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# The PAMPA NEWS

**TODAY IN SPORTS**



Friday, March 21, 2014 [www.thepampanews.com](http://www.thepampanews.com) Volume 109 • No. 245

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 Stossell: Spring clean government | **p4**

Lady Harvesters basketball remember their season  
 From the Press Box: Why teams shouldn't slow down | **p8&9**

## Thornberry to host U.S. Service Academy Forum in Amarillo

**STAFF REPORT**

AMARILLO — The office of U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-Clarendon) will host on April 5 the 13th District's annual Service Academy Forum for high school students interested in pursuing an education at a United States service academy. The free, informational event will take place at the Amarillo Public Library's Southwest Branch from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. This forum is designed for potential nominees in their ju-



**U.S. Rep. Mac Thornberry**

nior or senior year of high school. However, all local students of any age, parents, and counselors are invited to attend. No RSVP is required. To be eligible to attend an academy, students must

be at least 17 years old but not have passed their 23rd birthday by the entry date; must be a United States citizen; unmarried; and, have no legal obligation to support children or other dependents. "Nominating students to a service academy is one of the highest privileges I have in Congress," said Thornberry, who serves as the Vice Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee. "We owe the deepest gratitude to the brave men and

women who serve to protect our freedoms, and I applaud each and every student for their desire to answer this worthy calling." At the event, representatives from the U.S. Air Force Academy, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, the U.S. Military Academy (West Point), and the U.S. Naval Academy will provide details on appointment procedures, daily life at the academies, and post-graduate military commitments, as well as answer any specific questions from the

audience. Each applicant must receive a nomination from a Member of Congress in order to be considered. As a Member of Congress, Thornberry is allowed to nominate a limited number of students for each service academy per year. Applications for nominations must be submitted to the congressman's Amarillo office by Dec. 1 of a student's senior year. After reviewing the con-

**FORUM** cont. on page 2

## Fired up about good health



Photos by Lindsey Tomaschik

Firehouse Nutrition is located at 302 W. Foster Ave. Owners Blair and Blanca Schaffer, right photo, are excited to continue helping the people of Pampa reach their fitness goals.

### Firehouse Nutrition excited to promote healthy living.

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

Firehouse Nutrition, which originally opened in Amarillo, expanded and opened a store in Pampa about seven months ago. Owners Blair and Blanca Schaffer saw a good business opportunity in Pampa and have enjoyed their

time running the store here. They wanted to branch out to new areas of the Panhandle, and Pampa has not been a disappointing place to do just that, they said. Firehouse sells Herbalife products, which have been around for more than 30 years. Those who go to the store pay \$7 for a daily membership to the nutrition club and fill out

the slip to specify the flavors of tea and shake they would like. Customers also receive a small amount of liquid aloe with these drinks. The club is open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and shakes are recommended to be substituted for breakfast or lunch. The aloe customers receive at each visit to the Firehouse provide relief from indiges-

tion and support nutrient absorption. The tea, which is available in five different flavors, is what Blanca refers to as the "drink and shrink tea," and it burns up to 100 calories, serves as an energy boost and helps with weight management support. Customers get a lot more freedom when selecting their shakes. With 40 different flavors to choose from, as well as having the choice between a hot or a cold shake, this meal sub-

stitute is one of customers' favorite things about going to Firehouse. They have 200 calories and are designed to keep consumers full for anywhere from two to three hours. The shakes are also full of vitamins and nutrients not typically found in a lot of cooked foods. Blair and Blanca are Firehouse's only employees, but they do have team members

**HEALTH** cont. on page 2

## American Century founder James Stowers Jr. dies at 90

Businessman and philanthropist's younger brother is Pampa resident.

**STAFF REPORT**

James Stowers Jr., the older brother of Dick Stowers, died of natural causes on Monday at age 90. Jim was a prominent philanthropist

and founder of Kansas City, Mo.-based American Century Investments. Jim, along with his wife Virginia, used his business success to donate billions of dollars to charities or founda-

**STOWERS** cont. on page 2



**James and Dick Stowers**

## Projects funded by Pampa EDC

**SUBMITTED**

The following are examples of community development projects that the Pampa Economic Development Corp. has funded over the years. When Type B economic development corporations were introduced, the scope of economic development activities broadened by allowing community development projects. There are many beneficiaries of these

**PEDC** cont. on page 2

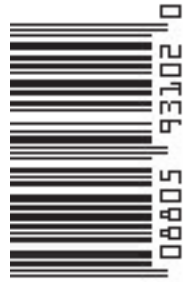
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# PEDC

Continued From Page 1

types of projects including educational entities, municipalities, local nonprofits, taxing entities, future generations and more.

The following is a list of organizations that have received grants from the Pampa EDC.

## Clarendon College — Pampa Center

- One grant for Texas Department of Criminal Justice Training Program
- One grant for Emergency Medical Services / Sim Man Equipment
- One grant for Wind Energy Training Equipment

## City of Pampa

- Three grants for demolition of dilapidated structures and community clean up, two for houses and one commercial building.
- Two grants to help with purchase of marquee signs.
- One grant to help with construction of Pampa H2O Aquatic Center.
- One grant for security camera in Pampa's parks.
- One grant for a project to landscape areas, purchase and install new entry signs into Pampa.
- Hidden Hills Golf Course
- Three grants that con-



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare

Bealls is just one of many businesses in Pampa to benefit from the Pampa EDC.

structed golf cart paths and made course improvements.

• The Golf course is a quality of life issue for many and brings in golfers from other areas who spend locally.

## Gray County

- One matching grant to help with construction costs for the new Perry Lefors Airport Aviation Administration building.
- Pampa Independent School District
- One grant for new field turf at Harvester Field.

## Gray County 4H

- One grant for construction of pens in livestock barn at Recreation Park and purchase of livestock trailer.

## Gray Pampa

## Community Fund

- Three grants to help build the fund for an endowment to enhance programs, improve quality of life and meet the needs of the community.

## Top O' Texas Rodeo Association

- One grant to help build horse stalls on the north side of the rodeo arena.

## VFW

- One grant to help with VFW wall exhibit and promotion.

These grants help organizations with the potential to benefit the community in many ways including quality of life, safety, job training and employment opportunities, education, business development, tourism and more.

# Stowers

Continued From Page 1

tions, earning them the ninth spot on the Forbes magazine list of Biggest Givers, released in 2011.

Their biggest charitable investment came after Stowers was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 1987 and his wife had surgery for breast cancer in 1993. The pair created a \$2 billion endowment to found the Stowers Institute for Medical Research in 1994, a nonprofit biomedical research organization dedicated to researching the causes, treatment and prevention of diseases.

Dick Stowers, who married Dorothy Culberston, lives in Pampa and is vice president of the Culberston-Stowers car

dealerships in Pampa.

Both of the Stowers brothers were born in Kansas City.

The two brothers were close, and Dick said Jim was very down to earth and a person whom everyone respected. Jim and Dick both got married on Feb. 4, but not in the same year. Dick and Dorothy tied the knot in 1951, while Jim and Virginia said their vows in 1953.

Jim founded American Century in 1958 in a one-bedroom apartment in Kansas City, with \$100,000 from 24 investors. Today, American Century has about \$141 billion in assets under management and employs 1,300 professionals around the globe.

"Jim Stowers was a pioneer in the worlds of investment management

and personal philanthropy, and the entire American Century Investments family mourns his loss," American Century CEO Jonathan Thomas said in a release.

"He was an unpretentious man of great vision, an investment innovator with a driving passion for helping investors achieve financial success," Thomas said. "As the living embodiment of our company's Guiding Principles, Jim's enduring legacy will be the positive example he set for everyone who ever had the pleasure of meeting and working with him."

Editor's note: Information from the Kansas City Business Journal was used in the article.

To read more about the Stowers Institute for Medical Research, visit [www.stowers.org](http://www.stowers.org).

# Health

Continued From Page 1

who avidly use the products at home.

Firehouse Nutrition also does fitness camps and weight loss challenges for those interested in participating. The costs vary depending on the type of challenge, and they are open to the public.

The fitness and nutrition classes are available for free, and once the weather warms up, the Schaffers

are excited to start hosting outdoor fitness camps. The fitness classes typically last about 45 minutes and provide participants with circuit type training.

Those who participate in the weight loss challenges come in once a week for measuring and check-ins along with getting their daily products.

Blair, who is a firefighter in Amarillo, said that they are focusing not only on helping others by providing them with Herbalife products, but they also want to help people reach their fitness goals, wheth-

er they be to lose weight or just to maintain good health.

Blair and Blanca are excited about the Pampa shop because unlike in Amarillo where the majority of their customers come in for the product and leave, in Pampa they have gotten to know many of their customers because they will come in and hang out for awhile after finishing their shakes.

Firehouse Nutrition is located at 302 W. Foster. For more information call 806-676-4927.

# Forum

Continued From Page 1

gressional nominations and student applications, the service academies will make final selections and

offers of appointment in the spring.

Accepted nominees will receive a free education, including tuition and room and board, in return for an agreement to serve as an officer in the military for a minimum of five years after graduation.

For more information on the forum or the academy application process, visit Thornberry's website at <http://thornberry.house.gov/> or the Facebook page.

The library branch is located at 6801 SW. 45th Ave. in Amarillo.

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# Spring forecast: Cool in North, still dry in West

The first day of spring? Some people in Maine were shoveling 6 inches of new snow. And in Michigan, college students couldn't even burn a snowman.

Ok, so it was a fake snowman. But it was real snow that got in the way.

For many Americans, it feels like winter is hanging on like a bad cold.

And now government forecasters are predicting a cooler-than-usual spring across the northern U.S. Even just next week, frigid Arctic air is expected to blanket parts of the East.

"This is one of those winters — the gift that keeps on giving," said Jon Gottschalck of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The stubborn cold is delaying any flooding into April in the upper Midwest to New England. While major flooding is not expected during the next three months, forecasters said the greatest threat exists in the southern Great Lakes because of above-normal snowpack, thick ice on streams and rivers, and snow on the ground.

Experts warned of possible isolated flooding in certain areas depending on

how fast snow melts and how much rain falls.

After a miserable winter, residents in parts of Maine dug out again on the first day of spring. The snowfall knocked out power to some.

"I'm just looking forward to not bundling up," said 33-year-old Rich Maggi, while taking a smoke break in the downtown Portland area where the snow had melted by midday. "I think this was hard on even the most winter-hardened people."

Prolonged wintry weather forced a Michigan university to delay a yearly rite of spring — the burning of a fake snowman — after the campus was blanketed with 5 inches of snow overnight on top of knee-deep drifts.

Officials at Lake Superior State University in Michigan's Upper Peninsula near the Canadian border said the snow and high winds raised safety concerns, and the ceremony was moved to Friday.

The snowman stuffed with shredded paper usually is dubbed Frosty. But this one was named Polar Vortex after the frigid air mass that punished the East Coast and Midwest.

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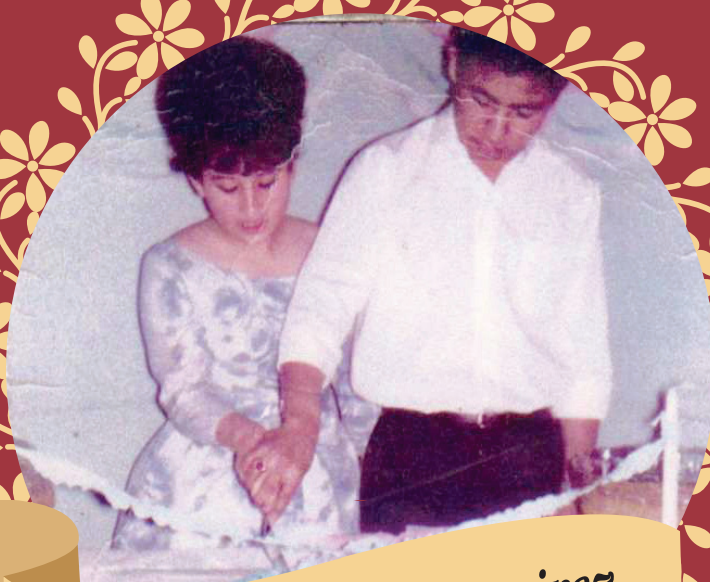
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Chico and Liz Ramirez are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary today. They were married here in Pampa on March 21, 1964. The couple raised two children and now have seven grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

Join The Pampa News staff in wishing Chico and Liz a joyous anniversary!






50th

Chico and Liz Ramirez

1964

## PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Saturday	Sunday
		
High 66 Low 35	High 51 Low 27	High 50 Low 29

**Today:** Partly cloudy with a high of 66. Winds north at 20 mph. Sunrise at 7:46 a.m.

**Tonight:** Mostly clear with a low of 35. Winds east-northeast at 18 mph. Sunset at 7:57 p.m.

**Saturday:** Mostly cloudy with a high of 51. Winds east-northeast at 13 mph. Sunrise at 7:45 a.m.

**Saturday night:** Partly cloudy with a low of 27. Winds east-northeast at 12 mph. Sunset at 7:57 p.m.

**Sunday:** Mostly cloudy with a high of 50. Winds southeast at 13 mph. Sunrise at 7:43 a.m.

**Sunday night:** Partly cloudy with a low of 29. Winds south at 10 mph. Sunset at 7:58 p.m.

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# For the record

## Pampa man arrested on drug charges

- Montra Dwayne Jackson, 27, Pampa, was arrested Wednesday by the Gray County Sheriff's Office for possession of a controlled substance, failure to present valid identification.
- Brooke Nicole Pyle, 31, Pampa, was arrested Wednesday by the Pampa Police Department for theft of services between \$500 and \$1500, motion to revoke probation — possession of a dangerous drug, capias pro fine — no seatbelt.
- Raul Rodriguez, 38, Pampa, was arrested

Wednesday by GCSO for bond surrender — assault causing serious bodily injury, bond surrender — driving while intoxicated, bond surrender — possession of marijuana — less than two ounces, capias pro fine — possession of drug paraphernalia, capias pro fine — no driver's license, capias pro fine — no seatbelt.

- Carlos Fuentes, 47, Hereford, was sentenced Wednesday for criminal non-support.
- Heather Krystine Brown, 28, Hereford, was sentenced Wednesday to

the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for possession of a controlled substance.

- Barbara Ann Taylor, 49, Pampa, was sentenced to state jail on Wednesday.
- Danny Herrera, 31, Lubbock, was arrested Wednesday by GCSO for violation of probation — theft of property.
- James Adrian Selvidge, 48, Pampa, was arrested Wednesday by the Department of Public Safety for failure to appear, failure to use a turn signal, no valid driver's license.

