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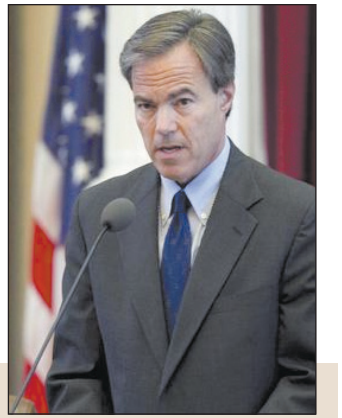
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# The PAMPA NEWS

TODAY IN SPORTS



Tuesday, July 10, 2012

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Volume 108 • No. 80

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**Did U.S. agents shoot Mexican citizen?** Border Patrol allegedly fired on national | **p3**

**Straus targets budgeting** Texas House Speaker calls for 'more truth' | **p8**

## Barbecue cookoff to introduce Pampa Fuels, LLC

■ *Company signed yearlong lease option for block at Pampa Energy Center*

**MOLLIE BRYANT**

[mbryant@thepampanews.com](mailto:mbryant@thepampanews.com)

Aside from the sweltering heat, a Pampa summer is not complete without barbecue and the rodeo. At

a Pampa Economic Development Corporation (PEDC) meeting yesterday afternoon, the PEDC and Open Range Engineering discussed festivities, including a barbecue cook-off, to take place during the last day of the

rodeo on Saturday, August 11. The event will be sponsored by Pampa Fuels, LLC, which recently signed a lease option with the Pampa Energy Center (PEC), the PEDC's industrial park that currently houses operations for Enbridge Energy and Flogistix.

The event will take place from 2 to 6:30 p.m. at the Las Pampas Square parking lot, with booths for vendors and organizations, as well as free barbecue. There will be no fees for booths

or to enter the barbecue cook-off.

The PEDC will have a booth to display schematics of Las Pampas Square following construction, and the Pampa High School student council, cheerleaders, local churches and vendors will also have a presence.

"I'm going to try to have lots of games for kids, so it's a big family event," said Stephanie Nelson of Open Range, a coordinator of the event. "We just really want everyone in the community involved."

The event will be just one part of a day of activity, with the rodeo parade at 10:30 a.m., an event from the Downtown Business Association from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the conclusion of this year's Top O' Texas Rodeo. Open Range, which manages the PEC site, hopes that the event will give the community a chance to learn more about Pampa Fuels, which in June signed a yearlong option to lease a block at the PEC. While Ron Nelson of Open Range was optimistic the deal would go through, he emphasized that it has not been finalized yet.

"It is a due diligence period, which means something could happen to PEDC cont. on page 8

## HOLD ON TIGHT



staff photo by *Mollie Bryant*

**Carter Howard**, 14, practices steer riding at the Texas Rodeo Bible Camp on Monday afternoon.

## Wheeler Co. grand jury indicts two

**MOLLIE BRYANT**

[mbryant@thepampanews.com](mailto:mbryant@thepampanews.com)

A Wheeler County Grand Jury returned two indictments against two individuals this month. Both of the indictments were drug-related.

Eric Phillip Lee Brown, 20, was indicted for possession of a controlled substance, methamphetamine, in an amount less than one gram, in connection with a May 2010 offense. Bond for Brown was set at \$12,500.

David King Walter, 23, III was indicted on a charge of possession of a controlled substance, methamphetamine, in connection with a May 2010 offense. Bond for Walter was set at \$12,500.

## Annual water quality report to be distributed this week

■ *City no longer using water from Lake Meredith*

**MOLLIE BRYANT**

[mbryant@thepampanews.com](mailto:mbryant@thepampanews.com)

This week, Pampans will receive the city's annual water quality report, which goes over the results of water samples of municipal water.

With test results from 2011 for potential contaminants like arsenic or mercury, the report shows that the city is not in violation of any state or federal drinking water requirements.

In the past, Pampa used water from Lake Meredith



**Hooper**

Hooper, Pampa's public works director.

"We're proud of the report, and want the public to be educated about our water system," he added. "We're proud of the product we produce."

While this summer has not been as severe as last year's drought, Hooper still hopes people will do

and the city's wellfield, but after the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority (CRMWA) decided not to distribute the lake's water to its member cities, including Pampa, the city now uses water from CRMWA's Roberts County wellfield and Pampa's wellfield.

"It'll all groundwater, which is better quality," said Donny

their best to conserve water.

"We've had more rainfall, but we encourage people to follow voluntary conservation, because we're still not pumping Lake Meredith water since there hasn't been enough rainfall to end the drought," said Hooper.

"I feel we've been able to meet demand, because people are being conservative with water and being careful to conserve every drop they can."

The city hopes to have four new wells online by next summer, and has already drilled two of them.

For now, Hooper says the city is watching daily to make sure water supply levels are recharged each night.

"People's help to conserve water has helped to maintain the system," he said. "July and August are the most critical months for us."

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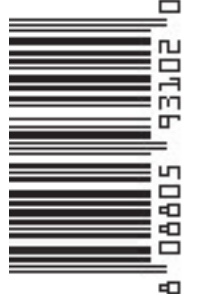
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**IN THIS ISSUE:**

Obituaries . . . . . 2	Puzzles/Dear Abby . . . 6
Local Record . . . . . 2	Comics . . . . . 7
Weather . . . . . 2	NASCAR . . . . . 8
Morning Rush . . . . . 3	Classifieds . . . . . 9
Home How-to . . . . . 3	Sports . . . . . 10
Viewpoints . . . . . 4	



## PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Wednesday	Thursday
 50%		
High 82 Low 61	High 90 Low 65	High 92 Low 69

**Today:**  
A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Cloudy, with a high near 82. North northeast wind around 10 mph.

**Tonight:**  
Mostly cloudy, with a low around 61. Northeast wind 5 to 15 mph.

**Wednesday:**  
Mostly sunny, with a high near 90. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

**Wednesday Night:**  
Partly cloudy, with a low around 65. South southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

**Thursday:**  
Mostly sunny, with a high near 92. South wind 5 to 10 mph.

**Thursday Night:**  
Mostly clear, with a low around 69. South southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

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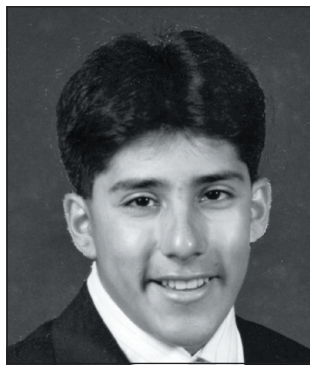
# Obituaries

## Christopher W. Perez, 40

Christopher W. Perez, 40, died Saturday, July 7, 2012, in Pampa.

Rosary will be at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 11, 2012, at Carmichael-Whately Colonial Chapel, and memorial mass will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, July 12, 2012, at St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church, with Rev. Arockia Raj, associate pastor, officiating.

Entombment will be at Memory Gardens Mausoleum under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral



Perez

Directors.

Mr. Perez was born December 23, 1971, in Colorado Springs, Colo. Christopher graduated from Pampa High school in 1990. He earned his Associates Degree from Amarillo College in electronics. Christopher later attended the university of Houston working towards his computer engineering degree. He was a very loving son, brother and uncle. Christopher was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, William and Mary Perez and maternal grandfather. Mauro Perez.

Survivors include his parents, John and Jane Perez of the home; a brother, John Perez and wife Micki of Liberal, Kan.; one nephew, Xavier Perez of Liberal, Kan.; grandmother, Mary Perez of Lakin, Kan.; and numerous aunts and uncles.

