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# The PAMPA NEWS



Saturday, March 2, 2013 www.thepampanews.com Volume 108 • No. 252

**\$1.50** Blizzard brings out best in Pampa | p4  
75¢ weekdays Knights of Columbus sausage dinner | p3  
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The Pampa News Sports Briefs | p1C, 2C

## City sets General Election for May 11

■ Mixed-drink referendum will appear on ballot.

By SASHA HELLER  
sheller@thepampanews.com

The Pampa City Commission at a special called meeting Friday afternoon voted unani-

mously to adopt an ordinance setting a General Election for May 11 to elect a mayor and commissioners for Wards 1 and 3.

The election ballot will also feature a mixed-drink referendum in which citizens can vote either for or against allowing mixed drinks to be served in restaurants — by food and beverage certificate holders only —

within city limits.

Commissioners Robert Dixon and Karen McLain were absent from Friday's meeting.

The ordinance passed on Friday validates the petition filed on Dec. 26, signed by more than 1,300 citizens, to call for a local option liquor election.

Ballot items will also be printed in Spanish.

The designated polling loca-

tion will be at M.K. Brown Memorial Auditorium, 1000 N. Sumner. Polling hours will run from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted at City Hall, 200 W. Foster, on the second floor, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., between April 29 to May 7; and from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., on April 30 and May 1.

Applications for ballot by

mail should be sent to city secretary Karen Price, P.O. Box 2499, Pampa, TX 79066-2499. Applications must be received no later than 5 p.m., May 3.

In other business, Mayor Brad Pingel announced that the Commission will meet at 4 p.m., Tuesday, to execute the remaining portion of the agenda from the Feb. 26 meeting that was cancelled due to snow.

## New PISD admin facility inches closer to \$6M

■ Without contingency costs added, total potential impact is \$5.8M.

By SASHA HELLER  
sheller@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Independent School District (PISD) school board met Thursday night to hear an update from SHW principal architect Monte Zajick and general contractor Wiley Hicks Jr. concerning the district's new central administration facility.

"At this point, we are 100 percent finished with design and development," Zajick said.

included info on design plans, choices for tiles and bricks and selections for paneling but, more importantly, he provided an updated set of construction costs for the 60,000-square-foot facility to be built in the rebranded Las Pampas Square.

"Budget is a big concern," Zajick said. "We're going to talk about that."

The current estimated cost of construction is \$5.27 million. When factoring in sec-

PISD cont. on page 3



Photo by Sasha Heller  
SHW principal architect Monte Zajick, left, distributes materials to the Pampa ISD school board concerning the district's new central administration facility.

## County Commission rejects HB 958

■ Bill would lower county employee retirement benefits from 7 to 5 percent.

By SASHA HELLER  
sheller@thepampanews.com

The Gray County Commissioners Court on Friday adopted a resolution that condemns HB958, which would reduce the interest credit rate on all Texas County and District Retirement System (TCDRS) funds from 7 percent to 5 percent.

In short, county employees would receive less retirement benefits than they are currently receiving.

Gray County Judge Richard Peet said he doesn't expect

the bill to garner enough support in the State House of Representatives to pass.

"It looks like it will not get out of committee," Peet said.

The commissioners were unclear on Friday if current retired county employees drawing benefits from the system would be affected by the bill or if they would be "grandfathered" in. If not, they would stand to lose up to 17 percent of the benefits they would receive if the bill does pass. Current county employees who have

BILL cont. on page 5

## Crossing guard is a guardian angel



Photo by Zachary Green

Bill Gillis waits for the light to turn red before taking a couple of kids across Duncan Street on Thursday afternoon after school. Gillis has been the crossing guard at Austin Elementary for the past 10 years.

■ Students at Austin Elementary have a friend in Gillis.

By ZACHARY GREEN  
zgreen@thepampanews.com

If you have ever driven down Duncan Street in front of Austin Elementary before or after school, you might have wondered who the crossing guard is that helps children across the four-lane road.

That man is Bill Gillis and he has been working as the crossing guard for Austin Elementary for 10 years. Gillis also works part-time during the days at Bartlett's Lumber Company.

Gillis said he got the job as a crossing guard

because the police officer in charge of the crossing guards, Brent Watson, and the last crossing guard, Ray Green, were his friends. Green was the crossing guard for about three years before Gillis took over.

"When Green retired, Watson asked me to do the job," Gillis said. "I love the kids. You gotta love kids to do this job. They make it all worthwhile."

"Some kids give me hugs everyday. Some give me candy or cookies. Fridays are bubble gum days and the kids love to give me some of that on that day as well," Gillis added.

AUSTIN cont. on page 5

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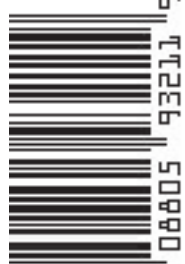
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## PAMPA FORECAST

Today Sunday Monday



High 41  
Low 25

High 66  
Low 40

High 53  
Low 28

**Today:** Sunny with a high of 41. Chance of rain is 10 percent. Winds north northwest at 20 mph. Sunrise at 7:13 a.m.

**Saturday night:** Mostly clear with a low of 25. Chance of rain is 10 percent. Winds northwest at 10 mph. Sunset at 6:39 p.m.

**Sunday:** Partly cloudy with a high of 66. Chance of rain is 10 percent. Winds 12 mph. Sunrise at 7:11 a.m.

**Sunday night:** Partly cloudy with a low of 40. Chance of rain is 10 percent. Winds west at 12 mph. Sunset at 6:41 p.m.

**Monday:** Sunny and windy with a high of 53 mph. No chance of rain. Winds north at 21 mph. Sunrise at 7:09 a.m.

**Monday night:** Partly cloudy with a low of 28. Chance of rain is 10 percent. Winds north northeast at 14 mph. Sunset at 6:42 p.m.

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**THE KNIGHTS** of Columbus annual Polish Sausage Dinner will be Sunday March 3 at the Knights of Columbus hall at 318 N. Cuyler from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Everyone is invited.

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# Obituaries

## Donna Laflin

Donna Laflin, age 54, of Lewisville, went home to be with her Lord and Savior Thursday, Feb. 28, 2013, at her home.

She was born Nov. 29, 1958 in Pampa, Texas to Carl L. Laflin and Myrtle Wheeler Laflin. Donna was preceded in death by her father, Carl L. Laflin. She is survived by her son, Kelly Kolb, and his dad, Dwain Kolb; mother, Myrtle Laflin, and sisters, Loretta Alaway and husband Don; Betty Parks and husband Don; three nieces, Crystal Alaway Vaquera, Sarah Alaway Britton and husband Brad, and Taylor Parks; one nephew, Joe Alaway; one great niece, Rebeca Vaquera, and one great nephew, Peyton Vaquera.

Donna graduated from Pampa High School in 1977 and went on to receive her Master's degree in accounting. Donna worked as an accounting supervisor for UPS for more than 30 years. She was an avid scrap-booker and loved the outdoors and riding motorcycles. Donna will be deeply missed by her family and friends.

A service to celebrate Donna's life will be held today at 2 p.m. at Mulkey-Mason Funeral Home of Lewisville. The family will receive friends from noon to 2 p.m. prior to the service. The family requests memorial contributions to be made to the American Diabetes Association.

For online condolences please visit [Mulkeymason.com](http://Mulkeymason.com).

## Pampa Fire Department call log — Feb. 26-28

The Pampa Fire Department responded to these calls for the dates indicated.

### Tuesday, Feb. 26

• At 12:35 p.m., one unit, three personnel responded to the 2000 block of North Coffee, lift assist.

• At 1:15 p.m., one unit, three personnel responded to the 1100 Crane Road, first responder (fire department arrives before ambulance).

• At 7:27 p.m., one unit, three personnel responded to the 2000 block of Coffee Street, public service call.

• At 7:38 p.m. one unit, three personnel, responded to the 8000 block of U.S. Highway 70 North, medical assist (fire department assists ambulance).

### Wednesday, Feb. 27

• At 11:47 a.m., one unit, four personal responded to the 1100 block of West Highway 60, medical as-

• 12:30 one unit, four personnel responded to the 1200 block of North Wells, first responder.

• 2:42 p.m. one unit, three personnel responded to the 1900 block of Faulkner, first responder.

### Thursday, Feb. 28

• At 10:24 a.m., one unit, three personnel responded to the 2300 block of North Hobart, first responder.

• At 10:58 a.m., one unit, three personnel responded to the 2300 block of North Hobart, first responder (different call than above).

• At 3 p.m. one unit, three personnel responded to the 800 block of North Russell, medical assist.

• At 4:55 p.m. one unit, three personnel responded to the 100 block of Neil Road, medical assist.

• At 11:26 p.m. one unit, three personnel responded to the 1100 block of Starkweather, first responder.

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# For the record

## 2 from Okla. arrested for drug possession

• Nicholas Andrew Burns, 25, and William Joseph Sanford, 32, both of Oklahoma City, were arrested Thursday by the Department of Public Safety for possession of marijuana greater than 2 ounces and less than 4 ounces and possession of a controlled substance greater than 400 grams.

• Jana Elizabeth Turlington, 38, Pampa, was arrested Friday by PPD for possession of a controlled substance greater than 1 gram and less than 4 grams.

• Josh Rodriguez, 18, Pampa, was arrested Thursday by the Pampa Police Department for capias pro fine — theft under \$50.

• Brett Wade Graves, 50, Pampa, was arrested Thursday by the PPD for possession of marijuana — U.S. Marshal's warrant, theft of property in Moore County, failure to appear in Moore County, theft under \$50, no valid driver's license, failure to maintain car insurance and failure to appear.

## Pa. schools locked down over student's bad 'rap'

AMBRIDGE, Pa. (AP) — Talk about a bad rap: a western Pennsylvania county locked down its schools after a doctor's receptionist thought a student's voice mail contained a threat about "shooting people outside of the school" when it was really just the student rapping the theme song from "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air."

The Beaver County lockdown happened Thursday after the receptionist called 911 after mishearing a line from the song which actually says, "And all shooting some b-ball outside of the school" — a harmless reference to playing basketball.

Economy police arrested the student, 19-year-old Travis Clawson, at Ambridge Area High School but let him go a short time later once he explained the message.

Clawson's family has contacted an attorney.

Acting police Chief James Mann says police acted "appropriately" because "our first concern is the safety of kids."

## Court reverses capital murder conviction

HOUSTON (AP) — A divided federal appeals court panel has thrown out the capital murder conviction of a former Fort Worth street gang leader sentenced to die for gunning down a Dallas father of four during an attempted robbery in 2001.

A three-judge panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled 2-1 on Friday that Nelson Gongora's constitutional rights were violated in comments by a Tarrant County assistant district attorney.

The prosecutor told trial jurors that Gongora's refusal to testify at his 2003 trial implied he was guilty.

Gongora was convicted of killing 36-year-old Delfino Sierra outside a party he was attending in Fort Worth.

The court has given Tarrant prosecutors six months to retry Gongora, resolve the case in some other manner or release him from prison.

## Corrections

An article in Thursday's paper on how the recent snowfalls will benefit agriculture in Gray County had Brandon McGinty's employer incorrect. McGinty is an extension agent for agriculture and natural resources for Texas A&M AgriLife Extension in Gray County. Also, a photo caption on page 3 of Wednesday's Optimist Basketball special section had an incorrect last name for one of coaches. Tiffany Reames is a coach for the White team. The Pampa News apologizes for the errors and wishes to set the record straight.

A XYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

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

3-2 CRYPTOQUOTE

J A U C Z I V U Z X V Z M E Z B U

T L X D A S Z F M V , A T L O V G Z U

C G V Q L H X Z D V C L Z P J A C

C G V J . — F X H Q V M V V

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: I THINK EVERYBODY HAS TO KIND OF DECIDE WHAT THE WORD "JAZZ" MEANS TO THEM, AND THAT'S FINE. — KENNY G

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10034

# PISD

Continued From Page 1

ondary expenses like furniture, equipment and contingency costs, the potential impact to the district's fund balance is a projected \$6.01 million. That estimated figure includes \$250,000 in contingency costs which, if not spent, would be returned to the district's general fund.

The projected cost figures have continued to increase since the board's initial design meetings, where the construction cost was an estimated \$5.14 million and the potential financial impact was \$5.87 million.

"My goal, early on, was to do my best to keep this thing under \$6 million," Zajick said.

He added that the total price can be adjusted by using alternate, less expensive materials for various items, like the three-form paneling selected for the lobby.

"That stuff is expensive," he said.

Pampa ISD superintendent Dr. David Young reported that district officials have kept a watchful eye on the project's expected financial impact.

"We spent a lot of time changing plastic to sheet rock," he said.

Zajick noted that items like wood paneling can always be added later on and that the board could opt to go with painted walls instead during the initial construction phase.

"The number is an estimate number. I'm pretty

comfortable with our budget numbers. There is some room in the numbers, too," Hicks said, referring to available flexibility with expenses.

