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Friday, December 19, 2009 Volume 104 • No. 222 50¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

## MARKING THE END OF AN ERA Celebration honors 25 years of service

by David Bowser  
 dbowser@thepampanews.com  
 Gerald Wright has a new shovel. The wooden handle is engraved, "Mackenzie - I will find you."  
 The shovel was a gift from two of his archeological buddies and fellow history buffs, Richard Mackie and Kelly Baker.  
 The trio has spent years trying to find the battle site of Col. Ranald S. Mackenzie, the cavalry commander that brought the rein of the Southern Plains tribes dominance of the Texas Panhandle to an end in the 1870s.  
 "I don't think the battle ever took place," laughed Baker, joking about their frustration at finding the site.  
 The trio has, however, located a number of other sites in Gray County from the Red River Indian War of 1874-75.  
 Wright also has a new hiking stick, hand carved by Sharon Birken, assistant maintenance supervisor at the Gray County

Courthouse. He also has several new plaques, certificates, a new clock and a number of cards wishing him well.  
 The occasion of the presents and cards was a retirement ceremony Thursday afternoon for Wright, Precinct 3 Commissioner for Gray County. As of Jan. 1, for the first time in 25 years, Wright won't be a part of the commissioners' court.  
 "I'd always been interested in politics," Wright said.  
 In 1984, he decided to run for county commissioner for Precinct 3, which stretches from about nine miles south of Pampa over to Lake McClellan in the east and the Carson County line in the west. To the south, it goes to the Donley County line.  
 "County government is the oldest form of government in the United States," Wright said. "When the Pilgrims landed 400 years ago, they decided that after they were here a while that



staff photo by David Bowser  
 Richard Mackie, left, presents Gray County Commissioner Gerald Wright with a shovel. Mackie and Wright are both amateur archeologists and historians whose work has centered around exploring battle sites from the Red River Indian War of 1874-75 near Pampa.

See Era, Page 3



photo by Rachel Stennett  
 Three cars converged at the intersection of Perryton Parkway and East 28th yesterday afternoon, when a car turning left hit a truck headed south, which then collided with a pick-up at the stop sign.

## Three-car crash injures one

by Rachel Stennett  
 rstennett@thepampanews.com  
 Yesterday at 1:52 p.m., three motor vehicles converged in a crash at the intersection of North Perryton Parkway and East 28th Avenue.  
 Naoma Ruth Abbott, 82, driving a Grand Marquis, appeared to be turning left onto East 28th Avenue. Jimmie R. Robinson, 62, was traveling south down Perryton Parkway. Robinson's truck was struck by Abbott's car, which caused Robinson's vehicle to collide into Lee Elwood Earl, 47, who was stopped at the intersection of Perryton Parkway and East 28th.  
 Robinson was transported to Pampa Regional Medical Center with possible injuries.  
 Abbot was charged with failure to yield, right-of-way - turning left. Both Abbott's and Robinson's vehicles had to be towed from the scene. Earl was able to drive away from the accident.

## Maximum bid for new junior high \$22.6 million

by David Bowser  
 dbowser@thepampanews.com  
 The new junior high school will cost about \$22,680,300.  
 The Pampa Independent School District board of trustees accepted Western Builders guaranteed maximum bid at the Thursday night school board meeting.  
 Rick Fleming of Western Builders said his company could complete the new junior high by June 30, 2010, if notice to proceed was given by Jan. 5.  
 In related business, the school board designated the street that will run to the new school as Bad Cattle Company Lane.  
 The name is derived from the cattle company belonging to the

Campbell family that donated the land for the new school.  
 Suzie Jameson, director of the school district's technology department, said she needed a physical address in order to apply for a \$106,000 grant. The city, she said, would provide a street address, but the school board needed to name the street. The deadline for the grant, she explained, is early January.  
 The school board was also told that the policy of the City of Pampa was to put a street light at each intersection, it would be up to the city whether to light the street from Texas Highway 70 to the new school. There would be no stoplight at the Texas Highway 70 intersection,

however.  
 While plans have been drawn up for the new junior high school, ground has not been broken and the city has yet to annex the land.  
 The school board agreed to allow the Campbell family to continue to graze cattle at the site to keep the weeds down until construction begins.  
 In other business, the board voted to authorize bidding for a roof at Pampa High School. The estimated cost of a new roof will be \$415,000, but PISD Business Manager said unbudgeted income from an oil lease on Gray County School Lands in Gaines County could be used for the roofing project.

See PISD, Page 3

## SPORTSMANSHIP STRONGLY ENCOURAGED

by David Bowser  
 dbowser@thepampanews.com  
 As Pampa varsity sports teams begin district play, Athletic Director Stuart Smith said it's not just the athletes that will be representing the city.  
 The Pampa Independent School District board of trustees last August passed an extracurricular behavior standard that includes parents, fans and boosters.  
 The school board said in their policy that while it recognizes the value of extracurricular athletics, student participants and all adults at these events are expected to demonstrate responsible behavior and conduct.  
 "The board encourages the development and promotion of sportsmanship, ethics and integrity in all phases of the educational process, including athletics and all other extracurricular activities," the board said.  
 That they continue in their policy means all segments of the community including administrators, participants, adult supervisors, parents, fans, spirit groups and boosters.  
 The board said that supervisors and security personnel are charged with the responsibility to ensure a safe, sportsmanlike environment before,

See Nice, Page 3

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**NEXT DAY FORECAST**

Saturday	Sunday	Monday
		
Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Partly sunny

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 43. Wind chill values between 24 and 34.  
 Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 11. Wind chill values between zero and 5.  
 Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 25. East northeast wind around 10 mph.  
 Sunday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 10.  
 Monday: Partly sunny, with a high near 37.  
 Monday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 26.

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**Emergency Services**

**Sheriff**  
 Gray County Sheriff's Office recently recorded the following arrests.  
**Sunday, Dec. 14**  
 Ramiro Carillo, 31, of Canadian was arrested by Pampa Police Department for driving while intoxicated, no driver's license and no insurance.  
 Rosa Diaz, 51, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa PD for DWI; resisting arrest, search or transport; failure to identify fugitive from justice; and no driver's license.  
 Christina Armanda Gomez, 31, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for two counts of no valid driver's license, one count failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure to appear.  
 Jose Armando Mata, 41, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO on a probation violation for DWI.  
**Monday, Dec. 15**  
 Nathaniel James Swindle, 20, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa PD for minor in possession of alcohol.  
 Roxie Diann Robinson,

53, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for theft under \$50.  
 David Lopez Adame, 35, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa PD for failure to identify fugitive from justice; no valid driver's license; theft under \$50; and on bond surrenders for possession of less than 2 ounces of marijuana and failure to comply with requirement on striking fixtures on highway.  
 Sandra Ann Howard, 31, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for theft of property greater than \$20/less than \$500 by check; and theft by check over \$50/under \$500 out of Hutchinson County.  
**Tuesday, Dec. 16**  
 Amanda Ruth Sexton, 27, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa PD for theft of services over \$1,500/under \$20,000.  
 Samuel Borrego Soria, 42, of Canadian was arrested by Texas Department of Public Safety for driving while license invalid with a previous conviction.

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**Obituaries**

**Howard Thomas Archer, 86**

LEFORS, Texas—Howard Thomas Archer, 86, died Dec. 18, 2008, in Amarillo, Texas. Services are pending with Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors of Pampa.  
 Mr. Archer was born Dec. 17, 1922, in Heber Springs, Ark. He married Virginia Harrison on Oct. 19, 1941, in Pampa. She preceded him in death on Sept. 14, 1994. Howard had been a resident of Lefors since 1946.  
 He worked for Columbian Carbon, which changed names throughout the years, and finally retired, with Occidental Petroleum Company with 40 years of service.  
 He was a member of the Lefors United Methodist Church and a former member of the McLean Masonic Lodge. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving from January of 1943 until December of 1945.  
 He was a PFC with Company D of the 534th Engineers Boat and Shore Regiment. Howard loved



Archer

going to Platoro, Colorado every summer to go fishing. He was a great round and ball room dancer.  
 Survivors include two sons: Michael Howard Archer of Garland, and Richard Kimberly Archer of Amarillo; five grandchildren: Luke Archer and Jennifer Archer Whaley, both of Dallas, Arian Archer Schiermeyer of Arcadia, California, Matt Archer of Dumas, and Cody Archer of Houston; four great-grandchildren: Tripp Schiermeyer, Sadie Schiermeyer, Courtlyn Dawson and Emery Archer; two brothers: Richard Archer of Buchanan Dam, and Joe Archer of Spearman; special friend: Christine Bridges of Lefors. Howard was preceded in death by his parents: Robert Vaughn and Ida Luella Archer; a sister, Maxine; and two brothers, Robert and John.  
**MEMORIALS:** Lefors United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 363, Lefors, Texas 79054.  
 Sign the on-line register book at [www.carmichael-whitley.com](http://www.carmichael-whitley.com).

