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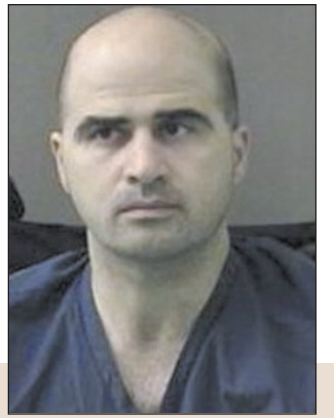

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The PAMPA NEWS

INSIDE TODAY



Friday, July 20, 2012

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Volume 108 • No. 89

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Health debate little to do with health
Medicaid debate about politics, ideology | **p4**

FBI missteps?

Fort Hood report shows possible bureau gaffes | **p3**

ONE STEP AT A TIME



staff photo by **Joe Weaver**

Gladys Vanderpool (left) works with Joanna Wheeley to regain mobility in her left arm 10 months after suffering a cerebral aneurysm.

Vanderpool on steady road to recovery

JOE WEAVER
The Pampa News

"I hope you never take a single breath for granted."

So goes a line of a popular song by Lee Ann Womack. Most of us would hear that phrase and never give it a second thought, but Phil and Gladys Vanderpool know all too well what that implies.

September 10, 2011 ("nine-ten-eleven," as Phil points out) started out fine

for the Vanderpools, with coffee on their deck overlooking the koi pond and Red Deer Creek. Phil, in his first year as 223rd District Judge, was looking forward to a relaxing day. Gladys had agreed to help out a friend by modeling at the Top O' Texas Cattlewomen's Fashion Show at noon at Pampa Country Club. They had no idea their world was about to turn upside down.

Gladys had finished modeling and realized she was not well. "I felt like my head was swelling," she says, "and

the pain was horrible." She thought lying down might help, but the pain only intensified. She could not escape it. Jan Haynes, who was assisting with the style show, knew something was dreadfully wrong. A few months prior, a friend of Jan's had suffered a brain aneurysm, and the symptoms were strikingly similar. "I didn't want to alarm anyone unnecessarily," Jan recalled later, "but I figured quick action was vital." It saved her life. As a matter of fact, there were

VANDERPOOL cont. on page 2

PEDC talks new budget in meeting

■ **Organization projects \$75,000 office expansion**

MOLLIE BRYANT
mbryant@thepampanews.com

During its regular meeting yesterday afternoon, the Pampa Economic Development Corporation discussed its budget for the 2012-2013 year, projecting for a \$75,000 office expansion during that time.

"Our growth has been at a very fast pace, from the purchase of the (Pampa Energy Center) a year ago, to the Las Pampas Square, LLC," said Kathy Cota, administrative assistant at the



Cota

PEDC.

"Our board of directors and staff have gone above and beyond to make sure the companies are managed successfully."

At the moment, the PEDC plans to increase one part-time position to full-time. The group also is considering hiring a part-time employee during the next year to assist with recent developments, including the purchase and renovation of the newly acquired Las Pampas Square property, formerly known as the Coronado Center.

"We've expanded to the point where we need more room, and believe it is important for the Pampa EDC to remain in the downtown area, since we have a good location with maximum exposure," said Cota. "There is ample space located behind our current location to add three more offices and storage."

Eastern Panhandle Chapter of Red Cross seeks director

■ **Former executive director Knight resigned last week**

MOLLIE BRYANT
editor@thepampanews.com

The Eastern Texas Panhandle Chapter of the Red Cross is searching for new leadership after its executive director, Christopher Knight, resigned from his position last week.

"Chris was great, and we have a lot of respect for him," said Anita Foster, spokesman of the Red Cross' North Texas Region. "When you lose a leader who is an important part of the organization, it's difficult, but in business, people come and go."

Foster said the organization has launched a search for an interim executive director, and is planning a search for the next executive director after filling that position.

"The search will begin in the Panhandle," she said. "I believe we have a big talent pool there that's very strong."

"We're going to tap into our local and chapter network," Foster added. "We've started those conversations this week, and hope to have an interim as soon as next week."

The Eastern Texas Panhandle Chapter covers over 20 Panhandle counties, including Gray County.

"The good news is we have an incredible staff and volunteers with a lot of longtime Red Cross experience," said Foster. "The volunteers will help fill in the gaps in the short term."

Knight resigned as executive director last Friday, after serving since last December.

“Chris (Knight) was great, and we have a lot of respect for him. When you lose a leader who is an important part of the organization, it’s difficult, but in business, people come and go.”

— **Anita Foster**
Spokesperson for the Red Cross North Texas Region on the departure of Christopher Knight, former director of the Eastern Panhandle Chapter

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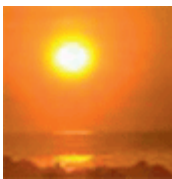
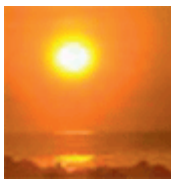
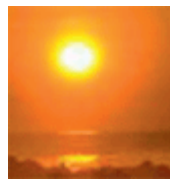
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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Saturday	Sunday
		
High 101 Low 69	High 101 Low 72	High 100 Low 71

Today:
Sunny and hot, with a high near 101. South-west wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south south-east in the afternoon.

Tonight:
Mostly clear, with a low around 69. South southeast wind around 10 mph.

Saturday:
Sunny and hot, with a high near 101. West northwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming south southeast in the afternoon.

Saturday Night:
Partly cloudy, with a low around 72. South southeast wind 5 to 15 mph.

Sunday:
Sunny and hot, with a high near 100. South wind 5 to 10 mph.

Sunday Night
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ReDonn Woods

Publisher

rwoods@thepampanews.com

Bernie Frazier

Advertising Representative
bfrazier@thepampanews.com

Dana Whinery

Advertising Representative
dwhinery@thepampanews.com

Beverly Taylor

Classified Advertising
classified@thepampanews.com

Marijane Kent

Composing
composing@thepampanews.com

Carrie Hair

Accounting
bookkeeper@thepampanews.com

Tabitha Sharp

Subscription Manager
tsharp@thepampanews.com

Editor

editor@thepampanews.com

Mollie Bryant

Reporter
mbryant@thepampanews.com

Holley Bimson

Composing
composing2@thepampanews.com

Marcus Elkins

Press Supervisor
press@thepampanews.com

Chico Ramirez

Circulation Manager
Circulation2@thepampanews.com

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Vanderpool

cont. from page 1

several "opportunities" for the story to end tragically. Phil and Gladys are certain that God's hand was on them so that it didn't. She asked Gladys, barely cognizant through the pain, if she should call Phil or 911. Gladys recited their home phone number, knowing that her husband did not always answer calls from numbers he didn't recognize. That was the only thing she would know for a long, long time.

Phil almost didn't answer, but when the home phone rang, interrupting his leisurely Saturday, something — or Someone — prompted him to take the call. When he arrived at the country club, it was apparent that Gladys' condition was severe, but no one could have imagined how severe.

At Pampa Regional Medical Center, the staff determined that Gladys needed care that they could not provide, so they arranged for her to be airlifted to Amarillo — Gladys' first helicopter ride. She doesn't remember it.

The emergency room staff at Northwest Texas Hospital realized that the situation was beyond their capabilities — that the man for the job was at Covenant Hospital in Lubbock. She was airlifted again — Gladys' second helicopter ride. She doesn't remember that one, either. As a matter of fact, she would remember nothing between the pain during the style show and being at Craig Rehab in Denver eight weeks later.

Gladys had suffered a cerebral aneurysm bleed/rupture, with a subsequent subarachnoid hemorrhage, followed by vasospasms. In other words, bad stuff going on in the brain. (See sidebar for medical definitions.) Brain aneurysms come without warning and are not preventable. Phil, keeping family and friends updated on Facebook summed it up: "There is no way we could have seen this coming. It was not caused by stress, high blood pressure, or anything else other than the way the blood flowing through the artery in her brain continually rubbed a weak vessel wall causing an aneurysm to develop which then bled or ruptured. In other words, bad luck."

However, in the midst of this "bad luck" God was working in Gladys' life. Only one in six survives the initial aneurysm. Had Gladys been home — cleaning the pond or working in the yard — the attack would have been fatal.

There were many technical medical procedures which will not be covered in this story. Suffice it to say that the situation was very grave, with good days and bad days. Lots and lots of prayers were being offered for the Vanderpools, but God was already at work.

