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PRESTONE

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Van Engen stops in Pampa on mower trip

The

ANDREW GLOVER

The journey started with one lap around the Fontana (Calif.) Speedway a month-and-a-half ago and continued yesterday through Pampa and Wheeler.

Lucas Van Engen has traveled 1,383 miles - averaging 50-70 miles per day - on a Craftsman 54-inch Kohler Courage Riding Mower named "Cash." His 3,300 mile journey, a promotional tour for the Sears company, will end in New York City. On the way, Van Engen and his support crew (Matt and Cody) will visit some 30 Sears stores in towns large and small across America.

The brief stop yesterday was at the Pampa Sears store on Hobart.

"The front tires on the tractor aren't made for the road," Van Engen said, before he and his crew grabbed a lunch and headed down the road. "So, we've gone through six sets of tires.'

Van Engen said the tractor can cruise along at a brisk 7 to 9 miles per hour and averages 8-10 miles per gallon on a 5 1/2 gallon gas tank.

some adaptations to the tractor along the way.

MOWING ACROSS AMERICA

aglover@thepampanews.com

The crew has also had to make



in support pressure page granter

TOP: Lucas Engen, Van seen here making a lap around the speedway at Fontana, Calif., made a stop at the Pampa Sears store this week en route to New York City on Craftsman his 54-inch Kohler Courage Riding Mower. RIGHT: Van Engen's mower is peppered with signatures from people he has met on his trip.

Hurricane Alex to push rain into area

ARNIE AURELLANO editor@thepampanews.com

The Panhandle may not be directly in Hurricane Alex's path, but the storm is going to bring a weekend of wet weather to the region, according to the National Weather Service office in Amarillo.

"It's well inland and the remnants are coming to the Panhandle," said Stephen Bilodeau of the NWS. "Obviously, we're not going to get anything like what the coastal area has gotten, but (Alex) will be a factor in our local weather for the next few days.'

"We'll see a lot of rain at times, Bilodeau continued. "It will be off and on. We might see some isolated pockets of heavy rain for sure, maybe a thunderstorm or two.

Today's weather report gives a 50 percent chance of rain for both Saturday and Sunday, with highs of 80 and 82 degrees, respectively. Alex has already soaked much of WEATHER cont. on page 2

Pampa PD seeking tour bus burglars

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"We stopped in New Mexico and got a mirror so we can see behind us," Van Engen said. The mirror comes in handy to watch the traffic, particularly along major highways.

It also helps Van Engen to see the police cars, 10 of which have stopped him so far along the roadways.

"Six of them have been in Texas," he said, adding that the officers have largely been curious about what was going on. In fact, he said, "they've been great," and most of them have put their stickers on the lawn mower."

A running account of the trip, with photos, can be viewed on the crew's blog: www.craftsmanacrossamerica.com.

"People can make recommendations on where to go or who we should meet," Van Engen said. "People can also see where we've MOWER cont. on page 2

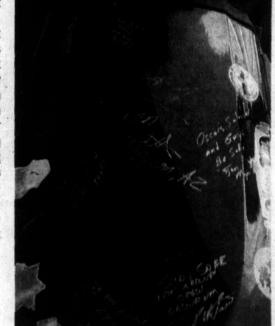
PLOWING FOR PROGRESS

Bo Orrick with Star Excavation loosens up the soil at Sumner and Harvester, the site of the new aquatic park, as construction begins this summer. It's been so dry that the ground has hardened, he said, although with rain in the forecast for the Fourth of July weekend, that may be about to change.

NO PAPER MONDAY

There will be no newspaper on Monday in observance of the Fourth of July weekend. Have a safe and happy Independence Day holiday!

TERS-REALTOR Linda Laycock Jordan O'Neal Larry Hadley Broker (806) 662-1312 (806) 670-6623 806) 662-277



staff photo by Andrew Glover

submitted photo

ARNIE AURELLANO editor@thepampanews.com

Pampa-Gray County Crime Stoppers is seeking local tips regarding the theft of some luggage from a tour bus last weekend.

On June 26, a group of out-ofstate tourists headed for Oklahoma City were spending the night at a local hotel when someone broke into their bus. Several bags and other items were taken, with a total approximate value loss of \$8,500.

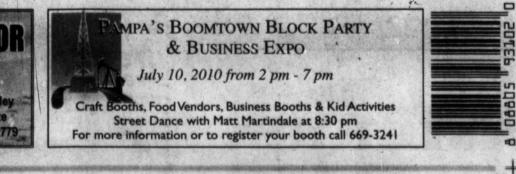
'Due to the suspects' selfish acts the out-of-state tourists will be without their luggage for the duration of their trip," said Pampa PD Crime Prevention Officer Stormy McCullar.

"We want to do everything we can to bring in whoever did this."

If you have any information about this burglary please contact Pampa/ Gray County Crime Stoppers at 806-669-2222.



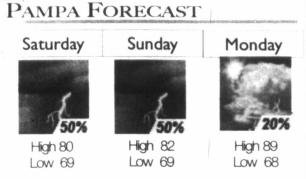
staff photo by David Bowsen



2 — Friday, July 2, 2010 — The Pampa News

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Fortherecord



Tonight: A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 66. South wind between 10 and 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50 percent.

Saturday: A chance of showers, with thunderstorms also possible after 1 p.m. Some of the storms could produce heavy rain. Cloudy, with a high near 80. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50 percent.

Saturday Night: A chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 69. South wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50 percent.

Independence Day: A chance of showers, with thunderstorms also possible after 1 p.m. Cloudy, with a high near 82. South wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

Sunday Night: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 69. South wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Monday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 89. South wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Monday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 68. South southeast wind around 10 mph.

O This information brought to you by...

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Obituaries

There are no obituaries today.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

PAMPA PD

Pampa Police The Department reported the following incidents during the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. Thursday.

Officers reported five traffic-related incidents.

Animal control officers reported 16 animal-related calls. Pampa EMT reported 10

A fire alarm was report-

Officers performed a

Officers checked an

open door in the 900 block

A threat was reported in

A vehicle was reported

A suspicious person was

reported in the 500 block

Criminal mischief was

reported in the 2800

block of North Perryton

An assault was report-

A 911 hangup call was

A domestic disturbance

reported at Buckler and

ed in the 1000 block of

the 300 block of Sunset

welfare check at Craven

ed in the 800 block of West

medical calls.

of North Lynn.

and Barnes.

Drive.

Parkway

Sirroco.

