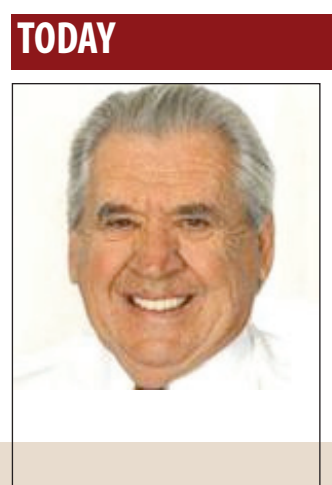


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# The PAMPA NEWS



Friday, September 28, 2012 [www.thepampanews.com](http://www.thepampanews.com) Volume 108 • No. 144

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 Earthquakes for Mr. Romney? Really? | **p4**

**'Tween 12 & 20**  
 An excellent advice column for that age group | **p2**

## 'QUEEN' LEE RULES!



Above: Just-crowned Homecoming Queen Tiaralee "Lee" Bargas, next to Homecoming King Drake Fisher. Below: Bargas and Sammy Smith share a ride along the Homecoming Parade route. Photos by Charla Shults.

Tiaralee "Lee" Bargas, PHS's newest Homecoming Queen, will turn your frown upside down

**BEN TINSLEY**  
 btinsley@thepampanews.com

PAMPA — In the eyes of friends, family and even school administrators, Pampa High School senior and recently-crowned Homecoming Queen Tiaralee "Lee" Bargas is a joy.

Famous for her wacky sense of humor and snorting laugh, the 18-year-old makes it her business — on an ongoing basis — to turn everyone's frowns upside down.

It's an outspoken side that Lee's grandmother, who thinks of her granddaughter as quiet and studious, doesn't often get to see.

Whether Lee is in journalism class (where she refers to her fellow students there as her "newsels"), at band practice (where she plays the clarinet), or even in the school cafeteria, she can be heard spouting her unique, trademark style of non sequitur comedy in an almost poetic fashion.

A few samples:

- "Can I beat you with a stick?"
- "I failed at being a Mexican — I like my food too bland."
- "My head is like a typewriter with sentences floating all over. I focus on an object and the sentences start combining."

Lee's humor has been described by her friends as "insane" — but in a good way. "I prefer mentally hilarious," she says.

**LEE** cont. on page 3

## Two killed in accident

■ *A driver and a passenger are fatally injured in hydroplaning mishap on US 60.*

**BEN TINSLEY**  
 btinsley@thepampanews.com

GRAY COUNTY — Two men were killed early Thursday when the 1998 Mitsubishi Eclipse in which they were traveling hydroplaned on a rainy road and skid directly into a power pole, the Texas Department of Public Safety reported.

Driver Marshall Echevarria III, 28 and passenger Gary Wallace, 42, were pronounced dead at the scene by authorities about 7 a.m., reports show.

The accident itself took place about 5:45 a.m. on US 60, four miles shy of Pampa, officials said. Both men were wearing seat belts, according to a teletype out of Amarillo.

The vehicle was eastbound on Highway 60 when due to rainy weather conditions, it hydroplaned — skid — off the road and began to roll over on its passenger side, a Texas DPS bulletin stated.

The vehicle continued to skid into a power pole, crushing the top of the vehicle and fatally injuring the two men, reports show.

No other information on the accident was immediately available Thursday.



## AUCTION



This 2006 Mini Cooper convertible is one of the many auction items that will be spotlighted at this year's Boomtown Gala on Oct. 20. See more about the very popular auction on Page 1B.

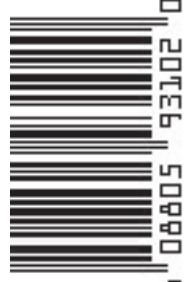
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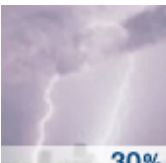


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## PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Saturday	Sunday
		
30%	20%	
High 71 Low 57	High 74 Low 59	High 77 Low 55

**Today:** Showers and thunderstorms likely. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 71. South southwest wind 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

**Tonight:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly before 1am. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 57. South wind 5 to 10 mph.

**Saturday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 74. Southwest wind around 5 mph becoming southeast in the afternoon.

**Saturday Night:** Mostly cloudy, with a low around 59. East wind around 5 mph becoming southwest after midnight.

**Sunday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 77. West wind around 5 mph becoming east northeast in the afternoon.

**Sunday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly clear, with a low around 55. East wind around 5 mph becoming west after midnight.

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**PAMPA NEWS** is now being delivered Tues. thru Sat. (no Mon paper).

# Tween 12 & 20



**DR. ROBERT WALLACE**  
Columnist

### Your Counselor Will Help You

**DR. WALLACE:** I'm a 16-year-old Asian-American girl living with my parents in a small Minnesota town. My parents came to America when they were young. I am the only Asian student in my school and I stand out like a sore thumb. My parents are very strict and still have Chinese ideas. They keep telling me that I must be strong and that I should make them proud. That puts a lot of extra pressure on me.

I can't participate in any after-school activities because, "It will interfere with my studies." I'm a pretty good athlete during physical education class and I would like to be able to play on a girls' sports team, but the answer is always "no." I am intelligent and would maintain excellent grades and participate in sports at the same time.

My parents do read your column and almost always agree with your advice. Please give me your assistance so my parents can read it and give me a little freedom so I can enjoy the rest of my high school years. -- Sue, Somewhere in Minnesota.

**SUE:** It's time for a parent-counselor meeting. It's important that your parents are told that certain extra-curricular after-school activities actually are beneficial when applying to colleges or universities. These schools of higher education enjoy having students who had excellent grades and who also participated in after-school activities in high school. These students are considered "well-rounded." Show your counselor today's column. This professional will know what to do to help you.

### The Odds Are With You

**DR. WALLACE:** I'm 20 and the guy I'm dating is a year older. We have been together for more than a year and recently we have been talking about getting married. Everything appears to be very good, except for one thing -- having children. I've been told that if first cousins have children, there is a good chance they will be mentally retarded. All of my friends and even my relatives believe this to be true. Since the guy I'm dating is my first cousin (his father and my mother are siblings), I'd like to know the true facts on this possible problem. -- Nameless, Seattle, Wash.