When they arrived in Lubbock, they discovered that the neuroradiologist — Tom Windisch, one of the best in the state — was on vacation in New York City. However, when he got the word, he returned immediately (Sunday afternoon!), went directly to the hospital, and began working on Gladys. When Phil thanked him, Dr. Windisch replied modestly, "I had a job to do." Phil also credits neurosurgeon Harold Smith for his wife's recovery.

Gladys is an amazing person, and even in her unconscious state, she continued to amaze. She went through 14 straight days of arteriograms with verapamil infusions. And she was in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit



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on IVs, the ventilator, etc. for 30 days. She was moved to Covenant Specialty Hospital for long term acute care.

When it became apparent that Gladys' chances of survival and recovery were good, the question was where to go for rehabilitation. They wanted her close to Pampa, but the top priority was the quality of care. Craig Hospital for Neurological Rehabilitation in Denver would be a good choice, but it wasn't a matter of just signing up — or even a question of payment. The staff considers the condition of each prospective patient and their odds of recovery. When they saw Gladys' records — what she had already overcome, and her chance for recovery — she got the thumbs up.

She was flown to Denver on October 31 — the first thing she recalls since the ordeal began. There she received intense therapy and began to regain some motor control. The couple insists they could not have received better care anywhere. "Craig is family now. I love everyone there," Gladys says, and adds, with a twinkle in her eye, "and they love me! I can't wait to see them all...but I'm waiting until I can go without a walker."

Eventually the staff at Craig determined she could return to her own home if she had a caregiver — someone who could also provide physical therapy. Joanna Wheeley had no prior medical training, but went through an intensive course at Craig so that she could provide the necessary daily care. Gladys returned home on January 13. (Phil points out that she arrived at Craig on Halloween and left on Friday the 13th. "It's a good thing we're not superstitious," he quips.)

People who know the story — who saw her in Lubbock with her head shaved, various tubes in her body, and her listless expression — are continually amazed. It was a big day when it was announced to the Weatherly Sunday School Class of First United Methodist Church that Gladys and Phil would welcome couples for lunch, an opportunity seized by Don and Beverly Alexander. At that time Gladys' left side was pretty much useless, which made some tasks — such as buttering a roll — very difficult. She was encouraged to attempt such tasks, however, to strengthen the muscles and nerves that had atrophied. She really tried, but when it proved too exasperating, she shoved the roll against her left hand, and easily buttered it with her right. Everyone was laughing as Beverly observed, "Gladys, your motor skills need work, but there is nothing wrong with your problem-solving skills!"

It was another big day when her facial muscles recovered to the point that a smile covered her whole face, rather than just the right side. One friend remarked, "At least I can tell you are smiling now. I thought you were sneering!"

Make no mistake. Gladys is still recovering. There are many, many miles to go, much therapy to endure, obstacles to conquer. But she, Phil, and those who know her best are confident that she will make a full recovery. Jerry Foote, President of National Bank of Commerce (Gladys is Vice-president) says, "She is an integral part of our operation, and she is sorely missed. She had a lot of responsibility in the bank, yet found time also to work outside the bank on many community projects. We hope she has a full recovery and we wish her the very best."

But her gains are obvious. With her own mother in attendance, she gave her testimony before the congregation at First Methodist on Mother's Day. Not many who saw her after she returned to Pampa in January would have believed that she would be able to assume her upcoming role as president of Pampa Rotary, but she conducted her first meeting on Wednesday July 11, the first meeting of the Rotary year.

The Vanderpools recognize that the quick and effective action on the part of many people was significant in saving Gladys' life and aided her recovery, but they give the ultimate credit to God. Joanna Wheeley sums it up: "I believe people come into your life for a reason. I may be helping Gladys with her physical strength, but she strengthens my faith and spirituality daily. What a blessing to be chosen to witness a living, breathing miracle on a daily basis."

They appreciate the many prayers, cards, letters, and visits. Gladys boldly tells her friends "I love you" at every opportunity and is quick with a kiss to show her love and appreciation. Gladys and Phil Vanderpool, with their sons Keith and Steven, have learned not to take a single breath for granted.



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Close my eyes to see it when the world gets dark,
Got a memory of you I carry in my soul,
I wrap it close around me when the nights get cold,
If you ask me how I'm doing I'd say just fine,
But the truth is, if you could read my mind,
Not a day goes by, that I don't think of you,
After all this time, you're still with me it's true,
Somehow you remain, locked so deep inside,
Not a day goes by...

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Nothing can ever take away
The love a heart holds dear,
Fond memories linger every day,
Remembrance keeps him near.

Memory keeps you ever near us
Though you died one year ago.



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MORNINGRUSH

Fort Hood report shows FBI missteps

Closing arguments in sex scandal

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Prosecutors have rested their case in an Air Force sex scandal trial in Texas and closing arguments are expected soon.

Lackland Air Force base spokesman Oscar Ballardares says the case will enter its final stages Thursday afternoon.

Staff Sgt. Luis Walker, an instructor, is accused of sexually assaulting 10 trainees. Charges range from rape and aggravated sexual assault to obstructing justice and violating rules of professional conduct. If convicted, Walker could be sentenced to life imprisonment.

Prosecutors wrapped up Thursday morning after two days of emotional testimony.

Officials have called the Walker trial the cornerstone case in an investigation of six Air Force instructors accused of similar crimes.

Investigators have identified at least 31 female trainees believed to be victims in the scandal that began in 2009.

Man charged in illegal transport

BEAUMONT (AP) — A Southeast Texas company and its ex-president have been charged with environmental violations that resulted in the deaths of two workers.

A federal grand jury's 13-count indictment was unsealed Wednesday, according to a statement from John Bales, the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Texas. The grand jury has accused Port Arthur Chemical and Environmental Services, LLC and its former president, Matthew Lawrence Bowman, 41, of scheming to illegally transport hazardous materials without the proper documentation and placards.

Those actions led to the deaths of two truck drivers in December 2008 and April 2009, according to the statement. The truck drivers died of exposure to hydrogen sulfide, a toxic gas.

The conspiracy count carries a maximum sentence of five years in prison. The company can be fined up to \$500,000.

The company produced and sold caustic materials to paper mills. Bowman and the company he owned and operated until November 2010 are accused of violating federal rules that regulate the transport of such hazardous materials.

The incidents are also being investigated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality and several other state and federal agencies.

The attorney general's office said it has no attorney listed for Bowman, who has not yet appeared before a judge.

Club owner indicted for plot

FORT WORTH (AP) — A federal grand jury has indicted a North Texas topless club owner accused of organizing a failed plot to kill a mayor and an attorney.

Prosecutors in Fort Worth on Thursday announced the indictment of Ryan Walker Grant of Kennedale.

Grant was indicted Wednesday on counts of murder for hire and unlawfully transferring a firearm. Each count carries a maximum prison sentence of 10 years.

Grant has been jailed since his April 9 arrest for allegedly seeking a Mexican hit man to kill Arlington Mayor Robert Cluck and attorney Tom Brandt of Dallas. Brandt does legal work for Arlington. Nobody was hurt.

Authorities allege Grant plotted the attack because his Arlington club, Flashdancer Cabaret, has been closed by the city.

An attorney for Grant was unavailable for comment Thursday.

Couple killed in Dallas apartment

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas police say no one has been arrested in the beating deaths of a couple who recently told neighbors they won about \$1,500 gambling.

Dallas police on Thursday said autopsy results are pending but preliminary findings indicate the man and the woman were fatally beaten. Police did not immediately respond to messages about a possible motive.

The victims were discovered Wednesday morning in their second-floor apartment. Police say the bodies showed signs of trauma. Names of the pair have not been released.

The Dallas Morning News reports neighbor Jennetter Daniels says the couple used their Social Security and disability checks for food and gambling. Daniels says the man had borrowed cigarettes from her, but gave her two packs on Tuesday after saying the couple won \$1,500 gambling.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nearly 20 often-rambling emails that an Army psychiatrist sent to Yemeni terror leader Anwar al-Awlaki painted a confusing picture.

In some he was a believer intent on supporting terrorists and intrigued with the idea of U.S. soldiers killing comrades in the name of Islam. In others he was a man looking for help finding an appropriate wife.

In the end, they weren't enough for the FBI to identify Army Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan as a terrorist threat or, as it would turn out, as a man who now stands accused of the shooting spree at Fort Hood that killed 13 and wounded 23 others in November 2009.

