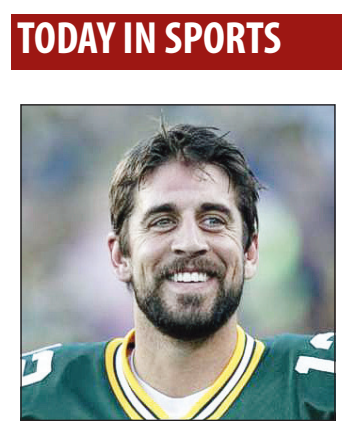


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# The PAMPA NEWS



**TODAY IN SPORTS**

Friday, December 13, 2013 [www.thepampanews.com](http://www.thepampanews.com) Volume 109 • No. 177

**75¢** Letter to the editor: Go see the Christmas lights | **p4** | **Will the Cowboys be facing Aaron Rodgers?** Unofficial Harvesters stat line as of Tuesday | **p10**  
 \$1.50 weekend 38¢ subscription

## Do you believe in Friday the 13th?

■ While superstitions abound, they may only be self-fulfilling prophecies.

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

While it's very unlikely to find someone who actually believes that if they leave the house on a Friday the 13th they will end up being hacked to death by a madman in a hockey mask who dies a horrible death at the end of each movie, only to come back to life a year or two later for the next installment.

While nobody wants something as terrifying as some "face time" with Jason Vorhees happening to them, they seem to enjoy watching it on the screen, as the "Friday

the 13th" series is one of the most successful movie franchises of all time. If only those two frisky summer camp counselors had kept their eyes on young Jason (instead of each other) while he was swimming in the lake.

But the exorbitant amount of dinero the slasher series has raked in over the years pales in comparison to the amount the GDP has lost.

According to Donald Dossey, a historian who has written extensively for National Geographic, the fateful day costs the American economy approximately \$800 million to \$900 million annually because people will not fly or do business they normally would do.

A recent article in The Telegraph, a respected British newspaper, states there is a biblical reference to the number 13 being considered unlucky. Judas, one of the

12 apostles of Jesus who later betrayed him, was supposedly the 13th guest to sit down at the last supper.

The article goes to say that ancient Christianity may also yield some clues as to why Friday is perceived as unlucky. Christ was crucified on a Friday and Cain is believed to have killed his brother Abel on a Friday, perhaps even Friday the 13th. Some biblical scholars

**FRIDAY** cont. on page 2



Image courtesy of Paramount Pictures

## Steve Jobs would be proud



Photos by Timothy P. Howsare

Clockwise from top left: Para educator Megan Bowley watches as seventh-grader Nayeli Lopez works with a reading program on an Apple II. A row of modern Dell desktops in the PJHS classroom. The Apple IIe logo. The IIe is actually three pieces of hardware, the CPU, a color monitor (rare for any computer in the 1980s) and a floppy drive. The "Echo" box (not seen in photo), is an add-on that enables the computers to talk.

■ 30-year-old Apple IIe computers still useful in learning lab at PJHS.

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

When para educator Megan Bowley first walked into a room off the much larger special education classroom at Pampa Junior High School, she probably felt like a deep-sea explorer who sees a prehistoric species of shark that paleontologists say has been extinct for a million years.

"I laughed because I thought they were

dinosaurs," Bowley quipped about the two Apple IIe computers atop a desk in the small learning lab.

Bowley was born in 1988. Though it is not known the exact year the two Apples were manufactured, it is very likely they are both older than Bowley. Apple, the Cupertino, Calif.-based computer credited with revolutionizing the technology industry by build-

**APPLE** cont. on page 2

## If stuffing is too mainstream, try a Cajun fried turkey

By **JOHN LEE**  
 jlee@thepampanews.com

In case you can't make it down to the Gulf of Mexico and the "Big Easy" for Christmas, there is a way for Pampanos to get a Cajun fried turkey.

The Knights of Columbus here in Pampa are making Cajun fried turkeys as a winter fundraiser for the various charities they support.

"We have been making Cajun turkeys for about 15 years now," said Peter Denney, grand knight for Knights of Columbus. "We were looking for another fundraiser to go with our Polish sausage dinner we do in the spring."

The method of cooking isn't the only difference between traditional turkeys and their bayou-flavored counterparts.

Rather than putting stuffing into the birds, Denney and the Knights, using their own recipe, inject the turkey with spices and let it sit for 36 hours.

Depending on the number of birds they're cooking, the Knights start cooking the birds at 5 a.m.

They have a fryer with three tubs that can each hold 12 turkeys at a time. They start frying the first dozen, then after 30 minutes put another dozen in the second tub and then put a third dozen in at the 90-minute mark.



**TURKEY** cont. on page 2



Photo by John Lee

Left, John Perez, past grand knight, and Peter Denney, current grand knight for Knights of Columbus, stand in front of the fryer they will be using next Friday to cook the turkeys. The tarp is on there currently to protect it from the elements, and only half of the fryer is pictured.

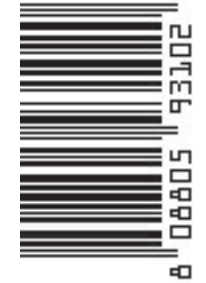
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**IN THIS ISSUE:**

Obituaries .....	3	Comics .....	6
Local Record .....	3	Classifieds .....	7,8
Weather .....	3	Puzzles/Dear Abby ...	8
Viewpoints .....	4	Sports .....	10



ing computers and gizmos that are user-friendly, first sold the Apple II in 1983.

The II was an upgrade to the II, with the "e" standing "enhanced."

So what's under the hood of a IIe?

Not much, if anything at all when compared to today's desktop machines with hundreds of megs of RAM and hard drives with enough capacity to store the entire Library of Congress six times over.

The '80s Apples had no hard drives. Most of the IIes came with a double floppy disk drive that was a separate piece of hardware attached to the CPU with a cable.

The machines came standard with 64 kilobytes of RAM (Note: In defending DOS, his aging PC operating system, Microsoft guru Bill Gates actually said that computers will never need more than 64K of RAM). A couple of the new features not seen on the previous versions of the Apple II were an equivalent of a built-in Apple Language Card and a special "auxiliary slot" for adding more memory via bank-switching RAM cards.

Now that Bowley's gotten over the shock of seeing "real-life dinosaurs," she now professes her love for the old machines because they still do at least one thing very well — teach reading to children.

In 1983 the computers listed for \$1,400, which is the equivalent to \$3,300 in 2013 dollars.

Special ed teacher Shannon Loter is responsible for keeping this old war horse out of the scrap heap.

"It's awesome that these still run," she said.

Loter said she has nothing against the modern Dell PCs that are lined up along one wall of the classroom and uses them daily with her students, who range from sixth to eighth grade.

But the Apples can do one thing the Dells can't — run the Edmark "functional word series" that she said dovetails perfectly with her reading

curriculum, which also includes flashcards and worksheets.

The Edmark program teaches students words and phrases used in everyday life, like words one would see on traffic signs, restaurant menus and the workplace.

Loter said what's special about the Edmark software is that it is a "sight word" program where students learn words by reading them on the computer screen with small pictures surrounding the words. The lessons are reinforced as the computer "talks" to the students through a small box with a speaker called an "Echo." The students, however, cannot talk to the computer as it does not have voice recognition capabilities.

As you are reading this you might think, "Isn't there an app for that?" After all, there's an app for everything else.

According to Loter, the answer is no.

Nothing has come along on the Web that obsolesces what the Edmark programs can do, she said.

And she is of the mindset, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

She always believes in not throwing old stuff away, because you never know when you might need it again.

Loter said she has asked the school district's IT department if there is some way the Apple IIe software could be ported over to the Windows machine, and the response was a few funny looks. "You gotta be kidding Right?"

But in their defense the IT department has done a great job of keeping her beloved Apples alive, she said, replacing monitors and drives.

Loter realizes that eventually there won't be any way to fix or replace parts in the Apples.

But until that day comes, her old friends will always get the same respect as any of the newer, fancier equipment in her classroom.

"They just keep hanging on," she said.

thing different.

"We were trying to do something unique," Denny said. "The first year we cooked about 25 turkeys using our own recipes. Over four years we have perfected it. It is a little spicy, but not too much."

The Knights of Columbus on average cook about 325 turkeys at Thanksgiving and 100 around Christmas.

It's \$30 for a fried turkey or \$40 for a smoked turkey. For more information on Knights of Columbus and their turkey fundraiser, call Andy at 806-570-1955, Pete at 806-662-9083 or Kenny at 806-662-0952.

## Turkey

Continued From Page 1

With 36 birds cooking at a time, their rotational method of cooking kicks in after an hour and a half when they take the first batch of turkeys out and put in a new dozen.

While that may sound confusing to the uninitiated, the Knights have been using this method for many years.

After deciding to have a winter fundraiser, Cajun fried turkeys may seem to be an unorthodox choice, but the Knights wanted some-

## Pampa Fire Department call log — Dec. 9-12

The Pampa Fire Department responded to these calls for the following dates. One unit with three personnel responded to each call, unless otherwise indicated.

### Dec. 9

- At 5:05 p.m., four units and nine personnel to a structure fire in the 300 block of South Starkweather.

### Dec 10

- At 8:24 a.m., one unit

and four personnel to a medical assist in the 1000 block of Twiford.

