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TODAY IN SPORTS Fore

thought PHS holds annual golf camp

Page 8



Wednesday, June 8, 2011

Volume 107 • No. 54

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TxDOT: No definitive timetable for pole fix

ARNIE AURELLANO editor@thepampanews.com

Paul Braun of the Texas Department of Transportation said this morning that TxDOT is working on replacing the downed stoplight at the intersection of Hobart (Highway 70) and Alcock, although there is no hard timetable for the fix

The light's cross arm fell from the pole on Monday, disrupting traffic at the intersection. Currently, there is a four-way stop sign in the middle of the junction to control

"I talked to our sign and signal folks," Braun said. "This pole came down due to stress from the excessive winds we've had this spring.

"(The stoplights' cross arms) in the wind, they oscillate and they bounce," Braun added. "It must have just wore that cross arm out and it came down.'

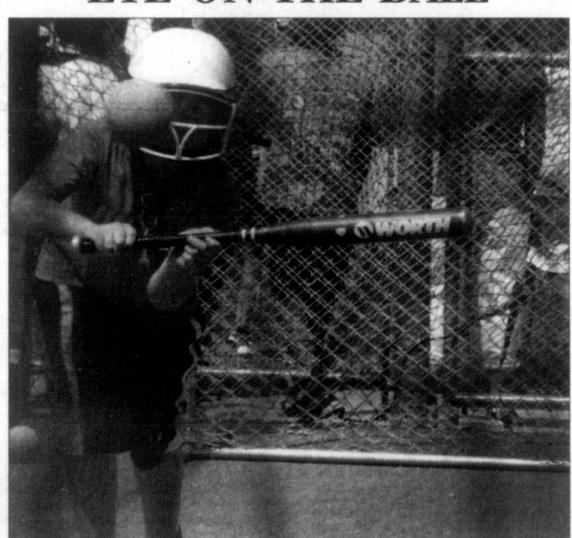
Every intersection is inspected once a year, Braun said. Officials had recently looked at the light and it showed no signs of coming down.

LIGHT cont. on page 5

This stoplight at the intersection of Hobart and Alcock was downed by high winds on Monday. Paul Braun of TxDOT said that the extent of the damage is being evaluated and the agency is working on replacing the light. >



EYE ON THE BALL



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Audrey Hopkins, 10 works on her bunting technique Monday at the Lady Harvester Softball Camp

Early voting for runoff starts Mon.

ARNIE AURELLANO editor@thepampanews.com

Election County Administrator Linda Lewis said that things are progressing nicely in preparation for the upcoming Ward 1 runoff election between candidates John Studebaker and Cleo Meaker.

"It's going well," Lewis said. "We just got our ballots in. Hopefully, we'll have all of our mail-out ballots in soon as well. We're going to be ready.'

The runoff, which became necessary because neither Studebaker nor Meaker achieved a 51 percent majority in May's general election, is over the commissioner position vacated by current mayor Brad Pingel. Studebaker took 38.84 percent of the vote, while Meaker got 31.76 percent.

Early voting for the runoff will start on Monday and will go through Tuesday, June 21 at the Gray County Courthouse. Regular voting hours will be from 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday and Wednesday, June 14-15, are designated 12-hour voting days, during which the courthouse will be open for voters from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

RUNOFF cont. on page 3

Amarillo native Christian finds home in Pampa

ARNIE AURELLANO editor@thepampanews.com

Brady Christian has found a home. Born in Amarillo, he grew up to graduate from River Road High

School there. Originally, the 28-year-old Wildcat went into the plumbing business in Amarillo, but he wanted something more.

"I grew up around law enforcement," Christian said.

His father had been in law enforcement with the Amarillo Police Department when Brady was growing up, so he decided to try law

enforcement.

"I went to Panhandle Regional Law Enforcement Academy at Amarillo College," Christian said. CHRISTIAN cont. on page 3

Brady Christian of the Gray County Sheriff's Office said he "grew up around law enforcement." >



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IN THIS ISSUE:

Viewpoints 4 Obituaries 2 Local Record...... 2 Puzzles/Dear Abby... 5 Comics 6 Weather 2 Afternoon Rush 3 Classifieds 7 Dog Talk..... 3 Sports 8







High 95 Low 66

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 66. Windy, with a south southwest wind between 15 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Low 62

Thursday: Sunny and hot, with a high near 103. Windy, with a southwest wind 15 to 25 mph becoming southeast. Winds could gust as high as 35 mph.

around 61. Windy, with a southwest wind 25 to 30 mph becoming west southwest 15 to 20 mph. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph.

Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 89. Windy, with a north northeast wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Friday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 62. Breezy, with a east northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 95 Windy, with a east northeast wind 15 to 20 mph becoming south. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 66. Windy, with a south wind around 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

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Great Graduation Gifts!

For the record

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sher- injury to a child. Office reported the following arrests over the weekend.

Friday, June 3

Courtney Honeycutt, 18, was arrested by deputies on capias pro fine warrants charging her with possession of a controlled sub-

Saturday, June 4

Corey Dean Graham, 19. of McLean, was arrested by deputies on charges of burglary of a building.

Sydney Laurel Williams, 21, of Amarillo, was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety troopers on charges of driving while intoxicated with an open container of alcohol in the vehicle

Jesus Cabrera, 21, of Oklahoma, was arrested by police on charges of public intoxication.

Kristol Rodriguez, 22, was arrested by police.

Sunday, June 5 Justin David White, 21, of Alanreed, was arrested by deputies on charges of deadly conduct and driving while intoxicated.