The emails attracted the attention of FBI and anti-terrorism task force agents in December 2008, and eventually prompted them to dig up Hasan's personnel records and evaluation reports.

But gaps in the bureau's systems, poor training, antiquated technologies and an underlying fear that approaching Hasan would reveal the ongoing investigation into Awlaki prevented the FBI from pursuing the matter much further.

An independent review released Thursday by the FBI lays out a series of gaffes the bureau made as agents evaluated Hasan's correspondence with Awlaki, and ultimately decided the Army major was not a terror threat. The report, by former FBI Director William Webster, concludes that FBI personnel made mistakes in their handling of intelligence information, but that no one person was responsible.

"We do not find, and do not believe, that anyone is solely responsible for mistakes in handling the information," Webster wrote to FBI Director Robert Mueller in a letter with the report. "We do not believe it would be fair to hold these dedicated personnel, who work in a context of constant threats and limited resources, responsible for the tragedy that occurred months later at Fort Hood."

Much was already known about the series of oversights and missteps the government made leading to the terror attack at the Fort Hood Army post, but the report revealed new details.

The report describes the back-and-forth that went on between agents in Washington and task force members reviewing the emails in San Diego.

The FBI in San Diego had been investigating al-Awlaki, a former San Diego resident, for his

possible connections to the 9/11 hijackers. When agents saw emails between Hasan and al-Awlaki, they asked the FBI's Washington office to talk to Hasan's bosses.

The Washington office said no.

The agents in Washington told Webster's investigators that an interview might have jeopardized the FBI's probe of Hasan by revealing that the bureau had access to his emails with al-Awlaki.

And, the report said, the FBI agents believed that an interview and contact with Hasan's chain-of-command might jeopardize Hasan's military career.

The FBI ultimately concluded that Hasan's communications were in keeping with his research at the time, and as a result,

no formal investigation of Hasan was opened. Hasan was writing a research paper about the effects of combat in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Webster's report says that al-Awlaki deserved scrutiny by the FBI in Washington beyond a simple records check and said it was a mistake not to

have interviewed Hasan. The emails began in December 2008 and the last one was sent in June 2009. His first one laid out a question. What would Awlaki think of Muslims who have joined the military and "have even killed or tried to kill" other U.S. soldiers.

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Fri 6:45 10:15
Sat 2:00 6:45 10:15
Sun 2:00 6:45
Mon/Wed 6:45 10:15
Thurs 6:45

Ice Age 4 (PG)
Fri 7:15 9:30
Sat 2:00 4:30 7:15 9:30
Sun 2:00 4:30 7:15
Mon/Wed 7:15 9:30
Thurs 7:15

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Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Friday, July 20, the 202nd day of 2012. There are 164 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 20, 1969, astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin became the first men to walk on the moon after reaching the surface in their Apollo 11 lunar module.

On this date:

In 1861, the Congress of the Confederate States convened in Richmond, Va.

In 1871, British Columbia entered Confederation as a Canadian province.

In 1917, the draft lottery in World War I went into operation.

In 1942, the first detachment of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps — later known as WACs — began basic training at Fort Des Moines, Iowa. The Legion of Merit was established by an Act of Congress.

In 1944, an attempt by a group of German officials to assassinate Adolf Hitler with a bomb failed as the explosion at Hitler's Rastenburg headquarters only wounded the Nazi leader. President Franklin D. Roosevelt was nominated for an unprecedented fourth term of office at the Democratic convention in Chicago.

In 1951, Jordan's King Abdullah I was assassinated in Jerusalem by a Palestinian gunman who was shot dead on the spot by security.

In 1954, the Geneva Accords divided Vietnam into northern and southern entities.

In 1960, a pair of Polaris missiles were fired from the submerged USS George Washington off Cape Canaveral, Fla., at a target more than 1,100 miles away.

In 1976, America's Viking 1 robot spacecraft made a successful, first-ever landing on Mars.

In 1982, Irish Republican Army bombs exploded in two London parks, killing eight British soldiers, along with seven horses belonging to the Queen's Household Cavalry.

In 1988, Massachusetts Gov. Michael S. Dukakis received the Democratic presidential nomination at the party's convention in Atlanta.

In 1990, Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan, one of the court's most liberal voices, announced he was stepping down.

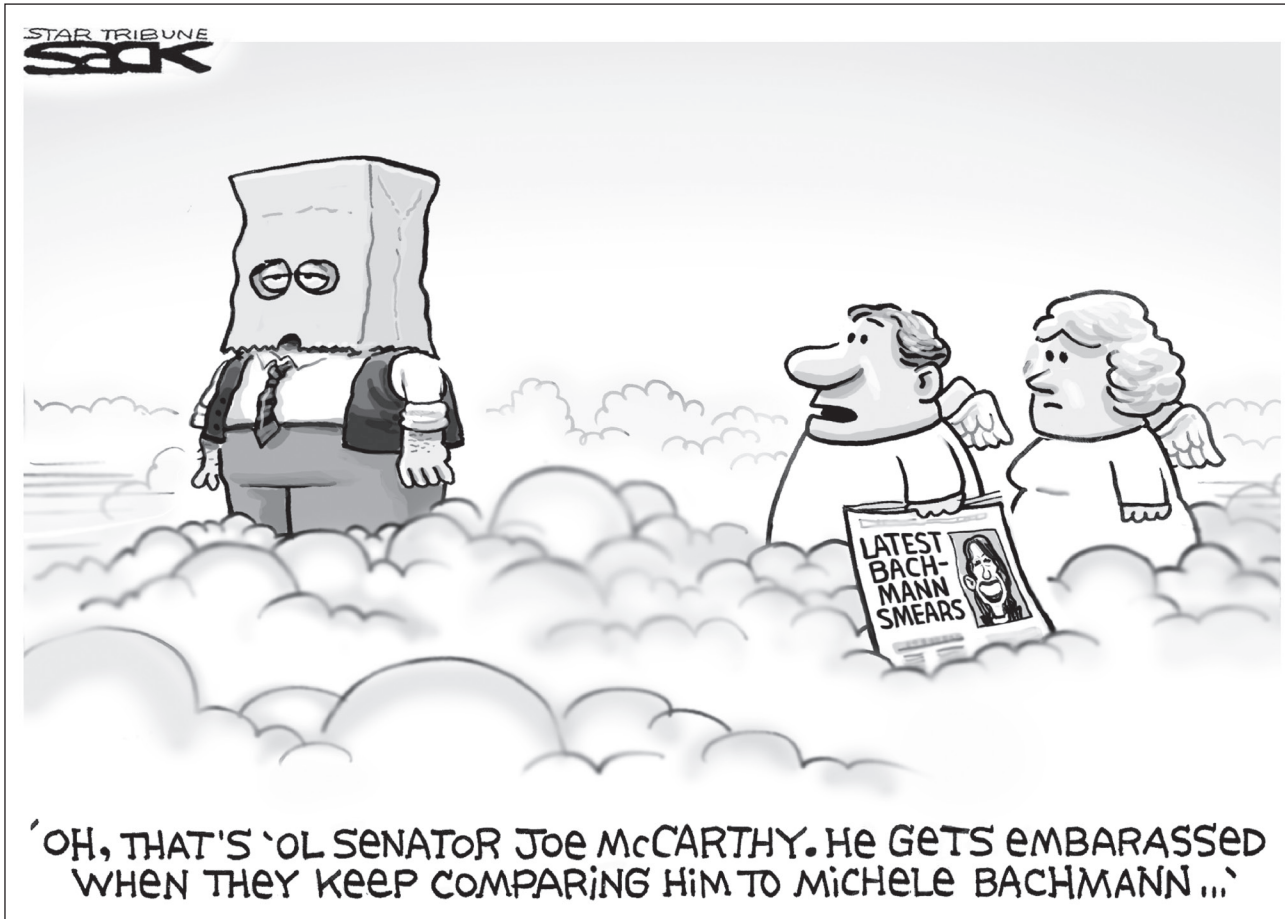
Ten years ago: Twenty-nine people died in a blaze started by bartenders who were doing tricks with fire at Utopia, an unlicensed night club in Lima, Peru.

Five years ago: President George W. Bush signed an executive order prohibiting cruel and inhuman treatment, including humiliation or denigration of religious beliefs, in the detention and interrogation of terrorism suspects. Tammy Faye Messner, who as Tammy Faye Bakker helped her husband, Jim, build a multimillion-dollar evangelism empire, then watched it collapse in disgrace, died at age 65 near Kansas City, Mo.