**Helen Holmes Bolton, 90**

Funeral services for Helen Holmes Bolton, 90, will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, December 20, 2008, at Fairview Cemetery, with Rev. Rick Parnell, associate pastor of Central Baptist Church, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.  
 Mrs. Bolton was born September 8, 1918 in Phoenix, Arizona, to Novie E. and Nellie May Putney. She married Cecil Holmes on September 25, 1934 in Phoenix.  
 They moved to Pampa in 1942 where they farmed south of town, and she also drove a school bus for that area on the many dirt roads. They later owned and operated a Texaco station on Brown Street and she worked for Smith Photography and Fraser Insurance Company.  
 After Mr. Holmes death in 1962, Helen moved to Long Beach, California where she became an avid square dancer. She enjoyed making all of her beautiful dance dresses and most of her clothes. She married Robert Bolton in 1966 and worked for 17 years at Fountain Valley Hospital as a medical records coder.  
 Upon their retirement, they moved to the mountains of Show Low, Arizona and she took up oil painting. She loved being able to walk or ride her bicycle for at least 3 miles every morning weather permitting, well into her early 80's.



Bolton

Upon Mr. Bolton's death in June of 1999, she returned to Pampa to be with her family, whom she loved to entertain. You would never find her sitting that she wasn't crocheting or knitting something. She lovingly gave these to her family and friends. Helen was a member of Central Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by a sister: Orpha Lueck; and a brother: Leland Putney.  
 Survivors include one daughter: Jacque Lowe and husband Chris of Pampa; one grandson: Cary Lowe of Channing; one granddaughter: Jamie Lockridge of Pampa; three great-grandsons: Christopher Lockridge, Joshua Lowe and Jared Lowe; one great-granddaughter: Lori Lockridge; two brothers: Eugene Putney and wife Anvalee of Fountain Valley, California, and William Putney and wife Bobbie of Tucson, Arizona; many nieces and nephews; and her extended family: Johnnie Lowe, Bud and Pam Lowe, Linda and Mike Smith, and Dorothy and Don Cowart, all of Pampa.  
**MEMORIALS:** Central Baptist Church, 513 E. Francis, Pampa, Texas 79065, or Hospice Care of the Southwest, 1301 S. Coulter, Suite 404, Amarillo, Texas 79106.  
 Sign the on-line register at [www.carmichael-whitley.com](http://www.carmichael-whitley.com).

**Emergency Services**

**Pampa PD**  
 Pampa Police Department reported the following calls and incidents between 7 a.m. Dec. 15 and 11:59 p.m. Dec. 15.  
**Monday, Dec. 15**  
 Officers conducted 17 traffic stops. A stop at Starkweather and Francis streets resulted in at least one arrest.  
 Calls and stops concerning animals occurred in the 400 block of Graham, the 900 block of South Wells (twice), the 400 block of Graham, the 900 block of North Duncan, at 29th and Evergreen streets, the 400 block of North Roberta, the 400 block of North Wynne, the 1100 block of Sandlewood Drive, the 600 block of North Wells, the 1900 block of North Grape Lane, the 400 block of Doucette, the 1200 block of East Francis (twice), the 1000 block of East Francis, the 500 block of North Faulkner.  
 Officers served, or attempted to serve, a warrant in the 2400 block of North Charles.  
 A suspicious vehicle call was reported at Pitts and Barnard.  
 Burglary was reported at Gonzales Alignment & Tires, 125 N. Somerville. The handle on a safe was broken in the incident, but the safe was reportedly unopened.  
 Theft was reported at Tignor and Albert streets; twice at Wal-Mart Supercenter, 2801 N. Charles, where a hat valued at \$9.97 was reported stolen and in another incident, three pocket knives and a package of batteries valued at \$26; and once in the 2200 block of North Beech Lane, where a Christmas polar bear dec-

oration, valued at an estimated \$250, was reported stolen.  
 A silent/abusive 911 call was reported in the 300 block of West Browning.  
 A suspicious vehicle was reported in the 1100 block of North Williston.  
 Violation of a city ordinance was reported at the PD.  
 Civil matters were reported at the PD, in the 600 block of North Dwight and in the 800 block of West Foster.  
 Harassment was reported in the 2200 block of North Wells.  
 An alarm was reported in the 100 block of South Hobart.  
 Criminal mischief was reported in the 2200 block of Dogwood Lane; the 1900 block of North Nelson, where Christmas lights were reported broken for an estimated \$75 in damages; the 1900 block of North Wells; the 1100 block of Terry Road; and the 1600 block of North Nelson.  
 A runaway was reported in the 100 block of South Faulkner.  
 A prowler was reported in the 500 block of North Magnolia.

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- PUPPIES FOR Sale!** 1/2 Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, 1/2 Chocolate Lab, \$75, 1st round of shots included. Will make Great X-mas Presents. 806-664-0333 leave message.

Medical Fund established for Jose (Joe) Romero of Pampa who suffers from Lukemia/Graft versus Host disease at Happy State Bank-Your donations can be made out to: the account of **Amanda Smith for the Benefit of Jose (Joe) Romero.**

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# Era

Continued from Page 1

they needed some type of government to keep records and a judicial system. That's how county government really began."

Because county government deals not only with local issues but also with state and federal mandates, it is the backbone of the country, Wright said.

People are on record, he said, in the county courthouse from the day they're born until the day they expire.

Wright, who elected not to run for reelection last November, will be replaced by John Mark Baggerman, who will be sworn in as Precinct 3 Commissioner after the first of the year.

# PISD

Continued from Page 1

In addition to \$423,000 PISD got from a lease signed about a month ago, the new lease signed this month should bring the school district an additional estimated \$300,000.

The board discussed costs for future facilities maintenance. The PISD staff recommended budgeting \$500,000 to \$1 million annually for maintenance but said they would have a more precise estimate when a survey of facilities is complete.

The school board had their first look Thursday night at next year's school calendar.

Supt. Barry Haensch said the faculty and staff had looked at several scenarios over the past couple of months.

The proposed calendar, as presented to the board, calls for school to begin Aug. 24. Teachers would have four days the week before for preparation. The school term would end May 28, the Friday before Memorial Day.

Haensch said that more than 50 percent of the teachers surveyed indi-

cated they would like for the fall semester to end before Christmas vacation. Thirty percent said they didn't care.

There would be a three-day vacation in November for Thanksgiving, two weeks at Christmas and one week for spring break.

One day, April 2, Good Friday, was set aside for a weather day. If school is not cancelled and no day has to be made up, then students and faculty would get April 2, off.

Oct. 12 and Feb. 15 were designated staff work days. The students will have those days off. Oct. 12 coincides with Columbus Day, and Feb. 15 coincides with President's Day.

The school board also adopted policy updates from the Texas Association of School Boards, including taking up electronic devices and charging a \$15 fine for the student to retrieve them. That policy is already in place in the high school. The adoption of the rule would widen it to include all the district's schools in Pampa.

The board declined to revise a policy that requires transfer students to maintain their grades, behavior and attendance or the transfer could be rescinded.

They agreed to change their meeting policy to include regular meetings at 5:30 p.m., on the first Thursday of each month and at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month so long as the bond issue construction project is underway.

That, Haensch explained, would allow public comment at their first Thursday meeting. Those meetings have been special meetings for construction updates. Under the district's policy, public comment is only allowed during regular meetings.

The board also discussed employment contracts, including probationary, term, suspension, termination and resignation.

They also adjusted district policy on 403 B plans concerning tax

deferred annuities to meet IRS rule changes.

The board discussed the use of wind energy to develop electricity for some of the district's schools. Fields said several staff members had gone to Shallowater to see their school district's use of wind turbines in cutting utility bills.

Fields said Integrity Energy had offered to do a free study of the district's electrical use to see if wind turbines could offset some of the costs.

