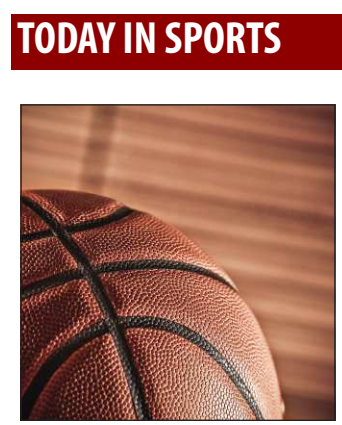


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The PAMPA NEWS



Wednesday, December 4, 2013 www.thepampanews.com Volume 109 • No. 170

75¢ Viewpoints: Museum Musings Pampa junior high school basketball results
 \$1.50 weekend Prairie Plains Perspective | p4 Texas Rangers make another huge trade | pB4
 38¢ subscription

Carmichael-Whatley serving Pampa for 3 generations

Cloud retires from USDA after 34 years



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare
 Tuesday was Cecelia Cloud's last day at the Gray/Roberts County Farm Service. She has retired after 34 years.

BY TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE
 thowsare@thepampanews.com

At first glance, it's hard to believe Cecelia "Cel" Cloud is retiring after nearly 34 years of working for the USDA because she barely looks 40. "I was 19 when I started so I grew up with them (the producers). They are like an extended family to me," she said. By producers she means the farmers that are served by the local Farm Service Agency, located in the Gray County Annex on East Frederic

CLOUD cont. on page 6

Photos by John Lee
 Top, Doug Carmichael of Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors, which has been in business since 1965. Above left, the funeral home is located at 600 N. Ward St. in Pampa. Above right, Carmichael shows one of the caskets available for purchase. The caskets can be customized and the funeral home strives to tailor its services for most religious faiths.

BY JOHN LEE
 jlee@thepampanews.com

When most children take over a family business from their parents, it is usually something along the lines of a restaurant, retail store or Fortune 500 company. Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Directors, however, is a third-generation business owned and operated by Doug Carmichael.

"It's just an honor," Carmichael said. "I had good teachers, my grandfather, my dad and Mr. Whatley were all excellent at what they did and they taught me well. I just hope to have been able to return what I've learned to the surrounding communities."

Carmichael-Whatley was founded in 1965 by Doug's grandfather, Paul, father, Bob, and Herman Whatley, who worked with Paul at Duenkel-Carmichael Funeral Home.

"My grandfather (Paul Carmichael) came to Pampa in 1930 from Waxahachie, Texas. He came to manage Pampa Mortuary which was owned by a banker here in Pampa," Carmichael said. "Of course, being a banker he knew nothing about running a funeral home, so my grandfather came and ran it for him. He managed it for seven years, he and Charles Duenkel formed Duenkel-Carmichael funeral home in 1937. They remained partners until a fire destroyed the funeral home in 1964. Then in 1965, Carmichael-Whatley was formed."

Running a funeral home is far different than any other business. With the melting pot of cultures that the

United States has, some of the different cultures and religions may ask for different things.

But Carmichael-Whatley does not refuse any reasonable request.

"You do have different religions to work with. Catholic services are different than most services in that you have a Catholic Mass and a rosary or vigil the night before, which is unlike any other faith that we serve," Carmichael said. "You have the Church of Christ faith that doesn't allow any instrumental music, but most religious faiths are easy to work with and don't have anomalies that make them difficult to work with. We do what people ask us to do within reason."

Carmichael said the hardest part about the funeral profession is when helping a family who lost a child.

"The most difficult part of the funeral profession is serving a family who has lost a child. There is nothing that compares with the anguish of the loss of a child," Carmichael said. "Parents are programmed to believe that they will be outlived by their children, but when that doesn't happen, they are devastated."

One of the unique things about running a funeral home has been the increase of cremations as a method of disposition, he said.

"Cremation has really come along strong," Carmichael said. "When I started counting cremations in 1992, I think we had maybe five cremations that year. Last year we probably had 50 to 60. I think it is about

CARMICHAEL cont. on page 6

Couple seeking others to help in volunteer efforts

BY TIMOTHY P. HOWSARE
 thowsare@thepampanews.com

Dale and Suzanne Knott say there are a lot of people in Pampa, young and old, who need a helping hand.

Though there are charities like the Salvation Army and Gray Cares that do assist individuals and families, the Knotts personally want to help out people in the community and are asking other residents in town to do the same.

"We came up with the idea that if we could help out, other people in the community could

EFFORTS cont. on page 6



Photo by Timothy P. Howsare
 Dale and Suzanne Knott like to volunteer their time helping elderly and young mothers in the community.

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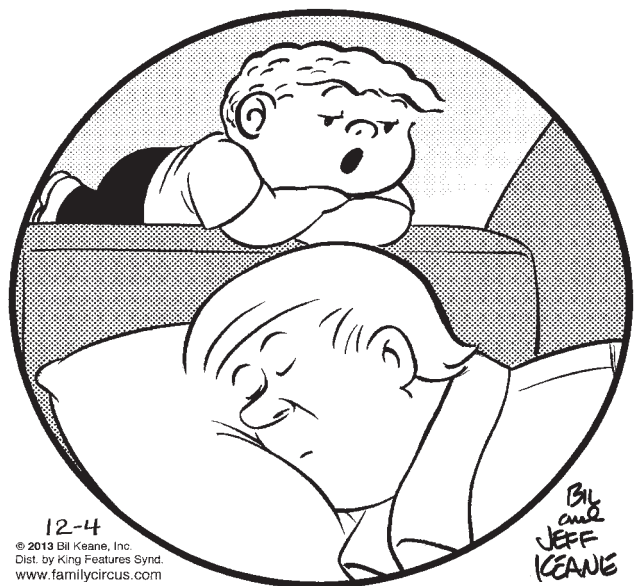
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comics PAGE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



12-4
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BIL
and
JEFF
KEANE

"If you're wondering, this is me talkin' in your sleep."

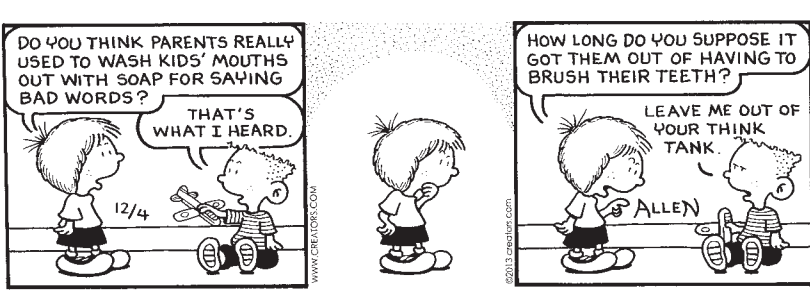
Non Sequitur



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Nest Heads



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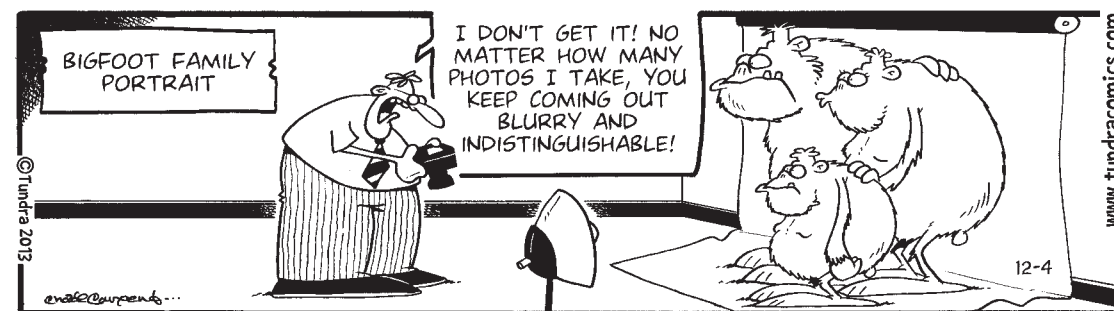
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daily horoscope

