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PAMPA.

Thursday, April 19, 2012

www.thepampanews.com

Volume 108 • No. 12



EPA to slash pollution from gas wells Standards are first ever for fracking | p8A

PHS soccer teams reflect

Boys, girls programs hold 2012 season banquet | p1B



TODAY IN SPORTS

GUEST OF HONOR



staff photo by Mollie Bryant

Texas Republican Party chairman Steve Munisteri speaks to a captivated crowd at the Pampa Senior Citizens Center during the Top O' Texas Republican Women's meeting on Wednesday afternoon.

State GOP chair Munisteri talks at TOTRW

The responsibility is that you have fight to protect our freedoms," he says

Mollie Bryant
mbryant@thepampanews.com

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Munisteri hearkened back to the optimism of the country during Ronald Reagan's administration.

"In addition to the economic gains he gave us, I think (Reagan) did something much more important," he said. "I think he restored the faith in this country, that our best days were not behind us, that we were a great nation ... and that if we just unleashed the spirit of this country through individual initiative and get the government out of the way, we could succeed."

Munisteri eagerly anticipates the next presidential election as an opportunity for a Republican to return to the office.

"This is not just a battle for us to win an election," he said. "This is a battle for us to take back our country and get it in the right direction."

"I think we live in the greatest country in the world," he added. "We are still the largest, most powerful country **MUNISTERI** cont. on page 5A

Public invited to recycling center event

Opening to be held in conjunction with Earth Day

MOLLIE BRYANT

mbryant@thepampanews.com

From 2 to 4 p.m. on April 20 will be the grand opening of the city's recycling center, which is located at the landfill entrance on Loop 171, and accepts paper, cardboard, aluminum and plastic. The community is invited to attend this come-and-go event, which will include demonstrations of the city's baling machine.

"Sunday is actu-



Hooner

ally Earth Day, so this is in conjunction with that," said Donny Hooper, Pampa's Director of Public Works. "It's a chance to show off our facility and to show (people) what

we're doing out there as far as our baling operations are concerned. We're baling plastics, mixed paper and cardboard."

Since January, the city has been working with the new equipment, and the center has already baled 22 tons of material, according to Hooper. The bales are sold to Western Fibers, a recycling company in Oklahoma, which transforms the paper and cardboard into housing insulation.

"This will be an opportunity for people to come out, see the new center, and also see and familiarize themselves with the bins that are outside, and have any questions that they have answered," said Hooper of the opening.

RECYCLING cont. on page 5A**

Police Department recognizes parking volunteers, dispatchers

ARNIE AURELLANO editor@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Police Department took the time to celebrate some of its unsung heroes on Wednesday, throwing a cookout for its dispatchers and, in particular, the men who volunteer for its handicapped parking enforcement program.

Wayne Slater and Eugene Taylor, who have been trained and help the police by handing out citations for handicapped parking violations for the last four years, were special guests at Wednesday's cookout, held at the PD's Station 11.

"It's just something that they deserve," said Stormy McCullar, crime prevention officer for the Pampa PD. "They should be recognized for the things they do for us.

"They're supposed to work like four

or eight hours a month," McCullar said. "They actually come out twice a week four times a month, so they go above and beyond what they're actually required to do. They're very dependable — very, very dependable — and they've done it for four years now."

Much of the volunteers' leg work has been done at their own expense, as they used their own transportation and gas for **VOLUNTEERS** cont. on page 3A

Volunteers Eugene Taylor (center, in white) and Wayne Slater (center, green) are joined by (from left) Craig Merritt, Kelly Rushing, Stormy McCullar, Tobie Bias and Jason Collier of the Pampa Police Department at the PD's cookout recognizing the volunteers' services.



staff photo by Arnie Aurellano





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staff photo by Arnie Aurellano





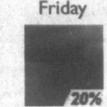
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PAMPA FORECAST

Today





High 81 Low 45

High 65 Low 44

High 73 Low 46

Today: Mostly sunny, with a high near 81. North northwest wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Tonight: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 45. Breezy, with a north northeast wind 10 to 15 mph increasing to between 20 and 25 mph. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Friday: A slight chance of showers before 1 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 65. Breezy, with a north wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 44. North northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 73. North northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 46. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west.

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Obituaries

Joyce Cambern Scott Smith, 91

CARLSBAD, N.M.-Joyce Cambern Scott Smith, 91, died March 14, 2012, in Carlsbad, N.M.

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 21, 2012, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel in Pampa, with Rev. Bob Banks, pastor of Straight Up Fellowship Church of Pampa, officiating. Cremation was under the direction of Denton-Wood Smith Funeral Home in Carlsbad,

N.M., and local arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Smith was born April 29, 1920 in Spearman. She married Dane Cambern on September 14, 1938, in Santa Fe, N.M.. He preceded her in death in 1975. She later married Cliff Scott on May 31, 1981. He preceded her in death in 2001. Joyce had a truly kind spirit and loving heart. She loved her family, she lived to dance and she also loved to travel. We will miss her deeply.

Survivors include her husband, Al Smith of Carlsbad, N.M.; five children, Dane Cambern and wife Rhonda of Sour Lake, Grant Cambern and wife Pauline of Amarillo, Kenny Cambern and wife Judy of Pampa, Sharon Martindale and husband David of Houston, and Cindy Harris and husband Rick of Pampa; her sister, Marciel Barber of Oklahoma City; 13 grandchildren, 19 greatgrandchildren, two great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by three brothers, Frank, Fred and A.J. Womble; and five grandchildren, Melissa Shannon Cambern, Cheryl Louise Cambern, Matthew Grant Cambern, Doug Auwen and Catherine Diann Cambern.

Memorials may be made to PAWS., P. O. Box 2095, Pampa, TX 79066-2095 or a favorite charity.

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whatley.

Harmon Crutcher, 81

Harmon Crutcher, 81, died April 18, 2012, in Pampa. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, April 20, 2012, at

Memory Gardens Mausoleum, with Nancy Ruff, commissioned lay pastor of First Presbyterian Church, offi-

Burial will be at Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

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Mr. Crutcher was born October 12, 1930, in Hollis, Okla. He had been a resident of Pampa since 1947. He married Margaret Davis on February 12, 1991, in Pampa. She preceded him in death on May 30, 1991. Harmon was a machinist for Motor Inn for 24 years. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force. He was a Baptist. He enjoyed dancing and playing dominos at Pampa Senior Citizens Center.

Survivors include his companion, Rita Geiger of Pampa; three sisters, Helen Holloway of Warner, Okla., Waunell Coleman of Salt Lake City, Utah, and Omega Chisum and husband Warren of Pampa; two brothers, Paskel Crutcher of Owasso, Okla., and Johnny Crutcher of Amber, Okla.; step-son, Doug Davis and wife Teresa; step-granddaughter, Karen Weidner and husband Todd. He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Thelma Harriss; four brothers, Preston, Allen, Royce and Edgar

Memorials may be made to Pampa Senior Citizens Center, P.O. Box 475, Pampa, TX 79066-0475.

Sign the online register at www.carmichael-whatley.

Tammy Chrise Cox, 41

TEXAS CITY—Tammy Chrise Cox, 41, passed away Monday, April 16, 2012, in Texas City.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, April 20, 2012, at New Hope Baptist Church in Pampa.

Tammy was born July 28, 1971, in Groom, to Sammy Cox Jr., now of Billings, Mont., and the late Jessie Cox. Tammy later moved to Pampa.

Survivors include four



Cox

children, one grandchild, six sisters and two brothers.

