

Thursday, October 13, 2011

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Chamber makes final preparations for Fair

ARNIE AURELLANO editor@thepampanews.com

It's been an exhausting buildup to this weekend's Country Fair for the Chamber of Commerce and executive director Joe Weaver, but he is confident that all the hard work will have a very gratifying payoff.

"It's always an exhausting thing, but it's good in a lot of ways," Weaver said, "We have no doubt that this year's Country Fair is going to be a great event for the Chamber and the community."

Weaver and the Chamber's vol-

unteers have been busy preparing for the Oktoberfest-themed Country Fair, which is set for 6 p.m. Saturday at the M.K. Brown Civic Center. Weaver's crew has been doing everything from gathering items for the evening's live and silent auctions to organizing **FAIR** cont. on page 8

Lori Gyurnek of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce arranges some of the close to 250 items that will be up for auction at Saturday's Country Fair at M.K. Brown Civic Center. ➤



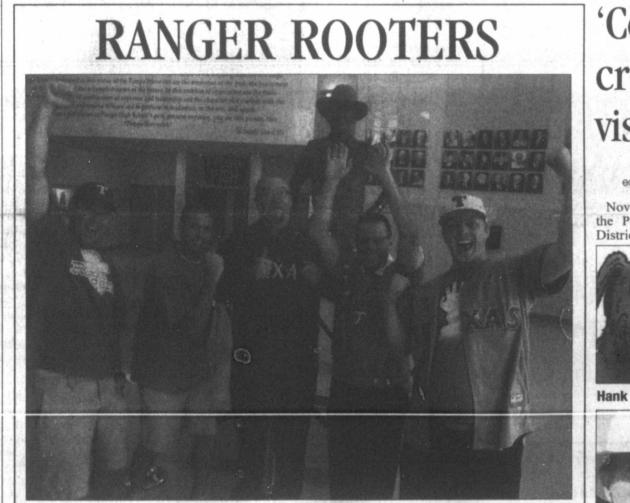
staff photo by Arnie Aurellano



Nov. 30 will be a dog's day at the Pampa Independent School District.



More specifically, a cowdog's day — "Hank the



Kaleb Sneigrooes (from left), Braydon Barker, Matt Embry, Gene Valentine and Colin West

show their pride for the Texas Rangers as their postseason run continues. Snelgrooes,

the Pampa High School head baseball coach, attended Game 2 of the American League

Championship Series in Arlington, seeing Texas' Nelson Cruz hit a walkoff grand slam to

give the Rangers a 2-0 series lead over the Detroit Tigers. The winner of the series will

face the winner of the Brewers-Cardinals matchup in the World Series.



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Cowdog in Concert" will be coming to M.K. Brown Auditorium to entertain Pampa's elementary students with a program of. songs, readings and wholesome family entertainment featuring the characters of the bestsell-"Hank ing the Cowdog"

series. The program stars John R. COWDOG cont. on page 8

CRMWA to reduce water allocations

MOLLIE BRYANT mbryant@thepampanews.com

Amid a record low inflow of water into Lake Meredith, the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority (CRMWA) Board of Directors has decided to reduce water allocations to its 11 member cities, including Pampa, for 2012.

The plan is to reduce water allocation to member cities from about 70,000 acre feet to 65,000 acre feet, and to no longer supplement well water with water from Lake Meredith, which has a current depth of about 30 feet. "That's pushing pretty hard on the well fields, but we were able to do that this year," said Kent Satterwhite, general manager and secretary-treasurer of CRMWA. "We think we'll be able to do that."

This decision comes as the CRMWA well field has eight wells down, with a current production capacity of 83 percent.

The past summer has been the worst one year drought in the state's history, and CRMWA member cities, CRMWA cont. on page 8



staff photo by Andrew Glover

staff photo by Mollie Bryant

Production continues on CRMWA's channel project, intended to direct water from the Canadian River watershed into Lake Meredith.



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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Friday	Saturday
High 75	High 78 Low 53	High 82 Law 53

Today: Sunny, with a high near 75. West northwest wind around 5 mph becoming south.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 47. South wind around 10 mph.

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 78. South southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming east.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 53. East northeast wind around 10 mph becoming south southeast.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 82. Breezy, with a south wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 53. Breezy, with a south southwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

() This information brought to you by...





Halliburton, BP cited for Gulf oil spill

NEW ORLEANS (AP) - Federal regulators on Wednesday cited oil company BP PLC and two other companies - Transocean Ltd. and Halliburton — for alleged safety and environmental violations stemming from last year's rig explosion and massive Gulf oil spill.

The companies have 60 days to appeal the citations issued by the Interior Department's Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement.

The bureau says the alleged regulatory violations could result in civil penalties once the appeal period has ended.

These initial citations are the product of a federal government probe of the Deepwater Horizon blast, which killed 11 workers and hastened the nation's worst offshore oil spill.

"To ensure the safe and environmentally responsible conduct of offshore operations, companies that violate federal regulations must be held accountable," BSEE Director Michael R. Bromwich said in a statement. "The joint investigation clearly revealed the violation of numerous federal regulations designed

to protect the integrity of offshore operations."

One of the citations accuses well owner BP, rig owner Transocean and cement contractor Halliburton of failing to operate in a "safe and workmanlike manner." Another says the companies "failed to take necessary precautions to keep the well under control at all times.

A report issued last month by the panel of government investigators says BP bears ultimate responsibility for the disaster, which spewed roughly 200 million gallons of oil into the Gulf.

BP ignored crucial warnings and made bad decisions during the cementing of the well, but Transocean and Halliburton shared some of the blame, the report concluded.

The bureau said this is the first time the Interior Department has issued citations of this kind directly to a contractor that wasn't the operator of the well.

Transocean spokesman Lou Colasuonno said the company intends to appeal the citations. BP spokesman Scott Dean said the company will respond to the bureau "in due course" once it reviews the citations. A Halliburton spokeswoman said the company reserves its right to appeal.

BP said in a statement that it has taken steps to improve safety and is implementing new, voluntary standards in the Gulf of Mexico that exceed current regulatory requirements.

"We continue to encourage other parties, including Transocean and Halliburton, to acknowledge their responsibilities in the accident, make changes to help prevent similar accidents in the future and step forward to fulfill their obligations to Gulf communities," the company said.

In a statement, Halliburton said it believes it is "fully indemnified" by BP against any loss resulting from the rig disaster, including any penalties imposed by BSEE.

"Halliburton will continue to work with BSEE and is committed to full and open cooperation with regulatory officials," the company said in a statement.

Okla. lawmakers resume tax break analysis

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Millions of dollars in state tax breaks handed to the film and railroad industries each year came under scrutiny on Wednesday by Oklahoma policymakers who are analyzing some of the hundreds of tax incentives offered by the state.

With lawmakers forced to slash budgets in recent years because of dwindling state revenues during the national recession, the Task Force for the Study of Tax Credits and Economic Incentives has been examining some of the es-

Obituaries

Georgia Dea McGuffin Holland, 86

MIAMI-Georgia Dea McGuffin Holland, 86, died October 11, 2011, Amarillo.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, October 14, 2011, First Baptist Church of Miami, with Rev. Dennis Williams, pastor, officiating. Burial will be at Miami Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Holland Pampa Mrs. Holland was born December 19, 1924, in Greer County, Okla., 30 miles northwest of Mangum, Okla., to John Henry and Dora Lea Hood McGuffin. She attended Plainview, Okla. country school and was active in basketball and softball. On her 18th birthday, she married Joe Charles (Jay) Holland on December 19, 1924, in Erick, Okla. He preceded her in death in 1998. The Holland family moved from Erick, Okla. to the Miami area in 1950 where they farmed and ranched, and later began a custom haying business. Their home was a gathering place for their children's friends. There are fond memories of their "after church" parties where hot chocolate and cake were plentiful. While living in Miami most of her life, Georgia drove a school bus for seven years, worked at Bailey Grocery store, Miami Implement, and Consolidated Utilities. She also served as a care-person for several area women. She was a member of the North Plains Club and the Red Hat Society. Georgia was a wonderful mother and grandmother who will be missed. She loved taking care of and creating memories with her grandkids. She was a member of First Baptist Church of Miami and loved serving in any way she could. She was preceded in death by her parents, John and Dora McGuffin; a daughter, Eddie O'Nell Holland Cope; a son, J Curtis Holland; a brother, V Elmer McGuffin;

tax cuts, exemptions and

deductions that are divert-

ed from the state treasury

one common thread run-

ning through the tax cred-

its we will be addressing

today, and that is that they

appear to create very few

permanent or even long-

term jobs," said state Rep.

David Dank, the co-chair-

man of the task force and a

longtime critic of many of

the tax credits offered by

the state. "Railroad con-

struction ends when the

project is finished. Film-

"There does seem to be

every year.

makers stop hiring people, timated \$5 billion in state, and their out-of-state employees go home, when the movie is done.

> "So we come back to the theme we started with so many weeks ago: Do these tax credits put Oklahomans to work?"

> Jill Simpson, the director of Oklahoma's Film and Music Office, defended Oklahoma's incentive program for filmmakers, which includes a cash rebate of up to 37 percent on expenditures made in Oklahoma on things like wages paid to state residents. construction and

wardrobe costs and rental of facilities and equipment. The expenditures are carefully monitored; and the program is capped at \$5 million annually, Simpson said.

