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Jim Bruton

The PAMPA NEWS

Officials urge caution during heat wave

BY BETSY PHILLIPS
editor@thepampanews.com

Health officials are urging area residents to take steps to prevent heat exhaustion and heat stroke during this hot spell.

Excel energy has reported power outages as is asking customers to cut use during peak hours in the afternoon.

Cathy Land, director of emergency services at

Pampa Regional Medical Center said the hospital is experiencing a rise in those being treated for heat related illness.

"We are seeing roughly one patient a day, which is odd," Land said Friday morning. "Usually we only see one a month."

Land explained that those who work out of doors are the most likely victims of heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

Sometimes they do not realize what is causing their symptoms. According to Land, a person suffering heat exhaustion will be pale, have moist skin, will be sweating profusely and sometimes have severe muscle cramping and pain.

Some patients feel like they are going to faint, are dizzy and/or complain of headaches.

They may also be tired and weak, thirsty and expe-

riencing nausea. Usually their body temperature is around 100, and their heart rate is greater than 100.

With heat stroke, Land said, most victims have lost so much fluid they are not sweating, some are not conscious, some very confused and can be hallucinating. Skin can be red hot and dry. Their blood pressure can be elevated slightly and they could be hyperventilating. Some

could have a body temperature of 105 or more.

If you must be outside, Land suggests taking breaks to rest in cool shaded area. Drink cool, but not icy water and sports drinks.

"Someone like a roofer should be drinking a 10-ounce bottle of water every hours to stay hydrated," Land explained.

It is also important to

HEAT cont. on page 3

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staff photo by David Bowser

Flanked by Pampa City Manager Richard Morris, left, and Finance Director Robin Bailey, right, Public Works Director Donny Hooper listens to a presentation at the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority Wednesday at Lake Meredith.

Riverstone new owner of old Celanese plant

BY DAVID BOWSER
dbowser@thepampanews.com

A New York-based private equity firm is taking over the old Celanese plant in Pampa.

Riverstone Holdings LLC, which bought Titan, has joined the North America Energy Group management team of Babcock & Brown LP to acquire Babcock & Brown's renewable energy portfolio.

Babcock & Brown went bankrupt earlier this year. In June, they were delisted from the Australian

and New Zealand stock exchanges.

Riverstone confirmed late last week that they and the Babcock & Brown energy group bought the firm's wind energy development portfolio. They have formed Pattern Energy as an independent energy company to develop, construct, own and operate renewable energy and transmission assets in North America and part of Latin America.

According to company officials, Riverstone is committing \$400 million

PLANT cont. on page 3

CRMWA takes steps to increase future water availability

BY DAVID BOWSER
dbowser@thepampanews.com

SANFORD - The water level at Lake Meredith is 49.31 feet. A year ago, it set a record low level of 45.25 feet.

Despite recent rains, the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority took steps when they met here Wednesday to increase the availability of groundwater from their John Williams Well Field north of Pampa, prepare for issuing more bonds and condemning an easement on a western panhandle ranch as part of their salt cedar eradication program.

The board of directors, two from each member city, extended the general manager's authority to issue

revenue bonds that have already been approved.

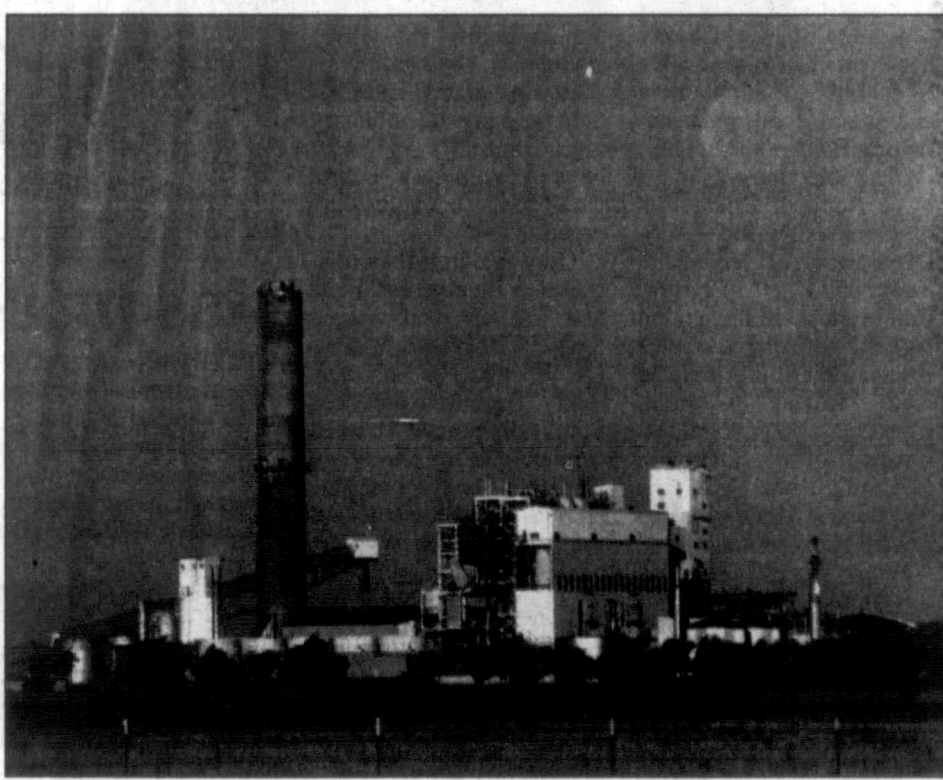
Kent Satterwhite, the general manager of the water authority, said that while the money wasn't needed at the moment for the latest phase of the well field expansion, eventually it would be and based their bond consultant's advice now may be the time to issue them because they can get a good rate on them.

"It's a timing thing," Satterwhite said.

Satterwhite said that bids were coming on the project well under what had been estimated.