Sarah Elizabeth Davis, 32, of Amarillo, was ar-

rested by deputies on a warrant charging her with

Kevin Ray Kirkham Jr., 21, was arrested by police on a warrant in connection with violating of probation in a driving while intoxicated, second offense,

Brady Joe Brogdin, 40, was arrested by police on a warrant charging him with theft by check over \$20 but under \$500 charges. He was also charged with driving without a valid driver's license and failure to appear.

Monday, June 6

Jeremy Logan Wilson, 23, was arrested by police on charges of public intoxication and warrants charging him with driving without a valid license and failure to appear.

Dakota James Young, 19, was arrested by deputies on charges of public intoxication and warrants charging him with public intoxication and failure to

Connie Lynn Smith, 28, was arrested by police on warrants charging her with public intoxication and failure to appear.

Obituaries

Jerry Neal Noel, 79

Jerry Neal Noel, 79, died Saturday, June 4, 2011, in Amarillo.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, June 9, 2011, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel, with Pastor Paul Nachtigall, pastor of the Highland Baptist Church, officiating.

Burial will be at Fairview Cemetery with military honors courtesy U.S. Air Force, Altus, Okla. Arrangements are under the

direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors. Mr. Noel was born June 14, 1931, in Lefors. He was a member of the United States Air Force serving his country in Korea before his discharge in 1953. He married the former Mary Louise Morgan on July 21, 1967. He worked as an electrician at the Pantex Plant until his retirement in 1997. He and his wife also owned and oper-

ated Mary's Ceramic Shoppe in Pampa for over 30 years, and together they traveled throughout the region participating in a variety of craft shows.

He was a member of both the International Brotherhood of Electrical V'orkers Union and the Pampa VFW until his passing. Mr. Noel was an avid fisherman who loved to spend his days on the water, especially at the Noel's vacation property at Lake Fork in east Texas. He was a loving husband and an incredible father, grandfather and great-grandfather who will be greatly missed.

He was preceded in death by his wife of over 40 years, Mary Louise Noel; parents, John and Marie Noel; brothers, Roy and Jimmy Noel; and a daughter, Bobbi Noel. Survivors include his daughter, Becky Blair and husband Eddie of Pampa; stepson, Dale Morgan and wife Cathy of Amarillo; stepdaughter, Janet Wheeler and husband Roger of Santa Maria, Calif.; his sister, Dorothy Hammons of Amarillo; nine grandchildren and nine great-

The family suggests memorials to the Amarillo Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, 415 W. 8th Ave., Suite 300, Amarillo, TX 79101.

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whatley.

For the record

Cont. from Tues.

Police Department

A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 1100 block of E. Allen.

A followup investigation was reported in the 1500 block of N. Hamilton.

A 911 hangup call was reported in the 300 block of N. Christy.

An escort was provided at One Medical Plaza. A stolen vehicle was re-

ported in the 700 block of N. Banks. A followup investigation

was reported in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill. Disorderly conduct was

reported in the 1100 block of N. Sierra Dr. Found property was reported in the 1500 block of

An attempt to serve was reported in the 1300 block

of N. Garland. Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1800 block of N. Evergreen.

An attempt to serve was reported in the 700 block of N. Naida.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 100 block of

S. Starkweather. A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1300 block of N. Terrace.

A 911 hangup call was reported in the 500 block of

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1500 block

of N. Coffee. Fraud was reported in the 1100 block of Coronado Dr.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of W. Seneca Ln.

Water was shut off in the 700 block of Magnolia.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 2200 block of N. Duncan.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of W. Sierra Dr.

A motorist assist was reported at Foster and Mag-

Disorderly conduct was

reported in the 1100 block of W. Sierra Dr. An alarm was reported in

the 200 block of W. 30th.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 500 block of

Disorderly conduct was E. Frederic. reported at Louisiana and Duncan.

reported in the 300 block of A followup investigation of S. Huff Rd.

was reported in the 100 block of W. 30th.

reported in the 400 block of Hughes Disorderly conduct was Kingsmill. reported in the 1000 block

of N. Frost. A followup investigation was reported in the 200

block of W. Kingsmill. Disorderly conduct was son. reported in the 500 block of

N. Frost. Disorderly conduct was E. Murphy. reported in the 900 block of E. Francis.

reported in the 1100 block of W. Coronado Dr.

Disorderly conduct was reported at Francis and Ward.

Sunday, June 5 Disorderly conduct was

reported in the 400 block of

A suspicious person was reported at Foster and Purviance.

ported in the 400 block of

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 400 block of reported in the 1000 block N. Lefors.

A suspicious person was reported in the 1200 block of N. Hobart.

A suspicious person was reported in the 1300 block

of E. Harvester. A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1500

block of N. Coffee. A suspicious person was reported twice in the 600 block of E. Frederic.

An alarm was reported in the 2100 block of N. Sum-

An abandoned vehicle was reported in the 1600

block of Worrell. Found property was re-

N. Russell. Found property was re-

Charles. Found property was reported in the 1300 block of

N. Charles. A welfare check was re-

ported in the 800 block of N. Lefors. A suspicious person was block of N. Banks.

reported in the 700 block of

A welfare check was re-

Disorderly conduct was N. Christy. Disorderly conduct was

reported in the 1000 block Burglary of a motor vehi-

Disorderly conduct was block of E. Gordon.

Lost property was reported in the 200 block of W.

was reported twice in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill. An alarm was reported in

the 1800 block of N. Nel-Disorderly conduct was

reported in the 700 block of A followup investigation

was reported in the 200 Disorderly conduct was block of W. Kingsmill. Disorderly conduct was a.m. Tuesday. reported in the 700 block of

> E. Murphy. A service call was reported in the 200 block of W. Kingsmill.

