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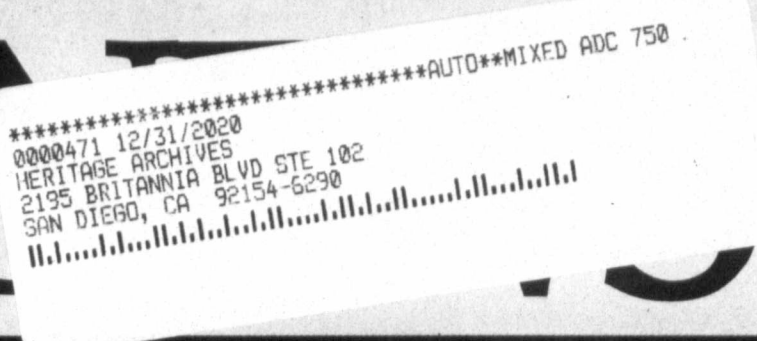
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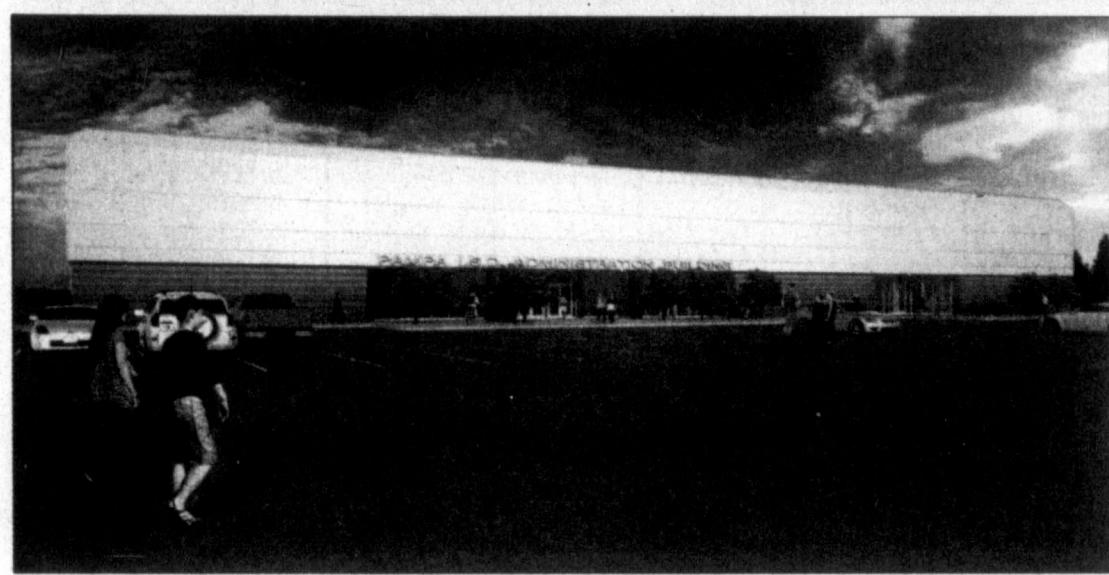
The PAMPA NEWS



Saturday, December 22, 2012 www.thepampanews.com Volume 108 • No. 207

\$1.50 75c weekdays 38c subscription
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Pampa ISD awards bid to Wiley Hicks



BUILDING RENOVATION. Above is an artist's rendering of the new Pampa Independent School District's administration building. Architect Terry Hoyle said he expects the total cost of the project to be \$5.5 million.

Total cost of new admin building \$5.5M.

BY SASHA HELLER
 sheller@thepampanews.com

The Pampa Independent School District (PISD) at its board meeting Thursday night awarded the construction bid for its new central administration facility to developer Wiley Hicks.

"We were very impressed with Wiley Hicks and the firm's record of work here in Pampa," Superintendent David Young said. "We were very clear in our recommendation of you."

Hicks expressed his gratitude for being selected.

"I certainly appreciate the opportunity," he said. "I will be taking care of the project."

Architect Terry Hoyle, with SHW Group, presented the initial schematic design.

Hoyle said his group focused on alleviating a congested fire lane that formerly served the Albertson's grocery store when it was in operation at that site.

To alleviate the congestion, Hoyle pushed back the front row of parking spots 15 feet from their current position.

School board member Cay Warner said she was impressed with Hoyle's design plan.

"It doesn't even look like a grocery store," school board member she said.

"That was the main thing we were concerned about," Hoyle said. "How do you make a big box not look like a big box?"

ADMIN cont. on page 3

Commentary

Are we still here?

BY SASHA HELLER
 sheller@thepampanews.com

If you're reading this, and you haven't buried yourself underground in a bomb shelter, then it means the hyped-up Mayan calendar doomsday prediction was just that — all hype.

For the last couple of years, TV news and print media outlets have covered the Mayan prediction that the world would end on Dec. 21, 2012.

The prediction — while vague, at best — did not specify exactly how the world would end. Doomsdayers speculated that an extinction level event, similar to the cataclysm that killed off the dinosaurs, would wipe out civilization as we know it. Some predicted a rogue asteroid would crash into Earth, causing massive tidal waves and 100-foot-high tsunamis. Others suggested a mega-earthquake would strike or that a supervolcano would erupt, causing life-altering ramifications that would severely impact our way of life.

But since we are all still here, alive and well, we know none of those happened yesterday.

What were they thinking?

Those who bought into the doomsday prophecy based their beliefs on the Mayan Long Count calendar. But the meaning of the prediction could have been interpreted in various ways.

The Mayans never explicitly said the world would physically end on Dec. 21. The ancient civilization believed time is circular, with no beginning or end. The Mayan prediction specifically said that a "visitor from another world"

MAYAN cont. on page 11

HALF A WORLD AWAY



Jason Etheredge, second from left, enjoys a traditional meal with some of his co-workers with the Afghan Ministry of Public Health.

Physician, Pampa native visits from Afghanistan

BY SASHA HELLER
 sheller@thepampanews.com

For the past year, Pampa native Jason Etheredge has been working in Afghanistan with the nation's Ministry of Public Health to develop a sustainable medical infrastructure, including the establishment of standardized medical education.

Etheredge recently returned home to visit over Christmas and shared about his experiences in Afghanistan.

"I was actually very lucky with this job," Etheredge said.

Etheredge has worked primarily out of an office in Kabul, serving as a clinical specialization and residence program advisor.

The 36-year-old physician said he's encountered a variety of challenges while working half a world away.

"Training opportunities are very limited," he said. "In the past, it's been very uncoordinated."

Etheredge said Afghanistan

had no unifying curriculum for physicians training in medical specialties, such as family medicine.

"One hospital would do things this way and another hospital would do things another way," he said.

Etheredge added he can see the need for Afghanistan to improve the standardization of its health care industry.

"But there's road blocks to everything," he said, citing how he's experienced tension and apprehension from some of the older Afghani physicians who may find it challenging to separate Jason's medical persona from Jason's American.

"That's the first thing I asked him," Jason's mother, Debbie Taylor, said. "How are they treating you? That was really my concern for him."

However, for the most part, Etheredge said he's been accepted and valued for his medical knowledge and ability to help the war-torn country improve its medical infrastructure.



Jason Etheredge

"Right now, the big thing we're trying to do is establish an Afghan medical consul," he said, adding that the ideal approach is to create a system that works best for the Afghan people.

"My idea was never to take the American system and impose it on Afghanistan because, at the end of the day, it has to work," he said.

Etheredge has observed a critical need for the development of family medicine practitioners in Afghanistan.

JASON cont. on page 9

Chances of a white Christmas

BY ZACHARY GREEN
 zgreen@thepampanews.com

States like Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, Michigan and Illinois remained without power and some schools canceled classes for a second day Friday — due to snowfall across the Midwest this week. The National Weather Service (NWS) said up to 20 inches of snow fell in the Madison, Wisc.-area, and that high winds and drifting snow was making travel treacherous.

Will we see a white Christmas, or anything like states in the Midwest have seen right here in Pampa?

As of Friday afternoon, the latest forecast for Pampa from the National Weather Service is a 30 percent chance of snow. It will be mostly cloudy, with a high near 31. There will be a blustery north wind between 20 and 25 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph.

Krissy Scotten, warnings coordinator meteorologist with the NWS Amarillo office, said that it will definitely be cold and blustery but there is a chance for a white Christmas for parts of the Texas Panhandle. The question will be the amount of moisture that will be in place when the system arrives.

"There is a lot of dry air. The atmosphere needs to recover before we can get any snow. Right now we are drier than Phoenix," said Scotten.

"If the track digs deeper to the south and we get enough moisture we could see between one and three inches of snow for Pampa and points northeast," added Scotten.

SNOW cont. on page 5

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PAMPA FORECAST

Today	Sunday	Monday
		
High 62 Low 25	High 61 Low 27	High 50 Low 24

Saturday: Mostly sunny with a high of 62. No chance of rain. Winds at 12 mph. Sunrise at 7:50 a.m.

Saturday night: Clear skies with a low of 25. No chance of rain. Winds northwest at 7 mph. Sunset at 5:36 p.m.

Sunday: Mostly sunny with a high of 61. No chance of rain. Winds west northwest at 10 mph. Sunrise at 7:51 a.m.

Sunday night: Partly cloudy with a low of 27. No chance of rain. Winds north northwest at 7 mph. Sunset at 5:36 p.m.

Monday: Partly cloudy with a high of 50. Ten percent chance of rain. Winds northeast at 10 mph. Sunrise at 7:51 a.m.

Monday night: Partly cloudy with a low of 24. Ten percent chance of rain. Winds southeast at 12 mph. Sunset at 5:37 p.m.

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LOCAL AUTHOR, Dolly Cowan, will be at The Victorian Rose this Saturday, December 22nd from noon to 3 pm. She will be signing copies of her recently published children's book, "Yeehaw, the Chosen Donkey." The book, illustrated by Dolly's son, Ren, is the story of Christ as seen through the eyes of the little donkey that carries Mary into Bethlehem to deliver baby Jesus. The delightful tale of Yeehaw, with it's captivating pictures, will make a great Christmas gift for all families.

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MEALS ON Wheels will be closed on December 24th and 25th.

THE PAMPA News will not have a news paper on December 25. We will resume normal delivery on December 26. The Office will be open till 12 on December 24 and closed December 25. Have a Merry Christmas!

THE VICTORIAN Rose Christmas Sale 40% off select items! Open till 8pm every night till Christmas. Open Sunday, 1p-5p.

Paint This Town Red makes holidays happier

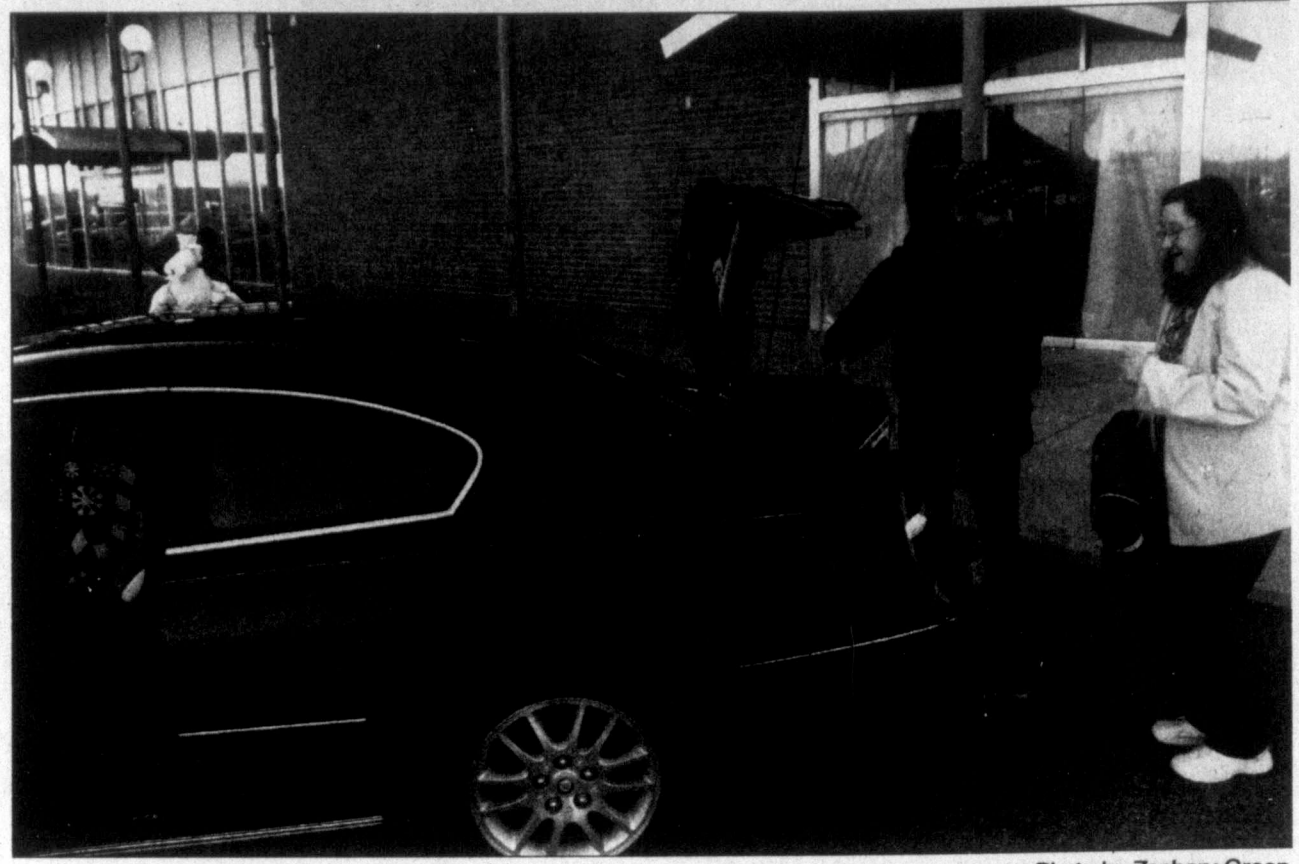


Photo by Zachary Green

C.J. Frazier, left, shows Paula Carlson her new 2003 Chrysler Sebring along with everything they provided for her and her family. Frazier is holding a first aid kit. There were also two new car seats and presents for her children.

By ZACHARY GREEN
zgreen@thepampanews.com

Students and faculty at Lamar Elementary School received a nice surprise for Christmas on Thursday.

Paint This Town Red, a local church, along with about 50 volunteers, came to Lamar at 1 p.m. to

donate 700 gifts — one for each student and faculty member.

Later that day, the church distributed 500 gifts to the community in the Coronado Center parking lot in front of the old Dunlap's department store.

Rick Blain, a member of the board of directors for

Paint This Town Red, said that there are no questions asked when parents or children come to receive gifts.

"We give with no strings attached. We want to serve others and make them happy," Blain said.

All of the presents were a variety of the same thing. The girls each received a Barbie Doll and the boys either got a die-cast motorcycle or a zoom helicopter. All of the presents included candy and various small trinket toys such as a squishy ball or a sticky slap hand.

Also, a used car was donated to a local single mother. Nominations were sent in after people watched promotional videos.

"There were about 20 nominations sent in, then we read all of the stories, made calls and made a decision based on the one that pulled on all of our hearts," said C.J. Frazier, pastor and founder of Paint the Town Red.

The winner of the car was Paula Carlson who is a mother of 2-year-old twins. When asked how she felt when she heard the news that she was going to receive a car she said it was a dream come true. "I was in shock. A lot of

roadblocks in my life will be cleared away with this blessing. It will help me to be a better mother for my children," said Carlson. "I am very grateful and thankful. This will change my life in a good way."

Carlson has never owned a car in her life and does not currently own a driver's license. Paint This Town Red is not only giving Carlson a car, but also is going to help her obtain her driver's license.

Carlson was nominated by her neighbor, Shelly McCullar.

"I have seen her walking throughout the neighborhood with her two kids. I have seen her even walking to Walmart. She never asks for - or expects - help," said McCullar. "I thought she was very deserving for the nomination. I can relate to her because we are both single mothers with a set of twins."

McCullar said she has always been interested in Paint This Town Red and all of their programs but did not get really involved with them until she saw the Facebook video promoting this event.

The funds were raised for all of this by people from the community and church. Frazier said the church started raising the money about a month ago. It was \$5 to sponsor a present.

Last year, Paint This Town Red held a similar donation drive giving 500 gifts to the community along with a used car to a single mother in town. But this was the first year they went to an elementary school.

"I came up to Lamar and met with Jan Cleek, the principal of Lamar. Cleek thought it was a great idea for the donation drive to come into the school," Frazier said.

Frazier added that Lamar Elementary was the only school that he visited with to see about giving donations because he did not expect that the event would gain so much support from the community.

"Ultimately, the goal in future years is to be able to visit every school," he said.

Cleek said the donations by Paint This Town Red were a true blessing.

"It shows the meaning of Christmas. I think they had as much fun giving the gifts as the students did receiving them. Everyone was very enthusiastic," Cleek said.

About 150 volunteers came up to Lamar Elementary last weekend to pack all of the presents.


Paint This Town Red was started about a year and a half ago by Frazier and his wife, Micki. The church meets most Saturday nights at 6 p.m. at the Pampa Optimist Club.

In Memory of
Shirley Hargrove
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Child advocacy group CASA needs more volunteers

Two open houses scheduled on Jan. 3.

BY TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE
thowsare@thepampnews.com

Having to deal with the court system is scary enough even for adults who can afford good law firms, so try to imagine what it must be like for kids who are victims of neglect or abuse.

CASA of the High Plains is an organization comprised mostly of volunteers that work as advocates for children who are removed from their homes by Child Protective Services and placed into foster homes.

CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocates, and CASA of the High Plains serves eight counties in the Panhandle — Gray, Donley, Hansford, Hemphill, Lipscomb, Ochiltree, Rob-

erts and Wheeler. They helped 201 children during the state's last fiscal year, which began Sept. 1, 2011 and ended Aug. 30, 2012.

The volunteers act as advocates for the children, looking out for their well being as they are shuffled through the court system. The ultimate goal of a CASA volunteer is a happy ending — finding a safe, permanent home for each child.

A CASA volunteer is appointed automatically when a child comes into the system, said CASA Executive Director Janet Watts.

That's a good thing, Watts said.

The problem, she said, is CASA needs at least 25 more volunteers than the 40 or so it currently has.

On Thursday, Jan. 3, CASA is holding two open houses at its office at 315 N. Ballard St. The first is from noon to 1 p.m. and the second is



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare

From left, Allisa Humphries, CASA volunteer coordinator, Jana Vinson, volunteer and Janet Watts, CASA executive director.

from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served or you can bring your own lunch.

Anyone who is interested in becoming a volunteer or finding out more

about CASA is invited to attend.

It's not easy becoming a CASA volunteer. There is 30 hours of training to start with, and applicants must go through stringent

background checks.

Each new volunteer must be sworn in as an officer of the court. After that, volunteers must attend yearly training to update their knowledge

of the courts.

But the personal rewards are beyond measure, Watts said.

The children develop close relationships with their CASA advocates, because the same volunteer stays with them through the duration of their cases, she said.

Watts said a child will often have three or four different CPS case workers from the beginning to the end because there is so much burnout in that profession.

It's not uncommon for one CPS caseworker to have as many as 50 cases, she said.

"Many of our children tell us their CASA volunteer was the only one who always knew what was going on in their life," she said.

For more information, call 806-669-7638 or visit www.casahp.org.

REMINDER: DPS increases holiday DWI enforcement

SUBMITTED BY THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

AUSTIN — The Texas Department of Public Safety will increase DWI patrols from Dec. 21 to Jan. 1, which includes both the Christmas and New Year holidays. DPS troopers will focus DWI patrols in high-risk locations at times when alcohol-related crashes are most frequent. The enhanced patrols that target intoxicated drivers are funded through a grant from the Texas Department of Transportation.

During the Christmas/New Year holiday enforcement effort last year, DPS troopers made more than 1,100 DWI arrests, and approximately 350 were the direct result of the increased patrols. DPS enforcement also resulted in more than 15,000 speeding citations, 2,000 seat belt/child safety seat citations and 18,000 other citations. In addition, troopers made 1,020 fugitive arrests and 623 felony arrests during routine patrol operations.

DPS offers the following additional tips for safe travel during the holidays:

Slow down especially in bad weather, construction areas, heavy traffic and unfamiliar areas.

Eliminate distractions, and don't text while driving.

Don't drive fatigued, and allow plenty of time to reach your destination.

Drive defensively, as holiday travel may present additional challenges.

Make sure your vehicle is properly maintained before your trip begins.

Admin

Continued From Page 1

Hoyle's design features a setback front entrance including landscaping, as per the City of Pampa's development code which mandates one tree be planted per every 5,000 square feet.

Hoyle shared the expected costs for each part of the project. They are as follows:

■ Construction costs: \$4.6 million

■ Loose furnishings:

\$250,000

■ Contingency funds: \$150,000

■ External improvements: \$150,000

■ Cable networking: \$50,000.

The total potential impact to the district's fund balance is around \$5.5 million, Hoyle said.

The total office space for the planned administration facility is 33,000 square feet; just under 16,000 feet has been designated for the warehouse; and 11,000 square feet is planned for future growth space.

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Viewpoints

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ReDonn Woods
Publisher

rwoods@thepampanews.com

Timothy P. Howsare
Editor

thowsare@thepampanews.com

Zachary Green
Sports Editor

zgreen@thepampanews.com

Sasha Heller
Reporter

sheller@thepampanews.com

Dana Whinery
Advertising Representative

dwhinery@thepampanews.com

John McCain's power play

U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice, who on Thursday withdrew her name from consideration for Secretary of State, was the assistant secretary of state for Africa when I was



TOM ROSSHIRT

working in the Clinton White House. She was vivid and direct — very striking for a diplomat. Even then, she had her fans

and her detractors.

I was a fan. At the end of the Clinton presidency, Rice was honored at the White House — along with former National Security Advisor Tony Lake and White House Senior Director for Africa Gayle Smith — for her role in ending the war between Ethiopia and Eritrea. This was an especially tragic war — a pointless war of pride between two poor countries that didn't have one life to spare or a dollar to waste but couldn't bring themselves to back down without the help of the United States.

Nobody can be more charming than Susan Rice, but that can change depending on conditions. I learned from talking to the other two on the team that Susan was assigned to dealing with "the leader known to be difficult." She had a glare that could make her the negotiating equal of a head of state at a time of war. She once came out of a meeting, spitting: "That (expletive) questioned my manhood!"

Rice made some 15 trips between the two capitals in the summer of 1998. She and the team were slammed constantly in the papers in both countries — called by one head of state or the other "biased," "dishonest," "inexperienced," "in-over-her-head" — whatever suited the politics of the moment. She continued to be harshly criticized by both sides until they had a peace agreement. Then at the signing ceremony at Algiers, they thanked Rice and the team for "not giving up on us."

So Susan Rice has known for a long time

what it means to have her character and her competence distorted and attacked to suit someone's ambitions. Arizona Senator John McCain, in one of the more curious political tantrums recently thrown in this town, launched a preemptive campaign against Susan Rice for secretary of state, calling her "unqualified" based on public statements she made on Benghazi that tracked, as former CIA director David Petraeus confirmed, the unclassified account provided by the intelligence community.

McCain is one of the most unpredictable men in Washington — capable of displaying the greatest candor and the highest character of anyone in Congress, but capable also of sudden and surprisingly aggressive politics. So how would it serve McCain to take on a not-yet-nominated candidate for secretary of state?

First, it's a shot at Obama. Obviously, the wounds of a losing a presidential campaign run deep, and seeing Obama win again could not have had pleasant associations for McCain. Going after Rice, who is personally close to the President, is a way to attack Obama on foreign policy, while also daring the president to either push Rice forward into a distracting and polarizing confirmation battle, or let her withdraw, making the president look weak or disloyal.

Second, McCain wants to be a bigger player in foreign policy. He had let it be known that he wanted a seat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He got what he asked for last Monday, which put him in a position to create hell for Rice in her confirmation hearings. This intensified the stakes for McCain. If Rice became secretary after McCain tried to derail her, McCain might not have had the access and influence he'd like at state.

Tom Rosshirt was a national security speechwriter for President Bill Clinton and a foreign affairs spokesman for Vice President Al Gore. Email him at tomrosshirt@gmail.com.

Letters to the Editor

Former Celanese plant manager praised

Kudos to Ken and Frances May for staying in Pampa and being such good members of the community.

I had retired from Celanese before they came here and Ken became site manger of plant.

Ken and Frances made it a point to keep the Celanese retiree group informed of the latest news from the plant and the company. The retiree group still has a dinner several times each year.

Ken serves on the Pampa Economic Development Corp. board of directors and I'm sure he has been a very valuable asset in the purchase of the plant and related property.

Thanks to you, Ken May, for everything you have done.

Also thanks to the EDC board of directors for the wise decisions you have made for the benefit of Pampa and Gray County.

Buddy Epperson
Pampa

Have a sober driver while enjoying holidays

As we enjoy this season's holiday festivities, on behalf of the Texas Hospitality Association I want to remind everyone of the importance of doing so responsibly. The Texas Hospitality Association is proud to have joined the Texas Department of Transportation on the statewide Holiday P.A.S.S. (Person Appointed to Stay Sober) campaign to prevent drunk driving.

The campaign encourages Texans to give the gift of a sober ride home and to make it easier for sober drivers to enjoy the festivities. If you know you will be consuming alcohol, designate a sober driver before you start drinking. Sober drivers also make great gifts, so consider volunteering to be a sober driver for your friends and family. The Holiday P.A.S.S. campaign offers customizable sober driver "gift certificates" at www.TexasHospitalityAssociation.com.