Dwight.

Jean

of North Duncan.

stolen to police.

of South Ballard.

25th

of North Wells. Officers assisted another Wednesday, June 30 agency at Campbell and

Finley. A 911 hangup call was Thursday, July 1 reported in the 2100 block Disorderly conduct was

> reported in the 1400 block of. North Hobart. Suspicious persons were reported in the 200 block

reported in the 900 block

Violations of city codes

were reported in the 700

block of North Somerville

and in the 600 block of

A suspicious person was

Disorderly conduct was

reported in the 1200 block

reported in the 1000 block

of North Hobart.

West Plains.

of Varnon.

of South Starkweathe. at Somervlle and Sumner and at Doyle and Alcock.

Criminal trespass was reported in the 700 block of East Campbell.

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart.

An assault was reported in the 1000 block of West Wilks.

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents during the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. Friday.

Officers said there were 13 traffic-related incidents and four accidents.

Animal control officers reported 11 animal-related calls. Pampa EMT reported

was reported in the 100 eight ambulance calls. The block of West Albert. Pampa Fire Department Disorderly conduct was reported one medical call.

reported in the 800 block Thursday, July 1 of North Duncan. An alarm was reported in A burglary was reported

the 1800 block of Nelson. in the 300 block of South Officers provided an

A theft was reported in the 1900 block of North Coffee. A theft was reported in

the 2800 block of North Charles A theft was reported in the 1400 block of North

Hobart. A suspicious person was reported at Browning and Lefors.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 400 block of West Browning.

A suspicious person was reported in the 700 block of East Murphy.

A suicide attempt was reported in the 1200 block of North Wells.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1100 block of North Christine.

A structure fire was reported in the 900 block of Sierra.

Violation of a city ordinance was reported in the 1000 block of South Christy. Officials shut down the water on Texas Highway 70.

A gas drive off was reported in the 1000 block of West Wilks.

Violations of city ordinances were reported in the 1200 block of North Wells and in the 1100 block of South Huff Road.

A 911 hangup call was reported in the 2500 block of North Beech.

Officers assisted a motorist at Cuyler and Foster.

A prowler was reported in the 500 block of South Barnes.

Friday, July 2

A suspicious person was reported in the 600 block of South Reid.

A suspicious person was

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 600 block of North Deane.

of North Sumner.

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 1600 block of East U.S. Highway 60. A suspicious person was

reported in the 1100 block of North Duncan.

SHERIFF

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests during the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. today. Wednesday, June 30

Walter Ray Yarbrough, 28, was arrested by deputies on a bond surrender on charges of interfering with an emergency call.

Russell Lynn Morris, 61, was arrested by deputies on charges of credit card abuse.

Thursday, July 1

Stephanie Elizabeth Castellanose, 18, was arrested by police on four capias pro fine warrants. Kimerlee Sue Smith, 49, was arrested by police on charges of public intoxication.

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests during the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. Friday. Thursday, July 1

Brennita Ballard, 39, of Clarendon, was arrested by police on charges of theft of property over \$50 but under \$500.

Randy Jean Campbell, 46, of Amarillo, was arrested by deputies on charges of possession of a

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Texas since it made landfall on Wednesday. Heavy flooding in south Texas has forced road closures in multiple communities, some of which have been pounded by more than 10 inches of rain.

While hurricanes can cause long-ranging shifts in weather patterns that can sometimes result in tornadic activity, Bilodeau said that tornadoes aren't a particular concern for the weekend.

"When it's approaching land from the ocean, usually it's right then that winds can start to swirl, but once there's landfall, those winds lose power and rotation,' Bilodeau said. "It shouldn't affect our wind activity."

Bilodeau said that the NWS will still be monitoring Alex from a precautionary standpoint.

"Just because of the fact that it is tropical weather, we're keeping an eye on it. But it's nothing we can't handle. In fact, it'll be good for the farmers. Rain is always good for the Panhandle.'

Mower

cont. from page 1

been and where we are going.

"We've had people and Sears owners sign the tractor," Van Engen said.

The stop in Pampa yesterday was day 47 of their journey. The crew plans to be in Elk City, Okla., for the July 4 weekend.

LAST MINUTE ADS

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

PAMPA NEWS will not be delivered on Monday July 5th, so that our employees can enjoy the holiday.

BRYAN'S CARPET Cleaning Service, steam clean with truck, mounted equipment, Wind-shield Chip repair, 665-2888

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE for line ads for Tuesday, July 6th, is Fri. July 2nd, 4pm. There will not be a Pampa newspaper on Monday July 5th

FREE AIR Conditioner with the Purchase of Select Furniture. See store for details. Limited quantities. Hurry In!! Texas Furniture, 1415 N. Hobart, 665-1623

LIMO SERVICE. Special Occasions. Weekly trips to Lucky Star Casino-\$50 ea., invite up to 30 people. Jerry Daniels 662-6798

TOTRC PLAYDAY July 3rd. Books open 9am., start 10am. More info. call 663-9053



A suspicious person was reported in the 1300 block of North Hobart.

A suspicious vehicle was

escort in the 600 block of North Ward.

A theft was reported in the 300 block of Jean.

reported in the 1200 block controlled substance. of North Hobart.

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 2200 block



HUNTSVILLE, Texas (AP) — Convicted killer Michael James Perry was executed Thursday evening for gunning down a nurse at her home north of Houston nine years ago and stealing her car.

Perry, 28, mouthed to relatives and friends watching through a window that he loved them.

"I want to start off to everyone involved in this atrocity, they're all forgiven by me," he said in a brief statement from the death chamber gurney.

He lifted his head from the pillow and his voice cracking, cried out: "Mom, I love you."

'I'm coming home Dad. I'm coming home," he added. His father died last month.

He never acknowledged relatives of his victim who looked through an adjacent window.

As the drugs took effect, his eyes fluttered and he hiccupped four times. A single tear ran down his right cheek, prompting quiet sobs from his mother and an aunt and friends. The victim's relatives gasped and motioned to each other.

Nine minutes later, at 6:17 p.m., he was pronounced dead, making him the 14th prisoner executed this year in Texas, the nation's most active death penalty state.

The U.S. Supreme Court, about 90 minutes before the lethal injection, rejected a last-day appeal from Perry's lawyers. They unsuccessfully argued they had new evidence showing Perry was already in jail when 50-year-old Sandra Stotler was murdered in 2001. They also contended a co-defendant and friend of Perry's killed Stotler.

