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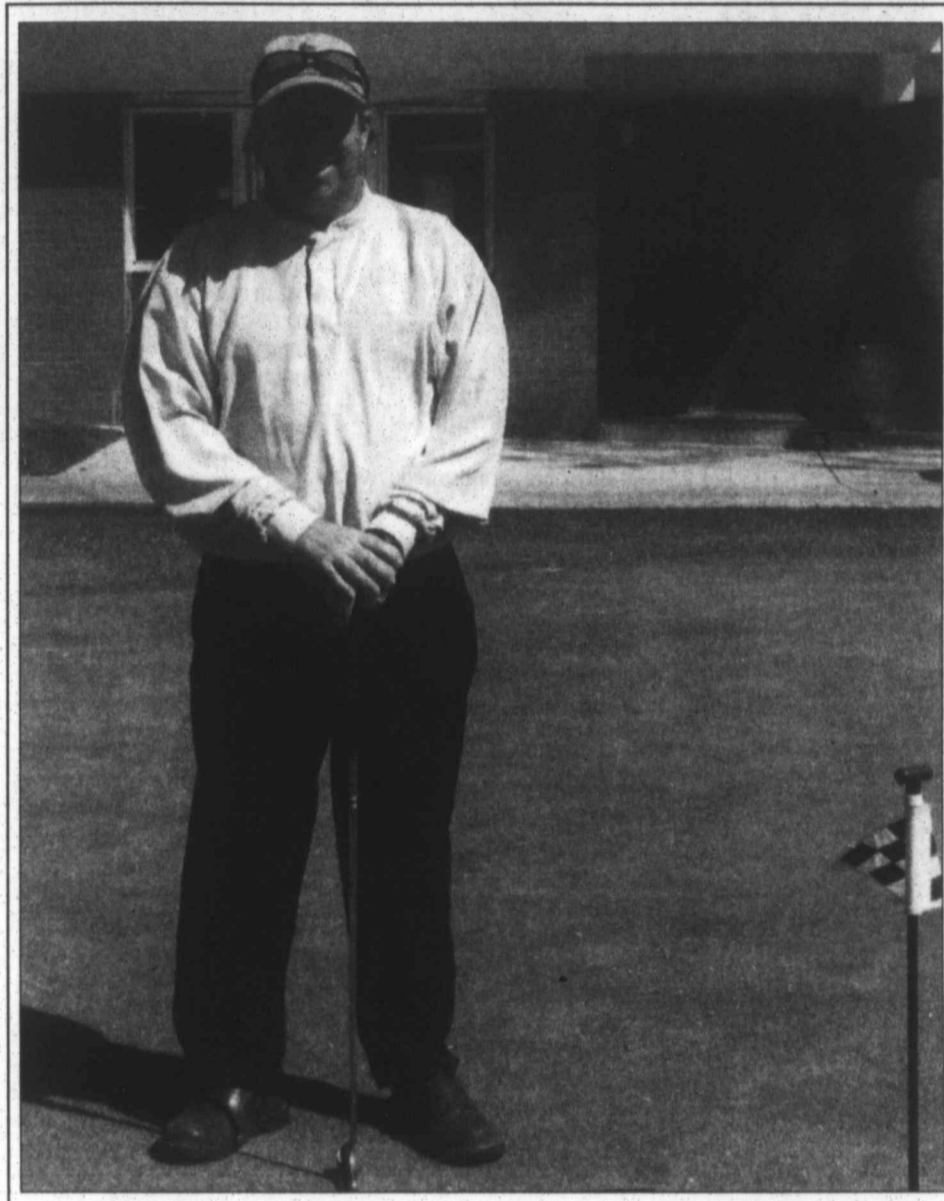
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# The PAMPA NEWS

Friday, April 3, 2009 Volume 104 • No. 384 50¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50



Tim Stradler, new golf pro at Pampa Country Club, putts on the green. Stradler came to Pampa in November for the position, and since has worked on improving the merchandise store and member service.

## Stradler 'finds a home' at Pampa Country Club

by Rachel Stennett  
 rstennett@thepampanews.com

Tim Stradler, new golf professional at Pampa Country Club, has found a home in Pampa, where the course is challenging and the people are "a good group of folks." "This is a good group of people to work for," Stradler said. "The quality of life is good here, even though it's windy — very windy."

Stradler came to Pampa in November after spending four years at The Course at Eagle Mountains in Batesville, Arkansas.

He has over 18 years experience as a PGA golf pro, and believes Pampa's Country Club course is both challenging and exciting. He said the course requires premium accuracy due to its tree-lined fairways, and is kept in the best condition he has seen in courses across the Panhandle, although he admits he now has a bias to the local course.

As the country club golf pro, Stradler teaches 15 to 20 lessons per week, maintains the merchandise store, and is responsible for member needs. Within the past few months, he said he felt he's made the most significant difference in his work in the merchandise store.

"It wasn't in the best shape when I got here," Stradler said. "But now, we are organized and offer a wide variety of products." The Pampa Country Club golf store is open to the general public. The store offers all types of clothing, golf equipment, shoes, glass wear, and other golfing supplies. The store carries Oakley, Nike, and Zero Restriction products.

Some of Stradler's goal for the future include providing better services to members, increasing membership numbers, and having a high quality of services.

"We want to offer the best value for the recreational dollar," he said. "If you take care of the membership and member needs, you take care of yourself."

Stradler explained his success so far within his position is in part due to his assistant, Butch Gatlin. "Butch knows the subtleties of membership, including the preferences and needs of people. He is a great asset." Gatlin is also a PGA member and has worked at the country club for six years.

Golf has been Stradler's passion since he was young. "I grew up as a golfer and I knew I wanted to be a part of this forever."

