

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 2018

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CRAZY FACTS

23 facts you should know about Chick-fil-A.

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SEASON OPENER

The RockHounds defeat the Springfield Cardinals 6-5 in the first game of the season.

Page 1C

AAA Texas: Odessa ends Midland's gas-price streak 21 locations in Odessa are selling regular unleaded for \$2.75 a gallon

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

Midland's streak of having the highest-priced gasoline in the state ended after 17 weeks.

It took an eye-opening jump in the price of gas in Odessa to do it, but after nearly four months, Midland can pass the baton to its neighbor in the west, according to the weekly report from AAA Texas.

Statistics show the average price of regular unleaded gas in Midland rose by a penny to \$2.62. All but one city in the state of Texas showed a difference of three cents or less in the price of gas between last week and this week, according to AAA Texas. The exception was Odessa, which showed an 11 cent difference for a price increase to \$2.68. By analyzing prices listed on the gasoline website TexasGasPrices.com, it appears a reason

for the jump — which was 11 times the state and national average — was that one retailer raised its price to \$2.75 at all but one of its 22 Odessa locations. In Odessa, \$2.75 a gallon became the most common price for gas with 24 stores showing that amount Thursday morning.

The dramatic rise in Odessa became the main reason for a nearly-6 cent increase across Midland-Odessa, according to TexasGasPrices.com. The average in the two

cities was \$2.64, an increase from \$2.505 one month ago and \$2.338 one year ago.

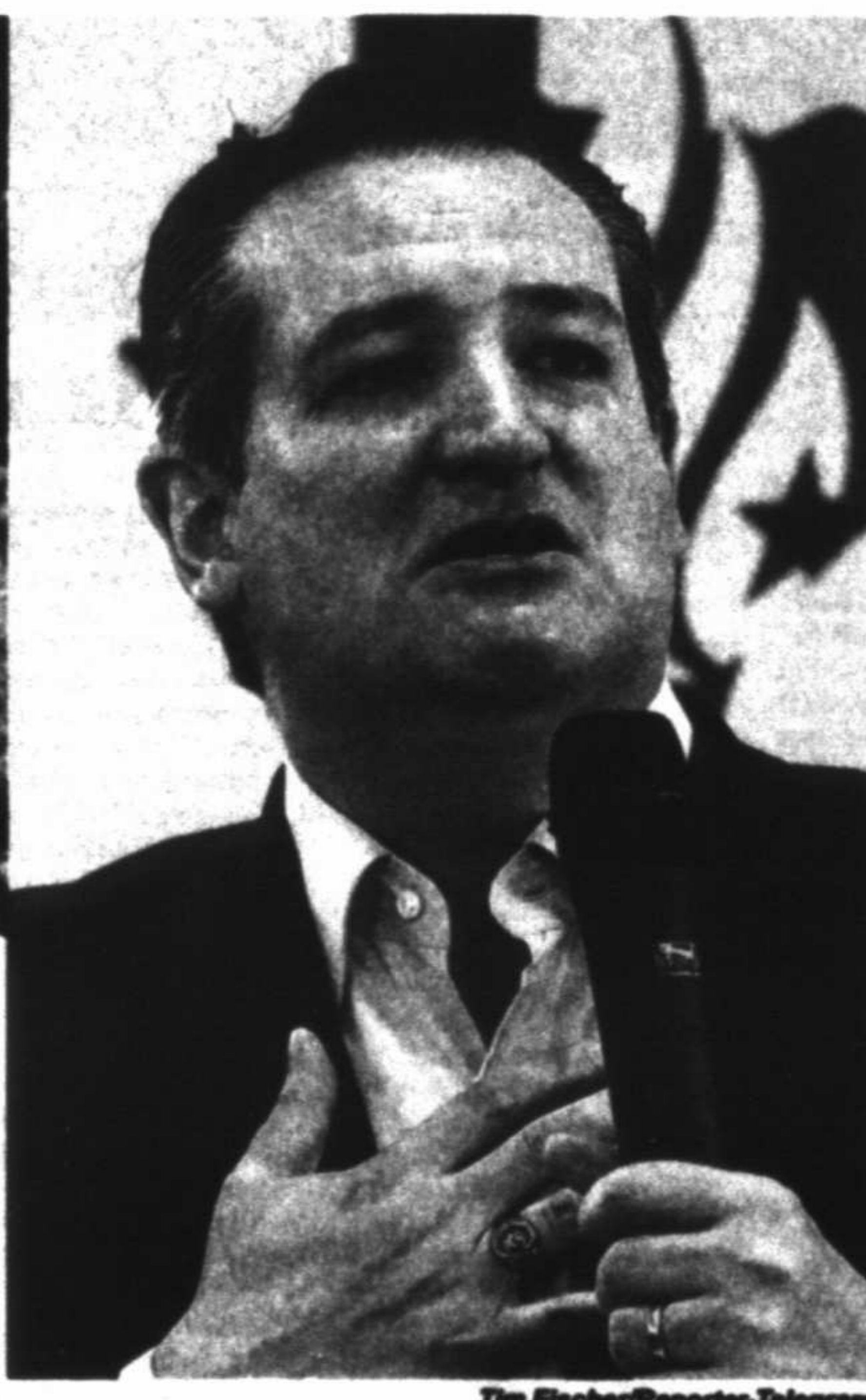
AAA Texas showed the average price of regular unleaded gas across Texas to be \$2.43 a gallon. The national average was \$2.66. While the most expensive average price was in Odessa, San Antonio was again home to the cheapest gasoline statewide at an average \$2.32 per gallon.

Please see GAS/2A

HEATED TALK



Brett Coomer / Houston Chronicle



Tim Fletcher/Reporter-Telegram

U.S. Rep. Beto O'Rourke, D-Texas, speaks during a campaign stop in his bid for a U.S. Senate seat on April 2, 2017, in Houston.

U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz makes a stop in on Midland Wednesday at Discovery Operating, speaking to area residents on a campaign tour of Texas.

Cruz, O'Rourke spar on immigration

By Trevor Hawes
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Democratic U.S. Senate contender Beto O'Rourke shook up the race Tuesday after he announced he had raised \$6.7 million in the first quarter for his campaign, outpacing incumbent Ted Cruz.

The talk between the two is already getting heated.

Cruz jabbed the representative from El Paso during a campaign event in Midland on Wednesday, saying that O'Rourke's priorities don't match those of Texas. His example came from the State of the Union.

"Every member of Congress is entitled to bring one guest to the State of the Union," Cruz said. "Congressman O'Rourke's guest was an illegal alien that he wanted to give amnesty to. If you want to talk about where his priority is, that was his one guest."

"I joined with Congressman Henry Cuellar, the Democrat from South Texas, and the two of us invited Stephen and Pam Willeford, and they came with us as

More content

■ Beto O'Rourke will be visiting Midland Saturday. Read coverage from O'Rourke's visit in a future edition.

■ View more photos from Cruz's visit inside.

Page 4A

our guests for the State of the Union."

Stephen Willeford is credited for helping end the mass shooting at First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs in November, when 26 people were killed. Armed with an AR-15 semi-automatic rifle, Willeford shot the gunman, Devin Patrick Kelley, twice as Kelley exited the church. Cruz's priority is preserving the Second Amendment.

O'Rourke's guest was Daisy Arvizu a so-called Dreamer — from the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act — brought to the U.S. illegally by her parents when she was 1. She attends El Paso Community College and works two jobs. Cruz has little

tolerance for immigrants here in the U.S. illegally and none for amnesty.

The choice of guests "illustrates the relative priorities of what each of us will fight for," Cruz said. "In Texas, we want our cities to be sanctuaries — but sanctuaries for Americans and for those who came to this country legally, like my dad did in 1957 from Cuba."

For O'Rourke, immigrants with citizenship-status situations like Arvizu must be addressed.

"Daisy was 1 year old when she was brought to the U.S. Before she could speak or read or have any conception of citizenship, her parents made the difficult decision to bring Daisy here. She has grown up in this country, the only country she's known," he told the Reporter-Telegram on Wednesday. He, like Cruz, is making stops across several Texas towns this week.

"And really to the point that Sen. Cruz is trying to make, she's actually here with the permission of the United States government," he said. "She is part of the

Please see SPAR/4A

Spokeswoman: Two MPD vehicles involved in wrecks

From staff reports

Two Midland Police Department fleet vehicles were involved Thursday in wrecks related to a vehicle pursuit, according to the city's spokeswoman.

Sgt. Allen Payne was driving a Chevy Tahoe westbound on Louisiana Avenue at about 10:40 a.m. Faced with a red light, Payne attempted to proceed through the "A" Street intersection and collided with a Toyota Highlander, Elana Ladd said via email. The Tahoe was in the left lane, and its lights and sirens were activated; however, investigators believe that a vehicle in the right lane of Louisiana obstructed the view of both drivers, she said.

At about the same time, a Chevy Tahoe driven by Officer Ciro Chairez was traveling eastbound on Michigan Avenue when it was stopped by a construction trench, and the vehicle's tires were punctured, she said.

Both officers were assisting with the pursuit of Midlander Arnoldo Vargas Jr., 37. When Vargas failed to pull over for a traffic stop, a low-speed pursuit ensued through central Midland before Vargas was arrested, Ladd said. He was taken into custody on multiple outstanding felony warrants and was being held Thursday on a charge of evading arrest/detention with a motor vehicle, a charge of

Please see WRECKS/2A

Midland again tied for fifth lowest jobless rate in US

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

Midland tied for the fifth lowest unemployment rate in the nation during the month of February, according to statistics released Wednesday by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

It is the second straight month Midland tied for the fifth lowest jobless rate (2.5 percent).

The same metropolitan statistical areas were at the top of the list in January and February — Honolulu, Hawaii; Ames, Iowa; and Kahului-Wailuku-Lahaina,

Please see JOBS/2A

Visit us on social media



Price of oil

\$63.54 ▲ \$0.17

The big number

309

women from the two major parties have filed to run for the House, Page 7A

Word of the Day:

obsequance

Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 5A.

Brought to you daily by



Vol. 89, No. 28

Daily \$2, Sunday \$3



63647 00001

Classified 1D | Comics 5B | Dear Abby 7B | Lottery 3A | Obituaries 4B | Puzzles 7C | Stocks 6C | TV 7B

CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES



Photos by James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

ABOVE: Project managers look over construction Thursday on the University of Texas of the Permian Basin engineering building. BELOW: Progress is made on the construction of the UTPB engineering building.



Fake photographer, director in Texas gets 40 years for abuse

Associated Press

DALLAS — Prosecutors say a North Texas man who faked being a photographer and movie director to gain access to boys must serve 40 years in prison for molesting the children.

Kevin Scott Morris of Forney was sentenced

Wednesday in Dallas in a plea deal. The 45-year-old Morris in December pleaded guilty to enticement of a minor.

Court documents indicate Morris falsely portrayed himself as being part of the photo industry to persuade parents to let their sons travel with him

for possible modeling or acting careers.

Prosecutors say at least 10 boys were molested from 2009 through 2016, until a victim reported the abuse to law officers in Orange County, California. Morris was indicted in January 2017. Forney is 20 miles southeast of Dallas.

GAS

From 1A

Strong demand and preparation for summer gasoline are key factors that have driven and will continue to drive higher gas prices into early spring, according to the association. Market analysts anticipate that gas prices will increase as summer approaches. In the south and southeast regions of the U.S., gas inventories saw an increase, helping to keep prices in the

region lower than most other parts of the country.

"Texans are paying 24 cents more per gallon for regular unleaded gasoline when you compare today's statewide average price to the price on this day one year ago," said Daniel Armbruster, AAA Texas/AAA New Mexico spokesman. "Even with rising fuel prices, Texas is ranked the fourth cheapest state in the country this week when it comes to retail gas prices."

By the numbers

Cheapest gas: \$2.36 (Sam's Club, Tradewinds/SH 191)	Midland \$2.38, Odessa \$2.42
Cheapest gas (non-membership club): \$2.44 (four locations in central, west and northwest Midland)	Midland-Odessa
Most expensive gas: \$2.69	Thursday \$2.640
Most common price: \$2.69	Last week \$2.582
Cheapest prices in West Texas: Lubbock \$2.21, San Angelo \$2.27, Abilene \$2.37,	Last month \$2.505
	Last year \$2.338
	Texas \$2.418
	\$2.416
	\$2.289
	\$2.188

Source: TexasGasPrices.com

JOBS

From 1A

Hawaii, Honolulu posted

an unemployment rate of 1.8 percent. All totaled there were 10

MSAs in the United States with a jobless rate of 2.5 percent or less in February.

By the numbers

The following is a list of the lowest unemployment rates in the nation during the month of February, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. A full list of those below 3 percent will appear on the next Eye on Development page.	Portland, Maine, 2.5
Honolulu, Hawaii, 1.8	Ames, Iowa, 1.8
Ames, Iowa, 1.8	Honolulu, Hawaii, 2.0
Kahului-Wailuku-Lahaina, Hawaii, 2.0	Burlington, Vermont, 2.3
Burlington, Vermont, 2.3	Elkhart-Goshen, Indiana, 2.5
Elkhart-Goshen, Indiana, 2.5	Iowa City, Iowa, 2.5
Iowa City, Iowa, 2.5	Portland, Maine, 2.5
Portland, Maine, 2.5	Portsmouth, New Hampshire, 2.5
Portsmouth, New Hampshire, 2.5	Midland 2.5
Midland 2.5	Madison, Wisconsin, 2.5
Madison, Wisconsin, 2.5	The lowest rates in January
The lowest rates in January	Ames, Iowa, 1.8
Ames, Iowa, 1.8	Honolulu, Hawaii, 2.0
Honolulu, Hawaii, 2.0	Kahului-Wailuku-Lahaina, Hawaii, 2.1
Kahului-Wailuku-Lahaina, Hawaii, 2.1	Madison, Wisconsin, 2.3
Madison, Wisconsin, 2.3	Elkhart-Goshen, Indiana, 2.4
Elkhart-Goshen, Indiana, 2.4	Midland 2.4
Midland 2.4	

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

WRECKS

From 1A

unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and two charges of possession of a controlled substance, according to the Midland County Sheriff's Office website.

Both Payne and Chairrez are on administrative leave until the results of drug and

alcohol screens are returned, Ladd said. Payne has been with MPD for six years, and Chairrez has been with the department for seven years.

Charges have not been filed in either wreck, and no one was injured. Neither Takoe is expected to be considered totaled, Ladd said.

Critics say border crossings are lower than they have been

By Julián Aguilar and Darla Cameron
Texas Tribune

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security on Wednesday said a recent surge of apprehensions at the southern border justifies President Donald Trump's decision to deploy National Guard units to the southern border, and released statistics the same day showing a double-digit spike in activity in March.

But critics of the plan argue that despite the increase, overall crossings are at historic lows. They add that it's too soon to tell if the latest surge is indicative of a larger trend that will be similar to the heightened level of apprehensions in the Rio Grande Valley during 2013 and 2014, when a record number of Central Americans entered Texas illegally through Mexico.

Border crossings typically exhibit seasonal variations and tend to increase in the spring.

The March 2018 statistic also represents a 37 percent increase in people who were either apprehended between

the ports of entry or deemed inadmissible to enter by federal customs and Border Patrol agents from a month earlier, from about 50,300 to February's 36,700.

Those figures include 1,099 unaccompanied minors and 5,127 families in March, increases from February's 610 and 3,941, respectively.

Trump and DHS officials said the increase signaled a "crisis" at the border and argued that last year's initial drop in apprehensions and attempted crossings after the president took office — the so-called Trump effect — was no longer in play.

But U.S. Customs and Border Protection's own statistics indicate that despite the uptick in March, the total number of people apprehended or turned away since October, when the federal government's fiscal year began, was lower than during the same six-month time frame in the previous fiscal year. This year, there have been about 237,000 apprehensions, compared to 2017's 271,000.

Trump is not the first president to send national guard troops to the border. President George W. Bush

sent about 6,000 national guard troops there in 2006. And President Barack Obama sent 1,200 guard troops to the border in 2010.

But many details of Trump's border plan remain unclear, including how many units will be deployed and where they will be stationed. Administration officials said Wednesday that the discussions with Texas Gov. Greg Abbott and other border governors are ongoing but stressed the move would happen quickly. But opponents wasted no time in predicting the deployment would be a waste of money and calling it nothing more than a reaction to Congress failing to fully fund complete construction of a border wall in last month's \$1.3 trillion spending bill.

"There's nothing surprising about Trump's plan to falsely increase fear about our border with Mexico; it's part of his political origin story," said Tom Jawetz, the vice president of Immigration Policy at the progressive Center for American Progress. "It is also now clear that Congress will not give him the money to begin construction of his 'big, beautiful wall.'"



AP file photo

The U.S.-Mexico border fence was photographed April 2, 2017, with a drone as it cuts through the two downtowns of Nogales.

Trump: 2,000-4,000 troops needed for Mexico border security

By Anita Snow and Catherine Lucey
Associated Press

PHOENIX — President Donald Trump said Thursday that he wants to send 2,000 and 4,000 National Guard members to the U.S.-Mexico border to help federal officials fight illegal immigration and drug trafficking.

Trump's comments to reporters on Air Force One were his first estimate on guard levels he believes are needed for border protection. It would be a lower number of troops than the 6,400 National Guard members that former President George Bush sent to the border between 2006 and 2008.

Trump said his administration is looking into the cost of sending the troops to the border and added "we'll probably keep them or a large portion of them until the wall is built."

Earlier Thursday, Ronald Vitiello, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's acting deputy commissioner, cautioned against a rushed deployment.

"We are going to do it as quickly as we can do it safely," Vitiello told Fox News Channel.

He said that guard members would be placed in jobs that do not require law enforcement work, an apparent reference to undertaking patrols and making arrests.

The National Guard in Texas expressed support, but said in a statement that deployment remained in "very early planning stages." The Republican governors of New Mexico and Arizona have also backed the deployment. It remained unclear Thursday how Democratic California Gov. Jerry Brown would respond to Trump's call.

In Washington, Marine Lt. Gen. Kenneth F. McKenzie told reporters at the Pentagon that it has not yet been determined how many, if any, of the troops participating in the border security operation will be armed.

With troops in all states, the National Guard has been called on by past presidents and governors to help secure U.S. borders, and the

Texas contingent said it had "firsthand knowledge of the mission and operating area" that will allow it to move seamlessly into the new role.

Trump ordered the deployment because "we are at a crisis point" with illegal immigration, Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen of the Department of Homeland Security said.

"We'd like to stop it before the numbers get even bigger," she said.

Nielsen said guard members would provide support to border officials, "help look at the technology, the surveillance, in some cases we'll ask for some fleet mechanics" and free up agents trained in law enforcement for other duties.

Arrests along the U.S. border with Mexico jumped to 50,308 in March, a 37 percent increase from February, and more than triple the same period last year. Border arrests rose 10 of the last 11 months after falling in April 2017 to the lowest since the Department of Homeland Security was created in 2003.

But Republican Mayor Dee Margo of El Paso told NPR's Morning Edition Thursday he was not convinced extra forces are needed for his border city, which he called "the safest" in the United States.

"We already have a fence that was established during the Bush administration that runs through the city," he said.

Instead of more troops, Margo said "what I would love to see is a better understanding of what truly goes on the border."

In Mexico, the country's politicians put aside differences to condemn Trump's deployment decision.

Mexico's Senate passed a resolution Wednesday calling for the suspension of cooperation on illegal immigration and drug trafficking in retaliation.

U.S. presidents have deployed the military or the National Guard to help the Border Patrol in the past.

In 1997, camouflaged U.S. Marines ordered to patrol the border for drugs in West Texas shot and killed 18-year-old Enespiel Hernandez Jr. while he was

herding his family's goats near the tiny village of Redford along the border.

That shooting sparked anger in the region and ended the President Bill Clinton-era military presence along the international line.

After Sept. 11, Bush sent unarmed National Guard units to the border to support federal agents.

Bush sent troops back from June 2006 to July 2008, with guard members performing support duties aimed at freeing up federal agents from routine non-enforcement tasks so they could focus on border security.

They improved lighting at border crossings, extended existing fencing along the international boundary, built roads, monitored remote cameras, operated communications equipment and set in mobile observation towers watching for people sneaking into the U.S.

Their presence was especially felt in Palomas, Mexico, a smuggling hub south of the village of Columbus, New Mexico, where the increased presence and equipment was credited with easing illegal northbound immigrant travel.

In 2010, President Barack Obama deployed National Guard troops to the border over fear of increasing drug-trafficking violence.

Those troops worked on intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance support, analysis and training, and support efforts to block drug trafficking.

They temporarily supplemented Border Patrol agents until Homeland Security could recruit and train additional officers and agents to work on the border. While some were armed for their own self-defense, they were not authorized to make arrests.

During the last two border deployments, the guard's supporting role was criticized by some people who thought they should be more involved in enforcement.

There are now more than 20,000 Border Patrol agents along the U.S.-Mexico boundary, and a number of other federal agencies also have a presence.

TODAY IN MIDLAND

WORD OF THE DAY

obesance [oh-bei-sance] noun 1: a movement of the body made in token of respect or submission ... 2: acknowledgment of another's superiority or importance

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS How do I submit an announcement for a wedding or engagement?

How can I submit an obituary? obits@mrt.com

How can I handle a billing problem? Circulation: 688-2700 Advertising: 687-8806

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Things to do

- The Life Center Foundation Clay Shoot. Fee includes barbecue, refreshments and gun prizes. First light, 9 a.m., second light 1 p.m., Jaka's Clays, 13301 Farm-to-Market Road 1379. thelifecenters.org.
Bingo and Bubbly Ladies Luncheon benefiting Harmony Home Children's Advocacy Center, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., La Hacienda Event Center, 12610 State Highway 191.
Writing is Magic teen writing club for ages 13-19, 4:30 p.m., Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.
Evening Storytime at the Library, 4:30 p.m. (2-5 years) at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.
Celebrate Service, Greenwood High School Baseball will host a veterans and active-duty military appreciation ceremony, 5:30 p.m., Greenwood High School, 2700 FM 1379.
Friday Night Fish Fry, 6 p.m., Ranchland Hills Golf Club, 1600 E. Wadley Ave. ranchlandhills.com.
First Friday hosted by Permian Basin LGBTQ (plus), 7 p.m., Sleep Inn and Suites of Midland, 5612 Deauville Road. Free. pbqtg.org.
Bingo Nights, 7 p.m., American Legion, 501 Veterans Airpark Lane. 682-5511.
Hold 'em poker tournaments, 7 p.m., The Dettour, 1709 Renshaw Highway.
Casting Crowns, 1 Am They, 7 p.m., Andrews County Expo, 1441 E. State Highway, Andrews.
"A Comedy of Tenors," produced in cooperation with Midland College, 7:30 p.m., Midland Community Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. 628.midland.org.
Rumors! Blind, 9 p.m., Your Place, 3704 W. Wall St.
DJ Wildman, 9 p.m., LIT on 7th, 1401 E. Seventh St. Odessa.
DJ Paul, 9 p.m., Supernova Nightclub, 2215 N. Midland Drive. \$10.
Jerly and Jamz with Dubb Sicks, Dama Niz, DJ Spree and more, 9 p.m., The Club, 1023 S. Grant Ave., Odessa.



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Members of the Midland Professional Fire Fighters, Local No. 4405, will fan out across Midland today with boots in hand for the last day of the annual Fill the Boot fundraising campaign for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Firefighters will be at Midland Drive and Loop 250, Midkiff Road and Wadley Avenue, Midland Drive and Andrews Highway and Garfield Street and Golf Course Road.

water outdoors on Fridays and Tuesdays. Any violation may result in a fine up to \$500. The ban on washing outdoor surfaces is still in effect.

Watering schedule The current outdoor watering schedule allows residents and businesses in the city of Midland to water twice per week. Even-numbered addresses may water outdoors on Saturdays and Wednesdays. Odd-numbered addresses may

Today in History Today is Friday, April 6, the 98th day of 2018. There are 269 days left in the year. On this date: In 1836, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was organized by Joseph Smith in Fayette, New York. Source: The Associated Press

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 2-2-2 Pick 3 day: 0-2-1 Pick 3 evening: 6-6-2 Pick 3 night: 5-9-6 Daily 4 morning: 9-5-6-0 Daily 4 day: 6-9-6-1 Daily 4 evening: 9-5-0-5 Daily 4 night: 2-6-7-8 Cash Five: 8-20-33-34-36 Triple Chance: 4-14-16-17-23-31-41-49-53-54 Texas Two Step: 2-9-10-21 BB: 21 All or Nothing morning: 3-4-7-10-12-14-16-18-21-22-23-24 All or Nothing day: 1-2-4-5-9-12-13-16-18-19-22-24 All or Nothing evening: 2-3-5-7-10-11-14-16-17-19-20-23 All or Nothing night: 3-10-11-12-15-16-17-19-20-21-22-23

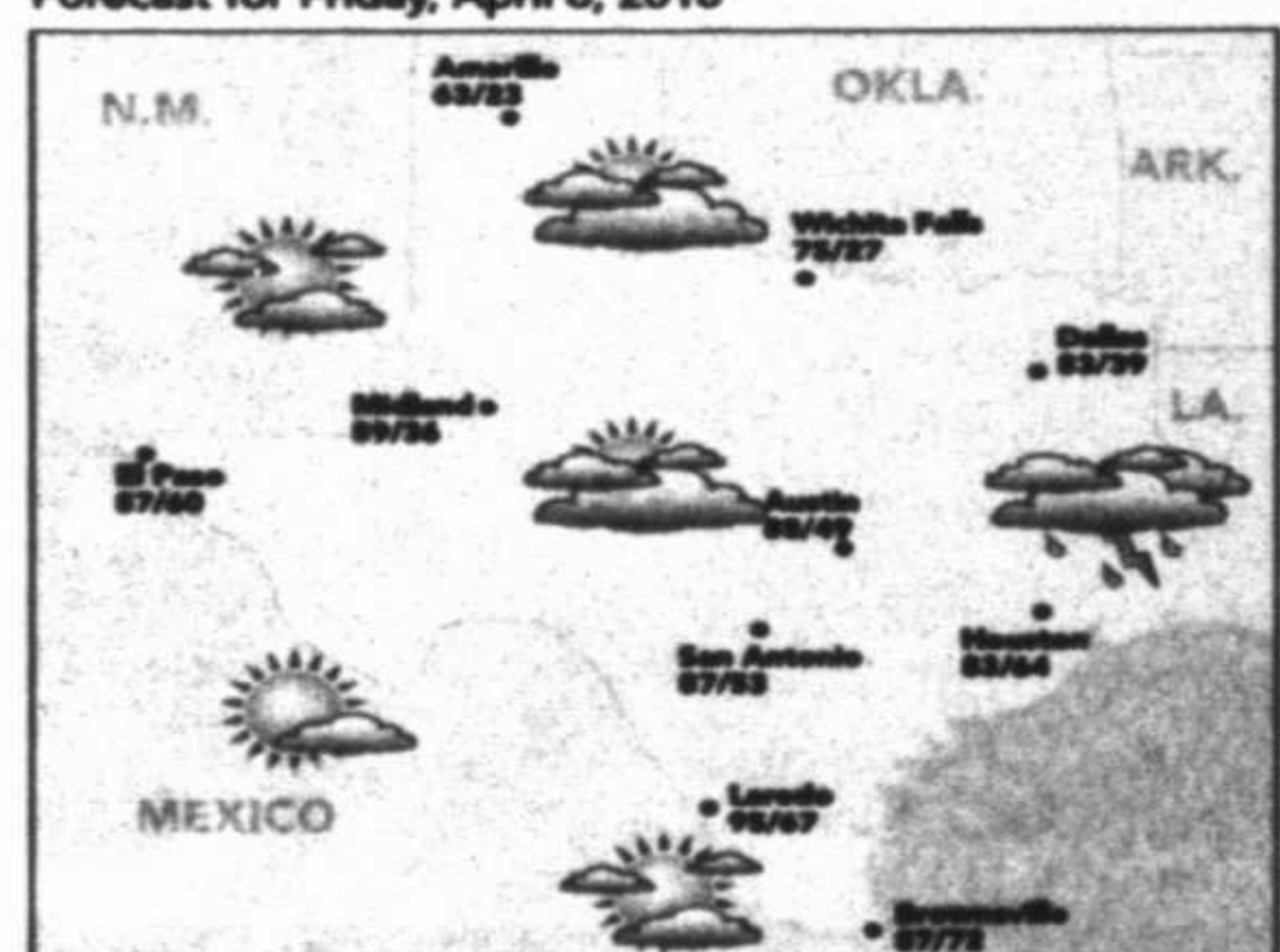
Weather

Thursday's temperatures High: 90 Low: 52 Normal high: 76 Normal low: 46 April 6's records Record high: 92 set in 1959 Low: 28 set in 1970

Precipitation Wednesday: 0.00 in. Thursday: 0.00 in. Month total: 0.00 in. Year total: 0.11 in. Normal total (year to date): 1.98 in.

Winds Average speed: 11.6 mph Highest speed: 16 mph Today's forecast High: 89 Low: 36

Today's weather AccuWeather.com



Conditions: Mostly sunny during the day/windy at night Winds: 10-15 mph during the day/20-25 mph (gusts up to 40 mph) at night Chance of rain: None Note: A fire weather watch is in place for Midland County. Sunrise: 7:31 a.m. Sunset: 8:12 p.m. Source: National Weather Service

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JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have: 5-dynamic; 4-positive; 3-average; 2-so-so; 1-difficult you like it. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Use the morning hours to the max. Unexpected news could affect you in several ways. Slow down, and put a pause on your reaction. Use this change or surprise positively. You feel confident in how you deal with a problem in the afternoon. Tonight: Reflect on your priorities. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Try to see the big picture. You'll discover a financial change that could put you into deep thought. Consider if you can make a necessary adjustment. Be aware of your image. A discrepancy between your image and your goals needs to be addressed. Tonight: Dinner out. BORN TODAY Actor Paul Rudd (1969), singer/songwriter Merle Haggard (1937), actor Zach Braff (1975)

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You start the day with high energy. You feel excited about an unexpected development that occurs midday. You could feel pressured to complete a demanding project and/or certain responsibilities. A loved one might request more time with you. Tonight: Till the wee hours. TAURUS (April 20-May 20) A loved one could surprise you with his or her perspective. How this person handles a dicey situation could make a big difference. Read between the lines. Stay clear and calm when having a serious discussion, and you'll find a point of agreement. Tonight: Detach and observe. GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You might want to understand what is motivating others. You can't make the first move, as a loved one wants to have control. Still, you desire this dominance. Just go with the flow. How you handle a situation could mark the next few days. Tonight: Listen to a friend's news. CANCER (June 21-July 22) Get as much done as possible. You are likely to accomplish a lot by late morning. Consider what is happening behind the scenes, and try to visualize a personal matter. Do not push yourself too hard. Listen to what is being shared. Tonight: Go along with a loved one's request. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You enjoy some playfulness, which is quite unique. A child delights you with the unexpected. You approach the day with a very efficient manner. You have a lot

Swing into spring with new countertops from... Accent Showroom & Indoor Slab Gallery Monday-Friday 9AM-5PM • Saturday 9AM-12PM 4308 SCR 1290 (Coors Road) • Odessa, TX 79705 (432) 663-8004 • accentgranitemidland.com Locally Owned & Operated

US DRY VAN PRUNING 12 MONTHS A YEAR CONTACT THE PROFESSIONALS AT Call or Text TO PRUNE YOUR TREES

SPAR

From 1A

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, also known as DACA.