"It's small. It's fiscally responsible. It's generating revenue," Simpson said.

Simpson said Oklahoma's rebate program pales in comparison to the kinds of rebates offered in other states, and that it mostly attracts smaller, independent films. Television and commercial productions also qualify for the rebate, which is not transferrable.

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and two sisters, Bernice Rutherford and Juinel Hamilton. Survivors include two sons, Joe Holland and wife Connie of Pampa, and Rex Holland of Happy; son-in-law, Jim Cope of Happy; six grandchildren, Joda Crow and husband Greg of Carrollton, Jeffna Cox and husband Bruce of Happy, Jason Holland and wife Jamie of Argyle, Jennifer Holland of Plano, Gary Holland and wife Kari of Denton, and Brad Holland and wife Kelly of Krum; 12 great-grandchildren.

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shop, P.O. Box 2808, Pampa, TX 79066-2808, or First Baptist Church, 201 S. Mobeetie, Miami, TX 79059. Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whatley. com.

Robey H. Mallard, Sr., 82

Robey H. Mallard, Sr., 82, died October 11, 2011, in Pampa.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Mallard was born September 6, 1929, in Rotan. He had been a resident of Pampa since 1958. He married Lucille Nash on December 25, 1959, in Wellington. Robey retired from the Texas Department of Transportation in 1996.



Mallard

He attended Macedonia Baptist Church and was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force.

Survivors include his wife, Lucille Mallard of the home; his son, Rev. Marvin McPherson Mallard of Greenville; eight grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren; and a sister, Nicey Mathis of Pampa. He was preceded in death by his parents, Horace and DeAnna Mallard; two sons, Robey Mallard, Jr., and Raymond Mallard; a grandson, B.Y. Young; and a brother, Ivy Mallard.

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whatley. com.

24 hour period ending reported at the 4000 block Wednesday, October 12 at of North Bad Cattle Company

Pampa PD reported 16 traffic related incidents. Animal Control agents of South Barnes.

responded to 12 animal related incidents. Pampa EMS and the North Hobart. Pampa Fire Department responded to five medical

related calls. **Tuesday, October 11**

reported at the 700 block of of North Sumner. East 14th.

the 600 block of North Ju- Bradley. piter.

800 block of West Francis. of West Browning. Disorderly conduct was

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 900 block Police investigated an

alarm at the 1200 block of

A missing person was reported at the 800 block of South Banks.

A domestic disturbance Disorderly conduct was occurred at the 300 block

An accident occurred A burglary occurred at at the 800 block of North

A domestic disturbance A threat occurred at the occurred at the 400 block A suspicious hicle was

reported at the 500 block of West Brown.

Wednesday, October 12 Disorderly conduct occurred at the 1000 block of South Nelson and the 1200 block of East Foster. A burglary of a motor ve-

hicle occurred at the 1100 block of Sirroco.

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrest for the 24 hour period ending Wednesday, October 12.

Tuesday, October 11 Scotty Calvillo, 17, was arrested by deputies for the burglary of a motor vehicle.

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Rain falls in large swath of TX

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) - Rain that fell across a large swath of parched Texas the past week has snapped a seven-month streak of precipitation amounts that were among each month's 10 driest on record.

National Weather Service meteorologist Victor Murphy said Wednesday he estimated Texas got an average of about 2 inches of rain in October, about half an inch shy of the normal average for the entire month. Those 2 inches are just less than a quarter of the

statewide average for the year - 8.59 inches. The rainfall average in the first nine months was about 25 percent less than the same period in 1956, the previous driest year when 11.23 inches fell.

Rainfall in each month from March through September was among the 10 driest for that month dating to 1895.

Killer's death sentence upheld

HOUSTON (AP) - The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals has upheld the death sentence of man convicted of fatally stabbing a disabled woman at her San Antonio home after she refused to give him and his Rights Act, partly reflect girlfriend money to support their \$1,000-a-day drug habit.

Armando Leza was condemned for the 2007 slaying minorities who are now of a neighbor, 57-year-old Caryl Jean Allen, who had helped them in the past. Evidence showed Leza and girlfriend Dolores Trevino sold items taken from the woman's apartment for cash.

Leza's lawyers, in the appeal rejected Wednesday, raised 14 issues from his Bexar County trial, including an argument that his waiver of Miranda rights wasn't voluntary or intelligent because he was on heroin at IDs at polls and increased the time. Trevino testified against her boyfriend in a anti-immigration sentiplea deal.

Cop killer loses appeal

HOUSTON (AP) - A federal appeals court has rejected an appeal from a 34-year-old man sent to material in urban areas of death row for killing a former South Texas sheriff's deputy during a robbery of an amusement center in Victoria.

John Quintanilla faces execution for gunning down and Florida. For the first 60-year-old Victor Billings in November 2002. Evidence showed the former Calhoun County sheriff's deputy was trying to protect his wife and was shot three times when he grabbed the barrel of Quintanilla's rifie.

The convicted killer's lawyers argued to the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals his confession improperly was obtained by police and as a result should not have been admitted into evidence at his trial.

The New Orleans-based appeals court denied the appeal in a ruling released late Tuesday.

Perry: Strengthen border

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) - Texas Gov. Rick Perry says an Iranian-backed terror plot coordinated in Mexico proves the U.S. must secure its southern border.

The Republican presidential hopeful used Tuesday's announcement that Iranian forces had sought to assassinate the Saudi ambassador to the U.S. to call for more border troops, improved fencing along the Mexican border and increased border patrols including the use of predator drone surveillance.

Bilingual voting ballots ordered in 25 states

WASHINGTON (AP) -In the run-up to the 2012 elections, the federal government is ordering that 248 counties and other political jurisdictions provide bilingual ballots to Hispanics and other minorities who speak little or no English.

That number is down from a decade ago following the 2000 census, which covered 296 counties in 30 states. In all, more than in 18 jurisdictions must now provide foreign-language assistance in preelection publicity, voter registration, early voting and absentee applications as well as Election Day balloting.

The latest requirements, mandated under the Voting second and third generations of racial and ethnic reporting higher levels of proficiency in English than their parents. Still, analysts cite a greater potential for resistance from localities that face tighter budgets, new laws requiring voter ment

Effective this week, Hispanics who don't speak English will be entitled to Spanish-language election political battleground states including Pennsylvania, Virginia, Wisconsin, Utah time, people from India will get election material in their native language, in voting precincts in Los Angeles, Chicago and New York, due to their fast population growth.

More American Indian tribal languages will be made available in many parts of Alaska, Arizona and Mississippi, while Vietnamese and Taiwanese will get their own voting assistance in several new areas, including parts of Washington state, Texas, Massachusetts and California.

"We would like to be in a society where everyone has equal opportunities to vote, but that's not the reality we're living in today, said James Thomas Tucker, a former Justice Department attorney who is now a voting rights lawyer in Las Vegas. Tucker said the law has been key in the election of new Hispanic and Asian officials in many places, even as he noted that a vocal English-only language movement and new budget constraints on local governments could stir fresh tensions. "Some jurisdictions will see pushback," he said. The Voting Rights Act provision, first approved by Congress in 1975, requires states, counties and political subdivisions to supply versions of ballots and election materials in other languages if

a Latino, Asian-American, American Indian or Alaskan minority group makes up more than 5 percent of the voting-age population or at least 10,000 citizens.

The minorities must be unable to speak or understand English well enough to vote in elections, a proficiency level determined by those who indicate in census surveys that they don't speak English "very well." The minority group also should have literacy rates ranking below the national average.

In all, 248 counties and other political divisions must provide election materials involving 68 covered languages, according to the list released Wednesday by the Census Bureau. The agency puts together the list based on its review of survey data on minority population growth, educational attainment and English proficiency.

in the total number since the bureau began compiling the list with Englishproficiency criteria in the 980s

than 1 in 18.

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It was the first decline

asked the Census Bureau to delay release of the list to reexamine its criteria, given state and local budget crises they said will make it harder for localities to comply. They cited the case of Cuyahoga County in Ohio, which spent more than \$100,000 on bilingual ballots in a light-turnout

primary election last May. Localities have struggled in the past with compliance, since they are left to figure out the best ways to provide bilingual materials at a reasonable cost. Shortly before the Voting Rights provisions were reauthorized in 2006, a Pew Center on the States study found that elected officials often would "ponder the impact of implementing - or in some cases sidestepping -the federal requirements."

It cited some confusion over how many bilingual ballots to print, or what types of election materials are covered. But Pew and separate government studies said compliance often. could be achieved at lower cost by hiring bilingual poll workers who perform dual functions of translation and other Election Day tasks, as well as printing sample bilingual ballots that minorities could refer to.

The continuing demands for bilingual balloting come at a time when residents in the U.S. are increasingly likely to speak a language other than English at home, but who are also now more likely have lived in the U.S. for at least a decade and be naturalized citizens who vote.

Eugene Lee, voting rights project director at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center, noted the significant impact that language assistance has had on voting and the election of Asian-Americans in places such as California. In Los Angeles County, officials will now be required to offer materials in Cambodian and Asian Indian languages in addition to Spanish, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean and Vietnamese.



