

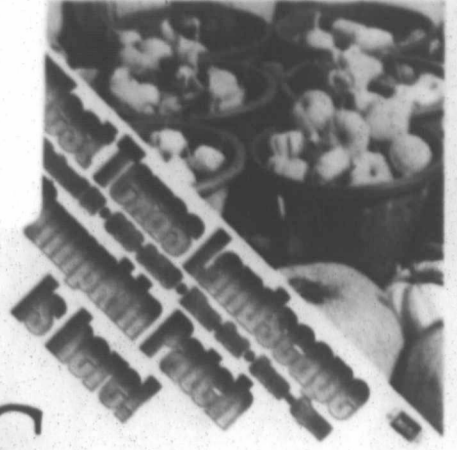
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The PAMPA NEWS

Volume 105 • No. 153

Weekend Issue
Saturday and Sunday, October 24-25, 2009

50¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

Serious Practice

Pampa firefighters teach fire prevention and safety to local elementary children

STORY AND PHOTOS BY DAVID BOWSER
dbowser@thepampanews.com

The children were upstairs when the room filled with smoke. They opened the sliding glass doors and clambered down the ladder from the balcony to escape. As Pampa firefighters helped, Ashley Cerda called 911.

The scene Friday at Austin School was well planned and executed not by an arsonist but by the Pampa Fire Department. It was part of the department's fire prevention programs that they've presented at local elementary schools.

Pampa Fire Chief Kim Powell said they focus on third graders in their fire prevention programs.

"You want to have a good group of kids that are old enough to be able to understand what's going on without being scared," Powell said.

The students go through the Pampa Fire Department's trailer that's configured as a home with a living room, kitchen, stairs and



Ashely Cerda makes a (practice) 911 call to report a fire during a fire prevention demonstration at Austin Elementary School.

bedroom. In each room, a firefighter goes through what the students need to watch out for in their homes.

"There's a fireplace in there with a heating system," Powell said of the training trailer.

There are also smoke detectors.

"They talk about safety in the living area," Powell said.

There's a door in the hall between the living room and kitchen so the students can feel to see if there is any heat that might have been caused by a fire.

"They can see if they can go through it or not," she said.

In the kitchen area, there's a cup towel on the stove and the firefighters and students talk about safety in the kitchen.

"They go up a stairway into a bedroom," Powell said, "and they pump fake smoke in there to set off the smoke detec-

tor."
"They open up the door and climb out on a little balcony and down the stairs," Powell

SERIOUS PRACTICE cont. on page 3



Austin Elementary School third grader Jaems Dadila escapes the smoke of the Pampa Fire Department's training house on wheels during a demonstration at school.

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In this issue.....
...A salute to the efforts of our local SADD Chapter

Merry Christmas (to the troops) from Pampa!



staff photo by David Bowser

Lovett Memorial Library is sending a Christmas Card to the troops overseas on behalf of Pampa residents. Over the past few weeks, the card has been signed by students at all the Pampa schools, employees at City Hall, the fire department, the police department and, of course, Lovett Memorial Library. Librarian Misty Guy said

they would mail the card next week so the troops would get the card by Christmas. First row, from left are Misty Guy, Skyla Bryant, Kristi Coble, Kaylee Coble, Kaylee Suttle, Louan Suttle, (second row, from left) Marsha Rolling, Tonie Bolin and Sevena Pena.

How the United Way Helps..... The Bridge

One of a series of articles submitted by local organizations that benefit from the United Way Campaign.

Everyday, The Bridge has the privilege to serve some of the community's most unsung heroes—victims of child abuse and sexual assault. They suffer in silence to "protect" their families. Here is one such story:

Jenna came from a background of domestic violence. Dad used to beat up Mom. One day, when it got really bad, mom and kids fled for their lives. They ended up homeless and hungry. Then mom met Shane. He offered them a place to live and food. He made her mom smile and laugh, something Jenna had not seen in a very long time.

THE BRIDGE
cont. on page 3

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HAPPY HALLOWEEN
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Jordan Oneal Assoc. 817.680.9922
Larry Hadley Assoc. 806.662.2779

Texas Archeological Field School Program
White Deer Land Museum - Annex Building
Sunday, October 25, 2009 • 2 pm
with speaker Joe Weaver



For the record

PAMPA FORECAST

Saturday	Sunday	Monday
		
High 70 Low 44	High 61 Low 37	High 58 Low 43

Today: Mostly sunny, with a high near 70. Southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 44. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Sunday: Partly sunny, with a high near 61. North northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Sunday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 37. North northwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 58. Calm wind becoming south between 5 and 10 mph.

Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 43. South southwest wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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In partnership with the Amarillo Area Breast Health Coalition, Pampa Regional Medical Center hosted a breast cancer education luncheon at the Pampa Chamber of Commerce on October 23. The "Hats Off" to Breast Cancer Myths program was presented to 42 guests and narrated by Obstetrician/Gynecologist Dr. Jill Terry, and Suzanne Presson, Nurse Practitioner. Above: Dr. Jill Terry, and Suzanne Presson, NP.

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Obituaries

Donald M. 'Cozy' Cole, 88

Pampa - Donald M. "Cozy" Cole, 88, died Wednesday, October 21, 2009 at Amarillo, Texas.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, October 26, 2009, at First Baptist Church, with Rev. Barry Owen, associate pastor, officiating.

Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery with military honors courtesy U. S. Army, Fort Hood, Texas. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Cole was born September 5, 1921 in Gray County on his family's farm. He attended schools in Pampa, graduating from Pampa High School in 1939. He was a veteran of the U. S. Army, serving

from 1942 until 1944 with the 24th Infantry Division during World War II.

Don married Venora Anderson in August of 1946. She preceded him in death on June 29, 1993. He later married Doris Snow on February 10, 1996 in Pampa. She preceded him in death in 2006.

He co-owned and operated Cole's Automotive for over 20 years, retiring in the late 1960's. After retirement, Don taught auto mechanics at Pampa High School for another 20-plus years.

He was a member of First Baptist Church, where he participated in the Everyman's Bible Class. He was a member of the Pampa Kiwanis Club and the V.F.W. One

of Don's greatest passions was to completely restore cars from the ground up. He also enjoyed fishing in his spare time. He was a wonderful and loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

Survivors include two daughters, Gail Cole and Donna Finch and husband Roy, all of Pampa; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Don was preceded in death by his parents, Irvin and Wynona Cole; a brother, Nolan Cole; and a daughter, Candy Tefertiller.

Memorials should be made to Pampa Optimist Club, P.O. Box 802, Pampa, Texas 79066-0802.

Special note: The fam-



Don Cole

ily will receive friends at 8230 Hwy 70, in the Cole Addition.

Sign the on-line register at <http://www.carmichael-whitley.com>.

Kelsey Gale Banister, 62

Amarillo - Kelsey Gale Banister, 62, died Thursday, October 22, 2009 at Amarillo.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. 2:00 p.m. Monday, October 26, 2009 at Lifeway Fellowship Baptist Church with Dr. Randy Davis officiating.

Visitation will be from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. Sunday October 25, 2009 for family and friends at the funeral home.

Burial will be in Memory Gardens Cemetery

Kelsey was born July 12, 1947 at Adair Hospital in Clarendon to Hollis and Mary Banister. He was the youngest of four children. He attended schools in Lelia Lake, Hedley and Clarendon. All of his younger years were spent helping on his family farm. He graduated from Clarendon High School in 1966. Then he attended Clarendon Junior College. There he met his wife, Ann Huff. They were married in 1969 in Pampa. Kelsey and Ann lived all over Texas until they settled in Big Spring, Texas, where their daughter, Traci Dawn was born. The family moved to Amarillo in 1978. Three years later, they had a son, Douglas Neal. He worked for Amarillo Linen

for 15 years. Then, he worked at Pantex for 16 years. His passion was serving Christ. He was a member of Lifeway Fellowship Baptist Church. He was a deacon at his church. He led the men's ministry breakfast, taught Sunday school, and helped in any capacity where he was needed. Other hobbies included Geocaching, surfing the internet, and doating over his only grandchild, Nealey. Nealey will dearly miss her "Popa."

He was preceded in death by his parents; Mother-in-law, Audrey Huff; and his son, Douglas.

Survivors include his wife, Ann; daughter and son-in-law, Traci and David Fredman; granddaughter, Nealey Fredman (all of Amarillo); siblings: Sue Leeper of Clarendon, Basil Banister of McKinney, Patricia Johnston and husband, Jim of Cannon City, CO; wife's family, Virginia and R.E. Horton of Amarillo, Judy and Larry Loter of Amarillo, Monty and Robert Schaub of Pampa, Melvinia Stocking of Pampa, George Huff of Pampa, Rusty Huff of Pampa, Diane Smith of Denver, CO, Norma Mitchell of Geronimo, OK;

many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He is also survived by a host of friends and his church families Lifeway, South Georgia Baptist Church, Southlawn Baptist Church and Lamount Drive Baptist Church.

Memorials may be made to Douglas Banister Scholarship c/o Lifeway Fellowship Baptist Church 3315 Hancock Amarillo, TX 79106

Send on line condolences to www.mem.com.



Kelsey Banister

AMBULANCE

Emergency services personnel responded to the following calls during the period between 7 a.m. Wednesday, October 21 to 7 a.m. Thursday, October 22.

Wednesday
10:58 a.m.—An MICU unit responded to Pampa Regional Medical Center, transported one patient to Northwest Texas Healthcare.
2:28 p.m.— An MICU unit responded to the 3200

block of Perryton Parkway, transported one patient to BSA.

3:32 p.m.— An MICU unit responded to PRMC, transported one patient to NWTH.

Thursday
1:05 a.m.— An MICU unit responded to PRMC, transported one patient to NWTH.

5:07 a.m.— An MICU unit responded to the 300 block of Sunset, transported one patient to PRMC.

LAST MINUTE CLASSIFIED LINE ADS

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

ANDERSON APPLI. Serv. Major brands. Cody Anderson, 662-1841.

ARCHEOLOGY DIG with Joe Weaver Sun. 2pm, Free White Deer Land Museum Annex.

COMPUTER SICK? Call Mike, 665-2760.

DANCE MUDDY River Boys, Sat. 24th, 8-12. Pampa Moose Lodge. Members & guests.

ANNUAL LADY Harvester Softball Christmas Poinsettia Fundraiser through Oct. 30th!! To place an order, call Melissa 662-5395 or Shelly 665-4242, \$12 for 6" (all colors), \$8 for 4 1/2" (red only)

HOUSE CLEANING!!!! Weekly or every 2 weeks. References. 665-1848.

JR. HIGH Halloween Costume Dance, R.T. the D.J. 1st Christian Church Gym, Oct. 31, 7-10p, \$5. Host House of Cheer

MARY ELLEN & Harvester Clothing Room now in Church Bldg. Middle dble. doors facing Mary Ellen St. watch for signs. Open Tues., Oct. 27nd. New Hours 9-11am.