Last Minute

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

"BLACK **POWDER** Revival" looking for a bass player. Experienced only 19 thru Apr. 22, Lovett need to apply. Contact Memorial Library. "R.F.S." Richard Spence 440-6874

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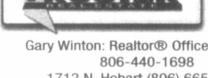
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GRAY COUNTY Voters, Early Voting starts May 14. Re-Elect John Mark Baggerman for Gray County ported. Commissioner Pct. Political ad paid for by Lora S. Baggerman, treasurer, 665-



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For the record

Cont. from Wednesday Police Department

Burglaries occurred at the 900 block of South Wells and block of East Highway 60. the 1900 block of North Cof-

curred at the 4000 block of North Bad Cattle Company Disorderly conduct was re-

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 2400 block of

North Rosewood. An assault occurred at the 400 block of North Doyle.

A burglary of a motor vehicle occurred at the 1200 block of Bond.

Disorderly conduct was reported. A violation of a city ordi-

nance occurred at Zimmers and Buckler. Disorderly conduct occurred at the 100 block of Vil-

Identity theft was reported. A suspicious person was reported at the 300 block of

North Davis. A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 1100 block of

South Nelson. A violation of city ordinance occurred at the 2200

block of North Williston. Disorderly conduct oc-

curred at the 2100 block of North Hamilton.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at Christy and Dwight. A suspicious person was reported at the 200 block of

Randy Matson.

400 block of North Nelson.

A violation of city ordinance occurred at the 1600 Disorderly conduct oc-

curred at the 800 block of East at the 100 block of South Disorderly conduct oc- Beryl. A suspicious person was

reported at Buckler and Rider. Disorderly conduct oc- Sumner. curred at the 300 block of West Foster.

A suspicious person was reported at the 1700 block of North Coffee.

Saturday, April 14

Suspicious persons were re-Harvester and the 2100 block of North Dwight.

curred at the 400 block of Somerville and Hobart. West Foster.

occurred at 19th and Hobart. A domestic disturbance oc-

South Varnon. Disorderly conduct occurred at the 1300 block of curred at Juniper and North North Christine.

A theft occurred at the 2200 block of North Nelson.

A domestic disturbance was reported.

1400 block of North Hobart. Harassment was reported at the 300 block of West 30th.

A threat was reported at the 1200 block of North Wells. Disorderly conduct oc- curred at the 1000 block of North Faulkner.

curred at the 700 block of East Huff. Murphy.

A hit and run occurred at the reported at the 1200 block of South Nelson.

> Disorderly conduct oc-North Sloan.

Faulkner. Criminal mischief occurred at the 400 block of North

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 1100 block of

West Cinderella. A suspicious person was reported at the 100 block of Sierra.

South Sumner. Disorderly conduct was ported at the 100 block of East reported at the 1100 block of

Cinderella. Endangerment of a child or Disorderly conduct oc- elderly person was reported at

Disorderly conduct oc-Driving while intoxicated curred at 29th and Aspen.

Suspicious vehicles were reported at the intersection of curred at the 1100 block of Beech and Linda and the 1300 block of West Kentucky.

> Crest. A suspicious person was reported at the 400 block of

Disorderly conduct oc-

West Foster. Disorderly conduct oc-An accident occurred at the curred at Brunow and Reid.

> Sunday, April 15 reported at the 200 block of

South Starkweather. A domestic disturbance oc-

Disorderly conduct oc-

A suspicious person was curred at the 2500 block of Aspen and the 1400 block of West Somerville. Suspicious persons were

curred at the 700 block of reported at the intersection of Atchison and Wynne and the A prowler was reported 1000 block of West Wilks.

A theft occurred at the 300 block of South Gray. A violation of city ordi-

nance occurred at the 600 block of North Wynne. A burglary occurred at the 2600 block of North Hobart. Disorderly conduct occurred at the 1100 block of

A suspicious person was reported at the 200 block of North Starkweather.

Stalking was reported at the 1700 block of West Buckler. A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 1600 block of East Highway 60.

A suspicious person was reported at the 400 block of North Sumner and the intersection of Zimmers and Lincoln.

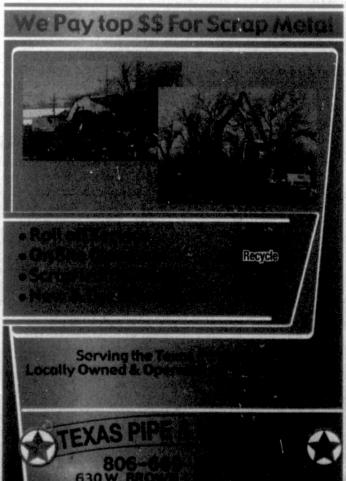
Monday, April 16 An accident occurred at the

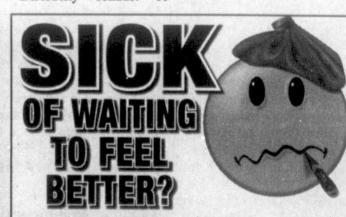
100 block of North Faulkner. A suspicious person was reported at the 1200 block of North Wells, the 600 block of West Foster and the 700 block

of North Faulkner. A suspicious vehicle was A suspicious person was reported at the 100 block of North Faulkner.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 100 block of

A theft was reported.





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OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - Gov. Mary Fallin has requested a federal disaster declaration for Woodward County in the wake of a tornado that killed six people and damaged or destroyed dozens of homes and busi-

Fallin said Wednesday the designation would provide federal assistance to individuals and businesses in the tornado-ravaged area.

Preliminary damage assessments conducted over the weekend found the storm affected 224 homes and businesses in the county. Of those, 73 were destroyed, 22 had major damage and 21 had minor damage.

If the request is approved, those who had damage will be eligible for assistance for housing repairs or temporary housing; U.S. Small Business Administration low-interest loans to repair or replace damaged property; disaster unemployment assistance and grants for serious needs and necessary disaster expenses not met by other programs.

Proposed math standards criticized

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas' new set of proposed K-12 math curriculum standards are drawing fire from an influential business organization and others who say they aren't rigorous enough.

The State Board of Education gave preliminary approval to the 10-year requirements in January and they are up for final passage by the 15-member board Friday.

Textbook publishers are waiting for that approval so they can begin producing classroom materials.

But Texas Association of Business President Bill Hammond says the new curriculum is so broad that it's incoherent in some areas and won't adequately prepare students in algebra.

Hammond and other critics will address the board of education Wednesday.

Sensitive to critics' concerns, board members have modified the proposed curriculum and could make more changes — though that may delay a vote on final

Mexico seizes trafficked ammo

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (AP) — Mexican customs inspectors seized 268,000 rounds of assault rifle ammunition found in a U.S. truck at a border crossing in Ciudad Juarez, authorities reported Wednesday.

Angel Torres, a spokesman for federal prosecutors in northern Chihuahua state, said a 37-year-old man from Dallas was detained for trying to drive the truck across the border from El Paso, Texas.

Torres said the driver, who is held pending investigation on illegal weapons charges, claimed he had no goods to declare when he arrived at the border Tuesday. Torres said a gamma-ray inspection of the truck's

cargo compartment revealed the presence of metal canisters holding the ammunition. He says the bullets were hidden under pallets in the truck's floor.

Two calibers of ammunition were found, which can be fired by AR-15 and AK-47 assault rifles.

Prosecutors said it was the largest seizure of ammunition in Ciudad Juarez in recent memory.

JetBlue pilot plans insanity defense

AMARILLO (AP) — A JetBlue Airways captain accused of disrupting a flight when he left the cockpit screaming about religion and terrorists plans to use an insanity defense at trial. .

An attorney for Clayton F. Osbon filed a motion Wednesday outlining plans to argue Osbon was insane at the time of the incident on the March 27 flight from New York to Las Vegas.