Perry opened his speech to Republican activists in Indianapolis on Wednesday with a call for increased border security. He called allegations that Iranian forces sought to kill the Saudi diplomat "business as usual" for Iran.

Federal officials said Tuesday that one of the suspects coordinated with a man he thought to be a member of a Mexican drug cartel. He was a federal informant.

Woman helped to leave sect

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - Utah authorities have helped a woman leave a polygamous community run by ailed sect leader Warren Jeffs along the Utah-Arizona border.

Media outlets including the Salt Lake Tribune report the woman was one of his nearly 70 wives. The Associated Press could not immediately confirm her identity and Washington County sheriff's Det. Nate Abbott said he did not know whether the woman was married to Jeffs

The 25-year-old woman sought assistance from police on Monday after leaving a home in Colorado City, Ariz., Abbott said. She sought help at the Hildale, Utah residence of Willie Jessop, a former church spokesman who no longer follows Jeffs.

Jessop told The Associated Press that he contacted authorities on the woman's behalf, but declined to provide other details about the incident.

"She came to me under duress for some help," he said Wednesday. "We've got her help. She's deciding what she wants to do and how we can help facilitate that. One hundred percent of the focus now is on whatever is in her best interests.

Authorities did not release the woman's name.

Colorado City and its sister community of Hildale are the home base of Jeffs' Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. The sect, which has about 10,000 members, practices polygamy in arranged marriages that have sometimes involved underage girls. Leaving the devout, insular community has historically been difficult for FLDS members in part because

it essentially severs all ties with family and friends. The 55-year-old Jeffs, whom followers consider a religious prophet, is serving a life sentence in Texas for child sexual assault convictions. The case was generated from family and church records gathered by authorities during a 2008 raid on a church ranch in Eldorado, Texas. Authorities went to the ranch after a domestic violence hotline got a call from a woman claiming to need help leaving the FLDS after being abused. Authorities later said the woman did not appear to have any connection to the church.

On Monday, officers from both the Washington County Sheriff's Office and the Colorado City Town Marshal's office both responded to the "keep the peace" call, but there "was no confrontation," Abbott said.

Washington County Attorney Brock Belnap said his office will investigate the incident and will file criminal charges if it is warranted.

Burned timber salvaged

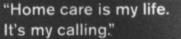
COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) - Forestry experts say some trees killed as thousands of acres were blackened by East Texas wildfires have a new use..

The Texas Forest Service on Wednesday reported that more than a third of the nearly 36 million cubic feet of timber killed since June in Grimes, Jasper, Trinity and Polk counties has been salvaged.

The agency says the timber, collected through August, will be used to produce up to \$110 million worth of forest products like. homes, furniture and paper.

Agency official Burl Carraway says logging contractors, foresters and forest owners worked together to mitigate the timber losses.

The Texas Forest Service last month reported East Texas had lost nearly 208,000 acres of timber to wildfires since last November.



Speaking from the heart

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4A — Thursday, October 13, 2011 — The Pampa News

Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Thursday, Oct. 13, the 286th day of 2011. There are 79 days left in the year. Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 13, 2010, rescuers in Chile using a missile-like escape capsule pulled 33 men one by one to fresh air and freedom 69 days after they were trapped in a collapsed mine a half-mile underground.

On this date:

In A.D. 54, Roman Emperor Claudius I died, poisoned apparently at the behest of his wife, Agrippina.

In 1307, King Philip IV of France ordered the arrests of Knights Templar on charges of heresy.

In 1775, the United States Navy had its origins as the Continental Congress ordered the construction of a naval fleet.

In 1792, the cornerstone of the executive mansion, later known as the White House, was laid during a ceremony in the District of Columbia.

In 1843, the Jewish organization B'nai B'rith was founded in New York City.

In 1845, Texas voters ratified a state constitution. In 1944, American troops entered Aachen,

Germany, during World War II. In 1974, longtime television host Ed Sullivan died in New York City at age 73.

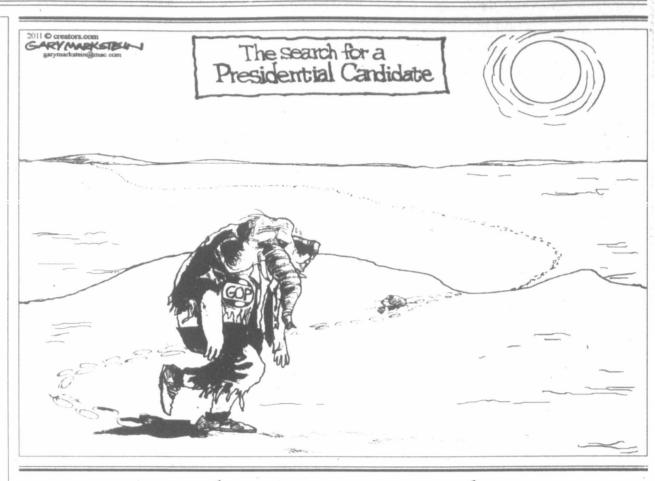
In 1981, voters in Egypt participated in a referendum to elect Vice President Hosni Mubarak the new president, one week after the assassination of Anwar Sadat.

Ten years ago: Ukraine's defense minister and air defense chief offered to resign, conceding the military was involved in the explosion of a Russian airliner over the Black Sea Oct. 4 that killed 78 people. (Russian investigators concluded the plane was downed by a Ukrainian missile launched during military exercises; the two officials were fired by Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma.)

Five years ago: The United Nations General Assembly appointed South Korean Foreign Minister Ban Ki-moon the next U.N. secretarygeneral.

One year ago: U.S. authorities announced the arrests of 73 people accused of being part of a vast network of Armenian gangsters and their associates who allegedly used phantom health care clinics and other means to try to cheat Medicare out of \$163 million.

Today's Birthdays: Playwright Frank D. Gilroy is 86. Gospel singer Shirley Caesar is 73. Actress Melinda Dillon is 72. Singer-musician Paul Simon is 70. Actress Pamela Tiffin is 69. Musician Robert Lamm (Chicago) is 67. Country singer Lacy J. Dalton is 65. Actor Demond Wilson is 65. Singermusician Sammy Hagar is 64. Actor John Lone is 59. Model Beverly Johnson is 59. Producerwriter Chris Carter is 55. Actor Reggie Theus is 54. Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., is 53. Singer Marie Osmond is 52. Rock singer Joey Belladonna is 51. Actress T'Keyah Crystal Keymah is 49. ollege and Pro Football Hall of Famer Jerry Rice is 49. Actress Kelly Preston is 49. Country singer John Wiggins is 49. Actor Christopher Judge is 47. Actress Kate Walsh is 44. . Actress Tisha Campbell-Martin is 43. Country singer Rhett Akins is 42. TV personality Billy Bush is 40. Actor Sacha Baron Cohen is 40. Actress Kiele Sanchez is 35. Singer Ashanti is 31.



Forces coalescing around Romney

STEVE PEOPLES Associated Press Analysis

HANOVER, N.H. (AP) - A new reality is taking hold in the race for the Republican presidential nomination.

Mitt Romney has assumed a position of newfound strength atop the crowded field, armed with a powerful new ally and a bridge to the tea party activists who have dogged his latest presidential bid before it even began. The resounding endorsement of New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, topped by another strong debate performance Tuesday night, is feeding a growing belief that the former Massachusetts governor represents the GOP's best chance at defeating President Barack Obama next fall.

It's not just that Romney has reclaimed the role he once enjoyed as the Republican to beat.

A confluence of factors - a stockpile of cash, strong polls, a disciplined message, an expanding network and decisions by Sarah Palin and Christie not to mount their own White House runs - are fueling an aura of inevitability for a man whose party has been slow to embrace him. Christie may end up being the missing link, but conservatives have been reluctantly warming to a Romney candidacy for weeks. Christie, the unapologetic New Jersey leader, sent a clear message Tuesday to the tea party supporters who rallied behind his own presidential bid until one week ago. "I think he gives us our best opportunity to beat President Obama," Christie said, adding a specific warning to stay away from Romney's top rival, Texas Gov. Rick Perry. "I felt Gov. Romney's a better candidate, and I think he'd make a better president.' The Romney campaign gambled that news of Christie's endorsement would overshadow a debate that did not appear on any major television networks. That may have been the case. But the debate offered another set of reasons to believe Romney is on top

White House hopefuls on Tuesday aimed repeated attacks at Romney, a sign of respect of sorts in a political world that often rewards strength with negative attention.

While Perry stumbled under the weight of his own brief front-runner status, Romney consistently used tough questions to showcase strength.

There was perhaps no better example than an exchange between Romney and businessman Herman Cain, who has climbed to second place in national polls. When Cain suggested Romney's economic plan was too complicated, a poised Romney offered this response: "Herman, I have had the experience in my life of taking on some tough problems. And I must admit that simple answers are always very helpful but oftentimes inadequate."

Cain didn't score any political points on the exchange. And Cain, like Romney's six other rivals, struggled to distinguish themselves all night.

Perry was overshadowed.

rivals. He defended the 2008 Wall Street bailout and said he could work with "good Democrats." Such movement to the center on some issues helps reinforce the notion he can win over independent voters in next year's general election against Obama. But it also carries risks. Romney may be starting to win over reluctant conservatives, but polls suggest they're not yet completely on board. And the path to the Republican nomination goes through several states where the GOP's hardline conservatives carry significant clout.