"If it's a free study," said Charles Smith, board president, "let's do it."

The board also heard from the principal of Pampa High School concerning grading practices. Principal Tanya Larkin told the board that she and her teachers had basically come up with a proposed policy that would use test grades for 60 percent of a student's semester grade. Forty percent would come from daily work, but she said she was looking for input from the school board.

"If you have a student who doesn't do homework," asked board member Lee Porter, "but can pass tests, do you flunk him?"

She said there were variations for differing programs, but she and the board were concerned about state mandates.

Larkin said that a check with other school districts showed no consensus in the region.

The board hired Brianna Bailey as assistant choir teacher at Pampa High School, and Jennifer Read as dyslexia teacher at Lamar.

Richard Steele, director of the Pampa Learning Center, was recognized at the Texas Classroom Teachers Association Principal of the Year. The award will officially be bestowed upon him in February in Austin.

Shawn Clifton addressed the board Thursday night, asking that they budget \$40,000 a year for replacement of synthetic turf at the football stadium in 15 to 20 years. About \$800,000 in donations and a matching grant from the Pampa Economic Development

Corporation has been raised to install the turf.

Board President Charles Smith noted that the school district had not spent any money on the project. While he said appreciated the donations, he said he was hesitant to commit a future school board to setting aside \$40,000 a year when there were so many other things that needed funding.

"There are too many variables to mandate a replacement," Smith said.

Board member Mark McVay said that once the district accepts a donation, it is implied that the district will take care of it.

# Nice

Continued from Page 1

during and after a contest or event.

That includes dealing with those who use profanity, threats and disruptions.

Offenders will be removed from the event and, if needed, appropriate law enforcement officers could be called. Offenders could face criminal prosecution for disorderly conduct.

The school board policy states that disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.

Under the school board policy, a spectator that has been removed can be denied admittance to any Pampa ISD contest or event as determined by the school superintendent. An ejected fan cannot be admitted to future events until he meets with the superintendent and agrees to abide by good sportsmanship and good citizenship standards.

Subsequent infractions can lead to a fan being barred for a calendar year.

"That doesn't mean that fans can't disagree with an official's calls," Smith said.

But personal threats and obscenities will not be tolerated.

# Emergency Services

## Pampa PD

Tuesday, Dec. 16  
Officers conducted 10 traffic stops.

Calls and stops concerning animals occurred in the 400 block of South Henry, the 100 block of West 30th, the 900 block of North Wells, the 1000 block of Neel Road, the 1500 block of North Williston, the 900 block of South Nelson, the 1200 block of East Kingsmill, the 1800 block of Chestnut Drive (twice), the 2100 block of North Duncan, the 1300 block of North Charles.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 1300 block of East Kingsmill, at Crawford and Prairie Drive, and in the 900 block of South Love.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1900 block of North Charles; the 1200 block of South Hobart, where the back window of a vehicle was reported shot; the 100 block of North Cuyler.

A civil matter was reported at the PD.

Lost property was reported in the 800 block of North Gray.

Theft was twice reported at Hastings Books

Music & Video, 1205 N. Hobart; once in the 400 block of South Hughes; and in the 400 block of East Frederic.

Officers served, or attempted to serve, a warrant in the 500 block of North Lowry.

An assault was reported in the 1300 block of West Kentucky.

Suspicious persons were reported in the 1600 block of North Mary Ellen, the 1200 block of North Wells and the 200 block of North Starkweather.

Traffic accidents were reported in the 1300 block of South Hobart and in the 1300 block of West Kentucky.

Burglary of a motor vehicle was reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at 23rd and Christine streets.

Domestic disturbances were reported in the 500 block of North Carr (no injuries); the 600 block of North Dwight; and the 700 block of North Russell (verbal only).

A traffic complaint was reported in the 500 block of North Powell.

# Father, son get diplomas together

WICHITA FALLS, Texas (AP) — When Adam Case walked the stage, his father, Gary Case, had the best seat in the house — the one right next to him.

Gary Case had two reasons to celebrate — he watched his 24-year-old son graduate from college and, at 52 years old, he completed a task he started 30 years ago.

In 1978, soon after high school, Gary enrolled at MSU to start earning credits in core classes. After about two years of full-time school, he was being pressed to pick a major.

"I wasn't interested in anything," he said. "I thought, 'Well, I'll just quit and work full time,'" he said.

When the next semester

started up, Gary wasn't in line to register like his fellow classmates. Instead, he threw himself into the job market. He started working at Coca-Cola full time, and that's where he stayed for 30 years.

In 2005, with a daughter working on her master's degree, another daughter just starting her higher education and Adam a year into his business degree, Gary decided it was time to finish what he started.

About a year ago, Adam and Gary realized they would be finishing at the same time. Adam walked the stage first because of how their names fell alphabetically. "But I'm sure he'll hold that over my head," Gary said.

# Emergency Services

## Pampa Fire

Pampa Fire Department reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Dec. 11 and 11:59 a.m. Dec. 16.

### Thursday, Dec. 11

8:27 a.m. — One unit and four personnel responded to the 1300 block of West Kentucky on a false alarm.

6:37 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to a vehicle fire in the 900 block of South Dwight.

7:37 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to a natural gas odor investigation in the 2100 block of Wells. Nothing found.

7:45 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 500 block of North Nelson on a medical call.

9:23 p.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the 500 block of North Russell on a downed power line. The firefighters stood by until Excel Energy arrived on the scene.

### Friday, Dec. 12

3:36 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 11000 block of Eshom on a call for lifting assistance.

2:43 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 1200 block of North Wells on a medical call.

11:31 p.m. — Two units and six personnel

responded to a motor vehicle accident at 15th and Evergreen. Four patients were transported to Pampa Regional Medical Center via ambulance.

### Saturday, Dec. 13

9:20 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 2100 block of North Zimmers on a medical call.

9:50 a.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 800 block of West 25th on a medical call.

1:08 p.m. — One unit and two personnel responded to the 1100 block of South Banks where a gas meter was struck. The meter was shut-off prior to the unit's arrival. The firefighters stood by until representatives of Atmos Energy arrived on the scene.

6:19 p.m. — One unit and four personnel responded to the 11000 block of Eshom on an odor investigation. Nothing was found.

### Sunday, Dec. 12

12:20 a.m. — One unit and four personnel responded to the 2200 block of Alcock on a vehicle fire.

7:17 p.m. — One unit and four personnel responded to a motor vehicle accident at Hobart and Somerville streets. At least one patient was transported to PRMC via ambulance.

### Monday, Dec. 13

11:40 a.m. — Two units and six personnel responded to the 1700 block of Russell on an unspecified investigation. Nothing was found.

### Tuesday, Dec. 16

1:19 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to the 1900 block of Lea on a call for lifting assistance.

3:25 p.m. — Five units and 11 personnel responded to the 700 block of North Naida on a carbon

monoxide poisoning. 4:08 p.m. — Two units and five personnel responded to the 1300 block of South Hobart on a motor vehicle accident with injuries.

4:54 p.m. — Two units and five personnel responded to the 1100 block of South Neel Road on a call for medical assistance.

5:35 p.m. — One unit and five personnel responded to 1 Medical Plaza on a standby for LifeStar helicopter.

5:55 p.m. — Two units and six personnel responded to the 1000 block of Wilks on a grease fire.

7:48 p.m. — One unit and three personnel responded to 1 Medical Plaza on a standby for LifeStar helicopter.

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# Viewpoints

## Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Dec. 19, the 354th day of 2008. There are 12 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 19, 1843, "A Christmas Carol," by Charles Dickens, was first published in England.

On this date:

In 1777, Gen. George Washington led his army of about 11,000 men to Valley Forge, Pa., to camp for the winter.

In 1813, British forces captured Fort Niagara during the War of 1812.

In 1907, 239 workers died in a coal mine explosion in Jacobs Creek, Pa.

In 1932, the British Broadcasting Corporation began transmitting overseas with its Empire Service to Australia.

In 1946, war broke out in Indochina as troops under Ho Chi Minh launched widespread attacks against the French.

In 1957, Meredith Willson's musical play "The Music Man" opened on Broadway.

In 1972, Apollo 17 splashed down in the Pacific, winding up the Apollo program of manned lunar landings.

In 1974, Nelson A. Rockefeller was sworn in as the 41st vice president of the United States.

