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The AMPA



Today at a glance



High school sports schedule



Prairie Plains Perspective





Softball and **Baseball action**





Comics5B Classifieds . . 6B-7B Dear Abby 7B

Check us out on the web www.thepampanews.com

Thursday, April 9 in 'Go Blue Day!'



Submitted photo Be sure to wear blue on Thursday to raise awareness of Child Abuse Prevention. April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month with April 9 as "Go Blue Day."

SUBMITTED BY THE BRIDGE

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. This month and throughout the year, The Bridge Children's Advocacy Center encourages all individuals and organizations to play a role in making the Panhandle community a better place for children and families.

"April is a time to celebrate the important role that communities play in protecting children," said April Leming, Executive Director of The Bridge. "Everyone's participation is critical. Focusing on ways to build and promote the protective factors, in every interaction with children and families, is the best thing our community can do to prevent child maltreatment and promote optimal child development."

One way people can help bring attention to the issue is to participate in "Go Blue Day" on Thursday, April 9, and wear blue, the official color of prevention, to spread the message and show support. Organizations and individuals throughout our community may wear blue in honor of Child Abuse Awareness Month. Local businesses in Pampa including Pampa AISD are participating.

"It is great to have the community of Pampa

BLUE cont. on page 2

Local ranching event scheduled April 7 in Mobeetie

SUBMITTED BY TSCRA

Fort Worth - The Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA) will host a ranch gathering Tuesday, April 7 at the Old Mobeetie Jail Museum Visitor Center in Mobeetie. Registration will begin at 6 p.m. followed by a complimentary beef dinner.

The event is free and open to the public.

TSCRA Special Ranger Ben Eggleston will provide a law enforcement update and offer ranchers information on how they can keep their livestock and equipment safe and secure. Additionally, TSCRA staff will update cattle raisers on important legislative issues.

Please RSVP to 800-242-7820, ext. 192, or rsvp@tscra.

To get to the Old Mobeetie Jail Museum Visitor Center from TX-152/Oklahoma Avenue, turn south onto FM 48/Dickerson Street. After 0.5 of a mile, turn left onto O'Laughlin Street and the visitor center will be on the right after 0.2 of a mile.

The ranch gathering is sponsored by Elanco Animal Health and Capital Farm Credit. Anyone who joins TSCRA at the gathering will receive a free metal gate sign courtesy of Bayer Animal Health and New Holland Agriculture.

Phony calls claiming past due utility bills resurface

SUBMITTED BY THE BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

BBB has received information that local consumers are re-

ceiving calls claiming they have a past due bill at the utility company. These calls were

also on the increase this same time last year. Callers typically target businesses threatening to turn their electric ity if they don't pay

right away. Worried that their power will be turned off at peak hours of operation, they

Xcel Energy media relations spokesperson Wes Reeves has informed BBB of recent increased scamming attempts in the Amarillo area. Restaurants and other businesses are the prime targets. The scammer calls claiming to be an Xcel Energy representative and claims power is about to be

disconnected for nonpayment unless cus-

tomers pay over the phone right away.

Reeves says customers who are behind on their bills will always receive a written disconnect notice through the mail first. If customers get calls that sound suspicious, they should hang up and call Xcel Energy immediately at 1-800-895-4999 and check the status of

their accounts.

Even though most of the recent attempts have been made against businesses, residential customers can be targeted as well.

Criminals, impersonating utility company employees may even go so far as to spoof the utility company's phone number on caller ID. They may also use electric utility terminology to make the call more

SCAM cont. on page 2

Lengthy wait times persist at Texas VA medical facilities

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — H.W. "Bill" Sparks never had trouble scheduling his annual physical at a Veterans Affairs clinic in El Paso until his doctor left early this year. Now he's been left in limbo, waiting several months to be paired with a new physician.

Sparks, a retired Army warrant officer, said the clinic has tried to reduce wait times since an audit last summer revealed it had one of the nation's worst backlogs. Yet it still struggles to attract staff and build enough capacity to treat a large veteran population. "They don't have enough staff

to do it," he said. "So why promise something you can't deliver?"

Despite a nationwide push to lessen the wait times for veterans seeking health care, VA medical facilities across Texas have shown little to no sustained progress. The dilemma mirrors a trend across the country in which facilities are struggling to improve how often they meet the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' goal to have patients seen within 30 days.

Nearly 66,000 medical appointments completed from September through February at VA facilities in Texas didn't meet that threshold, equating to 3.4 percent of patient visits, according to government data reviewed by The Associated Press. That's slightly higher than the 2.8 percent national rate for delayed appointments during that period. Of

VA cont. on page 2

DPS trooper seizes marijuana and hashish

SUBMITTED BY TEXAS DPS

(DPS) conducted a traffic stop Sunday on Interstate 40, yielding more than 30 pounds of hashish valued at more than \$26,000. At approximately 3:21 p.m.,

a DPS trooper conducted a



traffic stop on a 2014 Ford AMARILLO - The Texas Fusion passenger car travel-Department of Public Safety ing eastbound on I-40, for a traffic violation, near Bushland in Potter County.

The driver of the Fusion of marijuana valued at more was identified as Amy Aiko than \$185,000 and two pounds Suyama, 53, of Sebastopol, Calif. During the traffic stop, the trooper discovered the marijuana in the trunk and the hashish in the back seat.

Suyama was placed under arrest for possession of marijuana more than five pounds but less than fifty, a thirddegree felony, possession of a controlled substance more than 400 grams, a first degree felony, and booked into the Potter County Jail. The illegal drugs were allegedly being transported from Santa Fe, N.M., to Houston.



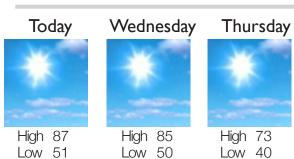








PAMPA FORECAST



Today: Sunny, with a high near 87. West southwest wind 15 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Sunrise at 7:23 a.m.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 51. South southwest wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Sunset at 8:10 p.m.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 85. Breezy,

with a west southwest wind 15 to 25 mph, with

gusts as high as 30 mph. Sunrise at 7:21 a.m. Wednesday night: Mostly clear, with a low around 50. West southwest wind 15 to 20 mph,

with gusts as high as 30 mph. Sunset at 8:11 p.m. Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 73. West wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25

Thursday night: Mostly clear, with a low around 40. North wind 10 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Sunset at 8:12 p.m.

This information brought to you by...

mph. Sunrise at 7:20 a.m.



roofing in the Panhandle 25 years

Continued From Page 1

Texas' delayed visits, more than 12,700 took longer than 60 days.

The public outcry over the long wait times and attempts to cover them up led Congress to pass legislation last August providing an additional \$16.3 billion to hire doctors, open more clinics and expand a program that allows vets to get private-sector care.

But lengthy delays persist across the massive health system in Texas, from small clinics along the Mexico border to medium-sized facilities near sprawling military bases and large medical centers in major cities.

"Texas is ground zero for new veterans. It is where we get things right or wrong," said Paul Rieckhoff, founder of the advocacy group Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, which recently developed a website called "The Wait We Carry," where vets describe their injuries and, at times, frustrations in getting care.

The AP examined waiting times at 54 VA hospitals and outpatient clinics in Texas to gauge improvements since the scandal last year led to the resignation of VA Secretary Eric Shinseki.

It's difficult to quantify exactly how wait times have changed because the VA introduced a new method of measuring them at the end of the summer. But the trend is clear: The number of lengthy delays in Texas has not shown consistent improvement.

The VA clinic in El Paso saw nearly 6 percent of its appointments delayed, ranking it among the highest in Texas. The numbers fluctuated from 5.6 percent in September to 5.9 percent in February. Peter Dancy, director of the El Paso VA Health Care

System, which treats some

40,000 veterans, described an

increasing demand in certain

areas of care such as mental health, which has more than a dozen vacant positions. Recruiting staff to fill these

and other vacancies in the remote West Texas city remains a challenge. El Paso's VA system received federal funding to hire 60 health care workers, but so far 20 have

been hired.

"It's a matter simply of supply versus demand," said Dr. Homer LeMar, the health system's chief of staff. "And the demand is a little ahead of the supply right now."

Austin's VA clinic has also had difficulty meeting patient demand but for a different reason: a rapidly growing veteran population. A new clinic opened in July 2013 and by the end that September had about 25,300 patients. By the same time last year, the facility was serving 27,400 patients and far exceeding projections, which didn't predict 30,000 patients until 2025.

clinic's appointments took longer than 30 days during the six-month span — the highest rate in Texas. But its monthly rate in February was 4.8 percent, part of a downward trend since December.

"Austin is a great place to live, and they are close to Fort Hood," said Dr. Olawale Fashina, the health system's tirees are staying in the area and many of them are going to the Austin (clinic), and we do believe the patients like for improvement."

the care we provide."

Two of the state's largest medical centers largely stagnated in reducing delays. The Houston facility's numbers rose from 2.8 percent in September to 3.8 percent in February. The San Antonio center saw 3.6 percent of its appointments delayed more than 30 days.

The VA Texas Coastal Bend facilities, which by some measures had some of the longest average wait times nationwide last year, saw improvement at its small Harlingen clinic in the Rio Grande Valley.

The outpatient clinic saw delayed appointments fall to About 6.8 percent of the about 5 percent in February from about 8 percent in September. Administrators say extra staffing — the clinic added a physician, two nurses and a clerk — helped reduce wait times.

But the clinic still ranks high among Texas VA facilities in the percentage of delayed appointments.

"We know we have come a chief of staff. "So a lot of re- long ways in access to care," said Hugo Martinez, the health system's spokesman. "But we know there is room

Scam

Continued From Page 1

believable. In some cases, callers may ask you to purchase a gift card or a Green Dot card to make a payment. Check out more tips at con-

nect.xcelenergy.com/scams/.

Be on the alert when asked for account information from an incoming call: If you receive a call claim-

ing your utility bill is overdue, before giving payment information, contact the utility company and verify that the call was from them.

Hang up on the caller. If

you are asked to provide in a transaction you did not credit card numbers or banking information from an incoming call, hang up and call the utility company to verify if your account is overdue.

Keep personal information private. Never give out your bank account numbers, date of birth, credit card number or Social Security number

glect, and more than 17,378

homes for their own protec-

A new report from the

DFPS Office of Child Safety

found that eight out of 10 chil-

dren who died from abuse or

neglect in Texas over a four-

year period were three years

old or younger and most died

"If you suspect abuse,

at the hands of parents.

a similar call report the in-

originate.

Report it. If you receive cident immediately to your utility company. If they say it's not them, report it to the police and the BBB at http:// www.bbb.org/amarillo/ get-consumer-help/scamsource/.

CITY BRIEFS

CLASSIFIED DEAD-LINES have changed for all Line Ads and City Briefs. Please check classified ad for deadlines. Call Beverly, Pampa News Classified Dept. with questions, 806-

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Blue **Continued From Page 1**

come together and support the efforts of prevention of child abuse", says Mrs. Leming. The Bridge has an advisory board in Pampa made up of community members. Those members are: Troy Reeves, Colby Brown, Pamela Zemanek, Jolita Sells and Cortnie Price. "It takes a community's full support to protect the well-being of children and families", added

Another project during the month of April is the "Pinwheel for Prevention" campaign. One thousand silver and blue pinwheels line the front of The Bridge's office in Amarillo. The pinwheels represent the number of children who were "one with courage" to tell. Each year, The Bridge interviews approximately 1,000 children.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month SUBMITTED

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New Report Sheds Light on Child Abuse

(CPS) investigated more than

Child Protective Services

please report it so we can investigate," said Judge John Specia, commissioner of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. "But we also need to reach parents are young, poor and under stress. They need the help of

Prevention Month, and all local governments, community groups, service organizations, activists, and others to put the spotlight on preventing, recognizing, and reporting child abuse.

their families and communi- buseHotline.org. ties to succeed and keep kids Governor Greg Abbott proclaimed April as Child Abuse across Texas CPS is joining

See more about preven-

168,164 allegations of child tion events in your area on abuse or neglect in Texas last the Events Page of Helpand-Hope.org. year. 151 children died at the hands of a parent or other caregiver. 66,572 children Hope for Kids campaign were victims of abuse or ne-

DFPS' Help for Parents, educates parents about child abuse and points them to had to be removed from their help in their communities to strengthen their parenting skills and learn to better care for their kids. The campaign's Facebook page (4MyKid) shares fun and helpful ideas and resources for families, and anyone can download the 2015 Child Abuse Prevention Calendar from Helpand-

Hope.org. The campaign website also contains inspiring testimonials of parents who overcame abuse to become better parents and break the cycle of

Learn the signs of child before they reach a breaking abuse and report your conpoint. So many Texas parents cerns to the Texas Abuse and Neglect Hotline at 1-800-252-5400 or online at TxA-

Key Statistics

•7,266,760 # of children in Texas (230,711 - Panhandle area)

• 168,164 # of completed CPS investigations (6,885 - Panhandle area)

• 66,572 firmed victims of child abuse or neglect (3,702 - Panhandle

area) • 17,378 # of children removed from their

homes due to abuse or ne-(264 - Lubbock county/ 185 - Randall & Potter coun-

• 151 # of abuse/neglect child deaths (3 - Panhandle

• 3,262# families served by

DFPS prevention programs • 46,066 # of youth

served by DFPS prevention programs See the CPS Data and Sta-

tistics and the DFPS 2014 Annual Report and Data Book on the DFPS website for more statistics.

