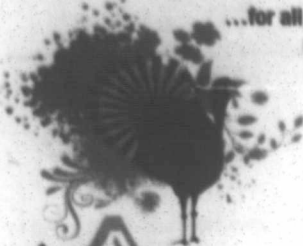


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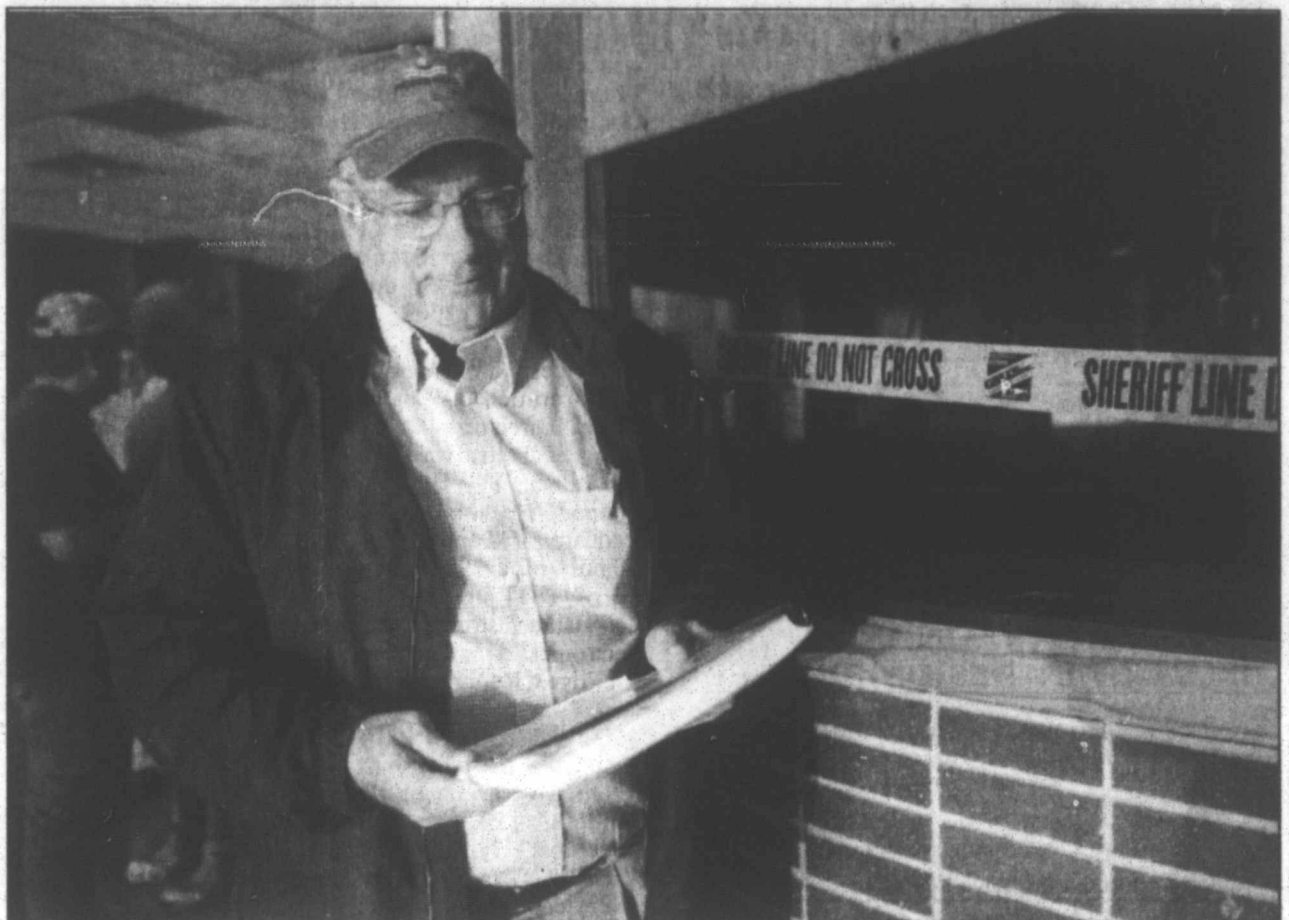
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The PAMPA NEWS

Tuesday, November 10, 2009 Volume 105 • No. 167 50¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

Fire damages Miami school

High school, jr. high students moved to churches



Tom Grantham, president of the Miami school board, stands next to the concession stand looks over wiring diagrams at the Miami school as he and emergency workers assess the damage to the school building from a pre-dawn fire today.

By **DAVID BOWSER**
dbowser@thepampanews.com

MIAMI— Citizens here awoke this morning to a fire at their community's school.

Roberts County officials said school maintenance workers arrived at the school about 5:30 a.m. today to find the building filled with acrid smoke.

One school employee, searching for the origin of the fire, had to be treated by Miami EMS volunteers for smoke inhalation.

Firefighters from Miami, Mobeetic and Canadian were called to the scene. The fire was finally declared out about 8 a.m. today.

Miami and Roberts County officials began cleaning up and trying to determine how to handle the school situation.

Classes were dismissed until further notice, officials said. Late this morning, as knots of student stood around the building. The fire, officials said

today, looked to have started in the concession stand area in the school's foyer next to the gym.

The major damage appeared to be smoke and water damage to the concession stand and surrounding areas, including the foyer and gym.

There were junior high and high school girl's basketball games at the school last night, school officials said.

Surveying the damage at mid-morning today, School Board President Tom Grantham said there would be an emergency

school board meeting at 4 p.m. today to deal with the situation.

The Miami school building houses all classes from pre-school through high school. Classes were cancelled today.

Grantham said the wing of the school that houses

the pre-school and elementary classes appeared to have suffered minor smoke damage and might be ready for students within a few days.

The part of the school that house junior high and high school students,

MIAMI cont. on page 3

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With Gratitude to Our Veterans



Soldiers salute during the nightly Retreat ceremony on Monday Nov. 9, 2009, at III Corps Headquarters at Fort Hood, Texas, where a memorial service was held today for the soldiers killed in last week's mass shootings at Fort Hood. (AP Photo/Austin American-Statesman, Jay Janner)

Holiday Mail for Heroes to deliver greetings

Pampa— The Eastern Texas Panhandle Chapter of the American Red Cross and Pitney Bowes invite the public to send a touch of home to service members, veterans and family members this holiday season.

The American Red Cross and Pitney Bowes, Inc. are teaming up to deliver holiday cards to service members, their families and veterans, many of whom will be far from home this holiday season. Now in its third year, the Holiday Mail for Heroes program provides Americans with the opportunity to extend holiday greetings and thanks to service members and veterans.

