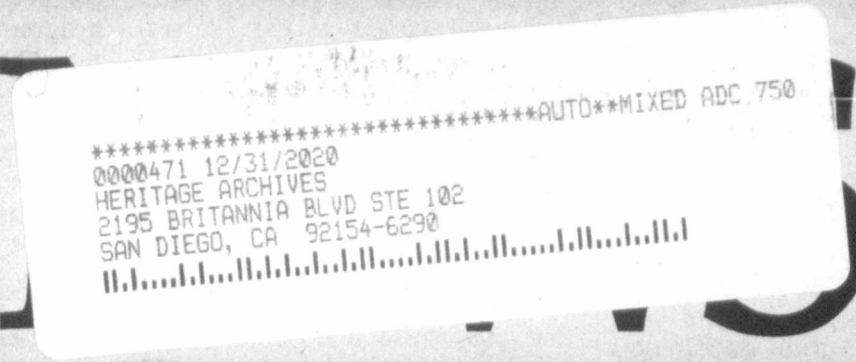


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The PAMPA NEWS



Tuesday, May 8, 2012 www.thepampanews.com Volume 108 • No. 4

75¢ \$1.50 weekend **Medicaid share up faster than taxes** | Texas Medicaid director warns lawmakers | p2 **Scholarship for Engle** | Umpires award Pampa High School baseball senior | p10

Landtroop readies for big Perry endorsement

■ Governor will endorse Landtroop at luncheon at M.K. Brown today

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

Jim Landtroop, the de facto incumbent in the District 88 Texas House race, is bringing a big name to Pampa to further

his campaign.

Texas governor Rick Perry will be coming to Pampa for today's 11:30 a.m. economic luncheon at M.K. Brown to endorse Landtroop, and he won't be the only one. Michael Quinn Sullivan,

president and CEO of Austin-based conservative group Empower Texans, will also be in attendance.

Landtroop said that, in one of the state's most conservative areas, the support of people like Perry and Sullivan speaks volumes.



Landtroop



Perry

"I think it's a pretty big deal," he said. "Any time the governor of the state is endorsing you and he wants to see you reelected back in Austin representing the people, I think that's big. That just goes to show that if

you're looking for a candidate who's going to get things done, then I'm clearly that guy."

Landtroop's wife Cathy, who has been assisting him on the campaign trail, said that Pampa was chosen to be the site of **LANDTROOP** cont. on page 3

VIAL OF LIFE



staff photo by **Mollie Bryant**

Lisa Hancock of the Amarillo Vial of Life Committee at the Pampa Senior Citizens Center spoke last night about the vial during an educational program for seniors sponsored by GrayCares and the Pampa Police Department. The Vial of Life provides information like health history and prescription information to aid first responders in the case of an emergency.

Missing Pampa man, 82, found safe in Higgins

MOLLIE BRYANT
 mbryant@thepampanews.com

Less than 24 hours after he went missing, law enforcement officers in Higgins, Texas, yesterday found Miguel Martinez, 82, of Pampa.

Martinez was reported missing by his family around 7 p.m. on Sunday night. Leaving his residence in a 2001 Chrysler minivan, he told his family that he would return by dark, but failed to return.

Yesterday, Martinez was entered into NCIC/TCIC as a missing person, and law enforcement issued a Silver Alert.

After being spotted by a family friend in Higgins, law enforcement found Miguel around 3:50 p.m.

Higgins is approximately 60 miles northeast of Pampa.

DISTRICT ELECTION 2012

Ferguson touts experience in area

ARNIE AURELLANO
 editor@thepampanews.com

Jason Ferguson doesn't mince words when it comes down to the biggest issue the 31st Judicial District faces.

"It's drugs," said Ferguson, one of the area's assistant district attorneys since 2010. "If I could, I would wave my magic wand and put the bubble down that keeps drugs out of the district. It sounds simple, but with that comes burglaries, comes robberies, comes sexual crimes. (Drugs) brings so many terrible things with it, and they all flow off it. With drugs, the thing is there's no quick out, and that's why we work so hard in controlling that problem."

It's an issue that the 27-year-old Ferguson hopes to continue to combat from the district attorney's chair after the upcoming election. Ferguson, who grew up in Dallas and received his

law degree from the University of Houston in 2009, said that he has a distinct vision for the local war on drugs going forward.

"Drugs are like anything else," Ferguson said. "It's a business. You attack the dealers, you attack the people out there with **FERGUSON** cont. on page 9

McDonough talks budget trimming

MOLLIE BRYANT
 mbryant@thepampanews.com

Since Franklin McDonough announced his candidacy for District Attorney of the 31st District, he said he's gotten questions from voters won-

dering if he is tough on crime.

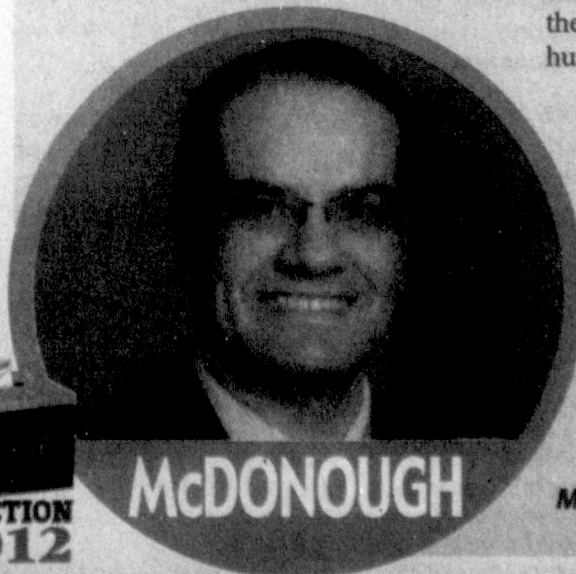
"My response to that is, I grew up in a law enforcement family," he said. "I worked in a jail for three and a half years paying for my undergrad, so I've seen the inside of it. As far as tough on crime, there's no question about that, but also I have four kids and I'm the deacon of a church, so I know the human side of life."

McDonough graduated from law school at West Texas A&M in 2005, when he moved to Pampa as an Assistant DA in the 31st District. After spending some time there, he ran a private practice for about a year, before spending the past three years as Assistant DA in the 84th District, for a total of five years of experience in felony prosecution.

"The reality is, there's not a single **MCDONOUGH** cont. on page 8



FERGUSON



MCDONOUGH

ELECTION 2012

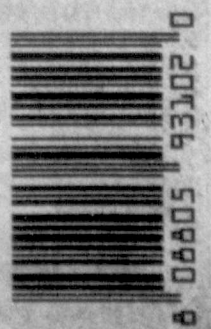
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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Wednesday	Thursday
		
20%		
High 67 Low 46	High 75 Low 50	High 78 Low 52

Today: A 20 percent chance of showers before 1pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 67. North northeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 46. East northeast wind around 5 mph becoming west northwest.

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 75. North wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 50. South southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Thursday: Partly sunny, with a high near 78. South southwest wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52. South wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

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One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

5-8 CRYPTOQUOTE

X MQBFU NH LFXVOXVJ FVM

OSBV X LFXVO UA MQBFU

— DXVKBVO D FV JNJS

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: CHILDREN, EVEN INFANTS, ARE CAPABLE OF SYMPATHY. BUT ONLY AFTER ADOLESCENCE ARE WE CAPABLE OF COMPASSION. — LOUISE J. KAPLAN

The PAMPA NEWS

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Medicaid share growing faster than taxes

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas' share for providing health care to poor children, the impoverished elderly and the disabled is growing faster than tax revenues to pay for services, creating another state budget challenge next year, top agency officials told lawmakers Monday.

Texas' Medicaid director Billy Millwee told lawmakers that his program will likely achieve only 88 percent of the cost savings forecast in the current budget. Experts had warned lawmakers last year that they were underfunding the Medicaid program by \$4.8 billion, an amount lawmakers will have to make up when they meet again next year.

Agency officials told the House Appropriation Subcommittee that the number of people qualifying for the Medicaid program nearly doubled between 2000 and 2011, and the number of poor children grew more than 10 percent in 2010 alone. The Medicaid population grows an average of 6.3 percent a year.

Monday's testimony confirmed Gov. Rick Perry's warning that Medicaid costs represent a major challenge to the state budget, and he called for lawmakers to get the program under control. But lawmakers are likely to have a hard time finding enough cuts in services and cost-savings to balance the budget when they meet again next year. The total shortfall could amount to more than \$10 billion without significant changes to the program.

Last year, the Legislature cut about \$15 billion in state spending and roughly \$12 billion in

services to balance the two-year budget. Medicaid represents about 20 percent of the state budget, and for every \$1 Texas spends on the program, the federal government matches \$1.47 to help cover the costs, many mandated by federal law.

While poor children represent 66 percent of the people enrolled in Medicaid, they only represent 32 percent of the costs, according to agency data. The disabled and the elderly who can no longer afford to pay their Medicare premiums and copayments represent 25 percent of Medicaid clients, but account for 58 percent of the costs. Lawmakers faced fierce opposition last year when they tried to cut people from Medicaid or reduce their services, since those costs are passed on to family members or local authorities.

One area where Millwee and lawmakers agreed they could find savings was in keeping the elderly and disabled out of emergency rooms, which represents about 30 percent of Medicaid spending. The state could save money by rewarding better preventive care and paying for more skilled care-givers who could make sure patients don't need the emergency room, agency experts testified.

Millwee said the state has also found savings by cutting services, for example by treating a child's distorted skull shape only when medically necessary — not for cosmetic purposes — and by paying for porcelain dental crowns only on a child's front, permanent teeth, and using cheaper options, such as gold, for back teeth. The

state also cut reimbursement rates, to some health care providers by up to 10 percent and to hospitals by 8 percent.

One controversial cut that the agency is reconsidering, Millwee said, was how it pays doctors to treat the elderly. Medicare doesn't cover all of the costs, and in the past, the state paid the balance based on the Medicare rate. But now the state is using Medicaid rates, which are 27 percent lower, to reimburse doctors and saving billions.

However, health care providers, particularly doctors, say they will stop accepting elderly Medicaid patients because of the lower reimbursement.

Chris Traylor, commissioner for the Department of Aging and Disability Services, said his agency has also cut rates to home care providers and nursing facility-related hospice services, but has created incentive programs for nursing homes to provide better care. A new quality-control initiative has cut use of restraints and anti-psychotic drugs in nursing homes and increased the vaccination rates for preventable diseases.

Traylor and Millwee both touted a new program that is less of a reimbursement of services and instead bases payments to health care providers more on successful treatment of a patient. Traylor said one test program brought re-hospitalizations from nursing homes down dramatically, and Millwee said a similar program was expected to yield similar results from hospitals.

For the record

Police Department

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 72 hour period ending Monday, May 7 at 7 a.m.

