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The PAMPA News

2023 Rodeo Special Tab: In today's Newspaper! | **For the Record:** 3 Arrests, Fire Call Log | **Viewpoints:** 11 Gary Griffin, Toni Says | **Agriculture:** 12 Fishing Report

Thursday
8.10.23
Volume
125
No.
50
\$1.50

Golden Horseshoe Hints



Answers for Hints 1 & 2:

• Hint 1: This clue can be found at Bartlett's Lumber and Hardware.
• Hint 2: This clue can be found at Pampa Home and Sleep Store.

Hint 3:

Wow! Let's get rodeo ready!

Hint 4:

There is a lot more to this place than flowers.

Answers for hints 3-5 will be in the Saturday Edition of The Pampa News.

The air is sweet



Photo by Laura Bonnett

Sonya and Willy Martin tending their display at the Pampa Farmer's Market

BY LAURA BONNETT
PampaNewsReporter@gmail.com

Something sweet is abuzz in Pampa, and not just amongst the bees. Over the last few weeks, if you have been by the farmers market in the Tractor Supply parking lot on a Saturday morning, you may have noticed a bright pink tent stands out among the rest of the stalls. Inside the tent you are greeted by wares as brightly colored as the couple running the stand; a wonderland of candy fabulous enough to make Willy Wonka himself envious.

For Sonya and Martin New, their journey into their new business began with their daughter's desire to freeze-dry her breast

milk. They had also been curious about creating their own freeze-dried treats for themselves. Relenting, the couple took the dive and purchased their first freeze dryer about three months ago and began experimenting with different kinds of candy.

"Just to watch them puff up is amazing," said Martin. "Then we started selling some and it was working, so we came to the Farmers Market and it exploded."

Business has been so good that Sonya was able to quit her job to focus on making candy full-time beside her husband.

The News now do other events as well and are looking into a food truck or trailer to sell out of in the future. There are also plans to add on to their property with a commercial kitchen to further expand the business. For now, the couple has stepped up their game by purchasing their second freeze dryer to make larger quantities and experiment with candies that take longer to process.

Candies you can find in their inventory include **SWEET** cont. on pg 5

Bureau of Style celebrates 1st Year in Pampa

BY MIRANDA ELLIS
pampanewseditor@gmail.com

Ashley Smith, owner of Bureau of Style, celebrated her first full year of being in business on July 29th. She started with an online store, but after she moved to Pampa earlier this year she decided to open a storefront location on Hobart.

"I have been at this location since April of this year, when my husband and I moved here from Canyon (TX). I still have my online store, and I sell throughout the country which is good on days that are slow," Smith shared.

Bureau of Style originally started out as a wardrobe-consulting company, which has transitioned into being a fully operational clothing boutique.

"I wanted to branch out and make money off of myself when I bought clothes for my clients. Now it's just the boutique full-time," she said.

Smith's family came to-



Ashley Smith, owner of Bureau of Style

gether to help her design the interior of her boutique before opening the doors to Pampa customers.

"I did a lot of it myself, a lot of the vision is me. The floral aspect is from my mom, she's an interior designer. I had a lot of help from her. My husband helped me with the floor and I did all the painting. My dad built that (stand)

for me, and at first it was a firecracker stand, then it was a flower stand and now it's a concession stand. The inspiration (for the store design) is like a french floral market whimsical theme," she said.

Smith and her family's hard work paid off, because Pampa has been keeping her and her boutique quite **STYLE** cont. on page 3

Pampa Pro Zach Thomas: A special player in every way



Zach Thomas

Special to the Pro Football Hall of Fame

BY BARRY WILNER
AUGUST 5, 2023 – The idea way back in 1996 was that fifth-round draft choice Zach Thomas would be a special-teamer for the Miami Dolphins. Then Thomas showed up and the plan completely changed.

Before he even suited up for a meaningful game Thomas was the starting middle linebacker for the Dolphins, unseating veteran Jack Del Rio, himself an excellent player. Oh, he didn't

drop any duties on kick teams, either.

Yes, Zach Thomas was a special player, and today he owns a Gold Jacket.

"I'm so proud to be part of this incredible Class of 2023," said Thomas, who mentioned in his speech that he was run over by a pickup truck when he was 2 years old. "What a great group of men! This Texas country boy who took some dirt roads looked up to a lot of you and I'm so proud to be the 370th inductee in the Hall of Fame."

"On Aug. 5, 1996, exactly 37 years ago today, Jimmy Johnson named me the starting middle linebacker for

the Miami Dolphins, even though I was the 154th draft pick. Jimmy believed in me, and I will never be able to repay you, Coach."

For a dozen superb seasons in Miami and one more with Dallas, Thomas was among the best linebackers during an era of brilliance at the position. Not only did he finish second to Simeon Rice for Defensive Rookie of the Year, Thomas used that as impetus for seven All-Pro selections and six visits to the Pro Bowl. A tackling machine who could disrupt the run and pass game with equal efficiency, Thomas was involved in at **THOMAS** cont. on pg 2

As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.
Psalms 103:13-14

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell out a word describing a sport best played on a boat or next to a water source.

NIFGHSI

Answer: Fishing

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- 909 N Cedar St, Borger.....Commercial
- 1901 W Carter St, Pampa.....Commercial
- 328 Frederic St, Pampa.....Commercial
- 100 S Main St, Miami.....Commercial
- 637 - 641 N Hobart St, Pampa.....Commercial
- 500 & 512 S Cuyler St., Pampa.....Commercial
- 1509/1517 N Banks St, Pampa.....Commercial
- 423 S Gray St, Pampa.....Commercial
- County Rd 5.....Acreage
- Tract 1 - Highway 70, Howardwick.....Acreage
- Tract 2 - Highway 70, Howardwick.....Acreage
- 11842 U Hwy 60, Pampa.....Acreage
- N N Hobart St, Pampa.....Acreage
- Miami Ranch- West Place.....Acreage
- Miami Ranch- East Place.....Acreage
- 2222 Perryton, Pampa.....Commercial
- E 28th Ave.....Pending
- 1608 Hyson St., Marshall.....Residential Lots
- Green St, Borger.....Residential Lots
- 353 Sharon Dr, Howardwick.....Residential Lots
- 155 Sadie Dr, Howardwick.....Residential Lots
- 100 Constance, Howardwick.....Residential Lots
- 110 Trout St, Howardwick.....Residential Lots
- 201 Oak St, Borger.....Residential Lots
- 299 Douglas Dr, Howardwick.....Residential Lots
- 401 N Cornell Ave, Fritch.....Residential Lots
- 702, 704 & 706 Platt St., Borger.....Residential Lots
- 872 Pampa St, Howardwick.....Residential Lots
- 91 Janny Dr., Howardwick.....Residential Lots
- 1704 E Harvester Ave, Pampa.....Residential Lots
- 1710 E Harvester Ave, Pampa.....Residential Lots
- 1714 E Harvester Ave, Pampa.....Residential Lots
- 1720 E Harvester Ave., Pampa.....Residential Lots
- 1516-1532 Lynn St, Pampa.....Residential Lots
- 1500-1512 Lynn St, Pampa.....Residential Lots
- 2925 Randy Matson Ave., Pampa.....Residential Lots
- Vacant Lot Avey Ln, Fritch.....Residential Lots

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PAMPA FORECAST

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 93. Southeast wind 5 to 15 mph.



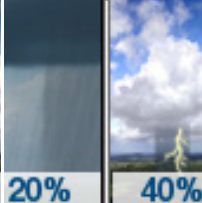
Thursday Night: A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly clear, with a low around 70. South southeast wind 10 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

Friday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Sunny and hot, with a high near 99. South wind around 10 mph becoming west in the afternoon.

Friday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 70. South wind 10 to 15 mph becoming east southeast in the evening.

Saturday: A slight chance of showers, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1pm. Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 97. West southwest wind 10 to 15 mph becoming south southeast in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

Saturday Night: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 70. South wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

Today	Friday	Saturday
		
High 93 Low 70	High 99 Low 70	High 97 Low 70

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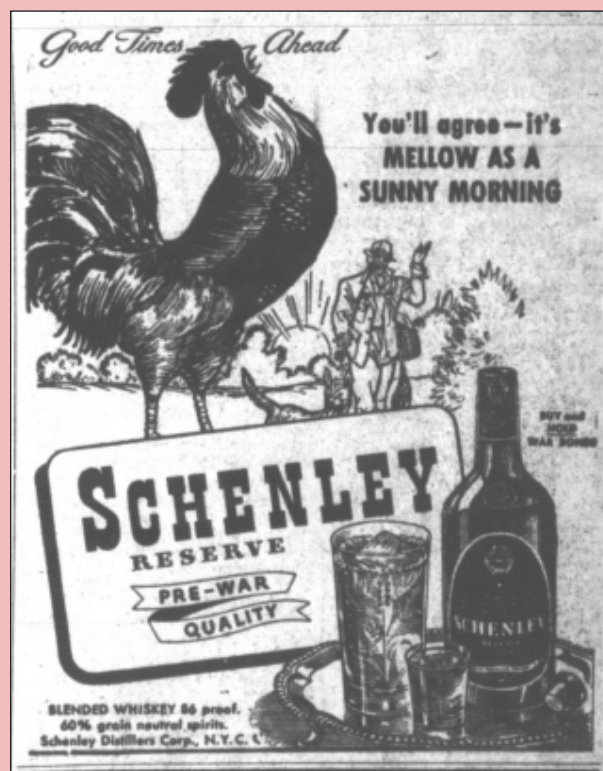


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BLAST FROM THE PAST



Enjoy the Blast From The Past? The Pampa News invites any submission of photos to be used in Blast From The Past.

CITY BRIEFS

GOSPEL SINGING will be held at the Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock, at 2pm., Sunday afternoon. Everyone Welcome.

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Thomas

Continued From Page 1

least 94 tackles every pro season except one. He twice led the NFL in tackles.

“He made every play,” Johnson said. “He made every tackle.”

As a rookie, he made 154 tackles, had three interceptions, scored a touchdown and threw in two sacks, two forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries. Then he built on it.

“Just being out there and just looking across – that’s Dan Marino right there, right across from me. I’m competing against Dan Marino,” Thomas recalled of his initial training camp. “And just looking back at those camps, man, I was so focused, laser-focused just to make the team. There wasn’t anything else on my mind but making the team.

From 1997-2001, Miami made the postseason, and in a 2001 playoff defeat against Baltimore, he had

22 tackles, 14 solo.

Overall, he picked off 17 passes – you won’t see many linebackers even in position to do so nowadays, let alone catch the ball; four of those were pick-6s, a team record – and had 20.5 sacks. Throw in his leadership and versatility and Thomas, chosen for the NFL All-Decade Team of the 2000s, exhibited all of the traits of a Hall of Famer.

“To all the passionate Miami Dolphins that appreciated my play, applauded me and asked for my autograph, you mean the world to me,” he said to the crowd at Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium, pumping his right arm. “When I looked up in the stands and saw you wearing my number 54, I knew I couldn’t let you down.”

Mike Westhoff was the special teams coordinator for the Dolphins and was basically responsible for drafting Thomas out of Texas Tech. Thomas supposedly was too small to be an NFL regular, and Westhoff envisioned Thomas as a weapon on his squads. Then Johnson saw how much Thomas could do – and let him do it. While still working special teams.

“Zach is as unselfish and dedicated as any player I have come cross in more than three decades in the NFL,” Westhoff said of the only Texas Tech player in the Hall.