O'Rourke jabbed back on the notion of priorities.

"If you want to talk about priorities, about six weeks ago, the U.S. Senate voted just to begin the debate on how to resolve the fate of Dreamers like Daisy. Ninety-eight senators showed up to work that day; 97 of them voted to proceed with the conversation, which did not commit any of them to any specific resolution, but just to see if there was anything better we could do.

"Only one of those senators out of the entire U.S. Senate voted no, and that was Ted Cruz. That should give us an idea of Ted Cruz's priorities of not even giving Texas a seat at the table on the issue that we know better than any other state in the Union, and that's the issue of immigration."

Cruz said O'Rourke, unlike previous Democratic contenders running for statewide office, isn't a pretender. "He is unabashedly running hard left."

"These are volatile times for our country. The hard left: They're angry; they're energized; they hate the president; they hate Texas — they just want it to turn into California," he said.

"They're going to show up in big, big numbers in November."

O'Rourke said Cruz, a 2016 presidential candidate, "doesn't get Texas, but it's because he doesn't spend time in Texas."

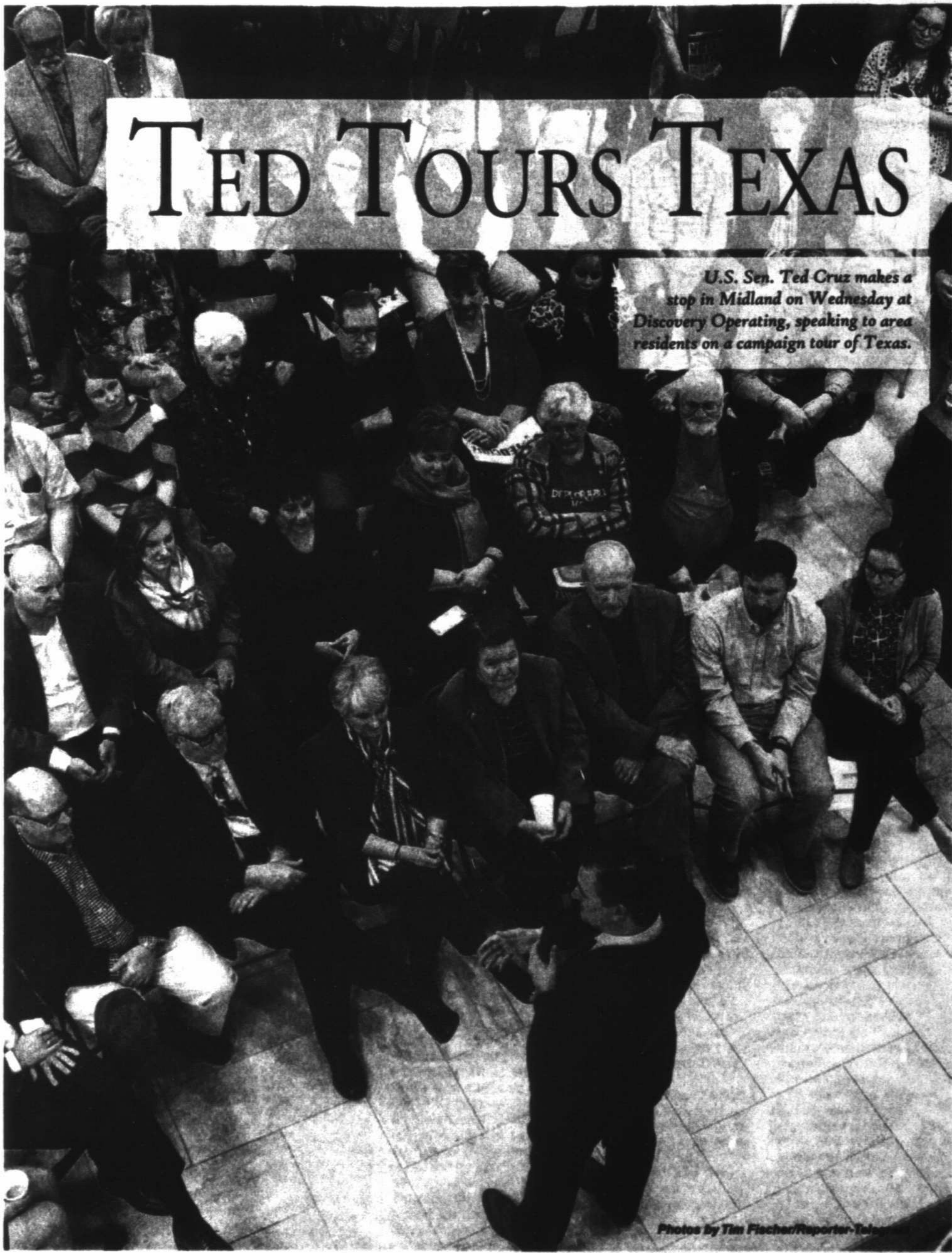
"The guy has spent so much time in Iowa, New Hampshire, South Carolina and Nevada running for president," he said. "He proudly tells us that while he was U.S. senator for Texas, he visited all 99 counties of Iowa. He can be forgiven for not understanding the U.S.-Mexico border."

O'Rourke, who said he is visiting all 254 counties in Texas, said border walls and more militarization are unnecessary. "Communities like El Paso are among the safest in the U.S. We have record-low levels of northbound apprehensions (the lowest, actually, since Texans don't want to spend \$30 billion on a wall — which, by the way, will be built on private Texas property.

It will be built on the ranches, farms and homesteads of our fellow Texans. Property will be taken from them with the government's power of eminent domain."

The country needs to make sure Dreamers "have a chance to do everything within their potential to help our country as citizens," the representative from El Paso said, because they serve in many capacities across the nation, such as in the armed forces or as teachers.

As for his guest, "I was very grateful to have the chance to bring Daisy to the State of the Union and grateful to Sen. Cruz to give me the chance to talk about that."



Photos by Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram



Police plan lengthy investigation of YouTube shooter's past

By Janie Har and
Sudhin Thanawala
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Authorities on Thursday promised a deeper investigation into the YouTube shooter's past and her anger with the online video website, identified as her motive for attacking the company's headquarters in California.

"This will be a long and very methodical investigation," said Geoff Caldwell, a police commander in San Bruno, a city just south of San Francisco where YouTube is located.

Investigators will likely scrutinize Nasim Aghdam's movements during the nearly nine-hour drive from her family's home near San Diego to the YouTube campus, examine the bizarre videos she posted online and look for any messages she may have sent to company officials.

Aghdam, an Iranian native in her late 30s, walked through a parking garage into a courtyard at the campus Tuesday and opened fire, police said. She wounded three people before killing herself.

She had legally bought the 9mm handgun from a dealer in San Diego in January, and it was registered in her name, Caldwell said. He declined to say where she purchased the weapon.

Police have previously said Aghdam went to a gun range before arriving at YouTube. Caldwell declined to identify the

range but said employees contacted police after the shooting to report she had practiced there.

Officers spent nearly two hours Wednesday at the Jackson Arms Shooting Range in South San Francisco, a few miles from YouTube headquarters.

The most seriously wounded victim, a 36-year-old man initially classified as critically injured, was upgraded to fair condition Thursday. Two women who were wounded have been released from hospitals.

Aghdam was prolific at producing videos and posting them online. She exercised, promoted animal rights and explained the vegan diet, often in bizarre productions with elaborate costumes or carrying a rabbit. She posted the videos under the online name Nasime Sabz, and a website in that name decried YouTube's policies, saying the company was trying to "suppress" content creators.

"Youtube filtered my channels to keep them from getting views!" one of the messages said.

YouTube had no comment about any actions related to Aghdam's videos.

Her father, Ismail Aghdam, told the Bay Area News Group that he warned police the day before the attack that his daughter was upset with how YouTube handled her videos and might be planning to go to its offices.

San Diego sheriff's Lt. Karen Stubkjaer said Thursday that the father never told deputies that she was a danger to herself or

others when he reported her missing.

Police in the San Francisco Bay Area city of Mountain View said they spoke to Ismail Aghdam twice after contacting the family to report finding his daughter sleeping in her car early Tuesday. Police say he also never told them she could become violent or pose a threat to YouTube employees.

Federal and state investigators have searched two homes associated with the family, collecting evidence.

Nasim Aghdam also ran a Farsi-language public channel on the messaging app Telegram, which had 6,000 followers.

One video was a tutorial about how to massage buttocks, and another featured a song praising Bahá'ism, a religion that originated in Iran but is heavily suppressed by the Islamic Republic.

People in Iran expressed pity and shock that Aghdam would shoot others in a country that allows more social media freedom. State TV briefly reported the shooting based on international reports.

Hossein Naderi, a 23-year-old art student in Tehran, questioned why Aghdam chose to live in America, adding, "I wish I was there to use YouTube freely."

Kimia Shobeiri, 18, suggested the shooting was a ploy to get attention.

"She was insane and just wanted to make herself famous," she said. "With this act she damaged the reputation of Iranians."



Jeff Chiu/Associated Press

Police tape is shown Wednesday outside of a YouTube office building in San Bruno, Calif.

Schlitterbahn co-owner pleads not guilty in boy's death

By Margaret
Stafford
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — The co-owner of a Kansas waterpark is devastated by the decapitation death of a 10-year-old boy on a massive water slide and is intent on finding out exactly why the ride malfunctioned, his attorney said Thursday.

Jeff Henry, co-owner of Texas-based Schlitterbahn Waterparks and Resorts, pleaded not guilty in Wyandotte County District Court to second-degree murder and other charges in the 2016 death of Caleb Schwab on the 17-story Verruckt water slide at a Schlitterbahn water park in Kansas City, Kansas.

Henry surrendered his passport but District Judge Robert Burns rejected a prosecution request that he be required to wear a GPS locator, saying he wasn't convinced by the state's arguments that Henry was a flight risk.

Henry, 62, posted \$500,000 bond on Wednesday and was expected to return to his home in Texas while awaiting trial.

"There isn't a day where he doesn't think about Caleb," said attorney Ron Barroso, of Corpus Christi.

Henry declined to comment after the hearing except to say that his "heart went out" to Caleb's family and other people who were injured.

During the hearing, Kansas Assistant Attorney General Adam Zentner said the state was concerned that Henry would flee to a country without extradition to the U.S., such as Brazil. He said Henry, a multimillionaire, had the connections and means to live abroad for the rest of his life.

Barroso blasted that contention, saying he had contacted Kansas officials after Henry was indicted to arrange his voluntary surrender. Instead, he said, officials chose to have Henry arrested at his home in South Padre, requiring him to spend eight days in jail before a 20-hour drive to Kansas. Barroso said Henry, who suffers from kidney problems and other medical issues, had to stop during the drive to get medical attention before he arrived in Kansas.

"He's not going anywhere," Barroso said. "He wants to defend himself against these allegations."

Henry helped design the water slide and is accused in the indictment of ignoring safety standards in a rush to put the ride into service. Barroso said the allegations in the indictment were "judicious" and he was confident they could be disproved in court.

A trial date was set for Sept. 10, but Burns and Henry's attorney suggested that date could change because the trial — which could last from three to six weeks — will involve thousands of pages of documents, many witnesses and require calling hundreds of potential jurors. Tyler Miles, a former director of operations at Schlitterbahn in Kansas, also is scheduled to go to trial that day. Burns said he would schedule the trials together but that also might change as the legal process continues.

Miles is accused of involuntary manslaughter and interfering with law enforcement. He has pleaded not guilty and denies to allegations.

The slide's designer, John Schooley, was arrested Monday in Texas and is also charged with second-degree murder. He has agreed to be extradited to Kansas and will be transferred to the state next week.



Sue Ogrocki/Associated Press

Luna marches with her owner Carlin George, of Oklahoma City, on Thursday who is at the state Capitol to support her mother, who is a teacher, on the fourth day of protests over school funding, in Oklahoma City.

No end in sight to Oklahoma teachers strike

By Sean Murphy
Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Thousands of Oklahoma teachers, students and their supporters staged massive demonstrations at the state Capitol for the fourth straight day Thursday while Republican lawmakers struggled to find a way to placate the chanting masses and bring an end to a walkout some of the state's largest school districts.

State House and Senate leaders announced they would take up money-raising bills Friday — a rarity for Oklahoma lawmakers who typically don't go to the Capitol on the final day of the workweek. But a top teachers union leaders said Thursday that he did not believe the measures under consideration would be enough to end the strike.

Senate Floor Leader Greg Treat, a key negotiator on the budget, said he had not met with education union leaders and didn't know what it would take to resolve the situation.

"I'm not the one who started the walkout, so I'm not the person to ask," said Treat, a Republican from Oklahoma City.

Republican Gov. Mary Fallin has faced the brunt of criticism from teachers, many of whom blame the term-limited governor for supporting tax cuts and generous state subsidies for businesses that have led to declines in state funding for schools and other state services. The governor further raised the ire of teachers after an interview this week in which she likened striking teachers to a "teenage kid that wants a better car."

Dozens of protesters inside the packed Capitol responded Wednesday by jangling their keys in the

Capitol rotunda and chanting "Where's our car?"

And when Fallin took the state airplane to a business opening in McAlester, about 140 miles southeast of Oklahoma City, several protesters were on hand at the airport to jeer her.

"It just seems like there's a large lack of understanding on her part," said Jennifer Smith, an elementary school teacher from Tulsa who held a sign comparing Fallin to Dolores Umbridge, the villainous schoolmarm from the popular Harry Potter series.

"I don't see her handling this," Smith said. "She's not here. She hasn't been here. I haven't seen her out here talking to us."

State Rep. Cory Williams was even more pointed in his criticism of Fallin.

"I don't know how you can be so tone-deaf to what is actually happening in our schools and with our kids," said Williams, a Democrat. "Whenever she says teachers are like teenage children who just want a new car? No, teachers are people who want a roof that doesn't leak, toner for their copiers and textbooks for the kids."

Fallin spokesman Michael McNutt said the governor wasn't immediately available for comment Thursday, but said she had been at the Capitol every day this week and visited with educators.

Fallin, a lame-duck governor in her final year, has had scant success in recent years pushing her agenda, despite overwhelming GOP majorities in both chambers. Her proposal last year to generate revenue for teacher raises by broadening the sales tax fell flat in the Legislature. She focused her final State of the State address this year endorsing a tax-hike

package dubbed "Step Up" that was endorsed by civic and industry leaders, but the measure never made it out of the House.

Ultimately, the governor signed legislation last week granting teachers pay raises of about \$6,100, or 15 to 18 percent, as well as tens of millions of new dollars for public schools. But many educators said classrooms need more money, joining a movement of teachers that has ignited protests in other Republican-led states including West Virginia, Kentucky and Arizona.

Teachers now are pushing lawmakers to pass several more revenue-raising plans, including one that eliminates the income tax deduction for capital gains that would generate about \$120 million annually. That bill faces fierce GOP opposition in the House.

Two other measures to expand tribal gambling and tax certain internet sales that are expected to be considered in the Senate Friday would generate roughly \$40 million annually.

But David Duvall, the executive director of the state's largest teachers' union, the Oklahoma Education Association, said late Thursday he didn't think the two bills would be enough to keep the teacher walkout from stretching into next week.

"Our members know their needs, and they're going to tell us when it's enough," Duvall said. "I anticipate that we'll be back up here on Monday."

Many teachers already are back at work, especially in rural communities where local boards didn't vote to shut down. But the state's two largest school districts, Oklahoma City and Tulsa, announced plans to close for a fifth day today.

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OPINION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Friday, April 6, 2018 | Page 6A

President Trump should now go small on DACA

Why would Trump choose to take responsibility for the failure to reach a DACA deal that would let them stay?

President Trump's tweet promising "NO MORE DACA DEAL" was an Easter gift to Democrats, letting them off the hook for their failure to seriously negotiate an immigration agreement. Rather than pulling the plug on any Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals talks, Trump should offer Democrats a simple deal: He would agree to codification of President Barack Obama's DACA action in exchange for funding for the president's border wall.

Earlier this year, Trump extended Democrats a remarkable offer: Instead of simply granting legal status to current DACA recipients, he would agree to a path to citizenship for nearly 2 million "dreamers" — those who were brought to the United States as children through no fault of their own — if Democrats would agree to fund his border wall, limit chain migration and get rid of the visa lottery system. It was a bold move, one that earned him scorn from many in his own base. Demo-

MARC THIESSEN

Washington Post Writers Group



crats should have seized this opportunity. Instead, they rejected it and refused to make a serious counteroffer. Their actions showed they care more about mobilizing voters in 2018 with faux outrage than they do about helping actual dreamers become American citizens.

Trump tried going big, and it didn't work. Now he should go small.

Obama's executive action on DACA was far more limited than what Trump proposed for dreamers, offering no path to citizenship or even permanent legal residency. It simply shielded the dreamers from deportation, allowing them to remain in the United States to work and study. But Obama's action was arguably unlawful because it bypassed Congress — the same reason the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful

Permanent Residents, or DAPA, program was declared unlawful by the courts. Codifying the order would indefinitely remove the threat of deportation for DACA recipients. It would get Trump the wall funding he so desperately wants. And it would save making a deal to provide a path to citizenship in exchange for reforms to our legal immigration system for another day.

Senate Republican Conference Chairman John Thune (S.D.) has legislation to do just that. Thune's bill is a simple trade: It would extend the DACA program indefinitely, in exchange for \$25 billion in border-security funding. This should be a no-brainer for Democrats. If they were to refuse, they would have to explain to dreamers why stopping Trump from building a wall is more important than protecting their ability to stay in the United States.

Historically, Democrats and Republicans have agreed that a nation-state needs to control its own borders. It is a national-security imperative, a law enforcement imperative and a fiscal imperative. Only in the age of Trump have Democrats taken opposition to border security to such an absurd extreme. They shouldn't sacrifice the well-being of real people (DACA

recipients) over their opposition to a symbol (the wall).

If Democrats rejected such an offer, it would expose the crass way they are holding the DACA recipients hostage for political gain. And if, by some miracle, Democrats did agree to such a deal, it would be a confidence-building step that might make further bipartisan action on immigration possible.

This should be a no-brainer for the president as well. Polls have shown that nearly 9 in 10 Americans want DACA recipients to stay, and Trump himself has repeatedly said he wants to find a way for them to remain in the country. So why would Trump choose to take responsibility for the failure to reach a DACA deal that would let them stay, rather than keeping the blame right where it belongs — with Democrats?

After Trump's "no deal" tweet, Democrats were quick to blame Trump. Sen. Kamala D. Harris (D-Calif.) responded on Twitter by declaring "this Administration doesn't want a solution for Dreamers. They want red meat for their base." It's ironic, but that is precisely the Democrats' immigration strategy. Trump should call them on it, by making them an offer they can't refuse.

OPINION EXTRA

Bombshell movie to tell story of grisly history of Chappaquiddick

Today, a bombshell will hit America's theaters. That bombshell comes in the form of an understated, well-made, well-acted film called "Chappaquiddick." (Full disclosure: They advertise with my podcast.) The film tells the story of Ted Kennedy's 1969 killing of political aide Mary Jo Kopechne; the Massachusetts Democratic senator drove his car off a bridge and into the Poucha Pond, somehow escaped the overturned vehicle and left Kopechne to drown. She didn't drown, though. Instead, she reportedly suffocated while waiting for help inside an air bubble while Kennedy waited 10 hours to call for help. The Kennedy family and its associated political allies then worked to cover up the incident. In the end, Teddy was sentenced to a two-month suspended jail sentence for leaving the scene of an accident. The incident prevented Kennedy from running for president in 1972 and 1976, though he attempted a run in 1980 against then-President Jimmy Carter, failing.

So, why is the film important? It's important because it doesn't traffic in rumors and innuendo — there is no attempt to claim that Kopechne was having an affair with Kennedy, or that she was pregnant with his child. It's important because it doesn't paint Kennedy as a monster but as a deeply flawed and somewhat pathetic scion of a dark and manipulative family. But most of all, it's important for two reasons: It's the first movie to actually tackle a serious Democratic scandal in the history of modern film, and it reminds us that Americans have long been willing to overlook scandal for the sake of political convenience.

First, there's the historic nature of the film. Here is an incomplete list of the films made about George W. Bush's administration since his election in 2000, nearly all of them accusatory in tone: "W," "Fahrenheit 9/11," "Recount," "Fair Game" and "Truth." There has still not been a movie made about former President Bill Clinton's impeachment (though one is apparently in the works). There's been no movie about former President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's internment of the Japanese, former President Lyndon Johnson's dramatic mishandling of the Vietnam War (though we have had two hagiographies of LBJ, one directed by Rob Reiner, the other starring Bryan Cranston) or former President Woodrow Wilson's racism and near fascism.

And it only took nearly 50 years to make a film about a Democratic icon leaving a woman to die in a river. It's amazing it was made in the first place.

Most importantly, though, "Chappaquiddick" reminds us that confirmation bias and wishful thinking aren't unique to one side of the aisle. In the era of President Trump, media members have had fun telling Republicans that they have abandoned all of their moral principles in order to back a man whose agenda they support. But Democrats beat Republicans there by decades: They not only overlooked a man who likely committed manslaughter but also made him into a hero, the "Lion of the Senate." We can't understand how morals and politics have been split in two without reckoning with this history.

"Chappaquiddick" is a must-see. It's just a shame it took half a century for it to see the light.

— Ben Shapiro
Creators Syndicate

Midland Reporter-Telegram

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TO OUR READERS

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More should follow MLK's example

King did not disparage dreams; he had a dream. He did not believe in judgments based on skin color; it was character that counted.

Martin Luther King Jr. died 50 years ago, on April 4, 1968, but he is not dead to me, not in what he did, not in what he achieved. While he hardly made it go away, he took the dread of American racism, and, out of his Christian love, his patriotism, his inspired leadership, he helped change it into something wondrously lessened.

Here was one of the great Americans of my lifetime.

Because of fresh, often justified anger and lingering, hurtful issues, it is apparently easy for some to forget how terrible things were before King and how much better they were after him. It is obviously easy as well for some to embrace his opposites, and now I am talking about people like Ta-Nehisi Coates.

He is a gifted man, an African-American writer of exceptional talent and sharpness of intellect, but also someone who, in my view, will only make things worse.

Considered by some as America's foremost public intellectual, Coates is a regular writer for the prestigious, liberal Atlantic magazine and the author of a much-praised book, "Between the World and Me." It focuses on white oppression while simultaneously insisting blacks are in no way responsible for what goes wrong in their lives. If they kill each other in frightening numbers, that is because whites designed things that way.

Conciliation of a King kind? No, what he likes is infuriated confrontation of the kind his father had exhibited as a Black Panther.

Coates says a chief focus of Western civilization has been to dehumanize blacks for the advantage of whites, who seem unlikely to him to ever reform. Some of the worst cruelty has been in America, he writes, and, to be fair, his description of 250 years of slavery is powerful stuff. When you arrive at the 1960s, the period in which King and others began to change all of this, helping to beget the 1964 Civil Rights Act as one example, Coates says phooey. The movement did nothing.

JAY AMBROSE

Tribune News Service



To Coates, all police are "menaces of nature," even black ones. He sees America as criminal throughout its history. The American dream is nothing but whites seeking comfort and pleasure. His own answer to racism is reparations under which whites would hand over enough money to make blacks on average equally well off. I myself can think of little more likely to worsen racial tensions.

The point in all of this is not to beat up on Coates in particular or even to insist none of his stances have merit. It is to underline a widespread, overall take on things that seems to me more about revenge than rectification. You see as much in so many who seem to think like him even if they do not know about him.

I happen to agree that those of us who do not walk around in black skins cannot really know what it is to be black in this society. We can, however, read other black writers of note who grant the horrors blacks have had to endure while saying blacks do have self-responsibility for making things better. Shelby Steele, a Hoover Institution fellow, says that liberals, with their self-appreciative, shame-craving largesse, degrade the human capacities of blacks. Jason L. Riley of the Wall Street Journal points to the deprivations of single-parent families and cultural inadequacies that blacks themselves must deal with. No one else can do it for them.

King was like this. He did not disparage dreams. He had a dream. He did not believe in judgments based on skin color. It was character that counted. He believed that someday blacks, like whites, could be free at last, free at last.

Thanks to him and others like him, we are surely closer.

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Record number of women file to run for US House seats

By Geoff Mulvihill and Maureen Linke
Associated Press

CHERRY HILL, N.J. — The number of women running for the U.S. House of Representatives set a record Thursday, the vast majority of them Democrats motivated by angst over President Donald Trump and policies of the Republican-controlled Congress.

Their ranks will continue to grow, with candidate filing deadlines still to come in more than half the states.

In many places, women are running for congressional seats that have never had a female representative.

"It's about time," said Kara Eastman of Nebraska, one of two Democrats vying to challenge a GOP incumbent in a district centered in Omaha.

A surge of women into this year's midterm elections had been expected since the Women's March demonstrations nationwide just after Trump's inauguration in January 2017. Numbers analyzed by The Associated Press show that momentum is continuing.

After Virginia released its candidate list Thursday, a total of 309 women from the two major parties have filed candidacy papers to run for the House. That tops the previous record of 298 in 2012.

The AP analyzed data going back to 1992 from the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University and did its own review of candidate information released by the states.

While just over half the nation's population is female, four out of every five members of the U.S. House are men. The women's candidacies won't necessarily change that. They still have to survive party primaries and win the general election, often against an incumbent with name recognition and a large reservoir of campaign cash.

Even with the record numbers, women are still outnumbered by male candidates. But experts say the sheer number of women running combined with so many House seats open due to retirements or resignations provides one of the best opportunities for women to make real gains in terms of representation and a change in priorities.

Many of the female candidates have focused their campaign messages on health care, education, early childhood development, family leave and

workplace equality. Eastman said she was motivated by Republican attempts to cut health coverage for low-income people and rollbacks of environmental protections.

She decided to run after her mother, who has since died, was diagnosed with cancer for the fifth time and saw her prescription drug prices soar even though she was covered by Medicare.

"It's a great thing for me to show my 16-year-old daughter," Eastman, who runs a children's health care nonprofit, said of her candidacy.

Mikie Sherrill spent years in the Navy flying helicopters before leaving the military for a career as a federal prosecutor. For her first foray into politics, she chose this year to challenge Republican Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen of New Jersey, a powerful lawmaker who serves as chairman of the House Appropriations Committee and was first elected in 1994. Frelinghuysen has since announced his retirement, creating a bigger opening for Sherrill.

"After a lifetime of service and taking numerous oaths to support and defend the Constitution, when I saw that our democracy seemed to be under attack, I felt called upon to serve again and felt a responsibility to serve my country again," Sherrill said.

She is a leading contender in the Democratic primary and could be part of a wave of women running in Republican-leaning districts. In Indiana, for example, women are running in each of the state's nine congressional districts — only two of which are currently represented by Democrats.

Not all the women running are Democrats.

Tiffany Shedd, one of four Republicans in a primary for the chance to unseat Democratic Rep. Tom O'Halleran in a rural Arizona district, said she entered the race after she told her husband the district needed someone better. He responded that he knew an ideal candidate — a "coward" who wouldn't run.

When she realized he meant her, she took up the challenge.

Shedd said she's glad to see so many women running, even if most of them are on the other side of the aisle.

"I hope that we eventually live in a world where there's no articles written about that because it's no longer a thing," she said.

Trade moves rattle GOP in rural America

By Nick Geranios, Steve Peoples and Steve Karnowski
Associated Press

SPOKANE, Wash. — Gary Bailey is certain China is trying to rattle Trump voters with its threat to slap tariffs on soybeans and other agriculture staples grown in rural America. The wheat farmer in eastern Washington, a state that exports \$4 billion a year in farm products, is also certain of the result. "It's a strategy that's working," he said.

If farmers are worried, so are Republican politicians, who depended on small-town America to hand them control of Congress and know how quickly those voters could take it away. Just seven months before the 2018 midterm elections, Trump's faceoff with China over trade has exposed an unexpected political vulnerability in what was supposed to be the Republican Party's strongest region: rural America.

The clash with China poses a direct threat to the economies in both red and blue states, from California's central valley to eastern Washington through Minnesota's plains and across Missouri, Indiana and Ohio.

They are regions in which the GOP's quest to retain its House and Senate majorities this fall is tied directly to Republican voters' views about their pocketbooks and Trump's job performance. The signs of fear and frustration about both are easy to find.

In southwestern Minnesota, soybean farmer Bill Gordon says the volatility in the markets makes it harder for farmers like him to market their crop and lock in profitability. The state is the country's fourth-largest exporting state, and the state's top farm export market is China.

A Trump voter, Gordon said right now he's disappointed, not angry with what's happening. But the



John Minchillo/Associated Press

Matt Aultman, a grain salesman and feed nutritionist with Keller Grain & Feed, Inc., speaks Thursday beside grain and soybean silos during an interview at their facilities in Greenville, Ohio.

trade tensions could affect his vote in the open race for the region's congressional seat, where the farm vote is significant.

"I vote for the people who represent rural America," he said. "It's not a party line."

President Donald Trump says he's simply fighting against unfair business practices with a geopolitical rival. After the Trump administration announced plans to impose tariffs on \$50 billion in Chinese imports Tuesday, China lashed back within hours, matching the American tariffs with plans to tax \$50 billion of U.S. products, including soybeans, corn and wheat. China had previously released plans to impose retaliatory tariffs on frozen pork, nuts and wine in response to Trump's intent to apply duties to imported aluminum and steel.

The soybean industry, perhaps more than any other, illustrates the potential harm to Republican candidates in the fall.

Soy production is concentrated in the Midwest. Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Indiana and Missouri account for over half of all soy produced in the United States. And more than 60 percent of U.S. soy exports have been sent to mainland China in recent years.

Trump won 89 percent of America's counties that

words for Trump.