- James Calvin White, 23, Pampa, was arrested Wednesday by PPD for criminal trespassing.
- Aaron Lee Estep, 40, Pampa, was arrested Wednesday by PPD for criminal trespassing.
- Jason Todd Vance, 33, Pampa, was arrested Wednesday by GCSO for possession of marijuana — between two and four ounces.
- Joshua Lee Rivas, 22, Pampa, was arrested Wednesday by PPD for criminal mischief between \$1,500 and \$20,000.

## Feds move toward extradition of Mexico ex-governor

DALLAS (AP) — Federal prosecutors have indicated they will seek the extradition of a former Mexican governor indicted in the United States for racketeering and money laundering. American authorities say Tomas Yarrington Ruvalcaba took millions of dollars in bribes from the Gulf Cartel as it smuggled cocaine and marijuana through the Mexican border state of Tamaulipas, where Yarrington was governor from 1999 to 2004.

In court documents filed this week, prosecutors asked for three certified copies of an arrest warrant for Yarrington and a co-defendant, Fernando Alejandro Cano Martinez. Prosecutors said in one document that they would

seek extradition of both men and that copies of the warrant were part of the package required by Mexico to seek extradition. Yarrington's U.S.-based attorney, Joel Androphy of Houston, confirmed Thursday that his client is not in the United States or in custody. Androphy said that once prosecutors finish their application for Yarrington's extradition, a judge in Mexico would hear evidence in the case and decide whether to send Yarrington to the United States. "They may decide to seek some sort of extradition in the future from Mexico, but for now, this is just premature," Androphy said. "And I think they'll have a difficult time, too."

An indictment filed in May alleges that members of the Gulf Cartel paid bribes to Yarrington and other elected officials to "continue their illegal business with little or no interference from police authorities operating in the State of Tamaulipas." The indictment alleges Yarrington purchased a luxury condominium on South Padre Island, Texas, just across the border from Tamaulipas, and had access to a private plane purchased with money stolen from Mexican public funds, along with other real estate and bank accounts. The charges against Yarrington include conspiracy to import cocaine and marijuana, racketeering, and bank fraud.

Androphy said he could prove that deposits in Yarrington's bank accounts were legitimate and not part of a criminal conspiracy, and that several potential government witnesses were threatened with deportation of family members if they did not cooperate against Yarrington. He said Yarrington had been in the United States before an initial indictment was returned, but returned to Mexico after his visa expired. "The fact that he's not around is not Yarrington's issue," Androphy said. "It's the government's fault." A spokeswoman for the U.S. attorney's office in Houston did not return a phone message Thursday.

## Area support groups

- The following is a list of support groups that meet regularly each week in Pampa. Information for each meeting is submitted to The Pampa News office and may not be completely updated or accurate. Please notify the newsroom if a change is necessary.
- The Pampa News welcomes all submitted materials for area support groups. Please include the meeting time, date and location and, if applicable, provide a contact number for each group.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous** Open Door Club meets daily at noon and 8 p.m. at 910 W. Kentucky Ave. **Al-Anon** meets at noon on Mondays. For more information, call 665-9072.
  - **Alcoholics Anonymous** Primary Purpose meets daily at noon and 8 p.m. at 112 W. Foster Ave.
  - **Alcoholics Anonymous** Keep It Simple meets Thursdays at 6 p.m. at the Methodist church in White Deer.
  - **Pampa Caregiver Support** meets at the Pampa Nursing Center on 1321 W. Kentucky Ave. at 6 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. For more information call 806-669-2551.
  - **Accolade Home Care** sponsors a **Parkinson's Support Group** the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. The group meets at Accolade at 1313 N. Hobart St. For more information, call Lindsey Been at 806-665-9700 or 806-324-3230.

- **Victims of domestic violence and sexual assault**, meet at 5:30 p.m., Thursdays, and at 2 p.m., Fridays, at the Tralee Crisis Center, 308 S. Cuyler St. For more info, call the Center at 806-669-1131.
- **Narcotics Anonymous — The Pampa Group** meets at 7:30 p.m., Tuesdays, and at 6 p.m., Saturdays, at 805 N. Gray St. **Narcotics Anonymous — Rufe Jordan Unit** also meets at 6 p.m., Mondays, and at 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays, at 1992 Hilton Road.
- **Cancer Support** meets at 1 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the Pampa Regional Medical Center cafeteria. For more info, contact Beth Kean at

## Lasso-yielding officers chase loose bull in Waco, Texas; no injuries

WACO, Texas (AP) — A bull apparently in no mood for vaccinations led police on a chase before horse-riding, lasso-yielding officers were able to wrangle the animal. The Waco Tribune-Herald reports that the bull was being vaccinat-

ed at a veterinary clinic in Waco when it broke out of its corral Tuesday. Officers say a man spotted the animal running down the street and gave chase, wielding a whip and lasso from a pickup truck with three or four police cars behind him. Sgt. W. Patrick Swanton

says the bull ran into a fenced yard after about 45 minutes. Two animal control cowboys were able to lasso it into a trailer. Swanton says police were mostly concerned about the bull injuring pedestrians or interrupting traffic. No one was injured.

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# Viewpoints

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## This Land is Our Land

# Putin's game of chicken

For those of you who were not paying attention to important world news, "Toxic Tush" is currently in jail if Florida for injecting unknown substances, including Super Glue and Fix-a-Flat, into her patients' rumps in underground butt-enhancement procedures.



**BRUNO BALTODANO**

In Putin's case the procedure was not a rear-end-enhancement but rather an implant of "backbone of steel" that has allowed the former KGB counterintelligence officer to pull off a very deliberate political maneuver in Crimea. (I was going to say "cojones of steel," but I didn't want to cause my editor to have a conniption, this is, after all, a family newspaper.)

Back to Putin, the international community, and that includes the cojones-challenged Obama administration, is "shocked" at the hubris and efficiency of Putin's political maneuvers.

"I don't know what he will do next. He's not a predictable politician," said a forlorn Angela Merkel, the German Chancellor last Tuesday when Putin announced the official

annexation of Crimea. Well, dress me in pink and call me Shirley. I may have lost my crystal ball earlier this year, but my bet is that Putin will continue to do whatever makes the Russian people happy and keeps him in power... as long as the Obama administration and the European Union continue to lose this high-stakes game of chicken by doing little more than puff their collective cheeks.

Putin's approval rating has skyrocketed since the deployment of Russian troops to Ukraine. In less than a month, it jumped from nearly 10 percent to over 72 percent, according to CNN.

Because of the mess in Crimea, Russia's membership in the G8 was suspended, and the United States imposed economic sanctions and travel restrictions on fourteen Russian officials (Fourteen? Now, THAT is some message... what kind of message that is I have no idea but, it is a message.)

The sanctions were not taken particularly seriously by Russian politicians – in fact, word has it that, upon hearing about the "sanctions," Putin and his closest aids celebrated by viewing a boot-legged copy of Rocky XVIII, you know, the version

where Sylvester Stallone has the living daylights kicked out of him by the reigning Russian female figure skating champion.

Vladislav Surkov, a presidential aide to Putin, and one of those seven diplomats who had their travel restricted as part of the sanctions, said the following (I swear I am not making this up):

"I see the decision of the Washington administration as recognition of my accomplishments for Russia. It's an honor for me. I don't have foreign accounts. In the United States I'm interested in Tupac Shakur and Jackson Pollock. I don't need a visa to access their work, so I'm not losing anything."

I don't know what sounds more offbeat to me, the "sanctions" that the Obama administration and his loony European allies "imposed" on Russia, or the image of anyone listening to a Tupac song while admiring a work of art by Jackson Pollock.

See, Putin's actions in Ukraine are not the kind of irrational, deranged, "he is living in another world," capricious behavior that German Chancellor Merkel spoke of. They are part of a coherent campaign to increase domestic support, expand Russian

**PUTIN** cont. on page 6

## Spring clean government

Spring cleaning is a healthy tradition. If only politicians did it!



**JOHN STOSSEL**

They don't. When Barack Obama ran for president, he promised to clean house. "I'm not a Democrat

who believes that we can or should defend every government program just because it's there. There are some that don't work."

I cheered when I heard that! But politicians always say they'll get rid of waste. Then, once in power, they spend more. Obama sure has.

"We just need to cut back!" said Obama, the candidate. He promised to end "waste at the Economic Development Agency and the Export-Import Bank that's become little more than a fund for corporate welfare." Good for him. Yet both programs thrive: The Ex-Im Bank just gave another \$8 billion to Boeing, and the EDA spent \$2 million to build a wine-tasting room and "culinary amphitheater."

Taxpayers were also forced to give \$150,000 to promote a puppet festival on Long Island, \$98,000 to build an outhouse in Alaska, and a million dollars to "study the influence of romance through novels and film."

Both the left and right denounce the other party's spending, but expensive waste is supported by both. Neither party makes much effort to cut farm subsidies or NASA — or to end subsidies for big corporations, the people who need it least. Sen. Tom Coburn, R-Okla., is the rare conservative critic of waste who doesn't spare the military. On my show this week, he points out that the Pentagon destroyed \$7 billion worth of weapons in Afghanistan and Iraq instead of shipping them home. "That just shows you the inefficiency," says Coburn.

Mattie Duppler, of Americans for Tax Reform, likens recipients of government handouts to ticks that suck the populace's blood.

Welfare for businesses is even more harmful than welfare for poor people, because it kills the free enterprise that creates real prosperity. "When you've got government putting its thumb on the scale," says Duppler, "saying this

business deserves more attention, more money, more government support than another one, that's ... the centrally planned economy."

Centrally planned economies bring stagnation and poverty.

Many people concerned about big government focus on high taxes. High taxes are bad, but I worry more about the spending. Spending is a tax. Since government has no money of its own, the spending money must come from you.

Today I worry even more about the sheer quantity of rules. There are now 170,000 pages of federal laws and many more local rules. If you can't get a job, there's a good chance that this spider web of regulations is the reason why.

After recessions, employment used to bounce back quickly, but not this time. What employer wants to hire when doing so requires fighting incomprehensible complexity and risking punishment for violating some obscure rule? I'd be afraid to build a serious business. Today's laws are so complex even the lawyers don't understand them.

And the clutter gets worse. Every day, regulators craft more rules. It's always more. If you're a regulator, and you don't add rules, you think you're not doing your job.

So now that spring is about to arrive, let's give government that overdue cleaning. Eliminate half the 170,000 pages of federal laws, scrap useless Cabinet departments, and cut the \$4 trillion in spending in half. We could move about so much more freely if our lives weren't buried in government's junk.

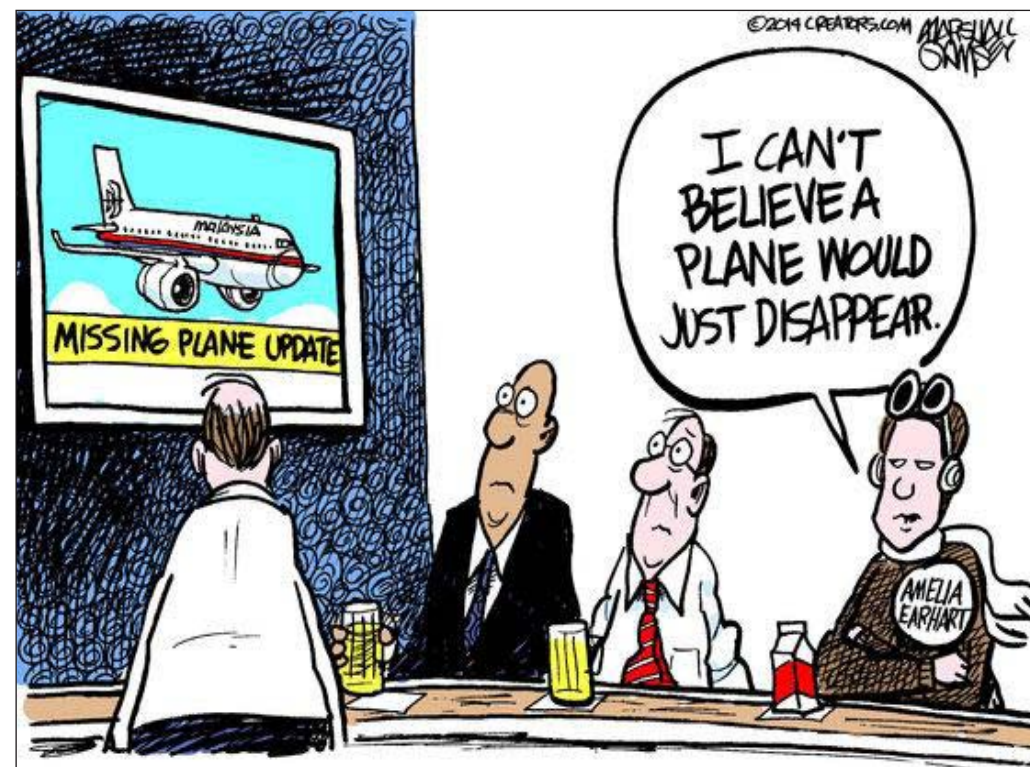
Laws stop me from opening my own lemonade stand, dictate where kids must attend school, and forbid voluntary interactions between consenting adults. Clean this stuff away!

When government is big, we become smaller. When we're trapped in the web of their rules, we don't innovate; we become passive.

To clean house, pass the Stossel Rule. It's simple: For every new regulation bureaucrats pass, they must repeal five old ones.

It would be a start.

*John Stossel is host of "Stossel" on the Fox Business Network. He's the author of "No They Can't: Why Government Fails, but Individuals Succeed."*



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## Obamacare has to go

The surprise victory of Republican David Jolly for a congressional seat in Florida has given new life to voters who had been depressed about the power of the Obama campaign machine.



**PHYLLIS SCHLAFLY**

Even more surprising to the media was that Obamacare turned out to be the winning issue for Republicans.

The Democratic congressional candidate outspent the Republican by a million dollars, and it was a district that President Barack Obama carried in 2012. But the Democratic candidate's message about Obamacare, "fix, don't repeal" and "mend, don't amend," was a loser because the American people want Obamacare repealed.

The Democrats had thought Obama's favorite legislation would be a political advantage by now. It would have given health insurance to millions of voters who never had it before, others would enjoy subsidies and free contraceptives, and all had confidence in Obama's promise, "If you like your doctor, you can keep your doctor" (and your health insurance plan and your hospital).

