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The PAMPA NEWS

Monday, August 13, 2012 www.thepampanews.com Volume 108 • No. 109



TODAY IN SPORTS

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Viewpoints: Pat Buchanan
 In his own words ... | **p4**

Rodeo
 The Top O' Texas Rodeo results continue here ... | **p8**

Scotland med students take in the Pampa rodeo

BEN TINSLEY
 btinsley@thepampanews.com

Five young ladies, medical students from Scotland, are currently traveling historic Route 66 in a Ford Edge. But they decided Friday to take a detour to Pampa and experience the Top O' Texas Rodeo. And they were very impressed.

"We always wanted to see a rodeo," Carron Meney, 21, said Friday, beaming as she sported her new pair of cowboy boots. Meney hails from the west coast of Scotland.

She and her four friends are medical students from the University of Glasgow currently attending the University of Southern California as part of an exchange program.

The five students said they got the idea to attend the rodeo when they met up with Ken Stonecipher, Pampa pro rodeo announcer extraordinaire, during their travels through the Amarillo area of Route 66. And they're really glad they decided to come.

Rachel Thomson, 21, of Glasgow, was a big fan of the interaction between

Pampa riders — especially the young ones — and animals.

"I loved the mutton busters," she said with a smile. "They were very cute."

Amanda McAskill, 22, from the island of Lewis on the Atlantic coast of Scotland, said the protectiveness and care that Pampa rodeo-ers show the horses, cattle, lambs and so on during the rodeo is very touching.

"I've been around animals all my life and I can tell the skill and care the cowboys are showing. It's really great," McAskill said.

The other two students were Joann Lum, 22, and Emma McGonigal, 22.

Next stop for the girls? Back to Route 66, east to Chicago. In that big Ford Edge.

Meanwhile, the immediate number of people who attended the three-day-and-a-slack rodeo was not immediately available Sunday, but Robert Douglas, President of the Top O' Texas Rodeo Association, said it runs in the thousands.

Saturday heat



Staff Photos by **Gayden Hays**

Busy Saturday: It was a ferocious day. Boy Scouts, Pampa businesses and residents enjoyed the Top O' Texas Parade and shopped at vendors booths early Saturday. But come afternoon and evening, firefighters engaged a multi structure fire on Frederic Ave. as the Top O' Texas Rodeo enjoyed a packed house and new champions were crowned for the 2012 Season.

Top O' Texas Finals

GAYDEN HAYS
 ghays@thepampanews.com

Packed stands at the Top O' Texas Bowers Arena were treated to rodeo at its finest.

A beautiful night that saw a thunderstorm split and pass East and West of Pampa allowed no delays.

The Crowned champions were a mix of Local talent along with several Professional also taking home awards as well.

The immediate number of people who attended the three-day-and-a-slack rodeo was not immediately available Sunday, but Robert Douglas, President of the Top O' Texas Rodeo Association, said it runs in the thousands.

Douglas said this was an excellent year for the rodeo and all its supporters.

"The downtown parade was fabulous," he said. "We had a female bull rider, which was something, and also two girls who double mugged."

RODEO cont. on page 8

Grass fire destroys six structures covering two city blocks

■ **Assisting the firefighters was the Eastern Texas Panhandle Red Cross led by Lil Watson.**

GAYDEN HAYS
 Sports@thepampanews.com

Due to the dry conditions and a brisk southern breeze, a Saturday afternoon grass fire on South Campbell street quickly turned into a fast-spreading blaze — heading north, crossing Campbell St. between Osborne and Henry streets and reaching Frederic Ave. before firefighters from Pampa and Hoover fire departments could contain it.

The fire, which spanned two city blocks and destroyed

six structures, included a mobile home in which a family was living. No one was injured.

Several times, the fire threatened homes north of Frederic as airborne embers ignited several grass fires north of the Highway — only to be quickly put out by firefighters.

Due to the heat, two pampa firefighters were given water IVs for dehydration and fatigue.

Assisting the firefighters was the Eastern Texas Panhandle Red Cross led by Lil Watson. She and her family members served Pizza, Gatorade, and water to help replenish the exhausted emergency crews.

Grey County and Pampa Police were on the scene blocking off traffic and keeping pedestrians out of harm's way.

The cause of the 4 p.m. blaze was not immediately available Sunday, but the fire is still under investigation, said Fire Marshal "Big Mac" Ryan.

SEE MORE FIRE PHOTOS ON PAGE 2



Staff Photos by **Gayden Hays**

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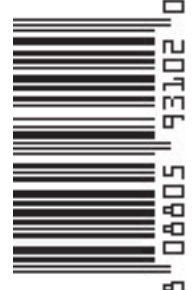
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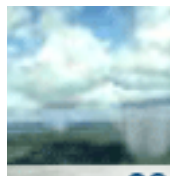

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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Tuesday	Wednesday
		
High 93 Low 64	High 96 Low 68	High 99 Low 68

Today: Partly sunny, with a high near 93. East wind 5 to 15 mph.

Tonight: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 64. Southeast wind 10 to 15 mph becoming north northeast 5 to 10 mph after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 96. South wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Tuesday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 68. Southeast wind 10 to 20 mph.

Wednesday: Partly sunny and hot, with a high near 99. South southeast wind around 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 68. South wind around 15 mph.

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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

Ben Tinsley

Editor
btinsley@thepampanews.com

Gayden Hays

Sports & Religion Editor
ghays@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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TPA MEMBER 2011
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Obituaries

Paula Ponce Garcia

Paula Ponce Garcia, 51, of Pampa, died Aug. 9, 2012. Rosary will be held at 6:00 PM Monday, August 13, 2012, at Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel, with Rev. Arockia Raj, associate pastor of St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church, officiating.

Memorial funeral mass will be held at 10:00 AM Tuesday, August 14, 2012, at St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church, with Rev. Francisco Perez, pastor, officiating. Cremation and arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Garcia was born April 6, 1961 in Corpus Christi. She married Alfonso Garcia on September 11, 1980 in Houston. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1980. Paula was a member of St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church. She enjoyed gardening, and especially enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and friend, and will be missed by all who knew her.