The best news for Romney on Tuesday, however, did not come on the debate stage.

It was five hours before the debate began, when Christie single-handedly took on what may be Romney's greatest policy challenge: the Massachusetts health-care plan he signed into law as governor that is credited as inspiration for Obama's health-care overhaul. Romney has been forced to defend the policy in

Thought for Today: "A hero cannot be a hero unless in a heroic world." - *Nathaniel Hawthorne, American author (1804-1864).*



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The candidates largely ignored Perry, who was criticized so fiercely during his first debate he complained of feeling like a pinata. Instead, the reny was overshauoweu.

His decline - as reflected in recent polling in early voting states and across the nation - was evidenced by the debate organizers' decision to seat Romney next to Cain, a seat Perry previously occupied. And when given opportunities, Perry did little to inspire confidence among wavering supporters.

A sluggish start gave way to tentative answers at times: "What we need to be focused on in this country today is not whether or not we are going to have this policy or that policy. What we need to be focused on is how we get American working again," Perry said during a discussion about trade policy with China.

Romney also played the part of front-runner Tuesday night, muting recent criticism he levied against Perry's immigration policies. Instead, he targeted his most passionate attacks at the Democratic president. When given an opportunity to ask another candidate a question, he teed up a softball for Minnesota Rep. Michele Bachmann, among those most likely to siphon support from Perry.

And at times, Romney offered a more moderate tone than his GOP

nearly every debate and campaign appearance this year.

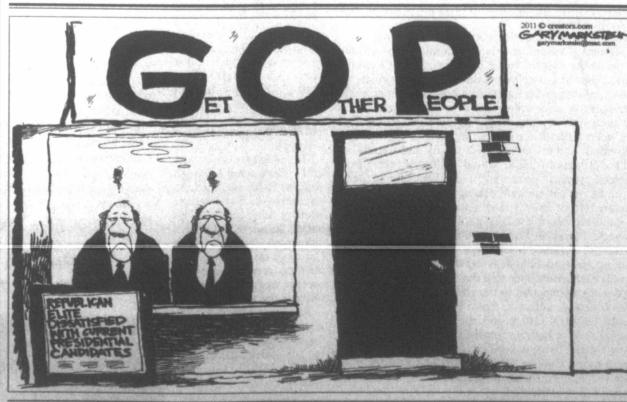
Christie boomed that it was "completely intellectually dishonest" to compare the Massachusetts plan with Obama's plan. "I'm proud of him for doing what he thought was right," Christie said with Romney at his side.

The shifting dynamic and impact of Christie's endorsement at this moment in the race was not lost on Alan Glassman, chairman of the Belknap County Republican Committee in New Hampshire.

"It's huge," said Glassman, who hasn't yet settled on a candidate in the presidential race. "Christie has a following that covers the spectrum. This sends a message across the Republican Party, from the moderates to the superconservatives, that this is the guy."

The Romney campaign, meanwhile, could barely contain its giddiness Tuesday. But publicly they downplayed the impact of the latest events.

"I don't want to draw any grand conclusions," top Romney strategist Eric Fehrnstrom said. "Any campaign is a roller coaster ride."



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Suspect in ambassador plot no 'mastermind,' friend says

ROUND ROCK, Texas (AP) — A friend of a former Texas used car dealer accused of plotting to assassinate Saudi Arabia's ambassador in the United States says he never thought of his one-time business partner as politically motivated, much less a key player in a potential terrorist act.

Manssor Arbabsiar was known as "Jack" to his friends because his name was too hard to pronounce, said David Tomscha, who briefly owned a used car lot with him in the Texas Gulf Coast city of Corpus Christi. Tomscha said his friend was likable, albeit a bit lazy.

"He's no mastermind," Tomscha told The Associated Press on Tuesday. "I can't imagine him thinking up a plan like that. I mean, he didn't seem all that political. He was more of a businessman."

Arbabsiar, 56, was being held without bail in New

Tomscha said. Then Arbabsiar opened a used car lot with a couple of college friends and eventually owned several in the Corpus Christi area, and he seemed to get first choice on the repossessed cars at the auto auction in town, Tomscha said.

"He was sort of a hustler," Tomscha said. "I think he made some money."

Tomscha said he last saw Arbabsiar last fall, and in early 2011 heard that his friend had moved back to Iran.

Tomscha was shocked to hear Tuesday about the arrest. After living for years in Corpus Christi, Arbabsiar followed his wife, Martha Guerrero, to the Austin area, Tomscha said.

Guerrero owns a home in a well-manicured neighborhood in Round Rock, the Austin suburb that federal officials list as Arbabsiar's residence. She addressed reporters overnight, saying Arbabsiar doesn't live there and only used the address to obtain a driver's license.

trucks from local television stations.

"I want this over with," Guerrero said. "My children and I are under a lot of stress right now because of this situation. We don't have nothing to do with it.'

Calls to the home went unanswered Wednesday. But Guerrero said in TV interviews she believes the charges against Arbabsiar are false.

"I cannot for the life of me think that he would be capable of doing that," Guerrero told KVUE in Austin. "He was at the wrong place at the wrong time, I'm sure of that and I know that his innocence is going to come out.'

Records show Arbabsiar also has lived in the Dallas-Fort Worth area and Corpus Christi, and been married at least twice. He was arrested and released in 2001 for theft by check, charges that were eventually dismissed, said Cynthia Martinez of the Nueces County Sheriff's Office, which includes Corpus Christi. She said Arbabsiar was also arrested in 1993, 1996 and 1997 on traffic violations.

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York for his role in the alleged plot to kill Saudi diplomat Adel Al-Jubeir in the United States. The Justice Department contends that Arbabsiar and another man working for the Iranian government tried to hire a purported member of a Mexican drug cartel to carry out the attack with a bomb while Al-Jubeir was at a restaurant. According to a criminal complaint filed in federal court in New York, the plot was revealed by an informant inside the world of the Mexican drug trade, a man

paid by U.S. drug agents to rat out traffickers. Tomscha, 60, said their partnership in the 1990s ended after about six months when Arbabsiar stopped making his share of the payments for their lot, but they remained friends. Arbabsiar never talked about traveling to Mexico, Tomscha said.

Arbabsiar came to the U.S. to attend what was then known as Texas A & I University in Kingsville,

"We've been separated for a long time," Guerrero said. "I don't know nothing about his business or what he does or what he doesn't do."

But others in the neighborhood said they had seen Arbabsiar recently. Eric Cano, who lives next-door. said he frequently observed Arbabsiar walking in the neighborhood after dark, while smoking cigarettes and talking on a cellphone in a foreign language.

"My wife and I always thought there was something weird about the guy," said Cano, a 38-year-old buyer for a grocery company. "But you don't think it will get to this level."

Halloween decorations hung from a tree in the front yard of Guerrero's house. Within hours of word of Arbabsiar's arrest, the neighborhood was flooded with

Court records also indicate he was once charged with evading arrest in the Dallas area.

Cano said Arbabsiar moved in with Guerrero, who had lived at the house previously and was raising three boys, all now grown. Records indicate Arbabsiar is married to Guerrero and show no indication they are separated.

Cano said although he would see Arbabsiar with some frequency, they'd never speak.

"He wasn't friendly at all," Cano said. "He'd never even acknowledge you. He'd just walk and talk in this language I'd never heard of."

Homes abandoned after Hurricane Ike remain

BRIDGE CITY (AP) - The modest home on South Clover Street is, quite simply, a wreck.

Waist-high ragweed chokes front and back yards.

Rusting appliances and toys clutter the carport of the dilapidated structure, topped by a sagging patchwork of missing roofing tiles offering little protection from the elements.

Besides looking messy, the weedy lot provides habitat for snakes, rats and other vermin and the home attracts vandals and vagrants, neighbors say.

It's been going downhill ever since Hurricane Ike flooded it with more than four feet of water on Sept. 13, 2008.

Bridge City residents S.E. and Bertha Werkheiser, who have lived next door to the house since the early 1960s, are sick and tired of putting up with it.

"It would be a blessing to have it torn down and cleaned up," said Bertha Werkheiser, 77.

Bridge City officials said she might get her wish before long.

Code enforcement officer Clarence Philpott said he is preparing to make a presentation to the city housing board, the final step in condemning substandard properties before clearing the lots.

The problem isn't huge, only about 125 houses out of about 3,000 in the small city, Philpott said.

But for neighborhoods riddled with these pockets of blight, it's a daily headache.

Down the street on the other side of the block, another house sports a row of broken windows across the front - the handiwork of neighborhood kids, said Jim Torres, who owns the house next door

However, this house doesn't look quite as bad as the other one down the block because Torres has been mowing the lawn.

Torres led a brief tour of the twobedroom house.

"Come on in, the door's open," he joked, stepping over piles of broken glass from an ornate leaded glass door that no longer provides a barrier to the street. Inside, garbage and debris are piled on the floor of a partially gutted kitchen.

The two bedrooms have had wallboard installed since the storm, showing evidence that renovation had begun at some point.

But work has ceased since then, and the house has been abandoned.

Lack of insurance and other financial problems often are the reason former residents walked away

In some cases, elderly people simply took their insurance settlements and moved on, City Manager Jerry Jones

He said he regrets delays in tidying up the land none

"We would have already started, but we are a small city and don't have a lot of manpower," he said.

