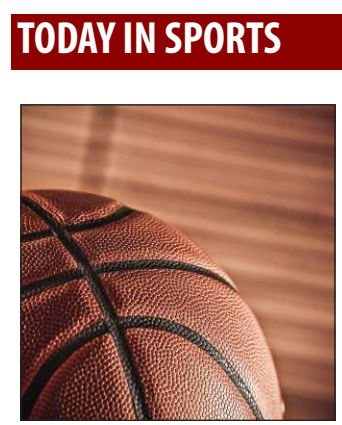


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The PAMPA NEWS



Wednesday, March 26, 2014 www.thepampanews.com Volume 109 • No. 248

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 Zac Green discusses the first round of March Madness JV Baseball and Softball results | p8

2 conversation groups backing prairie chicken plan

■ Partnership between USDA's conservation service and Pheasants Forever will provide \$5 million to habitat preservation.

BY TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE
 thowsare@thepampanews.com

In the final days approaching the potential listing of the lesser prairie chicken as either an endangered or threatened species, two wildlife conservation organizations have partnered to provide \$5 million to assist landowners in preserving habitat for the grassland grouse.

On Friday, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), a division of the U.S. Department of Ag-

riculture, announced it is partnering with Pheasants Forever, a national wildlife conservation organization, to jointly invest \$5 million over three years to support technical assistance, including hiring non-federal field conservationists to help farmers and ranchers voluntarily maintain and improve lesser prairie chicken habitat in the Southern Great Plains.

The five states included are Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, New Mexico and Colorado.

The NRCS provides America's

farmers and ranchers with financial and technical assistance to voluntarily put conservation on the ground, not only in helping the environment but also in agricultural operations.

Pheasants Forever is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the conservation of pheasants, quail and other wildlife through habitat improvements, public awareness, education and land management policies and programs.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is set to decide on Monday whether the species could be listed as either endangered or threatened. Endangered means any species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

CHICKEN cont. on page 2



Photo courtesy of the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism. A lesser prairie chicken is silhouetted against a stunning High Plains sunset.

Staples in the Pampa community



Photos by John Lee
 Above, Velma, middle left, and Thelma, middle right, during their youth. Right, Thelma, standing, and Velma now live across the street from each other in Pampa and enjoy watching the critters in Velma's backyard and going to various city events.



■ Nonagenarian sisters Thelma and Velma love Pampa and are excited for its future.

BY JOHN LEE
 jlee@thepampanews.com

Thelma Bray and her sister Velma Lard are twin sisters who have taken different paths in life. With all the twists and turns a life can throw at two individuals, it has still brought them back to where they are today. At Velma's house in the middle of Pampa, the sisters watch the birds and squirrels in her backyard eat the corn-on-cob, crackers and various nuts and foods which they feed them every day.

This may sound like a simple and patient activity in today's digital and reactionary society, but simple is all the soon-to-be 91-year-old ladies, who graduated Pampa High School in 1940 could ask for.

Velma recently moved back to Pampa when her husband passed away in Amarillo. Thelma, on the other hand, has lived here almost her entire life, and could not be happier.

Velma and Thelma are, of course, twins despite taking different paths in life. But they also raised twins in their lives. Velma raised two girls and a boy and Thelma raised two boys and girl.

If the idea of having this many twins under one roof doesn't create an amusing thought, then the cooking competitions that eventually come from the family get-togethers will take the cake. Sometimes members of the family will have friendly competitions over who can decorate the key lime pies and other desserts the best. But Velma says the food the family cooks up is absolutely delicious.

Velma married her husband, an appraiser in Amarillo, and worked as his typist until he passed away five years ago.

She spent her entire time in Amarillo and raised what Velma called, "their little family."

Thelma, a lover of Pampa, took an adventurous route until she was pregnant with twins. Thelma's husband was a pilot in World War II. After hearing about the bombing of Pearl Harbor while they were freshmen at West Texas State and working at the museum (which would become the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum) in Canyon, the sisters trained in Oklahoma to work on the radio communications at the Pampa Army Air Field.

After the war, Thelma's husband moved her to Germany where they lived, South of Munich, until she got pregnant with their twin boys in 1947.

After working for a short time at a bank, Thelma's husband knew that wasn't the life he wanted and joined the military reserves. On his way back to Pampa, he tragically died in a car wreck in December of 1951.

Thelma, however, continued to be involved with Pampa in a large way. She helped establish the Pampa Garden Club, which was started "for all things involved with the beautification of Pampa." She also started the outdoor sculpture committee.

She was also an active member on the board of the Freedom Museum and is an active member at First Methodist Church.

Most recently she has been heavily involved with Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center in the former Harris Drug Store.

"We, Glen Lee Miller and I, were talking about Woody Guthrie and we decided it was time for Pampa to know more about Woody Guthrie and we needed to acknowledge the fact that Woody Guthrie has a background in Pampa," Thelma said. "Woody Guthrie was looking for a job and the Harris Drug Store was here at the time and Woody Guthrie had the job for quite a few years. Woody Guthrie put Pampa on the map and it's time for Pampa to acknowledge it. When I was

STAPLES cont. on page 3

AimBank purchase of FSB of Miami now final

STAFF REPORT

AimBank has acquired the First State Bank of Miami with locations in Miami and Pampa. Scott Wade, AimBank CEO, said that with these locations being in the Northern regions of Texas and AimBank operating in the South Plains, Permian Basin and Big Country regions of West Texas; "Miami and Pampa are a great fit and expands each bank's geographic footprint," he

BANK cont. on page 2



File photo
 First State Bank of Miami is located at 120 W. Kingsmill Ave.

Both parties to have candidates in May 27 runoff elections

■ None of the candidates are for local seats.

BY TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE
 thowsare@thepampanews.com

It ain't over until it's over. Candidates from both parties who didn't get "50 percent plus one" of the vote in primary races with three or more candidates will now put the second-place finishers in their respective races in a May 27 runoff election.

The victorious candidates in the run-offs will face the candidate from the opposing party in the Nov. 4 general election.

The Gray County Elections Office is still fi-

RUNOFF cont. on page 2

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Chickens

Continued From Page 1

Threatened means any species that is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

If the bird is listed, penalties for harming it could include heavy fines and even jail time. Listing the bird could be detrimental to the oil and gas industry. For instance, an application for a drilling permit is typically processed in 10 days. If the

grouse is listed, permit approvals could take weeks or even months and a third party, such as a conservation group, could sue to block the application altogether.

Landowners and energy producers got some good news earlier this month when the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced it had signed an agreement with the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) that will allow landowners to voluntarily enroll their lands in conservation plans to conserve habitat for the lesser prairie chicken. The

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is a member of the association.

The announcement on March 21 from the two wildlife conservation groups was even more good news to H. Wayne Hughes, executive vice president of the Panhandle Producers and Royalty Owners Association (PPROA) in Amarillo.

"This gives us increased hope to a non-listing seven days shy of D-Day for us," Hughes said Monday. "If you would have asked me two weeks ago I would have had no hope at all."

PPROA has members in the Texas Panhandle, Oklahoma and Kansas, and since 1929 has been a trade association representing inde-

pendent petroleum producers, service companies and mineral royalty owners.

Hughes added that recently U.S. senators from the five habitat states have reasserted their support to keep the bird off the list, including John Cornyn from Texas.

"Sen. Cornyn has without a question taken on a leadership role and we are very grateful to him and the other senators," Hughes said.

Since 2010, farmers and ranchers participating in the NRCS' Lesser Prairie-Chicken Initiative have maintained or improved more than a million acres of habitat for the bird, according to a press release. The partnership previously funded nine job positions,

and that will be expanded to up to 11 in cooperation with local and state agencies.

As agreed to by NRCS and USFWS, farmers and ranchers voluntarily applying lesser prairie-chicken-friendly conservation practices may be protected from additional regulations under the Endangered Species Act for up to 30 years.

Rancher Warren Chisum owns ranch property in both Roberts and Collingsworth counties.

He did not sign the voluntary agreement — called Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances — for his Roberts County ranch because it has no prairie chicken habitat. However, he did sign on for his ranch nine miles south of

McLean.

"If you are rancher and you didn't sign onto the plan you could be forced into a situation you didn't agree to," he said. "By signing onto the plan I don't have to make any major adjustments as to what I have to change (if the bird is listed)."

For instance, ranches who don't sign onto the plan could be forced to change stocking rates, Chisum said. The stocking rate is the average number of cattle grazing per acre.

Chisum said almost 400 ranchers in the five habitat states have signed onto the voluntary agreements.

"There is well over 400,000 acres signed up in Texas," he said.

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Bank

Continued From Page 1

said.

FSB Miami was chartered in 1907 and will now be the 11th and 12th locations of AimBank.

Cody Bivens, market president of the Miami and Pampa locations, said, "We are very proud to be a part of the AimBank financial family and pleased to join their commitment to provide exceptional customer service."