Survivors include her husband: Alfonso Garcia of the home; daughter: Luzann Bailey and husband Mark Edward of Pampa; 2 sons: Alfonso Garcia, III and wife Shelly, and Jose A. Garcia and wife Joahana, all of Pampa; 8 grandchildren: Mia Victoria Garcia, Fabian Orantia, Taelar Garcia, Arianne Jade Garcia, Lane Edward Bailey, Mariana Isabela Garcia, Alfonso Xavier Garcia, IV and Jarron Paul Bailey; 3 sisters: Hilda DeLeon and Lupe Garza, both of Robstown, and Lucy Garcia of Corpus Christi; 3 brothers: Jose M. Ponce, Jr., of Pampa, Greg Ponce of Kingsville, and Mark Villarreal of Robstown. Paula was preceded in death by her parents; a brother: Manuel Ponce; and a sister: Janie Cervantes.

MEMORIALS: American Cancer Society, c/o Gerry Caylor, 2130 Charles, Pampa, Texas 79065

Sign the on-line register at www.carmichael-whatley.com



Garcia

Survivors include his wife: Marion Jenkins; 2 daughters: Quannah Jenkins and Georgia Aufleger and husband Johnny; a son: Gary Jenkins and wife Donna; 5 stepchildren: Steve Adkins, Tommy Adkins, Billie Rux, Sara Duraso, and Mike Duraso; a sister: Betty Jack; numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.

MEMORIALS: Cal Farley's Boys Ranch, 600 SW 11th Ave., Amarillo, TX 79101 or St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, P. O. Box 1000, Dept. 300, Memphis, TN 38148-0552.

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

Orville B. Craig, Jr.

Orville B. Craig, Jr., 68, of White Deer went to be with his Lord and Savior on Saturday, Aug. 11, 2012, in Amarillo.

Liturgy of the Word will be at 2:00 PM Tuesday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in White Deer with Rev. Mieczyslaw Przepiora, pastor, officiating.

Burial will be at Sacred Heart Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

He was born Oct. 9, 1943 in Memphis, Tennessee and was reared in McGehee, Arkansas. He had been a resident of White Deer since 1958 where he worked for his dad at the Shamrock service station until 1966. He worked for Wheeler-Evans in White Deer for several years and then worked for over 25 years in the gas industry with Oneok/Eagle Rock, retiring in 1999. He was also self-employed in farming and ranching. He was involved in building the White Deer Arena and was a member of the White Deer Riding Club.

He was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in White Deer. He was a kind man who loved being surrounded by his family and friends, his dog "Mick," and his horses. He was preceded in death by his parents, Orville and Mildred Craig and by his wife, Kay Kotara Craig.

Survivors include his wife Nancy of the home; two sons: Shawn Craig and wife Barbra, and Torey Craig; two stepsons: Wade Maul and wife Trish and Adam Maul and wife Heather; a stepdaughter: Lisa Hudson and husband Darren; a brother: Rusty Craig and wife Cheryl; a sister: Carol Thomas and husband Mark; three grandchildren: Shea, Elaine, and Trevor Craig; eight step grandchildren: Breena Maul, Kyna Scheets, Kendra Sorrells and husband Jeremy, Nathan Hudson, Haley Hudson, Braxton Maul, Lexi Maul, and Landon Maul; three step great grandchildren, many nieces, nephews, and close friends.

MEMORIALS: American Diabetes Association, 8008 Slide Rd., Suite 12-Lubbock, TX 79424, American Cancer Society, c/o Gerry Caylor, 2130 Charles, Pampa, TX 79065, or White Deer Food Bank, P. O. Box 812, White Deer, TX 79097.

SPECIAL NOTICE: The family will receive friends from 5:00-6:30 PM Monday at the funeral home.

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



Craig

Miron Emmett Jenkins

Miron Emmett Jenkins, 88, died Friday, Aug. 10, 2012 in Pampa. Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2012, at Memory Gardens Mausoleum with Gary Jenkins, his son, and Weldon Jack, his nephew, officiating. Inurnment will be in Memory Gardens Columbarium. Cremation and arrangements are by Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

He was born March 24, 1924 in Canyon, Texas to Miron Samuel and Blanche Jenkins. He served in the U. S. Army Air Corps during World War II and later served in the U. S. Air Force and the U. S. Navy. He married Marion Duraso on Aug. 2, 2002 in Clovis, New Mexico.

He worked for Celanese Chemical Co. for many years before retiring in 1996 at the age of 72. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Doris Houston Jenkins, and by his second wife, Pat Adkins Jenkins. He will be greatly missed.



Jenkins



Area firefighters fought a fast-traveling blaze Saturday afternoon. It started as a grass fire on Campbell Street but ultimately engaged six structures, threatened traffic on Franklin, and continued to burn for hours. Two firefighters were treated for dehydration by the local Red Cross. Photos by Gayden Hays.



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Altrusa grant



Carol Fields, Altrusa chairman of the Travis Elementary School reading program, is presented with a matching grant for purchasing books, from the Altrusa International Foundation, Inc. Also shown are Rochelle Lacy, immediate past president, and Pat Johnson, president.

NAPA plaque



Marc Reed of Pampa NAPA Auto Parts receives a plaque from Adam Plank. It is the 2011 Five Star Award for top performing NAPA stores in the US based on sales and service. (From left to right) Kim Tatum, Jamie Trimbile, Marc Reed, Adam Plank, Teddy DuBose (not pictured: Howard Reed, Tammye Maple, and Keziah Clendennen.)

Registration!



Dawg Days of Summer Registration. Clarendon College Pampa Center & The Pampa H2O Water Park partner up for early FALL Registration

MORNINGRUSH

Perry: Ryan an exciting choice

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas Gov. Rick Perry says Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney chose a “conservative budget hawk” when he tapped Wisconsin U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan as his running mate.

Perry ran unsuccessfully for president against Romney but has since endorsed the ex-Massachusetts governor.