Jones said residents are responsible for repairs or demolition and clearing the lot, but the city will help if owners can't afford it. The burden also falls on the city if officials can't find the owners.

"We have programs for people if they need help," he said, adding that the city is using inmate labor for the work.

"We have some money set aside for demolition of structures, but we're going to try to keep costs way down," Jones said.

Part of the delay lies in the legal process protecting the property owners' rights, Philpott said, and steps must be followed before the lots can be cleared. A certified letter to the property owner comes first. If there is no response, the house is tagged as substandard.

After that, code enforcement brings the case to a board tasked with making the determination. If the owners can be found and are cooperative, the board will work with them as long as satisfactory progress is being made on repairs.

At least one vacant house on South Clover Street might fall into that category, with a tended lawn and evidence of recent renovation activity.

"We try to work with everybody," Philpott said. "We do have some people that have walked away - we can't even find them or what bank owns them."

Philpott said more than 15 owners have come in and signed a release for demolition, which could start in about a month.

"We need to address those now," Jones said. "We're not trying to make it hard on people by any means, but it's time to get everything cleaned up.

The city will be working with property owners, using inmate labor and trying to make the process as inexpensive as possible for the small community.



Cantaloupe epidemic now deadliest listeria outbreak in 25 years

WASHINGTON (AP) - An outbreak of listeria in cantaloupe is now linked to 23 deaths, making it the deadliest known outbreak of foodborne illness in the U.S. in more than 25 years.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Wednesday that 116 people have been sickened in the outbreak, including those who died. The number of deaths has now surpassed a 1998 outbreak of listeria in processed meats that was linked to 21 deaths. A 1985 listeria outbreak in Mexican-style soft cheeses killed 52 people.

The tainted Colorado cantaloupes should be off store shelves by now, as they were recalled mid-September and their shelf life is about two weeks. But the number of deaths may continue to grow, as the symptoms of listeria can take up to two months to appear.

The CDC on Wednesday confirmed two more deaths in Louisiana that the state had said it was investigating last week. Other deaths have been reported in Colorado, Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Texas and Wyoming. Colorado and New Mexico reported five deaths each.

Jensen Farms in Holly, Colo., recalled the tainted cantaloupes earlier this month after they were linked to the listeria illnesses. The Food and Drug Administration, which is investigating the outbreak, has said state health officials found listeria in cantaloupes taken from Colorado grocery stores and from a victim's home that were grown at Jensen Farms. Matching strains of the disease were found on equipment and cantaloupe samples at Jensen Farms' packing facility in Granada, Colo.

The company has said it shipped the cantaloupes to about half the states, but added that it wasn't sure where the cantaloupes went because they have been sold and resold. Thus, many companies may not even know whether they bought or distributed the fruit.

The FDA is still investigating the cause of the outbreak. Officials have said they were looking at the farm's water supply and possible animal intrusions among other things to figure out the source of the problem. Listeria bacteria grow in moist, muddy conditions and often are carried by animals.

Government health officials said this was the first known outbreak of listeria in cantaloupe. Listeria gener-

ally is found in processed meats and unpasteurized milk and cheese, though there have been a growing number of outbreaks in produce.

Listeria is rare but more deadly than well-known pathogens such as salmonella and E. coli. While most healthy adults can consume listeria with no ill effects, it can kill the elderly and those with compromised immune systems. The CDC said the median age of those sickened is 78, and most ill people are over 60 years old.

It is also dangerous to pregnant women because it easily passes through to the fetus. CDC said it is also aware of one miscarriage associated with the outbreak.

Symptoms include fever and muscle aches, often with other gastrointestinal symptoms.

The CDC has reported illnesses in Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Colorado has the most illnesses with 34, while Texas has reported 17, New Mexico 13 and Oklahoma 11.

Popular state park a 'moonscape' after season of wildfires

McClanahan surveys the fire-blackened tree trunks poking out of a thick carpet of ash, a normally green world turned black and gray.

"You should have seen it in color," says McClanahan, superintendent of Bastrop State Park, mentioning a phrase repeated in Jamey Johnson's award-winning country song "In Color."

The park, one of the most popular in Texas, was ravaged when wind-whipped wildfires scorched 50 square miles east of Austin last month, destroying more than 1,500 homes and torching swaths of the park's signature "Lost Pines" forest that

BASTROP (AP) - Todd may never fully recover. Rather than a lush green brush under a canopy of towering pines, McClanahan says much of the 5,900-acre park has become "moonscape" - in some spots, for as far as the eye can see.

"It's really kind of depressing," McClanahan says as he evaluates the park's remains from his pickup truck.

More than a month after the inferno, the extent of the damage is still being determined, but McClanahan estimates about 70 percent of the trees in the park were lost. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department crews are clearing burned tree trunks away from roads and campsites and hiking trails so when the park reopens ---tentatively set for December - the threat of falling trees in areas frequented by visitors will be minimized.

"This park is still a significant place," McClanahan says. "It's just going to look different. It's going to feel different.

"In some areas, it's going to take a really long time and it may not ever return to what it was."

There are some small signs of recovery. A couple weeks ago, McClanahan was "out in the middle of the black," as he calls it. "There was nothing around except dead standing snags,

and I looked down and there was an oak tree that's resprouting, almost 18 inches tall," he says

"But this is the 'Lost Pines.' And that's what's kind of uncertain."

The park's signature forest, a draw for the 160,000 people who visit Bastrop each year, was a unique stand of loblolly pines related to but genetically different from the great East Texas pine forest that extends into the Southeastern United States. The loss of those trees is

particularly painful. "A significant part of 'Lost Pines' is lost," McClanahan said. "And that's a fact."

ing to the Texas State Historical Association, are believed part of an ancient forest that shrank during or after the Ice Age. Spanish explorers described it in 1691, and the area that is now the state park was part of the original 1832 land grant to Stephen F. Austin's first colony.

Extensive logging took place in the later 1800s and when land for the park was acquired, the Civilian Conservation Corps built cabins and other park

facilities during the Great Depression that are still used today.





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Watching cancer grow **Uncle Math** MATTHEW "UNCLE

MATTY" MARGOLIS Creator's Syndicate

Owning an aggressive dog and doing nothing about it is like watching a cancer grow. That can-

dog, but obedience training isn't enough when dealing with an aggressive dog, and K-9 training is its own beast that has nothing to do with social-

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS PAMPA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT'S

State Financial Accountability Rating

Pampa Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6pm on October 20, 2011 in the Carver Center Boardroom 321 West Albert, Pampa, TX

The "Lost Pines," accord-

cer turns out to be especially insidious when you add small children to the equation. You know on some level it's not going to end well. And usually, it's the dog that gets. burned.

Couples who at first are married without kids often get a dog to dote on and hone their caretaking skills. They know they want to have kids someday, but someday seems so very far away. Years go by, and the dog rarely if ever is exposed to children. He's living large, the center of attention, and then one day his whole world flips upside down - and he's none too pleased.

Here's another scenario, sent to me from a dog owner looking for help:

We are looking to find a non-kid house for our 6-year-old dog. He has bitten two children in the past three months, one of which was my 1-year-old. Some say he is jealous, but we feel he has issues isolated to children. He came to us at 3 months of age and growled at a little girl that same week.

He had two years of obedience training with a retired K-9 cop who trains police dogs. My heart is breaking for my children and for my husband and I, as parting with him was the furthest thing from our minds. However, the next time it may be a face or worse. Please help. He does quite well with adults, and we fear he is miserable here with the kids.

A little shy of six years ago, this couple saw the beginnings of a tumor and let it go. They did the right thing in getting obedience training for the

izing a dog and curbing or eliminating aggression targeted toward children.

Another scenario no doubt with the same ending - stems from children not being taught how to handle a dog. Just as every person has a limit, every dog has a pain threshold. Parents often think it's so cute when baby pulls on the dog, crawls on the dog, and pokes and slaps at the dog. These parents are almost prideful in their declarations that the dog will put up with anything. Watch this!

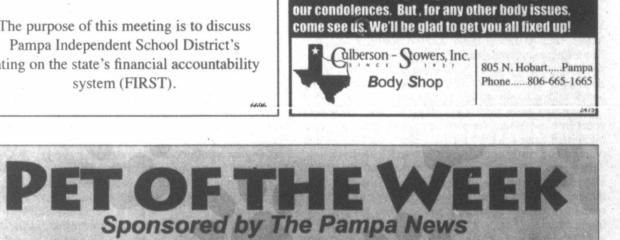
Be warned: The dog does have a limit. And with that kind of parental cheering, the child will surely find it. In the worstcase scenario, both dog and child pay dearly. But most certainly, the dog will pay.

The 6-year-old dog from the letter will pay. With any luck, his owners will find a good home for him, one that is void of children. Even so, he will endure the stress of being uprooted from his home for reasons he will never understand. And it didn't have to be this way.

The people who wrote this letter are doing the right thing: providing an appropriate home for their dog, protecting their children. Their story is offered as a plea for preparation and planning. Before you get a dog, take a good look 15 years into the future, and go forward as if the future is now. Woof!

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!"

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Pampa Independent School District's rating on the state's financial accountability system (FIRST).