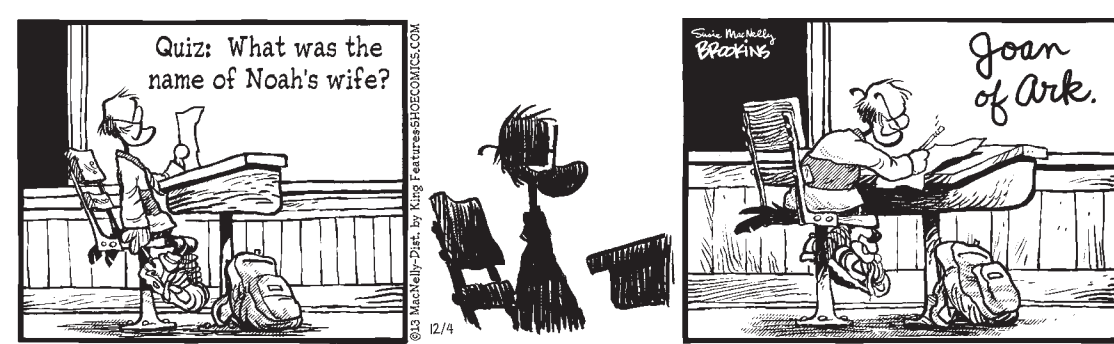
HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Dec. 5, 2013:
This year you open up to many different lifestyles and attitudes. You often meet people quite different from you without any effort. Be careful with a sibling or relative who could be out of sorts this year. This person relies on you and your judgment much more than you realize. If you are single, you might attract a new friend who introduces you to your next passion. Have fun! If you are attached, work on your communication and develop a new pastime together. **AQUARIUS** points to the offbeat path.
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 have been thinking about a plan and finally have come to a conclusion. Once more, you become Mr. or Ms. Friendly. Others will rejoice at seeing the happier you return. Still, someone could become somewhat difficult. Tonight: Weigh the pros and cons of taking a trip.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You will be distancing yourself until it becomes obvious that you need to deal with a situation that could implode. Expressing your caring is important, especially when dealing with an older relative. A call to someone at a distance will mean a lot. Tonight: Till the wee hours.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ A partner seems to have assumed control of a key matter. This change of responsibilities could be all right with you; however, you might want to discuss the long-term implications of the situation. A conversation like this is important. Tonight: Choose to do something new.
CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You'll be taken aback by a personal matter. The other party could be overassertive, which might cause you to feel cornered. Initiate an important one-on-one discussion; in fact, insist on it. The balance of power will level off as a result. Tonight: Be with a favorite person.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Your mood quickly changes midday. You are best when networking and socializing. Now is the time to kick back and be spontaneous. You might hear someone express his or her frustration; behind those feelings is an important message. Tonight: Listen to a

suggestion.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You could be quite creative in the morning when faced with a difficult situation. Lighten up and have an important discussion once others seem more relaxed. The tone of those around you will be more significant than you might realize. Tonight: Make it early.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You have been tenacious and diligent about getting a project done. You also feel empowered by its completion and by the comments you get. Later today, brainstorm with others to create and firm up a fun idea. Not everything has to be business. Tonight: All smiles.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ You won't hesitate to express your opinions, but you could come off a lot sterner than you realize. The key to success will be following through on a particular situation and maintaining a lighter attitude. Others will open up more easily as a result. Tonight: Get a lot done.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Check out the cost of proceeding as you have been. Someone might be more than ready to chip in and help. Know that all the responsibility does not have to land on your shoulders. Make a point to accept someone's gesture as it was meant. Tonight: Make weekend plans.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Zero in on what you want. You'll have many supporters at the present moment, which increases your chances of achieving what you desire. You come off far more sensitively than you think. You can't always hide your feelings. Tonight: Whatever puts a smile on your face.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You might be slow to start, but once you get going, you are a formidable force to stop. You know what you want and have no intention of settling. Someone at a distance could play a significant role. Tonight: If you can dream it, you are likely to be able to conjure it up.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You have a matter you would prefer to keep under wraps. Someone might try to coax it out of you, but you will resist. Be careful if you don't want to spill the beans. A partner or associate will make an effort to discuss an issue that you both are well aware of. Tonight: Do for you.

Tundra



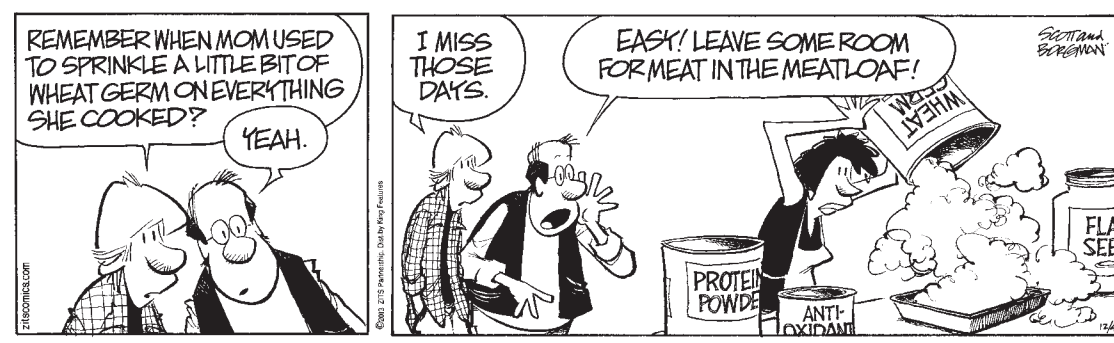
Shoe



Mother Goose and Grim



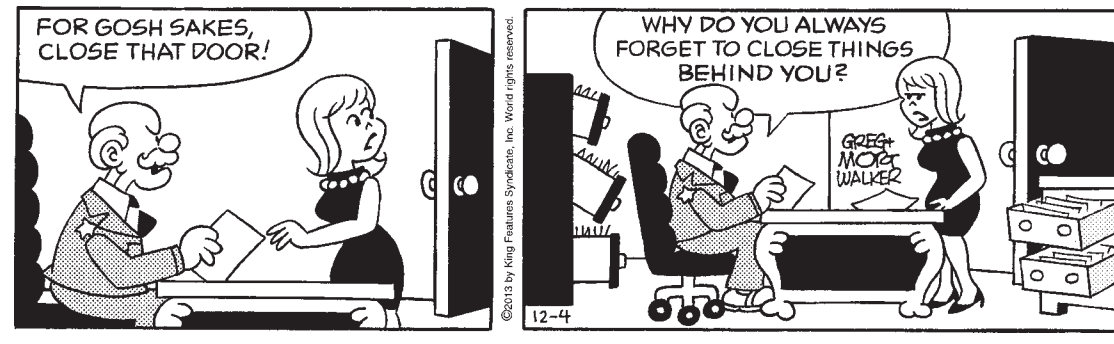
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Garfield



