MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

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Pioneer CEO speaks about export ban lifting

Sheffield: Most benefit for removal of oil export ban will be for Permian Basin

From staff reports

This past week, Congress finally completed and passed legislation that ended the decadeslong oil exports ban.

One of those industry leaders most vocal about the end of the ban was Pioneer Natural Resources Chairman and CEO Scott Sheffield. During a visit to Midland earlier this year, he described efforts taking place in Washington, including the creation of Producers for American Crude Oil Exports to educate lawmakers and the Obama administration about lifting the ban and keeping the oil industry in America on equal footing with the rest of the world.

Sheffield

He said in February there was a deadline on lifting the ban because he didn't expect any chance of a repeal during an election year.

Last week, we had the opportunity to talk with Sheffield about the legislation crafted to lift the ban and what lifting the ban will mean moving forward.

Q: How surprised were you that a deal could get done?

I have been optimistic all year long. I thought the chances were 50 percent or higher. The reason (for the optimism) is nobody could argue against it. (Lifting the ban) was so good for the economy, jobs, national security and trade deficit. Nobody could argue against it. It took someone like Speaker (Paul) Ryan to figure out the best way to get it done.

Q: What will the lifting of the export ban do for oil prices in the short and longer term?

When there were rumors it was going to happen, WTI and Brent got closer together. In the short term, there are 500 million barrels of inventory — the highest in history of U.S. I hope, with the ban lifted, we are now able to move the barrels to Europe or Asia. In the short term, it won't mean anything major.

Please see **SHEFFIELD**/4A

TIME TO TAKE A TOUR

Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Visitors and guests make their way inside Friday at the opening of the new Occidental Petroleum Corporation Midland office complex.

Occidental Petroleum unveils new office complex

By Mella McEwen
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As then-Gov. Rick Perry stood alongside Occidental Petroleum officials to break ground on the company's new Midland office complex in late August 2014, oil prices were just above $90 a barrel.

As Occidental Petroleum and local officials gathered to celebrate the official opening of the new complex, oil prices were a little below $35 a barrel.

Despite the current challenging economic times, Occidental officials said the new complex underscores Occidental's commitment to Midland and to the Permian Basin.

Jody Elliott, president of Oxy Oil & Gas Domestic, unveiled the name of the new facility, chosen by its employees: Oxy Permian Plaza.

The 212,000 square-foot complex is comprised of two office buildings joined by a conference center. Vicki

Please see **COMPLEX**/4A

Hangar negotiation opens path for economic growth

By Cassie Burton
cburton@mrt.com

Midland Development Corp. board members expect a deal they believe will save the city millions will also opens the door for economic growth at the Spaceport Business Park.

XCOR agreed on Friday to release back to MDC by January half of the facility it currently rents. XCOR also will pay $6,000 a month to lease its remaining half, or Hangar B.

The reacquired space, Hangar A, provides the MDC a $7.5 million facility for potential clients. Outside parties had expressed interest in coming to Midland, but the city would have had to spend about $4 million to build a lesser facility, according to MDC board chairman Brent Hilliard.

With the hangar, MDC on behalf of the city can lease an existing property valued at $7.5 million, which Hilliard said is equivalent to one year's tax revenue for the MDC.

"The MDC is now in position to have ready-made space to give to any counter party that may want to come into the city for space purposes or any other purpose that fits with the airport," Hilliard said. "There is interest. That's what precipitated us asking XCOR to give us the space back."

XCOR will retain 35,139 square feet of space, which Hilliard and MDC board member Robert Rendall said suited XCOR's business needs better than the

Please see **GROWTH**/4A

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Pope Francis will declare **Mother Theresa a saint** next year after he approved a miracle attributed to her. Page 6A

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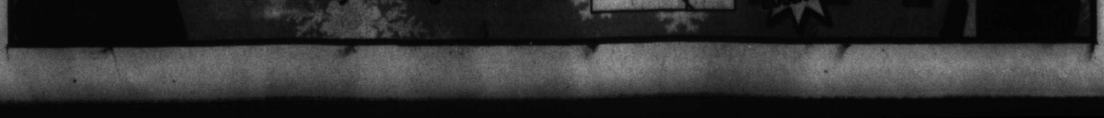

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Lack of emergency savings can have huge consequences

THE ECONOMIST

By M. Ray Perryman

Despite the improved economic performance since the Great Recession, many families still find themselves in a financially vulnerable state due to a lack of emergency savings. Many financial experts suggest that an individual or family should have enough money to cover three- to six-months of expenses saved in an emergency fund in order to be prepared for unexpected financial needs. However, most Americans do not have adequate savings to cover "rainy days."

A recent study by the Pew Charitable Trusts found that more than half of American families (55 percent) do not have adequate liquid savings to cover even one month of income in case of an emergency. Among lower-income families, the typical family has less than two weeks of income in bank accounts and cash. Even taking into account hard-to-access resources such as investments and retirement savings, the typical middle-income family would only have enough to cover approximately four months of expenses, which would not be adequate to cover a major economic shock.

Similarly, according to the Federal Reserve's 2014 Report on the Economic Well-Being of U.S. Households, 55 percent of survey respondents indicated that they do not have emergency savings large enough to cover three months of expenses, though an additional 21 percent indicated that they could cover three months of expenses by borrowing money or selling assets. Another recent survey by Bankrate.com found that, although 82 percent of families have a household budget, 62 percent of Americans do not have savings for emergencies such as a hospital visit or car repairs.

While it is commonly believed that financial emergencies are rare, the data shows otherwise. The Precarious State of Family Balance Sheets study by the Pew Charitable Trusts, after analyzing data from 1979 to 2011, found that income volatility is extremely common, as almost half of all households experienced an income gain or drop of more than 25 percent over any given two-year period. The study by the Federal Reserve found that a quarter of their respondents had experienced some type of financial crisis over the past year, the most common being either a health emergency or the loss of a job. Emergency savings are a vital part of providing financial stability and helping to eliminate financial stress in households, as many families are one emergency away from going into debt, which further drains away financial resources. The lack of emergency savings can also affect homeownership and retirement savings.

Ironically, one reason that families do not save for emergencies is the fact that they are already in debt. Approximately three-quarters of families have some type of consumer debt, including a mortgage. As of September 2015, total household debt in the U.S. was $12.07 trillion; the largest component of this debt is for housing, with mortgage balances at $8.75 trillion. The largest components of the remaining $3.31 trillion of non-housing debt are student loans (36 percent), auto loans (31 percent), and credit card debt (21 percent). Consumers are also likely to have more than one type of credit product; for example, 81 percent of consumers that have a student loan also have a mortgage. These multiple debt obligations can build on one another to reach dangerous levels. For instance, the Pew study found that around 8 percent of households report that their debt obligations are more than 40 percent of their gross monthly income.

According to the Pew study, almost half of American households consider themselves to be income-constrained, meaning they spend an amount equal to or greater than their household income. When budgets are strained, it does not seem like there is enough for families to be able to put aside some of their income into savings. Well over half of these income-constrained households, just under a third of total respondents, also reported not having any emergency savings. It is common for indebted families to enter a vicious cycle of perpetual debt, with a lack of emergency savings due to paying off debt leading to additional debt in the future when financial emergencies occur.

The lack of emergency savings is a small oversight that can have huge consequences. Further education surrounding the need for emergency savings, and even programs encouraging families to save each month, can get at the root problem and help families avoid precarious financial situations. Even for those currently trying to pay off debt, an emergency savings fund can enhance financial stability. Because financial stability is a major factor in future economic mobility for both parents and children, the presence of emergency savings can benefit generations to come and the economy as a whole.

M. Ray Perryman is President and Chief Executive Officer of The Perryman Group (www.perrymangroup.com). He also serves as Institute Distinguished Professor of Economic Theory and Method at the International Institute for Advanced Studies.

Associated Press

Lara Tshering takes a photograph of her brother Ugyen Tshering as he stands next to the "Star Wars" movie poster during opening night of "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" at Century Theatre in Boulder, Colo., on Thursday.

'Force Awakens' on track for record $215M-plus weekend

By Jake Coyle
Associated Press

NEW YORK — "Star Wars" fever spread through movie theaters around the globe on Friday, even reaching the White House, as the franchise yet again began toppling box-office records with waves of lightsaber-wielding fans.

Following a record $57 million from Thursday night showings in North America, and packed matinees on Friday, the Walt Disney Co. projected that "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" will surpass $215 million on the weekend, besting the record domestic opening of "Jurassic World," which debuted with $208.8 million in June.

Such an outcome would surprise few analysts, but the numbers were nevertheless eye-popping. "The Force Awakens" was heading toward a Thursday night-Friday total of more than $120 million domestically, said Dave Hollis, head of distribution for Disney. The previous one-day high was $91.1 million set by "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part 2" in 2011.

In such rarified territory, Disney has been cautious about overestimating the box-office force of J.J. Abrams' seventh chapter in George Lucas' space saga. Based on the early response, many analysts have the film pegged for a weekend total closer to $250 million — far above "Jurassic World."

Disney's biggest worry has been that moviegoers will be too daunted by sold-out shows and long lines. More than $100 million advance tickets (also a record) were sold ahead of the opening of "The Force Awakens," much of those going toward Thursday and Friday shows. Saturday and Sunday will depend more on traditional walk-up business. Hollis said exhibitors are continually adding more screenings to satisfy demand.

The international rollout for the film, made for about $200 million, has already brought in an estimated total of $72.7 million since opening in a handful of countries Wednesday. "The Force Awakens" is simultaneously opening around the world just about everywhere but China, where it debuts in January.

It's setting records overseas, too, including the biggest single day ever in the United Kingdom with an estimated $14.4 million on Thursday.

While "Star Wars" helped create the summer blockbuster, "The Force Awakens" is debuting in the holiday season of December, where the previous top opening was the $84.6 million debut of 2012's "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey." By Disney's estimates, "The Force Awakens" — the widest December opening ever with 4,134 theaters — blew past that number by Friday afternoon.

IMAX and 3-D screenings are helping to propel the record gross. Disney said that 47 percent of the Thursday box office came from 3-D showings and $5.7 million from IMAX screens.

A lot is riding on the film for Disney, which paid $4.06 billion for Lucasfilm in 2012. Sequels and spinoffs are already in development for years to come, not to mention an entire corner of Disneyland

Please see FORCE/3A

Disney stock falls on downgrade despite 'Star Wars' debut

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Record-setting results from "Star Wars" aside, Disney shares fell faster than the market slump Friday after an analyst downgraded the company, saying it has paid too much for sports rights and that its actions will accelerate cord-cutting.

BTIG analyst Rich Greenfield cut Walt Disney Co. stock to "sell" from "neutral" and set a target price of $90.

Disney shares closed down 3.8 percent, or $4.29, at $107.72. That was worse than the 2.1 percent decline in the Dow Jones industrial average. Still, the stock is up 14 percent in the year to date.

Greenfield argues that its flagship ESPN network paid too much for sports rights in an effort to thwart rivals Fox Sports 1 and NBC Sports, which will trim profitability at cable network operations that represent 44 percent of Disney's operating income.

Further, he says Disney's licensing of key content to Netflix has "further damaged their and the cable network industry's long-term prospects."

Disney's Marvel has licensed original series such as "Jessica Jones" and "Daredevil" exclusively to Netflix. Starting late next year, newly released Disney, Marvel and Pixar films will also play on Netflix after Disney's movie output deal with premium TV channel Starz expires.

BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

These five scams belong on Santa's naughty list

The holiday season certainly makes most of us feel merry and bright, but it can also bring out scammers looking to take advantage of you. Santa isn't the only one keeping track of who is naughty and nice: Better Business Bureau serving Central, Coastal, Southwest Texas and the Permian Basin is advising consumers to watch out for scams and frauds this holiday season.

Here is a list of BBB's top five scams:

■ **Fake websites promising fake deals.**

Some scammers will send fake emails or advertisements promising unheard of deals for a product, leading you to a fake (or look-alike) website that steals your credit card information when you try to check out. Also, beware of fake shipping notifications that could have attachments or links included in the email that will download malware on your computer to steal passwords and personal information. Protect yourself by staying away from deals that are too good to be true and check the URL to make sure it's legitimate.

■ **Santa letter scheme.**

While some legitimate companies sell letters from Santa Claus, some scammers are using this idea to steal credit card and personal information from unsuspecting consumers. When looking for a customized letter, research different companies and go to their sites straight from your browser, not from emails or social media. Check with bbb.org to find out which ones are trustworthy.

■ **Fake gift cards.**

Gift cards are the most popular holiday gift, but also the most susceptible to fraud. Criminals will go to a store and record the activation code on a gift card. After checking if the gift card is still valid online, fraudsters can use the online code to cash the gift card for resalable products. Before buying, make sure the security code on the gift card is scratch-free and look for gift cards that

Please see BBB/3A

US stocks tumble on global worries; financial stocks skid

By Marley Jay
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Stocks plunged across all sectors in the heaviest trading of the year Friday as enthusiasm over a long-awaited increase in U.S. interest rates faded.

Several other negative factors combined to give the market its second big loss in a row, bringing the indexes lower for the week.

Bank stocks, which investors had bid up in hopes they would become more profitable as loan rates climbed, fell the most. Technology shares suffered more declines as a bad December got worse for Apple. The world's most valuable publicly traded company sank again, bringing its monthly loss to 10 percent.

Overseas, Japan's market sank after that country's central bank made changes to a stimulus program that fell short of what investors were hoping for. Another drop in energy prices sent oil stocks lower again, and worries about weak global growth weighed on shipping and other transportation companies.

The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 367.29 points, or 2.1 percent, to 17,128.55. The S&P 500 index fell 36.34 points, or 1.8 percent, to 2,005.55. The Nasdaq composite sank 79.47 points, or 1.6 percent, to 4,923.08. All 10 Standard & Poor's 500 sectors fell.

U.S. stock trading was even more volatile than usual Friday because of the simultaneous expiration of several kinds of futures and other contracts that investors use to place bets on indexes and individual stocks. As a result, Friday was the busiest trading day of the year for stocks.

The market ended a tumultuous week slightly lower. Stocks had rallied over the first three days and jumped Wednesday after the Federal Reserve raised interest rates for the first time in almost a decade. The move was a vote of confidence in the U.S. economy. But over the next two days stocks were hit by some of the worries that have dogged them all year, like weakness in the Chinese economy, slowing global growth, and skidding prices for energy and metals.

While the Bank of Japan plans to spend a bit more on exchange-traded funds for companies that increase hiring and investment, investors were hoping for

Please see MARKETS/3A

US spending bill may aid economy just as Fed is pulling back

By Christopher S. Rugaber
Associated Press

Figures on government spending and debt

WASHINGTON — Figures on government spending and debt in millions of dollars. The government's fiscal year runs Oct. 4 through Sept. 30.

Total public debt subject to limit Dec. 17	$18,755,997
Statutory debt limit	Suspended
Total public debt outstanding Dec. 17	$18,796,280
Operating balance Dec. 17	$263,075
Interest fiscal year 2016 thru Nov	$41,374
Interest same period pvs fiscal year	$42,500
Deficit fiscal year 2016 thru Nov	$201,102
Deficit same period pvs fiscal year	$178,531
Receipts fiscal year 2016 thru Nov	$416,014
Receipts same period pvs fiscal year	$404,155
Outlays fiscal year 2016 thru Nov	$617,116
Outlays same period pvs fiscal year	$582,686
Gold assets in Nov	$11,041

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Just as the Federal Reserve is pulling back slightly on the economic accelerator, Congress is pressing down a bit harder.

The spending and tax-cut package that Congress approved Friday stands to modestly boost growth next year. It could also help drive a shift away from government as a drag on economic growth to a source of potential stimulus.

"This shift ... is currently being overlooked by financial markets and analysts," said Joseph Carson, U.S. economist at asset manager Alliance Bernstein. "But we believe this will be a key aspect of a more positive and faster growth environment for next year."

Economists at Goldman Sachs have forecast that increased federal spending and tax cuts should add to economic growth in 2016 for the first time in six years.

The $1.1 trillion budget deal boosts spending for most Cabinet agencies by about 6 percent next year. A separate tax measure provides $680 billion in tax cuts over 10 years. It would do so mostly by extending or making permanent about 50 different expiring tax breaks.

That measure follows Congress' approval of a five-year, $305 billion highway bill earlier in December.

Taken together, the measures could increase growth to about 3 percent next year, Carson estimates, up from a likely pace of about 2.25 percent this year.

Alec Phillips, an economist at Goldman Sachs, forecasts a smaller gain and envisions overall growth next year of 2.25 percent.

The picture now looks brighter for state and local governments, too. Their tax revenue has increased as the economy has improved. The economy now has about 4.5 million more jobs than it did before the Great Recession began in late 2007.

Spending on construction at all levels of government, for example, rose 6.1 percent in October compared with a year earlier. Additional government spending can also translate into more purchases of military equipment.

The economic lift from government, if it proved significant and if it raised undesirably low inflation, could make it easier for the Fed to continue raising short-term interest rates. On Wednesday, citing the improved economy, the Fed announced its first rate increase in nine years. For seven years, the central bank had kept its key short-term rate at a record low near zero to encourage borrowing and spending.

Fed Chair Janet Yellen's predecessor, Ben Bernanke, had frequently called on Congress to limit its budget cuts in the short run to help the economy recover. But in recent months Yellen has noted that governments at all levels were spending a bit more. That likely helped set the stage for the Fed's rate increases.

"Fiscal policy actions at both the federal and the state and local levels look like they are no longer a significant drag on economic growth," Yellen said in May.

The Fed said Wednesday that any rate hikes next year would likely be gradual and that it may delay further increases if the economy weakens. The Fed's interest rate target will likely remain below its longer-run average all next year, Yellen said, meaning that consumer borrowing rates should also remain at historically low levels.

Business groups applauded Congress' extension of tax credits, particularly those that enable companies to write off their expenses for big-ticket purchases and research and development expenses.

They have long complained that the temporary nature of those tax breaks meant companies couldn't be sure they would be available. Next year will be the first year since 2013 that companies will start the year knowing that the credits will be available, Phillips noted.

"Fiscal instability and uncertainty in the tax code have stifled investment for years," said Mark Weinberger, CEO of consulting firm EY and chair of the Business Roundtable, a group of large company CEOs. "By taking steps to address these long-standing problems, Congress will provide a boost to economic growth, innovation and job creation."

Beware of last-minute shopping traps during Christmas

Editor's Note: "The Dave Ramsey Show" can be heard from 2-5 p.m. weekdays on KCRS (AM 550).

Ask Dave

Dave Ramsey, financial expert

DEAR DAVE: I woke up this morning and realized I haven't started Christmas shopping yet. I've been listening to you for a long time, and I don't want to fall in the trap this year of paying outrageous prices for things just because I have waited until the last minute. Can you give me some tips on how to save on Christmas gifts and not overspend? — Ali

DEAR ALI: My first piece of advice is for next year. Decide now how much you want to spend on Christmas gifts and then divide that number by 12. Set aside that amount each month starting in January, and then you won't be in a panic when Christmas rolls around next year. Planning ahead always reduces stress when it comes to financial matters.

As for this year, my advice is to be aware of last-minute shopping traps. Many stores understand that people start getting desperate as Christmas draws nearer, and their prices reflect that. Also, stay away from the malls. Some folks may think I'm un-American for saying that, but I don't care. Our culture has become one of shoppers who run to the mall, pay 120 percent of retail for something, and think they got a bargain because there was a sign that said SALE hanging over the table.

Also, don't be afraid to negotiate. It may not be comfortable at first, but you can find some great deals if you're willing to do two things: pay cash and walk away. Once you get in the habit of approaching purchases this way it will become second nature-and fun!

Finally, there are great websites out there like eBay and coolsavings.com. Thinking differently and changing your gift-buying behaviors may be a little tough at first, but trust me, it's worth the effort.

Merry Christmas, Ali!

DEAR DAVE: I'm starting a side business of putting up Christmas lights for people. Will I need to get a business license? — Jason

DEAR JASON: You might be getting a late start with a business of this type, but if you manage your time and work hard you can still brighten people's lives and make a little extra cash.

Most towns don't require a formal business license for this kind of thing, but you might want to check with your local municipality to be sure. It's just quick seasonal work where you show up for a couple of hours and hang lights for someone, right? But if you started hiring people or doing something year round, you'd probably need a formal business license.

Regardless, make sure you have a separate checking account so you can keep track of the income and expenses associated with your work. Merry Christmas, Jason!

Dave Ramsey is America's trusted voice on money and business, and CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored five New York Times best-selling books. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 11 million listeners each week on more than 550 radio stations and digital outlets. Dave's latest project, EveryDollar, provides a free online budget tool. Follow Dave on Twitter at @DaveRamsey and on the web at daveramsey.com.

BBB

From 2A

come in an unopened, plastic container. Also, beware of pop-up ads or emails offering free gift cards.

■ **Fake e-cards.**

Like gift cards, electronic cards can be great, but be careful. Two red flags to watch out for when dealing with E-cards: the sender's name is not apparent and/or you are required to share additional information to receive the card.

■ **Temporary holiday jobs.**

Retailers and delivery services need extra help at the holidays, but beware of solicitations that require you to share personal information online or to pay a fee for a job lead or application. Apply in person or go to the retailers' main website to find out who is hiring, and if they're really hiring.

Another scam that has been trending is the "social media gift exchange" scam. The gift exchange happens on Facebook and sounds like a great deal: you buy one gift and get 36 in return. But it's really just a variation on a pyramid scheme and is illegal.

In addition to these scams, your BBB advises donors to be careful when giving during the holidays, and beware of fake charities. Scammers take advantage of those looking to donate with fake charity solicitations in email, on social media sites and even by text message. Check out charities at give.org before donating and for more "wise giving" tips.

For more consumer information, BBB Business Reviews or to file a complaint, visit your local Better Business Bureau online at bbb.org/central-texas.

Markets

From 2A

more, according to Ryan Larson, head of U.S. equity trading for RBC Global Asset Management.

"They were looking for more, and when the market's disappointed, this is what you get," he said.

The global market went into a similar slide two weeks ago, when the European Central Bank ramped up its stimulus efforts but didn't do nearly as much as expected. Stocks rallied after ECB President Mario Draghi said the bank is ready to expand its stimulus program further if needed.

Those slumps show that investors will continue keeping an eye on the words and deeds of central banks in struggling Europe and Japan as well as the U.S. for the foreseeable future.

The Federal Reserve had kept interest rates near zero for seven years. Fed Chair Janet Yellen emphasized that despite the boost, interest rates will remain low for some time. That pleased investors overall, but it eventually put pressure on bank stocks. Banks will benefit from higher interest rates and have and have rallied over the last few months, but the initial benefits won't be great.

Goldman Sachs dropped $7.12, or 3.9 percent, to $175.49 and ETrade Financial lost $1.13, or 3.8 percent, to $28.82. Citigroup gave up $1.63, or 3.1 percent, to $51.21.

Tech stocks also slumped. Apple fell $2.95, or 2.7 percent, to $106.03. The stock has fallen 10 percent in December and has risen only three days this month. Microsoft fell $1.57, or 2.8 percent, to $54.13.

Transportation stocks also fell. Shares of J.B. Hunt Transportation surrendered $1.96, or 2.7 percent, to $70.62 and Ryder System lost $2.59, or 4.6 percent, to $54.08.

Used car dealership chain CarMax disclosed disappointing quarterly results, as its profit and sales both fell short of analyst projections. Its stock lost $3.66, or 6.4 percent, to $53.49.

The news wasn't all bad. Darden Restaurants, the owner of Olive Garden and other chains, climbed after the company raised its outlook for the year. Olive Garden sales rose and the company's profit was better than analysts were expecting. The stock added $4.11, or 7 percent, to $62.50.

U.S. crude fell 22 cents to $34.73 a barrel in New York. Oil is trading at its lowest level in almost seven years and has slumped over the last two days. Brent crude, a benchmark for international oils, slipped 18 cents to $36.88 a barrel in London. Natural gas, which has sunk to 16-year lows as demand fell, picked up 1.2 cents to $1.767 per 1,000 cubic feet.

Offshore oil drilling companies skidded. Transocean gave up 74 cents, or 5.7 percent, to $12.26 while Ensco lost $1.08, or 7 percent, to $14.31 and Diamond Offshore Drilling dipped 70 cents, or 3.3 percent, to$20.47.

Wholesale gasoline rose 1.3 cents to $1.275 a gallon and heating oil inched up to $1.107 a gallon.

Metals prices also rose Friday. The price of gold edged up $15.40, or 1.5 percent, to $1,065 per ounce and silver added 39.3 cents, or 2.9 percent, to $14.096 an ounce. Copper rose 6.9 cents, or 3.4 percent, to $2.113 a pound.

U.S. government bond prices rose. The yield on 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.21 percent from 2.23 percent. The euro rose to $1.0863 from $1.0805. The dollar dipped to 121.25 yen from 122.85 yen. The dollar had climbed Thursday and is expected to gain strength as the Fed raises interest rates while central banks in Europe and Japan reduce interest rates.

Force

From 2A

devoted to the franchise.

Strong reviews for the film, which is set 30 years after "Return of the Jedi," have added to the fervor for "The Force Awakens." Critics have hailed it as a fan-friendly return to form for the franchise; the American Film Institute listed it among its top 10 films of the year.

Such a positive reaction for "The Force Awakens" may attract the kind of repeat viewings that made James Cameron's "Avatar" and "Titanic" the highest grossing films of all time. Whether "The Force Awakens" can come close to the global hauls of those films ($2.8 billion for "Avatar" and $2.2 billion for "Titanic") won't be clear for weeks.

But so far, "The Force Awakens" is attracting the interest of seemingly everyone. President Barack Obama began a year-end news conference Friday noting, "Clearly, this is not the most important event that's taking place in the White House today." Soon to begin was a screening of the film for families who have lost a relative to combat or service-related injuries.

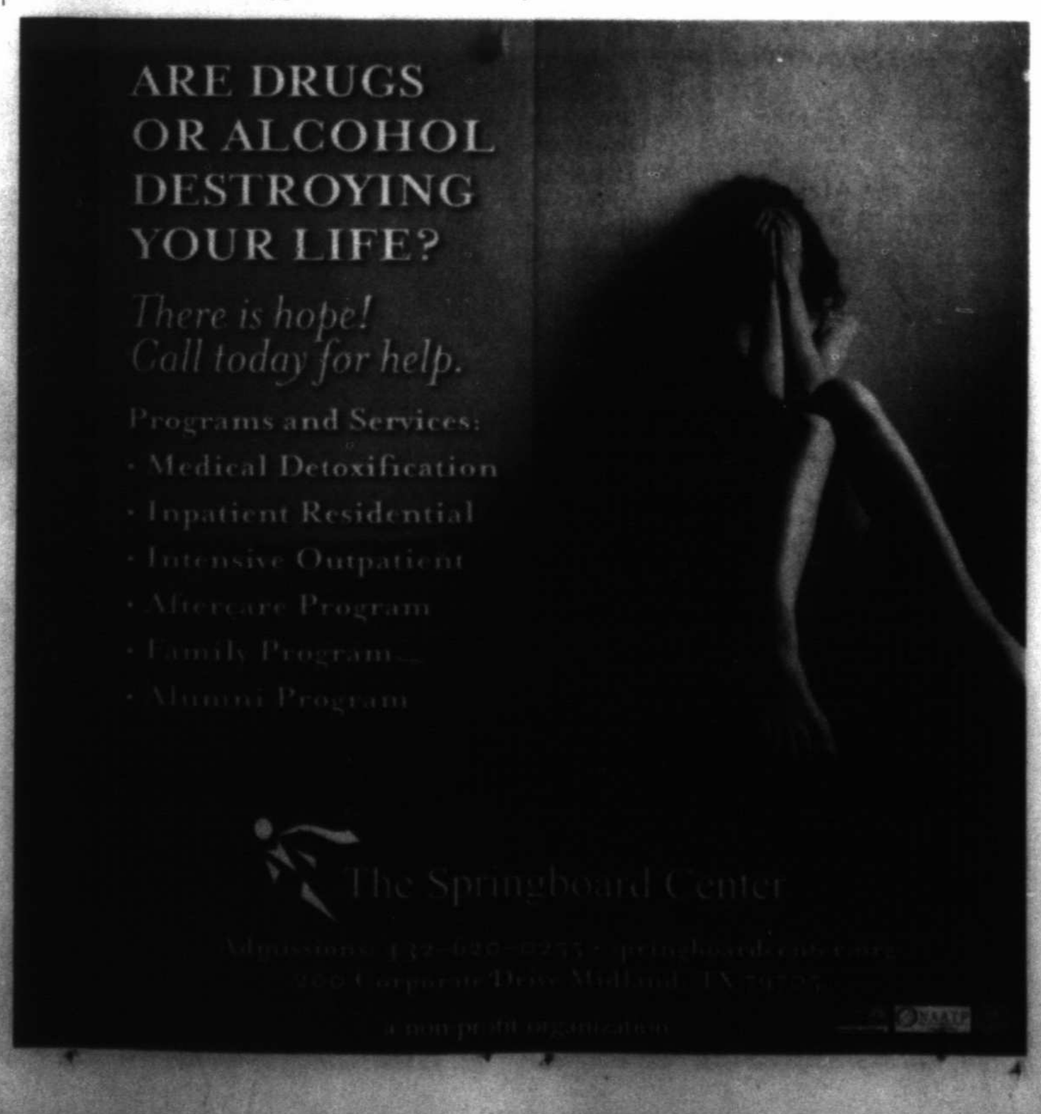
After fielding questions, Obama concluded the press conference: "OK everybody, I got to get to 'Star Wars.'"

BUILDINGPERMITS

DEC. 7-11

1901 N. Main St.	New Construction
401 S. Terrell St.	Commercial Addition
10306 Highway 191	Commercial Addition
1104 E. Estes Ave.	Fence
6405 Bowman Circle	Fence
315 Affirmed Ave.	New Residence
3710 N. CR 1247	Residence-Detached
4551 Shady Oak Court	Residential Addition
1601 W. Kansas Ave.	Residential Addition
1607 N. J St.	Residential Addition
1205 Lumina Court	New Residence
305 S. Mineola St.	New Residence
1409 W. Michigan Ave.	Residential Addition
6107 Turtle Creek Road	New Residence
6610 Mosswood Drive	New Residence
6705 Cowboy Drive	New Residence
1202 Randolph Lane	New Residence
1111 Lizzard Court	New Residence
4 Saddle Club Drive	Residential Addition
3604 Fairmount Drive	New Residence
3103 W. Ohio Ave.	Residence-Detached
1202 E. Nobles Ave.	Duplex
112 Club Drive	Residential Alteration

Source: City of Midland



TODAY IN MIDLAND

Things to do

Today

■ Old Miner's Maze interactive adventure features a maze, rock walls, mechanical bull and more, noon to 6 p.m. 4305 N. County Rd. 1140. oldminersmaze.com.

