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Jim Bruton

# The PAMPA NEWS

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## PPD Chief quits

*Brown named to interim position*

Pampa Interim Police Chief Logan Stout resigned Friday, Dec. 5, according to City Manager Trevlyn Pitner. Pitner had no comment as to the reason, other than he believes Stout is going to return to the Dallas area.

Stout came to the Pampa PD as Pitner's Assistant Chief in October, 2007.



**Donny Brown**  
named Interim Police Chief

Sgt. Donny Brown has been named Temporary Interim Chief. Pitner speculated that a permanent chief may not be hired until a new city manager takes over.



**Logan Stout**  
former Police Chief

Brown was an Administrative Sergeant before being named Temporary Interim Chief. He has been with PPD since November, 1988. He was previously the Police Chief in Bovina, Texas.

"The police department will continue to run as it has with no major changes - we will continue to serve the public as always," Brown said Tuesday morning.

Pitner's last day is Friday. He said he believes an interim manager will be appointed at this afternoon's City Commission meeting. The Pampa News was unable to reach Logan Stout for comment.

See PPD, Page 3

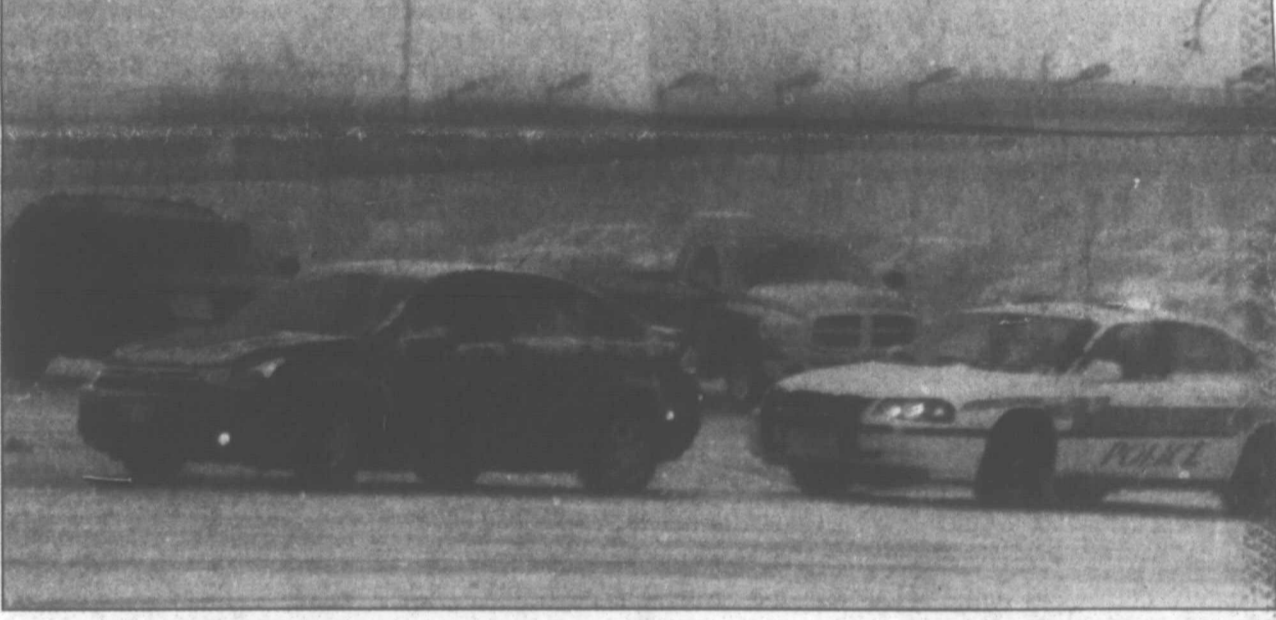
## Medical fund established

A medical fund has recently been established at the local branch of Happy State Bank for Jose "Joe" Romero of Pampa who suffers from Leukemia and Graft versus Host Disease. For more information or to make a contribution, contact Happy State Bank at 669-2265.

## First snow hampers travel



The first snowfall of the season was pretty, but winds put a harsh chill in the air and caused blowing and drifting snow. *staff photo by Randy Pribble*



Area law enforcement agencies dealt with numerous crashes and weather related incidents today. Roads were snow packed, icy and visibility during the morning hours was sometimes down to zero. *staff photo by Rachel Stennett*

## Comptroller tours Panhandle

*Combs tells Pampans Texas is in pretty good shape*

Susan Combs is not running for governor. She indicated that while there are still some unknowns, the legislature should have the money to conduct the state's business.

Combs said Texas has about \$2 billion in the general revenue fund, but the costs from Hurricane Ike may end up costing that much. "We don't now what Ike is going to cost the state," she said. "I'm predicting that it may be about \$2 billion."

There is another fund, she said, dedicated to property tax relief that has about \$3 billion, but there is another \$6.8 billion in the state's rainy day fund. The rainy day revenue comes from oil



State Comptroller Susan Combs, center, listens to Chuck White, left, and Gary Sutherland while in Pampa Monday to talk about the state's economy. *staff photo by David Bowser*

severance taxes. "The rainy day fund can be used if two-thirds of the legislature decides to use that money," Combs said. Funds from the new business tax, she said, have been disappointing. Originally, it was expected to bring in about \$5.9 billion a year. "It has not done so this first year," Combs said. "It's going to net out about \$4.5 billion." She said that the big

See Combs, Page 3

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**NEXT DAY FORECAST**

Wednesday      Thursday      Friday



Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 44. West-northwest wind between 5 and 8 mph.  
 Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 49.  
 Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 51.

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 665-8921      memory-gardens.tripod.com

*Services tomorrow*

**CARTER, James Weldon** — 10 a.m., Memory Gardens Mausoleum, Pampa. Memorial services, 4 p.m., Globe-News Center for the Performing Arts, Amarillo.

**James Weldon Carter, 50**

AMARILLO, Texas — James Weldon Carter, 50, died Dec. 3, 2008, in Amarillo. Services will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2008, at Memory Gardens Mausoleum in Pampa with John Curry and the Rev. Jeff Taylor, pastor of First United Methodist Church of Pampa, officiating. Entombment will follow in Memory Gardens Mausoleum. Memorial services will be at 4 p.m. Wednesday at the Globe-News Center for the Performing Arts in Amarillo with the Rev. Regi Fowler, associate pastor of First Christian Church in Amarillo, officiating. Arrangements are by Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa. Mr. Carter was born May 30, 1958, in Pampa, where he was a 1976 graduate of Pampa High School. James attended West Texas State University in Canyon. He had been a resident of Amarillo since 1976. He was a former member of First United Methodist Church in Pampa. He worked for Tumbleweed Sound and Lighting in Amarillo as a technician. He worked many productions across the Panhandle, especially "The Nutcracker," the Amarillo Ballet, and for Paramount Terrace Christian Church for their annual Christmas pageant. James also did sound and lighting work for the

Amarillo and Lubbock Civic Centers, and the United Spirit Arena at Texas Tech. In addition, he worked for the Midnight Rodeo in both Amarillo and Lubbock. This week we lost an icon of the arts scene and most did not know it. James Carter, affectionately known by his friends and co-workers as Jamesie, left the stages of Amarillo a bit darker on Wednesday with his passing. You may not have known James but I can guarantee you have seen his work if you ever went to Country Squire or Frenchy McCormack Dinner Theaters, any performance of Lone Star Ballet, Amarillo Opera, the Christmas Pageant at the Civic Center, Summer Youth Musicals, almost any concert or show at the Tri-State Fairgrounds, or even a hockey game at the Cal Farley Coliseum. He loved making art. James worked quietly behind the scenes for every arts entity, sports team, and entertainment venue in Amarillo. He worked for years for Tumbleweed Sound here in Amarillo. His name was the first on everyone's list of folks to work with their production. So, what did James Carter do? He was arguably the best stage-hand to have ever worked in Amarillo. Entertainment was

his life. And he did everything behind the scenes. With James on your production, you could be assured that he would arrive seven minutes late to the call, but then would work tirelessly, rarely at a fast pace, but a l w a y s steady. James was someone who everyone would be proud to have as an employee. He would look at the total picture of the tasks at hand and begin methodically eliminating them one-by-one. It was not necessary to give James a "to-do" list, he knew what needed to be done and did it, then did some more. He often would present, not a list of to-do's, but of things he had already done. James exhibited an eye for detail and always put the audience first. With James on the crew, you could be assured at least his part would be flawless.

There are not many people who can claim they have no enemies. I have never met anyone who did not like Jamesie. He worked with so many Country and Rock acts that toured through Amarillo, he was well known by those folks too. Tours returning to Amarillo would often ask if Jamesie (yes, they called him that, too) was working their show. He was said to be the best monitor mix guy in the Southwest. He documented the set-up of every band he

ever worked with and could tell them exactly how it was done on their previous visit.

James loved his friends and family. He loved purple. He loved Pink Floyd. He loved being the best at anything he did. He loved to laugh. He loved to do unique things like flushing cotton candy down toilets and dropping bowling balls from the roof of the Civic Center. He loved life. He remembered birthdays. He was loved in return.

The show will go on but it won't quite be the same. We miss you Jamesie.

Survivors include his father, Weldon Carter of Pampa; two sisters, Cynthia Bedford and husband Alvin of Broken Arrow, Okla., and Linda Hamby of Lubbock; five nephews, Trey Bedford and wife Shannon of Broken Arrow, Brian Bedford, Daniel Bedford and wife Katie, all of Tulsa, Okla., Garret Hamby and wife Heather of Chicago, Ill., and Tyler Hamby of Lubbock; one niece, Kayla Hamby of Lubbock; and a great-niece and great-nephew, Kaitlyn and David Bedford, both of Broken Arrow.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Elizabeth Carter, in 1998.

MEMORIALS: American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 50433, Amarillo, TX 79159 or First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 1981, Pampa, TX 79066.

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



Carter

**Ambulance report**

Guardian EMS ambulance reported the following calls between 7 a.m. Friday, Dec. 5 and 7 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6.

**Friday, Dec. 5**

9:34 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1400 block of North Hobart. No transport.

11:25 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of East Francis and transported a patient to Pampa Regional Medical Center.

12:33 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1200 block of North Hobart and transported a patient to PRMC.

1:45 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 1900 block of North Russell and transported a patient to PRMC.

2:45 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 2500 block of Perryton Parkway and transported a patient to BSA Hospital in Amarillo.

4:46 p.m. — A mobile ICU responded to PRMC and transferred a patient to Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo.

**Saturday, Dec. 6**

12:05 a.m. — A mobile ICU responded to the 100 block of South Sumner. No transport.

*Grain prices*

The following grain quotations are provided by Attebury Grain of White Deer for the close of the last open market day.

