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# The PAMPA NEWS



Friday, April 12, 2013 www.thepampanews.com Volume 109 • No. 5

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## City hears four-way stop sign request



■ Concerned resident questions Commission about dangers of intersection at Kentucky Ave. and Russell St.

**By SASHA HELLER**  
 sheller@thepampanews.com

Pampa resident Floyd Baxter made a heartfelt and gutty presentation to the Pampa City Commission, at its meeting Tuesday afternoon, about the intersection at Kentucky Avenue and Russell Street and how he feels the busy traffic stop desperately needs a 4-way stop sign.

"We taxpayers pay upkeep on them streets," Baxter said. "Why can't we get a 4-way stop sign there?"

Baxter then asked Public Works Director Donny Hooper what the city plans to do about the situation.

"I suggest you throw away your smarts and get some common sense before some-

one gets killed," Baxter said to Hooper.

Hooper replied that the city recently conducted an engineering and traffic study which found the total traffic flow, even in peak driving hours like 7 to 8 a.m. and 5 to 6 p.m., didn't require upgrading the 2-way stop sign.

The intersection currently uses a 2-way stop sign with traffic traveling on Kentucky having the right of way.

Baxter told the Commission Tuesday that he's watched teenagers speeding up and down the two streets, causing dangerous conditions for neighborhood residents.

In other business, the Commission:

- Adopted, on second and final reading, a resolution approving a \$350,000 potentially forgivable loan from the Pampa Economic

Development Corp. (EDC) to J&M Bagwell Properties LLC for renovations at the Pampa Mall.

The Commission voted 3-1 in favor of the loan with Commissioner Karen McLain casting the nay vote, as she did two weeks ago upon the resolution's first reading. Commissioner Robert Dixon was absent from Tuesday's meeting.

The EDC will forgive \$1 of the principal \$350,000 for each square-foot of retail or office spaced leased per year to tenants relocating from outside Pampa city limits, for a period of five years.

If an existing business chooses to relocate into the mall, then the square-footage they rent would not count toward the loan requirements.

However, if that business sets up shop and then expands their rental space, then the ex-

**STOP SIGN** cont. on page 3

## USPS retreats on no Saturday mail

■ The Pampa News to continue mail delivery.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The financially beleaguered U.S. Postal Service backedpedaled on its plan to end Saturday mail delivery, conceding Wednesday that its gamble to compel congressional approval had failed.

With limited options for saving money, the governing board said the agency should reopen negotiations with unions to lower labor costs and consider raising mail prices.

Yet the board also said it's not possible for the Postal Service to meet its goals for reduced spending without altering the delivery schedule. Delaying "responsible

**MAIL** cont. on page 3

## CHEERFUL PROM PROPOSAL



Photo by Charla Shults

The House of Cheer squad helps Jeanette Almanza ask Austin Hernandez to the prom, and he said "yes." Almanza requested a friend, Karamie Rice, who is a coach at the the gym, help her ask Hernandez to the prom, so the coaches and students practiced for two days before and Austin's mom, Jamie, got him there by telling Hernandez they were going to help move something heavy at the gym.

## Black Sunday remembered at Guthrie center



Submitted photo

An event to commemorate the dust storm of April 14, 1935 will be held Sunday at the Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center.

**By TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE**  
 thowsare@thepampanews.com

An open house in memory of the dust storm of April 14, 1935 is being held at 2 p.m., Sunday, at the Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center.

"We try to have some kind of observance each year," said center director Mike Sink. "We set up a little exhibit and have an open house. We will be playing some of Woody's dust bowl music and might have some live music."

**DUST BOWL** cont. on page 3

## Senate unanimously approves Michael Morton Act

**By BRANDI GRISSOM**  
 The Texas Tribune

A year and a half after he took off his prison whites for the last time, exonerated Michael Morton stood in the Senate beside his wife Cynthia on Thursday as lawmakers in that chamber unanimously approved a bill named in his honor that aims to prevent others from being wrongfully convicted.

"Had this been in place when I was arrested, I probably wouldn't have gone to prison," Morton said shortly before senators passed Senate Bill 1611 by Sens. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, and Robert Duncan, R-Lubbock. It would require prosecutors to turn over evidence to defense lawyers in criminal cases.

"Michael's tragic case brought to the forefront something we already knew in Texas," Ellis said. "Our criminal discovery process in Texas needs serious reform."

Morton was wrongfully convicted in 1987 of murdering his wife and sentenced to life in prison. He was exonerated and released from prison nearly 25 years later after DNA testing linked another man to the crime. Morton and his lawyers argue that his ordeal could have been prevented had the prosecutor in his case not withheld critical evidence that pointed to his innocence.

The chamber erupted in applause following the vote, and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst handed Morton an inscribed gavel.

The prosecutor in Morton's case, Ken Anderson, is now a Williamson County state district judge. He faces both criminal and civil action for his role in the case. The judge maintains that he did nothing wrong during the Morton prosecution. In emotionally charged testimony during a February court of inquiry hearing to determine whether Anderson should face criminal charges for withholding evidence, Anderson said he didn't know of anything he could have done differently in the case. Tarrant County state district Judge Louis Sturns, who is overseeing the inquiry, is expected to make a decision about whether Anderson will face criminal action as soon as next week. Lawyers for

**ACT** cont. on page 3

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**IN THIS ISSUE:**

Obituaries .....	2	Sports .....	10
Local Record .....	2	Classifieds .....	8,9
Viewpoints .....	4	Puzzles/Dear Abby ...	9
Comics .....	6		



## PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Saturday	Sunday
		
High 65 Low 38	High 72 Low 50	High 82 Low 53

**Today:** Partly cloudy with a high of 65. No chance of rain. Wind east northeast at 8 mph. Sunrise at 7:15 a.m.

**Tonight:** Late showers with a low of 38. Thirty percent chance of rain. Wind southeast at 14 mph. Sunset at 8:15 p.m.

**Saturday:** Partly cloudy with a high of 72. No chance of rain. Wind south at 25 mph. Sunrise at 7:14 p.m.

**Saturday night:** Clear skies with a low of 50. No chance of rain. Wind south southwest at 21 mph. Sunset at 8:15 p.m.

**Sunday:** Sunny with a high of 82. No chance of rain. Wind west southwest at 21 mph. Sunrise at 7:12 a.m.

**Sunday night:** Clear skies with a low of 53. No chance of rain. Wind west southwest at 14 mph. Sunset at 8:16 p.m.

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# Obituaries

## Clifton C. Kelly

Clifton C. Kelly, 87, died Tuesday, April 9, 2013, in Plano.

Visitation will be on Friday evening from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Home in Pampa. Services will be at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday at First Baptist Church of White Deer, with the Rev. Alan Wilson, pastor, and the Rev. Jim Shamburger, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Victoria, officiating. Burial will be at White Deer Cemetery by Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

C. C. was born Oct. 26, 1925, in Pilot Point. He graduated from Sanger High School in Sanger, TX, and then served in the United States Navy in the V-12 Naval Program, subsequently earning his BBA degree from University of North Texas. He was a member of First Baptist Church of White Deer and was a deacon for more than 60 years. He was honored as Deacon Emeritus in 2012. He was elected as Texas Baptist Brotherhood President twice in 1959 and in 1960, and he also served on the Texas Baptist Missions Foundation Board since 1996. He served as a Trustee at Wayland Baptist University for 20 years, and he was passionate about funding several endowed scholarships for deserving students, especially those from White Deer. He worked for Dorchester Oil and Gas as an accountant and an "unofficial chemist" from 1948-1968, when he "retired" to full-time farming, which was his true passion.

He was an avid golfer, highlighted by hitting a "hole in one," shooting his age, and attending the Master's Golf Tournament. He was also known for his love of playing golf with yellow golf balls, his enclosed golf cart (for winter golfing!) and wearing his green jacket, which he teased that he won from Tiger Woods.

Deeply beloved by all who knew him, his kind and gentle spirit made everyone feel cared for and valued. C.C. had a true servant's heart and put his church, family and loved ones before himself every day. Those who knew him were always touched by his generosity, compassion and unwavering faith in the Lord.

He was preceded in death in 2004 by his loving wife of 56 years, Shirley Evans Kelly. They are finally hand-in-hand again and probably enjoying some of Shirley's heavenly banana bread! He was also preceded by his parents, Agnes Cordelia Autry Kelly and Delma Franklin Kelly; his sister, Aldena Stowe Gregory; his brothers, Quinton Kelly, Foy Kelly and his twin brother, Clifford D Kelly.