A welfare check was reported in the 1900 block of N. Christy.

A welfare check was re- ed calls. ported at Russell and Randy Matson.

E. Darby. Disorderly conduct was

of S. Nelson. A structure fire was re-

ported in the 700 block of E. Kingsmill.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of E. Sandlewood Dr. A stolen vehicle was re-

S. Harlem Disorderly conduct was lice. reported in the 1300 block

of E Francis. A domestic disturbance was reported in the 600

block of E. Craven.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 1100 block of S. Prairie Dr.

A suspicious person was ported in the 1300 block of reported in the 300 block of

N. Hobart. A suspicious person was ported in the 1200 block of reported in the 1000 block

of N. Frost. A building check was reported in the 1200 block of

N. Hobart. Monday, June 6

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1300

Theft was reported in the ter at Kentucky and Sumner.

1900 block of N. Hobart.

A prowler was reported in the 600 block of N. Somerported in the 1500 block of

A prowler was reported in the 1300 block of S. Bar-

A prowler was reported cle was reported in the 1000 in the 2200 block of N. Christy A suspicious person was

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reported at Boyd and Wells. A prowler was reported in A followup investigation the 900 block of S. Wells. An open door was report-

ed in the 1100 block of W.

A building check was reported in the 1200 block of N. Hobart.

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

Police reported 27 trafficrelated calls and two accidents. Police also reported four abandoned vehicles. and three attempts to serve legal papers.

Animal Control Officers reported nine animal-relat-

Pampa EMS reported five ambulance calls. The Pampa Fire Department re-A missing person was reported in the 1200 block of ported two medical calls.

Monday, June 6

Officers checked on the welfare of a residentst in the 1900 block of North Hamilton and in the 1900 block of North Christy.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1900 block of North Sumner, the 200 block of North Faulkner and the 1100 block of Siported in the 500 block of erra.

Fraud was reported to po-

A suspicious person was reported at U.S. Highway 60 and Wells.

Fraud was reported in the

1100 block of North Chris-Theft was reported in the

A suspicious person was reported in the 400 block of

1000 block of South Ho-

South Pitts. Officers performed a welfare check in the 500 block of North Roberts.

to police. Lefors Volunteer EMS was placed on standby in McLean.

An assault was reported

City officials shut off wa-

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Bill addressed prison health care

AUSTIN (AP) - A House committee has approved legislation meant to cut down on soaring health care costs for prisoners in Texas.

The panel voted Tuesday for a bill that would require inmates who initiate a visit to the doctor to pay a \$100 annual fee unless they are indigent. It also requires the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to house inmates with similar health conditions in the same units to reduce costs.

The legislation requires the department to provide certain over-the-counter medications and at no cost to indigent inmates.

A budget analysis predicts the bill will save the state nearly \$10 million over the next two years.

The bill's author said he will try to amend the measure onto a Senate fiscal matters bill Thursday.

Immigration added to session

AUSTIN (AP) - Gov. Rick Perry added immigration legislation to the special session's agenda on Tuesday, including a measure that would remove local law enforcement agencies' ability to make immigration violations a lower priority.

Other items he added include how local police use the federal Secure Communities program to check people's immigration status when they are arrested, and checking an applicant's immigration status before issuing driver's licenses and personal identification certificates, according to a statement from Perry.

The governor had named similar items as emergency legislation in the regular session, but the bills failed to reach the full Senate for a vote.

Opponents say the measures will lead to racial profiling and the harassment of minorities.

Texas Democrats vehemently oppose all the measures and successfully used parliamentary procedure to stymie them until after the deadline passed for passage during the regular session. In a special session, there are fewer opportunities to slow a bill down. Republicans have a 101-49 supermajority in the House and a 19-12 majority in the Senate, making it easy for them to pass the measures.

Runoff

cont. from page 1

The actual runoff is set for Saturday, June 25, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Lovett Memorial Library.

As in the regular election, voters must present either their voter registration card or driver's license to be able to vote.

You may still be allowed to vote in the runoff even if you did not vote in the May election, Lewis said.

"If they didn't vote in the last election, as long as they made the voter registration deadline, they will still be able to vote in the runoff," Lewis said. "That's really important for people to know. Even if they didn't turn out for the last election, they're still eligible to vote in the runoff. We're encouraging people to break that tie.'

A candidate does not have to win by a 51 percent majority to be declared the winner of the runoff. However, in the event that the runoff ends in a tie, candidates will draw lots, said Lewis.

"In the meantime, we have to provide every available avenue for a good election and do that runoff almost exactly identically to that first election," she added.

"We're actually almost putting on the same exact election that we just had, as far as Pampa's concerned," she said. "Pampa is the only one that will have a runoff out of the four entities in the last election, but because of the runoff, we are going to have basically the same expense as the regular election, the same amount of

money for ballot production. "Personnel-wise, we won't have to have as many during early voting because we won't have all the entities, so personnel will be a little bit less. But we're looking at basically putting on the exact same election... It's really the same heap (of things to do). We have to program the machines, we have to program the ballots, we get our netbooks uploaded with all the

All the more important for the Pampa community to turn out and vote in the upcoming runoff.

"We're encouraging the Pampa voters to come out and help decide a winner for us," Lewis said.

Christian

cont. from page 1

Christian worked his way through the police academy, but it was several months before he found a job in law enforcement that he liked.

Initially, Christian went to Collingsworth County. He was there about four months, but, while he liked it there, he decided that it was a little too small for a career.