He added that he feels fulfilled as a golf professional, "I am finally able to give back to the game that has given so much to me." Stradler has worked at numerous clubs as a golf pro in his 18 year career. He played for Abilene Christian University.

Stradler grew up in Houston and is happy about his return to the Lone Star state. "It's good to be back to the opposite end of the state," he laughed.

Stradler's wife, Tiffany, is a second grade teacher at Wilson Elementary. They have a five year old son.

## Wind turbines may help cut costs at new Junior High

by David Bowser  
 dbowser@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Independent School District is exploring ways to cut energy costs at the new junior high school being built north of town.

The board of trustees revisited a proposal by Entegry Wind Systems, Inc., a Boulder, Colo., based wind energy company, during their regularly scheduled meeting Thursday evening.

They first went through the presentation with Becki Meadows, Entegry's sales director at their March 26 meeting and had asked for some clarifications on particular issues, including whether there might be any funding from state or federal sources to help offset the cost of such a project, how other schools had financed such programs and how long it would take to recoup the cost of the project.

Entegry has erected wind turbines for the Shallowater Independent School District near Lubbock, among other schools.

Carol Fields, Pampa Independent School District business manager, told the board that the state paid 70 percent of the Shallowater project, but Shallowater is a smaller and poorer school district

than Pampa. She said that Pampa would be eligible for only about 10 percent funding from the state.

"We're a much wealthier district," Fields said.

She added that there is no additional funding available at the moment, although the Texas Legislature is still in session, and they could make some funds available to school districts for alternative energy sources before they break at the end of May.

Fields told the board that the estimated maintenance costs of each turbine was \$1,000 a year after the initial five-year warranty expired.

She also confirmed Meadows' estimate that the project would have an 18-year pay back.

Board member Mark McVay said that would be too long.

"That's not feasible for us," he said.

McVay said there were other needs that had to be met with the amount of money that it would take to install the wind project.

Entegry estimated that the total project with three 50-kilowatt wind turbines would cost about \$622,000. They estimated the average annual energy savings to be \$47,272.

Charles Smith, school board president, said he

## Harvey Harvester to get new home

Harvey Harvester should go on his pedestal next week.

The bronze statue that used to stand in front of Pampa High School will stand guard in the new rotunda of the renovated Pampa High.

Jeff Popp with Western Builders told the Pampa Independent School District board of trustees at their Thursday evening meeting that he expects to move Harvey to the rotunda next week. For now, the statue lies in the new commons area.

Popp said the commons area was being painted and his crews were working to finish the adjoining kitchen area.

Rick Fleming with Western Builders told the school board that his crews were out Thursday morning shoveling snow at the site of the new junior high school.

He reported that he lost two days the week before due to the 12-inch snow

and blizzard conditions that brought outside work to a halt all across the panhandle.

"That should be it for all the snow, right?" he asked.

Board member Lee Porter replied that the area has had appreciable snowfall as late as May.

Fleming told the board that 60 piers had been poured for the new Pampa Junior High School and work was continuing on pouring the concrete paving. He said they had finished the sewer lines and were working on the water and power lines.

He said he expected to begin laying concrete block walls for the gym by mid-month.

Jeff Reed with Parkhill, Smith and Cooper told the board he had met with the color committee and they had decided on a color scheme for the junior high. He said the architectural firm was putting those col-

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## Wind turbines

Continued from Front Page

wanted a more reasonable pay back. Board member Dana Terry suggested that now might be the time to visit with T. Boone Pickens. Pickens had created Mesa Power with a plan to build a large wind farm across northern Gray County and southern Roberts County, but those plans have been delayed because of the

national financial woes and difficulty in getting financing for large projects. "I'm just looking to save money," Smith said. "I don't care if it's squirrels in a cage. It's worth looking at." In the end, the board tentatively approved a measure to install conduit beneath the concrete paving at the junior high that could handle the necessary wiring if wind turbines were installed at a future date.

## Harvey Harvester

Continued from Front Page

ors in artist renderings for the board and expected to have the color committee's recommendations ready for the school board at their first meeting in May.

The school board approved placing whiteboards in the renovated high school classrooms at the west end of the second floor at a cost of \$25,000. They also approved expansion of the renovations to the walls in those classrooms at a cost of \$115,000.

Reed said money in the contingency fund that had already been set aside would cover the projects and still leave

some \$100,000 in the contingency account.

In other business, the school board heard details of a proposal to install from one to three wind turbines at the new junior high school, but balked at the \$622,000 price tag and the time involved to recover the cost of the program (See related story).

The board approved revised employment contracts for the district. The language in the contracts was changed to clarify the length of time teachers were obligated and the requirement of all employees to submit to a criminal history check as a condition of employment.

## Texas inmates making first routine phone calls

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) - Texas prison inmates are making routine phone calls for the first time.

The Texas prison board was told Friday the first of a planned systemwide program of telephone service to be available to most inmates began working this week at the Henley State Jail in Dayton, east of Houston. The system is being phased in this year throughout the 112 units of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, the nation's second-largest corrections agency.

Under terms of a contract with a Kansas telecommunications firm, the country's most restrictive telephone policy for state prisoners is ending for an estimated 120,000 inmates who will be allowed up to 120 minutes of prepaid and collect calls each month.

Three more prisons, Ai Vance, in Fort Bend County; Luther, in Grimes County; and Hobby, in Falls County, Ai are to have phone service next week and should be among 13 brought up in April.

Another 31 become active in May and the entire system should be up by the end of September, said Paul Cooper, director and general manager of corrections markets for Embarq Corp., the Overland Park, Kan.-based company that last year was awarded a seven-year contract with the Texas prison agency.

