

Prime Healthcare names Morse new CEO of PRMC

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"Prime Healthcare

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MOLLIE BRYANT mbryant@thepampanews.com

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With Prime Healthcare Services' purchase of the Pampa Regional Medical Center (PRMC) set to be finalized in the beginning of June, Prime has named Brad Morse as the new CEO of the hospital. Scheduled to take the reigns on June 1, Morse hopes to apply his 20 years in the healthcare business to operations at PRMC.

Morse has spent much of his career with the Hospital Corporation of America and briefly was an owner of Medical Partners of America. Most recently, he worked as CEO of Meadowview Regional Medical



Morse

on, and it's very physician-driven, and these are the kinds of things I like in a company."

At the same time, he doesn't deny that there's work to be done at the hospital. "There's no doubt about that," he said.

"We need to bring new doctors to town. We need to bring some more staff to town or bring the staff back, whichever makes more sense, and do for the com-

munity what the community needs." "I have to spend time with the doctors, as a whole, to find out what they think we MORSE cont. on page 5A

Disaster drill held at hospital

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Yesterday, the Pampa Regional Medical Center (PRMC) participated in an exercise organized by the Panhandle Regional Advisory Council that tested the hospital's ability to respond to a

disaster scenario, such as the tornado that hit Joplin,, Mo., last year. According to Director of Acute Care, Cathy Land, disaster preparedness is critical.

"This hospital has a lot of new people on board, and we just want everyone to know their role, (for) when they do have DRILL cont. on page 5A



ARNIE AURELLANO



staff photo by ReDonn Woods

A giant American flag - the largest in Gray County - waves over B&G Electric in Pampa with a special message for the country's veterans.

Pampa man arrested with marijuana

MOLLIE BRYANT mbryant@thepampanews.com

A local man was arrested for drug possession following a traffic stop on Saturday evening.

Around 7:15 p.m., deputies with the Gray County Sheriff's Office stopped a vehicle on the 12000 block of Highway 60.

The deputies obtained consent from the

driver, Julian Domingueż Lopez, 32, of Pampa, to search the vehicle, which yielded more than four ounces of suspected marijuana and an illegal knife.

Lopez was transported to the Gray County Jail, where he was charged with possession of marijuana and unlawful carrying of a weapon. He was released on a \$7,500 bond.



Lopez

editor@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Chamber of Commerce is launching a new initiative aimed at increasing the advertising reach of local businesses and bringing more out-of-town commerce into the city.

The Chamber's co-op marketing campaign, announced Wednesday by executive director Jane Steele and John Curry of the Chamber's Tourism Committee, is a \$20,000 annual fund allocated to grants for Pampa entrepreneurs specifically for outof-town advertising. The hope, Curry said, is that such advertising would bring more customers and clients from outside Pampa to area businesses.

"We came across this idea of a co-op advertising campaign that would allow our merchants, primarily members of the Chamber, to try to attract in their way some out-of-town business to Pampa," he said. "The goal is to bring shoppers, tourists, overnight stays to Pampa to support the Pampa travel industry. ... The idea is that the local businesses and interest groups may have a better way to get to the buying public out there beyond Pampa in ways that we haven't envisioned."

The campaign is set up as a matching grant program, with the Chamber matching any business' contribution up to \$2,500 on a reimbursement basis. To be eligible for funds, a business must be a member of the Chamber of Commerce and present to the Tourism Committee an advertising program aimed at getting to customers who do not reside in the Pampa area. Such advertising may include television, print, radio and billboards, and the plan should encourage an overnight stay.

Eligible dates for the program are from June 1 to Dec. 31 of this year. Advertising programs must be approved by the Tourism Committee to receive Chamber funding; grants are available on a first come, first serve basis until the fund is exhausted.

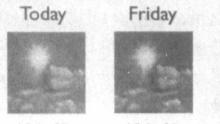
Plans will only be approved if they demonstrate a clear intent to bring outside customers into the city, according to Curry.

"For instance," he said, "If somebody's running a big campaign to do Internet shopping with their business, that Internet shopping would buy from a local business but that person would never come to Pampa. We wouldn't approve that sort of advertising. The intent is to physically bring a person to Pampa."

Money for the initiative will come from the Chamber's cut of the hotel/motel tax, Curry said. Under state statutes, funds accrued through the hotel/motel tax can be used for promotional activity, and the city provides the MARKETING cont. on page 3A



PAMPA FORECAST



Saturday 20% High 84

Low 61

High 96 High 87 Low 60 Low 67

Today: Mostly sunny, with a high near 87. North wind around 15 mph becoming east southeast. Winds could gust as high as 25 mph.

Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 60. South southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 96. South southwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 67. South wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Saturday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 84. Windy, with a south wind 15 to 20 mph increasing to between 25 and 30 mph. Winds could gust as high as 40 mph.

Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 61. Windy, with a south wind between 25 and 30 mph, with gusts as high as 40 mph.

O This information brought to you by...



CITY BRIEFS

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

B&B PHARMACY will be closed Sat thru Mon Mark Baggerman and I am for Memorial Day holiday your County Commissioner weekend

lst Weekend of June spon-

HELLO, MY name is John for Pct. #3. I want to serve CITY WIDE Garage Sale, You again to gour vote.

GI says faith motive for Ft. Hood plot

WACO (AP) — A Muslim U.S. soldier accused of planning to bomb Fort Hood troops says he wasn't seeking vengeance but justice for people in Iraq and Afghanistan, according to a recording played at his federal trial Wednesday.

Army Pfc. Naser Jason Abdo is heard telling his mother during a recorded jail visit that "their suffering is my suffering.'

Abdo, 22, is accused of planning to detonate a bomb inside a Killeen restaurant frequented by troops from the nearby Texas Army post and then shoot any survivors.

He faces up to life in federal prison if convicted of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction and five other charges. He was AWOL from Fort Campbell, Ky., when he was arrested last July at a motel in Killeen, a city about 150 miles southwest of Dallas.

Abdo is heard telling his mother that "it's all true" and "the reason is religion. There is no other reason." He says what he did was selfless because he was trying to avenge the United States' wrongful treatment of people he considers his family, and that he used every resource he had "to make things as right as possible."

"I'll be all right," he is heard saying. "I made this decision."

A pressure cooker containing smokeless powder and other material — evidence of an explosive device in the making was found in Abdo's motel room, Sgt. 1st Class Brad Grimes told jurors Wednesday. Other components to make a bomb were found in his room and backpack - and were listed in a magazine article about making bombs that also was found in his belongings, said Grimes, who is with Fort Hood's Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit.

Jurors in U.S. District Court in Waco were shown the article, which tells "my Muslim brother" that anyone could make a bomb with items that are not dangerous alone — such as clocks and batteries - and would not arouse suspicion when someone buys them.

Killeen police Sgt. Eric Bradley testified that officers began investigating July 26 after a gun store employee report-, ed that a young man acted suspiciously when he bought 6, pounds of smokeless gunpowder, shotgun ammunition and a magazine for a semiautomatic pistol, while seconing to know little about the items. Bradley told jurors that he learned where the young man was staying from a cab company who gave him a ride, but didn't see the man when he went to the motel that night.

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However, police did not do surveillance on the motel overnight and did not return until the next afternoon, Bradley acknowledged during cross-examination. Bradley said, that's when they saw someone matching the man's description walk through the lobby toward a waiting cab - and they jumped up to detain him.

Although investigators had seen no evidence the man had done anything illegal, officers had reason to detain him because of the items he bought at the gun and Army surplus stores, and because he was carrying a full backpack, Bradley testified.

Officers finally learned Abdo's name and details of his plans when he was questioned in the back of a patrol car, according to a recording played in court Wednesday.

In the muffled recording, Abdo can be heard telling Bradley that he was planning to pull off an attack in the Fort Hood area "because I don't appreciate what my unit did in Afghanistan."

Prosecutors have said Abdo was stopped by authorities just hours before assembling the bomb. Defense attorneys have said that no bomb was built and that simply having some. items does not make him guilty of the charges against him.

Obituaries

Jackie Curtis McDowell, 69

Jackie Curtis McDowell, 69, died May 20, 2012, in Pampa.

Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Friday, May 25, 2012, at Fairview Cemetery, with Rev. C.W. Parker, Odyssey Hospice chaplain, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors. Mr. McDowell was born

January 24, 1943, in Elec- McDowell



Fortherecord

Police Department The Pampa Police De- a.m.

tra. He graduated from McLean High School as valedictorian for his class. He had been a resident of Pampa. most of his life. Jackie was a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He attended Hi-Land Christian Church. He was an amateur radio operator, with the call sign WB5LRK. He loved playing music and electronics. Jackie worked for John King & Sons for over 40 years.

Survivors include two sisters, Bertie Endlsy of Houston, and Odessa M. East of Pampa; three nephews, John East of Pampa, Edwin East of North Dallas, and James Mc-Donald of Greenwood; a niece, Marcia Stubbs of Baton? Rouge, La. He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Mittie McDowell.

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



the 24 hour period ending Lefors Volunteer Fire De- curred at the 800 block of. Wednesday, May 23 at 7 partment responded to nine East Browning. medical calls. A vehicle fire occurred

sored by The Pampa News. Deadline for 2x2 special advertisement (\$25 also includes Garage Sale Kit) fully stocked w/ bedding Tues, May 29th before 3pm.

GRANDVIEW HOPKINS Annual BBQ, Fri May 25, at noon. Bring covered dish. Everyone welcome.

NO PAMPA Newspaper on Memorial Day, Mon. May 28th. Have a safe & happy holiday!

all

Call Beverly Today

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for Herns

403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065

806-669-2525 • Fax: 806-669-2520

ReDonn Woods

Publisher

rwoods@thepampanews.com

Political ad for by Lora S. Baggerman, treasurer.

HOBART GARDENS is plants, perenniels, hanging baskets, potting soil & mulch!! 529 N. Hobart.