Survivors include his son, Frank Evans Kelly and wife, Carolyn, of Slidell, La.; his daughter, Kimberly Kel-

ly Davison and husband, Steve of McKinney; his four grandchildren, Scott Kelly and wife Mandi of Chalmette, La., Kyle Kelly and wife, Beth, of Slidell, La., Jennifer McCrady and husband Ryan, of Frisco and Jonathan Russell, of Sun Prairie, Wis.; his two great-granddaughters, Elizabeth Grace Kelly of Slidell, La. and Molly Noelle McCrady of Frisco; his three great-grandsons, Ian Alexander Kelly of Slidell, La., and Nate and Keagon Higdon of Chalmette, La.; as well as Shirley's family and many dear nieces, nephews and friends that were as close as family. He is also survived by one brother, Archie Ray Kelly of Rockwall.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials to the First Baptist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 337, White Deer, TX 79097.

Sign the online register at [Carmichael-whatley.com](http://Carmichael-whatley.com)

## Patricia Ann Guy Leach

Patricia Ann Guy Leach, 77, died April 10, 2013 in Pampa.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 13, 2013, a Fairview Cemetery, with Dr. Jeff Knighton, pastor of First Christian Church, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Leach was born Dec. 29, 1935 in Lawton, Okla. She married Jerry L. Leach on June 2, 1952 in Wichita Falls. He preceded her in death on Dec. 13, 2011. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1975. Patricia was a member of First Christian Church and was past president of the Duplicate Bridge Club. She loved playing the organ, going snow skiing with her family and was an avid OU fan. She was preceded in death by a son, Kevin Leach; and a grandson, Jay Richards.

Survivors include her daughter, Kerry Lofton and husband D. D. of Pampa; her son, Kelly Leach of Oklahoma City; two granddaughters, Lesli Beasley and husband Nathan of Fort Worth, and Heather Rose and husband Brandon of Yukon, Okla.; a grandson, T. J. Leach of Oklahoma City; six great-granddaughters, Ashli East of Denton, Avery Rose of Yukon, Okla., Jordyn Richards, Breelyn Richards and Lauryn Richards, all of Pampa, and Maddison Leach of Amarillo; three great-grandsons, Mason Richards of Pampa, Tyson Ward of Yukon, Okla., and Kaden Leach of Amarillo; a brother, Mickey Guy and wife Margaret of Santa Fe, N.M.; and a daughter-in-law, Peggy Bodin of Yukon, Okla.

Memorials may be made to a favorite charity.

Sign the online register at [Carmichael-whatley.com](http://Carmichael-whatley.com).

## For the record

### Pampa man arrested for marijuana possession

Darrell Rashod Willis, 23, Pampa, was arrested Wednesday by the Gray County Sheriff's Office for possession of marijuana — less than 2 ounces.

Roy Brent Burnett, 48, Pampa, was arrested Wednesday by the GCSO on a motion to revoke probation — driving while intoxicated, second offense.

Amber Nichole Presley, 28, Elwood, Ind., was arrested Wednesday by the GCSO on a bond surrender

— possession of marijuana, drug paraphernalia, greater than 50 pounds and less than 2,000 pounds.

John Edward Wilson, 39, Clarendon, was arrested Wednesday by the GCSO for theft of services — less than \$50 and possession of

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

SUDOKU

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Advanced

### Chicago woman fighting \$100k parking fine

CHICAGO (AP) — A Chicago woman is trying to get out of paying a parking fine that has snowballed to more than \$100,000.

BBM Radio reports that Jennifer Fitzgerald filed a lawsuit last year against the city over the \$105,000 worth of tickets that police piled up on her car.

The car was left for nearly three years in a parking lot at O'Hare International Airport.

BBM says a judge dismissed the lawsuit Wednesday and pressed the parties to try harder to reach a settlement.

Fitzgerald says she should not be held responsible for the fine because her ex-boyfriend abandoned the car in an employee parking lot at the airport. She says the car is only worth about \$600.

The suit also names her former boyfriend.

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BANANAGRAMS!

Each of the following seven-letter sets can be rearranged to spell out a common word that either starts with CH or RE or ends with AL or LEI.

LEVEL

A C E L N R T


C C E I L T U

A C C H I O T


C E E E I R V

Yesterday's Answer: BAFFLE, FLAVOR, FIDDLE, FINALE

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Edward Jones

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

# Dust bowl

Continued From Page 1

There is no charge for the event, but donations are appreciated. The drought that ravished the Great Plains during the 1930s was a double whammy for settlers already enduring the hardships of the Great Depression. The drought, coupled with the High Plains winds, spawned relentless dust storms, sometimes for days or weeks on end. Nobody believed things could get worse, but April 14, 1935 proved them all wrong. The Palm Sunday morning started out warm and sunny, then the day changed back to a hellish night as a mountain of blackness swept across the Great Plains. The infamous dust storm, known as Black Sunday, is etched into American history. Pampa resident Mary McDaniel, 93, was a teenager on that fateful day.

She was on Francis Street when she saw a "black wall" approaching. "It was scary and I thought the world was going to end," she said. McDaniel said she took cover at a friend's house. From its looks, McDaniel figured the force of the storm would be so intense it would tear apart bodies and scatter them around. But when it actually hit, the blowing dust was gentle, she recalled. The Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center is located at 320 S. Cuyler St. For more information, call Sinks at 806-664-0824 or Thelma Bray at 806-665-1180.

*"A dust storm hit, an' it hit like thunder;  
It dusted us over, an' it covered us under;  
Blocked out the traffic and blocked out the sun,  
Straight for home all the people did run"*  
— Woody Guthrie

# Mail

Continued From Page 1

changes," the board said, only makes it more likely that the Postal Service "may become a burden" to taxpayers. Disappointed but not wanting to disregard the law, the board directed the Postal Service to delay putting in place the new delivery schedule until Congress passes legislation that gives the agency "the authority to implement a financially appropriate and responsible delivery schedule." The board made the decision in a closed meeting Tuesday. "This is good news for rural communities, businesses, seniors, veterans and others who depend on consistent and timely delivery of the mail," said Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt. But GOP Rep. Darrell Issa of California, chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, bemoaned the decision to back away from a "delivery schedule that polling indicates the American people understand and

support." Postal officials said that to restore the service to long-term financial stability, the agency must have the flexibility to reduce costs and come up with new revenues. "It is not possible for the Postal Service to meet significant cost reduction goals without changing its delivery schedule — any rational analysis of our current financial condition and business options leads to this conclusion," the board statement said. The Pampa News, which has its papers delivered by mail to paid subscribers Tuesday through Saturday, had planned to switch to carriers for its delivery when Saturday mail service ended in August. The newspaper will continue to deliver by mail as long as the Post Office maintains Saturday service, publisher ReDonn Woods said Thursday. In early February, when the cut to Saturday service was announced, Pampa Postmaster Robert Schrock said he would not have to lay off any full-time staff, as other post offices in the country were consider-

ing. At that time, Schrock said that only temporary, non-career employees at the Pampa Post Office would be affected when Saturday mail delivery ended in August. But now that the governing board has backpedaled, those non-career employees will stay, he said Thursday. "The temporary workers will stay and we have requested another person, Schrock said. "We will be prudent in matching our work hours with our work load." He added he hopes at some point the board of governors and Congress will come up with a cost-savings plan that's agreeable to both. The U.S. Postal Service is independent agency and gets no tax dollars for its day-to-day operations. However, it is subject to congressional control. It lost nearly \$16 billion last year — \$11.1 billion of that due to a 2006 law Congress passed forcing it to pay into future retiree health benefits, something no other agency does.

Editor Timothy P. Howsare contributed to this article.

## Regents meet to discuss lawmaker record requests

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The University of Texas board of regents has agreed to release emails and other documents requested by the Legislature. In a unanimous voice vote on Thursday, the regents agreed to turn over the records "as soon as reasonably possible." But they included one condition: The lawmakers must sign confidentiality agreements. The action marks the latest turn in an increasingly bitter dispute over the work of UT President Bill Powers.

Several regents appointed have grown increasingly critical of Powers. Prominent lawmakers have risen to his defense. They have made large records requests from the regents. Board Chairman Gene Powell asked the state attorney general for an opinion on confidentiality of the documents. The regents spent nearly two hours in a closed session before convening in public for a quick vote.