"I'm going to believe in the man," added Worth, who's also on the board of the Minnesota Soybean Growers Association. "He's doing this for business reasons only. I don't know if he knows how much he's hurting agriculture."

Matt Aultman, a grain salesman and feed nutritionist in Greenville, Ohio, west of Columbus, said farmers there are keeping a close watch on the talk in Washington. Farmers pay attention to two things: prices and weather. And a trade fight that affects prices won't go unnoticed.

"It directly affects our pocketbooks and the way we plan for the following years," he said. "Are we going to pay all the bills this year? Are we going to buy a new piece of equipment? Do you get your kids a couple new pairs of shoes?"

In California's central valley, Republican Rep. Jeff Denham has avoided the issue altogether in recent days. His opponent, Democrat and longtime family farmer Michael Eggman said Trump's trade policies would shatter his community.

The district is home to Blue Diamond Almonds, among smaller nut producers, who send much of their product to China and suddenly face the prospect of 15 percent tariffs.

"We all know how hard it is to make ends meet as a small family farmer, and Trump is not making it easier," Eggman said. "Jeff Denham, who claims to be a local farmer, hasn't said one word about it. Where's the outrage?"

Denham, through a spokeswoman, did not address the president's moves directly.

In Washington state, wheat farmer Bailey credits Trump with doing some "great things" on other fronts. But on trade, he said, "When we ask him to back off, he just keeps going forward."

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Facebook: Most users may have had public data 'scraped'

By Barbara Ortutay
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Facebook's acknowledgment that most of its 2.2 billion members have probably had their personal data scraped by "malicious actors" is the latest example of the social network's failure to protect its users' data.

Not to mention its seeming inability to even identify the problem until the company was already embroiled in scandal.

CEO Mark Zuckerberg told reporters Wednesday that Facebook is shutting down a feature that let people search for Facebook users by phone number or email address. Although that was useful for people who wanted to find others on Facebook, it turns out that unscrupulous types also figured out years ago that they could use it to identify individuals and collect data of their profiles.

The scrapers were at it long enough, Zuckerberg said, that "at some point during the last several years, someone has probably accessed your public information in this way."

The only way to be safe would have been for users to deliberately turn off that search feature several years ago. Facebook had it turned on by default.

"I think Facebook has not been clear enough with how to use its privacy settings," said Jamie Winterton, director of strategy for Arizona State University's Global Security Initiative. "That, to me, was the failure."

The breach was a stunning admission for a company already reeling from allegations that the political data-mining firm Cambridge Analytica inappropriately accessed data on as many as 87 million Facebook users to influence elections.

Over the past few weeks, the scandal has mushroomed into investigations across continents, including a probe by the U.S. Federal Trade Commission. Zuckerberg himself will be questioned by Congress for the first time on Tuesday.

"The FTC looked the other way for years when consumer groups told them Facebook was violating its 2011 deal to better protect its users. But now the Cambridge Analytica scandal has awoken the FTC from its long digital privacy slumber," said Jeffrey Chester, executive director for the Washington-based privacy nonprofit Center for Digital Democracy.

Neither Zuckerberg nor his company has identified those who carried out the data scraping. Outside experts believe they could have been identity thieves, scam artists or shady data brokers assembling marketing profiles.

Zuckerberg said the company detected the problem in a data-privacy audit started

after the Cambridge Analytica disclosures, but didn't say why the company hadn't noticed it — or fixed it — earlier.

Facebook did not immediately respond to a request for comment Thursday on when it discovered the data scraping.

In his call with reporters Wednesday, Zuckerberg said the company had tried "rate limiting" the searches. This restricted how many searches someone can conduct at one time from a particular IP address, a numeric designation that identifies a device's location on the internet. But Zuckerberg said the scrapers circumvented that defense by cycling through multiple IP addresses.

The scraped information was limited to what a user had already chosen to make public — which, depending on a person's privacy settings, could be a lot — as well as what Facebook requires people to share. That includes full name, profile picture and listings of school or workplace networks.

But hackers and scam artists could then use that information — and combine it with other data in circulation — to pull hoaxes on people, plant malware on their computers or commit other mischief.

Having access to such a massive amount of data could also pose national security risks, Winterton said.

A foreign entity could conceivably use such information to influence elections or stir up discord — exactly what Russia is alleged to have done, using Facebook and other social media, in the 2016 presidential elections.

Privacy advocates have long been critical of Facebook's penchant for pushing people to share more and more information, often through pro-sharing default options.

While the company offers detailed privacy controls — users can turn off ad targeting, for example, or face recognition, and post updates that no one else sees — many people never change their settings, and often don't even know how to.

The company has tried to simplify its settings multiple times over the years, most recently this week.

Winterton said that for individual Facebook users, worrying about this data scraping won't do much good — after all, the data is already out there. But she said it might be a good time to "reflect on what we are sharing and how we are sharing it and whether we need to."

"Just because someone asks us information, it doesn't mean we have to give it to them if we are not comfortable," she said.

She added that while she no longer has a Facebook account, when she did she put her birth year as 1912 and her hometown as Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Neither is true.

Trump administration to hit more Russians with sanctions

By Matthew Lee and Zeke Miller
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration is preparing to impose new sanctions on powerful Russian business and political figures under a law passed last year in response to alleged Russian meddling in the 2016 election.

Three officials said Thursday that the Treasury Department would implement the sanctions under the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act, known as CAATSA, which was overwhelmingly passed by Congress in 2017 and signed into law by President Donald Trump despite some objections. The law aims to punish Russia for interfering in the U.S. election as well as actions intended to subvert democracy in Europe. The law also authorizes the president to impose sanctions on Iran for destabilizing activity in

the Middle East and North Korea for its nuclear and ballistic missile programs.

The officials would not say how many or which Russians would be hit by the sanctions, which are expected to be announced early Friday.

But they noted that a number of Russian oligarchs and politicians and affiliated businesses have already been identified by the Treasury and State Department as potential targets. Two officials said the sanctions would affect at least some those who appeared on that list, which was compiled and published in January. Last month, the U.S. targeted 19 Russians and five other entities with sanctions in the first use of the law.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss the actions ahead of the announcement, which is expected early Friday. An inter-agency team was briefed on the outlines

of the announcement on Wednesday, they said.

The sanctions will freeze any assets that those targeted have in U.S. jurisdictions and bar Americans from doing business with them.

The State Department declined to comment. Trump has been criticized by many for not taking a stronger stance on Russia election interference and destabilizing actions.

But during a news conference on Tuesday with Baltic leaders, Trump argued that his administration is taking action.

"Nobody has been tougher on Russia than I have," Trump said.

White House officials have noted that the administration has expelled dozens of Russian diplomats and shut down two Russian consulates in response to Russian behavior, including the poisoning of an ex-spy in Britain that has been blamed on Moscow.

Virgin Galactic conducts 1st powered flight of new spaceship

Associated Press

MOJAVE, Calif. — Virgin Galactic has conducted the first powered test flight of its new space tourism rocket.

Virgin Galactic tweets that the spaceship named Unity was carried aloft by its mother ship and released over California's Mojave Desert early Thursday.

The company says the spacecraft achieved supersonic speed before the pilots shut down the engine and it glide

back to Mojave Air & Space Port.

This was Virgin Galactic's first powered flight since the 2014 crash of its original spaceship that killed one of its two pilots.

Unity was previously flown on test flights in which it remained attached to the mother ship and others in which it was released to glide without lighting the rocket.

Virgin Galactic founder Richard Branson tweets that "Space feels tantalizingly close now."

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FAITH & PHILANTHROPY

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Friday, April 6, 2018 | Section B

THIS WEEK TODAY



HOME RUNS: Greenwood High School will host a veterans and active-duty military appreciation ceremony at the GHS baseball field with a pre-game meal followed by varsity baseball game against Monahans. 5:30 p.m.

SATURDAY



SAVE UP: Goodwill Bible Baptist Church hosts Financial Peace University, a nine-week course for financial control and success, Saturdays at 10 a.m.

MONDAY

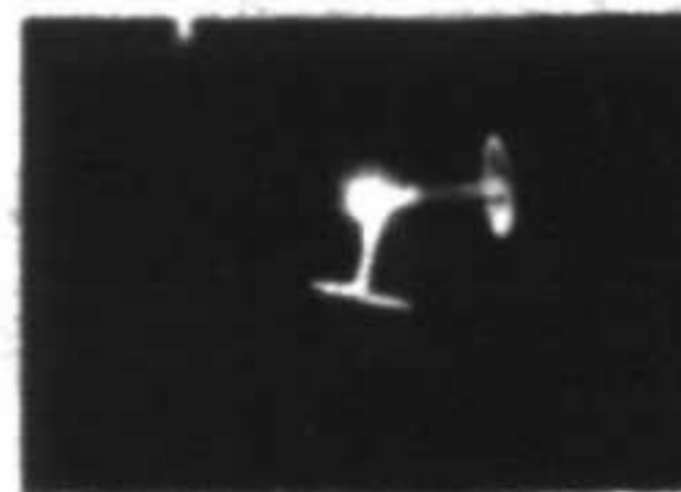


HEALING POWER: Goodwill Bible Baptist Church hosts Financial Peace University, a nine-week course for financial control and success, Saturdays at 10 a.m.

TUESDAY

NEW CHAPTER: PFLAG has reformed a local chapter to provide support for families, allies and people who are LGBTQ. The group hosts a support meeting at Sleep Inn and Suites of Midland. 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY



IN MEMORIAM: Holocaust Memorial Day will be held at Temple Beth El in Odessa and will feature readings of writings by Elie Wiesel and memorial candles for those lives lost in the Holocaust. 7 p.m.

IN NEED

SPECIAL EVENT VOLUNTEER: Volunteers are need for various positions at the Autism SHARE Walk on April 28. Call 818-1258 for details.

DONATION NEEDS: Crisis Center of West Texas is looking for magazines as part of a self-esteem lesson for students. Take your issues to the offices at 910-B S Grant Ave. in Odessa.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: Midland Volunteer Connections offers an online list of opportunities at midlandvolunteerconnections.com for current needs by area nonprofits.

HOSPICE HELP: Volunteer opportunities for two to four hours a shift. Call 682-2855 for more information.

RETAIL SKILLS: Habitat ReStore is in need of people who enjoy decorating and setting up displays to help set up the ReStore for maximum customer appeal. Must be at least 16 years old.



Courtesy photo

Christian band Casting Crowns is shown in this courtesy photo.

GRAMMY WINNERS IN ANDREWS Casting Crowns brings last leg of tour to West Texas

From staff reports

The Grammy- and Dove award-winning Christian band Casting Crowns is on the last leg of its successful "The Very Next Thing" tour with special guests I Am They. The tour has become the most attended Crowns tour since 2008 with overall attendance count of 435,000, according to a press release. The band will headline the ACE Arena today in Andrews.

Casting Crowns has become one of the

If you go

Casting Crowns, I Am They. 7 p.m. today at Andrews County Expo, 1441 E. State Highway, Andrews. \$30-\$65.

more successful contemporary Christian bands with 15 album releases. Six of those have gone platinum and seven gold. The seven band members remain active in student ministry in the Atlanta area and tour

according to their local church commitments. Serving his 25-plus years in youth ministry, lead singer/songwriter Mark Hall maintains his role as the student pastor at Eagle's Landing First Baptist Church.

I Am They made its national debut in 2015 with the self-titled album and in addition to Casting Crowns, has opened for Matthew West, Tenth Avenue North and Big Daddy Weave. The quintet's sophomore album, "Trial and Triumph," was released in early March.



Edward A. Ornelas/San Antonio Express-News

Josh Turner will perform at this year's Big Boys Toys.

Save the Date: MARC prepares for Big Boys Toys

By Rich Lopez
rllopez@mrt.com

Save the Date is a snapshot look at upcoming fundraisers and special events. This week, local nonprofit MARC is counting down for its annual fundraiser.

Event: MARC's Big Boys' Toys is an evening of dinner, cocktails a classic car show and concert.

Special guest: This year's music headliner is country singer Josh Turner. His sixth and latest studio album "Deep South," was released in March 2017 and peaked

at No. 1 on the Country Billboard charts. His signature hits include "Your Man," "Who Don't We Just Dance" and "All Over Me."

Special features: Guests will enjoy dinner catered by Ranchland Hills Golf Club. The event will include a raffle, live and silent auctions and the centerpiece, a collectible car show. For the first time, the car show will feature Wayne "Butch" Gilliam's helicopter. Gilliam is the co-owner of Patriot Premium Threading Services and co-star of A&E's "Rooster and Butch."

Proceeds go toward: MARC's programming

includes therapy for children with intellectual, developmental disabilities with a focus on autism. MARC's Spectrum of Solutions facility provides music therapy, social skill interventions and speech therapy to area children on the autism spectrum.

The mission: MARC empowers individuals with disabilities to live full and meaningful lives by affording them the opportunity to live, work and play in the community.

The details: The event is at 6 p.m. April 14 at Horseshoe Pavilion, 2514 Arena Trail. \$250. marcetexas.org.



Christian critic wrestles with biblical films

At one point in the hit musical biopic "I Can Only Imagine," Bart Millard (J. Michael Finley), a Texan singer-songwriter touring with his up-and-coming Christian rock band MercyMe, receives a rude awakening from the industry he's trying to woo. "You're just not good enough," says one record-label rep, inadvertently echoing the cruel words of Bart's abusive father (Dennis Quaid) and triggering a wave of flashbacks to the boy's traumatized upbringing.

Those flashbacks made me roll my eyes, but they also filled me with a strange sense of guilt. As someone who considers himself both a lover of cinema and a follower of Jesus Christ, I must confess that the words "You're just not good enough" have generally summed up my own opinion of the many, many Christian-themed independent productions that have sprung up since the smash success of "The Passion of the Christ" 14 years ago.

That may be a harsh judgment to render against pictures that, at least in their broad range of genres and stories, would seem to resist easy pigeonholing. Companies as different as Pure Flix Entertainment, Stony Lake Entertainment and Sony's Affirm Films have churned out old-school period epics, sentimental heart-tuggers, pro-marriage romantic dramas, Rapturous disaster flicks, political provocations and flat-out comedies (not all of them intentional), most of which

Please see CHANG/6B

*This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Psalm 118:24*

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Church Listings

Foursquare Gospel

Living Way Church Foursquare
415 Alta
432-683-1750

Camino de Vida Midland Hispanic y Foursquare Church
100 West Oak
432-352-9524

Full Gospel

Living Hope Church
2911 CR 1140
432-693-6398

Voice of Victory - A Word Church
1508 S. Main St.
432-686-7566

Redeemer Christian Fellowship
3000 Franklin Street
432-683-1370

Hindu

Hindu Association of West (HAWT)
4401 Cardinal Lane
432-520-4298

Interdenominational

Midland Center for Spiritual Living
1908 W. Wall, Ste. D-Midland, Texas
432-684-4230

Sovereign Grace Church
(formerly Christian Life Center)
2901 W. Kansas
432-683-4506

West Texas Cowboy Church
12144 E. Hwy 158, Gardendale, TX
432-488-8588

Jewish

Temple Beth El
1501 N. Grandview, Odessa, TX
432-550-5111

Lutheran

Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church
3800 Bluebird Lane
432-694-4971

Grace Lutheran Church
3000 W. Golf Course Rd
432-697-3221

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
5110 N. Garfield
432-570-8149

Hope Lutheran Church (ECLA)
2003 N. A St.
432-683-1936

Lutheran Church of the Risen Lord
1603 N. Grandview, Odessa, TX
432-352-2549

Midland Lutheran Church
2705 W. Michigan
432-694-1373

Methodist

Beit Hadaroth
13370 Hwy 191, Odessa, TX
432-264-8876

Resurrection United Methodist Church
9541 W. 57th St., Odessa, TX
432-385-1212

St. Mark's United Methodist
1701 N. Main
432-683-3339

First United Methodist Church
Main & Ohio St.
432-682-3701

First United Methodist Church
600 N. Goldsmith St., Goldsmith, TX
432-385-1212

St. Luke's United Methodist Church
3011 W. Kansas
432-694-2571

St. Paul's United Methodist Church
4501 Thomson Drive
432-694-2544

Voluntary Hollowell Community UMC
400 S. Marshall St.
432-682-1574

Muslim

Muslim Association of West
1200 S. Midland Dr.
432-262-6226

Islamic Center of the Permian Basin
5010 W. Loop 250 N. Apt 10E
432-520-3751

Worship

The Gathering @ Midland (A Church of the Nazarene)
3303 W. Illinois, Space #2
432-889-9178

Worship

The Bond
4201 W. Illinois
432-269-6888

The Potters' House

4411 W. Illinois, #B5
432-279-0198

The Orchard, Your Neighborhood Church
6112 N. Big Spring Street

Renew Life Church
Cole Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave
432-689-7284

Abiding in Christ Ministries
1208 A County Road 138 West
Midland
432-699-4513

Christian Faith Ministry
2215 N. Midland Dr., #5A
432-218-6412

Church of God 7th Day
609 N. Dallas
432-218-8595

Church of New Beginnings
4309 W. Illinois, Suite A
432-553-1400

Cornerstone Christian Fellowship
901 N. Midland Dr.
432-689-8898

Crossroads Fellowship
6901 East State Hwy. 191, Odessa, TX
432-368-2500

Family Faith Christian Center
7909 Hwy 307
432-686-9468

The HUB Outreach Ministry & Church
4201 W. Illinois, Midland, TX
432-269-6988

Inner City Tabernacle of Life Ministries
3607 N. Dixie, Odessa, TX
432-272-2544

LifeHouse Fellowship
3300 Thomas Avenue
432-262-LIFE

Manana of the Word Ministry
1312 S. Jackson, Odessa, TX
432-230-0599

Mid-Cities Community Church
8700 W. Hwy 191
432-563-9444

Mount Moriah Disciples of Christ
701 S. Calhoun
432-687-0630

New Harvest Fellowship Church
4010 North County Road 1130
(432) 853-9830 and (432) 894-6281

Our Savior's Christian Fellowship
3309 Neely
432-694-4517

The Cowboy Church of the Permian Basin
3900 N. FM 1788
432-563-0028

Apostolic Assembly in the Faith Christ Jesus
2309 S. Fort Worth
432-686-8526

Beacon Light Outreach Ministries
410 S. Lee
432-599-0793

Christian Motorcyclists Association
4632 Conley Ave., Odessa, TX
432-978-1986

Christian Tabernacle Church
10807 W. CR 145
432-262-5072

Church in the Wind
1001 Austin St
432-556-2062

Crossway Church Adult
1000 Upland
432-528-8541

Dwelling by Grace Christian Worship Center
3303 S. Hwy 348
432-556-6638

Elevate Church
200 Balderin
432-685-1981

Faith Apostolic Church
4001 W. Illinois Ave.
432-520-5371

Faith Country Church
Exit 143 off I-20 E. to FM 1208, 5 miles
432-458-3580

Footprints Redemption Church
6005 E Hwy 80 (Bus I-20)
432-684-9113

Greater Grace Temple Christian Faith Center
Midland Center Room 3
886-544-7223

Harvest Time Church
8300 State Hwy. 191
432-963-5683

Heart of Worship Baptist Fellowship
1306 E. Taylor
432-337-8972

Iglesia de Dios 70 Dios

405 E. Stokes
432-684-8541

Inner City Tabernacle of Life Ministries
3607 N. Dixie Blvd., Odessa, TX
432-272-2544

New Day Christian Fellowship
4200 W. Illinois, Suite 280
432-694-4233

New Harvest Fellowship
4010 NCR 1130
432-699-5821, 432-853-9830

Rock Fellowship Church
410 S. Pecos
432-685-3858

Salvation Army Church
3500 Park Lane
432-683-3614

Solid Rock Fellowship Outreach
4601 W. Interstate 20 (South Service Road Between Midkiff and Loop 250)
432-664-4279

St. Paul C.M.C. Church
409 S. Lee Street
432-682-0010

Teen Challenge Services
6901 S. CR 1200
432-687-0348

Teen Flow Service
711 S. Main
432-686-2525

Temple Jerusalem
1205 S. Belmont
432-683-4806

The World Wide Church of God Bible
1207 W. 10th St., Odessa, TX
432-381-8352

True Life Christian Fellowship Church
3001 N. A St
432-687-3077

United Methodist

Holy Cross Orthodox Church
1616 W. Golf Course Rd
(432) 741-1040

Pentecostal Assembly of the World

Jesus Name United Pentecostal Church
3110 W. C.R. 116
432-694-8702

Lighthouse Pentecostal Church
200 N. Lincoln
432-682-7188

Temple Blessed Mother
511 S. Stonewall
432-664-0803

The Pentecostals
5110 W. Illinois Ave.
432-687-4007

The Goodwill OPC (United Pentecostal Church)
409 W. Pine
432-685-3919

Presbyterian

First Presbyterian Church
800 W. Texas
432-684-7821

Grace Presbyterian Church
2801 N. Garfield
432-684-8542

Providence Presbyterian Church (PCA)
2900 Princeton
432-520-5255

Seventh Day Adventist

Seventh Day Adventist Church
3114 Travis
432-684-2746

Midland Spanish Seventh Day Adventist Church
110 W. Parroyhans
432-620-0882

Worship

Iglesia Bautista El Buen Pastor
4712 Shadylane
432-684-5490

Grace Covenant Church
5711 Whitman
432-553-1053

Worship

Galilean Universalist Church of Midland
3301 Neely
432-684-4328

With men this is
but with GOD
all things are
POSSIBLE
Matthew 19:26

BE STRONG

TAKE HEART
all you who hope in
the Lord
PSALM 31:24

3 ONE
3 SERVICES • 1 CHURCH
We're extending an open invitation to make FBC your place of worship, each week. We offer three different worship styles every Sunday!
8:25 a.m. Blended Worship (Worship Center)
11:05 a.m. Traditional Worship (Chapel)
11:05 a.m. Contemporary Worship (Worship Center)
First Baptist
2204 W. Louisiana Ave. (corner of Louisiana & Goodland), Midland, TX 79704
432.683.0500 • www.fbc-midland.org

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Obituaries


Bonifacio (Barney) Garcia

Bonifacio (Barney) Garcia Hernandez Sr., 92 of Midland, Texas passed away on Saturday March 31, 2018. He was born May 14, 1925 in Midland, TX and attended school up to the 3rd grade. Self-taught by ear to play the guitar, accordion and organ. He loved baseball and played for a team called, "The Locos". He was a die-hard fan of the Dallas Cowboys and the Midland High Bulldogs. Barney loved to barbecue and enjoyed being outdoors. He also enjoyed fishing, beaches, sandhills and traveling. He was a very good driver. He served in the Air force during WWII and was stationed in Italy. Married at one time for 33yrs to Ila Marie (Camaru) Mejia.

Barney is survived by his children, Bonifacio (BJ) Hernandez Jr. of Odessa, Eugene (Gene) Hernandez Sr. (Susanna S.) of San Angelo. Ila Marie (Marie) Hernandez of Midland, Rosita (Rosie) Hernandez of Midland, Francisca (Francis) Hernandez of Midland, Graciela (Gracie) H. Pineda (Felix "Ezy" Flores) of Arkansas, 65 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren, 30 great-great grandchildren. He is also survived by one sister, Teresa Garcia Hernandez Garcia and numerous nephews and nieces.

Barney was preceded in death by a son, Samuel (Sam) Hernandez Sr., parents Miguel Alvarez Hernandez and Juanita Garcia Hernandez; brothers, Salomon Hernandez Sr., Alfredo Hernandez Sr., Alfredo Hernandez Sr., and Miguel (Mikito) Hernandez; sisters, Carlota Brito and Juanita Hernandez; nephews, Pablo Hernandez, Jerry Hernandez, Andres Hernandez Jr., Andres "Andy" Brito II, and Monceis Lerma; a niece Juana Lerma; granddaughter, Cristina Martinez; and great-great granddaughter, Maria Pando.

Viewing will be Friday, April 6th from 9:00a.m. - 9:00p.m. with a rosary start-

ing at 7:00p.m. at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home Chapel; Alice Beck Strom to sing and Bishop Greg Atwood to talk.

A funeral mass is set for Saturday, April 7th at 10:00a.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish & Shrine. Burial will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park.

Pallbearers for the service will be Richard Carrillo, Adrian Carrillo, Felix (Ezy) Flores, Alejandro (Alex) P. Meza Jr., Eugene (T-Bone) Hernandez Jr., Sammy Luna; Ricardo H. Pando Sr., Richard B. Hernandez and Daniel Walker (Batt) Jr.

Honorary pallbearers are Bonifacio (BJ) Hernandez Jr., Eugene (Gene) Hernandez Sr., Eddie H. Pineda, Rudy Pando Jr. and Robert (Robbie) Luna Jr.

Family would like to express their gratitude towards his caregiver at home, Rosita H. Heidelberg, the provider from 2 Hearts/Su Casa, Maria de la Jesus Marez, Dr. Chau Le. Choua, Khourie. ER's Hernandez, all on CCU floor at Midland Memorial Hospital; Encompass Therapist, Stacie, Oscar, Ian and Thomas, Nurse Magdalene, Letty, and Nicole, Meals on Wheels, Mary Lu and others that dropped off his lunch.

Funeral mass is under the direction of Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home and Chapel. Family messages and condolences may be emailed to pipkin@nts-online.net or you can visit the website at www.lewallengarciapipkinfh.com.

Lewallen Garcia Pipkin Funeral Home
2301 N. Big Spring - Midland, TX - (432) 682-2700


Melvin (Mel) Clinton Wilson

Melvin (Mel) Clinton Wilson passed away Wednesday April 4, 2018 at University Medical Center in Lubbock, Texas following a stroke.

Mel was born on May 29, 1942 to Johnny Lewis Wilson and Bertha Mae (Kading) Wilson at home in Odessa, Texas. He graduated from Ector High School in 1963. In 1972, Mel started Commercial Coating Company in Amarillo, Texas, and then Western Coating Co in Odessa, TX in 1982. He was a founding member and first president of the Permian Basin Chapter of PDCA and President of the Permian High School Football Booster Club during the 1987-88 school year.

Mel was a family man who loved spending time with his family and friends. Mel married his best friend and love

Brenda Ruth Carson on August 16, 1963 at Immanuel Baptist Church in Odessa, Texas. They spent the next 54 years living life to the fullest. He loved his family and enjoyed travelling, cooking, fishing, spending time with friends, but was happiest when he was with his wife, sons, and most especially his grandkids.

Mel is survived by his loving wife Brenda; sons Michael Wilson and wife Freeda, Kevin Wilson and wife Leslie; grandson Johnny Wilson and granddaughter Sydney Wilson; brother Jimmy Wilson and wife Sherry; sister Joyce Longino and husband Jimmy; brother-in-law Scotty Carson and wife Bonnie, brother-in-law Ben Carson and wife Debbie, and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by youngest son Shawn Patrick Wilson, father Johnny Lewis Wilson and mother Bertha Mae Matthews.

The family will receive guests on Friday April 6, 2018 from 6:00p.m. to 7:30p.m. at Ellis Funeral Home, 801 Andrews Hwy, Midland, Texas. Funeral services will be held at 2:00p.m. Saturday April 7, 2018 at the Ellis Funeral Home Chapel, followed by burial at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Odessa, Texas.

Pallbearers will be Landon Thompson, Don Owens, Cole Hughes, Barry Crawford, Guy Carson, Austin Wilson, Paul Quigley and David Wilson.

Online condolences may be offered at www.ellisfunerals.com

Ellis Funeral Home
Funerals & Cremations
801 Andrews Hwy.
(432) 682-5355


Pearlle A. Johnson

Pearlle Mae Allen Johnson, came to end of her course, Sunday, April 1, 2018 and is now in the arms of her loving Savior Jesus Christ. Pearlle was born February 25, 1930 to the parentage of Carella Mingo Mason and John Allen in Marshall, Texas.

In 1959, she travelled to Midland, Texas with her sister and brother-in-law, Ruby Lee and Willie Bill Taylor, to visit her Aunt Comora Mingo. While there, her Aunt encouraged her to apply for a position in Midland. Before they returned to Marshall, the school district offered her a job. Pearlle was hired to teach first grade at the new Ralph J. Bunche Elementary School (1959).

Pearlle was transferred to Bee Milam Elementary School (1968) and taught first through third grade students until her retirement in

1988. She was encouraged to move to higher grades, but declined because she wanted to shape and mold the minds of the youngest children to instill a life-long love of education within them.

Throughout her tenure she gave her love and wisdom to not only her students, but co-workers and all who came within her sphere of influence.

She leaves to cherish her loving memory her husband of 66 years, James Allen, daughter Roslyn Johnson (Jay) Brooks, other family members and friends.

Services will be held Saturday, April 7, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at Ward Chapel AME Church, 501 S. Allen, Marshall, Texas. There will be a viewing from 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Arrangements are entrusted to Lewis Funeral Home, Marshall, Texas.

Eunice Tilmon

Pioneer Eunice Tilmon, 97, went to be with the Lord on April 3rd. She was born on June 15, 1920 to Curtis and Mary Brown. Memorial service will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 7, 2018 at Kingdom Hall, 5100 N. Lamesa Rd. She leaves to cherish her memory one daughter, Doris Cooper and her husband John; one sister, Pastor Ann Lang and her husband Leo; brothers, James Brown, Curtis Brown and a host of nieces and nephews. Arrangements are entrusted to Avalos-Sanchez & Thomas Funeral Home, 1502 N. Lamesa Rd.


Thomas A. Villa

Thomas A. Villa, age 34, passed away April 3, 2018 in Midland, Texas due to an automobile accident. He was born July 14, 1983 in Ojinaga Chihuahua, Mexico, the son of Jesus and Dulces Villa. He attended Midland High School, and graduated from the class of 2000.

Tomas was an amazing father, husband, son and brother. His children were his life. He was a boxer on the professional level for many years and won numerous championships throughout his career.

Tomas was preceded in death by his brother Jesus Alfonso Villa Jr.

He is survived by his wife Angelica M. Villa; companion Rosa Rosa; his children, Margarita Villa, Tomas Alfonso Villa Jr., and Edgar Alvin Villa; step-children, Angela Cano and Lorenzo Cano; his parents, Jesus and Dulces Villa all of Midland, TX and a grandson, Leo Emmanuel Cano.

He is also survived by his brothers, Francisco "Pancho" Villa and wife Juana, Jaime Villa and wife Jazmin and

Jorge Villa all of Midland, TX and Saul Villa and wife Jessica of Odessa and one sister Veronica Villa of Midland, TX.

Viewing will be held at El Gran Marquez; 4105 TX-349, Midland, TX on Friday April 6, 2018 from 9:00a.m. - 9:00p.m. Rosary will start at 7:00p.m. Friday night at El Gran Marquez.