Between November

2 and December 7, the public is invited to send a touch of home through holiday cards that contain messages of cheer and appreciation.

The Red Cross and Pitney Bowes will then screen cards for hazardous materials, sort and package the cards, and deliver them to military bases and hospitals, veterans' homes and other locations during the holidays. Pitney Bowes is providing all screening, packaging and shipping at no charge. The Red Cross will utilize hundreds of volunteers to sort and box cards for delivery to service men and women, veterans and family members in November and December.

MAIL cont. on page 3

Bank to aid elderly veterans in crime prevention

Happy State Bank has joined with several other entities to ensure that 40,000 Veterans living in 160 State Veteran Nursing Homes in the U.S. are able to live out their lives in safe, secure, enhanced quality-of-life environments.

"Happy State Bank is pleased to be a partner in this program to ensure that our veterans may

continue to be safe and secure," stated J. Pat Hickman.

"Protecting our nation's 40,000 elderly veterans living in long-term care is a need that must be addressed, and I can't think of a better way to get this done than by asking every bank in the country to allocate a portion of their annual Community Reinvestment Act budget to securing the

Foundation's successful Senior Crimestoppers program," said SHCPF Chairman Mr. Charles C. King, III.

Partnered with Happy State Bank are the Independent Community Bankers Association, the Senior Housing Crime Prevention Foundation, the Armed Forces Veterans Homes Foundation and the National

Association of State Veterans Homes to

"In spite of many dedicated caregivers to our Veterans, unfortunately incidents of crime and personal violation of these residents is a constant daily occurrence," states Mr. James D. Staton, AFVHF Chairman. "What Veterans Homes need is a proac-

BANK cont. on page 3

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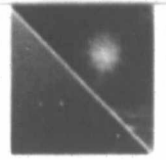
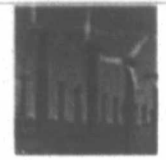
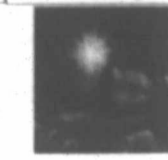
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For the record

PAMPA FORECAST

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		
High 71 Low 49	High 72 Low 51	High 69 Low 41

Veterans Day: Areas of fog before 9 am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 71. South southwest wind 5 to 10 mph increasing to between 15 and 20 mph. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 49. South southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 72. Windy, with a south southwest wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 51. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 69. South southwest wind 15 to 20 mph becoming west northwest. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

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Robert Martinez, 62

Robert "Bobby" Martinez age 62, passed away on Sunday morning November 8, 2009 following an extended illness.

Bobby was born February 5, 1947 in Tucumcari to Joe Aguilar and Ursina Martinez. He had been a life time resident of Tucumcari. He had been an active member of the St. Anne's Catholic Church and served in the Knights of Columbus and the St. Josephs organizations. He was retired from the Tucumcari Motor Company.

Surviving him is his daughter Amanda Martinez Lincoln of San Antonio; two sons Andrew Martinez of Pampa, Texas

and Samuel Martinez of Amarillo. Bobby's wife Rita Martinez of San Antonio, Tx, one brother Ben Martinez of Trujillo NM, Two sisters Priscilla Cruz and Maracella Martinez both of Tucumcari, NM. Also surviving are four grandchildren.

Rosary will be recited on Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. in the St. Anne's Catholic Church. Mass of the Resurrection will be offered on Wednesday morning at 10 a.m. in St. Anne's Catholic Church with Rev. Father Hyginus Anuta as celebrant. Interment will take place in the Tucumcari Memorial Park Cemetery.

Obituaries

Ronald Dean Rex, 63

Pampa— Ronald Dean Rex, 63, died Sunday, November 8, 2009, in Pampa, Texas.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Rex was born December 10, 1945 in Spearman. He married Joy Ladd on July 14, 1967 in Perryton. He was a former resident of Canadian and Spearman, and had been a resident of Pampa for the past 21 years. Ronald was a partner with his son, Jimmy, at Pampa Motor Company for 21 years. He was an owner/operator

and truck driver for Plains Transportation. He loved spending time with his children and grandchildren. His sense of humor and big heart will be missed by many.

Survivors include his wife, Joy Rex of the home; three sons, Jerry Rex and wife Kim of Spearman, Larry Rex of Clearwater, Florida, and Jimmy Rex and wife Tina of Pampa; two brothers, Gene Rex and wife Ada of Canadian, and George Rex and wife Tina of Spearman; two sisters, Brenda Vera and husband Johnny, and

Sybil Vera and husband Ruben, both of Spearman; six grandchildren, Haley Higgins, Shannon Rex, Corey Rex, Tyler Rex, MaKenna Rex, and Keely Rex; three great-grandchildren: Havanna Rex, Madison Rex and Chloe Rex; brother-in-law: Alan Ladd of Krum. Ronald was preceded in death by his parents: Troy and Doris Rex; two brothers, Jerry Don Rex and A. J. Rex; two sisters, Kay Kell and Alice Miller; and nephew: Garrett Rex.

MEMORIALS: Don & Sybil Harrington Cancer



Rex
Center, 1500 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, Texas 79106.
Sign the on-line register at www.carmichael-whitley.com

Ronnie Lee Ledbetter, 46

Pampa— Ronnie Lee Ledbetter, 46, died November 9, 2009, in Gray County.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Ledbetter was born September 9, 1963 in Pampa. He was a 1982 graduate of Pampa High School and a 1987 graduate of TSTI in Amarillo. He was an instrumentation electronics technician for Enbridge. Ronnie married

Lyn Turner on August 6, 1988 in Pampa. He was a member of Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship. He enjoyed fishing and spending time with his family. Ronnie loved God and enjoyed serving Him. He loved to laugh and enjoy life.

Survivors include his wife, Lyn Ledbetter of the home; two son, Aaron Ledbetter of Pampa; two daughters, Kaylee Ledbetter and Brooklyn

Ledbetter, both of Pampa; his parents: Herman and Lois Ledbetter of Pampa; one brother, Donnie Ledbetter of Pampa; one sister, Kathy Brecht of Amarillo; numerous nieces and nephews. Ronnie was preceded in death by a nephew: Curry Brecht.

MEMORIALS: Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship, 1733 N. Banks, Pampa, Texas 79065.
Sign the on-line register at www.carmichael-whitley.com



Ledbetter
ley.com

Irene Boyd Sanders, 85

Pampa— Irene Boyd Sanders, 85, died November 7, 2009, in Amarillo, Texas.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Sanders was born November 30, 1923 in Bells. She graduated high school from Fred Douglass High School in Sherman. She received a B.A. and a Master's Degree in English. She married Alvis Sanders on April 22, 1959 in Pampa. She taught English and other sub-

jects for over 40 years at Pampa Independent School District. She was past president of Missionary Society and Stewardess Board at St. Mark CME Church. Irene liked to sew and was an avid genealogist where she would search her family's history. Her favorite pastime was caring for her dogs, Max and Jasper.