■ Family Nite roller skating, 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m., KC's Nutty Roller, 1004 A Andrews Highway. kcsnuttyroller.com.

■ "The Wizard of Oz," 2 p.m., The Globe Theatre, 2308 Shakespeare Road, Odessa. globeaw.org.

■ MOSC: A Lone Star Brass Christmas, 3 p.m., Ree-Greathouse Hall at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. FM 1788. $15. MOSC.org.

■ Round the Table Carol Sing will include dinner, music and stories, 5:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 800 W. Texas Ave. $5. fpcmid.org.

■ A Stonegate Christmas: Holiday Hayrides, 6 p.m. Stonegate parking lot, 6000 W. Wadley Ave. Free. stonegatefellowship.com.

■ Community Carol Sing evening service by First Baptist Church, 6 p.m., Centennial Plaza, 105 N. Main St. fbc-midland.org.

■ "Peter Pan" at Midland Community Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. $28 adults, $20 youth and seniors. mctmidland.org.

Support groups, club meetings today

■ Midland Odessa Chapter of the United Ostomy Association , 2:30 p.m., Midland Memorial Hospital West Campus.

■ Overeaters Anonymous, 4:30 p.m., B&J Plaza, 206 N. Midkiff Road, Suite 1-D; 553-1031.

■ Bingo, 4-7 p.m., American Legion Post 19, 501 Veterans Airpark Lane, 682-5511.

Christmas services today

■ "Born is the King ... Emmanuel" presented by the Sanctuary Choir. 11 a.m., First Christian Church, 1301 W. Louisiana Ave. fccmidland.org.

■ West Kentucky Baptist Church 39th annual Christmas Program, 11 a.m., 1507 W. Kentucky Ave.

■ A Stonegate Christmas: Christmas Services. 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets required. Stonegate Fellowship, 6000 W. Wadley Ave. Free. stonegatefellowship.com.

■ Annual Candlelight Service, 6 p.m., Lifehouse Fellowship, 3300 Thomas Ave. lifehousefellowship.net.

Community calendar

■ The Commemorative Air Force's High Sky Wing is planning Christmas Light Night Flights through Wednesday. The flights are $80 a person; the co-pilot seat is $150, according to a press release.

■ The Spirit of West Texas — which was at Midland Army Air Field during World War II — holds five passengers. Passengers will receive a Christmas ornament, hot chocolate and cookies.

To book a flight go to rides@highskywing.org or call 703-3142.

Christmas schedule

Grocery stores

■ H-E-B: Closes 7 p.m. on Christmas Eve

■ Albertsons: Closes 7 p.m. Christmas Eve

■ Market Street: Closes 7 p.m. Christmas Eve; reopens 6 a.m. Dec. 26

■ Wal-Mart: Closes 8 p.m. Christmas Eve; reopens 6 a.m. Dec. 26

Restaurants open on Christmas Day

■ 117 Eatery (in the DoubleTree by Hilton), 117 W. Wall St.: Lunch buffet - 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

■ Buffalo Wild Wings, 5107 W. Wadley Ave.: 4 p.m.- 2 a.m. Friday

■ Denny's, 3701 W. Wall St.: 24 hours

■ Furr's, 1116 N. Midkiff Road: 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

■ Grand Buffet, 2510 N. Louisiana Ave.: 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

■ IHOP, 2507 W. Loop 250 & 301 E. Interstate 20: Closes 3 p.m. on Christmas Eve; 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Christmas Day; reopens 7 a.m. Dec. 26

■ Riley's Bar & Grill, 3421 W. Wall St.: Free buffet beginning 2 p.m.

■ Shahi Tandoor, 3400 W. Wall St. 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and 5-9:30 p.m.

■ Torinos, 3303 N. Midkiff Road: opens 8 p.m.

How to submit

■ Births: Have information and a picture about a newborn son, daughter, grandson or granddaughter you want in the paper? Call Managing Editor Mary Dearen at 687-8852.

■ Engagement, wedding anniversary or quinceanera announcements: email write-up and photo to weddings@mrt.com. For more information, call 682-6222.

■ Religion news: email information and photo to Features Editor Rich Lopez at jrlopez@mrt.com. For more information, call 687-8859.

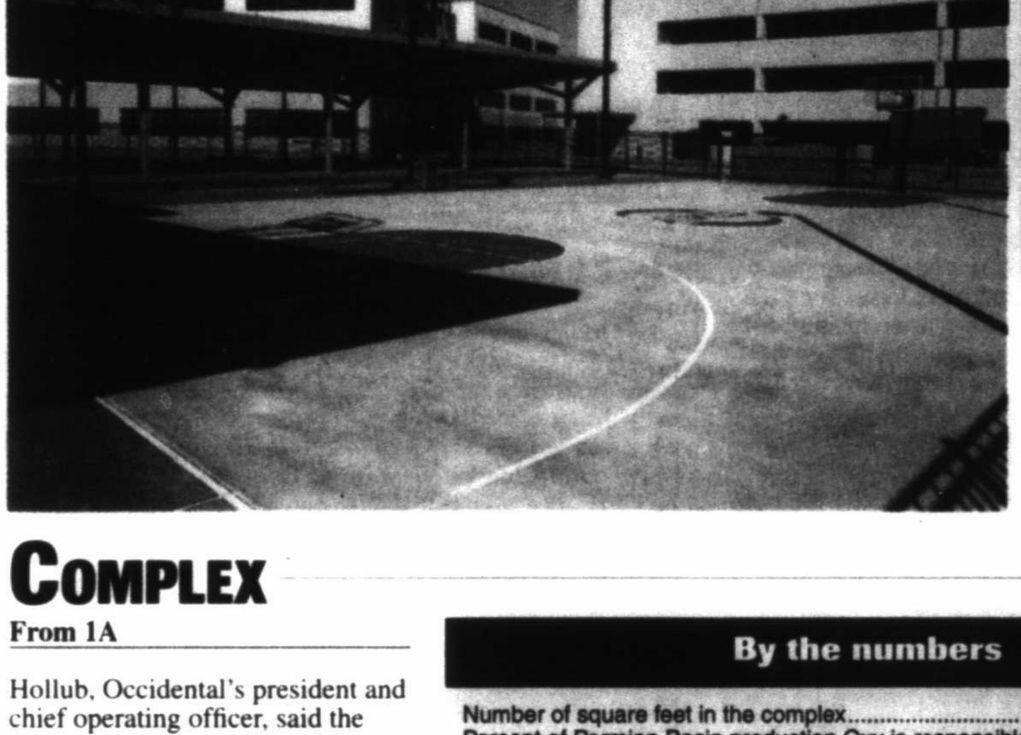
■ Items for "Names & Faces," a roundup of community and society events: email information and photo to Managing Editor Mary Dearen at mdearen@mrt.com or Editor Stewart Doreen at sdoreen@mrt.com. For more information, call 687-8852.

■ Items of local interest: contact Editor Stewart Doreen at 687-8856 or sdoreen@mrt.com.

■ Letters to the editor: email to letters@mrt.com. For more information call 687-8852.

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 7-2-4
Pick 3 day: 7-5-4
Pick 3 evening: 6-5-2
Pick 3 night: 6-7-4
Daily 4 morning: 4-4-9-7
Daily 4 day: 9-9-6-4
Daily 4 evening: 3-3-5-4
Daily 4 night: 5-1-9-1
Cash Five: 4-17-20-24-32
Lotto Texas: 4-11-16-17-27-34
Powerball: 28-30-41-59-68 PB: 10
Power Play: 2
All or Nothing morning: 3-6-7-8-13-15-16-17-21-22-23-24
All or Nothing day: 1-4-7-8-10-11-16-19-21-22-23-24
All or Nothing evening: 2-4-6-8-9-10-16-17-18-20-21-24
All or Nothing night: 3-5-6-7-10-12-13-15-16-19-20-21



Photos by Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: One of the many work stations in the Well Control Room with live video feeds of Oxy well sites is shown Friday during a tour of the new Occidental Petroleum Corporation complex. A putting green and tennis court are available to employees at Oxy Permian Plaza. A full size basketball court is also in the outdoor recreation area. A large meeting room, named Town Hall, is shown. Employess will also have access to a relaxation/game room, which is shown.

COMPLEX

From 1A

Hollub, Occidental's president and chief operating officer, said the conference center will be able to host large-scale meetings, team-building exercises and team athletic events. She said there is space for a third building in the future.

Hollub said the complex was designed to offer the latest technology to help with those efficiency gains.

"It has the latest technology to let you collaborate more effectively and share knowledge more efficiently," she told Occidental employees in the audience. She added that the technology offers the tools and automated systems will help employees bring the company's oil and gas "from the reservoir to the wellhead to the pipeline to the market."

Such efficiency will be critically important in the current challenging economy, Hollub said. As she stood in the second-floor cafe, she said the company must get its costs "way down," she said. Waving an arm to indicate Occidental employees participating in the opening celebration, "If anybody can do it, they can."

Hollub, who was just promoted to president and chief operating officer, will become chief executive officer next year upon the retirement of current CEO Stephen Chazen.

Chazen noted that Occidental is responsible for 16 percent of the nation's production and is responsible for 13 percent of Permian Basin as the region's largest producer. It reported Permian Basin production rose 51 percent in the third quarter over the third quarter of 2014.

Not only has Occidental been successful in boosting its primary production but the company has carbon dioxide-based enhanced oil recovery projects in operation around the Permian Basin that have also boosted production. Combined, they help Occidental meet the challenges of a low-cost environment, Chazen said.

Hollub credited Chazen with having the vision to see that the Permian Basin still held enormous potential as recently as 15 years ago, when many thought the region had seen its best days. She said his vision led the company to build its Permian portfolio.

In late October the company reported it has sold all of its North Dakota holdings for $600 million as it plans to focus on its Permian Basin assets.

"North Dakota is gone; we have some Piceance Basin property we're trying to sell," Hollub said.

Oxy Permian Plaza is the second facility constructed and opened by the company this year. Earlier this year Occidental opened the 20,000 square-foot Permian Training Center in north Midland to train the next generation of workers.

Midland Mayor Jerry Morales called both new facilities a wonderful Christmas present for Midland.

Occidental's commitment to Midland illustrates that "we are a world class city," Morales said. "Midland is more than desert and cactus and tumbleweeds. What the oil and gas industry brings to Midland is amazing."

By the numbers

Number of square feet in the complex	212,000
Percent of Permian Basin production Oxy is responsible for	13
Percent of nation Oxy is responsible for	16

GROWTH

From 1A

almost 90,000 square feet of space they were leasing. In return, MDC's board of trustees authorized reimbursement to XCOR for $793,500 in improvements they made to Hangar A.

"The net result is it's a good deal for us and it's a good deal for XCOR, but. yet, we're still honoring every aspect of what we agreed to do when XCOR first came up," Hilliard said.

Hangar A is more than 44,000 square feet and has a 35-foot ceiling. Since it is attached to the tarmac owned by the Federal Aviation Administration, by law, only entities involved in aviation or aerospace can lease it and use it only for federal contracts, according to MDC Executive Director Pam Welch. That includes satellite companies, another space shuttle or non-commercial but aviation-related use.

While no board or staff member specified who expressed interest, Welch and Hilliard confirmed that it was outside parties who spurred the MDC into contacting XCOR about re-negotiating leases.

MRT file photo

A hangar used by XCOR is shown in 2014 at Midland International Air & Space Port. XCOR agreed on Friday to release back to MDC by January half of the facility it currently rents. XCOR also will pay $6,000 a month to lease its remaining half, or Hangar B.

Aviation and aerospace entities have very little time between a federal contract confirmation and the start of a project. Companies typically want a facility ready to go before officially scoring a government contract, Welch said.

"It's contingent upon all these contracts, but then (companies) have such a short time to fulfill that, if they bid on that contract, then they've got to have a place they can go to rather quickly," Welch said.

The city has invested $2.3 million in the facility — both hangars — which fulfilled its end of the original negotiations made last spring. XCOR has similarly invested $1.94 million in renovations. Welch said the deal includes a provision requiring XCOR to pay $4 million in payroll for an extended period of time, which they have done.

Hilliard said that 33 of XCOR's employees are still in California's Mohave Desert to test a rocket, which the Midland facility "is not ready" to do, but XCOR executives said they intend to move more employees to Midland.

"I think the exciting part about it is that XCOR is here, and they are still planning to have the same amount of payroll for new employees in the community that they always planned on," Rendall said. "We now have some really good, prime space that we can now be in a position to offer to other companies that we've been talking to without having to make additional expenditures for a building at this point."

Follow Cassie on Twitter at @Cassie_Burton51

SHEFFIELD

From 1A

At least we will be able to move those barrels to refineries (for sweet crude) and receive world prices. The average discount in the past has been $8 to 10.

There will be long-term benefit and the most benefit will be for the Permian Basin, where there is the most room for growth and where there is the most activity.

Q: Does there become one international benchmark for prices?

Brent is declining. There is very little left in North Sea. Sweet crude has boomed. It would not surprise me if WTI becomes the new benchmark for crude like it used to be.

Q: What are your expectations for price in 2016?

I'm afraid we will see six more months of low prices — somewhere in the $30 to 35 a barrel range. That, I believe, will force OPEC to put together an agreement in the summer, which will start the recovery. I expect prices in 2017 to recover to $55 to 60 a barrel.

Photos from Associated Press

From left, Democratic presedential candidates Bernie Sanders, Hillary Clinton and Martin O'Malley speak during a Democratic presidential primary debate Saturday at Saint Anselm College in Manchester, N.H.

Sanders apologizes to Clinton, supporters for data breach

By Lisa Lerer and Julie Pace
Associated Press

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Bernie Sanders apologized to Hillary Clinton and his own supporters Saturday night for a breach of her campaign's valuable voter data, seeking to put the controversy to rest in a debate that quickly moved on to national security concerns and Americans' heightened fear of terrorism.

Clinton, the Democratic frontrunner who kept an eye on the general election, was also sharply critical of Donald Trump's plan to ban Muslims from entering the United States, calling the leader of the GOP race the Islamic State's "best recruiter."

"Mr. Trump has a great capacity to use bluster and bigotry to inflame people," said Clinton, the former secretary of state.

Clinton and Sanders, her closest challenger, entered Saturday night's debate in the midst of one of their fiercest fights — about the campaign itself rather than a national or international issue. Clinton's campaign accused Sanders' team of stealing information used to target voters and anticipate what issues might motivate them. In response to the breach, the Democratic National Committee temporarily cut off Sanders' team's access to its own data, a move the Vermont senator said Saturday was an "egregious act."

Still, Sanders said his staff had acted improperly.

"This is not the type of campaign that we run," he said. Sanders' campaign fired a worker involved in the breach but also used the controversy to raise money, sending an email to supporters that said the national party had placed "its thumb on the scales in support of Hillary Clinton's campaign."

Clinton quickly accepted the apology Saturday night, saying "We should move on because I don't think the American people are interested in this."

The debate, the third for Democrats, was expected to have low viewership given that it was scheduled on the last weekend before Christmas, when many Americans have turned their attention to the holidays. It came as Clinton had solidified her standing atop the field, shaking off a rocky start and the controversy about her use of private email at the State Department.

Clinton and Sanders were joined on stage by former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley, who has struggled to be a factor in the race. O'Malley was aggressive in seeking to play a role in the debate, repeatedly talking over moderators and accusing his rivals of having outdated views on foreign policy.

In a heated exchange on gun control, O'Malley accused both Clinton and Sanders of having a "flip-flopping, political approach" to the contentious issue.

Clinton also defied moderators' efforts to cut her off at times, leading Sanders to call out, "Now, this is getting to be fun."

While there was broad agreement among the Democratic contenders that the U.S. should not launch a ground war to defeat the Islamic State, they differed in the tactics they would take and whether the nation should seek regime change in Syria, where IS has a stronghold.

Clinton recommended more direct action than her competitors, calling for a no-fly zone over part of Syria and insisting that the U.S. must seek to remove Syrian President Bashar Assad from power.

"If the United States does not lead, there is not another leader — there is a vacuum," she said.

Sanders disagreed, saying the U.S. should first seek to defeat the Islamic State, calling Assad a "secondary issue" that should be dealt with over the course of years.

"Yeah, regime change is easy, getting rid of dictators is easy, but you have to think about what happens the day after," he said.

All three candidates stressed working more closely with Muslim-American communities to tackle radicalism at home — a sharp difference from the rhetoric of some Republican candidates. Returning to her focus on Trump, Clinton said, "If you're going to put together a coalition in the region to take on the threat of ISIS, you don't want to alienate the very countries you need to be part of the coalition."

Sanders sought to stand out on foreign policy by noting that he voted against the 2003 invasion of Iraq, an unpopular war Clinton supported. He said he does not support any "unilateral military action" but rather a coalition in which the U.S. works hand in hand with Muslim nations to fight the radical militant group.

Saturday's debate was the first for Democrats since the shooting in San Bernardino, California, where 14 people were killed by a married couple that authorities say had been radicalized. The incident, as well as earlier attacks in Paris, pushed national security to the forefront of the 2016 White House race.

The foreign policy focus has blunted Sanders' momentum in the Democratic race. The senator has deeply loyal supporters who are drawn to his economic- and inequality-focused campaign, but he's far less comfortable discussing foreign policy issues.

Sanders sought to refocus on his core message of leveling the economic playing field for middle class Americans, including his call for free college tuition and a single-payer health care system. Clinton challenged Sanders on how he would pay for those proposals, suggesting he'd pass on the costs to states and middle class Americans.

She pledged that as president, she wouldn't raise taxes on families making $250,000 or less per year. "That is a pledge that I'm making," she said.

Sanders has accused Clinton of being too cozy with Wall Street and running a campaign funded by wealthy executives, charges she has rejected. Asked whether corporate America would love a Sanders presidency, he said simply, "No, I think they won't."

AP fact check: Another flub on name of Jordan's king

WASHINGTON — With each new debate, the presidential candidates come closer to getting the Jordanian king's name right.

Among Republican and Democratic contenders alike, King Abdullah II is considered an important figure in the struggle for stability in the Middle East. But darned if they can nail down his name.

In the Democratic debate Saturday night, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders heaped praise on the king for accepting many Syrian refugees and recognizing that the fight against the Islamic State group must be waged primary by Muslim nations. But he called him Abdul, not Abdullah.

Still, that was an improvement from the Republican debate earlier in the week, when New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie vowed: "When I stand across from King Hussein of Jordan and I say to him, 'You have a friend again sir, who will stand with you to fight this fight,' he'll change his mind."

King Hussein died in 1999.

Among other statements in the Democratic debate:

HILLARY CLINTON: "Assad has killed 250,000 Syrians."

THE FACTS: Clinton appears to be blaming the entire estimated death toll of the Syrian civil war on just one side: the forces of Syrian President Bashar Assad. Yet no matter how vicious his forces have been, deaths have come at the hands of all sides in the nearly 5-year-old multi-front civil war.

The Syrian conflict began with anti-government protests before spiraling into a war with many groups emerging in opposition to the brutal regime crackdown. Rebels in some of these groups are fighting and killing each other, in some cases with no involvement by Assad-backed troops.

The United Nations has estimated a death toll of 220,000 since 2011; other estimates are higher, and Clinton's figure is about in line with them. But the death toll is attributable to all parties, not just to Assad.

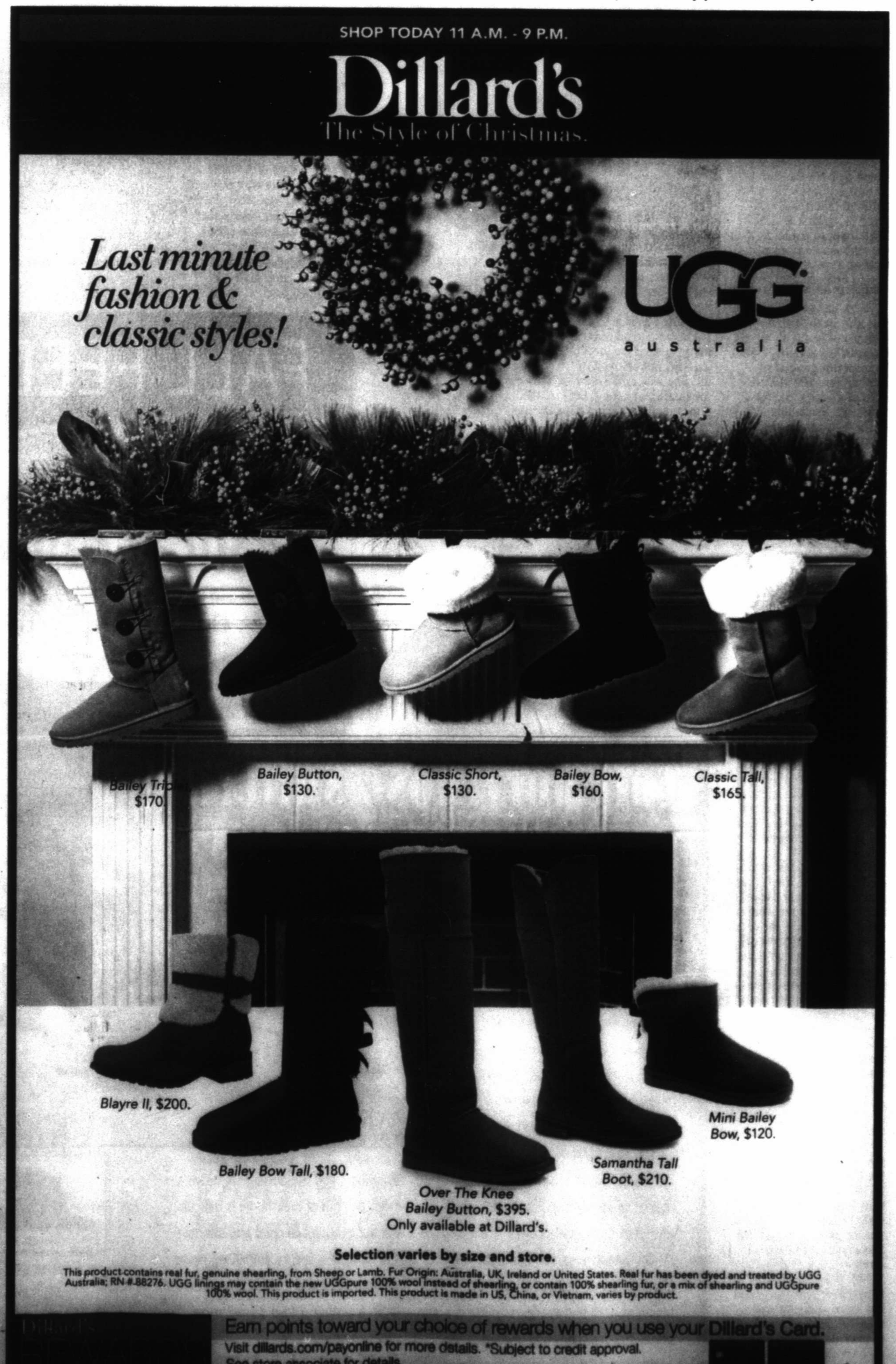
SANDERS: "Middle class in this country for the last 40 years has been disappearing."

THE FACTS: It's no secret that the middle class is struggling. The costs of college, health care and housing continue to rise, while wages have barely budged for two decades. The Pew Research Center reported earlier this month that the majority of Americans are no longer "middle income."

But things are not quite as dire as Sanders suggests.

Pew found the share of Americans that it defines as middle income — a family of three earning $73,392 — has slipped. It's down to 50 percent of households from 61 percent in 1971.

More Americans are low income, but more are also upper income.



AP file photo

Mother Teresa, head of Missionaries of Charity, is photographed, in New Delhi, India on Aug. 25, 1993. Pope Francis has signed off on the miracle needed to make Mother Teresa a saint, giving the nun who cared for the poorest of the poor one of the Catholic Church's highest honors just two decades after her death. The Vatican said Friday that Francis approved a decree attributing a miracle to Mother Teresa's intercession during an audience with the head of the Vatican's saint-making office on Thursday, his 79th birthday.

Mother Teresa to be made a saint after pope OKs miracle

By Nicole Winfield
Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Mother Teresa, the tiny, stooped nun who cared for the poorest of the poor in the slums of India and beyond, will be declared a saint next year after Pope Francis approved a miracle attributed to her intercession.

The Vatican on Friday set no date for the canonization, but it is widely believed that it will take place in the first week of September to coincide with the 19th anniversary of Mother Teresa's death and during Francis' Holy Year of Mercy.

"With her work, she was always the symbol of mercy, not just with words but with her actions," said the superior general of Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity, the Rev. Sebastian Vazhakala.

The Vatican said Francis approved a decree attributing a miracle to Mother Teresa's intercession during an audience with the head of the Vatican's saint-making office on Thursday, his 79th birthday.

The miracle in question concerned the inexplicable cure of a Brazilian man suffering from a viral brain infection that resulted in multiple abscesses. By Dec. 9, 2008, he was in a coma and dying, suffering from an accumulation of fluid around the brain.

The Rev. Brian Kolodiejchuk, the postulator spearheading Mother Teresa's canonization case, said in a statement Friday that 30 minutes after the man was due to undergo surgery, he sat up, awake and without pain. The surgery did not take place, and a day later, the man was declared to be symptom-free.

The Vatican later attributed the cure to the fervent prayers to Mother Teresa's intercession by the man's wife, who at the time of his scheduled surgery was at her parish church praying alongside her pastor.

"This is fantastic news. We are very happy," said Sunita Kumar, a spokeswoman for the Missionaries of Charity in the eastern city of Kolkata (earlier called Calcutta), where Mother Teresa lived and worked.

Born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu on Aug. 26, 1910, in Skopje, Macedonia, Mother Teresa joined the Loreto order of nuns in 1928. In 1946, while traveling by train from Calcutta to Darjeeling, she was inspired to found the Missionaries of Charity order.

The order was established four years later and has since opened more than 130 houses worldwide to provide comfort and care for the needy, sick and "poorest of the poor."

Mother Teresa won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 for her work with Calcutta's destitute and ill — work which continued even after she herself became sick.

"The poor give us much more than we give them," Mother Teresa said in 1977. "They're such strong people, living day to day with no food. And they never curse, never complain."

She died on Sept. 5, 1997, at age 87.

At the time, her Missionaries of Charity order had nearly 4,000 nuns and ran roughly 600 orphanages, soup kitchens, homeless shelters and clinics around the world.

While Mother Teresa is known and admired by many around the world, she was not beloved by all. She was criticized for the quality of care in her clinics and for taking donations from Haitian dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier and disgraced American financier Charles Keating.

Detractors also opposed her stance against the use of birth control in Calcutta's slums, which was nevertheless in keeping with church teaching opposing artificial birth control.

Francis, whose papacy has been dedicated to ministering to the poor just as Mother Teresa did, was an admirer. During his September 2014 visit to Albania, Francis confided to his interpreter that he was not only impressed by her fortitude, but in some ways feared it.

Francis recounted that he had met Mother Teresa, an ethnic Albanian, when they attended a 1994 bishop synod at the Vatican together. At the time, he was Archbishop Jorge Mario Bergoglio.

"Bergoglio had Mother Teresa behind him, nearby, and he heard her intervene often with great strength, without letting herself in any way be intimidated by this assembly of bishops," the Vatican spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi, later recounted. "And from that, he developed a great esteem for her, as a strong woman, a woman able to give courageous testimony."

But Bergoglio, who has long shown admiration for the women who raised him and taught him, added: "I would have been afraid to have had her as my superior, since she was so tough."

As if to underscore his connection to Mother Teresa, Francis on Friday celebrated Mass at a Caritas charity soup kitchen at Rome's main train station, where he told a few dozen homeless people and volunteers that theirs is the path to salvation, not that of the wealthy or powerful.

Pope John Paul II, one of Mother Teresa's greatest champions, waived the normal five-year waiting period for her beatification process to begin and launched it a year after she died, convinced of her saintliness.

During his quarter-century papacy, John Paul declared more saints — 482 — than all of his predecessors combined. Francis, however, overtook John Paul's record within two months as pope: In May 2013, he canonized more than 800 15th-century martyrs who were beheaded for refusing to convert to Islam.

Archbishop of Kolkata Thomas D'Souza said the news of the Vatican's decision on Mother Teresa was "the best Christmas gift one can get."

"We are grateful to God, and we are extremely happy," he said.

Reid: Dems 'maybe' to blame on gun bill losses

By Erica Werner
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid said Thursday his party has tried everything to get gun control legislation through Congress and still keeps losing to the National Rifle Association.

Reid said Democrats themselves may be to blame — or maybe voters are gullible, even after multiple mass shootings.

The comments from the Nevada Democrat in an interview with The Associated Press reflect frustrations in his caucus, where some lawmakers are deeply perturbed over congressional inaction on guns. Several attempts by Democrats to force votes on the issue this month failed to garner even a Senate majority in favor of background checks or keeping suspected terrorists from buying guns.

"We've tried everything, so maybe we are to blame. Or maybe the American people are gullible to these NRA folks," said Reid, himself a one-time NRA ally who appeared with the group's leader, Wayne LaPierre, to open a new gun range while running for re-election in 2010.

Now Reid is a year away from retiring from the Senate after five terms.

"Why wouldn't it be realistic to do something about gun control?" he asked. "Why should somebody that's crazy or a criminal be able to buy a gun? Why should somebody that's on a terrorist watch list be able to buy a gun?"

Reid later issued a statement disputing the characterization of his comments.

"Republicans and the NRA, not Democrats, are to blame for the failure to pass common sense gun reforms. The idea that Democrats are to blame is absurd and I do not believe it for a second," Reid said in the statement. "Democrats have voted overwhelmingly for common-sense gun reforms.