School board President Lee Porter reminded his fellow board members that funding used for building a new administration facility is money taken away from the students the district serves.

"Every dollar we're spending on the admin building is a dollar we're not spending on the kids," Porter said, adding that the board must continue to focus on the bottom line.

Board member Cay Warner stressed the value of the new facility and the role it will play in the Pampa community.

"If we don't have what's in the building, we don't have a school district. Our leader is in this building," she said, about Dr. Young. She added that the people who make the decisions that affect the district's students will also be housed in the new facility.

"This will be a cornerstone of the most valuable thing to our community," she said, referring to public education.

It's important to note that if a consumer were to construct a building, from scratch, the same size as what is planned for the new facility, they would pay \$12 million with \$200 per square-foot at 60,000 square-feet. However, by choosing to refurbish the old Albertson's grocery store, the school board essentially saved \$6 million.

# K of C to host 61st Polish sausage supper

STAFF REPORT

One of the city's longest standing traditions will continue tomorrow when the Knights of Columbus hosts its 61st annual Polish Sausage supper.

The dinner will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus lodge at 318 N. Cuyler St. in Pampa. Plates cost \$10 each, and people have the option to dine there or do take out.

New this year will be a drive-thru window, said John Perez, who has been a Knight for 11 years.

Last year the Knights sold about 300 plates, Perez said.

The money will go toward the organization's scholarship fund for high school students. The group plans to award two scholarships this spring.



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare

Knights of Columbus member John Perez said he is excited about Sunday's Polish sausage dinner, which is a fundraiser for the organization's scholarship program.

## UK's 'naked rambler' arrested for nudity, again

LONDON (AP) — A British man who has spent most of the past decade naked — and in jail — was back behind bars Friday after defying an order to cover up.

Stephen Gough, known as the "Naked Rambler," was arrested Thursday as he left a court in Southampton, southern England, wearing only boots, socks and a knapsack.

A judge had just imposed

an order that he must "wear sufficient clothing in public to at least cover his genitalia and buttocks."

The 54-year-old former Royal Marine appeared at the same court Friday, and was ordered detained until a hearing on March 25.

Since 2003 Gough has completed two naked walks the length of Britain, with frequent interruptions for arrests, court appearances and jail time.

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# A dentist with heart

A new program offered by a Pampa dentist is like "Extreme Home Makeover" ...but for smiles!

Dr. Jay Johnson's office is accepting applications for area residents who might benefit from an improved smile or better chewing function ... for free! "We want to give back to a deserving person in our area—someone who maybe has spent so much time caring for others or dealing with personal struggles that they have not had time or means to take care of their own needs."

Dr. Johnson's office is encouraging people in the community to nominate someone who really needs treatment and who they believe is more deserving than anyone else. "We are looking for someone who would have a better opportunity for career advancement if they had the confidence to smile, a parent or grandparent who has unselfishly sacrificed for their family, or someone who might enhance their self-esteem, giving them more confidence to pursue their own personal goals."

Johnson said his staff is excited about the opportunity to help a deserving friend. "We hope this will be the first of many people in our area we can help."

To pick up a nomination packet, please stop by Jay A. Johnson, DDS, Inc. at 2427 N. Hobart St. before Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. A selection will be announced March 31<sup>st</sup>. Call 806.665.0921 for more information.

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# Viewpoints

**The PAMPA NEWS**

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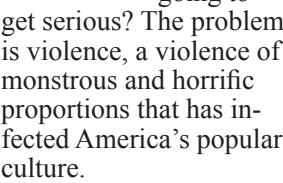
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## Dialogue required for violent video games

The Obama administration's assault on the Second Amendment in reaction to Newtown is not a serious solution. It's a Band-Aid on cancer. The NRA's call for armed guards in every school also misses the point. When is anyone going to get serious? The problem is violence, a violence of monstrous and horrific proportions that has infected America's popular culture.



**L. BRENT BOZELL**

The Hartford Courant reported that during a search of Newtown grade-school killer Adam Lanza's home after the shootings, "police found thousands of dollars worth of graphically violent video games." No, Virginia, not everyone who has ever played a violent video game is an assassin in training. "However, a comprehensive review of more than 381 effects from studies involving more than 130,000 participants around the world shows that violent video games increases aggressive thoughts, angry feelings, physiological arousal (e.g., heart rate, blood pressure), and aggressive behavior." Neither gun makers nor video game makers mean for their products for mass shootings, but politicians like Obama have singled out the gun makers and gone soft on their entertainment-industry campaign donors. Somehow, Democrats isolate the inherent evil of a gun almost as if it's self-shooting, while denying our violent media has any influence on these under-21 shooters.

Rep. Frank Wolf of Virginia requested a study from the National Science Foundation and was disappointed that Obama's State of the

Union only focused on gun control. "While I recognize the potential constitutional issues involved in tackling media violence, mental health parity and gun control, I am disappointed that mental health issues and media violence were left out of the president's address," Wolf said.

The NSF report acknowledged that a link between violent media and real-world violence can be contentious, but explained, "Anders Breivik, who murdered 69 youth in Norway, claims he used the video game 'Modern Warfare 2' as a military simulator to help him practice shooting people. Similarly, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, who murdered 13 fellow students in Colorado, claimed they used the violent video game 'Doom' to practice their shooting rampage."

Neither gun makers nor video game makers mean for their products for mass shootings, but politicians like Obama have singled out the gun makers and gone soft on their entertainment-industry campaign donors. Somehow, Democrats isolate the inherent evil of a gun almost as if it's self-shooting, while denying our violent media has any influence on these under-21 shooters.

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*L. Brent Bozell III is the president of the Media Research Center. To find out more about Brent Bozell III, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.*

## Snow storm brings out best in Pampans

Often times when a big snow-storm or other severe weather event hits, a state of chaos ensues.

During blizzards in Buffalo, N.Y. or other communities in the East, you will often see on TV rows of cars stuck in drifts and hear reports of people keeling over while shoveling snow.

And though there may have been such incidents in other parts of the Panhandle, this was not the case in Pampa where residents chose to stay indoors and stay out of harm's way.

The police and fire departments had no reports of incidents related to the crippling snow storm and, for two days in a row, no one was arrested and booked into the Gray County Jail according to the daily jail log.

Schools, churches and civic

### Our View

This editorial reflects the views of The Pampa News' editorial board. Other opinions on this page may not reflect this view.

organizations canceled or postponed events so motorists would not have to be out on the roads.

The Pampa News used its Facebook page as a clearing-house for all the closures and weather updates, and thousands of people visited the site. Thanks for visiting.

We especially want to thank those folks who are social-media savvy with helping us keep the site updated.

The two craziest people in town during Monday's blizzard were probably The Pampa News staffers who walked to and from work. The walk into

work wasn't so bad because we had the wind behind us, but when we left around 2 p.m. and had to walk directly into that wind — well, that's another story.

One positive outcome of the storm, combined with two lesser snowfalls in February, is the benefit the precipitation will have on farming and ranching after a two-year drought.

But the most positive outcome of the storm is how everyone in Pampa pulled together and made it through without anybody getting killed in a wreck or having a heart attack shoveling snow.

There's still a few more weeks of winter. So if we do get another blizzard, let's keep up the good work and pull through it just like we did with the one this week.



### How To Write Us

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

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

**By Fax:**  
806-669-2520

**By U.S. mail:**  
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The Pampa News  
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## Ten reasons I wish George Washington were still alive — part 2

To commemorate Presidents Day and Washington's Birthday, last week I highlighted the first four of the top 10 reasons



**CHUCK NORRIS**

epitomized courage.

8) Washington wasn't afraid of public opinion or challenging the status quo.

7) Washington was a man of integrity and character yet just as human as the rest of us.

Here are a few more of the reasons I wish Washington were still alive and why I believe the model of his life is still worthy to shadow today (These are also the reasons I cited in my New York Times best-seller "Black Belt Patriotism," which has an expanded paperback edition.)

6) Washington was a first-class servant leader who walked what he talked. He believed so firmly in our newly founded but poor republic that he took no pay for his service during the Revolutionary War (besides official expenses). And after eight long years of leading the war and retiring to his peaceful estate at Mount Vernon, he re-enlisted rather than stay retired. It is amazingly commendable — if not astonishing — that Washington came out of military retirement to serve two terms

as president. He even had to borrow money to pay off debts and travel to his own inauguration.

5) Washington didn't allow personal obstacles to hinder his service to God, his country and his family. Among other sicknesses, according to Fox News, beginning at the age of 17, Washington suffered multiple malaria attacks throughout his life. He even had a case of smallpox and dysentery and struggled with depression and hearing loss.

In 1779, during the middle of the Revolutionary War, Washington "feared for his survival," not from bullets but from an abscess of the tonsils. And after all he had been through, at 57 years old, with his war-torn body and reportedly only a single real tooth in his mouth, Washington left behind the comfort of his estate on the edge of the Potomac River and traveled eight days to New York, where he was sworn in as president.

4) Washington was a devoted family man.

In 1759, at 26 years of age, Washington married widow Martha Dandridge Custis. Though Martha and George had no children, he adopted her daughter and son from her former marriage. They also provided personal and financial support to nephews, nieces and other extended family members.

If it's true that behind every great man is a great woman (and it is, as evidenced by my wife, Gena, who does more for me and others than the world will ever know), then Washington's wife,

Martha, is definitely to be credited for part of the power behind the myth of the Father of Our Country. For example, for each of the eight years of the Revolutionary War, Martha came to Washington's winter encampments (including Valley Forge) to boost his morale, as well as the other officers' morale.

No doubt Martha's initial struggle to support Washington's departure as president must have had some emotional connection to her finally having him home at Mount Vernon after his service in the Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention and his eight years of leading the war. Though Martha refused to attend his inauguration, she stood by her man by living with him at the temporary U.S. capitals New York and Philadelphia.

Though Martha and George had a strong relationship, there's no doubt he had a lifelong love interest in the beautiful and intellectually astute Sally Fairfax — the wife of his friend George William Fairfax — whom he met when he was just 16. Sally's father never would have allowed her to marry someone other than a man from a wealthy family like theirs, and Washington didn't fit the bill.

Mount Vernon historians noted how Sally "remained ever faithful to her marriage" yet a good friend of the Washingtons'. In 1773, she moved with her husband to England, where he died in 1787. In 1798, just a year before Washington's death, he wrote to

Sally, urging her to return to Virginia. He added, "(Nothing has) been able to eradicate from my mind the recollection of those happy moments, the happiest in my life, which I have enjoyed in your company." Sally never returned and died alone in England in 1811.

No man is perfect, and that included George Washington. He himself confessed: "We must take human nature as we find it. Perfection falls not to the share of mortals." Remembering that was likely the key to his humility, service and mercy to others. Maybe his own struggle to receive the Holy Eucharist when he attended services at an Anglican church was born from his wrestling with his own humanity and possibly even the human toll that incurred when he was leading the war.

George was married to Martha for roughly 40 years. Just before her death in 1802, Martha destroyed nearly all of Washington's letters to her, though three did survive.

Next week, I will finish my top 10 and discuss how some people today view Washington as yesterday's presidential billionaire mogul. For more on the monumental figure, I recommend the amazing book "George Washington's Sacred Fire," by Peter Lillback and Jerry Newcombe.

*Follow Chuck Norris through his official social media sites, on Twitter @chucknorris and Facebook's "Official Chuck Norris Page."*

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**MEMBER 2012**

**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

## AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH



Photo submitted by Charlene Gardner

Pampa Mayor Brad Pingel earlier this week proclaimed March as "American Red Cross Month." Pictured with Pingel are members of the Eastern Texas Panhandle Chapter of the American Red Cross. They are, from left, Judge Vernon H. Cook, Chairman of the Board; Steve Pair, Executive Director; Cindy Nickell, area manager and Fred Courtney, emergency management coordinator for the City of Pampa.

## Austin

Continued From Page 1

Gillis said he gets to Austin every morning at about 7:15 a.m., leaves around 8:45 a.m. to work at Bartlett's, and then returns to Austin at 2:30 p.m. He goes home for the day around 3:45 p.m.

"It gets interesting when the spotlight goes out to the point where I almost get hit by drivers," Gillis said. "That is my biggest wish is that drivers will slow down, watch the light and watch out for the kids."

Gillis said the relationship with the Pampa Police Department is great.

"PPD sends an officer out once a week to all the schools to assist in traffic flow," he said. "I wish they could come more often, but they just don't have the manpower."

When asked about how he deals with inclement weather, Gillis said, "People take care of me. I

have had parents bring me a cup of hot coffee, mats to keep the kids out of the water and earmuffs to keep my ears warm."

Gillis' supervisor is PPD school resource officer Troy Reeves, who works out of Pampa High School.

"The kids seem to enjoy him, they like talking to him," Reeves said. "If I fill in for him, they always ask where he is at. I think he does a great job with the kids and ensuring their safe passage across the street."

Gillis enjoys working with the kids and takes pride in their safety.

In fact, when The Pampa News went out to interview him, he was placing ramps for the children to keep from getting wet in puddles.