A funeral mass will be Saturday, April 7th at 2:30p.m. at San Miguel Arcangel Catholic Church. Burial will follow to Serenity Memorial Gardens.

Funeral mass is under the direction of Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home and Chapel. Family messages and condolences may be emailed to: pipkin@nts-online.net or you can visit our website at www.lewallengarciapipkinfh.com

Lewallen Garcia Pipkin Funeral Home
2301 N. Big Spring - Midland, TX - (432) 682-2700


John Millwee

This Easter Sunday we lost another member of the greatest generation our loving husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather John Finis Millwee just shy of his ninetieth birthday.

He was born June 23, 1928 in Pioneer, Texas to Samuel Summit and Nettie Mae (Waterson) Millwee. As a child he lived in numerous West Texas towns and Phillips camps including Crane, Goldsmith, Odessa and graduated high school in Hobbs, New Mexico. John served his country proudly as a veteran of the United States Army and served as a paratrooper in the 11th Airborne Division in Japan during World War II earning Japan World War II Victory Medal, Army of Occupation Medal, Glider Badge and Parachutist Badge. After the war he returned home and graduated from Texas Tech University in 1951 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Petroleum Geology beginning a long legacy of Red Raiders "Wreck 'em Tech".

He met the love of his life Jo Ann Lemaster and married her in her parent's home January 6, 1953 in Odessa, Texas. The couple recently celebrated their 65th anniversary. Their union produced two daughters Lynda Millwee Krol and husband Walter John Krol and Sandra Millwee Jordan and husband Daniel Loyd Jordan.

John's legacy includes six grandchildren Stephanie Krol McCurdy and husband Michael Lewis McCurdy, Jonathan Hayden Jordan, Michael Joseph Krol, Matthew Nathaniel Jordan,

Alexander John Krol and Victoria Danielle Jordan all of Midland. He also has three great grandchildren Blake Elliott McCurdy, Gunnar Michael McCurdy and Piper Olivia McCurdy.

He was a 31 year member of Midland Country Club joining in 1987. John was an avid golfer always ready to play in the gangsome or in a tournament with all his golfing buddies. He was also a long time member of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association. After graduation from Texas Tech University he worked as a geologist for the late Mr. Fred Turner and the Turner Estate managed by Lynn Durham and Clarence Scharbauer II for a total of 25 years. In 1972, John and his wife Jo Ann formed Lyn-San Company named in honor of their daughters and also operated as a sole proprietor John F. Millwee. In 1980 they founded Millwee Oil, Inc. where he remained president for 38 years until his death April 1, 2018. John and Jo Ann have made Midland their home for the past 65 years.

John was preceded in death by his mother and father his brothers Samuel Edsel Millwee, Williford Jay Millwee and his sister Ella Louise Millwee Granath.

A private family service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to a charity of your choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory
(432) 550-5800

Death Notices
Charlotte "Charlie" Fitzgerald

Charlotte "Charlie" Fitzgerald, 62, of Midland, Texas passed away Wednesday, April 4, 2018. The family will receive guests from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Monday, April 9, 2018 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Midland. Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at Calvary Assembly of God in Midland. Interment will follow at Serenity Memorial Gardens.

Miguel Lofton

Miguel Lofton, 31, of Odessa, Texas passed away Monday, April 2, 2018. Memorial services are pending. Miguel is survived by his son, Jacauri LeSchon Lofton; and four siblings.

Rodger Dwight Rebsom

Rodger Dwight Rebsom, 58, passed away April 3, 2018 in Midland. He was born June 2, 1959 in Dickinson, North Dakota. There are no services scheduled with Avalos-Sanchez & Thomas Funeral Home at this time. Survivors include his daughter, Jami Rebsom; 2 granddaughters Cremation arrangements are entrusted to Avalos-Sanchez & Thomas Funeral Home.

Helping hands: Locals pitch in to help Lutheran charity

By Felicia Frazier
Seguin Gazette

Texas Lutheran University students stood alongside middle school students from Cross Lutheran School transporting boxes from trucks, trailers, U-Hauls and cars to a pair of 18-wheeler trailers set up at TLU's Jackson Park on Wednesday.

The students, joined by community volunteers helped fill the trailers with supplies for Lutheran World Relief (LWR).

Lorie Garcia, vice president for the Women of the ELCA Southwest Texas Synod, said the once-a-year coordinated collection day allows Lutheran churches from the area to bring their donations.

"We coordinate with the Missouri Synod regional coordinator to bring the trucks in and have all of the churches bring in all of their supplies they've collected all year — quilts, school kits, personal care kits," she said. "We fill two 18-wheelers in the course of a day with volunteers from Texas Lutheran, we work in coordination with the Servant Leadership office here and volunteers from churches in the area. We fill them to the brim and stack them."

Texas Lutheran University freshman Rendelle Lewis joined team members and fellow students in helping to load the trucks. "It feels good because you're helping

the community," he said. "At first I thought it was going to be slow, but then it started coming in."

The crews began filling the trailers at 7:30 a.m. and continued throughout the day as cars, trucks, vans, trailers and U-Hauls showed up with deliveries.

Once filled, the trucks are closed up and sent to the Lutheran World Relief warehouse in Maryland, Garcia said.

From there, the items are distributed across the globe to areas in need, Garcia said.

"Lutheran World Relief works in concert with other aid organizations around the world, refugee camps, kits go to school kids in Afghanistan and Syrian refugee camps, soap and hygiene kits, quilts that are used for keeping warm, shelter," she said. "Even disasters here in the United States. Lutheran Disaster Response has been in Harvey areas and in Puerto Rico."

Once LWR heads to a destination needing assistance, they stay until the need is no longer there, Garcia said.

"They are still in Haiti after the earthquake, working for sustainable reconstructions, they are still in the Philippines after the hurricane almost 10 years ago," she said. "These go to help whoever can use it, and they coordinate with organizations on

Please see CHARITY/6B

No offense, but business owners won't hide faith

By Joel Shannon
and Abbey Zelko
York Daily Record

STRASBURG, Pa. — It's a state-of-the-art theater in the middle of a cornfield that puts on shows exclusively about Bible stories. And on the day before Holy Week 2018 began, the buses just kept on coming.

"Who's excited to see Jesus?" an attendant at the door greeted the crowds with a hearty smile.

That's the name of the show: "Jesus."

If you've driven around Lancaster County recently, you've likely seen the billboards advertising Sight & Sound Theaters' latest production, which is showing at the Strasburg Township theater through the end of the year.

Although Sight & Sound is a for-profit business, ministry is at the heart of what they do.

It's never been about revenue, said Katie Miller, corporate communications director and the oldest grandchild of the founding family. Their mission from the beginning has been to spread the Gospel of Jesus.

"Bible stories are at the core of who we are and what we do," she said. "It is our niche — the thing we bring that's different from what's expected in theater."

And, so far, it's been successful.

Sight & Sound, which employs 650 people, is expecting 1.5 million visitors this year between their two locations in Strasburg Township and Branson, Mo. Attendance has continued to increase, and "Jesus" is mostly sold out through April and on most Saturdays throughout the year.

"Jesus" attendee Cynthia Myles of Baltimore is well aware that it's hard to find a theater like Sight & Sound. Why? "Cause a lot of peo-

ple don't support it. That's it. They don't believe."

On the national stage, it's unusual for companies to mix business and religion. When they do, controversy can ensue.

That happened in 2012 when Chick-fil-A president Dan Cathy made comments about "the biblical definition of the family unit" and sparked a national backlash, including calls for a boycott.

But in the heart of Pennsylvania Dutch Country, Sight & Sound is far from alone in mixing religion and business.

'T FEELS GOOD TO US'

Martin's Trailside Express is a 24/6 truck stop.

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Please see BUSINESS/6B

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APRIL 6-13

TODAY

The Life Center Foundation Clay Shoot. Fee includes barbecue, refreshments and gun prizes. First flight, 9 a.m., second flight 1 p.m. at Jake's Clays, 13301 Farm-to-Market Road 1379. thelifecenters.org.

Bingo and Bubbly Ladies Luncheon benefiting Harmony Home Children's Advocacy Center. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at La Hacienda Event Center, 12610 State Highway 191.

Celebrate Service. Greenwood High School Baseball will host a veterans and active-duty military appreciation ceremony. Military can enjoy a complimentary meal before the ceremony. The event will be followed by GHS varsity baseball game against Monahans. 5:30 p.m. at Greenwood High School, 2700 Farm-to-Market Road 1379.

CODA Group: 12-step program for relationships. 7 p.m. Fridays and Sundays at Christ Church Anglican, 5501 N. Midkiff Road. 599-4490.

First Friday is a family movie and game night hosted by Permian Basin LGBTQ (plus). Enjoy board games and a movie screening of "Guardians of the Galaxy" for children. This evening will also include the group's general meeting and special election for officers. 7 p.m. at Sleep Inn and Suites of Midland, 5612 Deauville Road. Free. pblbqt.org.

Casting Crowns, I Am They. 7 p.m. at Andrews County Expo, 1441 E. State Highway, Andrews. \$30-\$65.

SATURDAY

Midland Downtown Farmers Market opens its 11th season. The market will include live music by Sara Rachel and food trucks onsite. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave.

Yoga classes are offered weekly. 9 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Church, 3301 Neely Ave. Free. uumidland.org.

Sibley Native Plant Sale. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Sibley Nature Center, 1307 E. Wadley Ave.

Sibshop/Parentshop by SHARE. 9:30 a.m.-noon at Midland Shared Spaces, 3500 N. "A" St.

Financial Peace University is a nine-week course for financial control and success. 10 a.m. Saturdays through June 2 at Goodwill Bible Baptist Church, 1001 S. Main St. Register at fpu.com.

Great American Cleanup/Don't Mess with Texas Trash-off appreciation picnic. 10:30 a.m. at Washington Park, 1803 E. Indiana Ave. keepmidlandbeautiful.org.

RePete's History: Anglo-Saxon Paganism lecture and discussion. 7 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Church, 3301 Neely Ave. Free.

The 10th annual **Hops and Props** features more than 50 beers and ciders as well as appetizers from area restaurants. Live music by Donnie Evetts and Grindstone. The event also features a silent

auction, bottle cap raffle and more. The event benefits CAF High Sky Wing and Midland Army Air Field Museum. 7 p.m. at High Sky Wing, 9600 Wright Drive. \$40 in advance, \$50 at the door, \$20 for designated driver. highskywing.org.

SUNDAY

True Love Waits Study, 9:45 a.m. Sundays through April 29 at Alamo Heights Baptist Church, 1305 N. Midland Drive.

MONDAY

Gentle Healing Yoga. This weekly yoga camp is open to all survivors of cancer. Led by Anne Lucero. 5:30 p.m. at Yoga Sanctuary, 4202 Dawn Circle. Free. 575-937-3609.

Grief Support six-week session, 6:30-8 p.m. at Hospice Midland, 911 W. Texas Ave. hospicofmidland.org.

Belly dancing class, 8 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Church, 3301 Neely Ave. uumidland.org.

TUESDAY

Intro to Buddhism features basic meditation and then discussion. Hosted by Permian Basin Buddhists. 7 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Church, 3301 Neely Ave. meetup.com/Permian-Basin-Buddhists.

The 12-Step Group, 7 p.m. Tuesdays, 10 a.m. Saturdays at Christ Church Anglican, 5501 N. Midkiff Road. 553-7220.

PFLAG support meeting, 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Sleep Inn and Suites of Midland, 5612 Deauville Road.

WEDNESDAY

Caregiver support group, noon-1 p.m. at Hospice Midland, 911 W. Texas Ave. hospicofmidland.org.

DivorceCare is a safe place to embrace the grief of divorce. The sessions cover topics for children and adults with activities, video lessons and more. DC4K is offered for children 6 to 12. 6 p.m. Wednesdays through April 25 at First Presbyterian Church of Midland, 800 W. Texas Ave.

THURSDAY

Brothers in Christ is a weekly men's group with studies that range from the Bible to topical issues. 6:30 a.m. at Midland Bible Church, 5900 Whitman Drive. midlandbible.org.

Talking with Communication-Impaired Adults is a class for those providing care for stroke survivors. Class includes lunch. Hosted by the Aphasia Center of West Texas. 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Midland College, 3600 Garfield St. \$40. aphasiawtx.org.

La Hacienda Alumni: Support group for former patients and guests. 7 p.m. Thursdays at Christ Church Anglican, 5501 N. Midkiff Road. 432-553-7220.

Holocaust Memorial Day will feature readings of writings by Elie Wiesel and memorial candles for those lives lost in the Holocaust. 7 p.m. at Temple Beth El, 1501 N. Grandview Ave.

To include your event on this calendar, please email Rich Lopez at rlopez@mrt.com

CHANG

From 1B

have nonetheless been filed under the handy if reductive term "faith-based entertainment."

These pictures have offered an oasis of sorts for Christian moviegoers who claim the industry doesn't reflect or respect their spiritual values. I'd respond that in some cases, those moviegoers simply aren't looking hard enough; if they were, brilliant dramas like Rodrigo Garcia's "Last Days in the Desert" and Martin Scorsese's "Silence" might have become the church-fueled hits they deserved to be.

But there is some truth to the notion that Hollywood doesn't always know how best to serve a significant portion of its audience. Look no further than the modest furor over Disney's adaptation of "A Wrinkle in Time," a movie I admired for its crazy unorthodox vision but one curiously devoid of the biblical references that Madeleine L'Engle included in her original novel. If L'Engle — a refreshingly free-thinking, non-doctrinaire Christian writer — had a choice in the matter, I imagine she'd prefer a film stripped of overt religious references to one wallowing in grotesque spiritual kitsch, especially in light of the examples the "faith-based" community has given us.

I've liked my share of these pictures. I had a soft spot for "The Song," a lush marital drama set in the country-music industry, and wasn't entirely immune to the insistent, afterlife-peddling charms of "Heaven Is for Real." But for the most part, these examples have been rare and decidedly mixed blessings, small standouts in a sea of movies that haven't given adherents or atheists much to believe in.

My reservations have little to do with standard criticisms like awkward performances or clunky production values — venial sins, surely, for new filmmakers trying to find their way. What rankles about a cinematic sermon like "Letters to God" or a morally offensive war-time drama like "Little Boy" isn't the mediocrity of the craft; it's the calculation inherent in the enterprise. There's a smug complacency with which these movies preach a message ostensibly meant to set the world passionately ablaze.

I didn't check all these prejudices at the door when I recently caught up with "I Can Only Imagine," "Paul, Apostle of Christ" and "God's Not Dead: A Light in Darkness," the three highest-profile Christian-themed releases of the spring moviegoing season. But I watched all of them in a tentative spirit of optimism, intending to gauge the present state of what I have often hesitated to describe as art, and hoping to be pleasantly surprised. And at least two films in this cinematic trinity largely succeeded in overcoming my inner skeptic.

Let's dispense with the one that didn't. "God's Not Dead: A Light in Darkness," which opened Friday in wide release, is the third film in a startlingly successful Pure Flix franchise that began with 2014's \$60-million-plus-grossing "God's Not Dead." Directed by Michael Mason (taking over for Harold Cronk), "A Light in Darkness" resumes the legal misadventures of Pastor Dave (David A.R. White), who, as the story begins, has just been released from prison for failing to turn over his sermons to the government. (To understand why a court would subpoena a pastor's sermons, I'd direct you to "God's

Not Dead 2," but you might interpret that as a recommendation.)

Dave returns home to find his college-based church under attack, first by an act of arson that kills his co-pastor, and then by the school itself, which wants to remove this lightning rod for controversy from campus.

Dave calls on his estranged brother (John Corbett), an attorney and, wouldn't you know it, lapsed believer in need of a spiritual pick-me-up. The stage is set for a courtroom melodrama crawling with straw-man atheists, pseudo-introspective laments and specious arguments concerning the separation of church and state.

The result would be a lousy story even if it weren't such a tedious exercise in self-victimization. I know that many Christians feel they are the last members of American society still being denied the gift of tolerance, a belief to which they are no less entitled than their faith in God. But even allowing for a measure of legitimate grievance over the silencing of evangelical doctrine in mainstream society, this would not be a persuasive way to dramatize it. When Jesus warned his disciples that they would face persecutions, the suffering we see in this pernicious, self-admiring drivel is probably the very opposite of what he had in mind.

"God's Not Dead: A Light in Darkness" does end with the hopeful message that Christians should be quick to hear and slow to anger — a lesson that plays out to more compelling, complicated effect in "I Can Only Imagine."

The movie, directed by brothers Andrew and Jon Erwin (making quite a rebound from their execrable family-values comedy "Moms' Night Out"), has emerged as the sort of hit that indie Christian film-lovers long for and rarely achieves. As of this writing, it ranks third at the weekend box office, having grossed nearly \$40 million (more than five times its production budget) since its March 16 release by Lionsgate and Roadside Attractions.

No one familiar with Millard's mega-hit signature song, also called "I Can Only Imagine," will be shocked to hear of the movie's robust commercial success. Nor will it come as any surprise to even the most naive moviegoer that Millard, the protagonist of this slick but sincere inspirational drama, will have to reconcile with his bitterly cruel father (played with ferocious self-loathing by Quaid). Then and only then can he reach that place of peaceful enlightenment where he can write the song, which will eventually become a triple-platinum hit and catapult MercyMe to superstardom.

But who needs surprises? I say this as someone who loves Millard's song and listened to it repeatedly during my college Christian fellowship days, sometimes lip-syncing into an invisible mike and envisioning a future divine encounter of my own. It may be catchy as you-know-what, but it's also a simple, soaring piece of song craft, overflowing with the kind of emotion that disarms my defenses even now.

While the movie is not without its overly airbrushed moments, its telling of Millard's story manages to raise — or at least stumble into — significant questions about the power of art (whether it's an album, a movie or something else) that arrives bearing the weight of an ideology.

How much value are we willing

to ascribe to a work of art simply because it aligns with our beliefs? And how much can we trust our tears? Any honest believer who has sat through a worship service has certainly asked whether they are hearing the authentic voice of God or simply being emotionally manipulated by the music — and then proceeded to wonder if the two might not, somehow, be one and the same.

I certainly can't say whether the swells of emotion I felt while watching "Paul, Apostle of Christ" are attributable to the Holy Spirit or simply a competent level of artistry of all involved, and I'm not terribly interested in parsing the difference. By far the most intelligent, absorbing and stirring of these three movies, writer-director Andrew Hyatt's well-acted drama of imprisonment and martyrdom implicitly rebukes the "God's Not Dead" franchise by reminding us what actual persecution looks like. It returns us to a vision of ancient Rome (the film was shot on location in Malta) where some of Christ's earliest followers were routinely burned alive in the streets or condemned to death in the arena.

But even these potentially rabble-rousing moments are dramatized with sober restraint, much like the conversations that play out among the apostle Paul (an excellent, grizzled James Faulkner), Luke the Evangelist (Jim Caviezel, forever the face of Jesus in "The Passion of the Christ") and their fellow Christians as they debate how best to ensure their survival — and more importantly for Paul, the survival of the gospel.

"Paul, Apostle of Christ" may fall into that creakily venerable tradition of impeccably British-accented biblical pageantry, but from the first frame, Hyatt's approach is marked by clear-eyed intelligence and a refusal of the obvious.

It's telling that Paul's dramatic moment of conversion on the road to Damascus, which a different movie might have saved for the climax, is relegated to a few quick flashbacks. This is a movie about the challenge of remaining true to one's beliefs after the spiritual high has worn off, the miracles have ceased and God seems to have fallen silent.

"What can a nonbeliever get out of it?" is a question that often gets leveled, not unjustly, at these movies, and in the case of "Paul, Apostle of Christ" I would say there's real value in a story willing to linger in its own uncertainty and also willing to extend compassion in all directions.

Hyatt's film argues, with eloquence and gravity, that Christ's message was predicated on sacrificial love, and that any attempts to seize political power or wage war in his name are in fact a rejection of his truth.

This is a lesson well worth absorbing, if the embattled state of modern American evangelicalism, torn between might-is-right ideology on one hand and a toxic level of self-pity on the other, is any indication. "Paul, Apostle of Christ" might be too small, too wise and too resolutely uninspirational to shift the balance. But at a time when too many filmmakers still mistake message-mongering for art, a picture that quietly dignifies the medium is more than sufficient for me.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

BUSINESS

From 4B

"It's nice to have that downtime," said owner Judy Weaver. "It feels good to us." Her employees like having the time to go to church (or not). She thinks it's important to give them time to relax and refocus.

Does she lose money? Maybe. She thinks Sunday would be a busy day if they were open. But then again, maybe they'd lose some of their loyal customers who appreciate their unusual decision.

Another unusual decision informed by faith: They don't sell tobacco products. A truck stop that doesn't sell cigarettes, Weaver mused they might be the only one.

That decision shows where Weaver's priorities are as she runs her business. It's "not all about the money or the sales," she said. It's more important to her that her truck stop is a family-friendly place that revolves around the community.

That means the business is active in local charities. It also means that they are sensitive to those who don't share their beliefs.

Sure, they play Christian music quietly in the background. And if you go looking for it, you can find some Christian literature in the store. But Weaver said it's not her goal to shove her beliefs down anyone's throat.

"We don't think we're better than anyone else," she said.

Talk to Kirby Zimmerman, Director of Retail Operations for Weaver's Nut Sweets & Snacks in Ephrata, and he'll say nearly the same things about his store.

The management isn't shy about their beliefs — they close the store on Sunday; they put up crosses for

Easter in the store. But they aren't out to offend.

"We don't push it on anybody ... It's just a matter of sharing God's love to everybody."

Zimmerman has worked in corporate America. He likes it better at Weaver's. They focus on living out their faith, showing love and respect to customers. The No. 1 priority isn't making money.

Maybe that actually helps them gain loyal customers, he said.

Incorporating faith into a business has real economic risks, as well as some potential benefits, said Lexi Hutto an assistant professor of marketing at Millersville University.

Decisions like closing on Sunday can be costly, so they're unusual in the business world, she said. Businesses that choose to do so are "giving up a lot of business to stay true to their convictions."

But in central Pennsylvania, businesses like a 24/6 truck stop or a theater that only shows Bible stories are unusually common, she said.

Hutto speculates that those choices aren't calculated business decisions: It's simply part of the culture here. "It's not forced. It's not artificial. It's something that grew naturally."

There are a lot of reasons for the trend, she said. It's partly the customer base: They're generally supportive of such decisions. It's partly the businesses: They're usually locally-owned, heavily influenced by the founders.

Whatever the reasons, the result is a part of the culture in Pennsylvania Dutch country: A "quiet, gentle throwback to another era."

Distributed by Associated Press

CHARITY

From 4B

the ground to get the items to whoever needs it."

The collection of donations start at the local level, Garcia said.

"What we do is, people collect the items in their churches, or in their smaller communities. In ELCA, we have conferences — eight of them — and each one collects from all of the people in their area," she said. "They will drive a U-Haul to the drop location — here. There was one yesterday (Tuesday) in Houston and one tomorrow (Thursday) in Dallas. All of the Lutheran denominations work together."

Lutheran Churches in the Seguin and surrounding area took part in the effort, including Emanuel's Lutheran Church in Seguin, said member and volunteer Elin Oella.

"From our church, we

have quilts and school kits and care kits," she said. "We have a group of about 13 who come work on Mondays and assemble the blankets and we have campaigns in the church for people to donate school supplies in July. Some of our members sew school bags."

Oella said it is heartwarming to see the community rise up with donations — and for the students to volunteer their time to help unload and load the trucks.

Furthermore, she said it was fun getting to know where their donations end up and how they help.

"We've felt so happy to know where this is going," she said. "We put barcodes on everything, so we know which countries receive the contributions. It has made us feel connected to some places around the world."

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Be sure to check out Sunday's edition to read weekly LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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FRIDAY PRIME TIME	APRIL 6, 2018											
Channel	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMBD ABC	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune (R)	Dance Upon a Time "Breadcrumbs" (R)	Agents of SHIELD "Soul Voices" (R)	20/20	News (R)	com Jimmy Kimmel Live	com News Nightline	com News Nightline	com News Nightline	com News Nightline	com News Nightline
KOSA CBS	CBS 7 News (R)	Ent. Tonight	MacGyver (R)	Howell Pre-9 (R)	Blind, "Friendship, Love and Loyalty" (R)	CBS 7 News (R)	com Masters (R)	com The Late Show	com The Late Show	com The Late Show	com The Late Show	com The Late Show
KIWW CW	5 14	5 14	M*A*S*H "The Bus"	M*A*S*H "The Bus"	Comedy Pyle	WKRP	Hogan's Heroes	Hogan's Heroes	com Carol Burnett	com P. Mason "The Case of the Witness Witness"	com The Tonight Show	com The Tonight Show
KPEJ FOX	8 5	8 5	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	MarinerChef Inland "Donut Sweet N' (R)	A. Griffith	The Resident "The Engagement"	com Fox 24 TMZ	com Mom	com Modern Family	com Modern Family	com Modern Family
KMLM IND	11 12	11 11	Think Red	Creation Magazine	Update News	com HoYeeed	Light of the Southwest	Light of the Southwest	Update News	com Creation Magazine	com Shepherd's Heart	com Shepherd's Heart
KWES NBC	9 9	9 9	NewsWest 9 Now	NewsWest 9 Now	Update News	com All About Eve (R)	com NewsWest 9 Now	com NewsWest 9 Now	com NewsWest 9 Now	com NewsWest 9 Now	com NewsWest 9 Now	com NewsWest 9 Now
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NIKE	55 -	39 34 37	com V. Sideralis a...	com V. Sideralis a...	com V. Sideralis a...	com V. Sideralis a...	com V. Sideralis a...	com V. Sideralis a...	com V. Sideralis a...	com V. Sideralis a...	com V. Sideralis a...	com V. Sideralis a...
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Father's habit of returning food proves hard to swallow

DEAR ABBY: I am in my 30s and moved out of my parents' home 10 years ago. Last week, I decided to visit them, and we went out to eat. Dad has a habit of sending his food back to the kitchen — "My steak isn't cooked enough," or "My food is cold. Could you warm it up?" He even does this at restaurants that aren't fancy.

Dad has done this my whole life and he's in his 60s. It's embarrassing for me and Mom, and it frustrates the cooks and waitstaff. Is there a polite way of telling him to stop this behavior? He takes any criticism personally. —**EMBARASSED IN THE NORTH-EAST**

DEAR EMBARRASSED: You are certainly free to tell your father that this habit embarrasses you, but after all these years, you and your mother are not going to change him. Restaurants are in the hospitality business. If your father isn't satisfied with his food, he has a right to ask that it be served to his liking, and most restaurants will gladly comply. We are not responsible for the actions of other people, and because of that, you should not feel embarrassed about something over which you have no control.

DEAR ABBY: Last year for my birthday, my husband asked me what I wanted for a gift. I

DEAR ABBY

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Her column is distributed by Universal Press Syndicate.

told him I would like flowers once a month for one year. He's been pretty good about it. But I complained about the way I receive them, which is, when we are driving home in our truck (we work together) and it's nearing the end of the month, he'll pull into the parking lot at the grocery store, run in, come back and hand them to me. He always picks out a beautiful bunch, but my complaint was that it's never a "surprise." He says he can't decide if I'm ungrateful or a spoiled brat. What say you and your readers? —**GRATEFUL IN CALIFORNIA**

DEAR GRATEFUL: Your mistake was in not clearly specifying that what you wanted was a bouquet in a vase from a florist. However, because you also told your husband you wanted flowers once a month, I fail to see how they would in any way be a "surprise." He has been giving you what you asked for, and you shouldn't look a gift husband in the mouth. I'm not going to name

call, but shame on you.

DEAR ABBY: People in nursing homes or at home — still need social contacts. In our busy society, these folks are often forgotten, and it is hurtful. We will all get there someday and will fully understand how important an occasional phone call or greeting card can be. Please ask your readers to make a note on their calendar as a "reminder." If they do, someone will be very grateful for the kind gesture — most likely the recipient — but it may also be their family members. Kindness goes a long way. —**REMEMBERING IN NEW HAMPSHIRE**

DEAR REMEMBERING: You have a caring soul. Your message is an important one, which is why I am sharing it with my readers. I know most of you are busy people, but a simple gesture can make a world of difference to those who may be isolated.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Bob Jones

Key inference

Both vulnerable, East deals

NORTH
♠Q102
♥Q5
♦AJ986
♣984

WEST
♠A876
♥1092
♦75
♣J652

EAST
♠J3
♥8
♦KQ104
♣AKQ1073

SOUTH
♠K954
♥AKJ7643
♦32
♣Void

The bidding:
EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH
1♠ 4♣ All pass

Opening lead: Seven of ♣

Today's deal was played in the finals of the Life Master Pairs some years ago. South was Florida expert Larry Cohen.

We have no idea why West chose to lead a diamond rather than a club. The lead of a worthless doubleton in an unbid suit is usually a poor choice. It cost nothing directly here, but it led

to an inference for Cohen that allowed him to make an overtrick — precious in a pairs competition.

Cohen, quite pleased with his dummy, won the opening diamond lead with dummy's ace and drew trumps in three rounds, noting East's singleton. 10 tricks were assured, and finding the jack of spades would lead to a great score. Should the spades be splitting 3-3, it was a pure guess as to who held the jack. A 4-2 split, however, and Cohen would want to play the hand with the doubleton spade for the jack in order to pick up the suit for three tricks. Cohen led a diamond at this point hoping to learn more about the hand. When West followed with the five and East won with the 10, it seemed pretty clear that East has started with four diamonds. This meant that he was likely to have started with at least five clubs for his opening bid, and therefore no more than three spades — perhaps fewer.

Cohen ruffed the ace of clubs shift and led a low spade to dummy's queen. When a low spade from dummy fetched the jack from East, Cohen claimed his overtrick. Nicely played!



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SPORTS

See Thursday's scores from the Masters tournament. Page 5C

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Friday, April 6, 2018 | Section C

Martinez brothers hope to have success at 2-6A tourney

By Christopher Hadorn
chadorn@mrt.com

Playing boys doubles together was an opportunity too good to pass up for brothers Diego Martinez and Nick Martinez.

With Diego being a senior, this year's spring tournament season was the last chance for the Martinez brothers to join forces on the tennis court while representing Midland High.

While affiliating seemed only natural for the two, it also involved some sacrifice, as Nick, an MHS junior, was the two-time

defending district champion in boys singles. The family ties were too strong for Nick to pass up, as his father Alvaro Martinez encouraged his sons to play together.