Pampa PD reported 55 traffic related incidents.

Animal Control agents and Pampa PD reported 22 animal related incidents.

Pampa EMS, the Pampa Fire Department, Pampa PD and the Lefors Volunteer Fire Department responded to 20 medical calls.

Friday, May 4
Harassment was reported.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 4000 block of North Bad Cattle Company and the 100 block of East Harvester.

A burglary occurred at the 100 block of Village.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 700 block of North Russell.

An accident occurred at the 900 block of North Mary Ellen.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 400 block of North Doyle.

A suspicious person was reported at the 700 block of North Sloan.

Disorderly conduct was reported.

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 1200 block of North Duncan.

A runaway was reported. A violation of city ordinance occurred at Brunow and Tignor.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 100 block of East Craven.

Saturday, May 5

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 800 block of West Crawford.

A violation of city ordinance occurred at the 1000 block of South Varnon.

Suspicious persons were reported at the 700 block of East Craven and the intersection of Craven and Starkweather.

Suspicious vehicles were reported at Foster and Weist and the 400 block of East Frasier.

A suspicious person was reported at the 1200 block of West Alcock.

A theft was reported at

the 2200 block of North Perryton.

Criminal mischief was reported.

A suspicious person was reported at Finley and Murphy.

A burglary of a motor vehicle was reported at the 1200 block of East Foster.

An accident occurred at the 1200 block of North Hobart.

Criminal trespassing was reported at the 400 block of North Lefors.

A grass fire occurred at 9th and East in Lefors.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 500 block of North Rider.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 1200 block of North Hobart.

Endangerment of a child or elderly person was reported at Doyle and Alcock.

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

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 1300 block of North Coffee.

A suspicious person was reported at the 1300 block of North Coffee.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 1300 block of North Garland.

A burglary of a motor vehicle occurred at the 2700 block of North Perryton.

A burglary occurred at the 2500 block of Perryton.

Identity theft was reported at the 1100 block of South Farley.

A prowler was reported at the 1100 block of Huff.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 1000 block of West Wilks.

A suspicious person was reported at the 400 block of North Ballard.

A theft was reported.

Sunday, May 6
A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 2700 block of North Cherokee.

Disorderly conduct occurred at Kingsmill and Magnolia.

A violation of city ordinance occurred at the 2400 block of North Cherokee.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 800 block of North Hobart.

A suspicious person was reported at Crawford and

Faulkner.

A burglary of a motor vehicle was reported at the 900 block of East Malone.

A suspicious person was reported at the 500 block of North Wells.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 1700 block of East Harvester.

Criminal mischief occurred at the 1000 block of East Denver.

Violations of city ordinance occurred at the 2200 block of North Grape and the 2200 block of North Chestnut.

An accident occurred at the 300 block of West 30th.

A burglary occurred at the 600 block of Reid.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 900 block of South Faulkner, the 1100 block of Sierra and the 300 block of Sunset.

Criminal trespassing was reported.

An accident occurred at Boyd and Dwight.

A theft was reported at the 300 block of South Jean.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 800 block of South Municipal.

A suspicious person was reported at the 300 block of West Foster.

A burglary occurred at the 900 block of South Nelson.

A suspicious vehicle occurred at the 1800 block of North Williston.

Criminal mischief occurred at the 200 block of East 1st.

A suspicious person was reported at the 900 block of South Banks.

An accident occurred at the 500 block of North Doucette.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 1200 block of North Wells.

Monday, May 7
A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 700 block of East Foster.

Suspicious persons were reported at the 700 block of North Christy and the 400 block of North Faulkner.

A burglary occurred at the 100 block of Panhandle.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 1700 block of East Harvester.

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests for the four-day period ending Monday, May 7.

Thursday, May 3

Oaty Don Scott, 36, was arrested by police for credit or debit card abuse.

Mandy Lay Rippetoe, 24, was sentenced to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Francisco Ramirez III, 36, was arrested by deputies for child support.

Pamela Jane Woodruff, 50, was arrested by police on a bond to surrender regarding possession of a controlled substance.

Friday, May 4

Kathy Shipp, 56, was arrested by police for theft by check.

Nakisha Irene Williams, 36, was arrested by deputies for disorderly conduct.

Pamela Jane Howe, 34, was arrested by police on charges of running a stop sign and failure to appear in court.

Marcos Victor Villarreal, 20, was arrested by deputies on a probation violation regarding assault causing bodily injury.

Michael Ray Steele, 50, was arrested by a Lefors Marshall on charges of criminal mischief and criminal trespassing.

Saturday, May 5
Nancy Saldierna, 40, was arrested by police for theft by check.

Jesus Moises Mata-Fernandez, 35, was arrested by police on a bond to surrender regarding possession of a controlled substance.

Sunday, May 6
Amanda Ruth Douglas, 31, was arrested by deputies on bonds to surrender regarding possession of drug paraphernalia and failure to appear in court.

Manuel Andrew Villarreal, 17, was arrested by police for burglary of a vehicle.

Johnathen Kelsey Shackelford, 17, was arrested by police for burglary of a vehicle.

Amanda Ruth Douglas, 31, was arrested by police for burglary of a building.

T P A

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MORNINGRUSH

Santorum endorses Romney

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rick Santorum is endorsing his one-time bitter rival Mitt Romney in a late-night e-mail to his supporters.

Santorum on Monday urged his supporters to join him in working with the effective Republican nominee to deny President Barack Obama a second term. In his message, Santorum reminded his supporters of areas where he disagreed with Romney during their slog of a primary.

Yet Santorum says that, in his words, "above all else, we both agree that President Obama must be defeated."

During their contest, Santorum bitterly clashed with Romney. At one point, Santorum called Romney the worst Republican in the country to challenge Obama.

The two met on Friday at the office of Santorum's strategist, and Romney sought to assure Santorum of his conservative credentials.

Houston police shoot man

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston police say officers shot and killed an armed man outside a Houston shopping mall after the man had threatened his girlfriend.

The incident happened about 2:30 p.m. Monday.

Police spokesman Kase Smith says the 26-year-old suspect had become depressed after losing his job at a restaurant. Smith says the man had threatened his girlfriend at a bus stop, and her mother contacted police to express her worry over the situation.

Smith says that when two officers approached him near the bus stop outside a northwest Houston mall, he drew a handgun from his waistband and refused to drop it. Both opened fire, fatally wounding the man.

Smith said the gunman did not fire on the officers. Neither officer nor the woman was injured. The gunman's name hasn't been released.

Buffett endorses pipeline plan

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Billionaire Warren Buffett supports building the Keystone XL pipeline that TransCanada wants to build to carry Canadian oil south across the Great Plains to connect to Gulf Coast refineries.

Buffett was asked about the project that would cross Nebraska Monday on Fox Business Network.

Buffett says he's not an expert on the project, but he thinks it generally makes sense to build the pipeline.

Last week, TransCanada reapplied for a permit to build the pipeline after changing the route through Nebraska to avoid the environmentally sensitive Sandhills region.

State Department approval is needed because the \$7 billion pipeline would cross a U.S. border before crossing Montana, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma. TransCanada has also proposed connecting the pipeline to the Bakken oil field in North Dakota.

Rackspace income up, higher sales

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Cloud computing company Rackpace Hosting Inc. said its first-quarter profit rose from last year on higher sales, but the profits just met Wall Street expectations and costs were higher.

Shares fell 13 percent in after-hours trading. Rackpace Hosting said its costs jumped 28 percent in the quarter to \$264.3 million, compared to \$206 million the year before. The higher spending was driven by marketing and administrative costs.

The company, which provides remote, or "cloud" based, computing services to clients, said that during the quarter ended March 31, it earned net income of \$23.2 million, or 17 cents per share, compared to \$13.8 million, or 10 cents per share, in the prior-year period.

That's in line with the 17 cents per share analysts expected, according to FactSet.

Revenue rose to \$301.4 million from \$230 million in the prior year period. Analysts were expecting \$300.2 million, according to FactSet.

Reward grows for calf killer

DALLAS (AP) — The reward has grown ninefold for the arrest and conviction of those guilty of the slaughter of a rare white buffalo just shy of its first birthday.

The \$5,000 reward has grown to \$45,000 on the heads of those who killed the white calf named Lightning Medicine Cloud.

Arby Little Soldier owns the Lakota Ranch near the North Texas town of Greenville. He says he found the calf dead and skinned at his ranch May 1, and its mother was found dead and skinned the next day.

He says contributions of \$5 to \$15,000 have built the reward fund.

The white buffalo calf is revered by Lakota Sioux, whose tribal lore said the goddess of peace once appeared in the form of a white buffalo calf.

Hat passed to fund cat's surgery

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — A Central Texas veterinarian is trying to raise money for surgery for a cat that had its eyes gouged and was left blind.

Dr. Agnes Rupley of College Station is donating her services to treat the 10-pound domestic shorthair tabby tomcat, which she's named Spirit. She tells The Eagle of Bryan-College Station (<http://bit.ly/Jgp7qR>) that the 7-to-8-month-old male cat needs surgery costing up to \$2,000 to repair the trauma.

Spirit is playful, sweet-tempered and affectionate. But tissue is growing around the eyes, which Rupley says were gouged with something larger than a needle, and a chronic inflammation can cause cancer.

No one has been arrested in the attack. Donations can be made to the "Care 4 Spirit" fund at First Victoria Bank or at All Pets Medical & Laser Surgical Center.

Give college students a break on loan rates

TERRY SAVAGE
Creator's Syndicate

The Savage Truth on money



Once again, Washington is playing politics with our future -- both sides heating up an issue on which they basically agree but still want to play political games. This time, it's all about the interest rates on some federal student loans, which are scheduled to move back up to 6.8 percent in July.

But what no one is acknowledging is that even at 3.4 percent for a small segment of student loans -- the subsidized Stafford loans -- these rates are a horrible financial deal.

And for the vast majority who borrow at unsubsidized federal student loan rates of 6.8 percent, or parental PLUS loans that carry a fixed rate of 7.9 percent, or private student loans that may carry even higher rates, the student loan system is a huge rip-off!

It shouldn't take a college degree to figure that out, but too many students become aware of it only after they get their degrees and have to start thinking about repayment.

Student loan borrowers are paying exorbitant rates, while savers get next to zero interest on their deposits because the Federal Reserve openly manipulates the interest rate market -- and promises it will keep doing so.

Student loans weren't always a bad deal. In fact, until 2006 the repayment rates on student loans had some relationship to reality. Interest rates on loan repayments were changed every year -- based on the 90-day Treasury bill auction rate, a market-based rate. Every July 1, the repayment rate was reset for the year based on current T-bill rates.

