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TODAY IN SPORTS



Wednesday, January 7, 2015

www.thepampanews.com

Volume 110 • No. 192



Viewpoints: Museum Musings Hump Day with Humphrey | p4

Wrestling against River Road | p8, 9, 11, 16 Watch The Pros | p5

Suspect apprehended after Tuesday's standoff



Photo by John Lee This mobile incident command unit for Amarillo Police Department and several other law enforcement agencies were posted about a block away from where Tuesday's standoff took place.

■ Amarillo SWAT called to aid in incident.

BY JOHN LEE jclee@thepampanews.com

It all started with a domestic disturbance call in the 500 block of North Nelson. Four hours and an injured Pampa police officer later, a suspect was finally apprehended just before 3 p.m. Tuesday afternoon.

"At 10:35 a.m. this morning, Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2015, Pampa Police Department responded to a 911 call domestic violence call with shots fired," Daniel Hawthorne of Texas Department of Public Safety said. "Upon arriving at the residence on the 500 block of Nelson Street, officers made contact with the occupants. During the contact additional shots were fired and a Pampa police officer was injured by a round."

The officer was airlifted to Northwest Texas Hospital, then transported to a hospital in Lubbock. His condition and identity have not been confirmed by press time Tuesday afternoon.

From there, at about 11:15 a.m., Amarillo Police Department received a request from Pampa law enforcement agencies for APD to send their SWAT unit out which comes standard issue with a negotiator, bomb squad and robotics unit.

The standoff continued for additional two hours before law enforcement officials made entry into the building at around 3 p.m. Tuesday afternoon.

"They made entry and deployed a chemical agent, meaning gas, and made contact with the subject. He had an object in his had," Hawthorne

"The officers demanded and commanded him to drop the object because they couldn't make out what the object was. He disregarded their command and would not drop the object. Shots

STANDOFF cont. on page 2

Boy's Optimist Youth Club sign-up this week

STAFF REPORT

The Optimist Youth Club is holding registration for boys basketball, first through sixth grades, from Jan. 5 until Jan. 9.

The registration will be from through March 12. 5:30 to 7 p.m. each night.

Jan. 12 and 13 at the same times. The signups will be located at

Pampa Optimist Club.

The games will start in early November and each team will play 16.

twice a week.

The number of games will vary based on the number of teams signed up.

Games will begin Jan. 19 and run

Sign-up is \$70, and includes a There will also be late signups on t-shirt with registration. Contact Jeanna Zuniga with any questions.

The Pampa Optimist Youth Club is located at 601 E. Craven Ave.

Also check out their ad on page

Oklahoma woman killed in Ochiltree County Crash

SUBMITTED BY TEXAS DPS

An Oklahoma woman was killed seven miles south of Perryton on U.S. Highway 83 after a collision with a tanker truck. A 2003 Buick Le Sabre, driven

Highway 70 and came to a complete stop facing east at a stop sign with the intersection of U.S. High-

A 2007 Kenworth Converntional towing a 2006 Enerfab scene.

Tanker, driven by Timothy Richard Colvard, 30, Darrouzett, was traveling south on U.S. 83, near the intersection with State High-Dibden failed to yield the right

by Jane Ellen Dibden, 56, For- of way at a stop sign and drove gan, Okla., was traveling on State into the intersection and attempted to make a left turn onto U.S. 83. The truck towing the tanker then

> struck the Buick on the left pas-Dibden was killed at the crash

George P. Bush announces media relations team for Texas General Land Office

SUBMITTED BY OFFICE OF GEORGE P. BUSH

AUSTIN - Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush today announced the new members and organization of the media relations team within the Office of Communications. These members and new positions are:

J.R. Hernandez – Special Assistant to the Commissioner

Brittany Eck – Press Secretary

Jim Suydam – Agency Spokesman "I am honored to be elected by the people of Texas to serve as the next leader of the General Land Office," said Commissioner Bush. "I have selected these members of my communications team specifically for their ability to work together to shine a spotlight on the critical functions the General Land Office provides, including prudent management of the Permanent School Fund, supporting our veterans in transitioning to civilian life, and promoting responsible energy development."

As Special Assistant to the Commissioner, Hernandez will be a critical adviser for message development and media relations as well as providing guidance on special projects such as the Border Energy Forum.

Hernandez served for two years as Communications Director for the George P. Bush Campaign. Additionally, Hernandez has served in the

private sector as a political strategist and image consultant for candidates in Texas and

He is a graduate of Baylor University with a journalism.

bachelor's degree in political science and gov-

ernment. As Press Secretary, Eck will serve as a liaison for the news media as well as providing leadership for communications and public af-

fairs strategies for the agency. Prior to joining the GLO, Eck served as an adviser for members of the Texas Legislature and the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Before returning to her home state of Texas she served in communications and related roles for the U.S. Department of Commerce, Congressman Henry Bonilla, Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, U.S. Speaker of the House J. Dennis Hastert and Senator Phil Gramm.

Eck holds a master's degree in communications from Johns Hopkins University and a bachelor's in political science from Texas A&M University.

As Agency Spokesman, Suydam will utilize his institutional knowledge to provide clarity and transparency with regard to the multitude of critical functions provided by the General Land Office.

He has served as Press Secretary to Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson since

Prior to joining state service, Suydam was a state desk reporter at the Austin American-Statesman, metro editor at the Corpus Christi Caller Times and a crime reporter at the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal. Suydam graduated from the University of

Texas at Austin with a bachelor's degree in





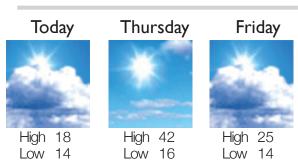




| Weather 2 | Comics 1 |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Obituaries 3 | Classifieds 12-1 |
| /iewpoints 4 | Puzzles/Dear Abby 1 |
| Church page 6 | Sports8,9,11,1 |
| | |



PAMPA FORECAST



Today: Partly sunny, with a high near 18. Blustery, with a northeast wind 20 to 25 mph. Sunrise at 7:54 a.m.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low around 14. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph Sunset at 5:47 p.m.

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 42. Breezy,

with a south southwest wind 15 to 25 mph. Sunrise at 7:54 a.m.

around 16. North northeast wind 10 to 15 mph. Sunset at 5:48 p.m. Friday: Partly sunny, with a high near 25. North

northeast wind 5 to 15 mph. Sunrise at 7:54

Thursday night: Partly cloudy, with a low

Friday night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around

14. East wind 5 to 10 mph. Sunset at 5:49 p.m.

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OPTIMIST BOYS Basketball Sign ups: January 12 - 16. For more information call 6564-2542

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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-

- 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.
- Accolade Home Care sponsors a Parkinson's Support Group the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. The group meets at Accolade at 1313 N. Hobart St. For more information, call Lindsey Presson at 806-665-9700 or 806-324-3230.

US probing 2 airstrikes alleged to have killed civilians

The U.S. military disclosed Tuesday that it is investigating alleged civilian casualties from two airstrikes in Syria and Iraq last year, and that it has dismissed 13 other allegations of civilian casualties from airstrikes.

der, a spokesman for U.S. Central Command, said the command has examined 18 separate allegations that U.S.-led coalition airstrikes killed or wounded civilians between Aug. 8, 2014, when the U.S. launched its air campaign against the Islamic State Group in Iraq, and Dec.

Thirteen allegations were deemed unfounded — five involving airstrikes in Syria and eight in Iraq, he said. Of the five other allegations, three are still being assessed by Central Command and two are under active investigation.

Ryder provided no details about the two cases under investigation, other than to say that one occurred in Iraq and

the other in Syria. He did not Islamic State in Iraq and Syr- Defense Department. He say how many civilians were alleged to have been killed or wounded in either case. He did not provide the dates of the two strikes or say when the allegations of civilian casualties arose.

"We take all allegations of Air Force Col. Patrick Ry- civilian casualties seriously and we apply very rigorous standards in our targeting process to prevent civilian casualties in the first place," Ryder said.