Texas is the last state to bar routine phone access for inmates. Most Texas prisoners now are allowed one five-minute collect call every 90 days, and only with a warden's permission and only with a prison officer present to monitor the call.

The new system will allow inmates up to 15 minutes per call to friends and family on an approved list of visitors. Calls to crime victims or the victims' families will be barred.

Inmates and their families can prepay for telephone calls at rates of about 23 cents a minute for in-state calls and 39 cents for out-of-state calls. Collect calls within Texas will be about 26 cents a minute and 43 cents for outside the state. International calls and calls to cell phone aren't allowed.

Phone privileges won't extend to about 36,000 inmates with disciplinary problems, gang affiliations or those on death row.

A few weeks before the system becomes active at a unit, Embarq makes voice prints of each eligible inmate as a security check for phone access. Cooper said so far 65,000 inmates have enrolled.

"We educate offenders on how the system is going to work so they know and write letters to friends and families," he said.

Friends and relatives of inmates can register on a Web site, Ai www.texasprison-phone.com, Ai and the company is working on an automated system for people who don't have Internet access, Cooper

said. People on an inmate's visitors list submit a copy of their telephone bill and a copy of their driver's license and their names are verified against the visitors list names.

"There are multiple layers of checks that occur," Cooper said, saying the phone system had security features and "a ton" of investigative capabilities.

"In terms of getting into the system, there are some checks," he said. "They are not perfect."

People who register and are approved are notified by a phone call from the firm.

The new phone privileges come in the wake of a crackdown by the agency on illegal cell phone use. Hundreds of contraband phones, chargers and phone components have been seized in recent months and security has been tightened for those entering and leaving the prisons after a death row inmate last year, using a smuggled phone, made threatening calls to a state senator.

State prison officials long had opposed expanded phone access, fearing inmates could maintain their criminal connections to the outside world. But officials say technology has improved so the calls can be monitored, recorded and limited to those on the list of approved contacts.

State lawmakers in 2007 overwhelmingly approved the measure allowing the project.

Embarq handles state prison telephone contracts in a half dozen states and will keep the first 60 percent of revenues. The remaining money, up to \$10 million, will go to the Crime Victims Compensation Fund. Proceeds beyond that will be split evenly between the state's general revenue and the victim's fund.

The Legislative Budget Board has estimated annual revenue at about \$5.8 million.

Embarq spokesman Tom Matthews said the installation has been a "massive project" made even more challenging at the state's prisons.

"There was no infrastructure anywhere," he said, saying the work involved basic things like stringing wire. "None of the facilities ever had that."

Some corrections experts believe the availability of phone communication allows inmates to keep in regular touch with relatives and that continued phone access can be used as an incentive for a convict to behave. Phones also are seen as a way to ease the financial strain on relatives who want to visit an inmate in a prison far from them.

Approximately one phone is being installed for each 30 inmates, meaning about 4,000 phones will be put in common areas of prisons like day rooms.

Calls to an inmate's lawyer of record, protected under attorney-client privilege, would not be monitored or recorded.

## Amarillo Youth Orchestras plan free concert Sunday

Performances feature almost 140 local, area students

The Amarillo Youth Orchestras will give a free concert at 3 p.m. Sunday in the Globe-News Center for the Performing Arts.

The concert wraps up a year of intensive work for students in the three ensembles that comprise the Youth Orchestras program: Amarillo Youth Sinfonia, a string ensemble for students with at least one year of playing experience; Amarillo Youth Philharmonic, an intermediate string ensemble; and Amarillo Youth Symphony, an advanced orchestra. All three will perform during the concert.

Dr. Mark Bartley, associate conductor of the Amarillo Symphony, heads the 50-piece Youth Symphony. Jill Bradford, orchestra director at Austin Middle School, leads the 57-piece Philharmonic and the 31-piece Sinfonia.

"These young musicians have all developed so

much over the course of this year," Bartley said. "They're all playing challenging pieces that will really show their growth, as well as being entertaining."

The Youth Symphony will perform excerpts from Georges Bizet's "L'Arlesienne Suites," which they performed with the Amarillo Symphony at its March 28 concert, as well as Alexander Glazunov's "Cortege Solennel." The Sinfonia and the Philharmonic will both perform selections of age-appropriate works that emphasize the growth of the various sections of their ensembles.

Members of the Amarillo Youth Orchestras also receive additional coach-

ing from Symphony members and other Amarillo music teachers, including Heather Seachrist, Sheila De Long, Aloha Gitchell, Kyle Davis, Jillian Read, Yesenia Campos, Fabian Saldana, Nick Lopez, Russell Steadman, Lori Scales and Eleanora Lopez.

The Symphony considers the Youth Orchestras, which were founded in 1987, an integral part of its educational mission. Some of the Youth Orchestras' top students will be recognized with scholarships during the concert.

For more information, please contact Chip Chandler, director of development and communications, at [chip@amarillosymphony.org](mailto:chip@amarillosymphony.org).



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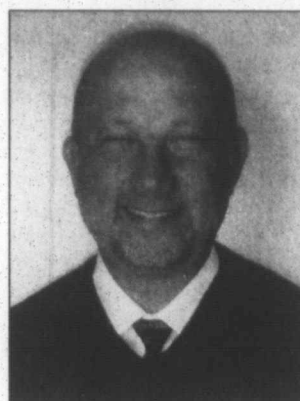
## Harvesters defeated by Caprock

The Pampa Harvesters played a tough game Wednesday against Caprock. Carlyn Tichman struck out 15 batters in the first 7 innings. Caprock took the game in the 9th inning with a final score of 3-4. In the second inning, Sammie Pierson got on with a walk, stole second,

advanced on a hit by Devon Valentine, and scored on the hit to center field by Shelby Watson. Caprock tied the game in the 3rd inning. Pampa was held to one run until the 8th. Kelby Doughty got on with a walk, advanced on a bunt by Ashley Fascio and scored on a double hit by Callie Preston.