Osbon remains jailed in Texas awaiting a courtordered psychiatric exam to determine his competency for trial and whether he was legally sane when witnesses say he left the cockpit and ran screaming through the plane's cabin.

Passengers wrestled him to the floor and he was subdued until the plane made an emergency landing in

Prosecutor Christy Drake declined to comment on the filing Wednesday.

Water restrictions for Dallas

DALLAS (AP) - The Dallas City Council has approved permanent watering restrictions even though the area is no longer part of one of the worst droughts in Texas history.

Mayor Mike Rawlings and most council members applauded Wednesday's vote as a conservation tool that will extend the water supply another 10 years to 2045.

The new ordinance will limit sprinkler use by residents and businesses to twice a week.

There will be no restrictions on other watering methods, such as drip lines, soaker hoses and hand-

The Dallas Morning News reports that two council members voted against the measure, citing concerns about damaging millions of dollars in landscaping.

Generous rainfall in recent months has pulled the Dallas area out of a drought that lingers in other parts

Teen pleads guilty to murder

FORT WORTH (AP) — An 18-year-old man has pleaded guilty to murder in the fatal shooting of a 17-year-old high school student who interrupted a burglary at his Fort Worth home.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reports that under a deal with prosecutors, Broderick Patterson asked Wednesday that a jury decide his punishment for the April 2010 death of Eric Forrester. He could be sentenced to up to 99 years in prison.

Patterson had been charged with capital murder, for which he could have received a life sentence without parole if convicted.

Co-defendant Clifton Elliott, who's also 18, awaits trial on a capital murder charge. He and Patterson were 16 at the time of the shooting but were certified for trial as adults. Because of their ages, they were ineligible for the death penalty.

TransCanada submits www.thepampanews.com Okla. seeks disaster declaration new XL pipeline route

WASHINGTON (AP) - The company planning the disputed Keystone XL oil pipeline has proposed a new route through Nebraska that avoids the state's environmentally sensitive Sandhills region.

Calgary-based TransCanada submitted a series of proposed routes — including a preferred alternative ate Wednesday to Nebraska environmental officials.

The state has become a focus of concern for the 1,700mile pipeline, which would carry oil from Canada to the Texas Gulf Coast. President Barack Obama blocked the oipeline earlier this year, citing uncertainty over the Nebraska route, which would travel above an aquifer that provides water to eight states.

Details of the preferred route were not immediately available. A spokesman for the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality said officials hope to post the full proposal on the Internet as soon as Thursday.

A spokeswoman for the State Department said U.S. officials had not received notification of a new route. State Department approval is needed because the \$7 billion pipeline would cross a U.S. border.

In blocking the pipeline in January, Obama said there was not enough time for a fair review before a looming deadline forced on him by congressional Republicans. The action did not kill the project but put off a tough choice on the pipeline project, which has become a flashpoint in a bitter partisan fight over jobs and the environment.

Pipeline supporters — including GOP lawmakers and many business and labor leaders— call the pipeline an important job creator. Opponents — including Democrats and environmental groups — say it would transport "dirty oil" from tar sands in Alberta, Canada, that requires huge amounts of energy to extract. They also worry about a possible spill.

Nebraska Gov. Dave Heineman signed a bill earlier this week that allows the state to proceed with its review of the proposed pipeline through his state, regardless of what happens at the federal level.

Obama said last month he will direct federal agencies to fast-track a segment of the pipeline from Oklahoma to Texas.

The 485-mile line from Cushing, Okla., to refineries on Texas' Gulf coast would remove a critical bottleneck in the country's oil transportation system, as rising oil production has outgrown pipelines' capacity to deliver oil to refineries.

Volunteers

cont, from page 1A

three years before the department was able to get them a vehicle, McCullar added.

McCullar presented the pair with police department tote bags in a small ceremony as tokens of appreciation for their work, and she and Sgt. Tobie Bias expressed their appreciation for the volunteers' service to the department.

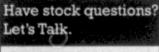
"When they're doing the parking authority stuff and they're out doing the handicapped parking, we're out doing stuff like investigations on burglaries and trying to catch criminals that are actively out there doing stuff," Bias said. "That gives us our time to do our job more efficiently and serving the community better, so they're doing a big part.

There have been roughly 200 handicapped parking citations written by the volunteer program over the course of its existence, according to McCullar. At about five minutes a citation, that's around a thousand minutes of work time that the volunteers have saved the police department, Bias said.

"They give us plenty of time. You know, a thousand minutes is three or four days worth of time that we can use on other stuff. They're very important to

Regarding the dispatchers, McCullar said that last week was Dispatcher Appreciation Week, but the department also wanted to recognize them on Wednesday for all their hard work.

"Dispatchers are definitely a lifeline for the police department," McCullar said. "They have an extremely important tole with the speediness of getting officers to calls they need to get to. ... We appreciate (the dispatchers) greatly. They have a hard job."





Pampa, TX 79065

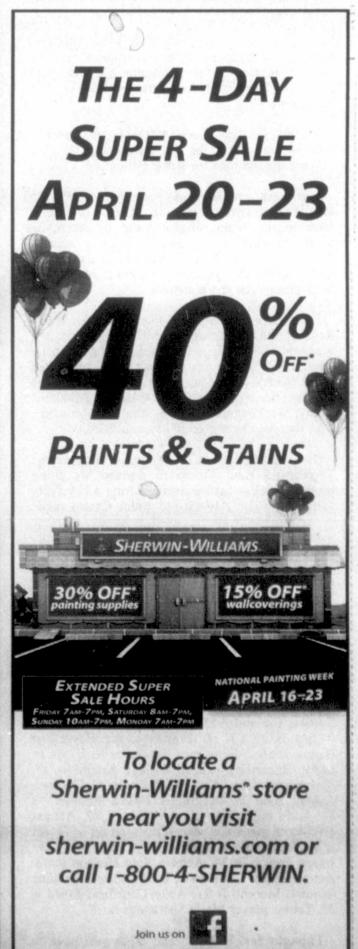
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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Thursday, April 19, the 110th day of 2012. There are 256 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 19, 1912, a special subcommittee of the Senate Commerce Committee opened hearings in New York into the Titanic disaster. (The hearings, which were subsequently moved to Washington, D.C., concluded on May 28.)

On this date:

In 1012, Alphege, Archbishop of Canterbury, was slain by Danish invaders in Greenwich, England, after refusing to allow himself to be ransomed. (Revered as a martyr, Alphege was canonized by Pope Gregory VII in 1078.)

In 1775, the American Revolutionary War began with the battles of Lexington and Concord.

In 1861, a week after the Civil War began, President Abraham Lincoln authorized a blockade of Southern ports.

In 1933, the United States went off the gold standard.

In 1943, during World War II, tens of thousands of Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto began a valiant but ultimately futile battle against Nazi forces.

In 1951, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, relieved of his Far East command by President Harry S. Truman, bid farewell in an address to Congress in which he quoted a line from a ballad. "Old soldiers never die; they just fade away," he said.

In 1966, Bobbi Gibb became the first woman to run in the Boston Marathon, which at that time did not allow women to participate.

In 1967, Kathrine (cq) Switzer became the first woman to run the Boston Marathon under an official number by registering without mentioning her gender; by her own estimate, she finished in 4 hours and 20 minutes.

In 1982, astronauts Sally K. Ride and Guion S. Bluford Jr. became the first woman and first African-American to be tapped for U.S. space missions.

In 1993, the 51-day siege at the Branch Davidian compound near Waco, Texas, ended as fire destroyed the structure after federal agents began smashing their way in; dozens of people, including sect leader David Koresh, were killed.