Joining Bivens will be

Terri Leach, vice president, and Cindy Kimball, assistant vice president, at the Pampa location and Danny Howard, vice president and branch manager, and Jeanie Fields, assistant vice president, in Miami.

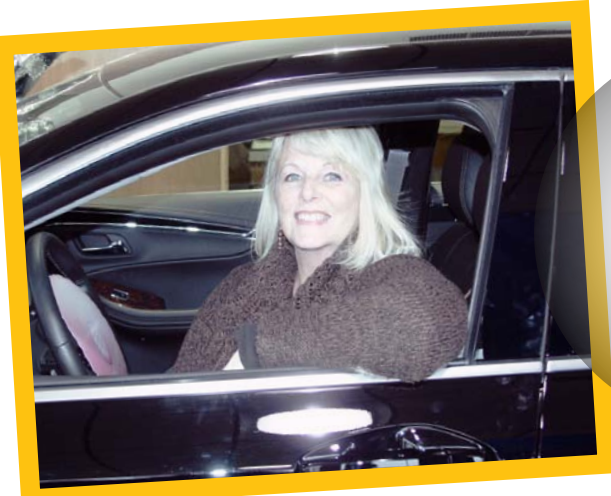
AimBank has retained nearly all of the FSB of Miami employees at both locations.

"AimBank is a strong community bank and their concern is placing the customer needs first. We are committed to continued growth and service to our customers and businesses in the Miami and Pampa areas," Wade said.

AimBank is a full service bank established in 1925 and has grown to \$441 million in assets and locations in Littlefield, Levelland, Lubbock, Wolforth, Midland, Odessa and Snyder. The banking locations as well as the fee-free ATM network at more than 500 sites in Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma, will provide our customers added convenience.

The First State Bank of Miami Pampa branch opened in 1998 in the Combs-Worley building at 120 W. Kingsmill Ave.

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Runoff

Continued From Page 1

nalizing polling locations and other details. That information will be published in the newspaper when it becomes available.

However, the elections office has sent a list of candidates from both parties

who will be on the runoff ballots:

- Democratic Party**
U.S. senator
David M. Alameel and Kesha Rogers.
- Texas agriculture commissioner**
Richard Kinky Friedman and Jim Hogan.
- Republican Party**
Lieutenant governor

Dan Patrick and David Dewhurst.

- Texas attorney general**
Dan Branch and Ken Paxton.
- Texas agriculture commissioner**
Tommy Merritt and Sid Miller.
- Texas railroad commissioner**
Ryan Sitton and Wayne Christian.

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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Thursday	Friday
		
High 66 Low 51	High 72 Low 36	High 66 Low 36

Today: Morning showers and wind with a high of 66. Chance of rain: 50 percent. Winds south at 28 mph. Sunrise at 7:39 a.m.

Tonight: Partly cloudy with a low of 51. Winds south-southwest at 24 mph. Sunset at 8:01 p.m.

Thursday: Partly cloudy and windy with a high of 72. Winds west at 22 mph. Sunrise at 7:38 a.m.

Thursday night: Clouds early clearing late with a low of 36. Winds north at 11 mph. Sunset at 8:01 p.m.

Friday: Mostly sunny with a high of 66. Winds northeast at 11 mph. Sunrise at 7:36 a.m.

Friday night: Clear with a low of 36. Winds east-northeast at 9 mph. Sunset at 8:02 p.m.

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For the record

Pampa man arrested for possession of marijuana

STAFF REPORT

• Jorge Vargas, 17, Pampa, was arrested Monday by the Pampa Police Department for possession of marijuana — less than two ounces.

• Angel Doty, 33, Borger, was arrested March 13 by the Gray County Sheriff's office for bond surrender — theft of property between \$500 and \$1,500.
• Reggie Sydnor, 35, Elk City, Okla., was arrested Monday by the Department

of Public Safety for driving while intoxicated.
• Larhonda Willhite, 42, Pampa, was arrested Monday by GCSO for contempt of court.
• Dustin Spear, 20, Amarillo, was arrested Tuesday by GCSO for violation of

probation — possession of a controlled substance — between one and four grams.
• Cody Russell, 27, Pampa, was arrested Tuesday by PPD for motion for enforcement.

Pampa Fire Department call log — March 21-25

STAFF REPORT

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

March 21
• At 2:55 p.m., to a medical call in the 1100 block of Terrace.
• At 4:17 p.m., to a motor vehicle accident at the intersection of Ballard and

Kingsmill. There were no life threatening injuries.
• At 9:53 p.m., to an odor investigation in the 700 block of Deane.

March 22
• At 6:06 p.m., to a medical call in the 600 block of North Dwight.
• At 6:54 p.m., two units and six personnel to a smoke scare in the 1900 block of North Christy.
• At 8:45 p.m., two units and six personnel to a fire investigation in the 600

block of North Christy.
• At 10:00 p.m., to a medical call in the 100 block of West Foster.

March 23
• At 12:38 p.m., to a medical assist in the 2800 block of Charles.
• At 1:39 p.m., to a medical call in the 1200 block of North Wells.
• At 7:38 p.m., to a medical call in the 700 block of Barnes.

March 24
• At 8:22 a.m., one unit

and four personnel to a medical call in the 1200 block of Ripley.
• At 6:15 p.m., one unit and two personnel to a grass fire in the 700 block of North Banks.
• At 7:26 p.m., one unit and four personnel to a down power line in the 500 block of South Cuyler.

March 25
• At 5:45 a.m., one unit and four personnel to a medical call in the 1000 block of Neel.

Staples

Continued From Page 1

watching the TV yesterday I saw a program about the music of the 60s and Bob Dylan's name was listed followed by Woody Guthrie's name. If Woody Guthrie is recognized elsewhere it is time for Pampa to recognize him."

The ladies both agree that Pampa is heading in a good direction and believes the public needs to do everything they can to support

different things in the community such as the Pampa Mall and other local businesses.

The Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center holds jam sessions on Friday nights. There have been as many as 15 different artists performing and their attendance varies.

But more than anything, Velma and Thelma enjoy living in Pampa and spending time with their families and each other.

"Pampa is a great place to live, and a great place to end it," Velma said.

Norman Borlaug statue unveiled at US Capitol

WASHINGTON (AP) — The father of the so-called Green Revolution has a permanent home in the U.S. Capitol.

Lawmakers unveiled a statue of Norman Borlaug on Tuesday in a ceremony on what would have been his 100th birthday. The Iowa native and University of Minnesota graduate is credited with saving as many as 1 billion people from hunger by creating a type of wheat that was disease resistant and high-yielding.

Borlaug, who died in 2009, won the 1970 Nobel Prize for his work and has been awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal. His likeness will join a group of sculptures that line Statuary Hall in the Capitol, a selection that is limited to only two per state.

"It will be awfully nice to have a miracle worker around here," House Speaker John Boehner joked at Tuesday's ceremony.

Borlaug's statue was created by Benjamin Victor, 35, of South Dakota. His bronze work features Borlaug wearing a hat and

a short-sleeved shirt scribbling into a notebook. He has a stoic look on his face and wheat behind him.

To find room for Borlaug, state lawmakers agreed to remove a statue of James Harlan.

The statue of the former senator, friend of Abraham Lincoln and interior secretary of President Andrew Johnson had stood in the Capitol for more than 100 years. It will move to the Midwest, finding a home in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, where Harlan used to live.

The speakers at Tuesday's event said Borlaug is a fitting representative of Iowa and its values.

"He combined a brilliant vision and, most importantly, Iowa common sense," said Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa.

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, a former Iowa governor, said "Norm" was a humble man who wouldn't have accepted the ceremony in his honor without acknowledging the farmers who worked with him and made his vision possible.

"He needed a partner," Vilsack said. "These partners were the farmers."

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Parent Involvement Activity
 Explore the Differences

Description:
 Children explore the differences in body parts of animals and the influences they may have on how the animals live.

Materials:
 One stuffed animal for each child
 Pictures of the animals represented by your stuffed animals (optional)

Steps:

1. Give each child a stuffed animal and keep a stuffed animal for yourself.
2. Using your stuffed animal show the children the animal's arms, legs, mouth, eyes, and nose.
3. Talk about how different animals have different types of features. Talk with the children about how these differences influence what the animals eat, how they move, the sounds they make, and where they live. Show pictures of each animal if possible to provide a more realistic view of the animal's parts.
4. Have the children look at a friend and notice their features. Talk about how human features are different than their animals and how our fingers, hands, eyes, ears, allow us to do the things we need to do.

Enrichment:
 Have the children draw a picture of the environment where their stuffed animal lives.



Activity for ages 18-24 mo.



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Viewpoints

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Museum Musings

The 'Ghost Bandits' make their getaway

Editor's note: This is the second in a three-part series about the notorious Pampa bank robbery of 1927.