Caprock answered with a triple, to be hit in by a base hit to second. Tichman led off the 9th inning with a hit past second and scored with a double by Shelby Watson. Caprock took the game in the 9th scoring 2 runs, ending the game Pampa 3 Caprock 4. Pampa plays at Canyon today.

## Hunt promoted to Assistant VP at NBC Pampa location



Kevin Hunt

Kevin Hunt has been promoted to Assistant Vice President with National Bank of Commerce in Pampa.

Hunt has been with National Bank of Commerce since April 2001. He started his banking career as a loan officer for First National Bank in Borger where he was eventually promoted to Vice President/Branch Manager of their banking center in Panhandle.

Hunt was raised in Pampa and graduated from Pampa High School in 1987. He attended West Texas State University and also Wayland Baptist University. He is also a graduate of Texas Bankers Association's Lending School.

He has been married to his wife Shawna for three years. He has two sons, Braden, a junior at PHS,

and Ethan, a seventh grader at PJHS. Kevin also has a daughter, Carsyn, who is two years old. Hunt enjoys playing golf and softball, and also coaching and umpiring baseball. He is a member of the Pampa Optimist Club, past member of the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and

past board member of the Tralee Crisis Center. He has also served as a United Way volunteer, serving for several years as a loaned executive and also on the budget allocations committee. Kevin is currently serving on the Board of Adjustments for the City of Pampa.

## Collectibles on display in Panhandle

The Carson County Square House Museum in Panhandle is presenting an exhibit of dollhouses and miniatures from Merry Mini Makers from Amarillo and the Scott Free Model Railroaders whose members come from Amarillo, Panhandle, Fritch, Borger and other locations in the Panhandle. The Railroaders have prepared a layout that not only shows rail travel, but displays airplanes, trucks, cars and a pipeline to illustrate other forms of transportation. Teachers have

requested this group as enhancement for the transportation units in social studies classes. They bring their models and layout materials to create a very interesting route for their trains to travel. Addressing many aspects of communities, the layout is delightful for children of all ages, and some who don't consider themselves children. This exhibit fills the Hazlewood Gallery and will be on display through May. Miniature collectors fill their dollhouses and scenes with all of the items neces-

sary for a comfortable home complete with silverware, pictures on the wall, flower arrangements, pillows, dishes and electric lights that really work. They work in a scale from 1/144" to 1 1/2". The first miniature show in this area was sponsored by Mina Casa de Amarillo in 1982 and has grown from that event. These creations will be on display through June in the Purvines Gallery of the Square House. For further information, please call 537-3524

## Texas Centennial Markers to be protected

AUSTIN, Texas — In 1936, a series of approximately 1,100 markers were placed throughout the state to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Texas' independence from Mexico. Sponsored by the Texas Legislature, they help tell the real stories of Texas heroes and key moments in our state's history. However, many of these significant markers have become the victims of vandalism, neglect and time. The THC, along with the help of local county historical commissions (CHCs) and other statewide partners is preparing to launch a three-year plan to survey, repair and protect these Texas treasures. Appearing

on buildings, memorial museums and statues as gray and pink granite markers and monuments, resources were never provided to oversee them following installation. In order to determine appropriate funding, the THC plans to update the location of every marker in its online database. An additional step will seek protection for the markers through National Register and State Archeological Landmark designation. Dedicated to ensuring their survival, the THC plans to have restorations in process by 2011, the 175th anniversary of Texas independence. The Friends of the Texas

Historical Commission has established a special fund for contributions to restore these monuments. To make a donation, please complete the online form available on the THC web site, by selecting Friends of the THC from the drop down menu and choosing Give A Gift. Indicate that your donation should go to the Texas Centennial Markers Fund. To learn more about Texas Centennial markers or other Official Texas Historical Markers visit www.the.state.tx.us or contact the THC's History Programs Division at 512.463.5853.



## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am a 30-year-old, attractive, recently divorced attorney and single mother. My problem is I become extremely threatened when I'm romantically rejected, and I need to know how to gain a healthier approach to rejection. I have dated occasionally, but nothing has developed into anything serious because I have yet to find someone with whom I feel completely compatible. However, when I start dating someone and he doesn't feel the same, it negatively affects my self-esteem. I feel and act depressed, and then I begin feeling insecure, anxious and irrational. I recently drove someone away because when he didn't call me one night, I went wild with anger and anxiety. I realize this heightened response is not normal. It is also quite painful. Frankly, the intensity of my feelings frightened me, and I'm at a loss about how to handle it. How can I get over feeling so insecure in relationships so rejection won't damage and disrupt my sense of self? -- DISCOMBOBULATED IN BROOKLYN

DEAR SLAMMING: I, too, was taught that when an emergency vehicle with a flashing light and a siren approaches from either direction that all drivers should move as far to the right as possible. This will allow the emergency vehicle access to the middle of the road, if necessary. Simply slamming on one's brakes is not enough. It can cause gridlock and bring the emergency vehicle to a stop, resulting in loss of property or even someone's life.

## EQIP offers more options to producers

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service has announced new conservation provisions to build on the conservation gains made by landowners over the past decade. Conservation land management practices, formerly called incentives, now available through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program provide producers more options when they are adopting conservation practices like residue, nutrient or pest management.