Prosecutors said a "mountain of evidence" pointed to Perry - most notably that he was seen driving Stotler's stolen car and bragged about the killing before his arrest. Holding a photo of Stotler taken two days before she was murdered, her 38-year-old daughter, Lisa Balloun, said she was glad she watched Perry die.

"I needed to look for myself into his eyes," she said after the execution. "I needed to see if he was the monster I built him up to be. Apparently, he is."

Stotler's 80-year-old mother, Mary Ann Bockwich, said she is happy the tragedy is over for her family.

"We can get on with our lives and my daughter Sandra can have peace now," she said.

Perry was convicted of shooting Stotler twice in the back at her home and stealing her red Chevrolet Camaro convertible. Testimony showed Perry and a friend, Jason Burkett, then dumped her body in a lake and returned to her Lake Conroe subdivision to wait for her son, Adam.



Calvary Baptist Church 900 E. 23rd Street 806-665-0842

www.calvarypampa.com

The Pampa News — Friday, July 2, 2010 — 3

AFTERNOON*RUSH*

Payrolls drop, jobless rate falls

WASHINGTON (AP) — A weak June jobs report offered the latest evidence that the economic recovery is slowing.

Employers cut 125,000 jobs last month, the most since October, the Labor Department said Friday. The loss was driven by the end of 225,000 temporary census jobs. Businesses added a net total of 83,000 workers, the sixth straight month of private-sector job gains but not enough to speed up the recovery.

Unemployment dropped to 9.5 percent — the lowest level since July 2009 — from 9.7 percent. But the reason for the decline was more than 650,000 people gave up on their job searches and left the labor force. People who are no longer looking for work aren't counted as unemployed.

The latest figures suggest businesses are still slow to hire amid a weak economic recovery. Many economists were hoping to see more private-sector job growth, which would fuel the economy by boosting consumers' ability to spend.

"It could have been worse, but it wasn't good," said Nigel Gault, chief U.S. economist at IHS Global Insight, an economic forecasting firm. "It's adding to the evidence that growth has slowed."

Launderers nabbed north of Borger

A Department of Public Safety officer in Hutchinson County nabbed two suspects last week after a search of their vehicle yielded almost \$25,000 in laundered money.

At 10:24 p.m. last Friday, a trooper working patrol on State Hwy. 136 stopped a 2003 Ford pickup two miles north of Borger for registration and equipment violations. The driver was Elias Pando III, 24, of Oklahoma City, and his passenger was Fabian N. Uribe, 39 of Dumas. After a search was granted, the troopers found two bundles of currency totaling \$24,860. Both suspects were arrested for money laundering, a third degree felony. They were both booked into the Hutchinson County Jail.

Over \$56K of pot in Dumas bust

A weekend raid landed a man under arrest after a large amount of marijuana was found inside a Dumas residence.

At about 3:15 a.m. on Saturday, agents with Texas DPS Criminal Investigation Division arrived at the residence of Fabian Najera Uribe. The agents knocked on the door, and it was answered by Adrian R. Natividad-Sinaloa, 25, of Dumas. The agents then observed four large bundles of marijuana on the living room floor in plain view, leading to a probable cause search of the residence. The search yielded 175 lbs of marijuana, valued at \$56,875. Natividad-Sinaloa was the only occupant of the residence at the time and was arrested for possession of marijuana, a second degree felony punishable by 2-20 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Gang leader nabbed for killings

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A drug gang leader says he ordered the killing of a U.S. consulate worker because she gave visas to a rival gang in the border city of Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, federal police said Friday.

Jesus Ernesto Chavez, whose arrest was announced on Friday, leads a band of hit men for a street gang tied to



DEAR ABBY: I am 18 and sad all the time. I have never had a boyfriend, and have struggled in the past with anxiety and loneliness. It has been a rollercoaster year for me -- a tough first year of college, watching all of my friends enter meaningful relationships. All I can do is be ashamed of the fact that I'm struggling while others are thriving. I need help, but don't know where to turn. — A COMPLETE MESS IN OHIO

DEAR COMPLETE MESS: Before I start offering you advice, please let me point out that the first year of college is a huge adjustment for everyone. You're away from your usual support systems, adjusting to a new environment and new responsibilities. Instead of comparing yourself to your friends who are entering "meaningful relationships," please look around at all of the students who are single like you are. If you do, you will realize they outnumber the ones who are coupled up.

Because you are sad for extended periods, you should head over to the student health center and talk about it with a counselor. He or she will help you find ways to overcome your feelings of isolation, anxiety and depression -- but only if someone who is qualified knows you're having trouble. And please don't waste one minute being "ashamed." What you're experiencing is not uncommon.

DEAR ABBY: I am the mother of two young children. Three years ago I divorced my husband of eight years. My mother does not accept the divorce and still wiews my ex as a family member. She's planning a family reunion for my father's 80th birthday and has told me she's inviting my ex, which will be uncomfortable since I am attending the party with my boyfriend of two years.

My mother's unwillingness to accept my new boyfriend in my life is hurtful, and it is affecting my relationship with her. How can I sustain a relationship with her if she doesn't accept that I have moved on with my life? — IRRITATED IN NEW HAMP-SHIRE

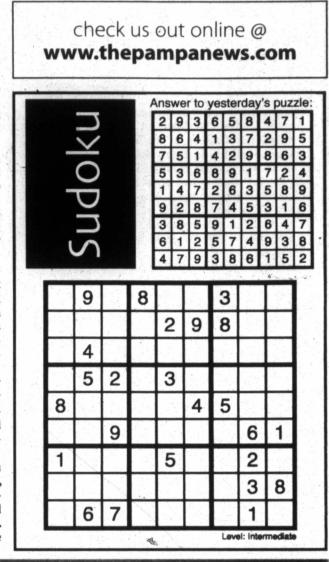
DEAR IRRITATED: You have moved on with your life. But in the eight years you were married, your mother grew attached to your former husband. I assume that you and your ex have a civil relationship, if only for the sake of your children. So go to the reunion with your boyfriend. Give

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

your parents every opportunity you can to get to know him, because the more they are exposed to him, the greater the chances of their accepting him.

P.S. Wouldn't it be lovely if your ex were to bring a date? Why not call him and plant the idea?





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Sandra

in the amaro Jason ned to Adam. the Juarez cartel, said Ramon Pequeno, the head of antinarcotics for the Federal Police.

