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county mulling tax freeze for seniors

BY DAVID BOWSER

dbowser@thepampanews.com Gray County property own-

ers could see an increase in their homestead exemptions, or they could force a tax freeze for those 65 or over onto next fall's ballot in the general election.

County Judge Richard Peet said during a discussion at the county commissioners court meeting Monday that he had been

approached with the idea of imposing, either voluntarily or through a petition, a tax freeze for county property taxes.

Using an example of a \$50,000 home and a 10 cents per \$100 valuation, Peet said would result in a \$50 tax bill. Under a freeze, if the appraised value of the home increased to \$55,000 and the tax rate goes to 20 cents, the tax would still be \$50.

Peet said that once the value of that property is frozen, it cannot be adjusted up.

"It's a cap," said County Commissioner James Hefley. If the tax rate goes down, so does the tax, but it can't go up, Peet agreed.

"That's what we have to look at," Peet said.

County officials estimate that about 40 percent of the residents of the county are 65 or older.

If the county imposes a tax freeze, Peet said it would shift the tax burden to younger residents, who have families and might be struggling, and businesses.

'Now, they're going to have to make up the difference," he said. When the Pampa Independent School District froze taxes, county

TAXES cont. on page 3

T-BALL ACTION



Jackson Bagwell tags Jackson Pooley at home plate during a T-Ball game last week From the smiles in the crowd, it's hard to tell who has more fun at the games - play ers or spectators. Photo courtesy Meredith Bagwell.

C C funding closer to completion

BY DAVID BOWSER dbowser@thepampanews.com

Clarendon College is one step closer to expanding their Pampa campus today.

The Gray County selected Commission a Houston law firm, Winstead, to draft an order for lease revenue bonds to build two new buildings at the Clarendon College Pampa Center.

The order is expected to be ready for the commission's next meeting on June 15.

The county will issue some \$4 million revenue bonds secured by the college district's five-cent tax that voters passed last year.

Ron Greiner, vice president for Government Capital Securities, explained to the county commissioners court during their meeting Monday morning that the county will issue the revenue bonds to finance the building project, and then lease the buildings back to the college.

The maintenance tax will come back to the county to pay off the bonds. The college's five-cent tax will go into a separate fund and that money will go to the county, which will use the money to pay the bondholders.

Since the tax is a maintenance tax, it cannot be used for construction, but it can be used to lease property. In this case, the county will issue some \$4 million in bonds that will be used to build two buildings next to the existing Clarendon College facility in Pampa, and the tax money will be used to pay the lease, which in turn, will be paid to the bondholders.

Moore County used a similar financial structure to finance a facility in Dumas for Amarillo College.

Marshall White with Winstead said the bondholders would have no demand on any of the coun-

ty's tax money or property. If the college were to decide not to build their new buildings, the bondholders could demand the tax money that would go for the lease, White said. If the college defaults, the bondholders can take ownership of the buildings.

"There's nothing that the bondholders can come to the county for," White said.

CC cont. on page 3

olunteers building family new home

BY LESLI ABBOTT

labbott@thepampanews.com On April 2, 2009 the town of Wheeler was evacuated due to an aggressively moving grass fire.

Clint Norton of Amarillo was driving to the small town to assist his family members with relocation. Norton is a member of Texas Panhandle Builders

Association Remodelers Council.

"On the way back to Amarillo, there isn't much telephone reception and my buddy and I were talking about how we could help with the recovery process for some of the families," Norton said

"By the time we got to Pampa, we had phone reception and we started calling our colleagues and when we hit Amarillo, we pretty much had everyone involved and the idea just took off."

"We decided to hold interviews with families who had no insurance and

light At The Museum, Terminator Salvation,

Obsessed UP (in digital 3D)

BORGER 701 N. MAIN

had lost everything they called home and we decide on one family", Norton said. The lucky recipient is the family of Huey and April Carr and their three

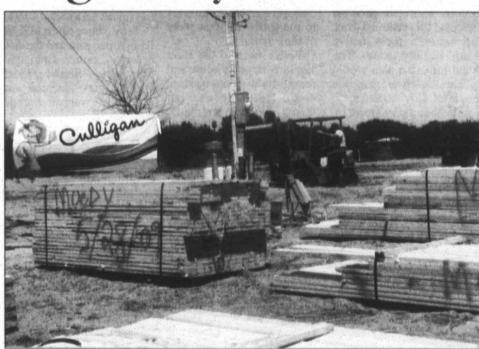
children. Norton organized a dropoff point at Casey Carpet, where he works as a sales-

The donations from Amarillo residents as well as along with 120 tradesmen who are volunteering their labor, are involved in

the project. Semi trucks, completely loaded, delivered everything from furniture and appliances, to clothing, and household items for fire victims in Wheeler.

May 30, the Carr family was told they would be the recipients of a new home, the volunteers inspired ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition.'

The family of five was whisked away by a limousine to Amarillo where they boarded a jet bound



Stacks of boards arrived last week, as volunteers began work on a home for the Carr family of Wheeler, who lost everything in the fire on April 2. The home is scheduled to be completed by Saturday, June 6. Photo courtesy Culligan Water Conditioning of Pampa

for San Antonio for a six day vacation complete with hotel and meals and tickets to Sea World and Schlitterbahn in New

Braunfels.

While the family is away, volunteers will work around the clock to complete the home.

By last Sunday afternoon, some 36 hours into the project, Norton

HOME cont. on page 3



Linda Laycock Hadley Oneal

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For the record

PAMPA FORECAST

Wednesday Thursday



Low 54

Low 60



Low 62

Wednesday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 74. North northeast wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 54. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southeast.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 84. South wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 60. South wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 90. South southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Fiday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 62. South southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

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Execution set for today for Texan who killed 5

HUNTSVILLE. Texas (AP) — A self-described to halt the execution were "non-caring monster" who exhausted and the Texas took responsibility for killing five relatives was set to die Tuesday evening for the slayings of his two stepchildren.