In 1995, a truck bomb destroyed the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, killing 168 people. (Bomber Timothy McVeigh was later convicted of federal murder charges and executed.)

In 2005, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger of Germany was elected pope in the first conclave of the new millennium; he took the name Benedict XVI.

Ten years ago: The U.N. Security Council gave unanimous support to sending a U.N. fact-finding team to the Jenin refugee camp to determine what happened during Israel's military assault. The space shuttle Atlantis returned to Earth after installing the first girder for a giant framework at the international space station.

Five years ago: Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid offered a bleak assessment of Iraq, saying the war was "lost," triggering an angry backlash by Republicans. A jury in Selmer, Tenn., convicted Mary Winkler of voluntary manslaughter in the shooting death of her preacher-husband, Matthew. (Mary Winkler spent seven months in custody, with two months served in a mental facility.)

One year ago: Cuba's Communist Party picked 79-year-old Raul Castro to replace his ailing brother Fidel as first secretary during a key Party Congress. (The 84-year-old Fidel Castro made a surprise appearance, to thunderous applause from the delegates.) Syria did away with 50 years of emergency rule, but emboldened and defiant crowds accused President Bashar Assad of simply trying to buy time while clinging to power. Norwegian runner Grete Waitz, 57, who'd won nine New York marathons and the silver medal at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, died in Oslo.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Hugh O'Brian is 87. Actress Elinor Donahue is 75. Rock musician Alan Price (The Animals) is 70. Actor Tim Curry is 66. Pop singer Mark "Flo" Volman (The Turtles; Flo and Eddie) is 65. Actor Tony Plana ("Ugly Betty") is 60. Former tennis player Sue Barker is 56. Former race car driver Al Unser Jr. is 50. Recording executive Suge Knight is 47. Singer-songwriter Dar Williams is 45. Actress Ashley Judd is 44. Singer Bekka Bramlett is 44. Latin pop singer Luis Miguel is 42. Actress Jennifer Esposito is 40. Actress Jennifer Taylor is 40. Jazz singer Madeleine Peyroux is 38. Actor James Franco is 34. Actress Kate Hudson is 33. Actor Hayden Christensen is 31. Actress Catalina Sandino Moreno is 31, Actor Courtland Mead is 25. Tennis player Maria Sharapova is 25.

Thought for Today: "The crisis you have to worry about most is the one you don't see coming." - Mike Mansfield, American statesman (1903-2001).



Competition cuts down Medicare fraud

RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR **Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — A yearlong experiment with competitive bidding for power wheelchairs, diabetic supplies and other personal medical equipment produced \$200 million in savings for Medicare, and government officials said Wednesday they are expanding the pilot program in search of even greater dividends.

The nine-city crackdown targeting waste and fraud has drawn a strong protest from the medical supply industry, which is warning of shortages for people receiving Medicare benefits and economic hardship for small suppliers. But the shift to competitive bidding has led to few complaints from those in Medicare, according to a new government report.

The report found only 151 complaints from a total population of 2.3 million Medicare recipients in the nine metropolitan areas, including Miami, Cincinnati and

Riverside, Calif.

As a result, the program is expanding to a total of 100 cities next year, along with a national mail order program for diabetes supplies such as blood sugar testing kits. Eventually the whole country will participate.

Medicare traditionally has struggled to manage medical equipment costs. Officials say the program often paid more than private insurers for comparable equipment and was vulnerable to fraud by unscrupulous suppliers ordering expensive but unneeded products for unwitting beneficiaries.

By shifting to competitive bidding with a limited number of approved suppliers in each area, Medicare will save nearly \$26 billion from 2013-2022, the government estimates, and reduce costs for seniors

without cutting benefits.

"What we see is that costs are lower and there is no impact on the health status of our beneficiaries," said Jonathan Blum, deputy administrator for Medicare. "This gives us very strong confidence that we can expand the program. To us, this is a clear success."

The home-care supply industry sharply questioned that conclusion.

"With respect to the number of complaints (the report's) information is downright laughable," said Walt Gorski, a senior lobbyist for the American Association for Homecare. "It defies logic." The group represents suppliers of home health equipment, ranging from oxygen to hospital beds.

The industry says hundreds of economists at academic institutions around the country have concluded that Medicare's competitive bidding model is flawed and could lead to shortages or force beneficiaries to use less desirable cut-rate equip-

In its report, Medicare said it closely monitored the health of beneficiaries likely to use home equipment in the nine areas involved with the competitive bidding experiment. It then compared the results to data for beneficiaries in other similar areas where competitive bidding has not been instituted vet. Using yardsticks such as emergency room visits and nursing home admissions, it found no significant differences.

"We have not seen any change in health status or access to services once the program went into place," said Blum.

The report said the Medicare consumer hotline received 127,466 calls from beneficiaries about the competitive bidding program during 2011, less than 1 percent of the total volume of calls received. Most involved routine matters, such as

locating a supplier.

Medicare defined complaints as dissatisfaction that could not be resolved by a call center operator. It registered 151 complaints for the year, the vast majority in the first six months of the program. Only six complaints were logged in the last three months of the year.

Medicare also called a sample of beneficiaries in areas where there was a sharp drop the quantities of supplies ordered for diabetes testing and for sleep apnea machines. The report said "in virtually every case" the beneficiary reported having more than enough supplies on hand, often several months' worth.

"This would suggest that beneficiaries received excessive replacement supplies before they became medically necessary," according to

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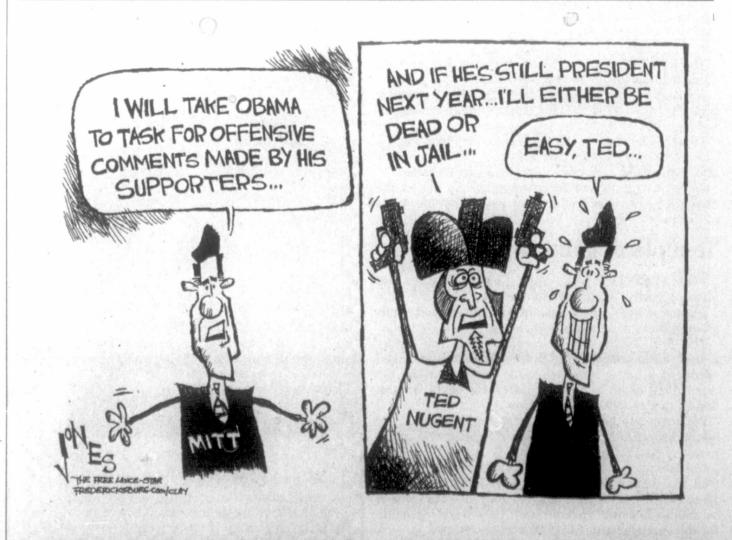
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The nine metropolitan areas involved in the experiment were Charlotte-Gastonia-Concord (North Carolina and South Carolina): Cincinnati-Middletown (Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana); Cleveland-Elyria-Mentor (Ohio); Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington (Texas); Kansas City (Missouri and Kansas); Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach and Orlando (Florida);, Pittsburgh; and Riverside-San Bernadino-Ontario (Calif.).

Nine categories of medical equipment are included in the program: oxygen supplies, standard power wheelchairs, complex power wheelchairs, mail-order diabetic supplies, tube-feeding supplies and equipment, sleep apnea machines and equipment, hospital beds, walkers, and certain types of mattresses.

The major components of the \$200 million saved last year were \$59 million from oxygen supplies and equipment, \$51 million from mail-order diabetic supplies and nearly \$40 million from power wheelchairs and similar devices.



Search and rescue dogs prove invaluable



Fide canem: the creed of canine search-and-rescue organizations. These two words often adorn their logos or sit high atop their websites. Reassuring words. They are Latin for "trust the dog."