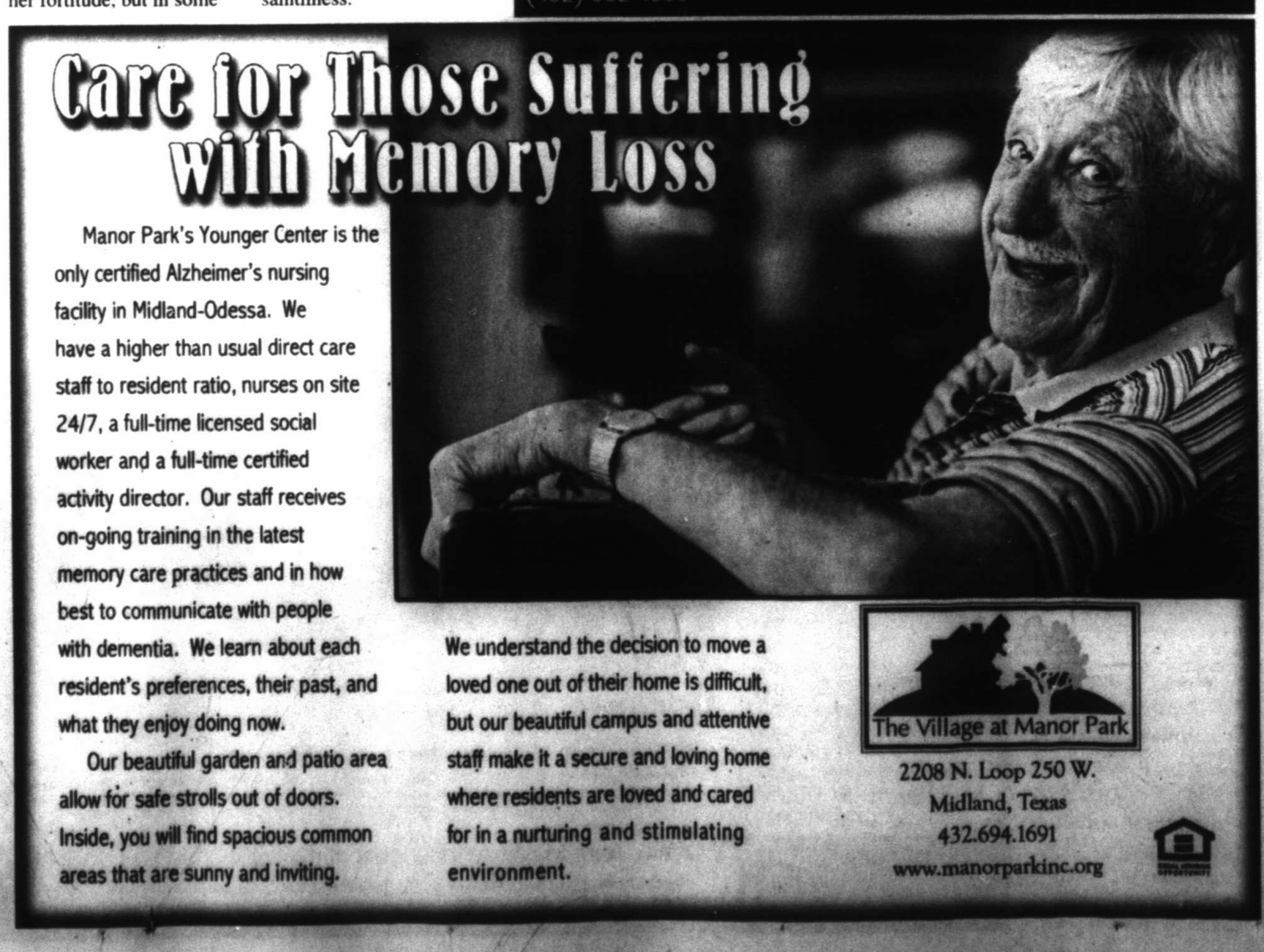
"Two weeks ago, Republicans voted in lock step to allow FBI terror suspects to continue to buy guns," he continued. "It's a shame, but the next time a reporter tries to put words in my mouth I guess I'll have to remember not to be polite."

Republicans have opposed gun measures in Congress and voice no concerns about political vulnerability on the issue, even after the shooting in San Bernardino, California, this month. Efforts by congressional gun control advocates following the slaughter of kids and teachers at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut three years ago also went nowhere.

The NRA has proven effective in the past at turning out voters to punish lawmakers who cross them on votes. Democrats and liberals have not organized as effectively on the other side.

The preferred GOP approach to dealing with mass shootings is to focus on mental health legislation, which House GOP leaders say they want to see advance.

Also during the interview, Reid declared businessman Donald Trump a "slam dunk" to win the Nevada caucuses. "I hope he wins" the GOP nomination, Reid said of Trump.



Women are out-earning men in corporate finance

"The CFO is no longer a bean counter ... It's a heck of a trend ... It has been predominantly white male centric forever."

Josh Crist, managing director at executive search firm Crist Kolder Associates

By Sarah Skidmore Sell
Associated Press

Women may be badly outnumbered in the top ranks of corporate America, but at least they aren't underpaid.

Compensation for female chief financial officers at S&P 500 companies last year outpaced that of their male counterparts, according to an analysis by executive compensation firm Equilar and the Associated Press. It follows a similar trend seen with female CEOs in recent years.

The median pay for female CFOs last year rose nearly 11 percent to $3.32 million. Male CFO pay rose 7 percent, to $3.3 million. This follows several years of steady gains for both sexes.

The gains, for both men and women, are in part a result of the expansion of the CFO role to include far more responsibility and visibility.

"The CFO is no longer a bean counter," said Josh Crist, managing director at executive search firm Crist Kolder Associates.

Companies and shareholders became more focused on financial security and regulation after the financial crisis, and corporate finance began to play a bigger role in company strategy, according to Gregg Passin, a compensation expert at consulting firm Mercer.

Ruth Porat, became one of the most powerful women on Wall Street while helping steer Morgan Stanley, one of the nation's biggest investment banks, through the aftermath of the financial crisis. She topped the list of highest paid female CFOs with her $14.4 million pay package from Morgan Stanley for the 2014 fiscal year.

Google has since lured her away with a pay deal worth $70 million. Investors have warmly welcomed her arrival at Google, where she is expected to bring some financial discipline to what some consider their free-spending ways.

The increased responsibility and visibility has helped some women CFOs rise even further, to CEO. Indra Nooyi, CEO of PepsiCo and Lynn Good, CEO of Duke Energy are both former CFOs.

"It's a unique position that has the ability to contribute to day-to-day operations but also on long-term strategic planning," Good said. She called the CFO position "a critical training ground" for aspiring CEOs.

The other top-paid female CFOs, after Porat, include Marianne Lake of JPMorgan Chase, whose compensation package is valued at $9.1 million, Catherine Lesjak of Hewlett-Packard at $8 million, Sharon McCollam at Best Buy at $7 million and Robin Washington of Gilead Sciences at $6.2 million.

This ranking reflects only the companies where the CFOs who have served two consecutive years in their particular position.

To calculate pay, Equilar adds salary, bonus, perks, stock awards, stock option awards and other pay components.

To determine what stock and option awards are worth, Equilar uses the value of an award on the day it is granted, as shown in a company's proxy statement.

The high median pay for female CFOs is partly a result of sample size — there were only 60 female CFOs at the S&P 500 companies that qualified for inclusion in the study during the last fiscal year, compared with 437 men, according to Equilar.

It is also a factor in female CEO pay. Median CEO pay for women was $15.9 million last year, according to an analysis done earlier this year by Equilar and the AP, compared with $10.4 million for male CEOs. There were just 17 female CEOs, however.

The small group of women in these important roles tended to be focused at the largest companies, where pay is higher. Crist said that he expects more women to take on CFO duties in years ahead but the pay range will broaden as more women join smaller companies.

He notes that women have historically been underrepresented in finance overall. That is changing, and helping fuel this shift at the top.

Younger women are getting better opportunities at entry levels and these lead to better opportunities down the line.

A Crist Kolder study found that the percentage of female CEOs and CFOs has hit an all-time in 2015. Of the 672 Fortune 500 and S&P 500 companies evaluated, nearly 5 percent had female CEOs and 13 percent had female CFOs.

"It's a heck of a trend," he said. "It has been predominantly white male centric forever."

Ted Cruz breaks out Santa Claus to connect with voters

By Scott Bauer
Associated Press

MECHANICSVILLE, Va. — In Ted Cruz's campaign world, it's Santa who tells people what he wants for Christmas: Their valuable voter contact information.

Cruz is on an eight-state, 12-city "Christmas Tour," and at each stop, the campaign plans to have Santa Claus on hand — posing for pictures and kissing babies.

But to see him, they'll have to enter their name, email and zip code into the campaign's website. It's a gift that keeps on giving for the Cruz campaign, as they build a voter database to gauge their message, and garner donations and pleas for support.

"It's a great way to make sure we're reaching out and touching as many people as possible," said Cruz spokeswoman Catherine Frazier.

Frazier said the campaign recognized it needed to maximize voter contacts after an August bus tour of southern states where about 19,000 people showed up, but from which they got information for only 14,000.

About 1,300 people signed up to attend the Mechanicsville event, the campaign said, many of them with young children in tow.

On the heels of his newfound lead in a key Iowa poll ahead of the Feb. 1 caucus, Cruz's aggressive holiday tour comes as many cite his recent gains nationwide — although still falling short to GOP front-runner Donald Trump.

Katherine Schupe brought her two sons, 4-year-old Jonathan and 18-month-old Harrison, to see both Santa and Cruz in Mechanicsville on Friday.

"Say Ted Cruz!" she said, as her children waved mini American flags while sitting on Santa's lap next to a Christmas tree, wreath and red poinsettia.

"That was definitely a good perk there," Schupe said, holding a card with the website details where she can view the picture later. "He's a great-looking Santa."

Cruz campaign manager Jeff Roe first developed the campaigning Santa idea. When he pitched it the week before the tour, "everyone was just kind of silent," Frazier said.

The Texas senator's campaign has hired Santas for each city in its tour, after initially considering and then rejecting the idea of having Cruz's gray-bearded political director, Mark Campbell, take on the role.

The effort is in line with the campaign's focus on collecting detailed information about their current and potential supporters, a strategy in line with Barack Obama's hugely-popular approach to his 2008 run for president — one that others have been attempting to duplicate with varying degrees of success.

Associated Press

Sen. Ted Cruz makes a campaign stop Thursday, in St. Paul, Minn.

Santa also made an appearance Thursday night in St. Paul, Minnesota, where he sat next to a Christmas tree, in front of a fireplace. That Santa was a Cruz supporter and filled the role for free, Frazier said.

The Virginia Santa, Mechanicsville resident Robin Hood — his real name — joined Cruz at a news conference before his rally. "We want to see which reporters have been naughty and which have been nice," Cruz joked with the media.

Despite having Santa on hand to lighten up the mood, Cruz was on message, addressing the overwhelmingly approval of a massive 2016 tax and spending package in Congress Friday — a proposal he is staunchly against. Cruz told journalists that the bipartisan budget deal was a "betrayal of the men and women who elected us."

A staunch conservative, Cruz said his stance on things like this budget deal endear him to his supporters, are fueling his rise and generating attacks from within his party. Fellow Sen. Marco Rubio, of Florida, has been hammering Cruz all week after saying, in Tuesday's debate, he never supported legalization for people living in the U.S. illegally, despite having introduced legislation that would have extended legal status to millions.

"Conservatives are uniting behind my campaign and they know if that happens this campaign is over," Cruz asserted.

Hood — the Virginia Santa — meanwhile, was coy about where his political allegiance lies.

"I can't really say," Hood said. "It's another one of those Santa secrets."

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Holiday sales pattern skews online; malls lose some luster

"Store traffic is down everywhere, and it's compounded by the weather ... We do believe that warm weather is driving consumers online."

Steven Barr, U.S. retail and consumer sector leader for PwC

By Anne D'Innocenzio
Associated Press

NEW YORK — More often shoppers are making the decision to sit on their couches rather than head to stores this holiday season.

Online sales growth so far this holiday season is surpassing growth in sales at physical stores, according to First Data, which analyzed online and in-store payments from Oct. 31 through Monday.

Sales growth for stores is up 2 percent, while online sales rose 4.6 percent, according to First Data, which declined to give dollar figures, citing proprietary reasons.

Total spending, including sales in both physical stores and online, climbed 2.4 percent, stronger than the 1.8 percent growth during the same period last year.

While physical stores still account for the majority of spending, the uneven growth between buying at locations and on websites signals the continuation of a big shift in how U.S. consumers are shopping.

This season, Mother Nature appeared to provide an extra lift to online sales, analysts said. While unseasonably warm weather has hurt overall sales of cold-weather items, it appears to be driving more shopping to buy on their PCs or mobile phones since they don't want to waste a pleasant day inside a mall.

"Store traffic is down everywhere, and it's compounded by the weather," said Steven Barr, U.S. retail and consumer sector leader for PwC. "We do believe that warm weather is driving consumers online."

The big question, he asks, is whether warm weather is the number one reason or a secondary reason shoppers are heading online this season.

The overall shift to online spending is largely due to more retailers working to improve their websites and offer speedier delivery on orders placed online. As a result, shoppers, who increasingly are looking for convenience, are spending more of their holiday budgets online.

That's led to a big gap in some product categories between online and physical stores. According to First Data, clothing and accessories stores had a 2.9 percent sales decline so far this season, compared with a 3.7 percent increase online. Furniture and home furnishings store sales slipped 0.5 percent, while online increased 8.1 percent.

And while the average order for key product areas remained largely the same as last year, clothing and accessories got hit hard because of deep discounting. Stores have needed to ramp up price cuts to get rid of excess goods amid the mild temperatures that have extended into December. As a result, the average ticket size for those products went to $88.30 from last year's $83.43.

Amy Kemper said she's been shopping more online because of the convenience of doing so. Her family travels for the holidays, and it's easier to buy online and then have things shipped to where they are going.

"I do come to the mall to look around and see what's out there and then go back online," said Kemper, who lives in Indianapolis.

First Data doesn't make predictions for holiday sales. But the National Retail Federation, the nation's largest retail trade group, expects sales for November and December to rise 3.7 percent to $630.5 billion. There's still plenty of time for that estimate to come true: Christmas is a week away, and there are some of the biggest shopping days left.

And as cutoffs to order online to get gifts shipped to stores approaches, retailers are relying on die-hard traditionalists like Ann Rabbit during the final stretch.

Rabbit picked up a sweater for herself for 40 percent off at Old Navy in East Harlem in New York on a recent weekend.

"I don't do online. I like to touch things," she said.

Education, transportation highlight 2015 in Congress

By Matthew Daly
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a chaotic year, when Republicans in the House unseated a speaker, Congress produced a significant amount of bipartisan legislation that affects every American.

It enacted laws recasting federal education policy, restricting government access to bulk phone records, renewing highway and transit programs and even resolving a longstanding problem of how Medicare reimburses doctors. Before leaving town for the year, it sent President Barack Obama bipartisan legislation Friday financing government agencies in 2016 and cutting taxes, mostly by extending dozens of expiring levies.

Here are highlights of an eventful year in Congress:

Budget deal

A $1.1 trillion spending bill approved Friday funds the government for the 2016 budget year and extends $680 billion in tax cuts for businesses and individuals. The deal — a victory for new House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis. — avoids a government shutdown, allows crude oil exports for the first time in 40 years and extends a huge variety of tax breaks, including those for college tuition and renewable energy such as solar and wind power.

Education

Obama signed a sweeping overhaul of the No Child Left Behind education law, the biggest education reform since 2002. The bipartisan law ushers in a new approach to accountability, teacher evaluations and the way the most poorly performing schools are pushed to improve.

Students will still take federally required statewide reading and math exams, but the law encourages states to limit time spent on testing and diminishes the stakes for underperforming schools.

College loans

Congress extended a federal loan program that provides low-interest money to the neediest college students.

Highways and transit

After years of stymied efforts, Congress approved a bipartisan bill to improve the nation's aging and congested highways and transit systems.

The new law assures states that federal help will be available for major projects, although it does not resolve how to pay for transportation programs in the long term.

Trade promotion authority

Congress approved a bill granting the president trade promotion authority. The law allows Congress to ratify or reject trade agreements negotiated by the executive branch, but not change or filibuster them. Obama has not submitted to Congress a recently competed trade agreement with 11 Pacific Rim nations.

Surveillance

Obama signed into law the USA Freedom Act, which extends three expiring surveillance provisions of the USA Patriot Act, passed after the 9/11 attacks on New York and Washington. The law overhauls the previous law's most controversial provision, which had been interpreted to allow bulk collection of U.S. phone records by the National Security Agency.

The new law gives private companies more leeway to publicly report information about the number of national security surveillance demands they receive.

Defense

Congress approved a sweeping defense-authorization bill that includes a troop pay raise and prohibits transfer of Guantanamo Bay detainees to the United States.

Doc fix

Under a bill shepherded by former House Speaker John Boehner and House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi, Congress finally approved a bipartisan measure that permanently recasts how Medicare reimburses doctors for treating over 50 million elderly people. The $214 billion measure prevented a 21-percent cut in physicians' Medicare fees, preventing a flood of complaints from doctors and senior citizens that lawmakers dearly wanted to avoid.

Export-Import bank

Congress revived the federal Export-Import Bank five months after lawmakers allowed it to expire.

Despite those accomplishments, the Republican-controlled Congress failed on a number of fronts:

Iran nuclear deal

GOP lawmakers failed to block a deal involving the United States, Iran and five other world powers that would curb Iran's nuclear activities in exchange for giving Iran access to billions in frozen assets and oil revenue.

Planned parenthood

Congress tried but failed to halt federal payments to Planned Parenthood, after secretly recorded videos of Planned Parenthood officials discussing tissue donations fueled an uproar among congressional Republicans and abortion opponents.

"Obamacare"

Lawmakers tweaked the edges of Obama's health care law but did not overturn it despite repeated votes to repeal all or part of Obama's 2010 health care law.

Environmental regulations

Congress did not block Obama administration regulations on clean air and water and was unable to stop Obama's signature environmental accomplishment, a high-profile plan to curb greenhouse gas emissions from coal-fired power plants.

Keystone XL

Despite many attempts, Congress again failed to win approval for the Keystone XL oil pipeline from Canada. Obama finally rejected the pipeline last month after seven years of indecision.

Benghazi

House Republicans continued a widely criticized investigation into the deadly 2012 attacks in Benghazi, Libya, which killed four Americans, including the U.S. ambassador.

An 11-hour hearing featuring Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton failed to produce revelations Republicans were seeking.

Clinton was secretary of state when the attacks occurred.

Immigration

Neither chamber approved a comprehensive immigration reform bill.

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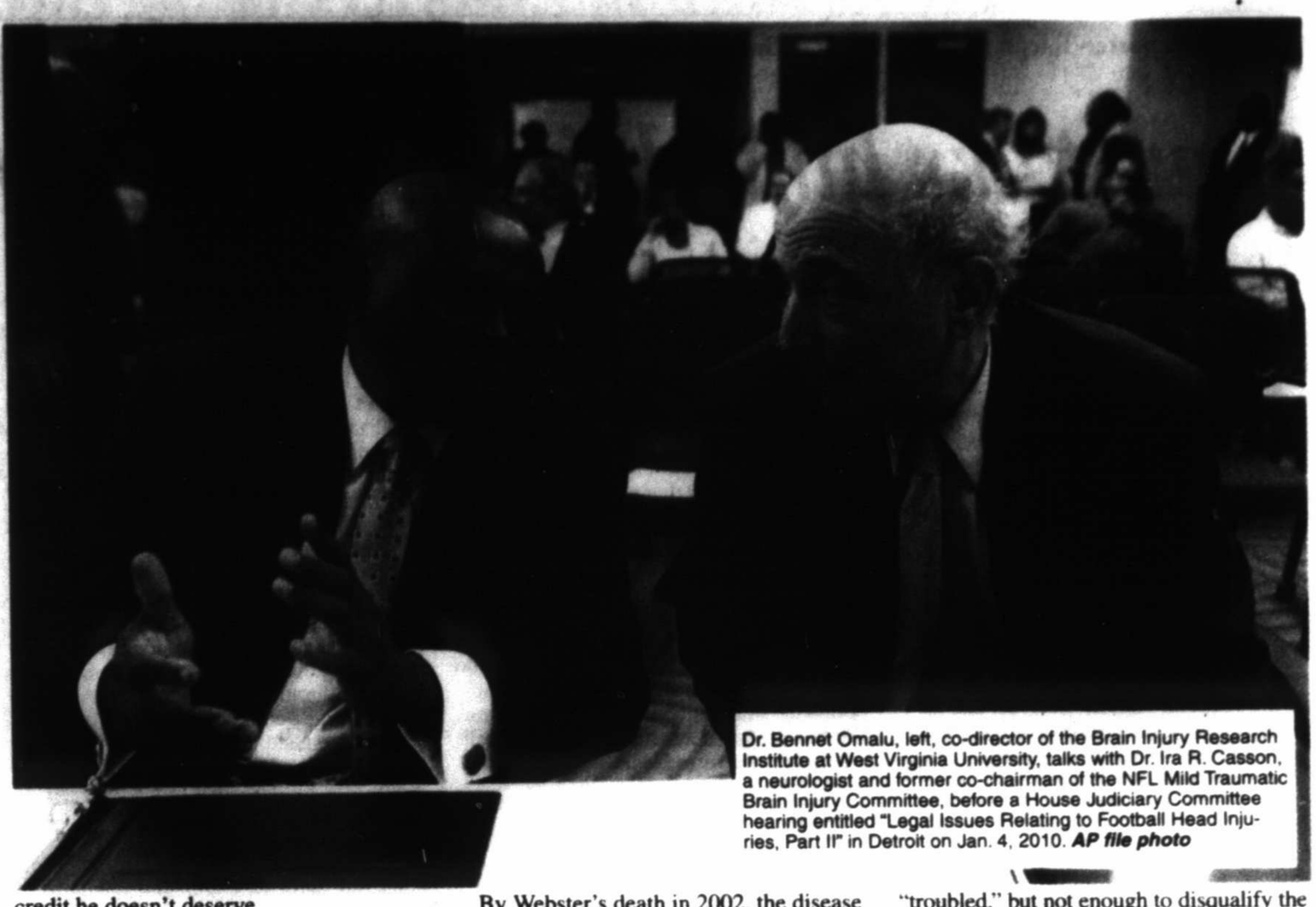
'Concussion' movie subject exaggerated role, researchers say

By Jimmy Golen
Associated Press



Dr. Bennet Omalu, left, co-director of the Brain Injury Research Institute at West Virginia University, talks with Dr. Ira R. Casson, a neurologist and former co-chairman of the NFL Mild Traumatic Brain Injury Committee, before a House Judiciary Committee hearing entitled "Legal Issues Relating to Football Head Injuries, Part II" in Detroit on Jan. 4, 2010. ***AP file photo***

BOSTON — In the trailer for the movie "Concussion," star Will Smith says: "I found a disease that no one has ever seen."

It's a claim the real-life doctor portrayed by Smith, forensic pathologist Bennet Omalu, has himself made for years, giving a detailed description about how he came to name that disease "chronic traumatic encephalopathy."

But Omalu neither discovered the disease nor named it, according to scientific journals and brain researchers interviewed by The Associated Press. And though no one doubts that Omalu's diagnosis of Pittsburgh Steelers center Mike Webster was pivotal in understanding football's dangers, fellow researchers say Omalu goes too far when he publicly takes credit for naming or discovering CTE.

"It's just not true, and I think he knows that," said William Stewart, a neuropathologist at Queen Elizabeth University Hospital in Glasgow, Scotland.

"Chronic traumatic encephalopathy has been around for decades. It's not a new term," Stewart said. "The only thing I would say that Bennet has done is that he identified it in an American footballer."

In a telephone call to the AP on Thursday, Omalu passionately defended his work and attributed the criticisms to "people historically who have made a systematic attempt to discredit me, and to marginalize me."

"This is totally false. And write that in a big font, that it is totally and completely false," he shouted into the phone. "There is a good deal of jealousy and envy in my field. For me to come out and discover the paradigm shift, it upset some people. I am well aware of that."

Sony Pictures, which will release "Concussion" on Christmas Day, issued a statement on Thursday that also noted "competing interests and agendas ... that are still trying to undermine Dr. Omalu's work."

"What is beyond dispute is that Dr. Omalu's discovery shined a light on a reality that the NFL ignored for too long and continues to play out every Sunday," Sony Pictures spokeswoman Jean Guerin said.

With its marquee star and holiday release, "Concussion" is certain to revive that debate. Dozens of former football players have been posthumously diagnosed with CTE after descending into lives of depression, alcohol or drug abuse, violent behavior and even suicide.

Also beyond dispute is the personal struggle Omalu went through after the NFL sought to discredit his research rather than confront the threat to long-term health of its players.

But the new complaints are not from the league and its supporters, but from fellow researchers who say Omalu is claiming credit he doesn't deserve.

This time, the quarrel seems to center on what it means to discover a disease, and what it is to name it.

In a 2013 talk that is viewable on YouTube, Omalu says he came up with the name CTE after diagnosing the disease in Webster's brain: "I said to myself ... you need to give it a name. You need to give it a sexy name. You need to give it a name that has a good acronym that people will remember, even a 3-year-old kid would remember. That is how 'CTE' came about."

In the PBS documentary "League of Denial," Omalu also claims credit for discovering and naming the disease.

"Name it a disease; give it a name. Present it as a disease; package it," said Omalu, who has a business degree along with his medical credentials. "'Chronic' means long-term. 'Traumatic' means it's associated with trauma. 'Encephalopathy' means a bad brain. So I had both ends covered."

At the time of Webster's autopsy, though, CTE had been known —and known by that name — for decades.

Originally studied in boxers in the 1920s as dementia pugilistica, the seminal work on the disease came from British neurologist Macdonald Critchley, who in 1949 wrote a paper entitled: "Punch-drunk syndromes: the chronic traumatic encephalopathy of boxers."

By Webster's death in 2002, the disease had been diagnosed not just in individual boxers but in rugby and soccer players, epileptics and others with illnesses that resulted in head-banging, and an alcoholic circus clown who was knocked unconscious a dozen times as the subject of a dwarf-tossing routine.

"(Omalu) must know that this pathology existed for many decades before," said Stewart, the Scottish researcher. "Otherwise he wouldn't know what to be looking for."

Asked to specify precisely what his discovery was, Omalu told the AP: "The pathology of CTE in a football player had not been known before I described this disease." He said that he was also the first to diagnose it in a wrestler and in a military veteran.

And he defended the claim that he named it.

Omalu said he picked CTE from several previously existing terms that had been used to describe traumatic brain injuries "for the purposes of precedents, so that nobody would accuse me as a radical."

Using the three words with their acronym, he said, was more of a branding exercise — "making it a proper noun" — than scientific nomenclature.

"What I did there is not medicine," Omalu said. "It's business management."

Arthur Caplan, the director of medical ethics at the NYU school of medicine, said publicly exaggerating one's contributions is "troubled," but not enough to disqualify the underlying research.

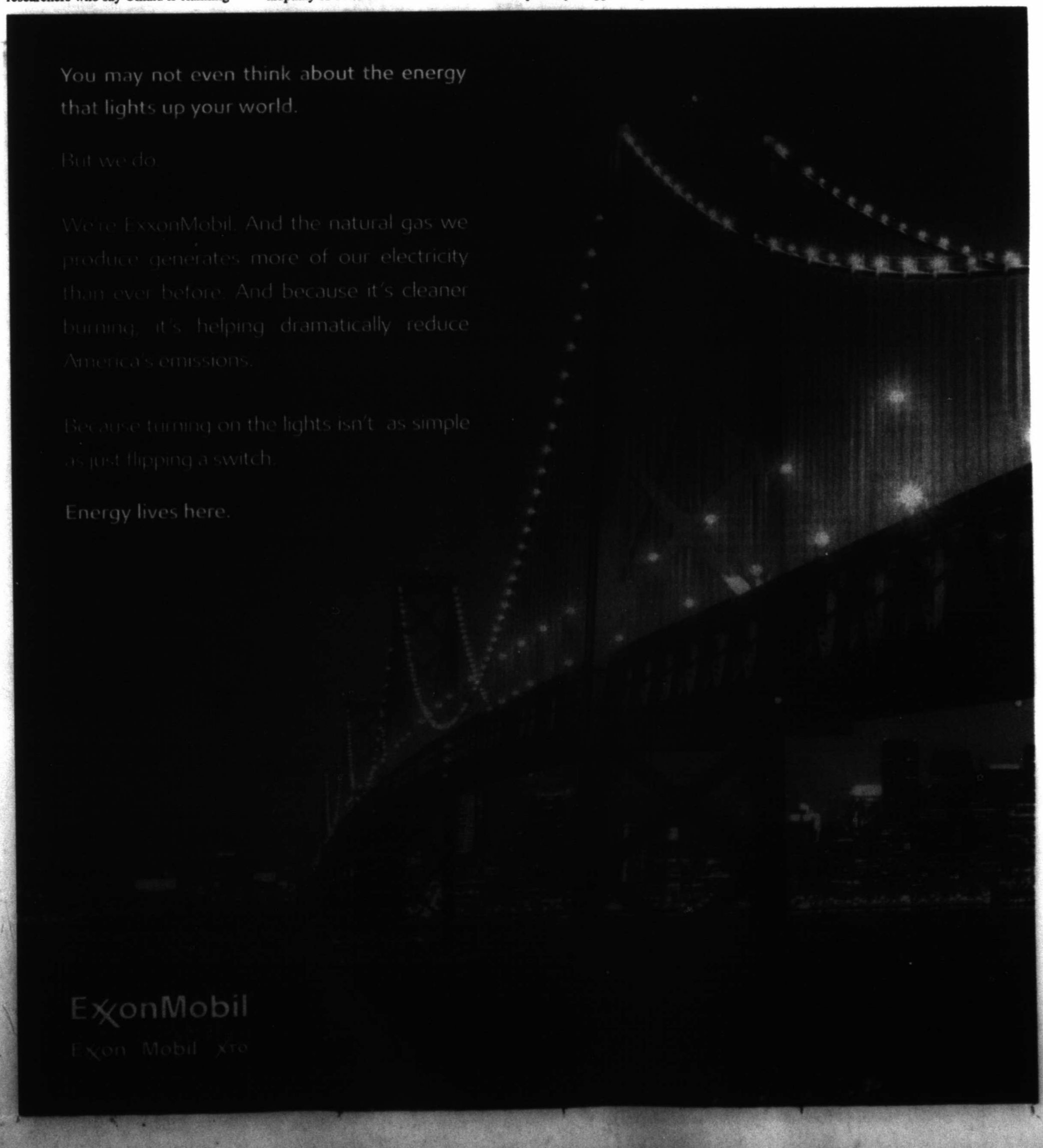
"It would be unethical not to acknowledge the work that came before. It's certainly un-collegial," Caplan said. "You could certainly say, 'I took the ball further down the field.' But you certainly don't say, 'There's nothing, and then I appeared.'"

Omalu also insisted that he has properly credited his predecessors, both in scientific papers and in public.

What's clear is that Omalu's diagnosis in an NFL player helped popularize and standardize the terminology and garner attention that no boxer's brain ever had. Soon, doctors, sports officials and media to begin treating concussions as a serious health risk.