"It was mostly my dad's and my brother's (decision)," Nick said. "It wasn't really mine. My dad really wanted us to play together mainly because it's Diego's senior year. And he wanted Diego to get out of district for his last senior year or least try to."

The Martinez brothers are expected to be contenders for two regional berths when the two-day District 2-6A Tennis Tourna-

ment begins at 8:30 a.m. today at Tut Bartz Tennis Center and Bentwood Country Club in San Angelo.

The top two performers in boys singles, girls singles, boys doubles, girls doubles and mixed doubles among MHS, Lee, Amarillo Tascosa, San Angelo Central, Wolfforth Frenship, Odessa Permian and Odessa High entries qualify for the Region 1-6A Tennis Tournament, April 18-19 in Arlington.

Nick will be vying for his third consecutive regional



Brothers Nick and Diego Martinez, doubles tennis players for Midland High.

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Please see MHS/2C

Quick turnaround



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Lee's Paige Low warms up before the discus event during the District 2-6A track meet on Thursday at Memorial Stadium.

Lee's Low bounces back to take shot put gold

By Christopher Hadorn
chadorn@mrt.com

Lee sophomore Paige Low showed best how to turn a negative situation into a positive Thursday at the District 2-6A Track and Field Championships at Memorial Stadium.

Low experienced the agony of falling short in her first event, as her fifth-place finish in the girls discus didn't qualify her for the District 1-6A/2-6A Area Meet, April 20 in El Paso. Low reached the 2017 Region 1-6A meet in the discus, so she had high expectations for the event this year.

But Low bounced back with a vengeance, by winning the District 2-6A girls shot put title with a personal record of 40 feet, 1 inch.

Low finished with a flurry as she took the

lead with a toss of 39-2 1/2 on her fourth attempt, and set her personal best on her sixth and last attempt.

Low, who was seeded third, beat a capable group of throwers, which included Odessa Permian senior Calyha Brown, who holds a 43-9 in the shot put this season.

"I was just trying to get all my anger and put it toward the shot put," Low said of her inspiring win. "On that last one, I got to put everything I have into this last one, so I finally broke 40."

Lee girls track coach Frank Maldonado said Low displayed maturity with the way she handled her early setback and end the day on top of the podium with a gold medal.

"I am real proud of her because she was disappointed with her discus performance," Maldonado said. "And she's very upset

about it. Like a true competitor, she was able to compartmentalize that, come over here and throw the best she's ever thrown in her life. I'm real proud of her, good things happen."

Low said Maldonado, who coaches Lee's throwers, was a positive influence to help her concentrate on excelling in the shot put.

"He was just telling me how I needed to stay focused and to use that anger toward shot put," Low said.

Low has been on a roll lately in the shot put, which was her second-best event entering the season.

On March 30 in her last meet before district, Low won the shot put at the Lubbock Invitational with a then personal record of 39-6 1/2.

Please see LOW/4C

Opening day win kicks off RockHounds' season the right way

By Will Korn
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Opening Day is usually considered one of the most treasured days of every baseball season. After six months off, players and fans alike are eager to get a new and unpredictable campaign underway.

In their 2018 Texas League season opener Thursday night at Security Bank Ballpark, the Midland RockHounds and Springfield Cardinals treated 5,373 anxious fans to the full spectrum of a thrilling game.

The night was complete with impressive displays of power, an exchange of rallies and, at times, dazzling efforts on the mound.

And for the home fans, the best was saved for last.

With two outs in the bottom of the eighth, Midland's Skye Bolt doubled to left to pull the RockHounds into the lead. Then in the ninth, Midland reliever J.B. Wendelken added the exclamation mark with a swinging strikeout of Andrew Knizner to preserve a 6-5 victory over Springfield.

The three-game series resumes at 7 p.m. today at Security Bank Ballpark.

For the RockHounds, new manager Scott Steinmann picked up his first win at the Double-A level. For many of his players, including right fielder Tyler Marincov, who helped Midland to its fourth consecutive Texas League championship last season, Thursday's success felt all too familiar.

But no matter their experience or situation with the RockHounds, they shared the excitement of taking the field on Opening Day.

"Opening Day is always an exciting day because it's actually a game that really, really counts," Steinmann said. "This is the game that starts the year off. These go on the back of your (baseball card) stats."

Said Marincov, who went 1-for-4 in Thursday's win: "It feels awesome. I speak for everybody - I know that after all the time in spring training, all the work in the offseason, we're chomping at the bit to get into a game."

Please see KORN/3C

Jacobs-Kea helps Lady Chaps wherever needed

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroy@mrt.com

Midland College interim softball coach

Amanda

Evans said

Rayla Jacobs-Kea is like the

team's Swiss

Army knife in

the way she

brings different

tools to

the field.

Although

the freshman from

Waianae,

Hawaii, is primarily a center



Kea

fielder, Evans knows that she can put her anywhere in the outfield. When they need her to pitch, Jacobs-Kea is ready to step up in the circle and sports a 2.04 ERA in eight appearances. And there is her ability to be a spark in the bottom half of the lineup thanks to a team-best .459 batting average, a team-best 14 doubles and is second on the team in runs scored.

There's almost nothing that Jacobs-Kea can't do and Evans knows that having that kind of player is big for a team that's looking to keep the winning tradition going at MC.

Fans will likely see Jacobs-Kea just about everywhere the Lady Chapsarrals (27-13, 10-2 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference) need her when they play Odessa College (24-7, 8-4) in a home-and-home four-game series beginning with a doubleheader at the Midland College softball field at 1 p.m. today.

"She's our role player for us and a key player for us," said Evans about Jacob-Kea. "I can put her in left, I can put her in center, I can bring her in to pitch, I can put her in the lead-off position in the lineup and

she's going to execute and she's going to get it done."

The soft spoken Jacobs-Kea doesn't think of her versatility as that big of a deal. To her, she's just trying to help the team win in any way she can.

"I try to do what I need to do," she said. "I like the outfield. It's just fun making plays and trying to throw people out. I definitely try to go out there with confidence."

Evans said that confidence is apparent every time Jacobs-Kea comes to the plate.

Please see CHAPS/4C



RockHounds' Seth Brown hits against Springfield on Thursday at Security Bank Ballpark.

ODESSA JACKALOPES

GAME TIME 7-11 | ODESSA JACKALOPES

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'HOUNDWATCH



THURSDAY'S SCORE
Midland 6, Springfield 5
TODAY'S GAME
Springfield vs Midland, 7:05 p.m.

Table with 5 columns: Thursday, Today, Saturday, Sunday, Monday. Shows game times for Midland vs Springfield.

DAILY RUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

- College Baseball: LSU at Texas A&M, 6 p.m., SEC. Baylor at Texas, 6:30 p.m., LHN. College Softball: Texas A&M at Mississippi State, 7:30 p.m., SEC.

WHAT'S ON DECK

- HS Baseball: Odessa High at Midland High, 4:30 p.m. Lee at Odessa Permian, 4:30 p.m. Trinity at Lubbock Trinity, 6 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL: American League. OAKLAND ATHLETICS - Claimed OF Travis Thompson off waivers from the New York Yankees.

NHL GLANCE

Table showing NHL standings for Eastern Conference, Western Conference, and Pacific Division.

NBA GLANCE

Table showing NBA standings for Eastern Conference, Western Conference, and Pacific Division.

Hofman-Gurru place second at TAPPS 1-4A tourney

From staff reports

The Trinity boys doubles team of Dylan Hofman and Ashwin Gurru fell against the defending state champions in the championship match of the TAPPS 1-4A Tennis Tournament.

The team of Ray Clark and Evan Shoepain, of Fort Worth Lake Country, defeated Hofman and Gurru, 6-3, 6-0.

Trinity coach Janneke Garos said despite the match score, the games were close in the championship match.

Trinity's boys doubles team of Porter Hankins and Blake Carney took the third place match with a 6-3, 6-1 win over the team from Dallas Shelton.

The Trinity boys was second in the team stand-



Courtesy photo

The Trinity tennis team poses after competing in the TAPPS 1-4A Tennis Tournament at Midland College on Thursday.

ings, while Lake Country took the team title.

On the girls' side, Amarillo San Jacinto won the team title, while Lubbock Trinity was second.

The Chargers will be

sending seven out of eight players competing to the TAPPS 4A State Tennis Tournament in Waco on April 16-17 as the top six performers in each division moved on.

TAPPS 1-4A Tennis Tournament at Midland College. Thursday's final results. Girls: Championship - Isabelle Elias, Lubbock Trinity, 6-7, 7-6, 6-3.

Paul's late shot lifts Rockets over Trail Blazers 96-94

By Kristie Rieken, Associated Press

HOUSTON — Chris Paul hit an off-balance layup with 0.8 seconds left to lift the Houston Rockets to a 96-94 win Thursday night over the Portland Trail Blazers, who were without star Damian Lillard.

Paul scored 27 points to help Houston get its second straight victory since a loss to San Antonio.

The Rockets swept their four-game season series with Portland.

The Rockets led by 24 in the second quarter and still had a big lead with about five minutes left before the Trail Blazers went on a 19-2 run to tie it at 94-all with 6.1 seconds left.

with 13.3 seconds left before Pat Connaughton tied it with a short basket.

Paul made the winner before crashing to the court. It gave Houston its first points since Harden made a basket with just less than four minutes left.

Lillard sat out after spraining his left ankle

Tuesday against Dallas. Portland coach Terry Stotts didn't set a return date but did say he expects to see him in a game before the playoffs begin.

McCollum led the Trail Blazers with 16 points, and Jusuf Nurkic had 14 points and 11 rebounds.

Portland scored the first seven points of the second half and cut a 22-point halftime deficit to 13 at the beginning of the fourth.

NBABBRIEFS

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS

Nowitzki's 20th season with Mavs ends early after surgery

Dirk Nowitzki's 20th season is over a few games early after the Dallas Mavericks star had surgery on his left ankle.

Now the question is whether the 7-foot German will play as a 40-year-old after saying he intends to return for a 21st season, all with the Mavericks.

The team said Thursday that Nowitzki underwent a procedure to clear out unhealthy tissue, called surgical debridement. It was performed at a Dallas medical clinic.

Nowitzki, who turns 40 in June, played his final game of the season at home against Portland on Tuesday.

BOSTON

AP source: Irving out for playoffs following knee surgery. The 2007 MVP didn't make the final road trip, which started in Orlando on Wednesday.

Kyrie Irving will miss the rest of the regular season and playoffs after surgery on his left knee.

The official spoke on the condition of anonymity to The Associated Press because the team has not released the news.

The team has said that Irving had a "minimally invasive" procedure March 24. That was to remove a wire that had been placed in his knee during surgery to repair his broken kneecap from the 2015 NBA finals.

An original estimate would have sidelined Irving through at least start of the postseason and possibly into the second round.

MHS

From IC

appearance, while trying to take his brother along for the ride for the first time this season.

"I've always dreamed of playing with him, but now that it's actually happening," Diego said. "It's surreal because we trained hard for the big moments and we just hope to continue to play well when the matches get tough."

MHS tennis coach Carmen Stewart says the Martinez brothers are a good match even beyond their shared bloodlines.

Diego, who stands at 5-foot-11, relies on control and aim. Meanwhile, Nick, at 5-9, prides himself on being a hard ball striker.

"Although he's taller than me, he doesn't hit harder than me," Nick quipped.

Diego and Nick have enjoyed success in the spring season, finishing as runners up at the San Angelo Hall of Fame Tournament, and placing third at the Abilene Cooper Cougar Classic.

Despite their familial bond, the brothers have their conflicts on the court at times.

"Nick and I argue a lot, but at the same time, we have set aside some of our differences in order to play better in the matches and focus more on just winning instead of getting angry at each other," Diego said.

"But it hasn't been easy doing that. We have definitely had to work at it."

In March, Nick recalled Diego getting animated when the two played against each other in a singles match at a California country club.

"Diego gets so angry at me, he's just screaming and yelling the entire time and hitting balls everywhere," Nick said. "It was hilarious."

Even though there are some contentious moments, the brothers have

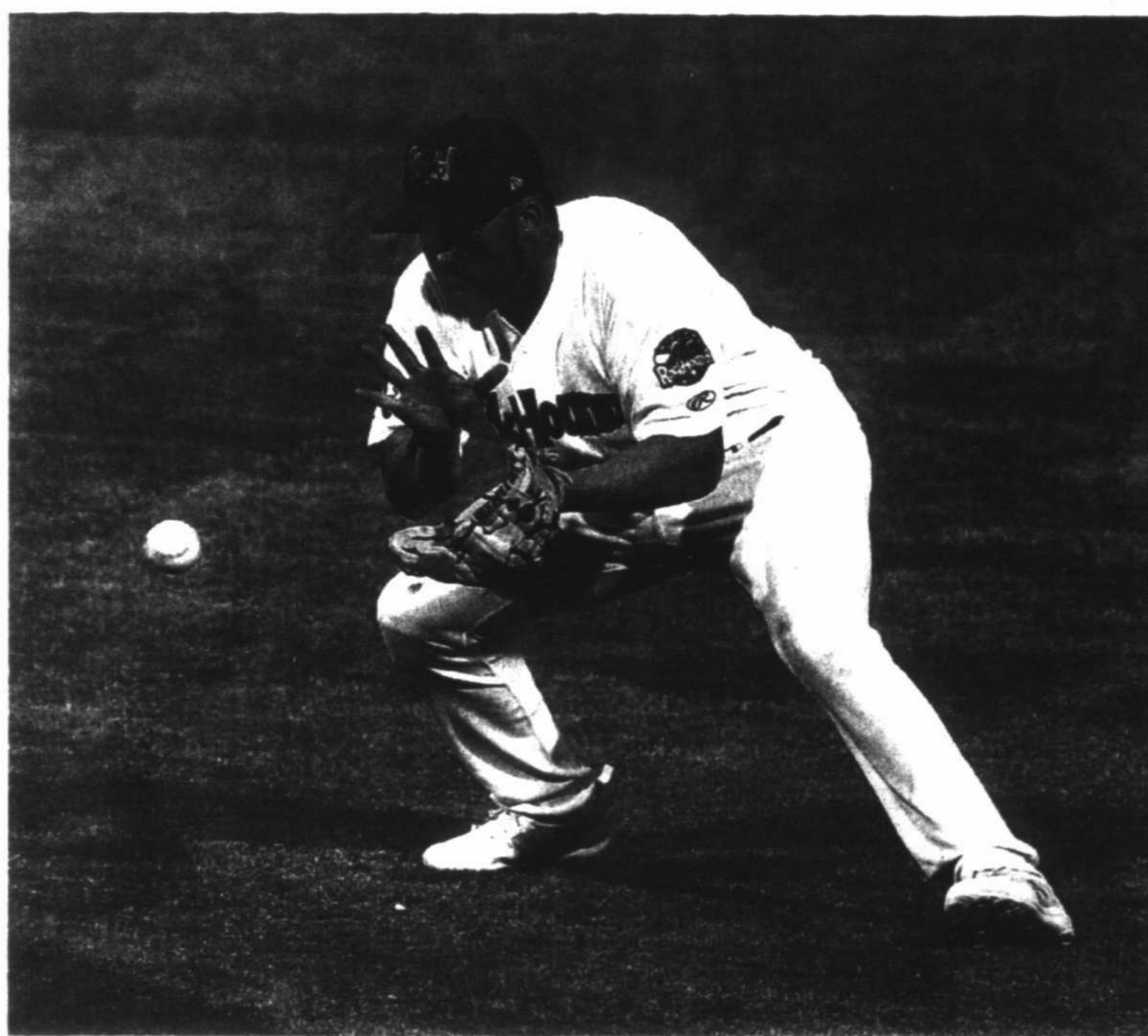
cherished their association as doubles players, realizing it's a privilege and a chance of a lifetime.

Nick encountered a coach in the Metroplex that told him how he wished he could have played competitively with his sister in high school, being four years apart in age.

"Playing together on court and setting aside our differences to achieve one common goal has translated to our relationship off the court and we argue a bit less, get along a little better and we are able to hang out a little more than we normally would if we hadn't had doubles," Diego said.

Follow Christopher on Twitter: @chris_MRTsports

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION. 4/09 6:00 Volunteer Orientation at Adoption Center within PetSmart. 4/22 2:00-4:00 Chip Clinic & Adoptions at Rockhounds Bark in the Park. 5/03 8:30-8:30 Microchip Clinic at Bear Garden's Yappy Hour. 6/16 Sat. am 4th Annual Hot Dog Run 5K and 1 Mile.



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

RockHounds' JP Sportman makes a catch against Springfield on Thursday at Security Bank Ballpark.

KORN

From 1C

The back-to-back-to-back-to-back league champions opened their season with a sharp focus from the first pitch. Midland gave its starting pitcher Joel Seddon a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the first thanks to a sacrifice fly by Seth Brown a single to right field by Sean Murphy.

Seddon shut down a threatening Cardinals' rally in the second and then struck out the side in the third, to carry the 2-0 lead into the top of the fourth. But Springfield struck back with consecutive solo home runs by Andrew Krizner and John Nogowski.

The Cardinals fell behind 4-2, but rallied to take a 5-4 lead over the next two innings, putting the home team in a tough spot in its season opener.

But as the RockHounds have shown time and again over the last four championship seasons, they won't back down from adversity.

With one out in the eighth, Midland tied the game at 5-5 on a sacrifice fly

TL standings

Table showing Texas League (TL) standings for North Division and South Division. Columns include Team, W, L, Pct, and GB.

Today's Games

Springfield at Midland, 7 p.m.
Tulsa at Ft. Worth, 7:05 p.m.
Corpus Christi at Northwest Arkansas, 7:10 p.m.
San Antonio at Arkansas, 7:10 p.m.

attitude, an expectation of winning, an expectation of being a good teammate in the clubhouse and on the field," Steinmann said. "I think that's going to be something that is brought to the table on a daily basis."
Added Marinov: "I think everybody is going to kind of feed off each other. We've got some guys in the lineup that have been there and know the ins and outs of the league and we'll try to pass that information down to the guys who are new."

Follow Will on Twitter: @Will_MRT

MIDLAND 6, SPRINGFIELD 5

At Security Bank Ballpark
TOP HITTERS: Midland's Eli White was 3-for-5 with an RBI, while teammate Sean Murphy was 3-for-4 with an RBI and two runs. John Nogowski was 3-for-4 with a home run and two RBIs for Springfield.

TOP PITCHER: Midland reliever Sam Bragg entered the game with two outs in the sixth and tossed 2 1/3 innings of scoreless ball. He allowed one hit, struck out one and earned the win.

HIGHLIGHTS: Leading 2-0, Springfield tied the game at 2-2 in the fourth on back-to-

back home runs by Andrew Krizner and Nogowski. The RockHounds went ahead 4-2 in the home fourth with an Eli White single and a Brett Siddall double. Springfield took a 5-4 lead in the sixth.

NOTES: Thursday was the first Texas League Opening Day in 94 years in which one of the league's teams took the field in search of a fifth consecutive TL title. The Fort Worth Panthers began the 1924 season after winning their fourth consecutive championship.

TODAY'S PROBABLES: Springfield - Ryan Hestley (0-0, 0.00); Midland - RHP Corey Walter (0-0, 0.00)

Box score for Midland 6, Springfield 5. Columns include AB, R, H, E, and other stats for both teams.

Perez has encouraging start in Rangers' 6-3 win over Oakland

By Michael Wagaman
Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Texas left-hander Martin Perez had to get a little crafty to keep things from getting out of hand in his first start of the year.

It was a lot easier than dodging a bull — something Perez wasn't so successful doing in the offseason, which led to the 27-year-old getting a late jump in spring training.

Perez allowed 10 hits but pitched into the sixth inning and Texas held on to beat the Oakland Athletics 6-3 before another sparse crowd on Thursday.

"He seemed to be right back where he was at the end of the year confidence-wise, ability to throw strikes," Rangers manager Jeff Banister said.

"He was only behind three hitters. What I loved the most is that he continued to pound the strike zone, use the sinker, the four-seamer and his off-speed stuff and nothing seemed to rattle him."

Adrian Beltre singled and doubled to become the all-time hits leader among Latin-born players. Shin-Soo Choo homered for the second consecutive day and Nomar Mazara added two hits to help the Rangers split the four-game series.

The crowd of 10,132 was the largest of the series, which attracted 34,613 total for the four games. Perez (1-0) was activated off the disabled list before the game and allowed three runs and 10 hits over 5 1-3 innings.

Perez was set back in spring training after breaking his right (non-pitching) elbow in December in an incident with a bull on his Venezuelan ranch.

The lefty pitched with runners on base every inning on Thursday, but repeatedly induced ground balls to keep the damage to a minimum.

"I didn't have my best stuff but I can finally compete," Perez said. "I had fun out there. It's good to re-

cover from surgery and help your team win. They hit the ball three times hard. I think I did a great job."

Four relievers combined for eight outs and Keone Kela pitched the ninth for his second save.

Beltre doubled off Oakland starter Daniel Mengden (0-2) and scored in the second then singled in the eighth. With 3,055 hits, Beltre is tied with Rickey Henderson for 24th place on the hits list.

"It's obviously humbling," Beltre said. "It's hard to believe that I caught up to those guys. It is because I've been playing for a long time and I've been lucky enough to stay on the field."

Jed Lowrie had three hits for Oakland. Chad Pinder, Matt Chapman and Stephen Piscotty added two hits apiece.

The A's put runners on the corners with no outs in the seventh but failed to score. Texas shut down another potential rally in the eighth when right fielder Mazara threw out Piscotty at second base trying to stretch a single into a double.

"We swung the bat better the last two days but today was simply a case of not getting big hits when we needed to," Oakland manager Bob Melvin said. "We're going to have to do better than that."

Mengden allowed four runs and five hits in 5 1-3 innings and took a line drive off his plant foot in the second inning. The right-hander, winless in 13 starts at the Coliseum, dropped to the turf and was in pain for several moments but recovered to stay in the game.

Trainer's room

Rangers' RHP Tony Barnette (lower back strain) begins a rehab assignment with Double-A Frisco. Barnette is expected to make two to three appearances before the team decides where he goes next. RHP Jose Leclerc was optioned to Triple-A Round Rock to make room for Perez on the 25-man roster.

MLB GLANCE

Associated Press

Standings table for American League and National League. Columns include Team, W, L, Pct, GB.

Today's Games table showing game times and locations for various MLB matchups.

Probable Pitchers table listing starting pitchers and their statistics.

Transactions table listing player movements between teams.

Probable Pitchers table for the following day.

Transactions table for the following day.

Probable Pitchers table for the following day.

Transactions table for the following day.

MLB ROUNDUP

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Niko Goodrum hit a two-run homer after replacing the injured Miguel Cabrera, and Detroit rallied to Chicago in the White Sox's cold home opener. Goodrum's shot with two outs in the ninth got the comeback going. The White Sox were leading 7-4 when he drove a 3-2 fastball from Joshim Soris out to right-center to cut the lead to one. Nicholas Castellanos singled and Victor Martinez tied it with an RBI double, drawing boos from a sparse crowd.

Mikie Mahtook singled leading off the 10th against Gregory Infante (0-1) and Jose Iglesias walked. One out later, Mahtook scored from third on a roller toward second by Leonys Martin that was hit too slowly to earn a double play, resulting in a forfeit. Jainer Candalaria followed with an RBI single to make it 9-7.

Shane Greene escaped a jam in the bottom half to earn his first save. He retired the first two batters before walking Omar Narvaez and hitting Nicky Delmonico, but struck out Yohan Moncada to end the game.

Joe Jimenez (1-0) got the win with a scoreless inning in relief.

TWINS 4, MARINERS 2

MINNEAPOLIS — Mitch Garver hit the go-ahead home run in the seventh for Minnesota, one inning after Miguel Sano tied it with a two-run shot in the Twins' chilly home opener.

Eddie Rosario went deep in the eighth to pad the lead, and Fernando Rodney worked the ninth for his first save with the Twins. That capped a stretch of 4 2/3 scoreless innings by the bullpen in relief of Kyle Gibson. Zach Dugas (1-0) was the winner, and Addison Reed struck out two in a perfect eighth.

James Paxton started strong for the Mariners with five scoreless innings after a start-pitch temperature of 36 degrees and a startling moment during the pregame ceremony. The bald eagle that was supposed to fly to the mound before the national anthem instead circled Paxton, a Canadian, where he was standing alone in left field on a break from his warmup throws. The bird would up landing its large talons on the lefty's left shoulder, before being lured away by the handler.

Garver's drive, his first major league homer, reached the second deck against Dan Altavilla (0-1).

ORIOLES 5, YANKEES 2

NEW YORK — Adam Jones hit a go-ahead home run, Andrew Cashner pitched six strong innings and beat New York to snap a five-game losing streak.

Jones' third homer of the season was a two-run drive off Masahiro Tanaka (1-1) in a five-inning seventh inning. It came shortly after Aaron Judge gave New York a 1-0

lead in the sixth with his second home run of the year.

Cashner (1-1), who was hit hard in his first start of the season, held the Yankees to just one hit before serving up Judge's home run. The righty allowed two hits and struck out five as Baltimore bounced back from a three-game sweep at Houston.

Brad Brach pitched the ninth for his first save of the season in two chances.

ROCKIES 3, PADRES 1

SAN DIEGO — Ryan McMahon drew a bases-loaded walk off All-Star closer Brad Hand to break a scoreless tie in the ninth inning, and DJ LeMahieu added a two-run single for Colorado.

Hand (0-2) walked Trevor Story and Chris Iannetta to open the ninth and the Rockies loaded the bases when second baseman Carlos Asuaje committed an error when he couldn't hold onto the throw from third baseman Christian Villanueva after Gerardo Parra's bunt.

Hand struck out pinch-hitter Carlos Gonzalez, but then walked McMahon on four pitches to bring in Story. Charlie Blackmon struck out before LeMahieu singled to win with two outs.

Adam Ottavino (1-0) pitched two innings for the win and Wade Davis worked the ninth for his fourth save. Davis allowed Manuel Margot's leadoff homer, his first, and then retired the side.

PHILLIES 5, MARLINS 0

PHILADELPHIA — Rafael Franco homered, tripled, singled and drove in four runs for Philadelphia, and Nick Pivetta struck out nine in 5 2/3 innings.

Pivetta (1-0) allowed four hits and no walks. Adam Morgan retired the four batters he faced and Luis Garcia and Hector Neris combined on the four-hitter.

The Phillies won a home opener for the first time since 2011.

Marlin starter Caleb Smith (0-1) allowed three runs and two hits in three innings. Three of the six batters he walked scored.

PIRATES 5, REDS 2

PITTSBURGH — Gregory Polanco hit a two-run home run during a four-run fifth inning to lift Pittsburgh past Cincinnati.

Polanco broke a 1-1 tie when he drove a ball into the shrubbery in center field off Homer Bailey (0-2). Polanco also had a tying sacrifice fly in the third inning, giving him three RBIs as the Pirates won for the fifth time in six games.

Steven Brant (2-0) pitched one-run ball over five innings in his first start this season. The left-hander allowed three hits, struck out four and walked four. He took over the mound spot left by Joe Muzgrove, who has a right shoulder strain.

TIGERS 9, WHITE SOX 7, 10 INNINGS

DETROIT — The Detroit Tigers defeated the Chicago White Sox 9-7 in 10 innings on Thursday at the Comerica Park. The Tigers scored three runs in the bottom of the ninth to win the game. The White Sox were leading 7-6 in the eighth inning when the Tigers scored three runs to take a 9-6 lead. The White Sox scored two runs in the ninth to tie the game at 9-9. The Tigers scored two runs in the bottom of the ninth to win the game 9-7.

MC BASEBALL CAPSULE

MIDLAND COLLEGE AT EL PASO CC
When/where: Doubleheaders beginning 1 p.m. CDT today and Saturday, El Paso Community College baseball field, El Paso
Records: Midland College 21-12, 13-3 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference; El Paso CC 5-31, 1-15
Last WJAC series: Midland College 3, New Mexico Junior College 1; Clarendon College 4, El Paso Community College 0
Notes: Midland College looks to keep its lead in the WJAC with a four-game road series against the struggling Tejanos...

2018 WJAC Baseball Standings

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pct. Lists Midland College, Clarendon College, Odessa College, New Mexico JC, New Mexico Military, Frank Phillips, Western Texas, El Paso CC, Luna CC.

Last weekend's results: Midland College 3, New Mexico Junior College 1; Howard College 8, Frank Phillips College 1; Odessa College 4, Western Texas College 1; New Mexico Military Institute 4, Luna Community College 6; Clarendon College 4, El Paso Community College 0
This weekend's series: Midland College at El Paso Community College; Frank Phillips College at Odessa College; Howard College vs. Western Texas College; New Mexico Junior College vs. New Mexico Military Institute; Luna Community College at Clarendon College

(3-0, 5.53). On Saturday, freshman RHP Chandler Eaton (2-1, 5.06) will start the first game, while the starter in the series finale will be determined by who's left out of the bullpen.
Next: Midland College at New Mexico JC, 2 p.m. Wednesday

-Compiled by Oscar LeRoy

CHAPS

From 1C

"She's been focused and she's very calm when she comes up," Evans said. "She can come up in pressure situations and she's been coming in clutch for us. Her speed is something that helps us midway through the lineup. The people that are batting behind her have been able to move her around and that's why she's been able to score most of our runs."

She's also confident when she comes in to pitch, which is why she's stepped up and combined with Taylor Laing to form a solid tandem behind ace Crystine Kistner. "It's going well," she said. "I just try to do what I can when they bring me in."

Evans said Jacob-Kea has probably surprised some in the circle because she hasn't pitched a lot of innings in her career. "She's not the fastest kid in the world but she's going to get us ground balls and pop flies and that's all we can ask for her when she comes in the circle," Evans said.

Now Jacobs-Kea will get her first taste of the Midland-Odessa rivalry and she said her team seems ready for the big series. "I'm really excited because we've been preparing for this weekend for a long time," she said. "We've been putting things together. The chemistry has definitely gotten stronger, so I'm really confident going into this weekend."

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT

MIDLAND COLLEGE VS. ODESSA COLLEGE
When/where: Doubleheader beginning at 1 p.m. today, Midland College softball field; doubleheader beginning at 1 p.m. Saturday, Odessa College softball field
Records: Midland College 27-13, 10-2 in Western Junior College Athletic Conference;

Low

From 1C

Low said she has made strides in the shot put this year because she dropped the high jump to solely focus on throwing.

On Thursday, Low not only stayed hot in the shot put, but she learned how to deal with adversity and keep fighting when circumstances don't go her way.

"There's different ways to deal with stuff like that," Low said. "You can completely shut down or use it to your benefit."