Back then, every student had a one-time chance to consolidate and permanently fix the rate on all their loans. As rates dropped, many students took advantage of

this deal -- locking in lower rates for a lifetime. But then this good deal was changed in 2006 -- just in time to prevent students from taking advantage of the lowest interest rates in history. Repayment rates were fixed, giving us today's 6.8 percent repayment rate on Stafford loans.

By comparison, the current rate on the 90-day Treasury bill is just 0.09 percent. If federal student loan repayment rates were calculated on the old basis, it would be practically an interest-free loan -- and a very good deal.

Instead, Congress is arguing over 3.4 percent vs. 6.8 percent. Washington should be ashamed of burdening students with a 6.8 percent rate, or even 3.4 percent -- a veritable ball and chain on students' future lives as they graduate into a slow-growth economy.

Remember, there is no way to get out from under student loans. They are not discharged in bankruptcy. If you default, one day you could find a deduction from your Social Security check to repay long-forgotten student loans!

Meanwhile, there is a giant hullabaloo over the idea of keeping some student loan rates at "only" 3.4 percent. Who are they kidding?

Politicians have turned a very critical issue into a political football. They're arguing about what will be cut to pay for this "gift" of lower student-loan rates. Will it be women's health programs? Will it be funding for seniors' health?

Since when did Congress and the president start caring about how to pay for their spending? They didn't care when

they were bailing out banks -- and General Motors. They didn't care when they were buying up junk cars. They didn't care when they went to war in Iraq and Afghanistan and spent billions.

Washington is playing politics with our future. Educating our students is important to America's future. Keeping Medicare's promises to seniors is important to our way of life. Respecting women's health care rights is a key agenda item for more than half our population: women.

Instead, the president and Congress are dividing Americans and turning them against each other for the sake of political power. They're creating a rift that will divide our country along generational lines -- potentially the greatest division since the Civil War.

Listen to the rhetoric in this election year -- pitting young vs. old, students vs. seniors, savers vs. borrowers. It is sinful to manipulate interest rates to nearly zero percent, penalizing savers (typically older people) to subsidize the banks. It is equally sinful to pile debt upon today's young workers -- whether student loans at above-market rates or by adding to our national debt.

We can't let Washington divide America during this election year, because those divisions will destroy our country long after the election is over, no matter which party wins. Go to ContactingtheCongress.org to write directly to your senators and representatives. Tell them to stop playing politics with our future.

We need all Americans to hold Washington -- both parties -- accountable to us. And that's the Savage Truth.

Terry Savage is a registered investment adviser and is on the board of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. She appears weekly on WMAQ-Channel 5's 4:30 p.m. newscast, and can be reached at www.terrysavage.com. She

Amarillo BPI plant among three to close

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Beef Products Inc. will close processing plants in three states this month because of the controversy surrounding its meat product that critics have dubbed "pink slime," a company official said Monday.

About 650 jobs will be lost when the plants close on May 25 in Amarillo, Texas; Garden City, Kansas; and Waterloo, Iowa, company spokesman Rich Jochum said. A plant in South Sioux City, Neb., will remain open but run at reduced capacity.

The South Dakota-based company blamed the closures on what it said were unfounded attacks over its lean, finely textured beef. During its processing, bits of beef are heated and treated with a small

amount of ammonia to kill bacteria. The filler has been used for years and meets federal food safety standards.

But the company suspended operations at the three plants in March amid public uproar over the filler. BPI has declined to discuss financial details, but has said it took a "substantial" hit after social media exploded with worry over the product and an online petition seeking its ouster from schools drew hundreds of thousands of supporters.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has decided that school districts may stop using it, and some retail chains have pulled products containing it from their shelves.

Company officials had hoped to recover but have

since realized that doing so wasn't possible in the near future, Jochum said Monday. The company paid its workers during the suspension.

"We will continue communicating the benefits of BPI's lean beef, but that process is much more difficult than (countering) the campaign to spread misinformation that brought us to this point," Jochum said in a statement.

State executives who have supported the company blamed what they considered a smear campaign against the product, which has drawn scrutiny even though they and industry officials insist that it's safe.

"This is a sad day for the state of Iowa," said Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad. "The fact that a false, mislead-

ing smear campaign can destroy a company's reputation overnight should disturb us all."

The Republican governor said the workers will "go home to their families and will soon be without a job, all because some media on the coasts decided to unfairly and viciously smear the product they so proudly produced."

The phrase "pink slime," coined by a federal microbiologist, has appeared in the media at least since a critical 2009 New York Times report. Celebrity chef Jamie Oliver has railed against it, and it made headlines after McDonald's and other major chains discontinued their use last year.

Landtroop

Perry's endorsement because of its status as one of the district's larger cities.

"Jim's district, House District 88, now has three large population centers," she said. "Plainview, of course, is our hometown, and (Texas Comptroller) Susan Combs is coming to Levelland with Jim. Pampa is the third largest population center, and so it just seemed like a perfectly natural fit. We had a lot of support here that we knew would turn out for the event. I mean, you wouldn't put an event somewhere with the

Governor that you were worried about turnout, you know? We felt really good about Pampa doing well for Jim, and we thought that they would be excited to welcome the Governor and Michael Quinn Sullivan and folks of that caliber of speaker to the area."

Asked if the fact that one of his competitors in the race -- businessman Mac Smith -- is based in Pampa had anything to do with the choice of location, Landtroop dismissed the notion.

"No, not at all," he said. "We just thought Pampa would be a great

place. We've had great support from Pampa and the Panhandle area, and we just thought it would be a great place to host Michael Quinn Sullivan and Governor Perry. ... I want the people of Pampa and the Panhandle and the surrounding area communities to know that they're important and that if I'm elected, that they will be represented, and I want them to have the opportunity to get to know Mr. Sullivan and Governor Perry, as well, and for Governor Perry and Mr. Sullivan to get to know them."

cont. from page 1

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The Luck One (PG-13)
Fri 7:30 10:00
Sat 2:00 4:30 7:30 10:00
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:30
Mon/Thur 7:30

The Pirates Band of Misfits (PG)
Fri 7:00 9:30
Sat 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:00
Mon/Thur 7:00

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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, May 8, the 129th day of 2012. There are 237 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 8, 1945, President Harry S. Truman announced on radio that Nazi Germany's forces had surrendered, and that "the flags of freedom fly all over Europe."

On this date:

In 1541, Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto reached the Mississippi River.

In 1794, Antoine Lavoisier, the father of modern chemistry, was executed on the guillotine during France's Reign of Terror.

In 1884, the 33rd president of the United States, Harry S. Truman, was born in Lamar, Mo.

In 1886, Atlanta pharmacist John Pemberton invented the flavor syrup for Coca-Cola.

In 1921, Sweden's Parliament voted to abolish the death penalty.

In 1958, Vice President Richard Nixon was shoved, stoned, booed and spat upon by anti-American protesters in Lima, Peru.

In 1961, New York's recently created National League baseball team announced that it would be known as the Mets.

In 1962, the musical comedy "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" opened on Broadway.

In 1972, President Richard M. Nixon announced that he had ordered the mining of Haiphong Harbor during the Vietnam War.

In 1973, militant American Indians who'd held the South Dakota hamlet of Wounded Knee for ten weeks surrendered.

In 1984, the Soviet Union announced it would boycott the upcoming Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

In 1987, Gary Hart, dogged by questions about his personal life, including his relationship with Miami model Donna Rice, withdrew from the race for the Democratic presidential nomination.

Ten years ago: FBI Director Robert Mueller (MUHL'-ur) told the Senate Judiciary Committee an FBI memo from Phoenix warning that several Arabs were suspiciously training at a U.S. aviation school wouldn't have led officials to the Sept. 11 hijackers even if they'd followed up the warning with more vigor. Eleven French engineers, their Pakistani driver and a passer-by were killed in a suicide bombing in Karachi.

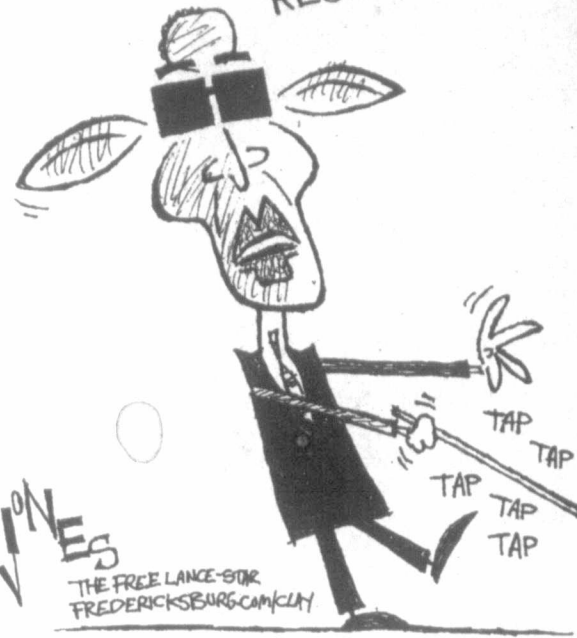
Five years ago: The Pentagon announced that it had notified more than 35,000 Army soldiers to be prepared to deploy to Iraq beginning in the fall. Bitter enemies from Northern Ireland's bloody past joined forces atop a new Northern Ireland government.

One year ago: Relations between Egypt's Muslims and Christians reached a new low after overnight riots left 12 people dead and a church burned. Fox television announced that Paula Abdul would be one of the judges on "The X Factor," reuniting her with former "American Idol" judge Simon Cowell (however, Abdul's stint did not last beyond the premiere season of the new talent show).

Today's Birthdays: Comedian Don Rickles is 86. Naturalist Sir David Attenborough is 86. Singer Toni Tennille is 72. Actor James Mitchum is 71. Country singer Jack Blanchard is 70. Jazz musician Keith Jarrett is 67. Singer Philip Bailey (Earth, Wind and Fire) is 61. Rock musician Chris Frantz (Talking Heads) is 61. Rockabilly singer Billy Burnette is 59. Rock musician Alex Van Halen is 59. Actor David Keith is 58. Actor Stephen Furst is 58. Actress Melissa Gilbert is 48. Rock musician Dave Rowntree (Blur) is 48. Country musician Del Gray is 44. Rock singer Darren Hayes is 40. Singer Enrique Iglesias is 37. Actor Matt Davis is 34. Singer Ana Maria Lombo (Eden's Crush) is 34. Actress Julia Whelan is 28.

Thought for Today: "What you see is news, what you know is background, what you feel is opinion." — Lester Markel, American editor (1894-1977).

WE MUST STEP DELICATELY WITH A CLEAR VISION WHEN DEALING WITH CHINA'S HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES... NOW, WHERE'S THE RESTROOM?



The 'problem' with Obama's ad campaign

Nothing aggravates Republicans like seeing nasty, effective tactics upon which they have so long relied being turned against one of their candidates. So when Barack Obama's re-election campaign aired an ad celebrating the anniversary of Osama bin Laden's death -- and suggesting that Mitt Romney wouldn't have achieved that objective -- the right exploded with outraged protests.