Pequeno said Chavez ordered the March 13 attack that killed U.S. consulate employee Lesley Enriquez and her husband as they drove in the violent border city, and he said Chavez told police that Enriquez was targeted because she gave visas to a rival gang.

A U.S. Embassy official said there would no immediate comment on the allegation.

Three accused in prostitution ring

PORT ARTHUR (AP) — A man and two women who have his name tattooed on their necks have been indicted on organized crime charges after allegedly running a prostitution ring in the Port Arthur area.

A Jefferson County grand jury indicted the trio on charges after an undercover sex offense investigation. The arrests were announced Thursday.

Investigators tracked the ring in part by using coupons, allegedly advertising the operation, showing scantily clad women.

Groves City Marshal Jeff Wilmore says it was a "very flamboyant, in your face lifestyle."

Engaging in organized criminal activity is a felony and can bring a sentence of up to 20 years in prison.

Drugs seized in Carson County

At 3:07 p.m. last Sunday, a Department of Public Safety trooper on I-40 in Carson County stopped a 2010 Chevrolet passenger car for speeding a mile west of Conway.

The driver, Jennifer Coffey, 28 of Vail, Ariz., was traveling east on I-40 to Wisconsin. During the stop, the trooper could smell the odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle. A subsequent probable cause search of the vehicle revealed 17 lbs of marijuana, 155 grams of meth, 2 vials of steroids and 314 pills of assorted prescription drugs. The value of the drugs was determined to be \$23,788.

Coffey and passengers, Derek Morris, 39, of Vail, Ariz., and Scott Betterley, 35, of Tucson, Ariz., were placed under arrest and booked into the Carson County Jail. They were charged with possession of marijuana, a third degree felony, and possession of a controlled a substance, a second degree felony.

Dr Pepper in for sugary summer

NEW YORK (AP) — Dr Pepper is prescribing some sugar this summer in honor of its 125th anniversary, the latest in a series of moves by soda makers to temporarily swap out high fructose corn syrup.

The spicy soda made by Dr Pepper Snapple Group Inc. is rolling out Dr Pepper "Made With Real Sugar" this weekend through early September.

Cans and bottles will feature old logos in the company's deep red, and colorful designs with lions and bright swirls of color harkening back to the 60s. Popular phrases such as "I'm a Pepper" also appear.

as "I'm a Pepper" also appear. There are six different can designs. The company wanted to bring back the sugar version to help highlight its past, which dates to the creation of Dr Pepper by pharmacist Charles Alderton in Waco, Texas, in 1885.

Dr. Pepper declined to say if it will try out sugar in other brands such as Canada Dry, 7-Up and A&W Root Beer. July 23 • 2 PM • Located in Lubbock, TX Top-quality fitness club w/875± current members. 47,000± sq ft, like new fitness equipment, 8 indoor & outdoor tennis courts, heated pool & a casual eatery. Steakhouse restaurant next door sold separately or as a package w/the club. 877-271-7891 • www.TheFallsAuction.com - Friday, July 2, 2010 - The Pampa News

viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Friday, July 2, the 183rd day of 2010. There are 182 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 2, 1937, aviator Amelia Earhart and navigator Fred Noonan disappeared over the Pacific Ocean while attempting to make the first round-theworld flight along the equator.

On this date:

In 1776, the Continental Congress passed a resolution saying that "these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States."

In 1881, President James A. Garfield was shot by Charles J. Guiteau at the Washington railroad station; Garfield died the following September. (Guiteau was hanged in June 1882.)

In 1890, President Benjamin Harrison signed into law the Sherman Antitrust Act.

In 1917, rioting erupted in East St. Louis, Ill. as white mobs attacked black residents; nearly 50 people, most of them black, are believed to have died in the violence.

In 1926, the United States Army Air Corps was created.

In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed into law a sweeping civil rights bill passed by Congress. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter signed a procla-

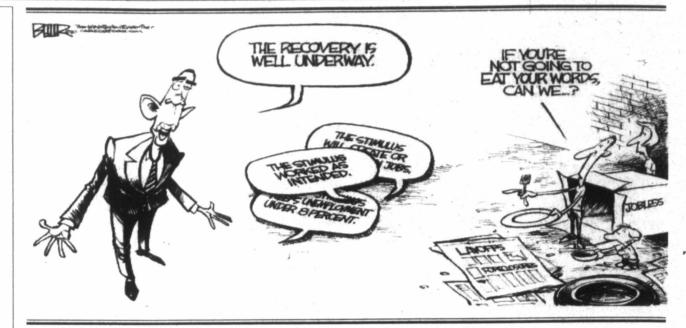
mation reviving draft registration.

Ten years ago: Opposition candidate Vicente Fox won Mexico's presidential elections, ending the 71-year reign of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI)

Five years ago: Shasta Groene, an 8-year-old girl kidnapped six weeks earlier, was rescued at a restaurant in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; the man with her, Joseph Edward Duncan III, was arrested and accused of kidnapping Shasta as well as killing members of her family. (Duncan later received three death sentences and multiple life sentences.) The marathon Live 8 concert rocked the globe and the Internet, focusing attention on African poverty.

One year ago: Thousands of U.S. Marines poured into Taliban-controlled villages in southern Afghanistan in the first major operation under President Barack Obama's strategy to stabilize the country. North Korea test-fired two short-range missiles.

Today's Birthdays: Former Philippine first lady Imelda Marcos is 81. Actor Robert Ito is 79. Former White House chief of staff John H. Sununu is 71. Writer-director-comedian Larry David is 63. Luci Baines Johnson, daughter of President Lyndon B. Johnson, is 63. Actor Saul Rubinek is 62. Rock musician Roy Bittan (Bruce Springsteen & the E Street Band) is 61. Actress-model Jerry Hall is 54. Rock musician Dave Parsons (Bush) is 45. Actress Yancy Butler is 40. Actor Owain Yeoman is 32. Race car driver Sam Hornish Jr. is 31. Singer Michelle Branch is 27. Figure skater Johnny Weir is 26. Actress-singer Ashley Tisdale is 25. Actress Lindsay Lohan is 24



Glad I made it to the Chamber conference

I know that your Fridays weren't complete without my column last week, and I apologize. It wasn't that I didn't want to-I wasn't physically able. Wednesday morning I began feeling ill and by Wednesday evening I couldn't raise my head off the pillow. The next morning I was weak as a baby, my muscles hurt, my joints ached, my throat was swollen and sore, and I was covered with spots! Dr. Philips (who found me asleep on the exam table) diagnosed it as an allergic reaction to an earlier prescription. I admit I was doubtful, but he was exactly right. Once I realized that I probably wanted to live, I was concerned that I might not be able to attend the annual state conference for chamber executives. I had already registered and reserved a room, and would be leaving on Saturday morning to drive to Nacogdoches in time for the opening gavel on Sunday afternoon.