In 1997, a SilkAir Boeing 737-300 plunged from the sky, crashing into an Indonesian river and killing all 104 people aboard.

Ten years ago: President Bill Clinton was impeached by the Republican-controlled House for perjury and obstruction of justice (he was later acquitted by the Senate).

Five years ago: Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi agreed to halt his nation's drive to develop nuclear and chemical weapons.

One year ago: President George W. Bush signed legislation increasing fuel-efficiency standards for vehicles and requiring wider use of ethanol. An explosion and fire at a chemical plant in Jacksonville, Fla., killed four workers. An express train derailed in southern Pakistan, killing at least 40 people. Former Hyundai CEO Lee Myung-bak won South Korea's presidency. Rescuers found Frederick Dominguez and his three children, who had been lost in the mountains for three days during a snowstorm, in a northern California ravine.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Little Jimmy Dickens is 88. Actress Cicely Tyson is 75. Actor Tim Reid is 64. Singer Janie Fricke is 61. Jazz musician Lenny White is 59. Actor Mike Lookinland is 48. Actress Jennifer Beals is 45. Actor Scott Cohen is 44. Actor Robert MacNaughton is 42. Magician Criss Angel is 41. Rock musician Kevin Shepard is 40. Actress Kristy Swanson is 39. Actress Alyssa Milano is 36. Actor Jake Gyllenhaal is 28. Actress Marla Sokoloff is 28. Rapper Lady Sovereign is 23.

*'Politics is the art of preventing people from taking part in affairs which properly concern them.'*

— Paul Valery  
French Poet and critic

## Advocates say red tape, lack of staff hurting children's Medicaid, CHIP

Advocates call for immediate action to reduce red tape and ensure adequate staffing for CHIP and Children's Medicaid.

Texas — According to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, January enrollment numbers will show that Texas Medicaid enrollment has declined by almost 73,000 individuals. Of these, 72,000 are recipients of Children's Medicaid. Enrollment in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) has also dropped by 7,000 children. The Texas Health and Human Services Commission indicates that the Houston area has been impacted most heavily by the enrollment loss.

Advocates for children's health coverage called on Texas officials to take immediate action to ensure that eligible children are not wrongfully dropped from coverage.

Barbara Best, Executive Director of the Houston-based Children's Defense Fund Texas office said, "In the aftermath of Hurricane Ike and in a struggling economy, it is more important than ever to make sure that children's health coverage programs are operating efficiently and that eligible children aren't wrongfully dropped from coverage."

The drop in CHIP and Children's Medicaid is expanding Texas' already high population of uninsured children. Texas has the highest rate of uninsured children in the nation, with one in every five children — 1.5 million — lacking coverage.

Between 700,000 and 800,000 of the 1.5 million uninsured children in Texas are eligible for but not enrolled in CHIP or Medicaid. Both programs provide low-cost or free health coverage for uninsured children in working families that earn less than 200% of the federal poverty level — \$42,400 a year for a family of four in 2008.

The Children's Defense Fund is calling on policy makers to take three critical steps to reduce the red tape that keeps eligible children from getting coverage.

•First, Texas must upgrade the eligibility system so that applications are processed in a timely manner. There are serious backlogs in processing Children's Medicaid.

It is taking three months or longer in certain parts of the state to process a Medicaid application, when the federal law standard is 45 days. Parents spend hours resubmitting application after application, resending lost paperwork, and filing appeals when their children are wrongfully

denied coverage. To make the system work as intended, Texas must hire and train staff and improve slow computer systems.

•Second, Texas can cut the number of uninsured children, improve their access to care and cut state workloads and backlogs, all by reenrolling kids in Children's Medicaid once, not twice, a year — the model CHIP already uses and what's proven to work for children and Texas. 12 months coverage for Children's Medicaid would provide significant relief to the eligibility system by cutting the number of renewals eligibility workers would have to process in half — from 3.8 million to 1.9 million per year.

•Third, Texas needs to improve how we spread the word about children's insurance options, by doubling and focusing our outreach where children already are: in schools and local communities. Community-based organizations must now serve twice as many Texans compared to the first years of CHIP, but we budget less for outreach in 2008 — 2009 than when CHIP started. We must identify successful outreach models and take them to scale. One promising example is the 100% Campaign, a collaboration with the Houston Independent

School District and Houston hospitals. By adding a question on health insurance to school enrollment forms, the Children's Defense Fund has identified every uninsured child by campus. School based outreach workers then follow up with uninsured children and link them with coverage.

CHIP and Medicaid are a wise investment for Texas children and local taxpayers. For every \$1 invested in CHIP, Texas receives \$1.47 in federal matching funds for Medicaid, and \$2.52 in federal matching funds for CHIP. When children lose health coverage, they end up in local emergency rooms for care, at a staggering cost to local taxpayers. It costs about \$100 to treat a child's mild asthma attack in a doctor's office, while the cost of hospitalization for a serious asthma attack is \$7,300. Because of the economic benefits of children's health coverage, the chambers of commerce in the eight largest Texas cities have endorsed maximizing federal matching funds available through CHIP and Medicaid.

The Children's Defense Fund (CDF) is a non-profit child advocacy organization that has worked relentlessly for 35 years to ensure a level playing field for all children.



## Prescription for a healthier economy

By Steven Edelstein

As policymakers debate how to stabilize the sagging economy, it's time to think about how to help more than 3 million low-wage workers who hold the answer in their busy and burdened hands.

The recession is hitting hardest in low-income communities, and, if we're serious about stimulating the economy, we need to make sure that recovery efforts reach the people and places that need it the most. In today's aging society and service economy, at least one in 10 low-wage-earners is a direct care worker.

These hard-working, hard-pressed Americans provide healthcare and assistance services to older adults and people with disabilities in private homes, nursing homes, and day programs that provide non-residential, non-medical services. Their jobs — home health aide, personal and home care aide and nursing aide, orderly and attendant — include two of the three fastest-growing occupations in the nation.

Already, these jobs pump \$56 billion into the economy, especially in low-income communities where stable employment and consumer spending are in short supply even in good times and are severely imperiled during a downturn. In addition, the availability of direct care for aging and ailing Americans is essential for an estimated 15.9 million workers who balance full-time employment with caregiving for a family member over age 18. American companies lose \$33.6

billion a year because of the lost productivity of workers who are also caring for family members. Without a stable, well-prepared workforce of direct care providers, millions of workers would be unable to balance the demands of their jobs and their loved ones — and businesses would lose billions more in lost productivity.

So, as economic policymakers seek solutions for the recession, why not take action to solve social and economic problems together: Let's invest in recruiting, training, employing, retaining, and raising the wages for direct-care workers. The idea is doable, workable, and will reap returns for years to come.

Moreover, these workers need raises and will pump the money back into the economy. Because of their low wages and meager benefits, 40 percent of direct-care workers live in households that rely on one or more public benefits, such as Food Stamps and Medicaid. Devoting federal funds to increase their pay to \$12-an-hour will reward their hard work and recharge the economy. With well-deserved and long-overdue pay increases, these workers will spend the money on the necessities of life for themselves and their children while stimulating economic activity in their needy neighborhoods and throughout the nation.

With more experienced workers, the quality of service will improve, Americans will have more confidence that their loved ones are being well-cared for.

## THE PAMPA NEWS

403 W. Atchison • Pampa, TX 79065

806-669-2525 • 800-687-3348

Fax: 806-669-2520

Randall Pribble

Publisher

rpribble@thepampanews.com

ReDonn Woods

Advertising Manager

advertising@thepampanews.com

Betsy Phillips

Editor

bphillips@thepampanews.com

Sue Pribble

Advertising Representative

advertising1@thepampanews.com

David Bowser

Reporter

dbowser@thepampanews.com

Beverly Taylor

Classified Advertising

classified@thepampanews.com

Rachel Stennett

Reporter

rstennett@thepampanews.com

Kera Kent

Circulation

circulation@thepampanews.com

Skyla Bryant

Lifestyles Reporter

lifestyles@thepampanews.com

Carrie Hair

Accounting

bookkeeper@thepampanews.com

Marcus Elkins

Press Supervisor

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# Comics

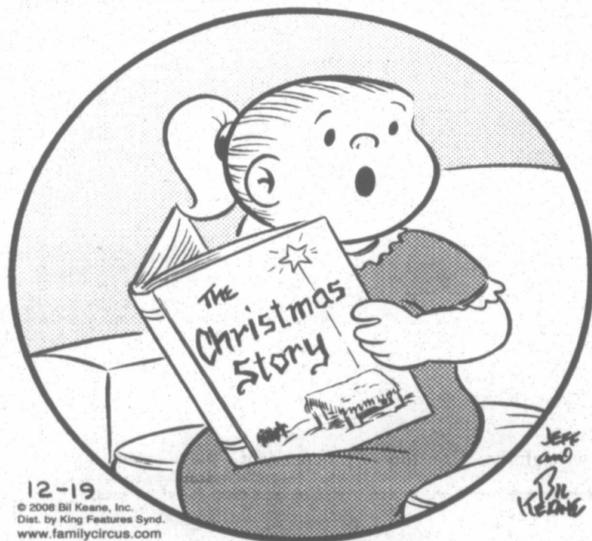
## Marmaduke



"He wanted to show his friends he has a tree inside his house."