- At 11:52 a.m., three units and six personnel to a vehicle accident in the 11000 block of County Road E.

- At 1:09 p.m., to a medical assist in the 1600 block of Zimmers.

- At 1:33 p.m., to a false alarm in the 800 block of W 25th 2 units 6 personnel.

- At 9:54 p.m., to a lift

assist in the 2000 block of Mary Ellen.

### Dec. 11

- At 6:44 a.m., one unit and four personnel to a medical assist in the 1500 block of West Kentucky.

- At 11:31 a.m., to a distress call in the 900 block of South Finley.

- At 3:33 p.m., to a medical assist in the 1900 block of Banks.

- At 6:12 p.m., one unit and four personnel to a

medical assist in the 500 block of Montague.

- At 7:28 p.m., one unit and four personnel to a medical assist in the 600 block of Bradley.

- At 11:28 p.m., one unit and four personnel to a medical assist in the 100 block of West Albert.

### Dec 12

- At 3:45 a.m., one unit and four personnel to a medical assist in the 1400 block of East Francis.

## Friday

Continued From Page 1

believe that Eve tempted Adam with the forbidden fruit on a Friday.

However, Dr. Caroline Watt, a professor at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland, sees all the hubbub about Friday the 13th as merely a self-fulfilling prophecy.

"If people believe in the superstition of Friday the 13th, then they believe they are in greater danger on that day," she told The Telegraph.

"As a result they may be more anxious and distracted and this could lead to accidents."

Still, history proves a lot of people have died in some very strange ways on Friday the 13th.

In January 2012, The Costa Concordia cruise ship ran aground on Friday the 13th off the western coast of Italy, killing 30 people.

On Friday, Sept. 13, 1996, American rapper Tupac Shakur died of his

wounds six days after being shot multiple times in a drive-by shooting.

Remember the 1993 movie "Alive?" It was a gut-wrenching true story about Uruguayan Air Force Flight 571, which disappeared in a snow blizzard and crashed in the Andes mountains on Oct. 13, 1972. Two months later, 16 survivors turned up. They had been forced to eat dead passengers in order to survive.

In the early days of World War II, Buckingham Palace was hit by five German bombs on Friday, Sept. 13, 1940 with both King George VI and Queen Elizabeth coming close to being killed. One member of the royal staff died and the palace chapel was destroyed.

The Pampa News asked its Facebook readers if anything strange or unlucky has happened to them on a Friday the 13th.

There was only one report of a possible encounter with the blood-thirsty Jason, and that person, Angelique Marie

Kirkham, was hopefully kidding.

"I usually just dig a moat around my house and fill it with water. It keeps the ole Vorhees away."

Two of those who responded said Friday the 13th is actually a good luck day for them.

Cindy Applegate said, "Good luck Friday — it's my birthday!"

Silvia Dowd said, "The 13th is my lucky days and very good things happen if the 13th falls on Friday."

Samantha Kerbo said, "It's a good day to get married!" but we don't know if Kerbo's response is a testament to her own marital bliss or if she's being sarcastic.

Sherri Sanders indi-

cated she is superstitious with the statement, "I don't drive anywhere on that day," while Holly Hinton Sheridan is casting fate to the wind. "I'm going shopping with my friends!"

Terry Tomlinson said there is no such thing as "bad luck" days. "I do not believe in bad luck days 'cause God created us and earth and everything on earth and God is life and life is God so we cannot have any unlucky days ..."

Ed Heather Brewer Brooks described an odd superstition passed down from her grandfather.

"My grandpa always told us to wear our undies backward on Friday the 13th. (It) wards off bad luck. LOL."

## Deadline for chamber nominations draws near

### SUBMITTED

Nominations for Pampa Chamber of Commerce Citizen and Business of the Year are due by 5 p.m. Dec. 30.

There will be no exceptions. If you know of someone or a business that did a tremendous job this past year, please nominate them. You can do so by picking up a form from the Pampa Chamber of Commerce. Dec. 30 is fast approaching so hurry and get them in. Sponsorships are also available for the Citizen and Business of the Year.

The Chamber of Commerce is also selling tickets for the awards banquet, which will be at 7 p.m. on Feb. 11. The Annual Awards Banquet will be held at M.K. Brown Auditorium.

The chamber is located at 200 N. Ballard St. For more information, call 806-669-3241.



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~From a headstone in Ireland

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# Viewpoints

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## This Land is Our Land Bill O'Reilly is a closet Marxist



**BRUNO BALTODANO**

To my great surprise, I find Pope Francis incendiary. And I thank Bill O'Reilly for that revelation.

Incendiary is not a word one typically uses about a Catholic pope. It's a word usually reserved for rock stars and armed revolutionaries. Two weeks ago, in his first Apostolic Exhortation, Francis urged all of God's children to interpret

the Gospels from the perspective of the poor.

Francis' exhortation, titled "Joy of the Gospel" runs 224 pages so in order to prevent my editor from having a nervous breakdown I will limit myself to a few, incendiary passages.

"Just as the commandment 'Thou shalt not kill' sets a clear limit in order to safeguard the value of human life, today we also have to say 'Thou shalt not' to an economy of exclusion and inequality. Such an

economy kills. How can it be that it is not a news item when an elderly homeless person dies of hunger, but it is news when the stock market loses two points? This is a case of exclusion. Can we continue to stand by when food is thrown away while people are starving? This is a case of inequality."

Incendiary indeed...and that brings me to Bill O'Reilly.

Two weeks ago in "Unresolved Problem: The Nanny State vs. Christianity," a segment of Fox News' The O'Reilly Factor, O'Reilly pointed out that he has a problem with Pope Francis asking us to find ways to feed and help the poor, especially if it is done through welfare systems that are supported by the federal income tax.

O'Reilly said that, "I don't know if Jesus is going to be down with that...[because] it's your fault, you're bringing the havoc, [and then] you're asking people who may be struggling themselves...to give their tax money to you."

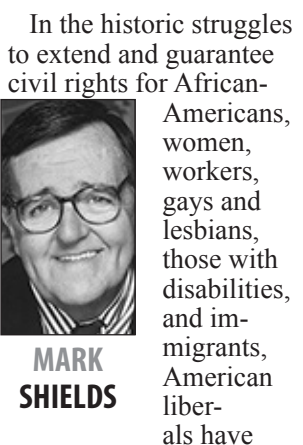
The idea that individuals are solely responsible for the (good or bad) changes in their lives under a laissez-faire capitalism is nothing new, Adam Smith and John Keynes were discussing the basics long before O'Reilly. The difference here, and the reason that Pope Francis comes into the discussion, is that O'Reilly decided to bring Jesus into the discussion.

Forget about "WWJD?" Apparently, Christian capitalists must now consider "What Would Jesus Be Down With?"

The central argument in Francis' exhortation is that a CHRISTIAN, open-market liberal democracy SHOULD behave morally. Moreover, the Gospels provide us with guidance on how to do this. Pope Francis and Bill O'Reilly seem to disagree on this.

One of the basic assumptions of Adam Smith and John Keynes (proponents of laissez-faire capitalism long before O'Reilly) is that the **MARXIST** cont. on page 5

## Time to Fight for Citizen 'Responsibilities'



**MARK SHIELDS**

In the historic struggles to extend and guarantee civil rights for African-Americans, women, workers, gays and lesbians, those with disabilities, and immigrants, American liberals have provided truly indispensable public and political leadership. Because of their efforts, the United States is today a fairer, better and more humane place.

But along the way, when almost every disagreement turns into each side asserting and insisting upon its rights, the national debate has sadly become impoverished. When was the last time you heard a national leader talk about the responsibilities each of us has as an American citizen? Perhaps your memory is better than mine.

We live today in an increasingly stratified country, where young Americans can go all the way through school without meeting or knowing anyone from outside their own social and economic classes. Americans are disconnected from each other and nowhere is this disconnect more alarming and more obvious than between those in the U.S. military and their civilian contemporaries. In spite of all the "Support Our Troops" bumper stickers on SUVs and the unvarying mantra of how "proud" all our public officials, irrespective of party, are of "our brave men and women in uniform," the American upper class is happy to have all fighting and, yes, all dying done not by its own precious children but instead by the sons and daughters of waitresses, secretaries and firefighters.

Back when Ronald Reagan was a presidential candidate, 412 members of the House and Senate — 77 percent of Congress — had worn their nation's uniform in military service. Today, just 108 out of 535, barely 20 percent, have served. Interestingly, the two female House mem-

bers in that group are both combat veterans.

Lyndon Johnson was the last president to have a son — or in his case, two sons-in-law — serve, both in wartime. Franklin Roosevelt had four sons. All went to war. Elliott Roosevelt enlisted in the Army Air Corps and flew 300 combat missions. Jimmy Roosevelt joined the Marine Corps, and in combat in the Pacific, earned both the Navy Cross and the Silver Star. Navy Lt. Cmdr. Franklin Roosevelt Jr.'s bravery saving the lives of crew members when under heavy enemy fire was rewarded with a Silver Star. And Navy Lt. John Roosevelt earned a Bronze Star during World War II.

It's not just about who is in today's all-volunteer military but also about who is not. The last major star to serve from the entertainment world was Army draftee Elvis Presley. Because the country's political leadership failed to draft upper class youth during the Vietnam War, the draft lost its legitimacy.