I enjoy this conference more every year, and had really looked forward to it, but as late as Friday evening I was still debating the trip. By Saturday morning I had improved exponentially, so decided to chance it, and I'm glad I did. I learned a lot, got reacquainted with some old friends and met some new ones (one of the first people I ran in to was Shelbie Glover, daughter of the Lynn Allisons). A couple of people I met who are pretty prominent in the organization got their start here in the Panhandle-one in Perryton (RaDonna Hessel of Grapevine) and another in Dalhart (Carol Artz of Pearland).



JOE

two disappointments: one was when the CEO of 40 years, Art Roberts, announced his retirement. He has helped Pampa the WEAVER Chamber (as well as me per-

sonally) and it was a bittersweet moment. The other was that I did not get to see the Old Stone Fort, one of the oldest buildings in Texas. Actually, I saw the structure, but the building, now a museum, was "closed to arrange displays". Dang it!

I noticed recently how much construction is going on – the aquatic center, the junior high, Hampton Village, Clarendon College, a private home or two. Change is inevitable. If you don't believe it, look at some of the buildings around town that have been totally neglected-paint fades and peels. stucco falls off, bricks crumble, concrete cracks, roof beams sag. With no attention at all, they have changed-but in a very negative way. (If you need further proof that change is inevitable, get out the photos from your wedding day. Now go look in the mirror!) Positive change requires thought,

planning, investment, work, cooperation, hope, and a combination of other things-but it's worth it.

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There are a few days left to "like" Beall's on Facebook, and qualify to win a \$25 gift card. Visit their page before July 10 for details and official rules. I was in Beall's a few days ago and found some great looking island shirts at a great price. Shopping at home pays off!

Open Range Engineering Services is a full service design firm specializing in small to medium sized projects. They are located on Cuyler in the building immediately across from the Coffee-Shop-originally the Montgomery Ward building. Check out their website at www.openrangeeng. com.

If you haven't been by Pak-A-Sak...you are one of the few-that place is really busy! Have you noticed they have two car washes? One of them uses soft brushes, rather than spray. The store also has a full-service drive-up window.

At the chamber, you can get city maps, county maps, Texas

Thought for Today: "No great man lives in vain. The history of the world is but the biography of great men." - Thomas Carlyle, Scottish critic and historian (1795-1881).



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maps, Amarillo maps, RV guides. tourism information, and usually phone books. (We're currently out, but should have more soon.) We also sell souvenir "PAMPA' mugs.

Joe Weaver is the Executive Director of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce.

Summer of discontent for President Obama

President Obama has had a rather challenging start to the Summer of 2010: Gen. McChrystal's remarks to Rolling Stone magazine and the resulting shift of NATO control in Afghanistan to Gen. Petraeus; the continuation of the high-profile and painful BP oil spill; the Elena Kagan Supreme Court nomination hearings; and the move by Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer to enact strict immigration control policies within her overwhelmed state.

In it all, the president has had the opportunity to step up and re-assert himself after a bad few months for him politically. And in part, he was able to do just that. His pick of Gen. Petraeus to step in for Gen. McChrystal was the smart move from a political and military perspective; however, it opened a wound within his party that he will most assuredly face in December when the issue of our Afghanistan policy is once again debated.

Gen, Petraeus would not publicly commit to the merits of a July 2011 timeline as many Democrats have been demanding. The administration knew that the general would sail through his nomination and it could not have gone much better than it did - 99-0! However, they merely tabled the debate that will come later this year when the likes of MoveOn.Org, Senators Durbin. Schumer and Reid, and Speaker Pelosi once again make their demands for



threat of looming mid-term elections — possibly putting the president on the defensive as he turns his attention to his own re-election effort.

out the

The BP oil spill continues to weigh as an anchor that will not release itself from the hull of this administration any time soon. We are more than 70 days into the spill, and oil continues to flow into the gulf at an alarming rate - and, unfortunately for the president, this flow is continually televised in a manner that rightfully stokes the ire of Americans who cannot understand why the federal government and

BP cannot get things right. All the while, too many hard working Americans on our Gulf Coast are losing money, and potentially their professional industries, in the process.

While it appears that Elena Kagan will become the next United States Supreme Court Justice ---filling the vacancy left by retiring Justice John Paul Republican Stevens — Senators appeared to be emboldened by her lack of a judicial record and achievements and have homed in on a period during her tenure as the Dean of Harvard's prestigious law school where she refused to allow the military to recruit on campus. Such an argument, while seemingly not enough to derail her nomination, will feed the firestorm already brewing around the country around the president's patriotism and reverence to the military.

Lastly, we have seen a

comes to the out-of-control flow of illegal immigration. Today, Phoenix has a higher kidnapping rate than Kabu!, Afghanistan, and the federal government continues to do nothing about it.except threaten to take court action against the Arizona law. Americans are fed up and, rather than take action to defend our border and our nation, this administration talks about amnesty rather than security.

her own hands when it

This summer is heating up for President Obama, but not in a way he has envisioned. He has much work ahead to try and right the ship before it is his turn to ask the voters for a second term. And right now, his fate is far less certain than many pundits were predicting just last summer.

Mike Reagan, the elder son of the late President Ronalo Reagan, is spokesperson for The Reagan PAC (www.thereaganpac.com) and chairman and president of The Reagan Legacy Foundation (www.reaganlegacyfoundation.org).

governor in a western state who has taken matters into

We welcome your letters

To ensure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:

· Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.

 All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published.

- Defamatory comments will not be published.
- E-mail submissions are welcome.

• The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of The Pampa News or its staff.

