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The PAMPA NEWS



Tuesday, July 16, 2013 www.thepampanews.com Volume 109 • No. 71

75¢ Prairie Plains Perspective
 The politics of fame | **p4**
 \$1.50 weekend 38¢ subscription

Results from this weekends golf tournaments | **p B2-3**
 Pampa All-Star Optimist Championship team | **p B8**

County approves bathroom at weigh station

■ **Would be used by DPS officers.**

BY **LINDSEY TOMASCHIK**
 lktomaschik@thepampanews.com

The Gray County Commissioner at their Monday regular meeting opened with thanks from the Pampa Emergency Medical

Services for everything the county has done in order to make the EMS building and property more functional and aesthetically appealing. EMS has been a popular topic at the meetings for at least two months now, and employees are grateful for the progress made on the grounds.

Next, the court heard

from State Trooper Chad Brooks, who proposed to have a bathroom built for Department of Public Safety employees to use at one of the weigh stations in the county that currently lacks a facility. The interior of the bathroom would be no larger than about 6 by 7 feet. It would provide troopers a reliable restroom free from harsh

weather conditions, unlike a port-a-potty, which was another option considered during the meeting.

The commissioners voted in favor of the bathroom, which will include a 500-gallon water tank buried on site. The county will be responsible for hauling fresh water to refill the tank, and the restroom will be for DPS use

only. With labor and supplies, the estimated cost of the project is \$6,200.

Another topic of discussion was whether the District Attorney's office should have credit cards. In the past, some other district attorneys have had cards, and if passed, the office will use them for travel expenses. This is similar to the cards the

sheriff's deputies currently use only for travel purposes.

Commissioners also discussed having a security fence put in at the Records Building. The commissioners went into further detail about the fence, which would be placed along the south and west

COUNTY cont. on page 3

CELEBRATE THE GOOD NEWS — AND THE BBQ



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare

Crosspointe Church held its first Holy Smokes Barbecue to an enthusiast crowd on Saturday. "It went really well," Pastor Charles Lowry said. "We had a steady flow of traffic from noon to 6 p.m. considering how hot it was. People seemed to have a good time." The "people's choice" award went to Outlaw Baptist from the Calvary Church in Pampa. Certified barbecue judges picked first through third places for best ribs and best brisket. The event was sponsored by Celebrate Recovery, a national ministry with a local ministry at Crosspointe. Performing on stage from left are AJ Taylor, bass; Charles Lowry, guitar and lead vocals; and Rick Boling, drums.

Male fire victim identified

BY **TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE**
 thowsare@thepampanews.com

Bobby Darton, 34, was the male victim who was injured Friday in Friday's house fire in the 1040 block of Prairie Drive.

He was airlifted to the burn unit at University Medical Center. Pampa Fire Marshal Michael Ryan said Darton sustained second-degree burns on his arms, legs and feet.

Ryan said he did not know Barton's condition on Monday.

A 55-year-old female victim was killed during the blaze that totally destroyed the house.

Ryan said he could not release her name because not all members of her family had been notified of her death.

Though the fire did not spread to any of the nearby homes, it did spread to a vehicle owned by one of the occupants.

Ryan said state fire marshals are investigating the cause of the fire.



File photo
 A house on Prairie Drive was destroyed by fire Friday.

Abbott launches campaign for governor

BY **JAY ROOT**
 The Texas Tribune



Greg Abbott

SAN ANTONIO — With his wife and daughter standing near, Republican Attorney General Greg Abbott kicked off his campaign for governor Sunday in San Antonio's sun-drenched La Villita plaza, where he promised to fight for a Texas of "boundless opportunity and limitless imagination."

At this first stop on a whirlwind tour of 10 cities over the next five days, Abbott hit the highlights of his political career. He touted his defense of religious displays in public areas, his prosecution of child predators, his opposition to abortion and his history of fighting "overreaching" government in the courtroom.

"When it comes to our freedom and our future, I will never, I will never,

stop fighting," Abbott declared. "That's why I'm asking you — the people of Texas — to elect me as your next governor."

Abbott, 55, strayed away from policy specifics, sticking instead to broad rhetorical strokes and weaving elements of his biography into his conservative vision for state government.

"The future of Texas demands better education, safer communities and smarter government," Abbott said. "The children of Texas deserve it, and we will deliver it."

One of the most striking aspects of Abbott's speech was something it did not include: any mention of the man he

wants to replace, the swaggering Gov. Rick Perry. Abbott walked a careful line between advocating many of the same conservative policies Perry championed over the last dozen years while offering something new and different.

Some of the topics he mentioned in Sunday's speech suggest that Abbott is running to the right of Perry. While there were no detailed policy initiatives unveiled, Abbott called for an economy with a "level playing field that gets government out of the business of picking between winners and losers, and by reducing taxes on employers."

Perry has been a fierce advocate of giving tax subsidies to companies that promise to bring jobs to Texas, but the conservative grassroots that make

ABBOTT cont. on page 3

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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Wednesday	Thursday
High 72 Low 62	High 79 Low 61	High 85 Low 63

Today: Scattered thunderstorms with a high of 72. Chance of rain: 60 percent. Winds south-east at 14 mph. Sunrise at 6:41 a.m.

Tonight: Scattered thunderstorms with a low of 62. Chance of rain: 40 percent. Winds south southeast at 14 mph. Sunset at 8:59 p.m.

Wednesday: Isolated thunderstorms with a high of 79. Chance of rain: 30 percent. Winds southeast at 13 mph. Sunrise at 6:41 a.m.

Wednesday night: Partly cloudy with a low of 61. Winds south at 10 mph. Sunset at 8:58 p.m.

Thursday: Partly cloudy with a high of 85. Chance of rain: 20 percent. Winds south at 18 mph. Sunrise at 6:42 a.m.

Thursday night: Partly cloudy with a low of 63. Chance of rain: 10 percent. Winds south at 13 mph. Sunset at 8:58 p.m.

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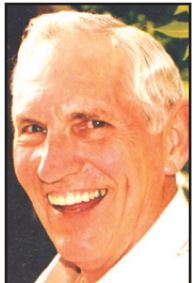
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Obituaries

Dean Copeland

Dean Copeland, 80, died Friday, July 12, 2013, in Pampa.

Services were held at 10 a.m. Monday, July 15, 2013, in Carmichael-Whitley Colonial Chapel with the Rev. Byron Williamson, pastor of First Baptist Church, officiating. Burial followed in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.



Dean Copeland

Mr. Copeland was born June 26, 1933 in Walters, Okla. and was a 1951 graduate of Walters High School. He attended Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, Okla. on a football scholarship and graduated in 1956 with a BS degree in pharmacy. After pharmacy school, Dean served in the Texas National Guard in Wichita Falls and Borger. He practiced pharmacy in Chickasha, Okla., Wichita Falls, Borger, and Pampa where he had been a resident since 1965. Dean owned and operated Dean's Pharmacy in Pampa from 1982 until his retirement in 2003.

Dean married Carolyn Acord on April 28, 1953 in Chickasha, Okla., and they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in April. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Pampa and was a board member and board chairman of Texas Panhandle Mental Health Authority for several years. He was a former member of the Borger Lions Club and was a board member and a past drive chairman of the Pampa United Way.

Survivors include his wife, Carolyn Copeland, of the home; two daughters, Nan Rivera and husband Arcadio M. of Amarillo, and Neysa Brown and husband Joe of Pampa; a son, Michael Copeland and wife Martha of Burns Flat, Okla.; a sister, Sylvia Edgmon and husband Jimmy of Walters, Okla.; two brothers, Melvin Copeland and wife Wyva Rheu of Walters, Okla., and Jackie Ray Copeland and wife Pam of Coppell; four grandchildren, Hannah Rivera and Adam Rivera, both of Amarillo, Brooke Autry of Pampa, and Staff Sgt. Erik Brown of Fort Hood; and a great grandson, Taylor Joe Autry, of Pampa.

Memorials may be made to Texas Panhandle Centers Administrative Services, 901 Wallace Blvd., Amarillo, TX 79106 or Friends of the Library, P.O. Box 146, Pampa, TX 79066-0146.

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

ona, Okla. As a young child, his family moved to Skellytown. He attended Skellytown and White Deer schools where he graduated from White Deer High School in 1951. Later he served in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict. When he returned home, he married Betty Cofer on April 8, 1956 in Skellytown. Kenneth and his wife moved to Pampa in 1977 where they have resided ever since. He was self-employed in Wheeler County. He was a member of Hobart Baptist Church and Pampa Masonic Lodge No. 966. He liked the outdoors and especially enjoyed hunting and fishing. Kenneth often would provide music to the local nursing homes.



Kenneth Crawford

Survivors include his wife, Betty Crawford, of the home; two sons, Neal Crawford of Canadian and Kevin Crawford and wife Donna of Pampa; two granddaughters, Courtney Crawford of Pampa and Meagan Crawford of Lubbock; three brothers, James T. Crawford and wife Ellen of Bay City, David Crawford and wife Ella and Roger Crawford and wife Linda, all of Pampa. Kenneth was preceded in death by his parents James and Goldie Crawford, and a brother, G.B. Crawford.

Memorials may be made to Hobart Baptist Church, 1100 W. Crawford, Pampa, TX 79065.

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

Janace Pitts Ross

Janace Pitts Ross, 65, died July 14, 2013 in Dallas.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mrs. Ross was born Sept. 9, 1947 in Memphis, Texas. She graduated from Quail High School in 1966. She married Ron Ross on Sept. 9, 1972 in Amarillo. Janace had been a resident of Gruver from 1972 until 1978 when she moved to Perryton. After 15 years in Perryton, she moved to Amarillo where she retired from First Bank Southwest in 2011.

She was a Baptist. She enjoyed sewing, gardening, cooking and reading, but most of all, she loved being a "Momo" to her granddaughters.

Survivors include her husband, Ron Ross of the home, two daughters, Angela Freitag and husband John Eric, stationed in Bahrain, and Suzanne Pingel and husband Brad of Pampa, three granddaughters, Jessica Holsclaw of Moses Lake, Washington, Lauren Pingel and Jodi Pingel, both of Pampa, her parents, Elvis and Ruby Dell Pitts of Amarillo, her sister, Donita Roch and husband Jim of Sun City West, Ariz., and numerous nieces, nephews and friends who loved her dearly.

Memorials may be made to Wheel Times, Inc., P.O. Box 1950, Pampa, TX 79066-1950.



Janace Pitts Ross

Kenneth Crawford

Kenneth Crawford, 80, of Pampa, died Saturday, July 13, 2013 in Amarillo.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, July 17, 2013, at Hobart Baptist Church with the Rev. Mike Watson, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery with military honors courtesy of the U.S. Army, Fort Hood, Texas. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Crawford was born on December 8, 1932 in Wyn-

For the record

Woman arrested for theft with prior convictions

- Ashley Heiksell, 27, Pampa, was arrested Sunday by the Pampa Police Department for theft with two prior convictions in other counties.
- Jose Isaac Quintana, 23, Pampa, was arrested Saturday by the Gray County Sheriff's Office for capias pro fine — no driver's license and expired registration.