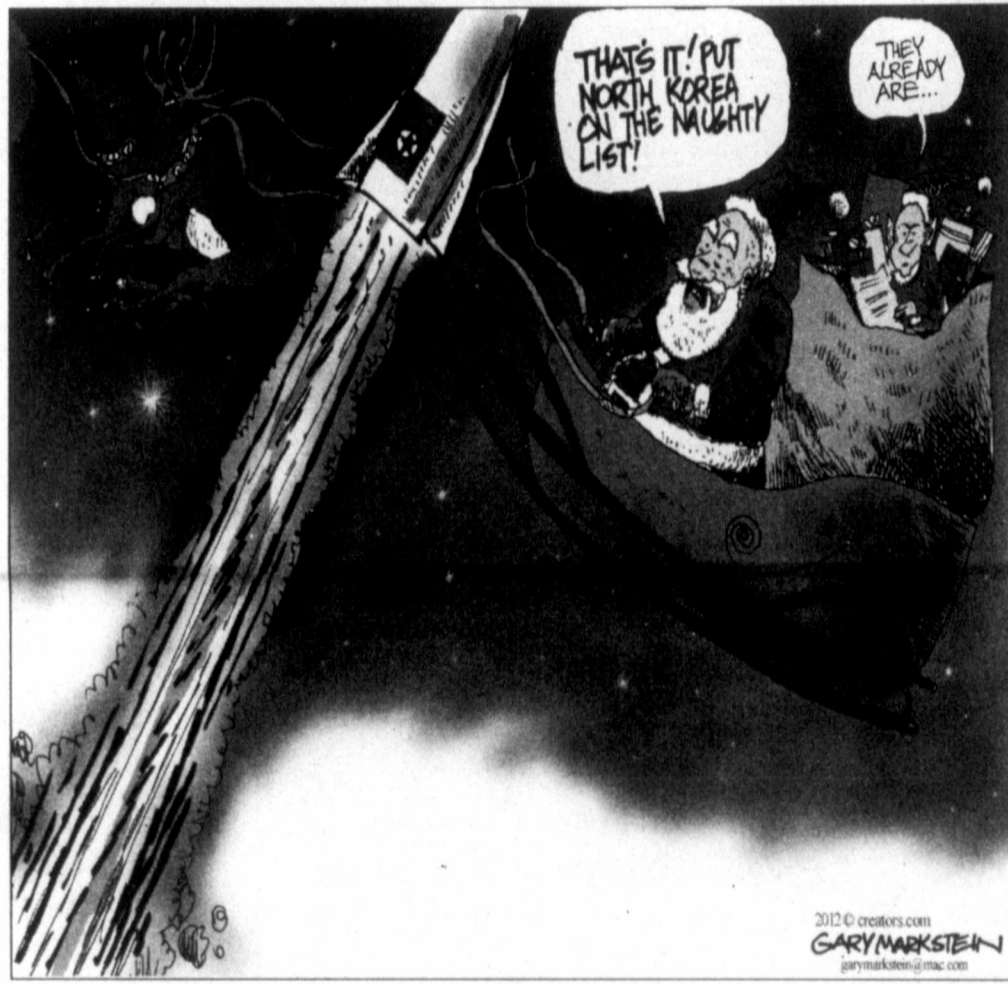
Remember: a sober driver is someone who has had nothing to drink, not just the least amount. Even a small amount of alcohol can impair one's driving ability. If you are hosting a holiday

event, please offer non-alcohol beverages for sober drivers. For great non-alcoholic holiday recipes, visit www.pinterest.com/holidaypass.

Holiday drinking and driving is a serious threat for all holiday travelers. Last holiday season there were more than 2,400 alcohol-related traffic crashes in Texas, resulting in 842 serious injuries and 78 fatalities.

This year, help keep the holidays merry for all Texans by joining the Texas Hospitality Association and the Holiday P.A.S.S. campaign to keep our roads safe.

Rick Knox
President,
Texas Hospital
Association
Austin



How To Write Us

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

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

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Evil of human nature as old as the hills

The notion of the president as comforter-in-chief fits snugly with the notion of political "solutions" — e.g., gun control — to essentially moral and theological problems — e.g., schoolhouse massacres.



WILLIAM MURCHISON

In a well-meant message of consolation delivered Sunday at Newtown, President Obama declared that "These tragedies must end. And to end them we must change." He again used the word "change," in gainsaying the idea that America does enough to protect its children. "We are not doing enough," said the president, "and we will have to change."

"Change" what, exactly? That would be the question, wouldn't it? Change the laws? By instituting really tough, really meaningful gun control, whatever "meaningful" means in a nation that constitutionally protects the right to own and carry weapons? Possibly we could put a cop (with arms-carrying authority) in every school; on every bike path, every street corner. We've yet to hear the details.

No doubt we should forebear ridicule when the actuating factor behind the President's call is a massacre of the innocents, Herod-style: stomach-churning testimony to - to what? Long-standing apathy toward gun control? More like longer-standing apathy, I suggest, to the presence and power of rampant evil in a world disposed to see every ill as curable, at least in part, through regulation or legislation.

It might be nice if that were the case. It is not by a country mile the case. The problem of evil actions — to which we seem half-acclimated in this progressive century of ours — precedes the invention of firearms. I could say it goes back to whatever Cain used on Abel: possibly just his non-controlled, non-regulated fingers. This is assuming the ill-fated pair in Genesis 4:8 excite recognition in our fast-secularizing world, where problems and solutions alike turn out to be present-embedded and human-made. The heavens, for growing numbers of us, hold only the stars.

Yet if humans are everything (as modern people grow more and more convinced), how come we can't get things right? Can't we just talk things over? Pass the right laws?

Multiply the number of law-enforcing agencies and agents? What is the matter with us? Something old? Something inborn?

The desire of humans to have their own way, irrespective of ancient obligations to a Creator God, seems to be old as the hills. Theology calls it sin, and theologians over the centuries have labored to analyze and prescribe for it: not opposing laws whose aim is preventing preventable outbreaks of it, preferring this addition, nonetheless — repentance and amendment of life.

Would that approach have prevented the Newtown massacre? The killer was just plain crazy, wasn't he? Likely so. Madness, meaning lack of reason, would seem just one more piece of evidence as to how much disorder afflicts a race — the human one — in love with its supposed ability to plan everything, control everything.

That task, especially when backed by science, seems easy enough — until the restraints expected of our sophisticated era fail to work, and small, dear, generous, wonderful children succumb to armed cruelty: just as humans, old and young, have succumbed throughout history to the worst that fellow humans can

do to them.

Could it not be — maybe? conceivably? — that politics and consolatory speeches and clever laws need a foundation of realism, one which acknowledges human affairs as the huge mess they are: too big, too inexplicable for the combined power of president and Congress to "change"?

Just a few days lie between Christmas and us. It was around this time, we hear, that the Son of God came to our rescue — not to perfect everything at that precise moment, but to invite repentance and amendment of life, before offering his own life as a sacrifice. Don't believe a word of it? The alternative is to believe another act of Congress will bring us finally to that gun-controlled paradise where the evil, the murderous and the frankly loony embrace the pure of heart. It might happen in heaven. I wouldn't count too much on watching as politicians throw open the gates.

William Murchison, author and commentator, writes from Dallas. To find out more about William Murchison, and to see features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists visit, the Creators Syndicate website at creators.com.

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Snow

Continued From Page 1

"There will be more moisture in Oklahoma so places in Western Oklahoma could see up to four inches of snow," she said. "It won't be like last year's Christmas snow where it was wet, heavy snow but it will be dry, blowing snow."

Scotten added that Pampa is currently right on the edge for seeing the one to two inches of snow or seeing nothing at all.

"It is looking more and more likely for places like Peryton, Spearman, Lipscomb and other places across the northeast Panhandle to see snow," said Scotten.

"The cold air will be here, the system will be here, the question will be if we can get enough moisture to pool in."

"I think there will be a 6-12 hour window for snow chances on Christmas Day, somewhere between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m.," Scotten added.

The NWS hosted a conference call on the upcoming weather event on Friday afternoon.

The snow is expected to occur between 6 a.m. and 2 p.m. for Pampa with totals ranging anywhere from a dusting to two inches.

The more north and east you travel the more snow you will see.

Blowing snow is expected that could cause extremely difficult travel conditions on Christmas Day with vis-

ibilities reduced to less than one mile at times.

"Near whiteout conditions could occur in some places on Christmas Day. Those will be brief but still could cause travel problems if they were to occur," Scotten said.

A winter weather advisory or blowing snow advisory could be issued by the NWS if it becomes closer to the event and they expect one inch or more of snow or hazardous travel conditions due to blowing snow.

"Right now the area we might issue an advisory for is the northeast Texas Panhandle and Western Oklahoma. Forecasts can change and Pampa is right on the edge so there could be an advisory issued later for Pampa," added Scotten.

The NWS is confident that Pampa will see cold temperatures and strong winds.

The NWS gives a moderate chance of snow for the Texas Panhandle and says a winter weather advisory could possibly come later for the Northeast Texas Panhandle.

"There are still some questions and uncertainties to the forecast. Keep up to date with the weather forecasts this weekend," Scotten said.

Please stay tuned to local media outlets, weather radios and the NWS for updated forecast.

The Pampa News will update its Facebook page with any further updates or if advisories, watches or warnings are issued.

For more information and to catch the latest weather updates for the Panhandle region, visit Sr.noaa.gov/ama/.

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Merry Christmas

As we count our blessings this holiday season and reflect on the miracle of life, we realize how much our blessings have grown by knowing and serving all of you.

May you and your loved ones revel in the joy of the season, and please accept our best wishes and gratitude.



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Judge: La. woman can flip finger in holiday lights

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A Louisiana woman ran afoul of police when she gave her neighbors an unusual holiday greeting, hanging Christmas lights in the shape of a middle finger.

Sarah Childs was in a dispute with some of her neighbors in Denham Springs, just east of Baton Rouge, so she decided to send a message with her decorations. Neighbors complained and police threatened to arrest her, so she and the American Civil Liberties Union of Louisiana sued the city.

A judge ruled in her favor Thursday. "I imagine it will be back up before too long," ACLU of Louisiana executive director Marjorie Esman said of the display.

Childs erected the lights on her roof last month. She has removed them twice — once after a police officer told her she could be fined and again after another officer threatened to arrest her, her lawsuit said.

U.S. District Judge James Brady issued an order temporarily barring city officials from interfering with the display. The two-page order said the city's "continued efforts" to prevent Childs from displaying her holiday lights will violate her rights to free speech and due process. He scheduled a Jan. 7 hearing in Baton Rouge.

Denham Springs attorney Paeton Burkett said the city

will comply with Brady's order, but she declined to comment on the lawsuit.

"We're going to sit down with everybody involved and see if there's any merit to it," she said.

Mayor Jimmy Durbin and Police Chief Scott Jones, who are named as defendants, didn't immediately respond to calls seeking comment.

The suit said the police department dispatched an officer to Childs' home after several neighbors complained directly to the mayor.

The officer told Childs she would be violating the city's "obscenity statute" and could be fined if she didn't take it down, according to the lawsuit. However, Denham Springs doesn't have an obscenity statute, the suit said.

Childs removed the lights but put them back up after the ACLU defended her in an open letter to the city. That time, the display showed two hands with extended middle fingers.

After another round of complaints, the city responded with a "collateral attack," issuing her two tickets, according to the suit.

One accused her of obstructing the flow of traffic as she walked down the side of a street. Another ticket accused her of disturbing the peace while singing an im-

promptu song about her neighborhood dispute while standing in her driveway.

"Childs' impromptu song allegedly contained some obscenities directed at her neighbors, so the city cited her for simple assault," the suit said.

The ACLU would not say exactly what the neighborhood dispute was about, and a no one answered at a telephone listing for Childs.

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Texas agency, Cancer Prevention and Research Institute, at a crossroads

By PETER MALOF
Texas News Service

AUSTIN — The House committee that controls state spending met Friday to consider the future of the troubled Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (C-PRIT). After voters approved its creation in 2007, C-PRIT attracted top scientific talent with its promise of becoming a world leader in the fight against cancer. But this year, some of that talent fled after becoming disillusioned.

The institute's mission and resources were hijacked by political cronyism, according to Phillip Martin, political director

with Progress Texas, a government watchdog group. He says science has taken a back seat to commercial interests.

"It's why the chief scientific officer has resigned. Why two Nobel laureates have left."

"The executive director has resigned. They thought they were coming to do science and research, when it turns out they were approving proposals for businesses that are tied to Gov. Perry."

Eight scientists who resigned said the institute awarded project grants without proper review.

The institute is being investigated in the wake of media reports that compa-

nies belonging to Republican donors received millions in C-PRIT awards. While admitting to some grant-making errors, institute officials deny that political favoritism was in play.

Martin hopes the legislature will demand greater transparency and accountability when it comes to how the institute is managed, and which projects it chooses to support.

"If we can change the culture of leadership, and have better safeguards in how the money is being spent, then I think we can return the Cancer Prevention Research Institute of Texas to where it belongs. Which is [to be] a leader in

the nation in helping fight the battle against cancer."

So far, the institute has awarded more than \$800 million in grants - with two-thirds of that dedicated to cancer research. Some, including Gov. Rick Perry, would like to shift the focus more toward the marketing of new therapies, but critics fear increased commercialization would weaken C-PRIT's research potential and open the door to corruption.

Report: Death penalty applied haphazardly

By PETER MALOF
Texas News Service

AUSTIN — While the use of capital punishment is declining, Texas still relies on it more than any other state - and implements it haphazardly, according to a report released Friday.

Striking variations exist between counties about how often prosecutors seek the death penalty, says report author Kristin Houle, executive director of the Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty.

For example, in the past year, more than half the state's new death sentences were handed down in the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex.

By contrast, there were no new death sentences in Houston. "It really is subject to the discretion of individual prosecutors."

Cases with individuals with comparable backgrounds - or who raised similar legal arguments - received vastly different treatment in the criminal justice system." National surveys show support for the death penalty on the

decline. It's now about 60 percent, down from a high of 80 percent. But support drops below 50 percent when alternatives, such as life sentences without parole, are included in polls.

Slowly but surely, Houle thinks, the death penalty is on its way out because of a growing sense that the system is unfair and makes mistakes.

The report says defendants with intellectual disabilities and people of color are more likely to receive death sentences in Texas.

So far this year, nine new death sentences have been handed down in Texas, a 75 percent decline from a decade ago. Texas also carried out 15 executions, three times more than any other state.

Houle cites a practical reason that some jurisdictions are becoming less enthusiastic about pursuing capital punishment.

With chronically strained county budgets, she says, the issue of cost is more relevant than ever. "We see a vast difference between trials in which pros-

ecutors seek the death penalty and those in which they don't - almost a three-times difference. It should give those who support the death penalty pause, considering the gross expense of the death penalty."

This year, Connecticut became the fifth state to reject capital punishment, and campaigns are planned in several other states next year.

State Rep. Jessica Farrar, D-Houston, is expected to introduce abolition legislation for Texas soon, but it will likely be a symbolic effort; she's filed similar bills every session since 2007.

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My most memorable childhood Christmas

I think I was about nine years old, so that would put "my most memorable



MIKE SUBLETT

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

As we made our way across town I remember thinking that we were in an area that I hadn't been in very often. It was the section of town where most of the black people lived. Most of the houses there reflected the reality of what life was like for anyone with black skin living in the south. Most houses were old and in comparison to the north side of town the houses were run down. We stopped in front of a house that was particularly "shack-like". Everything was dark; no porch lights anywhere on the block and certainly no street lights. We walked to the front door with our dads.

I don't know what I expected to see; I probably didn't expect anything because I probably was just in my own little world like usual. Foy knocked on the

door and a lady answered it and we went inside. The living room was small and compared to our house on Hamilton it was almost empty too. Foy and my dad began to visit with the mom about her family's needs. Carolyn and I just stood there looking at the 4 kids, all younger than me. All I can really remember is that the living room was dark and had little furniture. But that wasn't what astounded me the most. I was completely dumbfounded that there was no Christmas tree and absolutely NO PRESENTS! I just kept looking at the four kids and wondered what they were going to do for Christmas.

When the adults finished talking we made our way back to the car and headed for the grocery store. I couldn't get the image of NO PRESENTS out of my mind. When the dads went inside the store to buy the family some food, Carolyn and I began to talk about what we were thinking. Carolyn was older than me so she led our discussion. Both of us were stunned at a sight that was so different from the world in which we lived.

About that time Carolyn came up with a truly inspirational idea. "Mike, why don't we give them some of our presents." I thought that was the greatest idea I had ever heard. "And Carolyn, they have to have a Christmas tree. We could go by our house and get some of our extra ornaments." We were both so excited, but UH-OH; how were we going to convince the parents to let us do that? We started plotting about how we would persuade our dads and then we would let them tell our moms.

After our dads put the groceries in the trunk of our 1954 Buick, they got in the front seat and were completely unprepared for the frontal assault that we instantly unloaded. Carolyn and I began to expound our ideas, presenting argu-

ment after argument why it was the right thing to do. We even quoted a few Bible verses that we had learned in Sunday School to win them over. Carolyn took the lead on the "presents" presentation and I quickly followed with persuasive words about the "tree and ornaments". That's when Carolyn said, "So what do you think of our idea?"

We were hoping for an immediate, "That's a GREAT idea, kids!" But instead everything got really quiet. Carolyn and I looked at each other, our smiles fading into frowns. It wasn't until I was grown that I actually understood the silence. Neither of our dads could speak. They were so proud of us that they couldn't talk. About that time Foy exclaimed, "Kids, that is a wonderful idea." We about jumped out of our skin; the car was full of nothing but JOY. But UH-OH. The dads still had to tell our moms.

Carolyn and I thought that would be a big deal, but it wasn't. The moms were as excited as our dads. They told us what was inside each package so that we could pick out something for each of the four children. Then the name tags were replaced. My mom rounded up the spare ornaments, some tinsel, a few lights and even a tree stand. I would give almost anything for a video of that night, but memories will just have to do. We must have looked like Santa and his elves as we headed out to the car. Of course, the Buick couldn't pass for Santa's sleigh.

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

As we drove to that "shack-like" house again, I felt like 10 million dollars. Our dad's got the tree and the decorations while Carolyn and I each escort-

ed the presents to the front door. When we stepped inside, that Christmas became my most memorable childhood Christmas. The eyes of those four kids still remain one of the most priceless things I have ever personally witnessed. Squeals and giggles and laughter instantly accompanied those wide-open eyes.

Our dad's got the tree settled into the stand and then brought in several sacks of groceries. After Carolyn and I sat the presents over near the tree, we all turned to leave. The mom was sobbing and saying "thank you" over and over and over again. The kids were squealing "thank you" and could hardly keep their hands off of the presents. Carolyn had a smile on her face bigger than I had ever seen before and I'm sure that my smile stretched from one freckled ear to the other.

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

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

Merry Christmas and God bless. Mike

Mike Sublett is the Pastor of Hi-Land Christian Church. You can email him at pawdad@nts-online.net.

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Union Pacific adjusting crossing

DALLAS (AP) — Union Pacific says it's adjusting the timing of the West Texas railroad crossing signal where a collision last month killed four military veterans riding in a parade.

Company spokeswoman Raquel Espinoza-Williams said Friday that the railroad will "improve buffer time" at the signal in Midland "over and above" federal regulations.

The four veterans were on a float struck by a train going 62 mph.

The National Transportation Safety Board has said the signal activated 20 seconds before the train's arrival, the minimum standard under federal regulations, and that the driver ventured onto the track prematurely.

Espinoza-Williams says the company tested the signal and decided to make the unspecified time adjustment to "further ensure" it's in compliance.

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The Pampa News Community Calendar

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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.

Jam sessions every Friday night

The Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center has a jam sessions 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.

Gift wrapping fundraiser at PRMC

Pampa High School's AP English students will host a gift-wrapping fundraiser from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., today, at the Pampa Regional Medical Center. Funds raised at the event will go toward the students' planned trip to London, England. Residents who wish to have their presents wrapped in a specific type of wrapping paper are asked to bring that kind of paper.

Mass schedule for St. Vincent

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, 810 W. 23rd St., has scheduled Masses for Christmas and the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God, both holiday days of obligation.

Christmas Masses are Vigil Mass, 5:30 p.m., Dec. 24; Midnight Mass, Dec. 24; Christmas day English Mass, 10 a.m., Dec. 25; and Christmas day Spanish Mass, noon, Dec. 25.

Vigil Mass for Solemnity of Mary is 5:30 p.m., Dec. 31, followed by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass until midnight. Masses on Jan. 1 are at 10 a.m. (English) and noon (Spanish).

For more information, call 806-665-8933.

Local author book signing at Victorian Rose

Local author, Dolly Cowan, will be at The Victorian Rose today from noon to 3 pm. She will be signing copies of her recently published children's book, "Yeehaw, the Chosen Donkey." The book, illustrated by Dolly's son, Ren, is the story of Christ as seen through the eyes of the little donkey that carries Mary into Bethlehem to deliver baby Jesus. The delightful tale of Yeehaw, with its captivating pictures, will make a great

Christmas gift for all families.

Pampa News holiday hours

The Pampa News will close at noon, Monday, Dec. 24. The office will be closed on Christmas Day. There will be no paper on Christmas Day. The Pampa News will close on at noon, Monday, Dec. 31. The office will be closed on New Year's Day. There will be no paper on New Year's Day.

Pampa City Hall holiday hours

Pampa City Hall will be closed on Monday Dec. 24 and closed Christmas Day. City Hall will be open on Dec. 31 and closed New Year's Day.

Editor's note: Email submissions to thowsare@thepampanews.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.

AFT supports 'bar exam' for teaching jobs

By PETER MALOF
Texas News Service

AUSTIN — A new proposal by a leading teachers' union would create standardized certification procedures for the profession, including a testing requirement similar to the bar exam that would be lawyers have to pass. Education advocates are increasingly endorsing teacher-accountability plans as beneficial to students and teachers alike, according to Ken Zarifis, president of Education Austin, which is part of the American Federation of Teachers.

Too often, he says, new instructors are simply unprepared to lead their classrooms, contributing to a public perception that the system overlooks ineffective teachers.

Zarifis was the Texas representative on the task force that created the teacher-preparation proposal.

The recommendations now go to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, which will set up examination procedures that states will be encouraged to follow.

Currently, certification requirements vary widely from state to state.

Zarifis says unions and other education advocates are open-minded about many reform proposals, including increased evaluation of established teachers, but, he thinks, ramped-up scrutiny is just part of the equation.

It's fine to expect more from teachers, he explains, as long as teachers can count on more public support for their profession.

"[Which is] arguably the most important profession we can think of: to bring on the new generation, to give them the foundation to be those doctors and lawyers and engineers and nurses and whatever it happens to be."

Teacher pay, he says, has flat-lined in the modern era, compared with that of other respected professionals.

Other task-force recommendations include minimum grade-point averages and SAT scores from potential teachers, as well as portfolio requirements that would document mastery of specific subjects.

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Merry Christmas from all of us at The Pampa News



The NEWS

For the record

■ 46-year-old Shelly Dawn Graham, 46, was arrested Thursday by the Gray County Sheriff's Office for manufacturing/delivery of a controlled substance — more than 4 grams and less than 200 grams.

■ 53-year-old Stephen Lee Spencer, Pampa, was arrested Thursday by GCSO for the same charges as Shelly Graham.

■ 23-year-old Aaron Lee ink, Pampa, was arrested Thursday by Pampa Police Department for theft of property under \$1,500 with two or more previous convictions and theft under \$50.

■ 35-year-old Billy Bob Cain, Pampa, was arrested Thursday by the GCSO for bond surrender — possession of controlled substance.

■ 32-year-old Brian William Darnell, Pampa, was arrested Thursday by the PPD for violation of protective order.

Jason

Continued From Page 1

"They've got pediatrics. They've got OB/GYN," he said. "But no family medicine."

This is crucial because gender relations among Afghans can limit how a person receives treatment. As per Afghani cultural traditions, women will rarely let a male doctor treat them. Some female patients would rather die from an infection than violate a custom they hold dear, Etheredge said.

That was really challenging for Etheredge as he had trouble relating to that perspective.

However, he said young women are more interested in practicing family medicine than ever before.

"There's lots of women in medical school there now," he said. "That's one of the biggest successes that the system has had."

Etheredge is also focused on improving Afghanistan's medical library system, including access to electronic resources, but the nation has a limited Internet network. Jason added

that most of the medical textbooks are severely outdated.

Home sweet home

Etheredge credits his science teachers at Pampa High School as inspiring him to practice medicine. Jason graduated from Pampa High in 1995.

From there, he earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Kansas in 1999. After that, he studied at Texas A&M, earning his PhD in 2007 from the school's combined MD/PhD program.

Post-college, Jason practiced neuroscience for four years and was involved in highly technical lab work.

"Prior to going to that job, I'd known that I was interested in helping countries expand their ability to train health workers," like physicians, midwives and other specialized positions, he said.

Etheredge also worked at a pediatric hospital in Malawi which helped steer him toward his ultimate

destination.

"From that, it was kind of a transformative experience," he said.

He added that the clinic he worked at in Malawi was very modern and filled with Western doctors, which he felt was not the most effective approach. Jason said more attention should have been given to training local doctors as opposed to consistently bringing over physicians from America or England.

"They needed to be doing work with local physicians to expand their capacity so, over time, they could phase themselves out," he said. "I wanted to bring the focus back to the education elements."

And that's what led him to the position with Afghanistan's Ministry of Public Health.

Afghani doctors can best serve the Afghani people as the language and cultural barriers are minimized, he said.

Taylor is proud of Jason but said it took time for

her to become comfortable with her son practicing medicine in an area plagued by political turmoil and civil unrest.

"As a mother, that was the last place...one of the many places I would choose for him not to go," she said. "All he wanted was the opportunity to do this somewhere."

While it was difficult at first for her, Taylor said she understands Jason's desire to do what he does because she knows how much it means to her son.

"He felt like this was a calling," she said. "Everyone who knows Jason, if he wants to do something, come hell or high water, he's going to find a way to do it. It really was an amazing opportunity."

On the horizon

Etheredge said he can see comparisons between practicing medicine in a third-world country like Afghanistan and rural communities across America.

Often, many of the brightest students from small towns will move away to bigger cities to study and then decide to stay in those locations to set up their practices. Meanwhile, the medical facilities in their hometowns become more and more limited.

"Even here in Texas, the majority of specialists are located in major metropolitan areas," he said. "There's just not a lot of physicians working in these small towns. But it's like that all over the world."


Jason expects to stay in Afghanistan for another year, at least.

"It just depends on what is needed," he said. "But I'm open to helping them...as long as I have something to contribute."

Etheredge intends on making a lasting impact in Afghanistan.


"What I want to do is see that the seeds have been planted and that something can grow out of it," he said.

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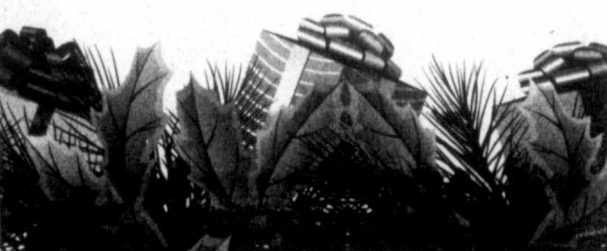


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Number of Americans seeking unemployment benefits rises by 17,000

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of Americans applying for unemployment benefits rose last week by 17,000, reversing four weeks of declines.

But the number of people seeking aid is consistent with a job market that continues to grow modestly.

Unemployment claims rose the week of Dec. 15 to a seasonally adjusted 361,000 from a revised 344,000 the week before.

The less-volatile four-week moving average fell 13,750 to 367,750, lowest since late October. Applications had surged in early November after Superstorm Sandy, then dropped back.

Just over 5.4 million people were receiving some type of unemployment benefit the week ended Dec. 1, down from nearly 7.2 million a year earlier.

Applications are a proxy for layoffs. So the drop of the four-week average suggests that companies are cutting fewer jobs, even if they aren't hiring enough to lower the unemployment rate significantly.