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

## For the record

### Sheriff's Office

The Gray County Sheriff's Office reported the following arrests for the 72 hour period ending Monday, July 9 at 7 a.m.  
Friday, July 6  
Amanda Ruth Douglas,

31, was arrested by police for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Brady Mason-Woofe Williams, 17, was arrested by deputies on a Roberts County warrant for aggravated sexual assault.

Eric Newton Connell, 30, was arrested by deputies on a warrant for sexual assault of a child.

Danny Guy Smith, 55, was arrested by police for public intoxication.

Cody William Hopson, 29, was arrested by police on warrants for possession of a controlled substance and no valid driver's license.

Ebony Mariah Kirven, 17, was arrested by police on a charge of theft under \$50 and warrants for failure to attend school proceedings and failure to appear in court.

Shealeigh Lambright, 20, was arrested by police for theft under \$50.

Christian Edward Bruce, 32, was arrested by police on a charge of public intoxication and on warrants for criminal trespassing and assault causing bodily injury.

Robert Louis Ott Jr., 42, was arrested by police for driving while intoxicated.

Saturday, July 7  
Bradley Coleman Tram-

mell, 21, was arrested by DPS officers for driving while intoxicated.

Joshua Don Brown, 24, was arrested by DPS officers for driving while intoxicated.

Keenan Wyatt Odell, 17, was arrested by DPS officers on capias pro fine warrants.

Salvador Garcia, 30, was arrested by DPS officers for driving while intoxicated.

Arnoldo Armendariz Castillo, 50, was arrested by DPS officers for driving while intoxicated.

Sunday, July 8

Rebecca Ann Davila Urtutia, 31, was arrested by DPS officers for driving while intoxicated.

Jimmy Darrell Downs Jr., 49, was arrested by DPS officers for driving while intoxicated.

Hugh Mikeal French, 18, was arrested by police on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, no driver's license and no insurance.

David Vincent Gomez, 32, was arrested by deputies on a probation violation.

Dale Lee Stover, 37, was arrested by DPS officers for driving while intoxicated.

Trevor Jay Graham, 34, was arrested by police on a

capias pro fine warrant.

## Police Department

The Pampa Police Department reported the following incidents for the 72 hour period ending Monday, July 9 at 7 a.m.

The Pampa PD reported 45 traffic-related incidents.

Animal Control and the Pampa PD reported 26 animal-related incidents.

Pampa EMS, the Pampa Fire Department and the Lefors Volunteer EMS responded to 15 medical calls.

Friday, July 6  
A theft occurred at the 1300 block of North Hobart.

Suspicious persons were reported at the 2800 block of Perryton and the 2200 block of Dogwood.

A hit and run occurred at the 500 block of North Faulkner.

A theft occurred at the 2800 block of North Charles.

An offense against family and children occurred at the 600 block of Magnolia.

A suspicious person was reported at the 400 block of South Gray.

A violation of city ordinance occurred at the 1800 block of North Banks, the 1100 block of North Williston and the intersection of Crane and Rosewood.

A suspicious person was reported at Montagu and Russell.

A grass fire occurred at Frederic and Henry.

Disorderly conduct occurred at Beryl and Tyng.

An accident occurred at the 300 block of South Jean.

A violation of city ordinance occurred at the 500 block of North Red Deer and the 1300 block of North Williston.

A suspicious vehicle was reported at the 1400 block of South Barnes.

A domestic disturbance occurred at the 700 block of North Somerville.

A suspicious person was reported at Faulkner and Banks

(continued on Wednesday)

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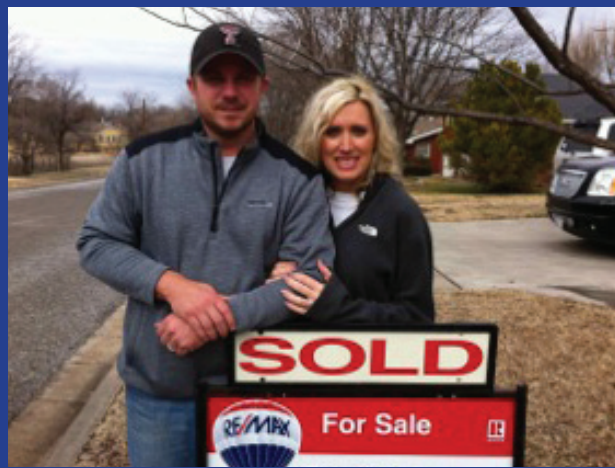
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# MORNINGRUSH

## Perry: Medicaid a failure

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas Gov. Rick Perry is calling Medicaid a failure as he defends his decision to oppose any expansion of the program as part of the national health-care overhaul.

Perry told Fox News Monday that adding uninsured Texans to Medicaid — as proposed by the overhaul recently upheld by the Supreme Court — “is not unlike adding a thousand people to the Titanic.” He says Texas won’t participate in the expansion or create a health care exchange required by the law.

He says every Texan is able “to have access to health care” and the state should get to decide how to pay for it.

The state has more than 6.2 million uninsured people.

Perry announced he would oppose an insurance exchange and a Medicaid expansion in a letter Monday.

## TxDOT: Future funding bleak

AUSTIN (AP) — A top official at the Texas Department of Transportation says the future of transportation funding in Texas is bleak because of aging highways, shrinking tax revenues and inflation.

James Bass testified before the House Appropriations and Transportation Committees, which is reviewing the problems they’ll face when the Legislature meets again next year.

Lawmakers fund Texas highways with a combination of federal money, fuel taxes, government bonds and contracts with private companies. But lawmakers have not raised fuel taxes since 1993 and more fuel efficient vehicles means revenues are not keeping up. Privately-operated toll roads have also become unpopular.

Bass discussed another options to improve highway funding by adjusting the fuel tax. He said under the current system, transportation funding will become a critical problem in 2015.

## State mulls prison care changes

AUSTIN (AP) — Additional cuts to the health care system for Texas prison inmates could make it unconstitutional.

In testimony to the Senate Finance Committee Monday, doctors responsible for managing inmate care said they did not know how they could make further cuts.

Last month, Gov. Rick Perry asked state agencies to offer proposed budgets that cut present spending by 10 percent. Lawmakers already cut state spending by \$15 billion last year.

Experts also told senators that there is little the state can do to tap federal Medicaid funds to cover the costs of caring for prisoners.

Some lawmakers have proposed allowing private companies to provide prisoner care.

Texas lawmakers are holding hearings on a variety of topics to be ready in January, when the Legislature will meet again and begin passing laws.

## Temple issues disaster declaration

TEMPLE (AP) — A storm-related water system problem for a Central Texas city has eased but a boil water notice remains in effect.

Officials in Temple on Monday announced water conservation measures also remain.

Storms on Saturday night led to a power outage at Temple’s water treatment plant.

Residents of the city of about 66,000 were advised Sunday morning to boil water for drinking, cooking and making ice. Mayor William Jones issued a disaster declaration and residents were told to discontinue all city supplied-water use.

Storage tanks are being replenished. Levels improved Monday to allow the disaster declaration to be dropped. Stage 3 water restrictions remain in place for irrigation of landscaped areas.

Officials had no timeline for when the boil water advisory will end.

## Dallas officer fired for false claim

DALLAS (AP) — A Dallas police officer has been fired for allegedly lying to a fellow officer about having his foot run over during a traffic stop.

A police statement said Dallas Police Chief David Brown fired Eric Watts Monday. Police say that in an attempt to pull over a speeding motorist who had initially failed to stop, Watts got out of his vehicle, drew his weapon and demanded the driver get out of the car. Watts told others that the driver ran over his foot as he sped away.

The driver was arrested and charged with aggravated assault on a public servant, but police say dash cam video showed Watts was lying.

