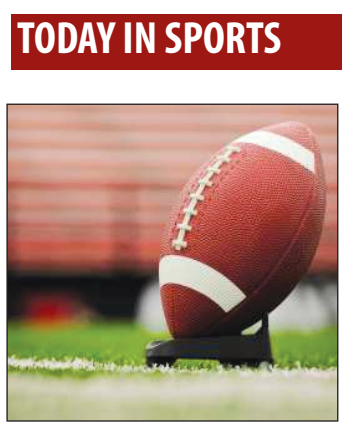


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# The PAMPA NEWS



Wednesday, October 2, 2013 www.thepampanews.com Volume 109 • No. 126

**75¢** The history of the Pioneer Cottage The latest column from Bill O' Reilly | p4  
 Local Pampa girl advances in NFL's Punt, Pass and Kick Dallas Cowboys prepare for Peyton and the red hot Broncos | p10



## Lake Meredith, Alibates closed with fed shutdown

Buildings are locked and roads barricaded.

By **TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE**  
 thowsare@thepampanews.com

With the partial shutdown of the federal government, don't even bother to log onto a national park website because all you'll get is a terse statement that all the parks are closed and all National Park Service websites are shut down. However, you will be

redirected to the U.S. Department of the Interior website.

And if you've got a boat, you'd probably be wasting your time towing it out to Lake Meredith this weekend for a cruise on the water.

As part of the shutdown, both the Lake Meredith National Recreation Area and the Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument west of Pampa are closed.

"The entire park is closed, the buildings, the boat docks, the recreation areas and the hiking trails," said Rozanna Pfeiffer, who

handles media relations for both areas. Pfeiffer said all the buildings will be locked and the roads will be barricaded.

"We will have a few law enforcement officers on duty for enforcement," she said. "All the parks will be doing this."

Pfeiffer and her coworkers were at the jobs Tuesday morning clearing out their desks and shutting down their computers, but were directed to be out of their offices by noon.

Pfeiffer said she and her staff have can-

**SHUTDOWN** cont. on page 2

File photo  
 A picture of Lake Meredith in February after one of the heavy snow falls.

## A DYNASTY OF STRONG FAMILIES



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare

Tralee Crisis Center Executive Director Dee Dee Laramore, far left, with members of her staff. From left, Connie Wildcat, Rhonda Hagan and Cinthia Perez. The two red figures in the background represent women from this area who died as victims of domestic violence.

### Tralee's Oct. 26 'Duck Dynasty' event includes a dinner with Miss Kay and Jep.

By **TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE**  
 thowsare@thepampanews.com

There's probably nobody who can cook duck better than Miss Kay, one of the personalities on the hugely popular "Duck Dynasty" reality show.

"We are not even going to try to make duck like Miss Kay," commented Dee Dee Laramore, executive director of the Tralee Crisis Center.

So the center will do its very best serving teriyaki chicken and rice for a dinner that will be held Saturday, Oct. 26 to precede an event called "Bringing Honor to the Table."

Miss Kay and Jep Robertson will be the featured guest speakers at the program, which will promote honorable men and strong family values as a front-line offense against domestic violence.

Since 1984, Tralee Crisis Center has provided comprehensive services to victims and survivors of family violence, sexual assault and other violent crimes in the eastern Panhandle.

"The Robertson family — crazy as they may seem in the television show — match perfectly with Tralee Crisis Center's goal of promoting honorable men and strong family values as a front-line offense against domestic violence," said Laramore, of the nonprofit agency.

"What impresses me most about the Robertsons is their honesty. They get into some outlandish predicaments in the show, but at the end, they always come to the table as family. Every meal begins with

a prayer, and there's a good moral to every story."

The dinner is scheduled at 6 p.m. in the M.K. Brown Memorial Auditorium Heritage Room and the speaking event follows at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

Tickets for the dinner and speaking event are \$100 and \$50 for the speaking event only. Preferred seating is included with the \$100 package.

Miss Kay and Jep will be attending the dinner and guests will have the opportunity to submit questions that will be passed on to the "Duck Dynasty" stars, Laramore said.

"Most of the questions will be answered during the event (after the dinner)," Laramore said.

Laramore added this is the biggest event Tralee has ever put on.

"We are very excited about this," she said.

Proceeds from this event will help enable Tralee to continue offering its services. Because the "Duck Dynasty" event is being held during the United Way's annual campaign, the crisis center cannot receive funds from the agency during 2014.

It is a nationwide policy of the United Way that a recipient agency cannot conduct a fundraiser of its own during a local campaign.

"We had to resign for the upcoming year," she said. "We had no control over when we could get 'Duck Dynasty.' We have committed so much to it. It has to succeed."

**TRALEE** cont. on page 2

## Car wash employee dies

Man falls into pit while cleaning car wash bay.

By **TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE**  
 thowsare@thepampanews.com

A 73-year-old Pampa man died Monday when he fell through a floor drain in one of the cleaning bays at Tay's Mighty Wash car wash and drowned.

Donnie Ray Renner, an employee of the car wash, was cleaning one of the bays and removed the metal grate over one of the drains to brush mud into the drain, said Brian Massey, a spokesman for the Pampa Police Department.

"He fell through the floor drain and got himself into a situation where he couldn't get out,"

**DEATH** cont. on page 2



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare

Tay's Mighty Wash on Foster Avenue where an employee died Monday afternoon.

## County approves PISD application for permanent school fund

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

The Gray County Commissioners Court held a special session Tuesday morning at 9 a.m. and voted to approve all items on the agenda.

After approving the payment of bills, the Commissioners considered a budget amendment to include insurance money coming in for vehicle repairs on a sheriff's deputy vehicle that was involved in a wreck in June.

Next, Commissioners considered the 2014 health benefits renewal 1627 waiver and granted Commissioner Gary Willoughby permission to replace an employee.

One of the more controversial topics on the meeting's agenda came up when the Commissioners were considering Pampa Independent School District's application for permanent school funds. This would not include Lefors and McLean, which are included in Gray County, but Commissioner Jeff Haley expressed some concern about whether or not all members of the school board are aware that the money is to be used for bonds and debt or permanent repairs, and the County

**COUNTY** cont. on page 2

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**IN THIS ISSUE:**  
 Obituaries ..... 3  
 Local Record ..... 3  
 Viewpoints ..... 4  
 Church Page ..... 5  
 Comics ..... 6  
 Classifieds ..... 7-9  
 Puzzles/Dear Abby... 9  
 Sports ..... 10





# A CUDDLE BLANKET TO AUCTION FOR



Photo by John Lee

Left, Altrusa President Kitty Hall, donated a blanket to Lori Byrne, right, and the Pampa Chamber of Commerce for the Country Fair live auction on Oct. 19.

# DUNKIN' THE CHIEF



Submitted photo

Brad Morse, Pampa Regional Medical Center CEO and 2013 Pampa United Way campaign chairman helped raise money by being Dunked at the hospital's week-long '70s-themed event last week. United Way's President Loyd Waters and Executive Administrator Jana Gregory got a little wet helping with the tank. Spectators and hospital staff all enjoyed a '70s style show, fun and food.

# Pa. student's Spider-Man robbery charge dropped

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Prosecutors dropped a robbery charge against a Pennsylvania college student who dressed as Spider-Man after a convenience store clerk testified he believed the incident was just a "silly mistake."

Jonathan Hewson, a 21-year-old senior finance and economics major at the University of Pittsburgh, was being released Tuesday from jail in Pittsburgh, where he has been held since shortly after his arrest Sept. 20, the Pittsburgh Tri-

bune-Review reported. That's when Pittsburgh police said Hewson entered the convenience store near the Pitt campus about 1:10 a.m. — dressed in the superhero costume — and asked, "How much money you got?"

# Text mistakenly sent to cop leads to arrest in NJ

SPARTA, N.J. (AP) — Authorities say a New Jersey man mistakenly

sent a text message to a police detective to set up a drug sale and now faces charges.

that night with an undercover police officer but fled when he became suspicious. Police soon stopped his vehicle, but the 33-year-old Delear refused to consent to his vehicle being searched.

Authorities say a detective received the text message on his new cellphone Friday night. The sender had said he had a quarter pound of marijuana for sale and wanted to meet at a pizza parlor.