The economy has generated an average of 151,000 jobs a month in 2012, not enough to significantly drive down high unemployment.

The unemployment rate did drop to a four-year low of 7.7 percent in November from 7.9 percent in October.

But the rate fell mostly because unemployed people gave up looking for work.

The government counts people as unemployed only if they're actively seeking jobs.

Still, the steady drop in unemployment applications suggests that

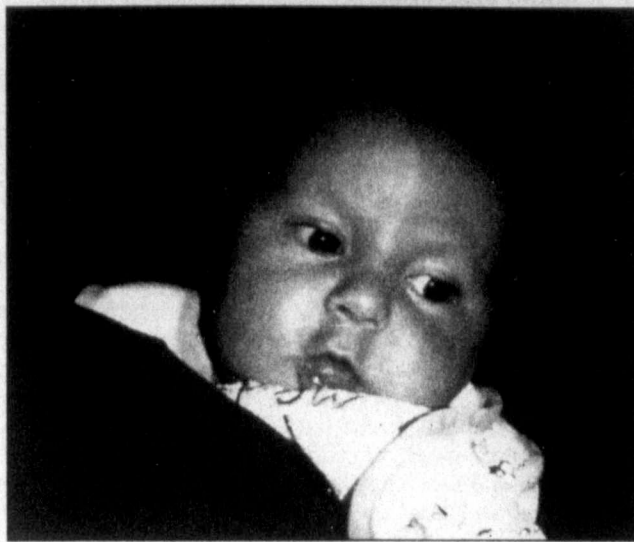
companies aren't laying off workers in advance of the "fiscal cliff" — the package of tax increases and spending cuts set to take effect next year if Democrats and Republicans can't reach a budget deal.

But Democrats and Republicans are still sparring over details of Obama's effort to raise taxes on higher-income earners.

The U.S. economy has endured weak growth since the Great Recession ended in mid-2009. The Commerce Department reported Thursday that the economy grew at a better-than-expected 3.1 percent annual pace from July through September. It has grown at a tepid 2.1 percent pace the first nine months of the year.

NEW ARRIVALS

Liam Bryce Killgo



Liam Bryce Killgo was born in Pampa on October 5, 2012 at 2:37pm to parents, Sage Dorn and Collin Killgo. Liam weighed 7 pounds 2 1/2 ounces, and was 20 1/4 inches long. Proud Maternal grandparents are Palma and Chris Dorn of Pampa, Texas and Uncle Caleb and Aunt Aubrey. Maternal great grandparents are Ruby Valerio of Dumas, Texas and Kitty and John Dorn of Shamrock, Texas. Proud Paternal grandparents are Kathryn and Michael Killgo of Pampa, Texas and Uncle Mitchell. Paternal great grandparents are Sandra and David Bronner of Pampa, Texas and Gwin and Hugo Killgo of Roswell, New Mexico.

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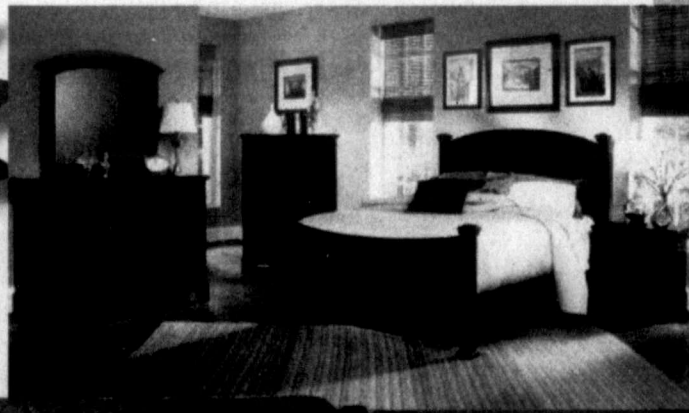
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Mayan

Continued From Page 1

would return to a Mayan holy site on Dec. 21, 2012. Scholars interpreted "visitor" as being anything from an interstellar object such as an asteroid to the return of the Mayan god, Kukulcan, also known as Quetzalcoatl. Furthering the speculation was that Kukulcan also served as the Mayan god of conflict.

A comparison to the second coming of Jesus can be made as scholars believed the return of Kukulcan would usher in a reign of peace and the advent of a new spiritual order.

On top of that, the Mayans marked Dec. 21, 2012 as the end of their Long Count calendar, which runs in a 5,125-year cycle. Yesterday, the plane of the sun's movement across the sky intersected with the dark band at the center of the Milky Way Galaxy. The last time our sun's position lined up exactly with the center of the galaxy was on Aug. 11, 3114 B.C., which is when the 5,125-year cycle began.

Y2K part II

For as long as human beings have walked the earth, man has predicted the world was going to end. Countless religious proselytizers have in the past speculated the world would end in any number of ways, most often through divine intervention — or God's wrath.

I was 21 in the year 2000, when popular media was consumed by the Y2K phenomenon. Remember that one?

And how the fact that all computers only used two digits to represent the year and that when Jan. 1, 2000 rolled around, computer networks across the world would collapse due to the calculating error?

My friends and I threw a massive party at a hotel in the Atlanta suburbs in celebration of what many believed was the end of the world as we knew it.

And we all know how that turned out. Computers did not crash when the date changed, planes did not fall from the sky and Terminators did not time-travel from the future to take down Skynet.

Not in the clear

Just because the world didn't end yesterday due to some cataclysmic event doesn't mean we are in the clear. Seismologists are constantly tracking the movement of the San Andreas Fault in California and the New Madrid Fault around Missouri and Tennessee, recording seismic shifts and predicting when the next big quake will strike.

The Yellowstone Caldera, a supervolcano situated in the northwest U.S., is more than 40,000 years overdue for an eruption. The Caldera has a history of erupting every 600,000 years. The last time the Caldera erupted was 640,000 years ago. Scientists predict a major blast from the Caldera could force the planet into a nuclear winter, dispersing poisonous gases into the atmosphere and raining sulfuric dust clouds that would block out the sun for decades. Plant life would die. Animals who feed on the plants would, in turn, also die off. And humans would soon fol-

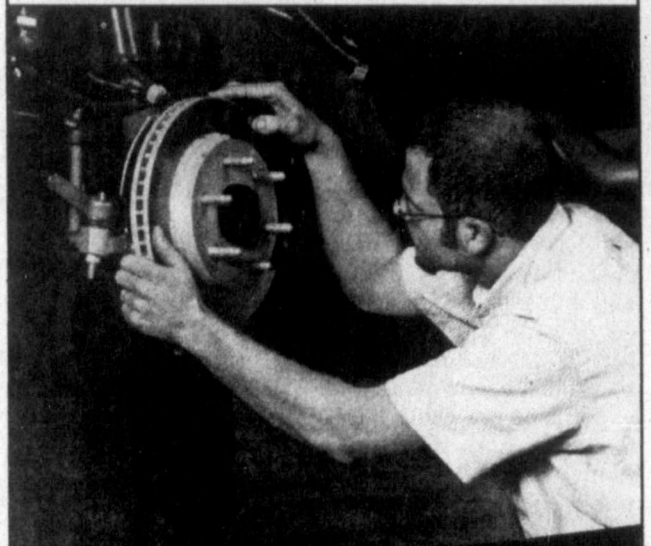
low suit.

Threats to humanity can also come from the sky as astronomers track the orbits of celestial bodies like asteroids, meteors and comets. An incoming celestial object would not come as much of a surprise as a mega-earthquake or supervolcano as humans would have more time to prepare for a collision. But the ramifications could be just as destructive. The earth's gravity could be affected by an object that came perilously close to our planet, causing tidal shifts that would submerge coastal cities under walls of water.

So just because the world didn't end yesterday doesn't mean it's not going to end tomorrow. The only thing humanity can do is to be prepared for anything. The end will come at some point — whether from above our heads or beneath our feet. When it does, keep your loved ones close and pray, if you are a believer, that humanity can survive.

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Robbery suspect tackled, caught on tape

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — Instead of letting a robber get away, a witness to a convenience store stickup in Spokane, Wash., caught the armed man and held him for police.

The surveillance camera at the G & B Grocery shows a man wearing a ski mask, threatening the clerk and other people in the store, including three children.

He grabs the money and is trying to run out of the store when one of the customers chases him.

KREM reports it was the clerk's brother.

He tackled the fleeing man Monday going out the door. Officers arrived a few minutes later and arrested a 25-year-old man for investigation of robbery, assault and possession of a stolen firearm.

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Auction proceeds to go to Conn. victims

ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Texans will donate the proceeds from a silent auction during Sunday's game against the Vikings to the victims of the school shooting in Newtown, Conn.

Team owner Bob McNair and the Houston Texans Foundation will match the amount raised by the auction.

The money will be given to the Sandy Hook School Support Fund, which was created by the United Way.

Items available in the auction include an autographed and framed Andre Johnson jersey, an autographed Arian Foster jersey, framed and autographed photos of J.J. Watt, a trip for two to the 2013 NFL draft and a package for two people to experience pre-game introductions from Houston's tunnel before their first playoff game.

Judge rules against Texas in care dispute

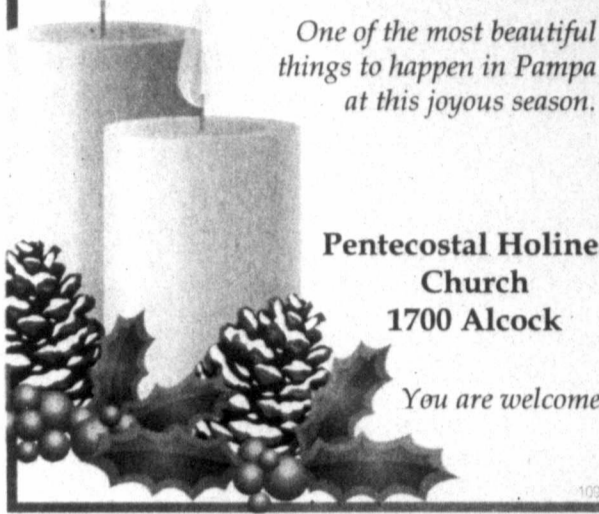
WACO, Texas (AP) — A judge has denied Texas' request to prevent the federal Health and Human Services Department from cutting off funding for the Texas Women's Health Program.

U.S. District Judge Walter Smith in Waco on Friday denied the state's motion for a preliminary injunction.

Without it, Medicaid funding for the state program that provides cancer screenings and other services to 130,000 low-income women likely will expire Dec. 31.

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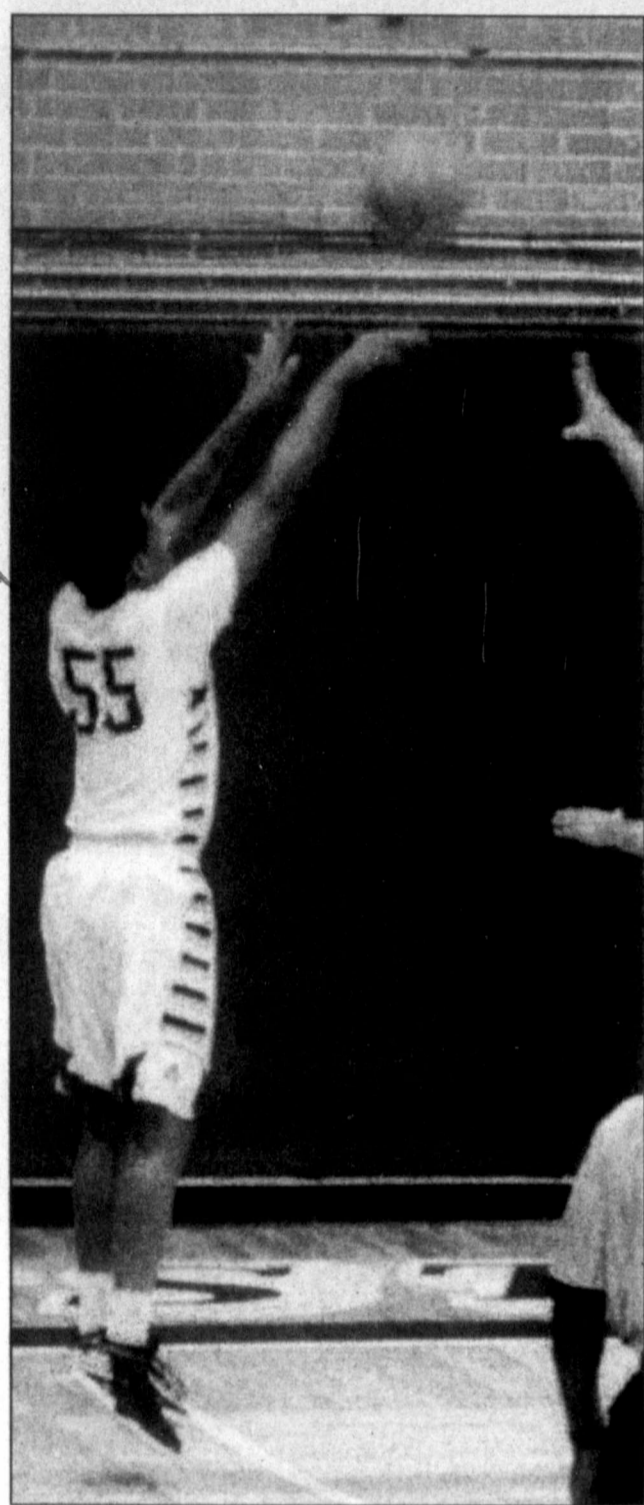


Photo by Charla Shults
SHOT UP. Derrek Pollard shoots a three-pointer in a game against Panhandle Tuesday night. Pollard finished with 11 points in the game.

Got A Sports Story or Photo?
 Send them to zgreen@thepampanews.com or bring it to the paper!

Season's Greetings
 From all of us to you
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 Merry Christmas!

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PampaSports

Michael Phelps voted AP male athlete of year

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Now that he's away from the pool, Michael Phelps can reflect, really reflect, on what he accomplished.



Michael Phelps

Pretty amazing stuff. Not that his career needed a caper, but Phelps added one more honor to his staggering list of accomplishments Thursday The Associated Press male athlete of the year.

Phelps edged out LeBron James to win the award for the second time, not only a fitting payoff for another brilliant Olympics (four gold medals and two silvers in swimming at the London Games) but recognition for one of the greatest careers in any sport.

Phelps finished with 40 votes in balloting by U.S. editors and broadcasters, while James was next with 37. Track star Usain Bolt, who won three gold medals in London, was third with 23.

Carl Lewis is the only other Olympic-related star to be named AP male athlete of the year more than once, taking the award for his track and field exploits in 1983 and '84. The only men honored more than twice are golf's Tiger Woods and cyclist Lance Armstrong (four times each), and basketball's Michael Jordan (three times).

Phelps retired at age 27 as soon as he finished his final race in London, having won more gold medals (18) and overall medals

(22) than any other Olympian.

Set for life financially, he has turned his fierce competitive drive to golf, working on his links game with renowned coach Hank Haney as part of a television series on the Golf Channel. In fact, after being informed of winning the AP award, Phelps called in from the famed El Dorado Golf & Beach Club in Los Cabos, Mexico, where he was heading out with Haney to play a few more holes before nightfall.

Certainly, he has no complaints about his swimming career, which helped turn a sport that most Americans only paid attention to every four years into more of a mainstream pursuit.

More kids took up swimming. More advertisers jumped on board. More viewers tuned in to watch.

While swimming is unlikely to ever match the appeal of football or baseball, it has carved out a nice little niche for itself amid all the other athletic options in the United States. "I largely due to Phelps' amazing accomplishments and aw-shucks appeal.

Just the fact that he won over James shows just how much pull Phelps still has. James had an amazing year by any measure: The league MVP won his first NBA title with the Miami Heat, picking up finals MVP honors along the way, and then starred on the gold medal-winning U.S. basketball team in London.

Phelps already had won the AP award in 2008 after his eight gold medals in

Beijing, which broke Mark Spitz's record. Phelps got it again with a performance that didn't quite match up to the Great Haul of China, but was amazing in its own right.

After the embarrassment of being photographed taking a hit from a marijuana pipe and questioning whether he still had the desire to go on, Phelps returned with a vengeance as the London Games approached. Never mind that he was already the winningest Olympian ever. Never mind that he could've eclipsed the record for overall medals just by swimming on the relays.

"That's just who he is," said Bob Bowman, his longtime coach. "He just couldn't live with himself if knew he didn't go out there and give it good shot and really know he's competitive. He doesn't know anything else but to give that kind of effort and have those kind of expectations."

Phelps got off to a rocky start in London, finishing fourth in the 400-meter individual medley, blown out of the water by his friend and rival, Ryan Lochte. It was only the second time that Phelps had not at least finished in the top three of an Olympic race, the first coming way back in 2000 when he was fifth in his only event of the Sydney Games as a 15-year-old.

To everyone looking in, Lochte seemed poised to become the new Phelps while the real Phelps appeared all washed up.

Phelps rebounded to become the biggest star at the pool, edging Lochte in the

200 IM, contributing to a pair of relay victories, and winning his final individual race, the 100 butterfly. There were two silvers, as well, leaving Phelps with a staggering resume that will be awfully difficult for anyone to eclipse.

His 18 golds are twice as many as anyone else in Olympic history. His 22 medals are four clear of Larisa Latynina, a Soviet-era gymnast, and seven more than the next athlete on the list. Heck, if Phelps was a nation, he'd be 58th in the medal standings, just one behind India (population: 1.2 billion).

Four months into retirement, Phelps has no desire to get back in the pool. Oh, he'll swim every now and then for relaxation, using the water to unwind rather than putting in one of his famously grueling practices.

Golf is his passion at the moment, but he's also found time to cheer on his hometown NFL team, the Baltimore Ravens, and start looking around for a racehorse that he and Bowman can buy together.

Phelps hasn't turned his back on swimming, either. He's got his name attached to a line of schools that he wants to take worldwide. He's also devoting more time to his foundation, which is dedicated to teaching kids to swim and funding programs that will grow the sport even more.

He's already done so much.

Phelps still receives regular texts from old friends and teammates, asking when he's going to give up on this retirement thing and come back the pool as a competitor.

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Hidden Hills 4-man seniors scramble results from Dec. 18

SUBMITTED

The following are the Hidden Hills 4-man seniors scramble results from Dec. 18.

First place with a score of 59 the team of T. Lind-

sey, J. Bridges, J. Davis and F. Snow.

Second place with a score of 60 the team of G. Hall, J. Hervey, J. Cantrell and M. Ball.

Third place with a score of 61 the team of J. Mc-

Call, M. Joiner, L. Moreno and H. Wells.

Fourth place with a score of 63 the team of W. White, H. Knutson, C. Ritthaler and J. McGuire.

The closest to the pin winner for hole No. 6 was

J. Gilbert.

The closest to the pin winner for hole No. 15 was B. Hammer.

Merry Christmas from all of us!

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- Dennis Edmondson 662-7503
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TOYS FOR TOTS DONATIONS



Submitted photo
More than 100 toys were donated to Toys for Tots at the New Life Wellness Center Collection Center in Pampa. The toys were presented to Dee Dee Laramore of Tralee Crisis Center. From left, Dr. Mark W. Ford Jr., Dee Dee Laramore and Lisa Fisher. Ford thanked the many patients and members of the community who donated toys for this cause.

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Mike



Steve

PHILANTHROPIC EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION MEETING



Submitted photo

Recently initiated P.E.O. members are, left, Suzanne Wood and Sharron Hurst, with P.E.O. President Kay Harvey. Members of the Philanthropic Educational Organization (P.E.O.) Sisterhood Chapter CS met at the house of Gloria Robbins on Tuesday, Dec. 11, for a regular meeting. Robbins and co-host Leslie Shafer served refreshments. Sharron Hurst and Suzanne Wood were initiated as new members of the chapter. Following the business portion of the meeting, Carolyn Miller presented a program on the history of many Christmas carols, followed by a sing-a-long.

Owner protests to get monkey back

TORONTO (AP) — A woman whose pet monkey was found wandering in an Ikea parking lot protested Wednesday with some 15 other people at a Toronto Animal Services office Wednesday in an effort to get him back.

Yasmin Nakhuda alleges the Japanese macaque, named Darwin, was illegally taken from her by animal control officials and moved to a sanctuary in Sunderland, Ontario, where he now lives.

Her lawyer, Ted Charney, says he has been told the sanctuary plans to ask for the case to be adjourned Thursday.

"A filing from the sanctuary asks for an adjournment on several counts, including a request that it be given more time to gather evidence.

The sanctuary also claims that it now owns Darwin, arguing that un-

like domestic animals, wild animals are owned by the person that possesses them and Nakhuda voluntarily turned the monkey over to Toronto Animal Services.

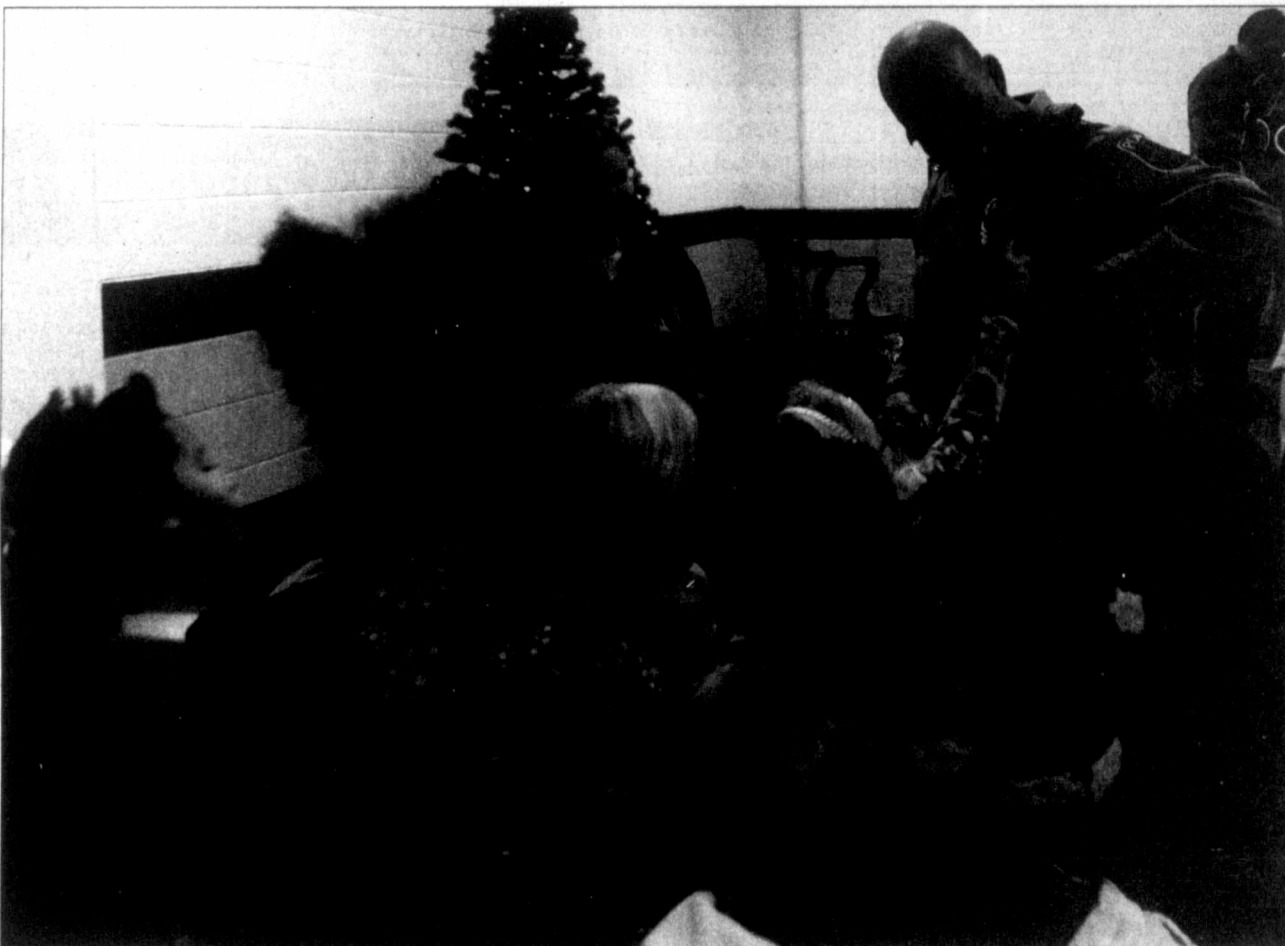
The young monkey captured worldwide attention earlier this month when he was spotted wandering the store parking lot in a little coat.

Nakhuda, a real estate lawyer, said she was never given the chance to remedy the situation after being fined \$240 for breaking the city's prohibited-animal bylaw.

In court documents, Nakhuda says she, her husband and their two kids would be willing to move to a city that allows monkeys in order to keep Darwin, whom they consider part of the family.

Nakhuda said she hopes to have Darwin back by Christmas.

STUDENTS LEARN SAFETY FROM POLICE



Photos by Timothy P. Howsare

Above, children learn safety tips from Pampa Police officers at the Pampa Optimist Club. Below, presents are being wrapped for the Children's Shopping Tour on Dec. 15.



Holiday shoppers vulnerable to zero-interest offers

BY PETER MALOF
Texas News Service

AUSTIN — 'Tis the season for splurging. And why not, when stores make it so easy - even if you're short on cash. Half of the nation's major retailers offer so-called "zero-interest" financing plans. But consumer advocates are offering their own holiday message: read the fine

print. Deferred-interest deals, they say, can wind up increasing total financing costs by more than 27 times.

The catch, according to the Texas Legal Services Center attorney Judy Doran, is that, after the grace period, interest is retroactively applied to the entire purchase price, regardless of how much of it has already been paid off.

A recent report by www.CardHub.com provides details on the deferred-interest plans of leading retailers.

It calls out 14 companies for not being transparent enough about their policies. Included on Card Hub's "wall of shame" are Home Depot, Walmart, Apple, Best Buy, Victoria's Secret and Amazon.com.

Joyous Christmas & Happy New Year!



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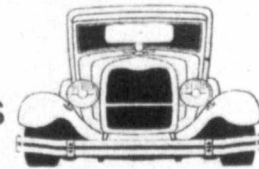
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CHILDREN'S SHOPPING TOUR



Above, volunteers wrap gifts at the Pampa Optimist Club for Children. Below, volunteers and children line up in a Walmart cashier's line to buy presents for their families.



Photos by Timothy P. Howsare

German scientists seek to clone perfect Xmas trees

BERLIN (AP) — The hunt for the perfect Christmas tree may soon become a lot easier: just pick a nice clone.

That's what German scientists are now working on: They are searching a way to ensure that the sensitive saplings of the popular Nordmann fir species grow into impressive specimens.

The fir is native to the Caucasus, but is often cultivated on massive plantations in Germany.

Biologist Kurt Zoglauer of Berlin's Humboldt University said Friday 40 percent of trees don't make the cut when they mature after 10 to 14 years. Some are stunted by frost, while others turn out the wrong shade of green.

