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Monday, June 11, 2012

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Volume 108 • No. 56



**GOP** convention sees big divisions Immigration, Senate race separate party | p2

Disc drive

Golfers flock to Central Park for Harvester open | p8

TODAY IN SPORTS

# Prime the subject of confidentiality investigation

(Editor's note: The following story is the second in a series about accusations surrounding the business practices of Prime Healthcare Services, which recently acquired the Pampa Regional Medical Center in a deal finalized earlier this month.)

> MOLLIE BRYANT mbryant@thepampanews.com

California-based Prime Healthcare Services, which purchased the Pampa Regional Medical Center about the patient's treatment to 785 (PRMC) earlier this month, has been the subject of scrutiny in the media following allegations of fraudulent Medicare billing and refusal to transfer patients.

An investigation from the California Department of Public Health also confirmed a violation of patient confidentiality that occurred last December when Prime shared a patient's records with several news-

hospital staff members.

In mid-December, California Watch, a nonprofit, nonpartisan reporting initiative, interviewed Darlene Courtois, a former patient at a Prime hospital, for a story on allegations of upcoding at the company's hospitals. Upcoding involves exaggerating or falsely reporting diagnoses for higher compensation from Medicare.

According to the California Watch papers. Prime also sent an email story, Courtois had been treated for

a fall at Prime's Shasta Regional Medical Center in Redding, California, but the hospital billed Medicare for treatment of the disease kwashiorkor, or severe malnutrition typically associated with famine.

Courtois gave her records to California Watch in order for them to write the story.

The Redding Record Searchlight, Redding's newspaper, had previously run stories from California Watch on Prime, PRIME cont. on page 2

# SHE'S A BEAUTY



staff photo by Mollie Bryant

Sean File, 7, points out the interior of a '69 Camaro to his dad, Joseph File.

· 2012 BURNIN' THE BRICKS PHOTOS AND RESULTS will be featured in the Tuesday edition of The Pampa News ·

# **Kicking Bear** camp kicks off on Friday **ARNIE AURELLANO**

editor@thepampanews.com

Pampa's 2012 Kicking Bear camp starts Friday, and organizer Cal Ferguson is looking to make this year's event bigger than ever. After hosting 180



Ferguson

to have more than double that at the 4F Ranch this weekend. "We hope to get as many kids out there," said Ferguson. "We're really hoping to have 400 kids this year. The more we can get there,

kids of all ages at the two-day camp last year, Ferguson, the owner and operator of Pampa's 4F Outfitters, hopes

prepared for it." The Pampa camp is part of a national initiative founded by professional bow hunter Ray Howell of Minnesota. The camp's aim is to promote outdoor activities as well as leadership and other positive values to children and teens; Pampa's camp aims to do so through a variety of activities such as bow shooting (bows will be provided), fishing, hay rides and games.

the better off it'll be, because we'll be

CAMP cont. on page 2

# Koi Pond and Water Garden Tour scheduled for Saturday

## This year, admission fee waived in lieu of donations

MOLLIE BRYANT mbryant@thepampanews.com

The 15th annual Koi Pond and Water Garden Tour sponsored by the Las Pampas Koi & Water Garden Society will run this Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with a night tour from 7 to 10:30 p.m. This year, the club is waiving the admission fee, although they will have donation jars. Later, the group plans to donate to a community organization.

"This is the first time we've done that, and we're able to do it because merchants have been so generous with their advertising and helping us," said Debbie Davis. Debbie and Howard Heiser have one of the 12 homes in the tour.

"I especially love digging in the dirt," said Debbie. "It's my favorite things to do is be out in the garden, creating something and watching it grow."

"We just like to work outside in nature," said Howard. "We kind of have a knack for it, I guess you could say. Between the two of us, we bounce things back and forth. She and I get ideas, and a lot of times, it's the same idea."

Howard says the couple likes to plant perennials like lamb's ear, which don't have to be replaced each year.

"We like things that will come back, so you don't have to start all over again," he said.

Davis said club members are looking forward to the KOI cont. on page 3

Debbie Heiser of the Las Pampas Koi and Water Garden Society prepares her home for Saturday's Koi Pond and Water Garden tour. >



staff photo by Mollie Bryant





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## IN THIS ISSUE:

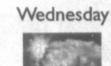
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#### PAMPA FORECAST

Today





Low 62

Low 62

Low 66

Today: Mostly sunny, with a high near 87. North northeast wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Tonight: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 62. East wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Tuesday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 79. East southeast wind between 5 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Tuesday Night: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 62. South southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Wednesday: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly after 1pm. Partly sunny, with a high near 85. South wind between 10 and 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Wednesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 66. South southeast wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

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"IN THE Beginning" VBS, Mary Ellen & Harvester Church of Christ. Ages 5-10, at The Woody Guthrie Inn, Mon June 11 thru Thurs. 400 S. Cuyler, Thurs June June 14th, 6:30-8:30pm. More info call 665-0031

MEN'S HAIRCUTS! See ments. \$5 donation. Bob Jeffers at Bob's Room 1, NBC Plaza, 1224 N. Hobart.

JILL WELCH on the Lawn 14th, 6:30pm. Bring lawnchairs, blankets & refresh-



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# Senate race, immigration divide GOP meeting

FORT WORTH (AP) — The Texas Republican Convention began with a chorus of boos, long and loud, for Gov. Rick Perry — a former Republican presidential candidate and the longest-serving governor in state history. It ended with two opponents for the GOP's U.S. Senate nomination slugging it out in dueling floor speeches.

So much for party unity.

Republicans have dominated Texas politics so completely in recent years that a Democrat hasn't won statewide office since 1994. But members of the GOP were often at odds during their three-day convention in Fort Worth, an unexpected blemish on a state party that others consider a model.

"All conservatives look at Texas, and we marvel," U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wisconsin, said in a keynote address at Friday night's \$200 perplate convention gala dinner. "What you've been able to accomplish here is remarkable."

Perhaps, but the success hasn't

come without strife. The convention's main fight centered on the race to replace retiring U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison. Tea party darling Ted Cruz and mainstream Republican favorite David Dewhurst are headed to a July 31 runoff, with the winner almost certain to prevail in November's general election.

Cruz is a fiery former state solicitor general who excites grassroots groups, while Dewhurst has held the powerful position of lieutenant governor since 2003 and worked closely with the Texas GOP establishment

Perry's endorsement of Dewhurst sparked the boos Thursday, and the candidates traded barbs in speeches closing the convention Saturday, with Cruz saying he was more of a fighter who could stand up to Washington and Dewhurst decrying special interests — a shot at Cruz's tea party support.

But there were other divisions. Ron Paul supporters chaffed at calls to close ranks around former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney's presidential bid, and ultimately successful efforts to soften the state party's stance on immigration sparked debate that stretched until almost midnight Friday.

The party's 2012 platform sanctions a guest worker program, while conceding there are about "11 million undocumented individuals in the United States today" and mass deportation "would be neither equitable nor practical."