- Cody Allen Johnston, 30, Pampa, was arrested Saturday by the Department of Public Safety for DWI.
- Kenneth Brent Randolph, 31, Wichita, Kan. was arrested Friday by DPS for theft in Erath County, more than \$20 but under \$500.
- Rosemarie Reina Whitley, 54, Pampa, was arrested Friday by GCSO

for possession of marijuana, greater than 4 ounces and less than 5 pounds, in a drug-free zone.

• Christopher Kimberly Young, 22, was arrested Saturday by GCSO for evading arrest, failing to pull over and having a prohibited substance in a correctional facility.

DPS trooper seizes methamphetamine

SUBMITTED BY DPS
AMARILLO — The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) conducted a traffic stop Friday on In-

terstate 40 yielding more than four pounds of methamphetamine. The illegal drugs are valued at more than \$170,000.

At approximately 12:37 p.m., a DPS trooper conducted a traffic stop on a 2004 Saturn Vue passenger car, traveling eastbound

on IH-40. The stop was for a traffic violation near Groom in Carson County. During the traffic stop, the trooper conducted a search of the vehicle and discovered methamphetamine hidden in the spare tire.

The driver of the vehicle was identified as Jose Luis Mendoza Valenzuela, 18, of Phoenix, Ariz. Valenzuela was placed under arrest for possession of a controlled substance, a first-degree felony, and booked into the Carson County Jail. The drugs were allegedly being transported from Phoenix to Wichita Kan.

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Pampa Fire Department call log — July 12-14

The Pampa Fire Department responded to these calls for the following dates. One unit with three personnel responded to each call, unless otherwise indicated.

July 12

- At 2:48 p.m., to a medical assist in the 1300 block of West Kentucky.
- At 3:04 p.m., to a medical assist in the 200 block of North Nelson.
- At 6:12 p.m., three units and seven personnel to the 800 block of Scott for an odor investigation. The call came in as a structure fire, but was an electrical short with no actual fire.

July 13

- At 12:14 p.m., to the 700 block of East Harvester for public relations (church event).
- At 12:53 p.m., to a medical assist in the 2200 block of North Dwight.
- At 4:04 p.m., to a medical assist in the 2200 block of North Dwight.

- At 6:57 p.m., to a medical assist in the 700 block of East Kentucky.

- At 7:37 p.m., to a medical assist at the intersection of Elm and Gray to a vehicle vs. pedestrian collision, minor injuries.

- At 11:18 p.m., to a medical assist in the 2500 block of Christine.

July 14

- At 1:39 a.m., to a medical assist in the 1000 block of East Francis.

- At 11:25 a.m., one unit and four personnel to the intersection of Alcock and Hobart on a two-vehicle collision; one vehicle had two injured occupants, other had one occupant with no injuries.

- At 3:06 p.m., three units and eight personnel to the 1400 block of West Somerville. Structure fire with no injuries, contained to the kitchen.

- At 4:41 p.m., to a medical assist the intersection of Duncan and Christine.

County

Continued From Page 1

sides of the building with two gates for access. The fence would be about five and a half feet from the building in order to provide additional protection. This project could cost anywhere from \$4,500-5,000. Commissioner Neil Fulton expressed some concern regarding the size of the gate for unloading and loading purposes, and there was also some concern expressed about the possibility of installing concrete so dollies will not have to transport important documents in the mud.

The commissioners also approved three property tax bids on lots in town, which had already been approved by the city. They reviewed and approved the Treas-

urer's Report, Investment Report and County Clerk's Report.

Other items on the agenda included, but were not limited to:

- Considering an office to be built in the upstairs of the Gray County Heliport at no cost to county taxpayers.

- Considering a sign for the Gray County Heliport.

- Reappointment of Judge Willis Smith to the Texas Panhandle Centers Board of Trustees.

- Continuing county road and bridge optimal fees for 2014.

- Considering an Interlocal Agreement with Regional Public Defender for capital cases

The next county commissions meeting will be held at 9 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 1 at the Gray County Court House.

Abott

Continued From Page 1

up Abbott's bedrock supporters consider them to be corporate welfare. Abbott appeared to be making the point that the programs aren't necessary.

"Government is supposed to be on your side — not riding your backs," Abbott said.

Abbott also proposed reining in state debt by "reducing the amount the state can borrow."

"Together, we can prioritize that we need the most," he said. "Our water supplies are going too low. You know by traveling the highway that our traffic congestion is getting too thick, and our schools must do better."

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Prairie Plains Perspective Why the American Dream works

Since the Senate has done so already, I have decided to follow suit by taking up the issue of illegal



DENNIS PALMITIER

immigration as well. If I may, though, something about the Senate's immigration legislation is going to come back and bite Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid. Part of the Senate's immigration package is an attachment, which, for any of the 12 million illegal immigrants wishing to accept the Senate's version (If the House passes identical legislation) is the caveat they must first, after coming forward from their un-

documented status, pay a fine for entering America illegally. Somehow, I don't see a mad rush occurring to the citizenship turnstile. In their frenzy to pass new immigration legislation, the Senate broke Constitutional law in doing so. Simply put, per our wonderful Constitution, the Senate cannot pass legislation that includes a federal government gathering tax, fee, monetary charge, etc. Only the House can do such. Stay tuned for the brouhaha that fine point will create.

Returning to the 12 million illegal immigrants currently residing here in America, I totally agree current immigration law needs to be tweaked if these folks are to obtain citizenship. Tweaked in the aspect it takes much

too long, in some reported cases up to five years, for an immigrant desirous of American citizenship to finally reach the point of reciting the oath of allegiance to the United States. Another ditty about our current immigration law is the fact some immigrants are favored over others, and that is an injustice. I think it shames our country and particularly, all of us whose ancestors made the same journey. This is where my interest in old and new immigration law ceases, for I wish to tell you of my little role in illegal immigration and how it has worked out to date.

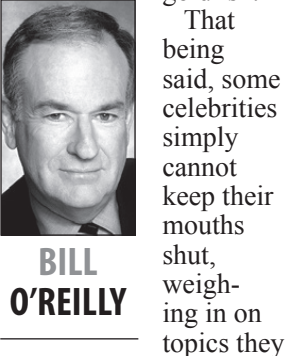
Her name is Consuelo. Consuelo came to mine and my ex-wife's employment in San Antonio, what to me seems cons ago,

when we were working parents of two sons, then aged 4 and 2 respectively. Consuelo answered an ad (in Spanish) for a nanny-housekeeper. When in Rome, if you know what I mean, do as the Romans. I cannot recall how many people we interviewed before opting for Consuelo, but as it turned out, choosing her to care for our children was one of the better decisions we made as a young married couple. Of course she was an illegal immigrant, having trekked across the Rio Grande to San Antonio at age 17 from Ciudad Hidalgo, which is a rock toss from Monterrey in Northern Mexico. In 1983, I could have cared less, even with the protestations of my then lawyer father-

DREAM cont. on page 5A

The politics of fame

One of the downsides of being famous is that folks pay far more attention to you than they should. American celebrities are constantly under surveillance, and every word they say is subject to scrutiny. So be careful what you wish for if you desire fame. No human being should be a goldfish.



BILL O'REILLY

That being said, some celebrities simply cannot keep their mouths shut, weighing in on topics they know little or nothing about. And when that happens, the famous person often undergoes even more scrutiny. You may remember that in the wake of the Newtown, Conn., shootings, comedian-actor Jim Carrey mocked the death of Charlton Heston in an anti-assault rifle rant on the Internet. Seeing as Carrey's career is not exactly on an upward trajectory, the controversy he created was not to his benefit. So this week, old Jim recanted, at least somewhat.

Here's what he tweeted: "Asslt rifle fans, I do not agree wth u, nor do I fear u but I do love u and I'm sorry tht in my outrage I called you names. That was wrong. ... Calling ppl names is inappropriate but my position on assault weapons hasn't changed."

Now, why is Carrey asking for forgiveness? Is he genuinely consumed with love and remorse, or is it a career ploy by his management people to bring him some positive attention? Impossible to say, but one thing is clear: Carrey does not want to talk about his gun position in detail. When offered a hearing on the highest-rated cable news show in the country, he declined. I suspect that Carrey is an emotional guy who

often speaks before he thinks, something most human beings are guilty of from time to time. But there is now a growing trend in Hollywood to use cyberspace to opine on all kinds of things. This does not often lead to prosperity.

A few weeks ago, a bunch of famous folks released an Internet video calling for "an end to nuclear weapons." That's very nice, is it not? Who wouldn't want a world free of nukes? Well, maybe Iran. Perhaps North Korea. China kinda likes its nuclear arsenal. And that Vladimir Putin really likes the flash-bang concept.

So while Alec Baldwin, Michael Douglas, Whoopi Goldberg, Matt Damon and others opine that all nukes should go, the world's villain lineup giggles. I mean, can't you just see the Chinese big shots meeting in the Forbidden City saying, "Hey, Baldwin and Damon don't want nukes, so we must comply immediately!"

Here's why this dopey stuff happens: It's all about approval. Somebody comes up with a concept for a video, and some famous people hop on the bus. Why not? All their friends agree that nukes are bad, and certainly, taking liberal positions is a resume enhancer in show business.

But in the end, "stupid is as stupid does," to quote Forrest Gump. If celebrities want their opinions to be taken seriously, they need to get off the Net and into the debate arena. Otherwise, they're just tweeting in the wind.

Veteran TV news anchor Bill O'Reilly is host of the Fox News show "The O'Reilly Factor" and author of the book "Pinheads and Patriots: Where You Stand in the Age of Obama." To find out more about Bill O'Reilly, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com. This column originates on the website www.billoreilly.com.



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Texas Democrats see chance to become relevant again

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — It would seem that Texas Republicans have never been stronger. An all-but-certain Republican successor is emerging to follow the departing Gov. Rick Perry. They're jubilant over their victory at the Capitol, where a GOP-heavy legislature plowed through a bill to sharply restrict abortions.

Behind the scenes, however, anxious Republicans and hopeful opponents are poring over data suggesting that the GOP hegemony may end. With the state's Hispanic population growing rapidly and voting overwhelmingly Democratic, Democrats should be able to compete for statewide office again in the next decade after a 20-year eclipse, strategists in both parties agree.

"Republicans have at most one two-term governor left in them. From 2022 on, everything is up for grabs," said Republican pollster David Hill, who runs a firm in suburban Houston. "Numbers don't lie," he added. "We're going to completely undo the alignment."

No one disputes that a huge opportunity is fast approaching for the Democrats. Potential candidates are already waiting in the wings, including the party's telegenic new star, Sen. Wendy Davis, who led a dramatic, if ultimately futile, effort to hold off the latest abortion legislation.

But what actually comes of it, and when, rests on a number of factors in dispute.

Can Democrats turn enough Hispanic residents into Hispanic voters? In the last governor's election in 2010, only 24 percent of Hispanics voted compared to 44 percent of whites. Democrats have set up a massive new voter targeting effort aimed at pushing the Hispanic rate beyond 30 percent, potentially enough to close the party's vote gap in elections.

