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# PAMPANEWS



### PISD board hopes field will be ready

BY DAVID BOWSER dbowser@thepampanews.

The president of the school board said the board is concerned about the synthetic turf project at Harvester Stadium that is running behind schedule, but he refused to go further, indicating that legal action is still an option.

The grass at the football field was to be replaced by synthetic turf in time for graduation at the end of May. A problem with

the underlying aggregate, or gravel, that provides a base for the synthetic turf, however, delayed the project. Today, gravel lines the field, but there appears to be no further work on the project.

There is a question as to whether the field will be ready for a scheduled scrimmage against Dalhart on Aug. 21, although officials hope that the field will be ready in time for the Harvesters first football game of the season on

Aug. 28, against the Borger Bulldogs.

"I will say this about the turf on behalf of our board," said Derrell DeLoach, president of the Pampa Independent School District board of trustees, "This board is committed to ensuring that the turf project is completed cor-

After two hours behind closed doors, meeting with the Pampa Independent School District's attorney, DeLoach addressed an

This board is committed to ensuring that the turf project is com-

Derrell DeLoach president, PISD board

audience of concerned citizens as a grim-faced board looked on during their reg-

pleted correctly.

ularly scheduled meeting Thursday night.

"We are committed to ensure that the job is done in the correct manner by the specifications supplied to the vendor by the engineering firm," DeLoach said. "That is our first and primary commitment with regard to the turf issue."

He said that the board believes it has an obligation to those who supplied the funds for the proj-

TURF cont. on page 3

### School board budgets projects

BY DAVID BOWSER

dbowser@thepampanews.com
The auditorium seats at

Pampa High School will be repaired, and the school may get a new marquee.

In their meeting Thursday night, the Pampa Independent School District board of trustees approved an agreement with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to have the seats in the auditorium removed, repaired and replaced for \$40,400. They also approved a budget amendment to pay for the project.

The budget amendment also covered projects that had been budgeted but not been completed during the last fiscal year, which ended June 30, and SCHOOL cont. on page 3

WHITE DEER RODEO TONIGHT



staff photo by **David Bowser** nnual rodeo gets underway

Former

AG preps to teach

at Texas

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — Former U.S. Attorney General

Alberto Gonzales hopes his

teaching stint at Texas Tech will

encourage minorities to further

The school in Lubbock earlier

this month announced it hired Gonzales to teach political science and to help recruit and retain minorities. Gonzales, a former secretary of state in Texas and

Tech

their education.

Pecos Winters, 13, checks horses at the White Deer rodeo grounds. The annual rodeo gets underway tonight and runs through Saturday.

### **CARRYING A TORCH**



staff photo by David Bowser

Lighting up the streets of Pampa, Benito Reynaga with Lewis Construction uses a propane torch to heat the asphalt in the 1700 block of Mary Ellen in preparation for the city's annual seal coating project.

the nation's first Hispanic attorney general, on Thursday talked with reporters about his teaching plans.

Gonzales, who joins Tech on Aug. 1, will lead a course this fall on contemporary issues in the executive branch

fall on contemporary issues in the executive branch.

Nine U.S. attorneys were fired.

when Gonzales was attorney general. He resigned in 2007.
Gonzales said he will talk openly about his controversial

Gonzales said he will talk openly about his controversial decisions, as part of a "very candid discussion with the students." AG cont. on page 3









## For the record

#### PAMPA FORECAST

Saturday

Sunday

Monday



High 95 Low 69 Low 67



High 87 Low 65

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 68. South southwest wind between 10 and 15

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 95. West southwest wind 5 to 15 mph becoming south southeast. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

Saturday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 67. South southeast wind 10 to 15 mph becoming east northeast. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

Sunday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 90. East wind around 10 mph.

Sunday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 69. South southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Monday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 87. South southwest wind around 10 mph.

Monday Night: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 65. South southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming northwest.

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#### Low levels at Lake Travis yield stolen vehicles

Low levels at Lake Travis yield stolen vehicles AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Low levels at Lake Travis blamed on the drought are leading to the discovery of

some vehicles believed sto-1en decades ago. Travis County sheriff's Detective Mike Morton says the lowering lake levels have allowed "some

treasures to pop up," KVUE-TV reports one recovered sports car, reported stolen in 1988, still had the keys in the ignition. A Kawasaki motorcycle removed from Thursday from Lake Travis at Pace Bend Park was reported stolen in June.

Morton warns thieves that the lake near Austin is a poor place to abandon stolen items.

He doesn't want any-

SEE NEWS??? CALL 669-2525 body thinking they "can come out here and start dumping vehicles and we are not going to find them."

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### Obituaries There are no obituaries today

### EMERGENCY SERVICES

#### PAMPA PD

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents during the 24-hour period ending at 7 a.m. today.

Officers made 23 traffic related stops and worked

two accidents. Authorities responded to 11 animal-related calls.

Officers made two follow up calls regarding investigations.

Thursday A criminal trespass was reported in the 400 block of North Yeager.

A home was toilet papered in the 1100 block of Prairie Drive.

There was a 911 call in the 1300 block of North Hobart.

A burglary was reported in the 800 block of North Sumerville.

A medical emergency was reported in the 1100 block of North Starkweather.

Officers performed a welfare check in the 2800 block of North Rosewood Lane and another at Foster and Lefors.

A gas drive off was reported in the 100 block of West 28th Ave.

A suspicious person was reported in the 800 block of East Browning.

A medical emergency was reported in the 200 block of Thut.

A grass fire was reported

on FM 2375. Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block of

North Davis. A medical emergency was reported in the 800

block of North Nelson. Disorderly conduct was reported in the 100 block of South Faulkner.

A suspicious person was reported in the 2200 block

Sheriff's Department reported the following arrests during the past 24-hour period. Thursday

of Dogwood Lane.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 700 block of North Davis. A medical emergency

was reported in the 1000 block of North Wells. Disorderly conduct was

reported in the 900 block of South Osborn. A violation of city code

was reported in the 500 block of North Nelson. Disorderly conduct was reported in the 200 block

of Henry. A prowler was reported

in the 1800 block of North

Hamilton. A burglary was reported in the 800 block of East

Kingsmill. Criminal mischief was reported in the 500 block of North Lefors.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1100 block of South Hobart.

A window was shot out by a BB gun in the 200 block of West Craven.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 2200 block of Lea.

Friday A suspicious person was

reported in the 900 block of West Randy Matson Ave. Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1000 block

of South Faulkner. A suspicious person was reported at 18th and Williston.

A suspicious person was reported in the 900 block of North Somerville.