The fact that Central Command was investigating allegations of civilian casualties from its bombing campaign was first disclosed by the Pentagon's press secretary, Rear Adm. John Kirby. Ryder later provided a lengthy written statement that revealed the number of allegations, the number of cases under active investigation and information about the investigative pro-

Less than a month ago, Lt. Gen. James L. Terry, the top commander of the coalition that is fighting the

deliberate about its targeting.

"We have some great capability in terms of precision," Terry said on Dec. 18, speaking of airstrikes in Iraq and efforts to avoid hitting either civilians or friendly Iraqi

"To date, we've got a very civilian casualties.'

Ryder said the two cases being investigated arose from internal reviews of airstrikes, "not the result of allegations received from outside" the

ia, told reporters his organiza- did not say where the other tion is extremely careful and allegations came from but mentioned that "allegations come from various sources," including media reports, private organizations and U.S. government agencies such as the State Department. He said allegations are reviewed "regardless of the source."

Ryder did not explain in degood record. I am tracking no tail why 13 of the 18 allegations were determined to be not credible. He said a source is generally deemed credible if it provides verifiable information such as photographs or other documentation.

Standoff

Continued From Page 1

were fired and the suspect was hit in the leg and then taken into custody without further incident. The lead of the investigation has been turned over to the Texas Rangers."

At the time of the appre-

hending of the suspect, no other occupants were in the house. The weapons used in the conflict are unknown at this time.

The identity and condition of the suspect has not been confirmed, but he or she will be booked into Gray County Sheriff's Of-

Stay tuned to The Pampa News for further informa-

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Obituaries

Patsy Lynn "Pat" Howard

Patsy Lynn "Pat" Howard, 63, died Jan. 4, 2015, in

Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 8, 2015, at



Patsy Lynn Howard

Memory Gardens Mausoleum, with Rev. Philip Elsheimer, retired minister, officiating. Burial will follow in Memory Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley

Mrs. Howard was born June 18, 1951, in Wichita Falls. As a young girl, her family moved to Pampa where she attended Pampa schools. She married Rick Howard on Nov. 25, 1986, in Amarillo. Her greatest enjoyment was spending time with her husband, children and grandchildren, and she will be greatly missed by her family and

Pat was preceded in death by a brother, James Ed-

Survivors include her husband, Rick Howard of the home; two sons, Clint Hinds of Woodward, Okla. and Casey Hinds of Pampa; two daughters, Katrina Hernandez and husband James and Meagen Howard and husband Chris Hill, all of Pampa; her parents, Glenn and Juanita Kerr of Wichita Falls; a sister, Glenda Simpson and husband M.C., of Pampa; 11 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews, including a special niece, Tracy Kerr of Wichita Falls.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, P.O. Box 1000, Department 142, Memphis, Tennessee 38101-9908.

Sign the online guest register at www.carmichaelwhatley.com.

Mary Ann Bailey

Mary Ann Bailey, 92, of Pampa, died Jan. 5, 2015, in Amarillo.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 8, 2014, at



Bailey

Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel, with Brian Mashburn, minister of Southwest Church of Christ of Amarillo, officiating. Private burial will be at Hillcrest Cemetery in McLean, under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.

Mrs. Bailey was born May 7, 1922, in San Antonio. She was adopted by Edith Roberts and lived in Marfa until she was five years old, and then moved to San Francisco, Calif. Mary Ann was an air raid warden during World War II, and she also

worked in the ship yards as a welder's helper, building battleships. She later obtained her cosmetology license. Mary Ann married Melvin Bailey on Feb. 16, 1946, in San Francisco. They later moved to Pampa where they reared their four children; a daughter, Nancy, and three sons, George, Brent and Brian. She worked at Cabot

Corporation for many years.

Nancy Darlene

Davis

Mary Ann was preceded in death by her mother, Edith Roberts; her husband, Melvin V. Bailey, and a brother, William Duffy Morris.

Survivors include her daughter, Nancy Peters and husband Joe of Tacoma, Wash.; her three sons, George Bailey and wife Holly of Garland, Brent Bailey and wife Tammy and Brian Bailey and wife Shana, all of Amarillo; four grandsons, four granddaughters and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the High Plains Children's Home, 11461 S. Western Street, Amarillo, Texas 79118.

Sign the online guest register at www.carmichaelwhatley.com.

Nancy Darlene Davis

Nancy Darlene Davis, 76, died Sunday, Jan. 4, 2015, in Clarendon.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, January 8, 2015, in Robertson Funeral Directors Saints' Roost Chapel in Clar-

> Rev. C.W. Parker, officiating. Interment will follow at Citizens Cemetery in Clarendon.

endon with Rev. Dave Stout and

Arrangements are under the direction of Robertson Funeral Directors of Clarendon.

Nancy was born Feb. 25, 1938. to George Clifton and Dorothy Amelia Walker in Los Angeles, Calif. When she was six years old, her parents moved to Briscoe when

her grandfather, W.M. Lohberger became ill. This place was settled in 1905 and was recognized in 2011 on the senate floor at the Austin Capitol. She attended school at Briscoe and Clarendon College. She married Charles Davis on July 10, 1954, at the Catholic Church in Canadian, Texas and into this family two daughters and two sons was born. In 1966 she joined the Pampa Chapter of "The Women of the Moose" serving in all the elective offices. She earned her Academy of friendship and College of Regents Degrees in Ft. Worth in 1968 and Chicago, Ill. in 1974. In 1979 she was selected to serve as Deputy Grand Regent of Texas in Los Angeles, Calif. International appointments from over half million members was College of Regent Board member (four-member board) appointed in New Orleans, LA 1984-1986. Grand council (eight-member council) appointed in Orlando, Fla. 1991-1993. In the spring of 1993 Charles and Nancy moved to Howardwick at Greenbelt Lake, retirement was planned by the City changed those plans. She served four and a half years as alderman and two years as Pro Tem Mayor. In 2000 she was elected Mayor of Howardwick and served two and a half years before resigning to care for their oldest daughter with cancer. She was a member of the Clarendon Country Club and Card Club and also Classic Dames Red Hat Club. She also served on the Burton Library Board in Clarendon.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Ellie Darlene Usleton; one son in law, Harley Douglas Woods; one great-granddaughter, Brooke Baldwin; her parents,

Cliff and Dorothy Walker; a brother, James Walker, and one nephew, Cody Reed Walker.

Survivors include her husband, Charles Davis of Howardwick; a daughter, D'Anne Woods of Pflugerville; two sons, Dan Ray Davis and wife Judie of Amarillo and Don Alton Davis of Pampa; five grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; a brother, William Dean Walker of Ruidoso, N.M.; three nieces and three nephews.

The family request memorials be sent to St. Jude's Children's Hospital or the First Baptist Church in How-

Sign our online guest book at www.RobertsonFuneral.com.

Rosella Pearl Stout

Rosella Pearl Stout, 72, of Poolville, died Sunday, Jan. 4, 2015, in Weatherford. Services will be at 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 9, 2015, at



Rosella Pearl Stout

Carmichael-Whatley Colonial Chapel in Pampa, with Rev. Barry Owens, associate pastor of First Baptist Church of Pampa, officiating. Burial will follow in Memory Gardens Cemetery in Pampa, under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Rosella was born Jan. 23, 1942, in Shamrock. She was a 1960 graduate of White Deer High School. She married the love of her life, Hollis Edward Stout on April 23, 1960. She spent more than years teaching

at Pampa Independent School District. She taught Sunday school at Central Baptist Church and First Baptist Church, and swimming lessons at Pampa Youth and Community Center and Pampa City Pool during her years in Pampa. After moving to Weatherford, Rosella's greatest joy was her family, and her love of God. She lived for her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She enjoyed animals, such as cats and dogs, and was known for her sweet spirit. She was an avid reader and swimmer, and enjoyed baking candy and cakes for her

Rosella was preceded in death by her parents, Vernon Leroy Chance and Pearl Parker; and her stepfather,

Survivors include her devoted husband of 54 years, Hollis Edward Stout of Poolville; her two sons, Edward F. Stout and wife Sharon of Valley View, and Ricky L. Stout and wife Carla of League City; her daughter, Shelly Stout of Poolville; her two beloved sisters, Cheryl Patrick and husband Phillip of Destin, Fla., and Joan Terrell of Pampa; her brother, Richard "Dick" Chance and wife Rosemarie of Sherman; her granddaughter, Ashlie Stout of Webster; her grandson, Zachary Stout of League City; two great-granddaughters, Ansley and Zelda Rose of Webster, and many nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 8, 2015, at Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Home in Pampa.