Can Republicans attract a larger share of the Hispanic vote and neutralize the demographic bulge? Republican strategists believe future GOP candidates can stretch the meager 38 percent Perry got in his last race into the 40s by working harder to appeal to this group. But how to do it— by stressing the GOP's self-help economics or conservative social values -- is a matter of debate.

"There clearly is a wave out there. It's up to each one of the parties to figure out how to ride it," said Todd Olsen, a Republican strategist and key adviser to Texas Sen. John Cornyn. The consequences of what happens extend far beyond Texas. No other state except California, which has the nation's largest population, carries as much weight in national elections. A shift by Texas from a GOP stronghold to a two-party battleground would seriously complicate the GOP's plan for winning presidential elections.

Few foresee any changes in the short term. Even without three-term incumbent Perry on the ballot,

leading Democrats have not rushed to replace him. Texas' Republican attorney general, Greg Abbott, who already has a \$20 million campaign treasury, appears to be a strong favorite to win the governor's race.

The era of Republican dominance in Texas came about when conservative whites began moving en masse to the party two decades ago—a phenomenon felt across the South. The Democratic political organization began to atrophy, leaving the party ill equipped to capitalize on the growing Hispanic immigration.

Now, Democrats insist, a change is at hand.

By 2020, Hispanics are projected to reach more than 42 percent of the state population, up from 38 percent in 2010. They will be the state's largest racial or ethnic group. Whites will rank second at 39 percent, according to the U.S. Census Bureau projections. Newly eligible Hispanic voters will outnumber newly eligible whites four to one.

"Ultimately, it suggests they would be increasingly dominant," said the state's leading demographer, Steve Murdoch, a sociologist at Rice University in Houston.

In February, President Obama's 2012 campaign field director, Jeremy Bird, set up an Austin-based operation to identify and register the roughly 1.5 million Hispanic citizens who are not on the voter rolls. A similar effort during the presidential campaign increased Obama's Hispanic

vote in Florida, Colorado and Nevada. The Texas group has raised more than \$1.1 million for the effort, according to a campaign disclosure report scheduled for release Monday.

Volunteers are canvassing Latino neighborhoods in Austin, Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, and in the heavily Hispanic Rio Grande River valley. A small-scale version in 21 precincts in largely Hispanic East Austin in 2010 helped produce turnout 20 points higher than the county average.

"No matter what happens in 2014, we need to see it as a stepping stone," said Bird. "We really need to, long term, cement the infrastructure."

But Republican campaign officials insist that Hispanic voters are not inherently Democrats. Persuasive Republican candidates will still win elections, said David Carney, a longtime Perry adviser.

"People don't vote for the person who signed them up," he said.

Strategists in both parties are assessing how different issues play with Hispanic voters, including abortion legislation, which limits the kind of public services poor women use, but also conforms with many Hispanics' Roman Catholic doctrine.

Inside the GOP, arguments are raging over whether the party is doing enough.

"There is a sensation that the Democrats are on the move in our state and we can't be behind the curve," **DEMS** cont. on page 5A

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Allies eager to bring home Guantanamo detainees

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama's renewed push to close the Guantanamo Bay prison for terrorism suspects has given a glimmer of hope to foreign governments that he will fulfill that promise and triggered diplomatic maneuvering from U.S. allies eager to bring home long-held detainees.

Kuwait has hired lobbyists to help bring its two remaining prisoners home. British Prime Minister David Cameron personally pressed Obama at the group of leading industrial nations summit last month to release the United Kingdom's final detainee. And the fate of Afghans being held at the U.S. military prison in Cuba has been at the forefront of peace talks between the U.S., Taliban and Afghanistan.

The indefinite captivity has created tension with some important U.S. allies, particularly in the Arab world, the native home of many of the 166 remaining detainees. Tunisia, Egypt and Yemen are among those countries that have pressed the U.S. to turn over their nationals. The Obama administration is in the

midst of determining which detainees present the lowest risk for terrorist activity if released — considering both their personal histories and security in the countries to which they will be returned.

More than 100 of the detainees have participated in a hunger strike to protest their indefinite confinement, with several dozen having been force fed through a nasal tube to keep them from starving, although the military reported Friday that most have resumed eating.

David Cynamon, an American lawyer based in the Middle East who is working with Kuwait on getting their detainees back, said in recent months they are finally having meaningful negotiations after years of "radio silence."

"You would think with a close ally like Kuwait they would at least get a hearing, but they kept getting the brush off," Cynamon said.

Cynamon said that's even though the Kuwaiti government built a rehabilitation center for former Guantanamo detainees at the request of Bush administration offi-

cial, after another former detainee carried out a suicide bombing that killed at least seven people in Iraq. The center, a section of the Kuwaiti central prison designed for medical and psychological treatment and religious counseling to ensure the detainees will peacefully reintegrate into society, has not been used.

Kuwait hired The Potomac Square Group, a Washington lobbying firm, to help spur talks for the transfer of Faiz al-Kandari and Fawzi al-Odah.

"They want all their citizens back if the United States is not going to charge and try them," Cynamon said. "Now that the negotiations have started, I do think they are meaningful. But for a two-year period there was nobody who was answering the door."

Administration officials say they are working aggressively to certify detainees for release under Obama's directive in May to transfer as many detainees as possible to other countries. The president, in announcing new steps to get the detainees out, said diplomatic concerns are chief

among the reasons to close the facility.

world for an America that flouts the rule of law," Obama said during a speech at National Defense University. "Our allies won't cooperate with us if they think a terrorist will end up at Gitmo."

Congress has fought Obama from achieving the goal he announced upon taking office in 2009 of closing Guantanamo. Lawmakers have blocked detainees from coming into the United States, but the Pentagon can issue a national security waiver to transfer the detainees overseas.

So far the Obama administration hasn't used that power to move out any detainee, even though 86 have been cleared for transfer. But administration officials say they expect to begin transfers soon. Last month, Obama appointed lawyer Clifford Sloan to reopen the State Department's Office of Guantanamo Closure. Obama said the sole responsibility for Sloan and a yet-to-be named envoy at the Pentagon will be to transfer detainees overseas, and Sloan's team is busy finding its first candidates.

A possible choice may be detainees from Afghanistan, where the United States is drawing down its combat presence by the end of next year. This spring, the United States gave control of its prison with more than 3,000 detainees near the Bagram base in Afghanistan to the Karzai government as part of its shift of control of the country's security to the Afghans.

Dream

Continued From Page 4A

in-law, about Consuelo's citizenship status. I was and still am to this very day amazed at her fortitude on what was then and is still, a very dangerous undertaking for a young woman.

While my ex-wife and I could speak enough Spanish to get by, Consuelo couldn't speak a word of English, but the three of us managed to communicate quite easily. The day she came for the interview, as with other applicants before her, step one was introducing our two sons. Consuelo got down on her knees (the first to do so) and conversed in her native tongue to my

sons, who, for that matter, were instantly mesmerized (another first) with her. My ex-wife and I looked at each other and hired her on the spot. From her first day while caring for the boys, Consuelo taught herself English by listening to the boys' Fisher-Price toy cassettes. During the same time frame, she taught both my boys Spanish, who, to this day, understand and use Spanish in their professional endeavors. While both of us worked and traveled, Consuelo watched over and cared for our two sons as if they were her own. Not once did we fear for their well being. Consuelo worked for us the remaining years of our marriage and another four after our divorce.

While in our employ-

ment, Consuelo met and married a Hispanic American citizen and today is the proud mother of three children. Consuelo and her family is why I sit on the ambivalent fence in regard to illegal immigration.

The American dream does work. Consuelo and her husband have achieved the dream for themselves, and more importantly, their children. Her oldest son is a graduate of Texas State University, has his masters in education, and is a school teacher. Her middle daughter, soon to be a senior, is on a full ride scholarship at Texas A&M. She is currently studying abroad on an international business fellowship in France.

Consuelo's third child just graduated from high school and is off this fall

on an academic scholarship to the University of Texas. Had Consuelo chosen to stay in Mexico, I firmly believe America would be less. I know my sons would be. And, for that matter, Consuelo did become a U.S. citizen. She was a gift who came knocking on the Palmitier front door. My ex-wife and I saw to it that she had an immigration lawyer for her safety and security during her journey to citizenship. It was well worth it!

Pampa resident Dennis Palmitier is a regular contributor to the opinion page on issues that affect Pampa and Gray County. He can be reached at denpalm1949@yahoo.com. Anyone wishing to respond to Palmitier's viewpoints in the form of a letter to the editor can email editor Timothy P. Howsare at thowsare@thepampanews.com.

Dems

Continued From Page 4A

said Carolyn Hodges, president of the Texas Federation of Republican Women.

Recently, the federation endorsed allowing the children of illegal immigrants to obtain legal status. The state GOP is also counting on candidates like George P. Bush, the namesake of two former U.S. presidents who

is running for state land commissioner, to project a friendly face to the Latino community. Bush's mother was born in Mexico.

But the numbers are ominous, said Mark McKinnon, top media consultant to President George W. Bush's presidential campaigns. Because Republicans haven't bonded as well with the Latino community, "Democrats will soon be within striking distance of turning the state blue again," he said.

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The PAMPA NEWS

Community Calendar

City Commission meetings

The Pampa City Commission meets at 4 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. The meetings are held on the third floor of City Hall.

School board meetings

The Pampa Independent School District board meets at 5:45 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month. Check The Pampa News for meeting locations.

Immunization clinic 3 times a month

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) hosts an immunization clinic in Pampa three times a month. The clinics are held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from 1 to 3 p.m. on the first three Wednesdays of each month. The first 10 people in line for the morning and first 10 in the afternoon will always receive shots. However, if there are more than 10, they still may be able to accommodate the patients, or ask them to come back at

another time. For more information, call 665-4752 or 806-874-3211. The clinic is located at 736 S. Cuyler St.

PAWS meets first Tuesdays

Pampa Animal Welfare Society meets the first Tuesday of each month in the north meeting room at the Lovett Memorial Library. The meetings are at 6:30 p.m. and are open to the public.

There is a desperate need for more members, especially when the new shelter opens. PAWS members are needed to work at the shelter from 3 to 5:30 p.m. each day and to work adoption days or take animals to the vets when needed, but mostly people are needed to love and work with the animals where they will be more adoptable.

For more information, call the shelter after 3 p.m. at 669-5775 and ask for the PAWS volunteer.

County Commission meetings

The Gray County

Commission meets at 9 a.m. on the first and 15th of each month. If the date falls on a Saturday, the meeting will be held on Friday. If the date falls on a Sunday, the meeting will be held on Monday. The meetings are held on the second floor of the Gray County Courthouse.

Jam sessions every Friday night

The Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center has a jam sessions every Friday night starting at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to play or listen. The center is located at 320 S. Cuyler St. For more information, call 806-664-0824.

Meredith House presents live music

Meredith House, an assisted-living facility at 812 W. 25th Ave., has a band performing at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Saturday night. Join them for Western music, gospel and the classics. For more information, call 806-665-5668.