#### SHERIFF

County The Gray

Kimberlie Dawn Mouser,

N. Cuyler St.

and theft under \$50. Rodriguez, Lorena 36, Pampa, was arrested by Pampa police officers on warrants charging her with leaving the scene of

26, Pampa, was arrested

by Gray County deputies

on a warrant charging her

with theft by check, driv-

ing without a valid driver

license, failure to appear

an accident and striking a fixture. Friday

Johnny Ray Wildcat, 38, Pampa, was arrested by Gray County deputies on a warrant charging him with theft of property greater

than \$50 but less than \$500. Omar Rodruiguez Collazo, 19, Pampa, was arrested by Pampa police officers on charges of driving while intoxicated.

Guardian EMS reported the following call for July

**AMBULANCE** 

8:56 a.m.— An MICU

unit responded to the 1200

10:04 a.m. An MICU

unit responded to Pamap

Regional Medical Center,

#### Department reported the following call for service FIRE

between 7 a.m. July 23 and 7 a.m. July 24.

transported one patient

1:24 p.m. An MICU unit

responded to PRMC, trans-

ported on patient to the VA

9:23 p.m.— An MICU

unit responded to the 1200

block of S. Faulkner,

transported one patient to

Pampa

Northwest

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PRMC.

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10:52 a.m. - One unit and three personnel responded to a first responder (medical) call in the 100 block of Starkweather.

11:46 a.m.— Two units and four personnel responded to an investigation at Ballard and Browning.

2:54 p.m.— One unit and three personnel responded to a public service call in the 100 block of S. Christy.

9:23- One unit and three personnel responded to a first responder ( medical) call in the 100 block of N. Wells.

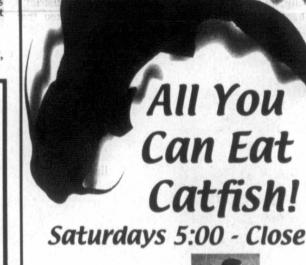


block of Christine.

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Morning 9:45 am Evening 6:30 pm

Week N

7:30 pm

Burlington Northern 2Q

profit rises

Burlington Northern Santa

Fe Corp., the second larg-

est rail operator in the

U.S., said Thursday sec-

ond-quarter earnings rose

15 percent as big savings

from cheaper fuel and other

cost cuts offset plunging

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"I am hopeful that as more facts come out and people see my work in the community there will be a more fair and objective evaluation of me and my service," Gonzales said.

He said the Bush administration "is entitled to credit for taking steps to protect our country." He says mistakes were made, but everyone acted in good faith.

"We kept the country safe, since 9/11 we have not had another attack," Gonzales said.

#### cont. from page 1

Gonzales was in Lubbock this week meeting people on campus and talking to Hispanic leaders.

Gonzales, 53, is a San Antonio native who attended the Air Force Academy, Rice and Harvard universities. He also served as George W. Bush's state legal counsel and a Texas Supreme Court justice before moving with the president to Washington.

#### Houston worker gives obber knuckle sandwich

HOUSTON (AP) — A robbery attempt in Houston turned into a knuckle sandwich for the suspect.

Sandwich store clerk Yava Matthews punched the man in the mouth as he tried to get away with some

Matthews says the man Monday night lunged over the counter and grabbed her cash drawer. Matt says her "initial response was to hit him. So I hit him."

KHOU-TV reports somebody offered handcuffs.

Another person produced a Taser, as the fight moved Matthews used both on the man before police arrived

### Turf

ect, the Pampa Economic Development Corporation and individual donors.

and took custody of the suspect.

"We are committed to making sure that this project is done," DeLoach said. 'We are also committed to holding those accountable that do not discharge their duties in a correct manner."

He said the board is very patient with regard to the time that is required to complete the project.

"I will not get into specifics concerning that matter

cont. from page 1

because there are potential litigious matters," DeLoach said. "We are committed to ensuring that this job is done correctly, and we are committed to everyone in this community with that thought in mind."

He said the school board is very concerned about the synthetic turf project. He said the board is concerned about all the projects the school district has under construction at this time.

demand.

The company said it earned \$404 million, or \$1.18 per share, compared with \$350 million, or \$1 per share a year earlier. The year-ago quarter included a charge of 31 cents per share related to an environmental matter in Montana.

Revenue fell 26 percent to \$3.32 billion.

The results came in well above what Wall Street was expecting. Thomson Reuters says analysts expected profit of \$1.01 per share on revenue of \$3.43 billion.

The Fort Worth, Texasbased company paid less

NEW YORK (AP) than half for fuel in the April-to-June period than it did a year ago. Total traffic fell 18 percent, led by declines in automotive, industrial and consumer products shipments.

The railroad slashed costs by 33 percent.

President and CEO Matt Rose said Burlington Northern is beginning to see signs that some of it more economically sensitive businesses are stabilizing. That echoed a similar statement earlier Thursday from Union Pacific Corp. CEO Jim Young

Omaha, Neb.-based Union Pacific, the nation's biggest railroad, reported a 12 percent drop in income. But it also topped Wall

Street forecasts. Burlington Northern's shares ended the regular session up \$2.42, or 3.2 percent, to \$79.20.

Steve

### School

projects that had tentatively been approved. It also included the replacement of aging custodial equipment that has been deemed unsafe.

Carol Fields, the district's business manager, told the school board there would be an expected increase in the fund balance from 2008-2009 of about \$1 million, enough to cover the already budgeted items, the tentatively budgeted items and the custodial equipment.

The \$300,000 of budgeted items includes the high school roof, softball concession stand, conversion of portable buildings for the elementary schools, media system for the high school commons area and a new finish on the gym floor.

Those items had been budgeted last year but are not yet complete so they were simply moved forward into the new budget year.

The tentatively approved items, totaling \$555,000, include sports dressing rooms, vocational consumer science renovations, the auditorium seating and lighting, ag barn, replacing the heating and air conditioning in the high school vocational building and music building and a tennis concession stand.

The custodial equipment will total \$11,100.

The board discussed replacing the existing marquee with an electronic marquee.

Pampa High Principal Tanya Larkin told the board she would like to see something between the \$20,000 imarquee at the junior high and the \$100,000 marquee at M.K. Brown. She estimated \$50,000 for an electronic marquee suitable for the needs of the high school.

David Teichmann, board member, said he would like to see the district match any donations to come up with the money for the marquee.

In other business, Pampa Junior High School Principal Paul Nies told cont. from page 1

the board that under the school's handbook policy students are to leave the school immediately after the end of the school day.

He said that the final bell rings at 3:28 p.m., and he would give the students until 3:38 p.m. to leave the school grounds.

Nies said, however, that he would work with parents on scheduling issues.

After school supervision had become an issue at the junior high school with some students hanging around until 4:30 p.m. or later.

The school board also approved a number of fund-raising applications from various school organizations.