Most sports leagues from the NFL to youth soccer now have concussion protocols that had never been contemplated before Omalu — and, to be sure, other brain researchers — began publicizing the often devastating tales of life with the battery of symptoms generally known as post-concussion syndrome.

"That's when it started taking traction, when it was noted in professional football players," said Barry Jordan, the chief medical officer for the New York State Athletic Commission and an Associate Professor of Clinical Neurology at Cornell's Weill Medical College. "That in and of itself was monumental."



OPINION

Cruz talks himself into a knot on immigration

■ Rubio charge brings up questions: Was Cruz for legalization before he was against it?

RUBEN NAVARRETTE
Washington Post Writers Group

Ted Cruz used to be known for straight talk. But on immigration, all we hear from the Texas senator is doublespeak.

Gracias, Marco Rubio. It took the Florida senator to open up a national dialogue over whether Cruz — despite his bluster against "amnesty" — at one point actually supported legislation that would have given legal status to the undocumented as long as it didn't include a path to citizenship.

If someone was going to attack Cruz's character, it makes sense that it would be a fellow Cuban-American. Every Latino learns sooner or later: No one can hurt you like one of your own. We know each other's weak spots and which buttons to push. And we'll push them.

This telenovela began when Cruz recently jabbed at Rubio for co-sponsoring in 2013, as part of the Senate's "Gang of Eight," a controversial immigration bill that Cruz has insisted was "amnesty."

Never mind that, after an amendment process designed to attract the broadest possible support, the path to citizenship was made so long and difficult that policy analysts estimated that only half of the 11 million illegal immigrants in the United States could ever qualify. Those are facts, but the immigration debate has shown little tolerance for such things.

During the recent Republican presidential debate, the senator from Florida punched back by insisting that Cruz is in no position to criticize anyone for having supported the immigration bill since Cruz himself had proposed an amendment — which would have bestowed legal status instead of citizenship — that he said at the time was intended to help the bill get passed. Rubio was implying that Cruz is a hypocrite and opportunist who can't be trusted.

At first, Cruz tried to brush off the charge by declaring that he has always opposed amnesty.

But Rubio wouldn't let it go, demanding that debate moderators ask the Texas senator the question directly: "Does Ted Cruz rule out ever legalizing people that are in this country now?"

Cruz responded: "I have never supported legalization, and I do not intend to support legalization."

It might be that both parts of that response are false.

First, has Cruz really never supported legalization? That was exactly what his amendment was about: legalizing the undocumented. And he recently told Fox News' Bret Baier that, of course, he wanted his amendment to pass. Ergo ...

When he proposed his amendment, Cruz told various groups that he did so to improve the bill's chances of passing.

In May 2013, Cruz said during a hearing of the Senate Judiciary Committee: "I don't want immigration reform to fail. I want immigration reform to pass. And so I would urge people of good faith on both sides of the aisle, if the objective is to pass common-sense immigration reform that secures the borders, that improves legal immigration, and that allows those who are here illegally to come in out of the shadows, then we should look for areas of bipartisan agreement and compromise to come together."

Rush Limbaugh and other conservatives have desperately tried to help Cruz out of this jam by framing the amendment as a "poison pill" that was actually intended to scuttle the bill. But, as Baier mentioned, the Texas senator specifically told Byron York of the Washington Examiner in 2013 that this was not the case and "my objective was not to kill immigration reform."

Next, is it really true that Cruz doesn't "intend to support legalization" for the undocumented? Not ever?

Last month, during an interview with radio talk-show host Hugh Hewitt, Cruz said he would dramatically shrink the illegal-immigrant population through increased enforcement and speeding up the legal immigration process. At that point he said, "I think we should have a conversation with the American people about what we should do about whatever smaller population remains."

Go back to Cruz's response at the debate and take note of where the Harvard Law School graduate lawyered up. It's this phrase: "I do not intend to support legalization ... ." Do not intend? Even Cruz's right-wing supporters must have been thinking: How about something more definitive, amigo?

Those folks have reason for concern. When you boil it down, Cruz's best defense is that, when he proposed his amendment, he lied to immigration-reform advocates about his motives — all for the sake of politics. If that's true, how can his supporters be sure now that he's not doing the same thing to them?

OUR VIEW

Delaying the vote for CO issuance makes sense for council, community

The Midland City Council made the right decision to delay issuing more than $22 million in certificates of obligation for community projects.

This past week, the council put off the decision one day after an Empower Texans columnist penned a commentary about the subject. The commentary, which appeared on mrt.com and in the Reporter-Telegram's Tuesday edition, was critical of a decision to take on the extra debt and stated that the council had "a history of abusing COs by circumventing voter approval (and) the projects they plan to finance aren't core projects or, by any means, 'emergencies.'"

It referenced the Texas Bond Review Board's report that the city, as of Aug. 31, carried $187 million in debt (total payments — principal plus interest.)

We hope the City Council and community look at the projects — which include improvements to parks and the municipal golf course, Hogan Park — and have a serious discussion.

We agree with Councilman Jeff Sparks that there is logic to waiting until after a vote takes place regarding the future of the 4B tax before the council takes on any more parks-related debt.

The 4B fund could raise anywhere from $8 million to $11 million a year. We believe a responsible future 4B plan limits parks funding to 40 percent of spending. We would like to see 40 percent go to roads, and the remaining 20 percent go to infrastructure, including the maintenance and operations of the Scharbauer Sports Complex. That combination takes care of all aspects of a growing community.

Even at 40 percent, the city likely would land at least $3.2 million in parks funding. That would help Midland check some boxes, while relieving property owners of the burden of paying for those projects.

We don't have a problem with city government taking on debt when the projects require it, and this delay in issuing COs allows city leaders more time to communicate to residents the urgency of the projects. The Reporter-Telegram will dedicate space to those wanting to make that case, just like we provided Empower Texans the opportunity to state its opinion on this round of bond issuance.

In the end, we expect this decision to reflect what makes the most sense for our community. Could it mean issuing $22 million in bonds for projects? Maybe. Could it mean not issuing one cent? Maybe.

But the council has to convince residents the projects make sense, and if that requires a little more communication, there is nothing wrong with that.

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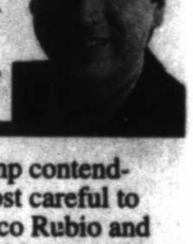
Trump is alpha dog of the GOP

■ Cruz appears to have avoided Trump's attacks, which is perhaps why he is having the most success of the contenders



RICH LOWRY
King Features Syndicate

If there's any lesson from Tuesday's debate, it's that six months after his entry into the Republican presidential race, no one has any better idea of how to handle Donald Trump than when he first got in.

Las Vegas highlighted how Trump has established alpha-dog dominance in the Republican field. He's not only the front-runner according to national polls, he's a front-runner who other candidates are literally afraid to criticize in his presence.

Everyone's happy to have his blessing. When Trump pronounced Ted Cruz "just fine" at the end of the debate, the Texas senator appeared as tickled as if he'd just won the Presidential Medal of Freedom or an Academy Award.

Ben Carson seemed perfectly pleased to accept Trump's compliment as "one of the finest men" — even though Trump had been denouncing him as pathological and a liar a couple of weeks earlier. Even Jeb Bush eagerly exchanged a low-five with the mogul during one of the early debates.

It's Bush, of course, who has taken it upon himself to constantly go after Trump in the debates, and it always ends in roughly the same way. Bush criticizes Trump and calls him unserious. Trump makes faces, then interrupts Bush to mock him in harshly personal terms and cite his low poll numbers. Bush calls Trump unserious some more. Trump interrupts and makes more faces.

Las Vegas was no different, even if Bush was more adept at grappling with Trump than he had been in past exchanges. It's possible to imagine party elders finding Bush's anti-Trump tack satisfying and brave, but it has gotten nowhere. If scolding Trump for being unserious, irresponsible, divisive and hurtful were the keys to bringing him down, Bush would have devastated Trump by now.

Bush is an accomplished public servant and profoundly decent man whose theory of the race has been that the party needs an adult. But the party wants a leader. While there's overlap between those two things, they aren't identical. An adult makes sure everyone is operating within the bounds of established rules; a leader changes the rules.

The three most vibrant non-Trump contenders are the three who have been most careful to sidestep the mogul: Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio and Chris Christie. This may be a coincidence, or it may have something to do with their ability to rationally calculate their political interest.

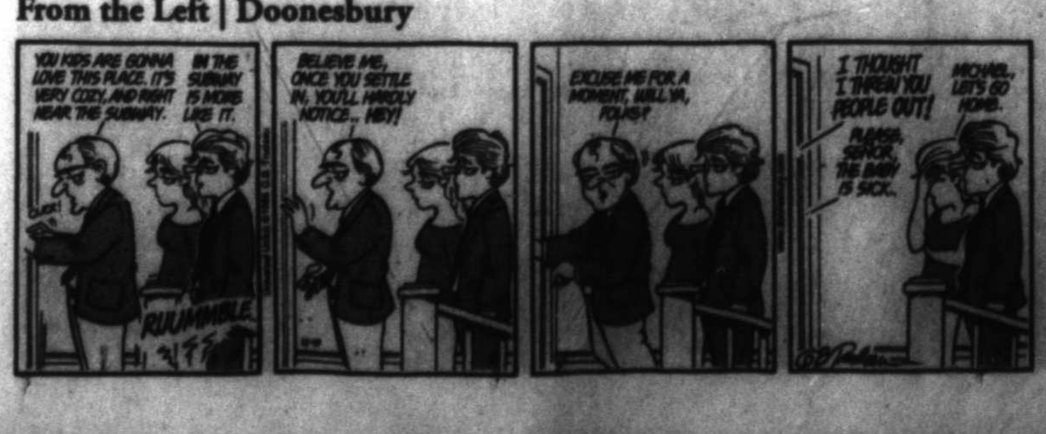
It's Cruz who has sidestepped Trump most determinedly. Rubio and Christie have slapped back when hit by Trump. Cruz appears to live in mortal fear that Trump might look at him crosswise. The several days prior to the Las Vegas debate, Cruz's campaign appeared to have entered its "Thank you, sir, may I have another" phase. Trump questioned Cruz's religion and his judgment, and Cruz brushed it off as a trifling misunderstanding between stalwart foes of the establishment.

Cruz's submissiveness to Trump is — depending on your tolerance for insincerity in the service of a larger political goal — either appallingly or gloriously disingenuous. It couldn't be more transparent if Cruz had been caught on tape at a private fundraiser acknowledging that it was part of his plan to defeat Trump — and, in fact, he was. Still, by honoring Trump's implicit rule that if you demonstrate respect for him, he'll probably leave you alone, Cruz has so far avoided a Trump onslaught.

Republican insiders find the Cruz maneuver galling. But consider this feat: Cruz has managed to maintain a fragile truce with Trump while surging past him in the crucial first state. If Trump is overly bothered by Cruz leading him by 10 points in Iowa, according to the widely respected Des Moines Register poll, and potentially dealing him a damaging blow at the outset of actual voting, he hasn't given much sign of it yet.

Those who think Ted Cruz is obliged to be more openly anti-Trump should consider that so far it is the shrewd Texan who has made the most progress in stopping him.

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore

Texas Democrats go to extremes to awaken voters in 2016

KEN HERMAN
Austin American-Statesman

A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away, Texans elected Democrats to statewide office. Actually, it last happened in 1994, but in the political universe that's kind of a long time ago in a galaxy far, far away.

And now, for the first time since 1998, Texans have a chance to re-elect a Democratic incumbent to statewide office. Lawrence "Larry" Meyers, who switched to the Dems in 2013 after getting elected three times as a Repub, is seeking re-election to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals. He's unopposed for the Dem nomination. Three Repubs have filed. Barring a galaxy-shifting upset, one of them will beat Meyers next November.

But Texas Democrats, bless their optimistic-in-the-face-of-reality hearts, aren't giving up this early. In fact, they won't give up until shortly after the polls close next November and it becomes clear they've again lost every race for statewide office (which in 2016 includes only a Railroad Commission race and six appellate court seats) and they are wishing the best to President-elect Donald J. Trump. And, if that last thing happens, many of us will begin checking house prices on galaxies far, far away.

Recent history be damned, optimism and fantasy reign among Texas Dems, as evidenced in a seasonally appropriate ("Star Wars" premiere season) fundraising pitch posted and emailed Wednesday and forwarded to me by a GOP operative with a one-word review of it: "Seriously?"

Well, probably not. Humorously is more likely. I'll let you judge whether it's clever humor or something nonproductive as we seek more civil political discourse.

"Friend," it began, "we need you to join the Rebel Alliance today! Our galaxy is under attack from Imperial Gov. Greg Abbott and the rest of the dreaded Imperial fleet. You know, the ones who built the DEATH STAR."

Yes, perhaps a bit over the top, but over the top might be the way to go for a party that has failed for a generation with anything under the top.

More from it:

"Abbott's Republican Empire isn't backing down any time soon — but neither are we. We have a brave group of freedom fighters leading the way. We need you to join us by chipping in $7 right now so we can win big in 2016 against Abbott's evil REPUBLICAN GALACTIC EMPIRE."

Even more:

"Imperial Gov. Greg Abbott has been using legislative fear and unbridled one-party rule to promote his evil agenda, collect millions from special interests, and slow down the progress of our state by freezing our heroes colder than Hoth past the first marker. Help me, Obiwan! Donate $7 right now to show you're ready to strike back against the Republicans' dreaded Imperial fleet. The tide is about to turn."

Why $7? The Dems say it's a "data-driven decision for the target on that email blast. Sometime we choose $3 for non-donors or other amounts. There is a strategy behind it.".

Still even more:

"As a Texas Democrat and member of the Rebel Alliance, you know that we're a bunch of scruffy-looking nerf herders working to overcome the odds. We will never give in to the Dark Side: the force is strong with us and we will free Texas. With a new hope, our walking carpet, and trusty protocol droid, all we're missing is your support to take on Imperial Gov. Abbott. Go all in today so we can clean up the Republican Empire's mess."

"All in" apparently is $7.

Inevitably, Brittany Switzer, the state party's digital director, ends the pitch with, "May the force be with you."

Inevitably, it won't be.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

LISA FALKENBERG
Houston Chronicle

Cruz takes principled to another level

First, I apologize to all readers of today's column who have not seen the 1987 cult classic "The Princess Bride."

I'm sorry because Rob Reiner's hilarious parody is one of the best movies ever made and because this column will make even less sense than it usually does.

You see, "The Princess Bride" has been in the news a lot lately, because it is the favorite film of U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, who is picking up speed in the grueling Republican race for frontrunner status.

Yes, I know. Incontheivable.

On the campaign trail, Cruz has entertained crowds by quoting lines and reenacting scenes from the movie, written by William Goldman. Cruz is particularly fond of the moment when Miracle Max reluctantly agrees to bring the hero, Westley, back from the dead, or, mostly dead. Cruz knows he needs a Miracle Max if he hopes to get into the White House.

For a Princeton grad and Harvard Law alum with a dizzying intellect, Cruz's light-hearted theatrics make him more approachable. At least, it works better on me than the time he cooked bacon on the end of an AR-15.

It's clear Cruz has gleaned more from the movie than its clever lines.

The movie's hero observes at one point that he assumed the name Dread Pirate Roberts because no one would surrender to the Dread Pirate Westley.

Indeed, who would surrender to the Dread Federalist Felito?

Cruz's bravado about "carpet-bombing" ISIS "into oblivion" seems to hint at a fondness for the kind of barbarian solutions we saw applied in the Pit of Despair.

I can hear Cruz now, gloating in the Albino's raspy voice: "Don't even think about trying to escape."

Then, there are Cruz's negotiation skills. Read the following and tell me if it sounds familiar.

"Give us the gate key," Westley tells the evil prince's chief enforcer, Yellin.

"I have no gate key," Yellin responds.

"Fezzik, tear his arms off," Westley's ally tells the character played by Andre the Giant.

"Oh, you mean this gate key," Yellin says.

Now imagine what the movie's heroine, Buttercup herself, might say to Cruz as they approached the congressional fire swamp, "Ted, this 38th attempt to repeal Obamacare will never survive!"

Cruz would surely turn to her and reply: "Nonsense. You're only saying that because no repeal bill ever has."

On the debt limit debate, if she warned him about the ELOUSes?

"Existing Legal Obligations of Unusual Size?" he'd calmly say. "I don't think they exist."

All the while, the rodents would be waiting to attack.

Devotion to principles

Cruz's devotion to principles is admirable. Since the invention of the presidency, there have been five candidacies rated the most principled, the most pure. This one leaves them all behind.

If he should lose, I'd really feel for him. There's a shortage of perfect egos in this world. It would be a pity to damage his.

The good senator from our great state just gets carried away far too often. Like when he advocates discriminating against Muslim refugees. Or when he suggests some people's constitutional rights to guns and heterosexual marriage trump the rights of others. Or when he attacks moderate solutions on immigration reform as amnesty, amnesty, amnesty!

He keeps using that word. I do not think it means what he thinks it means.

'Get back, witch!'

I know. Cruz couldn't care less what a newspaper columnist has to say. I can hear him now: "Get back, witch!"

The other day, one of the stars of "The Princess Bride," Billy Crystal, said he at first thought Cruz's impressions were funny, but now they're getting a little creepy.

Mandy Patinkin went further, suggesting Cruz didn't get the movie's deepest lessons. Patinkin's character is a skilled Spanish swordsman who spends the entire film trying to avenge his father's death.

"Allo. My name is Inigo Montoya. You killed my father. Prepare to die," is probably one of the most quoted lines of all time.

But Patinkin told The New York Times that Cruz needs to quote what Montoya says near the end, when asked what he'll do now that he's accomplished his life's goal.

"It's very strange," the character says. "I have been in the revenge business so long, now that it's over, I don't know what to do with the rest of my life."

Something for you to think about, Sen. Cruz, whether you end up on Pennsylvania Avenue or not.

Alternatively, have you ever considered a career in piracy or maybe cable TV? You'd make a wonderful Fox News analyst.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Midland is home to incredible artists

Six generations of my family have called Midland home since 1920. Midland has been known for a lot of things over these many decades. Energy capital of the U.S., home to two U.S. presidents and most recently the "richest" city in America.

The last of these gives me a chuckle because I believe Midland has always been the richest city in America. Certainly there have been times when the traditional measures of wealth didn't place us on the top of someone's list; however, Midland is rich in so many other areas that can't be easily quantified.

I've always had a profound respect for artists and the power they have to change the way we look at our lives. Then Teresa and I had our second daughter, Abigail. Abbey is dyslexic, and art has given her the confidence to communicate her feelings. It's given her wings. It's also created a special bond between her and me.

Abbey has been blessed to have some incredible local artists as instructors and mentors over the years. Most of these special people have been ACM beneficiaries. While this may be the story of one child and one family, I'm confident in saying that our experience is not unique. The exposure that the Arts Council of Midland gives to local artists allows them to stay in Midland and enhance the lives of every Midlander. Your membership with the Arts Council will allow ACM to continue and enhance its mission "Enriching lives with the arts through community-wide advocacy, education, outreach and promotion."

Midlanders should never let their title of richest city in America be lost. Please become a member or renew your membership today.

Paul Cain

Jury-selection process needs improvement

Recently, the Reporter Telegram Editorial Board made several broad statements about "we" the community. Ignoring the broad shots, I focused on the jury duty comments. The board said "jury duty is not optional." In practice, the paper reported that the county had made it optional for years. The board is "all for levying fines" on jury duty shirkers. They support arrests of those "who ignore their jury summons and are in contempt of court."

To date, the newspaper has not pursued these shirkers' names. To date, the county does not want these names published, either. Then the board "wonder(s) what must be done or if anything can be done." In my opinion, publish the names. I think that would help.

However, the courthouse needs to improve its "process" of handling potential jurors. They are slighting the law-abiding citizenry in large and small ways. I witnessed a judge lying to jurors. He said shirkers would be dealt with. If I believe the newspaper, that did not happen for years and years. I think the courthouse and paper are protecting the wrong people. Courthouse: Heal thyself, first. Newspaper: Observe and report. Then, we will worry about the Midland populace.

In my opinion, a compliant newspaper allowed a grievously victimized citizen to attack me. He deserves our utmost respect and heartfelt sorrow. But, his letter contained half-truths, misrepresentations and vitriol only directed at me. I make him sick and angry, and I could not be a fair juror. I have no shame or self respect. He prays that I am not a juror. The paper says these are not personal attacks. Wow. There was no such verbal condemnation of the accused murder perpetrator. Wow. He made a statement against the paper, which the paper called merely "hyperbolic." In West Texas words, I call it a lie. I'll defend their honor. I just think there is room for improvement in the jury duty process. The courthouse is alienating many of the citizenry. Do they care?

Steve Constant

History: Bad things lead to bad things

Blame guns for all of the mass shootings over the last however many years. Sad that it is, the reasoning is called sowing and reaping. It has been how many years since abortion was made legal, and how many babies have died? What is hard to comprehend is how can anyone who professes to be a Christian can condone this practice.

Psm: 139:15-16 When my bones were formed carefully put together in my mother's womb ... You saw me before I was born ... The days allotted to me had all been recorded in your book, before any of them ever began.

Eph: 1:4 Even as he chose us before the foundations of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

Gal: 6:7-8 ESV Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Job: 4:8 As I have seen, those who plow iniquity and sow trouble reap the same.

1John: 2:4 he who is saying, I have known him, and his command is not keeping, a liar he is and in him the truth is not.

2ndCor 5:10 ESV For we must appear before the judgment seat of Christ so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body whether good or evil.

History tells us that bad things that have happened start from doing bad things to others. Look to the history books and look in the Bible for examples; you will find many of them.

Before guns, it was spears, knives, clubs and whatever else could be used to maim people and things.

Gal: 6:1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness, considering thyself, lest though be tempted.

Louis P. Thomas

Blankets will warm recipients' hearts

I am writing to express my heartfelt thanks to Heavenly Cuts. My husband, Gene, is a chemo patient at Texas Oncology. Heavenly Cuts' employees came in Monday morning with several bags of new blankets. They went to the infusion area and then the waiting room and gave each chemo patient a beautiful new blanket.

I cannot tell you how much that blanket meant to my husband and me. It was a beautiful act of kindness and love. They told us that they had taken up donations to be able to do this.

Chemo patients are, for the most part, cold all the time and deal with many side effects. For us, that blanket will not only warm my husband physically but will warm our hearts as well, as I know it did many other patients.

I want Heavenly Cuts to know how much we appreciate their sincere kindness and the love they showed by all the blankets they shared with so many, especially us.

Terri Gordon

Patriot Riders are honorable

I attended a funeral for a friend (last) week who was a veteran and a chaplain. The Patriot Guard Riders were there to honor this man also. They were lined up at attention outside the funeral chapel with their flags before the service, and were so honorable. They were lined up again after the services.

I didn't get to follow the procession to the cemetery, but I can imagine it was a beautiful sight. My friend, Willard Gaston, would have been humbled. May God bless each and every one of the Patriot Riders.

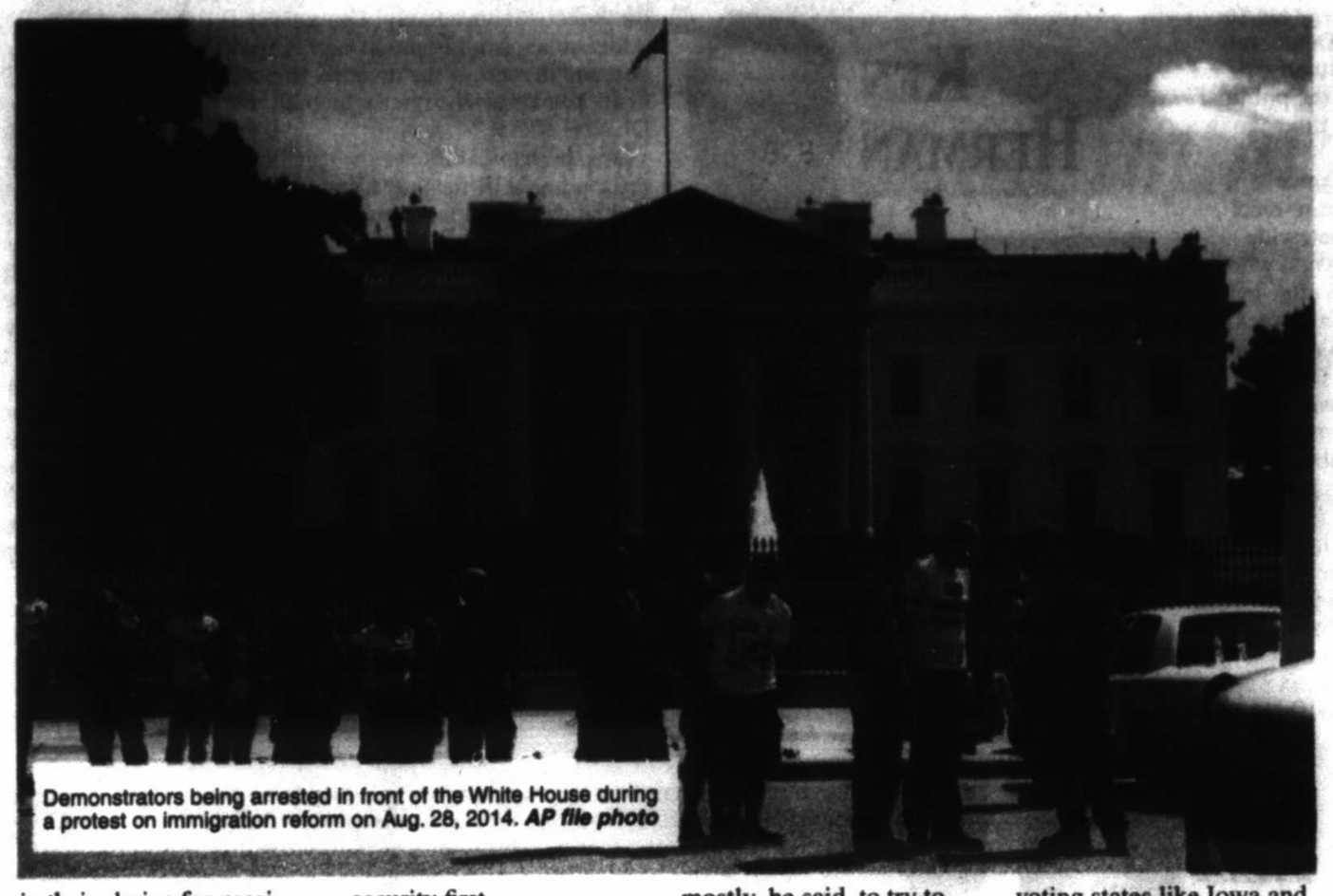
Vickie Olgin

Letters policy

- There is a 350-word limit; candidate letters have a 200-word limit.
- Letters must be submitted to letters@mrt.com.
- Deadline is noon Thursdays for the following Sunday.
- Reporter-Telegram policy limits individuals to one letter in a 30-day period.
- Letter-writers should include phone number and address. Failure to do so could delay letter's publication.

AP-GfK Poll: Tough immigration plans not a must for GOPers

By Laurie Kellman and Emily Swanson
Associated Press



Demonstrators being arrested in front of the White House during a protest on immigration reform on Aug. 28, 2014. ***AP file photo***

WASHINGTON — Retired postal clerk Jerry Wilson likes what he hears from GOP presidential hopefuls about overturning President Barack Obama's executive order easing deportation policies against people in the U.S. illegally.

But he'll choose a Republican presidential nominee based on other issues — keeping American companies from moving overseas, for one. Keeping would-be attackers out of the country, for another.

"America comes first when you're the president of the United States," the Batavia, Ohio, resident, 67, said. "You do everything you can to keep America safe. What about migrants, people who are already here illegally? That's not a do-or-die issue to me."

For all of the ferocity and double-speak on immigration reform at the GOP debate, most Republicans like Wilson say the issue isn't a decisive factor in their vote for president, according to a new AP-GfK poll. Even among conservative Republicans, more than half — 56 percent — say they either prefer a candidate who would keep Obama's immigration action in place or that they can imagine voting for a Republican presidential hopeful who would.

The survey shows that Obama's immigration actions last year, which allowed some immigrants to apply for temporary legal status, are a particular sticking point for Republicans. Seventy-three percent of them say they prefer to support the candidate who would undo those steps taken by this president, who is deeply unpopular within their party.

More broadly, more Americans — regardless of their political affiliation — favor than oppose a pathway to citizenship for immigrants who are in the United States illegally, the poll shows. Even among Republicans — 4 in 10 of whom oppose making citizenship an option for people in the country illegally — it doesn't seem to be a make-or-break issue in their choice for president. Four in 10 conservative Republicans and 3 in 10 tea party Republicans favor a path to citizenship for immigrants already in the country illegally.

Notably, the results from the Dec. 3 through Dec. 7 survey are unchanged since the questions were last asked in April — even after months of strong rhetoric by Republican presidential candidates, including front-runner Donald Trump, who proposes deporting the 11.5 million people in the country illegally.

The survey results are powerful data points for the GOP candidates with little more than six weeks to go before the first votes are cast in Iowa. Republican Sens. Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz, both children of Cuban immigrants, are locked in an extraordinary battle for second place in the nomination fight, in large part over their positions on immigration. Rubio's rivals had used his 2013 comprehensive immigration reform bill to cast him as a supporter of a path to citizenship for those here illegally. He hasn't backed off that idea but has abandoned the notion of comprehensive reform on the complex issue and emphasizes border security first.

Cruz, meanwhile, is casting himself as an opponent to "legalization." He proposed amendments to Rubio's bill that would have massively increased legal immigration — but mostly, he said, to try to kill Rubio's legislation.

While illegal immigration may not be a dealbreaker for Republicans on a national scale, few issues are more hotly contested on the ground in early voting states like Iowa and New Hampshire.

Some GOP conservatives often lash out at allowing people to stay in the U.S. illegally, producing an environment where Republican candidates like Rubio and Bush have been forced to distance themselves from their own more forgiving policies in the past.

But the poll shows immigration may not be the most pressing issue on Americans' minds once voting begins in the GOP primary contest.

"No candidate fits everybody's view," said Terry Arnell of Tower Lakes, Ill., a retired insurance company manager who right now likes Trump. So, what will be Arnell's priorities come election day?

"Gun rights. Securing our borders and certainly, securing as much as we can within our borders," Arnell, 63, said. "I think it's very important that we secure our borders now. Then, we can worry about the other illegals here."

The AP-GfK Poll of 1,007 adults was conducted online Dec. 3-7, using a sample drawn from GfK's probability-based KnowledgePanel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 3.4 percentage points.

AP-GfK Poll: Majority of Americans favor path to citizenship

By Emily Swanson
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — More Americans favor than oppose a pathway to citizenship for immigrants who are living in the United States illegally, a new Associated Press-GfK poll shows.