Wheat . . . . . 4.12  
 Milo . . . . . 3.93  
 Corn . . . . . 5.71

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**ANDERSON APPLIANCE** Service, Cody 806-662-1841.

**PAMCEL FEDERAL** Credit Union Members, Please stop by the credit union for our Holiday Open House on Thurs., Dec. 11, from 7am-2pm at the plant office, and 9am-3pm at the branch office. We wish you and your loved ones a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous 2009!

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**SANTA LETTERS** to go in Pampa News Santa Letter Special Edition on Dec. 18th, deadline is Fri. Dec. 12th, at noon.

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# Combs

Continued from Page 1

expenses, like Ike, are one-time expenses. They are not recurring expenses, so she's predicting that the legislature will tap into the rainy day fund.

Combs said that the Texas economy is better than any other state in the Union.

She said that back in the early 1980s, the oil boom went bust.

"We lost about 250,000 jobs out of the oil patch," Combs said.

After that the state moved to diversify its economy.

That decision, she said, is now paying dividends.

"The State of Texas has the most diverse economy of the top five states," Combs said. "That's been a tremendous help."

She said that in the 1990s, legislators like Warren Chisum, Pampa's state representative, took a look at the litigation climate in the state and proceeded with tort reform.

"That has moved ahead very successfully," she said.

She said the state also looked at the regulatory climate in the state and took a rational approach that gave people notice in advance to make changes in the environmental processes.

"We must have clean air, clean soil and clean water," she said.

Most recently, Combs said the state avoided sub-prime mortgage problems that has consumed other parts of the county.

"Because we didn't," she said, "you could actually buy a house and not have to have a strange sub-prime shoehorn to get you into it."

Combs said the Texas economy is the envy of the other states.

"We're the number one state in the United States to do business," Combs said.

The unemployment rate statewide for Texas in October was 5.6 percent. The U.S. unemployment rate as of last week was

6.7 percent, a 15-year high. That is up two percent from a year ago.

Housing starts are down, although she said she was talking to a builder in Amarillo Monday who said lots of housing were being built there.

"Oil is down to about \$46 a barrel," Combs said.

In 1999, she said, it was \$19 a barrel.

"The tipping point is about \$50 a barrel," she said.

Below \$50, consumers are happy, but producers can't make a living.

Above \$50, she said it helps the state because of the additional jobs the sector creates.

She said that sales taxes serve as a weather vane for how the economy in the state is doing.

"In Texas," Combs said, "we've had some amazing years."

She said that two years ago, the state experienced a year-to-year growth of 12 percent. Last year, it was a growth of 11 percent.

"Now," Combs said, "we're down to about six percent."

The point, she said, is the state's sales tax numbers are not negative.

"We're still up from the previous year," Combs said. "We're not as high up."

Some states are down 20 or 30 or 40 percent, she said.

"We're still slightly up," Combs said.

Sales taxes account for about 60 to 65 percent of the state's tax revenue.

Combs said the data her office has been getting indicates that consumers are buying less expensive items and are shopping at large discount stores instead of mall specialty stores.

"That's not so good," she admitted.

About six months ago, Combs said the consumer confidence index was 123.7 in Texas. That has dropped to about 63.2.

"But Massachusetts was down to the 14 to 18 range," she said, "which is not very good. So we're still doing better than most places."

# Emergency Services

## Pampa PD

Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents and calls between 7 a.m. Dec. 5 and 7 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6.

### Friday, Dec. 5

Officers conducted 16 traffic stops. A stop at Hobart and Kingsmill resulted in at least one arrest.

Calls and stops concerning animals occurred in the 2800 block of Charles, the 1500 block of North Faulkner, the 900 block of South Finley, the 1000 block of Prairie Drive, the 200 block of South Miami, the 900 block of West 4th, the 2300 block of North Rosewood Lane, the 200 block of West Foster, the 400 block of North Warren, the 100 block of South Gillespie, the 500 block of West Kentucky, at Buckler and Somerville streets, in the 600 block of East Foster and in the 1800 block of North Chestnut Drive.

Alarms were reported in the 100 block of South Hobart and the 1300 block of West Kentucky.

Police escorts were provided in the 1600 block of North Nelson and the 600 block of North Rider.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 2400 block of North Charles and the 400 block of West Foster.

Welfare checks were performed in the 2200 block of North Zimmers and the 800 block of East Francis.

An assault was reported at the PD.

A missing person was reported at the PD.

A traffic accident was reported in the 1200 block of North Hobart.

Traffic complaints were reported in the 500 block of North Sumner, the

1200 block of North Charles and the 1000 block of North Hobart.

A vehicle fire was reported in the 600 block of North Faulkner.

Criminal mischief was reported at Pampa Junior High School, 2401 N. Charles.

Suspicious persons were reported in the 2200 block of Perryton Parkway, the 300 block of North Hobart, the 2200 block of North Christy and the 1200 block of North Hobart.

Identity theft was reported at the PD.

Motorist assistance was provided in the 2200 block of Perryton Parkway.

A stolen vehicle was reported in the 100 block of South Foster.

A civil matter was reported in the 500 block of North Doucette.

A threat was reported in the 500 block of West Foster.

A domestic disturbance was reported in the 100 block of South Sumner.

### Saturday, Dec. 6

Officers conducted 11 traffic stops. Stops in the 700 block of West Wilks, at Foster and Hobart streets and in the 1100 block of West Gwendolyn resulted in at least one arrest.

Calls and stops concerning animals occurred in the 600 block of East Foster, the 1900 block of North Faulkner, at McCullough and Wilcox streets, in the 500 block of South Starkweather and the 400 block of West Texas Avenue.

Building checks were performed in the 600 block of South Gray, the 100 block of East Craven and the 400 block of West Foster.

Driving while intoxicated was reported in the 1900 block of North Hobart.

Disorderly conduct was reported in the 600 block of North Wells and the 700 block of North Somerville.

Motorist assistance was provided in the 100 block of West 30th.

A traffic complaint was reported in the 800 block of North Nelson.

Criminal mischief was reported in the 1800 block of North Hamilton.

A narcotics violation was reported in the 1800 block of North Banks.

A civil matter was reported in the 500 block of North Carr.

Alarms were reported in the 1100 block of North Starkweather and the 2400 block of North Evergreen.

Suspicious persons were reported in the 800 block of North Christy and the 700 block of Frederic.

A silent/abusive 911 call was reported in the 700 block of North Hobart.

Agency assistance was rendered in the 2200 block of North Hamilton.

Runaways were reported in the 900 block of North Duncan and the 1100 block of Sandlewood.

Harassment was reported in the 1800 block of North Dwight.

Traffic accidents were reported in the 2100 block of North Hamilton and at the PD.

A welfare check was performed in the 1000 block of South Sumner.

A prowler was reported in the 300 block of Sunset Drive.

A sexual assault was reported at the PD.

## Sheriff

Gray County Sheriff's Office recorded the following arrests for Dec. 5 and 6.

### Friday, Dec. 5

Rhonda Hill Goff, 51, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa Police Department for DWI.

Dory Lee Shorter, 45, of Smyrna, Tenn., was arrested by Pampa PD for disorderly conduct-fighting with another.

Eram Martinez, 48, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa PD for public intoxication and disorderly conduct-fighting with another.

### Saturday, Dec. 6

Victor Manuel Soto, 24, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa PD for no valid driver's license.

Stephen Tyler Timmons, 24, of Wheeler was arrested by Pampa PD for unlicensed possession of a firearm by a felon, possession of drug paraphernalia and public intoxication.

Joshua John-Michael Feltner, 21, of Pampa was arrested by Pampa PD for theft of a firearm, unlicensed carrying of a weapon, DWI and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Brenda Rivera, 47, of Pampa was arrested by GCSO for failure to maintain financial responsibility.

Steven Vaughn Bracewell, 26, of Pampa was arrested for no driver's license, failure to maintain financial responsibility and failure

# At least one hurt in North Texas storms

DENISON, Texas (AP) — Storms damaged or destroyed more than 20 homes and knocked out power to at least 4,000 customers, but most electricity was restored by Tuesday.

One person, in the Collinsville area, suffered minor injuries in the violent weather late Monday, authorities said.

Denison Police Lt. Billy Shaw told The Associated Press that "it did appear to be a tornado, by looking at the damage."

National Weather Service representatives planned to review the damage to confirm whether there was a tornado.

Shaw estimated two or three homes were destroyed in the Denison area.

"Numerous roofs are gone," Shaw said.

Oncor spokeswoman Catherine Cuellar said about 4,000 customers were without power at the height of the storm, in the Denison-Grayson County-Texoma area. By late Tuesday morning crews had restored power to all but about 700 customers, she said.

## Man charged in officer death

HOUSTON (AP) — A man was charged with capital murder Monday in the fatal shooting of a Houston police officer after making a traffic stop in a troubled neighborhood.

Mabry J. Landor, 28, was in jail without bond after being accused of killing Officer Timothy Abernethy on Sunday morning.

Abernethy, 43, was working overtime on Sunday in a part of north-west Houston so dangerous police include it in a "hot spot" program to put more officers on the street. Police say Abernethy, an 11-year Houston police veteran, had pulled over a vehicle

# PPD

Continued from Page 1

"The team here (at city hall) works really well," Pitner said Tuesday morning when asked about both the City Manager and Police Chief positions being open at the same time. "The team will keep it going. It will all be fine."

## KDOT OKs study of Amtrak expansion

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — State officials and Amtrak have agreed on the scope of a study to determine the feasibility of expanding passenger service through Kansas, Oklahoma and into Texas.

The Kansas Department of Transportation said Thursday it has budgeted \$200,000 for its part of the study. The Oklahoma and Texas transportation departments are also cooperating in the study, which will be done by Amtrak.


The study aims to identify construction and equipment requirements, as well as potential annual operating costs needed to run the service.

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## Baby's First Christmas

Deadline 5 PM, December 15<sup>th</sup>  
Published December 24<sup>th</sup>

- Photos need to be of baby only
- No emails will be accepted
- Payment in advance

**Triston Riley Brooks**  
Born... September 6, 2008

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Riley & Molly Brooks  
Brother & Sister...  
Chance & Bailey  
Grandparents...  
Sam & Twila Brooks  
Paul & Martha Simpson

# \$25<sup>00</sup>

Example



# Viewpoints

## Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Dec. 9, the 344th day of 2008. There are 22 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Four hundred years ago, on Dec. 9, 1608, English poet John Milton was born in London.

On this date:

In 1854, Alfred, Lord Tennyson's famous poem, "The Charge of the Light Brigade," was published in England.

In 1892, "Widowers' Houses," Bernard Shaw's first play, opened at the Royalty Theater in London.

In 1940, British troops opened their first major offensive in North Africa during World War II.

In 1941, China declared war on Japan, Germany and Italy.

In 1942, the Aram Khachaturian ballet "Gayane," featuring the surging "Saber Dance," was first performed by the Kirov Ballet.