He also made a rut in the snow with his truck so the children would not have to walk through a six-inch snow pile or mud as there is no sidewalk on the west side of the road down 20th Street.

## Bill

Continued From Page 1

not begun drawing retirement benefits would also be affected.

"I would encourage this court, as I have found nearly every county...to reject this legislation," Peet said.

The bill was filed by State Rep. Rob Orr (R-Burleson). Members from Orr's staff have reported that the bill would give counties more control over distributing its retirement benefits. The commissioners took issue with that report.

Peet explained that Gray County employees contribute 7 percent of their paychecks into the county's retirement system. The county then matches that figure by contributing 8 percent. None of the funding funneling into the retirement system comes from the state.

"It's a good retirement system, compared to

some other companies," Peet said.

Officials with the Texas Association of Counties have publicly spoken out against the bill as well. A statement from the Association reads, "The TCDRS Board did not seek this legislation as the majority of our county and district employees have expressed support to maintain TCDRS as it currently exists."

In other business, the Commission:

- Modified the burn ban currently in effect. The ban has been temporarily lifted due, in part, to the heavy snowfall that fell recently in Gray County. However, if wind speeds reach 23 mph or above, the ban goes back into effect and residents cannot burn items on their properties.

- Approved tax bids for: \$400 from Misty Parish for Lots 3-12, Block 5, Thut Heights, City of Lefors; and \$300 from Clarence Buchanan for Lots 3 and 4, Block 13, Shaw Addition, City of Lefors.

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## Ban begins of single-use bags at Austin stores

■ Lawsuit from Texas retailers pending.

BY JOHN MICHAELSON  
 Texas News Service

AUSTIN — The phrase "paper or plastic" is slowly disappearing from the lexicon of shoppers in Austin. A new ordinance that bans single use bags in favor of reusable takes effect Friday.

"The single use bags wreak a lot of havoc for such a small part of the waste stream," said Andrew Dobbs, program director with the Texas Campaign for the Environment. "They end up creating problems with our recycling facilities, with our storm drains, with our wastewater facilities with litter. They kill wildlife."

The Texas Retailers Association (TRA) has filed suit over Austin's ban, claiming it violates state law. While the case is pending, the TRA is advising its members to comply with the ordinance.

With the move away from single use bags, Austin joins Brownsville, South Padre Island and

Fort Stockton, and Dobbs said the number will keep growing.

"Austin is pretty bold in taking care of both the plastic and paper bag," he said. "But it's something that's building around the country and around the world. People are recognizing that these products just don't have a future if we're going to be sustainable."

Among the cities currently pushing forward with similar efforts is Corpus Christi. An ordinance that would place a fee on plastic bags is being drafted, and is expected to come up for a vote later this spring.

Neil McQueen with the Coastal Bend Surfrider Foundation said in Corpus Christi it's definitely needed.

"We have a major issue here with plastic bags," he said, "probably because it's so windy and because we have so much water around here and a lot of tourism related to that water."

Nationally, reports indicate only 1 to 3 percent of plastic bags are recycled, with almost 100 billion plastic bags thrown away every year.

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**CULBERSON'S Spotlight**

**Jim Formway**

Jim Formway has been with Culberson Stowers for 11 years this year. He began in the automotive industry in 1964. He graduated from Clarendon High school in 1963. This was the same year he married his wife of 50 years, Jeannie. They have one daughter, Kimberly and two adorable grandsons, Chesson and Ceder. Jim is ASC Certified & Factory Trained. He is very experienced in all makes and models.

Jim said, "I have always enjoyed working on automobiles. I also enjoy the people I work with. Culbersons is a good place to work."

Richard Stowers said, "Jim is dedicated & hardworking. I know when he works on a vehicle it's done with care and professionalism, backed with years of knowledge. You can't find an employee like Jim, just anywhere. We are fortunate to have him at Culberson Stowers."

**The next time you bring your car or truck to Culbersons, look for Jim. He will get you back on the road in no time!**

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## The PAMPA NEWS Community Calendar

### City Commission meetings

The Pampa City Commission meets at 4 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. The meetings are held on the third floor of City Hall.

### School board meetings

The Pampa Independent School District board meets at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Check The Pampa News for meeting locations.

### County Commission meetings

The Gray County Commission meets at 9 a.m. on the 1st and 15th of each month. If the date falls on a Saturday, the meeting will be held on Friday. If the date falls on a Sunday, the meeting will be held on Monday. The meetings are held on the second floor of the Gray County Courthouse.

### PAWS meets second Tuesdays

Pampa Animal Welfare Society meets the first Tuesday of each month in

the north meeting room at the Lovett Memorial Library. The meetings are at 6:30 p.m. and are open to the public. There is a desperate need for more members, especially when the new shelter opens. PAWS members are needed to work at the shelter from 3-5:30 p.m. each day and to work adoption days or take animals to the vets when needed, but mostly people are needed to love and work with the animals where they will be more adoptable. For more information, call the shelter after 3 p.m. at 669-5775 and ask for the PAWS volunteer.

### Jam sessions every Friday night

The Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center has a jam sessions every Friday night starting at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to play or listen. The center is located at 320 S. Cuyler St. For more information, call 806-664-0824.

### Meredith House presents live music

Meredith House, an assisted-living facility at

812 W. 25th Ave., has a band performing at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Saturday night. Join them for Western music, gospel and the classics. For more information, call 806-665-5668.

### Pampa Pride

The Pampa News will publish multiple special sections in a paper on March 29. Send us a story and/or picture you want featured. You may also bring the story to the paper. Submissions deadlines vary by section. Please get the stories in ASAP to increase the chances of the story being included. For more information, call 669-2525.

### Chamber annual awards banquet

The Pampa Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual awards banquet at 7 p.m., March 11, at the M.K. Brown Memoria Auditorium Heritage Room. The cost is \$25 per person and tickets can be purchased at the chamber. For more information, call 806-669-3241.

### Monday night dance club

The Monday night dance club meets from 7-9 p.m., each Monday, in the Pampa Chamber of Commerce building on the corner of Ballard and Kingsmill. Admission is \$3. Cold drinks and coffee are offered.

The club plays Country music from the 1940s, 50s, 60s and 70s. For more information, call Della at 806-665-2858.

### Carver School alumni, former teachers

Did you attend the Carver School before Pampa School District integrated? Or did you ever teach at Carver School? The Pampa News is working on an ongoing series that documents the Carver School and would like to share your stories, your memories of the school and your experiences there.

Contact reporter Sasha Heller at Sheller@thepampanews.com or call the news office at 669-2525.

### Lions Club fundraiser

The Lions Club is selling raffle tickets for a chance to win a vacation to Disney World. Tickets are \$5 and proceeds benefit the Texas Lions Camp and other Lions Club Charities. Tickets can be purchased from local Lions Club members.

For more information contact the paper at 669-2525 and ask for either ReDonn Woods or Zachary Green.

### Financial Peace University at Briarwood

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University, an eight-week financial planning course, will be offered at Briarwood Church, beginning at 7 p.m., March 28. Lessons include budgeting, relationships and money, getting out of debt, saving for emergencies and investing.

Briarwood Church is located at 1800 W. Harvester Ave.

Contact the church office 806-665-7201 for more information or to register.

### Jesus A. Mejia in concert

Jesus A. Mejia will perform on the piano and violin from 3:30-5 p.m., March 16 at the Woody Guthrie Center, 320 S. Cuyler St. Admission is free but donations are accepted.

For more information, contact Thelma Bray at 806-665-1180.

*Editor's note: Email submissions to thowsare@thepampanews.com. Submissions should be 100 words or less and written in the third person. Please include the title of the event, the date and time, physical address, the admission cost or whether it is a free event and a contact number and/or email address for the public.*

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## Florida man swallowed by sinkhole under bedroom

**BY CHRIS O'MEARA AND TAMARA LUSH**

Associated Press

SEFFNER, Fla. (AP) — A huge sinkhole opened up under a man's bedroom and swallowed him as he screamed for help.

He was missing Friday and feared dead.

Officials lowered equipment into the sinkhole but didn't see any sign of life. Jeremy Bush, who was at the home near Tampa, said it took him only seconds to get to

his brother's room about 11 p.m. Thursday. He jumped into the hole and dirt was quickly up to his neck.

"The floor was still giving in and the dirt was still going down, but I didn't care. I wanted to save my brother," he said. "But I just couldn't do nothing."

Jeremy Bush had to be helped out of the sinkhole by a Hillsborough County sheriff's deputy. Bush stood in a neighbor's yard across the street from the house

Friday and recounted the harrowing collapse.

"He was screaming my name. I could swear I heard him hollering my name to help him," he said of his brother.

Engineers worked to determine the size of the sinkhole.

At the surface, officials estimated it was about 30 feet across. Below the surface, officials believed it was 100 feet wide.

From the outside of the small, sky blue house, nothing appeared wrong. There wear no cracks and

the only sign something was amiss was the yellow caution tape circling the house.

Jeremy Bush's wife and his 2-year-old daughter were also inside the house. "She keeps asking where her Uncle Jeff is," he said. "I lost everything. I work so hard to support my wife and kid and I lost everything."

Hillsborough County Sheriff's Deputy Douglas Duvall said he helped Jeremy Bush as the bedroom was still collapsing. "I reached down and

was able to actually get him by his hand and pull him out of the hole. The hole was collapsing. At that time, we left the house," Duvall said.

Hillsborough County Fire Rescue spokeswoman Jessica Damico said when Duvall arrived, there was nothing left of the bedroom.

"There was no furniture. All he saw was a piece of the mattress sticking up," she said.

"We put engineering equipment into the sink-

hole and didn't see anything compatible with life," Damico said. "The entire house is on the sinkhole."

Neighbors on both sides of the home have been evacuated.

Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office spokesman Larry McKinnon said authorities asked sinkhole and engineering experts, and they were using equipment to see if the ground can support the weight of heavy machinery needed for the recovery effort.



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# Deadline for claims must be postmarked by March 25

SUBMITTED BY USDA

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said on Feb. 8 that Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers who allege discrimination by the USDA in past decades that there are 45 days remaining in the filing period closing March 25.

"Hispanic and women farmers who believe they have faced discriminatory practices in the past from the USDA have 45 days left to file a claim in order to have a chance to receive a cash payment or loan forgiveness," Vilsack said. "USDA urges potential claimants to contact the Claims Administrator for information and mail their claim packages on or before March 25, 2013."

The process offers a voluntary alternative to litigation for each Hispanic or female farmer and rancher who can prove that USDA denied his or her application for loan or loan servicing assistance for discriminatory reasons for certain time periods between 1981 and 2000. As announced in February 2011, the voluntary claims process will make available at least \$1.33 billion for cash awards and tax relief payments, plus up to \$160 million in farm debt relief, to eligible Hispanic and women farmers and ranchers. There are no filing fees to participate in the program.

The Department will continue reaching out to potential Hispanic and female claimants around the

country to get the word out to individuals who may be eligible for this program so they have the opportunity to participate.

Call center representatives can be reached at 1-888-508-4429. Claimants may register for a claims package (by calling the number or visiting the website) or may download the forms from the website. All those interested in learning more or receiving information about the claims process and claims packages are encouraged to attend meetings in your communities about the claims process and contact the website at any time or call center telephone number Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern Time.

Website: [www.farmer-claims.gov](http://www.farmer-claims.gov)

Phone: 1-888-508-4429  
Claims Period: Sept. 24, 2012 - March 25, 2013.

Independent legal services companies will administer the claims process and adjudicate the claims. Although there are no filing fees to participate and a lawyer is not required to participate in the claims process, persons seeking legal advice may contact a lawyer or other legal services provider.

Under Secretary Vilsack's leadership, USDA has instituted a comprehensive plan to strengthen the Department as a model

service provider and to ensure that every farmer and rancher is treated equally and fairly as part of "a new era of civil rights" at USDA. In February 2010, the Secretary announced the Pigford II settlement with African American farmers, and in October 2010, he announced the Keepseagle settlement with Native American farmers. Both of those settlements have since received court approval. Unlike the cases brought by African American and Native American farmers, the cases filed by Hispanic and women farmers more

than a decade ago were not certified as class actions. The claims process provides a voluntary alternative to continuing litigation for Hispanic and female farmers and ranchers who want to use it. Audio and video public service announcements in English and Spanish from Secretary Vilsack and downloadable print and web banner ads on the Hispanic and women farmer claims process are available at: [http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentidonly=true&contentid=PSAs\\_Print\\_and\\_Web-Banner\\_Ads.xml](http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentidonly=true&contentid=PSAs_Print_and_Web-Banner_Ads.xml).

## Drivers get small break at pump, statewide average down one cent

SUBMITTED BY AAA TEXAS

Thursday's statewide average for a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline in Texas was \$3.63, according to the AAA Texas Weekend Gas Watch.

That price is one cent less than one week ago and 15 cents less than the national average which is now \$3.78. Drivers in Dallas are paying the most on average at \$3.68 and drivers in El Paso are paying the least at \$3.48.