Lee did advance one competitor from the girls discus, as Anaya Woods placed third with a personal record heave of 130-10. Woods topped her previous best mark by 16 feet, 7 inches.

Low posted a discus throw of 119-8, which was not far off her personal record of 123-3.

Even with her shot put victory, Low was not resting on her laurels, as she is already focused on improving. "I feel pretty good," Low said. "I'm just going to keep working hard this week, practice and hopefully keep going."

Follow Christopher on Twitter: @Chris_MRTSports

Midland 2018 Youth and Pre-Collegiate Baseball Standings
Top 4 performers qualify for District 2-6A All-Star Meet, April 20 at El Paso Sports

2018 WJAC Softball Standings

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, Pct. Lists Howard College, Midland College, Clarendon College, Western Texas, Odessa College, El Paso CC, Luna CC, Frank Phillips.

Last weekend's results: Midland College 4, El Paso Community College 0; Odessa College 4, Luna Community College 1; Clarendon College 1, Howard College 1; Howard College 3, Frank Phillips College 0; Western Texas College 2, Frank Phillips College 0; Clarendon College 2, Western Texas College 0
This weekend's series: Midland College vs. Odessa College; Howard College vs. Western Texas College; Frank Phillips College at Luna Community College; Clarendon College at El Paso Community College

Odessa College 24-7, 8-4
Last WJAC series: Midland College 4, El Paso Community College 0; Odessa College 4, Luna Community College 0
Notes & quotes: MC interim coach Amanda Evans said her team is playing well despite battling some injuries in recent weeks. Sophomore OF Alexis Sullivan is back after battling a high ankle sprain but Evans said the team will be without sophomore 1B Bianca Cardia, who is dealing with some family issues this weekend...

Next: Western Texas College at Midland College (DH), 1 p.m. April 13; Howard College at Odessa College (DH), 1 p.m. April 13

Team standings through six events - 1. Anahuac Texas 52, 2. Odessa Permian 51, 3. Wallburg Permian 47, 4. San Angelo Central 31, 5. Lee 21, 6. Midland High 13, 7. Odessa High 10
5,000 meters - 1. Wesley Hight, Texas, 9 minutes, 48.31 seconds; 2. Nguyen Anh, Texas, 10:00.41; 3. Tyler Wilson, Central, 10:10:02; 4. Josh Garcia, Permian, 10:15:07; 5. Joseph Clarke, San Angelo, 10:28:47; 6. Lawrence Morales, Permian, 10:43:21
Long jump - 1. Patrick Adams, Permian, 21 feet, 9 inches; 2. Landon Lee, Permian, 20:11.9; 3. Dan Palmer, Permian, 20:11.4; 4. Harrison Wilson, Texas, 20:0.9; 5. J.C. Perdomo, Odessa High, 20:0.6; 6. Ryan King, Lee, 20:0.5
High jump - 1. Daniel Taylor, Central, 6-0; 2. Peyton Powell, Permian, 6-0; 3. Dylan Holman, Permian, 6-0; 4. Christian Adams, Texas, 6-0; 5. Jonathan Miller, Permian, 6-0; 6. Lee Landon Powell, Permian, 6-0
Pole vault - 1. Rory Maguire, Lee, 14-0; 2. Brandon Daniels, Central, 13-0; 3. Dawson Hayes, Odessa High, 12-0; 4. Chase Leland, Texas, 12-0; 5. Noah Hall, Texas, 12-0; 6. Wyatt Giles, Permian, 12-0
Shot put - 1. Pablo Chavez, Permian, 33-4; 2. Brandon Peterson, Permian, 30-11; 3. Zander King, Texas, 40-0; 4. Ian Ouellet, Lee, 47-9; 5. Alejandro Ruiz, Texas, 47-0; 6. Tegan Lawrence, Texas, 57-4
Discus - 1. Brandon Peterson, Permian, 130-0; 2. Anaya Woods, Texas, 130-10; 3. O'Ryan Perry, Permian, 120-10; 4. Daniel Leland, Texas, 120-0; 5. Noah Hall, Texas, 120-0; 6. Alexander Wilson, Texas, 120-0
Golf
Team standings through six events - 1. Odessa Permian 52, 2. Anahuac Texas 51, 3. Lee 21, 4. San Angelo Central 21, 5. Wallburg Permian 21, 6. Midland High 13, 7. Odessa High 10
5,000 meters - 1. Anna Mitchell, Permian, 12 minutes, 35:31 seconds; 2. Elizabeth Stewart, Central, 12:41:23; 3. Shelby Stevens, Permian, 12:42:24; 4. Geneva Hawk, Permian, 12:47:27; 5. Julia Baker, Texas, 12:55:20; 6. Haley Bell, Central, 13:14:20
High jump - 1. Riley Boyd, Texas, 55-0; 2. Ian Ouellet, Lee, 55-0; 3. Ryan King, Lee, 55-0; 4. Mike Balthus, Lee, 55-0; 5. Andrew Hagan-Stevens, Texas, 55-1; 6. Brandon Daniels, Odessa High, 55-0
Pole vault - 1. Cameron Jank, Permian, 6-0; 2. Nathan Coleman, Central, 6-0; 3. Dallas Smith, Texas, 6-0; 4. Mitchell Williams, Permian, 6-0; 5. Stephen G. Collins, Texas, 6-0; 6. Gabe Jacobs, Permian, 5-0; 7. J. H. Smith, Permian, 5-0; 8. Mike Black, Permian, 5-0; 9. Ryan King, Lee, 5-0; 10. Sydney Curtis, Permian, 5-0
Discus - 1. Taylor Walker, Permian, 120-10; 2. Anaya Woods, Texas, 130-10; 3. O'Ryan Perry, Lee, 120-10; 4. Daniel Leland, Texas, 120-0; 5. Pagan Lee, Lee, 119-8; 6. Brandon Daniels, Permian, 114



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Lee's Rory Maguire competes in the pole vault during the District 2-6A track meet on Thursday at Memorial Stadium.

Lee's Maguire matches PR in winning the pole vault

By Christopher Hadorn
chadorn@mrt.com

Lee sophomore Rory Maguire has the guts and the courage to excel in the boys pole vault.

Flying over 14 feet in the air doesn't unnerve Maguire.

On Thursday, Maguire captured his first District 2-6A championship in the pole vault by matching his personal record with a height of 14 feet, 0 inches at Memorial Stadium.

Maguire improved on his fourth-place showing as a freshman in the 2017 District 2-6A Track and Field Championships.

The 5-foot-11 Maguire has come a long ways since he took up the sport as a seventh grader at Abell Junior High.

"I wasn't really fast enough to run any of the relays," Maguire said of choosing pole vault. "I wasn't tall enough to play any other sports or tall enough to do anything else. This one coach at our junior high just asked, 'Who is crazy enough to try the pole vault?' And I was like, 'Well, I guess I will try it, and it just took off from there.'"

Maguire is devoted to the pole vault as a year-round sport. He travels twice a week to Abilene to work with his personal coach Cory Aguilar.

And at Lee, Maguire is also instructed by Rebels football coach Clint Hartman, who once cleared 15-6 when he was a high school pole vaulter at East Central High in San Antonio.

"I'm a pretty crazy guy so I enjoy being coached by pretty crazy people," Maguire said. "I enjoy it a lot."

Hartman says Maguire has the right traits and qualities to succeed at the pole vault.

"Rory, he's fun to coach," Hartman said. "There's two



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Lee's Ireland Atwood celebrates after completing the triple jump during the District 2-6A track meet on Thursday at Memorial Stadium.

types of vaulters, there's those kamikazes and there's thinkers, and he's a little bit of both. He's got a good set of parents. He's a fine young man. All that stuff, he's an extremely hard worker. I mean, boy, he works hard.

"Some guys get up there and have the guts to do it. You've got to have a little bit of kamikaze in this sport, no matter what. But Rory is real intelligent so he thinks through the vault. He's a student of the game as we would say."

Maguire advanced to the District 1-6A/2-6A Area Meet, April 20 in El Paso, where he will try to advance to his second straight regional meet.

Maguire's goal is to get into the mid-14 feet range, which he was close to clearing Thursday.

"I definitely wanted that next bar," Maguire said. "That's kind of how it always is. I always want that next bar and do things better."

Midland High senior Darin Holman placed third in the boys high jump with a personal record of 6-2.

Prior to the event, Holman

season long. Mitchell had two wins in the 800 and two victories in the 1,600, but decided to run the grueling 3,200 at Thursday's District 2-6A track meet in order to help her team get points.

Mitchell stepped up to the challenge by winning the 3,200 with a time of 12 minutes, 30.31 seconds, the second consecutive year she won the District 2-6A 3,200 title after not competing in it during the regular season.

"They put me in it to get points," Mitchell said. "I just know my team really wants it and if my team wants it, then I'm going to go after it too."

What helped matters for Mitchell is she gets a night of rest before competing in today's 800 and 1,600 final.

"Since I hadn't run it, I was going to stay with the pack," Mitchell said. "Once I found my pace, it was easier for me to run and finish."

Midland High senior Darin Holman placed third in the boys high jump with a personal record of 6-2.

Prior to the event, Holman

was among five District 2-6A jumpers that were seeded fourth with jumps of 6-0 this year.

"Well my mark was a little off, so it was just me being able to keep exploding off my right foot and not slow down," Holman said of his PR. "I was just being competitive really."

Odessa Permian junior Peyton Powell, a transfer from Midland Christian, placed second with a 6-4.

Atwood sets PR, places 3rd in triple jump

Lee senior Ireland Atwood set a personal record with a 35-0 3/4 to finish third in the girls triple jump.

On her final attempt, Atwood leaped 36-1, which would have won the event, but she scratched by the length of her toe.

"I've been wanting to get a 35 since sophomore year," Atwood said. "I've been trying and working so hard, so I'm really excited."

Follow Christopher on Twitter: @Chris_MRTSports

Spieth back in his comfort zone at Masters

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Tiger Woods attracted most of the attention. Jordan Spieth caused the most concern.

Opening day at the Masters had a wide-open feel until Spieth hit his stride Thursday afternoon. He saved three straight pars with that superb short game. He ran off three straight birdies to take the lead. And then he fired an 8-iron at the pin on the par-3 16th, letting the club twirl through his hands as he walked away, knowing only that it was another good one. It plopped down 5 feet away.

"You don't know where it's going to end up," he said, "but you know it's going to be in a good position."

Spieth took only 10 putts on the back nine. He made five straight birdies, a career best for him in the majors. Even a bogey on the final hole felt like a par the way he navigated out of the trees and limited the damage with a pitch that stopped inches from going in.

That gave him a 6-under 66 and a two-shot lead over Tony Finau and Matt Kuchar.

It was the eighth time in his last 13 rounds at the Masters that Spieth ended a round with the lead. Given his short history at Augusta National — a victory, two runner-up finishes and a tie for 11th — his name atop the leaderboard gets attention.

Ditto for Woods, except that he has some catching up to do.

Woods failed to birdie any of the par 5s. He was under par one only one hole. He hit a 9-iron into Rae's Creek. And only a pair of birdies over the last five holes enabled him to scratch out a 73 and at least stay in range, seven shots behind.

"Seventy-three is fine," Woods said. "By the end of the week, this will be a pretty packed leaderboard the way the golf course is set up. They have it right where they want it. It's really hard to run away from it, but it's also really easy to lose it out there."

Spieth could have built a bigger margin except for his wild tee shot to the left and into the trees on No. 18. Even so, his 66 sent a strong message.

"Absolutely, absolutely," said Kuchar, who shot 31 on the back nine. "With the round he's posted, the quality of golfer he is, he's on some similar form. You can just kind of see good



Jordan Spieth waves after making a birdie putt on the 16th hole during the first round at the Masters golf tournament on Thursday, in Augusta, Ga.

things happening, and particularly for him around here. His record is spectacular around here."

Rory McIlroy, needing only a green jacket to compete the career Grand Slam, also took notice. He played in the group ahead of Spieth, and McIlroy was scratching our key par saves just to stay in range. He was in the large group at 69, the solid start McIlroy needed, especially with how Spieth was going.

It was the first time since 2011 that McIlroy broke 70 in the first round at Augusta.

"Jordan had a pretty strong finish there," McIlroy said. "But this is my best start in a few years. It's such a hard golf course to play catch up on. If you start to chase it around here, that's when you start to make mistakes. But to be right up there and have the ability to stay patient, because of the position I'm in, that's a nice luxury I have over the next few days."

The best comeback? That might now belong to Finau.

On the eve of his first Masters, he made a hole-in-one on the seventh hole of the Par 3 Tournament, raced toward the green to celebrate and as he turned

back toward the tee, his left ankle rolled. Finau went down, the ankle contorted, and he popped it into place. He wasn't sure he could play until tests showed he was cleared to play.

And he played great, opening with a 68 despite a short par putt that he missed on the 14th hole.

"I was just extremely happy that nothing was seriously wrong with my foot," he said. "Quite honestly, it was a pretty cool moment followed by probably one of my most embarrassing moments and a scary moment at the same time. It was quite crazy, all the emotions that I dealt with overnight, but I was more than ecstatic to just be walking to that first tee and be playing in my first Masters."

It was just tough to score, with the greens slick and firm and several tough pin positions, mainly toward the front of the greens. That included the par-5 15th, and no one suffered quite like defending champion Sergio Garcia.

He hit his second shot into the water, and then had his next four shots with a wedge roll back into the water. He made a 10-foot putt — close to the same length of his eagle

putt when he won last year — to make a 13, the highest score ever recorded on No. 15. He wound up with an 81. He was the highest score in the opening round by a defending Masters champion.

"It's the first time in my career where I make a 13 without missing a shot," Garcia said. "Simple as that."

Phil Mickelson and Rickie Fowler were among those at 70. So was Marc Leishman, who played in the group with Woods and Tommy Fleetwood and led most of the day until a chip from behind the 15th green came out too strong and didn't stop rolling until it

was headed down the bank and into the water, leading to double bogey.

Woods, dressed all in black, felt as though he played better than he scored, and there was no sense of panic. He was tied for 29th. Only two players have started farther down the leaderboard after the first round and won the Masters — Woods in 2005 and Ian Woosnam in 1991.

In one sense, he was happy to be playing. Just under a year ago, he was going through a fourth back surgery.

"I played in a major championship again," he said. "But also the fact that I got myself back in this

tournament, and I could have easily let it slip away. And I fought hard to get it back in there, and I'm back in this championship. There's a lot of holes to be played."

The Masters
Thursday
At Augusta National Golf Club
Augusta, Ga.
Prize: \$1,000,000 (split in 2017)
Par: 72 (54-18)
First Round
4-man stroke play

Jordan Spieth	34-32-66
Tony Finau	35-35-68
Matt Kuchar	37-31-68
Harold Stearns	34-35-69
Adam Hadwin	35-34-69
Charley Hullman	35-34-69
Patrick Reed	35-34-69
Hendrik Ljun	35-34-69
Rory McIlroy	35-34-69
Ruby Cabreza Balle	37-32-70
David Wiebauer	37-32-70
Zach Johnson	36-34-70
Steve Leishman	35-37-70
Rickie Fowler	37-33-70
Phil Mickelson	36-34-70
Sergio Garcia	35-35-71
Vijay Singh	35-35-71
Camron Smith	37-34-71
Harold Schell	35-35-71
Louis Oosthuizen	35-35-71
Francesco Molinari	37-35-72
Rylee Staley	36-36-72
Tommy Fleetwood	36-36-72
Chang Gilan	36-36-72
Paul Douglas	37-36-72
Chad Schumacher	36-36-72
Keith Staner	37-36-72
Justin Finau	36-36-72
Sam Patten, Jr.	36-36-72
Brian Harman	36-36-72
Daniel Berger	36-36-72
Paul Casey	36-36-72
Jason Dufner	36-36-72
Hidaki Matsuyama	36-36-72
Shane Bieber	36-36-72
Tiger Woods	37-36-73
Rubén Alvarado	37-36-73
Jimmy Walker	37-36-73
Russell Henning	40-37-73
Thomas Pieters	37-36-73
Dustin Johnson	36-36-73
Wesley Bryan	36-36-74
Austin Cook	37-37-74
Peter Misner	36-36-74
Jose Maria Olazabal	36-36-74
Bryson DeChambeau	36-36-74
Paul Casey	36-36-74
Martin Kaymer	36-36-74
Justin Thomas	37-37-74
Sandy Lyle	36-36-74
Ian Poulter	36-36-74
Harold Langer	37-37-74
Yves Van der Veer	36-36-74
Alex Noren	36-36-74
Mathew Fitzpatrick	36-36-74
Quincy Snodgrass	41-34-75
Jason Day	40-36-75
Si Woo Kim	36-36-75
Patrick Cantlay	36-36-75
Jon Rahm	36-36-75
Adam Scott	37-36-75
Shane Bieber	36-36-75
Mike Weir	40-36-76
Patton Kizzire	36-36-76
Chloe Koehn	37-36-76
Billy Horschel	36-36-76
Chris Flannery	37-36-76
Angel Cabrera	40-36-76
Alexander Bjorn	40-36-76
Larry Mize	36-36-76
Viktor Hovland	37-36-76
Jonathan Vegas	36-36-77
Kevin Chappell	36-36-77
Justin Rose	36-36-77
Shahmir Shakoori	36-36-77
Yusaku Miyazaki	36-36-77
Mark O'Meara	40-36-78
Seamus Power	37-36-78
Corey Conners	36-36-78
Sam Snead	36-36-78
Rodney Applebaum	40-36-79
Justin Lee	36-36-79
Adam Pataki	36-36-79
Sungja Cho	36-36-81
Henry Ellis	41-40-80

Masters golf fans hurt when bus overturns on interstate

By Russ Bynum
Associated Press

A charter bus headed to the Masters golf tournament overturned on a Georgia interstate Thursday, injuring 15 people and snarling traffic as scores of fans made the pilgrimage to one of the sport's premier events. The bus driver was charged with driving under the influence.

The bus carrying 18 passengers crashed about 8:45 a.m. Thursday, just as fans were driving in for the tournament's first round. Sgt. Chris Wright of the Georgia State Patrol said the driver ran off the right side, then overcorrected and caused the bus to overturn in the median. Some passengers suffered broken bones and head injuries, Wright said, but none were life-threatening.

The bus driver, 61-year-old Steven F. Hoppenbrouwer of Gwinnett County, Georgia, was charged with DUI and failure to maintain lane. Wright said investigators believe Hoppenbrouwer had been using drugs, not alcohol. He said passengers told authorities the bus had drifted off the edge of the road twice before it veered a third time and crashed.

"They were starting to become concerned about his ability to drive," Wright told The Associated Press in a phone interview. "One of the guys had even said, 'I'm not riding back with him. I'll call an Uber to get back to Atlanta.'"

Passenger Kip Plowman said the first time the bus swerved, the driver said he turned to avoid "a tire or a piece of metal in the road."

"We didn't really believe him," Plowman said in a video released by Doctors Hospital, describing the crash from the emergency room as he waited to have broken glass removed from his hand. "It seemed like we were wobbling a bit as we went."

Then the bus careened off the road, spun around and then skidded on its side a good distance, Plowman said. Smoke was filling

the interior, he said, as he climbed out a window above his head and pried open an emergency exit in the bus roof.

"It's not the way we planned the day," Plowman said. "But everybody's alive. We're thankful for that."

The Masters is one of pro golf's four major tournaments, and it draws fans from across the Southeast — and around the world.

The crash blocked Interstate 20 in both directions about 15 miles (25 kilometers) from the tournament at Augusta National Golf Club along a major route from Atlanta, where many golf fans fly in before driving the last leg. It took hours to clear the crash, and even then authorities advised drivers to look for alternate routes.

"Major incident here. Masters traffic affected for sure," state Transportation Department officials said on Twitter. Operated by Jet Executive Limousine of metro Atlanta, the charter bus "was set up like a party limousine in the back," Wright said.

He said the interior of the bus matched a photo on the company's website showing colorful strip lighting, a single row of seats lining each side of the bus and cocktail glasses hanging over a bar.

"It didn't appear to us that any of the patrons in the back were intoxicated or anything of that nature," Wright said. "They were just riding down for a pleasant day at the Masters. And unfortunately tragedy struck."

Nine of the injured passengers were taken to Doctors Hospital in Augusta, which said in a statement that one passenger was in critical condition Thursday evening. The hospital said six passengers had been treated and released.

A man who answered the phone number listed for the limousine company declined to comment. "We're not making any statements right now," said the man, who wouldn't give his name.

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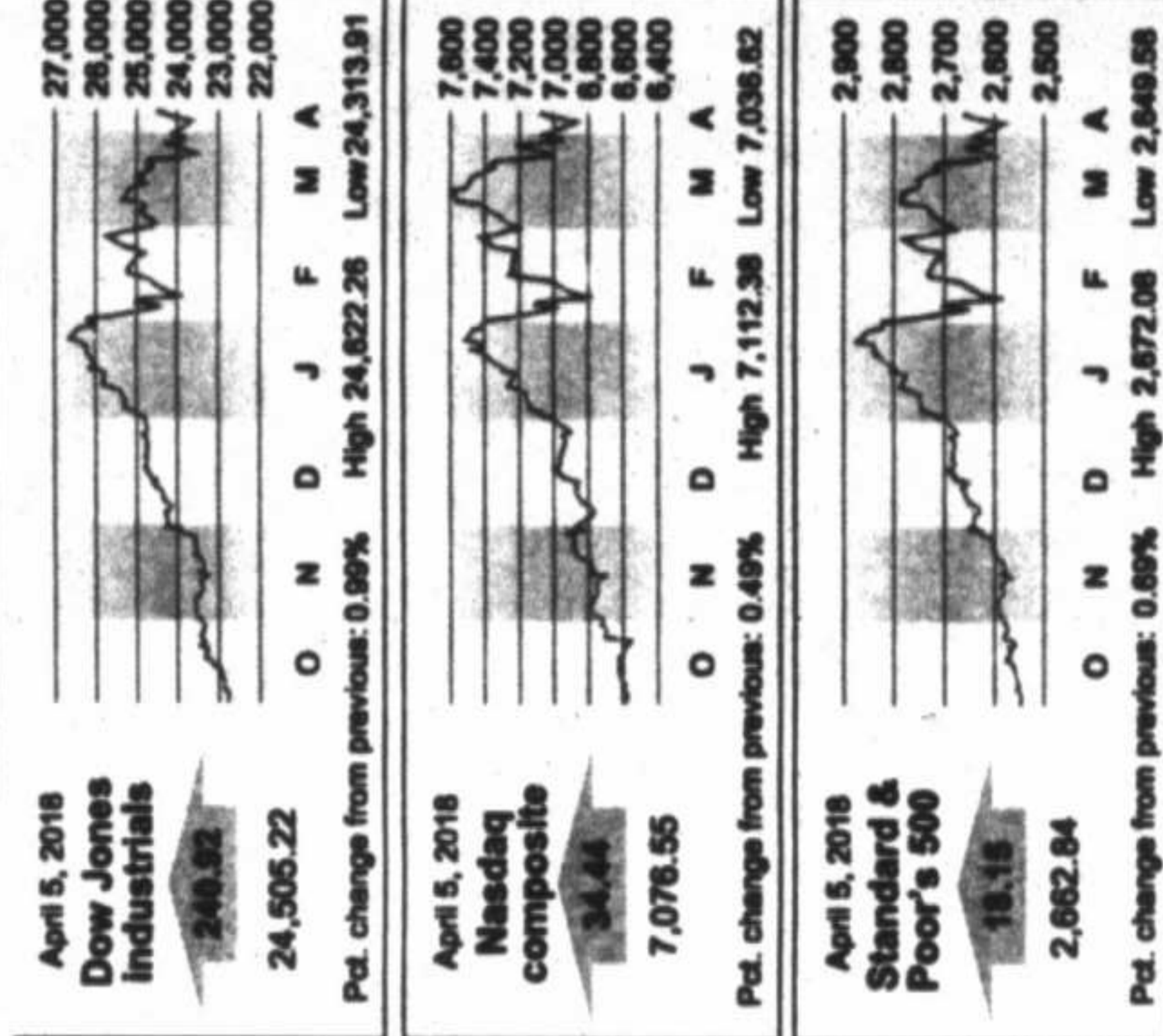
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THE MARKET IN REVIEW

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of New York Stock Exchange listings including columns for Name, Div, Last, and Chg. Lists various companies like AIG, Amgen, and Apple.

A DAY ON WALL STREET



Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ indices, listing Most Active, Gainers, and Losers with columns for Name, Vol, Last, and Chg.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table of NASDAQ National Market listings, including columns for Name, Bid, Ask, Last, and Chg. Lists companies like Amazon, Facebook, and Google.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of Mutual Funds listings, including columns for Name, Last, and Chg. Lists various investment funds.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of American Stock Exchange listings, including columns for Name, Last, and Chg. Lists companies like Boeing and Ford.

INDEXES

Table of various market indices including Dow Jones Industrial Average, S&P 500, and others.

PERMIAN BASIN STOCKS

Table of Permian Basin Stocks listings, including columns for Name, Div, Last, and Chg. Lists companies like EOG Resources and Hess.

Read Basin Business and the Oil Report every Sunday to catch up with business news topics in the region.

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MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVE

MIDLAND NOW HIRING Planning Division Manager

Manages Planning Division office including professional planners, technicians, and secretarial staff. Reviews items for consideration by appointed boards and commissions and elected officials.

BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Prepares and administers 1-3 annual division budget. Monitors expenditure during the year and makes recommendations for budget modifications.

Job Duties:

- Prepares staff work including reports, maps and special studies for presentation to Planning Commission and City Council
- Coordinates, supervises and manages staff time
- Prepares, administers and monitors annual budget
- Presents information at public meetings. Participates with other staff members concerning interrelated projects
- Answers various questions from general public and develops concerning city ordinances, development trends, and population
- Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:

Employee communicates with other employees in the work group. Communication with the general public, developers, outside agencies and other departments with the organization is required.

Knowledge of planning and zoning process. Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Skill in writing and interpreting budgets. Ability to write and review reports, memos and other correspondence. Ability to supervise and communicate with employees. Basic comprehension of computer use. Valid Texas Driver License.

Bachelor's degree or equivalent in geography, planning or related field required. Graduate work or advanced degree in planning preferred. Three to five years experience in a related field required, preferably including supervisory experience.

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Budgetary Responsibilities:

Assist management staff with recommendations and budget data for potential right-of-way and assessment acquisitions for public improvements.

Job Duties:

- Develops policies and procedures for standardization of third-party use of City rights-of-way and property
- Manages the distribution of surface damages for City rights-of-way and other real property owned by the City, including 47,000+ acres of City-owned parcels
- Develops and negotiates Surface Use Agreements, Right-of-Way License Agreements, Surface Agreements, for third-party users of City-owned parcels or rights-of-way, and coordinates with appropriate City Departments or Management
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- Obtains Approvals, Title Work, and coordinates Closings on tracts of interest
- Coordinates and processes public assessments for City projects
- Coordinates departmental actions related to acquisition of real property to ensure compliance with City policies, and legal and regulatory guidelines
- Coordinates preparation of offers to purchase, leases, deeds, exchange agreements, easements, releases, and related property transaction documents
- Coordinates with others and utilizes engineering plans and plats to determine accuracy of property legal descriptions and boundaries, title histories, etc.
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

Proven ability to plan, organize and manage multiple concurrent projects with minimal supervision. Willingness to work in a team environment and learn new skills to help improve systems and procedures.

Knowledge of land surveying, oil drilling and pipeline operations, and typical petroleum industry practices related to land use and acquisition is desirable. Knowledge of municipal governmental operations, acquisitions and procedures is helpful.

Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with employees within and outside the department, and with outside agencies, and to respond to questions from Council members, consultants, vendors, businesses, and other governmental agencies or staff.

Demonstrated proficiency in the use of Esri ArcGIS software is desirable.

Bachelor's degree required. Minimum of five years' experience in real estate, land acquisition, or a similar field. Valid Texas driver's license required.

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Do you have a reliable car with insurance and a phone??

Become an independent contractor delivering the Midland Reporter-Telegram in the Midland and Odessa areas.

Please come by our office located at 201 E. Illinois and fill out a carrier information sheet. Oscar Ronquillo 432-687-9001

CDL Drivers Needed

Come Join our family! Jones Bros. Dirt and Paving

We want your work experience and your hard work!

NOW HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS

- Winter truck drivers
- Belly Dump drivers

Home every night and new equipment

Requirements: 1 year of driving experience. Valid Texas Class A CDL, preferably for winter truck driver.

Benefits: Medical, dental vision, life insurance. After 1 year of service Paid vacation and 401K

Apply in person at Jones Bros. Dirt & Paving Contractors, Inc. 1401 S. Goodfellow Odessa, Texas 79761

Field Service Mechanics

Come Join our family! Jones Bros. Dirt and Paving

We want your work experience and your hard work!

NOW HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION

Field Service Mechanics

Requirements: 3 years mechanic experience. Must have own tools, Valid Texas Drivers license, Pay will depend on work experience, 30 plus work week.

Benefits: Medical, dental vision, life insurance. Paid vacation after 1 year of service, and 401K

Apply in person at Jones Bros. Dirt & Paving Contractors, Inc. 1401 S. Goodfellow Odessa, Texas 79761

OTHER JOBS

Endeavor Energy Resources
DOT Driver II

JOB DESCRIPTION: Job responsibilities include local (within Midland City and County) transportation by truck for Endeavor Energy completions or production crews. Cargo transport varies depending on driver's licensing.

Essential Functions:

- Follow instructions, and maintain compliance with all DOT, company and customer safety and operational policies and procedures
- Properly load and unload product at various customer locations in a professional, courteous, timely, safe, and efficient manner
- Connect and disconnect hoses, operating pumps and valves for loading and unloading
- Complete all paperwork accurately and timely, if applicable
- Complete other related tasks as assigned by manager

Minimum Requirements:

- High school diploma or GED required, must be at least 18 years of age
- Ability to read, write and communicate effectively required
- Computer proficiency is required
- Valid Texas Driver's license is required
- Class A CDL and Haz. Mat is preferred but not required
- Must be able to pass background screening including MVR and criminal
- Must be able to work nights, weekends, and an extended workweek.
- Strong customer service skills, and the ability to effectively prioritize, multi-task, manage time, organize and execute tasks in a high-pressure environment

Supervisory Responsibilities:
 No supervisory responsibilities are associated with this position.

Work Environment:
 Work is often outdoors. Working conditions range from rigid to hot temps, high winds, flying dust, slipping hazards and conditions and frequently exposed to loud noise from heavy equipment and machinery.