Some delegates objected that the new language was "ambiguous at best, liberal at worst," but others hope it will draw Hispanic voters, who often agree with the GOP on issues such as opposition to abortion but have been turned off by its hardline stances on immigration and U.S.-Mexico border issues.

Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson tried to bridge the divide, assuring delegates he's no softy on border issues but nonetheless fervently supports a temporary worker GOP cont. on page 3

cont. from page 1

## Camp

Ferguson, whose 4F company manages and hunts over 75,000 acres in five Panhandle counties, brought the camp to Pampa four years ago to offer area kids a character-building experience related to the outdoors.

"We found out about the organization and just thought it was something awesome," Ferguson said. "It's a good opportunity to introduce kids to the outdoors, especially a lot of kids who don't normally have a chance to enjoy the outdoors. ... There's just not a lot to do in Pampa compared to some of the bigger cities, and I grew up hunting, fishing and being in the outdoors. I've made a career out of it, and I just felt like there was a need for a lot of the kids who may not get to experience any of that to be able to.

"It's a ministry, too," said Ferguson. "It's a good chance for us to share the word with the kids. We don't really emphasize on that throughout the whole camp, but we do have a Christian message around the campfire and stuff after we eat. That's a huge part of it, too."

The camp is free of charge thanks to donations from local people and organizations. Those donors are instrumental in helping Kicking Bear accomplish its goals in

Gray County, according to Ferguson.
"It's huge," he said. "I just got off the phone with a lady a while ago, and she's bringing 30 people with her. It's something that, if she was going to take 30 people

and take them to Lake Greenbelt, with food and all that, it's just going to be something that they probably wouldn't be able to do. But she's come every year, and it's a huge deal for them and the kids she brings. To be able to keep it 100 percent cost-free to the people that attend, it's awesome. What we kind of try and do is encourage anybody that wants to come to try and bring a kid that wouldn't have the opportunity to do this normally. For it to be 100 percent free so we can do that, the people that help us out are great."

Currently, the camp has about 130 signed up, although Ferguson is optimistic that the 400-camper goal is within

"This last week is usually when everybody starts calling," he said.

Three meals - Friday night dinner and Saturday breakfast and lunch — will be provided at no charge, and overnight camping will be allowed. The 4F Ranch is 22 miles north of Pampa on State Hwy. 70, with a sign marking the entrance on the east side of the highway.

Check-in will begin Friday at 2 p.m., although campers are welcome to arrive any time afterward, including Saturday morning. For more information, call Ferguson at 806-663-3575 or Calvary Baptist Church at 806-665-

of people from their names and the evacuation of wolve

and editor Silas Lyons was planning on running the story on Courtois in the paper. He asked the hospital for comment, and in response, Randall Hempling, the CEO of Shasta, and Dr. Marcia McCampbell, Shasta's chief medical officer, brought Lyons documents related to Courtois. Lyons then decided not to run the

Prime also shared some Courtois' medical documents with Michael Hiltzik, a business columnist for the Los Angeles Times. He declined to comment for this story.

'When I asked Shasta hospital CEO Hempling whether he had Courtois' written authorization to show her chart around, he replied that he didn't need it," wrote Hiltzik in a column from early January.

But patient consent is required in a situation like that, in accordance with HIPAA, or the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, as well as California law. The California Department of Public Health released findings that Shasta did not inform the patient or her representative "of the unlawful or unauthorized access, use or disclosure of the patient's medical information."

Despite the privacy violation, Lyons said the documents convinced him not to run the California Watch story.

"What I saw raised very serious questions about core elements of the California Watch story," he said. "One of the key things, for example, was California Watch, in their story, said this woman was diagnosed with and Medicare was billed for... kwashiorkor. Kwashiorkor is very rare and such, and yet, she wasn't even seen by a nutritionist (ac-

cording to the article). "In fact, in the documents in her case that I saw, there was an entire page documenting a nutritionist's opinion of her case and review of it. ...I felt like what was in that undermined the report that they'd written, and based on that, we didn't

run it." The story written by California Watch maintains that the 63-page file that Courtois received when she requested her medical records from Shasta does not include any references to a nutritionist evaluation, malnutrition treatment, or kwashiorkor specifically. The records Lyons was shown didn't match up to that account.

"The story very much relied on the idea that it was patently ridiculous that her care would have resulted in Medicare being billed for kwashiorkor," he said. "The

hospital and the doctors never said, 'We think this patient has kwashiorkor.' What they said was, based on what this patient actually has and the way the Medicare billing system works, it leads you down a path to where you docu-

ment kwashiorkor.

"Inherent in that, is there any aggressive effort on the part of the hospital to document certain things or get to that ultimate billing code? Certainly, I'm not trying to say one way or the other. What I will say is the patient's records, as shown to me, raised serious enough issues that I brought it up with California Watch."

As noted by Calfornia Watch and the LA Times' Hiltzik, billing Medicare for a malnutrition disease in this case was complicated by the fact that Courtois is overweight.

At the end of the day, Lyons seems to look at Prime's decision to share the documents in a blackand-white way.

"I'm a journalist, and when we have facts available to us, we examine them," he said. "...To me, it was a relatively straightforward decision that we should look into the facts presented to us."

Hiltzik, who wrote that he didn't request the records he received from Prime, views the recordsharing differently.

"(Prime's) justification is that Courtois implicitly waived her medical privacy by sharing a portion of her records with a

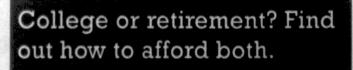
cont. from page 1 different news organization," he wrote. "But that doesn't wash. No matter what Courtois said or did, without her specific consent Shasta still doesn't have the legal right to disclose her file on its own, say the experts I've talked

"Under the law, patients themselves can divulge anything they wish about their medical conditions and their treatment by a hospital," he added. "But a hospital's obligation is to keep its mouth shut. A desire to deflect bad PR is not an excuse. Even if they think they're in the right, the law says healthcare providers have to suffer in silence, the experts

In Redding, Lyons said providing news coverage that tells both sides of the story when it comes to Prime is a priority.

"I think it's important that we continue to keep a careful and skeptical eye on anybody who's providing such a critical service in the community," he said. "On that particular case, I think we also found it very important to look very thoroughly at the facts on both sides."

Brad Morse, CEO of PRMC, said he was unfamiliar with Prime's patient privacy violations in December. Prime issued a plan of correction following the California Department of Public Health's investigation, and Shasta Regional Medical Center has requested an informal meeting with the agency.





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# **MORNING***RUSH*

#### Police shoot, kill suicidal man

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - San Antonio police have shot and killed a man after responding to a call that he was suicidal and trying to harm himself.

Police Chief William McManus tells the San Antonio Express-News that Saturday night police responded to an apartment complex and found a man bleeding heavily from his arms. His common-law wife had been able to get a knife away from him, but when police arrived he ran into the bathroom.

McManus says when officers kicked open the door, the man lunged with two screwdrivers. One officer fired a Taser, but the man pulled out the prongs, leading the second officer to shoot him once. Police did not release the man's name and did not immediately return a call from The Associated Press seeking comment Sunday.