## Ammons Landscape donating services to Optimist Youth Club

SUBMITTED

Ammons Landscape will be donating their services to the Pampa Optimist Youth Club as part of the nationwide "Day of Service" put on by PLANET on this Saturday. Although, Earth Day and the official "Day of Service" is April 22, Ammons

Landscape plans to prematurely participate in the "Day of Service" in time for the upcoming baseball and softball season. Ammons will provide landscape and maintenance services at the Pampa Optimist Youth Club grounds for the foreseeable future. From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Ammons Land-

scape's renewing of the club's landscape will include: replanting and enhancing existing flower beds, planting new trees, improving the quality of the fields and trash pickup of the overall property. Contact Karis Zemanek at 806-669-7777 to volunteer, donate or if you have any questions.

# Act

Continued From Page 1

Anderson and attorney pro tem Rusty Hardin, who is representing the state in the case, are due to present briefs to the court on Monday. Today — as in 1987 when Morton was tried — prosecutors aren't required by state law to provide evidence to defense lawyers unless ordered to by the court. Though many Texas prosecutors have some form of open file policy, those procedures vary from county to county and sometimes even within a district attorney's office. In a February report based on a survey of more than 40 prosecutors' offices, Texas Applesseed and Texas Defender Service, both justice advocacy organizations, found that "lack of uniformity in discovery policies in Texas makes access to justice dependent, in part, on where a defendant is charged." Since his release from prison, Morton has been on a mission to see the implementation of laws that help prevent wrongful convictions like his and that hold prosecutors accountable when their decisions result in innocent people losing years of liberty. The Senate has already approved SB 825 by Sen. John Whitmire, D-Houston, which would extend the statute of limitations for offenses involving evidence suppression by district attorneys. Under current law, the four-year statute of limitations begins ticking on such offenses when they occur. Whitmire's proposal would begin the clock on the statute of limitations at the time a wrongfully convicted defendant is released from prison. That measure is awaiting a hearing Monday in the House Committee on Ju-

diciary and Civil Jurisprudence. The discovery bill, though, has seen more controversy in its path through the Capitol. For years, lawmakers have proposed measures that would require reciprocal discovery — both prosecutors and defense lawyers would share evidence with one another. But defense lawyers objected, arguing, among other things, that it is the state, not the defendant, who has the burden of proof and obligation to release evidence. This time around, prosecutors agreed to a bill that only required them to share evidence with the accused. "They really felt like it was important that, as a profession, we move forward and show people that there needs to be consistency and the defense needs access to this information," Rob Kepple, executive director of the Texas District and County Attorneys Association, said of prosecutors' decision to compromise on the legislation. In recent days, though, some prosecutors, along with state Sen. Joan Huffman, R-Houston, a former assistant district attorney and criminal court judge, expressed concern over potential risks to the security of victims and witnesses in criminal cases. They wanted defense lawyers to seek court approval before sharing information about their cases with those not directly involved. Disagreement over that measure nearly stymied the bill until a deal was reached Wednesday evening after Morton made rounds to talk with senators and negotiate with Dewhurst. Morton said the bill "isn't exactly what I wanted," but that it was a good step that would standardize discovery procedures. Under the bill approved Thursday, prosecutors

would be required to turn over evidence both before trial and after it begins. A record would be kept of the exchange of evidence. And prosecutors could seek a protective order if they feel it is necessary to prevent the release of specific information to protect witnesses or victims. After the approval in the Senate, the bill heads to the House. "This is a major step forward in promoting a more fair criminal justice system," said state Sen. Jose Rodriguez, D-El Paso. Morton said seeing the bill passed in the Senate felt good but that he recognized there would be more work ahead to get it passed in the House. Standing in a hallway outside the Senate, he read the inscription on his gavel, which along with the Senate seal bears the bill number, the date of its passage and the words "Michael Morton Act." As he held it, Morton noted a point of irony: "I'm told these are made

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Mon/Thur 7:15 only	
<b>The Croods (PG)</b> in Real D 3-D	
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## Stop sign

Continued From Page 1

panded rental space would qualify. In other words, over the next five years, if Bagwell Properties rents out 350,000-square-foot of rental space inside the mall to new businesses or current businesses that relocate and reopen that choose to expand, then they would not be required to pay back any portion of the loan. If they only rent out 250,000-square-foot of space to new tenants or local businesses expanding, then they would be on the hook for \$100,000. If Bagwell Properties fails to lure any new businesses to the mall or no current businesses move in and then expand, then they would be forced to pay back the full amount of the loan. Adopted, on second and final reading, a resolution approving a \$20,000 grant from the EDC to the city to be used for demolition of blighted commercial properties.



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# Viewpoints

## The PAMPA NEWS

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**ReDonn Woods**

Publisher

rwoods@thepampanews.com

**Timothy P. Howsare**

Editor

thowsare@thepampanews.com

**Zachary Green**

Sports Editor

zgreen@thepampanews.com

**Sasha Heller**

Reporter

sheller@thepampanews.com

**Dana Whinery**

Advertising Representative

dwhinery@thepampanews.com

## How Thatcher faced hard, uncomfortable truths

“Divisive.” That’s a word that appeared, often prominently, in many news stories reporting the death of former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. One senses the writers’ disapproval. You’re not likely to find “divisive” in stories reporting the deaths of liberal leaders, although every electoral politician divides voters.

“Divisive” here refers to something specific. It was Margaret Thatcher’s special genius that she systematically rejected the conventional wisdom, almost always well-intentioned, of the political establishment. Instead, she insisted on hard, uncomfortable truths.

British Conservatives like Harold Macmillan accepted the tyranny of trade unionism because they had guilty memories of the slaughter of the working-class men who served under them in the trenches in World War I. Thatcher, who as an adolescent before World War II saved money to pay for a Jewish girl to escape from Austria to England, felt no such guilt. She could see that strikes of shipyard workers, auto union members, newspaper printers, gravediggers and garbage collectors were ruining Britain’s economy and undermining democratic governance.

She worked hard and patiently, building up coal inventories, to prevent the year-long illegal coal miners’ strike led by Arthur Scargill from shutting down the nation’s power plants.

She rejected the idea, fostered by the great and the good of the British ruling class, that ordinary people needed public housing. Instead, she let them buy their houses at favorable rates.

She rejected the conventional wisdom that government had to pay for money-losing industrialized industries. Instead, she privatized coal, steel,

utilities and transport, and let employees and citizens buy shares in them and partake of the profits. When Argentina’s military dictators occupied the Falkland Islands, she was urged to accept the result.

The Falklands were far away, and only 1,800 Britons were affected.

But for Thatcher, they were part of the British nation. She would not more allow them to be thrust under a dictator’s heel than she would allow Irish Republican Army terrorists to force Britain out of Northern Ireland against the will of the majority there.

Much has been made, and rightly, of Thatcher’s closeness to Ronald Reagan — though they did have their disagreements. They both hated communism and Soviet tyranny. But first Thatcher and then Reagan perceived that Mikhail Gorbachev was, in Thatcher’s words, “someone we can do business with.” The result was a peaceful end to the Cold War. When Thatcher became prime minister in 1979, the consensus was that Britain was in inevitable decline. She hated that idea and proved that it was wrong. The great and the good never forgave her.

They never forgave her either for her suspicion of an ever-closer European Union and opposition to the creation of the Euro currency. Continental elites saw European unity as a way to prevent the horrors of another world war. American elites assumed a United States of Europe would be as benign as the United States of America.

Margaret Thatcher disagreed. She believed that the nation-state, with its long heritage of shared values, democratic governance and economic practices, was the essential unit in politics and economics. Margaret Thatcher was crunchiness personified; that is what reporters are referring to when they say she was “divisive.”

*Michael Barone is a senior political analyst for The Washington Examiner.*



**MICHAEL BARONE**

## Financial ‘aid’ after college — for parents?

*Dear Carrie, I’m a divorced mom with a 16-year-old son who is starting to look at colleges. His father and I were pretty good about saving money for his college, but as I look ahead at my retirement, I doubt that I will be able to help him financially after that. Am I being too selfish to stop supporting him after college? — A Reader*

*Dear Reader,* Your question goes right to heart of the parental dilemma — the desire to help and support our children while encouraging them to be self-sufficient — and also underscores the importance of your own financial planning. My short answer is an emphatic “no!” You’re not being selfish. It sounds to me that you’re being prudent and realistic.

Here’s my reasoning. I believe it’s vitally important for every adult to ensure a secure, financially comfortable retire-

ment for themselves. Social Security won’t be sufficient for most people, and unless you have substantial savings or another means of support, you’re smart to save as much as possible. Doing so, by the way, is also good for your son. By preparing for retirement, you can avoid becoming a financial burden to him later in life. You don’t want him to follow in the path of the so-called “sandwich generation” — adults struggling with financial responsibilities for their parents as well as their children.