Terry Lee Hankins, 34, surrendered at his girlfriend's Arlington apartment in 2001 after a fivehour standoff with police who wanted him for gunning down his estranged wife, Tammy, 34, and her children, Devin Galley, 12, and Ashley Mason, 11. Hankins then told officers he'd also killed his father and half-sister almost a year earlier.

Hankins would be the 16th condemned prisoner executed this year in Texas, the nation's most active death penalty state. The lethal injection also would be the 200th during the tenure of Gov. Rick Perry, a milestone denounced by capital punishment opponents.

Appeals to the courts Board of Pardons and Paroles refused a clemency petition from Hankins, a former auto mechanic.

To be honest, with his record and the crimes he committed, I don't think there are very many juries, much less very many people on the Board of Pardons and Paroles, that are going to be swayed toward commutation or a life sentence," said William Harris, Hankins' appeals lawyer.

Hankins' admission about killing his father, Earnie Lee Hankins, 55, Pearl and half-sister, "Sissy" Stevenstar, 20, led to the gruesome discovery of their remains.

Police went to the elder Hankins' mobile home and found he'd been shot to death. His body was left for 10 months in a recliner, surrounded by air freshen-

LAST MINUTE Classified Line Ads

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DEADLINE CHANGE for Classified Line Ads for Fri. Edition and the Weekend Edition (Sat.-Sun.) this also includes Last Minute Ads (City Briefs)!! Fri. Deadline is Thurs. before noon. Weekend Edition Sat.-Sun.) deadline is Thurs. before 4pm

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CHARITY GOLF Scramble Sat June 6th, 8am, Pampa Coun-try Club sponsored by Com-munity Christian School. Call 440-1412 to register your team!

NEW HOURS at The Pampa News: Mon. thru Fri., 8am. 4pm. Miss Service on newspaper delivery still available, 6692525.

PAMCEL GOLF Club, Tues. Night Scramble, June

SHEPHERD'S HELPING Hands & Shepard's Crook Home Health Community Flea Market / Gar. Sale, June 5th: Booth Rental avail. Call Pam or Myra 665-0356 for more info.

Obituaries

Bill Miller, 73

Canadian - Services for Bill Miller, 73, of Canadian, Texas, will be at 2:30 P.M. Wednesday, June 3, 2009 at the Church of Christ with Dr. Dean English, officiating. Burial will follow in Edith Ford Memorial Cemetery in Canadian, TX under the direction of Hughs Funeral Home of Canadian, Texas. Mr. Miller passed away Monday, June 1, 2009 in

Canadian, Texas. Bill was born November 12, 1935 in Canadian,

TX to the late Mr. James Miller and Mrs. Ruby (Farnsworth) Miller. He was a 1955 graduate of Canadian High School. He then went on to attend West Texas State University in Canyon, TX. He married Deanne Gafford on August 9, 1980 in Canadian, TX. He worked for the Santa Fe Railroad. He was a Veteran of the United States Army serving in Germany as a sergeant in the Field Artillery. Bill was known as "Papa" and was dearly loved by all his grandchildren and will be greatly missed. Bill was a member of the Church of Christ and enjoyed fishing and inventing new things. He was preceded in death by his son, Woody Charles Miller and his brother, Ralph Gross.

He is survived by his wife, Deanne Miller of

Canadian, TX; four daughters, Suzanne Baker and husband Junior of New Deal, TX; Ruth Ann Abraham and husband Salem of Canadian, TX; Melinda Hedgecoke and husband Ed of Canadian, TX; Dana Dennis of Canadian, TX; two sons, Kerry Miller and wife Karen and Scott Miller and wife Heather all of New Deal, TX; two sisters, Joyce Mathis of Pampa, TX; Audrey Cockrell and husband Pig of Canadian, TX; four brothers, Jim Miller and wife Barbara of Blaine, WA; Gene Miller and wife Linda and Jack Miller and Vern Lahlum all of Pampa, TX; 23 grand-



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Miller

children and 6 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family suggests memorials to Lone Star Angel Project, P.O. Box 303, Canadian, TX 79014.

Viewing will be available at the First Christian Church Chapel at 402 Purcell Ave in Canadian.

Nykhoale Bernadine Paslay

Pampa— Nykhoale Bernadine Paslay, months, died May 30, 2009, in Pampa, Texas.

Graveside services will be at 10a.m. Wednesday, June 3, 2009, at Fairview Cemetery, with Rev. Jim Sinyard, associate pastor of Carpenter's Church, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Nykhoale was born

March 9, 2009 in Pampa. Survivors include her parents. Corey and Meesha Paslay of the home, three

brothers; Brady James Pierce of Amarillo, Robert Alex Arellano of Houston, and Corey Eugene Paslay, Jr., of the home, two sisters; Audrey Brianne Pierce of Amarillo, and Cheyenne Dee Paslay of Ardmore, Okla., grandparents; Larry and Margaret Davis, and Jean Parks, all of Pampa,

and Kerry and Robert Hunziker of Amarillo. Nykhoale was preceded in death by her grandparents; David Stevens, Sr., Kenny Paslay, Myra Paslay and Sharon King; and great-grandparents; Jose Arellano, Josephine Arellano, Mary Stevens and Hershel Stevens. Sign the on-line reg-

ister at www.carmichaelwhatley.com.



Emergency Services

SHERIFF

The following people were booked into the Gray County jail between 7 a.m. Friday, June 29 and 7 a.m. Saturday, 30.