COURTNEY OXLEY

Several men were sitting on benches under the big locust trees in front of the White Deer Land Building. These men were employed to carry bricks to "Indian Jim" who was paving some of the streets of Pampa. As these men sat and ate their lunches, they had no idea of the excitement that was soon to penetrate the city of Pampa.

The people inside the vault freed themselves in about three minutes because the vault had not been locked, only the bars turned.

There were four members of the bank staff in the vault. Lorene Blanton was in an adjoining office and knew nothing about the robbery until those in the vault were freed.

Rufe Jordan, then a 14-year-old school student at Kingsmill, had been sent on horseback to Pampa for seven rolls of crepe paper. He arrived in Pampa right after the robbery and was so interested in learning all of the details that he was several hours late in returning to school and was punished accordingly.

After the robbery, the bandits headed west and stopped at the home of W.E. Archer and his sister Robbie. The Archer home, on the road to Borger, was nearly two miles west of Price Road.

Some buildings behind the house were used for storing farm machinery and grain. The bandits parked their getaway car in a breezeway between the buildings and entered the house a few at a time. The first men to enter

asked to use the telephone because of "tire trouble." Just before the robbers reached the telephone, they drew guns and ordered the Archers to sit in chairs.

The robbers asked if there were any firearms in the house and told them that they would not be harmed if they acted normally.

One of the bandits seemed nervous and jumpy, but the others remained calm and made themselves at home.

The invaders told the Archers about the robbery and looked at the loot which included several diamond rings. They were especially pleased with a ring and a watch charm containing a \$10 gold piece belonging to the directors of the bank.

The robbers expressed regret at having to inconvenience their host and hostess and, after the money was counted, all of them — robbers and residents — played cards.

As they sat in the living room, the telephone rang. At first it was decided to let the telephone ring unanswered, but, since it was customary for Helen Baird's mother, a sister of the Archers, to call every day, the robbers decided to let Robbie answer.

As one of the bandits stood beside her, Robbie listened to her sister's account of the robbery, but she did not dare reveal that she already knew about the event and that the robbers were in her house. The sister was annoyed at Robbie because of her seeming indifference.

About 3 a.m. on Friday, April 1, the robbers prepared to leave. In a hall of the house there was a bathroom with a small window on the west. The bandits fastened the Archers inside this room by welding a two-by-four against the door. They told the Archers that when they reached Ama-

rillo, they would telephone Pampa police to tell them of the plight of the prisoners.

Enos Archer, using a single blade knife, cut out a panel of the door in about an hour and a half. He went immediately to Pampa to inform authorities about his uninvited guests.

About 15 minutes after the bandits left the Archer's house, two veteran deputies, Pat Kenyon and A.L. (Chick) Terry, were shot and killed on the road between Skellytown and Borger. The bodies of the deputies were found on the road and their car was standing crosswise in the middle of the road.

Officers had begun work on the theory that Ray Rerrell, Matthew Kimes and "Whitey" Walker had looted the Pampa Bank.

Terrell, Kimes and Walker were members of a gang of outlaws who made their headquarters at Signal Hill, an oil boom town two miles west of Stinnett. These outlaws walked around town armed to the teeth. When they entered a barbershop, they hung their gun belts over a nail, but kept their eyes peeled for any suspicious-looking person who might make an attempt to grab the belt.

Law enforcement officers often referred to Terrell and Kimes as the Ghost Bandits for they had the knack of slipping through any roadblock set for them or escaping from jail.

Next week learn more about the city of Pampa's reaction to the robbery.

To learn more about Pampa and the Gray County area, visit the White Deer Land Museum in downtown Pampa. Regular tours are offered Tuesday through Saturday from 1-4 p.m. If you would like to schedule a special or group tour, please call or email the museum at 806-669-8041 or courtney.oxley@graycch.com.

CNN's death-row-optional death row series

Actor-turned-producer Robert Redford boasts that his new CNN series, "Death Row Stories," is "about the search for justice and truth." That's odd, because the series has aired three episodes and they're all about victims of prosecutorial abuse. So far, nobody's really guilty. The second episode features a woman who never spent a night on death row.



DEBRA SAUNDERS

From what I've seen, they should have named the series, narrated by anti-death-penalty activist Susan Sarandon, "Death Row Propaganda."

Episode two, the website says, is about Gloria Killian, who was "charged with capital murder, found guilty of murder in the first degree, and sent to prison in 1986." That's misleading. Killian wasn't tried for capital murder. After she was convicted for her role in a 1981 home invasion murder in Sacramento, Calif., she was sentenced to 32 years to life. Later, a federal court overturned her conviction because prosecutors had withheld evidence.

Why make an episode for a death row series about a woman not sentenced to death? "She was threatened with the death penalty," executive producer Brad Hebert replied.

Any guilty people in your series? Three out of eight episodes, Hebert answered. On further questioning, he posited that his staff members are "torn" on the guilt of one, although they agree he did not get a fair trial. Another was convicted in military court after he was acquitted in civilian court.

Only Nathan Dunlap, Colorado's "Chuck E. Cheese killer," who shot and killed four workers, is presented as guilty and "remorseless," if severely bipolar. But wait; Gov. John Hickenlooper postponed Dunlap's execution indefinitely.

Director Steve Rivo thinks Dunlap got a fair trial. He added that even death penalty supporters agree capital punishment is "not really a deterrent." I don't agree. It deterred Clarence Ray Allen, the most recent inmate executed in California — in 2006. Allen was in prison for the murder of his son's 17-year-old girlfriend when he ordered the death of eight witnesses. Three people died. He got the death penalty, and now Allen cannot reoffend.

The series' first episode is about an intern who dug up evidence that exonerated South Carolina's Edward Lee Elmore. New York Law School professor Robert Blecker, a supporter of capital punishment, thought it was a solid episode, as Elmore "is an example of someone who never should have been condemned to death."

The problem is that producers are stuck in a narrative: Intern or astronaut's mother or priest finds evidence that prevents the execution of an innocent inmate.

There's another narrative — and in my experience, it's more prevalent: Convicted killer finds easily duped advocates who ignore evidence and smear prosecutors.

When convicted rapist/murderer Michael Morales was scheduled for execution in 2006, his attorneys released a statement in which a witness accused prosecutors of coercing her to give false testimony at trial. The affidavit turned out to be a forgery. Still, Morales' lawyers won. They got a federal judge to stay his execution in a constitutional challenge to California's lethal-injection protocol. There hasn't been an execution in the state since. There may be no safer place for a convicted killer than on California's death row. That's California's real death row story.

Email Debra J. Saunders at dsanders@sfnchronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.



Letter to the Editor

Former resident sees affordable housing as key to city's future

Editor's note: These comments from Jarron Clark, a PHS graduate who now works as a real estate consultant in Dallas-Fort Worth area, were emailed to The Pampa News after the article on yesterday's front page went to press. Section 42 housing is affordable housing for low income families created by the Reagan Administration through the Tax Credit Reform Act of 1986. To receive the tax credits, Section 42 owners must keep the units affordable for a specified number of years. The affordable rents are based on the median household income in the area.

affordable housing. What I meant by the statement is that we look to develop on a "needs-base" and there has been very little to no development for those who fall under the median household income for the county. Those below the median household income are our workforce and base infrastructure for the community.

Say that a manufacturing plant were to settle in or near Pampa, where is there quality affordable housing development in the area? We see an influx of mid to high end housing, but very little that revitalizes areas needing revitalization, very little to support a rise in affordable housing options for workers in new industries like manufacturers, call centers, restaurants and retail workers and, very little that would apply to single-parent households who seek to improve their lives in a great community like Pampa. Whether a new development falls under

TDHCA, which would be best for the community at-large, or a conventional affordable housing development, I would like to see an improvement of the community through quality affordable housing; fifty percent of our community needs it.

Q: To be approved by the THDCA for tax credits, is it mandatory or only helpful to have a recommendation from a state representative or senator? Brett Johnson from Overland said that because of the hundreds of complaints State Rep. Ken King received about supporting the proposed Overland project in Pampa, King said he would be unlikely to support any other affordable housing projects in Pampa, according to Johnson.

A: A recommendation by a state senator is no longer relevant, but a recommendation by a state representative is a significant scoring point for TDHCA. Perhaps Pampa needs

a new voice to present a TDHCA development. I am not fully informed as to how Overland presented the development, but from what I have read they made an attempt to help people understand what these developments are about.

I fully understand the opposition to Section 8 developments. However, this is nothing like a Section 8 development, as you have thoroughly related to the people. Furthermore, in these developments, the ultimate factor of how they are carried out lifelong is twofold: first, management of the development MUST be top quality and experienced in maintaining the quality of the development long-term. Second, the developer must be invested long-term and develop to such a quality that they see 40-plus years of investment. Our groups meet both. We have an award-winning management group that we work

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Housing

Continued From Page 4

with, and we work with award-winning developers who build for a long-term investment. Not to mention that this is something I will see every time I come up there, and I want it to be something I'm proud of.