He said the construction crews were clearing the pipeline right of way now for Phase III of the well

WATER cont. on page 3



staff photo by David Bowser

The moon sets behind the old Celanese coal-fired plant as the sunrises in the east. Pampa officials hope that there is a new dawn for the facility.

New GI benefits vary widely by state

JUSTIN POPE
AP EDUCATION WRITER

When the new GI Bill kicks in Aug. 1, the government's best-known education program for veterans will get the biggest boost since its World War II-era creation. But the benefit is hardly the "Government Issue," one-size-fits-all standard the name implies.

In fact, depending on where service members and veterans decide to attend college, they could receive a full ride, or very little.

An Associated Press review of state-by-state benefits under the new bill shows huge discrepancies in the amount veterans can receive.

For example:
• Veterans attending New Hampshire colleges like Dartmouth might get \$25,000 from the government each year, and in Dartmouth's case essentially a free ride, thanks to an additional grant from the Ivy League school. But in neighboring Massachusetts, it is a different story. At that state's

numerous private schools, many just as expensive as Dartmouth, the government's baseline tuition benefit is only about \$2,200 a year.

• Veterans who choose a private school in Texas could get close to \$20,000 a semester from the government for a typical course load. Those picking schools in California will get nothing for tuition.

The explanation stems from the formula the government created, as well as a much-criticized decision by the Department of

Veterans Affairs on how to implement the law.

The new GI Bill covers full in-state undergraduate tuition and fees at any public college. That's far more generous than the old GI Bill, which provides a monthly stipend that is the same from state to state.

But Congress also wanted to help veterans attend often pricier private schools. So the new bill offers them an amount equal to the tuition at the most expensive public college in the same state.

That penalizes veterans

going to private colleges in states that have kept their public university tuition low.

As a result, the new GI Bill is a great deal for such vets in states like New Hampshire, New York and Texas; a pretty good one in states like Ohio; and hardly any deal at all in Massachusetts and especially California, where the state constitution prohibits public universities from charging tuition. Instead, California's public uni-

GI cont. on page 3

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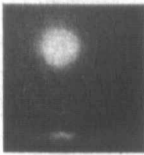

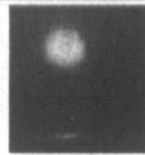
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For the record

PAMPA FORECAST

| Saturday | Sunday | Monday |
|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |
| High 100 Low 72 | High 99 Low 74 | High 98 Low 72 |

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 75. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.
Saturday: Sunny and hot, with a high near 100. Southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.
Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 72. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.
Sunday: Sunny and hot, with a high near 99. West southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.
Sunday Night: Clear, with a low around 74. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.
Monday: Sunny and hot, with a high near 98. Southwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.
Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 72. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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Emergency funds available for food and shelter programs

County Gray County has been chosen to receive \$7,000.00 to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the county. The selection was made by a National Board that is chaired by the U. S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency and consists of representatives from American Red Cross; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA; The Salvation Army; United Jewish Communities and United Way of America. The Local Board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas around the country. The Local Board made up of Gray County Judge, Pampa United Way, Tralee Crisis Center, The Salvation Army, Pampa Meals On Wheels, Southside Senior Citizens Center, Good Samaritan Christian Services, Harvest House, City of Pampa Representative, American Red Cross, and Catholic Charities or other Catholic organizations. These organizations will determine how the funds awarded to Gray County are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service agencies in the area. The Local Board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional funds available under this phase of the program. Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local agencies chosen to receive funds must 1) be private voluntary non-profits or units of government, 2) be eligible to receive federal funds, 3) have an accounting system, 4) practice nondiscrimination, 5) have demonstrated

the capability to deliver emergency food and / or shelter programs, and 6) if they are a private voluntary organization, they must have a voluntary board. Qualifying agencies are urged to apply. Gray County has distributed Emergency Food and Shelter funds previously with Pampa Meals On Wheels, The Salvation Army, Tralee Crisis Center, Southside Senior Citizens Center, Good Samaritan Christian Services, and the Harvest House participating. These agencies were responsible for providing 5,224 meals and 226 nights of lodging. Public or private voluntary agencies interested in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds must contact Local Board Chair Captain Mark Martin, 665-7233, of The Salvation Army, or Katrina Bigham at the United Way office 669-1001 for an application. The deadline for applications to be received is July 16.

LAST MINUTE CLASSIFIED LINE ADS

The Pampa News is not responsible for the content of paid advertisement

AVENUES TOO Grand Opening, see weekend edition & July 16th for info. 665-0983
GOSPEL SINGING, Sunday afternoon, 2-4, Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock, Everyone welcome.

Obituaries

Jerry Lee Johnson, 72

Pampa— Jerry Lee Johnson, 72, died July 8, 2009, in Pampa, Texas. Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, July 11, 2009, at St. Mark CME Church, with Rev. Raymond McKeever, pastor, officiating. Cremation

arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors. Mr. Johnson was born January 10, 1937 in Winona, Texas. He had been a resident of Pampa for the past 45 years. Jerry worked for Paul Crossman

Appliances for over 25 years. Survivors include his sister, Ruby Morgan of Pampa and two brothers; Ellis Johnson of Winona, and Elbert Johnson, Jr., of Tyler. Jerry was preceded in death by a brother: Albert Johnson; and his parents: Elbert and Caldonia Johnson.

Sign the on-line register at www.carmichael-whatley.com

Lonnie Richard Easley, 61

Skellytown— Lonnie Richard Easley, 61, died Tuesday, July 7, 2009 in Skellytown, Texas.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 11, 2009 in the First Baptist Church in Skellytown with Rev. Thacker Haynes, Pastor of the First United Methodist Church in McLean, officiating.

Interment with US Army Honors will be in Hillcrest Cemetery in McLean.

Arrangements are by Robertson Funeral Directors of McLean.