MADISON'S CLOSET Sale, 25% off entire store thru May 31st. 329 N Hobart SINGER/ SONGWRITERS &r Storytellers all ages wanted. Call Mike 806-664-0824

Pampa EMS, the Pampa partment has reported the following incidents for Fire Department and the traffic-related incidents.



Animal Control agents six animal-related incidents.

Tuesday, May 22

An accident occurred at Harvester. the 2100 block of North Hobart.

A burglary occurred at of East Foster. the 1900 block of Lynn.

A theft was reported. Disorderly conduct occurred at the 4000 block of North Bad Cattle Company.

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 300 block of Sunset.

curred at the 1000 block of Hamilton. South Christy.

nance occurred at the 1100 block of North Juniper.

curred at the 800 block of 30th. South Barnes.

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 800 block Rham. of East Murphy.

400 block of South Graham.

JUNE

2012

WHITEFACE

Pampa PS reported six at the 100 block of West Hamilton.

Criminal mischief ocand the Pampa PD reported curred at Somerville and Cook.

A suspicious person was. reported at Duncan and

> Criminal trespassing was reported at the 1200 block

A suspicious person was reported at the 1900 block of North Lea.

An assault occurred at the. 100 block of West 30th.

Disorderly conduct occurred at the 1000 block of, North Duncan.

A threat was reported at Disorderly conduct oc- the 1300 block of North

Disorderly conduct oc-A violation of city ordi- curred at the 900 block of East Murphy.

An assault was reported, Criminal mischief oc- at the 100 block of West

> A suspicious vehicle was reported at Nelson and

A violation of city ordi-A theft occurred at the nance occurred at the 1100 block of Sirroco. A burglary occurred at.

Criminal mischief oc- the 100 block of Panhandle. Wednesday, May 23

A prowler was reported at the 900 block of South! Hobart.

A suspicious person was reported at the 2800 block, of North Perryton.

A theft was reported at the 300 block of North Hobart.

A suspicious person was reported at the 800 block of North Nelson.

An assault occurred at the 100 block of West 30th.

Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests for the 24 hour period ending Wednesday, May 23 at 7 a.m.

Tuesday, May 22 Bobby Ray Howard, 52, was arrested by police on charges of no driver's license, leaving the scene of an accident, failure to maintain a single lane and displaying the wrong registration on a vehicle.

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The Pampa News — Thursday, May 24, 2012 — 3A

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Amarillo considers camping ban

AMARILLO, Texas (AP) — A growing tent city in downtown Amarillo has officials considering a ban on camping in public areas.

The encampment began about nine months ago with a few dozen people under an overpass and being helped by donations from Faith City Ministries. Ministries director Jena Taylor says more people began showing up demanding services and have been harassing donors to the point where donations have ceased. She says some campers are stealing and getting drunk.

The Amarillo Globe News says police say the property belongs to the state and the Texas Department of Transportation would have to complain before any action could be taken against campers. Amarillo City Attorney Marcus Norris gave city commissioners Tuesday a draft ordinance that would bar camping on public property within the city limits.

Woman confesses to SD killing

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Authorities allege a Texas woman accused of murdering a South Dakota man a year and a half ago confessed to the killing.

Police say 34-year-old Letisha Morgan of Dallas also told officers she used three knives to stab 52-year-old Howard Allen in his apartment in October 2010 because they kept bending and breaking. Authorities say Allen was stabbed 37 times in the chest, back and groin.

Morgan's alleged confession came as she was being questioned in the death of her boyfriend in Texas. If she's convicted in that state and gets a life sentence she might not even face prosecution in South Dakota.

Authorities describe Morgan as a homeless woman with a criminal past that includes prostitution and drug possession. It was not immediately clear if she had a lawyer.

Doctor accused of Medicaid fraud

HOUSTON (AP) — A Houston physician is on trial in federal court for what prosecutors say is more than \$5.2 million in phony Medicare home health claims for hundreds of patients who didn't need the care.

Records introduced in the trial that began this week show Dr. Ben Echols approved home health care services for 352 patients and never saw 200 of them before he approved the services. At least one patient received benefits for 2¹/₂ years before he was seen by a doctor.

Echols' signature was on hundreds of forms submitted to home health care companies who then requested Medicare reimbursement.

The Houston Chronicle reports Echols' lawyer acknowledges the physician isn't the best manager in the world but has violated no rules or laws and is a good doctor.

Lawsuit filed over deported teen

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Marketing

Tourism Committee with \$50,000 a year from the tax for that purpose.

The fact that the Chamber is allotting close to half of its hotel/motel tax funds to this new co-op marketing campaign represents a confidence in Pampa businesses to extend their reach beyond the city limits, agreed Steele and Curry.

"Pampa has always been kind of a center, particularly in the eastern Panhandle," Steele said. "We want to bring back or continue to be the stop that they make, the place they come to rather than passing through to somewhere else. We think that maybe by doing a 50/50 split here, it will encourage some of the businesses who have always wanted to try something just a little different, but just on their small budgets just couldn't quite pull off. We kind of think that this can be a real stimulating, creative thing for them. That's what we're hoping."

Steele was optimistic that a successful first year for the campaign could usher in a future expansion of the program.

"We would feel really good if there were so many applicants that, the first three of four weeks, we're like, 'Wow, we have to pick now and look for the ones here that are the best plans," she said. "I think it's entirely feasible that if this is a success, there's no reason to think that there might not even be a larger expenditure in the future."

cont. from page 1A

Several businesses can come together to present a plan if they wish, she said.

"We need to encourage service industries — nail techs, beauty shops — grouping with others," she said. "It doesn't have to be an individual. It can be a business group. It may be that two or three people want to go together and shop here, do this, this, and this. ... It could be a whole block, a whole street. The possibilities are limitless."

The Chamber will be sending out a mailer to its retailand service-oriented members detailing the co-op marketing campaign and its guidelines later this week. For more information on the campaign, contact the Chamber at 806-669-3241 or visit the Chamber office at 200 N. Ballard.



HOUSTON (AP) — The mother of a teenage Dallas runaway who immigration authorities shipped to South America after she provided a/false name has filed a civil rights suit against top federal officials claiming her daughter was illegally detained and deported.

Johnisa Turner seeks unspecified damages in the federal lawsuit filed Tuesday in Houston.

In April last year, Turner's then-14-year-old daughter was arrested for shoplifting and identified herself to authorities as a 21-year-old Colombian national. Immigration and Customs Enforcement deported the teen. She returned to the U.S. in January after her grandmother and Dallas police tracked her down.

Among defendants in the lawsuit are Attorney General Eric Holder and Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano.

Federal officials have said they followed procedures and that the girl did nothing to indicate she is a U.S. citizen.

Ex-governor denies allegations

McALLEN (AP) — A lawyer for the former governor of a Mexican state whom U.S. prosecutors accuse of investing millions of dollars of drug cartel bribes in Texas real estate says his client is innocent of the allegations and does not own the properties.

No criminal charges have been filed against Tomas Yarrington, who served as governor of Tamaulipas state from 1999 to 2004. Civil actions were filed Tuesday seeking to seize a condominium in South Padre Island and a 46-acre property in San Antonio that the government says were bought with drug money.

Lawyer Joel Androphy told The Associated Press on Wednesday that Yarrington has no connection to the properties and suggested that other targets of federal investigations have implicated the ex-governor to improve their own situations.

Fire exposes bad conditions

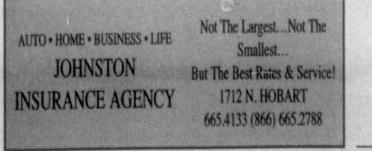
HOUSTON (AP) — Child welfare caseworkers have placed three suburban Houston children in foster care after firefighters responding to a fire at the children's home found them living in squalor.

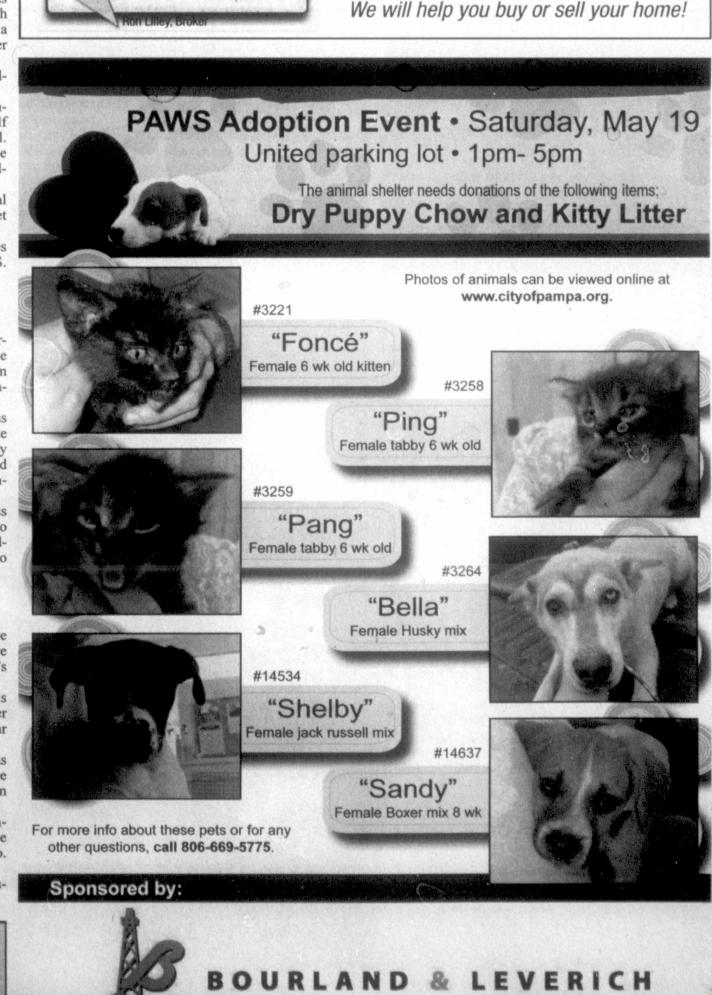
Child Protective spokeswoman Gwen Carter tells the Houston Chronicle firefighters contacted CPS after extinguishing a mattress fire at the small house near Conroe.