One of the major appeals to TDHCA developments is that the developer is required to have a 15-year hold on the asset. For a brief history, the reason we may have seen Section 8 projects and TDHCA developments as poor assets that deteriorate quickly is because in the past there wasn't a standard for longevity of the development. The difference is, as well as with the Overland group, the core requirement for receiving TDHCA is that the developer hold the asset for 15 years, which means the developer is going to build to the top of the industry. Otherwise, they would ultimately lose in the end.

Jarron Clark
Round Rock

Applications for emergency farm loans currently being accepted

SUBMITTED

Applications for emergency farm loans for damages and losses caused by drought beginning March 11, 2014 and continuing are being accepted at the Farm Service Agency (FSA) office located in Perryton, Texas.

Hemphill and Roberts Counties recently received a disaster designation as eligible for loans to cover part of actual production and physical losses under the "fast track" authority. As contiguous counties also named under this disaster were Lipscomb and Roberts Counties.

Farmers may be eligible for loans of up to 100 percent of their actual losses or the operating loan needed to continue the agricultural business, whichever is less. For farmers unable to obtain credit from private commercial lenders,

the interest rate is 2.875 percent.

As a general rule a farmer or rancher must have suffered at least a 30 percent loss of crop production or suffered any physical loss to be eligible for an FSA emergency loan under this disaster designation of drought conditions beginning March 11, 2014. Producers participating in the Federal Crop Insurance program will have to consider proceeds from those programs in determining their production loss. Additionally, any insurance proceeds received by producers as a result of the physical loss will have to be considered in determining their total loss.

Application for loans under this emergency designation for physical or production losses will be accepted until November 19, 2014.

FSA is a credit agency of

the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It is authorized to provide disaster emergency loans to recognized farmers who work at and rely on farming for a substantial part of their living.

Eligibility is extended to individual farmers who meet U.S. citizenship requirements and to farming partnerships, corporations or cooperatives in which U.S. citizenship requirements are met by individuals holding a majority interest.

For further information, you may contact James M. Heck at 806-435-6597, Ext. 4 or contact your local FSA office and they will direct you to the Farm Loan Program office that handles your county. Additional information regarding Disaster Assistance Programs may be found online at HYPERLINK "http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov" http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov.

Lawmakers to review juvenile justice policies

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas lawmakers are taking testimony on what changes may be necessary for the state's juvenile justice system.

The Texas House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence is meeting Tuesday morning to consider the rules for sentencing 17-year-olds as adults in criminal cases. Last year lawmakers loosened the rules for sentencing minors in capital murder cases to comply with a U.S. Supreme Court. But some advocates think more changes are needed.

The Texas Senate Criminal Justice Committee will meet in the afternoon to study how the juvenile detention system is operating. Lawmakers recently moved to shut down most of the state's juvenile detention centers, but the state is still struggling with how to deal with those suffering from severe behavioral problems.

The lawmakers will use what they learn Tuesday at next year's legislative session.

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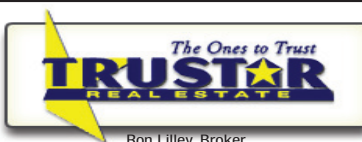
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BY LINDSEY TOMASCHIK
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AirMedCare Network is the nation's largest air medical membership network. The network provides service in 28 states with more than 200 locations.

LifeStar, which flies out of Pampa and Amarillo, is included in the list of emergency air ambulances supported by the membership.

An emergency care flight can cost more than \$13,000, whereas the annual fee for a membership, which covers an entire household, is \$65. This fee covers the cost of the flight, and whatever the patient's benefits provider pays for emergency air ambulance services will be considered payment-in-full for the medical evacuation.

There is also the option to pay a monthly membership fee of \$6. Other membership packages include a one-year (\$65), three-year (\$185), five-year (\$300), 10-year (\$575) or a 25-year membership (\$1125). Checks, money orders and credit cards are all acceptable forms of payment.

Members receive an unlimited amount of emergency flights throughout the duration of the membership and out-of-pocket costs for air medical transport are covered.

Those interested in enrolling in the membership program can do so by calling 800-793-0100 or by going to www.joinmedtrans.com.



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Pampa Faith

11 Gallup polls I bet you didn't know about

In 1982, the Gallup polling organization asked Americans to choose between three different explanations of how humanity began. That same poll with the same wording has been given 11 times, the last being 2012. Americans were asked to choose which of the three most closely aligned with their personal view of how humanity began. The choices were:

No. 1, human beings have developed over millions of years from less advanced forms of life, but God guided this process.

No. 2, human beings have developed over millions of years from less advanced forms of life, but God had no part in this process.

No. 3, God created human beings pretty much in their present form at one time within the last 10,000 years or so. Each time about 5-6 percent wrote down some personal idea rather than choose.

No. 1, aka theistic evolution, has averaged 37 percent.

No. 2, aka secular evolution, has averaged 12 percent.

No. 3, aka creationism, has averaged 45 percent.

So my first question is this: Why would 82 percent of the American population (who believe that God in some way was at the helm of humanity's beginning) allow schools at any level to teach as fact a god-less hypothesis (naturalistic evolution) to our children? Answer? WE WOULDN'T, if we were paying careful attention. The sad truth is we obviously don't care enough or 82 percent of our population would get that changed in short order.

My second question concerns those Americans who have been so brainwashed that they might say: "Well,



MIKE SUBLETT

we have to maintain that separation of church and state, you know." **BALONEY!** If God was the originator of humanity (and He was) then how can mankind's beginning even be referred to, much less discussed, without mentioning Him? Answer? **IT CAN'T!** And 82 percent believe that. But what do we do about it? **NOTHING!** Most of that 82 percent just stands by and lets the children be taught a God-less hypothesis of humanity's beginning; that's what is in our modern textbooks-**NO GOD.** Discussing God, when presenting mankind's beginning, is not teaching religion, but rather it is teaching what happened — what 82 percent of Americans believe to be true.

And finally, if almost half of Americans believe in the "thousands of years ago" account of humanity's beginning in Genesis 1, then why do we tolerate so many people talking about mankind's beginning in terms of millions of years without a rebuttal? Why do we just sit by and say nothing?

It is time for the 82 percent to speak up, folks.

When you hear someone talk about human beginnings and they don't mention God, **SPEAK UP.** Tell them, "Hey, you left out the most important part of human beginning — **GOD!**"

And it is time for the 45 percent to speak up as well. When you hear someone mention "millions of years" when referring to anything about humans, you say: "Hey, that's incorrect. It was thousands of years ago, but not millions." You don't have to be a scholar to speak up and you don't have to have a mountain of evidence either; they don't. Just don't let it go unchallenged. **SPEAK-UP!** God bless. Mike

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Mike Sublett is a pastor at Hi-Land Christian Church, 1615 N. Banks St., Pampa, Texas 79065. Email him at pawdad@nts-online.net.

CHURCH SPOTLIGHT

Community Fifth Sunday Singing

On Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. March 30, churches all across Pampa will be gathering at First Christian Church for the Community Fifth Sunday Singing. Jeff Knighton, pastor at First Christian, has graciously invited churches to share in this time at First Christian. Various members of the churches across Pampa will be sharing not only their talents, but the message of Jesus Christ through song. Suni Luckey from the Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship has worked to gather these individuals to share with all those who attend.

The Community Fifth Sunday Singing is a joint effort of the Pampa Area United Ministerial Alliance and the churches across Pampa.

In the past the Fifth Sunday Singings have been truly awesome as people share the Good News of Jesus Christ through their musical talents. It is the desire of all the members of the Ministerial Alliance to see the churches gather for this time of fellowship. We do hope that you will come and share in this time with us on March 30 at 6:30 p.m. There will be taking an offering that evening to support various ministries in Pampa.

Holy Week schedule at White Deer United Methodist Church

Sunday, April 13, is Palm Sunday

when children will spread palm fronds to commemorate Christ's triumphal entrance into Jerusalem. The worship service is at 11 a.m.

Thursday at 7 p.m. on April 17, the church will celebrate Maundy Thursday, also known as Holy Thursday. It is a time to commemorate Jesus Christ's last supper with the observance of Holy Communion.

Friday, Good Friday, at 7 p.m. on April 18, is the day which we remember the death of Christ on the cross. It is a quiet somber service and as the lights go out we leave the sanctuary quietly in remembrance.

Sunday at 7 a.m. April 20 will be the sunrise service at the tomb located at the Cross at Groom. Everyone is invited to share in this special time.

At 11 a.m. the Easter Service is back in the sanctuary with the flowering of the cross.

Children and youth will take flowers down to the cross and after the worship service the cross is moved out front so the community can enjoy it as a reminder of spring and symbolic of a new beginning that comes about with a life of following and serving the risen Christ.

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EXTRA INNINGS

March Madness lives up to the name.

They call it March Madness for a reason and if you watched any of the action this past weekend you would know that to be true.