Survivors include four nieces, Belinda Beamon and husband Lawrence, and Bette Moody and husband William, all of

Grand Rapids, Michigan, Brenda Handy of Denver, Colorado, and Beverly McNeal and husband Martin of Sacramento, California; a nephew, Bobby Boyd and wife Wilma of Grand Rapids, Michigan; Goddaughter, Bea Taylor and husband James of Pampa. She was preceded in death by her parents, Alex and Thelma Boyd; two brothers, Floyd Boyd and Alex Boyd; her husband: Alvis Sanders; and a nephew: Todd Boyd.

MEMORIALS: St.



Sanders
Mark CME Church, 406 Elm, Pampa, Texas 79065.
Sign the on-line register at www.carmichael-whitley.com

Johnny Nase Lofton, 61

Pampa— Johnny Nase Lofton, 61, died Sunday, Nov. 8, 2009, in Pampa.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2009, at Fairview Cemetery with Glen Walton, minister of Bell Avenue Church of Christ in Amarillo, officiating. Arrangements are by Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Johnny was born May 20, 1948 in Pampa and was a 1966 graduate of Pampa High School. He received a B.S. degree in petroleum engineering from Texas Tech University and was an avid Texas Tech alumni

supporter. He was a member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors include his brother, D. D. Lofton and wife Kerry of Pampa; stepfather: Richard McDonald of Amarillo; 3 nieces: Lori Gwaltney and husband Ryan of Opp, Alabama, Michelle Smith and husband Billy of Auburn, Alabama, and Lesli Beasley and husband Nathan of Fort Worth; aunt: Dorothy Gallimore of Pampa; and by several cousins. Johnny was preceded in death by his father, Nase Lofton, and his mother, Helen Lofton McDonald.

MEMORIALS: BSA Hospice, 800 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX 79065.

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

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Due to a high number of obituaries the past few days, The Pampa News has been unable to run emergency services information. We will publish those reports as space allows.

Veterans Day dinner

A free Veterans Day dinner, for all veterans and their families, will be served by VFW Post 1657 from 5 - 7 p.m. Wednesday, November 11 at the VFW Hall on Cuyler.

LAST MINUTE CLASSIFIED LINE ADS

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

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THE PAMPA Texas Social Security office will have an Open House Celebration on Thursday Nov. 12th 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm. The public is invited to come and join in the celebration.

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Friends, family, and clients are invited to attend the swearing-in of Bryan Guymon, Attorney at Law, on November 12, 2009, at 11:00 am, in the 223rd Judicial District Courtroom. Please join the Underwood Law Firm for a reception to follow in the third floor jury room.

Veterans festivities

A Veterans Parade float from Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship featured Uncle Sam - Haven Doucette, Statue of Liberty - Brooklynn Ledbetter, wounded soldier - Matthew Foreman, soldier - Pratt Doucette and Betsy Ross - Kaylee Ledbetter in last Saturday's parade.



Gov Perry announces mental health initiatives for veterans

AUSTIN — Gov. Rick Perry today announced initiatives to expand and improve mental health support programs for veterans and their families utilizing state funds marked for veterans mental health. The governor is working with the Legislature and the Health and Human Services Commission to secure an additional \$5 million to supplement the \$1.2 million from the state budget to expand mental health treatment and support programs for veterans and their families. To address the challenges faced by veterans seeking mental health treatment, the Department of State Health Services will expand their existing programs to cater to veterans' immediate needs. Family education and support programs will be modeled

after Operation Enduring Families and the Support And Family Education Program, both of which have proven successful in other parts of the country. "Our veterans have sacrificed to protect our nation," DSHS Commissioner David Lakey said. "The mental health challenges some veterans face after combat are serious, and can be life threatening. Our agency is honored to be part of an expanding effort to better meet those needs. Our veterans deserve nothing less." Gov. Perry has also directed the Texas Veterans Commission and DSHS to establish veteran-to-veteran (V2V) support groups across the state. These V2V groups help veterans by allowing them to share their experiences with fellow veterans.

"No one is better suited to give support to our veterans than other veterans," Rep. Frank Corte said. "Their unique experiences are a valuable resource which will help us in our efforts to serve the needs of those who have so willingly served us." V2V groups will focus on the Texas National Guard and will be led by veterans trained as facilitators or mental health professionals. Senate Bill 1325, by Sen. Jane Nelson and Rep. Corte, requires DSHS to create a mental health program for veterans that includes V2V groups. "Veterans struggling with the psychological wounds of war are more likely to seek assistance if that support comes from another veteran," Sen. Jane Nelson said. "Our legislation sets up a framework

for former military personnel to volunteer their time to help ease the burden of those facing emotional challenges. We have outstanding, service-minded veterans in Texas who, with the right training, can make a positive impact in the lives of their peers and help them readjust." Gov. Perry has also directed DSHS to recruit and train volunteers and practitioners to provide mental health support to veterans. DSHS will also provide funds to the Texas A&M Health Science Center for improving the TexVet Web site, <http://www.texvet.com>, which will provide veterans with screening resources and information regarding potential eligibility for federal, state and local benefits.

Mail

cont. from page 1

"It's an honor for our community to help make the holidays special for American heroes," said Jana Gregory, CEO, Eastern Texas Panhandle Chapter. "The American Red Cross serves and supports members of the military, veterans, and their families by providing emergency communications, comfort and assistance each day. The Holiday Mail for Heroes program continues the Red Cross tradition of service to the armed forces." Last year, with the help of Pitney Bowes, hundreds of volunteers screened, sorted and packaged cards

that were delivered to military bases, veteran and military hospitals across the U.S. and around the world. "The men and women who serve our country in uniform deserve our thanks every single day, and sending just one card is all it takes to make a difference in the life of one of our nation's heroes," said Jon Love, President of Pitney Bowes Government Solutions. "We are honored to participate in this important initiative again with the American Red Cross and look forward to helping the public say happy holidays and thank you."

Miami

cont. from page 1

however, sustained heavy smoke and water damage. Grantham said there were three churches in this community of 600 that could be pressed into service to house classes until the school building could be repaired. Following a conference call with local emergency workers and state fire officials Austin, Roberts County Judge Vernon Cook said the cause of the fire was still under investigation. Cook said the damage to the school would still have to be evaluated. Crews were still cleaning up the damaged areas and removed standing water

before the electricity could be turned back on at the school. "There may be some structural issues," Cook said. "It's a blessing that it wasn't worse." He said insurance investigators along with Miami officials and Pampa Fire Marshal Michael Ryan were investigating the scene of the fire late this morning. Cook praised firefighters from Miami, Canadian and Mobeetie along with Miami emergency service employees for their work. "It was a good operation," Cook said of the emergency workers' efforts.