Here is the challenge to my fellow liberals. Let us lead by reminding our fellow Americans and ourselves that our citizenship, while priceless, is not free. We have responsibilities, beyond paying the taxes we owe, to each other and to our country. Universal national service and two years of training and service with no exemptions for every young American could be the liberals' summons to collective sacrifice for the common good.

With a son or daughter in uniform, foreign policy — along with serious questioning of any future president's rush to war — would become the central concern of every family. Beyond military service, other important national tasks include cleaning up our country, bringing hope to children at risk and help to the helpless, and providing company to the lonely. We're winning the fight for citizens' rights. Now it's time to lead the fight for citizen responsibility.

To find out more about Mark Shields and read his past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at [www.creators.com](http://www.creators.com).



### How To Write Us

The Pampa News welcomes letters to the editor. When submitting a letter, please include the writer's name, address and signatures.

We reserve the right to edit letters or not to publish certain letters.

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## Letter to the Editor Take a drive to see the beautiful Christmas lights

To all families in Pampa. Take an evening car trip and visit downtown Pampa to see beautiful Cuyler Street all the way!

The Christmas decorations are spectacular and even the businesses have special lighting. City Hall, Gray County Courthouse and the main fire station are all lit

up. What a special present from my son and daughter-in-law for my 89th birthday. They also made a tour of the homes so beautifully decorated. Don't miss it!

**Iris Ragsdale  
Pampa**

## Obamacare: If you like your facts, you can keep them

President Barack Obama recently asserted, "Thanks in part to the Affordable



**LARRY ELDER**

Care Act, also known as 'Obamacare,' the cost of health care is now growing at the slowest rate in 50 years." So, you may be losing your health care coverage, and you may end up paying more — but, hey, rising costs are slowing overall "in part" because of Obamacare.

True, as Obama says, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services — the agency that administers Medicaid and Medicare — "estimated that ... (in) the three years since Obamacare passed, we've seen the slowest growth in health care costs on record."

But is this due "in part" to Obamacare?

About Obama's claim, the Washington Post said: "The President, in his

comment, used the word 'helped,' which is sufficiently vague that in theory it could mean any impact, no matter how slight. Yet he also cited this as a reason for not walking away from the law, which suggests he thinks it had more than a modest impact. In fact, some listeners might interpret his statement as suggesting the law has had a significant impact. However, 'help' could also simply mean 'contributed.'" In other words, this is similar to the President's pre-"stimulus" push. He claimed it would "save or create" 3.5 million jobs — a claim sufficiently slippery and vague so as to escape measurement.

Here, the President wants us to believe that: millions now have subsidized health care insurance; carriers cannot decline based on pre-existing illness; carriers cannot "discriminate" when setting rates; carriers must allow "children" under 26 to remain on their parents' policies — all of which has been accomplished while "slowing

down the rise in costs?"

The Obama-sympathetic ABC News "fact-checked" it. Yes, increases are more modest, as the President claims, "but many independent experts believe the slowdown is largely due to the economy and a contraction of spending during the recession. The role of the Affordable Care Act has been limited and hard to measure, they say. ... Experts note that changes under ACA could ultimately increase the growth rate of health care costs initially, since more people will be covered (and paying for) health plans and treatments. The continued economic recovery is expected to contribute, as well, as more Americans have increased income to spend on health care."

The "fact checker" from the Obama-friendly Washington Post said, "The evidence has become too murky to reach a firm conclusion. Clearly, even economists are unsure why health care inflation has continued to remain low so long."

The Wall Street Journal's opinion page was not murky: "These assertions border on nonsense. National spending on health care is projected to reach a record \$2.9 trillion in 2013, according to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. This is more than 25 percent above pre-recession spending levels in 2007. Health care expenditures per capita and as a percentage of GDP are also at record highs, expected to top out this year at \$9,216 and 18 percent respectively. ...

"Annual health spending growth rates began to decline a decade ago. In 2002, health care spending grew by nearly 10 percent in a single year. The growth rate dropped to 7.1 percent in 2004, 6.2 percent in 2007 and bottomed out at 3.9 percent in 2009 — the worst year of the Great Recession, where it has stayed ever since. Obamacare was enacted in 2010."

Another Obamacare

**FACTS** cont. on page 5

# Marxist

Continued From Page 4

actors in the market, like banks and landlords, will self-regulate and consequently all individuals will benefit. It's from that assumption that O'Reilly opposes welfare programs like Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

But, what O'Reilly does not mention is that we can no longer afford to ignore that unregulated, free-market capitalism has some serious flaws. The stock market crash of 2008, primarily due to lack of regulations on sub-prime loans, exposed a large chunk on the laissez-faire capitalist armor.

In truth, what Francis is telling us is something we already know. This capitalist baby of ours is sitting in pretty stinky water; we must find a way to get rid of the water while still keeping the baby. This is surely doable, as any self-respecting parent

can tell you. All it needs is a few structural changes here and a few savvy regulations there.

"This implies a commitment to eliminate the structural causes of global economic dysfunction," Francis said.

That is not so incendiary of a statement; the part that got Francis in trouble is that he exhorts us to look to the Gospels for direction on how to fix our economic system. The foundation of Jesus' ministry was compassion, which is the opposite of selfishness, and we must start there.

It is because of the Gospels, Francis tells us, that "we can no longer trust in the unseen forces and the invisible hand of the market. Growth in justice requires more than economic growth... it requires decisions and processes specifically geared to a better distribution of income."

That prompted O'Reilly to "set the record straight" about Jesus again (remember he recently published a book about Jesus) and Rush Limbaugh to

label Francis as a Marxist rabble rouser.

Now, that is something I would pay good (capitalist) money to see, a revolutionary religious leader but we already had one long before... haven't we?

But the real funny moment came when O'Reilly said that "the problem I have, as I stated is that you're helping one group by hurting another group and a bigger group, and so I don't know if Jesus is going to be down with that."

I wonder if Bill noticed that he was making an argument against class warfare with that statement, which is, of course, a Marxist argument.

Who would have known it? Bill O'Reilly is a closet Marxist after all. No wonder he has a problem with Christian moral duty.

*Bruno Baltodano, a resident of Pampa, is a faculty adjunct at Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho and at Clarendon College in Pampa. He teaches college courses on Global Politics, American Government and Terrorism.*

# Sentence in Texas teen's fatal DWI wreck stirs ire

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP)—A North Texas teen from an affluent family was sentenced to probation this week after he killed four pedestrians when he lost control of his speeding pickup truck while driving drunk, a punishment that outraged the victims' families and left prosecutors disappointed.

The 16-year-old boy was sentenced Tuesday in a Fort Worth juvenile court to 10 years of probation after he confessed to intoxication manslaughter in the June 15 crash on a dark rural road.

Prosecutors had sought the maximum 20 years in state custody for the Keller teen, but his attorneys appealed to state District Judge Jean Boyd that the teenager needed rehabilitation not prison, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported.

If the boy continues to be cushioned by his family's wealth, another tragedy is inevitable, prosecutor Richard Alpert said in court.

"There can be no doubt that he will be in another courthouse one day blaming the lenient treatment he received here," Alpert said.

Authorities said the teen

and friends were seen on surveillance video stealing two cases of beer from a store. He had seven passengers in his Ford F-350, was speeding and had a blood-alcohol level three times the legal limit, according to testimony during the trial. His pickup truck slammed into the four pedestrians, killing Brian Jennings, a 43-year-old Burleson youth minister; Breanna Mitchell of Lillian, 24; Shelby Boyles, 21; and her 52-year-old mother, Hollie Boyles.

Boyd said the programs available in the Texas juvenile justice system may not provide the kind of intensive therapy the teen could receive at a rehabilitation center near Newport Beach, Calif., that was suggested by his defense attorneys. The parents would pick up the tab for the center, at a cost of more than \$450,000 a year for treatment.

Scott Brown, the boy's lead defense attorney, said he could have been freed after two years if he had drawn the 20-year sentence.

But instead, the judge "fashioned a sentence that could have him under the thumb of the justice system for the next 10 years,"

he told the Star-Telegram.

Relatives of those killed in the accident drew little comfort from that assurance.

Eric Boyles, who lost his wife and daughter, said the family's wealth helped the teen avoid incarceration.

"Money always seems to keep you out of trouble," Boyles said. "Ultimately today, I felt that money did prevail. If you had been any other youth, I feel like the circumstances would have been different."

Shauna Jennings, the minister's widow, said her family had forgiven the teen but believed a sterner punishment was needed.

"You lived a life of privilege and entitlement, and my prayer is that it does not get you out of this," she said. "My fear is that it will get you out of this."

A psychologist called as an expert defense witness said the boy suffered from "affluenza," growing up in a house where the parents were preoccupied with arguments that led to a divorce.

The father "does not have relationships, he takes hostages," psychologist Gary Miller said, and the mother was indulgent. "Her mantra was that if it feels good, do it," he said.

# Facts

Continued From Page 4

editorial page opponent, Investors Business Daily, said: "Yes, the rate of growth in national health spending has slowed in recent years. ... But this has nothing to do with Obamacare. The latest report from the chief actuary of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services — the official scorekeeper of health spending — says the spending growth slowdown is 'unrelated to the (Affordable Care Act).'"