The family was living without water, electricity, gas or sewer service. Firefighter Steve Polinski tells the Chronicle that the children told him that they had eaten only sporadically.

Carter says the mother, Bridgett Watson, is unemployed and said she had no income to support her three sons since her husband was imprisoned 19 months ago. The sons are ages 7, 12 and 14.

Watson has no listed telephone number. A May 30 custody hearing is set in Conroe.





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Today in History

Today is Thursday, May 24, the 145th day of 2012. There are 221 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 24, 1962, astronaut Scott Carpenter became the second American to orbit the Earth as he flew aboard Aurora 7.

On this date:

In 1775, John Hancock was elected President of the Continental Congress, succeeding Peyton Randolph.

In 1844, Samuel F.B. Morse transmitted the message "What hath God wrought" from Washington to Baltimore as he formally opened America's first telegraph line.

In 1883, the Brooklyn Bridge, linking Brooklyn and Manhattan, was dedicated by President Chester Alan Arthur and New York Gov. Grover Cleveland.

In 1918, Bela Bartok's one-act opera "Bluebeard's Castle" had its premiere in Budapest.

In 1935, the first major league baseball game to be played at night took place at Cincinnati's Crosley Field as the Reds beat the Philadelphia Phillies, 2-1.

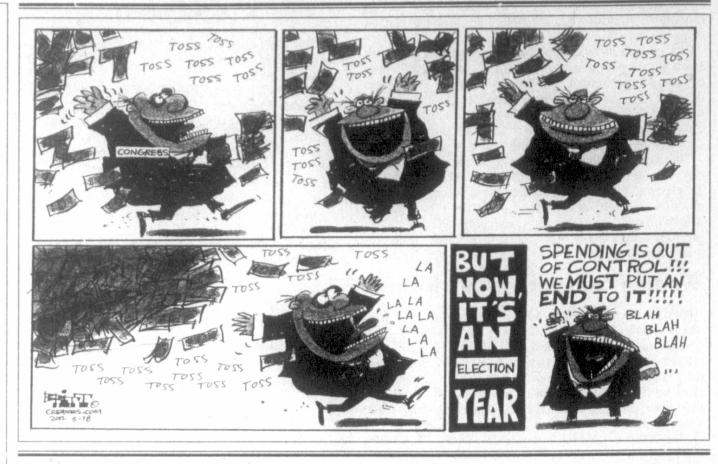
In 1937, in a set of rulings, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the Social Security Act of 1935.

In 1941, the German battleship Bismarck sank the British battle cruiser HMS Hood in the North Atlantic, killing all but three of the 1,418 men on board.

In 1959, former U.S. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles died in Washington, D.C. at age 71.

In 1961, a group of Freedom Riders was arrested after arriving at a bus terminal in Jackson, Miss., charged with breaching the peace for entering white-designated areas. (They ended up serving 60 days in jail.)

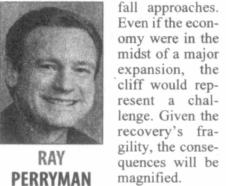
In 1976, Britain and France opened trans-Atlantic Concorde supersonic transport service to Washington.



Jitters over 'fiscal cliff' could magnify

For several months now, warnings have been growing in volume about the "fiscal cliff" the U.S. economy is rapidly approaching at the end of 2012. Essentially, the fiscal cliff is a double whammy of expiring tax breaks and automatic spending cuts scheduled to kick in at the end of this year. There is no doubt that economic growth would be curtailed if action isn't taken to avoid the cliff, thus further threatening the modest pace of recovery we currently are sustaining. To make matters worse, another debt ceiling showdown is shaping up for early next year as well.

Federal Reserve (Fed) Chairman Ben Bernanke was asked about his warnings to lawmakers in a recent press conference. His reply was that if no action is taken by the fiscal authorities (Congress and the administration), he thinks there is "absolutely no chance that the Federal Reserve could or would have any ability whatsoever to offset that effect on the economy." These are strong words, but they are warranted. The Fed has pretty well emptied its quiver at this point. The dire scenarios described if action is not taken range from a drop in growth of a percentage point or two to a full-out recession (or worse). Even the possibility that we might reach Dec. 31 without doing something constructive has introduced enough uncertainty to enter the corporate and personal decision process. Another fiscal yearend is approaching Oct. 1 and already is generating speculation as to whether we will avoid a government shutdown. Add to that the elections in November and the resulting lame duck problems, and it's clear the jitters are likely to intensify as the



lenge. Given the recovery's fragility, the consequences will be magnified. The major

components of the problem are, as noted, the end of certain tax breaks and the beginning of automatic spending cuts. What often is referred to as the "Bush tax cuts" (which lower income and capital gains tax rates, adjust tax treatment of married couples, and provide various other credits and breaks) would expire. Also, the current reduction in the payroll tax rate for Social Security and a number of other reductions ranging from breaks for financing green buildings to lower taxes on gasoline would go away. Some of these changes would hardly be noticed by most people; others would hit hard. The automatic spending cuts scheduled for Jan.y 1, 2013 stem from last summer's debt ceiling agreements and include across-the-board reductions (except for certain programs such as Social Security, Medicaid, food stamps and other large social and retirement programs). While most of us would agree that controlling federal outlays is desirable in the abstract, these mandated cuts likely would be far more disruptive than necessary. They are the arbitrary result of a compromise rather than the product of careful budget analysis.

fall approaches. recently provided updated budget projections for 2012 through 2022 that incorporated two scenarios. The first assumes no new laws to prevent or delay the tax and spending changes. The other presumes the tax provisions are extended (except for the current reduction in the payroll tax rate for Social Security), the alternative minimum tax is reindexed for inflation, Medicare payment rates to doctors are held constant rather than dropping, and the automatic spending cuts are put off.

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Given what's at stake, I believe legislators will at least take these obvious and typical steps. It's also hard to see even a dysfunctional Congress allowing Medicare reimbursements for doctors to fall by 27 percent and then some in a single blow.

The warnings we are hearing should be taken very, very seri-

In 1980, Iran rejected a call by the World Court in The Hague to release the American hostages.

In 2001, 23 people were killed when the floor of a Jerusalem wedding hall collapsed beneath dancing guests, sending them plunging several stories into the basement.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin (POO'-tihn) signed a landmark nuclear arms reduction treaty in Moscow. U.S. Olympic Committee president Sandra Baldwin resigned, a day after she admitted lying about her academic credentials.

Five years ago: Bowing to President George W. Bush, Congress passed an emergency war spending bill that did not include a provision ordering troops home from Iraq beginning in the fall of 2007. Ohio death row inmate Christopher Newton was executed by injection; it took him 16 minutes to die, more than twice the usual amount of time, once chemicals began flowing into his veins, which the execution team had trouble locating.

One year ago: Egyptian authorities ordered former President Hosni Mubarak tried on charges of corruption and conspiracy in the deadly shooting of protesters who'd driven him from power. President Barack Obama was honored with a state dinner in London as he continued his visit to Britain. Oprah Winfrey taped the final episode of her long-running talk show.

Today's Birthdays: Comedian Tommy Chong is 74. Singer Bob Dylan is 71. Actor Gary Burghoff is 69. Singer Patti LaBelle is 68. Actress Priscilla Presley is 67. Country singer Mike Reid is 65. Actor Jim Broadbent is 63. Actor Alfred Molina is 59. Singer Rosanne Cash is 57. Actress Kristin Scott Thomas is 52. Rock musician Jimmy Ashhurst (Buckcherry) is 49. Rock musician Vivian Trimble is 49. Actor John C. Reilly is 47. Actor Eric Close is 45. Rock musician Rich Robinson is 43. Actor Bryan Greenburg is 34. Actor Billy L. Sullivan is 32. Actor-rapper Jerod Mixon (aka Big Tyme) is 31. Rock musician Cody Hanson (Hinder) is 30. Country singer Billy Gilman is 24. Actor Cayden Boyd is 18.

Thought for Today: "Responsibility educates." - Wendell Phillips, American abolitionist (1811-1884).

The Congressional Budget Office

ously. Virtually everyone studying the issue agrees that the fiscal cliff is to be avoided because it is unlikely that we could survive the fall without substantial economic damage. What is needed is a plan to achieve fiscal sustainability without massive disruption to the economy. The path toward fiscal restraint will be difficult; neither raising revenues (taxes) nor reducing spending is pleasant. However, driving the U.S. economy off a cliff at the end of the year would be far worse.

Dr. M. Ray Perryman is President and Chief Executive Officer of The Perryman Group (www.perrymangroup.com). He also serves as Institute Distinguishec Professor of Economic Theory and Methoc at the International Institute for Advancec Studies



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.

Drill Curbing your frustration

MATTHEW "UNCLE MATTY" MARGOLIS Creator's Syndicate

Frustration is foe to both human and dog. Frustrated people make frustrated dogs; frustrated dogs make frustrated people. Frustrated people and dogs make mistakes out of frustration.

- He shouldn't do it.
- He doesn't listen.
- He won't come to me.
- He should know better.

All said in that pinched, exasperated, teetering-on-the-edge tone.

Have you trained him? I ask. I always ask.

And the answer is always no.

Then how would he know better from worse? How would he know what you want? How would he know what he's hearing? How would he know?

Do I sound frustrated?

It may surprise some to know that chewing, jumping, howling, barking, nipping, running and chasing are things dogs should do. These are normal and natural canine behaviors.

Training teaches a dog to behave the way you, a human, want him to behave — which is typically a deviation from natural animal behavior.

Dogs jump to catch balls, to chase butterflies, to intimidate squirrels, to play with other dogs. Teaching your dog not to jump on you is the beginning of showing him that it is not OK to jump on humans in general. You

are teaching him an exception to his normal dog behavior and he can learn this, from ou, if you teach him.