Conservationist Manuel De Leon said. "There are several options for addressing soil erosion and soil condition under residue management, including conversion to no-till or strip-till for \$25 per acre; \$10 per acre for mulch tillage and \$20 per acre for ridge tillage." Additionally, farming operations transitioning to organic production could be eligible for EQIP funding at \$20 per acre to help offset the costs of addressing resource concerns associated with the transition. Producers interested in precision agriculture might be eligible for the Electrical Conductivity Mapping management practice at \$20 per acre, whereby an EC map of a field is made to enable precision applica-

tion of nutrients. Applications for EQIP will be accepted any time during the year. However, funding cycles will vary depending on budgetary allocations and the application ranking process will be based on overall cost effectiveness and how effectively and comprehensively the project addresses the designated resource concerns. For more information, including eligibility requirements, call the USDA Service Center office in Pampa at (806) 665-1751, Ext. 3. Service center locations and program information can be found on the Texas NRCS Web site at [www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov)

"Land management practice options will vary for each producer depending on the type of management a producer feels will fit his or her operation," Gray County NRCS District

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# US, Mexico unite to fight smugglers of drugs, arms

CUERNAVACA, Mexico (AP) — The U.S. and Mexico agree on the need to stop the illegal flow of guns and drugs between the two countries, but the question is how to do that.

U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano and U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder were meeting Friday with Mexican President Felipe Calderon and other top Mexican officials to develop strategies for dealing with those critical problems. The threat of cartel violence is forcing a new approach to border concerns.

After a conference with U.S. officials Thursday, Mexican Attorney General Eduardo Medina-Mora said more meetings are needed to develop plans to bring warring drug cartels under control along the border.

Mexico plans to begin checking 10 percent of the vehicles entering the country from the U.S. for illegal weapons and will more closely check outgoing

vehicles for drugs and money, Medina-Mora said. The new vehicle-inspection measures were part of Mexico's overall \$1.4 billion modernization of border customs and crossing points, he said. The first such vehicle checks are already being carried out in Matamoros, across the border from Brownsville, Texas.

There have been about 1,600 drug-related killings in Mexico in the first three months of this year, about 25 percent less than during the last three months of 2008, Mexican officials say. The government says violence has decreased in border cities like Ciudad Juarez after thousands of additional army troops were sent there earlier this year.

Napolitano said that, besides beefing up border inspections north of the border, "we have to do more to reduce demand for drugs." Napolitano and Holder met privately Thursday for several hours with Medina-Mora and

Mexican Interior Minister Fernando Gomez-Mont and Public Safety Secretary Genaro Garcia Luna.

The officials reached an agreement that might be signed when President Barack Obama visits Calderon later this month.

"We want to take advantage of this moment in time," Napolitano said, referring to the elevated concern on both sides of the border about drug-related killings and kidnappings blamed on the cartels.

Medina-Mora said one point still in negotiation is how to ensure prosecution of anyone violating gun laws, whether they are arrested in Mexico or the United States. In addition, he said, the two countries will create a shared ballistics database to track weapons used in crimes. Holder said the U.S. is not seeking to change any of its gun laws as part of the effort to curb weapons smuggling.



Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, right, and Mexico's Interior Secretary Fernando Gomez Mont attend a press conference in Cuernavaca, Mexico, Thursday, April 2, 2009. The Obama administration's top cops and their Mexican counterparts are looking for ways to stop arms smuggling across the border as well as new strategies for fighting the drug cartels that have fueled violence in both countries. (AP Photo/Claudio Cruz)

## Newest job numbers portend weak energy demand

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Energy prices slipped Friday after the government reported that the nation's unemployment rate rose to the highest rate since late 1983 as employers eliminated 663,000 jobs.

Benchmark crude for May delivery fell \$1.42 to \$51.22 barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

With the U.S. and other nations hemorrhaging jobs, demand for gasoline and other fuels has plummeted. The unemployed are not commuting, factories are not producing as many consumer goods, and heat or electricity at millions of homes has been shut off.

"We are swimming in oil," analyst Stephen Schork said. "We are swimming in oil because production is strong and

demand is weak ... and it is going to remain that way in the short run."

Still, Schork acknowledges that more people are buying into oil markets on "any positive thread."

On Thursday, the same futures contract rose \$4.25 to settle at \$52.64 on word that the world's major powers would provide \$1.1 trillion in loans and guarantees to developing countries. Those prices were knocked down Friday and in London, Brent prices fell \$1.04 to \$51.71 a barrel on the ICE Futures exchange.

"We're getting a well deserved pullback ahead of the weekend," said Jim Ritterbusch of Ritterbusch and Associates.

The Labor Department reported Friday that the nation's unemployment level is now at 8.5 percent.

If part-time and discouraged workers are factored in, the unemployment rate would have been 15.6 percent in March, the highest on records dating to 1994.


Since the recession began in December 2007, the economy has lost a net total of 5.1 million jobs, with almost two-thirds of the losses occurring in the last five months. The number of unemployed people climbed to 13.2 million in March. In addition, the number of people forced to work part time for "economic reasons" rose by 423,000 to 9 million. Those are people who would like to work full time but whose hours were cut back or were unable to find full-time work.

The decline in prices Friday was a relatively modest cap to what other-

wise has been a topsy-turvy week that is ending close to where it started.

Traders are contending with conflicting information that show signs that the U.S. economy is starting to stabilize. Still, oil inventories are at 15-year highs suggesting an extraordinary lack of appetite for energy.

"We're just seeing this push and pull between bearish fundamentals and some bullish financial considerations," Ritterbusch said. Oil prices have bolted from below \$35 a barrel six weeks ago, riding a wave of improving investor sentiment that the worst of the U.S. recession may be over. Crude prices have mirrored a surge in stock markets, with the Dow Jones industrial average up more than 20 percent during the last month.