Mr. Easley was born June 28, 1948 in Wichita Falls. He graduated from

McLean High School in 1967. While in high school, Lonnie was a great football player and was the recipient of the saber-toothed tiger football award. He was a resident of McLean prior to moving to Skellytown in 1986. He married Nancy Boothe on January 16, 1987 in Amarillo. He was a US Army & Army National Guard veteran serving in Vietnam and after 22 years of service he retired. He later worked for Phillips Conoco for 18 years and was a prison guard at the time of his death. He was a member of the First Baptist

Church in Skellytown. He loved his family and was loved by everyone that knew him.

He was preceded in death his father, Thomas Trostle; and his brother, Quinn Easley in 1971.

Survivors include his wife, Nancy Easley of Skellytown; his mother, Inez Trostle of Amarillo; two sons, Dennis Russell Easley and wife Mona of Casper, Wyoming, and Kevin Jay Easley and wife Stephanie of Corpus Christi; a daughter, Catrina Easley of Ft. Worth; a brother in law, Henry Boothe and wife Maria of

Austin; 3 sisters in law, Lola Williams and husband Glen of Abington, IL, Francis Worley and husband Billy of Amarillo, and Alcie Smith and husband Jeff of Lovington, NM; nine grandchildren; 13 great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family requests memorials be made to the American Stroke Association or a favorite charity.

Viewing will be held starting at 11:00 am Friday in the First Baptist Church in Skellytown.

Emergency Services

PAMPA PD

The Pampa Police Department responded to the following calls during the 24 hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Officers made 32 traffic stops and assisted one motorist. There were six accidents. The city received nine animal-related calls.

Thursday
 Officers responded to a medical emergency in the 1400 block of North Williston.

Officers made a welfare check in the 500 block of North Yeager.

Officers responded to a medical emergency in the 11000 block of U.S. Highway 60.

An harassment report was made in the 1000 block of Huff Road.

A window was reported broken out at Pampa High School.

A fraud report was made to the police department.

A warrant was served in the 400 block of West Montagu.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1400 block of North Russell.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 700 block of Magnolia.

An harassment report was made 1200 block of North Wells.

Officers responded to an alarm in the 1700 block of North Hobart.

Phone harassment was reported to the department.

A pistol was stolen in the 2500 block of North Rosewood.

Alcohol was stolen from a store in 1300 block of North Hobart.

A suspicious person was reported in the 100 block of East Atchison.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 100 block of North Sumner.

A violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 1100 block of Cinderella

Drive.

Friday
 Officers responded to a medical emergency in the 400 block of Perry.

A suspicious person was reported in the 900 block of East Browning and in the 400 block of South Starkweather.

The convertible top of a vehicle was reported damaged in the 700 block of North Nelson.

A suspicious person was reported in the 1100 block of East Kingsmill.

Officers responded to a medical emergency in the 1900 block of Hilton Road.

A suspicious person was reported in the 1900 block of Hobart.

The Gray County

SHERIFF

Sheriff's Department reported the following arrests during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Thursday
 Paula Gail Johnson, 43, of Pampa, was arrested by Pampa officers on charges of driving without a valid license.

Patrick Derle Mize, 27, of Lefors, was arrested by Gray County deputies on charges of driving while intoxicated.

Julie A. Tucker, 43, of Pampa, was arrested by Pampa officers on charges of driving while intoxicated and resisting arrest.

FIRE

The Pampa Fire Department responded to the following calls for service between 7 a.m. Thursday, July 9 and 7 a.m. Friday, July 10.

7:24 a.m.— One unit and three personnel responded to an agency assist, medical call, in the 1400 block of Williston.

Gas prices fall to \$2.41 across Texas

IRVING, Texas (AP)— The retail cost of gasoline across Texas has fallen to \$2.41 a gallon.

AAA Texas on Friday reported the average price at the pump was down 8 cents from one week earlier.

Gasoline prices also tumbled

nationwide, settling at \$2.56, compared to \$2.63 last Friday.

El Paso had the most expensive gasoline in the latest statewide survey, at \$2.53 a gallon. Fort Worth had the cheapest gasoline, at \$2.36.

Oil prices slid below \$60 a barrel

Friday as investors braced for company earnings reports next week.

Texas AAA spokesman Dan Ronan says demand for gasoline remains flat by historical levels.

Father charged with capital murder of missing baby

DALLAS (AP)— The father of 9-month-old girl who's been missing for about a month has been charged with capital murder in her disappearance.

Dallas police Senior Cpl. Janice Crowther said Thursday that Denton County prosecutors filed the charge against 20-year-old Alandus Weaver.

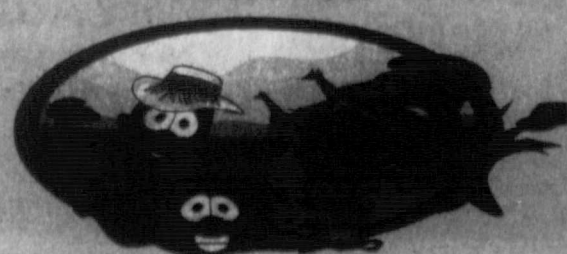
Daisja Weaver has been missing since early last month after her 19-year-old mother, Tamaira Creagh, said a man broke into her apartment and kidnapped the baby.

Police eventually arrested Creagh on an evidence tampering charge, and she told police they dumped the child's body into Lake Lewisville

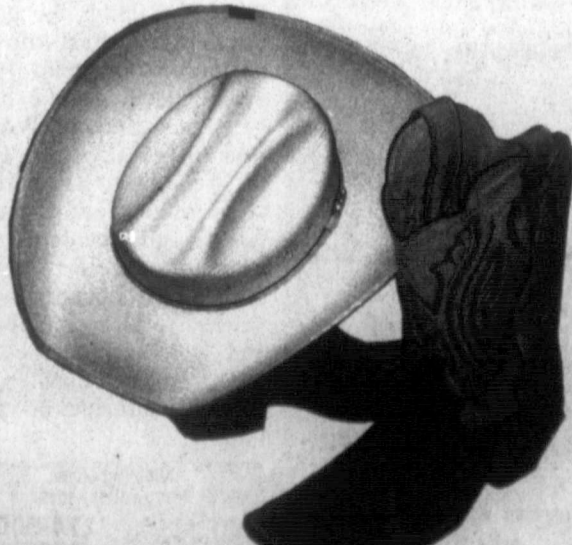
with a sandbag tied to it after she died while in her father's care. The father, 20-year-old Alandus Weaver, was arrested on suspicion of tampering or fabricating evidence to hinder an investigation.