The Pampa News — Friday, July 2, 2010 — 5

Finding hope for the hopeless

A lot of sadness comes to our lives. It doesn't seem like very much time goes by and we are receiving sad news. If it has and we are receiving sad news. If it has been a while since something terrible has happened in our world, I begin to brace myself for the next catastrophe. As I was thinking about this, I heard about the oil spill off the Louisiana coast. It is not if something will happen, but when. What can we do to combat the sad news that bombards our lives and robs us of hope? I believe I have the answer, and it is found in God's word. The Apostle Paul wrote in a letter he called Ephesians about the spiritual blessings we have in Christ. The first blessing according to Ephesians 1:4 is that God chose us. We are a chosen people. Think about it. When a person is chosen for anything, there is a rea-

son behind it. Why did God choose us? According to this verse, we were chosen to be holy and blameless in His sight. God chose us before the creation of the world to light up the world with His hope. We were also chosen to be adopted by His Son, Jesus Christ. Children of God! His Son, Jesus Christ. Children of God! Wow! To be adopted is to be chosen. We are chosen also to bring God pleasure as the Bible says in Ephesians 1:5. Who, me? Evidently so. We are chosen by His grace. Grace means I did not deserve it. He chose me because He wanted me. The second blessing in Ephesians 1:11 is that, even though it does not seem so some times eventhing is working out

some times, everything is working out according to God's plan. There are no surprises in God's plan. He has every-thing figured out. I do not know about

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WOIC on, but that encour the oil leak, I knew it did not catch God off guard. He was ready for it. There is RICHARD

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BARTEL ready for it. There is nothing we can do that will surprise God. I believe that is why He is always ready to forgive me. What is His plan? God is going to send His Son, Jesus, to claim His bride, the Church. All true Christians will be taken to heaven to be with God forever, and He will judge the earth, destroy it, and create a new heaven and earth for all Christians to heaven and earth for all Christians to

The third blessing is the Holy Spirit. When a person believes in Jesus as his Lord and Savior, he is given the Holy Spirit, Who guarantees his inheritance of a home in Heaven, because he is a child of God. If you are not a Christian, repent from any sinfulness, and pray to God through His Son, Jesus Christ, for His salvation from the eternal punishment of sin and hell. If you do so by faith, God will save you.

These are our spiritual blessings. They are our basis for hope in sad times.

lichard Bartel is the head pastor at Calvary Bap

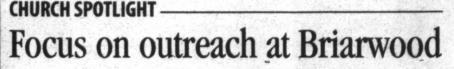
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ANDREW GLOVER aglover@thepampanews.com

Briarwood Church is reaching out to others locally and abroad.

Pastor Lynn Hancock said the church teaches English as a second language. Also, on Tuesday and Thursday nights the church hosts Kids Cafe, where the church serves a hot dinner to children and others who wouldn't have one at home. Hancock said it's a growing ministry.

"Last year we served 5,000 meals," Hancock said. "We're going to exceed that number this year. We are serving anywhere between 80-150 people on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We bus kids over around the Wilson elementary area."

The church also sponsors 14 missionaries. According to the church's web site, the missionaries are in various parts of the globe, including Singapore, Mexico, Europe, Brazil and Kenya . Hancock said they believe the church is blessed because they bless others.

"We are called to be instruments and vessels to bless others," Hancock said.

The church also reaches out to the schools, allowing them to use their facility. The boys basketball, baseball and tennis teams held their banquets at the church. Hancock said they also host other school meetings.

The youth group is currently running a fireworks stand off of Price Road North of the railroad tracks and will be selling through Sunday. The youth will also be going to Student Life Camp in Branson, Mo., from July 26-30.

On Sunday's the church has two children churches during the 10:45 service. They have Super Kidz for children in first through fifth grade and Little Lambs for preschool and kindergarten children. On Wednesday nights they have studies for those age groups as well. The children left for summer camp Thursday at Dry Gulch, USA.

Pampa Church Directory

Apostolic Church

Pampa Chapel of the Apostolic Faith 806-665-9635 711 E. Harvester

Assemblies Of God

Calvary Assembly of God Church 806-669-7207 1030 Love Street

First Assembly of God 806-665-5941

500 South Cuyler New Life Assembly of God 806-665-0804 1435 N. Sumner

Baptist

Bible Baptist Church 806-669-7830 500 East Kingsmill Avenue **Calvary Baptist Church** 806-665-0842 900 East 23rd **Central Baptist Church** 806-665-1631 513 East Francis Avenue **Cornerstone Baptist Church** (806) 669-6509 2410 W. 23rd Ave Crosspointe 665-2480 711 E. Harvester Fellowship Baptist Church 806-665-5976 622 East Francis Avenue **First Baptist Church** 806-669-1155 203 North West Street **First Free Will Baptist Church** 806-665-2545 731 Sloan Street **Grace Baptist Church** 806-669-7967 824 South Banks Street **Harvest Fellowship Church** 806-665-0999 1611 Grape Harvest Fellowship Church 806-665-4922 2100 W. Kentucky **Highland Baptist Church** 806-665-3300 1301 North Banks Street **Hobart Baptist Church** 806-669-3212 1100 Crawford Street Inglesia Bautista Emmanuel 806-665-4330 1021 S. Barnes Macedonia Baptist Church 806-665-4926 441 Elm Avenue **New Hope Baptist Church** 806-665-4044 404 Harlem Street Catholic St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church 806-665-8933 810 West 23rd Ave Christian · First Christian Church 806-669-3225 1633 North Nelson Street **Hi-Land Christian Church** 806-669-6700 1615 North Banks Street **Church of Christ Church of Christ** 806-665-0031 1342 Mary Ellen Street Church of Christ Central 665-3824 500 N. Somerville Southside Church of Christ 806-669-3912 11927 McCullough Street Kentucky Avenue Church of Christ 806-665-2572 1612 W. Kentucky Westside Church of Christ 806-665-2572 1612 W. Kentucky

- · Open Door Church of God in Christ 806-665-6132 402 Oklahoma Street
- **Priest Park Church of God** 669-6372
- 1123 Gwendolen
- Episcopal Saint Matthews Episcopal Church
- 806-665-0701
- 727 West Browning Avenue Saint Mark CME Church
- 806-665-6743

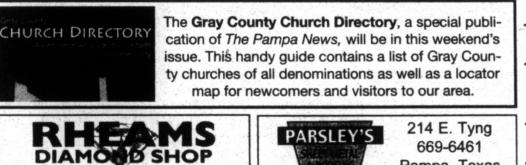
406 Elm Ave. Fellowship of Christian Ministries Trinity Fellowship Church 806-665-3255

2225 N. Hobart

Full Gospel · Briarwood Full Gospel Church 806-665-7201 1800 West Harvester Avenue

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Church of God **Church of God** 806-669-6372 1123 Gwendolyn Avenue

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Lutheran · Zion Lutheran Church 806-669-2774 1200 Duncan Street