**Medication safety**

**Statistics**

- In 1999, approximately 7,000 patient deaths were linked to errors in the prescribing and administering of medications. — Institute of Medicine
- One person dies each day, and 1.3 million people are injured each year due to medication errors. — Food and Drug Administration
- Adverse Drug Effects (ADEs) may rank between the 4th and 6th leading causes of death. — Institute of Medicine
- The annual cost of drug related morbidity and mortality is estimated to be \$17.7 billion in the U.S. — Journal of the American Medical Association
- At greatest risk for medication-related problems are America's seniors. While medications are probably the single most important factor in improving the quality of life for seniors, this population remains especially susceptible to medication-related problems. — American Society of Geriatric Pharmacy
- Taking four or more of the same medications increases the risk for falls in seniors. — American Society of Geriatric Pharmacy

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## SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH



**ABOVE:** Cynthia Salazar, Volunteer Coordinator for Tralee Crisis Center for Women, Inc. stands by as Mayor Lonnie Robbins signs a proclamation designating April as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. This year's theme Expect Respect... "NO" Means "NO" is intended to promote awareness that victims of sexual assault in Gray County need the support and compassion of a caring community. Tralee Crisis Center is a United Way funded agency that provides services to eight counties. For more information about sexual assault/abuse and services available to survivors, call Tralee's 24-hour hotline at 1-800-658-2796. For information on becoming a Tralee Crisis Center volunteer or to schedule a presentation for a civic group call 806-669-1131.

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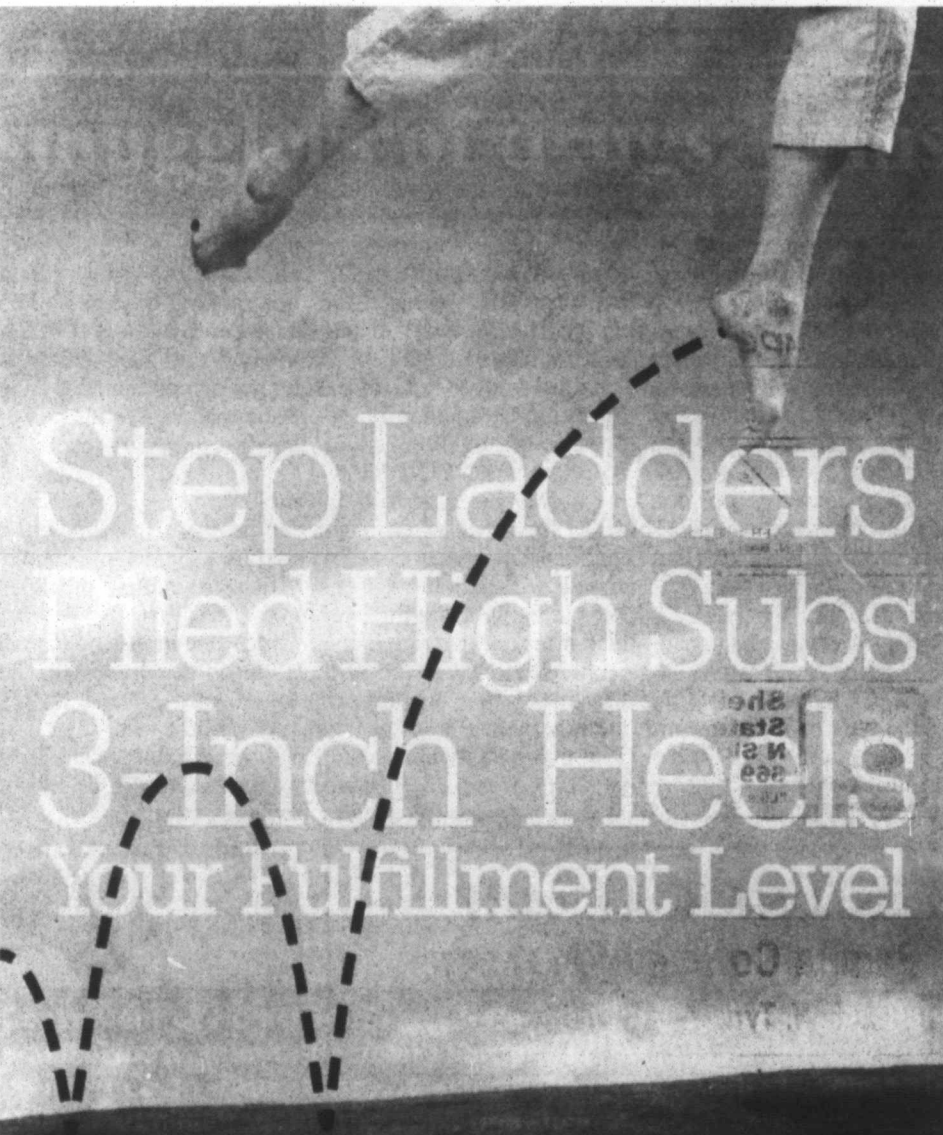
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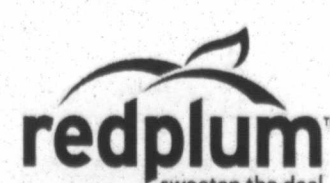
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## You choose, prayer or panic?

by Annette Bridges

There is panic today in the hearts of many. Some are disheartened because they see no solution in sight. Some believe they can trust no one for viable answers.

A preoccupation with fears and worries often incites panic. When multitudes desperately begged Jesus for help and answers, he taught them a prayer that was described by Christian healer, Mary Baker Eddy, as the "prayer which covers all human needs." (Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures)

Prayer enables us to feel God's presence and know we are enveloped in His love. And there is power in His presence.