Jerry Daniel Stamps, 30, of Fritch was arrested on a motion to enforce child

Lindsey Danielle Hobbs, 21, of Amarillo was arrested for bond surrender/possession of a controlled sub-

David Lee Meyer, 21, of Pampa was arrested for no valid drivers license, unrestrained child under the age of four, child not secured by safety belt, and failure

to appear. Jennifer Dawn Gaines, 34, of Amarillo was arrested for violation of probation with intent to deliver.

Jesus Maria Velasquez, Jr., 39, of Pampa was arrested for driving while license expired with previ-

ous conviction. Valdomero Salas, Jr., 22 of Pampa was arrested for theft of property over \$50

but under \$500. Troy James Short, 37, of Pampa was arrested for disorderly conduct, language. Gary Brian Shaw, 37, of Pampa was arrested on a fugitive warrant out of New Mexico.

Saturday Dustin Jay Mathis, 18, of Pampa was arrested for

assault by threat. William Charles Walker, 20, of Denver City was arrested for disorderly con-

duct, language. Dombee Cary Miranda, 23, of Pampa was arrested for theft by check from Potter county

Jere David Hink, 44, of Pampa was arrested for possession of drug para-

phernalia, failure to appear, and on six counts from a civil warrant.

Danny Ray Boyd, 61 of Pampa was arrested three counts of a civil warrant. Dustin Levi Jefferis,

30, of Lefors was arrested for theft by check and two civil warrants.

Brittany Nicole Jones, 19, of Pampa was arrested on four civil warrants.

Mark

Trevathan, 46, of Pampa was arrested for driving while intoxicated, three or more counts. Fernando

Edwin-

Munoz Peinado, 22 of Pampa was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

Davis Gallegos, 25, of Pampa was arrested for no valid drivers license and failure to maintain financial responsibility.

Jerry Lee Miller, 35, of Pampa was arrested on a warrant from Hopkins county and assault causing bodily injury, family violence.

Christopher Boren, 19, of Pampa was arrested for possession of marijuana less than two ounces and possession of drug paraphernalia.

AMBULANCE

Guardian EMS ambulance service reported the following calls from 7 a.m. Thursday, June 28 to 7 a.m. Monday, June 1. Thursday

10:58 a.m.-A mobile ICU unit responded to the 300 block of Miami. No patient was transported.

3:28 p.m.-A mobile unit responded to the Texas Department of Corrections and transported a patient to Panhandle Regional Medical Center.

A medical ICU unit 2 killed when wrong-way car slams into another

DALLAS (AP) — It was a late-night motorist's worst nightmare come true.

Investigators suspect alcohol was a factor in an overnight head-on collision between a car and a sport-utility vehicle on the Dallas North Tollway late Monday. Investigators say 28-year-old Jenny Hall of Dallas was driving the SUV north in the tollway's southbound lanes for four miles before it slammed into the car near the

Walnut Hill Lane exit. Both vehicles burst into flames. The Dallas County medical examiner's office says Hall and the driver of the car, Carl Thomas Lotspeich (LAHT'spyke) of Addison, were both killed.

The wrong-way SUV also forced other motorists to veer away to avoid collisions. One driver who veered into a concrete barrier was unhurt.

responded to the 1300 block of North Coffee. The call was cancelled in route. PRMC. A medical ICU unit responded to the 200 block

patient was transported. Friday 8:15 a.m. – A mobile ICU unit responded to the Texas Department of Corrections and transported a patient

of West Kingsmill. No

to PRMC. 11:12 a.m.-A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient to Northwest Texas

Hospital in Amarillo. 3:16 p.m.-A mobile ICU unit responded to a local nursing home and transported a patient to PRMC.

5:12 p.m.- A mobile ICU unit responded to the 400 block of Wynne. No patient was transported.

12:55 a.m.-A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient to NWTH.

Saturday

10 a.m.-A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1700 block of Holly Lane and transported a patient to PRMC.

unit responded to the 300 block of Miami. No patient was transported.

11:19 a.m.-A mobile

10:50 a.m.- A mobile

ICU unit responded to the 100 block of east Harvester and transported a patient to

1:26 p.m.-A mobile ICU unit responded to the 900 block of Varnon drive. No patient was transported. 5:34 p.m.-A mobile ICU

unit responded to the 2800 block of Charles and transported a patient to PRMC. 10:05 p.m.-A mobile ICU unit responded 10

miles South of Pampa on Highway 70 and transported a patient to PRMC Sunday

1:43 p.m.-A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient to Baptist Saint Anthony's emergency

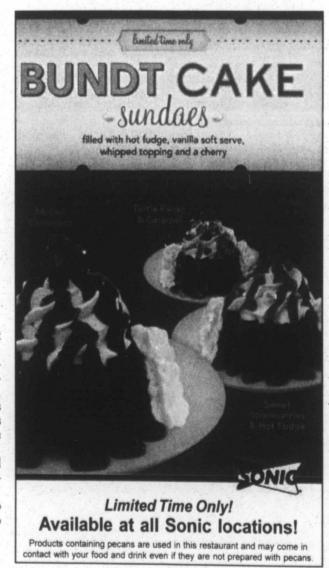
FIRE

Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Monday, June 1 and 7 a.m. Tuesday, June 2.

Monday

9:17 a.m.- One unit and three personnel responded to a first response in the 1000 block of Love.

8:45 p.m.- One unit and three personnel responded to a first response in the 300 block of Jean.



Lawmakers adjourn session

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) Texas legislators have banged the last gavel and headed out of the state Capitol. Now it's Gov. Rick Perry's turn to have his say.

Perry is determining the fate of hundreds of bills over the next three weeks and will be the one to decide whether to call lawmakers back into a 30-day special session to address

transportation.

