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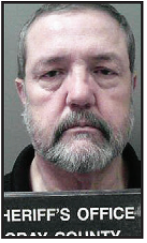
Saturday, December 14, 2013 www.thepampanews.com Volume 109 • No. 178

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 FTPB: Why fans shouldn't criticize play-calling | **p1-2B**
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Canyon man arrested on 4 counts of sex with child

Also arrested in Randall County for abuse of same victim.

STAFF REPORT
 A 58-year-old Canyon man was arrested Thursday on four charges involving a sexual relationship with a child under 14. Joseph Charles Campa is being held at the Gray County Jail on a \$1.5 million bond for continuous sexual abuse of a victim under 14, two counts of sexual assault on a child and prohibited sexual contact. The bond for the continuous victim charge is \$750,000 and the bonds for the other three charges are \$250,000. Texas Penal Code defines Campa's most serious charge as having two or more acts of sexual abuse against one or more victims over a duration of 30 or more days. Campa was arrested by the Pampa Police Department at Enbridge, his workplace in Pampa, said PPD spokesman Officer Jason Collier. Collier said the PPD, the Randall County Sheriff's Office and the Edward's County Sheriff's Office had been investigating Campa for some time on allegations of sexual abuse. Campa also was arrested Thursday in Randall County for indecent conduct and has paid a \$30,000 bond. "We worked on the investigation mainly with Randall County," Collier said. Campa has not been arrested in Edwards County, Collier said, but an investigation



Joe Campa

CAMPA cont. on page 2

IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS



Above, tables were set up throughout the large hall for children to partake in all the events with their parents or guardians. Below, Santa posed and visited happily with all of the children in attendance at Friday's Make and Take Christmas event.

Head Start holds Make and Take Christmas event at Briarwood.

By LINDSEY TOMASCHIK
 LKTomaschik@thepampanews.com
 Pampa ISD's Head Start program had its annual Make and Take Christmas event on Friday morning from 8:30-11 a.m. at Briarwood Church. Head Start is a federal program for Pre-K students. When the program launched more than 20 years ago there were only four classes of children enrolled. Today, Head Start is a combination of children from the Pre-K program at Pampa ISD and Preschool Programs for Children with Disabilities (PPCD) and they also collaborate with two daycare classes. This year, the program had its federal checkup, which occurs once every three years. During this audit, a representative from Washington visits and checks on nutrition, safety and documentation in order to ensure that enrollees are in the right place. The checkup's purpose is to make sure everything is running smoothly before more funding

HEAD START cont. on page 2



Photos by Lindsey Tomaschik

\$670K Las Pampas loan gets green light

By TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE
 thowsare@thepampanews.com
 After a lengthy discussion Tuesday between members of the City Commission and Gary Sutherland, president of the Pampa Economic Development Corp. board of directors, the Commission passed on final reading a resolution to approve a \$670,000 loan from the PEDC to the Las Pampas Square shopping center. Commission Chris Porter, who cast the only nay vote Tuesday and at the Commission's Nov. 26 meeting said he has been against the PEDC purchasing the shopping center right from the start. "It's hard for me to see where this does not become a money pit," he said. "We are taking money off the backs of taxpayers." Sutherland, however, defended the city's investment in the center, which was formerly called Coronado Center and was in a state of decline. "But this is what we need to do to get it there," Sutherland said, referring to the PEDC's ultimate goal to sell the center to a private entity once it is revitalized. More than half of the money from the loan would go to roof maintenance. The loan also would pay for a new sign along North Hobart Street to advertise the center and its businesses. Sutherland said that investing in the 50-year-old shopping center has not only saved jobs, but

LOAN cont. on page 2

Abbott Keeps mum on vouchers, education funding

By MORGAN SMITH
 The Texas Tribune
 Texas gubernatorial hopeful Greg Abbott held back from taking a position on private school vouchers or state education funding during a Wednesday appearance at a San Antonio charter school. When asked for his views on vouchers and other proposals like tax credit scholarships that would allow parents to receive public funding to send their children to private schools, Abbott stopped short of ruling out such policies. "Competition is an essential element to achieve my goal to have Texas schools ranked the best in the country," Abbott said, after noting that his "focus is not on vouchers at all" to improve public education. He spoke with reporters briefly after a mostly behind-closed-



Greg Abbott

doors discussion with charter school leaders at KIPP's Camino Middle School. The Republican frontrunner, who has served as the state's attorney general since 2002, took a similar approach when asked about the \$5.4 billion reduction to state public school funding lawmakers passed in 2011. He declined to criticize the Legislature's action, saying that he could not "go back and reconstruct" what happened two legislative sessions ago. When pressed on whether current public education funding in Texas is sufficient, he said his responsibilities as attorney general prevented him from answering the question. His office is currently defending the state in a lawsuit brought by more than two-thirds of its school districts last year as a result of the cuts. Abbott did say that as governor, he would have a clearly defined goal: to "make the education system in Texas the No. 1 ranked education system in the entire United States of America."

County Commissioners to meet Monday

The Gray County Commissioners Court will meet at 9 a.m. Monday in the Gray County Courtroom, 205 N. Russell St. The Commissioners will consider and possibly approve:
 • The treasurer's report.
 • The county clerk's report.
 • Contract with political parties to conduct primary elections.
 • The Statement of Financial Position and fourth quarter report for FY2013 for Gray County CSCD.
 • Request from Sheriff to update Livescan Systems.
 • Request from county attorney to replace an employee.
 • Audit report from Synetra.
 • A tax abatement agreement/PILOT with Cielo Land and Cattle, LP.
School board to meet Monday
 The Board of Trustees of Pampa Independent School District will meet at 5:45 p.m. Monday in the Pampa High School Library and Commons Areas, 111 E. Harvester Ave. The board will consider and take possible action on:
 • A construction update regarding the new Pampa ISD administration office.
 • Approving the Texas Association of School Board Policy Update 98.
 • Approve revisions to policy EIC (LOCAL): academic achievement — class ranking
 • Approve a proposal to virtualize district computer servers.

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Sheriff: Colo. school shooter wounds one, kills self

CENTENNIAL, Colo. (AP) — A suburban Denver student shot at least one other student at a high school Friday before he apparently killed himself, authorities said. Arapahoe County Sheriff Grayson Robinson said the shooter entered Arapahoe High School in Centennial armed with a shotgun look-

ing for a teacher he identified by name. "The teacher began to understand that he was being looked at and exited the school. One student confronted the armed student and was shot," Robinson said.

The critically injured student was in surgery at a nearby hospital, said Jason

Dunkel, spokesman for Littleton Adventist Hospital.

A third student was injured at the school, but it wasn't clear whether that student was shot.

Police were outside the school, and students were seen walking toward the school's running track with their hands in the air. Television footage showed students being patted down.

The school is about 8 miles east of Columbine High School in Littleton, where two teenage shooters killed 12 classmates and a teacher before killing themselves in 1999.

The shooting also came a day before the first anniversary of the school massacre in Newtown, where a gunman killed 20 children and six adults at Sandy Hook Elementary School.

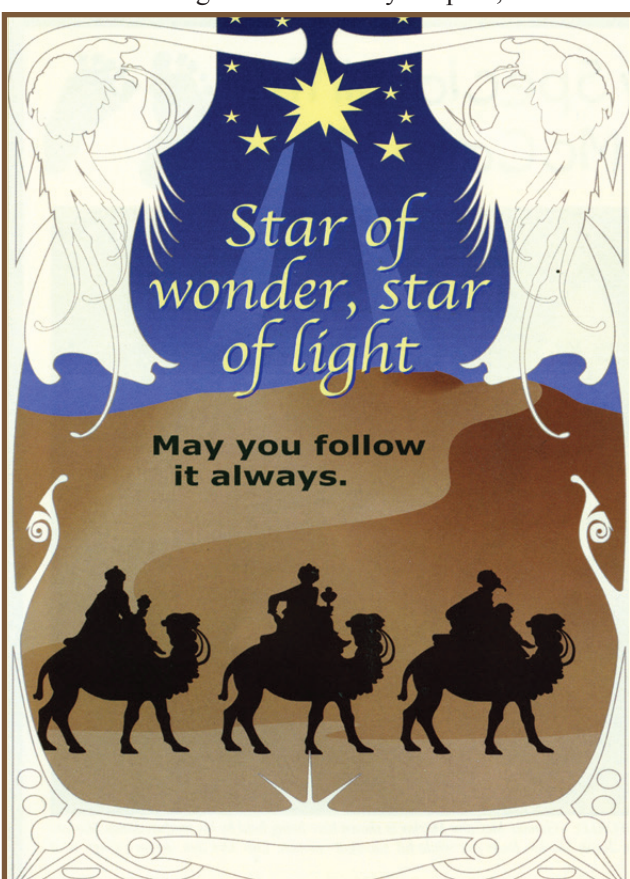
Tracy Monroe, who had step-siblings who attended Columbine, was standing outside the high school looking at her phone, reading text messages from her 15-year-old daughter inside.

Monroe said she got the first text from her daughter, sophomore Jade Stanton, at 12:41 p.m. The text read, "There's sirens. It's real. I love you"

A few minutes later, Jade texted "Shots were fired in our school." Monroe rushed to the school and was relieved when Jade texted that a police officer entered her classroom and that she was safe.

Monroe was family friends with a teacher killed in the Columbine shooting, Dave Carpenter.

"We didn't think it could happen in Colorado then, either," Monroe said.



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NBC BANK APPRECIATION DAY



Photo by Lindsey Tomaschik

National Bank of Commerce held its customer appreciation day from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Friday. Pictured are NBC patron Cary Rushing and bank employee Kevin Hunt. The bank's customers were welcomed to hot cider and cookies for a nice refreshment after Thursday night's snow dusting.

Loan

Continued From Page 1

attracted new retailers and restaurants.

Verona Italian Bistro, which was considering leaving Pampa, recently moved to the center in the same building as Enbridge.

"Over time the income on this will increase substantially," he said. "We don't intend to own it forever. I would like to think a year from now we will have another appraisal and market."

Sutherland also pointed out significant improve-

ments have been made to the center since it was taken over by the PEDC, especially to the new location for Bealls.

But Porter questioned the validity of a loan that has no collateral, no interest and no payment plan.

"I am worried we are setting a dangerous precedent," he said.

At various times, Commissioner Robert Dixon agreed with Porter, although he voted in favor of the loan.

"I am puzzled by the significance of the loan," he said. "The shopping center is getting a loan from it-

self."

Another concern Porter had is that through the taxes they pay the city, businesses not within Las Pampas Square are indirectly supporting the businesses in the square, which could be competing against them.

Commissioner Karen McClain, however, expressed support for renovating the center.

"My concern is if we don't do anything it will never happen," she said.

In other business, the Commissioners canceled the second meeting in December, which would have fallen on Christmas Eve.

Campa

Continued From Page 1

there is still pending.

An ECSO investigator

said he could not comment on whether his agency is investigating Campa.

Edwards County is in the hill country and has a population of about 2,000.

Head Start

Continued From Page 1

is provided for the program.

The Make and Take Christmas program is an annual event that provides those enrolled in the program with an opportunity to spend the morning with their parents or guardians celebrating the holiday season. There were all sorts of stations set up and run by PHS students and the Head Start staff.