The tournament started out with an upset right off the bat when Dayton beat Ohio State.

There were five overtimes in the first round, the most of any single round in tournament history. The entire 2013 tournament only had one overtime period. There was one more overtime in

the opening round game that brought the total to six, one shy of the overall tournament record.

Only one team in tournament history has ever lost five games to a double-digit seed while it was a top three-seed. That team is Duke, and they fell to 14th seeded Mercer on Friday.

In total, there were 13 upsets based off seeds in rounds one and two.

Kansas State received a technical foul before their game against Kentucky because a walk-on dunked during warm-ups. The game was 1-0 before tipoff.

And most of all, pretty much everyone's bracket is busted. But if you do any of those second chance brackets, I will

give you some tips on filling out your final 16.

11 seed Dayton kicks off action Thursday when they face 10 seed Stanford. That game is a toss up. It should be fun to watch, but I am going to have to go with the Dayton Flyers to continue their Cinderella run.

I like Baylor to knock off the 2 seed Wisconsin. (Us Texans need a Texas team to root for right? They are the only one left.)

Florida should continue to take care of business and knock off Wisconsin. Same with Arizona over San Diego State.

Michigan should not have a problem with Tennessee. Iowa State should handle UCONN.

I like Michigan State to pull the upset over Virginia. Kentucky and Louisville should be a great rivalry match-up, but I like the Louisville Cardinals to pull that one out.

Look for Louisville playing Arizona in the Final Four as well as Florida playing Michigan State. (Although UCONN or Iowa State could easily be there too.)

I still like Florida over Louisville for the title.

Buckle up. It should be a fun ride for the last two weeks of the tournament. Then it is onward to baseball season!

Zac Green is an avid Oklahoma State fan and youth minister at Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ. He can be reached at zac.green@sbcglobal.net.



ZAC GREEN

JUNIOR VARSITY VERSUS BORGER



Left, Carson Eubank leads off the game. Right, Cy Wood slides into second base. The Harvesters won 18-2 over their rival. It wasn't much of a contest as several Harvesters had multiple hits and Rhett Harden pitched very well.

Photos by Charla Shults

Darvish scratched from Rangers season opener

SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP) — Yu Darvish will miss his scheduled start in Monday's season opener, leaving the already injured Texas Rangers without their ace.



Yu Darvish

Darvish said through his interpreter Tuesday that he knew he wasn't going to be ready to pitch in the opener at home against Philadelphia because of neck stiffness.

The announcement came a day after Darvish

stopped throwing while playing catch.

Darvish was initially scratched from starting a minor league spring training game Friday. He said then that he had stiffness in his neck that he felt after waking up one morning, and repeated again Tuesday that the problem was from sleeping wrong.

Darvish is scheduled to return to Texas to be examined by spine and back specialist Dr. Drew Dossett.

The Rangers will then determine what to do next, including the possibility of Darvish going on the disabled list. A DL move could be backdated

and allow him to be eligible for a return only a week into the season.

It was the third day in a row the Rangers got significantly bad injury news.

On Sunday, the team found out prized prospect and expected everyday second baseman Jurickson Profar will miss 10 to 12 weeks with a muscle tear in his right shoulder. Then it was announced Monday that catcher Geovany Soto is expected out about the same amount of time with a muscle tear in his right knee.

The Rangers, who last season missed the playoffs for the first time in four years, already knew they would be starting the season without left-handers Matt Harrison (back) and Derek Holland (microfracture knee surgery) in the rotation. Harrison could be back by mid-April.

Darvish is going into his third major league season after being a standout in Japan. He

started the second game for the Rangers last season, when he came within one out of a perfect game against Houston.

He went on to finish 13-9 and lead the majors with 277 strikeouts, finishing second in the AL Cy Young Award voting.

Darvish is 29-18 with a 3.34 ERA in his 61 games with the Rangers over the past two seasons, and his 498 strikeouts are the most in the majors during that span. The right-hander last year became the first pitcher since Orel Hershiser in 1989 to suffer four 1-0 losses in the same season.

The Rangers didn't immediately say who would replace Darvish as the starter Monday opposite Cliff Lee and the Phillies.

Really, the only other two pitchers who had been set in the rotation with Darvish are 22-year-old left-hander Martin Perez, who was 10-6 as a rookie last season, and converted hard-throwing setup man Tanner Schepers.

JV girls down Borger in softball

STAFF REPORT

The junior varsity girls' softball team took on Borger Saturday

and won 14-5.

Junior Risa Rodriguez hit a home run

out of the park while fellow junior Avery Malone had an in-the-park home run.

Sophomores Shiann Regalado and Kendra McIntyre each had two hits.



Risa Rodriguez

Watch the Pros

Baseball — Spring Training	Washington Nationals at St. Louis Cardinals.....ESPN noon
Hockey	Philadelphia Flyers at New York Rangers.....NBCSN 7 p.m.
Soccer	Sunderland vs. Liverpool.....NBCSN 2:55 p.m.
Golf	Eurasia Cup.....GOLF 7:30 p.m.
Tennis	Sony Open.....ESPN2 noon
Basketball	Denver Nuggets at San Antonio Spurs.....FSSW 7:30 p.m.
	Miami Heat at Indiana Pacers.....ESPN 7 p.m.
	Memphis Grizzlies at Utah Jazz.....ESPN 9:30 p.m.

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PAMPA PROUD

Katrina Smith

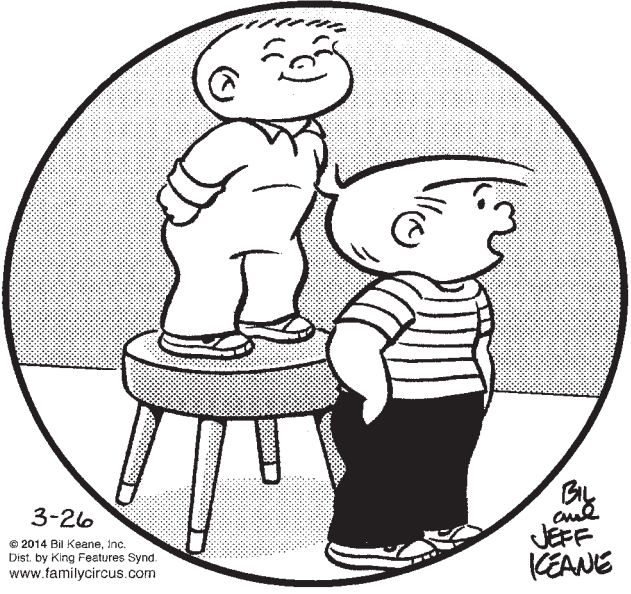
Please welcome Katrina Smith to the Culberson-Stowers Family. She comes to us from Lubbock where she was awarded the 2012 Runner-up Salesman of the year. She will help you find the perfect vehicle to fit your budget.

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THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



3-26

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Bil and Jeff Keane

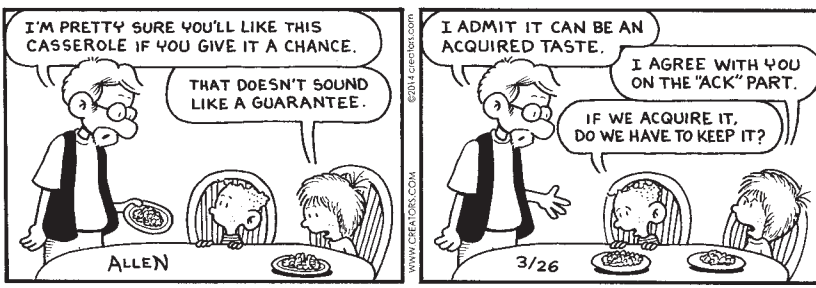
"Mommy, I'm helping PJ practice bein' tall."