Other DFPS Hotlines and Websites · Infant Sleeping Death

Prevention: BabyRoomTo-Breathe.org · Water Safety: WatchKid-

sAroundWater.org · Texas Youth and Run-

away Hotline (1-888-580-HELP) & website: TexasYouth.org • DFPS website: www.

dfps.state.tx.us

 Adoption: AdoptChildren.org THIS AD HAS BEEN SEEN BY OVER 7,000 PEOPLE TODA

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FOR the RECORD

Borger man arrested for drug possession

STAFF REPORT

 Mark Anthony Mitchell, 38, Borger, was ar-County Sheriff's Office ing while intoxicated. for possession of a conthan one gram.

• Weldon Norris, 45, Pampa, was arrested Friment of child support.

• Tony Earl Davis, 52, Pampa, was arrested Fri- Oklahoma City, Okla., is invalid with a previday by the Pampa Police was arrested Saturday by ous conviction suspended Department for motion to DPS for aggravated as- without car insurance. rested Friday by the Gray revoke probation — driv- sault on a public servant

 Dakota Darwyn Turtrolled substance — less lington, 22, Pamap, was Pampa, was arrested Sun- no driver's license, invalfor bond surrender possession of a controlled service. day by the Department of substance — less than

— Custer County.

arrested Saturday by PPD day by DPS for driving id vehicle inspection. while intoxicated, theft of

Public Safety for nonpay- two ounces — Carson Peden, 39, Pampa, was PPD for theft of property arrested Sunday by PPD — between \$50 and \$500.

• Trevohn Price, 20, for driving while license

 Matthew Christopher Main, 23, Pampa, was ar-• Julie Ann Stauff, 39, rested Sunday by PPD for

Marvin Monrow Finney, III, 39, Pampa, Brandy Michelle was arrested Sunday by

BITUARIES

Wilma Hart

Wilma Hart, 98, of Pampa, died April 4, 2015, in

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, April 9, 2015, at Memorial Park Cemetery in Amarillo, with Pastor Jerry Davey, retired minister, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Hart was born June 1, 1916, in Higgins. She had been a resident of both Pampa and Amarillo most of her life. She was married to Chester O. Hart, and he preceded her in death in 1967. Wilma worked for Carver Dental Lab for several years as a certified techni-

cian. She was a member of Calvary Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by a sister, two brothers, her parents and a granddaughter, Valerie Azzinnari.

Survivors include two daughters, Nita Anderson of Pampa, and Margaret Bishop of Salem, Ore.; two sons, Scott Davey and wife Beverly, and Bernice Derryberry, Jr., all of Amarillo; 16 grandchildren, Mike Hillin, Melanie Corpstein, Marcia Hillin, Susy Self, Alex Davey, Scott Davey, Wayneta Britton, Karen McLain, Lisa Anderson, Tommy Vancamp, Paul Campbell, Bernice Derryberry, III, Sharon Murdock, Sunday Webster, Beverly Davin and DeeAnna Morgan; 25 great-grandchildren and 12 great-great-grand-

Memorials may be made to Interim Hospice, 2217 Perryton Parkway, Pampa, Texas 79065.

Sign the online guest register at www.carmichaelwhatley.com.



Hart

Texas lawmakers want to close 'bypass' for teen abortions - be used to "exploit preg- Supreme Court rulings Process, a nonprofit that Texas, like many other nant teenagers," she said. mandating that parents works with pregnant

a place for women to go.

that between 300 and 500 pregnant teenagers use to terminate a pregnancy, girls younger than 18 can ask a court for approval become pregnant talk to less stringent than in many other states.

abortions performed on or dangerous, according minors in Texas in 2013 to groups that work with would limit applications came through this court pregnant teens. Examples to a girl's home county process, about double the include when a teen's fa-require more substantial their lives, when they beproportion elsewhere.

cases as part of their lat- her parents. to give approval.

herd girls through," said in her best interest. Elizabeth Graham, direc-Life organization, which use the bypass process. helped draft some of the

abortions. Recent state crisis, said Democratic nancy. laws have forced dozens Rep. Donna Howard of But the rules drafted for them.

But Texas has one op- cess to a minor facing a other 37 states with simition that makes abortions very traumatic situation lar laws. relatively accessible, and seems, at best, cruel," Howard said.

every year. Instead of don't want to stop until and if a judge does not injured her. seeking parental consent there is no access to abor-rule on a case within two tion, period."

an abortion.

About 20 percent of the doing so may be difficult on abortion cases. Soon, though, the so- mother dead, when a teen fear of abuse. called "judicial bypass" has been abused and fears may become less accom- her pregnancy would rid of judicial bypass, but prompt more violence, it should only be used in Conservatives are now or when the teenager is limited circumstances, in targeting the teenage homeless or neglected by very exceptional circum-

abortion. New bills intro- young woman can ap- Krause, the sponsor of duced in the current ses- ply for legal approval at one measure. sion would make it hard- a courthouse. She has to Another proposal by er for girls to prove they prove to a judge that she Republican Rep. Ron shouldn't have to seek is mature enough to make Simmons would require parental permission and the decision, or that tell-public more difficult for courts ing her parents would judges who grant judicial lead to physical, sexual bypass applications. The "We don't want this or emotional abuse, or judges should "be held to be a loophole for the that consulting them accountable by the elecabortion industry to shep- would otherwise not be torate," Simmons said in

tor of the Texas Right to fuse permission can also expected to be approved

The procedure was trolled Legislature. 21 anti-abortion mea- established in 1999 to sures now before the Leg- help Texas' parental con- yer and founding board islature. Courts shouldn't sent law comply with member of Jane's Due

conservative states, has But increasing the ob- couldn't have an absolute teens, said she usually strived to make it diffi- stacles will only torment veto over a daughter's encourages young womcult for women to have girls who are already in decision to end a preg- en to talk to their parents

of clinics to close and Austin, who is arguing to the Texas process wound left some regions without keep the current system. up being less onerous derstands

> "Some of my peers just their home county, her father had beaten and Most teenagers who tion is deemed granted. The percentage ap-

under legal conditions their parents if they want proved isn't known be-

The new legislation ther is in prison and her proof of her maturity and

"We're not trying to get stances," said Fort Worth est legislative assault on Under state law, a Republican Rep. Matt

disclosure an email. At least some of Girls whose parents re- the new restrictions are by the Republican-con-

Susan Hays, a law-

rather than go around

But she said she un-"To further obstruct ac- than those in many of the don't. She described one young client who was living with her grand-The teens can apply in parents and taking care any county, rather than of younger siblings after

> She describes the girls days, the girl's applica- typically as "Type A overachievers who want something better."

El Paso Lawyer Karen cause courts aren't re- Pelletier said none of the In some cases, though, quired to report statistics 10 judicial bypass cases she's handled has been frivolous.

"They've been dealt a very sobering event in come pregnant," Pelletier





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Corn, scorn and policy porn

Imagine a government energy program that is



Institute both op-**DEBRA SAUNDERS** anti-pov-ActionAid USA wants to

tive Enterprise Institute. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, sors of the Corn Ethanol of 2015.

The renewable fuel standard, or RFS, started off with the best of intentions: to reduce and promote American energy independence. It its own success. Some 40 percent of the U.S. corn crop now goes into American gas tanks, which has driven up the as well as food prices for American families. In 2013, Pricewaterstandard pushed up food by \$3.1 billion per year. Because the standard requires refiners to purof ethanol, production gallons in 2005 to 13.9 billion gallons in 2011, time, gasoline consumption is down 12 percent from 2015 projections. the "blend wall." When

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Add up the many

you would think the

groups that oppose the ethanol mandate and

Feinstein-Toomey bill is

a slam-dunk. But there

may be one state more

powerful than ranchers,

talists and capitalists:

consumers, environmen-

Iowa. As the host of the

first-in-the-nation presi-

has a supersize presence

dential caucuses, Iowa

in U.S. politics. Iowa's

GOP governor, Terry

Branstad, has a pithy

warning for self-styled

free market GOP hope-

fuls: "Don't mess with

For his part, environ-

mentalist Faber believes

that Capitol Hill can kick

its ethanol habit this year.

Even the ethanol lobby is

looking to Washington to

reform standards for renewable fuel. The Hous-

ton Chronicle's Jennifer

A. Dlouhy has reported

Association's decision

would accommodate

the production of more

advanced biofuels. "Their

industry will go the way

Congress changes the

Though Iowa will

Carolina follows New

Hampshire; and Nevada

follows South Carolina.

These states include meat

producers that have had

to pay higher feed prices

and consumers who have

seen grocery bills rise.

Bryce's paper titled

"The Hidden Corn Etha-

nol Tax" is more cynical.

He has reported on how

the mandate has lowered

fuel efficiency, damaged

small engines, promoted

It's good for corn farmers

and ethanol refiners but

bad for most everyone

ethanol scam, the man-

date, will be repealed?"

after a decade of watch-

ing this, I can't get any

more cynical about it,"

are the free market Re-

publicans?" They seem

Senators hear from

they don't hear so much

from the ordinary people

this destructive mandate.

Email Debra J. Saunders at

dsaunders@sfchronicle.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.

who pay the freight for

ethanol boosters, but

to melt into the Iowa

cornfields.

They should.

Bryce mused. "I doubt it.

"I wish it were so, but

Bryce continued. "Where

else. "Do I think the corn

harmful land use and

driven up food prices.

RFS," Faber crowed.

of the butter churn unless

tempt hopefuls to support

a bad policy, New Hamp-

shire follows Iowa; South

to back an overhaul that

on the Advanced Biofuels

the RFS.

such a disaster that the Environmental

Working Group and the American Petroleum pose it. The erty group

get rid of it, as does the pro-business Competi-D-Calif., wants to end it. So does Sen. Pat Toomey, R-Pa. They're both spon-Mandate Elimination Act

Feinstein pans the ethanol mandate as "both unwise and unworkable." Quoth Toomey: "It drives up gas prices, increases food costs, damages car engines and is harmful to the environment." Scott Faber of the Environmental Working Group told me the Environmental Protection Agency "shows corn ethanol is worse for the environment than gasoline." The free market-promoting Manhattan Institute's Robert Bryce believes that the renewable fuel standard costs American families \$10 billion annually in higher fuel prices. But will Congress vote to kill the program? And if so, will President Barack Obama, a longtime ethanol booster, sign the bill?

greenhouse gas emissions morphed into a victim of cost of feed for livestock, houseCoopers figured the prices at chain restaurants chase increasing volumes increased from 3.9 billion according to the Manhattan Institute. At the same The industry is up against blends contain more than

10 percent ethanol, some

automotive engines break

down.

Prairie Plains Perspective

Coke bottle bottoms, cataracts and bigger feet

Twas back in 2005 when after an eve exam I hear from Lindsay Scribner Hudson, O.D. the fol-



PALMITIER

lowing, "I've some good news and some bad news for you." Always the optimist I opt first for her bad news. "You're growing cataracts" was her bad news. Her diagnosis didn't phase me, for as my parents before me, I knew and expected as much that cataracts are part

parcel the age thing. "And your good news?" inquired I. "They won't have to come out till you're on Medicare" grinned in reply Lindsay Scribner Hudson, O.D. Optometrist humor, but also, like daughter, like her daddy.