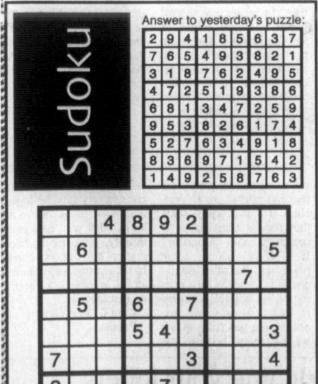
The school board also approved renewing its agreement with the Texas Association of School Boards on Workers Comp Insurance and heard a report on new fingerprinting requirements of teachers by the state.

The board approved revisions to the local leaves and absences policy. Fields said the revisions would put the policies in line with recently passed laws and would clarify the district's policy. She indicated that there were no substantial changes, but they would be easier to understand.

They also approved the tax appraisal district's budget and calendar.

The board hired Sabrina Gafford as a counselor at Lamar, Billy Smith as a science teacher at the junior high, Phillip Porcari as a history teacher at the junior high, Allyson Embry as a pre-kindergarten teacher at Lamar, Mary Crown as a fourth grade teacher at Lamar, Robert Ceyanes as a math teacher at the junior high, Mozetta Johnson as a Family Consumer Science teacher, and Jessica Seman as a high school math teacher.

They also hired Edward Milner as a physical education coach at the junior high and Tyson Holder as a diagnostician for the dis-



2

3

8

Marc



# Viewpoints

### Today in History

Today is Friday, July 24, the 205th day of 2009. There are 160 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1567 - Barely more than 1 year old, the son of Mary of Scotland is crowned James VI when his mother, defeated by rebel Scottish lords, abdicates the throne. He becomes King James I of England when his cousin, Queen Elizabeth I, dies

1847 - Brigham Young and the first Mormons arrive at Great Salt Lake in present-day Utah. 1911 - Yale University professor Hiram Bingham

discovers Inca city Machu Picchu in Peru. 1922 - League of Nations Council approves mandates for Palestine and Egypt.

1929 - U.S. President Herbert Hoover proclaims the Kellogg-Briand Pact, renouncing war as an instrument of foreign policy.

1942 - British bombers devastate German cities of Frankfurt and Mannheim in World War II.

My feeling is that there is nothing to life but refraining from hurting others and comforting those who are sad.

Olive Schreiner, South African author

1946 - United States makes first underwater test of an atomic bomb off atoll of Bikini in Pacific Ocean.

1969 - The U.S. Apollo 11 astronauts, the first men to walk on Moon, splash down safely in the Pacific Ocean.

1976 - U.S. spacecraft Viking 1 lands on Mars and starts tests to determine

whether life exists on the planet.

1977 - Egypt's President Anwar Sadat orders his troops to observe immediate cease-fire in fighting with Libya.

1981 - Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization endorse separate cease-fire agreements to end fighting along the Lebanese-Israeli border. 1992 - The Mexican government accuses the

United States of excessive interference in antidrug efforts and declines aid earmarked to combat narcotics.

1993 - Russia says it will invalidate billions of old rubles to combat inflation.

1994 - Rwandan refugees trickle into Zaire — now Congo — after the border is opened, to escape filthy, crowded camps where death from cholera and dehydration abound.

1996 - In Colombo, Sri Lanka, two bombs rip through separate cars of a commuter train, killing 63 people in an attack blamed on Tamil Tiger separatist rebels.

1997 - After 290 years of union, the British government offers Scots the power to legislate, to tax and to speak for themselves in the European Union. 2000 - In Sierra Leone, dozens of rebels, including

children, surrender to U.N. forces in the eastern city of Kenema and turn over their weapons.

Today's Birthdays:

Simon Bolivar, leader of South American independence (1783-1830); Alexandre Dumas, French writer (1802-1870); Ernst Bloch, Swiss-born composer (1880-1959); Tanizaki Jun'ichiro, Japanese writer (1886-1965); Amelia Earhart, U.S. aviation pioneer (1898-1937); Cootie Williams, U.S. jazz musician (1908-1985); Bella Abzug, U.S. lawyer, politician and activist (1920-1998); Gus Van Sant, U.S. director (1952--); Jennifer Lopez, U.S. actress/ singer (1968--).



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### **IMPACT:** Cash-strapped states raid 911 funds

PETER SVENSSON AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) More than \$200 million collected from cell phone users for upgrades to the 911 system has been diverted in the last two years to plug state budget holes, keep campaign promises and, in at least one case, buy police uniforms, an Associated Press analysis has found.

Dispatchers say the diversion of money comes at the expense of improvements that would give crime and accident victims more opportunities to reach responders. Someone who has been kidnapped, for instance, may not be able to talk but might be able to quietly send a text message or a photo.

Cell phone subscribers in nearly every state pay anywhere from 20 cents to \$1.50 a month for what is described in their bills as 911 improvements. In some states, the AP analysis found, less than half that money is actually going to help emergency dispatchers keep pace with the features of smart phones.

As states hammered by the recession look around for new ways to balance their budgets, the 911 money is tempting:

In New York, only 19 cents of the \$1.20 the state collects from each subscriber each month goes to emergency calling services. The rest pays for uniforms for the state police, a wireless network for emergency responders and the state's general expenditures.

In Wisconsin, a new 75-cent monthly fee was supposed to pay for ongoing 911 operations and improvements. When the state's deficit grew, the state decided to divert \$100 million in the next two years to local governments to reduce pressure to raise property taxes.

In Arizona, lawmak-

ers funneled \$25 million from its emergency telefund, communications halving its size, and cut its monthly 911 cell phone fee to 20 cents. As a result, the fund could be out of money within three years.

"The issue of (fund) raiding has been a trickle for a few years, and now we're seeing the faucet on full blast," said Dane Snowden, vice president of external and state affairs at wireless industry group CTIA.

A highly publicized round of call center upgrades is nearly complete, allowing 911 dispatchers to automatically pinpoint cell phone callers. But emergency officials say that's no reason to raid funds set aside for future upgrades. After all, voice calls are just one of many things phones can do.

Dispatchers would like the capability to receive photos, videos and text messages from cell phone users in danger. Photos shot by witnesses with camera phones have already proved useful in catching bank robbers and flashers, for instance. Getting those photos to 911 centers which could get them to police faster — could help solve crimes.

In several cases in recent years, kidnapping victims have summoned help by surreptitiously sending text messages. But because they can't send directly to 911, they've had to use intermediaries.

When David Deganian and a friend were abducted at gunpoint on an Atlanta street early one morning in 2007, Deganian managed to sneak a text message to his brother Arman: "We have been kidnapped. Please call the police and help us."

Later, the friend tried calling 911. The gunmen heard him, interrupted the call and took the phones away. Luckily, Arman Deganian was awake to

notice the text message. He got the police on the case, and they rescued his brother and his friend that afternoon.