PAMPA SHRINE Club We Cater!! 50-200 people. (approx 3000 sq ft) available for rent. Weddings, Banquets, Company Parties or Family Reunions. Kitchen facilities avail. at no extra chrg. Call Ben Watson 665-3359 to reserve!

PAMPERED PETS Grooming! Call Missy, 662-1236.

PATTY BOYDS Halloween popcorn balls and balloons will be at 201 N. Faulkner.

PEGGY'S 21ST Anniversary Special-Oct. 18-24th, giving cards for discounts on different meals, dine-in only, 11am.-7pm.

PUMPKIN PATCH, Class, Church Pumpkins \$1, Big Jack-o-Lanterns \$4. 529 N. Hobart.

PUT YOUR Business Name on the Halloween Candy List. Listing is free, ad will be in the Pampa News, on Fri. Oct. 30th. Deadline to be on the list is Mon. Oct. 26, before 4pm. 669-2525.

SPOILED BY Right, 109 N. Cuyler. Re-Sale Store for baby & Kids "We have Layaway"

Send your organization's news and photos to:
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Be sure to include a contact person and telephone number.

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SPOILED BY Right, 109 N. Cuyler. Re-Sale Store for baby & Kids "We have Layaway"

Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Saturday, October 24, the 297th day of 2009. There are 68 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

- 1537 - Jane Seymour, the third wife of England's King Henry VIII, dies 12 days after giving birth to Prince Edward, later King Edward VI.
- 1648 - The Peace of Westphalia ends the Thirty Years War and effectively destroys the Holy Roman Empire.
- 1795 - Austria, Prussia and Russia partition Poland for the third time.
- 1860 - Convention of Beijing makes Kowloon peninsula part of the British colony of Hong Kong.
- 1861 - The first transcontinental telegraph message is sent as Justice Stephen J. Field of California transmits a telegram to U.S. President Abraham Lincoln.
- 1882 - Dr. Robert Koch discovers germ that causes tuberculosis.
- 1922 - Irish Parliament adopts a constitution for an Irish Free State.
- 1929 - "Black Thursday" - the New York Stock Exchange loses 12.8 percent of its value in one day.
- 1940 - The 40-hour work week goes into effect in the United States under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.
- 1945 - The United Nations officially comes into existence as its charter takes effect.
- 1952 - In a speech in Detroit, Republican presidential candidate Dwight D. Eisenhower declares, "I shall go to Korea," promising to end the conflict.
- 1959 - More than 10,000 Muslims flee from Burma to East Pakistan to escape pressure from Burmese officials and Buddhist tribes.
- 1962 - The U.S. blockade of Cuba begins under a proclamation signed by President John F. Kennedy.
- 1964 - Zambia gains independence from Britain.
- 1970 - Leftist Salvador Allende is elected president of Chile.
- 1973 - Yom Kippur War ends with Israeli troops 100 kilometers (65 miles) from Cairo, Egypt, and 40 kilometers (25 miles) from Damascus, Syria.
- 1978 - The United States, which imposed an aid embargo in 1977 in response to Pakistan's insistence on purchasing a nuclear facility from France, resumes economic assistance.
- 1980 - Polish government legalizes independent labor union Solidarity.
- 1987 - An explosion rips through a PanAm sales office in Kuwait, two days after pro-Iranian Shiite Muslims in Lebanon vowed to strike at U.S. and European interests worldwide with thousands of suicide bombers.
- 1990 - Using a new tactic, the Irish Republican Army forces three men to be "proxies," holding their families hostage, while they drive car bombs to British security targets in Northern Ireland. Six British soldiers are killed.
- 1991 - After more than a year of delays, the Brazilian government begins its privatization program, selling 75 percent of a state-owned steel company, for about US\$1.17 billion.
- 1992 - The Toronto Blue Jays win baseball's World Series, becoming the first non-U.S. team to capture the championship by defeating the Atlanta Braves 4-3 in Game 6.
- 1993 - Islamic militants shoot and stab two Israeli soldiers to death in the occupied Gaza Strip.
- 1994 - An elderly art lover in Zurich is robbed, Æi for the second time in three years, Æi of paintings by Pablo Picasso with an estimated value of US\$40 million.
- 1995 - A strong earthquake jolts the southwestern Chinese province of Yunnan, killing at least 14 people.
- 1996 - Taliban jets bomb Afghan villages north of Kabul, responding to a major offensive by former government troops. At least 20 people are killed.
- 1997 - U.N. officials say the Taliban rulers of Afghanistan have agreed to enforce a ban on opium production.
- 1998 - For the first time, the world-champion South African rugby team accepts a black player.
- 1999 - A Venezuelan constitutional assembly approves a measure calling for "truthful information" in the media, alarming critics who say it could result in an attack on the free press.
- 2000 - Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak appeals to hawkish opposition leader Ariel Sharon to join a coalition government, further dashing hopes of reconciliation with the Palestinians.
- 2001 - Two trucks crash head-on in a main tunnel through the Alps, igniting a fire and killing at least 10 people.
- 2002 - Police investigating a spate of sniper attacks in the Washington, D.C., area arrest two suspects.
- 2003 - The last three Concorde supersonic passenger jet flights land at Heathrow airport outside London, ending the luxury plane's 27 years of commercial service. The British Airways planes departed from New York City's John F. Kennedy International Airport.
- 2004 - Iraqi insurgents waylay three minibuses carrying U.S.-trained Iraqi soldiers heading home on leave and massacre about 50 of them, Æi many of them shot in the head execution-style.
- 2005 - Eritrea imposes new restrictions on U.N. peacekeepers who have complained that their ability to patrol the disputed Eritrea-Ethiopia border is already seriously hampered.
- 2006 - Australia's government announces that more than 70,000 farmers are eligible for special federal relief after the worst drought in a century has affected more than half of Australia's farm and ranch land.
- 2007 - Embarking on an ambitious 10-year moon exploration program, China launches its first lunar probe, Æi a leap forward in the Asian space race that gives a boost to national pride, and the promise of scientific and military payoffs.
- 2008 - A Russian Soyuz capsule touches down in Kazakhstan after delivering the first two men to follow their fathers into space, a Russian and an American, to the international space station.

'Happiness is not a horse; you cannot harness it.'

— Russian Proverb



Taking time to enjoy students

BY JAN D. CLEEK
Principal, Lamiar Elementary

It has been a great pleasure and honor to have worked in education for many years. During my career I have taught in elementary, junior high and high school, and have enjoyed each of them. Each has its own challenges as well as joys. After all, it is working with children; some are just taller than others. Throughout the years I have had many funny and memorable stories to tell. My family and many friends have told me I should write a book with the stories. As I pondered this idea, I struggled with deciding on a title for the book. I considered: Tales from the Trenches, or Did My Child Say That? with sequels including Did My Child Really Say That? and Did My Child Say That Too? The possibilities are endless as there is new material daily to add to the book. I never really seriously considered writing a

book, but I certainly feel I have had enough material.

I wish now that I had documented all the priceless stories because many of them are now forgotten as happens to memories throughout the years. However, I have shared many of them with my family. For years, every evening at the dinner table I would tell the "funny story of the day". At first I thought my tolerant family was just being polite to listen to my stories, but after my own children grew up and left home, my husband would still ask for the "story of the day" at dinner. We have enjoyed this meal time ritual for many years. I would tell stories such as:

I bragged on a student who was attending tutorials for extra reading instruction. He was working hard and making great progress. I told him how smart he was and what a great reader he was. He replied, "I know. I'm so smart I know things I haven't even learned yet!"

Or....

As we get close to TAKS testing time we focus on writing with description and adjectives. Some of the students are very entertaining. One student prefaced his essay by saying, "this is really scary and funny so you better go to the bathroom before you read anymore."

Or....

Another student was describing his dancing skills. He wrote, "I can break dance as well as Michael Jackson. You know he is the best except for God!"

At some point I began to reply when asked for the story of the day, "I can't think of anything. I guess nothing funny happened today". I didn't realize at the time that the funny episodes were still happening every day. I was the problem. I don't know if I had lost my sense of humor, or just got too busy to notice. I'm not sure how or why that happened, but I began to miss our meal time ritual and I decided

to make an effort to bring home a funny story each night. Over time I again recognized the sweet, the funny, and the heart-warming events of each and every day.

It is such a joy and privilege to work with children and I will not make the mistake of ignoring or overlooking that joy again. I will take the time and make the effort to enjoy the students who will soon be our future.

Now, one last story.

I went into the gym where the students were sitting in lines and waiting for morning assembly. I walked by the first grade line and a little girl asked if I had gotten a haircut. I smiled and said, "Well, yes I did a few days ago." The little boy sitting next to her immediately said, "I sure am glad because it looks WAY better."

Now who wouldn't laugh at that "funny story of the day"?

TMA "Flu Fighters" Recommend Vaccine for Pregnant Women

Texas Medical Association (TMA) "Flu Fighter" physician leaders have a message for patients, especially women who are pregnant: Get your H1N1 shot as soon as possible — the vaccine is safe and can protect you from getting sick. "The risk of getting the flu is far worse than the potential side effects of the vaccine," says Donald Murphey, MD, a member of the TMA Flu Fighters — select members of TMA's Committee on Infectious Diseases who are monitoring the seasonal and H1N1 flu, which are widespread in Texas.

More than 506,000 doses of the H1N1 vaccine have arrived in Texas so far. In the past couple of weeks, doctors and clinics have begun administering the vaccine to patients.

"Our medical offices are packed with patients suffering from H1N1 and seasonal flu," adds Dr. Murphey. "Now that physicians are receiving their H1N1 vaccine, we recommend the priority patients get to their doctor and get vaccinated. It's safe and effective."

Who should get the H1N1 vaccine. Public health officials urge these priority patients to get immunized against H1N1 flu:

- Pregnant women,
- Health care and emer-

gency medical services workers who care for patients,

•Everyone 6 months through 24 years of age,

•People who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age (e.g., parents, siblings, and day care providers), and

•People who are 25 through 64 years of age and at higher risk for complications from H1N1 because of chronic health disorders or compromised immune systems.

Pregnant women are advised to get both the seasonal flu shot and the H1N1 flu shot. The flu vaccines can protect both the pregnant woman and her baby. The seasonal flu shot has been given to millions of pregnant women over the years, and flu shots have not been shown to cause harm to pregnant women or their babies. Public health officials note that pregnant women who get sick from seasonal or H1N1 flu are more likely to suffer serious illness or death, or need hospitalization, than other people with the flu.