# Long-term care insurance takes a hit

TERRY SAVAGE  
Creator’s Syndicate



It’s happening again. Another long-term care insurance company is limiting the coverage it will offer in the future. While other insurers have raised premiums, Genworth has just announced that it will suspend offering some of its most appealing policy options. The changes will take place after July 29.

So, if you have been procrastinating about purchasing long-term care insurance, you have only until the end of July to get some of the best deals around.

Here’s what Genworth will no longer offer:

— Lifetime coverage: This feature was especially attractive to those who have cognitive diseases, such as Alzheimer’s, in their family history. The need for care in these cases often lasts longer than the typical three-year policy. In the future, Genworth will offer a maximum 10-year benefit period.

— 10-pay policies: These policies are the most attractive for those who can afford to make 10 larger payments in order to have a fully paid-up policy. With no payments after the 10-year period, there are no worries about future premium increases. I have been advocating these policies for years.

— 40 percent spousal/partner discounts: This feature makes policies cost-effective for couples

and encourages both partners to be insured. Of course, it also is costly for insurers. Genworth will lower the premium discount to only 20 percent in states as they are approved.

For those who apply in the future, there will be more stringent health inquiries — and people may be denied coverage if they have had Social Security disability in the past five years, suffer from schizophrenia or have a combination of smoking and certain heart conditions. Also, future applications will require completion of a section on family medical history.

And as a sign that it is no longer encouraging insurance agents to book any long-term care business with Genworth, the company is lowering its commissions to agents.

All of these changes are a reaction to the fact that earlier this year, Genworth imposed only moderate premium increases on existing policyholders, while other insurers such as John Hancock raised premiums as much as 95 percent. As a result, brokers started directing a flood of business to Genworth — forcing the company to act quickly.

“With these changes, Genworth is positioning itself for greater stabil-

ity, future growth and remaining an industry leader,” said Steve Zabel, senior vice president of long-term care insurance for Genworth.

Brian Gordon, president of MAGA LTC, (800) 533-6242, an agency devoted solely to LTC insurance sales, understands the need for change.

“Insurance companies need to make responsible business decisions in order to pay the promised benefits,” Gordon said. “But LTC coverage is still the only way to mitigate the risk of spending all your assets on long-term care, leaving nothing for a spouse or your heirs.”

And if you run out of money for care, you will be relying on the state Medicaid program, which is already badly underfunded.

Long-term care insurance is an important part of retirement planning. In fact, it has been such a good deal for consumers that the insurance companies are stepping back.

So, if you’ve been planning to buy a policy, don’t procrastinate. This good deal is slipping away. And that’s The Savage Truth.

*Terry Savage is a registered investment adviser and is on the board of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. She appears weekly on WMAQ-Channel 5’s 4:30 p.m. newscast, and can be reached at www.terrysavage.com. She is the author of the new book, “The New Savage Number: How Much Money Do You Really Need to Retire?”*

# Mexico says Border Patrol shot national

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A Mexican citizen has been fatally shot by U.S. Border Patrol agents on the border with Texas in an incident that the Mexican government is calling a disproportionate use of force.

The Border Patrol said Saturday that agents had opened fire along the Rio Grande on the Texas-Mexico border after being pelted by rocks and having a gunman point a weapon in their direction from the Mexican side of the river. The agency said it did not know if anyone else was hurt, but the FBI was investigating.

The Mexican Foreign Ministry said late Sunday that a citizen had been killed by a gunshot fired by a U.S. agent at the Los Tomates-Veterans international bridge. It did not identify the victim or provide details about the incident. Mexico said its consulate in Brownsville had sent U.S. authorities a message demanding an exhaustive investigation without regard to the consequences.

“The Mexican government has said once again that the disproportionate use of force for purposes of immigration enforcement is unacceptable under any circumstances,” the Foreign Ministry said.

Juana Maria Soto of Matamoros said her brother, 30-year-old Juan Pablo Perez Soto, was shot and killed by a Border Patrol agent Saturday morning. She said she had received little information, but she believes her brother was on the Mexican river bank cutting firewood and said she understood that the agent crossed to the Mexican side to shoot him.

Border Patrol spokesman Henry Mendiola said Monday that the incident remains under investigation and they have not confirmed that someone was shot, but he disputed any suggestion that agents crossed the border into Mexico.

“Our agents are not going to go into Mexico to neutralize something like this,” Mendiola said.

He said Border Patrol agents came upon a group of people on the U.S. side **SHOOTING** cont. on page 8

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# Viewpoints

## Today in History

Today is Tuesday, July 10, the 192nd day of 2012. There are 174 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlights in History:

On July 10, 1962, AT&T's Telstar 1 communications satellite, capable of relaying television signals and telephone calls, was launched by NASA from Cape Canaveral. President John F. Kennedy signed the All-Channel Receiver Act, which required that new TV sets be capable of receiving UHF (ultra-high frequency) channels 14 through 83 in addition to VHF (very high frequency) channels 2 through 13.

### On this date:

In 1509, theologian John Calvin, a key figure of the Protestant Reformation, was born in Noyon, Picardy, France.

In 1890, Wyoming became the 44th state.

In 1919, President Woodrow Wilson personally delivered the Treaty of Versailles to the Senate, and urged its ratification. (However, the Senate rejected it.)

In 1929, American paper currency was reduced in size as the government began issuing bills that were approximately 25 percent smaller.

In 1940, during World War II, the Battle of Britain began as Nazi forces began attacking southern England by air. (The Royal Air Force was ultimately victorious.)

In 1951, armistice talks aimed at ending the Korean War began at Kaesong.

In 1961, Mildred E. Gillars, also known as "Axis Sally," was paroled from a federal prison in West Virginia after serving 11 years for treason for her propaganda broadcasts from Nazi Germany during World War II.

In 1973, the Bahamas became fully independent after three centuries of British colonial rule.

In 1985, the Greenpeace protest ship Rainbow Warrior was sunk with explosives in Auckland, New Zealand by French intelligence agents; one activist was killed. Bowing to pressure from irate customers, the Coca-Cola Co. said it would resume selling old-formula Coke, while continuing to sell New Coke.

In 1991, Boris N. Yeltsin took the oath of office as the first elected president of the Russian republic. President George H.W. Bush lifted economic sanctions against South Africa.

In 1992, a New York jury found Pan Am guilty of willful misconduct and responsible for allowing a terrorist bomb to destroy Flight 103 in 1988, killing 270 people, opening the way for civil lawsuits.

**Ten years ago:** The House approved, 310-113, a measure to allow airline pilots to carry guns in the cockpit to defend their planes against terrorists (President George W. Bush later signed the measure into law). A unified Senate approved harsh new penalties for corporate fraud and document-shredding (however, the legislation was never enacted).

**Five years ago:** China executed the former head of its food and drug agency for approving untested medicine in exchange for cash. A judge in Los Angeles sentenced pizza deliveryman Chester Turner to death for murdering 10 women and a fetus during the 1980s and '90s. The American League defeated the National League 5-4 in the All-Star game. Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Doug Marlette, 57, died in an auto accident near Holly Springs, Miss.

**One year ago:** The space shuttle Atlantis docked with the International Space Station, the final such hookup in orbit. An overloaded cruise vessel sank in Russia's Volga River, killing 122 people. Some 70 people were killed when a train derailed in northern India. Britain's best-selling Sunday tabloid the News of the World, brought down by a phone-hacking scandal, signed off with a simple front page message, "THANK YOU & GOODBYE." Acclaimed French choreographer Roland Petit, 87, died in Geneva.