Beetle Bailey



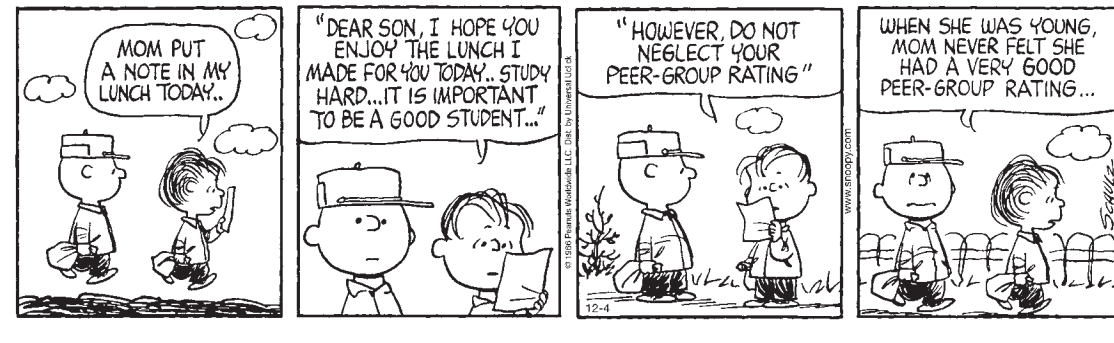
Marvin



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Obituaries

Lorena Sadie Wood

Lorena Sadie Wood, 90, died Sunday, Dec. 1, 2013 in Amarillo.

Funeral Services are scheduled for 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, 2013 at First Baptist Church in Friona with the Rev. Jeff Messer of Amarillo and the Rev. Brett Hoyle, pastor, officiating. Burial following at the Friona Memorial Garden west of Friona. Arrangements by Blackwell-Mullins Funeral Home of Friona.



Lorena Wood

Mrs. Wood was born July 14, 1923 in Bell County to Vincent and Sadie Pomykal Schiller. At a young age she moved to Anton. She graduated from Anton High School in 1941, where she was an All-State

basketball player.

She married her high school sweetheart, Noyle E. Wood in 1941 in Clovis, New Mexico. He preceded her in death on December 11, 1998. She had been a resident of Friona since 1954. She was a member of First Baptist Church. She carried the star rural route for the Friona Post Office for 38 years. She was a wonderful homemaker and a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, and she will be missed by her family and many friends. She was also preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by two sons, Ronnie Wood and wife Suzanne of Pampa, and Eddie W. Wood and wife Erin of Amarillo, a daughter, Jonelle Hand and husband Mike of Aledo, one sister, Ruthie Fite and husband Marion of Lubbock, her brother-in-law, Bill Wood of Levelland, nine grandchildren, Dana Katharyn Macik and husband Greg of Vail, Colo., Mark Taylor Wood and wife Shannon of Austin, Romni Durrett and husband Will of Wildorado, Matt Wood, Dane Wood, Dr.

Shane Hand and wife Staci, all of Amarillo, Dr. Reese Hand and wife Cristen of Aledo, Melissa Brittingham and husband Rodney of Seaford, Del., and Clint Hand and wife Amber of Lubbock, 13 great-grandchildren, Taylor Macik of Vail, Caleb, Luke and Julia Wood of Austin, Hunter and Hayden Hand, both of Amarillo, Cayson, Ty and Gracie Hand, all of Aledo, Lauran and Jonathan Hare, Ayden and Amanda Brittingham, all of Seaford, Del., and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church 404 West 5th St. Friona, Texas 79035, or a favorite charity. **You may sign the online register book at www.blackwellmullins.com.**

Allen Lee Baumgardner

Allen Lee Baumgardner, 51, died Sunday, Dec. 1, 2013 in Amarillo.

Memorial services will be at 1 p.m., Friday, Dec. 6, 2013, at First Presbyterian Church, with Rev. Jim Friedewald, pastor, officiating. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors.

Mr. Baumgardner was born Feb. 1, 1962 in Hereford. He was reared in Amarillo, attending Amarillo schools. He had been a resident of Pampa since 1981, working as a mechanic in the oilfield.

Survivors include his wife, Joyce Baumgardner of Pampa, his son, Dr. Allen Baumgardner of Africa, his mother and stepfather, Toni and Pat Connolly of Pampa, his father and stepmother, Ken and Margie Baumgardner of Friant, Calif., stepdaughter, Johanna Mears, stepson, Bobby Fowler, four step grandchildren, T.J. Harrison, Kasey Harrison, Karson Mears, and Madox Larue and a sister, Traci Baumgardner and husband Dr. Jerry Flynn of Springfield, Colo.

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

For the record

Pampa man arrested for disorderly conduct

• Kevin Young, 53, Pampa, was arrested Monday by the Pampa Police Department for disorderly conduct/language.

• David Shook, 40, Pampa, was arrested Monday by the Gray County Sheriff's Office for theft of services.

• Austin Buster, 43, Frisco, was arrested Monday by GCSO for motion for enforcement.
• Keith Rodriguez, 20,

Pampa, was arrested Monday by GCSO for a Pampa municipal violation — failure to yield at a stop intersection.

PFD call log — Nov. 29 — Dec. 3

The Pampa Fire Department responded to these calls for the following

dates. One unit with three personnel responded to each call, unless otherwise indicated.

Nov. 29

• At 9:46 p.m., to a medical assist in the 1200 block of South Finley.

Nov. 30

• At 11:03 a.m., to a medical assist in the 1000 block of South Dwight.
• At 1:39 p.m., to a medical assist in the 400 block of Doucette.

• At 4:09 p.m., three units and seven personnel to a smoke scare in the 1300 block Terrace.

• At 10:27 p.m., to an odor investigation in the 1100 block of Hobart.

Dec. 1

• At 11:23 a.m., to a gas leak in the 700 block of East Browning.
• At 12:23 p.m., to a medical assist in the 1300 block of Coffee.
• At 12:31 p.m., to a medical assist in the 200 block

of North Russell.

Dec. 2

• At 12:09 a.m., to a carbon monoxide investigation in the 800 block of Murphy.

• At 5:43 a.m., to a medical assist in the 2100 block of Chestnut.

• At 7:37 a.m., to a carbon monoxide investigation in the 1900 block of Lynn.

• At 7:54 a.m., to a medical assist in the 1600 block of Zimmers.

• At 9:35 a.m., to a medical assist in the 200 block of East Tyng.

• At 11:39 p.m., to a gasoline spill at Osage and Foster.

Dec. 3

• At 8:22 a.m., to a medical call in the 2100 block of North Zimmers.

PAMPA FORECAST

Today Thursday Friday



High 46 Low 21 High 25 Low 12 High 23 Low 6

Today: Partly cloudy with a high of 46. Winds east-northeast at 11 mph. Sunrise at 7:38 a.m.

Tonight: Light wintry mix late with a low of 21. Chance of rain: 50 percent. Winds northeast at 15 mph. Sunset at 5:31 p.m.

Thursday: Wintry mix with a high of 25. Chance of precipitation: 60 percent. Winds northeast at 14 mph. Sunrise at 7:39 a.m.

Thursday night: Snow showers with a low of 12. Chance of precipitation: 40 percent. Winds northeast at 9 mph. Sunset at 5:31 p.m.

