

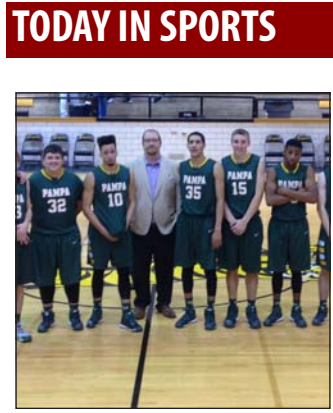
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# The PAMPA NEWS



Friday, January 2, 2015 [www.thepampanews.com](http://www.thepampanews.com) Volume 110 • No. 189

**75¢** Bereavement and Healing | Conason on ending a failed policy | **p4** Harvesters improve to 15-1 on the season | PHS hosts wrestling tournament | **p9-10**

## Elected officials sworn in at County Commission meeting

By **LINDSEY TOMASCHIK**  
 LKTomaschik@thepampanews.com

The Gray County Commissioners met on Wednesday morning with a speedy agenda. To get things started, 223rd District Court Judge Phil Vanderpool swore in elected officials for their terms beginning in 2015. “Government is service, primarily,” Vanderpool said. “It is an honor for me to swear these folks in.”

These officials included County Judge Richard Peet, County Commissioner of Precinct 2 Gary Willoughby, County Clerk Susan Winborne and her deputies, newly elected District Clerk Jo Mays, County Treasurer Scott Hahn and Justices of the Peace Judge Mary Ann Carpenter, Judge Joe Martinez and Judge Kurt Curfman.

After these officials were sworn in and applauded for their services, the commissioners got down to discussing the agenda items, minus commissioner Jeff Haley, who was absent from the meeting.

There were no line item transfers to be considered, so the commissioners approved to pay bills and salaries and then heard and approved the treasurer’s report from Scott Hahn. The commissioners then approved the bonds of elected officials before adjourning the meeting.

The next County Commission meeting will be held at 9 a.m. on Jan. 15 in the second floor court room of the Gray County Courthouse, located at 205 N. Russell.

## Deputy chief Randy Dunham retires from PFD



Photo by Lindsey Tomaschik

The Pampa Fire Department held a retirement gathering for deputy chief Randy Dunham on his last day with the department, Tuesday. From left to right are Jared, Randy, Kim, Caleb and Aaron Dunham.

By **LINDSEY TOMASCHIK**  
 LKTomaschik@thepampanews.com

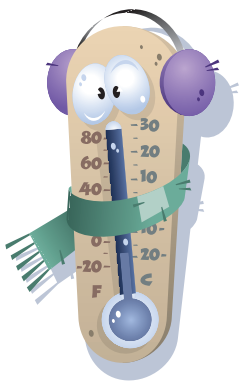
After 25 years of service with Pampa Fire Department, deputy chief Randy Dunham retired on Tuesday. A ceremony was held for Dunham, and firefighters both past and present gathered to say their goodbyes. Fire chief Kim Powell spoke first and gave Dunham’s wife, also named Kim, a corsage for standing by his side for all these years and being his support system. “You’ve had two bosses, both named Kim, both red-headed. Well, now you only have one,” Powell said. She spoke through tears praising Dunham for his service and thanking him for his friendship before reassuring him that he will always have a home at the

Pampa fire station, and he will always have a friend in her. Next, fire captain Jerry Tomaschik spoke for all current firefighters as he thanked Dunham for all he has done for the department before presenting him with a customized commemorative retirement ax on behalf of the firefighters. When asked what he will miss most about the Pampa Fire Department, Dunham said that he’ll miss everything about it, but especially the guys he works with, many of whom he has worked beside for several years. Although he will miss his position with PFD, he said he’s looking forward to turning off the scanner in his home, at least for a little while. The Pampa News would like to congratulate Dunham on his retirement and wish him the best of luck on his future endeavors.

## DPS advises Texans to prepare for winter weather

SUBMITTED BY TEXAS DPS

AUSTIN – The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is encouraging Texans to prepare for a strong cold front impacting parts of Texas through Friday. Forecasts indicate the possibility of sleet and freezing rain, with light ice accumulations possible in portions of Texas. “DPS is asking Texans to prepare for winter weather as a cold front moves into areas of the state before the New Year’s holiday. Drivers may encounter freezing rain and sleet in some areas, which could create dangerous road conditions,” said DPS Director Steven McCraw. “Texans should continue to monitor the changing weather conditions in their area and use extra caution on roadways.”



In preparation for possible winter weather, the Texas State Operations Center – in coordination with several state agencies, including the Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Texas Military Forces – will continue to monitor weather conditions and maintain

DPS cont. on page 2

## Rollover accident claims one

STAFF REPORT

One person is dead after a one vehicle accident in Hutchinson County early Sunday morning. The accident occurred on Farm Market Road 687, just one-tenth of a mile south of Sanford. A 2011 Nissan Versa driven by Tyana Gay, 56, of Stinnett, was traveling northbound on FM 687 at an unsafe speed to navigate a turn in the roadway. The Versa left the roadway to the right and upon re-entering the roadway, it rolled multiple times and ejected Gay out of the vehicle. The vehicle came to rest in a fence line against a tree. Gay was pronounced dead at the scene. She was not wearing a seatbelt at the time of the accident.

## Texas now hands-down leader in wind power

By **JIM MALEWITZ**  
 The Texas Tribune

One physical mark of Rick Perry’s 14 years as governor can be seen by driving from Austin through Abilene, then an hour northeast into Paint Creek, the speck of a town where Perry grew up.



**Rick Perry**

Along the way, acres of turbines sprout from the Texas dirt, and giant transmission lines carry electricity to homes and businesses miles away. None were there when the governor took his first oath of office, and Texas’ wind energy sector hardly existed. But the state has since become the nation’s hands-down leader in wind energy generation, and Perry — more commonly associated with oil and gas — helped steer that boom. In 2000, wind farms composed just 116 megawatts

of capacity on the state’s main electric grid. That number has since soared to more than 11,000 megawatts, while wind fuels about 10 percent of all generation. (On average, one megawatt-hour of wind energy can power 260 typical Texas homes for an hour.) “His legacy on the fossil side of things is very sound, but on the wind side, he’s done tremendous things to move the state forward,” said Jeff Clark, executive director of the Austin-based Wind Coalition, an advocacy group. “Under Rick Perry, wind in Texas has moved from alternative energy to being a mainstream component of our power supply.” Perry occasionally touts that record in his travels. “The nation’s leading developer of wind energy is not one of those progressive states on the East Coast or the West Coast,” Perry said at the Commonwealth Club of California in June. “The No. 1 wind energy producing state in the nation is along the Gulf Coast.”

WIND cont. on page 2

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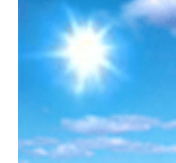
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**IN THIS ISSUE:**

Weather .....	2	Comics .....	6
Obituaries .....	3	Classifieds .....	7,8
Viewpoints .....	4	Puzzles/Dear Abby ...	8
		Sports .....	9,10



## PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Saturday	Sunday
		
20%		
High 32 Low 20	High 40 Low 17	High 37 Low 23

**Today:** A 20 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 32. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north northeast in the afternoon. Sunrise at 7:54 a.m.

**Tonight:** A 40 percent chance of snow. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 20. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph. Sunset at 5:43 p.m.

**Saturday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 40. West southwest wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Sunrise at 7:54 a.m.

**Saturday night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 17. South wind 15 to 20 mph. Sunset at 5:44 p.m.

**Sunday:** Sunny, with a high near 37. North northwest wind around 10 mph. Sunrise at 7:54 a.m.

**Sunday night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 23. Sunset at 5:44 p.m.

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## DPS

Continued From Page 1

close contact with National Weather Service local forecast offices across the state. DPS offers the following tips for staying safe during this weather event: Avoid unnecessary travel if possible, monitor local weather broadcasts, and follow up-to-the-minute

weather conditions at <http://www.weather.gov/>. Remember that ice forms first on bridges, overpasses and shady areas. On icy roads, drive slowly, increase distance needed for stopping, and avoid using cruise control. Watch for downed trees and power lines across roads. If power is out, treat all intersections as four-way stops. Make sure your vehicle is properly maintained before

any trip – check fluid and antifreeze levels. Don't drink and drive and buckle up everyone in the vehicle. For more information on road conditions statewide, check [www.drivetexas.org](http://www.drivetexas.org) or call 800-452-9292. In addition, here is a list of emergency supplies drivers can keep in their vehicle: Blankets/sleeping bags, extra clothing, mittens, hat, Cell phone, radio, flash-

light, extra batteries. • First-aid kit and pocket knife. • High-calorie nonperishable food, bottled water. • Sack of sand or cat litter to provide traction for tires. • Windshield scraper, tool kit, booster cables, tow rope and shovel. For additional information regarding winter weather preparedness, visit: <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem/threatawareness/winterStormPlanning.htm>

## Wind

Continued From Page 1

Former Gov. George W. Bush laid the groundwork for Texas' rapid wind energy growth. He signed a bill in 1999 that ultimately deregulated the electric sector — a mammoth undertaking that Perry would oversee — and established a renewable-energy requirement that kick-started wind development. Perry added to that in 2005 by signing legislation that required Texas to increase its renewable-energy capacity to 5,880 megawatts by 2015.