LONG VEHICLE

Well, we can't do anything about that - We give you

Your local animal shelter needs donations of the following items:



"Earl" Male Yorkie

Sara

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This year you have more impact than you have had in years. You also will feel the weight of additional responsibility. Understand that you cannot bypass this phase without experiencing a defeat or a problem. You could feel the demands of responsibility more than ever, but this, too, will pass by next year. You will acclimate to your new role. If you are single, someone you meet this year could be significant to your life. If you choose to hook up with this person, you will have difficulty getting out of this bond, should you so choose. If you are attached, the two of you could be unusually hard on each other. Try to lighten up. Make no major decisions this year on the relationship front, if possible. TAURUS understands you well.

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)

 $\star\star\star$ Fatigue easily could be the result of an active dream life. You are processing many ideas. As situations arise that demand your resourcefulness, trust in your ability to see what others don't. How you make your suggestions is what counts. Tonight: Don't avoid a serious conversation.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

**** You bounce out of the right side of bed, ready for what life delivers. With this attitude, you'll move through any situation that presents itself. Someone special acknowledges your innate talents. If you're bored, move on. Tonight: All smiles.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

*** Read between the lines. You could be unusually quiet and serious. Your instincts are right-on as you deal with different issues. Hold your ideas and solutions back until you are sure of the problem. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

**** Eye the long term when making decisions. Someone offers you a new opportunity. Lady Luck rides on your shoulder. Go for what you want and don't settle. Responsibilities call. Tonight: Zero in on what you want.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

**** Accept your role in recent events. You also might need to undo some of the side effects. With a take-charge at-

lets someone know where you are coming from. Tonight: Count on being up late.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

 \star picture. Detach and ask a question or two. You also might want to look at the source. Do whatever you need to do to confirm information. Do research if need be. Tonight: Don't commit to anything financially.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

**** You could be overly serious. A key associate or partner has a way of lightening you up. Together you'll come up with effective solutions. Listen to your sixth sense with this person. He or she has a way of opening doors. Tonight: Continue the conversation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

**** Defer to others, and let them decide what is workable. You have other issues on your mind and other fish to fry. Use the lack of pressure to complete an alternative idea. Act rather than sit on a depression. Tonight: Go with a suggestion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) *** Stay even and mellow as you fol-

low through on what needs to happen. You might have difficulty convincing others of the correctness of your ways. Maintain an even pace despite this situation. Tonight: Choose something mellow, but do squeeze in some exercise. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

**** Allow your creativity to flourish. Others enjoy when you share with them on this level. You know what works probably better than anyone else. Excitement marks a decision, though you might find a higher-up's response a bit hard. Tonight: Working late.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

** * * Deal with personal matters. You might feel like you can't because of work or some other commitment. Consider the fact that you cannot really be present until a certain issue is resolved. Tonight: Hang out at home

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

**** You will speak your mind and draw very positive reactions. You might surprise yourself. You have been mulling over some of these decisions or concepts. You are coming from a very secure space. Tonight: Catch up on a friend's news.

Marvin



Hagar The Horrible







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Texan freed after 25 years by DNA test formally exonerated

AUSTIN (AP) - A Texas appeals court on Wednesday formally exonerated a former grocery store clerk who spent nearly 25 years in prison for his wife's 1986 beating death, reaffirming a judge's decision to set him free last week based on DNA testing that linked her killing to another man.

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals declared Michael Morton innocent of killing his wife, Christine, and made him eligible to receive \$80,000 from the state for each year of confinement, or about \$2 million total

Morton, 57, was convicted on the basis of circumstantial evidence and sentenced to life in prison. He maintained over the years that his wife and their 3-year-old son were fine when he left for work at an Austin Safeway the day she was killed, and that an intruder must have attacked her.

DNA found during tests this summer on a bloody

Fair

bandana discovered near the crime scene matched that of a former convict, who remains at large. Prosecutors recommended that Morton be freed immediately after that man's DNA was also linked to a hair found 17 months later at the scene of another woman's beating death in north Austin, about 15 miles from the Mortons' home.

Morton was released Oct. 4, but not formally cleared of all charges until the appeals court ruling.

Nina Morrison, an attorney for the New York-based Innocence Project, which spent years fighting for the genetic testing of the evidence that wasn't possible during Morton's original trial, said she called Morton to tell him about the ruling.

"It's been an incredible week for him. Something he only dreamed about all those years in prison," she said. "He is so thrilled that the truth has finally come out. He's anxious to get on with his life."

Morrison said that John Bradley, the district attorney in Williamson County, where Morton was convicted, announced Wednesday he will not file new charges. Still, Morton technically remains on parole and won't be allowed to leave Texas until the appeals court's ruling takes effect in 30 days.

"But obviously, he knows now the courts have spoken," Morrison said. "The prosecutor in Williamson County has finally said he's innocent.'

The Innocence Project has accused the prosecutor who originally handled the case, Ken Anderson, of deliberately concealing evidence that likely would have helped Morton avoid being convicted. Anderson, who is now a district judge in Williamson County, has not responded to repeated requests for comment made through his court administrator.

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entertainment to contacting local businesses for participation.

"Almost every business in town is contacted in some way," Weaver said. "It gives our volunteers an opportunity to get out and see some people, and it gives almost every business a chance to be involved. It's not just Chamber members, too. We have a lot of non-Chamber members who participate, and we appreciate them, too.

"The response has been very good, and it always is," Weaver added. "People always pitch in for this. They kind of know it's coming. By the same token, there's always new businesses, new managers of businesses, and when you tell them what you're doing, they're generally excited to be a part of it."

Budweiser is this year's beverage sponsor, Weaver said, and music for the night will be provided by country dance band Double Shot, who will play for 9 p.m. to midnight. There will also be approximately 250 items up for bid in the live and silent auctions, encompassing a range of goods from many local businesses, he added.

"We've got a wide variety of merchandise," Weaver said. "We're very excited about the stuff we have up for silent auction. We're really excited about all the art we have for live auction, as well as some of the other items.

There will also be a pair of brand new games to this year's Country Fair: A wine pull and a coin flip. The rules for both are simple, Weaver said.

"Wine has been donated by Easy's (Package Store)," Weaver said. "What you do is you pay \$20 and you get to pull a bottle of wine, taking a gamble on whether it's going to be a good pull or a bad pull... I think the odds of getting a good pull are very good."

The coin flip is similarly a game of chance, Weaver continued

"As many people as want to participate will put up their ante," Weaver said. "They divide into two teams,

Cowdog

in Texas and Oklahoma.

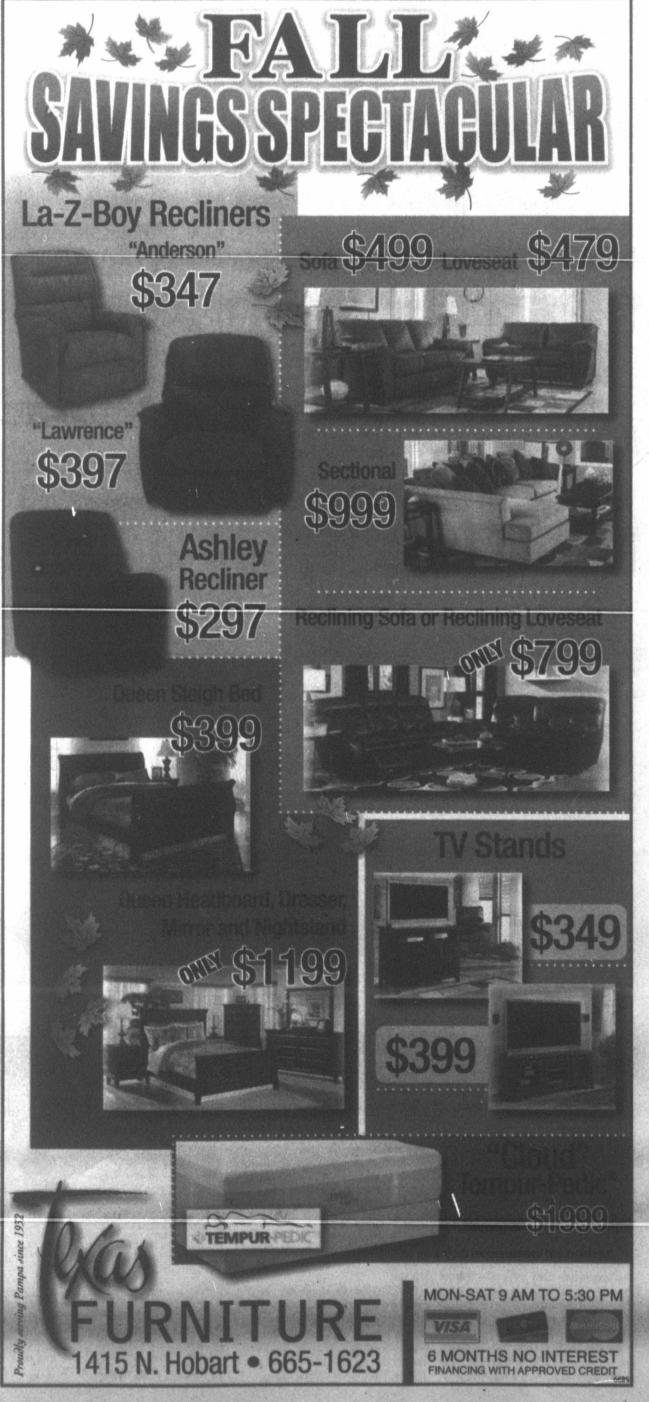
He published his first Hank the Cowdog book,

cont. from page 1

Ron Lilley, Broker

heads and tails. Whatever side loses steps out, and the side that's left divides into you, using heads and tails again, and puts up more ante money. At the end, the money that's made is split between the Chamber and the winner."