## Police investigate fatal shooting

DALLAS (AP) — Police are investigating the fatal shooting of a man found outside his Dallas apartment. Dallas police spokesman Gerardo Monreal says the

man's 2-year-old daughter was inside the home when her father was shot Saturday afternoon.

The man, whose name was not released, was taken to a Dallas hospital where he later died.

Authorities released the child to her grandfather. Police say they don't yet know why the man was shot or by whom but homicide detectives remain on the scene gathering information.

## Oakley's gun fetches over \$143K

McALLEN (AP) — A shotgun that once belonged to Western sharpshooter and entertainer Annie Oakley sold for more than \$143,000 at an auction in Dallas on

The trove of about 100 of the icon's items headlining Heritage Auctions' "Legends of the Wild West" event brought in nearly \$520,000, according to the auction

The items included several guns, her Stetson hat, photographs and letters. Oakley's great-grandnieces put up the items and had inherited them from their mother, who

One of those descendants, Terrye Holcomb, said, overall, the auction's success left her with a positive feeling, but "there's a little bit of melancholy and sadness that goes with it."

The items had been passed down through generations. Holcomb remembers shooting the guns for target practice on Sunday mornings in California's Santa Monica Mountains and wearing Oakley's Stetson hat - which sold for \$17,925 — for Halloween.

### Fires ravage Colo., N.M.

LAPORTE, Colo. (AP) — Firefighters on Sunday were fighting wildfires that have spread quickly in parched forests in Colorado and New Mexico, forcing hundreds of people from their homes and the evacuation of wolves from a sanctuary.

The Colorado fire, burning in a mountainous area about 15 miles west of Fort Collins, grew to 22 square miles within about a day of being reported and has destroyed or damaged 18 structures.

Strong winds, meanwhile, grounded aircraft fighting a 40-square-mile wildfire near the mountain community of Ruidoso in southern New Mexico. Crews were working to build a fire line around the blaze, which started Friday and has damaged or destroyed 36 structures.

It wasn't immediately clear how many of the structures lost were homes. "We're still trying to take a tally," Kerry Gladden, public information officer for Ruidoso, said late Sunday afternoon.

In Colorado, the fire sent up heavy smoke, obscuring the sun and creating an eerie, orange dusk in the middle of the day. The New Mexico fire is smaller than the Whitewater-Baldy fire — the largest in the state's history — but it's more concerning to authorities because it started closer to homes, said Dan Ware, a spokesman for the New Mexico State Forestry Division.

#### GOP

cont. from page 2

program since America's immigration system is bro-The Texas Democratic Party dismissed the GOP

platform's new provisions as creating "a permanent underclass for immigrants." "Republicans believe

that immigrants can work in our fields but not live our neighborhoods," party spokeswoman Rebecca Acuna said in a statement. "Republicans think working immigrants should permanently hold second-class status."

But supporters said the platform would make Texas a leader nationwide on commonsense immigration policy. It softens the traditional stance in other ways, too, encouraging bilingual education as non-English-speaking students transition to English within three years. The previous platform called for ending all bilingual education after

three years. Yet the 2012 platform hammered out at the Fort Worth Convention Center still includes many traditional policies, including limiting citizenship to children of U.S. citizens, instead of granting it to all babies born on American soil, and

encouraging public schools not to allow the children of illegal immigrants to enroll. It backs voter ID laws, calls for abolishing the Internal Revenue Service and urges passage of "constitutional carry" legislation, which would allow concealed firearms to be carried without restriction.

Immigration aside, most of the platform passed with little fanfare. And many delegates said a healthy dose of disagreement on important issues was good.

"Remember this passion as we go to vote and head toward November," party chairman Steve Munisteri, of Houston, said as he closed the convention.

Johnson, who so was so enamored with Texas Republicans in his gala address, later acknowledged party divisions, but KOI said they could easily be overcome.

"I understand that some tea party members might get on the nerves of some establishment Republicans, but it is so vitally important that we cooperate and work together," he said. "We may be divided on the smaller issues, but we are absolutely united on the larger ones."

# How retirement benefits are figured

TOM MARGENAU Creator's Syndicate

I'm getting a little embarrassed apologizing for messing up with my email responses to readers. I pride myself that I am still able to personally respond to every email I get. But I am a computer Neanderthal. I can just barely handle the software programs I need to know to write this column and submit it to my syndicator; and to respond to emails from my readers. Recently, I was in the middle of answering an email from a guy who wanted to know how Social Security retirement benefits were figured, when all of a sudden, my fast-moving typing fingers must have accidentally hit an odd combination of keys and POOF, my entire answer was translated into Japanese! Actually, I'm not sure if it was Japanese, but it looked like what I imagine Japanese writing

Anyway, in my attempts to remedy that error, I must have hit another odd combination of keys when POOF again, the entire document disappeared! And I was never able to retrieve it.

So if there is some reader out there who had questions about Social Security computations and is wondering why I never responded to his email, please send it again. I'll type my response more slowly and carefully and hope I am able to keep it in English and hit the "send" key before I delete it

In the meantime, I thought it might be a good time to explain once again (I do this every couple years or so) how Social Security retirement benefits are figured. The formula is simple in a general sense, but very complicated when you get to the nitty gritty details.

Here is the simple part. A Social Security retirement benefit is a percentage of your average monthly income, using your highest 35 years of inflation-adjusted earnings. Note that there are four parts to that formula: 1) a percentage; 2) your average monthly income; 3) Social Security and you

an inflation-indexing factor; and 4) a 35-year base. We'll work back-

wards to explain how things work. The 35-year base is the easy part. When you file for retirement benefits, the Social Security Administration will look at your entire earnings history and pull out your highest 35 years. They don't have to be consecutive. If you don't have 35 years of earnings, SSA must plug in "zero" years to get to the 35-year base. And please note that 35 means 35! Despite all the rumors out there, your retirement benefit is NOT based on your highest 5 years of earnings, or your last 10 years of earnings; or any other number of years other than 35.

Here is a related issue based on that 35- year rule. As part of the discussion of long range Social Security reform, you will frequently hear proposals to change the "computation years." A number I've heard most often is adopting a 38-year base. What they are talking about is basing future Social Security benefits on a retiree's highest 38 years, rather than the highest 35. That would have the effect of lowering future benefits because the more base years used, the lower benefits are. Think of it this way: if your retirement computation was based on your high three years of earnings, for example, that would result in a much higher benefit than one based on 35 years. So, adding even more years to the base would lower benefits further.

But now let's get back to the current computation formula. Before they add up those "high 35," they index each year of past earnings for inflation. And this is where the formula starts to get messy. That's because there is a different adjustment factor for each year of earnings, AND each year's adjustment

factor is different based on your year of birth.

Here is a quick example. If you were born in 1949, and earned \$20,000 in 1980, they would

nultiply those earnings by an inflation adjustment factor of 3.25, meaning they would actually use \$65,000 as your 1980 earnings. But if you were born in 1950 and earned that same \$20,000 in 1980, they would use an inflation factor of 3.33 resulting in \$66,600 as the 1980 earnings used in your Social Security computation.

