006 BUICK LACROSSE**  
CLEAN • 1 OWNER  
•STK# C08127A

**\$10,995**

**2006 PONTIAC TORRENT**  
AWD • 1 OWNER  
•STK# 3878B

**\$12,997**

**2004 CHEVY SUBURBAN Z71**  
DVD • EXTRA CUTE • 4X4  
•STK# G09011A

**\$13,995**

**CULBERSON-STOWERS, INC.**  
805 N. HOBART  
806.665.1665 • 800.879.1665

## PHONE IN - MOVE IN

It's not just getting a mortgage it's building your future.

**1-888-883-2086**  
call today for your Free Pre-approval\*

Financial provided by Centex Mortgage, 3000 Landerhill Road, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054. Subject to applicable secondary market credit and property approval guidelines.

**¡Llámenos y Múdesse Pronto!®**

**1-888-891-8764**  
El campo a casa más rápido, más simple, y más conveniente.™

AUSTIN SCHOOL DISTRICT		North and North East	
3 Cypress Point	\$650,000	4/2.5/3	3179 SF/GCAD
11998 White Acres	\$288,900	4/3/2	2626 SF/GCAD
367 Winter Quarters	\$260,000	4/4/2	3500 SF/owner + 1.5 acres
12016 White Acres	\$234,900	4/2.5/3	2441 SF/GCAD + 1.5 acres
2518 Evergreen	\$179,900	3/2/1	2321 SF/GCAD
2235 Christine	\$162,000	3/2.5/1	2326 SF/GCAD
1819 Evergreen	\$157,900	4/1, 7.5, 7.5/2	2315 SF/GCAD
2300 Navajo	\$142,500	4/2.5/2	2088 SF/GCAD
2224 N Christine	\$139,900	4/2/2	1914 SF/GCAD
405 E Linda Dr	\$120,000	2/1.5/2	1856 SF/GCAD
1020 Mary Ellen	\$90,000	3/1.75/1	1811 SF/GCAD
1526 Wilston	\$89,900	4/2/1	1944 SF/GCAD
2530 Mary Ellen	\$88,000	4/1.75/1	1684 SF/GCAD
1535 N Russell	\$83,000	2/1/2	1624 SF/GCAD
1414 N Wilston	\$82,500	3/1.75/2(1st) det	1577 SF/GCAD
2215 N Russell	\$69,900	2/1/1	1216 SF/GCAD
1602 N Charles	\$69,500	3/2.50/2	1947 SF/GCAD
2113 N Wilston	\$65,000	3/1/1	972 SF/GCAD
1344 Garland	\$23,000	2/1/1	886 SF/GCAD
LAMAR SCHOOL DISTRICT		South West	
1141 S Chstly	\$35,000	3/1/1	1520 SF/GCAD
TRAVIS SCHOOL DISTRICT		West and North West	
2120 Lynn	\$124,900	3/1.75/2	1872 SF/GCAD
2112 Lynn	\$105,000	3/2/2	1620 SF/GCAD
2137 N Faulkner	\$82,000	3/1.75/1	1475 SF/GCAD
1101 Seneca	\$80,000	3/1.75/1	1192 SF/GCAD
1801 N Banks	\$79,900	3/1/1	1196 SF/GCAD
1820 N Wells	\$77,000	4/1/0	1368 SF/GCAD
2900 Rosewood Ln	\$64,500	3/1.5/0	1537 SF/GCAD
1145 Seneca Lane	\$65,000	3/1/0	1369 SF/GCAD
1921 N Chstly	\$59,900	3/1/1	1096 SF/GCAD
800 N Wells	\$55,900	3/2/0	1248 SF/GCAD
WILSON SCHOOL DISTRICT		South East	
701 N Powell	\$92,000	3/2/3	1890 SF/GCAD
1125 Starkweather	\$49,900	3/1/0	1072 SF/GCAD
1001 E Foster	\$49,000	3/1/0	1220 SF/GCAD
415 Starkweather	\$30,000	2/1/0	1316 SF/GCAD
OTHER AREAS		Outside Pampa City Limits	
530 Acres Near Lefors	\$530,000	Ranch West Of Lefors	
367 Winter Quarters	\$260,000	4/4/2	3500 SF/OWNERS + 1.5 Acres
7400 Cnty Rd 14	\$125,000	4/3/0	2865 SF+10 Acres
1503 Lions St, Miami	\$109,900	3/2/2	1780 SF/GCAD+ .89 Acre
11609 Cnty Rd E	\$109,000	3/1/1	1366+3 acres/GCAD
401 E 4th, Lefors	\$35,000	2/1/2	1080 SF/GCAD