Added Thomas, who retired in 2008 and was elected to the Hall of Fame in his 10th year of eligibility:

“Some of you may have noticed there is one person who’s name I have yet to mention. His poster hung on my wall in college, and every day and every night I dreamed of being like him, because he was everything I wanted to be as a football player. He was my inspiration, he became my teammate, and though he’s not here physically, he’s here in spirit – and in a bust in that building. I am truly honored to join him.

“Junior Seau, thank you buddy.”




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Vijay K. Mohan
MD, FACS

Dear Patients,

It is with mixed emotions that I announce my retirement effective August 16th, 2023. Caring for you, has been the most rewarding part of my 45 year career as a General Surgeon after I chose Pampa as my home. You all have not only been my patients, but in a larger picture, friends and members of my family.

Patients I have treated in the past 7 years, your medical records will be made available to you or transferred to a physician of your choosing, after signing a consent release form within the next 30 days. Please contact my friendly and efficient office staff with any questions you may have, by calling the office at (806)669-3303.

Sincerely,



Vijay K. Mohan, MD FACS

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FOR THE RECORD

GRAY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

PAMPA FIRE DEPARTMENT

August 8, 2023

- Eric Michael Guyer, 41, of Pampa, was arrested by PPD for unlawful restraint.
- Mark Anthony Patterson, 49, of Pampa, was arrested by GCSO for evading arrest detention with a vehicle.
- Zachary Allen Ponce, 31, of Pampa, was arrested by PPD for capias pro fine possession of drug paraphernalia, capias pro fine failure to appear.

August 6, 2023

- At 10:52 am, 1 unit and 3 personnel responded to the 200 block of Tuke for an unauthorized burn.
- At 4:29 pm, 1 unit and 3 personnel responded to the 1600 block of Christine on a medical assist call.

August 7, 2023

- At 5:49 am, 1 unit and 3 personnel responded to the 8300 block of Cole Road on a medical assist call.

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Drowning At Spring Canyon In Lake Meredith National Recreation Area

PER LAKE MEREDITH NRA & ALIBATES FLINT QUARRIES Fritch, TX – A 34-year-old Cactus resident died Sunday, August 6, 2023 at Spring Canyon within Lake Meredith National Recreation Area.

Hamsim Mutabasi drowned in the swimming area of Spring Canon which is located on the downstream side of Sanford Dam at Lake Meredith National Recreation Area. Hamsim was at Spring Canyon with friends and coworkers for an evening of recreation. Hamsim was the only person in his group that entered the water to swim. Around 5:30 pm his friends no longer saw him in the swimming area. His shoes were still at the waters edge where he had entered the water. Hamsim's friends called 911 to notify National Park Service. Personnel and resources from the National Park Service, Texas

Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas Department of Public Safety, Hutchinson County Sheriff's Department, Hutchinson County Emergency Services Unit, Fritch Fire, and Borger Fire responded to the area. There were many visitors in the area both in the water and on the beach. After interviewing Hamsim's friends and witnesses who were in the water and along that area of the beach, Spring Canyon was closed and all visitors were asked to leave the area. From witness interviews a concentrated search area was identified. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Game Wardens were able to use sonar on their boat to further narrow the search area. National Park Service Divers searched the concentrated areas and located Hamsim's body around 9:26 pm.

Lake Meredith National Recreation Area Superin-

tendent, Eric Smith, would like to remind all park visitors to be aware of the dangers of recreating in and around water.

Drowning can happen quickly and the waters do not have to be deep to pose a danger. This marks the second water related fatality at Lake Meredith National Recreation Area this year.

The National Park Service would like to thank our partner agencies; Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas Department of Public Safety, Hutchinson County Sheriff's Department, Hutchinson County Emergency Services Unit, Fritch Fire, and Borger Fire for their help during this incident.

For questions or additional information, please contact Lake Meredith National Recreation Area Headquarters at 806-857-3151.

Xcel Energy offers payment options

■ Billing help Customer agents standing by to help as extreme heat impacts region's power bills

SUBMITTED BY XCEL ENERGY

AMARILLO, Texas (Aug. 7, 2023) – An extended streak of record-setting temperatures in Xcel Energy's Texas-New Mexico service area has driven up electricity usage and billing costs, following a trend seen across many parts of the country. Xcel Energy is urging customers who may have difficulties paying bills to contact customer agents for options in making payments.

"We understand our customers are operating on tight budgets, and a high bill can create a lot of anxiety," said Adrian J. Rodriguez, president, Xcel En-

ergy – New Mexico, Texas. "This summer has been an especially difficult one because of extreme heat, but our customer care representatives are standing by to discuss these high bills and can provide options that will help customers manage their payments."

"We also want to express our thanks to Xcel Energy colleagues who safely work outdoors to address any issues during the hot days and warm nights," Rodriguez added.

Persistent, record-setting heat across the area has boosted air conditioning use, which accounts for half or more of a typical household's summer electricity use. Xcel Energy's weather records show higher-than average temperatures in every operat-

ing division, with the highest increase in the Roswell area where temperatures in July were 5% above normal. Lubbock temperatures were 3.7% higher and Amarillo saw a 1.7% increase above average. The heat has been compounded by a lack of rain. Eastern New Mexico and the Panhandle and South Plains regions of Texas all recorded below average rainfall levels in July.

Electricity prices are down from earlier in the year thanks largely to a reduction in the cost of natural gas used to fuel about 30% of the region's electricity production. But with higher usage, many customers are paying more than they expected.

XCEL cont. on page 6

Style

Continued From Page 1

busy since she opened up for business.

"Pampa has received me very well. It was interesting coming into a new town, especially a small town because people are very reliant on word-of-mouth and they like to protect their own. So being a new person (here) makes it to where you have to kind-of earn the respect of the people of the town. I'm so glad I feel that I have at this point, and people continue to shop with me. I have regulars now which is so fun."

Smith usually adds new products to her online store and in the boutique itself once a month.

"When I get new inventory it will sell out quickly

in-store and I'll have to shift and figure out a way to create inventory for my online store. It's been really good," Smith said of her boutique's local success.

Smith chooses clothing from multiple sources to ensure she has a selection that isn't found in other stores.

"Usually I go to market. I've been to market in Las Vegas and I just got back from market in Dallas. There's some really good wholesalers there. The good thing about going to market as opposed to ordering online is that you get to see, touch and feel the products. You get to see what the material is like, you can see if it's worth the money. I want to curate collections that are going to be unique. I try to find wholesalers that go with our own style," Smith explained.

"I want to have new prod-

ucts to sell here in town. That way we don't all necessarily have to compete with each other. I think we can all be unique," she added.

Smith just started adding fall clothing to her lineup, which she has decided to add new clothing to twice per month instead of once a month like she has in order to keep up with demand. She made this decision on the heels of her on-year party, which left her racks practically bare.

"I'll do a party (like this) every year. This year I did it at the end of July, but I think next year I'll have it in August so that people can do back-to-school shopping. For this party I had a bunch of local vendors; I had someone here doing welded jewelry, I had build-your-own flower bouquets, I had custom cups and hair tinsel and

feathers," Smith said of the event.

"I hope to do at least one (event) every quarter and hopefully I can do one monthly. I know as the Christmas and holiday season comes around I'll definitely do a lot more events like late-night shopping and making sure that all the working gals can come in and shop. I am open until 6 pm, which I feel like is an advantage for me because a lot of the other local businesses close at 5 pm," she said.

The Pampa News congratulates Ashley on her first year of success, and wishes her many more years of success here in Pampa.

To purchase clothing from Bureau of Style, you can head over to their location at 1621 N. Hobart or go online to www.bureauofstyle.com.



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Photos from the Pampa Senior Citizen's Mini-Fair



Photos by Laura Bonnett

Sweet

Continued From Page 1

Air Heads, Skittles, Jolly Ranchers, and a variety of candy bars and gummies, all freeze-dried to enhance the flavor and give each one a unique new texture. While some candies become crunchier, others simply melt in your mouth. Each candy now comes with a new name, unique to the Sweets N Snax brand. Quality is important to their business and it shows, not only in the product but in the packaging as well. Everything is neatly and

carefully packaged in containers or double-sealed bags and complies with Texas cottage food laws by having a proper label and allergy warning where applicable. The News cut down on waste as well by making use of 'imperfect candies' which they crush into a dust for their signature 'Oopz Toobz'. The crushed candy is a perfect quick snack or makes for a great topping on ice cream or other desserts. Some candies have just not made the cut, unfortunately, with chocolate and sugar-free candy being the most difficult to freeze dry, according to the

News. Freeze-drying candy is both art and science for the couple, who keep trying new things all the time. "Everybody asks us what

our favorite candy is,' said Martin. "And I tell them, whatever comes out of the freeze dryer next."

Pampa, Tx



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Executive Director

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

OBITUARIES

Chancey Rae Miller Maldonado

Chancey Rae Miller Maldonado of Pampa, TX passed away on Wednesday, July 26, 2023 at her residence in Pampa at the age of 33 years, 11 months and 15 days. Funeral services will be Saturday, July 29, 2023 at 10:00 AM in Calvary Christian Fellowship in Shamrock, TX with Mark Thomas officiating, assisted by Steve Bentley. Burial will follow at Shamrock Cemetery in Shamrock. The family will receive friends on Friday, July 28, 2023 from 4:00 PM



Chelsea Rae Miller Maldonado

until 6:00 PM at the funeral home. Arrangements are by Robertson Funeral Directors of Shamrock.

Chancey was born on August 11, 1989 in Lawton, OK to Marty Miller and Lynnette Stokes Thomas. She was raised in Shamrock, TX and graduated from Shamrock High School in 2007. After graduating, Chancey worked as a Cosmetologist and Hairstylist in the Lawton area. In 2010, she was in a car accident and became a quadriplegic. Chancey had great determination in spite of her disability, though, and later decided to return to school. She earned her Associate's Degree at Amarillo College, then her Bachelor's Degree at Southwest Oklahoma State University. She was currently a year and a half into completing her Master's Degree in Psychology. She married Jimmy Maldonado on July 23, 2022 in Wheeler, TX, moving to Pampa at that time. She worked at Walmart and loved her job and coworkers there. Chancey was always very active, enjoying singing, talking to friends on the phone and watching her husband Jimmy play soccer. She also loved horses and was presented a saddle for quadriplegics. She was a member of Calvary Christian Fellowship in Shamrock.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Kenneth and Juajun Stokes, Bob and Mary Miller and Jerry and Faye Douglas; her aunt, Karen Foster; her uncle, Steven Stokes; and 2 cousins, Jennifer Houston and Bobby Houston.

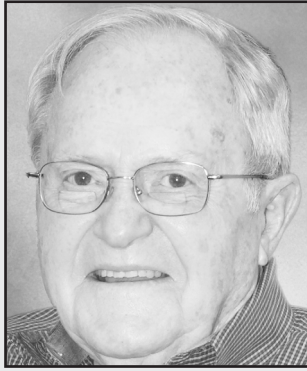
Survivors include: her husband, Jimmy Maldonado of Pampa, TX; her mother and step-father, Lynnette and Mark Thomas of Shamrock; her father and step-mother, Marty and Felicia Miller of Devol, OK; her step-son, Alan Fernando Maldonado of Honduras; 3 brothers, Casey (Tori) Miller of Shamrock, Chris (Kelly) Thomas of Spring, TX, and Nick Thomas of Virginia; 1 sister, Silver Miller of Wichita Falls, TX; 6 cousins, Ethan (Hailey) Hrbacek, Evan (Ida) Hrbacek, Everett (Tamara) Hrbacek, Heather (Matthew) Mullin, Cassidy Uptergrove and Julia Mowery; aunts and uncles, Gary (Julie) Hrbacek, Wayne (Donna) Houston and Rob (Kathy) Miller; 3 nephews, Brody, Bryson and Bradon Thomas; a great aunt, Della Mae Stokes; and numerous other relatives.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to Shamrock Meals on Wheels, PO Box 270, Shamrock, TX 79079.