Zoglauer's team therefore hopes to refine a method to clone particularly hardy and beautiful trees by 2016.

The project is supported by a German government grant.

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Denver sirens are just a test

DENVER (AP) — Officials in Denver want people to know this is only a test.

The city is testing new outdoor warning sirens on Friday, and they're well aware of all the talk about the Mayan calendar and time running out for the world's population.

In announcing the drill, officials said they wanted to make sure that people knew that the wailing sirens didn't mean it was the end of the world.

A chorus of books and movies has sought to link the Mayan calendar to rumors of impending disasters ranging from black holes and solar storms to a change in the Earth's magnetic field.

Scientists say predictions of an impending apocalypse are a bunch of hogwash.

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And the angel said, "I bring you good tidings of great joy... Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:10,11

May the peace and joy of this holiday season be in your heart now and throughout the coming year.

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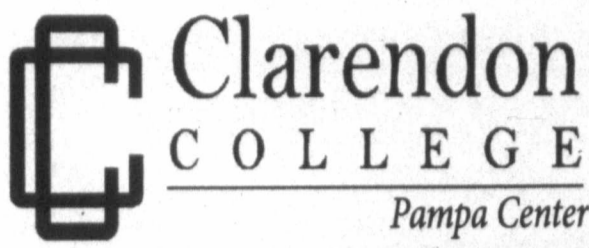


Glory to God in the highest
and on Earth peace, good will toward men.
Luke 2:14



With joy and faith in our hearts we thank you, our neighbors, for the good will you've shown us this past year.

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WINTER 2012/SPRING 2013 PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

DISTANCE LEARNING • WINTER 2012

COURSE ID	COURSE TITLE	ISBN	INSTRUCTOR	LIMIT
BIOLOGY				
BIOL 1322	NUTRITION	978-0077263201	R. ESTLACK	35
GOVERNMENT				
GOVT 2305	FEDERAL GOVERNMENT*	978-0-393-912-08-1	H. DEVRIES	35
HISTORY				
HIST 1301	U.S. HISTORY I*	BOOK: 978-0-393-93405-2 & ATLAS: 1-930194-01-3	B. FULLER	35
HIST 1302	U.S. HISTORY II*	989934071	B. FULLER	35
MATHEMATICS				
MATH 1314	COLLEGE ALGEBRA*	www.mathd.com	J. SAIN	35
PHYSICAL EDUCATION				
PHED 1110	WALKING FOR FITNESS	NA	Z. LEGGETT	35
PHED 1308	SPORTS OFFICIATING I	NA	J. GREEN	35
PHED 1321	COACHING/SPORTS/ATHLETICS I	NA	J. GREEN	35
PHED 1346	DRUG USE AND ABUSE	NA	J. GREEN	35
PSYCHOLOGY				
PSYC 2301	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY*	978-0-078-03628-9	B. GREEN	35
SPEECH				
SPCH 1318	INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS	0-205-03108-0	C. CRUMP	35

PAMPA • SPRING 2013

COURSE ID	COURSE TITLE	DAYS	START	END	LOCATION	INSTRUCTOR	LIMIT
ACCOUNTING							
ACCT 2302.231	PRINCIPLES OF ACCT II MANAGERIAL	MW	7:00PM	8:20PM	MKB-201	Taylor, Robert H	30
ACNT 1404.221	INTRODUCTION TO ACCOUNTING II LAB	TR	3:30PM	4:50PM	MKB-201	Taylor, Robert H	30
ACNT 1404.221	INTRODUCTION TO ACCOUNTING II	TR	2:00PM	3:20PM	MKB-201	Taylor, Robert H	35
BIOLOGY							
BIOL 1407.231	BIOLOGY FOR SCIENCE MAJORS II LAB	T	8:00PM	9:50PM	MKB-202	Estlack, Russell A	30
BIOL 1407.931	BIOLOGY FOR SCIENCE MAJORS II	T	5:00PM	7:50PM	MKB-106	Estlack, Russell A	30
BIOL 1413.221	GENERAL ZOOLOGY LAB	W	12:40PM	3:00PM	MKB-202	Estlack, Russell A	30
BIOL 1413.221	GENERAL ZOOLOGY	MWF	11:00AM	11:50AM	MKB-203	Estlack, Russell A	30
BIOL 2401.231	ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I LAB	M	8:00PM	10:50PM	MKB-200	Wiginton, Larry M	30
BIOL 2401.231	ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I	M	5:00PM	7:50PM	MKB-203	Wiginton, Larry M	30
BIOL 2402.221	ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II LAB	W	3:00PM	4:50PM	MKB-202	Estlack, Russell A	30
BIOL 2402.221	ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II	W	5:00PM	7:50PM	MKB-101	Estlack, Russell A	30
BIOL 2421.221	MICROBIOLOGY FOR SCIENCE MAJORS LAB	R	3:00PM	4:50PM	MKB-202	Estlack, Russell A	30
BIOL 2421.221	MICROBIOLOGY FOR SCIENCE MAJORS	R	8:00PM	9:50PM	MKB-202	Estlack, Russell A	30
BIOL 2421.231	MICROBIOLOGY FOR SCIENCE MAJORS	R	5:00PM	7:50PM	MKB-101	Estlack, Russell A	48
COSMETOLOGY							
CSME 1291.221	SPECIAL TOPICS IN COSMETOLOGY	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1291.221	SPECIAL TOPICS IN COSMETOLOGY LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1310.221	INTRO HAIRCUTTING & RELATED THEORY	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1310.221	INTRO HAIRCUTTING & RELATED THEORY LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1330.221	ORIENTATION TO NAIL TECHNOLOGY	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1330.221	ORIENTATION TO NAIL TECHNOLOGY LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1401.221	ORIENTATION TO COSMETOLOGY	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1401.221	ORIENTATION TO COSMETOLOGY LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1405.221	FUNDAMENTALS OF COSMETOLOGY	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1405.221	FUNDAMENTALS OF COSMETOLOGY LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1434.221	COSMETOLOGY INSTRUCTOR I	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1434.221	COSMETOLOGY INSTRUCTOR I LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1435.221	ORIENTATION TO THE INSTRUCTION OF COSMETOLOGY	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1435.221	ORIENTATION TO THE INSTRUCTION OF COSMETOLOGY LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1443.221	MANICURE AND RELATED THEORY	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1443.221	MANICURE AND RELATED THEORY LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1531.221	PRINCIPLES OF NAIL TECHNOLOGY I	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1531.221	PRINCIPLES OF NAIL TECHNOLOGY I LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1541.221	PRINCIPLES OF NAIL TECHNOLOGY II	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1541.221	PRINCIPLES OF NAIL TECHNOLOGY II LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	J. RICKSTREW	25
CSME 1547.221	PRINCIPLES SKIN CARE/FACIALS THEORY	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	M. KISER	25
CSME 1547.221	PRINCIPLES SKIN CARE/FACIALS THEORY LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	M. KISER	25
CSME 1551.221	ARTISTRY OF HAIR THEORY & PRACTICE	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	M. KISER	25
CSME 1551.221	ARTISTRY OF HAIR THEORY & PRACTICE LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	M. KISER	25
CSME 2310.221	INTERMED HAIRCUTTING/RELATED THEORY	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	M. KISER	25
CSME 2310.221	INTERMED HAIRCUTTING/RELATED THEORY LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	M. KISER	25
CSME 2337.221	ADVANCED COSMETOLOGY TECHNIQUES	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	M. KISER	25
CSME 2337.221	ADVANCED COSMETOLOGY TECHNIQUES LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	M. KISER	25
CSME 2401.221	PRINCIPLES OF HAIR COLOR & THEORY	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	M. KISER	25
CSME 2401.221	PRINCIPLES OF HAIR COLOR & THEORY LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	M. KISER	25
CSME 2414.221	COSMETOLOGY INSTRUCTOR II	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	M. KISER	25
CSME 2414.221	COSMETOLOGY INSTRUCTOR II LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	M. KISER	25
CSME 2430.221	NAIL ENHANCEMENT	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	M. KISER	25
CSME 2430.221	NAIL ENHANCEMENT LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	M. KISER	25
CSME 2439.221	ADVANCED HAIR DESIGN	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	M. KISER	25
CSME 2439.221	ADVANCED HAIR DESIGN LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	M. KISER	25
CSME 2541.221	PREPARATION FOR STATE EXAMINATION	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	M. KISER	25
CSME 2541.221	PREPARATION FOR STATE EXAMINATION LAB	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	CSME	M. KISER	25
CRIMINAL JUSTICE							
CRJ 1306.921	COURT SYSTEMS AND PRACTICES	TR	11:00AM	12:20PM	MKB-106	Jeffrey, Selena K	30
CRJ 1307.921	CRIME IN AMERICA	MWF	11:00AM	11:55AM	MKB-106	Jeffrey, Selena K	30
CRJ 2313.921	CORRECTIONAL SYSTEMS AND PRACTICES	MWF	10:00AM	10:55AM	MKB-106	Jeffrey, Selena K	30
DEVELOPMENTAL STUDIES							
DEVS 0200.221	DEVELOPMENTAL STUDIES LAB	W	10:30AM	12:30PM	MKB-103	Staff, Staff	30
DEVS 0200.231	DEVELOPMENTAL STUDIES LAB	TR	4:00PM	4:55PM	MKB-103	Staff, Staff	30
DEVS 0200.233	DEVELOPMENTAL STUDIES LAB	W	5:00PM	7:00PM	MKB-103	Staff, Staff	30
DEVS 0200.234	DEVELOPMENTAL STUDIES LAB	MW	4:00PM	4:55PM	MKB-103	Staff, Staff	30
DEVS 0200.235	DEVELOPMENTAL STUDIES LAB	T	2:00PM	4:00PM	MKB-103	Staff, Staff	30
DEVS 0200.236	DEVELOPMENTAL STUDIES LAB	M	2:00PM	4:00PM	MKB-103	Staff, Staff	30
DRAMA							
DRAM 1310.931	INTRODUCTION TO THE THEATER	R	7:00PM	9:50PM	MKB-106	LACY, Rochelle	30
ECONOMICS							
ECON 2302.231	PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS	TR	5:30PM	6:50PM	MKB-201	Taylor, Robert H	30
ECON 2302.921	PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS	TR	8:00AM	9:15AM	MKB-106	Taylor, Robert H	30
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES							
EMSP 1355.231	TRAUMA MANAGEMENT	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	30
EMSP 1355.231	TRAUMA MANAGEMENT	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	30
EMSP 1356.231	PATIENT ASSESSMENT AND AIRWAY MANAGEMENT	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	30
EMSP 1356.231	PATIENT ASSESSMENT AND AIRWAY MANAGEMENT	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	30
EMSP 1438.231	INTRODUCTION TO ADVANCED PRACTICE	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	30
EMSP 1438.231	INTRODUCTION TO ADVANCE PRACTICE	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	30
ENGLISH							
ENGL 0302.231	DEVELOPMENTAL WRITING II	TR	6:30PM	7:50PM	MKB-104	Cotter, Wanda	30
ENGL 0303.231	DEVELOPMENTAL WRITING III	TR	6:30PM	7:50PM	MKB-104	Cotter, Wanda	30
ENGL 1301.221	COMPOSITION I	MW	9:30AM	10:50AM	MKB-104	McCall, Nancy E	30
ENGL 1302.221	COMPOSITION II	MW	8:00AM	9:20AM	MKB-104	McCall, Nancy E	30
ENGL 1302.221	COMPOSITION II	R	5:00PM	7:50PM	MKB-205	Staff, Staff	30
ENGL 2332.221	WORLD LITERATURE I	MW	1:00PM	2:20PM	MKB-104	Staff, Staff	30
ENGL 2333.221	WORLD LITERATURE II	MW	11:00AM	12:20PM	MKB-104	McCall, Nancy E	30
GOVERNMENT							
GOVT 2305.221	US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	MWF	9:00AM	9:50AM	MKB-203	McLatchy, Michael A	30
GOVT 2305.921	US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	MWF	9:00AM	9:55AM	MKB-106	Myers, Lucinda J	30
GOVT 2306.231	TEXAS GOVERNMENT	MW	7:00PM	8:20PM	MKB-209	McLatchy, Michael A	30
GOVT 2306.921	TEXAS GOVERNMENT	TR	9:30AM	10:50AM	MKB-106	Jeffrey, Selena K	30
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING							
HART 1341.231	RESIDENTIAL AIR CONDITIONING LAB	MTWRF	5:00PM	10:30PM	HVAC-3	Flowers, Virgil	30
HART 1341.231	RESIDENTIAL AIR CONDITIONING	MTWRF	5:00PM	10:30PM	HVAC-1	Flowers, Virgil	30
HART 1445.231	GAS AND ELECTRIC HEATING LAB	MTWRF	5:00PM	10:30PM	HVAC-3	Flowers, Virgil	30
HART 1445.231	GAS AND ELECTRIC HEATING	MTWRF	5:00PM	10:30PM	HVAC-1	Flowers, Virgil	30
HART 2436.231	AIR CONDITIONING TROUBLESHOOTING LAB	MTWRF	5:00PM	10:30PM	HVAC-3	Flowers, Virgil	30
HART 2436.231	AIR CONDITIONING TROUBLESHOOTING	MTWRF	8:00AM	5:00PM	HVAC-1	Flowers, Virgil	30
HISTORY							
HIST 1301.221	UNITED STATES HISTORY I	TR	9:30AM	10:50AM	MKB-203	McLatchy, Michael A	30
HIST 1302.231	UNITED STATES HISTORY II	MW	5:30PM	6:50PM	MKB-205	McLatchy, Michael A	30
HIST 2301.221	TEXAS HISTORY	MWF	10:00AM	10:55AM	MKB-203	McLatchy, Michael A	30

PAMPA • SPRING 2013

COURSE ID	COURSE TITLE	DAYS	START	END	LOCATION	INSTRUCTOR	LIMIT
MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY							
HIT 1305.221	MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY	M	1:00PM	3:50PM	MKB-106	Estlack, Russell A	30
OFFICE TECHNOLOGY							
ITSW 1404.221	INTRODUCTION TO EXCEL LAB	MWF	11:00AM	11:55AM	MKB-105	A. DEMINE	30
ITSW 1404.221	INTRODUCTION TO EXCEL	TR	8:00AM	10:55AM	MKB-105	A. DEMINE	30
POFT 1319.221	RECORDS & INFORMATION MANAGEMENT LAB	TR	8:00AM	9:20AM	MKB-105	A. DEMINE	30
POFT 1319.221	RECORDS & INFORMATION MANAGEMENT	MWF	9:00AM	9:55AM	MKB-105	A. DEMINE	30
POFT 1321.221	BUSINESS MATH	MWF	2:00PM	2:55PM	MKB-105	A. DEMINE	30
POFT 2312.221	BUSINESS CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION	MWF	8:00AM	8:55AM	MKB-105	A. DEMINE	30
POFT 2312.221	BUSINESS CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION	MWF	1:00PM	1:55PM	MKB-105	A. DEMINE	30
POFT 2401.221	DOCUMENT FORMATTING AND SKILL BUILDING	TR	9:30AM	10:50AM	MKB-105	A. DEMINE	30
POFT 2401.221	DOCUMENT FORMATTING AND SKILL BUILDING	MWF	2:00PM	2:55PM	MKB-105	A. DEMINE	30
ACNT 1404.221	INTRODUCTION TO ACCOUNTING II	TR	2:00PM	3:30PM	MKB-105	R. Taylor	30
ACNT 1404.231	INTRODUCTION TO ACCOUNTING II LAB	TR	3:30PM	4:50pm	MKB-105	R. Taylor	30
MATHEMATICS							
MATH 0302.221	DEVELOPMENTAL MATHEMATICS II	MW	1:00PM	2:20PM	MKB-102	Vance, Frank W	30
MATH 0303.221	DEVELOPMENTAL MATHEMATICS III	W	7:00PM	9:50PM	MKB-102	Peet, Tony R	30



Exercising outside of the box

Exercise is an essential element of a healthy lifestyle. When coupled with a healthy diet, exercise puts men and women on a path toward optimal health while reducing risk for a host of ailments, some of which can be deadly.

But many people find they simply don't have the time to exercise regularly. Commitments to career and family can be demanding and time-consuming, and exercise is often a casualty of a hectic schedule.

Though getting to the gym every day or even making use of exercise equipment at home on a daily basis may not be feasible, that doesn't mean people still can't find ways to incorporate a little exercise into their daily routines. The following are a few simple ways to fit more exercise into your day no matter how busy you may be.

- Avoid the elevator, and attack the stairs. The elevator may be inviting, but it's also somewhat of an enabler. Instead of taking the elevator up to your office each day, take the stairs, and take them with more gusto than you're used to. Rather than taking one step at a time, take the stairs two by two, lifting your legs high as you scale each pair of steps. This helps build your leg muscles and makes the daily climb up the staircase a little more strenuous.

- Turn TV time into treadmill time. Watching a little television at night is how many people relax and unwind, but it can be a great time to squeeze in some daily exercise as well. Opinions as to what's the best time of day to exercise vary, and no definitive study exists to suggest one time of day is better than another. People who like to relax with a little television time at night should make the most of that time by hitting the treadmill, elliptical machine or exercise bike instead of just plopping down on the couch. Add a television to your home's exercise room or purchase a gym membership where the cardiovascular machines are connected to televisions. You will still get to enjoy your favorite shows while simultaneously getting the benefit of exercise.

- Say "bon voyage" to the conference room. Professionals who spend lots of time in meetings can add a simple twist that incorporates exercise into a typical business meeting. Rather than conducting the meeting in a conference room, propose a walking meeting when possible. A walking meeting is the same as a standard business meeting, but it's conducted on foot outside of the office. Walking meetings can provide some much-needed energy for you and your fellow staff members, who may appreciate the chance to get out from behind their desks and stretch their legs while still getting work done. Take your smartphones or tablets along to jot down

important ideas, just like you would in a more traditional meeting. And make the most of your walk by leaving time for some light stretching before and after the meeting. Chances are you will return to your desk reenergized and glad you found a way to get some exercise despite of a busy schedule.

- Park far away when shopping. It's tempting and almost human nature to hunt for the parking spot closest to the door when shopping at the mall or even the grocery store. But for those who want to include more exercise in their daily routines, parking far away from the entrance to your favorite store is a great way to incorporate more walking into your life. Walking is a simple yet effective cardiovascular

exercise, one that the Mayo Clinic notes can lower your blood pressure and manage your weight while lowering your low-density lipoprotein, which is commonly referred to as "bad" cholesterol. In fact, research has indicated that regular, brisk walking can be just as effective at lowering a person's risk of heart attack as more vigorous exercise, including jogging. When parking far away from the entrance, just make sure you park in a well-lit area where others can easily see or hear you.

Many adults find they simply don't have the time to commit to routine exercise. But there are several simple ways to incorporate exercise into your existing routine without taking time from your already busy day.

Yoga instruction available at PY&CC

Rita Taylor is a Yoga instructor that teaches at the Pampa Youth Center Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:00 – 9:00 am and on Wednesday from 5:15 – 6:15 pm.

The form of Yoga Rita teaches is non-religious. She states that there is a misconception that Yoga is all religion. The Yoga she teaches is moves of Yoga and some palates, which is all based on your core. If you have a good core then your body will be strong! Most people think that Yoga is easy, but it is mostly about control. You have to learn to control your body and your muscles.

The first thing in Yoga class is a warm-up on the floor. Stretching the muscles with soft music in the background and using breathing techniques to relax. The goal is to exercise without pain. The class uses both yoga and palates. Throughout the class Rita is teaching you to use breathing techniques to breath through the Yoga and palates. At the end of the class you have a cool down which is similar to the warm up. Each class you will gain more and more strength.

Rita has 6 years training in Yoga and 10 years training in palates. She holds several different types of Yoga certificates. She follows some of the Yoga history, except she never talks about the spirit. She does talk about breathing but never about your spirit.

Rita has always loved to work out and has worked out with a weight trainer. She also started doing palates. She noticed that her neck and back started hurting and wanted to start teaching people proper technique on working out with getting the neck and back pain so she started teaching at Frank Phillips college 5 days a week doing palates and 2 days a week doing Yoga. Each session was 50 minutes.

During this time Rita found out that she had osteoporosis and after 3 years of Yoga her doctor asked her what she was doing and she said it was Yoga. He told her to continue because it was working.

Rita states the rewarding part of teaching Yoga is there is a 73 year old women in her class that people are in awe over. Those are the stories that are rewarding.



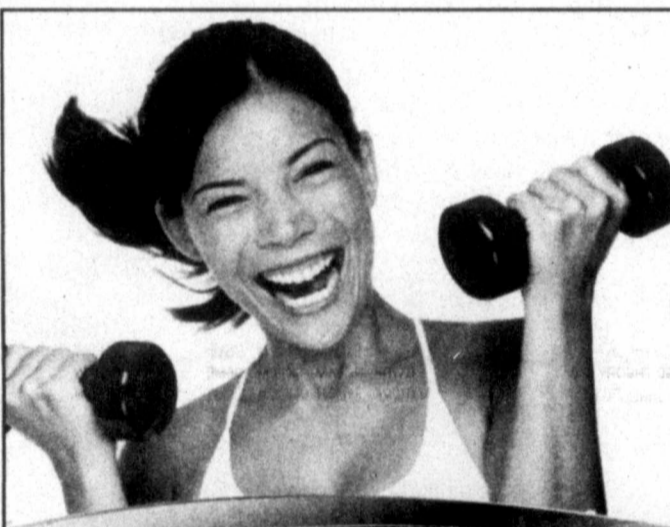
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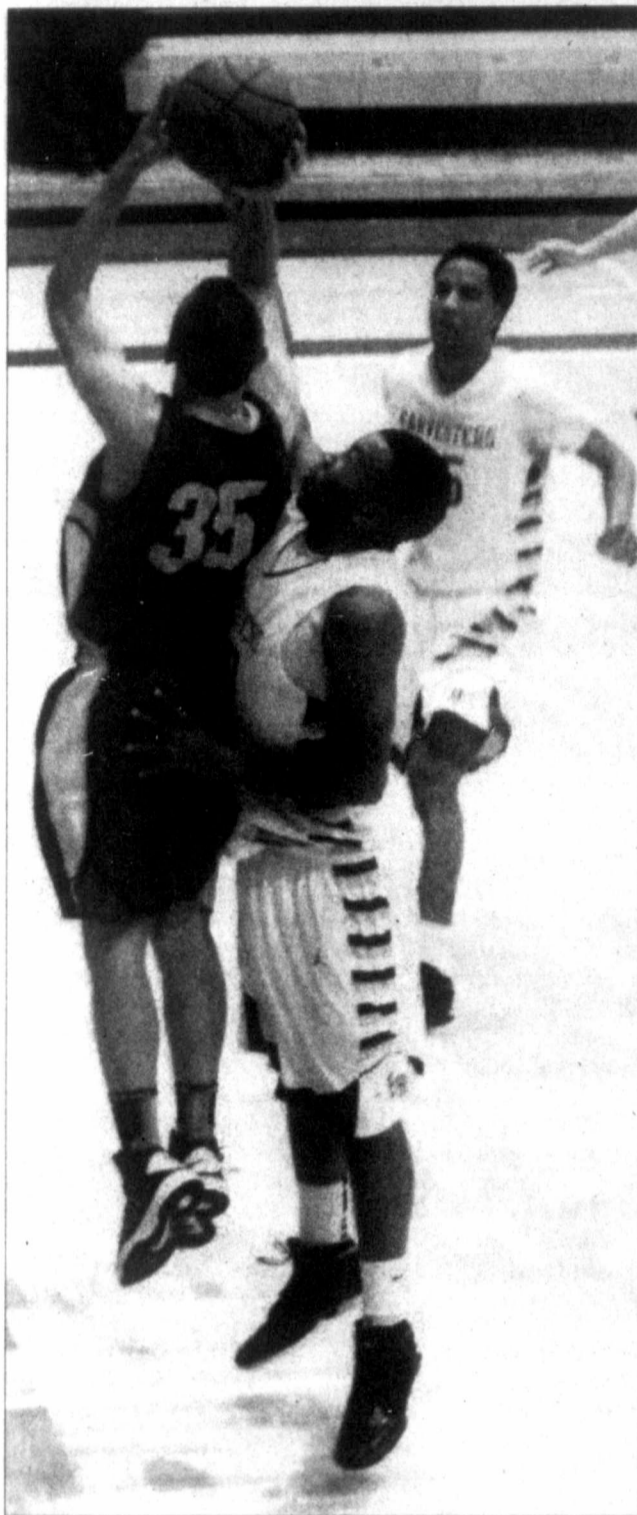
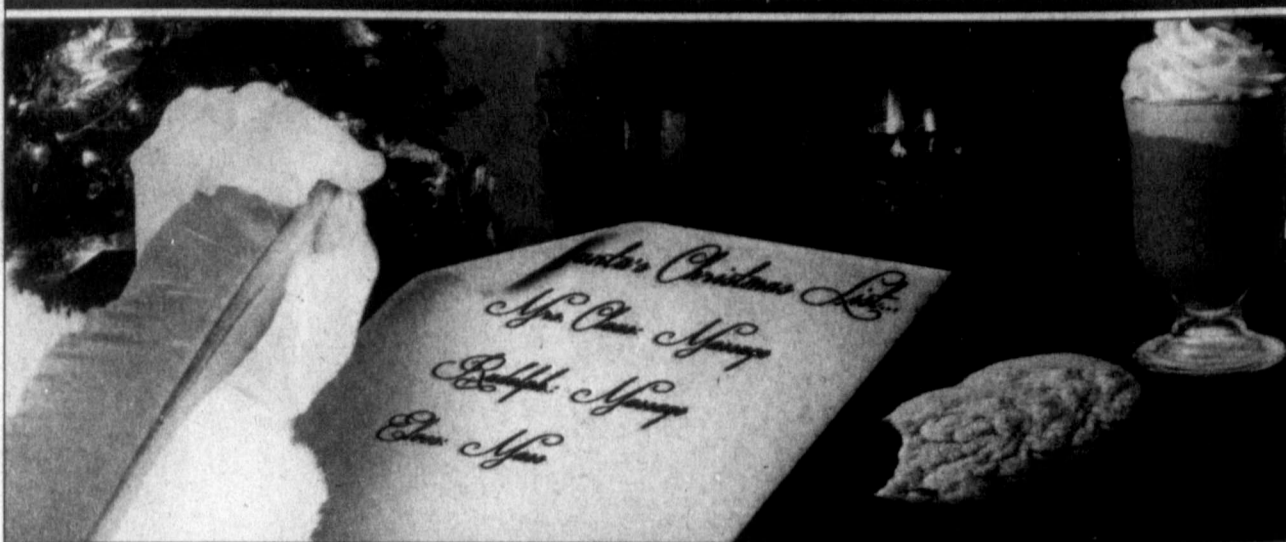


Photo by Charla Shults

STUFFED. Cory Ponce tries to block a shot against Panhandle Tuesday night. In case the Panther got the shot off, Derrek Pollard was going to be ready for the rebound. Ponce finished with 5 points and Pollard finished with 11 points.