In 1958, the anti-communist John Birch Society was formed in Indianapolis.

In 1965, Nikolai V. Podgorny replaced Anastas I. Mikoyan as president of the

*'Give me the liberty to know, to utter and to argue freely according to conscience, above all liberties'*

— John Milton  
English poet

Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

In 1987, the first Palestinian intifada, or uprising, began as riots broke out in Gaza and spread to the West Bank, triggering a strong Israeli counter-response.

In 1990, Solidarity founder Lech Walesa won Poland's presidential runoff by a landslide.

In 1992, Britain's Prince Charles and Princess Diana announced their separation. (The couple's divorce became final Aug. 28, 1996.)

Ten years ago: Republicans on the House Judiciary Committee drew up four proposed articles of impeachment against President Bill Clinton, all stemming from his sexual relationship with Monica Lewinsky and long campaign to cover it up.

Five years ago: The owners of a Rhode Island nightclub and the tour manager for the rock band Great White were indicted on charges related to a fire the previous February that killed 100 people. A suicide bomber killed five victims outside an exclusive Moscow hotel. Former Vice President Al Gore endorsed Howard Dean for the Democratic presidential nomination. Former Sen. Paul Simon died in Springfield, Ill., at age 75.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Kirk Douglas is 92. Actor Dick Van Patten is 80. Actor-writer Buck Henry is 78. Actress Dame Judi Dench is 74. Actor Beau Bridges is 67. Jazz singer-musician Dan Hicks is 67. Football Hall-of-Famer Dick Butkus is 66. Actor Michael Nouri is 63. Former Sen. Thomas Daschle, D-S.D., is 61. Singer Joan Armatrading is 58. Actor Michael Dorn is 56.

## The unmarked intersections of Pampa

The fist column I ever wrote for the Pampa News was about things I had been learning since I moved here. One of those things was about the directional challenges I face, living in a city without mountains and only Hobart to lead my way. Now, having lived here a few months I realize the joke was on me. It seems that unless you were born here, no one can really know where they are going thanks to the unmarked intersections of Pampa.

Many streets and intersections go unmarked in two ways. Some streets that I have come across have no street sign to kindly remind a driver of their location. Other streets go unmarked in a much worse way, by having no traffic signs to inform a driver to stop or yield. Pampa has some of the most naked street intersections I have ever seen.

Thanks to these intersections, I, along with I'm sure many other Pampans, have stories about near accidents or complete driving confusion. When I was a junior in high school I wrote a research paper about near death experiences (NDE). I recorded a story my dad told me about how he almost drowned and had a NDE. I shared the recording with the class, but now, thanks to these shifty intersections, I can report that I have had two

of my own near death experiences and no longer need to rely on my dad's encounter.

Maybe the intersections are unmarked because they feel the masses of people won't drive on the streets, but for those of us who are lost more than we are

down the street my way. I didn't quiver to the enormity of the truck, but instead I kept on my slightly over the limit speed down the street. As I sung loudly in my economical Toyota Camry, I realized he wasn't slowing down either. I gave a healthy honk, but he

sign, no yield sign, no "prepare for unplanned chicken" sign. How does an intersection simply go unmarked?

A long standing weird goal of mine (there are many) is to name a street. Not that I don't enjoy my job, but I would likely leave it in a hurry if I could be appointed chairman of the "street naming" committee (if there is such a thing). I like street names and neighborhoods themed after trees, or writers, or even M.K. Brown. Even more, I want to live on a street that has an easy to spell name, not like Acacia or Becknell that you have to spell out every time you tell someone where you live. The dream has evolved since being in Pampa though. Now, I simply want to see every street named and marked properly.

It probably sounds like a pathetic dream but the problem is not only annoying and strange, but also dangerous. Who's to blame when an accident happens and no stop signs are around to be responsible? I'm a mediocre driver to say the best. While I have a few speeding tickets under my belt, I've been able to go accident free up to this point. However, these unmarked intersections have been enough to make me worry that I probably won't be able to pull off this good fortune much longer.

Rachel Stennet  
reporter



found, street names matter. Working for a newspaper requires a lot of driving to a lot of unknown places, unknown to me at least. Even more, when driving on these mischievous streets, it is good to know which car will be required to yield or stop at an intersection. I think that most people who have been here long enough have probably become aware of what intersections have stop signs and street names and do not. But, for newcomers like me, we assume we have the right way, a costly assumption that lead to my NDE.

I was driving casually down some street that is nameless, or at least marked like it is nameless, when a Texas-size truck came furrowing

apparently was singing loudly in his truck too because he still didn't waiver. A part of me was exhilarated at the game of unplanned chicken, but then I started thinking about the way the truck would leave unwanted grill marks on my silver painting so I swerved. He swerved too, and then honked, and followed quickly with a hand gesture.

After I calmed down and realized that the hand gesture probably wasn't something personal, I started thinking about the incident and wondering who was at blame. Fearing it was me being distracted in my singing state, I re-traced the intersection. Sure enough, we were both at blame, or the intersection is at blame. It was unmarked. No stop



## Texas Today

By The Associated Press

### Family says Blackwater defendant wanted to become police officer

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Donald Ball, a 26-year-old decorated former Marine, was the only Blackwater Worldwide defendant allowed to keep a gun after his arrest on Monday. Ball packs a .40-caliber Glock as a justice-court bailiff.

"I'm not interested in unduly burdening Mr. Ball," said federal Magistrate Paul Warner.

Warner said he was making an exception for Ball, one of five men charged with manslaughter in the 2007 shooting on a busy Baghdad street that left 17 Iraqis dead. Assistant Attorney General Patrick Rowan said evidence in the case, however, could only prove the guards fatally shot 14, although he left open the possibility of future charges.

The five defendants were released without bond, and were set to plead not guilty Jan. 6 in Washington.

Ball, of West Valley City, Utah, declined comment on the advice of his lawyers, but his family members had plenty to say.

"Those things they're saying about manslaughter should not be used in the same sentence as Don. It just shouldn't. It's wrong," said his mother, Karen Ball, of West Jordan, Utah.

"It hurts these boys to think that the government has turned on them," she told reporters.

Donald Ball was a veteran of three Iraq tours before he joined Blackwater.

Ball's mother said her son was "the guy protecting us" and a man who wouldn't want to hurt anyone.

### NY State Police intensify search for would-be dancer from Texas

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (AP) — State police searched woods, trash bins and a septic system Monday near the home of a convicted sex offender who left a nightclub last week with a woman who hasn't been seen since.

State police Capt. Wayne Olson said several women have come forward with information about the man, 23-year-old Michael Mele, who has a record of sex crimes committed in the northern suburbs of New York City. Olson declined to elaborate on what the women

told investigators.

Police had publicly requested that women who knew Mele come forward, given his history of sex offenses.

The missing woman, 25-year-old Laura Garza, was a newly transplanted New Yorker who had left a Texas border town with dreams of becoming a dancer.

She met Mele last week at the Marquee nightclub in Manhattan. They left together early Wednesday and were last seen a couple of hours later in his Infiniti sport utility vehicle, 70 miles north of Manhattan and not far from his Walkill apartment.

On Monday, state police were still searching Mele's SUV, his apartment and the surrounding area, but there was no sign of Garza, Olson said.

### Travis County authorities seek slaying suspect

AUSTIN (AP) — Authorities searched Monday night for the person who opened fire at a new restaurant in Travis County, killing an employee and then fled in a car.

The Steiner Ranch Steakhouse was closed at the time of the Monday afternoon shooting in the Steiner Ranch subdivision.

## THE PAMPA NEWS

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<b>Regular, Thick, or Turkey</b> Bar S Sliced Bacon. .... <b>\$1.89 EA</b>	<b>3 lb. box</b> Bar S Corn Dogs. .... <b>\$4.99 EA</b>
<b>Regular, Thick Sliced, or Garlic • 1 lb. pkg.</b> Bar S Bologna. .... <b>4 for \$5</b>	<b>Meat, Chicken, or Bun Length • 1 lb. pkg.</b> Bar S Jumbo Franks. .... <b>99¢ EA</b>
<b>Family Pack • 3 lb. pkg. where available</b> Tejano Red Hot Links. . . <b>\$4.99 EA</b>	<b>1 lb. pkg.</b> Tejano Ring Bologna. . . <b>\$2.19 EA</b>
<b>1 lb. pkg.</b> Texas Brick Chili. .... <b>\$2.79 EA</b>	<b>12 oz. pkg.</b> Tejano Chub Chorizo. . . <b>\$1.59 EA</b>
<b>Beacon Light Breaded • 12 oz. pkg.</b> Tilapia or Flounder Fillets. <b>\$3.99 EA</b>	<b>60/90 ct. • 2 lb. Bag</b> La Costa Cooked Shrimp <b>\$8.99 EA</b>

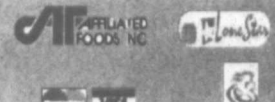
## FRESH PRODUCE

 <b>Bagged Navel Oranges</b> 4 lbs. <b>2 for \$4</b>	 <b>Crisp Iceberg Lettuce</b> <b>79¢ ea.</b>	 <b>Red Hothouse Tomatoes</b> 2 lbs. <b>\$3</b>
<b>5 lbs.</b> Bagged Grapefruit. .... <b>2 for \$5</b>	<b>Braeburn, Fuji, Granny Smith, Red Delicious, or Golden Delicious</b> Bagged Apples. .... <b>2 for \$5</b>	
<b>5 lbs.</b> Bunch Spinach. .... <b>99¢</b>	<b>Broccoli Crowns. .... 99¢ lb.</b>	
<b>Select Varieties • 10 oz.</b> Dole Caesar Kits. .... <b>2 for \$5</b>	<b>Large</b> Green Bell Peppers. . . <b>2 for \$1</b>	
<b>5 lbs.</b> Bosc or Red Pears. .... <b>99¢</b>	<b>Large</b> Red Bell Peppers. . . . <b>79¢ EA</b>	
<b>Broccoli &amp; Carrots, Broccoli &amp; Cauliflower, or Vegetable Medley • 12 oz.</b> Eat Smart. .... <b>2 for \$5</b>	<b>Whole or Sliced • 6 oz.</b> Portabella Mushrooms. . <b>\$2.99 EA</b>	