One year ago: Six Republican presidential hopefuls traded tweets in the first presidential debate conducted through Twitter, outlining their agendas across the popular social media service. The last fugitive sought by the U.N.'s Balkan war crimes tribunal, Gordan Hadzic, former leader of Croatia's ethnic Serbs, was seized in a remote mountain forest in northern Serbia. NBA star Yao Ming announced his retirement in his hometown of Shanghai. German-born British painter Lucien Freud, 88, died in London.

Today's Birthdays: Actress-singer Sally Ann Howes is 82. Rockabilly singer Sleepy LaBeef is 77. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski, D-Md., is 76. Actress Diana Rigg is 74. Rock musician John Lodge (The Moody Blues) is 69. Country singer T.G. Sheppard is 68. Singer Kim Carnes is 67. Rock musician Carlos Santana is 65. Rock musician Paul Cook (The Sex Pistols, Man Raze) is 56. Actress Donna Dixon is 55. Rock musician Mick McNeil (Simple Minds) is 54. Country singer Rodney Foster is 53. Actor Frank Whaley is 49. Rock singer Chris Cornell is 48. Rock musician Stone Gossard (Pearl Jam) is 46. Actor Reed Diamond is 45. Actor Josh Holloway is 43. Singer Vitamin C is 43. Actor Omar Epps is 39. Actor Simon Rex is 38. Actress Judy Greer is 37. Actor Charlie Korsmo is 34. Singer Elliott Yamin (yah-MEEN') (American Idol) is 34. Supermodel Gisele Bundchen is 32. Rock musician Mike Kennerty (The All-American Rejects) is 32. Actor Percy Daggs III is 30. Actor John Francis Daley is 27. Country singer-ballroom dancer Julianne Hough is 24. Actress Billi Bruno is 16.

Thought for Today: "Never miss a good chance to shut up." — Will Rogers, American humorist (1879-1935).



Medicaid debate about politics, ideology

CHRIS TOMLINSON
Associated Press

AUSTIN (AP) — The debate in Texas over whether to fully implement the new federal health care law has little to do with health care, and a lot to do with ideology and politics.

Texas Health and Human Services Commissioner Tom Suehs summed it up best last week when he said the question is not whether to pay for poor people's health care, but who will pay.

Suehs released new calculations on Thursday that showed fully implementing the law and insuring more than 2 million additional people under Medicaid would cost about \$16 billion over 10 years, an increase of less than 2 percent in state spending over current levels. The Affordable Care Act would make the state and federal government responsible for paying the health care costs of the indigent, an expense currently paid with county property taxes.

The biggest difference between expanding Medicaid and the current system is that the federal government doesn't supplement property taxes spent on health care. If the state expanded the Medicaid program using its funds, the federal government would pay nearly \$9 for every \$1 the state spent. So if the state spent the extra \$16 billion, the federal government would match it with \$100 billion.

Gov. Rick Perry has a long history of rejecting federal funds that come with strings attached, arguing that they undermine state sovereignty. He's demanded that Washington transfer the money and let the states decide how best to spend it.

The Affordable Care Act "essentially treats the states like subcontractors through which the federal

government can control the insurance markets and pursue federal priorities rather than those of the individual states," Perry said in a letter to Kathleen Sebelius, the secretary of U.S. Health and Human Services, announcing he would not expand Medicaid or start a health insurance exchange to help people buy health insurance.

Like most Texas Republicans, Perry believes in limited government and has called for the state to keep spending flat. Conservative activists have formed a chorus threatening to oust politicians who talk about raising government spending, and several Republican incumbents in the Texas House, including three powerful committee chairs, lost primary challenges to tea party activists who promise a strict no-new-spending ideology.

Perry's position is rooted in philosophy, but also serves a political purpose. He is raising money to run for a fourth term as governor while holding out the possibility he will run again for president, as early as 2016 if President Barack Obama is re-elected in November. Opposing the Affordable Care Act burnishes his conservative credentials, which is reflected in his office's rhetoric.

"Attempting to expand it at any rate would be absolutely absurd and irresponsible, chipping away at other essential state programs like education and public safety," Perry spokeswoman Catherine Frazier said after the reduced cost estimates were announced. "The governor's focus remains on fully repealing Obamacare."

Perry and his fellow Republicans, who hold every statewide office and control both chambers of the Legislature, are unlikely to expand the state's Medicaid program. But

that doesn't mean programs that provide health care for the poorest people are not facing a crisis.

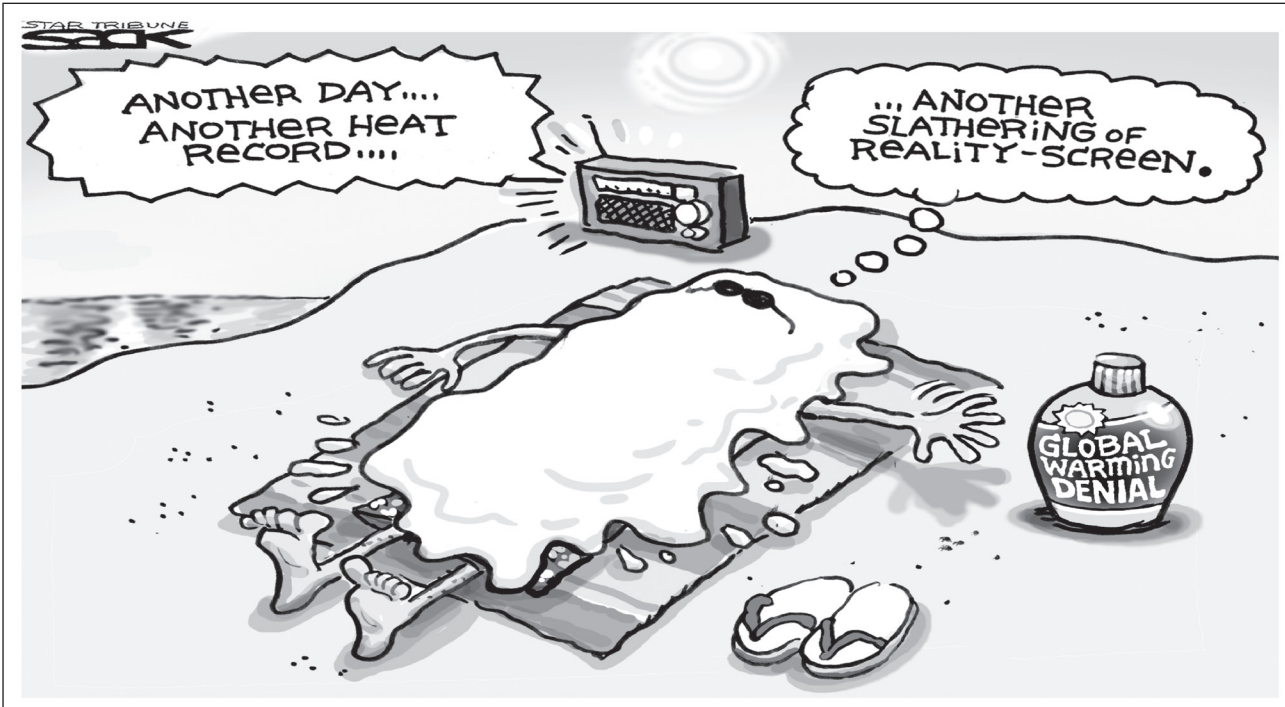
State officials estimate more than 24 percent of Texas residents are not enrolled in any form of health insurance or government program, the highest rate in the nation. Texas has one of the strictest Medicaid programs in the country, barring single adults from the program completely and setting an income limit of \$2,256 a year for families of three. Poor children, the disabled and the impoverished elderly comprise most of the program.

To balance the state's budget without raising taxes, Texas lawmakers have slashed how much they reimburse doctors to the point where nearly 70 percent of doctors are not accepting new Medicaid patients. Hospitals that treat the poor complain that the program to help them pay for treating Medicaid patients and the indigent will soon bankrupt them because the state's payments don't cover the actual costs.

Lawmakers shorted the Medicaid program \$4.8 billion in the current budget, and they will need to make up the shortfall when they meet again next year. Based solely on population growth and inflation, the program will likely grow by another \$5 billion in the next budget, Suehs has said.