Monday night dance club

The Monday night dance club meets from 7 to 9 p.m., each Monday, in the Pampa Chamber of Commerce building on the corner of Ballard and Kingsmill. Admission is \$3.50. Cold drinks and coffee are offered. The club plays country music. For more information, call Della at 806-665-2858.

It's time to sizzle

The Downtown Business Association is presenting "Sizzling Summer" on Saturday, July 20 in downtown Pampa. There will be a smoke-off, splatter run, a motorcycle show and turtle races.

The run starts at 7:30 a.m., the turtle races start at 2 p.m. and the rest of the events occur between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. There are opportunities for downtown sidewalk sales and vendors.

For more details or to sign up, Call Callie Odell at 662-8595 or Dana Whinery at 663-

9065.

Editor's note: Email submissions to thowsare@thepampanews.com. Submissions should be 100 words or less and written in the third person.

Please include the title of the event, the date and time, physical address, the admission cost or whether it is a free event and a contact number and/or email address for the public.

Thai university apologizes for Hitler banner

BANGKOK (AP) — Thailand's premier university has apologized for displaying a billboard that showed Adolf Hitler alongside Superman and other superheroes, saying Monday it was painted by ignorant students who didn't realize Hitler's image would offend anyone.

The huge billboard was placed outside the art faculty of Chulalongkorn University as part of a tribute to this year's graduating class.

It said "Congratulations" in bold white letters and showed Hitler with his arm raised in a Nazi salute next to Batman, Captain America, the Incredible Hulk and Iron Man.

"(We) would like to formally express our sincere apology for our students' 'Superhero' mural," art school dean Suppakorn Disatapundhu said in a

statement issued Monday. "I can assure you we are taking this matter very seriously."

The billboard was up for two days before being removed Saturday in response to criticism. Online photographs showed graduating students in their robes, mimicking Hitler's raised arm salute.

Suppakorn said that freshman art students had painted the banner as part of a traditional send-off from incoming students to the graduating class, and it was one of dozens of banners and billboards across the campus during the university's commencement period.

The artistic vision behind the picture was to show that good and bad people co-exist in the world, Suppakorn said after summoning the students for an explanation.

Have an Event? tell us about it!

Email us thowsare@thepampanews.com

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'Glee' convention becomes memorial for Monteith

(AP) What was supposed to be a weekend celebration of the musical TV series "Glee" turned into an impromptu memorial of song and dance for Cory Monteith after news of the "Glee" co-star's death rocked a "Glee" fan convention in England.

The hundreds of "gleeks," as they're known, joined a chorus of thousands worldwide who took to social media with similar expressions about Monteith's passing. The actor's struggles with addiction echoed those of other young stars whose premature deaths also left young fans grieving.

"The whole day was simultaneously the best and worst experience of my life," said Chloe Harvey, an 18-year-old fan from Portsmouth, England. "The news was devastating. No one had any idea what to say or do. It just shows how much of a truly amazing guy Cory was that everyone was so shocked and emotional about the news. Everyone was crying and sharing their stories."

Monteith, 31, was found dead in his Vancouver, British Columbia, hotel room on Saturday, according to police, who said an autopsy is expected Monday to determine the cause of death. Police said Monteith had been out with people earlier, but video and electronic records from the hotel indicated he returned to his room by himself early Saturday morning. He was believed to be alone when he died.

The Fox network and the producers of "Glee," including 20th Century Fox Television, called Monteith an exceptional performer "and an even more exceptional person." They said he was "a true joy to work with and we will all miss him tremendously." Lea Michele, Monteith's "Glee" co-star and real-life girlfriend, asked for privacy upon hearing the news of his death.

While it's not known what caused his death, Monteith's passing recalls the lives of Heath Ledger, Corey Haim and River Phoenix — actors who battled substance abuse and died in their 20s and 30s. Monteith talked bluntly about struggling with addiction since he was a teenager, calling it a serious problem and telling Parade magazine in 2011 he was "lucky to be alive."

Monteith admitted himself to a treatment facility in April for substance

addiction and asked for privacy as he took steps toward recovery, a representative said at the time. Michele told People magazine that she loved and supported him and was proud he was seeking help. It was not Monteith's first time in rehab. He also received treatment when he was 19.

"I think kids really need a place to go and feel like they belong," he said in the video posted the site for Project Limelight, a Vancouver charity offering theater and arts programs to at-risk youth. "When I was a kid, I struggled a lot with who I was and where my life was going and what I was interested in. And I was fortunate to have the arts inspire me."

Monteith similarly moved fans. At the weekend "Glee" convention, instead of planned revelry like singing competitions and autograph sessions with actors who've played members of the rival Warblers glee club, organizers Starfury Conventions rescheduled the final day of the three-day event at Heathrow's Thistle Hotel so the 250 attendees could mourn him together.

"We all woke up to hear the story, and no one really wanted to believe it was true," said Chloe-Louise Bond, a 22-year-old fan from Wakefield, England. "Walking into the main room, you could just feel the tragedy in the air, absolute strangers became a family right in that moment. Everyone was crying and hugging and just trying to get over the shock."

It was a day filled with sadness and songs. The attendees chanted "Cory! Cory! Cory!" In unison, they sang tunes like "Don't Stop Believin'," the Journey cover crooned by Monteith in the high school-set musical's first episode.

Suspension of benefits versus withdrawal

TOM MARGENAU
Creator's Syndicate

Q: I retired and filed for my Social Security benefits when I was 62 years old. I am now a couple months away from my 63rd birthday, and I've decided I can't live on my Social Security check. So I plan to go back to work full-time. I called Social Security and told them I wanted to withdraw my retirement claim. They sent me a form to sign, but told me I would have to repay all the benefits I've received in the last 10 months. This will be a hardship for me. But I don't know what else to do. What do you advise?

A: I don't think you should withdraw your Social Security retirement claim. I think you should simply suspend your benefits and have them start up again when you choose to retire for the second time. I am very surprised that the Social Security worker did not offer this option to you. Let's go over each of these two options.

If you proceed with the withdrawal, there would be an advantage and a disadvantage. The advantage is that when you start up your benefits again, they will come with no early retirement reduction for the months you've already received Social Security benefits. But the big disadvantage is that you will have to write a check for thousands of dollars to repay every nickel you've received in Social Security payments during the past 10 months. You said this would be financially difficult to do.

If you choose to suspend your benefits instead, there are also pluses and minuses. On the plus side, you won't have to pay back a dime to the Social Security Administration. On the minus side, your eventual Social Security benefit will come with a reduction, but only a reduction for the 10 months you've already received benefits.

To help you understand this more clearly, I'll use an example. You didn't tell me how much your Social Security check was, so I'll make up some numbers to help explain your options. Let's say your full (age 66) retirement benefit is \$2,000 per month. That means your reduced retirement monthly benefit at age 62 would have been \$1,500. And let's further say that you plan to continue working until age 66.

If you were to withdraw your claim,



you would have to write a check to SSA for \$15,000 (\$1,500 per month times 10 months equals \$15,000). At age 66, your benefits would start up again at your full retirement rate of \$2,000.

(Actually, your benefit would be slightly higher because you will have three additional years of earnings to factor into your retirement computation. The same would be true for the withdrawal option. But to keep my math simple, I'm just going to stick with the \$2,000 figure.)

If you simply suspend your benefits, you don't owe SSA anything. At age 66 when you retire, your ongoing Social Security retirement rate will be \$1,900. Where did I get that number? As I said earlier, your benefit will be reduced only for those 10 months that you received a Social Security check before the suspension went into place. The early retirement reduction is roughly one-half of one percent. So that means an ongoing reduction of five percent must be applied to your retirement checks. Or to put that the other way around, you will get 95 percent of your full benefit from age 66 on. 95 percent of \$2000 is \$1,900.

So using the suspension option, you only lose \$100 per month. And it would take you 150 months, or 12 1/2 years to get to the \$15,000 you would have spent to go the withdrawal route.

In other words, if you think you're going to live until at least 78 1/2, then you are financially ahead in the long run to withdraw your claim. But even if you think you're going to live that long, I wouldn't do it. Do you really think it is worth waiting until you are almost 80 years old to recoup all that money?

There is one further point I need to make to other readers who might consider withdrawing a Social Security claim: It can only be done within one year of the date you filed for benefits in the first place.

Q: In a past column, you mentioned something you called ARF. I remembered the term and remembered think-

ing it might apply to me, but I can't remember what it meant. Can you explain it again?

A: ARF stands for "adjustment to the reduction factor." That's a bit of in-house SSA jargon for the procedure alluded to in the answer to the first question when I was discussing the benefit suspension option. ARF will come into play anytime anyone took reduced retirement benefits but then returned to work and has some of his or her Social Security checks withheld because of the earnings penalty provisions of the law. To explain this, I'll use a slightly different example than the one described above.

Let's say Mary took her benefits at age 62. Her full age-66 rate was \$1,600 per month. Her reduced age-62 benefit came out to \$1,200 with a 25 percent early retirement reduction. Mary works part time and makes \$5,000 more than the annual Social Security earnings threshold. The law says half of that, or \$2,500, must be withheld from her annual Social Security benefits. So each year between age 62 and 66, SSA will hold back two of her monthly checks and take another \$100 out of a third check to recoup that \$2,500 she owes to the government.

When Mary reaches age 66, the earnings penalty goes away and she is due all her benefits from that point on. At the same time, the ARF procedure is automatically triggered. Mary's original early retirement reduction was 25 percent. But instead of 12 full checks per year, Mary only got nine full checks (two checks were withheld and one was a partial payment). That means in the four years between age 62 and 66, Mary received only 36 full Social Security checks. So her ongoing retirement benefit can only be reduced for those 36 months. At roughly a one-half of one percent reduction per month, that means Mary's retirement benefit from age 66 on will be reduced by only 18 percent, instead of the initial 25-percent reduction applied to her when she filed for Social Security at age 62. Completing our example, that means that once the ARF recomputation is completed, Mary's ongoing monthly benefit will be \$1,312.

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



Cory Monteith

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Zimmerman trial protesters aim to keep up momentum

NEW YORK (AP) — Thousands of demonstrators from across the country — chanting, praying and fighting tears — protested a jury's decision to clear neighborhood watch volunteer George Zimmerman in the shooting death of an unarmed black teenager, and organizers say they'll try to maintain the momentum with vigils next week.

Rallies on Sunday were largely peaceful as demonstrators voiced their support for 17-year-old Trayvon Martin's family and decried the verdict. Police in Los Angeles said they arrested six people, mostly for failure to disperse, after about 80 protesters gathered in Hollywood on Sunset Boulevard and an unlawful assembly was declared. New York police said at least a dozen people were arrested on disorderly conduct charges during a rally in Times Square.

Advocates want federal civil rights charges against Zimmerman, who was acquitted Saturday in Martin's 2012 shooting death. The Rev. Al Sharpton said Monday that his organization will hold vigils and rallies in 100 cities Saturday in front of federal buildings.