"Trust the dog" is the first rule new SAR dog handlers learn. That rule paid handsomely in Haiti, where SAR teams were responsible for a record number of saved lives when a monumental earth-quake shook the Western hemisphere's poorest country to its core. Debra Tosch, executive director of the Search Dog Foundation, told the Los Angeles Daily News, "When you go on a mission like this hoping to get one rescue, one find, the fact that they're having multiple rescues is just amazing."

SDF is a nonprofit organization whose mission is "to strengthen disaster response in America by recruiting rescued dogs and partnering them with firefighters and other first responders to find people buried alive in the wreckage of disasters."

After the earthquake in January 2010, at least 175 SAR dogs and their handlers arrived on the scene to do their part. Dogs from the Netherlands and China. From Ireland and France. From the United States, Britain and Canada. Mexico, Peru and Taiwan. Dogs from Spain, Iceland, Germany and Venezuela. What makes these dogs so invaluable?

In the context of a calamity like quake-ravaged Haiti, one certified SAR dog is the equivalent of 40 human beings trained in disaster relief. A certified SAR team — one dog, one handler — can accomplish more in these circumstances in 10 minutes than a single person could in several hours.

How do they do it?

By the divine light of their natural-born gifts, in part. Dogs possess night-vision without the funny goggles. Their ears pick up more sound frequencies than ours, and their bodies are more agile. They are smaller, lighter and fearless under conditions that would reduce most of us to nightmares.

The reason behind the credo, though, is that famous canine sniffer. While a person has about 5 million olfactory sensory cells, a dog can have up to 220 million. Canines perceive certain smells in the range of one part in 10 quadrillion. And one-third of

a dog's brain is devoted to olfaction, meaning he is "scent smart." According to Gary Settles, professor of mechanical engineering at Penn State University, who studied the canine olfactory system for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, "They use scent the way we read the newspaper."

To put that in normal domestic dog terms, that's how your dog can mark the same spot on the carpet repeatedly, no matter how much perfumed cleanser you drown it in. But for bomb-sniffing dogs, cadaver-sniffing dogs or search-and-rescue dogs, this heightened sensitivity becomes the stuff of superheroes. And it is why SAR canine handlers are taught, above all: Fide canem.

Specialized training with an expert handler turns a dog's unique gifts into a lifesaving skillset. Tosch said of the SAR teams' role in Haiti, "All SDF handlers are experts in reading their canines... The canines are literally the Task Force's most precious tool in the hunt for survivors: Their well-being is mission-critical."

And that well-being is ensured. SDF repays their debt of gratitude to these distinguished dogs by guaranteeing a cushy retirement. Not that these hardworking canines seem overly concerned with their benefits plan.

Terry Trepanier, a lieutenant with the Washington Twp. Fire Department, and his golden retriever, Woody, spent 10 days at Ground Zero after September 11. "To know what they've been through and to see how they performed makes you proud. And they never complain," said Trepanier. "They just wag their tails and say, 'Let's go."

These remarkable dogs are a part of our lives. We pass them in airports, cruise by them at border crossings and sail past them at our nation's ports. We read about them when children go missing or when a victim of Alzheimer's disappears. More than a decade ago, we all sat riveted as they reported for duty when the Twin Towers crumbled in New York City. And more recently, we stood by as they responded to the cry for help in Haiti.

Next time you encounter one, be sure to issue a much-deserved scratch behind the ears.

To find out more about SDF's SAR dogs or to make a donation, visit searchdogfoundation.org. Or google "search and rescue dogs" to extend your research to other similarly worthy organizations.

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!"



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He added that people have begun asking whether or not the city is planning on placing recycling collection bins outside of people's homes. Instead, the city will continue to have people bring in their recycling materials to the center.

"There's a joy in that for a lot of people, I guess you could say, to be able to collect that stuff, whether it's for your kids or a Boy Scout project or a civic club project, or just someone that is into recycling going on a route themselves and picking it up from elderly people and taking it out," said Hooper. "There's some satisfaction that comes along with that, and we don't have to absorb the huge cost that it would take to put containers everywhere, and to hire employees to man those routes, and spend tax dollars on that, when right now, we're pretty much already at a break-even point, and we plan to be beyond that if we reach our goals at the end of the year."

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by far, and with that blessing, to have all that opportunity, comes responsibility. The responsibility is that you have to fight to protect our freedoms and our god-given free will. Other generations before us have done that, and we don't want to be the generation that drops the hall."





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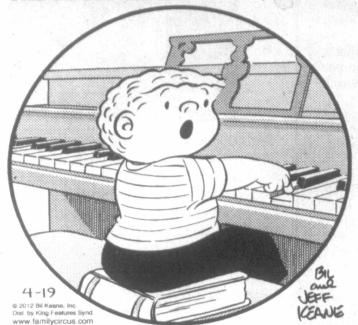
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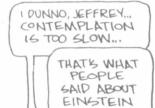


THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"Daddy, this key lost its voice."



Non Sequitur

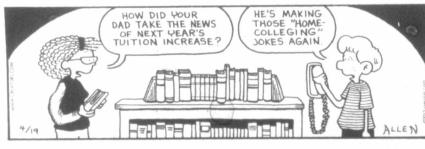
WHEN EINSTEIN WAS A KID, EVERYONE THOUGHT HE WAS MENTALLY SLOW BECAUSE HE WOULD STOP AND CON-TEMPLATE A QUESTION INSTEAD OF GIVING A SNAP ANSWER ... UNFORTUNATELY, THE WORLD STILL WANTS SPEED OVER SMARTS





WILEY INKE ENTETIALINK, NOT GOCOMICS, COM

Nest Heads





horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, April 20, 2012:

This year you discover your inner reclusive side. Others might express their worry or be taken aback. Respond openly to their inquiries, as much as you can. Most likely, you are single, you could meet someone offbeat. who is emotionally unavailable. Be careful before you plunge into a new relationship. If you are attached, the two of you will spend a lot of time together and enjoy it. Make sure you get enough R and R. A fellow TAURUS can be pushy!

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

*** You keep putting your best foot optimistic forward, but someone continues to step on it. Be more in touch with how much you offer and give. You will see the difference quite quickly when you approach others with this newfound awareness. Tonight: Buy a few items to spruce up your wardrobe.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

*** Keep an even pace; take a tance you do not see often. power nap if need be. A New Moon in your sign promises a new beginning. You want to be the captain on the ship of your life, not just a passenger. Do not allow someone's negativity to become a burden. Tonight: All smiles.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ You have been thinking through some life decisions, even if you haven't necessarily wanted to. You might be on the verge of making them a reality. Be aware of the implications of your decisions. A child or loved one is out of sorts. Tonight: You can decide to do nothing.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Get past someone's demand, or handle a responsibility. By midafternoon, you'll tend to be more gregarious. Whether you're at a lunch meeting or a social happening, you seem to say and do the right things. Make the most of the moment. Tonight: Do not allow today's mood to get the best of you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

*** Quickly make calls, reach out for others and get to the basis of an issue without coloring the story by personal bias. Someone might make a demand or request that forces you to take the lead; make it your pleasure. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Deal with calls and people individually. You could be unusually uptight about a situation and allow it to color your day. Pull back to see if this is the case. Take a walk, detach and approach others with a new attitude. What a difference that you will be enjoying your downtime. If could make! Tonight: Go with something

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

*** Try to curb a tendency to selfsabotage. You have been unusually negative or touchy lately. Others might approach you, but head in another direction before they say much if they catch a whiff of your attitude. Tonight: Work on being

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Your effort to preserve a situation might backfire. You cannot fight change -- not emotionally, personally or professionally. Go with the flow, and trust that something better is ahead. Later today, you could sense a change in the air and in how you feel. Tonight: Join an acquain-

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

*** Listen to your inner voice. You sense that you might want to get out the door or start the weekend early. Listen to a child or loved one; he or she will encourage you to go with spontaneity. Think before you leap. Tonight: Let your energy make the call.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

*** Tension builds and causes a problem when you interact with authority figures. Know when to pull back and opt for a less public stance. A personal or domestic issue needs more attention at this point. Try not to juggle as much right now. Tonight: You do not need to go far.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

*** Keep communication flowing, even if you don't exactly understand what is happening. In your mind, you sense that someone is holding back. Accusation will not work, but eventually he or she will let the cat out of the bag. Tonight: Visit with a friend on the way home.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

*** Someone could be asking for what you cannot give. This person might not understand why you refuse to go along with his or her request. Distance yourself for now. In the near future, you could get past this resistance. Tonight: Head home, then decide.

