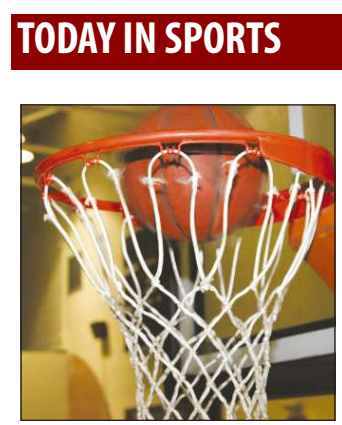


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The PAMPA NEWS



Friday, February 14, 2014 www.thepampanews.com Volume 109 • No. 220

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 Results from PHS' JV and freshmen basketball Pampa baseball to hold Brisket luncheon | p11

Valentine's Day: True love at first sight



BY LINDSEY TOMASCHIK
 LKTomaschik@thepampanews.com

Wallace and Jacque Joutt have been married for almost 61 years. Wallace said they will celebrate their 61st anniversary in April.

The Joutts met on a blind date, and when Wallace first saw Jacque, he thought she was something else. "I was just glad I got him," Jacque said of her first thought of her handsome date.

The two have been inseparable ever since.

The couple met as teenagers and married when Jacque was 17 in Hedley. They are longtime residents of Pampa, having lived here since 1959.

Wallace said they made the decision to come to Pampa when he was offered the opportunity to run a motor service station here. At the time, the Joutts were living in Amarillo. They have lived in the same house since 1961.

When asked what they think is special about their relationship, Jacque said that they do not fight very often.

"Whatever she tells me to do, I do it and it goes just fine," Wallace said. "I wouldn't trade her for a spotted pup," he added.

Their first wedding anniversary was even more special than most, because the couple gave birth to their first son that day.

Over the years, the Joutts have enjoyed taking care of each other and watching their family grow. They have two kids, seven grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren and 1 great great grandchild. They look forward to the holidays and visits from their family.



Photo by Lindsey Tomaschik

Jacque and Wallace Joutt, at their house in Pampa, will celebrate their 61st wedding anniversary in April. The black and white photos are of the couple in their younger days.

One 'Lucky' couple

■ Pastor, wife share life of love in service of God.

BY TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE
 thowsare@thepampanews.com

What started out as a teenage crush in 1983 grew into a lifelong partnership in the service of God.

Gary Luckey, new pastor at Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship, was 15 when he met the woman he ultimately married, then Suni Reynolds, when she was 13.

"We met at a youth meeting in Tulsa," said Gary, who was born in Little Rock, Ark. and grew up in St. Louis, Mo.

Suni said Gary was admired by several young ladies at the meeting, but he only had eyes for her.

Both of them begged their parents to stay another day so they could spend more time with each other.

"We absolutely pledged our love on that day and decided that we would get married someday," said Suni, who grew up in Tyler.

They maintained a long-distance relationship until they both finished college, then tied the knot.

Gary was the one who made the out-of-state move.

"I got here to Texas to marry this girl just as soon as I could," he said.

The couple will celebrate their 25th anniversary in September.

"We are planning a trip to Hawaii," Gary said.



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare

Gary and Suni Luckey, who lead services at Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship on North Banks Street, fell in love as teenagers at a church youth meeting. The couple will celebrate their 25th anniversary in September.

Gary and Suni moved from St. Louis to Pampa in June. Gary's father is a pastor in St. Louis, and had asked them to come there for a year to help him out.

Before that, they had pastored for 10 years at the church in College Station near Houston.

"We have pastored all over Texas," Gary said. "We've been in ministry all of our lives."

They said moving to Pampa after living in or near big cities for so long hasn't been a culture shock because they feel Pampa has just about everything a big town has as far as shopping and things to do.

Plus, they really like the people here.

"The people here are so sweet; it's just like East Texas," Suni quipped.

COUPLE cont. on page 2

Scammers claiming to collect fines for Sheriff's Office

BY TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE
 thowsare@thepampanews.com

If someone calls you and says you must send them money to pay a fine or go to jail, chances are 99.9 percent that it's a scam.

Joe Hoard, chief deputy for the Gray County Sheriff's Office, said his agency has received about three or four complaints this week of residents who were told by a caller that they must send a personal check to pay a fine, or the caller will obtain a warrant for their arrest.

The calls are coming from the 312 area code, which is Chicago.

This is similar to other scams that have been reported in the news recently.

Hoard said GCSO does not call people when they have unpaid fines and a valid warrant.

"If someone has a warrant we come and get them," he said.

Hoard said the scammers seem to be preying on elderly people.

If you receive such a call, contact GCSO at 806-669-8022.

DPS rescues 39 children in 2013

SUBMITTED BY DPS

AUSTIN — The Texas Department of Public Safety announced today that DPS officers — with the support of the DPS Interdiction for

DPS cont. on page 2

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Couple

Continued From Page 1

“This is a small community with a big heart.” They described their marriage as “a match that only God could make.” And perhaps that is why they work so well together as a pastoral team.

Gary said every church they have pastored at has grown upwards of 500 members.

Lighthouse Covenant Fellowship is a smaller congregation, with about 75 to 100 people attending on Sundays, but the couple is committed to bringing in as many new members as they can. In April, the church’s youth minister had to step down because of work conflicts and they are seeking a new one.

They also want to bring in younger musicians to play in the various praise groups.

The Luckeys are both musicians and trade off on the keyboard during Sunday services.

Gary said he plays keyboard most of the time while Suni leads worship and praise.

“We are both musicians and sometimes fight over who’s going to play,” Suni joked.

Suni also is a composer, and has several of her original praise songs posted on YouTube.

One of their sons, Garis, 23, plays drums at the church.

Their daughter, Cara, is finishing her last year at Dallas Baptist University. Their youngest son, Kyler, is a senior at Pampa High School, and son Daylon lives in College Station and works at an HEB supermarket.

Lighthouse Covenant, located at 1733 N. Banks St., is affiliated with the International Pentecostal Holiness Church.

Services are at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Sundays.

There is a nursery and classes for younger kids, and once a month the older kids get together on a Saturday to do something fun, like watch a movie.

The senior citizens in the church meet once a month, but Suni said the younger folks are always welcome.

There also is a men’s group called Waking Up the Man Within the Man.

Through a ministry called People to People, the church is helping to support the basic needs of three girls in Africa.

For more information, call 806-662-4848 or 806-669-6915.

DPS

Continued From Page 1

the Protection of Children (IPC) program — rescued 39 missing or exploited children in 2013. In addition, the IPC program has now reached an important milestone, recovering more than 100 missing and endangered children since 2010.

“The trafficking and sexual exploitation of children is reprehensible and threatens our most vulnerable and precious resource, and we are committed to pursuing the despicable predators who seek to do

them harm and rob them of their innocence,” said DPS Director Steven McCraw. “With this premier training program, DPS is proud to lead the way in ensuring officers have the multifaceted education and training necessary to detect and rescue endangered children.”

Launched in 2009, the IPC program is designed to teach troopers and other law enforcement officers how to recognize indicators of endangered children who do not exhibit obvious signs of abuse.

This program offers invaluable and sophisticated training created to help law enforcement officers identify and recover missing or

exploited children, and arrest suspects for sexual assault of children.

As a result of this training, DPS has made more than 30 criminal arrests, initiated numerous criminal investigations, and recovered 101 missing and exploited children since the program’s inception. In 2013 alone, 39 children were recovered by DPS in Texas. Throughout the years, the IPC program has been responsible for uncovering crimes affecting children and arresting the perpetrators in instances involving:

- Possession of child pornography.
- Sexual assault of a child.

· Human trafficking.

· Commercial sexual exploitation of children.

· Abduction. To date, DPS has provided the IPC training to its own officers as well as other law enforcement, including more than 3,030 officers in Texas and approximately 4,080 officers outside of Texas, nationally and internationally. A variety of other groups interested in the protection of children — including the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the New Jersey State Police in preparation for the Super Bowl and a variety of child advocacy organizations — have also received this training.

HONORED GUEST AT LIONS CLUB



Photo by ReDonn Woods

Jimmy M. Ross of Quitaque, past 2006-07 president of The International Association of Lions Clubs, was the guest speaker at the Pampa Lions Club on Thursday. Ross spoke about his experiences as an International President and gave advice about service projects, membership and the need for eyeglasses for countries in need. A Lion since 1969, Ross is a member of the Quitaque Lions Club. He has held many offices within the association, including club president, multiple district secretary, state membership and extension chairperson, multiple district convention chairperson, multiple district council chairperson and international director. Additionally, he has taken part in eyeglass recycling missions to South America and been involved in chartering more than 500 clubs. Ross has received many awards, including District Governor Appreciation Awards, International President’s Awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor bestowed upon association members. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. Pictured with Ross, left, is Byron Nelson, Pampa Lions Club member and past district governor.