Sign our online guest book at www.RobertsonFuneral.com

Thomas Jackson (Jack) Davis

Thomas Jackson (Jack) Davis, 92, passed away on August 7, 2023 in Pampa.



Thomas Jackson (Jack) Davis

Services will be 2:00 PM, Thursday, August 10, 2023 at Cornerstone Baptist Church with Rev. Rodney Weatherly, retired minister, officiating. Burial will follow in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors and Crematory.

Jack was born on March 10, 1931, in Wheeler County, Texas to Thomas Edward Davis and Lula Cleo McCathern Davis. He was raised in both Pampa and Lefors. He married Anita Hubbard on November 3, 1962, in Clarendon. Jack was a loving father to five children. He worked as a crane operator at the Celanese plant in Pampa for thirty-three years before retiring in 1986 at the age of fifty-five. A year later (1987), two explosions, ten seconds apart killed three workers and destroyed the plant. Jack was called back into service to help rebuild the plant by operating a crane for Fluor Daniel.

In 1968 Jack and Anita joined Barrett Baptist Church (now Cornerstone) where Jack served as the church's music leader for more than 30 years. Jack enjoyed riding motorcycles and playing golf. He liked the Dallas Cowboys too; but his favorite team was the Texas Rangers, in fact he wouldn't miss a baseball game. Most recently, he enjoyed spending time playing bridge at the Pampa Senior Citizens Center with Anita and friends.

Jack enjoyed traveling and he loved his family. He and Anita spent many happy years exploring the United States and Canada with Jack's siblings and playing dominoes. And yet, the highlight of Jack's life were his children and being Papa to his grandchildren and great grandchildren. To know Jack, was to love Jack.

Jack was preceded in death by his parents; his sisters, Priscilla Hayes and Eunice Reed; his brothers, Marion (Dick) Davis and James Davis; a son, Tommy Jack Davis and a grandson Modwa Sargent.

He is survived by wife, Anita Davis, of the home; his daughters, Becky Craig and husband Tom of Palestine, Texas and Drona Kelsey and husband Mike of Pampa; two sons, Greg Davis and wife Debbie and Todd Davis and wife Patty all of Pampa; daughter-in-law, Debbie Davis of Tyler; sisters-in-law, Dorothy Davis of Houston and Shirley Davis of Bella Vista, Arkansas. Jack leaves behind 16 grandchildren and 37 great grandchildren. He is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews and extended family who all cherished him!

The family would like to thank Silvia, Miranda, Christian, Lori and the rest of the caregivers and nurses from Accent Hospice for their care in his final days.

In lieu of flowers, please send monetary donations in Jack's memory to the Cornerstone Vision Fund.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Wednesday, August 9, 2023 from 6:00-7:30 PM.

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

Drive-by Prayers (for our schools)

BY MIKE SUBLETT

Its time to cry out for heaven's help for our school kids and for the adults who devote their lives to their learning.

The term "drive-by" has been stolen to mean something hurtful. ENOUGH! Time to take it back to mean a blessing from heaven.

Sunday, August 13th, is that day.

Sometime this coming Sunday, please devote 30 minutes to lift our schools up to God for their protection and blessing.

Drive-by some of our schools and pray for the children and adults who will fill those rooms. Ask God to bless the kid's learning with increased ability. Seek God's power to destroy any of Satan's plans for evil. Ask Father God to squash all fighting & bullying. Plead for encouragement & kindness & friendships for our children.

Here is a list of the schools here in Pampa that need our prayers. Your prayers don't have to be long & you don't even have to close your eyes; in fact please don't close your eyes while driving.

Lol. Just pray as you drive by each school. You will be surprised how many of Pampa's schools you can pray for in just 30 minutes.

God bless you as you lift our children up to God's throne.

Prayer List - Pampa Schools

- Community Christian School, 1633 N Nelson St
- Pampa Academy, 71 E. Harvester
- St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 727 W Browning Ave
- Pampa High School, 111 E Harvester Ave
- Pampa Learning Center, 907 N. Frost
- Pampa Junior High School, 4000 Bad Cattle Company Rd
- Travis School, 2300 Primrose Ln
- Lamar School, 1234 S Nelson St
- Austin School, 1900 N Duncan St
- Wilson School, 801 E Browning Ave
- Pampa Community Head Start, 801 E Browning Ave
- Bright Beginnings, 801 E Browning Ave
- Pampa Community Daycare Center, 1100 W Gwendolyn Ave

Xcel

Continued From Page 3

Xcel Energy customers having difficulty making payments should contact Xcel Energy before falling behind. The company offers pay arrangements on a case-by-case basis, allowing customers to pay over time should they need to. "These pay arrangements vary according to individual circumstances, but most are from three to six months," said Canda Henry, Amarillo-based senior director in Xcel Energy's Customer Care group. "Customers facing loss of income or other hardships that prevent them from making payments can talk with one of our personal account representatives, who can connect them with agencies in their area that offer help with utility bills."

Personal account representatives will have a listing of appropriate community funds in each town served by Xcel Energy and will help qualified customers apply this funding to outstanding balances. Additionally, agents have been reaching out to customers who have qualified for energy assistance in the past to ensure they are aware of the resources available to them.

Customers wishing to

visit with Xcel Energy about payment arrangements can call 1-800-895-4999 Monday through Friday or visit the customer support page at xcelenergy.com to learn about options and programs to help manage bills.

Customers can reduce energy use and remain comfortable by making simple and low-cost efficiency improvements and adopting energy-saving habits. Xcel Energy offers tips to beat the heat and save money at its Energy Saving Tips page at xcelenergy.com, which includes tips such as:

- Installing a programmable thermostat that raises the setting when the house is empty and lowers it to a comfortable level when everyone comes home.
- Using ceiling fans to circulate cool air throughout the home.
- Opening interior doors to improve the circulation of cool air inside.
- Using a whole-house or attic fan to draw in cool nighttime air and push out hot air during the day.
- Changing air conditioner filters and having air conditioner coils cleaned to improve efficiency.
- Closing drapes and blinds during the heat of the day
- Turning off lights and electronics when they're not in use.
- Replacing incandescent bulbs with LEDs, which use 75%-80% less energy than traditional bulbs and last 15% longer.
- Running washing machines, clothes dryers and dishwashers with full loads and only after the heat of the day. This helps keeps the house cooler and reduces strain on the electric grid.
- If using well water, checking pumps for leaks and reducing frequency and duration of lawn irrigation.

Customers can take further steps toward ongoing savings by having their homes tested for air leaks that can make cooling and heating units less efficient and more costly to operate. Authorized energy efficiency contractors perform the testing for Xcel Energy and make energy-saving improvements free of charge. A list of approved contractors can be accessed on the Energy Efficiency Services page at xcelenergy.com.

Press Play: WT's 'Buff Playlist'-Themed Homecoming Set for Oct. 14

Parade Entry Period Open Now

BY CHIP CHANDLER
CANYON, Texas — Fire up the iPod: West Texas A&M University is ready to rock out at Homecoming 2023—The Buff Playlist.

Registration for the music-themed Oct. 14 parade is open now. Deadline is Sept. 28 to register floats, cars, livestock, bands and more for the annual parade.

Registration is \$50 for nonprofits, \$75 for businesses and free for WT student and campus organizations.

"The WT student body

voted for the 'Buff Playlist' in the spring, which encourages any participating organization to decorate their entries with inspiration from any genre of music and should provide a lot of variety in the parade," said Ronnie Hall, WT Alumni Association executive director. "Student organizations planning Homecoming Week activities also will use the theme for their events, so we're expecting a week full of great fun."

The parade—which will be hosted by NewsChannel 10's Ali Allison—will be broadcast on KFDA's MeTV (digital channel 10.4 and cable channel

127) and will stream on WT's home page and social media platforms and KFDA's NewsChannel 10 Plus streaming services.

Homecoming 2023 will include The Phoenix event honoring the 2023 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients, reunions, a cookout, block party and more, all culminating in the gridiron match between the Buffs and the Western New Mexico University Mustangs at 7 p.m. Oct. 14 in Bain-Schaeffer Buffalo Stadium.

A full schedule of events will be available at wtamu.edu/homecoming.

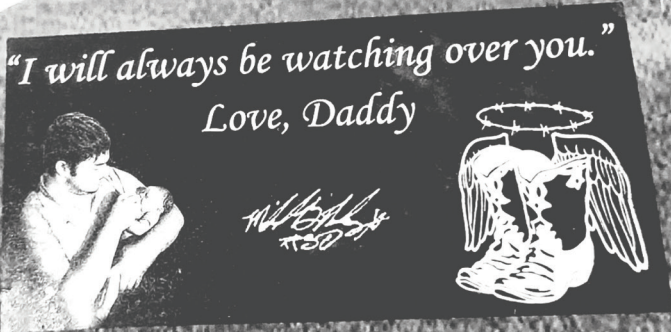
At the parade, check-in will begin at 11 a.m.

Oct. 14, and all participants must be in place by 12:30 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for student organizations, people's choice winners and community groups. Click here for parade guidelines.

Maintaining strong community ties is a component of the University's long-range plan, WT 125: From the Panhandle to the World.

That plan is fueled by the historic, \$125 million One West comprehensive fundraising campaign. To date, the campaign — which publicly launched in September 2021 — has raised more than \$125 million and will continue through 2025.

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WHEN YOUR LOVED ONE PASSES,

we understand you have a lot of choices to make. Here at Fairview Cemetery our 100 years of experience allow us to be there for you during this difficult time. Call us today to set up an appointment.



Fairview Cemetery Association

665-2412
1500 Duncan
Over 110 years

AXYDLBAA XR
is LONGFELLOW

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

8-10 CRYPTOQUOTE

J B I V Y O H H U L Q , S L L W G ,
Y N L J H O G X C U I V H Q L L C , J V L
T L M N U C L I S H V X R R K ?

— L G T X O J B N U H

OTHER PUZZLE ANSWER THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN A TART, A PIE AND A QUICHE ARE A BLUR. — YOTAM OTTOLENGHI

AXYDLBAA XR
is LONGFELLOW

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

8-11 CRYPTOQUOTE

G X U Q A S S U V U M P U L F U G N U U M
Z G Z V G , Z R A U Z M Q Z
W B A P X U Z V U Z F K B V .

