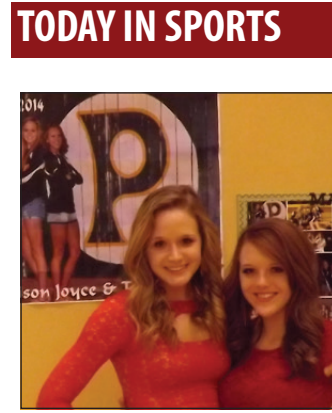


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# The PAMPA NEWS



Friday, December 6, 2013 www.thepampanews.com Volume 109 • No. 172

**75¢** Mark Shields on what voters will look for | Lady Harvesters volleyball reflects on season  
 \$1.50 weekend John Stossel on Christmas charities | p4 Ethan Hunt commits to play baseball for NWOSU | p7&8  
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## Burglary suspect in custody

SUBMITTED BY PPD

A 36-year-old Borger man was in custody Thursday at the Hutchinson County Jail in Stinnett in connection with two recent business break-ins in Pampa.  
 During the night of Nov. 25, World Finance, located at 1538 N. Hobart St., was burglarized. Cash and various electronic items were stolen. Two days later, Hastings in Las Pampa Square was burglarized during the night and various electronic items were reported missing.



Rodger Daniells Jr.

On Monday, detectives from the Pampa Police Department, with assistance from Hutchinson County Sheriff's Office, identified Rodger Dale Daniells Jr. as a suspect in both incidents. Daniells later admitted to being involved in both of the burglaries. On Thursday, Daniells was taken into custody by Hutchinson County authorities for the burglary of a building warrant obtained by the PPD.

In addition to the burglaries here in Pampa, Daniells also has been linked to several burglaries in the Amarillo area. The status of those investigations is unknown to PPD at this time.

Daniells was awaiting arraignment Thursday and no bond had been set.

## The Thai connection



Photos by Timothy P. Howsare

Top, owners and cooks at Yum Yum Thai. From left, Phonephilou Sengvixay, Bounleva Pasahanh, Lae Silavana, Somsanouk Thedsavong and Eugene Sengvixay. Bottom left, a couple of the Budchas and other figurines near the register. Bottom right, two patrons having lunch on Thursday.

■ Restaurant owners immigrated to U.S. from Laos, which borders Thailand.

BY TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE  
 thowsare@thepampanews.com

Patrons at Yum Yum Thai Restaurant would probably guess that the owners, Eugene and Phonephilou Sengvixay, who make the rounds from table to table waiting on customers, are from Southeast Asia.

However, they are not from Thailand, the nation that is the origin of their cuisine. The Sengvixays and their cooks — who Eugene calls his “three super chefs” — are from Laos, a landlocked country that borders Thailand.

The couple have owned the restaurant in Las Pampas Square for about a year and three months, said Eugene, who goes by the nickname “Mee.”

“We took over from the previous owners, who also called it Yum Yum Thai,” he said.

The restaurant is a popular lunch destination in Pampa with specials for only \$4.99. The portions are generous and the fried rice is always good.

Mee said he moved from Laos to Chicago in 1981 after living for a year in Thailand. He was 10 years old when he moved to the U.S. and his was with his family of seven. There was an American sponsor in

YUM YUM cont. on page 2

## Downtown Christmas parade canceled

■ Most of the other holiday events will go on as planned.

STAFF REPORT

The Christmas parade scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday has been canceled due to the cold temperatures and snow predicted for the weekend.

The parade, which is sponsored by the Pampa Chamber of Commerce, will not be rescheduled.

“It was a tough decision and we waited as long as we could before canceling it,” said chamber executive director Lori Byrne.

She said rescheduling it to another date would be difficult because there are already so many other events scheduled this month.

All indoor activities are expected to go on, according to Pam Dalton, one of the organizers of Christmas on Main.

She said the horse-drawn carriage rides will only be canceled if there is ice on the road, which would make it dangerous for the horse owners to haul trailers.

The Santa event at the White Deer Museum has been canceled and the Holiday Fun Run has been postponed to Monday.

The current schedule of Saturday's events is as follows:

8:30-9:30 a.m. — Breakfast with Santa and Photo Opportunity (bring your camera) at The Pampa Mall and sponsored by The Pregnancy Support Center.

9-10 a.m. — Madeline Graves Christmas Dancers at The Pampa Mall and sponsored by Madeline Graves.

10 a.m.-5 p.m. — Doggie in the Window Pet Adoption at Harvest Bible church located at 300

PARADE cont. on page 2

## Post Office to hold customer appreciation day

STAFF REPORT

The Pampa Post Office is having its annual customer appreciation day on Monday to demonstrate it thanks for the community. Postmaster Bob Schrock said, “Every year around this time, we like to have treats for our customers to let them know that we appreciate them. We like to spread the cheer.”

The holidays can be stressful and Schrock has this day once a year to lighten the load of postal patrons. Sharon Wampler has been the chairwoman for the event for the past two years. Although she organizes the event, most of the Post Office employees bring some sort of treat for the customers.

“We're happy that the customers continue to come to us because without them we wouldn't be in business,” Schrock said. He and his employees enjoy providing the service they do for the community of Pampa.

There will be refreshments available for customer appreciation from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 9 at the Pampa Post Office, 120 E. Foster Ave.



Submitted photo

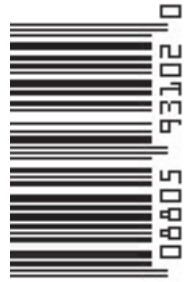
The Pampa Post Office is decked in full holiday regalia.

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 Weather ..... 3A Puzzles/Dear Abby . 11A  
 Viewpoints ..... 4A  
 Comics ..... 5A





# Parade

Continued From Page 1

W. Browning and sponsored by PAWS.  
 11:30 a.m. — Holiday Pet Contest at The Pampa Mall sponsored by Leean's Grooming.  
 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. — Soup with Mrs. Claus at The Knights of Columbus located at 318 N. Cuyler St. sponsored by Altrusa.  
 1 p.m. — Pictures with Santa (bring your camera). Pictures will begin at 1 p.m., will take a short break to watch the parade and finish up by 4:30 at the White Deer Land Museum 116 S. Cuyler St.  
 3 p.m. — Story and craft time at The Lovett Memorial Library.  
 7:30 p.m. — Nutcracker Ballet at the M.K. Brown Auditorium sponsored by Pampa Dance Academy.  
 TBA — Lighting of the Tree at the Gray County Court House. Tree donated by Davis Tree Farm set up by Ammons Landscape.  
 All-day events:  
 • North Pole Express direct Santa letter delivery at Victorian Rose 113 W. Kingsmill Ave.  
 • Christmas light displays throughout downtown.  
 • Horse-drawn carriage rides at Harvest Bible Church 300 W. Browning and Pampa Senior Citizen's Center at 500 W. Francis Ave.  
 • Christmas characters downtown sponsored by Shepherd's Helping Hands.

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# Yum Yum

Continued From Page 1

Chicago who helped make their exodus from Laos become a reality.  
 At that time, the Loatian government was very oppressive, Mee said. Though conditions have improved over the years, his homeland is still dominated by a communist politburo.  
 Laos' population was estimated to be around 6.5 million in 2012. A third of

the country's population lives below the international poverty line which means living on less than U.S. \$1.25 per day.  
 The country was formerly closed to visitors, but tourism is now the nation's fastest-growing industry.  
 "It used to be they didn't allow anybody in but now they have opened up," he said.  
 After a year in Chicago, the Sengvixays moved to Amarillo, where Mee graduated from Palo Duro High School and got his first job as a bus boy at

Amarillo Country Club. He moved up from the bus boy to cook when he was hired by Mandarin Express in the Westgate Mall.  
 His next job was at the Levis Strauss factory in Amarillo, where he worked until the plant closed in 1998. After that he moved to Dallas and worked for two years for a company that upgraded computers.  
 Then he returned to Amarillo to work at the Clements Unit of the state prison system, a job he held for five years.  
 In 2009, Mee and Pho-

nephilou, also from Laos, were married. They now have a 2-year-old son.  
 It was Phonephilou's idea to buy the restaurant, he said.  
 When asked by the newspaper on what sets apart Thai cuisine from other ethnic foods, Mee brought out his No. 1 cook, Bounleva Pasahanh, who has been cooking since 1985.  
 Pasahanh said it's the blending of three primary tastes — sour, sweet and spicy.  
 "We bring all three of them together," he said.