Democrats have called on the Legislature to tap the state's Rainy Day Fund and to close tax loopholes, two steps that would boost state spending. If Republicans stick to their ideological guns, they will need to make even more budget cuts, with public education the largest chunk of state spending.

Chris Tomlinson is the supervisory correspondent in Austin, responsible for The Associated Press' coverage of state government and politics in Texas.



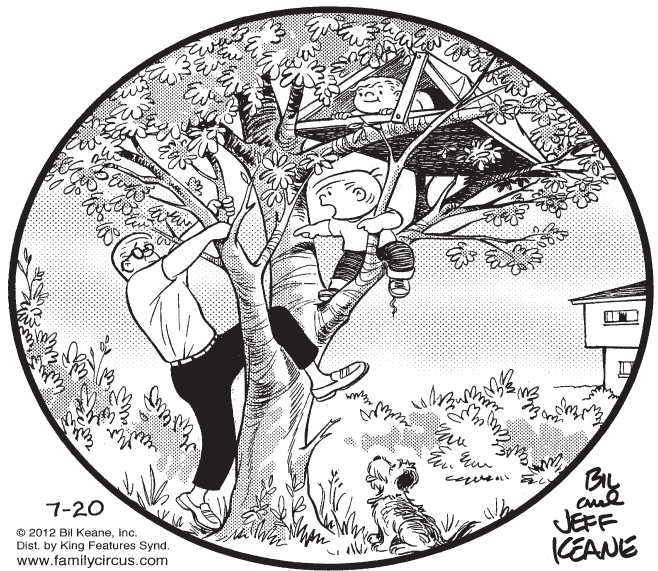
We welcome your letters

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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.
- 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.

comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



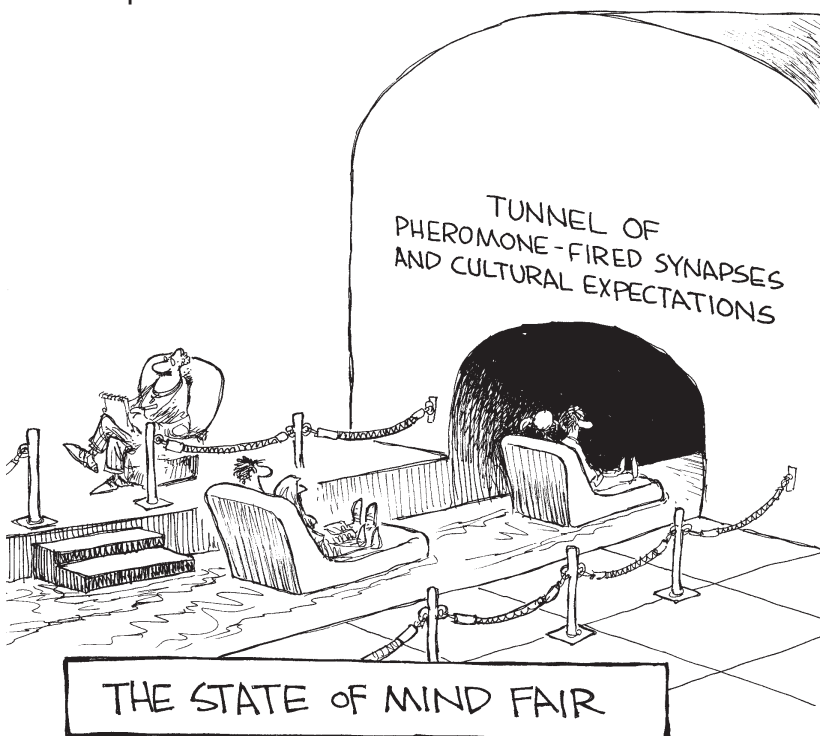
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Bil and Jeff Keane

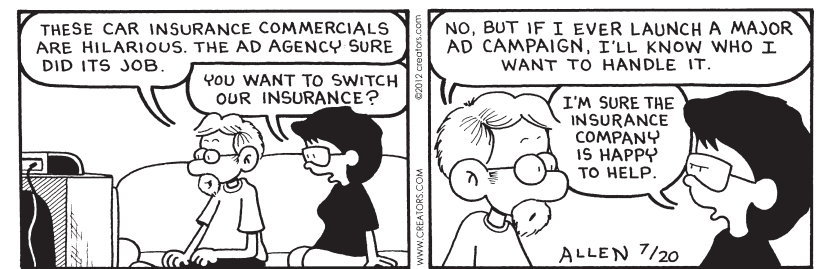
"No, Daddy, put your hand over there... then your foot goes over here... then grab that branch..."

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, July 21, 2012:

This year you seem far more particular, yet caring at the same time. You attract many people. You could wonder a lot about your work, as you are changing and might not gain the same positive results from this experience. If you are single, you might put the person you meet and decide to be involved with on a pedestal, which nearly promises an inevitable downhill crash. Work on being more realistic. If you are attached, the two of you often misread each other. Learn to ask questions and accept what the other says. VIRGO can be critical, but exact.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Your vision of what could happen might be different from what actually takes place. Consider that you might be at the root of the problem. How you handle the unexpected could determine the final quality of your plans. You have the power to change the story. Tonight: Opt for good times.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ You will say what you want and observe the responses of family, a loved one and/or a friend. Remember, you have no control over the situation or over others. Curb a tendency to spend too much when you become stressed out. Tonight: Entertain from home.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Stick to the basics, and make your home and family priorities. Honor what is happening with an older friend, but don't waver too much from agreed-upon values within your domestic circle. Opportunities will appear out of the blue. Tonight: Be spontaneous.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Verbalize what you believe is important before you follow through on what seems like a spontaneous option, as it could throw quite a few plans off. Listen to someone who always seems enthusiastic and full of ideas. Tonight: Throw a get-together. Invite friends over for dessert.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You could be more upbeat in the morning, unless you like unexpected changes in plans followed by friends' reactions and a need for creativity to resolve an issue. Some of you might feel challenged to find a path that works not only for you, but also for others. Tonight: Trust only yourself

with your money.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You feel more like yourself as the day goes on. Someone you often admire and put on a pedestal might go directly against your wishes. You suddenly could be doing a juggling act. Center yourself, and focus on what you want. Tonight: Chat away.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Call a friend in the morning, especially if you would like to get together with this person. You'll find that plans quickly could get confused. Verify and confirm that you and others are on the same page, whether it is a meeting time or the tone of a relationship. Tonight: Play it low-key.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Your sense of direction helps a meeting or a fun event stay in sync. Unexpected developments or an invitation that could be too good to refuse could derail even the best laid plans. You'll manage to cover all the bases. Tonight: Where the people are.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You might want to understand what is going on with a respected friend or family member. Simply observing that he or she could be slightly off might not be enough. By asking nurturing questions, your caring shows. Tonight: Maintain a high profile.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ A partner shares more -- finally! Your creativity points to a new outlook that might work for both of you. The unexpected occurs when carrying out your daily routine. Consider this surprise an excitement. Beyond that reaction, just observe. Tonight: Try a movie.

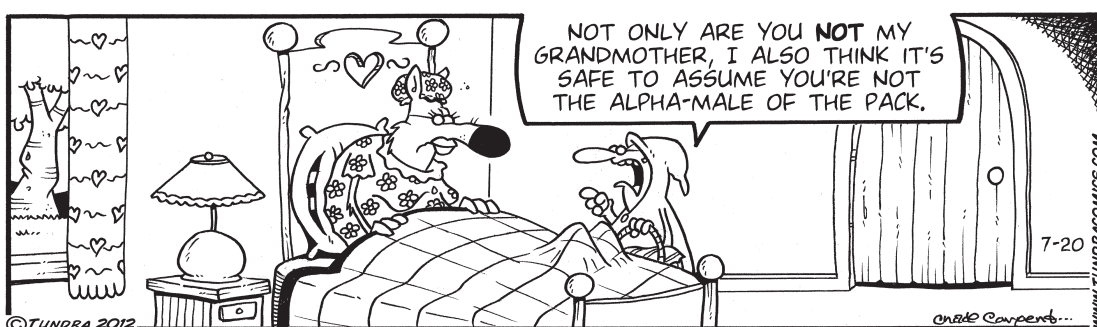
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You might have planned a quiet day, but your friends and loved ones announce otherwise. Seize the moment. Allow yourself the flexibility to do whatever you want. Allow in as much fun and excitement as you can handle. Tonight: Dinner with a special person.