Seasonal flu and H1N1 flu are caused by different viruses. Therefore, the seasonal flu vaccine will not protect patients against the H1N1 flu, and the H1N1 flu vaccine will not protect against seasonal flu. This

VACCINE cont. on page 5

THE PAMPA NEWS

403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065

806-669-2525 • 800-687-3348

Fax: 806-669-2520

Randall Pribble
Publisher

rpribble@thepampanews.com

ReDonn Woods
Advertising Manager

advertising@thepampanews.com

Sue Pribble
Advertising Representative

advertising1@thepampanews.com

Beverly Taylor
Classified Advertising

classified@thepampanews.com

Kera Kent
Circulation

circulation@thepampanews.com

Carrie Hair
Accounting

bookkeeper@thepampanews.com

Betsy Phillips
Editor

bphillips@thepampanews.com

David Bowser
Reporter

dbowser@thepampanews.com

Andrew Glover
Reporter

aglover@thepampanews.com

Marcus Elkins
Press Supervisor

press@thepampanews.com

Chico Ramirez
Circulation Supervisor

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Vaccine

year's seasonal flu vaccine targets three strains of flu, while the H1N1 vaccine targets a fourth strain.

Pregnant women should get the flu shot, not the nasal spray version of the vaccine. The seasonal flu vaccine is made with a dead flu virus, while the nasal spray vaccine uses a weaker live virus. Flu vaccine nasal spray is not approved for pregnant women. Pregnant women should get the shot version of the vaccine. The nasal spray flu vaccine should be used only in healthy people 2 to 49 years of age who are not pregnant. The nasal spray vaccine is safe for women after they have delivered, even if they are

nursing.

Although pregnant women should not receive the nasal spray version of the seasonal or H1N1 flu vaccine, pregnant women are safe around family members or other close contacts who have received the nasal spray flu vaccine.

There is no evidence that thimerosal (a mercury preservative in vaccine that comes in multi-dose vials) is harmful to a pregnant woman or a fetus. Regardless, as some women are concerned about thimerosal during pregnancy, pregnant women and children can request preservative-free seasonal flu vaccine and 2009 H1N1 flu vaccine

in single-dose syringes. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises pregnant women to get flu shots, either with or without thimerosal.

The side effects of H1N1 flu shots are typically minor, and similar to those of seasonal flu shots. Most common are feeling sore, red, or swollen where the shot was given. Some people might experience headache, muscle aches, fever, and nausea or feel tired after the shot and possibly for one to two days. Sometimes flu shots can cause severe allergic reactions; however, life-threatening allergic reactions to vaccines are very rare.

People who are severely allergic to eggs or to anything else in the vaccine should not get the shot, even if the patient is a woman who is pregnant.

Doctors urge anyone who experiences symptoms like difficulty breathing, dehydration, lack of tears, pain or pressure in chest or abdomen, unresponsiveness, or severe vomiting, to seek emergency medical assistance.

TMA is the largest state medical society in the nation, representing nearly 44,000 physician and medical student members. It is located in Austin and has 120 component county medical societies around the state. TMA's key objective since 1853 is to improve the

Hutchison's wealth from investments, spouse's pay

BY JAY ROOT
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison would have to take a pay cut if she's elected governor, but her husband's income, a multimillion dollar investment portfolio and other assets have already contributed to significant family wealth.

Hutchison's husband, Ray, a prominent Dallas bond attorney, makes a little under a half million dollars a year in combined salary and deferred compensation, records provided by her campaign show.

The Associated Press is examining the personal wealth of major gubernatorial candidates.

A big stake in Exxon-Mobil, valued at between \$250,000 and \$500,000, along with other stock holdings and equity investments, have also helped provide the family yearly dividend income of about \$60,000 a year since 2001, records show.

They're easily millionaires, reporting assets of between \$2.8 million and \$6.7 million in 2008, not including HUTCHINSON cont. on page 6

DAILY HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, Oct. 26, 2009:

This year, you are on top of your game. People often challenge your views, especially at work or in public. A community commitment is likely. Refuse to get into any arguments; simply claim your power. If you are single, take your time getting to know the source of your case of the butterflies. This person might not be everything he or she projects; this fact could be a reason for concern. Give yourself a full year before you decide you are in a relationship. If you are attached, the two of you gain by getting away from daily life together. Private time enhances your closeness. Count on AQUARIUS to be a live wire.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have:

5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

***** Despite an initial difference of opinion, much will link together later in the day. A meeting sparks greater insight, fostering agreement. You wonder what is going on with others. Go with a lucky break. Tonight: Hook up with a friend.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

***** You might want to do something in a new way or take a different approach. Your understanding grows when dealing with a boss or higher-up. You need to remember who is in charge. Tonight: A must appearance.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

***** If you have been considering signing up for a course, there is no better time than now. You discover just how much you can learn and grow. Investigate options that you hadn't seen

up till now. Tonight: Answer e-mail first. Do needed research.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

***** One-on-one relating opens doors. You finally see how someone reveals him- or herself. You become much more upbeat than in the past once you gain clarity. Let go of negativity or a sense of feeling put upon. Tonight: Dinner for two.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

***** Listen to news that is forthcoming, even if it is triggered by an argument. Sometimes you need to know or understand more. Listen to what appears to be self-evident when you consider what is being said. Tonight: Go along with a suggestion.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

***** Allow greater give and take between you and an associate or boss. You might feel a little hurt or angry about what you heard. Focus on accomplishment and getting the job done. Invest a little extra effort. Tonight: Put your feet up.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

***** Listen to news and follow through on what is important. Figure out which way to go with a child or loved one. You keep putting this situation on the back burner. A gesture comes back in multiples. Tonight: So what if it's Monday?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

***** Basics count far more than you thought. You could be encouraged to take another look at a situation. You might not be sure what works best for you. Don't engage someone who is quite put out. Tonight: Head on home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

***** You could be intimidated by

the reaction of an expert or someone you admire. It might feel quite off center, and it might make you uncomfortable. Still, approach situations with openness and in a caring manner. Tonight: Hook up with someone who is quite gentle.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

***** Be sensitive to your spending and how much you are willing to put out. Someone has a much better sense of what is necessary to complete a project, or so he or she thinks. Don't get into a tiff over your money. Let others lay out their funds. Tonight: Buy a treat on the way home.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

***** You might want to rethink a decision in the face of someone's flak. A caring gesture, especially to someone at a distance, can make all the difference in your relationship. Identify with someone by walking in his or her shoes. Tonight: Fun and games.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

***** You might not want to express what you are thinking. Keep your own counsel and don't feel the need to explain too much. Take a strong hand at work and/or in a project. Listen more to a partner. Tonight: Take some much needed personal time.

BORN TODAY

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton (1947), game-show host Pat Sajak (1946), Charlie's Angel Jaclyn Smith (1947)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at www.jacquelinebigar.com.

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Hutchison

homes used for residential purposes, Senate records show. The Senate records give ranges of asset value, making an exact calculation impossible.

Hutchison, the state's senior U.S. senator, is running against Gov. Rick Perry, the longest serving governor in Texas history, in an increasingly bitter Republican primary scheduled for March.

How the gubernatorial candidates have come into big money have caused each of them to swap accusations that the wealth was dubiously obtained, though neither has been accused of any wrongdoing.

Hutchison's camp has complained that Perry squeaked over the million-dollar line thanks to real estate deals involving prominent businessmen and political figures.

Perry aides, meanwhile, have raised questions about Ray Hutchison's compensation from Vinson & Elkins, where he has served as a

bond lawyer for projects that have benefited from his wife's advocacy as a powerful force in the Washington appropriation process.

"While typical for Washington politicians, the people of Texas deserve to hear directly from the senator how this cyclical relationship is ethical considering her husband continues to draw a half-million dollar annual salary from his firm 12 years after he supposedly retired," said Perry campaign manager Rob Johnson.

The Hutchison campaign notes that Ray Hutchison was a go-to bond lawyer long before he married Kay Bailey. Though he retired as a partner in 1997, he remains an active Vinson & Elkins employee.

"Ray Hutchison has not retired and he continues to be compensated for the work he performs as Texas' top bond attorney. The baseless and mean-spirited attacks on Kay Bailey Hutchison's family are the type of sleazy

politics people have come to expect from Rick Perry," said Hutchison spokeswoman Jennifer Baker. "Rick Perry should act like a man, show a little class and leave Kay's family alone."

Ray Hutchison reported \$483,000 in income from Vinson & Elkins last year, records show. The figure includes both salary and part of a deferred compensation plan put in place when his own firm merged with Vinson & Elkins in 1995. He also collected \$11,000 in yearly pension benefits in 2008 as a retired Vinson & Elkins employee.

Collecting retirement and full-time salaries have helped boost the family's bottom line. Ray Hutchison collects a pension and Social Security, and the senator gets a \$14,000-a-year pension as a former state elected official, giving the couple about \$50,000 a year in combined retirement income.

In recent years, Kay Bailey Hutchison, 66, has pulled in more than \$200,000 in net

book royalty income as the author of two best-selling books. The first, entitled "American Heroines," was published in 2004; the second, "Leading Ladies," came out in 2007.

The Hutchisons have profited from real estate and oil and gas investments. They reported a capital gain of \$129,000 in 2004 from Bailey Management, a family partnership among the

senator and her two brothers, and a \$52,000 profit from the sale of a small shopping center in North Texas.

Besides their stake in Exxon-Mobil, the Hutchisons also own stock, worth up to \$250,000, in both General Electric and pharmaceutical giant Merck, among others. Not all their stock trades have turned to gold. The Hutchisons sold

shares in Enron, the failed Houston energy company whose spectacular collapse spawned Congressional investigations and criminal prosecutions, for a \$14,000 loss in 2002.

Kay Bailey Hutchison makes a yearly salary of \$169,300 as a U.S. senator. If she's elected governor, she'll make a \$150,000 a year.

cont. from page 5



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Home sales rise 9.4 pct. in Sept., beat forecast

WASHINGTON (AP) — Racing to complete their purchases before a tax credit for first-time owners expires, homebuyers pushed sales up last month by the largest amount in more than 26 years.

After jumping 9.4 percent in September, home resales are up nearly 24 percent from the bottom in January, the National Association of Realtors said Friday. But the housing market's momentum could easily peter out if Congress doesn't extend the credit of up to \$8,000 for first-time buyers beyond its current Nov. 30 deadline.

John Kindschi, a 33-year-old aircraft mechanic who lives north of Seattle, didn't want to miss out. After a yearlong search, he and his family bought a three-bedroom house for \$206,000, completing the

purchase last week. "It was getting down to crunch time," he said. "We had no idea if the credit was going to be extended."

Nationwide sales rose to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.57 million last month, from a downwardly revised pace of 5.1 million in August. It was the strongest month two years and beat economists' forecast of 5.35 million, according to Thomson Reuters. Sales, however, are still down 23 percent from their peak four years ago.

In another positive sign, the inventory of unsold homes on the market fell almost 8 percent to 3.6 million. That's less than an eight-month supply at the current sales pace, and the lowest level since March 2007.