Tickets to the Country Fair are \$30 a person. For more information, contact the Pampa Chamber of Commerce at 806-669-3241.



The Original Adventures of Hank the Cowdog," in 1983. Now, Erickson's characters - proud Hank, timid Drover, their nemesis Pete the Barn Cat and their owner, rancher High Loper — are the stars of 57 children's books, with a 58th on the way. The series has been recognized by USA Today and Publisher's Weekly, and the first book was optioned into a 30-minute animated segment as part of a series called "CBS Storybreak" in 1985.

Erickson's upcoming appearance is already a big thrill for kids all over the Pampa ISD, said Judy Hansen, the district's elementary librarian.

"The kids are really excited," Hansen said. "We are reading books in the library and a lot of the teachers are reading classroom sets in the rooms. The kids just love Hank the Cowdog.'

Hansen said that Hank the Cowdog merchandise is available from order forms at all elementary libraries, but must be pre-ordered by Wednesday.

"We have hardback books and paperback books," Hansen said. "We also have CDs of all the books. There are a few cassettes. T-shirts, beanies, pop-ups, backpacks — it's amazing how many things they have... (Erickson) autographs everything that they purchase. He'll even autograph their t-shirts if they want them."

CRMWA

cont. from page 1

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including Lamesa, have felt its effects. During the meeting yesterday morning, CRMWA approved a transfer of water from Brownfield to Lamesa.

"This was a tough year for a lot of people allocationwise. Lamesa had some tanks that were being repainted, and it took much longer than they expected, so they were not able to use their own water supply for the first few months of the year," said Satterwhite.

After the transfer was approved by both city councils and CRMWA, Brownfield will send 20 million gallons of untreated water to Lamesa.

Rod Goodwin, Chief of Water Quality, also reported on CRMWA's project to control saltcedar, an invasive plant that surrounds Lake Meredith, using excessive amounts of water and leaving salt deposits. Three hundred acres were sprayed this year for the plant, with 2,600 acres remaining.

In other business, the board:

· approved the minutes from the previous meeting in July;

 approved directors' expenses since the July meeting; • employed an auditor for the audit of 2010-2011 Fiscal

Year Financial Transactions;

ratified non-budgeted expenditures;

 funded 2010-2011 Fiscal Year reserves to purchase vehicles and a phone system;

· approved changes to CRMWA's Banking and Investment policy;

· approved the authorization of the General Manager to issue and sell Subordinate Lien Contract Revenue Bonds

The PAMPA NEWS Sports

October 13, 2011

Harvesters', Bulldogs' alumni teams set for rematch

ANDREW GLOVER aglover@thepampanews.com

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The last time Pampa alumni quarterback Jason Roark played at Bulldog Stadium in high school in October of 2000, he walked off the field with a loss. On Saturday, Roark hopes for a different ending in his return.

"I'm looking forward to playing on their field again and get some redemption," Roark said.

Roark and his alumni teammates are looking to win their second consecutive game against the Borger Alumni when they met 6:30 p.m. Saturday in Borger.

Pampa won last year's game 15-8 at Harvester Field on August 14. Roark said even though the teams met last year, he doesn't think they will look the same.

"We are a totally different team," Roark said. "Our offense has changed. Our defense has changed a little bit. I don't think anyone here is expecting the same teams. I think (Borger) is going to be really ready.

Running back Marques Long said both teams have new players adding it will interesting what kind of impact they will have.

"(Borger) has a lot more youth and speed," Long said. "It's going to be tougher, more challenging and a lot more fun.

Offensive lineman Taylor Harris said the word about the game is out more than last year.

"I think the crowd is going to bigger," Harris said. "It's an off week for Pampa and Homecoming for Borger. I think the stands will be just as full, if not fuller, than they were in Pampa last year."

Pampa's alumni team gained more game experience, when it beat Highland Park's alumni 33-15 August 14 at Highland Park. Long said that game helped them prepare for this one.

"I think that gives us a slight advantage," Long said. "You can (practice) only so much with no hitting. It's good, you get a good workout and see where everything is going to be. It's nothing like having 11 guys coming at you full speed. We got to hit and get the bumps and bruises out."

Roark said both teams' experience is the biggest difference from last season.

"Last year we were feeling things out. Most hadn't played a full-padded game in years," Roark said. "Both teams know what to expect."

Harris said he hopes the team executes against Borger like it did against **Highland** Park

"Hopefully we can show (Borger) how it's done just like we did at Highland Park," Harris said. "It will be a battle and I'm looking forward to it.

Long said the team has a different attitude than last year.

"Last year, we were just excited to play," Long said. "This year we are trying to win and prove something."





Ron Lilley, Broker

staff photo by Andrew Glover Margues Long rushes upfield in practice Sunday. The Pampa alumni team looks for a second straight victory over Borger's alumni Saturday in Borger



Thursday, October 13, 2011 — The Pampa News 2B

Sports

COWBOYS FOOTBALL

Cowboys' secondary healthy after bye

IRVING The Dallas Cowboys returned from their bye looking like a new team.

Well, at least like the team they expected to be.

Cornerback Orlando Scandrick was back from high ankle sprain, putting the key members of their secondary on the field together Monday for the first time since early August. The offense was nearly back to full strength, too, with receivers Miles Austin and Dez Bryant both running routes for Tony Romo for the first time since the opening week.

"It definitely exciting to see what everybody going to do now that everybody back," said Alan Ball, who has started once and played plenty but now slips back to being the fourth cornerback. "I think everybody is going to do just fine getting back in and getting into our system.

The Cowboys were counting on a cornerback trio of Mike Jenkins, Terence Newman and Scandrick this season. Incumbent starters Jenkins and Newman missed the entire preseason with injuries, then Jenkins returned for the opener but Newman didn make it back until the third game. Scandrick only played in the opener.

The only key defensive player still missing is defensive end Jason Hatcher, who is battling a strained calf. Backup safety Danny McCray also was out with an ankle problem.

Scandrick return is especially important this week because he covers the slot receiver, and New England has one of the best in Wes Welker.

"I feel like I in condition," Scandrick said. "As far as where I do think I might be off a little bit right now is play recognition, but by Sunday, with watching film throughout the week, I be ready to go."

Austin aggravated a hamstring injury at the end of regulation in the second game and has missed the last two. Bryant missed that game with a thigh problem. He played both games since, but has been limited in practices.

Romo has a cracked rib that should be close to healed. The only guys on offense still banged up are fullback Tony Fiammetta (hamstring) and guard Derrick Dockery (broken leg, sprained knee ligament).

"You guys have heard me say this before injuries are a part of the game," coach Jason Garrett said, launching into a discourse on the importance of backup players taking advantage of their opportunity. "Having said all of that, it better to have your starters back out there practicing and moving toward playing in the game on Sunday."

Dallas (2-2) faces quite a challenge Sunday by going on the road to play Tom Brady, Welker and the New England Patriots, winners of 19 straight games at home. Brady has actually won 30 straight in Foxborough, Mass., and New England (4-1) is coming off a 30-21 victory over the Jets, who beat the Cowboys in the opener.

"We probably going to get killed. They the greatest team to ever play football. We going in there to try to hold our own," defensive end Marcus Spears said, trying to keep a straight face. "Naw. We going in there to beat them. We understand the type of success they had. ...

"Getting to the serious side of it, we just got to go to work and know as much as possible what these guys are doing and try to bring a good game plan against them and then put it together on Sunday.

Dallas had as good of a bye weekend as it could hoped for. While players got refreshed, their division foes who played the Giants and Eagles both lost.

Garrett insisted it is way too early to be paying attention to the standings, that the only thing players should focus on is getting ready for the next practice and for the Patriots. His smile showed otherwise.

We have many challenges ahead," he said. "We have 12 more football games to play. That a lifetime. We going to focus on being as good as we can be each day and hopefully get ourselves ready to play the Patriots.

Big XII to have ten teams for 2012-13

Interim Big 12 Commissioner Chuck Neinas said Tuesday that the league is set with 10 teams for 2012 with the addition of TCU, even though Missouri is exploring a possible departure to the Southeastern Conference.

"If Missouri was going to change horses, it wouldn't be for 2012 any way," Neinas said. The Big 12 has given no deadline for a decision from Missouri, though Neinas said there would need to be some determination by the end of the current academic year. The school has not ruled out remaining part of the Big 12.

before the league can fully evaluate whether to stay at 10 members or expand back to 12.

"We can't address the 10 vs. 12 until we determine that Missouri is going to be one of the 10," he said. "There's no consensus at the present time between the conference members as to 10 or 12.'

TCU accepted an invita-

this year.

There were some indications after Big 12 athletic directors met last month that some might be in favor of staying at nine members. That has apparently changed.

"I don't think anyone is holding that position now. I think the idea would be 10 or 12," Neinas said, adding: "It won't be 16."