While most Republicans oppose such a path to citizenship, it doesn't seem to be a dealbreaker issue for them.

Here are some things to know about Americans' opinions on immigration policy from the new AP-GfK poll:

Most support citizenship

A majority of Americans — 54 percent — support a way for immigrants who are already in the country illegally to become citizens, while 44 percent are opposed. More than 7 in 10 Democrats are in favor, while about 6 in 10 Republicans are opposed.

Still, a significant minority of Republicans — 4 in 10 — do support a path to citizenship. Four in 10 conservative Republicans and 3 in 10 tea party Republicans favor a path to citizenship for immigrants already in the country illegally.

Six in 10 Americans, including three-quarters of Democrats and nearly half of Republicans, favor providing immigrants who were brought to the country illegally as children with a way to stay in the country legally.

Not a dealbreaker for GOP

The new poll shows that while tough rhetoric on immigration appeals to a majority of Republicans, most still don't consider it a deal breaker issue.

The poll shows that immigration action taken last year by President Barack Obama allowing some immigrants to apply for temporary legal status is a particular sticking point for Republicans, with 73 percent of them saying they prefer to support someone who would undo those immigration steps taken by a president deeply unpopular within their party.

But 25 percent of Republicans say they would prefer to vote for a candidate who would keep Obama's immigration actions in place. And another 34 percent say they could vote for such a candidate even though they disagree on that issue, so long as they see eye to eye on other matters.

Even among conservative Republicans, more than half say they either prefer a candidate who would keep the immigration action in place (16 percent) or that they could imagine voting for a presidential candidate who would (40 percent).

Division on Obama's actions

The poll shows that overall, Americans are split on what they want a 2016 presidential candidate to do about the executive action Obama took last year. Just over half (51 percent) say they're more likely to support someone who wants to keep that action in place, while 46 percent are more likely to support someone who wants to undo it.

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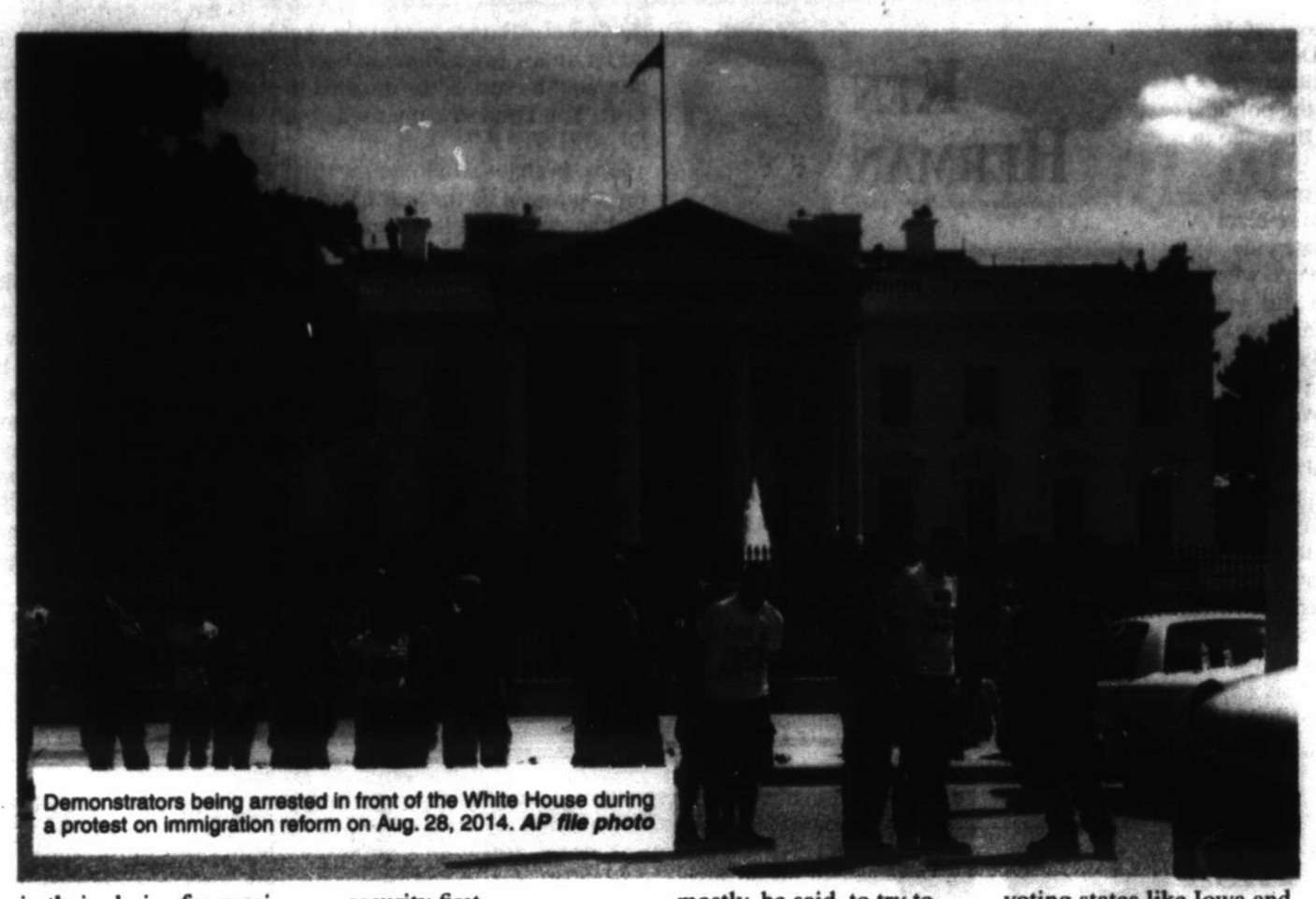
AP-GfK Poll: Tough immigration plans not a must for GOPers

By Laurie Kellman and Emily Swanson
Associated Press



Demonstrators being arrested in front of the White House during a protest on immigration reform on Aug. 28, 2014. *AP file photo*

WASHINGTON — Retired postal clerk Jerry Wilson likes what he hears from GOP presidential hopefuls about overturning President Barack Obama's executive order easing deportation policies against people in the U.S. illegally.

But he'll choose a Republican presidential nominee based on other issues — keeping American companies from moving overseas, for one. Keeping would-be attackers out of the country, for another.

"America comes first when you're the president of the United States," the Batavia, Ohio, resident, 67, said. "You do everything you can to keep America safe. What about migrants, people who are already here illegally? That's not a do-or-die issue to me."

For all of the ferocity and double-speak on immigration reform at the GOP debate, most Republicans like Wilson say the issue isn't a decisive factor in their vote for president, according to a new AP-GfK poll. Even among conservative Republicans, more than half — 56 percent — say they either prefer a candidate who would keep Obama's immigration action in place or that they can imagine voting for a Republican presidential hopeful who would.

The survey shows that Obama's immigration actions last year, which allowed some immigrants to apply for temporary legal status, are a particular sticking point for Republicans. Seventy-three percent of them say they prefer to support the candidate who would undo those steps taken by this president, who is deeply unpopular within their party.

More broadly, more Americans — regardless of their political affiliation — favor than oppose a pathway to citizenship for immigrants who are in the United States illegally, the poll shows. Even among Republicans — 4 in 10 of whom oppose making citizenship an option for people in the country illegally — it doesn't seem to be a make-or-break issue in their choice for president. Four in 10 conservative Republicans and 3 in 10 tea party Republicans favor a path to citizenship for immigrants already in the country illegally.

Notably, the results from the Dec. 3 through Dec. 7 survey are unchanged since the questions were last asked in April — even after months of strong rhetoric by Republican presidential candidates, including front-runner Donald Trump, who proposes deporting the 11.5 million people in the country illegally.

The survey results are powerful data points for the GOP candidates with little more than six weeks to go before the first votes are cast in Iowa. Republican Sens. Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz, both children of Cuban immigrants, are locked in an extraordinary battle for second place in the nomination fight, in large part over their positions on immigration. Rubio's rivals had used his 2013 comprehensive immigration reform bill to cast him as a supporter of a path to citizenship for those here illegally. He hasn't backed off that idea but has abandoned the notion of comprehensive reform on the complex issue and emphasizes border security first.

Cruz, meanwhile, is casting himself as an opponent to "legalization." He proposed amendments to Rubio's bill that would have massively increased legal immigration — but mostly, he said, to try to kill Rubio's legislation.

While illegal immigration may not be a dealbreaker for Republicans on a national scale, few issues are more hotly contested on the ground in early voting states like Iowa and New Hampshire.

Some GOP conservatives often lash out at allowing people to stay in the U.S. illegally, producing an environment where Republican candidates like Rubio and Bush have been forced to distance themselves from their own more forgiving policies in the past.

But the poll shows immigration may not be the most pressing issue on Americans' minds once voting begins in the GOP primary contest.

"No candidate fits everybody's view," said Terry Arnell of Tower Lakes, Ill., a retired insurance company manager who right now likes Trump. So, what will be Arnell's priorities come election day?

"Gun rights. Securing our borders and certainly, securing as much as we can within our borders," Arnell, 63, said. "I think it's very important that we secure our borders now. Then, we can worry about the other illegals here."

The AP-GfK Poll of 1,007 adults was conducted online Dec. 3-7, using a sample drawn from GfK's probability-based KnowledgePanel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 3.4 percentage points.

AP-GfK Poll: Majority of Americans favor path to citizenship

By Emily Swanson
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — More Americans favor than oppose a pathway to citizenship for immigrants who are living in the United States illegally, a new Associated Press-GfK poll shows.

While most Republicans oppose such a path to citizenship, it doesn't seem to be a dealbreaker issue for them.

Here are some things to know about Americans' opinions on immigration policy from the new AP-GfK poll:

Most support citizenship

A majority of Americans — 54 percent — support a way for immigrants who are already in the country illegally to become citizens, while 44 percent are opposed. More than 7 in 10 Democrats are in favor, while about 6 in 10 Republicans are opposed.

Still, a significant minority of Republicans — 4 in 10 — do support a path to citizenship. Four in 10 conservative Republicans and 3 in 10 tea party Republicans favor a path to citizenship for immigrants already in the country illegally.

Six in 10 Americans, including three-quarters of Democrats and nearly half of Republicans, favor providing immigrants who were brought to the country illegally as children with a way to stay in the country legally.

Not a dealbreaker for GOP

The new poll shows that while tough rhetoric on immigration appeals to a majority of Republicans, most still don't consider it a deal breaker issue.

The poll shows that immigration action taken last year by President Barack Obama allowing some immigrants to apply for temporary legal status is a particular sticking point for Republicans, with 73 percent of them saying they prefer to support someone who would undo those immigration steps taken by a president deeply unpopular within their party.

But 25 percent of Republicans say they would prefer to vote for a candidate who would keep Obama's immigration actions in place. And another 34 percent say they could vote for such a candidate even though they disagree on that issue, so long as they see eye to eye on other matters.

Even among conservative Republicans, more than half say they either prefer a candidate who would keep the immigration action in place (16 percent) or that they could imagine voting for a presidential candidate who would (40 percent).

Division on Obama's actions

The poll shows that overall, Americans are split on what they want a 2016 presidential candidate to do about the executive action Obama took last year. Just over half (54 percent) say they're more likely to support someone who wants to keep that action in place, while 46 percent are more likely to support someone who wants to undo it.

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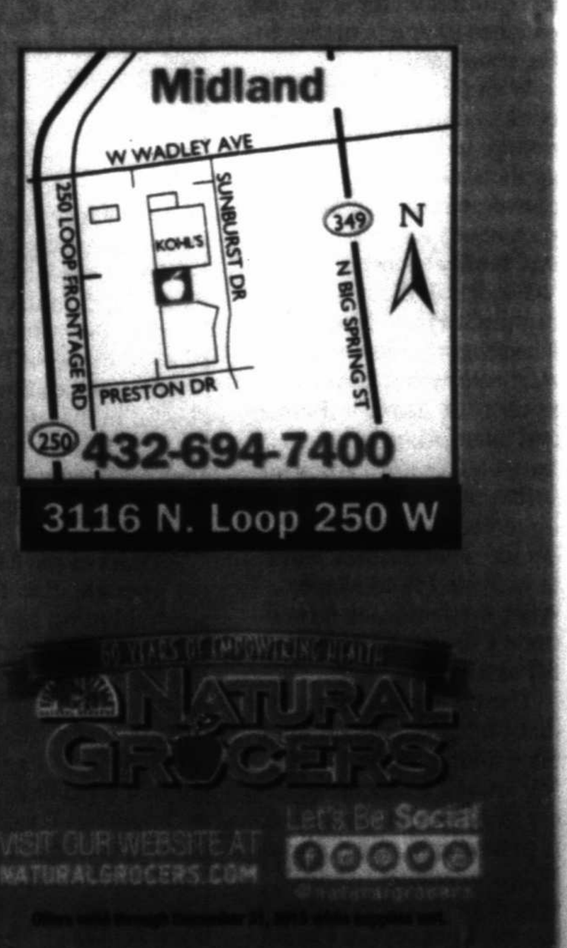


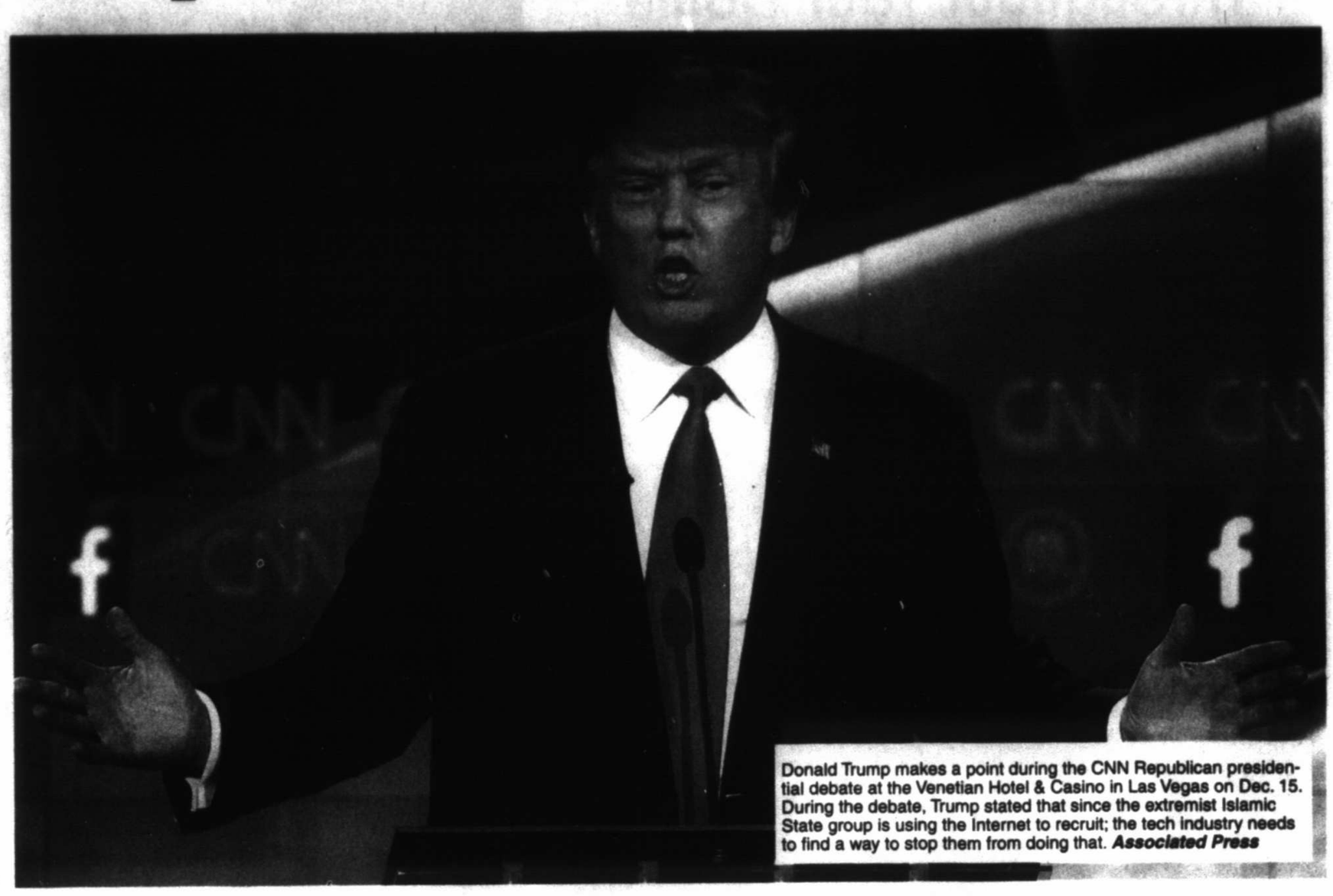
Why Trump can't shut down the Internet

By Bree Fowler
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Donald Trump says the government must work with "brilliant people" in Silicon Valley to keep violent extremists offline, even if it means shutting down parts of the Internet.

But what he's proposing isn't possible with today's technology. And even if it were, such a move would likely hurt more than potential attackers, and it would hinder the government's ability to keep tabs on them.

Here's a look at Trump's idea and why it won't work:



Donald Trump makes a point during the CNN Republican presidential debate at the Venetian Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas on Dec. 15. During the debate, Trump stated that since the extremist Islamic State group is using the Internet to recruit; the tech industry needs to find a way to stop them from doing that. *Associated Press*

What Trump said

During Tuesday's Republican presidential debate, Trump said that because the extremist Islamic State group is using the Internet to recruit, the tech industry needs to find a way to stop them from doing that.

"ISIS is recruiting through the Internet. ISIS is using the Internet better than we are using the Internet, and it was our idea," Trump said. "What I wanted to do is I wanted to get our brilliant people from Silicon Valley and other places and figure out a way that ISIS cannot do what they're doing."

What Trump proposes

Trump went on to say that he would be open to closing parts of the Internet that cover areas where the U.S. is at war or where IS operates, such as parts of Syria and Iraq. Even better, he said, would be to tap the brightest minds from the U.S. to infiltrate extremists' Internet gatherings and stay up on their activities — something U.S. intelligence agencies are already working at.

Trump isn't alone in calling on Silicon Valley's brainpower to figure out a way to keep violent extremists off social networks and messaging services. Democrat Hillary Clinton also has said the U.S. government and technologists should work together to block potential attackers from using the Internet to draw in new supporters.

First obstacle: the Internet itself

For one thing, the U.S. doesn't control the Internet. No one does.

Because the Internet is a global network of networks that are all owned by different governments, companies or individuals, "no one person owns it," said Charlie Baker, vice president of product management for the Internet performance company Dyn.

Routing around obstacles

Ferreting out extremist groups and kicking them off the Internet in the U.S. just isn't realistic, given how rapidly the fluid Internet grows and changes. And the U.S. just doesn't have the technical ability to cut off Internet access in a country it doesn't control. (Military action might be a different story, although it presents difficulties of its own.)

Baker added that people have a long history of finding their way around Internet restrictions whether it's democracy activists in China or Iran, or tweens looking to circumvent their school's firewall.

The problem with social media

Groups such as IS have mastered social media for recruiting and spreading their message. Both Twitter and Facebook declined to comment on Trump's remarks, but say they don't tolerate posts that promote violence and aggressively remove such posts when reported by their users. Twitter bans accounts if they're linked to such activity.

Banned-account Whack-A-Mole

But there's nothing stopping banned users from opening new accounts under different names, turning such efforts into the equivalent of "Whack-A-Mole."

So far, Internet companies have resisted preemptively blocking posts, partly because that would require them to make judgment calls about what constitutes terrorism — a definition that differs around the world.

That pesky first amendment

Any attempt to filter out the online activities of extremist groups would inevitably infringe on the First Amendment rights of Americans, said David Greene, civil liberties director for the Electronic Frontier Foundation.

"Even if you would accept the proposition that some of this speech is illegal, it's impossible to block just that out," Greene said.

Facebook adding 'Photo Magic' to Messenger application

By Michael Liedtke
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Facebook is trying to make it easier to send photos as the holiday season's picture-taking frenzy escalates with the arrival of Christmas and New Year's Eve.

The world's largest social networking service is offering a feature called "Photo Magic" that will automatically address a message so it can be sent quickly to Facebook friends identified in a picture. The option relies on the same image-recognition technology that attaches people's names to Facebook posts.

With this twist, Facebook is deploying the technology in its Messenger application to make it more convenient to distribute pictures to a few friends and family members.

Facebook Inc. will highlight Photo Magic in a Messenger update that will start rolling out Thursday to users of Apple's iPhones and smartphones running on Google's Android software. It will still be up to each individual to decide whether they want to activate Photo Magic. After the feature is turned on, it can still be switched off at any time.

The update is being distributed to a broad audience after a month of testing among smartphone users in Australia. Facebook is planning to make Photo Magic available to Messenger users everywhere in the world except in Canada and the European Union.

Messenger currently has more than 700 million users, about half the size of the audience on Facebook's social network.

Facebook is counting on Photo Magic to foster more allegiance to its Messenger app as it competes against other competing services such as Snapchat that have become particularly popular among teenagers and young adults.

If Photo Magic is turned on, it is supposed to promptly figure out if any of the people in a picture belong to the smartphone owner's circle of Facebook friends. If some are found, Photo Magic creates a messaging thread that allows a user to send the picture to all the identified parties with two clicks.

About 9.5 billion pictures are already sent through Messenger each month, according to Facebook. The Menlo Park, California, company believes the volume will be even higher if Photo Magic's automation is successful in making it less of a hassle to pick out the images and figure out which people might be interested in seeing them.

As part of the Messenger upgrade, Facebook is also including an option that will allow users to change the colors of their exchanges with different friends, and switch the formal name of a recipient to a nickname, such as "mom" or "dad." Until now, Messenger's address book mirrored the names listed on people's Facebook profiles.

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TODAY: Mostly sunny High: 70 Low: 38

MONDAY: Sunny High: 68 Low: 47

TUESDAY: Sunny High: 65 Low: 45

WEDNESDAY: Sunny High: 69 Low: 40

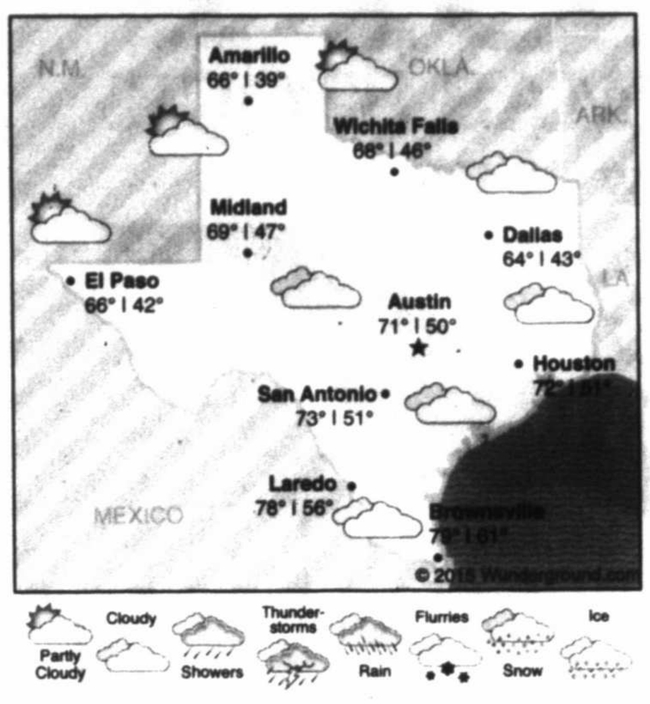
THURSDAY: Sunny High: 69 Low: 43

CHRISTMAS DAY: Sunny High: 68 Low: 47

Local forecast

The high temperatures this holiday week are expected to be in the upper 60s and the lows in the 40s, according to the National Weather Service. Rain is not in the forecast.

The high on Saturday reached 63, while the low was 33. The record high for Dec. 19 is 78 set in 1978. The record low is 10 set in 1996. On Dec. 19 of last year, the high was 54 and the low was 37.



Weather brief

Wet weather continues in the northwest

Rain and higher elevation snow showers will continue over the Northwest and into the northern Rockies. A few showers will push into the Midwest along a cold front moving through the region.

Precipitation

Friday	0.00 in.
Saturday	0.00 in.
Month total	0.16 in.
Year total	21.55 in.
Normal total (year to date)	14.38 in.

Saturday's temperatures

High	63
Low	33
Normal high	57
Normal low	30
Sunrise	7:24 a.m.
Sunset	5:56 p.m.

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Along with other newspapers in the South region, the Midland Reporter-Telegram will publish the contest for 17 weeks, beginning September 6th. Entry forms publish every Sunday and Monday in the sports section.

In addition to the $1,000 regional grand prize, a local prize of a $50 gift card from Domino's Pizza will be awarded each week.

In POWER POINTS, the object of the game is to amass as many of the 136 possible points each week as you can. Contestants select winners from each week's list of games – mostly NFL action but with a smattering of top regional college games. Contestants pick their winners and plot them along a weighted point scale according to their confidence in them. Your highest-confidence pick goes on the 16-point line, your lowest-confidence pick on the 1-point line.

The contestant regionally who tallies the most of the 136 points each week wins $1,000. The local contestant who tallies the most of the 136 points is the local winner.

To enter the contest, drop off your entries at Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, Texas.

Weekly deadline for entry is 2 p.m. on Thursdays.

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Sweet Potatoes Garden Fresh 77¢ Lb.

Deli Made Tamales 6 Ct. $6.97

Jumbo Biscuits Shurfine Assorted 8 Count 87¢

Crisp Celery Garden Fresh 97¢ Ea.

Whipped Topping Shurfine Assorted 8 Oz. 77¢

Barkers Chili Pods Assorted, 8 Oz. 2 FOR $5

Shurfine Flour Self Rising, All Purpose 5 Lb. Bag $1.37

Shurfine Sugar Pure Granulated 4 Lb. Bag $1.47

Premium Corn Husks 1 Lb. Pkg. $3.97

Powdered or Brown Sugar Shurfine 2 Lb. $1.17

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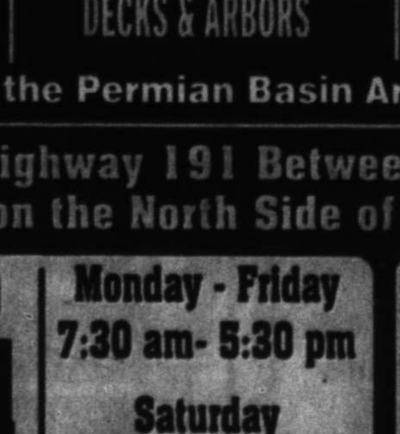
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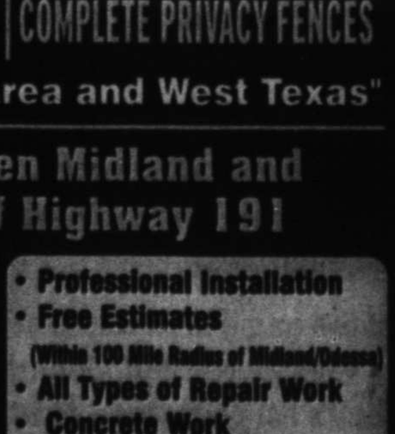
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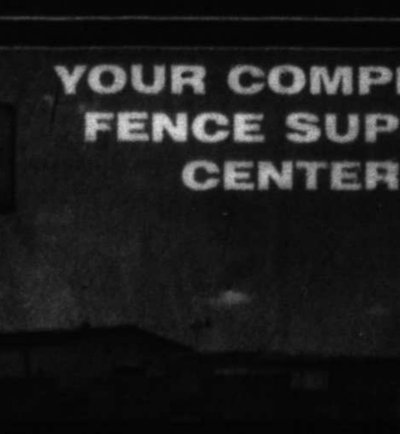
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Study: Barnett Shale richer than previously thought

By Jim Malewitz
Texas Tribune

North Texas' Barnett Shale — one of the country's largest natural gas fields and the birthplace of modern fracturing — holds even more reachable gas than previously thought, the federal government said.

The U.S Geological Survey says the 25-county region holds an average volume of about 53 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, according to its updated assessment released Thursday. That's nearly twice as much gas as the agency estimated in 2003, before a mad dash of drillers transformed the landscape in North Texas.

The region's shale also holds about 172 million barrels of shale oil and 176 million barrels of natural gas liquids, the new estimate says.

More than a decade ago, the agency pegged the Barnett's undiscovered holdings at about 26.2 trillion cubic feet of undiscovered gas and 1 billion barrels of natural gas liquids. It did not bother to assess how much oil was trapped in the North Texas rock — assuming it was minimal.

But that was before George P. Mitchell pioneered the combination of horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing that allowed companies to unlock resources long considered off limits, triggering a Texas-led petroleum boom in the United States.

The fracturing revolution prompted the agency to take another look at how much natural gas operators could recover from the Barnett with new drilling techniques, Kristen Marra, a scientist with the Geological Survey, said in a statement.

The revised estimate drew cheers from oil and gas industry supporters, who have spent much of the year fretting about scaled-back production and worker layoffs due to plummeting oil prices — problems largely explained by the fracturing-enabled drilling frenzy.

(A glut of cheap natural gas started slowing down activity a few years ago, as the Texas oil boom was just getting going.)

"It's a testament to American ingenuity that we are still finding massive new supplies of natural gas, especially here in the place where the (fracturing) boom began," Steve Everley, a spokesman for the industry-funded group North Texans for Natural Gas, said in an email. "This new assessment is certainly good news for our energy security."

SOME HELPING HANDS

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Helping Hands of Midland distributed food, clothing and toys to nearly 200 families in need on Saturday.

The best way to experience Christmas day is through the eyes of a child

TERRY WILLIAMSON
Real life columnist

Did you ever notice that just about every stage of life has its own set of trade-offs? When you are young, you want to be older. When you grow old, you want to be younger. It's a never-ending cycle.

But isn't that the defining state of the human condition? We are never entirely satisfied with any phase of our lives. We live in a perpetual maze of fences where the grass is always a bit greener just on the other side of the next fence.

I think that's one reason J.M. Barrie's "Peter Pan" is such a literary classic. He reminds us of the trade-offs we endure for growing up. There are prices to pay, and there are advantages to both sides of the equation.

For me, however, I prefer being young. I've been told many times that I simply never grew up.

I'm especially reminded of that at this time of year. The best way to experience Christmas is through the eyes of a child. Many of us have forgotten what it is like to be a child at Christmas, and that's a shame.

The magic that is Christmas must be witnessed through the eyes of the young, which is why I've refused to grow up — just like Peter Pan.