In a more famous case, a 14-year-old girl in Kershaw County, S.C., was held in an underground bunker for more than a week before she managed to send a text message to her mother from the captor's phone.

Upgrading call centers to handle text and video messaging would require new computer systems, communications lines and staff training, costing tens of millions of dollars per state, according to the National Emergency Number Association.

A complete accounti of how 911 money is spent in all states is not available, partly because most of the money dispatch centers get is funneled to them by counties. The Federal Communications Commission has been collecting information from the states at the request of Congress, and is expected to report its findings soon.

Oregon, Arizona, Delaware, Hawaii. Wisconsin and Tennessee are among the states that have dipped into their 911 money recently. New York and Rhode Island have been diverting their funds for at least five years. States started collecting the funds in the 1990s.

In the fiscal year that ended in June 2008, Rhode Island collected \$19.4 million in 911 fees and used \$5.8 million for 911. The rest went to the state's general fund.

Raiding the funds could reduce the money available for 911 upgrades even further, by reducing federal grants. After a round of 911 fund raiding during the previous recession, at the beginning of the decade, the federal government tightened its grant rules to

discourage the practice. To elude the federal gov-

ernment's wagging finger, New York is changing the name of its "Enhanced 911" fee to "Public Safety Communications Surcharge," to make it clearer that 911 is just one of its purposes.

Other states seem to ignore the grants issue.

Oregon collects 75 cents per cell phone per month. Although its attorney general's office concluded that federal laws on 911 grants prohibit using money from wireless bills for purposes other than 911 services, the state took \$3 million from an \$80 million fund that mingles wireless and landline fees.

"When people pay their pills, they see that they are paying 75 cents per telephone line to fund the 911 system. For the Legislature to turn around and divert some of the money to other purposes is disingenuous. It's just wrong," said Hasina Squires, a lobbyist who represents emergency communications officers in

Gov. Ted Kulongoski's office and legislative budget officials defended the decision, citing Oregon's budget "extraordinary" shortfall. They said they took money from various accounts if they determined that doing so wouldn't disrupt core functions of those programs.

Tennessee believes it got around the federal restrictions by leaving the principal in its 911 fund intact and taking out \$11 million in accrued interest in the fiscal year that ended June 2008. The fund had \$54 million left.

"It begs the question: If you have that much money in holding, why is it still being collected from consumers? It doesn't make any sense," CTIA's Snowden said. "The E911 fund is appearing to be an ATM."

#### Letters to the editor

To the editor,

On Saturday, July 18, I left Pampa on my way to Amarillo. As I left town, I noticed gas was \$2.37.

When I got to Amarillo, I observed gas was \$2.22, a difference of 15 cents a gallon, I wondered if the price would be down by the time I returned home. However, lo and behold, as of today, Wednesday, July 22, the price of gas in Pampa remains \$2.37.

I asked the obvious, question, "Why?" and was told "because they can."

The capitalist system at work, of which I am a supporter. Furthermore, I

was told the Murphy station at WalMart is the price setter here in Pampa and the other retailers are not going to buck them, so they went along- at our expense, I might add.

The capitalist system works on supply and demand, they have the supply and we control the demand. So what if

demand and cease to purchase from Murphy until they reduce their prices to complete with Amarillo? If Murphy reduces their price, will the other retailers follow suit? Only giving it a try will tell for sure. If they ask why we are not buying gas from them, we can reply,"because we

can." We've all seen gas we exercise our power of consistently stay far higher than Amarillo's, but to my knowledge we, as a community, have never taken matters into our own hands. In these times of economic stress, maybe it's time to do just that.

John L. Tripplehorn

We welcome your letters
To insure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines: •Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will edited for length

•All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published. Defamatory comments will not be published.



### Visit the church of your choice this week VBS this week at Calvary Baptist



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CURT B. BECK, P.E. CONSULTING ENGINEER - POLLUTION AND ENERGY



Calvary Baptist Church's Vacation Bible School is next week: July 27-31. "Bob" and "Larry" will be back again this year for another Veggie Tales VBS. This year, Bob and Larry will be taking the kids on a safari as they "Teach us to Pray." The nightly VBS will be from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Each year, the church has a carnival on the final evening. This year's carnival will include water slides, game booths, free food, and a dunking booth. Veggie Tales VBS at Calvary Baptist is open to all children, entering kindergarten to entering sixth grade. The church is located at 900 E. 23rd Street, 1 mile east of the Junior High School. For questions, or to enroll your child, please call the church at 665-0842.



### Try a little compassion

Again and again we read in the Bible that Jesus was "moved with compassion." And his compassion was always followed by his healing the sick and feeding the hungry. He even taught about the need for compassion in many of the parables and stories he told to his followers.

In fact, compassion is considered by all of the major religious traditions as among the greatest of virtues.

More than empathy, compassion is defined as the feeling that ives rise to an active desire to alleviate another's suffering Mercy and tenderness are among its synonyms while cruelty and indifference are its opposite.

I can't help but wonder what a little compassion could do for our troubled and weary world—in negotiations, interrogations, debates and discussions. As we see the suffering of others and our hearts ache for their pain, do we wish we could help in some way? Making a difference in someone's life does not necessarily require lots of money or time.

I can certainly attest that the compassionate understanding and kindness shown to me when I have failed or made mistakes, encouraged my growth and eventual successes throughout my life. Our words can have a powerful impact on friend or foe.

It's helpful to remember that we are all in the same boat sharing this human experience. We are never alone. And others have undoubtedly walked in our shoes before. We're not the only ones who have made the very same mistake or used bad judgment.

Yet have you found it easy to show compassion toward a friend or family member -- or even a stranger -- who's having a tough time but you get angry or frustrated with yourself when your own life falls short of your ideals?

Perhaps you need a big dose of self-compassion.

Things will not always go the way we want them to. We need to learn to give the same comfort and care to ourselves that we would give to others. Showing compassion and understanding when confronted with personal failings will help us put our mistakes into a larger life perspective—a more balanced, objective point of view— and encourage our progress.

But let's be clear about what self-compassion is not. Self-compassion is not self-pity! It serves no good purpose

to get lost in our emotional drama or immerse ourselves into a Self-compassion is not self-indulgence! There is nothing ben-

eficial about indulging in unhealthy rewards or habits. And self-compassion is not self-condemnation! Judging and criticizing ourselves for inadequacies or shortcomings keeps our attention and focus on the negative or buried in the past.

With compassion for ourselves when we have missteps, we inspire and prompt wiser steps that move us forward and closer to reaching our potential. We are better equipped and able to keep a clear eye on our goals.