The state has shattered that goal. Perry also backed a \$7 billion electrical transmission project to connect windy, largely empty West Texas to growing cities demanding more power. Completed a year ago, the Competitive Renewable Energy Zone, or CREZ, initiative stretches nearly 3,600 miles and can send up to 18,500 megawatts of power — including from

non-wind sources — across the state. "That we were able to build thousands of miles of high-capacity transmission from West Texas to the Panhandle without landowners marching on the Capitol with pitchforks, it's pretty remarkable," said Railroad Commissioner Barry Smitherman, whom Perry appointed to the Public Utility Commission in 2004 and reappointed in 2007. "And the governor had our back on that." Along with decisions that specifically targeted wind, Smitherman said, Perry's oversight while the state shifted to a competitive electricity market hastened investment in a variety of fuels, leaving Texas with a balanced energy portfolio. Kathleen Hartnett White, whom Perry appointed to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in 2001, said the governor's policies — including his support of a competitive energy market — were responsible for the wind surge "with some qualifications." Other factors, she

said, included generous federal incentives, such as a now-lapsed 2.3-cent-per-kilowatt-hour tax credit for renewable energy. "It's difficult for me to say how, without that massive financial assistance, we would have the tremendous volume we see," said Hartnett White, now with the conservative Texas Public Policy Foundation and a fierce critic of renewable-energy sources, which she calls "unreliable and parasitic." She added that it might take years to evaluate whether investing in CREZ was worth the huge price tag. Hartnett White is not the only Texas Republican scrutinizing wind policy as Perry exits office. Comptroller Susan Combs suggested in September that wind energy has "an unfair market advantage over other power sources." And PUC Chairwoman Donna Nelson, appointed by Perry in 2011, has called for study into whether wind energy companies should chip in for power line upgrades — something no

other types generator has been asked to do. Asked about those rumblings, Lucy Nashed, Perry's spokeswoman, said "tax credits or incentives should always be appropriately limited in scope and duration," and she attributed the wind bonanza to an "all-of-the-above strategy to meet our state's energy needs." "In Texas we have implemented common-sense policies that have enabled us to build a successful wind industry that can thrive on its own," Nashed added. But some environmentalists wonder if Perry's fervor has waned, pointing to his failure to defend wind energy producers in their recent political battles. "Perry is bipolar on wind. He plugged into when he saw he could get a political benefit. And now that the winds have changed in the Republican Party, he's unplugged himself from one of his greatest environmental victories," said Tom "Smitty" Smith, director of the Texas office of Public Citizen.

# High Plains Irrigation Conference set for Jan. 15 in Amarillo

**SUBMITTED BY TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION**  
AMARILLO – The annual High Plains Irrigation Conference will be held Jan. 15 in the North Exhibit Hall of the Amarillo Civic Center, 401 S. Buchanan St., Amarillo. The program, hosted by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Texas Agricultural Irrigation Association, will address a wide variety of topics of interest to the general public, as well as to agricultural producers, landowners, crop consultants and irrigation professionals, said Dr. Dana Porter, program coordinator and AgriLife Extension agricultural engineering specialist-irrigation and water management, Lubbock.

A concurrent trade show also will provide opportunities for attendees to see new products and technologies, and to visit with experts from industry, non-profit organizations and

agencies. Registration will be on site only, beginning at 8 a.m., with the program starting at 8:30 a.m. The fee is \$30. Two Texas Department of Agriculture pesticide applicator continuing education units – one general and one integrated pest management – will be offered, as well as six Agricultural Irrigation Association certified irrigation designer units and 6.5 certified crop adviser continuing education units – 5.5 soil and water management and one integrated pest management. Topics and speakers for the program will be: - Agricultural Water Issues and How Local/Regional Applied Research Programs are Answering Critical Questions, Dr. Dave Brauer, U.S. Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Research Service soil and water management research unit leader, Bush-

land. - Implementing the State Water Plan: Agricultural Water Conservation Strategies in the Panhandle Regional Water Plan, Dr. Nolan Clark, Panhandle Regional Water Planning Group Agricultural Water Demands and Projections Committee chair, Amarillo. - Updates on SWIFT, Groundwater Rules, Legislative Actions and Other Hot Topics, C.E. Williams, Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District manager, White Deer. - Update from the Texas Alliance for Water Conservation, Dr. Chuck West, Texas Tech University Thornton Distinguished Chair of plant and soil science department, Lubbock. - Comments from Mark Stutler, Texas Agricultural Irrigation Association president, Stephenville. - Practical Implications of Applied Irrigation Re-

search, Dr. Gary Marek, USDA-ARS research agricultural engineer, Bushland. - Water Management Considerations in Integrated Pest Management, Blayne Reed, AgriLife Extension integrated pest management agent, Hale and Swisher counties. - Irrigation "Ex-Spurts": Tips on Maintenance, Management and Troubleshooting to Get the Most From Your Irrigation System, industry representatives. The meeting will conclude with a wrap-up, evaluation and CEU distribution. For more conference information, go to the Texas Agricultural Irrigation Association website, [http://taia.org/HPIC\\_2015.html](http://taia.org/HPIC_2015.html). Questions about the program can be directed to Porter at [dporter@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:dporter@ag.tamu.edu). Trade show questions should be directed to Kern Stutler at 806-786-5644.

# Grain elevator workshop scheduled for Jan. 29 in Amarillo

**SUBMITTED BY TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION**  
AMARILLO – The Texas High Plains Grain Elevator Workshop will be held Jan. 29 at the Homewood Suites by Hilton, 8800 Interstate 40 W. in Amarillo, according to a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service specialist. The meeting is set for 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., said Dr. Ed Bynum, AgriLife Extension entomologist in Amarillo. Registration is \$50 and requested by Jan. 23. Checks and a

registration form should be mailed to Ronda Fisher, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, 6500 Amarillo Blvd. W., Amarillo, Texas 79106. Make checks payable to: Tri-State Chapter of GEAPS. Program topics and speakers include: • Aeration, Dr. Carol Jones, Oklahoma State University agricultural engineer, Stillwater, Okla. • Dust management, Ben Kice, Kice Industries Inc., Wichita, Kan.

• Stored grain, Jones. • Laws and regulations, Steve Boston, Texas Department of Agriculture, Lubbock. • Weed control, Dr. Jourdan Bell, AgriLife Extension, Amarillo. • Worker protection standards, Brian Foote, Ag Producers Co-op, Sunray. Continuing education units by the Texas Department of Agriculture for commercial, non-commercial and private applicator licensees are

pending at this time, Bynum said. For a registration form, go to: <http://amarillo.tamu.edu/facultystaff/ed-bynum/upcoming-events/>. The program is jointly sponsored by AgriLife Extension and the Tri-State Chapter of Grain Elevator and Processing Society. For more information, contact Fisher, 806-677-5600, or David Hoffman, president of the Tri-State Chapter, 806-676-3418.

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# Gas Price average drops a dime

SUBMITTED BY  
AAA TEXAS

IRVING — Drivers taking a road trip to celebrate the New Year will get another break at the gas pumps. According to the AAA Texas Weekend Gas Watch the average price for a gallon of regular unleaded fuel in the Lone Star State is now \$2.05. That's 10 cents less than last week and a dollar and seven cents less than one year ago. Of the major metropolitan

areas surveyed in Texas, drivers in Corpus Christi are paying the most at \$2.18 per gallon while drivers in Fort Worth are paying the least at \$1.91 per gallon. The average in Texas is 22 cents less than the national average of \$2.27 per gallon.

AAA Texas forecasted 8.1 million Texans will travel 50 miles or more away from home from Tuesday, December 23 through Sunday, January 4. The majority, 7.5

million, are taking trips by automobile and are benefitting even more from this latest drop in retail gas prices. AAA estimates that drivers are saving more than \$500 million per day each day compared to the highs in both the spring and summer.