After checking in, with adult supervision, the children were able to sign in and eat a pancake breakfast. PPCD teacher Renee Doughty said that an interesting aspect of the breakfast this year was that the Lamar Elementary principal Jan Cleek and other PISD staff members were helping out behind the scenes flipping pancakes for the event.

With full bellies, the attendees were then able to visit the stations set up throughout the room, which included face painting and various arts and crafts. Once finished at each of the stations, the youngsters also had the option to wrap the crafts they made to give as gifts or to keep them for themselves.

The children also each received one ticket that got them a turn on Santa's lap for a picture. After that, they were able to walk to the end of the stage to receive a gift.

For more information on the Head Start, call 806-669-4880.



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Obituaries

Marcia Kay Stout

Marcia Kay Stout, 71, died Dec. 12, 2013 in Pampa. Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 16, 2013, at First Baptist Church, with Rev. Barry Owens, associate pastor, and Jim Bob Mitchell, son-in-law, officiating. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.



Marcia Stout

Mrs. Stout was born Aug. 21, 1942 in Monahans, and was a lifelong resident of Pampa. She married Benny Stout on Dec. 28, 1959 in Raton, New Mexico. She was the attendance clerk for Pampa High School for 17 years. She was a member of First Baptist Church and the Elizabeth Sunday School Class. She was preceded in death by her parents, Doyle and Vita Ward; and her brother, Doyle Ward, Jr.

Survivors include her husband, Benny Stout of the home; two sons, Steve Stout of Scurry and Danny Stout and wife Jennifer of Alvarado; a daughter, Karla Mitchell and husband Jim Bob of White Deer; nine grandchildren, Lauren Stout, Dylan Stout and wife Brittany, Seth Stout, Garrett Stout, Ty Stout and wife Rachel, Emily Stout, Matthew Stout, Riley Mitchell and Merrit Mitchell; and one great-granddaughter, Kennedy Stout.

Memorials may be made to Elizabeth Sunday School Class, c/o First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 621, Pampa, Texas 79066-0621.

Family will receive friends from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013, at Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Home.

Sign the online guest register at www.carmichael-whatley.com.

Caryn Abernathy of Spring. She also is survived by 10 grandchildren, her sister, Sheila, wife of Charles Parr, who lives in Bowie, Texas.

We will always remember her radiant smile, wonderful sense of humor and wisdom beyond her years. Her physical beauty was overshadowed by her heart filled with love and kindness for everyone, especially children.

If there was one thing she would leave with us it would be this:

Treat everyone with respect, love and kindness, regardless of how they treat you.

Our loss is Heaven's gain.

Herman Wayne Cartwright

Herman Wayne Cartwright, 77, of Canadian, died Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2013 in Amarillo.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m., Monday, December 16, 2013, at Edith Ford Memorial Cemetery in Canadian. Military honors will be by the U. S. Marine Corps, and arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Mr. Cartwright was born Feb. 21, 1936 in Matador and was a graduate of Matador High School. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps for 16 years and was honorably discharged as a staff sergeant. He had been a resident of Canadian for the past 13 years. Herman married Jane Scaff on Dec. 7, 1966 in Washington, DC. He was a longtime truck driver, a great dad, and a great "Papa."

Survivors include his wife, Jane Cartwright of the home; a daughter, Zane Riley and husband Jerry of Canadian; a son, Hoss Cartwright and wife Roxanne of Odessa; a brother, Garland Cartwright of Matador; and six grandchildren, Cylenna Patterson and husband Lamont and Jesse Riley, all of Pampa, Christian Riley and Julian Riley, both of Canadian, and Robert Cartwright and Zachary Cartwright, both of Odessa.

Memorials may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project P.O. Box 758517 Topeka, Kansas 66675.



Herman Cartwright

Shiress Cable Hendrick

Shiress Cable Hendrick was born Jan. 4, 1946, in Shamrock the daughter of Fern and Buster Cable. She and her older sister, Sheila, grew up in Lefors where she attended school. She was valedictorian of her graduating class. Upon graduation she attended West Texas State University majoring in music.

While working as a bookkeeper in a music store in Pampa, she met her future husband, Dr. Ron Hendrick.

They were married in June 1974. For more than 20 years, she and Ron attended First Baptist Church in Pampa. There she was active in church, playing the piano for church services. She also accompanied, as well as directed, various musical ensembles. She was a master hand bell ringer, typically playing four bells at once.

She had a beautiful, clear soprano voice and was often asked to sing solos and duets for the church, weddings and other events.

After suffering many years with an incurable lung disease, she went to be with her Heavenly Father on Nov. 22, 2013.

She is survived by her husband Ron and their four children, Stacy Barnes of Spring, Texas, Randy Hendrick of Pampa, Christy Hendrick of Spring, and



Shiress Cable Hendrick

John Berry "J.B." Blakemore

John Berry "J.B." Blakemore II, 86., a beloved son, brother, father, and grandfather, went to be with his Lord on Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2013 in Pasadena, Texas.

J.B. was born in Canute, Okla. on April 14, 1927 and grew up on a farm outside Canute. He served in the U.S. Army and lived in Pampa for about 13 years, working for the Cabot Carbon Black Schafer Plant and Midwest Chemical before relocating to La Porte, Texas. There he worked for Upjohn and Dow Chemical until his retirement. He loved fishing, watching and reading old Westerns, and he took great joy in riding his motorcycle with friends on trips near and far.

He is survived by his sister, Leona Loftiss and husband Lou of Waller, Texas, a son John B. Blakemore III and wife Nancy of La Porte, two daughters, Pamela Wills and husband Glenn of Houston, and Sheila Dallas and husband Butch of Pampa,

Texas, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

A Family Memorial Service is pending at the Canute Cemetery in Canute, Okla.



John Berry Blakemore

PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Sunday	Monday
High 47 Low 23	High 57 Low 31	High 63 Low 31

Today: Partly cloudy with a high of 47. Winds north-northwest at 22 mph. Sunrise at 7:46 a.m.

Tonight: Clear with a low of 23 mph. Winds west at 7 mph. Sunset at 5:32 p.m.

Sunday: Partly cloudy with a high of 57. Winds west-southwest at 11 mph. Sunrise at 7:46 a.m.

Sunday night: Clear with a low of 31. Winds west-southwest at 7 mph. Sunset at 5:33 p.m.

Monday: Sunny with a high of 63. Winds west at 9 mph. Sunrise at 7:47 a.m.

Monday night: clear with a low of 31. Winds west-northwest at 6 mph. Sunset at 5:33 p.m.

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Sat - 7:00 10:15
Sun - 7:00

The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13)
Fri - 7:30 10:15
Sat - 2:00 7:30 10:15
Sun - 2:00 7:30

Frozen (in realD 3D) (PG)
Fri - 7:15
Sat - 2:00 4:30 7:15
Sun - 2:00 4:30 7:15

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Viewpoints

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Bouncin' Around An anniversary to remember

In 1996 we took a trip to Copenhagen, Denmark. The vacation was an early 25th-anniversary gift from our daughter. We left Illinois the day after Thanksgiving on the tail end of a snowstorm. My husband was so happy to be returning to the land of his grandparents' birth that I thought he was going to run out and start pushing the plane. When we



JUDITH SMITH

arrived in Copenhagen, the temperature there was in the 50s and seemed out of place with all the Christmas decorations everywhere. After a nap to reset our bodies' time zone clocks, we went in search of a meal. We walked several blocks from the hotel, and our growling stomachs led us into the Hard Rock Café on the edge of Tivoli Gardens. The meal was good, if expensive, and we then walked into the magical fairyland of Tivoli.

Lights twinkled everywhere, and children laughed and jumped around looking every which way. Oh wait, that was the two of us, laughing and looking around like our heads were on swivels. The Tivoli Boys' Guard band marched through the park and stopped to play a short concert. We took a miniature train ride around the park, and ended up at a shop to sample aebleskiver, a Danish pancake, and glogg, a very potent tummy-warming drink. Ron cautioned me to watch out for the almonds and raisins at the bottom of the cup, as they soak up some of the alcohol, but I enjoyed the warm glow. Throughout the park they had braziers set up where you could stop and warm your hands. We visited Tivoli every night the week we were in Copenhagen, since there was no admission fee during the Christmas season. We enjoyed the Christmas markets set up throughout the park where local craftsmen and artists had stands to sell gifts and food. During the daytime, we walked all over the city, visiting more stores and shops (which always seemed to have a plate of small gingerbread cookies and candies set out for shoppers.) We discovered the polse wagons, or hot dog stands, where we not only enjoyed a good, inexpensive meal, but also a little local humor from the vendors. We especially enjoyed the huge department store, Illums Boligus, where Ron surprised me by buying me a jeweled Christmas

teddy bear pin. We walked along Stroget, the pedestrian shopping area, and watched Father Christmas surrounded by his Nisse. The Nisse are the Danish version of Santa's elves, and wore blue Santa hats with glowing balls on the ends. Ron is still grumbling because he didn't get one of the hats. Of course, everywhere you go there are different-size versions of the red and white woven Danish hearts, and a number of stands selling Irish coffee. On our last night in Copenhagen, we went down to the Town Square where the big Christmas tree stood in the middle of the square. We joined the hundreds of people standing in the square waiting for the lighting of the tree. Father Christmas arrived on a fire truck, which drove right up near the tree and raised the tall ladder. Father Christmas climbed the ladder to the very top of the tree, and just as he touched the switch that ignites a fountain of sparks and turns on all the tree lights, a light snow started to fall. Some day we hope to return to the fairytale land which is Denmark, and maybe this time Ron will get his Nisse hat.

Judi Smith resides in Pampa and can be reached at jsmith46@aol.com.

Thornberry supports budget agreement

Washington, D.C. — U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-Clarendon) made the following comments after voting to support the two-year budget agreement:



MAC THORNBERRY "This budget agreement maintains the sequester savings and then saves even more. It also spares our country's military from bearing the brunt of deeper cuts. In 2014, all of the additional spending cuts fall on the Department of Defense, and this bill replaces those cuts with modest changes in mandatory spending. It is not nearly enough, but it begins to reform that part of the budget where most of the spending is. It does all of this without raising taxes. More specifically, this agreement keeps the strict spending caps set under the Budget Control Act (BCA) in

place. It also achieves 100 percent of the Budget Control Act's deficit reduction, but goes even further by reducing the deficit an additional \$23 billion. The difference is that this new agreement achieves that deficit reduction in a smarter, more targeted way than the arbitrary sequester cuts required by the BCA. Even the user fees cut spending in this agreement. When airline passengers pay a greater share of the costs for their security, when private companies pay more for a federal guarantee of their pensions, or when federal employees pay more of their retirement costs, the taxpayer pays less. That is a small but commonsense victory. This agreement is far from ideal. In many areas, it does not go as far as I would like. There are provisions, such as modest reforms to retired military Cost of Living Adjustments, I prefer were not included."