Dogs chew because it feels good and satisfies a natural urge. You can't take away the urge, but you can teach him that it is OK to chew on a Nylabone or a chew toy, and it's not OK to chew on the leg

of a chair. There is a difference. But you must teach him.

Dogs bark to communicate. It's as natural as breathing. If you don't want your dog to bark, ever, you shouldn't have a dog. But it is reasonable and necessary to set limits on your dog's barking. If he is trained to stop at "enough," he will stop at "enough." But you must teach him.

Puppies nip. Dogs howl. And anyone who loves dogs derives an almost giddy satisfaction from watching them run and chase and play and come to a screeching halt to collapse in the comforting shade of a tree. There is simply nothing better.

At the heart of dog training is compromise. You want there to be joy in the activities you do together. When you are walking together, you should be walking together. You don't want to be dragged down the street, and your dog doesn't want to be yanked and jerked into submission. Teaching "heel" is the compromise. When walking in "heel," you walk together. Otherwise, your dog gets to be a dog. He gets to sniff and explore and run and chase and thrill you to tears simply by being himself: a dog, a great dog. 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!

a true disaster, like (when) Celanese exploded several years ago," said Land. "It went so smoothly, and that's how we expect it to run in the future, when we have true disasters."

Emergency situations are not unfamiliar to Land, who was impressed with the hospital's performance yesterday.

"When I was here when Celanese exploded and we saw 47 patients, it went very well," she said. "Sometimes, when you do training, some of the staff doesn't take it seriously, but today, they took it very seriously. It went very smooth. Everyone worked together, and of all the years I've been here, this, to me, has been the best one we've ever had."

In the exercise yesterday, medical staff took park in a scenario wherein a tornado had hit town, resulting in a power outage. Later on, the power came on, but communication systems were down.

Michelle Gilstrap, Regional Preparedness Coordinator of the Panhandle Regional Advisory Council, said that the exercise tested patient tracking between the EMS and the hospital, particularly without critical infrastructure, like power, water and communications. She said that she feels comfortable with the ability of this region to respond to emergencies.

"We respond immediately, and all of our jurisdictions and health care agencies come together in a heartbeat, so we've had a lot of good responses and a lot of good recoveries because of that," she said. "They get trained as much as possible. I've been all over Texas doing this, and to me, this region is on top of it, better than most in the state."

During the exercise, students from Pampa High School's theatre class acted as disaster victims, who were assigned different degrees of injuries, some of them fatal. Students also acted as members of the media

"My position is to go in and get pictures and get in the way, so they can't do their job, so they have to tell me what to do," said cont. from page 1A

senior David Lister.

"The whole goal is to help train the staff there on how to react to lots of patients all at once," he added.

Theatre teacher Matthew Prather said that his students were prepared for the experience after honing their improv skills all year long.

"We live in an area where a major tornado could come through a town like this," he said. "So it's good to know we can help them be prepared for that kind of situation."

The exercise can help pinpoint weaknesses in the system, according to Perry Perkins, EMS Director of Baptist St. Anthony's in Amarillo and a monitor in the exercise.

"An example pointed out here is they don't have a morgue capability here, so what is going to happen when they have five bodies?" he said. "What are they going to do with them? Where are they going to store them before they can be retrieved and taken off? They would have to call for a resource, which would be a morgue trailer, and that's one of the things we're testing in this exercise, if they're calling in all the resources that we need and how guickly they do that. That's one of the reasons we have these drills, to simulate that, so that in an event that something happens, they're more familiar with what to do."

Quality risk manager Twilla Thomas of PRMC thought that the exercise gave staff a few ideas on things they can improve upon in the case of an emergency.

"It's identified that we need to pull some more triage nurses in," she said. "The way the scenario ran, they had placed bodies out in an area which realistically I think that most likely they would have dragged them closer to the hospital, so it stretched out our nurses outside.

"In triage, you don't have readily available supplies," Land added. "So, we were going to design a backpack for the nurses that work in that area where they will have supplies, so as the patients come in, they can put dressings on and all that until we get them to their final area."

Morse

need as a medical staff,

and then put my two cents

on what's here," he added.

"As far as trying to bring

those doctors to town,

we'll be recruiting them and be very personable."

Morse said he isn't wor-

in, and we'll be building

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cont. from page 1A

all we really, really need to focus on. The other parts will take care of themselves, because of our company's infrastructure. What I am going to be focusing on is the community and the medical staff's relations with the





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culty retaining the current staff at the hospital.

"I don't think that's going to be a big issue," he said. "I saw what they did today in a disaster drill. The ones that are here are a unified team, and have either been at the hospital for a long time or trained at this hospital, so I don't see a problem with that, as long as we take care of them.

As a former pharmacy technician during high school and college, Morse believes he has a unique perspective on what it's like to work in a hospital.

"That's one of the reasons I like to come up to the hospital at night, walk around and talk to the staff about what's going on, see patients myself," he said. "...I think in a fairly short period of time, we'll be able to get some trust back."

Morse sees changes in the future, such as recruiting staff and putting in electronic medical records to improve efficiency.

"What I think needs to happen is just some more capital dollars put into this place - update some of the equipment that we have, put (in) a modern IT structure, make our billing and collecting a little bit more friendly, a little bit more economical for, not only us, but for the community to run," he said.

An assessment team visited the hospital on Tuesday, and after another visit next week, they will make recommendations on what the hospital may or may not need.

"To be quite honest, a lot of the equipment here is great," said Morse. "There's a lot that needs to be replaced, and we'll replace them very quickly. More than anything else though, I really think communication between the medical staff, the employees and the community is

hospital." In the meantime, Morse is looking forward.

"Our company is growing very fast, and it's growing very fast because of its model of patient care delivery, and it's extremely physician-driven," he said. "It's not just me making decisions. It's doctors as well, and we want to make sure they're part of the decision process. ...We've got a different philosophy of making things work, and that can only be prov-

en to you over time.

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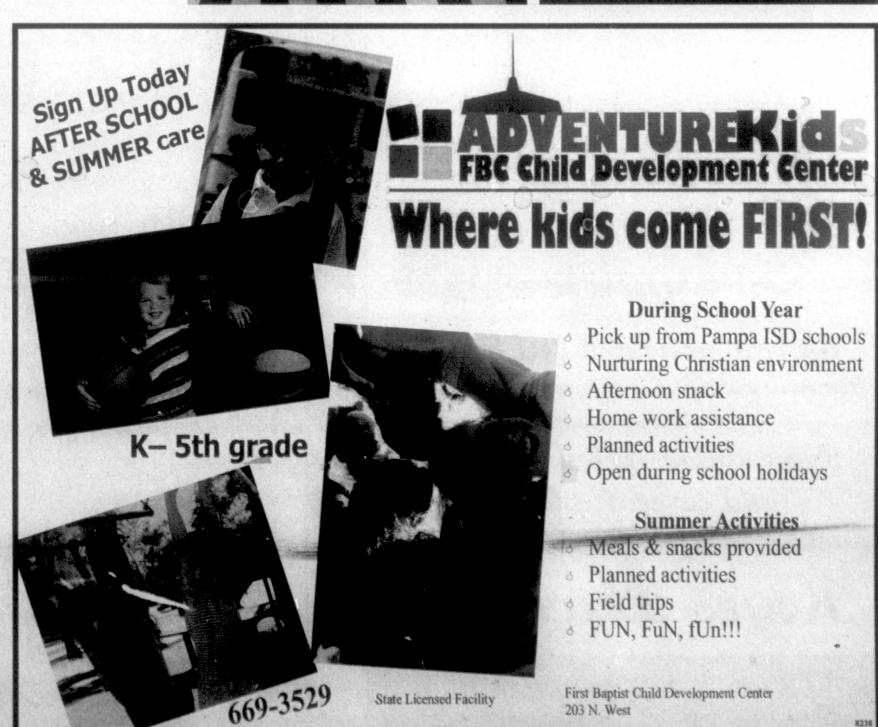
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out for us."

Linda Burt 664-3931



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Business

Pediatrician Freeman-Ladd now at PRMC

MOLLIE BRYANT

mbryant@thepampanews.com

Dr. Mayra Freeman-Ladd has joined the medical staff at the Pampa Regional Medical Center (PRMC) as a pediatrician, and since moving into town from Houston, the doctor has been struck by community.

"I'm almost sure y'all have the friendliest people in the world," she said. "I was just so impressed with the people and the community. I fell in love with it when I came to interview."

Freeman-Ladd grew up in Pensacola, Florida before attending medical school at the University of South Alabama. She went through her residency at the University of Florida, followed by a fellowship at the University of South Florida. She then practiced in Florida before moving to Houston.

A love for kids drew Freeman-Ladd into pediatrics.

"I love to have fun, and I consider myself as a big kid," she said. "It's an opportunity to make a living and have fun with. Coming here, I think I get to bring my expertise and personality to the community, as well as, my

Freeman-Ladd

toring kids. I'm looking forward to getting involved in the community and being able to hopefully mentor some kids and try to make a difference."

Freeman-Ladd is practicing pediatrics during a time when about 20 percent of kids are obese.

"I think it's going up for several reasons," she said. "Two of the most important reasons is our poor diets in our kids and activity in our kids. I think a lot of our kids have become less active, and they're either watching more TV or playing more video games, and not actually taking the time to get out and be active outside."

Childhood diabetes has also increased dramatically over the last decade.

"That could be secondary to the obesity, because Type II diabetes is very common among obese individuals, whether it's adults or children," said Freeman-Ladd.

"I think in our practice here, we're going to be geared towards all kinds of things - the kids with ADHD, the kids with obesity or premature kids who were born preterm who need an office followup, children with asthma and allergies, so we're going to see a huge spectrum of kids, and provide them quality care, and get them the referrals they need, in a fun way," she added.

Freeman-Ladd is excited to be in Pampa and working at PRMC.