Drake: Done with interviews after Rolling Stone

NEW YORK (AP) — Drake says he won’t do interviews with magazines following a recent story in Rolling Stone magazine.



Drake

The rapper was supposed to be on the cover of the magazine’s new issue, but was replaced with the late Philip Seymour Hoffman. Drake tweeted Thursday that he’s “done doing interviews with magazines.”

“I just want to give my music to the people,” he wrote. “That’s the only way my message gets across accurately.”

Other Thursday tweets from the 27-year-old were deleted, including one about his discomfort with Hoffman gracing the cover of Rolling Stone.

“I’m disgusted with that. RIP to Phillip Seymour Hoffman. All respect due. But the press is evil,” he tweeted.

In the interview, Drake talks about growing up as a biracial child in Canada, meeting his mentor Lil Wayne and launching a successful career in pop and rap.

Drake also discussed not attending last month’s Grammy Awards, where he lost three rap trophies to Macklemore & Ryan

Lewis, including best rap album, which Drake won last year. Macklemore & Lewis also beat Kendrick Lamar, Jay Z and Kanye West in the latter category.

Macklemore sent a text to Lamar — and posted the message online — after the awards show, telling Lamar he felt that he had robbed him by winning best rap album.

“I was like, ‘You won. Why are you posting your text messages? Just chill. Take your W, and if you feel you didn’t deserve it, go get better — make better music,’” Drake said in the interview.

Drake also tweeted Thursday that he never spoke of West’s “Yeezus” album during the interview.

Rolling Stone quotes Drake calling some of West’s lyrics “questionable,” along with him saying he “loves” the outspoken rapper.

“I never commented on Yeezus for my interview portion of Rolling Stone,” he tweeted, which was deleted.

Rolling Stone said in a statement to The Associated Press that “we stand by our reporting.”

A representative for Drake didn’t immediately return an email seeking comment.

The new issue of Rolling Stone hits newsstands Friday.

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PAMPA FORECAST

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High 55 Low 36	High 73 Low 36	High 71 Low 41

Today: Partly cloudy with a high of 55. Winds north-northeast at 16 mph. Sunrise at 7:32 a.m.

Tonight: Mostly clear with a low of 36. Winds south at 17 mph. Sunset at 6:25 p.m.


Saturday: Partly cloudy with a high of 73. Winds west-northwest at 16 mph. Sunrise at 7:31 a.m.

Saturday night: Partly cloudy with a low of 36. Winds east-southeast at 8 mph. Sunset at 6:26 p.m.

Sunday: Partly cloudy with a high of 71. Winds south-southwest at 13 mph. Sunrise at 7:30 a.m.

Sunday night: Partly cloudy with a low of 41. Winds west at 15 mph. Sunset at 6:27 p.m.

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Obituaries

Ruby Ellen Sloss

Ruby Ellen Sloss, 93, died Feb. 10, 2014 in Pampa. Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 15, 2014, at First Baptist Church, with Rev. Barry Owens, associate pastor, officiating. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday in Shamrock Cemetery under the direction of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors.



Ruby Ellen Sloss

Mrs. Sloss was born May 4, 1920 in Texola, Okla. She married G.B. Sloss on Aug. 30, 1941 in Texola. He preceded her in death on July 31, 1981. She farmed and ranched alongside her husband, and loved it. She had been a resident of Pampa since July of 1984. Ruby was a homemaker and a member of First Baptist Church where she was involved with the Sonshiners. She was a member of the Knife & Fork Club.

The family would like to extend a special thanks to the staff at the Meredith House and Interim Hospice, especially Deborah Ferrell, Carmen and Carla for their love and care of their mother.

Survivors include a daughter, Marti Houseman and husband Chuck of Pampa; a son, David Sloss and wife Yoshiko of Okinawa, Japan; four grandchildren, Amy Houseman-Wills, Patricia Miyagi, Rika Cendejas, and Yuka Palasak; and six great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 621, Pampa, Texas 79066-0621, or Interim Hospice, 2217 Perryton Pkwy, Pampa, Texas 79065.

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

Ina L. Davis

Ina L. Davis, 98, passed away Feb. 11, 2014 in Lubbock.

Services are pending with Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors of Pampa.

Ina was born Feb. 17, 1915 in Arkadelphia, Ark. to Alice and William Dowdy. She attended schools in Sheffield, Ala. before moving to Borger. In Borger, she met and married Richard "Dick" Davis in June of 1930. He passed away in May of 1982. They were married 55 years and had three children. Ina and Dick operated the Host Carpet Cleaning service in Pampa.

After Dick's death she managed the S&H Stamp store in Pampa before moving to Lubbock. Ina attended the First Assembly of God Church in Pampa and Trinity Church in Lubbock. She was active in the Prime Timers group. Ina lived to see five generations of her family. She was preceded in death by her parents, a son Jimmy Davis, and three sisters.

Survivors include her daughter, Elnita "Nita" Taylor and husband James "Jim" of Lubbock; son Ronald "Ron" Davis and wife Ann of Oklahoma City; nine grandchildren, sixteen great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

The family will receive friends from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16, 2014 at Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Home in Pampa.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Accolade Hospice in honor of Ina Davis and sent to 5201 Indiana Ave #1015, Lubbock, TX. 79413.

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



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For the record

Fort Worth man arrested for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon

STAFF REPORT

• Calvin Dean Johnson, 32, Fort Worth, was arrested Wednesday by the Gray County Sheriff's Office for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

• Terence Carl Menefield, 41, McLean, was arrested Wednesday by GCSO for failure to appear, expired driver's license.

• John Martine Carroll,

45, Pampa, was arrested Wednesday by GCSO for theft of property between \$50 and \$500.

• Zach Keith Mabry, 37, Pampa, was arrested Wednesday by GCSO for violation of probation — possession of a controlled substance, sex offenders duty to register for life, sex offenders duty to register with a previous conviction.

• Robert Joe Lambright,

55, Pampa, was arrested Wednesday by the Department of Public Safety for possession of a controlled substance.

• Jennifer Renee Montealvo, 35, Pampa, was arrested Wednesday by GCSO for possession of a controlled substance.

• Salvador Rodriguez, 36, Pampa, was arrested Wednesday by GCSO for a bench warrant.

267

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This Land Is Our Land All the things that make me a red-blooded American

My name is Bruno, and I am a socialist. Wait a second before you burn down the office of The Pampa News, convince my wife to divorce me and before you call Mac Thornberry (your congressman) asking him to have me bodily evicted from the great state of Texas.



BRUNO BALTODANO

Let me explain. First off, I have my doubts about it. I know I am NOT a card-carrying member of the Red Party (um, I don't mean the Republican Party, I mean the Communist Party) but, even after 8 years of graduate school (egad, was it really that long?), the Democrats might have just pulled a fast one by me and turned me into a Socialist.

So, just like a recovering alcoholic, the first step is to admit one's shortcomings.

My moment of socialist epiphany came late last week when I heard an interview by Rand Paul on Newsmax

(Ha! Further proof I am not really a "Commie.")

In this interview Mr. Paul was bewildered by the fact that President Obama does not have the common decency to admit he is a Socialist. "When you talk to him one on one, he sounds reasonable and like he's not trying to transform America into a socialist nightmare," said a flustered Paul.

This is, of course, a big ball of hooey — I will explain why later in this column — but it's nothing new. Other smart people, like Bill O'Reilly, Paul R. Gregory and Congressman Randy Weber (R-Texas) have gone on the record explaining that Democrats are actually Socialists. Moreover, according to a Harris poll, 40 percent of Americans agree that the president is a socialist.

The logic seems to be, he is Democrat ergo he is a Socialist.

So I began to wonder, could I myself BE a socialist?

I mean, I don't look like one when I look at my handsome face in the mirror. My friends at church know that I am a sensible man — well, at least I think they do — I drive a pick-up truck,

I have been known to go over the limit in my credit cards once or twice and I listen to Fox News, heck, I have even read two books by Pat Buchanan.

But... I am a registered member of the Democratic Party.

Oh, and I almost forgot, I do yoga, I was a vegetarian for a number of years and I have seen Ricky Martin in concert (once, it was my wife's idea and, well, you get the picture).

The question then became: The hell with Obama, what about me?

Before I get to that let's go back to the "big ball of hooey" I mentioned before.

The argument goes that this Democratic president is SO willing to involve the federal government heavily in the private sector that, golly, he's gotta be a Socialist.

This is a family newspaper so let's just look at two of the things that Obama, and by extension the Democrats, are responsible for.