The recent surge in retail prices has been driven only somewhat by rising crude oil prices but more as a result of refinery maintenance and issues. This has meant less gasoline being produced and fewer supplies, which has caused prices to go higher.

This year's refinery maintenance schedule and

switch-over to summer-blend gasoline production appears to be more dramatic than recent years and is taking place earlier than last year.

Global demand continues to keep upward pressure on gas prices despite unremarkable domestic demand due to a still recovering economy, high unemployment and more fuel efficient vehicles on the road. In particular, China (the second largest oil-consumer after the U.S.) saw crude oil demand hit a record high in January.

"Drivers in Texas are now paying about \$51 to fill up the typical 14-gallon size fuel tank," said AAA Texas/New Mexico Representative Doug Shupe. "People planning spring break trips are encouraged to use AAA's fuel cost calculator [www.fuelcostcalculator.aaa.com](http://www.fuelcostcalculator.aaa.com)

to get a fuel cost estimate for their trip based on real-time gas prices."

To help consumers identify quality auto repair shops that can assist in the maintenance and repair of their vehicles, AAA offers the Approved Auto Repair program as a free public service. AAA-approved repair facilities meet and maintain high professional standards for training, equipment, cleanliness and customer service. Motorists can look for the Approved Auto Repair sign at local auto repair facilities, or search for a nearby AAA-approved shop online at [AAA.com/Repair](http://AAA.com/Repair). AAA Texas can be visited on the Internet at [www.AAA.com](http://www.AAA.com). Follow AAA Texas on Twitter: @AAATexas and Facebook: [www.facebook.com/AAA-Texas](http://www.facebook.com/AAA-Texas).

## 'Boots and Ballots' military voter resources tour launched

SUBMITTED

AUSTIN — Texas Secretary of State John Steen recently launched an initiative, The Boots and Ballots Tour, by the Elections Division in the Office of the Texas Secretary of State, to prepare and provide military voters with additional resources to register to vote and participate in local, state and federal elections.

There are two Uniform Election dates in Texas this year; May 11 and Nov. 5.

"No one does more to protect our freedom and right to vote than the men and women of our armed services," Steen said. "So we must do everything we can to ensure they can participate in the very process they are serving and fighting to protect and defend."

To enhance the effectiveness of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UCAVA), this program will make additional voting information and resources

available to Voting Assistance Officers (VAOs) at military installations across Texas. The military voting section of Texas' voter resource website, [www.VoteTexas.gov](http://www.VoteTexas.gov), has been updated to include a new, simple check list and video demonstrating how military and overseas voters cast a ballot through the Federal Post Card Application process (FPCA). The website also includes links to the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) and local county election officials.

Through this program, military and overseas voters are also being remind-

ed the FPCA permanently registers them to vote, and serves as a ballot request for a calendar year so they do not have to request a ballot each time an election is held.

A post-election survey of the 2012 General Election shows 54,005 military ballots were sent and 32,221 were counted.

By comparison, in 2010 49,789 military ballots were sent and 12,665 votes counted, while in 2008, just 24,915 military ballots were sent and 16,231 were counted.

For more information please visit [www.VoteTexas.gov](http://www.VoteTexas.gov), or [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov).

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## FEBRUARY LIONS CLUB SWEETHEART PINNINGS



Photos by Zachary Green

Lions Club member Shane Stokes pins both of the February sweethearts for the Lions Club. Above, Kristen Ladd. Below, Jacee Smith. Both were this month's February sweethearts for the Lions Club. Pampa mayor and Lions Club member Brad Pingel is also in both pictures. Female high school seniors are nominated by Lions Club members for sweetheart. Once a month, they choose one or two. In April, out of those sweethearts, one is chosen to represent the Lions Club at the district meeting.



## Caterpillars seized at UK airport

LONDON (AP) — British customs agents made a creepy discovery when an airline passenger was found with 207 pounds of caterpillars in his luggage.

The U.K. Border Force said Friday that inspectors at London's Gatwick Airport found the dried caterpillars shrink-wrapped in cellophane and packed into hessian bags carried by a passenger travelling from Burkina Faso via Istanbul.

The caterpillars were seized by authorities after the Feb. 23 find because they breached restrictions on importing animal products.

The 22-year-old passenger was let off with a warning.

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Annual membership meeting.

**Monday, March 4, 2013**  
7:00 p.m. at the Borger  
Community Activity Center on the  
campus of Frank Phillips College

## Pocket dialing calls police to Oregon drug deal

MOLALLA, Ore. (AP) — Police in the Oregon town of Molalla say a dispatcher received a cellphone call and overheard a drug deal taking place.

A phone in the woman's pocket inadvertently dialed 911 early Tuesday and dispatchers heard a conversation with a man about drugs.

An officer who arrived at the scene could be heard over the phone by dispatchers.

The officer found methamphetamine and arrested a 25-year-old man on multiple drug charges. The 25-year-old woman was cited for possessing marijuana — and hung up her phone.

## M16 sign draws looks, creates confusion

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. (AP) — A northern Michigan store's attempt to promote the sale of a lighter for grills modeled after an M16 military assault rifle is attracting attention and creating confusion.

The Traverse City Record-Eagle reports the sign outside Roy's General Store was changed to read: "GET YOUR M16 RIFLE HERE BEFORE IT IS OUTLAWEED."

Manager Rob Hentschel says most regular customers took it as a joke, knowing that the store sells ammunition but not guns. Some people, however, inquired about guns at the store. On Thursday, the sign read: "PILOT LIGHT OUT? FIRE 'ER BACK UP WITH AN M16 RIFLE."

The store has used a portable sign since the 1970s to attract attention. Past ones have included: "EAT HERE — GET GAS AND WORMS" to "IT'S TOO COLD TO CHANGE THE SIGN."

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# Officer: Zumba teacher had badge in her SUV

ALFRED, Maine (AP) — A Zumba instructor accused of prostitution had \$1,000 cash, a badge and state identification as an assistant investigator in her sport utility vehicle, according to testimony Friday by a police officer testifying in the trial of an insurance agent connected to the case.

Lawyers for Mark Strong say instructor Alexis Wright studied under Strong to become a private investigator. But a state police spokesman said Friday that licensed private investigators aren't allowed to carry badges.

There were no details on the badge. Other items

seized from Wright's office, studio and home included computers, hard drives, condoms, baby oil and personal lubricants, said Audra Presby, the lead investigator.

Strong, 57, of Thomaston, is on trial on 13 counts related to promotion of prostitution. Wright will be tried later.

Videos showed for jurors Thursday indicated Strong watched live video feeds from his Thomaston insurance office as Wright engaged in sexual encounters in which money changed hands 100 miles away in Kennebunk.

The defense contends

Strong was unfairly targeted because he was investigating alleged unprofessional conduct by Presby, who was reprimanded for having an affair with her boss, and other officers in the Kennebunk Police Department.

The defense contends Presby took a hard drive that allegedly contained Strong's findings to the Kennebunk Police Department, despite an understanding that computer devices seized from his home and business would be under control of state police.

The defense cross examination of Presby was expected to last throughout

the afternoon on Friday.

The prostitution scandal in the seaside community of Kennebunk attracted attention last fall after it was reported that Wright's ledgers indicated she made \$150,000 over 18 months.

Strong's attorneys contend he had an affair with 30-year-old Wright and helped finance her Pura Vida dance studio but that no crime was committed because he didn't recruit clients and didn't profit from the operation.

**37-pound tubby tabby Biscuit in need of home**  
ST. CHARLES, Mo. (AP)

— At 37 pounds, Biscuit is about the right weight for a 4-year-old — human, that is.

A St. Louis-area animal shelter is trying to find a new home for the sweet tabby with a sweet tooth.

Biscuit's salad days were spent pigging out, and now at roughly three times the weight of a healthy adult cat, he's restricted to about a cup of diet food per day.

His first owner, a disabled woman who fed him lots of treats, brought him to the St. Charles Animal Control shelter about a year ago because she could no longer care for him, Teresa Gilley,

the shelter's lead animal control officer, told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

"She didn't mean the cat any harm," Gilley said. "I just think she didn't know any better."

Another woman took him in but had to return him about a week ago because her new apartment doesn't allow pets, she said.

Gilley said the tubby tabby isn't crazy about his new low-calorie diet, but he has begun adjusting to it. When he arrived, Biscuit could only take a few steps before lying down and panting, but now he's showing increased energy.

[www.thepampanews.com](http://www.thepampanews.com)

## Weekly Menus

### Pampa Independent School District

**MONDAY, March 4**

Mini corn dogs or chicken nuggets, green beans, sliced potatoes, pineapple tidbits, fresh fruit

**Breakfast- Breakfast Pizza**

**TUESDAY, March 5**

Chicken spaghetti or rib b que, baked beans, carrot sticks, juice, garlic toast

**Breakfast- Donut, sausage patty**

**WEDNESDAY, March 6**

Fish strips or popcorn chicken, corn, broccoli florets, mixed fruit, fresh fruit, cornbread

**Breakfast- Waffle sticks, syrup**

**THURSDAY, March 7**

Soft taco or pizza, refried beans, tossed salad, juice, Spanish rice

**Breakfast- Biscuit, sausage patty**

**FRIDAY, March 8**

Grilled cheese sandwich or hamburger, french fries, black eyed peas, burger salad, peaches, fresh fruit

**Breakfast- Cereal, toast**

### Pampa Senior Citizens Center

**MONDAY, March 4**

Chicken fried steak or salmon patties, mashed potatoes, creamed peas, beets, northern beans, slaw, tossed salad, Jell-O, German chocolate cake, cheery cream pie, fruit cup, hot roll, cornbread

**TUESDAY, March 5**

Mesquite chicken breast/Spanish rice or swiss steak, sour cream potatoes, spinach, corn, pinto beans, slaw, tossed salad, Jell-O, orange streusel cake, chocolate icebox pie, fruit cup, hot roll, cornbread

**WEDNESDAY, March 6**

Roast beef brisket/brown gravy or cook's choice, mashed potatoes, Scandinavian blend, fried okra, beans, slaw, tossed salad, Jell-O, Boston cream pie, cheesecake, fruit cup, hot roll, cornbread

**THURSDAY, March 7**

Chicken strips or liver 'n onions, tator tots, turnip greens, fried squash, black eyed peas, slaw, tossed salad, Jell-O, dump cake, coconut cream pie, fruit cup, hot roll, cornbread

**FRIDAY, March 8**

Cod fish filet/hushpuppies or spaghetti & meatballs, potato wedges, Italian green beans, beans, slaw, tossed salad, Jell-O, brownies, apple cobbler, fruit cup, garlic breadstick, hot roll, cornbread

### Pampa Meals on Wheels

**MONDAY, March 4**

Spaghetti/meat sauce, green beans, bread stick, salad, cookies

**TUESDAY, March 5**

Polish sausage, cheese grits, mixed greens, cake

**WEDNESDAY, March 6**

Tater tot casserole, cabbage, black eyed peas, mixed fruit

**THURSDAY, March 7**

Hot dogs/buns, chili, onion rings, peaches cobbler

**FRIDAY, March 8**

Roast, okra/tomatoes, pinto beans, cornbread, pudding



## sunday horoscope

A baby born today has a Sun in Pisces and a Moon in Scorpio if born before 1:11 p.m. (PST). Afterward, the Moon will be in Sagittarius.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Sunday, March 3, 2013:

This year could be very special for you. You might feel more inspired than you have in many years. Use this gift well, especially if you are an artistic or creative type. You also might become more intuitive; follow your hunches. If you are single, you could meet someone who will introduce you to a different lifestyle. If you are attached, the two of you might take up a hobby or a commitment that makes you more visible as a couple. **SAGITTARIUS** thinks that he or she knows more than you do.

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

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ You are ready for an adventure. Taking a trip will help give you some time away from the stressful elements in your life. You might be amazed at what a change of scenery does for you. Tonight: Keep your mind busy.

This Week: Monday, you might want to run away, but you will be deep into a project by Wednesday.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ A loved one might invite you to join him or her. You could be pleasantly surprised at how interesting a new person is. Discuss different possibilities and new directions. Intense discussions mark your day. Tonight: Where the action is.

This Week: Discussions need to occur on an individual level if you are going to gain insight.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Keep reaching out to someone whom you care a lot about. Invite

this person to join you for a late brunch. You could have much more to discuss than you originally thought. Plan on visiting with this person more often. Tonight: Get a head start on tomorrow.

This Week: Others seek you out, so much so that you barely have a second for yourself.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You can get sucked into silliness just like anyone else. You also often get strong feelings and premonitions. You might want to listen to one today that might involve a key child or loved one. You enjoy your time with this person to the utmost. Tonight: Swap great ideas.

This Week: Focus on work and getting the job done.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ You could be on top of what needs to happen with a partner, but convincing him or her of that fact will take talent. You have a strong drive and a sense of what you want. Let this person develop the same. Confusion surrounds calls. Tonight: Follow your imagination.