**NAMELESS:** It appears that first cousins have a "thing" for each other.

*About once a year, I receive a similar request about first cousins marrying. I always contact my family doctor on this possible problem. Again, I was informed that no new data has been found and that "the chances of parents who are first cousins having a child that is mentally deficient are higher than normal, but still slim."*

*Unrelated parents have a mentally deficient child once out of every 1000 births, while first cousins have such a child once in 900 births. The odds are with your cousin and you that your children would be born without mental deficiencies.*

### Do I need Professional Counseling?

**DR. WALLACE:** I'm 19 and dating a young lady who is 20. We both have jobs so we don't see each other during working hours. I'm considered to be a somewhat good-looking guy, and I must be because I've never had a problem getting a girl to go out with me. I was the one who ended my previous relationships. The girl I'm presently seeing is cute. I have great times when we are together.

My problem is that I worry all the time that she is thinking about dumping me for another guy, even though she keeps telling me that I'm her one and only and she loves me. This feeling has never happened to me before and I don't know how to handle it. I would never ever check up on her to make sure that she is behaving herself, but deep down, I'd like to know.

I think that I love her, and for sure, I don't want to lose her. I've never told her that I'm "uneasy" when she is not with me and I'm never going to mention this to her. Help! Do you think I need professional counseling? -- Nameless, Phoenix, Ariz.

**NAMELESS:** In all of your other male-female relationships, you always felt that you were the one in control and if a breakup was inevitable, you were the one to say, "Adios." Things have changed. Even though the young lady you're dating might not be aware of it, she is in control and if a breakup between you two happens, she will be the one to say, "Adios."

You have not reached the point where professional counseling is recommended for your jealousy, but your self-esteem needs to be boosted. Always remember this: If this young lady didn't have strong feelings for you, she wouldn't be telling you that you are her one and only, and that she loves you.

It's ironic that your jealousy could be the emotion that eventually could end a wonderful romance. Relax, and enjoy your dating relationship and it will go where it is destined to go.

### I Accepted Her Apology

**DR. WALLACE:** Laurie and I have been close friends for several years.

We are both in the seventh grade. Last week during lunch I inadvertently bumped her arm when she was drinking a glass of chocolate milk and it spilled all over her clothes. I immediately apologized, but she said, "Get out of my sight, you clumsy ox." All of our other friends close by started laughing and I was terribly embarrassed. I am a bit overweight and it really hurt my feelings.

Last night, Laurie called and apologized, saying that she was upset and said things that she regretted. I accepted her apology.

My mom said that my friend's comments are unforgivable and that I made a mistake in accepting the apology. Do you agree? - Carla, Milwaukee, Wis.

**CARLA:** Your friend's comments were rude and crude, but when she apologized, they were forgivable. Put what happened behind you and renew your friendship with Laurie with vigor!

### My Answer Could Be a Bit Slanted

**DR. WALLACE:** An athlete wrote to you complaining that he was dropped from the basketball team because he wasn't maintaining at least a C average in all of his classes. I was astounded that you felt he was unfairly treated and should have remained on the team.

Since you are a former teacher and administrator, I would think that you would consider maintaining good grades more important than tossing a ball through a rim. Please explain. --Teacher, Crown Point, Ind.

**TEACHER:** I agree that the prime reason for a student to attend school is to get a quality education provided by superior teachers who take a student where he is to the highest level he is capable of attaining.

Some school districts ban students from participating in competitive athletics when they do not maintain a solid C (2.0) average, but other students who do not maintain this average can be in a school play, sing in the school choir, play in the school band and perform in other extracurricular activities.

Since some athletes are not academically gifted and must work hard to maintain a five-C and one-D average, it seems unfair to punish them and keep them from enjoying a wonderful experience -- competitive athletics. I believe that if a student is a good citizen and is passing all of his or her classes, then the student should be eligible to participate in all extra-curricular activities.

I will admit that my answer could be slanted a slight bit because I was a head basketball coach before becoming a principal.

### Good Teens Seldom See Their Names in Print

**DR. WALLACE:** My parents don't like my choice of friends, don't like my music, don't like the

way I wear my hair, don't like the way I dress and, in general, they don't like the younger generation. They think we are all getting drunk, getting high on drugs, shooting each other or getting pregnant. I admit that my friends and I "march to a different drummer," but we are not bad kids.

What do you think of today's teens? You should have an opinion since you write a column for us. --Tina, Rochester, N.Y.

**TINA:** I have the opportunity to travel throughout the United States and Canada, speaking to large groups of teens, and I'm pleased with what I see. Yes, some teens are having difficulty living harmoniously in our society, but these teens are in the minority.

A survey reported in Psychology Today found that nearly three-quarters of the teens were generally happy, well adjusted and cared about others. They also had good feelings about their families.

It's unfortunate that the teens who do "wrong" create newspaper stories, while those who do "right" seldom see their names in print!

### Clove Cigarettes Are Health Hazard

**DR. WALLACE:** What are clove cigarettes? I encouraged my boyfriend to stop smoking for a ton of reasons. He did quit smoking tobacco cigarettes, but he is now smoking clove cigarettes. He said that they are made from natural products and they are harmless to smoke. It's hard for me to believe that the smoke from clove cigarettes is harmless. After all, the smoke is sucked into the lungs and I believe the smoke is the villain. Please inform me. Also, are they made in the USA? -- Curious, Abingdon, Ill.

**CURIOS:** Your boyfriend is uninformed regarding the danger of smoking clove cigarettes, or he is trying to con you into believing they are safe so you will not "encourage" him to abandon them.

Clove cigarettes, imported from Thailand, were very popular about 15 years ago, but faded from the scene and now are attempting a comeback. More expensive than 100 percent tobacco (also natural) cigarettes, they are comprised of 40 percent clove and 60 percent tobacco.

Clove cigarettes have been analyzed by the Centers for Disease Control. They were found to be a greater health hazard than tobacco cigarettes. Just in case your boyfriend is uninformed, make sure he reads my answer. You are 100 percent correct. Any smoke sucked into the lungs is a villain!

Dr. Robert Wallace welcomes questions from readers. Although he is unable to reply to all of them individually, he will answer as many as possible in this column. Email him at rwallace@galesburg.net. To find out more about Dr. Robert Wallace and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

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# Lee

## From Page 1

her friends as “insane” — but in a good way.

“I prefer mentally hilarious,” she says.

On Sept. 21, Lee was crowned Pampa High School’s Homecoming Queen, much to the delight of the many, many people who love her.

Close friend Summer Sieber, a 17-year-old PHS senior who has known Lee three years, wasn’t surprised her pal was elected queen.

It’s important too note, however, that given the size of the student body, that vote could easily have gone another way, the friend said.