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<b>Select Varieties • 8 oz.</b> Cool Whip Whipped Topping <b>5 for \$5</b>	<b>Select Varieties • 9-10 oz. or 7.5-8.5 oz. • Calzone or Panini</b> Hot, Lean, or Croissant Pockets <b>2 for \$5</b>
<b>Select Varieties • 8 oz.</b> Jimmy Dean Breakfast Bowls <b>2 for \$5</b>	<b>Select Varieties • 10-16 oz. • Regular or Steamfresh</b> Bird's Eye Vegetables. . <b>5 for \$5</b>
<b>8 oz.</b> Shurfine Sour Cream. .... <b>89¢</b>	<b>Select Varieties • 128 oz.</b> Tampico Punch. .... <b>2 for \$3</b>
<b>Original or 1/3 less fat • 8 oz.</b> Kraft Cream Cheese. .... <b>2 for \$3</b>	<b>Chocolate Chip or Sugar • 16.5 oz.</b> Shurfine Cookie Dough. <b>2 for \$4</b>
<b>Finely Shredded • Select Varieties • 8 oz.</b> Borden Shredded Cheese <b>2 for \$5</b>	<b>15 oz.</b> Pillsbury Pie Crusts. . . . <b>2 for \$5</b>

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## GROCERY SPECIALS

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<b>Butterscotch, Milk Chocolate, or Semi-sweet Baking Chips • 12 oz.</b> Nestle's Morsels ..... <b>2 for \$5</b>	<b>Select Varieties • 26-26.5 oz.</b> Hunt's Spaghetti Sauce. <b>5 for \$5</b>
<b>Halves, Bits, or Pieces • 6 oz.</b> Ellis Pecans. .... <b>\$2.99 lb.</b>	<b>Select Varieties • 15 oz.</b> Wolf Chili No Beans. . . <b>5 for \$5</b>
<b>Select Varieties • 17.6-18 oz.</b> Duncan Hines Brownies. <b>2 for \$4</b>	<b>Select Varieties • 8-10 pk.</b> Swiss Miss Cocoa. .... <b>4 for \$5</b>
<b>Select Varieties • 16 oz.</b> American Beauty Pasta. <b>5 for \$5</b>	<b>Select Varieties • 9.25-11.5 oz.</b> Planters Nuts. .... <b>\$3.99</b>
<b>Western Family • 12 Big Rolls</b> Bath Tissue. .... <b>\$4.99</b>	<b>Caramel Santa, Regular or Sugar Free Marshmallow Santa • 1-1.25 oz.</b> Russell Stover. .... <b>2 for \$1</b>
<b>Select Varieties • 12 Ct.</b> Bob's Candy Canes. .... <b>5 for \$5</b>	<b>Select Varieties • 9 oz.</b> Glade Aerosol. .... <b>5 for \$5</b>
<b>Corn or Tamale • 4.4 lbs.</b> Maseca Flour. .... <b>\$3.69</b>	<b>Mayocoba, Pinto, or Black • 16 oz.</b> Chata Refried Beans. . . <b>5 for \$5</b>
<b>Select Varieties • 6.3-7 oz.</b> La Moderna Pasta. .... <b>3 for \$1</b>	<b>7 oz.</b> Nescafe Clasico. .... <b>\$5.99</b>
 <b>Fritos</b> select varieties 2 for \$4	<b>Select Group • King Size</b> Mars Candy. .... <b>4 for \$5</b>
 <b>Fritos</b> select varieties 2 for \$4	<b>Shurfine Onion or Ranch • 1-1.34 oz.</b> Dip Mix. .... <b>3 for \$1</b>
<b>Luzianne • 24 ct. Family Size</b> Tea Bags ..... <b>\$1.69</b>	<b>Original or Master Blend • 34.5-39 oz.</b> Maxwell House Coffee . . <b>\$5.99</b>
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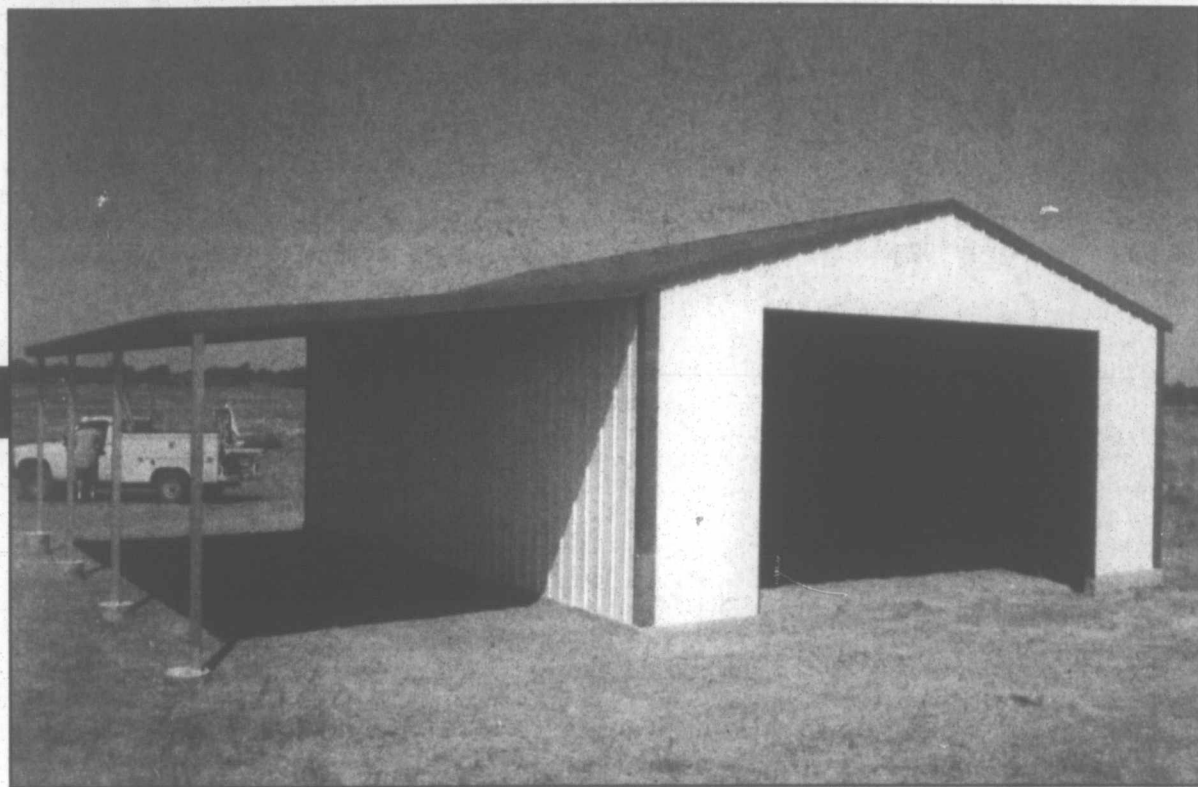
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# BUSINESS REVIEW



Rasco Construction's custom-built buildings are of varying sizes and designs. The staff builds any size custom building to the specifications of the customer. Rasco Construction now offers a larger 40' wide building.

## Rasco Construction: Overhead Doors and Custom Buildings

Rasco Construction, owned by Gerald and Joyce Rasco, is located at 1211 S. Price Rd. Selling and installing overhead doors both residential and commercial as well as the door operators is one of the main functions the trained staff at Rasco Construction provides for their customers. MIDAMERICA doors and LIFTMASTER overhead door openers may be purchased from Rasco.

Buildings constructed by Rasco Construction may be seen in towns across the Texas Panhandle. The staff has traveled to almost every town in the Panhandle since the business began in May 2002.

Along with VERSATUBE and FABRAL'S superior products for fabricating buildings, VERSATUBE now offers the company an economy line of carports and steel buildings. Buildings may be used to provide protection from the elements for your car, boat, RV,

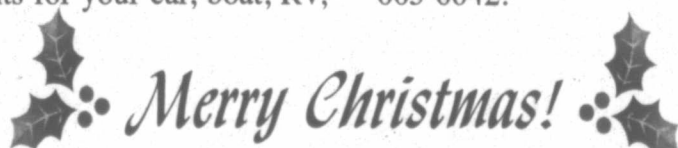
outdoor furniture and equipment or even livestock. They can be installed on the ground, gravel, or a concrete pad. Custom sizes to meet your needs are easily built by adding height and length extensions.

Rasco Construction would like to welcome everyone to drop by the local business to check out the services the company provides. Prospective customers may visit with the staff and determine the "perfect" storage building for their needs. Free estimates are available.

Gerald and Joyce have both lived in Pampa all their lives and would appreciate the chance to be your hometown garage door supplier and service company.

"We also keep door and operator parts in stock," Rasco said.

The business is open 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Mon. through Fri. The business telephone is 665-0042.



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# Sports

## JV Basketball teams bring home trophies

**by Bob Ericson**  
special to the Pampa News

Both Pampa Harvester JV basketball teams played in the Tomahawk Classic in Miami this past weekend. Both the girls and boys teams played very well and each came home with a trophy.

The JV Lady Harvesters played Forty Elliot in their first game. They had some trouble getting started and fell behind 17-7 in the first quarter. The second quarter was better as Pampa was able to score more often and played better defense. The girls went into the locker room at half-time trailing 34-21.

Coach Osborne made adjustments and Pampa played a very strong third quarter cutting the lead to 43-35.

The final period was a hard fought quarter with Fort Elliot winning the game 54-42. The second game found the Lady Harvesters taking on Higgins. Higgins would have no answers for the Lady Harvesters as Pampa opened up a 12-6 first quarter lead. Pampa added another 17 in the second quarter to lead 29-10 at the half.

The Lady Harvesters would coast in the third to lead 35-18. The final quarter Pampa turned up the offense and won the game 54-28.

The third game found Pampa doing battle against Adrian. Pampa started fast again and opened up a 14-8 lead after one quarter. The Lady Harvesters played well in the second but

struggled a bit on defense, and their lead was trimmed to 30-23 at half.

Coach Osborne fired the team up at half and Pampa pushed their lead to 51-33 at the end of the third quarter. Pampa won the game 58-41.

The fourth and final game for the Lady Harvesters would be for the Consolation trophy against Wheeler.

They started slow and trailed 22-21 at half. The game continued this way all through the second half but Pampa came out victorious, 49-45, to claim the trophy.

Tournament scoring totals for the Lady Harvesters included: Delaney Clendenning, 39; Liz Hoelting, 32; Kyle Wyatt, 25; Kirsten Kuhn, 24; Kayla Hughes, 22;

Cori Cook and Kailyn Troxell, 19; Caitlin Sieck, 15 and Jenny Nunn, 8.

Both girls teams will start district play Tuesday against Randall at home beginning at 6 p.m.

The Harvester JV began the tournament playing Fort Elliot also. Pampa would play tough defense and would find themselves leading 21-18 at half. Coach Snelgrooves would make the necessary adjustments at half and Pampa would extend their lead to 35-24 at the end of the third quarter. Pampa would play very good on both sides of the ball in the final period and come out with a win 53-37. The Harvesters would see Shamrock in the second game. Pampa would start quickly on offense and build a 19-8 first quarter

lead. The second was no exception with Pampa leading 29-15 at half-time. The Harvesters would continue their dominance scoring 15 in the third and building a commanding 44-26 lead after three quarters. The last stanza would see Pampa closing the deal winning 57-34. With two wins under their belt, the Harvesters were one win away from playing in the championship game.