Evidently, the feelings of long-time hatchet men like Bush-era party chair Ed Gillespie, ex-Bush flack Ari Fleischer and the editorial writers at The Wall Street Journal, to name a few, were really, really hurt -- because the Obama campaign exploited a moment of national unity for partisan advantage.

"This is one of the reasons President Obama has become one of the most divisive presidents in American history," said Gillespie, now a Romney adviser.

To anyone with a functioning memory, however, this whining is implausible. So are the dire predictions that the president will somehow offend voters by claiming credit for whacking bin Laden (or by smacking Romney). During the Bush presidency, Republicans used precisely the same approach and worse, over and over, without fretting whether their words and ads were "divisive."



JOE CONASON

their party would "go to the country on this issue" to win the midterm elections in 2002. They won a historic victory by slinging wounded Vietnam hero Max Cleland and former Air Force intelligence officer Tom Daschle as stooges of al-Qaida. Bush's 2004 re-election campaign amplified the same themes, with advertising and pageantry at the Republican convention in New York City grossly exploiting 9/11, a series of conveniently timed terror "alerts" leading up to Election Day and repeated warnings by Vice President Dick Cheney that a Democratic victory would signal weakness to America's enemies. And it persisted into the 2006 midterm, with Rove falsely portraying Democrats as limp-wristed "liberals" trying to "understand" Osama bin Laden.

Until that election, the rough Rovan style succeeded brilliantly

-- despite the fact that Bush and Cheney had actually allowed bin Laden and Mullah Omar to escape at Tora Bora. Obama's cool order to kill bin Laden, in a moment of considerable risk to his presidency, finally debunked the decade of smears against Democrats as unpatriotic, wimpish and unreliable.

By contrast, the Obama ad's brief rebuke of Romney is at least factual and accurate: Not only did he say what the ad quotes, but he also said that he wouldn't go into Pakistan to get bin Laden, which is what the mission required. Had the president followed Romney's policy recommendation, bin Laden would almost certainly still be at large.

"Even Jimmy Carter would have given that order," scoffed Romney in response. But he shouldn't be so quick to denigrate the former Democratic president, who entered the Navy during World War II and then served as a submarine officer until his honorable discharge in 1953. Somebody may compare Carter's service with Romney's own military record, which doesn't exist -- and remind voters that he avoided the Vietnam draft with a pampered stint as a Mormon missionary, in France.

Joe Conason is the editor in chief of NationalMemo.com.

Did Romney earn credits for overseas profits?

WASHINGTON (AP) — Do you remember what's on page 169 of your income tax return? Neither does Mitt Romney.

At a town hall-style meeting Monday in Cleveland, the GOP presidential candidate got this pointed question about his investments: In this age of tough foreign competition, could Romney explain the "over \$1.5 million in foreign tax credits" he received since 2000?

"I'm not familiar with that," Romney told the man who asked. The crowd booed. "I didn't think I paid any foreign income taxes, but I'll be happy to take a look at it."

In fact, Romney and his wife, Ann, paid more than \$1.2 million in foreign taxes on so-called passive investments from 2000 through 2010, and paid about \$800,000 in

taxes on general income to unspecified countries. That's according to the couple's own tax returns.

Their foreign tax bills entitled them to more than \$1.5 million in tax credits in the United States since 2000, thanks to Internal Revenue Service rules that prevent businesses and investors from being doubly taxed on money they earn abroad.

Romney's GOP primary opponents and President Barack Obama have sought to make Romney's overseas earnings an issue in the campaign. Just last week, Obama ran a TV ad slamming the former Massachusetts governor for having Swiss bank accounts.

Romney's campaign did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Letter to the Editor

Let's show pride, make Pampa cleaner

If you have been to a football game at Harvester Field when the band

plays they always say, "The Pride of Pampa!" Obviously this does not register into the community at large. The way we trash Pampa is a disgrace. We see total sacks of trash in the streets, dirty diapers and emptying of cigarette butts in parking lots. Pampa provides many dumpsters in

which we can put our trash.

Please let us together have pride in our town, show respect, and work to make Pampa cleaner. We do not have to police the world, but we can start at home, and Pampa is home!

Tom and Helen Burn
Jana Vinsor

We welcome your letters

To ensure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.
- All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published.
- Defamatory comments will not be published.
- E-mail submissions are welcome.
- The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of *The Pampa News* or its staff.

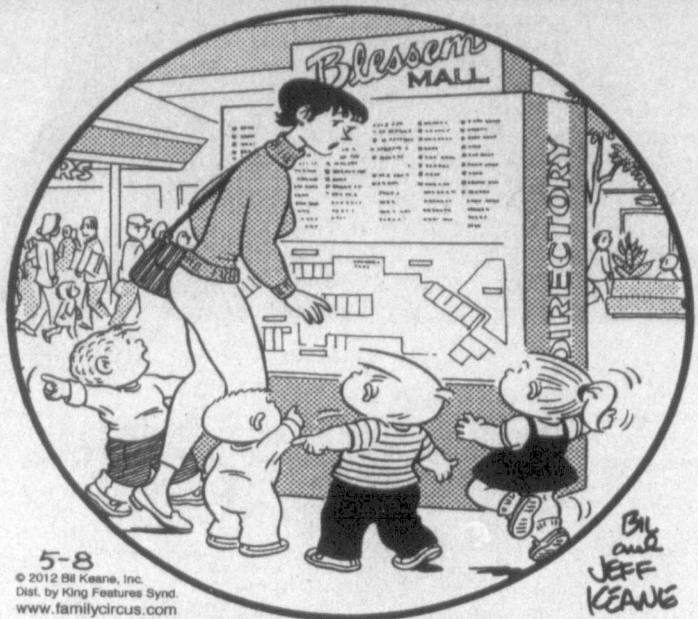
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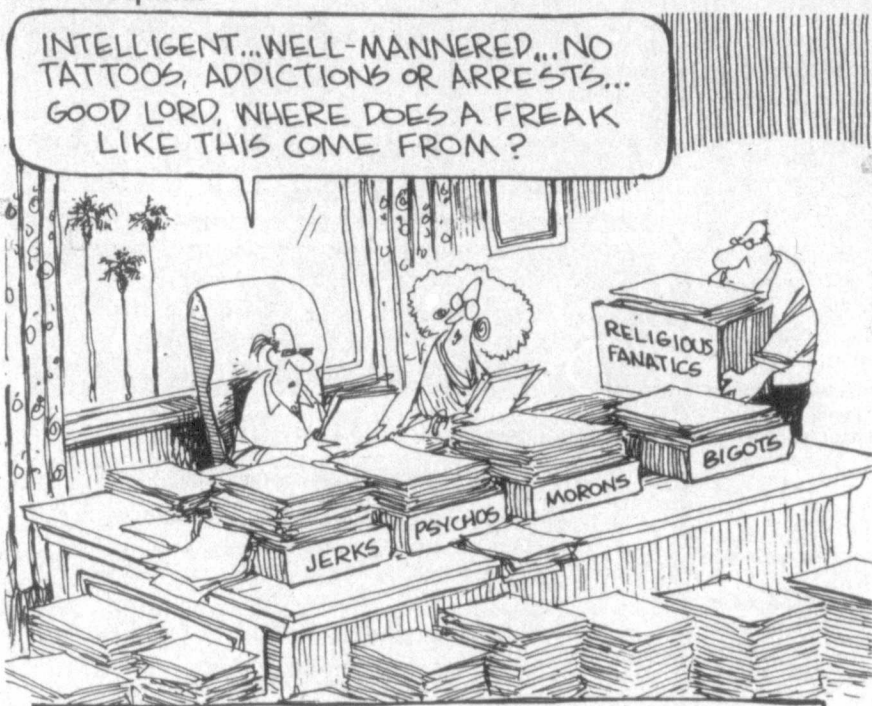
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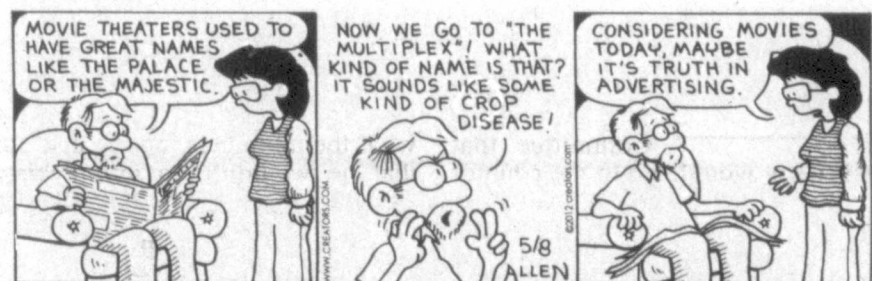
"If you'll all be quiet, I'll decide which way to go."

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, May 9, 2012:

This year your serious ways let bosses, friends and loved ones know that you are not kidding. As a result, your opinions will carry far more weight than they have in the past. You'll enjoy the respect you receive. If you are single, you could attract someone quite interesting. Be smart. Do not get into power plays, or you will never feel comfortable with each other. If you are attached, team up and zero in on a long-term goal or desire. Success could be yours. CAPRICORN understands your attitude well, but also knows how to resist your implicit demands.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ You have the ability to carry out the best laid plans. You are a force to be dealt with, and you aren't afraid of being a leader. You'll transform a situation in such a way that others finally will respond to a leader — be it you or someone else. Tonight: A most appearance.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Keep reaching out for others with determination and vigor. Evaluate an issue thoroughly, seek out other opinions and speak to a person you respect about the dilemma at hand. You will get answers. Trust your ability to get past problems. Tonight: Say "no" to limitations, especially if they are self-imposed.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Deal directly with someone you care about. Your ability to clear up problems and handle issues is dependent on this person's good will. Do not kid yourself. What might seem like an unavoidable argument actually will energize you and clear out some negativity. Tonight: Dinner for two.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Defer to others, and you'll gain a deeper understanding of what is possible. You could be overwhelmed by all of your options and might not be exactly sure about which way to go. Your resourcefulness will bring results. Also, someone finds your behavior enticing. Look around. Tonight: Accept an invitation.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You have a way about you that attracts many people. Your laughter and sense of direction help you and also those around you. Focus on a project that could impact you financially. You have reflected

on this matter for a while — now is the time to act. Tonight: Choose a stress buster.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Funnel your imagination into a fun project. A child or loved one senses your energy and naturally wants to draw you in. Establish limits and know when to say "no." A partner acts in the most unpredictable manner. Tonight: Put your feet up.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Getting going could have you grumbling. If you are really out of sorts, a change of plans might be a great idea. Listen to news more openly. A partner does the unexpected. Stop, think ... then react. Tonight: Head home early.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ You have a lot on your mind. In a sense, you feel inspired — it's as though you have a muse in your life. Open yourself up to possibilities, and do not negate an idea too fast. There could be a different path that would delight you and the others involved. Tonight: Be happy. Love the one you are with.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You might want to rethink a personal matter. On some level, you might like to daydream about what could have been, as opposed to dealing with reality. Once you decide to put 100 percent into a situation, rewards will become possible. Tonight: Happy at home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You beam in whatever you desire. Your instincts lead you down the right path. The unexpected might toss some pebbles in your path, but that will not stop you. Reach out and respond to someone at a distance. Tonight: Togetherness is the theme.