— J D G Z T D G G D K U M H X A

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: WITH FREEDOM, BOOKS, FLOWERS AND THE MOON, WHO COULD NOT BE HAPPY? — OSCAR WILDE

SPORTS SLEUTH ● **YELLED FROM THE STANDS**

L I G D B Z X V S Q O E M K I
G E C A T Y W Y D A E R E B E
U S Q P N U L J H F E I C A N
F Y X V U S C Q P N M F B K O
J F H F G O O D E Y E D E T G
E C U B Z G N I O O B N E U S
Y X V T S K L A W O N A R O T
U B T T E L T S U H G K H S A
R A E U L B N O E M O C E E H
Q L P S E K I R T S W O R H T
O L M T A H T S A W E R E H W

Wednesday's unlisted clue: QUARTET

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Thursday's unlisted clue hint: KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE —

Be ready Come on blue Hustle That's gone
Be tuff Good cut Let's go Throw strikes
Beer here Good eye No walks Where was that
Booing He's out Rock and fire

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Sudoku

Answer to other puzzle:

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

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

Level: Beginner

Sudoku

Answer to other puzzle:

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

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

Level: Beginner

WORD SLEUTH ● **BEGIN AND END WITH THE SAME 2 LETTERS**

F J H F C A Y W U S R P N L O
J C O H C N O H E H F D B E T
Z A L X V T T T R Q K O I R N
M S E D A P A C S E E C K I O
I A A H F T M D Y H E B L U R
Z B R Y S W O S C L P U V Q O
T L N E R Q T A A M S O N E T
L A A K I R D N A N A H F R D
C N B A O A D G I Z K X W V U
S C L K E I M A I M E R Q O N
M A E H C A T R A E H K J I H

Thursday's unlisted clue: BALL

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Friday's unlisted clue hint: LARGEST CANADIAN CITY

Casablanca Heartache Keepsake Miami
Escapades Honcho Keystroke Require
Estates Iceland Learnable Tomato
Headache Insulin Magma

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CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

43 Fails miserably

1 Viking of the comics

6 "Hotline Bling" rapper

11 In the know

12 Desert spots

13 Principle

14 Pulls along

15 Mechanic's place

17 — relief

19 One or more

20 Whale group

23 Un-broken

25 Face feature

26 "Licensed to Ill" hip-hop group

28 Brown songbird

29 Top-notch

30 Mess up

31 Add up

32 "— your loss!"

33 Reclining seat

35 Eminem collaborator

38 Wanderer

41 In the lead

42 Skip the ceremony

DOWN

1 Derby or boater

2 Reverent wonder

3 "Mass Appeal" hip-hop duo

4 Region

5 Take back

6 Potentially dangerous

7 Steak choice

8 High — kite

9 Tapped item

10 Snaky shape

16 Island near Barbuda

17 Preacher's book

18 Lend — (hear out)

20 "Survival Kit" hip-hop group

21 To date

22 Buttes' kin

24 Inquire

25 Magic org.

27 White weasels

31 Throws off

33 Beach crawler

34 Song for one

35 Bit of ointment

36 P lookalike

37 Rep.'s rival

39 Zoo beast

40 German article

Answer to other puzzle:

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

8-10

CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

37 Bar

1 Stand up staple

6 Kathy of "Misery"

38 Mumbai's nation

11 Abate

40 Insipid

12 Media mogul

42 Draws close to

13 Grassy expanses

43 Debussy work

14 Get more out of

45 Foe

15 Can. neighbor

16 Rink

18 Needle feature

19 Uno doubled

20 Young fellow

21 Cargo unit

22 Inflame with love

24 Swindles

25 Action movie sound

27 School event

29 Choice word

32 Summer sign

33 Butter unit

34 Outback bird

35 Lend a hand

36 Letter after zeta

DOWN

1 Refer

2 Logic

3 Song by Ice Cube

4 Day light

5 Letter before zeta

6 Yawning, perhaps

7 Clumsy one

8 Song by Ice Cube

9 Hardly strict with

10 Glosses place when traveling

23 Silent

24 Guest's bed

26 Ready to work

27 Lament

28 Director Rob

30 "8 Mile" rapper

31 Become depleted

33 Ogre

39 Tax agcy.

41 PC-linking system

Answer to other puzzle:

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

8-11

The Funnies

DAILY Horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Aug. 10, 2023: You have excellent communication skills because you like to please others.

Moon Alert: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Gemini.

Aries (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ Although you're eager to talk to others today, run errands and take short trips, be aware that conversations, especially related to your job or your health, might go south in a New York minute. Tonight: Socialize!

Taurus (April 20-May 20) ★★★ Today is a positive day if you can avoid financial arguments with your kids or financial disputes about social occasions like perhaps who picks up the tab at lunch — that sort of thing. Tonight: Business is good.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) ★★★★★ Today the Moon is in your sign, which gives you an edge over all the other signs. Why not ask the universe for a favor? Having said this, tread carefully when talking to family members, especially if you're involved in a home repair project. Tempers are a bit frayed. Tonight: You're happier.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) ★★★ This is the kind of day that blows hot and cold. Discussions about money, earnings, purchases or anything to do with your belongings might go very well. Nevertheless, you might find yourself at odds with siblings, relatives and neighbors. Go figure. Easy does it. Tonight: Solitude.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★★ Basically, relations with friends and members of groups can be a positive experience for you today. It might be a good day to share your hopes and dreams for the future to get someone's feedback. Having said that, disagreements about money and possessions are also likely. Tread carefully. Tonight: Be friendly.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★ In some ways, relations with bosses, parents and VIPs will go well today, especially if this interaction is low-key or private. Nevertheless, especially later in the day, you might find yourself at odds with authority figures. Postpone asking for favors to another day. Tonight: Looking positive.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★ Today you have an urge to travel or do something different to spice up your day. However, another influence is present, and it could create arguments if you get involved in controversial subjects like politics, religion or legal issues. Zip your lip. Tonight: Explore!

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★ You make a great impression on others today, even if you're discussing shared property, funding or how to involve the responsibilities of others. But on the flipside, arguments with friends and members of groups about these same topics might arise. Be aware of this. Tonight: Check your finances.

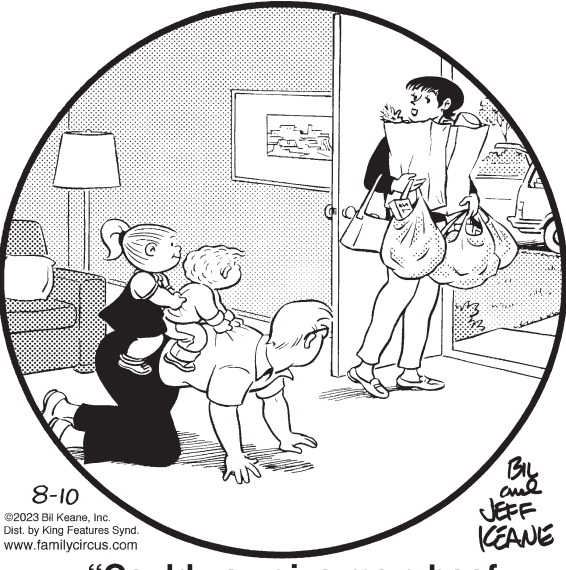
Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ Discussions about philosophy, religion, travel and other cultures will be exciting and will likely broaden your horizons today. You're eager to learn and talk to different people. However, go gently in discussions with bosses, parents and VIPs, because these will be dicey and challenging. Tonight: Cooperate.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★ Steer clear of squabbles about politics, travel and legal or medical matters. These will not go well today. However, issues related to work budgets, funding and getting backup equipment or help from others will likely be successful. Today is a mixed bag. Tonight: Work.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★ This is a tricky day. Fun times, social outings and sports events will go well, especially when dealing with partners and close friends. This is the good part. The bad part is that the cost of social activities, sports matters, taking care of kids or perhaps vacation expenses could lead to squabbles. Tonight: Relax.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★ Even though things are going well at work today with co-workers as well as bosses, things might not go as well when dealing with close friends, partners or spouses. Patience is your best friend today. Remember, fiery Mars is opposite your sign, waiting to provoke you. Stay chill. Tonight: Entertain.

FAMILY CIRCUS



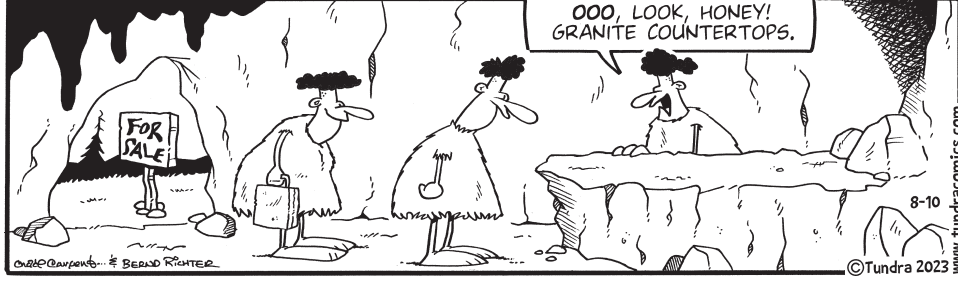
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"Could you give me a hoof with these groceries?"

Bill Keane
JEFF KEANE

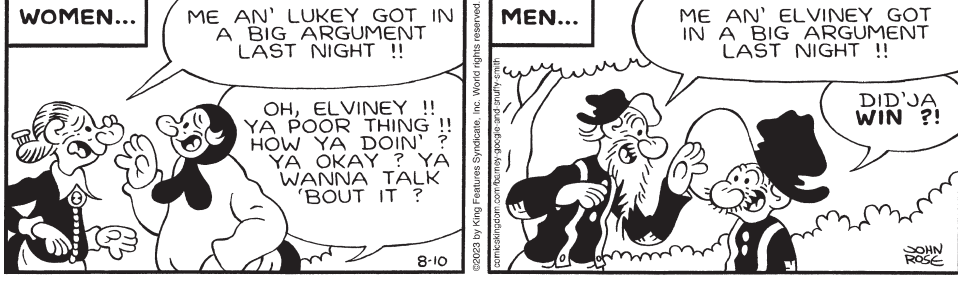
TUNDRA



8-10

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SNUFFY SMITH

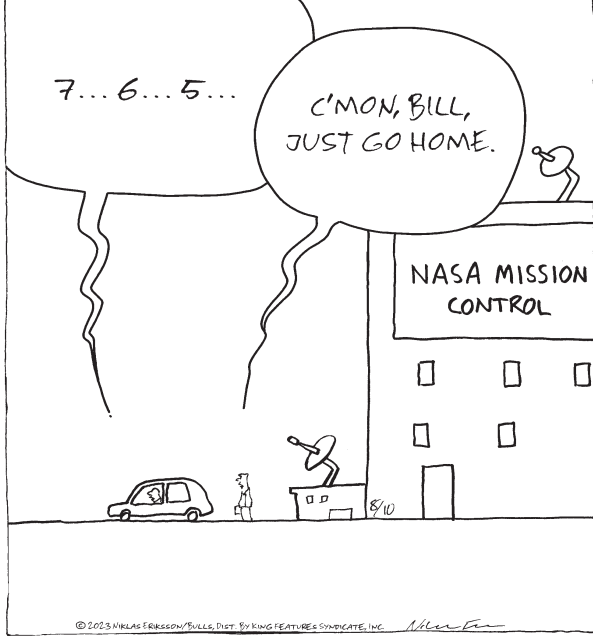


8-10

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CARPE DIEM



C'MON, BILL, JUST GO HOME.

NASA MISSION CONTROL

8/10

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Ask Amy...

By Amy Dickinson

Dear Amy: I have twin nieces, both 29. We've always been close.

Their dad (my brother) is an alcoholic known to draw unwanted attention to himself.

You can imagine being teenagers and dealing with this challenge and embarrassment.

I am the "Gunkle" (gay uncle) who has always been their biggest cheerleader, helped financially for their education, the person they often came to for advice, etc. We're super close, although we have always lived in different cities and now only see each other a couple times a year.

Last weekend one of my nieces (who has mentioned that I am one of the most important people in their life) attended a concert in another state.

Her husband and I have our own (poor) opinions of one another. I have actively tried to repair the relationship but have not had any response from him.

Anyway, to get to this concert, they literally had to drive within a mile from my home — both coming and going. She did not visit or let me know they would be nearby. The only reason I know she attended was by her social media posts.