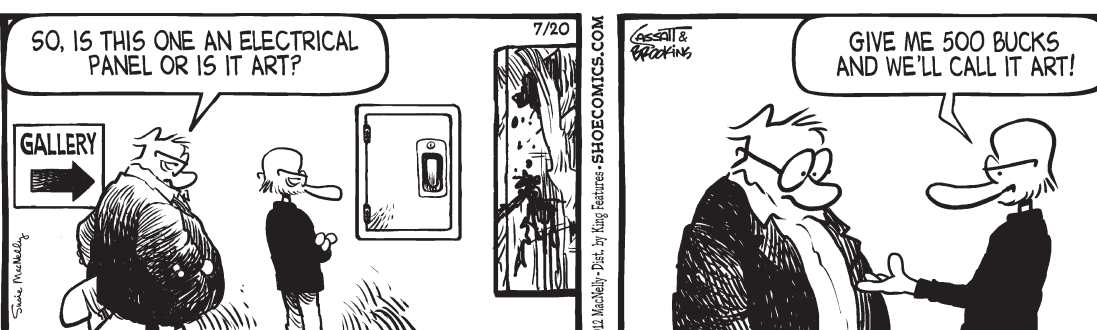
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You could feel a little out of sorts as you visualize more of what you want. The next step would be taking action to make it so. You might not need to make a major change; instead, you could reframe the situation. Listen to suggestions from a loved one. Tonight: Go along with someone's idea.

Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Hagar The Horrible

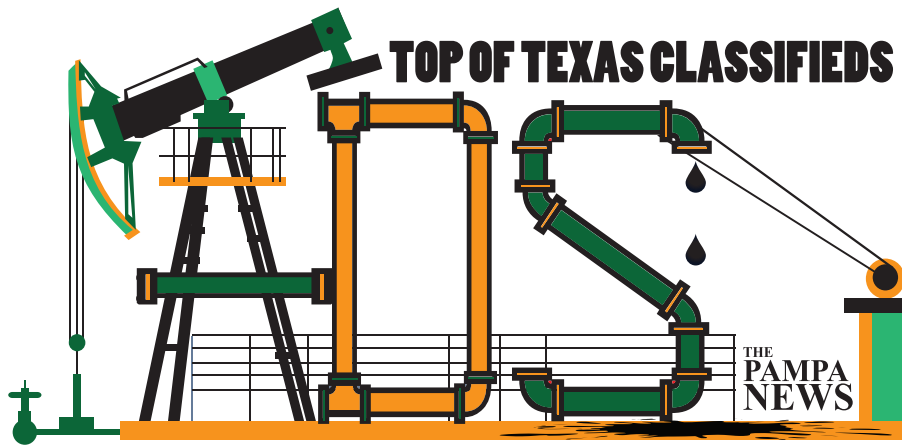


Peanuts



Blondie





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2 Happy Ads 14w Air Cond/Heat 21 Help Wanted 21 Help Wanted 69a Garage Sales 69a Garage Sales 96 Unfurn. Apts. 98 Unfurn. Houses 103 Homes For Sale

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3 Personal
ADOPT: College Sweethearts, successful professional & active stay-home-mom year for miracle baby. Chris & Carolyn. Expenses paid. 1-800-536-7964

10 Lost/Found
CHIHUAHUA found on the Highway by the Jr. High. Female with red/brown collar, no tags. White with dark spots. Call 664-0154

FOUND: Approx 3 month old puppy in Somerville & Texas area. Very sweet. Call to describe 665-3450

14d Carpentry
OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347, 806-663-0192.

CUSTOM Building & Remodeling. New or Additions. Shawn Deaver Const., 662-2977.

14e Carpet Serv.
NU-WAY CLEANING SERVICE Bob Marx Owner-Operator. Call 665-3541.

14h Gen. Serv.
COX Fence Company. Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769.

CERAMIC tile work, stucco, cement. Remodeling, floor, shower, kitchen. Texture, painting, dry wall. Free esti. New# 440-0239 lv msg. Jesus Barraza.

HOUSE Cracking? In bricks or walls? Childers Brothers, Inc. 800-299-9563, 806-352-9563

CONCRETE WORK Over 40 yrs Experience Free Estimates 664-2572

14n Painting
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14s Plumbing
JACK'S Plumbing 715 W. Foster 665-7115

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Local Construction Co. looking to hire
Single Hand Combo Welders Riggers & Pipefitters also needed

2 years minimum exp. Must be able to pass weld test. Long term employment opportunity (\$18-24 / hr for qualified welders) Must pass drug test

***Benefits include: Health Ins. (aft. 90 days) Vacation (aft. 1 yr. of service)**

Competitive Wages
Apply in person Conner Industries 118 Buntun Borger, Tx. No phone calls please

NEED Part-Time Babysitter for 11 yr old child, in my home. Mail or bring your response w/ references and contact info to Box 23, c/o Pampa News 403 W. Atchison, (PO Box 2198) Pampa, Tx 79066

SAFETY Trainer: Safety background w/ training exp & computer skills helpful. Bi-lingual a +. Some travel. Send resume to P.O. Box 1172, Pampa, Tx 79066

SIVALLS Inc. is looking for the following: **Welder-Fabricators** Welding & Drug test req. Benefits: health ins., profit sharing, 401K, 8 paid holidays & 10 days vacation per year. 806-665-7111

NEED Sales Personnel. 5 day work week. Top pay, professional appearance. Will do drug test. Will train. Send reply to Box 24, c/o Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison, Pampa, Tx. 79065

"Hands On" Patient care position in busy multi-disciplinary healthcare office. Clinical experience a plus. Willing to train. Put your "people skills" to work. Fax resume to (806)665-0537

MAID Service help needed. Apply in person at Black Gold Motel, 12029 E. Frederic, Pampa.

B&C Portables is looking for CDL Driver. Must pass drug test & physical. Send resume to PO Box 1582, Pampa, TX 79066-1582 or call 806-663-0686, ask for Brian Smith

MIDWEST Precision Testing has an immediate opening for a Laboratory Technician. Candidate will be responsible for wet chemistry methods: water analysis, solid samples and routine laboratory procedures. Exp. preferred, but will train. Candidate must be analytical and have math skills. Apply by resume to: neil_ray@mwptlab.com Please no Walk-Ins.

69 Misc.
WASHER, dryer, table, chairs, refig, stove, rockers, china cabinets, freezer, etc. 662-7557

NEW RATES & SPECIALS for advertising in the City Briefs (on page 2)!! \$2.50 per line (was \$4.15 per line), also 4 line minimum instead of 2 lines. Buy a City Brief for the Sat. edition, get same ad in Mon. City Briefs, Free or buy 2 days get the 3rd day of the same ad Free. Must schedule 3rd day at time of purchase. For deadlines or questions call Beverly, at the Pampa News, 669-2525.

NEW Mattresses. Qu Set \$246. Full \$236. Tw \$200. Red Barn, 1424 S. Barnes 665-2767

69a Garage Sales
GARAGE Sale, 2357 Beech, Sat. July 21st, 8:00-12:00

FURNITURE, household goods, clothes. Fri & Sat 8am-? 104 W. Craven.

1517 N Nelson. Sat. 8-5. Treadmill, Maternity Clothes, Books, Scrubs, Tools and Much More

FRIDAY Night Garage Sale, 7pm. 1700 Grape. Refig, furni, and misc.

801 S. MAIN SAT. ONLY 8am-?? IN WHITE DEER!!

YARD Sale 100 N Gray in Lefors Thurs thru Sun. 8-?

LOCAL Co. seeking truck drivers. Must have valid CDKL w/ tank endorsement. Drug test req. Apply in person, Gold Line Transports, 7am Mon. thru Fri. at 501 S. Price Rd.

60 Household
RCA 25 Inch Color Tv w/ Remote Control, Cable Ready! \$49 obo. 516 N. Frost Apt. 3, Pampa 928-235-1778

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DINING Table w/ 2 Chairs, Excellent Condition, \$40. 516 N. Frost Apt. 3, Pampa 928-235-1778

MULTI Family Garage Sale. Girl Toddler Clothes & Misc Items. Sat. 9-2. 2606 Fir

MULTI Family Garage Sale, 701 N. Wells, Fri. & Sat. 8-3 Lots of clothes & misc.