It must have been a rude awakening for many liberals to realize that it was all a lie, and you really can't keep your doctor or your

insurance plan. Liberals now have to face the fact that not only Obama made a false promise, but that he and his staff knew it was a lie when they wrote it on his teleprompter.

Millions of Americans have had their health insurance canceled. And the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office reports that Obamacare will cause more than 2 million Americans to lose their jobs.

Nancy Pelosi told members of Congress they had to pass Obamacare so we can all find out what's in it. We are finding out more and more things we don't like about it every day.

Obama's game plan to dodge the Obamacare bullet is to announce an exemption or a waiver or a deadline change almost every week. The purpose seems to be to postpone as many obnoxious deadlines as possible so that they do not take effect until after this year's November election.

The scholar Grace-Marie Turner of the Galen Institute reports that the administration has made 37 significant changes to Obamacare, of which at least 20 were made unilaterally by Obama with his famous "pen." Only 15 were made legally by Congress.

Obamacare is a disaster any way you look at it. It violates the Constitution by forcing individual Americans to buy things we don't need or want, and to pay for other people to

buy products we don't approve of.

So what do we have to show for the high cost of Obamacare? Lost jobs, full-time jobs cut to part-time jobs, canceled health insurance policies, higher premiums for health insurance, a website that doesn't work (so people don't know if they are signed up or not), and navigators, who couldn't pass a background check, to help us navigate the website.

Obamacare was designed to conceal its extraordinary cost by depending on healthy young people signing up to compensate the insurance companies for the high costs of unhealthy seniors. And we've just discovered a previously unnoticed fine-print provision to require taxpayers to bail out the insurance companies if they lose money on that deal.

The Obama administration is trying to save face by claiming that Obamacare's only problems are with the website and implementation. In fact, the real problem is the socialist mindset that the government can take over a sixth of our economy and do it better and cheaper, and that's ridiculous because higher taxes, more inconvenience and lots of bailouts are what prevail.

The big government takeover of an entire industry is driving up health care costs, imposing new taxes, increasing our national debt, encouraging Obama to function

like a dictator by unilaterally changing the law, and destroying our once-great health care system.

The administration claims that 4.2 million people have signed up, which is a lot fewer than the original 7 million goal. But the real joker is that many of these people haven't paid their first premium. Like shopping at the supermarket, they've put some items in their cart, but they haven't yet paid at the checkout counter, so we don't know the real numbers.

But we do know that more people have lost health insurance than have been able to get new insurance. The Associated Press reported that at least 4.7 million Americans received notices that their current health insurance policies were canceled, and that's more than the 4.2 million who have signed up.

Most of Obama's changes were to help 2014 Democratic candidates, who are running away from Obamacare faster than they are running for office. The solution for Americans is to elect a conservative Senate in November that will repeal Obamacare.

*Phyllis Schlafly is a lawyer, conservative political analyst and author of 20 books. She is the co-author, with George Neumayr, of the New York Times Best-Seller titled "No Higher Power: Obama's War on Religious Freedom." She can be contacted by e-mail at phyllis@eagleforum.org.*

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# Putin

Continued From Page 4

regional hegemony and change the balance of power at the international level.

Let's go back to the game of chicken.

Every Texan worth his or her weight on tumbling tumble weeds understands the basic strategy behind the game of "chicken."

You make your opponent think you are as irrational (or crazy) as to risk crashing head on, consequences be damned. In other words, the game rewards "looking" or acting crazy enough so that your opponent will say, "Forget this!" and swerve to safety.

Funky political scientists (aka, eggheads, or, in my case, devastatingly good-looking dudes) refer to this as "the rationality of irrationality."

Putin seems to be a world-class player when it comes to this.

The beauty of this strategy is that it will force Obama and his pals at the European Union into acquiescing to any sensible concessions that Putin will

accept. In other words, we blinked.

The problem is that Obama, the E.U. and Putin do not look at "winning" and "losing" in the same way.

To the U.S. and its European allies, "winning" means avoiding confrontation; to Putin and Russia, "winning" means encouraging confrontation.

So, I see no evidence that Putin is crazy or unhinged. What I see is a shrewd political leader with a clear strategy and the cojones to do what it takes to make it happen... again, as long as the West continues to back out of his way.

If I was Obama I would put in a call to which ever south Florida prison holds "Toxic Tush," ask if he is still taking clients, pay for a bigger set of cojones implants than the ones that Putin got, do my best impression of Dirty Harry, squint my eyes and say, "Well, do you feel lucky, Punk?"

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

# Local Edward Jones team participates in advanced training

SUBMITTED

Duane Harp and Ben Watson, financial advisors with the financial services firm Edward Jones in Pampa, and Barb Hahn and Fawn Smasal, branch office administrator recently attended an invitation-only training opportunity at the firm's headquarters in St. Louis.

The three-day Advanced Practice Management Forum is offered to branch teams throughout the country who rank among the top third most successful in the firm in helping clients work toward their long-term financial goals. Harp and Watson and Hahn and Smasal were among more than 180 associates, out of more than 12,000, invited to attend this session.

"The Advanced Practice

Management Forum gave us an opportunity to share ideas with other successful teams, visit with home-office experts to discuss ways to meet more clients' needs and view technical demonstrations highlighting

a variety of systems and tools," Harp and Watson said. "We were able to tailor some of the training to focus on areas of our business that we want to grow."

Hahn and Smasal adds, "Attending this training will help us better serve our clients. We now share a clearer vision of the best practices, tools and resources to use in earning new clients, deepening relationships with existing clients and overall delivering an ideal client experience."

The firm is consistently

recognized for delivering industry-leading training. Earlier this year, Edward Jones was ranked No. 15 on Training magazine's "2012 Training Top 125" list its 12th consecutive year on the prestigious list.

Edward Jones provides financial services for individual investors in the United States and, through its affiliate, in Canada. Every aspect of the firm's business, from the types of investment options offered to the location of branch offices, is designed to cater to individual investors in the communities in which they live and work. The firm's 12,000-plus financial advisors work directly with nearly 7 million clients to understand their personal goals — from college savings to retirement — and create long-

term investment solutions that emphasize a well-balanced portfolio and a buy-and-hold strategy. Edward Jones embraces the importance of building long-term, face-to-face relationships with clients, helping them to understand and make sense of the investment options available today.

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# Jeb Bush seeks common ground in higher education

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush said Thursday the partisan divide isn't as wide when it comes to improving the nation's higher education system as it is in many other areas.

Hillary Rodham Clinton, who like Bush is often mentioned as a poten-



Jeb Bush

higher education issues. It begins Monday in Irving, Texas.

"This isn't a political conference," Bush, a Republican, said in a telephone interview when asked why Clinton, a Democrat who

served as secretary of state, was invited.

"There's a real consensus in our country that higher education is hugely important and if we can find ways to improve quality and lower costs and provide greater access in the United States and around the world, it's hard to argue against that," Bush said. "The question is, how do you do it?"

Bush said it's good that, at the federal level and in many states, there are discussions about ways to improve higher education. He noted that among full-time

college students, about 60 percent of students graduate within six years.

"Initiatives that focus on better outcomes and helping students get the courses they need to garner degrees of relevance quicker are a very good thing," Bush said. "There's no question about it."

He said he hasn't seen the specifics of a higher education ratings system under development by the Obama administration that could potentially use measures such as graduates' salaries.

# Finnish gibberish talker finds fame, heads to US

HELSINKI (AP) — A 19-year-old Finnish supermarket cashier with millions of Internet fans of her language imitation YouTube video is heading for America hoping her gibberish hit will open up a new career.

In two weeks, Sara Maria Forsberg's "What language-

es sound like to a foreigner" has drawn more than 9 million viewings, transforming her into a sought after celebrity that prompted the mayor of her hometown of Pietarsaari to hand her the town keys as a gesture of appreciation.

Mayor Mikael Jakobsson says she "likely is the

most famous person ever" to have been born in the coastal town of 20,000 inhabitants.

Her agent Jere Hietala told the AP on Wednesday that Forsberg was headed for Los Angeles on March 29 after "numerous advertising related companies" had been in touch.

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# Nuclear waste from New Mexico lab may go to Texas

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — With the government's only permanent nuclear waste dump shuttered indefinitely by back-to-back accidents, officials are making plans to ship radioactive waste from Los Alamos National Laboratory to rural West Texas.

The Department of Energy and the operator of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant near Carlsbad in southeastern New Mexico say they have signed an agreement with Waste Control Specialists to truck the waste to its site in Andrews County.

The agreement will help Los Alamos meet a June deadline for getting the last of thousands of barrels of plutonium-contaminated clothing, tools, rags and other debris off its northern New Mexico campus before wildfire season hits its peak.

The waste, which is

shipped and stored in huge sealed canisters, would come back to New Mexico for final disposal once the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant reopens.

"We are pleased that WCS is in a position to provide temporary storage for this waste while the WIPP is shutdown," said Waste Control Specialists President Rod Baltzer. "This will allow the Los Alamos National Laboratory to meet its goal of having this material removed by this summer so it can no longer be threatened by wildfires. WCS has never had a wildfire because all surrounding areas are covered with asphalt and caliche roadways. In addition, the waste will be in storage facilities that have sprinkler system, and in the event of an emergency, WCS has its own fire truck on site."

The West Texas site has in the past taken some less toxic waste from Los Alamos, but the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant is the nation's only permanent repository for low-level radioactive waste from nuclear weapons facilities.

Waste Control Specialists is licensed to take radioactive materials such as uranium, plutonium and thorium from commercial power plants, academic institutions and medical schools, as well as some DOE waste. It is also the burial ground for dirt from a Hudson River Superfund site that's tainted with PCBs, or polychlorinated biphenyls.

Chuck McDonald, a spokesman for the plant, said federal officials are working with regulators at the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to make sure that storing the

Los Alamos waste is allowable under its permits.

The state of New Mexico pressured Los Alamos to get the waste off its campus in the northern New Mexico mountains following a massive 2011 wildfire that lapped at the edges of lab property. The waste from decades of bomb building has been stored outside on a mesa. Following the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant shutdown, the state and Sen. Tom Udall, D-N.M., emphasized that the deadline was non-negotiable.

"Removing waste from the mesa in Los Alamos before fire season is critical to ensure safety in the greater Los Alamos community," Udall said in a statement Thursday. "I'm pleased we have a temporary solution that will ensure there will not be any significant disruption in cleanup efforts."

Los Alamos spokesman Matt Nerzig said the lab's target date to resume shipments is April 1. He said Los Alamos anticipates about 140 more shipments to clear the remaining 20 percent of the waste over the next three months.

Waste Isolation Pilot Plant stopped taking all waste shipments following a Feb. 5 underground truck fire. Nine days later, a radiation release contaminated 17 workers and sent particles of plutonium and americium in the air around the plant.

The plant has been closed ever since, and officials are working on plans to get underground to figure out what caused the leak and the extent of contamination.

A team that investigated the truck fire last week issued a report that cited a series of shortcomings in

safety training, emergency response and oversight. It is unclear, however, if the fire and leak are related.

And because no one has yet been inside the half-mile deep mine since the leak, there are no estimates on how long the plant might be shuttered for cleanup.

Richard Dolgener, the county judge for Andrews County, said the DOE has had the West Texas plant "on the drawing board" as a contingency to the nuclear waste dump for about 10 years.

"I guess they're going to execute it," he said.

Cyrus Reed, spokesman for the Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club, questioned whether temporary means one year or 100 years.

Waste Control Specialists, he said, is "becoming a catch-all site for anyone's problem."

## AT&T to take orders Friday for new Samsung phone

NEW YORK (AP) — AT&T says it will start taking orders for Samsung's new Galaxy S5 smartphone starting Friday.

The phone will ship in a few weeks and will cost \$200 with a two-year service agreement or \$650 without a contract.

Samsung has said the phone will start shipping worldwide on April 11. Other carriers are also expected to carry it, though prices haven't been announced yet.

Announced last month at the Mobile World Congress wireless show in Barcelona, Spain, the S5 will have a 5.1-inch screen, measured diagonally, and a 16-megapixel camera. The S5 will also have a fingerprint sensor to use in place of a passcode to unlock the phone

or make payments through PayPal. And it will have a heart-rate sensor to measure fitness activities.

Samsung is the leading maker of cellphones, helped by the popularity of its Galaxy line.

It is now pushing into the emerging market for wearable devices. AT&T says it will sell the Gear 2 smartwatch for \$299, a price

comparable with the original model last year. Two devices with fewer features, the Gear 2 Neo and the Gear Fit, will go for \$199 each. All three devices offer fitness tracking and other features and will be available April 11 as well.

Samsung Electronics Co. didn't announce prices when it unveiled its new products.

## Swiss Emmentaler named world's best cheese

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — A Swiss Emmentaler has been named the top cheese at an international competition in Wisconsin, handing the nation its fourth win in the past five years.

Cheesemaker Gerard Sinnesberger took top honors at the 2014 World Championship Cheese Contest with his Original Schweizer Rohmilch Emmentaler, a large format, big wheel Swiss cheese.

Out of possible 100 points, the Emmentaler scored 97.85 in the final round of judging Wednesday. The cheese was deemed the best of 2,615 entries from 22 countries.

An Austrian entry, called Erzherzog Johann, was second. Another Swiss entry, Gruyere AOP, was third.

A U.S. cheesemaker hasn't won the contest sponsored by the Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association since 1988, according to the Wisconsin

State Journal.

Although Americans weren't in the top three this year, they took home the most medals, winning 59 of the 90 categories judged. Switzerland came in second with seven gold medals, while the Netherlands had five.

Among U.S. contestants, Wisconsin dominated with 33 gold medals. Chief judge Bob Aschenbrock credited the quality of milk produced by Wisconsin farmers and work done by state agriculture officials and the Center for Dairy Research at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

"They've improved the milk supply immensely in the last 15 to 20 years. When I was making cheese back in the 1960s and 1970s, it was nothing like it is today. Everybody else follows our lead, basically," said Aschenbrock, a longtime cheesemaker.