Physical Demands:
 Ability to sit, stand, walk, reach with hand and arms, climb, squat, kneel, and bend is required. Must also be able to occasionally lift, carry, push, pull, move, and drag up to 50 lbs.

Position type and expected hours of work:
 This is a full-time position. The ability to work overtime is a requirement to performing this job.

Endeavor Energy Resources, LP is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in regards to race, color, creed, age, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, marital status or disability. We comply with all local, state, and federal laws pertaining to employment and discrimination will not be tolerated.

Endeavor Energy Resources
Now hiring for a Field Technician.

The Field Technician will provide advanced retreating services to support the Frac operations on location. Endeavor Energy will provide all necessary training for new employees. This is a non-driving position.

Job Duties:

- Comply with all OSHA and company safety procedures, rules and regulations
- Proper pre and post trip of equipment
- Consistently demonstrate safe unloading of fuels while handling, hooking and unhooking hoses and operating pumps while following directions and standard operating procedures
- Safely using pipe wrenches, crescent wrenches and other hand tools
- Immediate reporting and cleaning of any spills during shift
- Maintain professionalism through working courteously with supervisors, dispatchers, fellow co-workers and customers
- All other duties as assigned

Minimum Qualifications:

- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment
- Proven capability to work both independently and collaboratively with different levels of management and individual contributors
- Demonstrated ability to manage work in stressful situations
- High school diploma or GED required, must be at least 18 years of age
- Ability to read, write and communicate effectively required
- Computer proficiency is required
- Valid Texas Driver's License is required
- Experience working on Frac site or similar responsibilities is preferred

Work Environment:
 Work is often outdoors. Working conditions range from rigid to hot temps, high winds, flying dust, slipping hazards and conditions and frequently exposed to loud noise from heavy equipment and machinery.

Physical Demands:
 Ability to sit, stand, walk, reach with hand and arms, climb, squat, kneel, bend, and occasionally lift/carry/push/pull/move/drag up to 60 lbs.

Position type and expected hours of work:
 This is a full-time position.

Endeavor Energy Resources, LP is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in regards to race, color, creed, age, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, marital status or disability. We comply with all local, state, and federal laws pertaining to employment and discrimination will not be tolerated.

CLERICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

MIDLAND
NOW HIRING
Administrative Assistant - SSB

Performs all routine and specialized secretarial work for the Midland Police Department.

Job Duties:

- Answers phone, take messages, greets visitors and assists citizens with questions or concerns
- Maintain calendar for assigned personnel
- Develops, types and files correspondence
- Enters data into the computer regarding police actions or projects
- Processes and routes mail as needed
- Performs related duties as assigned

Qualifications:
 Ability to effectively communicate with employees, management and citizens when acting as a receptionist, answering inquiries, processing information or making referrals to the proper staff person

Ability to read and understand manuals and reports in order to record work activities, keep records or work with computers. Skill in the operation and maintenance of a number of office machines and equipment such as computers, copiers and printers. Skill in typing and word processing. Skill and experience in the operation of computerized systems in order to design or complete spreadsheets, forms or word processing assignments, brochures, certificates and programs. Experience in software with personal computers related to spreadsheets, databases and word processing.

High school diploma or equivalent required. Must be able to pass typing test with minimum score of 45 wpm.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
 Equal Opportunity Employer

INDUSTRIAL

Line Walker & Meter Technician

Line Walker opening @ Natural Gas Processing Plant NE of Big Spring, TX. Must be physically able to walk long distances following natural gas lines.

Must pass pre-employment drug test, criminal history check and motor vehicle records check and have a valid Texas Driver's License.

Excellent Salary, Paid Vacation, Medical Insurance, and 401k. Must be 21 to apply.

Meter Technician opening @ Natural Gas Processing Plant NE of Big Spring, TX. Looking for a dependable individual with knowledge of computer basics. Experience in oil and gas industry a must. Must pass pre-employment drug test, criminal history check and motor vehicle records check and have a valid Texas Driver's License.

Excellent Salary, Paid Vacation, Medical Insurance, and 401k. Must be 21 to apply.

Please Send Resume To:
 Plant Supervisor
 11703 E. FM 846
 Coahoma, TX 79511
 Or Fax (432)308-4290
 Or Email carver@ulgas.com

MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVE

MIDLAND
NOW HIRING
GIS Manager

Reporting to the Engineering Services Director, this position oversees the development and management of the City of Midland Geographic Information System (GIS). This includes staff supervision, budgeting, training, etc.

BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Manages the GIS Division budget and recommends budget request for new hardware and software as appropriate

Job Duties:

- Supervises all phases and implementation of the City Enterprise GIS
- Supervises GIS Division staff
- Provides planning and direction for GIS growth to serve the City and Public
- Provides general customer service, responds to concerns and inquiries related to Division services
- Negotiates and reviews contracts provided by consultants for GIS services, e.g. - LIDAR, ortho-mosaic, imagery, Cityworks, etc.
- Develops policies and standards for the GIS Division
- Manages the setting of priorities for projects, software, database, and application development
- Oversees development of GIS applications, web services, and tools to ensure they are current and within industry standards and practices
- Oversees the GIS Division in managing ArcGIS Server installation, maintenance, upgrades and use
- Provides recommendations to the Director of Engineering Services regarding annual GIS Division budget, priorities for projects, software, database, and application development
- Provides user-training services, as requested
- Independently prepares and delivers reports and presentations to City Councilmembers, City Management, and outside agency officials. Serves as representative of GIS (or the City) to other departments and outside agencies
- Other duties as assigned

Qualifications:
 Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with employees within and outside the department, and with outside agencies, and to respond to questions from Councilmembers, City Management, consultants, vendors, businesses, and other governmental agencies or staff

Proven ability to plan, organize and manage multiple concurrent projects with minimal supervision. Willingness to work in a team environment and learn new skills to help improve systems and procedures. Ability to supervise and manage other staff with a variety of skills and abilities.

Demonstrated proficiency in the use of ArcGIS software (ArcGISDesktop, ArcGISOnline, ArcGISPro), Solid understanding of database design/management and programming is desirable.

Knowledge of land surveying, municipal governmental operations, acquisitions and procedures is desirable.

Bachelor's degree in GIS, Geography, Computer Science, Engineering, or a related technical or business field required. Minimum of five years' experience using ArcGIS software required. Master's degree in a related field preferred. Valid Texas driver's license required.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
 Equal Opportunity Employer

Landscape/irrigation Help
 Wanted landscape and irrigation Employees, Please Call (432)-770-3399

WAREHOUSE
 Looking for someone who is self-motivated, able to operate forklift, and able to lift heavy material loading customers and unloading. Monday through Friday 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Apply at 1703 South Midland, Midland, Texas.

OTHER JOBS

MIDLAND
NOW HIRING
Planner

Performs field and office work related to planning and development programs for utilization of land and physical facilities of the city.

Job Duties:

- Prepares special studies and reports related to code amendments and annexation studies. Assists with comprehensive plan and studies and updates as necessary.
- Prepares statistical reports such as annual population estimates.
- Reviews requests and prepares written reports for zone change and proposed subdivision plat applications and special studies.
- Presents information and recommendations to the Planning and Zoning Commission.
- Reviews miscellaneous applications including temporary land uses, special events, public rights of way, etc.
- Responds to public inquiries concerning development of the city in general as well as specific areas.
- Researches, compiles and analyzes land use and related data.
- Works with the public and develops in answering questions and providing information.
- Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:
 Ability to effectively communicate with developers and citizens in order to provide information and guidance on planning and zoning issues. Ability to work in conjunction with employees from different departments.

Knowledge of current planning processes and procedures. Ability to read and understand technical materials, reports and journals. Skill in developing related reports and ability to analyze and present data on land use applications and planning. Ability to effectively communicate, both orally and in writing, to citizens and other government officials.

Bachelor's degree or equivalent in architecture, planning, engineering or economics plus one to three years of experience. Valid Texas Driver's License.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
 Equal Opportunity Employer

MIDLAND
NOW HIRING
Public Safety Dispatcher

Directs calls for service for emergency purposes and directs non-emergency inquiries.

Job Duties:

- Answers the phone and assists citizens with requests for emergency and non-emergency services for police, fire, sheriff and emergency medical services.
- Directs citizen inquiries and non-emergency calls to the appropriate agency or organization.
- Dispatches law enforcement and fire and rescue personnel and notifies support and crisis personnel as needed through the use of multi-channel radio system and computer aided dispatch system.
- Requests and disseminates vehicle registration, driver's license, criminal history information through the use of the Texas/National Computer System (TCIC, NCIC).
- Obtains computer information and disseminates to law enforcement officials and investigators. Enters related information into the system.
- Sends and receive teletype information to and from related agencies.
- Maintains records of work performed.
- Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
 Ability to work with dispatch equipment and communicate with citizens and emergency personnel in highly stressful, possibly emergency situations. Employee communicates with other employees in the work group, citizens and other law enforcement agencies in order to discuss requests for service and possible criminal activities. Will also exchange information or request assistance from other agencies and make referrals when necessary.

Ability to read and understand technical and professional manuals in order to record activities, keep records or work with computers. Skill in the operation and maintenance of a number of office machines and equipment such as specialized computers and related information systems and two-way radio dispatch equipment. Typing speed of 38 WPM.

Will also be required to take and pass ALL tests.

- Keyboarding
- Data Entry MT
- Data Entry NT (Audio)
- Call Simulation
- Memory Recall-Numeric (Audio)
- Map Reading
- Typing
- Service Clarity
- Reading Comprehension

Employees work rotating shifts and gather, organize, translate and process information from various emergency callers.

DAYS & HOURS:
 Rotating Shifts, Rotating Days Off - Valid Texas Driver License.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
 Equal Opportunity Employer

MIDLAND
NOW HIRING
Recycle Supervisor

Supervises and monitors Citizens Collection Station and recycle drivers in day to day operations and projects. Works as a service attendant at the Citizens Collection Station as needed. Acts as a Solid Waste Supervisor as needed.

BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provides input as to needed equipment and employment positions. Monitors supplies and equipment at the Citizens Collection Station.

Job Duties:

- Schedules and monitors the work of subordinate employees.
- Instructs employees in the use, care, and preventive maintenance of equipment and machinery.
- Checks schematics, manuals, and other specifications in order to determine and make necessary repairs and maintenance.
- Maintains equipment in good working order and keeps records of work performed.
- Ensures the cleanliness and maintenance of facilities, equipment, tools and grounds.
- Acts as the customer service representative of the Recycle Division at the Citizens Collection Station and on recycle issues.
- Keeps records and reports readily available.
- Coordinates efforts with Solid Waste operations
- Serves as service attendant when necessary.
- Serves as a Solid Waste Supervisor when necessary.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
 Ability to effectively communicate with employees and to receive work orders or instructions for any project. Interacts frequently with the public, vendors, and government agency representatives.

Ability to read, interpret, and understand local, state, and federal regulations related to disposal of refuse. Knowledge of processes used in the disposal of solid waste. Skill in the use of various equipment and machinery such as hand and electrical power tools and heavy equipment utilized in disposal activities. Ability to train others in safe operation of equipment. Ability to work with each and adhere to cost-handling policies. Ability to properly evaluate activities and make recommendations for improvement. Good public relation skills as well as verbal and written communications skills.

High school diploma or general education degree required and some college preferred. One to three years of experience in Solid Waste another supervising and evaluating the work of others preferred. Must possess a valid Texas Driver's License and possess or acquire a valid Texas Class "D" Municipal Solid Waste Operator License within two years of hire date.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
 Equal Opportunity Employer

Cashier & General Help
 KD's Bar-B-Q is looking for cashier & general help. Have a good attitude, love working with others and work hard? Then we want you! Full or part time. Closed Sunday & Monday. Fun & friendly place to work, family-owned, insurance provided. Must speak English, have great customer skills, be a quick learner, reliable & responsible. Apply in person: 3108 Garden City Hwy, or submit resume.

Server / Host / Bartender
 Are you fun, attractive, charming & have a great personality? Do you love making great money while having fun at your job? If so, we were made for each other! Apply today in person or at thead.com/careers. Thead Hot Pub & Eatery, 1119 Truett Blvd., Midland, TX 79701, (432) 682-6222

Let Classifieds Work for You! Call
432-682-6222

Find It! Buy It! Sell It!
432-682-6222

RETAIL JOBS

Full Time Receiving
Health food store is taking applications for a receiving person. Five day work week. 30-40 hrs per week. Positive work environment, caring management and pleasant customers. Apply in person Monday through Friday only, 9a.m. to 5p.m. at Natural Foods Market, 2311 W. Wadley, Midland, Texas 79707

Retail Professional
Julian Gold, Midland's premier women's fashion store, is seeking a full time retail professional to join our sales team. The ideal candidate will have fashion retail experience and be eager to grow in our fast paced environment.
Merchandising or management experience a plus!
We offer great benefits, including paid vacation, insurance and 401K.
Applications accepted in store or online - no phone calls, please.
Email resumes to: ginger@juliangold.com
2101 W. Wadley, Ste. 16, Midland, TX 79705
Julian Gold

SALES JOBS

Digital Media Account Executive
"We must be alarmingly enterprising and startlingly original. We must be honest and fearless. And we must spark a revolution."
William Randolph Hearst, 1887
The Midland Reporter-Telegram, part of Hearst Communications, is excited to announce that due to our continued growth in the Midland, TX market, we are seeking a Digital Media Account Executive just like you to join our team! Our industry is changing into a digital world, and we are looking for experienced professionals who are eager to facilitate our innovative efforts.

Join Midland's leading media company and become part of the winning sales team that offers advertisers a robust suite of digital and print products to help them achieve their business objectives. We are seeking digital savvy, highly motivated sales professionals to sell our marketing solutions to local businesses. Our ideal candidate will be goal oriented, is a relentless hunter, driving to win new businesses, and has a track record of exceeding monthly goals.

As a Digital Media Account Executive, you can expect the following:
• Drive digital product sales.
• Be the Digital Media Guru with a solid understanding of Digital Media, Marketing and Advertising.
• Ability to conduct sales calls with SMB owners.
• Be in the field and on sales calls, leading by example, to sell our various digital products using the current and evolving sales process.
• Consult and educate clients in Digital Advertising and Marketing.
• Assist sales and marketing in promoting the entire line of digital products.
• Develop coaching plans and track results through sales management team.
• Identify trends, quantify impact, and communicate improvement opportunities to the product team.
• Primary source of sales pitch and strategy development and implementation for digital products.

Requirements:
• Highly knowledgeable with digital media. SEO, SEM, Digital Advertising.
• Confidence in pitching and closing business.
• Strong focus on teamwork and ability to manage relationships across multiple departments.
• Ability to multi-task, meet deadlines, and thrive in a fast-paced, deadline-oriented environment.
• Bachelor's Degree preferred.
• Valid US driver's license and reliable transportation.

The perks:
• A great work environment it's never boring here!
• Paid in-depth sales and product training.
• Competitive base salary, uncapped commissions for unlimited earning potential, and significant opportunity for advancement within the company.
• Collaboration ideas and input are always welcome.
• Health, dental, 401k, paid time off we have you covered.

Send resume to David Robbins at david.robbins@hearstnp.com
No Phone Calls Please

Employment Account Executive
The Midland Reporter-Telegram, part of Hearst Communications, is excited to announce that due to our continued growth in the Midland, TX market, we are seeking an Employment Account Executive just like you to join our team! We are looking for an experienced Human Resources executive that wants to help hiring managers in Midland and West Texas utilize our advanced hiring platform - TexasBackToWork.com. This platform allows hiring managers to access the largest pool of potential job candidates and track them through the recruitment process.

Join Midland's leading media company and become part of the winning sales team that offers advertisers a robust suite of digital and print products to help them achieve hiring needs. We are seeking digital savvy, highly motivated sales professionals to sell our marketing solutions to local businesses. Our ideal candidate will be goal oriented, is a relentless hunter, driving to win new businesses, and has a track record of exceeding monthly goals.

The ideal candidate will have experience in the Human Resources area and will maximize advertising sales potential, through the development of quality business relationships with hiring managers. This position requires a heavy amount of prospecting and lead-development with local and regional businesses. We pride ourselves on simplifying the hiring process for our customers. You will be selling a digital hiring solution to your customers with a regional, statewide and national footprint.

Responsibilities include:
• Consistently meets/exceeds revenue goals.
• Develops relationships with HR departments throughout West Texas to sell and promote Texas Back to Work.
• Delivering customized sales presentations in person, or by phone/web-demos.
• Be the face of the Midland Reporter-Telegram and ensure a superior customer experience.

The Ideal Candidate:
• Experience within Human Resources or Employment Agency is preferred.
• You have an outgoing, resilient personality.
• You enjoy the thrill of the hunt by bringing in new business.
• You're confident and not willing to accept average.

Required Skills & Experience:
• Passion to succeed and close deals.
• Exceptional communication and presentation skills.
• Strong computer skills, Digital Sales experience a plus.
• Bachelor's degree preferred.

What's in it for you?
• Paid training
• Competitive Base Salary & Commissions
• Medical, Dental and Vision Coverage
• Flex spending accounts
• Short & Long-Term Disability Insurance
• 401K with company match
• Paid time off & more!

Send resume to David Robbins at david.robbins@hearstnp.com
No Phone Calls Please

Field Service Techs, Shop Techs & Mechanist
J&W Service and Equipment Company is seeking Field Service Technicians, Shop Technicians and Mechanist. Experience preferred. However, we are willing to train. Hourly pay and overtime with benefits of group health, dental, life insurance and vacation pay. There is an opportunity to earn commissions and be awarded bonuses. Participation in matching 401k plan after one year of employment. You can stop by 3510 E. Hwy 158 in Midland or go online to www.jandwservice.com for application and submit to jobs@jandwservice.com.

Mobile Crane Operators
Warrior Crane seeking HCCCO certified hydraulic, all terrain operators. Riggers. Pay based on experience.
Email: wcr@warriorcrane.com

SKILLED LABOR

MIDLAND
NOW HIRING
Systems Administrator
Performs network and system support functions on segments of the computer environment, including planned and emergency maintenance, performance and security analysis, and monitoring, tuning, and implementing new products and procedures. Analyzes emerging technology and makes recommendations for constant improvements to network and infrastructure services and capabilities.
Job Duties:
• Designs and coordinates segments of the IT architecture
• Manages server applications, including but not limited to social media, Active Directory, operating systems, mail, etc.
• Produces and maintains IT design, architectural, and specifications documentation, as identified.
• Monitors information storage systems, schedules, and tests, including backup and recovery tasks, as identified.
• Provides research, development, and planning of the IT infrastructure.
• Is responsible for the validating, building, and testing IT solutions, analyzing IT infrastructure technical issues, and supporting the design, planning, building, and testing of new IT solutions, as assigned.
• Performs related duties as assigned.
• Subject to recall 24/7
Qualifications:
• Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science plus two years of experience in a related field is required.
• Four years experience may be substituted for the Bachelor's degree requirement.
• Valid Texas Driver's License.
Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

MIDLAND
NOW HIRING
Fleet Technician
Diagnoses, repairs and maintains city trucks and heavy equipment.
Job Duties:
• Diagnoses equipment and vehicle malfunctions such as ignition, steering, emission control, electrical, and heating and air conditioning. Estimates costs and submits to specifications.
• Determines the appropriateness of off-site repairs such as oil and filter changes, tires and mufflers.
• Inspects vehicles for state stickers.
• Determines readiness and fitness of new vehicles. Installs special equipment.
• Employee must provide own hand tools. City supplies major equipment including power tools, computerized analyzer, and other diagnostic equipment.
• Reads blue prints, electrical diagrams, manuals and other specifications in order to make repairs.
• Performs emergency repairs for various departments.
• Maintains records of work performed such as work orders, logs, historical information, and special written requests.
Qualifications:
• High School graduate or GED
• Knowledge of proper tools used in welding and fabrication
• Three years training as a mechanic or in a related field
• Valid Texas Class A CDL Driver's License within one year of employment
• Texas Department of Public Safety Inspector Certificate required within one year of employment.
Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

MIDLAND
NOW HIRING
Code Enforcement Officer
Performs inspections of private and public properties to ensure compliance with municipal ordinances, zoning and land use regulations which govern the maintenance of property, grounds and structures.
Job Duties:
• Usually inspects properties for code violations as initiated by a complaint or routine inspection.
• Enters data into the computer to generate notice of violations to property owners or to record inspections.
• Responds to citizen calls regarding code violations, mail information regarding zoning or city regulations.
• Researches planned districts, nonconforming uses, plate and legal uses of property for the department.
• Manages city contracts for the clearing of lots, to include bidding projects, preparing contracts, awarding contracts and preparing payments to contractors.
• Conducts inspections to ensure proper environmental compliance in response to complaints.
• Provides information to the public and contractors regarding the requirements of zoning and related code and city requirements.
• Conducts field inspections of junked and abandoned vehicles, abandoned structures and other properties for compliance with city codes.
• Performs related duties as required.
Qualifications:
• Ability to effectively communicate with developers, citizens and other employees in order to provide information regarding city codes and possible violations.
• Ability to read and understand materials including City Ordinances, professional literature, plans, correspondence and manuals. Ability to write reports and correspondence. Skills in math. Skills to communicate both orally and in writing. Knowledge of office equipment including personal computer.
High school diploma or equivalent and a valid Texas driver's license required. Certification through Texas Department Health as a Certified Code Enforcement Officer, or ability to obtain after one year of training. Certification as Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector, or ability to obtain within one year.
Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

MIDLAND
NOW HIRING
Customer Service (Field Work)
Performs field work regarding current or past water service.
Job Duties:
• Turns water on for new customers, disconnects water for customers leaving or re-connects service that had been disconnected. Obtains new or current readings due to new service or broken lines.
• Sets meters to establish or re-establish service.
• Pulls meters should instance occur when customer fails to set up service.
• Collects past due utility bills so that water can be connected.
• Changes our broken meter stop valves and meter box lids.
• Verifies or re-reads meter information when complaints are filed.
• Performs related duties as required.
Qualifications:
• Ability to effectively communicate with citizens, other departments and employees in order to provide information on current repairs or the reading of meters.
• Ability to read work orders and maps in order to find street locations. Skill in math in determining amount of water utilized. Skill in the use of variety of hand tools such as shovels, water wrenches and meter keys.
Valid Texas Driver's License required. Employee must be bondable.
Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

PIONEER
NATURAL RESOURCES
NOW HIRING
Transportation Truck Driver
Responsible for driving Water, Dump, and/or Belly Dump Truck and hauling water/caliche to drill rigs, fracturing crews, etc. Hauls water/caliche from well locations to proper disposal facilities.
Qualifications:
• High school education or equivalent.
• Experience can range from commercial truck driving experience preferred to one year as a water truck driver required.
• Valid Class A CDL with Tank endorsement.
• Clean driving record.
• Salary competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience.
Comprehensive Benefits available!
• Medical, Dental, & Vision
• Prescription Drug
• 401 K
• Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
• Company Paid Life
• Tuition Reimbursement
• Onsite Fitness Center
Apply at www.pnr.com/careers/openings

MIDLAND
NOW HIRING
Effluent Distribution Technician
Maintains photo in good working order and prevents holding ponds from overflowing.
Job Duties:
• Determines which pump units to operate and maintains center pivots in good working order. Repairs and services when necessary.
• Operates gates and lagoon system in order to store water without allowing holding ponds to overflow. Determines where and when to store water.
• Monitors operations in order to apply the proper amount of water.
• Repairs water line leaks and breaks.
• Uses equipment such as loaders and backhoes in order to fill gullies caused by operations.
• Maintains and repairs electrical systems on central pivot units.
• Performs related duties as required.
Qualifications:
• Ability to effectively communicate with employees in order to receive work orders or instructions for any project.
• Ability to read operator's manuals, gauges and work orders in order to maintain or repair meters or parts. Skill in writing to record results.
High school diploma or equivalent required plus six months to one year of experience. C Operator's certification from the THRCO. Valid Texas Driver's License required.
Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

MIDLAND
NOW HIRING
Electronics Tech - Airport
Performs routine and preventive maintenance of electrical equipment systems. Works under the direction of the Electrical/Electronics Specialist.
Job Duties:
• Performs preventive maintenance on automatic gates, automatic doors, parking lot equipment, lighting, security systems, privacy systems, etc.
• Assists the Electrical/Electronics Specialist in the day to day operations of the Airport facility as needed.
• Performs other related duties as assigned.
Qualifications:
• Employee communicates with other employees in the work group and may respond to questions from the general public regarding services or specific projects.
• Ability to read and understand work orders and equipment manuals. Skill in the operation of hand tools and equipment such as electrical measuring meters and devices.
High school diploma or equivalent plus two to three years of experience as an electrician required. Journeyman's License as an electrician required. Valid Texas Driver's License required.
Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

MIDLAND
NOW HIRING
Electrical/Electronics Tech - WPP
Troubleshoots and maintains electrical, SCADA and control equipment for the well field, Purification Plant, Water Pollution Control Plant, water storage towers, booster station.
BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES:
Assists in the development of the budget and makes recommendations for purchases and capital items to the appropriate division during the annual budget process.
Job Duties:
• Troubleshoots and repairs electrical service to any facility within the Utilities Department.
• Troubleshoots and repairs control circuits at any facility within the Utilities Department.
• Troubleshoots and repairs SCADA equipment at any facility within the Utilities Department.
• Programs SCADA and control circuits at any facility within the Utilities Department.
• Instructs users of SCADA and control circuits at any facility within the Utilities Department.
• Calculates electrical loads for equipment and installs wiring.
• Determines equipment and supplies required for jobs by reading code books and blue prints.
• Keeps abreast of changes in the Electrical Code and Regulations and makes recommendations on their impacts to the City.
• Maintains inventory of supplies used and replaces as needed.
• Performs Operations & Maintenance duties as assigned.
• Performs related duties as required.
Qualifications:
• Employee communicates with other employees and the public, as necessary.
• Ability to read operator's manuals, blue prints and schematics in order to maintain electrical, SCADA and control equipment throughout the Utilities Department in good working order. Skill in the operation of electrical and mechanical hand and power tools. Employee must perform mathematical calculations in order to determine electrical needs. Skill in writing to record results and track work. Will be on-call.
High school diploma or equivalent required plus two years of experience. A valid Apprentice Electrician license from the State of Texas or have successfully completed 12 college hours of electronics coursework would be preferred. Valid Texas driver's license required. Must also obtain a valid state of Texas class 'C' or above water works license.
Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

MIDLAND
NOW HIRING
Lab Technician
The employee is responsible for performing, monitoring, and interpreting the results of tests necessary for the operation and regulatory compliance of the water and wastewater operations of the City of Midland. They are also responsible for the interpretation and implementation of regulations promulgated by State and Federal authorities.
Assists in the development of the budget for laboratory operations and makes recommendations for purchases and capital items during the annual budget process.
Monitors expenditures during the year.
Job Duties:
• Responsible for the daily operation of laboratories in support of the Utilities Department. Conduct bacteriological, chemical, physical and instrumental analysis of water and wastewater samples submitted to the laboratory.
• Maintain equipment and supplies for the laboratory as well as for the City's facilities. This includes accurately maintaining extensive records tracking all chemicals, supplies, and equipment used for daily operations.
• Collect, analyze, and interpret results of environmental, water and wastewater samples.
• Prepare requests for use at the laboratory and perform standardization of reagents to ensure quality.
• Keep maintain work area, supplies, and equipment in an orderly, safe, and clean manner.
• Maintain accurate and extensive analytical data records of data for future use.
• Investigate and reports on complaints and all other problems delegated by the Director of Utilities.
• Make monthly reports or as required to the Water Regulator Agency and Utilities.
• Keep abreast of professional developments in the field.
• Keep apprised of State/Federal regulations and make recommendations on their impacts to the City.
• Performs related duties as required. Available for on-call obligations and work on weekends as needed.
Qualifications:
• Employee has contact with general public, other employees, and other organizations.
• Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Must have skill in writing to record results of analysis. Employee generates reports and reports of work performance and laboratory chemical results. Must have thorough knowledge of chemistry and good knowledge of water and wastewater treatment. Must possess knowledge of computer software and applications. Working in laboratory lab preferred.
• Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry, Biology or related field is preferred. Must be able to obtain Class D water operator license in the State of Texas within a year after hired and be able to maintain the license while employed.
Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

SKILLED LABOR



Engineering Tech - Construction Inspector

Perform responsible work in support of city engineering staff. Work relates to engineering construction activities such as construction inspection of municipal projects involving construction of asphalt or concrete pavement, sidewalks, ramps, water lines and sewer lines.

- Job Duties:
-Inspect forms, materials and workmanship for compliance with plans and specifications.
-Test materials and workmanship as required.
-Maintain daily diary and records on projects including emergency telephone numbers for key people.
-Maintain inspection project files for all phases of construction for each project.
-Provides information to update record drawings.
-Inspect traffic control devices for compliance with plans and the Texas Manual on Uniform Control Devices.
-Make safety inspections to note deficiencies for correction.
-Analyze field construction problems and assists engineers with recommending corrections.
-Perform survey work as requested by Engineering staff.
-Coordinate with traffic, utility companies, landowners, etc. before and during construction.
-Acts as project field coordinator for contractors, utility companies and city departments.
-Researches utility locations and right of way, assemble plat and deed information and produces plan views.
-As appropriate, train and evaluate the progress of other employees.
-Perform related duties as assigned.

Qualifications: Must be able to use and communicate by hand-held radio. Basic skill in the use of a variety of machines, including personal computers, printers, calculators, scanners and large document copier are preferred.

Must have a valid Texas Driver's License and a good driving record. Employee must be able to effectively communicate with other employees in the work group. Must be able to correctly respond to questions from contractors, surveyors, inspectors, or city staff regarding work performed or applicable specifications related to a design or construction project.

Must coordinate effectively with other city departments, contractors, and utility companies when designing or scheduling work. Must possess skill to observe, read, and interpret written technical materials and construction drawings. Ability to use testing and measuring equipment.

Must have obtained a High school diploma or equivalent GED plus 5 years of experience in civil construction trades. College degree or construction certification preferred. Extensive knowledge of state, federal, and local laws and requirements regarding construction, surveying and safety standards.

Extensive skill in observing, reading and interpreting written technical materials and construction drawings. Extensive knowledge of city codes and ordinances and other state and federal requirements regarding utility construction and safety standards.

Extensive knowledge of engineering standards and construction practices for water, sewer, street and drainage design. Intermediate in drafting with computer aided design systems such as AutoCAD. Intermediate skill in developing field notes and survey plats for boundary surveys.

- Benefits:
-Health care Plans
-Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
-Paid Holidays
-Employee Wellness Program
-Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer



Maintenance Specialist - Animal Services

Maintains the animal shelter and grounds, provides quality care for the animals in our custody and assists the public and other animal control personnel.