Tundra



Shoe





Mother Goose and Grim



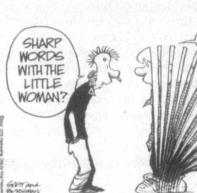


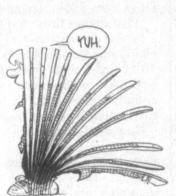


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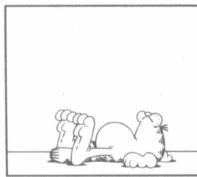




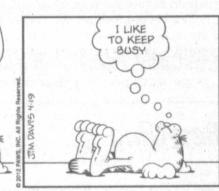




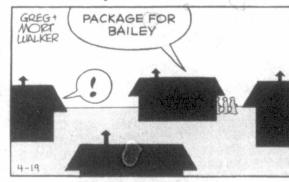
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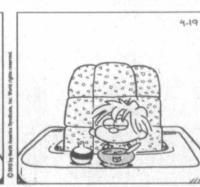
Beetle Bailey





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Hagar The Horrible



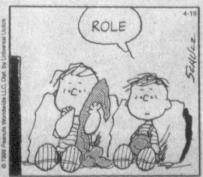




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Federal judge asked to sign off on BP oil spill settlement

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — BP and attorneys for more than 100,000 people and businesses presented a federal judge Wednesday with a class-action settlement designed to resolve billions of dollars in claims spawned by the 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

The London-based oil giant and the lawyers are asking U.S. District Judge Carl Barbier in New Orleans to give preliminary approval to the settlement agreement. The judge is scheduled to consider their request April 25.

BP PLC estimates it will pay about \$7.8 billion to resolve these claims, but the settlement doesn't have a cap. It will likely be one of the largest class-action settlements ever.

"As in any settlement, neither side will receive everything it wants — not BP, which believes that plaintiffs' claims are subject to considerable litigation risk, and not the (Plaintiffs' Steering Committee), who maintain that they would one day obtain larger awards if their claims were to proceed to trial," the filing said.

The details of the agreement, spelled out in hundreds of pages of documents, are consistent with the deal announced last month, but the reaction was mixed, leaving open the possibility that many businesses and individuals might decide not to take part.

Dean Blanchard, a shrimp processor in Grand Isle, La., said he was disappointed. He said shrimp processors like him in the hardest-hit areas of the coast should get more money.

"They want to make it a one-sizefits-all, and it's not," he said. "They're looping too many people together."

He said he would opt out and predicted others would do the same. "I have lost millions of dollars. They can never bring me back."

Kevin Heier, a blue crab harvester, wasn't sure yet what he would do.

"Frustrating? That's an easy word for it. It's beyond frustrating," he said. "We were fine before the spill. The seafood is harder to get, it's more 21 years.

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — BP and expensive, people aren't buying the ttorneys for more than 100,000 peo-seafood like they used to."

The agreement announced March 2 doesn't resolve separate claims brought by the federal government and Gulf states against BP and its partners on the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig over environmental damage from the nation's worst offshore oil spill.

The settlement also doesn't resolve claims against Switzerland-based rig owner Transocean Ltd. and Houston-based cement contractor Halliburton. Barbier has scheduled a May 3 hearing to discuss plans for a possible trial on the other claims.

Barbier also is expected to hold a "fairness hearing" on the settlement before deciding whether to approval it

The agreement calls for paying medical claims from cleanup workers and others who say they suffered illnesses from exposure to the oil or chemicals used to disperse it. None of those claims were paid through a BP-created \$20 billion compensation fund.

The agreement spells out several compensation levels, with cleanup workers eligible for the most: up to \$60,700 plus money to cover hospital and medical bills they might have racked up.

There's money for workers and residents who can prove they suffered more mild symptoms from breathing in oil fumes or dispersants. Many people have complained of ear, nose, throat, skin and neurological problems. Under the agreement, residents in this category can get between \$900 and \$5,450 with some eligible for medical bills they have paid. Workers can get between \$1,300 and \$7,750 plus medical expenses.

In addition, BP has agreed to spend \$105 million over five years to set up a Gulf Coast health outreach program and pay for medical examinations for 21 years.

The oil company also agreed to pay \$2.3 billion for seafood-related claims by commercial fishing vessel owners, captains and deckhands.

"Notably, the amount that BP has agreed to pay to fund the Seafood Compensation Program exceeds the annual revenue of these industries many times over," a court filing said.

The settlement also would compensate lost wages, loss of business and damage to vessels that worked clean up. Plaintiffs' lawyers are seeking fees, costs and expenses capped at \$600 million. They're asking for an interim award of \$75 million plus additional quarterly payments equivalent to 6 percent of class claims. Lawyers' awards won't come out of plaintiffs' payments.

Barbier would set any award for the attorneys. BP isn't contesting the request.

BP also has agreed to pay an additional \$57 million to promote the Gulf Coast tourism and seafood industries and spend up to \$5 million on a publicity campaign to inform Gulf Coast residents how to participate in the settlement.

The April 20, 2010, blowout of BP's Macondo well triggered an explosion that killed 11 rig workers and unleashed a gusher that spewed more than 200 million gallons of oil into the Gulf.

In the aftermath, BP created a \$20 billion fund to compensate commercial fishermen, property owners, hotels and other tourism-driven businesses that claimed they suffered economic damages.

The Gulf Coast Claims Facility processed more than 221,000 claims and paid out more than \$6 billion from the fund before a court-supervised administrator took over March 8. The administrator, Patrick Juneau, announced last week that 5,238 claimants have been paid more than \$134 million during the transition period as of April 6.

The settlement excludes certain types of businesses, including financial institutions, casinos and racetracks, as well as losses allegedly caused by the federal government's temporary moratorium on deepwater drilling.

Brent Coon, an attorney who represents roughly 15,000 clients with spill-related claims but wasn't involved in the settlement negotiations, said the proposal's formula for compensating many plaintiffs appears to be more generous than the GCCF's. Some categories of plaintiffs may be better off opting out, but they face a long wait for a trial date, he said.

Fort Hood trial delayed again

FORT HOOD (AP) — A military judge has once again postponed the trial of the Army psychiatrist charged in the deadly Fort Hood shooting rampage.

Maj. Nidal Hasan's court martial is now set to begin in August instead of June on the Texas Army post. The judge issued his ruling Wednesday.

Defense attorneys had requested a delay until October. They said they needed more time to review the numerous documents in the

Earlier this year, the judge delayed the trial from March until June.

Hasan faces the death penalty if convicted of 13 counts of premeditated murder and 32 counts of attempted premeditated murder in the November 2009 rampage.

The 41-year-old Hasan remains jailed. He's paralyzed from the waist down after being shot by police the day of the attack.