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# PampaSports

## Lady Harvesters remember their season

By JOHN LEE  
jlee@thepampanews.com

The Lady Harvesters' basketball team took an evening to remember their season Wednesday night in the high school commons. Parents and special guests of all three squads were treated to a dinner catered by The Plaza as well as a video montage to help attendees reminisce over the 2013-14 season. After recognizing each

of the teams it was time for peer and district awards. Senior Hayley Burnett received offensive player of the year, most valuable player, first-team all-district and District 1-3A defensive player of the year. Junior Madison Brown was awarded the rebound award and junior Ty'Randa Johnson was selected by her peers for defensive player of the year. Johnson was also the other player on the team to receive first-

team all-district and honorable mention. Voted by her team for her never-ending spirit, junior Raven Neal was selected for the Fighting Heart award. The Hustling Harvester award was given to sophomore Reata Collins. Lauren Pingel, who is now a competitor for the track team, was selected for manager of the year. Head coach Gene Valentine told those in attendance that Pingel told him with excite-

ment before a track meet, "Coach, I am a player now, not a manager." Being the lone senior on the varsity squad, Burnett decided to give gag gifts to all of her underclass teammates who enjoyed the humor behind the gifts. Sophomore Megan Brock received a dry-erase board to help remember plays. Collins received little weights so she can be stronger next season. Junior Tiah Brown received Butterfinger candy, because some days she

kept dropping the ball. She gave Caragan Niccum some scotch tape because she accidentally broke the tape Coach Valentine had put on their hotel doors one night. Junior Keisha Daniels was given a fly-swatter because she swatted the ball away often during games. Brown received Sweet and Sour candy because Burnett said she was sweet some days and sour others. Neal received pom-poms from Burnett for always be-

ing a cheerleader and Johnson received a bib for her dribbling issues. Juniors McKinli Thomas and Risa Rodriguez received a stress ball and boxing glove respectively. Burnett's teammates got her a basketball signed by each teammate. The Lady Harvesters' season came to an end in the bi-district round of the playoffs. Senior Hayley Burnett is the only one of the 11 players who isn't returning next season.



Above left, the varsity girls. Above right, the ladies who received an award during Wednesday's banquet. From left, Madison Brown, Hayley Burnett, Ty'Randa Johnson, Raven Neal and Reata Collins. Below, the freshman team. Bottom, the junior varsity team.

Photos by John Lee

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# PampaSports

## From the Press Box

Teams with big leads in their divisions should never slow down.

“When you fall asleep at the wheel, that’s when you crash.”

That is what Denver Broncos head coach John Fox told reporters when asked how he felt with his 3-0 Denver Broncos hosting the pitiful Jacksonville Jaguars.

As Fox predicted, the Jaguars were leading the Broncos at the half but eventually the Broncos woke up and throttled the Jaguars.

Right now in the NBA it seems that the top teams are bored. Wednesday the Miami Heat lost at Boston to the Celtics and the Indiana Pacers lost at New York to the Knicks. Sunday Oklahoma City got dismantled by the Mavericks in their own building.

My explanation for all of this: the top NBA teams are falling asleep at the wheel. They know they are going to the playoffs. Indiana, Miami, San Antonio and Oklahoma City have all clinched a playoff berth, now they are just playing for seeding.

San Antonio is the only team of the playoff teams still playing hard, and I think that comes with experience.

When a team limps into the playoffs, it doesn’t allow for them to have momentum. Throughout sports, the team that gets

hot at the right time is the team to win the championship.

Look at the Dallas Cowboys last year. They had a large lead over the Philadelphia Eagles in the NFC East and could have punched their playoff ticket with a win over any of their last three teams. They didn’t and they missed the playoffs. The same thing happened to the Denver Broncos two years in a row between 2008 and 2009.

The Thunder have a two-game lead over the L.A. Clippers and a four-game lead over the Houston Rockets. Both teams, by the way, are playing pretty well. The Clips are 9-1 in their last 10 games as of Thursday morning.

The Heat are in jeopardy of not having the number-one seed as they are three games behind Indiana in the Eastern Conference. They are also 4-6 in their last 10 games.

But the beauty, or in my opinion ugly, of the NBA is that 16 teams make the playoffs. So the current three-seed for the East would have to lose 11 games and the three-seed for the West would have to lose eight games to not make the playoffs.

It will be interesting to see if the teams wake up and keep their one and two-seeds or if they let up and end up falling to a three-seed or worse.

John Lee is the sports editor at The Pampa News. He can be reached at [jlee@thepampapnews.com](mailto:jlee@thepampapnews.com)



JOHN LEE

## A fraternity of the heart in the NBA

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Three years ago, Jeff Green joined one of the most exclusive clubs in the NBA. He didn’t ask to be a part of it. Didn’t even know it existed until a doctor told him that he had an aortic aneurysm and his career with the Boston Celtics was in jeopardy.



Jeff Green

Open-heart surgery was looming and Green never felt more alone, more uncertain. That’s when the calls, the text messages, the overtures started coming. First from Fred Hoiberg and Etan Thomas, then from Ronny Turiaf.

They offered advice. They offered encouragement. They had all been there before. And just like that, Green wasn’t alone. But as he quickly found out, it was so much more than a club.

Hoiberg calls them the “Zipper Brothers” — a small and tight-knit group of players who have overcome serious heart ailments to continue playing at the highest level of a game that tests an athlete’s heart as much as any does. Hoiberg cut his NBA career short after having open-heart surgery — and getting the zipper-like scar on his chest that birthed the nickname — to address an enlarged aortic root in 2005.

Thomas and Chris Wilcox were able to play after their own surgeries and Turiaf,

Green and Phoenix Suns forward Channing Frye all missed a year while recovering but are still playing to this day. Chuck Hayes never needed surgery, but a heart abnormality found during a routine screening in 2011 did require significant testing before he was cleared to continue playing with Toronto.

“It’s definitely a brotherhood,” Turiaf said. “It’s something that’s hard to put into words. We don’t have to talk all the time. But when those instances happen, we talked, each and every one of us, some way, somehow, was linked with the other. And whenever we see each other, it’s like, we made it.”

Unlike torn knee ligaments, blown Achilles tendons or dislocated shoulders, heart defects carry with them a much more frightening outlook. Boston’s Reggie Lewis, Loyola Marymount star Hank Gathers and Atlanta Hawks center Jason Collier are among the players who have died during their playing careers from heart problems.

So when the diagnosis comes, so do the Zipper Brothers. Hoiberg, who now coaches Iowa State, was there for Turiaf. Turiaf was there for Green. Green was there for Frye. And Frye will be there for the next one.

## Love, Rubio lead T-wolves over Mavs, 123-122 in OT

DALLAS (AP) — Ricky Rubio hasn’t given up on the idea of Minnesota making the playoffs.

The case is a little easier to make after the Timberwolves avoided what would have been a disastrous loss in Dallas.

Rubio had a triple-double, Kevin Love scored the last of his 35 points with the go-ahead basket late in overtime, and the Timberwolves hung on for a 123-122 victory over the Mavericks on Wednesday night after blowing several leads.

Minnesota broke a six-game stretch of alternating wins and losses with a second straight victory to move two games over .500 for the first time since Nov. 23.

The Timberwolves (34-32) are still 5½ games behind Dallas and Memphis for the final playoff spot in the Western Conference with 16 games to go. But at least they didn’t lose after squandering a 22-point lead in the first half and a 13-point edge with 7 minutes to go.

“It was a big game against a tough team who is fighting for the playoffs, too,” said Rubio, who had 22 points, 15 assists and 10 rebounds for his third career triple-double. “We want to try to catch up to them.”

## Spurs win 11th straight, 125-109 over LA Lakers

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Although his San Antonio Spurs have the NBA’s best record and the longest active winning streak after four weeks of unbeaten basketball, coach Gregg Popovich can always find areas of imperfection.


The Spurs’ defensive performance against the woeful Los Angeles Lakers made it easy this time.

Tony Parker scored 25 points, Kawhi Leonard added 22 points and 10 rebounds, and the Spurs beat the Lakers 125-109 Wednesday night for their 11th consecutive victory.

Danny Green scored 16 points and Tim Duncan had 12 points and 16 rebounds

for the NBA-leading Spurs, who haven’t lost since Feb. 21 while winning 14 of 15. San Antonio managed to hold off a decent challenge from the Lakers with strong shooting down the stretch and 14 second-half points from Leonard, but Popovich wasn’t overly impressed.

“Probably the only thing I liked is that they hung in there,” Popovich said. “I thought we played really porous defense. I thought a lot of that was because L.A. was very aggressive. They were in attack mode, and I don’t think we adjusted to it until maybe the end of the third quarter. From that point, I thought our defense was very good.”



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AWARDS: Individual Awards for top two teams in Each Division (Max. 15 per team)  
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  - (11) Nebraska at (6) Baylor.....truTV 11:40 a.m.
  - (10) Stanford at (7) New Mexico.....TBS 12:40 p.m.
  - (16) Weber State at (1) Arizona.....TNT 1:10 p.m.
  - (11) TBD at (6) Massachusetts.....CBS 1:45 p.m.
  - (14) LA-Lafayette at (3) Creighton.....truTV 2:10 p.m.
  - (15) E. Kentucky at (2) Kansas.....TBS 3:10 p.m.
  - (9) Oklahoma St. at (8) Gonzaga.....TNT 3:40 p.m.
  - (9) George Washington at (8) Memphis.....TBS 5:55 p.m.
  - (16) TBD at (1) Wichita St.....CBS 6:10 p.m.
  - (11) Providence at (6) North Carolina.....TNT 6:20 p.m.
  - (12) SF Austin at (5) VCU.....truTV 6:27 p.m.
  - (16) Coast Carolina at (1) Virginia.....TBS 8:25 p.m.
  - (9) Kansas St. at (8) Kentucky.....CBS 8:40 p.m.
  - (14) North Carolina Cent at (3) Iowa St.....TNT 8:50 p.m.
  - (13) Tulsa at (4) UCLA.....truTV 8:57 p.m.
- \*\*All games played at neutral sites\*\***
- ### Basketball
- Denver Nuggets at Dallas Mavericks.....FSSW 7:30 p.m.
  - New York Knicks at Boston Celtics.....NBATV 6:30 p.m.
- ### Golf
- Arnold Palmer Invitational.....GOLF 2 p.m.
- ### College Hockey
- Hockey East Tournament.....NBCSN 4 p.m.
  - Hockey East Tournament.....NBCSN 7 p.m.
- ### Boxing
- Lozano-Martirosyan (lt. middle).....ESPN2 8 p.m.
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# Health care law has uneven impact on companies

Sarah Curtis-Fawley will have to offer insurance to her workers at Pacific Pie Co. because of the health care overhaul, and the estimated \$100,000 cost means she may have to raise prices or postpone opening a third restaurant.

On the other end of the spectrum, the owner of a 1-800-Got-Junk? franchise near Philadelphia figures he'll save money because his 12 workers now can shop for coverage on public insurance exchanges created by the overhaul.

"For an employer at my level, it's a win," said Eric Blum, franchisee of the junk removal service.

The Affordable Care Act, which aims to provide coverage for millions, is playing to decidedly mixed reviews in corporate America. Its impact on companies varies greatly, depending on factors such as a firm's number of employees and whether it already provides health insurance.

Some businesses are dealing with administrative hassles or rising costs, while others worry about the law's requirement that mid-sized and big companies offer coverage or face penalties. But the law hasn't meant big changes for every company. And

some small businesses now can offer employees a benefit they wouldn't be able to afford without the law.

## Rising costs

Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the largest U.S. private employer, expects \$330 million in additional health care costs this year in part because company leaders think more employees are signing up for its insurance to meet the law's requirement that most Americans have coverage. The retailer covers about 1.1 million employees and dependents, and enrollment in its health plan will climb by about 100,000 this year.

Some companies that haven't provided insurance are preparing for the requirement that firms with 50 or more full-time employees offer coverage or face a penalty.

Curtis-Fawley said the cost of providing coverage for her 54 employees could amount to a tenth of the Portland, Ore., wholesale pie company's annual revenue of about \$1 million. She has been talking with consultants to find an approach that would work.

"I haven't been able to find a plan that would seem to make sense financially," Curtis-Fawley said.

## Making changes

At the start of this year, United Parcel Service Inc. dropped health insurance benefits for working spouses of the parcel delivery company's nonunion employees who could get coverage elsewhere. UPS said the change was due to rising health care costs and the overhaul.

Indiana University has started trimming hours for about 750 employees who aren't considered full-time but averaged more than 30 hours a week so the university can avoid the requirement that it provide those workers coverage. Spokesman Mark Land didn't have an estimate for how much this will save in health care costs. But he noted that the university, which covers about 18,000 full-time employees, spends more than \$213 million per fiscal year on health care, and its budget for that expense climbed more than 7 percent from last year.

"At some point, we had to balance our commitment to employees with the realities of our financial situation and our responsibility to taxpayers and students who pay much of the bill," he says.

## Administrative head-

## aches

Businesses owners say they have to take time away from running their companies to understand the law and explain it to employees. The overhaul also forces some without human resources staff to spend more on consultants to help them translate changes in the law.

About 78 percent of more than 700 employers surveyed recently by the benefits consultant Mercer labeled the increased administrative burden imposed by the law as either a significant or very significant concern.

And that has been intensified by several changes that have been made to the law's requirements. For instance, the deadline for employers with 50 or more full-time workers to begin offering affordable coverage has been pushed back and tweaked a few times. That buys companies time but also forces some to revisit and adjust their plans.

"Nothing about this law is simple," said Don Susswein, a principal at McGladrey LLP, which does benefits consulting for medium-sized employers.

## Low impact

The overhaul hasn't

fazed many companies, especially those in industries that must provide attractive benefits to attract and keep highly skilled workers. Tech giant Google Inc., which ranks among the nation's best places to work, said it hasn't had to make any significant changes to its health benefits to adhere to the law.

The law requires that employer-sponsored plans cover at least a certain percentage of expected health care costs, and more than 80 percent of companies surveyed by Mercer said they already meet that threshold.

But while the overhaul hasn't had much of an impact on the coverage now offered by many companies, that could change. Some will have to adjust their plans in the next few years to avoid a tax on expensive plans that starts in 2018. That means they may raise out-of-pocket costs for employees to lower the plan's overall cost.

## Helped by the law

Companies with fewer than 50 employees can send their workers to insurance exchanges to find coverage and, in some cases, receive tax credits for doing so. This can be a recruitment

or retention benefit for companies that can't afford to offer coverage.

The 1-800-Got-Junk? franchisee said rates for coverage he was providing were scheduled to jump 65 percent this year. So he sent employees to exchanges to find coverage and offered to continue paying half the premium, or coverage cost. He projects savings of \$3,000 to \$4,000 annually — significant for a company with \$500,000 to \$1 million in annual revenue, he said.