"I think Pampa has great people, and I think it is a great community," she said. "I'm excited to get involved in the community, to reach out to the school systems, the churches and to whatever part of the community that I can affect with education for our children."

AROUND TEXAS Southwest to pay \$100M for Houston expansion

Southwest Airlines Co. promises to pay for \$100 million in airport improvements so that it can launch international flights from Houston's Hobby Airport over the objections of United Airlines.

With the Southwest pledge, Houston Mayor Annise Parker endorsed the expansion of Hobby, which is smaller but closer to downtown than Bush Intercontinental Airport. The city council could decide as soon as next week whether to approve the deal.

Parker said at a news conference Wednesday that customs and other facilities could be built at Hobby with no city debt or special taxes on

Feeling

Puny

airport passengers.

The mayor's endorsement could help Southwest win in a battle against United Airlines, the world's biggest carrier, which flies to U.S. and international destinations from its hub at Bush airport.

United argues that Southwest's plan could jeopardize growth at Bush and cost local jobs.

'We haven't seen the proposal, but there is no funding plan that makes this proposal good for Houston," said United spokeswoman Mary Clark. "Splitting the city's international air service will harm the city's competitive advantage and cost jobs" at Bush airport.

Southwest CEO Gary Kelly said the Hobby expansion would boost travel to and through Houston.

"We will bring lower fares, we will bring more competition," Kelly said. "It will mean more jobs."

Southwest runs more than 130 daily departures from Hobby, its sixth-busiest airport, and would add about 20 more. Southwest doesn't fly beyond U.S. borders but its AirTran Airways subsidiary goes to Mexico and the Caribbean from Atlanta, Baltimore, Los Angeles and other U.S. cities. Later this week it will launch flights to Mexico from Austin and San Antonio, Texas.



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HAPPY Memorial DAY

THE PAMPA NEWS Will be Closed on Monday, May 28th in observance of **MEMORIAL DAY!**

WE will REOPEN TUESDAY, May 29th at 8 AM.

HAVE FUN and Be Safel

The Pampa News — Thursday, May 24, 2012 — 7A

Regulator: North Dakota's oil production could double

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) - North Dakota could double its oil production by 2015 to more than 1 million barrels daily, putting it on par with Texas "if everything goes our way," the state's top oil regulator told industry and government officials Wednesday.

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Lynn Helms, director of the state Department of Mineral Resources, said the increase from about 575,000 barrels at present would depend on a strong global economy, steady oil prices and a favorable federal regulatory climate.

North Dakota has gone from the nation's ninth-biggest oil producer in 2006 to No. 2 this year, trailing only Texas, which produced about 1.1 million barrels daily in February, the most recent month for which there are figures.

The jump in production in North Dakota and the resulting economic activity likely would push the state's population to more than 1 million residents, Helms told an audience of several hundred at the Williston Basin Petroleum Conference and Expo in Bismarck.

The U.S. Census Bureau's most recent

count shows North Dakota's population at a record 683,932, an increase of more than 11,300 in the past year and eclipsing the state's previous population record set in 1930.

"A population of a million. That is a cool number," Helms said. "It would be a wonderful state to live in."

Helms' best-case-scenario forecast is unusual in that most state and industry officials typically have balked at predicting long-term growth in the state's oil patch.

Gov. Jack Dalrymple earlier Wednesday told conference-goers that he would not speculate on how big North Dakota's oil boom might become.

"I'm done guessing," Dalrymple said. 'I've been so wrong in the past.'

Ron Ness, president of the North Dakota Petroleum Council, would not comment on Helms' forecast to The Associated Press

"That's not my deal," said Ness, whose group represents several hundred companies working in North Dakota.

But billionaire Oklahoma oilman Harold

Hamm told the AP that Helms' prediction was probably accurate, if not a little low.

"We've been saying for two years that North Dakota could be at 1.2 million barrels a day by 2015," said Hamm, chairman and chief executive officer of Continental Resources Inc., an independent oil and gas company based in Oklahoma City.

Continental, which has been drilling in North Dakota for more than two decades, was one of the first to tap the rich Bakken and underlying Three Forks formations in the state.

Both formations that lie two miles beneath the surface rely on horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing, a process where water, grit and chemicals are pumped underground at high pressure to fracture oil-bearing rock and promote oil flows.

The technique is credited with driving North Dakota's oil rush but it's also been blamed for endangering water quality in some other states.

Helms and other officials at the conference worry that federal rules being drafted on hydraulic fracturing would lengthen

permit approval times, or worse.

Tom Richmond, the administrator of the Montana Oil and Gas Conservation Board, said hydraulic fracturing is key to developing the Bakken formation in that state.

"Banning hydraulic fracturing in the Bakken is about the same as banning drilling in the Bakken," Richmond said.

Jack Gerard, president and CEO of the Washington, D.C.-based American Petroleum Institute, called North Dakota an energy juggernaut that serves as a shining example for the nation.

"North Dakota is a model of economic development and a model of opportunity," said Gerard, whose lobbying group is the largest in the U.S. for the oil and gas industry.

Gerard told North Dakota officials that he has talked with their contemporaries in Texas about North Dakota's explosive growth.

"I called Texas and told them you're on your way and they need to be mindful," Gerard said.

GOP's Dewhurst, Cruz make late loans to Senate campaigns

AUSTIN (AP) — Two key Republican contenders for a U.S. Senate seat in Texas have used their own money to boost their campaigns in the final days before the state's primary next week.

Filings with the Federal Election Commission show Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst lent his campaign nearly \$1.2 million on May 14, the day early voting began. Four days later, former Texas Solicitor General Ted Cruz lent his campaign \$400,000 — after contributing just \$70,000 in personal funds previously.

Dewhurst is a Houston millionaire who has been lieutenant governor since 2003, but previously amassed a large personal fortune in oil and gas concerns. His latest cash infusion means Dewhurst has spent about \$13.2 million out of his own pocket, though his campaign has paid back about \$4 million of that. Other GOP hopefuls seeking the party's nomination for the seat now held by retiring U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison are ex-Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert and former football star and ESPN commentator Craig James ---though both are seen as

lagging behind Dewhurst lectual property from an and Cruz in many pub- American firm. lic opinion polls leading up to Tuesday's primary. If no candidate wins a majority of the votes cast, a runoff will be held July 31.

Leppert has loaned his campaign about \$3.6 million, but hasn't increased that total lately. James gave his campaign \$750,000 but then reimbursed himself for all but about \$300,000 of that.

"I'm the only candidate in this race that actually knows and has done what everybody else is talking about," Dewhurst told about 75 supporters at an Austin bar Wednesday night.

"I'm running for the United States Senate because I want to stop President Barack Obama from killing the American dream," he said to raucous cheers. Cruz, an attorney whose fiery (stump speeches have drawn support from national tea party organizations, spent Wednesday campaigning in suburban Houston. Past Dewhurst television ads have criticized Cruz for his law firm's work for a Chinese tire company in its appeal against a judgment that it stole intel-

But on Wednesday, the lieutenant governor's campaign turned its attention to Leppert, launching a Website called LiberalTomLeppert.com, which purports that, as mayor from 2007 to 2011, Leppert allowed Dallas to "become a sanctuary city for illegal immigrants" while raising property taxes and "building a half-billion governmentdollar financed hotel."

The site also claims the then-mayor reached out to the community organizing group ACORN.

"Tom spent his years in local government cozying up to ACORN, an organization that was dismantled and stripped of its funding by Congress after (it) was exposed for false attacks on Tom."

Dewhurst also unveiled another television spot, which didn't mention his opponents but described him as "a lifelong businessman" who built his own energy company "from the ground up, met a payroll, created jobs."

"I don't think President Obama understands busi-

while in his 30s. Leppert has long touted his 25 years of experience running firms large and small before becoming Dallas mayor.

In his political ads, Leppert dismisses all his major opponents as "empty suits" but concedes in person that Dewhurst has vast experience in the energy sector. Still, Leppert says his breadth of business knowledge runs far deeper since he served as CEO of firms in five different fields, including real estate, financial services and the Turner Corporation, America's largest general building company.