Bank

ive, proven program like the Senior Crimestoppers program to keep such incidents from occurring." "America's servicemen and women dedicate their lives to ensuring our freedom and making our country a safer place to live. "Our nation's more than 8,000 community banks are proud to call many of these Veterans customers and serve them in cities and towns throughout Main Street America," said Gary Teagno, president and CEO of the Services Network for the Independent Community Bankers of America. "ICBA is pleased to support this important effort that will provide our Veterans with peace of mind, safety and security." The Senior Crimestoppers program is a proprietary operation of the SHCPF, a national 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which was established to provide a vehicle for banks to earn CRA credit through support of nursing home residents, who are classified as low-to-moderate income individuals. "Our veterans are clearly at risk from the ills of society. Senior Crimestoppers has a solid track record of reducing crime up to 92.61%, which is a remarkable achievement. In fact, it is difficult for any of our Home Administrators to imagine a more fundamental quality-of-life issue than the security and safety of

the Homes in which our disabled and elderly veterans live," said Mr. Phillip L. Driskill, Past President and Lifetime Member, NASVH. Senior Crimestoppers is built on a zero tolerance-to-crime platform that is vigilantly maintained for the residents, staff, management and visitors. Each resident is provided their own personal lock box to safeguard valuables. In addition, cash rewards up to \$1,000 are posted on every crime incident

that is reported to the SCS call center. Rewards are paid anonymously to tipsters having information about the crime incident reported. In addition, all facilities in the program display a membership charter and are provided regular in-service training for residents, staff and management together with employee oath sheets, yard signs and quarterly reporting of crime prevention status. Because of Happy State Bank, each veteran resi-

dent will be provided a specially designed Veterans personal lock box. In addition, SHCPF will provide each State Veterans Nursing Home with its annual Time of Your Life video exhibit for the resident's enjoyment and each facility will receive an annual cash contribution for a Wish Comes True grant to be given to select veterans.

Travis Elementary School will present a Veterans Day program at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 7 MK Brown Auditorium

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Sports

Pampa Optimist Club awarded regional tournament

The Pampa Optimist Youth Club has been awarded a 9 and 10 year old Cal Ripken Regional Tournament by the Babe Ruth League.

The Tournament will take place in late July at the POYC facilities. It will bring State Champions from Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Mississippi to compete for a slot in the Cal Ripken World Series.

"We have a bye through the District Tournament and will compete in the State Tournament, but win or lose we will have a team automatically in this Regional", said Shane Stokes, President of the Optimist Club. "The businesses of Pampa will benefit greatly by the increased revenue from the out of area teams, from restaurants to hotels to entertainment, there will be a lot of good come from this Tournament locally."

Stokes said this would not have been possible without the hard work and efforts of Kevin Davis, past President of the Club. "He has pursued this tournament for close to 3 years, and was our representative to sign the commitment papers in San Antonio, 2 weeks ago. We would not have this opportunity for our kids, or community without his efforts and determination", Stokes

said. This will be the first Regional Tournament for Pampa in close to 20 years. "It will give our kids a great opportunity at higher level competition, and a shot at advancing."

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3 p.m. Early ticket purchase is encouraged..

All tickets at the gate are \$8.

Pampa is the visiting team, seating is on the east side of the stadium.

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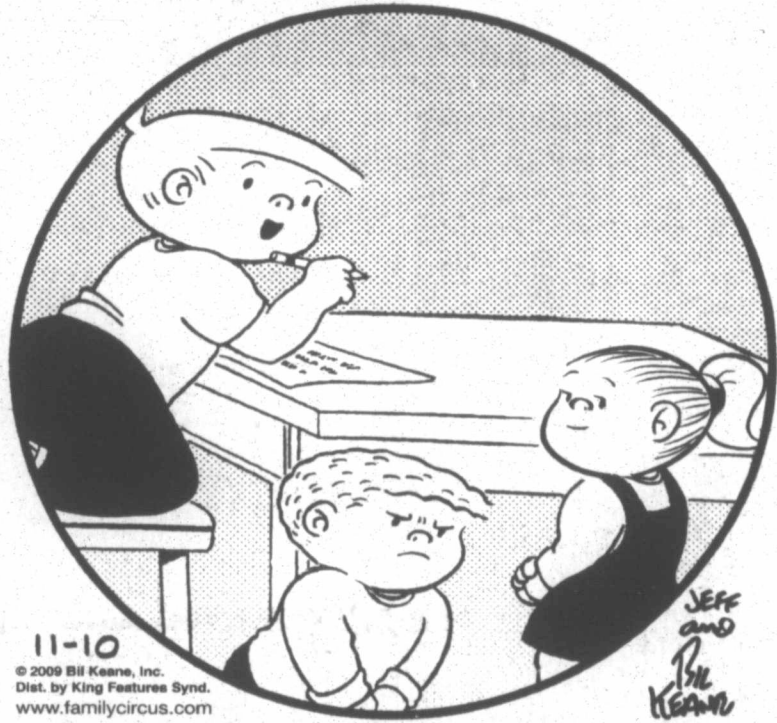
Marmaduke



"Marm! You're repeating yourself."

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By Bil Keane



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Daily Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

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| | 33 Singer Seeger |
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Yesterday's answer

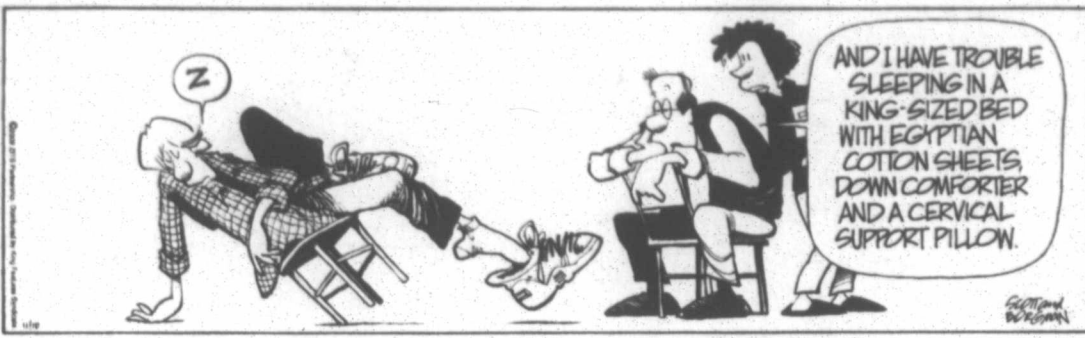
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For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