Let your elected leaders know what you think

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My most memorable childhood Christmas

(My personal hope is that this article will encourage some of you reading it to submit an article about one of your most memorable childhood Christmas memories. We all had special



MIKE SUBLETT

times at Christmas when we were kids. Jot down one of those special memories and send them to Tim Howsare at the Pampa News.) I think I was about nine years old, so that would put "my most memorable childhood Christmas" in 1958. My family was best of friends with the Barretts. We all went to church together. That year we were all together for Christmas Eve and having a great time. The phone rang and my dad took the call. When he got off of the phone he went straight over to Foy and visited with him about the call. Then they told us all that since they were both deacons at church, they were being asked to take out a few moments and go over and help a needy family. Carolyn, their oldest daughter, and I both asked if we could go too. Usually that would have been an automatic NO, but not that evening. If our dads had told us, "No, you can't go," then we both would have missed out on our most

memorable childhood Christmas. As we made our way across town I remember thinking that we were in an area that I hadn't been in very often. It was the section of town where most of the black people lived. Most of the houses there reflected the reality of what life was like for anyone with black skin living in the south. Most houses were old and in comparison to the north side of town the houses were run down. We stopped in front of a house that was particularly "shack-like." Everything was dark; no porch lights anywhere on the block and certainly no street lights. We walked to the front door with our dads. I don't know what I expected to see; I probably didn't expect anything because I probably was just in my own little world like usual. Foy knocked on the door and a lady answered it and we went inside. The living room was small and compared to our house on Hamilton it was almost empty too. Foy and my dad began to visit with the mom about her family's needs. Carolyn and I just stood there looking at the four kids, all younger than me. All I can really remember is that the living room was dark and had little furniture. But that wasn't what astounded me the most. I was completely dumbfounded that there was no Christmas tree and absolutely NO PRESENTS!

I just kept looking at the 4 kids and wondered what they were going to do for Christmas. When the adults finished talking we made our way back to the car and headed for the grocery store. I couldn't get the image of NO PRESENTS out of my mind. When the dads went inside the store to buy the family some food, Carolyn and I began to talk about what we were thinking. Carolyn was older than me so she led our discussion. Both of us were stunned at a sight that was so different from the world in which we lived. About that time Carolyn came up with a truly inspirational idea. "Mike, why don't we give them some of our presents." I thought that was the greatest idea I had ever heard. "And Carolyn, they have to have a Christmas tree. We could go by our house and get some of our extra ornaments." We were both so excited, but UH-OH; how were we going to convince the parents to let us do that? We started plotting about how we would persuade our dads and then we would let them tell our moms. After our dads put the groceries in the trunk of our 1954 Buick, they got in the front seat and were completely unprepared for the frontal assault that we instantly unloaded. Carolyn and I began to expound our ideas, presenting argument after argument why it was the right thing to

do. We even quoted a few Bible verses that we had learned in Sunday School to win them over. Carolyn took the lead on the "presents" presentation and I quickly followed with persuasive words about the "tree and ornaments". That's when Carolyn said, "So what do you think of our idea?" We were hoping for an immediate, "That's a GREAT idea, kids!" But instead everything got really quiet. Carolyn and I looked at each other, our smiles fading into frowns. It wasn't until I was grown that I actually understood the silence. Neither of our dads could speak. They were so proud of us that they couldn't talk. About that time Foy exclaimed, "Kids, that is a wonderful idea." We about jumped out of our skin; the car was full of nothing but JOY. But UH-OH. The dads still had to tell our moms. Carolyn and I thought that would be a big deal, but it wasn't. The moms were as excited as our dads. They told us what was inside each package so that we could pick out something for each of the four children. Then the name tags were replaced. My mom rounded up the spare ornaments, some tensile, a few lights and even a tree stand. I would give almost anything for a video of that night, but memories will just have to do. We must have looked like Santa and his elves

How To Write Us

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Christmas

Continued From Page 4

As we headed out to the car. Of course, the Buick couldn't pass for Santa's sleigh.

We then drove to the Christmas tree lot run by the Boy Scouts and when the man heard what we wanted and why, he gave us the tree for free. It made his Christmas too.

As we drove to that "shack-like" house again, I felt like \$10 million. Our dads got the tree and the decorations while Carolyn and I each escorted the presents to the front door. When we stepped inside, that Christmas became my most memorable childhood Christmas. The eyes of those four kids still remain one of the most priceless things I have ever personally witnessed. Squeals and giggles and laughter instantly accompanied those wide-open eyes.

Our dads got the tree settled into the stand and then brought in several sacks of groceries. After

Carolyn and I set the presents over near the tree, we all turned to leave. The mom was sobbing and saying "Thank you" over and over and over again. The kids were squealing "Thank you" and could hardly keep their hands off of the presents. Carolyn had a smile on her face bigger than I had ever seen before and I'm sure that my smile stretched from one freckled ear to the other.

The ride back to our house can only be described as GLORIOUS. As a child I was never more thankful to God for all of His blessings, nor more appreciative of my parents for all that they did for me.

So keep your eyes peeled this Christmas for someone God might send your way who needs to be blessed by God through you. Be sure not to pass up even one of those opportunities to follow in the footsteps of the greatest GIVER of all. Why? Because if you do, you just might miss out on your most memorable Christmas of all.

Merry Christmas and God bless.

GIVING BACK TO PAMPA



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare

Several Pampa United Way board members along with an assortment of other volunteers from the community carried out groceries Thursday afternoon for customers. Called "A Day of Giving Back," volunteers also assisted customers with pumping gas at United Supermarkets. From left, Left to right: Shelley Spencer (Epilepsy Foundation) Callin Spencer, Branden McCullar, Landon McCullar, Samantha McCullar, Keighly White, Jana Gregory (executive administrator) and Stormy McCullar (board member) and many other volunteers.

Can smartphones snap out of technological stupor?

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — This may be remembered as the year smartphones became boring.

Although high-definition displays on smartphones have gotten bigger and their cameras have gotten better, the pace of gee-whiz innovation has dawdled.

Smartphone and software makers are working on ways to snap out of this technological lull, although it probably will be at least another year or two before breakthroughs revolutionize the design and function of mobile computing devices.

In a foreshadowing of things to come, LG Electronics Inc. is boasting about the G Flex, a new phone with a curved display. Previously available in Korea and Singapore, the concave device arrived in Hong Kong on Friday.

"We want to claim this as the future of smart devices," Ramchan Woo, the head of LG's mobile product planning division, said during a recent demonstration in San Francisco.

If such visions are realized, smartphones and tablets will be equipped with display screens that can be rolled up like a scroll or folded like a wallet.

Making the devices even easier to carry around will be important if software makers want to deepen the bond between people and their phones. That could happen as smarter tracking tools and voice-recognition technology let smartphones understand habits and thoughts like a family member.

The future smartphone "will be small enough to carry with you at all times without thinking about it, and it will be essential enough that you won't want to get rid of it," Silicon Valley futurist Paul Saffo said. "It will become a context engine. It will be aware of where it is, where you are going and what you need."

The G Flex provides a peek at the shape of things to come. Despite its name, the G Flex isn't pliable. The device is slightly bowed from top to bottom, allowing it to curve toward a person's mouth when used for phone calls. It also has a curved battery, something LG says is a first for smartphones. LG applied a "self-healing" protective coat on the G Flex to automatically repair any minor scratches.

More than anything, the G Flex is meant to begin the smartphone's evolution from the primitive state of flat screens. In theory, the curved-screen technology will lead to bendable screens, which will then pave the way to foldable screens. If that progression plays out, it would be possible to fold a larger smartphone so it can easily fit into a pocket.

For now, though, the G Flex's size makes it too cumbersome for most people to lug around. It has a six-inch screen, measured diagonally, making it among the largest phones out there. The cost also will limit its appeal. LG introduced the G Flex in its home country of South Korea last month for \$940. LG wants to sell the G Flex

in the U.S., but hasn't set a date or price or reached distribution deals with any wireless carriers.

Another Korean company, Samsung Electronics Inc., also is selling a concave smartphone there. Unlike the G Flex's vertical bow, Samsung's Galaxy Round curves horizontally from left to right when it's held upright. With a price tag of about \$1,000, the phone is more an expensive novelty than a mainstream product.

Like LG, Samsung is setting the stage for bigger things to come. Samsung Vice Chairman Kwon Oh-hyun told analysts last month that the company believes it can produce a mobile device with a foldable display by 2015.

Samsung appears to be working on two slightly different concepts, according to two analysts who saw prototypes of what's in the company's product pipeline during last month's meetings. Reporters weren't given a chance to see the prototypes. One featured a tablet-sized display panel that could be folded in half in the screen's midsection, according to the analysts. The display was thin and could be folded in only one direction. The rest of the panel was firm and flat, the analysts said. Another version had a more flexible screen capable of bending anywhere.

An Apple Inc. blueprint for making a device with a curved display was granted a U.S. patent this week, a development likely to feed recent speculation that the

iPhone maker is working on a concave model. The Cupertino, Calif., company declined to comment.

Other device makers may show off products with curved screens in Las Vegas next month at CES, where tech companies often unveil their latest innovations.

Building smartphones with more pliable screens will pose several challenges for manufacturers. The battery, smartphone chips and other key components will have to become flexible, too, so they can bend with the device. Flexible screens also will probably be made of plastic.

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AREA STUDENTS LEARN PROPER WAY TO APPROACH DOGS



Submitted photo

On Dec. 3, Panhandle Area Community Therapies sent two teams to Lefors Elementary School for Story Time... "May I Pet Your Dog". The demonstration was to teach children how to properly approach dogs in order to help them learn safety with our canine friends. Each child got to meet both dogs and received appropriate coloring books related to the subject following a reading of the story by Amber O'Gorman. Panhandle Area Community Therapies (PACT) representatives were Jo Humphrey with Journey, the standard poodle, and Gail Nabors with Brahm, the Newfoundland.

**Guard brings
Christmas to remote
Alaska village**

KWETHLUK, Alaska (AP) — The mere presence of Santa and Mrs. Claus put broad smiles on the faces of many children in an Alaska Yup'ik Eskimo community this week, and it wasn't just because they were about to receive gifts.

For some of the children, this was the first time they had laid eyes on the man with a white beard in the red suit, the mythical character they have heard so much about over the years.

The experience with Santa even reduced a few toddlers to tears.

"They get scared, some of them, the first time seeing him (Santa)," said parent Roy Michael, adding the program is important event not only for children but also a time for families to celebrate. A village-wide announcement of Santa's visit went out, and parents, community members and elders from Kwethluk, a western Alaska burg of about 700, filled the small gym on Wednesday afternoon.

The rare visit was thanks to the Alaska National Guard, which attempts to

arrange three Operation Santa Claus visits to remote Alaska Native villages every year.

Volunteers can fly in helicopters or planes for hours in the nation's largest state just to reach some of these places.

"You don't see anything for ever and ever, and then all of a sudden, there's a little village out there," said the program's chairwoman, Jo Katkus. "It's hard to describe how remote some of these places are."

"Santa and Mrs. Claus is not something that normally happens out there for them," she said. "It's a real treat to be able to get in there and do something for the kids that they might not ever see."

The fact the visit to Kwethluk even happened is a testament to the adaptability of Alaskans, whose flight plans change at any given moment because of weather or mechanical issues. Flying — oftentimes in bad weather — is required in Alaska since most communities are off the state's limited road system.

The original plan was to fly the volunteers 300 miles west from Anchorage in the military transport to the western Alaska hub community of Bethel, and then take the National Guard's Blackhawk helicopter the last 12 miles to Kwethluk.

WE HAVE A WINNER



Submitted photo

Troy Newton, general manager of United, hands Chelly Helms, the Guest Survey winner, \$500 worth of United gift cards.

Zebra escapes from Tenn. farm, roams for weeks

CLEVELAND, Tenn. (AP) — The black-and-white-striped animal that's been spotted at different places around a Tennessee town isn't a funny-looking horse.

Nope, there's a zebra loose in East Tennessee.