**Today's Birthdays:** Former boxer Jake LaMotta is 91. Writer-producer Earl Hamner Jr. is 89. Former New York City Mayor David N. Dinkins is 85. Actor William Smithers is 85. Broadway composer Jerry Herman is 81. Director Ivan Passer is 79. Actor Lawrence Pressman is 73. Singer Mavis Staples is 73. Actor Mills Watson is 72. Actor Robert Pine is 71. Rock musician Jerry Miller (Moby Grape) is 69. International Tennis Hall of Famer Virginia Wade is 67. Actor Ron Glass is 67. Actress Sue Lyon is 66. Folk singer Arlo Guthrie is 65. Rock musician Dave Smalley is 63. Country-folk singer-songwriter Cheryl Wheeler is 61. Rock singer Neil Tennant (Pet Shop Boys) is 58. Banjo player Bela Fleck is 54. Country musician Shaw Wilson (BR549) is 52. Country singer-songwriter Ken Mellons is 47. Rock musician Peter DiStefano (Porno for Pyros) is 47. Actor Gale Harold is 43. Country singer Gary LeVox (Rascal Flatts) is 42. Actor Aaron D. Spears is 41. Actress Sofia Vergara is 40. Rockabilly singer Imelda May is 38. Actor Adrian Grenier is 36. Actress Gwendoline Yeo is 35. Actor Thomas Ian Nicholas is 32. Singer-actress Jessica Simpson is 32. Rock musician John Spiker is 31. Actress Heather Hemmens is 28.

**Thought for Today:** "One must choose in life between boredom and suffering." — Germaine de Staël, French author (1766-1817).



## One nation under government, not God

When Barack Obama promised to "fundamentally transform the United States" we could not have anticipated the extreme transformations he would seek. The evidence is rolling in that he is determined to transform America into a totally secular land where religion is permitted only within the walls of a church and is banned in every public place, public gathering and public school.

Obama tipped us off to his animosity toward religious Americans when, campaigning in San Francisco in 2008, he insulted religious people in small towns. He said, they "get bitter, they cling to guns or religion or antipathy to people who aren't like them or anti-immigrant sentiment or anti-trade sentiment as a way to explain their frustrations."

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In April 2009, Obama delivered a speech at Georgetown University, only after his staff had pressured the Catholic college to conceal the monogram for the name of Jesus that was always displayed above the podium. In May 2009, he cancelled the traditional White House event honoring the National Day of Prayer, saying that he would pray only in private.

Obama began censoring religious words out of important American documents, such as the Declaration of Independence, from which he many times deleted the word "Creator." In a November 2010, speech, Obama pretended to quote the U.S. national motto, "In God We Trust," but he changed it to "e pluribus unum" (out of many, one).

When Obama gave the traditional Presidential Thanksgiving Day address in 2011, it's not clear whom he was thanking on this uniquely American holiday, but it was not God.

Barack Obama is trying to morph our traditional religious liberty to the lesser scope of freedom of worship. That means worship only inside a church, or maybe a synagogue, but not any public affirmation of belief in God.

In July 2011, Obama's Department



PHYLLIS SCHLAFLY

of Veterans Affairs banned any mention of Jesus Christ during burials at Houston National Cemetery. The ban was lifted only after hundreds of demonstrators protested.

In September 2011, the U.S. Army revised guidelines for Walter Reed Hospital to read: "No religious items (i.e., Bibles, reading materials...) are allowed to be given away or used during a visit." The hospital rescinded this policy only after Congressman Steve King, R-Iowa, reported it to the House of Representatives.

In February 2012, the Air Force removed the Latin word for God, Dei, from the logo of the Rapid Capabilities Office, and it was also removed the Latin motto, which means "Doing God's Work With Other People's Money." The new logo says, "Doing Miracles with Other People's Money."

Also in February 2012, the U.S. Army warned Catholic chaplains not to read from an archbishop's letter opposing the Obama administration's mandate that all employers, including religious hospitals, schools and colleges, must pay for abor-

tificatives drugs, contraceptives and sterilizations for their employees. People were shocked by the military order telling chaplains what they cannot say to members of their own faith during a religious service.

A prime example of Obama's hostility to religion is the Supreme Court case of Hosanna-Tabor Evangelical Lutheran Church and School v. EEOC, in which the Obama administration challenged the longtime religious exemption that prevents politicians from controlling the hiring and firing of employees of religious institutions. The church had fired one of its minister/teachers,

and she sued to get her job back.

With the help of Obama's Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, EEOC, this case got up to the U.S. Supreme Court. Obama's lawyer made the astonishing argument that the federal government could force the Lutheran church to rehire her, but the Obama administration's case was so ludicrous that in January 2012 it lost 9 to 0.

Obama's first judicial appointment, David Hamilton, had worked for the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now as a fundraiser, as vice president for litigation for Indiana's American Civil Liberties Union branch and was known for blocking pro-life and pro-decency laws. Even the left-leaning American Bar Association called him "not qualified."

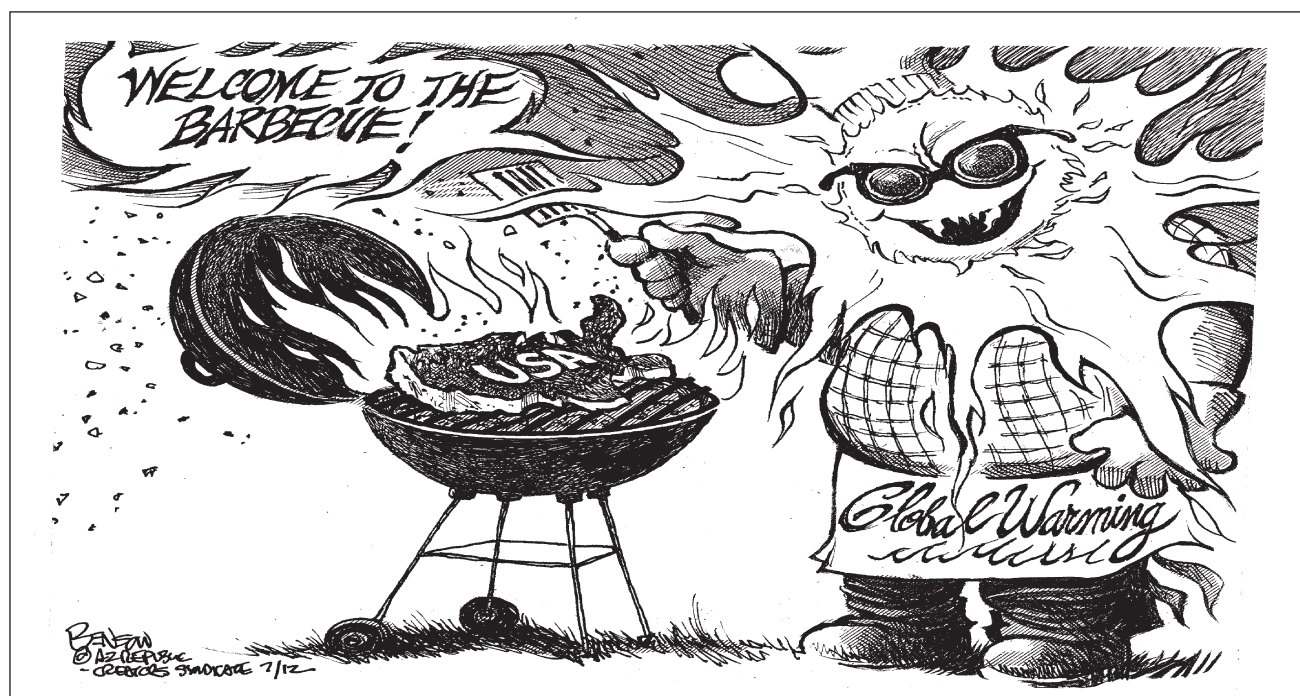
Hamilton was most noteworthy as a district court judge for striking down a prayer in 2005 used in the Indiana Legislature that mentioned Jesus Christ and ordering the Indiana Legislature to "refrain from using Christ's name or title or any other denominational appeal." At the same time, Hamilton stated that it is permissible for the Legislature to use the word "Allah."