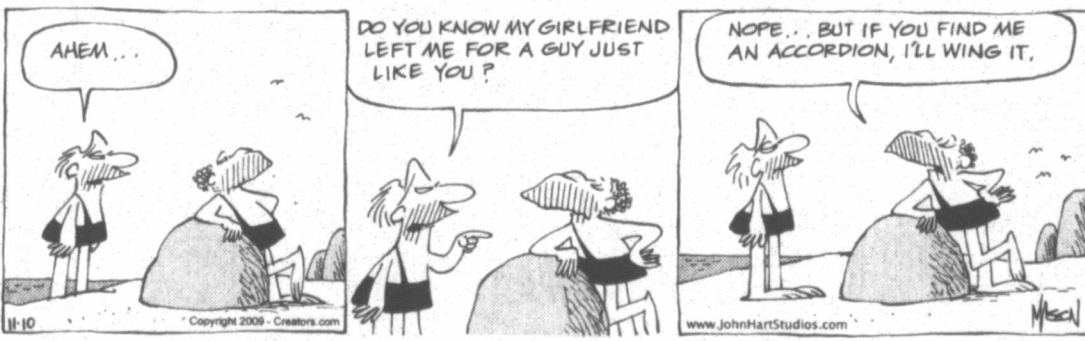
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Sports

Pampa Optimist Club awarded regional tournament

The Pampa Optimist Youth Club has been awarded a 9 and 10 year old Cal Ripken Regional Tournament by the Babe Ruth League.

The Tournament will take place in late July at the POYC facilities. It will bring State Champions from Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Mississippi to compete for a slot in the Cal Ripken World Series.

"We have a bye through the District Tournament and will compete in the State Tournament, but win or lose we will have a team automatically in this Regional", said Shane Stokes, President of the Optimist Club. "The businesses of Pampa will benefit greatly by the increased revenue from the out of area teams, from restaurants to hotels to entertainment, there will be a lot of good come from this Tournament locally."

Stokes said this would not have been possible without the hard work and efforts of Kevin Davis, past President of the Club.

"He has pursued this tournament for close to 3 years, and was our representative to sign the commitment papers in San Antonio, 2 weeks ago. We would not have this opportunity for our kids, or community without his efforts and determination", Stokes

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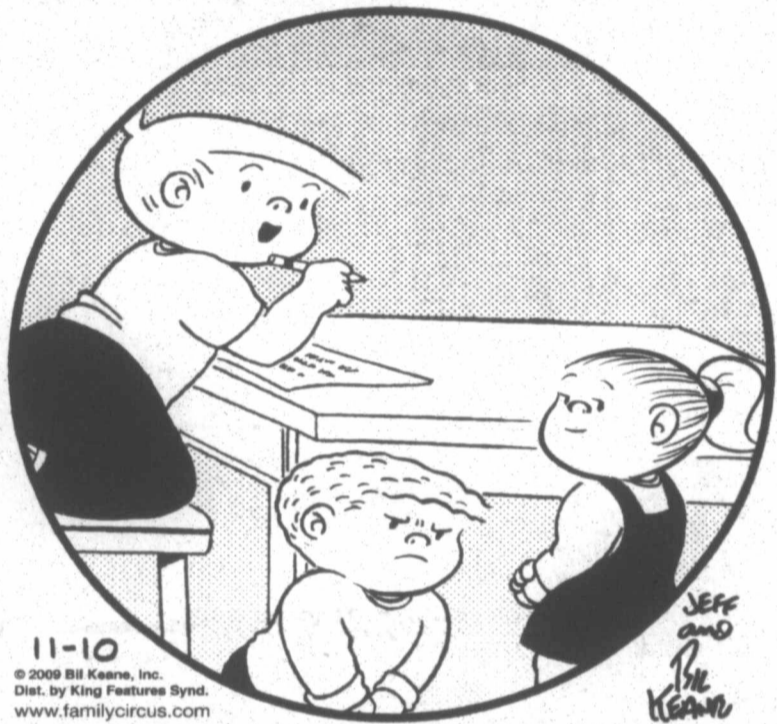
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By THOMAS JOSEPH

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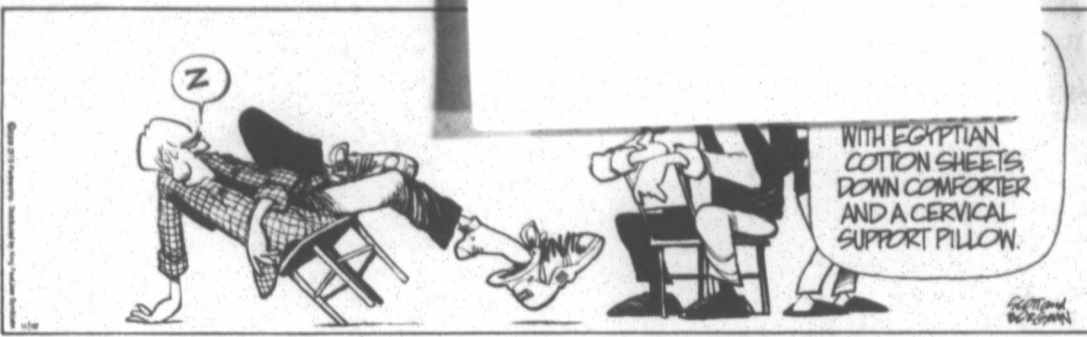
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For Better Or Worse



es Tuesday 10 de Nov. 2009

Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Flo & Friends



Swim teams finish sixth and tenth in Midland

BY ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Harvesters girls swim team won 10th and the men won sixth in the Midland Meet Saturday in Midland.

Head Coach Edward Garvin said this meet was a reality check for his team.

"There were many 5A schools, 14 teams total," Garvin said. "We swam well and had some struggles due to illnesses. We had to change quite a bit on the girls team."

Pampa won seventh in the 200 yard medley relay with a time of 2:19.05. Kendle Ramey, Jessica Gutierrez, Lindsey Phillips and Brittany Covil were the swimmers. The Harvesters were ninth in the boys 200 yard medley relay with a time of 1:58.97. Spencer Estes, Cody Hudson, Nate Towry and Ethan Addy were the swimmers.

Ramey finished 10 in the girls 200 yard freestyle with a time of two minutes and 22.43. Jessica Covil was 15th with a time of two minutes and 26.19. Brittany Covil was 20th with a time of two minutes and 39.60. Phillips was 27th with a time of two minutes and 57.68.