Sign the on-line guest register at www.carmichael-

LOOKING FOR MY HOME



This beautiful chocolate lab was brought into the Pampa Animal Shelter on Dec. 30. He was found on south Hobart. This boy is very anxious and watching for his owner. If this dog belongs to you or someone you know, please help him be reunited with his owner by calling the animal shelter at 806-669-5775 or by stopping in during regular



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Good news for gamers: Video scholarships at Kentucky college

liberal arts college in Kentucky says it who wouldn't have before," Parsons said will make video games an official sport of Pikeville, a small school. and start offering scholarships to gamers

The move makes the University of Pikeville one of only a few schools in the nation to provide scholarships to those who play "League of Legends," a multi-

player online battle arena game. "It's actually becoming a worldwide trend," said Bruce Parsons, Pikeville's new media director. "This game is fivepractice and a lot of teamwork."

Parsons said the school is dedicated to teams for upcoming competitions. providing different types of technology to its students.

"I think there are going to be a lot of students, both nationwide and international,

PIKEVILLE, Ky. (AP) — A private who are going to look at our university

Graduate Eric VanHoose said he is ready to coach the game, which he described as players competing "to try and get to the other person's base.

Pikeville plans will offer 20 scholarships when it begins "League of Legends" competition play in the fall.

"It will be a regime a lot like athletics," Parsons said. "They'll have to have a certain GPA. We'll look at them like student on-five competitive play. It takes skill, athletes. There will be practice time and video time when they have to study other

> At least one other school — Robert Morris University in Chicago — has made the game an official sport and offers scholarships.

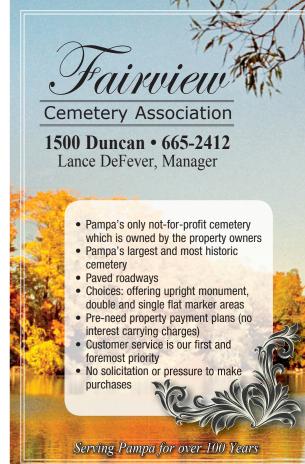




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Viewpoints

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1 year . . 6 months

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It sounds like one of those



DEBRA

SAUNDERS

On New and his wife, Eliana Lopez, a telenovela actress from Venezuela, got in a heated argument after the family headed out for a pizza lunch. Mirkarimi bruised videotape the bruise. The neighbor later called the police. The district attorney charged Mirkarimi with bargain, Mirkarimi pleaded guilty to misdemeanor forced imprisonment. The mayor then tried to fire the provided the votes needed office and preparing to run for re-election.

Three years to the day after that fateful argument, Mirkarimi and Lopez sat down to talk with me. I asked the couple whether they thought they'd still be married if law enforcement had not intervened. hesitated, Theo, 5, shook his

In 2012, I argued that a bruised arm does not Lopez maintained that her a court ordered that the spouses stay apart for six months because the legal system refuses to believe a woman if she says her husband didn't hurt her.

I asked. "I really don't think that to grab an arm is domestic violence," Lopez answered. It is insulting that she thinks her ethnicity was

For his part, Mirkarimi said he was guilty of domestic violence. He was upset taking 2-year-old Theo to high-crime Venezuela. "In my arrogant self, when we were not communicating and I needed to control the conversation, I reached out and I grabbed her arm to say, 'Please listen to me.' And that was wrong, completely wrong. And everything took

Mirkarimi also faulted himself for not being in touch, "not paying attention." He said: "I was not

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Have no gun, will sheriff

only-in-San-Francisco tales: San Francisco's sheriff cannot carry a

gun because he is on probation. "That doesn't handicap me from being a sheriff," Ross Mirkarimi

told me.

Year's Eve 2011, Mirkarimi his wife's arm. Anticipating a possible split and custody battle, Lopez had a neighbor three misdemeanor counts of domestic violence. In a plea to reinstate him. He's still in

While Lopez and Mirkarimi

constitute domestic violence. husband never hurt her; she was angry City Hall would not believe her. Meanwhile.

Was it domestic violence? people wouldn't believe her: a factor.

that Lopez was talking about off from there."

home for dinner. I was a 24/7 supe and a candidate for sheriff. She rightfully was sending all the signals, and I wasn't paying attention, and it just all spiked" in one day. Mirkarimi admitted to other errors, most notably his failure to cooperate with police in the beginning of the investigation.

Mirkarimi still faults the system for not thinking of the best interests of his wife and son. A court order prevented a boy from having a normal relationship with his father and separated the parents for six months.

If the city hadn't intervened, others have assured me, then Mirkarimi's bad behaviors would have escalated. I asked the sheriff: True? "No, they wouldn't have gotten worse," he answered, "but my arrogance would certainly have continued."

Lopez believes that in many ways, the system worked. "Ross is a better person," she said, "a better husband, a better father."

Of course, Mirkarimi sheriff, but Mirkarimi fought believes that the prosecution back. Four of 11 supervisors was political. Mayor Ed Lee piled on when he charged the sheriff with official misconduct, in a complaint larded with charges that the sheriff had tried to stifle witnesses and Lopez. Because of the mayor's overkill, there followed a city Ethics Commission investigation, which cost the city attorney's office nearly \$1.3 million.

Figure this was the most expensive family counseling intervention in San Francisco history. I am glad Mirkarimi is a better family man, but I still say it was wrong for District Attorney George Gascon to charge Mirkarimi with three criminal counts for bruising his wife's arm. In an orgy of political correctness, Lee went too far and spent way too much. And I think the courts were wrong to split up the family against the parents' will. "A person charged with murder gets to see his wife," former San Francisco Public Defender Jeff Brown exclaimed at the time. Dan White, the guy who murdered Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk in 1978, 'had conjugal visits.'

For one year, City Hall was embroiled in a fierce crusade to destroy an elected official because he bruised his wife's arm in an argument. To make sense of the ordeal, Mirkarimi cites Ernest Hemingway: "The world breaks everyone, and afterward, some are strong at the broken places.'

Email Debra J. Saunders at dsaunders@sfchronicle.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.

Museum Musings

Bricklaying in Pampa



COURTNEY **OXLEY**

By 1926, Pampa was feeling the results of the oil discovery in neighboring territories. It had long been known as the town with muddy streets, and it became necessary that something be done. Eleven of the muddy streets were paved with brick in 1927.

The champion Indian bricklayer,

Jim Brown, was brought to Pampa with the Stucky Construction Company. The year previous, he had made a world's record by laying 64.644 bricks in seven hours and 48 minutes at Olathe, Kan., on Sept. 12,

The Indian bricklayer laid nearly all the million and more bricks, and Pampans declared that he worked so fast it kept three men busy hauling the bricks to him, and even then he would sometimes be without bricks. Some of the original brick paving remains in the business district today. Indian Jim was born in 1869 on Oneida Reservation in New York, educated at Carlisle and Ontario Agricultural College, was six feet in

height and weighed 180 pounds.

For more information about the museum's current exhibits, visit the White Deer Land Museum in downtown Pampa. Regular tours are offered Tuesday through Saturday from 1-4 p.m. If you would like to schedule a special or group tour, please call or email the museum at 806-669-8041 or courtney. oxley@graycch.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.

806-669-2520

By U.S. mail: Letters

The Pampa News 403 W. Atchison Pampa, Texas 79065

By E-mail: jclee@thepampanews.