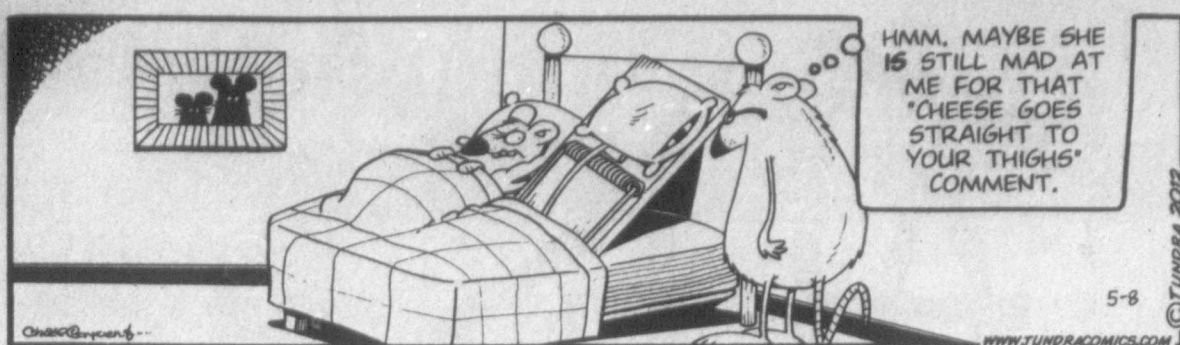
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ Sit back, and let others run the show. You might think that you can do it better, or perhaps you are relieved not to be carrying this burden. Some people will react in a surprising fashion. Be willing to flex, because they won't. Tonight: Get some extra R.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ It seems as if others think they know better than you. The confusion that ensues might give you a chuckle, but remember to say little. In the long run, you know what is going to happen. Use care with your finances. Tonight: Where the gang is.

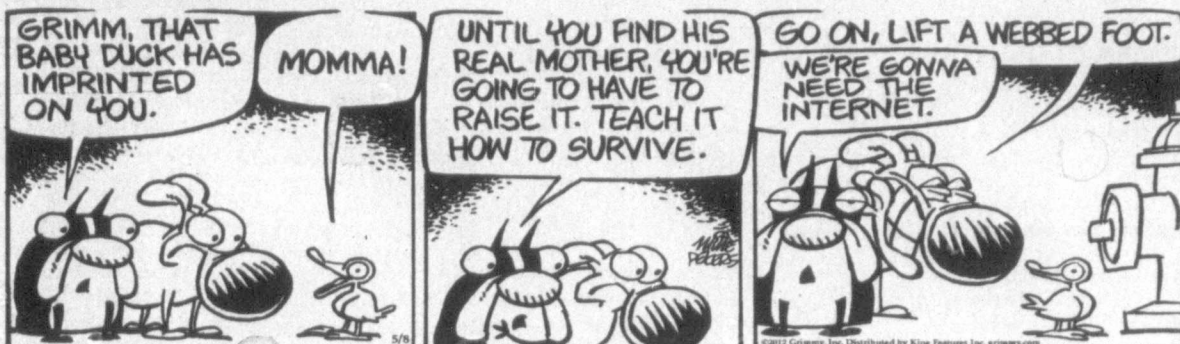
Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Hagar The Horrible

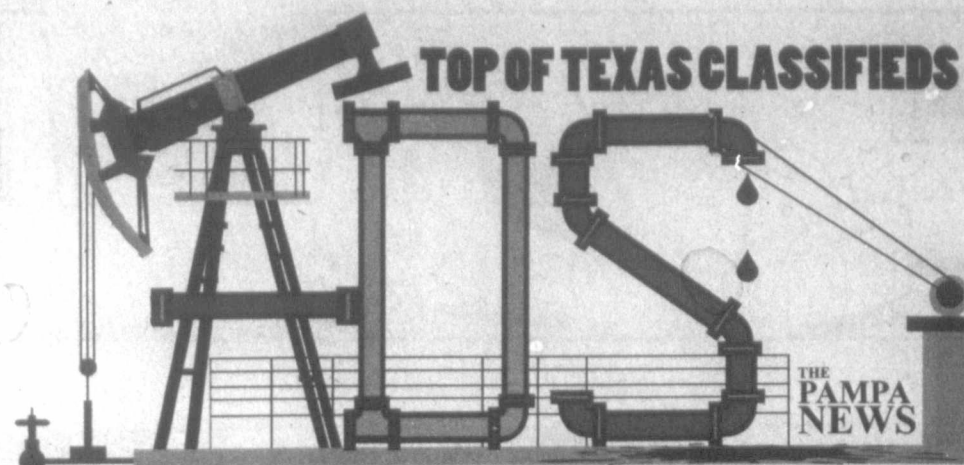


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14d Carpentry

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347, 806-663-0192.

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14e Carpet Serv.

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14h Gen. Serv.

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14w Air Cond/Heat

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21 Help Wanted

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

TNC needs LVN's, RN's, CNA's all shifts needed. 325-670-0090 texasnurseconnection.com

TEXAS Rose Steakhouse is hiring Hosts, Servers & Cooks. No phone calls! Apply at 2841 Perryton Pky.

LOOKING for Reception/Bookkeeper. Must be proficient in Microsoft Office programs. Experienced and certification (MOS) preferred. Please send resume to 100 N. Cuyler, Ste. 200, Pampa, TX 79065.

21 Help Wanted

LOOKING for Accountant/Bookkeeper proficient in double entry accounting, WolfePak and/or Quickbooks experience preferred. Please send resume to 100 N. Cuyler, Ste. 200, Pampa, TX 79065.

PAMPA- Hazmat drivers wanted. \$20 hr. Crude oil exp. a plus. Hazmat & Tanker endorsement req. Hauling to surrounding areas. Scott 580-236-5358.

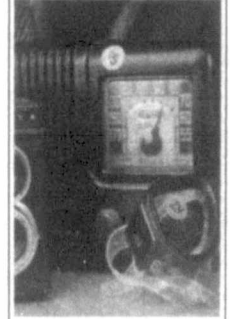
SEEKING EXPERIENCED RIG OPERATOR & 2 Rig Hands. Send Resume to P.O. Box 1422, Pampa, Tx 79066

SEEKING EXPERIENCED PUMPER. Send Resume to Po Box 1422, Pampa, Tx 79066-1422.

PAMPA ISD is accepting applications for Bus Drivers & Special Needs Bus Monitors. You may apply on-line www.pampaisd.net or pick up application at Carver Center, 321 W. Albert St. EOE

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SEEKING Office Assistant, multi-line tele. sys., personable, detail oriented. 20+hrs/wk. Send resume to: amandastarnes@ammon-companies.com

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POOL Table, 2 blue hide-a-bed sofas & matching chair in good condition. Call 806-778-5397, 669-6323.

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ROLAND TD-10V Electronic Drum Set, complete with manual \$1650. Call Bryan 806-663-0499 (cell).

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FRESH Eggs For Sale 806-670-5137

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4900 Miles White Gold Pearl Excellent Shape!! \$7500 Call 663-6317

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Mint condition, 4,000 miles. \$24,000 new, selling for \$14,000. 806-440-1347.

2005 Yamaha Royal Star with trike kit.

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122 Motorcycles



CUSTOM 2009 HARLEY FATBOY w/ TRAILER Less than 1600 miles, custom paint, lowered. 300 rear tire. Lots of chrome, alarm system, custom spare seat. Too many extras to list! Bought last summer from dealer. One Owner. Almost \$30k Invested Asking \$23k OBO Make me an offer! Must See!! Located in Pampa, TX Cell# 713-516-1309

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Public Notice

Public Sale Notice Date of Sale, Wednesday, May 9, 2012, at the location of 641 S. Cuyler Street. Bids will be taken between 11am to 12pm. Be advised that the vehicles listed below have been accepted for storage in accordance with the provisions of the vehicle storage facility Chapter 85 Section 85.704. These vehicles were towed in Pampa, Texas by the authority of Gray County Law Enforcement. This notice is to inform you that these vehicles are presently being stored at Douglas Towing and Recovery, and the charges accumulated from the date the vehicle was placed in storage, the vehicles will be deemed abandoned and will be sold for charges incurred by the storage facility.

1997 Chevy VIN# 2G1WL52M9V9221505 Tag# VFK410

1994 Chevy VIN# 1GNEC16KXRJ364145 Tag# CF9L874

1995 Dodge VIN# 1B7MC36COSS319210 Tag# 15RPH8

2001 Chevy VIN# 2G1WF52E319140493 Tag# JWB834

1994 Toyota VIN# JT2SK12EXR0218275 Tag# CS4R659

1998 Chevy VIN# 1G1JC1246W6194835 Tag# 883YZM

1994 Lincoln VIN# 1LNLM81W6RY693637 Tag# BH1N623

2002 Ford VIN# 2FAFP71W02X115452 Tag# ASXE45

CAUSE NO. 9915 ESTATE OF GLENDA E. DICKEY, DECEASED

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF GRAY COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF GLENDA E. DICKEY, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of GLENDA E. DICKEY, were issued April 5, 2012, in Cause No. 9915, pending in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, to: CLYDE T. DICKEY. The residence of such Independent Executor is in Gray County, Texas. The address for purposes of presenting claims is:

P.O. Box 484 McLean, Texas 79057

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED this 5th day of April, 2012.

CRAIG TERRILL, HALE & GRANTHAM, L.L.P.

9816 Slide Road, Suite 201

Public Notice

Lubbock, Texas 79424 Phone: (806)744-3232 Fax: (806)744-2211

BENNETT G. COOK

State Bar No. 04721600 DANIEL DURRELL State Bar I.D. No.: 24078450 C-16 May 8, 2012

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I have been with my boyfriend "Paul" for four years. We have a child together, and we each have a child of our own. We have lived together for three years, and our family er boss's daughter. Paul was telling her how "hot" she is.

Abby, am I overreacting when I think Paul is going to cheat? -- **ALARMED IN NORTH CAROLINA**

DEAR ALARMED: You're not overreacting. Paul is cheating on you emotionally, and doesn't appear to be entirely committed to your relationship. In fact, it appears he is looking for some outside adventures. You should not only be concerned, you should also be furious about what he's doing. This won't stop until YOU draw the line.