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In last-minute mayhem, the Texas Legislature adjourned Monday night without passing measures to keep the Texas Department of Transportation running or to issue \$2 billion in roadbuilding bonds — inaction that Republican senators said required a special ses-

sion to solve. But Perry wasn't so quick to agree. His spokeswoman said the lack of legislative action will not have an impact on the business of state agencies and that they will keep operat-

"This has been a successful legislative session and there is still important business to take care of during the next 20 days of evaluating legislation that has passed this session," spokeswoman Allison Castle said. Perry has until June 21 to decide whether

to sign or veto legislation. A sticking point at the finish of the 140-day session was a bitter dispute between the House and Senate over \$2 billion in transportation bond funding that the House failed to pass before gaveling out of

session. Angry Republican senators said it was preferable to quit and let Perry call the Legislature back into a special session to continue the transportation department and other state agen-

cies and pass the bonds. Democrats Several argued against the move, saying it was dangerous to begin the shutdown pro-

cess of major agencies. "We have left a big hole and failed the people of the state of Texas," said Sen. Leticia Van de Putte of San Antonio, leader of the Senate Democrats. "The only thing I can say is we've had a complete and total failure of leadership." Sen. Troy Fraser, R-Horseshoe Bay, blamed the House for the 11thhour unraveling of the session - saying the cham-

ber acted irresponsibly by adjourning sine die the Latin phrase used to describe the final day of the session.

"The House had the ability to act," he said. "They went sine die after destroying the bulk of four and a half months of work that passed through this body."

Van de Putte said it was foolish to allow tension between the two chambers to derail the session. Both the transportation agency and the Texas Department of Insurance would face a shutdown by September 2010 unless Perry calls the Legislature back into session to reauthorize their existence, Senate Republicans said. One Republican senator said Perry could issue an execu-

cies running. "I don't think the people of the state of Texas care if the Legislature is doing a ping-pong across the

tive order to keep the agen-

rotunda of blame, of 'no you did it, no you did it' Van de Putte said. "I'm afraid that we are shirking

our responsibility." She and other Democrats questioned whether Republicans really wanted a special session to pass a voter identification bill. The Republicans said that

hasn't been discussed. Sen. Steve Ogden, R-Bryan, chairman of the powerful Senate Finance Committee, said senators wanted Perry to call the

Legislature back. "We want a special session," Ogden said. "We want the TxDOT budget

Ogden said the failure to approve the \$2 billion in road funding would have a multiplying effect, meaning that \$7 billion to \$8 billion in projects could be

"(Perry) needs to say he's going to do it because right now the budget of TxDot is wrecked and people are going to start losing their jobs, so the sooner we get it resolved the better it's

going to be for Texas," said Ogden.

jeopardized.

Home

had slept only six hours. "We're determined to pull this off as planned".

Permits are required to build a home and the red tape can be overwhelming at times, so the city of Wheeler's inspector is staying at the hotel near the home so he is available

only 180 hours left before the family returns, the home has been plumbed, the electricity has been installed, the house is framed, and the outer siding and insulation has been applied. When completed, the Carr's new home will be about 1600 square feet.

Norton says that a home

of this style would sell for \$175,000 in Amarillo, about an \$80,000 value in Wheeler. Besides the entirely donated home building products, the house will also be fitted with new appliances. A total of 120 companies have donated to this projcont. from page 1

The public is invited for the dramatic presentation to the family at 1 p.m., saturday June 6. "We want as many folks out here at that time for the Carr's homecoming and introduction to their new home."

around the clock. With CC funding

in the proposed documents where the bondholders can come to the county and demand their money.

If the county doesn't use the money from the lease, however, to pay the bondholders, White said the bondholders could demand

that money. "The bondholders only access the money that comes off that lease," he

In this case, that is the money from the five-cent tax that goes to the college that the college then pays

Taxes

He said there is nothing to the county to lease the property from the county.

"They don't have any claim against any other asset that the county has," White said.

"It's our name that's on there," Gray County Judge Richard Peet said with regard to the bonds. "It's not the college's."

White said that there two ways to sell the bonds. One is a public sale to the public at large through brokers. The other is a private sale to institutions, such as

banks. Peet said the commissioners court wants to protect county taxpayers, but he said the commission also has a commitment to the future of Gray County.

County Treasurer Scott Hahn pointed out that the

county will not have any bond indebtedness this year except for the bonds for Clarendon College.

cont. from page 1

Plans call for the buildings to be completed in the fall of 2010.

Answer to yesterday's

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



officials estimated that it cost them \$400,000 a year out of a \$13 million budget. County officials said it could be worse for Gray County since the county covers a larger area.

A number of larger counties, counties with larger populations, have instituted tax freezes, but with more people, it's easier to spread the tax burden.

County Commissioner James Hefley said that when the City of McLean debated this issue, those over 65 said they would rather pay a little more in taxes and try to attract younger people and businesses.

Hefley said they didn't pass a petition nor did they ask the city council to take any action.

Peet said the county has been petitioned for a tax freeze before, but the county commission denied the petition on administrative grounds.

"There's a certain process you have to follow," Peet said. "You have to do it a certain way according to the law.'

Peet said that the county does offer exemptions to different groups, including those over 65, but those exemptions can be adjusted, unlike a tax freeze.

"Right now, for a general homestead on school taxes," Peet said, "the exemption is \$15,000. Over 65, it's an additional \$10,000."

Therefore, he said, a person over 65 would get cont. from page 1

a \$25,000 exemption on school taxes.

"If your house is appraised at \$50,000," he said, "it's really taxes on \$25,000." For those living in the

City of Pampa, Peet said, there is a \$15,000 homestead exemption. "For the county, for those

over 65," he said, "it is \$13,040 off the appraised value for tax purposes."

He said the City of Lefors has a \$5,000 homestead exemption.

McLean has an exemption for disabled veterans

"So right now, we are providing in the county for over 65 individuals a total in the general fund of \$13,040 deduction off the appraised value," Peet said. "We could increase that to what the city does and make it \$15,000."