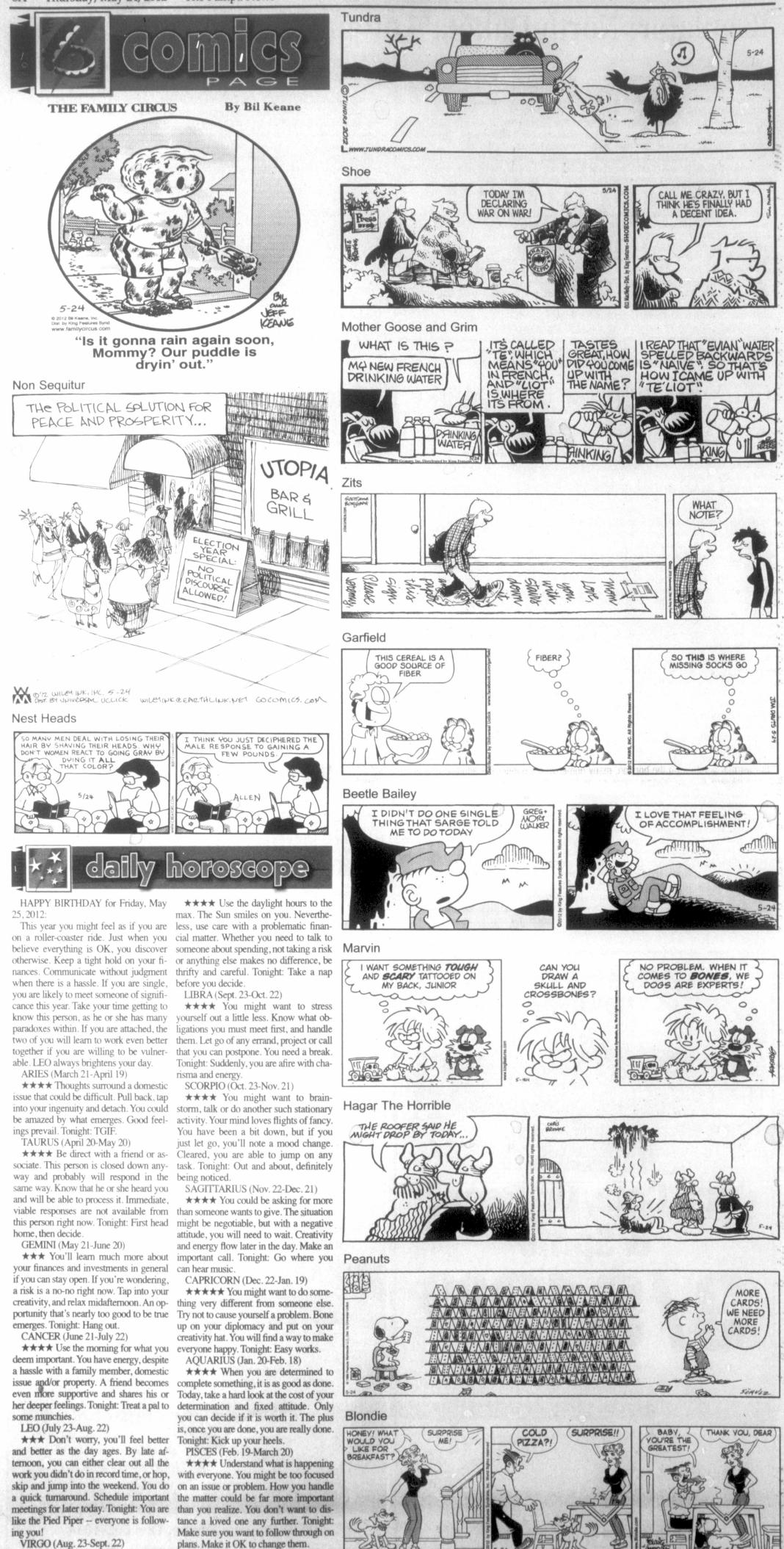
engaging in voter fraud, the site claims. Daniel Keylin, a spokesman, Leppert

responded that, "It's clear who the Dewhurst campaign is worried about and who has the momentum."

"Dewhurst has devoted most of his campaign and millions of dollars to smearing his opponents," Keylin said, adding 'that the lieutenant governor is "resorting to lies and







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Fun activities and information to help you get the most out of the coming summer months

Pool safety tips for parents –

When shopping for a home, parents often marvel at properties that feature a pool in the backyard. Once they see a pool, parents envision their kids having fun in the sun with friends and family.

While days spent poolside with the family are fun, they can also be dangerous, especially for children. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, children ages 1 to 4; have the highest drowning rates, and fatal drowning is the second-leading cause of unintentional injury-related death for children ages 1 to 14 years. It's no wonder then why parents place such a strong emphasis on pool safety. The following are some preventative measures parents can take to reduce their child's risk of an accident in the pool.

· Ensure children know how to swim. Teaching kids to swim might sound obvious, but many kids jump into pools before having any formal swimming training. But a child who has received formal swimming lessons has a significantly smaller risk of injury or drowning than one who has not received formal lessons. A 2009 study published in the Archives of Pediatrics and Medicine found that participation in formal swimming lessons can reduce the risk of drowning by 88 percent among children ages 1 to 14 years. Local community centers as well as the YMCA and even the Red Cross likely offer swimming lessons for children, so parents should take advantage of these highly effective programs.

* Pay constant attention when kids are in the pool. Kids should never be left unattended when in a pool. But accidents happen even when parents are nearby. However, how quickly adults or others respond to a child in danger can have a significant impact on the outcome of an emergency situation. A study in the medical journal Pediatrics determined that the more quickly someone is able to intervene, such as administering CPR, the better the chance of improving the outcome. So parents should respond as quickly as possible whenever they suspect something has gone wrong in the pool.

. Don't rely on air-filled or foam toys. Parents should not rely on air-filled flotation devices such as "water wings" as a safety measure. Such devices can deflate, putting kids at risk, especially if parents are under the assumption that the devices are enough to keep kids safe while they man the grill or mow the lawn. Even if kids wearing flotation devices have had swimming lessons, the likelihood kids will panic and forget those lessons if the devices deflate is significant enough that parents should pay constant attention.

· Do not consume alcohol. Adults should never consume alcohol while children are swimming in the pool. Alcohol can negatively affect judgement, balance and coordination, making it more difficult to respond to a pool emergency should one occur. In addition, the effects of alcohol are heightened by exposure to the sun and heat, so consuming alcohol on hot summer days while kids are swimming in the pool could be an unnecessary risk.

• Put all toys away after swimming. A pool and its surrounding deck should not have toys lying around, as this only entices children to go into the pool area when Mom and Dad might not be home or watching them. A study from the Consumer Product Safety Commission found that most young children who drowned in pools were last seen in the home and had been out of sight for less than five minutes. Kids can quickly disappear, and it might be too late before parents notice their youngster has jumped into the pool unsupervised. Put all toys away once a swimming session ends, so kids don't feel the urge to go play by the pool unsupervised.

A backyard pool is both fun and potentially dangerous. A few safety measures can drastically reduce the risk of drowning or injury, but parents should remain alert and attentive whenever kids are swimming or playing around the pool.

Which pool is right for you?



Learn to swim!

Sign up for swimming lessons this summer at the Pampa Youth and Community Center. Call 665-0748 for details.

Sun myths exposed

number of people take to the outdoors to you may experience premature aging from participate in athletics, to enjoy a meal al fresco or to take a dip in a pool. However, fun in the sun does come with risk, most tection from the sun at the beach. notably overexposure to the sun's potentially harmful rays.

Misinformation often reigns supreme with regards to sun exposure. Here are some common sun myths debunked.

Myth: I don't have to worry about the sun on cloudy days.

sunblock. According to the Skin Cancer shiny or glossy products actually can draw Foundation, up to 80 percent of the sun's the UV rays to areas where the product was ultraviolet rays can still pass through the clouds. Even if the weather is cool or overcast, apply sunblock before going outdoors. cer rates.

When the weather gets warmer, a great not get a sunburn sitting next to a window, freckling and wrinkles.

Myth: A beach umbrella is adequate pro-

Fact: Although the umbrella will shade you somewhat, the surrounding sand reflects up to 17 percent of UV radiation. That means you can still get skin damage if you don't apply sunblock.

Myth: Makeup that contains SPF is protection enough.

Truth: There is a risk of exposure to Fact: Some makeup will offer a light UV radiation even on cloudy days, neces- measure of protection from the sun, but sitating the application of a sunscreen or will not be adequate. Furthermore, some applied.

With warmer weather on the horizon, many homeowners ponder the addition of a pool to their backyard. When choosing a pool, several decisions present themselves, including whether to purchase an above-ground pool or an inground one.

Choosing between an above-ground pool or an inground one requires forethought. There are a number of factors that set these pool styles apart, and homeowners should carefully weigh the options before breaking ground.

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Cost is a major factor when undergoing a home renovation, including adding a swimming pool. Because of the work involved for excavation and essentially building the pool from below the ground and up, inground pools will generally be more expensive than above-ground ones.

Homeowners can expect to pay between \$10,000 to \$25,000 for an inground pool. depending on the pool's size and features. On the other hand, above-ground pools may range from a few hundred dollars to a few thousand. There also are above-ground pool kits that install relatively quickly, or there may be inflatable options.

Ease of Installation

For some, above-ground pools can be a do-it-yourself project. With the help of a few friends, it's possible to set up a pool in a weekend. Inground pools, however, are a professional undertaking. The labor involved is often what makes this type of pool more expensive.

Homeowners who want a guick set-up may prefer an above-ground model.

Depth and Size

Individuals looking for an Olympic-size swimming pool at a depth of 8 feet or more will have to choose an inground pool. These pools can be customized into different sizes and shapes and greater depths.

On the other hand, above-ground pools are usually manufactured according to set size and depth limits. They're also generally round or oval and cannot be custom shapes. A person may be able to get a pool up to 5-feet-deep, and that's the limit.

Safety

Many states and provinces mandate self-latching fences around the perimeter of any pool to safeguard against animals or children falling in. It is easier for children to wander into a pool that is at ground-level, which could give above-ground pools a slight safety advantage. But above-ground pools that are built with a deck surrounding them are not necessarily safer.

: No one should be allowed to play around the pool or swim unattended. Keeping careful watch can prevent injuries or death.

Property Taxes

In some areas of the country, the installation of an inground pool is considered a permanent modification and can increase property taxes. An above-ground pool can be removed, and is therefore not a permanent change. Property taxes may remain unaffected.

Before installing a pool, homeowners should check with the municipal office to see if permits are needed and what the regulations regarding pools may be. Electrical wiring, pool placement and water fill-up may have to be worked on to avoid fines.

A pool can be a welcome addition to the yard. Depending on price range and amenities desired, the choice will have to be made between above-ground and inground styles.

- Pampa ISD Summer Lunch Program -

The Pampa Independent School District would like to announce the sponsorship of a free breakfast and lunch Summer Nutrition Program for children ages one-year-old through eighteen-years-old.

Children from the age of one through age six must be accompanied by an adult or older brother or sister. Meals will be provided at:

Wilson Elementary Cafeteria, 801 E. Browning

The Salvation Army, 701 S. Cuyler Marcus Sanders Swimming Pool, 438 W. Crawford

- Central Park, 501 N. Cuyler
- Lovett Memorial Library, 111 N. Houston Hampton Village, 100 Hampton Lane

The Summer Nutrition Program will start serving breakfast and lunch on Monday, June 4 and will end on Friday August 3 at the Wilson Elementary Cafeteria. Serving time each weekday will be, breakfast from: 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and lunch from 11 :00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The Salvation Army, Central Park, Marcus Sander Swimming Pool and the Hampton Village will serve lunch from 11 :45 a.m. to 12: 15 p.m. Lovett Memorial Library will serve lunch from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 P.M. There will be no service on July 4th for the holiday.