Last Thanksgiving holiday I'm motoring south with New

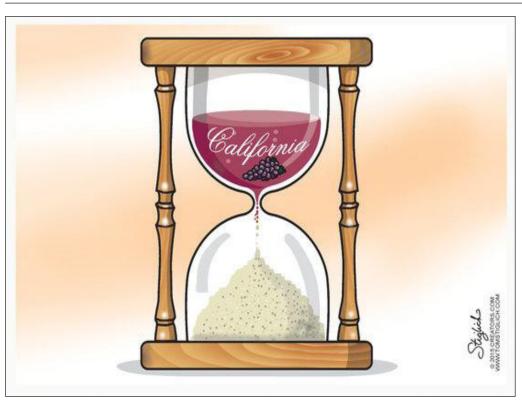
Braunfels my destination. I'm no sooner out of Pampa's city limits when I notice road signs are fuzzy, bill boards the same. Visually, things aren't right. Upon darkness when down close to Austin, headlights and all other things bright are giving my eyes fits. Thinking it's my glasses that are askew, the entire six hundred miles down were constantly spent attempting to adjust them, all to no avail. On the return trip back up to Pampa, I think I was halfway between an armadillo roadkill out of Aspermont and the historic 6666 Ranch down Guthrie way when it dawned on me.

The cataracts! It's been 10 years since Dr. Hudson's diagnosis, and sure as shootin', I'm carrying a Medicare card. I'm typing this column wearing reading glasses with my left eye closed. That is the easiest way (so far) because

my right eye since last Wednesday morning has a surgically implanted brand new remarkably clear artificial lens due to my old clouded up natural lens having been emulsified away. The eye doc who did the surgery on my right eye will not do the same to my left eye until April 29. My vision till then will be somewhat, askew. Ergo, my life as well.

Like my father before me I am a newspaper reader and crossword puzzler extraordinaire. Knowing the news is an important part of my day, but working the crossword puzzle a significant part of my day. It's how I honor my father. It's therapeutic. It's great for the vocabulary. It's a great source for trivia. Since last Wednesday, my crossword puzzling has come under some duress. Try working

DENNIS cont. on page 5A



How To Write Us

The Pampa News welcomes letters to the editor. When submitting a letter, please include the writer's name, address and signatures.

We reserve the right to edit letters or not to publish certain letters.

By Fax: 806-669-2520

By U.S. mail: Letters

The Pampa News Pampa, Texas 79065

By E-mail: iclee@thepampanews.

Just a Thought

Be careful what street you walk down

of denial.

Have you ever found yourself in a situation you don't want to be in?



You look up and ask yourself the question, "How did I get here?" or "What am I doing here?" You wish you

could push **KRAFT** "Stop" and then "Rewind" and then put a different tape in? Do you ever pray "Lord, if you get me out of this I will never make this same mistake again?" I am sure it has happened to all of us. And it is probable it will happen

again in the days ahead. There is a short book that illustrates this principal. It is only five short chapters long, but it truly illustrates how we often make poor decisions and then make the same stupid decisions again. The book is entitled There's a Hole in My Sidewalk! and is by Portia Nelson. You might remember her from her acting in "The Sound of Music" and "Dr. Doolittle." The book is referred to as "An Autobiography in Five Short Chapters." Here is the book in its entirety:

Chapter One - I walk down the street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I fall in. I am lost...I am helpless. It isn't my fault. It takes forever to find a way

Chapter Two - I walk

down the street. There is holding herself accounta deep hole in the sidewalk. I pretend I don't see it. I fall in again. I can't believe I am in the same place, but it isn't my fault. It still takes a long time to get out.

Chapter Three - I walk down the same street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I see that it is there. I still fall in... it's become a habit. My eyes are open. I know where I am. It is my fault. I get out immediately. Chapter Four - I walk down the same street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I walk around it.

Chapter Five - I walk down another street.

Let me break apart her story. In the first two chapters the writer has ended up in the same hole each time. She is claiming both times that it is not her fault. In the first chapter she is surprised the first time she encounters the hole. In the second chapter she falls in the hole because she pretends it is not there. In both instances it takes a long time to get out. She has made the same mistake twice! At this point the writer is still not holding herself accountable for her actions. Why did she not learn from her first experience? Clearly the second falling in the hole could have been avoided had she learned from her mistake the first time. If the book ended

after the second chapter, the writer would not be

able for her actions. Maybe the first time she fell in it could be a complete accident, but to fall in a second time and to say it was not her fault, she was living in a world

The writer takes the first step to conquering her problem in Chapter Three by admitting that it is her fault that she is in the hole. For the first time she acknowledges while she is in the hole that she has fallen into the hole because her actions. She writes that her eyes are wide open, yet it has become a habit. Because she is admitting she has a problem, there is hope for her to correct it.

Also in Chapter Three the writer adds a new twist by getting out of the hole immediately. She knows she doesn't belong in the hole and she has recognized that the hole is not a place she wants to be for very long. She understands in this middle chapter that she is both responsible for falling in the hole and that she has the power to get out of the hole immediately. She is properly taking responsibility for all of her actions.

Yet in Chapter Four the author, knowing the same hole is ahead, continues to put herself in the zone of danger by walking down the same street. She understands that she has a choice and that if she makes the

right choice of walking around the hole, she can save herself the agony of having to crawl out of it.

Finally, in Chapter Five, the shortest of the already short chapters, the writer understands that she can move forward in her life without coming anywhere near the dreaded hole by simply choosing to walk down a different street.

We can ask the question, "Why did it take five chapters for the writer to learn how to keep completely away from the hole?" Or we could praise the writer by saying she learned by the fifth chapter how to avoid the wrong decisions. Many people's books would contain a sixth, a tenth, or a twentieth chapter without ever getting the point of walking down a different street. Some people set out

to fall in the hole. Some people don't set out to fall in the hole, but they choose to walk to the hole and, by moving too close, they routinely fall in. In this second instance, it is not their intent to fall in, but it occurs as a direct result of their behavior.

What street you walk down is your choice. Each day you have many different streets available to walk down. Many of the streets have holes. Many streets don't have any holes. Whether or not you encounter a hole is dependent upon what

KRAFT cont. on page 5A

Dennis

Continued From Page 4A

one with an operated on eye adjusting to a new lens while wearing reading glasses with your bad eye closed. The headache cometh.

"Don't drive for at least 24 hours after your cataract surgery!" So said every healthcare worker associated with my surgery and every piece of literature provided by my eye doc along with the surgery center where the procedure was done. Yadda, yadda, yadda. I live by myself. It's actually quite easy to drive after cataract surgery. Inside city limits, particularly Amarillo's, things got a tad tedious, but I persevered.

Once on the highway, I simply motored along through the surgically induced haze with a bandaged right eye while using my glass corrected left eye. Driving on the

inside lane with window down while extending a 10-foot cane helped immensely. Every time the cane scraped earth (the grassy median), I simply corrected back to the right till the cane scratched pavement... When I finally made it to Pampa, that cane was only a foot long!

With the protective eye cup post surgically firmly taped to my head, folks when seeing me naturally asked why. My first answer was "My not so favorite ex wife caught up with me and number two was right behind her!" Humor... It seems to me that I've worn eye glasses ever since my time began, but in reality speak, the fourth grade was when extreme near sightedness descended upon me. Ever since that time at Austin Elementary, routine eye exams every two years have been my

It's not a pretty picture when humankind ages. Time may be a

NEW YORK (AP) — the smallest gain since line for the merger to

week. A rise in crude oil also adds more pressure percent, to \$122.83.

rates have helped feed the

A DEAL: Ventas an-

dent Medical Services, a

hospital chain, for \$1.75

erage rose 24 points, or most of its skilled nursing est level in two months.

facilities. Ventas, an in-

or 5 percent, to \$76.73.

merger between Hudson City Bancorp and M&T

day that employers added said the Federal Reserve other major markets, in-

their payrolls last month, before April 30, a dead- and China, were closed.

stock market's long run.

above \$50 a barrel helped on the Federal Reserve

Poor's 500 index edged nounced plans to buy Ar-

posite rose three points, health care, surged \$3.52,

TO-GO ORDER SPECIAL:

SCORE:

As of 10:25 a.m. East-

ern time, the Standard &

up three points, or 0.2

percent, to 2,070. The

Dow Jones industrial av-

0.1 percent, to 17,785,

and the Nasdaq com-

a sliver of a percent, to

4,890. U.S. stock trading

was closed Friday in ob-

servance of Good Friday.

Small

****** Chopped Beef

***** 2 Family Size Sides

great healer, but it sure is a lousy beautician... Things sag, hair grows where you really don't want it to grow while you lose it where you really don't want to lose it. Noses, ears and oh boy, feet grow when you really don't want... you get the picture! A blessing to me from my extreme near sightedness has been the distortion offered by coke bottle bottoms. With the thick lens my size-13 boots and shoes have looked quite normal. With my one new implanted lens I'm aghast at how big my feet and footwear look! God forbid how big they'll be when my left eye is done!

Coke bottle bottoms have for 55 years defined my appearance. Without them I couldn't even see the eye chart 'E'. I'm not joking. For fear of losing or breaking them, glasses have prevented me from enjoying many past times. I simply got used to my limitations and plodded onward.

US stock indexes drift following

weak jobs report

The stock market is flip- December 2013. For mar- move ahead. Hudson City U.S. payrolls miss would ping from losses to gains kets it was mixed news. Bancorp sank 67 cents, or typically have shocked on Monday following a It's another sign of slow- 6 percent, to \$9.81, while markets into a big move,' weak jobs report late last er economic growth but M&T dropped \$4.39, or 3 analyst Nicholas Teo at

pull energy companies to put off raising inter- ment bond prices slipped mentary. "With the ex-

NOT YET: The planned Nikkei 225 closed with a

U.S. JOBS: The Labor Bank has run into an- percent. India's SENSEX dollar, rising to \$1.1023 Department reported Fri- other delay. Hudson City surged 0.9 percent. Many from \$1.0895 on Fri-

just 126,000 workers to won't sign off on the deal cluding those in Australia changed against the Japa-

est rates. Historically low slightly, nudging

In a months time I will literally have new eyes and will be rid of coke bottle bottoms, forever. That's hard to imagine. This part of growing old is going to be a blessing.

To Pampa Regional Medical Center CEO Brad Morse:

Pampa's population will support an ophthalmologist. Taking into account Perryton, Canadian, Wheeler and other upper Panhandle communities, that support will be twofold. It's been done, proven before. Recruit an ophthalmologist Mr. Morse, and patients will come! Enough of this back and forth nonsense to Amarillo for surgical eye care.

Pampa resident Dennis Palmitier is a regular, unpaid contributor to the opinion page on issues that affect Pampa and Gray County. His opinions and viewpoints do not reflect those of The Pampa News or The Pampa News' staff. 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 John Lee at iclee@thepampanews.com.

QUOTE: "Friday's big

CMC Markets in Sin-

tended Easter weekend

break, however, traders

may have had the time

to digest this huge blow, along with their choco-

at \$50.32 a barrel on the

rel on the ICE exchange

euro gained against the

day. The dollar was little

nese currency at 119 yen.

CURRENCIES:

Benchmark

CRUDE:

in London.

BONDS: U.S. govern- gapore said in a com-

QUIET ELSEWHERE: New York Mercantile Ex-

were closed for Easter up \$1.50 at \$56.45 a bar-

the

yield on the 10-year Trea-

sury note up to 1.87 per-

cent. Bonds jumped on

Friday following the em-

the yield on the 10-year

billion and spinning off Treasury down to its low- U.S. crude was up \$1.15

vestment trust focused on Major markets in Europe change. Brent crude was

Monday. In Asia, Japan's

loss of 0.2 percent, while

Seoul's Kospi gained 0.1

ployment report, sending late eggs."

Kraft

Continued From Page 4A

street you choose. What are the deep holes of your life? Do you repeatedly walk

My challenge to you today is identify the holes that you fall into. Once you identify the holes you can identify the streets that lead to the holes. You choose what streets you walk down. If you keep off the streets with holes in them, you can avoid the holes all together. There are countless streets without holes waiting to be walked.

When you find yourself looking up from within a hole, take responsibility for your actions. Recognize that it is no one else's fault but your own that you are having to repeatedly crawl out of the hole. Recognizing that you are in control of your own life is the first step to conquering the holes in your life.

Just a thought...

Rick Kraft is a motivational speaker, a published author, and an attorney. To submit comments, contributions, or ideas, e-mail torkraft@kraftandhunter.com or write to P.O. Box 850, Roswell, New Mexico, 88202 - 0850.