The global oil market remains in a state of perceived oversupply due to record production from the United States combined with lower than ex-

pected global demand. It now costs about \$15 less to fill up a 14-gallon size fuel tank compared to one year ago.

"As people prepare to ring in a New Year we encourage them to make plans a head of time if they plan to celebrate with alcohol," said AAA Texas/New Mexico Representative Doug Shupe. "Remember that buzzed driving is drunk driving, so talk with friends and family about getting

a cab, a hotel or a designated driver before ever having that first alcoholic beverage on New Year's Eve."

To help members and non-members identify quality auto repair shops that can assist in the maintenance and repair of their vehicles, AAA offers the Approved Auto Repair program as a free public service. AAA-approved repair facilities professional standards

for training, equipment, cleanliness and customer service. Motorists can look for the Approved Auto Repair sign at local auto repair facilities, or search for a nearby AAA-approved shop online at AAA.com/Repair. AAA Texas branch offices throughout the state can be found by visiting www.AAA.com. Follow AAA Texas on Twitter: @AAATexas and Facebook: www.facebook.com/AAATexas.

# Secretary Berry introduces new tool for business filings

SUBMITTED BY  
SECRETARY OF  
STATE PRESS

AUSTIN — Just in time for end-of-year filings, Texas Secretary of State Nandita Berry announced a new tool to help Texas businesses. The business filing tracker, as a part of SOS Direct, now allows businesses to check on the status of documents received by the agency within the last 30 days.

"The business filing tracker is one more way the secretary of state's office is working to make doing business in Texas as easy as possible," said Secretary Berry.

Users can locate the record and current status of their business filings using the tracker and a simple keyword search. The tracker is available on the Texas Secretary of State's homepage, www.sos.state.tx.us.

Businesses formed as

corporations and LLCs in Texas are required to submit filings annually.

Documents received by the business and public filings division by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 31 in correct form will receive a 2014 file date.

Documents will appear on the filing status list once they have been entered into the system. For documents submitted by mail, fax, or personal delivery,

it generally takes at least one business day from the time a document has been submitted to the office for the document to be entered into the system and show a status of Received.

Important filing guidelines include:

- Documents and faxes received after close of business on Dec. 31 will receive a 2015 file date.
- Postmarks and fax confirmation notations do not

count.

• Incomplete and incorrect documents are returned without filing.

• A corrected document receives a file date based on its resubmission, not the date of the original submission.

For more information, contact the business and public filings division of the secretary of state's office at 512-463-5555 during normal business hours.

# Church Calendar

## Hi-Land Christian Church

Beginning Wednesday night, Sept. 3, Pastor Mike Sublett will be teaching two special advanced classes at Hi-Land Christian Church. From 7 - 8pm The Judges and Kings of Israel (broken people, faithful God); from 8-9pm 1-2 Corinthians (Jesus and His messy people).

Pastor Sublett said, "Both classes are advanced in that they have a weekly reading assignment and weekly hand-out pages that will supply each student with a significant notebook for continued study. I will also be recording each class so that everyone can have the audio in case they want to review something later."

The classes are open to anyone interested in learning more about their Bible. Child care will be provided for anyone who is attending either class.

## Cornerstone Baptist Church

Cornerstone Baptist

Team KID (Kids in Discipleship) meets Wednesdays at 6:30 until 8:00 pm at 2410 W. 23rd St. All children ages 4 thru 5th graders are invited to attend. For more information call the church at 669-6509.

## New Life Assembly of God

New Life Assembly of God is located at 1435 N. Sumner Street in Pampa. New pastor, Sergio Urutia, said their mission is "New life Assembly of God is committed to fulfilling a four-fold mission. Our primary reason for being is to evangelize the lost, worship God, disciple believer and to show compassion, to build a multi-ethnic body of believers.

New life commits to reaching out to Pampa in all areas of the township with special emphasis to our Latino brothers and sisters. Our worship will be a reflection of our multi-ethnic mixture of disciples including Christian Latino music, contemporary music as well as the traditional

hymns and songs of the church. Outreach will have as its goal to produce new believers who in turn are able to witness effectively and make disciples who will in turn continue this cycle. This will be effected through small group bible studies, both Bi-lingual services, and bibles."

Services are Sunday at 10 a.m. and Sundays and Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

## Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ

Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ is located at 1342 Mary Ellen St. Corner of Mary Ellen and Harvester. Right across from the high school.

Bible Classes start at 9:30 a.m. with Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship is at 5 p.m. and Ladies Bible Class Wednesday 10 a.m. Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ also offers Wednesday Bible Class at 7 p.m.

Keith Feerer is the

Preacher and Zac Green is Youth Minister.

For more information call 806-665-0031.

## First United Methodist Church

Every Friday, First United Methodist Church will be holding Gospel Pic'n and Grinnin'.

The weekly event will be at 5:30 p.m. at Gathering Space in the church.

For more information call 806-669-7411.

## McLean Cowboy Church

McLean Cowboy Church is a non-denominational spirit-filled Christian church. The pastor is Ronnie Ferguson.

Sunday worship is at 10:30 a.m. and children's ministry is Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

The ages for the children's ministry are nursery through fifth grade.

The church is located at the intersection of state Highway 273 and Interstate 40 in McLean.

For more information, call 806-779-0260.

## Southside Church of Christ

Southside Church of Christ is located at 11923 W. McCullough Ave. in Pampa. The church extends an open invitation to all to come and worship where the gospel, "God's Word," is always taught and preached.

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

If your church would like to be added to this list or are hosting a special event let us know! Email jcleee@thepampanews.com or give us a call 669-2525. We will need the name, address, phone number and any other information about the event.



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# 2009 Fort Hood attack victims file new Purple Heart petition

DALLAS (AP) — The victims of the 2009 Fort Hood shooting attack leaving 13 dead filed a formal petition Wednesday to receive Purple Hearts and other benefits they have argued are long overdue. They filed a petition Wednesday aims to restart the process after Congress

earlier in December approved new provisions to make it easier for them to receive military recognition.

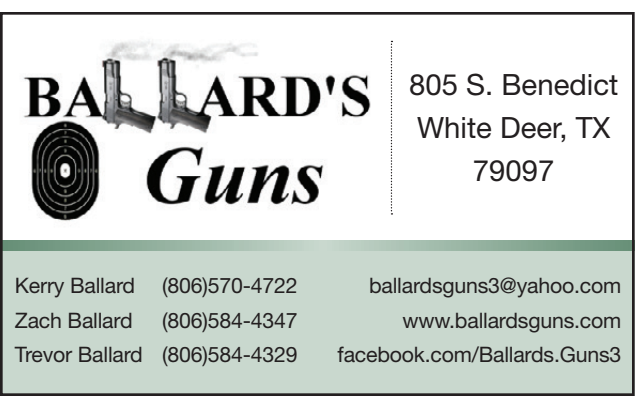
More than five years after an Army psychiatrist opened fire on dozens of unarmed soldiers, many of those wounded in the attack struggle to find jobs

or support themselves.

The Defense Department considers the attack an act of "workplace violence" for the purposes of the Purple Heart, given

to soldiers wounded in battle.

The process of reviewing the victims' application is expected to take several months.



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Kerry Ballard (806)570-4722 ballardsguns3@yahoo.com  
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# Viewpoints

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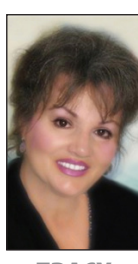
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## Bereavement and Healing Goals coming into the new year

As we approach the New Year, we often reflect upon the past one, looking for habits, thought processes, traditions, etc., upon which we might improve. If you have suffered a significant loss over the past year, you may not be looking forward to the New Year nor its festivities. You may not think the New Year holds anything for your life without your loved one by your side.

It is normal for grief to preoccupy our minds for quite some time after the loss of a loved one. Our lives and thoughts are disorganized; we must learn new skills and reorganize our thoughts, our lives and ourselves.

In addition to parties, tradition dictates that one thoughtfully set New Year's resolutions.



**TRACY LEE**

Resolutions are goals we set to improve your lives. Improving our lives is the very same goal of grief recovery. In both circumstances, one may not wish to change. One may feel extreme pressure or great fear when faced with new behaviors, new challenges, and new experiences. We may not be ready nor strong enough for change.

The choice is yours alone. Just as we choose to redirect our habits to improve our physical health, perhaps by eating healthier foods or adding more aerobic opportunities daily, we can choose to improve our bereavement health.