Lee was up against Karli Harden, Bailey Read, Claire Hopkins, Callie Brewer, Kristen Ladd, and basically every female senior in the student body for that crown.

So victory was sweet, Summer said.

“It was a twist,” she said. “But I knew Lee could get it because she’s such a cool person.”

Still, said Chelsea Goodwin, Lee’s journalism teacher, the victory was both interesting and notable.

“She doesn’t fit that stereotype,” the teacher said.

Lee’s victory wasn’t the result of a bloc vote by her fellow band members, either; she is well-known around the PHS student body for her frankness, intelligence and unique sense of humor, Summer said.

“Oh, she’s very eccentric,” Summer said with a smile. “She’s not afraid to speak her mind, which is what I love about her. She’s always happy. Always upbeat. Never depressed. Never, ever, upset. Which is awesome.”

And ultimately, Summer said? It is people like Lee who keep the world going.

“She’s not afraid to be herself,” she said.

Goodwin, who has known Lee four years, agrees that her journalism student is a treasure.

“She keeps things fun, that’s for sure,” Goodwin said. “She

has this empathetic spirit. She is aware of people and wants them to know how much she cares.”

That spirit shows in Lee’s journalism writing, which leans toward more elegant, detail-oriented prose, the teacher said.

Lee, who grades in the 3.0 change and hopes to attend the University of North Texas in Denton next year, defies being pigeonholed. Lee said It would be easy to do so, as she is a Latina and about to be the first high school graduate in her family.

“But I’m just me,” she said.

Lee hopes to pursue careers in botany, science teaching, and possibly more. She will be taking biology classes at UNT.

PHS Principal Tanya Larkin said Lee is joy to have around.

“She is a great student to have in our hallways and at our school functions,” she said. “When she walks into a room, people are just lifted. It’s a gift.”

Lee’s grandmother, Angel Wilson, has raised her over the past nine years. But she knows her granddaughter as more of a studious, respectful youngster than the outspoken Homecoming Queen.

“When she won, she was very, very happy and overjoyed,” the grandmother said. “When she started high school she was more of a loner and now she’s growing out of it.”

Wilson said Lee’s time in band has done a lot for her self esteem and general demeanor.

“She was really shy until she joined band,” she said.

Wilson said her friend Reed Echols has been a longtime mentor to Lee, offering constant moral support and helping the two financially when they couldn’t make ends meet.

Ultimately, there’s no getting around the influence Lee has on others, Lee’s grandmother said.

“Because every of her I keep getting up every morning,” Wilson said. “Without her I might already be in a chair right now. She’s the one who inspires me to want to get up and live.”



From top to bottom: First row: Lee is escorted to be crowned Homecoming Queen. Second row: Lee hugs her Homecoming escorts. Also second row: Lee is crowned Homecoming Queen. Bottom row: Lee and the Homecoming King. Photos by Charla Shults.



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# Viewpoints

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## L. Brent Bozell III: Making 'earthquakes' for Romney



**L. BRENT BOZELL III**  
 Columnist

After watching the national media's performance since the party conventions, one can only hope that journalism students are out on summer safari or some Third World Peace Corps mission. Anything to avoid this mess of a profession. Sean Hannity is right. The establishment news media are dead. Whatever remains has only one standard. If it helps Obama, it's "news." If it doesn't, reporters should move on; there's nothing worth covering.

Our media don't just report "news" unfavorable to Romney. They obsess over it, complete with repetitive and thoroughly unnecessary incantations that Romney's campaign is hopeless. On September 17, perhaps not accidentally after Team Obama started to struggle over their handling of the outrageous and deadly attack on the American consulate in Libya, the hard-left Mother Jones magazine leaked a secret tape of Romney talking to donors.

Kaboom. But what did he say? He told them Obama can count on 47 percent of the voters who will vote for him no matter what, "who are dependent upon government,

who believe that they are victims, who believe that government has a responsibility to care for them, who believe that they are entitled to health care, to food, to housing, to you name it." He added: "My job is not to worry about those people. I'll never convince them that they should take personal responsibility and care for their lives."

Impolitic? In a private campaign briefing with donors, no. Untrue? Again, no.

I will wager a million dollars that Barack Obama has told his major donors in private that strategically he is not concerned with the 47 percent of greedy right-wing rich Republican voters who will never vote for him. Impolitic? No. It's the way politicians talk to donors in private. Untrue? They'd deny it.

The news media know this, which is why they ignore it. That's why their assault on Romney is so disingenuous.

Four years ago, in April of 2008, Obama was caught by The Huffington Post telling donors in San Francisco that small town Americans are "bitter" people who "cling to their guns or religion or antipathy towards people who aren't like them." This drew a few negative stories for a couple of days, but it quickly vanished from the media's campaign narrative as Obama secured his party's nomination.

This Romney tape was recorded in May, but the activists who recorded it obviously wanted to

delay its release until the fall campaign. Once the radicals at Mother Jones posted it, on cue, the network carnival barkers erupted with the chants of "bombshell" and "earthquake" on a "seismic day" for the Republican campaign. A viewer might imagine the Earth would open up and swallow Romney whole.

On CBS, Bob Schieffer was handing out the shovels to dig a grave for Romney. "I just can't think of anything that he could have said that could have hurt his cause more." I can. Another million-dollar wager here. Before this one's over there are going to be one, or two, or three or more "earthquake" moments for Romney. It could happen while he's brushing his teeth if these reporters decide that constitutes a new "earthquake."

There were 88 minutes of TV morning and evening news on this Romney tape on ABC, CBS, and NBC. The networks were right. There was an earthquake -- of their own making.

In response, the Romney team directed the networks to a 1998 tape of Obama where he professed his love for redistributing other people's money, solidifying the socialist world view Obama has so zealously denied. The networks gave this real bombshell six and a half minutes of attention.

That's "fairness" to these TV people, a 13-to-1 advantage for Obama. So you say Obama's comments were logged

14 years ago, and don't constitute "news?" OK, then consider the coverage of Obama's "Fast and Furious" scandal. On September 19, the Justice Department's inspector general released a scathing report detailing the government's incompetence that resulted in the death of an American border agent. The same networks that devoted 88 minutes to Romney talking about government dependents voting for Obama gave this scandal just six minutes and 40 seconds of airtime.

As usual on this scandal beat, CBS gave it most of the play, three minutes and 59 seconds. NBC allowed one minute and 44 seconds. ABC included a mere 61 seconds of anchor blather.