HOMES cont. on page 2

2009 HARVESTER SPORTS SCHEDULE



FOOTBALL

THURSDAY • OCTOBER 29

Harvester Freshmen VS Caprock • 5:00 pm at Pampa
Harvester JV VS Caprock • 7:00 pm at Pampa

FRIDAY • OCTOBER 30

Harvesters VS Caprock • 7:30 pm at Dick Bivins

GOLF

SATURDAY • OCTOBER 31

Harvesters at Amarillo Invitational

VOLLEYBALL

TUESDAY • OCTOBER 27

Lady Harvester Freshmen VS Canyon • 5:00 pm at Canyon
Lady Harvester JV VS Canyon • 6:00 pm at Canyon
Lady Harvester VS Canyon • 7:00 pm at Canyon

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I was raised from an early age that if you play a game, you have to play fair and obey the rules. Those rules were never bent regardless of what the game was or who we played with.

Over the years I have played games with many people, and while I realize it's possible for people to play the same game slightly differently, the rules still applied. What I don't understand is cheating.

A couple I know allow their children to play games with adults and let them cheat. What they're doing is obvious, and their parents even joke about it. I no longer enjoy playing with this family, but I don't know what to do or say. I have tried to subtly discourage and stop the deceptions, but I don't want to seem like a sore loser. Any suggestions? -- PLAYS BY THE RULES, URBANA, OHIO

DEAR PLAYS BY THE RULES: Yes. Do not play games with the family if the children are involved. It's not about being a sore loser; it's about not being a chump. By allowing their children to ignore the "rules," these parents are sending the message that rules don't apply to them. Because the children cheat when they play with you, it's safe to assume that they think it's acceptable to do it with other kids. And when their contemporaries realize what's going on, who do you think won't be allowed to join their games -- or anything else? Look at it this way: From little cheaters, big cheaters grow.

DEAR ABBY: My sister-in-law has just informed me that she doesn't think it is as important for her daughters to attend college

as it is her sons. My mother-in-law recently made a crack about my finances because she knows I'm paying off my student loans for two degrees.

My father-in-law can't understand what "all the fuss is about" now that my oldest daughter is preparing for college.

Abby, I have friends in their 30s and 40s who, for one reason or another, are single women supporting themselves. Even some who have degrees are struggling, but they are able to own their own homes because they are able to earn decent salaries.

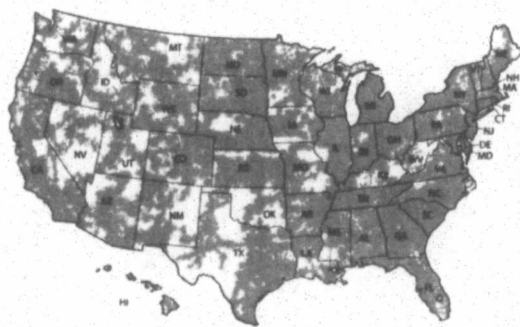
What should I say when my mother-in-law and sister-in-law put me down for higher learning? Neither of them went to college or has ever worked. They would be on welfare if they didn't have their husbands' income. By the way, I'm not having any problem paying back my student loans, and my husband is proud of my accomplishments. -- EDUCATED IN TENNESSEE

DEAR EDUCATED: Your mother-in-law and sister-in-law are misguided. They do not understand the financial realities that exist for women today because they have never been exposed to them. Nothing that you can say to them will change their mind-set.

So rather than respond to their naive comments, take every opportunity to encourage your nieces to pursue their educations so they can live independent lives. And pray that your father-in-law and brother-in-law leave their wives well-provided-for should tragedy strike, because otherwise they could wind up on your doorstep.

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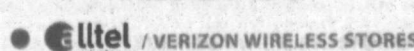
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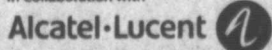
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1101

Home sales

The competition for low-priced foreclosures has become fierce in places like Las Vegas and Southern California. Aldo Martin, 28 of Covina, Calif., had to put offers on 16 houses before having one accepted this week.

"We'd go look at eight houses and if we liked five of them, make offers," said Martin, a sales supervisor. "Your odds are better. We got aggressive."

Marty Rodriguez, owner of a Century 21 real estate brokerage east of Los Angeles, said half of her transactions last month were low-priced foreclosures and short sales, where the sales price is lower than the mortgage balance.

"You have so many buyers in that lower price range," she said. "Sometimes my agents are writing five offers for one buyer on different properties just trying to get one property — and not getting accepted. It's a little crazy."

Still, economists caution that the pain from the worst housing bust since the Great Depression probably isn't over yet.

While home sales and housing construction have risen steadily after hitting bottom earlier this year, most economists believe that prices, which recently stabilized, will resume their descent. The median sales price last month was \$174,900, down almost 9 percent from \$191,200 a year earlier, and slightly lower than August's median of \$177,300.

The main reasons prices are weak: Unemployment and foreclosures are still rising. With the current 9.8 percent jobless rate expected to rise as high as 10.5 percent next year, foreclosures will continue to set records.

Nationwide, more than 3 million households are either three months behind on their payments or in foreclosure, according to First American CoreLogic.

Number of active rigs increase by 8

(AP) - The number of rigs actively exploring for oil and natural gas in the U.S. this week has risen by eight this week to 1,048.

Houston-based Baker Hughes Inc. said Friday that 725 rigs were exploring for natural gas and 312 for oil. Eleven were listed as miscellaneous.

A year ago this week, the rig count had been 1,964.

Of the major oil- and gas-producing states, Texas gained four rigs, Louisiana gained three, Wyoming gained two, and California gained one. North Dakota lost two rigs, while Alaska, New Mexico and Oklahoma lost one each. The numbers of rigs in Arkansas and Colorado were unchanged.

a research firm. Many delinquent borrowers are still being evaluated for help under the Obama administration's mortgage assistance plan. If they don't qualify, the odds are high they will lose their homes.

Fears about job losses are stifling some sales, said David Hudson, an agent with Exit Realty Platinum outside Atlanta. "Buyers are still nervous," he said. "They're worried about buying a house, and then all of a sudden, I might not have a job."

A steady job as an operating room nurse is one reason Hope Carson, 41, is able to buy a home. She's planning to make an offer next week on a foreclosed

property outside Atlanta and is hoping the deal will close in time for her to qualify for the tax credit.

After searching for about a month in a price range of about \$140,000, she has narrowed her choices to two homes, both in foreclosure.

"Is there a little bit of guilt behind that? Absolutely," she said. "You know that somebody was forced to move out."

To entice more buyers like Carson, Senators Johnny Isakson, R-Ga., and Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., want to extend the tax credit through June 30, and expand it to include all home buyers, at an estimated cost of \$16.7 billion. Realtors and homebuild-

ers are loudly in favor, arguing that the tax credit is crucial to get the housing market back on its feet.

"We are not there in terms of removing the consumer fear factor," said Lawrence Yun, the Realtors' chief economist.

However, some analysts say the tax credit may not be as critical to the housing market as real estate agents suggest. The Realtors association has "an incentive to talk up the effects of the credit as it is urging Congress to extend it, and it therefore may be exaggerating the credit's effects," wrote Nomura Securities economist Zach Pandl.

One potential roadblock to an extension also emerged this week.

There are concerns that some of the 1.5 million applications for the tax credit are fraudulent. The Treasury Department's

cont. from page 1B

inspector general for taxes questioned the legitimacy of some 100,000 claims for the credit, potentially including some illegal immigrants and 580 people under 18.

30th Annual Arts & Crafts Show
White Deer, TX
Sat. October 31st 10am-5pm
Trick-or-Treating 3-5pm
Sun. November 1st 10am-4pm
Lots of Vendors & Food Stands
Sponsored by ATO

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

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DAILY HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, Oct. 25, 2009.
This year, others count on you perhaps more than you might like. Establishing clear boundaries at work and in your personal life will be a high priority. You don't want to compromise on what is important. If you are single, you'll meet people in your daily life. Build a strong friendship behind a romantic bond. If you are attached, of course you will have your differences. Respect them rather than make them a point of contention. AQUARIUS helps you relax.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
***** Finish off what you must, and have an even better afternoon. Let go and find your friends. Together you'll have a great time. What starts as a friendly get-together could turn into a ruckus. Tonight: Let the party go on and on.
This Week: Networking pays off; a friendship helps you. Observe more.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
***** Make calls to those you don't see, or who live far away, or who you just like to say good morning to. Though you might be thinking of a vacation or getaway in the near future, making phone calls can make you happy. A last-minute responsibility could change the complexion of the day. Tonight: A must appearance.
This Week: Others' creativity, especially a boss's, is like a geyser. Count on brainstorming and being busy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
***** Spend personal time with a friend or loved one, topping off the get-together with a late brunch. You have a skip in your step later today. Anything is possible. Tonight: Check out a new spot.
This Week: You might not land until Wednesday, but keep a record of your great ideas.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
***** Know your limits; defer to

others. You could be exhausted by recent events, and, in a sense, not having to make plans is a relief. One-on-one relating allows greater fluidity. Tonight: Enjoy a favorite person.
This Week: A select associate pulls through for you. Ideas bloom if you add imagination.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
***** Make that extra effort. News could impact your plans, though you certainly will have people surrounding you. You might need to drop in at a friend's in between running off to a ballgame or barbecue. Tonight: First listen to your offers.
This Week: Others delight in surprising you. Go along for the ride.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Nov. 21)
***** The first half of your day is lighthearted and fun. Join in on a fun ballgame, or perhaps get together with your pals for brunch. The convivial atmosphere draws smiles. You feel renewed, like the world is your oyster. Tonight: Get a head start on tomorrow.
This Week: Dive into work Monday. By Wednesday, you want to play.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
***** Read the Sunday paper at your leisure. Midday or afterward, a child or dear friend starts energizing you. Clearly this person wants you for company — no ifs, ands or buts. Let your imagination spin. Tonight: Acting as if there is no tomorrow.
This Week: Settling in could take until Wednesday. What are you up to?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
***** Phones ring, and people walk up to you. Your sense of centering helps many stabilize. Still, take time for yourself. Visit with a special friend, surf the Net or do whatever you enjoy. Settle in at home in the afternoon. Tonight: Have a family member over for dinner.
This Week: If you can take off this week, do. If you cannot do that, work from home. If you cannot do that, play hooky at least one day this week.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
***** Though an expenditure is necessary, don't stress your budget. Maintain

your limits, and ultimately you will feel better about this cost. An older relative or friend could be out of sorts. Tonight: Invite friends to dinner.
This Week: Your creativity creates too many dynamic ideas, if that is possible. Only share the relevant ones.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
***** Your magnetism triggers an interesting chain of events. Although it's not a common experience, do be aware. Zero in on what you want most, doing nothing halfway. By the afternoon, you will want to relax and not think. Why not go to a movie? Tonight: Your treat.
This Week: Be aware of your finances. You could decide on a purchase that ultimately might not be good.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
***** You might be slow to start, and it could be midday by the time you get going. Make it OK to lounge around and not push too hard. You often make quite an effort for others; now it is time to defer to your needs. Tonight: It is your call.
This Week: Greet Monday and Tuesday with energy and drive. You could be surprised by what happens.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
***** Get together with people, friends and/or family early. Make plans to go to a movie or take a hike later in the day. Schedule some quiet personal time at the end of the day. Whether on the computer or snoozing, it doesn't matter. It is your time! Tonight: Think "tomorrow."
This Week: Use Monday and Tuesday for research. Wednesday, take action.