"It also reports that Obamacare will add to national spending over the next decade. Other reports have pinned much of the slowdown on the recession and Obama's lousy recovery that followed it.

Plus, Obamacare is now pushing premiums up.

"As Charles Blahous, a former trustee for Social Security and Medicare, puts it, Obama's latest cost-cutting claims 'are just as groundless as the ones that misled so many Americans to believe they would be able to keep their previous coverage.'"

It is still the economy, stupid. And this is a pathetic recovery. After the tax hikes, the largest ever "stimulus," imposition of massive new financial and environmental regulations — and now Obamacare — Obamanomics produced the worst recovery in 80 years, still 2 million jobs short of our peak, while millions more have completely given up looking for work.

Obamacare is less popular than ever. More ominously for Democrats,

a recent Gallup poll finds that Obamacare's unpopularity has caused many Americans to re-think whether "health care coverage" is "the responsibility of the federal government." In 2006, just seven years ago, 69 percent said it was the responsibility of the federal government. Now, that number has shrunk to 42 percent, with 56 percent saying health care coverage is not a responsibility of the federal government.

Who knows? Maybe millions are finally waking up.

*Larry Elder is a best-selling author and radio talk-show host. To find out more about Larry Elder, or become an "Elderado," visit www.LarryElder.com. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.*

# NASA suspects bad valve for space station trouble

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — NASA is scrambling to figure out what's wrong with a key cooling unit on the International Space Station.

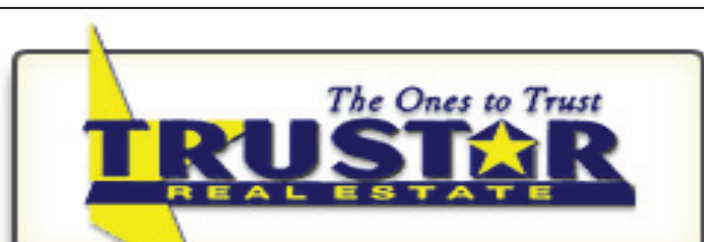
On Wednesday, one of two identical cooling loops shut down. The system uses ammonia to dissipate heat from on-board

equipment. One line was getting too cold. Engineers suspect a bad valve.

Mission Control ordered the six-man crew to turn off some science experiments and other non-critical equipment. Those instruments stayed off Thursday, while the astronauts remained safe and

comfortable.

The suspect valve is in a pump that was replaced by spacewalking astronauts three years ago. Flight controllers are looking at ways to fix the valve. A software repair would be the easiest option, a spacewalk the most complicated.



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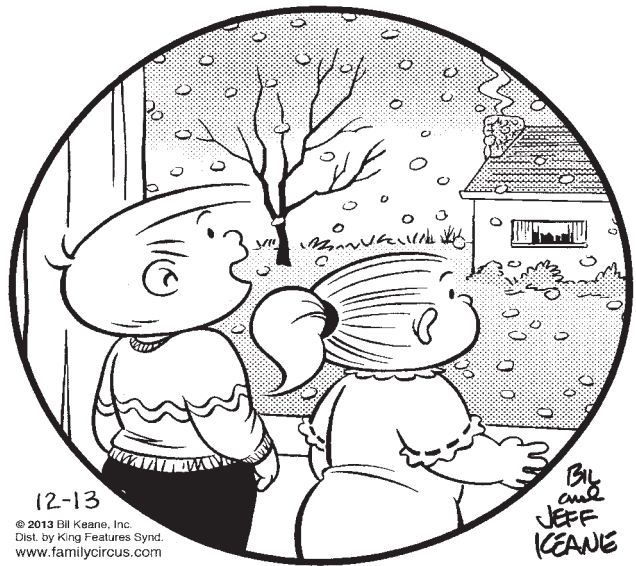
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# comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



12-13  
© 2013 Bill Keane, Inc. Dist. by King Features Synd. www.familycircus.com  
"Yes! I guess my prayer for a white Christmas got put on the fast track!"  
Bill and Jeff Keane

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads



ALLEN 12/13

## daily horoscope

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Saturday, Dec. 14, 2013:  
This year you could be very busy. In fact, you might feel as if you're too busy. Recognize how much you dislike spending time alone. Part of the reason for the hectic pace relates to this issue. If you are single, you could jump into a relationship too quickly in search of companionship. Be careful. If you are attached, the two of you often spend time together. You love working with your sweetie on projects. You might be seeing and appreciating a new side to his or her personality. GEMINI often challenges you.  
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)  
★★★★ Juggle your finances carefully. A decision could have implications beyond the obvious. You initially might look at the worst-case scenario, and then decide to be reasonably indulgent. You are likely to see a situation from a more moderate point of view. Tonight: Out and about.  
**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
★★★★ Maximize the moment. You might have a special friend visiting. A loved one will notice how busy you are and retreat. Make sure this person is not being left out; ask if he or she would like to join you. Tonight: Whatever you choose is perfect.  
**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
★★★★ You don't need to explain why you need some time alone. Many of you will be doing holiday shopping. The intensity of a personal relationship could overwhelm you. Take some time and distance yourself rather than create an uproar. Tonight: Nap, then decide.  
**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
★★★★ Listen to a friend, as he or she gives you the scoop on what is happening with several friends and a get-together. A loved one could feel as if he or she isn't included in this group. For your sake, do not allow this person to feel insecure. Tonight: Do what you love.  
**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
★★★★ Others share with you as though you were their confidant. A problem could occur when more than one of these people are around, as there could be an undertone of jealousy. Support yourself in who you are. A loved one understands you well.

Tonight: A force to behold.  
**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
★★★★ Keep trying to get a hold of a friend. You care a lot about this person. Fill out cards and buy presents, especially for those at a distance. Recognize your limits. Invite friends to go caroling. Get into holiday music. Tonight: In the spirit of the moment.  
**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
★★★★ Continue to relate to close friends and loved ones directly. There is something about you that makes others want to be your sole focus. You give the gift of being present in the moment. Tonight: Spend some close time with a loved one.  
**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
★★★★ Touch base with several loved ones. Even if you are heading in different directions during the day, it doesn't mean that you won't be able to get together later. You might be the force that brings loved ones together. Tonight: Enjoy a laid-back gathering.  
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
★★★ You might be stuck in high gear trying to get as much done as possible. At some point, try to squeeze in a nap. A loved one will join you later in the day, as he or she wants to hang with you, even if it means going shopping or finally getting a tree. Tonight: Celebrate life.  
**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
★★★★ You will want to spend some quality time with a special someone, but you have a lot to get done. Everyone is as busy as you are, and they probably would like to steal some time away with their loved ones, too. Tonight: When you feel tired, stop.  
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
★★★ You could be thinking that you should run some holiday errands, but you simply might need some time off from the hectic pace. Once you decide to lie low, you might want to screen your calls. Tonight: Curl up with a favorite book and play it low-key.  
**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
★★★★ Hook up with a friend for lunch to visit and discuss your holiday plans and gift-giving arrangements. For you, most of the pleasure of the holidays comes from visiting with different friends, especially if they live out of town. Tonight: A hot toddy and some holiday fun.

Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



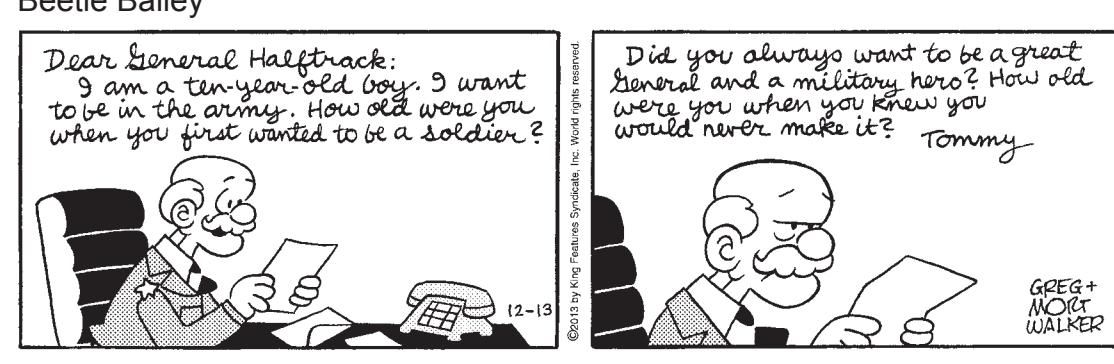
Zits



Garfield



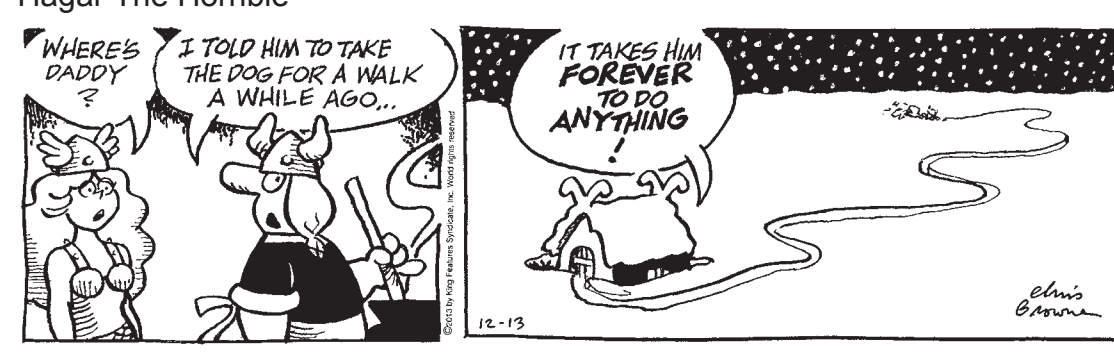
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