After that, President Obama promoted David Hamilton to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit.

Another ACLU-type judicial appointment made by President Obama was federal Judge Michael Urbanski. He suggested in court that the Ten Commandments be censored down to six commandments in order to make the posting of the commandments legal under the First Amendment.

Barack Obama has a record of hostility to religion that we have never before seen in any American president.

*Phyllis Schlafly is a lawyer, conservative political analyst and author of 20 books. She is the co-author, with George Neumayr, of a new book released this month titled "No Higher Power: Obama's War on Religious Freedom."*



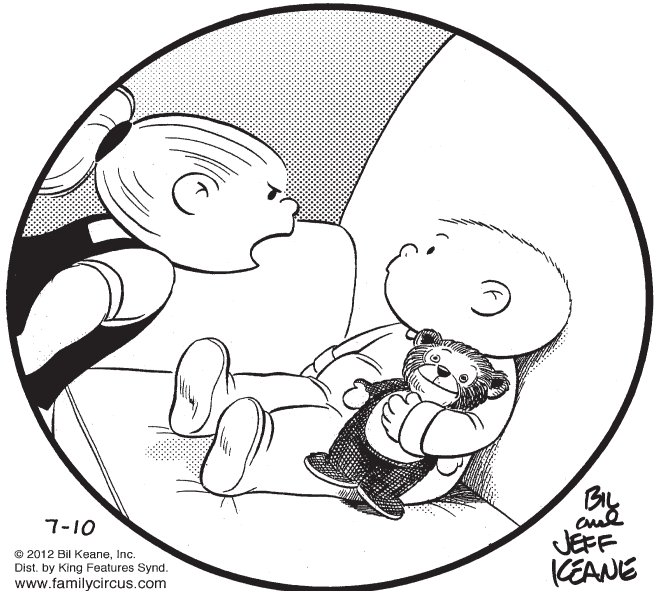
## We welcome your letters

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.

# comics PAGE

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



7-10

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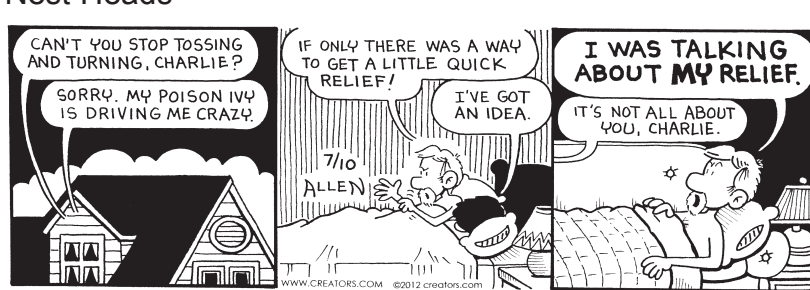
BIL AND JEFF KEANE

**"Stop sitting there looking so cute! It bugs me!"**

### Non Sequitur



### Nest Heads



# daily horoscope

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Wednesday, July 11, 2012:

You are often so determined to achieve a goal that you push yourself to the point of exhaustion. As a result, sometimes your best ideas go up in flames. Learn to pace yourself, and many dreams could become realities. You will expand your circle of friends and even more possibilities. If you are single, you could meet someone intense and appealing. Be careful; this person could be emotionally unavailable. If you are attached, the two of you can achieve one of your life desires if you remain focused. **TAURUS** points the way.

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)

★★★★ Move forward with a project early on in the morning. You could find that others are very serious, especially a key person in your life. You might be more upset than you realize and need to have a heart-to-heart talk. Follow your instincts. Tonight: Treat someone to his or her favorite dessert.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ As bad as you can be, you also are capable of being just as good. Keep reaching out for someone who might need your time. By late afternoon, others will not be able to resist you to the same level. Tonight: Beam in what you want.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Take a hint from Aries, and make your morning and midday count. You will want to retreat to your private world as day becomes night. You could do research and catch up on emails, but the reality is that you very much want to maintain a low profile. Tonight: Not to be found.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Your natural beat is right-on. You start out on top of your game, ready to deal with others. Your confidence carries you far -- so much so that you have reason to celebrate. A meeting could be very important. Enjoy the social ramifications. Tonight: Where the maddening crowds are.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Explore alternatives for as long as you need to. You might want to do some research until you are confident about your choice. Do not close off this process until you are sure of yourself.

Others tend to look to you for leadership. Tonight: A must statement.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You are smart to relate directly to one individual at a time. You'll see the difference it makes. You might feel short on confidence, funds or talent. Don't worry -- this phase will be ending in the next few months. Tonight: Let your imagination take the lead.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ It's all about others right now. You can barely have a complete conversation without a knock on the door, a phone call or some other type of interruption. You could feel down that you cannot accomplish everything you want to. Tonight: Be with a favorite person.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Clear out as much as you can before you decide to socialize or even have an extended conversation. Once you decide to change venues, you might find it difficult to return to your starting point. Make sure you are ready to move on before you do. Tonight: Out and about.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You cannot contain your creativity, but you can choose not to share all your ideas all the time. Someone seems to close down whenever this type of discussion emerges. Let go, and relax with the moment. Tonight: Run errands and go to the gym.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Getting going could be a bit challenging. Why not put your feet up and relax? You cannot keep pushing yourself so hard, which is why there is an issue right now. Make fun plans later today where you can recycle your energy. Tonight: Let the fun begin.

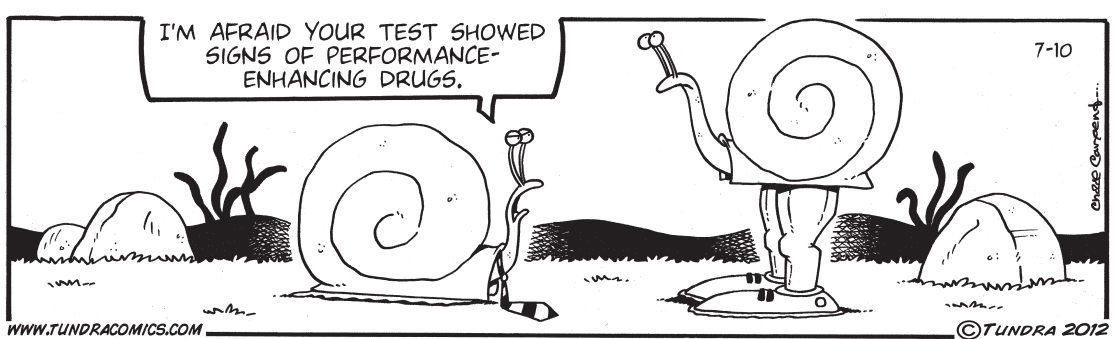
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You choose the right words, even if you might not get the reaction you would like. There are some situations you cannot change, and you certainly cannot change someone else's reaction. Let go of an implicit demand. Tonight: Head home.