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Thank you for being with us throughout 2012.

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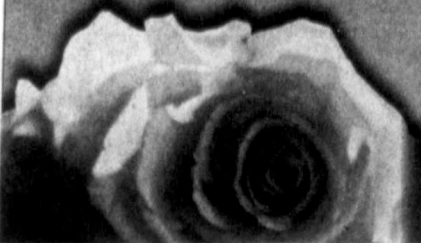
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SING A SONG OF CHRISTMAS



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare

The Pampa High School Show Choir performed Christmas selections Tuesday at the Pampa Chamber of Commerce monthly luncheon. The group was well received by chamber members and guests. They are directed by Fred Mays, not pictured.

Chinese toad in candlestick comes to South Africa

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — It's a real life Mr. Toad's Wild Ride.

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The Star newspaper of South Africa quoted animal expert Brett Glasby in Cape Town saying that workers had to break the candlestick to get the toad out.

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Workers fed the hungry toad worms and crickets after freeing it. The animal is not endangered.

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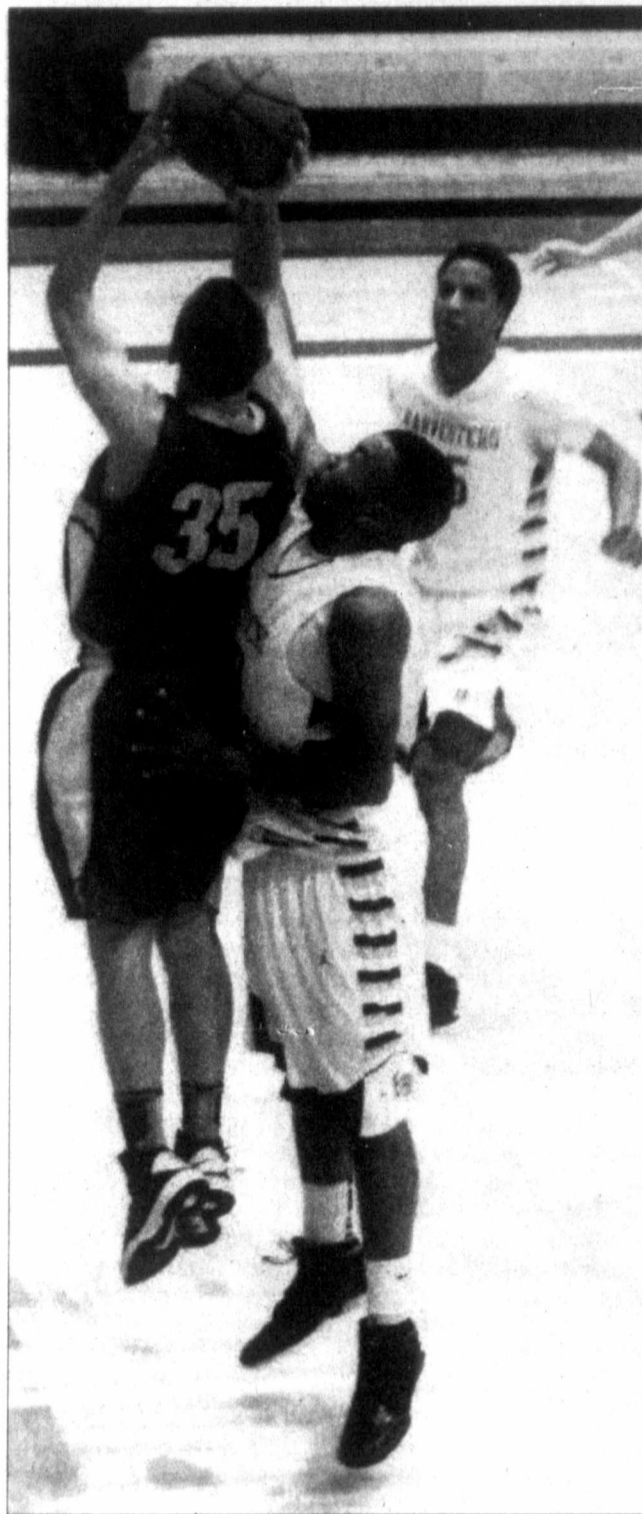
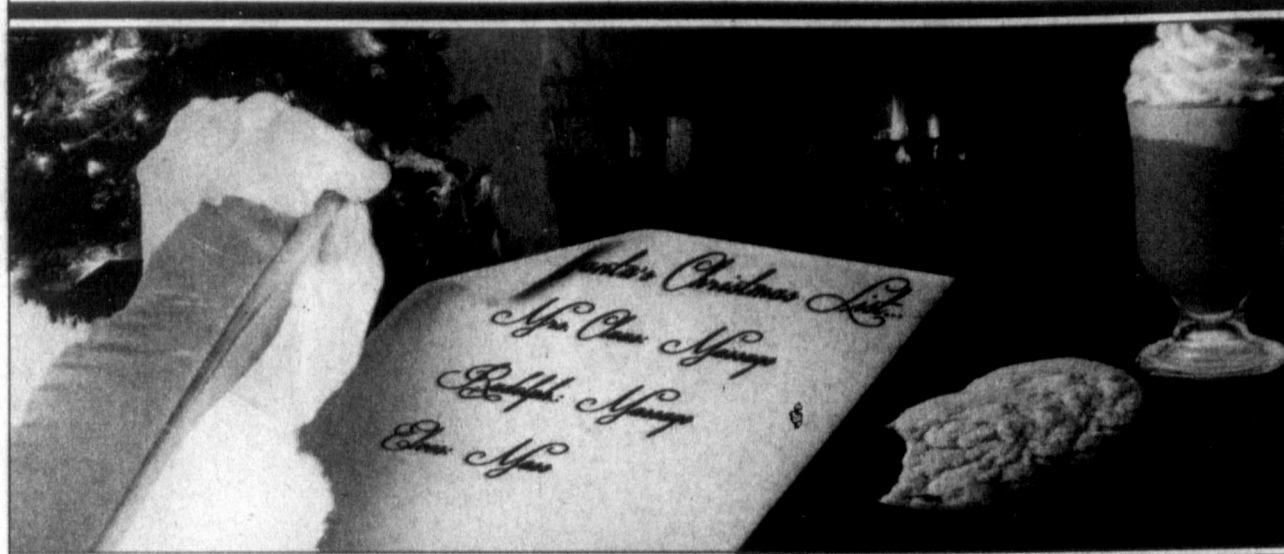


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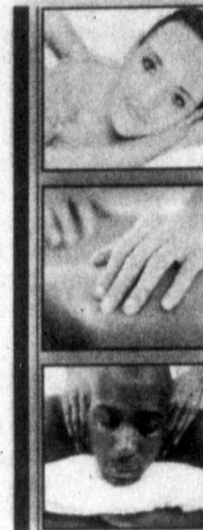
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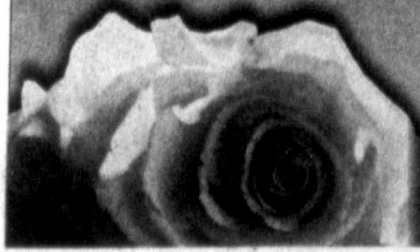
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Year in Review

2012 another record-setter, fits climate forecasts

BY SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — As 2012 began, winter in the U.S. went AWOL. Spring and summer arrived early with wildfires, blistering heat and drought. And fall hit the eastern third of the country with the ferocity of Superstorm Sandy.

This past year's weather was deadly, costly and record-breaking everywhere — but especially in the United States.

If that sounds familiar, it should. The previous year also was one for the record books.

"We've had two years now of some angry events," said Deke Arndt, U.S. National Climatic Data Center monitoring chief. "I'm hoping that 2013 is really boring."

In 2012 many of the warnings scientists have made about global warming went from dry studies in scientific journals to real-life video played before our eyes: Record melting of the ice in the Arctic Ocean. U.S. cities baking at 95 degrees or hotter. Widespread drought. Flooding. Storm surge inundating swaths of New York City.

All of that was predicted years ago by climate scientists and all of that happened in 2012.

"What was predicted was there would be more of these things," said Michel Jarraud, secretary general for the World Meteorological Organization.

Globally, five countries this year set heat records, but none set cold records. 2012 is on track to be the

warmest year on record in the United States. Worldwide, the average through November suggests it will be the eighth warmest since global record-keeping began in 1880.

July was the hottest month in record-keeping U.S. history, averaging 77.6 degrees. Over the year, more than 69,000 local heat records were set — including 356 locations in 34 states that hit their highest-ever temperature mark.

America's heartland lurched from one extreme to the other without stopping at "normal." Historic flooding in 2011 gave way to devastating drought in 2012.

"The normal has changed, I guess," said U.S. National Weather Service acting director Laura Furgione. "The normal is extreme."

While much of the U.S. struggled with drought that conjured memories of the Dust Bowl, parts of Africa, Russia, Pakistan, Colombia, Australia and China dealt with the other extreme: deadly and expensive flooding.

But the most troubling climate development this year was the melting at the top of the world, Jarraud said. Summer sea ice in the Arctic shrank to 18 percent below the previous record low. The normally ice-packed Arctic passages were open to shipping much of the summer, more than ever before, and a giant Russian tanker carrying liquefied natural gas made a delivery that way to prove how valuable this route has become, said Mark Serreze, director of the National Snow and Ice

Data Center.

Also in Greenland, 97 percent of the surface ice sheet had some melting. Changes in the Arctic alter the rest of the world's weather and "melting of the ice means an amplifying of the warming," Jarraud said.

There were other weather extremes no one predicted: A European winter cold snap that killed more than 800 people. A bizarre summer windstorm called a derecho in the U.S. mid-Atlantic that left millions without power. Antarctic sea ice that inched to a record high. More than a foot of post-Thanksgiving rain in the western U.S. Super Typhoon Bopha, which killed hundreds of people in the Philippines and was the southernmost storm of its kind.

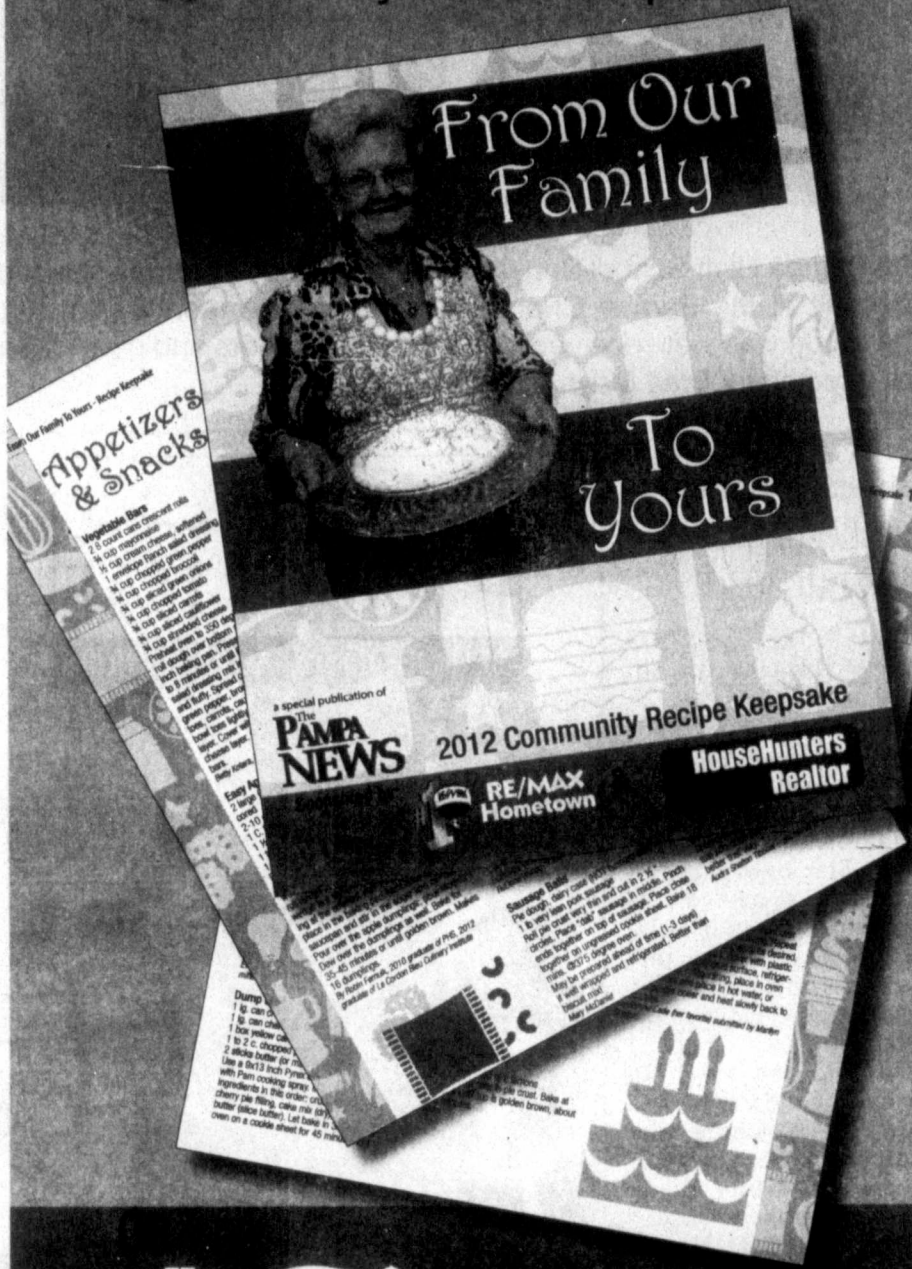
The United States has had "some quiet years while the rest of the world was quite wild," but that's not the case this year, Arndt said. Insurance giant Munich Re in a report this fall concluded: "Nowhere in the world is the rising number of annual natural catastrophes more evident than in North America."

In 2011, the United States set a record with 14 billion-dollar weather disasters. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has a preliminary count of 11 such disasters this year. And NOAA's official climate extreme index, which tallies disasters and rare events like super-hot days, is on pace to set its own record.

Arndt points to the geographic heart of America, the Mississippi River, as emblematic.

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Hayden Ramming

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Parents...
Stacey Ramming

Siblings...
Taylor & Kyler Ramming
Kennidi Aenediwimer



Nash Allen

Born... December 3, 2012



Parents...
Laura & Cullen Allen

Siblings...
Clark (8) & Graham (5)

Grandparents...
Linda & Jay Johnson
Carla & John Allen

Gracyn Rae Garner

Born... December 14, 2012



Parents...
Teryn Garner

Grandparents...
Terry & Melissa Garner

Zaidyn Rodriguez

Born... September 24, 2012



Parents...
Clarissa Anaya &
Rudy Rodriguez

Grandparents...
Hope Quiones
Lorie Perez
Jose Anaya

Keagan Don Hooper

Born... April 5, 2012



Parents...
Tyler Hooper &
Elizabeth Harris
Grandparents...
Don & Janie Ford
Donny & Gail Hooper
Larry & Karon Ely
Great Grandparents...
Colleen Hooper
Ricki Baker
Lucille Ketchum

Kason Kole Seideman

Born... July 2, 2012



Parents...
Jeremy & Ashleigh
Seideman

Siblings...
Brenna & Reese
Seideman

Grandparents...
Steve & Paula Smith

Colton Lee Bias

Born... May 21, 2012



Parents...
Tobie & Cindy Bias

Siblings...
Rowdie, Lexxa, &
Addison Bias

Grandparents...
Eddie & Mittie Bias
Dan & Zonell Hobbs

Evie Stowers

Born... July 7, 2012



Parents...
Sean & Danielle Stowers

Grandparents...
Richard & Janet Stowers

Great Grandparents...
Dick & Dot Stowers

Kellen Johnston

Born... January 7, 2012



Parents...
Shalyn & Brandon
Johnston

Siblings...
Cameron

Grandparents...
Terry & Mellisa Garner
John & Sheri Worthington

Dayton Taylor Lee

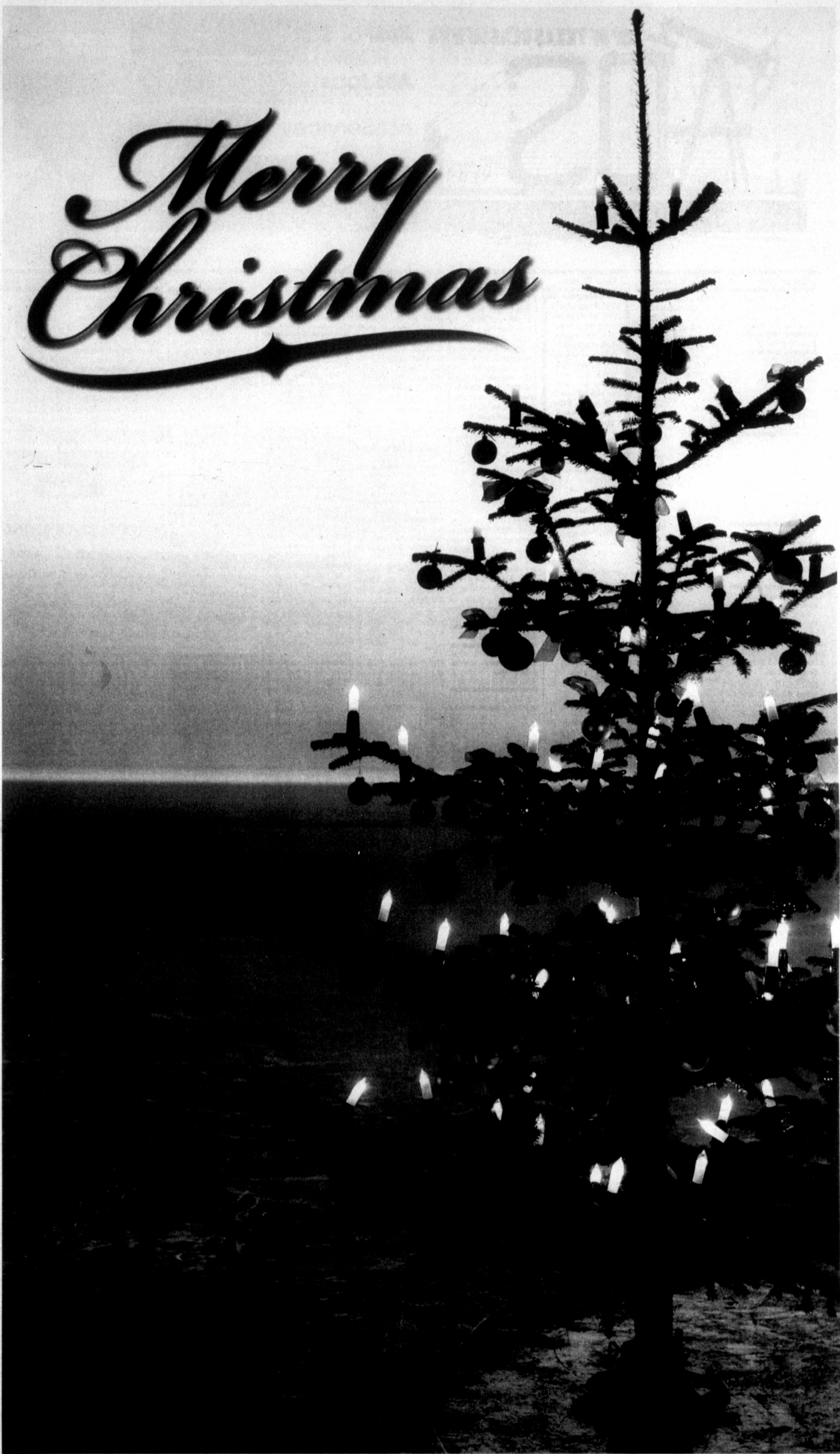
Born... January 25, 2012



Parents...
Christopher & April Lee

Siblings...
Nathan, Elijah, Sierra,
& Serenity

Merry Christmas



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2 Happy Ads

HAPPY Birthday Grandpa!
Love Hannah, Jacob, Caelb & Leo Phelps!!!

10 Lost/Found

FOUND male Dapple Weenie dog, 2-3 years old, one blue/one brown eye. Free to a good home WITHOUT children. 806-283-0186

14d Carpentry

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

CUSTOM Building & Remodeling. New or Additions. Shawn Deaver Const., 662-2977.

14e Carpet Serv.

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

14h Gen. Serv.

CERAMIC tile work, stucco, cement. Remodeling, floor, shower, kitchen. Texture, painting, dry wall. Free est. **New# 440-0239** lv msg. **Jesus Barraza.**

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

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

OGLE Fence Co. Free Estimates Repair & New Const. 665-1712

14s Plumbing

JACK'S Plumbing 715 W. Foster 665-7115

14w Air Cond/Heat

BROWNING'S Heating & Air and Refrigeration Specialists since 1964!! 665-1212.

21 Help Wanted

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

Schwan's Home Service, Inc. is NOW HIRING Route Sales Reps. \$575 per week to start. Full benefit pkg. No CDL req. No exp. necessary. Apply at www.schwansjobs.com to Job Number 11004091. EOE.

SAFETY Trainer. Safety background w/training experience and computer skills helpful. Bi-lingual a plus, some travel. Send resume to: P.O. Box 1172, Pampa, Tx.

PAMPA Country Club taking app. for experienced Line Cook. Drug free work environment. Apply in person. **No Phone Calls.**

NURSERY Area Workers needed for Sun mornings, Wed evenings & Special Events. Call 665-3255 to apply or come by Trinity Fellowship, 2225 N. Hobart, Pampa, TX

EXPERIENCED sales person needed. Must enjoy people, be self motivated and work well under pressure. You would be joining a family oriented staff and fun environment. Must have own vehicle to travel within a 30 mile radius. Work days are Monday thru Friday. Salary plus commission. Paid sick and vacation after one year, insurance is available. Only serious applicants wanting a career in sales need to apply. Mail resume to Drawer number 30 C/o The Pampa News P.O. Box 2198, Pampa Tx 79065

RHEAMS DIAMOND SHOP, looking for Sales Person for Saturdays starting after the first of the year. Apply in person, 111 N. Cuyler.

21 Help Wanted

EAMH has openings for cook, housekeeper and nurse aides. Benefits include health & life insurance, paid vacations & holidays. Apply in person at 803 Birch, Canadian or call 806-323-6453.

NEED Office Mgr with good bookkeeping, computer & public relation experience. Micro soft Office and Quick books a plus. Must also have good organizational skills. Competitive salary, paid vacation & benefits avail. Email resume & references to fpctx@clearwire.net

HELP Wanted, Need Servers, Must be 18. Catering & Kitchen help. Must have a valid driver's license. Apply in person between 11-2 at Dyers BBQ.

Crude oil drivers needed to haul crude from Wheeler to Borger. Average \$320 day, call Scott at 580-236-5358. Hazmat & Tanker endorsement req.

EDWARD Abraham Memorial Home is taking applications for the position of Dietary Manager. Certification and experience is a plus. We offer competitive salary and benefits. Email resume to nancy.lister@eamemorialhome.org, call (806)323-6453 or apply in person at 803 Birch, Canadian.

FULL-TIME Manager needed at the Pampa Country Club. Restaurant or Kitchen Mgmt. exp. a plus. Apply in person at the Pampa Country Club.

21 Help Wanted

THE Pampa News is hiring an advertising representative. The candidate must enjoy talking to people and be self motivated, work well under pressure and able to handle sales goals. Sales Experience is a plus. Base plus commission. Benefits available. Please mail or bring your resume and references to: The Pampa News, POB 2198, 403 W. Atchison Pampa tx 79065.

Pampa Independent School District is accepting applications for a FT Infant/Toddler Caregiver at Bright Beginnings Daycare. Applications can be submitted online at www.pampaisd.net. Contact 669-4700, ext. 45 with any questions. EEOC Employer

FULL-TIME TELLER Amarillo Community FCU Seeking candidates with cash handling or banking experience, bi-lingual required. Apply in person at, ACFCU 900 N. Hobart Pampa, TX by Fax (806)331-2088 or by email: ccasto@acfcu.org

Cashier Wanted. Apply in person at 1201 N. Hobart, Hoagies Deli. 8888

21 Help Wanted

Drivers: Field Services Driver Needed: Borger area. Excellent Pay = More \$\$\$\$ 401K, Paid Vacation, Sick Days, Holidays, Late Model Equipment. Requirements: Class A CDL w/ Tanker & Hazmat Endorsements 2 yrs recent verifiable. Tractor Trailer Exp. Good Driving Record. Must be able to pass DOT physical. Call 918-804-5928

SEEKING office assistant, must be a self-starter. Duties will include receptionist, file clerk, mail clerk, employee time management and some human resources support, familiar with Microsoft Office Programs, and any other duties necessary. Rail Road Commission knowledge a plus. Email resume to: mluxem@transcostal.net or fax to (972) 818-0718.

60 Household

DOUBLE oven cook stove, dressers, chests, coffee tables, tables, & what not. 662-7557

69 Misc.

NEW Mattresses. Qu Set \$246. Full \$236. Tw \$200. Red Barn, 1424 S. Barnes 665-2767

RIC Firewood- Locust \$170, Oak \$175, mesquite \$185, delivery avail., 669-9532, 664-1900, lv. mess.

FOR Sale: 2 Side by side Cemetery plots at Memory Garden. Sec. E, Lot 62 Call 806-435-8888

69 Misc.

WHEAT Hay-75 love grass-65 fertilized, irrigated & net wrapped delivery avail., lv. mess. 669-9532, 664-1900.

GREAT 4 Christmas! 2 Small matching Sofas, white vinyl. Looks like new! Call 806-664-6172 or 80-664-6173

COTTONWOOD for sale \$150 per cord, cut to any size you want. Will deliver. Call 202-9322

77 Livest/Equip.

BUTCHER HOGS FEEDER PIG 669-3639 after 5pm

80 Pets & Suppl.

FREE 3/4 Pitbull mix, 4 male, 2 female. On the corner of Schneider & Crawford.

VERY calm & loving Terrier/Lab mix, FREE to a good home. 806-577-6623.

5 yr old female Weimaraner good with other dogs! FREE to a good home. 806-662-0907

FREE to a good home! Black/white Terrier mix puppy. 421 E. Browning or call 665-0122

FREE to a good home, Mixed, medium size dog, female, spayed, great with kids, needs room to run! Call 662-2620

SWEET cute kittens to give away to a good home. 806-335-6283 or 806-665-6949.

89 Wanted To Buy

NEED Money Now? We Buy & Sell Houses & pay Top \$\$ Call today!! 665-1875

95 Furn. Apts.

All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." State law also forbids discrimination based on these factors. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

HOMES & APTS. 1 and 2 bdr. Largest sq. footage in Pampa. Great Value! 665-1875

LRG 1 bdr. apts. w/ appli, are in walking distance to things you need. 665-4274, 663-2579

MINUTES from downtown-efficiencies. Short term leases avail. 806-665-4274, 663-2579.