He said in a statement Saturday that Ryan underscores Romney’s “commitment to downsizing Washington, fixing our economy and restoring American job creation.”

Perry said previously he wasn’t interested in being a GOP vice presidential candidate. But he also was never considered a serious contender for Romney’s choice.

The governor was at the Iowa State Fair on Saturday on Romney’s behalf.

His statement called Ryan an exciting choice who will “energize economic voters, young voters and blue collar voters” while solidifying the Republican Party’s commitment to fiscal responsibility.

Police not charged in shooting

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — A South Texas grand jury has decided against charges in the police shooting death of a middle-school student.

Cameron County District Attorney Armando Villalobos said Friday that the grand jury found insufficient probable cause that the officers committed a crime.

On Jan. 4, police responded to a call of an armed student inside Cummings Middle School in Brownsville. They found 15-year-old Jaime Gonzalez inside the school’s front hall holding what would later be identified as a pellet gun. Officers fired when Gonzalez refused to drop the gun.

Gonzalez’s family immediately criticized the use of lethal force as unjustified. His father, Jaime Gonzalez Sr., declined to comment Friday but said the family planned to respond next week.

Shootings prompt policy changes

DALLAS (AP) — Police Chief David Brown has announced a series of policy changes, including a formalized foot-pursuit policy and mandatory training of all officers in the use of Tasers.

The announcement Friday comes after several police-involved shootings.

Those darn Social Security offsets

TOM MARGENAU
Creator’s Syndicate

I can tell from my emails that it’s time for me to once again tackle the touchy subject of those misunderstood Social Security offsets. And because so many people don’t understand the law, they mistakenly think they are being singled out for Social Security reductions that don’t impact anyone else. And they are simply wrong about that.

Who are these folks who think they are being cheated? They are people who will get a pension from a job not covered by Social Security. They might be teachers in Texas or California. They might be police officers in Washington State or firefighters in Ohio. They might be retiring federal government employees still covered under the old civil service retirement system. About 10 percent of all jobs in this country are not covered by Social Security (for reasons I’ve explained countless times in past columns.)

Folks in those situations are potentially subject to a couple of offsets that impact either their own Social Security benefit (based on Social Security-covered work they did outside of their regular job) or any benefits they potentially might be due from their spouse’s Social Security record. And by the way, as a retired federal employee getting a civil service pension, I, too, am impacted by both offsets. But because I understand the law, they make perfect sense to me, and I know they are fair. I will try to explain them to you.

One offset is called the “windfall elimination provision,” or WEP. This is the one that impacts your own Social Security benefit. The other is called the “Government Pension Offset,” or GPO, and it reduces any spousal benefits you might be due.

The key to understanding the WEP provision is to realize that the word “social” in Social Security means something. Unlike private and other public sector pension plans, there are social goals built into the Social Security program. One of those goals is to raise the standard of living of lower income workers in retirement. This is accomplished through a benefit formula that is designed to give lower-paid workers a better deal than their more highly-paid counterparts. Very low-paid workers could get a Social Security benefit that represents up to 90 percent of their earnings. This percentage is known as a “replacement rate.” People with average incomes (the middle class) generally get a 40 percent replacement rate. Higher-income people get a rate around 30 percent.

The problem is that people who spend the bulk of their working lives not paying into Social Security are automatically treated as low-income people by the Social Security Administration’s computers. That’s because there are “zeros” on their Social Security earnings record for every year they spent in their non-Social Security job. SSA’s records won’t show they were actually working at the other job and earning another pension. Instead, their Social Security earnings record simply shows gaps in their work history. So when figuring their Social Security retirement benefit, SSA’s computers automatically use the formula intended to compensate a lower-income person.

But teachers, police officers, firefighters, and other government employ-

ees generally can be classified as people with average incomes, so they should get the same Social Security replacement rate paid to all middle-class workers. That’s why a modified formula is used to refigure their benefits and give them the proper -- and fair -- replacement rate. If you’re an employee impacted by this law, that modified formula takes you from the 90 percent (poor person’s) replacement rate to the 40 percent (middle-class person’s) replacement rate, thus reducing estimated benefits by about half.

Like me, most career teachers and government employees generally have just barely over the qualifying 40 quarters (10 years) of Social Security-covered work. But if you have 30 or more years of “substantial” Social Security earnings, the windfall provision won’t apply, and your benefit will not be reduced. If you have between 20 and 29 years of substantial earnings, your Social Security benefit will be only partially reduced. A chart giving a year-by-year breakdown of what the government considers substantial earnings is available at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10045.html.

The other rule that so many people misunderstand is the government pension offset, or GPO. In a nutshell, that law says that an amount equal to two-thirds of a non-Social Security-covered pension must be deducted from any Social Security dependent’s benefits a person might be due. In effect, the law prevents most folks who work at jobs not covered by Social Security from collecting wife’s, widow’s, husband’s, or widower’s benefits from a spouse’s Social Security record.

What these people don’t realize is that the government pension offset law simply treats them in the same way that all other working people have always been treated. In other words, if a woman who worked at a job that was covered by Social Security gets a Social Security retirement pension, that pension has always offset any spousal benefits she might have been due. Before the GPO law went into effect, people getting a non-Social Security pension were the only working people in this country who could get their own retirement pension AND a full dependent’s benefit from Social Security.

And the GPO law actually gives these people a bit of a break. Social Security retirement pensions offset spousal benefits dollar for dollar. But a non-Social Security retirement pension causes only a three-for-two offset. In other words, for each \$3 you get in a teacher’s or other



non-covered pension, you lose only \$2 from Social Security spousal benefits.

Due to the space constraints of my column, this has been a VERY simplified explanation of a very complicated set of laws. To learn more about the government pension offset and the windfall elimination provision, send an email to me at thomas.margenau@comcast.net and ask for a free digital copy of my pension offset fact sheet.

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

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Clue 2

I am really small and airtight. But still all of this noise going by. I can't get away from this noise.

9322b

Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Monday, August 13, the 226th day of 2012. There are 140 days left in the year.