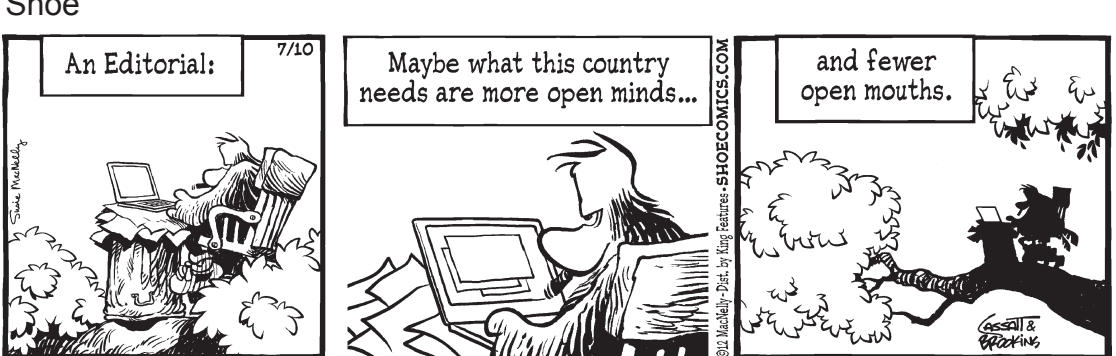
**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Handle a money situation as quickly as possible before it handles you. You might want to speak to someone in the know. You express yourself directly and with clarity. Others will get the gist of your thoughts. Tonight: Hang out with friends.