You can find a complete breakdown of those inflation adjustment factors for each year of birth (for folks nearing retirement age) at www.socialsecurity.gov/ pubs/10070.html.

So the next step in the retirement computation formula is to add up your highest 35 years of inflationadjusted earnings. Then you divide by 420 - that's the number of months in 35 years — to get your average inflation-adjusted monthly

The final step brings us to the "social" part of Social Security. The percentage of your average monthly income that comes back to you in the form of a Social Security benefit depends on your income. In a nutshell, the lower your average wage, the higher percentage rate of return you get. Once again, the actual formula is messy, and varies depending on your year of birth. As an example, here is the formula for someone born in 1949. You take the first \$749 of average monthly income and multiply by 90 percent. You take the next \$3,768 of your average monthly income and multiply that by 32 percent. And you take any remainder and multiply it by 15 percent.

You can find a complete breakdown of those computation "bend points" at www.socialsecurity.gov/ pubs/10007.html.

If you have a Social Security question, Tom Margenau has the answer. Contact him at thomas.margenau@comcast.net.

# Texas Dems hope to build from bottom up

HOUSTON (AP) -Texas Democrats have the longest losing streak in the nation, having lost every race for statewide office since 1994, but with Republicans stressing greater conservatism and fresh faces running as Democrats, they hope to

turn that around. That was the dominant message at last week's convention in Houston, where delegates elected their first Hispanic chairman, Gilberto Hinojosa. He has led a county party, served as a judge and worked on the Democratic National Committee, giving him a broad perspective on the party and its

problems in Texas. "Demographically, we have more people who fall within our natural base than the Republicans," Hinojosa said Saturday, explaining how non-Hispanic whites make up less than 50 percent of the population. "The problem is that we have not concentrated on our base. We have not developed effective strategies to be able to get that base out."

Democratic leaders, though, have been promising to unite minorities and progressive whites for 30 years in order to win in Texas. But over those same years, Republicans have only gained in strength, dominating the Texas House with a 102supermajority that

tour this weekend.

"We have some old

favorites still on the

tour," she said. "We have

four brand new ones. We

changed a few years ago

from strictly ponds to

pond and garden. That's

been a real plus, because

we've been able to bring

in late of variety

allowed them to pass laws even if Democrats didn't show up. They also hold a majority in the state Senate, board of education and Congress

That majority is likely to shrink after November's election because a federal court redrew the state's political districts to accommodate changes in the state's population. Democrats hope to hold on to their seats in the state Senate and send at least 10 new lawmakers to the House in January. But they hope to score other victories too.

Two of the four new congressional seats in Texas will almost certainly go to Democrats, but Hinojosa said he believes Democratic candidates have a competitive chance to replace retiring U.S. Rep. Ron Paul in southeast Texas, and incumbent Congressmen Quico Canseco in West Texas and Blake Farenthold along the coast.

Republicans are not giving up anything, and they remain the dominant party in Texas, turning out twice as many voters as Democrats in the May 29 primary. But voters at their primary and convention emphasized conservative positions and sought to drive out moderates, something that Democrats see as an opportunity.

"They are moving to

everything else behind," said San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro, who gave the keynote speech to the Democratic Convention. 'To be a moderate in the Republican party is to be a pariah. Texans of all stripes need to ask themselves if this is what's best for America."

Hinojosa also believes that many Texans are becoming disillusioned with the Republican party, but he said it will take more than independent voters for Democrats to win more races. He promised to get more Democratic voters to the polls by engaging those who are not routinely voting and recruiting dynamic candidates.

State Rep. Rafael Anchia, who represents Dallas, is one of the Democratic politicians often mentioned for statewide office. He said he's been buoyed by Democratic victories in local elections in the state's major urban areas, particularly in Houston, and the Dallas-Fort Worth areas.

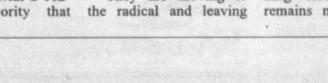
"I'm really bullish in our urban areas," Anchia said. "It's incumbent on us as a party to get difference-makers elected ... I'd have young doctors, lawyers, engineers and young professionals that are extremely well-prepared in these seats." The key factor in win-

ning elections, though, remains money, and so far this year, Democrats are sending most of their money out of state. Hinojosa said that one of his top priorities will be to convince Democrats, both within and outside of Texas, to donate to Texas

candidates. "Everybody comes to Texas to get money to invest in congressional campaigns outside of the state," Hinojosa said. "It drains valuable resources out of Texas and primarily because of this selffulfilling prophecy in our national party that Texas cannot turn blue."

Anchia said the party should learn from the experience of Dallas Democrats.

"Nobody thought a Democrat could win countywide in Dallas, until one did and it kind of came out of nowhere," Anchia said of Lupe Valdez, who became sheriff in 2004. "That was the tip of the iceberg and now the entire county is blue."



people to come and get

ideas, and get to look at

cont. from page 1 some pretty spots," she "It's just a fun day for

added.

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# Viewpoints

# Today in History

Today is Monday, June 11, the 163rd day of 2012. There are 203 days left in the year.

#### Today's Highlights in History:

On June 11, 1962, three prisoners at Alcatraz in San Francisco Bay staged an escape, leaving the island on a makeshift raft. Frank Morris and brothers Clarence and John Anglin were never found or heard from again.

#### On this date:

In 1509, England's King Henry VIII married his first wife, Catherine of Aragon.

In 1770, Captain James Cook, commander of the British ship Endeavour, discovered the Great Barrier Reef off Australia by running onto it.

In 1776, the Continental Congress formed a committee to draft a Declaration of Independence calling for freedom from Britain.

In 1919, Sir Barton won the Belmont Stakes, becoming horse racing's first Triple Crown winner.

In 1922, the groundbreaking documentary feature "Nanook of the North," produced by Robert J. Flaherty, premiered in New York.

In 1936, Kansas Gov. Alfred "Alf" Landon was nominated for president at the Republican national convention in Cleveland.

In 1937, eight members of the Soviet Red Army High Command accused of disloyalty were put on trial, convicted and immediately executed as part of Josef Stalin's Great Purge.

In 1942, the United States and the Soviet Union signed a lend-lease agreement to aid the Soviet war effort in World War II.

In 1963, a Buddhist monk (Thich Quang Duc) set himself afire on a Saigon street to protest the government of South Vietnamese President Ngo Dinh Diem.

In 1971, the year-and-a-half-long occupation of Alcatraz Island in San Francisco Bay by American Indian activists ended as federal officers evicted the remaining protesters.

In 1977, Seattle Slew won the Belmont Stakes, capturing the Triple Crown.

In 1987, Margaret Thatcher became the first British prime minister in 160 years to win a third consecutive term of office as her Conservatives held onto a reduced majority in Parliament.