I am hurt. The trip was for a music festival so it's not like they couldn't have driven 10 blocks out of the way and said a quick hello.

I just feel a bit disrespected and disappointed in her. She and her sister are the closest to daughters I will ever have.

How should I react? Am I expecting too much?

— Gunkle

Dear Gunkle: You are not expecting too much. Here's the transparently frank response: "I was so disappointed to see on Instagram that you and Brad went to Lollapalooza, literally driving within a mile of my house! It really hurt my feelings that you didn't even slow down for a quick hello."

Your niece might then react to your honesty with embarrassment, perhaps a sheepish apology or lame explanation, and by clicking "hide" on her social media account, hence removing the trigger to your hurt feelings.

There is another way to respond; it's not thoroughly honest, but a little lighter, brighter, and on brand for the devoted "gunkle" you've established yourself to be.

And so you might send her an email or a text: "I saw on Instagram that you went to Lollapalooza, and if you drove, you would have passed very near my house. I hope you know that you are always welcome to stop in, even briefly or last-minute. I would love to have seen you!"

Dear Amy: My daughter is moving nearby with her husband and eight-month-old grandson.

She has a flexible job and works from an office in her home, and has asked me to watch my grandson two afternoons a week. (I'm retired.)

I love my daughter. She is a wonderful human being, but she can get under my skin like no one else.

She has a way of saying mean comments ("He's MY baby!") or just being thoughtless (she rarely expresses gratitude for gifts or favors).

I am highly sensitive and when I am feeling confident her behavior doesn't grate as much, but when I'm not feeling confident, it's hard to take.

I worry that babysitting will strain our relationship, with all of the pitfalls involved (mainly criticism from her).

Should I address the issue, or just buck up and be a strong grandma?

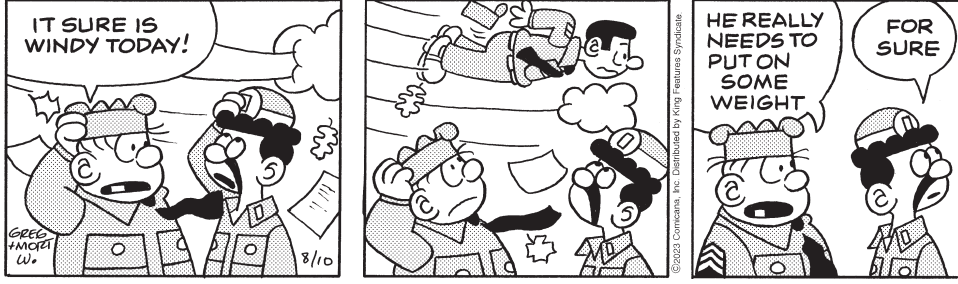
— Clueless in Carolina

Dear Clueless: You should address this in advance, and also buck up and be a strong grandma.

You don't say whether you actually want to take this on, but if you do, then you should establish some clear parameters. For instance, you might choose to watch him in your home (not hers). She would bring him to you, and you would bring him back at a designated time. This would remove you from her direct scrutiny.

Talk this through in advance, and let her know that you'll try this for two or three months, and that if it doesn't work out for either of you, she can make another arrangement with no hard feelings (that's the "strong grandma" part).

BEETLE BAILEY

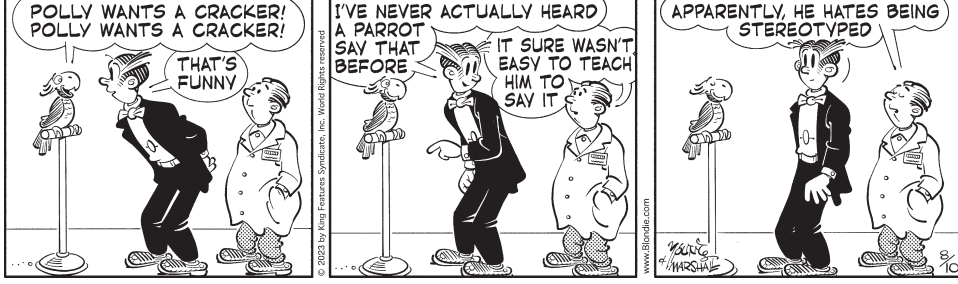


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DUSTIN



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HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



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MARVIN

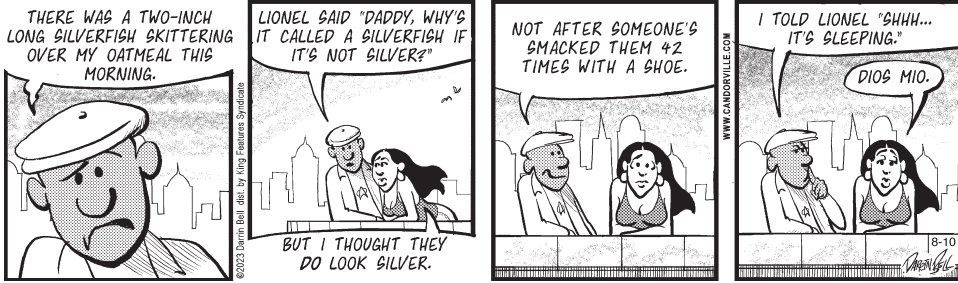


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AUCTION

Estate Sale - Lifetime Antique Collection, Aug. 10-12, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., 6170 CR 332, Jourdan. Top Hat Emporium, 830-251-3288. Visit Top Hat on Facebook for photos! Market Day Aug. 19, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. DAY

EMPLOYMENT

PRESSMAN NEEDED - Day shift: M-T-W-F - GOSS COMMUNITY - COMPETITIVE SALARY. The Mexia News. Contact Richard Nelson, publisher@themexianews.com.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The GRANDVIEW HOPKINS ISD will hold a public meeting at 7:00 PM, AUGUST 21ST, 2023 in BOARD ROOM AT GRANDVIEW-HOPKINS ISD 11767 FM 293 GROOM, TEXAS. **The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.**

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

Maintenance Tax \$ 0.8031 /\$100 (Proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax
Approved by Local Voters \$ 0.00 /\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

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

Maintenance and operations	<u>2.98</u>	% increase	or	<u> </u>	% (decrease)
Debt service	<u>0</u>	% increase	or	<u> </u>	% (decrease)
Total expenditures	<u>2.98</u>	% increase	or	<u> </u>	% (decrease)

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

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ <u>227,316,117</u>	\$ <u>235,942,582</u>
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ <u>103,757,908</u>	\$ <u>114,591,280</u>
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>

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

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$ 0

* Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$ 0.85460	\$ 0.00 *	\$ 0.85460	\$ 12,734	\$ 545
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$ 0.71032	\$ 0.00 *	\$ 0.71032	\$ 12,741	\$ 537
Proposed Rate	\$ 0.80310	\$ 0.00 *	\$ 0.80310	\$ 14,513	\$ 817

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

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

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$ 103,859	\$ 103,920
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$ 56,929	\$ 56,929
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$ 0.85460	\$ 0.80310
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$ 486.52	\$ 457.20
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$ (29.32)

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

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is 0.68310. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of 0.68310.

Fund Balances

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

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$ 1,300,000
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$ 0

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.



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Hey, it's just hair. Besides, you have more important things to think about—like making sure your kids are buckled correctly in the right seat for their age and size.

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VIEWPOINTS

■ Toni Says
■ Gary Griffin

Times Are A Changing – Those Were the Days

BY GARY GRIFFIN

I have to tell you that this 21st Century is something else... and it keeps changing even while I write this epistle. A good example of what I'm talking about... Jon and I go to our Sunday School

Gary Griffin

Class, and we always have our Bibles with us. We open them up to wherever the teacher tells us to, I look at the friend sitting in front of me, and she has this really thin piece of equipment that is a screen on one side and hits a button or two and has the scripture for our lesson in BIG PRINT! Becky also told us that she reads books and other newspapers from this device!! Well, shut my mouth!

Before I retired, I called an insurance company underwriter to see if they would quote on a dwelling I was trying to insure. While I was talking to this lady, she used her computer to go to a satellite and pulls up a picture of the house, front and back! She said she would quote it, and the quote arrived with photos 15 minutes later on my computer. MAN-O-MAN! I need the world to slow down!

Texas A&M has built a completely new campus for medical research. Their goal is to be number ONE in the world! They are hiring doctors and supporting staff like crazy. They claim to have the number one doctor in the world doing stem cell research. This doctor had an interview published in our paper stating that research can now take a sample of your knee cartilage, reproduce it a million times in their lab in three weeks, then shoot it in concentrated liquid form into your torn or worn-out cartilage and it will rebuild it...like brand new! And they can also do it on a damaged heart valve...I told one of these doctors that I'd be happy to be a Ginny pig for them... just give me a holler!

I was visiting with a Kiwanian friend of mine who graduated from Fredericksburg High School in 1945. I was telling him about our upcoming reunion. He said that Fredericksburg was a very small community back then, and several of the farm boys rode their horses to elementary school. Recess was always the time for baseball and marbles. Football wasn't that popular back then.

Now in the 40s, Pampa football was what every-

body talked about in a gab session. The two big stars on the Pampa Harvesters during this time were Randall Clay and "Red" Mayes. They both went on to be football greats at TU! I remember as an eight or nine-year-old going to the Combs-Worley Barber Shop on a Saturday morning and sitting for at least an hour listening to the various town folks talk about Harvester football and our chances of beating the Amarillo Sandies and Lubbock Westerners! They talked about the Pampa Oilers, our semi-pro baseball team, during baseball season, and everyone went to some of the games. One memory I bet you have, if you were a kid then, was a home run earned the player dollars being stuck in the safety fence behind home plate that he would run by and collect.

I remember rooting for Joe Lewis, the heavyweight champion in professional boxing. I would be on our living room floor with my head up against our big 4-foot-tall Philco radio, listening to blow-by-blow from that great sportscaster Bill Stern.

I never remembered anyone talking about the Olympics, tennis, wrestling, or any girl sports. How things have changed, and I think it's all due to our ability to communicate faster through the internet, TV, and all other electronic devices. But some of this stuff is going too fast...I think I will take the good ol' days!

One downside is that we have lost contact with our neighbors and even our kids. And what about all the jobs that have gone by the wayside: such as the milkman, the telephone lady that placed your call, or the elevator guy? Then there was the service station (filling station) with a full-service fellow to fill your gas tank, wipe your windows, check under the hood, check your tire pressure, and then collect your money and bring you your change. (Actually, we have a local Texaco Station that still does this, but ironically, I don't use it!) And back then, there weren't any credit cards; it was all cash, or some stations ran a bill for their good customers. Now we have supermarkets that bring you fresh milk any day you want to buy it, and fresh fruits and veggies from all over the world. The stores don't have as many elevators, but we have moving stairs called escalators. Do you ever think about your parents who have departed us and what they would think about all the things that are

at our fingertips?

I miss the good old barbershop where men and boys could go, listen and add to the gossip of the week, or watch the shoe-shine guy pop his rag while making your shoes look like glass. Going to Hair Salons makes me feel uneasy having to sit around with women. I have discovered that female barbers do a pretty darn good job. I go to a "real" barber shop, the last real one in town... called Sonny's Barbershop. It's been doing business here for 70 years. Sonny, my barber, took over around 45 years ago. He inherited it. But now Sonny has died, and the shop is run by women...I've used them a couple of times; they massage your shoulders when they get through with your hair...that's pretty nice.