The curry dishes in particular are spicy and considered a hallmark of Thai cuisine.  
 Pasahanh said he developed the current menu with Mee and Phonephilou.  
 In January, they plan to come out with a new menu.  
 Mee said business has been steady since opening 15 months ago, but he would like to see it pick up.  
 Yum Yum Thai is located at 1202 N. Hobart St. The phone number is 806-669-9502.

## Conservation district now taking orders for trees, shrubs

**SUBMITTED**  
 The Gray County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is now taking orders for windbreak and wildlife trees and shrubs. These trees and shrubs will be delivered in March and April.  
 A wide variety of trees are available for purchase through the District at a nominal cost.

Several species of conifer seedlings are being offered including arborvitae, Austrian pine, Pinyon pine, Ponderosa pine, Rocky Mountain juniper and Colorado blue spruce. Hardwoods available include aromatic sumac, bur oak, chinkapin oak, chokecherry, cottonwood, golden

currant, green ash, hackberry, hybrid cottonwood, lacebark elm, lilac, nanking cherry, native plum, pecan, sand cherry, sawtooth oak, siberian elm and many other different species.  
 Additionally, the District will be taking orders for larger trees in 1-, 3-, 5-, 10- and 15-gallon sizes. Several species of conifer,

shade trees, shrubs fruit trees and ornamentals are available in those sizes.  
 For more information, come by the Gray County SWCD Office, 12125 E. Frederic, Suite B, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday, or call the SWCD Office at 806-665-6561, Ext. 102.

## Winter stocking of trout in area city lakes

**SUBMITTED**  
 Each winter from December through early March, Texas Parks and Wildlife's Inland Fisheries Division, in cooperation with participating cities and agencies, stocks more than 250,000 catchable-size rainbow trout in more than 100 locations across Texas.  
 This trout stocking program is designed to provide increased wintertime fishing opportunities for Texas' more than 2.3 million anglers. As a part of this program,

The Pampa City Park Lake is scheduled to receive 1,000 rainbow trout during the week of Dec. 4, 2013 and an additional 1,000 during the week of Feb. 20, 2014. Stocking dates are subject to change due to weather and availability of trout.  
 Rainbow trout are a very popular cold-water game fish that offers a great winter fishing opportunity for anglers of all ages.  
 These fish are prized for both their fight and their quality as fine table fare.  
 While rainbow trout can best be caught in early morning and late evening periods, anytime of day can produce excellent results. Fishing gear for these hungry trout can be as simple as a cane pole or as sophisticated as a fly rod.  
 Trout often display selective feeding habits, and sometimes prefer a wide variety of lures and baits. Ultra-light spinning tackle using 4- to 6-pound test-line and 1/32 to 1/8 ounce spinners works well.  
 Dry or wet flies, small spoons, and bucktail or feather jigs are also productive. There are many methods which will catch trout, but baits such as whole kernel corn, cheese, and salmon eggs on a long-shank hook (No. 8 or smaller) are very effective for the hatchery-reared fish.

It is also a good idea to carry a pair of needle-nosed pliers to aid in removing hooks.  
 Anglers are reminded that Community Fishing Lakes do have special regulations for rainbow trout: the daily bag limit is 5 trout per day per person, and there is no minimum length regulation on these small lakes.  
 A valid Texas freshwater fishing license is required for anyone that is 17 years of age or older or does not meet other state exemption guidelines. Only fishing by pole and line is permitted in Community Fishing Lakes.  
 For more information on statewide and community fishing regulations consult a 2013-14 Texas Parks and Wildlife Outdoor Annual available at any license retailer or the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department website at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us).  
 For more information on the trout stocking program, and for a complete list of locations stocked in Texas visit our website at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/fish/management/stocking/trout/stocking.phtml](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/fish/management/stocking/trout/stocking.phtml).  
 Also "Like" their Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/TPWDInland-FisheriesTexasHighPlains](http://www.facebook.com/TPWDInland-FisheriesTexasHighPlains) to learn when stockings occur and to get other information about fishing in the Panhandle area.

## Former Texas A&M president is new MU chancellor



R. Bowen Loftin

ST. LOUIS (AP) — A bow-tie wearing Texan who led one of the country's largest universities has been hired as the University of Missouri's new chancellor.  
 R. Bowen Loftin, former president of Texas A & M, succeeds Brady Deaton, who retired in November after overseeing the flagship campus in Columbia since 2004. Missouri announced his hiring Thursday.  
 Missouri system President Tim Wolfe called Loftin, 64, a "dynamic leader ... to take our university to new heights."  
 Loftin, a native Texan, stepped down as Texas A&M's president in July after leading his alma mater for four years.  
 He had planned to remain in College Station to direct an academic institute focused on homeland defense in the university's engineering college.  
 At the time, Loftin

cited an interest to return to the "front lines of the academy," but on Thursday he said the opportunity to lead another prominent public university was too good to pass up.  
 "There aren't many schools I would think about associating with after Texas A&M," he said at a campus introduction in Columbia, clad in his trademark bowtie, this one gold with black spots, his new school colors.  
 "Missouri fits all the pieces."  
 Loftin was born in Hearne and grew up in Navasota, Texas, two small towns about 20 miles from Texas A&M, where he earned an undergraduate degree in physics in 1971.  
 He received his doctorate in physics from Rice University in Houston and taught computer science and electrical engineering at the University of Houston and Old Dominion University in Virginia.  
 More recently, he spent four years as the vice president and chief executive officer of Texas A&M's branch campus in Galveston.

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 Holiday Pet Contest, Soup with Mrs. Claus,  
 Pictures with Santa, Christmas Parade,  
 Story & Craft Time,  
 Home for the Holidays 5K Fun Run/Walk,  
 Nutcracker Ballet, Lighting of Trees, Carriage Rides,  
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For more information about the listed events, visit the  
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# Obituaries

## Rahna Abernathy

Rahna Abernathy, 57, died Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2013 in Pampa.

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, 2013, at Highland Baptist Church with Pastor Paul Nachtigall, officiating. Cremation and arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Abernathy was born April 11, 1956 in Pampa and graduated from White Deer High School in 1974. She had been a resident of Pampa since 1982 and married Doug Abernathy on Jan. 30, 1982. Rahna received her Associate's degree from Clarendon College. She was the office manager for Interim Healthcare for seven



Rahna Abernathy

years. She was a member of First Baptist Church. Rahna was preceded in death by her father, Chester Tackett, her stepfather, Ed Lowrance, a brother, Richard Lowrance, a niece, Kimberly Barbee, and a great-nephew.

Survivors include her husband, Doug Abernathy of the home, two sons, Daniel Abernathy and wife Emily of Austin, and Tommy Abernathy of Midland, her mother, June Lowrance of White Deer, her stepmother, Rose Tackett of Pampa, two brothers, Richard Tackett and wife Sherry of White Deer, and Scott Lowrance and wife Donna of Pampa, three sisters, Sandra Bryam and husband Gene of Amarillo, Patti Duezabou and husband John of Helena, Mont., and Chalenia Freeman of Pampa, nine nieces, two nephews, five great nieces, nine great nephews and one great great nephew.