Bradley County dispatchers say they've had several people call to report sight-

ings of the animal — near homes, businesses and even a highway.

Although some people have tried to catch him, the animal named Zeek has remained elusive.

Zeek's owner, Ronald Price, told WRCB-TV that the animal escaped from his farm in Cleveland about three weeks ago by jumping a high fence.

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Advent: 25 Days of Celebration — Week 3

By MIKE SUBLETT
Instructions: Each day, beginning Dec. 1, read the devotional for that day and then slowly pray the prayer that follows. See for yourself what God will do in your life through Advent. Remember: the earlier in the day the better.

Day 15 — the stable

We really don't know whether it was the down-cast look on Joseph's face, or his persistence, or the explanation of Mary's late term pregnancy. However, something triggered an offer from the innkeeper to stay with the animals on the dirt floor of the stable out back.

Joseph must have been down on himself. After all, he was the provider for his new wife. Now at her greatest moment of need, he couldn't even provide a cheap room for her. And even worse, he couldn't give his new son a room either.

Have you been in a stable lately? Oh, I don't mean one of those super-sanitary ones that you see on television when they show the Kentucky Derby. No, I mean a real-live-honest-to-goodness barn/stable where animals are kept. For city folks "stench" and "filthy" are the first words that come to mind.

The only hope for fixing things up a little for Mary would be a pile of hay for her to rest on. And what about the baby? If Joseph provided a little hay for softness, maybe his new son wouldn't be ashamed of his father for expecting him to spend his first night in an animal's stall. There just wasn't much for this new husband/father to work with. But Joseph did

his best; making this animal storage shed into their motel room.

Look at what all they endured just so there would be an Advent story, so that humanity would have a Savior, so that you would have a savior. Kind of impressive, huh? Maybe it's time to pour out a little extra gratitude on Mary and Joseph.

Prayer: Oh Holy One, I praise You, Lord. And I want to thank You for Mary and Joseph. I don't understand why You picked that stable as the place for them to spend that first night in. But I thank You for them, for what they were willing to go through for me. I'm a little ashamed at all of the whining and complaining that I know I surely would have done in that circumstance. So I thank You, Lord, for choosing them and I thank both of them for being Your top-notch servants. Please help me to be more like them. Amen.

Day 16 — the sheep

They certainly weren't the brightest light bulbs in the animal kingdom. They required constant oversight and care and protection. The shepherd couldn't just visit his sheep from time to time. He had to live with them.

As was true with all the outdoor animals, cleanliness wasn't high on their list of priorities. Add to that their thick wool which acted like a giant sponge for holding plenty of dirt and musty moisture and you will begin to understand what a herd of sheep might smell like.

But how about we focus on a particular herd of sheep; one located just outside the town of Bethlehem. To be honest there

wasn't anything really special about them, nor about their shepherds. (They were more than likely employed by the high priest as part of his scheme to rob the worshipers who came to the Temple in Jerusalem for the Jewish celebrations. The priests would disqualify the sheep that the worshipers brought and then sell them a pre-approved one at a jacked-up price.)

Every night with the sheep was just like all the others had been. That is until that one particular Advent night popped onto the scene. That night started out just like all the others; sheep lying on the ground dozing. Then everything changed.

Do you ever feel like a sheep? You know, just going through the motions of waking, working, eating, sleeping, and the like. Are you ready for a sudden change in your life? Ready to be a sheep with a whole new perspective on life? You better let God know. After all, He's the Shepherd.

Prayer: Father God, I am so ready for a new life, one deeper and more focused on You than ever before. Please use this Advent season to enrich my spirit. I don't want it to just be another Christmas. I want it to bring me closer to You. I want this Christmas be as special as that night was for the sheep. Amen.

Day 17 — the angel

Have you ever been stumbling around your house at night and accidentally turned on the lights when you were reaching for something else? For a few seconds it is like your eyes are under attack from some kind of alien. It almost makes you feel like

Saul when he was blinded on the way to Damascus. The Advent story had just such a moment.

Those of us who live in a town or city think that we know what "dark" is, but not really. We think that dark is when the sun goes down, but that isn't correct. If you don't think so, someday soon wait until sundown and just drive about 15 miles outside of your city or town. That is when you can really begin to see "dark" more completely.

On the Advent night there were no electrical lights in town. The only light was from some faint lanterns and candles in a few homes. Outside Bethlehem in the fields where the sheep and shepherds slept, it was dark—really dark.

Then suddenly an angel from God appeared in their midst shining brightly. Just how bright? The brightness is described as "the glory of the Lord." So just how bright do you think it was? It was so bright that the shepherds were terrified.

Did you know that God wants to be your bright light too? Not your flashlight, but your bright light. He wants to show you the rocks and holes in life so that you don't fall over or into them and get hurt. And even more importantly He wants to show you the way to His Son, just like He did the shepherds. Why not ask Him to turn the watts up in your life?

Prayer: Dear Father, I sure do stumble a lot. Please come and shine Your light into my life with increased intensity. Shine so brightly that I can't miss seeing the stumbling blocks; that I can't miss Jesus. Please, turn up the wattage in my life like You did that Ad-

vent night. Amen.

Day 18 — the angelic choir

Not only was it really dark in that field outside Bethlehem that Advent night, but it was so very, very quiet. Those of us who live in towns and cities don't even have a clue anymore what "quiet" really sounds like. (Pardon the pun.)

Those shepherds had another awesome blessing from heaven poured out all over them. Not brighter light; it was already as bright as God's glory. But in the midst of the silence the heavenly choir exploded in praise. I'll bet that those shepherds about jumped out of their skin. What a night that must have been!

Question: When and

where was the greatest time of praise and worship through singing that you have ever experienced? How does remembering that time make you feel?

Now if we multiply that memory by at least 1,000, we may just have a glimpse of what those shepherds heard that night. Spectacular! Don't you imagine that every hair on their bodies was standing straight up on end?

Does your spiritual life need a boost? Do you ever feel as if you are wandering out in the silent darkness? God stands ready to lift your spirit. As the heavenly choir of angels surely inspired those shepherds, so God is uniquely capable of thrilling you. Just ask Him.

ADVENT cont. on page 8

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Advent

Continued From Page 7

Prayer: Lord, I sometimes feel like the Advent shepherds probably felt. What I believe I need is a boost, Lord. I've tried inspiring myself to no avail. I need to be thrilled by You this Christmas. So please help me. I promise to give You the glory. Amen.

Day 19 — the lantern/lamp

Have you ever lived out in the country? Do you remember what it was like after the sun went down? How dark it got when your electricity went out during a storm? Ever been out camping in the woods? How dark did it get when you turned the lantern off at bedtime?

The stable probably wasn't as dark as that, but it certainly didn't have any lighting. After all, it couldn't because of the animals and the possibility of fire. That made it a very, very dark place once the sun went down. The only light would have been from lamps inside houses and buildings in Bethlehem.

We really aren't told about any lighting in the biblical text, but since the actual Advent happened at night, the only way for anyone to see would have been some type of simple oil lamp. It certainly wouldn't have provided much light. Most candles provide less than twenty lumens of light. A 25-watt incandescent bulb provides 210 lumens. So one thing

is for certain — there wasn't much light in that stable.

However, when you are in a dark enough place, even a little light helps. Whatever light there was in the stable that night was enough to enable everyone to see the fulfillment of centuries of prophecies. They saw the true Light of the World.

Do you ever feel like the light in your life fades and makes finding your way more difficult? Do you ever feel like you need a bright spotlight? If so, then you need Jesus!

It wasn't a lamp or candle or lantern that supplied the needs of the stable inhabitants. It was the newborn Savior who shined brightly in that dimly-lit room. And it is that same Savior who wants to brighten you up. Will you let Him?

Prayer: Blessed Father, even when I'm not in the dark, I still sometimes feel like the light in my life is so dim that I can hardly see. So Lord, please help me. Turn the wattage up inside me. Please be my lighthouse in the storms of life. Amen.

Day 20 — the animals

Nowadays when we think of animals in a barn, the first image that pops into our mind is probably a horse. In Jesus' day only the rich would have owned a horse. The most common mode of transportation for those poor families traveling for the census would have most likely been by donkey. Not very glorious or impressive, but it was affordable.

Therefore, the stable

surely had several donkeys inside. There also may have been a cow or a goat in the stable of the inn for milk and/or meat; maybe even a sheep or two for mutton. Nothing but the usual baahs, brays and moos, possibly even a few clucks, would have disturbed the quiet night as the animals settled down to rest. So imagine the animals' surprise when Mary and Joseph made their way inside "their" stable and of all things began to make themselves at home as they prepared a place for the coming baby to sleep. The animal's motel had been invaded by none other than the holy family. A little while later, these animals became the most blessed of all the ages. They were the only eyewitnesses to the actual birth of the Messiah, the baby Jesus.

You may not have been a witness to Jesus' birth in that stable, but a more important question is: "Have you been a witness to His birth inside you?" Have you surrendered to Him to make that birth possible? If you haven't, why not do it now? If you have, have you maintained your surrender? Think about it.

Prayer: Merciful Father, I thank You for accepting my surrender and blessing me with the birth of the Savior within me. I could never repay You for this priceless gift. Please accept me as an offering for You to do with as You see fit. Take me and use me; wear me out in Your service. Amen.

Day 21 — the shepherds

They were a smelly, uneducated lot who hardly ever spent time around people. They were shepherds who could never leave the defenseless sheep with which they had been entrusted. So they spent most of their lives with the sheep and each other. And the only good thing about living their lives with the other smelly shepherds was that they didn't notice their own personal odor so much.

Even though it was one of the lower class occupations, the shepherds could take great comfort from time to time in knowing that the sheep they watched over would be the sacrificial part of one of the great Jewish festivals. Their greatest hope was for each of the sheep in their care to be sacrificed on the Temple altar in Jerusalem. This was the life of the shepherds in the Advent story.

But on the night Jesus was born everything changed. The shepherds were selected to be humanity's representatives to welcome the Christ child into the world. They were the only ones who received personal invitations from heaven. They didn't even have to RSVP; all they had to do was walk to the stable in Bethlehem.

Can you imagine how worried they must have been as they walked toward Bethlehem? After all they were dirty and smelly, hardly appropriately attired to welcome the new king. But to their surprise, they found Him in a place where they were completely

comfortable. Isn't God awesome when He does things like that? Had Jesus been born in a nice house, the shepherds would have felt totally out of place. But the stable put them at ease. Why is God concerned about us so much?

Father God wants to do for you what He did for the shepherds that night. In this Advent story Father God is sending you a personalized invitation to meet His Son and doing it in such a way so as not to intimidate you. He doesn't want to frighten you away. He just asks you to meet Jesus in the same place where the shepherds met Him. It isn't a matter of you getting all cleaned up on your own, somehow becoming worthy of meeting the Redeemer. All you have to do is just meet Jesus in the stable; arriving all smelly in your sin will be fine, just come. So is it time for you to do what the shep-

herds did? "They hurried to the village" and met the Christ child (Luke 2:16).

Prayer: Holy God, I am awed by how easy you make everything for me. You don't make me earn Your love; You don't expect me to wash my own sins away; You don't require me to live good enough to deserve Your grace and mercy. Your plan for Jesus to be born in that stinky stable was at least in part for the benefit of the shepherds. You did everything to put them at ease so that they would come. You have done the same for me all of my life. Father, please help me to be more aware every day of the things You do for me. And Lord, I want to be like the shepherds when I see what You do to help me come to Jesus. "They hurried to the village." I want to rush to You and to Your Son, Jesus. So please, help me. Amen.