The Justice Department has said it's considering whether federal prosecutors should file criminal civil rights charges now that Zimmerman has been acquitted in the state case. The department opened an investigation into Martin's death last year but stepped aside to allow the state prosecution to proceed.

Sunday's demonstrations, held in cities from Florida to Wisconsin, attracted anywhere from a few dozen people to a more than a thousand.

At a march and rally in downtown Chicago attended by about 200 people, 73-year-old Maya Miller said the case reminded her of the 1955 slaying of Emmett Till, a 14-year-old from Chicago who was murdered by a group of white men while visiting Mississippi. Till's killing galvanized the civil rights movement.

"Fifty-eight years and nothing's changed," Miller said, pausing to join a chant for "Justice for Trayvon, not one more."

In New York City, more than 1,000 people marched into Times Square on Sunday night, zigzagging through Manhattan's streets to avoid police lines. Sign-carrying marchers thronged the busy intersection, chanting "Justice for! Trayvon Martin!" as they made their way from downtown Union Square, blocking traffic for more than an hour.

In San Francisco and in Los Angeles, where police dispersed an earlier protest with beanbag rounds, police closed streets Sunday.

President Barack Obama, Sharpton and the Rev. Jesse Jackson have urged calm. In Oakland, Calif., during protests that began late Saturday night, some angry demonstrators broke windows, burned U.S. flags, vandalized a police squad car and spray-painted anti-police graffiti.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti urged protesters to "practice peace" after rock- and bottle-throwing. Later, more than 100 officers in riot gear converged and ordered people to disperse. A handful of people were given citations, mostly for blocking a street or jaywalking.

Rand Powdrill, 41, of San Leandro, Calif., said

he marched in San Francisco with about 400 others to "protest the execution of an innocent black teenager."

"If our voices can't be heard, then this is just going to keep going on," he said.

Earlier, at Manhattan's Middle Collegiate Church, many congregants wore hooded sweatshirts similar to the one Martin was wearing the night he was shot. Hoodie-clad Jessica Nacinovich said she could only feel disappointment and sadness over the verdict.

"I'm sure jurors did what they felt was right in accordance with the law but maybe the law is wrong, maybe society is wrong; there's a lot that needs fixing," she said.

At a service in Sanford, Fla., where Zimmerman was tried, teens wearing shirts with Martin's picture wiped away tears during a church sermon.

Protesters also gathered in Atlanta, Miami, Milwaukee, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C., along with a host of other cities.

In Miami, more than 200 people gathered. "You can't justify murder," read one poster. Another read "Don't worry about more riots. Worry about more Zimmermans."

Carol Reitner, 76, of Miami, said she heard about the vigil through an announcement at her church Sunday morning. "I was really devastated. It's really hard to believe that someone can take the life of someone else and walk out of court free," she said.

In Philadelphia, about 700 protesters marched through downtown to the Liberty Bell, alternating between chanting Trayvon Martin's name and "No justice, no peace!"

"We hope this will begin a movement to end discrimination against young black men," said Johnathan Cooper, one of the protest's organizers. "And also to empower black people and get them involved in the system."

In Atlanta, about 75 protesters chanted and carried signs near Centennial Olympic Park.

"I came out today because a great deal of injustice has been done and I'm very disappointed at our justice system," said Tabatha Holley, 19, of Atlanta.

"I'm just disappointed in America."

Obama praises Bush for volunteer initiative

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama welcomed President George H.W. Bush to the White House on Monday in a salute to public service and to the drive for volunteerism that the 41st president inspired with his "thousand points of light" initiative more than two decades ago.

"We are surely a kinder and gentler nation because of you," Obama told the elder Bush, who sat in a room filled with his friends and former aides.

The first President Bush — "41," he often calls himself — came to attend a ceremony Obama was holding to recognize the 5,000th Daily Point of Light Award. The award's name comes from the description in his 1989 inaugural address of Americans serving each other as "a thousand points of light."

Thanks to Bush, Obama said, "volunteerism has gone from something that some people do some of the time to something that lots of people do as a regular part of their lives."

Bush responded briefly, thanking the Obamas for their "wonderful hospitality," and leaving his son Neil Bush to offer more extended remarks.

In addition to Neil Bush, the former president was joined by his wife, Barbara, the former first lady; and Michelle Nunn, CEO of the Points of Light organization and a possible Democratic Senate candidate from Georgia. She's the daughter of former Sen. Sam Nunn, D-Ga.

President George W. Bush, the 41st president's son, did not attend.

Obama and first lady Michelle Obama and the Bushes had lunch in the Red Room before the ceremony.

Obama announced creation of a federal task force to come up with new ways for the public and private sectors to collaborate to support national service as a means of tackling national priorities.

In the past year, the Corporation for National and Community Service, sponsor of the AmeriCorps national service program, launched partnerships with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Education Department.

The 1,600-member FEMA Corps has the sole mission of responding to disasters. School Turnaround AmeriCorps will send 650 volunteers into low-performing schools this fall to help improve academic achievement, attendance, high school graduation rates,

and college and career readiness.

Both presidents share a commitment to volunteerism and service.

Bush, 89, established the Daily Point of Light Award in 1990 while in office. More than 1,000 of the awards were distributed between 1989 and 1993, Bush's single term as the nation's 41st president. Through its offices around the country and relationships with nonprofit groups and corporations, the Points of Light organization encourages millions of people to volunteer and recognizes those it says are making a difference.

The recipients of the 5,000th Point of Light Award were Floyd Hammer and Kathy Hamilton, a retired couple and farm owners from Union, Iowa, who created Outreach, a nonprofit organization that delivers free meals to children suffering from hunger in more than 15 countries, including the United States.

They launched the program after a trip to Tanzania, where they visited a volunteer mission to help renovate an HIV/AIDS clinic at a village hospital and saw children dying from malnutrition. The couple's program has relied on thousands of volunteers to help assemble and distribute more than 232 million free meals to children worldwide, the White House said.

Obama also has made volunteerism a theme of his presidency. In 2009, he signed legislation to more than triple the size of the AmeriCorps program from 75,000 volunteers to 250,000 by 2017. Several times a year, including on the Martin Luther King Jr. federal holiday and before Thanksgiving, Obama and his family help out at area food kitchens and community service projects.

Mrs. Obama and Vice President Joe Biden's wife, Jill, also lead a national drive to encourage the public to devote time to helping military families.

The first president Bush has made several visits to the Obama White House. He stopped in twice last year, in January when he and son Jeb, the former Florida governor, were in town for the annual Alfalfa Club dinner, and in May for the unveiling of George W. Bush's official portrait. During a White

House ceremony in 2011, Obama recognized Bush's lifetime of public service with a Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor.

The two last saw each other in April at the dedication of George W. Bush's presidential library in Dallas.

White House press secretary Jay Carney said Obama holds the Bush family in "very high regard" and looked forward to the ceremony.

Another reason to look forward to the event? To see Bush's socks.

The 41st president has become known for brightening his otherwise staid attire by wearing colorful socks. He pulled on a pair of Superman socks to celebrate his 89th birthday last month. At the dedication of his son's presidential library, Bush set off his gray suit with pink socks.

On Monday, he wore bright red and white striped socks.

"We call him GQ man," Neil Bush joked.

Cash-starved Pa. city to sell Wild West artifacts

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — A cavernous brick building on the outskirts of the city holds a failed dream, a warehouse stacked high with the remnants of a multimillion-dollar spending spree by a former Harrisburg mayor who used city money to

purchase artifacts for an Old West museum that died in its infancy.

City officials hope that after a weeklong auction that starts Monday, the collection will be gone — the stuffed buffalo and mountain lion, the more than 500 firearms, the racks of period clothing, the wooden dugout canoes and the Savage Ale bar sign with a bullet hole tenuously attributed to frontierswoman Calamity Jane.

"This is extraordinary and totally unprecedented in the value alone, and also the scope," said Joanne Grant, a longtime auctioneer with Guernsey's who helped organize and catalog the vast collection. "It would have been a fine museum, that's for sure."

Stephen Reed, who was in his seventh term four years ago when Democratic primary voters turned him out of office, pursued the museum project as part of a plan to draw tourists with five museums. Two were established, a small fire museum and a larger facility focused on the Civil War.

No one seems to know precisely how much he spent as he traveled the country to purchase the items, which also include pieces meant for another Reed dream, an African-American museum, and a hodgepodge of other material, some of dubious historical value.

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Heston's 'The Omega Man' version the best, but still falls short

In 1971 Charlton Heston starred in "The Omega Man" which was the second of four films (so far) based on the 1954 horror/sci-fi novel "I Am Legend" by Richard Matheson. The movies are the Roger Corman version, "The Last Man on Earth" (1964) starring Vincent Price; "The Omega Man"

Spike Harville

(1971) with Charlton Heston; "I Am Legend" (2007) headlining Will Smith; and the barely-worth-mentioning direct-to-DVD Mockbuster "I Am Omega" also released in 2007 (some claim to free-ride on the Will Smith movie advertising). It neither credited Richard Matheson nor his book.

In the novel, a bacteria turns the human race into vampire-like beings, whereas in "The Omega Man" the catalyst for the creation of the now hoodie-wearing nocturnal albino zombie mutants, which call themselves "The Family," is germ warfare between China and the USSR. And

really, is there any possible outcome for germ warfare other than a world-wide plague?

The movie is set in a dystopian 1975 Los Angeles where U.S. Army Col. Robert Neville, M.D., (Heston) begins to show signs of changing into one of the freaky zombiesque albino thingies. He quickly injects himself with an experimental drug that stops the awful transformation. As a result Neville, finds himself the only non-zombie in Los Angeles (insert your own joke here). The zombie mutants cannot abide the sun, so during the day Colonel Neville stays in the shadows and, with rifle in hand, hunts down members of The Family. They return the favor by hunting him at night.

There is a parallel here of sorts, which was not lost on Heston, in fact, it attracted him to the project. Heston, a lifelong conservative, plays the role of the conservative, a rugged individualist, driven by a moral compass, trying to conserve what there is of civilization and tradition while his enemy, the communal counter-cultural underground Luddites who believe that human beings are anathema to nature

and the reason the world is going to pot, are out to destroy all vestiges of the world as it once was. The glimmer of hope comes when, one day while shopping for new clothes, Neville sees a non-infected girl who quickly disappears.

He convinces himself that she was only his imagination, which thankfully she was not, for reasons that unfold quickly thereafter.

"The Omega Man" reflects a lot of the sentiment of the Vietnam war era, including overwhelming hopelessness with a determination to conquer despite impossible odds. It is considered a landmark film because it featured an interracial couple as leading lady and man although it was not the first to do so.

Two earlier examples that spring to mind are the original "Night of The Living Dead" (1968) where the lead guy was black and the lead girl was white, although they weren't intimately involved and, "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" (1967) starring Sidney Poitier, which dealt with interracial marriage, still illegal in 17 states until June 12 of that same year.

Some hoopla was made

about the interracial on-screen kiss between Heston and Rosalind Cash in spite of the fact that Capt. James T. Kirk and Lt. Uhura had crossed that bridge six years earlier on TV.