Hagar The Horrible

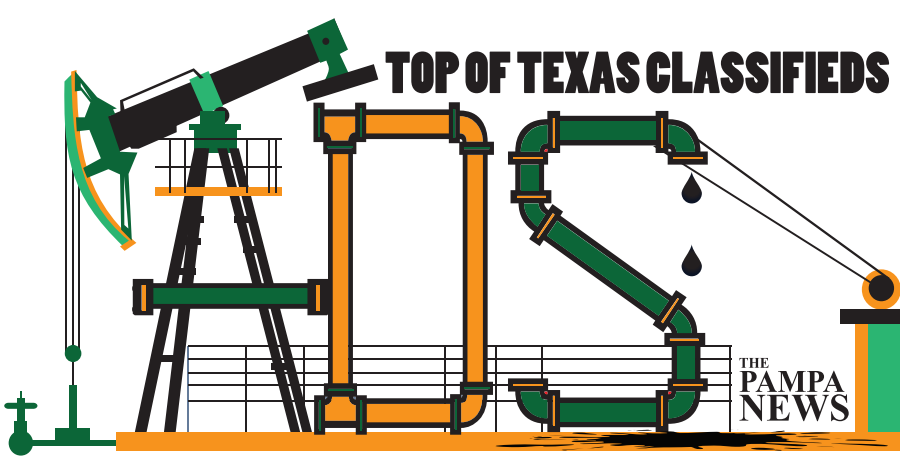


Peanuts



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MCLEAN Care Center is accepting applications for all positions. Contact Dewayne Atwood, 806-779-2469

MUSIC Ministry position at First United Methodist Church of Pampa. Seeking accompanist for Sunday morning worship service and Wednesday night choir practice. Ability to play piano a must, organ a plus. Background check required. Contact church at 669-7411 or email PastorBlossomFUMC@gmail.com

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XYMK JDWEKMYNR LCDW

RSWFKMK SEWYMDWFK DWJ

FYWRFSKWLSYNR RLVNSJSLG.

— X D M L S W Q N L C K M Z S W E O M.

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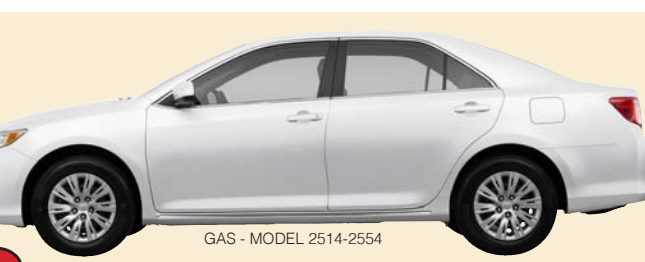
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**\$1,000 TOYOTA CUSTOMER CASH**

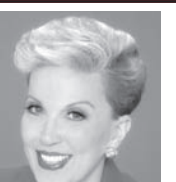
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## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My 17-year-old daughter, "Erica," is planning to marry her 24-year-old boyfriend. I use the term "boyfriend" loosely because their relationship consists entirely of texting, talking on the phone and the Internet. There has been no dating or getting to know each other in person. Erica is intent on marrying this man even though he has lied to her several times in addition to having lied to us. She is planning to attend a four-year college. I'm not sure how to handle this. She hid the relationship from us for more than six months. I realize Erica needs to make her own mistakes, but I'm not sure how to make her understand my very real concern about this.

become pregnant. It may give her a glimpse of exactly what she's letting herself in for BEFORE the wedding.

Of course the three of you will want to meet as many of his family and friends as possible. Because Erica won't listen to reason, perhaps SEEING will bring her back down to earth. This will also give you (all) a chance to find out what else her "boyfriend" may have been lying about, including his age.

DEAR ABBY: What do I do about my husband's cruelty to our cat? My children love "Miss Kitty," but their dad kicks her and terrorizes the poor little thing to the point where I don't think I can protect her any longer, especially when I'm not home.

I have told the kids that Dad is wrong and not to be like him, but I'm afraid eventually they may think it's OK to mistreat animals. What should I do? — CALIFORNIA ANIMAL LOVER

DEAR ANIMAL LOVER: Find Miss Kitty a good home ASAP! Your husband appears to have sociopathic tendencies. Does he exhibit them in any other ways? A man who mistreats animals might also abuse children if they should get in his way or he is in a bad mood.

when you give their beloved pet away. Explain that it had to be done because she wasn't safe around their father.

DEAR ABBY: My sister informed me today that her children have registered at Toys R Us, and has instructed me to purchase only the toys on their registry for Christmas! Apparently, this is the new way to shop.

Abby, I have never told anyone what to buy my kids, and I'm appalled by this new idea of a Christmas registry. I try very hard to buy great Christmas gifts that my loved ones will enjoy. Am I wrong to think this is rude? — APPALLED SHOPPER

DEAR APPALLED: I agree your sister's request is presumptuous. But I suppose a Christmas registry is a natural progression from wedding and baby registries. There wouldn't be a Toys R Us registry if it wasn't a successful sales tool for people who don't like to shop. Because you are not one of them, and Christmas shopping brings you pleasure, I suggest you do as you wish.

P.S. Let's see how Sissy responds when you let her know you have adopted her idea and will register at Tiffany's on your next birthday.

## BANANAGRAMS!

Each set of letters below is arranged alphabetically, and the ? is in the correct alphabetical position. Figure out what letter the ? represents and rearrange the letters to spell a seven-letter word. For example, in ACNO?SW the ? could be an O, P, Q, R or S. Here it represents a P, which can be combined with the other letters to spell SNOWCAP. The first letter has been placed to get you started.

**LEVEL**

A ? E I N T X    A B ? G K L O  
I                    B

A ? E I L P P    ? E H I I R T  
A                    I

A E H ? T U X    A B E L L M ?  
E                    B

Yesterday's Answer: TERSELY, PENSIVE, OUTLINE 12.13

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3 BDRM, 2 ba C/H&A, 1100 Seneca, Travis Sch. dist; 2 bdrm, C/H&A 522 N. Dwight. References. 440-1969

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## SUDOKU

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Advanced

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 "The Rehearsal" painter
  - 6 Like corsets
  - 11 Like xenon
  - 12 Laughable
  - 13 Kitchen come-on
  - 14 Available
  - 15 Course goal
  - 16 Mythical piper
  - 18 Running bird
  - 19 Fabergé creation
  - 20 CDs' fore-runners
  - 21 Track act
  - 22 Square dancer, at times
  - 24 Friend
  - 25 Rio native
  - 27 Mineo and Bartolo
  - 29 Grip tightly
  - 32 Old hand
  - 33 Movie role for George Burns
  - 34 John of "Harold & Kumar" films
  - 35 Bustle
  - 36 UFO fliers
  - 37 Hem and —

- 38 Zellweger of "Chicago"
- 40 Deal maker
- 42 Dandling spots
- 43 Release
- 44 Panache
- 45 Carries

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

Yesterday's answer

- 7 Abby's sis
- 8 "The Monuments Men" co-star
- 9 Paint type
- 10 Posse member
- 17 Pinkish yellow
- 23 — Palmas
- 24 Court feat
- 26 Tar
- 27 Welding byproduct
- 28 Zealous
- 30 Nickels and dimes
- 31 Instructional guides
- 33 Gaggle group
- 39 Twisty fish
- 41 Earthy

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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
32						33				34	
35						36				37	
38					39				40	41	
42									43		
44											

# Missouri carries out 2nd execution in 3 weeks

BONNE TERRE, Mo. (AP) — Allen Nicklasson once recalled the “euphoria” he felt after fatally shooting a kindly businessman who stopped to help when he saw Nicklasson’s car stalled on Interstate 70 near Kingdom City, Mo., in 1994.

Late Wednesday night, Nicklasson was put to death for Richard Drummond’s killing — nearly 23 hours after he was originally scheduled to die. It was the second execution in Missouri in three weeks after a nearly three-year hiatus. Racist serial killer Joseph Paul Franklin was executed Nov. 20.

The executions also were the first since Missouri switched from a three-drug protocol to use of a single drug, pentobarbital.

Nicklasson, 41, was pronounced dead at 10:52 p.m. Wednesday, eight minutes after the process began. His eyes remained closed throughout and he showed little reaction to the drug, briefly breathing heavily about 2 minutes into the process. He offered no final words.

Missouri Department of Public Safety spokesman Mike O’Connell said Nicklasson prayed briefly with the prison chaplain

about 20 minutes before the execution. No one from his family or the victim’s family attended.

The execution was the end of a life troubled almost from the start. Nicklasson grew up in Kansas City, Mo., in a fatherless home. His mother was a mentally ill stripper who brought home an assortment of men, many of whom abused her son. Nicklasson died bearing the scar from where one of the men burned him.