Friday: Partly cloudy with a high of 23. Chance of snow: 20 percent. Winds north-northeast at 10 mph. Sunrise at 7:40 a.m.

Friday night: Mostly clear with a low of 6. Chance of snow: 10 percent. Winds east at 6 mph. Sunset at 5:31 p.m.

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HUNTERS SAFETY Course, classes forming soon. Call Dustin Larkin to add your name to the list, 806-440-1556.

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Viewpoints

The PAMPA NEWS
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This newspaper (UPS 781-540) is published daily, except Sundays, Mondays and all national holidays by The Pampa News, 403 W. Atchison. Periodicals postage paid at Pampa, Texas. Postmaster: send address changes to The Pampa News, P.O. Drawer 2198, Pampa, Texas 79066-2198.

Publisher: ReDonn Woods
Managing Editor: Tim Howsare
Sports Reporter: John Lee
Reporter/Intern: Lindsey Tomaschik
Advertising: Callie Odell
Business Manager: Carrie Hair
Circulation: Beverly Taylor

Subscription Rates – Mail Delivery
1 year \$114.00
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Prairie Plains Perspective Health care industry should have seen Obamacare coming



DENNIS PALMITIER

Crikey! Since 2005, I have been running around with scissors in one hand and a loaded pistol in the other. Since childhood and to this very day, I cannot pass up the chance to tease a hornets nest. Or while outdoors with Mother Nature, doing the same to the occasional rattlesnake I come across. When performing the arborist endeavor, I mess with some pretty wicked chemicals that can create potential side effects if ingested or inhaled. And, like most of humanity around these here parts, I have an up close and personal relationship with allergens A to Z that have impaired my ability every now and then, to breathe.

'Twas the year 2005 my then health care insurance provider, due to an asthmatic condition I no longer have and for honestly checking such on the application, chose to pre-exist me on anything upper respiratory when and if I visited the doctor's office. I mean, what is the cause for a goodly portion of doctor office visits? Why, the upper respiratory common cold! Logically, I promptly dropped the provider. Illogically, I didn't search for another provider. Rationalization 101: For me to be ill to the point of requiring a medico is a big step for me. I rarely get that sick, and if I do, first and foremost is OTC remedies and a look see at my diet. There have been two incidents in the past nine years a sawbones was

needed, and yes, those two were a tad expensive. One incident was thanks to a brown recluse spider, the other when opting to put a healthcare crisis of mine off during my mother's end of life experience. The put off failed miserably so.

Now, thanks to those dastardly Democrats back in 2010 and, law, do I sign up for a government program which I am morally and philosophicaly opposed to or, do I remain with my convictions by not signing up, thereby incurring the fining wrath of the IRS?

If I go the unsigned direction, remain uninsured, what will the fine be? Thus, for yours truly and soon to be most of the entire nation, the dilemma created by Obamacare is something we must deal with. For I, however, the dilemma was short lived, thanks to a little word that always has meant the world to me. Heritage.

Thanks again to those dastardly Democrats, they made me use my bean for something other than a gimme cap, for I am a citizen of the Cherokee Nation, and with that citizenship I am able to sign up for all healthcare privileges associated with such, and for the matter, healthcare privileges that are exempt from Obamacare!

A little research told me the Cherokee Nation Healthcare System is one of the best in the nation. So there, Obama and your ilk, here's a Bronx cheer courtesy moi! What's that? I know. Looking back, I should have used the bean in 2005.

The greater thanks, however, goes to my father and paternal grandmother

for this wonderful gift. My Cherokee ancestry is documented back to the 16th century. It has something to do with why the Cherokees are one of the "civilized tribes." Factually and historically, part of my tree was planted prior to any (I've always wanted to say this in a conversation) White folk stepping foot on a Florida beach.

Nothing will change my thoughts about Obamacare.

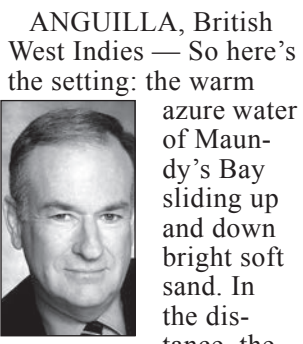
I think the act, law, whatever adjective you want to tag in front of it, is not the direction America should be going. It was my choice to be uninsured. It was my health care provider's right to pre-exist me on certain coverage, for they are in business to make money, not lose such.

Of course, the flip side is the health care industry should have seen Obamacare (share the wealth) coming and instituted their own plan. They did not, or chose not, and the results are an insult to our Founding Fathers and the cornerstone of this great nation.

When I look at Obamacare and the state of things currently going on with our government, I recall the following. "And so my fellow Americans: Ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country."

Pampa resident Dennis Palmitier is a regular contributor to the opinion page on issues that affect Pampa and Gray County. He can be reached at denpalm1949@yahoo.com. Anyone wishing to respond to Palmitier's viewpoints in the form of a letter to the editor can email editor Timothy P. Howsare at thowsare@thepampanews.com.

The technology of nature



BILL O'REILLY

ANGUILLA, British West Indies — So here's the setting: the warm azure water of Maundy's Bay sliding up and down bright soft sand. In the distance, the islands of St. Maarten and Saba can be seen. The blue sky above is dotted with huge white clouds that bob along propelled by a warm breeze. It doesn't get any better than this.

Yet on the beach, some human beings barely look up at the incredible vista. Their machines envelope them like Venus flytraps. They are texting, emailing and chatting with folks somewhere else on Earth.

Welcome to our brave new world.

H.G. Wells wrote a book called "The Time Machine," in which most humans were reduced to a trance-like existence, ruled by bad guys called Morlocks. You should read this book, because we are rapidly heading in that direction. By the way, the Morlocks were cannibals.

Texting is addictive. Once you get emotionally involved with constant external stimulation assaulting your brain, it is hard to stop looking at your machine every two minutes. Without rapid-fire words appearing on a screen, you feel bored, not part of the action. It really doesn't matter what is being sent to you; the fact that words are flashing in front of your eyes is hypnotizing.

Kids are the most vulnerable to the embrace of the machines. Children today don't really watch TV anymore. I mean, they still sit in front of the set, but they are texting while they're watching. They are

multitasking. Thus, their concentration is divided and much is missed, and not only on the tube, but also in life.

Nature is a brilliant teacher. But how can you learn if you can't even sit on a beautiful beach without playing with a machine? Forget about thinking. No time for introspection. Nope. There are messages that have to be answered. Stuff is happening and must be acknowledged.