Authorities obtained a warrant after a police dog detected drugs in the vehicle. They found four plastic bags containing marijuana and other paraphernalia.

Nicholas Delear Jr., of Sussex, met later

# Tralee

Continued From Page 01

Laramore said the agency provides a shelter for abused women and children at an undis-

closed location. Under certain circumstances, a man can stay at the shelter if he is the victim of a violent crime. The crisis center serves eight counties in the Panhandle — Carson, Childress, Collingsworth, Donley, Gray,

Hemphill, Roberts and Wheeler. Laramore said about 70 percent of the center's clients are from Pampa and Gray County. "It's a very serious thing," she said. For more information about Tralee Crisis

Center and services for violent crime victims, contact Tralee Crisis Center, 1-800-658-2796. For more information about "Bringing Honor to the Table" and business sponsorships, call the Tralee office at 806-669-1131.

# County

Continued From Page 01

Commissioners Court is bound under the constitution to abide by this stipulation. Superintendent Dr. David Young signed off on the letter of agreement stating that the money would be put to its proper use, and the court voted to approve the funding after some discussion. The court then approved

the Perry Lefors Airport hangar transfer of Lot 14 from Bill Robben to Chris Johnson and acknowledged the salaries of auditor's, assistant auditor's and court reporter's salaries. These employees' salaries were already included in the budget, and just needed to be put on record as having been observed by the court.

The Commissioners next approved advertising for requests for proposals (RFPs) for the following insurance: comprehensive general li-

ability; property; public officials' and employees' liability; airports — general liability, lessor's interest; heavy equipment floater; business auto insurance; county law enforcement professional liability coverage and workers' compensation.

Another topic the court spent some time discussing came when it was time to consider resolution for Gray County to become eligible to participate in tax abatement with Invenergy,

formerly Pioneer Green Energy. Although there is not currently an abatement, the approval meant that there is a possibility of conversation of one in the future. Haley was the only Commissioner to oppose this item on the agenda and stated that he believes everyone should have low taxes and he does not think it right to pick and choose who gets a break. Judge Peet explained why he voted in favor of considering this resolution stating that he does not want Gray

County to be perceived as a county that does not welcome big businesses to the area. Willoughby abstained from voting on this item due to the fact that the land in question is in his precinct. Closing items on the agenda included approving Justice of the Peace of Pre-

cinct 2 continuing education and the Constable Precinct 2 quarterly report.

The next County Commissions Court will be held at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 15 in the second floor courtroom of the Gray County Courthouse, 205 N. Russell St.

# Shutdown

Continued From Page 01

celebrated FlintFest 2013, a two-day educational event scheduled for this weekend on how alibates flint was used by Native Americans to make arrow heads and spear points. Pfeiffer said they would like to reschedule the event later this month, but that depends on what Congress de-

cides. "I hope they can come to a resolution," she said. In the nation's capital, "closed" signs and barricades sprang up early Tuesday at the Lincoln Memorial and other monuments, and the National Park Service was turning off 45 fountains around Washington D.C. The Smithsonian museums and the National Zoo were closed. Even the zoo's popular panda cam went dark, shut

off for the first time since a cub was born there Aug. 23. Agencies like NASA (except those essential to mission control supporting the International Space Station) and the Environmental Protection Agency were virtually shuttered. But people classified as essential government employees — such as air traffic controllers, Border Patrol agents and most food inspectors — continued to work. So did

members of the military and employees whose jobs are financed through fees, such as State Department workers who issue passports and visas.

In a letter to federal workers, President Barack Obama lamented that they have become "punching bags" in a partisan fight over the Affordable Care Act.

Editor's note: Information from the Associated Press was used in this story.

# Death

Continued From Page 01

Massey said. "He was reaching down into the pit for something and fell off into it."

Massey said a passerby performed CPR on Renner until the Pampa Fire Department and Pampa EMS arrived.

Paramedics continued to perform CPR on Renner as he was transported to Pampa Regional Medical Center, Massey said. He was pronounced dead at the hospital.

The PFD received the call

around 2:40 p.m. and sent one unit with four personnel to the car wash, located at 515 W. Foster Ave.

The PFD, PPD and Pampa EMS responded to the scene.

Kevin Hucks, who bought the car wash from the previous owner about a year ago, said Renner was a "hardworking, dedicated and trustworthy employee."

Renner began working at the car wash four and a half years ago and Hucks kept him on as an employee, even the naming the car wash "Tay's" after one of Renner's sons.

Renner's obituary is published on page 3.

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**Tonight:** Clear with a low of 58. Winds south at 19 mph. Sunset at 7:26 p.m.

**Thursday:** Sunny with a high of 88. Winds southwest at 14 mph. Sunrise at 7:41 a.m.

**Thursday night:** Clear with a low of 57. Wind southwest at 10 mph. Sunset at 7:25 p.m.

**Friday:** Sunny and windy with a high of 81. Winds west-northwest at 23 mph. Sunrise at 7:42 a.m.

**Friday night:** Mostly clear with a low of 38. Chance of rain: 10 percent. Winds north at 18 mph. Sunset at 7:23 p.m.

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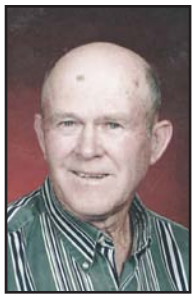
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# Obituaries

## Donnie Ray Renner

Donnie Ray Renner, 73, died Monday, Sept. 30, 2013 in Pampa.



**Donnie Ray Renner**

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 3, 2013, at Highland Baptist Church with the Rev. Paul Nachtigall, pastor, and the Rev. Norman Rushing, pastor of Central Baptist Church, officiating. Cremation and arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors.

Mr. Renner was born April 24, 1940 in Friona where he attended school. He married Betty Hefley on June 3, 1962 in the WT chapel in Canyon. He farmed in Friona until 1978 when he moved to Pampa. Donnie worked at Serfco, BJ Well Service, IRI, Ken Cox and Dale West, and was currently working at Tay's Car Wash at the time of his death. In his spare time, he liked to work with wood, build picket fence furniture, and craft jewelry. He was a loving man who loved his family very much. Donnie was preceded in death by his parents, John and Virginia Renner, a brother, Fabian Renner, and a son, Johnnie Renner.

Survivors include his wife, Betty Renner of the home, a daughter, Amelia Waldrop and husband Leon of Pampa, daughter-in-law, Tina Tuttle and husband Gary of Pampa, two brothers, Clyde Renner and wife Ruth of Friona and Jerry Renner and wife Harriett of Canyon, three granddaughters, Lacey Renner and Chelsea Dewitt and husband

Michael, all of Pampa, and Kendra Smith and husband Jacob of Arlington, a grandson, Garrett Renner of Pampa, and five great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Pampa Meals on Wheels, P.O. Box 939, Pampa, Texas 79066-0939, or Central Baptist Church Building Fund, 513 E. Francis, Pampa, Texas 79065.

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

## Jesse "Don" Moore

Jesse "Don" Moore, 51, died Sunday, Sept. 29, 2013 in Pampa.

There are no services scheduled. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whately Funeral Directors.

Mr. Moore was born Feb. 7, 1962 in Altus, Okla., attending schools in Altus. He worked as a truck driver in the oil and gas industry. He had been a resident of Pampa since 2009.

Survivors include two daughters, Crystal Moore and Garrett Stauffer of Riverside, Calif. and Jessica Moore of Los Angeles, their mother, Charla Hutton of Lincoln, Neb., his parents, Pappy and Nola Moore of Pampa, a sister, Ruby Lynn Smith and husband Stacey of Pasadena, a brother, James Moore and wife Jaci of Wellsboro, P.A., a granddaughter, Rose Stauffer of Riverside, Calif., several nieces, nephews, uncles and cousins, and a special friend, Sharon Mack of Pampa.

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

# For the record

## Arlington woman arrested for resisting arrest, search or transport

Helen Hudson, 44, Arlington, was arrested Monday by the Gray County Sheriff's Office

for resisting arrest, search or transport.

Eunice McCoy, 51, Pampa, was arrested

Monday by the Pampa Police Department for five charges of *capias pro fine*.