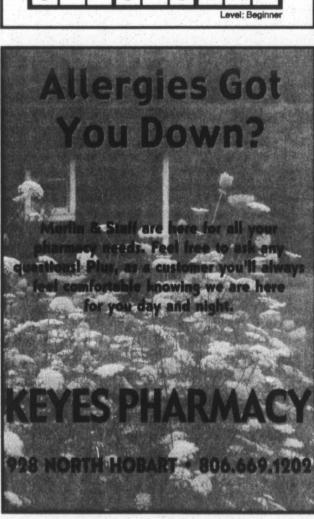
Commissioner Gary Willoughby said the vot-ers should know what it's going to cost them.

He also noted that the younger generation is less likely to vote.

"We have to look at it," Peet said, calling for more information and study of the situation.

Hefley said that the commission had until about the first of September before they would have to act to put such a measure on next November's ballot.

Peet said it would take five percent of the 13,000 registered voters in Gray County to put it on the ballot, or a petition with about



2009 Hustlin' Harvester Basketball Camp

The 2009 Hustlin' Harvester Basketballl Camp will be held Monday, June 8 thru Friday, June 12 9:00 am -12:00 p.m. for incoming first thru fifth grade and 1 - 4 p.m. for incoming Sixth through Ninth grades. These grades are as of the 2009-10 school year. The camp will begin each day in McNeely Fieldhouse. Forms and registration are available by mail or may be dropped off at the Pampa High School athletic office.

The five-day camp fee is \$60 and includes a T-shirt, basketball, Skills & Drills Book (a book each camper will receive with skills to help them become better students in the classroom and drills to help them become the best basketball player they can be) and one on one instruction.

The camp mission is to have fun and to help each boy improve himself in the fundamentals of basketball. This includes improving skills such as shooting, passing, ball handling, rebounding and team building. The camp will be ran by head basketball coach, Dustin Miller and will have instruction from several former Pampa Harvesters. If you have any questions contact Dustin Miller, 664-7813, late registration will be taken Monday morning, June 8, beginning at 8:30 am. Registration may also be mailed to Dustin Miller, 1710 Grape, Pampa, Tx 79065.



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I work as an administrative assistant for a company in Louisville. Each year we invite several "high-level" customers to attend the Kentucky Derby. We spare no expense on this event, paying for hotels, track tickets, food, drinks, limos, etc. for three full days.

Last year, my boss told me he was "disappointed" that I had not thought of sending thank-you notes to our guests after the event. He felt we should thank them for taking time away from their personal lives to visit us.

I say that after three days of running myself silly behind the scenes, the thank-you notes should come from them. Your opinion, please. -- WHO THANKS WHO IN KENTUCKY

DEAR WHO THANKS WHO: I understand your frustration because no one wants to be taken for granted, but you are confusing business etiquette with social etiquette. Your boss isn't entertaining those people because he likes them. He is doing it so they will return the favor by doing business with his

company. So please do what he says and start writing. A form letter, individually prepared for each client, should do the trick. Each one should be a signed original expressing the sentiments your boss would like to have conveyed.

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating "Mary" for 18 months, and I was really starting to fall for her. Things were going well until three weeks ago, when she informed me that she has a serious gambling problem. She has maxed out her credit cards and has no money left in her savings. Until this point, Mary had given me the impression that she was someone I could trust and that she

was in control of her life.

I am in total shock and very upset about the fact that she has misrepresented herself to me. She said she didn't want to lose me. She says that even though we're not married, every relationship has its ups and downs, and a piece of paper should not define commitment.

Some of my friends say I should never see her again as she is manipulative. Others say continuing the relationship depends on how I feel about her. While I can forgive her, I am having a problem with the issue of trust.

Abby, given the circumstances, do you feel this is someone I can trust? My gut tells me buyer beware -- ON THE FENCE IN **NEVADA**

DEAR ON THE FENCE: Has Mary made any effort to seek help for her gambling problem? If the answer is no -- and I suspect it is -- then listen to your gut. Listen to your head. And if you have any doubt that they're leading you in the right direction, listen to what your lawyer and accountant have to say about the risk of pursuing this relationship further.

DEAR ABBY: Many friends approach me for advice. I want to help them. It's in my nature to be helpful. However, there are times when I'm out of advice and just want to close the door. How can I continue to help, but also close the door without putting someone off? --ADVISER IN INDIANA

DEAR ADVISER: Recognize that a fountain of advice must occasionally shut down for servicing and preventive maintenance. In your case, what you're trying to prevent is burnout. A friend will understand if you say, "I'd love to help, but I'm fresh out of ideas today -- let's talk about something else.'



Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, June 2, the 153rd day of 2009. There are 212 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 2, 1953, Queen Elizabeth II of Britain was crowned in Westminster Abbey, 16 months after the death of her father, King George VI.

On this date:

In 1886, President Grover Cleveland married Frances Folsom in a White House ceremony.

In 1897, Mark Twain, 61, was quoted by the New York Journal as saying from London that "the report of my death was an exaggeration."

In 1924, Congress passed a measure that was then signed by President Calvin Coolidge granting American citizenship to all U.S.-born American Indians.

In 1941, Lou Gehrig, baseball's "Iron Horse," died in New York of a degenerative disease, amyotrophic lateral scle-

Truth is stranger than fiction, but it is because fiction is obliged to stick to possibilities: truth isn't.

— Mark Twain, American author rosis; he was 37.
In 1946, Italy held
a referendum which
resulted in the Italian
monarchy being
abolished in favor of
a republic.

In 1966, the U.S. space probe Surveyor 1 landed on the moon and began transmitting detailed photographs of the lunar surface.

In 1975, Vice President Nelson Rockefeller said his commission had found no widespread pattern of illegal activities at the CIA.

In 1979, Pope John Paul II arrived in his native Poland on the first visit by a pope to a Communist country.