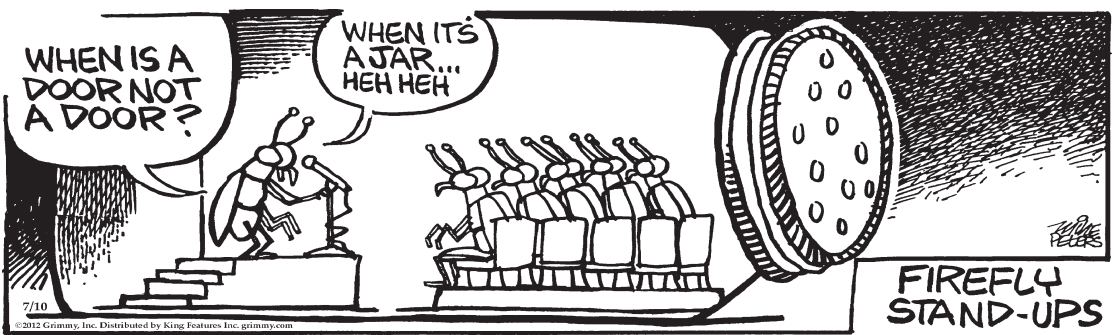
### Tundra



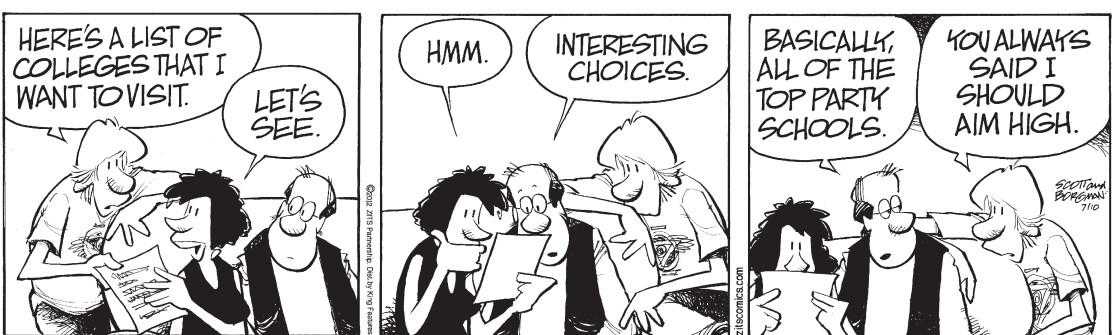
### Shoe



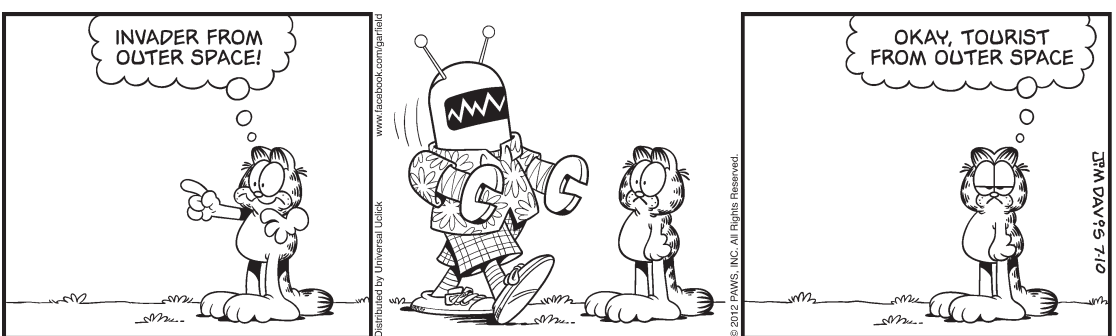
### Mother Goose and Grim



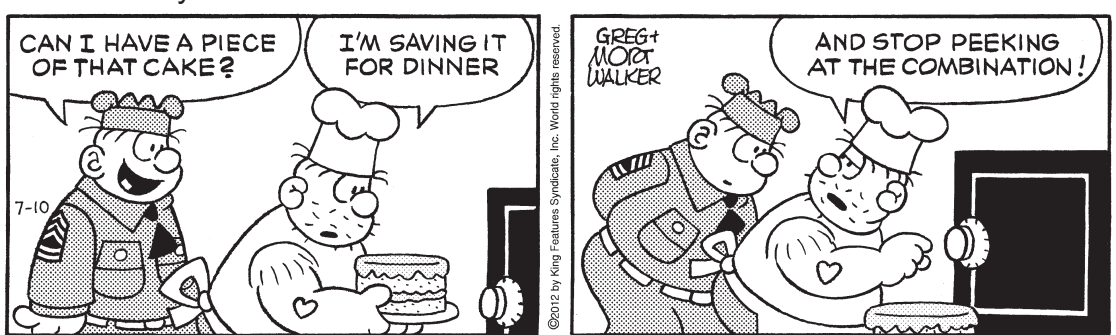
### Zits



### Garfield



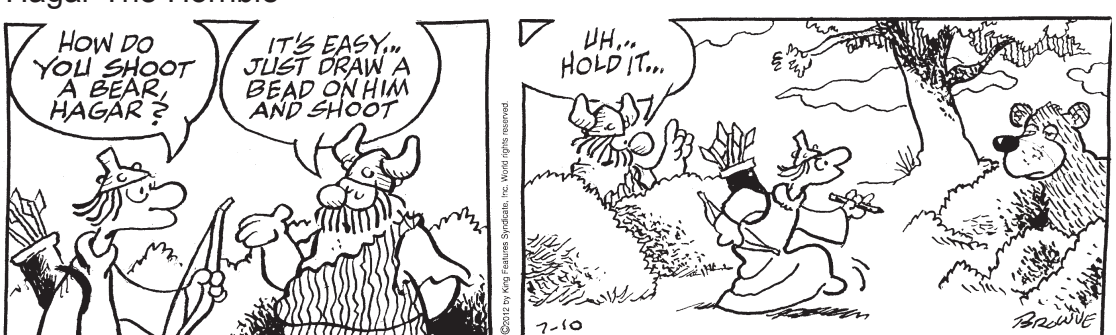
### Beetle Bailey



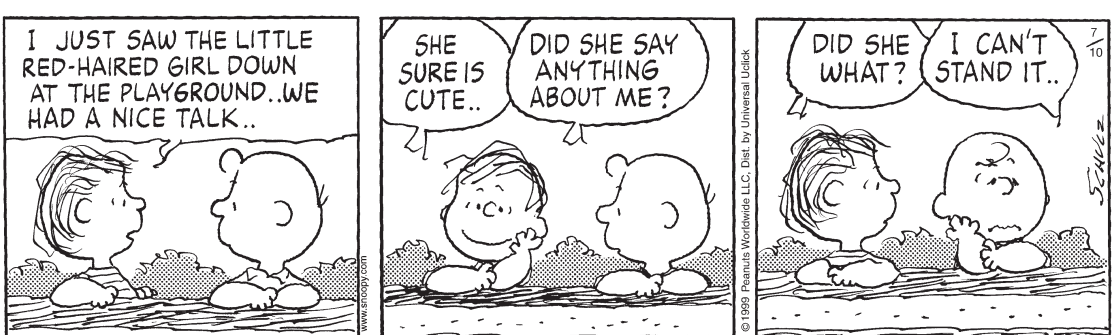
### Marvin



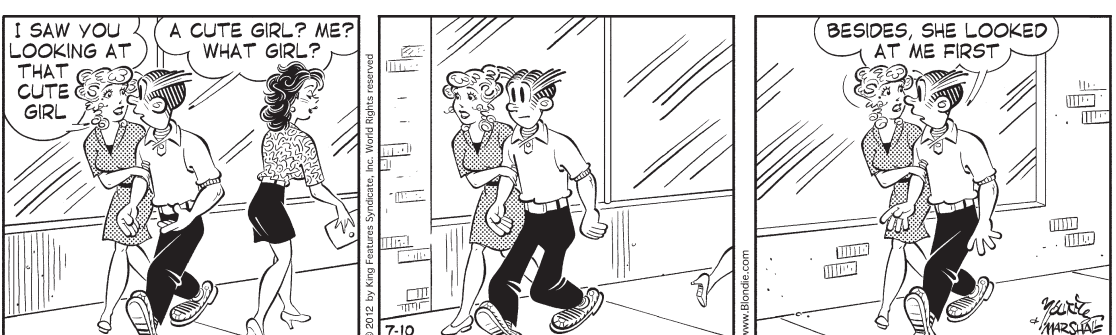
### Hagar The Horrible



### Peanuts



### Blondie





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Asking Pay-Off \$24,400  
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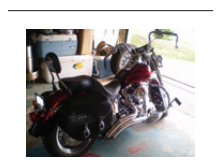
### 122 Motorcycles

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Less than 1600 miles, custom paint, lowered. 300 rear tire. Lots of chrome, alarm system, custom spare seat. Too many extras to list! Bought last summer from dealer. One Owner.

Almost \$30k Invested Asking \$23k OBO Make me an offer! Must See!! Located in Pampa, TX Cell# 713-516-1309

**2000 Honda Valkyre Interstate**  
has:  
Faring  
Hard Bags  
Red & Black  
In  
Excellent Condition!  
\$7500  
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**1996 Polaris JetSki w/ Trailer**  
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Looks New!  
Asking \$2000  
Price includes: "Bun Buster" inner tube and tow rope, Slalom ski, 2 wet suits & 4 life jackets!!  
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## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- Friend of Porthos
  - Poet Khayyám
  - Bach creation
  - Mama's mate
  - Pugnacious
  - Clarifying words
  - Fish features
  - Sleeve end
  - Musical number
  - Leave
  - Memorable period
  - Knightly address
  - Light metal
  - Moulin Rouge dance
  - Sunset site
  - Calendar span
  - Mardi Gras wear
  - Low point
  - Unfeeling
  - Vaccine variety
  - Come into view
  - Cartoon skunk — Le Pew
  - Servile follower
- DOWN**
- Fire remnant
  - Milne youngster
  - Tiny worker
  - Winning at chess
  - Articles
  - Identical
  - Become chatty
  - Spoil
  - Big galoot
  - "Far out, man!"
  - Harness race horse
  - Raid
  - Ridiculous
  - Mythical trio

T	A	M	P	A		K	N	A	V	E
A	L	O	E	S		N	O	M	A	D
R	E	P	A	Y		E	W	I	N	G
			J	E	T	E		D	E	E
F	A	N	A	T	I	C	S			
A	L	E	C		M	A	K	E	R	S
S	T	A	K	E		P	I	X	I	E
T	O	T	E	M	S		J	A	D	E
			T	I	E	G	A	M	E	S
B	A	T		N	A	R	C			
A	M	A	Z	E		A	K	R	O	N
R	E	C	O	N		S	E	I	N	E
S	N	O	O	T		S	T	O	O	D

### Yesterday's answer

- Check for weapons
- Short time
- Cacophony
- Blasting stuff
- Singer McLachlan
- Raid
- Ridiculous
- Mythical trio
- Home of the Marlins
- Judge
- Force member
- Vein yield
- Pet perch
- Numerical prefix
- Sense of self
- Animal's lair

**NEW CROSSWORD BOOK!** Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10
11							12			
13						14				
			15							
	16	17				18		19	20	
21						22				23
24				25				26		
27			28					29		
	30						31			
34	35	36						37	38	39
40										
42							43			

7-10

**Happy Ads Are Now Available!**  
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for **FREE**

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## Sudokus

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Beginner

## BANANAGRAMS!

Each set of letters is arranged alphabetically. The ? is in the correct alphabetical position.

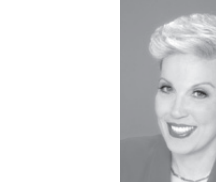
LEVEL

Figure out what letter the ? represents and rearrange the letters to spell a six-letter word that ends with the given letter. For example, in A?ENTV, the ? could be an A, B, C, D or E. Here it represents a D, which can be combined with the other letters to spell ADVENT.

A E G I ? N      A A H P ? Y  
E                      A                     

B I ? R S T      A E E G S ?  
B                      S                     

Yesterday's Answer: ARMADA, CANOLA, BEFALL, MARINA



## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am a longtime reader. This is the first time I have ever written to you, and I'm hoping you will have an answer for me. I'd like to know the proper way to address a surviving gay spouse in the unfortunate event of a death.

Is a gay man who has lost his husband a widower or a widow (seeing as he lost his husband and not a wife)? Is the title of the survivor dependent on his or her gender or the gender of their partner?

I'm only 29 and I hope I won't have to use this information for many years, but I'd like to know the proper terminology. For the record, I support gay marriage because I believe in true love in all its forms. — HANNAH IN CARROLLTON, GA.

DEAR HANNAH: Regardless of sexual orientation, if a male loses his spouse, he is a widower, and if a woman loses her spouse, she is a widow. The terms don't change because the union was a same-sex relationship.

DEAR ABBY: I was diagnosed with bipolar disorder many years ago. I started a combined therapy about a year ago — individual and a dialectical behavioral therapy group. Everything has been going great, and I have learned a lot about myself. The problem is, I have become very attracted to my therapist and, as a result, I feel it is interfering with my treatment.

Lately, my only interest in going to group or therapy is to see him and be in his presence. I also find myself canceling group if I know he won't be there.

I am confused as to why I am having these feelings. Is it part of my bipolar disorder, or something else? Surely, this would be something I would bring up to my therapist, but unfortunately, I'm embarrassed.

Abby, what do you suggest I do in a situation like this? I feel like putting a hold on therapy for a while because of this, but I know that I still need it. — NEEDS THERAPY IN ILLINOIS

DEAR NEEDS THERAPY: Please don't use this as an excuse to stop your therapy. Your feelings are very common in psychotherapy. The term for it is "transference." It is the process by which emotions associated with one person — such as a parent — unconsciously shift to another. In your case, that's your therapist.

Because you're finding it distracting, it's important that you discuss this privately with your therapist. It won't be the first time he has heard it, I guarantee. I'll bet if you asked in a group session, "How many people here are in love with Dr. So-and-So?" almost every hand in the room would go up.