This Week: You might have difficulty settling in.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Use the morning to the max. You could have some difficulty coming to terms with a certain domestic issue. There is little you can do but hope that the other party chills out. Only then can you work out this problem. Tonight: A little confusion over plans.

This Week: Come from a point of security, then add a touch of creativity.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ You might want to do something quite differently. You'll need to discuss it with those around you who will feel the change. Confusion surrounds plans. As a result, you probably won't do

what you thought you were going to do. Tonight: Meet friends. Catch up on news.

This Week: Go along with others; otherwise, you might want to cocoon.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Use the morning for any matter that is important or critical. By the afternoon, you naturally will kick back and enjoy yourself. You could over-indulge, and, before you know it, you might go to extremes. Listen to others' feedback. Tonight: Pick up the tab.

This Week: Balance your budget before shopping. Expect to be busy.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Come midafternoon, you'll switch from tortoise mode to hare mode. Don't be surprised if no one can keep up with you. A family member could be distressed, and he or she might need to have a conversation with you. This person needs your feedback. Tonight: All smiles.

This Week: You are on top of your game Monday and Tuesday.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ Go to church, meet up with friends or go for a jog, as you could have a lot of energy. In the afternoon, don't be surprised if you feel like going on a retreat. Do just that, but at

your home. Screen calls. Tonight: It is your time for you.

This Week: You go from low to high on Wednesday. Finally, you feel empowered.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ You might want to touch base with a parent in the morning. Invite him or her to brunch. Later in the day, friends will seek you out, and a good time could be had by all. Sometimes you need to let go. Learn to go with the flow more often. Tonight: Forget tomorrow. Live today.

This Week: Meetings could be very important.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You might be capable of seeing a situation from a more spiritual perspective than others. Understand how very different you are from many of the people around you. Invite family over for a favorite meal. Confusion could surround plans, so be precise. Tonight: Stay present.

This Week: Take responsibility and delegate.

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Actress Jessica Biel (1982), singer/songwriter Ronan Keating (1977), inventor Alexander Graham Bell (1847)

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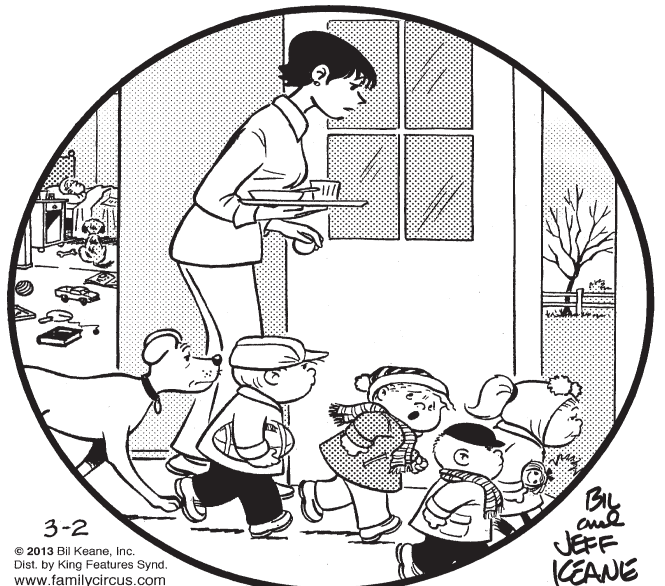
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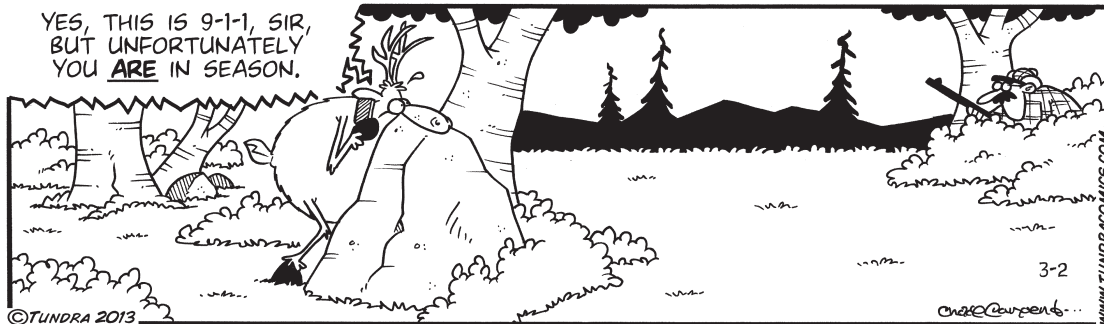
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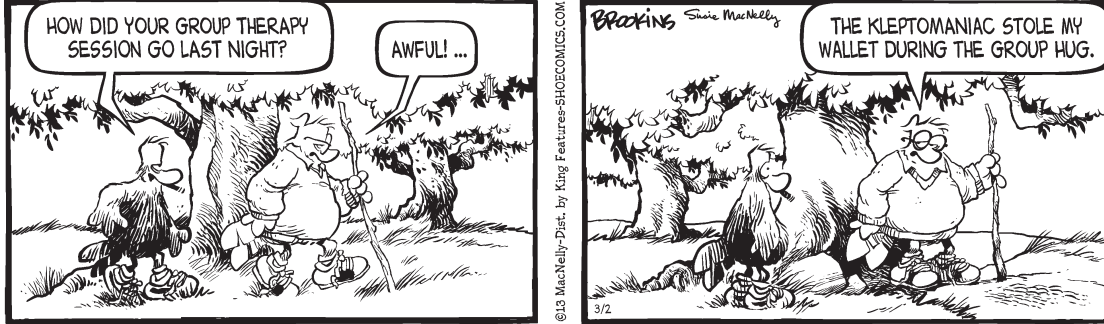
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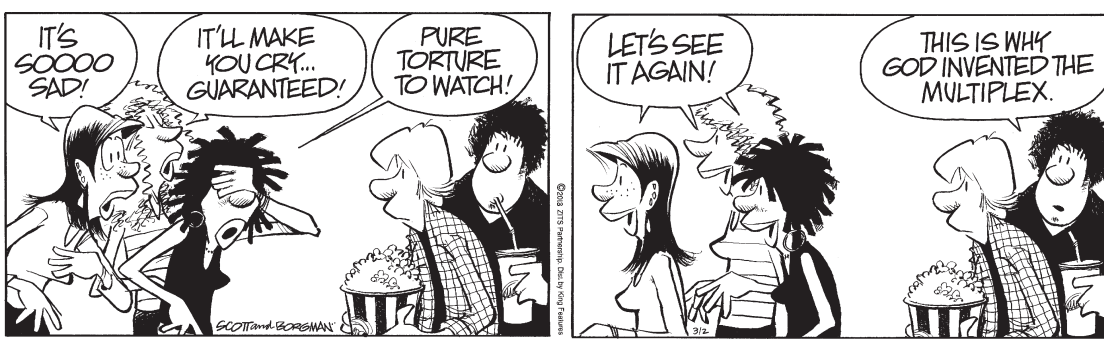
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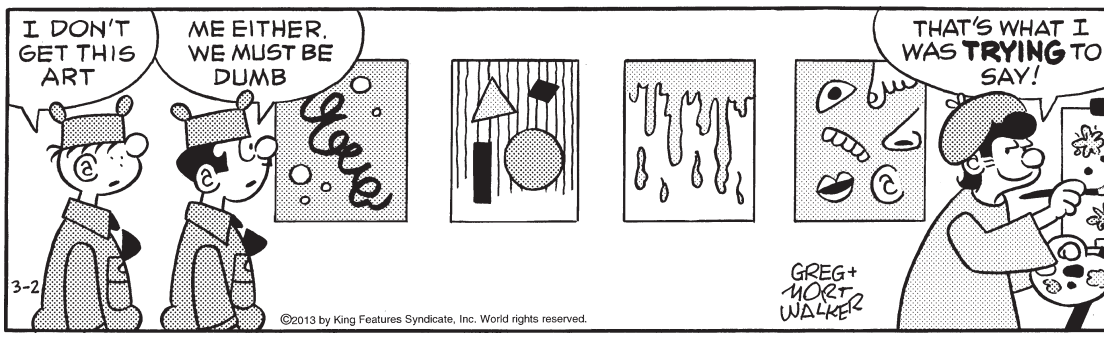
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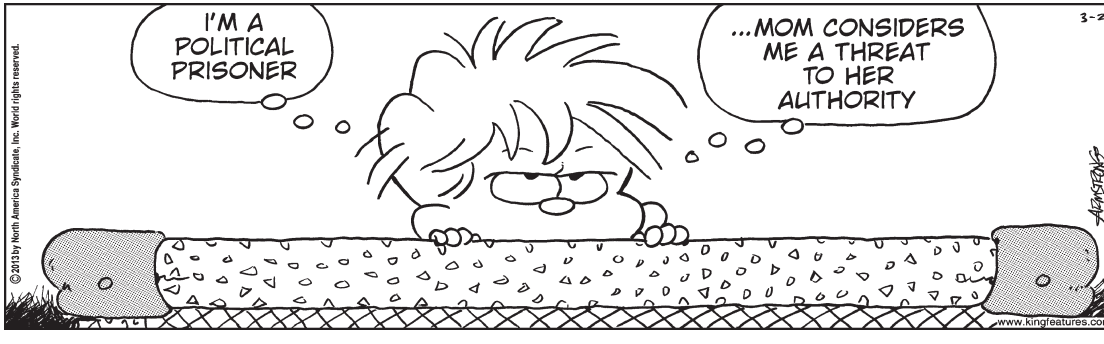
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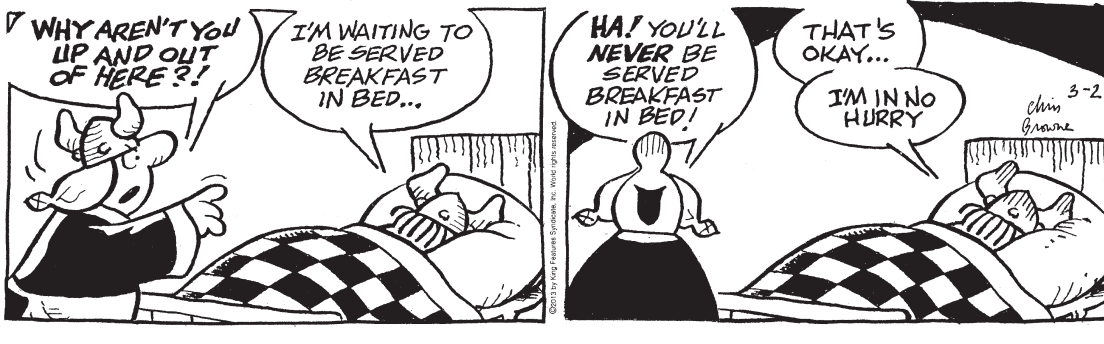
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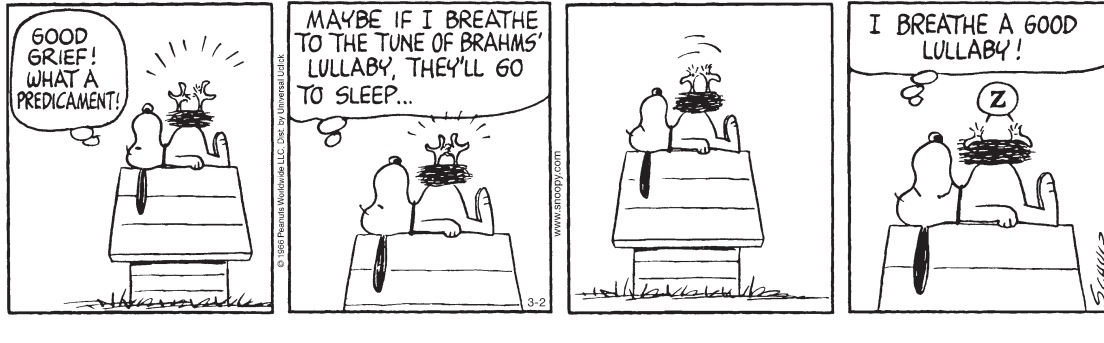
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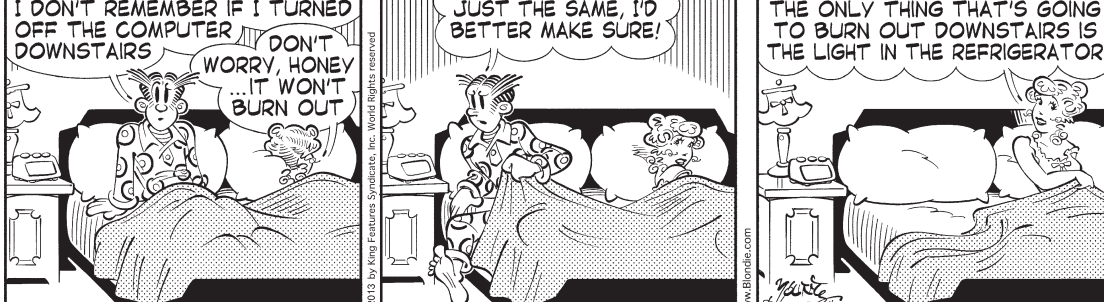
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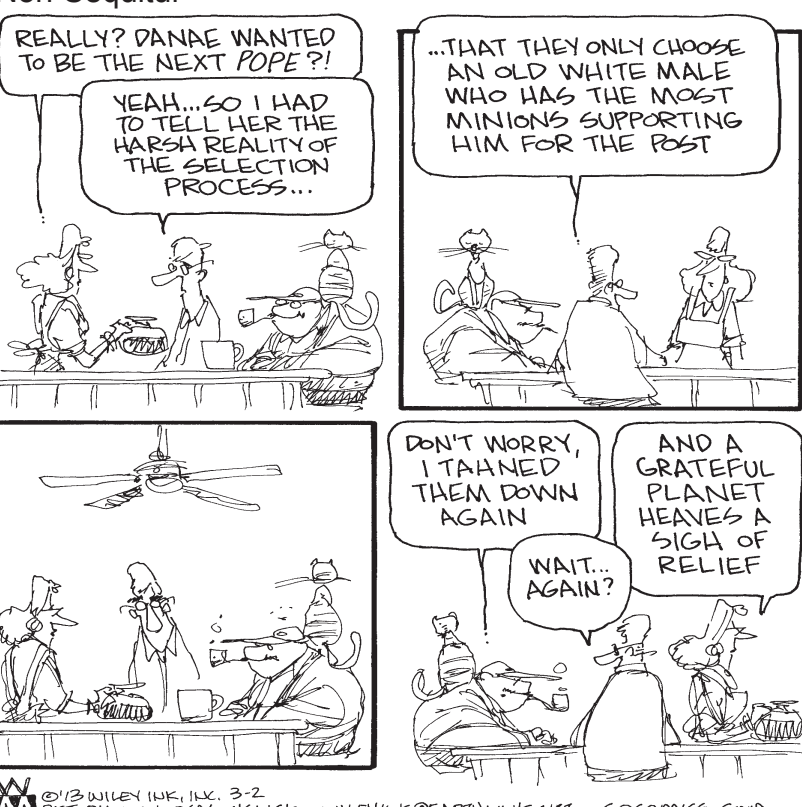
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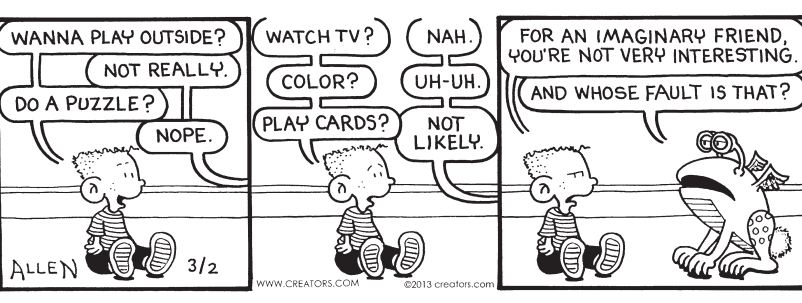
## Blondie