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and/or longer terms than Cabot & NOI Employees Credit Union's stated auto

On April 1, 2015, Cabot & NOI Employees Credit Union implemented a Rate Match Challenge program. If you find yourself in the situation described above in number three, bring us a copy of the purchase contract or tell us how is



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Euro falls near \$1, but European goods remain pricey NEW YORK (AP) — long tailspin. Last April, I buying it, then?" Ka- and retailers — and each ing to Robert Burke and Asian currencies has driven Americans hunting for a it was trading just shy of lish said. "The high price business has its own costs. Associates, a luxury con- up their costs.

bargain on a new Beemer, \$1.40. Since then, it sank makes it attractive for some bottle of Chateau Margaux as low as \$1.04 in March people." or Hermes handbag thanks before bouncing back to to the sliding euro should \$1.10 on Monday. put away their gold cards. European luxury goods to have to pay \$1.40 to buy sold in the U.S. still carry luxurious price tags.

The European curren-In theory, car dealerships, department stores and other the savings to their Ameriat Deloitte, the consulting and accounting firm.

"But what would be the point of doing that?" Kaanything made in Europe is so strong that they have little trouble moving merchandise. "From their perspective, it's better to leave the price unchanged and pocket the profit."

In other words, you used a single euro; today, you pay just \$1.10.

So where are the barcy has fallen 10 percent gains? There's no reason against the dollar this year. to think that prices for Italian shoes and French red wines will fall along with companies that sell goods the euro, analysts said. Part from Europe could pass on of the reason is that most European consumer prodcan customers, said Ira Ka- ucts sold in the U.S. aren't lish, chief global economist aimed at most consumers. Armani, Hermes, and Prada cater to the affluent, selling well-made products as well as the perception of preslish asked. Demand for tige and status. They have an image to maintain and slashing prices isn't part of it, Kalish said. Loyal customers might consider it, well, gauche.

"If a luxury product becomes really cheap, they The euro has been in a might think, 'Why am

Bill Earle, president of the National Association of Beverage Importers, said customers shouldn't expect to see cheaper prices for French and Italian wines anytime soon.

Part of the explanation, Earle said, is that U.S. importers pay well in advance for wines that often take years to age. With Brunello di Montalcino from Italy, for instance, the wine sits in an oak barrel for about four years before it's ready.

"One way to look at it is, the earliest you're going to see cheaper Brunello is in 2019," Earle said.

But even then, there's no guarantee that businesses will pass on savings to customers. Earle said a bottle of wine has to pass through layers of businesses before it shows up on the shelves

Because currency markets can be volatile, businesses are slow to cut prices bequickly vanish with a sudden swing in currency trad-

start showing up with the 2015 vintage, and even then, he said, other factors, such as bad weather, could easily offset a currency

The only way people might benefit from cheaper European wine, Earle said, is if they're "bringing it over on an airplane.'

Watches, Handbags

Similarly, anyone looking to score a Chanel handbag on the cheap is in for a letdown. Chanel's classic handbag carried a \$4,900 importers, distributors price tag last year, accord-

sulting firm. That's up from \$2,250 in 2007.

Chanel is reportedly cause any savings could tweaking prices in other parts of the globe while leaving them alone at its U.S. stores. Robert Burke Doug Bell, a wine buyer said he expects other luxufor Whole Foods Market, ry retailers to follow Chaalso said he doesn't think nel's cue. Demand remains people will see a significant so solid for these products fall in prices for European in the U.S. that high-end wines. Any drop would retailers have no reason to pare prices. It would only tarnish their elite image.

Nate Herman, vice president of international trade for the American Apparel & Footwear Association, said higher manufacturing costs give these companies another reason to keep prices high. Over the past decade, luxury brands such as Louis Vuitton and Prada shifted some of their production to Asia, as manufacturers in the region improved their ability to craft high-end goods. As a result, the euro's fall against

Cars

It's the same story with German luxury cars. Americans with a taste for fancy rides are already able to afford them, so there's no need for Mercedes-Benz, BMW or Audi to pass along the benefit of a falling euro to customers by slashing prices.

Demand for these German cars remains solid. Audi's U.S. sales climbed 15 percent last year, while Mercedes's sales rose nearly 10 percent and BMW's 6.5 percent. Each company is likely to pocket the extra money from exchanging dollars to euros, no matter whether the cars are made overseas or in the U.S.

The exception might be Volkswagen, whose U.S. sales sank 3 percent last year. The company behind the Beetle, Golf and Touareg could use the weak euro to cut prices and lure more buyers.

Tax refunds for many take hit or get bump from health law

WASHINGTON As the April 15 tax coming year. deadline nears, people who got help paying for health insurance under President Barack Obama's law are seeing the direct effect on their refunds hundreds of dollars, for estimate income, expect subsidy. He changed jobs better or worse.

The law offers tax credits so people without access to job-based health not have understood that San Francisco area techinsurance can buy private is how it works when they support company, said he coverage. Because these signed up. Some experts enrolled to avoid tax pensubsidies are tied to in- caution that such compli- alties for being uninsured, come, consumers must cations could discourage but feels penalized anyaccurately estimate what uninsured people from way now.

That's been a challenge for millions of people.

Guess on the low side. get more help now with taxes. But that almost has premiums, but owe money later at filing time. Overbucks back from the tax-

Many consumers may

(AP) they will make for the getting covered.

Rob Tuck of Dublin, California, said he had anticipated a refund of about \$400 on his 2014 been wiped out because he had to repay some of the during the year, and his income went up a little.

Tuck, who works for a

"I was expecting to get dinged a little bit, but I son, tax preparation com- ended up giving back \$19 was actually kind of surprised when it came down that 52 percent of its custhat much," he said.

ing wedding gowns. She expected refunds by 17 left for graduate school at percent. the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, and signed roughly one-third of cusup for coverage through tomers with the law. She ended up overestimated their inbecause she didn't get an-refunds went up by \$365 other job as anticipated.

Park's tax refund came

"It was hard to estimate to pay back," she said.

House says the Affordable better than anticipated.

that the complicated connections between the law playing out for consum-

fairly even split between tax-return winners and

Earlier in the filing sea- basically broke even. He pany H&R Block reported tomers who got health trying to figure out IRS Kelsey Park started out insurance subsidies owed Form 8962, which taxpay-2014 in Dallas, earning money back. Repayments ers must use to account for good commissions by sell- averaged \$530, reducing

overestimating her income comes. As a result, their on average.

In a recent study, the to \$2,500, partly because nonpartisan Kaiser Famshe had too much income ily Foundation estimated tax withheld and partly that half those eligible because she received a for a subsidy would owe smaller health care sub- money, while 45 percent sidy than she was entitled would receive a bigger refund.

The estimated average what I would be earning repayment was \$794, and because I was transition- the refund was \$773. The ing in life," said Park, estimates were based on who's studying for a mas- an analysis of census data has seen anything like ter's degree in marketing. about income changes this. "I tend to overestimate be- among people likely elicause I don't want to have gible for health care subsidies.

large enough to offset any overall between 4.5 mil- HealthCare.gov and his repayment in most cases. lion and 7.5 million house-insurer, the government's according to the Treasury holds have to account to failure to discontinue his Department. The White the IRS for their subsidies. health law subsidy after

Care Act is working even experience" for consum- forgiveness of a student But this is the first year alike, said Kaiser's Cynthia Cox. "To the extent and the tax system are of how much financial it could be a discourage-Initial reports suggest a ment for some to sign up."

To avoid tax surprises, consumers should contact the health insurance changes during the year.

Corps VISTA volunteer way to straighten things in Tacoma, Washington, out.

of his subsidy, but not before he had spent an hour their subsidies.

"It caused me a little bit of a headache, and I have On the other hand, a college degree," said Bush, who volunteers at a subsidies nonprofit dental clinic for children. "If you are trying to help someone who may not have a college diploma, this is going to be a nightmare."

Bill Preus of St. Petersburg, Florida, was covered under the health care law for three months last year before transitioning to Medicare because of disability. Preus once had his own insurance agency, selling life and health policies. He is used to complexity, but said he never

Preus said he faces the prospect of paying back close to \$4,000 because of The average refund is Kaiser calculated that poor coordination between This year is "a learning he went on Medicare, and ers and the government loan debt that caused his

income to go up. "There is no one to talk this makes people unsure to who can coordinate when extenuating circumhelp they are going to get, stances like this come up, and it's a total mess," he

Preus said a tax preparer and an IRS representative both advised him to file an exchange if their income incomplete return so as to trigger an audit, suggest-Tucker Bush, an Ameri- ing that may be the best







801 W. FRANCIS PAMPA, TX (806)665-3361 Monday-Saturday 9am - 5 pm

PGCD included in Texas weather study

SUBMITTED BY PGCD

Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District's Precipitation Enhancement Program was recently included in a benefitcost analysis study of Texas weather modification activities completed by Dr. Jason L. Johnson, associate professor at Texas A&M University and extension economist for Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. The study considers what impact an additional inch of rain will have on dryland crop acreage, irrigated crop acreage and grazing lands and what economic gain this will provide to the areas of study and throughout the state. Besides PGCD's Precipitation Enhancement Program two other programs were a part of the study including West Texas Weather Modification Association in San Angelo, Texas, and

South Texas Weather Modification Association in Pleasanton, Texas.

of this analysis was to provide the framework for an economic assessment to agriculture of a hypothetical one inch of additional rainfall in counties participating in selected weather modification programs.' PGCD provided operating cost data which enabled a benefit-cost ratio to be calculated so the potential return on investment from increased agriculture production could be considered. Counties included in the study are those counties located within the PGCD district boundaries and includes portions of Armstrong, Potter and Hutchinson counties and all of Carson, Donley, Gray, Roberts and Wheeler coun-

After considering the increased dryland \$1.00 invested. crop revenues, the cost savings to irrigated According to Johnson, "The purpose acreage and increased grazing land revenues from an additional inch of rainfall for the District the direct local economic impact is \$4,877,938. In addition to the local economic impact, Johnson also calculated an estimate state economic impact using Impact Analysis for Planning output multipliers. These secondary impacts can help with increased economic stability and growth in the state and are not confined to the agricultural community. The estimated state impact for an additional inch of rainfall in the PGCD's district is \$9,407,140. After comparing these economic gains to the cost of the program the benefit-cost ragram started back up April 1 for its 16th tio for the PGCD's Precipitation Enhancement Program is a \$22.20 return on every

PGCD participated in this study to provide an educational resource to the District to help assess potential benefits versus cost of the program now and in the future. Johnson states that he used a very conservative stance during the study to avoid any overstate the potential benefits, and noted that if an additional inch of rainfall can be realized, the benefits will meet or exceed expectations. "Clearly this study shows that our program is a cost effective program and a prudent use of our tax dollars," states C.E. Williams, PGCD General Manager.

PGCD's precipitation enhancement pro-

Commissioner Mattax elected chairman of National Commission

Interstate Insurance Product Regulation Commission Includes 44 Jurisdictions in U.S.

SUBMITTED BY TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

AUSTIN – Texas Insurance Commissioner David Mattax was elected chairman of the Interstate Insurance Product Regulation Commission (IIPRC) on March 27 in Phoenix, AZ. The Commission also selected Virginia Insurance Commissioner Jacqueline K. Cunningham as Vice Chair and Puerto Rico Insurance Commissioner Angela Weyne as Trea-

"Texas has been an early and strong supporter of the Compact," said Commissioner Mattax. "As Chair of the IIPRC, I am looking forward to working with my fellow member states to continue this important effort to develop uniform standards and encourage all states and companies to participate in this transformative state-based organization.'

The Interstate Insurance Compact (Compact) is an initiative that improves the efficiency and effectiveness of the way insurance products are filed, to provide protection for consumers. reviewed, and approved allowing consumers to

have faster access to competitive insurance products in an ever-changing global marketplace. The Annual Report, highlighting its sustained growth Compact promotes uniformity through application and advances. Highlights include welcoming Ariof uniform product standards embedded with strong consumer protections. This serves as a great benefit ing the first five-year review of the individual life to state insurance regulators, consumers, and the insurance industry.

The Compact established the IIPRC, a public entity which includes representatives from 44 U.S. jurisdictions. The organization enables state insurance regulators to develop uniform national standards for asset protection insurance products, such as life insurance, annuities, disability income, and longterm care insurance. IIPRC establishes a central filing point for these insurance products, enhancing the speed and efficiency of regulatory decisions and allowing companies to compete more effectively in the modern financial marketplace, while continuing

Also on March 27, the IIPRC released its 2014 zona as the newest Compacting State, completand annuity uniform standards, and increasing the number of efficiency-minded companies utilizing the speed-to-market benefits of the Commission's product filing process.

The Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) is a consumer protection agency that regulates the world's 10th largest insurance marketplace. In 2014, TDI received more than 563,000 calls from consumers, helped recover over \$32.3 million in claims and premiums, and prosecuted fraud cases to recover \$221,000 in fines and restitution. For more information, visit the TDI web site at tdi.texas.gov or call the Consumer Help Line at (800) 252-3439.