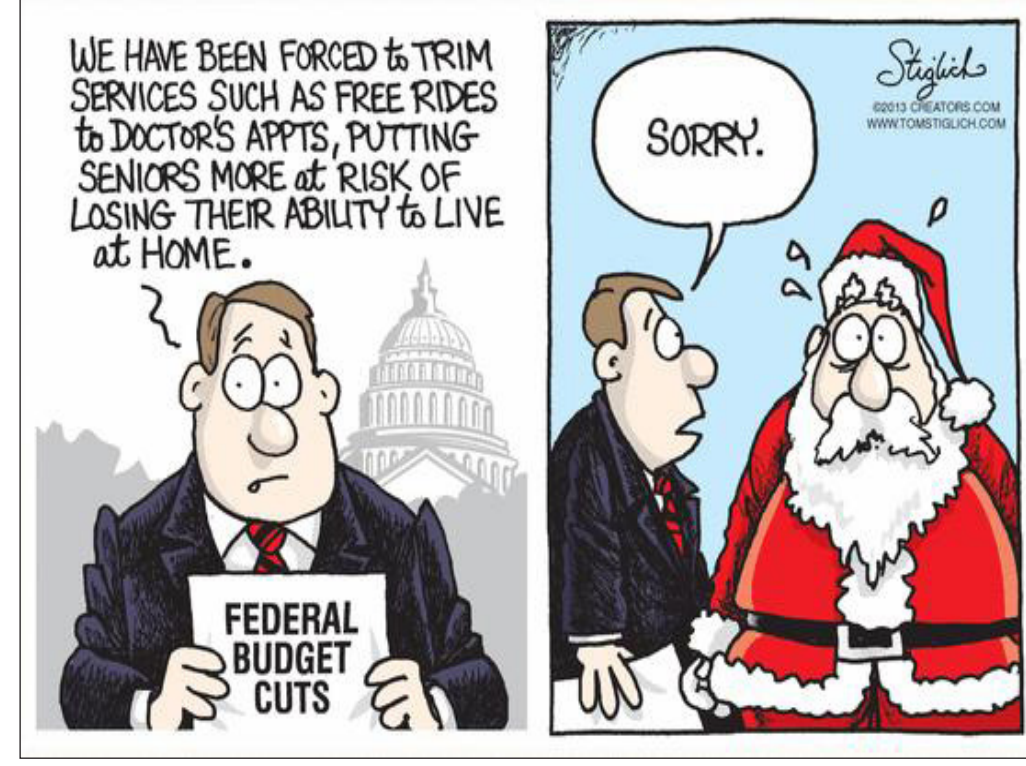
There is no question that communication and information flow are enhanced by the high-tech gizmos. Instantly, we can engage anyone in the world if we have their cyberspace information. But again, if we allow the machines to dominate us, we will miss out on real life, which, in order to be fully absorbed, needs to be seen and heard. Machine distractions prevent that.

When I tell children that they are far too dependent on their gizmos, they do not deny it, but they really don't care. This is their real life: texting about trivial things, listening to numbing music on their private headphones. The machines block everything out; you create your own little trivial world.

Socrates once said, "The unexamined life is not worth living." I concur. The world is a fascinating, difficult place, and in order to take full advantage of what the planet has to offer, we need to see and hear natural things.

That is if you don't want the Morlocks to get you.

Veteran TV news anchor Bill O'Reilly is host of the Fox News show "The O'Reilly Factor" and author of many books, including the newly released "Killing Jesus." To find out more about Bill O'Reilly and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit www.creators.com. This column originates on the website www.billoreilly.com.



How To Write Us

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

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

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Museum Musings The history of PHS girls' basketball

Basketball became important to Pampa High School girls in the early 1920s, about the same time that football was becoming a priority for boys.

The first PHS girls basketball team was organized in 1921, the same year that the first school year book, "The Harvest," was issued. The Harves for the girls consisted of baggy black sateen bloomers (probably made by their mothers), white middy blouses with black ties and black headbands. Since the school had no gymnasium, basketball was played on a hard dirt court somewhere on the school grounds.

At that time, the school campus was bounded by Francis Avenue on the south, Cuyler Street on the east, Browning Avenue on the north and Frost Street on the west.

Vera Cruz was probably the leader of the PHS girls



COURTNEY OXLEY

basketball team. She came with some of her family from the Plemons settlement near Borger to Pampa in 1916. In 1921, Vera and her mother were living at 803 W. Foster Ave. Like most of the students who lived in town, Vera walked to the school building at 126 W. Francis Ave.

On rainy days the unpaved streets were very muddy and Vera's mother insisted that she wear overshoes. Vera did not want to wear the clumsy overshoes to school so she went by the Woodward-Lane Grocery Store at 109 N. Cuyler St. to leave them while she was attending classes.

At PHS Vera became acquainted with Herman Whatley, son of the pastor of the First Baptist Church. Herman played fullback on the Pampa Harvesters football team in 1923 and 1924. At that time the football boys practiced where the Gray County Court House now stands, and games were played about where the city warehouse and shops are located between the railroad tracks and Brown Street. Her-

man graduated from PHS in 1925 with a class of 25 members. He went with his parents to Brownwood and attended Howard Payne University. However, he returned to Pampa and started farming.

After Vera graduated from PHS in 1924, she took nurse's training in Amarillo for a time. Then she returned to Pampa and became chief operator when the telephone office was upstairs in the First National Bank Building at 100 North Cuyler. Herman and Vera were married on July 21 in the 1920s and they became the parents of one daughter, Vicki Dean.

After farming during the depression years, Herman began to work at the G.C. Alone Funeral Home at 114 W. Kingsmill Ave. He spent 47 years in this business before retiring in 1981 as a partner in the Carmichael-Whatley Funeral Home. In 1939, he obtained his amateur radio license and made contact with thousands of people all over the world. Serving in several capacities, Herman was a member of the

First Baptist Church, and he joined the Downtown Kiwanis Club in 1946. He served on the Pampa School Board from 1947 to 1951. After her marriage, Vera was a homemaker and accompanied Herman to many church and civic affairs. Instead of a black headband, she always wore a hat.

The White Deer Land Museum is gearing up for the holidays and invites you to come and take pictures with Santa on Dec. 7, 2013, the day of the Christmas Parade.

Also, the White Deer Land Museum Board is having a raffle for a \$100 Walmart card and two \$50 Walmart Cards the day of the parade. For \$1 raffle tickets, stop by the museum or contact a board member.

Visit the White Deer Land Museum in downtown Pampa. Regular tours are offered Tuesday through Saturday from 1-4 pm. If you would like to schedule a special or group tour, please call or email the museum at 806-669-8041 or courtney.oxley@graycch.com. Sources: Eloise Lane columns.

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Pampa Faith

Minister, author to speak at gospel meetings Dec. 8-10

SUBMITTED

The Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ will be hosting gospel meetings Dec. 8-10 at the church, 1342 Mary Ellen St. John W. Smith will be the speaker.



John Smith

Regular church service times will be held on Sunday Dec. 8. They are 9:30 a.m. for Bible class, 10:30 a.m. for morning worship and 5 p.m. for evening worship. The meetings will also be held at 7 p.m., Monday Dec. 9 and Tuesday Dec. 10.

Smith has been a preacher and teacher for 56 years. Currently he resides in Huntsville, Ala. He is widely known as a thought provoking speaker with the ability to provoke both laughter and tears. Audiences are moved by his stories of home. He has received many honors and accolades in the field of intercollegiate debate, original oratory, poetry reading and extemporaneous speaking.

He is also a writer. His first book, "My Mother Played The Piano," was published in April of 1993 and received the prestigious, "Angel Award" for excellence in Christian literature in 1999. That was followed by "My Mother's Favorite Song," then his series of five gift books called, "Hugs For The Heart," then, "Oak Trees And Angels," "Rocking Chair Tales," then his recent five book series on the Restoration Church followed by his Adult study Guide/commentary on 1 and 2 Peter. His latest book — Teaching Faith To Our Children" was published Oct. 15. He is presently working on three books as he travels and speaks at various functions. Approximately one million, four hundred thousand copies of his books have now been sold.

For more information on the meet-

ings, contact the church office at 806-665-0031. For more information on Smith and his works, visit Johnsmith.com.