■ On Aug. 13, 1942, Walt Disney's animated feature "Bambi" had its U.S. premiere at Radio City Music Hall in New York, five days after its world premiere in London.

■ In 1521, Spanish conqueror Hernando Cortez captured Tenochtitlan, present-day Mexico City, from the Aztecs.

■ In 1624, King Louis XIII of France appointed Cardinal Richelieu his first minister.

■ In 1704, the Battle of Blenheim was fought during the War of the Spanish Succession, resulting in a victory for English-led forces over French and Bavarian soldiers.

■ In 1792, French revolutionaries imprisoned the royal family.

■ In 1846, the American flag was raised for the first time in Los Angeles.

■ In 1910, Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing, died in London at age 90.

■ In 1932, Adolf Hitler rejected the post of vice chancellor of Germany, saying he was prepared to hold out "for all or nothing."

■ In 1934, the satirical comic strip "Li'l Abner," created by Al Capp, made its debut.

■ In 1960, the first two-way telephone conversation by satellite took place with the help of Echo 1. The Central African Republic became totally independent of French rule.

■ In 1961, East Germany sealed off the border between Berlin's eastern and western sectors and began building a wall that would stand for the next 28 years.

■ 1521 — Spanish conquerors captured Mexico City from Aztecs

■ 1642 — Christiaan Huygens discovers Martian south polar cap

■ 1868 — Quakes kill 25,000 and causes \$300 million damages (Peru and Ecuador)

■ 1907 — First taxicab (NYC)

■ 1923 — Mustapha Kemal elected president of Turkey

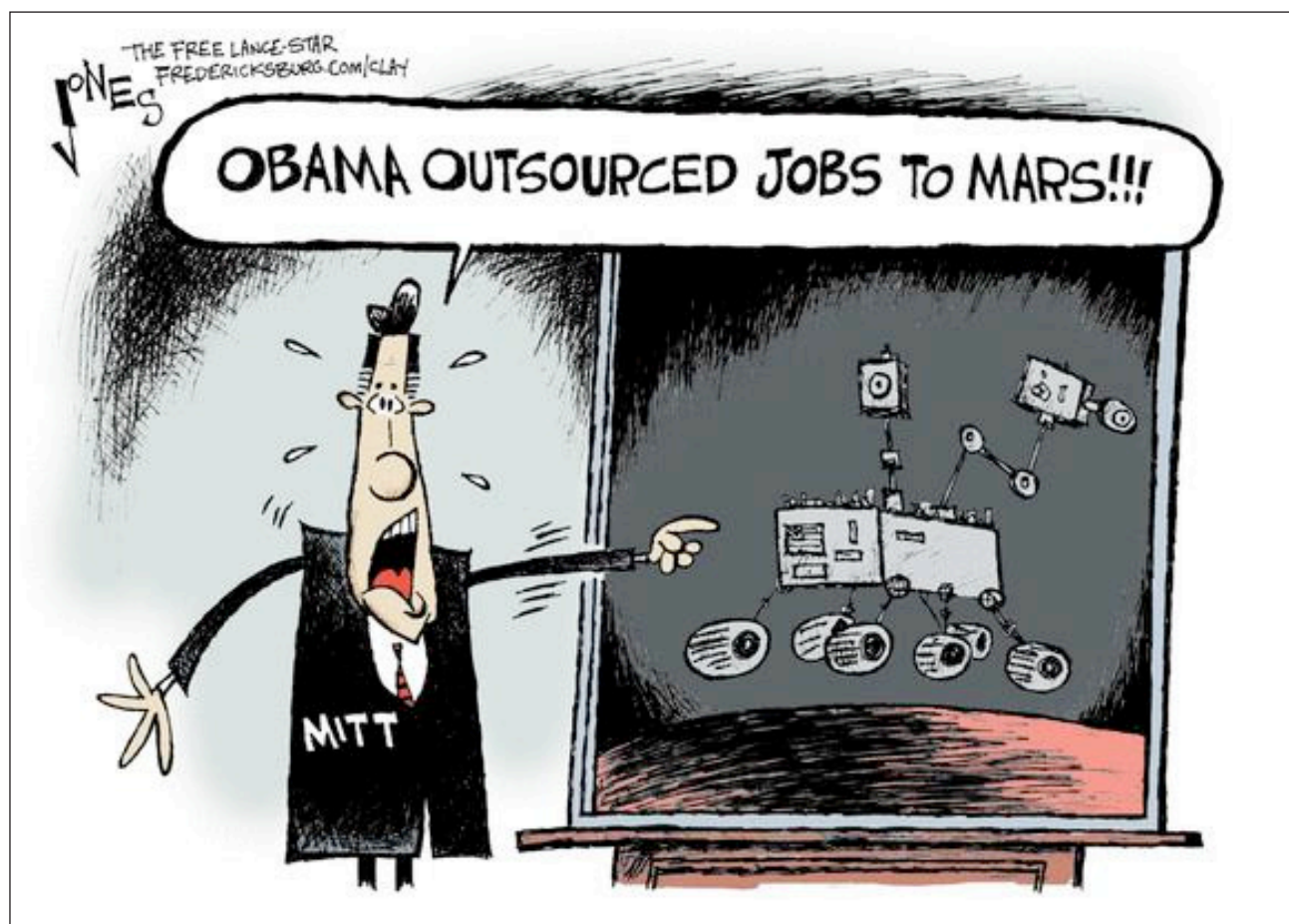
■ 1928 — Soviet Union Spartacan Games begins

■ 1945 — Thirty-five Jews sacrifice their lives to blow up Nazi rubber plant in Silesia

■ 1946 — Britain transfers illegal immigrants bound to Palestine, to Cyprus

■ 1961 — Construction on Berlin Wall begins in East Germany (Dark day)

■ 1977 — First test glide of the shuttle



Pat Buchanan: Natural map of the Middle East

PAT BUCHANAN
Columnist

"Apart from political maps of mankind, there are natural maps of mankind. ... One of the first laws of political stability is to draw your political boundaries along the lines of the natural map of mankind."