BORN TODAY
Artist Pablo Picasso (1881), comedian Minnie Pearl (1912), singer, songwriter Helen Reddy (1941)

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at www.jacquelinebigar.com.
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Sports

Dumas Demons reign over the Pampa Harvesters

The Pampa Harvesters (1-7, 1-2) defense had a strong game, but the offense struggled as Pampa fell 21-7 to the Dumas Demons (3-5, 2-1) Friday in Dumas.

Head Coach Heath Parker said loss of yardage on running plays and not controlling the line of scrimmage on defense was key to Pampa's defeat.

"We had very limited possessions," Parker said. "Our running back fumbled, we recovered but we lost 20-yards. Our defense allowed them to hold on to the ball to long."

The Harvesters were held to their lowest point total of the season and failed to reach double digits on the scoreboard for the first time this season. Dumas limited Pampa to 34 yards. The Demons only allowed 90 yards passing. Parker was pleased with how his defense played.

"We didn't allow very many big plays," Parker said.

Pampa's defense allowed 238 rushing yards with Dumas' quarterback Aaron Thomas getting 113 yards on 19 carries. The Harvesters only allowed 44 yards on four completions out of 11 attempts.

The Demons controlled the ball in the first quarter as they ran 18 plays for 62 yards and ran eight minutes

off the clock. Dumas converted two third downs and two fourth downs on the drive. Aaron Cortez finished the drive with a two-yard touchdown. After the extra point Dumas led 7-0 with 3:41 left in the first.

The Harvesters first possession didn't go well at all. After Alex Clendening completed an 11-yard pass to Garrett Ericson, Kendrick Alexander lost three yards on a carry, and the drive ended with Clendening being intercepted by Aaron Hade.

The Demons looked like they were going to drive down the field again, as they picked up three first downs and moved to the Pampa 24. The Harvesters defense stepped up and stopped their running back for a loss of one yard. Thomas threw three straight incompletions to give Pampa the ball back at their own 25.

Clendening drove Pampa to the Dumas 41 with completions to Braden Hunt for 10 yards and Anthony Allen for 14 yards. On first and 10 Alexander fumbled and Nathan Smith recovered the football at the Pampa 38 resulting in a 21-yard loss. Pampa didn't gain yards on the next two plays and had to punt.

The Harvesters got the ball back at the Demons 49 after they forced Dumas

into a three and out. Hunt picked up two first downs including one on fourth down and three, from the Demons. 25. But the drive would stall as Clendening couldn't gain enough yards on fourth down and three from the Demons 10. Dumas would lead 7-0 at halftime.

The Harvesters got the ball first in the second half but could not convert a first down being forced to punt on fourth and two from their own 28. The Demons got the ball on their own 31.

Thomas gained 20 yards on the first play of the drive. Dumas converted another third down that put them at the Pampa 39. Thomas ran for a 39-yard touchdown and following the extra point Dumas led 14-0 with 7:32 left in the third.

The Harvesters would cut into the Demons lead on their next possession. Hunt returned the ensuing kickoff to the Demons 40. Alexander converted a third down and two moving the ball to the Dumas 28. Clendening completed a seven-yard pass to Allen on fourth down and two to the Dumas 13. Hunt finished the drive with a 12-yard touchdown reception. Adams extra point cut Dumas' lead to 14-7 with 4:06 left in the third.

The Demons got the ball at their own 15. Dumas converted two third downs to bring them to the Pampa 46. The Harvesters had the Demons stopped on third down and four only allowing two yards. But Pampa picked up 15-yard personal foul penalty that gave Dumas a first down at the Harvesters 27. Thomas capped off the drive with a 10-yard run to expand Dumas' lead to 21-7. Parker said the penalty was the turning point in the game.

"We're right in the middle of a defensive battle," Parker said. "We weren't giving up big plays but they were converting third downs. We got within one score and were fixing to have a punt and they (Dumas) got a first down out of it."

Parker said despite the loss his team is still in the district race and will have to play hard the last two weeks.

"Canyon is 3-0 and Dumas is 2-1 and four of us are 1-2," Parker said. "Two of us (the teams that are 1-2) will make play-offs and two won't. We have identical records with Caprock and Palo Duro and we just need to keep working hard."

Area Scores	
Dumas	21 Pampa 7
Lefors	40 Hedley 24
Caprock	35 Randall 21
Silverton	55 Lazbuddie 8
Fort Elliot	46 McLenn 0
Memphis	47 Shamrock 14
Miami	69 Samnorwood 22
Wellington	59 Quanah 14
Valley	58 Happy 34
Bovina	63 Claude 0
Borger	27 Perryton 26
Boys Ranch	13 Vega 6
Canyon	35 Palo Duro 21
Frenship	14 Plainview 7
Follett	66 San Jacinto 20
Canadian	69 Booker 0
Nazareth	20 White Deer 12
Lubbock Estacado	54 Lubbock Cooper 21
Ablene Cooper	21 Big Spring 18

Harvestfest

2009

Saturday, October 31
6 to 7:30 p.m.

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(use south door)
For Preschool through 6th grade

- Games & Prizes -

Costumes are welcome

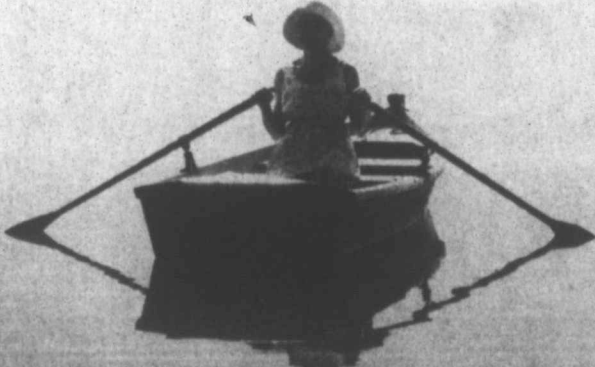
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Schedule Changes


The Pampa Harvesters varsity football team's game at Caprock is 1 p.m., Saturday, October 31 instead of Friday October 30 which was noted on the original schedule.

The Pampa Harvesters freshman team is playing at Caprock 4:30 p.m. Thursday, October 29 instead of hosting Caprock at 5:00 which was noted on the original schedule.

The Pampa Harvesters junior varsity team is playing Caprock 5:00 p.m. Thursday, October 29 at Harvester Field instead of 7:00 p.m. which was noted on the original schedule.



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Sports

Pirates down Owls, district title in sight

BY ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Lefors Pirates (8-1, 3-0) are a victory closer to back to back district titles as they defeated the Hedley Owls (2-6, 0-2) 40-24 Friday in Hedley.

Lefors Head Coach Joey Czubinski (Ski) said Hedley was a better team than when they played them the first time in Week 0.

"They really ran hard and blocked hard," Coach Ski said. "Their defense is much better. Their coach subbed in guys really well on defense. They had two to four who never played on offense."

Coach Ski said it was hard for his team to get in a rhythm in the first half but they picked it up in the second.

"We scored three times and it got called back," Coach Ski said. "We had a string of penalties. We make a good play on offense there would be a penalty. We make a play defensively we would get a penalty. The second half was much better. We scored on every possession except the end of the game

when we took a knee."

Lefors head coach said the win was a team effort and had a lot of guys step up.

"Keenan (Lott) threw for three touchdowns, Trever (Czubinski) had over 100 yards rushing and Wakely (Pairsh) had over 50 yards rushing," Coach Ski said. "Seth Fry and Cody Hess were big for us defensively. Hess had a couple big tackles and Fry was strong for us in the middle. Austin Brooks played well both ways. Houston Whatley had one of his best games receiving this season."

Next week the Pirates will play the Groom Tigers (6-1, 2-0) at Lefors. If the Pirates win they will become the first team in their school history to win back to back district titles. Coach Ski said that has been their goal this whole season.

"Winning our first district title last year was great," Coach Ski said. "Every team's goal is to win the district title. They're (players) beat up and tired but we're not going to whine. It's two fold we're going to finish strong and get that much needed rest the week after."



Joey Johnson hauls in a touchdown against the Hedley Owls. Lefors won 40-24 and is one win from back to back district titles. The Pirates play the Groom Tigers 7:30 p.m., Friday in Lefors. Photo contributed by Lendi Jackson

PHS freshman football team falls at Dumas

The Pampa Harvesters freshman football team lost their fourth straight game 27-20 to the Dumas Demons, Thursday in Dumas.

Coach Kaleb Snelgrooves said they played hard but came up a little short.

"We trailed 20-6 at half,"

Snelgrooves said. "Nick Johnson ran a kickoff back 72 yards to spark the scoring."

Snelgrooves said Trey Teel and Johnson were defensive standouts in a solid effort by the defense.

"We flew to the ball and tallied 3 turnovers on the night (1 INT 2 Fumbles)," Snelgrooves said. "We are playing extremely hard. Its going to pay off in the long run."

The loss drops the freshmen team record to 2-5-1 and will play at Caprock 4:30 p.m. Thursday.

Hidden Hills Seniors Scramble Oct. 23

- First**
Jim Barshears
B. Young
J. South
O. Sargent
- Second**
A. Bolton
G. Brewer
C. Albus
J. McGuire
- Third**
J. Darren
M. Allison
C. Byrum
J. Jensen
- Fourth**
R. Harper
Gilbert
H. Wells
- Closest to Pin**
#6 Jim Bridges
#15 J. Lee

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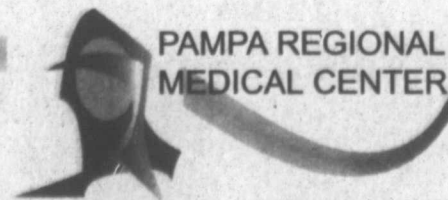
October is
National
Breast Cancer
Awareness Month

Pampa Regional Medical Center is offering
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if you call in October to schedule your visit
between now and December 31st.

Early and late appointments available

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*Co-pay/deductible waived if filing insurance





Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Wilkes

Poole, Wilkes wed

Megan DiAnn Poole and Christopher Wayne Wilkes were united in marriage June 20, 2009. The wedding was held at the Crawford Building in Pampa, Texas. Rev Brian Christen of the First Christian Church officiated at the ceremony.