Clinton to start 2016 bid with focus on voter interaction

dent sometime in the The strategy is also sage or make a misstep mate events, rather than strengths. with early primaries or on-one caucuses.

to make Clinton's second run for the White House larger crowds. more about voters and less about herself.

not face a tough primary across New York state.

WASHINGTON (AP) she plans to earn their loosely scripted

next two weeks and will aimed at playing to what that causes a distraction initially focus on inti- Clinton allies see as her for the campaign. The

where she can display tour last year. The goal, according to her policy expertise, as

When While it appears at this kicked off her campaign porters on their wheremoment that Clinton will with a listening tour abouts this month and

challenge in 2016, she is The approach also in Iowa and New Hampaiming to show voters comes with risks. More shire have

- Hillary Rodham Clin-support and won't take pearances increase the ton is expected to launch the Democratic Party's chances that Clinton her campaign for presi- nomination for granted. could be drawn off mesformer secretary of state soaring speeches to big Friends and advis- has also been off the rallies, as her team looks ers have long said she campaign trail for years, to put her in direct con- is more at ease in small and she seemed rusty in tact with voters in states group settings and one- fielding questions durconversations ing interviews on a book

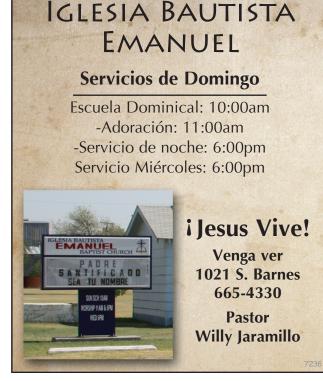
two people close to the well as personal warmth ton's launch is a closely Clinton organization, is that she sometimes strug- guarded secret, but the gles to convey in front of announcement is expected by mid-April. Clinton Clinton ran aides have been checkfor Senate in 2000, she ing in with longtime sup-Democratic operatives

ap- been put on standby.

Clinton may make the official announcement with an online video or social media post, though those plans are still being finalized. She is expected to quickly hit the campaign trail, with stops in Iowa and New Hampshire.

It's unclear whether Clinton's husband, for-The exact date of Clin- mer president Bill Clinton, and her daughter, Chelsea, will hold solo events in the campaign's early stages.

Those familiar with the campaign plans insisted on anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the







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Xeriscaping program offered in Lubbock, **Amarillo on April 18**

SUBMITTED BY THE TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE SERVICE

AMARILLO - A regional xeriscaping program on April 18 will offer those interested in conserving water and landscaping their homes in the High Plains and South Plains an opportunity to hear from the experts, program coordinators said.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service program will be offering "Xeriscaping in the South Plains" from 9

a.m. to noon in Lubbock catch and use the rain 101, 301 26th St. and then "Xeriscaping that falls on their roof in the High Plains" from for landscaping, said Vi- on the Lubbock program, tions, with the Lubbock bring pictures of their 3-6 p.m. later that day in kram Baliga, AgriLife call Baliga at 806-775- Master Gardeners and landscape so we can bet-Canyon. The cost of each Extension horticulture 1740, and on the Canyon the Randall County Master address their interests program will be \$10.

This program is for ty. those people interested The Lubbock program

in learning the best ways will be in the Texas and xeriscape design ex- about water-wise plant ife Extension, both proto be "water wise" in A&M AgriLife Research pert Billy Kniffen of Me- selection, turf manage- grams are jointly spontheir landscape while and Extension Center, nard, formerly an AgriL- ment and redesigning a sored by the High Plains maintaining curb appeal, 1102 E. Farm-to-Market ife Extension state water landscape. said Liz Moore, AgriLife Road 1294. The Canyon resource specialist, will Extension horticulture program will be in the lead both programs on opportunity for home- sponsored by WTAMU, agent in Randall County. West Texas A&M Uni- "how to turn your land- owners to ask questions Canyon's Edge Plants, In addition, those at- versity Agriculture and scape into a beautiful xe- specific to their home," tending will learn to Sciences Building Room riscape."

806-468-5543.

The program will be other local experts, lead-said. Rainwater harvesting ing breakout sessions

"This will be a great Canyon program is also

For more information the same at both loca- ing those who attend to agent in Lubbock Coun- program, call Moore at ter Gardeners, as well as and situations," Baliga

In addition to AgriL-Water District. Boyd's Equipment and Irwin Greenhouses.

Governor Abbott Awards 2015 Governor's Science And Technology Champions Academy Scholarships

SUBMITTED BY THE OFFICE OF GREG ABBOTT

AUSTIN – Governor Greg Abbott today announced that the 43 students who won competitions at the 2015 Texas Science and Engineering Fair, held last weekend in San Antonio, have been awarded scholarships to attend the Governor's Science and Technology Champions Academy this summer at Texas A&M

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must take the lead in training to come." and encouraging a new gen-

al leader in job creation, Texas brighter future for generations senior division first and sec-

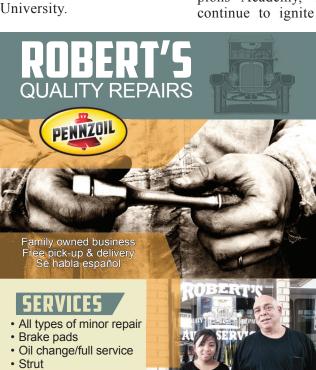
"Through the Texas Science ect categories at the Science ified at regional competitions eration of entrepreneurs, par- and Engineering Fair and the and Engineering Fair. ticularly in the STEM fields," Governor's Science and Tech- The Governor's Science and Techsaid Governor Abbott. "I'm nology Champions Academy, Technology Champions Acad- ners from the senior division proud of each of this year's we are encouraging our stu- emy participants will engage advance to the International participants, and by providing dents to explore creative solu- in hands-on laboratory activi- Science and Engineering Fair our students with opportuni- tions to current and emerging ties in the areas of chemistry, competition in Pittsburgh, ties like the Governor's Sci- issues facing our world and biochemistry, ence and Technology Cham- developing the future leaders veterinary science, and calcupions Academy, Texas will in STEM here in Texas," said lus. The scholarships awarded science fair winners, please continue to ignite a passion Texas Workforce Commission to science fair winners cover visit www.txsef.org/awards/.

"In order to remain a nation-vation and build a better and who presented medals to the tial summer camp.

engineering, PA., in May. for inno- Chairman Andres Alcantar, the entire cost of the residen-

More than 1,100 middle and ond place winners in 17 proj- high school students who qualcompeted in the Texas Science The Governor's Science and and Engineering Fair. Win-

To view a list of this year's



TWC to host fair housing webinar series

Other events scheduled for National Fair Housing Month in April.

SUBMITTED

AUSTIN - The Texas Workment of Housing and Community Housing Month and remind Texhave equal access to housing.

ity, race, color, religion, national origin, sex and familial status. involving allegations of hous-2014.

TWC and the TDHCA are hosting a Fair Housing Webinar Series starting on April 7 at 1 p.m. Attendees will learn the basics

about fair housing in Texas and day, April 17 from 11:30 a.m. how to apply information in a re- to 1 p.m. at the Lionel Castillo force Commission (TWC) has view of potential scenarios. This Community Center located at partnered with the Texas Depart- HUD-approved presentation will 2101 South Street in Houston. give general information about For more information and to reg-Affairs (TDHCA) to present a fair housing and the Texas Fair ister, call 713-641-3247. webinar series and other events Housing Act. For information in April to honor National Fair and to register, visit: https://at- Greater San Antonio is conducttendee.gotowebinar.com/regis- ing a training that will cover the ans that the Federal Fair Housing ter/1516049877635898881. At- fair housing rights of people with Act and the Texas Fair Housing tendees can also learn the basics disabilities and how to make Act ensure that all individuals about how TWC investigates Fair housing accessible through rea-Housing Complaints on April 14 sonable accommodations and These acts prohibit discrimina- at 1 p.m. by visiting: https://at- modifications on April 23 from tion in housing based on disabil- tendee.gotowebinar.com/register/924205858148399361.

Other fair housing month events TWC's Civil Rights Division, include the Greater Houston Fair which enforces fair housing laws, Housing Center's 13th Annual resolved more than 330 cases Fair Housing Luncheon with U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee and ing discrimination in fiscal year U.S. Department of Housing and together for fair housing. For Urban Development Deputy Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Programs Sara Pratt as guest speakers.

The event will be held on Fri- ners/civil-rights-discrimination.

The Fair Housing Council of 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Goliad Building at 4203 Woodcock drive in San Antonio. To register, visit: http://myfairhousing.org/programsservices.html#Upcoming Events.

TWC urges all Texans to work more information about your rights as consumer or your responsibilities as a housing provider, visit: twc.state.tx.us/part-



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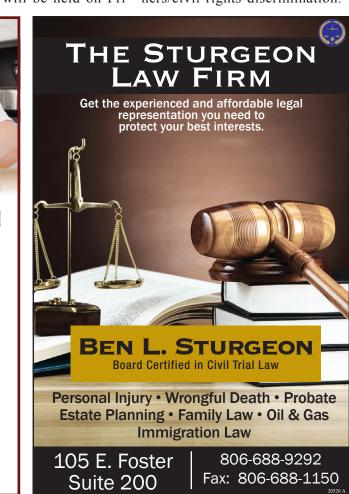
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The PAMPA NEWS Church Calendar

Hi-Land Christian Church

Wednesday nights, Pastor Mike Sublett teaches 2 special advanced classes at Hi-Land Christian Church.

From 7 - 8 p.m. The Judges and Kings of Israel (broken people, faithful God); from 8-9 p.m. 1-2 Corinthians (Jesus and His messy people).

Pastor Sublett said, "Both classes

are advanced in that they have a weekly reading assignment and weekly handout pages that will supply each student with a significant notebook for continued study. I will also be recording each class

so that everyone can have the audio in case they want to review something

The classes are open to anyone interested in learning more about their

Child care will be provided for anyone who is attending either class.

Cornerstone Baptist Church

Cornerstone Baptist Team KID (Kids in Discipleship) meets Wednesdays at 6:30 until 8:00 pm at 2410 W. 23rd St. All children ages 4 thru 5th graders are invited to attend.

For more information call the church at 669-6509.

New Life Assembly of God

New Life Assembly of God is located at 1435 N. Sumner Street in Pampa. New pastor, Sergio Urrutia, said their mission is "New life Assembly of God is committed to fulfilling a four-fold mission.

Our primary reason for being is to evangelize the lost, worship God, disciple believer and to show compassion, to build a multi-ethnic body of believers.

New life commits to reaching out

to Pampa in all areas of the township church. with special emphasis to our Latino brothers and sisters.

our multi-ethnic mixture of disciples including Christian Latino music, contemporary music as well as the traditional hymns and songs of the

Outreach will have as its goal to produce new believers who in turn are able to witness effectively and make disciples who will in turn continue this cycle.

This will be effected through small ed at 11923 W. McCullough Ave. in group bible studies, both Bi-lingual Pampa. services, and bibles. Services are Sunday at 10 a.m. and

Sundays and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Mary Ellen and Harvester Church

of Christ is located at 1342 Mary Ellen St. Corner of Mary Ellen and Right across from the high school.

Bible Classes start at 9:30 a.m. with Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 Sunday Evening Worship is at 5 p.m.

and Ladies Bible Class Wednesday 10 Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of

Christ also offers Wednesday Bible Class at 7 p.m. The clothing room is open on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each

month from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Keith Feerer is the Preacher and Zac Green is Youth Minister.

For more information call 806-665-

McLean Cowboy Church

McLean Cowboy Church is a non- are going to have several denominational spirit-filled Christian Easter observances be-

The pastor is Ronnie Ferguson. Sunday worship is at 10:30 a.m. and Our worship will be a reflection of children's ministry is Sunday at 10:30

a.m. and Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. The ages for the children's ministry are nursery through fifth grade.

The church is located at the intersection of state Highway 273 and Interstate 40 in McLean.

For informa-806-779-0260. tion, call **Southside Church of Christ**

The church extends an open invitation to all to come and worship where

the gospel, "God's Word," is always taught and preached. Regular worship services are: Sunday morning Bible study, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.; morning worship begins at 10:45 a.m. to noon; Wednesday

night Bible study is from 5 to 6 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church

Each Wednesday we have our children and adult Worship On Wednesday (WOW) classes from 5:30-6:30 followed by a light meal. We have an awesome youth program that is trying to grow for sixth graders through high school. They meet from 6:30 -7:30 on Wednesday evenings. All of our classes are open to anyone who would like to attend and learn more about God. This is followed by our choir practice at 7:30 if you would like to join the choir too. We also offer a Twenties & Thirties, TNT, a group for young adults, that meets on Sunday evenings at 7 p.m. for bible study.