In the boys 200 yard freestyle, Karl Pfitzner finished 22nd with a time of two minutes and 14.83. Estes finished 23rd with a time of 2:18.80. Addy finished 25th with a time of 2:25.21. Ramon Portillo finished 27th with a time of 2:30.65.

In the girls 200 yard individual medley, Gutierrez

finished ninth with a time of 2:51.04 seconds. Kelly Stoffle won first in the boys 200 yard individual medley with a time of 2:10.38. Towry finished 13th with a time of 2:31.48.

Trecyi Carroll finished 23rd in the girls 50-yard freestyle with a time of 31.17 seconds. Janie Jackson finished 43rd with a time of 39.34 seconds. Jaden Payne finished fourth in the boys 50 yard freestyle with a time of 24.72 seconds. Travis Hinkle finished 24th with a time of 30.33 seconds. Tanner Burnett finished 37th with a time of 34.71. J.T. Brown finished 38th with a time of 35.61 seconds.

In the girls 100-yard butterfly, Jessica Covil finished 12th with a time of 1:22.11. Lindsay Cole finished 15th with a time of 1:29.40. In the boys 100 yard butterfly, Kelly Stoffle won first with a time of 57.75 seconds. Christian Hinkle finished 15th with a time of 1:08.5.

In the girls 100 yard freestyle, Gutierrez finished 17th with a time of 1:07.5. Carroll finished 23rd with a time of 1:11.11. Christina Hart was 29th with a time of 1:14.71. Jackson finished 36 with a time of 1:29.33. Lacy Crotwell was 40th with a time of 1:35.70.

In the boys 100 yard freestyle, Payne finished sixth with a time of 56.47 seconds. Hudson finished 19th with a time of 1:00.94.

In the girls 500 yard freestyle, Ramey finished eleventh with a time of 6:33.04.

Towry finished 10th with a time of 5:49.82 in the boys 500 yard freestyle. Pfitzner finished 16th with a time of 6:22.65. Portillo finished 20th with a time of 7:01.49.

Pampa finished 10th in the 200 yard freestyle relay with a time of 2:06.50. Jessica Covil, Brittany Covil, Hart and Cole were the swimmers.

In the boys 200 yard freestyle relay, Pampa finished fourth with a time of 1:39.16. Christian Hinkle Payne, Addy and Stoffle were the swimmers. Pampa had another boys team finish 19th with a time of 2:06.87. Travis Hinkle, Burnett, Brown and Pfitzner were the swimmers.

Brittany Covil finished 15th in the 100 yard backstroke with a time of 1:25.01. Hart finished 17th with a time of 1:28.26. Phillips finished 20th with a time of 1:37.66.

In the boys 100 yard backstroke, Christian Hinkle finished 12th with a time of 1:07.17. Estes finished 13th with a time of 1:09.31. Travis Hinkle finished 25th with a time of 1:32.30.

In the boys 100 yard breaststroke, Hudson finished sixth with a time of 1:10.83. Addy finished 19th with a time of 1:18.89. Brown finished 26th with a time of 1:29.74.

Pampa finished 10th in the girls 400 yard freestyle relay with a time of 4:35.61. The boys finished sixth in the 400 yard freestyle relay with a time of 3:44.73.

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My wife, "Paula," and I have a friend I'll call "Mark." I recently learned that before our wedding, Mark made a pass at Paula. (He was separated from his wife at the time.) Paula told him she wasn't interested.

I also found out that Paula kissed Mark while we were having some difficulties during the past couple of years. But when Mark and his wife worked things out, he told Paula the behavior had to end.

When I ask my wife about these things, she's honest and tells me what happened. I try to keep an open mind and get past it, but haven't been able to.

It doesn't help that Mark visits Paula at her job several times a week, and she stays there socializing with him after she's done working. I'd estimate they spend at least 10 hours a week together. I don't like to be around them anymore because they're always touching and poking each other. I actually counted 22 "touches" once when I was with them for a couple of hours.

I have told my wife I'm uncomfortable with their relationship, especially because of the past kissing business. She says I should stop being insecure and that they're just friends. I feel she is choosing their friendship over our marriage. Please help me figure out what to do. — LEFT OUT IN MAINE

DEAR LEFT OUT: Mark isn't your friend. And to say that Paula is insensitive to your feelings would be an understatement. What makes you uncomfortable is their obvious physical attraction, an example of which is the fact they can't keep their hands off each other.

Because you can't seem to get through to your wife, enlist the help of a licensed marriage

counselor. Tell Paula you're making an appointment with a therapist and invite her along. If she refuses, go without her. What's happening is unfair to you, and you need an ally.

DEAR ABBY: I am slightly overweight and want to lose 5 to 10 pounds. I admittedly have little self-control and always eat whatever is put in front of me.

My problem is my wife continues to stock cookies, ice cream and other goodies in the house. Even though I have asked her on many occasions to stop, she refuses to honor my requests. She says "the kids" shouldn't have to suffer because of my lack of self-control.

Abby, I'd like our kids to

eat better, too. What should I do? I'd hate to split up over this issue because we have preteens and everything else is going well. — FRUSTRATED IN SAN DIEGO

DEAR FRUSTRATED:

The print and television media have, for some time, been filled with stories about the importance of children learning healthy eating habits and urging parents to not only stock the fridge and pantry with healthy snacks, but also to set a good example. Your wife may have missed all of this, or she may have some ulterior motive for making sure you don't lose the weight.

Should this end an otherwise good marriage? No, but please understand that if you do not draw the line, your children may also wind up paying the price.

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BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

Daily Horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2009:

Many people support your long-term goals. In fact, so many that you might be taken back. Knowing your long-term priorities might be instrumental. The first step is knowing your goals; step two is creating them. Confusion surrounds communication around home and family. Don't allow rifts to develop. If you are single, you'll meet someone through your friends. This person could be quite exciting and fun. If you are attached, socialize with couples and people you both enjoy more often. Don't become self-absorbed as a couple. You can count on VIRGO.