Ten years ago: Congressional investigators released a report which said Clinton administration workers had defaced equipment and left behind prank messages as they vacated the White House in Jan. 2001; but the investigators failed to uncover the widespread problems alleged by some Republicans. Rock star Paul McCartney and Heather Mills were married in a remote Irish castle. (The couple divorced in 2008; McCartney married again in October 2011.) The very first episode of "American Idol" aired on Fox Television with hosts Ryan Seacrest and Brian Dunkleman and judges Simon Cowell, Paula Abdul and Randy Jackson. (The winner of the first season was Kelly Clarkson.)

Five years ago: Republicans blocked a Senate no-confidence vote on Attorney General Alberto Gonzales. A divided panel of the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said the Bush administration could not use new anti-terrorism laws to keep Ali al-Marri, a legal U.S. resident, locked up indefinitely without charging him. (The issue was rendered moot in 2009 when the Obama administration ordered al-Marri turned over to civilian authorities.) Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho, was arrested at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport in a restroom sex sting. (Craig, who denied soliciting an undercover police officer, later pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct and paid a

One year ago: Rejecting calls by Democratic leaders for him to resign in a sexting scandal, Rep. Anthony Weiner instead announced he was seeking professional treatment and asking for a leave of absence from Congress. (Weiner ended up leaving office.) Ruler On Ice posted a huge upset in the Belmont Stakes, taking the lead from Preakness Stakes winner Shackleford in the straight and winning the final leg of the Triple Crown.

Today's Birthdays: Opera singer Rise Stevens is 99. Actor Gene Wilder is 79. Actor Chad Everett is 75. Comedian Johnny Brown is 75. International Motorsports Hall of Famer Jackie Stewart is 73. Singer Joey Dee is 72. Actress Adrienne Barbeau is 67. Rock musician Frank Beard (ZZ Top) is 63. Animal rights activist Ingrid Newkirk is 63. Rock singer Donnie Van Zant is 60. Actor Peter Bergman is 59. Pro Football Hall of Famer Joe Montana is 56. Actor Hugh Laurie is 53. Singer Gioia (JOY'-ah) Bruno (Expose) is 49. Rock musician Dan Lavery (Tonic) is 46. Country singer-songwriter Bruce Robison is 46. Actor Peter Dinklage is 43. Country musician Smilin' Jay McDowell is 43. Rock musician Tai Anderson (Third Day) is 36. Actor Joshua Jackson is 34. Christian rock musician Ryan Shrout is 32. Actor Shia LaBeouf is 26.

Thought for Today: "Forgetfulness is a form of freedom." - Khalil Gibran, American poet and artist (1883-1931).



# Good day for GOP in Wisconsin, California

We pundits have been busy crunching the results in last Tuesday's Wisconsin recall election and have noted that the publicemployee unions sustained a huge defeat.

Some have also looked west, to California, where San Diego and San Jose voters Tuesday voted 66 and 69 percent to cut back publicemployee pensions. Those cities voted 63 and 69 percent for Barack Obama in 2008.

But there's something else worth noting in the California returns. State voters adopted a new primary procedure, in which the top two vote-getters, regardless of party, go on to the general election.

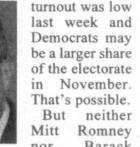
Washington state had a similar primary system in the 1990s, and the primary results tended to be replicated in November. For example, the 1994 primary results enabled some to forecast that Democrats would lose six of nine House seats

So it may be revealing to compare the total primary vote for the House in California with the total House vote in previous elections. Statewide, 53 percent of the votes were cast for Democrats and 43 percent for Republicans. That may understate Republicans' strength, since they left eight seats uncontested and Democrats only one.

Those totals are almost exactly the same as in the November 2010 election, when Democrats won 53 percent of the House vote and Republicans 42 percent. They are quite different from 2008, when California Democrats won 60 percent of the House votes and Republicans 37 percent.

So it looks like voters in California, as in Wisconsin, where Republican Scott Walker improved slightly on his 2010 percentage, are closer to where they were in 2010

than where they were in 2008. Some may reply that Democratic



Romney

Obama — who

was outraised

by the Romney

Barack

MICHAEL BARONE

side in May are going to put money or organization in California this fall. Neither is Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein, who won 236,000 more votes than the unopposed Obama.

The results in some individual House races are interesting - and surprising — as well. California voters also adopted a new supposedly nonpartisan congressional redistricting commission. Under the previous bipartisan incumbent protection plan, there was only one party turnover in the state's 265 House races in the last 10 years.

Democrats succeeded in gaming the commission process, while Republicans stood cluelessly by. But the primary results suggest Democrats won't make the gains over their current 34-19 delegation edge that they hoped for.

Republicans won the top two spots in an eastern Los Angeles basin district that looked very marginal. They also won more votes than Democrats in a Long Beach and Orange County district staked out by a Democratic state senator.

That gives Republicans one guaranteed seat and one clear shot that Democrats hadn't counted on. And the primary returns suggest they'll do better — and may nearly sweep the new districts in the Central Valley.

In a 70 percent Hispanic district west of Fresno, the single Republican won 57 percent of the

vote. In the Merced-based district to the north, a Democratic incumbent won only 41 percent and several Republicans split 49 percent.

In one northern district, around Republicans Modesto, in popular votes 48 to 34 percent, with the rest for the son of former Democratic Rep. Gary Condit. In the next district, around headed-for-bankruptcy Stockton, Democratic incumbent Jerry McNerney got only 48 percent and two Republicans 52 percent.

And in the Sacramento suburbs, Republican incumbent Dan Lungren, a perennial Democratic target, led the sole Democrat 53 to 41 percent.

The Central Valley was once prime Democratic territory. I remember visiting the law office of a Democratic honcho in Modesto who had autographed pictures of Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman and John Kennedy.

But the Valley, the richest agricultural area in the world, has had half or more of its water cut off by environmentalists intent on protecting the 3-inch delta smelt in the Sacramento River Delta. Cutting off people's livelihood for a minnow is not popular.

The numbers tell us that many of the Valley's growing number of second- and third-generation Latino voters feel this way, too. And almost no one there likes Gov. Jerry Brown's lunatic high-speed rail project.

The bottom line is that Tuesday was not a good day for the Democrats. Not in Wisconsin, not even in California.

chael Barone, senior political analyst for e Washington Examiner (www.washingtonexaminer.com), is a resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, a Fox News Channel contributor and a co-author of The Almanac of American Politics.



## We welcome your letters

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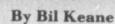
Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.
All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published.

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THE FAMILY CIRCUS





"Mommy, the roof on my 'brella won't raise."