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"Mommy, did you save my swaddling clothes?"

## Daily Crossword Puzzle

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 43 —
  - 1 Drive off
  - 6 Church parts
  - 11 Thrill
  - 12 "Atlantic City" director
  - 13 Ruby unit
  - 14 Waive one's rites?
  - 15 Be decisive
  - 16 Hr. part
  - 18 Used to be
  - 19 Can. neighbor
  - 20 Football position
  - 21 Simile words
  - 22 School-bag item
  - 24 Winter blanket
  - 25 Gave
  - 27 All ears
  - 29 Wild ones
  - 32 Dr.'s grp.
  - 33 Big snake
  - 34 In addition
  - 35 Black goo
  - 36 Gallery fill
  - 37 Stray
  - 38 Peru people
  - 40 Laughable
  - 42 Playwright Clifford
- DOWN**
- 1 Get back
  - 2 Go by
  - 3 Completely
  - 4 H
  - 5 Pounder's cry
  - 6 Correct
  - 7 Crony
  - 8 Way to win
  - 9 Border town
  - 10 Play-ground sight
  - 17 About to be a mom
  - 23 Guest's bed
  - 24 Shark's home
  - 26 4:00, perhaps
  - 27 Math comparisons
  - 28 "Ugly Betty" receptionist
  - 30 Distraught
  - 31 Most tender
  - 33 Low singer
  - 39 Dune buggy's cousin
  - 41 Yule drink

A	L	I	B	I	C	A	R	A	T
D	I	C	E	D	O	X	E	Y	E
S	E	E	D	Y	V	E	X	E	D
M	E	L	D	E	D				
A	T	A	L	E	N	I	D	O	
M	A	K	E	I	T	S	C	A	N
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			N	O	T	I	C	E	
E	B	O	O	K	T	O	S	C	A
V	E	R	S	E		E	N	T	E
E	A	G	E	R	R	E	S	E	T

### Yesterday's answer

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11						12			
13						14			
15			16	17			18		
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27	28				29			30	31
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38			39			40	41		
42						43			
44						45			

## For Better Or Worse



## Zits



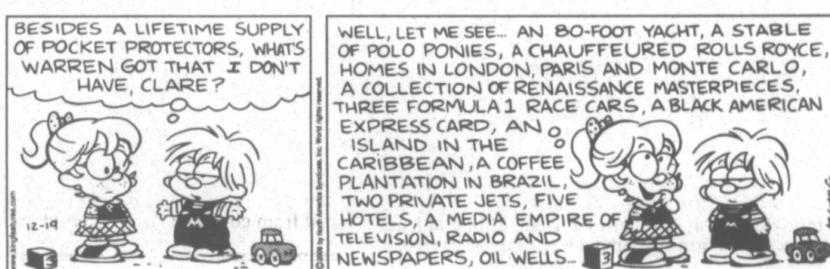
## Garfield



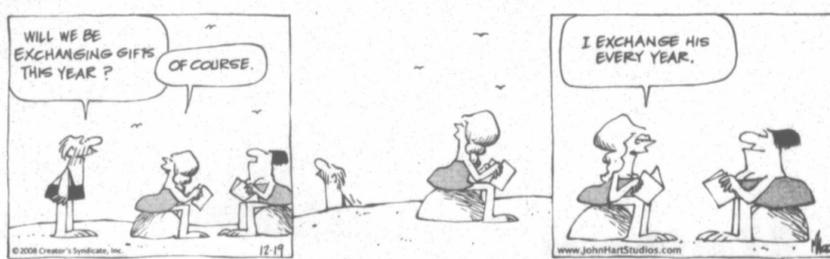
## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin



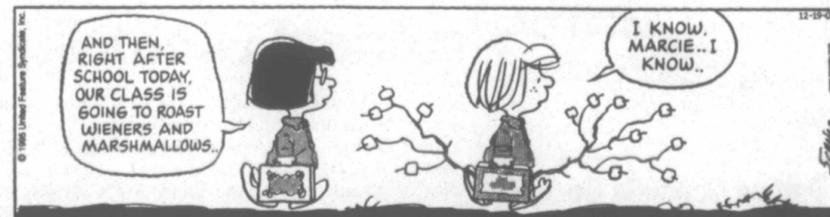
## B.C.



## Hagar The Horrible



## Peanuts



## Blondie



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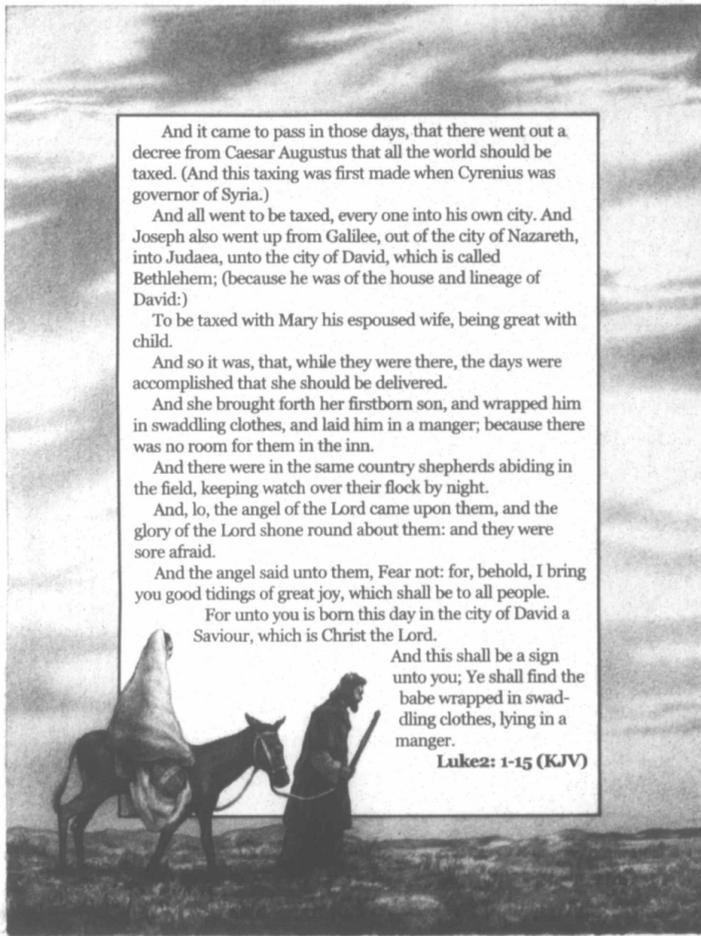
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And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

Luke 2: 1-15 (KJV)

### CHURCH DRAMATIZATION

### Pentecostal Holiness offers something different for 2008 Christmas program

A dramatization will be staged at 10:45 a.m. Sunday at Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock. A candlelight service is scheduled at 6 p.m.

Instead of a conventional sermon, the church will present a fictional account of a reporter interviewing the Biblical prophet Isaiah 800 years before Christ.

The setting will be a prison in the time before Isaiah was set to die on orders from King Manasseh.

The theme for the evening service will be "The Light of the World is Jesus." The program will include brief meditations presented by members of the congregation interspersed with narration and music.

A tradition at the church, the candlelight service has been presented for many years.

Both services are open to the public. The church is pastored by Albert and Mary Maggard. For more information, call 665-8192.

### Calvary Baptist to hold annual candlelight service

Calvary Baptist Church, 900 E. 23rd, will conduct its annual advent and candlelight service at 6:30 p.m. Sunday. The lighting of the five candles of advent will be the focus of the one-hour service.