Garnet Walkup, 28,

Pampa, was arrested Monday by PPD for three Pampa municipal violation

# US government shutdown starts to make itself felt

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Visitors arrived to find "CLOSED" signs at the Statue of Liberty, the Smithsonian and other parks and historic sites across the country. Callers looking for help from the government reached only voicemail. And federal employees were left to wonder when they would return to work.

The first government

shutdown in 17 years took hold Tuesday in ways large and small.

About 800,000 federal employees were sent home — a number greater than the combined U.S. workforces of Target, General Motors, Exxon and Google.

"After next week if we're not working, I'm going to have to find a job," said Robert Turner, a building mechanic at the Smithsonian's American History museum in the nation's capital. He was called in for part of the day to take out the trash, turn off the water and help close up the place.

The effects played out in a variety of ways, from scaled-back operations at federal prosecutors' offices and the FBI to revoked permits for dozens of weddings at historic sites in Washington. Campers at national parks were given two days to pack up and leave, and some parks were entirely closed to traffic.

In Philadelphia, Paul Skilling of Northern Ire-

land had wanted to see the Liberty Bell up close but had to settle instead for looking at the symbol of democracy through glass.

And he wasn't optimistic about the chances of visiting any landmarks in Washington, the next stop on a weeklong visit.

"Politics is fantastic, isn't it?" he said ruefully. In New York, tourists who hoped to see the Statue of Liberty were instead offered an hour harbor cruise.

"There has to be better ways to run the government than to get to a standstill like this," said Cheryl Strahl, a disappointed visitor from Atascadero, Calif. "Why take it out on the national parks?"

The government closings did not stop the launch on Tuesday of the enrollment period for the online insurance marketplaces established under President Barack Obama's health care overhaul — the program at the very heart of the dispute that produced the shutdown.

The two federal employ-

ees in orbit around the Earth — NASA astronauts Karen Nyberg and Michael Hopkins — carried on as usual aboard the International Space Station, with essential employees at Mission Control in Houston supporting the lab and its six inhabitants.

There were no TV or web updates, however, as most of NASA's workforce was furloughed.

Anglers headed to the highly anticipated first day of the fall fishing season on North Carolina's Outer Banks found they could not drive onto the beach at Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

Dozens of goats were taken off ivy-eating duty at Fort Hancock, a recreation area in Sandy Hook, N.J. A KKK rally planned for the Gettysburg battlefield in Pennsylvania this weekend was canceled.

In the nation's capital, fountains were being turned off on the National Mall and the National Zoo closed. Its beloved panda-cam went dark.

But hundreds of veterans from Iowa and Mississippi walked past barricades at the National World War II Memorial after members of Congress cut the police tape for them.

The IRS suspended audits for the duration of the shutdown, and call centers were left unmanned. In St. Paul, Minn., the voice-mail warned callers they "should file and pay their taxes as normal."

The 12 million people who got six-month extensions must still file their returns by Oct. 15. But the agency will not issue tax refunds until the government resumes normal operations.

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# Viewpoints

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## Museum Musings

# The history of the Pioneer Cottage

Wiley Powell Vincent and his wife, Mary Catherine “Katie” Crawford, came from Vernon, Texas. They arrived at Lefors on Oct. 18, 1902, the day the first courthouse of Gray County was dedicated. With them came Eli Vincent and his wife, Georgia Crawford. Wiley and Eli were brothers and Katie and Georgia were sisters.

The Vincent families arrived at Lefors on a beautiful day when the leaves on the big cottonwood trees were just beginning to turn yellow. They camped near the creek on the Henry B. Lovett Ranch.

At the celebration following the dedication of the courthouse, the Vincents met Jesse and Minna Wynne and their daughters. Wiley was asked to come to the Wynne ranch in Carson County to help feed cattle. For several months, the Wiley Vincents lived in the N Bar N ranch house southeast of White Deer. At that time cowboys in the area thought that the ranch house was haunted.

In 1903, the Wiley Vincents moved to Pampa. At first they lived in a little house built by Jesse Wyne, and then in a small house owned by the Johnson Mercantile Company. Most of the early houses were very small because it was difficult to obtain lumber and any kind of a house was a luxury. Many of the first settlers had to live

in dugouts for some time before they could build houses.

Later in 1903, Wiley and Katie moved to the Pioneer Cottage which Wiley had helped build. The cottage was originally located in the 500 block of East Browning (Central Baptist Church parking lot).

Once, on the lawn in front of the cottage, Wiley “baby-sat” children of women who were attending a meeting inside the house with Katie. After the meeting was over, Wiley would serve watermelon to all of those present.

After living in the Pioneer Cottage for several years, the Wiley Vincents moved to a farm which they owned. In 1914 they bought a large white house, which had been built in 1907.

This house, located north of the railroad tracks at 303 E. Atchison Ave., faced south, so residents and visitors spent a great deal of time watching the trains from the front porch.

Many relatives and friends visited the Vincent family, which by now included Katie’s father, J.T. Crawford, Sr. Many discussions and friendly arguments took place in the house and on the front porch, and often the sound of laughter could be heard. In the summertime Katie always kept a pitcher of lemonade on the front porch to quench the thirst of any visitors.

Some Pampans remember the lightning rods on the house, a hitching post in front of the house and a huge cholla (walking cane) cactus that displayed beautiful magenta blossoms when it bloomed.

Wiley died in 1922. Katie, who lived to be almost 100 years old, died in 1978. After their deaths, the house at 303 E. Atchison Ave. was moved two miles west of Pampa just south of U.S. Highway 60.

Wiley and Katie Vincent had four children, Clifton Eli, Jack (R.C.), Joe Tyler and Kathryn.

When their son Clifton married Edna Carr on June 24, 1919, her father, Mayor E.S. Carr, bought the Pioneer Cottage and gave it to his daughter and son-in-law as a wedding present.

In 1963, Cliff and Edna gave the Pioneer Cottage to the Pampa Genealogical and Historical Society.

Sometime later the Pioneer Cottage was moved to its present location on the north side of the intersection of Starkweather and Yeager Streets. As one of the few original buildings in Pampa, it is recorded as a Texas Historical Landmark, dedicated in 1970.

*Thanks to everyone who came out and made the Historic Tours of the Fairview Cemetery such a great success! For more information about the museum, visit the White Deer Land Museum in downtown Pampa. Regular tours are offered Tuesday through Saturday from 1-4 p.m. If you would like to schedule a special or group tour, please call or email the museum at 806-669-8041 or courtney.oxley@graycch.com. You can also check us out on facebook or visit www.pampamuseum.org.*

*Editor’s note: Information was primarily written by Kathryn Vincent Steele for the Gray County Heritage.*

## Going to hell (without a handbasket)

While writing my latest book, “Killing Jesus,” I knew I would catch hell once it hit the marketplace. Your mom was right when she told you never to discuss politics and religion,

because emotions run so high in those arenas. Especially religion.

Even before “Killing Jesus” was released, the mail began pouring in. And some of it was very nasty.

Brent in Texas opined: “O’Reilly, you are not someone who has the right to write a book about Jesus.”

Eric in South Carolina: “You are helping to deceive people with your ignorance about Jesus.”

Al in Louisiana: “Bill, what do you know about Jesus? You are Catholic, and they don’t know anything about the Bible.”

And Raleigh in California really let loose with some disturbing stuff: “Bill, please repent before it is too late. You seem to be angry at God because he put a black man in the White House.”

Of course, none of these folks had actually read “Killing Jesus,” because it had not been released. The book is pure history; there is no religion in it. The people lashing out at me for daring to address their savior in any capacity are so intense in their beliefs that they have lost all sight of reality.

Now, a sad fact of life in America is that there are some very unstable folks running around, and they have always been with us. But from my perch as a national

TV commentator, I can tell you with certainty that the level of fanaticism is rising not only here, but all over the world.

The reason is the Internet. In the past, kooks were kind of isolated. But now they can find other loons in cyberspace with whom to commiserate. That encourages bizarre behavior, as disturbed people think their outlook is acceptable because others are saying the same thing on their machines.

The chief al-Qaida recruiting tool is the Internet. Neo-Nazi campaign heavily in cyberspace. NAMBLA, the child rape club, has a worldwide presence on the ‘Net.

There is little anyone can do with fanatics. Reasoning with them is a fool’s errand. Avoiding them is mandatory. These people are dangerous. They spread poison and could not care less who they hurt. Thus, the Internet has become a hate-filled town square with no limits put on destructive verbal behavior.