Adrian was the team that stood in the way.

Pampa began this game as they did against Shamrock scoring 18 in the first quarter and 16 in the second to lead at half 34-20. Pampa played close to even in the second half and finished the game with a win 65-53, and advanced to the

championship game.

The final game for the Harvesters was against a very good and senior-filled team in Spearman. Pampa played very hard throughout the game but Spearman pulled away in each quarter to eventually win the championship.

The Harvesters would bring home a much deserved second place trophy. Total scoring for the tournament would be as follows: Latigo Collins, 55; Garrett Ericson, 32; Jonathan Polasek and Reid Miller, 25; Reid Bradley, 17; Luke Watson, 12; Tyler Malone, 11; Chase Ferguson, 10; Joseph Mechelay, 6; Mitch Simon, 3 and Zac Murray, 2.

The Harvesters will play Perryton in Perryton Tuesday night at 6 p.m.



Tilden Hooper, of Carthage, Texas, competes during the fifth go-round of bareback riding at the National Finals Rodeo at the Thomas & Mack Center in Las Vegas, Monday, Dec. 8, 2008. (AP Photo/Jae C. Hong)

## National Finals Rodeo fifth round results

**By The Associated Press**  
Results from Monday at the Thomas & Mack Center, Las Vegas.

**Fifth Round Bareback Riding**  
1. Bobby Mote, Culver, Ore., 91.5 points on Classic Pro Rodeo's Big Tex, \$16,767.  
2. Cimmaron Gerke, Brighton, Colo., 90.5, \$13,251.  
3. Will Lowe, Canyon, Texas, 87.5, \$10,006.  
4. Kaycee Feild, Elk Ridge, Utah, 87, \$7,031.  
5. Kelly Timberman, Mills, Wyo., 86.5, \$4,327.  
6. Dusty LaValley, Canada, 86, \$2,704.  
7. Justin McDaniel, Porum, Okla., 85.5.  
8. Ryan Gray, Cheney, Wash., 85.  
9. Tim Shirley, Conifer, Colo., 83.5.  
10. Royce Ford, Briggsdale, Colo., 82.5.  
11. Chris Harris, Itasca, Texas, 81.5.  
12. Steven Dent, Mullen, Neb., 78.  
13. (tie) Josi Young, Kimberly, Idaho, Jessy Davis, Payson, Utah and Tilden Hooper, Carthage, Texas, NS.

**Steer Wrestling**  
1. Stockton Graves, Newkirk, Okla., 3.9 seconds, \$16,767.  
2. (tie) Ken Lewis, La Junta, Colo., and Todd Suhn, North Platte, Neb., 4.0, \$11,629 each.  
3. Casey McMillen, Craig, Colo., 4.2, \$7,031.  
4. Jason Miller, Lance Creek, Wyo., 4.4, \$4,327.  
5. Luke Branquinho, Los Alamos, Calif., 5.1, \$2,704.  
6. Trevor Knowles, Mount Vernon, Ore., 5.3.  
7. Cash Myers, Athens, Texas, 5.8.

9. K.C. Jones, Decatur, Texas, 6.5.  
10. Curtis Cassidy, Canada, 7.9.

**Team Roping**  
1. Garrett Tonozzi, Fruita, Colo./Kinney Harrell, San Angelo, Texas, 3.6 seconds, \$16,767 each.  
2. Chad Masters, Clarksville, Tenn./Michael Jones, Stephenville, Texas, 4.7, \$13,251.  
3. Jake Barnes, Scottsdale, Ariz./Clay O'Brien Cooper, Morgan Mill, Texas, 5.0, \$10,006.  
4. Trevor Brazile, Decatur, Texas/Patrick Smith, Midland, Texas, 5.1, \$7,031.  
5. JoJo LeMond, Andrews, Texas/Martin Lucero, Stephenville, Texas, 5.8, \$4,327.  
6. Riley Minor, Ellensburg, Wash./Brady Minor, Ellensburg, Wash., 5.9, \$2,704.  
7. Travis Tryan, Billings, Mont./Cory Petska, Lexington, Okla., 8.8.  
8. Turtle Powell, Alpine, Texas/Travis Graves, Jay, Okla., 9.3.  
9. Jake Stanley, Hermiston, Ore./Walt Woodard, Stephenville, Texas, 10.3.  
10. Matt Sherwood, Pima, Ariz./Randon Adams, Logandale, Nev., 11.6.

**Saddle Bronc Riding**  
1. Shaun Stroh, Dickinson, N.D., 87.5 points on Big Bend's Kool Toddy, \$16,767.  
2. Bradley Harter, Weatherford, Texas, 86, \$13,251.  
3. (tie) Rod Hay, Canada, and Chet Johnson, Gillette, Wyo., 85.5, \$8,519 each.  
4. Rusty Allen, Eagle Mountain, Utah, 84.5, \$4,327.  
5. J.J. Elshere,

Quinn, S.D., 84.0, \$2,704.  
7. Dusty Hausauer, Dickinson, N.D., 83.5.  
8. Cody Wright, Milford, Utah, 81.5.  
9. Cody Taton, Newell, S.D., 78.  
10. Bobby Griswold, Geary, Okla., 74.

**Barrel Racing**  
1. Brittany Pozzi-Pharr, Victoria, Texas, 13.80 seconds, \$16,767.  
2. Lindsay Sears, Canada, 13.87, \$13,251.  
3. Mary Burger, Pauls Valley, Okla., 14.01, \$10,006.  
4. Lisa Lockhart, Oelrichs, S.D., 14.05, \$7,031.  
5. Cassie Moseley, Farwell, Texas, 14.06, \$4,327.  
6. Jill Moody, Letcher, S.D., 14.07, \$2,704.  
7. Stephanie Fryar, Big Spring, Texas, 14.12.  
8. Terra Bynum, Colorado City, Texas, 14.13.  
9. Tammy Key-Fischer, Ledbetter, Texas, 14.23.  
10. Maegan Reichert, Mt. Pleasant, Texas, 14.24.

**Bull Riding**  
1. Wesley Silcox, Payson, Utah, 89.5 points on Diamond G's Crush Boss III, \$16,767.  
2. Spud Jones, Tohatchi, N.M., 88.5, \$13,251.  
3. Kanin Asay, Powell, Wyo., 87.5, \$10,006.  
4. Steve Woolsey, Payson, Utah, 82.5, \$7,031.  
5. (tie) J.W. Harris, May, Texas, and Colin McTaggart, Las Vegas, 81, \$3,516 each.  
6. Douglas Duncan, Huntsville, Texas, 77.5.  
7. Bobby Welsh, Gillette, Wyo., 53.  
8. (tie) B.J. Schumacher, Hillsboro, Wis., Chance Smart, Philadelphia, Miss., Seth Glause, Rock Springs, Wyo.,

## Texas HS football playoff pairings

**CLASS 4A**  
**DIVISION I State Semifinals**  
Denton Guyer (12-2) vs. Longview (12-2), 8 p.m. Saturday, Texas Stadium  
Friendswood (11-1) vs. Lake Travis (14-0), 2 p.m. Saturday, College Station's Kyle Field  
**DIVISION II State Semifinals**  
Everman (14-0) vs. Sulphur Springs (12-2), noon Saturday, Texas Stadium  
Dayton (12-1) vs. Kerrville Tivy (12-2), 2 p.m. Saturday, Georgetown  
**CLASS 3A**  
**DIVISION I State Championship**  
Prosper (13-1) vs. Waco La Vega (12-2), 4 p.m. Saturday, Texas Stadium  
**DIVISION II State Semifinals**  
Liberty Hill (14-0) vs. Celina (11-3), 5 p.m. Saturday, Midlothian  
Carthage (12-2) vs. Giddings (11-3), 6 p.m. Saturday, Corsicana  
**CLASS 2A**  
**DIVISION I State Championship**  
Muleshoe (14-0) vs. Kirbyville (13-0), 6 p.m. Saturday, Grand Prairie's Gopher Bowl  
**DIVISION II State Semifinals**

Cisco (13-1) vs. Pottsboro (13-1), 6 p.m. Saturday, Justin Northwest HS  
Daingerfield (13-1) vs. Blanco (14-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Texas Stadium  
**CLASS 1A**  
**DIVISION I State Championship**  
Canadian (12-1) vs. Mart (12-2), 2 p.m. Saturday, Wichita Falls' Memorial Stadium  
**DIVISION II State Semifinals**  
Stratford (12-1) vs. Albany (14-0), 2 p.m. Saturday, Lubbock's

Lowrey Field  
Cayuga (12-2) vs. Ganado (9-3), 6 p.m. Saturday, A&M Consolidated HS  
**SIX-MAN**  
**DIVISION I State Championship**  
Follett (11-2) vs. Strawn (13-1), 7 p.m. Saturday, Lubbock's  
Lowrey Field  
**DIVISION II State Championship**  
Borden County (13-0) vs. Woodson (10-4), 3 p.m. Saturday, Wolforth Frenship HS

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## Holiday for Heroes



Residents at Coronado Healthcare Center signed Christmas cards for the "Holiday for Heroes" program sponsored by the Red Cross. From left Louise Sissom, Peggy Dawkins, Wanda Wyatt (activities director), Carl Bradford and Mary Wariner signed about 2 dozen cards hoping to help

## Holiday cheer means work for Waco's homeless

WACO, Texas (AP) — If the cold winds whipping through Waco bothered Lucious Josey, it didn't show through his cheery demeanor.

The 60-year-old was posted in front of the Bellmead Sam's Club, ringing a golden bell and warmly greeting shoppers as they passed through the store's doors. He occasionally shuffled from side to side, shifting weight from his left knee, injured in a grenade explosion when he served in the Army in Vietnam. He temporarily relinquished his bell to a small child, who perked at the sound of the clanging brass.

"Hello there. You ready to help me out?" he said to the boy, smiling and laughing. "Well, come on and ring my bell! I need some help today!"

Josey, a self-proclaimed "natural charmer," is assisting with the Salvation Army's holiday red-kettle campaign, an annual collection drive to benefit needy families, veterans and senior adults over the holiday season and into next year.

"All angels are not in heaven," Josey said, smiling and thanking one shopper who dropped change in the kettle. "There's still angels here on Earth, 'cause I see it every day, in

acts of kindness and godliness and goodness."

But beneath the friendly demeanor lies a man who has endured his fair share of trouble. The San Felipe native has battled homelessness for much of the past year, spending nights at the Salvation Army, Brother's Keeper men's homeless shelter or temporarily crashing at a friend's home. Josey traveled from Houston, where he has some family, to Temple, then Waco, seeking medical treatment for his knee from the Veteran Affairs hospital system.