Memorials may be made to Interim Hospice, 2217 Per-ryton Pkwy., Pampa, Texas 79065.

Sign the on-line guest register at [www.carmichael-whatley.com](http://www.carmichael-whatley.com).

## For the record

# Hereford woman arrested for assault

• Belma Michelle Garcia, 38, Hereford, was arrested Wednesday by the Gray County Sheriff's Office for assault with intent to cause bodily injury.

Wednesday by GCSO for insufficient bond — burglary of a habitation.

# Shell scraps plans to build \$12.5B La. plant

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — Royal Dutch Shell has decided to abandon plans to build a massive \$12.5 billion plant in Louisiana that would have turned natural gas into liquid fuels like diesel.

The decision comes just two months after Shell selected a site for the plant. It would have created 740 jobs, according to a late-September announcement that championed the plant's location in Ascension Parish, near Baton Rouge.

Shell, based in the Hague, Netherlands, said Thursday that the cost of the plant and the expected profit it could generate made the plant "not a viable option."

Gov. Bobby Jindal's administration had offered an incentive package that included \$112 million for road improvements, land purchasing and other infrastructure in Ascension Parish.

Economic Development Secretary Stephen Moret calls the abrupt decision "very disappointing." But he says Louisiana is being considered for several other multibillion-dollar projects and has other large announced projects on the way.

The plant would have turned natural gas, which is relatively cheap in the U.S. compared with prices around the world, into higher-value diesel and gasoline using a complex process involving heat and chemical catalysts. To justify the plant's enormous expense, the cost of natural gas would have to remain very low — and the price of diesel very high — for more than a decade.

Many analysts believe U.S. natural gas prices will

remain low, thanks to enormous reserves of natural gas found in recent years under several states. But the U.S. is also increasing demand for natural gas by building export facilities, using it to generate more electricity and developing truck engines that will burn it for fuel. This could increase prices somewhat.

At the same time, many expect oil prices to remain flat or fall slightly over the next several years as the U.S., Canada and other countries produce more oil at a time when demand is growing only moderately.

## PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Saturday	Sunday
High 23 Low 6	High 21 Low 10	High 43 Low 9

**Today:** Mostly sunny with a high of 23. Chance of snow: 10 percent. Winds northeast at 8 mph. Sunrise at 7:40 a.m.

**Tonight:** clear with a low of 6. Winds southeast at 9 mph. Sunset at 5:31 p.m.

**Saturday:** Mostly cloudy with a high of 21. Winds southeast at 14 mph. Sunrise at 7:40 a.m.

**Saturday night:** Cloudy with a low of 10. Chance of snow: 20 percent. Winds south-southeast at 14 mph. Sunset at 5:31 p.m.

**Sunday:** Few snow showers with a high of 43. Chance of snow: 30 percent. Winds south-southwest at 18 mph. Sunrise at 7:41 a.m.

**Sunday night:** Partly cloudy with a low of 9. Winds north-northwest at 14 mph. Sunset at 5:31 p.m.

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**CHRISTMAS HOME TOUR** Sunday, Dec. 8th, 1-4pm. The Hudson Home - 1000 Deer Place, The Lusk Home - 2536 Duncan and The Smith Home - 2301 Chestnut. Tickets \$10 available at Pampa Office Supply, the Victorian Rose and at the homes.

**CHRISTMAS SALE!** Everything in store 40% off, Madison's Boutique, 329 N. Hobart.

**DON'T FORGET** your favorite "Nutcracker" flower bouquets & arrangements available at Brandon's Flowers, 665-5546.

**FESTIVAL OF TREES** MK Brown Auditorium Viewing Dec. 7th 10:30am-10pm and Dec. 8th 1-5:30pm.

**GOSPEL SINGING** will be held at the Pentecostal Holiness Church, 1700 Alcock, from 2-4 Sunday afternoon. Everyone welcome.

**PRMC GIFT Shop** 40% Off Sale on all items!!

**SANTA WILL** be at Shutterbug Dec. 7 from 3:30-6:30 and Dec. 12th from 4-7. Pictures starting at \$7.

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## 5K FUN RUN/WALK

**WHERE:** Starting at the White Deer Land Museum. 112 S. Cuyler

**WHEN:** December 7, 2013.  
Registration is at 4:30  
Run/Walk begins at 5:30

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# Viewpoints

**The PAMPA NEWS**  
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## No mercy from Obama this Thanksgiving

Another Thanksgiving has passed without a presidential commutation for Clarence Aaron, who, at age 24, was sentenced to life without parole for a first-time nonviolent drug conviction in 1993.



**DEBRA SAUNDERS**

President Barack Obama has the unfettered power to pardon ex-cons and commute the sentences of federal inmates. Yet this term, he has used that power to commute the sentences of turkeys only — no people, even though the American Civil Liberties Union figures that close to 2,000 nonviolent offenders are serving sentences of life without parole in federal prisons.

Aaron was not a buyer or a seller but a facilitator who hooked up two professional drug dealers. All but one of Aaron's confederates has been released from prison. His remaining co-defendant is due for release next year.

Why did Aaron get the longest time? He didn't testify against the higher-ups, who sold or bought 9 kilograms of cocaine and planned to traffic another 15 kilograms. They cooperated with authorities. Also, the buyer planned to convert the powder cocaine into crack (which carries a harsher federal mandatory

minimum sentence). The government was able to charge defendants for quantities not traded. Because Aaron didn't know how to game the system like a pro, he got life without parole.

That's a misleading term, according to Julie Stewart, president of Families Against Mandatory Minimums. It's not a sentence of life as much as a sentence to live until you die in prison.

In 2007, President George W. Bush asked the Department of Justice pardon attorney to revisit its recommendation to deny Aaron a commutation. Pardon attorney Ronald Rodgers told the White House he still believed that Aaron's petition should be denied. Problem is, according to a 2012 inspector general's report, Rodgers withheld vital information on the case — that the sentencing judge and prosecutor's office had reversed their staunch opposition to a commutation.

Even though he misled the previous president, Rodgers remains on the job. Attorney General Eric Holder gives lip service to reforming the draconian sentencing system, yet after winning re-election, his boss has not shown mercy to a single nonviolent offender.

"Pardon Power" blogger P.S. Ruckman Jr. rates the Obama administration as "one of the most merciless in history." Bush had a better

record. I can hear apologists leap to the president's defense. Obama dare not use this power, they pant, because Republicans would slam him for it.

For those critics, I have two words: Eugenia Jennings.

Never heard of her? That's because there was no hue and cry when Obama commuted the Illinois woman's sentence in 2011 in time for her to make it home for Christmas. She is the only recipient of an Obama commutation.

Jennings was an 18-year-old mother when she was sentenced to 22 years for her third drug offense — selling a small amount of crack cocaine to a federal informant. She clearly was no criminal mastermind, but in prison, she wised up and earned an electrician's diploma.

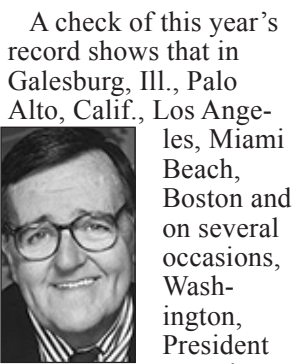
Jennings died from leukemia in October.

The Alton Telegraph reports that 200 people attended a standing-room-only service for a woman whom "many hold as a symbol of strength and redemption."

There is nothing stopping Obama from repeating this amazing success. I have to figure he just doesn't care.

*Email Debra J. Saunders at [dsaunders@sf-chronicle.com](mailto:dsaunders@sf-chronicle.com). To find out more about Debra J. Saunders and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*

## What voters will be looking for



**MARK SHIELDS**

A check of this year's record shows that in Galesburg, Ill., Palo Alto, Calif., Los Angeles, Miami Beach, Boston and on several occasions, Washington, President Barack Obama made the following statement: "I have run my last campaign."