In 1986, for the first time, the public could watch the proceedings of the U.S. Senate on television as a six-week experiment of televised sessions began.

Ten years ago: South Africans went to the polls in their second post-apartheid election, giving the African National Congress a decisive victory; retiring president Nelson Mandela was succeeded by Thabo Mbeki.

Five years ago: Three foreign aid workers and two Afghans were shot and killed in an ambush in northwestern Afghanistan in an attack claimed by resurgent Taliban militants. Software engineer Ken Jennings began his 74-game winning streak on the syndicated TV game show "Jeopardy!"

One year ago: Bo Diddley, 79, a founding father of rock 'n' roll, died in Archer, Fla., at age 79. Actor-director Mel Ferrer died in Santa Barbara, Calif., at age 90.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Milo O'Shea is 84. Actress-singer Sally Kellerman is 72. Actor Ron Ely is 71. Actor Stacy Keach is 68. Rock musician Charlie Watts is 68. Singer William Guest (Gladys Knight & The Pips) is 68. Actor Charles Haid is 66. Composer Marvin Hamlisch is 65. Movie director Lasse Hallstrom is 63. Actor Jerry Mathers is 61. Actress Joanna Gleason is 59. Actor Dennis Haysbert is 55. Comedian Dana Carvey is 54. Actor Gary Grimes is 54. Rock singer Tony Hadley (Spandau Ballet) is 49. Singer Merril Bainbridge is 41. Rapper B-Real (Cypress Hill) is 39. Actress Paula Cale is 39. Actor-comedian Wayne Brady is 37. Actor Wentworth Miller is 37.



Gov't firmly behind the wheel

JIM KUHNHENN Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)

— President Barack
Obama could not let
General Motors fail, but
he will not concede he is
taking over a company
that once symbolized U.S.
industrial might.

Hours after the government sent GM into court Monday to file for Chapter 11 protection, Obama declared: "What I have no interest in doing is running GM."

But with a 60 percent equity stake in the carmaker and \$50 billion in taxpayer money riding on GM's success, the federal government is not exactly a hands-off investor.

Obama and his economic team insist the government's goal is to get GM back on its feet, maximize the return to taxpayers, and exit quickly from its involvement. But as one administration official put it, there is an inevitable tension between those objectives.

And the snap in that tension could sting — politically for Obama, economically for the auto industry and fiscally for the taxpayer.

How well a leaner GM adjusts after a trip through bankruptcy court is an open question. So is the

payback to taxpayers. Administration officials already have warned that \$2 of every \$5 pumped into GM might be difficult to recover.

Given the current economic crisis, the Obama administration's aggressive intervention is a defining moment for capitalism. Whether the president's actions serve as a private sector lifeline or a tether is a question that Obama and his economic team must confront not only with GM and Chrysler, another bailed out automaker, but with the financial sector as well.

But the sheer size of GM's bankruptcy protection filing, the magnitude of the government's role and the company's status as a fallen symbol of American industrial might make this intervention perhaps the most remarkable.

The president a month ago forced Rick Wagoner out as GM's CEO. The Department Treasury dictated what bondholders should get for the \$27 billion they held in GM debt. Obama's team determined that GM needed to emerge as company that could break even by selling 10 million vehicles a year, instead of the 16 million break-even threshold it needs today.

And on Treasury's instructions, GM will replace a majority of its board members in consultation with the Obama administration.

Monday's Chapter 11 filing by GM was enough to spark a new round of partisan criticism. A Republican National Committee Web video denounced the move as "nothing more than another government grab of a private company." House Republican Leader John Boehner of Ohio asked: "Does anyone really believe that politicians and bureaucrats in Washington can successfully steer a multinational corporation to economic viability?"

Eager to put a benign tone on its interventionist role, the White House and the Treasury Department issued a set of "principles for managing ownership stake."

In the principles, the administration acknowledges that in "exceptional cases" of substantial assistance to the private sector, it reserves the right to set up conditions to protect taxpayers, promote financial stability and encourage growth. It says that could mean ensuring a strong board of directors with a "sound long-term vision."

Once those conditions are in place, the document

says the government will manage its ownership stake "in a hands-off, commercial manner."

"The federal government will refrain from exercising its rights as a shareholder in all but the most fundamental corporate decisions," Obama said. "When a difficult decision has to be made on matters like where to open a new plant or what type of new car to make, the new GM, not the United States government, will make that decision."

The head of Obama's auto task force, Steven Rattner, explained that those fundamental decisions would include the selection of directors and major issues such as the acquisition or the merger of the company.

"No plant decisions, no job decisions, no dealer decisions, no color of car decisions," he added. "Those are all going to be left to management."

For Obama, though, doing little could prove to be quite demanding.

The government has pumped billions into the auto company's lending arm and assured consumers that it will backstop GM warranties, putting it only a few bureaucratic steps away from fixing a transmission.

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Randall Pribble

Publisher rpribble@thepampanews.com

ReDonn Woods
Advertising Manager

advertising@thepampanews.com bphillips@thepampanews.com

Sue Pribble David Bowser

Advertising Representative Reporter

advertising 1 @thepampanews.com dbowser@thepampanews.com

Beverly Taylor Classified Advertising classified@thepampanews.com

Kera Kent
Circulation

Marcus Elkins

Carrie Hair
Accounting

circulation@thepampanews.com

bookkeeper@thepampanews.com

Chico Ramirez Circulation Supervisor

Press Supervisor

Betsy Phillips

Editor

Lesli Abbott

Reporter

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The Reality of TV

By Martha Randolph Carr

There's a loophole in our child labor laws that the recent brouhaha over the popular cable show, Jon and Kate Plus Eight, which airs on The Learning Channel, has exposed. Okay, more like finally made the state of Pennsylvania pay attention, which points out a nasty habit in this country. We tend to wonder how the kids are doing after things have gone a little too far.