Hump Day with Humphrey

A new year with prince Humphrey

A new year has begun, which is sure to bring another year of adventures with my

trusty steed.

I'm hop-

Humphrey.

ing I can

outsmart

him in our

day to day

excursions

to avoid

the major



TOMASCHIK

hassles that came along with 2014. The top two things I would like to avoid in 2015 are getting locked out of my car by Humphrey with it running and having to chase him down when he's not on his leash and is not ready to go inside/ leave our current location. But you all have read the

stories about that before. I would also like to see some improvements with my stubborn hound. We have been working

diligently on getting him to jump into the car by himself. When I say we, I mean that I have been initially refusing to lift him in the car and using the same phrase to try and get him to jump in on his own. This is a task he is more than capable of accomplishing, but he is set in his ways.

When I tell him to get in the car, he stares at me. This could potentially be a step in the right direction, but if I keep at it, he sits down and continues to stare at me as if to say "This is just not going to happen, mom."

This leads to me giving in after a couple of minutes talking at him with no luck and lifting him into the car.

Now, I'm not exactly sure how much Humphrey weighs, but I would venture to say that it's around the 70-pound range, and some people think he may weigh even more than that. That being said, lifting him with me on these trips, and into the car every time I want to take him somewhere has gotten old. He is due for his an-

nual shots some time this month, so I will know some time in the near future his exact weight. I'm not even sure I really want to know. Although Humphrey is

not a fan of sitting up on the counter at the vet, other at first, and hopefully he than his fear of the height (I'm assuming), he's fairly well-behaved when I have to take him. Unlike some horror stories I have heard about friends' dogs' reactions to getting shots at the vet, Humphrey has enough rolls to where they don't really bother him.

Trip season is approaching, and as the weather warms up (hopefully sooner rather than later), I do have a couple of trips planned. Unfortunately for Humphrey, he cannot come based on the anxiety he got the first time I left him alone for the weekend, I'm nervous about leaving him for more extended periods. The only solution I have

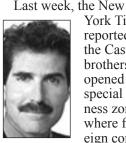
come up with thus far is getting him acclimated to being boarded before said trip times arrive. I'm planning on trying it for one or two days at a time will adjust and be just fine Otherwise, being away for a week in August may not go over so well, and Humphrey may just get his way and be traveling to New Jersey with me for the week. I'm just not sure how well he would do on

an airplane. I'm so glad I don't have one of those high maintenance, spoiled dogs... Right.

Reporter Lindsey Tomaschik can be reached at Iktomaschik@thepampanews.com.

Ignorance in politics

No wonder Cuba wallows in poverty.



STOSSEL

York Times reported that the Castro brothers opened a special business zone where foreign companies "would be given

greater control over setting wages at factories. ... (P)roposals would be approved or rejected within 60 days."

What? If I want to give someone a raise, I have to wait up to two months for government approval! That's absurd.

Yet the Times said that the zone offers "big incentives for investors.' How clueless can their

writers be? Their own article acknowledges, "A year later, the Cuban government has yet to

announce a single foreign investment."

Duh.

The article went on to say that "according to many economists, President Obama's plan to allow more interaction between the two countries may not be the lifeline Cuba is hoping for — unless Cuba overcomes its resistance to change."

No kidding!

I suppose Times reporters need to consult economists to learn that entrepreneurs don't like having to beg dictators for permission to try something new. After all, back in America, Times editors demand increased regulation of almost every business.

I've learned to expect economic cluelessness from the Times, but what was different for me last week was that I was on vacation, and my hotel produced a short version of the Times every day called

the TimesFax. It gave me a new reason to laugh — and

I flipped to a Fax page and read, "Firing of VA Clinic Chief Is Upheld." A judge ruled that Sharon Helman, director of the Veterans Affairs health care system in Phoenix, "could be fired for accepting more than \$13,000 in airline tickets and other gifts."

What? Taking gifts is the scandal? She's not fired because of her falsified waiting lists for treatment? Because thousands of veterans at her facilities were cruelly lied to and then denied medical care?

No, "the department had not provided sufficient evidence to justify firing Ms. Helman for the manipula-

tion of waiting lists.' At least the Times got the bureaucracy's rules correct. If you work for government, no matter how incompetent you are — even if you do cruel, selfish things that may have killed people — you can't get fired unless an "administrative judge" rules that all arcane civil service due process protections have been honored.

You can only be fired if you step outside the bureaucracy's rules and happen to get caught, say, taking obvious bribes like eight-night stays at Disneyland from a company that wants to do business

with your agency. Nowhere does the Times article address the elephant in the room: No organization can do anything efficiently, or even reasonably, unless workers can be fired. Government workers' special "protections" are a reason taxes are high. bridges fall down, public schools decay, the CDC loses Ebola samples and so on.

But Times writers

STOSSEL cont. on page 5

Stossel

Continued From Page 4

constantly call for more government, "job protections," etc. Few of them have ever run a business or invented something new themselves. If they had, they might understand this obvious cause of government failure. But they don't. They are oblivious.

Finally, there was one cheerful headline, "Inroads Against Climate Change." Here I thought a writer might acknowledge that modern industrial civilization brings benefits. The reporter said, "Saving forests ... will require producing food much more intensively, on less land.'

happened! Modern industrial agriculture produces more food on less land, so America now has more forest than a hundred

Yes, but that's already

years ago. Will the Times report that? No, the article was the usual leftist mix of support for "govern-ment leaders" pushing "sustainable practices."

The writer also ignored how fracking has lowered America's greenhouse gas emissions. Instead, he suggests that Americans must be guilt-tripped into giving billions more dollars to developing nations instead of "only a few billion.'

I used to get angrier about such clueless reporting because when I worked at ABC News, editors based entire shows on silly ideas from the Times. Now we have more sources of news, so one newspaper doesn't matter as much. Thank goodness.

John Stossel is host of "Stossel" on Fox News and author of "No They Can't! Why Government Fails, but Individuals Succeed." For other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit www.creators.com.

Watch the Pros

| College | Basketball |
|---------|-------------------|
|---------|-------------------|

| North Carolina State at Virginia | ESPN2 6 p.m. |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Temple at Tulane | ESPNN 6 p.m. |
| Syracuse at Georgia Tech | ESPNU 6 p.m. |
| Loyola Chicago at Evansville | FCSC 7 p.m. |
| Colorado at Utah | ESPN2 8 p.m. |
| TCU at Kansas State | ESPNN 8 p.m. |
| Kansas at Baylor | ESPNU 8 p.m. |
| DePaul at Creighton | FS1 8 p.m. |
| California at USC | ESPNU 10 p.m. |
| | |

NBA Basketball

Houston Rockets at Cleveland Cavaliers.....ESPN 6 p.m. Phoenix Suns at Minnesota Timberwolves....ESPN 8:30 p.m.

Horse Racing

.....TVG 5 a.m. From Hong Kong...

AHL Hockey

San Antonio at Rochester......FSSW 6 p.m.

NHL Hockey

Boston Bruins at Pittsburgh Penguins.....OLN 7 p.m. New York Rangers at Anaheim Ducks.....OLN 9:30 p.m.

Game times and channels are subject to change.

www.thepampanews.com

Community Calendar

City Commission meetings

Pampa 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

Gray County Commission meets at 9 a.m. on the first and 15th of each month. If the date falls on

be held on Friday. If the date falls on a Sunday, the meeting with 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, Citizens 500 W. Francis St. For more information call 806-669-

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

a Saturday, the meeting will 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-

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

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



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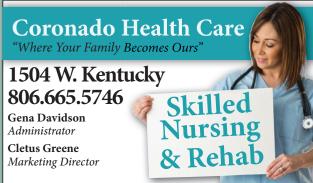
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PAMPA FAITH

Favorite neighborhood games and guns

What were your favorite outdoor games as a kid? Oh, I don't mean sports like baseball, football, basketball, etc. You know, neighborhood games. I grew up at 2133 N. Hamilton right here in Pampa and we had a ton

of neighborhood games. Game No. 1- When

on to the asphalt at the

same time and start

running around. Our feet got so hot

that eventually we couldn't stand it

anymore and the last one to jump on

iacket nests in the neighborhood and

hornet's nest in one of our elm trees.

lost and had to climb the tree with the

We would draw straws to see who

hornet's nest. That boy (girls didn't

play this game with us) would take a

fly swatter with him and get just close

enough to the nest to swat 2-3 hornets

and the rest of us would be under the

tree with Mason jars and lids. When

to put them in the jars; just put the

up and fly to the top of the jar and

jar over them, then they would wake

then you just slid the lid under the jar.