Of course, that's not really news. The 22nd Amendment to the U.S. Constitution — passed in 1947 by a Republican Congress and ratified in 1951 by three-fourths of the states — declares, "no person shall be elected to the office of president more than twice." So twice-elected Obama would not be able to run in 2016 for a third term (saying nothing of his recently falling poll numbers).

That Amendment is vivid proof of the "law of unintended consequences." Unable to defeat Franklin Delano Roosevelt in any of his four winning White House campaigns, Republicans, after his death in 1945, set off to exact posthumous vengeance on him by limiting all future presidents to two terms. The irony is that in the last 62 years, probably only two U.S. presidents — if it had been legal and they had been willing — could have run successfully for a third term in the White House. And both popular chief executives — Dwight Eisenhower and Ronald Reagan (who, after leaving office, urged repeal of the amendment) — were, as we recall, Republicans.

So if voters will be choosing a new commander in chief in 2016, what specific qualities will they be looking for? Be attentive, because I am about to share a dark secret of the "Secret Society of Political Pundits."

When a president's performance or conduct in office disappoints us, we look for a candidate who possesses qualities we regrettably learned were missing in the flawed predecessor.

Think about recent presidential elections. In

1976, after the criminality and corruption of Watergate and the failed presidency of Richard Nixon — a man whose credentials included service as a congressman, senator and vice president — former one-term Georgia Gov. Jimmy Carter's total lack of Washington experience, along with his repeated pledge never to lie to the American people, were valued by the voters as real virtues.

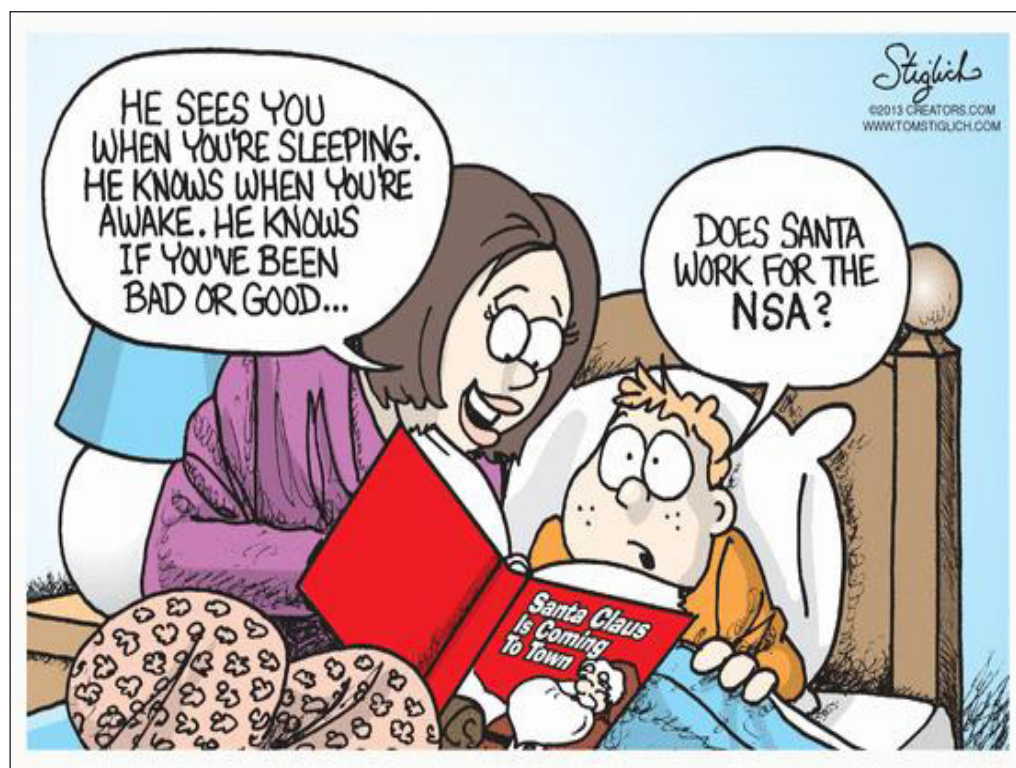
Carter was honest, intelligent, hard-working and the least "imperial" of presidents. But he seemed to change his mind an awful lot. So, after just one term and difficult economic times, voters overwhelmingly chose the self-confident Reagan, who had not changed his mind since 1964. Again, voters were looking for what was missing in the president who had disappointed.

The same pattern was evident when Reagan's Republican successor, George H. W. Bush, was running for reelection in challenging economic times, and voters doubted the president fully understood the hardships they were undergoing. When Bush appeared confounded by the electronic scanner at the supermarket checkout, Democrat Bill Clinton persuaded voters: "I feel your pain." The electorate found the empathy they were seeking.

After eight years of George W. Bush, whose invasion and occupation of Iraq were viewed as unwise and unpopular like his response to Hurricane Katrina, and whose broken syntax had become a late-night punch line, voters embraced Obama's intellect, eloquence and early opposition to the Iraq War.

What about 2016? It's a good bet we'll be looking for a candidate who has successfully run something large like a state, has been able to work productively with political adversaries and projects optimism that can inspire confidence about the nation's future. Know anyone who qualifies?

*To find out more about Mark Shields and read his past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*



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## Real charity in the spirit of Christmas

'Tis the season for giving.

But when you give, do you know your money will help someone?

Social workers say, "Don't give to beggars." Those who do give are "enablers," helping

alcoholics and drug users to continue bad habits. It's better to give to charities that help the "homeless." I put "homeless" in quotes because my TV producers have quietly followed a dozen of the more convincing beggars after "work," and all had homes.

Once, I put on a fake beard and begged for an hour. At the rate money was coming in, I would have made ninety bucks in an eight-hour day — \$23,000 per year, tax-free! I see why people panhandle.

Their success, however, means that people who give them money, no matter how good their intentions, are not engaging in real charity. Giving may make you feel better, but it doesn't make the world

a better place.

So where should we give? Charity-rating services try to separate good charities from scams, but they get conned, too. The definition of "charitable work" is rarely clear. How should the board of a nonprofit's first-class hotel expenses during a trip to Africa be classified?

That's why I give to charities I can watch. I donate to The Doe Fund, a nonprofit helping to rehabilitate ex-convicts. I saw their "Men in Blue" working near my apartment — cheerfully and energetically. I thought, "Whoever's rehabbing these guys is doing something right!" So I give money to them — and to a couple other groups I can see.

Finally, I give more to charity because I'm not much of an entrepreneur. I don't have business-building skills. But for those who do, here's a novel idea: Don't give to charity.

Years ago, Ted Turner was praised for donating a billion dollars to the United Nations. He said he wanted to "guilt" other billionaires into giving more and told me Warren Buffet was "cheap" for giving too little. At first, the idea makes

sense. Billionaires have more than they need; merely chasing more profit seems selfish.

But giving it a second thought, I found a fallacy in Turner's argument. The U.N. is a wasteful bureaucracy, leading me to assume it squandered Turner's gift. Buffet, meanwhile, continued to direct his investors' money to growing companies. Based on Buffet's stock-picking success, his investments were probably a more productive use of capital than Turner's. Money went to people making better products, inventing better things, creating more jobs and so on. Maybe Buffet's stock picks are now funding the next Bill Gates.

Today, the real Gates spends his time giving money away. He's unusually conscientious about it. He experiments, funding what works and dropping what doesn't.

His charity work saves lives. Good for him. But Gates was also unusually skilled at bringing people better software. Had he continued doing that at Microsoft, I bet the company would have been even more productive. And Gates would have

done more for the world.

I tried that thought experiment on Turner, who, in turn, unclipped his microphone and walked off the set.