The search of the lake for the child's body has been abandoned.

Come join Bob and Larry on a prayer safari as they, "Teach Us to Pray" Vacation Bible School July 27 - July 31 6:30 - 9:00 Entering Kindergarten through entering 6th grade Registration nightly at 6:00 pm Carnival - Friday at 6:30 Calvary Baptist Church 900 E. 23rd • 665-0842



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Heat wave

wear loose clothing. "If you begin to suffer symptoms, pour cool, not icy, water on your body," Land said.

Someone who is suffering heat exhaustion should not drink beverages that contain alcohol or caffeine.

If you believe some is suffering from heat stroke, the victim should be moved person into cool environment immediately. If they can take cool beverages by mouth, they may have water. Call 911 or get them to the hospital as soon as possible.

Do not rub patient with alcohol, that can make them dry out more.

Land said most victims of heat-related illness are healthy adults who work out of doors and elderly persons who don't drink enough water.

She said during extreme

heat conditions, from noon to five p.m., nobody should really be working outside.

By the time you are thirsty, you are already becoming dehydrated.

If you are without power, open windows for breeze dress very lightly. The lighter the clothing the better.

Keep pets indoors too, if possible. If not, make sure they have shade and fresh, cool water several times a day. Do not leave your pet in a vehicle.

Wes Reeves, of Xcel's Energy Media Relations department reported Friday morning, "We had some outages related to high heat yesterday (Thursday, July 9), so we're encouraging customers to use energy wisely between the hours of 4 and 7 p.m."

"This is the time when we sometimes experience

outages because of overloaded transformers."

The best tips to prevent these types of outages are to gradually turn down air conditioning thermostats, use box and ceiling fans, and put off chores that use high-energy appliances until it gets a bit cooler outside.

Tips for keeping your energy cost down during hot summer months include:

- Clean or replace your central air conditioner's filter monthly during the cooling season to improve the efficiency and extend the life of the unit.

- Keep the coils of your central air conditioner and/or window air conditioner unit free of dust and dirt to increase efficiency and extend the life of the equipment.

- Use ceiling fans to cool

your house. The most efficient ceiling fans cost as little as 30 cents a month if used eight hours a day. A window air conditioner can cost 50 times as much as a fan. Ceiling fans will keep the air moving and allow you to keep the thermostat setting higher because moving air feels cooler.

- You can save \$25 or more each month during the summer by raising your thermostat's temperature from 72 to 78 degrees.

- Use a programmable thermostat. This device can save as much as 12 percent on cooling costs by automatically turning your cooling system up or down to coincide with your daily routine. For example, set your temperature to 85 degrees when you're away.

GI benefits

cont. from page 1

versities typically charge "fees" of several thousand dollars per year.

Critics argue the Department of Veterans Affairs misinterpreted the law and should have combined tuition and fees in coming up with reimbursement levels. That would have put the total California benefit at around \$13,000 per year.

Anthony Brooks, a 26-year-old former Army Ranger who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, will get a mere \$5,000 toward the \$38,570 tuition charged at the private University of Southern California, and half of that comes from USC through the government's Yellow Ribbon matching-grant program.

"It's depressing, actually. It's putting states up against each other," said Brooks, who plans to become a doctor. He added: "We all fought for our country. It just seems unfair."

The VA says its hands were tied by Congress.

"It is a valid question concerning why we would pay X in State A versus how much we would pay in State B, but the statute

defines the kinds of programs we would account for," said Keith Wilson, the department's director of educational services.

Congress passed the Post 9/11 GI Bill last year, offering veterans the most significant expansion of educational benefits since the original GI Bill in 1944. The VA expects nearly half a million veterans to participate in the coming year.

The benefits, including new, separate stipends for housing and books, kick in after three years of active duty, and some of them are transferable to family members.

Rep. Howard "Buck" McKeon, R-Calif., has introduced legislation that would correct the discrepancy in California.

"California's generosity on state tuition was intended to keep college costs down, not inadvertently increase costs for the state's veterans," said Lindsey Mask, a spokeswoman for McKeon.

In the meantime, education and veterans groups are fielding calls from veterans confused over how much they can get.

Water

field expansion in Roberts County and expected to be laying pipe by the first of August.

John Kelly with Parkhill, Smith and Cooper, engineers on the project, told the board the initial well should be complete next year.

That would increase the amount of water available from the well field to keep water flowing to the 11-member communities, including Pampa, even without the lake.

As part of the project, the water authority is amending its production permit with the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District later this month.

"It doesn't change the amount we can produce," Satterwhite said. "It changes the number of pumps."

Both the water authority and the groundwater dis-

trict said that broadening the pumping out over a larger area in the well field is a good strategy.

The board approved the purchase of \$490,000 of pumps that would be installed at the Sanford Dam in case the water level in the lake falls too low and the water has to be pumped up to the aqueduct intakes.

"If we buy the pumps," quipped Jerry Carlson, one of Pampa's representatives on the board, "it might rain."

The board also approved a resolution granting Satterwhite the authority to institute condemnation proceedings against an Oldham County rancher in connection with the water authority's salt cedar eradication program along the Canadian River upstream from Lake Meredith.

Each summer the water

authority has been spraying the invasive plant along the river in an effort to keep the thirsty shrubs from soaking up water. Most ranchers along the river have joined in the effort, but one rancher who lives in Mississippi and fears that eradicating the salt cedar will eliminate cover for white-tailed deer has not agreed to the program despite assurances from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

After more than a year of negotiations, the water authority is using its power of eminent domain to gain an easement over about 7,000 acres on the ranch for 60 days at a cost of \$17,500 to spray for salt cedar.