We would then run through the same

routine with yellow-jacket nests and

catch each one in a separate jar. Then

we would have fights to the death. Of

course, the hornets always won. Their

reward for conquering the wasp was

we weren't some kind of weirdos, we

Game No. 3- Hide and seek was a

but what a blast it was to stumble

through the dark, trying to get to the

spent a lot of hours on Hamilton hav-

Game No. 4- We also had a lot of

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base before you got caught. We all

fun "playing dead." We would all

real highlight. We had to wait 'til dark,

death by magnifying glass. And no

were just normal boys.

ing fun with this game.

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the hornets got hit with the fly swatter they were stunned just long enough

in my front yard we always had a huge

to the grass was the winner. We played

Game No. 2- We always had yellow-



SUBLETT

that a lot.

and then one at a time we go to the other end of the yard and on queue run at the other boys (Girls didn't much like this game either). As we neared the other boys one of them would shoot us with one our multitude of play pistols and rifles that we all had. Once shot, it was our job to die the best we could. We would jump, moan, stumble around, cry out and then eventually fall dramatically to the ground. We would all vote on who died the best and that boy was the winner. And YES, we played this game a lot. I've spent many, many hours playing dead.

get at one end of somebody's vard

Game No. 5- We often played "Cowboys and Indians" or just "Cowboys and Outlaws." Every boy in the neighborhood had an array of toy weapons for these games. My arsenal consisted of: one pop rifle that had to be cocked; one Mattel greenie stick em cap rifle; two Colt .45 fanning revolvers with holster; and my prize weaponry were two Hubley Colt .45 revolvers with holster from Christmas in 1958. We then divided into sides (Cowboys and Indians/ Outlaws) and spent the day shooting each other and dying in spectacular, melodramatic ways.

And note: NOT A SINGLE ONE OF US EVER GREW UP TO BE A MASS KILLER. My very first actual memory is of getting in trouble at Sam Houston Elementary for shooting my pop rifle and making too much noise in Mrs. Gibson's first grade class. I can't remember when I didn't have toy guns and play with them constantly; got my first Daisy BB rifle when I was seven or eight and my first .410 shotgun when I was 10. And yet I've never shot anyone. If you aren't getting my drift, GUNS AREN'T THE STINKING PROB-LEM! The problem is the ANTI-GOD culture that we have either helped create by our own ungodliness or have allowed to evolve without a fight. So what is it time to do? FIGHT! FIGHT! God needs warriors. God bless. Mike

Mike Sublett is a pastor at Hi-Land Christian Church, 1615 N. Banks St., Pampa, Texas 79065. Email him at pawdad@nts-online.net.

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Where does the time go?

"Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." (Ephesians 5:16)

In 1967, testimony before a Senate sub-committee claimed that by 1985 people would be working

just twenty-two hours a week or twenty-seven weeks a year and could retire at age thirty-eight. According to a Har-

ris Survey, the amount of leisure time enjoyed by the average America has decreased 37 percent since 1973. Over the same period, the average week, including commuting, has jumped from under

forty-one hours to nearly forty-seven hours. Technical progress was billed as leisure-permitting and time-gifting The opposite has been true. Jeremy Rifkin in "Time Wars" says, "The modern world of streamlined transportation, instantaneous communication, and time saving technologies was supposed to free us from the dictates of the clock and provide us with increased leisure. Instead, there seems never to be enough time." Nearly all of us are caught scratch-

ing our heads about this mystery of having so little time in an era of so many technical conveniences. Look at where some of our time goes in a lifetime.

• We spend six months sitting at traffic lights waiting for them to change.

• We spend one year searching through desk clutter looking for misplaced objects.

• We spend eight months opening junk mail.

• We spend two years trying to call people who are not in or whose line is

• We spend five years waiting in line. • We spend three years in meetings.

• We commute forty-five minutes every day. • We will be interrupted seventy-

three times every day. • We will receive 600 advertising

messages every day.

• We travel 7,700 miles each year.

• We watch 1,700 hours of television

• We open 600 pieces of mail every

What do we fill our time with? Maybe we need to reserve some time each day to listen and think about God and eternity. Remember that God told us, "Be still and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10). Spend a little more time this year with family, friends, and the Lord.

Dr. David Bouler is from Tennessee Temple University in Chattanooga, Tenn., who writes "God's Good News For Today." He can be reached at davidbouler@tntemple.edu.

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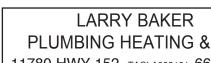
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HAVIN' SOME FUN WITH THE SNOW





Above left, Bogey is a nine-month-old bulldog playing with Barley a one and a half year old lab. Above right, three-year-old Landry Crawford helped his dad Josh Crawford shovel snow Saturday morning. Below left, Chloe, 6, and Trixie, 12, are poodles having fun in the snow. Below right, Kinsley, 5, and Adiddson, 11, built a trash can snowman.







SHEPARD'S HOME HEALTH 665-0356

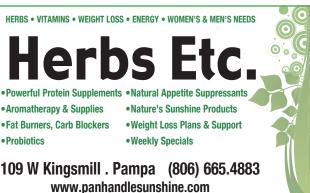
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on Jan. 13.

Photos by Zachary Green Top, Miranda Foreman and Amelia Rodriguez wrestle an exhibition match against each other. Foreman won via pin. Above, Austin Hernandez gets in position to take control of his man. Below, Savanah Chaney tries to flip her opponent on her back. Bottom, Shalor Sokolosky had an exhibition match but he still won via pin. Hernandez won via pin. Chaney had an exhibition match as well. The girls as a team won 42-6 over River Road. The guys won 58-17. The Pampa wrestling teams will travel this weekend to various places for tournaments. They will host Tascosa at 2 p.m.





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NOTICE TO FILE RENDITION STATEMENTS, PROPERTY REPORTS, AP-PLICATIONS FOR QUALIFIED OPEN-SPACE LAND VALUATION, APPLICA-TIONS FOR EXEMPTIONS, AVAILABILITY OF FORMS AND PROCEDURE FOR THE DETERMINATION OF THE QUANTITY OF PROPERTY HELD IN INVENTORY.

TO ALL PERSONS OWNING OR CONTROLLING, AS AGENTS OR OTHER-WISE, ANY PERSONAL OR REAL PROPERTY SUBJECT TO APPRAISAL BY THE GRAY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT, I, TYSON PARONTO, CHIEF APPRAISER FOR THE SAID GRAY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT, PUR-SUANT TO SECTION 11.44 CHAPTER 11, SECTION 22.21 CHAPTER 22, SECTION: 23.43; AND SECTION 23.54 CHAPTER 23, TEXAS PROPERTY TAX CODE, HEREBY GIVE NOTICE ON BEHALF OF GRAY COUNTY AP-PRAISAL DISTRICT, A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF TEX-AS, WHOSE PROPERTIES ARE APPRAISED BY THE CHIEF APPRAISER FOR THE GRAY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT, TO SAID OWNERS AND AGENTS TO FILE ALL RENDITION STATEMENTS, PROPERTY REPORTS. APPLICATION FOR QUALIFIED OPEN-SPACE LAND VALUATIONS AND AP-PLICATIONS FOR EXEMPTIONS WITH THE SAID CHIEF APPRAISER ON OR BEFORE APRIL 15, 2013 AT 815 NORTH SUMNER, POST OFFICE BOX 836, PAMPA, TEXAS 79066-0836. ALL FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SAID ADDRESS.