Non Sequitur

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**Nest Heads** 



12,2012:

Others will challenge you more frequently, especially someone close to you. Learn to walk away from power plays with this on who you are chatting with. In general, you need to be extra cautious with your finances. Some of you might receive an inheritance, or some other sudden change

2-So-so; 1-Difficult ARIES (March 21-April 19)

\*\*\*\* You beam in some unexpectsion surrounds communication. Do your it. Tonight: Do something just for you. best not to be part of the present chaos. Tonight: Be highly responsive.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

\*\* Take your time dealing with a tion. Even if you detach, you'll revise your Tonight: Lots and lots of fun. thinking and suddenly see the big picture. Tonight: Feed your mind some candy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

\*\*\* Despite all efforts, you still could run into a misunderstanding - like it or not. You see life from a more renewed and happier perspective than others do, and they sense it. You will hear something to the effect of: "You just don't get it." Tonight: Swap tales of today with a pal.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ You are on top of what you must do, but somehow others are not. The execution of what must be done is somewhat dependent on everyone involved. Try to avoid a conflict, though you might become quite frustrated. Tonight: In the limelight.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, June friends and loved ones. How they view this surprise really depends on each individual. This year you add even more enthusiasm A misunderstanding will develop where to your normally upbeat thinking process. you least expect it, so repeat meeting times and places. Tonight: Let more fun in.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

\*\*\* Deal with others, even strangperson. The only way to win is not to play. ers, as though they are your friends or part-If you are single, communication often is a ners. An adversarial attitude can only cause problem when relating to each other. Learn a problem. Recognize that you could be to express yourself differently, depending out of sorts as well. The unexpected could plague a financial tie. Tonight: Go with someone's suggestion.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

\*\*\* Defer to others, and listen to could head in from out of nowhere. AR- your instincts about an emotional partner-IES is fiery and direct. You relate well to ship. This person can be a bit zany or unpredictable. You might be putting more into The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll a misunderstanding than exists. Step back, Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; and you might see his or her point. Tonight:

Sort through invitations. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

\*\*\* You need to pace yourself if you ed news, but you know you can deal with have any intention of getting your to-do list it easily. Pressure builds between you and done. In fact, you might need to hop over others, specifically those you answer to. some barriers, misunderstandings and a You could find that a high level of confu-boulder or two; regardless, you will make

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) \*\*\* Let your innate playfulness emerge, and you will delight others. One person in particular responds well to this personal matter. You could feel the need liveliness. You might want to curb a tento advance, and as you decide to, you'll dency to take risks, especially with your suddenly gain a strong insight into a situa- finances. A partner could become picky.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

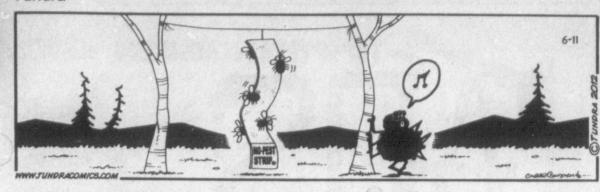
\*\*\* You might want to rethink a personal matter, as the issue keeps invading your day. You will be able to focus better once the matter is put to rest. A misunderstanding could be the basis of the issue on both sides. Tonight: Make peace, not war.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ You might want to talk through a problem with a loved one or dear friend. Remember, you cannot control this person's responses. If you don't like what you hear, try to detach rather than get angry. Tonight: Chat and visit with a friend.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

\*\* Be aware of what you are spending in order to gain a certain response. A family member understands you far better \*\* Stay fired up, and make sure you than you think. Try to not fight what he or know what you want. You have a tendency she shares. This person is unusually insightto do the unexpected and surprise children, ful. Tonight: Balance your checkbook first.

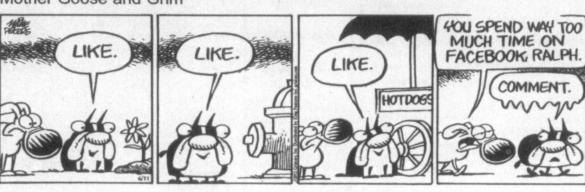
Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



**Beetle Bailey** 





Marvin







WE WERE

TALKING

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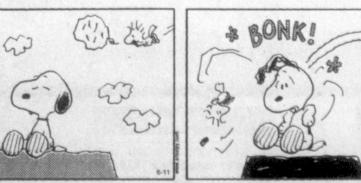
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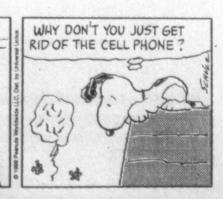
Hagar The Horrible





Peanuts

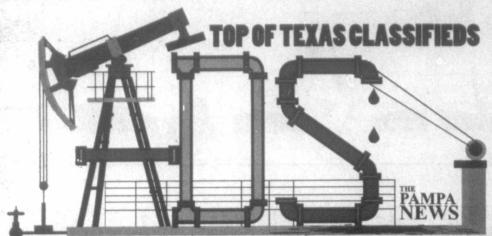




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600 W 3rd Av, WD 3/1/0 - 1494 SF/CCAD 400 S. Popham, WD. \$64,900 3/2/2 - 1462 SF/CCAD 107 Main St., Skellytown. ..\$49,000 Perryton Parkway... 9.58 acres east of hospital For Lease - 7,372 SF/GCAD 120 S. Gillespie St \$4,100/mo 11756 Hwy 152. \$2,500,000. ... 12 acres, 2 bldgs 25,000 SF each .45.9 acres of land N of Walmart 30th & Charles St. .\$1,400,000 FM 14 Rd, Lefors \$530,000 530 acres w/water well \$435,600 30th & Charles 500 W Harvester Av.. \$350,000

5 acres in city limits Lots south of United 748 S Price Rd \$350,000 .. ... 3 Ac. + 14,400 warehouse offices 302-308 W Foster \$309,900 4 Retail Outlets 10,874 SF/GCAD \$230,000 117 - 121 Ballard. 24,500 SF/GCAD 1801 Alcock St.. \$185,000 . Office Building, 3,100 SF/GCAD Café \$175,000 845 S Hobart/900 Wilks St 4 Lots + 10' on north 420 W Foster Av. \$165,000 Houston Lumb & Gas Station 60 x 110 Bldg Lots \$150,000 Harvester St FM 2300 & 1-40, Groom . \$145,000 Quonset & 6+/- acres 1435 Alcock St \$135,000 .... 2 Bldg. 3,200 SF/GCAD; 1,020 SF/GCAD Smoke House 1816 SF/GCAD 1421 Hobart St \$105,000 \$85,000 523 W Foster Av... .7,598 SF/GCAD 301 & 305 W Foster Av. .\$75,000 3,500 SF/GCAD each 23rd & Crescent Dr. \$65,000 Lot 4 Blk 1 North Crest Sec 1 401 W Foster Av. \$47,000 . 2,500 SF/GCAD w/basement & overhead doors Chaumont Addition \$35,000 Lots 1 & 2 Block 2 \$22,000 Dogwood Ln. .Lots 15-17 & 40' of 18 Wall St. \$15,000 .1/2 Block Lot 8, W45' Blk 71 Fraser Annex #3 28th .\$10,000 Holly Lot 10. \$10,000 Residential Lot 85' x 120'

Lot 7 Blk 3 Country Club Heights Bdrms/Bath/Garage SqFt/County Appraisal District Office Hours: M-F 8-5, Saturday 9-2, Sunday call our agents.

Lot 3 Blk 4 Country Club Heights

. Lot 2 & 40.35' of Lot

Visit our web page at: www.pamparealtor.com

\$9,000

\$9,000

\$6,500

Dogwood Ln

Jupiter St.