Grief is brought on by broken attachments, and although we do not wish to erase our loved one from our lives, we do eventually choose to adjust the attachment they maintain in our hearts. To recover from grief, one must move the decedent from a living companion to a loving memory. Doing

so protects and preserves the relationship shared with your loved one, yet allows recovery from the excruciating pain of their absence. The time and efforts invested into your lost loved one may now be focused on other loved ones and new activities.

The New Year is a good time to evaluate where you are in your grief recovery process. If you feel you are ready to add activities and outings to your life, formulate a plan that fits your strength and abilities. You may feel ready to begin your transition beginning Jan. 1. It may be that you set a goal to work up to venturing out to your favorite activities beginning in March or even September. The point is that you are the authority on how you feel and when you are ready to increase your physical activities, your emotional acuity, and your social exposure.

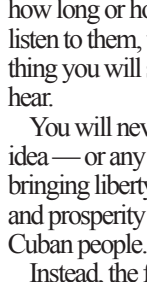
Take the New Year opportunity to evaluate your

abilities and your desire to recover from loss. If you are ready, embark on a plan of action to reorganize your thoughts, skills, and activities to accomplish grief recovery. If you find that your goals are over zealous, simply adjust them. The activity of formulating your goals puts you on the road to reorganization already. In so doing, you have already taken a giant leap forward toward grief recovery.

*My name is Tracy Renee Lee. I am a funeral director, author and professional speaker. I write books and weekly bereavement articles related to understanding and coping with grief. I am the American Funeral Director of the Year Runner-Up and recipient of the BBB's Integrity Award. I deliver powerful messages and motivate audiences on their "Road to Recovery". It is my life's work to comfort the bereaved and help them live on. Please follow my blog at <http://pushin-up-daisies.blogspot.com/>, follow me on Twitter @PushUpDaisies and visit my website for additional encouragement, information or booking speeches at [www.QueenCityFuneralHome.com](http://www.QueenCityFuneralHome.com).*

## Ending a policy that's failed for 50 years

Listen carefully to the Republican leaders and presidential hopefuls roaring with outrage over President Barack Obama's courageous decision to normalize relations with Cuba; listen very carefully, because no matter



**JOE CONASON**

how long or how closely you listen to them, there is one thing you will surely never hear.

You will never hear a new idea — or any idea — about bringing liberty, democracy and prosperity to the suffering Cuban people.

Instead, the furious denunciations of the president's initiative from his adversaries reveal only an intellectual void on Capitol Hill, where the imperatives remain partisan and cynical. Everyone paying attention has known for decades that the frozen relationship between the United States and Cuba has accomplished nothing — except possibly the prolongation of the Castro regime, which has long considered the embargo a plausible excuse for its own economic failures and viewed the United States as a politically convenient enemy.

Anyone who has visited the island knows that the Cubans wish nothing more than to see the embargo lifted because they know it has done nothing to advance their liberty or prosperity — just the opposite.

As Bill Clinton likes to say, the definition of insanity is to keep doing the same thing and expect a different result. (He wanted to normalize relations as president, but the Cuban government clearly didn't.) The U.S. government has been doing the same thing in Cuba for nearly 54 years, yet the Republicans still don't think that's been long enough. They haven't explained how or why — or when — their policy will achieve a different result.

Opponents of change have also failed to justify why we've treated Cuba so differently than we treat other — and, in various respects, worse — authoritarian regimes with which we maintain not only vigorous diplomatic relations but massive trading partnerships and even military cooperation. The conduct of those governments is arguable more repressive in important ways; there is, for instance, less religious freedom in China and Saudi Arabia than Pope Francis found in Cuba.

To browse human rights findings from the State Department's annual reports or the online files maintained by groups such as Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International is to find at least a dozen countries with atrocious human rights records,

from Chad to Turkmenistan. But the United States maintains diplomatic and trade relations with all of them.

Indeed, Republican leaders and businessmen — notably including members of the Bush family — have profited handsomely from investment in countries such as China and Saudi Arabia for many years, with scarcely a peep about human rights violations in those places. It is impossible to forget how the first President Bush toasted the Chinese regime immediately after the massacre in Tiananmen Square — and how his opportunistic family members showed up in Beijing and Shanghai looking for a deal.

With the liberation of more than 50 political prisoners — along with American aid worker Alan Gross and an unnamed American spy — the Cubans have suddenly improved their human rights performance, while the Chinese continue to inflict horrendous repression and even torture on Tibetans, Uighurs and Han Chinese who dare to dissent. (Many of our leading Republicans don't object to torture, of course, unless it is perpetrated in foreign countries. Sometimes.)

House Speaker John Boehner accused the president of making "another mindless concession to a dictatorship." What seems truly mindless, however, is his insistence that we dare not abandon an unworkable and destructive strategy. No trade and diplomatic boycott observed and enforced by one country alone — even a powerful country such as ours — is ever going to prevail.

That is among the reasons international human rights organizations, always the most consistent and implacable critics of the Castros' abuses, have long advocated engagement rather than embargo. As Human Rights Watch notes on Web pages devoted to detailing those abuses, U.S. policy has imposed "indiscriminate hardship on the Cuban people" since 1961 "and has done nothing to improve the country's human rights."

And not long after the president concluded his historic speech — among the most lucid, logical and inspiring delivered since he was re-elected — a spokeswoman for Amnesty International called his new approach "the best opportunity in (a) half-century for human rights change in Cuba."

Designed to quarantine the Cuban government, the policy that has failed for five decades has only succeeded in isolating the United States from the rest of the world. Its end is long overdue.

*To find out more about Joe Conason and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).*



### 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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**By E-mail:**  
[jclee@thepampanews.com](mailto:jclee@thepampanews.com)

## Schools don't teach kids to read

A high school English teacher at Rosemount High School in Minnesota, which



**PHYLLIS SCHLAFLY**

was called a "top-ranked school" by the Minnesota Department of Education, given the Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award by the U.S. Department of Education and named a top school in the nation for 2014 by Newsweek Magazine, just wrote a shocking letter alerting parents and the public that her high school juniors can't read. Her letter, published by the Minnesota Star Tribune on Dec. 4, was eloquent, so I quote it verbatim.

"We are in the midst of one of the greatest literacy crises ever encountered, and we are fighting an uphill battle. Every day I experience firsthand what it means to be illiterate in a high school classroom. Average students with average abilities can fervently text away, but they cannot read."

She said some of her students just sleep away an assigned unit. Others resort to depression or aggression. She gave them a not very difficult test, but they couldn't read the test.

When she assigns her students a book to read, they often don't even try to read it. Ask them why and they say, "It's boring." She wrote that this translates into

"It's too hard to read." The teacher appeals to parents and the public, saying, "I need your help."

Don't count on the shift to Common Core to teach school kids to read. Common Core will change the assigned stories and books, but it won't change the fact that elementary school kids are only taught how to memorize a few dozen "sight," mostly one-syllable, words, but not taught phonics in order to sound out the syllables and then read the bigger words in high school and college assignments.

Students are not assigned or motivated to read whole books. In the name of "close reading," they are given short so-called "informational" excerpts to read over and over in class, almost until they are memorized. You don't find the students going to the library to take out and read the classics, and students don't acquire the vocabulary necessary to do college work.

Limited reading skill means that what the students read is tightly controlled. Common Core has rewritten the history of America's founding to present James Madison, Thomas Jefferson and other Founders to fit the leftwing narrative of gender, race, class and ethnicity, and students have neither motivation nor skill to seek out the true history of the Founders.

Common Core does, however, find space for stories that many parents find

morally objectionable, such as "The Bluest Eye" by Toni Morrison.

The change from teaching school children to read by phonics and replacing phonics with the so-called "whole word" or "look-say" method was fully debunked in the landmark book "Why Johnny Can't Read" by Rudolph Flesch in 1955. Unfortunately, the truth had no impact on public schools, which stuck with the new method because it was part of "progressive" education. It was brought to Teachers College at Columbia University with a \$3 million grant from John D. Rockefeller Jr., who then sent four of his five sons to be educated by Dewey's progressive ideas.

Publishers responded eagerly to the opportunity to sell new books to all elementary schools, and the "Dick and Jane" series seemed much more attractive than the widely used McGuffey readers. Reading suddenly appeared to become easy because the Whole Word method teaches the child to guess at the words from pictures, to memorize a few dozen one-syllable words that are used over and over again, and to substitute words that fit the context.