**Pampa Realty Inc. 669-0007**  
**Pampa MLS & Amarillo MLS**

**Century 21**

Jim Davidson (BKR/OWNER) . 662-9021  
Rebecca Akins . 662-2190  
Robert Arnold . 665-3357  
Kathina Bigham . 898-8510  
Christa Carpenter . 664-0463  
Donna Courter . 595-0779  
Twila Fisher (BKR) . 440-2314  
John Goddard (BKR) . 595-1234  
Linda Lapacka . 662-9611  
Zeb Sailors . 664-0312  
Sandra Schuneman (BKR) . 662-7291

Visit CENTURY 21 COMMUNITIES™ on AOL/Keyword:CENTURY 21

\*Average Home & Acreage represents an average based upon homes brought in and through CENTURY 21 franchise during 2008.  
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**21 Help Wanted**

**SPRINT Nurses** seeking RN's, LVN's and CNA's to work locally. For more information call 806-355-5660.

**IMMEDIATE** Openings avail. for LVN's & RN's. 8 hr. shift. Great pay! Come work with a great team. Apply at Senior Village, 3101 Main, Perryton; or call for an appl. to be mailed, 806-435-5403.

**ATTEBURY** Grain LLC is looking for a Full-Time Operator for the Pampa location. Agriculture exp. is a plus. Applications can be picked up at the main office in White Deer.

**COLLINGSWORTH** General Hospital is changing the face of healthcare in Wellington: new EMR and telemetry technology are only the beginning. New facilities are coming soon! Here you will discover the very best of you through genuine team collaboration and support. Currently, we are accepting applications for one full-time or part-time 7p-7a RN. RNs start \$25/hr + exp RN night diff \$4/hr RN WE night shift diff \$1/hr  
Paid CEU  
Flexible scheduling  
Relocation expenses  
Paid health ins.

Contact  
Cary Thomas, RN  
Chief Nursing Officer  
(806)447-2521 Ext 340  
1013 15th  
Wellington, TX 79095

**NEED RN**, full or part-time, 6am-6pm shift. Call Pato Durio Nursing Home, 226-250.



**WE are GROWING** at JBS Five Rivers Cattle Feeding! Full Time Management Positions Dalhart Texas Area Assistant Mill Manager(s)

Benefits include paid time off, 401(k) Plan, Family Medical, RX, Dental, Vision, Life, Disability Insurance for under \$40 a week. Relocation Assistance is available for most positions.

Come GROW with us, email resume with salary requirements to [careers@fiveriverscattle.com](mailto:careers@fiveriverscattle.com).

and write Assistant Mill Manager in the subject line. Drivers license and Pre-Employment Drug Screen Required. BOE/MF



**The Panhandles #1 Crude Carrier** Accepting Applications for Drivers Excellent Pay & Benefits Paid Training, Vacation & Holidays Local Driving, Referral Bonus, Medical/Dental/Vision/Life & 401K Class A CDL-X Required

Apply Today: Call Kipp Wilks at 1-800-737-9973 or 806-935-9182

**PART TIME INSERTER**

Needed immediately! About 20 hrs. per week. Must work every Sat., have driver's license & be 18 yrs. old.

Apply in Person **The Pampa News** 403 W. Atchison Pampa No phone calls please

**OPPORTUNITY** for Part-Time In-Store Food Demonstrator Thurs.-Sun. for ASM at local superstore. Apply to [www.samplefood.net](http://www.samplefood.net)

**GRAY Co. Precinct 1** is now taking applications for experienced Motor-grader Operator. CDL is a plus. Good pay & benefits. Call Precinct 1 Warehouse, in Lefors, 835.2711 lv. msg.