It must have been a joke over at ABC when morning anchor Amy Robach announced: "And now to the big story in Washington" as she gave it a grand total of (SET ITAL) 26 seconds (END ITAL). We know by now that to these "news" manufacturers, nothing can be a "big story" unless it makes Obama look good and helps him win a second term.

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

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## Editorial

### Screaming at each other won't improve our democracy

Here's a little thought experiment to try at home. It might hurt a little bit, but the payoff will be worth it. It concerns the news that the latest Gallup poll shows that only 40 percent of Americans have much trust in the news media.

If you're a Republican, take a few minutes tonight and watch the talking heads at MSNBC spew forth about politics. Lawrence O'Donnell, Rachel Maddow, Ed Schultz, take your pick.

Take your blood pressure before the show. Take it again afterward. We bet your numbers will rise. (This is probably a good time to mention you shouldn't do this if you have a heart condition or take high blood pressure medication).

Now, if you're a Democrat, try tuning into Fox News for a while. Sean Hannity, Bill O'Reilly, Greta Van Susteren. It doesn't matter. Or, while sipping your morning latte and eating granola, watch Fox & Friends as they yuck it up while criticizing President Barack Obama.

Again, we bet your blood pressure will rise. But it will help explain why Americans trust their media less than they ever have in history.

Gallup says that only 40 percent of Americans trust the media a fair amount or a great deal. It's the lowest number since Gallup has been collecting such data. Slightly more than 60 percent of Americans, on the other hand, don't trust the media very much, or not at all.

The numbers have been trending this way since 2004.

It might be mere coincidence, but the distrust began rising just two years after Fox rose to No. 1 in cable ratings. In the modern era, it was the first channel dedicated to telling only one side of the news, and it has become a full-time anti-Obama propaganda machine.

In response, MSNBC, which was founded the same year as Fox (1996), became a full-time liberal cheerleader in about 2005. Now the two networks scream at each other nightly.

But given that there are 311 million Americans and the combined prime viewership for cable news is about 5 million, the distrust can't all be blamed on them.

Republicans have enjoyed great success by making the "lamestream" media a straw man for all of their woes. Former vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin has built a career on it. Here in Missouri, U.S. Senate candidate Todd Akin even blamed the liberal media for his problems when other Republicans called on him to step down from his race against Democrat Claire McCaskill.

Missouri gubernatorial candidate Dave Spence, a Republican, got into the game last week during his debate with Democrat Jay Nixon. Spence blamed the state's largest newspapers, including us, for focusing on his negatives, and not his positives.

Hey, if you say you got an "economics" degree and it turns out it was "home economics," that's not our fault.

The Gallup Poll is disheartening at a time when the media in various forms, through fact-checking, in-depth reporting and thoughtful analysis, are the only recourse for reasoned debate political campaigns hijacked by literally billions of dollars in campaign spending intended to create alternate realities.

**But it's also a sign of the times:** Americans have lost trust in their major national institutions.

"Yes, the numbers have been creeping up," points out St. Louis University political science professor Ken Warren, "but so have the critical ratings of most of our institutions from the church to Wall Street to our presidents. Americans are very angry today."

Indeed, Gallup reported this year that Americans trust both Congress and the Supreme Court less than ever before.

This is bad for democracy. And screaming at each other doesn't help.

— THE ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

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## We welcome your letters

- To ensure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:
- Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity.
  - All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verification. Only your name and city will be published.
  - Defamatory comments will not be published.
  - E-mail submissions are welcome.
  - The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of *The Pampa News* or its staff.

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**TPA** MEMBER 2012  
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# WWII VETERANS



Three veterans of World War II, Deck Woldt, Gene Snell, and Bruce Riehart, were honored at a reception recently at the Zion Lutheran Church. Deck served in the Air Force, and Gene in the Navy, both in the South Pacific. Bruce served in the Air Force in Europe. Two for the trio are pictured here, Deck Woldt, right, and Bruce Riehart, left.

## Tile a kitchen countertop backsplash

**Dear Pat:** The area of the wall behind the countertop always gets messy, and the paint gets stained. I have seen some decorative tiled ones. Will tile hold up well there, and is this a simple do-it-yourself project? — Barb G.

Dear Barb: The answers to both of your questions is yes. This area of the wall is called a backsplash in the industry. If you do much cooking and baking, no matter how careful you are, it will get splashed with foods and liquids. Even though you try to clean it each time, wall paint is just not designed to resist staining.

In addition to just trying to keep the backsplash looking clean and bright, finishing it with tile can give your kitchen a newly remodeled appearance. The backsplash is often low under a window over the sink, but in other areas, such as the range, it can be quite high. This allows you to let your creative juices flow and plan a unique tile pattern and color scheme.

The first step is to decide if you prefer glazed or tumbled tile, which has a dull surface and irregular edges. Tumbled tile has a rustic yet soft appearance. Glazed tile, with its glossy surface and regular edges, is easier to work with if you are not familiar with tiling projects.

Spend some time going through kitchen magazines to get some design ideas. Some of the more ornate designs may require the cutting of the tiles, but don't let this frighten you off. Tile-cutters make the job simple. Select various colors THAT complement and contrast with the countertop and the cabinets.

Patterns with various sizes of tiles always look good. On the areas under the cabinets, a narrow border around the larger tiles will give it a finished appearance. On the taller area over the range, a more ornate pattern, such as a diamond, with the same border will become a focal point.

When you have decided on a pattern, draw it on a large piece of cardboard that is cut to the precise size of the backsplash. You might think drawing it on the actual wall would be easier, but it is difficult to dry fit the tile pieces. Also, it may be difficult to see the pattern through the mastic.

Once your pattern is drawn on the cardboard, dry fit all the pieces together. Plan on leaving a narrow grouting gap between the pieces if

### HOME HOW-TO

you are using regular glazed tiles. When using tumbled tiles, leave a larger gap between them because of the irregular edges.

Spread the mastic on the wall. When using dark tiles, any mastic will work well. When using lighter-colored tiles, select a white mastic that will not show through or create spots on the tiles. For a professional appearance, put a little extra mastic

on the back of the border tiles so they extend out a little further than the others.

If you are using glossy glazed tiles, you can grout the gaps after the mastic has set up per the manufacturer's instructions. For tumbled tile, with a dull surface, applying a sealer now will make it easier to wipe off the excess grout material. Once the grout has cured with either type of tile, apply sealer over the entire surface to make sure the grout is well sealed.

Send your questions to Here's How, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45244 or visit [www.dulley.com](http://www.dulley.com).