And millions of children have access to all the vitriol.

Freedom has always had a downside. With technology allowing for instant communication, hate groups, perverts and killers now have many more opportunities to cause harm than ever before. Again, there’s little anyone can do about it.

But everyone should be aware of it.

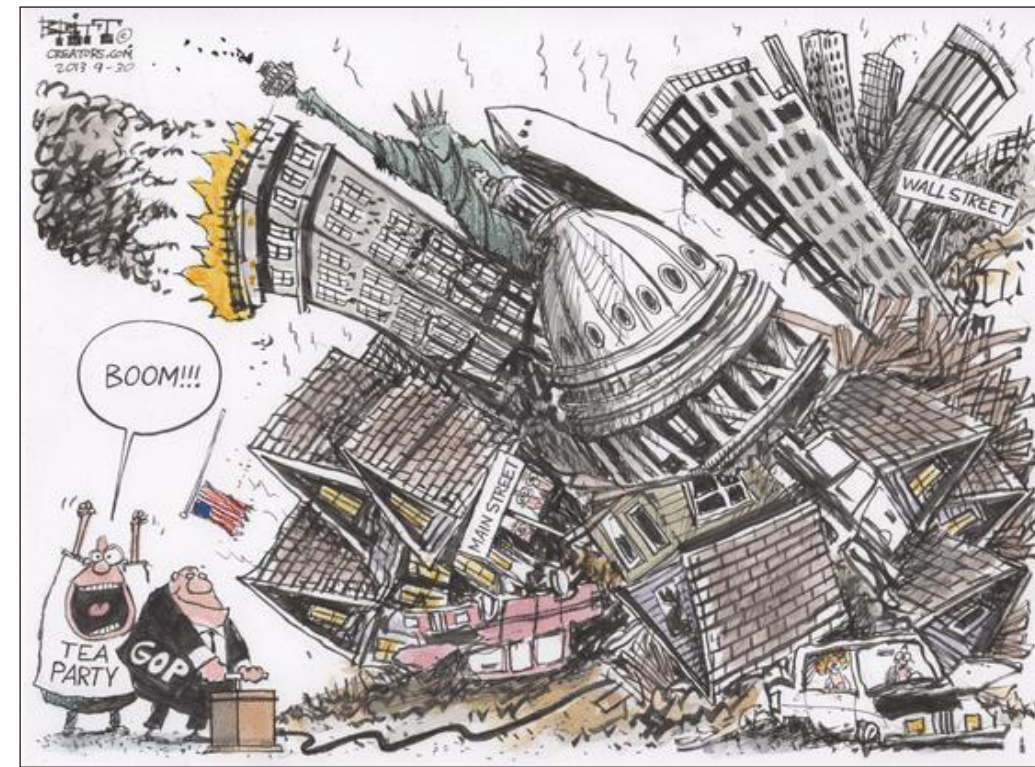
*Veteran TV news anchor Bill O’Reilly is host of the Fox News show “The O’Reilly Factor” and author of many books, including the newly released “Killing Jesus.” To find out more about Bill O’Reilly and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit www.creators.com. This column originates on the website www.billoreilly.com.*



**BILL O'REILLY**



**COURTNEY OXLEY**



## Baby farming: not fair

In Sunday’s San Francisco Chronicle, reporter Stephanie M. Lee delivered a down-the-middle story about a Bay Area couple, Jennifer Benito-Kowalski and Steve Kowalski, 40 and 41 — who paid

an Indian woman to help them attain their goal of making a baby with their own DNA. To many moderns, this arrangement presents a win-win formula. The poor gestational carrier gets needed money, and the comfortable couple get a baby. What’s not to like?

As Lee’s story concludes, the baby appears to be healthy, and surrogate mother Manisha Parmar is considering serving as a surrogate again. Perhaps for these two families, there will be a happy ending, but it’s hard to see how this story is a win-win for the world.

For one thing, there’s

a medical risk to carrying a child. In 2012, an Indian surrogate died while carrying someone else’s child. In 2013, it happened again. Indian clinics routinely perform cesarean deliveries, which carry complications for surrogates like Parmar.

Benito-Kowalski told me Monday that she was aware of Indian surrogacies gone wrong; that’s why she checked a dozen Indian clinics. She chose Dr. Nayna Patel’s Akanksha clinic because it has a solid track record and because Patel does a thorough job of vetting her surrogates.

Yes, there was a clause in the contract that allowed the Kowalskis to order an abortion if the child is not healthy. It’s true; Parmar wouldn’t have a choice in the matter. That’s because Patel put the clause in the contract, Benito-Kowalski responded. “We knew our baby was going to be healthy, so it wasn’t an option for us.” And: “We weren’t going to abort Kyle.”

If the baby wasn’t

healthy? “That’s hypothetical,” she answered.

Since Lee’s story was published, the Kowalskis have been bombarded with “just plain mean” criticism.

The couple opened up to the Chronicle to let other childless couples know that there is hope, Benito-Kowalski told me. She was unprepared for the barrage of others passing judgment over a decision that gave the couple their beloved son. Please don’t make us look like bad people, she said to me.

I don’t think they’re bad people.

I think the Kowalskis represent a prevalent view in American society, that when affluent childless couples want to have a baby, they have a right to have a baby — indeed, the exact baby they choose. If their decision risks the health of poor women, well, that’s OK because the couple are acting out of love.

And if they sign a contract that turns a desperate woman into a mule who carries a child at the will of others? That’s OK,

too, because the couple paid good money that will help the poor woman’s family.

And if the poor woman is torn apart because she has bonded with the baby inside her? Doesn’t matter; the mule signed a contract.

The Kowalskis aren’t bad people. They’re decent people who live in a bad culture that tells them that outsourcing the gestation of their test-tube babies is a good thing. It’s a win-win.

“It’s not fair,” Steve Kowalski told Lee, that other couples conceive simply by having sex.

When Parmar and her husband returned to their home and children, they had to live with the shame and family who disapproved. What’s really not fair is that one country has too much shame while the other has none.

*Email Debra J. Saunders at dsanders@schronicle.com. To find out more about Debra J. Saunders and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.*

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# PampaFaith

## Can you pass the Sunday/Monday test?

I had a visit with a good friend yesterday and was reminded of a simple testing tool that has proven very valuable to many believers. It is amazing how spiritually out of focus we can get in our daily life as Christians. Many believers get so wrapped up in the hustle bustle of their daily lives that they don't even notice when they begin to drift away from the Lord. The Sunday/Monday Test can supply us with some significant data to help us see ourselves more clearly. It doesn't work for everyone every time, but it will surely work for most believers.

First, go to your church and ask for your attendance record for the past year. Out of 52 Sundays, how many did you attend? Next, go to your boss and ask for your work record for the past year. Out of 52 Mondays, how many of those days did you work? Finally, compare the two. Most believers are in for a real shock the first time they take this test. Most believe they attend much more frequently than they really do. Yesterday my friend was shocked to know that out of the past 8 Sundays she had only attended church once. In her mind she had only missed a couple of times. She was so stunned, you could see it in her eyes. Then I asked her how many Mondays she had missed work over the past 8 weeks. She replied, "Two times." Then I simply asked her, "What do you think the test has to say to you?" I can't tell you how many times I've used this test with someone only to have them begin criticizing the attendance keeper for the poor job they do. Isn't that hilarious. My friend didn't do that; she got the point and thanked me for, in her words, the butt-kicking she needed. So what truth exists if we rarely ever allow anything to interfere with our

WORK (Monday), but we allow many things (or almost anything) to prevent us from attending church (Sunday)? If we are not careful we send a message to all who know us that Monday is much more important to us than Sunday.

Now if you think that I am making too big of a deal about Sunday, then you need to take that up with the Lord. Hebrews 10:24-25 "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching." The "meeting" under consideration here in verse 25 is the assembling of the saints on Sunday. It is God who expects Christians to gather together on Sunday. Why? For His sons and daughters to get together to worship and praise and honor their Father.

So in eternity which day is the biggest deal? Monday or Sunday? Do you show that by how you spend your Mondays and Sundays?