Boy, howdy... remember all those beautiful cars we used to ride in? Not like these things of today that all look alike with more plastic on them than metal. There was the Desoto, Keizer-Frazier, Hudson, Nash, Buick, Pontiac, Ford, Oldsmobile, Chevrolet, Dodge, Plymouth, and Chrysler. All so different that you could recognize them the instant they turned the corner. I miss seeing Packard, Edsel, and Studebaker. And, of course, the dream car was the Cadillac. They all had a certain class about them; each model had various additions to offer, like "power brakes and power steering." Some even came in three different colors on them...and white wall tires...I really miss the white wall tires! Now we have all those foreign cars thrown into the mix. And some have backup cameras, navigation systems, satellite radios, telephones... and Bluetooth. Actually, that ain't too bad.

When was the last time you went to a real circus? As a kid, my parents took me to Amarillo to the Ringling Brothers – Barnum and Bailey Circus. It had all the rides and of course the big tent with three rings and all the wonderful acts with animals and clowns and trapeze artists...what fun. The next time I went, I was a grown man with a couple of young sons. It was in the Astro Dome in Houston. Our family went and had a wonderful time. Jon just told me that now the circus is controlled by the EPA, PETA, and I-don't know-who-all regulates the circus, but it's not what it used to be. There are no more little cars stuffed full of clowns, no more dog acts, and limited horse and lion acts. Pool!

TIMES cont. on page 12

Toni Says:

Need My Medicare to Begin Feb. 1... What Are My Medicare Options?

Hello Toni,
I have collected your articles on Medicare for years from the local newspaper and I am approaching 65 and preparing to retire next February. I have a question on my enrollment timing.

I will turn 65 on October 20th and plan to work through January 2024 to help with the transition of my job responsibilities. I am planning to enroll in Medicare Part A and B during my Medicare enrollment time and not delay Part B. I understand that I will be paying for Part B when I don't need it because I am still working with group health coverage.

I wanted to make sure that I am enrolled in Medicare Part B before my turning 65 Medicare Enrollment Period ends and can begin a Medicare Supplement Plan G policy on Feb 1 when I retire. Look forward to your opinion, Bill from Houston, TX

Bill:
I have great Medicare enrollment news for you because effective January 1, 2023, Medicare changed the Effective Date Schedule for those turning 65 and you will benefit from this change. You will be able to have your "turning 65" Medicare Part B beginning February 1, 2024, and will not have to pay for your Medicare Part B to begin in

October which is the month that you turn 65. Also, because your Medicare Part B begins on February 1, 2024, you can also enroll in a Medicare Supplement Plan G which will start February 1st since that is when you are losing your employer's group health insurance.

Medicare's Initial Enrollment Period (IEP) is the 7-month period which occurs 3 months before turning 65, the month you turn 65 and 3 months after turning 65. Chapter 1 of Toni's Medicare Survival Guide Advanced edition explains enrolling in Medicare in detail.

America must set up a www.ssa.gov account prior to enrolling in Medicare prior to turning 65 and visit www.ssa.gov/medicare/sign-up to enroll in Medicare when turning 65..

Below is a summary of the Medicare Initial Enrollment Period 7-month timeline schedule. I will explain when Bill needs to enroll.

If enrolling anytime 3 months before turning 65, your Medicare begins the first day of the month you turn 65. Since you, Bill, will turn 65 on October 20th, you can enroll in Medicare Parts A and/or B in July, August, or September (3 months prior) for an October 1st effective date.

When enrolling in Medicare the month turning 65, and 3 months after, then

your Medicare Part A will be the month that you turn 65. When Bill enrolls in Medicare, his Medicare Part A will begin October 1st since that is the month that he turns 65.

• If enrolling the month, you turn 65, then Medicare will begin the 1st of the next month. Bill, you can enroll in October; and your Medicare Part B will begin November 1st.

• If enrolling 1 month after you turn 65, your Medicare Part B will begin 1st of the next month. If Bill enrolls in November, his Medicare Part B begins December 1st.

• If enrolling 2 months after you turn 65, your Medicare will begin the next month. Bill enrolls in December; his Medicare Part B will begin January 1st.

• If enrolling 3 months after you turn 65, your Medicare will begin the next month. Bill enrolls in January (3 months after the month he turns 65); his Medicare Part B will begin February 1st. (which is when Bill wants his Medicare Part B to begin, and his Medicare Part A will be back dated to October 1st.

With Medicare, it's what you DON'T know that will HURT YOU! Call the Toni Says Medicare hotline at (832) 519-8664 or email info@tonisays.com for assistance. Toni's books are available at www.tonisays.com.

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- The Pampa News
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Service Schedules

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Help us Bless the Back Packs during August 13th Worship Service

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AGRICULTURE MINUTE

Fishing Report – Panhandle Plains Region

PER TPWD

Alan Henry

Fair. Water clear; 85 degrees; 3.36 feet below pool. Crappie are fair in 15-25 feet of water in the mornings and evenings. Catfish are fair on prepared baits 10-20 feet of water. Report by The Bait Shop, Post, Texas.

Arrowhead

Good. Water lightly stained; 85-90 degrees; 6.73 feet below pool. Catfish are good on the main lake drifting with fresh cut shad. Report by Brandon Brown, Brown's Guide Service.

Cisco

Good. Water normal stain; 85 degrees; 9.53 feet below pool. The lake is calm, and the wind is too mild for the heat. Water is cool under the surface, so jump in for a swim before you cast. Perch and catfish are biting good on worms in 10 feet of water. Report by Lake Cisco Rentals.

Coleman

Slow. Slightly stained; 85-87 degrees; 6.93 feet below pool. Bass are good in the morning and evening in deeper water and around docks. Hybrids are schooling and can be caught with a rattletrap or topwater. Few reports of crappie.

Ft. Phantom Hill

Slow. Water stained; 87-89 degrees; 4.76 feet below pool. Hybrids are good on humps around Poverty Point with shad, rattletraps or trolling medium diving crankbaits. White bass are schooling windswept areas biting a rooster tail. Bass can be caught on the rocks early in the morning with topwaters. Blue catfish can be caught drifting with live bait or shad.

Greenbelt

Good. Water normal stain; 80 degrees; 44.69 feet below pool. Bass are good on minnows and worms. Crappie are slow. Sand bass are slow. Catfish are fair.

Hubbard Creek

Fair. Water Stained; 85-88 degrees; 9.72 feet below pool. White bass should be schooling in coves. When the water is calm, scan the lake to find them. There is not a lot of hydrilla for cover this year, so target bass in deeper water.

Meredith

Good. Water stained; 83 degrees; 43.38 feet below pool. As the dog days of summer are here, try the night bite plus it is a great way to beat the heat! Bass are good on minnows and artificials. Catfish are good

on crawlers, minnows, chicken liver and frozen shad. Crappie are fair on artificial baits and minnows. White bass are excellent on minnows, or jigheads with a curly tailed grub. Trout are slow on powerbaits, minnows, worms, small spinners and flies. Walleye are good to excellent using minnows, grubs, crankbaits and other artificial baits. Overall fishing is good on Lake Meredith, the docks are getting slammed! Reports that the night bite is awesome. Please be safe out there, watch weather reports. Life vests save lives. Report by Kenneth Wysong, Sharkens Honey Hole.

Millers Creek

Good. Water stained; 85 degrees; 7.38 feet below pool. Bass are slow on soft plastics. White bass are fair trolling with slabs. Blue and channel catfish are fair on juglines. Crappie are in 8-10 feet of water.

Nasworthy

Good. Water slightly stained; 84 degrees. 1.04 feet below pool. Bass are fair on black frogs and flipping soft plastics in the reeds in 1-3 feet of water. Crappie are good around boat docks on chartreuse jigs and catfish were good

on cut bait and stink bait around the dam. Report provided by the Angelo State Fishing Team.

O.C. Fisher

Slow. Water stained; 87 degrees; 49.18 feet below pool. Few reports and anglers fishing due to low lake levels.

O.H. Ivie

Good. Water stained; 85-89 degrees; 26.51 feet below pool. White bass are good live baits and plastic baits. Crappie are good live bait or jigs. Largemouth bass are fair. Catfish are fair. Report by Concho Park and Marina.

Oak Creek

Good. Water lightly stained; 87 degrees; 13.64 feet below pool. Bass are good with most catches 6 pound or less on plastics in 8-10 feet of water. Blue, yellow and channel catfish are good on juglines baited with cut shad or perch in 8-10 feet of water fishing 2 feet off the bottom. White bass are good, fishing gold spinnerbaits into schooling fish. No reports of crappie. Report by Randall Pate, Sportsman's Lodge.

Possum Kingdom

Fair. Water clear; 86-90 degrees; 0.54 feet below pool. Striper fishing is good using live bait or

trolling with chartreuse, yellow, and white jigs. Look for fish in 20-40 feet of water. Sand bass are fair to slow on sandy points in 20-40 feet of water. Use small slabs or spoons in white, chartreuse, or silver when found. Catfish are fair on cut shad or punch bait fished in 2-10 feet of water. Water clarity ranges from 4-10 feet depending on location. Report by TJ Ranft, Ranft Guide Service.

Proctor

Slow. Water stained; 86-89 degrees; 11.02 feet below pool. Catfish are good with cheese bait in deeper water. Crappie are fair on brush piles.

Spence

Fair. Water stained; 86 degrees. 46.11 feet below pool. Fishing continues to be fair and the weather remains hot. Target bass along brush lines with drop-offs nearby and keep a topwater lure handy for fish chasing bait. There is a decent bass topwater bite from about 7 p.m. to dark, and should be good in the morning as well. A few catches with plastic worms in shallow water late in the evenings. White bass are still being caught on jigs and spoons. Catfishing is

fair on jugs or rod-and-reel using cut shad and worms. Very few anglers on the water due to the Texas heat. Be careful, and wear your life jacket. Report by Bill Brasher, Bronte Fishing Guide Service.

Stamford

Slow. Water normal stain; 85 degrees; 1.61 feet below pool. Fishing for all species is slow and few anglers on the water due to heat. Fish early and deep for the best success. Noodling for catfish has landed a few. Report by Anchor Marina.

Twin Buttes

Good. Water stained. 87-91 degrees; 27.30 feet below pool. Look for the thermocline in 15 feet of water and you will find fish suspended in it or just below. White bass are slow. Channel catfish are slow to fair with quality fish over quantity on cheese bait. Crappie are slow. Report by Captain Michael Peterson, 4 Reel Fun Guide Service.

White River

Fair. Water stained; 87 degrees; 20.90 feet below pool. Fishing patterns remain similar. Crappie are fair on minnows in structure. Catfish are fair from the bank using worms or prepared baits.



76th Annual RODEO
August 11-12, 2023

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Times

Continued From Page 11

Do you remember the fifth-grade geography book? It was light blue and larger than the other books. When you opened the hardcover, there was an artist-colored drawing of what the future would look like! It had autos with bubble glass tops, airplanes, bullet trains, skyscrapers, fancy highways with spaghetti-bowl interchanges with all their loops and turns! I remember sitting at my desk fantasizing about living in a world like that picture. I could never imagine all that actually happening! But look at us today...so much beyond our wildest dreams!

Let's talk about people in general. Whatever happened to a person's word being his bond and a handshake sealed a deal, and then you could "take it to the bank." Whatever happened to teach our kids such things as honesty, integrity, having upstanding character, setting goals, and knowing how to reach them? We knew the importance of being fair to other people through our business or as

an employee of a business. What happened to respect for others, men helping ladies? We used to call that...being a gentleman! Now we have political correctness, equality of the sexes in all things; gone is opening the door for a lady, walking on the side closest to the street, standing when a lady comes into a room.