A baby learning to walk doesn't think twice about attempting to walk again after she falls down. And that baby will likely fall many times before she masters walking. But she doesn't stop with walking. After she learns to walk, she tries running, then skipping, and then jumping. Before walking, she scooted, crawled and probably even climbed.

The idea is that we keep moving, learning, progressing, mastering new skills, gaining new insights and knowledge along the way. Yes, we may fall sometimes. It may take us a while to learn and get where we want to go. But we never stop trying.

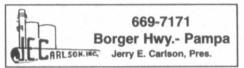
Compassion will keep us moving onward and forward. So give yourself a hug when you need one. And pat yourself on the back and say everything will be okay. Be like the baby who doesn't think twice about her fall. Keep on keeping on.

So the next time you're feeling down on yourself, try a little compassion.

Annette Bridges is a freelance writer who lives on a north Texas ranch with her husband, John. Her columns are published weekly on United Press International's ReligionAndSpirituality. com, Examiner.com and numerous other websites and newspapers. Visit her website and participate in her blog at www. annettebridges.com.



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THE FLOOR STORE 2110 Perryton Parkway • 665-4455 "God is our refuge and strength"



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# Comics

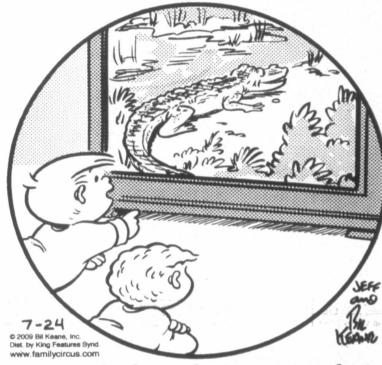
Marmaduke



"I wish you'd let me pour it in your dish."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"The only time a 'gator craves fast food is when he sees a cheetah."

Daily Crossword Puzzle

#### CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS** 36 Steak-

1 Flat house floater choice

5 Forbidden 38 Simpleton 39 Because act 9 Fairy-tale 40 Spots

41 Title beasts 11 Surroundpage?

1 Map lines

2 In unison

**3** Port with

5 Neck

parts

6 Yemen

car 8 Eventu-

no duties

ed by 13 Site of **DOWN** action

**14** Stationery buy

15 Scottish

river

16 Island north of Trinidad

18 Benches 20 Grammys

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isle 23 One or more

24 Letter

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Yesterday's answer

26 He flew

too near the sun 27 Bible craft

28 Spirit session

**30** Rx amounts

31 Alacrity 33 Formerly 37 Auction

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

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**Beetle Bailey** 



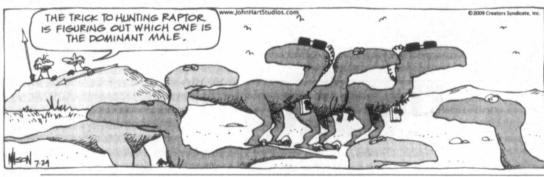


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B.C.

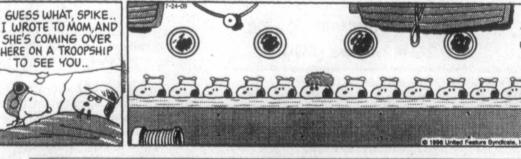


Haggar The Horrible





**Peanuts** 





Flo & Friends



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CLOTHES dryer, nice

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Pontoon Boat. \$8,000

11 ft. 1988 Self con-

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69a Garage Sales

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del Viernes y La

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Semana, tambien

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Jueves para las 4

ATTENTION!!

DEADLINE

CHANGE

for Classified Line

Ads for Fri. &

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Clasificados

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663-6904 after

NOW OPEN, Spoiled 3 Family Garage Sale.

1-800-688-3411.

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1420 S. Barnes.

Sat. 10-4.

1144

today 665-2767,

twin \$132, full \$215,

rockers, end ta-



3 Personal

\*Adopt\* A creative loving Film/TV Producer, stayhome Mom, travel, Call wonderful opportunities await 1st baby. Expenses paid. Amanda 1-800-410-8412

Government has now some adjustmentsfor shorting people born in 1924. If you please call 669-7143.

**5 Special Notices** ADVERTISING Ma-

terial to be placed in News. Pampa MUST placed Pampa News Office Only. 10 Lost/Found LOST or disappeared.

Gold wedding band & engagement ring. High sentimental value. Re- Roofing. All questions asked. Reward offered. 806-665-8792. 13 Bus. Opp.

portunity Howardwick Convience store. 665-1875, 806-383-1985. 14a Air Cond.

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al Carpentry. Roofs, Painting, Building & Remodeling. Fences & Sheetrock. 806-273-2333, 886-2367 14e Carpet Serv.

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

Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769. PANHANDLE HOUSE LEVELING

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21 Help Wanted NOTICE

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

ownership/management company with properties in Florida, Mary-Carpentry, Roofing, land, Pennsylvania, vir-Replacement Windows, ginia, Texas and Washington D.C. area is ry Nicholas 669-9991, ager for our Hampton Inn located in Pampa, Texas. All interested applicants must email resumes to CHIROPRACTIC

> OFFICE expanding eam. You can make the difference. Direct patient care position
> On the job training.

**FAX Resum** to 665-0537 RN to work every other weekend fani-2pm at CCC of G CLEANING SERVICE \$25/hr. Fax resume to 806-874-5619.

> Independent Oil and Gas Company taking applications for Com-Pumpers for Panhandle area pro duction. Responsibiliwell producing operaions, routine mainte nance of equipment and locations to com pany standards, complying with environ mental and safety regulations, keeping down time and oper ating costs to a mini mum, keeping oil & gas production mar ketable. Proficien with lap top comput

ers to input and trans mit data to Austin of fice. Please send resume and salary requirements to: resume@texasarc.com

or fax to 512-480 8732. For more info about Texas Ameri can Resources Co. see our website at www.texasarc.com

50 Building Suppl. 21 Help Wanted White House Lumber

RN to be trained as Director of Nursing at CCC of Clarendon. Salary \$65K-\$80K, Blue **60 Household** Cross Ins., up to 4 wks vac., etc. Fax resume 806-874-5619

WE are looking for energetic people to work in a fast paced environment. Taylor Petroleum is now hiring custome service reps positions at our Mclean store

Competitive pay with health insurances available. Apply in person. We are an Opportunity Equal Employer. Chemical

**Delivery Driver** 

Good driving record Mandatory drug and background test check. CDL with hazmat and air brake endorsement will be required. 1-806-228-5463 for application. 1-888-BAYWOOD Hotels, a 881-3248 ask for Rogwell recognized hotel er, Mike or Chris FULL-TIME Hospice