DEAR ABBY: My husband makes his living doing general construc-

tion. We have no employees. We get along fantastic, except for one point of contention.

Over the years we have made investments in tools for his trade. Another family member constantly asks to borrow them for personal projects. My husband willingly lends them out. If he needs that tool for a job, he will go without, reschedule his work or make a special trip to retrieve it.

I say the only way he should lend out his tools is if there is a slim to zero chance at all of his needing it himself, and if he does, then it must be returned immediately.

Also, we are a paycheck-to-paycheck family and this family member is wealthy. These tools are our way of making a living, and we need to be ready for any job at a moment's notice. Please advise. — TOOLS OF THE TRADE

DEAR T.O.T.T.: Your husband appears to be a very nice person, but providing for his family should come first. His tools are his livelihood, just as those belonging to a barber, beautician, seamstress or doctor would be. Because his relative has the money, he (or she) should inquire about RENTING the necessary tool from a home improvement store, or search for "tool rentals" in the Yellow Pages or online.

# Texas House Speaker Straus calls for truth in budgeting

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas lawmakers should stop using an accounting practice that allows them to use balances in funds specially dedicated for other programs to balance the state's general revenue budget, Texas House Speaker Joe Straus said Monday.

The practice, known as funds consolidation, allows lawmakers to stockpile funds intended for programs such as improving hospital trauma care or helping poor people pay their utility bills and then using that money to balance the state budget. By law, the State Comptroller must certify that the budget is balanced every two years and lawmakers use a variety of accounting methods to achieve certification.

Straus spoke as a House Appropriations Subcommittee met to work on making the budget more transparent and to study transportation spending.

Straus said the current budget was balanced on \$4.9 billion of dedicated funds. As a result lawmakers, did not appropriate those special funds for their dedicated uses.

"The state collects millions of dollars each year through surcharges to repeat traffic offenders and drunk drivers. That money is supposed to go for hospital trauma care, but much of it sits unspent so that it can be counted for budget certification," Straus told the committee. "We should make the budget more transparent by spending these fees toward their intended purposes or by not collecting them at all."

Last year, lawmakers used spending cuts and a variety of accounting tricks to balance the state budget. They cut more than \$4 billion in public education spending, pushed \$2 billion in education spending into next year's budget and underfunded Medicaid, the health care program for the poor and disabled, by \$4.8 billion.

Straus acknowledged that lawmakers will face growing public school and Medicaid costs in another difficult budget when they meet again next year, but he urged the subcommittee to develop a plan for the Legislature to wean itself off the funds consolidation accounting trick.

"In the end, Texans will have a budget that is fairer, simpler and more straightforward," Straus said. "The goal ... is to be more honest with the taxpayers and fee-payers in the state."

Rep. John Otto, a Republican vice chairman of the

House Ways and Means Committee, said he expected the Legislature would need to reduce the 20-year-old practice over time.

"We didn't get here overnight and we're not going to fix it overnight," Otto said. "I would at least hope that the House and the Senate will put a cap on it until we can get where we want to be."

Democratic Sen. Kirk Watson of Austin welcomed Straus' call to end the practice.

"Budget honesty and transparency are among the most important issues facing Texas today," Watson said. "Ending the diversion of dedicated money has ranked among my highest priorities since I was elected to the Senate, and I have repeatedly filed bills and amendments to end this practice."

In a second hearing later Monday, the subcommittee met with the Transportation Committee to address the shrinking budget for the state's highways and bridges. A large percentage of the transportation budget comes from fuel taxes, which have remained stagnant for the last 20 years

James Bass, chief financial officer at the Texas Department of Transportation, said that an aging transportation system, shrinking fuel tax revenues and inflation is hurting funding for the state's bridges and highways.

"We're in the era of uncertainty in 2015," Bass said.

The fuels tax could be indexed to inflation or to vehicle fuel inefficiency to make sure highway funding would remain stable, he said. Another option could also tax vehicles on how many miles they travel rather than the amount of fuel they purchase.

Bill Hammond, president of the Texas Association Business, said the state's growing population and business community needs better infrastructure, and that means raising more revenue.

"We've come today to support raising the vehicle registration fee by \$50 a vehicle," Hammond said. "We need to make a much stronger investment in our infrastructure needs."

Bass said that a committee asked to research the annual needs to the agency estimated Texas should be spending more than \$14 billion a year, while the Legislature only appropriates roughly \$10 billion for routine needs.

Rep. Joe Pickett pointed out that much of the Department of Transportation's budget is from government bonds, which require the agency to pay interest on the debt. Lawmakers have authorized the agency to take on \$17.3 billion in debt, which will cost \$31.1 billion to repay.

Since the agency is reaching its debt limit, Pickett asked at what point will the present bond funding for highway projects run out. Bass said most contracts will be awarded by the end of 2013 and there will be a major drop off in new projects after that.

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## Opening statements set stage for voter ID trial

WASHINGTON (AP) — The state of Texas and the Justice Department gave opening statements Monday in a trial over Texas' new voter ID law, setting the stage for a legal battle over the federal Voting Rights Act.

At issue is a 2011 law passed by Texas' GOP-

dominated Legislature that requires voters to show photo identification when they head to the polls. The state argued Monday that the law represents the will of the people and does not run afoul of the Voting Rights Act, passed in 1965 to ensure minorities' right to vote.

"Texas Democrats, like their national counterparts, have been wholly out of step with their constituents," said Adam Mortara, a lawyer representing Texas. "Voters want photo ID."

Mortara said the state's new statute is in line with similar laws that have cleared legal challenges

in Indiana and Georgia. He also said the Justice Department would not be able to prove that any voters — and particularly minority voters — would be hindered by the law.

"It's really quite difficult to find anyone who's registered to vote who doesn't already have a photo ID," he said during Texas' opening statement.

## PEDC

prevent it from occurring, but the probability is high that we will be very successful in having this (company) in our community," he said. "Everyone would like to have an absolute yes, but that's why it's an option period."

Pampa Fuels developed from G2X Energy, a subsidiary of Proman, an international engineering company. Should the deal go through, Pampa Fuels plans to construct a methanol unit, which would produce 75,000

metric tons per year and employ 146 permanent employees.

Methanol, a product of converted natural gas, can be used as an anti-freezing agent, but also as a liquid fuel. Several Chinese carmakers have already developed vehicles that can run on methanol fuel.

Ron Nelson added that the lease deal is contingent on Pampa Fuels obtaining an air permit for operation.

## Shooting

near the Saturday morning. They detained some while others retreated toward the river and began throwing rocks. One agent who was not able to escape the rocks fired toward the group, Mendiola said. At the same time, another agent at the scene saw a person across the river in Mexico point a rifle toward them. That agent fired across the river, Mendiola said.

Soto said her 14-year-old son was one of those detained by Border Patrol. She has not been able to speak with him, but said the Mexican consulate told her he was unharmed.

Mendiola said several people had been taken into custody but that he could not provide details about the suspects or charges they face.

Border Patrol agents seizing 4,000 pounds of marijuana in March got into a shootout with drug smugglers. In that incident, it also was not known whether anyone on the Mexican side was hit.

Last summer, authorities said Border Patrol agents and rangers with

the Texas Department of Public Safety exchanged about 300 rounds of gunfire with suspected drug smugglers. Officials said the suspects threw rocks at U.S. lawmen in that incident, too.

In 2010, a Border Patrol agent in El Paso shot and killed a 15-year-old Mexican boy across the Rio Grande. Investigators say the agent fired after being attacked by people throwing rocks.

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