The board also approved a water tap on the aqueduct for the City of O'Donnell, a member of the water authority, at their request.

The water will come out of their allocation, Satterwhite said.

The CRMWA board reallocated pumping energy surcharge fees during the meeting.

Satterwhite told the board that it wouldn't cost the member cities any more money. The money that was being taken in was simply to be used for other budgetary items.

"It will cure temporary problems," said John Williams, former general manager, now a consultant to the water authority.

The National Park Service reported that the number of visitors to Lake Meredith was up 20 percent this summer and the number of boats on the lake was up

cont. from page 1

Plant

lion to expand and support Pattern Energy's renewable energy business.

Pattern Energy will maintain Babcock & Brown developments that exceed 4,000 megawatts of wind power in 11 states and four countries in addition to several power transmission projects, according to a company press release.

"Our team of highly-experienced renewable energy and transmission experts is excited about continuing our business as

the new and well-capitalized Pattern Energy," said Mike Garland, CEO of Pattern Energy in a prepared statement.

There was no immediate word on the Pampa project.

Babcock & Brown had purchased the old Celanese plant at Pampa with the expressed purpose of building a wind farm nearby and using the coal-fired power plant at the former Celanese facility to supplement power production at peak periods.

They had expressed their plan to hook into the Competitive Renewable Energy Zone (CREZ) power lines that are scheduled to be built through the Pampa area, these power lines will allow the transmission of electricity produced here to be moved to metropolitan areas downstate.

In 2007, the Carlyle Group and Riverstone bought Titan Specialties, Ltd. Riverstone Holdings LLC

was founded in 2000 and has about \$17 billion under management in six investment funds, including the world's largest renewable energy fund. With \$12 billion in 60 investments in North America, Latin America, Europe and Asia, it has offices in New York, London and Houston.

cont. from page 1

ND Supreme Court rules in natural gas dispute

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — North Dakota's Supreme Court says an energy company did not shortchange a group of more than 300 landowners on their natural gas royalty payments.

The high court unanimously upheld a district judge's ruling in favor of Petro-Hunt LLC, of Dallas.

A group of property owners disputed the company's method of figuring royalty payments from natural gas it produced

from beneath their land.

Petro-Hunt subtracted its costs for processing the gas before it made royalty payments. The landowners argued the company should have absorbed those costs.

The Supreme Court also rejected arguments that Petro-Hunt should have had to pay royalties on natural gas it used to operate some storage facilities.

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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Friday, July 10, the 191st day of 2009. There are 174 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1559 - Mary, Queen of Scots, claims title of Queen of England in opposition to Elizabeth I. Her political actions provoke rebellion among the Scottish nobles and she is beheaded in 1587 as a Catholic threat to the English throne.

1609 - The Catholic League is formed in Munich to oppose the Protestant Union, raising tensions in Germany that erupts in Thirty Years' War.

1645 - Oliver Cromwell's army defeats British Royalists at Naseby and Langport, where the last two field armies of King Charles I were destroyed.

1943 - Allied forces land in Sicily, Italy, during World War II.

1962 - Telstar satellite is launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, bringing live television from the United States to Europe for the first time.

There are only two distinct classes of people on this earth: those who espouse enthusiasm and those who despise it.

— Germaine de Staël,
French author

1990 - Russia's Mikhail Gorbachev is re-elected leader of Soviet Communist Party.

1991 - Boris Yeltsin takes oath of office as first elected president of Russia; U.S. President George Bush lifts economic sanctions against South Africa.

1992 - Polish parliament approves the country's first woman prime minister, Hanna Suchocka.

1993 - Georgian forces break through separatist lines along the only road to Sukhumi, the capital of the breakaway Abkhazia region, ending a weeklong blockade.

1995 - Opposition leader and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi is freed from house arrest in Rangoon, Burma, now known as Yangon, Myanmar, days before completing her six-year detention.

1996 - Unmanned Galileo spacecraft captures stunning close-up pictures of Ganymede, Jupiter's biggest moon.

1997 - Some 100,000 people demonstrate in London against proposed ban of fox hunting.

1998 - A U.N. conference produces a draft treaty on a world criminal court that would grant the prosecutor sweeping authority, a measure vigorously opposed by the United States.

2002 - Marine archaeologists discover the PT-109 warship piloted by the late U.S. President John F. Kennedy during World War II off the Solomon Islands.

2006 - Chechen rebel leader Shamil Basayev, responsible for terror attacks that led to the deaths of more than 800 people, is killed when a dynamite-laden truck in his convoy explodes.

Today's Birthdays:

Jean Calvin, French religious reformer (1509-1564); Camille Pissarro, French painter (1830-1903); Marcel Proust, French writer (1871-1922); Toyohiko Kagawa, Japanese writer (1888-1960); Giorgio de Chirico, Italian painter (1888-1978); Saul Bellow, U.S. writer (1915-2005); HgoBaze, reidentofBoiva 196-00); Arthur Ashe, tennis player (1943-1993); Jessica Simpson, pop singer/actress (1980--).



Global warming accord spells lifestyle changes

ARTHUR MAX
Associated Press
Writer

Leaders of the world's biggest — and dirtiest — economies have agreed for the first time to limit the warming of the earth to a relatively safe 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 Fahrenheit) — an important target in fighting climate change.

It sounds simple, but it implies a dramatic shift in the way we generate electricity, fuel our cars and build our homes and skyscrapers.

It means diverting investments in new power stations from fossil fuels to wind, solar and other renewables — which is a politically tricky task in the United States.

It also means wealthy countries need to raise tens of billions of dollars a year to help poor countries develop in cleaner ways than the industrial world did over the last 150 years.

Because the implications are so sweeping, the United States has until now avoided embracing the 2 degree C goal. On Wednesday it agreed to sign on to the target at the Group of Eight summit in L'Aquila, Italy.