I asked 10 filmmaker and actor friends, also 10 normal people (non-actors) and family members to rate the movie on the 5-star scale. Movie geeks gave it 3 while normal people averaged it at 2 1/2 stars. All versions of this film

have the feel of ultra-low budget to me. "The Omega Man" exteriors were all shot in downtown Los Angeles on Sunday mornings because downtown L.A. always looks like a post-apocalyptic zombie wasteland on Sunday mornings. The Heston version might be my favorite, and out of the four it does enjoy strong cult status but, like the other versions, it falls short in the end.

When I see this film I think to myself... "Eh, it's

not bad, but it's not Heston in "Soylent Green" (1973). I agree with the normal people I know and rate "The Omega Man" at 2 1/2 stars.

I'm an actor, writer and filmmaker. I do weekly movie reviews of old movies and Vox Box where I look at the history of film and how it touches our culture, or anything else that catches my fancy. My name is Dan Harville but, my friends call me Spike. Please visit my blog www.My-FriendsCallMeSpike.com and follow me on Twitter @SpikeHarville.

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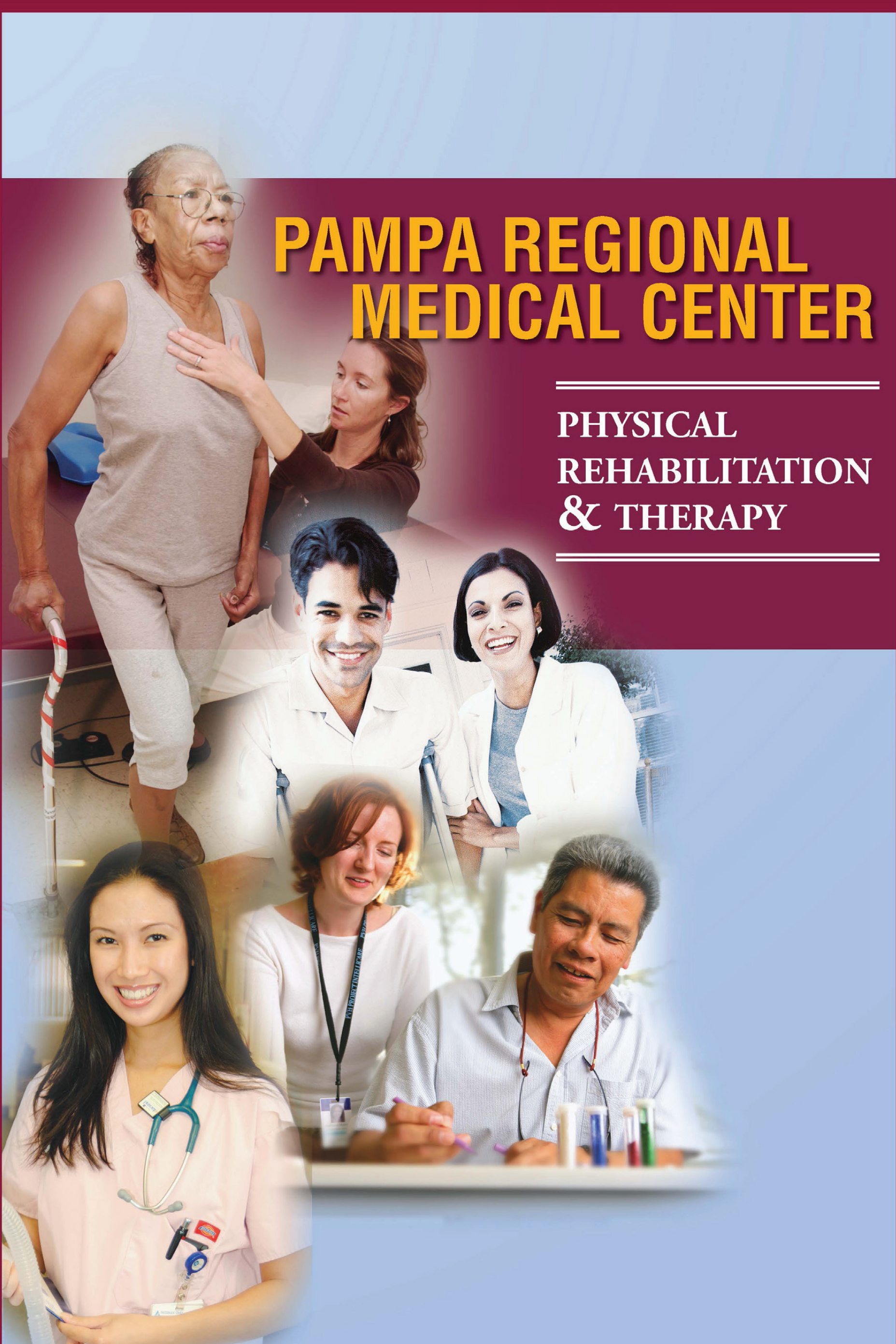
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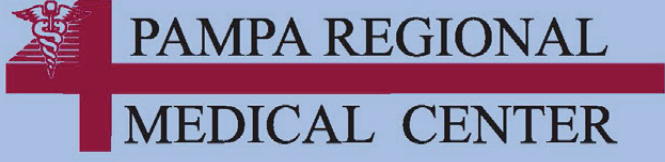
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Lifestyles

Quebe Sisters to perform in Elk City

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Elk City's Pioneer Performing Arts Center in Elk City, Okla., is pleased to announce that one of Western Swing's biggest and brightest groups, The Quebe Sister's Band, will be performing at 7:30 p.m., Aug. 10 at the state-of-the art performance hall.

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Submitted photo

From Left, Sophia, Hulda and Grace Quebe.

vintage country, bluegrass, jazz and swing standards, and Texas-style fiddling.

Awarded the Crescendo Award by the Western Music Association and winner of the Western Swing Album of the Year from the Academy

of Western Artists, the Quebe Sisters Band is touring behind their latest album, Timeless.

According to Justin Ediger, Pioneer Center director, the Aug. 10 performance will be a highlight for the concert venue this year. "We are excited about having the sisters visit Western Oklahoma," Ediger said. "They are phenomenally talented and will be an excellent addition to our roster of entertainment."

Advanced reserve tickets are now available and can be purchased by visiting www.elkcitieschools.com and following the Pioneer Center link. Fans can also visit www.quebesistersband.com to find out more about the band and purchase tickets. Reserved seating is \$25, \$20 and \$15 and may also be purchased at the door the night of the show.

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PampaSports

PAMPA SOFTBALL ALL-STARS



Submitted photo
Optimist softball All-Stars competed in a tournament in Loveland on June 28-30. While they lost in the tournament, The Pampa News is proud of these girls for representing Pampa.

Front row from left, Jade Shackelford and Kylee Perez.

Second row, Haley Brock, Jaylene Montes, Londyn McCoy, Savannah Valentine, Karennah McDonough.

Third row, Madison Parks, Bailey Collier, Ashytn Johnson, Ciara Belflower, K'Leigh Broaddus.

Back row, Coach Ty McCoy, Manager Jason Collier, and Coach Chad Johnson.

Amarillo Venom wins Championship

■ Late score secures victory and second consecutive LSFL crown.

By JOHN LEE
jcllee@thepampanews.com

The Amarillo Venom outlasted the Laredo Rattlesnakes 70-69 to secure their second consecutive Lone Star Football League Championship.

The footballs that the players were using said "Texas-style Shootout" and the game was just that, a shootout. The last time Amarillo hosted an arena football championship they were the Amarillo Dusters and their quarterback was current Venom head coach Julian Reese. This time Reese has a former 49ers' preseason star in Nate Davis, and one of the most dangerous receiving corp. in the LSFL with Raymond Johnson Jr., Doug Williams and Alex Watson. But the Laredo Rattlesnakes also have a pro-caliber quarterback in Bryan Randall, and he has his own weapons.

The Rattlesnakes dominated the first quarter, as every time they had the ball they put points on the board. They started the game with the ball and drove down the field in five plays and scored a touchdown on a DePhil Harris run. After the Venom offense sputtered on the ensuing drive, the Rattlesnakes drove down again and scored a touchdown, this time on a Bryan Randall run. The Venom finally answered with Davis rushing it in himself. The first quarter score would be solidified after Bryan Randall found Damian Clarck on a 25-yard bomb touchdown, making it 21-7 Venom.

"You just make sure they know we play until we finish the game," Reese said. "We play until the clock reaches 0:00, you never know what's going to happen during the game, that's

why you play till you finish it."

The Venom started the second quarter with the ball, and they drove down until Davis handed it over to Tim O' Neil who rushed it in from five yards out for a touchdown, drawing the Venom in closer. On the ensuing drive, Randall tried to score another touchdown on a bomb, but instead found Venom defensive back David Irizarry who intercepted the ball and returned it 34 yards the other way. On the following Venom drive, Davis rushed it in himself from 11 yards out and scored a touchdown, tying the game at 21-21. Randall found redemption on the next drive and hit Damell Williams for

VENOM cont. on page 8B



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2. Buster Kelley and Brenda Kelley	70
Third Flight	
1. Bob Swope and Joyce Swope	73
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1. Chris Roden and Jodi Roden	75
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PampaSports

Kiwanis Club 4-person scramble played

Hidden Hills, July 13

PALMER FLIGHT

1st - 56
Mark Wood
Ronny Wood
Greg Macik
Eldon Maxwell

Pat Montoya
Terry Holt
Ralph Baker

John Howell
Cameron Armstrong

CAMPBELL FLIGHT

2nd- 59
RD. Stephens
Braydon Barker
Bill Hammer
Jerry Stephens

1st- 59
Lynn Allison
Larry Etchison
Courtney Price
Jerry Foote

4th - 62
John McCall
Monty Joiner
Nathan Bailey
Valerie Word

3rd - 59
Kelly Everson
Kevin Hunt
Ben Woodington
Terry Cox

2nd- 60
Kevin Hucks
Cory Fowler
Rod Crow
Joe Resendiz

Closest to the pin
Hole No. 6 Mark Wood-
Hole No. 15 Sonny Dickey

Closest to the Line
Stephen Kephart

Longest Drive
Hole No. 4
Cameron Armstrong

4th- 60
Chuck Morgan

3rd- 61
Ron Turpen
Ray Turpen

Brian Vickers a surprise winner

LOUDON, N.H. (AP) — Stuck in a hospital bed, Brian Vickers wanted to live another day.

Once he recovered, he hungered for a competitive ride.

And once he landed a solid seat, well, Vickers simply had to win.

Even when life tossed obstacles in Vickers' path, his determined spirit never waned. After four years of health scares and unemployment put his promising career in doubt, Vickers kept pushing toward the finish line. He got there Sunday as the surprise winner at New Hampshire Motor Speedway.

"Coming here and sitting in Victory Lane, just makes it one of the most special events in my life," Vickers said.

He had plenty of drivers in the series pulling for this comeback.

One by one, they saluted Vickers with a wave from the car or a back slap on the way to Victory Lane.