It was while in Collingsworth County, that Christian met Gray County Deputy Lynn Hudson, who told him of an opening in Gray County.

"Here I am," Christian said.

He's been with the Gray County Sheriff's Office for a little over two years now.

Christian has adapted to the routine, if there is such a thing in law enforcement.

"You never know what you're going to do from day to day," Christian said of his chosen career. "It's different every day.'

That appeals to him. "If it's boring," he said, "it's not going to be boring

Christian said that what really appeals to him is help-

"I enjoy helping people," he said. "When somebody gets their property stolen, you're able to return their

It's even more rewarding, Christian said, when he's able to catch someone who has assaulted another person. For right now, he said he has no plans to go anywhere

"I like the people that I work with," Christian said. "That's a good thing in this job."

He said he enjoys working in the Gray County Sheriff's Office and plans to stay a while.

Animal rescue groups succeeding



An enormous supply of wonderful dogs exists in the hundreds of shelters across the country. Beyond that, and often working in tandem, is a growing army of rescue organizations. They, along with shelters, do the work of angels.

One of the most influential rescue groups in the nation is Best Friends Animal Society. Their purpose? A better world through kindness to animals.

Their outreach? Extends far and wide through a grassroots network of hardworking people and organizations that care about the welfare of animals.

Their influence? Leading by example, they've come miles in changing the conventional notion that little could be done to reduce the gut-wrenching number of dogs and cats killed in shelters year after year.

That number when Best Friends got started in the late 80s: 17 million.

That number today: 5 million.

The euthanization of 5 million dogs and cats a year is nothing to cheer. But the steep decline is proof that single-minded purpose and widespread efforts toward education can tame even the most pervasive of epidem-

For rescue groups, the education of pet owners is key. They promote spay and neuter programs. They require an application and home check if you want to adopt one of their animals. This ensures a high probability that the match will stick. But if for whatever reason it doesn't, they ask only that you return the animal to their care.

A distinguishing feature of rescue groups is the foster system. Volunteers foster animals in their homes and, in the process, get to the know the dogs individually and in a presumably saner environment than that of a shelter. Foster parents offer a degree of insight into a dog's personality and habits that is otherwise hard to come by. Often, they're able to provide some basic obedience training, making successful adoption all the more likely.

In every sense, these groups take the word "rescue" to heart, manning the front lines during and after natural disasters like Katrina, searching abandoned and ravaged neighborhoods for starving, distressed and injured pets. They provide temporary homes for as many of these animals as possible and drive the effort to reunite them with their owners.

Equally vital is their work in the wake of manmade disasters such as puppy mill raids and dog fighting busts. Twenty-two pit bulls seized from Michael Vick were placed in special care at Best Friends Animal Sanctuary. After intense rehabilitation, some have been adopted into loving and experienced homes. Others will live out their lives at the sanctuary. They are the Vicktory Dogs.

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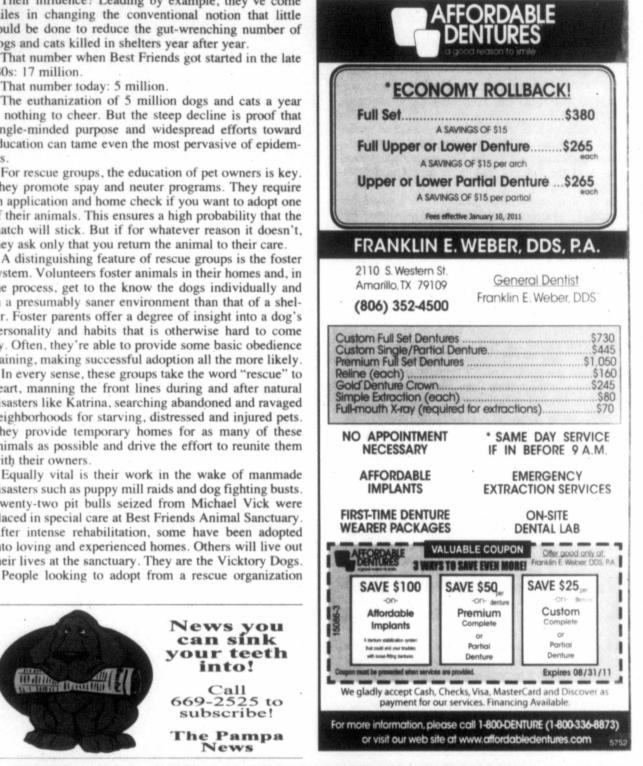
The Pampa News

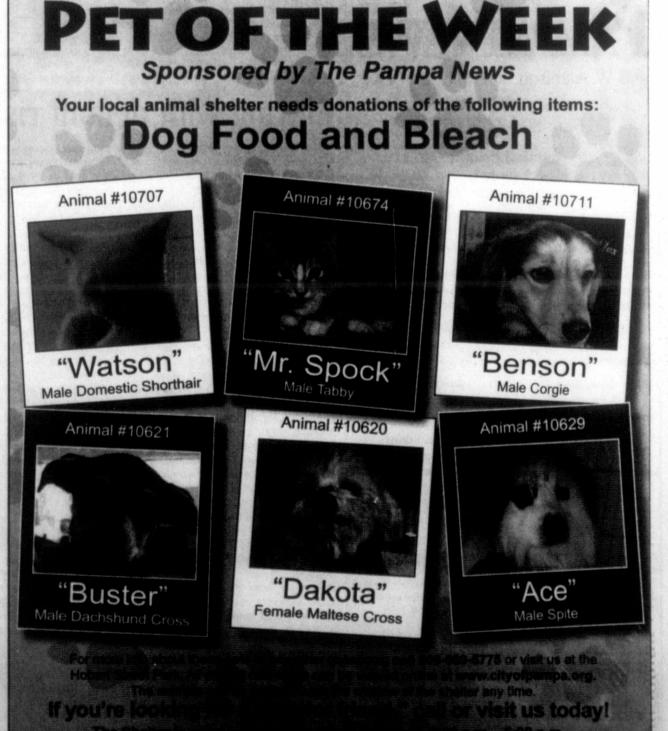
will find breed-specific rescues, area-specific rescues, groups that zero in on dogs with special medical or behavioral needs, and those that focus their efforts on small dogs, big dogs, senior citizen dogs, refugee dogs, and dogs that were scheduled for euthanasia at a shelter.