Moreover, I think you should look at the post-college phase in your son’s life as his first real opportunity to be independent. Of course you want to help him out, and you may remember from your own experience how challenging it can be when you’re starting out. But you’re already giving him one of the most valuable resources available: a college education. When he graduates, he’ll still need your love and your support (emotional if not financial) — but that’s a

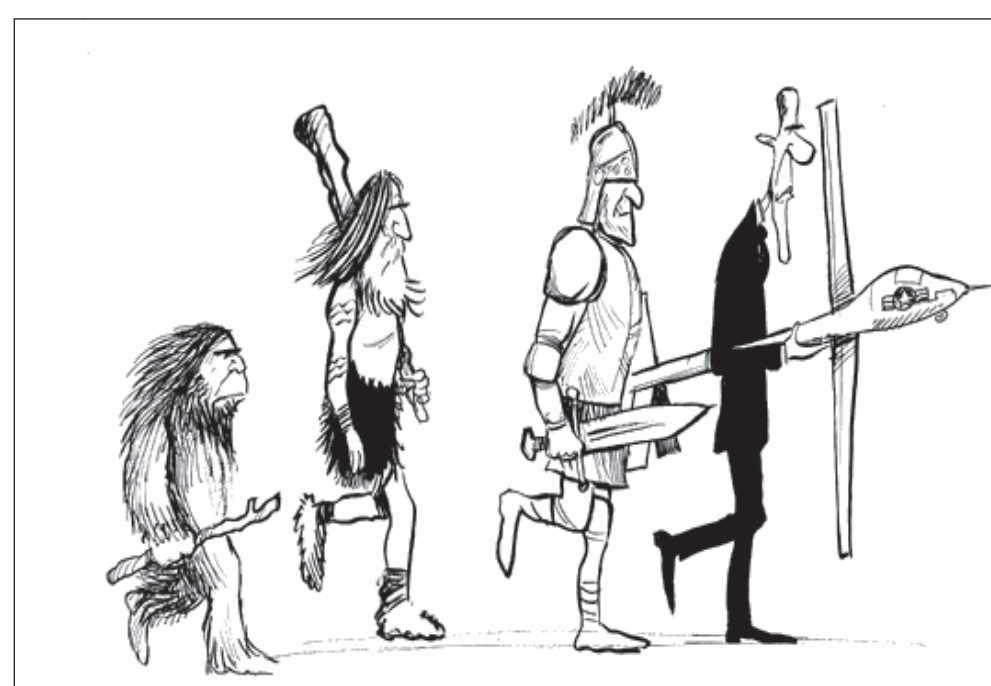
reasonable time for him to start being self-sufficient and financially independent.

Of course, you don’t want to spring this news on him the day he graduates. Being honest and forthright now will help him prepare for the future. So I encourage you to talk to your son about your financial realities and what they mean for both of you. Explain the challenge of retirement and your need to plan for it (a discussion which can also have the extra benefit: of encouraging him to think about saving for his own future as early as possible). And explore what this might mean for him. If he knows he needs to go to work right after college, it might change what he studies or even his choice of college. Together, you might opt for a less expensive school if that could give both of you more flexibility after he gets his degree.

*Carrie Schwab-Pomerantz, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER(tm), is president of Charles Schwab Foundation and author of “It Pays to Talk.”*



**CARRIE SCHWAB-POMERANTZ**



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### 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.

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Letters  
The Pampa News  
403 W. Atchison  
Pampa, Texas  
79065

**By E-mail:**  
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## The IRS now robo-audits your spending

These are the types of invasive tax maneuvers that boiled the blood of our Founding Fathers. But there’s still a way out



**CHUCK NORRIS**

of all our Internal Revenue Service wars and woes. U.S. News & World Report highlighted some more encroaching news this past week in the article “IRS High-Tech Tools Track Your Digital Footprints.”

The IRS is “collecting a lot more than taxes this year,” the report explained. “It’s also acquiring a huge volume of personal information on taxpayers’ digital activities, from eBay auctions to Facebook posts and, for the first time ever, credit card and e-payment transaction records.”

It added, “The agency reveals little about how it will employ its vast, new network scanning powers ... sweeping changes being implemented with little public discussion or clear guidelines.”

Edward Zelinsky, a tax law expert and a professor at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law and Yale Law School, explained that taxpayers should understand that whatever they say and do

electronically can and will be used against them in IRS enforcement.

And what is the IRS’ official response to its gargantuan Big Brother violation of our personal lives?

No comment. But Dean Silverman, senior adviser to the IRS commissioner and the head of data analytic efforts at the IRS through the Office of Compliance Analytics, explained last year in a speech to insiders at the Predictive Analytics World for Government conference that the new system will “improve voluntary compliance.” (Interpretation of “improve voluntary compliance”: bully and threaten citizens into submission.) Silverman also boasted in trade publications about the IRS’ new intrusive monetary reconnaissance: “Private industry would be envious if they knew what our models are.”

The last thing American citizens need is more government regulation and overreach into our private lives, pocketbooks, electronic banking and credit card purchases. What we need now more than ever is not a new electronic way of monitoring taxes or even a complete overhaul of our run-amok taxation bureaucracy. What we need is to shut down the IRS and initiate the FairTax. The IRS is an unconstitutional system

that has no checks and balances; it can’t be held accountable to the people, who possess the real power in our republic. Moreover, the present tax code penalizes productivity and cripples entrepreneurs and our capitalist economy. And it is inequitable and unfair in its implementation. As The Heritage Foundation and countless watchdog organizations have reported, the top 10 percent of income earners pay 70 percent of income taxes, while more than a third of U.S. households pay no income taxes — and 47 percent pay no federal taxes.

It’s time we had a system through which people didn’t have to figure out ways to cheat or even wade through 66,000 burdensome pages of IRS codes in order to save their own money. And the FairTax is that system.

The FairTax is a simple consumption-based tax system, in which equity would rule and no one could dodge his dues. With the FairTax, the harder you worked and the more money you made the better off you and our economy would be. You would pay taxes only when you bought something, which means that you could control how much you’d be taxed and that you never would be penalized inequitably for working hard. Another huge plus about the Fair-

Tax: It would bring back to the U.S. economy trillions of dollars hiding in offshore accounts, which would give a monumental boost to our economy.

As Mike Huckabee, my friend and the former governor of Arkansas, has said, “the FairTax is a completely transparent tax system. It doesn’t increase taxes. It’s revenue-neutral. But here’s what it will do: It will bring business back to the United States that is leaving our shores because our tax laws make it impossible for an American-based business to compete. ... The FairTax was designed by economists from Harvard and Stanford and some of the leading think tanks across the country.”

The FairTax would be the biggest stimulation package ever. As it says on FairTax.org, “think of it as the world’s biggest economic jumper cables.” (Of course, the FairTax rate would have to be palatable with or even incorporate state taxes, too.)

And there’s one last benefit worthy of noting here. As Huckabee has often asked, “wouldn’t it be nice if April 15 were just another sunny spring day?”

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

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# 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 5:45 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month. Check The Pampa News for meeting locations.

**County Commission meetings**

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

**Immunization clinic 3 times a month**

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) hosts an immunization clinic in Pampa three times a month. The clinics are held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from 1 to 3 p.m. on the first three Wednesdays of each month. The first 10 people in line for the morning and first 10 in the afternoon will always receive shots. However, if there are more than 10, they still may be able to accommodate the patients, or ask them to come back at another time. For more information, call 665-4752 or 806-874-3211. The clinic is located at 736 S. Cuyler St.

**PAWS meets first 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 to 5:30 p.m. each day and to work adoption days or take animals to the vets when needed, but mostly people are needed to love and work with the animals where they will be more adoptable.

For more information, call the shelter after 3 p.m. at 669-5775 and ask for the PAWS volunteer.

**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.

**Monday night dance club**

The Monday night dance club meets from 7 to 9 p.m., each Monday, in the Pampa Chamber of Commerce building on the corner of Ballard and Kingsmill. Admission is \$3.50. Cold drinks and coffee are offered. The club plays country music. For more information, call Della at 806-665-2858.

**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 on-going 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.

**Autism Awareness fundraiser and walk**

The Autism Awareness and Community Fundraiser and Walk will be April 27 at Central Park. Walk registration is at 10 a.m. and the walk begins at 11 a.m. There will be live entertainment featuring The Mark Patterson Band, Zumba and more. Other activities include a silent auction, bounce house and face painting and access to informational resources. The event is hosted by FAPE For Kids, Corp. with proceeds going to Amarillo Autism in Action, Southwest AMBUCS and FAPE For Kids, Corp.