Solos and Christmas carols will be performed.

"Candles and candle lighting have always been popular during the Christmas season because God, the

Father, sent His son, Jesus, as a light to the world," a press release from Calvary Baptist explained. "Just as light will spread through the Calvary Baptist sanctuary as the candles are lit Sunday night, the light of Jesus Christ is spread by Christians."

A nursery will be provided. For more information, contact the church at 665-0842.

### First Presbyterian to hold special Christmas Eve services

First Presbyterian Church, 525 North Gray St, will be having Christmas Eve services at 5 p.m. and 11 p.m.

During the 5 p.m. service, children are encouraged to come dressed as a character from the Christmas Story. Rev. Rigoulot will tell the Christmas Story and invite the children to come

forward when their character is mentioned. Communion will be served by intinction.

At the 11 p.m. service, all are welcome to join for Lessons and Carols. Communion will be served by intinction. "Silent Night" will be sung by candlelight to conclude the service.



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**1 Public Notice**

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM WELDON HOPKINS, DECEASED:**  
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of WILLIAM WELDON HOPKINS were issued on December 3, 2008, in Cause No. 9572, pending in the County Court of Lipscomb County, Texas, to CARL THORELL. Claims may be presented as follows:  
**THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM WELDON HOPKINS**  
 c/o Matthew D. Bartosiewicz  
 Lemons, Shearer, Phillips, & Good P.C.  
 P.O. Box 348  
 Booker, Texas 79005  
 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.  
 DATED the 11th day of December, 2008.  
 Matthew D. Bartosiewicz  
 Attorney for Carl Thorell,  
 Independent Executor for the Estate of WILLIAM WELDON HOPKINS  
 C-4 Dec. 19, 2008

**5 Special Notices**

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**21 Help Wanted**

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

**FULL-TIME** LVN needed. Excellent benefits package incl. shift differential & mileage supplement. St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle. 537-3194.

**FULL-TIME** Certified Nurse Aides needed. \$9.00 per hr., Health Insurance, paid vacations & holidays, shift differential, mileage supplements. St. Ann's Nursing Home in Panhandle, 537-3194.

**HIRING** \$9-\$11 per hr. 50 hrs. per week. Drug test req. Applications can be picked up, 508 E. Thut, Lefors. Please call 806-835-2810 if directions are needed. Office hrs. 8:30am-4:30pm.

**CORNERSTONE** Baptist Church is now hiring a Part-Time Secretary. Interested applicants can call 669-6509, send resume to 2410 W. 23rd, or email to cornerstone@cbcpampa.com

**PAMPA** Area Driver Wanted. Local Bus Transit Company has a driver position open for the Pampa area. Applicant must have a good driving record, stable work history, neat and clean in appearance. Must pass D.O.T. Pre-employment drug screen and be acceptable to vehicle insurance policy. Bi-lingual is a plus. General knowledge of surrounding area is helpful. Contact Panhandle Community Services 806-676-4727 ext. 255 for additional information and application. M-F 8:00-5:00. Equal Opportunity Employer. Application can be picked up 411 N. Cuyler between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM.

**21 Help Wanted**

**CHEMICAL** Delivery Driver. Oil field experience helpful. Mandatory drug test and background check. CDL with hazmat and air brake endorsement will be required during employment. Good benefits- 401k after 1st year of employment. Pampa - Canadian area. 1-806-228-5463 for application. 1-888-881-3248 (ask for Roger, Mike, or Chris)

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Eastex Crude Co. is taking applications in Pampa, Tx. Applicants must have knowledge & exp. in servicing of diesel trucks, brakes and general repair. Full Benefit Pkg. (90.3) 856-2401 x137 or (800) 443-8580 Clint

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**CONSTRUCTION LABORERS**

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**Jeff Popp**  
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 for Application 7:30-4:30pm.

**21 Help Wanted**

**NEED** Maintenance person, part-time. Call 665-0415.

**ST. Ann's** Nursing Home in Panhandle has an opening for a Full-Time Kitchen Helper. Complete benefits package. Must be able to work either day or evening shift and some weekends. Come in and apply or call Phyllis for more info., 537-3194.

**LARGE** Feedyard in Hedley, TX is looking for a Night Watchman. Benefits avail. Please apply in person at 3900 CR 23 in Hedley, between 7am-5pm.

**INSURANCE** Clerk Position available at Family Medicine Center. Please send resume to 3023 Perryton Parkway St. 101.

**\$1500.00 SIGN ON BONUS PAMPA NURSING CENTER**

is currently hiring a RN / LVN For Mon. thru Fri 6am to 2pm Shift  
 Please apply in person to: Mandi Martin RN, DON 1321 W. Kentucky EEOE

**50 Building Suppl.**

White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

**69 Misc.**

**ADVERTISING** Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

**NEW STORE**

Your Heart Is My Desire Boutique

Everything! Including Plus Size Clothing

302 Foster 806-665-2700

LAST minute gifts at the Red Barn. Open this Friday and Sat., 1420 S. Barnes.

**69a Garage Sales**

337 Jean, Sat. Only, 9-3pm. Clothes, furniture, iron works, 4-wheeler & boat.

**80 Pets & Suppl.**

**PUPPIES** For Sale!

1/2 Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, 1/2 Chocolate Labs, \$75. 1st round of shots included. Will Make Great X-mas Presents. 806-664-0333. Leave message.

**96 Unfurn. Apts.**

2 Bedroom Apt - Appliances Furnished-Covered Parking. 440-2866.

**LAKEVIEW** Apt. 1 & 2 bdr. unfurn. apt. Call for availability. Ref. & deposit req. 669-4386

**THE** Schneider House, now leasing apts., 1 & 2 bdr., utilities incl. 120 S. Russell or call 665-0415.

**98 Unfurn. Houses**

FREE kittens, 2 gray, 2 black, 3 males, 1 female. Call 669-3077.

**80 Pets & Suppl.**

**FREE** to good home. 8 Wk old Border Collie Mix. 806-664-1271.

**FOR** Sale Chihuahua Puppies. Please call 663-9054 or 663-9053.

**BOXER** Puppies For sale, \$200. Call 731-487-1090, 806-382-8413.

**CHIHUAHUAS!** Just in time for X-mas! 6 m, 2 fe, 6 wks old, (3 black teacups). 806-231-2841

**FREE** Bird Dog, fe., white w/ black spots, very good dog. Minds good. Call 669-9684.

**89 Wanted To Buy**

**TREADMILL** Please Call 440-2351

**95 Furn. Apts.**

1 bdr., partly furnished. New cabinets, floors & paint. \$375 mo. + dep. 665-1193, 662-8324.

1128 S. Wells. 3 bdr., cent. heat / air, fenced yard. \$475 mo., \$475 dep. 835-2860.

IN Lefors, 3bd, 2 bath, central h/a, fenced yard, \$450 mo., \$450 dep. 835-2860.

**99 Stor. Bldgs.**

**TUMBLEWEED** Acres, self storage units. Various sizes. 665-0079, 665-2450.

**102 Bus. Rental**

**OFFICE** Space for rent, ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841.

**DOWNTOWN** office space for rent. Utilities & cleaning service provided. Ample parking. 669-6823

**EXPERIENCE** the home away from home with our furnished rooms. Internet ready. Wkly & monthly rates. White Deer Motel. 883-2572 or 665-1875.

**FOR** lease: metal building, offices, shop, warehouse and yard. 806-669-5264.

**OFFICE SPACE** FOR RENT NBC PLAZA 806-665-4100

**103 Homes For Sale**

**FOR** all your Real Estate needs, call John Goddard, at Century 21! Where knowledge & expertise matter. 806-595-1234.

**HIGHEST CASH PAID** FOR HOUSES! CALL 665-1875

**Merry Christmas!!** Rod Donaldson Agent 663-2800 Quentin Williams Realtors

You're New Home for 2009! 1515 Hamilton 2 houses, 1 low price \$139,900 MLS #08-8002

New Listing 1128 Terry 3 bdr., \$59,900 MLS #08-8182

Make Good Rental 720 & 722 E. Browning 2617 sq. ft. duplex \$99,900 MLS #08-8100

Commercial Lot 2200 Coffee MLS #08-7980

Your Listing Could Be Here!! Anyone can sell you a house, let me find you a home!!