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GCAD Café

on north

as Station

Bldg Lots

5+/- acres

20 SF/GCAD

SF/GCAD

SF/GCAD

CAD each

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verhead doors

2 Block 2

40' of 18

1/2 Block

45' Blk 7'

85' x 120

5' of Lot

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or.com

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Ref. & dep. req. Lakeview Apts. 669-4386

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HOMES & APTS. 1 and 2 bdr. Largest sq. footage in Pampa. 665-

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103 Homes For Sale

2416 Comanche brick 3 bdr., 1 3/4 ba. Woodburning fpl., den, sunroom. Dbl car gar. Call 669-9947 or 663-2856 3 bdr., 2 ba. dbl. wide. c/h, fpl. Nice utility rm, back deck, stor bldg. Metal roof. 2 lots. \$55,000 obo. 477 Nocona, Howardwick. 806-205-1257, 418-3093 FSBO- No Owner Financing. 1609 N. Christy, 3/2/2, c h/a. Move In Ready! Fireplace, recently updated. New & blinds

\$117,500.440-6290. GREAT home. 2316 Comanche 3/2/2 brick home, 1543 sq ft, sunroom, lrg shop. Great backyard. Lots of \$105,000 OBO, 681-2825

KELLER Estates 3 / 2.5 /3, 2.3 acres. Lrg bonus rm w/ stairs to partially alic. Boss rims. 5.3 V-8. decked attic. Laundry / work area. Walk-in pantry. Fpl. Lrg fenced back yard. 669-3095 TRUSTAR Real Estate

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114 Recre. Veh.

07 Montana Mountain eer 5th Wheel, 36', 3 2002 Harley Davidson heater, V-Rod Collector's Edigas/elec 10 gal. H20 tion, heater. Qu. bed, encl chrome shower, awning, A/C, Mint condition, 4,000 ceiling fan, tv w/ dvd, miles. \$24,000 pwr front jacks, lrg selling for \$14,000. fridge, sleeper sofa bed. 806-440-1347. Very Clean! \$29,900.

806-662-1056 2005 Yamaha Royal Star with trike kit. 2011 26' Idle Time 10,000 miles, black pull-type trailer. Sway with silver, back rest & control, TV, vent fan, windshield. Mint condielectric jack, \$16,000. tion Asking \$11,500. Call 669-9979 Call 662-3497

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FOR SALE TAKING SEALED BIDS ON 2007 Flagstaff **Travel Trailer** 

Can be seen at Platinum Car Care 300 N. Hobart St

Turn bids in to amcel Community Federal **Credit Union** custom spare seat. Too 1939 N. Hobart Pampa, TX 806-688-7041

**Bids Close** 6-21-12

115 Trailer Parks TUMBLEWEED Acres, Storm Shelters.

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**IDEAL FOR** COLLECTORS! 1979 Pontiac TransAm. White 7 blue, Irg bird on hood. One 24,500 actual miles, 6.6 APTS. Houses Duplex- L, 403 Eng. Auto. trans-K&B Properties. mission. All original. Good price. \$21,900.

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114,500 Miles

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120 N. Gray, 669-6990

2004 Grand Marquis,

77,000 miles, \$3,000

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FORD SUPERCAB

4 new tires. Toolbox.

& headache rack. CD

good shape! ONE

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1957 Chevy

Shortbed

Factory V8 3 Spd.

Runs Good

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2005 Chevrolet

Pickup Duramax

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Pickup

Located at

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**Bids Close** 

6-21-12

2002 Chevy Silverado

Single cab, orange met-

Asking NADA \$8500

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\$7500

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883L. 6,800 miles \$5,000. Call 665-6155

after 5pm or cell 595-

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accessories.

Only 86,000 miles

122 Motorcycles

player. Interior

best offer.

121 Trucks

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FOR Sale 20' 1996 Call 806-665-4836 Caravelle Bow Rider 2000 Toyota 4Runner Boat, \$9500. (New 350 grill guard, KC lights, summer). In good conloaded, white w/ tan dition. Call 806-664leather, 145k miles, \$10,000 OBO 806-440-**Public Notice** 

**Public Sale Notice** Date of Sale, Tuesday June 12, 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 53,500 miles, maroon facility Chapter 85 Sec-& black convertible, tion 85.704. These vehicles were towed in Pampa, Texas by the authority of Gray Coun-Law Enforcement. This notice is to inform you that these vehicles are presently being stored at Douglas Towing and Recovery, and the accumulated charges from the date the vehicle was placed in storage, the vehicles will be deemed abandoned and will be sold for charges

> 2005 KIA KNAFE121055174858 LIC PLATE BN6R465 C-34 June 11, 2012



w/ TRAILER

Asking \$23k OBO

Make me an offer!

Must See!!

Located in

Pampa, TX

Cell# 713-516-1309

2000 Honda Valkyre

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**Hard Bags** 

Red & Black

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**Excellent Condition!** 

\$7500

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126 Boats & Access.

Owner.



HARLEY FATBOY Less than 1600 miles custom paint, lowered. 300 rear tire. Lots of chrome, alarm system, sible, affectionate, and many extras to list! yes, I do love her. She OKLAHOMA Bought last summer also insists that I move from dealer. One Almost \$30k Invested under one roof — hers.

"been there, done that."

Limited, 4x4, sunroof, Inboard Engine last But she's soon back in

DEAR ABBY: I'm a in" mode. Alexis is begin-moved to a new area and said, "I'll be fine, just take middle-aged, divorced ning to think I will never are becoming friendly me home." Of course our man in a one-year rela- make the move. (She with the people in the son, for the first time, did tionship with a wonder- may be right.) I'll prob- neighborhood. My hus- not listen to him. He pulled ful woman. "Alexis" is ably lose her if I don't band works as an educa- the car over and proceedbright, pretty, fun, respongive in. Any suggestions? tion director for the local ed to call 911. A couple

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR in with her. She wants us **PUT:** Before selling home a kosher home to start our life together your home and most of I'm having a hard time sider putting the things "Recognizing the Signs of umn. - CATHERINE IN with all of this - selling you want to keep in stor- a Stroke Can Help Save a GARDINER, N.Y. my home, selling most of age and renting out your Life." Well, in our family my belongings, chang- home for a year. That it sure did. After my hus- You're welcome. I'm ing my work-from-home way, if things don't work band and I read it, we had pleased to know — as I'm routine and giving up with Alexis — and they our three children (19, 16 sure the writer of the letter the independence of liv- might not - you won't and 14) also read it. Then I printed will be - that it ing alone with my mutts. have given up every- we hung it on the wall in turned out to be so helpful Alexis still has a minor thing. Another plus: By the kitchen. child at home, which is an then your house may her as much several times. you are being pressured. from the house our son

DEAR ABBY: My noticed rapid changes in "sell your house and move husband and I recently his grandfather. Grandpa