DEAR ABBY: My parents divorced during my junior year of high school. I am now a sophomore in college. I have done my best to maintain a good relationship with Dad, although I chose to live with my mother during the custody battle.

Since the divorce, Dad has verbally, emotionally and financially abused me to the point that I no longer want him as part of my life.

I miss having a father figure, even though no amount of counseling could ever mend our broken relationship. We went through two years of counseling, and the only thing I learned was that Dad believes he has done nothing wrong and my feelings about him are because of Mom.

How can I get over the pain and hurt my dad has caused me? -- **HEARTBROKEN IN MICHIGAN**

DEAR HEARTBROKEN: It will probably take one-on-one counseling for you to establish enough emotional independence to toughen up. Your father's unwillingness (or inability) to take responsibility for his mistakes is an indication that, as much as you may need and want a father, he will never be the parent you would like him to be. It will take time and work on your part to get beyond this loss -- and it IS a loss -- so the ideal place

to begin your journey would be by talking to a psychologist at the student health center.

DEAR ABBY: My 6-year-old cousin wanted to make a lemonade stand, so my sister and I helped her, but she got discouraged because nobody would buy any. She was so angry she started yelling, then she crossed the line and dropped the F-word. My sister and I were shocked that a 6-year-old would know that word. She said her classmate told it to her. (They're in kindergarten.)

We told our parents, but we're not sure if we should tell her mother because she might think my sister and I taught it to her. Should we tell her mother or let it slide hoping she will forget the word and move on? -- **NOT SURE IN SAN DIEGO**

DEAR NOT SURE: Your parents should tell your aunt about the incident, just in case your cousin doesn't "forget" the word. That way her mother can explain to her that there are certain words polite people don't use because they are unacceptable.

BANANAGRAMS!

For each bunch below, rearrange the letters to form two intersecting words that fit into the corresponding grid.

LEVEL

D A B H I I T W

A C G N O P Y R X

Yesterday's Answer: FAUCET, FERVOR, SAFARI, FIFTHS

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 41 Plains home 42 Brawl 5 Last 10 Provinces 12 Stand 13 Tim 14 Burton movie 15 Greek vowel 16 Golfer Trevino 17 Frequently 18 Modernize a factory 20 Gin flavoring 21 "Robinson Crusoe" writer 22 Deborah of "The King and I" 23 Polygon corner 25 Unseen problem 28 Marry anew 31 Folk learning 32 Promise 34 Tizzy 35 Make a choice 36 "Far out, man!" 37 Tim Burton movie 40 Some messages

GRIN ASHES RARE THOMAS AVOW TOPPLE TENSEUP ETA ENSIGNS RIB TOE TONE SAFES MERGE PRIM MIN USE COLTISH RED ADDONTO ONLINE ODIN NIECES NILE CREST EATS

Yesterday's answer

DOWN 1 Circus star 2 Made speeches 3 Pump full of bubbles 4 German article 5 Destiny 6 Writer Levin 7 Kidman

South Texas prosecutor charged with extortion, fraud

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — A South Texas prosecutor running for U.S. Congress was charged Monday with taking more than \$100,000 in bribes to settle and minimize criminal cases, including one deal that allegedly netted \$80,000 while a convicted murderer fled a prison sentence.

Armando Villalobos, the district attorney in Cameron County, was charged with racketeering, extortion and honest services fraud, prosecutors said. His former law partner, private attorney Eduardo Lucio, faces similar charges.

The two men were the latest to be roped into in a multi-year federal investigation of corruption in the county's criminal justice system, which has ensnared a judge, a bailiff, lawyers and a former state legislator. Former state District Judge Abel Limas and other local attorneys have pleaded guilty to charges.

After being released on bond, Villalobos stood outside the courthouse Monday afternoon in front of two dozen support-

ers in matching red T-shirts and denied all of the charges.

"Have faith in the system and have faith in me," Villalobos said. "I have served this community for 14 years and I believe I've earned the people's trust and I've earned the legal community's trust, and I don't think that's going to be erased in one day."

In its most explosive allegation, the indictment claims Villalobos agreed to a deal that gave a man who pleaded guilty to first-degree murder 60 days of freedom before reporting to prison. Amit Livingston was convicted in 2007 of killing 32-year-old substitute teacher Hermila Hernandez, whose body was found on South Padre Island two years earlier.

Livingston was sentenced to 23 years in prison, but given time to get his "affairs in order" by presiding judge Limas, the Brownsville Herald reported. Instead, Livingston fled, and remains at large.

Meanwhile, Villalobos allegedly had Lucio file a wrongful death lawsuit against Livingston

on behalf of Hernandez's family. The \$500,000 bond Livingston posted was used to settle the lawsuit, the indictment said. Hernandez's family collected \$300,000, while Lucio took \$200,000 and paid Villalobos \$80,000, the indictment said.

Lucio and Villalobos paid Limas about \$10,000 to stay quiet and allow the arrangement, the indictment alleges.

Livingston's attorney, Greg Gladden, said Monday that Villalobos insisted that his client plead guilty and be sentenced at the same time, instead of waiting 60 days. Entering the sentence freed up Livingston's bond money for the wrongful death settlement, Gladden said.

Had authorities delayed sentencing, the \$500,000 bond would not have been available when Livingston fled. If caught, Livingston would face a new charge and possibly a tougher sentence, Gladden said.

"By doing it this way, they got the money, and they didn't care if he came back," Gladden said. "It settled the case."

The 34-page indictment also accuses Villalobos of taking multiple \$5,000 bribes for "favorable prosecution decisions" for criminal defendants, including clients of two South Texas attorneys identified only as "Person G" and "Person E." At least one payment to Villalobos came in the form of a campaign contribution, the indictment said.

Villalobos and Lucio were released Monday on \$50,000 bond. U.S. Magistrate Judge Ronald Morgan ordered both to surrender their passports and not travel to Mexico. They will also need the court's permission to dispose of any significant assets.

Villalobos said he would not resign his office or halt his campaign for a U.S. House seat in the heavily Democratic region's new 34th Congressional District. Villalobos was second in fundraising among eight primary candidates with more than \$150,000 before rumors spread earlier this year about a possible indictment.

Asked how the indictment

could affect his office, including the possibility of revisiting cases, he said, "I don't think it affects that at all."

Villalobos entered office in January 2005 and had previously worked as an assistant district attorney. According to his campaign website, Villalobos' office handles about 16,000 cases per year.

John Blaylock, attorney for Lucio, said the indictment is "going to fall apart when the real facts come out." Lucio is not related to a state senator and state representative with the same name.

Limas pleaded guilty to racketeering last year after being accused of a scheme to turn his office into a moneymaking venture. He was on the bench from 2001 to 2008 and is scheduled to be sentenced in August.

Several attorneys, including a former state lawmaker, also have been indicted in connection with Limas' scheme, paying bribes to win appointments or push the judge's discretion in favor of their clients.

Army: No bullet wound found on body of soldier on Skype

WASHINGTON (AP) — Army investigators said Monday they found no bullet wound or evidence of foul play in the death of a soldier in Afghanistan who died during a Skype video chat with his wife.

Capt. Bruce Kevin Clark collapsed while speaking to his wife on May 1 from his base in Tarin Kot, Afghanistan, southwest of Kabul. His wife, Susan Orellana-Clark, has suggested that Clark was shot, citing a hole visible in the closet behind him that she believed was a bullet hole.

Investigators said an initial probe showed no trauma to the body except that Clark broke his nose when he fell forward. Orellana-Clark said he didn't seem alarmed before he collapsed.

Christopher Grey, a spokesman for the Army Criminal Investigation Command, said Monday that the investigation is still under way.

"But the important thing is that there was no bullet wound, no trauma," except that Clark's nose was possibly broken when he fell on his desk, Grey said in a telephone interview.

"We can positively say that Captain Clark was not shot," Grey later said in a statement.

An autopsy was done Friday but it could take several weeks to get results of toxicology and tissue testing done at that time, Paul Stone, a spokesman for the Armed Forces Medical Examiner, said Monday.

Clark's family released a statement Sunday describing what his wife saw in the video feed recording her husband's death.

"The closet behind him had a bullet hole in it," the statement said, adding that others, including a member of the military who came to Orellana-Clark's Texas home, also believed it was a bullet hole.

The statement says the Skype link remained open for two hours after Clark collapsed as family and friends in the U.S. and Afghanistan tried to get Clark help. Although it was the night of Monday, April 30, at his El Paso, Texas, home, Clark's time of death is officially listed as May 1, the date in Afghanistan at the time.

"After two hours and many frantic

phone calls by Mrs. Clark, two military personnel arrived in the room and appeared to check his pulse, but provided no details about his condition to his wife," the statement said.

Despite the trauma of witnessing her husband's death from thousands of miles away, Orellana-Clark said last week through a statement issued by the family that she and her extended family were thankful that husband and wife "were together in his last moments."

Orellana-Clark said the reason for the family statement Sunday on the bullet hole was to provide details of what she saw "to honor my husband and dispel the inaccurate information and supposition promulgated by other parties."

Grey's statement Monday expressed condolences to Clark's family, friends, and fellow soldiers, saying "we know this is a very traumatic and difficult time for all involved."

Family spokesman Bradley Taber-Thomas said Monday the Army has not notified the family of any cause of death.

Grey said investigators will "consider all available evidence" before reaching a final determination.

"Although we have not completely ruled it out to ensure a complete and thorough investigation is conducted, we do not suspect foul play in the death of Captain Clark at this point," Grey said. "We will continue to keep the next of kin updated as the investigation continues."

Clark grew up in Michigan and previously lived in Spencerport, N.Y., a suburb of Rochester, his wife's hometown. He joined the Army in 2006 and was stationed in Hawaii before he was assigned to the medical center in El Paso. He deployed to Afghanistan in March.

Clark's body was returned Thursday to Dover Air Force Base. The body was still there Monday and officials said they didn't have information on when it would be transported to Spencerport for the funeral.

He is survived by his wife and two daughters, aged 3 and 9.

McDonough

cont. from page 1

case that a DA can do anything about without an entire team," said McDonough. "...You have so many parties involved. You have victims, you have witnesses, you have law enforcement officers. To say that the DA is the chief law enforcement officer, I think, is an overstatement, because without a victim willing to come forward, a victim willing to stand up for themselves, without law enforcement taking the case, without judges and people willing to serve on juries, people being willing to serve on grand juries, it really doesn't matter what the DA does."

From McDonough's perspective, knowing a community and what it wants are central to a successful District Attorney's office. That includes a firm grasp on crimes prevalent to the area.