I have suffered many times from panic attacks. When faced with conflict, dilemmas, or any turmoil -- whether it was real or perceived -- I've often become a physical and emotional wreck. So I can testify that when the going gets tough, leaning on God is better than panic.

Taking some deep spiritual breaths in times of crisis, pressure and immense stress, enables us to be comforted and reassured by God's ever-presence. Panic is replaced by peace, and peace quiets fear and calms anxiety. We reach a state of mind that fosters inspiration and revelation. And then, we can see solutions realized and implemented. Problems that at first seem huge or beyond repair become small (or much smaller) and fixable.

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee." (Isaiah 26:3) More than a promise, this is a fact and a lesson I have learned -- and I must admit -- sometimes need to relearn.

The Psalmist wrote, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me..." (Psalms 23:4) It could be said that the "valley" represents any difficult or terrifying experience we face. "For thou art with me" is an eternal Truth that dissipates fear.

The Lord makes us strong when we are weak. Several days ago I felt like I was getting hit with one catastrophe after another. I found myself waiting for the next shoe to drop. And it did. The pressure in my head and chest was building until one night I could not even lie down and breathe normally. I felt like I was going to explode.

In my anguish, I prayed. I began with The Lord's Prayer. As my uneasy thoughts began to calm, I let go of the internal struggle. I put aside all the details weighing on my heart. I stopped my mind from hurrying to tomorrow or next week or next year. And I focused only on feeling God's presence.

"The Lord will bless his people with peace." (Psalms 29:11) And He blessed me with peace. My weary night turned into restful breaths and sleep. And the next morning, I awoke refreshed and still confident of God's ever-presence.

Stay grounded in your spirituality, dear friends. Rest your thoughts on the spiritual rock, or knowledge, that affirms God's presence, omnipotence and goodness. Then you'll be like that wise man Jesus told about in the parable who "built his house upon a rock. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock." (Matthew 7:24-25)

Panic paralyzes, cripples, blinds and stifles. Panic is a reaction -- an unconscious choice -- that serves no good purpose and isn't helpful or productive.

When our first instinct is to panic, we can consciously choose to pray. Prayer reassures and reminds us that anything is possible, that possibilities are infinite, and that God is with us. And prayer will enable us to move forward, reach new heights, overcome hurdles, and break new ground.

There is no good time to panic, my troubled friends. Pray and you will persevere.

Annette Bridges is a freelance writer who lives on a north Texas ranch with her husband, John. Her columns are published weekly on United Press International's ReligionAndSpirituality.com and numerous other websites and newspapers.

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## Zion Lutheran plans Holy Week services

Zion Lutheran Church of Pampa is planning some special services for the upcoming Holy week. Among them are the following:

- Palm/Passion Sunday - 10:30 a.m. ;
  - Holy Monday, Readings & Responsive Prayer 1 - 12:15 p.m.
  - Holy Tuesday, Readings & Responsive Prayer 1 - 12:15 p.m.
  - Holy Wednesday, Readings & The Litany - 12:15 p.m.
  - Holy Thursday, Holy Communion - 7:30 p.m. and Stripping of the Altar Good Friday
  - Tenebrae Vespers - 7:45 p.m.
  - Resurrection of Our Lord - 8:30
- There will be a breakfast and Easter Egg hunt after the service.

# Comics

Marmaduke



"He's always on the wrong side of the door."

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"There's plenty of keys to go all the way to 'Z'."

## Daily Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 38 Kitchen output
  - 1 Patch up output
  - 5 Flat floater
  - 9 African lilies
  - 11 Steer clear of
  - 13 Stagger
  - 14 Baseball manager
  - 15 USN bigwig
  - 16 Action movie of 2008
  - 18 Austin Powers exclamation
  - 20 Spots
  - 21 Obsequious
  - 22 Hightail it
  - 23 Wall climber
  - 24 — polloi
  - 25 Stunned state
  - 27 Tokyo shopping district
  - 29 Writer Levin
  - 30 Playthings for Zeus and Hera
  - 32 End of "Hamlet"
  - 34 Playing marble
  - 35 Water nymph
  - 36 Job reward

ALMS	STARS
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STEW	GAPS

Yesterday's answer

- DOWN**
- 1 Kuala Lumpur
  - 2 Avoids
  - 3 Return to usual conditions
  - 4 Last mo.
  - 5 Finger
  - 6 Stratford's river
  - 7 Giving legal status
  - 8 Rant
  - 10 Shake
  - 12 Slow-witted
  - 17 Jamie Foxx film
  - 19 Worker's home
  - 22 Type-setting choice
  - 24 Personnel workers
  - 25 Hunting goddess
  - 26 Citation's jockey
  - 27 State head: Abbr.
  - 28 Nome's home
  - 30 He had guilt feelings
  - 31 Adorable
  - 33 Renown
  - 37 One-time link