RN for Patient Care Coordinator available at KING size bed, 2 night Hemphill County Hos- stands, chest & armoire. pital. Full benefits, con- Call petitive wages & mileage avail. Please contact Tina Godino for an appli., 806-323-6422 CITY Secretary-Skellytown. Experience in Quick Books, Excel,

**Budget Preparation nec**essary, good communi-Applications avail. at City Hall, 204 W. Fourth, Skellytown.

**CAMPAIGN** REPRESENTIVES needed for non profit mpany, good public relation skills, basic computer knowledge porary position. \$7,25-\$8,00 depending on experience. Apply at

sosstaffing.com

or call

806-359-1539 Ann's Nursing Home is accepting applications for a full-time Certified Activity Director. Come in and apply or for more info contact the Administrator. 537-3194. NOW Hiring Full time wait staff at Dixie Cafe

Must be 18 or older. No PART TIME **PHARMACY** CLERK No Phone Calls Please

> Mail Resume to **Keyes Pharmacy** 928 N. Hobart Pampa Tx 79065 or fax to 806-669-0957

69a Garage Sales

HUGE Sale: Rainsoft water softner, washer, tv, furni., household, mower & trimmers, clothes, name brand 748. Fri. & Sat. 9am-7pm, Sun. 2pm.-6pm.

ADVERTISING Ma-YARD SALE LOTS OF STUFF! terial to be placed in News FRI. & SAT. placed 2109 HAMILTON through the Pampa MULTI Family Sale:

Fri & Sat. 1129 Duncan. Guy's stuff, little **FURNITURE CLINIC** boy & girl clothes, ma-YARD Sale: 1500 N.

> Nelson, Sat. 8am. Jr. girls AE, Hollister, Aero clothes, misses clothes, child's white stand/night dresser/tv stand, odds & ends.

310 N. West (1 block North of First Baptist Church) Saturday 8-?? Lots of baby clothes crib, toys, women clothes, lots of misc Don't miss this onell

GAR/MOVING Sale: Boy's locker bed, elec. beds, couch, chair, kids clothes, Sat. Only 8am.-?

By Right, 109 N. Cuy-10am. ture, lots of misc. 1909 manche Children's / Baby Re-Lea. Sat. 8-? 55 in. Mitsubishi HD 2ND Time Around, 614 family,

cation skills & knowl- trade for running vehi- ture, patio, generators, off from 1-2. (Items in edge of TML regula- cle. Serious inquiries riding mower, misc. Big hand before 1:00 are discount, make offer! GARAGE Sale Misc. Items.

736 Roberta

Sat. & Sun. 8-5 GARAGE Sale, 1510 VARD Sale, 2007 Cof-N. Wells, Sat. 9-3, fee, Sat. only 8 to ? 130 girls clothing, dishes.

2308 Dogwood Saturday. & Sunday 8:00 am - ?? baby and wom-

ens clothes, lots of toys, and baaccessories and misc.

Fri. & Sat. 8:00 til 2:00 .... puzzles, books,

1716 Aspen

ice maker, large blonde coffee table, vanity top, light fixtures, lamp, small appliances shoes. clothes, lots of misc! cash only. no big bills!

69a Garage Sales MOVING / Gar. Sale-2

Family. Fri. 5-8pm, Sat. 8-5pm. Furn., tools, Dr. 8am.-1pm. toys, air comp., + sz. & kids clothes, back yard jeans, much more. 19 play set, tons more! 2637 & 2703 Cherokee miles E. of Pampa, cor-ner of HWY 152 & FM 2348 Duncan, Fri. & Sat. 9am-? No early Furn., office birds. home decor, equip.,

> GARAGE SALE 1100 Sierra Dr. No early birds, please! Fri. & Sat. 8-5

misc.

8:30-noon. Too many items to list. No Early ternity clothes, bunches Birds! 1401 N. Russell MOVING Sale. must go! 1916 Lynn. Fri. & Sat. 8 am -?

> toddler girl clothes, car seats, play pens, strol-Tykes, + sz. women, Bowling alley. 6pm-8pm., Sat. 8am. 735 S. Barnes Fri. & Sat. 10am .-?

Furni., tools, dishes **GARAGE Sale** 505 Doucette Sat. 8 am-?

Nelson, Fri. 5-7, Sat. 8- EXCELLENT games. 1044 S. Wells, Noon, electric guitar, cats to give away. 3 to 4 662-7557 marshall amp, computer months old. All males deks, movies, books, 440-0106. Call after 5. lots of misc.

Furniture. household items, Nice clothing for the whole lots of great big screen TV. \$1000 or S. Cuyler. Nice furni- stuff. Most items 1/2 full price) 3 Family Sale - Sat.

8:00 - 1:00. Furniture, clothes, 1015 Fisher - No early birds.

1116 E. KINGSMILL FRI. & SAT. 8-? MULTI Family Sale, Sat. 8-1pm., 1908 N.

Russell. Lots of household items, clothing, misc. Priced to sell. Cash Only. TRASH & Treasure Booth 85, 1/2 Price

**EFFICIENCY** Cookbooks, \$500 mo. & up. Frankhoma & more. bills paid. Also houses New things added daily. & trailers. 669-3221. All other booths fully YARD Sale - Sat. 9:00

GARAGE Sale: Sat. 8-

come. 1300 W. Ken- Pampa. Reduced rates. tucky, Lot 10. Everything you might need.

69a Garage Sales

GARAGE Sale: Sat. Only. 2101 Chestnut CLOTHES for everyone-all sizes-lots of ma-

6-14, lots of misc.

FRI. & Sat. 9-5. 320 S.

Gray. Most glassware

1/2 price. Lots material

blooded. \$150.00 898-

FREE KITTENS TO

669-3733

95 Furn. Apts

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tised herein is subje-

to the Federal Fair

Housing Act, which

makes it illegal to ad-

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law also forbids dis

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opportunity basis.

96 Unfurn. Apts.

deposit req. 669-4386

Work crews welcome.

Call 665-1875.

All

ence, limitation, discrimination."

FULL bed, dresser sewing machine, lots of 1908 N. Wells. pool, lots of clothes &

Magna Maytag clothes dryer & FRI. 8:30-4:30, Sat. dish washer.

HUGE Yard Sale. 712 Magnolia St. Tools, Housewares, clothes & All toys. Sat. 9 am - 2 pm. 1819 Williston, 8-? Sat. Recliner, camp stove & **MULTI Family** lantern, girls clothes sz.