**NICE** Country Home, north of Pampa. 4 bdr., 4 ba., 3500 sq. ft. 15 acres. 806-664-2759.

**Owner Will Finance** EZ Terms 1333 Garland, 2 bdr., 1 ba, 1 car carport

2011 Coffee 3 bdr, 1 ba could be 4 bdrm sunroom in back

341 Miami 3 bdr., 1 ba. Fenced Yard Call Milton 806-790-0827

SMALL 2 bdr. Central heat. Some hardwood. Utility room. 405 Perry. OWC. 662-7557.

**115 Trailer Parks**

**TUMBLEWEED** Acres, Storm Shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079, 665-2450.

**120 Autos**

1996 Suburban. \$1000 obo. Needs mass air flow sensor good tires, 177k mi. Daniel Abernathy, 903-512-0323.

**121 Trucks**

1971 3 quarter ton Ford Pickup for sale. 2 WD, 390 Motor. Runs good, drives good. \$1200. Thomas Automotive, 665-4851.

AXYDLBAAXR 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.

**12-19 CRYPTOQUOTE**

QZF MUFJQFYQ PBYQJSF XED

IJV PJSF BV AB OF BY QE NF

IEVQBVDJAAX OFJUBVM XED

CBAA PJSF EVF. — FANFUQ

Z D N N J U T

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: RESPECT SHOULD BE EARNED BY ACTIONS, AND NOT ACQUIRED BY YEARS. — SOURCE UNKNOWN

**Golden Plains Community Hospital**  
 275-1100 • www.goldenplains.org

**Golden Plains Community Hospital is accepting applications for the following position:**

**Dispensing Pharmacy LVN**  
 Current Texas LVN license.  
 Previous Pharmacy tech experience preferred.  
 Mon-Fri 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. 40 hours/week.  
 Must carry a pager and work two hours on Saturday and Sunday every other weekend.

**Apply directly to Human Resources,**  
 200 S. McGee, Borger, TX  
 or call 806-273-1200.  
 Check out other openings at www.goldenplains.org

**Petroleum Bulk Drivers**

**Eastex Crude Co.** is taking applications in Pampa, TX. For Day & Night Drivers Applicants must have a Class "A" CDL with Hazmat & Tanker Endorsements •Home Daily •Full Benefit Pkg.

Clint (903)856-2401 x-137 (800)443-8580

**\$750.00**  
**Seasonal Bonus for PRN RN's**  
 Commit to and work 12 shifts between December 1 and February 28 and receive a bonus of \$750.00.

For more information Call:  
 Pampa Regional Medical Center  
 Human Resources  
 One Medical Plaza  
 Pampa, TX, 79065  
 Phone (806) 663-5873  
 Fax (806) 665-5222. EOE  
 Visit us at www.prmctx.com

**PAMPA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**

**1128 Terry**  
 3 bdr., \$59,900  
 MLS #08-8182

**Make Good Rental**  
 720 & 722 E. Browning  
 2617 sq. ft. duplex  
 \$99,900  
 MLS #08-8100

**Commercial Lot**  
 2200 Coffee  
 MLS #08-7980

**Your Listing Could Be Here!!**  
 Anyone can sell you a house, let me find you a home!!

**DAILY HOROSCOPE**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Saturday, Dec. 20, 2008:  
 This year you break new ground and succeed beyond your expectations. Your focus and intuitive reactions seem to be right-on. With your intellectual insights, seasoned with some spontaneity, it will be hard to say anything but yes to your energy, thoughts and requests. If you are single, you discover many admirers in your life. You will have options, invitations and many opportunities to meet new people. The question is, Who will be your next sweetie? Don't commit to anyone; play the dating game until you are sure. If you are attached, share more of your inner thoughts and make it a point to include your partner in plans more often. You will become closer. LIBRA is a great friend, and fun too!

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

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)  
 \*\*\*\*\* Confusion could cause a change of plans. In itself, that situation could be manageable, but what could be a problem is your attitude or reaction. Try not to judge, but go with the flow. Tonight: Join friends and/or loved ones.  
**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
 \*\*\*\*\* Confirm plans, as there is an element of confusion. Knowing and understanding where someone is coming from allows empathy. Let feelings flow rather than judgments. Knowing what you want ultimately guides you. Tonight: Understand your limits.  
**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
 \*\*\*\*\* Your playfulness emerges, eliminating a problem before it happens. You

could be overwhelmed by everything that goes down. Know your limits, because in this joyful mood you could go overboard. Tonight: Enjoy a child or loved one. Be more childlike.  
**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
 \*\*\*\*\* Choose to stay home and invite others over. Whether partaking in eggnog or decorating a tree, good will and the holiday spirit soar. Good feelings naturally come forward in this convivial situation. Tonight: Put on holiday music. Let it all happen.  
**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
 \*\*\*\*\* Time is running out. Make calls where you have not sent cards. Get packages wrapped and touch base with key people in your life. You might be amazed at the spontaneous plans that emerge. Tonight: Be ready for some fun.  
**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
 \*\*\*\*\* You might want to rethink a situation. Investigate what is going on, as others seem to be confused and not clear. Catch up on last-minute holiday to-do's. If you don't, the holiday will be long gone. Tonight: Partake in the good times.  
**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
 \*\*\*\*\* You might be in a stronger position than you realize. Whatever your plan, you'll discover how easy the event or project becomes. The only problem that lies ahead is you stepping in your own way or holding yourself back. The time is now. Tonight: As you like.  
**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
 \*\*\*\*\* Take your time making a decision. A friend might not be sharing everything that he or she knows, adding a strange sense of disconnect. You might not say everything you are thinking. Simply listen. You will get answers, and soon. Tonight: Be subtle.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
 \*\*\*\*\* Bring friends together, and celebration simply happens. There is a sense of confusion, perhaps, about presents and expenses. Don't allow money to interfere with caring. Remind yourself and others about the true meaning of Christmas. Tonight: Where your friends are.  
**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
 \*\*\*\*\* Others often seek you out to be a leader or to follow through on what is important. Bring family, associates and co-workers together. Demonstrate how Christmas can be less costly and more spiritual. Tonight: Stay on top of your game.  
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
 \*\*\*\*\* Reach past your comfort level and understand what is happening beyond the obvious. You need to show the ability to walk in another's shoes. Be aware of what you need to do in order to ease a friend's upset. Tonight: Put on music or off to a movie. Relax.  
**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
 \*\*\*\*\* You make a difference with a partner in an unprecedented level. Relate on a one-on-one level. Listen to feedback from a close friend or loved one. This person has a lot to share and wants to play a more meaningful role in your life. Tonight: Teamwork.

**BORN TODAY**  
 Psychic Uri Geller (1946), actor Michael Badalucco (1954), singer David Cook (1982)

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at http://www.jacquelinebigar.com.

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**PAMPA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**

Pampa Regional Medical Center is proud of our 115-bed acute care facility. We are an organization with a strong tradition of providing quality patient care with a special touch.

We currently have exciting opportunities available for professionals that would like to work on a PRN basis in the following areas:

- OT
- PT
- PTA
- RN
- LVN

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- LVN
- CNA
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We offer a competitive salary and a comprehensive benefits package. Send resume to:

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 Pampa, TX, 79065  
 Phone (806) 663-5873; Fax (806) 665-5222. EOE  
 Visit us at www.prmctx.com

**1333 Garland**, 2 bdr., 1 ba, 1 car carport

2011 Coffee 3 bdr, 1 ba could be 4 bdrm sunroom in back

341 Miami 3 bdr., 1 ba. Fenced Yard Call Milton 806-790-0827

SMALL 2 bdr. Central heat. Some hardwood. Utility room. 405 Perry. OWC. 662-7557.

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**TUMBLEWEED** Acres, Storm Shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079, 665-2450.

**120 Autos**

1996 Suburban. \$1000 obo. Needs mass air flow sensor good tires, 177k mi. Daniel Abernathy, 903-512-0323.

**121 Trucks**

1971 3 quarter ton Ford Pickup for sale. 2 WD, 390 Motor. Runs good, drives good. \$1200. Thomas Automotive, 665-4851.

## Emergency Services

### Pampa PD

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Dec. 13 and 11:59 p.m. Dec. 16.

#### Saturday, Dec. 13

9:23 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 2100 block of Zimmers and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

9:52 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 100 block of East Randy Matson and transported a patient to PRMC.