PAM APTS 1 Bdrm. Apts. Only 2 persons maximum. Income based rent. 1200 N. Wells 669-2594

SCHNEIDER Apartments. Call for special rates. Short term lease. Business people welcome. 665-0415

96 Unfurn. Apts.

APT'S. Houses Duplexes. K&B Properties. Ref. & dep. req. Lakeview Apts. 669-4386

96 Unfurn. Apts.

BentCreek Apartments Lovely 2 & 3 Bdr. Apts *All Single Story Units *Electric Range *Frost-Free Refrigerator *Blinds & Carpet *Washer / Dryer Conn. *Central Heat / Air *Walk-in Closets *Exterior Storage *Front Porches HUD Accepted 1400 W. Somerville Pampa, TX 806-665-3292

HOMES & APTS. 1 and 2 bdr. Largest sq. footage in Pampa. Great Value! 665-1875

LRG 1 bdr. apts. w/ appli, are in walking distance to things you need. 665-4274, 663-2579

MINUTES from downtown-efficiencies. Short term leases avail. 806-665-4274, 663-2579.

PAM APTS 1 Bdrm. Apts. Only 2 persons maximum. Income based rent. 1200 N. Wells 669-2594

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96 Unfurn. Apts.

Walking distance from things you need large 1 bdr. apts & duplexes w/appli. & efficiencies. 665-4274, 665-1875

97 Furn. Houses

3BD/IBATH, new paint, very clean, stove & ref included. \$650/mo. 1120 Williston. Call 664-2052.

98 Unfurn. Houses

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

3BEDROOM, 1 bathroom, 1 car garage at 1133 Juniper, \$595 per month. Call 806-664-2052

3 br, garage & carport, patio, dish washer, range, ref, c h/a, storage building in yd. 440-3044 or 665-4180.

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To apply in person stop by: 1101 North Dumas Ave. DUMAS, TX 79029 or visit us @ www.mjpe.com Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm EOE

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MAGNIFICENT ESTATE
Classic two story Italian architecture located on 112 acres of rolling terrain. A great home in which to entertain and to enjoy. Marble floors, sunken den, formal dining room, entertainment center in basement. Master suites. Additional cottages in back plus barn. Call Lilith for additional information. OE

COUNTRY LIVING AT ITS FINEST
3 bedroom brick, 2 full baths- 1 remodeled, fireplace in living room., New roof & chain link fence. Lots of amenities. Huge workshop with 14' overhead door, wired for 220. Super condition. Call Irvine to see. 9547

WALNUT CREEK HOME
Interior has elegance galore. Fabulous scenic vies from patio and balcony. Call Lilith to see. 9571

GREAT FLOOR PLAN
3 bedroom brick, 1 3/4, 1/2 baths, fireplace in large den, living room, dining room. Half bath in utility. Sit on the covered patio and enjoy the view. Great neighborhood. Call Lilith for apt. OE

NICE LOCATION
3 bedroom on corner lot, 3 bedroom home features open floor plan and plenty of storage. Fenced backyard and covered patio. Call Lilith to see. 9519

EXCELLENT INVESTMENT
Tumbleweed acres mobile home park on Kentucky Street. Utilities in good condition. Paved streets, curbs and gutters. Community storm shelter. Call Irvine. OE

Bobbie Nisbet BKR 662-8118
Irvine Riphahn GRI 665-4534
Chris Moore GRI 665-8172
Lilith Brainard 898-0247

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

12-22 CRYPTOQUOTE

T D H D H X D T, L P W Z T L A K H E A
L A M ' K P S F M B L M N S F T
Z D E T K, N S F U S M ' K P L M B L K
F M B D T K Z D K T D D. — W Z E T C S K K D

W E T V D M K D T
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: EVERY PERSON IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL THE GOOD WITHIN THE SCOPE OF HIS ABILITIES, AND FOR NO MORE. — GAIL HAMILTON

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1020 E Fisher St

MLS# 12-9553
LOOKING For A Great Starter? Nice older, established neighborhood? Here it is a 2 bedroom could be 3, 1 bath, 2 spacious living areas. This could be it. Take a look today.

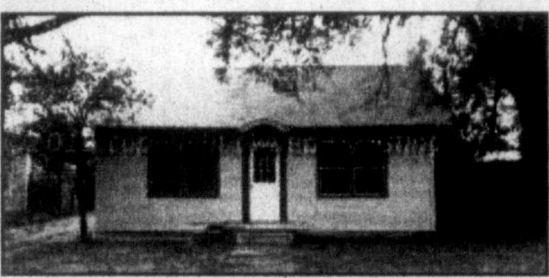
720 N Main, McLean

MLS# 12-9415
 Looking for a Smaller, friendly community just 30 minutes from Pampa and Amarillo? This 3 bedroom 1.75 bath home, located on a nice corner lot with shade trees, Permalite, sided eaves, oversize 2 car detached garage, and a basement with a smaller safe room attached-THIS IS A MUST SEE.



1112 E Francis

MLS# 12-9528
OWNER Has textured and painted entire inside of this home. It is a 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 living area, spacious kitchen, utility room off of Kitchen-attached to one bedroom is another room with closet-could be playroom, office, use for large closet and dressing area-Quiet neighborhood with New Roof-Makes a great investment or starter home-COME CHECK THIS ONE OUT



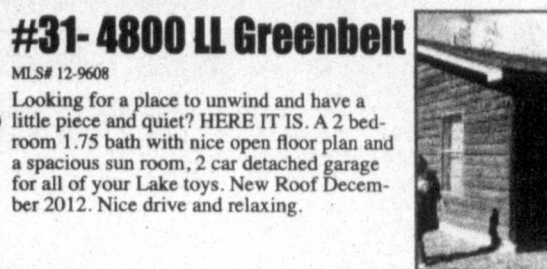
1044 W Crane St

MLS# 12-9446
 A Great 3 bedroom, 1.75 bath, fireplace in Family Room. Newer built in cook top, dishwasher which are stainless steel, newer disposal. The heating and air is 2 years old, roof 2 1/2, carpet is 3 years, new gas lines and water lines and located on a CORNER LOT. This home has it all and is close to Travis School, shopping and restaurants. Check this one out today



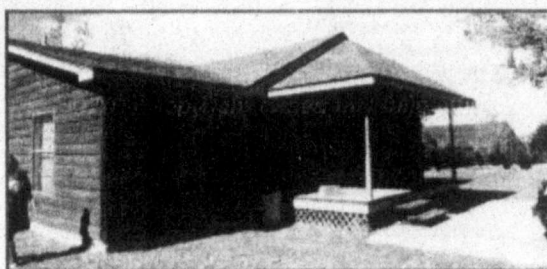
1940 N Faulkner St

MLS# 12-9600
 Looking for An Unique home in established neighborhood? This home has 2 Bedrooms (1 has Bay window and oversize closet, a Bonus Room above converted garage could be 3rd Bedroom, storm Cellar with access from inside of home, 2 living areas, 1 bath and a large entrance area from Carport with a ramp-Come and Check This One Out Today



#31- 4800 LL Greenbelt

MLS# 12-9608
 Looking for a place to unwind and have a little piece and quiet? HERE IT IS. A 2 bedroom 1.75 bath with nice open floor plan and a spacious sun room, 2 car detached garage for all of your Lake toys. New Roof December 2012. Nice drive and relaxing.

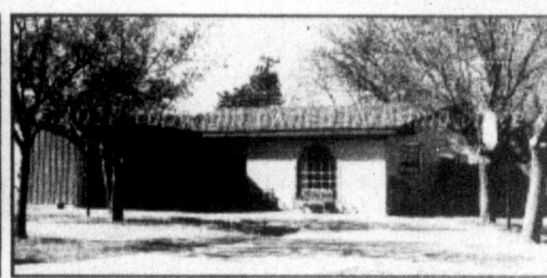
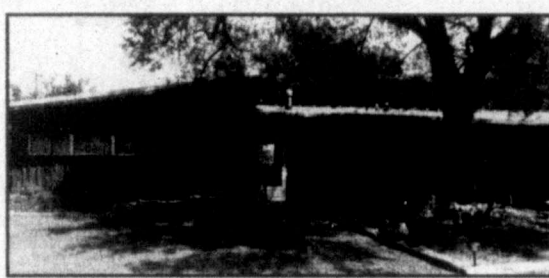


1813 Grape St

MLS# 12-9294
 Looking for a nice neighborhood, Austin School District? This home is a 3 bedroom, 1.75 bath, enclosed patio, nice family room with a fenced backyard. Look at this one Today and make it your next home.

2236 N Charles St

MLS# 12-9510
 A VERY Unique home with a view of the Spacious backyard from 3 different glass interior angles, the kitchen/dining, hall and den area. This home has a Double Brick Fireplace-kitchen/dining and also Den side. Has 3 bedroom, full bath in master, jack & jill with the middle 2 bedrooms and full bath in mother-in-law quarters-CORNER LOT-All calling your name-COME CHECK IT OUT

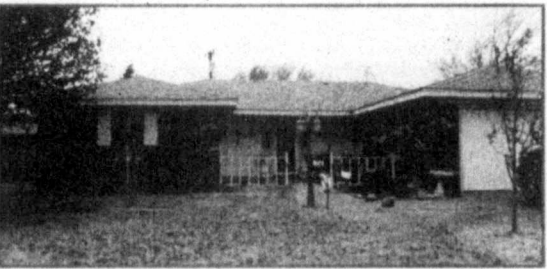


1924 Lynn St

MLS# 12-9582
LOOKING for a Floor Plan that is Family Friendly? This 3 bedroom, 1.75 bath, updated Kitchen with Dining area, Family Room, Library and a Sun Room has the square footage for a growing family. Has a Hot Tub to relax in after a long day. Located in an established neighborhood.

1801 Lynn St

MLS# 12-9583
 Looking for a 4 bedroom 2 bath home, corner lot, brick with many Updates, in a nice neighborhood? Wood Burning Fireplace in the Living Area, Utility Room off Kitchen? Screened in Patio? Well this could be the one for you and just in time for the Holiday Season. Look today and make it yours tomorrow

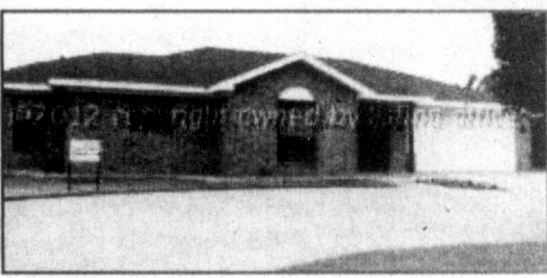


2313 Dogwood Ln

MLS# 12-9468
 Spacious home with 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2 car garage, brick, covered eaves for easy maintenance, 2 living areas, large kitchen with nice breakfast nook with built-in china cabinets, circle drive, storage building and single garage with alley entrance, covered patio-Come take a look for yourself and make it your next home.

220 W Wichita St

MLS# 12-9606
 Looking for a Nice Community to Raise your Family, Retire or just plain Relax and Enjoy? Miami is it. This spectacular, 2 Story, 4 Bedroom, 1.75 bath, Nice Living Room and with Fireplace from Fort Elliott, separate Dining room, Spacious enough for any and all China's, Beautiful and Large Kitchen with Spanish Marble and Tile. Has Nice Bedroom down stairs with full bath and utility.

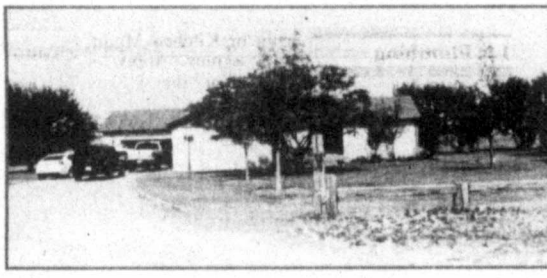


8667 Co Rd 5

MLS# 12-9568
 Country Living with Room and Amenities TOO! This 3 bedroom 1 bath brick home with newer paint, texture and flooring. Living Area has wood burning fireplace, kitchen is open. This 8 acre property also has a 4 Room, open kitchen and living area guest home, rental or mother-in-law quarters. The detached 30 x 60 shop/garage has 3 overhead doors as well as 2 walk-in doors. We have 2 water wells.

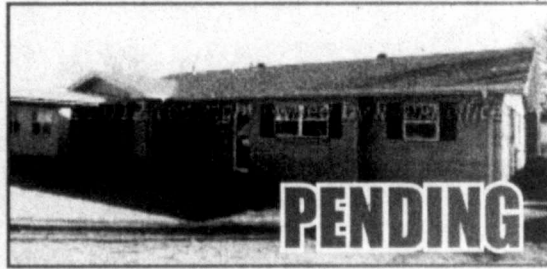
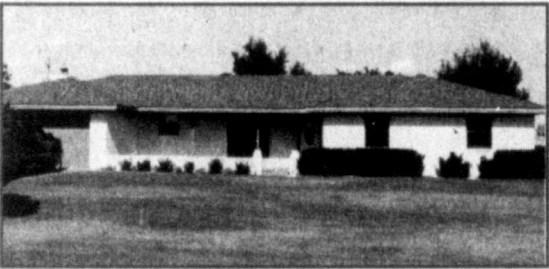
8618 Co Rd 4

MLS# 12-9490
 2 Miles From Pampa, Middle of Countryside, situated on 5 Acres, lots of trees with their own drip system is a nice 3 bedroom, isolated master, 2 full bath and a very user friendly floor plan. Updates include newer windows, flooring, paint, plumbing to the (2) septic and new mechanisms for the propane and last but not least, you will need to look for yourself, a storm cellar. Take a short drive



8640 Keller Estates

MLS# 12-9499
LOOKING FOR A Place in the Country but not far from Town? Close to Shopping, Hospital and Schools? HERE IT IS. A Beautiful 3 bedroom 2.5 bath 2 car garage brick home on over 1 acre. Interior is all New texture, paint and flooring. This home features an Open Floor Plan, 2 Fireplaces, 2 Living Areas, Granite counter top in Kitchen Sun Room, Patio, Lots of Trees



804 N Wells

MLS# 12-9605
 Cute 3 Bedroom, Large 3/4 Bath home with an Attached Carport, 3 Storage Buildings, Patio and Storm Cellar in Backyard

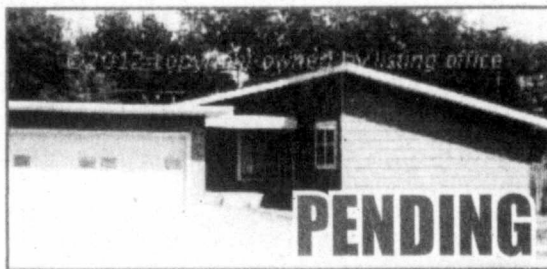


149 E Ocla, Borger

MLS# 12-9557
 Nice 3 bedroom 2 bath home in the Fairlanes-All Brick, metal roof and sided eaves for easy care-Updated kitchen with appliances

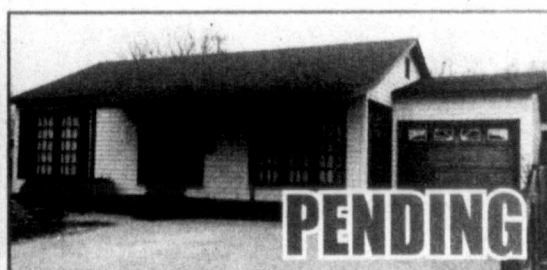
2200 N Duncan

MLS# 12-9488
 Looking for a 4 bedroom home, 2 Living Areas, close to Austin Elementary with a 2 Car Attached Garage and a Yard with plenty of room to Play? Well look at this home and make it your next one.



1540 Coffee St

MLS# 12-9603
CORNER Lot, 2 Car Detached Garage, Large Back Yard with 2 Storage Buildings and we haven't Even Started on the Home Yet. This Home Features 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, Spacious Living Room, separate Dining Area, Kitchen with plentiful cabinets and Breakfast area, Master is Isolated, Did I Mention another Room for Office or Den?



1309 Starkweather

MLS# 12-9295
THIS HOME has a beautiful updated spacious kitchen, tile floors, dining area, Den with a wood burning fireplace-open floor plan, 3 nice bedrooms with double and walk-in closets, full master bath and a nice .75 with a corner shower. The home is sided for easy care. Included is an above ground pool and hot tub. CALL TODAY TO VIEW THIS HOME.

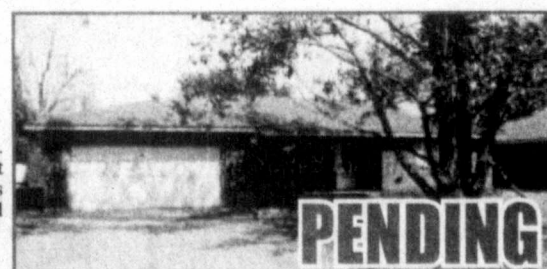


2244 N Christine

MLS# 12-9303
HERE is an extremely maintained and updated home. 4 bedroom with .75 bath, open kitchen, dining and living room-Could turn 4th bedroom into office/den/playroom-MANY Possibilities. All brick home with sided eaves, newer fence, 2 car detached garage side entrance, storage building, located on corner lot with circle drive.

1109 Clyde St

MLS# 12-9516
AMARILLO, TX-Updated in Country Club/ Avondale. Fresh paint, flooring, Kitchen Counter top, range, oven and many other misc. Updates make this home move-in ready. Great open floor plan featuring 4 spacious bedrooms and 2.5 baths, 2 living areas, open kitchen and basement to boot. Bring your last buyers and make this your last stop.



2125 N Chestnut Dr

MLS# 12-9572
 Nice Updated Home with 3 Bedrooms, 1.75 Baths and 2 living Areas, hardwood floors in dining area, nice backyard with children's fort, 10' x 10' storm cellar and 2 patio areas. A very nice open kitchen with bar area and large pantry. Take a look Today!!!



1929 Lynn St

MLS# 12-9395
 This home is calling your name. Extremely nice 3 bedroom, 1.75 bath, spacious open floor plan with a fireplace in the Living Area, updated Kitchen with granite counter tops and gorgeous back splash, tastefully textured and painted. Come Take a Look and Make it your next HOME.

HouseHunters Realtor

	Larry Hadley Associate (806) 662-2779 www.househunterspampa.com		Jordan O'Neal Associate (806) 670-6623 www.househunterspampa.com		Tisha Holman Associate (806) 440-4153 www.househunterspampa.com		Linda Laycock Broker BROKER*, ABR, GREEN, SRES, e-Pro (806) 662-1312 www.househunterspampa.com
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98 Unfurn. Houses

3 bd \$625. 4 bd, carpet & storage building new flooring. Austin school district \$850. Call 806-881-9798

4 br/2 ba/garage, c h/a, 1801 N. Nelson 2 bd, c h/a, 637 N. Dwight. References Req. 806-440-1969

701 E. 15th, 3/1, fireplace, c h/a, 2 living areas. \$750 per mo. Owner/Agent Jan Phillips. 469-647-8552.

102 Bus. Rental

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

OFFICE Space for rent, ask about 3 months free rent. 669-6841.

BUILDING for Rent

119 Western Pampa, TX. Commercial building on 4 acres for rent. 7,180 sq ft shop, 1,125 sq ft finished office space, 1,125 finished apartment space, with another 1,200 sq ft detached shop. Please contact Bryan @ 806-663-1969

103 Homes For Sale

408 W. HARVESTER 3/1/1, 1064 s/f, new ch/a, new paint, flooring, cabinets, \$62,997 1531 Faulkner 3/1/1, completely updated, \$69,997. NO OWNER FINANCING, 806-665-0995

COZY Family home 3+2, w/upgrades, 1 car, workshop, fenced. Worth a look \$59,888. 665-0544 or 440-9100

GREAT 4 br/1.75 bath, 2429 Mary Ellen! 2292 sq ft.

Call Christy Parker 806-898-8542
Quentin-Williams REALTORS

OWNER will finance, 501 Doucette. Priced Reduced, Corner lot, 2 bdr, 1 ba, fenced backyard 665-4595 Trustar RE

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

VERY Clean 3 BR, Brick 2 BA. Recently Remodeled. Lg. back yard. Patio. 1773 SF, 560 SF gar. Austin Sch. \$135,000. 665-5258 or 665-6815 for appt.

106 Coml. Property

RETAILS and garage space. Centrally located. Great value. 665-1875 or 881-8518

114 Recre. Veh.

1986 Interbox 33 foot Toy Hauler All Steel, Wench, Auto Jack, Tie Downs, Cabinets, 3 new tires, 3 axle.

Call 580-649-8373 to see Reduced!!!!

Priced For Quick Sale

2011 26' Outpost Idle Time Pull-Type Trailer. Adjustable Sway Control, TV, Vent Fan, Electric Jack, Sleeps 6, A/C, Awning, \$14,000. Call 669-9979

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**12 ft + Slide-Out

**Microwave

**Central Heat

**3 Tanks

**Awning

**New Tires

**Equalizer Hitch \$10,950 806-376-8306

115 Trailer Parks

TUMBLEWEED Acres, Storm Shelters, fenced, stor. bldg. avail. 665-0079, 886-2230

120 Autos

TRY M&S Auto for all your auto needs call Ray or Thomas 120 N. Gray, 669-6990

2002 Z71 SUBURBAN White

Nice Tan Leather Interior Sunroof Good Tires 242,000 mi. \$5000

Call 806-255-0433

120 Autos

FOR Sale 2009 GMC Yukon Denali, 4 wd, 64K miles, leather int., bucket seats w/3rd row seat, ent. system, sunroof, excellent condition! \$35,000 OBO. Call 663-0454.

2004 Monte Carlo SS. 31,000 Miles. White. Loaded. \$12,500. 669-3001

FOR Sale 1987 Ford Econoline, good work van \$1,500 OBO. Call 665-2880.

1992 Buick Roadmaster, 4D Sedan, Clean, in good condition inside and out, Runs well. \$3200. 806-665-4180, 440-3044.

FOR SALE: 1998 Ford Crown Victoria, 100,000 miles, runs good. \$2,400 OBO Call 806-664-1046

121 Trucks

2002 Chevy Silverado Single cab, orange metallic. Boss rims. 5.3 V-8. Only 86,000 miles. Asking NADA \$8500 806-662-4909

2011 Dodge Ram Pickup, crew cab, 42,000 miles. \$24,000. call 440-2535

'91 GMC Suburban, new tires, new battery, new windshield, well maintained, asking \$1,500. Please call 806-665-0899.

122 Motorcycles

2005 Yamaha Royal Star with trike kit, 10,000 miles, black with silver, back rest & windshield. Mint condition. Asking \$9,000. Call 662-3497

2000 Honda Valkyrie Interstate has: Faring Hard Bags Red & Black In Excellent Condition! \$7500 806-662-4909

2007 HARLEY SPORSTER 1200 4900 Miles White Gold Pearl Excellent Shape!! \$7500 Call 663-6317

2005 EXTIOX CYCLE VISION Replica of Easy Rider 6 spd 124cc S&S

Lots of Chrome \$11,500 OBO 806-662-1985

2002 Harley Davidson V-Rod Collector's Edition, silver w/all chrome accessories. Mint condition, 4,000 miles. \$24,000 new, selling for \$14,000. 806-440-1347.

Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning and Zoning Commission of the City of Pampa will conduct a Public Hearing at 5:00 p.m. on January 7, 2013 at City Hall, 200 W. Foster, Pampa, Texas on the 3rd floor in the City Commission Chambers. This will be a public hearing for the purpose of receiving public comments concerning the following request:

Robert Forester requests to replat Block 3, Boyd Annex Addition. Also, requests to rezone the following described property from Agricultural to Commercial: Lots 8-14, Block 3, Boyd Annex Addition. The applicant proposes to establish a recreational vehicle park. The Public is encouraged to attend this hearing. Public comments on the proposed revisions are welcome and will be heard. D-37 December 22, 29, 2012

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1824 Beech
Home located in good location. Needs some updating. Has two living areas, woodburning fireplace, three bedrooms, 1.75 baths. Large utility room and storage building. Call Roberta Babb - 665-6158.



112 N. Sumner
Wonderful home with storm cellar and security system. Lots of storage. New carpet, new microwave & oven, office, sunroom, two full baths, bedrooms have good closets. New plumbing in bathrooms. Kitchen has wonderful storage space & counter space, has breakfast bar. Call Mike Keagy - 665-1449.



1701 Evergreen
Spanish style home with 3 bedrooms. Double detached garage with breezeway to home. Two living areas, both have fireplaces, wonderful kitchen with recent updating, new tile flooring, cabinets, counter tops and lighting. Dining room has doors opening to the court yard. Call Roberta Babb - 665-6158.

Keagy-Edwards, Inc.
Quentin Williams REALTORS

JUDI EDWARDS GRI, CRS
BROKER-OWNER 665-3687
MARILYN KEAGY GRI, CRS
BROKER-OWNER 665-1449

- Becky Baten 669-2214
- Heldi Chronister 665-6388
- Darrel Schorn 669-6284
- Rod Donaldson 665-2800
- Roberta Babb 665-6158
- Joan Mabry 669-3201
- Sandra Bronner 665-4218
- Maxine Watson 662-9052
- Christy Parker 898-8542

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3997A
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VALUE PRICED \$24,998

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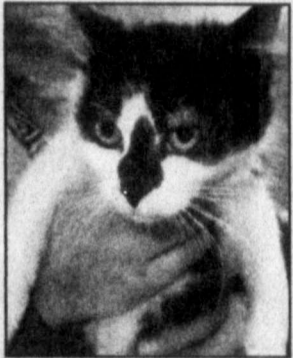
"Nicholas"
Dachshund Male, good disposition #5667



"Jack"
DMH Kitten #6227



"Holly"
Lab Female, 9 weeks #6491



"Frost"
DLH Kitten Female #6497



"Jingle"
Dane/Lab puppy Female #6862



"Winter"
Torti Kitten Female #6490

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"Noel"
FOSTER - Terrier Mix Male #6856



"Eve"
Terrier Puppy Female #6879



"North"
Chi Male, Happy #6219

For more info about these pets or for any other questions, call 806-669-5775.