### HOMES Do-it-Yourself

## Backsplash

Backsplash options are the easiest, simplest and least expensive way of upgrading your kitchen. Below are some of the more popular backsplash options.



### Porcelain and ceramic tile

Ceramic or porcelain tile is a popular backsplash since it is relatively inexpensive and easy to maintain. It is available in a wide range of colors and textures. Grout requires sealing to prevent staining.

### Natural stone

A natural stone tile backsplash is a traditional option that can be a little more pricey. Some popular natural stones being used in backsplashes are granite, slate, limestone and marble. Natural stone backsplashes should be installed by a professional, which will increase cost.

### Metal

Metals are nonporous and non-sticky, which make them perfect for a backsplash. The shiny look of metal gives the appearance of a much larger kitchen. Some of the metals used in backsplashes are stainless steel, copper, zinc, aluminum and tin.

### Glass tile

Sheet glass backsplashes have become very popular over the last few years due to their ease of cleanup and clean, modern aesthetic. Glass tiles are usually 1-inch squares attached to a mesh sheet that is 12" x 12" for easy installation.

Creators.com/Bob Kast

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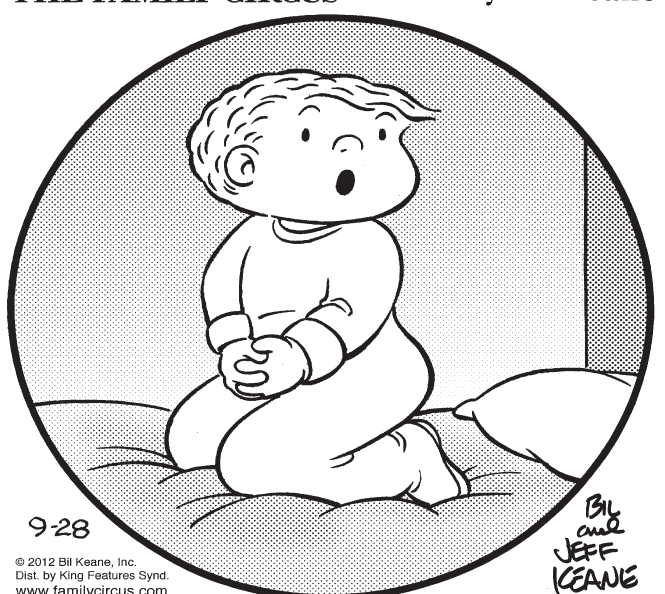
Call Christy Brooks at 806-665-8801 to register.



# comics PAGE

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



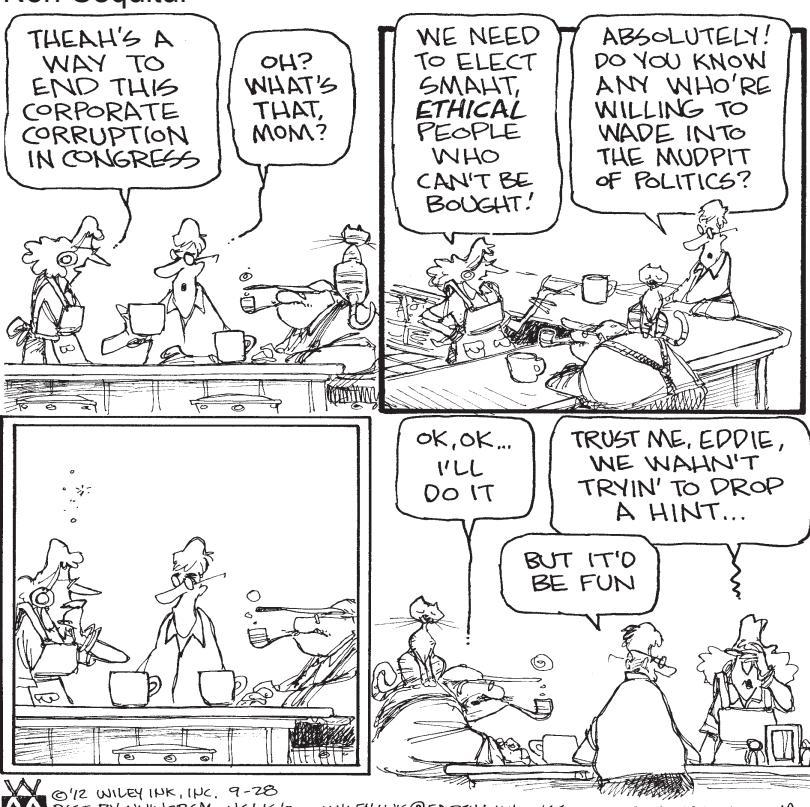
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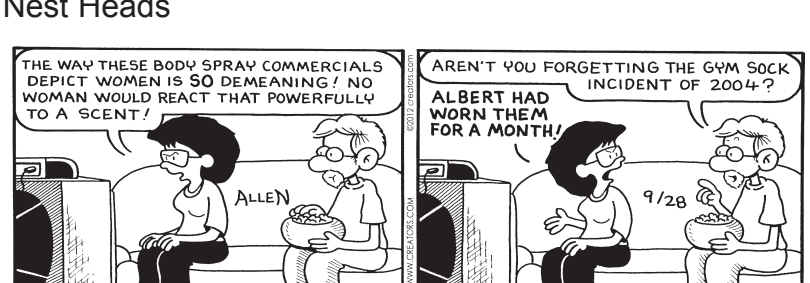
Bil Keane  
and  
JEFF KEANE

"I'm glad God hasn't decided to retire yet."