First, let us look at the Affordable Care Act.

AMERICAN cont. on page 5

Joe Biden, the media's secret quayle

Hidden just below the surface of the liberal media is a barely noticed trend of patronizing contempt: Joe Biden is the Democrats' Dan Quayle, but because he is a Democrat, they'll do anything to avoid treating him like they treated Quayle.



BRENT BOZELL

The Washington Post recently trumpeted a new poll that showed Hillary Clinton was cleaning Biden's clock in an early poll among Democrats, 73 percent to 12 percent. The Post saw this as great news for Clinton but not as disastrous news for the man who's currently in his second term as vice president. Try to imagine Al Gore pulling 12 percent in a presidential poll during Clinton's second term.

Politically, Biden is a Joke Man Walking. But shhh, we're not supposed to notice. It might make the president who selected him look bad.

Biden's unleashed some jaw-dropping gaffes that the networks have skipped. In 2008, he bashed his friend John McCain: "John's last-minute economic plan does nothing to tackle the number-one job facing the middle class, and it happens to be, as Barack says, a three-letter word: jobs. J-O-B-S, jobs."

Katie Couric earned a Cronkite Award for showing Sarah Palin around in 2008, but a few days earlier, she threw softball questions at Biden — and Biden still managed to mangle history: "When the stock market crashed, Franklin D. Roosevelt got on the television and didn't just talk about the, you know, the princes of greed." Roosevelt wasn't president in 1929, and there was no television. But Couric didn't correct him, and ABC ignored it. NBC noticed, briefly.

Now take Biden's latest gaffe about New York City. Hong Kong's airport is shiny and new, he reported. "But if I blindfolded you and took you to LaGuardia Airport in New York, you must think, 'I must be in some third world country.' I'm not joking," he said. New York Mayor Bill de Blasio called it "inappropriate," saying Biden's speech was "not the right way to talk about it."

a racial slur, and there would be hell to pay. But Biden is Biden, and gets another mulligan. The New York Times helpfully wrote a story headlined "Some See Biden's 'Third World' Description of LaGuardia as Too Kind." Time magazine explained de Blasio's ties to Clinton, "for whom he worked as Senate campaign manager in 2000, could be coloring de Blasio's strong rebuke of Biden."

In December, Biden upset feminists while talking to female employees at an Internet company in Japan. Biden was scheduled to address the company's female employees and "discuss the economic impact of women in the corporate world." Instead, while talking to the women, he blurted, "Do your husbands like you working full time?" Network coverage? Zero.

"CBS This Morning" covered the Biden Asia trip for four days in a row but never found time for that clip. If a Republican like Rick Santorum had said it, it would have been painted as a dark male chauvinist moment.

The most recent proof of the media's disinterest in Biden's outrages came in a Feb. 7 interview on CNN's "New Day." Anchor Kate Bolduan displayed her servility to the Democrats in the opening chatter about how much Biden loves Amtrak trains. Her first question asked about what he hopes to achieve as the leader of a new presidential task force on job training.

Riveting, CNN, just riveting.

The so-called worldwide leader in news couldn't muster a single question about the ongoing failures of Obamacare, the IRS harassment of conservative groups, the muddle of Afghanistan, or the fiasco in Benghazi. Instead, Bolduan pestered Biden about when he would announce whether he would run for president and whether his wife would approve, with zero mention of his very weak polls. Before that, she wondered: "Can I ask you one fun question about Corvettes?"

This was Bolduan's toughest question: "What do you say to your fellow Senate Democrats who have made it pretty clear that they don't want the president anywhere near their state this election cycle? And you jokingly kind of said, OK, I'll stay out of it. But what do you

BIDEN cont. on page 5



How To Write Us

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

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

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Pampa, Texas
79065

By E-mail:
thowsare@thepampanews.com

Letter to the Editor

My wonderful story

As God is my witness, I've known "Jesus" ever since I can remember — my life is in him. I sang "Blessed Assurance" all of my life. I will be 84 years old in June this year. It's been a good one.

Born in Bennington, Okla., I came to Pampa about eight years ago. I lived in Stinnett for more than 50 years.

I became Mrs. Paul Peters on February 15, 2009. A car salesman asked me, why did you marry that old man? I answered, I love him, which was true, also he needed

TLC.

He needed help and I happened to be the one to do that. He was 93 years old at the time.

It's been good. We are active in church. God has shown mercy, love and understanding unto us and his promise is unto all who believe.

Faith is unto all who are in the word "Jesus Christ." Believing The Word of God now, here is my story. If you know my husband Paul, I didn't tell it all.

Venna Peters, Pampa



Submitted photo
Venna and Paul have been married since 2009.

A thanks to Pampa Meals on Wheels

How lucky we (of the elderly and homebound) are to have Pampa Meals on Wheels. Their staff, cooks, preparers and wonderful volunteers are outstanding in their care and attention to the job they do. This outstanding group truly deserve attention and support.

Betty Ireland Pampa

Is Obama seeking an opening to Iran the way Richard Nixon did with China?

Is Barack Obama trying to shift alliances in the Middle East away from traditional allies and toward Iran? Robert Kaplan, author and geopolitical analyst for the Stratford consulting firm, thinks so.

In a real-world, clearworld, com world, Kaplan argues that the Obama administration sees the recently elected Iranian President Hassan Rouhani "as a potential Deng Xiaoping, someone from within the ideological solidarity system who can, measure-by-stealthy-measure, lead his country away from ideology and toward internal reform."

Such a development, he goes on, is "something that



MICHAEL BARONE

could, in turn, result in an understanding with the West."

That of course is not what the president and Secretary of State John Kerry say they're up to. They say they're trying to get Iran to agree to stop its nuclear weapons development. No talk of a new alliance.

But Kaplan's view provides a more convincing explanation of what they've actually been doing. It helps explain why Obama and Kerry remain equable in the face of Iranian officials' public statements that they have not given up their nuclear program.

It also helps explain their adamant opposition to the sanctions bill supported by 59 senators and a large majority in the House. That bill would apply enhanced sanctions if and only if the administration did not achieve its stated goals at the end of

the six-month negotiating period agreed to in November and that took effect, after resolution of "technical" issues, in January.

Obama spokesmen say the sanctions legislation might torpedo the negotiations and even lead to war. The Iranians, brought to the table by sanctions, will walk out if more sanctions are threatened.

That makes little sense. Particularly because in his State of the Union message Obama said that he would be the first to insist on more sanctions if negotiations failed. Why oppose legislation that would make his own threat more credible?

It would make sense, however, if Obama is trying to construct, in Kaplan's words, "a concert of powers that would include America, Iran, Russia and Europe," all opposed to Sunni al-Qaida

terrorists.

Kaplan compares Obama and Kerry on Iran with Richard Nixon and Henry Kissinger on China, attempting to reconcile with a long-shunned adversary based on shared common interests.

There are significant differences between Nixon and Kissinger's opening to China and what Kaplan says Obama and Kerry are doing today.

First, Nixon and Kissinger waited until they had strong concrete evidence that China's leaders had interests consistent with America's.

As a candidate, Nixon wrote a 1967 Foreign Affairs article saying "we cannot simply afford to leave China forever outside the family of nations." But he called that a long-run goal, dependent on China "accepting the basic rules of international

IRAN cont. on page 5

American

Continued From Page 4

There's a lot of things I can say about Obamacare, and it might surprise you to know I am NOT a fan, but if there's only one thing I can say about it is that no Socialist worth his or her weight in gold would have ever drafted such a piece of bovine excrement. Why? Because, at the very heart of Obamacare is a federal government forcing its citizens to enter into a business contract with a private corporation (namely, the insurance companies). Don't forget that health insurance in the United States is very much a capitalist enterprise. Next, let's look at the subprime-loan debacle of 2008. When the bottom fell out of Wall Street Obama bailed out investment firms (like Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley) and passed the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act (EESA) to lend funds to private banks.

I will repeat myself at the risk of being cruel...no self-respecting Socialist would have ever, I mean EVER, done either of those things.

Socialism is all about the government owning the means of production and running the economy at both the micro and macro level. That ain't what that punk Obama is doing.

Now, back to the question...since I am a Democrat, does it mean that I am a Socialist?

Of course not, to claim such a thing is a fallacy akin to arguing that wearing a pair of cowboy boots makes me a Texan.

The use of propaganda to discredit interventionist policies in the American economy is nothing new. Franklin Roosevelt faced similar charges when he ran for re-election in 1936.

But, as FDR knew then and we know now, it is not about socialism but about making capitalism work for all Americans.

Now, this does not mean to say that you can't say that

Obama is doing a bad job. Heck, I myself have said "he sucks" when he does.