The wedding consisted of the vows, a dinner, a reception, and a dance.

The bride's attendants were Kandra Poole, Maid of Honor; Jessica Tabor, Bridesmaid; and Holland Poole and Caitlin Smith, Flower Girls. Serving at the bride's table was Andrea Jackson, Nicole

Armentariz, and Cheri Christen. The groom's attendants consisted of Jim Pollard, Best Man; Jeremy Wilson, Groomsman; and DaHon Poole and Andrew Poole, Ushers.

Serving the Groom's table was Teresa Kieth and Sheila Tabor. Ashley Kieth did registration of guests.

The bride is the daughter of Robert and Nancy Poole.

Grandmothers are Florence McCunn and Peggy Poole.

Grandfathers are the late Kenneth Elsheimer and the late Preston Poole.

Megan graduated from West Texas A & M with a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. She was a member of Phi Theta Kappa, Alpha Chi, Kappa Delta Phi, and Mortar Board. She is employed with the Pampa ISD as a 5th grade teacher at Austin Elementary.

The groom is the son of Pam and Jim Pollard and Wayne and Carol Wilkes all of Lubbock. Grandmothers are the late Pearl Dorman and the late Virginia Wilkes. Grandfathers are Billy Dorman and W. H. Wilkes. Chris graduated from Monterey High School. He has been employed with United Supermarkets for 9 years.

Pampa Meals on Wheels Menu

Monday, October 26
Chicken Spaghetti
Garlic Bread
Mixed Veg.
Pineapple

Tuesday October 27
Sausage/Rice Casserole
Green Beans/Tom.
Pears
Cornbread Salad

Wednesday October 28
Oven-Fried Chicken
Mashed Potatoes

Green Beans
Jello

Thursday October 29
Swedish Meatballs
Liver Noodles
Lima Beans
Carrots
Applesauce

Friday, October 30
Ham/Dressing/Gravy
Sweet Potatoes
Green Beans
Cranberry Salad

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The Pampa News

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Wash your hands often. Scrub for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand cleaner.



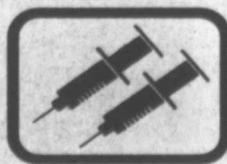
COVER YOUR COUGH

Use a tissue to cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze. No tissue around? Your sleeve will do.



STAY HOME

If you get sick, stay home until you're well so you don't spread more germs. Steer clear of others who are sick.



GET YOUR SHOTS

Protect yourself by getting all your flu shots. You need both the seasonal flu shot as well as the new H1N1 shot.

Stopping the flu is up to you.



TexasFlu.org

Comics

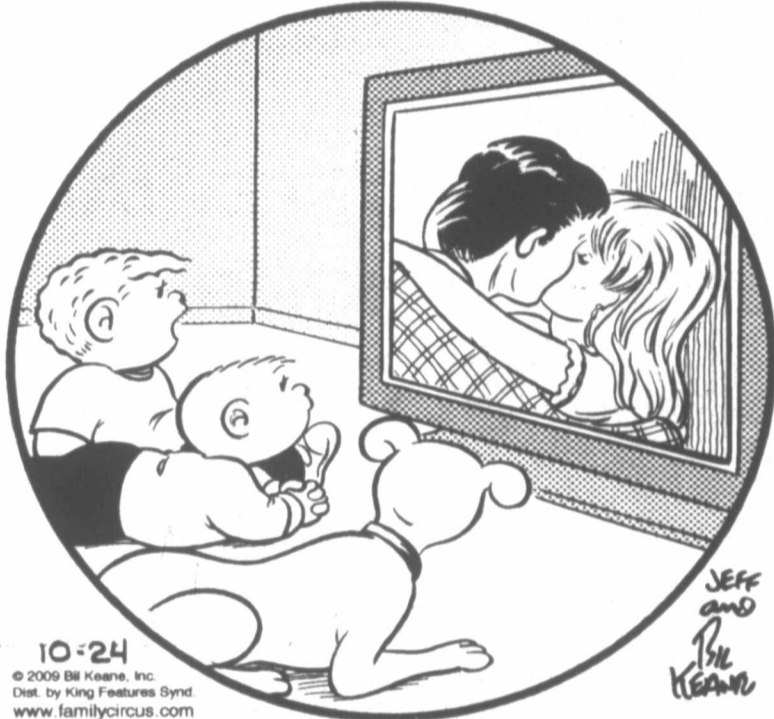
Marmaduke



"We were helping at the soup kitchen, but Marmaduke ate all the soup."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"I guess he hurt himself and his mommy is kissing it better."

For Better Or Worse



Zits



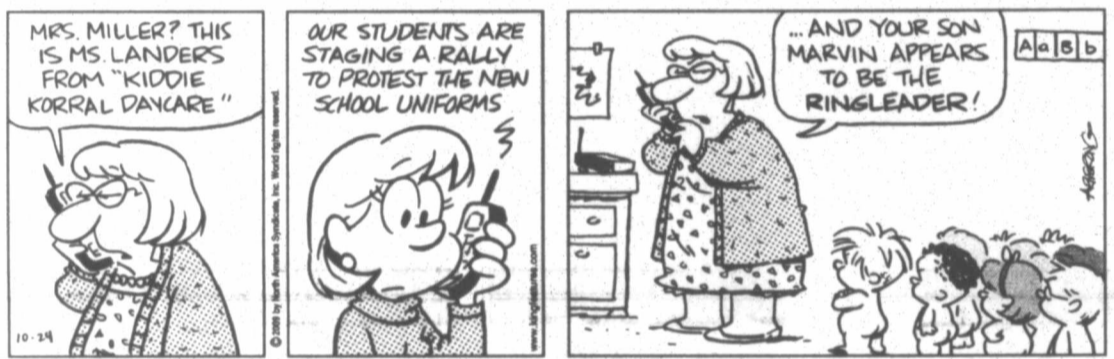
Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



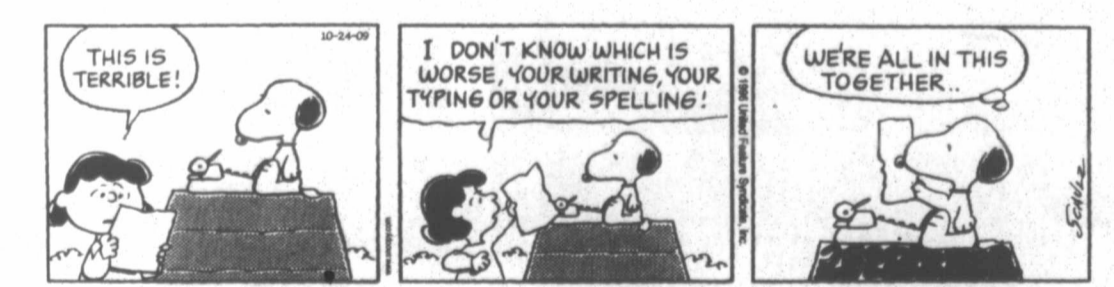
B.C.



Hagga The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Daily Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 35 Pupil sur-rounder
 - 1 "Nashville" director
 - 7 Songs like 12-Across
 - 11 Conditional release
 - 12 "Body Count" musician
 - 13 Stood for
 - 14 Long story
 - 15 Judicial garb
 - 16 Fragrant wood
 - 17 "— chic!"
 - 18 Truthful
 - 19 Museum offering
 - 21 Greek consonants
 - 22 Source of some surveillance
 - 25 Month after avril
 - 26 Yarn
 - 27 Floors
 - 29 Composer Bacharach
 - 33 Ready to play
 - 34 Kind of eclipse
- DOWN**
- 1 Set off
 - 2 Part of a repair bill
 - 3 Native group
 - 4 Reserve
 - 5 Pub pints
 - 6 Newsmen Potter
 - 7 Out of bed
 - 8 Scholar's world
 - 9 Winged steed
 - 10 Sets off
 - 16 Reef stuff
 - 18 Island dances
 - 20 Chose
 - 22 Eastern warrior
 - 23 Concert star
 - 24 Space clouds
 - 25 Winning at chess
 - 28 Citrus garnishes
 - 30 Bring together
 - 31 Indy auto
 - 32 Rendezvous
 - 34 Folk tales
 - 36 Okra unit

P	I	C	O	T		B	A	B	A	R		
A	N	O	D	E		A	G	I	L	E		
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						L	Y	R	I	C	A	L
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U	K	E		M	A	T		E	L	O		
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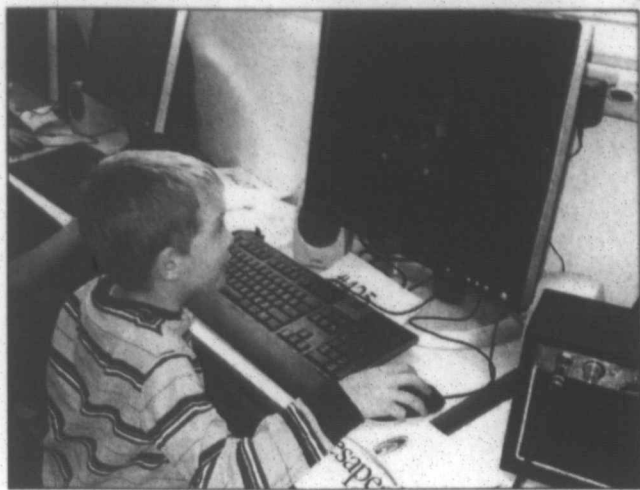
Yesterday's answer

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

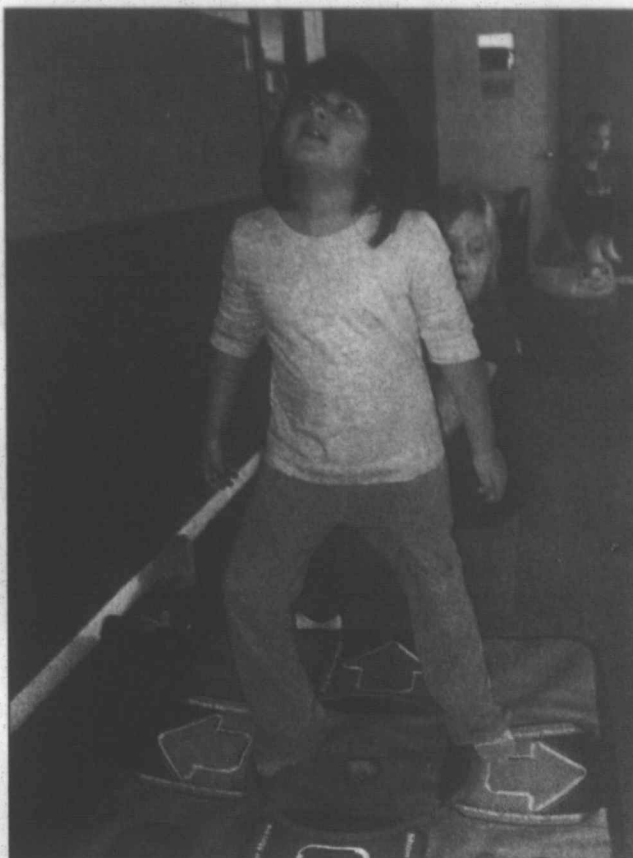
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27						28			29	30	31	32
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39									40			

Around Town

Scenes from Create A Beat's "Good Behavior" party.