THE GRAY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT HEREBY ESTABLISHES A PROCEDURE FOR THE DETERMINATION OF THE VALUE OF THE BUSI-NESS PERSONAL PROPERTY ON JANUARY 1, 2013 AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 23.12 CHAPTER 23, TEXAS PROPERTY TAX CODE. THE VALUE OF BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY SUCH AS INVENTORY, SUPPLIES, FURNITURE & FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT, VEHICLES, TOOLS AND OTHER PERSONAL PROPERTY DETERMINED BY RENDITION, OBSERVATION BY THE APPRAISERS, COMPARISON OF LIKE PROPERTIES, PERTINENT RE-CORDS OF THE BUSINESS AND ANY OTHER REASONABLE APPROACH THAT WILL ACCURATELY REFLECT THE MARKET VALUE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.

(EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2004) BUSINESS OWNERS WILL NOW FACE A 10% PENALTY FOR RENDERING LATE OR NOT AT ALL, AND CAN FACE CIVIL PENALTIES OF UP TO 50% FOR FILING A FALSE RENDITION OR DELIBERATELY EVADING THE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX. IN SOME CASES, CRIMINAL SANCTIONS FOR FRAUD MAY BE ASSESSED.

THE STATE OF TEXAS **COUNTY OF GRAY**

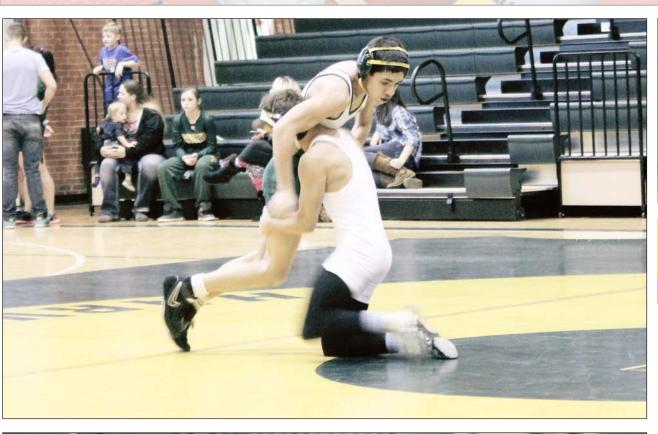
NOTICE OF DEFERRED COLLECTION OF CERTAIN TAXES CHAPTER 33, **SECTION 33.06 TEXAS PROPERTY TAX CODE**

AN INDIVIDUAL IS ENTITLED TO DEFER COLLECTION OF TAXES OR ABATE A SUIT TO COLLECT A DELINQUENT TAX ASSESSED AGAINST HIS/ HER RESIDENCE HOMESTEAD IF HE/SHE IS 65 YEARS OF AGE OR OLD-ER AND OWNS AND OCCUPIES THE RESIDENCE AS HIS HOMESTEAD, TO OBTAIN A DEFERRAL, AN INDIVIDUAL MUST FILE AN AFFIDAVIT WITH THE CHIEF APPRAISER STATING THE FACT THAT THE PERSON HAS AT-TAINED THE AGE OF 65 AND OWNS AND OCCUPIES THE PROPERTY AS THEIR PRIMARY RESIDENCE.

TO OBTAIN AN ABATEMENT, THE INDIVIDUAL MUST FILE IN THE COURT IN WHICH SUIT IS PENDING AN AFFIDAVIT STATING THAT THE PERSON HAS ATTAINED THE AGE OF 65 AND OWNS AND OCCUPIES THE PROP-ERTY AS THEIR PRIMARY RESIDENCE.

AFFIDAVITS FOR DEFERRAL ARE AVAILABLE AT THE GRAY COUNTY AP-PRAISAL DISTRICT OFFICE. ALL APPLICATIONS AND RENDITION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT 815 NORTH SUMNER, PO BOX 836 - PAMPA, TEXAS 79066-0836, PHONE NUMBER 665-0791.

THE STATE OF TEXAS **COUNTY OF GRAY**





Send it to us! jclee@thepampanews.com or bring it to the paper!



Amarillo Speech, Language and Audiology Services



Our team of compassionate therapists believes in treating the individual and the family, not just the disorder. We believe that improved communication supports improved quality of life. If you or a loved one has symptoms of any of the conditions listed below, talk to your physician about a full speech evaluation.

- Speech Delay
- Language Delay
- Learning Disabilities
- Auditory Processing Disorder
- Autism and Asperger's Syndrome
- Hearing Loss Aural Rehabilitation for Cochlear

Implant

 Impaired Memory Voice Disorder

Stroke/Aphasia

Head and Neck Cancer

Feeding Disorders

Traumatic Brain Injury

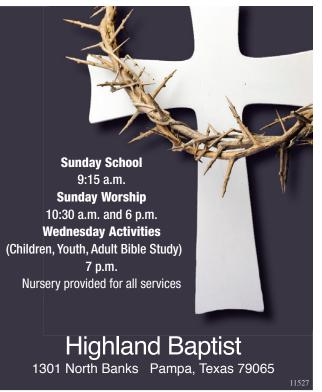
Swallowing Difficulty

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Top, Jeremy Mears tries to fight off his opponent. Above, Kenda Young tries to flip over so she can get better position. Below, Tacoma Mathews is in control of his match. Mathews won via technical fall. All of the wrestlers fought hard.



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www.thepampanews.com

HOMEOWNERS EXEMPTION

The Gray County Appraisal District is concerned that there are still many homeowners that have not filed for their residence homestead exemptions. The Texas Property Tax Code provides for Partial Exemptions from property tax on your home if you own the home and live in it as your principle residence on the first day of January of the tax year. If a person turns 65 during the year or is 65 and older and purchases the home he or she may be eligible immediately. Once a homeowner has applied, he or she need not reapply in subsequent years unless the eligibility changes.

The general homestead exemption is available for homeowners. There is also an additional exemption for those homeowners that are 65 and over or disabled. To qualify for the disability homestead exemption a homeowner must be determined 100% disabled by the Social Security Administration (a letter from the Social Security Administration must accompany the application). The homeowner may qualify for either the "65 and over Exemption", or the "Disability Exemption", but not for both exemptions.

For Example, a homeowner 65 years old or older could be eligible for \$10,000 for the 65 and older exemption and \$15,000 for the general homestead exemption for a total of \$25,000 in exemptions from the value of their home for school tax purposes.

In addition to homestead exemptions, there is an exemption available to veterans with a qualified service connected disability. This exemption may be applied to any property the taxpayer owns and is based on the percent of service-connected disability as determined by the Veterans Administration (letter from the Veterans Administration must accompany the application). This Disabled Veteran's Exemption is not the same as the "Disability" exemption mentioned above and may be applied in addition to the Homestead exemption for those who quality.

Many taxpayers may not be aware of special value for qualified Ag land, which is provided for by the Property Code.

In order to receive exemptions a person must apply at the Gray County Appraisal District office at 815 N. Sumner, Pampa, Texas. For more information call the office at 806-665-0791.

Taxes for property within the District are paid at the Gray County Assessor/Collector's office in the Courthouse. The deadline for current taxes is January 31. For more information concerning payment options for delinquent taxes you must call the County Tax Office at 806-669-8020.

The exemptions are a specific amount deducted from the total value of the property. The amounts of each exemption vary according to the type of exemption and the taxing unit offering the exemption. Many property owners may not be aware of what is available and may need to check with the Appraisal District to see that they have taken advantage of exemptions and other benefits that are available to them.

EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2011

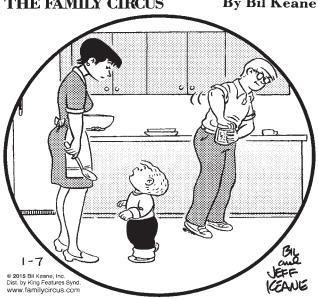
A new sate law requires homeowners applying for a new homestead exemption or applying for a different type of homestead exemption such as a 65 and older or a disability must provide new documentation. The required documents are:

A TEXAS DRIVERS LICENSE OR ID CARD

THE ADDRESS ON ALL DOCUMENTS MUST MATCH THE ADDRESS OF THE PROPERTY THE **EXEMPTION IS TO BE APPLIED.**

If taxpayers have any questions, need application forms or assistance in any way they may contact the Gray County Appraisal District at P.O. Box 836, Pampa, Tx. 79066-0836 or come by the office at 815 N. Sumner, Pampa, TX. 806-665-0791.





"It's a good thing we have Daddy around. Otherwise we'd never get our jars open. Right, Mommy?"

Non Sequitur

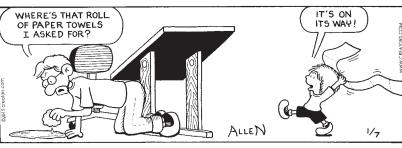








Nest Heads





HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, taste. Tonight: Buy a gift. Jan. 8, 2015:

This year you will experience many changes in your daily life. You have the spirit to not let this situation bother you, and you have what it takes to cruise right by it. You will have a tendency to swallow your feelings and withdraw. Make it OK to express your less-pleasant feelings, and you will feel better. If you are single, you could meet some-

one very special from August on. If you are attached, the two of you seem to have a psychic connection. Plan a special time away where you can enjoy the intensity that exists between you. VIRGO is much fussier than you are.

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)

★★★★ Someone close to you will push hard to achieve what he or she wants. Others will react, and what started out as a peaceful, normal request could explode into quite a fight. Try to prevent this from happening. Moodiness seems to be everywhere. Tonight: A chat is inevitable.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Your imagination seems to be going haywire. A brainstorming session could help take you in a new direction. Don't allow someone to push you away because of a seemingly unresolvable problem. Tonight: Let loved ones know how much you care.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Make calls in the morning, when others appear to be more responsive. Someone's temper might encourage you to retreat later in the day. Words spoken cannot be taken back. The less upset you create, the less you'll have to resolve. Tonight: Remain secure.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

*** You'll want to focus on completing an important project. You could decide to deal with someone's anger, or you might opt to walk away from the volatile situation. Timing will be everything. Tonight: Invite a loved one to join you for dinner at a favorite spot.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You could be taken aback by everything that is going on. How you handle a volatile friend will define how you feel for the remainder of the day. Investigate options more openly with an eye to positive change. Someone might be a little too serious for your

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You might feel off in the morning, but later in the day -- when the Moon enters your sign -- you'll feel like the lead player. Investigate opportunities that appeal to you. If a family member appears to be closed-off, give him or her some space. Tonight: As you like it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Pressure builds, and some of you could be easily antagonized by a child or loved one. You might need to take a walk and commit to saying nothing for now. Focus on the big picture and on the bonds that tie you together.

Tonight: Let off some steam. SČORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Defer to others, rather than find yourself in the midst of a public squabble. If you can keep your eye on the big picture, you will land perfectly. Remain centered. You could feel uptight about a key issue that seems to be undermining your dealings. Tonight: Where the fun is.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ Reach out to someone at a distance whom you care about but might be irritated with. Understand what is happening; you might want to pull back rather than trigger a reaction. Emotions could run high, though you aren't likely to show them. Tonight: Make it an early night.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Deal with someone directly, and know that this person will be quite touched by your time and attention. Make a point of connecting with a friend at a distance who cares a lot about you. If you feel depressed or unhappy, share your feelings. Tonight: Get ready for some TV binging.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Others will demonstrate their caring, but not in the way you might expect. In fact, you could be too irritated to be gracious. Try your best to be appreciative, because you will not be able to mend a broken bridge quickly. Zero in on what you want. Tonight: Out late.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ You'll be more on edge than you realize. Part of the problem could be that you seem to be holding on to your uglier feelings more than you have in the past. As a result, you'll be more prone to getting the flu and other such ailments. Tonight: Choose a favorite stressbuster.

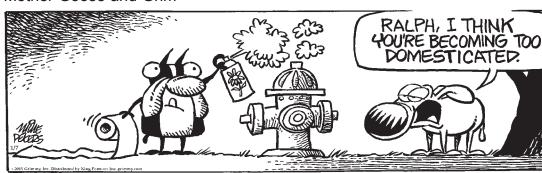
Tundra



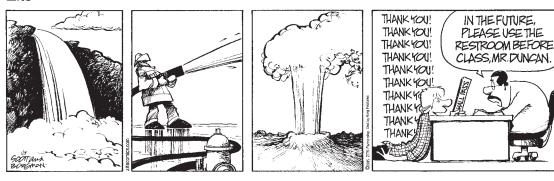
Shoe



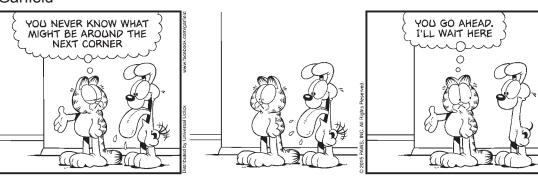
Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



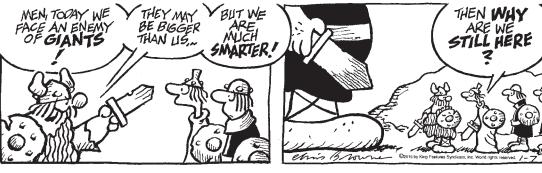
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



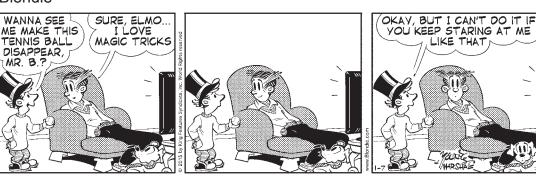
Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



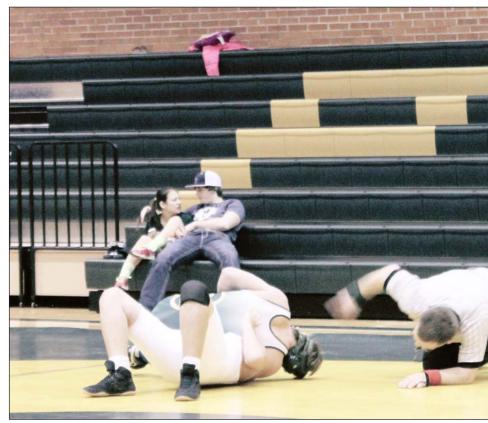




Photos by Zachary Green

Above left, Brayden Turner is in control of his match. Above right, Cade Ferguson is in control and the ref is above to signal a pin. Below left, Isaiah Baggett is in control and looking to pin. Below right, Kyler Kitchen is on top of his opponent. The ref is counting down and ready to signal pin.

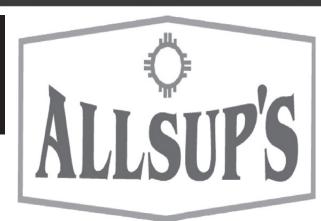




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and Rachael Soliz

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Barnes, Pampa, Texas.

Each of the three-letter groups below may be

DMNOPST

ACDEGRU

VAN

Yesterday's Answer: STOP, STREET, TURN

ORE

extended both on the right and the left to form a

seven-letter word. Use the tiles directly above each

ABCINOU

HEM

ELORSTU

TAN

BANANAGRAMS!

group to fill in the blanks.

CULBERSON

INSERTER This part-time night

Help Wanted

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.

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Maintenance Tech needed for a 150 unit

Apt. Community Salary DOE Apply 1601 W. Somerville or call 665-7149

Nursing Center, 806-669-2521. EOE OUTREACH

HEALTH SERVICES has immediate opening for provider to care for elderly and disabled in their homes, in the Pampa AREA. Must be 18+, pass criminal history & have reliable transportation. Call MARY 1-800-373-0986 or 1-800-800-0697. EOE.