The "Dick and Jane" books were full of color pictures and only a couple of short sentences on every page. A typical page showed Dick and Jane on a seesaw. The kids could easily "read" the two sentences below:

"See Dick up. See Jane down."

Nelson Rockefeller, who became governor of New York and ran three times for U.S. president, described his reading handicap in The Reading Teacher in March 1972: "I am a prime example of one who has had to struggle with the handicap of being a poor reader while serving in public office."

Rockefeller hired expensive speechwriters, but he said that many times he threw away the speech and told the audience he was just going to give his "spontaneous thoughts." He confessed that the real reason was that he could not do an adequate job of reading the speech prepared for him.

If parents want their children to be good readers, parents will have to do the teaching as I did with my six children. When the book I used was allowed to go out of print and its publisher went out of business, I wrote "First Reader" to teach phonics to my grandchildren at ages 5 or 6 (now available at FirstReader.com) and "Turbo Reader" for kids over age 8 (available at TurboReader.com).

*Phyllis Schlafly is a lawyer, conservative political analyst and author of two new books just published this year: "Who Killed the American Family" (WND) and the 50th Anniversary edition of "A Choice Not An Echo" (Regnery), available at [eagleforum.org](http://eagleforum.org), amazon, and usual sources. She can be contacted by e-mail at [phyllis@eagleforum.org](mailto:phyllis@eagleforum.org).*

# Community Calendar

## City Commission meetings

The Pampa City Commission meets at 5:30 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 at the new administration building on North Hobart Street.

## Immunization clinic three 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. The Department of State Health Services can be reached at 806-669-5323 and is located at 121

S. Gillespie St. in Pampa.

## PAWS meets first Tuesdays

Pampa Animal Welfare Society meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Pampa Animal Shelter, 811 S. Hobart St. The meetings are at 6:30 p.m. and are open to the public.

There is a desperate need for more members. 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.

## 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.

## TOT Republican Women's Club

Top O' Texas Republican Women's Club meets at noon on the third Wednesday of every month at the Pampa Senior Center, 500 W. Francis St. For more information call 806-669-1990.

## Jam sessions every Friday night

The Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center has a jam session 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 806-663-1136.

## PPQG Meets fourth Thursdays

Panhandle Piecemakers Quilt Guild meets the fourth Thursday of each month, January through October, at the Pampa Senior Citizens Center at 500 W. Francis St.

The meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. and membership is open to adult quilters of all ages. Dues are \$15 annually. Meetings consist of a short business discussion followed by a program featuring quilting techniques. For more information, call 806-662-2909.

## Pampa Post VFW meetings

Pampa Post VFW, Men's Auxiliary, and Ladies Auxiliary meet the second and fourth Tuesday of every month. There is a social hour with meal at 6 p.m. and the meetings begin at 7 p.m. For questions, call Danny Martin at 806-662-4367.

## CASA of the High Plains

CASA of the High Plains will be open from 6-7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of every month for persons interested in becoming a CASA Volunteer. The CASA office is located in the Brown Alliance for Children at 315 N. Ballard Street in Pampa.

CASA volunteers are appointed by a Judge to represent the Best Interest of children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect. Volunteers are crucial to positive outcomes for children in the foster care system.

You may contact CASA at 806-669-7638 for more information.

## Church of the Nazarene

The community is invited to our Christmas Eve service at 6 Pm. There will be Christmas carols, reading of the Christmas story from the Bible, and candle lighting to go with the program. Come experience "Why Jesus came" at 500 N. West St. For more info please call 669-3144. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. God Bless one and all.

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

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## Area Support Groups

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

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

- Victims of domestic violence and sexual assault**, meet at 6 p.m., Thursdays, at the Tralee Crisis Center, 308 S. Cuyler St. For more info, call the Center at 806-669-1131.
- Narcotics Anonymous — The Pampa Group** meets at 7:30 p.m., Tuesdays, and at 6 p.m., Saturdays, at 805 N. Gray St. **Narcotics Anonymous — Rufe Jordan Unit** also meets at 6 p.m., Mondays, and at 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays, at 1992 Hilton Road.
- Cancer Support** meets from 12-1 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Central Baptist Church. For more info, contact Beth Kean at 800-274-4673
- Alcoholics Anonymous Open Door Club** meets daily at noon and 8 p.m. at 910 W. Kentucky Ave. **Al-Anon** meets at noon on Mondays. For more information, call 665-9072.
- Alcoholics Anonymous Primary Purpose** meets daily at noon and 8 p.m. at 112 W. Foster Ave.
- Alcoholics Anonymous Keep It Simple** meets Thursdays at 6 p.m. at the Methodist church in White Deer.
- Pampa Caregiver Support** meets at the Pampa Nursing Center on 1321 W. Kentucky Ave. at 6 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. For more information call 806-669-2551.

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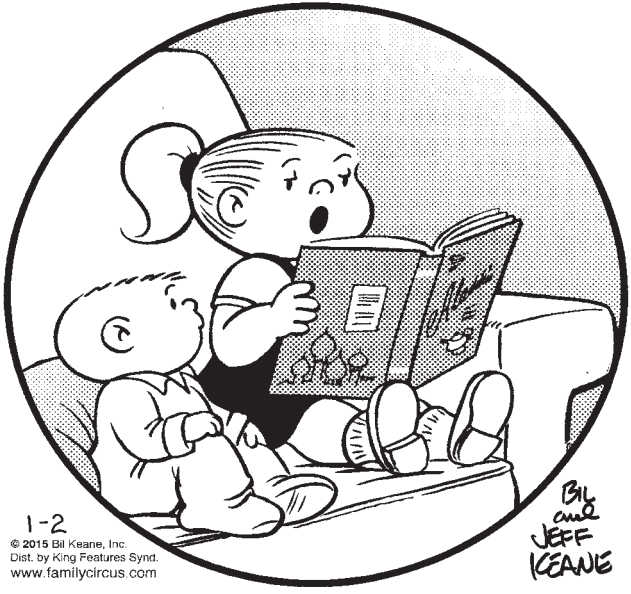
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# comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



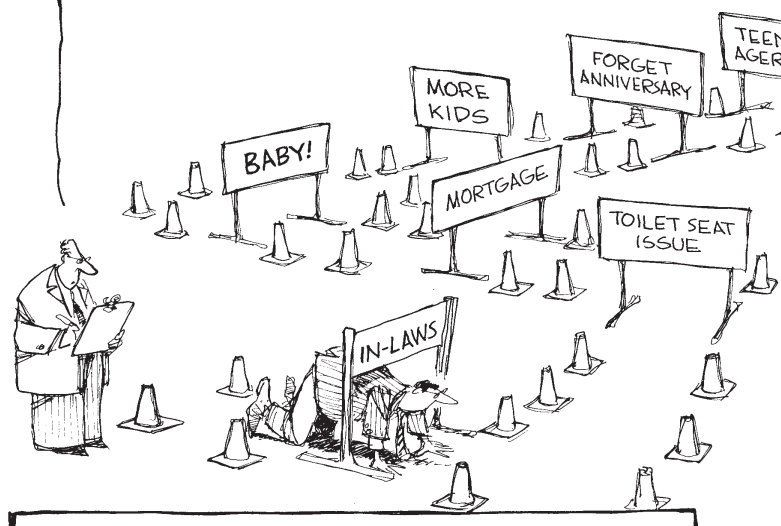
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Bil and  
JEFF  
KEANE

"...and then the beautiful princess read a story to her little brother."

Non Sequitur

NO... OVER THE HURDLES, SIR. NOW LET'S TRY IT AGAIN...