Bigger companies also can save by sending employees to exchanges. Western Communications Inc. dropped coverage for its 280 employees this year after the newspaper publisher had more than \$2 million in health care claims last year. Employees can go to exchanges, where they may be eligible for subsidies to help pay for care.

President Gordon Black said the decision was made even though a company of Western's size likely will face a fine — which can total \$2,000 per employee for most workers — for not offering coverage.

"We'll cross that bridge when we come to it," he said.

# Better news on the US economy drives stocks higher

NEW YORK (AP) — The stock market bounced back on Thursday.

Encouraging signs on the first day of spring that the economy is emerging from its winter slumber helped boost stocks a day after the market dipped on concerns that the Federal Reserve would raise interest rates sooner than investors had

anticipated.

The stock market has become more volatile this year as Fed policy makers have started reducing their economic stimulus, and investors have fretted whether the economy is strong enough to maintain its recovery without the central bank's support.

"The economy is likely to

spring a good bounce in the spring time," said Peter Cardillo, chief market economist at Rockwell Global Capital. "The market is reacting to the good economic news."

The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 11.24 points, or 0.6 percent, to 1,872.01. The Dow Jones industrial average gained 108.88 points, or 0.7 percent, to

16,331.05. The Nasdaq composite climbed 11.68 points, or 0.3 percent, to 4,319.29.

The S&P 500 game within a fraction of a point of wiping out all of its losses from a day earlier, when it dropped 11.48 points.

Stocks started the day lower, extending their losses from Wednesday, as investors mulled comments the day before from Fed Chair Janet Yellen, who set the stage for a possible inter-

est rate hike by the middle of next year. The Fed on Wednesday also dropped its previous position of saying it would consider raising interest rates once the unemployment rate declined to 6.5 percent. Unemployment is currently 6.7 percent.

Higher interest rates could slow the economy by raising the cost of borrowing money. That could hold companies back from borrowing to expand their businesses or discourage consumers from taking out loans such as mortgages.

The market turned higher in mid-morning trading following news that a measure of the U.S. economy's health rose in February by the largest amount in three months. That suggests growth will accelerate following a severe winter.

The Conference Board's index of leading indicators increased 0.5 percent following a slight 0.1 percent rise in January and a 0.1 percent decline in December.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia said separately that manufacturing rebounded in that region in March as new orders increased.

Microsoft was among the big gainers on Thursday. The software company's stock climbed \$1.06, or 2.7 percent, to \$40.33 after analysts at Morgan Stanley said a rumored plan to make a version of its Office software available for iPad devices

could generate \$1.2 billion in annual revenue.

3-D printing companies were among the losers after ExOne reported a fourth quarter loss late Wednesday and said its revenue fell. ExOne slid \$4.35, or 10 percent, to \$39.40. Other 3D-printer companies, including Stratasys and 3D Systems, also fell.

The stock market is in the sixth year of a bull market and has risen 172 percent since March, 2009. That rise has been underwritten by the Fed's stimulus, which has strengthened the economy by keeping interest rates low.

As the Fed cuts back on its stimulus, investors are splitting into roughly two camps, said Omar Aguilar, Chief Investment Officer at Charles Schwab.

"You have those that believe that the only reason the market has gone up for the last five years is because of the stimulus program...that is clearly coming to an end," said Aguilar. "Other investors think that the economy is in good shape."

Bond prices were little changed a day after the Fed announced it would make further reductions to its bond-buying program. The yield on the 10-year government was unchanged from Wednesday at 2.77 percent.

The price of crude oil fell 94 cents, or 0.9 percent, to \$99.43 a barrel. Gold dropped \$10.80, or 0.8 percent, to \$1,330.50 an ounce

## IN THE NEXT American Profile



## Money Matters

Money guru Dave Ramsey and daughter Rachel on the importance of raising financially savvy kids.

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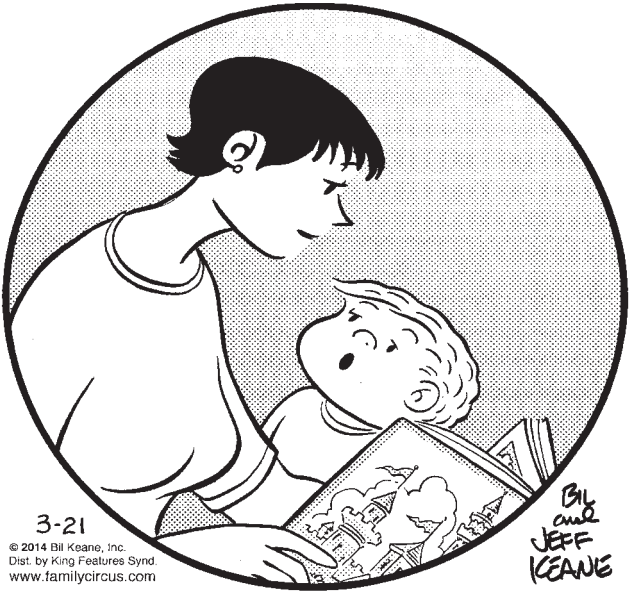
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# comics PAGE

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



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Bil and  
JEFF  
KEANE

"How long ago was 'once upon a time'?"

## Non Sequitur



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## Nest Heads



# daily horoscope

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Saturday, March 22, 2014:  
This year you deal with the unexpected. How you land is your call. You often trigger unpredictability without realizing it. A child or loved one could be a source of unusual happiness. Make a point of doing even more with this person. If you are single, a friendship could be involved in developing a romance. A friend could introduce you to your sweetie or a friendship might become more. If you are attached, make a point of breaking past the doldrums of a relationship. Re-enact your first few dates or schedule a long-desired trip. LEO knows how to trigger your temper.  
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)  
★★★★ Clear out any obstacles that might prevent you from taking a day trip. Invite a friend along to explore a new area of town or to head to the local casino. Be more open with a child or loved one. This person values your advice. Tonight: Cozy restaurant, new cuisine.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
★★★★ Dedicate time to one person, as you might not relate well in groups at the moment. Be willing to look at an issue from a different perspective. Ask for help in analyzing a situation. An older relative could give you some positive feedback. Tonight: Togetherness works.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
★★★★ Others will be more challenging than you might have expected. A friend could surprise you with his or her choices. Touch base with someone at a distance, and know that you could be taken back by this person's news. Tonight: Return calls and check your email.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
★★★★ You could be reacting to someone's behavior, which would explain your high energy. Mobilize this reaction, and use this newfound vitality in a way that benefits you. Make time for a favorite person. Together, you will determine your plans. Tonight: Dinner for two.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22)  
★★★★ Allow your imagination to add to the dimension of your day. A loved one could prove to be unusually demanding. How you manage a changeable situation will depend on your resourcefulness. Tonight: Let your

hair down to great music.  
**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
★★★★ Honor an unexpected event. You might not want to deal with the situation, but ultimately you'll see the benefits. A family member could add to the problem. Just don't interfere with this person's spontaneity, and everything should work out fine. Tonight: At home.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)  
★★★★ Your popularity speaks for itself. As a result, a partner could behave in a most unpredictable way. Try not to react, as you'll want to calm the situation down. Decide to go for a walk or choose a different, relaxing pastime that you both enjoy. Tonight: Where the fun is.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
★★★★ Allow your imagination to color your plans once more. A close loved one or roommate could be unusually charming and forthright. Let the good times happen, and flex with the moment. Excitement surrounds a child. Tonight: Say "yes" to a new opportunity.

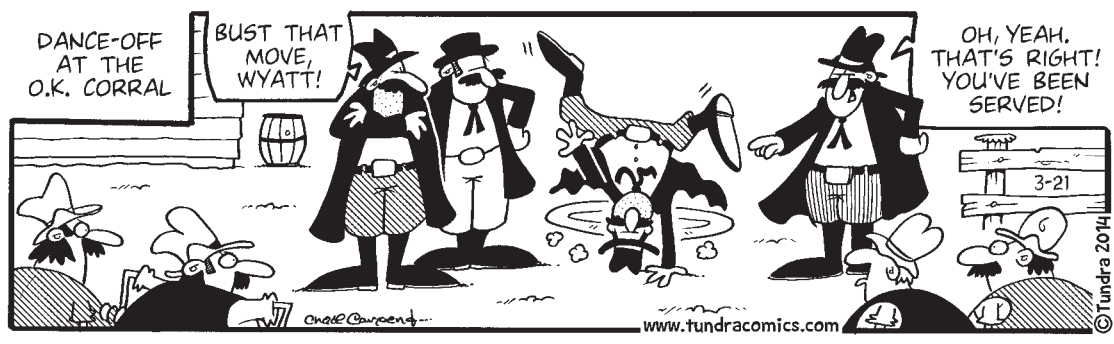
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)  
★★★★ Feeling as good as possible will help you deal with a changeable person and/or issue. The resolution could be much easier than you might have thought. Buy tickets to a play or concert. Be entertained for a change -- you don't always need to be responsible. Tonight: Just ask.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
★★★★ Follow your instincts when making plans. Your choices will make others smile. Whether you're out driving or putting together a favorite meal, you'll want to put on some music. Play it low-key, and you will be far happier. Tonight: Take a much-needed personal night.

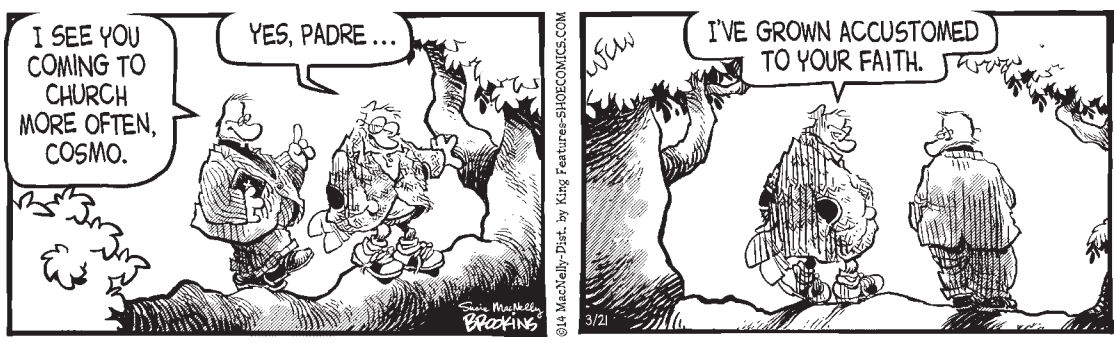
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
★★★★ You have put off a purchase for a while. If you decide to follow through on it today, use caution. There could be a hidden clause or an expectation that has not been aired out. You finally will be able to zero in on what you want. Tonight: Where your friends are.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
★★★★ You could be taken back by a momentary situation that will force some quick thinking. Tap into your ingenuity, and solutions will appear. The question remains: Which resolution works best for you? Someone observes and admires your responses. Tonight: Take the lead.