Now you and I both know why we don't miss Mondays at work—MONEY! But why then are so many believers so casual about their Sundays? If you don't believe so, just ask yourself what you did on Sunday the last time you were on vacation or taking a weekend off. Most Christians don't even bother going to church on those occasions. But not hardly any will miss that following Monday at work. Does that shout to the world that Sunday is the biggest deal?

Like I said earlier, this test isn't fool proof; it doesn't work perfectly all the time. However, it surely works most of the time. Take the test and ask God to speak to you through it. You may not like what it says, but the information can be very valuable. God bless. Mike

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

**MIKE SUBLETT**

## CHURCH SPOTLIGHT

# Living for God is a black-and-white issue

There are no gray areas with God. He's made His commands very clear to us, so clear that we have to deliberately work at



**CHRIS ELY**

it to misunderstand them. His promises are clearly spelled out, as well as the conditions attached to them.

God gave us the 10 Commandments, not the 10 Suggestions. He's laid out His expectations in the Bible, and it's up to us to study His Word and make sure we're on the right path with our lives. Today, people's attitudes have "evolved" on issues like drinking and smoking and even on marriage. It has become acceptable to dabble in sins that were considered taboo by the church just a few years ago.

It is amazing how many Christians go on believing the lie of the world, that there can be a blending of right and wrong. The Bible makes it plain that there are blessings for obeying God and curses for disobeying. Deuteronomy 28:1-2 says, "If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all His commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. All these blessings will come on you and accompa-

ny you if you obey the Lord your God." It then lists all the blessings the people of Israel could expect if they stayed true to God's commands.

There are also consequences for disobeying. Deuteronomy 28:15 says, "However, if you do not obey the Lord your God and do not carefully follow all His commands and decrees I am giving you today, all these curses will come on you and overtake you." The rest of the chapter contains a lengthy list of curses for those who choose to disobey.

Life isn't always black and white. But even when you're living in the muddled middle, God wants to shine His light into the events of your life. In the so-called "gray areas" of life, the Bible provides guidelines to bring any situation out of the shadows and into the light of the truth.

When the Bible isn't specific about certain issues, we should pray, and God will give us direction. Psalm 119:105 says, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." God will never leave us in the dark. He's given us His word, and it has everything we need to live a godly life, even in the "gray areas."

*Chris Ely is a Pampa resident and author of the book Through Eyes of Faith. He can be contacted at eyeofaith@aol.com.*

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## Church Calendar

### Southside Church of Christ

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

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

### McLean Cowboy Church

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

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

The ages for the children's ministry are nursery through fifth grade. The church is located at the intersection of state Highway 273 and Interstate 40 in McLean. For more information call 806-779-0260.

## Pampa Church Directory

**Bible Baptist Church**  
500 E. Kingsmill Ave.  
Pampa TX 79065  
669-7830

**Briarwood Full Gospel Church**  
1800 W. Harvester Avenue  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-7201

**Calvary Assembly of God Church**  
1030 Love Street  
Pampa TX 79065  
669-7207

**Calvary Baptist**  
900 E. 23rd Street  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-0842

**Carpenter's Church**  
639 S. Barnes  
Pampa TX 79065  
669-2720

**Central Baptist Church**  
513 E. Francis  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-1631

**Church of Christ**  
1342 Mary Ellen  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-0031

**Church of Christ Somerville**  
500 N. Somerville  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-0004

**Church of God**  
Gwendolen & Sumner  
Pampa TX 79065  
669-6372

**Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints**  
411 East 29th Ave.  
Pampa TX 79065  
669-2967

**Church of the Nazarene**  
500 N. West  
Pampa TX 79065  
669-3144

**Community Christian School**  
409 N. Frost  
Pampa, TX 79065  
665-3393

**Cornerstone Baptist Church**  
2410 W. 23rd Ave.  
Pampa TX 79065  
669-6509

**Crosspointe**  
711 E. Harvester  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-2480

**Faith Bible Church**  
110 W. Kingsmill  
Pampa TX 79065  
688-9266

**Faith Tabernacle UPC**  
610 Naida  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-3676

**Fellowship Baptist Church**  
1936 N. Wells  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-2747

**Fellowship Baptist Church**  
622 E. Francis  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-5976

**First Assembly of God**  
500 S. Cuyler  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-5941

**First Baptist Church**  
203 N. West  
Pampa TX 79065  
669-1155

**First Christian Church**  
1633 N. Nelson  
Pampa TX 79065  
669-3225

**First Freewill Baptist Church**  
731 Sloan St.  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-2545

**First Pentecostal Holiness**  
1700 Alcock  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-8192

**First Presbyterian**  
525 N. Gray  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-1031

**First United Methodist**  
Foster & Ballard  
Pampa TX 79065  
669-7411

**Grace Baptist Church**  
824 S. Barnes  
Pampa TX 79065  
669-7967

**Harvest Fellowship Baptist Church**  
2700 W. Kentucky Ave.  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-4922

**Harvest Bible Church**  
300 W. Browning Avenue  
Pampa TX 79065  
669-2923

**Hobart Baptist Church**  
1100 W. Crawford  
Pampa TX 79065  
669-3212

**Hi-land Christian Church**  
1615 N. Banks  
Pampa TX 79065  
669-6700

**Highland Baptist Church**  
1301 N. Banks  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-3300

**Iglesia Bautista Emanuel**  
1021 S. Barnes  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-4330

**Iglesia Casa Del Alfarero**  
500 N. Duncan  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-5898

**Iglesia Cristiana Canaan**  
905 E. Beryl St.  
Pampa TX 79065  
669-3330

**Iglesia Nueva Vida**  
New Life Church  
1200 S. Sumner  
Pampa, TX 79065  
665-8331

**Jehovah's Witnesses**  
1701 Coffee  
Pampa TX 79065  
669-9355

**Kentucky Ave. Church of Christ**  
1612 W. Kentucky  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-2572

**Lighthouse Baptist Church**  
725 W. Brown  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-0262

**Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship**  
1733 N. Banks St.  
Pampa TX 79065  
669-6915

**Macedonia Baptist Church**  
441 Elm  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-4926

**New Hope Baptist Church**  
404 Harlem  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-4044

**New Hope Missionary Baptist Church**  
912 S. Gray St.  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-4044

**New Life Assembly of God**  
1435 N. Sumner  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-0804

**Open Door Church of God in Christ**  
402 Oklahoma  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-6132

**Priest Park Church of God**  
731 N. Faulkner  
Pampa TX 79065  
688-0174

**Primera Iglesia Bautista Mexicana**  
541 Hamilton  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-8347

**Redeemer Pampa**  
225 N. Cuyler  
Pampa, TX 79065  
665-7233

**Salvation Army**  
701 S. Cuyler  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-7233

**Seventh Day Adventist Church**  
421 N. Ward  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-4492

**Southside Church of Christ**  
11927 McCullough  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-2183

**St. Paul United Methodist Church**  
511 N. Hobart  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-8951

**St. Mark CME Church**  
406 Elm Ave  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-6743

**St. Matthews Episcopal Church**  
727 W. Browning  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-0701

**St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church**  
810 W. 23rd Ave.  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-8933

**Straight-Up Fellowship**  
400 N. Wells  
Pampa TX 79065  
664-0096

**Trinity Fellowship Church**  
2225 N. Hobart  
Pampa TX 79065  
665-3255

**United Methodist Church**  
201 E. Foster  
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1200 Duncan  
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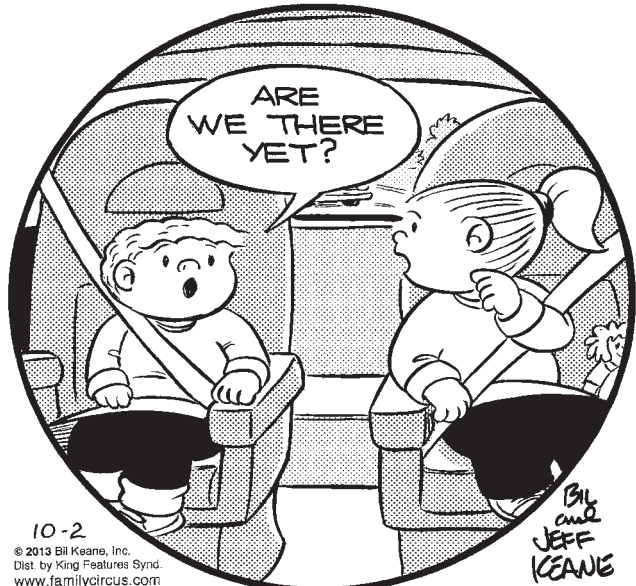
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# comics PAGE