So wrote H.G. Wells in "What Is Coming: A Forecast of Things to Come After the War" in the year of Verdun and the Somme Offensive.

In redrawing the map of Europe, however, the statesmen of Versailles ignored Wells and parceled out Austrians, Hungarians, Germans and other nationalities to alien lands to divide, punish and weaken the defeated peoples.

So doing they set the table for a second world war.

The Middle East was sliced up along lines set down in the secret Sykes-Picot agreement. But with the Islamic awakening and Arab Spring toppling regimes, the natural map of the Middle East seems now to be asserting itself.

Sunni and Shia align with Sunni and Shia, as Protestants and Catholics did in 17th-century Europe. Ethiopia and Sudan split. Mali and Nigeria may be next. While world attention is focused on Aleppo and when Bashar Assad might fall, Syria itself may be about to disintegrate p.

In Syria's northeast, a Kurdish minority of 2 to 3 million with ethnic ties to Iraqi Kurdistan and 15 million Kurds in Turkey seems to be dissolving its ties to Damascus.

A Kurdish nation carved out of Syria, Iraq, Turkey and Iran would appear to be a casus belli for all four nations. Yet in any natural map of the world, there would be a Kurdistan.

The Sunni four-fifths of the Syrian population seems fated to rise and the Muslim Brotherhood to rule, as happened in Egypt.

The fall of Assad and his Shia Alawite minority would be celebrated by the Sunni across the border in Iraq's Anbar province, who would then have a powerful new ally in any campaign to recapture Sunni lands lost to Iraqi Shia.

With its recent murderous attacks inside Iraq, al-Qaida seems to be instigating a new Sunni-Shia war to tear Iraq apart.

The fall of the Alawites in Damascus would end the dream of a Shia crescent -- Iran, Iraq, Syria and Hezbollah -- leave Hezbollah isolated, and conceivably lead to a renewal of Lebanon's sectarian and civil war.

The losers in all this? Certainly Iran, which seems fated to lose its only Arab ally, Syria, and its land link to Hezbollah.

That would make Israel

a winner. But Israel's situation appears more perilous than it was a decade ago.

In Egypt, the Muslim Brotherhood has replaced Hosni Mubarak, who kept the peace in Sinai and the lid on Hamas. Recently, new Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi met with Hamas' Khaled Meshaal at the presidential palace in Cairo. The Sinai is becoming a no man's land where terrorists plot and Africans cross to Israel.

To Israel's east, there is no true peace with the Palestinians, and the Jordanian throne has rarely been shakier.

On the Golan Heights, quiet for decades, the future may see Syrian troops loyal to a militant Sunni regime in Damascus. Hezbollah sits on Israel's northern border. Beyond is a Turkey no longer friendly.

Israel is blaming the atrocity in Bulgaria, in which Israeli tourists were massacred, on Iran. But neither the Bulgarians nor the Americans appear to know who did it. And why would the Iranians, who, following the slaughter, publicly denounced such atrocities against civilians, do it?

Were an Iranian hand to be found in this act of barbarism, it would give Israel justification for an attack, igniting a war in which America could be dragged in.

Why would Iran want

a war with the United States when that would mean destruction of its air force, navy, missile force and nuclear program, a crippling blockade and perhaps destruction of its vital oil facilities on Kharg Island?

Whoever was behind the attack on the Israeli tourists seems to want a war between the Jewish state of Israel and the Shia state of Iran.

Who would benefit from such a war?

Answer: Al-Qaida, which, during the Iraq War, urged the United States to bomb Iran back to the Stone Age. An al-Qaida affiliate has also attacked Israeli vacationers before, at Egyptian resorts on the Gulf of Aqaba.

"There is an international plot against Gulf states in particular and Arab countries in general ... to take over our fortunes," says Dubai's chief of police. "I had no idea that there is this large number of Muslim Brotherhood in the Gulf states."

What is al-Qaida's goal? Ignite Sunni-Shia wars and Muslim-Christian clashes in Arab states. Draw in the Americans to smash Iran. And when the Sunni are ascendant, expel the Americans and Christians, isolate Israel and set about creating the caliphate of Osama bin Laden's dream.

If a U.S. war on Iran is good for al-Qaida, how can it be good for us?

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Try as hard as I may, I cannot understand why U S Representative Mac Thornberry is opposed to ending the Bush era tax cuts in the house of billionaires and millionaires. The ultra-rich do not need the tax cuts which will cost "we the people" over \$1 trillion in the next ten years. That \$1 trillion can be used for better schools and education for our children, rebuilding our crumbling infrastructure,

putting people back to work and filling many of our other unmet needs.

Perhaps Mr. Thornberry needs to be reminded that he was elected by AND to serve "we the people" rather than the 1 percent of billionaires and millionaires.

Respectfully,
David Brito Garcia

Equal Time?

On the editorial page of The Pampa News, there are usually two political cartoons. Almost always, the cartoons give the liberal viewpoint on political

issues. How about giving your readers both sides of the political spectrum in these cartoons? Why not publish one political cartoon with the liberal point of view and one cartoon with the conservative point of view? I would appreciate this.

Sincerely,
Frances A. May

From Pampa High School

High School students new to the district must complete enrollment procedures at the Horace Mann Campus and then may come to the high

school to get their schedules from a counselor BY APPOINTMENT ONLY on:

Tuesday August 21st -- 8 a.m. to Noon

Wednesday August 22nd -- 8 a.m. to Noon

Thursday August 23 -- 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Friday August 24th -- 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

PLEASE CALL 669-4800 EXT 1110 to setup an appointment!

Pampa High School students may pick up their class schedules at the high school in the Commons Area on Monday, August 20, 2012 at the following times:

Seniors (12th): 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Juniors (11th): 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Sophomores (10th): 11 a.m. to Noon

"The Harvester Way"- Freshman orientation (for 9th grade students and parents only) will be held on Monday, August 20th, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Ninth grade schedules will be handed out at the time. Parents are encouraged to attend the various information sessions about PHS.

Schedule changes will be made at the following times BY

APPOINTMENT ONLY: PLEASE CALL 669-4800 ext 1110 to setup an appointment for schedule changes!