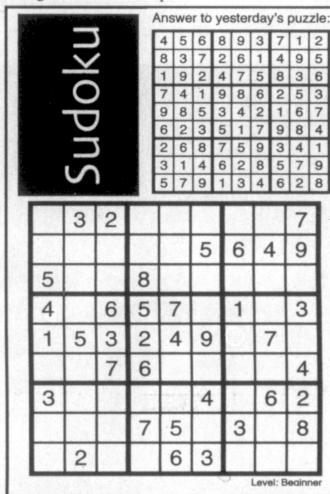
your possessions, con- 23 you printed a column putting that in your col-

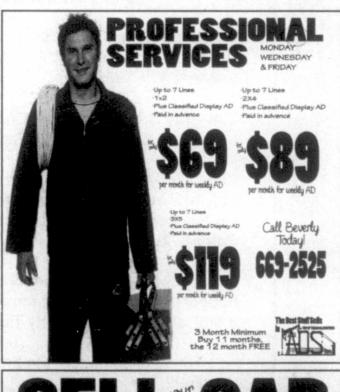
issue because I feel I have have risen in value and Charlie, was taking his his grandfather, but also you'll get a better price 87-year-old grandfather because he calmly took I don't think the timing for it. But do nothing in out shopping not long control of the situation in is right, and I have told haste or because you feel afterward, and not a mile an emergency.

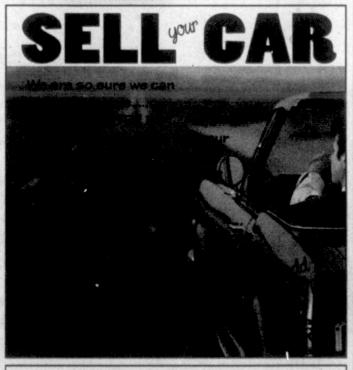
STAYING PUT IN synagogue and, because of weeks of physical and he is in this field, we have occupational therapy, and STAYING agreed to keep our new they say Grandpa will be good to come home. DEAR ABBY: On Jan. Thank you so much for

> DEAR CATHERINE: to you. Your son is a hero, Our 16-year-old son, not only because he saved











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3 Mine rock

4 Big bloom

5 Door sign

pictures

7 Saloon

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16 High

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17 Oklahoma city 18 Dance

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23 Increases 27 Hearty dishes

29 Absorb 30 To a great

degree **32** 1492 ship 33 Open car 35 River

block 38 Location 39 Limerick people

41 Wanderer 45 Location 46 Bring

together 47 Inquired

48 El Paso native



SHREW SPANS Saturday's answer

SNEERS

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20 Lusty look 35 Opera 21 Pearly star white gem 36 God of

24 Rotisserie war 25 Melody 37 Fancy fur 10 Bar mixer 26 Practice 40 Take to

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boxing court 28 Drunk 42 Blend

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NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475 30 33 43 45 47

# Sports

# Pampa disc golf association hosts Harvester Open

Andrew GLOVER aglover@thepampanews.com

Art Elliott, 71, is on oxygen and wears bandages to hide the wear and tear on his body, but that didn't stop him coming from Amarillo to participate in the Pampa Disc Golf Association's second annual Harvester Open Saturday at Central Park. "It's great," Elliott said. "I love to play

"It's great," Elliott said. "I love to pla

Elliott, the oldest competitor in the field, said the sport is something he does year-round and all over the country.

"We play in this tournament," Elliott said. "We play down in Levelland. I've played in Dallas. We play in a lot of places. I played in Las Vegas, Nev., once a year in a tournament in October. We played in the Ice Bowl in February. We play all winter long."

Forty-six golfers from all over, including Pampa, Amarillo, Lubbock, Brownfield and New Mexico, participated in the two-round tournament.

Jeff Rash, association president said the numbers are up from last year's tournament.

"We had six divisions," Rash said. "Last year we only had five divisions.

This year we had the women's division, which was really cool."

Sam Gamble, association member, said they are trying to increase participation.

"We are trying to get sanctioned by the PDGA, the Professional Disc Golf Association," Gamble said. "We're trying to get more publicity and get more people here."

Rash said it's easy to join and is looking forward to membership expanding.

"Just come out and play." Rash said.
"We aren't (a club) that pays dues quite
yet. As we grow we will start doing dues
to support the community and the association."

Rash said the course is going to host the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Tournament in August and expects a good turnout.

"There's going to be about 80 kids," Rash said. "(BSA) is going to be in charge of that. We are just helping. We are going to do a 'Dark in the Park' game and an ace race."

The Dark in the Park game will be at night with lighted discs. The Pampa Disc Golf Course has been open at Central Park near the Super Playground since 2010.



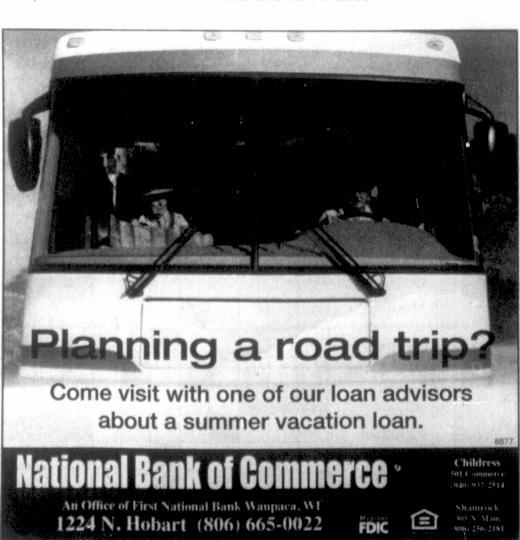
staff photo by Andrew Glover

**Art Elliott,** 71, tosses a frisbee towards the basket during the Harvester Open. Elliott was the oldest of 46 competitors.



staff photo by **Andrew Glover** 

Armando Garcia launches a frisbee during the Harvester Open Saturday. This is the second year the Pampa Disc Golf Association put on the tournament. Competitors came from all over Texas and New Mexico.



## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON GRAY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT 2013 PROPOSED BUDGET

The following notice publication is required by House Bill 432, passed by the 71st Legislature in 1989, effective September 1,1989.

The Gray County Appraisal District will hold a public hearing on the proposed budget for the 2013 fiscal year.

The public hearing will be held at a meeting to begin at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 21st 2012 at the Gray County Appraisal District offices, 815 North Sumner, Pampa, Texas.

The following is a summary of the Appraisal District budget in the manner and form prescribed by Section 6.062 of the Texas Property Tax Code:

The total amount of the proposed budget is \$692,241.

The total decrease over the current year's budget is - \$1,662.

The number of employees compensated under the current budget is 9 (full-time employees).

The number of employees compensated under the proposed budget will be 8 (full-time employees).

The change in the proposed budget is due to cost savings in normal operation expenses.

The Appraisal District is supported solely by payments from the local taxing units served by the Appraisal District.

If approved by the Appraisal District Board of Directors at a public hearing, this proposed budget will take effect automatically unless disapproved by the governing bodies of the county, school districts, cities and towns and Water District served by the Appraisal District.

A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection in the office of each of these governing bodies.