Hi-Land Christian Pastor Mike Sublett to start teaching class

On Wednesday, Dec. 4 from 8:10-9 p.m. in the Hi-Land Christian Church fellowship hall, Pastor Mike Sublett will begin teaching a new advanced class called: "The Essentials of the Christian Faith."

Sublett described the class in these words: "Many of us in Pampa have recently been reminded that there are always false teachings running around that faithful believers need to stay away from. The best way to know what teachings to stay away from is to know the ESSENTIAL teachings in the Bible. Not all "teachings" are of equal importance in God's eyes. Being wrong on a molehill is not as big of a deal as being wrong on a MOUNTAIN. We are going to be talking about the mountain teachings in the Christian faith and a few really big molehills. I hope that this will help us all spot wolves in sheep's clothing better."

Lubbock Christian Choir comes to Pampa Dec. 16

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

As part of their tour, the choir will also perform in Lockney, Amarillo, Pueblo, Colo., Denver, Colo., and Castle Rock, Colo.

The church would like to extend a welcome to everyone in the community to come and hear the praises of God from a wonderful group of young people.

CHURCH SPOTLIGHT

Life is an open-book test

Author Jack Kornfield wrote, "This life is a test — it is only a test. If it had been an actual life, you would have received further instructions on where to go and what to do. Remember, this life is only a test."

Life IS a test, but God has given us all the answers. The instructions are found in His Word. You could say, then, that this life is an open-book test.

Have you ever taken an open-book test? When I was in school, I loved it when teachers gave open-book tests. At first, they seem so easy. You can have the book open during the test! No late-night cramming. No last-minute frenzy to memorize facts and figures. You just look up the answers.

But open-book tests are not always as easy as you might think. An open-book test has a much higher standard of accountability. If you have the answers right there in front of you, there's no excuse for a wrong answer — it was right



CHRIS ELY

there in your open book!

It's the same in life. The "tests" God brings into our lives are always open-book. We don't need to cram or study for them, we simply need to open the Bible and apply its instructions to our lives. The prophet Micah says it plainly: "He has showed you, O man, what is good" (Micah 6:8). God's instructions for our lives are clearly outlined

in His Word, and each test is an opportunity to put our faith into action.

Psalm 119:105 says, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." If we take time to look into God's Word, He will give us the answers we need.

Regardless of the test you face, the answers are in the Book. Just read its instructions and you'll ace the test every time!

Chris Ely is a Pampa resident and author of the book Through Eyes of Faith. He can be contacted at eyeofaith@aol.com.

Church Calendar

Southside Church of Christ

Southside Church of Christ is located at 11923 W. McCullough Ave, Pampa.

The church extends an open invitation to all to come and worship where the gospel, "God's Word," is always taught and preached.

Regular worship services are: Sunday morning Bible study, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.; morning worship begins at 10:45 a.m. to noon; Wednesday night Bible study is from 5 to 6 p.m.

McLean Cowboy Church

McLean Cowboy Church is a non-denominational spirit-filled Christian church. The pastor is Ronnie Ferguson.

Sunday worship is at 10:30 a.m. and children's ministry is Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

The ages for the children's ministry are nursery through fifth grade. The church is located at the intersection of state Highway 273 and Interstate 40 in McLean. For more information, call 806-779-0260.

Pampa Church Directory	Bible Baptist Church 500 E. Kingsmill Ave. Pampa TX 79065 669-7830	First Christian Church 1633 N. Nelson Pampa TX 79065 669-3225	Macedonia Baptist Church 441 Elm Pampa TX 79065 665-4926
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	Calvary Assembly of God Church 1030 Love Street Pampa TX 79065 669-7207	First Presbyterian 525 N. Gray Pampa TX 79065 665-1031	New Hope Missionary Baptist Church 912 S. Gray St. Pampa TX 79065 665-4044
	Calvary Baptist 900 E. 23rd Street Pampa TX 79065 665-0842	First United Methodist Foster & Ballard Pampa TX 79065 669-7411	New Life Assembly of God 1435 N. Sumner Pampa TX 79065 665-0804
	Carpenter's Church 639 S. Barnes Pampa TX 79065 669-2720	Harvest Fellowship Baptist Church 2700 W. Kentucky Ave. Pampa TX 79065 665-4922	Open Door Church of God in Christ 402 Oklahoma Pampa TX 79065 665-6132
	Central Baptist Church 513 E. Francis Pampa TX 79065 665-1631	Harvest Bible Church 300 W. Browning Avenue Pampa TX 79065 669-2923	Priest Park Church of God 731 N. Faulkner Pampa TX 79065 688-0174
	Church of Christ 1342 Mary Ellen Pampa TX 79065 665-0031	Hobart Baptist Church 1100 W. Crawford Pampa TX 79065 669-3212	Primeria Iglesia Bautista Mexicana 541 Hamilton Pampa TX 79065 665-8347
	Church of Christ Somerville 500 N. Somerville Pampa TX 79065 665-0004	Hi-land Christian Church 1615 N. Banks Pampa TX 79065 669-6700	Redeemer Pampa 225 N. Cuyler Pampa, TX 79065
	Church of God Gwendolen & Sumner Pampa TX 79065 669-6372	Highland Baptist Church 1301 N. Banks Pampa TX 79065 665-3300	Salvation Army 701 S. Cuyler Pampa TX 79065 665-7233
	Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints 411 East 29th Ave. Pampa TX 79065 669-2967	Iglesia Bautista Emanuel 1021 S. Barnes Pampa TX 79065 665-4330	Seventh Day Adventist Church 421 N. Ward Pampa TX 79065 665-4492
	Church of the Nazarene 500 N. West Pampa TX 79065 669-3144	Iglesia Casa Del Alfarero 500 N. Duncan Pampa TX 79065 665-5898	Southside Church of Christ 11927 McCullough Pampa TX 79065 665-2183
	Community Christian School 409 N. Frost Pampa, TX 79065 665-3393	Iglesia Cristiana Canaan 905 E. Beryl St. Pampa TX 79065 669-3330	St. Paul United Methodist Church 511 N. Hobart Pampa TX 79065 665-8951
	Cornerstone Baptist Church 2410 W. 23rd Ave. Pampa TX 79065 669-6509	Iglesia Nueva Vida New Life Church 1200 S. Sumner Pampa, TX 79065 665-8331	St. Mark CME Church 406 Elm Ave Pampa TX 79065 665-6743
	Crosspointe 711 E. Harvester Pampa TX 79065 665-2480	Jehovah's Witnesses 1701 Coffee Pampa TX 79065 669-9355	St. Matthews Episcopal Church 727 W. Browning Pampa TX 79065 665-0701
	Faith Bible Church 110 W. Kingsmill Pampa TX 79065 688-9266	Kentucky Ave. Church of Christ 1612 W. Kentucky Pampa TX 79065 665-2572	St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church 810 W. 23rd Ave. Pampa TX 79065 665-8933
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BSA HOSPICE TREE LIGHTING



Photo by Lindsey Tomaschik

BSA Home Care and Hospice had its annual Tree Lighting ceremony on Monday evening. The guest of honor was L.W. Downey, whose wife, Izeda, was a long-time patient. Downey has been donating to the hospice center for years and as guest of honor, he got to turn on the lights to the outdoor Christmas tree. From left, Lori Crutchfield, RN, L.W. Downey, BSA Home Care and Hospice Director Laurie Cochran and daughter Elise and vocalist Joe Martinez.