High yield, water efficiency of drought tolerant wheat due to higher biomass

SUBMITTED BY TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE AMARILLO — Drought tolerance in wheat has been increased through breeding over the years, but a group of Texas A&M AgriLife Research scientists in Amarillo wanted to determine what plant physiological characteristics were making the biggest difference.

The results of this study, "Yield Determination and Water-Use Efficiency of Wheat Under Water-Limited Conditions in the U.S. Southern High Plains," will be published in the Crop

Science journal in January.

The study was completed by the AgriLife Research team of Dr. Qingwu Xue, crop stress physiologist; Dr. Jackie Rudd, wheat breeder; Dr. Shuyu Liu, small grains geneticist; Kirk Jessup, research associate; Ravindra Devkota, associate research scientist; and Dr. James Mahan, U.S. Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Research Service plant physiologist in Lubbock.

Funded in part by the Ogallala Aquifer Program and Texas Wheat Producers

Board, the study featured a two-year field experiment with 10 different wheat varieties. The varieties were grown under dryland and irrigated conditions, looking primarily at yield determination and water-use efficiency.

Drought is the most important stress for reducing wheat yield and water-use efficiency in the southern High Plains states, Xue said. Adoption of varieties with higher yield and water-use efficiency under drought conditions is critical in the area.

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MUSICAL MOMENTS



Submitted photo

A musical quartet performed Monday as part of Customer Appreciation Day at the Pampa Post Office. From left, Bob Connors (violin and vocalist), Betty Crawford (keyboard), Robert Brewer (guitar and vocalist), and Mike Watson (harmonica and vocalist). Listeners said they did an awesome job, and that the "incredible acoustics" of Pampa's beautiful post office helped as well.

Altrusa Club news

SUBMITTED

Altrusa International, Inc. Of Pampa met Dec. 10 at First United Methodist Church with President Kitty Hall presiding. Terry Gamblin and Barb Hahn served as greeters. Chris Stillwagon attended as a guest.

The Accent was given by Mary McDaniel who explained the structure of Altrusa leadership, local club, district and international. She also reviewed correct Altrusa terminology.

President Kitty Hall presented appreciation gifts to Barb Hahn, Brenda Guess, Allison Watson and Pat Johnson.

The club voted to host the new Animal Shelter reception on Jan. 14.

The club received a Distinguished Club Award for activities during the past year under the leadership of past president Pat Johnson.

The recommendation for changing the club name from Altrusa Club of Pampa, Texas to Altrusa International of Pampa, Texas, Inc. was approved.

The following committee reports were given:

Soup with Mrs. Claus — Barb Hahn reported that the event was successful despite the weather.

Lunch with Dignitaries — ASTRA — Allison Watson reported on activities of the ASTRA club including the initiation, collection for Snack Paks 4 Kids, plans for Children's Shopping Tour and Salvation Army bell ringing.

Snack Pak 4 Kids — Jan. 13

The following reminders were made:

President's Christmas Reception — Dec. 15, 2-4 p.m., home of Kathryn Green, 2319 Chateau Rue.

The next meeting will be held Jan. 14 at First United Methodist Church.

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sunday horoscope

A baby born today has a Sun in Sagittarius and a Moon in Gemini.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, Dec. 15, 2013:

This year you often feel as if others come on a little too strong. Understand that you are not going to change them, but you can establish your boundaries. As a result, mutual respect will grow. If you are single, you initially might be put off by a potential suitor's assertiveness. Learn to deal with this energy if you feel a strong connection between you. If you are attached, the two of you have played many control games. The only way to win is not to play.

After all, you are with the one you love. GEMINI is a good source of information.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ You have a lot to do, yet you seem to enjoy the pace. You also have a lot of energy. Your playfulness and quick wit come out with family and friends once you take care of your responsibilities. Tonight: Hang up the mistletoe.

This Week: Whether it is you or someone else who is ready to explode, detach quickly.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Be aware of a possessive streak that a loved one sometimes inadvertently triggers. Go out and get some fresh air, which might involve tagging a tree and bringing it home. When you're away from the source of these uncomfortable feelings, you gain. Tonight: Order in.

This Week: Try to

steer away from crowds and difficult people until Thursday.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ You will be in the moment. Try not to be so extravagant when choosing a gift for a special person. A loved one could be demanding. Fortunately, you have a way of juggling your schedule to make nearly everyone happy. Tonight: Forget tomorrow. Live now.

This Week: Let go of your irritation at others' efforts to get attention.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Slow down and take some time to relax and enjoy being with your family. A discussion about some holiday details will help make the next few weeks run smoothly. A loved one could be difficult and testy. This person just wants more of you. Tonight: Do something just for you.

This Week: Unexpected developments on Tuesday force you to regroup.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ You don't need the holidays to make you smile -- you just need people. You like being on center stage and socializing. Whether you are starting the party or just attending, you are in your element. Invite relatives to join you for a late brunch. Tonight: Where people are.

This Week: When you witness the unexpected, go right in and get what you want.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ A friend or family member's request for you to join him or her for brunch might be too appealing to say "no" to. You often feel pres-

sured by this person, but recognize that you have a choice. Make time to enjoy some of the holiday season's frills. Tonight: You could go on and on.

This Week: You might feel caught in the midst of a difficult situation. Say little.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ You seem to be in the right place at the right time. Get away from the hectic pace and everything that surrounds you, at least for a little while. A friend might open you up to a new perspective because of a conversation. Tonight: Refreshed, anything becomes possible.

This Week: Reach out to someone you care about and express your feelings.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Work with someone directly. This person might demand that you be an active partner in something you both are involved in. An unexpected event could distract you from doing as much as he or she would like. Be ready for a reaction. Tonight: You do not have to explain.

This Week: You really shouldn't be surprised if someone flips his or her lid.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Others could be very belligerent in declaring that they will do what they want without first discussing it with you. You might be in the mood to pressure someone who has made a decision of this nature. Your best bet is not to trigger a reaction. Tonight: In the moment.

This Week: Others must

dominate; let them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ Use the daylight hours to the max. Pretend that you are Santa as you go off to complete your holiday shopping list. Even you, who tends to be inordinately practical, might be in the mood to do a little extra spending. Tonight: Get some much-needed R and R.

This Week: You are instrumental in helping others center themselves.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ You could turn a boring project into a happening. Wrap several presents, and your imagination will perk up. Live in the realm of possibilities for a little while. You will make a desire become a reality, if that is what you really want. Tonight: Your inner child emerges.

This Week: Your playfulness could cause a problem or a misunderstanding.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ You might need to distance yourself from others. Once you cancel some plans, do whatever you want. You give so much that you often forget to take care of yourself. What would make you feel rested and cherished? Follow through accordingly. Tonight: Stay home.

This Week: Tension builds. Try going on a min-vacation Tuesday and Wednesday.

BORN TODAY

Engineer/architect Gustave Eiffel (1832), actor Don Johnson (1949), industrialist J. Paul Getty (1892)

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Lifestyles

Weekly Menus

Pampa Independent School District

MONDAY, December 16

Mini corndogs or chicken nuggets, green beans, sliced potatoes, pineapple tidbits, fresh fruit

Breakfast- Breakfast pizza

TUESDAY, December 17

Chicken spaghetti or rib-b-que, baked beans, carrot sticks, sliced cucumbers, fresh fruit

Breakfast- Donut, sausage patty

WEDNESDAY, December 18

Fish strips or popcorn chicken, corn, broccoli florets, mixed fruit, fresh fruit

Breakfast- Waffle sticks

THURSDAY, December 19

Soft taco or pizza, refried beans, tossed salad, celery sticks, fresh fruit

Breakfast- Biscuit, sausage patty

FRIDAY, December 20

Grilled cheese sandwich or hamburger, french fries, black eyed peas, peaches, fresh fruit

Breakfast- Cereal, toast

Pampa Senior Citizens Center

MONDAY, December 16

Chicken fried steak or salmon patties, mashed potatoes, green beans, beets, northern beans, slaw, tossed salad, Jell-O, devils food cake, banana pudding, fruit cup, hot roll, cornbread

TUESDAY, December 17

Swiss steak or chicken Louisiana, tater tots, spinach, veggie bend, pinto beans, slaw, tossed salad, Jell-O, angel food cake, chocolate pie, fruit cup, hot roll, cornbread

WEDNESDAY, December 18

Roast beef brisket or cook's choice, mashed potatoes, peas, carrots, butter beans, slaw, tossed salad, Jell-O, strawberry cake, coconut cream pie, fruit cup, hot roll, cornbread

THURSDAY, December 19

Chicken strips or meatloaf, sour cream potatoes, corn, broccoli casserole, beans, slaw, tossed salad, Jell-O, carrot cake, lemon icebox pie, fruit cup, hot roll, cornbread

FRIDAY, December 20

Christmas Dinner: Baked turkey, dressing, giblet gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, yams, tossed salad, Jell-O with fruit, cranberry sauce, deviled eggs, stuffed celery, olive/cheese/pickle skewers, cherry cobbler, pumpkin squares, diet cherry cobbler, hot rolls.

Eat in or Take-outs - \$6.00. Please call in **WEDNESDAY** or **THURSDAY** for take-outs.

Pampa Meals on Wheels

MONDAY, December 16

Swedish meatballs over noodles, lima beans, carrots, applesauce

TUESDAY, December 17

Chicken spaghetti, garlic bread, mixed vegetables, pineapple

WEDNESDAY, December 18

Sausage/rice casserole, green beans/tomatoes, pears, cornbread salad

THURSDAY, December 19

Oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes, broccoli, Jell-O

FRIDAY, December 20

Ham/dressing, sweet potatoes, green beans, cranberry sauce

SHABBY CREEK



Submitted photo
Shabby Creek, 209 N. Cuyler St., has decorated its window for Christmas.



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Submitted photo

Pampa Sleep Store, 1201 N. Hobart St., has decorated its window for Christmas.

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Lubbock Christian Choir comes to Pampa Dec. 16

The Lubbock Christian University Praise Choir and Chamber Singers will be in Pampa on Dec. 16 as part of their winter tour. The group will be performing at 5 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 16, at the Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ, located at 1342 Mary Ellen St.

As part of their tour, the choir will also perform in Lockney, Amarillo, Pueblo, Colo., Denver, Colo., and Castle Rock, Colo. The church would like to extend a welcome to everyone in the community to come and hear the praises of God from this group of young people.

ENDURING LOVE - 50 Years

Larry and Darlene Holmes



THEN



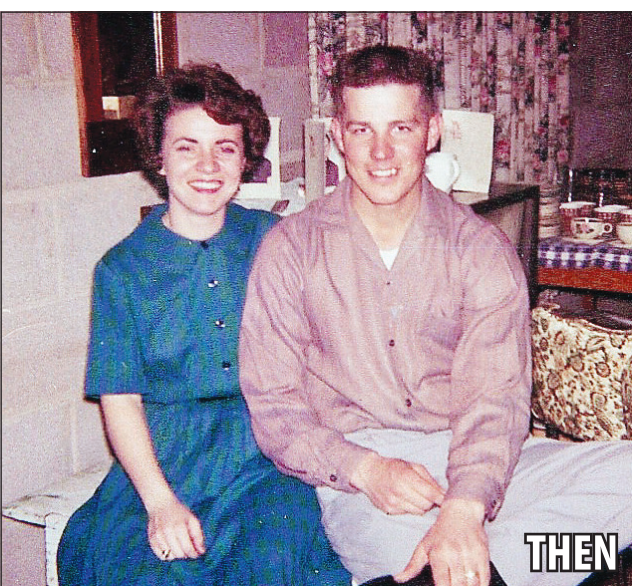
NOW

Larry and Darlene Holmes of Pampa will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, December 21, 2013 at Briarwood Church Fellowship Hall, 2-4 p.m.