In fact, combing high-kill and overcrowded shelters is a big and commendable part of the work of rescue groups.

For more information on Best Friends Animal Society. visit www.bestfriends.org. Those looking to love a pit bull, check out Villalobos Rescue Center at www. vrcpitbill.com. The American Kennel Club offers an exhaustive list of breed-specific rescue groups at www. akc.org/breeds/rescue. Pet Finder hosts a search function to help users find a rescue group near them: www petfinder.com/shelters. You can also try netpets.com for good information.

Dog trainer Matthew "Uncle Matty" Margolis is co-author of 18 books about dogs, a behaviorist, a popular radio and television guest, and host of the PBS series "WOOF! It's a Dog's Life!"





Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, June 8, the 159th day of 2011. There are 206 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 8, 1861, voters in Tennessee approved an Ordinance of Secession passed the previous month by the state legislature.

On this date: In A.D. 632, the prophet Muhammad died in

Medina.
In 1845, Andrew Jackson, seventh president of the United States, died in Nashville, Tenn.

In 1864, Abraham Lincoln was nominated for another term as president during the National Union (Republican) Party's convention in Baltimore.

In 1905, President Theodore Roosevelt offered to act as a mediator in the Russo-Japanese War.

In 1915, Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan resigned in a disagreement with President Woodrow Wilson over U.S. handling of the sinking of the Lusitania.

In 1953, the Supreme Court ruled that restaurants in the District of Columbia could not refuse to serve blacks.

In 1966, a merger was announced between the National and American Football Leagues, to take effect in 1970.

In 1967, 34 U.S. servicemen were killed when Israel attacked the USS Liberty, a Navy intelligence-gathering ship in the Mediterranean. (Israel later said the Liberty had been mistaken for an Egyptian vessel.)

In 1978, a jury in Clark County, Nev., ruled the so-called "Mormon will," purportedly written by the late billionaire Howard Hughes, was a forgery.

Ten years ago: A knife-wielding man killed eight children at a Japanese elementary school on the outskirts of Osaka. (The killer, Mamoru Takuma, was executed in Sept. 2004.)

Five years ago: The Food and Drug Administration approved a vaccine against HPV, the virus that causes cervical cancer.

One year ago: In several high-profile Republican primaries, Meg Whitman won the nomination for California governor while Carly Fiorina got the nod to oppose three-term Democratic Sen. Barbara Boxer; in Nevada, Sharron Angle won the right to oppose Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid. (All three ended up losing their respective contests.)

Today's Birthdays: Former First Lady Barbara Bush is 86. Actor-comedian Jerry Stiller is 84. Comedian Joan Rivers is 78. Actress Millicent Martin is 77. Actor James Darren is 75. Actor Bernie Casey is 72. Singer Nancy Sinatra is 71. Singer Chuck Negron (Three Dog Night) is 69. Musician Boz Scaggs is 67. Actor Don Grady is 67. Rock musician Mick Box (Uriah Heep) is 64. Actress Sonia Braga is 61. Actress Kathy Baker is 61. Country musician Tony Rice is 60. Actor Griffin Dunne is 56. "Dilbert" creator Scott Adams is 54. Actor-director Keenen Ivory Wayans is 53. Musician Nick Rhodes (Duran Duran) is 49. Actress Julianna Margulies is 44. Actor Dan Futterman is 44. Actor David Sutcliffe is 42. Actress Kelli Williams is 41. Actor Mark Feuerstein is 40. Rapper Kanye West is 34. Actress Torrey DeVitto is 27

Thought for Today: "Don't talk about what you have done or what you are going to do." - Thomas Jefferson, third President of the United States (1743-1826)



D-Day: A name to remember

KENT CONWELL
The Port Arthur News

Within the military ranks, the terms D-Day and H-Hour are routinely used for the day and hour on which a combat attack or operation is to be initiated. They designate the day and hour of the operation when the day and hour have not yet been determined, or where secrecy is essential. The letters are derived from the words for which they stand, "D" for the day of the invasion and "H" for the hour operations actually begin.

Such protocol meant nothing to a small town in the Texas Panhandle on June 6, 1944. The day was the first Tuesday after school was turned out for the summer in Wheeler, Texas. It meant nothing to any of us. We had never heard the term 'D-Day.'

We had no idea D-Day was just a common name routinely given to the date of every planned offensive during World War II, or that it was coined in World War I before the massive U.S. attack at the Battle of Saint-Mihiel in France.

We kids in that little Texas town far up in the Panhandle knew nothing of such procedure. For us, it was summer, free, joyous summer. As every summer, the first couple weeks, we'd ride our bikes along the hard-packed roads, through the forest the community called a park, jump the creek, rumble over ancient, wood-plank bridges, and lie in the shade after dinner (our noon meal) staring at the fluffy clouds drifting by in the sky as blue as robin's egg. If you used your imagination, you could spot every animal on Noah's ark.