Bryson Hood gets to play one of his favorite video games as a reward for good behavior at Create-a-Beat's recent party.



Juli-Ana Silva works up a sweat on Dance, Dance Revolution at Create-a-Beat's Good Behavior Party



As a reward for good behavior, Haylee Nelson spends some of her Create-a-Beat after school time on one of her favorite video games.



Austin Stone tried to keep up with the Guitar Hero video game while Matthew Wheeler and Jordi Gonzalez watch.



Chance Kerbo worked on his guitar skills at the Guitar Hero video game station at the Create-a-Beat Good Behavior Party.



Seth Smith and Elijah Palma try to master a new video game at Create-a-Beat's Good Behavior Party.



At the Create-a-Beat Good Behavior Party Austin Burton lit up the drums on the Guitar Hero video game.

Lion's Sweetheart



Savannah Smith, daughter to David & Myrna Smith, is the Pampa Lions Club's October sweetheart. High school activities include 3 year varsity tennis player, 4 year band member, and student advisory board. Her plans are to attend Abilene Christian University and be in the "Big Purple Band". She plans on majoring in Graphic Design.

Pampa Senior Citizens Menu

Monday, Oct. 26
 Chicken fried steak or chicken pot pie
 Mashed potatoes
 Spinach
 Beets
 Northern Beans
 Slaw - Tossed Salad - Jello Salad
 Devil's Food cake or Blueberry Pie
 Hot rolls or cornbread

Carrots,
 Butter Beans
 Slaw - Tossed Salad - Jello Salad
 Strawberry Cake or Bread
 Pudding
 Hot rolls or cornbread

Tuesday, Oct. 27
 Chicken leg quarters with dressing or ham with fruit sauce
 Mashed potatoes
 California blend
 Yams,
 Beans
 Slaw - Tossed Salad - Jello Salad
 Boston Cream Pie or Cherry Cheesecake
 Hot rolls or cornbread

Thursday, Oct. 29
 Chicken strips or taco salad
 Tator tots
 Green beans
 Cheese Hominy
 Beans
 Slaw - Tossed Salad - Jello Salad
 Coconut Cream cake or Blackberry cobbler
 Hot rolls or cornbread

Wednesday, Oct. 28
 Roast beef brisket with brown gravy or Cook's choice
 Mashed potatoes
 Peas,

Friday, Oct. 30
 Catfish and hush puppies or hamburger steak
 Steak fries
 Corn Casserole
 Beans
 Slaw - Tossed Salad - Jello Salad
 Goblin cake or Frog Eye pudding cups (tapioca)
 Garlic breadstick, hot rolls or cornbread



Saturday November 7th, at 10:00 am

Floats, bands, cars, motorcycles etc. welcome.

Entries will stage at underpass by VFW building on Cuyler. 1st & 2nd place trophies awarded in 5 categories.

Call to confirm placement.

Rick 570-7508

George 663-1670

956

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942

Around Town

STUCO to 'Pink Out'

The PHS Student Council will be doing a PINK OUT campaign during the week of November 2-6.

Council members will be selling "Pink Out" T-shirts and asking fans to wear the shirts to the football game on November 6.

The council has contacted the Palo Duro student council, who is planning to participate in the event on Friday night.

Also planned is a community pep rally for the evening of Thursday, November 5 to recognize and honor those who

have battled or are currently battling breast cancer and other types of cancer, especially those who are a part of the PISD family.

STUCO will sell the shirts for \$10, with a portion of the cost of each shirt to be donated to the Susan G. Komen foundation and area foundations that will benefit local people who might need assistance with expenses related to their cancer struggles.

T-Shirts can be ordered from any STUCO representative.



Grandview-Hopkins Honor Roll

The following students were named to the Grandview-Hopkins Elementary School A and AB honor rolls for the first six weeks of the 2009-10 school year:

A Honor Roll

Dayla Albus, Kellie Davis, Shyler Foshee, Garrett Graham, Audrey Hopkins, Austen Irlbeck, Luke Masters, Natali Millan, Katya Millan,

JoJo Ragsdale, Dustin Winborne.

AB Honor Roll

Haylo Berner, KC Cargal, Jamey Germany, Leslie Germany, Harley Gray, Kaitlyn Hart, Shayda Hawley, AunJelle Irlbeck, Nique Johnson, Heaven L'Esperance, Rosa Martinez, Colton McPherson, C.J. Rash, Dakota Winborne, Cheyenne Young

Paws for Celebration

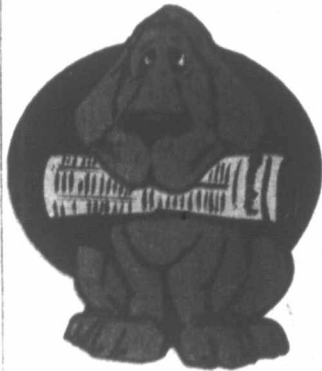
Travis Elementary School recently held its "Paws for Celebration," recognizing students for demonstrating outstanding character. Among those recognized were (not in order) Kindergarten - Lexi Rosser, Eva Welsh, Janette Cano, Betzabe Lopez; First Grade - Natalie Silva, Bethanie Silva, and Zhane Williams-Johnson; Second Grade - Emma Gill, Kameron Parks, and Damiana Garza; Third Grade - Jana Shults, Lauren Jones, and Maddie Yates; Fourth Grade - Calista Bolin, Taylor Lindley; and Fifth Grade - Tyler Hughes, Riley Lindley, and Matthew Wheeler.

CPR/First Aid class offered

An Adult, Child and Infant CPR/First Aid class is being offered by the American Red Cross-Eastern Panhandle Chapter. The class is set for Nov.

14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Pampa.

There is a small charge for the class. For more information, call 806-669-7121 or 800-297-2270.



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The Pampa News

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Starting Oct. 24th through Oct. 31st

1/2 gal. Crown	\$49.99
1 liter Captain Morgan	\$17.99
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Come see our Crystal Halloween Vodka skulls and other items!

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(Buy Christmas Gift Subs now and the first issue will arrive Dec. 29)
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\$112 (Elsewhere)

**To subscribe, call Kera Kent at 669-2525 and have your credit card or debit card ready. You may also mail your subscription payment to:
The Pampa News, P.O. Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79065.**

Subscription must be paid in full to receive discount. This offer cannot be combined with any other discount.



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09 COBALT LT



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SALE \$14,594

09 CHEVY SUBURBAN



stk# C09016

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Save \$10,530

SALE \$40,180

09 CHEVY SILVERADO



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09 GMC SIERRA



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Save \$9,875

SALE \$33,475

09 BUICK LUCERNE



stk# B09011

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Discount \$1,173

Rebate \$4,500

Save \$5,673

SALE \$25,302

09 GMC YUKON



4x4

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Beverly Taylor

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 Date: 10-23-09

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This Technician will be solely responsible for maintaining route truck compliance with the U.S. DOT requirements and company policies and procedures. Analyze key performance indicators and work to achieve the lowest possible operating cost. This individual will provide training, guidance and direction to Customer Service Managers and will inform Fleet Operations, Sales, District and Material Handlers with regard to vehicle operations, fleet preventive maintenance programs and repair issues. Other responsibilities include developing data for fleet specifications based on parts failures and frequency of breakdowns, assuming responsibility for proper hazardous waste material disposal in accordance with all state and federal EPA mandates and traveling to multiple depot locations on a regular basis (up to 2-3 nights per week).

This position requires an Associate's degree from a trade school, college or equivalent and 2-4 years of related experience. Must currently have or be able to obtain DOT medical certification, a technician license if applicable and ASE certification. Requirements include advanced skills to repair medium-duty chassis, welding skills, strong understanding of electrical diagnostics and troubleshooting, and basic math, computer, communication and mechanical skills. The successful candidate will continually pursue education to update knowledge of latest equipment requirements.

To apply, please visit www.schwansjobs.com, Main Career Center, Search Jobs, Search Requisition # 09-56954. EOE

Public Notice
NOTICE TO BIDDERS
 The City of Pampa, Texas will receive sealed bids for the following until 9:00 A.M. November 10, 2009 at which time they will be opened and read publicly in the City Commission Chambers, Third Floor, City Hall, 201 W. Kingsmill, Pampa, Texas.

VEHICLES
 Specifications may be obtained from the Office of the Chief of Police, Pampa Police Department, 201 W. Kingsmill, Pampa, Texas 79065. Phone number is 806-669-5700. Tax-Exemption Certificates shall be furnished upon request. Bids may be delivered to the City Secretary's Office, City Hall, 201 W. Kingsmill, Pampa, Texas or mailed to P.O. Box 2499, Pampa, Texas 79066-2499. A Sealed envelope should be plainly marked "VEHICLE BIDS ENCLOSED, BID NO. 09.06.X" and show date and time of bid opening. Facsimile bids will not be accepted.

The City of Pampa reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids submitted and to waive any formalities or technicalities. The City Commission will consider bids for award at the November 10, 2009 regularly scheduled Commission meeting which begins at 4:00PM CST.

Isi Karen Price
 City Secretary
 D-88 Oct. 22, 25, 2009

NEW FM STATION, PAMPA, TEXAS
Public Notice
 On October 7, 2009, Pampa Broadcasters, Inc. filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission seeking authority to construct a new Class C2 FM station in Pampa, Texas. The station proposes to operate at 103.3 MHz with 50 kW of power from a transmitter located 1500 feet southeast of the intersection of State Highways 70 and 171 Loop, with an antenna height of 79 meters above ground level. The main studio will be located at 1701 North Banks Street, Pampa, Texas. The officers, directors and 10% or more stockholders of Pampa Broadcasters, Inc. are James B. Hughes and Mary S. Hughes. A copy of this application, including any additional materials, is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the main studio location. D-87 Oct. 21, 23, 25, 29, 2009

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5 Special Notices
ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

10 Lost/Found
 FOUND set of keys in about the 300 bl. of 19th Ave., Pampa, Inquire at Pampa News, 669-2525.

13 Bus. Opp.
 GREAT Investment opportunity Howardwick Convenience store. 665-1875, 806-383-1985.

14d Carpentry
Carpentry, Roofing, Replacement Windows, steel siding & trim. Continuous gutters. Jerry Nicholas 669-9991, 662-8169

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347.