"I would say, the biggest problem facing the district is drugs," said McDonough. "It's a little cliché to say that drugs are the big problem, but the reality is, you could trace the root of a majority of criminal activity to drugs, whether it be oil field theft, home burglaries, vehicle burglaries, a number of assaults and a number of major crimes involving children."

For McDonough, the influence of I-40 on the transportation of drugs is a predicament special to

this district.

"In the 31st District, I think it becomes that much more important to be able to work with law enforcement officers, DPS troopers and county officers who work I-40, and being able to give them the equipment and the training they need, because that's a major drug thoroughfare," he said. "You've got two counties in this district covered by I-40. When you have something like that, you have a greater susceptibility to a larger amount of drugs."

Coming from a law enforcement background, McDonough strives to build relationships with officers, especially those who may be able to give insight into a case.

"I think, next to being connected with all of the communities in a district, communication with law enforcement is the most important thing," he said.

"...I think anybody can work anything out sitting down (and talking), and I think that's moreso with a DA and law enforcement, to be able to sit down and discuss a case."

As a fiscal conservative, McDonough identified spending as one change he would make to the 31st District.

"As far as running an office, I can tell you as DA, I would absolutely trim the budget," he said.

"I think that right now you have a large amount of travel that's done that's

not necessary to maintain a great team, specifically, a lot of out-of-state travel."

McDonough said that, rather than spend money on trips outside Texas for the purposes of training his office, he would stick to training inside the state.

However, McDonough would make use of the district's asset forfeiture fund if elected.

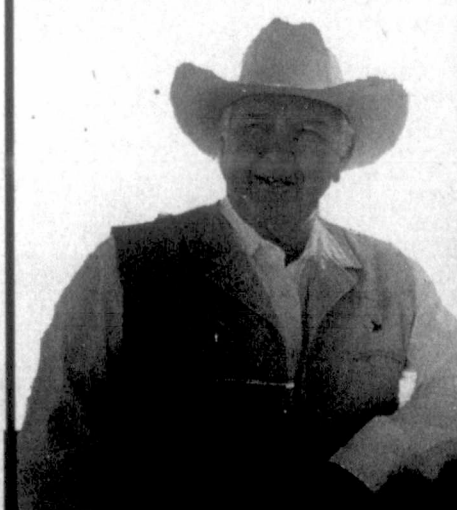
"The reality is, those funds should be used for law enforcement purposes, exactly what they were obtained for," he said. "I think those funds generally sit dormant until campaign time, and I think that's terrible. You have a large amount of funds that should be used for officer training, equipment and nonprofit programs that assist victims in being made whole. So, the reality is, those funds should be spent to do that."

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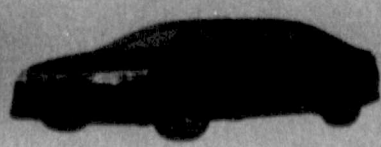
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Republican plan protects Pentagon, cuts social programs

WASHINGTON (AP) — Moving to protect the military from a crippling wave of budget cuts next year, a key House committee voted Monday to cut instead food aid, health care and social services like Meals on Wheels.

The measure would require federal employees to contribute more to their pensions, saving taxpayers more than \$80 billion over the coming decade, while illegal immigrants would be denied tax refunds from the \$1,000 per-child tax credit. There's no companion legislation moving in the Democratic-controlled Senate, and the proposal doesn't stand a chance of making it to President Barack Obama's desk for signature.

But the vote was a symbolic swipe at Obama in an election year focused on the economy.

The cuts approved by the Republican-controlled Budget Committee total more than \$300 billion over the coming decade. The panel approved them on a party-line 21-9 vote; the full House is scheduled to vote on the measure on Thursday.

The proposed reductions in the bill are but a fraction of those called for in the broader, nonbinding budget plan that passed the House in March. They are aimed less at taming trillion-dollar-plus deficits than preventing the Pentagon from absorbing a 10 percent, \$55 billion automatic budget cut in January because last year's deficit "supercommittee" couldn't reach a deal.

The Obama administration and lawmakers in both parties warn the defense cuts would harm readiness and weapons procurement, and reduce troop levels.

One-fourth of the House GOP spending cuts come from programs directly benefiting the poor, such as Medicaid, food stamps, the Social Services Block Grant, and a child tax credit claimed by working immigrants.

Federal workers would have to contribute an additional 5 percent of their salaries toward their pensions, while people whose incomes rise after receiving coverage subsidies under the new health care law would lose some or all of their benefits.

The automatic spending cuts, known as a "sequester," would strike domestic benefit programs as well, including a 2 percentage point cut from Medicare payments to health care providers and a \$16 billion cut to farm subsidies. The GOP measure would leave those cuts in place.

The sequester required by the supercommittee's failure would abruptly wring about \$110 billion in new

spending from next year's budget. But the upcoming GOP measure is more gentle in the near term, cutting deficits this year and next by less than \$20 billion — though the cuts add up to more than \$300 billion over the coming decade.

"The question is whether or not to just let the sequester occur ... or whether to be more targeted, reasonable and responsible," said Rep. Tom Price, R-Ga. "The last thing we want is those kinds of reductions in defense spending."

Some of the cuts may or not be realistic, though, despite the seal of approval of the respected Congressional Budget Office. Particularly dubious is \$22.5 billion in savings claimed by repealing new "orderly liquidation" authority awarded to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. to prevent the failure of large financial firms from endangering the economy. Costs would be offset by assessments on other institutions over subsequent years.

The cuts are likely just a sample of what's in store next year from Republicans if Mitt Romney wins the White House and the GOP takes back the Senate. Romney promises much tougher cuts to domestic programs and an even bigger boost in the Pentagon's budget, while the House GOP budget promises sharp cuts to Medicaid and a dramatic overhaul of Medicare for future beneficiaries.

To GOP lawmakers, steps like blocking states from gaming food stamp eligibility rules to boost benefits or trying to stop illegal immigrants from claiming tax refunds of up to \$1,000 per child are simply no-brainers. For instance, the GOP measure would more strictly enforce a requirement that most food stamp beneficiaries have assets of \$2,000 or less.

"We propose to stop fraud in the food-stamp program by ensuring that individuals are actually eligible for the taxpayer benefits they receive," said Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan, R-Wis. "That shouldn't be a partisan issue. That ought to be a common sense issue."

But Democrats say Republicans are unfairly targeting the poor and vulnerable. They believe that legislation to prevent the Pentagon cuts should include tax increases that strike wealthier people.

Top Budget panel Democrat Chris Van Hollen of Maryland said the food aid cuts would mean 280,000 children would lose free school lunches and 1.8 million people — out of 46 million currently covered — would lose food stamp benefits while large agricultural busi-

nesses would continue to receive lucrative subsidies. The GOP plan would carve 4 percent from projected food stamp spending over the coming decade, including repeal of a 2009 benefits boost under Obama's economic stimulus measure that currently awards an additional \$57 a month to a family of four.

"This plan hits the food and nutrition programs but totally exempts all the agricultural subsidies," Van Hollen said.

The proposed GOP cuts pale in comparison to the \$5 trillion in cuts called for over the coming decade by the broader — but nonbinding — GOP budget blueprint.

Stepping into the debate, however, has been the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, who forcefully oppose cuts to programs that help the poor and vulnerable, singling out cuts to food stamps as "unjustified and wrong" and assailing the effort to deny the child tax credit to undocumented workers as sure to thrust vulnerable children into poverty. The vast majority of children who would be affected by the tax credit proposal are U.S. citizens.

Republicans would also eliminate Social Services Block Grants, a \$1.7 billion a year program that gives states money for Meals on Wheels, day care, adoption assistance, and transportation help for the elderly and disabled. Democrats noted that the program comes in the form of flexible block grants, an approach that Republicans advocated in the Ryan budget regarding Medicaid and food stamps. Republicans say the Social Service Block Grants program duplicates other efforts.

"Taxpayers deserve better than to see their money wasted on duplicative federal programs that never end," Ryan said.

Separately, the chairman of the House Armed Services Committee on Monday unveiled his version of next year's defense budget, a blueprint that reverses several of the proposals embraced by Obama and military leaders.

The overall bill for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1 totals \$642 billion — a base budget of \$554 billion plus \$88 billion for the war in Afghanistan and the counterterrorism fight. House Republicans boosted spending on defense by \$3.7 billion above Obama's military budget proposal, which had already boosted such spending by \$4.6 billion above levels called for in last summer's budget and debt pact.

Good dog: Texas German shepherd named 'national hero'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Three years ago, Bear was a 100-pound Shiloh German shepherd nobody wanted at a Texas shelter.

Debbie Zeisler came to his rescue. She has lost count of the times since then that he has come to hers.

On Monday, Bear was honored with the 30th National Hero Dog award by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty

to Animals Los Angeles.

Last May, Zeisler had a seizure, fell down some steps, hit her head and lost consciousness in her front yard. Bear scratched on every front door in their Millsap neighborhood but nobody answered. A Parker County animal control officer saw the frantic dog and went to help. Bear led the officer to Zeisler.

As a by-then conscious

Zeisler was being loaded into an ambulance, Bear did not hesitate to jump in with her and accompany her to the hospital.

The dog recognizes the signs of imminent seizures and will lean on Zeisler's legs so she can sit down before they happen, explained the society's Ana Bustilloz.

Bear never had any training, but three days after Zeisler took him home he started alerting

her to possible problems. "He figured it out on his own," Bustilloz said.

The sometimes daily seizures started after a horse riding accident 18 years ago.

Zeisler said she initially went to the Weatherford Animal Shelter to get a German shepherd for her mother. When she asked about shepherds, she was told they only had one, but he was in the back because nobody wanted him.

They brought out the dog and it was love at first sight, she said.

Zeisler has fallen a couple of times when she didn't heed Bear's warning. The dog will fetch her medicine or stay with her, whichever she seems to need, she said.

As National Hero Dog, Bear gets free dog food for a year, the trip to California for him and Zeisler, a stay at an oceanfront hotel in

Huntington Beach and a plaque.

The ceremony honoring Bear was held at the Nokia Plaza in downtown Los Angeles.

Ferguson

personal amounts, it's not going to make much difference. You start attacking the manufacturers, they're going to start to notice."

"The district current trajectory in the battle is a good one, he said.

"You're starting to notice law enforcement making more arrests as far as drugs go, and that's a really good sign that we're starting to figure out exactly what these people are doing and how they're doing it and how they can attack it," Ferguson added. "It's a pretty neat thing that we're going in the right direction."

He does, however, concede that there is still much work left to be done, which is why he believes that the relationships he's built during his tenure with the law enforcement agencies in the district is one of the biggest strengths of his campaign.

"I've had the opportunity to work not only in each of the districts currently, but the law enforcement in each community," he said. "Each one has a little bit different needs. Each law enforcement agency faces a little bit different problems. I've been able to develop that relationship with all of them that basically allows me to see the differences in each of the communities."