• First United Methodist Church 806-669-7411 201 East Foster Avenue St. Paul United Methodist Church 806-665-8951 511 N. Hobart

Nazarene Church of the Nazarene 806-669-3144 500 North West Street

Pentecosta **First Pentecostal Holiness Church** 806-665-8192 1700 Alcock **Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship** 806-669-6915 1733 N. Banks **United Pentecostal Church** 806-665-3676 610 Naida

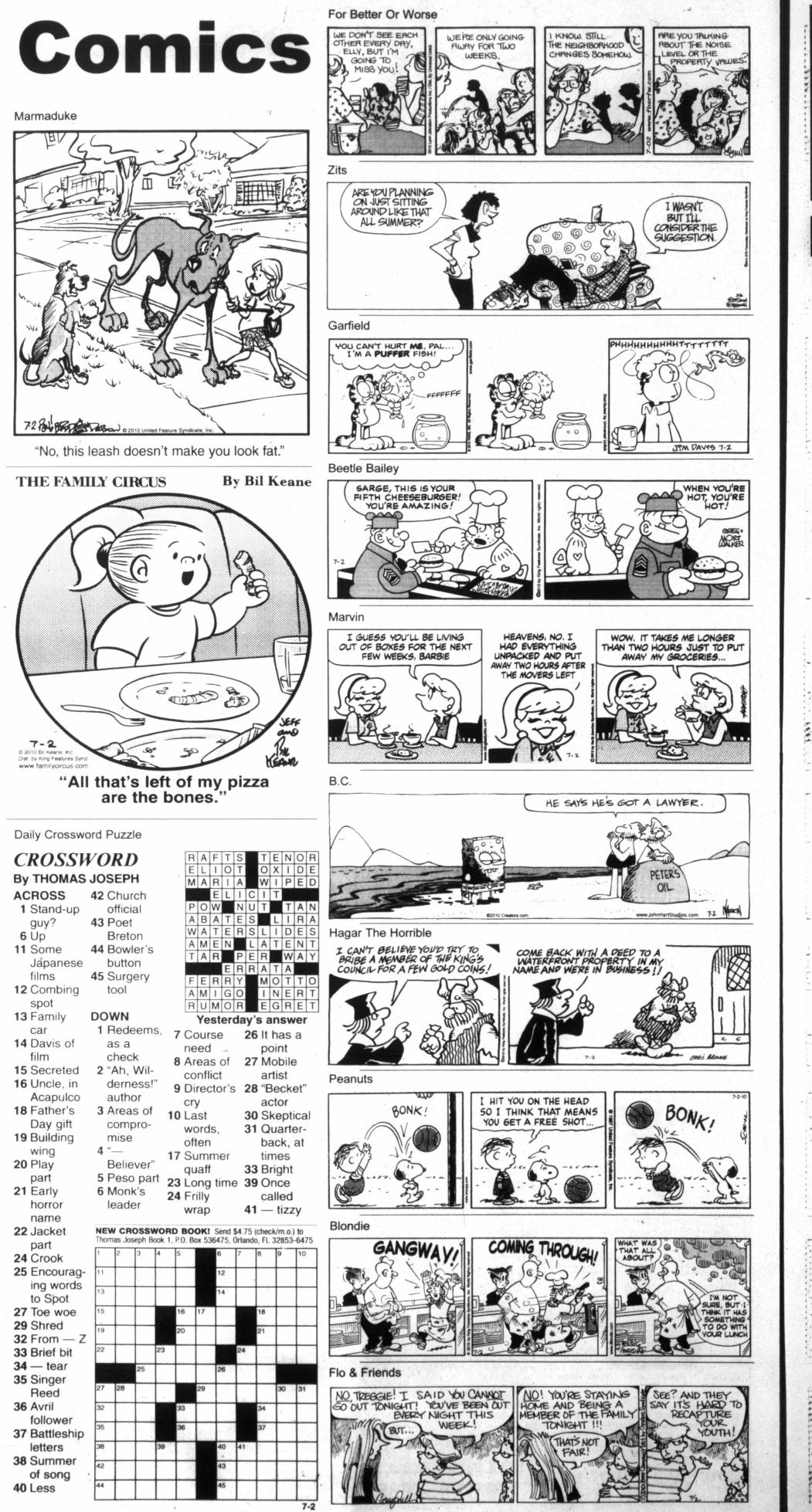
Presbyterian · First Presbyterian Church 806-665-1031 525 North Gray Street

Salvation Army **Salvation Army** 806-665-7233 701 N. Cuyler

Seventh Day Adventist Seventh Day Adventist Church 806-665-4492 421 N. Ward Street



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The Pampa News — Friday, July 2, 2010 — 7

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— TXFLIU EIOXAN	TX 79065 FIRST Baptist CDC is accepting applications for a Pre-K Teacher and	Doctors with thera- peutic exercises and physical rehab proto-	ly 3rd, 8am-2pm. 2019	olation of the law. All persons are hereby in- formed that all dwell- ings advertised are available on an equal	Starkweather. Fened yard. \$450 mo. Ready to move in! 584-1266	COUNTRY Home w acreage, NE of Pamp 3/2/2, office, bsm
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THERE IS NOTHING LOVE CANNOT FACE; THERE IS NO LIMIT TO ITS FAITH, ITS HOPE, AND ENDURANCE. — CORINTHIANS	a Floater/Sub. Exp. with children preferred. Ben- efits avail. Apply in person 203 N. West, or call 669-3529.	titude and are will- ing to learnfax	FRI & SAT 8-3PM. GAR. Sale: Sat. 8-1. Very nice clothes, fur- niture, baby items, lots	1 bdrm avail. \$495/mo. 1/2 Off 1st mo. rent w/7 mo. lease. Corp. units:	\$350 a month	30x60 barn, pens, wel 663-9385 or 663-9384 OWNER FINANCEI 3 bedroom, 2 bath.Cet tral Heat / Air. On
DAILY HOROSO	COPE		Monthly S. L. S. L	utilities, linens, basic cable. Caprock Apts. 665-7149	3 or 4 bdr. 1 bath. Verv	lots! 943 E. Franci 580-468-5870

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, July 3, 2010:

This year, you often find a shake-up on the horizon in your work and/or community. You might fear change, and might not like what appears. Surprises await those who are flexible. Your professional stature could change. If you are attached, your significant other could be changing right in front of you. You will need to grow with him or her. If you are single. this is not the year to make a commitment, though you meet potential suitors with ease. Enjoy the dating part of a relationship. Time will be your ally. PISCES helps you get past problems when you're stuck