Jon says I sound like a crotchety old man. Well, some of the things we have now are pretty cool, I must admit. Medicine and science have certainly come a long way...I'm thankful for that. Got me three stents, and my old ticker is still going. Grocery stores have goods and food from all over the world. That's pretty impressive. Automobiles have airbags and backup cameras and are now battery-operated. And we don't have to chop wood any longer to cook our meals. We actually live in a pretty interesting world.

Hey, I hope you've enjoyed my ramblings. As Roy Rogers used to sing, "Happy trails to you." And may the good Lord take a liking to you 'til we meet again...

Ahhh, those were the days...

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76TH ANNUAL



Top O' Texas

Rodeo

2023
EDITION

COVER PHOTOS COURTESY DELLA MOYER



A SPECIAL PUBLICATION BY

The Pampa News

Brandon Wren, Professional Announcer

His voice is heard and his image is seen by thousands of people across the country each year. He entertains thousands of fans per year in Oklahoma alone. From rodeo circuits to regional charity events, his is the voice people recognize and trust.

Brandon Wren resonance and style has become synonymous with professional rodeo. He has been voted BRI Announcer of the Year nine times and was awarded the 2014 American Cowboys Association Announcer of the Year. He was selected to announce the LJ Jenkins Finals Bull Riding five consecutive years. In 2016, he was selected Iowa Rodeo Cowboys Association Announcer. Five times he has been named Announcer of the Year for the MT Bucking Bulls Tour Finals in Minnesota. He has been voted as Youth Bull Riding World Finals Announcer in Abilene, Texas, four times and World Championship Miniature

Bull Riding Association Finals Announcer four times. In 2021, he was selected to be the announcer for the Hooey Junior Patriot Rough Stock event with the Patriot Events during the NFR in Las Vegas. Brandon was also the host of the Sam's Town Casino NFR Watch Party for all 10 rounds. He was the announcer at the 2021 LJ Jenkins Bull Riding Tour Championships at Resort Worlds Casino in Las Vegas.

His itinerary stretches from coast to coast with stops in New Mexico, Minnesota, Iowa, Oklahoma, Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, Texas, Nebraska, Nevada and Wisconsin. He has had television events and commentates on Texas Ranch and Radio Weekly and True Cowboy Radio. Brandon has over 25 years in rodeo.

The Top O' Texas Rodeo Association welcomes Brandon Wren to the arena as the 2023 Voice of the Top O' Texas Rodeo.



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The History Of The Top O' Texas Rodeo

June 20, 1945, was a red-letter day for the Top O' Texas Rodeo, Horse Show, and Fair Association. The charter was signed by 13 very enterprising men including Wade Thomasson, Crawford Atkinson, Irvin Cole, E. J. Hanna, F. E. Imel, Rex Barrett, John Haynes, Roy Sewell, J. E. Murfee, Jr., Orval Christopher, John Sims, Arlie Carpenter, and E. O. Wedgeworth. These men often met for coffee at the Court House Cafe and felt the need for some kind of public entertainment where cowboys and cowgirls of the area could get together to show off their talents. Serving as officers for the first year were Wade Thomasson, President; Crawford Atkinson, Vice President; Floyd Imel, Treasurer; and E. O. Wedgeworth, Secretary.

Many famous personalities and events

have helped to give the Top O' Texas Rodeo the name it has today. 1981 and 1983 saw rising stars Reba McEntire and Tommy Overstreet in the Top O' Texas arena.

A popular feature of the current rodeo began in 1958. The calf scramble has delighted crowds for many years.

The rodeo has been held annually except for May 1970, when a tornado hit the arena destroying part of the stands on the east side. No performance was held in 1971, as an outbreak of Venezuelan Equine Encephalomyelitis quarantined the Panhandle livestock or in 2020, due to the pandemic.

The Kid Pony Show started the same year as the rodeo and continues today to give the younger cowboys and cowgirls a chance to develop their rodeo skills.

Annually area residents also enjoy the search for the Golden Horseshoe. Clues are given in the local media as to where a "golden" horseshoe has been hidden and the lucky person who finds it is awarded box seat tickets to the rodeo.

Many great cowboys and cowgirls of area, national, and international fame have performed in the Top O' Texas arena since that day in 1945 when Wade Thomasson, O. W. Hampton, Red Wedgeworth and others met over a cup of coffee at the old Court House Cafe on Kingsmill Street.

We're glad they did.

Come join us for another great year of fast rodeo action and loads of excitement at the Top O' Texas Rodeo.

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Top O' Texas Annual 76th Rodeo



Photo Courtesy Della Moyer

There's something for everyone at this year's Top O' Texas Rodeo!!!! The 76th annual event will be held August 11, & 12, at 7:00 nightly at the Top O' Texas/ B & G Electric Rodeo arena, east of Pampa on Highway 60. Justin Russell and Wolf Creek Rodeo Company of Lipscomb, TX, will produce this year's show and rodeo fans can look forward to Bull Riding, Bareback Bronc Riding, Saddle Bronc Riding, Tie Down Roping, Breakaway Roping, Team Roping, Steer Wrestling, Ranch Bronc Riding and Barrel Racing. Brandon Wren will return as the Voice of the Top O' Texas Rodeo. The Calf Scramble, Nickel Drop, and Mini Broncs and Mini Bulls will be held nightly. Those purchasing rodeo programs will have a chance at several nightly giveaways donated by local businesses.

The ever-popular Freestyle Bullfights will return to the arena for both rodeo perfor-

mances. Sure to keep you on the edge of your seats, bullfighters, Tye Powell and Britton Townsend, will showcase their evasive moves as they face off against the fighting bulls.

Rodeo festivities begin on Thursday, August 10, at 7:00 p.m. with the slack performance. This performance is made up of the overflow of the contestants from the timed events. There is no charge for admission to the slack.

Friday, August 11, is Senior Night.. Ages 65+ buy one adult ticket and receive another adult ticket free. All ticket holders will enjoy a free barbecue beginning at 5:30 p.m. During the barbecue, spectators will be entertained by the annual Mutton Bustin' Extravaganza. Open to little cowboys and cowgirls ages 7 and under, this is always a real crowd pleaser! The Top 10 finishers will compete in the Finals during the rodeo performance on Satur-

day. The rodeo dance will feature JW Lane & County Road X and Seth Ward & The Silence.

Saturday, August 12, is loaded with fun for everyone when the rodeo parade kicks off at 10:30 a.m. Michael Anderson, owner of Pampa Home & Sleep Store will be the 2023 Parade Marshall. Forming at the M. K. Brown parking lot, the parade will move south on Somerville to Francis, east on Francis to Cuyler, south on Cuyler to Atchison, east on Atchison to the train depot where it will disband. This parade always provides lots of interesting and unusual sights. Engraved trophies will be awarded to the winners of each division. Entries are now being taken for anyone interested in participating in the parade. Entries will be accepted up until parade time.

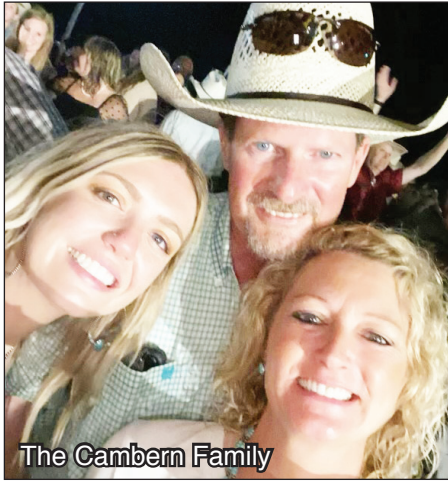
The final performance of the Top O' Texas Rodeo will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday. The Finals of the Mutton Bustin' Extravaganza Finals will be held during this performance. Belt buckles will be awarded to the Top 3 finishers. Ghosts of Gray County and Mike Chism & Hollow Point will be playing at the dance.

Dances will begin at 9:00 p.m. and will be held at the Top O' Texas Norris Rodeo Pavilion. Admission price is \$20 for adults, \$10 for children (ages 7-12), and children 6 and under, free. Admission price includes rodeo. Tickets may be purchased online at www.topotexrodeo.com. or at the door.

Rodeo ticket prices are \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children (ages 7-12), and children 6 & under, free. Admission price includes dance. Tickets may be purchased at www.topotexrodeo.com. or at the gate.

For more information, contact the TOTRA at 806-662-2873, email totrodeo@gmail.com., or visit the website at www.topotexrodeo.com.

The Cambern Family; A staple at the Top O' Texas Rodeo



The Cambern Family

BY MIRANDA ELLIS

The Cambern family has been involved with the Top O' Texas Rodeo for decades, with Jared Cambern spending his first year as the first vice president of the board of directors.

"This is my first year as vice president. I have been off and on with board for the last ten years. Our president is Travis Smith and our second vice president is Chase Bowers," he said.

Jared's family history and rodeo history have been intertwined since its' beginnings, and so the outcome of the event is sentimental to both him and his family.

"My family has had box seats there (at the rodeo) since my grandparents were young and that's what got us involved. I want to make sure it stays around. It's our 76th year," he shared.

"It sounds cliché, but what I'm hoping for this year is to have a rodeo that gets put on professionally, timely with no headaches, no wrecks and with good weather. (I'm hoping for this) So that the crowd will be entertained, our competitors get to show off their skillset and we get to show what we're capable of doing; entertaining Pampa and the surrounding
CAMBERN cont. on page 6

It's Rodeo Time

Welcome to Pampa!



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**WELCOME
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Rodeo**

Camburn

Continued from page 5

communities.”

“I also look forward to Sunday morning when it’s over,” he laughed.

The rodeo will mostly be the same this year with the exception of one new event being added.

“This year we’ll have mini bulls and mini broncs for the younger kids, which we haven’t done before,” Jared said.

Of course, the annual staple events will commence as per usual.

“We’ll have saddle bronc, barrel racing, team roping, tie down roping, breakaway roping, ranch bronc, bulls, and mutton busting. It’s going to be a full slate.”

“We’ll also have local bands and we’ll have Sarge, which is our rodeo clown—he’s been here before. We’ll have Barrel Man, he’s our funny man; he puts on random act and its different every year, so we don’t know exactly what we’re going to see quite yet— which is fun,” he added.

There will also be a free bar-b-que on Friday to open the events of the evening,

which will happen alongside the mutton-busting event.

“Friday at around 5:30 p.m. we’ll do a free (with the purchase of a rodeo ticket) bar-b-que with Milton Davis cooking and Hoover Volunteer Fire Department serving plates. We’ll have brisket, apple-sauce, potato salad, beans, pickles & onions and bread,” Jared said.

Vendors will be set up on the west side of the arena which will include axe throwing, boutique trailers and more.

Jared shared his appreciation for the sponsors and volunteers:

“We are so dependent on our volunteers and our sponsors. We appreciate them very much. We have a board of 30+ members, but that’s just our board. There are hundreds of volunteers that branch out behind that board that brings this thing together. There is absolutely no way we could do this without our local community and our sponsors.”

The Pampa News asked Jared if he had ever competed in a rodeo himself.

“Back when we still had covered wagons, I did some roping and a little bit of barrel racing, but that was back when I was a kid,” he said.

As it turns out, his wife Leslie and daughter Taylor Ramming are the performers of the family as both of them are barrel racers.

“I have a long line of wins and a long line of losses. You have to learn and grow,” Leslie said.

“Last year (at the Pampa rodeo) I was out of the money, I was 6th (place). At the White Deer rodeo this year, I came in 4th (place) again. I can’t seem to get past that 4th place.”