But don't try to sell us the "he's a socialist" propaganda.

In order to make that work you will have to use so broad a definition of "socialism" that you will end up with a list of "Socialist U.S. Presidents" that would include not only Obama and FDR but Woodrow Wilson and even Teddy Roosevelt (don't forget Teddy was responsible for enforcing the Interstate Commerce Act and the Sherman Antitrust Act).

So am I a socialist? No, and neither are Democrats.

But did I mention I went to a Ricky Martin concert once?

Bruno Baltodano, a resident of Pampa, is a faculty adjunct at Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho and at Clarendon College in Pampa and the host of "Revolutionary Hour," a radio show about political songs on High Plains Public Radio. He teaches college courses on Global Politics, Government and Terrorism.

Biden

Continued From Page 4

say to them?" Biden replied, "I know I've been invited to go into well over 128 races so far. And so there's some places the president is considerably more popular

than I am."

Even here, some so-called reporters seemed more like press secretaries than reporters. Shira T. Center at the Capitol Hill newspaper Roll Call helpfully guessed that CNN had provided this hot scoop: "Biden Boasts Democrats Want Him to Campaign for Them."

Biden is a national embar-

rassment, so much so that even with the national media doing their best to cover up, still the never-ending gaffes make their way out to John Q. Public, who will never vote him into any national office ever again.

L. Brent Bozell III is the president of the Media Research Center.

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Iran

Continued From Page 4

civility." In office, Nixon and Kissinger listened to Chinese officials' denunciations of the Soviets and Soviet diplomats' alarm over China. But only after they observed a Soviet arms buildup and armed clashes on the China-Soviet border did they actively pursue communications with China through intermediaries.

Iran's mullah regime has been sponsoring armed attacks on Americans for 35 years. Its assaults on al-Qaida-type terrorists have been limited, so far as the record shows, to a bit of help in Afghanistan a decade ago.

The second difference between Iran now and China then is that Obama and Kerry, in Kaplan's account,

place much stock in Rouhani as a change agent who will modify the character of a regime hostile to the U.S. for 35 years.

Previous administrations have seen earlier Iranian presidents as change agents too. Former Defense Secretary Robert Gates in his book "Duty" notes that every president since Jimmy Carter has tried to reach out to Iranian leaders "and every one of them has failed to elicit any meaningful response."

The reason is that the firmly anti-American supreme leaders, Ayatollahs Khomeini and Khamenei, hold the real power, not the occasional smiling front-man president.

Michael Barone, senior political analyst for The Washington Examiner (www.washingtonexaminer.com), is a resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, a Fox News Channel contributor and a co-author of The Almanac of American Politics.

Your favorite snapshot could be worth \$100!



This year the theme of *The Pampa News'* annual photo contest is "**People and Places.**" Submitted photos will be judged by our staff based on creativity and general appeal.

- First Place - \$100**
- Second Place - \$50**
- Third Place - \$25**

There is no limit on the number of entries. All contest entries must be received in our office or be postmarked by 3 p.m. Friday, February 28, 2014.

Kids can participate, too!

There will be a separate category this year for young photographers. Photos taken by kids ages 12 and under will be judged separately. Other contest rules apply.

- First Place - \$50**
- Second Place - \$40**
- Third Place - \$20**

Entry Form

Please attach the following form to your photos. Photos submitted without this information will not be considered. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you wish your photos returned. Mail completed form and photos to Photography Contest, *The Pampa News*, 403 W. Atchison, Pampa, TX 79065.

Name _____

Age (if submitting a photo in the 12 and under category) _____

Mailing Address _____

Telephone # (____) _____ - _____

The names of people in the photo (if any) from left to right, front row to back row _____

Description of photo _____

Submission by email: Send the form information with the photo(s) attached to thowsare@thepampanews.com. Photos should be sent in high resolution, .jpg format.

Contest rules—Each photo submitted to the contest must be taken by the person submitting it and must have been taken since Jan. 1, 2013. The photos cannot have appeared previously in any other publication or contest. The Pampa News will publish all the winners, and many of the other submissions in our annual Pride issue in March.

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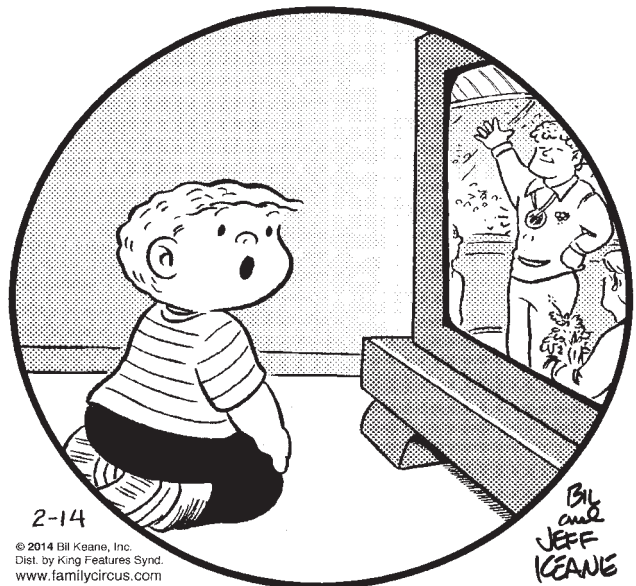


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comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



2-14

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Bil and Jeff Keane

"Shouldn't they be givin' out HEART-shaped medals today?"

Non Sequitur

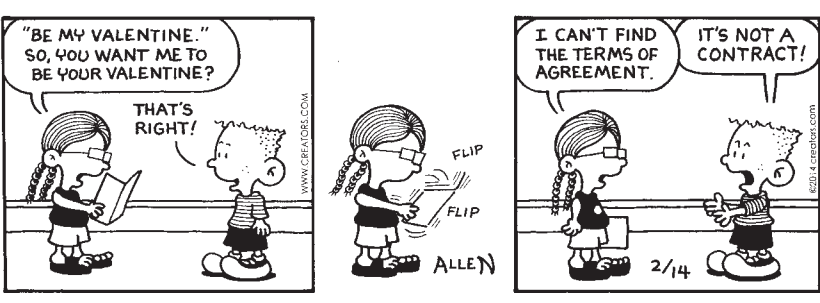
...THEN AFTER THINKING ABOUT IT SOME MORE, HE DECIDED ANYTHING AFTER, "THOU SHALT NOT GO ABOVE 32°F," IS PRETTY MUCH A MOOT POINT



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Nest Heads



daily horoscope

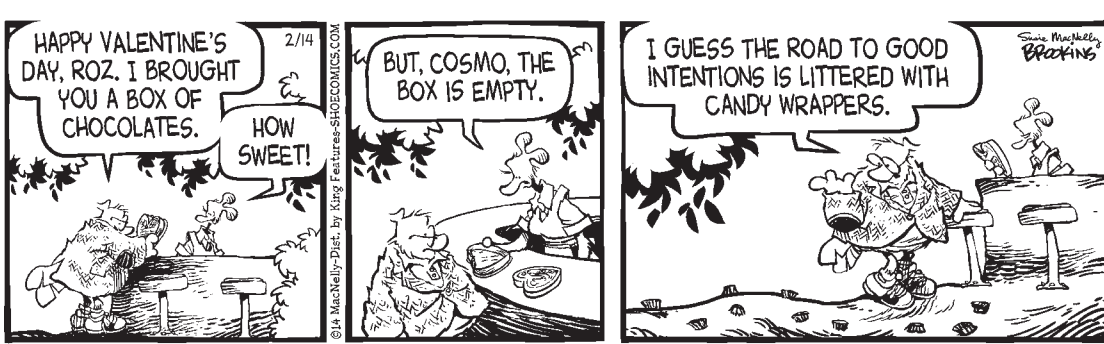
HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, Feb. 15, 2014:
 This year you are able to verbalize some of your more creative ideas. Others will see ways to practically apply some of those ideas. A friend or partner could become both a muse and an adviser. If you are single, you could meet a potential suitor sometime after June, and find that there is more of a romantic dynamic than you initially had thought. This relationship could become quite intense. If you are attached, the two of you might opt to take up a new hobby or pastime together that demands imagination. The two of you will enjoy your time together even more than you have in the recent past. VIRGO can be very nurturing.
 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)
 ★★★★★ Someone finally might express his or her idea in a way that is clear and direct. You likely will respond with a sense of delight and relief. Listen to your inner voice about a personal matter or a situation that is pivotal to you. Tonight: Make it an early night.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 ★★★★★ Someone you look up to will let you know exactly what he or she is thinking. You are likely to go along for the ride, as you understand this person's important role in your life. Make plans that keep you close to home. Tonight: Love the moment with favorite friends.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 ★★★★★ You might opt to stay close to home, which really is not your style. Whether you are deep into a book or something else, you will feel quite content. A special invitation could sound reasonable financially, but you might be surprised by the fringe costs. Tonight: Dinner for two.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ★★★★★ You will be far more verbal than you typically are. You also will be so precise with your words that you could rule out a suggestion from someone else. Is that what you really want to do? Being vague has its advantages too. Tonight: Join friends at a favorite haunt.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 ★★★★★ Take a stronger stance in dealing with your finances. You might get some important feedback from a loved one. You are likely to toss caution to the wayside. Some of you actually might decide to book a weekend getaway in the very near future. Tonight:

All smiles.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 ★★★★★ Finally you'll get to call the shots and make the plans. For the most part, everyone will be pleased. A loved one could surprise you with his or her reaction. Consider weighing the pros and cons of a situation before taking any action. Tonight: Hang with your friends.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ★★ You could be overtired and withdrawn. You'll want a situation to move in the direction you desire, but the person you are dealing with has not one predictable bone in his or her body. Let your creativity flourish. Deal with a family member directly. Tonight: Opt for quieter plans.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ★★★★★ Your ability to move a personal matter along, while still being able to kick back and enjoy your friends, will emerge. Those around you would not even guess that you have your share of problems. Reach out for news from a loved one. Tonight: Where the action is.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 ★★★★★ You might want to come to an understanding with an older friend or relative. You sometimes rub each other the wrong way. Recognize that you are in a position where it might be easier for you to make the first move. Tonight: Bring others together for a celebration.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ★★★★★ You might experience an urge to explore a different setting. You would get bored if you were not always expanding and having new experiences. A loved one will be simply delighted to join you and experience today's twists and turns. Tonight: Opt for a different type of cuisine.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ★★★★★ You finally will level off and relax; however, someone in your immediate circle could pop in and perhaps share some shocking news. Still, you'll remain mellow and actually find the situation humorous. Get into a favorite sport or hobby. Tonight: Just don't overdo it.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ★★★★★ Defer to others. Understand that you are likely to partake in something that you normally would not choose to do. The nature of your companions will convince you that fun can be had as long as you hang out by them. You might enjoy yourself. Tonight: Togetherness is the theme.

Tundra



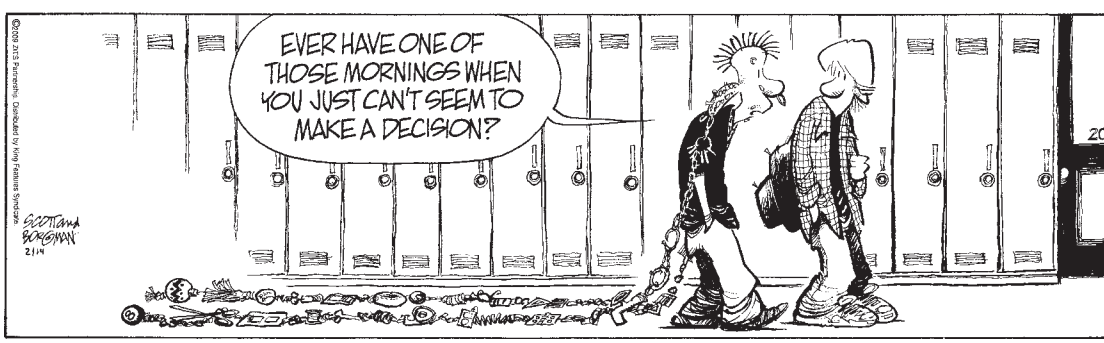
Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



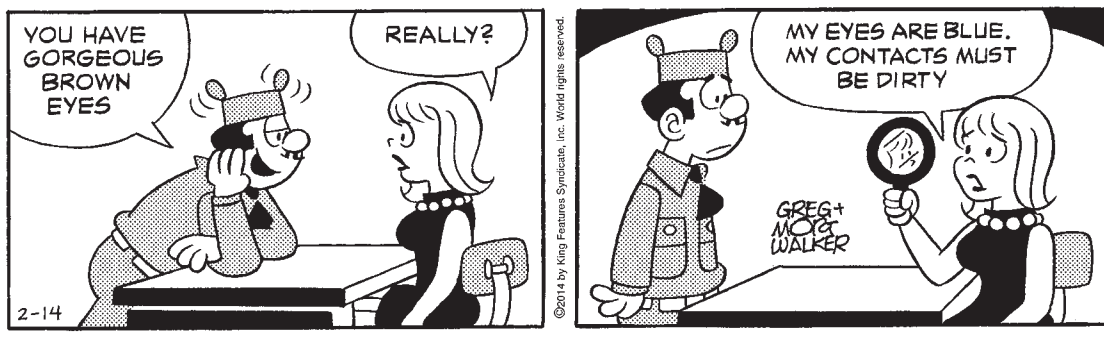
Zits



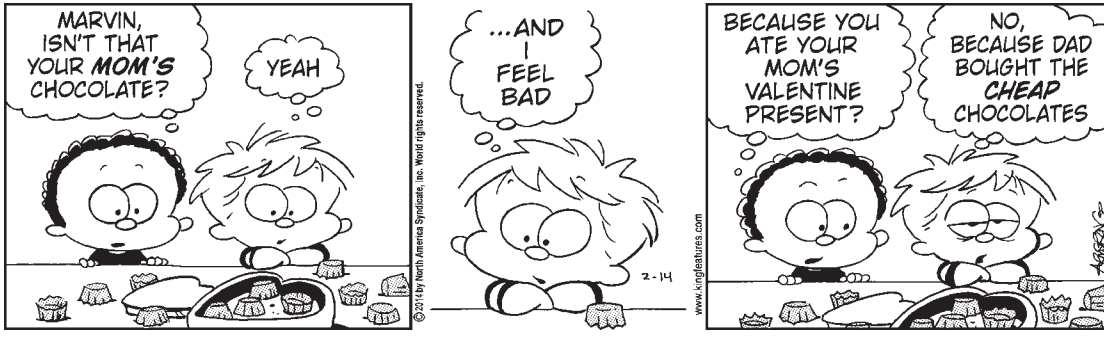
Garfield



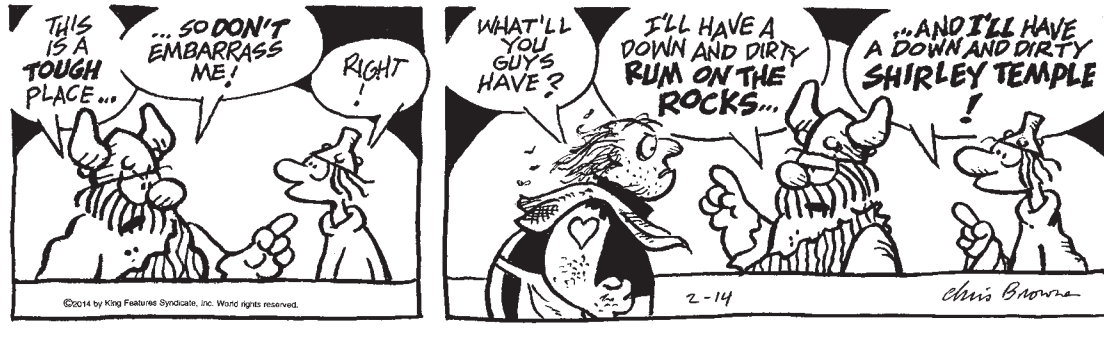
Beetle Bailey



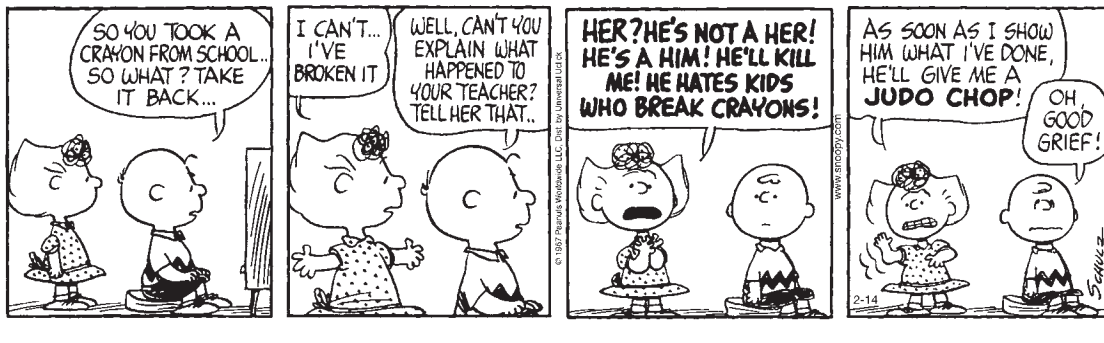
Marvin



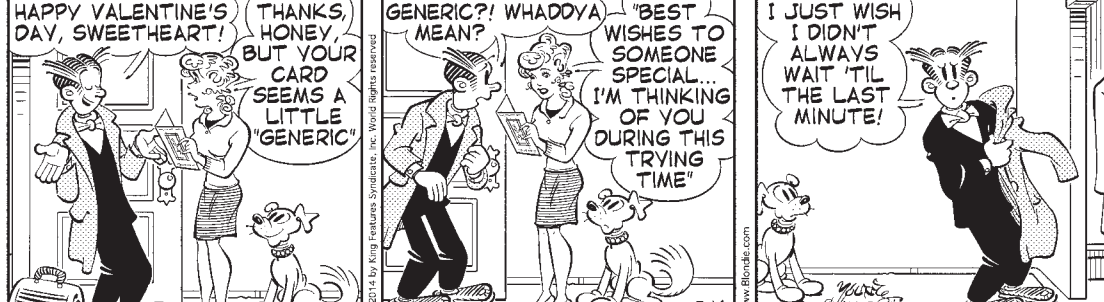
Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