In case this was your week to turn off all media, which is what it would have taken to miss the publicity juggernaut, Jon and Kate Gosselin are the parents of eight-year-old twins and five-year-old sextuplets who are filmed in minutiae as they go about their lives in Pennsylvania.

The filming began when the sextuplets, three boys and three girls, were about a year old and has only grown and become more invasive over time. Potty training, sibling rivalry and parental arguments have all been caught on tape.

The results appear to be a lot of swag for the parents, rumors of extramarital affairs, splits with extended family members and a possible divorce for the family. Great stuff for TLC, which saw a ratings bonanza for the recent premier of the new season. Ten million viewers tuned in to see if Jon would confess to dating a younge, woman. Mostly, he pouted and complained about the downside of being a celebrity.

Lost in all of the adult mess was even a mention of what all of this living in a fishbowl was doing to their children. Both Jon and Kate stated over and over again how their first concern was their children but no one was willing to address what the affects of having a camera in your face every day for hours on end, work commitments to publicize the show or inflaming the paparazzi was doing to eight young children.

Child labor in the U.S. is very regulated and with good reason. We haven't been the best stewards of our youngest citizens and have allowed children to be used as cheap labor and even fodder around large and dangerous machinery in an effort to make a buck. As a populace we spent way too much time looking the other way as children missed school, were exposed to dangerous environments and were often literally worked to death. Most of that was put to rest with a lot of regulations that are generally stringently enforced, including in the entertainment industry, until

Children are suddenly the darlings of reality television. They're everywhere and particularly on The Learning Channel, or TLC, which is part of the Discovery Channel family. Besides the Jon and Kate show there is also Eighteen Kids and Counting about an Arkansas family that has 18 children, and a newer show, Table for 12 with 10 kids.

It all seemed charming at first and a brief glimpse into what it was like to be a part of a large family. TLC was gaining a reputation as a family friendly channel and everything was so upbeat. However, as the popularity of this type of family reality show grew the suits at TLC reacted like businessmen and not like good parents. They ordered up more shows and increased the amount of time each family was being filmed. That was probably to be expected.

The real root of the problem

though, was that the parents didn't reassess the situation and put the

children first, income second.

There's been a lot said about how it's necessary to provide for the future needs, which is laudable but it's the how you get there that in this instance stinks. While there is a clause in most state child labor laws that says children can work longer hours in family businesses, which was put there mostly for farming families, no one foresaw that reality TV would make it possible to once again put children on camera all day long as part of a unique family business.

There's also one other glaring loophole that's not being addressed yet by this new form of child labor. The California Child Actor's Bill was enacted in 1938 after Jackie Coogan, one of the first well-known child actors was first exploited by his parents with long hours on movie sets and then left penniless after they spent all of his earnings. That law states that 15 percent of a child's earnings has to be put aside and can't be touched by anyone without a court order until the child becomes an adult.

There's so much money and services being paid to the parents involved in the shows but there's no laws on the books that says how much of it has to be put into trust funds for the children who will have to live with the consequences. Stay tuned

Martha Randolph Carr's latest book, A Place to Call Home, a memoir about the reemergence of U.S. orphanages is available wherever books are sold.



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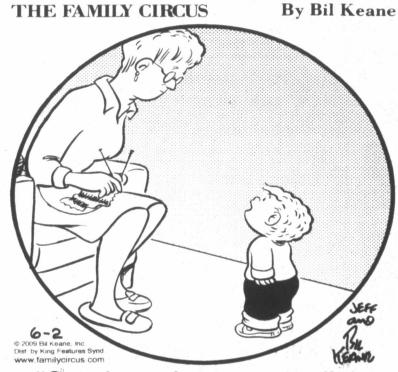


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3 Chef

2 Ease up

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5 Stamp

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6 Rosters

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9 Take in

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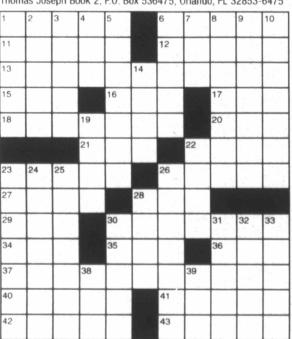
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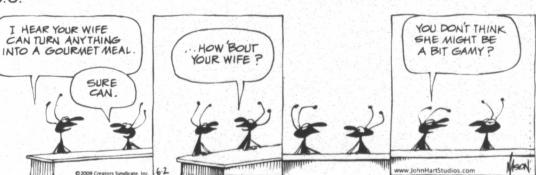
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69a Garage Sales

CITY WIDE GARAGE SALE

Ads will be in The Pampa News, Thurs. June 4th & Fri. June 5th on special pages. Reserve ad now! \$25 incl. 1x2 Box Ad for 2 days, Free Garage Sale Kit which inc. 2 signs, pricing stickers, sales record form & some garage sale tips. Deadline for ads on the special pages is Tues. June

2, before 4pm.

69a Garage Sales

ATTENTION!! DEADLINE CHANGE for Classified Line

Weekend Edition Sat.-Sun.) this also includes Last Minute Ads (City Briefs)!!

Ads for Fri.

Fri. Deadline before Thurs. noon. Weekend Edition

Sat.-Sun.) deadline is Thurs. be fore 4pm.

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HOURS

at the

Pampa News: Mon. - Fri. 8am.-4pm.

ATTENCION!!

Ha cambiado e tiempo de poner tu venta en el per odico! clasificade para

para viernes y Sa bado y dominge ncluindo los Citt oriefs es: Viernes es jueves antes las doce.

Sabado y domingo

es Jueves, antes las 4pm. LOTS of kitchenware & Red Barn. Open only on 1420

80 Pets & Suppl.

Saturdays.

Barnes, 10-5.