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads

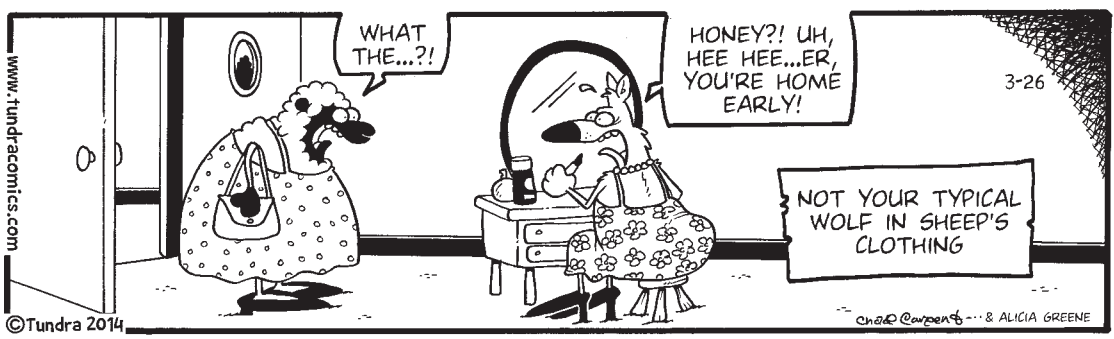


daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, March 27, 2014:
 This year you have the ability to energize others to accomplish their goals. You are more in tune with a personal matter than others had originally thought. They will see you take action that reflects this knowledge. If you are single, check out someone you meet with care, as some of the people you meet are not what they project themselves to be. Midsummer marks a period when this tendency might not be as prominent. If you are attached, you discover just how much fun you can have with your sweetie, as long as you can let go of certain issues. PISCES could make you uncomfortable, as he or she seems to see right through you.
The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult
ARIES (March 21-April 19)
 ★★★★★ You'll be feisty and might want to push back, which could cause someone to cop an attitude. You are on top of what is happening with a partner and others in general. You happen to be in a better position to see the big picture. Tonight: Around good music.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 ★★★ A higher-up demands a lot of you, yet because you do deliver, you will succeed. Don't allow someone else to undermine you simply because you lose sight of your main objective. Listen to your inner voice. Take gratitude in the manner in which it is meant. Tonight: Celebrate!
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 ★★★★★ Reach out for a new insight by asking questions that don't make someone feel ill at ease. You could be surprised by what is going on below the surface. Weigh the pros and cons of making a comment -- it might not be worth the effort. Tonight: In the limelight.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ★★★★★ Keep reaching out to someone you care about. Listen to news that surrounds a child or loved one carefully. You'll have a lot of commitments, so you need to choose your priorities with care. You might have difficulty coming up with solutions. Tonight: Where the action is.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 ★★★★★ You could be more forthright with a situation than you have been in the past. Make a point of listening to a family member about what is happening. If you

are not careful, you could become a bit difficult. Allow others to dominate. Tonight: Go along with a suggestion.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 ★★★★★ You might want to move in a new direction or change your speed when dealing with a personal matter. How you handle this issue could change your plans. Focus on completion rather than taking on anything new. Tonight: Start your weekend early.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ★★★★★ You might want to understand what is happening with a loved one. Know that you won't get information by pushing this person. Remain open and relaxed. You are at your best when working with individuals rather than groups today. Tonight: As you like it.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ★★★★★ Be more forthright and direct in your dealings. Honor a change of pace, and follow through on your long-desired results. Keep conversations to yourself, especially one you have had recently, and you'll gain a new perspective. Tonight: Let your hair down!
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 ★★★★★ You could be in a situation that allows more give-and-take between others. You might laugh when you see how comical a situation is. There is no need to close down. You will say what you think some other time, when it is more appropriate. Tonight: Paint the town red.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ★★★★★ You will find that you have an opportunity to make a difference by responding to someone's inquiries. You might not even think that this person is being serious, but what he or she is indicating is what little knowledge he or she has. Tonight: A must appearance.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ★★★★★ Relate to others directly. You have the energy and wherewithal to find a resolution. Be clear about your choices, even when dealing with a very difficult person. You likely will want to understand more about a financial commitment. Tonight: Make it your treat.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ★★★★★ In the daylight hours, you might want to play it low-key, as you will be gaining information about a potential legal matter or a situation that you want documented. As the sun sets, you might question the relevancy of this idea. Tonight: Beam in what you want.

Tundra

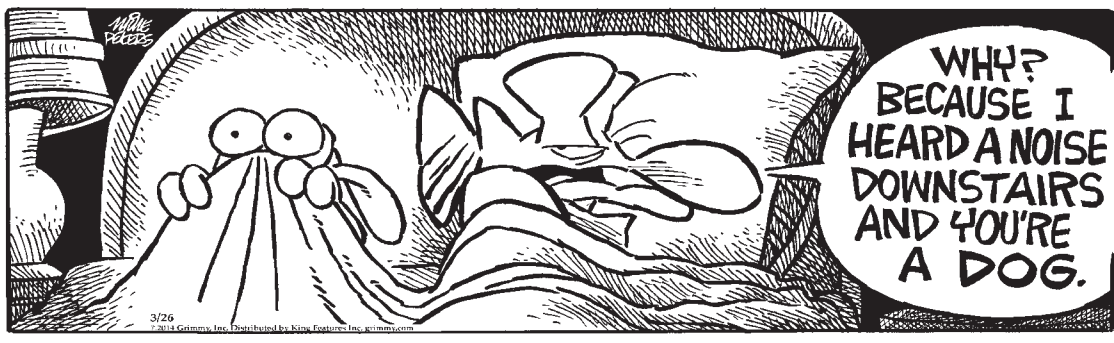


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Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



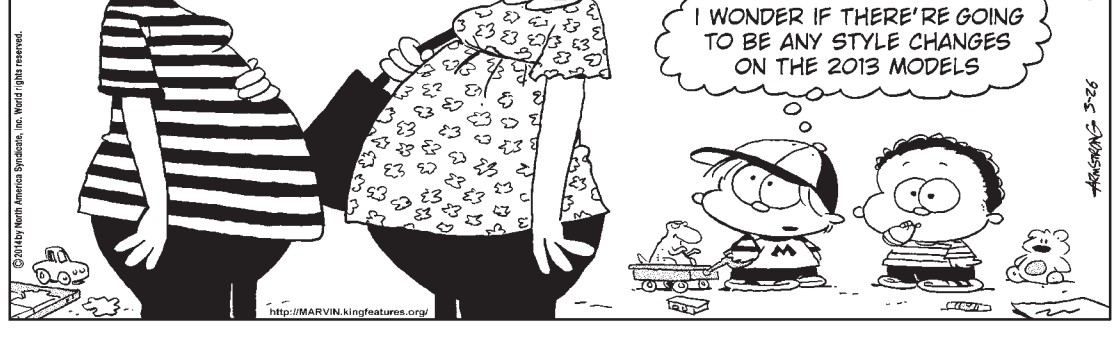
Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



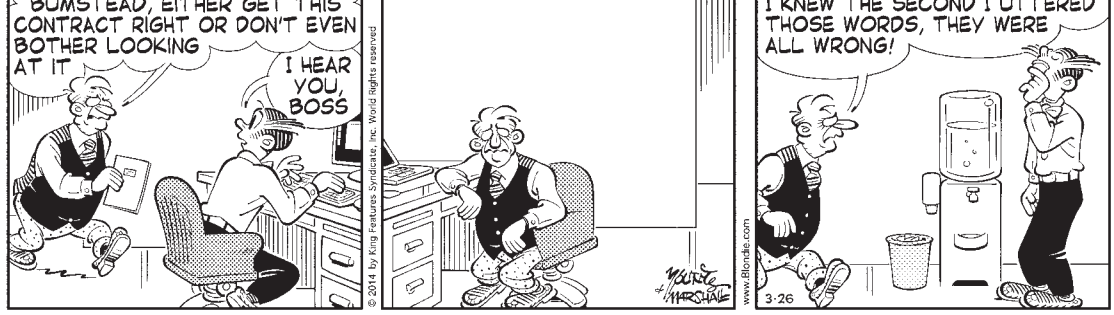
Hagar The Horrible

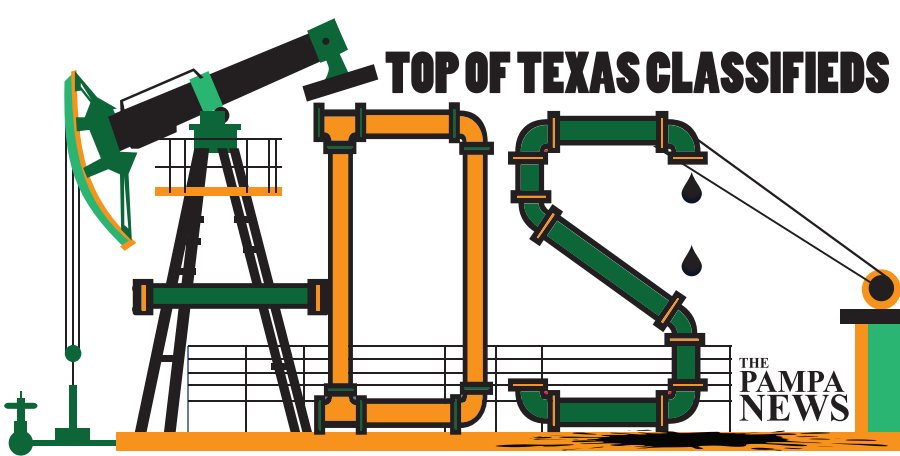


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A XYDLBAA XR
is LONGFELLOW
One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

3-26 CRYPTOQUOTE

L E P J S X D L P D M D J P G T L E P
O S N L N M G L S U L E P T S X K
M D H L E P P B P T C M N W G L T
G D L P D L G S D T . — C M N J X T

L X K K G X T J G J P N S
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: PLANS ARE ONLY GOOD INTENTIONS UNLESS THEY IMMEDIATELY DEGENERATE INTO HARD WORK. — PETER DRUCKER

SUDOKU

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Intermediate



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I have been married almost 20 years. Eight years ago my wife began an emotional affair with a co-worker. It lasted a year, until he left the company. Although they never had sex, they did have some physical contact that most people would consider inappropriate, and my wife considered ending our marriage because of the feelings she had for him. She now says the episode was a huge mistake and she loves me more than ever.