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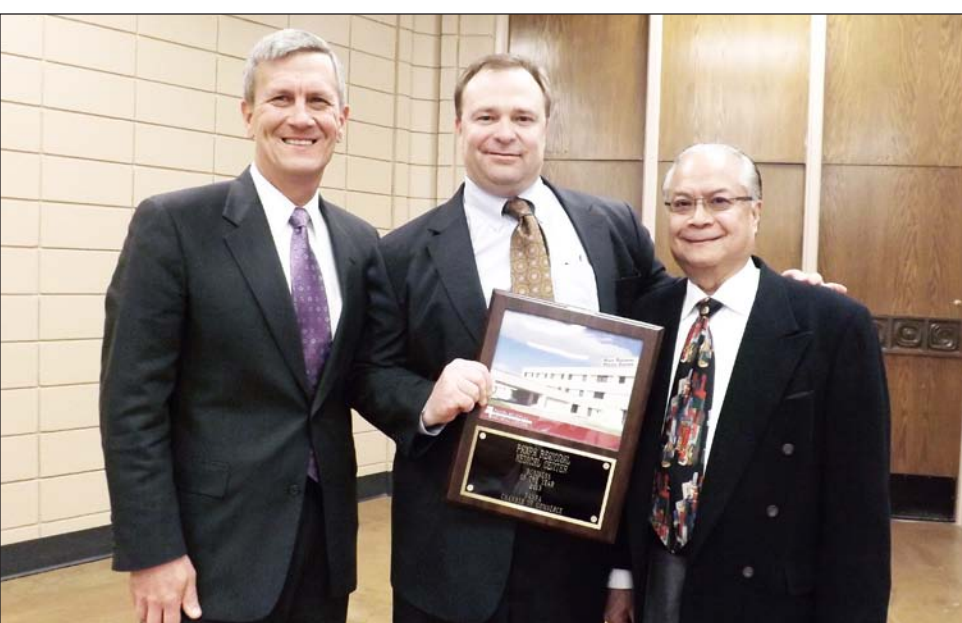


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Photos by Timothy P. Howsare
The 2013 Chamber Banquet took place on Tuesday night at M.K. Brown. Mary McDaniel was awarded Citizen of the Year and Pampa Regional Medical Center was named Business of the Year. A large number of McDaniel's family members attended, and several are seen in the photos above. Chris Porter, left photo under the list of banquet sponsors, announced both of the winners. Bottom photo, From left, James A. Summersett III, regional CEO of Prime Healthcare, parent company of PRMC; Brad Morse, CEO of PRMC; and Dr. Rene Grabato, urologist and former chief of staff at PRMC. Morse said he had no clue before the banquet that PRMC had been selected as the Business of Year. He joked that he thought he might be in trouble when he found out that Summersett, his boss, was coming into town to attend the banquet.

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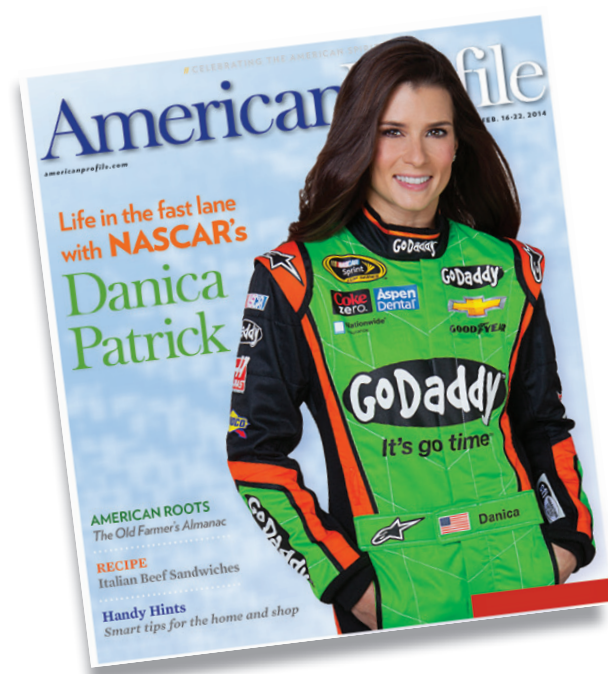
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Life in the Fast Lane

NASCAR's Danica Patrick talks about the ups and downs of her ride to become the most successful woman in racing history.

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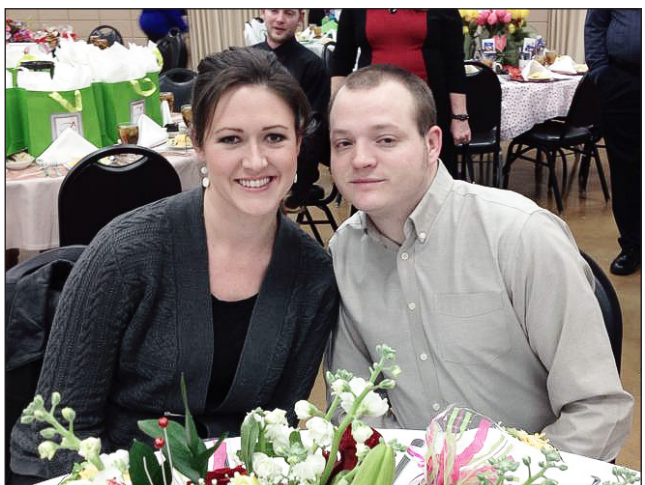
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Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

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The Pampa High School Baseball Booster Club is having its annual brisket dinner from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. this Sunday at the Pampa Optimist Youth Club. Tickets are \$12 per plate and children 8 and under eat free with the purchase of an adult ticket.

Dine-in or Carry-out are available.

Tickets may be purchased at the door or in advance by calling Kaleb Snelgrooves at the High School. All proceeds go to the Pampa High School Baseball Team.



Photos by John Lee

Top, Dante Jordan (22) rebounds a basket. Above, Colton Thompson (33) steals the ball from River Road.

Pampa JV basketball beats River Road

By JOHN LEE

jcllee@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Harvesters 'junior varsity basketball team beat the River Road junior varsity basketball team 70-38 to finish 7-1 in District play.

Bryson Burrell opened things up for Pampa, scoring the first two points of the game. After River Road scored five straight points, Dante Jordan scored two points to make it a 4-5 ball game. River Road scored one more point to end a low-scoring first quarter. After Jett Gibson scored four points for the Harvesters, Nick Stevens hit a 3-pointer to put the Harvesters up 17-12.

The Harvesters outscored the Wildcats 34-17 in a high scoring second

quarter. Brandon Woelfle had three 3-pointers, while Shanoah Bridges had two 3-pointers, including a steal and dunk-score. Nick Stevens had two 3-pointers and went three-for-four in free throws in the quarter.

Coming out of halftime leading 37-23, Pampa picked up where it left off with Burrell scoring the first of his three 2-pointers. Stevens sank another 3-pointer, and Jordan and Colton Jefferies also had two-pointers.

Leading 50-30 at the start of the fourth quarter, Bridges hit another 2-pointer. After a River Road score, Bridges scored on consecutive possessions, Colton Thompson and Calvin Webb had 2-point scores. Bridges hit

a 3-pointer late, and Woelfle and Montrae Williams each had two pointers.

Shanoah Bridges led the team in scoring with 17 points, Nick Stevens had 12 points, while Brandon Woelfle had 11 points with Bryson Burrell sinking 10. Jett Gibson finished with seven points, Calvin Webb with four points, Dante Jordan put up three points, with Kolten Jefferies, Montrae Williams and Colton Thompson each sinking two points.