## Non Sequitur



## Nest Heads



# daily horoscope

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Monday, March 4, 2013:  
 This year tension often is the motivator that creates important events and opportunities in your life. Your career, your relationships and your public image become even more significant. Your family life serves as a foundation that seems indestructible. If you are single, take your time getting to know a potential suitor. You could meet this person quite easily, perhaps even on your way to work. If you are attached, bring your significant other into your public life. GEMINI cares deeply.  
 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)  
 ★★★ Tension forces you to evaluate each request you get today. Recognize that your plate is full. Prioritize your responsibilities, and some stress will evaporate. Avert a misunderstanding by clarifying and confirming information. Tonight: Partake in a favorite pastime.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
 ★★★ Sometimes an unimportant interaction can dominate your day. Avoid letting this type of distraction prevent you from dealing with a loved one. You see eye-to-eye with others, as was demonstrated in an earlier meeting. Good news involves a partnership. Tonight: Dinner for two.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
 ★★★★★ Defer to others, and know full well what must be done. Understand that Lady Luck is riding on your shoulder. You will gain a greater understanding of the interpersonal dynamics of an important partnership. Opportunities come through this person. Tonight: Say "yes."

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
 ★★★ Think rather than react. Sometimes you won't be able to stop yourself, but start the process anyway. Remind yourself of the negativity that can result from knee-jerk reactions. Opportunities will greet you more often with a little self-discipline. Tonight: Get a lot done.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
 ★★★★★ Open up your imagination, and let your ideas flow in a more upbeat manner. Others rarely see the complete dimension of your personality, and they could have odd responses at first. You don't want to push too far to have something go the way you'd like. Tonight:

Ever playful.  
**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
 ★★★ You are coming from a solid place, where understanding is enhanced to a level that might shock even you. Honor a change that occurs between you and someone else. As a result, you'll see eye-to-eye with this person. Tonight: Feeling pulled between two different possibilities.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
 ★★★ Excess spending -- or perhaps a different indulgence -- comes out. You could be too verbal for your own good and end up saying something unintentionally. Keep reaching out to someone at a distance, and show this person that you care. Tonight: Catch up on news.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
 ★★ Curb a need to be possessive or controlling. New beginnings become possible if you allow the other party to have more of a say. Confusion surrounds communication. Confirm that you and others are on the same page. Tonight: Before spending money, check your budget.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
 ★★★★★ Imagine being so stressed out by so many opportunities that you don't know which way to turn. You might even wonder if there can be such a thing as too much good news. You will tend to overindulge and not be as grounded as you'd like. Tonight: King or Queen of your domain.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
 ★★★ You would prefer to be an observer rather than a player today. You will be subject to several ups and downs as the day goes on. Get some exercise, and make sure that you are eating properly. Tonight: Get some extra R and R. You are going to need it.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
 ★★★★★ Your friends seem to seek you out. Even in a meeting, nearly everyone acts like your best friend. Listen to what is being shared. Your creativity soars with everything that is happening around you. If you choose to, give others some feedback. Tonight: Take notes.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
 ★★★ You shoulder many responsibilities. You handle these burdens so well that few people realize how much you actually do. A family member could throw a tantrum, as he or she might feel neglected. Give this person more of your time. Tonight: To the wee hours.

# Lifestyles

## Pampa Chamber Awards Banquet is March 11

STAFF REPORT

The Pampa Chamber of Commerce's 82nd Annual Awards Banquet will be at 7 p.m., March 11, in the Heritage Room of the M.K. Brown Memorial Auditorium. Tickets are \$25 per person and are still available at the Chamber Office. The banquet was originally set for Feb. 26 but was postponed due to the blizzard that fell on Pampa last week. Entertainer Suzie Humphreys will be the guest speaker.



For more info, contact the Chamber at 806-669-3241. Suzie Humphreys

www.thepampanews.com

## Cinderella's slipper: the new must have shoe

NEW YORK (AP) — There would be no "happily ever after" for Cinderella without her glitzy glass slippers, so careful attention was paid to the shoes for the princess-to-be's Broadway opening this weekend. For "Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella," which officially opens Sunday at the Broadway Theatre, costume designer William Ivey Long and footwear designer Stuart Weitzman created a pair of pumps so sparkly they "light up the upper balcony," Weitzman says.

"The shoe is its own character in the show, and it will inspire the dream for so many other women." Shoe shopaholics and Carrie Bradshaw types surely have been inspired by the Cinderella fashion fantasy, muses Weitzman, a 26-year industry veteran. How could they not? After all, he says, Cinderella gets the shoes — flattering, delicate and powerful all at once — and then gets her Prince Charming.

## God's precious crumbs

By KATY HUPP

Elijah listened for God to speak to him expecting some fierce wind or an earthquake, but instead it came in a small soft voice. We listen for that small voice sometimes, but are to discover that sometimes God speaks in the silence of our thoughts. God hears our every thought as well as our spoken words. His ways are limitless. My daughter recently received a message from God; not a fierce wind or an earthquake and not even a small voice; instead, God sent her a butterfly. This past year, she had the baby girl she had prayed and longed for. God heard her pleas and answered in silence and we beheld the miracle of birth. We found out in the 12th week of her pregnancy that things would not be good for the baby. Her 18th chromosome tripled instead of doubled. So the remaining weeks of waiting were filled with prayer and hope. To look at my daughter's face during this period you would not have believed that there could be a problem with this pregnancy. She wore a smile and moved forward into each new day knowing God was in control and that He did not make mistakes. So we waited and prayed. On Oct. 17, the doctor handed a blue, non-breathing baby over the cesarean shield to Mitzi. She took her daughter and began to rub her tiny chest and blow softly into her precious face, all the while praying and asking God for crumbs of life, just crumbs. In a few minutes there was a whimper, then a full fledged cry. The doctor's head popped up over the shield

and he asked, "Is that that baby?" The entire delivery room came alive and the nurses began to do the routine things they do for all newborns. Although, they had to do them while my daughter held her daughter. She wasn't going to lose one second of 'mommy' time. For almost 3 days we got to hold, love and rejoice in our little Grace Abigail. Her outside appearance was so perfect, yet her tiny internal parts were an inoperable mess. God was so good to give these wonderful crumbs of life. On Oct. 19, the crumbs ceased and Grace left our world. We know where she is right at this moment and know she is cared for and happy, which brings to our hearts comfort and a peace that passes understanding. Grace was our fragile butterfly baby and Mitzi released a dozen Monarchs at her services. Just a few weeks ago, God spoke to Mitzi in the form of a butterfly. She and her husband had taken their small son to the neighborhood playground and there they saw a Monarch butterfly walking along the sidewalk. Mitzi stooped and held her hand out and the butterfly walked right into her palm. There it stayed for all the family play time, through every step of the walk home, and even for a time at the house. It rested there in Mitzi's palm until it ceased to breathe. We all felt it was God's way of saying (in silence) "I know where you are and how you are feeling." God saying, "I love you." This incident gave me the words for this poem. I wrote it for my daughter but want to share it with you.

### ENGAGEMENTS

Brienna Stark and Ryan Schmidt



Brienna Stark of Pampa, Texas and Ryan Schmidt of Amarillo, Texas are pleased to announce their engagement. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Dale and Joann Taylor of Pampa, Texas. She graduated from the Pampa Academy of Christian Education in 1999 and is currently a homemaker. The groom-to-be is the son of Carl and Annette Schmidt of Henderson, Nev. and Jerry and Char-ree Cozart of Pahrump, Nev. He graduated from Basic High School of Henderson, Nev. in 2000 and is currently employed at Back Fort Energy of Pecos, Texas. The couple plan to wed on 4p.m., May 11, 2013 at First Christian Church of Pampa.


### NEW ARRIVALS

Analea Marie Soria



Megan and Felipe Soria are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Analea Marie Soria, on Jan. 28, 2013 at Baptist St. Anthony in Amarillo, Texas. Analea Marie weighed 9 pounds, 10 ounces and was 20 inches in length. She has one older sister, Laynie Jade Soria. Proud grandparents are Sheila and Charlie Broadbent and Maria Soria.

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# PampaSports

## CONTINUING HER ATHLETIC CAREER



Photo by Zachary Green

Terra Truitt, with Pampa track coach Mark Elms, signs her scholarship to run track at Texas A&M Commerce in Commerce. Also pictured with Terra is her sister Roselyn Halvorson, brother, Tommy Calkins, mother, Valerie Halvorson, step-father, Jeff Halvorson and grandmother, Donna Anderson. Truitt will also be in the Honors College at Texas A&M Commerce. Truitt will graduate from Pampa High School and Clarendon College in the spring.

## Lady Harvester softball splits a pair in Eula Tournament

By ZACHARY GREEN  
zgreen@thepampanews.com

The Lady Harvesters are in a tournament in Eula, which is near Abilene, this weekend. Pampa opened up play early at 11 a.m. on Thursday against Merkel. Alexa O'Brien pitched a one-hitter over three innings in the 15-0 shutout victory for the Harvesters. O'Brien also added four strikeouts. Jessie Dixon went 3-3, with three RBIs and three runs. Brittney Gonzalez went 2-3 and hit a grand slam. She knocked in five RBIs and scored one run. Pampa then played Albany in game two on

Thursday. The Lady Harvesters would fall 8-6 after four innings. Tiffany Britton went 2-2 with two RBIs. O'Brien went 1-2 with an RBI and two runs scored. O'Brien also struck out two batters in her one inning pitched. The games move Pampa's record to 4-4 on the season. They played Eastland and Millsap in tournament action Friday but those games were too late for press time. Check out The Pampa News' Facebook page for the rest of their tournament results and future editions of The Pampa News for later updates on the Lady Harvester softball team.