Leslie is looking to turn that around this year and is aiming for her best time yet.

“The judges set the pattern different every year. It’s always a clover pattern, but the distance between barrels can range . It could be a standard pattern, or it could be broken down and made a little shorter. If it’s a standard pattern, I’d love to be a low 17. If it’s shortened, I want to be a low 16. Everybody hopes for a low 16,” she said.

Leslie will be racing with Annie this year, a Frenchmans Guy mare.

“She’s now my go-to. I have owned her for five years now. I started her on the pattern and she picked it up real quick,” she said.

The story of how Leslie ended up with Annie is likely not unusual.

“My husband tells me I’m the worst horse owner in the world because I never get rid of anything,” she started off explaining.

“I was supposed to take her in, put her on the pattern and sell her for a gentleman. I was told she had some quirks. She would bite, show her teeth and try to squish you against the trailer when you tried to saddle her. She also doesn’t like men.”

“I kept her because I decided one day that I didn’t want to sell this horse. I didn’t want her to go to a bad home because they think she’s a bad horse. She still has some of these quirks, but she’s my quirky horse. We make a team,” she said proudly of her less-than-well-behaved mare.

Despite being a more seasoned competitor, Leslie doesn’t let her age stop her from starting new horse-related projects.

“I’ve decided to start over and raise my own babies, start my own younglings. I don’t know why I started to do this at my age. I’m talking about horses, of course,” she laughed.

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"I have a whole group. I have a Frenchmans Guy and I have Dash for Cash blood, they're real big in the barrel racing world. The new baby is an oil wagon horse which goes back to Paint Your Wagon, a stud owned by Wade Helton here in Pampa that also ropes. He's racing blood.

All that said, it's clear that Leslie has some top-notch stock on her hands.

"I have big plans," she said.

Leslie's youngest daughter, Taylor Ramming, lives in Amarillo- but that doesn't stop her from coming home and sharing in the fun with her mom.

"My youngest daughter is my hauling partner and she runs barrels with me. Her name is Taylor, and she'll be running this year. Her horse only has one eye, his name is Shredder. He's a big chestnut quarter horse. I keep her 19-year-old one-eyed horse at home with me, and she will come home and practice during the week and on the weekends we'll haul."

"The weekend after the rodeo, she and I will be traveling to Oklahoma City for the Summer Shootout," she shared.

However, barrel racing with her daughter isn't the only thing Leslie is looking

forward to this year.

"I'm excited this year because I'm actually the first woman on the board of directors in the 76 years of having the rodeo association. But I'm also from a long line of directors. Currently, my husband (Jared) is on the board, my brother is on the board and I have an uncle on the board. My grandfather served over 30 years on the board before he passed away. My dad also served, so it's kind-of a family thing," she said.

"I've been there with Jared all these years, and now I have a vote. I get to be in the arena rather than just working behind the scenes. I get to have a voice. The only thing is now that I don't get to choose what I wear to the rodeo," she laughed.

The Pampa News certainly shares the Cambern's excitement for the upcoming rodeo, and we wish Leslie and Taylor the best of luck this year in the barrel racing competition.

If you are interested in volunteering for cleanup after the rodeo, you can call Jared Cambern at 806-662-6311 or Cindy Kemp (rodeo secretary) at 806-662-0838.



Leslie Cambern with her horse, Annie.

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Top O' Texas 2023 Junior Rodeo Results

Tie Down Roping

- Boys Gr. 4, 1- Sterling Bruce of Childress
- Boys Gr. 5, 1- Stanford Corse of Pampa

Breakaway Roping

- Girls Gr. 3, No qualified time
- Girls Gr. 4, 1- Maranda Stocker, Umbarger
- Girls Gr. 5, 1- Heather Noyes of Pampa
- Boys Gr. 3, 1- No qualified time
- Boys Gr. 4, No qualified time
- Boys Gr. 5, 1- Cutter Bruce of Childress

Co-ed Ribbon Roping

- Gr. 4, 1- Sterling Bruce of Childress
- Gr. 5, 1- Cutter Bruce of Childress

Steer Stopping

- Boys Gr. 4, No qualified time
- Boys Gr. 5, 1- Stanford Corse of Pampa

Chute Dogging

- Boys Gr. 4, 1- Sterling Bruce of Childress

Co-ed Team Roping

- Gr. 3, No qualified time
- Gr. 5, Cutter Bruce of Childress and Stanford Corse of Pampa

Mixed Roping

- No qualified time

Adult/Youth Team Roping

- No qualified time

Barrels

- Girls Gr. 3, 1- Destinee Bowman of Pampa, 2- Blakelee Perkins of Skellytown
- Girls Gr. 4, 1- Hadlee Tooley of Fritch, 2- Keeli Purcell of Amarillo
- Girls Gr. 5, 1- Heather Noyes of Pampa, 2- Kallee Tooley of Fritch
- Boys Gr. 3, 1- Sawyer Nolen of Stinnett, 2- Quay Bruce of Childress

Goat Tying

- Girls Gr. 3, 1- Jordyn Elkins of Pampa
- Girls Gr. 4, No qualified time
- Girls Gr. 5, 1- Heather Noyes of Pampa
- Boys Gr. 3, 1- Quay Bruce of Childress, 2- Crue Bowers of Gruver

Poles

- Girls Gr. 3, 1- Blakelee Perkins of Skellytown, 2- Destinee Bowman of Pampa
- Girls Gr. 4, 1- Maranda Stocker of Umbarger, 2- Hadlee Tooley of Fritch
- Girls Gr. 5, 1- Kallee Tooley of Fritch, 2- Heather Noyes of Pampa

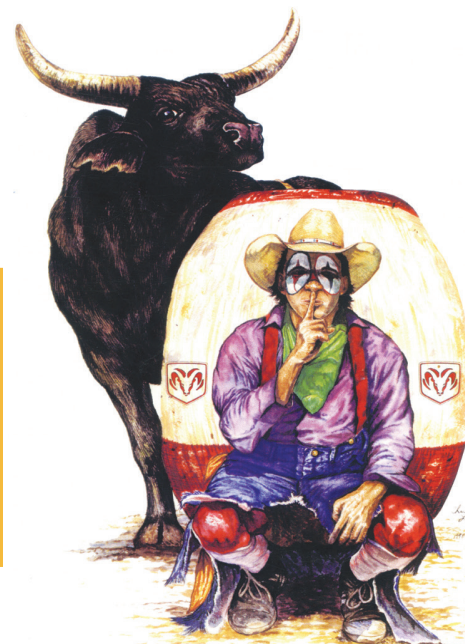
Calf Riding

- Boys Gr. 3, 1- Briggs Martin of White Deer

Flags

- Girls Gr. 3, 1- Tylee Tucker of Pampa, 2- Blakelee Perkins of Skellytown
- Boys Gr. 3, 1- Sawyer Nolen of Stinnett, 2- Quay Bruce of Childress

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Good luck to all at the Top O' Texas Rodeo!**



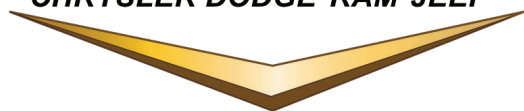
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Calf Scramble

Ages 12 & Under

Mini Broncs and Mini Bulls

Ticket Prices (Includes Dance):

Adults \$20 | Children (7-12) \$10 | Under 6 FREE

Friday, August 11, 2023

5:30 P.M.

- Free bar-b-que for all ticket holders
- Mutton Bustin' Extravaganza will be held during the bar-b-que

9:00 P.M.

- Rodeo Dance at the Top O' Texas/ Norris Pavilion featuring J W Lane & County Road X, Seth Ward & The Silence

Saturday, August 12, 2023

10:30 A.M.

- Rodeo Parade in Downtown Pampa. Line-up will begin at 9:30 a.m.

Mutton Bustin' Extravaganza

9:00 P.M.

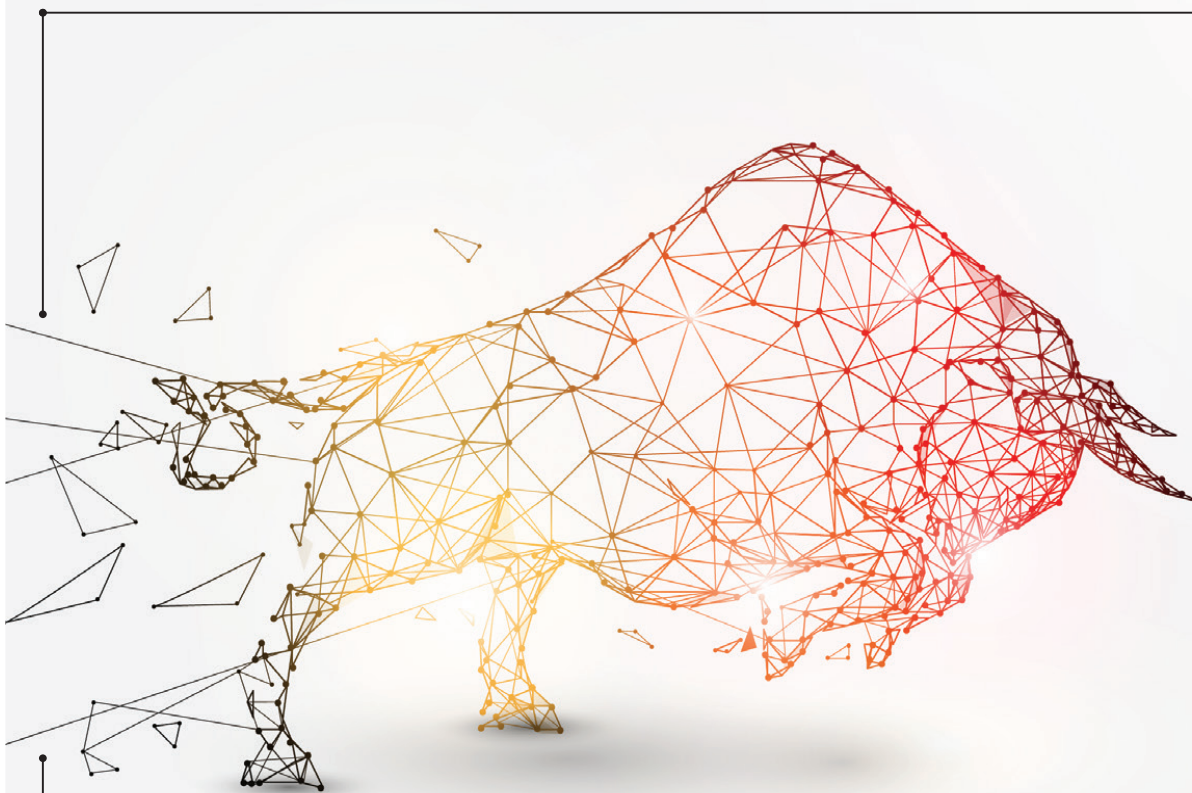
- Rodeo Dance at the Top O' Texas/ Norris Pavilion featuring Ghosts of Gray County, Mike Chism & Hollow Point

Parade Route (Saturday):

Start at MK Brown, south on Somerville, east on Francis, south on Cuyler, east on Atchison and disband at the Train Depot.

WELCOME
to the 2022
Top O' Texas
RODEO

CABOT 



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Mutton Bustin' Extravaganza Sponsor

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PAMPA

PERFECTLY POSITIONED

FOR

Excitement

SHOP

STAY

PLAY

for more than 8 seconds





JOHN DEERE



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