"The best part of our relationship with law enforcement is simply the fact that we're available for them," he added. "This weekend, I had a law enforcement guy call

me just to ask about a case. That's a pretty rare thing, when a district attorney's office works that close with law enforcement, and that's by far our best asset. (Our law enforcement professionals) know it, and I think that's why they appreciate it so much. ... It's really nice having that two-way street between us, because it makes things work smoother and everybody's better off."

Ferguson cited the endorsements he's received from law enforcement professionals around the district, including retired Pampa Texas Ranger and ex-Hemphill County Sheriff Gary Henderson and current Hemphill County Sheriff Morse Burroughs, as well as the support he's received so far from various members of area police and sheriff's departments.

"I've got (law enforcement) people from departments in Pampa, Gray County, Shamrock, Wheeler

with my signs in their yards," said Ferguson.

Ferguson, who calls himself "very conservative fiscally," believes that one of the biggest assets the district has when it comes to helping its law enforcement agencies is its forfeiture fund, which he said he was in favor of using wisely and often.

"Basically, the idea is we get to take this money from criminals and turn it around and use it against them," Ferguson said. "Whether it's for equipment for law enforcement or training for law enforcement, this is stuff that needs to be and will be purchased no matter what. The only question is, does it get paid for by taxpayer money, or does it get paid for by money that we take from criminals. That's definition of fiscal conservatism, to me. We basically get to equip and train our law enforcement off of the criminal's dime."

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Precious Memories make Precious Gifts

Ferguson granted that Franklin McDonough, his opponent in the race for DA, may be the more experienced candidate (McDonough has three years of experience on Ferguson), though he was quick to add that their bodies of work shouldn't be judged on length alone.

"The biggest thing that I can do to combat it is to simply look at my experience," Ferguson said. "Look at what I've done. I've tried first degree cases. I've tried first degree murder cases. I've tried basically every level of felony that we have since I've been here. I've gone up against the local guys, the guys from Amarillo, the guys from San Antonio. ...

There's a difference between years of experience and quality of experience. Just because somebody has three more years of experience than I do, doesn't mean his quality is any better."

Asked what he believed to be his greatest strength as a candidate and a prosecutor, Ferguson pointed to the drive that led him to pursue a career in law in the first place.

"It's the passion and dedication that I have to being a prosecutor in particular," he said. "It's our job to seek justice and seek the truth. It's such a unique position, and that's what gets me so excited about it."

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PHS senior Engle receives \$500 umpire scholarship

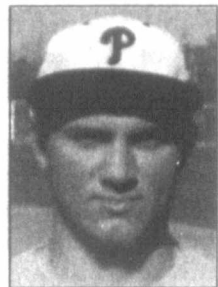
ANDREW GLOVER
aglover@thepampanews.com

Pampa High School baseball senior Cole Engle received a little help towards his college education as he was awarded The Umpire Scholarship Monday in the Ready Room at the Pampa High School Athletic Office.

"It's for a graduating senior that shows sportsmanship and leadership qualities on the floor that we umpires observe," said Kyle Glasscock of the Amarillo Umpires Association.

The scholarship is for \$500. Engle said it was cool to get the scholarship.

"Anthony Allen got it a couple years ago," Engle said. "I got this one. So we've got it two of the last three years. I will gladly take the money and spend it smart. Get some books with it."



Engle

Allen graduated in 2010. Head coach Kaleb Snelgrooves said Engle getting the scholarship says a lot about the baseball program.

"(Sportsmanship) is something that we push," Snelgrooves said. "It's tough during competition to always be on your best behavior. It's something we push and try to implement that. To get that in two out of three years that's exciting."

Engle said Pampa is trying to improve its image with sport officials.

"Pampa in other sports has been known not to be kind to officials," Engle said. "We are trying to rebuild that trust with officials."

Engle is attending Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, Okla., to study in pharmacy school.



Snelgrooves



staff photo by Andrew Glover

Senior Cole Engle (right) receives the Umpire Scholarship from Kyle Glasscock, chapter president of the Amarillo Umpires Association.

Winning a playoff game a big step up for Harvesters

After the Harvesters lost to Borger on April 27 and fell to the third seed, a lot of us, myself included, didn't have much optimism for their playoff series with Lubbock Estacado.

In fact, I think we thought that Pampa had already achieved everything by making the playoffs and the next two games would be just a formality to finish the season. Pampa proved us wrong and claimed something they



ANDREW GLOVER

haven't done in five years—win a playoff game. It shows the program is improving and moving in the right direction.

Yes, the Harvesters did fail to keep their season alive, but that didn't eliminate the positives. Saturday's win showed what Pampa has done all season and that's battle. After getting blown out in Game 1, it could have been very easy for Pampa to check out and go through the motions in Game 2. It didn't do that. Instead, Harvesters were excited about playing Game 2. The team held its composure even when Estacado was mounting a comeback. After that game, we got to see that excitement as everyone was high-fiving and air bumping each other. Pampa

competed well in the third game despite what the score showed. The Harvesters had a solid chance to win in the first three and a half innings.

The way Pampa finished will motivate next season's players. It will be up to next year's seniors — Tyler Powell, Chris Howard, James Thompson, Jordan Lemons, Taylor Woods and the rest of the senior class — to lead Pampa to accomplish its goals. The next step for the Harvesters is to have more success in non-district and district, and most importantly advance in the playoffs. It won't surprise me next year at this time if we are talking about who we are playing in the area round.

Seniors Cole Engle, Collin Killgo, Trace Carter, Devin Coleman, Jared Lusk and Zach Graves did a good job of bringing the program back to its winning ways. The senior class definitely left the program in a better place when they entered it. I look forward to what they accomplish as young adults.

The 2012 season may not have yielded as many victories but the Harvester baseball program took a huge step Saturday with its playoff victory. Hopefully, the returning players will continue to grow and develop.

Andrew Glover is The Pampa News sports reporter. He can be reached by email at aglover@thepampanews.com

Government can't use '60 Minutes' clip against Clemens

WASHINGTON (AP) — A short clip from Mike Wallace's "60 Minutes" interview with Roger Clemens in 2008 provided just enough ambiguity for the judge to rule it out, hurting the government's hopes of proving one piece of its case against the 11-time All-Star pitcher.

Lawyers for Clemens also laid down in writing their reasons to strike testimony from Andy Pettitte, while the jury on Monday heard federal agents discuss the handling of physical evidence and the trial entered its fourth week.

The crux of the trial focuses on whether Clemens lied to Congress when he said he had never used human growth hormone and steroids, but the government is also trying to prove numerous other alleged untruths from Clemens during a 2008 congressional hearing and the deposition that preceded it.

Among those other charges: That Clemens obstructed Congress when he said he "no idea" that former Sen. George Mitchell wanted to talk with him while putting together the landmark 2007 Mitchell Report on performance-enhancing drug use in baseball. Clemens is named prominently in the report as having received steroids and HGH injections from his former strength coach, Brian McNamee.

Clemens said on "60 Minutes" that he didn't speak to Mitchell's investigators because his lawyer advised against it. Prosecutor Courtney Saleski said that con-

tradicts what Clemens told Congress and that it's "just unbelievable" that Clemens didn't know of Mitchell's request.

But U.S. District Judge Reggie Walton said it was possible Clemens was told generally by lawyers not to talk to Mitchell, without actually informing the pitcher that Mitchell wanted to talk to him. The judge also cited the subtle difference between Mitchell's "investigators" and Mitchell himself and then reiterated his overall concern that playing the clip could run afoul of Clemens' attorney-client privilege. The judge ruled the clip couldn't be played.

Meanwhile, the government is fighting against another potential setback regarding Pettitte, Clemens' former teammate and longtime friend. Pettitte conceded on the stand last week that there is a 50-50 chance he misunderstood a conversation 12 years ago when he thought he heard Clemens admit to using HGH.

Clemens' lawyers say that's too tenuous. They want the judge to tell the jury to ignore Pettitte's testimony about the conversation.

"The court should not allow the jury to consider an alleged 'admission' that has all the weight of a coin flip," Clemens' lawyers wrote in a filing.

The defense is expected to respond with a filing of its own before the judge rules.

The two witnesses Monday were a pair of federal agents, Jeff Novitzky of the

Food and Drug Administration and John Longmire of the FBI. Novitzky began investigating connections between drugs and sports as an agent with the Internal Revenue Service.

Both talked about the chain of custody of evidence — needles, syringes, gauze and other items — some of which McNamee says were used to inject Clemens with a steroid. Clemens' lawyers focused on the condition of the evidence when it was handed over to authorities by McNamee, emphasizing a photo of the items bunched in a bag with a beer can rather than the photos of the items neatly arranged for classification once they were in the hands of the IRS and later the FBI.

FBI agent Longmire was asked by Clemens lawyer Michael Attanasio about keeping evidence in a beer can.

"I would not," Longmire said. Why not? "That's not what they trained us to do," the FBI agent answered.

The government is expected to show that Clemens' DNA was found among the items. Clemens' lawyers claim the evidence was tainted and/or contaminated.

The start of court Monday marked Day 11 of a trial that was still on its third witness. Walton opened the proceedings by again expressing his concerns about the slow pace and said he might impose time limits if the lawyers

persist in what he called "unnecessary questioning."

The judge's efforts didn't bear much fruit. The morning session began late because of a misunderstanding over a juror's prior obligation. Once it was under way, there were again numerous delays for bench conferences, including a 22-minute discussion between Walton and the lawyers over a set of questions posed to Novitzky by members of the jury.

The trial suffered another delay when the sound system in the courtroom malfunctioned, prompting the judge to call for a technician. The court also endured rudimentary sports questions asked to Longmire, such as: "For those of us who aren't baseball fans, what is Yankee Stadium?" and "Is Sports Illustrated a magazine?"

The government also had to introduce an extra exhibit when Longmire had trouble recalling the timeline of events in the investigation.

"I'm not very good with dates," the FBI agent said.

Softball Regional Quarterfinal Information

The Pampa Lady Harvesters will face the Lamesa Lady Tornados in the regional quarterfinals Friday and Saturday at Plainview High School.

Game 1 6 p.m. Friday Lamesa is home
Game 2 8 p.m. Friday Pampa is home
Game 3 11 a.m. Saturday, if necessary. Coin flip determines home team.
Tickets are \$5 for Adults and \$3 for Students.

4-on-4 Sand Volleyball Tournament

The City of Pampa recreation department is hosting a 4-on-4 Sand Volleyball tournament on Saturday. Cost is \$125 per team. No more than six on a team and must have two men and two women playing at all times. People can sign up at the Recreation office at M.K. Brown Auditorium. Deadline is 5 p.m. Friday. For more information contact recreation coordinator Autumn Schaub at 806-669-5790.

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