THE MARRIAGE LICENSE FIELD TEST

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Nest Heads



# daily horoscope

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Saturday, Jan. 3, 2015:  
This year you are open to nearly any form of communication, as long as you believe it can work. You become increasingly more authentic and compassionate. Your intensity might lessen as you come to understand situations better. If you are single, look to the second part of your birthday year to meet Mr. or Ms. Right. You will know when that person turns the corner. If you are attached, the two of you relish your time alone together. You even might plan a very special trip in late summer. **GEMINI** might be too superficial for your taste. The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)  
★★★★ You know how to keep people's interest without much effort. Count on that ability to emerge throughout the day. Don't even think about spending your time alone. A close friend might ask to spend more time with you. Make it happen. Tonight: At a favorite haunt.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
★★★ Be aware of what you have to offer. You provide stability, loyalty, compassion and much more. You also are extremely talented. However, you still could have difficulty attempting to communicate what you expect from others. Tonight: Buy a gift on the way home.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
★★★★ Listen to your inner voice more carefully. You have a way and style about you that is rather unique. Honor what is happening between you and someone else. Schedule a long lunch, even if you live together. Make it personal and private. Tonight: Go for what you want.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
★★★★ You might need to slow down. In fact, you probably will want to turn the next 24 hours into a lazy day. You have pushed so hard lately that you could be overwhelmed by the thought of doing anything. Know that you can cancel plans and re-schedule. Tonight: Just do not push.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
★★★★ You might have no pull with a moody friend. When this person wants to get out his or her funk, he or she will. Recognize what is possible between you and a very difficult child or family member. Tonight: Where the

party is, you can be found.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
★★★★ You might feel irked when dealing with a moody friend. You could feel as if there is no way you can verbalize your feelings when this person is acting this way. Be careful with your body language, as he or she likely will pick up on your frustration. Tonight: Strut your stuff.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
★★★★ You might decide to re-play a situation in your head. Don't worry; what you did and said won't matter. Your response probably was appropriate, and it could force those involved to think more carefully about the issue. Tonight: Happiest surrounded by music and friends.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
★★★★ You'll get past a problem by having a discussion with a key person. You might not see eye to eye until you understand this person's position and why he or she chooses to come from that point of view. Gain a better understanding of those around you. Tonight: Hang out.

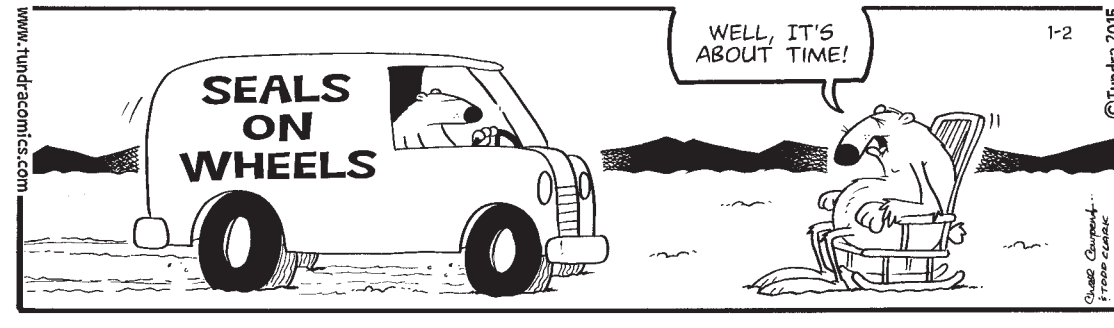
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
★★★★ Others might decide to treat you to an adventure of some kind. Be kind and appreciative, as this venture could have taken them a long time to plan out. Understand that they could be trying to impress you. Tonight: The party continues.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
★★★ You might be so into a project that you don't notice what is going on with others. Clearly, you seem determined to complete your endeavor. You also could be in the midst of doing some deep personal examination. Tonight: The unexpected runs right through your evening.

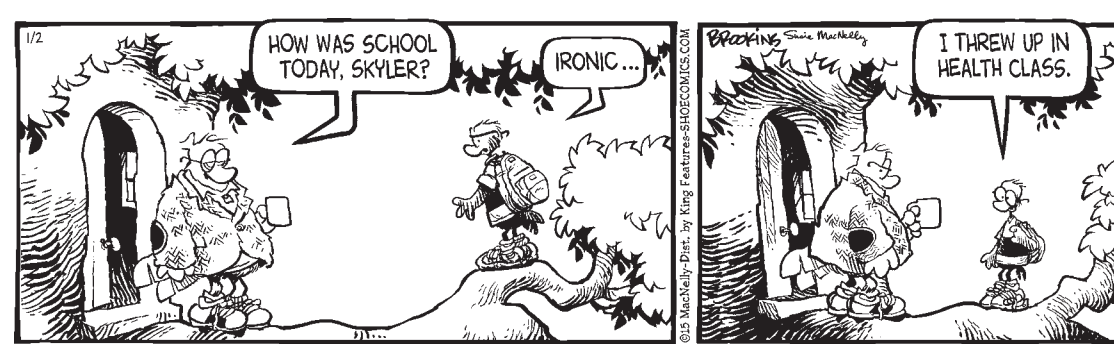
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
★★★★ You can't suppress your innate playfulness and desire to help others enjoy life any longer. Many of your friends and associates might be suffering from a case of the winter blues. Decide to throw a party; it will help everyone forget about his or her problems. Tonight: In the moment.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
★★★ Tension seems to build around a domestic issue. As careful as you might think you are being, you still could tumble into a hassle. Why not leave the issue alone for a while and go ice skating or head to the movies? Your perspective will change as a result. Tonight: Screen calls.

Tundra



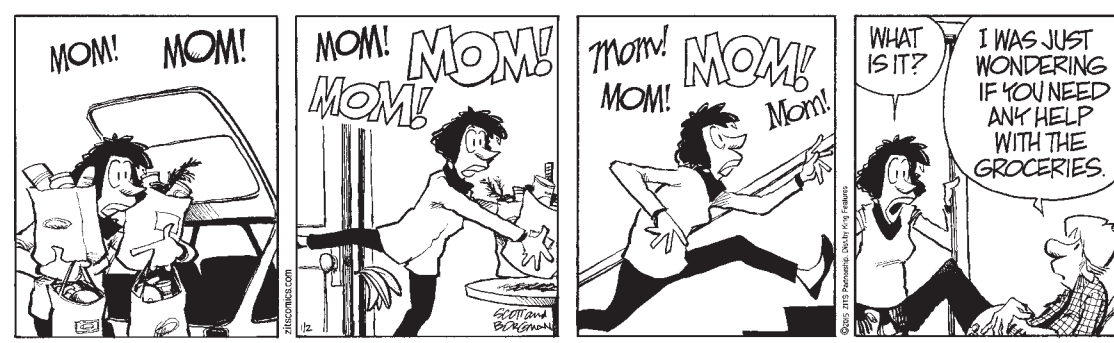
Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