I might be old in age, but the wonder of Christmas is alive and well within my being.

Oh, I celebrate Christmas much differently now than when I was a kid, but I still feel the magic in the air and am still filled with anticipation of the event.

I've seen Christmas through the eyes of my children and grandchildren. And I have to say that, in an age of the grass always being greener, Christmas now is even better than when I was a kid. There is nothing better than seeing your children and grandkids experience the full gamut of the Christmas holidays.

In our family, we try to blend the religious symbols in with earthly wonderment of the season. We place Christ at the center of our celebration, and it's like a big birthday party. We have a Jesus cake and cookies for Santa.

We also try to teach our family members the importance of giving and receiving and see to it that they enjoy both aspects of this gift-giving time of year.

However, you can't do any of this if you have forgotten what it is like to be a kid. You must keep that feeling of magic all around you and accept anticipation. To ignore it is to miss the wonderment of Christmas Eve and Christmas morning.

When I was a kid, I couldn't sleep on Christmas Eve. I was afraid I would miss something.

While I was delighted to find presents under the tree the next morning, I was also ashamed of myself for dozing off and missing the show.

Since I've become an adult, not much has changed. In fact, I usually don't sleep well on Christmas Eve. It now seems like the grandkids start getting antsy at about 4 a.m. — or just about the time you really get into a good sleep pattern.

Sometimes, I wish Santa would just come in the middle of the day and quit sneaking around. But nobody has ever asked me what time I wanted him to arrive.

But then again, no matter what age you are, the grass is always a bit greener just on the other side of the fence — even at Christmas.

So, don't be such a curmudgeon. Just look into the eyes of the children to see the heart of Christmas.

Thought for the Week: "Our hearts grow tender with childhood memories and love of kindred, and we are better throughout the year for having, in spirit, become a child again at Christmas-time." — Laura Ingalls Wilder, author of "Little House on the Prairie" series of children's novels.

RYDER WARREN
MISD superintendent

Attendance rates show improvement during first semester

On behalf of the Midland ISD board of trustees and the faculty and staff of the school district, I want to thank all of our stakeholders for an outstanding first semester of our school year and also wish everyone a very happy (and very safe) holiday season. Please be proud of our students and our staff members. This is definitely the time of year when everyone needs a break, because both groups have been working extremely hard since August.

We are ending our first semester with more than 24,000 students (24,421 as of last Friday), so we are still dealing with many challenges to serve all of our kids with excellence. I am very much looking forward to our spring semester, so once again, thank all of you for the support Midland gives our children and our schools.

There are two subjects I want to touch on as we go into our Christmas break, and both are very important issues facing our community and MISD right now. The first subject will hopefully turn into a New Year's resolution for our parents, caregivers and students. In a previous article, I detailed the district's new internal accountability system. One of the very important metrics we are tracking this year is our campus attendance rates and how those apply to instructional time for students. This is the first measurement for which I can thank our parents and caregivers, because we are already starting to move the needle.

As reported over the last few years, MISD has maintained one of the lowest attendance rates in the state. For the 2014-15 school year, the statewide attendance average was over 96 percent. We were 2 full percentage points under the state average at 94 percent. As we developed the measurements for the accountability plan last summer, targeting absenteeism was one of the first goals. Our target for the 2015-16 school year is the state average — 96 percent.

I am very pleased to let everyone know that MISD students have already gained more instructional time during the first two six week grading periods this school year, and I cannot thank them and their parents/caregivers enough. We were at the goal for the first six weeks (96 percent), beating last year's attendance rate. We slipped a little for the second six weeks (95 percent), but that still put us up 1 percentage point from last year, so we can still be on track to realize our ultimate goal.

I especially need all of our caregivers to understand that we are not asking kids to come to school who are too sick to do so. Working with more than 24,000 kids daily, we all know that children are going to deal with sickness, but we strive to make sure our kids and our caregivers realize the academic toll of not attending school regularly. Already having better attendance rates this school year makes me understand that message is getting out, and I could not be more proud of our students and our parents.

The second issue is one that our nation is struggling with right now. The most important task we have in the school district is not educating our children. The first thing we must do, on a daily basis, is to make sure all of our children, staff members and guests are safe on our campuses. As a parent and as a school leader, it is of great concern the number of shootings happening in our country.

I get questions all the time from parents and from MISD staff members about our safety measures in relation to our campuses, so I wanted to take time

Please see WARREN/5B

Obituaries

Alfonso Acosta Esparza

Alfonso Acosta Esparza, 67, of Midland, Texas, passed away on December 15, 2015 in Midland. Alfonso was born November 21, 1948, to Armando and Frances Esparza in Ft. Stockton, Texas. He attended school in Pecos, Texas, where he enlisted in the Army and proudly served his country in the Vietnam War.

In 1970, he married the love of his life, Sandy G. Esparza, who he lovingly referred to as his "Werinche." They had four children together, Jeanette, Erica, Eddie, and Jacob. They also raised their granddaughter Crystal as their own.

Our dad was a hardworking man and instilled those values in each of us. Dad loved his grandchildren deeply and this was evident in his daily interactions with each of his grandchildren. He adored his Dallas Cowboys and watched them avidly every football season. We would like to thank everyone for the outpouring of love and support that has been shown to us in the last five months.

Alfonso is preceded in death by both parents; a sister, Susan Reyes; and by one grandson, Nufy Vasquez.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Sandy Esparza; three daughters, Jeanette Tavares of Dallas, Texas, Erica Esparza of Midland, and Crystal Hernandez of Midland; two sons, Eddie Esparza and Jacob Esparza, both of Midland; as well as 10 grandchildren and 11 greatgrandchildren.

He is also survived by five brothers, Armando Esparza, Jr. pf Pecos, Texas, Jesse Esparza of Midland, Wayne Sparkman of Pecos, Rodney Sparkman, Jr. of Utah, and Jim Sparkman of Birmingham; five sisters, Mary Franco of Pecos, Virginia Jones of Abilene, Texas, Sylvia Hernandez of Ft. Stockton, Pat Sparkman, of Pecos, and Cynthia Chavez of Roundrock, Texas.

Rosary will be at 7:30 p.m., Thursday December 17, 2015 at Peaceful Garden Funeral Home Chapel, at 116 W. 4th. Pecos, Texas 79772.

Funeral mass will be at 11:00 a.m., Friday, December 18, 2015 at Santa Rosa Catholic Church, 620 E. 4th St. Pecos, Texas, 79772 with Father Jose Dela Cruz officiating, and with interment in the Mt. Evergreen Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be David Joe Gonzales, Bruce Franco, Randy Navarrette, Angel Alanis, Billy Tavarez, Edward Esparza, Piffy Reyes, and Roy Marta.

Arrangements are under the direction of Peaceful Garden Funeral Home, 116 W. 4th. St. Pecos, TX 79772, Phone (432) 445-3457 Fax (432) 445-4877.

Dolores (Lola) Tucker

Dolores (Lola) Tucker, 82, of Midland, Texas, passed away on December 16, 2015.

Dolores was born in Sheffield, Texas on February 27,1933 to Doroteo and Maria Mendoza.

She graduated in 1954 from Iraan High School. After graduation, she moved to Midland, Texas and married Pete Tucker.

She will forever be remembered by her three children: daughter, Elvira and Rob Arnberger of Tucson, Arizona; son, Pete Tucker Jr. of Midland; daughter, Elida and Mohan Singh of Midland. She was fortunate to have had eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren and delighted in them all.

She is also survived by her sister, Maria Flores; and many nephews, nieces, cousins, and long-time loving friends which were never forgotten by her.

She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, four brothers, and one sister.

Dolores worked in two area hospitals and, in her later years, at Casa de Amigos and Community and Senior Services - Senior Companion Program providing friendship and companionship. She could always be counted upon to volunteer her time and energy to those who needed help. The family would like to thank the Senior Care staff for all the compassionate care that was given to our mom Dolores during her stay there. Their kindness and sincere caring is deeply appreciated. We would like to thank family and friends for their love and support.

Visitation will be held at Thomas Funeral Home on Monday, December 21, 2015 from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Rosary will be held on Monday, December 21, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at Thomas Funeral Home.

Funeral Services will be held on Tuesday, December 22, 2015 at 1:00 PM at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, 1401 Garden Ln., Midland, TX.

Interment will be held at Resthaven Memorial Park.

Memorial donations can be made in memory of Dolores Tucker to Casa de Amigos, 1101 Garden Ln., Midland, TX 79701, or Senior Companion program 3301 Sinclair Ave., Midland, TX. 79707.

Online condolences may be made at *www.legacy.com*.

Thomas
FUNERAL HOME
FUNERALS / CREMATIONS – Midland, Texas

James "Bob" Robert Lawrence, Jr.

James "Bob" Robert Lawrence, Jr., 86, of Skellytown, Texas, passed away on Thursday, December 17, 2015 in Midland, Texas.

He was born on November 23, 1929 in Pooleville, Oklahoma. He served in the United States Army and was a Korean War Veteran.

He married the love of his life, Wilma "Lucille" Lawrence, on August 14, 1954 in Healdton, Oklahoma. In 1958, Bob and Lucille moved to Skellytown, Texas. He was a loving father to his five children, James Robert, III, Michael Ivan, William David, Judith Ann, and Ila Patricia. Bob was the Mayor and a Councilman in Skellytown, but also worked as an accomplished contractor. At the time of his retirement, he was employed by Chevron. He was a faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Borger, Texas.

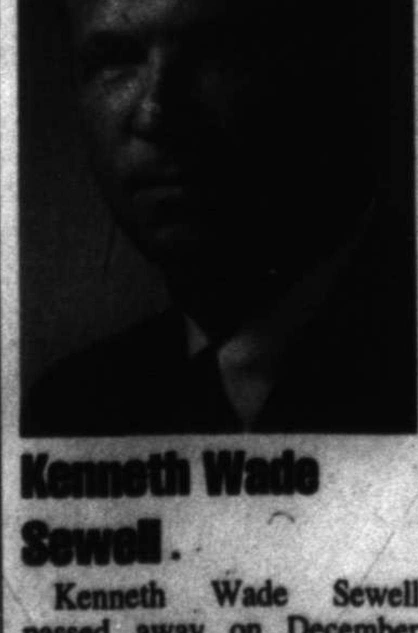
He is preceded in death by his loving wife, Lucille Lawrence; daughter, Judith Ann Minatrea; and sister, Flonel Bernice Mason.

He is survived by his three sons, James Robert Lawrence, III and wife Kara of Midland, Michael Ivan Lawrence and wife Kelly of Ponca City, Oklahoma, and William David Lawrence of Los Angeles, California; daughter, Ila Patricia Lawrence of San Francisco, California; six grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and by sisters, Mamie Bess Jones and Kate Rogene Staggs and husband R.C. all of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Graveside services will be held on Monday, December 21, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. at Mount Olive Cemetery in Healdton, Oklahoma.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made to Fisher House Foundation at www.fisherhouse.org.

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



Kenneth Wade Sewell

Kenneth Wade Sewell passed away on December 13, 2015 in the care of Hospice.

He was born in Nocona, Texas on September 26, 1929 to Dewey Hobson Sewell and Laura Jaye Griffith. He graduated from Nocona High School and Midwestern University where he played basketball. After graduation, he taught fifth and sixth graders and coached their basketball and football teams at West Elementary in Midland. After one year, he was hired as the first fulltime basketball coach at Midland High School. Leaving there, he lived in several Texas cities where he was in sales for Milchem Mud Company, coming back to Midland in 1973 and remained there until moving to a retirement area in Southlake, Texas in May of 2014.

He was a member of Midland Country Club, where he spent many happy hours with his great buddies on the golf course. He was also a member of First Presbyterian Church of Midland, where he served as a deacon, the Midland Petroleum Club, and Barry Beal's Bible Study.

He was preceded in death by his mother and father.

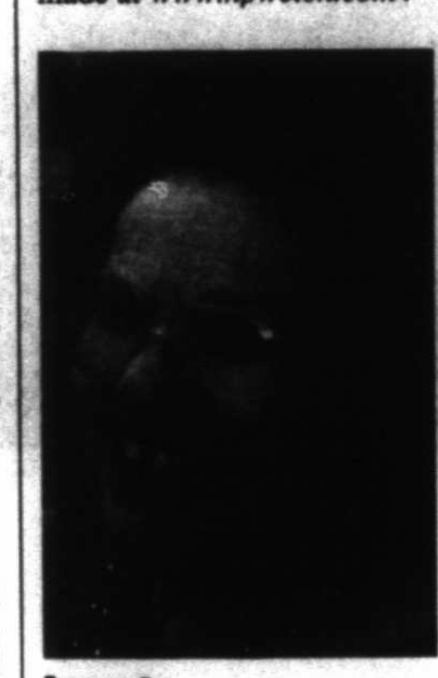
He is survived by his loving wife, Wanda; his son, Kelly Sewell and wife Terry Lynn of Flower Mound, Texas; and his daughter, Kim Sewell Spence and husband Jay of Coppell, Texas. He was Pops to his much loved grandchildren, Ben Sewell and wife Julie of Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, James Spence of Dallas, Graceanne Sewell Brim and husband Justin of San Antonio, and Sarah Jaye Spence of Norman, Oklahoma.

Also surviving are stepgrandchildren, Amanda Carpenter Kelly and husband Chuck and children Kalen and Kamryn of Trophy Club, Texas, and Brandon Carpenter and wife Jennifer of Lewisville, Texas; and by numerous extended family members and friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations can be made to Hospice, First Presbyterian Church of Midland, 800 W. Texas Ave., Midland, TX 79701, Carry the Load, an organization to help veterans, 4145 Travis St., Suite 202, Dallas, TX 75204, or a charity of your choice.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Monday, December 21, 2015 at First Presbyterian Church in Midland. Honorary pallbearers will be Jim Hill, Charles Ray, Perry Bolger, Jim Lucas, Charles Koch, Carl Brininstool, Glen Ellis, Dale Sumrall, R. C. "Buzz" Banks, and all his golfing buddies.

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



Laveta Montgomery O'Neil

Laveta Montgomery O'Neil, 76, of Midland, Texas, died peacefully October 24, 2015 at the home of her son in Dallas, after a long battle with Alzheimer's.

She was the daughter of Cecil P. and Drucie Montgomery, loving wife of the late Delbert E O'Neil, and is survived by her son Monty O'Neil and partner Rodney Orsak.

A Celebration of Life will be held Monday, December 21, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. at West Kentucky Baptist Church, 1507 W. Kentucky Ave., Midland, Texas.

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt.com

Questions about death notices or online Guest Books? Email to obits@mrt.com

Mary Sue Mullins

Long time Midland resident, Mary Sue Mullins, passed away on Friday, December 11, 2015 at Midland Memorial Hospital.

An architectural designer, Sue Mullins leaves an abundance of design influence on Midland. Starting with the family's move to Midland in 1948, Ms. Mullins designed hundreds of homes and offices in Midland, as well as other parts of the country and world. She loved architecture and good design and this is reflected in the hundreds of homes still lived in and loved by their residents. Often she had a waiting list of clients and many repeat clients.

Mary Sue Capps Mullins, a fourth generation Texan, was born in Winters, Texas in 1926. She was raised on the Capps Ranch near Tipton, Oklahoma where her family raised Aberdeen Angus cattle. She married a dashing Navy fighter pilot, Frank Mullins, and they settled in Midland after World War II. Working as a team, Sue designed and Frank built residential and commercial buildings.

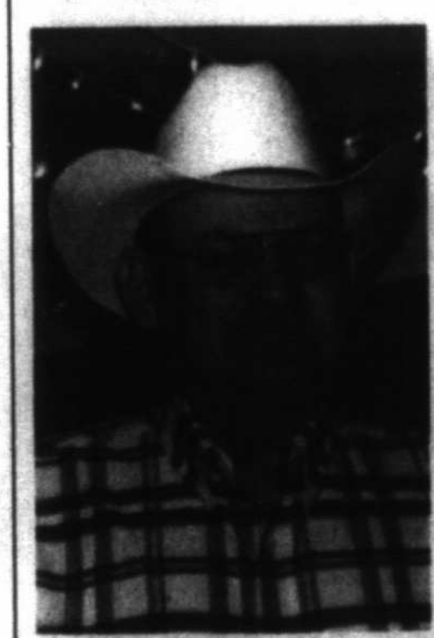
In 1960, during a lull in the oil business, the family moved to Boulder, Colorado where Sue continued architectural studies and designing for clients. After completing a development project with the Boulder Country Club, the Mullins then returned to Midland in 1979 to take part in the development of Green Tree Country Club. Following Mr. Mullins' death in 1995, Mrs. Mullins completed the development of Green Tree North and continued to design until shortly before her death.

She was very artistic and loved dancing and jazz. For more than 30 years, she played the accordion accompanying the Christmas carolers for the annual country club golf-cart Christmas parade, first in Boulder, and then in Midland.

Mrs. Mullins is survived by their three daughters and their families: Roselle George of Potomac, Maryland; Ann Johnston of Chelsea, Michigan; and Nancy Bookout of Midland; five grandchildren, 11 greatgrandchildren; and by her brother, Sen. Gilmer Neely Capps of Frederick, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Mullins was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Green Tree Country Club, and the West Texas Jazz Society.

A memorial service will be held on January 30, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church. Her ashes will be placed with her husband's in Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, D.C.



Mickey Don Lambert

Mickey Don Lambert, 59, of Midland, passed away Thursday, December 17, 2015. A visitation will be held from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Sunday, December 20, 2015 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held 2:00 p.m., Monday, December 21, 2015 at Bellview Baptist Church in Midland.

Mickey was born on November 27, 1956 in San Angelo, Texas to Jack Lambert and Joyce Jones Lambert.

Mickey enjoyed fishing, gun-smithing, and target shooting. His greatest joy was his family and being a stand in "grandpa" to his nieces and nephews and when he officially became a "PA" to Dylan, Gavyn, and Cason.

Mickey is survived by his mother, Joyce Jones Lambert of Midland; sister, Pam Lambert Gomez and husband, Rudy of Burleson; sister, Julie Lambert Jolly and husband, Mark of Midland; brother, Jeff Lambert and wife, Ellen of Midland; son, Cody Lambert and wife, April of Burleson; son, Joshua Lambert; grandsons, Dylan, Gavyn and Cason Lambert of Burleson; granddaughters, Autumn and Summer Kincheloe of Burleson; nephews, Jason Brooks and wife, Jennifer, Matthew Jolly and Jacob Lambert; nieces, Misty Widas and husband, Robert, Lacey Brooks, Cassie Jolly, Emily Jolly, and Sarah Jolly. He is preceded in death by his father, Jack Lambert; and brother, Guy Clifton Lambert.

The family would like to express their gratitude toward the critical care nursing staff and doctors at Midland Memorial Hospital, our church family at Bellview Baptist Church, and many friends and family.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the Children's Ministry Mission Trip at Bellview Baptist Church, 1710 N Big Spring St, Midland, TX 79701.

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

Omera Lee Hobbs Hoeckendorf Askew

Omera Lee Hobbs Hoeckendorf Askew went home to be with our Lord on December 15, 2015.

Omera was born to William and Lilly Hobbs on August 28, 1921. Omera was a kind, loving and generous woman who touched everyone's lives in a positive way.

She is preceded in death by her sons, Frank Hoeckendorf and Charles Hoeckendorf; and by her grandson, Joshua Hoeckendorf.

She is survived by her son, Willard Hoeckendorf.

Omera is also survived by grandkids, Kevin Hoeckendorf, Terri Woods, Amber Jackson, Stacy Chambers, Sarah Farmer; and Ashley Avery. She has 16 great grandchildren and numerous great great-grandchildren.

She was a devoted member of Cotton Flat Baptist Church.

Omera will be dearly missed by everyone who knew and loved her.

Viewing will be held on Sunday, December 20, 2015 from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., with family from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Services will be held on Monday, December 21, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at Thomas Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Fairview Cemetery.

Thomas
FUNERAL HOME
FUNERALS / CREMATIONS – Midland, Texas

Patsy Ainsworth Childress

Patsy Ainsworth Childress, 65, of Midland, passed away December 17, 2015 in Midland, Texas. She was born November 17, 1950 in Roscoe, Texas to Pat and Beverly Ainsworth.

She grew up in Snyder, Texas and graduated from Snyder High School. She then attended West Texas State University in Canyon, Texas where she fell in love with LeeRoy Childress. They married August 16, 1969 and shortly after settled in Midland.

In 1980, she went to work at what would become Christensen Interests and was there for 35 years. She had a great love for helping others serving as a Pink Lady at Midland Memorial Hospital.

She had a passion for cooking competition chili with CASI. Her loving and giving soul led her to her greatest impact in 2000 when she began Patsy's Cookoff. This event, which has continued strong for 15 years and touched so many lives, has raised almost $500,000 for Gifts of Hope in Midland.

Patsy is preceded in death by her parents, Pat and Beverly Ainsworth.

She is survived by her husband, LeeRoy Childress of Midland; son, Max Childress and wife Kiva Childress of San Angelo; son, Aaron Childress and wife Melanie Childress of Midland, grandchildren, Ryann, Zoe', Cameron, and Kyli; sister, Marsha Cribbs and husband Barry Cribbs of Snyder; sister, Roxanna Jones and husband Fred Jones of Abilene; and by 11 nieces and eight nephews.

Memorial services will be held Wednesday, December 23, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at Memorial Christian Church, 1001 Andrews Hwy. Midland, Texas; following, a reception will be held at The American Legion at Midland Airpark.

Patsy's wishes were casual dress and donations to be made to Gifts of Hope, 2006 W. Tennessee Ave., Midland, TX 79701, in lieu of flowers.

Fly home with the angels! Your fight is done! We will see you again!

Funeral service 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
2500 N. Big Spring · Midland, TX · (432) 683-3700

Patsy Jeanne Odom

Patsy Jeanne Odom, 84, of Stanton, died Friday, December 18, 2015 in a Big Spring nursing home. Viewing will be Monday, December 21, 2015 from noon to 7:00 p.m. with family visitation from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Gilbreath Funeral Home in Stanton, Texas.

Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, December 22, 2015 at the Stanton Downtown Church of Christ, with Kendall Tomlinson minister, and Ben Mereness of Amarillo, officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery in Stanton.

She was born May 11, 1931 in Big Spring, Texas and married R.P. Odom, Sr. on January 21, 1950 in Stanton, Texas. She was a dedicated member of the Church of Christ. Patsy was primarily a homemaker with a strong entrepreneurial spirit who loved being in the insurance and travel business as well. She was an incredible cook, artist, and so many more things. She was a warm and caring woman who loved her family and friends, and will be forever missed by her family and by a legion of friends.

Survivors include one grandson, Robert P. Odom, III of Stanton; one granddaughter, Angie Odom of Fort Worth, Texas; and her brothers, Charles and John Dale Kelly, Jr.

She was preceded in death by a son, Robert Payne Odom, Jr.; her husband, Robert Payne Odom Sr.; and by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Kelly, Sr.

Obituaries

The family requests in lieu of flowers, memorials be made to Medina Children's Home, 21300 State Hwy.16 North, Medina, Texas 78055 or Eastern European Mission, P.O. Box 670928. Dallas, Texas 75367.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences may be made at *www.npwelch.com*.

Ross Edwin Freeman

Ross Edwin Freeman was born on December 5, 1924 and departed this life on December 17, 2015. Visitation will be held from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 20, 2015 at Clifton Funeral Home. A funeral service will be at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, December 21, 2015 at Clifton Funeral Home with Pastor Mary Gean Cope officiating. Interment will be at Clifton Memorial Park following the service.

He was the youngest of four sons born to the marriage of Ora Elizabeth Freeman and Albert Roscoe Freeman. His father was a rancher in Stephens County, Texas and he died from injuries sustained in a horse accident in August of 1925. Since Ross was only eight months old at the time, he had no memory of his father.

Following the death of Albert, Matt Williams, Ross's uncle and the older brother of Ross' mother, joined the family as mentor, father, helper, and leader. Since the oldest of the four sons was only nine at the time, Matt's coming to take the helm was a blessing at the time. Matt was six years older than his sister Ora, single, and available to help, lend guidance, counsel, and assume a fatherly role.

In December of 1929, the family moved from Stephens County to Bosque County, and settled on a farm between Union Hill and Eulogy. The family remained on this farm until November of 1933, at which time Ross's mother married William Daniel Bynum who was 22 years older than Ora. William had 13 children by his first marriage. When his wife died, she was survived by 10 sons and three grandchildren. The five oldest of the Bynum sons were married and lived away from home in 1933. That left 11 at home at the time, including Ross' mother, his stepfather, five stepbrothers, Ross, and his three older brothers, Hershall, Ray, and Horace. When friends and drop-ins were added, no one knew for sure how many people would have feet under the dinner table at mealtime. The question was never "who," but rather "how many." Preparing three meals a day for that many hungry people was a monumental chore itself, and on a wood burning stove at that.

During high school, Ross and his debate partner won first place in the county meet debates two years in a row. Ross was President of Chapter Conducting in his Future Farmers of America class. Ross was valedictorian of his senior class and received a scholarship at Texas Wesleyan Collage in Fort Worth, where he enrolled in June of 1942. While at TWC, he worked at the Griddle System starting at 26 cents an hour and ended as night manager making a whopping 39 cents an hour.

World War II was raging and Ross joined the Enlisted Reserve Corps (ERC.) Meanwhile, he met and was dating a gorgeous girl, Marinelle Fincher, who lived in Clifton. Cupid blessed their marriage on December 30, 1942. To this marriage four children were born, they being Lanny Ross Freeman (Ph.D. in geology), George Winston Freeman (D.D.S and Retired Navy Dental Captain,), Kittra Scarlett Freeman (God's little missionary who passed away at age nine, a victim of Reye's Syndrome), and Shawn Marchman Freeman (Associates Degree from Midland College.) Ross and Marinelle observed their 72nd wedding anniversary on December 30, 2014.

Ross was called to active duty in May of 1942 and was stationed at Camp Maxey, near Paris, Texas. While in basic training, he was struck down by polio and spent the following six weeks in the camp hospital. He was transported by ambulance to the Army and Navy General Hospital at Hot Springs, Arkansas. He remained there for treatment and rehabilitation until September of 1944, at which time he was assigned to the War Department Personnel Center, Camp Chaffee, Fort Smith, Arkansas. Ross served there as Chief Clerk of the Records Section until his discharge from the Army on March 6, 1946.

Following his discharge, he and Marinelle moved to Clifton where he worked and continued his education. Ross enrolled in Baylor Law School in Waco and commuted daily from Clifton until his graduation in August, 1950.

Following receipt of his Juris Doctor degree, he took the Texas State Bar Exam and was licensed to practice law in December of 1950. While in law school, Ross was commissioned a 2nd Lt. in the Army Active Reserve. Later, he served two weeks on active duty in 1949 at Fort Hood; Camp Lee in Louisiana (1951); Fort Sill, Oklahoma (1952); and again at Fort Hood in 1953 and 1954. He retired from the Army Active Reserve in 1955 as Captain, Company Commander, Infantry, Texas Ozark Division.

From January 1948 through May 1948, Ross worked for Bosque County as a gravel truck driver and also helped repair bridges, built cattle guards, and numerous highway and road repairs. Also, while in law school, he worked as a welder in the afternoons and on Saturdays at his father-in-law's (J. G. Fincher) shop. These jobs helped put groceries on the table and cover living expenses.

Ross joined Gulf Oil Corporation in August, 1952, and was assigned to its Corporate Law Department in Midland in 1956. Taking early retirement in January of 1983, he joined a 50-member law firm in Midland. He retired from active law practice on January 31, 1991. Ross was very active in the Midland County Bar Association and served as its President in 1973.

He was also a Cub Master in scouting for two years and worked with the Boy Scouts in Midland for several years. A member of the First United Methodist Church in Midland from 1956 until his passing, Ross was active in many positions until declining health kept him homebound.

Seven decades of Post Polio Syndrome and increased loss of function beginning in 2005 continued to ravage his body unabated until his death. There is no cure for Post Polio Syndrome and no credible treatment. He is mercifully free of his physical disabilities and resides with Kittra, Ora, Horace, and other close family members and friends who paved the way before him.

Ross is survived by his loving wife of nearly 73 years; by his three sons; Winston's wife Gladys; and by two grandsons and four great grandsons. Additionally, he is survived by one brother, Ray Winston Freeman, M.D.; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Clifton Funeral Home, Clifton, Texas and burial in the family plot, Clifton.

Karson Lopez

Karson Lopez passed away on December 16, 2015. A graveside service will be held 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 22, 2015 at Serenity Memorial Gardens.

Karson is survived by his parents, Jesus and Kelsie Lopez; brother, Christian Lopez; maternal grandparents, Theresa and Tommy Williams; maternal great grandparents, Bruce and Sue Kehret, Carol and Virgil Graham, and Preston Williams; paternal grandparents, Juan Lopez, Jr., Maria Dolores Zamora and Juan Zomora; and paternal great grandparents, Juan Mora Lopez, Amalia Marquez and Ruben Marquez.

He is preceded in death by his big sister, Aleinah Lopez.

The family would like to express their most sincere gratitude to the nurses and staff of Odessa Regional Medical Center.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Odessa Regional Medical Center NICU by calling 432-582-8656.

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

Ethel Steward

Ethel Steward, 87, of Midland, Texas passed away Saturday, December 19, 2015.

Services are pending under the direction of Ellis Funeral Home.

Ernestina Andrade Martinez

Ernestina Andrade Martinez, 71, of Midland, passed away Friday, December 18, 2015

Viewing will be Sunday, December 20, 2015 from 1:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m., both at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Chapel.

Funeral service is set for Monday, December 21, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Chapel. Burial will follow at Serenity Memorial Gardens.

Ernestina is survived by her three sons, Ernie Martinez, Virgil Martinez. and Julian Martinez; and by four daughters, Debbie Ramirez, Nina Hinojosa, Frances M. Navarrette, and Sonia Arteaga all of Midland.

To Submit Obituaries:

Contact

Direct: 432-682-6222

Fax: 432-682-6999

Email: obits@mrt.com

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt.com

All Obituaries must be submitted by 3:30 P.M. prior to next publication day.

STATEBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

AUSTIN

Texas Ag commissioner gives Louisiana oranges as gifts

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller's Christmas gift to state officials might have some Texas farmers saying "Bah! Humbug!"

The Houston Chronicle reported that the boxes of oranges he sent as gifts to several officials on Friday were from farmers in neighboring Louisiana.

Photographs sent to the newspaper show some of the boxes were marked as "Grown in Plaquemines Parish."

Lucy Nashed, Miller's spokeswoman, said that for the past several years a citrus company with operations in Texas has given the commissioner citrus fruits, and in the spirit of the Christmas season Miller shared them with some state officials.