The temperature increase is measured against the planet's average before the industrial age. In

the last few decades, the global average has risen 0.8 degrees C (1.5 F) and is certain to go up a bit more no matter what happens.

U.N. scientists say that to keep temperature increases low enough, the world's emissions of carbon and other heat-trapping gases must peak within 10-15 years and then rapidly drop by 50 percent by mid-century. Anything beyond 2 degrees increases the risk of weather-related disasters, disruptions in agriculture and the spread of diseases, they said in a seminal 2007 report.

The shift in U.S. policy is a signal to developing countries that President Barack Obama intends for the U.S. to play its part in cutting carbon emissions as part of a new U.N. climate accord due to be completed in December in Copenhagen.

But countries like China and India — the next generation of big polluters — believe it doesn't go far enough. They want the industrial countries to commit to reducing carbon emissions by 40 percent over the next decade.

Lacking that mid-term commitment, the developing countries rejected a draft statement calling for halving emissions by 2050 — even though the G-8

agreed in a separate draft document to cut emissions in the industrial countries by 80 percent.

That long-term ambition "is too far off to matter — poor people are being hit today," said Antonio Hill, of the nonprofit Oxfam International.

Nonetheless, the developing countries responded with movement on their own, agreeing in a draft statement to more specific language than they have used in the past to curb the increase of their emissions from their normal growth path.

If they receive substantial help with funds and technology, they said, they would take actions "whose projected effects on emissions represent a meaningful deviation from business as usual."

Despite these steps forward on both sides, an impasse remains in the negotiations leading to the U.N. conference in Copenhagen between the competing demands of the industrial and developing countries.

The G-8's acceptance of the 2 degree limit is "a sign they have woken up from a long phase of denial. But they have completely failed to outline what immediate action they will take to achieve this goal,"

the WWF environmental group said in a statement.

"Without a clear path for emission reductions, the 2 degree statement will just join a long list of broken promises," it said.

In fact, accepting the temperature limit amounts to the same as embracing the 50 percent mid-century goal, except it says nothing about how to achieve that goal.

"For many countries, 2 degrees C is a little bit squishier than the world cutting emissions by 50 percent," said Jake Schmidt of the Natural Resources Defense Council in Washington. "You have to have a pathway."

The draft statements far may look disappointing, but the summit isn't over yet.

On Thursday Obama will chair a 17-nation meeting that brings together the presidents and prime ministers of the rich nations with leaders of emerging powerhouses like India, Brazil, Mexico, and South Africa. The absence of China's President Hu Jintao, who left to attend an emergency at home, will make his job more difficult, but Obama could still swing things around.

Letters to the editor

To the editor,
Have the citizens of the USA gone stark, raving mad? What is happening to our country since the Hollywood White House took over?

Why do illegal aliens have more rights and legal assistance than legal citizens?

Why do our elderly, who have been taxed all their working lives for Social security have to share it with illegal aliens who have never paid one cent in taxes. Why do entertainment figures get more attention than our brave young men who are giving their lives to protect other countries while their own country is being stolen from them?

Is it not time to speak out before our freedom of speech is taken away from us — along with our constitution and reverence to God. We have trusted for-

eigners to think the same way we do — yet their only aim is to take over our country and our freedoms.

Our country is now bankrupt because people believed the promises of an individual who is inexperienced and has questionable citizenship. Race is not an issue here — knowledge is — knowledge of our country's background and beliefs.

Serious changes are in the making for people who have already been

overtaxed. Why aren't we speaking out more about this outrage? Cuts in health benefits to the needy and insurance taxes are ridiculous. Why did the giving away of all our money get started? It's time we stop this nonsense before we cease being a nation.

Why has the media, with one exception, become so tolerant and blind sighted to the reality of the situation and continues to hero-worship all the entertainers — from the White

House on down. What makes overpaid actors, who contributed highly with words and money to the recent election, more believable than the honest, hardworking men and women who founded our country. People are actually getting ill from this situation. One person has no effect — but banded together our voices would have an impact.
Betty Ireland
Pampa

We welcome your letters

- To insure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:
- Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.
 - All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published.
 - Defamatory comments will not be published.
 - E-mail submissions are welcome.

THE PAMPA NEWS

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Briarwood Church to hold VBS sports camp

It's VBS time again at Briarwood Church, 1800 W. Harvester, beginning Monday, July 13 and running nightly 6:00 to 9:00 through Friday, July 17. They will kick off the week Sunday afternoon, July 12, at 3:30 with a Pre-registration Ice Cream Party in the Family Life Center for kids having finished grades 1-5 and their parents. There will also be a Preschool & Kindergarten Class running from 6:00 - 7:30 nightly. As in the past, an awesome week is planned with the return of the Mega Sports Camp.

This year's theme is "UNDEFEATED". It is a sports camp and for those not-so-sports-crazy kids, music, drama, and dance are offered. Sports & Music will be the main teaching focus relating daily themes Bible Truths and daily living applications. Daily themes include Obstacles In Life, Inside Problems, Outside Forces, The Final Battle, and Meeting Basic Needs. All sorts of drills and practice games will focus on the fundamentals of each sport that make athletes great and they will discover character-building concepts from the Bible and from well-known athletes. "Of course, kids learn everything a lot better if they are having fun, so there will be lots of that!", says Karen Putman, Children's Pastor at Briarwood Church. This will be an awesome week of fun, sports, music, and learning about God's love. Come join us! Call 665-7201 for more information.

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When: July 13 - 17
Time: 6 PM - 9 PM
Ages: 4 Years - 5th Grade
Register your child online at www.cbcpampa.com



Pastors invited to Ministerial Alliance

Letter to Pastors
This is an invitation for you and your church to be involved in the Ministerial Alliance of Pampa. Recently there has been a renewed effort to gather the both the ministers and churches together to meet and worship. Thus far in this renewed effort, the cooperating churches of Pampa have met three times; Thanksgiving service and two fifth Sunday sings in March and May. All three services have been extremely well attended. By all accounts, it seems that the Christian community in Pampa desires these ecumenical meetings.