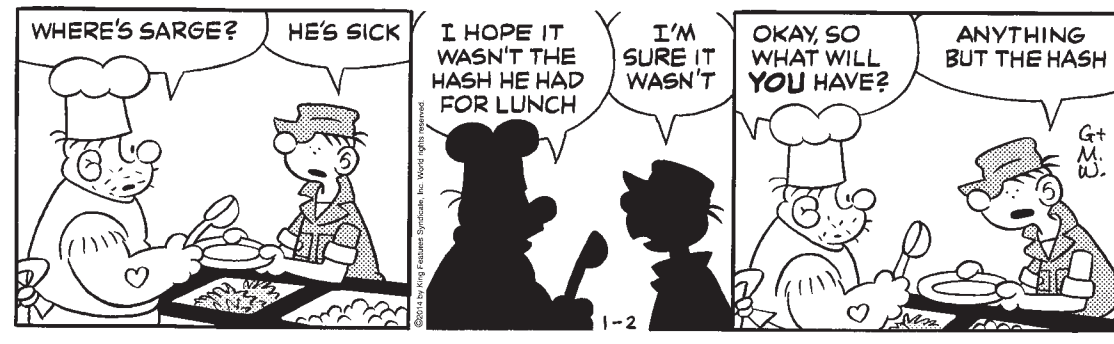
Zits



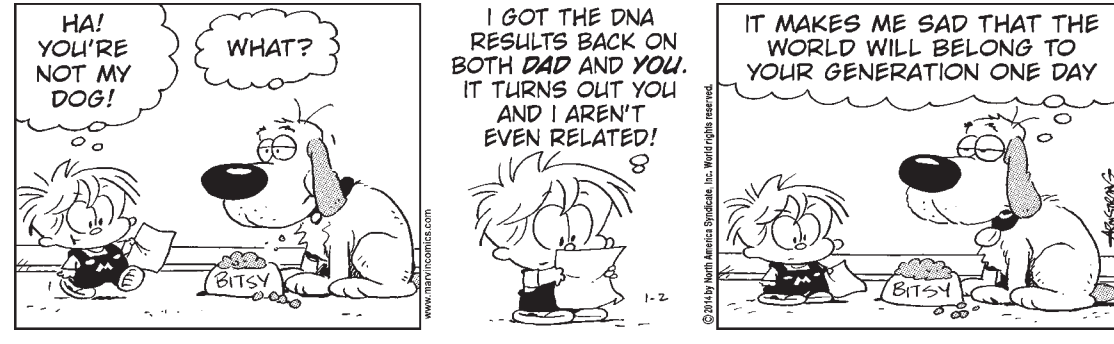
Garfield



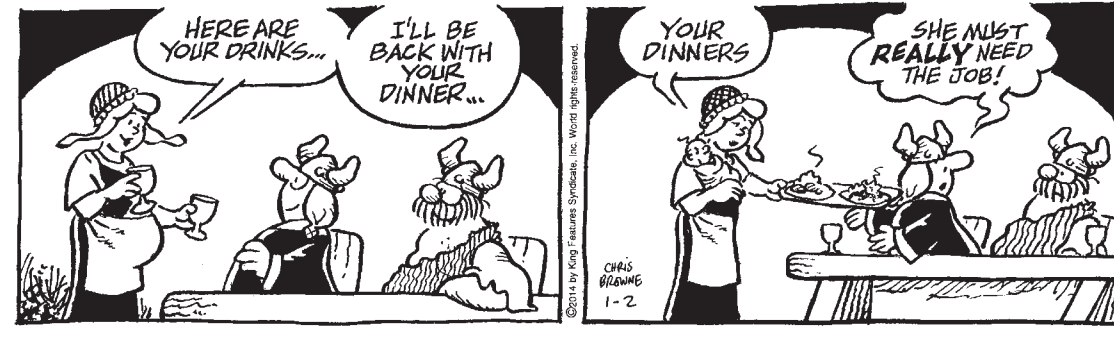
Beetle Bailey



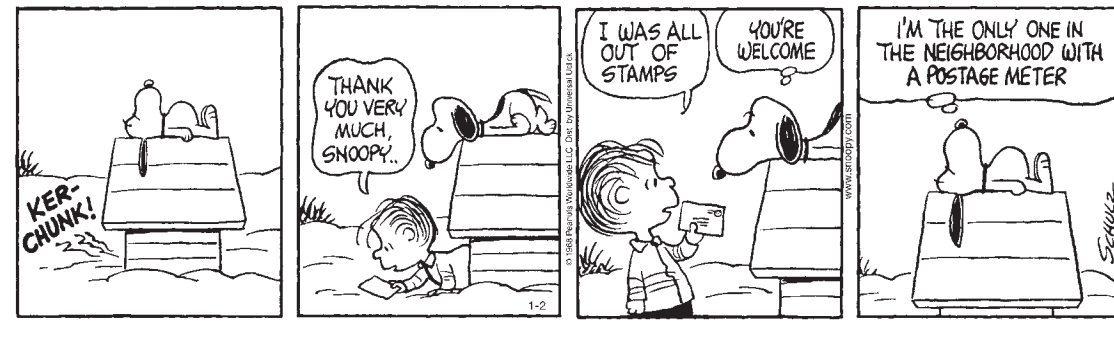
Marvin



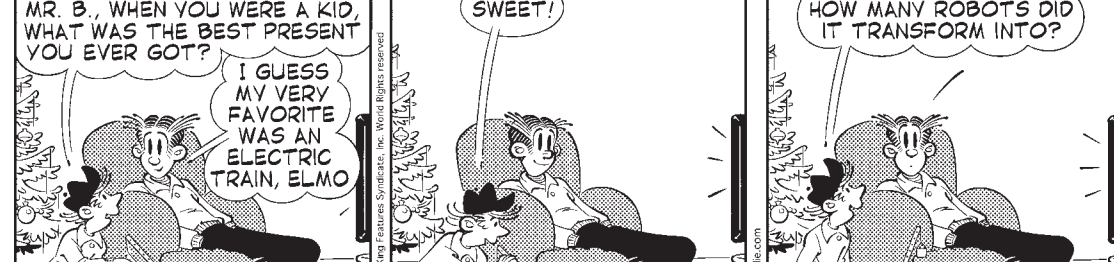
Hagar The Horrible

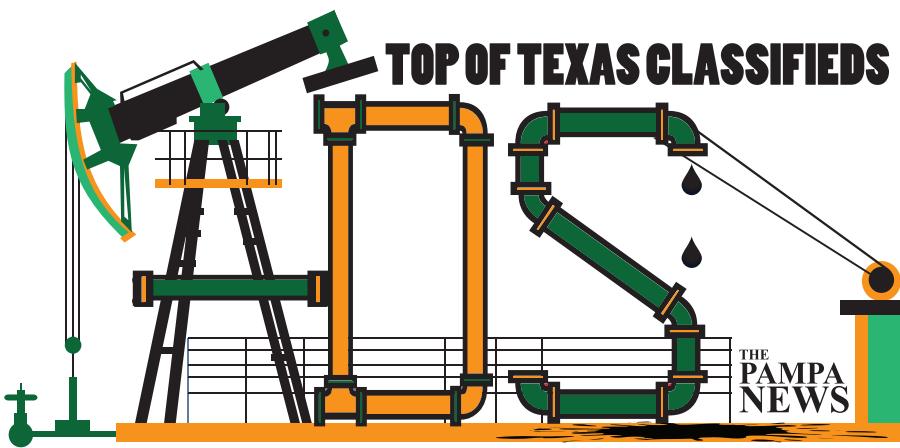


Peanuts



Blondie





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<b>Carpet Service</b> NU-WAY CLEANING SERVICE Bob Marx Owner-Operator. Call 665-3541.	<b>Help Wanted</b> <b>CULBERSON STOWERS Chevy, GMC, Buick and Toyota</b> is seeking <b>CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSOCIATES</b> for our local, family owned dealership. \$9.50 per hour guaranteed plus awesome bonus structures! Not a commission only position & excellent benefits. Apply in person to Tim Prauner Dress for interview please <b>NO PHONE CALLS</b> 805 N. Hobart, Pampa  D.E. CHASE, Inc. now hiring exp. day/night drivers. MUST pass drug screen, DOT physical & have CDL. Apply in person at 1445 S. Barnes, Pampa, Texas.	<b>HELP</b> needed in Pampa- Oil & Gas Supply Store. Oilfield knowledge preferred. Must pass drug test & have good driving record, be dependable & able to lift up to 50 lbs. Able to drive forklift & be mechanically inclined a plus. Strong customer service skills req. Call 806-665-0947  <b>INSERTER</b> This part-time night position is responsible for handling newspaper bundles and inserting advertising supplements into the daily newspaper. This position requires constant standing, repetitive bending, stooping and lifting of advertising inserts and newspaper bundles of up to 50 lbs. Candidates must be able to work Mon-Fri nights. Shift usually begins around 10pm or 11pm. To apply come by 403 W. Atchison We are a drug-free workplace EOE
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**CROSSWORD**

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Untamed
  - 5 Dull pain
  - 9 Concerning
  - 11 Assistant in a con game
  - 13 More original
  - 14 Letter after rho
  - 15 Historic time
  - 16 Not periodical
  - 18 Go to a restaurant
  - 20 Bible boat
  - 21 Make suitable
  - 22 Patella's place
  - 23 Hosp. parts
  - 24 Coffee, in slang
  - 25 Whirled
  - 27 Frosh housing
  - 29 Poker prize
  - 30 Be-smirched
  - 32 Down Under natives
  - 34 African grazer
  - 35 Attempted
  - 36 Patriot Allen
  - 38 Car type
- DOWN**
- 1 Diminished
  - 2 Portugal's place
  - 3 Like some pitches
  - 4 Word on a bill
  - 5 Useful skill
  - 6 Greek X's
  - 7 Self-important
  - 8 Writer Leonard
  - 10 Soldiers
  - 12 Potato pancake
  - 17 Squirrel's snack
  - 19 Bring home
  - 22 Composer Weill
  - 24 Tasty bit
  - 25 Petty quarrels
  - 26 Came down in buckets
  - 27 Game cube
  - 28 Capitol group
  - 30 "We — Start the Fire"
  - 31 Sahara sights
  - 33 Actor Connery
  - 37 Bar bill



**Yesterday's answer**

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1 AND 2! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	
9				10		11			12
13						14			
15				16	17				
18				19				20	
	21						22		
		23				24			
25	26					27			28
29				30					31
32				33				34	
35						36	37		
38						39			
	40							41	

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 <b>FOUND</b> "Lola" Short Haired Female Kitten #15838	 <b>FOUND</b> "Fanny" Short Haired Female Kitten #15701	 <b>DONATED</b> "Heather" Heeler Female #16322
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**Legals / Public Notice**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS THE STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF GRAY**  
 To those indebted to or holding claims against the Estate of HANS JOE FRANKLIN, Deceased, No. 10.182 in the County Court of Gray County, Texas, Probate Matter: The undersigned having been duly appointed Independent Co-Executor of the Estate of HANS JOE FRANKLIN, Deceased, by the Judge of the County Court of Gray County, Texas, on the 22nd day of December, 2014, hereby notifies all

**Legals / Public Notice**

persons indebted to this Estate to come forward and to make settlement, and those having claims against this Estate to present them to the Co-Executor within the time prescribed by law, at the following address:  
 Richard Lawrence Franklin  
 1811 Charles  
 Pampa, Texas 79065  
 RICHARD LAWRENCE FRANKLIN, Independent Co-Executor of the Estate of HANS JOE FRANKLIN, Deceased  
 H-41 Jan. 2, 2015



## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** I am recently divorced and now seeing a wonderful woman who is pretty much everything I was looking for except for a couple of issues, which concern going out to eat — which we do often. Not once has she offered to pay for a meal.