This Holy Week we

ginning on Thursday, with our Monday through Thursday at 7 p.m. with a Tenebrae Service. Then on Friday from noon until 3pm there will be a come and go service in the Chapel. This will be a Presbyterian version of the Stations of the Cross Observance. Then on Easter Sunday there will not be any Sunday school, but instead we will have an Easter breakfast beginning at 9 am for all to enjoy, followed by an Easter story, then an egg hunt for the little ones. Worship service Southside Church of Christ is locat- will begin at 10:45 am as usual. We do offer nursery service for our Sunday mornings if you desire. We welcome all to come and join us for this wonderful occasion.

For more information please call our church office at 665-1031. First Presbyterian Church is located at 525 N. Gray Street in Pampa.

St. Vincent's Easter Schedule

Normal Mass Schedule

Tuesday 7 p.m. Sp. Mass, Wednesday 5:30 p.m. Mass, Thursday 7 a.m. Mass, Friday 8:30 a.m. Adoration from 9-7 p.m., Saturday 4:30 p.m., Reconciliation and 5:30 p.m. Mass, Sunday 9:30 a.m. and 12 p.m. in Spanish. Holy Week Schedule, Holy Thurs-

day 7:30 p.m. Bilingual Mass, Good Friday Service 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. in Spanish, Holy Saturday 9 p.m. Easter Vigil Bilingual Mass, Easter Sunday 9:30 a.m. and 12 p.m. Spanish Mass

If your church would like to be added to this list or are hosting a special event let us know! Email iclee@thepampanews.com or give us a call 669-2525. We will need the name, address. phone number and any other information about

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Texas grocery chain H-E-B pulls all Blue **Bell products**

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Texas grocery chain H-E-B is pulling Blue Bell Ice Cream from shelves as a precaution after a recall of some of the ice cream maker's products that were connected to three deaths

H-E-B, with more than 300 stores in Texas and northern Mexico, said the decision Saturday was a "precautionary measure due to food safety concerns." The chain said it's working with Brenham, Texasbased Blue Bell to refill the stocks.

Blue Bell spokesman Gene Grabowski said the company respected and understood the action.

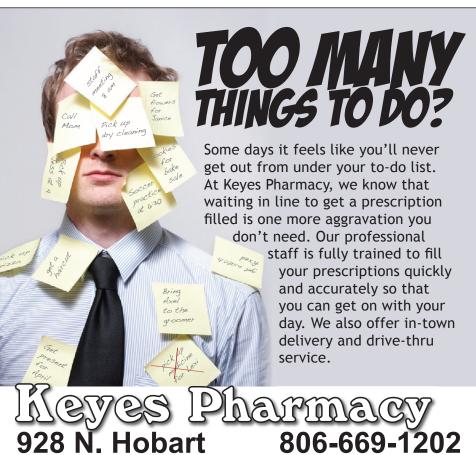
Blue Bell on Friday suspended operations at its Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, plant that officials previously had connected to contaminated ice cream. The company recalled products there and at a Texas plant that's been linked to a foodborne illness connected to three deaths.



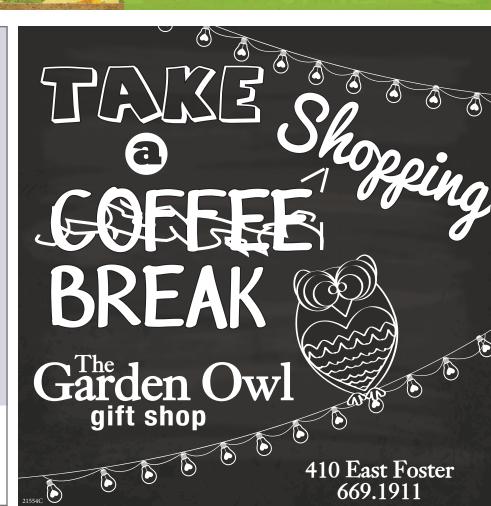




Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.



Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



The Pampa News Community Calendar

City Commission meetings

The Pampa City Commission meets at 5:30 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of each month. The meetings are held on the third floor of City Hall. Free estate planning workshop

coming to Pampa

CLA Estate Services is hosting a free Estate Planning Workshop Tuesday, March 31 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at The Plaza Restaurant located at 1201 N. Hobart St. in Pampa. The workshop will provide valuable information for seniors on securing one's estate and retirement planning. Guests will receive a workbook and gain useful information on: pros and cons of wills and trusts; how to avoid probate; long term health care concerns; and tax reduction planning. Please call 1-866-252-8721 to RSVP

School board meetings

The Pampa Independent School District board meets at 5:45 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month at the new administration building on North Hobart Street.

Immunization clinic three 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. The Department of State Health Services can be reached at 806-669-5323 and is located at 121 S. Gillespie St. in Pampa. PAWS meets first Tuesdays

Pampa Animal Welfare Society meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Pampa Animal Shelter, 811 S. Hobart St. The meetings are at 6:30 p.m. and are open to the public.

There is a desperate need for more members. 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 with be held on Monday. The meetings are held on the second floor of the Gray County Courthouse.

TOT Republican Women's Club

Top O' Texas Republican Women's Club meets at noon on the third Wednesday of every month at the Pampa Senior Citizens Center,

500 W. Francis St. For more information call 806-669-1990.

Jam sessions every Friday night

The Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center has a jam session 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

information, call 806-665-5668.

Monday night dance club

The Monday night dance club meets from 7 to 9 p.m., the second Monday of each month, 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 806-663-1136. **PPQG Meets fourth Thursdays**

Panhandle Piecemakers Quilt Guild meets the fourth Thursday of each month, January through October, at the

Pampa Senior Citizens Center at 500 W.

The meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. and membership is open to adult quilters of all ages. Dues are \$15 annually. Meetings consist of a short business discussion followed by a program featuring quilting techniques. For more information, call 806-662-2909.

Pampa Post VFW meetings

Pampa Post VFW, Men's Auxiliary, and Ladies Auxiliary meet the second and fourth Tuesday of every month. There is a social hour with meal at 6 p.m. and the meetings begin at 7 p.m. For questions, call Danny Martin at 806-662-4367.

CASA of the High Plains

CASA of the High Plains will be open from 5-6 p.m. on the third Tuesday of every month for persons interested in becoming a CASA Volunteer. The CASA office is located in the Brown Alliance for Children at 315 N. Ballard

CASA volunteers are appointed by a Judge to represent the Best Interest of children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect. Volunteers are crucial to positive outcomes for children in the foster care

You may contact CASA at 806-669-7638 for more information.

Citizens for a Better Pampa Meet-

The Citizens for a Better Pampa meetings are scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Mondays of each Meredith House, an month at 1925B North Hobart. The assisted-living facility at group is made up of individuals who 812 W. 25th Ave., has a want to work with our city commissionband performing at 6:30 ers and the city government/employees p.m. every Tuesday and to help make Pampa a better place to Saturday night. Join them live for all Pampa residents and visifor Western music, gospel tors. All who have concerns, positive and the classics. For more ideas, suggestions, and solutions for

concerns are encouraged to attend these meetings.

Group members attend the City Commission meetings, then grab a bite to eat and meet at the office conference room (1925B North Hobart) to get acquainted and visit before starting.

For more information, please contact Dale or Phillis at (3 Par Ranch office), 806-665-0805.

April 2015 DSHS **Immunization Clinic**

The April 2015 Department of State Health Services Immunization Clinic Schedule has been announced. All six clinics will be at 121 S. Gillespie from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 3:30 p.m. Each time-frame is for the first 10 cli-

The clinics will be on April 1, April 2, April 8, April 15, April 21 and April 22.

There is one available in McLean from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on April 14 at the Lovett Library located at 302

All times are subject to change or cancellation in case of extenuating cir-

Quails Forever meetings

Quails Forever is a new chapter in Pampa. This club meets on the first Tuesday of every month in the main building of Clarendon College Pampa Center. The group focuses on habitat and conservation projects for quails. The goal is to get community members and volunteers interested in creating conservation habitat areas for quail to increase the animal's population and furthermore to improve the environment.

Gospel Pickin' and Grinnin'

First United Methodist Church, located at 201 E. Foster, holds their weekly Gospel Pickin' and Grinnin' at 6 p.m. every Friday. Everyone is welcome to come out and bring their instruments or their voice. For more information on this weekly event, call Jerry Lister at 806-676-0711 or the church at 86-665-

Editor's note: Email submissions to jclee@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



24 HOUR

At 50, Houston Astrodome remains building in limbo HOUSTON (AP) — tros that opened the build- in place to deteriorate has creating an indoor park or

Houston Astrodome.

This Thursday will mark 50 years since the opening of the "Eighth Wonder of the World," which closed its doors several years ago and faces an uncertain future. City officials haven't decided whether to tear it down after voters rejected a referendum to approve \$217 million in bonds for a refurbishment.

Mickey Mantle homered in the April 9, 1965, exhibition between the New York Yankees and Houston As- that "just leaving the Dome

Happy 50th birthday to the ing, but the home team won that day. The Astros played in the stadium until 1999 and the NFL's Houston Oilers left for Tennessee after the 1996 season.

What once was a flashy, Houston's burgeoning ambitions now stands unused and without a plan. Harris County Judge Ed Emmett previously told the Houston Chronicle (http://bit. maintenance on the building still costs \$166,000 and

never been an option

It took a \$63,000 pow-demolishing it. er wash in November to formed on the outside of the building.

ahead-of-its-time sign of of the preservation group heinz, helped bring the Asto keep the Dome as a monument to the city.

"We certainly have plenty to celebrate," he said. "Let's feel tiny underneath ly/1F19Lod) that annual the massive structure and in the universe."

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"I'm no great architect," clear black streaks that had said Fred Hofheinz, a former Houston mayor whose father, famous ex-Harris James Glassman, founder County Judge Roy Hof-Houstorian, said he wanted trodome to fruition. "But I think over the years it's had a greater shelf life than a lot of more complex places because the Dome was very simple. You take a fish and turn it upside down, and contemplate our own place there it is. I think the simplicity is part of what has









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Top, Leola Moxon gives the Bunny a smooch. Above, Imogene Simpson gets a visit from the Easter Bunny.

Old Texas dance halls decaying, but some won't let them fade

KENDALIA, Texas (AP) two-lane road, stands a bedraggled, tin-sided building that hints at Texas' past.

Kendalia Halle's multitiered wooden truss was decked out in white lights as Bruce and Louetta Schwab joined about 200 others for a monthly dance. The Schwabs live east of Dallas and during their recent visit to central Texas Hill Country decided to visit the old hall, where patrons paid about \$20 to hear Bobby Jordan and the Ridgecreek Band.

"It's a combination of her love to dance and my interest in German history," said Bruce Schwab.

Kendalia Halle was built more than 100 years ago by German immigrants, who through the latter half of the 19th century comprised more than 5 percent of the state's population, according to the Texas State Historical Commission. It's one of an estimated 1,000 dance halls that sprung up around Texas in the 1800s, knitting together German, Czech, Polish and other immigrant communities.

decaying — but only two traditional Texas dance halls continue to operate on nearly a daily basis: Luckenbach hall in Fredericksburg and Gruene Hall in New Braunfels.

"The culture has shifted - Some 40 miles north of away from rural areas where San Antonio, along a lonely most of the halls are, but what we see is that these cultures are foundational to what Texans are and what Texas is," said Patrick Sparks, board president of Texas Dance Hall Preservation.

Sparks' group and others are working to preserve the state's remaining dance halls, in part by creating an inventory so that the most distinctive ones become candidates for the National Register of Historic Places. Such designation would enable the halls to apply for grant assistance and protections against encroaching development.

More practically, it would raise their profile among tourists and other travelers.

"You can still go out on a Saturday night and experience an authentic dance hall like you could 100 years ago and that's something that really defines our culture here in Texas," Sparks said.

Some dance halls also are architecturally unique, according to Sparks. The Cat Spring Agricultural Society Pavilion west of Houston is a 12-sided hall built in 1902 About 400 such halls still by German immigrants that stand — many unused and features an elaborate wooden truss rising up to a cupola.

> At one time there were about 40 such "round halls" in the state, Sparks said, but now just half that number exist.