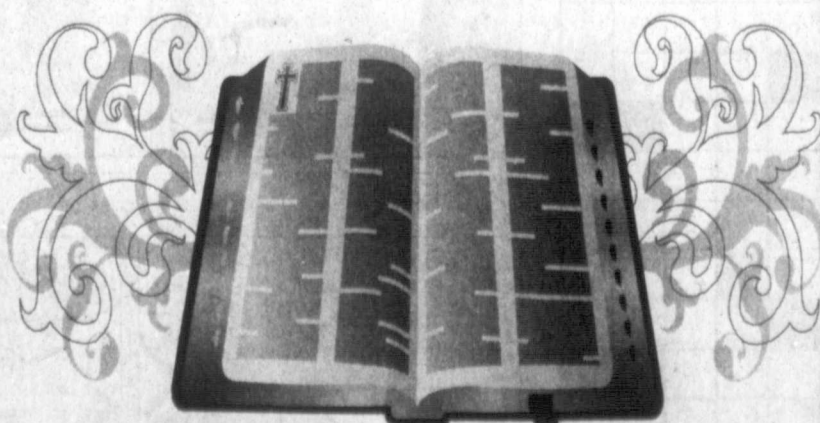
Therefore, I write this letter to you as an encouragement for you and your church to join in this new effort. Our next Ministerial Alliance meeting is Thursday, July 16. We will meet at 11:30 a.m. at The Coffee Shop, 220 N. Cuyler. Our next scheduled event is just a few weeks away. It will be another fifth Sunday sing to be held on August 30.

I sincerely hope you can come to our next meeting. We would love to have your church's participation at our coming event.

May God bless you and your church family.
Dr. Johnny Funderburg
Pastor
First Baptist Church

Praise Incorporated to perform at First Baptist Church

Praise, Incorporated, a music ministry quartet will perform at First Baptist Church, 203 N. West St. at 6 p.m. July 19. For more information call Barry Owens, 669-1155.



Be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead!
-1 Peter 1:6

Comics

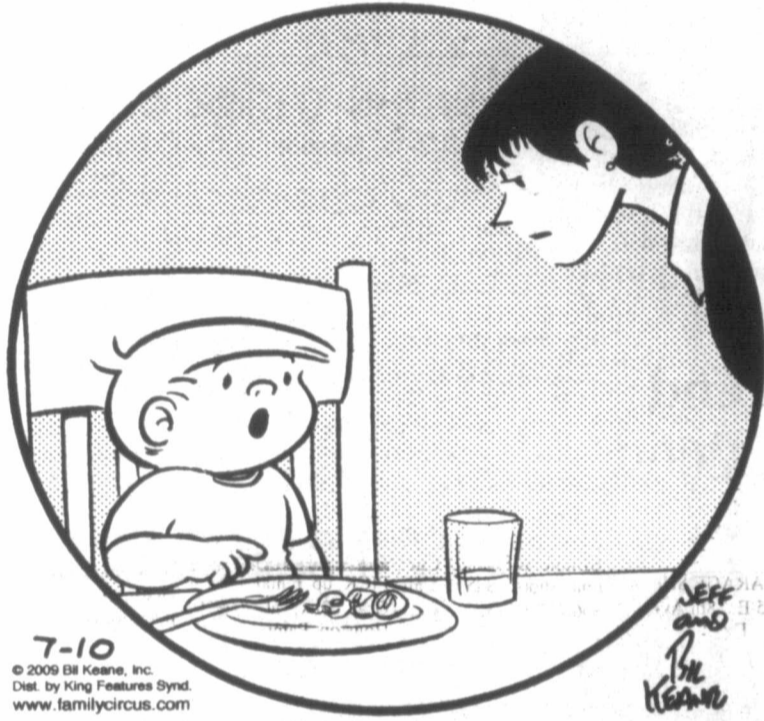
Marmaduke



"As long as he's in Daddy's chair, he's comfortable."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"I don't think these Brussels sprouts have sprouted enough."

Daily Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Rap sheet item
 - 6 Will group
 - 11 Instructional
 - 12 Broadway backer
 - 13 Set off
 - 14 Mary's friend
 - 15 High home
 - 17 Cyclotron bit
 - 18 Maravich of the NBA
 - 20 Let off steam
 - 22 Hostile
 - 23 Makes dry
 - 26 Snap
 - 28 "Superman" star
 - 29 Springs
 - 31 In shape
 - 32 Before long
 - 33 Sargasso Sea swimmers
 - 34 Each
 - 36 Be audacious
 - 38 Bank subtraction
 - 40 Lounges about
 - 43 Foe of Harry and Ron
 - 44 Parting word
- DOWN**
- 1 "That's it!"
 - 2 Cut off
 - 3 James Brown song
 - 4 "... lovely as —"
 - 5 Lushes
 - 6 Laugh sound
 - 7 Augment
 - 8 James Brown song
 - 9 Give a new look to
 - 10 Criticize harshly
 - 16 Dam-building org.
 - 18 Gladys Knight's backers
 - 19 Reverb
 - 21 Blunders
 - 23 Little, in music
 - 24 Malevolent
 - 25 Hardens
 - 27 Hot spots
 - 30 Goal
 - 33 Crumble
 - 34 Includes
 - 35 Andean land
 - 37 Woeful cry
 - 39 Gift from Santa
 - 41 Guitar pioneer
 - 42 Haul into court