9:53 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 800 block of West 25th and transported a patient to PRMC.

10:59 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1500 block of West Kentucky and transported a patient to PRMC.

12:15 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to

PRMC and transferred a patient to Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Amarillo.

1:01 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 2800 block of North Charles and transported a patient to PRMC.

5:51 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1500 block of West Kentucky and transported a patient to PRMC.

10:54 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 400 block of North Russell and transported a patient to PRMC.

#### Sunday, Dec. 14

4:02 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 900 block of East Browning. No transport.

5:40 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1900 block of Hilton Road and transported a patient to PRMC.

7:20 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to

Somerville and Hobart streets and transported a patient to PRMC.

8:56 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transferred a patient to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

#### Monday, Dec. 15

6:08 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1500 block of West Kentucky and transported a patient to PRMC.

9:46 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient to the 1300 block of West Kentucky.

12:17 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient to the 1500 block of West Kentucky.

6:19 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded 5 miles east of Pampa on Highway 60. No transport.

8:12 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1600 block of Zimmers and transported a patient to PRMC.

10:37 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1600 block of West Somerville and transported a patient to PRMC.

11:23 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to

PRMC and transferred a patient to N.W.H.

#### Tuesday, Dec. 16

9:39 a.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1900 block of Sumner and transported a patient to PRMC.

12:27 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transferred a patient to BSA Hospital in Amarillo.

3:28 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 700 block of Naida and transported two patients to PRMC.

4:10 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1300 block of South Hobart and transported two patients to PRMC.

4:57 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1100 block of Neel Road and transported a patient to PRMC.

6:22 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transported a patient to the 2400 block of Cherokee.

7:40 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to PRMC and transferred a patient to Perry LeFors Airport.

9:38 p.m. — A mobile ICU unit responded to the 1100 block of Terrace and transported a patient to PRMC.

## Agents finding drugs, guns and poinsettias

BROWNSVILLE, Texas (AP) — While border agents continue to be watchful for smugglers of guns, drugs and the usual dangerous contraband, their work this time of year takes on a decidedly holiday flavor as they also nab forbidden Mexican sausage, tamales and poinsettias.

Border traffic is thick with families on the move for holidays, but the car packed to the gills with gifts and coolers draws customs agents to check for the items many don't think of as illegal.

"They want to take some of the flavor of the home country to friends or relatives they may be visiting," said Roger Maier, a spokesman for U.S. Customs and Border Protection in El Paso, where a Mexican-style bologna is a favorite yet impermissible holiday item.

The holiday trafficking usually starts after Thanksgiving and typically includes raw pork to fill tamales, guavas, hawthorn fruit and sugar cane for a hot rum-spiked Christmas punch known as ponche navideno, potted poinsettias and even miniature nativity scenes where dried grass in the manger could be harboring pests.

"It's usually the same items over and over again," said Felix Garza, spokesman for U.S. Customs and Border Protection in the upper Rio Grande Valley.

Most of the time a family smuggling a cooler of tamales home isn't trying to conceal them, said Jared Franklin, the agency's supervisory agricultural specialist in Brownsville. They are blissfully or perhaps, purposely, ignorant of the rules.

Sometimes though, the smuggling effort is obvious, like when a South Texas woman stuffed chorizo in baby diapers in October. She lost her pork sausage and was fined \$300. "It's really hard to be surprised after you've worked here awhile," Franklin said.



### Statistics

- In 1999, approximately 7,000 patient deaths were linked to errors in the prescribing and administering of medications.
- One person dies each day, and 1.3 million people are injured each year due to medication errors.
- Adverse Drug Effects (ADEs) may rank between the 4th and 6th leading causes of death.
- The annual cost of drug-related morbidity and mortality is estimated to be \$177 billion in the U.S.
- At greatest risk for medication-related problems are America's seniors. While medications are probably the single most important factor in improving the quality of life for seniors, this population remains especially susceptible to medication-related problems.
- Taking four or more of the same medications increases the risk for falls in seniors.

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Pampa, Texas 79065  
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F. 806.665.9701



## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 38-year-old woman who has been dating a 32-year-old man I'll call "Vinny" for three months. When I realized that I had developed strong feelings for him, I decided to ask him what his feelings were about our friendship and where he saw it going. Keep in mind, Vinny has no children, and I have two from a previous marriage.

Vinny told me he has developed feelings for me,

too, but that he wants to have children of his own someday. I respect and understand his honesty. He also said he was scared, and that in the past, when he has felt he was getting too close to someone, he would pull away. That suggests to me that he is commitment-phobic.

My problem is, Vinny continues to call me several times a day and every night before he goes to bed — although we have not been spending as much

time together as we have in the past. Am I wasting my time? Should I start dating other people? I care a lot about Vinny and would like to be with him. -- BEWILDERED IN MISSISSIPPI

DEAR BEWILDERED: Frankly, the questions you are asking me should be directed to Vinny during one of your daily or nightly conversations. If he's serious about wanting children of his own and you are not interested in having

more, that could present a serious problem. If you ARE interested, then there is also the issue of your biological clock.

That said, you and Vinny have known each other only three months. You may have been premature in asking him to declare his intentions so quickly. However, if you weren't on his mind, you wouldn't still be hearing from him. And if he is interested in playing the field, then so should you.

DEAR ABBY: My best friend, "Jade," and I went to college together and now, years later, we live in different parts of the country. She just married a man ("Paul") with whom she is deeply in love, and I am happy for her. At the same time, though, I feel sadness because I do not like Paul. He is cold and curt with me, and seems to be devoid of personality. I feel uncomfortable in his presence.

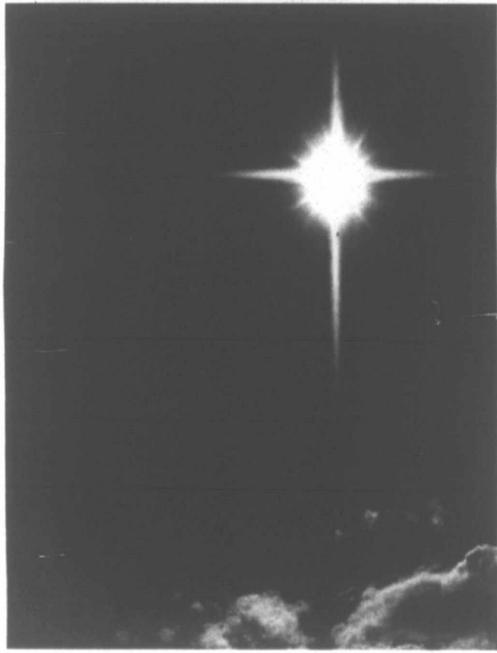
Because we always stay at each other's homes when we visit, going to see Jade now, of course, means having to be around her husband — and I dread such a trip. If I tell her I don't like Paul, you can imagine how upset she'll be. Should I simply announce that from here on out I'll be staying at a hotel when I come to visit? -- LOVES HER, NOT HIM

DEAR LOVES HER: By all means. Your visits will no longer be two college friends getting together because a third person has been added to the mix. From your description of Paul's behavior, he isn't particularly comfortable around you either. And if Jade should give you an argument — as she may — that's the way you should explain it to her.

DEAR ABBY: I frequently dine out for business meetings. What is the proper way to react when someone asks you a question and you have just taken a bite of food or are in mid-chew? I feel I must acknowledge them, but I don't want to talk with my mouth full. -- FOOD FOR THOUGHT, FORT COLLINS, COLO.

DEAR F.F.T.: Hold one hand up, palm outward. Continue chewing and swallow your food. Point out that the person "caught you with your mouth full," and then answer the question.

Shouldn't The First Gift  
You Open This Christmas Be From God?



You are invited to our Celebration and the miracle of God's Gift - the birth of Jesus Christ.

## Christmas Eve Services

6:00 PM Family Service  
Holy Eucharist with Children's Sermon  
11:00 PM Festive Choral Eucharist

## St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

727 W. Browning Avenue • 806-665-0701

Everyone Is Welcome All Family Members And Friends

## Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Intermediate

## Cable TV The EASY Digital Transition

On February 17, 2008, TV stations will begin broadcasting only digital signals.

Get  
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Now's the time to switch to Cable ONE. We've got the EASY Digital Transition Solution. You won't have to buy a special box or get a new TV. With Cable ONE Lifetime Level of Service you get:

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