Carmichael

Continued From Page 1

20 percent of our business now and it gets your attention in a hurry.”

Cremations have been on the rise lately because of various reasons. Many believe they are “environmentally” friendlier, less expensive and don’t require a place of burial.

“There are lots of transient people now who come and go through Pampa who don’t plan to live here or be buried here so they have their loved ones cremated so they can take them with them or scatter them in a forest or other natural area,” Carmichael said. There are lots of different reasons people have cremations.”

In the United States, embalming evolved dur-

ing the Civil War when Dr. Thomas Holmes developed a way to preserve the bodies of fallen soldiers until they were taken home for their families to bury.

But that’s not the only interesting nugget of funeral history.

Furniture makers were the early undertakers because they knew how to build coffins. Since they made the caskets, many furniture makers also handled the funeral arrangements.

“At the turn of the 20th century, I think society wanted more than what they were getting out of funeral services,” Carmichael said.

“[There was] just a desire for nicer services, merchandise and more formal types of funerals.”

While he hasn’t had many odd requests, one

of the ways funerals have changed over time is the request for recorded music.

While he prefers to have live music, Carmichael said that many families have been requesting recorded music, whether it’s country, contemporary rock or Christian rock.

When a family member passes away, the process is taken over directly by the funeral home at the moment of death.

The funeral directors gather information from the family and plan the service.

There is a lot that goes into the planning, but it all varies based on the type of service.

For more information on Carmichael-Whitley Funeral Directors, call 806-665-2323 or visit www.carmichael-whitley.com.

Cloud

Continued From Page 1

Avenue.

The FSA office covers both Gray and Roberts counties.

Tuesday was her last day. Cloud leaves the agency as its acting county executive director; she took on the job when Matt Street retired in March.

Cloud said the agency is seeking a new county director, but doesn’t know when that person will be

hired.

When Cloud started 34 years ago, her work was very hands on — administering program payments and even measuring grain bins.

Again she expressed how much she enjoyed working with the local growers.

“They are compassionate and friendly. They are good people.”

However, over the years Cloud said working for the federal government had become more stressful and frustrating as the staff at

her office was slowly cut back from five full-time employees to just herself and another person who comes into the Gray County office two or three days a week to help out.

When the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 was enacted — heralded by the Clinton Administration as a way to both save the taxpayers’ money and protect the environment by cutting down fewer trees — Cloud said the law actually doubled their paperwork.

This year, the USDA was looking to reduce its

workforce in Texas by four people, Cloud said. She applied for voluntary retirement and was approved.

When she first got the approval letter, she was thinking about turning down the offer, but her husband Alan felt differently.

Alan said if it was he who got the letter, he’d be so happy he wouldn’t even show up for work that day.

A retirement party was held for Cloud Saturday at the Pampa Country Club, which she said was a good time.

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Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal.

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Efforts

Continued From Page 1

help out with taking elderly people to doctor, store or to pick up their prescriptions,” she said. “There are elderly people who can’t get out to shop or get their medicine.”

The Knotts said they are already assisting elderly people, along with mothers who need child care so they can work.

“We see mothers who can’t work because they have children to take care of,” Suzanne said. “I am already doing a lot of babysitting.”

Because of their jobs — Dale works at the prison and Suzanne is a substitute teacher — their backgrounds have been thoroughly checked, they said.

Suzanne was born in Alabama and Dale hails from Wisconsin. The Knotts now live on Banks Street in Pampa.

Anyone wishing to help the Knotts in their volunteer efforts should call them at 806-665-7074.

Also, anyone seeking the kind of help described in this article can call them. However, the Knotts said they have criteria that callers need to meet.



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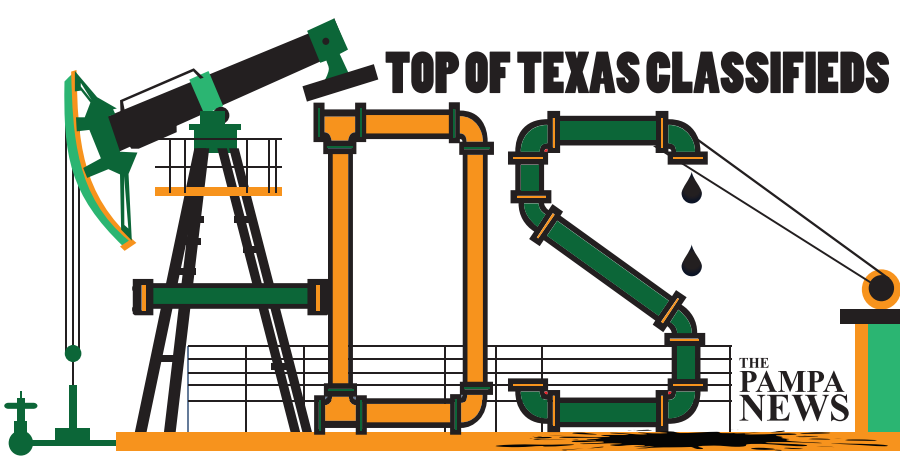
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<p>Personal</p> <p>ADOPTION: Adventurous, Financially Secure, LOVE, Stay-Home-Mom years for 1st baby. Expenses paid. 1-888-664-2648. Vanessa&Chad</p> <p>Special Notice</p> <p>CHRISTMAS Dec. 7th % To PAWS Booth #37 Dolls, Bears, Jewelry Neat Kitchen Items Holiday Wreaths Boots & Horseshoes Sat. Frost & Browning</p> <p>Lost & Found</p> <p>LOST Border Collie near 1400 block E. Browning. REWARD! Black w/white paws, chest & tip of tail. Missing since 11/17. Please call 928-231-0287.</p> <p>Carpentry</p> <p>CUSTOM Building & Remodeling: Kitchens, Bathrooms & Additions. Shawn Deaver Construction, 662-2977</p> <p>OVERHEAD DOOR REPAIR. Kidwell Construction. Call 669-6347, 806-663-0192.</p>	<p>Carpet Service</p> <p>NU-WAY CLEANING SERVICE Bob Marx Owner-Operator. Call 665-3541.</p> <p>Help Wanted</p> <p>BOOKKEEPER needed: Exp. necessary. Payroll, accounts payable, general ledger, bank reconciliations, & oil/gas accounting. Salary based on experience. Experience in Wolfe Pac software a plus. Send resume to P.O. Box 2018, Pampa, TX 79066-2018</p> <p>CHEMICAL applicator needed. Good driving record and drug test required. Good benefits. 806-665-4675</p> <p>COOK needed. Chicken Express, 2201 Perroyon Pkwy in Pampa. Apply in person only. MUST be able to pass drug test.</p> <p>DISHWASHER needed. Must be 18. Apply in person at Dyer's Bar-B-Que. NO phone calls, please!</p> <p>FULL-TIME and Part-time help needed at Hoagies Deli. Apply in person at 1201 N. Hobart.</p>	<p>Help Wanted</p> <p>NOTICE Readers are urged to fully investigate advertisements which require payment in advance for information, services or goods.</p> <p>PART-TIME to Full-time help needed, previous experience with glass preferred. Will train right person. Driver's license required. Apply in person 315 W. Foster.</p> <p>Steamer Operator Needed. Experienced req., benefits provided. Apply in person, 408 S. Price Rd.</p> <p>TOP PAY For Maintenance Man. Must have valid Driver's License. Apply at 800 N. Nelson. 665-1875</p> <p>Miscellaneous</p> <p>FOR SALE: Double Lawn Crypt in Memory Gardens. Call 806-898-2451</p> <p>SALE on mattresses. Queen set \$246, Full \$180-236, King \$436. 1424 S. Barnes. Country Red Barn 665-2767</p>	<p>Garage Sale</p> <p>ESTATE SALE J.D. & Lorene Paris, 416 South Main, Miami, TX. By appointment only Thurs. Dec. 5, 9am-6pm. Call Martha Porter 1-806-662-0710. OPEN TO PUBLIC Fri. Dec. 6th & Sat. Dec. 7th, 9am-6pm.</p> <p>Feed & Seeds</p> <p>HAYGRAZER for Sale Large Round Bales Delivery available. Call 806-278-0383 or 806-845-2700</p> <p>Furnished Apts.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>ROOM For Rent. \$110 week, all bills paid including cable. Private entrance. Call 806-661-8508.</p> <p>Unfurnished Apts.</p> <p>APTS. Houses Duplexes. K&B Properties. Ref. & dep. req. Lakeview Apts. 669-4386</p> <p>CAPROCK APTS. 1, 2 and 3 bedrooms with rent starting as low as \$445/mo. Pool and on-site laundry, W/D hookups in all 2 and 3 bdrms. 665-7149.</p> <p>LARGE 1 bdr. apts. w/app. are in walking distance to things you need. 665-4274, 663-2579, 881-8518.</p>
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Herd Technician- Starting pay \$10.00