The couple met while attending Oklahoma State Tech in Okmulgee, Okla. They were married on Dec. 21, 1963, in Pampa at Calvary Baptist Church with Rev. See officiating. The reception is hosted with love by their children, Joe Holmes and wife Terri of Hugoton, Kan. and Sheila Niccum and husband Ronnie of Pampa and their five grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Please join us on this special occasion, and your presence is the only gift desired. PAID ANNOUNCEMENT.

ENDURING LOVE - 50 Years

David and Judy Livingston



THEN



NOW

David and Judy (Flanagan) Livingston of Lefors, Texas will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on December 21, 2013, having been married in Nowata, Oklahoma. The couple has two children, Lendi and Barry Jackson of Lefors, and Roy and Charlotte Livingston of Canadian. They have five grandchildren: Steven and Brittney Livingston of Stinnett, Tony and Misti Livingston of San Angelo, Cory and Alex Jackson of Amarillo, Drake and Bailey Jackson of Amarillo, and Emily and Jeremy Sprouse of Hobbs, New Mexico. Their first great-grandchildren, twins Reagan and RyLynn Livingston, were born in January 2013.

Their children will host a reception in honor of their parents on Saturday, December 21st at the Lefors Civic Center from 3-5pm. PAID ANNOUNCEMENT

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PampaSports

From the Press Box

■ Play-calling is not for fans to criticize.

Thursday night the Denver Broncos were upset by the San Diego Chargers in a shocking 27-20 victory. While quarterback Philip Rivers and the Chargers deserve kudos for their win that keeps them in the AFC wild card play-off hunt, the Broncos just seemed to be out of whack all game.

Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning and the offense got the ball back with just under 2 minutes left to play, trailing by 10 points. They didn't have any timeouts left so they had to move quickly. As a football fan, I know that the best way to preserve time yet keep gaining yardage is to throw passes to the receivers at the sideline, a simple pass-catch-step out. But that's not what Manning was doing. With every pass he threw it over the middle, between the hashes and his receiver (normally a running back) couldn't get out of bounds to stop the clock.

As I am watching this, I am getting extremely frustrated and even start telling my wife that I want Patriots quarterback and comeback-extraordinaire Tom Brady (after all, he did erase a 24-point deficit against my Broncos a few weeks ago.). The Chargers were playing an obvious Prevent-defense taking away the Broncos big receivers and forcing Manning to throw short.

Sports writers and fans tend to blame play-calling as a reason for losing games, I am guilty of it myself. If the Broncos had played Prevent-defense in the playoffs last year against the Ravens, receiver Jacoby Jones

wouldn't have scored that touchdown. But we tend to forget something. We don't know everything. The intern that works for the teams knows more about that team's game-plans than we do, and they probably just go get coach's coffee. These coaches spend more hours watching film every week on their opponent than we do watching our favorite TV show.

No coach goes in calling what is in their mind the wrong play. Peyton Manning didn't throw the ball deep or to the sidelines simply because the throw wasn't there to make.

Fans forget that when we are watching the game, we are only seeing the quarterback, not really how the play develops down-field. This is not to say coaches and players don't make mistakes, any fan will tell you that they do.

But I am not discounting anyone's knowledge of the game, either. I am just saying that before you criticize a coach's play-calling, realize that they have spent a lot of time and have very good reason for calling those plays.

To put this in a real-world scenario, it is like trying to predict what the opponent is going to do, when the opponent knows you know what they are going to do and so you change your plan and they change theirs. Make sense? Didn't think so.

I would imagine that is what coaching is like. No wonder these guys have stress-related medical problems.

So next time we criticize our favorite, or least favorite, coach's game-plan, we need to remember this: they studied the film and opposing team longer than us.

John Lee is the sports editor of The Pampa News. He can be reached at jlee@thepampanews.com

Cowboys' defense a study in contradictions

IRVING (AP) — DeMarcus Ware intercepted the first pass of the season, one of six turnovers for a Dallas defense that also gave up 450 yards passing to Eli Manning and the New York Giants in the opener.

The Cowboys have been a study in defensive contradictions ever since.

They are the only team to keep Philadelphia out of the end zone this year, yet they've surrendered the first two 600-yard games for opponents in franchise history.

Dallas shut down one of the NFL's best rushing attacks to beat Oakland, then let Chicago score on the first eight possessions of a

45-28 loss.

"I feel like as a defense, we're just up and down a lot, and it's been like that for the last couple of years," safety Barry Church said. "That's one thing that we've got to get right. We've got to get our consistency level right where it needs to be where week in and week out we're a dominating defense."

Mostly the Cowboys (7-6) have just been embarrassing on defense this year.

Three teams have gone an entire game without punting this season — and two of them were facing Dallas. That doesn't even include a 49-17 loss to

New Orleans when the Saints set an NFL record with 40 first downs.

The strangest thing is that the presence of defensive leader Sean Lee doesn't even seem to make that much of a difference. He strained a hamstring early in the loss to New Orleans and missed the next two games.

Without him, the Cowboys shut down the Raiders' running attack. With him, they couldn't get the Bears off the field.

"Every game that we've lost when we've given up a lot of yardage, it's big play after big play," said Lee, who expects to play Sunday against Green

Bay (6-6-1) despite a neck injury that sidelined him against the Bears. "Games where we stop those big plays, or we cause turnovers, or we get off the field on third down, we play well. We really have to lock it down when it comes to third down and big plays."

The best example came early in the second quarter against the Bears. After the Cowboys punted in a 7-7 game, Chicago backup Josh McCown completed a 15-yard pass to Brandon Marshall on third-and-14 from the Dallas 38. The Bears scored five plays later and didn't trail again.

Phillips ready to fill in for Texans again

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Wade Phillips has had tougher temp jobs.

He replaced his father, Bum, for the final four games of the Saints' 1985 season.

He took over for an old friend, Dan Reeves, when the Falcons coach walked away with three games left in 2003, rather than finish the season as a lame duck.

Earlier this year, Phillips stepped in at halftime when Gary Kubiak was taken away in an ambulance, and now Phillips is back for his second round



Wade Phillips

as Texans interim coach. No, it's not easy being The Replacement, but Phillips knows it's a job that must be filled.

"It's pride, and people are playing for their jobs and coaching for their jobs, obviously, so that's part of it, too," he said. "But it's not five wins, it's just one win. One win at a time, that's what you have to do. You know, your goal is that week and to prepare yourself as well as you can and get the players prepared and get them to play as well as they can play."

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SUNDAY

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Houston Texans at Indianapolis Colts.....CBS noon
Philadelphia Eagles at Minnesota Vikings...FOX noon
Green Bay Packers at Dallas Cowboys.....FOX 3:25 p.m.
Cincinnati Bengals at Pittsburgh Steelers..NBC 7:30 p.m.

College Basketball

(2) Syracuse at St. John's.....FOX5 11 a.m.
La Salle at (10) Villanova.....FOX5 1:30 p.m.
W. Michigan at (24) Missouri.....ESPNU 6 p.m.

Check your local listings for channel number
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ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Raven Neal

Blayne Troxell

PampaSports

Matt Reeves in seventh place as of Friday morning

STAFF REPORT

After not putting a qualifying score on the board in round six, Pampa wrangler Matt Reeves was successful in rounds seven and eight in the Pro Rodeo National Final in Las Vegas, Nev. In steer wrestling, Reeves placed first with a score of 3.1 for round seven. In round eight, he placed second with a score of 4.2.

To follow Reeves' scores with two rounds left, visit prorodeo.com and click the NFR link and go to scores and results.



Matt Reeves

Texas' Brown mum on future amid speculation

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas coach Mack Brown declined to say Thursday whether the Alamo Bowl will be his final game, amid intense speculation following another disappointing season that began with the Longhorns talking about becoming national championship contenders again.



Mack Brown

"My situation has not changed," Brown said. Speaking to reporters for the first time since multiple published reports this week indicated that he might step down, Brown

said he has yet to talk with new Texas athletic director Steve Patterson and university President Bill Powers about the job he has held since 1998.

Brown deflected several other questions about his future during a news conference in San Antonio about Texas' bowl game against Oregon on Dec. 30. "I want to sit down with (Patterson) and Bill in the near future and talk about where we're going and where our program is going," Brown said.

In Austin, Powers reasserted his support for Brown and said they planned to speak in the coming days. Powers is among Brown's top supporters, and received a cautious endorsement later Thursday from his frustrat-

ed chancellor to temporarily quiet speculation about his own future.

Powers has been locked in a two-year power struggle over academics on one of the nation's biggest campuses. He called Brown one of the sport's greatest coaches but declined to address the coach's status after regents allowed Powers to continue the job he's held since 2006.

"I'm going to focus on this. We'll discuss football at the appropriate time," Powers said.

Brown acknowledged the Longhorns (8-4) didn't finish how they wanted after starting the season talking about competing for a national championship. The Longhorns last played for a BCS title in 2009, but fan frustration has mount-

ed after a string of seasons that failed to meet expectations.

Notably attending Brown's news conference was influential Texas booster Red McCombs, who is a close friend of Brown's and one of the university's most generous donors. McCombs told reporters he hopes Brown comes back next year — but didn't blink about the caliber of coach Texas could get to replace him.

If the Longhorns job comes open, expect more speculation about Alabama coach Nick Saban replacing him. The AP reported last month that after last season Texas regents had spoken with Saban's agent about the possibility of replacing Brown and approached

Brown about stepping down.

Saban has deflected those reports. But McCombs expressed confidence about Texas' ability to lure him to one of the wealthiest athletic programs in the nation.

"I don't think there's any question about 'getting him,'" McCombs said. "When Mack came there, budgets were an issue; they are not an issue now. Hell, all the money that's not at the Vatican is up at UT."

Brown is 158-47 at Texas, including a national championship in 2005 and another BCS title game against Alabama four years later. But since 2009, the Longhorns are 30-20 and 18-17 in the Big 12.

Video gamer applies for N.D. coach's job

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — Christopher McComas has no coaching experience. He's just played a ton of college football video games.

That's the basis for the Marshall University web developer's tongue-in-cheek application for the vacant head coaching position at Championship Subdivision school North Dakota.

McComas' all-or-nothing offensive approach can be summed up by the phrase: "Chuck the pigskin."

McComas says he and his gaming buddies would all joke about how their play-calling skills were better than some coaches on the field. Recently he took that to the next step.

After seeing a random tweet about North Dakota looking for a new coach, McComas put a PowerPoint presentation together and sent in an application.

North Dakota football spokesman Ryan Powell confirmed Friday that McComas is among the 72 applicants for the job.

Rangers draft Seattle Seahawks QB Russell Wilson

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (AP) — Yes, Russell Wilson loves baseball. But, for now, the Seattle Seahawks' quarterback is thinking about getting his team to the Super Bowl.