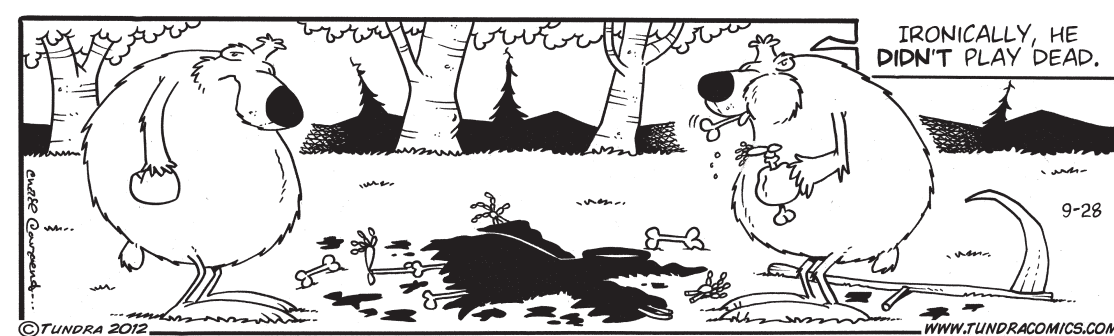
### Non Sequitur



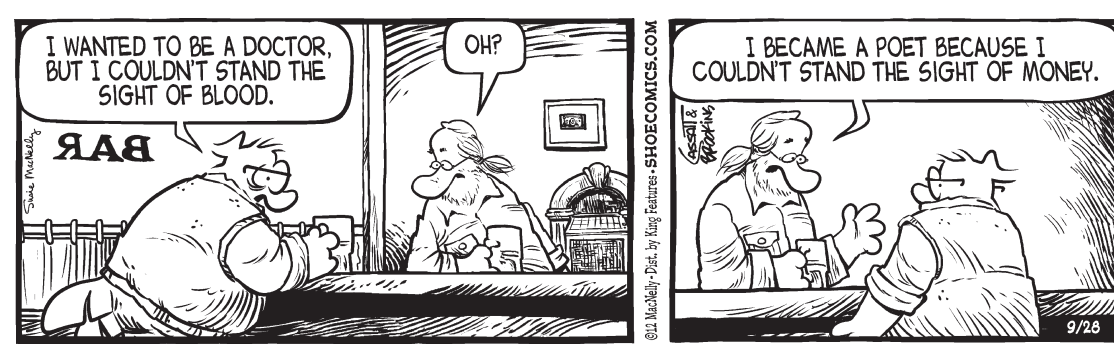
### Nest Heads



### Tundra



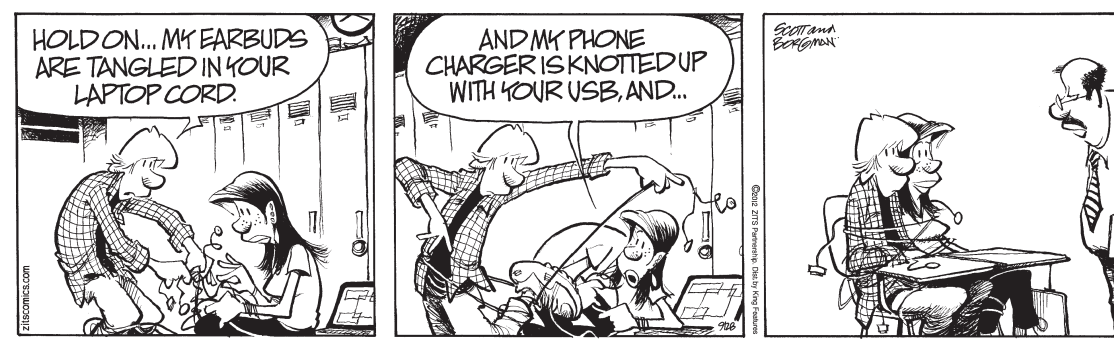
### Shoe



### Mother Goose and Grim



### Zits



### Garfield



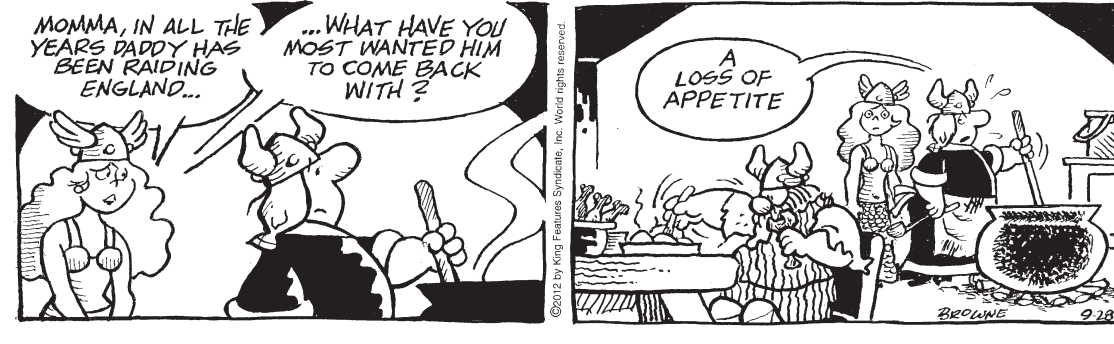
### Beetle Bailey



### Marvin



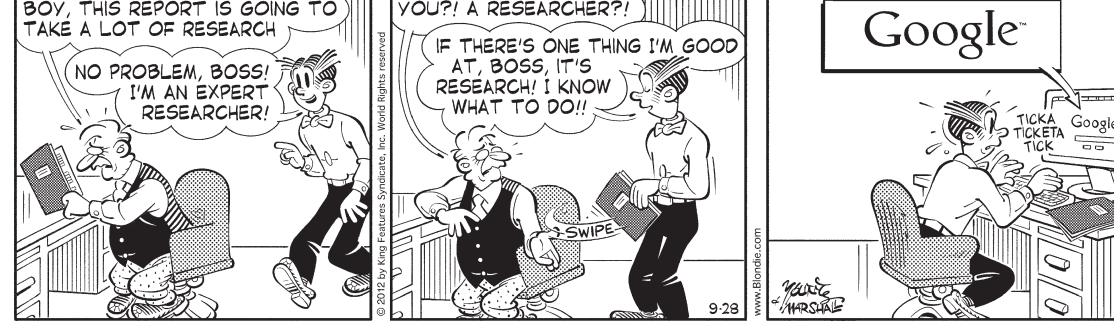
### Hagar The Horrible



### Peanuts



### Blondie




# daily horoscope

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Saturday, Sept. 29, 2012:  
 This year you often are pulled between two different ideas, two different people or the choice of whether to follow your intellectual voice or your emotional voice. You probably will need to experience some of each polarity in order to make a solid decision as to which path you should head down. If you are single, you open up to a myriad of possibilities, but the person you will most enjoy relating to is a person in your day-to-day life. If you are attached, you often are at odds with each other, until you accept that both of you have different ideas and opinions. Learn to respect each other's values. **ARIES** can be challenging. 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 have faced your share of obstacles, and you might do so again today. Nevertheless, you'll cruise right through it if you honor your spontaneity and do not overthink the situation. Avoid someone who wants to have control. Tonight: All smiles.  
**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
 ★★★ Sit back and observe. Granted, certain realizations could stun you. You might need some time to process this information. You take a lot personally. Avoid a controlling individual; otherwise, you'll get locked into power games with this person. Tonight: Not to be found.  
**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
 ★★★★★ Zero in on what is going on with friends, then decide if you want to join them. However, know that where they say they will be might no longer be where they actually can be found. Surprises surround you. A partner could feel insecure about finances. Tonight: Where the crowds are.  
**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
 ★★★★★ Take charge of an emotional matter. A key loved one or family member might push you quite hard to have his or her way. You might want to distance yourself from those who do not support your need for more peace. Tonight: Others follow your lead.  
**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
 ★★★★★ Jump on the urge to hop in the car for a day trip. A change in scenery will renew your energy and help you gain a different perspective. Remain sensitive to someone who really cares about you. The