Nicklasson declined interviews in the days leading up to his execution. But in a 2009 interview with The Associated Press, he recalled the trauma of his childhood — eating Alpo dog food for dinner, watching his mother shoot up heroin. She once made him fight a Doberman for money, he recalled. Then, there was the constant torrent of abuse from his mother’s male friends.

Nicklasson suffered from bipolar disorder and lived on and off in boys’ homes for his petty crimes and institutions for his mental illness.

By his 20s, Nicklasson was homeless and a drug addict. While in rehab in 1994, he crossed paths with Dennis Skillicorn,

who had been recently released from prison following a second-degree murder conviction for killing a man during a robbery.

The two and a third man, Tim DeGraffenreid, decided in August 1994 to make the trip from Kansas City across I-70 to St. Louis to buy drugs. On the way back, their rundown 1983 Chevrolet Caprice started sputtering. It broke down near Kingdom City, about 100 miles west of St. Louis, and they took it to the shop.

They used the down time to burglarize a home, stealing money and guns. Though warned the car was unfixable, the men got back on the road.

The car soon broke down again. Drummond, a 47-year-old Excelsior Springs, Mo., man who was a technical support supervisor for AT&T, saw the three men and their stranded car. He decided to stop and help.

The men loaded their stolen goods in the trunk of Drummond’s Dodge Intrepid. Then Nicklasson put a gun to his head and told him to drive west.

Along the way, there was some debate between Nicklasson and Skillicorn about what to do with Drummond. Ultimately,

they ordered him off the highway and to a secluded area in Lafayette County in western Missouri.

In the 2009 interview, Nicklasson recalled how he left the other two behind and walked Drummond to a wooded area. He said he had intended to tie him up to buy time for the trio to get away.

He changed his mind, ordering Drummond to kneel and cross his legs. Then he shot him twice in the head.

“I’m laughing, pacing,” Nicklasson said, recalling the moment. “I started losing it. I wouldn’t want this out, but I felt a euphoria. I finally got back for all the beatings I took” as a child.

Nicklasson and Skillicorn stole Drummond’s car and drove to Arizona. When the vehicle broke down in the desert, they approached the home of

Joseph and Charlene Babcock. Nicklasson killed Joseph Babcock after the man drove them back to their vehicle. Charlene Babcock was killed at the couple’s home.

Both Nicklasson and Skillicorn were sentenced to life in prison for the Arizona killings and also sentenced to death in Missouri for Drummond’s death. Skillicorn was executed in 2009 even though Nicklasson took sole responsibility for killing Drummond.

DeGraffenreid pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and did not receive a death sentence.

Nicklasson’s execution was originally scheduled for 12:01 a.m. Wednesday. But an appeals court panel granted a stay of execution Monday, citing concerns about his counsel at trial and sentencing in 1996.

When the full appeals court refused to take up the case Tuesday, Missouri Attorney General Chris Koster appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

It did not return its 5-4 decision to vacate the stay until 10:07 p.m. Wednesday, with Justices Ruth Ginsberg, Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan dissenting. Gov. Jay Nixon refused to grant clemency.

Missouri previously used a three-drug method for executions but changed protocols after drugmakers stopped selling the lethal drugs to prisons and corrections departments. The pentobarbital used in Missouri executions comes from an undisclosed compounding pharmacy — the Missouri Department of Corrections declines to say who makes the drug, or where.

# Guardisman accused of stealing military IDs

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — A Minnesota National Guardsman faces federal fraud charges in connection with the theft of names, Social Security numbers and security clearance levels of roughly 400 members of his former Army unit in Fort Bragg, N.C. The Iraq War veteran intended to use the confidential material to create fake IDs for his militia, court documents say.

Obtained Wednesday by The Associated Press, the federal complaint and affidavit says Keith Michael Novak, 25, threatened to use violence if authorities came to arrest him. He also told an undercover FBI employee that he would barricade himself in his apartment and had “5,000 rounds, a thousand of it is in magazines, ready to go,” according to the affidavit.

Novak, of Maplewood, was in federal custody Wednesday and unavailable for comment.

His father has an unlisted number, and attempts to reach him were unsuccessful. The federal defender’s office has the case, but an attorney had not been selected to represent him by Wednesday evening.

Novak served as an active-duty soldier and intelligence analyst with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg from Feb. 26, 2009, to Sept. 3, 2012, and served in Iraq in 2010. He is currently a human intelligence

analyst with the Minnesota National Guard.

In late January, he went to a training camp in Utah and met two undercover FBI employees who posed as members of a Utah-based militia, according to the affidavit.

Novak told the undercover employees that he took classified materials from Fort Bragg and would share the materials with them, the document said.

In July, the undercover employees came to Minnesota, where Novak gave them an electronic copy of classified documents and taught them how to encrypt files, the affidavit said. He also said that he had a personnel roster — including names, birthdates and Social Security numbers — of a “Battalion’s-worth of people” from his former unit.

The undercover employees said they knew someone who could make fake IDs, which Novak said he needed for his militia. Novak sent the information for 44 individuals to an undercover FBI employee on Nov. 4, and on Nov. 25, he accepted \$2,000 and said he had additional pages to sell, according to the affidavit.

Lt. Col. Kevin Olson, spokesman for the Minnesota National Guard, said Wednesday that the guard is aware of the charges and cooperating with the FBI investigation. Lt. Col. Virginia McCabe, spokeswoman

for the 82nd Airborne Division, said Wednesday the unit will work with the appropriate authorities.

Novak’s militia activities are also detailed in the affidavit, including a military-style field training exercise that took place in September in rural Minnesota.

The affidavit alleged Novak stole six flak vests from the 82nd Airborne Division when unit members left them unattended.

Novak had also previously given 10 flak jackets to members of his militia, the affidavit said.

Novak also told the man who saw the vests in a storage unit that he had camouflage netting and riot gear and intended to start burying caches of equipment.

The complaint and affidavit were initially sealed because Novak had made several statements that suggest he might flee or resort to violence.

Novak told an undercover employee that he sleeps with guns and was ready to shoot through the wall, the affidavit said, and has weapons hidden throughout the state.

“I’ve my AK in my bed. If I hear that door kick, it’s going boom, boom, boom, boom, boom, boom.”

“I’m just going to start putting them through the (explosive) wall,” he told an undercover FBI employee in July, according to the affidavit.

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# PampaSports

## Shanahan sits RG3; Cousins will start for Redskins

ASHBURN, Va. (AP) — It takes quite the sales job to explain why a medically cleared Robert Griffin III won't play for the rest of the season.

Embattled Washington Redskins coach Mike Shanahan realized that and gave it his best shot Wednesday, speaking passionately at times in a 28-minute news conference that included references to the team's "circus atmosphere" and insistences that the move isn't a ploy to get himself fired.

The upshot is that Griffin will be the inactive third quarterback for the Redskins' final three games, behind starter Kirk Cousins and backup Rex Grossman. Shanahan's reasoning is that he fears Griffin, who has taken a pounding in recent weeks, will get hurt, and that would ruin the franchise player's off-season — a reversal of Shanahan's oft-stated position that Griffin needed as much game experience as possible and would play to the end of the season.

## Sit or play? 'Rodgers Watch' resumes for Pack at Cowboys

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — Aaron Rodgers took some first-team snaps in practice Wednesday, though the Packers' franchise



Aaron Rodgers

quarterback still hasn't been cleared to play in a game. If that stands through the rest of week, backup Matt Flynn is back in for Rodgers when Green Bay visits the Dallas Cowboys on Sunday in a game critical to both teams' play-off hopes.

It's been a mixed bag of news this week for Packers fans anxious to find out when Rodgers will adorn the No. 12 jersey again in a game. The Packers are 1-4-1 since Rodgers fractured his left collarbone in a 27-20 loss Nov. 4 to the Bears, though they regained confidence following the come-from-behind,

22-21 victory last week over Atlanta.

"Twelve looked real good today. It was good to see him out there, really working with the offense," tight end Andrew Quarless said Wednesday. "He was out there before but wasn't working as much with the offense, but today he took some offensive reps, which is a great thing for the team, definitely."

Asked to clarify, Quarless said Rodgers did some work with the starters.

Don't get too worked up though, Tiletown.

Coach Mike McCarthy didn't sound like someone Wednesday who was sure Rodgers is ready. The quarterback is still officially listed as "limited" in practice.

He is "the face of our franchise and until he's medically cleared, just like any other player going through a significant injury, that's really where the focus will be," McCarthy said.

Tuesday on his radio

show on 540-AM ESPN in Milwaukee, Rodgers recounted his practice routine the previous week, when he said he felt pain while pushing him last Wednesday, Dec. 4. He said he then tried not to stress the collarbone the next two days.

While Rodgers has been hopeful of a relatively quick return, he has said that a normal healing cycle for someone with his type of injury was from six to eight weeks. Wednesday would be about five weeks since getting hurt.

McCarthy said he didn't notice Rodgers in any pain Wednesday.

"We'll see how he is tomorrow. We'll set a plan for him again tomorrow," McCarthy said. "Aaron still is not medically cleared. And that's really, I think it's important to stay in tune with that because the topic of 'Is he playing in the game' vs. 'Is he medically cleared' — those are two totally different issues."

Which brings the Packers back to Flynn, who can build off a mainly positive outing last week against the Falcons. He threw for 258 yards and the 2-yard touchdown pass to Quarless that put the Packers ahead for good.