Tuesday, August 21st - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Wednesday August 22nd -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Thursday, August 23rd -- 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Junior and senior students interested in taking AP classes classes fro dual credit with Clarendon College will receive information during classes, the second week of school.

Starla kindle (counselor) and Kathy Gomez, 669-4800 ext 1108.

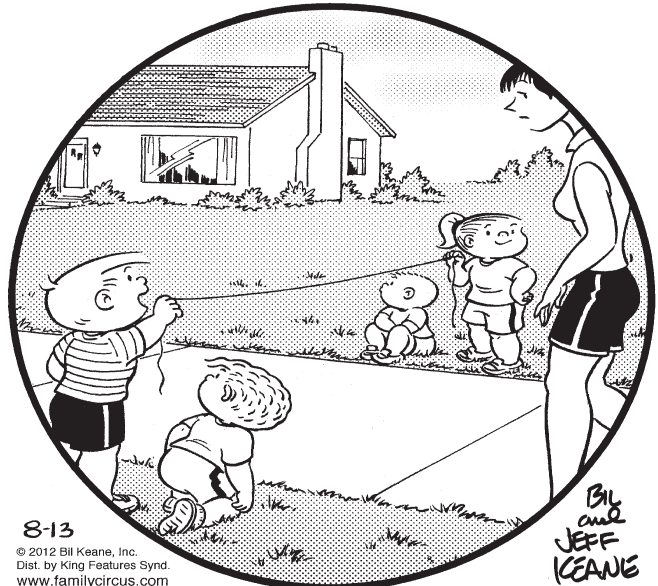
We welcome your letters

To ensure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:

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

comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane

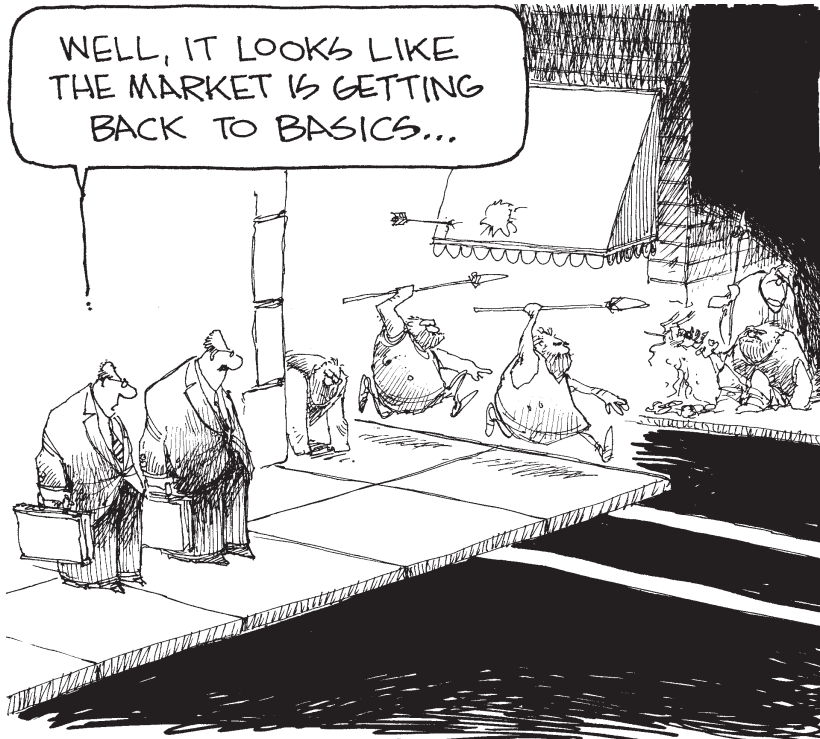


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"We're waiting for Daddy to come back from his jog."

Non Sequitur

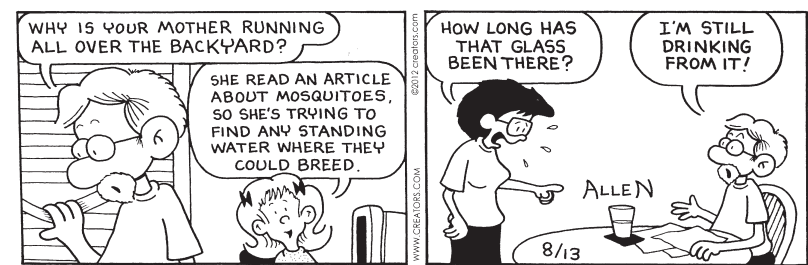


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Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2012:

This year you might want to spend more time alone. You also might choose to reveal less of yourself than in the past. You might become involved in some self-healing work or decide to take a yoga class. You are changing in many ways and demanding more of yourself. If you are single, you easily become involved with an emotionally distant person. Look directly at the reality of the situation. If you are attached, the two of you benefit by scheduling more time together as a couple. You will add more romance to your bond. **CANCER** understands you well, maybe even better than you do.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ Pressure builds with matters involving real estate and family. You simply cannot juggle everything that keeps landing on your plate. You seem to be constantly adjusting your schedule. Why not resolve as much as you can in the next 24 hours in order to free yourself up? Tonight: Ponder some of these issues.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ You tend to say what you think and tell it as it is. You might not always be met with agreement from others, as each individual comes from such a different life experience. Ask questions and broaden your perspective. Tonight: Visit over drinks.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Curb an innate insecurity that frequently rears its ugly head. This personality trait can be extremely offensive to you, as well as to others. Dealings with financial matters could be problematic. Tonight: Someone you care about might be difficult, so say the least.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ You are on cruise control, with your magnetism peaking. You know what you want, and you make good choices accordingly. Others seem in the mood to go along with nearly any whim or desire you have; however, this mood is destined to end sooner rather than later. Tonight: All smiles.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Take a backseat, whether you're at home or at work. This role might not be natural for you, but it is necessary. Take this time to realize what is happening around you. If you are feeling out of sorts, know that this mood will pass soon enough. To-