After all these years, my memo-

ry's sort of shaky, but it was either Wednesday or Thursday of that week that to my chagrin, I learned I had to chop corn the next couple days instead of a carefree ride around town on my battered but trusty New

Departure bicycle.

Dad was overseas, and Mom had planted five acres of corn that she planned on us selling in nearby Pampa and Shamrock to earn some extra money.

So I wasn't in a good mood, and I probably chopped more corn stalks than I did weeds until she caught me. The third time she yelled at me, she started looking around for something to switch my legs.

to switch my legs.

To my relief, Papa Conwell drove up about then. My brother, Sammy, was just a toddler, so Mom picked him up and we hurried to the end of the row to see what Papa wanted. I was hoping he wanted to take me out to his lake, but that wasn't why he

was there.

Wartime in a small town back then was much different than it would be today. Everyone was caught up in it. Radios were always turned to the news. Of course most of the news was weeks old, but for the last month or so, rumors had been thick and heavy that something big was going

to happen. All the grown-ups specu-

lated as to what might take place.

From the old boys down at the pool hall to the local preachers, everyone had different ideas about what the Allied Forces had up their sleeve. Now, let me point out here that there was never any doubt in anyone's mind that America would win the war. No matter how long it took, we would prevail. I wouldn't want to repeat in mixed company what some of those old-timers back then would

think of us today.

Anyway, back to my story.

When we reached Papa's car, he didn't even say 'hi'. All he said was 'We invaded Normandy."

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The only thing I understood in his statement was we. I wasn't really sure what invaded meant, and I certainly had no idea what a Normandy was. I guessed it was a nearby town back south around Shamrock although I'd never heard of it.

Mom was excited, and a bit frightened.

For the next few days, our little town didn't come to a standstill, but it came as close as it could and still keep functioning. Crops had to be looked after, animals tended, mail delivered, and such. Everything else was just about shut down. Folks were glued to the radio while others frequented the newspaper office.

Over the next few days, we learned more. There was happiness and joy in our little town, and unfortunately as the news came in, with it came some grief.

The Invasion of Normandy was epic, a savage battle that lasted for eleven months until May 1945 when Germany capitulated.

And then we turned the Lions of War loose on Japan.

Within a few months, it was over.
The nearest train station was in
Shamrock, sixteen miles to the south
of us. I'll never forget that day we
drove over and waited on the platform for Dad to step off the train.

The Greatest Generation had brought peace back to America and pulled a common name from military obscurity and held it up for the world to forever recognize.

Day!

PAMPA TEWS

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Playing with default risks economic disaster

The current puppet play in Congress
-- where Republicans sponsored a
bill to raise the nation's debt ceiling
only because they wanted to vote it
down -- would be funny, if only they
weren't risking economic disaster.
Unfortunately they're not joking, as
they push the country closer and
closer to a potentially ruinous default.

If the showdown over debt and spending between the House majority and the White House isn't resolved before the first week of August, the federal government will no longer be able to send out Social Security checks, run Veterans Administration hospitals, pay 'Medicare costs or operate the national park system, to mention just a few significant items. Hundreds of thousands of federal workers would be furloughed without pay, and millions of seniors would stop spending money, slamming an economy that already seems stalled.

But the consequences of that unprecedented situation would reverberate around the world, as nearly every expert — from the top bond trader, Mohamed El-Rian, to former Fed Chair Alan Greenspan — has warned.

Because both the U.S. dollar and U.S. Treasury notes are so important to world trade and investment, a default on U.S. debt could drive the global economy into a recession worse than that from which we have been slowly emerging. The same experts have warned against the Republicans' insistence on forcing more budget cuts before they will pass a higher debt ceiling.

Indeed, Greenspan is so concerned with the prospect of a debt default, either now or in the future, that he had advocated increasing taxes to the same level as before the George W. Bush tax cuts. Congress must approve a higher debt ceiling, said the conservative fiscal guru -- or risk catastrophe if the United States does not meet

its obligations. The brinksmanship that had led to the current impasse in Washington, he told CNBC, is "an extraordinarily dangerous problem for this country."

Why is it so perilous for Republicans and their tea party backers to push toward default? The rating agency Moody's, following a similar warning weeks ago from Standard & Poor's, is threatening to downgrade U.S. Treasury securities if an agreement isn't reached within the coming month. Such a historic event would be much worse than embarrassing—and the Moody's analysts now believe that a default is increasingly

likely.

"Although we fully expected political wrangling prior to an increase in the statutory debt limit," said a statement issued by the ratings firm, "the degree of entrenchment into conflicting positions has exceeded expecta-

Political polarization over the debt limit "has increased the odds of a short-lived default," it said, meaning that Moody's doesn't believe even the Republicans would permit the



JOE CONASON

default to continue. But the nasty reverberations of even a brief default could last far longer, with sharply rising interest rates, crashing stock prices, a plunging dollar, and yet another blow to America's prestige and power

and power.

Most economists also believe that the Republican

insistence on cutting spending in a slowing recovery is simply
wrong because it will reduce demand
and cost jobs. The party's congressional leaders have yet to explain
how they will boost the economy by
throwing yet more people off federal
and contractor payrolls, which will
further depress the housing market,
as well.

Remember that these are the same geniuses who opposed the auto bail-out two years ago -- which has now proved not only to have saved hundreds of thousands and perhaps millions of jobs, but at a very low cost. Somehow they seemed to believe that Europe and China should build cars while we let our auto industry wither.