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



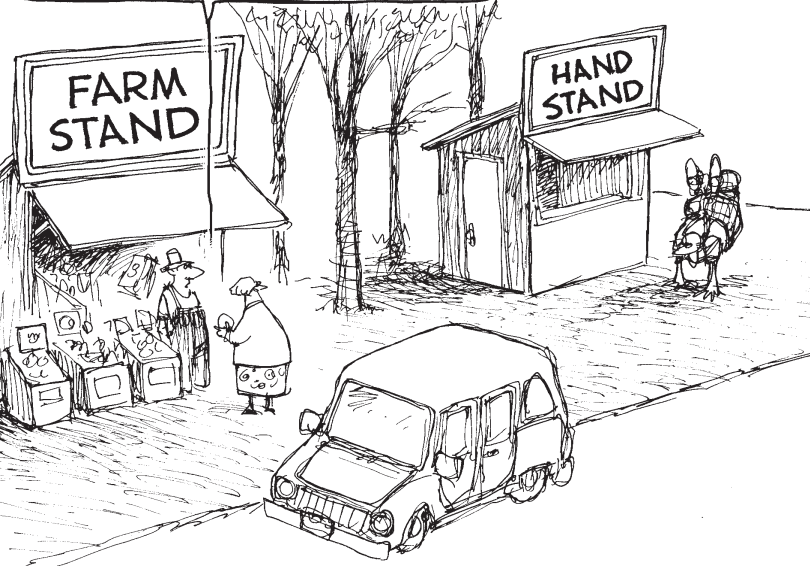
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"It depends on where you think we're going."

### Non Sequitur

A BASIC RULE FOR SUCCESS IS NEVER UNDERESTIMATE YOUR COMPETITION, BUT EARL MAKES THAT A REAL CHALLENGE...



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### Nest Heads



# daily horoscope

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Thursday, Oct. 3, 2013:  
This year you discover that the unexpected is a major theme. The upside to this will be how exciting your life becomes. You also will learn to flex more. You might wonder why so many surprises keep heading your way. Could the reason be a close friend or associate? If you are single, take your time choosing Mr. or Ms. Right. Test out a relationship for a year before you make a commitment. If you are attached, the two of you enjoy each other, even though your sweetie might be transforming right in front of your eyes. A fellow LIBRA might be difficult to make and keep plans with.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)  
★★★★ You could witness some radical, unexpected changes that have the potential to throw you into a chaotic frenzy. You probably will come out of the fog quickly, though, as you instinctively make the right choices. Tonight: Invite a special friend or loved one to join you.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
★★★★ A great idea will come up in conversation. You might be wondering what you can do in order to make a situation work. Listen to others, brainstorm with someone who has unusual suggestions and be willing to break patterns. Tonight: Get some rest -- the weekend is coming!

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
★★★★ You might feel as if a situation has gotten out of control. Note that a tendency toward excess surrounds you, and it can affect you. Know when to back down and say "no." You could be surprised by a comment from a friend in a meeting. Tonight: Think "weekend."

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
★★★★ Test out an idea, but allow only a limited number of questions in return. The questions will point to whom you'll want to work with. Many people look to you as their leader. The reason lies in the fact that you know much more than they do. Tonight: Paint the town red.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
★★★★ Balance your checkbook, and be sure to stay on top of work and other various matters. Return calls, especially to a new friend. Some excitement could surround these conversations, which you might be more involved in than you realize. Tonight: Catch up on a friend's news.

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

★★★★ Allow your efficiency to mix with some unexpected news. Somehow, this situation will work out to your advantage. You might not want to have an emotional conversation, but you will have little choice. Take a deep breath before you start. Tonight: Beam in more of what you want.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
★★ You could be quite jolted by news that comes in from out of left field. Listen to the wise words of an older person, and you will gain a sense of direction as a result. Investigate the possibilities more openly; you might be surprised by what happens. Tonight: Go find some fun.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
★★★★ You might want to express more of what you need from a situation. Your ability to get down to basics helps many people, especially in a meeting. Clearly, there are no easy answers. Understand what is expected from you before you proceed. Tonight: Go for a good night's sleep.

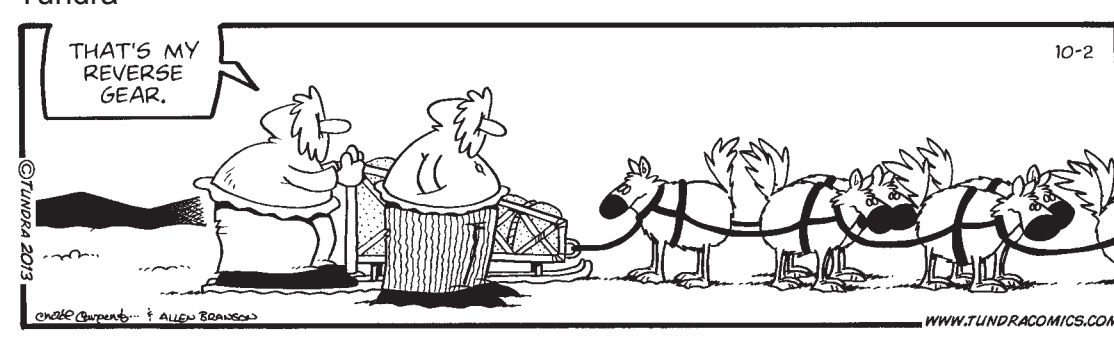
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
★★★★ Be thankful for your supporters because, even when a situation is unstable, they come through and offer you good information and workable solutions. You could be taken aback by the suddenness of a change. Look at how revitalized you feel. Tonight: Ever playful.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
★★★★ You could see a situation far differently given some space and time. Look past the obvious and take note of what is not being said. To be effective, you need to detach more often. You'll see and understand much more. Tonight: Take action, but only if you're sure of yourself.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
★★★★ You could be taken aback by certain events that are going on around you. You might see a personal matter differently from how the other party sees it. Think before you take action, as you'll want to understand where this person is coming from. Tonight: A must appearance.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
★★★★ Defer to others, and understand that you might be coming from a different position in a situation. You could find it interesting to see what is going on from a new perspective. Your sense of humor will help you gain insight. Use care with your money. Tonight: Your treat.