## PHS baseball team in Sweetwater Woodbat Classic

By ZACHARY GREEN  
zgreen@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Harvester baseball team is playing in a wooden bat tournament in Sweetwater this weekend. In game one of the tournament, the Harvesters fell 6-0 to San Angelo Lakeview. James Thompson pitched five innings and struck out 14 batters. Tyler Powell struck out two batters in his one inning pitched and Casey Martindale struck out one batter in his one inning pitched. Cade Engle stole one

bag and Ryan Powell stole two bases during the game. The loss moved Pampa's record to 2-2 on the season. The Harvesters had games on Friday against Clyde and Lakeview that did not finish in time for the paper to go to press with results. Pampa will finish up the tournament against Sweetwater at 9 a.m., today. For results on the rest of the tournament games, check out The Pampa News' Facebook page and future editions of The Pampa News.

## Golf to review comments on long-putter rule change

ST. ANDREWS, Scotland (AP) — A plan to outlaw the anchored putting stroke is being supported more by international golfers than those in the United States, the Royal & Ancient Golf Club said Friday. The R&A and U.S. Golf Association announced the proposed rule on Nov. 28. Because it is a sensitive issue, they allowed a 90-day comment period that ended Thursday. "We note that this matter has proved particularly sensitive in the United States, while the proposed rule change has been received more favorably across the international golfing community," the R&A said in a statement. The PGA Tour and PGA of America have announced their opposition to banning the anchored stroke, the common method for using belly putters and long putters that are pressed against the chest. No other tour or golf organization around the world has publicly stated its opposition. The governing bodies released separate statements Friday that they will evaluate the comments before deciding whether to adopt the rule.

Three of the last five major champions have used belly putters. **ISU students apologize to KU coach Self** — LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) — Kansas coach Bill Self said the student government at Iowa State sent him a letter this week apologizing for a pair of incidents that occurred in the aftermath of the Jayhawks' overtime win over the Cyclones on Monday night. The first incident occurred after Self gave a brief postgame TV interview. An Iowa State fan made his way down the court and charged after Self, and had to be held back by security. The second incident occurred on Twitter, where at least two fans made racist and threatening comments directed toward the Jayhawks' Elijah Johnson, who scored 39 points in the game. "We talked about it this morning and I think that would bother anyone initially," Self said Thursday. "But the Iowa State student body has responded in a way that left no doubt where they stood on the things that were said and the issues and that is good enough for me.

"Unfortunately, there are idiots around in all different areas, and that should not take away from the people that were at the game that cheered their team on and did it wholeheartedly." Johnson scored eight points in the final 29 seconds of regulation, including two clutch 3-pointers and the two foul shots that forced overtime. The senior guard then scored 12 more points in the 108-96 victory, the Jayhawks' second overtime win over Iowa State this season. Johnson certainly inflamed Iowa State fans when he got the ball in the open court in the waning seconds and, rather than run out the clock, threw down a celebratory dunk. But he immediately apologized for getting caught up in the moment after the game. "At the end of the day they're fans, they care," said Johnson, who credited his father for teaching him at an early age how to ignore the kind of negative comments made on Twitter. "They apologized," Johnson said. "I'm past it, and I think we all should be past it." The victory over the Cy-

clones allowed Kansas, the eight-time defending Big 12 champions, to remain tied with Kansas State for first place with three games remaining. Self said the emotionally charged incidents following the Iowa State game won't affect the way he views Cyclones fans, and that he's looking forward to their next matchup, which could happen at the Big 12 tournament in Kansas City, Mo. "I've always enjoyed going there," Self said. "I'll enjoy going there moving forward and these couple of idiots will not have anything to do with us enjoying that."

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# PampaSports

## The PAMPA NEWS Sports Briefs

For the full schedule and latest updates visit Pampaisd.net, then click on "District" and then click on "Athletics Department." Changes can be and sometimes are made after the Sports Briefs are published. To keep up to date with the latest information visit the website.

### TODAY, MARCH 2

- Baseball @ Sweetwater Tournament.
- JV Baseball @ Bushland Tournament.
- Softball @ Abilene Tournament.

- JV Softball @ Dumas JV Tournament.
- Tennis team regionals @ Odessa.
- Girls Golf @ Lubbock.
- Track @ West Texas A&M.
- JH swim @ Lubbock.

### MONDAY, MARCH 4

- JH Tennis @ Dumas 4 p.m.

### TUESDAY, MARCH 5

- Softball v. Plainview 4 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.
- Boys soccer v. River Road 5 p.m.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 7

- Baseball @ Altus Tournament.
- JV Tennis @ Dumas Tournament 8 a.m.
- Softball @ Snyder Tournament.
- JH Track @ Perryton 3:30 p.m.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 8

- Baseball @ Altus Tournament.
- Tennis @ Amarillo Tournament 8 a.m.
- Softball @ Snyder Tournament.
- Boys and Girls golf in Pampa.
- Boys Soccer @ Caprock 7 p.m.

- Girls Soccer @ Caprock 5 p.m.
- Track @ Panhandle.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 9

- Baseball @ Altus Tournament.
- JV Baseball @ Woodward DH 11 a.m.
- Softball @ Snyder Tournament.
- Boys and Girls golf in Pampa.

**GO HARVESTERS!**

# Japan set to defend WBC title with young team

By **JIM ARMSTRONG**  
AP Sports Writer

FUKUOKA, Japan (AP) — Japan will look to replace the likes of Ichiro Suzuki and Yu Darvish with a new generation of young talent as it bids to capture a third straight World Baseball Classic title.

Suzuki, a key player when Japan won the tournament in 2006 and 2009, opted to sit out the third edition of baseball's global tournament.

Shortly after Suzuki announced his decision, Darvish, Norichika Aoki and just about every other Japanese player in Major League Baseball followed suit.

Now Japan will get a chance to see how its up-and-coming pros from home stack up when the two-time defending champions begin their title defense on Saturday at Fukuoka Dome against Brazil.

Japan is in Group A with 2006 runner-up Cuba, China and a Brazil team managed by Hall of Famer Barry Larkin.

Japan could struggle to score runs without being able to rely on Suzuki in the leadoff spot. While the team has several players who can hit home runs, Koji Yamamoto's squad will look to

manufacture runs by getting runners on and moving them over. The sacrifice bunt will be used early and often.



**Koji Yamamoto**

Hayato Sakamoto, a 24-year-old shortstop who helped the Yomiuri Giants win the Japan Series last year, will be the leadoff hitter for Japan.

"There are many young players so we need to stick to the Japanese style of baseball," Yamamoto said. "Moving the runner over and getting good results from our pitchers. As long as we do that, we should be fine."

Strong pitching will be a main feature of Japan's team. Yamamoto has a solid 13-member pitching staff led by 24-year-old right-hander Masahiro Tanaka, who is expected to start Japan's opener.

Just about every pitcher on the staff except for the closers has experience starting, so Yamamoto won't hesitate to go to his bullpen early if needed.

A big challenge for Japan's pitchers will be adjusting to the WBC ball, which they say is slippery compared to the ball used in Japan.

Two teams from the group will advance to the March 8-12 second round at Tokyo Dome with a chance to move on to the March 17-19 championship round in San Francisco.

Japan and Cuba will be heavily favored to advance to the second round. Once two teams from Group B reach the Tokyo round, things become more difficult as only two teams go to the United States. South Korea, Australia, the Netherlands and Taiwan are in Group B.

Cuba didn't make it out of the second round four years ago and will be looking to restore its reputation as an international baseball power.

Like Japan, Cuba will be without some of its top names. Pitcher Aroldis Chapman and outfielder Yoenis Cespedes, both stars on the '09 Cuban team, have since defected and are playing in the major leagues for the Reds and A's, respectively.

Cuba's roster does include three players who took part in the first two first two tournaments: outfielder Frederick Cepeda, infielder Yulies-

ki Gourriel and left-handed pitcher Norberto Gonzalez.

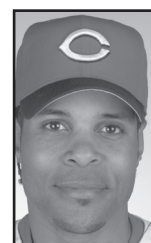
Under Larkin, Brazil shocked the baseball world when it ousted Panama in qualifying on its home turf. The former Cincinnati Reds shortstop was asked to manage the team by the Brazilian Baseball Federation after he conducted MLB-run baseball clinics for young Brazilian players last year.

Larkin know his team faces a huge challenge against Japan in the opener.

"We just have to stick to the basics and play like we did against Panama," Larkin said. "It doesn't matter whether you are playing Japan or Panama. You have to play your game."

China got a setback when Kansas City Royals starter Bruce Chen scrapped plans to pitch for the team in this year's tournament. Chen, who is of Chinese descent, grew up in Panama and pitched for that country in the first two tournaments.

While China's team is still very much in the developmental stages, the team has a lot of MLB pedigree at the coaching level and will be managed by former Seattle Mariners skipper John McLaren. Former MLB pitcher Bruce Hurst is the pitching coach, while former MLB manager Art Howe is the hitting coach.



**Barry Larkin**

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# PAWS offers reduced rates adult dogs, puppies

**SUBMITTED**

Pampa Animal Welfare Shelter is offering reduced rates at the Pampa Animal Shelter for adult dogs and puppies. The shelter is overflowing because of weather and cancelled Petco dates.

There is no room at the inn and the shelter employees will have to put down animals next week, unless we can get some moved out.

We will offer adult dog adoptions

at \$55, which will include a spay/neuter, rabies shot, microchip and first shots.

We have some beautiful cow dog/heeler mixes, a corgi, a white poodle, a wonderful black female lab, an Aussie/husky mix with 5 ready-to-go puppies, a wire-haired pointer mix and her puppies, a chi/terrier mix with 6 puppies, a wonderful big yellow lab and assorted Chihuahuas and mixes. We will offer puppies at \$70.

They require more shots while at

the shelter and special food. So that is the reason for increased cost.

The PAWS group will foot the bill for the extra \$45 or \$30 that are required of an adoption.

The state requires, and we agree completely, that any animal adopted from a municipal shelter be spay/neutered, have a rabies shot and be microchipped.

The adoption fee barely covers the cost, which would not even be feasible with out the co-operation of our vets.

find us on **Facebook** To find Breaking News Briefs, Event Photos, and Video Clips.  
facebook.com/thepampanews

## Lent devotional for Monday

**Day 17 – Monday**

Scripture: Mt 26:47-56; Mk 14:43-52; Lk 22:47-54; Jn 18:2-11

Now the betrayer had ar-

r a n g e d a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." He approached

Jesus at once to kiss him, but Jesus asked him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?" Judas said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. (The Gospels Interwoven)

Devotional: It was such an ordinary thing: a kiss. Even in our world today it is common, but in Jesus' world it was part of the everyday greeting between everyone, similar to our handshake. How could something so innocent and commonplace become the focus of one of

the darkest events in human history?

Jesus had handpicked Judas over 3 years prior to that night in Gethsemane. He had received just as much of Jesus' time and attention as any of the 12 did, except Peter, James and John. He was even appointed treasurer for the traveling band, no doubt by Jesus. So what was it?

With Judas it was the money. Jesus had hoped by putting him in charge of the money that they used for basic needs and to help the poor that Judas would come around in his heart. But he did not. His greed, his lust for money ended up being what led him over the cliff to destruction. He sold Jesus out for 30 pieces of silver, which we considered in the devotional for the 12th day of Lent.

Unbelievable! Judas put a price tag on Jesus and it was 30 silver coins; 10 coins for each year Jesus been his Shepherd, teacher, friend. That was the value of Jesus to Judas. Is it little wonder then that he even chose something as person-

al as the holy kiss greeting to identify Jesus? Surely he could have just pointed Him out to the soldiers. Why the kiss? Because it was so personal.

I just saw an article by a secular writer entitled: The 10 Most Famous Kisses In All History. Want to guess what was #1? You guessed it, Judas' kiss of betrayal.

Years ago I too betrayed the Savior I was introduced to as a child and adolescent. Then one day, praise God, the Holy Spirit came and stabbed me in the heart and the resulting conviction led me to repentance which led me to salvation. I can honestly say that I haven't betrayed Jesus since that day. But honesty demands that I ask if I have ever been ashamed of Him? Ever embarrassed to tell someone that I was a Christian? Ever been too uncomfortable to share the gospel of Jesus with someone? Ever too cowardly to speak up for what Jesus spoke up for? These may not be full scale betrayals, but they have to be minis. May I

never again be guilty of even a mini-betrayal.

Prayer:

Oh, Prince of Peace I yearn to kiss You one day when I see You face to face in our heavenly home that You have prepared. What a greeting that will be! You know me well enough to know that I will probably be in tears, but they won't be sad ones. So until that day, please help me never to be like Judas in any way. Lead me in the paths of faithfulness and most importantly LET ME DIE IN THE HARNESS! Amen.