The company that grew the oranges, Saxon Becnel and Sons, does have farms in Texas, according to its website.

EL PASO

Man sentenced to 40 years for drunken wreck that killed 2

An Arizona man has been sentenced to 40 years in prison for driving drunk last year in El Paso and causing a six-vehicle wreck that killed two people.

Forty-eight-year-old Sterling Ashcroft of Fountain Hills, Arizona, pleaded guilty Friday to four charges, including two counts of murder, and was later sentenced.

The El Paso Times reported Ashcroft was driving on Interstate 10 in August 2014 when his pickup rear-ended a car, triggering a series of collisions as vehicles were slowing for traffic.

A 29-year-old man driving the car initially struck by Ashcroft and a 55-year-old woman who was a passenger in another car died at the scene.

Ashcroft has been in jail since his arrest following the wreck.

Members of Mothers Against Drunk Driving attended his court proceedings.

TYLER

Texas man sentenced to life in killing of transgender woman

A 21-year-old East Texas man has been sentenced to life in prison for the killing of a transgender woman.

Smith County prosecutor Jacob Putman told the Lufkin Daily News that the evidence implicating Carlton Champion Jr. included Champion's DNA being found in a car belonging to Ty Underwood.

Putnam said blood found on Champion's jacket also linked him to the Jan. 26 shooting of the 24-year-old Underwood.

An arrest affidavit indicates Champion may have killed Underwood after she confronted him about seeing someone else.

Tyler police have disputed claims that he killed Underwood after discovering she was transgender.

Champion was convicted Thursday in the death and prosecutors relied on text messages between the two to show he misled investigators.

NEW MEXICO

Armed suspect fatally shot by officers at Taos home

TAOS — New Mexico State Police said they are investigating the shooting of a suspect in a domestic violence incident by a Taos law enforcement officer.

State Police said the incident occurred around 7:10 p.m. Friday when Taos police and Taos County Sheriff's deputies responded to a domestic violence call.

The preliminary investigation indicates a male suspect possessed a firearm and then shots were fired.

The wounded suspect was taken to the hospital where he died from his injuries.

State Police are not releasing the identity of the suspect or the officers involved pending interviews with those involved.

Authorities also did not say if the suspect was killed by an officer or a deputy.

NEW MEXICO

Man found shot and wounded in southeast Albuquerque

ALBUQUERQUE — Albuquerque police are searching for suspects in a shooting that left a man wounded.

Officer Fred Duran said the man was listed in stable condition Saturday following at least one gunshot wound to the torso.

According to Duran, officers were called around 4:30 a.m. to the area of Dorado Drive and Dunes Road and found the victim.

Investigators are still trying to determine what led to the shooting.

No suspects have been identified.

Duran said no potential witnesses are giving officers any information.

NEW MEXICO

Santa Fe takes steps toward providing high-speed Internet

SANTA FE — Santa Fe is speeding up Internet service across the city.

The Santa Fe New Mexican reported that Mayor Javier Gonzales announced this week that a long-delayed goal of offering fast Internet speed is happening.

Gonzales said Santa Fe Fiber will raise speeds to 1 gigabit per second, or 1 billion bits per second, for the city.

Businesses in Santa Fe typically receive no more than 100 megabits per second.

Officials said the average Internet speed for Santa Fe residences is 5 megabits per second.

Gonzales said high-speed Internet is crucial for city city's ability to grow its economy.

Santa Fe Fiber is a 2-mile stretch of fiber-optic wire tying together two key access points.

Project administrator Sean Moody said the network may expand to other portions of the city.

ARIZONA

Woman dies after being hit 4 times on Scottsdale freeway

SCOTTSDALE — Authorities said a woman whose car stalled on a busy Scottsdale freeway is dead after she got out of the vehicle and was struck several times.

The Arizona Department of Public Safety said the incident happened early Saturday morning on westbound Loop 101 at Hayden Road.

According to DPS, several callers reported a sedan blocking traffic.

DPS spokesman Bart Graves said the agency received reports minutes later of a body in the roadway.

Investigators said the woman exited the car and was subsequently hit by at least four passing vehicles.

Her body was found a few hundred feet from her car.

Troopers do not believe impairment was a factor.

They said at least four drivers involved remained at the scene.

DPS is trying to determine why the vehicle stopped.

ARIZONA

Mohave Valley homeowner finds underwear-clad man in house

MOHAVE VALLEY — Authorities said a Mohave Valley man with an outstanding warrant was captured after being found in a home wearing only underwear.

The Mohave County Sheriff's Office said 21-year-old Joseph Alfonso Vasquez was booked this week on charges of trespassing, felony, and a failure to pay fines misdemeanor warrant.

Sheriff's spokeswoman Trish Carter said a 12-year-old girl in the home found Vasquez lying on a bathroom floor Wednesday night.

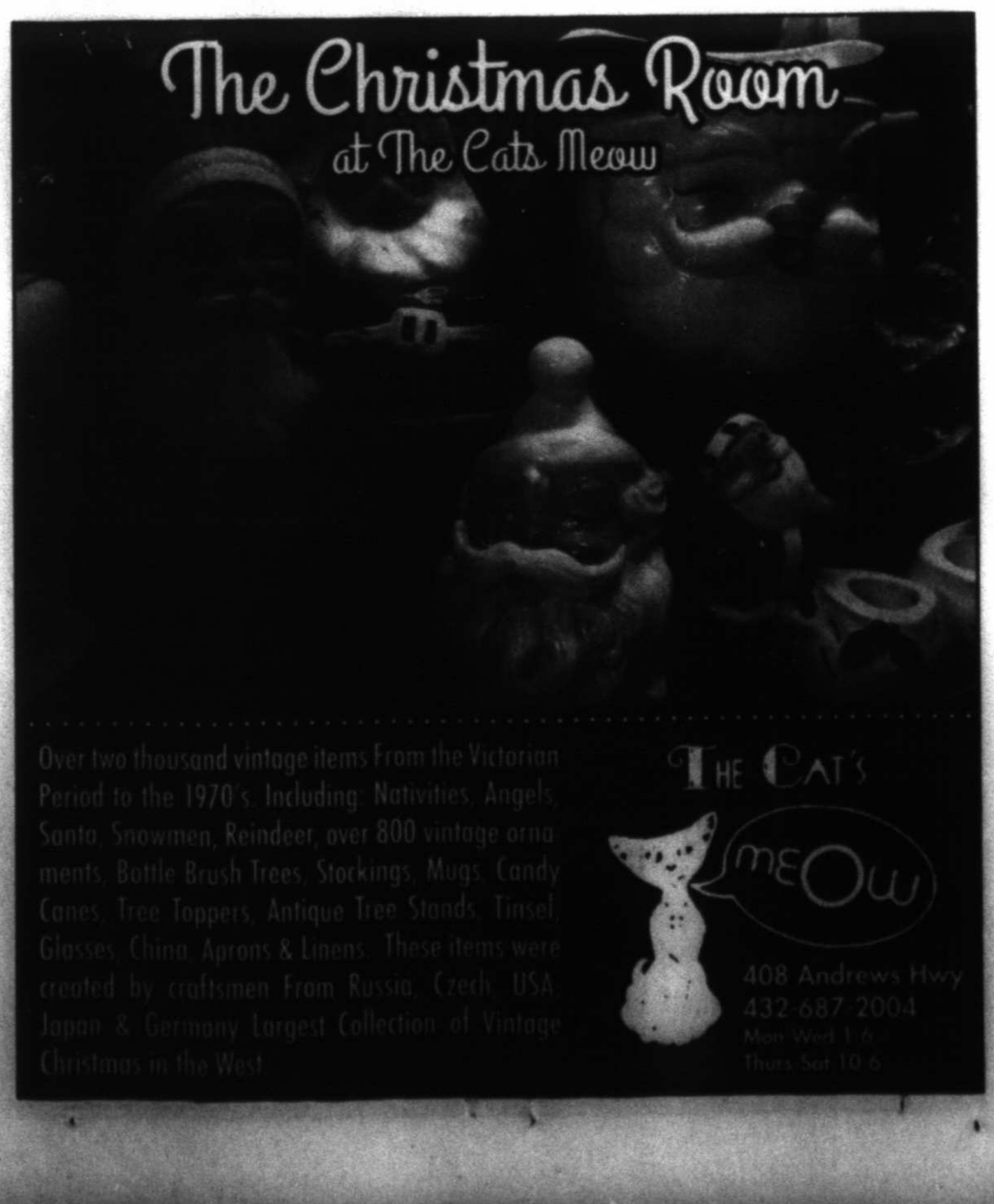
The girl alerted her father, who called authorities.

Deputies said Vasquez appeared intoxicated and a plastic bag of marijuana was found inside the pocket of a nearby pair of jeans.

Vasquez was arrested following a brief struggle.

He is being held in Mohave County Jail.

It was not known Saturday if he had an attorney.



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AP file photo

Mudskipper cuddles with her toy bear in a bedroom of her owner's home in Buda. Mudskipper is a female capybara that belongs to Melanie Typaldos.

Central Texas woman has big love for capybara

By Dale Roe
Austin American-Statesman

BUDA — When you first see Mudskipper Rous, the 6-month-old capybara that belongs to Buda's Melanie Typaldos, a lot of crazy things go through your head.

Is there a mad scientist in one of the rooms down the hall with an enlarging ray? And where's the oversized hamster wheel which, if wired up, could power the entire town?

Have I become trapped in one of those body-switching movies in which a guinea pig and a dog have come to inhabit each other's skins?

It's not that Muddy looks strange, per se — it's just that, well, the perspective is all off.

How can this rodent that looks like a 60-pound hamster even exist, much less obey commands to sit, shake, stand on its hind legs and jump over a hurdle?

If anybody knows the answer to that, it's Typaldos, who has become more or less an expert on the creatures — which are native to South America — since bringing home her first one, Caplin, eight years ago.

"My two adult children and I went to Venezuela," the tall, thin woman recalled in an interview with the Austin American-Statesman, "and we saw them in the wild. My daughter got to hold a little, baby capybara and they seemed awfully calm for wild animals."

When they returned, her daughter kept pestering her, saying they should get one.

"But she meant me, because she was living in an apartment," Typaldos said, laughing.

She found a breeder here and went to visit with no intention of bringing one of the critters home. But the breeder had just one left and told Typaldos he had been saving it for her.

"That was my first capybara," Typaldos said. "Caplin was so brave. I took him everywhere. I took him to all these school visits and to a home in Buda for people with mental disabilities and we would go out to eat . he wasn't scared of anything."

Their fast friendship ended suddenly when Caplin died at 3 1/2 years old from liver damage, possibly caused by lingering effects from a bad reaction to anesthesia when he was neutered.

Typaldos was devastated, but soon had the opportunity to nurse a different capybara back to health: a rodent located in Ohio that had been kept in a basement without proper food and had developed scurvy. She named him Garibaldi.

"Here was a capybara that seemed to need me. Maybe we two lost souls could connect," Typaldos wrote on her blog, giant-hamster.com.

Despite constant and dedicated care, the issues with Gari's diet and his limited exposure to sunlight prior to Typaldos' obtaining him — which resulted in the animal's decreased bone density — caused dental issues that claimed his life just shy of his fourth birthday in April 2014.

"Although Gari had a short life, he had a full one. He loved his new owners and knew he was loved through the end," Garibaldi's veterinarian, Dr. Sharman Hoppes of the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, wrote at the time.

Typaldos and her unusual pets are familiar faces at A&M, where doctors are still learning about the creatures. In honor of Gari, Typaldos established the R.O.U.S. Fund — "rous" being a common acronym for "rodent of unusual size," which also inspired her pet's last name. The fund compensates the university for the cost of necropsies, pathology and laboratory tests for capybaras and other large rodents and to better understand the diseases that threaten their lives and health.

The loss of her pet was compounded by Typaldos' own brain hemorrhage, an event that left her disabled, housebound and unable to see anything to the left. She had just been home from the hospital for a couple of months when Gari died.

"I didn't want to get another capybara," she said. "I mean, it was pretty hard losing him and losing Caplin."

She eventually consoled herself by visiting the Snake Farm Zoo in New Braunfels, where she met capybaras Wesley and Fiona, the latter of whom turned out to be Gari's younger sister from the same breeder.

Frequent visits helped her to heal. Typaldos brought the one-week-old Mudskipper home from the Houston suburb of Spring last February.

"She was extremely skittish," Typaldos said. "She's over it a lot, but not completely. She's really sweet; they're hard animals not to fall in love with."

Muddy is half her full-grown weight of probably 120 pounds, and she makes a quiet, purring noise that Typaldos says indicates anxiety from having a strange reporter nearby. But the creature jumps right up on the couch next to me when I say, "up, Muddy" and shake a container of goodies — a mixture of rat food and cat treats that she eats out of my hand while I stroke her coarse, bristly hair. The delicacies are rewards; the capybara's main diet is grass.

Mudskipper is smart. Typaldos has trained her to sit, shake, lie down, walk in a circle and, most impressively, jump over a short hurdle her owner constructed with PVC tubing.

"She's pretty fast and she's really crazy when she runs around (in the yard)," Typaldos said. "She jumps up in the air and she flips herself; she's pretty athletic."

And, apparently, lots of fun as a swimming partner. Capybara don't navigate the water like dogs do, Typaldos says, comparing them instead to otters or sea lions.

"Caplin was very fast in the water; he was like a bullet. But Gari wasn't because he was too busy spinning around."

They do walk on leashes like dogs, but Typaldos has trouble getting one on Muddy because of her skittishness — an escape artist, she'd jump into the pool and then come out not wearing it.

Muddy's still fed goat milk replacement by bottle, though her owner said she's getting too old for that. Still, it's hard to overstate the cuteness of the capybara nudging Typaldos' leg with her nose when she wants to be fed, or simply lying on the rug where she's been fed since she arrived at the house, waiting for her meal.

A herd animal needing companionship, Muddy pals around with a guinea pig that was not much smaller than her when they first met. It's adorable to see them now, at such disparate sizes, nuzzling up to one another on a window seat.

Her other pal is a cat Typaldos obtained at the same time as the capybara.

Maybe that explains those purring noises.

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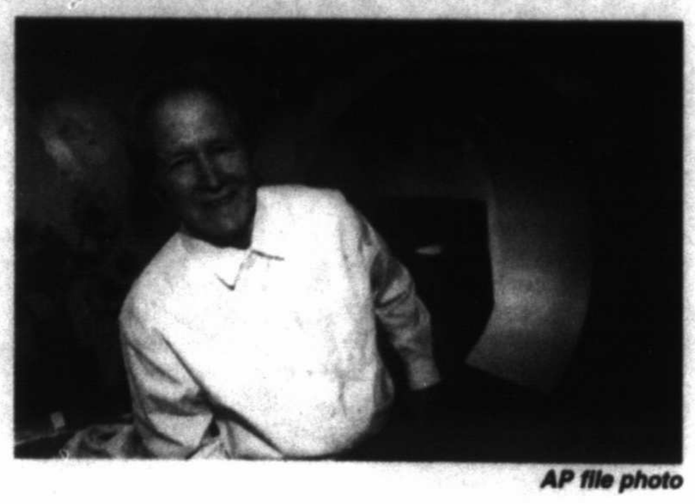
Colorado man with Parkinson's pushes for right-to-die law

By Ivan Moreno
Associated Press



AP file photo

Lance Wright, who is suffering with Parkinson's disease, talks about a proposal that he is advancing to allow him and other terminally ill patients to have the right to seek assistance from a third party when they want to die in Colorado on Nov. 23. Wright wants Colorado voters to decide next year whether terminally ill people should be allowed to end their own lives with medical help.

DENVER — Lance Wright is a meticulous planner: He has a line ready for when his hands shake during work presentations, and for his life's final days, an audacious plan to let people with incurable illnesses choose when they die.

The 63-year-old energy efficiency consultant and Parkinson's disease patient is trying to do what many better-funded and organized activists cannot: Get language on next year's Colorado ballot that would give him and others the right to seek assistance from doctors to die — and then convince voters to approve it as a constitutional amendment.

Wright has long supported the idea that people should have the right to end their own lives, closely following the 1994 Oregon debate that led to the nation's initial right-to-die law. But when the first symptoms of Parkinson's disease appeared 12 years ago, his interest became personal.

"A battleship off the coast will focus your attention," he said.

Wright's proposal goes further than what lawmakers and advocates of the "right-to-die" movement want because a patient doesn't have to be months away from dying, and patients don't have to administer life-ending drugs on their own. So there's already opposition to Wright's effort, and since he has no organization to help with the time and money needed for the expensive task of signature-gathering, he is taking a major political long shot. But he's used to long shots.

He unsuccessfully ran as a Democrat against former Republican U.S. Rep. Tom Tancredo when that suburban Denver district was GOP country in 2002. Last year, he collected 22 votes as a write-in candidate for a Denver statehouse district.

Wright has more at stake in this campaign.

"I feel that it's a basic human right to be in charge of your own destiny, if you will. The situation now is that you and I are not in control of what happens at the end of our lives," said Wright, who served two terms in the Parker Town Council from 1996 to 2000.

At the moment, the disease is more of an inconvenience for Wright. During presentations, he quips that his shaking hands don't mean he's nervous, just that he has Parkinson's. In general, he's still healthy and able-bodied. He walks his wife home and carries her books from the University of Denver, where she's a law professor.

"I love life. I want to live every minute that I can," Wright said. But he knows the time may come when he will be unable to walk on his own or swallow food.

Wright is finalizing the language for his proposal to define who would qualify as having an incurable condition to get aid in dying from a doctor. He said it would not apply to people who are depressed or suicidal.

If a legal panel finds that it complies with standards for a ballot measure, he'll need to start collecting more than 98,000 signatures from registered voters by next summer.

He'll have to do that without the support of Compassion and Choices, a national group advocating for right-to-die laws. The group opposes Wright's plan because doctors can inject patients with the fatal drugs.

"We just think that it's a little bit too dangerous, quite honestly," said Roland Halpern, a Denver-based spokesman for the group, which wants laws requiring patients to take the drugs on their own to ensure it is what they want.

State lawmakers pursuing the idea do not back Wright's plan, either, largely because the ballot language does not include the "terminally ill."

"I don't think (the proposal) uses the word 'euthanasia,' but it seems to provide for euthanasia, which we do not advocate," said Democratic Rep. Lois Court of Denver, who is sponsoring end-of-life legislation specifying that a patient be certified as terminally ill, have formally requested life-ending drugs several times, and self-administer those drugs, among other conditions.

Wright argues some like him may not be able to take that medication on their own. And people in similar circumstance may not qualify for what lawmakers are proposing. An Alzheimer's patient may lose the ability to take care of himself but still not be considered terminal, for example.

Halpern's group has supported attempts to pass right-to-die bills in other states, including California, where Gov. Jerry Brown signed a measure into law in October. Other states where doctors can prescribe life-ending drugs for the terminally ill are Oregon, Washington, Vermont and Montana.

If Wright succeeds in getting to the ballot, he'd face opposition from religious organizations and conservatives who view the laws in Oregon and other states as facilitating suicide. Some doctors have also expressed concern that making life-ending drugs available to patients takes away hope of recovery when a terminal diagnosis can turn out to be wrong.

WARREN

From 1B

and explain some of our processes in place right now. At the beginning of our school year — before we crack one book — our school staff begins working on school safety procedures with the kids. We have "lockdown" drills that teach children what we do if there is some kind of disturbance outside of the school, and we have "shelter-in-place" drills that instruct everyone in the building on what to do if something is happening inside any of our schools.

The tragedies we've seen over the years at schools also put a true need in place for outstanding school and community partnerships, and I will tell everyone that I have never been in a community that takes school (and student) safety so seriously. MISD has an outstanding police force that works every day to safeguard our schools. I also cannot say enough about Midland Police Chief Price Robinson and the Midland Police Department as well as Sheriff Gary Painter and our Midland County Sheriff's office.

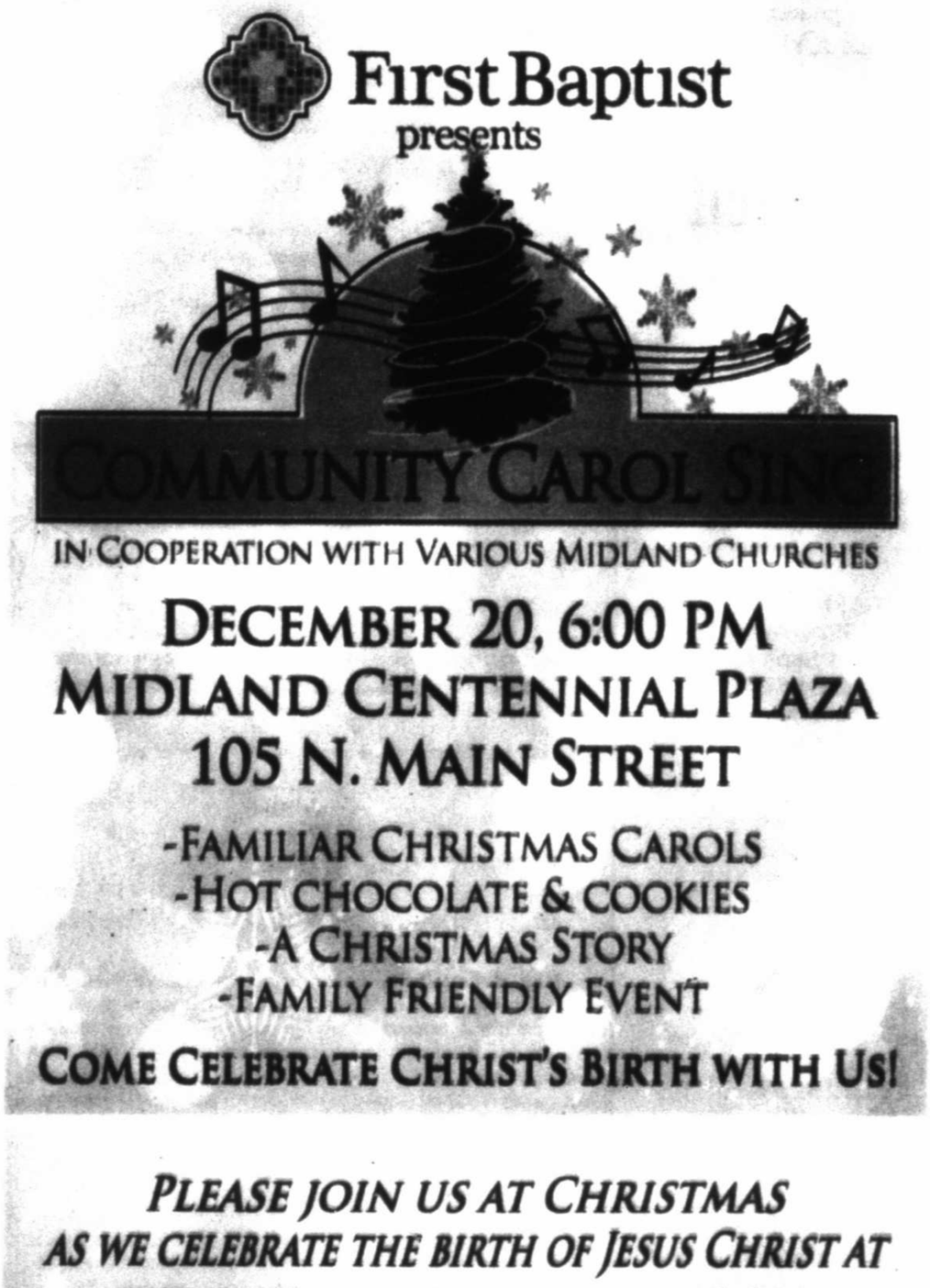
Since the Columbine tragedy, the MISD Police Department has put together a very rigorous training program, focusing on active shooter training and related components. Every year, we partner with our local and area law enforcement agencies to conduct realistic active shooter exercises at our campuses. This training changes as new policies and procedures are implemented due to changing active shooter events.

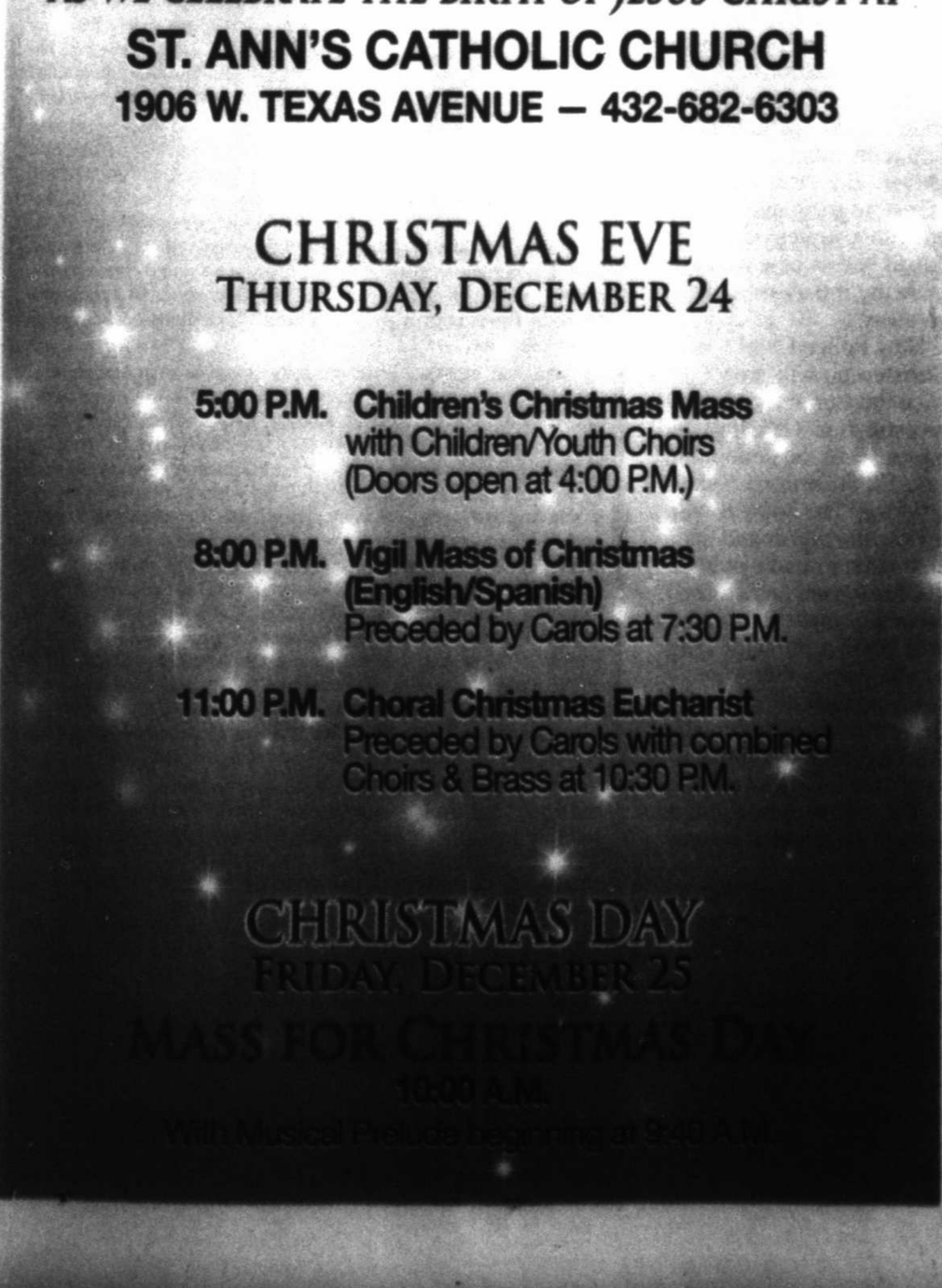
All MISD PD officers have also all been trained in tactical first aid, allowing them to assist injured individuals promptly, which could save lives prior to the arrival of emergency medical personnel. Although our training is varied and diversified, we place a higher priority on that which involves these kinds of threats to our campuses.

Many of my peers around the state (Dallas ISD, Houston ISD) and around the nation have been dealing with both real and totally unsubstantiated threats to schools and to school staff members. We have had to deal with both in the past as well. Please know we will always take any threats seriously and, with the assistance of all of our law enforcement assets in Midland, we will always investigate these kinds of issues until we know whether the threats are real or not, and we deal with those accordingly. Please know that student and adult safety are paramount concerns every day in MISD, and it will continue to be stressed.

Once again, let me wish everyone a wonderful Christmas Holiday. I can guarantee you pretty much all of our MISD staff members are ready for this break, but we are also going to be very ready to kick off a fantastic second semester in January.

Thank you for your continued support of our children in Midland and if there are any questions I can answer regarding the issues in this article, please do not hesitate to contact me at ryder.warren@midlandisd.net.





Crime Stoppers fugitive

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Bidlack

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■ NEVER attempt to apprehend this subject yourself. Subject may be armed or dangerous.

Construction could start in 2017 on wind transmission line

Associated Press

GUYMON, Okla. — Officials with Houston-based Clean Line Energy Partners say construction could begin in 2017 on a planned 700-mile transmission line to carry wind-generated electricity across Oklahoma and Arkansas into Tennessee.

The planned Plains & Eastern Clean Line would carry the wind power from as-yet undeveloped wind farms in the Oklahoma Panhandle to Memphis, Tennessee, where it would connect to the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Mario Hurtado, Clean Line vice president for development, told The Journal Record that he expects the project, announced in 2010, to be operating by 2020.

"It takes a lot of time to put together an infrastructure project like this," Hurtado said.

However, opposition has surfaced in Arkansas, where the state's six-member congressional delegation has objected to the federal government possibly using eminent domain to take land for the project. The federal lawmakers say eminent domain should be decided at the state and local level.

"We continue to have serious concerns that this project erodes the rights of local communities and the state of Arkansas to have a seat at the table in the decision-making process," according to a statement from Sens. John Boozman and Tom Cotton and Reps. Steve Womack, French Hill, Rick Crawford and Bruce Westerman following a Dec. 10 meeting with U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz.

All of the six lawmakers are Republicans.

Clean Line officials said about $7 billion will be invested in the project, boosting economies in both Oklahoma and Arkansas.

"Several hundred permanent, quality wind tech and support jobs will be created to operate and maintain the line and wind farms," said Vicki Ayres-Portman, Clean Line outreach manager based in Guymon.

"Millions of dollars annually will go to counties, schools and landowners," Ayres-Portman said. "It is a great way for our farmers and ranchers to diversify their income as well."

In November, researchers from the center for Business and Economic Research at the University of Arkansas published a study that estimated the construction of operation of the transmission project will add more than $660 million to the economy in Arkansas.