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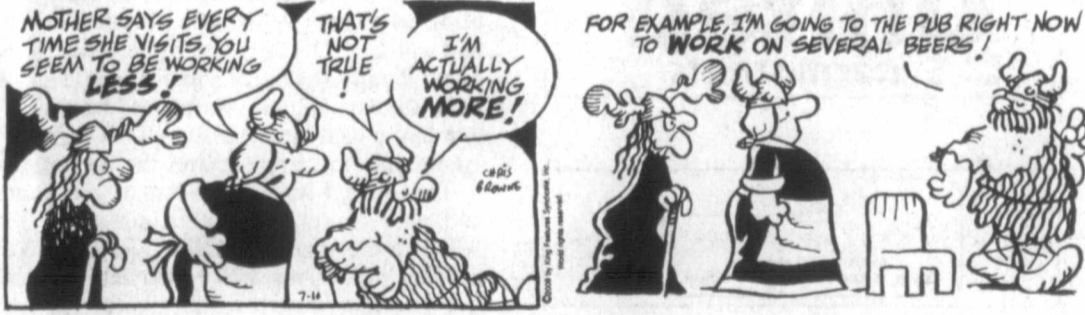
Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Happy State Bank expands into 2 more panhandle communities

In a joint statement, Happy Bancshares, Inc., Canyon, Texas, President and CEO, J. Pat Hickman and First Canadian Bancorp, Inc., President and CEO, George Briant announced that on June 30, 2009 they signed a definitive agreement wherein Happy Bancshares, Inc. has agreed to acquire First Canadian Bancorp, Inc.

Happy Bancshares, Inc. owns Happy State Bank with 20 offices in 12 communities in the Texas Panhandle. First Canadian Bancorp, Inc. owns First National Bank of Canadian with branches in Canadian, Canyon and Higgins. This transaction is expected to close in the third quarter, following bank regulatory and First Canadian Bancorp shareholder approvals.

With this acquisition, Happy State Bank will acquire approximately \$28 million in loans and about \$120 million in deposits. Total assets of the combined organization will be over \$1.2 billion. Happy State Bank reached one billion dollar in assets in January of this year, only the second bank in the

Texas Panhandle to reach this milestone.

First National Bank of Canadian, established in 1892, has been a pillar in the community for over 100 years. The current office was built in 1920 and was recorded as a Texas Historic Landmark in 1970. In 1990, First National Bank of Canadian purchased the Higgins bank and opened its third office in Canyon in 2003.

While Happy State Bank already has a significant presence in the Texas Panhandle, this transaction moves the bank into Canadian and Higgins for the first time. Mr. Briant stated that, "After months of discussion and negotiations, our Board came to the conclusion that selling to Happy State Bank was in the best interest of our shareholders, our customers and our communities. We are pleased and excited to be a part of the Happy operation. It is a much larger institution, but it has continued to maintain a culture dedicated to the communities it serves. This merger will allow us to offer a much broader

range of financial products and services to our customers."

Mr. Hickman added that "First National Bank of Canadian is one of the crown jewels of all Texas banks. This bank has a rich heritage of serving its customers for 117 years. They understand small town, community banking as do we. Their offices are a perfect fit for our bank. Not only does it allow us to better serve the Canyon market but it also allows us to move into two new com-

munities." Happy State Bank currently has offices in Happy, Amarillo, Borger, Canyon, Dalhart, Dumas, Hereford, Pampa, Panhandle, Plainview, Sunray, and Stratford. Happy State Bank was chartered in 1908 in Happy, Texas. In 1990, the then \$10 million bank headquartered in Happy, Texas was acquired by a group of Panhandle area investors and is now the second largest bank in the region.

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Boy, 5, accidentally shot, killed

GROESBECK, Texas (AP) — A 5-year-old boy died after being shot while playing with an older child at a home in Limestone County.

Sheriff Dennis Wilson identified the victim as James Ryan Bates.

Wilson says the shooting Thursday, allegedly by an 8-year-old boy, is being

reviewed as an accident. Wilson says the victim was dead at the scene at a home near Groesbeck. An autopsy has been ordered.

The sheriff says the boys are not related. Two adults were home at the time of the shooting, but neither is related to the children.

Bell Helicopter, union remain at odds after talks

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Bell Helicopter and union representatives said they planned another day of negotiations Friday after Thursday's talks left them at an impasse a month after nearly 2,500 manufacturing workers went on strike.

"We continue to work toward a resolution that meets the needs of Local 218 members and allows Bell Helicopter to remain competitive," company spokesman Tom Dolney said in a statement Thursday afternoon.

Tom Wells, the negotiating chairman for United Auto Workers Local 218, said Thursday's meetings lasted about six hours and called the company "obstinate" in a message on the union's Web site. Union officials did not immediately return a call from The Associated Press seeking comment.

Union members voted to strike June 14 after rejecting a three-year contract because of proposed increases in medical costs and plans to outsource janitors' work. Negotiators met once last week without reaching a resolution.

Bell Helicopter has brought in about 1,000 temporary workers at plants in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, Dolney said. Parts are made at those plants, but

the helicopters are assembled at nonunion plants in Amarillo and Canada, he said.

Dolney said Bell has continued delivering components and aircraft on time to its customers, including the military. He said the union's claims that the company was losing money and having problems inside the plants were "rumors."

"It's still business as usual as far as getting aircraft built," Dolney said.

Meanwhile, striking workers have been marching with signs outside the nine plants as temperatures have reached 100 degrees or higher for nine days since mid-June.

Paul Martinez, vice president for UAW Local 218, said some drivers have thrown Bibles and cursed at picketers but no one has been injured.

"We're doing OK picketing. We have strong morale," Martinez said.

Messages on the union's Web site urged members to "stay strong" and "don't give in to the company's mind games."

Another union, United Auto Workers Local 317, approved its three-year contract with Bell last month. It represents 340 office and clerical workers at Bell Helicopter plants in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Inmate's family files suit

AMARILLO, Texas (AP) — A lawsuit accuses Potter County, several jailers and medical staff of being responsible for the death of a jail inmate.

Michael Dick, 33, was arrested in July 2008 in Amarillo on a probation violation. He resisted arrest and suffered injuries. He

died in his jail cell 10 days later from peritonitis, according to the suit.

Dick's parents claim in a federal lawsuit that their son was denied proper medical care.

Potter County officials told the Amarillo Globe-News that they had no immediate comment.

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