Wilson was selected by the Texas Rangers from the Colorado Rockies on Thursday in the Triple-A portion of baseball's winter meeting draft.

Wilson, who played minor league baseball for parts of two seasons before becoming an NFL star, will be placed on Texas' restricted list.

"At the end of the day, he obviously has a lot big-

ger things that he's working on right now," Rangers assistant general manager A.J. Preller said, "and we don't want to interrupt with that aspect of it. But if at some point down the road he decides he wants to do baseball again, we felt like it would be a positive to have him with us."

Wilson was drafted as a second baseman by the Rockies in the fourth round of the 2010 amateur draft out of North Carolina State, where he excelled



Russell Wilson

at both baseball and football. In two seasons at the Class A level he hit .229 with five homers and 26 RBIs.

In 2011, he left the Rockies for football at the University of Wisconsin. He was required to return to the Rockies a part of his \$200,000 signing bonus.

Wilson said he was stunned Thursday when he got the phone call from Texas general manager Jon Daniels.

"It's a pretty cool thing.

It's my third time being drafted in baseball so it's a blessing for sure," Wilson said. "At the same time my focus is on football. Mr. Daniels and I talked about that obviously. He knew that. ... My focus is on football and what we're doing here."

The 25-year-old Wilson was taken in the third round of the 2012 NFL draft.

He led Seattle to the playoffs in his rookie year and the Seahawks are 11-2 this season. Wilson has been a regular fan at Seattle Mariners games during the football offseason.

"I love baseball. But football is where my first love is," Wilson said. "It's a blessing to be able to have the experience of playing professional baseball before and obviously playing in the National Football League doesn't get any better."

The Rangers thought the \$12,000 fee they will have to pay the Rockies was worth the investment.

"You see him playing on Sunday. You hear about the work ethic, the person," Preller said. "I think that's going to be a positive message for all of our players in our system."

2012 Heisman winner Manziel a finalist again

HOUSTON (AP) — Johnny Manziel isn't sure if he'll declare for the NFL draft next month.

But if he does he's thought a lot about his legacy and how he wants to be remembered as one of the best to have ever played and someone who made a major impact for Texas A&M.

He's made a pretty compelling argument for both. He's a finalist for the Heisman Trophy again, with a chance to join Archie Griffin as the second player to win the award twice.

"To be a college football player in a skill position, that's what you shoot for every year," Manziel said.

"So to get to New York and to be one of the best players in the country and then to be that person to win it, it's a dream come true for anybody that's grown up playing Pop Warner Football, that's grown up playing middle school, high school football."

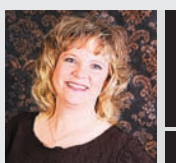
Johnny Football is one of six players who will attend the presentation ceremony Saturday night in New York. Manziel isn't expected to take home another Heisman after Florida State's Jameis Winston burst onto the scene with a spectacular redshirt freshman season much the way Manziel did last year.

Big League Predictions

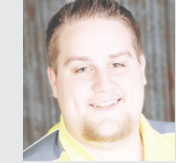
RECORDS
John — 122-83-1 Zac — 132-73-1 ReDonn — 127-78-1 Tyler — 126-79-1



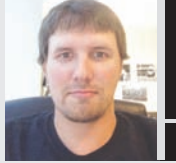
John's Picks
San Diego Chargers at Denver Broncos
Houston Texans at Indianapolis Colts
Green Bay Packers at Dallas Cowboys
Washington Redskins at Atlanta Falcons
Chicago Bears at Cleveland Browns
New England Patriots at Miami Dolphins
Philadelphia Eagles at Minnesota Vikings
Seattle Seahawks at New York Giants
San Francisco 49ers at Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Buffalo Bills at Jacksonville Jaguars
Kansas City Chiefs at Oakland Raiders
New York Jets at Carolina Panthers
Arizona Cardinals at Tennessee Titans
New Orleans Saints at St. Louis Rams
Cincinnati Bengals at Pittsburgh Steelers
Baltimore Ravens at Detroit Lions



ReDonn's Picks
San Diego Chargers at Denver Broncos
Houston Texans at Indianapolis Colts
Green Bay Packers at Dallas Cowboys
Washington Redskins at Atlanta Falcons
Chicago Bears at Cleveland Browns
New England Patriots at Miami Dolphins
Philadelphia Eagles at Minnesota Vikings
Seattle Seahawks at New York Giants
San Francisco 49ers at Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Buffalo Bills at Jacksonville Jaguars
Kansas City Chiefs at Oakland Raiders
New York Jets at Carolina Panthers
Arizona Cardinals at Tennessee Titans
New Orleans Saints at St. Louis Rams
Cincinnati Bengals at Pittsburgh Steelers
Baltimore Ravens at Detroit Lions



Zac's Picks
San Diego Chargers at Denver Broncos
Houston Texans at Indianapolis Colts
Green Bay Packers at Dallas Cowboys
Washington Redskins at Atlanta Falcons
Chicago Bears at Cleveland Browns
New England Patriots at Miami Dolphins
Philadelphia Eagles at Minnesota Vikings
Seattle Seahawks at New York Giants
San Francisco 49ers at Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Buffalo Bills at Jacksonville Jaguars
Kansas City Chiefs at Oakland Raiders
New York Jets at Carolina Panthers
Arizona Cardinals at Tennessee Titans
New Orleans Saints at St. Louis Rams
Cincinnati Bengals at Pittsburgh Steelers
Baltimore Ravens at Detroit Lions



Tyler's Picks
San Diego Chargers at Denver Broncos
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Green Bay Packers at Dallas Cowboys
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Chicago Bears at Cleveland Browns
New England Patriots at Miami Dolphins
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Buffalo Bills at Jacksonville Jaguars
Kansas City Chiefs at Oakland Raiders
New York Jets at Carolina Panthers
Arizona Cardinals at Tennessee Titans
New Orleans Saints at St. Louis Rams
Cincinnati Bengals at Pittsburgh Steelers
Baltimore Ravens at Detroit Lions

Watch the Pros SATURDAY

College Football	Army at Navy.....CBS 2 p.m.
Hockey	Los Angeles Kings at Ottawa Senators.....NHLN 1 p.m. Pittsburgh Penguins at Detroit Red Wings..NHLN 6 p.m.
Auto Racing	NASCAR Sprint Cup from Charlotte.....ABC 7:30 p.m.
Basketball	Cleveland Cavaliers at Miami Heat.....NBATV 6:30 p.m.
College Basketball	West Kentucky at (6) Louisville.....ESPN2 11 a.m. VCU at Northern Iowa.....ESPNU 11 a.m. St. Peter's at Seton Hall.....FSN 11 a.m. (1) Arizona at Michigan.....CBS 11 a.m. (7) Oklahoma St. at Louisiana Tech.....ESPN 1 p.m. Tennessee at (12) Wichita St.....ESPN2 1 p.m. IUPUI at Marquette.....FOXSI 2 p.m. Northern Illinois at (22) Massachusetts.....NBCSN 2 p.m. Notre Dame at Indiana.....ESPN 2:15 p.m. (5) Michigan St. at Oakland.....ESPN2 3 p.m. (11) Kentucky at (18) North Carolina.....ESPN 4:15 p.m. New Mexico at (13) Kansas.....ESPN2 6 p.m. Cincinnati at Xavier.....FOXSI 7 p.m. Illinois at (15) Oregon.....ESPN2 8 p.m. **Check your local listings for channel number** ***Times may vary and blackouts may apply***

Results from Predicting the Unpredictable

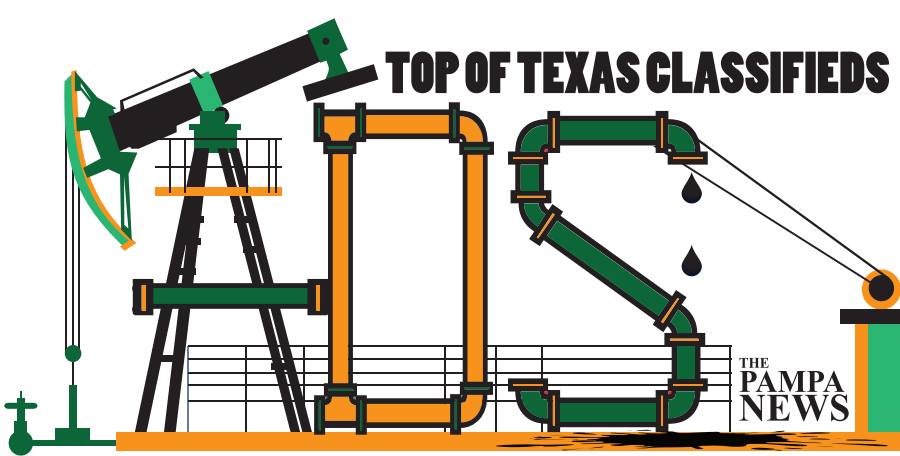
John- 217-50 81.2%
Zac- 216-51 80.8%
ReDonn- 201-44 82%
Tyler- 201-44 82%

Congratulations to Tyler and ReDonn for winning "Predicting the Unpredictable."

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

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OUTSIDE Sales Consultant needed in Pampa. Earn immediate commissions & residual income. Send resume to sales@taptapdirect.com or John Scott 806-457-9990 ext. 1004.

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Requirements: Trade school training or equivalent experience required. 5+ years experience as a Rotating Equipment Mechanic with craft specific certifications in alignment and balancing are preferred.

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A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

12-14 CRYPTOQUOTE

N X A J X R E Q J P R R U F H Q R
N I T K T H A H J F R R I R N O H A T X
R C R Y A N V R J B K T B R Y R N K K A
X R C R Y V Y J E F J K G . — B Y N X D

P N B P N

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: NOTHING IN THE WORLD IS MORE DANGEROUS THAN SINCERE IGNORANCE AND CONSCIENTIOUS STUPIDITY. — MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

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712 Magnolia St MLS# 13-9628 1,272 sqft - 2 bed, 1 ba	1904 Lea St MLS# 13-9922 1,762 sqft - 3 bed 1.75 ba	2234 Lamy St MLS# 13-9924 3,095 sqft - 4 bed 2.75 ba
808 E Locust St MLS# 13-9858 1,248 sqft - 3 bed, 1 ba	513 N Powell MLS# 13-9870 1,917 sqft - 3 bed, 1.75 ba	441 W Brown St MLS# 12-9327 Commercial 24,075 sqft - 1 ba
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- Ability to interact with multinational clientele whose native language is not English & Attention to detail
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1510 Williston St.....	\$60,000	4/1.5/1	1404SF/GCAD
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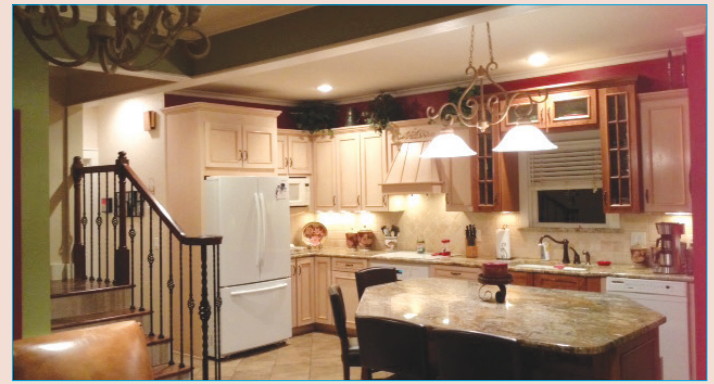


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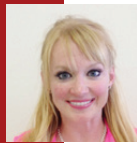
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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I'm 16 and come from a devout Roman Catholic family. My parents have taken my brother and me to church every Sunday without fail my entire life. We pray before meals, before school, at bedtime and at other times every day. My room is filled with religious objects. As far as I know, everyone else in my extended family is equally fervent. My problem is, I have never felt very religious. Since I was 10 I have challenged the teachings of the church and, as I mature into adulthood, I'm beginning to identify as agnostic. When I told my parents, at first they were angry and disappointed. Then they told me I was "just going through a phase." I know this is more than a phase. It's a personal belief of mine they have been trying to bury my entire life.