## Tundra



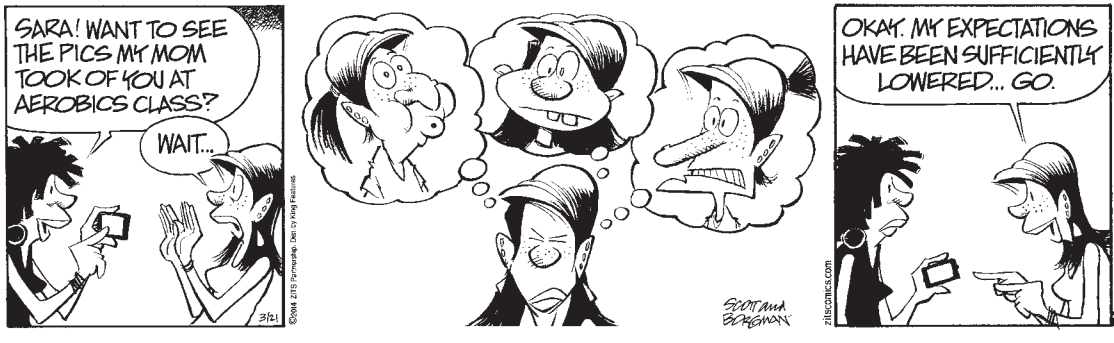
## Shoe



## Mother Goose and Grim



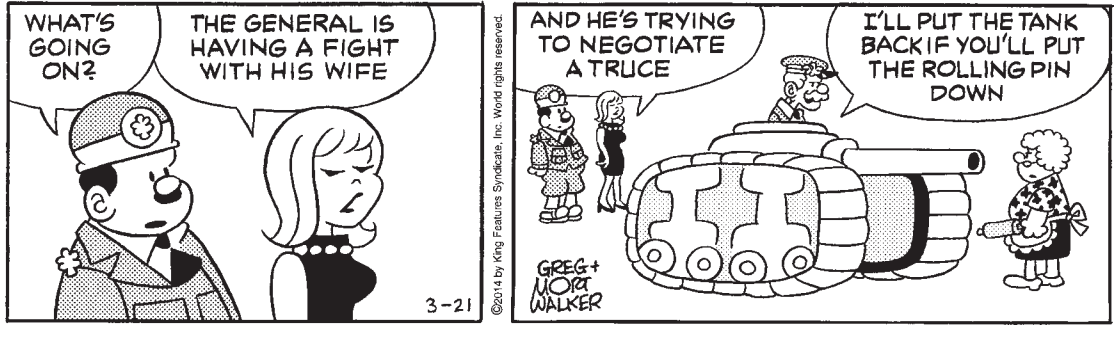
## Zits



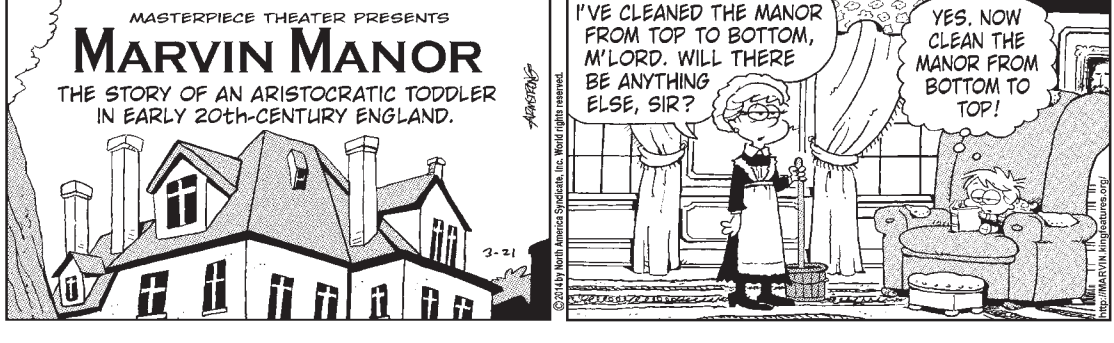
## Garfield



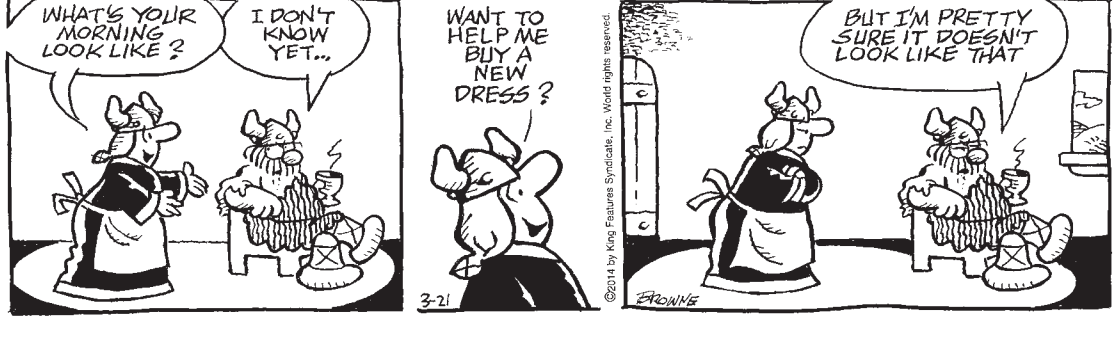
## Beetle Bailey



## Marvin



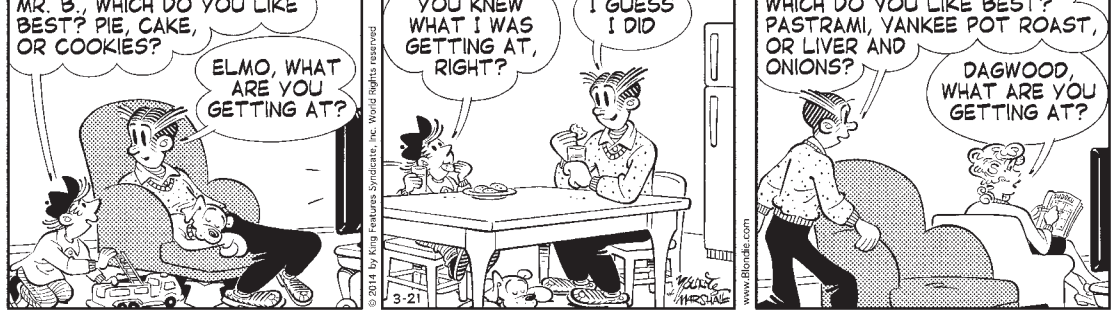
## Hagar The Horrible

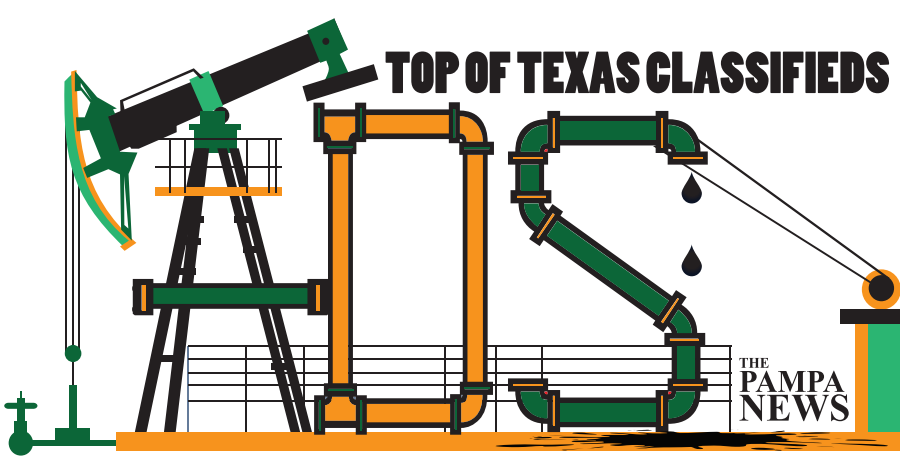


## Peanuts



## Blondie





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**ADSHappy Ads** FREE \$3 with photo

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**2408 Dogwood**

4 Bedroom 2 Bath, Master has Garden Tub with 2 Sinks, Living Area has Fireplace, Formal Dining or Office kitchen is spacious with large breakfast Nook. This Property is Priced to Buy.

Call Me Today for your Showing!  
Jimmy - 806-570-9924.

**NEW/USED CAR LOT PORTER**

**Culberson Stowers INC. is seeking a customer focused professional for new/used car lot porter.**

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

- ★ Move vehicles and properly display them on the new/used car lot
- ★ Maintain cleanliness of new/used car building/lot space
- ★ Organize the set up and take down of events
- ★ Make sure all vehicles are clean on the lot and in working order
- ★ Verify all vehicles have proper stickers as required by management and state law
- ★ Transport vehicles, customers, or employees to necessary locations
- ★ Assist new/used car department where needed

**REQUIREMENTS**

- ★ Candidate must be 21 or over
- ★ A high school diploma or equivalent
- ★ Know how to drive a manual transmission vehicle
- ★ Must have the ability to multi-task
- ★ Have a valid driver's license and good driving record
- ★ Must be able to pass a drug test and background check

**BENEFITS**

- ★ Opportunities for advancement
- ★ Quality training
- ★ Medical insurance
- ★ 401K
- ★ Flexible schedules & More

Log on to [CulbersonAutos.com](http://CulbersonAutos.com) and follow the NOW HIRING tab to apply. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

**CULBERSON-STOWERS**  
805 North Hobart Street • 806-665-1665

**Carpentry**

CUSTOM Building & Remodeling: Kitchens, Bathrooms & Additions. Shawn Deaver Construction, 662-2977

OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR. Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347, 806-663-0192.

**Carpet Service**

NU-WAY CLEANING SERVICE Bob Marx Owner-Operator. Call 665-3541.

**Plowing/Yard**

JIMENEZ Multi-service. Yard work, leaf clean-up, cut trees, tree trim, gardening work, fertilizer. Call 669-2618, 886-2027 or 662-3998. Laura

THIS AD HAS BEEN SEEN BY OVER 7,000 PEOPLE TODAY  
**ADVERTISE HERE GET NOTICED**  
THE PAMPA NEWS (806)-669-2525

**Help Wanted**

ACCOUNTING Position available. Must have accounting background and a minimum of two years accounting experience, display good organizational skills, and be proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel. Use of Microsoft Dynamics is helpful, but not required. Must possess good telephone skills. Full benefits and 401(K) offered. Interested applicants can email their resumes to: [sherryj@tmems.com](mailto:sherryj@tmems.com)

ASSISTANT Supervisor needed for local landscape company. Estimate exp. req. Contact Brian at 669-0158.

EXPANDING in Pampa! Full & Part time. Personalized training, flexible schedules, unlimited earning potential. 806-355-9007 for appt.

NEEDED: Experienced Pipeline Operators. Call 806-665-4336

**Help Wanted**

CUSTOMER Service Representative position: DFB Insurance group is looking for a person with property and casualty insurance experience. DFB is a regional insurance agency headquartered in Pampa. Excellent pay and benefits for the right person. If you are looking for a great career in a family oriented atmosphere, please send your resume to 117 East Kingsmill Ave., Pampa, TX 79065

DOCTOR'S Office expanding team. FT Computer literate, love numbers. On the job training. Fax resume to 665-0537

GRAY Co. Juvenile Probation has an opening for a Juvenile Probation Officer. The minimum educational requirements are a Bachelor's Degree, plus either one year of Graduate School or one year of experience in a related field. Starting salary at \$35,000 a year. Gray County is an equal opportunity employer. Applications may be picked up at Juvenile Probation Department, 1146 N. Hobart, Pampa, TX.

HELP Needed in Pampa at Oil & Gas Supply Store. Oil field knowledge preferred. Must pass drug test and have good driving record, be dependable & able to lift up to 50 lbs. Able to drive forklift & be mechanically inclined a plus. Strong customer service skills required. Call 806-665-0947

KITCHEN help, Wait Staff and Catering person needed. MUST have driver's license and be 18. Apply in person at Dyers Bar-B-Que.

**Help Wanted**

LOCAL Insurance Agency needs a dependable receptionist Mon. thru Fri., bi-lingual preferred. Please reply to Box 42, c/o The Pampa News, PO Box 2198, Pampa, TX 79066-2198.

Looking for P-T Mgr for new self storage in Pampa. To apply go online: [pampastoragespot.com/manager](http://pampastoragespot.com/manager).

**MAINTENANCE HELPER/LABORER**  
Needed for a 150 unit Apt. Community. Salary DOE. Apply 1601 W. Somerville, or call 665-7149.

MCLEAN Care Center is hiring CNAs with a \$3000 Sign-On Bonus, and part-time LVNs. Please contact Maxine or Jenifer, 806-779-2469

**NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE** is looking for a Loan Processor/New Accounts secretary. Bank/Office experience is required. Good personality is a must. Good benefits include Insurance, Personal days, Vacation, Bonuses, 401K Plan. Please apply at 1224 N. Hobart, Pampa, TX.

NEEDED Immediately: Full-time Drug Screener. Will train/certify. Experience a plus. Fax resume: 806-665-0537

NEEDING a Housekeeper for light duties, cleaning and cooking. Inquire at 2200 N. Christy.

**NOTICE**  
Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.

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**SONIC**

Now Accepting Applications  
[SONICDRIVEIN.COM/JOBS](http://SONICDRIVEIN.COM/JOBS)

**NOW NATIONAL OILWELL VARCO**

Immediate openings for experienced maintenance technicians, warehouse workers, material handlers, inspectors, welders and machinists. We seek dedicated individuals who want to turn their professional ambitions into personal achievements.

Competitive pay scale – fulltime employment – excellent benefit package, including medical, dental, vision, prescription, 401k, paid vacation & holidays. Pre-employment drug screen and criminal background check required.

Apply at 11659 US Hwy 60 – Pampa, TX  
[hr.pampa@nov.com](mailto:hr.pampa@nov.com)  
Fax 661-4157

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**\$1,000 SIGN ON BONUS!**

**FOOD SERVICE AIDE**  
Relief & Evening Shifts

**LVN'S**  
6P-6A & 3½ DAYS OFF  
Apply Online  
[www.savacareers.com](http://www.savacareers.com)  
or come by 1321 W. Kentucky

**Pampa Nursing Center**  
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

**Estate Auction**

**1904 Lea**  
**March 22**  
**9:30 am**

Lots of furniture: 3 bedroom suites, loveseat, couch, china cabinet, Christmas decorations, tools, books, lamps, wall decor and lots and lots of kitchen items.

**Don't miss out on this!**

Larry Hadley  
TX Auct Lic#9204

**Help Wanted**

PHARMACY Tech - MUST be good at math. MUST have excellent 10 key & keyboarding skills. Must have PROFESSIONAL APPEARANCE! Apply in person AFTER 4:00pm at Heard Jones, 114 N. Cuyler. RESUME REQUIRED

SALLY Beauty Supply is seeking a manager for its Pampa location. Retail mgmt required and cosmetology background preferred. Send resume to [barencibia@sallybeauty.com](mailto:barencibia@sallybeauty.com) or apply in person at 301 W.30th in Pampa.

TEXAS Rose Steakhouse is hiring Hostesses, Servers & Cooks. No phone calls. Apply at 2841 Perryton Pkwy.

TOP PAY For Maintenance Man. Must have valid Driver's License. Apply at 800 N. Nelson. 665-1875

WAIT Staff AND Dishwasher/Prep needed. Drug free work environment. Apply in person Pampa Country Club, 1765 E. Harvester. NO phone calls, please!

**Miscellaneous**

2 Cemetery Lots at Memory Gardens, close to Price Rd. & south of entrance. \$1200 for both. 663-6471

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

FREE BRICK SAT ONLY! You pick up and You haul it 800 E. Foster, Pampa

NEW Queen Mattress Set sale price \$246. King Set \$396. Full Set \$180. Twin Set \$146. Best price guaranteed. Red Barn 1424 S. Barnes. 665-2767  
I've sold mattresses for 30 years, Don Minnick Montgomery Ward retire.

**Garage Sale**

937 S. Hobart. Fri 6pm-8pm, Sat all day, Sun ?? Furniture, clothes, toys.

FRI and Sat 8am-?? Furniture, misc. 1212 E. Foster,

GARAGE Sale Friday & Saturday beginning 8am. 1406 S. Barnes

HUGE GARAGE SALE! 2101 Chestnut. Saturday, Mar. 22nd, 8am-2pm.

MOVING Sale - everything goes! Leather sectional, white Queen bed set, corner fireplace, dining table, china cabinet/curio, collectibles, washer & dryer, 44" TV, etc. 1314 Mary Ellen, Fri & Sat 8am-2pm.

REFRIGERATOR, lots of misc.!! Sat. 8am-? 1412 E. Browning.

**Feed & Seeds**

HAY FOR SALE. Wheat hay \$75/bale; Love grass \$65/bale. Discount on 16+ bales. 669-9532 or 664-1900

**Pets & Supplies**

FOUND near Osborne & McCullough intersection: Full-grown but young Husky-looking female. Call 663-0018

FREE Kittens to good homes only. 2 male, 1 female, 6 weeks old. 440-0155



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**Unfurnished Apts.**  
**\$350/mo and up.**  
 Large 1 bdr. apts. w/ app. are in walking distance to things you need. 665-4274, 663-2579, 881-8518

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

**Homes for Sale**  
**OFFICE BUILDING**  
 Big lot with room to build. Completely remodeled. 806-440-4153  
**LREA**  
 HouseHunters Realtor  
 Linda Laycock-Broker,  
 806-662-1312

**Autos**  
 IDEAL FOR COLLECTORS! 1979 Pontiac TransAm. White / blue, lrg bird on hood. One owner! 24,500 actual miles, 6.6 L, 403 eng. Auto transmission. All original. Good price \$21,900. Call 806-665-4836.

**Legals / Pubic Notice**  
**TRERAS, A CHILD CAUSE #37569 IN THE 223RD DISTRICT COURT OF GRAY COUNTY, TEXAS**

the appointment of a conservator.