She was a real woman who fulfilled everything I had ever dreamed of (including bringing a wonderful 4-year-old little girl into my life). The biological father is out of the picture. Maggie had wrestled with some health issues — nothing serious until last April, when she had surgery. Complications set in, and I lost the only person who ever mattered, aside from our little girl.

My question is, since we were never married, how do I refer to Maggie when relating what happened? I am in the process of adopting her daughter and explanations to strangers are tough. ("Wow, you're taking on a child when you don't HAVE to?") How do I respond to these remarks? I know this is a multi-part question, but I have so many unanswered questions lately, I figured I'd ask you for an opinion.

— GRIEVING IN MISSOURI
DEAR GRIEVING: Although you and Maggie weren't legally married, you were a couple for some time. I'm very sorry for your loss. It would be accurate to refer to her as your late significant other, your partner or longtime girlfriend. I would like to compliment you for stepping up to care for the girl when her biological father did not. And I do have suggestions for how to respond to anyone insensitive enough to ask why you would "take on" a child you didn't "have to."

The first would be to ignore the question. The second would be to avoid such a person in the future, and the third would be to reply, "I love her like a daughter, want to make sure she's secure and provided for, and THAT'S why I'm doing it."

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

BANANAGRAMS!

Each set of 10 tiles below contains two common five-letter words. The letters of the first five-letter word are adjacent (but not in order). Find them and rearrange them to spell a word. Cross out those letters and imagine that the five remaining letters are now consecutive. These remaining five letters can now be rearranged to spell the second word.

A A T I N A F U V G

A R N F T I U Y E N

K P R A W O R L O A

Yesterday's Answer: SULFER, SILVER, FLUORINE 3.26

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 South Seas sights
 - 7 Uncertain
 - 11 Became depleted
 - 12 Foot part
 - 13 Tours setting
 - 14 Brutish sort
 - 15 One always working out
 - 17 Mealtime protectors
 - 20 Ready for sleep
 - 23 Fuss
 - 24 Notorious box opener
 - 26 Hot brew
 - 27 Bible boat
 - 28 Radius setting
 - 29 Mythical monsters
 - 31 Dem.'s foe
 - 32 Church leader
 - 33 Casino figure
 - 34 Paleontologist's prize
 - 37 Organ part
 - 39 Stage comments
 - 43 Betting group
 - 44 Stringent
- DOWN**
- 1 Sandy's sound
 - 2 Paver's goo
 - 3 "Not — dare!"
 - 4 Has yearnings
 - 5 Sister of Linus
 - 6 Goblet part
 - 7 Vacation spot
 - 8 Bed's bottom end
 - 9 Winter bug
 - 10 To date
 - 16 Skating spots
 - 17 Soak in the tub
 - 18 Perfect measure
 - 19 Lumber
 - 21 Misplayed
 - 22 Muffles
 - 24 Skating category
 - 25 Verb for you
 - 30 Folks
 - 33 Green hue
 - 35 Pert talk
 - 36 "Got it"
 - 37 Place for the pampered
 - 38 Hauler's unit
 - 40 — Moines
 - 41 Pitcher's stat
 - 42 Make darts, say

W	A	S	T	E		S	A	N	T	A
E	X	C	O	N		T	R	I	A	L
B	L	O	O	D	S	A	M	P	L	E
S	E	T		R	A	G		S	E	X
				N	U	D	E	S		
B	A	R	O	N		S	I	E	G	E
I	D	E	S			X	R	A	Y	
T	O	X	I	C		S	T	A	L	E
				R	A	S	P	Y		
A	S	H		N	O	R		S	E	W
B	L	O	O	D	S	I	M	P	L	E
C	O	N	D	O		N	O	I	S	E
S	T	E	E	R		T	O	N	E	D

Yesterday's answer

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1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	
11							12				
13							14				
				15		16					
17	18	19				20			21	22	
23				24	25						
26				27				28			
29			30					31			
32							33				
			34			35	36				
37	38					39			40	41	42
43						44					
45						46					

Pharmacists urged not to assist US executions

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Several human rights and anti-death penalty groups have asked the American Pharmacists Association to prohibit members from participating in executions, a request that comes as states increasingly turn to pharmacists for lethal injection drugs.

The groups, which include Amnesty International, the NAACP and the American Civil Liberties Union, are targeting so-called compounded drugs. Such drugs, which are not federally regulated, are individually mixed versions of medications that prison systems are finding increasingly difficult to obtain.

Death penalty opponents say such drugs put inmates at risk of pain and suffering. Two years ago, an outbreak of meningitis that killed 64 and sickened hundreds was traced to a compounding facility in Massachusetts.

Pharmacists who provide compounded drugs are violating key provisions of the pharmacists' association code of ethics, including helping patients achieve "optimum benefit" from their medications, according to a letter the death penalty opponents presented to the association on Monday.

"Participation in executions undermines the position of trust that pharmacists enjoy in this nation," said the letter sent ahead of the association's annual meeting beginning Friday in Orlando, Fla. The let-

ter is part of a lobbying effort spearheaded by the nonprofit group SumOfUs, which says it represents consumers and workers and seeks to "counterbalance the growing power of large corporations."

Numerous drug makers have put their products off limits for executions, drying up the supply available to prison systems. Missouri has used a compounded version of pentobarbital to execute four inmates with plans for a fifth at midnight Wednesday. Texas has used compounded pentobarbital to execute six inmates, with a seventh execution planned for Thursday.

Lawyers for death row inmates in Oklahoma have alleged the state used compounded pentobarbital to put an inmate to death in January. Michael Wilson's final words were, "I feel my whole body burning," and then he didn't move.

A plan by Georgia to use a similar specialty batch of pentobarbital has been put on hold by a lawsuit challenging the state prison agency's refusal to identify the compounding pharmacy that provided the drug. The lawsuit also questions the drug's safety and effectiveness.

In Ohio, the state's policy calls for the prison system to obtain compounded pentobarbital as a first choice, and then to use a backup method of a sedative and painkiller if the compounded drug can't be found.

The state has chosen the backup method in the past two scheduled executions, although only one was carried out.

The pharmacists' association is unlikely to adopt any statement at this year's meeting because it has a long process for developing policies, spokeswoman Michelle Spinnler said in an email to The Associated Press Tuesday. She said the earliest the group's delegates could consider any proposal would be next year.

The association previously adopted policies opposing the use of the word "drug" for chemicals used in lethal injections, and opposing laws or regulations that require or prohibit pharmacists from participating in lethal injections.

Amnesty International believes the call to the pharmacists is another chance to express opposition to capital punishment, said Thengwe McHarris.

"Their profession is meant to preserve life, it's meant to do no harm, and the death penalty doesn't just challenge that, it's completely opposite to that mission," she said.

Any pharmacists' association policy would not affect members' ability to practice. But death penalty opponents hope that a policy change would filter down to state regulatory boards, which could require such a ban as part of licensing.

Bombing suspect's friend made threats

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — A friend of one of the Boston marathon bombing suspects threatened an FBI agent and a Massachusetts trooper with a long pole and was fatally shot by the agent after confessing to his role a triple slaying, a Florida prosecutor said Tuesday.

State Attorney Jeff Ashton said in a report the agent was justified in shooting Ibragim Todashev, 27, last May. The officers were questioning Todashev about the 2011 slaying in Waltham, Mass., and he was about to write a statement when his mood changed from cooperative to agitated, according to the report.

Todashev, a mixed martial arts fighter, flipped a coffee table in the air, knocking down the FBI agent and causing a bloody gash on the agent's head. Todashev then ran past the two officers, into the kitchen and returned with a pole — a long metal handle of a broom or mop — that he pointed at the Massachusetts officer, the report said.

The FBI agent fired three or four shots at Todashev as he charged toward the trooper, and Todashev dropped to his knees. But he still managed to lung at the officer, and the FBI agent fired three or four more shots, the report said.

"The one common thread among all was the observation that he was, at his core, a fearless fighter," Ashton said in a letter to FBI Director James Comey. "Perhaps on this occasion, he simply reverted to that basic aspect of his personality and chose to go down fighting."

Separately, the U.S. Justice Department also concluded Tuesday that there was no basis for federal criminal charges against the FBI agent. The federal inquiry echoed the Florida report in saying that Todashev implicated himself in the triple-murder.

Federal authorities have said in court filings that Todashev also implicated

Tamerlan Tsarnaev in the Waltham slayings, but the Justice Department report said the details of the confession were not being released publicly at the request of prosecutors in Massachusetts. The Justice Department report said both men shared an interest in mixed martial arts and were suspected in the Waltham murders.