He dons clothing from the Salvation Army — a short green winter jacket, blue sweatshirt and plush black gloves — to protect him from the wintry chill. Josey lives on a fixed income of disability payments, which he said does not afford him a "safe and healthy environment to live in." He has no family in the area to turn to for support.

"It's a sad time for me," Josey said, the cheer in his eyes fading slightly. "I miss the closeness of a family, the bonding of a family, the rejoicing... the memories of certain things. I remember my mother's duck dressing, certain smells. It's a time of sadness and loneliness."

While the Salvation Army relies on the volun-

teer efforts of 117 area community-service organizations for the kettle campaign, the nonprofit group also hires more than 20 temporary workers for the drive. The paid workers often are homeless or economically disadvantaged people who have received assistance from the Salvation Army and other social programs in the city.

"It's a good opportunity for them to create some type of work history and also to generate income to pay for housing or other living expenses," said Russell Czajkowski, captain and church minister for the Waco Salvation Army. "This way, we're not just paying their rent or mortgage or electric bill, but they're actually able to work for it."

Calvin Alexander, 33, began working for the kettle campaign after a stint doing part-time work at Baylor University. Alexander was released from prison six months ago after serving eight years for violating parole on a previous robbery conviction. He plans to turn his life around after what he calls mistakes in his youth.

"That was a big lesson for me, and when I got out I wanted to do something positive with my life," Alexander said. "That was just wasted years to me."

Like Josey, Alexander also has been on the receiving end of Salvation Army services. The Waco native said his family endured particularly rough financial times when he was a child, and his parents struggled to care for him and his two siblings.

"My mom and dad didn't have much," Alexander said. "We lived in my grandmother's house with all of my cousins, and my grandmother, she raised us. So she would turn to the Salvation Army for clothes, food, to try and take care of us."

Alexander said he is grateful to be able to help with the kettle campaign because it gives him a chance to raise money for people who have shared similar struggles. Despite the dire economic times, people still are finding the generosity to give to the charity, he said.

"Some people come here two or three times a week, every day, and they'll give every time," Alexander said, shifting from side to side to fight the cold and tiredness in his toes as he manned a kettle at Walmart last Saturday. "I had one person tell me this morning, I really don't have the money to give, but I know there are people who are in worse situations than me." So people are still

## Winners named in 'Fit Texan' competition

AUSTIN — The winners in the Texas Round-Up's statewide search for the 2009 Fit Texan, Fit Family and Fit Kid have been announced by Gov. Rick Perry.

The Fit Texan Challenge encourages adults and children who have overcome health and weight challenges through lifestyle changes such as diet and exercise, to submit their personal success stories. The 2009 Fit Texan winners will be recognized at the 6th annual Texas Round-Up race and fitness festival in April 24-25, 2009 in Austin.

"It is never too early or too late to begin taking steps to a healthier you and

to commit to an improved quality of life," Gov. Perry said. "The influx of success stories associated with the challenge is an inspiration to those looking to make positive changes in their lives, and I encourage all Texans to step up, get active, and get fit."

"The Fit Texan challenge gives us the opportunity to reward Texans who have made positive changes to overcome health obstacles and are focused on living a healthy life," said Texas Round-Up Executive Director Meredith Garcia. "We have witnessed several great transformations and want to acknowledge our fellow Texans for their hard work. Previous winners of these challenges have inspired other Texans who are struggling to live a healthy life and we expect to see the same outcome in 2009."

In addition to being a Texas Round-Up spokesperson, Fit Texans will receive a VIP weekend to attend the Texas Round-Up 10K, 5K, Family Mile and fitness festival. Adults and children who have made healthy improvements are invited to enter the contest. Deadline for entry is Feb. 28, 2009.

According to the Texas Department of State Health Services, an estimated 27 percent of Texas adults are obese, well above the national average of 24.4 percent, costing the state \$3.3 billion in 2005. If current trends continue, an estimated 46.8 percent of adult Texans will be obese by the year 2025, costing the state \$15.8 billion annually.

In 2004, Governor Rick Perry launched the Texas Round-Up statewide fitness initiative to motivate and encourage Texans to become more active and incorporate healthy choices into their daily lives. Today, Texas Round-Up is an independent not-for-profit organization working to improve the health of Texas through education and promotion of physical activity and healthy living.

For complete details, contest rules and offerings, please visit [www.texasroundup.org](http://www.texasroundup.org).



## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I hope "Mother With a Secret" (Sept. 3) will speak to her children about the half-brother they don't know about.

I was given up for adoption at birth and was raised by a wonderful mom and dad. After my oldest son was born, I wanted more information about my birth parents' history. My parents understood and helped me obtain the information. It has now been 26 years since I reunited with my birth mother and six half-siblings.

Although my birth mother had not told anyone about me before I contacted her, by the time I met her in person, she had told all her children about me. The sky didn't fall, and the earth didn't crumble. Instead, we became friends, sisters and brothers -- all of whom I love dearly.

As it turned out, I inherited a disease that both my biological parents

have. I found out only because I asked to be tested after they told me. Because I was diagnosed early, I will be fine. Some secrets should not be kept. -- LUCKY DAUGHTER

DEAR LUCKY: I agree. I have always advocated for an adopted child's right to know if he or she has a genetic predisposition to any illnesses.

While you were "lucky," readers' opinions on the subject were mixed. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Except for some medical need to know, have you considered that the adopted child may not have been told about the adoption, or that he might not WANT to be found? As an adoptee, I have been approached by strangers claiming kinship. I know enough about my irresponsible birth parents to not want to know any of

their kin, no matter how "respectable" they may seem. Not all of us want to be found. -- 'OLD CURMUDGEON' IN OREGON

DEAR ABBY: While I was moving my ill mother from her home to live with me in another state, she told me that Dad was not my birth father. I was stunned. I asked a lot of questions, and thought I had learned everything I needed to know.

After she passed away, I did some checking on my own and learned that not only did my birth father live a half-hour from where I grew up, but that I had a half-brother and four half-sisters. No one knew about me. I also found out that I am only five months older than one of his daughters. The whole situation caused me a lot of grief and affected the entire family, especially my father's wife, who is still living. There are a lot more

questions that I have now, but I will never get the answers because Mom is gone. I urge "Mother With a Secret" to tell her kids now -- while they can hear the whole story straight from her lips. -- UNRESOLVED IN ALABAMA

DEAR ABBY: I liked your advice to "Mother," but I feel strongly she should tell her children now. They will have questions for sure, some of which may not be answered in a letter to be opened after her death.

Unfortunately, my mom didn't leave us a letter to read after she was gone. The adopted child found us, and we all have questions that will go unanswered because the adoption happened almost 35 years ago, and Mom passed away three years ago. I wish she was still here to answer the many questions I have, as well as those of my half-sister who has recently become

part of the family. -- WISH MOTHER HAD-N'T KEPT A SECRET

DEAR ABBY: Adoption should be a celebration, not a secret. The reality is that adoption is a miracle that blesses the lives of all who are involved.

I commend "Mother" for the decision she made

many years ago. I pray her son was raised knowing the truth about his birth, and that if she decides to share her "secret" with her other two children, she will be able to find a sense of healing. -- ADOPTIVE MOTHER OF TWO

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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1	8	5	7	9	3	2	6	4
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8	5	9	6	4	2	7	3	1
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# PAMPA NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

## 5 Special Notices

**ADVERTISING** Material to be placed in the Pampa News, MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

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**NOTICE** Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

**Potter Trucking, Inc.** Pampa Equal Opportunity Employer

Call 806-886-6038 or 806-935-6385 \$15 hr. or more depending on exp. Good Vacations Retirement Plan Health Ins., with partial paid on spouse and children Dental, Vision, Disability, Life, DOT Medical, CDL License Paid, Uniforms

**HOME EVERY NIGHT 5 DAY SCHEDULES YOU MUST HAVE:** CDL with HazMat & Tanker GOOD DRIVING AND PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT RECORD CLEAR DRUG & ALCOHOL RECORD DOT PHYSICAL.

## 21 Help Wanted

**D Transports** is looking for a full-time Book Keeper/Comptroller. 5 or 6 years of experience preferred. D Transports offers competitive wages, vacation time, health insurance, and retirement. Please send resumes to PO Box 887, Canadian, TX 79014, by Fax to 806-323-9893, or email dtransports@sbcglobal.net

**CERTIFIED Pharmacy Tech needed** \*30-40 hrs. per week \*No Sundays! \*1/2 day every 3rd Sat. No Phone Calls. Please! Mail Resume to **Keyes Pharmacy 928 N. Hobart Pampa Tx 79065** or fax to **806-669-0957**

**SEMGROUP Energy Partners** has openings for a Full-Time Bottail and Transport Drivers in the Pampa and surrounding areas. Must have Class A CDL with the X endorsement and meet DOT qual. Exc. benefits pkg. incl. medical, dental, vision, life ins.; along with a 401K package and paid vacation, sick and holidays. Please call 806-934-7505, for application.

**PART-TIME Provider** needed for Panhandle patients on Saturdays. Full & Part-time Providers for Pampa area for adult & pediatric patients. Above average pay & trip fee. Nurses By Prescription, 806-355-1899.

**\$300 SIGN-ON BONUS** Wheeler Nursing & Rehabilitation has opening for full time LVN or RN. Nurse Aides positions open on all shifts. Competitive pay, shift differential. Apply in person, 1000 S. Kiowa. See Donna Cox, RN, DON or Angie, Drake, LVN, ADON.

**VIBRA Whirl Sports** seeking Estimator. Full time position. Good benefits. Salary based on experience. For more information please call 806-537-3526.

**Petroleum Bulk Drivers** Eastex Crude Co. is taking applications in Pampa, TX. For Day & Night Drivers. Applicants must have a Class "A" CDL with Hazmat & Tanker Endorsements +Home Daily +Full Benefit Pkg. (903)856-2401 x-137 (800)443-8580 Clint

**MECHANICS** Eastex Crude Co. is taking applications in Pampa, TX. Applicants must have knowledge and exp. in servicing of diesel trucks, brakes and general repair + Full Benefit Pkg. (903) 856-2401 x 137 or (800) 443-8580 Clint

**SUPER RENTALS.** 1304 N. Banks, Pampa, TX. Positions avail for full-time Manager and full-time secretary. Apply in person.

**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.

**12-9 CRYPTOQUOTE**

ZWFFTK EIK WD RGKP JHY'BK  
ZKM DH ZEPJ UKHUTK MGEM  
KBKSJ PKR UKSDHP JHY. ZKKM  
SKZWPFD JHY HO DHZKHPK

**KTDK — HIFKP PEDG**  
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: MODERN DIPLOMATS APPROACH EVERY PROBLEM WITH AN OPEN MOUTH. — ARTHUR GOLDBERG

**COMAC WELL SERVICE & ROUSTABOUT**

**NOW HIRING RIG OPERATOR WITH CDL LICENSE**

- Must Have Experience
- Paid Vacations
- Group Insurance
- Must Pass Drug Test
- Must Have Good Driving Record
- Must Have Good Past Emp. History

806-274-2259  
1100 Industrial Blvd., Borger, TX  
for Application 7:30-4:30pm.