**Early voting applications are available at City Hall**

Applications for ballot by mail for the May 11 City of Pampa and Pampa ISD elections are available by request.

To receive an application for both City of Pampa and Pampa ISD elections, please call the City Secretary's office at 806-669-5750.

Reasons for voting by mail are: 65 years of age or older; disability; absence from the city/county and confinement in jail.

The last day to request an application for ballot by mail is May 3. Early voting by personal appearance begins April 29 and ends May 7.

**Pampa High Senior All-Night Party**

The All-Night Party will be held

the evening of Pampa High School's Graduation on June 1, 2013. All parents interested in helping with the Senior All-Night Party are encouraged to contact Jennifer Read at 663-2351. Anyone wishing to make a donation may send it to: Class of 2013, Jona Smith, 2601 Dogwood, Pampa, TX 79065.

**Lovett Memorial Library to offer free computer classes**

Do you need help with computers? Do you want to upgrade your job hunting or work skills? The Lovett Memorial Library is hosting computer classes that can help.

Experienced technology trainers from the Texas State Library's Technology Expertise, Access and

Learning Project (TEAL) are providing the following 2-hour training sessions free of charge:

- Computer basics: 10 a.m. to noon, April 25
- E-mail: 1 to 3 p.m., April 25
- Resume writing: 4 to 6 p.m., April 25
- Job search: 10 a.m. to noon, April 26.

Classes are designed to make beginners feel comfortable so do not hesitate to ask your librarian for details and reserve your spot today.

The Lovett Memorial Library is located at 111 N. Houston, and you can learn more about classes by calling the library staff at (806)669-5780.

*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.*

## No bond for couple accused of kidnapping children

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — The Florida parents charged with kidnapping their boys and fleeing to Cuba by sailboat after losing custody were ordered Thursday to remain in jail without bond and to have no contact with their two young sons.

Joshua and Sharyn Hakken made their first court appearance Thursday morning in Tampa. Judge Walter Heinrich ordered them to have no contact with any of the victims or witnesses in the case.

They'll face a judge during a pretrial detention hearing on Monday on charges of kidnapping, child neglect, false imprisonment, burglary and interference with custody. Judge Walter Heinrich told the couple that they could be ordered to remain in jail without bond until their cases are resolved, depending on the evidence presented at Monday's hearing.

Monday's hearing was

requested by special prosecutor Jennifer Johnson, who declined to comment after the hearing on why she asked for it.

The Hakkens are being represented by the public defender's office, which has also declined comment.

Four-year-old Cole and 2-year-old Chase are now with their maternal grandparents, Bob and Patricia Hauser, who have legal custody.

The children were taken from them last week. They planned to talk about the ordeal publicly later Thursday morning.

Joshua and Sharyn Hakken arrived in Florida early Wednesday with their sons and the family dog, accompanied by federal, state and local authorities after being handed over by Cuban officials.

The children were "happy and sleepy" on a flight back to the U.S., sheriff's spokeswoman Debbie Carter said in an email

Wednesday.

Friends of the couple say they seemed to have a charmed life, doting on their two young boys, buying a comfortable home and building successful careers as engineers.

"This is a train that went completely off the tracks, and I don't have any explanation for how it can go off the track that badly basically in a year and a half. It's very bizarre," said Darrell Hanecki, who employed Sharyn Hakken for nearly a decade at Hanecki Consulting Engineers.

Hanecki said Wednesday that she was an easy-going and relaxed employee who worked from the home they owned in sunny Tampa so she could spend more time with the kids. She brought the boys into the office a few times to show them off to her colleagues.

"The kids were really well-behaved. From everything I could tell, she

was a great mom. Her kids were definitely her priority," Hanecki said.

He said Sharyn Hakken was pragmatic and responsible, graduating from the University of South Florida in 2008.

She occasionally gave advice to Hanecki's daughter, an aspiring engineer, and encouraged her to stay in school and finish her degree.

She resigned in 2011, saying it was too difficult to juggle work with caring for an infant and toddler.

Sharyn Hakken's husband, Joshua, also seemed to show few signs of trouble.

He attended the U.S. Air Force Academy from 1996 to 1998 but did not graduate, according to academy spokesman Sgt. Vann Miller, who declined to provide further details.

Joshua Hakken also worked as an engineer, employed at one point by Hahn Engineering, Inc.

A woman who answered

the company's phone Wednesday declined comment.

Last year, the couple started their own company, listing Sharyn as president and Joshua as vice president, but it's unclear what type of business it was.

Then, last year, police in Louisiana came upon a disturbing scene in a hotel room: The Hakkens were inside with drugs and weapons, talking about "completing their ultimate journey" and saying they were traveling across the country to "take a journey to the Armageddon," Daniel Seuzeneau, a spokesman for Slidell Police, said in a news release. Their two children were in the room at the time.

After that arrest, the Hakkens lost custody of the boys, who were initially sent to a foster home. Authorities say Joshua Hakken tried and failed to kidnap them at

gunpoint from the home. Last week, the boys' maternal grandparents were granted custody.

That's when police say Joshua Hakken broke into the home, tied up his mother-in-law, took the children and eventually set sail for Cuba. Federal, state and local authorities searched by air and sea for the sailboat Joshua Hakken had recently purchased. They were found in Cuba, thanks to a crucial tip from the person who sold the boat to Hakken.

The couple may have believed they could find refuge there, but experts said Cuba had little to gain politically by holding them.

The communist island shares no extradition agreement with the U.S., and relations between the two have been icy for decades.

But Cuban officials said Tuesday they would hand over the family.

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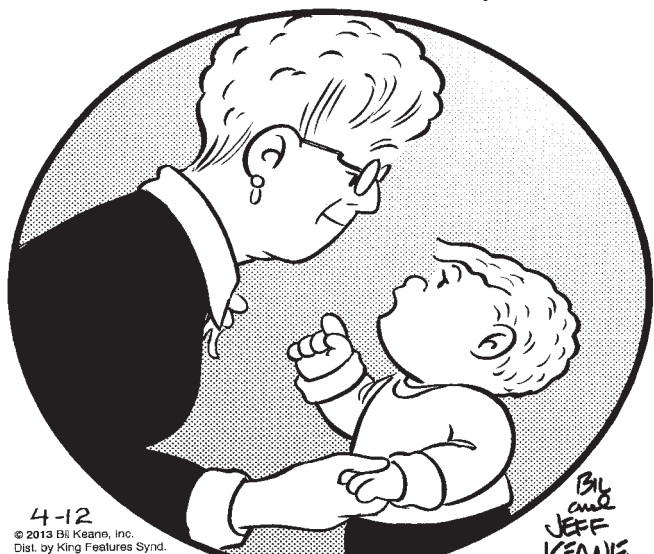
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# comics PAGE

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



4-12  
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www.familycircus.com

Bil and  
JEFF  
KEANE

**"Which is your gooder ear, Grandma? I need to tell you a whisper."**

### Non Sequitur



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### Nest Heads



# daily horoscope

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Saturday, April 13, 2013:  
This year you attract many people, but you will have a low tolerance for anyone who is superficial. You enjoy learning and exchanging ideas, as long as it's on your terms. A key friend adds confusion to your life. Maintain a sense of humor, and understand that this behavior is just temporary. If you are single, your wit and charisma attract many people. You might not want to settle in with anyone right away. If you are attached, the two of you share secrets and laugh together more often. Be sure to nurture your positive ties. GEMINI can be confusing to be around.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)  
★★★★ You tell it like it is; however, sometimes, when you're discussing an idea, others have a difficult time conceptualizing your words. Work on your clarity, and brainstorm with an honest friend about the notion in question. You need feedback. Tonight: Hang out with good friends.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
★★ You'll hear news that initially might seem disconcerting. As you get all the facts, you could realize that the message is distorted. Lighten up, as the news most likely is not even that bad. Avoid overthinking or getting lost in your thoughts. Tonight: Treat someone to a favorite dessert.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
★★★★★ Your personality speaks for itself. Others love to share ideas and brainstorm. In a discussion, you might realize that you forgot an important message. Try to clarify it in your mind. Know that luck is on your side -- you do not need to take a risk. Tonight: As you like it.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
★★ You are not intentionally trying to hide something -- you simply are letting your mind drift off to yonder lands with the help of your active imagination. If you can become more present, do. You will get more done, and you'll also free up some time for yourself. Tonight: Be discreet.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
★★★★★ Zero in on a particular goal or desire, especially if you are with the right people to make this opportunity happen. You have a friend who is very lucky for you. Share more with this person, as he or she sees life far differently

from you. Tonight: Love is in the air.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
★★★ Pressure builds to check in on an older relative or loved one. Once you connect, you'll recognize how easy it would be to do this more often. A close friend might not be as confident as you might like him or her to be. Confirm plans and meeting times. Tonight: On center stage.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
★★★ Keep reaching out to others. You might be confused by someone's reaction. If you stop and think about it, you'll see that you have been misreading this person for a while. Pull back a bit, and try approaching him or her with new ideas. Tonight: Go for something different.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
★★★★ Spend the day with a friend or loved one. Do something that you both enjoy, or indulge him or her in some special way. Unique opportunities generally come from this person. Be clear when it comes to distinguishing fantasy from reality. Tonight: Dinner for two.