OK, so people who give away a billion dollars don't want to hear skepticism about their gift. But there's little doubt capitalism helps people more. Even rock star Bono from U2 has come to understand that. He used to call for more government spending on foreign aid. Now he says: "Aid is just a stopgap. Commerce, entrepreneurial capitalism take more people out of poverty."

Bingo. If Bono gets it, Turner should, too.

I applaud those who give to charity, but let's not forget that it's capitalists (honest ones, not those who feed off government) who do the most for the poor.

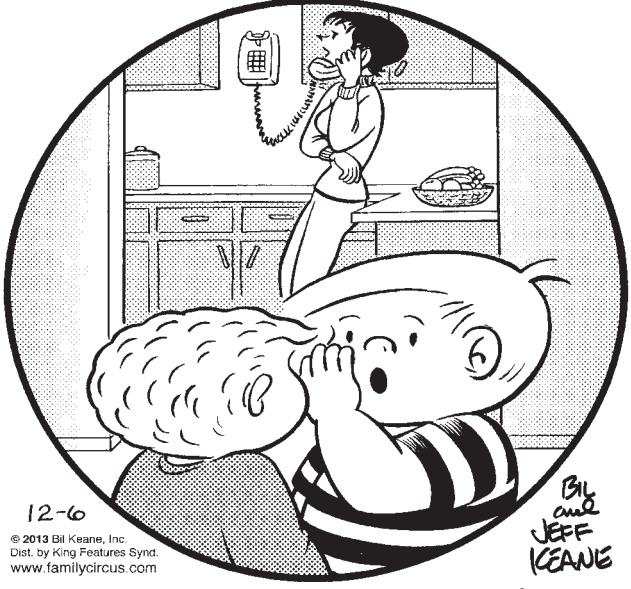
They do more good for the world than politicians — and more even than do-gooders working for charities.

*John Stossel is host of "Stossel on the Fox Business Network," and the author of "No They Can't! Why Government Fails, but Individuals Succeed." For other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*



# comics PAGE

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



12-6

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Bil and Jeff Keane

**"It must be Grandma on the phone. Mommy's giving out our sizes."**

### Non Sequitur



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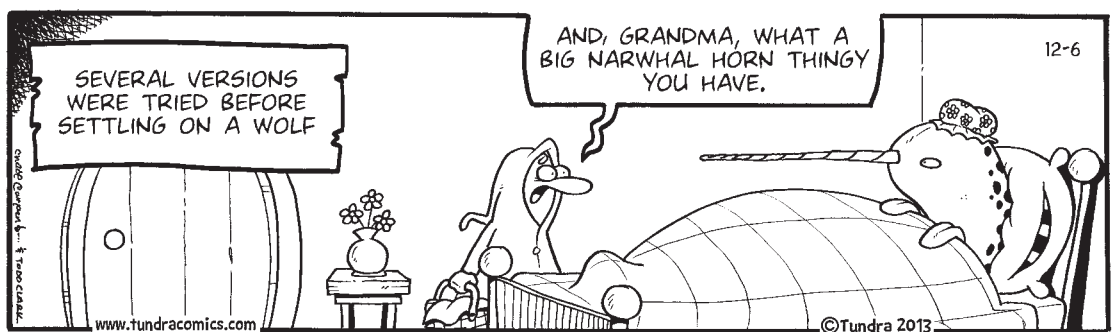
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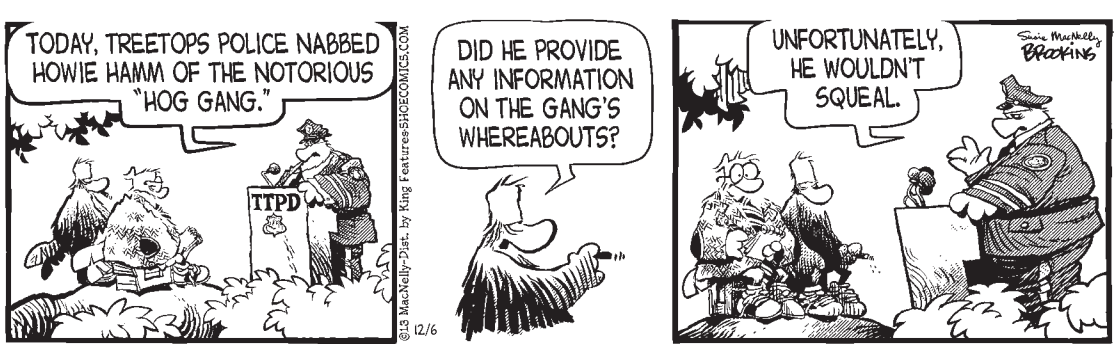
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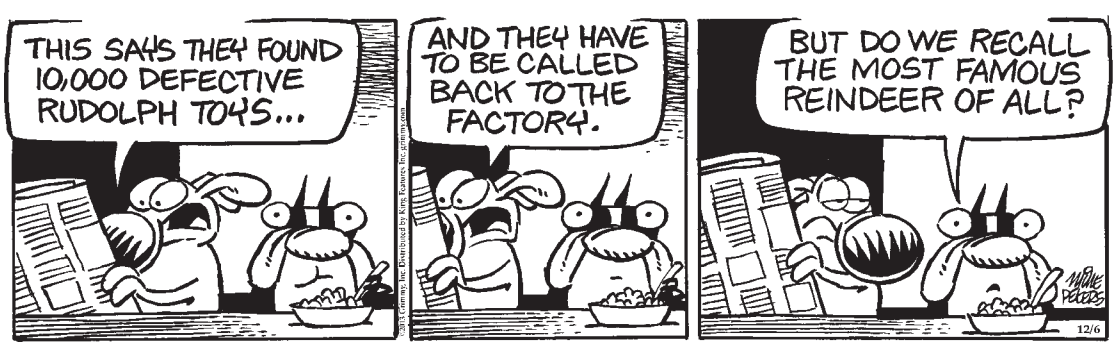
### Tundra



### Shoe



### Mother Goose and Grim



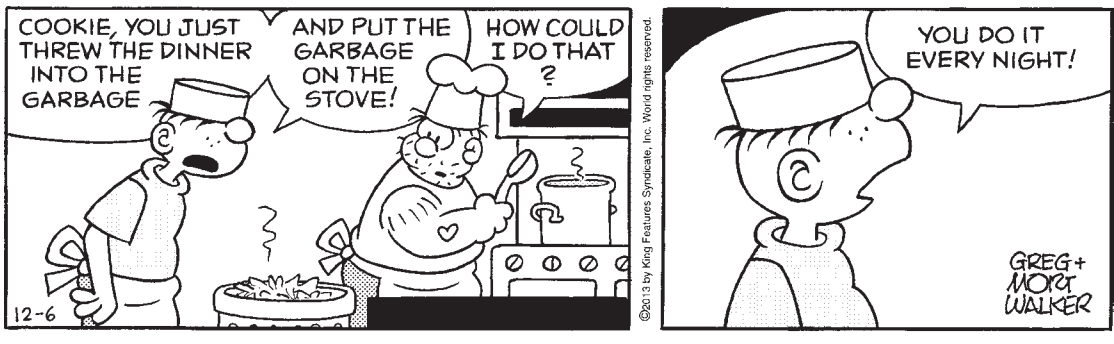
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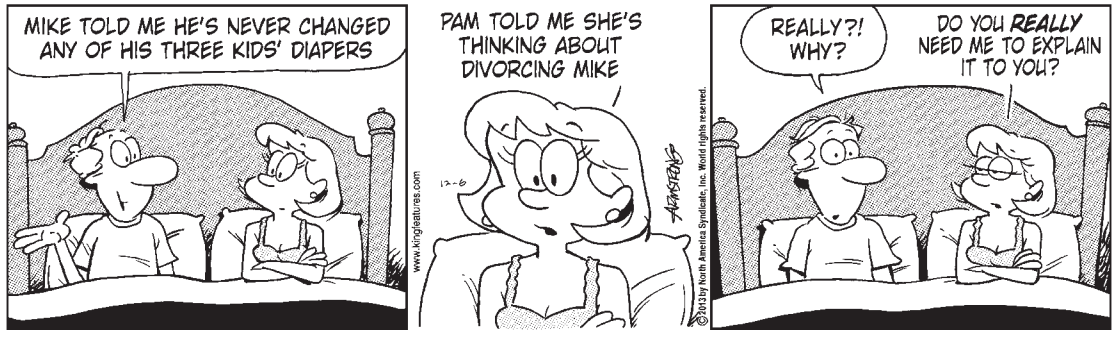
### Garfield