GARAGE Sale. Sat. 8-?. 2434 Cherokee. Entertainment Center, all sizes clothing, & misc

YARD Sale. 1812 N Sumner. Sat. 8-?. Furniture, Home Decor, Nice Girls/Boys-Mens/Womens Clothing, Plus Sz. Scrubs, Lots of Fishing Supplies & Girls Toys

GARAGE SALE 1024 Crane Rd. Fri & Sat. 8-?

FRI & Sat, 7am-1pm. 1002 S. Hobart. Clothes, boys clothes, lots of good stuff!!

BIG Yard Sale, Fri. 7-? 420 N. Russell St. New and second hand stuff.

1818 Williston, Sat. 8-? Something for Everyone, Bowling, Golf, Fishing, Avon coll., Ladies Toni Lama Boots 6 1/2, Belts, buckles, clothes, Books, music, Good prices

GARAGE SALE 2018 HAMILTON SAT. Lots Misc! 7am-11am ONLY

HUGE GARAGE SALE Fri 7-4pm, Sat 7-3pm. Lots of everything, car stuff, tools, clothes steamer, clothes, shoes, cell phones, movies, etc, lots of everything! 7142 Hwy 70, almost 14 mi. South on Hwy 70, from Bowling Alley. 665-0770

8am-? Fri & Sat. Many years of things, little bit of everything!! 905 Jackson, White Deer

CHURCH Camp Sale, 2708 Rosewood, Sat 8-1. Freezer, lawnmower, furni, lots of misc.

GARAGE Sale Sat. 8-? 2739 Cherokee. Baby Clothes, Men's Clothes, Furniture and Books

1148 Terrace Sat. Only 8:30am-3:30pm

11950 McCullough, Fri. 8-? Large clothes, couch, recliner's, drapes, desk, 36" T.V. & lots more.

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WHITE Deer Motel. Rooms to Rent. \$125 wk, \$400 mo. 806-883-2022.

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95 Furn. Apts.
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3 bdr, 1 ba. house in Pampa. Austin School distr. \$675 mo. References required. 484-955-1846.

3 bdr, 2 ba, 2 car garage. Fenced back yard. Austin Sch. 2338 Navajo. \$950 mo., \$950 dep. Call 512-947-5970

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8485 LOOP 171 4 Bdr., 2 Ba. Home 3300 Sq Ft 3 Car Garage Newly Remodeled 2 Acres \$325,000 (806)898-3666

NEW Construction. custom 4 3/2 in Wheeler, TX. 972-989-8019 www.rivercrestproperty.com

AXYDLBAAXR is LONG FELLOW

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

CRYPTOQUOTE
C Y Z T K K Z S E M K L B K W T

K H Y F F K D Y O W S L ; O D M K

K Z S E M K L B K W T K I G U Y T W T .

— V W Z Z W Y I Y Z F K D

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THE CAR HAS BECOME THE CARAPACE, THE PROTECTIVE AND AGGRESSIVE SHELL, OF URBAN AND SUBURBAN MAN. — MARSHALL MCLUHAN

LRG 1 bdr. apts. w/ appli, are in walking distance to things you need. 665-4274, 663-2579.

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4 bdr., 2 3/4 ba., 2 liv areas, approx. 2700 sq. ft. Completely remodeled. New floors, paint, & cabinets. \$149K No Owner Finance. Call 595-0234.

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9 LOTS for sale. All in 1 block in White Deer, Tx. Call 806-570-1467

3 BDR., 1 ba. Central Heat. Garage. Austin School District. Fenced Yard. \$650 mo. Call 806-881-9798

3 bdr, 1 ba. house in Pampa. Austin School distr. \$675 mo. References required. 484-955-1846.

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NEW Construction. custom 4 3/2 in Wheeler, TX. 972-989-8019 www.rivercrestproperty.com

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CRYPTOQUOTE
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K H Y F F K D Y O W S L ; O D M K

K Z S E M K L B K W T K I G U Y T W T .

— V W Z Z W Y I Y Z F K D

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114 Recre. Veh.

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Reduced!!!! Priced For Quick Sale

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121 Trucks

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Less than 1600 miles, custom paint, lowered. 300 rear tire. Lots of chrome, alarm system, custom spare seat. Too many extras to list! Bought last summer from dealer. One Owner.

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126 Boats & Access.

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Public Notice

NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS AND INTENT TO OBTAIN AIR PERMIT AMENDMENT AND RENEWAL AIR QUALITY PERMIT NUMBERS 20767 AND 4312

APPLICATION Eagle Rock Field Services, L.P. has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an amendment to and renewal of Air Quality Permit Numbers 20767 and 4312, which would authorize modifications to and continued operation of the Kingsmill Complex located at 8442 County Road 3, Pampa, Gray County, Texas 79065. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For exact location, refer to application. <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/hb610/index.html?lat=35.51&lng=101.039166&zoom=13&type=r>. The existing facility and / or related facilities will emit the following contaminants: carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide, sul-

Public Notice

fur dioxide, hydrogen sulfide, particulate matter including particulate matter with diameters of 10 microns or less and 2.5 microns or less, and organic compounds and hazardous air pollutants (including but not limited to) formaldehyde.

The applications were submitted to the TCEQ on May 7, 2012 and June 12, 2012. The permit renewals will be issued in conjunction with the amendments.

This permitting action also includes the incorporation of the following previous authorizations or changes to authorized facilities related to this permit: alterations, amendments, permits by rule, standard permits, changes to qualified facilities, and changes in emission factors. An amendment application that is not subject to public notice or an opportunity for a contested case hearing is also being reviewed. The reasons for any changes or incorporations, to the extent they are included in the renewal permit, may include the enhancement of operational control at the plant or enforceability of the permit. The applications will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, the TCEQ Amarillo regional office, and the TCEQ Amarillo regional office, and the Lovett Memorial Library, 111 North Houston Street, Pampa, Gray County, Texas, beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review in the Amarillo regional office of the TCEQ.

The executive director has determined the applications are administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the applications. PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING You may submit public comments, a request for a public meeting, or request a contested case hearing to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. The TCEQ will consider all public comments in developing a final decision on the applications. The deadline to submit public comments is 30 days after newspaper notice is published.

The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or ask questions about the applications. A public meeting about the applications will be held if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the applications or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

If only comments are received on the applications, the response to comments, along with notice of the executive director's action on the applications, will be mailed to everyone who submitted comments or is on the mailing list for these applications. The executive director will complete the technical review, issue a preliminary decision on the applications, and a Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the mailing list for these applications. That notice will contain the final deadline for submitting public comments. If a hearing request is timely filed in Response to this Notice of Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain Air Permit, the time period for requesting a contested case hearing will be extended to thirty days after the mailing of the executive director's response to comments.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief

Public Notice

ments. If comments are received, the response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will then be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or is on a mailing list for these applications.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING You may request a contested case hearing.

A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court. Unless a written request for a contested case hearing is filed within 30 days from this notice, the executive director may approve the applications. A contested case hearing will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decisions on the applications. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on issues raised by you or others during the public comment period and not withdrawn.

A person who may be affected by emissions of air contaminants from the facility is entitled to request a hearing. If requesting a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime phone number, and fax number, if any; (2) applicant's name and permit number; (3) the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing"; (4) a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the application and air emissions from the facility in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the facility; and (6) a description of how you use the property which may be impacted by the facility. If the request is made by a group or an association, the one or more members who have standing to request a hearing and the interests which the group or association seeks to protect, must also be identified. You may also submit your proposed adjustments to the applications / permit which would satisfy your concerns.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the executive director will forward the applications and any requests for contested case hearing to the Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact relating to relevant and material air quality concerns raised during the comment period. Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the Commission's jurisdiction to address in this proceeding.

MAILING LIST In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices for this specific applications mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk by sending a written request to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at www.tceq.texas.gov/about/comments.html, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief

Public Notice

Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. If you communicate with the TCEQ electronically, please be aware that your email address, like your physical mailing address, will become part of the agency's public record.

For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the Public Education Program toll free, at 1-800-687-4040.

Si desea informacion en Espanol, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from Eagle Rock Field Services, L.P., P.O. Box 2968, Houston, Texas 77252-2968 or by calling Ms. Alena Polk, Air Permitting Engineer at (281)408-1224. Notice Issuance Date: June 26, 2012 C-54 July 20, 2012

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Each of the four-letter groups below may be extended on both the right and the left to form an eight-letter word. Use the tiles directly above each group to fill in the blanks.