There will be a charge of \$3.75 for adults. There will be no charge for children ages one year through eighteen years of age. All students and adult are encouraged to come and join us daily for a nutritious breakfast and lunch.

Myth: Most sun damage occurs before age 18.

Truth: Recent studies indicate that previous estimates were inaccurate and that only 25 percent of sun exposure occurs during childhood. That makes being sunsmart important at any age.

Myth: Establishing a base tan provides a safe way to tan afterward.

Truth: There is no such thing as a safe tan if it's coming from the sun or a tanning bed. Spending prolonged periods of time outdoors unprotected from the sun can damage the skin. For those who want to have skin that glows, consider a selftanning lotion.

Myth: Light clothing reflects the sun's rays while dark colors absorb it.

Truth: UV rays tend to pass through lightcolored fabrics easier than darker ones. If you are able to see light through a piece of clothing, there's a good chance UV rays can pass right through to the skin. Choose deep colors to protect the skin better.

Myth: Sun rays do not pass through windows.

Truth: UVB rays cannot pass through windows but UVA-rays can. While you may

Myth: Sunscreens can increase skin can-

Truth: Research indicates this is only the case if you use sunscreen to spend more time out in the sun. When used correctly, sunscreens can lower skin cancer rates.

Myth: Dark-skinned individuals do not get sunburn.

Truth: Although people with more melanin pigment in their skin may not burn at the same rate as lighter-skinned individuals, there is still the chance for skin damage if sunscreen isn't used.

Myth: Vitamin D deficiency will occur if I don't spend long times out in the sun.

Truth: While it's true that sunlight exposure is necessary for the body to produce vitamin D naturally, it doesn't take that much exposure to do so, even when wearing sunscreen. The Cancer Council of New South Wales says most people get enough vitamin D from their everyday activities during the summer, even when protected with hats, sunscreen and clothing. During the months when there is limited sunlight, a supplement may be needed.

Getting outdoors when the weather is pleasant can be enjoyable provided revelers are smart about using sun protection.

Vacation Bible School Check out the fun activities

The following churches are among those who will be offering Vacation Bible School this summer:

Highland Baptist June 4-8 • 6:30-8:30 p.m. 1301 N. Banks 665-3300

Cornerstone Baptist June 25-29 • 6-8:30 p.m. Kickoff will be June 24 @ 5:30 2410 W. 23rd 669-6509

First Baptist Church July 9-13 • 9:00 a.m.-noon 203 N. West St.

Calvary Baptist July 30-Aug. 3 • 6:30-9:00 p.n 900 E. 23rd 665-0842

Central Baptist July 15-19 • 6:30-9:00 p.m. 513 E. Francis 665-1631

First United Methodist July 16-20 • 9:00 a.m.-noon 201 E. Foster 669-7411

First Christian Church Aug. 1-3 • 5:30-9:00 p.m. 1633 N. Nelson

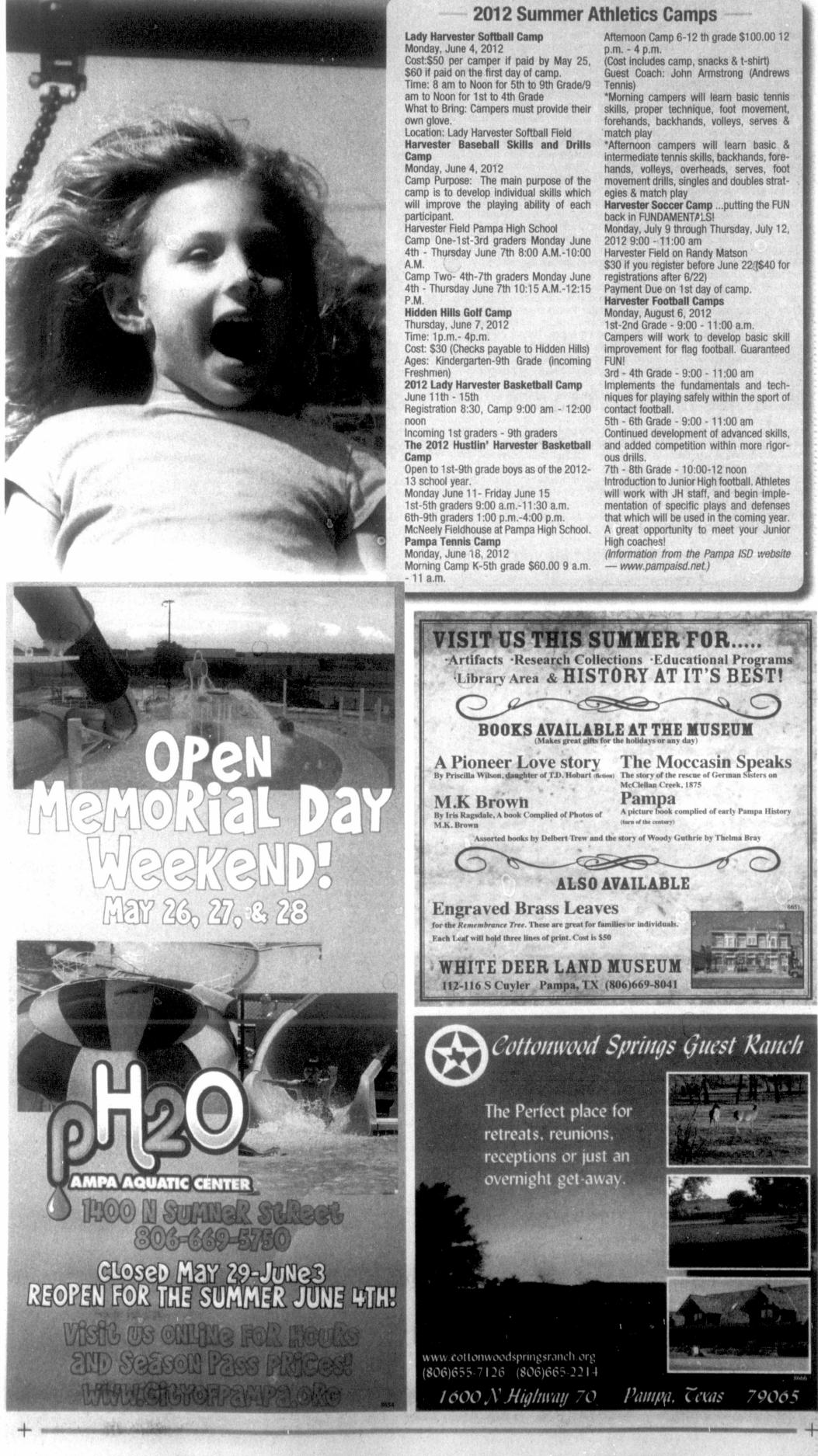
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Fun activities and information to help you get the most

out of the coming summer months



The PAMPA NEWS ports

Reliving the exciting moments of the 2011-12 season

Bulldogs' bark silenced

ANDREW GLOVER aglover@thepampanews.com

With the 2011-12 sports season in the books, there were several exciting moments, as most of the Harvester and Lady Harvester teams saw postseason. Here's a look at some of the best.



Pampa Showdown (Tennis)

Seniors Collin McClendon and Delaney Clendening defeat senior teammate Elizabeth Terry and junior Hunter Hucks to clinch regional spot; April 11, 2012 at Pampa High School

tennis courts With a spot in regionals on the line, seniors Collin

McClendon and Delaney Clendening had to battle their teammates, senior Elizabeth Terry and junior Hunter Hucks. Clendening and McClendon took the first match in a tie-breaker. In the second match, Terry and Hucks took a 4-3 lead. Clendening and McClendon won the last three matches to clinch the spot. The Pampa crowd went home happy.

(Baseball) Pampa Harvesters 8, Borger Bulldogs 3; April 4, 2012 in Borger.

The Bulldogs had the Harvesters' number, winning the last four games. Thanks to a quick start by Pampa's bats and junior James Thompson's pitching, the losing streak was over. The Harvesters jumped out to a 8-0 lead. Junior Jordan Lemons provided a spark with two RBI. Thompson threw a complete game, giving up three runs on six hits. The victory temporarily put Pampa in first with a 3-0 district record.

Going out on top (Football)

Pampa Harvesters 32, Dalhart Wolves 23; Nov. 4, 2011 at Harvester Field.

Pampa entered the game with an 0-2 district record and were going against one of the stingiest defenses in the district in Dalhart. The Harvesters put up 117 yards rushing and passed for 145 yards. Senior Ryne Richardson scored Pampa's first defensive touchdown of the year on a fumble.

The Harvesters came up a field goal short of making

the playoffs, but the victory was a great way to end the season.



Dialing long Distance (Boys Basketball)

Pampa Harvesters 74, Perryton Rangers 71; Feb. 3, 2012, in Perryton

The Harvesters entered the fourth quarter with 60-38 lead. Surprisingly, the lead didn't end up being safe, as the Rangers rallied to tie the game at 71 with seconds left. Senior Reid Miller shot the ball in NBA three-point range and had a defender in his face. Seconds later the ball hit off the backboard and went in. Sadly, the unsportsmanlike actions of some Perryton fans overshadowed this exciting game.



Not in my house (Baseball)

Pampa Harvesters 18, Dalhart Wolves 0; Feb. 23, 2012 Harvester Field

In the season opener, the Dalhart Wolves had no answer for Pampa's junior pitcher James Thompson. The junior hurled his first career no-hitter. The Wolves' only baserunners were on two walks and an error. Thompson struck out eight.

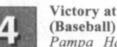


Twice as Dominant (Volleyball)

Pampa Lady Harvesters defeat Borger Lady Bulldogs 21-25, '25-17, 25-18 and 25-15; Oct. 18, 2011, McNeely Fieldhouse

With an undefeated district record, the Lady Harvesters couldn't ask for a better opponent to clinch then archrival Borger. The Lady Bulldogs made Pampa work as mentook Game 1.