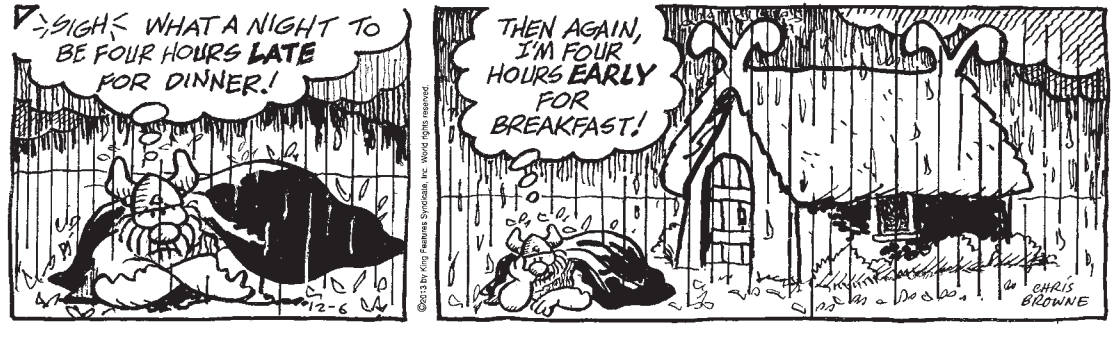
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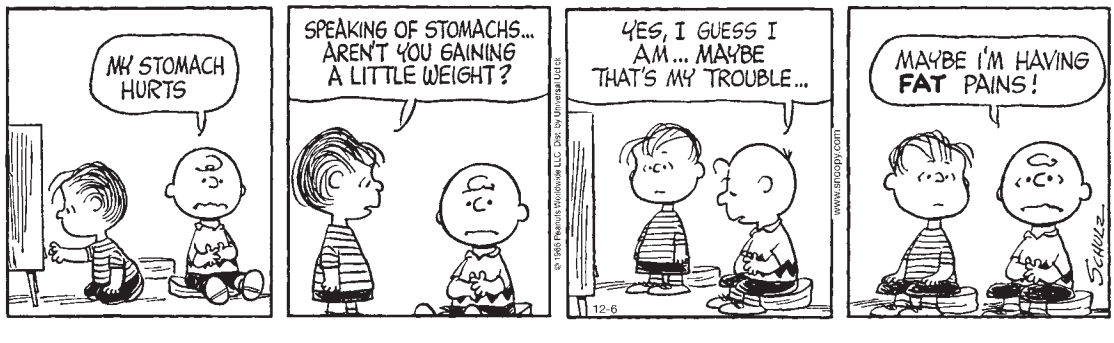
### Marvin



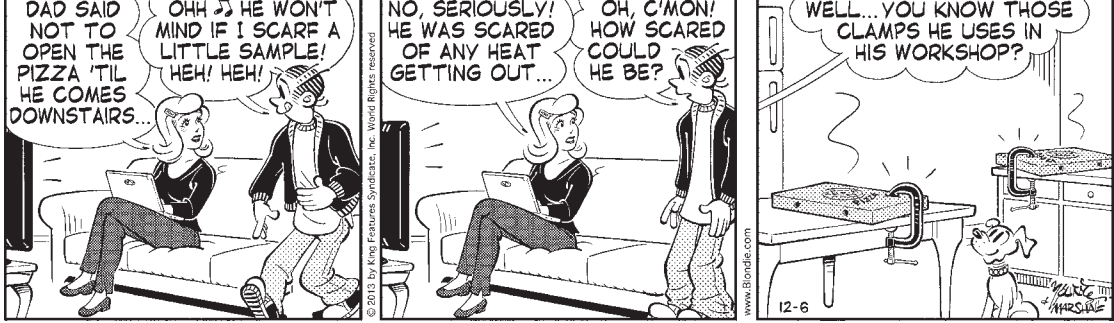
### Hagar The Horrible



### Peanuts



### Blondie



# daily horoscope

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Saturday, Dec. 7, 2013:  
 This year you will go with the flow of the moment more easily than you have in the recent past. You could become involved in a cause of some sort. You often will spend time with friends and associates. If you are single, you easily might meet someone through this activity; however, you are unlikely to get involved in a major relationship before summer. If you are attached, the two of you enjoy each other's company, but you also love being with your friends. You often are seen smiling together. **AQUARIUS** knows how to turn boring into exciting.

**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)  
 ★★★★★ At some point today, you will want to join a friend for some fun, whether it's a tree-decorating party or simply coming up with gift ideas for a difficult person. Be careful with a temperamental partner who has very different ideas. Tonight: Where the action is.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
 ★★★★★ Take a stand. You will want to finish a project before you relax. For some of you, this responsibility could involve an older friend or relative. For others, it might involve work from your job. Tonight: Avoid lecturing someone, even if you are dying to speak your mind.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
 ★★★★★ Make phone calls to loved ones at a distance. You might want to discuss their gift preferences, as you are not with them every day. On the other hand, they might prefer getting together for a visit. Tonight: Get tickets to a holiday concert, or buy a Christmas CD.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
 ★★★★★ A partner might be controlling. You could experience some uproar on the homefront, which might just be dragging in the tree to decorate it. Make an effort to allow others to have their say. You tend to dominate family matters. Tonight: With a favorite person.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
 ★★★★★ You'll want to be more convivial and go along with others' wishes. Make time for just you and the apple of your eye. Feelings flow, whether you're under mistletoe or just relaxing at home together. Tonight: Go along with a friend's request.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
 ★★★★★ Learn to juggle your busy schedule. Avoid doing any impulse shopping. If you do, hold on to the receipts, just in case you change your mind. Go for a walk, get into the mood of the season, but avoid the stores. Center yourself. Tonight: Complete a project at home.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
 ★★★★★ Mars enters your sign and creates a likelihood that diplomacy will fly out of the window in the next few weeks. You are likely to express your feelings, which could shock some people who think they know you. Get in some exercise to lessen your stress. Tonight: Very playful.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
 ★★★★★ You might choose to suppress your feelings in order to maintain a more even-tempered mood. Understand what is happening between you and someone else. Be careful, as holding in hurt feelings could turn you into a volcano when you finally let go. Tonight: Stay close to home.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
 ★★★★★ You are likely to say and do what you want. Don't be surprised if a close friend turns your day upside down with plans that he or she has for you. Why have words when you could choose to be flattered? Clear out an errand or two if possible. Tonight: Let the party begin.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
 ★★★★★ You easily could wonder what is going on with an older friend, relative or someone you have put on a pedestal. You might see how much this person is passionate about the holidays, as he or she barks out orders. Be polite. Tonight: Treat a close loved one to dinner.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
 ★★★★★ Someone at a distance will reach out to you and demonstrate his or her caring. You might beam from ear to ear, which could draw others to you. You have a lot of energy; direct it toward getting some of your holiday errands or projects done. Tonight: Find your friends for a little fun.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
 ★★★★★ Know that you might need some time just for yourself. Explaining that to a loved one could take talent, but know that it is necessary. Take some time to clear up a problem. At the same time, try to get through some personal matters. Tonight: Lie low.