In the Waltham case, three men were found in an apartment with their necks slit and their bodies reportedly covered with marijuana. One of the victims was a boxer and friend of Tsarnaev, who had befriended Todashev when Todashev lived in Boston.

In the Florida shooting, the FBI agent from Boston and two Massachusetts State Police officers had questioned Todashev at his apartment for almost five hours before the fatal shooting, the report said. The FBI had become interested in Todashev in the days after the Boston marathon bombing last April because he was friends with Tsarnaev. By then, Todashev also had become a "person of interest" in the Waltham slayings, according to the report, and FBI agents had questioned him several times in the weeks before he was killed.

One of the Massachusetts troopers told investigators that Todashev's mood changed right before he was to sign the statement.

Todashev asked to go to the bathroom and then asked for more cigarettes even though he seemed to have plenty in his pack, raising worries that he was trying to minimize the number of law enforcement officers in room, the trooper told investigators. On the trip back from bathroom, the trooper became more concerned as they walked downstairs because Todashev appeared to be purposely walking slowly. As a precaution, the trooper grabbed a samurai sword hanging on a wall and hid it in the kitchen.

"I was more and more concerned he might try to flee or attack us," the trooper told investigators.

The trooper also sent a text message to the FBI agent and the second trooper: "Be on guard, he is in a vulnerable position to do something bad. Be on guard now. I see him looking around at times."

After Todashev waived his Miranda rights and started writing a statement, one of the troopers stepped outside to call a prosecutor in Massachusetts. Todashev flipped the table, and he "moved incredibly quickly, almost like something in a movie," the trooper in the room told investigators. Todashev grabbed the pole, stood in a fighting position and "charged toward me as if he was going to impale me with the pole," the trooper said.

The FBI agent told investigators, "There was no doubt in my mind that Todashev intended to kill us both."

An autopsy report also released Tuesday showed Todashev was shot once in the head and six times in the torso.

Todashev's family has raised doubts about the account provided by law enforcement, saying that Todashev was recovering from knee surgery and was limping at the time he was killed.

Hassan Shibly, executive director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations in Tampa, which is conducting its own investigation into the fatal shooting, said Ashton's investigative focus was very narrow.

"It's very important that this isn't whether the agent was justified in shooting," Shibly said. "It's about the pattern of abuse that occurred before, during and after the questioning. That won't be covered in a criminal investigation."

Todashev's live-in girlfriend and other friends been deported since the shooting.

Five charged in Houston human smuggling operation

HOUSTON (AP) — Five men, at least two of them from Mexico, are accused of using guns and threats to hold 115 people hostage in a small Houston house unless they paid ransom to continue their illegal entry into the United States.

A criminal complaint from Department of Homeland Security Special Agent Andres Garcia Jr. said the people, discovered last week crammed into the home of less than 1,300 square feet, were stripped of their shoes and most of their clothing to keep them from escaping.

They also were threatened with violence if they did not comply and there were instances of some being kicked and beaten and females being groped, the complaint said. One pregnant girl was among people struck with a wooden paddle.

The five men — Jose Aviles-Villa, Jonathan Solorzano-Tavila, Antonio Barruquet-Hildiberta, Jose Cesmas-Borja and Eugenio Sesmas-Borja — were each charged with hostage-taking and violence with a firearm.

They were to appear Tuesday before a federal magistrate judge. Court documents did not immediately list an attorney for any of them.

Aviles-Villa and Cesmas-Borja told Houston police they were from Mexico and in the U.S. illegally, according to the criminal complaint. The immigration status of the three other men was not immedi-

ately clear.

One of the people held hostage told authorities Solorzano-Tavila appeared to be the person in charge at the stash house, where smugglers bring the people they've brought into the U.S. illegally and keep them until they or their family members pay a ransom.

Captives told authorities they were held under armed guard. Doors were locked with dead bolts and windows were covered with plywood. A wood paddle, stun gun, ammunition, shotgun and rifle were found at the home, according to the criminal complaint.

Aviles-Villa and Cesmas-Borja were in a car that had left the house that police pulled over because it had no rear-view mirror. Officers spotted a handgun "protruding from beneath the front passenger seat," according to the court document.

A woman had contacted Houston police earlier about the possible abduction of her daughter and two small grandchildren. The criminal complaint said she paid smugglers \$15,000 to deliver her three relatives to Chicago, then was told they would "disappear" if she didn't pay \$13,000 more.

Investigators determined that phone calls made to her came from the home and put it under surveillance. After the traffic stop, officers went to the house and found the captives. In all, 99 males and 16 fe-

males were being held. More than a dozen were juveniles. Among the people inside were the daughter and grandchildren of the woman whose call initiated the investigation.

Solorzano-Tavila, Barruquet-Hildiberta and Sesmas-Borja were apprehended trying to flee after police arrived March 19.

Police have said the people being held primarily were from El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Mexico.

One of those, Mario Ernesto Guzman-Figueroa, said he left his home in Honduras a month ago and was headed for Atlanta, had agreed to pay \$3,400 to be smuggled from El Salvador to Georgia and still owed \$2,000.

"Guzman-Figueroa was told that he had 12 days to pay or he would be beaten, placed in a black plastic bag, and then thrown on the side of the road," Garcia said in the complaint.

One woman from El Salvador, Dilcia Jimenez-Alvarado, said she left a month ago for New York, had paid about \$7,500 to be smuggled but was told in Houston she needed to pay \$5,000 more.

Authorities earlier said the house was filthy inside, had power but no hot water and only one toilet.

Stash house discoveries involving more than 100 captives are not uncommon in South Texas but the raid in Houston, about a five-hour drive from Mexico, is the largest in the city in several years.

Texas CPR instructor uses skills to save puppy

TALTY, Texas (AP) — The first time a CPR instructor in Texas ever used her training on a living being turned out to be at home with a four-legged friend.

It worked. Alicia Pederson of Talty (TAL'-tee) said Tuesday that applying her knowledge about breathing and

compressions for humans saved her newborn puppy. Pederson learned CPR through the Dallas-based American Heart Association, where she holds an administrative job.

Pederson's dog, Izzy, started having four puppies on March 1. One wasn't breathing or moving.

Pederson says she turned

to her emergency training, sucked mucous from the dog's airway "mouth to snout" and then used her thumb to do compressions.

The puppy began breathing.

Pederson says three of the pups will be given to friends. She's keeping the resuscitated puppy named Miri — as in miracle.

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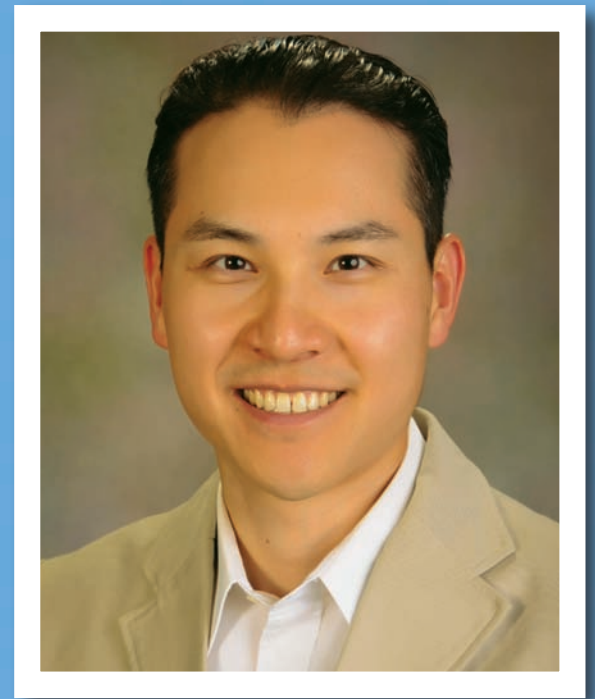
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PAMPA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Dr. Jeff Kuo, MD, FAAP
Pediatrician



The Doctor Is In: Meet Dr. Jeff Kuo

Dr. Kuo started his journey in medicine in 1992 as a hospital volunteer in Pomona, California. While working to complete his medical degree at St. George's University, he taught disabled children as a substitute teacher in the Newark, New Jersey public school system. He then interned at the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, and was a resident at Children's Hospital of New Jersey, Newark Beth Israel Medical Center. Among his many certifications, he is board certified in pediatrics.

We are proud to welcome Dr. Kuo to Pampa Regional Medical Center. It's an honor to have such a young yet accomplished physician on our staff, with a lifetime passion for nurturing and helping children.

Dr. Kuo's office is located at 3023 Perryton Parkway, Suite 206, and he can be reached at (806) 663-5654.

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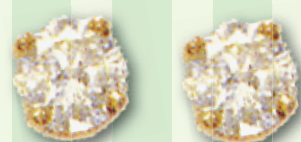
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