night: Not to be found.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You put emphasis on success, networking and expanding your circle of friends. You will see a child or new friend make a demand. Most likely, besides causing others to distance themselves, it's a source of uproar. Walk away from control games. Tonight: Out with your friends.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Others look to you for answers and resolution. You might not have the right solutions at this moment, but you certainly are capable of finding them. Do not feel intimidated by what lands on your shoulders -- you can handle it. Tonight: Choose a stress buster.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Keep reaching out for someone at a distance. This person likely has important information, if not helpful feedback. Someone pushes you toward his or her chosen direction. You know the answer, and it is "no." Tonight: Use your imagination.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You find that you are compatible with one particular person. For many of you, it will be your pleasure. Take this time to get to know this person and his or her responses better. Realize how key this person is to your well-being. Tonight: Chat over dinner.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Defer to others, as there seems to be little room for your ideas at the present moment. Eventually there will be, especially if you do not force your presence on others. Take some much-needed time for yourself. Tonight: Which invitation to choose?

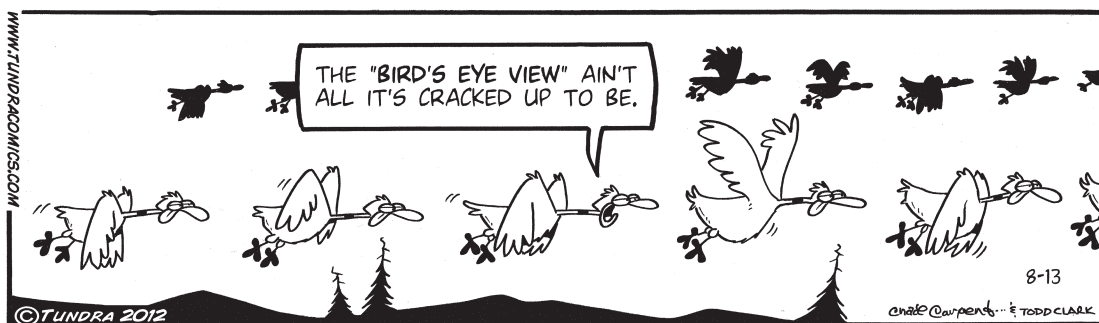
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Your determination is impressive, though you easily could get distracted by others and their needs. Your ability to concentrate comes through once more. Be careful with a person you respect. He or she could be on the warpath! Tonight: Relax and take a swim, or hop into a hot tub.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Tap into your imagination for answers. Your unusual creativity comes through more often than not. A child or new flirtation could dominate the day, at least in your thoughts. Clearly you need to spend time together. Tonight: Let the good times rock and roll.