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# Edward Jones ranked No. 1 in national survey of financial advisors

**SUBMITTED**

For the 19th time, the financial services firm Edward Jones ranked No. 1 in WealthManagement.com/REP. magazine's annual survey of the nation's six largest financial services firms, according to Ben Watson, Pampa financial advisor. The magazine randomly selects financial advisors nationwide and asks them to rank their firms in various categories.

Edward Jones' overall score was 9.5 out of 10 possible points. The firm scored top marks across the board, earning near perfect scores in overall ethic (9.8) and public image (9.7), according to WealthManagement.com. "This honor is a testament to the enduring strength of our firm values, our trade offs and our partnership," said Watson. "We are guided by a clear mission to serve the serious, long-term individual investor and to provide the best career-long opportunity for financial advisors who take pride in their work and appreci-

ate the importance of the work we do." Edward Jones financial advisors gave the firm some of the highest scores in the technology and training category, scoring high above the other five firms in every sub-category which includes the quality of technology, clarity and online access of client account statements and ongoing training.

According to WealthManagement.com, between Oct. 7 and Nov. 7, 2013, invitations were emailed to print subscribers and advisors from various firms in the Meridian-AIQ database requesting participation in an online survey. By Nov. 7, 2,333 completed responses were received. Financial Advisors rated their current employers on 33 items related to their satisfaction. Ratings are based on a 1-to-10 scale, with 10 representing the highest satisfaction level.

Edward Jones provides financial services for individual investors in the United States and through its affiliate in Canada. Ev-

ery aspect of the firm's business, from the types of investment options offered to the location of branch offices, is designed to cater to individual investors in the communities in which they live and work. The firm's 12,000-plus financial advisors work directly with nearly 7 million clients to understand their personal goals — from college savings to retirement — and create long-term investment solutions that emphasize a well-balanced portfolio and a buy-and-hold strategy. Edward Jones embraces the importance of building long-term, face-to-face relationships with clients, helping them to understand and make sense of the investment options available today.

Headquartered in St. Louis, Edward Jones ranked No. 8 overall in FORTUNE magazine's 2013 100 Best Companies to Work For ranking. Visit the website at [www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com) and the recruiting website at [www.careers.edwardjones.com](http://www.careers.edwardjones.com). Follow the company on Twitter @EdwardJones.

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# PampaSports

## Ethan Hunt commits to Northwestern Oklahoma State University



Photo by John Lee  
From left, Stacie Martindale, Ethan Hunt, Kaleb Snelgrooves and Kevin Hunt.

By JOHN LEE  
jclee@thepampanews.com

Senior pitcher Ethan Hunt has signed a letter of commitment to attend Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva, Okla., three hours northeast of Pampa. "It's been a dream of mine since I have been playing baseball to keep going to the next step," Hunt said.

In 25 games last season, Hunt had 24 hits with 17 singles, five doubles and two home runs. He also had 24 RBIs and 15 strikeouts (while pitching).

"There is just so much (experience I am taking with me)," Hunt said. "On the

baseball experience and family experience I plan to take it up there with me and create a brotherhood up there with those guys, too."

This was a first for head baseball coach Kaleb Snelgrooves too, as Hunt becomes the first player Snelgrooves coached to go to a Division II university.

"It's exciting," Snelgrooves said. "Ethan is a hard-working kid. For him to go to a D2 school is exciting for our program and the community of Pampa."

Hunt was a two-time second-team All-District player, a member of the 2013 District 1-3A championship team, bi-district team and area qualifier team.

## Facing Manning painful reminder of QB Titans lost

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Tennessee has no time to think about what



Peyton Manning

They're too busy preparing to defend him once again.

This week provides a painful reminder of what might have been if the Titans had been able to successfully sign Peyton the free agent. At their owner's bidding, they wooed the four-time NFL MVP hard with a Hall of Fame offensive lineman as head coach leading the way only to lose out to Denver and another Hall of Famer in John Elway.

Coach Mike Munchak recalls the chase as exciting and thinks the Titans were right there with the Broncos at the end. Munchak says they knew Manning makes people around him better and wins, which is why owner Bud Adams, who died in October, wanted the quarterback so much.

"Obviously, it's worked out well for him, but it just shows what difference he can make on the team he's

on," Munchak said. What a difference indeed.

The Broncos (10-2) are atop the AFC chasing home-field advantage after going 13-3 in Manning's first season.

The Titans (5-7) are struggling — again — to put together wins and starting a third different quarterback since missing out on Manning. They started both Jake Locker and Matt Hasselbeck going 6-10 last season, and

now it's Ryan Fitzpatrick at quarterback with Locker out for the rest of this season with an injured right foot.

Manning is having one of his best seasons yet with 41 touchdown passes already and 4,125 yards and a 115.3 passer rating. In 12 games, Manning has only nine interceptions while Fitzpatrick has been picked off seven times in his five starts and seven appearances.



Death leaves a heartache no one can heal,  
love leaves a memory no one can steal.

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Grandparents...  
Linda & Stan Bims  
John Bims  
Sue & Gary Jones  
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# PampaSports

## Lady Harvesters basketball falls in Morton

By JOHN LEE  
jlee@thepampanews.com

Sometimes a road game feels just as it is, a road game. The Lady Harvesters had a three-hour road trip to Morton, Texas, and fell to the Morton Maidens 51-42. The loss snaps a two-game win streak and drops the Lady Harvesters to 4-6.

Being outscored 22-7 in the second quarter proved to be the primary culprit in the loss. Madison Brown led the team in scoring with 10 points.

The Lady Harvesters are taking part in a tournament in Miami through Saturday. Check back for results from the tournament.

## Lady Harvesters volleyball team reflect on season

By JOHN LEE  
jlee@thepampanews.com

“Rise to the occasion.” That was the motto for the Lady Harvesters volleyball team this season. It wasn’t just referring to the way the Lady Harvesters played and performed day-in and day-out, but how the girls acted on and off the court. Wednesday night in the Pampa High School commons, the Lady Harvesters volleyball teams, freshmen through varsity, and special guests reflected on the Lady Harvesters season.

The event opened with an invocation from senior Taylor Giles, followed by a meal catered by The Plaza. While guests and players dined, a video montage of the Lady Harvesters’ season was playing.

Following the meal, many of the varsity players stepped up to the podium and thanked those who supported them this season. The lengthy list included, but was not limited to, the bookkeeper and clock operator, the school board and staff, their bus

driver and most importantly, their families.

With each squad being recognized by their coach, it was time to recognize the exceptional play.

Volleyball head coach Brooke Sanford first told the team that their comeback victory at Borger was by far the most resiliency she has seen from a team in her career.

After recognition, it was time for honors. Second-team All-District was awarded to Allison Noble, with First-team All-District going to Taylor Giles and Madison Joyce. Setter of the Year went to Taylor Eubank.

One of the more impressive awards, keeping a 90 or above for the first two six weeks, went to each member of the varsity volleyball team.

The local awards, awarded by players on the team, started with the Hustling Harvester award, going to Taylor Eubank. Offensive and Defensive Players of the Year went to Madison Joyce and Taylor Giles respectively. The Harvester Heart award went to Kirsten Hood. Taylor Eubank was awarded Most Valuable Player.

## Harvesters’ basketball triumphs in Morton



Submitted photo

Pampa High School Harvesters’ head coach Matt Embry was surprised with an old piece of the Morton High School gym floor and a plaque Tuesday night in Morton, Texas, where Embry’s father, Kieth, played on the 1972 state championship team and was named All-State. Kieth also played quarterback and was a state champion in tennis. The Harvesters won Tuesday, 80-48, advancing to 5-1 on the season. Cory Ponce led the team in points with 24, amassing 12 of those points in the second quarter. Brandon Stokes set the pace for the game, hitting a 3-pointer immediately after tip-off. Ryan Powell also had 12 points on Tuesday night. The Harvesters will take part in a tournament in Canyon on Friday afternoon through Saturday.