Freshmen stomp River Road in basketball

By JOHN LEE

jcllee@thepampanews.com

The freshmen basketball team dominated River Road's team on Tuesday night 63-28.

The boys outscored River Road 18-6 in the first quarter, with Brandt Logan and Carson Eubank leading the charge each with a 3-pointer. Enrique Villanueva and Bryce Parker each led the team in scoring with four points a piece. Cade Woods and Brett West each had two points in the 18-6 quarter.

In a low-scoring second quarter, Jonah Munsell scored the only points for the Harvesters with six points.

The Harvesters' third quarter looked more like their first, with the team outscoring River Road 20-3. Brandt Logan paved the way with six points, with Corbin Hair and Grayson Wilson scoring four points.

Parker, Eubanks and Villanueva each had two points in the quarter-blowout.

Scoring 19 in the fourth quarter, the Harvesters secured their 63-28 win. Rhys Jensen had five points with Villanueva scoring four points. Wilson had three points with Munsell and West scoring two points. Hair hit a 3-pointer as time expired to end the game.

Enrique Villanueva led

the team in scoring with 10 points. Brandt Logan and Jonah Munsell had nine and eight points respectively. Grayson Wilson and Corbin Hair each sank seven points, Bryce Parker had six points, with Carson Eubanks and Rhys Jensen putting up five a piece. Brett West put up four points, while Cade Woods rounded out the bunch with two points.



Photo by John Lee

Derek Norris (14) looks to pass the ball among his team.



Watch the Pros

College Basketball

Detroit at Oakland.....ESPNU 6 p.m.
(2) Arizona at Arizona St.....ESPN 8 p.m.
Canisius at Niagara.....ESPNU 8 p.m.

College Hockey

Boston University at New Hampshire.....NBCSN 6 p.m.

Olympics

Figure skating, women's speedskating, men's freestyle skiing.....NBC 12 a.m.
Men's hockey: Czech Republic vs. Latvia.....msNBC 2 a.m.
Men's curling: U.S. vs. Germany.....NBCSN 2 a.m.
Women's curling: U.S. vs. Denmark.....USA 4 a.m.
Men's cross-country skiing.....NBCSN 4:30 a.m.
Men's hockey: Sweden vs. Switzerland.....NBCSN 6:30 a.m.
Men's figure skating.....NBCSN 9 a.m.
Men's hockey: Canada vs. Austria.....USA 11 a.m.
Men's hockey: Norway vs. Finland.....msNBC 11 a.m.
Men's figure skating.....NBCSN 11 a.m.
Men's ski jumping.....NBCSN 1:15 p.m.
Women's biathlon, men's skeleton and freestyle skiing.....NBC 2 p.m.
Figure skating, men's Alpine skiing, women's freestyle skiing.....NBC 7 p.m.

Basketball

Celebrity All-Star Game.....ESPN 6 p.m.
Rising Stars Challenge.....TNT 8 p.m.

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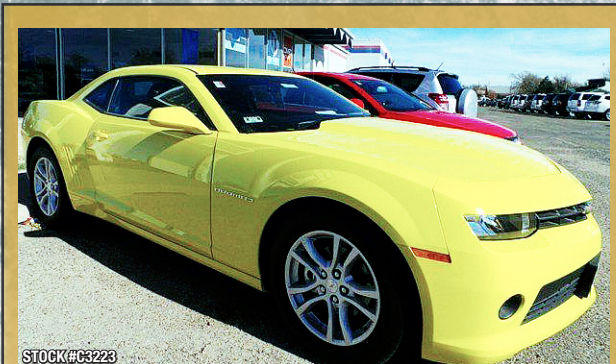


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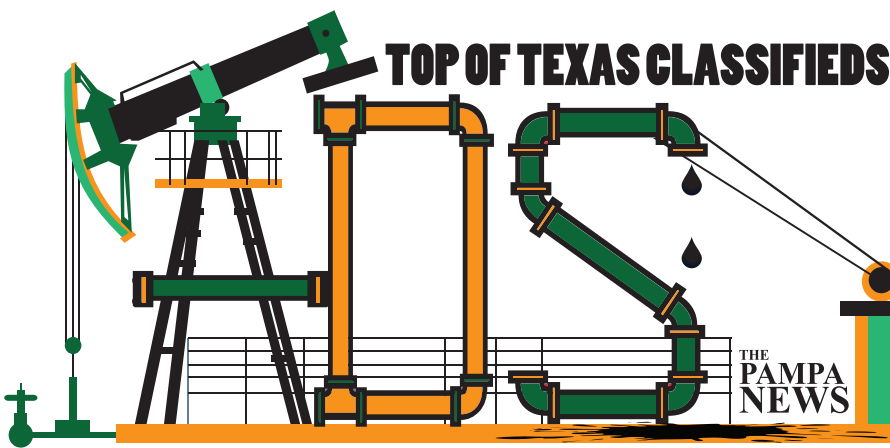
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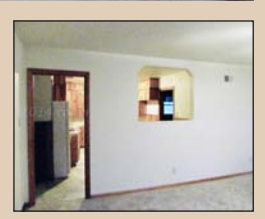
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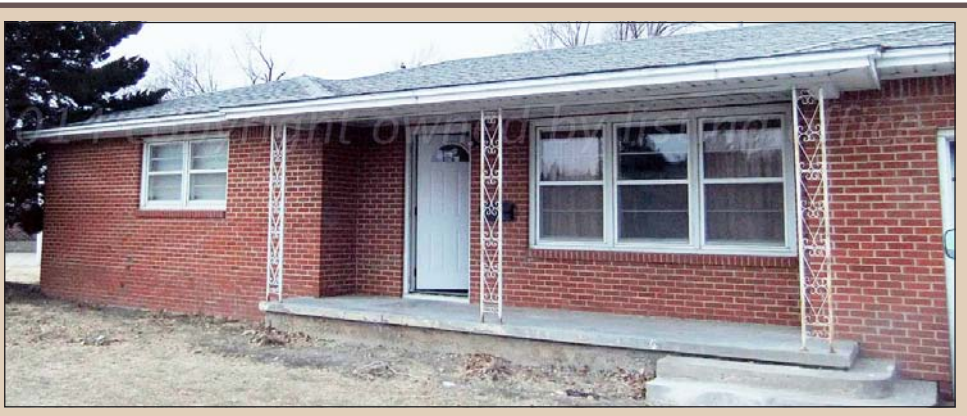
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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: About a year ago, my husband, "Scott," started attending church. He had never gone in the few years we dated.

We discussed our feelings about religion before we became engaged. He comes from a family that attended church every Sunday and believes in God. I was raised the exact opposite; I'm an atheist. I told Scott that if we had children, I would be OK with him taking them to church, but I would not join them. It bothered him a little, but we talked it over and moved on.

After a difficult year that led to some mild depression (for which Scott sought help), he started going to church. I was happy for him because it seemed to help him.

After a few weeks he asked me to go with him. I went several times, but felt uncomfortable. I feel like a fraud sitting in the pew. Scott says he "wants my support" and that means attending with him. I suspect he's embarrassed to be there without his wife.

I do not enjoy it. I have been offended by some of the messages that were imparted, and I would prefer having a couple of hours to myself on Sundays.

Abby, what should I do? Is there any middle ground here? — **FEELING COERCED IN SAN DIEGO**

DEAR FEELING COERCED:

Tell Scott that you are happy he has found comfort in going

to church, but that you are not comfortable with what is being preached and find some of it offensive. Remind him that church attendance was not part of your agreement when you married him and that you value your solitary time at home the same way he appreciates the service.

While you might relent and go with him on major holidays — some non-believing spouses do that — there really isn't a middle ground, and because you feel so strongly about it, you should stand yours.

DEAR ABBY: I am the mother of two girls. One of them has a lot of emotional problems. My husband is gone for months at a time due to his job. I have told him many times that I want him to find another job that would have him home more often. He always says that there are no jobs that will pay what he's making now.

I know that we need a good-paying job, but I need my husband home and my girls need their father. With all of our daughter's issues, everything falls on my shoulders and I don't feel I can handle it alone much longer. We don't live near family, and I have found it hard to make friends due to my daughter's acting out. How do I get my husband to understand? — **MARRIED SINGLE MOM**

DEAR MOM: I understand how stressful it must be to have all the responsibility for raising your daughters on your shoulders. And feeling as isolated as you do only intensifies your feelings. If your husband doesn't already understand what you are going through, I doubt there is much you can say that will convince him to quit his lucrative job and help with the children.