unexpected seems to be a theme between you. Tonight: Stay out as long as you want.  
**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
 ★★★★★ You might feel as if you have too much to do and everything is happening too fast. Nevertheless, make time for a loved one who really makes a difference in your life. Push comes to shove with a child or creative venture. Tonight: Make it close and cozy.  
**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
 ★★★★★ Let your sense of fun come out, and be willing to take time for that special person in your life. You could feel pressured by a real-estate or domestic matter. Do not let this situation drive you. Know when to say "enough." Tonight: Only where people can be found.  
**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
 ★★★★★ Follow through on your errands and responsibilities, but make it a priority to take some much-needed time for yourself to relax. You generally push very hard in your day-to-day life. Now it is time for a break. Tonight: Put your feet up and relax.  
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
 ★★★★★ Allow your playful personality to emerge. You become nearly childlike when interacting with a young person. A loved one enjoys seeing your inner child emerge. Avoid a controlling person when it comes to your finances. Tonight: Dance out the door.  
**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
 ★★★★★ You might not intend on being difficult and testy, but sometimes you simply need to have what you want to feel comfortable. Stay close to home, and throw yourself into a heartfelt project. You know what is needed. Tonight: Invite a friend or two over.  
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
 ★★★★★ You express yourself in a powerful manner. The unexpected occurs when making calls, having discussions and meeting with friends. You might be stunned at first, but later you will be pleased by the outcome. A situation could become quite humorous. Tonight: Hang out.  
**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
 ★★★★★ You could be wondering what way is best to proceed with a purchase. You might want to do some price comparison first. A friend you really care about pushes you very hard to go along with his or her ideas. Do what feels right to you. Tonight: Your treat.

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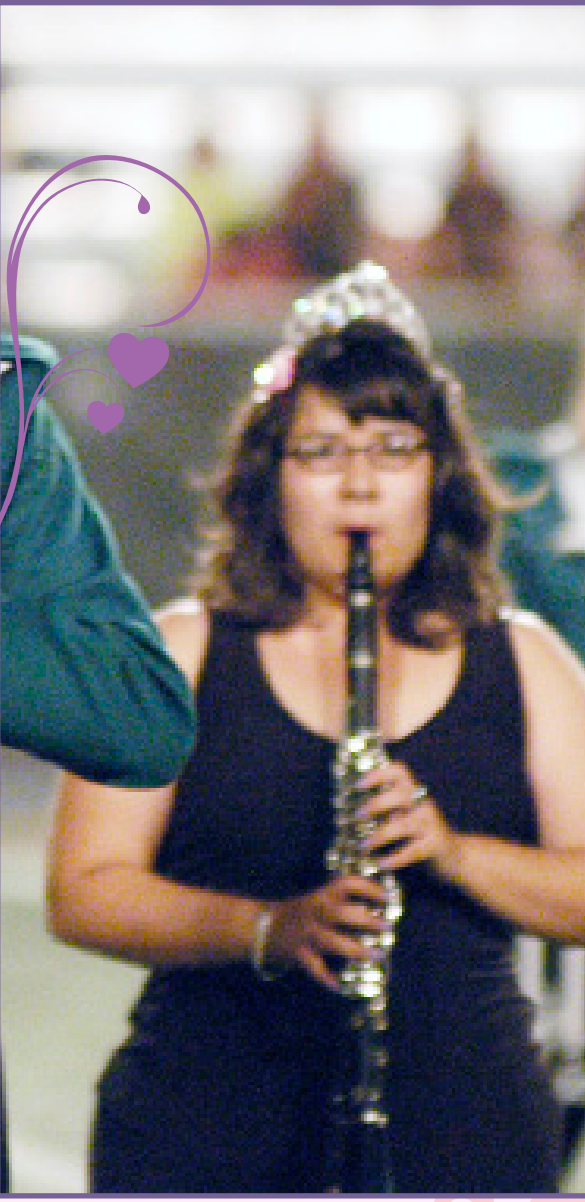
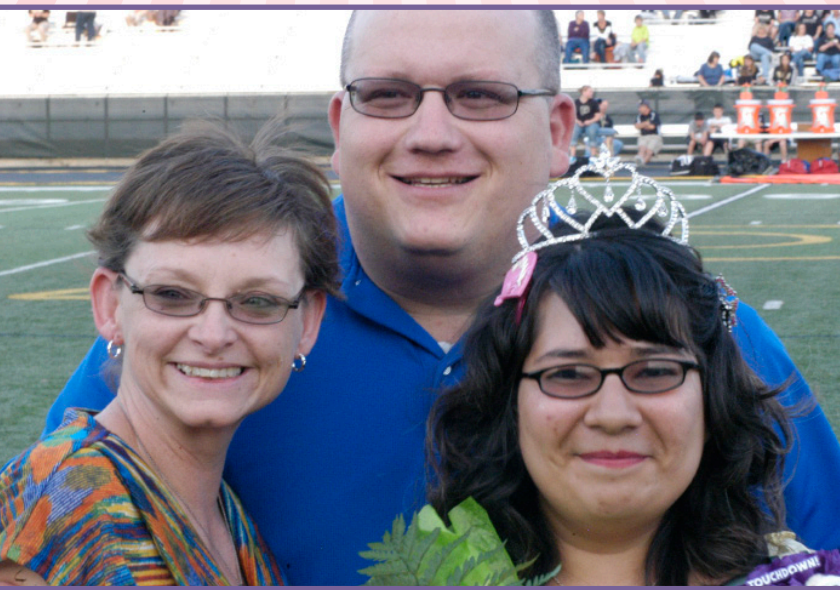
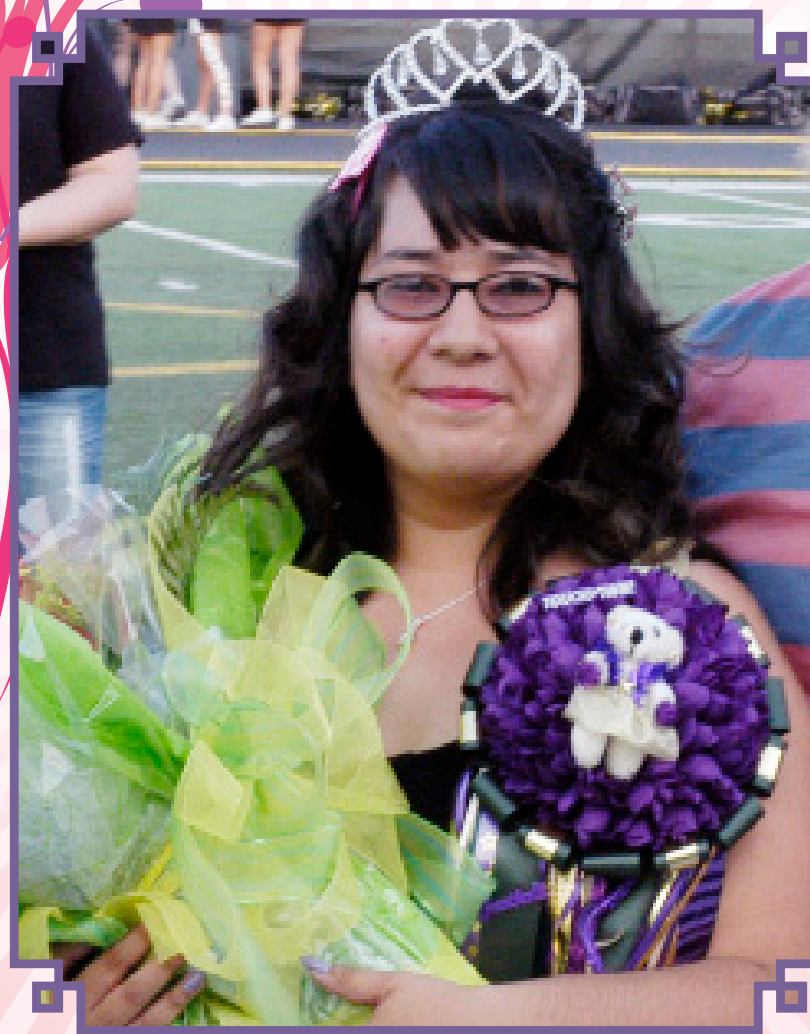
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# Homecoming Queen