**Mike Sublett**

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2006 Jeep Commander	Inferno Red Crystal	Stock#: P3224	\$19,995.00	2008 Chevrolet Cobalt	Slate Metallic	Stock#: P3479	\$11,995.00
2010 Kia Soul	Green	Stock#: P3340	\$19,995.00	2009 Chevrolet Silverado 1500	Summit White	Stock#: P3692	\$11,995.00
2009 Toyota Sienna	Gold	Stock#: R2912	\$19,995.00	2001 Dodge Ram 1500	Black Clearcoat	Stock#: P3592	\$11,995.00
2004 Cadillac SRX	Silver Smoke	Stock#: p3058A	\$18,995.00	2003 Ford Expedition	Wedgewood Blu	Stock#: R3104	\$11,995.00
2006 Chrysler 300	Stone White	Stock#: R3563	\$18,995.00	2004 Ford Expedition	Silver Birch Metallic	Stock#: P3484A	\$11,995.00
2007 Ford Expedition	Oxford White	Stock#: P2879	\$18,995.00	2004 Ford F-150	Shadow Gray Metallic	Stock#: P3694	\$11,995.00
2007 Ford Expedition	Red Fire Metallic	Stock#: P2922	\$18,995.00	2005 GMC Envoy	Summit White	Stock#: P3166	\$11,995.00
2006 Chevrolet Silverado 1500	Blue Granite	Stock#: R3667	\$17,995.00	2002 Jaguar XJ-Series	White Onyx	Stock#: P3702	\$11,995.00
2006 Dodge Ram 1500	Red	Stock#: R3688	\$17,995.00	2004 Jeep Grand Cherokee	Bright Silver Metallic	Stock#: P3613	\$11,995.00
2006 GMC Yukon XL	Pewter	Stock#: R3032	\$17,995.00	2008 Kia Sorento	Bright Silver Metallic	Stock#: P3711	\$11,995.00
2005 Chevrolet Avalanche	Black	Stock#: P2869	\$16,995.00	2001 Mitsubishi Montero	Sudan Beige Metallic	Stock#: P3685	\$11,995.00
2004 Chevrolet Tahoe	Summit White	Stock#: P2955	\$16,995.00	2005 Nissan Altima	Smoke Metallic	Stock#: P3311	\$11,995.00
2007 Chevrolet Equinox	Black	Stock#: p3066	\$16,995.00	2008 Saturn Aura	Golden Cashmere	Stock#: R3510	\$11,995.00
2008 Chevrolet TrailBlazer	Black	Stock#: P3296	\$16,995.00	2007 Toyota Camry	Titanium Metallic	Stock#: P3383	\$11,995.00
2008 Chevrolet TrailBlazer	White	Stock#: P3639	\$16,995.00	1999 Chevrolet Tahoe	Summit White	Stock#: P3406	\$10,995.00
2008 Dodge Durango	Inferno Red Pearlcoat	Stock#: P3338	\$16,995.00	2002 Chevrolet Suburban	Blue	Stock#: R2474	\$10,995.00
2007 Ford Explorer	Dark Stone Metallic	Stock#: P3464	\$16,995.00	2001 Chevrolet Tahoe	Hunter Green	Stock#: R2942	\$10,995.00
2009 Ford E-Series Wagon	Oxford White	Stock#: P3595	\$16,995.00	2003 Chevrolet Suburban	White	Stock#: p3126a	\$10,995.00
2004 GMC Yukon	Pewter	Stock#: R2623	\$16,995.00	2007 Chevrolet Suburban	Onyx Black	Stock#: P3231A	\$10,995.00
2007 Hyundai Santa Fe	Bright Silver Metallic	Stock#: p3019	\$16,995.00	2002 Chrysler Sebring	Bright Silver Metallic	Stock#: R3578	\$10,995.00
2007 Jeep Grand Cherokee	Black	Stock#: P3533	\$16,995.00	2005 Dodge Durango	Patriot Blue Pearlcoat	Stock#: P3569	\$10,995.00
2006 Nissan Pathfinder	Avalanche	Stock#: P3348	\$16,995.00	2006 Dodge Caravan	Magnesium Pearl	Stock#: P3171	\$10,995.00
2009 Nissan cube	Scarlet Red Metallic	Stock#: P3590	\$16,995.00	2006 Dodge Magnum	Black Crystal Pearl	Stock#: R3583	\$10,995.00
2007 Subaru B9 Tribeca	Obsidian Black Pearl	Stock#: P3690	\$16,995.00	2007 Dodge Caliber	Steel Blue Metallic	Stock#: P3654A	\$10,995.00

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## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

ing down my actions and speech because they can't handle their insecurities. — HIGH IQ

**DEAR HIGH IQ:** Being "different" isn't easy, and clearly you are very intelligent. But you and your parents should understand that crank calls are not "pranks" — they are a form of bullying and should have been reported when they happened.

Most parents who home-school also network with other home-schooling parents so their children can socialize with peers. If your parents haven't done this, I recommend you discuss it with them. You might also

meet more intellectually advanced young people if you joined special-interest groups for older students.

Your high IQ might be less threatening to the students who have given you trouble if you volunteer to tutor some of them who need help with their schoolwork. (Just don't fall into the trap of doing it FOR them.)

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been with my boyfriend, "Dan," for almost five years. He's wonderful and we have a great relationship. We have talked about spending our lives together, but had mutually agreed in the beginning that marriage wasn't

a priority for either of us. He has said for years that he never wanted to marry — which is fine with me.

I now suspect that he's planning to propose to me on our fifth anniversary. (He has never been great at hiding surprises.)

I'm thrilled that he wants to make that kind of commitment, and I want nothing more than to spend the rest of my life with him, but the thought of marriage scares me. I don't know if it's nerves about the pending proposal or that I have never planned on marriage and now I have to think about all the stress and strife that comes with planning a wedding.

I want to say yes, but I love the way things are right now, and I know that marriage will change things. What, if anything, do I say to him? —

**COLD FEET? IN SALT LAKE CITY**

**DEAR COLD FEET?:** I wish you had mentioned why you think being married to Dan would "change things." If you've been happy together for five years, it's unlikely that making a formal commitment would damage the special relationship you have together.

Perhaps this is "old school," but I feel that if couples plan to bring children into the world, they should be married. Because you want nothing more than to spend the rest of your life with Dan, and are concerned about the stress of planning a wedding, when he pops the question, suggest you say, "Yes — why don't we elope?"

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a 14-year-old female from the West Coast. I am home-schooled and don't have many friends because I score high in tests, meaning I retain more information than the average person.

On the rare occasion that I mingle with children my own age, they call me unpleasant names, play pranks on me and otherwise torture me. I had to change my emergency cellphone number and start using my sister's because there have been so many immature and insulting prank calls.

I hate it. I can't help that I am smart, and I refuse to degrade myself by dumb-

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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12316

### CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 43 Utters
  - 1 Grade
  - 5 Talk
  - drunkenly
  - 9 Time
  - separator
  - 10 Packed in boxes
  - 12 Make speeches
  - 13 Last letter
  - 14 Spa employee
  - 16 Plop down
  - 17 Caribou's cousin
  - 18 Gather
  - 20 Brewing item
  - 22 Commentary page
  - 23 Perfect
  - 25 Take turns
  - 28 Seamstress' array
  - 32 Refueling break
  - 34 Devilfish
  - 35 Copying
  - 36 Just for fun
  - 38 Pitcher Ryan
  - 40 Mountain group
  - 41 Police trap
  - 42 Periphery
- DOWN**
- 44 Lewd look
  - 1 Esprit
  - 2 "Seward's Folly"
  - 3 Goes bad
  - 4 Patella
  - 5 Com-poser's creation
  - 6 Flight spots
  - 7 Depletes group
  - 8 Ruling over
  - 9 Space sighting
  - 11 Out of style
  - 15 Incites
  - 19 Go it alone
  - 21 Storage life
  - 24 Duds
  - 25 Stretches over
  - 26 Trial episodes
  - 27 Napoli's nation
  - 29 Marigold color
  - 30 — than life
  - 31 Comedian
  - 33 Salad servers
  - 37 Store cargo
  - 39 One or more

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R	A	R	E	R		M	I	N	E
	S	K	E	D		B	E	D	S

Yesterday's answer

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# Church Calendar

## Southside Church of Christ

Southside Church of Christ is located at 11923 W. McCullough Ave, Pampa. The church extends an open invitation to you to come and worship where the gospel, "God's Word," is always taught and preached. The church offers an annual Songfest, set for Sept. 21-22 this year. On Saturday, the Songfest will begin at 4 p.m. and end at around 9 p.m. Dinner will be served immediately following. On Sunday, the church will follow its regular schedule and dinner will be served immediately following morning services. The Songfest is not a competition — it is a gathering of the churches of Christ to come together to praise the Lord through preaching, praying and singing praises unto our Lord and savior Jesus Christ.

Regular worship services are: Sunday morning Bible study, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; morning worship begins at 10:45 a.m. to noon; Wednesday night Bible study is from 5-6 p.m.

## Pampa Pride religion section

The Pampa News will publish multiple special sections in the paper on March 29. One of those sections is the religion section. To have your

church featured, please contact the paper.

Send us a story and/or picture about your church or bring it by the paper. For more information, call 669-2525.

## 22nd Annual Czech Sausage Dinner

St. Ann's Catholic Church in Canyon will be hosting the 22nd Annual Czech Sausage Dinner from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 3.

Czech Sausage, Sauerkraut, bread, parsley potatoes, cole slaw, cobbler and all the trimmings will be served.

Drive thru and take out are available.

Tickets are \$9 for adults and \$5 for children. Children age 5 and under eat free.

The event will be held at the Parish Family Center at 605 38th Street in Canyon.

For more information call 806-655-3302.

*Editor's note: Email submissions to [thowsare@thepampanews.com](mailto:thowsare@thepampanews.com). Submissions should be 100 words or less and written in the third person. Please include the name of the church, the dates and times of worship services and community events, physical address, and a contact number and/or email address for the public.*

## Area support groups

The following is a list of support groups that meet regularly each week in Pampa. Information for each meeting is submitted to The Pampa News office and may not be completely updated or accurate. Please notify the newsroom if a change is necessary.

The Pampa News welcomes all submitted materials for area support groups. Please include the meeting time, date and location and, if applicable, provide a contact number for each group.

■ **Victims of domestic violence and sexual assault**, meet at 5:30 p.m., Thursdays, and at 2 p.m., Fridays, at the Tralee Crisis Center, 308 S. Cuyler St. For more info, call the Center at 806-669-1131.

■ **Narcotics Anonymous — The Pampa Group** meets at 7:30 p.m., Tuesdays, and at 6 p.m., Saturdays, at 805 N. Gray St. **Narcotics Anonymous — Rufe Jordan Unit** also meets at 6 p.m., Mondays, and at 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays, at 1992 Hilton Road.

■ **Diabetics Support** meets at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month in the Pampa Regional Medical Center cafeteria. For more info, contact Cynthia Ackley at 806-663-5504.

■ **Cancer Support** meets at 1 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each

month in the Pampa Regional Medical Center cafeteria. For more info, contact Beth Kean at 806-359-4673. Ext. 235.

■ **Alcoholics Anonymous** Open Door Club meets daily at noon and 8 p.m. at 910 W. Kentucky Ave. **Al-Anon** meets at noon on Mondays. For more information, call 665-9072.

■ **Pampa Caregiver Support** meets at the Pampa Nursing Center on 1321 W. Kentucky Ave. at 6 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. For more information call 806-669-2551.

■ **Accolade Home Care** sponsors a **Parkinson's Support Group** the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. The group meets at Accolade at 1313 N. Hobart St. For more information, call Lindsey Been at 665-9700 or 324-3230.

■ **Celebrate Recovery** meets every Thursday evening at 8 p.m. at First Assembly of God, 500 S. Cuyler St. We all know someone who is in need of some spiritual Bible studies that will enrich their life and make a difference in their outlook on life. Invite anyone that you know, no matter their age, to attend. Through this time, God can change lives. For more information, contact Darlene Lewis at 806-440-4489.

# Stocks waiver on Wall Street as cuts loom

NEW YORK (AP) — The stock market turned mixed Friday, erasing an early loss, after a report showed a rise in manufacturing.

U.S. manufacturing expanded in February at the fastest pace since June 2011, helped by new orders and rising production. The Institute for Supply Management said its manufacturing index reached 54.2, up from January's reading of 53.1. Any reading above 50 signals growth.

The Dow Jones industrial average edged up 24 points to 14,078 at 12:13 p.m. It was down as much as 117 points in early trading and was wavering between small gains and losses around midday.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index was up two points at 1,514. The Nasdaq composite rose one point to 3,161.

The Dow nearly hit its record close of 14,164 Thursday afternoon, before sliding back in late trading, leaving the index lower for the day.

The stock market has surged in recent weeks even in the face of \$85 billion automatic across-the-board spending cuts that start kicking in Friday in the absence of a deal to avert them. The cuts are part of a 10-year, \$1.5 trillion deficit reduction plan that was designed to be so unpalatable to both Democrats and Republicans that they would

be forced to drum up a longer-term budget deal.

President Barack Obama summoned the top congressional leadership to the White House for a meeting designed to give all sides a chance to stake out their positions, though there are no expectations of a breakthrough on Friday.

Any agreement between the White House and Congress on the spending cuts could drive the market up next week, regardless of whether investors consider it a good deal or not, said Stephen Carl, head equity trader at The Williams Capital Group in New York.

It's the uncertainty that unsettles investors.

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