Returning to Green Bay (6-6-1) about a month ago after Rodgers and previous backup Seneca Wallace were hurt in back-to-back weeks, Flynn is gradually getting comfortable again in McCarthy's West Coast system. He's benefiting from full weeks of practices after getting shelled following a short work week for the 40-10 Thanksgiving Day loss to Detroit.

Against Atlanta, Flynn was effective in the no-huddle offense. For the most part, he didn't force throws or take risky shots deep. He came up clutch in the fourth quarter with the touchdown pass that cashed in on a Falcons turnover.

"We had flow to our of-

fense, rhythm to our offense that we really hadn't had consistently over the past month," McCarthy said. "Just trying to find that midpoint of doing things that we feel that we need to win on Sunday, but to make sure he's comfortable."

Sacks remain one big problem. Flynn shouldered blame after being taken down five times by Atlanta, and he thinks his increasing comfort level will help with hurdles like getting hung up too long on certain receivers.

But overall, Flynn is confident the team can succeed without Rodgers for the rest of the year, if need be, pointing to the complimentary football played Sunday as evidence.

"That's something good to build on. If you ask anyone in this locker room, everyone thinks we can win," Flynn said.

"We just have to go out there and execute and prove it."

## Indy has been unfriendly to Texans

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Texans will attempt to end the worst skid in franchise history in a place where they've never won.

Houston plays the Colts on Sunday, looking to stop an 11-game losing streak and win for the first time in Indianapolis. The Texans also have lost 11 in a row there.

Running back Ben Tate said they aren't worried about where they're playing this week, all they're focused on is winning.

"If we can get it anywhere, if we play in a parking lot — just getting a win," Tate said. "I don't think it really

matters. I don't know how much coaches are really thinking or going to emphasize that. It's just getting a win period. I don't care if we play them at the Galleria mall. We just want to win."

Though some Texans noted that playing in Indianapolis is louder than many places, they couldn't pinpoint exactly why they've had so much trouble there.

"I have no answer for that other than we just haven't," said Andre Johnson, who has been on the team for all but the first trip to Indianapolis in 2002.

Johnson said that the old RCA Dome was louder and more difficult to play in

than Lucas Oil Stadium.

Houston has certainly had some good chances to pick up wins there, but has fell short time after time. In the early days of the franchise, they were rarely even competitive in Indianapolis. Their first six losses there were by an average of more than 19 points.

They've fared better since the new stadium opened in 2008 and have lost by more than a touchdown only twice.

They came closest to ending the skid in 2011, but Reggie Wayne caught a 1-yard touchdown pass with 19 seconds left to give the Colts a 19-16 win.

### UNOFFICIAL STATS FOR HARVESTERS BASKETBALL

Stats	GP	Pts.	2-pts made	3-pts made	FT%
Cade Engle	9	84	30	5	47%
Blayne Troxell	9	26	9	0	53%
Ryan Powell	9	61	10	8	71%
Trey Miller	9	9	2	0	42%
Jonathan Stevens	9	73	25	3	52%
Brandon Stokes	9	73	19	8	92%
Gabe Garcia	9	43	17	1	55%
Alex Marrufo	9	10	1	1	50%
Kambrin Scott	9	52	9	9	64%
Cory Ponce	9	70	28	1	50%

\*\*These are unofficial stats as kept by the newspaper. For official stats contact the Pampa ISD athletic department. Points off free throws also not shown.\*\*

### Watch the Pros

**Basketball**  
L.A. Lakers at Oklahoma City Thunder.....ESPN 7 p.m.  
Houston Rockets at Golden State Warriors.....ESPN 9:30 p.m.

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(23) Iowa at (17) Iowa State.....ESPNU 8:30 p.m.

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# New heaters go to Texas residents by zip code

*Brand new heaters are being delivered to the first Pampa area residents who call before the 48 hour order deadline ends to get the new Mini-Glo Heaters to drastically slash home heat bills*

**Never be cold again:** If you live in one of the Pampa area zip codes listed below call the special 48 hour hotlines to get the new heater that only uses about the same energy per hour as a coffee maker to help make heat bills hit rock bottom

TEXAS - The Toll Free Hotlines are ringing off the hook.

That's because Pampa area residents who find the first two digits of their zip code listed in today's publication are getting new heaters that quickly put a stop to high heat bills forever.

Pampa area residents who get the new Heat Surge® Mini-Glo Efficiency Heaters by calling the Toll Free Hotlines before the 48-hour order deadline ends will never have to pay high heat bills again.

"We all know that freezing cold weather is setting in and heat bills are going to skyrocket this winter. That's why I've given the directive to give the first Pampa area residents who call in the next 48 hours a massive discount on our brand new Efficiency Heaters," said David Martin, General Manager of U.S. based Heat Surge.

And here's the best part. Everyone who calls the Toll Free Hotline is getting a massive discount allowing them to claim the new heaters for just \$149 and shipping and handling as long as they call before the 48-hour deadline ends.

Heat Surge's latest heating miracle is being called the Mini-Glo Efficiency because its micro design easily goes from room to room to help you save a ton on heat bills.

Demand for Heat Surge heaters has skyrocketed to stardom ever since consumer reviews surfaced showing just how much money ultra-efficient zone heat saves people on heat bills which is why this announcement is being so widely advertised.

According to the avalanche of consumer reviews for the original Heat Surge heaters, people absolutely swear by them, repeatedly saying, "it saves money," "looks beautiful," and "keeps you warm and cozy." That's why Pampa area residents will be scrambling to get them starting at precisely 8:30am this morning.

The new Heat Surge Mini-Glo Efficiency heats for just fourteen cents an hour to drastically slash home heat bills.

In fact, it gives you 74° of bone-soothing room heat even when the home thermostat is turned down to 59°. That means you can zone heat and never be cold again. And since it only uses about the same energy per hour as a coffee maker you'll save a ton on your heat bills, too.

The new Mini-Glo Efficiency Heater comes with *Fireless Flame* technology that gives you the peaceful flicker of a real fire but without any flames, fumes, ashes, or mess so it's totally safe to the touch.

The good news is, the new Heat Surge Mini-Glo Efficiency Heater is virtually maintenance free and comes fully assembled, so all you have to do is plug it in and relax in front of the *Fireless Flame*.

People everywhere got off easy last winter, but everyone knows that the cold weather is setting in this year. And we all know that frigid cold temperatures mean skyrocketing heat bills.

That's why everyone is rushing to get the new Heat Surge Mini-Glo Efficiency Heater that saves a ton of money on heat bills with zone heating and keeps you warm all winter long.

"We're bracing ourselves for all the calls because everyone who wants to really save on their heat bills and stay warm this winter will be calling immediately to make sure they get their new heater at a massive discount," said Martin.

"As soon as you turn on the new Heat Surge Mini-Glo Efficiency Heater you'll instantly feel the bone-soothing heat and you'll never be cold and miserable again," he said.

"To make sure everyone gets their new Heat Surge Mini-Glo Efficiency Heater before the harsh winter weather hits, UPS® drivers have been instructed to make home deliveries anywhere in the United States," Martin said.

"Just remember, to get your new heater you must find the first two digits of your zip code listed in today's publication and be one of the first Pampa area readers to call the Toll Free Hotline at 1-888-414-2571 before the 48-hour deadline ends," he said. ■



**ON THEIR WAY:** New Heat Surge Mini-Glo Efficiency Heaters will soon be delivered to lucky Pampa area residents who beat the 48-hour order deadline and live in one of the zip code areas listed in today's publication. Everyone's getting the Upstairs-Downstairs Efficiency Combo of two Heat Surge Mini-Glo Efficiency Heaters because they only use pennies an hour of electricity to drastically slash home heat bills.

**Who gets the heaters:** Listed below are the Pampa area zip codes that get the new heaters.

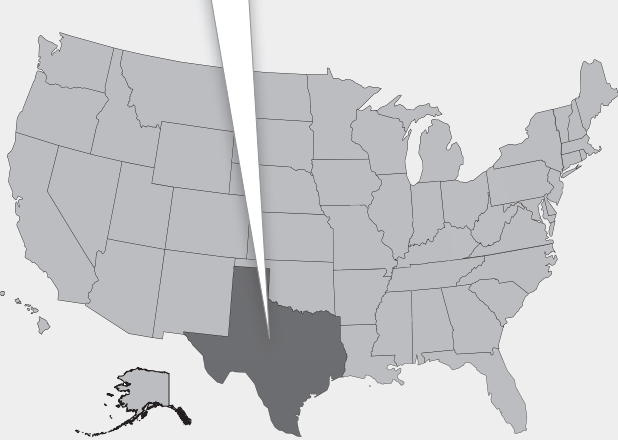
If you find the first two digits of your zip code listed below immediately call **1-888-414-2571**