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT, AT MY OFFICE IN PAMPA, TEXAS, ON 03/12/2014.

Sandra Burkett, District Clerk  
 223RD DISTRICT COURT  
 Gray County  
 P.O. Box 1139  
 205 N. Russell Street  
 Pampa, TX 79066-1139

By O'LEEN BENNETT, DEPUTY ATTORNEY AT RECORD:  
 Maria G. Lopez  
 2700 S. Western, Suite 900  
 Amarillo, TX 79109  
 F-74 3/21/2014

**APTS. Houses Duplexes.** K&B Properties. Ref. & dep. req. Lakeview Apts. 669-4386

**DOWNTOWN Properties:**  
 Service Station, Retail, Restaurant / Bar, etc.  
 665-1875, 881-8518

**TRUSTAR Real Estate** for all your complete real estate needs. Show, list, property mgmt. 665-4595

**TRY M&S Auto** for all your auto repair needs. Call Ray or Mike, 120 N. Gray, 669-6990.

**TO: ASHLEY RENEE BELCHER, WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN, respondent, GREETING: NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: "YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00AM on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after the date you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.**

**ATTORNEY AT RECORD:**  
 Maria G. Lopez  
 2700 S. Western, Suite 900  
 Amarillo, TX 79109  
 F-74 3/21/2014

**CAPROCK APTS.**  
 1, 2 and 3 bedrooms with rent starting as low as \$445/mo. Pool and on-site laundry, W/D hookups in all 2 and 3 bd rms. 665-7149.

**DOWNTOWN office space** for rent. Utilities & cleaning service provided. Ample parking 669-6823

**Commercial Property**  
**GREAT OPPORTUNITY!**  
 Restaurant fully equipped. Call 806-665-1875 or 806-881-8518

**Trucks**  
 1995 CHEVY Extended Cab. Over 100,000 miles, white. \$4000 or best offer. Call 662-7829

**Motorcycles**  
 2007 - 650 Yamaha V-Star Classic. 2006 - Kawasaki Nomad 1600cc. Very low mileage on both. Call 663-2924.

**ORDINANCE NO. 1613**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PAMPA, TEXAS, PROVIDING THAT ITS CODE OF ORDINANCES BE AMENDED BY REVISING SECTION 3.08.009(a) OF SAID CODE TO PROVIDE FOR INCREASED MINIMUM CHARGE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES FOR BUILDING DEMOLITION, AND BY REVISING SECTION 6.04.008(a) OF SAID CODE TO PROVIDE FOR INCREASED ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGE FOR ABATEMENT, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**THIS ORDINANCE BECOMES EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2014.**  
 F-69 3/14, 21/14

**Schneider Apartments:**  
 Call for special rates. Short term lease. Business people welcome. 665-0415

**OFFICE space** for rent. Ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841

**RETAIL and Garage Space.** Centrally located. Great value! 665-1875 or 881-8518.

**General Services**  
 CERAMIC tile work, stucco, cement, remodeling, floor, shower, kitchen. Texture, painting, dry wall. Free estimate. New # 440-0239, leave msg, Jesus Baraza.

The Petition of TERRY HARRIS AND JANET HARRIS, Petitioners, was filed in the 223RD DISTRICT COURT in Gray County, Texas on 18th day of November, 2013 against ASHLEY RENEE BELCHER and DEZI CONTRERAS, RESPONDENTS, in the above entitled cause:  
 The suit requests CONSERVATORSHIP, POSSESSION, AND ACCESS as is more fully shown by Petition on file in this suit.

The date and place of birth of the child who is the subject of the suit: **CHILDREN: PRESLEE CONTRERAS**  
**DATE OF BIRTH:** 4/20/2012  
**PLACE OF BIRTH:** AMARILLO, POTTER CO., TEXAS

**HOUSE cracking?**  
 In bricks or walls?  
 Childers Brothers, Inc. 800-299-9563, 806-352-9563.

“The Court has the authority in this suit to render an order in the child’s interest that will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and

**TEXAS SIZE APTS.**  
 1 and 2 bdr. apts. Largest in Pampa. Plus Homes too! Great Value! 665-1875 or 881-8518

**Homes for Sale**  
 3 BEDROOM / 3 Bath in White Deer, 821 Jordan. Single garage, fenced backyard. Call 806-340-2576

**FOR SALE in WHITE DEER, TX:**  
 2007 32 ft. Hitchhiker 5th wheel with 3 slide outs. To see call (806) 670-5207 or (806) 670-5208. \$28,000

**COX Fence Company.**  
 Repair old fence or build new. Free estimates. Call 669-7769

**Ogle Fence Company**  
 Free Estimates  
 Repair & New Const. 665-1712

**Furnished Houses**  
 2 BDRM/1 BA/1Car Garage w/storage bldg & fenced yard. Weekly, monthly or 6 mo. lease option. 440-5139

**EVERGREEN ST.**  
 1465 sq ft, fireplace, NEEDS WORK. 3/1.75/2 Motivated seller. 806-440-4153  
**LREA**  
 HouseHunters Realtor,  
 Linda Laycock-Broker  
 806-662-1312

**Trailer Parks**  
 Tumbleweed Acres: storm shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079, 886-2230

**Autos**  
 2007 ESCALADE for sale - 19,500 miles. \$34,000 loan value. Excellent condition. Call 806-898-1398

**Legals / Pubic Notice**  
**CITATION BY PUBLICATION - CHILD THE STATE OF TEXAS IN THE INTEREST OF PRESLEE CON**

**Unfurnished Houses**  
 2 & 3 BEDROOM Houses for rent. Great value! 665-1875 or 881-8518

**FOR Sale RV PARK**  
 Small RV park on city water & sewer. Endless possibilities. Low Lefors Taxes. 806-440-4153  
**LREA**  
 HouseHunters Realtor  
 Linda Laycock-Broker,  
 806-662-1312

**Autos**  
 2007 ESCALADE for sale - 19,500 miles. \$34,000 loan value. Excellent condition. Call 806-898-1398

**HOUSE cracking?**  
 In bricks or walls?  
 Childers Brothers, Inc. 800-299-9563, 806-352-9563.

**Ogle Fence Company**  
 Free Estimates  
 Repair & New Const. 665-1712

**2 BEDROOM/1 Bath.** W/D hookups, carport. No fenced yard. \$525/mo + deposit. 806-881-9798

**MOVE IN READY CORNER LOT**  
 3/1.75/2 car garage \$115,000  
 806-440-4153  
**LREA**  
 HouseHunters Realtor  
 Linda Laycock-Realtor  
 806-662-1312

**Autos**  
 2007 ESCALADE for sale - 19,500 miles. \$34,000 loan value. Excellent condition. Call 806-898-1398

**Legals / Pubic Notice**  
**CITATION BY PUBLICATION - CHILD THE STATE OF TEXAS IN THE INTEREST OF PRESLEE CON**

**4 BDRM / 2 bath, C/H&A,** all fenced. 1901 Hamilton. References Required. 806-440-1969

**MOVE-IN Ready:**  
 Nicely updated 4 bdrm home in nice neighborhood. Too many updates to list. Call 806-662-3808 or 662-0328 for information. NO owner finance.

**Autos**  
 2007 ESCALADE for sale - 19,500 miles. \$34,000 loan value. Excellent condition. Call 806-898-1398

**Legals / Pubic Notice**  
**CITATION BY PUBLICATION - CHILD THE STATE OF TEXAS IN THE INTEREST OF PRESLEE CON**

**LARGE 3 bedroom,** 2 bath, double garage with living room & den. Travis School. 207-0434 and 207-0811

**Herbs Etc.**  
 Weekly Herb Talks!  
 109 W Kingsmill, Pampa  
 (806) 665.4883  
 www.panhandshinesunshine.com

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

**3-21 CRYPTOQUOTE**

CP HYQCVEX HYQ EDRDOK DUFVDAW UDCSEW. D KWA VS DOALW CYQODOK XOZ D KY AYNWZ XA ODKLA. DO NWAMWWO. D YJJVSP CPUWEH XU NWUA D JXO. — JXQP KQXOA  
**Yesterday's Cryptoquote:** IN THE SPRING, AT THE END OF THE DAY, YOU SHOULD SMELL LIKE DIRT. — MARGARET ATWOOD

**SUDOKU**

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Advanced



## Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** I am wondering why pregnant women these days don't wear smocks like we all wore years ago. While I do think pregnant women are attractive, I really don't want to see their swollen bellies. Wouldn't it be better to just "imagine" what is under that smock or long skirt? Does anyone agree with me? — DOROTHY IN WASHINGTON

**DEAR EAR SNUGGLES:** Playing with someone's ear could be considered foreplay, and seeing it certainly made your mother uncomfortable. Perhaps among your contemporaries it would be acceptable, but as a general rule, it's better to keep intimate gestures of affection private.

now I'm upset with myself. Some time over the weekend I misplaced my wallet. Luckily, I don't keep my ID and debit cards there, so at least they are safe. But because I use my wallet so seldom, I'm unsure what was in there.

**DEAR EAR SNUGGLES:** Playing with someone's ear could be considered foreplay, and seeing it certainly made your mother uncomfortable. Perhaps among your contemporaries it would be acceptable, but as a general rule, it's better to keep intimate gestures of affection private.

If people make copies of everything in their wallets, it will be easier to report and replace the things should the need arise. I am so bummed out right now. While I lost only \$30, I lost a treasured photograph of my daughter, and I can't remember what other cards may have been in there. — FUMING IN LUTZ, FLA.

**DEAR DOROTHY:** Some readers may agree, but I'm pretty sure most of them won't. You are harking back to the days when people were embarrassed about the subject of sex, and used euphemisms like "in a family way" or "a bun in the oven" to describe pregnancy.

**DEAR FUMING:** I know from personal experience how frustrating losing a wallet can be, so thank you for wanting to remind readers how important it is to copy documents or credit cards they carry with them. It takes only a few minutes, and the peace of mind it brings is worth the effort.

I did that years ago, but I didn't keep it current and

**BANANAGRAMS!**

Each of the three-letter groups below may be extended both on the right and the left to form a seven-letter word. Use the tiles directly above each group to fill in the blanks.

**LEVEL**

C D E I O R T  
 \_ \_ \_ F U N \_ \_

E I L N P R T  
 \_ \_ \_ D A B \_ \_

A E N P T U V  
 \_ \_ \_ C U R \_ \_

A D E N P S W  
 \_ \_ \_ A R T \_ \_

A D E H N T Y  
 \_ \_ \_ A R S \_ \_

Yesterday's Answer: INBOUND, HARPIS, ETHICAL, ENTITLE

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Bridge beam suspender
  - 6 Gate part
  - 11 Profit
  - 12 Sneeze sound
  - 13 Island south of Sicily
  - 14 Possessive pronoun
  - 15 Seventh letter
  - 16 Gin mills
  - 18 Sought a seat
  - 19 Bulldog backer
  - 20 Got together
  - 21 Circle parts
  - 23 Light lunch
  - 25 Sixth sense, for short
  - 27 Zero
  - 28 Sean of "The Lord of the Rings"
  - 30 Culp/Cosby series
  - 33 Recipe amount
  - 34 Horse bit
  - 36 Old hand
  - 37 Put in order
- DOWN**
- 39 Bright
  - 40 Linen fabric
  - 41 Safari sighting
  - 43 Banks of the Cubs
  - 44 Following
  - 45 Wild party
  - 46 Moved sideways
  - 1 Shot taker
  - 2 Film set on Pandora
  - 3 Watch part
  - 4 Tipsy
  - 5 Cheer up
  - 6 Riga native
  - 7 Dull pain
  - 8 Yellow-stone sight
  - 9 Made up
  - 10 Actor Buchholz
  - 17 Green and Gore
  - 22 Retired plane
  - 24 52, in old Rome
  - 26 Lead the way
  - 28 Dawn goddess
  - 29 Old horse
  - 31 Strut
  - 32 Fluctuated
  - 33 Supply food for
  - 35 Pithy
  - 38 "I cannot tell —"
  - 42 Stashed

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# US general spared prison in sexual misconduct case

FORT BRAGG, N.C. (AP) — The Army general at the center of a sexual misconduct case that put the military justice system itself on trial was spared prison Thursday and sentenced to a reprimand and a \$20,000 fine — a punishment legal experts, a women's group and members of Congress deemed as shockingly light.

Brig. Gen. Jeffrey A. Sinclair, 51, immediately announced his retirement, capping a humiliating fall for the battle-tested commander once regarded as a rising star in the Army. A disciplinary board could still bust him in rank and severely reduce his pension. "The system worked. I've always been proud of my Army," Sinclair said outside court after reacting to his sentence with a smile and an embrace of his lawyers. "All I want to do now is go north and hug my kids and my wife."

cer ever court-martialed on such charges. But earlier this week, prosecutors dropped those charges midway through the trial in a deal in which Sinclair pleaded guilty to committing adultery with one woman and conducting inappropriate relationships with two others by asking them for nude pictures and exchanging sexually explicit email. Adultery is a crime in the military.

The case unfolded with the Pentagon under heavy pressure to confront what it has called an epidemic of rape and other sexual misconduct in the military.

Rep. Jackie Speier, D-Calif., called the sentence "laughable."

"Even when the world is watching, the military has demonstrated their incompetence at meting out justice," Speier said in a statement. "This is another sordid example of how truly broken the military justice system is. This sentence is a mockery of military justice, a slap on the wrist nowhere close to being proportional to Sinclair's offenses."

While the charges against Sinclair carried a maxi-

imum of more than 20 years in prison, the plea bargain worked out by the defense and military prosecutors called for no more than 18 months.

The judge, Col. James Pohl, did not explain how he arrived at a much lighter sentence.

Prosecutors had no immediate comment.

Under the sexual assault charges, Sinclair was accused of twice forcing a female captain to perform oral sex and threatening to kill her if she told anyone about their three-year adulterous affair in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The case started to crumble as Sinclair's lawyers hammered away at the woman's credibility and raised questions about whether Sinclair's commander improperly pressed ahead with a trial because of political considerations — namely, a desire to show the Army's resolve to combat sexual misconduct.

Earlier this year, the lead prosecutor came to believe the woman lied under oath at a pre-trial hearing about when she found an old iPhone containing mes-

sages between her and the general. Within weeks, the prosecutor was found drunk and suicidal in a Washington hotel, distraught over a superior's refusal to drop the sexual assault charges, according to testimony. He was later removed from the case.