Because he is gone so much — and making good money — consider moving yourself and your daughters closer to your family so you can have some respite when you need it. And in the meantime, find a therapist for yourself. Perhaps your daughter's doctor or your personal physician can recommend one.

DEAR READERS: Largely because of you, writing this column is a labor of love for me, and I would like to wish you all a very Happy Valentine's Day! — **ABBY**

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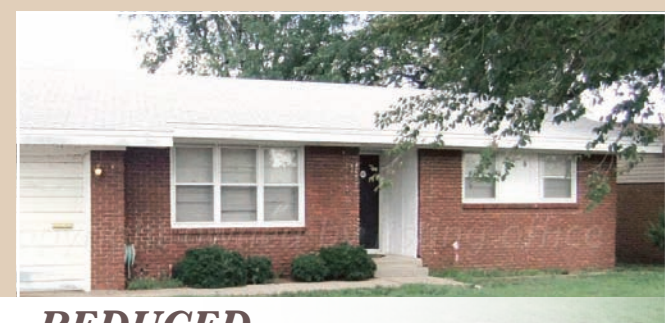
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Rearrange the letters of each word below and place them in the blanks so that, together with the two letters that have already been placed, they form a new word.

LEVEL

L A T E N
 P [] [] [] [] Y

U N A R M
 S [] [] [] [] E

V I S A S
 M [] [] [] [] E

Yesterday's Answer (possible): PHONE, HOPED, PORED, PRIDE, AIRED, RADII; LOLLY, LOYAL, ALLOT, TOTAL, LATTE, THETA 2-14

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Grate fill
 - 6 Had longings
 - 11 Message from the boss
 - 12 Plow pioneer John
 - 13 Location
 - 14 Symbol of slowness
 - 15 Wine list section
 - 17 Apple or pear
 - 18 Fill completely
 - 20 Do copy work
 - 22 Baby boxer
 - 23 Trip
 - 26 Came into existence
 - 28 French cap
 - 29 Cup bases
 - 31 List-shortening abbr.
 - 32 Victory goddess
 - 33 Big party
 - 34 Team
 - 36 Chorizo base
 - 38 Like lambs
 - 40 Pitcher Satchel
 - 43 Tango or twist
 - 44 Essential
- DOWN**
- 1 Egyptian snake
 - 2 Poivre's partner
 - 3 Extremely exciting
 - 4 Game leader
 - 5 Future flower
 - 6 Spots on TV
 - 7 Franc part
 - 8 Extremely sad
 - 9 Huron neighbor
 - 10 Proofing mark
 - 16 Ready to go
 - 18 Relaxing resorts
 - 19 Mystique names
 - 23 Pursue
 - 24 "Why don't we!"
 - 25 Engrave
 - 27 School course
 - 30 Workout unit
 - 33 Stock mark
 - 34 Bar mixer
 - 35 Notorious czar
 - 37 Andy's son
 - 39 Sushi choice
 - 41 "My word!"
 - 42 Mess up

S	O	L	O	S	P	A	R	T	A
I	R	O	N	H	I	D	O	U	T
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R	E	W	E	D	S	A	S	K	S

Yesterday's answer

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 ★ STOCK #T3121
SPECIAL PRICE: \$21,163

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NEW 2013 Toyota Prius C Two
 ★ 1.5 L ENGINE
 ★ VARIABLE TRANSMISSION
 ★ STOCK #T3145
SPECIAL PRICE: \$20,627

MSRP \$21,837 - \$500 TOYOTA CUSTOMER CASH - \$710 CULBERSON STOWERS DEALER DISCOUNT. T.T.&L EXTRA PLUS \$50 DEALER FEE.



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 ★ VARIABLE TRANSMISSION
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 ★ AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
 ★ STOCK #T3156
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NEW 2013 Toyota Highlander SE
 ★ 3.5 L ENGINE
 ★ AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
 ★ STOCK #T3141
SPECIAL PRICE: \$32,578

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NEW 2013 Toyota Highlander SE
 ★ 3.5 L ENGINE
 ★ AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
 ★ STOCK #T3119
SPECIAL PRICE: \$33,088

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NEW 2013 Toyota Highlander SE
 ★ 3.5 L ENGINE
 ★ AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
 ★ STOCK #T3137
SPECIAL PRICE: \$32,831

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 ★ AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
 ★ STOCK #T3045
SPECIAL PRICE: \$35,432

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 ★ 4.0 L ENGINE
 ★ AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
 ★ STOCK #T056
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NEW 2013 Toyota 4Runner Sr5
 ★ 4.0 L ENGINE
 ★ AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
 ★ STOCK #T3050
SPECIAL PRICE: \$35,069

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 ★ AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
 ★ STOCK #T3158
SPECIAL PRICE: \$33,677

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TALES from the TOP OF TEXAS



Build your castle, then knock it down

■ Don Harrington Discovery Center opens LEGO and Little Builders exhibits.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY JOHN LEE
jlee@thepampanews.com

When most parents think of LEGOs, the thought that may cross their minds are stepping on these painful bricks in the dark. The Don Harrington Discovery Center (DHDC) in Amarillo has brought in an exhibit that is less painful (since you have to wear shoes in the building) and far more educational than the bucket of LEGOs that youngsters have at home.

Recently opened in their west wing, the DHDC has brought in a pair of exhibits built to teach children about mechanics and engineering. The LEGO Castle Adventure and Little Builders can now be found at DHDC, and Marketing Coordinator Sarah Silva is excited about the exhibits and the interactivity it allows for the users.

“Well, we wanted to bring in some exhibits that featured a hands-on or interactive feature for the kids. Of course, LEGOs is a really popular item with the kids, particularly to 11 and under,” Silva said.

“We knew that would be a popular exhibit and that a lot kids would want to come in and test it out. And, of course, Little Builders is all about mechanics and engineering. That’s a really important thing we want kids to learn in our area. The LEGOs are really popular for kids, really all the way through high school, and the Little Builders is for kids 11 and under to learn the mechanics and engineering. That’s why we brought them in.”

LEGO Castle Adventure is produced by The Children’s Museum of Indianapolis in cooperation with LEGO Systems, Inc. It features a giant castle full of LEGO decorations and many stations where they can build their own miniature castles. There is also a large number of costumes and costume accessories that children can put on, including a horse-jousting outfit.

Around the large castle are models of castles that actually stood throughout history. There is one castle made by a 13-year-old.

On top of designing their own castles, there is a station where they can design garden mazes. Probably the most popular station, especially among the young boys, was the catapult.

“Actually we do have several displays of castles

and it talks about how the castles were built and why in the medieval times they built castles the way that they did. It talks about the castle’s defenses. We have a catapult demonstrator, where you can build your wall. The kids can decide on a thick wall, a thin wall, a stumpy wall or straight wall. Then, after they have their wall built, they shoot it to see if it will break through their wall.”

On the other end of the west wing, somewhat behind the LEGO Castle Adventure exhibit is the Little Builders exhibit.

Geared more toward the younger engineers, this exhibit features pint-sized versions of tools and machines one might find at a construction site.

There is a conveyor belt that youngsters operate by turning a wheel to move bricks and objects from one destination to the next.

There is a four-level station where children have to move their bricks from the base floor to the upper floor. To do this they have to operate a pulley with buckets they can load with bricks. There are also child-sized cranes that users can use to move bricks also.

Silva likes these exhibits compared to previous exhibits because it is more interactive and can cater to more diverse age-groups.

“There wasn’t much interactive learning to go with those exhibits (Megalodon and Mummy), it was really look on and read and really catered to the older kids,” Silva said. “These exhibits (Legos and Little Builders) really cater to the younger kids as well.”

The LEGO Castle Adventure will be open through the first week of May, when it will be cleared out to make space for a treasure exhibit, which will showcase many of the Earth’s treasures and the places they can be found. Little Builders will be running through Mid-September. Ice Age Mammals and Sherlock Holmes will take its place.

Admission is free for Don Harrington Discovery Center members, \$10 for adults, \$7 for children and students ages 3 to 22, \$7 for seniors ages 60+. Children 2 and under are admitted free. The Don Harrington Discovery Center is open to the public Tuesday through Sunday during the school year and seven days a week from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Hours of operation are 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday. For more information call 806-355-9547. It is located at 1200 Strait Drive.



Top, Zackary Orlds uses the virtual catapult. Below, children on a school field trip use the conveyor belt in the Little Builders section.



Left, a student works one of the cranes. Right, back at the LEGO Castle Adventure, Sarah Silva demonstrates to students how to run the catapult machine. Below left, students on the field trip play in the playhouses of the Little Builders section. Below right, a family looks at the LEGO knight in front of the LEGO castle.