Close friend Jimmie Johnson, a five-time Cup champion, pumped his fist out the window in pure

happiness as if he'd won a sixth title.

Vickers did all he could to savor the unforgettable scene.

"When you have so much love and support around you," Vickers said, "it makes all the difference in the world."

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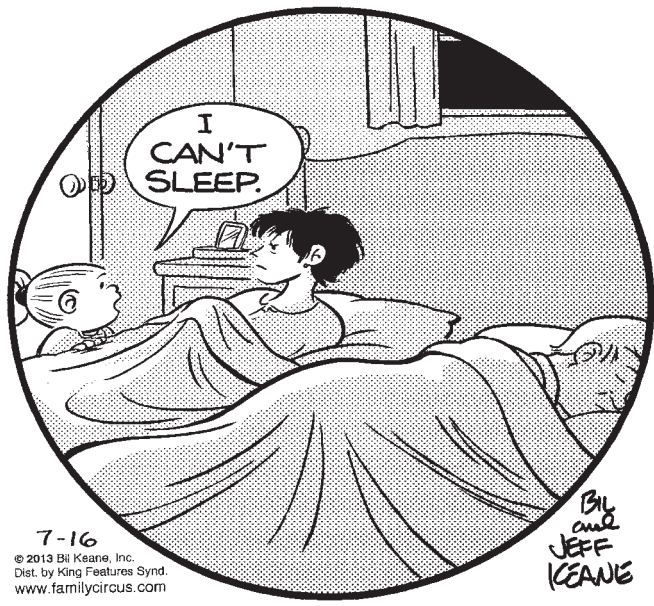
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comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

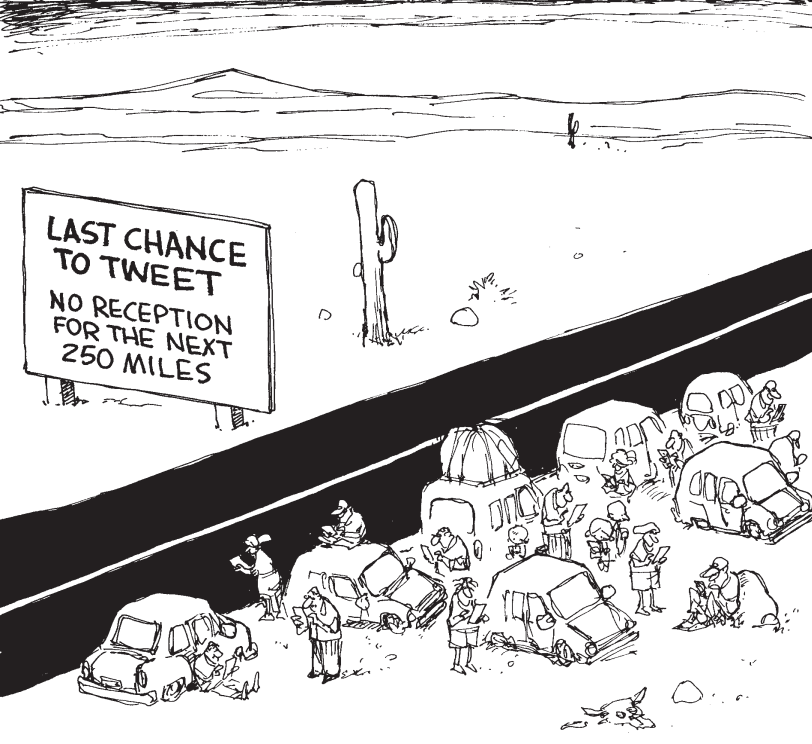


7-16
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Bil
and
JEFF
KEANE

"The bedtime story Daddy read me was too interesting."

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, July 17, 2013:

This year the unexpected plays a dominant role in your community or your professional life. You might not know what will happen next. At first, you could have difficulty seeing anything positive emanating from all the surprises; however, you soon will understand how your creativity can point you in a new direction. If you are single, a relationship could have wild swings. Do not hesitate to date others until you are sure of what you want. If you are attached, the two of you might be welcoming a new addition, or a positive reflection of your bond will come into play. **SCORPIO's** intensity can weird you out.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You can expect a change in how you view your downtime and the people around you. Keep in mind that your reaction will have much to do with the outcome. Opportunities come in situations where you are able to remain levelheaded. Tonight: Chat with a trusted confidant.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Know when to defer to someone else, as a situation could be much more significant than you think. Pressure rises, and it streamlines the possibilities. Stay neutral. If you detach, the right solution or response will appear. Tonight: Make plans to go out for dinner with a pal.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Your ability to move through problems and change direction reflects your optimistic perspective. A friend could change course when you least expect it. You see a unique quality evolve in a meeting. Know that everything is subject to change. Tonight: Put your feet up.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You will feel empowered. Your creativity saves the day with an unanticipated problem involving someone you put on a pedestal. Everything changes in time, so don't worry about what is said or what is happening — just stay centered. Tonight: Do only what makes you smile.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You might hear shocking news. By the time you recuperate, you could be rethinking a decision with more care. Consider what needs to happen in order to make you feel more comfortable. Accept change, as it seems to be inevitable. Tonight: Not to be found.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Understand that you must keep communicating, even if you don't want to. You subconsciously might want to sever the tie with someone. Once you are in a meeting with this person, you will detach and see a situation from a different perspective. Tonight: Be a duo.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You could be wondering how much is "enough." Think through a problem carefully, especially if you are hearing the same reaction from others. Take a break for several hours, or take the day off. Afterward, you'll approach life from a more relaxed perspective. Tonight: Pay bills first.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You'll want to switch gears and head in a new direction. Trust that you will have the opportunity to do so. The offers that open up after a shakeup could be quite surprising. Use your knowledge of a situation to turn it around. Tonight: Ask for something you've been wanting.

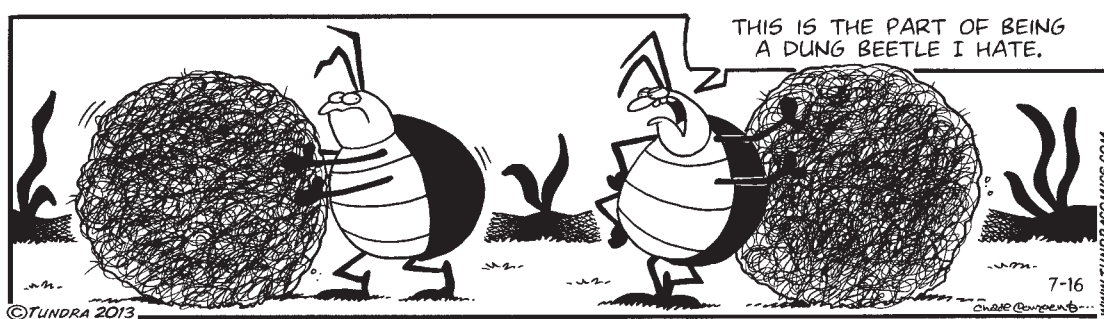
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★ You might not want to overextend yourself. Your sixth sense and ability to see beyond the obvious could be strong right now. You will see the unexpected playing a big role in a new relationship. Know that you are more of an observer than a player. Tonight: Kick back.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You know what you would like to happen, just as a key person in your life knows what he or she would like to happen. Look to similar long-term goals rather than squabble over petty matters. Let go of what you think must happen. Tonight: What you want -- just not alone.

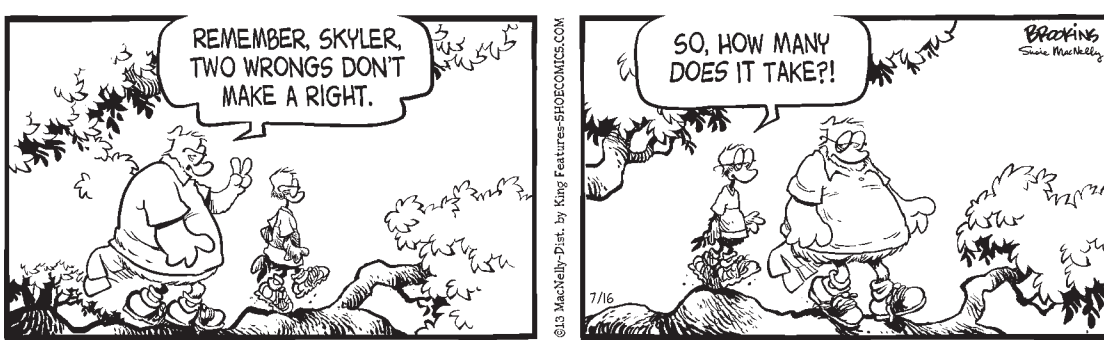
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You might be a little too sure of yourself, which is why you could have a difficult encounter with someone whom you feel has power over you. At the risk of creating uproar, take a step back from the situation and say that you have had enough. Tonight: Write an important letter.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Your ability to detach allows you to recognize the high road and figure out the best way to proceed. Use care with your funds, as a sudden expense could shock you. A partner or loved one would be instrumental in helping you see other opportunities. Tonight: Use your ingenuity.