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## For Better Or Worse



## Zits



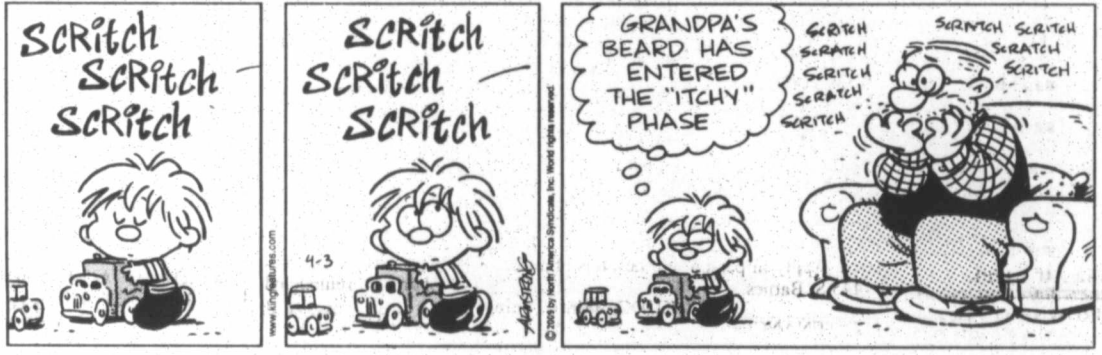
## Garfield



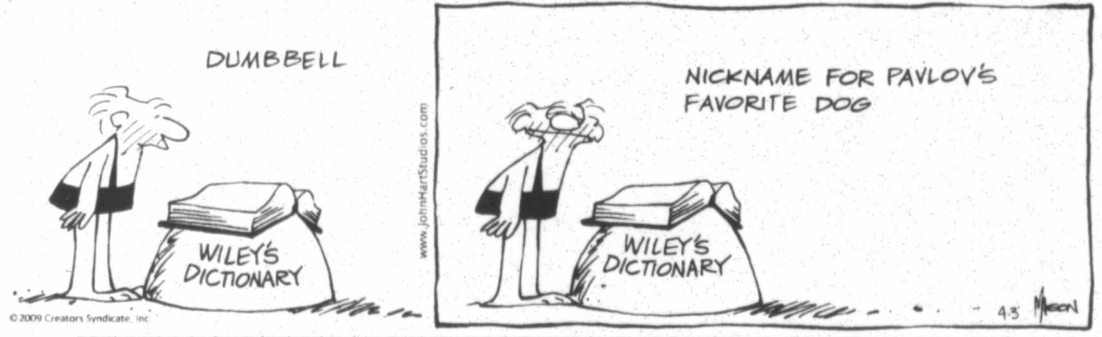
## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin



## B.C.



## Hagar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Blondie



## Flo & Friends



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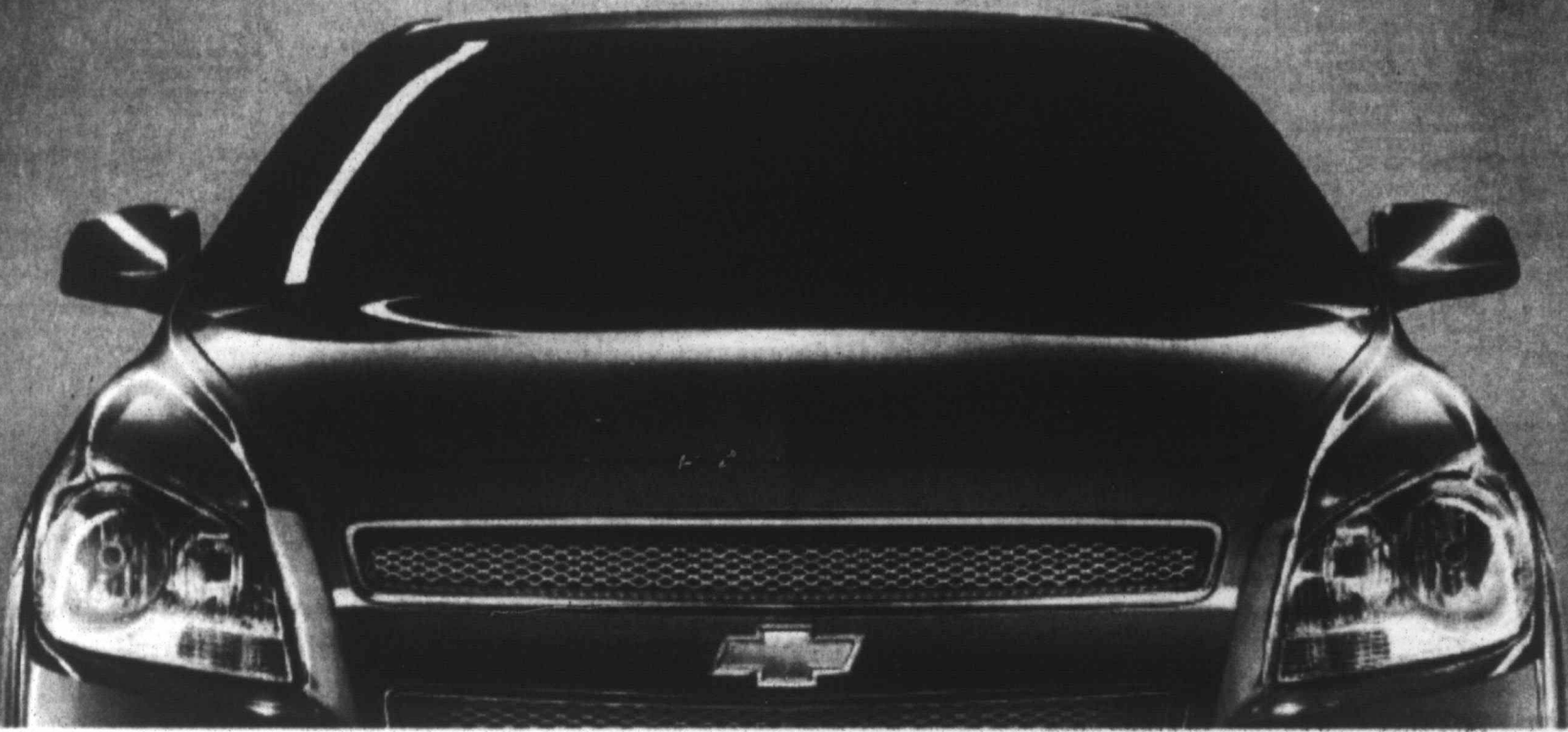
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