### Tundra



### Shoe



### Mother Goose and Grim



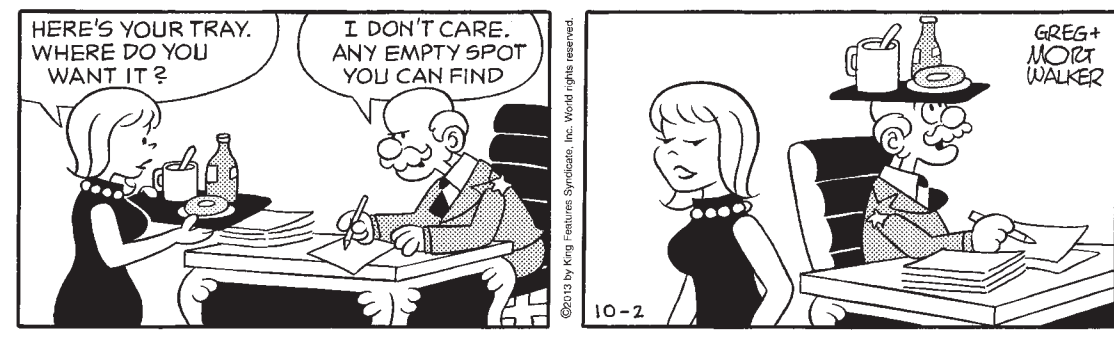
### Zits



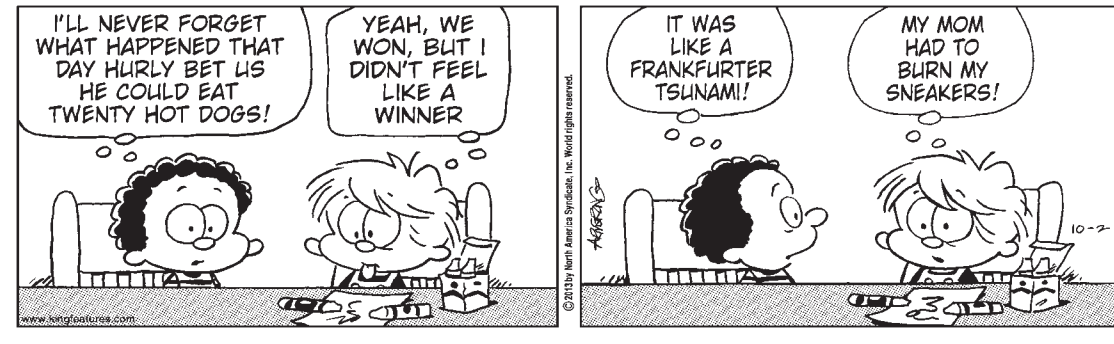
### Garfield



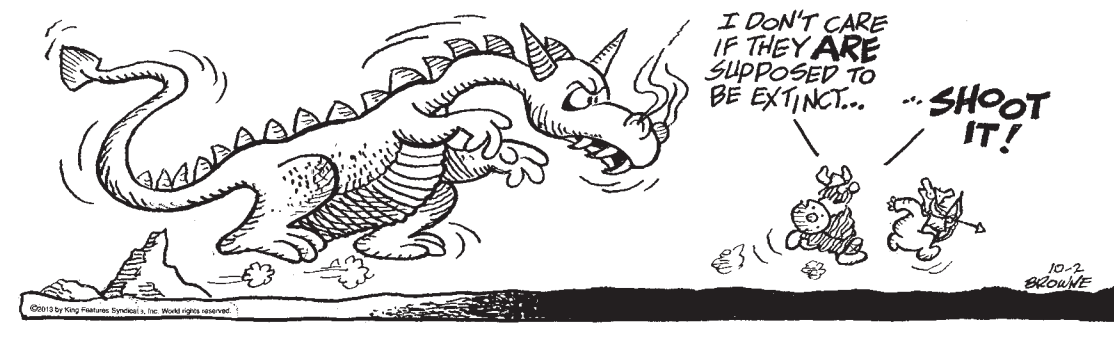
### Beetle Bailey



### Marvin



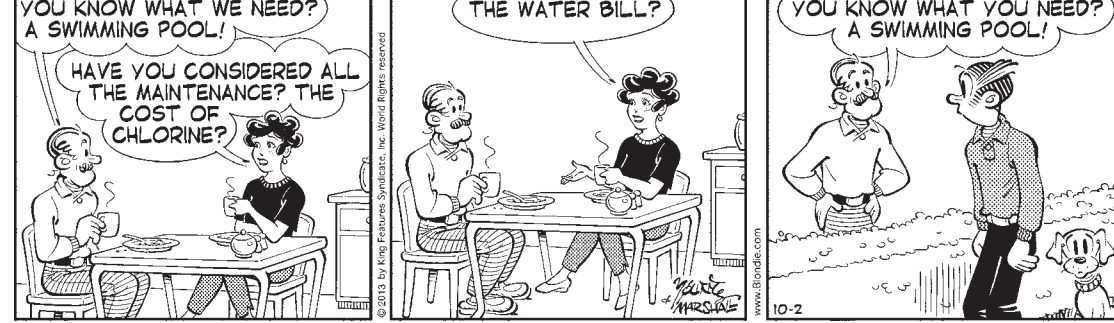
### Hagar The Horrible



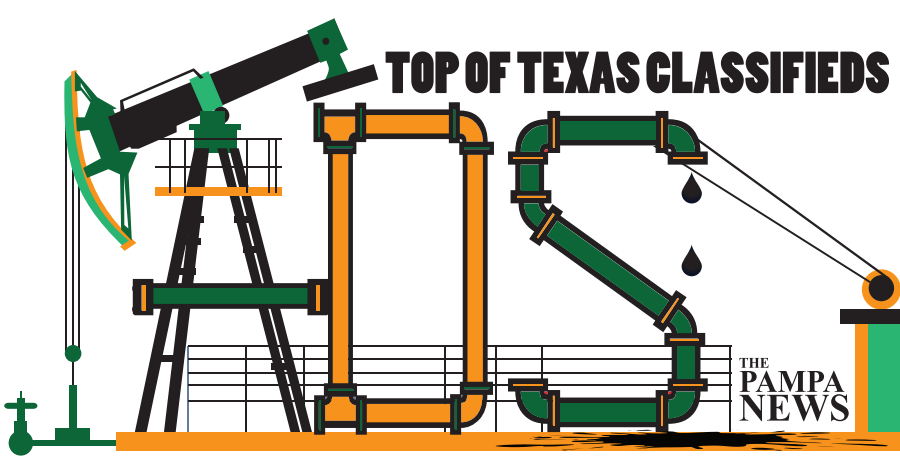
### Peanuts



### Blondie







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Thur 9:30-5:30 pm, Fri 9:30-5:30, Sat 9:30-5:00, Sun 1:00-5:00pm  
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- Pocket Knives
- Coins
- Modern Sofa
- 2 Refrigerators
- Halloween/Fall/Christmas
- Twin Beds
- Cameras
- Radio Tubes
- Sleeper Loveseat
- Dining Table/Chairs/Hutch
- Glassware
- Spinnet Piano
- Patio
- Kitchen
- Garage
- Workshop
- Bar Stools
- and More

**2212 CHESTNUT, PAMPA, TEXAS**  
North on Hobart, East on 23rd Ave. to Chestnut

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- Books
- Whirlpool Refrigerator
- Brass
- Vintage Locker
- Halloween/Christmas
- Large Fireplace Mantle
- Like New Kenmore Washer & Dryer
- Jewelry
- 3 Piece Marble Top Wall Credenza
- Garage
- Kitchen
- Quilt Squares
- Bamboo Chairs
- and More

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FOR SALE: Double Lawn Crypt in Memory Gardens. Call 806-898-2451

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**Unfurnished Houses**  
3 BDRM, 1.5 bath, single garage. Dishwasher, stove & refrigerator, fenced yard. 665-4180 or 440-3044.

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**PICK** up rental list in the Black Box at 125 S. Houston, Pampa.

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**Homes for Sale**  
1700 SQ FT home 3/2/1, newly renovated. All new Kenmore Elite SS appliances. Asking \$106,000. 512 S. Horn in White Deer, TX. 806-316-2896.

**Homes for Sale**  
FSBO 2631 Seminole. 3 bdr, 1.75 ba., 2 car gar. Completely remodeled. Austin sch. distr. No owner finance. Not for rent. 662-4206, 662-2977.

**FSBO, Great Neighborhood,** 2 bd., possibly 3, 2 full bath, 2 car gar., 2381 sq. ft. c h/a, new flooring, lots of updates. No Owner Financing, 101 W. 19th. Asking \$140,000. Call 806-662-8667.

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**CRYPTOQUOTE**

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.

**10-2**

HAA IY XQ YHEIFCNT UTIUAT  
— UTIUAT C FTHAAQ NFMWN  
— OIOT IY NJTX BTFT ZIIA  
CO NJTCF QIMOLTF QTHFW.  
— NHQAIF WBCYN

**Yesterday's Cryptoquote:** THE SUPREME ACCOMPLISHMENT IS TO BLUR THE LINE BETWEEN WORK AND PLAY. — ARNOLD J. TOYNBEE

**ANSWER TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE:**

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

**nkopns**

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				7				
	4						6	2
		6				8	5	
	8							
3								4

Level: Intermediate

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E-78  
9/25, 10/02/2013



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For each phrase below, rearrange the letters to spell two words that are antonyms of each other. For example, RAKE LEAF can be rearranged to spell REAL, FAKE. The first letter of one word is placed to get you started.