<b>AK</b> 99	<b>CO</b> 80, 81	<b>GA</b> 30, 31, 39	<b>IN</b> 46, 47	<b>MD</b> 20, 21	<b>MS</b> 38, 39	<b>NH</b> 03	<b>NY</b> 00, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14	<b>PA</b> 15, 16, 17, 18, 19	<b>TN</b> 37, 38	<b>VT</b> 05
<b>AL</b> 35, 36	<b>CT</b> 06	<b>HI</b> 96	<b>KS</b> 66, 67	<b>ME</b> 03, 04	<b>MT</b> 59	<b>NJ</b> 07, 08	<b>OH</b> 41, 43, 44, 45	<b>RI</b> 02	<b>TX</b> 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 88	<b>WA</b> 98, 99
<b>AR</b> 71, 72	<b>DC</b> 20	<b>IA</b> 50, 51, 52	<b>KY</b> 40, 41, 42	<b>MI</b> 48, 49	<b>NC</b> 27, 28	<b>ND</b> 58	<b>OK</b> 73, 74	<b>SC</b> 29	<b>UT</b> 84	<b>WI</b> 53, 54
<b>AZ</b> 85, 86	<b>DE</b> 19	<b>ID</b> 83	<b>LA</b> 70, 71	<b>MN</b> 55, 56	<b>NE</b> 68, 69	<b>NM</b> 87, 88	<b>OR</b> 97	<b>SD</b> 57	<b>VA</b> 20, 22, 23, 24	<b>WV</b> 24, 25, 26
<b>CA</b> N/A	<b>FL</b> 32, 33, 34	<b>IL</b> 60, 61, 62	<b>MA</b> 01, 02, 05	<b>MO</b> 63, 64, 65					<b>WY</b> 82, 83	

## 48 Hour Claim Code: VM317

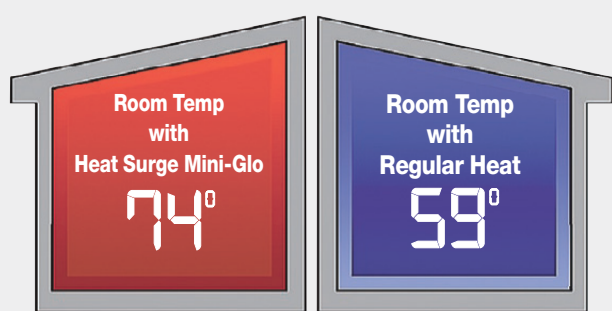
The Toll Free Hotlines at **1-888-414-2571** and **1-888-414-2572** are open for the next 48 hours beginning at precisely 8:30am this morning. If you miss the deadline you'll be turned away from this offer and forced to wait for future announcements in this publication or others, if any. So if lines are busy keep trying, all calls will be answered.

Only the first Pampa area callers who beat the order deadline and provide the operator with the valid Claim Code **VM317** and live in one of the Pampa area zip codes listed above will be permitted to get the new Heat Surge Mini-Glo Efficiency Heater shipped anywhere in the U.S. at a massive discount and cover just \$149 and shipping and handling to drastically slash home heat bills.



## How It Works: You get 74° of bone-soothing room heat even when the home thermostat is turned down to 59° with the first-ever Heat Surge Mini-Glo Efficiency Heater

This is the revolutionary Heat Surge Mini-Glo Efficiency Heater. It's a work of engineering genius so advanced, it actually uses a micro-furnace from the coast of China to perform its miracles. The micro-furnace quickly heats the air in any room, taking care of all the cold spots. In fact, it actually produces Ortho-Thermic, bone-soothing heat. This modern marvel is being called a miracle because its micro design easily goes from room to room and uses just a trickle of electricity so you can turn down your thermostat and use its ultra-efficient zone heat to save a ton of money on heat bills based on a U.S. average that says it uses only pennies of electricity an hour, yet it produces up to an amazing 3,685 British Thermal Units (BTUs) delivering a full 1,200 watts on the standard setting. The Heat Surge Mini-Glo is a showpiece in any room. That's because it has the ambiance of a real fireplace, but it has no real flames. Its *Fireless Flame* technology makes it safe to the touch.



**ZONE HEATING SLASHES HEAT BILLS:** Notice how the home thermostat is set at 59°. The left shows the new Heat Surge Mini-Glo Efficiency Heater blanketing the whole room with 74° of warmth.

At just 13.44"W x 9.43"H x 6.63"D and weighing only 12lbs, the new Heat Surge Mini-Glo Efficiency Heater is ultra portable and comes fully assembled so when it arrives, all you do is just plug it in.

## Saves Money: You'll never pay high heat bills again



**MAKES HEAT BILLS CHEAP:** The new Heat Surge Mini-Glo Heater makes heat bills so cheap you may never have to pay high heat bills again. That's because it only uses pennies an hour of electricity to blast out an instant heat wave in any room.



**SAFE:** The *Fireless Flame*® looks so real it fools everyone but there is no real fire. So you don't have to worry because the flame window is safe to the touch. It's where the kids will play and the cat and dog will sleep.

## Consumer Reviews

Original Heat Surge® Heaters



**It saves us so much money.**

"Before we got the Heat Surge, we were paying several hundred a month on our gas bill, now we only pay a fraction of that."



**My neighbors are jealous of how low my heating bills are.**

"I am saving hundreds on my gas bills."



**I just love my fireplace.**

"I recommend them to everyone. It has saved me so much money!!"



**They are just fantastic!**

"I have never been as pleased with anything in my entire life as I am with my heaters. I live alone and my cat and I just adore them."



**I like my Heat Surge fireplace.**

"It saves me a lot of money on my gas bill."



**I would not trade the Heat Surge for anything.**

"I really love my Heat Surge for a lot of reasons. It heats my dining room and living room. I have had it for 3 years and it has saved me a fortune in propane gas usage."



**We are really spoiled by our Heat Surge!**

"Within the first month, our electric bill went down dramatically."



**It fits perfectly in the condo.**

"The craftsmanship is beautiful and it heats up fast. I have not had to touch the thermostat and I can wear comfortable clothing and not be all bundled up. There is no heat smell when it kicks on. It has helped us save on our gas bill dramatically. I love the ambiance!"

\*Unsolicited consumer feedback from satisfied customers, as reported to Heat Surge, LLC. With zone heating, users can turn down the home thermostat and use the fireplace to heat only the room being used. Actual savings will vary depending on factors such as local climate, local energy costs, system settings, home construction and individual usage. Heat Surge rated these customer reviews 5 stars.



## SANTA'S FIRST STOP IN PAMPA



Submitted photo

The Pregnancy Support Center in Pampa hosted a breakfast with Santa at the Pampa Mall Saturday that was provided by Brandon Wheeler of Farm Bureau Insurance. Mejia's Mexican Restaurant graciously prepared breakfast burritos and brought them down to the group that was entertained by Madeline Graves Dance Studio. Santa was the main attraction, breaking away from his busy schedule to give special treats and pose for pictures. Thanks go to Jason Bagwell, who is redeveloping the mall, for providing a warm space. From left, Debra Hill, Conner Hall, Santa, Helen Burns, Reta Field, Monica Galloway, Claire Hall, Jan Allen, Lorell Haynes, Luckaleigh Haynes and Landry Crawford. The Pregnancy Support Center and Hope House Maternity Home is located at 210 N. Ward St. and the phone number is 806-669-2229.

[www.thepampanews.com](http://www.thepampanews.com)

## Fired US Sen. Alexander staffer expected in court

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The fired chief of staff for U.S. Sen. Lamar Alexander was expected Thursday in federal court after the aide's arrest on probable cause for possession and distribution of child pornography, authorities said.

Ryan Loskarn was a rising star who had spent the past decade working his way up to increasingly important posts in the U.S. House and then the Senate.

Alexander, R-Tenn., said in a news release Wednesday he was "stunned, surprised and disappointed" by the allegations against his newly departed staffer. U.S. Rep. Marsha Blackburn, another Tennessee Republican for whom Loskarn had worked as communications director, said she was "shocked, saddened, and stunned."

Several messages left for Loskarn were not immediately returned.

Court documents surrounding Loskarn's arrest were under seal Wednesday, so little is known beyond a short statement from U.S. Department of Justice spokesman Peter Carr.

Carr said Loskarn was arrested based on probable cause for possession and distribution of child pornography charges and remained in custody pending a court hearing expected to be scheduled Thursday in federal court in Washington.

Video taken by WJLA-TV showed Loskarn being led Wednesday from his southeast D.C. home by U.S. Postal Inspector police, who put him in a black SUV. Loskarn appeared to be in handcuffs, although a coat was draped over his arms. A spokeswoman for the agency said she could not comment on the arrest.

Alexander initially placed Loskarn on unpaid leave Wednesday morning, but before the end of the day he had replaced Loskarn with David Cleary, the senator's legislative director.

Alexander said in a statement that it will be up to the courts to judge Loskarn, but "under these circumstances, he cannot continue to fulfill his duties as chief of staff."

Alexander is a former Tennessee governor who also has served as the U.S. Secretary of Education. He was first elected to the Senate in 2002. He said his office is fully cooperating with the investigation.

According to Loskarn's biography on his LinkedIn account and in previous communications for Alexander's office, Loskarn graduated from Tulane University in 2000 and went to work for retired Republican U.S. Rep. Wally Herger of California as a legal assistant.

He later was the communications director for Blackburn and eventually became staff director for the Senate Republican Conference.

Loskarn had served as Alexander's chief of staff for two years.

## 50th Anniversary

**Larry & Linda Starnes**

*will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary*

**December 14th**

**1:00 to 3:00 pm**

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*\* Chancel Choir \**

**Sunday, December 15, 2013 at 10:30 am**