I make good money, but she is not finan-

cially strapped by any means. While I can live with her not paying, what annoys me is she rarely says thank you after a dinner date. Once, she ordered a to-go selection to take home to her daughter. I paid for it, but again got no thanks. When we arrived at her house, she gave the food to her daughter without mentioning that I had bought it for her.

Other than her manners, she's a great gal and I'm happy we're together. Am I being petty and overly sensitive? My ex-wife never appreciated me, so I guess it's a sore spot. How should I approach this without jeopardizing everything else? — **HESITANT TO SPEAK UP IN THE MIDWEST**

**DEAR HESITANT:** Your great gal has poor manners. Approach it by telling

her exactly what you have written to me. Then ask her why she never says thank you and didn't bother to give you credit when you did something nice for her daughter.

Either this woman never learned basic manners, or she takes you for granted. And if this is a pattern with all the women in your life, it's important you understand why and do something about it before you marry again or you will never be happy.

**DEAR ABBY:** I stepped into a public restroom with three regular stalls and a handicap/wheelchair-accessible stall. All the stalls were occupied, so I got in line. By the time it was my turn, the handicapped stall was available. Behind me was a mother with a fussy baby and a toddler, and she needed to use the baby changing station, which happened to be located

inside the handicapped stall. I let her go first. What I didn't realize was a woman in a wheelchair was also in line behind me. She got upset when I let someone else use the stall instead of allowing her. Someone else in line piped up and told her she had to wait in line like everyone else.

When situations like this arise, should disabled people be allowed to skip the line and go straight to the big stall? Even if the mother with the baby and the location of a diaper changing station were not a factor, is the right thing to do to let a wheelchair-bound person use the restroom first, even if he/she is at the end of the line? — **TRYING TO BE POLITE**

**DEAR TRYING:** Yes, it is. It's called a "handicapped stall" for a reason. The person with the disability should have been allowed to use it first — even if he/she was at the end of the line.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have two children from a previous marriage. We have a distant relation-

ship. For valid reasons, they have been written out of my will. Should I tell them now, or let them find out after my death? — **WONDERING WHAT TO DO**

**DEAR WONDERING:** I see no reason to announce it now, because before you die you might change your mind.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbook Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

**AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW**

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

**1-2 CRYPTOQUOTE**

YC CYF'P FXFS RVMLFXFA  
 QLYRYVLRG QLWYFPP ZLWM  
 R NRYDRSO SFPCGDWLCY  
 WMRW'P RIRYACYFA IO  
 QFISDRSO. — PDUFCSTRY

**Yesterday's Cryptoquote:** WHAT THE NEW YEAR BRINGS TO YOU WILL DEPEND A GREAT DEAL ON WHAT YOU BRING TO THE NEW YEAR. — VERN MCLELLAN

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Each of the following seven-letter sets can be rearranged to spell out a common word that starts with **SUB** or **COM** and/or ends with **FUL** or **GHT**.

D G H O R T U  
 [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

C E E M O P T  
 [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

A B F H L S U  
 [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

B D E I S S U  
 [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

Yesterday's Answer: Common F; FINANCE, LEFTIST, FAINTLY, FARTHER

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# PampaSports

## Harvesters breeze through Snyder Christmas Classic Tournament

### The PAMPA NEWS Sports Briefs



<b>Girls Basketball</b>	Varsity hosts Idalou.....6 p.m. - TODAY - McNeely
	JV hosts Idalou.....4:30 p.m. - TODAY - McNeely
	Freshmen hosts Panhandle...7:30 p.m. - TODAY - McNeely
<b>Boys Basketball</b>	Freshmen at Perryton Tournament.....Jan. 8 - 10
<b>Girls Soccer</b>	Scrimmage at Dumas.....Jan. 2 - Dumas
	Scrimmage v. Alumni.....Jan. 3 - Pampa
<b>Wrestling</b>	Pampa Bash.....10 a.m. - Jan. 3 - McNeely
	Dual v. River Road.....5 p.m. - Jan. 5 - Pampa

\*Game times and locations are subject to change. Please refer to the Pampa ISD Athletics Department website for an updated schedule. You can reach it by going to [www.pampaisd.net](http://www.pampaisd.net) and then clicking Athletics Department under the departments tab. \*  
**GO HARVESTERS!!!!!!!**

■ Pampa went 4-0; Won all four games by 29 or more. Now 15-1 on season.

**STAFF REPORT**

The Pampa High School Hustlin' Harvesters traveled to Snyder early this week for the Snyder Christmas Classic. Pampa played two games Monday and two games Tuesday. In game one, Pampa played Water Valley and won 66-37. The score was 26-5 after one quarter. It was 38-13 at the half. After three, it was 52-26. Senior Dante Jordan led all scorers with 15 points. He shot 4-6 from the free-throw line and hit one three. Junior Cade Engle had two threes and finished with 14 points. Senior Johnathan Stevens made his lone free throw attempt and had 11 points. Senior Jett Gibson had 11 points and one three-pointer. Sophomore Brandon Sieck had a three and finished with five points. Junior Shanoaha Bridges had a three pointer in the game. Sophomore Brendon Woelfle had two points. Junior Kambrin Scott had two points. Junior Bryson Burrell had two points. Sophomore Nick Stevens went 1-2 from the charity stripe and finished with one point. In game two, Pampa played Merkel and won 95-48. After one quarter,

it was 27-13. At the half, it was 54-31. After three, it was 72-45. Bridges shot 5-8 from the line and led all scorers with 21 points. Engle hit two threes and was a perfect 2-2 from the line. He finished right behind Bridges at 18 points. J. Stevens was 1-2 from the line and had 13 points. Gibson had 12 points. Burrell finished with 10 points. Scott had a three and finished with seven points. Junior Adam Zuniga hit a three and had five points. Woelfle was 1-2 from the line and finished with three points. Jordan, Sieck and N. Stevens had two points each. In game three, Pampa played Albany and won 72-36. After one, it was 15-1. At the half, it was 40-18. After three, it was 61-25. Engle led all scorers with 14 points. He shot one three and went 1-2 from the line. Gibson had a three and 11 points. Scott hit three three-pointers to add nine points. Zuniga was 1-2 from the line and had seven points. Burrell was 1-1 from the line with seven points. N. Stevens dropped seven points and made one free throw as well as two three-pointers. J. Stevens was 2-2 from the line with six

points. Sieck and Bridges each had four points. Bridges was 2-3 from the charity stripe. Woelfle had four points and was 2-2 from the line. In game four, Pampa played Snyder and won 63-18. The game was played two hours ahead of time due to the weather. After one, it was 19-2. At the half, it was 38-6. After three, it was 54-14. Engle led all scorers again with 16 points. He also shot 1-1 from the line and had a three. Bridges was 1-2 from the line and had nine points. Burrell had eight points. N. Stevens had two threes and shot 1-2 from the line to finish with seven points. Scott and Gibson each had six points. Jordan went 1-1 from the line and had three points. Sieck, J. Stevens and Woelfle all had two points. Senior Calven Webb got on the board with a bucket in the third quarter. Head coach Matt Embry was pleased with the team's performance in the tournament. "The boys came together and played some of their best ball of the season," Embry said. "Cade was able to get going early in each game

and that really got things rolling for us. Once our opponent turns their focus on him he does an amazing job of getting his teammates easy, high percentage shots." Embry was also excited at the production that came off the bench for Pampa. "Our bench production was huge in the tournament. Bridges and Jordan each led the team in scoring in a game and Engle in the other two," Embry said. "Zuniga and Webb did a great job spelling Gibson and Stevens when they needed a breather or got into foul trouble." The Harvesters are now 15-1 on the season and will be back in action Jan. 6 when they host Childress.

## Happy New Year!!

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