- Job Duties:
-Processes animals that are brought to the animal shelter by providing health evaluations, parasite controls, scanning for microchips and placing in the proper holding area.
-Maintains the sanitation and environment of kennel areas, cat facilities, quarantine area, wildlife facilities and sick/injured animal room.
-Handles dead and live animals and the disposal of animals as required.
-Maintains and operates the animal cremation system for mass disposal and private cremations.
-Picks up large quantities of dead animals from veterinarians for disposal by cremation.
-Micro-chips animals that leave animal control custody.
-Unloads dead and live animals from the public, veterinarians and animal control offices.
-Performs preventative maintenance on equipment, building and grounds.
-Provides assistance to visitors.
-Operates a vehicle to pick up dead livestock and supplies and other machinery.
-Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications: Employee communicates with other employees in the work group and may respond to questions from the general public regarding services or animals that may be in the kennel. Employee may have direct contact with other animal control personnel such as the SPCA, various humane societies and animal rescue organizations.

Ability to deal with the public and provide humane care for the animals. Some knowledge in the recognition of animal diseases is needed. Ability to follow both written and oral instructions is also necessary.

High school diploma or equivalent preferred. Valid Texas driver's license required. Must be able to obtain Department of State Health Services Basic Certification within one year of employment. Must be able to obtain euthanasia certification within six months of employment.

- Benefits:
-Health care Plans
-Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
-Paid Holidays
-Employee Wellness Program
-Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer



Service Center Technician

Performs tire installation and repair and general maintenance on vehicles and machinery.

- Job Duties:
-Repair flat tires. Removes and installs wheels and tires from vehicles and equipment.
-Responds to requests for towing and service calls.
-Performs electrical jump starts on vehicles and equipment.
-Performs diagnostic checks on batteries and alternators. Changes oil as necessary.
-Balance tires.
-Performs engine oil and filter changes. Changes transmission oils and filters.
-Cleans and maintains shop facilities, equipment, tools and grounds.
-Orders and issues parts.
-Opens work orders, charges out parts and closes work orders as required.
-Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications: Ability to effectively communicate with employees, management and vendors in order to diagnose repairs and order materials for repair.

Knowledge of proper tools used in general automotive repairs. Ability to safely use tools, vehicles and equipment such as welders, tire hammer and breakdown bars, tire and wheel balancers, tire machines, jacks, air impact wrenches, fuel line and assorted hand tools. Skill in the reading and practical application of manuals, schematics and other similar specifications used by city departments. Ability to read, measure and calculate types and sizes of materials needed and ability to perform amount of time that will be used in the actual repair process. Ability to speak, understand and follow instructions in English.

High school diploma or equivalent plus one year of general service station experience is required. Experience in fueling vehicles, changing oil and oil filters, and changing or repairing auto and large equipment tires is also required. Employee requires dependable transportation and a telephone at their residence. A valid Texas license required, CDL preferred. Must have a State of Texas Inspection License or ability to obtain within 90 days.

DAYS & HOURS: Monday - Friday, 2:00 pm to 11:00 pm

- Benefits:
-Health care Plans
-Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
-Paid Holidays
-Employee Wellness Program
-Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer



Maintenance Specialist - Parks - Sports Complex

Performs all routine maintenance work for the parks division at the sports complex, including special events.

- Job Duties:
-Performs routine buildings and grounds maintenance.
-Removes trash from containers.
-Repairs grounds and athletic areas and facilities for repairs.
-Operates and maintains equipment used in daily operations. Files out reports and submits to supervisor.
-Holds set up of special events and sports tournaments.
-Works weekends and evenings as required.
-Performs other related duties as required.

Qualifications: Employee communicates with other employees in the work group and may respond to questions from the general public regarding services or specific projects.

Ability to read and understand work orders and equipment manuals. Skill in troubleshooting air conditioning and plumbing. Ability to operate hand tools and equipment such as mowers, gas powered trimmers, saws and other gardening and maintenance tools.

High school diploma or equivalent preferred. Valid Texas Driver's License, CDL preferred.

- Benefits:
-Health care Plans
-Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
-Paid Holidays
-Employee Wellness Program
-Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer



Utility Plant Operator - Water Purification Plant

The primary function of a Water Plant employee is to perform semi-skilled and skilled operations and maintenance duties in our water facility, including monitoring, operating, maintaining and adjusting equipment. Additionally, an employee performs data collection and reporting functions to ensure compliance with Federal and State water quality requirements & Standards.

- Job Duties:
-Collects and computes chemical analysis of water samples. Interprets and logs results.
-Controls water treatment processes to meet regulatory standards.
-Operates and monitors various water plant equipment and machinery.
-Maintains daily and hourly records of plant operations.
-Monitors and controls booster pumps and storage within the City.
-Keeps abreast of professional developments in the field.
-Operates SCADA system to monitor and control well field production.
-Reports maintenance issues that affect plant operations.
-Assists maintenance personnel as assigned and when needed.
-Performs routine cleaning of work areas.
-Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications: Employee communicates with other employees and the public, as necessary.

Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Skill in performing mathematical calculations. Ability to use testing and measuring equipment. Must work rotating shifts.

High school diploma or equivalent required. Must receive and retain a valid "C" Surface Water license from the State of Texas within 3 years of employment. Must receive Hazard Awareness level and SCBA certifications within 1 year of employment. Must remain qualified to wear SCBA. Must possess a valid class "C" Texas driver's license.

- Benefits:
-Health care Plans
-Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
-Paid Holidays
-Employee Wellness Program
-Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

SKILLED LABOR



Equipment Operator - Landfill

Disposes of refuse through the use of heavy equipment at the Landfill.

- Job Duties:
-Deposits of refuse with the use of heavy equipment such as compactors, scrapers, bulldozers and related equipment.
-Maintains access roads to the Landfill.
-Covers refuse at the end of each day.
-Maintains all equipment in good working order and keeps records of service problems.
-Submits daily maintenance sheets to supervisor.
-Performs preventive maintenance on equipment such as oil changes. Determines when servicing of vehicles is required.
-Monitors vehicles as they enter, unload and leave the Landfill. Gives directions to citizens.
-Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications: Ability to effectively communicate with employees in order to receive work orders or instructions for any project.

Ability to read, interpret and understand local, state and federal regulations related to disposal. Knowledge of the processes used in collection and disposal of waste materials. Ability to follow instructions and manuals for equipment repair and maintenance. Skill in the use of various equipment and machinery such as hand and electrical power tools and heavy equipment utilized in disposal activities such as compactors, lifts, claws and hydraulic systems as well as simple shovels, brooms and rakes. Ability to read operator's manuals and work orders.

High school diploma or equivalent, plus one to three years of equipment operation preferred. Valid Texas driver's license required.

- Benefits:
-Health care Plans
-Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
-Paid Holidays
-Employee Wellness Program
-Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer



Instrumentation & Electrical Technician

Maintains all electrical equipment used to monitor and control oil well services equipment. Home nightly.

- Qualifications:
-High school education or equivalent.
-6 months experience maintaining and repairing electronic instrumentation and automation equipment.
-Valid operator's license with clean driving record.

- Comprehensive Benefits package!
-Medical, Dental, & Vision
-Prescription Drug
-401 K
-Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
-Company Paid Life
-Tuition Reimbursement
-Oralite Fitness Center
Apply at www.pnt.com/careers/job-openings



Well Field Technician - Paul Davis

Has primary responsibility for operation and maintenance of well fields, Water Purification and associated potable water storage.

- Job Duties:
-Assists other Utility Department Divisions as required.
-Performs Operations & maintenance duties as required at WPP.
-Controls water distribution processes to meet regulatory standards.
-Operates and maintains various water production and storage equipment.
-Maintains required records of operations, generates monthly report and maintenance records.
-Monitors and controls booster pumps and storage.
-Keeps abreast of professional developments in the field.
-Operates SCADA system to monitor and control well field production.
-Performs routine cleaning of assigned area. Maintains grounds at well field compounds.
-Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications: Employee communicates with other employees and the public, as necessary.

RELOCATION MANDATORY Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Knowledge of pumps, motors and lower operations and maintenance. Knowledge of electricity and electronics. Skill in performing mathematical calculations. Ability to use testing and measuring equipment. On call 50% overnights and weekends.

High school diploma or equivalent required. Must receive and retain a valid "C" Groundwater license from the State of Texas within 3 years of employment. Must receive Hazard Awareness level and SCBA certifications within 1 year of employment. Must remain qualified to wear SCBA. Must possess a valid Texas Class "B" CDL, required or have the ability to obtain license within a reasonable amount of time.

- Benefits:
-Health care Plans
-Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
-Paid Holidays
-Employee Wellness Program
-Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

SKILLED LABOR



Equipment Operator - Water and Wastewater

Performs manual and unskilled labor of more than ordinary difficulty, which often involves the use of acquired skills and operates several types of light vehicles and equipment. Does related work and training as required.

Qualifications: Ability to effectively communicate with employees in order to receive work orders or instructions for any project.

Ability to read, interpret and understand local, state and federal regulations related to water and sewer system maintenance. Knowledge of the processes used in utility maintenance. Ability to follow instructions and manuals for equipment repair and maintenance. Skill in the use of various equipment and machinery such as hand and electrical power tools. Skill in the use of heavy equipment utilized in maintenance activities such as backhoes, ditch witch, and jet truck. Ability to read operator's manuals and work orders.

High school diploma or equivalent required. Valid Texas CDL, Class A driver's license required or must be obtained within 6 months of employment. Must possess or be able to obtain Wastewater Certification Class I and Water Distribution D Certificate within a reasonable length of time.

- Benefits:
-Health care Plans
-Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
-Paid Holidays
-Employee Wellness Program
-Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer



Local Drivers

Local truck drivers needed. Home nightly, local routes, scheduled shifts 6am - 5pm (14/7 rotational) never on call, optional overtime.

- Qualifications:
-High school education or equivalent.
-Valid operator's license.
-Clean driving record.
-DOT compliant

- Comprehensive Benefits package!
-Medical, Dental, & Vision
-Prescription Drug
-401 K
-Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
-Company Paid Life
-Tuition Reimbursement
-Oralite Fitness Center
Apply at www.pnt.com/careers/job-openings



Well Field Technician - Albert Well Field

Has primary responsibility for operation and maintenance of well fields, Water Purification Plant and associated potable water storage.

- Job Duties:
-Assists other Utility Department Divisions as required.
-Performs Operations & maintenance duties as required at WPP.
-Controls water distribution processes to meet regulatory standards.
-Operates and maintains various water production and storage equipment.
-Maintains required records of operations, generates monthly report and maintenance records.
-Monitors and controls booster pumps and storage.
-Keeps abreast of professional developments in the field.
-Operates SCADA system to monitor and control well field production.
-Performs routine cleaning of assigned area.
-Maintains houses and grounds at well field compounds.
-Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications: Employee communicates with other employees and the public, as necessary.

Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Knowledge of pumps, motors and lower operations and maintenance. Knowledge of electricity and electronics. Skill in performing mathematical calculations. Ability to use testing and measuring equipment. On call 50% of overnights and weekends.

High school diploma or equivalent required. Must receive and retain a valid "C" Groundwater license from the State of Texas within 3 years of employment. Must receive Hazard Awareness level and SCBA certifications within 1 year of employment. Must remain qualified to wear SCBA. Valid Texas class "B" CDL, required or must be obtained within 1 year of employment.

- Benefits:
-Health care Plans
-Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
-Paid Holidays
-Employee Wellness Program
-Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer



Lead Water Purification Plant Operator

This position requires a demonstrated ability to perform advanced functions related to the operation and maintenance of equipment at all water treatment facilities. This position functions as a Lead Operator and also as Chief Plant operator when required, performing complex analysis of the Water Treatment Plant operations and having direct charge of the operation of a water treatment facility or Water Production Facilities. Positions at this level provide instruction and assistance to lower level of Water Treatment Plant Operators. This position is normally filled by advancement from the Water Treatment Operator II. Position requires three to five years of experience in a Surface Water Treatment Plant Operator and must possess a minimum of a Class "C" Surface Water Treatment Plant Operator Certificate issued by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality at the time of accepting position.

- Benefits:
-Health care Plans
-Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
-Paid Holidays
-Employee Wellness Program
-Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

SOB Waste Department, LLC is looking for a Local CDL Driver. Home at night! Clean driving record and pass drug/alcohol test. Paid Holidays, vacation benefits available. Salary, DOE! M-F, occasional Saturday morning. Guaranteed 40hrs. Please contact Bob (409) 694-8230



Plant Maintenance Mechanic - Water Purification Plant

Performs skilled & semi-skilled maintenance duties as they relate to equipment repair and upkeep. Perform manufacturer recommended preventative maintenance to equipment at the Water Purification Plant.

- Job Duties:
-Repairs equipment including pumps, chemical feeders, valves and specialized equipment.
-Performs preventative maintenance on plant equipment according to manufacturer's recommendations.
-Performs asset maintenance at plants including but not limited to clearing and grinding of water treatment basins and painting of equipment.
-Performs electrical repairs including wiring of electric motors, switches, and panels.
-Troubleshoots electrical problems including chattering and repeating control circuits.
-Acts as a shift relief as needed, ensuring full authority, duties and responsibilities of position that is being filled.
-Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications: Employee communicates with other employees and the public, as necessary.

Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Knowledge of plant operations and maintenance. Skill in performing mathematical calculations. Ability to use testing and measuring equipment. Skill in the use of hand tools, test equipment, and welding tools. May work rotating shifts.

High school diploma or equivalent required. One to three years experience in a related field preferred. Must receive and retain a valid "C" Water license within 3 years of employment. Must receive Hazard Awareness level and SCBA certifications within 1 year of employment. Must remain qualified to wear SCBA. Must possess a valid Texas Class "B" CDL or have the ability to obtain license within a reasonable amount of time.

- Benefits:
-Health care Plans
-Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
-Paid Holidays
-Employee Wellness Program
-Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

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Legal and Public Notices

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS OIL AND GAS DIVISION

DISTRICT 08 Rule 37 Case No. 0310090
DATE OF ISSUANCE: Mar 22, 2018 Status/Permit No. 826342
NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Apr 27, 2018
Address: Railroad Commission of Texas
ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email: SWR37@RRC.TEXAS.GOV

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the PERMIAN DEEP ROCK OIL CO., LLC, [RRC Operator No. 655805] has made application for a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37). Applicant seeks exception to the lease line distance requirement because the Applicant is less than the required Rule 37 lease line distance to an unleased or non-pooled interest within the subject unit for the AMENDED NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 3, Bk. 39 T2S, T&P RR CO Survey, A-181, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, MIDLAND County, being 2.1 miles SW direction from MIDLAND, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at (512)463-6848. If you have questions which are specific to the Application or the information set forth in this Notice, please contact the Commission's Drilling Permit Unit at rule 37 (512)463-6751.

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY **Apr 27, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.** IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name	CHARGER	
Lease/Unit Well No.	H160LS	
Lease/Unit Acres	480.35	
Nearest Lease Line (ft):	1.0	
Lease Lines	360.0 F SW L.	113.0 F SE L
Survey Lines	360.0 F SW L.	113.0 F SE L
Wellbore Profile(s)	Horizontal	
Laterals: TH1		
Penetration Point Location		
Lease Lines	349.0 F SW L	400.0 F SE L
Terminus Location		
BH County: MIDLAND	Block: 39 T1S	Abstract: 42
Section: 27		
Survey: T&P RR CO		
Lease Lines	50.0 F NW L	345.0 F SW L
Survey Lines	345.0 F SW L	2423.0 F SE L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:

SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Special Rules 3300, 80.0 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 9300 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Debbie Whiting, at (432)6826685, x357.

Legal and Public Notices

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS OIL AND GAS DIVISION

DISTRICT 08 Rule 37 Case No. 0310033
DATE OF ISSUANCE: Mar 22, 2018 Status/Permit No. 826347
NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Apr 27, 2018
Address: Railroad Commission of Texas
ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email: SWR37@RRC.TEXAS.GOV

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

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PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at (512)463-6848. If you have questions which are specific to the Application or the information set forth in this Notice, please contact the Commission's Drilling Permit Unit at rule 37 (512)463-6751.

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THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name	CHARGER	
Lease/Unit Well No.	H160MS	
Lease/Unit Acres	480.35	
Nearest Lease Line (ft):	1.0	
Lease Lines	390.0 F SW L.	113.0 F SE L
Survey Lines	390.0 F SW L.	113.0 F SE L
Wellbore Profile(s)	Horizontal	
Laterals: TH1		
Penetration Point Location		
Lease Lines	363.0 F SW L	400.0 F SE L
Terminus Location		
BH County: MIDLAND	Block: 39 T1S	Abstract: 42
Section: 27		
Survey: T&P RR CO		
Lease Lines	50.0 F NW L	345.0 F SW L
Survey Lines	345.0 F SW L	2423.0 F SE L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:

SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Special Rules 3300, 80.0 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 8900 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Debbie Whiting, at (432)6826685, x357.

Legal and Public Notices

BID #18001843 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS CITY OF MIDLAND, TEXAS

The City of Midland, Texas is soliciting bids for the furnishing of materials and labor for the Culbert Avenue East Storm Drain Project together with other miscellaneous and appurtenant work.

A non-mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held in the basement conference room of City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas at 3:00 p.m. local time on April 11, 2018.

The contract may be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder or to the bidder who provides goods or services at the best value to the municipality as referred to in Section 252.043(b) of the Texas Local Government Code.

Information for bidders, proposal forms, specifications and plans are on file for viewing in the office of the Purchasing Manager, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas. The contract documents may be purchased at the office of the Purchasing Manager, second floor, 300 North Loraine Street, Midland, Texas for a non-refundable purchase price of \$50.00 per set.

Bids will be received at the office of the City Secretary, City Hall, Midland, Texas, until 2:00 PM CST on the 18th day of April, 2018. Bids will be opened and read aloud at that time.

Legal and Public Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT IN A NON PRODUCTIVE FORMATION

Hannathon Petroleum, LLC, 223 West Wall Street, Suite 600, Midland, Texas 79701 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a COMMERCIAL DISPOSAL WELL PERMIT to dispose of produced salt water or other oil and gas waste by well injection into a porous formation not productive of oil or gas. The applicant proposes to dispose of oil and gas waste into the Clearfork Formation, Morgan SWD Lease, Well Number 1. The proposed injection well is located 25.3 miles Southeast of Big Spring, Texas in the Spraberry (Trend Area) Field, in Howard County, Texas. Fluid waste will be injected into strata in the sub-surface depth interval from 3,300 to 4,500 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512463-6782).

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Legal and Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

Sealed Proposals will be accepted by the County Purchasing Agent, located in Suite 1101 of the Midland County Courthouse, 500 N. Loraine Street, Midland, Texas 79701 until 9:00 A.M., Local Time, April 30, 2018. The proposals will be opened and acknowledged at 9:05 A.M., Local Time, April 30, 2018.

Generally, the Commissioners Court selection will be made within 30 days. Interested parties are invited to attend the proposal acknowledgment and the Commissioners Court meeting.

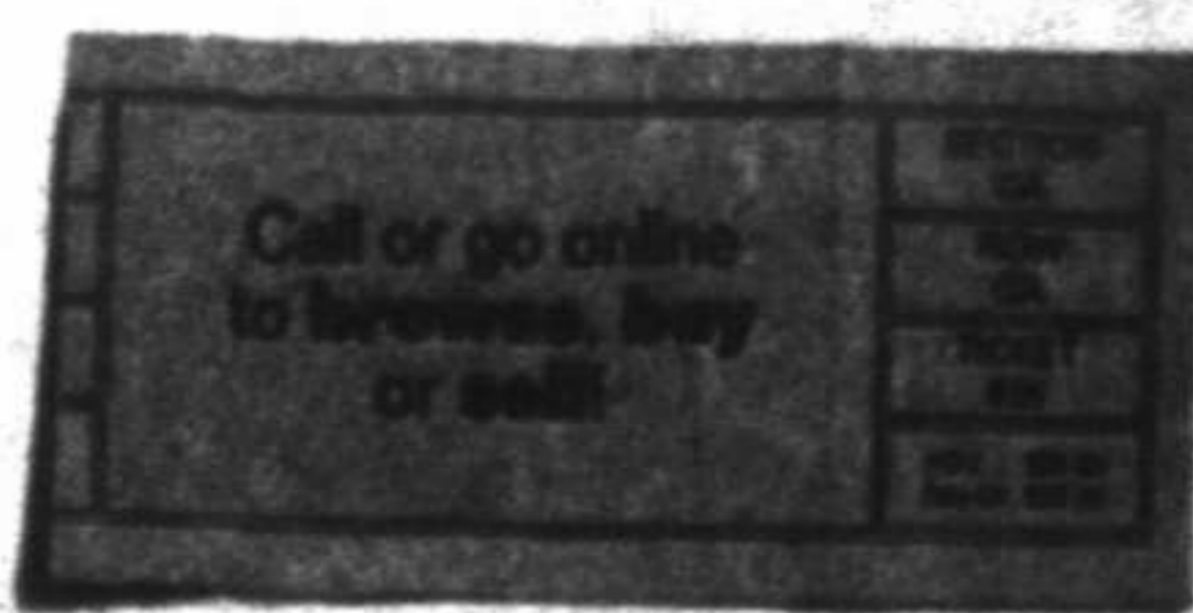
RFP 18MCO639 -PAVING, GRADING, AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS TO SERVE COUNTY ROADS 1216, 127, 1286, AND 125 IMPROVEMENTS

Midland County reserves the right to reject any or all of the responses, to waive all formalities, and to withdraw the RFP at any time.

Information may be obtained from the County Purchasing Agent's Office 432-686-4872 or par103@com.midland.tx.us

Kristy Engdahl
Midland County Purchasing Agent

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<p>Cleaning Services</p> <p>ESMERALDA'S HOUSE CLEANING. Honest, independent, responsible. References available. Call 432-254-4334</p>	<p>Concrete</p> <p>CONCRETE OVERLAY SOLUTIONS. Crack repair, resurface, stamp overlay, new welcome. By Manny Ribera. Call 432-967-3710. mRiberaConstruction.com Video: https://youtu.be/8LIUKSoQDg</p>	<p>Handyman Services</p> <p>FLAWLESS PAINT & HANDYMAN SERVICE. Specializing in painting, drywall, drywall repair and textures, epoxy floor finish, tile and popcorn removal. Workmanship satisfaction guarantee. 10% senior citizen & veterans discount. Call for your free estimate. 432-528-2885</p>	<p>Handyman Services</p> <p>ELLIS & Sons Plumbing & Air Conditioning Sales & Service. Service all brands. 683-2679. TALCB005482.</p>	<p>Painting, Wallpapers</p> <p>PRECISE PAINTING FEMALE PAINTER. Interior/exterior, residential. Very professional, takes pride in her work, very dependable & affordable. FREE Estimates. 432-250-4643</p>	<p>Bathroom Remodeling</p> <p>BATHROOM REMODELING. Residential & commercial. Call Gene 432-661-2556</p>	<p>Affordable Tree</p> <p>AFFORDABLE TREE shrub pruning, removal, sprinkler repairs. Licensed & Insured. Call Williams Tree Lawn Sprinkler 561-8802, 638-6163.</p>
<p>My brother or I are seeking work. Anything you need hauled off give us a call. Need your house or yard cleaned give us a call. Very reasonable prices. Call (432) 631-1048</p>	<p>Fax Your Ad 682-6999</p>	<p>Fax Your Ad 682-6999</p>	<p>Painting, SHEET</p> <p>rock, repairs, fans, electrical, plumbing, tile-floor & bath. Perman Maintenance 432-697-5417</p>	<p>POOL Renovation</p> <p>Pool deck stone decor, overlay, coping, tile, waterfalls, a grando. By artist Manny Ribera native Midlander (432) 967-3710 mRiberaConstruction.com Video: https://youtu.be/8LIUKSoQDg</p>	<p>J&J ROOFING</p> <p>All Types of Roofing & Repairs. Fence Repairs, Metal roofs. 25 years experience. Free Estimates Call Justn. 432-631-6881</p>	<p>Arbor Max Solutions</p> <p>Professional Landscaping & Tree Care. Call now to schedule your spring feeding. Taylor Maxwell Degreed Horticulturist Certified Arborist 432-528-1737</p>
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<p>Legal and Public Notices</p>	<p>Legal and Public Notices</p>	<p>Legal and Public Notices</p>	<p>Legal and Public Notices</p>	<p>Legal and Public Notices</p>	<p>Legal and Public Notices</p>	<p>Legal and Public Notices</p>

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS OIL AND GAS DIVISION

DISTRICT 7C DATE OF ISSUANCE: Mar 16, 2018 Rule 37 Case No. 0309863 Status/Permit No. 837197

NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Apr 20, 2018

Address: Railroad Commission of Texas ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit P. O. Box 12967 Austin, Texas 78711-2967 Fax: (512) 463-6780 Email: SWR37@RRCC.TEXAS.GOV

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the COG OPERATING LLC, [RRCC Operator No. 166150] has made application for a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37). Applicant seeks exception to the lease line distance requirement because the Applicant is less than the required Rule 37 lease line distance to an unleased or non-pooled interest within the subject unit for the NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 63, BK. C, CCSD&RGNG RR CO Survey, A-42, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, UPTON County, being 14.9 miles N direction from RANKIN, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted WITHOUT A HEARING if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at (512)463-6848. If you have questions which are specific to the Application or the information set forth in this Notice, please contact the Commission's Drilling Permit Unit at rule 37 (512)463-6751.

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY APR. 20, 2018 AT 5:00 P.M. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name	CARLA WEST UNIT
Lease/Unit Well No.	6201BH
Lease/Unit Acres	236.0
Nearest Lease Line (ft)	1.0

Lease Lines: 310.0 F N L, 394.0 F W L
Survey Lines: 310.0 F N L, 394.0 F W L

Wellbore Profile(s): Horizontal

Lateral: TH1
Penetration Point Location
Lease Lines: 310.0 F N L, 394.0 F W L

Terminus Location
BH County: UPTON
Section: 72 Block: C Abstract: 898 Survey: CCSD&RGNG RR CO / BARBER, P P
Lease Lines: 10.0 F NORTH L, 330.0 F EAST L
Survey Lines: 10.0 F NORTH L, 330.0 F EAST L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:
SPRABERRY (TREND AREA): Special Rules 3300, 80.0 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 10000 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Tammy Aylesworth, at (432) 683-7443.

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS OIL AND GAS DIVISION

DISTRICT 7C DATE OF ISSUANCE: Mar 16, 2018 Rule 37 Case No. 0309864 Status/Permit No. 837198

NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Apr 20, 2018

Address: Railroad Commission of Texas ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit P. O. Box 12967 Austin, Texas 78711-2967 Fax: (512) 463-6780 Email: SWR37@RRCC.TEXAS.GOV

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the COG OPERATING LLC, [RRCC Operator No. 166150] has made application for a spacing exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 37 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.37). Applicant seeks exception to the lease line distance requirement because the Applicant is less than the required Rule 37 lease line distance to an unleased or non-pooled interest within the subject unit for the NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 63, BK. C, CCSD&RGNG RR CO Survey, A-42, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, UPTON County, being 14.9 miles N direction from RANKIN, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted WITHOUT A HEARING if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at (512)463-6848. If you have questions which are specific to the Application or the information set forth in this Notice, please contact the Commission's Drilling Permit Unit at rule 37 (512)463-6751.

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY APR. 20, 2018 AT 5:00 P.M. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name	CARLA WEST UNIT
Lease/Unit Well No.	6223CH
Lease/Unit Acres	236.0
Nearest Lease Line (ft)	1.0

Lease Lines: 355.0 F N (offlease) L, 394.0 F W (offlease) L
Survey Lines: 355.0 F N (offlease) L, 394.0 F W (offlease) L

Wellbore Profile(s): Horizontal

Lateral: TH1
Penetration Point Location
Lease Lines: 355.0 F N (OFFLEASE) L, 394.0 F W (OFFLEASE) L

Terminus Location
BH County: UPTON
Section: 72 Block: C Abstract: 898 Survey: CCSD&RGNG RR CO / BARBER, P P
Lease Lines: 10.0 F NORTH L, 80.0 F EAST L
Survey Lines: 10.0 F NORTH L, 80.0 F EAST L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:
SPRABERRY (TREND AREA): Special Rules 3300, 80.0 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 10000 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative, Tammy Aylesworth, at (432) 683-7443.

The City Council of the City of Midland, Texas will hold a public hearing at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 24, 2018, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 300 North Lorena, on a request by Gary J Dawson for a Zoning Change from AE, Agriculture Estate District to C-1, Office District on the following property:

20-acre tract of land out of Section 32, Block 38, T-1-S, T&P RR. Co. Survey, City and County of Midland Texas.

Generally located on the west side of Elkins Road, approximately 610-foot north of East County Road 72. (Council District 2)

The meeting facility is accessible to disabled persons. A wheelchair entry ramp is located at the southeast entrance to City Hall. A parking space designated for use by disabled persons is available near the southeast entrance doors. Any disabled person needing special accommodations or hearing impaired persons wishing to have an interpreter should request services through the Administrative Services Department at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting by contacting Compliance Coordinator for the City of Midland, at (432) 685-7251. If communication via TDD is required, please call 1-800-735-2969.

CITY OF MIDLAND
Amy M. Turner, MMC
City Secretary

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

APACHE CORPORATION, 363 Veterans Airpark Lane, Suite 3000, Midland, Texas 79705 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation, which is productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluids into the San Andres Formation, Tippet, June Lease, Well Number: 19W & 27W. The proposed injection wells are located 21 miles Southwest from Midland, Texas in the Pegasus (San Andres) Field, in Midland County, Texas. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 4,800'-5,825'.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil & Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil & Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P. O. Box 12967, Capital Station, Austin, Texas 78711-2967 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

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*1,771 ac. windmill, creek, blinds and feeders, great u-tail and mule deer, turkey, hogs, quail..... \$850
* Bolas County
*848 ac. over 1 mile **SOLD** creek, blinds, feeders, elevation change, oak..... \$3,350/ac
*565 ac. Pecan Creek, New Living/Shop, 200 acres cleared for cattle, blinds/feeders, windmill..... \$4,425/ac
* Howard County
*842 ac. canyons, blinds/feeders, great deer, cedar/masquitos, surface water, some whitetail..... \$750/ac
*150 ac. big canyon, **SOLD** mks, cedar/masquitos, great deer, turkey, jw..... \$850/ac
* Borden County
*135 ac. Sulphur Springs deer and whitetail, hogs, varmints, metal silo..... \$1,150/ac
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