Garage Sale 2229 Charles Sat. Only 8:30 MOVING Sale: Baby-

& craft items. bouncies, Little 77 Livest/Equip. furni., appliances. 8319 8 Corbie bulls, 6 1st Quiet Duplex- 2/2/2, Cole Rd., south of calf heifers, 6 bred hei-Fri. fers. Call 662-5658. 80 Pets & Suppl. 1 Female Great Pyre nees. 8 wks. old. Full

Lots of variety

GARAGE Sale 1506 N. Yard equip., adult & HUGE Sale. Sat. July child clothing, furni- 25, 8:30 - 2. 2620 Co-

couch, recliners, scrubs, + DVD's. 60 + pcs ceramic bear coll. antiques, clothes & lots of nisc., burritos, bierox & more **GARAGE SALE** 

Sale! Glassware, Bar-

loaded. Come See! LAKEVIEW Apt. 1 & 3:00. 625 E. Browning. 18 mo to 2 yr boys 2 bdr. unfurn. apt. Call

1pm. Early birds wel- LARGEST Apts.

96 Unfurn. Apts.

MOVE IN SPECIAL bdrm apt. w Large 1 lots of closet space. Stove & Refrigerator Water Paid. 2 furn. bdrm duplex. Washer 309 Canadian Dryer hookups. Call Sat. 8-11am 665-4274.

Rent Starting at \$400+ Sat. 8am.-1pm. (Does Not Inc. Utilities) 1031 N. Sumner GARAGE Sale: 2534 817-909-4766 Fir. Sat. 7 am til 1 pm THE Schneider House Books, clothing, mis-

cellaneous, Honda V65 now leasing apts., 1 & 2 bdr., utilities incl. 120 Motorcycle, S. Russell or 665-0415. 98 Unfurn. Houses

NEW APTS, 1 BDR

PICK up rental list, in Gray Box, at 125 S Houston, Pampa. LARGE 2/3 bedroom houses for rent, reason-

ably priced. 665-1875, 665-4274. 3/1 in great neighborhood! Updated w/ new 209 Miami. Owner will tile & paint. 2122 Hamfinance. 665-5437

ilton. \$750 mo. 570-9824 or 665-5667. EXCEPTIONALLY

\$750 mo.; pay gas & elec. Fpl., c h/a; w/d hookup, elec. stove pro vided. Dep. req. 669-6841, M-Thurs 8-5pm. 1132 Terrace, 2 bd, 1 bath, \$600mo, \$500

dep. 440-4714

SELL or Lease. 5 bdr. GOOD HOME. CALL 3 ba. executive home in exclusive subdivision Barn \$175 K or \$1500 mo. In Lefors

> 2 Bdr. House **Quiet Street** \$300 Mo. Call 595-0656

3 bdr., 2 ba., central

heat/air, 1421 Williston 3 bdr., central heat/air 1125 Terry. 2 bdr., cen tral heat/air, 332 N Christy. References required. 440-1969 FOR RENT 2 bdr., ba. house. Call 662-

99 Stor. Bldgs. TUMBLEWEED storage Various sizes.

9669

units. 665-0079, 665-2450. 102 Bus. Rental

DOWNTOWN 669-6823

ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841. 103 Homes For Sale

1501 3/1.75/2 1916 sq. ft., basement, wonderful built-ins w/ plenty of stor. Corner lot. New tile. New back fence. \$135k. 669-3918

1616 N. Dwight. Newly constructed 3/2/2 & office. Trustar Realty & for availability. Ref. & Tinney Built Homes, Gary Winton, 665-4595 in 2-1-CP. Large back porch. 2nd Screened in porch. Some remodel

> done. Cash only. Mostly fenced. As is. 806-665-8659 or 806-440-6986 2-1. Remodeled inside Need outside work. Al- Please call 806-665ready rented. Great investment property. Partly fenced. Fresh paint.

3 bdr., 1 3/4 ba., lrg den, sunroom, fpl., c a/h, new roof. Lots of stor. 512 Red Deer. Call 669-7964. 701 Clarendon,

8659 or 806-440-6956.

McLean, Brick 3 bdr., 2 ba. Enclosed sunroom Completely remodeled Call 806-779-2239. CASH PAID

FOR HOUSES! CALL 665-1875

is LONGFELLOW

7-24 **CRYPTOQUOTE** 

PD PR YIGSDMGRR PDRGXC.

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THERE ARE NO WHICH A MAN CANNOT BECOME ACCUSTOMED. — LEO TOLSTOY

103 Homes For Sale

OPEN HOUSE SUN. JULY 26 2-4pm.

\*4 Bdr., 3 Ba. \*Lrg. open liv/din \*Updated kithen Fireplace / gas logs \*Lrg. Sun Rm \*Isol. Master w/ wlk-in closet \*1 car Ext Gar. + Carport Lrg. Shop in Back

\*Spklr. Sys \*New sewer/ gas/water lines \*Cent. H/A \*2113 sq. ft.

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\*5 new tires \*Keel guard \*Rhino lined finders and boat trailer \*All electronic work \*\*Garage

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#### additions, stamped con-

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, July 25, 2009:

BY JACQUELINE BIGAR

This year, lighten up and relax more often. If you put your best foot forward and remain generous and caring, you'll come out on top. The unexpected comes into play with partners, finances, communication and sometimes traveling. Use these surprises rather than react. If you are single, you could meet someone while just going to the bank! If you are attached, let go of a newfound habit of being critical. Everyone will be happier! LIBRA brings out the best in you.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19) \*\*\* Complete a project or get a certain job done. Others try to lure you out to play. The change will be most welcome. Do relax with friends and loved ones. Don't let an unexpected development get to you. Tonight: Rest, then out on the town

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) \*\*\*\* In many people's eyes, your presence enhances the moment. Relaxed, you let go and become a different person. Isn't that a shame? Let others get to know the playful, frisky Bull. Tonight: Relish every moment. GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

\*\*\* Sometimes you feel you need to be out and about, which prevents you from enjoying a lazy day, perhaps at home, or at least at a calmer pace. If you want, invite friends over for volleyball or a barbecue. Make it easy if you decide to be the ever-gregarious Twin. Tonight: Home is your castle, too.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

\*\*\*\* If you hold back and don't express your resentment, you could be quite uncomfortable. Try diplomacy. If you have a choice, let kindness set the tone, whether you air the problem or not. Tonight: Hanging out with friends or loved ones LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) \*\*\* Curb a need to be possessive.

You don't always have control. A little

sugar goes a long way. You are happiest

around your friends, even with a loved

one and/or family member with you. Tonight: Your treat. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) \*\*\*\* Clearly others really appreciate your efforts to bring family and/or friends together. You could be a little tired. Eliminate errands or take a nap. In your mind, someone or several people are acting strangely. Tonight: Remember,

you are top dog

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) \*\*\* Play it low-key during the daylight hours, and you will have all the energy you need for later. Whether you are aware of an admirer or not, someone is goggling over you. Take a nap if you

can; you will need it. Tonight: Could be

very, very late. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) \*\*\* Surround yourself with people you care about. Take in news, and understand what is being offered. Your mental outlook could determine the end results. A child or new friend could send tremors through your life. You can handle what

ens. Tonight: Head home early.