**We are looking for some Part-Time High School Sports Reporters**  
If you attend Gray County high school sporting events and would like to make some extra money covering games for your local newspaper, give us a call.  
Just enjoy the game and write the highlights of the contest in easily understandable language.  
Don't worry-we will help hone your writing skills.  
If you take photographs, we'll pay you for those, too.  
If you are interested, call Editor Betsy Phillips at 669-2525

## 21 Help Wanted

**NEED** Maintenance person, part-time. Call 665-0415.

**FULL-TIME LVN** needed. Excellent benefits package incl. shift differential & mileage supplement. St. Ann's Nursing Home, Panhandle. 537-3194.

**FULL-TIME Certified Nurse Aides** needed, \$9.00 per hr., Health Insurance, paid vacations & holidays, shift differential, mileage supplements. St. Ann's Nursing Home in Panhandle, 537-3194.

**Front Desk / Reception** Very busy medical office has immediate opening for an outgoing, high energy person. This is a fast paced people job, requiring basic computer skills. If you have a good work record and want family friendly hours, please fax your resume to: Fax: 669-6688

**COOK & Cashier.** Apply in person 5 am-12 pm @ 508 N. Hobart. No phone calls.

**RAYMOND Henry Services** is looking for Full-Time Landscapers and Maintenance Workers. Applications can be picked up, 508 E. Thut, Lefors. Please call 806-835-2810 if directions are needed.

**PANTECHS Laboratories Inc.** is seeking a motivated individual to fill a full-time position in our Pampa lab. We are an oil and natural gas laboratory with a 35 year history. The candidate will be responsible for injection and analysis of gases and other petroleum products. Exp. in oil & gas operations, measurement and instrumentation is a plus. Salary is commensurate with exp. We offer health benefits, a bonus plan, and paid holidays. Please send your resume to [cljones@pantechs.com](mailto:cljones@pantechs.com) or call Casey Jones, 806-789-0298 for more information.

**KG, mattress \$40, Sears 10" table saw \$125, drill press \$75, Coke mach. \$125. 669-6467**

**DINETTE** set, bedrm. suite, chest, bed, end tables, 1/2 price on Christmas lights, ribbons, gift bags & more. Red Barn, 1420 S. Barnes. Buy & Sell Estates. 665-2767, Sat. 10-5pm.

## 80 Pets & Suppl.

**FOR Sale.** Just in time for Christmas: 2 male Yorkie Puppies: 8 weeks old, 806-205-2018.

**FULL blood Schnauzer Puppies** for sale. Ready anytime. Call for Info. 669-2634.

## 21 Help Wanted

**NEED** responsible person to occasionally dog sit in my home. Please call Rhonda 663-0267.

**CORNERSTONE Baptist Church** is now hiring a Part-Time Secretary. Interested applicants can call 669-6509, send resume to 2410 W. 23rd, or email to [cornerstone@cbcpampa.com](mailto:cornerstone@cbcpampa.com)

**PART-TIME Sales Position, responsible, mature only need apply.** Must be able to lift 50 lbs. Bring resume & pick up application at HEARD-JONES

**50 Building Suppl.** White House Lumber 101 S. Ballard 669-3291

**60 Household** LOCKER Bed, full size, w/ computer table & storage. Excellent cond., \$250. 669-9424.

**69 Misc.** ADVERTISING Material to be placed in the Pampa News MUST be placed through the Pampa News Office Only.

**CUSTOM Soy Candles.** No soot! You choose size, fragrance & color. Jar & lid filled. Refills also. GO GREEN WITH SOY! Christi Coffee. 669-2158.

**EXPERIENCE** the home away from home with our furnished rooms. Internet ready. Wkly & monthly rates. White Deer Motel. 883-2572 or 665-1875.

**95 Furn. Apts.** LAKEVIEW Apt. 1 & 2 bdr. unfurn. apt. Call for availability. Ref. & deposit req. 669-4386

**THE Schneider House,** now leasing apts., 1 & 2 bdr., utilities incl. 120 S. Russell or call 665-0415.

**98 Unfurn. Houses** PICK up rental list in Gray Box, at 125 S. Houston, Pampa.

**2 bdr., 1 ba. home, carport, \$500 mo., \$600 dep. 1609 Coffee. 665-5473.**

**NICE** clean 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath w/ Carport. \$495 a month. 806-584-1266

**2 large mobile homes** for rent. 3 bdr 2 bath & 4 bdr 2 bath. 665-8317.

**99 Stor. Bldgs.** TUMBLEWEED Acres, self storage units. Various sizes. 665-0079, 665-2450.

**102 Bus. Rental** OFFICE Space for rent, ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841.

**102 Bus. Rental** HIGHEST CASH PAID FOR HOUSES! CALL 665-1875

**NICE** Country Home, north of Pampa. 4 bdr., 4 ba., 3500 sq. ft. 15 acres. 806-664-2759.

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**NICE** Country Home, north of Pampa. 4 bdr., 4 ba., 3500 sq. ft. 15 acres. 806-664-2759.

## 102 Bus. Rental

**DOWNTOWN** office space for rent. Utilities & cleaning service provided. Ample parking. 669-6823

**FOR lease:** metal building, offices, shop, warehouse and yard. 806-669-5264.

**OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT** NBC PLAZA 806-665-4100

**103 Homes For Sale** 528 Doucette 3 Bdr., 1 Ba., 2 Living Areas New Paint & Carpet Nice Large Carport Fenced Yard Call Gary at TruStar Realty 806-665-4595

**FOR all your Real Estate needs,** call John Goddard, at Century 21! Where knowledge & expertise matter. 806-595-1234.

**HIGHEST CASH PAID FOR HOUSES!** CALL 665-1875

**NICE** Country Home, north of Pampa. 4 bdr., 4 ba., 3500 sq. ft. 15 acres. 806-664-2759.

## 103 Homes For Sale

**Owner Will Finance EZ Terms** 1333 Garland, 2 bdr, 1 ba, 1 car carport

**2011 Coffee 3 bdr, 1 ba** could be 4 bdr sunroom in back

**341 Miami 3 bdr., 1 ba. Fenced Yard** Call Milton 806-790-0827

**Rod Donaldson Agent 663-2800** Quentin Williams Realtors

**PRICE REDUCED!** 1515 Hamilton 2 houses, 1 low price \$139,900 MLS #08-8002

**New Listing 720 & 722 E. Browning** 2617 sq. ft. duplex \$99,900 MLS #08-8100

**Commercial Lot 2200 Coffee** MLS #08-7980 Your Listing Could Be Here!! Anyone can sell you a house, let me find you a home!!

**2005 Mustang GT,** 585 mi. Mineral gray with red leather. 5 sp., all options. Never seen rain/snow. 1 owner. \$19,500 (below Blue Bk.) Great Grad or Xmas Gift. 898-5096

**1996 Suburban.** \$2000 obo. Needs mass air flow sensor, 177,000 mi. 903-512-0323

**2000 Ford Quad Cab** 4x4 auto, 5.4, XLT, 135,000, dark maroon and tan, \$3,500 obo, black hard bed cover fits Chevy crewcab short bed 03-06, \$300, Hypertech power programmer \$100, 00-06 engines 4.3, 5.3, 6.0. Call 662-4720.

**2005 Mustang GT,** 585 mi. Mineral gray with red leather. 5 sp., all options. Never seen rain/snow. 1 owner. \$19,500 (below Blue Bk.) Great Grad or Xmas Gift. 898-5096

## 103 Homes For Sale

**1020 N Russell.** 3/2/2, 2350 sf, updated, extra large lot, hardwood floors, ss appliances, large stone fireplace & matching stone patio, built-in TVs, bonus room w/ private entrance. 806-898-3666.

**SMALL 2 bdr.** Central heat. Some hardwood. Utility room. 405 Perry. OWC. 662-7557.

**115 Trailer Parks** TUMBLEWEED Acres, Storm Shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079, 665-2450.

**120 Autos** 1996 Suburban. \$2000 obo. Needs mass air flow sensor, 177,000 mi. 903-512-0323

**2000 Ford Quad Cab** 4x4 auto, 5.4, XLT, 135,000, dark maroon and tan, \$3,500 obo, black hard bed cover fits Chevy crewcab short bed 03-06, \$300, Hypertech power programmer \$100, 00-06 engines 4.3, 5.3, 6.0. Call 662-4720.

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## HOROSCOPE

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2008:

Use your innate skills this year in handling a key personal or domestic matter. This issue could involve a move, new home or perhaps having a new roommate. Be honest with yourself as to how you will react at the beginning and finally when you are adjusted. This integrity could make all the difference, and if it's shared, it might help those involved. Of late, your tolerance levels are changing. Don't go to extremes with spending, as you can. Cut risking. Walk the conservative path financially. If you are single, be open to people you meet in your day-to-day life. Someone you meet in 2009 adds a big smile to your life. If you are attached, work on your communication and trust and be more open. TAURUS can test your patience.

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 could be stunned by the financial implications of a situation. You might not be able to put in the extra effort needed right now because of fatigue. Your imagination adds to a meeting or conversation. Tonight: Eye your budget. Also, get to bed early.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) \*\*\* A friend could stun you or take you down a strange path! Understand her or she means well. Someone you count on will make a difference. Take time for a private conversation. You will feel much better afterward, as will the other party. Tonight: Whatever makes you happy.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) \*\*\* If someone shares a secret and allows you to have more insight into a situation, honor his or her confidence. Though you see the implications professionally, you might need to halt. Center yourself before acting. You could change your mind, especially if you seek out other opinions. Tonight: Listen well.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) \*\*\*\*\* Defer in a meeting, and surprisingly, you'll get exactly what you want. Sometimes letting go brings in more than trying to push and push some more. A partner or loved one has tremendous insight. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) \*\*\*\*\* Others follow your lead. You have a calmness and honesty that draw many people to you. At one point, a partner could be quite flaky. Take charge of your finances, and don't allow others to control them. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) \*\*\*\*\* Someone close could shake you up. Realize what needs to happen in order to make a situation work. Go past present thinking by finding an expert and/or someone who thinks outside the box. Tonight: Read between the lines.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) \*\*\*\*\* Make time for an important person, or maybe several people. Speak to others directly. You'll make a difference and allow yourself to be more involved because of this attention. Honor your feelings. Tonight: Hang the mistletoe.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) \*\*\*\*\* Defer to others. You see that your imagination adds to a situation. Aim for more of what you want. An older or trusted friend comes through for you one more time. Listen more fully. Tonight:

Sort through invitations.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) \*\*\*\*\* Know what you must get done and go about making it so. The unexpected runs riot through your life. Your stability counts when dealing with work and personal issues. Responsibilities weigh heavily. Tonight: Schedule a massage.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) \*\*\*\*\* Let your mind roam, and you'll come up with the most unusual ideas. Thought at first you might think a suggestion isn't workable, with some of your ingenuity and pragmatism, it will work. Tonight: Midweek break.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) \*\*\*\*\* Know which side your bread is buttered on. You don't want to let go of your authenticity; at the same time, it is important to reconnect with your desires. Tonight: Head home. Confusion surrounds an older relative.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) \*\*\*\*\* You might want to do something differently, but could be stopped dead in your tracks. You tend to be quirky and at times quite difficult. Your instincts could be pointing in the wrong direction. Tonight: Hang out with friends.