Pak-A-Burger is looking for positive, highly motivated person that is not afraid of work. Must be 18 years or older, able to work flexible hours and pass a drug test. Competitive pay and benefits. GED or High School Diploma. Apply at 1608 N. Ho-

PAMPA business needs a Data Entry Clerk. Full-time, benefits & insurance included. Mail resume to PO Box 836, Pampa, TX 79066-0836

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Pharmacy Clerk / Caing skills, background Laramore, 669-1131. check & drug test req. Apply in person after 4pm at Heard-Jones, 114 N. Cuyler.

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> Prep and Dishwashers. Scrap Metal. Call 806-No part-time. No phone 663-6907 calls. Apply at 2841 Perryton Pkwy. TOP PAY For Mainte-

nance Man. Must have valid Driver's License. Apply at 800 N. Nelson. 665-1875

Immediate openings on all shifts for state certified CNAs and licensed PRN or "as needed" LVNs. Competitive rates. EOE/MFHV. For more info, call our DON (806) 273-3785 or apply in person Mon-Fri; 9-4. BORGER

HEALTHCARE CENTER 1316 South Florida Borger

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NEW Queen Mattress

house is hiring Cooks Cars and Large Lots of

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Unfurnished Apts.

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ecutive Home, previously rented by oil co. in Pampa. 3 bdr., 2 ba. 2 car gar., 2 liv. areas. C h/a. \$1800 mo. + utilities. 972-468-6111.

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Free Estimates Repair & New Const. 665-1712

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.

CRYPTOOUOTE

TWH'J JEFN JGN KARR KC JGN

GWZHX, JEFN G O P

BEHJ

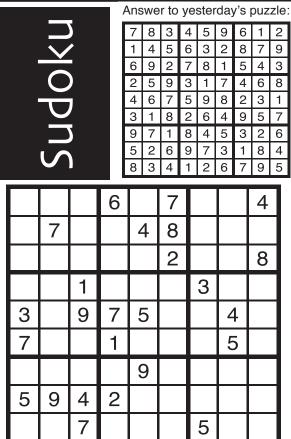
JEOR; C W A J G N H MEH RNJC W A

I W X G KORROHLX

BGNH

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: LET US NOT BE TOO PARTICULAR. IT IS BETTER TO HAVE OLD SECONDHAND DIAMONDS THAN NONE AT ALL. - MARK TWAIN





Level: Intermediate

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CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

41 Earth

42 Big

DOWN

1 Bit of

2 From

neighbor

ringers

strategy

Portugal

or Spain

3 Dessert

wine

4 "Got it"

6 Swift

7 Debate

topic

8 Boat's

back

9 Made

on

11 "Jeremy"

band

demands

ACROSS 1 Bashful **6** Punching weapon

10 Humble 11 Trattoria fare

12 Gives over 13 English county 14 Pine or

palm **15** Full grown 16 Clock numeral

17 Ship sealer **18** Put a stop to

19 Spice trade ships 22 Drug agent

23 Moonshine holders 26 Chewy confec-

tions 29 Kilmer of "The Doors" 32 Pop's wife 33 Gloss target 34 Wore away **36** Zilch

denial 38 Arrived 39 Last Greek letter 40 Bold way

37 Private's

to solve crosswords



Yesterday's answer

15 Writer Rita 27 Curtain - Brown 5 — Moines 17 What a news anchor path **21** Total

looks into 20 Curved 24 Quivering dessert 25 Like some 38 Musician's doors

holder 28 Paddles 29 Viper's poison 30 Kitchen come-on 31 Sad sack **35** Home,

job

informally

alienating her.

is pregnant, too. I'm

this. How do I deal

36 Taboo act

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| 37 | | | | | | 38 | | | | |
| 39 | + | | | | | 40 | | | | |
| 41 | + | | | | | 42 | | + | | + |

Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My ILLINOIS

sister has been seereason he is stay- choices and may

my sister how wrong can get. DEAR ABBY: I am hold this relationship is learned that his wife and recently had to your iust had a second move in with my law needs help get- geles, CA 90069. child, and my sister mother-in-law.

her how crazy her mother quits walking her back? situation is, but she around naked in front horrible "the man she in-law still walks comfortable, and if her lover is in brother. freaking out about the shower.

with it and not totally nude in front of me, around. It's worth lose my sister? — and it makes me very a try. FREAKING OUT IN uncomfortable.

DEAR FREAK- about it a few times, ask the person to sit ing a married man ING OUT: Your and he said she's somewhere else? for two years. He sister is an adult. been this way his GOT HERE FIRST has told her the only **She has made her** whole life.

Is this normal be- NIA ing in this loveless have to learn the havior? Am I overforgave him when he there for her and UP IN THE MIDswore he would stop, the baby, because WEST

which of course he she's going to need **DEAR** that ting in and out of My question is, the shower. What

She also parades a robe when you're ed in the price.)

I DEAR ABBY: If

I sit at the end of a pew in church and someone comes in after me insisting I move because it's "favorite" his/her have talked to Brent seat, should I do it or IN PENNSYLVA-

DEAR G.H.F.: marriage is for his hard way what you reacting? I have a If you're sitting in daughter (standard have been trying to daughter, and I don't God's house, you lie of a cheating hus- tell her. Realize that get naked in front of should be on your as much as you love her. How do I ap- best behavior. Don't His wife found out her, you cannot live proach this without commit a sin of midway through this her life for her. Let causing hurt feel- omission; be an anbut her know you're ings? — COVERED gel and shove over.

Dear Abby is writ-COV- ten by Abigail Van didn't. When I told all the support she ERED UP: Obvi- Buren, also known as ously, in the house- Jeanne Phillips, and your was founded by her and that she deserves 30 and my husband, husband was raised, mother, Pauline Philbetter, I ended up "Brent," is 35. We this behavior WAS lips. Contact Dear have had some finan- normal. I am puz- Abby at www.Dear-I have recently cial troubles lately zled, however, that Abby.com or P.O. mother-in- Box 69440, Los An-

For an excellent sick to my stomach how old should a are the "boys" sup- guide to becoming a with all of this. I told child be before his posed to do - scrub better conversationalist and a more so-Because her nu- ciable person, order refuses to see how of him? My mother- dity makes you un- "How to Be Poputhe lar." Send your name loves" really is. She around completely most tactful way and mailing address, says she is fine rais- nude in front of Brent to approach this plus check or money ing this child alone, and his 39-year-old would be for Brent order for \$7 (U.S. Although to explain to his funds) to: Dear Abby, their lives, then she is in good health, mother that you Popularity Booklet, will be satisfied with she always seems to were not raised this P.O. Box 447, Mount need Brent's help way, and that you Morris, IL 61054-I am the only one getting in and out of both would appreci- 0447. (Shipping and ate it if she'd wear handling are includ-



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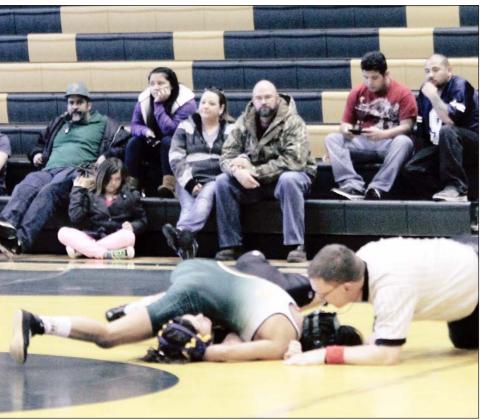
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Photos by Zachary Green

Above left, Juana Salazar is in control of her match. Above right, JT Belcourt tries to flip his man and pin him. Below left, Alondra Zarate tries to stay in control and waits for the ref to declare a pin. Below right, Cy Wood is in control of his match. All four of these wrestlers won their matches via a pin.





Photos by Zachary Green Right, Sarai Zarate is on top of her opponent looking to make a move. Below right, Yilmar Ponce is making his move and the ref is about to hit the floor to declare a pin. Both Zarate and Ponce won via the pin.











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