Photos by John Lee

Left, All-District award recipients, from left, Taylor Eubank, Madison Joyce, Taylor Giles and Allison Noble. Right, the Pampa Lady Harvesters varsity team that went 4-4 in District 1-3A play.

### Watch the Pros

- Baseball**  
L.A. Dodgers at St. Louis Cardinals.....TBS 3:07 p.m.  
Detroit Tigers at Boston Red Sox.....TBS 7:00 p.m.
- College Football**  
Bowling Green at (14) Northern Illinois.....ESPN2 7 p.m.
- Hockey**  
Anaheim Ducks at Chicago Blackhawks...NHLN 7 p.m.
- College Basketball**  
Arizona St. at Depaul.....FOXSI 6 p.m.  
South Carolina at Oklahoma St.....ESPNU 8:30 p.m.  
Kentucky at Baylor.....ESPN 9 p.m.
- Basketball**  
Denver Nuggets at Boston Celtics.....ESPN 6:30 p.m.  
L.A. Lakers at Sacramento Kings.....NBATV 9 p.m.

\*\*Check your local listings for channel number\*\*  
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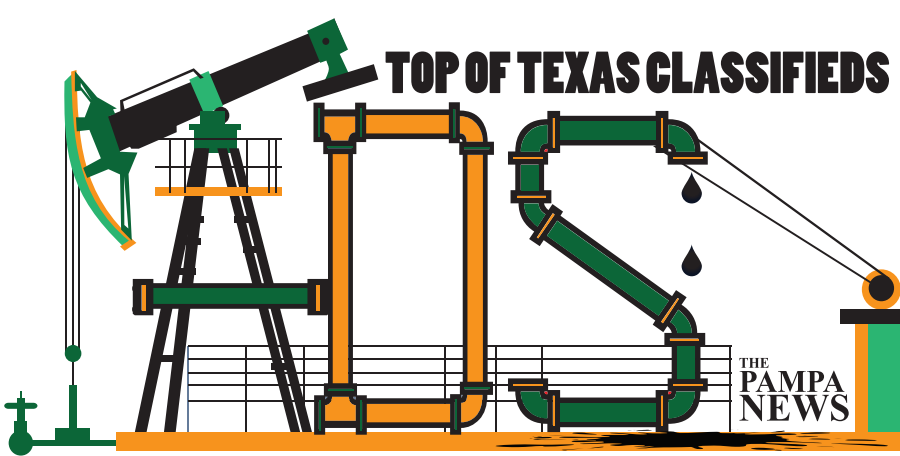
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 O M V R T D S G W Y S F S L H Y M  
 R M R O B B D Z W A W O B M V N O V  
 V N W I W M V V H L W V S I R D  
 O F D V N H F E H M B O M V D W O Z .  
 — L O Z V D O B B W F  
**Yesterday's Cryptoquote:** KNOWLEDGE IS KNOWING THE TOMATO IS A FRUIT; WISDOM IS NOT PUTTING IT IN A FRUIT SALAD. — MILES KINGTON

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

**SUDOKU**

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

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## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My parents and sister live three hours away, so my family stays with me when they come to town. Over the last few years, I noticed things began to disappear from my home. They are usually small and portable — earrings, in particular.

The idea of someone stealing from me was very upsetting. When I mentioned it to my sister, she suggested that it could be our housekeeper.

After my wedding band vanished, I had a security camera installed. A few months later, two more pairs of earrings went MIA, so I had the surveillance company review the tapes. It turns out the thief is my sister!

The idea that she has gone through my things and helped herself with no remorse after I opened my home to her disgusts me. When I confronted her, she denied it. She later told my mother that she did take the earrings, but didn't know why I wanted them "because they were so ugly."

Christmas is coming and I can no longer welcome her to my home. Why would she do this to me? — TRUSTED MY SISTER IN RALEIGH, N.C.

DEAR TRUSTED: Not knowing your sister, I can't say for certain why she would steal from you. She may have kleptomaniac and be unable to control her impulses. Or, she may resent you for what she perceives you have that she doesn't (a happy life, lovely home, etc.) and has been taking the items to "even things up."

While I don't blame you for being upset, please understand that whatever her reason, she's a troubled woman who needs help. Unless you lock up anything of

value, she should not be in your home.

DEAR ABBY: We are part of a group of couples who meet monthly at one another's homes to play cards. We usually play in the evening from 7 to 11 with the hosting couple providing light refreshments and dessert. Many years ago, one couple designated December as "their" month to celebrate New Year's Eve. We start earlier with a meal and end after midnight.

The issue is that it has lost its appeal. Many of us would prefer not to be out on that particular night. How do we, as a group, let them know we no longer want to have game night on New Year's Eve without hurting their feelings? They tend to be a sensitive couple. — PARTIED OUT IN OREGON

DEAR PARTIED OUT: Unless one of you is willing to be the messenger and speak for the rest of you, you should tell this couple as a group — well before the end of the year — that you would

prefer not to be out on a night when many of the drivers on the road have been drinking. It's a valid reason.

While the New Year's Eve card game may have become a tradition, times change, and as people mature they tend to make more mature decisions. The one you're making ranks high among them.

P.S. There should be no hurt feelings if you suggest that the card game take place at some other time.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 58-year-old male. My wife divorced me last year after 33 years of marriage. Must I wait the recommended seven years before dating? I heard I must wait one year for every five I was married. — READY OR NOT IN MICHIGAN

DEAR READY OR NOT: I wonder where you heard that! The answer is no. At 58, you had better start soon. You're not getting any younger.

## BANANAGRAMS!

For each word or phrase below, rearrange the letters to spell two new things that are often very expensive. For example: A TRUCE SIR can be rearranged to spell CRUISE and ART.

LEVEL

JOIN MULE SITE  
  O

DISLOCATED MAN  
 A

CHASE YOUTH  
 U

WILD TWIG SUNDAE  
 A

Yesterday's Answer: BOTTLE, CARTON, POCKET 12.6

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS**  
**1** Fast food quaff  
**5** Belfry bunch  
**9** Milky stones  
**11** Provinces  
**13** Showed again  
**14** Pitch choice  
**15** Make a misstep  
**16** Symbol of solidity  
**18** Sci-fi weapons  
**20** "This is tasty!"  
**21** Jimmy of "Dexter"  
**22** Band boosters  
**23** "60 Minutes" network  
**24** Circle segment  
**25** Flock member  
**27** Surgery aid  
**29** Outback runner  
**30** Albatross or auk  
**32** Pecan candies  
**34** Tell tales  
**35** Extreme  
**36** Superman's real name  
**38** Candidate of 1996  
**39** Sailor's cry

**40** Sharon's "Cagney & Lacey" co-star  
**41** Crumb carriers

**DOWN**  
**1** Kitchen gadget  
**2** Verdi works  
**3** "Lonesome Dove" writer  
**4** Imitating  
**5** Some football players  
**6** In — (stuck)  
**7** "Who Asked You?" writer  
**8** Stockpile  
**10** Pig parts  
**12** Appears  
**17** Solution: Abbr.  
**19** Singer Barry  
**22** Mecca resident  
**24** "The Last Frontier"  
**25** Abate  
**26** Charm  
**27** Curved letter  
**28** Mass leader  
**30** Roofing material  
**31** Shoulder muscles  
**33** 1982 Disney movie  
**37** Gardner of "Mogambo"

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

Yesterday's answer

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1	2	3	4			5	6	7	8	
9				10		11				12
13						14				
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