## Queen Tiaralee "Lee" Bargas

Tiaralee, a Pampa High School senior and 2012 Homecoming Queen, has a roughly 3.0 grade point average and wishes to attend the University of North Texas in Denton. She intends to major in Biology and march in the North Texas band.



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## Sneak Preview: Boomtown Gala Auction items



Staff photo by **Gayden Hays**

**Pampa Chamber of Commerce** ... will be auctioning off this 2006 Mini Cooper convertible donated by Doug Boyd Motors. Tickets for the Boomtown Gala can be picked up at the Chamber of Commerce office or by contacting a board member.

Staff photos by **Gayden Hays**

**Auction Items:** Bedding set donated by Sleep Source; Golf Bag and Driver, Duncan, Fraser, and Bridges; Hand painted China, Sharon Snook; Handmade Necklace, Rochelle Lacy; Original Painting "Cabin in the Snow", donated by Dona Cornutt



### 2012 Board of Directors

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Mac Smith	Top O' Texas Doughboys
Allison Watson	Amarillo Community Federal Credit Union
Pam Dalton	Shepard's Home Health Care
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John Curry	Retired
Alisha Jefferis	Pampa Glass (High Performance)
Brett Watson	United Super Markets
Lindsey Been	Accolade Home Care
Kerrick Horton	Retired
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Shawn Boyd	Duncan, Fraser & Bridges
Steve Groomer	The Floor Store

Pampa EDC:	Clay Rice
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Happy State Bank	
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## Buster Bledsoe Band to entertain at Boomtown Gala



**GAYDEN HAYS**  
ghays@thepampanews.com

The Buster Bledsoe band will be entertaining at the Boomtown Gala, October 20, at the M.K. Brown Auditorium.

The Buster Bledsoe Band formed in 2007, and consists of Buster Bledsoe on Acoustic Guitar; Bobby Bailey, Drums; Kenny

Rickwartz, Bass; Chris Adame, lead Guitar; and Shawn White, Sound Engineer.

In 2010, they were voted the best local country band in Amarillo, and have performed with Little Texas and Gary P. Nunn.

This upcoming weekend they will be performing at the Hope Benefit with Robert Earl Keen extra-

ganza for American Cancer Society in Amarillo.

The have also just released their newest CD, "Don't Stop", and are working on another CD to be released at a later time.

Tickets for the Boomtown gala can be purchased at the Chamber or from any board member.

Dinner - Auctions - Dance

# Boomtown Gala

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28th ANNUAL COUNTRY FAIR

Saturday, October 20th, 2012

MK Brown Civic Auditorium

Doors open at 6:00pm

Dinner Served, 6:00pm - 7:30pm

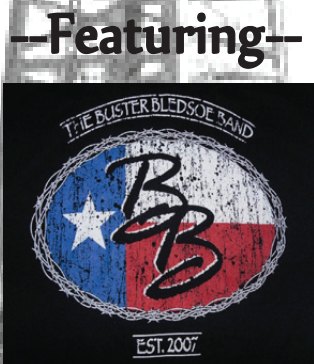
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**Heather Thompson**, Vice President of NBC and Treasurer of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce, is reviewing catering bids for the Chamber's 28th Annual Country Fair to be held on October 20 at M. K. Brown Auditorium. The selected bid was Dyer's Bar-B-Que of Pampa who will be serving a Ribeye steak, twice baked potato, green beans, salad, dinner rolls, dessert, and tea and coffee. Additional refreshments will be provided by Budweiser. Courtesy photo.



**Left- Altrusa International, Inc.** of Pampa, presented the 2012 Geraldine Rampy Vocational Award to Erika Cox, shown with Brenda Tucker, scholarship chairman, and Rochelle Lacy, Immediate past president. Courtesy photo.

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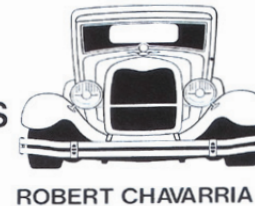
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**ADS**

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(L-R) Robert Chavarria, Jessalyn Abad and Luis Sanchez

*Thanks for your business!*

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