While cutting spending and restraining the debt sound appealing, they must be done with great care. The Republican claim that there will be no harm in approaching default, or actually defaulting, is ridiculous to anyone who actually understands how markets work — and the damage they can sometimes wreak.

Joe Conason is a nationally-syndicated

Light

"The last time it was inspected was just a month ago, May 16," Braun said. "We inspected the light signals, we cleaned the cabinets, we cleaned and repaired the switches and stuff.

"The cross arms weren't inspected because, really, there's no way to tell if a cross arm is giving way without a magnafluxing machine to come in there and completely do it, and we don't have one of those machines. We don't do that in the district.'

Incidents such as Monday's are a rare occurrence, Braun said.

"Our signal guy said that this is only the second one he can remember in the 25 years he's been here. This does not happen very

Braun said that TxDOT now has to examine the extent of the damage before a definitive time frame for the pole's replacement can be pinned down.

"We have to order a new mast arm and probably a new pole, and specs have changed for those things. We have to get a pole that matches the footing that we have, so it has to be specially manufactured. It could take a while. You'll probably see a four-way stop there for some time... If we can use the same pole, that's a different story. But if we have to replace the pole and the mast arm, it could take a while.

"We have to go up there and see what we have to order... Once that's done, then we can figure out what we have to get from the manufacturer, order it, get it in and get it up.'



staff photo by Andrew Glover

cont. from page 1

Traffic flow at the intersection of Hobart and Alcock is currently being controlled by a four way stop and blinking

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

single male. I teach an adult Sunday school class. Two women who have out to be that someone special you joined our group have made it plain have been looking for, but if she's they would like to have a romantic relationship with me.

I'm not sure how to handle this. I'd like to meet someone special, too, but I'm not certain this is the right way. Please advise. - TROUBLED TEACHER IN THE SOUTH

ER: Tell the women you have a policy that you do not date your students. To do otherwise would be distracting and disruptive to the class. Once they have "graduated,"

dating both of them. One may turn not, you'll have saved everyone

DEAR ABBY: I am a 48-year-old there is nothing to stop you from the groom's father, "Sorry. You can sit somewhere else." Alan and I were deeply offended.

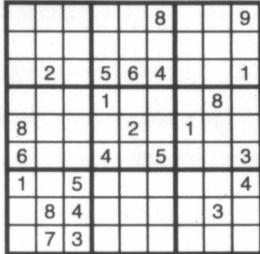
> How should we express our displeasure and prevent this from happening again when the niece marries? Do we have a right to say anything? SNUBBED IN HONOLULU

DEAR SNUBBED: Of course you do. The groom's father was extremely rude to separate you. The person who issued the wedding invitation should be informed of how offensive it was. And if it happens again, the two of you should respond, "We are a couple, and we

BANANAGRAMS

Each set of 12 tiles below contains two common six-letter words. The letters of the first six-letter word are adjacent, but not in order. Find them and rearrange them to spell a word. Cross out those letters and imagine that the six remaining letters are now consecutive. These remaining letters can now be rearranged to spell the second word.

Yesterday's Answer: TUNA, CARP, BASS



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CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

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22 Trifling 24 Hawaiian

singer 26 Stepped

down

27 Meaty dish

28 Sun

blocker

30 First American

in orbit 31 Shoe hue

32 Starry hunter

34 Earth orbiter 35 Binary

base 38 Square

dance move

41 Watch part

42 Hooded iacket

43 Days gone by 44 Scooters' kin

42

fruit 8 Band blaster

9 Take in

10 Seaman

Town Meeting

Thursday, June 9 6:30 pm

PISD Carver Center 321 W. Albert

Dr James Hall, President of Emergency Services Foundation of Texas - a 501 (c) (3) non profit, will speak about the progress to purchase Pampa Regional Medical Center. Consultant team member, Dave Clark, will summarize the purchase plan.

Signature Hospital, the current owner of Pampa Regional Medical Center, has announced plans to sell the hospital. As a non profit company currently operating the Pampa EMS, Boys Ranch EMS, and the Pampa Genesis Clinic - Emergency Services Foundation of Texas is asking for public support in making PRMC a home owned and home operated facility.

Please come and learn how you can be part of this endeavor. The floor will be open to questions and comments.

For additional information please phone Emergency Services Foundation of Texas at 665-0900 or Lesli Abbott at 663-6800.





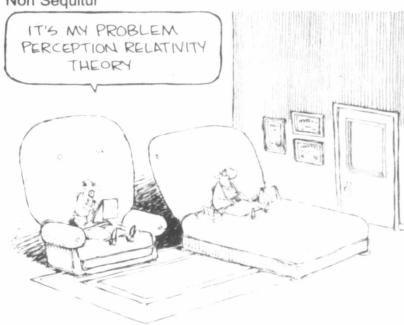
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"Hi, love! I'm afraid I'm going to have to just blow you a kiss this time."