**BORN TODAY** TV broadcaster Chet Huntley (1911), actress Dorothy Lamour (1914), poet Emily Dickinson (1830)

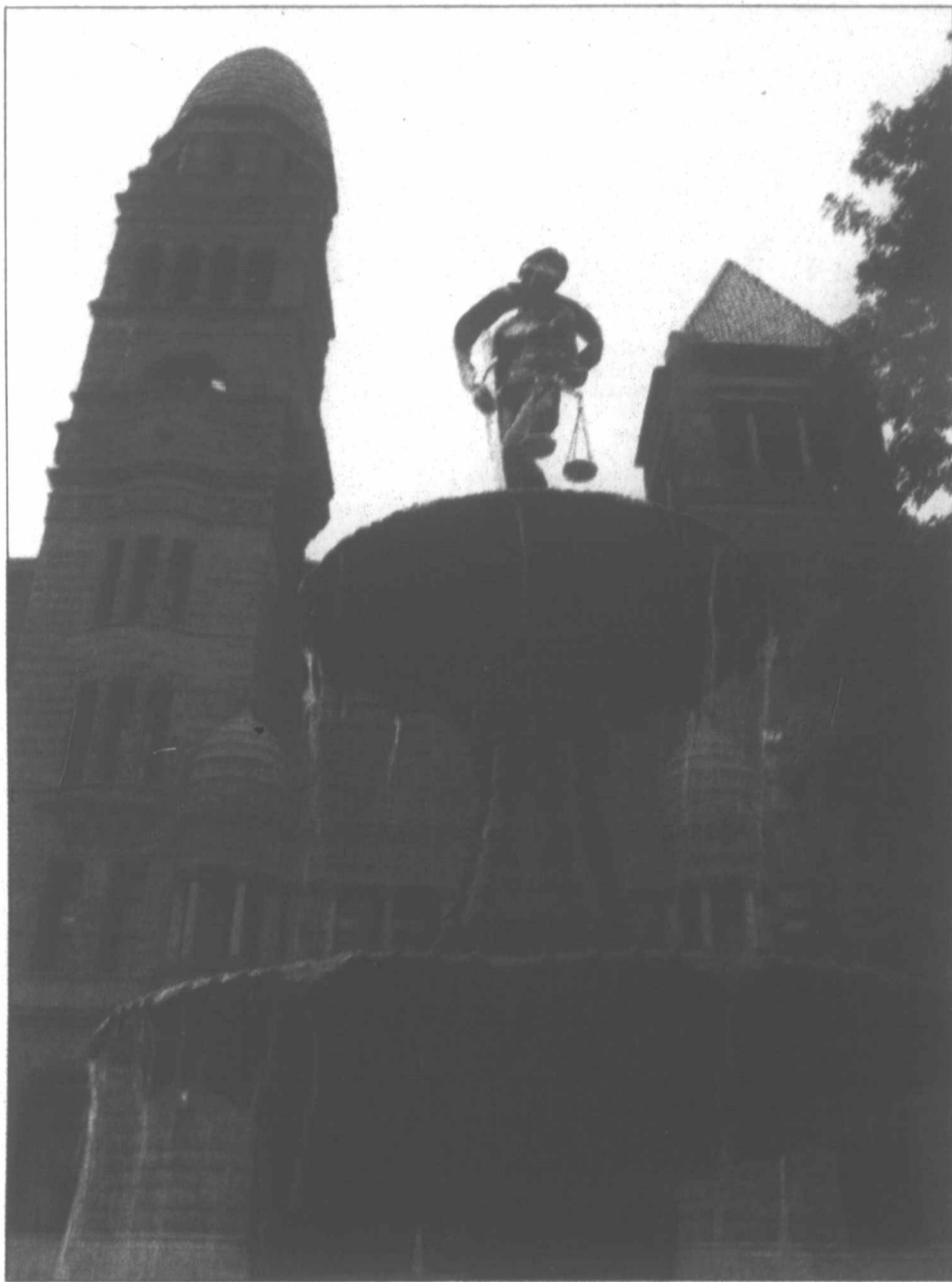
Jacqueline Bigar is on the Internet at <http://www.jacquelinebigar.com>.

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## TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK







## Naked Lady Justice statue unveiled in San Antonio

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Justice may be blind, but in San Antonio it's naked, too.

A restored 4-foot-tall blindfolded Lady Justice statue in a fountain was on display Monday in front of the Bexar (BAYR) County Courthouse.

Ceremonies were held Sunday night to unveil the renovated statue, with a sword in one hand and scales in the other, atop a globe as part of the J.L. Mott Fountain. The return of the statue and fountain is part of a \$2.6 million courthouse complex restoration project involving the Hidalgo Foundation.

Bexar County bought the statue and fountain from J.L. Mott of New York in 1896, but offered the display to San Antonio in 1927 to make room for a courthouse expansion.

Vandals in 1997 damaged the original Lady Justice statue and the fountain. Restoration was led by sculptor Gilbert Barrera, who says that in Greek mythology, "bareness and naturalness were a sign of purity, goodness and justice."

## Beagle fills unlikely role of mom to kitten

By KATIE EVANS  
Sierra Vista Herald

SIERRA VISTA, Ariz. (AP) — In Ralph and Marie Brymer's household, an unlikely relationship has developed between a 10-month-old beagle and an 8-week-old kitten.

Within days of bringing home the kitten, Satchel, about two weeks ago from the Huachuca City Animal Control Shelter, Ralph caught the beagle, Bandit, nursing Satchel.

The motherly relationship has only continued to develop. "We couldn't even get him to eat kitten food," Ralph said when they first brought the kitten into their home. "When he gets a chance, as you can see, he nurses."

"Bandit just takes care of him as if he's her own."

Marie said that when it first happened, they called their vets to make sure it was OK.

"It's more of a comfort thing for the both of them," they were told by one.

"It's uncommon, but it's not unheard of," they also heard.

One vet said that while the milk wasn't the best thing for the kitten, it wouldn't hurt the kitten.

And Satchel's name, Marie explained, comes from the way Bandit carries the kitten around.

"Bandit picks him up and carries him around like a satchel," Marie said.

It was a relationship that would never have developed, Ralph said, had it not been for the Nancy J. Brua Animal Shelter.

About two months after getting Bandit, she was hit by a car, injuring her back, Marie said.

"We didn't have the money to take her to the vet," she said.

The shelter was able to help the family afford the medical costs by paying for a portion of them. That ultimately prevented the Brymers from having to put the dog down.

"I just want to thank the (shelters) for letting us have this opportunity," Ralph said. "This is better than television."

The mother-like role that Bandit has taken on with Satchel has softened the dog, Ralph said.

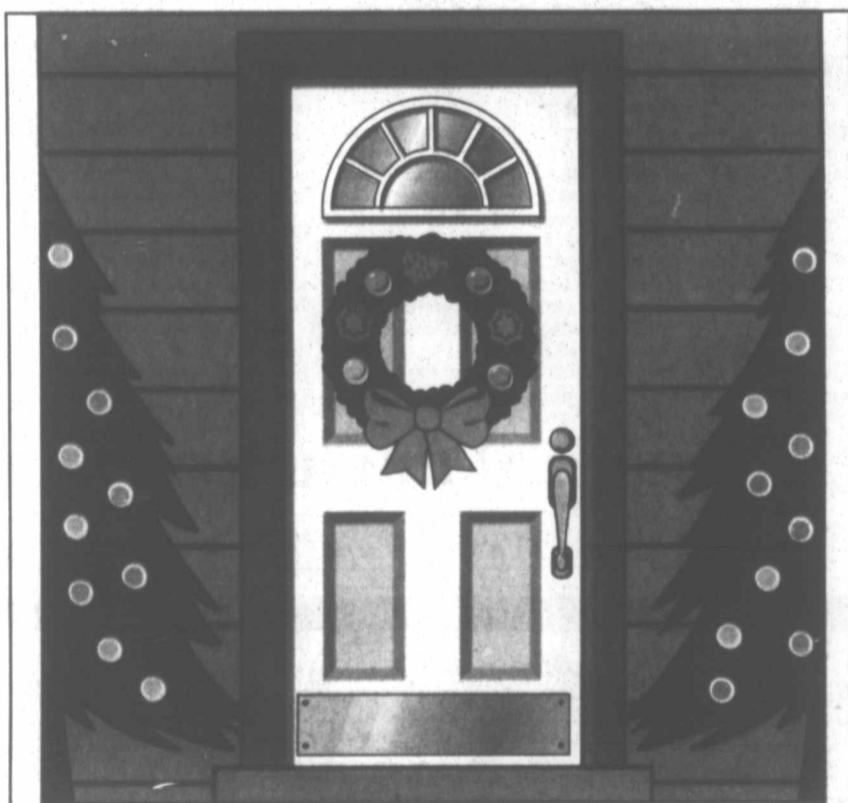
"We never expected this dog to do anything like this," Ralph said, describing Bandit as a dog who got her name because she would steal anything and everything she could get a hold of in the house. "Once she started in with the kitty, it turned her into such a loving, caring dog."

"It's really mellowed her out." The Sierra Vista Animal Care and Control Center is opening its doors Wednesday and featuring pets up for adoption. Adoptions are the highlight of this night, though the center's officers and volunteers will offer light refreshments set out and holiday favors.

The shelter will also hold a raffle for three gift baskets — two for furry friends and one for people.

"We are pleased to open our doors to the community this holiday season," said staff member Andrea Fisher. "Our community continues to support the Sierra Vista Animal Shelter, and we want to take this opportunity to remind those who don't know about our shelter to come out and visit this fantastic facility."

*Have a safe and happy  
holiday season.  
Don't drink and drive.*



**BRING  
GRAY COUNTY  
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Open the door to a world of information including local news, sports and commentary, with home delivery of THE PAMPA NEWS. It's a great way to start your day and makes a welcome gift for just about anyone on your holiday list.

Call 669-2525 ext. 312 to order, or mail the handy form below.

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(Offer good from Nov. 17 through Dec. 23)  
\*Order as a gift and we will send a Christmas card to the recipient notifying them of your generosity.

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