LEVEL

C G I N S T Y
 [] R A T E []

A A D E K N R
 [] T I L E []

A D I O R S S
 [] B E S T []

Yesterday's Answer: ATOMIC, HANDLE, TALCUM 7.20

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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: Seven years ago, while on a business trip to Europe, I went to a bar, got drunk and went back to my hotel with one of the "hostesses." It was a one-night stand, but my wife found out.

I quit drinking with the help of AA and have never had another affair. However, I am a sociable, friendly person, and I like to share laughs and light-hearted conversation with members of both sexes.

Although my wife claims to have forgiven me, she constantly brings up my "fling" and makes it clear that she doesn't trust me to this day, despite my repeated apologies, my desire to make amends and my determination never to do it again. She has made my life a living hell. She has an extremely caustic tongue that she uses at every opportunity to embarrass and humiliate me.

I no longer love her, but her health isn't the best and she hasn't worked for several years. What can I do, Abby? I feel so alone and stuck. — DESPERATE IN THE U.S.A.

DEAR DESPERATE: Because you are both miserable, do what other

couples with troubled marriages do — get marriage counseling to see if you and your wife can reach an understanding you both can live with. If that doesn't work, however, and she continues to berate and humiliate you, consult a lawyer and go on with your life.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I are going to Italy next year and taking our two sons, ages 8 and 12, with us. We have planned and saved for this trip for five years.

When my sister-in-law heard about it, she invited herself along, with her husband and two children who are my sons' ages. Although I love all of them, I don't want to spend my vacation of a lifetime with her. She often pawns her children off on others while she goes and does her own thing. She's a pro at it and has done it to me many times.

How do I approach this without anyone's feelings being hurt? There's no way I can go on this trip with her. I'd rather not go. Help! — BOUND FOR ITALY

DEAR BOUND: You may be "bound," but were you also gagged when your sister-in-law invited her-

self and her family along? That's when you should have had the gumption to say no.

The longer you put off telling her, the harder it will be, so tell her NOW. If you don't have the courage to do it alone, you and your husband should do it together. You have every right to go on your dream trip the way you and your husband planned it. His sister can schedule her family's visit to Italy at another time.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have clearly stated more than once that we didn't plan to have children. Recently, however, we realized that we had simply not been ready.

We have decided to try for a baby in the near future. If we are lucky enough to conceive, how will we respond to the inevitable barrage of questions about whether or not the baby was planned? — TAKING IT BACK IN NEW YORK

DEAR TAKING IT BACK: Just say you changed your mind and the baby not only isn't an accident but is a welcome blessing.

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

5	3	2	4	8	9	7	6	1
8	6	1	5	7	2	3	4	9
9	4	7	6	3	1	5	8	2
1	9	4	7	5	8	6	2	3
2	5	3	9	4	6	8	1	7
6	7	8	1	2	3	4	9	5
4	2	6	3	9	7	1	5	8
7	1	9	8	6	5	2	3	4
3	8	5	2	1	4	9	7	6

Level: Advanced

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 38 Public

1 Foe of the Jedi
 5 Skilled
 9 Ryan of "Paper Moon"
 11 Orchestra members
 13 Deceitful
 14 Masked hero
 15 Cobbler's tool
 16 Score evener
 18 Fasting month
 20 Jargon suffix
 21 Oman neighbor
 22 Flag feature
 23 Vacuum lack
 24 Hamm of soccer
 25 Coming-out party girls
 27 No-no on some diets
 29 Sense of self
 30 Wet season
 32 Learned
 34 One, for Juan
 35 Rock genre
 36 Slangy farewells

DOWN 39 Ill will
 40 Order to Spot
 41 Cockpit guesses
 1 Until now
 2 Sort of
 3 "Don't I know!"
 4 Holds
 5 Eggs buy
 6 Black, to bards
 7 "I don't think so!"
 8 Opera's Stratas
 10 Front-runner
 12 More ticked off
 17 Big truck
 19 "Lucky Jim"
 22 Letter author
 24 Some Louvre paintings
 25 Considers

P	L	O	W	M	O	R	E	L
L	A	Z	E	A	D	O	R	E
A	G	A	T	E	C	O	M	M
N	E	W	B	A	H	R	A	I
B	R	A	Z	I	L	I	N	N
			E	T	A	S	N	E
			H	I	D	E	I	C
K	E	N	D	A	T	A		
A	R	C	B	E	L	I	Z	E
B	E	L	G	I	U	M	L	O
O	N	I	O	N	A	T	O	N
B	O	N	U	S	P	A	V	E
S	W	E	E	P	T			

Yesterday's answer

26 Wading birds
 27 Army sack
 28 Bach work
 30 Like some opals
 31 Plane parts
 33 Comic Carvey
 37 Big galoot

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9			10	11			12	
13				14				
15			16	17				
18			19			20		
	21				22			
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35					36	37		
38					39			
	40						41	

Remove synthetic stucco from house walls may be necessary

Dear Pat: I am looking at houses to buy. I found one I like, but it has the synthetic stucco finish I heard is bad. What are the problems with this finish, and can it be removed and finished with real stucco? — Keri J.

Dear Keri: There have been many stories about problems with the synthetic stucco used on the exterior of houses.

Enough of these horror stories are well-founded, so you are correct in showing concern. In some homes, the lumber studs inside the walls were completely rotten and there was very little supporting the walls.

Another related problem is mold and mildew growth as the damp wood rots. Some types of this mold, often called black mold, are a real health hazard for you and your children. Some insurance policies will cover its removal and repair, but not all.

The basic building concept of using synthetic stucco is good. Exterior insulation is often used on the walls, and it is covered with synthetic plastic stucco. This stucco

looks and feels like real cement stucco, but it is moisture-proof. Cement stucco is waterproof, and rain will not pass through it, but it is not moisture-proof. Water vapor can escape through cement, so the wall will breathe.

This moisture-proof property of synthetic stucco is good if it is applied properly. The problem arises if there are just a few leaky spots, often around windows and doors. If moisture gets into the wall behind the stucco during a rain, it is trapped. Over time, mold and rotting starts.

The home you are looking at may be fine, but it would be wise to have the synthetic stucco removed. After an inspection is done to assess the condition of the lumber inside the walls and the sheathing, it

can be finished with real cement stucco, brick, synthetic stone or any combination of them.

Real cement stucco can be tinted. This can be particularly attractive when it is used in combination with the stone or bricks as accents. The color also goes throughout the stucco, so there is much less maintenance required to keep it looking good. This is certainly a lot less work and expense than having to paint plain stucco after it is applied.

Get some quotations from contractors on inspecting the interior of the walls and on removing and replacing the synthetic stucco with real stucco. You might be able to convince the current homeowners to pay for the inspection since they will run into these same concerns from every potential buyer.

Depending of the current level of wall

insulation, you may decide to add more. Applying the insulation to the exterior of the house is the most efficient location for it. Many of the rigid foam board insulation manufacturers have responded to the moisture problem by putting vertical grooves in the back of the board. This allows moisture to drain down and out.

If you are just going to have new cement stucco applied over the sheathing, adding a layer of felt paper will provide a good moisture barrier. For extra insurance against moisture problems, nail thin wood strips over the felt and cover this with galvanized mesh. This will create a channel for moisture to escape. The cement stucco will be applied over the metal mesh.

Send your questions to Here's How, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45244 or visit www.dulley.com.



HOMES Do-it-Yourself

Synthetic Stucco

Synthetic stucco is essentially a foamboard and fiberglass mesh attached to a wall that is covered with a polymer-based material, and then textured to look like traditional stucco. It is technically known as an Exterior Insulation and Finish System, or EIFS. Moisture problems can occur with this system regardless of the age of the structure or the quality of construction, therefore EIFS homes should be regularly inspected.

Components of EIFS (synthetic stucco)

- 1 Joints around windows and doors must be sealed to prevent water from seeping behind the EIFS.
- 2 Gutters should be kept clean and positioned to drain away from the house.
- 3 Stucco should not extend below grade. The bottom lip of the EIFS should also be properly wrapped and sealed.
- 4 Roof flashing should be installed where the EIFS meets the roofline. If this is missing, there is a good possibility that water is entering the wall cavity.
- 5 Areas of cracking or bulging should be inspected. If cracks are present in the EIFS itself, moisture will be able to infiltrate the wall assembly and cause rotting.

Source: www.professionalbuildinginspector.com Creators.com/Bob Kast

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