LEVEL

T O T K N E W A P E  
P [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

U V R A Y S H E A T B A L L  
V [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

Yesterday's Answer: Common H; MIRTH, BUSHY, OUGHT, FIGHT

10.2

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 40 Mineral sources
  - 1 Shipping stop
  - 5 Flock member
  - 9 Provinces
  - 11 "C'est —!"
  - 12 Full range
  - 13 Game setting
  - 14 Seventh Greek letter
  - 15 Stinging insects
  - 17 Station workers
  - 19 Acquire
  - 20 Writer Ephron
  - 21 Homer's neighbor
  - 22 Not available
  - 24 Young seal
  - 26 Oatmeal annoyances
  - 29 Golfer Hogan
  - 30 Hardwood trees
  - 32 Cinnamon candies
  - 34 Squealer
  - 35 One way to read
  - 36 Fill with joy
  - 38 Lets off steam
  - 39 Contract addition
- DOWN**
- 1 Beeper's kin
  - 2 Made speeches
  - 3 Filmed again
  - 4 19th Greek letter
  - 5 Zhivago's love
  - 6 Get satisfaction for
  - 7 Mode change
  - 8 Beauty's love
  - 10 Try hard
  - 11 Young fellows
  - 16 Shoulder decoration
  - 18 Brisk pace
  - 21 Animated fish
  - 23 Soap opera
  - 24 Kitchen gadget
  - 25 Ruined
  - 27 Easter event
  - 28 Rink patron
  - 29 Cry of encouragement
  - 30 Reactor parts
  - 31 Boat's back
  - 33 Crude homes
  - 37 Set fire to

J	A	I	L	E	D		B	A	B	A							
E	S	C	A	P	E		A	G	O								
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							O	D	O	R		S	E	L	L	E	R
							N	E	M	O		O	R	A	L	L	Y

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8
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40							41	





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## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating Mr. Right for two years. "Phil" is the man I want to spend my life with. When we are together privately, everything is perfect.

The problem is, Phil hangs out with his old college buddies every few weeks or months, and it often involves his ex-girlfriends. They don't hang out alone. There is always at least one other person there. The situations usually include drinking, which worries me.

In my opinion, Phil should not be seeing his exes, even though his college friends are still buddies with them. Phil doesn't understand why I think this is so wrong. I am uncomfortable and think he should avoid these situations.

Am I overly jealous, or should I call it quits because he won't respect my feelings on the matter? — HOME ALONE IN KOKOMO

DEAR HOME ALONE: I don't think you are overly jealous, but I do think you may be overly insecure. Has Phil given you any reason to think he has cheated on you? If not, you should trust that he is doing nothing more than hanging out occasionally with old friends.

You say he is encountering exes (plural) when he sees his male friends. If it was just one, you might have cause to worry. Remember, these women are exes for a reason. Unless you want to be another ex, you should lighten up because insecurity and possessiveness are unattractive traits.

DEAR ABBY: We have lived next door to a couple, "Evie" and "Earl," for five years. I thought we were good friends. Over the years, I vented to Evie about

my relationship with my daughter-in-law, "Cate." I watch my two grandkids most of the week and have complained to her about Cate's poor parenting skills.

Last summer, my daughter-in-law made a concerted effort to befriend Evie, and they now socialize together — even though Cate flirted with Earl and Evie didn't like it. This has pretty much killed my friendship with Evie and worsened my relationship with my D-I-L.

This has affected me emotionally and physically to the point that I either want

to cut off ties with my son and/or move — neither of which is really an option. I have tried talking to both parties to no avail. I don't know what to do. Please help. — BETRAYED IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR BETRAYED: If you had concerns about your daughter-in-law's parenting skills, the person you should have discussed them with was Cate. And if Evie was as good a friend as you thought, she wouldn't be hanging around with your daughter-in-law to the exclusion of you.

I assume that you, your son and Cate are still on speaking terms and you're still watching the kids "most of the week." If that's not true and you have been cut off by everyone, then the most important thing you need to do is take

care of your mental and physical health. Accept that Evie will never be your buddy again and start socializing with others.

If you are no longer watching your grandchildren, your son and D-I-L will have to make alternative arrangements for childcare, which will cost them money they may be reluctant to spend. Then it will be in their interest as well as yours to make peace.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

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# PampaSports

## Local Pampa girl advances to Lubbock in NFL's Punt, Pass and Kick competition

Final round played at halftime of NFL Divisional playoff game.

BY JOHN LEE  
jlee@thepampanews.com

Not many girls like to compete in football events. Being a sport dominated by men and boys, many girls are discouraged to even tryout for an NFL team.

The one girl who did recently, as a kicker, failed miserably at this year's NFL Scouting Combine.

But 7-year-old Lakyn Steward is not going to get discouraged, as she is moving on to Lubbock in the NFL Punt, Pass and Kick competition.

The NFL Punt, Pass and Kick competition, according to their website [www.nflppk.com](http://www.nflppk.com), is "the oldest grassroots initiative at the NFL, continues to reach children ages 6-15 and allows them to experience the fun of learning football fundamentals in an engaging and supportive non-contact environment."

It is also a part of the NFL's "Play 60 movement" which stresses that children get 60 minutes of exercise a day.

Steward said that she wanted to do it because she saw her brothers doing it. With a chuckle, she said that she was happy that she got to move on,

even though her brothers didn't.

"She has been asking this whole school year to play football," Tabitha Steward, Lakyn's mom, said. "We didn't want to let her play, so we found out about this and said, 'you can do this.'"

It was held at Dick Bivins stadium in Amarillo, and that Saturday morning was cold, after all the rain and thunderstorms the Panhandle had received last Friday.

Lakyn said she felt like she did the best in her passing. She likes football because it is fun.

"[I like football because] it's fun and it's active," Lakyn said. "I like basketball and football. I like the Miami Heat and the San Francisco 49ers."

Her favorite activities are playing basketball, Minecraft, watching TV and playing with her Barbies.

She is the youngest of five children and her oldest brother is the starting quarterback for the 8th grade football team.

"I want to be the first woman in the NFL," Lakyn said.

For more information on the NFL Punt, Pass and Kick competition, visit [www.nflppk.com](http://www.nflppk.com).



Top photo submitted/ below photo by John Lee  
Above, 7-year-old Lakyn Steward after winning her age group, girls 6 and 7. Below, from left, Tabitha Steward, Lakyn Steward and Justin Steward.



## Cowboys can't stop Rivers, and here comes Peyton

IRVING (AP) — Bruce Carter and the Dallas Cowboys simply couldn't stop Philip Rivers and the San Diego Chargers.

That will be their freshest memory when Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos visit on Sunday.

"There's no days off," said Carter, a linebacker who was beaten for two touchdowns and another big play as San Diego came back from 11 points down for a 30-21 win. "There's no easy games. We just go back to work."

The revamped Dallas defense under new coordinator Monte Kiffin has been one of the stories of the season for the Cowboys, with turnovers, sacks and other big plays. Linebacker Sean Lee had one against the Chargers, taking an interception back 52 yards for a 21-10 lead in the second quarter.

But those were the last points for Dallas. And Lee was beaten by Antonio Gates for a touchdown and a nine-point lead for San Diego on its third straight scoring drive of the second half.

So now there's this sobering reality: With Manning set for his first visit to the Cowboys' \$1.2 billion stadium after throwing for 16 touchdowns in the first four games, Dallas has given up two 400-yard passing games, not to mention the 506 yards in total offense rolled up by the Chargers.

"Yeah, we made mistakes this time, but it's never going to happen again," said defensive end DeMarcus Ware, who

was held without a sack while Rivers made quick throws out of a hurry-up offense. "People say never say never, but I feel like it's never going to happen again playing a game like that. That's just the way I feel about it."

Dallas lost with a 2-1 record for the third straight season. The Cowboys are sitting at .500 again not only with Manning coming to town, but with Robert Griffin III visiting the following week. The Cowboys won't soon forget how the first NFL game in Texas went for the Heisman Trophy winner from Baylor. He threw for 304 yards and sparked to the Redskins to a huge lead in a 38-31 win.

While Dallas has been strong against the run so far this year, the Cowboys are near the bottom in pass defense even before Manning shows up.

"You'd like to be able to make those stops," Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said. "We had some guys that were out of position on some of those, whether it be through just mental or whether it be through physical. But we were out of position, and that hurt us."

Tony Romo protected the ball well again and has just one interception through four games. The only turnover for Dallas came when rookie receiver Terrance Williams tried to reach the ball over the goal line and had it knocked out by Crezdon Butler with the Cowboys trying to rally late in the fourth quarter.

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