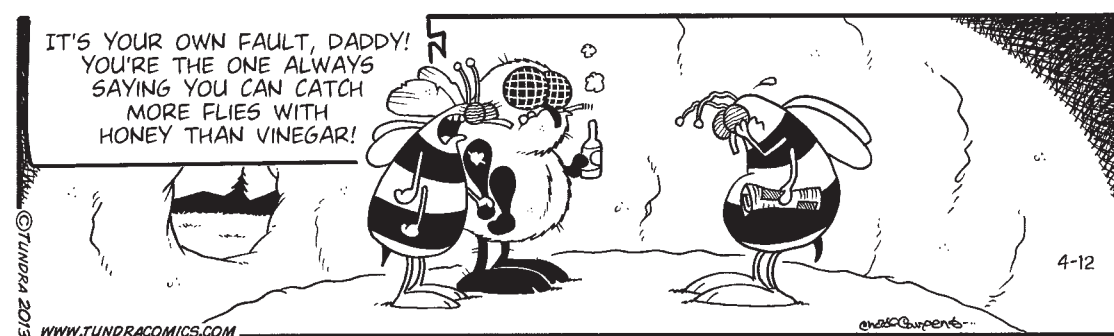
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
★★★ Defer to others. You probably have plans involving a loved one or a special pastime. Make sure that you are on the same page as others. Confirm meeting times and places, if need be. Allow yourself to be a lot sillier than usual. Tonight: Make it a perfect night!

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
★★★ Dive into a project. Refuse to get upset at news -- it could be slightly off or distorted. Trust that the details could change the whole story. Your imagination takes a conversation to an even deeper level. Listen to news with openness, if it comes from a roommate or family member. Tonight: Out late.

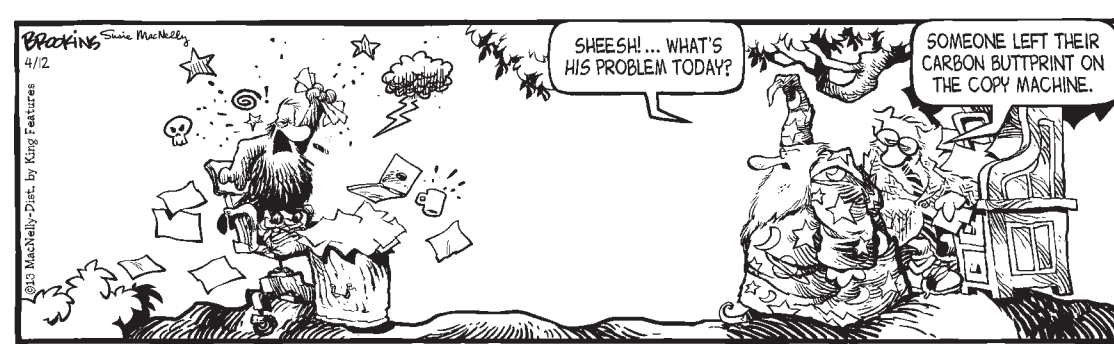
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
★★★★★ Your humor and lightheartedness come into play when dealing with others. You seem to be able to sort through what is no longer constructive and what still holds potential. Encourage a discussion, and you will be able to clear up a problem. Tonight: Ever playful.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
★★★ Tension is very high, but it allows greater give-and-take. Your sense of humor emerges when you understand how others see you. A family member is especially lucky for you. Reach out to this person for his or her advice. Tonight: Make sure that plans are intact.