**RN: ONE WEEKEND PER MONTH.** State license required. Competitive rates! EOE. Must be able to pass drug screen & background check. For more information, call (806)665-5746, or apply in person at CORONADO HEALTH-CARE CENTER, 1504 W. Kentucky, Pampa.

**21 Help Wanted**

**HELP** wanted in a chiropractic office. Clinical exp desired. Ins. exp. a plus! Send reply to Box 75 c/o Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa.

**NEED** Maintenance Man. Must have tools & transportation. Apply at 800 N. Nelson.

**THERAPIST TECHNICIAN I FIR/PAMPA** \$8.43 per hour Texas Panhandle MHMR is in need of applicants who have a high school diploma / GED. Must have a minimum of eighth grade reading-comprehension level as evidenced by score on the Adult Basic Learning Examination (ABLE) test and a valid Texas Drivers License and be insured under the agency vehicle policy. Prefer experience working with individuals in therapeutic activities and would be interested in assisting persons with mental retardation in day program and residential settings. (3 positions available).

**Shifts available:**  
All 40 hrs / week  
8pm-8am  
Sat. & Sun. 4pm-12am.  
Thurs. & Fri. 4pm-12am  
Mon.-Fri. 12am-8am  
Mon.-Fri. 8am-8pm.  
Sat. & Sun. 12am-8am  
Mon. & Tues. Apply at Texas Panhandle MHMR 901 Wallace Amarillo, TX 79106 806-358-1681 Download application at: [www.tpmhmr.org](http://www.tpmhmr.org)

**An Equal Opportunity Employer** Drug Free & Smoke Free Workplace Pre-Employment Drug Screening Req.

**OFFICE / Administrative** Position-Must be friendly, honest, dependable and hard worker. Must have transportation and be willing to learn new skills. Will receive on-the-job training. Part-time to full-time work available. Send Resume to: Vision Computer Services, PO Box 1760, Pampa, TX 79066

**48 Trees/Shrubs** M&R Tree & Shrub Complete Serv., Free Est. 10% Senior disc. 273-2370, 433-4937.

**50 Building Suppl.** White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

**60 Household** COOKSTOVES, bedroom furn., freezers & complete home furnishings. 662-7557.

**69 Misc.** ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

**SCALPING & BASIC LAWN CARE.** CALL 662-0198 after 5pm

**COOKWARE**- New Year 09 Clearance! We stopped doing dinner parties! Have some beautiful 22-pc. sets left! Surgical Stainless Steel! 7-ply and New in box! Lifetime Warranty! Were \$1899.00, fifty 5 callers buy for \$299.00! [yaposeal.com](http://yaposeal.com) 1-800-434-4628!

**DEB'S Quick Stop**, 1106 Alcock, Pampa, 665-8300. Now Selling Liquor, Wine & Beer!

**DINETTES** and Furniture. Red Barn, 1420 S. Barnes. We buy estates. Sat. 10-5. 665-2767

**FOR Sale** 5 original Pampa Fairview Cemetery plots. 806-637-6478, 806-891-2176.

**80 Pets & Suppl.** SHELIE Puppies for sale. Now 5 wks. old, will be able to leave mom at 7-8 wks. of age. Shots will be started. 1st deworming will be done. 3 males and 1 female avail. Mom & dad avail. for viewing. Call 806-440-1551.

**80 Pets & Suppl.**

**MINI PINS** for sale. \$100 ea. Call 806-279-0800.

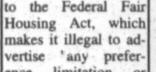
**For Sale** Pit Bull Puppies \$100 ea. 669-1817

**FREE** Pit Mix Puppies. Come by 333 N. Christy, Pampa.

**BEAUTIFUL** Small Miniature Dachshunds for sale. 8 weeks old. \$150. 806-336-7702.

**95 Furn. Apts.**

**ACCEPTED** 1400 W. Somerville Pampa, TX 806-665-3292



All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination based on these factors. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

**ATTENTION** Senior Citizens, nicely furnished rooms. All bills paid, incl. cable & internet. Affordable mo. rates. 665-1875 or 883-2572.