\*\*\*\* You might want a different

response than you get when handling a

personal matter. Someone who is very

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

her. The unexpected occurs when you least anticipate it. Tonight: Work on your CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) \*\*\*\* Reach into your imagination and make plans, which could be akin to a

constantly changing Ferris wheel. Hop

on and get into the fun. Rigidity and sta-

kind and caring lets you know how much

your sense of direction means to him or

tus quo have no place here. Let others see your caring in a quiet, nurturing manner. Stay open to new ideas. Tonight: Let go of the tried-and-true. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) \*\*\*\* You enjoy company nearly anytime. If someone cancels plans, don't be alone. A financial matter could color your choices, like it or not. Play it

Tonight: Dinner and a movie. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) \*\*\*\* Defer to others and make it possible to really have a good time. Have some quality experiences within a friendship or close bond. Talking about problems doesn't give much time for living. Experience each other as you did origi-

straight and direct with a friend or loved

one you might want more time with.

**BORN TODAY** First test-tube baby Louise Brown (1978), actor Walter Brennan (1894), actor Brad Renfro (1982)

nally. Tonight: Togetherness works.

www.jacquelinebigar.com. © 2009 by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at

Sr. Correctional LVN Requisition #79184

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TECH UNIVERSITY TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER is accepting applications for a Sr. Correctional LVN to work in correctional health care setting at the Jordan Unit. Position requires current LVN license and two years of LVN experience. Successful candidate will be required to pass a se curity clearance. For additional information and to apply, log on to http://jobs.texastech.edu TTUHSC is an EEO/AA Employer

AXYDLBAAXR

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.

NEMGRDJ PR MED EMXJ DNG

CPIRD RDGL DEHSIK YIGSDMGRR

TEZGG Q . M . CONDITIONS TO

al estate which is in vi olation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwell ings advertised are available on an equa



### Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 38-year-old man with no children. For some reason I tend to attract the attention of children wherever I go. Even though I make no attempt to speak to them, they often approach me. I know when children talk to strangers it makes their parents uncomfortable, but I don't want to be rude to the kids.

I was recently eating at an outdoor restaurant when a friendly little girl walked up, sat herself down at my table, and began asking me questions. I was terse but polite. She was soon joined by several other kids, all of whom seated themselves at my table.

Their parents, who had obviously not been paying attention, shouted at them to "get away from that man!" It created an embarrassing scene with the parents telling me I had no business talking to their kids. The other diners looked at me as though I was some kind of pervert.

I don't want to be rude to children, but what can I do to prevent things like this from happening again? -- CRYING "UNCLE" IN **TEXAS** 

DEAR "UNCLE": The parents overreacted. The next time a child approaches and wants to talk, ask the child, "Did your mother/ father say it was OK to talk to a stranger?" If the answer is no, then tell the child he/she must first ask a parent for permission.

DEAR ABBY: My 35-year-old daughter, "Rhonda," is intelligent and creative, but her house is a disaster. There are clothes, books, magazines, etc. piled on every surface. Dishes are stacked on her bed; socks and paper litter the floor.

How can she feel good living like this? The place is becoming a health hazard. Rhonda is caring and attractive, but she rarely a symptom of something more serious?

Abby, I'm worried about my daughter's chances for future happiness, but I have no idea how to help her. Or should I? -- WORRIED MOM IN **OREGON** 

**DEAR** WORRIED MOM: If you're the kind of mother who always picked up after her children, then this is only more of the same. If your daughter's disorderliness is something new, then it might be a symptom of depression or some other emotional prob-

When you say you are concerned about Rhonda's chances for future happiness, do you mean you're worried that she's 35 and still single? Not every woman needs a man to complete her. Have a heartto-heart talk with your daughter and explain your concerns. You won't find out what's going on in her head until you do.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I have been involved in an ongoing debate about how to place the pillows on our king-size bed. Should the opening of the pillowcase face the outside of the bed or the inside?

I place my pillows with the opening facing the middle of the bed so the pillow won't show, while my wife does it the other way, and the edge of the pillow can be seen through the opening. Can you please settle this? -- PILLOW TALK IN **ABILENE** 

DEAR PILLOW TALK: Hotels make up the beds with the opening of the pillowcases turned to the middle because the maids usually tuck the edge of the pillowcase inward. A specialist in the bedding department of my local department store says that in most homes, the opening of the pillowcase faces the edge of the bed. But the bottom line is -- there is no

#### Perry returns from Middle East trip

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) - Gov. Rick Perry has returned from a Defense Department trip to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Perry's office say the governor arrived back in Texas late Wednesday after traveling with the governors of Minnesota, Missouri, Illinois and Nevada.

During the six-day trip, Perry visited several cities

in Iraq: Baghdad, Taji, Al Asad and Tallil. Then he went to Afghanistan and visited Bagram, Gardez, Ghazni, Jalalabad and the Task Force Phoenix Headquarters. Perry also stopped at bases in Kuwait and Germany.

About 4,500 Texas National Guard members are deployed in the region.

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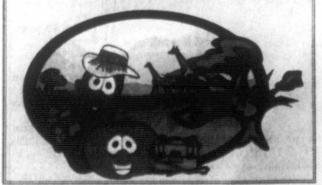
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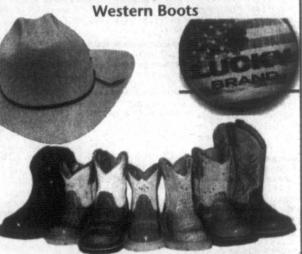
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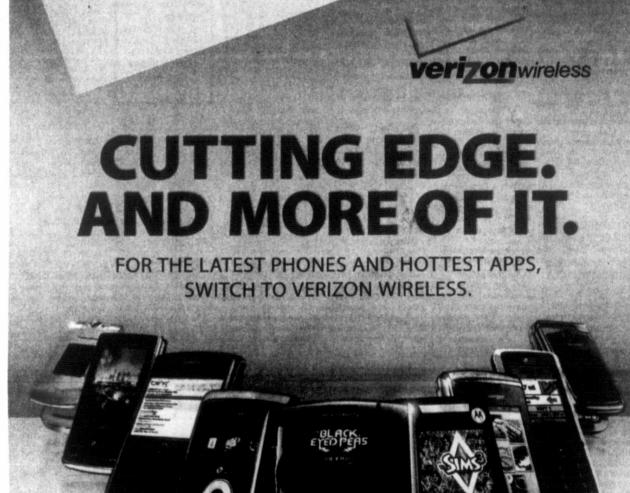
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