3 Baby Guinea pigs for sale. Call 669-3993 or come by 1531 N. Nel- Call 665-1875.

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available on an equal 102 Bus. Rental opportunity basis. DOWNTOWN office RANCH House Motel space for rent. Utilities under new manage-& cleaning service proment. Special Weekly Monthly Rates. Intervided. Ample parking 669-6823 Cable, net. HBO.

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LARGEST Apts. in Pampa. Reduced rates. Work crews welcome

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2 room, nice yard, lami-Courtyard Apts 817-909-4766 nate floor, Owner carry 662-7557 THE Schneider House, 2238 Christine. 3/1/1, c. now leasing apts., 1 & 2 bdr., utilities incl. 120 h/a, hardwood floors,

S. Russell or 665-0415: 98 Unfurn. Houses

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3/1/1 CP. Fresh paint updated kitchen to bath \$52,000. Call 662-4394 ups. New carpet. 405 E. No owner carry. Browning. 669-2139 or BY Owner. 663-6121. Grape. 3 bdr., 2 ba. 1928 sq. ft. Hardood fl.,

hall/kitchen. \$110,000.669-5269. HIGHEST

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6163.

2006 Honda CRS 70 2003 Polaris 4 wheeler \$1750. 2004 Yamaha Warrior. \$2250. Good condition.

Daily Horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday,

June 3, 2009: This year, your imagination could define your reality. That same gift provides endless solutions. Your skills as a problemsolver emerge. Others delight in your company. You could discover you have a secret admirer. If you are single, you will have your choice of many different people. Remember, it take at least a year to get to know someone. If you are attached, the two of you could act like newlyweds. You will want to approach your daily life differently, enriching it with more vitality. Express anger or frustration appropriately. SCORPIO works

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19) *** Respond to requests. You could discover just how far off an original idea was. Continue to touch it up with help. Your perspective could change radically within a meeting. Others espouse a cause. Smile and let it be. Intense conversation and a dissection of an issue in

the p.m. are inevitable. Tonight: Talk over dinner.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) *** Focus on what must be done, as by the afternoon, a meeting, call or unexpected visit could change your focus. When all's said and done, aren't people where it's really at? Don't allow pressure to build. Someone cannot hold back his

or her feelings. Tonight: Listen to a sug-

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) **** You are so imaginative, you might need to keep writing down ideas. If you want to approach a situation difcoming from a distance. Plow into a project by midday. Discuss your frustration.

Tonight: Working late.

*** You might be slow to get going. Make that OK. You will more than make up for lost time later on. You also might you are pushing someone too hard, he or she will let you know it. Keep work and friendship separate. Tonight: Stay light-

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

close to home.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) *** Your expenses could be exploding. Pull back and get feedback from a pal. Be careful, as you are likely to pick someone to talk about financial issues with who might be extravagant. This afternoon could be somewhat explosive. Listen to anger, but don't personalize it.

Tonight: Don't forget a special friend. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) *** Your personality opens doors. You know you have charm. And you know how to use it. Nevertheless, there are limits! Careless spending is a possibility because of a demanding partner. A

bills. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) that pleases you

** ★ A must appearance might develop a volatile note. Someone might have held back anger or frustration. Creativity bubbles up. A child or loved one could throw a tantrum as well! This person wants your attention. Tonight: Where

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

one attention. The two of you can iron out a problem. You will land on your feet. Your imagination could prove to be a resource here. Listen to others as well. Detach and think. Solutions will come up. Find an expert if need be. Tonight: Go for a new spot or a different approach.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at www.jacquelinebigar.com. © 2007 by King Features Syndicate Inc

(1926), TV journalist Anderson Cooper

direction. Listen to news that is forth-

CANCER (June 21-July 22) be more open to an effective shortcut. If

★★★★ Keep conversations moving. At first, what appears to be difficult might to your ideas and bolster your ego. You feel as if you are in command of your ship. If possible, plan on working at home in the afternoon. Tonight: Stay

black cloud passes quickly. Tonight: Pay *** Take care of a personal matter Midday, others start looking for you.

Fortunately, you have the energy to meet

them and get past a problem, which

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

*** Listen to others' opinions openly. In fact, a conversation becomes lively and full of ideas. You depart a brainstorming session feeling replenished and well connected to this group. This afternoon, close your door and funnel your ideas. Tonight: Get extra rest. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

*** In the morning, you find many like minds with other good ideas. Keep sharing and stay open. Good feelings vibrate between you. Take a long-overdue stand in the afternoon. Use care with machinery. Tonight: A must appearance. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

*** A partner needs your one-on-

BORN TODAY President of the Confederacy Jefferson Davis (1808), poet Allen Ginsberg

AXYDLBAAXR

is LONGFELLOW 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. CRYPTOOUOTE

LC LY CJQ HLCCHQ KLCY ID CJSC DGQC TIGGU NY; TQ WSM BIBZQ SM

QHQVJSMC BIBZQ S DHU. — AIYJ KLHHLMZY Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THERE IS TROUBLE AND SORROW ENOUGH IN THE WORLD WITHOUT MAKING IT ON PURPOSE. — W.D. HOWELLS

could stem from another's frustration or pent-up anger. Tonight: Make a choice ferently, you also might need a sense of Your Guide to

Local Beauty Professionals

No Clouds Allowed Tanning 1506 N. Hobart

> Chez Tanz 2137 N. Hobart 669-6836

の大野

665-4101

Above the Clouds Beauty Salon 1405 N. Banks 665-1101

LA Nails Coronado Center 665-8424

Gel-Us Nails Hwy 152 & Western 669-6245

Hot Headz All Purpose Salon 1600 N. Hobart

665-6549 Tangles Hair Salon

A Cut Above We're A Full Service Salon! 2000 N. Hobart 665-4071

Massage Therapy Cathy Porter & Holly Albert 1224 N. Hobart, Ste. #9

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G6



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