**RANCH** House Motel, 720 E. Frederic, Pampa, Tx, 669-1616. Nightly, Weekly, Monthly Rates, HBO/Cable/Internet. "We Will Match Any Local Motel Price"

**White Deer Motel** Now Open! Cable & Internet "We will leave the TV on for you." 883-2572

**LAKEVIEW** Apt. 1 & 2 bdr unfurn. apt. Call for availability. Ref. & deposit req. 669-4386

**LARGEST** in Pampa. Spacious 1&2 bdr. apts. Friendly neighbors. Reas. rates. 665-1875.

**THE Schneider House**, now leasing appts., 1 & 2 bdr., utilities incl. 120 S. Russell or 665-0415.

**98 Unfurn. Houses** 3 bdr., 1 3/4 ba., ext. lrg. livingroom. Washer dryer/dishwasher hook-ups. 662-9775.

3 bdr. in Pampa. Coffee st. References required. Call 610-929-1761, 806-374-4360.

**AXYDLBAAXR is LONG FELLOW**

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

**3-14 CRYPTOQUOTE**

K F I T F G N F V T E Q Y  
T I Y H R K C Z X F Z P J T T G R K T  
R K C Z X O Q D T S K Y T T N O T ;  
R K C O C O Z Q R F P I C V T , C R C O  
D T Y T N H V M O R Q D . — D F Y J  
R S F C Z

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: MAKE THE MOST OF YOURSELF, FOR THAT IS ALL THERE IS OF YOU. — RALPH WALDO EMERSON

**96 Unfurn. Apts.** 2 bdr., 1 ba. Appliances are furnished. Call 440-2866

**ALL BILLS PAID** 1 bdr., remodeled. Courtyard Apts. Call (817)909-4766.

**BENT CREEK APARTMENTS** \*Lovely 2 & 3 Bdr. Apts  
\*All Single Story Units  
\*Electric Range  
\*Frost-Free Refrigerator  
\*Blinds & Carpet  
\*Washer / Dryer Connec.  
\*Central Heat / Air  
\*Walk-in Closets  
\*Exterior Storage  
\*Front Porches  
HUD  
ACCEPTED  
1400 W. Somerville Pampa, TX 806-665-3292

**PAMA APTS** SENIORS OR DISABLED ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE W/D CONNECTIONS 2700 N. HOBART 665-2828

**PAMPA MANOR** SENIORS OR DISABLED ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE W/D CONNECTIONS 2700 N. HOBART 665-2828

**CLEAN** 1 bdr., stove, refrig., completely renovated, new carpet. All bills paid. 886-1674.

**LARGEST** in Pampa. Spacious 1&2 bdr. apts. Friendly neighbors. Reas. rates. 665-1875.

**THE Schneider House**, now leasing appts., 1 & 2 bdr., utilities incl. 120 S. Russell or 665-0415.

**98 Unfurn. Houses** 3 bdr., 1 3/4 ba., ext. lrg. livingroom. Washer dryer/dishwasher hook-ups. 662-9775.

3 bdr. in Pampa. Coffee st. References required. Call 610-929-1761, 806-374-4360.

**2724 DUNCAN** Great location! Newly remodeled! 3300 sq. ft., 4 bdr., 3.5 ba. All new built-in appliances. Hardwood floors. Plus apt. in back with 700 sq. ft. that could be extra income. 886-5754

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2 bdr., 1 ba. Appliances are furnished. Call 440-2866

**ALL BILLS PAID** 1 bdr., remodeled. Courtyard Apts. Call (817)909-4766.

**BENT CREEK APARTMENTS** \*Lovely 2 & 3 Bdr. Apts  
\*All Single Story Units  
\*Electric Range  
\*Frost-Free Refrigerator  
\*Blinds & Carpet  
\*Washer / Dryer Connec.  
\*Central Heat / Air  
\*Walk-in Closets  
\*Exterior Storage  
\*Front Porches  
HUD  
ACCEPTED  
1400 W. Somerville Pampa, TX 806-665-3292

**PAMA APTS** SENIORS OR DISABLED ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE W/D CONNECTIONS 2700 N. HOBART 665-2828

**PAMPA MANOR** SENIORS OR DISABLED ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE W/D CONNECTIONS 2700 N. HOBART 665-2828

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**2**

# Economic crisis threatens small, rural schools

NAPA, Calif. (AP) — In this rustic corner of California wine country, parents are fighting to prevent the closure of a one-classroom school established before the Civil War.