Tundra



Shoe



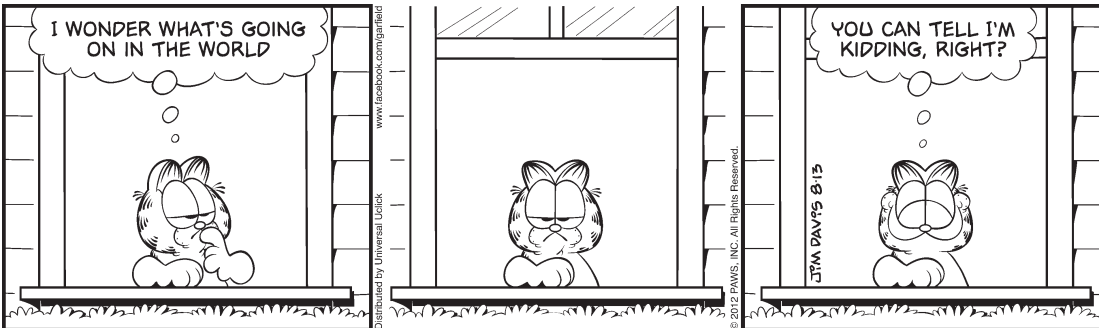
Mother Goose and Grim



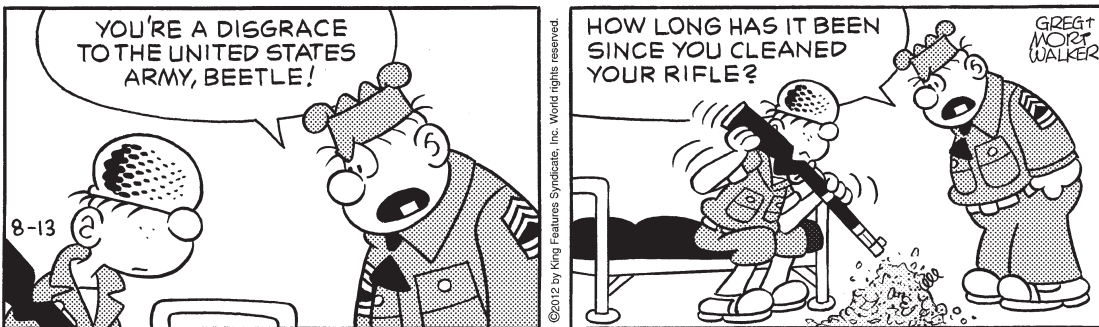
Zits



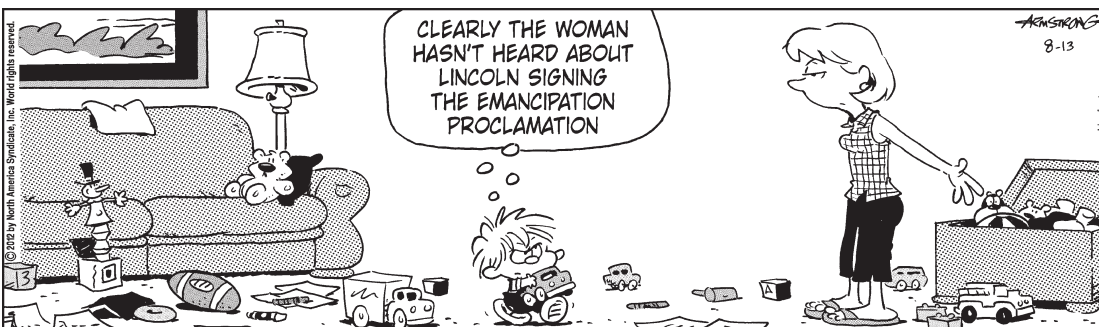
Garfield



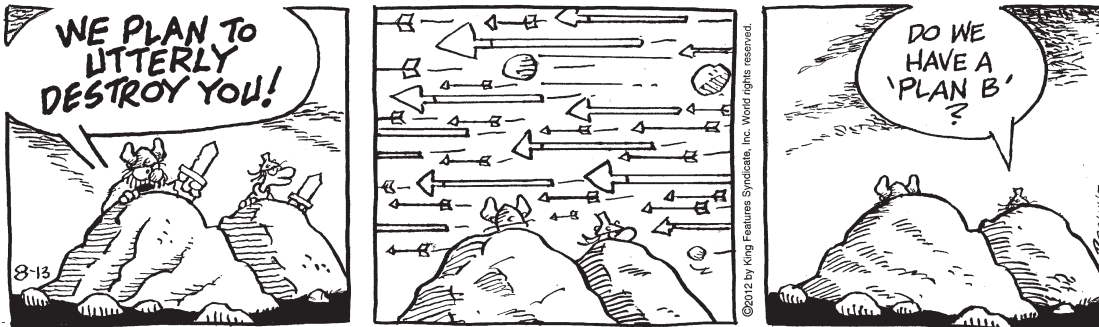
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Hagar The Horrible

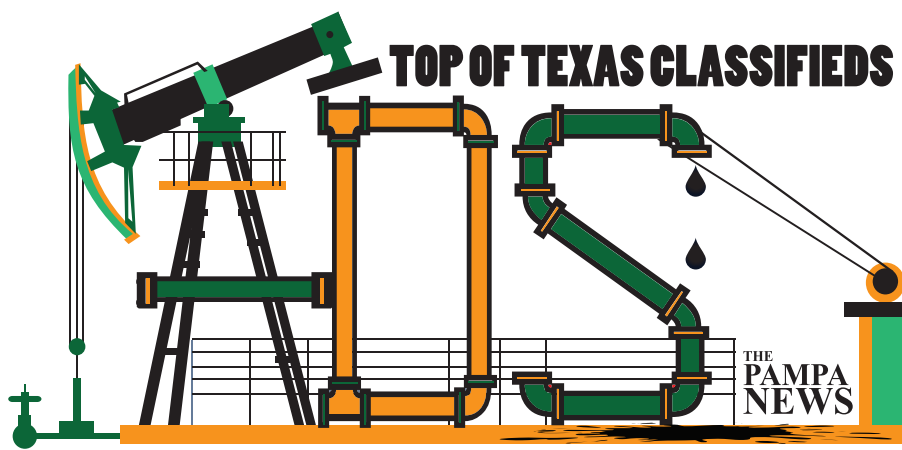


Peanuts



Blondie





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Sports

Top O' Texas Rodeo attracted talent from all over



Staff photos by **Mollie Bryant** and **Gayden Hays**

Rodeo

cont. from page 1

Carly Richardson won the barrel race and she is a hometown girl. Also, the boy who won bull riding, Cody Atwood, was raised here."

Final Results 2012 Top O' Texas Rodeo

Bareback Bronc Riding

Shane Hand - 72 points Weatherford, OK.
Wes Cambell - 70 points

Steer wrestling

Colt Stearns - 4.6 seconds Freedom, OK.

Saddle Bronc Riding

Audie Reed -71 points-Spearman TX.

Mutton Bustin

Carter McLaughlin - 64 points - Pampa, TX.
Colton Bolton - 63 points - White Deer, TX.
Lance Dyer - Pampa, TX.

Calf Roping

Patrick Bellis - 9.3 seconds Hobbs, NM.

Breakaway Roping

Heidi Hazen - 2.6 seconds - Ashland, TX
Carly Richardson - 2.6 seconds - Pampa, TX.

Ranch Bronc Riding

John Kelly Walden - 75 points - Amarillo, TX

Team Roping

Rusty Slavin / Travis Goad-5.2 seconds
Adam Worthen / Shane Goad-5.4 seconds
Rusty Slavin / Shane Goad-5.6 seconds
Brice Bennet / Davey Hodges-12.6 seconds
Vic Morrison / Chance Fraiser-15.7 seconds

Double Muggin

Tanner Cochran, Carl Vigil, Robbie Cochran - 22.19

Barrel Race

Carly Richardson - 17.287seconds Pampa, TX.

Bull Riding

Cody Atwood - 82 points Decater, TX.

The Pampa News will publish the bulk of the rodeo results and more photos throughout this week.

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9315

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Grandview-Hookins ISD will hold a public meeting at 7:00 p.m. – Tuesdav, August 28, 2012 in Board Room at Grandview-Hookins ISD 11676 FM 293, Groom, TX. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$ 0.97 / \$100	(Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	\$.089 / \$100	(proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	% increase	or	3.95 %	(decrease)
Debt service	% increase	or	0.42 %	(decrease)
Total expenditures	% increase	or	3.63 %	(decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value
(as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 121,812,737	\$ 163,738,822
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 154,990	\$ 254,600
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 96,487,908	\$ 126,117,873
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 179,990	\$ 304,600

* "Appraised value" is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.
*** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 910,000

* Outstanding principal.

50-280 (Rev. 6-06-02) (Black)

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 0.97	\$ 0.118 *	\$ 1.088	\$ 13,547	\$ 8,079
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 0.96060	\$ 0.08919 *	\$ 1.04979	\$ 23,311	\$ 2,042
Proposed Rate	\$ 0.97	\$ 0.089 *	\$ 1.059	\$ 23,592	\$ 534

* The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 58,858	\$ 55,319
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 49,590	\$ 49,923
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 1.088	\$ 1.059
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 539.54	\$ 528.68
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ (10.86)

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Rollback Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 1.08979. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the rollback rate of 1.08979.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment:

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 1,207,961
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 0

C-68 August 13, 2012 9346