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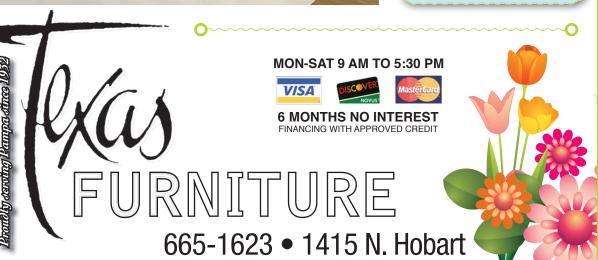
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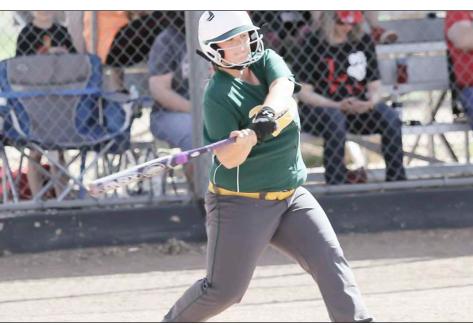
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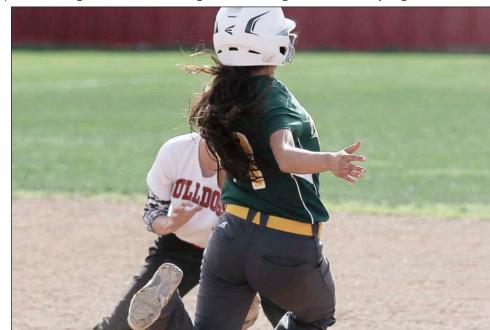


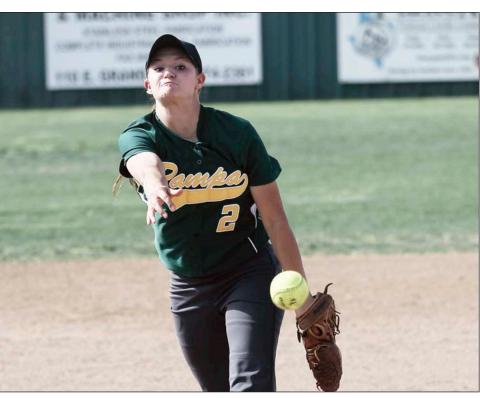


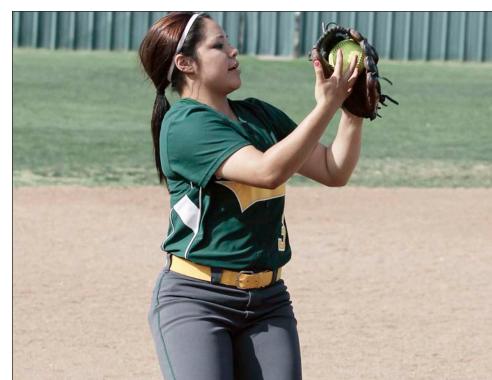
Photos courtesy of Charla Shult

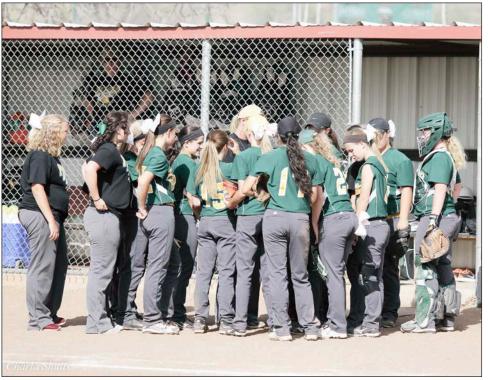
Top left, the infield meets on the mound. Top right, Kassie Jerome tries to tag a runner out. Above left, Kaylee Arnzen smashes a hit. Above right, Jacie Studebaker deals a pitch. Below left, Gracee Gill rounds first base. Below right, Brittany Gonzalez slides into second. Middle left, Jacie Studebaker pitches. Middle right, Shiann Regalado with a nice catch. Bottom left, the team gets a pep talk from head coach Bobbi Gill before taking the field. Bottom right, Cameron Schaub rounds second and looks to head to third for a triple. Pampa lost the game in extra innings 7-6 to Borger on Thursday night.

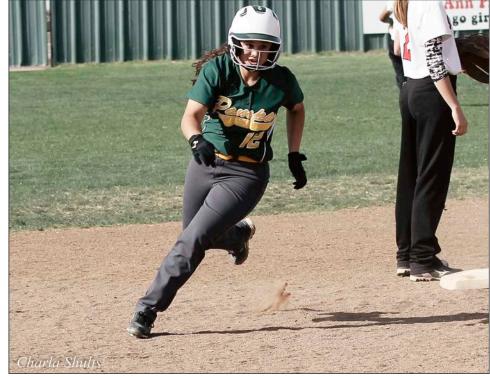












PampaSports

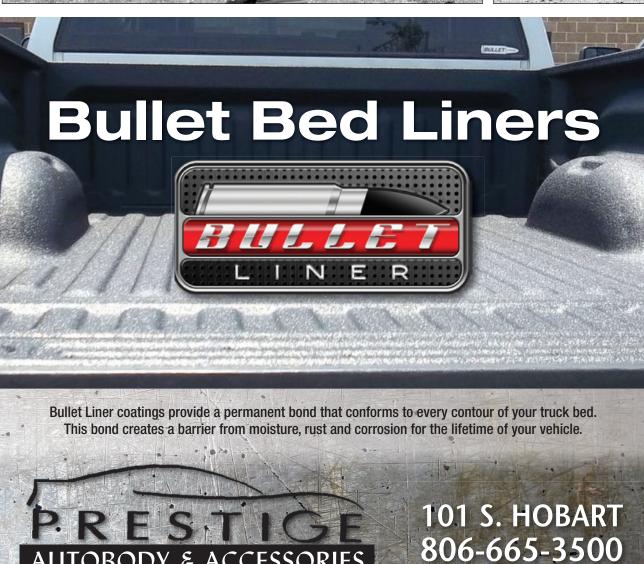
LACK OF OFFENSE HAUNTS HARVESTERS IN 6-1 LOSS TO BORGER THURSDAY













Photos courtesy of Rod Keown hrows in from the outfield.

Top left, Rhett Harden throws in from the outfield. Top right, Braden Keown makes a play in center. Middle left, Nathan Furgason makes a play. Middle right, Ty Hooper looks to get a head start on the basepaths. Above, Zach Hill deals a pitch in the game. Below, Cade Engle with a nice catch at shortstop. Pampa lost the game 6-1 to Borger.





806-688-0090



PampaSports

Frank Phillips basketball camp

Frank Phillips College in Borger is hosting a basketball camp this summer for boys between the ages of seven and 17.

Week one runs June 1-4 for \$95. Week two runs June 8-11 for also \$95.

to 3 p.m. with lunch provided each day.

Each camper will recieve an official Adidas camp T-

The camp is held in the BCAC on the campus of Frank Phillips College.

There will be a \$10 discount if you register before (806) 457-4200 Ext: 818.

April 30. There is also a \$10 discount if you attend both camps.

The camp will teach shooting, passing, dribbling, rebounding, defense and individual offense.

There will be one-onone leagues, three-on-three The times are from 9 a.m. leagues and five-on-five leagues.

College leagues for ages 7-11 and pro leagues for ages 12-17.

There will be daily competitions and camp prizes and certificates from Frank Phillips College.

For more information call

EXTRA INNINGS

The Major League Baseball season is upon us.

The 2015 MLB Season started on Sunday night.

What are some of the top storylines coming into

this season? I will use Bleacher Reports Top 15.

1. Who will be the next team to end long postseeason drought?

The Toronto Blue ZACHARY Jays haven't made the playoffs in 21 years and Seattle Mariners in 13 years.

Both are primed to try and make it this year.

GREEN

2. How will the foreign prospects fare? Rusney Castillo, Yasmany Tomas

and Jung Ho Kang are names to look for on the Red Sox, Diamondbacks and Pirates respectively. 3. Can the Red Sox go from

Worst to First?

Pretty simple, they lost 91 games in 2014 and hope to do better this year with new additions.

4. How will Stanton perform after signing the mega contract? (\$325 million)

5. Will the Phillis be able to trade Cole Hamels this year?

6. Will the new pace of play rules

7. Will the offensive free fall

continue? Last year's average was 4.07 runs per game.

8. Does A-Rod have anything left in the tank at 39 years of age?

9. Does Gotham have its Dark

Knight? They are referring to Matt Harvey who missed all of last season

for Tommy John Surgery. 10. Clayton Kershaw can't top last year, can he?

11. Which Mike Trout will show

12. Will the Nationals rotation go

SAVE

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Choose from the hottest and most popular accessory colors

down in history?

They have arguably one of the best rotations in the entire history of MLB. Will it live up to the hype?

13. What will Rob Manfred do with Pete Rose?

Will he grant immunity to Rose finally?

14. Will the White Sox and Padres' spending frenzies pay off?

The Padres continued to get better with a trade to acquire Craig Kimbrel from the Braves on Sunday night.

15. Will Kris Bryant live up to

the hype?

next week.

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111 W. KINGSMILL

And in return, will he make the Cubs better because of it?

What are some things you are watching this season for MLB? Let me know and I might share it

Zachary Green is the sports editor at The Pampa News and youth minister at the Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ. He can be reached at zgreen@ thepampanews.com or on Twitter: @okiecowpoke14.

Watch the Pros

NBA Basketball

San Antonio Spurs at OKC Thunder	1N1 / p.m.
LA Lakers at LA Clippers	TNT 9:30 p.m.
D-League playoff	ESPNU 6 p.m.
D-League playoff	
	•

MLB Baseball

Texas Rangers at Oakland Athletics.....FSSW 9 p.m.

College Baseball

Oklahoma at Oklahoma State.....FCSC 6 p.m. Utah Valley at BYU.....BYU 7 p.m.

NHL Hockey

Minnesota Wild at Chicago Blackhawks......NBCS 7:30 p.m.

QPR at Aston Villa.....NBCS 1:40 p.m. Alajuelense v. Montreal......FS2 9 p.m.

Women's Basketball Championship UCONN v. Notre Dame.....ESPN 7:30 p.m.

Game times and channels are subject to change.

The PAMPANEWS Sports Briefs

Softball

varsity v. Bushland	4:30 p.m April 12 - Pampa
Varsity v. Dalhart	Noon - April 11 - Pampa
	2 p.m April 11 - Pampa

Baseball

Varsity v. Bushland	4:30 p.m TODAY - Pampa
JV at River Road	4:30 p.m April 10 - Amarillo
Varsity v. Dalhart Sr. Day	Noon - April 11 - Pampa
JV v. Dalhart	3 p.m April 11 - Pampa
JV. v. Clarendon	4:30 p.m April 13 - Pampa

Swimming

JH Swimming.April 11 - Pecos

JH District.....April 11 - Perryton

Tennis

District at Borger...April 8 - Borger

Golf District Round 2.

..TODAY - Dumas Girls regionals.April 13 - Lubbock

*Game times and locations are subject to change. Please refer to the Pampa ISD Athletics Department website for an updated schedule. You can reach it by going to www.pampaisd.net and then clicking Athletics Department under the departments tab. *

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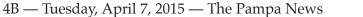
and receive an official appraisal

and an offer to purchase for that vehicle.

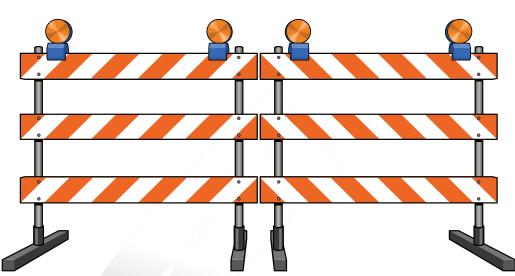
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THEFunnies

By Bil Keane THE FAMILY CIRCUS © 2015 Bil Keane, Inc. Dist. by King Features Synd www.familycircus.com

"We got here late, so the only seats left were in the upper deck.

Non Sequitur



Nest Heads





HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, April 8, 2015:

beyond the obvious. You see the implications of different ideas as well as their potential ramifications. As a result, your choices will become more solid. Often others will want to seek you out to get your feedback. If you are single, listen to your gut, and in the next few months, you could meet Mr. or Ms. Right. If you are attached, the two of you often get into tiffs that really are meaningless. Remember that you will have different opinions, and you both will think you are right. SAGITTARIUS can be willful and adventuresome.