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19) **** Your impulsiveness takes the lead. Opportunities seem to spring from those spontaneous moments. You might not want to become involved with someone who likes to wield his or her power. Walk the other way. Tonight: Whatever nakes you smile.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

*** Tune in to your inner mind, recognizing that you might want some downtime or to do something special. Perhaps you feel as if you have to explain too much. Make it a point not to do so for one day. Tonight: Strange news heads

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) **** You know where you are going and why. Find your friends, and don't feel as if you have to do anything

that you don't want to do. Networking seems more natural to you than it is to many. You cannot help but make a new friend or two. Tonight: In the middle of the action

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

*** A responsibility calls, or perhaps you might have to do some work. Though you might like to feel as free as a bird, right now it is impossible. Respond to another person's request carefully. Tonight: Adapt your plans. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

**** Reach out for someone who comes to mind. You might be startled by this person's news, as well as pleased You discover that your attitude on the home front might not be serving you at all. Tonight: Take off and try something different

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) *** Make time for a special person

in your life. You might wonder which is the best way to go. Sometimes you give too much; other times not enough. Let spontaneity energize your bond. A child or new friend could be difficult. Tonight: Take your cue from someone else. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

**** Others seem to be full of surprises, leaving you wondering. Right now, clearly, a new friend cannot be counted on. As fast as this person whirled into your life is as quickly as he or she might pop out. Tonight: Go with the moment

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) **** Whether you can accomplish everything you want depends on your focus and drive. Others easily could distract you if you let them. Don't go too far. A walk or a visit to the gym helps you

center. Tonight: A local haunt SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) **** Your spontaneous decisio could be fun. You are in touch with you desires and can express your interests

a dynamic manner. Understandin evolves as a result. Pressure build around spending. How much is to much? Tonight: Tap into your creativity

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ Communicate the bottom line a family member, roommate or pet. Yo could be startled by his or her reaction. the long run, for others to know you expectations is more important than ye realize. Tonight: Entertain at home. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

**** Having plans is all well a good, but somehow the unexpected coul wreak havoc, and you might need demonstrate your adaptability. Someo close could be quite upset about this change, and lets you know it! Tonigh Visit over drinks and munchies, maybe go to a ballgame.

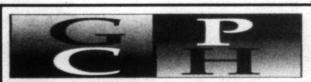
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) *** Extremes mark the day, espe cially in the financial sector. You can se why something has happened, but what is the solution? Regroup, and include a inventive friend in the conversatio Tonight: Where the gang is

BORN TODAY

Actor Justin Torkildsen (1981), author Franz Kafka (1883), actor Tom Cruis (1962)

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1&2 BR starting at heat/air, fireplace, \$750 665-4595. \$390 / mo. On-site household items, clothing, books, etc. 11950 McCullough, 8-? \$390 / mo. On-site month plus deposit. Fri. & Sat. Huge Sale!! laundry & w/d hookups Email interest to: Violin, recliners, wee- in all 2 bdr. apts. Cap- realtorjanphillips@ deaters, gas cookstove, rock Apts., 665-7149.



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3 — Friday, July 2, 2010 — The Pampa News



Lady Harvester HR leader finds spot in college lineup

ANDREW GLOVER aglover@thepampanews.com

Pampa Lady Harvester atl-time home run leader Gassy Tice has worked her way into Southeastern Oklahoma State's starting lineup.

Tice said it was very rewarding for her to earn a spot in the starting lineup last season.

"I've been working hard the last two years to play for Coach (Ron) Faubion and be on the field and perform," Tice said. "I spent a

lot of time by myself with coaches on hitting because that's the only way you're going to get on the field. I worked on being more of a contact hitter than a power hitter."

Tice said it was very challenging for her to not play as much in her freshman and sophomore year.

"I didn't understand at first," Tice said. "I understood coach's system more and knew more about the game knowledge wise. I got to learn every position from just sitting and lis-

tening to coach talk about their mistakes. Honestly I wouldn't take anything back."

In Tice's first two seasons, the team was very successful, as they won 50 games in both of those seasons. Last year the team went 26-26 and Tice said it was a rebuilding year.

"Coach had to bring in eight new people to replace six seniors," Tice said. "We only had two starters return. It was a rebuilding year. Coach has difficult plays and it was a huge

challenge and very trying. We somehow pulled out a winning record."

Tice said the big difference between high school and college softball is the type of athlete.

"In high school, you see physical athletes," Tice said. "In college, you see more mental athletes. Runners are faster. There are a lot more plays to score a run. It's more technical."

Tice said her former high school coach Bobbi Gill helped her prepare for college ball by pushing her.

"Coach Gill played for the same coach I play for in college," Tice said. "She expected great things from us. She made us play ball and made us think and play hard."

Tice played for Pampa from 2004 through 2007. Her honors included team and district MVP, all-state in her senior season, first team All-District pitcher, two-time athlete of the year, and an academic all-state selection. Gill said she was a great all around player.

"She is the all-time leader in home runs in a career and in a single season," Gill said. "She was definitely one of the players that helped to lay the foundation of the program."

Tice said she wants to finish her college career the best she can.

"I want to make all-conference either first or second team," Tice said. "At this point it doesn't matter. I want to finish with a winning season and I want my stats to be greater."

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Cassy Tice's Southeastern Oklahoma State career statistics

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	Year	G	GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	SA	SB %	AVG	
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	2009	56	4	27	13	6	2	0	0	0	3	3 ື	1.000	.222	
	2010	50	45	132	23	42	7	0	4	23	10	11	.909	.318	
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Summer City League kickball division one July 1 results

2010 Summer Kickball - Mixed D1

Goode Angus - 7 Snapping Turtles - 21 Code Black - 4 Little Rascals - 12 Snapping Turtles - 3

Year

2010

Kickin' It Old School - 0 Little Rascals - 9 Kickin' It Old School - 1 Goode Angus - 2 Code Black - 2

Have an athlete in college? Do you have an athlete that is playing college sports? *The Pampa News* would like to hear about them. E-mail Andrew Glover with contact information and pictures of your athlete. aglover@thepampanews.com

Mixed	Conf. W-L	Overall W-L
1		
Snapping Turtles	2-0	4-2
Little Rascals	1-1	4-2
Code Black	1-1	4-2

Kickin' It Old School	0-2	2-4

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