- Pay increase within 6 months
- Cares for the pigs and other animal husbandry type duties

You can apply in person @ Smithfield Premium Genetics located 11 Miles East of Pampa on Hwy 60 between 10:00am - 3:00pm or at the Texas Workforce Office in Amarillo. Contact Robert Pefley at 806-663-7672 for more information.

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"Forever Friends" hoping to find new warm homes for Christmas.

"Jangle" Lab Female Puppy #11524	"Donder" Terrier Male #11448	"Faith" Calico Kitten Female #11513	"Blitzen" Basset Hound Male #11488	"Eve" Rottweiler Mix Female #11472	"Snow" Boxer Pup Male #11462

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PampaSports

PJHS boys' basketball team impresses

SUBMITTED
The Pampa Junior High boys' basketball team traveled to River Road last Monday. The seventh grade A team won 35-6. Ethan Lemke put in 10 points, while Robert Botello and Reid Smith followed with eight each. Hugo Quezada played well on defense and led the team in rebounds.

The eighth grade A team won 43-25. Brandon Steward dominated the game, putting in 25 points. Keshawn Stewart dropped in eight points. Brady Porter led the team in rebounds.

Monday night, the boys hosted Borger. The seventh grade A team lost 28-24 in a nail-biter. They were down 10 points late in the game, but Ethan Lemke and Robert Botello led a big come back with solid defense and hustle plays.

Botello finished with 10 points and Lemke had eight. Cader Powell also made a lot of hustle plays on defense to help spark the team. The eighth grade boys won a close battle 48-44, extending their perfect record to 3-0.

It was a great team effort that included several steals and hustle plays from Moses Avila. Brandon Steward and Cade Lauderdale led the team in scoring with 12 points each. Avila and Brady Porter also added eight points each.

Zack Trimble came in during the second quarter and made some big plays that helped keep Pampa in the game.

The boys have one final home game before Christmas Break. They will host last year's district champion, Bushland, next Monday night at 5 p.m. and 6:15 p.m.

Angels acquire outfielder Gentry, Lindblom from Texas Rangers

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — The Athletics added outfield depth Tuesday, acquiring Craig Gentry and right-hander Josh Lindblom from the division rival Texas Rangers for outfielder Michael Choice and minor league infielder Chris Bostick.

The teams announced the deal Tuesday, a day after Oakland traded for AL saves leader Jim Johnson in a swap with Baltimore and also reached agreement on a \$22 million, two-year contract with

left-handed starter Scott Kazmir.

While the two-time defending AL West champion A's have their starting outfield returning in center fielder Coco Crisp, left fielder Yoenis Cespedes and right fielder Josh Reddick, Gentry provides an option off the bench and creates depth. The returnees have dealt with injuries in recent seasons.



Craig Gentry

Gentry batted .280 with two homers and 22 RBIs in 106 games for the Rangers this year; Lindblom went 1-3 with a 5.46 ERA in five starts and three relief appearances.

For the Rangers, acquiring Choice brings the outfielder back home to Texas — and he will have a chance to contribute right away rather than

be competing to make the big league team out of spring training with Oakland.

"It's something I've always dreamed about, playing at home," said Choice, who grew up in Fort Worth attending Rangers games.

The 24-year-old Choice made his major league debut in September and played nine games late in the season for the A's, batting .278 with a double and two runs scored.

Jon Daniels considers Choice an option for now and the future. Choice could become the everyday left fielder if the Rangers don't re-sign Nelson Cruz.

Bostick played for Class A Beloit in 2013 and hit .282 with 14 home runs and 89 RBIs in 129 games. He drew 51 walks for a .354 on-base percentage and stole 25 bases.

He provides depth for the organization in the middle infield.

Junior high school girls basketball fall in tough games

SUBMITTED

The eighth grade girls basketball teams traveled to Borger last night. The B team game went into double overtime with several of the girls fouling out of the game. The final score was 18 to 31. Top scorer was Destiny Portillo with seven points. The A team played a very rough game and lost 17 to 41. The top scorer was Tya Hayes with eighth points.

Sooners stand between Cowboys and Big 12 title

STILLWATER, Okla. (AP) — No. 6 Oklahoma State has come a long, long way from its head-scratching loss to West Virginia.

The preseason Big 12 favorite is one win from its second league championship in the last three years. A victory would give the Cowboys a share of the title with the winner of the game between No. 9 Baylor and No. 23 Texas. Oklahoma State (10-1, 7-1) would be set for a

top BCS game as well. That win, however, will need to come at home Saturday in the annual Bedlam rivalry game against No. 18 Oklahoma (9-2, 6-2 Big 12).

"It doesn't get any bigger than this, especially for me being from Oklahoma," said senior defensive tackle Calvin Barnett, preparing for the last home game of his college career. "I grew up in Tulsa watching this game. As a team, we know this means

a lot. Every week for us has been a big game, and it's all led up to the biggest game. It feels really good knowing that all the work we've put into it so far is coming out and that the chance is actually here."

Sunday School
9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship
10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Wednesday Activities
(Children, Youth, Adult Bible Study)
7 p.m.
Nursery provided for all services

Highland Baptist
1301 North Banks Pampa, Texas 79065

Watch the Pros

Hockey
Philadelphia Flyers at Detroit Red Wings.....NBCSN 7 p.m.

Basketball
San Antonio Spurs at Minnesota Timberwolves...NBATV 8:30 p.m.

College Basketball
Maryland at Ohio St.....ESPN 6 p.m.
Wisconsin at Virginia.....ESPN2 6 p.m.
Northwestern at NC State.....ESPNU 6:30 p.m.
St. Joseph's at Temple.....ESPNNews 7 p.m.
Boston College at Purdue.....ESPN2 8 p.m.
North Carolina at Michigan St.....ESPN 8 p.m.
Miami (FL) at Nebraska.....ESPNU 8:30 p.m.

****Check your local listings for channel number****
*****Times may vary and blackouts may apply*****

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