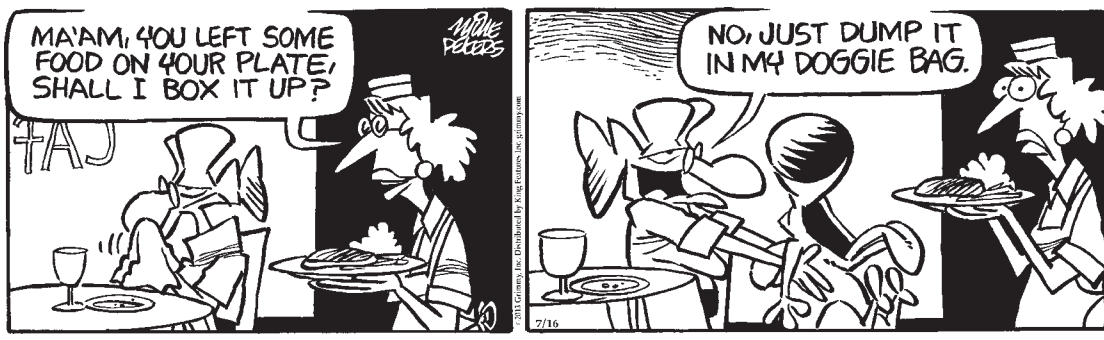
Tundra



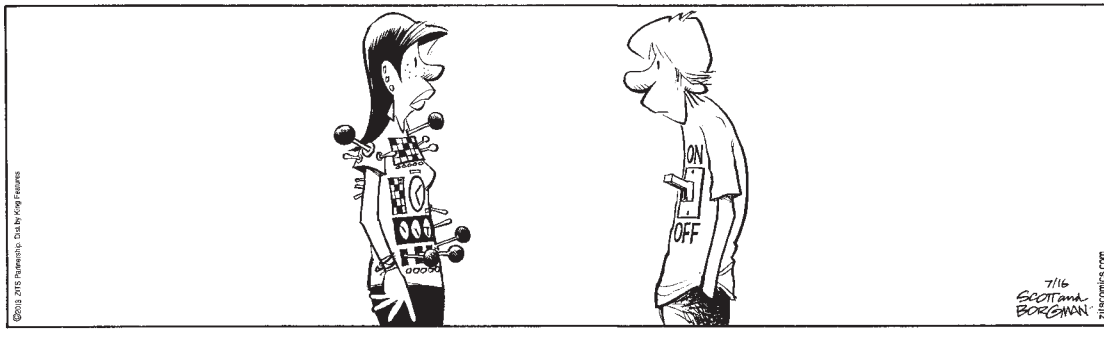
Shoe



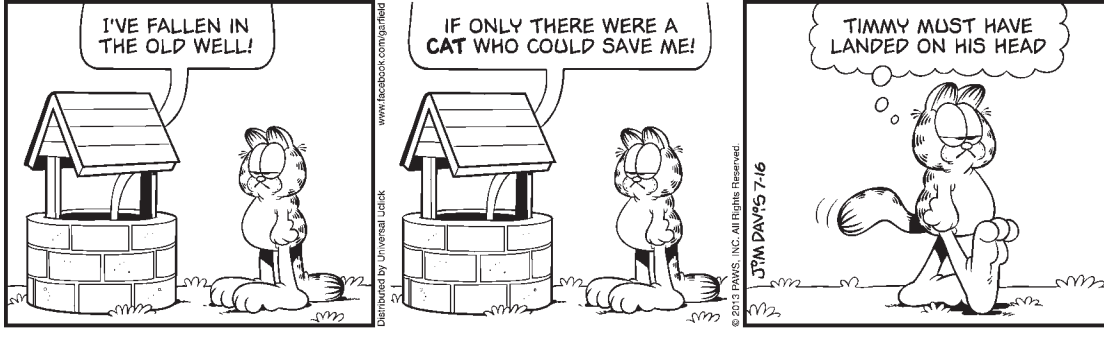
Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



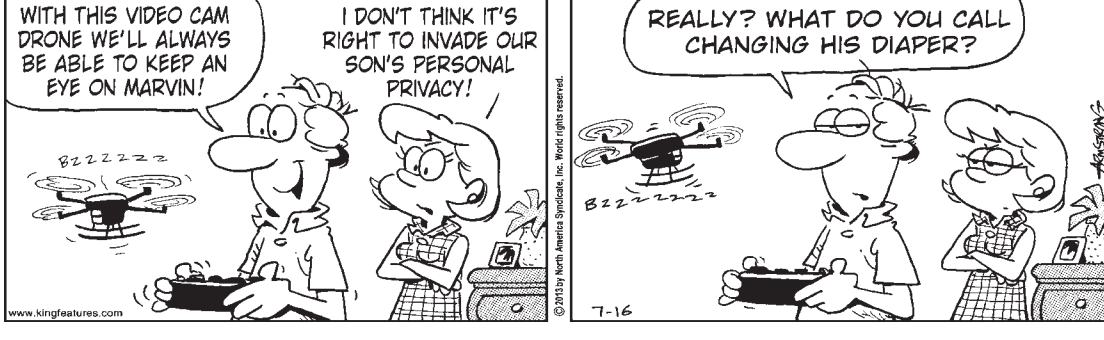
Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



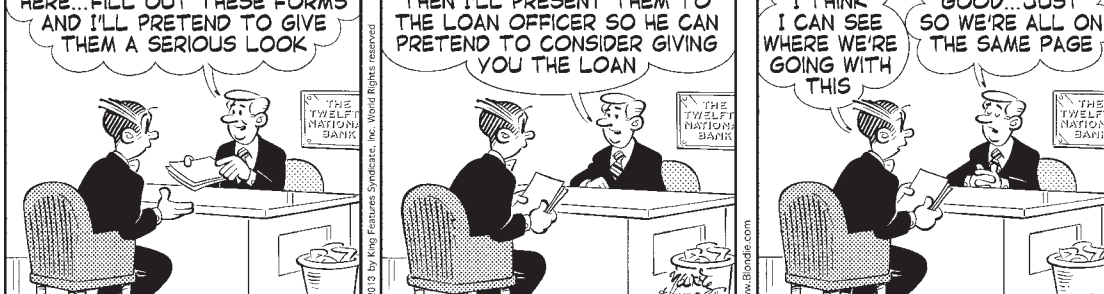
Hagar The Horrible

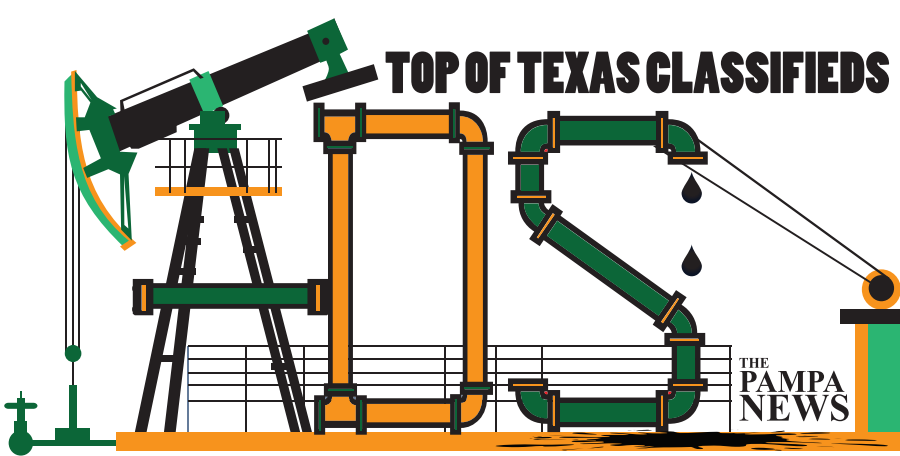


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EXPERIENCED waitress wanted, PT. Apply in person at Granny's Home Cookin', 328 E. Frederic.

FINANCIAL Secretary position at First United Methodist Church. Seeking professional individual with book-keeping & computer skills; knowledge of Shelby Church software a plus. Background check required. Email resumes to PastorBlossom-FUMC@gmail.com or mail to 201 E. Foster, Pampa, TX 79065

INSURANCE/Patient relations team member needed for busy health care office. Fax resume to 665-0537.

LOOKING for cook & prep cook. Experience helpful but not necessary. Apply in person at El Mejor Cafe between the hours of 2-5pm at 311 W. Brown.

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PAMPA Country Club needs exp line cook, waitresses, bartender & lifeguard. Drug-Free work environment. Apply in person. NO PHONE CALLS.

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PAMPA ALL-STARS READY FOR TOURNAMENT



Submitted photo
 Front right Armando Miranda, Jose Arvizu, Damian Anguiano, Sam Anguiano, Isaiah Velasquez, Dylan Booth, Hunter Dyer, Kyler Cook, Troy Perez and Kyle Gordzelek. Middle row Nolan Groomer, Jack Studebaker, Joey Hill, Christian Porter and Oscar Jimenez. Back row Jason Dyer, John Studebaker and Ryan Cloud. The team will be competing in this weekend's Optimist Tournament. First game is Friday at 7:30 p.m.

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Venom

Continued From Page 2B

point lead, 28-27. The following Laredo drive, Randall was looking for his receiver on a sideline pass, but it was intercepted by the Venom's Steven Harris, which would set the Venom up for a "Nickel and Dime drive" which ended with Davis finding Doug Williams in the end zone for their first hook-up of the game. The game would go to halftime with the score being 35-27 Venom. Here is David Irizarry on the interception:

"We still pulled through, it's arena football, you're going to have your ups and

downs," Irizarry said. "I watched so much film I knew what they were going to try. They were going to try to post me up on a deep ball, he tried to run a post, and I ran his route for him and took it back the other way."

The Venom started the second half with the ball and Davis found Doug Williams who shrugged off a tackle and ran 45 yards for a touchdown, making it a two-score game at 42-27. The Venom and the Rattlesnakes traded scores a couple times until on a pass Davis would get intercepted by Laredo defensive back Demarcus Jenkins, which would set up Laredo up for a touchdown. The score was now 49-47 Venom.

In the fourth quarter, Davis was intercepted for a

second time, this one for a touchdown. He showed a short memory though, as on the very next pass Davis found Williams again for a 34-yard touchdown, giving the Venom back the lead at 56-54. The Venom and Rattlesnakes traded scores, and the Rattlesnakes drove all the way down and scored with a minute left to play. The score was 69-63. On the final drive, Davis was 3/3 as he completed passes to Doug Williams and Alex Watson, taking the Venom down to the Laredo one-yard line. Then after a failed QB sneak, Davis handed off to Watson who dove into the end zone and scored the final touchdown of the game. Then kicker Jason Cunningham, who had been perfect

throughout the game, successfully kicked the extra point, to put the game-differing point, 70-69. The Amarillo Civic Center Coliseum erupted after that. On the following kickoff, the Venom solidified their championship by recovering a muffed ball, ending the game.

"It feels a lot better (compared to when I was a player), you get to be the ones to call the plays," Reese said. "The guys believe in you and the system we put together, myself, coach Snipes and the rest of the coaching staff. They executed it and trusted us to finish the game strong."

Sports Briefs

Pouncey apologizes for supporting Hernandez

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Pittsburgh Steelers All-Pro center Maurkice Pouncey has apologized for wearing a baseball cap supporting former college teammate Aaron Hernandez.

Pouncey and his twin brother Mike, a center for the Miami Dolphins, were photographed wearing hats that read "Free Hernandez" during their co-birthday party in Miami on Saturday night.

Hernandez played at the University of Florida with the Pounceys from 2007-09. The former New England Patriots tight end is charged with murder in the killing of Boston semi-pro football player Odin Lloyd. Hernandez has pleaded not guilty.

Maurkice Pouncey posted on his Twitter account Monday he understands the "seriousness of the situation involving my former teammate." Pouncey added he regrets making light of the situation and apologized if he offended anyone.

The Steelers had no immediate comment.

Real Madrid tops Forbes' most valuable teams list

NEW YORK (AP) — Real Madrid tops Forbes' list of 50 most valuable sports teams, with Manchester United and Barcelona holding the next two spots.

Forbes says Real Madrid is worth \$3.3 billion. The Spanish power moved up a spot from No. 2 last year.

Man United, which was No. 1 last year, is worth \$3.17 billion. Barcelona, Real Madrid's fierce rival and Spanish League champions last season, is worth \$2.6 billion.

The New York Yankees are fourth with a value of \$2.3 billion and the Dallas Cowboys are fifth at \$2.1 billion.

Thirty of the 32 NFL teams made the list, along with seven baseball teams and seven soccer teams.

Jepsen has fun with first-pitch fail

TORONTO (AP) — Call

me maybe — just not to throw out a first pitch.

Canadian pop star Carly Rae Jepsen had a good laugh at herself after she spiked the ceremonial first pitch at a Tampa Bay Rays game on Sunday.

Jepsen, best known for the catchy Top-40 hit "Call Me Maybe," posted a text-message conversation between her and her brother on Twitter that had the hash tag "sticktoyourdayjob."

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