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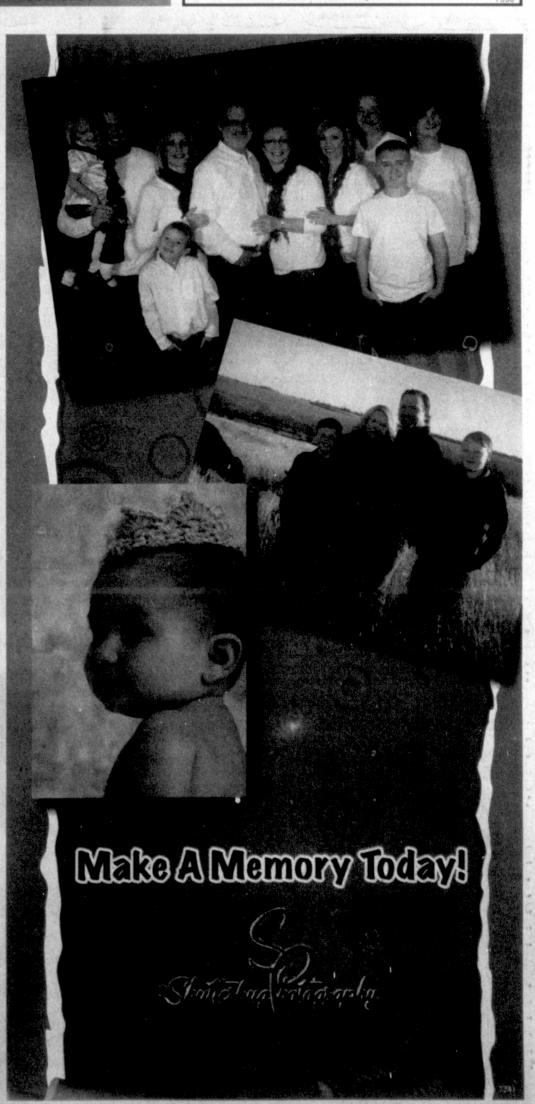
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White House, EPA to slash pollution from natural gas wells

Wednesday set the first-ever national standards to control air pollution from gas wells that are drilled using a method called hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, but not without making concessions to the oil and gas industry.

President Barack Obama in his State of the Union address strongly backed natural gas drilling as a clean energy source, and recently announced an executive order calling for coordination of federal regulation to ease burdens on producers. But he has come under criticism by the industry and Republicans for policies they say discourage energy development.

Top EPA officials said Wednesday that the new regulations would ensure pollution is controlled without slowing natural gas production.

"By ensuring the capture of gases that were previously released to pollute our air and threaten our climate, these updated standards will protect our health, but also lead to more product for fuel suppliers to bring to market," said EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson in a statement.

Much of the air pollution from fracked gas wells is vented when the well transitions from drilling to actual production, a three- to 10-day process which is referred to as "completion." An earlier version of the rule limiting air

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration on to install pollution-reducing equipment immediately after the rule was finalized.

> Drillers now will be given more than two years to employ technology to reduce emissions of smog- and sootforming pollutants during that stage. The Environmental Protection Agency will require drillers to burn off gas in the meantime, an alternative that can release smog-forming nitrogen oxides, but will still slash overall emissions.

> Industry groups had pushed hard for the delay, saying the equipment to reduce pollution at the wellhead during completion was not readily available. About 25,000 wells a year are being fracked, a process where water, chemicals and sand are injected at high pressure underground to release trapped natural gas.

> Besides the new standards for oil and gas wells, the EPA also on Wednesday updated existing rules for natural gas processing plants, storage tanks and transmission lines that will reduce amounts of cancer-causing air pollution, such as benzene, and also reduce methane — the main ingredient in natural gas, but also one of the most potent global warming gases.

> There were other changes made since the EPA proposed the rule last July under a court order that stemmed from a

methane reserves, would be exempt because they release less pollution during completion. And companies that choose to re-fracture wells using the pollution-reducing equipment prior to the January 2015 deadline would not be covered by other parts of the regulation.

Since companies could capture the natural gas and sell it, the EPA estimates that they would save about \$11-\$19 million a year starting in 2015.

The American Petroleum Institute, the main lobbying group for the oil and gas industry, said that much of the industry was already doing that.



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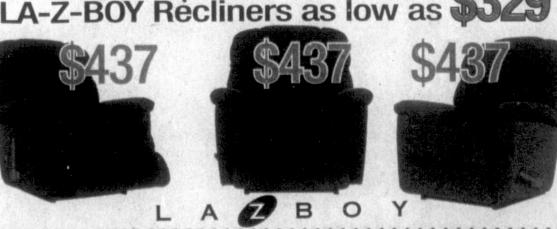
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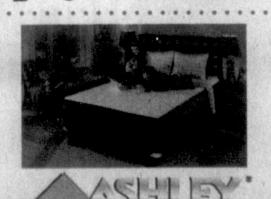




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Sports Sports

PHS boys and girls soccer celebrate 2012 season

ANDREW GLOVER aglover@thepampanews. com

The Pampa boys and girls soccer teams spent time Monday looking back at their accomplishments in the 2012 season at their annual banquet.

The Harvesters finished 5-15-1 and 2-10 in district. The Lady Harvesters finished 3-11-3 and 3-7-2 in district. Boys head coach Byron May and girls assistant coach David Willis spoke about the teams. Former head coach Libby Garza (now Rodriguez) is now the head volleyball coach at Lewisville and wasn't at the banquet.

"I was nowhere near a qualified soccer coach when we started the year off," Willis said. "I make no qualms about that. All of these young ladies at one point or another taught me a lot about soccer and how to deal with young ladies."

"(The underclassmen) for a senior class that is just one of the most super group of young men, I've been around, this group supported them fully

and took direction from them," May said.

Willis is in his first year of coaching. Both May and Willis spoke about their seniors and challenged the underclassmen.

"The effort that has come in and the work put in, you got to build on it," May said. "

"I feel a little bit robbed," Willis said. "I'm a little bit sad I only came in for your senior year. ... These seniors have laid a foundation for you."

The Lady Harvesters graduated seven and the Harvesters graduated nine. Willis presented the Lady Harvesters' awards. He started with some gag awards ranging from slowest goal to ugliest bruise. Then Willis presented the All-District awards.

"A bunch of coaches get together, Willis said. "I have the ability to nominate people from Pampa High School and the other coaches vote on our girls, I don't have any say who they pick from our girls. To be thought of is a big deal because these are people who other coaches remember when they

played us."

Seniors Ellen Cambern and Bree Howard, junior Viante Ellison and sophomore Samantha Woodruff were honorable mentions. Senior Meganne Fraser was selected to the first

"It was really good," Fraser said. "I wish some of the other ones would have been mentioned too. It was a really good pick for everyone.'

The Lady Harvesters have three team awards. Seniors Bree Howard and K'Lynn King won the "Just Kick It Award" given to the person or persons that show up and willing to work. Junior Viante Ellison won the Lady Harvester Heart Award. Cambern and Fraser won the Most Valuable Player Award.

Seniors Mario Rivera, Jerry Delgado and Flavio Gonzalez were honorable mentions All-District for the Harvesters. Seniors Colten Adams and Wesley Rivera made the second

"This was a tough year to get All-District," May said. "Several coaches said that, So it's a big accomplishment."



staff photo by Andrew Glover

With senior Colten Adams (right) front and center, boys head soccer coach talks about the seniors at the soccer banquet Monday.

Wesley and Delgado won the Senior Leadership Award. Adams Wesley won the Most Valuable Player.