Retired Rear Adm. Jamie Barnett, a lawyer who helped represent the accuser, said the woman was disappointed with the sentence. Barnett called it a "slap on the wrist."

"A sentence doesn't take away any of the pain and anguish that she has endured," Barnett said.

The Associated Press generally does not identify those who say they were sexually assaulted.

Experts in military law agreed the sentence was lenient.

"I can't believe it," said retired Lt. Col. Gary D. Solis, a former military judge who now teaches law at West Point and Georgetown University. Solis said Sinclair "is an individual who should not be a general officer. He should have gone to jail and dismissed from the Army."

Still, retired Maj. Gen. Walt Huffman, a Texas Tech University law professor who served as the Army's top lawyer, said: "His career is being terminated. That much is for sure. He's being fired for all practical purposes."

If Sinclair had not announced his retirement, an Army disciplinary board would have almost certainly forced him into it. Now the board will decide whether to demote him, which could cost him hundreds of thousands of dollars in benefits during his retirement. Sinclair made about \$145,000 a year in base pay.

Prosecutors had argued that the judge should throw Sinclair out of the Army and strip him of his benefits, while the defense said that would harm his wife and their two sons the most. Prosecutors did not ask the judge to send Sinclair to jail.

Greg Jacob of the Service Women's Action Network said the case demonstrates the need for legislation that would strip commanders of the authority to prosecute cases and give that power to seasoned military lawyers.

The bill, backed by Sen.

Kirsten, D-N.Y., was defeated in the Senate earlier this month.

Gillibrand is expected to renew her effort to change military law this spring.

"This case has illustrated a military justice system in dire need of independence from the chain of command," she said in a statement.

A spokeswoman for Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., who fought the bill, said the case reinforced her side of the argument.

"One of its lessons highlights what we already know — that commanders are often more aggressive than prosecutors in pursuing prosecutions and vetting these cases," Sarah Feldman said.

In another high-profile case Thursday, a military judge in Washington found former Naval Academy football player Joshua Tate not guilty of sexual assault. Three midshipmen were originally charged, but only one was court-martialed.

Prosecutors said the alleged victim was too drunk to consent to sex. She testified she didn't remember much about that night.

## Community Calendar

### City Commission meetings

The Pampa City Commission meets at 4 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. The meetings are held on the third floor of City Hall.

### School board meetings

The Pampa Independent School District board meets at 5:45 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month at the new administration building on North Hobart Street.

### Immunization clinic 3 times a month

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) hosts an immunization clinic in Pampa three times a month. The clinics are held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from 1 to 3 p.m. on the first three Wednesdays of each

month. The first 10 people in line for the morning and first 10 in the afternoon will always receive shots. However, if there are more than 10, they still may be able to accommodate the patients, or ask them to come back at another time. For more information, call 665-4752 or 806-874-3211. The clinic is located at 736 S. Cuyler St.

### PAWS meets first Tuesdays

Pampa Animal Welfare Society meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Pampa Animal Shelter, 811 S. Hobart St. The meetings are at 6:30 p.m. and are open to the public.

There is a desperate need for more members, especially when the new shelter opens. PAWS members are needed to work at the shelter from 3

to 5:30 p.m. each day and to work adoption days or take animals to the vets when needed, but mostly people are needed to love and work with the animals where they will be more adoptable.

For more information, call the shelter after 3 p.m. at 669-5775 and ask for the PAWS volunteer.

### County Commission meetings

The Gray County Commission meets at 9 a.m. on the first and 15th of each month. If the date falls on a Saturday, the meeting will be held on Friday. If the date falls on a Sunday, the meeting will be held on Monday. The meetings are held on the second floor of the Gray County Courthouse.

### TOT Republican Wom-

### en's Club

Top O' Texas Republican Women's Club meets at noon on the third Wednesday of every month at the Pampa Senior Citizens Center, 500 W. Francis St. For more information call 806-669-1990.

### Jam sessions every Friday night

The Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center has a jam session every Friday night starting at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to play or listen. The center is located at 320 S. Cuyler St. For more information, call 806-664-0824.

### Meredith House presents live music

Meredith House, an assisted-living facility at 812 W. 25th Ave., has a

band performing at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Saturday night. Join them for Western music, gospel and the classics. For more information, call 806-665-5668.

### Monday night dance club

The Monday night dance club meets from 7 to 9 p.m., each Monday, in the Pampa Chamber of Commerce building on the corner of Ballard and Kingsmill. Admission is \$3.50. Cold drinks and coffee are offered. The club plays country music. For more information, call Della at 806-663-1136.

### PPQG Meets fourth Thursdays

Panhandle Piecemakers Quilt Guild meets the fourth Thursday of each

month, January through October, at the Pampa Senior Citizens Center at 500 W. Francis St.

The meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. and membership is open to adult quilters of all ages. Dues are \$15 annually. Meetings consist of a short business discussion followed by a program featuring quilting techniques. For more information, call 806-662-2909.

*Editor's note: Email submissions to thowsare@thepampa.com. Submissions should be 100 words or less and written in the third person. Please include the title of the event, the date and time, physical address, the admission cost or whether it is a free event and a contact number and/or email address for the public.*

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Mailing Address:  
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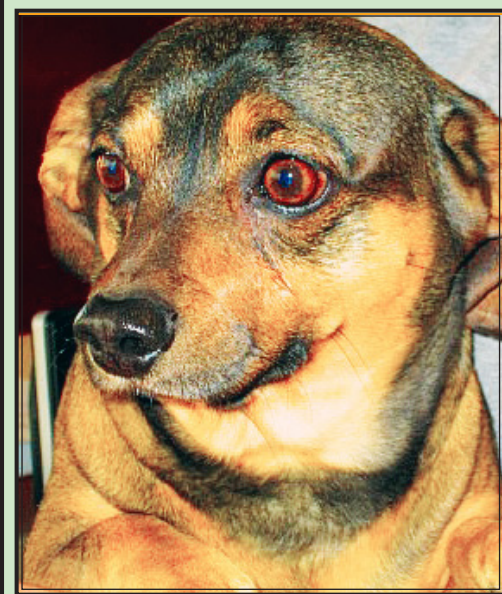
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# Tales from the Top of TEXAS



## An eye for the weather

STORY AND PHOTOS BY JOHN LEE  
jlee@thepampanews.com

As the final frosts of a mostly calm winter melt away, Texans and residents of the High Plains are about to start cleaning their basements and closets to prepare for the inevitable reality of living in “Tornado Alley.”

Every local TV station and the National Weather Service are starting to hold different seminars and programs to reinforce the risks and dangers associated with the impending time of year when severe weather is most common.

Follow U.S. Highway 60 west just past Tyson Foods in Amarillo and on the backside of Rich Husband International Airport there is a giant white round object that resembles a golf ball.

That round “golf ball” is the Doppler radar, which no doubt signifies the location of Amarillo’s branch of the National Weather Service.

The National Weather Service, of course, is the organization responsible for the watches and warnings of significant weather events.

“It was an act of Congress passed in 1995 (18 U.S.C. 2074) that said the TV stations, news media and radio do have to communicate our issues and warnings,” warning coordination meteorologist Krissy Scotten said.

“They cannot issue their own. We are the only entity, by an act of Congress, to issue warnings. So when we issue a tornado warning (to Amarillo and surrounding area) it is coming from this office. What they do as far as their forecast, like their seven-day planner, their meteorologists, they can look at their own stuff and we issue an update two to four times a day.

“They can disagree and say they want to increase chances for rain this day or think it will hit 80 degrees today. But anything that is life or death, like our tornado warnings or severe weather warnings, they can’t change that. It’s to avoid confusion. This whole thing started because there was a TV meteorologist in Huntsville, Ala., who was issuing his own warnings. It was causing mass confusion because he disagreed with the National Weather Service.”

Scotten said that although they have spotters and view live feeds from storm chasers, the Doppler radar is their official way to detect any storm activity and the degree of danger.

“We don’t really organize that (storm-chasing teams). What we try to communicate to them is: Don’t kill yourself. To be safe, call in your reports and stay at a safe distance,” Scotten said. “We don’t encourage storm chasing. We want our spotters to go somewhere and stay. If it comes too close, leave. But really, the Doppler radar and what it says is what we go by.”

The way the radar works is it spins and scans the surrounding area. Then it increases the scan in elevation and scans again. It does so until it completes a full cycle and then starts over. A full reading of the area, on a slow day when the weather is calm, takes about 14 minutes. But during storm season, Scotten said the NWS increases its speed to get feed back in less than five minutes. This device, however, does take some maintenance to keep it and the community safe.

“We have shift checks, daily checks and even check the calibration numbers,” said David Wilburne, an electronic technician for NWS. “We have to change the oil, grease up the big items and do a tuneup on it regularly.”

Wilburne said that the oil it uses is just like motor oil. It’s a 50-weight oil, natural-based mineral oil. But that isn’t the only thing Wilburne and his fellow electronic technician, Oferal Wise, at the NWS worry about.

“Lightning, we pray lightning doesn’t hit it because that’s the hardest to troubleshoot what’s wrong with it,”

Wise said. “We could go in there and try to find what’s wrong with it and find two pieces of metal welded together that shouldn’t be.”

The weather service also launches two weather balloons a day, one at 5 a.m. and one in the evening hours. These instruments measure the air pressure, temperatures and other readings, which goes into a large computer accessible by National Weather Services nationwide. The preparation process takes about 10 minutes and as the balloon goes into the atmosphere, a Scotten said it expands to the size of a house, pops and a parachute keeps the instruments from falling at dangerous speeds. Depending on wind speeds, the balloons could come down in Western Oklahoma, or on a light wind day it could land in someone’s backyard in Amarillo.

“We’ve even had two employees find one in Palo Duro Canyon,” Scotten said.

Weather forecasting has been one of the larger beneficiaries of the upgrades in technology over the last 20 years. Scotten said that the Internet has improved the quality of weather reporting tremendously because it has allowed for better communication with potential affected areas. Scotten joked that the public used to believe that the NWS was a bunch of robots and computers telling the weather, now social media has made weather reporting more personable.

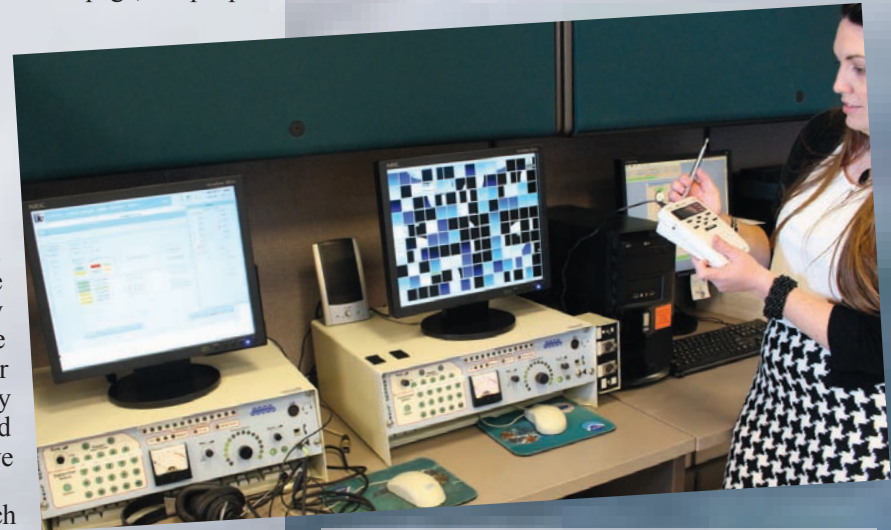
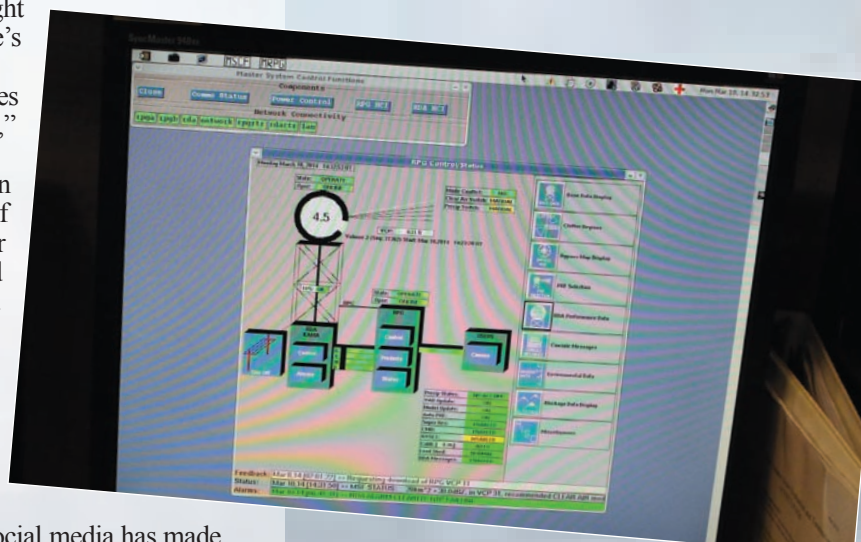
“Now if we want to get a report of what is going on in Mobeetie, we can post it on our Facebook page, and people actually respond,” Scotten said.

So what does the upcoming spring and early summer have in store for the Panhandle?

“We are in what’s called neutral conditions. The climate prediction center has issued an El Nino watch, but that doesn’t necessarily mean anything,” Scotten said. “It’s just a watch, they are watching conditions to see if they develop into an El Nino. But those impacts wouldn’t be felt till later this fall into winter. Essentially that’s a hodge podge of it could be below normal, normal or above normal on rain and temperatures.”

“There is no clear signal which way. The last three years we have been very low as far as tornadoes in the panhandles. We average 23-24 tornadoes a year. 2011 we had four, 2012 we had six and 2013 we had seven. So we have been below normal in tornadoes out here. Last year we could blame that on Old Man Winter. It’s hard to get severe weather when you’re still getting below freezing temperatures.”

The NWS in Amarillo has been located at their present location, 1920 English Road, since 1989.



Top, the National Weather Service is located on U.S. Highway 60 just beyond Amarillo College’s East Campus and behind Rick Husband International Airport. Middle, the computer from which the National Weather Service controls the Doppler radar. Above, Kristi Scotten demonstrates how the warnings are issued from the computer on the far left to the weather radio she is holding.



Justyn Jackson assembles a weather balloon as a demonstration for The Pampa News. Left, the instruments that are attached to the weather balloon, which measure wind speed, humidity and other weather conditions. It also has a GPS system installed for tracking. Right, the package the balloon comes in.