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 seem to be expressing unusual impulsiveness. Once this passes, you are likely to rein yourself in and decide not to repeat this behavior. Try to understand where the root of the issue is stemming from. Use your instincts with someone at a distance. Tonight: Take in new vistas:

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Deal with a child or loved one on a one-on-one level. You could feel as if you are off-kilter or not as sure of yourself as you would like to be. You might be in a situation where you can't make a decision. Know that more information is forthcoming. Tonight: Dinner for two.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Defer to someone else with the understanding that this approach might be the only way to get this person involved with a project. You have the ability to charm others to go along with your point of view. Tonight: Sort through your many invitations first. CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★★ You might be at the end of

a cycle that has been very draining. Someone you need to answer to could cause you a problem with his or her unpredictability. You also tend to personalize what people say. Don't. Tonight: Schedule a massage.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Put yourself 100 percent into whatever you are doing. You might find that surprising someone could reveal much more information about a certain situation. You have a lot to discuss. A key issue will throw you into the limelight. Tonight: Frolic away.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Tension builds as others close This year you have the ability to look to you make their expectations clear, especially a roommate or family member. A loved one could surprise you by offering a whole different perspective. You seem to be able to land on your feet no matter what. Tonight: Mosey on home

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Keep communication moving. You could get an unexpected response from someone you look up to. This person seems to be overly serious, and you might be seeing another side to his or her personality. Observe, but do not play into the situation. Tonight: Out and about.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Be aware of your actions and the financial implications involved. What you see coming down the path might not be in sync with what you thought would happen. Nevertheless, a partner will help you in weighing the pros and cons of the situation. Tonight: Your treat

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

**** You'll move quickly through a difficult situation. Be clear about what a friend or co-worker is doing, as this person has a way of adding chaos to your life. You know how to handle it. Reach out to an expert, if need be. Tonight: Your wish easily can be fulfilled. Just ask.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ You might want to step back and let others make the first move to present their ideas. At the same time, you'll free yourself up. Confusion could surround a talk, so be ready to back off some. Be aware of your limitations. Tonight: Sort through a lot of gossip.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Zero in on what you want. Your words seem to get to the right person to produce the results you desire. Be more forthright about a difficult situation involving a friend. Clearly, you are not able to have a positive effect on this person. Tonight: Hang with the gang

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Be careful, as you could lose your wallet or be hit with an unexpected bill. Tensions are high, and it seems that, no matter what direction you turn, you feel challenged. You will have a lot of energy, so use it to get into a constructive project. Tonight: Stay on top of a situation.



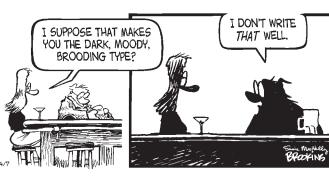
Baby Blues





Shoe





Mother Goose and Grim

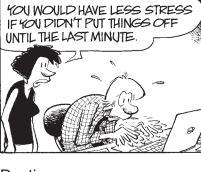






HEAH... I LET THE CAT WEAR IT

EARLIER







ALMOST S MINUTES!

GREGI MORT WALKER

VERY SAME

INSTANT

Dustin





Beetle Bailey

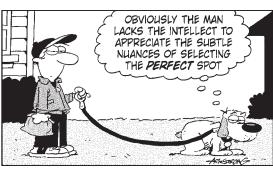




Marvin







Hagar The Horrible





Blondie





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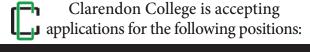
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Inquiries and All Materials should be sent to: Ashlee Estlack, Assistant to the President, Clarendon College, PO Box 968, Clarendon, TX 79226,

e-mailed to ashlee.estlack@clarendoncollege.edu, or faxed to 806-874-1489.

Job descriptions and applications can be found at www.ClarendonCollege.edu/Jobs

Clarendon College is a two-year community college located in the Texas Panhandle with locations in Clarendon, Pampa, Childress and Amarillo.

Clarendon College is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, race, color, national or ethnic origin, or disability.

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CNA's needed at Community Care Center of Clarendon, \$9.50-\$10.50 an hour based on experience & shifts. Apply in person or call 806-874-5221.

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sional minded individual to work full-time in an office setting. Need to have basic filing, phone and scheduling exp. or willing to learn. Hrs. are 8-6pm Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. and 8-noon on Wed. Work schedule could vary a little. Please send resumes to tcpassini@ gmail.com

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Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information. services or goods.

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mornings and evenings. Weekends a Must. Apply in person (no phone calls). Subway, 2141 N. Hobart. TEXAS Rose Steak-

house is hiring Cooks, Prep and Dishwashers. No part-time. No phone calls. Apply at 2841 Perryton Pkwy. **World Finance**

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Mon. noon Wednesday deadline for all line ads Mon. 5pm

Wed. City Briefs
Tues. noon

Thursday deadline for all line ads Tuesday 5pm Thurs. City briefs Wed. noon

Friday deadline for all line ads Wed. 5pm. Fri. City Briefs Thurs noon Saturday deadline for all line ads Thurs 5pm Sat City Briefs Fri. noon

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Fluid Injection Well Permit Scout Energy Manage-ment LLC, 4901 LBJ Freeway, Ste. 300, Dallas, TX 75244 is ap plying to the Railroad Commission of Texas

posed injection well is located 1 mile northwest of Alanreed in the for all your complete Panhandle Gray County Field, in Gray County. Fluid will injected into strata in the subsurface

depth interval from 2176 to 2782 feet. LEGAL AUTHOR ITY: Chapter 27 of as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the

Railroad Commission

Auto transmission. All are adversely affected original. Good price or requests for further ing any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Service Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792). H-92 Apr. 7, 2015

OTEVCT

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Pampa, #15-10291

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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.

AXYDLBAAXR

CRYPTOQUOTE

PENTXDNPDP

OTHLTLP

V R L QNPEVUTLS

ZHUT

JRTPD MVL BXVIYTQAT.

ZHIBNXA PDTWZTX Yesterday's Cryptoquote: AUDACITY SUCCEEDS AS OFTEN AS IT FAILS; IN LIFE IT HAS AN EVEN

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ACROSS

1 Leslie

5 Indian

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10 Signs of

trouble

12 "Survivor"

artisans

inactive

mileage

18 Got more

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20 Impolite

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23 The Jet-

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35 Bitterly

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36 Hawaii's

37 Marriage

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21 Hearty

22 News-

team

15 Swelled

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16 Outfit

17 Was

13 Swiss

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

O|R|E|S|

BABA

A|N|O|N|

I|N|D|F|U|L

N|Y|B|O|D|Y|

A|X|E

my doctor and told him I wanted to become ster-

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

Caron film 41 "— the

40 Snow

house

Top"

43 Rigging

DOWN

42 Must have

support

1 Degrade

2 Pictures

3 Dismiss

4 Co. abbr.

5 Antlered

animal

7 Occupies

8 Rub the

wrong

way

9 Caught

one's

breath

6 Tick off

DEAR ABBY: When I any regrets, and now at 27, never had kids, she could turned 25, after consider- I'm still firmly convinced live with it. I felt lucky to ing it for years, I went to that I don't want children have found someone who — ever.

I started dating a womile. I got a vasectomy two an a year ago, "Anita," with Anita. When she gets months later. I haven't had who told me that if she upset from time to time,

would be OK with no kids.

I have had a few issues

CHAPS

LOLLED

ALLURE

HIELL

38 Haddock's

39 Ring wins,

cousin

M I

BAA

with me, she will never Anita. She understands another woman came up have kids. I know she that you do not want and stood beside me. The cares for me deeply, but I also believe she feels conflicted about giving up the sure it won't happen. up the other woman's purchance to be a mother.

me to pursue this relationship and hope that eventuwith me? Or should I end the relationship so she can find someone who shares her desire to become a parent? I worry that if I end it, it may take years before I find someone who shares my wish to never be a parent. — NO KIDS IN COLORADO

children, and that you clerk walked over and imhave taken steps to en- mediately began to ring Do you think it's fair for stays with you, she will first!" Both the clerk and never have any.

ally she'll come to terms the two of you need to already begun, the saleswith not having children talk this through once clerk completed it and I and for all, because if was left waiting. Anita is ambivalent about forgoing mother-And you need to let her do that.

> DEAR ABBY: It happened to me again yesterday. After I had been wait-

she says that if she stays have been upfront with of a large department store, She's correct that if she chase. I said, "I was here the woman apologized, For both your sakes, but because the sale had

I am angry about it. I feel stores should have a queue hood, she does need to where you get in line in orfind another life partner. der, or clerks should be instructed to ask, "Who was here first?" I don't want to believe I was passed over because the other woman looked more prosperous buying a very expensive handbag, while I was purchasing socks that were on clearance. How should that be handled in the future? — SHOPPER IN KENTUCKY

> **DEAR SHOPPER: If** you have a complaint about service, it should be addressed to the store manager. A well-trained retail salesperson would have asked which of you was there first. The amount you were spending should have made no difference.

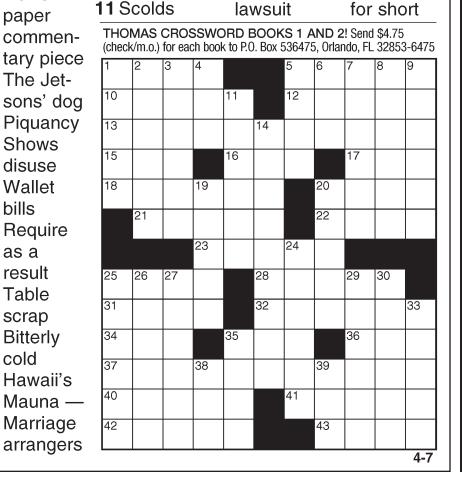
DEAR ABBY: My wife and I travel with another couple. I furnish the vehicle and do all the driving. How should we share the expenses? — EASY RIDER IN NORTHERN **CALIFORNIA**

DEAR EASY RIDER: The other couple should pay for half the gas and their own meals and lodging.

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

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR NO KIDS: You ing patiently at the counter than I do, but she was DODGY |P|A|R|S|E A|M|I|SEN ORDJIIM TEA L BANANAGRAMS! ARMBONE R|E|S|I|N|S AL For each word or phrase below, rearrange the letters to spell two new words that are things found STUCCO GI LEVEL in most homes. For example: THE DRAIN WRECK S Ε S can be rearranged to spell KITCHEN and DRAWER. Yesterday's answer CAPABLEMINT 14 Bad place 29 Begin, CATTLEPOWER to change as a horses hobby 19 Plane 30 Rugged STOPTOELUNGE features range 20 Perch **33** Surgical 24 Model's tool FOOLSDAREWHY 35 Greek spot **25** Go for a letters



closeup

26 Tick off

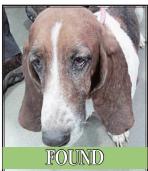
27 End a

Answer to yesterday's puzzle: 3 1 2 7 5 4 7 6 7 4 8 9 6 2 1 8 5 6 2 6 4 5 1 7 3 9 8 6 5 1 9 4 2 8 3 7 3 5 2 3 2 3 5 8 6 6 5 9 5 4 8 8 3 4 6 9 4

Yesterday's Answer: UNUSED,

MATURE, BUNDLE, RUSHED

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"Sadie" **Bassett Female**



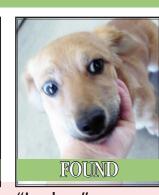
"Curt" Border Collie Male



"Teddy" American Bulldog



"Chimmy" Lab Mix Male Puppy



"Jordan" Lab Mix Male Puppy

#17618



"Ruthie"

#17603

Boxer Mix Female Puppy

Donations needed: Wet Cat Food, Large Towels, Blankets, Bleach

Monetary Donations may be made Online at www.pampaanimalwelfaresociety.com



JRLAND



"Polly" **Terrier Female**



"Thomas" Siamese Male



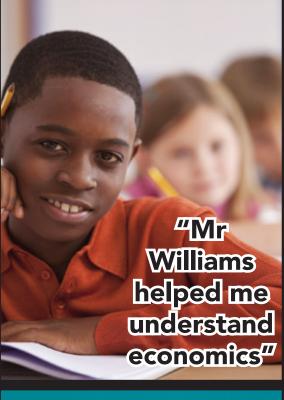
"Carrie" **Short Haired Female**

#17619

#17613 For more info about these pets or for any other questions, call 806-669-5775.

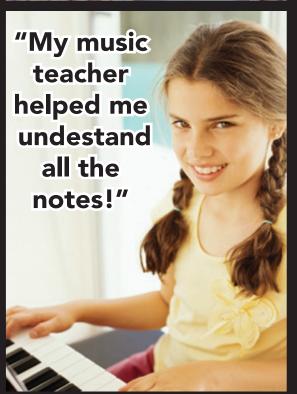
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