Non Sequitur



WILEHIPK CEARTHLIPK NET GOCOMICS COM

Nest Heads





HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, June 9,2011

This year, you are able to integrate many different sides of your personality. You are anchored yet a dynamic, sage risk-taker. You also seem to be able to honor your sixth sense, knowing when something is off or needs changing. Honor your needs, and don't give away too much of your power. If you are single, you could meet someone quite fun and with whom you love to flirt. Give this bond time to develop. If you are attached, the two of you might plan a special trip or romantic event. You could be acting like newfound lovers. LIBRA remains playful and often provides another perspec-

tive 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)

★★★ Dive into your work and get as much done as humanly possible. Be open to someone's caring gesture, which could happen today or in the near future. Avoid money decisions. Schedule meetings for later today. Tonight: Defer to another per-

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Allow more creativity to come forth, especially if you're choosing a gift or planning an occasion. Expressing your feelings doesn't have to cost a fortune, which you will discover. Curb a desire to take off early, if possible. Tonight: Know when you are tired, and act accordingly

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Venus moves into your sign, adding to your allure. You seem to say the right thing at the right moment. Early today, you might want to lie low in order to center yourself. You come out of the gate a force to behold late afternoon. Tonight: Start the weekend a little early.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

*** Keep communication flowing. Use care the next few weeks if you are meeting someone new. Someone might not mean to be deceptive, but what this person projects doesn't reflect his or her core. Clear out calls and meetings in the evening. Tonight: Stay centered.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

*** Continue to rein in your spending. You discover how much another person cares by his or her gesture. You get to the bottom of a disconnect that lies between you two. Schedule meetings for as late in the day as possible. Tonight: Plan your weekend

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

*** You beam into the morning energized and full of ideas. You cruise past problems. You might wonder what is the best approach when dealing with a loved one about funds. You might be uncomfortable dealing with a friend. Tonight: Treat yourself, too.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

*** You could be feeling out of sorts and not sure of yourself. You know much more about another person's behavior than you realize. Give this person the space to discover the same. Tonight: Enjoying the moment

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

*** Focus on your goals, even just for the day. You will get a lot done, and quite quickly at that. Meetings are best held in the morning. Be an active participant in a meeting. Others need to know where you are coming from. Tonight: Get some much-

needed rest SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Take a stand with a boss early in the day. Honor what is happening, knowing you might need to take a greater role than in the past. Late today, a meeting could turn into a get-together. Be sure you have dealt with business first! Tonight: Where your friends are. (Think "weekend.")

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

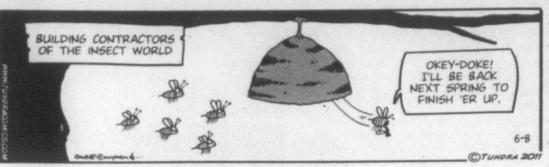
*** Your mind roams from one idea to the next. You could be overwhelmed. Understanding will evolve to a new level if you are willing to detach and not repeat your perspective. Try another person's thinking and see if it works. Tonight: Work-

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

*** You have carefully tip-toed around others and their feelings. The time has come that you might be best off just being yourself. Getting to a point of agreement might be close to impossible. Tonight: Reach out for those at a distance. Make plans.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) *** Accept what others think without agreeing or disagreeing. You might not be sure enough of any idea. Make time to have an important discussion with a trusted friend and adviser who clearly has your best interests in mind. Tonight: Chat over dinner.

Tundra



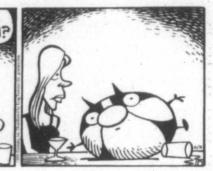
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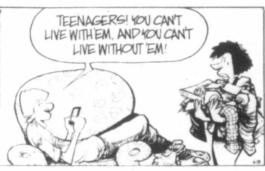
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Garfield







Beetle Bailey





Marvin

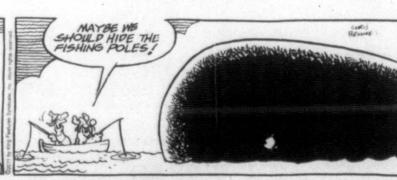






Hagar The Horrible





Peanuts





Blondie







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10 Lost/Found

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2011

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is LONGFELLOW

for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters,

apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all

CRYPTOQUOTE

VMKONHKACM UNHWFYMHUM

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UKHHNL AM OBUUMOOWBC

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: YOU HAVE TO, AT

LEAST FROM A DISTANCE, LOOK AS IF YOU

KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING, AND I CAN

K G B R A C M

hints. Each day the code letters are different.

GKIIS.

DFHUMHL IMKCM

MANAGE THAT. — STEVEN MORRISSEY

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used

21 Help Wanted

is hiring for Cooks & Dishwasher Apply in person. No phone calls!

NOTICE Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for goods.

Insurance / Marketing / **Patient Relations** team member needed in a busy Chiropractic office Put your "People Skills" work. Fax Resume to (806)665-0537

Moore County Hospital District is currently looking for motivated Paramedics with ACLS and PALS or PEPP Certification. Full time positions available Our full-time Paramedics enjoy a 2 day work week, compet itve wages and shift

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or call 806-935-8480 for more info NEED maintenance man, must have own

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Sports

Large turnout for annual June Harvester golf camp



Paul Weiser teaches Jack Studebaker, 8, the proper form in driving the ball. at the annual golf camp Monday at Hidden Hills Golf Course.

ANDREW GLOVER

Forty-six children spent two days at Hidden Hills Golf Course learning different golf technique at the annual Harvester

aglover@thepampanews.com

The campers were split into two groups. David Teichmann, course manager, taught the kids how to drive the ball. Pampa head golf coach Alan Segura worked with campers on chipping and putting the ball. Segura said these are skills the children can practice on their own.

They can come out here chip, putt and use the driving range," Segura said. David (Teichmann) got good facilities out here to work with.

Segura encouraged the golfers to practice three hours, spending an hour and a half each on the driving and putting range. Segura said he hopes to gain a couple for his program.

During the camp,

"A lot of these boys and girls play baseball and softball," Segura said. "So it's pretty

slim pickings for me. I will be lucky if I get one or two out of this bunch. One or two will help. There will be another camp July 18 Opening For Business June 11th, 2011 8:00 am

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