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)
★★★★ Exciting defines your morning. Your sense of direction could be tested by a conversation. You need to do a reality check. Do you have all the facts? Be sensitive to the possibilities. The unexpected runs through your day as a theme. Tonight: Stick with a project.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Allow more creativity and productivity into your life. Lots of ideas keep popping up. Think positively, and you might even surprise yourself with a solution. A boss or someone you look up to could be creating a lot of confusion. Tonight: Let the fun begin.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Home is where the heart is — so much so, you might like to stay at your pad and work from home. Consider an office or home-based business. You might be much happier working from

home than you think. Someone is giving a mixed message. Tonight: At home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Communication is starred. You hear news that takes you in a new direction. A partner might not want to see the facts as they are, and therefore is creating confusion. Be realistic. Tonight: Visit with a pal.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Be aware of your financial involvements, especially if there is a hazy detail or question. Stay on top of your game; be willing to play devil's advocate and say no. A partner reacts out of the blue. Tonight: Invite a friend out for dinner.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Your positive vibe allows greater give-and-take. You are on top of your game, no matter what occurs. Someone in your daily life is tossing a haze over a situation. The unexpected occurs when dealing with others. Tonight: Whatever makes your heart and mind smile.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Take your time assessing a situation. Understand what is happening behind the scenes. You seem to know what to do in order to get the reaction you want. You easily misunderstand what someone says. This person's intentions are good. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Zero in on what you want. Realize what must happen with a child or loved one. Examine your intentions with a family member. Do you have a personal agenda here? This person cannot get your message. Look to better communication as a path to success. Tonight: Midweek break.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ All eyes look to you. Act like the boss, give orders like a boss, and you could achieve the type of success and respect you crave. The unexpected occurs at home when you least expect it. Maintain a sense of humor. Tonight: Burning the candle at both ends.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You will want to fill in where you see a lack. In some cases, this could involve learning a new skill or learning more about a skill. In any case, detach enough from yourself to see where change might be needed. Tonight: Surf the Net. Put on some music.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Relate directly to those individuals in your life who make your life work. Do nothing halfway, and you will be much happier. If you give 100 percent and you experience a backlash, you can relax, because you know that you have given your best. Tonight: Togetherness is the theme.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Others want what they want. You could be conflicted. You might misunderstand what someone else says. In any case, you discover a lot about key associates and friends. In some cases, you actually might want to run away. Tonight: First decide what you want, then look at suggestions.

BORN TODAY
Writer Kurt Vonnegut Jr. (1922), actor Jonathan Winters (1925), actress Demi Moore (1962)

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

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Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Beginner

Honoring Survivors

November 1995
In life was good. The Harvesters won their football game Thanksgiving weekend and we were heading to Wichita Falls the next Saturday. I was ready to sell tickets for the game. On Wednesday, I got a call from an Amarillo doctor's office telling me I had breast cancer and I didn't have a lot of time to waste. It is difficult to find the words to describe how I felt. How do you put that kind of fear into words?

After meeting with Dr. Boles here in Pampa the next day, and him assuring me that my life was not over, I realized that my priorities had to change. I had to be positive and strong. I had to ask the Lord to guide Mike and I in our decisions with surgery and treatment. I could not worry about the things I had no control over. I had to count on my church, my family, my friends and most of all God. That is where my strength came from—the love and support of God and the people around me. My coworkers rallied around me - Stuart Smith, Dennis Cavalier, Steve Kuhn, Tad Smith with their wives supported not only me but were there when Mike or the girls needed something. My special friends, Karen, Cile and Candy, listened to me, held my hand, cried with me and kept pushing me forward.

Throughout the process of surgery and recovery, I learned to appreciate life and the people who surrounded me. Life is precious - every minute of it. Every day is a gift from God and I had to use it to the best of my ability.

As a cancer survivor for fourteen years, I have an opportunity to give to others what I was given. I can encourage them, offer them support, and show them they have the strength to survive too. And I thank

God each day for the blessings I have been given. I learned that "God does not keep us from life's storms - He walks with us through them." He gives us friends, coworkers, family and He certainly did this for me.

Sandy Clark



November 2 - 6 the students of Pampa High School raised money for breast cancer research. Here, in their own words, are the stories of some of the survivors of breast cancer who are employed by the Pampa Independent School District.

On July 2, 2002, I discovered a large lump in my breast. This surprised me because I had had my yearly mammogram and been told everything was O.K. Jason, my older son, and I were getting ready to leave on a mission trip to Budapest on July 4, so I went to the doctor the next day to have it checked out.

The report was that it was probably cancer. On July 5, I was at an oncologist's office in Amarillo. What proceeded next were more tests, confirmation that it was an aggressive cancer, a mastectomy, chemotherapy, blood clots, ICU, and prescription chemotherapy treatment for five years.

As always, God proved faithful and provided for our family in wonderful ways. God gave me incredible peace as I went through different procedures. A verse that brought me great comfort was, "Because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken." I envisioned Jesus standing beside me and knew I was not alone. He was with me. Also different songs or verses would go through my mind, giving me strength and peace.

I felt guilty that my family had to walk through this with me. My husband and brother had both lost wives to cancer and my stepdaughter had lost her mother to cancer. I did not want them to have to go through this again. They would hear nothing of it. My family and friends were incredible. Meals, cards, visits, prayers, and phone calls are only a few of the things they did to walk with me. They were God's hands and heart in action.

My school friends were awesome. That year our school began participating in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure through the efforts of our P.E. coach, Rose Steel. A large number of people signed up for our team - The Hot Flashes. We have continued this

through the years as many school personnel, family, and friends have been diagnosed with this disease. My school, Lamar Elementary, also gave

Gloria Norris and me a "hat" party. There were hats of all kinds and the students loved them. My principal, Cay Warner, helped me tremendously by allowing me to continue working as much as possible.

Of course, there were the humorous situations. All my hair fell out because of the chemotherapy. My mother is legally blind and it was hard for her to envision me without hair. She tried to give me hair spray. Hmmm ... Do you think hair spray holds wrinkly skin? The doctor put me in the hospital because of blood clots, and I told him I couldn't possibly do that because my son, Jordan, had a football game. He did not see it the way I did. My husband, David, bought me a radio so I could listen to the game, but the reception was bad so it did not work. My mother called me long distance and put the phone next to her radio so I could listen to the game. It wasn't quite the same as being there, but it worked. The Harvesters made the playoffs that year. Jason painted Jordan's number on my bald head for the game. The outline of his number stayed on my head for several days because of sunburn. I also learned what it was like not to have any bad hair days and it didn't matter how hard the Pinhandle wind blew. The fuzz on my head wasn't going anywhere.

I am grateful for the encouragement and support that God provided in numerous ways. I am grateful for the health that I have today and for the privilege of being alive. I am grateful for any small way that I can help someone walk his/her journey.

Jan Cory, Lamar Elementary

How I Survived Breast Cancer

I was diagnosed with breast cancer in August 2002. My cancer was detected through a routine mammogram. I was surprised and could not believe that I had breast cancer. I was working at Wilson

Elementary school and it was a week before the start of school when I found out. I remember that I continued my daily routine. Even though it was a small tumor, it was an aggressive kind of cancer. I was not frightened, I just thought that I had a problem and that I needed to solve my problem.