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for all the joy you've brought us this past year!*



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Cell 662-9021

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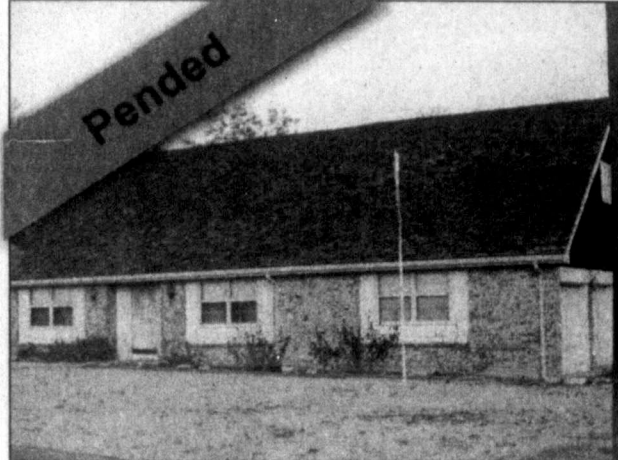
1101 Christine St

Unique back yard with fountain, covered patio. 4 bdrm 3 ba brick home on corner lot. 4278 SFGCAD

\$415,000



Andrea Walling - 664-6227



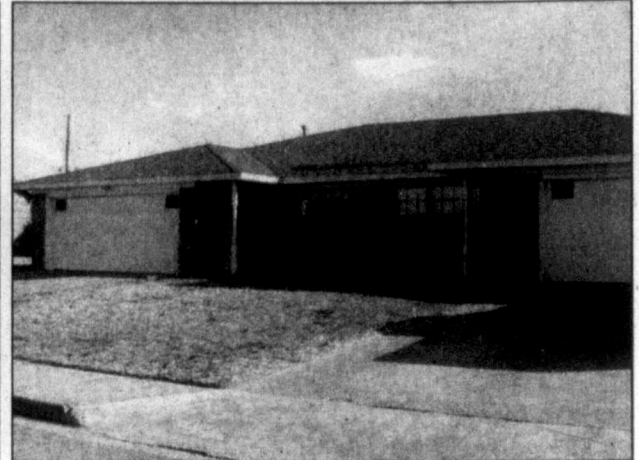
2200 Dogwood Ln

Ideal back yard for entertaining! Covered patio with ceiling fans. 2 story, 4 bdrm, 2 ba home on corner lot. 2629 SFGCAD

\$162,500



Linda Lapacka - 662-9611



1424-1426 Dwight St

Duplex. Each side 2 bdrm, 1.75 ba, wood burning fireplace. 2704 SFGCAD Both sides.

\$149,000



Linda Lapacka - 662-9611



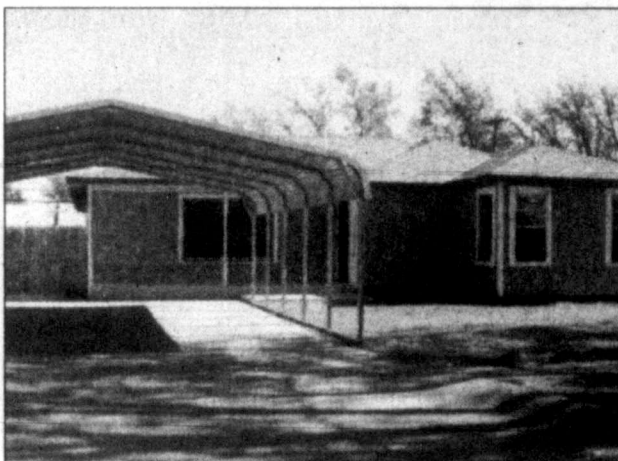
2541 Christine St

Covered patio in back yard, garage has workshop area. 3 bdrm, 1.75 ba home with security system. 2050 SFGCAD

\$129,500



Linda Lapacka - 662-9611



2222 Williston St

Many up-dates to this 3 bdrm, 2 ba home with 2 stall carport. 1936 SFGCAD

\$119,500



Donna Courter - 595-0779



1048-1050 Dwight St

Duplex. Each side 2 bdrm, 1.5 ba, ceiling fans, newer carpet and paint. 2407 SFGCAD Both sides.

\$115,900



Donna Courter - 595-0779



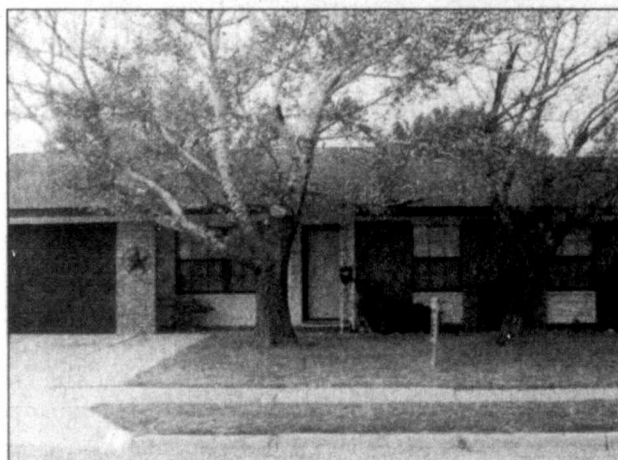
300 W 5th St, Mobeetie

4 bdrm, 1.75 ba located on .61 acres corner lot. Newer wiring and fresh paint. 1926 SFWCAD

\$94,900



Andrea Walling - 664-6227



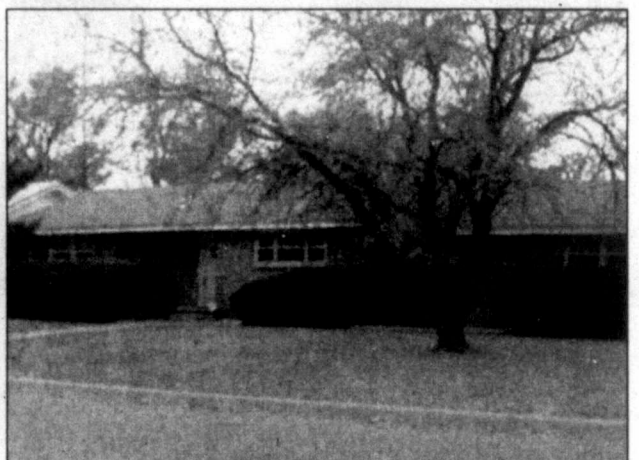
2705 Navajo Rd

Kitchen completely remodeled, master bath has oversized shower. 3 bdrm, 1.75 ba brick home. 1125 SFGCAD

\$89,900



Linda Lapacka - 662-9611



2133 Mary Ellen St

Newer heating system, kitchen remodeled, all of this with a great view of park from this 2 bdrm, 1 ba brick home. 1516 SFGCAD

\$89,000



Linda Lapacka - 662-9611



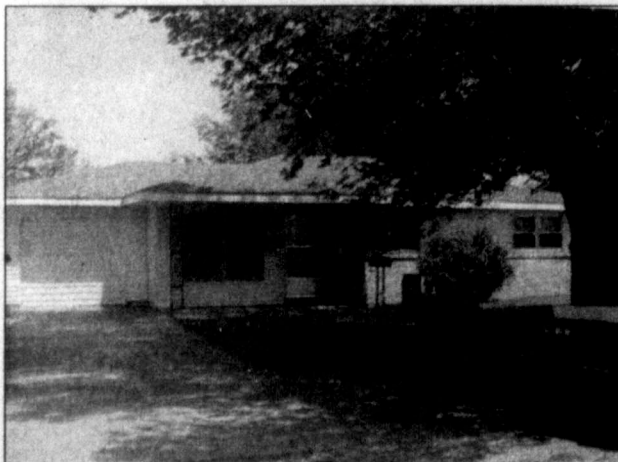
1510 Williston St

4 bdrm, 1.5 ba home with vinyl siding for low maintenance, hardwood floors. 1404 SFGCAD

\$65,000



Donna Courter - 595-0779



2128 Dwight St

Recently repainted and carpeted. Move-in-ready 3 bdrm, 1 ba home. 1064 SFGCAD

\$59,500



Linda Lapacka - 662-9611



400 Popham St, White Deer

Newer texture, windows, lighting, and laminate flooring. 3 bdrm, 1 ba home with formal dining. 1494 SFCCAD

\$51,500



Donna Courter - 595-0779

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Century 21 Pampa Realty Inc has not verified these square footages and makes no guarantee or warranty of square footage data. They are derived from 3rd parties or appraisal districts.



the *Joy*
of Christmas
Morning

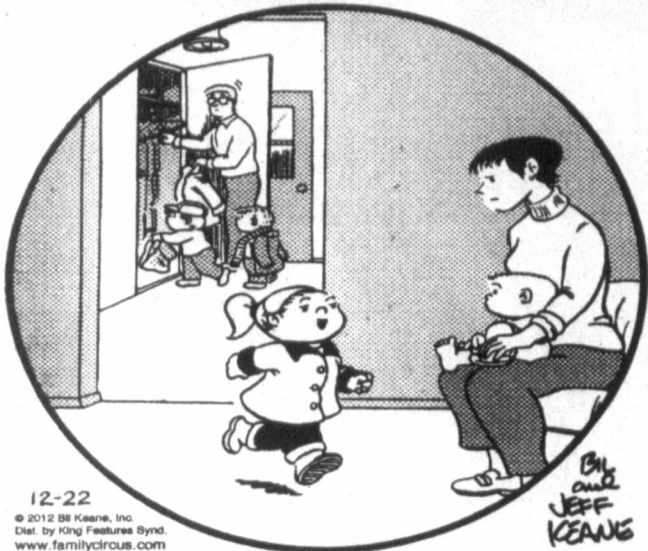
The joy of the season is an amazing reminder of the pleasure it brings us to serve you.

From our family to yours ·
Have a Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!



comics PAGE

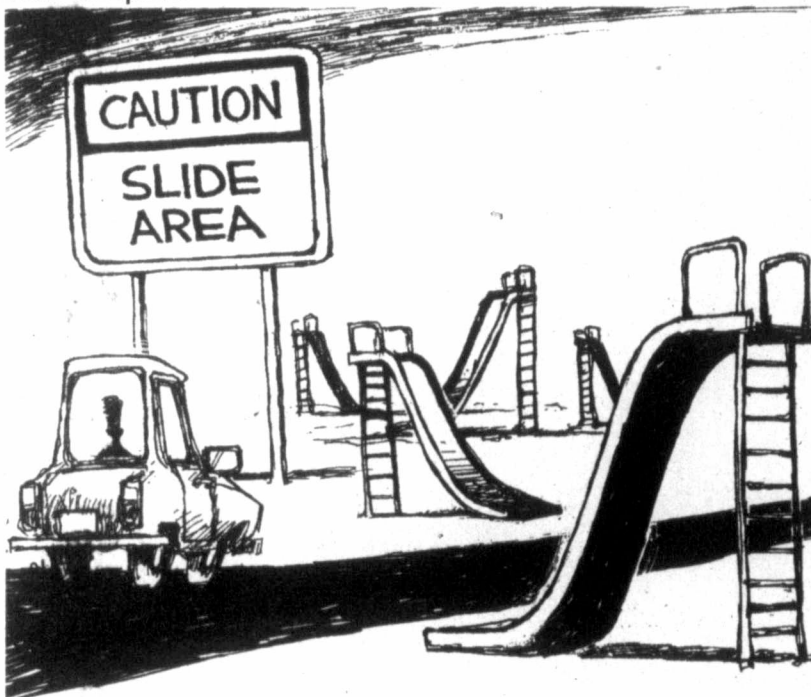
THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



12-22
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"Don't tell ANYBODY, P.J. It's a surprise! We got Mommy a new phone."

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads

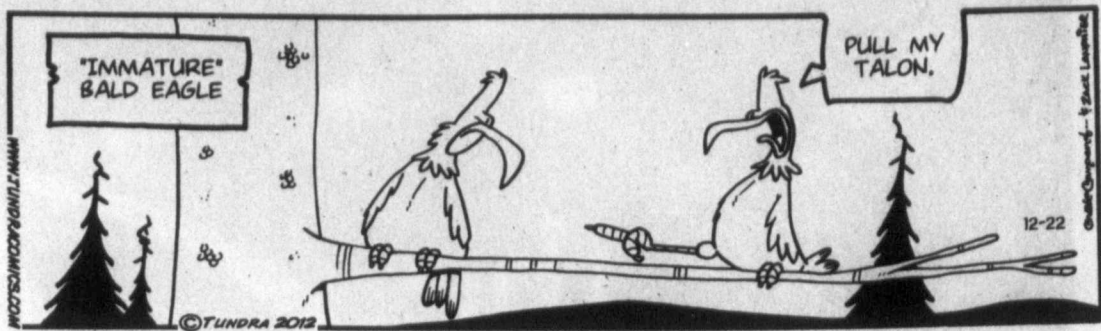


daily horoscope

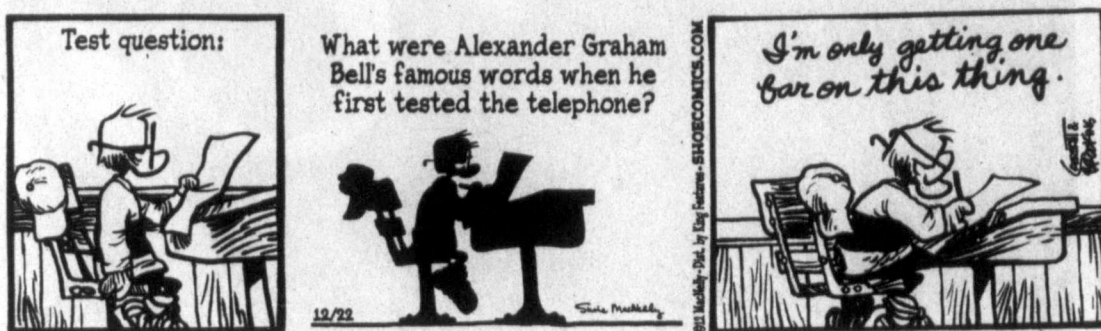
HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, Dec. 24, 2012:
This year you are grounded. You make strong financial decisions; however, sometimes you will need to seek out others for ideas. Your creativity is most present when you are brainstorming and focused, and your environment affects your thinking. After mid-June, your libido energies bubble up more easily. If you are single, during this period, Cupid's arrow is nearby. A romance could develop into more. If you are attached, the two of you have worked hard to get where you are. Come June, you'll enjoy and celebrate this. **TAURUS** often heads down the conventional route, so don't look to him or her for dynamic ideas.
The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult
ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ You might be too concerned with making sure that you have dotted your "i's" and crossed your "t's." Stop for a moment, and try to remember the true nature of this holiday. Consider all of the special people around you. Tonight: A midnight revival.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You beam this Christmas Eve. You will be surrounded by loved ones who are full of caring, and the joy of this togetherness feels like a Christmas gift. A call from someone at a distance brings this person closer into your thoughts. Tonight: Follow family traditions.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ You might feel as if you are at the end of a diving board, about to jump. Understand that anxiety is normal, especially during an important holiday like Christmas. Take a nap or do something specifically for yourself. Tonight: Just wait to the wee hours; you will feel great!
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ You are moving full steam ahead, trying to do as much as you possibly can. Stop and look around. Enjoy the friends and loved ones who surround you. If you need help with a last-minute detail, just ask. Others will be only too happy to pitch in! Tonight: Where the fun is.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Others seem to have a difficult time right now. They could be distracted or completely panicked at the thought of what they have left to do. Remind them of the true meaning of Christmas. Your

warm, generous style will help everyone relax. Tonight: Enjoy every moment.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You'll be touched by someone's caring gesture, and this person will be quite pleased with your reaction. Call a friend or loved one at a distance, and discuss plans to get together in the near future. Tonight: Make it OK to daydream a little.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Let a key person get closer to you. You have one life to live — live it well! A family member could be upset and not understand the cause. Help this person move through his or her feelings, if possible. Tonight: Make midnight calls to loved ones at a distance.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Defer to others, as they want control. As a result, you will have less to do. Enjoy being a little lazy and relaxed, as you don't have to be the leader for once. Deal with a difficult person rather than avoid him or her. Tonight: Go with the flow, but do drop by the mistletoe.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Finish up last-minute details. Get your errands done. Once you pull everything together, you will be able to relax with a friend or a loved one. You won't be able to predict what the next 24 hours will bring. Tonight: Come midnight, you'll touch base with loved ones.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You could be pushing someone very hard. Know that you will not be able to convince this person of the rightness of your ways. Give it up, and you might be surprised by what happens in the next few weeks. Tonight: Celebrate, but make it a point to get to bed early.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Your instincts tell you to stay close to home. Between incoming calls and people dropping by, you might end up hosting an impromptu party. If any sign can get into the moment, it is you. A child dominates the scene ... to no one's surprise. Tonight: The fun begins in the wee hours.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Make calls, finish errands and drop off a gift or two at a loved one's place. You might be pushed by a group of friends who want you to join them at the last minute. Remember, there might not be a repeat of this cast of characters in the future. Tonight: Don't make it too late!

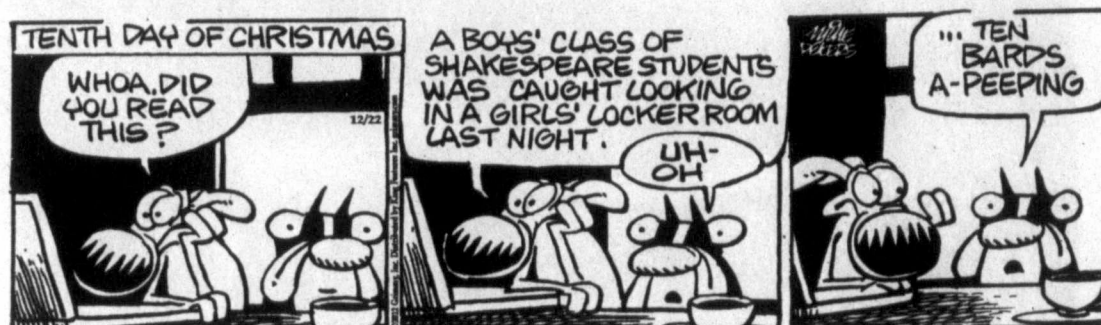
Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



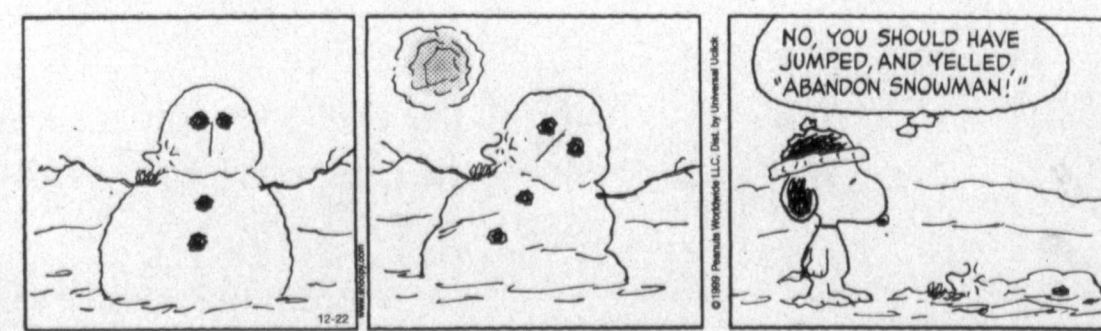
Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts

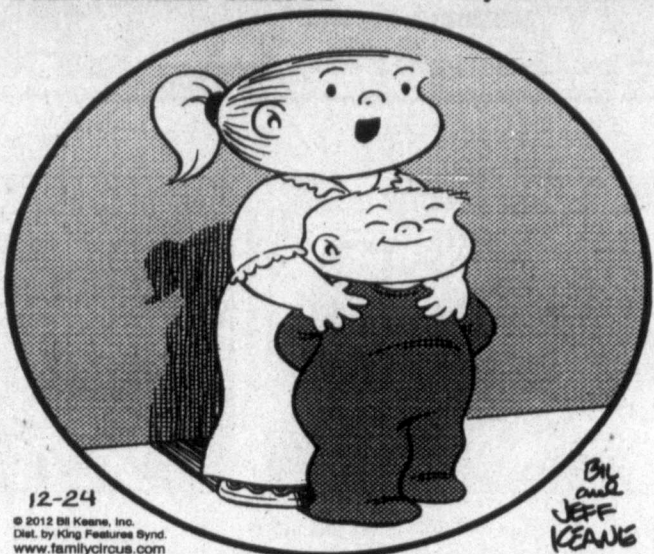


Blondie



comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



12-24
© 2012 Bill Keane, Inc. Dist. by King Features Synd. www.familycircus.com
"Don't you think it's time to put PJ in his swaddling clothes and lay him in his manger?"

Non Sequitur

'Tis the day before Christmas, And I'm getting more cranky and sour. As the boredom gets worse With every slow-passing hour.



I've got to wait 'til tomorrow To open the gifts that are mine, But time just crawls along slowly No matter how much I whine.



This is the season for giving. At least that's what they say, But I have to wait to receive, For another whole stinkin' day!



IF YOU FEEL AN EARTH TREMOR, THAT'LL BE CLEMENT MOORE SPINNING IN HIS GRAVE



Nest Heads



daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2012:

This year you have the ability to accomplish a lot, if you so choose. Understand that many people depend on you. Be careful, as they often will take your efforts, which go beyond the call of duty, for granted. If you decide to spend your time elsewhere, you will get a lot of flak. If you are single, romance gains your attention come summer 2013. If you are attached, the summer heat ignites the flames of love once more. You and your partner will act like newlyweds. GEMINI understands you very well, perhaps even better than you do.

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)
★★★★ An element of confusion runs through your morning. With Santa romping around the way he did last night, are you really that surprised? Expect a long, but friendly, Christmas dinner. People seem to be naturally delightful. Tonight: Fortunately, you do not have to do anything.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ You might want to extend your hospitality once more. Knowing when to stop will be important. Others sometimes feel uncomfortable when you do so much. Allow more give-and-take into your scene. Tonight: Indulge in the moment.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You wake up knowing that everything will be fine. Someone in your immediate circle does not have the same feeling. You can't control this person, but you can choose not to get into his or her drama. Someone you have thought about a lot needs a call. Tonight: Be spontaneous.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ You likely have been a major force in making this day as special as it is. Take some time to step back and enjoy yourself. Know that you do not always have to be the responsible one. Enjoy a loved one's efforts. Tonight: If you are sleepy, take a nap.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ The more people you surround yourself with, the better you will feel. No one enjoys a party more than you do. A celebration just seems natural. Others express their happiness for just being part of what is happening. Tonight: Make

sure everyone is having a good time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You might be asking yourself why you always end up being the one held accountable. More often than not, you seem to be saddled with responsibility. Part of the reason might be that you see the need for it and step in before someone else can. Tonight: You hear a lot of thank-you's.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Keep reaching out to that person whom you have not heard from in a while. What better time to call than now? Many people around you could be full of surprises. You feel appreciated, and those around you feel the same. Tonight: Let your mind drift to yonder lands.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Deal with a partner directly. You are very different people, but you have common interests. Do not feel as if you must say or do anything, but make sure that this person knows that you appreciate his or her efforts. Tonight: Visit with a pal over leftovers.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Others seek you out, and not just Santa and his elves. Plan on hosting a gathering at your home in order to chat over eggnog or exchange gifts and good will. Don't worry so much if someone shows up and you do not have a gift for this person. Tonight: Go along with others' wishes.

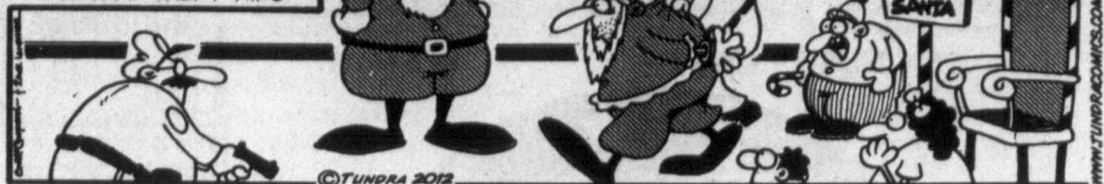
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Pace yourself, as you might have a lot to do as a Santa stand-in. Christmas is not always easy for someone to handle alone. Check in with a friend at a distance. Your thoughtfulness will be appreciated more than you realize. Tonight: Pitch in and help clean up.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Others note the amusement in your smile and the twinkle in your eye. It seems as if you are going to stay mum and choose not to reveal the source of this happiness. It's OK to make people wonder. A child wants to share a new gift or game. Why not? Tonight: More fun ahead.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Tension builds at home. You want everything to be perfect, and that desire is impossible as long as human beings are involved. Lighten up, and worry a little less. Everyone prefers your company over some "perfect" plan. Tonight: Close to home.

Tundra

UNWILLING TO TOLERATE THE INJUSTICE ANY LONGER, SANTA DECIDES TO TAKE DOWN THE WORLD'S LARGEST IDENTITY-THEFT RING



Shoe

DO YOU SUFFER FROM STRESS?



I'M A CARRIER.



Mother Goose and Grim

11TH DAY OF CHRISTMAS



Zits

ARE YOU GOING TO BE READY FOR SOME CHRISTMAS EVE FUN, JEREMY?



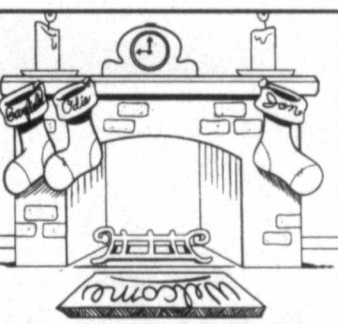
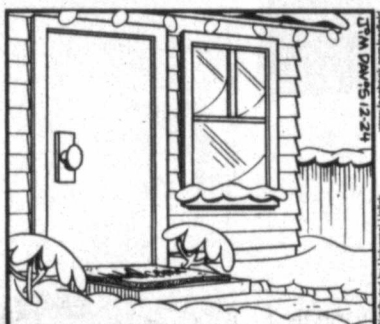
I'M GOING TO BAKE COOKIES AND MAKE MULLED CIDER...



SO, WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO FIRST?



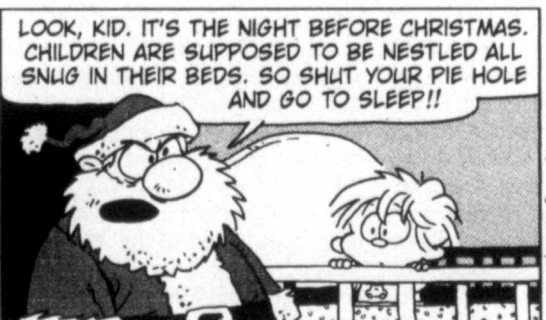
Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



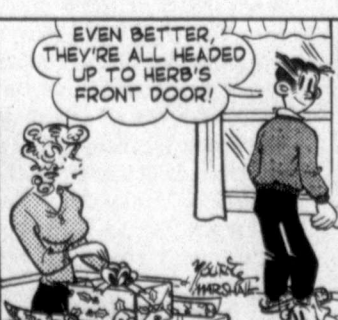
Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



12-25
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"MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!"

Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads



ALLEN 12/25 CHRISTMAS DAY

daily horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, Dec. 26, 2012:

This year you often view effectiveness as a goal. Sometimes you could glide right over the deeper meaning of a situation. Emotions will dominate your day-to-day routine. More often than not, they will be positive feelings; however, sometimes they point you in the direction of overindulgence. Be open. If you are single, you could meet someone important through your work. It could take a while to recognize this person, though — perhaps even until the second half of the year. If you are attached, the two of you make an excellent team when it comes to practical matters. Allow this excellence to float into your emotional bond. GEMINI often irks you, as he or she seems to miss profound issues.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You still might be going to extremes and might find yourself floating on the wave of excitement left over from all the celebrating. Work with a loved one who feels stressed financially. Help this person see the light at the end of the tunnel. Tonight: Avoid a fight at all costs.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Curb a tendency to want everything to go your way. This need for control could distance others. Do you really want that to happen? Trying to dictate to others seems nearly impossible, yet some people might decide to go along with your wishes. Tonight: Make calls.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Your smile attracts many people. A conversation could make someone feel misunderstood on some level. Allow heavy issues to float over you. You know that there is much more going on here than meets the eye. Tonight: Whatever knocks your socks off.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Much is going on behind the scenes. You might not be ready to discuss these issues. A child or loved one might reflect your mood. Do not attribute this person's behavior to control games. He or she simply is echoing your energy. Tonight: How about some extra sleep?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Do not hesitate to ask for what you want, even if you already feel indulged. Listen to your instincts with a family member. This person needs some-

one to pitch in. You can make quite a difference; you know what to do. Let go of a misunderstanding. Tonight: Where people are.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Take charge of a situation. Others simply have a hard time moving in and handling difficult matters. Adjust your schedule. A loved one could be miffed that you are not spending more time with him or her. Explanations might not work, either. Tonight: Could be late.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Return calls, and focus on plans for a potential trip. Go with your feelings, even if you believe yourself to be rather vulnerable. The reception you receive might be much different from what you expected, and in a sense, it will be calming. Tonight: Let your mind relax to a movie.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Deal with a partner directly. Yes, there might be an inherent misunderstanding, but right now, it might be best to let it go; otherwise, it could become worse. Let your feelings be known in a nonconfrontational manner rather than hold them back. Tonight: Be half of a duo.

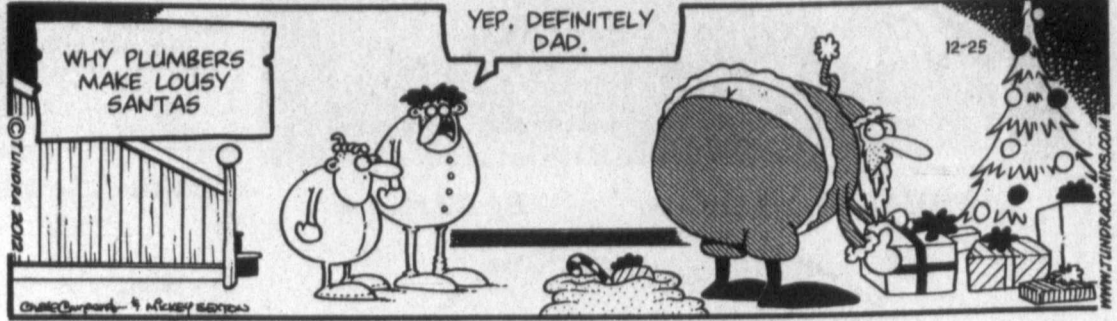
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Defer to others, and you might be surprised at what happens as a result. You could be more negative than you realize, and it will affect your relationships. Be willing to get in touch with your vulnerable feelings rather than get defensive. Tonight: Let bygones be bygones.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ You might be thinking about tomorrow already. You have, on some level, made an important decision that you are anxious to act on. Time is your ally. You might want to see if you feel the same way in a couple of days. Tonight: Do for you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Your mischievous personality emerges once more. You might have had a difficult realization about someone in your life, but try to think positively. You could feel differently on a deeper level. The situation could be less challenging than you think. Tonight: Lighten up!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You might want to slow down after the recent hectic pace of the holidays. A friend could decide to breeze right in through your door. The end result will be a change of plans. Go for what you want. Be careful, as confusion marks a relationship. Tonight: Make it early.

Tundra



Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



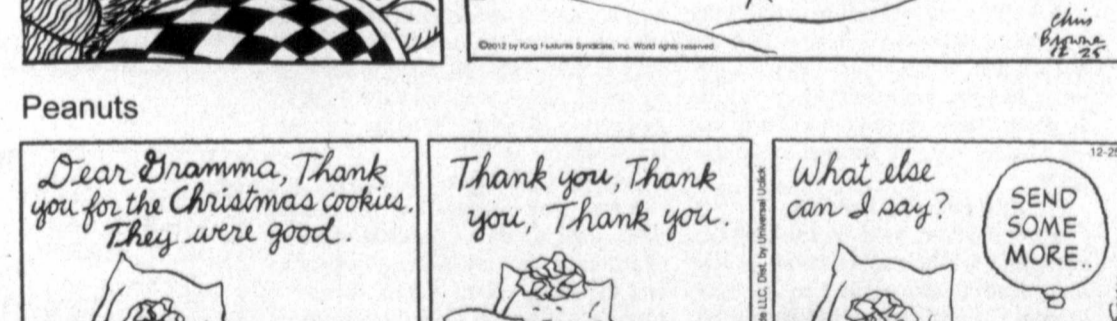
Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie





Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I are in a long-distance relationship and agreed to split our visits 50-50 between our cities. Initially, it worked great. Unfortunately, his work schedule has changed, and for the past year he has come here to visit me only once every month or so, while I frequently drive for hours to see him.

He says that because he's away from home for work, it's only fair that I travel to see him since it's "less trouble" for me. I understand that he puts in a lot of time with travel for work, but at what point does the ratio become unbalanced and unfair?

I miss weekends in my city with my friends, and it makes me sad that he won't make the effort to see me. What do you think is right in this matter? — **UNCERTAIN IN SAN FRANCISCO**

DEAR UNCERTAIN: "What's right" is the original agreement you had with your boyfriend, or something close to it. Because he is no longer willing to live up to his part in the bargain, consider seeing him less often.

Perhaps if he has a chance to miss you, he will feel impelled to make more of an effort. And if he's not, then you won't have to cut off your social

relationships at home — relationships you may need if this romance doesn't work out the way you would like.

DEAR ABBY: My wife of 32 years has delusional jealousy. It is so bad that she has checked my genitals and questioned the neighbors' wives. I have stayed in this marriage only because of our children, who are now adults.

I am at a crisis point where I want a divorce. I detest throwing 32 years away, but I have no love for this woman. We have sought counseling three times. However, once I start describing her delusions, the sessions quickly stop. — **WANTS OUT IN COLORADO**

DEAR WANTS OUT: Nowhere in our letter could I discern a question, but from my vantage point, I disagree that you

would "throw 32 years away." You used that time to make sure your children were grown and independent.

I'm sorry about your wife's delusions, but because she is unwilling to follow through with counseling, there is nothing you or I can do about them. If you want my permission to end this marriage, I can't grant it; only you can do that for yourself.

DEAR ABBY: My sister is engaged to a severe alcoholic. I host the annual Christmas dinners and I feel stuck. When he was here last year, he broke a wine glass that held special meaning for my husband and me and generally made a fool of himself.

Should I invite my sister and tell her that her fiance isn't welcome? (They live together.) He has gotten

even worse this year. He broke three bones because he was so drunk he fell, and he left rehab three times in one month. I'm a cancer survivor and do not need the stress in my life. — **NERVOUS IN NEW YORK**

DEAR NERVOUS: I agree that you shouldn't subject yourself to unnecessary stress. Your health

must come first. If you haven't discussed this with your sister, do it NOW. A way to include her and her fiance would be to serve no alcohol during your Christmas celebration. However, if that isn't feasible, then tell her that until her fiance is able to stay "dry," you regret that you will be unable to entertain them.

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Advanced

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Beginner

BANAGRAMS!

For each of the words below, replace one letter with the tile after the plus sign. Then rearrange the letters to spell a profession.

LEVEL

DEMONICAL + P

BLACKBERRY + I

MINESHAFT + R

TIREDNESS + P

Yesterday's Answer: FEDERAL, DEAFER, FREED, REEF, ERE, RE

12.22

BANAGRAMS!

For each word or phrase below, rearrange the letters to spell two things that are either a fruit or a vegetable. For example, CREEPY LAPEL can be rearranged to spell APPLE, CELERY.

LEVEL

POLICE VANISH

HOMEY TRACTOR

ROARING HEADS

MELLOW MAP TUNER

Yesterday's Answer: POLICEMAN, BRICKLAYER, FISHERMAN, PRESIDENT

12.23

CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Sales pitch
- 6 Express stop
- 11 Spotted steed
- 12 Make amends
- 13 Texas player
- 14 Soak
- 15 Emphasize
- 17 Small dog, for short
- 18 Extinct bird
- 19 Necessitates
- 22 Shrewd
- 23 Slogged away
- 24 Bart's mother
- 25 Miser's love
- 27 Force member
- 30 Parenthesis's kin
- 31 Alien carrier
- 32 Tipsy
- 33 Disney septet
- 35 Puzzled
- 38 Lower
- 39 Pillow covers
- 40 Hamper
- 41 Constitution

DOWN

- 1 Twinges
- 2 Duel weapon
- 3 Where papers accumulate on a desk
- 4 French 1 verb
- 5 Idle chatter
- 6 Bit of makeup
- 7 Greek vowel
- 8 Dish with a crust
- 9 In phone limbo
- 10 Abounds
- 16 Showed derision
- 20 Skinflints
- 21 Saloon order
- 24 Buddy
- 25 Twist in agony
- 26 Bothers
- 27 Run, as an exhibition
- 28 Printing method
- 29 Tough puzzles
- 30 Designer
- 34 Aid
- 36 Running illegally
- 37 Pharaoh's symbol

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11					12				
13					14				
15				16			17		
18				19		20	21		
22				23					
			24						
	25	26					27	28	29
30							31		
32				33		34			
35			36	37		38			
39						40			
41						42			

12-22

CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Tips, as a hat
- 6 Sleigh ringers
- 11 Unmoving
- 12 Dickens character
- 13 Take exception
- 14 Math comparison
- 15 Poetic foot
- 17 "... — he drove out of sight ..."
- 18 Present covering
- 22 "Wait —!"
- 23 Easily attachable
- 27 Rose part
- 29 Scoundrel
- 30 Harry Potter's position in Quidditch
- 32 Nights before holidays
- 33 Real
- 35 Compass dir.
- 38 "— a Kick Out of You"
- 39 Top story
- 41 Urges on
- 45 Drug agent, in slang
- 46 Christmas tree topper
- 47 Christmas color
- 48 Suspicious

DOWN

- 1 Performed
- 2 Start of a count
- 3 Not masc.
- 4 Christmas baked good
- 5 Sipping aid
- 6 Horticulturist
- 7 Memorable time
- 8 Lo-cal adjective
- 9 Comfy home
- 10 Stocking surrounder
- 16 Bridal title
- 18 Openings
- 19 Words of understanding
- 20 Fancy party
- 21 Christmas baked good
- 24 Make roads
- 25 Roasting spot
- 26 Comfy home
- 28 Dictionary
- 31 Outfit
- 34 "Love Story" writer
- 35 Caroled
- 36 Christmas tree topper
- 37 To be, to Balzac
- 40 Rink material
- 42 Candle count
- 43 German article
- 44 Crafty

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11					12					
13					14					
			15		16		17			
18	19	20					21			
22				23			24	25	26	
27				28		29				
30				31		32				
			33		34					
35	36	37		38						
39			40			41		42	43	44
45						46				
47						48				

12-24

★ ★ ★ **sunday horoscope**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, Dec. 23, 2012:

This year you often represent the best of your sign, and also the worst of your sign. For instance, you endure unceasingly, yet you can't seem to let go and enjoy yourself. Why be so courageous only not to enjoy life? This year is about learning to be present in the moment, which will occur after this spring. If you are single, you could meet someone who makes you want to change your status. If you are attached, together you will have a case of spring fever! Taurus is grounded like you are.

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)

★★★ Many of you might question the materialism of this holiday, yet you enjoy all of the hoopla. Don't be unduly hard on yourself right now. Meet up with loved ones and friends, plan on visiting those at a distance and catch up on everyone's news. Tonight: Back in the saddle.

This Week: You experience an unusual amount of happiness this holiday.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ A partner challenges you, yet the reason is debatable. Perhaps this person might be acting out. Remain the gracious Bull. Touch base with relatives and friends at a distance. Set the tone, and others will follow along. Tonight: Use your charisma.

This Week: If you insist on having your way, you

could mar the day.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Know what is going on behind the scenes. Fatigue could affect your perspective. What a perfect excuse to take a nap! Approach the remainder of the day more energized. Still, you might choose to clear up a disagreement. Tonight: Take some much-needed personal time.

This Week: Tuesday on, you'll hit your stride.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Enjoy the moment and all the people around you. You could have a lot of ground to cover. Prioritize, and you will find the right direction in which to head. A child needs a lot of your time, so get him or her involved in your tasks. Tonight: Let go, and enjoy the moment.

This Week: Focus on others, especially if you feel a little off.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Pressure builds, and your mood reflects your stress level. Find a few moments alone to ground yourself. You might have to step away in the next 24 hours, as you could find yourself caught in the middle of a family issue. Try not to make the situation worse than it is. Tonight: Help an older friend or relative.

This Week: Finally, you see the results that you have desired. Kudos!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Keep reaching out to a friend at a distance. This person appreciates your thoughtfulness. You might be surprised at the unexpected news he or she drops on you.

Approach a difficult child in a novel way. His or her reaction could be off-kilter at first, but the end result is worthwhile. Tonight: Follow the music.

This Week: Do not stray from the here-and-now, and you will be better off.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Deal with a partner directly. The concern that will arise between you stems from having two different perspectives. Establish boundaries in your customary way. Both of you will be smiling until an hour or so later, when the other party might decide to change his or her mind. Tonight: Indulge a family member.

This Week: Your mind drifts. Why not follow your thoughts?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Others might be contentious and could try to use their manipulative styles to get what they want. What gives you more leverage is that you understand the mechanisms at work here, whereas they might not. Vocalize your feelings, and your message will get through to them. Tonight: Say "yes," if possible.

This Week: A partner plays an unusually strong role during the next few days.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Finishing what others left undone might not be glamorous, but is necessary. Once you are clear, you can control how you spend your time. Make choices that put a smile on your face. A decision based on your instincts is right-on. Tonight: Treat

this day like any other Sunday.

This Week: You get your just rewards and more if you head down the right path.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Your creativity emerges through your choices and actions. You can go with the flow and not be so concerned about others' reactions. Give up the need to be politically correct at this moment in time. Tonight: As a "free spirit" for a day, what would you choose to do?

This Week: You might be anxious to get through the next few days.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Stay centered. Choose to stay close to home because it feels good. You also will level out others' hyper energy that way. Attend to last-minute details, and make sure you have everything you need. Tonight: Enjoy the tree and nibble on a cookie while visiting with a loved one.

This Week: Romance could be pivotal, if you're interested.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Keep communication open, even if you feel like slamming the phone down. Someone at a distance could be cold and/or distant. How this person responded might not have anything to do with you, but have everything to do with him- or herself. In the long run, the issue likely will be solved. Tonight: Catch up with a friend.

This Week: You have more than your share of responsibilities.

BANANAGRAMS!

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

LEVEL
R A R E
B _ _ _ L
B U R P
A _ _ _ T
C L A N
U _ _ _ D
P A C E
H _ _ _ T

Yesterday's Answer: BIDDEN, GROUND, OCTANE, THRIVE

12.25

Sudoku

Answer to yesterday's puzzle:

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

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

Level: Beginner



Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: May I comment on the letter from "Itching to Get Even in Cincinnati" (Oct. 1), the woman who was upset that the handmade wreaths she had placed on her family graves had been stolen?

I volunteer at a historical cemetery. Many cemeteries have rules about the type and size of grave decorations that are allowed on the grounds, which is sometimes none at all. In fact, if decorations ARE allowed, unless they can be firmly attached to the ground, real flowers are usually preferred because they biodegrade and do not create a nightmare for groundskeepers when the plastic eventually weakens.

While it's touching that "Itching" and her sister continue to make thoughtful and beautiful arrangements for their deceased loved ones, they should consider speaking with the cemetery office or groundskeeper about any regulations they might have in order to avoid this kind of upset again. — MAUREEN IN BROOKLYN, N.Y.

DEAR MAUREEN: For the most part, readers agree that the policies of a cemetery should be checked out before placing wreaths or flowers on graves. However, other readers offered some interesting solutions to the problem:

DEAR ABBY: When Dad died, my mom and I returned to his grave the next day. All the flowers were missing, but the plastic they were attached to was still there. When we inquired about it we were told that deer come down at night and eat the flowers. My dad, a nature lover, would have been pleased that they provided a meal for the deer. — STILL MISSING HIM

DEAR ABBY: The dead

are no longer of this world. When people visit their graves, they should leave good thoughts, not material items that end up as trash or stolen. — PAMELA IN VICTORVILLE, CALIF.

DEAR ABBY: After my mother died, I bought a concrete garden angel statue and put it by her headstone. Like "Itching," I too was bitter after it was stolen.

When I told my husband, he told me, "Honey, your mother WAS an angel. She didn't need one. Someone else must have needed one." After he said it, it put the incident into a different perspective. — ANGEL'S DAUGHTER IN MISSOURI

DEAR ABBY: Years ago, the flags my mother and I had placed on Memorial Day were stolen. After that we would write, "Stolen from the grave of ..." on the sticks of the flags we left for my father's and stepfather's graves. It worked! — DOT

IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR ABBY: My sister made a Christmas tree for our mother's grave and decorated it with functional lights. When I asked her why she went to the extra expense, she replied that she knew it would likely be stolen. She said she wanted the thief to have a tree with working lights, so the person would have a brighter Christmas. — GERRY IN HUNSTVILLE, TEXAS

DEAR ABBY: I had the same problem until I started attaching small signs to my floral wreaths that read, "Thou Shalt Not Steal." I make the signs business card-sized, cover them with clear tape, attach them to a beverage straw and insert them in the flowers or attach them to the wreaths. So far it has worked. And if it doesn't, at least it may make the thief think twice. — MARIE IN PENNSYLVANIA

TO MY CHRISTIAN READERS: A very merry Christmas to you all!

BANANAGRAMS!

Each of the following six-letter sets can be rearranged to spell out a common word that starts with B I, C O or G R or ends with N E, T Y or V E.

LEVEL
B D D E I N
_ _ _ _ _
D G N O R U
_ _ _ _ _
A C E N O T
_ _ _ _ _
E H I R T V
_ _ _ _ _

Yesterday's Answer: SPINACH, OLIVE, TOMATO, CHERRY, RADISH, ORANGE, WATERMELON, PLUM

12.24

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- Takes notice
 - Here, to Henri
 - Up to, briefly
 - Fragrances
 - Christmas tree decoration
 - Poker payment
 - Christmas song
 - Twangy
 - Play parts
 - Old radio feature
 - Bible book
 - Christmas tree decoration
 - Sparkler
 - Garage occupant
 - Put into words
 - Kind of band
 - Practical joke
 - Wise Men's beacon
 - Fishing poles
 - Telescope sightings
 - Christmas song
 - Buffalo's county
 - Dueling sword
 - Cherished
 - Acropolis setting
- DOWN**
- Bro's sibling
 - Submit, as a contest entry
 - Major lang.
 - Utmost
 - Fixed
 - Low point
 - Church answers
 - One of Santa's team
 - Longtime Syrian leader
 - Moroccan
 - Emulates lords in a city
 - In the past
 - Light brown
 - Caustic stuff
 - Christmas song
 - Crèche part
 - Crèche figure
 - Designer Wang
 - One of the Clampetts
 - Anger
 - Long of "Soul Food"
 - Use deceit
 - Writer Deighton
 - Fourth-yr. students

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

Yesterday's answer

- Emulates lords in a city
- In the past
- Light brown
- Caustic stuff
- Christmas song
- Crèche part
- Crèche figure
- Moroccan
- Emulates lords in a city
- Designer Wang
- One of the Clampetts
- Anger
- Long of "Soul Food"
- Use deceit
- Writer Deighton
- Fourth-yr. students

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10
								12		
							14			
				15						
	16	17				18		19	20	
21					22					23
24				25				26		
27			28				29			
	30						31			
				32		33				
34	35	36						37	38	39
40						41				
42						43				

12-25

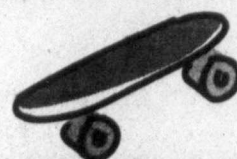
Kid Scoop

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Kid Scoop Together: Story Starters

A drink that mixes eggs and milk needs a story about how it was invented. Choose one of these story starters and let your imagination run wild! Work with a parent or another student to finish a great eggnog tale.



One day, a cow and a chicken were riding their skateboards. They crashed and ...



Elves working at the North Pole invented eggnog accidentally when they ...

Eggnog

Some say **nog** comes from the word **noggin** meaning a:

9 5 5 2 3 4
 1 8 6

1 = C 4 = N 7 = R
 2 = D 5 = O 8 = U
 3 = E 6 = P 9 = W



Replace the missing words.

HEALTH AGREE INVENTED **SPICES CHRISTMAS DRINKING**

What made anyone think of mixing eggs and milk and _____ it? While it may sound yucky, eggnog has been enjoyed around Thanksgiving, _____ and the New Year holidays for hundreds of years.

Historians are not sure who first _____ the drink, but most _____ it originated from a medieval British “posset,” a hot, milky drink flavored with rare _____. Because milk, eggs and spices were expensive, eggnog was often used in a toast to prosperity and _____.

Standards Link: History: Students know holidays and ceremonies of different societies.

Creative Combos

Look at the objects pictured here. Think about how you would combine two of them to make something new. What would you call your new thing? How would you use it?

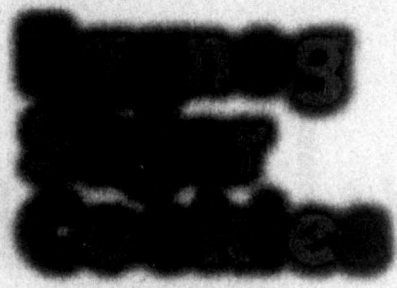


Complete the following to explain your Creative Combo!

I would combine a _____ and a _____ to make a _____.

It would be used for _____.

Standards Link: Writing: Write brief expository descriptions.



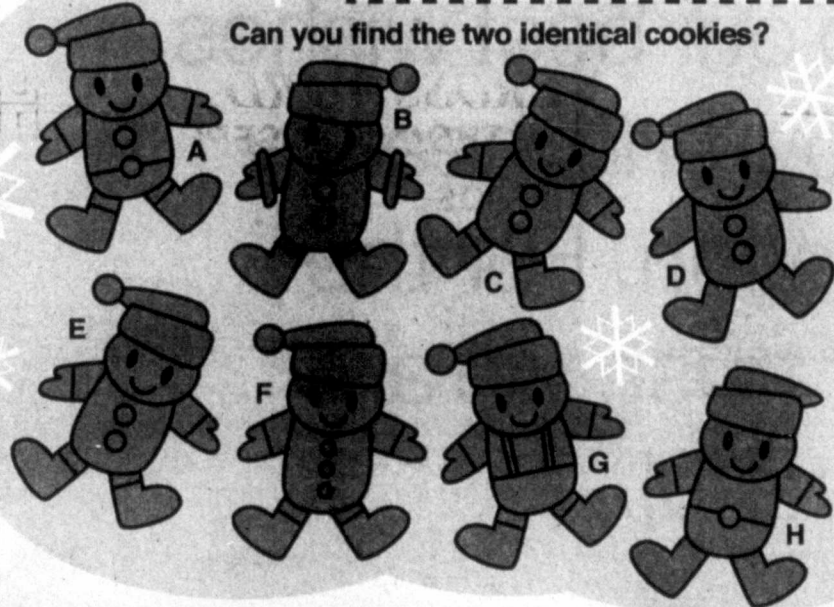
INGREDIENTS:

- 2 1/2 cups flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp ground nutmeg
- 1 1/4 cups granulated sugar
- 3/4 cup butter, at room temperature
- 1/2 cup eggnog
- 1 1/2 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 egg yolks

PREPARATION:

1. Preheat oven to 300°F.
2. Mix flour, baking powder, cinnamon and nutmeg in a bowl. Set aside.
3. In another bowl, mix sugar and butter until creamed. Add eggnog, vanilla and egg yolks, mix until smooth.
4. Add dry ingredients to creamed ingredients and mix until moist.
5. Place rounded teaspoons of cookie dough onto baking sheet about 2 inches apart. Sprinkle with nutmeg.
6. Bake for 20 minutes or until bottoms are lightly browned.
7. Remove from baking sheet and let cool. Makes 3 dozen.

Can you find the two identical cookies?



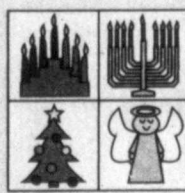
Extra! Extra! Holiday ABCs

Look through the newspaper to find words and phrases that make you think of the holidays. Try to find one for each letter of the alphabet. **BONUS:** Illustrate each word or phrase with pictures from the newspaper, or with a drawing to make a Holiday Alphabet Book for a younger child.

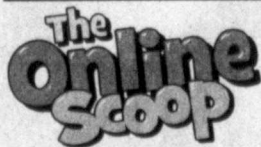
Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Can you find these four squares in this order on the larger grid?



Standards Link: Investigation: Find identical patterns.



Follow our designer's instructions and learn to draw a nutcracker or a reindeer. www.kidscoop.com/section_fronts/kids

Double Double Word Search

CHRISTMAS
 EXPENSIVE
 HOLIDAY
 COOKIES
 BRITISH
 COMBINE
 EGGNOG
 NOGGIN
 WOODEN
 COMBO
 SUGAR
 TOAST
 RARE
 EGGS
 NEW

Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

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

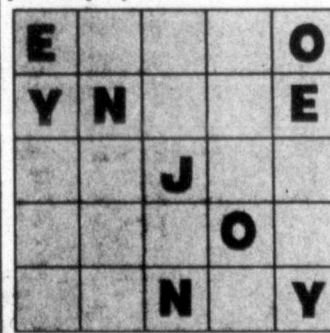
Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Write or draw an ending to one of the above stories.

Standards Link: Language Arts/Writing: Write narrative accounts such as stories.

Kid Scoop-doku™

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word ENJOY in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.



FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Syllable Search

Look through the newspaper for one, two, three and four syllable words. Cut them out, then cut them into syllables. Paste them onto a piece of paper showing each one divided into syllables.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Identify syllables.

What does a snowman eat for breakfast?

ANSWER: Frosted flakes.

Write On!

Alliterations

Write a sentence in which all (or nearly all) of the words start with the same letter. **Example:** Wendy walks with wonder when the weather warms.

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Wishing You Well At The Holidays

From our entire staff to all our patients, associates and their families go our best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season. For the gift of your trust, we are deeply grateful.



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