### Tundra



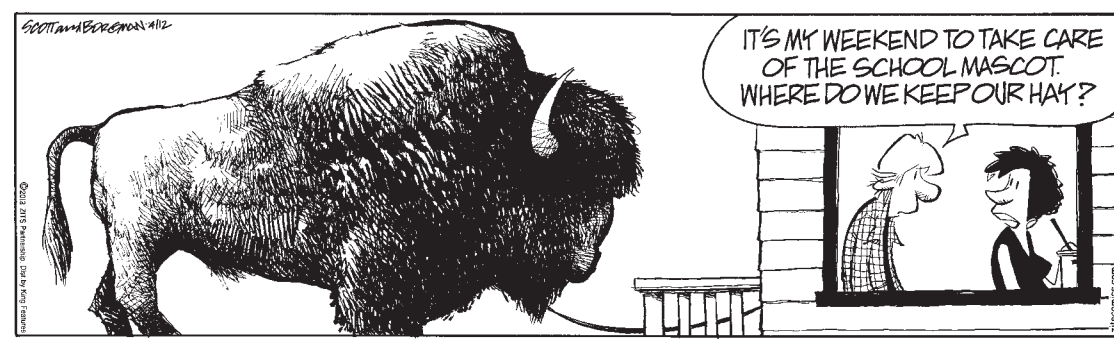
### Shoe



### Mother Goose and Grim



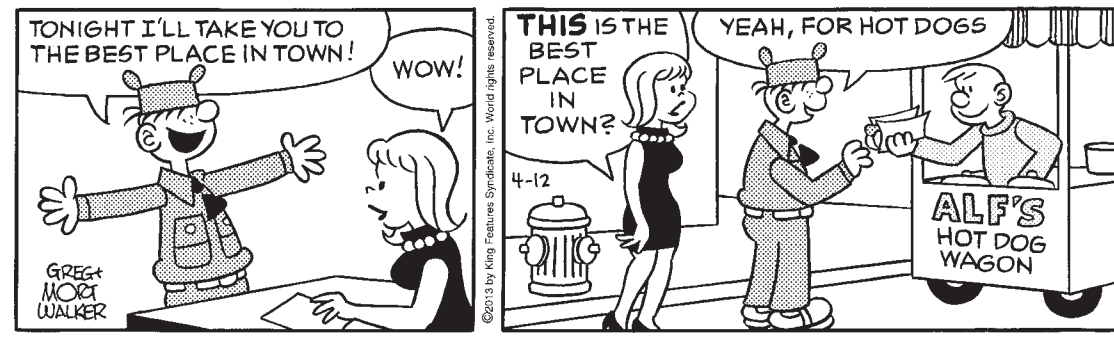
### Zits



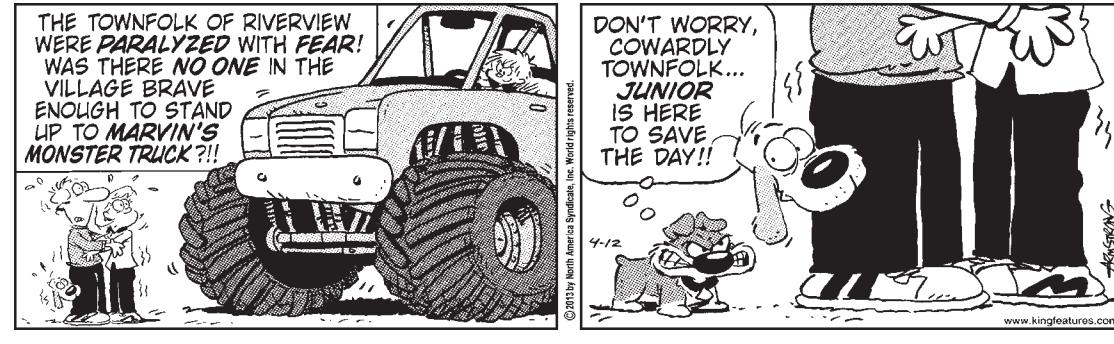
### Garfield



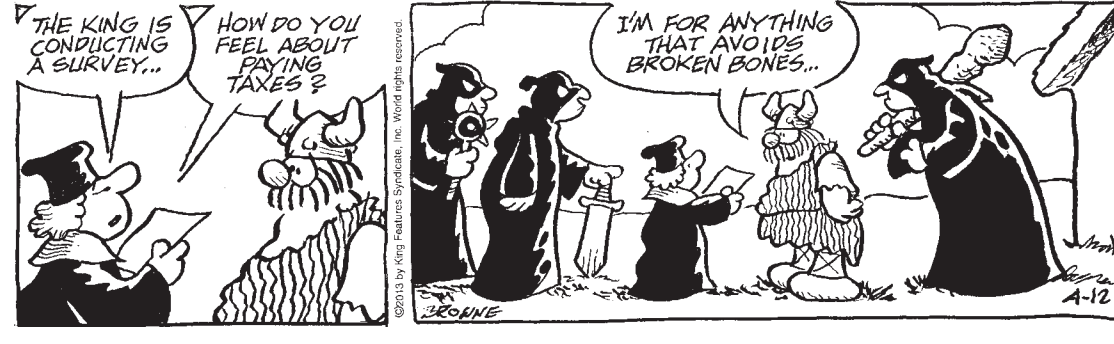
### Beetle Bailey



### Marvin



### Hagar The Horrible



### Peanuts



### Blondie



# Pampa VFW to host poker run

SUBMITTED

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 657 Motorcycle Group 28 of Pampa will be hosting its second annual poker run on June 1. The event will raise scholarship funds to be awarded to a high School student entering the Voice of Democracy contest. All freshman through senior students are eligible for the annual scholarship. Booth space is available for vendors, crafters, and homemade items. Spaces are 10x10 and \$25

each. Each vendor is responsible for their own tables and chairs. Donated items would be welcome for the silent auction and door prizes to be held in conjunction with the day's events. In addition to the Poker Run, the event will have food, entertainment, games and more. All proceeds from the day's events will go to the Voice of Democracy Scholarship. For more information, contact Teri Williams 806-662-3400 or Nelda Martin 806-664-4500

# Rutgers lawyer resigns as board looks at issues

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. (AP) — A Rutgers University lawyer resigned Thursday amid growing anger that he was still employed by the school after approving a decision in December to suspend rather than fire basketball coach Mike Rice after becoming aware of a video showing the coach hitting, kicking and taunting players.

Rice was suspended, fined and ordered to anger management counseling in December after school officials were first given the video by a former basketball program employee. Since the footage became public, Rice was fired, an assistant coach resigned and so did Tim Perneti, the school's popular 42-year-old athletic director.

Meanwhile, lawmakers are planning hearings of their own to address some of the same questions.

Despite some calls for his job, Rutgers President Robert Barchi has received public support from Gov. Chris Christie and the chairman of the board of governors. Barchi and Wolf jointly announced the lawyer's resignation on Thursday, saying "it is in the best interests of the university that Mr. Wolf resign from the university effective immediately."

The university last week announced that John Wolf, who had been serving in an interim basis as the university's top in-house lawyer, had resigned from his leadership position. School officials at first would not clarify what that meant, but then this week acknowledged that he was remaining at Rutgers as a lower-level lawyer.

Perneti, who was named last month as one of five finalists for the Sports Business Journal's athletic director of the year award, said in his letter of resignation that his first instinct last November was to fire Rice.

He has agreed to work with a new general counsel on the transition during a tense time at the university. It's absorbing two medical schools effective July 1.

Wolf had worked at Rutgers since 1984. "While I regret the circumstances surrounding my departure from Rutgers, I always will have very fond memories of the challenges and achievements that I have been a part of and the many colleagues and friends," he said in a statement.

Some state lawmakers felt they'd been deceived and were calling for his resignation in the latest development in a scandal that broke last week when a video was made public showing Rice shoving and kicking players and using gay slurs as he yelled at them during practices.

But it's not clear if he made that recommendation to anyone else.

Who knew about Rice's behavior earlier and what they did about it has become the focus of fallout.

At a Rutgers Board of Governors is meeting Thursday afternoon, there are plans to discuss hiring an adviser to report on Rice's behavior and how the university handled it.

# Man slices arms with saws at Calif. Home Depot

WEST COVINA, Calif. (AP) — A man deliberately cut himself with saws in the aisles of a Home Depot store in suburban Los Angeles on Wednesday, creating a gruesome scene in front of several customers that left him severely injured, police said.

dead but when he checked he found breath and a slight pulse and said he thought to himself, "I can save this guy."

With help from police and store employees, Hurtado collected rope and rags from store shelves and put makeshift tourniquets on both arms, most likely saving the man's life, police said.

The man was in the store's tool section and went unnoticed until he began grabbing several small saws, including one meant to cut sheet rock, and started using them on his arms.

"Were we in a good place for it? No, but you improvise," Hurtado said.

"He cut both arms with hand saws down to the bone," said West Covina police Cpl. Rudy Lopez.

"If I didn't have rope I'd have used my shoelaces. We would have made it work."

Officers received several 911 calls and arrived to find the man lying unconscious in the aisle in a pool of blood.

The man was in surgery hours after the incident, said Lopez, who knew no more about his condition.

An off-duty paramedic from the Pasadena Fire Department had been shopping nearby and hurried to the scene.

The man, who looked to be in his 40s, was carrying no identification, has been unable to answer questions, and was not heard saying anything in the store, so police do not know his name or why he cut himself, Lopez said.

"The officers had already found the man down, face down, blood all over the store, multiple aisles, and the whole store is in chaos," the paramedic, Art Hurtado, told KNBC-TV.

Police interviewed about five people who said they saw what happened, and Lopez said there were likely many more who quickly left the disturbing scene.

Hurtado thought the man was

"It was pretty graphic," he said.

# GOP plan uses \$6B from Rainy Day Fund

ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN (AP) — A new plan by Senate Republicans would take \$6 billion from the state's Rainy Day Fund — and the spending may not stop there.

for taking \$2.5 billion for water projects and \$3.5 billion for transportation.

Republican Sen. Tommy Williams said Thursday he is willing to consider taking more from the projected \$12 billion stockpile of cash reserves for schools and health services. The surprising proposal unveiled in the Senate Finance Committee now calls

The GOP plan to use half of the state's emergency piggybank is a pivot for some party leaders who have staunchly opposed tapping into the fund. That includes just two years ago, when the Legislature faced a \$27 billion shortfall.

Voters would have to authorize the spending by approving a constitutional amendment in November.

# School vouchers bill headed to full Texas Senate

AUSTIN (AP) — A high-profile push for school vouchers statewide is headed to the full Texas Senate.

to qualify for scholarships, children have to be at-risk of dropping out of school and come from low-income families.

The Senate Education Committee approved Senate Bill 23 on Thursday, opening the door for floor debate.

The bill originally allowed at-risk or low-income students to qualify.

It offers tax credits to businesses that establish scholarships helping low-income students leave poor-performing public schools for private or religious ones.

It'll surely spark fierce discussion in the Senate. Opponents say the plan drains money from already cash-strapped public schools.

But an amendment by Brownsville Democratic Sen. Eddie Lucio now means that,

And the House has already passed a resolution stating that public money should be spent only on public schools.

# Regents meet to discuss lawmaker record requests

ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN (AP) — The University of Texas board of regents has agreed to release emails and other documents requested by the Legislature.

over the work of UT President Bill Powers.

In a unanimous voice vote on Thursday, the regents agreed to turn over the records "as soon as reasonably possible." But they included one condition: The lawmakers must sign confidentiality agreements.

Several regents appointed have grown increasingly critical of Powers.

Prominent lawmakers have risen to his defense. They have made large records requests from the regents.

The action marks the latest turn in an increasingly bitter dispute

Board Chairman Gene Powell asked the state attorney general for an opinion on confidentiality of the documents.

The regents spent nearly two hours in a closed session before convening in public for a quick vote.

# Shop that sold guns to Newtown mom had violations

EAST WINDSOR, Conn. (AP) — Federal authorities say a Connecticut gun shop that legally sold weapons used in the Newtown school shootings lost its federal firearms license after the December massacre because of hundreds of violations over the past several years.

tion.

A document prepared by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives explains why Riverview Gun Sales in East Windsor lost its license. Some of the hundreds of violations included letting a felon buy ammunition and selling firearms without background checks. The document was obtained Wednesday by WFSB-TV.

# Pa. juvey escapee stole some Cheetos, police say

GROVE CITY, Pa. (AP) — A boy who briefly escaped from a western Pennsylvania juvenile detention facility apparently had the munchies.