I can't continue letting them ignore the real me. The stress of constantly having to lie to my parents about my faith is tearing me apart to the point that it interferes with my schoolwork and social life. How can I convince them that this isn't a phase, and that I'm not the Catholic girl they want me to be? If they continue to refuse to acknowledge my religious beliefs, who can I turn to for support? — AGNOSTIC IN STOCKTON, CALIF.

DEAR AGNOSTIC: Your parents should not have minimized your feelings by saying they are only a phase because it was dismissive. That said, you must not allow their devout faith — and your lack of it — to become a contest of wills or a basis for argument.

This is an important time in your life with your parents as you enter adulthood. Thank them for the great foundation they have given you. Tell them you hope they will continue to love you as you explore what your beliefs are on this spiritual journey — because it IS a journey. The opposite of faith is not doubt; it is certainty.

DEAR ABBY: My friend "Molly" and I have been good friends for two years. But this year at school she has gotten new friends, and our relationship is slowly fading away. I'm not sure what to do. Should I wait and see what happens later on down the road or talk to her about it? Please help me. — LEFT OUT IN CEDAR RAPIDS

DEAR LEFT OUT:

What you're experiencing is painful, but it is also a part of life. The fact is, friendships don't always stay the same or last forever.

Your idea of talking to Molly about this is a good one because you won't be left wondering what happened or blame yourself. But you should also explore ways of making new friends. If there are after-school clubs, special interest groups or other activities you can join, they will give you the chance to meet new people. By staying busy, you won't miss Molly so much, and may

even form more long-lasting friendships.

DEAR ABBY: I'm getting married next year. I am very excited to be marrying my fiancé, a kind and caring man. But I am not at all excited to go dress shopping. What should I do? — NO-FRILLS GIRL IN DAYTON, OHIO

DEAR NO-FRILLS GIRL: No law says you must go dress shopping for your wedding if you don't want to. Tailor your wedding to your own tastes, and make it simple and casual. It's your day, so do what feels right for you.

BANANAGRAMS!

Use the 15 tiles in this bunch to create words that fit into the grids below. To get you started, a few tiles from the bunch have been placed. Reuse the tiles for each grid.

LEVEL

A E X G I U D S
I P L S G T I

Yesterday's Answer: INEXACT, BACKLOG, APPLIED, ITCHIER, EXHAUST, BELLMAN

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

Level: Advanced

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 40 Mortar's mate

1 Cone units

7 Claiming cry

11 Come to light

12 Capital on a fjord

13 Capital on the Hudson

14 High time

15 Barbecue rods

16 Boarded

17 Despise

18 Auto highlights

19 Taj Mahal city

21 Favorite

22 Wash. peak

25 Remote

26 Average

27 Battery ends

29 Printer problems

33 Low-lying lands

34 "Impression: Sunrise" painter

35 Eyeball

36 Japanese emperor

37 Deplored

38 Like some garages

39 Declares

DOWN

1 Hide away

2 Mea —

3 Planetary path

4 Running wild

5 Groan inducers

6 Bond, for one

7 Generous one

8 U-235, e.g.

9 Reformer Amelia

10 Shakespeare poem

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

Yesterday's answer

16 Accra's nation

18 Calls out

20 Toy store section

22 Central American capital

23 Bus's kin

24 Only a few get them

25 Prefers

28 Title

30 Put on

(fake it)

31 Military award

32 Cache

34 Coal source

36 Custodian's tool

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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			

12-14

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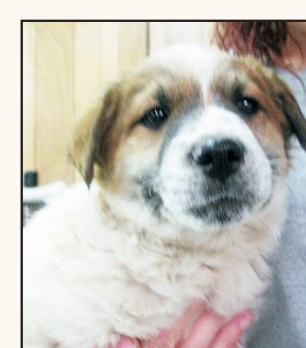
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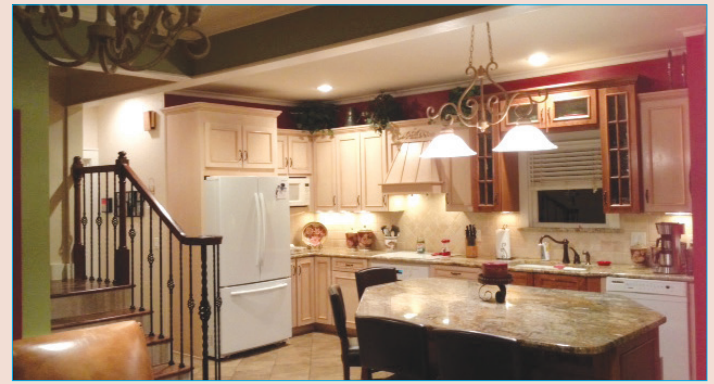


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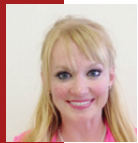
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Fake interpreter reportedly faced murder charge

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — South Africa's government was confronted Friday with a new and chilling allegation about the bogus sign language interpreter at Nelson Mandela's memorial: He was reportedly accused of murder 10 years ago.

Officials said they were investigating the revelation by the national eNCA TV news station. But they were unable, or unwilling, to explain why a man who says he is schizophrenic with violent tendencies was allowed to get within arm's length of President Barack Obama and other world leaders.

Investigators probing Thamsanqa Jantjie "will compile a comprehensive report," said Phumla Williams, the top government spokeswoman. But she did not say how long the investigation would take and insisted details would not be released until it was completed.

"We are not going to sweep it under the carpet," Williams said. "We want to own up if there is a mistake, but we don't want to be dishonest" to Jantjie.

An Associated Press reporter found Jantjie at a makeshift bar owned by

his cousin on the outskirts of Soweto Friday, near his concrete house close to shacks and an illegal dump where goats pick at grass between the trash. Asked about the murder allegation, Jantjie turned and walked away without saying anything.

A day earlier, he told the AP that he had been violent "a lot" in the past, has schizophrenia and hallucinated during the Mandela memorial that angels were descending into the stadium. He also apologized for his performance, but defended his interpreting as "the best in the world."

His assertion was ridiculed by deaf advocates who said he didn't know how to sign "Mandela" or "thank you."

The outcome of the reported murder case that eNCA said dated from 2003 was unclear, and the television report did not disclose any details.

Officials at the Johannesburg court where the murder charge was reportedly lodged were not in their offices Friday afternoon and did not respond to email requests seeking comment.

There were no records of a murder case involving Jantjie at South Af-

rica's National Prosecuting Authority, but spokesman Nathi Mncube said that doesn't necessarily mean Jantjie was never a suspect.

"I cannot confirm that the guy was charged, but I cannot deny it, either," he said. "There are no records right now."

Jantjie also faced other lesser criminal charges in the past, eNCA reported. In the interview with the AP, he blamed his past violent episodes on his schizophrenia, but declined to provide details.

The fiasco surrounding the use of Jantjie to provide sign language translation before a worldwide television audience has turned into an international embarrassment for South Africa, whose ruling party, the African National Congress, and president, Jacob Zuma, have already lost popularity because of corruption scandals and other public grievances. But the ANC is far more powerful than the opposition and Zuma, who was booted at the Mandela memorial, is likely to be its candidate in elections next year.

The U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, said Friday

that "we're all very upset" about Jantjie, who was just 3 feet from Obama at the memorial service for Mandela, who died Dec. 5 at 95.

Thomas-Greenfield told reporters in Kenya that U.S. officials are concerned about security and how Jantjie could have gotten so close to world leaders. She said officials were also dismayed because people watching around the world who needed sign language weren't able to understand what was said at the ceremony. She called the problem "extraordinarily sad."

South Africa's arts and culture minister, Paul Mashatile, apologized for the use of Jantjie on Friday, marking the second apology from the government in two days, and said reforms must be implemented to ensure such an incident doesn't happen again.

"Without passing judgment, nobody should be allowed to undermine our languages. We sincerely apologize to the deaf community and to all South Africans for any offense that may have been suffered," Mashatile said in a statement.

He did not comment on who was responsible for hiring the sign interpreter.

Four government departments involved in organizing the historic memorial service distanced themselves from the hiring of Jantjie, telling the AP they had no contact with him.

A fifth government agency, the Department of Public Works, declined comment and referred all inquiries about Jantjie to Williams' office.

Williams said the investigation would include trying to determine who hired Jantjie or the company he said he worked for. She did not say how long the probe might take, and police spokesman Lt. Gen. Solomon Mogale said there would be no additional information released until after Mandela's funeral Sunday in his hometown of Qunu.

The government is also trying to determine how Jantjie received security clearance and what vetting of his background — if any — took place. Officials at the State Security Agency, in charge of security for the event, have not commented publicly and by Friday had not responded to questions submitted by email a day earlier by the AP.

The government says the

owners of the interpreting company have disappeared, and the AP was unable to track down the school where Jantjie said he studied signing for a year. An online search for the school, which Jantjie said was called Komani and located in Eastern Cape Province, turned up nothing.

Ingrid Parkin, principal of the St. Vincent School for the Deaf in Johannesburg, said she and other advocates for the deaf had never heard of the school. She added that there are no known sign language institutes in the province.

The Star newspaper of Johannesburg reported Friday that Jantjie said he studied sign language interpretation in Britain at the "University of Tecturers."

"We're not aware of that university," said Emma Mortimer, communications director of Signature, a charity that awards qualifications in deaf and deaf-blind communication techniques.

Even if he had studied in the United Kingdom, Mortimer said that wouldn't necessarily qualify him to work in South Africa because the country's two sign languages are different.

US faces new pressure over missing CIA contractor

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration faced intensified pressure Friday to find former CIA contractor Robert Levinson — both from lawmakers and the Levinson family — nearly seven years after he disappeared in Iran during what now has been revealed as an unofficial spy mission.

Levinson's family urged the government "to step up and take care of one of its own." Members of Congress said they wanted to know more about the case, which led to three veteran analysts being forced out of the agency and seven others being disciplined.

Levinson vanished after a March 2007 meeting with an

admitted killer on Kish Island, an Iranian resort. For years, the U.S. publicly described him as a private citizen who traveled to the tiny Persian Gulf island on business. But an Associated Press investigation revealed that Levinson actually was a contractor working for the CIA, and was paid by a team of agency analysts

who were acting without authority to run spy operations to gather intelligence.

If he is still alive at age 65, Levinson has been captive longer than any other American known to be held overseas.

White House spokesman Jay Carney said Levinson, who retired after 28 years at the FBI and

Drug Enforcement Administration, was not a U.S. employee at the time of his disappearance.

A contractor would not be considered a government employee, but the CIA paid Levinson's family about \$120,000, the value of the new contract the agency was preparing for him when he left for Iran.



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