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

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 SOLIS FENCING. New Fence / Fence Repairs. Free estimates. 806-486-1368, 662-2473
 PANHANDLE HOUSE LEVELING. Floor or roof sagging, walls cracking, doors dragging, bricks cracking? Call us 1st! 669-0958

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14u Roofing
 WENDELL'S ROOFING CO. Metal Roofs, Composition Roofs and Built-Up Roofs. Free Estimates. 806-665-7648
19 Situations
 WOULD love to clean your house. 1 1/2 years experience. Good references. Reasonable rates. Call now. Few spots available. 665-5859.
21 Help Wanted
NOTICE: All ads that contain phone numbers or give reference to a number with an area code of 809 or a prefix of 011 are international toll numbers and you will be charged international long distance rates. For more information regarding the investigation of work at home opportunities and job lists, The Pampa News urges its readers to contact the Better Business Bureau of South Texas, 609 S. International Blvd., Weslaco, TX. 78596, (210) 968-3678.

AXYDLBAAXR
 is LONGFELLOW
 One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three A'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.

10-24 CRYPTOQUOTE

FGEYHUHL WCZLNH ICZ
 AHWQAH ZOCX, YGHLH QN
 EDFEIN NCBHCXH YC YHDD
 ICZ YGEY ICZ ELH FLCXR.

— LEDOG FEDAC HBHLN CX
 Yesterday's Cryptquote: WHEN CHOOSING BETWEEN TWO EVILS, I ALWAYS LIKE TO TRY THE ONE I'VE NEVER TRIED BEFORE. — MAE WEST

MARKWEST Oklahoma Gas Company

MARKWEST OKLAHOMA GAS COMPANY has an opening for Position Title: Instrumentation and Electrical Technician Location: Wheeler County, Tx and/ or Western Oklahoma

Experience and qualifications in the following areas:

5 years of applicable experience. Fisher ROC, Totalflow, Freewave Radios, the ability to trouble shoot control loops, analog signals, various electrical motors, communication links, SCADA, DC and AC voltage circuits and equipment, and control equipment. To procure equipment, software and materials for various projects associated but not limited to the I&E department. Self motivated with the ability to work in a team environment with minimal supervision. The ability to coordinate, prioritize, and execute many tasks/ projects at once.

Please send resume to:
 MarkWest Oklahoma Gas Company, 905 S. Eastern Ave.
 Elk City, OK 73644 • Call 580-225-4020 • Fax 580-225-6258

CONOCOPHILLIPS
WRB Refining LLC
Borger Refinery

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The Borger Refinery is located in Borger, Texas, in the Texas Panhandle approximately 50 miles northeast of Amarillo, Texas. The refinery processes 146 mbpd of medium and heavy gravity sour crudes plus fractionates 50 mbpd of mixed natural gas liquids. The Borger Refinery produces LPGs and motor fuels products for the Rocky Mountains, West Texas and Central U.S. market areas. Additionally, the refinery produces pentane and heptane solvents for specialty products applications. The refinery also markets coke as a fuel for cement manufacturing and power generation facilities. We have opportunities at our Borger Refinery in Borger, Texas in the following position:

Yardman (Entry Level General Maintenance Position)

The Borger Refinery is seeking to fill openings for Yardmen who perform a wide variety of manual labor tasks with varying day-to-day work assignments. A Yardman position is an entry level position at the Borger Refinery with excellent progression opportunities into Operations and Maintenance crafts. The entry level rate of pay for this position is \$16.88/hr with a pay increase after 9 months to \$19.57/hr and again in another 9 months to \$21.41/hr. From a Yardman position, an employee has the opportunity to progress into Operations or Maintenance. The entry level rate of pay for an Operator is \$23.65/hr with an increase every 12 months reaching top Operator pay of \$30.28/hr after 36 months. The entry level rate of pay for a Maintenance craftsman is \$23.65/hr with an increase every 12 months reaching top craftsman pay of \$31.60/hr after 48 months. The Borger Refinery provides extensive training to employees, both classroom and on-the-job.

The ideal Yardman candidate must have a High School diploma or GED with a minimum of 2 years of continuous recent full-time work experience. This position requires a valid driver's license and the ability to work in enclosed spaces such as tanks and silos and work on elevated platforms. Candidates must be able to work an 8 hour rotating shift and up to a 12 hour rotating shift that includes some weekends and holidays. The Borger Refinery is a 24-hour, 365 days per year operation.

For consideration and more information on the qualifications for this position, apply online at www.conocophillips.com/careers and click on "enter" in the ConocoPhillips Careers section, then on "search" in the Job Search area. Scroll down and look for the job titled: "Yardman - Entry Level Position - Borger Refinery, Job Requisition #007NU. See our

All applications must be submitted electronically via the ConocoPhillips website by November 15, 2009. An electronic resume must be attached to your electronic application. To seek computer help with the on-line application visit your local area Workforce Commission office.

ConocoPhillips is an equal opportunity employer
 Job ID #8097582

MARKWEST Oklahoma Gas Company

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Please send resume to:
 MarkWest Oklahoma Gas Company, 905 S. Eastern Ave.
 Elk City, OK 73644 • Call 580-225-4020 • Fax 580-225-6258

FARM AUCTION
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JAMES "JIMMY" McCRACKEN
 TRACTORS, 06 Cat 635B MFW W/99B Loader. 83 J.D. 8650, 81 J.D. 4840, 81 J.D. 4440, 79 J.D. 4440 W/158 Loader-COTTON STRIPPERS, 06 J.D. 7460 8 Row 30", 97 J.D. 7455 12 Row 30"-2 BIG 12 BOLL BUGGIES-FORD BRONCO, GRAIN TRUCKS, PICKUPS, CADILLAC CARS, COMBINE & HEADERS, EQUIPMENT, HAY TRAILERS & TRAILERS, CATTLE EQUIP., WELDERS, SHOP TOOLS, TANKS, RIDING MOWERS, TILLER, SNOW BLOWER, SADDLES, PORTABLE BUILDING, ANT. APPLIANCES, COLLECTIBLES.

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Railroads see a steep climb to stronger economy

(AP) — Consumers still aren't buying. Manufacturing lines are still slow. And, oil prices are going up.

For all these reasons, the nation's railroads can't predict when the economic engines will hum again. All they're saying is, for now, it's not getting worse.

Fewer shipments of everything from cars to clothing are rolling across the country compared with a year ago, although the railroads say shipping volume seems to have stabilized from earlier points this year. For the moment, the country's biggest rails, including Union Pacific Corp. and Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corp., say they will still be able to make gains by improving efficiency on their lines to offset some of the shipping volume shortfall. Lower costs for fuel and labor are also keeping results from being a lot worse.

But next year will be challenging. Union Pacific chairman and CEO Jim Young said Thursday that the economy will "limp along" until unemploy-

ment starts to improve. And Burlington Northern CEO Matt Rose said in a conference call with analysts that consumers are going to be the driver of any improvement in the economy, but no one is buying yet.

That's part of the reason that Burlington Northern issued a fourth-quarter earnings forecast well below Wall Street's expectations. The railroad, based in Fort Worth, Texas, now thinks it will earn between \$1.10 and \$1.20 per share for the period. Analysts predicted \$1.36 per share.

Burlington reported a 30 percent drop in third-quarter profit Thursday, while revenue fell 27 percent to \$3.6 billion. Union Pacific said its profit was off 26 percent, while revenue fell 24 percent.

Another problem for the railroads in the coming year will be how much coal is needed to make electricity. Coal demand has fallen off sharply because of the mild summer, a number of industrial plant shutdowns, and more consumers turning off the lights to save money.

Executives at both Union Pacific and Burlington Northern said they expect coal shipments to remain weak for some time. And last week the country's No. 3 railroad, CSX Corp., also said it doesn't expect coal demand to get better in 2010. When CSX reported third-quarter results, it said it believed the worst of the recession is over, but its third-quarter earnings fell 23 percent from a year ago. CSX's chief rival Norfolk Southern Corp. will report third-quarter results next week.

Randy Cousins, an analyst with BMO Capital Markets, is cautiously optimistic about the near future because many of the major railroads seem to be reporting freight volume that's sluggish, but improving.

"I think the good news is that unequivocally every-

body believes the second quarter was the low," Cousins said. "The debate we're going to have is the degree of the positive."

He added: "We're off the bottom, and I'll take that."

The signal for major economic improvement will come from retail sales, the rails say.

When asked if he had any closing comments for analysts in Thursday's con-

ference call, Burlington Northern CEO Matt Rose put it simply.

"Everybody go out and buy some stuff at Wal-Mart, Home Depot, Target and Lowe's."

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I was raised from an early age that if you play a game, you have to play fair and obey the rules. Those rules were never bent regardless of what the game was or who we played with.

Over the years I have played games with many people, and while I realize it's possible for people to play the same game slightly differently, the rules still applied. What I don't understand is cheating.

A couple I know allow their children to play games with adults and let them cheat. What they're doing is obvious, and their parents even joke about it. I no longer enjoy playing with this family, but I don't know what to do or say. I have tried to subtly discourage and stop the deceptions, but I don't want to seem like a sore loser. Any suggestions? -- PLAYS BY THE RULES, URBANA, OHIO

DEAR PLAYS BY THE RULES: Yes. Do not play games with the family if the children are involved. It's not about being a sore loser; it's about not being a chump. By allowing their children to ignore the "rules," these parents are sending the message that rules don't apply to them. Because the children cheat when they play with you, it's safe to assume that they think it's acceptable to do it with other kids. And when their contemporaries realize what's going on, who do you think won't be allowed to join their games -- or anything else? Look at it this way: From little cheaters, big cheaters grow.

DEAR ABBY: My sister-in-law has just informed me that she doesn't think it is as important for her daughters to attend college as it is her sons.

My mother-in-law recently made a crack about my finances because she knows I'm paying off my student loans for two degrees.

My father-in-law can't understand what "all the fuss is about" now that my oldest daughter is preparing for college.

Abby, I have friends in their 30s and 40s who, for one reason or another, are single women supporting themselves. Even some who have degrees are struggling, but they are able to own their own homes because they are able to earn decent salaries.

What should I say when my mother-in-law and sister-in-law put me down for higher learning? Neither of them went to college or has ever worked. They would be on welfare if they didn't have their husbands' income. By the way, I'm not having any problem paying back my student loans, and my husband is proud of my accomplishments. -- EDUCATED IN TENNESSEE

DEAR EDUCATED: Your mother-in-law and sister-in-law are misguided. They do not understand the financial realities that exist for women today because they have never been exposed to them. Nothing that you can say to them will change their mind-set.

So rather than respond to their naive comments, take every opportunity to encourage your nieces to pursue their educations so they can live independent lives. And pray that your father-in-law and brother-in-law leave their wives well-provided-for should tragedy strike, because otherwise they could wind up on your doorstep.

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