1300 N. Price Rd. • 669-5902 Monday - Saturday 10 am to 9 pm

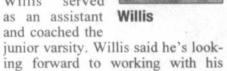
Willis takes over girls soccer program

ANDREW GLOVER

aglover@thepampanews.com

This year, was David Willis' first year as a coach. Next year, Willis will enter his first season as head coach of the Lady Harvesters' soccer team.

Willis takes over for Libby who Garza left to coach volleyball at Lewisville after her only season as head coach. season, Willis served and coached the



players from last year on varsity.
"I'm excited," Willis said. "I'm excited about the girls coming up in the program. We got promising juniors and sophomores. We got a huge freshman class that plays soccer during the summer and league soccer during the year."

Freshman Taylor Bolton said she is excited about Willis taking over.

"I really enjoy him," Bolton said. 'He's a really good coach. At the beginning, he might have not known everything. He tried his hardest to learn. He tried his hardest to make us better."

Bolton spent time on both the junior varsity and varsity and is looking forward to spending time

"It will be good for the upcoming players," Bolton said. "I think it will be good for Willis to get the feeling of head coach."

Willis will have to replace seven seniors and will look to improve on a 3-11-3 season.

"I got 99 percent (of my junior varsity) coming back," Willis said. "They will probably play during the summer. The more touches they get in the offseason, the better they

are for the team. Most of these girls never stop playing soccer. We got a promising future.

Willis is married to his wife Marissa, who is an assistant wrestling coach at the high school. They are expecting their first child in

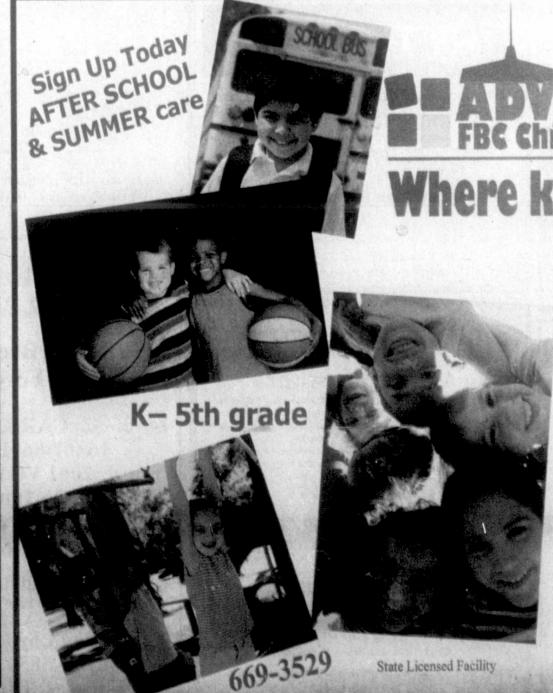
JV baseball canceled

The Pampa Harvesters JV baseball game against Dalhart on Saturday is canceled due to Dalhart disbanding its team due to violation of team rules and low grades. The JV's next game is April 27 at Harvester Field following the Varsity.





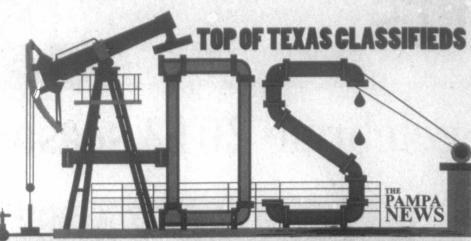




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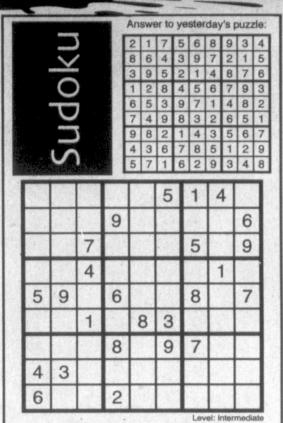


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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My exhusband likes to call to ask me for advice. Our most recent conversation was in regard to his girlfriend and her sexual before they started dating. He now disapproves of her history and he began calling her he deserves better but intends to stay with her until he gets bored

Hearing this sort of talk gives me a stomachache and heartburn. I feel terrible for the woman. I want to be a friend to has had a hard life, and I didn't in the sanctuary make it any easier by divorc-

that without major guilt. WISCONSIN READER

DEAR READER: I'll offer another option: The next time your ex starts asking you for relationship advice, tell him you don't like hearing the way he talks about his girlfriend. Explain that it makes you so uncomfortable that you prefer to avoid the topic of his love life. If he respects your wishes, continue taking his calls. If not,

ting, refuse them.

And please, stop feeling guilty about the divorce. From your description of user, and you're lucky to be rid of him. DEAR ABBY: I attend a

shippers. The church provides a supervised nursery for infants to 2 years of age. Most parents with babies use it. However, one couple has a 2-year-old child and a 2-month-old baby. These parmy ex, but I'm not sure I can ents do not take advantage of handle the stress it causes. He the nursery, but keep the kids

Last Sunday the baby, who Is the only solution not to during most of the service. The had already been unwrapped take his calls, like my friends parents may be able to tune it and half of it had been eaten. Acres, Storm Shelters, tell me? I'm not sure I can do out, but many of us were very I didn't say anything to the distracted by the wailing.

> The father is a schoolteacher. I couldn't help but wonder how this teacher would handle a student who caused such a disruption in his classroom. I don't think he would tolerate an hour of loud crying from anyone. Why don't these people understand their behavior prevents others from worshipping as they would like? - SI-LENCE, PLEASE

DEAR

because you find them upset- PLEASE: That's a good question, and one I recommend you pose to the person who was conducting the service. Out of consideration for past, which he knew about your former husband, he is a the congregation, he or she should "remind" the parents that the nursery is available, and stress that in the future unpleasant names. He tells me church with about 350 wor- it be used to prevent the problem from recurring because the disruption caused "so many complaints."

DEAR ABBY: I was recently a bridesmaid at a friend's wedding. The bride gave all of us bridesmaids gifts after the reception. The bags were fancy and contained expensive gourmet chocolate candy. When I went to was in the father's arms, cried open mine, I noticed the box others or the bride because I didn't want to hurt her feelings or seem ungrateful. What should I do? - BRIDES-MAID IN TENNESSEE

> DEAR BRIDESMAID: While it's unfortunate, I see no reason to bring it up now. Expensive or not, it's only a box of chocolates, and it appears someone may have bitten off more than they should chew.

> > **Richard says....**

CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH **ACROSS** DOWN

1 Wild

guess

tutte"

count

transport

Sledge

Rent out

8 Pub pints

initials

sound

Madness

3 Inning

4 Mine

9 Ship

5 Singer

--- fan

1 Highlander 5 Pacific

Yesterday's Answer: DELOUSE, GENUINE

island group 10 See the sights

11 Sparklers 12 Nick and Nora's dog

13 Speaks 14 Peace Garden State 11 Supercapital

16 Equality man's State father 15 Attentioncapital 20 Tennis getting

star Nadal 23 Animation 17 March frame

24 Panic 25 Diner

offerings 27 Knight

title 28 Closer

29 Constitution State capital 32 Aloha State

capital 36 School paper 39 Historic

times 40 Reps

41 Benefit 42 Bess's

love 43 Winter glider

SEWSENDING ENDINGMATE LIBRA ORION

Yesterday's answer

6 Conscious 18 Dickens 31 Third point in airl 19 Different tennis 20 Reckless 33 Russian

EDGE

21 Inter river 22 Jamie of 34 Vacation "M*A*S*H" spot

25 Catalan 35 Not painter new

36 Kanye's 26 Infinite

28 Printing music 37 Conceit

array 30 Skimpy

swimwear

38 For each

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