Next, I begin seeking help for my healing process. I focused on getting healed. I trusted in God and my doctors. That's how I began to have the most wonderful experience of my life. Even though the thought of having breast cancer and chemotherapy sounded horrible and devastating, my attitude was positive and my experience was a positive one. I had never felt the closeness of the wonderful presence of God in my life as when I had to go through my breast cancer experience. That's why now I can better remember the good things that have happened to me during that time. Through my faith I always put my trust in God at all times.

God provided a great support system for me, including, my family, my church, my doctors, Harrington Cancer Center, my friends, and my coworkers at school. I am forever grateful to all these wonderful people.

As I was looking for helpful things, I heard the phrase, "You are what you eat". That phrase caught my attention and I began to watch what I was eating. Good nourishment and exercise also played an important role in my healing. Now I can say I am a survivor because of God's love, care, and the wonderful people that were a part of my life. We are only human and anything can happen to you at anytime. I have learned to live everyday as if it was my last. We have control of some things, but not others. That's why I chose to seek God's help before anything else. My life is in his hands.

I am grateful for the opportunity to write this article and I hope that it can help someone to be hopeful because it is possible to overcome what might seem like the impossible. I am so grateful that there are Breast Cancer Awareness groups that give support to women and their families.

*Raguel Navarrete
 Lamar Elementary
 Bilingual Kindergarten Teacher*

In January of 2009 I went for my first ever mammogram after finding a lump that my doctor and I felt needed to be checked out. My mammogram was scheduled at Pampa Regional Medical Center for the following week. After reviewing the results of the mammogram and ultrasound, Dr. Clark with Harrington Comprehensive Breast Cancer Center told me that he was 98% sure that it was cancer and that he thought he could get me in the next day to have a biopsy on this lump. After he made a phone call to Harrington, I was scheduled the next afternoon for the biopsy. A week later, I received a phone call confirming that the lump was indeed cancer. I was scheduled to see a surgeon to have the lump removed and ended up having surgery the last week of January. I was then scheduled to see an oncologist to determine what my options were as far as treatment. Based purely on statistics of the size of the lump (which was 1 X" long) I had a re-occurrence rate of the cancer coming back in the next 10 years of 21% if I had no treatment after surgery, 14% if we added hormone therapy and radiation and 9% if we added chemo to the treatment. My oncologist, Dr. Pruitt, then said that there was another test that they could run called an oncotype which would give us the make up of the cancer and could better help me decide which treatment option would be best for me. The result of that test told us that my cancer was hormone fed and that the bottom line was with hormone therapy and radiation alone the chance of my cancer returning in the next 10 years was 9%. I began to thank my God above that I didn't have to make the decision between radiation therapy and chemo therapy. I began my

radiation therapy the last week of March and after 35 treatments on every weekday at Harrington Cancer Center, I completed my radiation treatments - the middle of May.

Probably the hardest time for me was when I first found out. It is devastating to find out that cancer can actually happen to you ... not just to everyone else. When my husband and I headed to Amarillo for my biopsy, I told him that I wasn't scared because you just don't hear of ladies dying of breast cancer these days. I also told him that I didn't understand why it was happening to me but that I knew that God had a purpose and that I may not ever know what His purpose was but my motto in life is "for everything there is a reason" whether it be good or bad. My family has been very positive, supportive, understanding and had made every step of this journey with me. I certainly couldn't have made it thru without the prayers of my wonderful church family.

Now I am able to share my experience with ladies that have since found out that they have breast cancer and hopefully have a positive influence in their lives as well.

*Sherri Murray
 Secretary, Wilson Elementary*



After her annual mammogram in October, Ken McGuire was diagnosed this month with breast cancer. In this photo, she is surrounded by her grand nieces, nephews and "grand dogs," her favorite support system. In the back row are Lorell, Lexi, Ken, Jack and Hunter; Center is Emma; in the front row are Ethan (holding Gucci), Reagan, Luckalieg and Josh (holding BeBe). Ken had surgery Friday, November 6.



Breast Cancer, two words a person hopes they will never hear in their lifetime. God has other plans for our lives than what we think we need. He knows what we can handle and helps us through the journey.

I have always kept myself checked since the age of thirty. My birth mother was diagnosed with breast cancer when I was 6 months old and died when I was four years of age. Just knowing the family history has always kept me aware that this might happen. April the 16th of this year when I went back to

Harrington Breast Center for a recall on a mammogram the reality set in. The doctor who did the biopsy said that he was 99% sure that it was cancer and he was right. I have a wonderful husband who is a 21 year colon cancer survivor and he was my rock. Steve was with me through every step in this journey.

We elected for me to have the BRCA

genetic testing done since the family history was so strong. It was done by a blood test to see if I was a carrier of the mutated gene. The waiting time for that test to come back was probably the most anxiety that I felt through the whole journey. I am the most fortunate person on the Earth. I did not carry the mutated gene. I have such a support group that people would be envious. When I returned to Woodrow Wilson the day after the biopsy, the school library was full of teachers to have special prayer for me. My best friend for many years, Kelly McElwain, was by my side to comfort and encourage me each step. We are active members of First Baptist Church and the whole church body rallied around us for special prayer through each step of the journey. The chairman of the deacons, Matt Brock, had been in the first class that I ever taught at Woodrow Wilson and he brought deacons and friends to our house the night before my first surgery to pray for specific

fears that I was going through. My brother and sister-in-law, James and Linda, who live in Amarillo, were there for me making calls to family members. The diagnosis is so overwhelming, but with God's help, I have made the journey and I am healed. I had 35 days of radiation and I never once went to Amarillo by myself. My friends were there for me and told me that I was not going to go through this by myself. Each day at 7:45 one of my friends was at the house to take me for the treatment. I have a box that is packed full of cards that friends and family have sent to me. I had so many people bring food to the house. Woodrow Wilson has the most loving, caring people that you could ever ask for. When you have

friends like Denise Intemann, Loretta Flaherty, Teresa Dyson, Jan Cory, Kimberly Brown, Tiffany Stadler, Lynn Kuhn, Susan Alexander, Susan Stucki, Kelly McElwain, and Mark and Gail Mertz to take you 120 miles for a 10 minute treatment, you know that God had blessed you with friends.

I am so blessed to work for a school district that encouraged me to get the surgery done as quickly as possible. I had many sick days and they knew that I had given my time and it was now their time to give back to me. PISD has stood beside me and encouraged me and the kids and staff at Woodrow Wilson wears pink every Thursday in support of the cause. When a young student comes to you and says, "I'm wearing pink for you," you know that a difference will be made in the cure of cancer.

Pam Lash