The next three games were close as the Lady Harvesters didn't pull them out until the end. Unlike the team's first district title, there was no dogpile, as Pampa wasn't satisfied with its performance.



Victory at Last

Pampa Harvesters 6 Lubbock Estacado Matadors 3, May 5, 2012, Wayland Baptist's Wilder Park

The Harvesters entered Game 2, facing elimination in the bi-district round and still searching for their first playoff win since 2007. Junior Jordan Lemons hit a two RBI single. Senior Collin Killgo pitched a complete game and struck out six.

The Harvesters jumped out to a 6-0 lead. Senior









staff photos by Andrew Glover / photos courtesy of Diane Jennings

TOP LEFT: Taylea Matthews, with the help of Adrian Elam, hits a ball in WheelTimes, Inc.'s first softball event Tuesday at Harvester Field. TOP RIGHT: Kambry Smith, 10, makes a throw with Pampa High School senior Kirsten Kuhn pushing her chair. **BOTTOM LEFT: Brody** Gilbert swings at a ball with Cade Engle holding on. BOTTOM RIGHT: Lauren Pingel hits a ball with PHS junior Ryan Smith providing a push.

Zach Graves caught a line drive to end the Matadors rally. After the game, Pampa celebrated with high fives and chest bumps.



From chopping block to back on top (Wrestling) The Pampa Harvesters wrestling team is

reborn after facing being cut

When the Pampa Harvesters wrestling team finished the 2010-11 season, it only had four wrestlers. The coach and booster president resigned. The program was on the brink of being cut.

This year, Pampa had 60 wrestlers. Assistant principal Michael Stovall took over the program. Pampa beat Boys Ranch for the first time in years and was three points from topping state powerhouse Randall. At year's end, Pampa sent 11 wrestlers to regionals. The program enters 2012-13 alive and well.

MOMENTS cont. on page 4B



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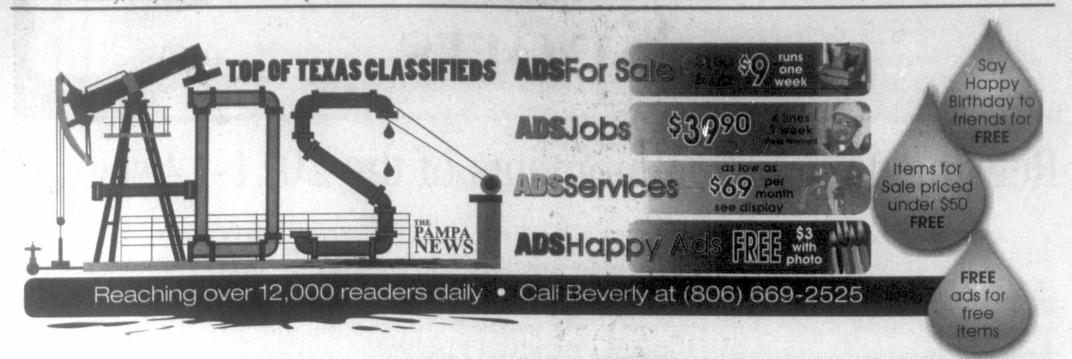
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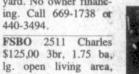
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DEAR ABBY: My sister "Ruth" and I spent most holidays dining out together after our families grew up and left home. Ruth died last year and her daughter "Lara" began inviting me for holidays "so I wouldn't be alone." I have tried to decline, but she persists. She insists that I should be with her instead of with friends, although her plans are always tentative and often change at the last minute.

Last Christmas she invited me to a community holiday dinner at 2 p.m. with her friends. At the last minute she called to say we'd be dining at her house in the evening instead, which meant I spent the entire day alone doing nothing. The dinner was grim because they were arguing.

At Easter, Lara called saying plans were "up in the air." At noon on Easter months. day, she called to say her husband's sister was visiting and they planned to hike in the state park and have a picnic - something that I physically cannot do. She said they planned to have dinner for me "sometime soon." So, once again, I spent the holiday alone.

Should I call Lara and tell her exactly how I feel, or just write a script for the SOUTHWEST



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR HAD IT: If you'd prefer to of being reminded of sad memories and feeling obligated, you should decline Lara's future invitations. If your niece pressures you, explain that you have already made plans with friends.

Although her heart may be in the right place, from your description of your niece's social skills, they leave much to be desired. Do not allow her to make you feel guilty and change your mind. Your feelings are valid.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 45-year-old single male with a job I enjoy. Last June, a cousin who is close to my age married for the second time. He married a girl 20 years younger whom he had known less than six

Although I was unable to attend the wedding, I sent them a nice card with a generous cash gift. I never received a thank-you note for it and although I was offended, I overlooked their rudeness.

Six weeks later, my cousin's new bride called my place of employment and left an "emergency" message to phone her. (She left a second one with a neighbor of mine.) next time she calls? - HAD IT IN THE Very worried and not knowing what to expect, I called her immediately.

The "emergency" turned out to be a spend the holidays with friends instead request for a loan of \$500. I was angry but tried not to show it. After thinking about it, I agreed to the loan, although my cousin's wife had hinted that I should give them a larger amount. We agreed on a repayment plan.

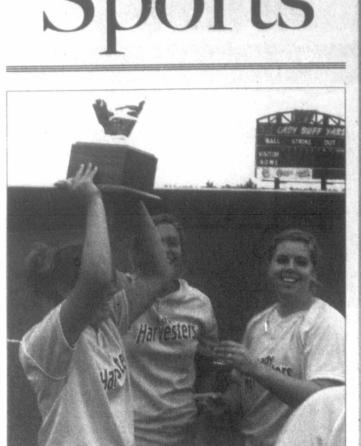
> I had misgivings about helping them, but somehow my aunt - my cousin's mother - became involved. She kept insisting I lend them the money. (They were living with her at the time.)

> It has been more than eight months and they have made no effort to pay me back. To make matters worse, they avoid me. My aunt acts as though it's all right for them to treat me this way. I am angry, hurt and feel my trust has been betrayed. What do you think I should do now? - USED IN MISSOURI

> DEAR USED: I think you should write off the loan and thank your lucky stars that you weren't conned into giving this deadbeat couple more money. If you are asked for more - which isn't out of the realm of possibility - you can now say, "No, because you didn't repay the first loan I gave you." Think about it. You may have gotten off cheap.



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staff photo by Andrew Glover

Senior Nakayla Hardman (left) hoists the regional quarterfinals trophy on May 12, with teammates Alanna Stephens (center) and Heather Coffee beside her. Softball's playoff run to the regional semifinals was the top Pampa athletic moment for 2011-12.

Moments

cont. from page 1B



Never Say Die (Softball)

Pampa Lady Harvesters 3, Midland Greenwood 2; May 5, 2012, Plainview High School

The Pampa Lady Harvesters were two outs from facing a decisive game in the area round, as the Midland Greenwood Rangerettes held a 2-0 lead. Ninth hole hitter Martecia Alexander came up with runners at first and second. Down to her last strike, Alexander slapped the ball into left for a double. Both runners scored and tied the game.

Junior Claire Hopkins hit a walk-off single down the right side of the field to score Alexander and send Pampa to the regional quarterfinals. Pampa finally had a team advance in the postseason in 2011-2012.



Sweet 16 (Softball)

Pampa Lady Harvesters 7 Lamesa Golden Tornadoes 1; May 12, 2012, Lady Buff Yard.



The Lady Harvesters' season was on the brink as it entered Game 3 against the Lamesa Lady Tornadoes. After dropping Game 2, Pampa quickly grabbed momentum, scoring three runs in the bottom of the first. The Lady Harvesters scored in four of six innings. Sophomore Alexa O'Brien was efficient in the circle, with three innings where she threw less than ten pitches. The defense backed up its pitcher, recording 19 of 21 outs. The Lady Harvesters reached the regional semifinals for the third time in team history, the first since 2008.

Astrodome fades, as city decides fate

HOUSTON (AP) — The Astrodome was once the envy of other cities, a fully air-conditioned stadium that had a translucent roof to keep out the heat and humidity, the first synthetic grass — and the power to make Houston into a sports-entertainment destination.

Walt Disney, according to local legend, was so blown away when he stood under the dome that he dubbed it the Eighth Wonder of the World.

Then stadium designers began building venues with retractable roofs. And the Astrodome, in its heyday the proud host to everyone from Muhammad Ali to Madonna, rapidly became a relic of the past.

Now, after years on the sidelines, the Astrodome is in the spotlight again. The agency that runs the facility planned to render a recommendation Wednesday on its future. One option could be a fate that other domes have met — demolition.

For now, the signature feature of Houston's skyline is mired in disrepair and decay. Dirt covers the floors. Mold creeps up the walls. The AstroTurf that got its name from the building is a dirty, rumpled mess.

"It was an amazing structure at its time," said Mark Miller, general manager of the Harris County Sports and Convention Corp., which oversees the Astrodome, Reliant Stadium and other complexes on the 340-acre campus.

"People were coming from all over the world to see the Astrodome. It was that significant. People like Frank Sinatra, Walt Disney, John Wayne," Miller added. "It seems commonplace now, but for its time, being the first, it was just incredible."

However, the dome has not been used for an event since 2008. More memorably, in 2005 it housed refugees from Hurricane Katrina.

On a tour taken this week by an Associated Press reporter, piles of cardboard boxes littered the stadium floor alongside a crumpled mat of synthetic football field. Trash was strewn around the stands under the torn seats, the same ones from which spectators watched the "Battle of the Sexes" tennis match between Bobby Riggs and Billie Jean King, concerts by Elvis and the Rolling Stones, and the Republican National Convention.

In 1965, Houston opened its marvel, complete with luxury suites, almost tasty food and beer served at clean Formica counters. There were comfortable press boxes and cushioned seats.

The original plan even called for natural grass on the field, but it couldn't grow under the skylights after they were painted to reduce glare for athletes.