Riverview lawyer Rob Altchiler told the TV station that shooter Adam Lanza's mother, Nancy Lanza, bought the Bushmaster rifle used to kill 20 first-graders and six adults from Riverview, as well as a Sig Sauer handgun found at the school. Altchiler disputed the violations were serious enough to warrant license revoca-

State police in Mercer say the boy, who isn't being named because of his age, escaped from George Junior Republic near Grove City by hiding next to a tree on Monday night. Once he was in the clear, police say the boy walked to a nearby Wal-Mart where he stole a \$3.49 bag worth of Cheetos about 11 p.m.

Police say staff at the juvenile reform school found the boy walking near the store's parking lot and returned him to custody.

According to the Frito-Lay web site, "Cheetos Snacks are the playfully mischievous cheesy crunch that add a little lighten-up moment to any day."

# Spring brings drivers a break at the pumps

SUBMITTED BY AAA TEXAS

The statewide average for a gallon of regular unleaded fuel in Texas is now \$3.45, according to the AAA Texas Weekend Gas Watch. That price is 11 cents less than the national average which now sits at \$3.56. Drivers in Dallas and Fort Worth are paying the most on average at \$3.50 and drivers in Beaumont are paying the least on average at \$3.33.

gin 2013, which was driven by a decline in refinery production and higher gasoline futures prices. The recent falling retail gas prices have been a result of an increase in refinery production now that regularly scheduled refinery maintenance has been completed.

Motorists in every state are enjoying relief at the pump. In fact, today's statewide average price is six cents less than one week ago and 38 cents less than a year ago.

"Lower gas prices this spring are a relief to consumers who are planning weekend trips to enjoy the many great destinations throughout our state," said AAA Texas/New Mexico Representative Doug Shupe. "People are now paying about \$48 to fill up the typical 14-gallon size fuel tank when last year they were paying about \$53, a savings of about five dollars per tank."

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# PampaSports

## Chance Henley's debut fight is for title



Submitted photo

Former Pampa resident Chance Henley makes his debut in the cage for a title fight Saturday at the Amarillo Civic Center.

■ Former Harvester wrestler in MMA main event Saturday at Amarillo Civic Center.

BY TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE  
thowsare@thepampanews.com

"Master Mike" Lister knows a good fighter when he sees one.

Most trainers would never put a fighter who has never fought a bout in the cage for a title fight, but Lister is doing just that with Chance Henley, who grew up in Pampa and wrestled three years for the Harvesters.

Lister said he has complete faith in Henley's abilities as a mixed martial arts fighter.

"He's been training hard and has put in the work," Lister said of the 26-year-old amateur. "If he keeps training he can go as far as he wants to go and probably make it to the UFC."

Henley responded, "I know Master Mike wouldn't do this if he didn't have faith in me. He's not feeding me to the wolves."

Henley will fight Travis Cox for the 185-pound title Saturday in the South Exhibit Hall of the Amarillo Civic Center. Cox, of Amarillo, has won his first two amateur bouts.

The event begins at 7:30 p.m.

Lister, who owns Martial Arts and Athletic Center in Amarillo, said he has trained MMA fighters years before the hugely popular UFC even existed, and that six of his proteges went on to fight in the UFC after the league was formed.

A trainer for more than 30 years, Lister said he was frustrated there wasn't an amateur league in the Panhandle for up-and-coming fighters like Henley, so he started one of his own called the Ignite Fighting Championship (IFC), which is sponsoring Saturday's fight.

"We want to just focus on kids around the Panhandle," he said. "MMA keeps kids focused and away from bad influences."

The league was formed in August and Saturday night's fight, IFC3, will be its third event.

The fourth event will be in Perryton on May 24, Lister said.

Henley said he met Lister about a year ago at a barbershop in Amarillo, where he now lives.

"We started talking about MMA and he asked me if I wanted to train at his gym and I've been there ever since," he said.

The former wrestler said he's up to the challenge of an MMA fight, which combines wrestling and grappling with boxing, kick boxing and jiu jitsu, a Japanese martial art.

"I have taken to the stand-up and striking really well," Henley said. "I like that wrestling is biggest part of MMA, and the striking and the muay thai kicks and elbows I have picked up really well. I'm not worried about getting taken down with my wrestling background."

Henley said he joined the U.S. Navy right out of high school and been working on an oil drilling rig for past few years. He is currently taking classes in mud engineering at DFE tech in Tyler, Texas, and will soon finish the seven-week program. Mud technicians are among the highest-paid professionals in the oil fields.

His mother is Cecelia Cloud of Pampa.

Getting back to athletics, Henley said MMA is a great sport for physical conditioning and strength.

"I'm in the best shape I have ever been in and would consider going pro at some point," he said.

MMA is a bone-crushing, fiercely competitive sport, but out of the cage the fighters are like brothers, he said.

"We have a lot of camaraderie and train with each other," he said. "We beat each other up but at the end of the day we are all family."

For more information about IFC, visit [Ignitemma.com](http://Ignitemma.com). Tickets for Saturday's event are \$25 for general admission, \$10 for children 10 and under and \$40 for the front two rows. They can be purchased at United Supermarkets throughout the Panhandle or at [PanhandleTickets.com](http://PanhandleTickets.com). The Amarillo Civic Center is located at 401 S Buchanan St., Amarillo.

## Bearded Nowitzki can't extend Mavs' playoff streak

ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS (AP) — Dirk Nowitzki was a baby-faced kid barely old enough to drink the last time the Dallas Mavericks missed the playoffs.

Now he's a bearded veteran who can't shave because he and others vowed not to until the team got back to .500.

Dallas still has a shot at a break-even record, but will be watching the playoffs for the first time since 2000.

An unexpected loss to lowly Phoenix put the Mavericks on the brink of post-season elimination Wednesday night. The Los Angeles Lakers finished them off a couple of hours later by beating Portland.

Just two years removed from the fran-

chise's first championship, the Mavericks simply never recovered from Nowitzki missing the first 27 games after the first knee surgery of his career.

**MLB chief rebuffs mayor's request over Oakland A's**

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed's request to sit down with Major League Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig to discuss the Oakland A's pursuit of a San Jose ballpark has been rejected, a newspaper reported.

In a response to Reed's April 2 request for a personal meeting, Selig said Reed should instead talk to Robert Starkey, a sports consultant who worked with the MLB on stadium issues for the Minne-

sota Twins, according to the San Jose Mercury News.

Starkey is on a committee Selig appointed to study the A's potential move to San Jose.

Selig said the committee has been in constant contact with San Jose and added that Reed's reference to "additional litigation" over the proposed A's move was "neither productive nor consistent with process that the Athletics have initiated under our rules."

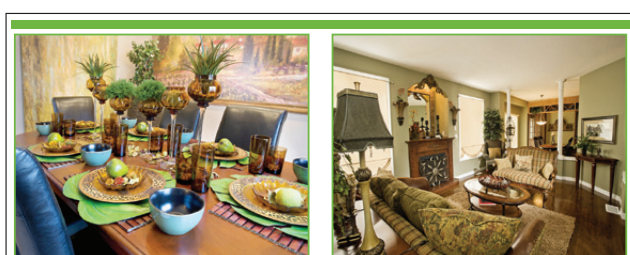
San Jose officials have grown impatient with the pace of deliberations over the potential move. Selig assigned the special committee more than four years ago. The San Francisco Giants have objected to a potential move by the A's to San Jose on grounds they relied on

territorial rights to the San Jose-area market when they built their ballpark, AT&T Park.

The A's said those rights were only meant to support the Giant's failed efforts in the early 1990s to build a San Jose-area ballpark themselves.

Reed had said he hoped his letter requesting the meeting with Selig would motivate the commissioner to take some action soon. He told the Mercury News in a story published on Wednesday that he was encouraged to receive a response from the commissioner and would set up a meeting with Starkey.

"It's movement, it's a little something," Reed said. "I'd just like to have that conversation. What are the problems?"

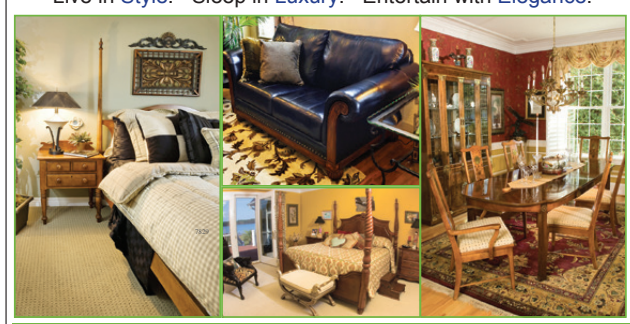


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