Brady Deaton authority to explore a departure from the Big 12.

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Neinas said the Big 12 needs to know what Missouri plans to do

tion Monday to join the Big 12. The Horned Frogs will replace Texas A&M, keeping the league at 10 members when the Aggies leave for the SEC next Inly

While TCU will be the first new member since the Big 12 started play in 1996, Texas A&M will be the third school to leave. Nebraska (Big Ten) and Colorado (Pac-12) left

A 45-page document presented to Missouri curators earlier this month suggests the school would hope to get as much as \$12 million more each year in additional revenue with a move to the SEC if TV deals are renegotiated. The document, which was obtained by The Associated Press, was shown to the curators after they gave Chancellor

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Dear Abby... By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

sons, 19 and 12. My younger disease. His kidney function is currently normal, but his doctor says that in the future he may need a new kidney. At that point, his brother would be high on the list for compatibility and availability. I, sadly, would not.

the possibility of being a donor to his older brother? Is it even fair to ask? If he doesn't offer, would I always resent it? Should we wait until there is a real need before asking? PLANNING AHEAD IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR yours that you're thinking people may not want to take ahead regarding some of the risk - and their rights the difficult aspects related should be respected. The TIONED: Summon up the to donation. This subject evaluation process is very courage to tell Tammy that can sometimes be fraught thorough. It's designed to although you care about with the potential for per- minimize risk and also can her, you can no longer listen ceived coercion. It can be uncover unexpected condi- to her problems because it's offset by NOT framing it as tions in the potential donor distracting you from your a "request" from one family member, but as a general family discussion about the Foundation provides infor- issues she should be sharing loved one's health situation. mation on its website re- with a trained professional.

Among the issues that should be raised: What does it mean for your younger

DEAR ABBY: I have two ney disease? What's the survival rate for an adolesboy has a rare form of kidney cent who receives a living At first I tried to be supportive donor transplant? What and listen to her problems, but is involved in the donation now I think it was a mistake. I process?

> be raised as a family in ten to a litany of complaints conversation with a physician or other members of door. the kidney care team. Fambetter education about the condition as well as the process, and reduces fear.

The decision to be a livthat are important.

The National Kidney garding this subject. Vis : If she persists in bringing

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DEAR WELL-INTENresponsibilities at work. Explain again that these are kidney.org to learn more. her personal problems to DEAR ABBY: I share a you, THEN ask your man-

The Pampa News — Thursday, October 13, 2011 — 3B The Pampa News Classified 21 Help Wanted 14h Gen. Serv. 5 Special Notices **21 Help Wanted** 89 Wanted To Buy 21 Help Wanted 21 Help Wanted **21 Help Wanted** 102 Bus. Rental ADVERTISING Ma- HOUSE Cracking? In BOOKKEEPER need-CLARENDON College TEXAS Rose Steak DOWNTOWN office We space for rent. Utilities terial to be placed in bricks or walls? Child-SWINE GENETICS ed! Experience necessa-Pampa Center is seekhouse is hiring Cooks, Buy & Sell Houses EXPERIENCED Pampa News, ers Brothers, Inc. 800ing Part-Time Instrucservers & hosts. Apply Call us today!! ry, accounts payable, & cleaning service pro-COMPANY BACKHOE MUST placed 299-9563, 806-352general ledger, oil & 665-1875 tors for multiple sub- in person. No phone Smithfield Premiur vided. Ample parking. **OPERATOR** gas. Salary based on exthrough the Pampa 9563 jects. Appliants must calls! 669-6823 Genetics, (SPG), the NEEDED News Office Only. COX Fence Company perience. 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We are a ence, limitation, or 806-662-2977 CERAMIC TILE dryer, dining set, dress-er, odd tables & futon. **Production Personne** Service With 50+ Yrs in the bonus room. 3256 sq Family Based Compadiscrimination because 848-2820 OVERHEAD DOOR (Herdsperson) ft. Granite counter 129 S. Price Rd. Oil & Gas ny looking for the of race, color, religion, Call 662-7557 **REPAIR Kidwell Con**tops. Shown by appt. Business!!! 14s Plumbing right people to join Pampa, TX. sex, handicap, familial KENMORE front load The ideal candidates struction. Call 669-\$215,000 obo our family. If intereststatus or national ori-6347, 806-663-0192. will have a steady washing machine for sale. Call 669-2114. JACK'S Plumbing 595-0234 ed come and apply at gin, or intention to **PART-TIME** Position work history, be relia-715 W. Foster 1800 W. McCullough, make any such prefer-HIRING UTILITY available. Entry-level 14e Carpet Serv. ble and have the desire 2 bdr., 2 ba. house on 2 665-7115 ence, limitation, or Pampa, TX 7am-5pm. 25 hrs. per week. Com-69 Misc. WORKERS to work in a progreslots. Sunporch, trees. or call 806-665-0379 discrimination." State NU-WAY puter skills necessary 14w Air Cond/Heat sive, quality oriented with Experience in 916 S. Wells. No owner CLEANING SERVICE law also forbids dis-ADVERTISING Mamodern agricultural Sewer, Water with a working knowl-GREEN financing. Country crimination based on BROWNING'S Heatterial to be placed in Bob Marx Owner-Operedge of programs such production operation. & Storm Drain 7899, 806-669-1985 Equipment "John Deere these factors. We will ator. Call 665-3541 Pampa ing & Air and Refriger as Photoshop, Quark the News ALSO HIRING Dealer" in Pampa is acnot knowingly accept Xpress and InDesign helpful. We will train 2200 LEA MUST be placed ation Specialists since We offer a starting Supervisors 14g Elec. 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Buyer Agents Welcome. 806-Pampa News' pert Co., is seeking **APT Manager** WANT to buy Junk Pool and on-site laun ing projects, margin Classifieds! Trimmers to work in Equal Opportunity TRUCK DRIVER Position Cars with good titles & dry, W/D hookups in analysis and tracing the Texas Panhandie. 669-5264 or WANTED **Affirmative Action** Scrap Iron. Call 663all 2 & 3 bdrms. **Must Live On Premi** costs. Must con-_robben25@hotmail.com Qualified applicants Call about rates Above Average Employer m/f/d/v Must have curren 665-7149 6907 struct and monitor Class A CDL, pass must have a valid D.L. EO 13201 and deadlines. Salary & Bonu BY Owner. and be able to pass a LOTS 3 & 4 Veteran's those cost-effective MINUTES from downdrug test & DOT **E-mail Resume To** neighborhood. 1800 sq. data accumulation Garden Sec. F, Lot 165 back ground check. town-efficiencies. Short ft., built in 1993, 3 bdr physical. 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NO transportation, not a is LONGFELLOW blocks, turn left & go 1 lent written and or-(806) 544-6894 be-Apply in person problem. These large 1 RENTAL house for bdr. apfs. w/ appliances, sale, 3 bdr. 1ba, Un-ocblock to sale. tween 8 am & 5 pm One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used al communication 100 N. Price Rd. 11950 McCullough, Fri. skills, along with a for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, Monday thru Friday. are in walking distance cupied. As is. 806-886-Pampa, TX 806-669-1128 high initiative level DRUG FREE WORKPLACE & Sat. 8-? 18 ft. insulatapostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all to everything you need. EOE:AA-M/F/V/D ed garage door, dining

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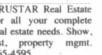
gar / extra nice shop. Lrg liv area, fpl, new HVAC. 2280 sq. ft. ft.

bdr, 2 ba, Living rm, Lg Den w/firepl, Bar

Great 2 full ba., dbl gar. 1415

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10-13

hints. Each day the code letters are different.

CRYPTOQUOTE



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Sports

HIGH JUMP

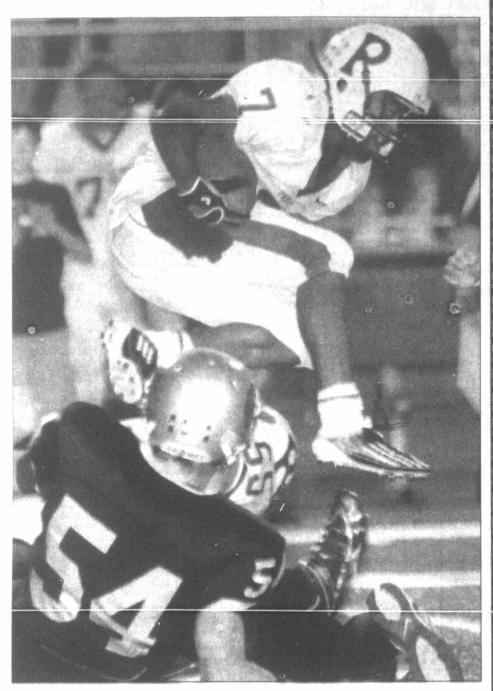


photo courtesy of Tim Southerland/The Burleson Star

Junior Samuel Smith jumps over a Burleson Centennial defender Friday. Smith rushed for 90 yards in the Harvesters' 27-9 defeat. Pampa is in its bye week and hosts Borger in the district opener October 21.

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ARTIST EVENT





FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21st & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22ND 10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

Behold exclusive porcelain treasures at our fall Herend artist event. Herend artist Hajnalka Szakos will demonstrate her painting expertise and sign exquisite show pieces for purchase at this exclusive event.

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