Near Las Vegas, families are trying to rescue two elementary schools with dwindling enrollment. And in a rural area outside San Diego, a 60-year-old schoolhouse closed because it had just seven students.

Rural schools such as these are being threatened as the economy forces deep cuts to education. Districts nationwide are preparing to shut down many campuses, and small, isolated schools are vulnerable because they serve fewer students and cost more per pupil to operate than larger schools.

"All over this country, the pressure is on to close rural schools," said Marty Strange, policy director of the nonprofit Rural School and Community Trust in Arlington, Va. "They are a target in these hard economic times."

Among the schools targeted is Wooden Valley Elementary School, which has one teacher, one teaching assistant and 20 students from kindergarten to fifth grade. Surrounded by ranches and vineyards in the rolling hills of Napa Valley, it is one of the oldest one-room schools still operating in California.

An icon of American culture depicted in the television show "Little House on the Prairie," the one-room schoolhouse dominated education before buses allowed children to attend schools more than walking distance from their homes.

A century ago, there were more than 200,000 one-teacher schools in the country, but that number dwindled to 335 in 2006, according to the National Center for Educational Statistics.

In rural San Diego County, enrollment at Palomar Mountain School was only seven students when it closed last year after six decades.

Outside Las Vegas, school officials recently postponed a vote to close Lundy Elementary and Goodsprings Elementary after parents protested. Both schools have fewer than 10 students, and Goodsprings is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

In Northern California, Wooden Valley has staved off closure many times before, but parents worry that the state's budget crisis is so severe that it could finally shutter a school that has existed in some form since the 1850s.

District officials have proposed closing their two smallest schools to help offset \$10 million in cuts to its \$115 million annual budget. The 17,000-stu-



Students walk to Wooden Valley Elementary School in Napa, Calif. More than 150 years after it was established, this one room school house could fall victim to an economic crisis that threatens to close schools across the

district also is looking into increasing class sizes, shortening the school year and laying off nearly 10 percent of its 900 teachers.

"We're in difficult straits," Superintendent John Glaser said.

Parents are raising money and lobbying district officials to keep open the old school, where children of different ages learn and play side-by-side. A decision is expected later this month.

"By closing our school they are taking away our way of life," said Wanda Berger, the school's PTA president and mother of two students. "It's the way our founding fathers went to school, and education was pretty strong back then."

California schools, which rank near the bottom nationally in per pupil spending, are preparing to make drastic cuts after Gov.

Arnold Schwarzenegger and the Legislature last month reached a budget deal that reduces K-12 education spending by \$8.6 billion — more than 10 percent — through June 2010.

"These cuts are completely devastating," said Bob Wells, executive director of the Association of California School Administrators.

California school districts are set to increase class size, close libraries, eliminate sports programs, scrap electives such as art and music, and lay off tens of thousands of employees.

The districts are also preparing to close dozens, possibly hundreds, of schools with low or declining enrollment and send the displaced students to other campuses.

"We can't afford to keep open all the schools we got," said Scott Plotkin, who heads the California School Boards Association.

School officials say small schools like Wooden Valley are not cost-effective and that students can

benefit from the resources of a larger school.

But advocates say that when rural schools close, children face longer commutes and parents become less involved. They also note that studies show that small schools lead to better grades and lower dropout rates.

"If we really cared about raising student achievement, we'd be creating more small schools, not less," Wells said.

The 20 students at Wooden Valley attend class in a schoolhouse built in the 1950s near the original wooden schoolhouse.

Teacher LeeAnn Ohlandt said it is a challenge teaching students at six different grade levels, but she encounters far fewer behavior problems than at her previous school.

"I love it," Ohlandt said. "I've become part of their families. I get to see these kids grow."

Although Wooden Valley does not have the resources of a larger school, parents say their children learn better social and communication skills and are not exposed to the teasing and bullying common in many schools.

Korinne Norlund, who has six children attending Wooden Valley, said she would home-school her kids if Wooden Valley closed.

"It's a very safe environment emotionally," she said. "There's no ridicule of any kind. It's just something you don't get in the average public school."

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