City Council orders probe released

Associated Press

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, Colo. — The Steamboat Springs City Council has reversed course and decided to give the public a more thorough summary of a recent internal police investigation.

The decision to be more transparent came after a former police detective and police officer accused the city's top police officials of creating a hostile work environment. They also complained about what they called heavy-handed policing.

Council members said they believe public disclosure is needed to restore the public's trust in the police department, the council and city administrators. The decision comes after the council on Dec. 1 voted against releasing more information.

"We're not going to make everybody happy," Councilwoman Kathi Meyer said. "But we need to restore trust and come up with a strategy that puts this to bed as best we can, knowing it may never fully go away."

New Police Chief Cory Christensen will produce the summary of the investigation's findings and present it to the council on Jan. 12, Steamboat Today reported. The council will review the report and decide what to make public.

Christensen and council members said the summary will address the wide range of allegations that were made against the police department's top officials, who left after the initial investigation concluded.

The decision to withhold information angered some residents.

Council member Scott Ford said he still wants to know if the investigator found a paramilitary culture, whether a ticket citation quota existed and whether training stressed violent tactics that were among allegations council members asked to be investigated.

SHARE YOUR OPINION

Letters to the editor run Sundays in the Reporter-Telegram. Letters submitted via email are preferred and can be sent to letters@mrt.com.

All letters must include name, phone number and address and are limited to 350 words.

Letters should indicate they are for publication.

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Because we feel it is important that you know how and where your donations to Helping Hands are spent, here is what was done last week:

Electricity	3 families	$ 461.58
Rent	26 families	$18,147.24
Home Repairs	2 families	$ 1,435.30
Christmas (toys, food, clothes)		$ 5,488.75
Total		**$25,532.87**

Most of us experience sacramental moments in our lives...those moments when we really experience God's presence with us. One key sacramental moment in my life occurred during my ministry with Helping Hands, but I could not see it as such until long after it occurred. Seventeen years ago I met Danny. It was my first Christmas as a caseworker. I was called to the home of an elderly woman who needed help with an electric bill. Pulling up to the house located on the south side of town (literally and figuratively, "the other side of the tracks"). I saw that it was pretty dilapidated. I was met at the door by the woman who, although it was late in the afternoon, was still in her pajamas, and I could see that the house was very unkempt. Her hair was not combed, and she appeared to be ill. While I sat at the kitchen table interviewing the woman, a young boy, certainly no more than 4 or 5 years old, came bounding into the kitchen. When he saw me the bubbly little boy grinned and said, "Lady, come and see my beautiful Christmas tree!" The woman told him to be quiet until we were done. Still the boy insisted, "Please come and see my tree!"

He told me his name was Danny. I found out the woman was the boy's grandmother. His mother had abandoned him as a baby. I studied him, filled with pity for the boy. Danny stayed in the kitchen, anxiously shifting his weight from one foot to the other waiting for us to be done. Finally I stood up. Danny told me to close my eyes. He grabbed my hand and led me to the living room. At his count of three I opened my eyes and was shocked to see a skimpy branch from an evergreen leaning crookedly out of a flowerpot. No ornaments, no lights. But in perfect joy Danny sang "Jingle Bells" as he danced around his "tree."

In a state of shock I ran out of the house as soon as I could. I cried for Danny and for the tragic life he faced — with no parents to love him, no toys, not even a decent tree for Christmas! At this time, I tearfully considered resigning as a caseworker for Helping Hands because poverty was an economic situation I could deal with by writing a check to help pay a bill, but when it affected someone as innocent and loving as Danny — well, that was more than I could bear. With encouragement from my parish priest I stayed on, and each year I have learned more and more from my encounter with Danny. After these many years of working with the poor, I have come to see that Danny was, and still remains, God's very special gift to me. Born in the poorest of circumstances, with no breaks in life and probably a bleak future, Danny taught me that what is important is not the material world in which we live, but the grace and happiness that comes from sharing in God's love and in finding joy in our lives; a joy that is found when we learn to forget about ourselves and our expectations and learn to live in the present moment.

Looking back, Danny's little tree was beautiful indeed, and while I lost track of him after our initial visit, each Christmas I take time to spiritually hold his little hands and dance and sing with him around is magnificent Christmas tree! Danny is my constant reminder to stay grounded in the present moment because it is in the present moment that God can communicate with the heart. We must bind ourselves to the fact that even in the deepest social injustices, God is still present. I try now not to see the world through my eyes, but through a heart that is linked with God's...a heart that was Danny's special gift to me.

Merry Christmas from all of us at Helping Hands!

Beaumont to allow officers to use station for Bible study

Associated Press

> *"First of all, it's our right to have religious freedom in the workplace ... If we have a moral compass to study, it makes us better public servants. ... If we truly study (the Bible), it makes us better police officers and we treat everyone, no matter who we deal with, as we wish to be treated."*
>
> **Burt Moore,** co-founder of the Bible study group

BEAUMONT — A dispute over whether Beaumont police officers can hold Bible study in a department building was resolved Saturday after city officials reversed course, deciding they will allow the study to continue.

The city had told the officers earlier this year to stop using a police department building for the Bible study, the Beaumont Enterprise reported. The officers had been meeting once to twice a month for the voluntary group study at the Beaumont police station for the last two years.

Briscoe Cain, an attorney representing the four officers who lead the Bible study, criticized the city at a news conference Friday, saying the officers don't shed their First Amendment right to freedom of religion "when they enter the workplace."

City Manager Kyle Hayes had previously said that "city buildings are for public purposes and to conduct city business" and "therefore, city policy prohibits all non-business activities so that we treat everyone the same."

But on Saturday, Hayes announced the city would now allow the officers to hold their Bible study in the police department's conference room.

"It was more of a big misunderstanding," Hayes said. "I'm just glad it's resolved."

Burt Moore, a co-founder of the Bible study group, said his "moral compass" is rooted in Christianity, which he believes makes him a better cop.

"First of all, it's our right to have religious freedom in the workplace," said Moore. "If we have a moral compass to study, it makes us better public servants. ... If we truly study (the Bible), it makes us better police officers and we treat everyone, no matter who we deal with, as we wish to be treated."

Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick on Friday had called for Beaumont to reverse the ban, calling the city's policy "completely unacceptable."

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Muslims and the Gospel, From Challenges to Opportunities
Getting to Know our Muslim Friends
Rev. Dr. Abjar Bahkou
Saturday, January 9, 2016 • 9:00am-3:00pm

Grace Lutheran Church
3000 W. Golf Course Rd., Midland, TX 79701
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Cost to cover lunch: $10
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Challenges...
Islam is the major world religion to rise since the birth of Christianity. It is the only major world religion to claim to reform Christianity. And it is the only major world religion to use many of Christian scriptures, symbols, thoughts, and sentiments but interpret them with a different conclusion. This seminars will examine these challenges.

The second challenging questions are: is ISIS, al-Qaeda, Boko Haram and other terrorist Islamic group following Islam or not? Why should we in the West, and here in Texas, be interested in Islam? What challenges presents to us as Disciples of Christ?

Opportunities...
What do Muslim believe? How do they see life? What moves their emotion? Where do we start when it come to the Good News of the Gospel? What is happening in the world of Islam? The Seminar will encourage and equip you to meet Muslims as friends and people who God loved and wants to include in his family.

Dr. Abjar Bahkou, (Currently)
Hold a Doctorate in Arabic and Islamic Studios. Senior Lecturer of Arabic language and Culture at Baylor University Waco Texas.
Resident Research Fellow at the Institute for Studies of Religion, a Program on Global Studies of Religion at Baylor University. Visiting professor at Concordia Seminary Saint Louis Missouri, teaching the Subject *Muslim Christian encounters*. Most recent publication is a book entitled, *Defending Christian Faith, the Fifth Part of the Christian Apology of Geraniums.* DeGruter Open 2014. Working on the second Book, *Explaining the Reason of our Hope: The Apologetical Discourses of Gerasimus.* An ordained pastor in the LCMS, originally from Damascus Syria. Founding and Senior Pastor of Antiochian Apostolic Church, the Only Arabic Speaking Congregation in the Texas District. He resides in Waco Texas.

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SCHOOLS:

Dezavala Elementary
Early College High School at Midland College
Fasken Elementary Aviators
George H. W. Bush Elementary
Hillcrest School
Lady Rebel Basketball
Lee High Avid
Parker Elementary 2nd Grade
Midland Christian School
Midland High ROTC
Rebel Troop 2016
Rusk Elementary
St. Bernadette from St. Ann's Catholic School
St. Cecilia and St. Jude
Lee High ROTC
Scharbauer Elementary
Washington MSI

FELONY ARRESTS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Devin W. Adams, 28, of Midland was charged Dec. 11 with theft under $20,000 and theft of a firearm.

Daniel Melchor, 21, of Midland was charged Dec. 11 with possession of a controlled substance under 1 gram.

Maddison P. Mireles, 24, of El Paso was charged Dec. 11 with assault of a public servant.

Gary R. Murphy, 25, of Midland was charged Dec. 11 with unlicensed possession of a firearm by a felon.

Jonathan S. Perot, 36, of Midland was charged Dec. 11 with failing to register for sex offender duty.

David H Longoria III, of Midland was charged Dec. 12 with possession of a controlled substance under 1 gram.

Phillip W. Mills, 36, of Midland was charged Dec. 12 with unlicensed possession of a firearm by a felon, prohibited substance/item in a correctional facility and possession of a controlled substance under 200 grams.

David E. Montanez, 26, of Fort Stockton was charged Dec. 12 with evading arrest/detention with a vehicle.

Robert O. Perkins III, 22, of Midland was charged Dec. 12 with aggravated sexual assault of a child.

Edgar R. Rubio, 22, of Odessa was charged Dec. 12 with prohibited substance/item in a correctional facility.

Joseph A. Tolbert, 57, of Stanton was charged Dec. 12 with two counts of possession of child pornography.

Cynthia C. Corbin-Garza, 42, of Midland was charged Dec. 13 with theft of property under $2,500 with two or more previous convictions.

Thomas R. Hodges, 38, of Midland was charged Dec. 13 with a third count of driving while intoxicated.

Wayne E. Owens, 29, of Midland was charged Dec. 13 with aggravated sexual assault of a child.

Sandra Bernal, 34, of Midland was charged Dec. 14 with hindering the arrest or prosecution of a known felon.

Jaydan B. Dean, 19, of Midland was charged Dec. 14 with burglary of a habitation with intent to commit another felony.

Tyler K. Guest, 26, of Farmington, New York, was charged Dec. 14 with aggravated assault causing serious bodily injury.

Alexis V. Hermosillo, 19, of Odessa was charged Dec. 14 with tampering with or fabricating physical evidence with intent to impair.

Jeffrey T. Kaser, 45, of Stanton was charged Dec. 14 with possession of a controlled substance under 4 grams.

Shawn D. Dozier, 31, of Midland was charged Dec. 15 with possession of a controlled substance under 1 gram, evading arrest or detention with previous conviction, tampering with or fabricating physical evidence, and possession of a prohibitive substance in a correctional facility.

Louis A. Duque Jr., 44, of Midland was charged Dec. 15 with a third count of driving while intoxicated and on Dec. 17 with a third count of violating parole.

Ricky L. Duralia, 36, of Midland was charged Dec. 15 with assault of a family or house member with a previous conviction.

Leah A. Heimstetler, 34, of Midland was charged Dec. 15 with two counts of possession of a controlled substance under 1 gram.

Christopher J. Martinez, 20, of Midland was charged Dec. 15 with possession of a prohibited item or substance in a correctional facility.

James M. Peek II, 49, of Midland was charged Dec. 15 with possession of a controlled substance under 4 grams.

Gabriel J. Rodriguez, 38, of Lubbock was charged Dec. 15 with failing to register as a sex offender.

Jesus R. Yzaguirre, 53, of Odessa was charged Dec. 15 with a third count of driving while intoxicated.

Bethany L. Curtis, 40, was charged Dec. 16 with aggravated assault of a household member with a weapon and tampering with evidence.

Source: Midland County Sheriff's Office

GUILTY PLEAS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Guilty pleas accepted and sentences imposed Dec. 7-11 by district Judges George D. Gilles, Elizabeth B. Leonard and Rodney W. Satterwhite:

Phillips Sean Adams, 38, credit card or debit card abuse, four years TDCJ; failure to appear, four years TDCJ.

Eric Almaguer, 35, possession of a controlled substance, six months state jail.

Correa Jerome Andrews, 38, assault family violence with previous conviction, two years TDCJ; tampering with physical evidence, six years TDCJ.

Josue Lopez Brito, 27, possession of marijuana, extend community supervision, 150 hours community service, attend 52 AA or Narcotics Anonymous meetings.

Nathan Drew Brown, 25, assault family violence, four years deferred adjudication, fine, court cost, no contact with victim or her family, Project Adam, 400 hours community service.

Jesse Martin Caddell, 42, possession of a controlled substance, six months state jail; credit card or debit card abuse, six months state jail.

Julie Ann Curet, 48, two counts of credit card abuse, revoke supervision, eight months state jail.

Daniel Diaz, 42, theft of property between $1,500 and $20,000, revoke and extend supervision one year, 30 days jail work program.

Jesus Pena Dominguez, 50, evading arrest with a motor vehicle, five years deferred adjudication, fine, court cost, TAIP, 100 hours community service.

Sheldon Thomas Driggars, 25, possession of a controlled substance, deferred adjudication three years, fine, 150 hours community service, TAIP.

Jeremy Lee Eckel, 28, felony driving while intoxicated, revoke, two years TDCJ.

Hillary Casey Ellis, 25, injury to a child, elderly or disabled individual reckless bodily injury, deferred adjudication three years, fine, 150 hours community service, parenting classes.

Dorothy Ann Evans, 33, possession of a controlled substance, three years deferred adjudication, court cost, 150 hours community service.

Tiffany Nicole Garcia, 32, theft of property more than $1,500 but less than $20,000, revoke, six months state jail; possession of a controlled substance, revoke, six months state jail.

Loetta Marie Goodman, 44, possession of a controlled substance, six months state jail.

Weslee Lamar Hein, 22, theft of $500-$1,500, offense as a lesser included of theft $1,500-$20,000, 30 days county jail; evading arrest in a motor vehicle, two years TDCJ; evading arrest with a motor vehicle, two years TDCJ; tampering with or fabricating physical evidence, two years TDCJ.

David Elguezabal Hernandez, 42, possession of a controlled substance, adjudicated guilt, three years community supervision, pay fine, 200 hours community service, TAIP.

Manuel Hinojos Jr., 50, aggravated assault, eight years TDCJ; evading arrest with a motor vehicle, eight years TDCJ.

Brannon Ryne Jordan, 25, assault on a public servant, deferred adjudication, five years community supervision, pay fine, 150 hours community service.

William John Kells, 30, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, 12 months state jail; aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, two years TDCJ.

Deborah Ann Lamas, 53, indecency with a child, 10 years TDCJ suspended for 10 years probation, court cost, TAIP, AA meetings, 200 hours community service.

Dennis Dean Loftin Jr., 35, possession of a controlled substance, one year state jail.

Gabriel Alex Lucero, 51, obstruction or retaliation, deferred adjudication five years, fine, 250 hours community service, anger management, TAIP.

Jose Mauricio Martinez, 23, credit card abuse, revoke, four years state jail; burglary of a habitation, revoke, four years TDCJ.

Raul Medrano, 31, assault family violence with previous conviction, 10 years TDCJ suspended for 10 years probation, fine, court cost, Project Adam, anger management, TAIP, 400 hours community service.

Justin Anthony Navarez, 25, possession of a controlled substance, three years deferred adjudication, fine, court cost, TAIP, 200 hours community service.

Chancee Lei Neatherlin, 32, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, deferred adjudication, two years community supervision, pay fine, 100 hours community service.

Ricardo Nunez, 24, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, four years TDCJ; criminal mischief, one year state jail.

Jade Lauren Ogden, 29, theft of property more than $1,500 but less than $20,000, two years state jail suspended for five years community supervision, fine, restitution, 250 hours community service, TAIP; burglary of a habitation, 10 years TDCJ suspended for five years community supervision, fine, 250 hours community service, TAIP; five counts forgery of a financial instrument, two years state jail suspended for five years community supervision, fine, 250 hours community service, TAIP; burglary of a habitation, 10 years TDCJ suspended for five years community supervision, fine, 250 hours community service, TAIP.

Jessie Jordan Onzures Jr., 36, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, six years TDCJ.

Leland Louis Perkins, 57, possession of a controlled substance, three years TDCJ, pay restitution.

Rose Mary Perez, 47, theft of service more than $1,500 but less than $20,000, deferred adjudication three years, pay restitution.

Bryavi Ramel Pride, 20, aggravated robbery, revoke, five years TDCJ; evading arrest and detention in a motor vehicle, revoke, five years TDCJ.

Edgar Ramirez, 26, possession of a controlled substance,-revoke, two years TDCJ.

Stacey Michelle Richardson, 43, possession of a controlled substance, two years state jail suspended for three years community supervision, pay fine, 150 hours community service, TAIP.

Blake Alan Rigsby, 24, possession of a controlled substance, deferred adjudication eight years, fine, 250 hours community service, Cenikor program.

Matthew Rodriguez, 18, unlawful restraint, four years TDCJ; burglary of a habitation, five years TDCJ.

Sylvia Sillemon, 43, tampering with physical evidence, 10 years TDCJ suspended for 10 years probation, court cost, TAIP, 300 hours community service.

Angelena Frankwynett Tinner, 35, possession of a controlled substance, extend probation one year, 75 hours community service.

Justin Devante Williams, 22, burglary of a habitation, five tears TDCJ; obstruction or retaliation, five years TDCJ.

Note: TDCJ = Texas Department of Criminal Justice; TAIP = treatment alternative to incarceration program, CRTC = court residential treatment center; ISP = intensive supervision parole.

STATE BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

WICHITA FALLS

Police: Texas man tries to assault roommate with hammer

A 77-year-old North Texas man remains jailed after police allege he tried to assault his roommate with a hammer over a rent payment.

The Wichita Falls Times Record News reported Frank Talamantez has been charged with aggravated assault family violence.

According to an arrest affidavit, the roommate told Wichita Falls police that Talamantez beat down his door with a hammer on Dec. 11 and started swinging the hammer at the roommate.

The roommate, who was not identified, was not hurt but Talamantez used the hammer to destroy the man's property.

Talamantez was arrested and taken to the Wichita County Jail, where he remained Saturday on a $10,000 bond.

Jail records did not list an attorney for Talamantez.

SAN ANTONIO

4 arrested on charges of sexually assaulting, selling teen

Police have arrested four people in San Antonio who investigators say forced a 16-year-old girl into having sex and were involved in selling her for $4,000.

The San Antonio Express-News reported the four were each charged Friday with human trafficking and three of them also are charged with sexual assault.

Police say the girl in late November was introduced to two of the suspects, a couple identified as 44-year-old Adrian Colon and 26-year-old Veronica Ann Diaz.

Tune-in for family friendly holiday programming!

12/21 8pm - Christmas with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir
12/21 9pm - The American St. Nick
12/24 7pm - Curious George: A Very Monkey Christmas
12/24 8pm - Night Before Christmas Carol
12/24 9pm Christmas at Belmont
12/25 7pm - Christmas on the Danube
12/25 8pm - Call the Midwife Holiday Special
12/25 9:30pm - Vicious Holiday Special
12/31 7pm - New York Philharmonic New Year's Eve
12/31 9pm - Michael Feinstein New Year's Eve at the Rainbow Room

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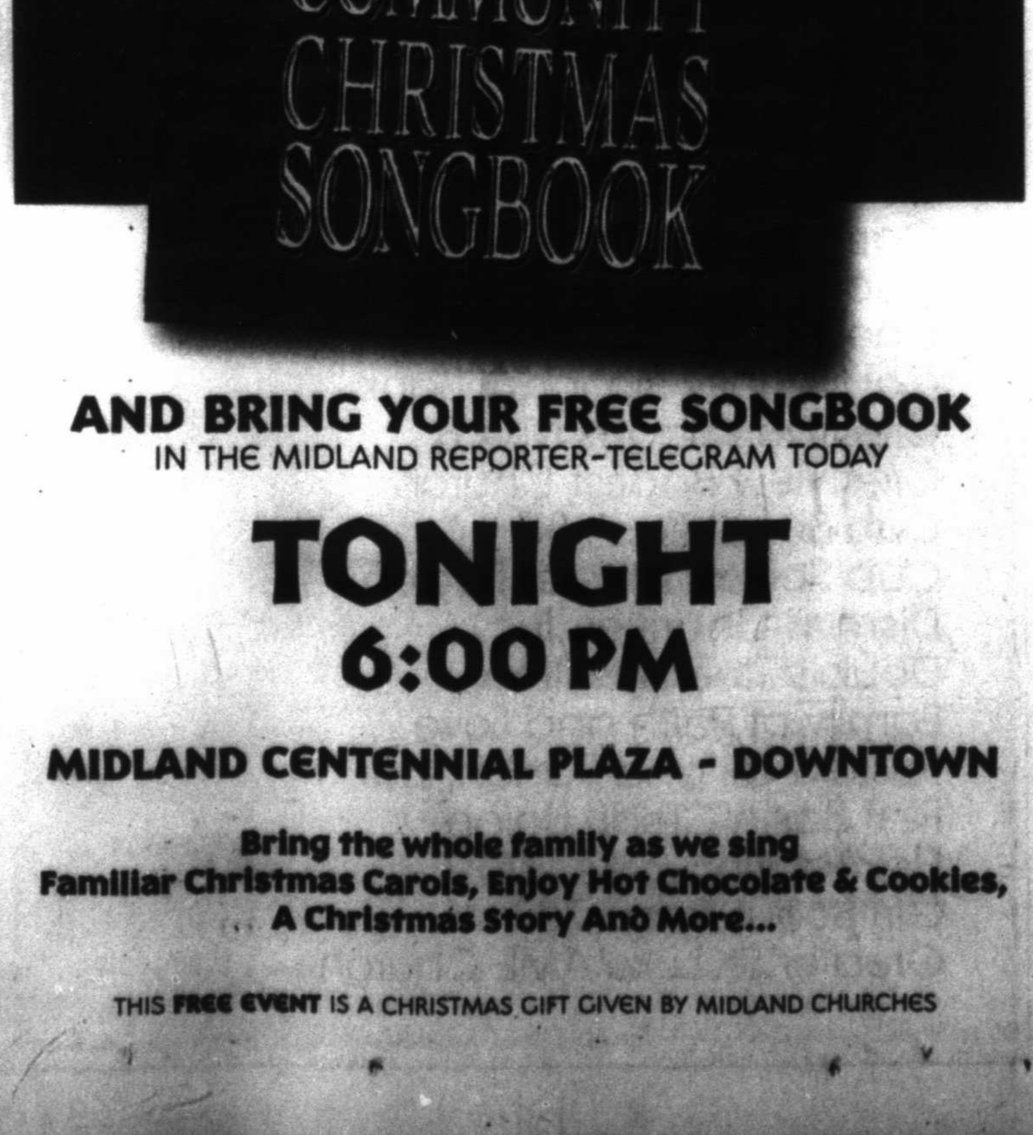

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A Christmas Story And More...

THIS FREE EVENT IS A CHRISTMAS GIFT GIVEN BY MIDLAND CHURCHES

Nebraska sweeps Texas in 3 sets for NCAA volleyball title

By Eric Olson
Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — There's no place like home to win a national championship.

The "Go Big Red!" cheers started well before the first serve Saturday night and continued long after Nebraska had wrapped up its three-set sweep of Texas in the NCAA women's volleyball title match.

"I thought my eardrums were going to pop," setter Kelly Hunter said.

The Cornhuskers (32-4) dispatched their old Big 12 rivals much faster than expected at CenturyLink Center, 50 miles from Nebraska's Lincoln campus, and an NCAA volleyball-record 17,561 were on hand to relish every moment.

Nebraska had lost five matches in a row to Texas (30-3) and nine of the previous 10. The teams had gone to five sets in three of their last four matches, including in Austin in September.

This time the Huskers were in control while winning their fourth national championship. The first title was won in 1995 against Texas. The others came in 2000 and 2006.

"The environment tonight, the setting, Nebraska vs. Texas, and the crowd, national championship match, ESPN, everything else that went with it — and for us to come out and play a great match against a great team was just awesome to watch," coach John Cook said. "I can say I'm really proud, which I am, but I'm really more proud of this team on the journey they took to get to this point and to be able to play their best match."

Hunter fed outside hitter Mikeaela Foecke early and often, and the freshman responded with a match-high 19 kills and was named Most Outstanding Player of the final four. Foecke hit .348 with 31 kills in wins over Kansas and Texas.

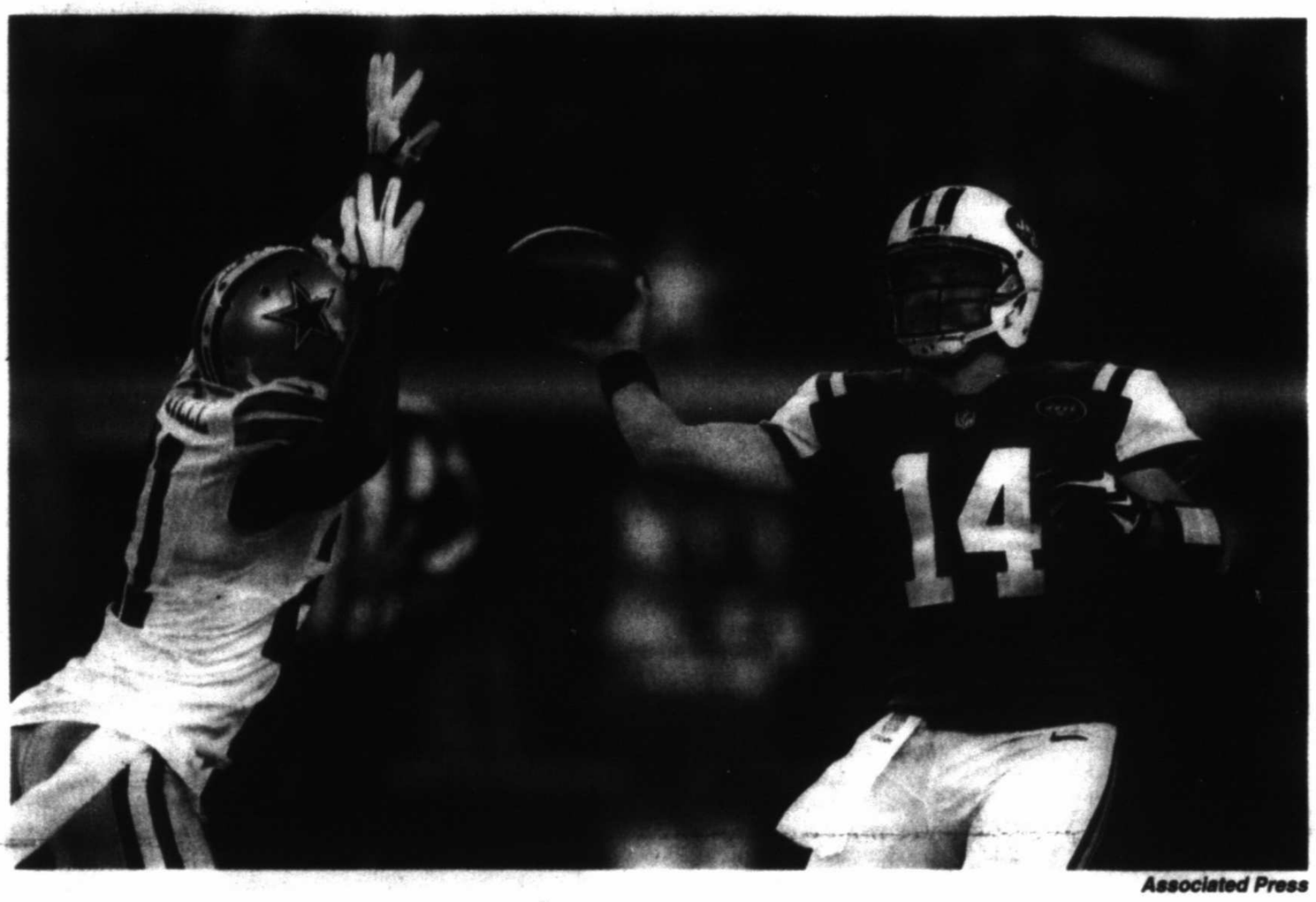
"I get a lot of confidence from my teammates, and Kelly sets the ball really well and we have so many great players that I'm not afraid to go up and swing because I know they have my back," Foecke said.

Kelsey Fien punctuated the fourth-seeded Huskers' big night when she slammed a set from Hunter. Fien went to her knees as her teammates swarmed the court to start celebrating the 25-23, 25-23, 25-21 victory.

Associated Press

Nebraska players celebrate their national championship in front of Texas players after winning the NCAA women's volleyball tournament finals in Omaha, Neb., on Saturday.

DALLAS' WOES PERSIST



Associated Press

Dallas Cowboys' Terrance Mitchell pressures as New York Jets quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick (14) throws a pass in the first half Saturday in Arlington. The Jets beat the Cowboys 19-16.

Cowboys can't hold off Fitzpatrick, Jets

By Schuyler Dixon
Associated Press

ARLINGTON — Ryan Fitzpatrick and the New York Jets are keeping the pressure on Pittsburgh and Kansas City in the race for two wild-card spots in the AFC.

Randy Bullock kicked a 40-yard field goal with 36 seconds left and the Jets moved a half-game ahead of the Steelers and Chiefs with a 19-16 victory over the Dallas Cowboys on Saturday night.

Fitzpatrick's 43-yard pass to Kenbrell Thompkins put the Jets (9-5) in position for a win.

Kellen Moore replaced an ineffective Matt Cassel at quarterback and gave the Cowboys (4-10) a spark, but it wasn't enough to keep the defending NFC East champions from being eliminated with two games remaining.

Eric Decker caught a 3-yard scoring pass to set a franchise record with Brandon Marshall with 21 combined touchdowns receiving as the Jets won their fourth straight for the first time since 2010.

Fitzpatrick threw his first interception since Nov. 22 to give the Cowboys a field goal and a 13-9 lead in the third quarter, but came back to direct a 70-yard drive to Decker's score.

Inside

Find a box score for this game, a schedule of today's games and news from round the league.

Page 6C

Decker and Marshall broke the franchise mark of 20 combined TDs that they shared with Art Powell-Don Maynard (1960) and Al Toon-Wesley Walker (1986).

Dan Bailey tied it at 16 on a 50-yard field goal that caromed through off the right upright with 1:55 remaining. Moore got the tying drive by sneaking a pass behind Buster Skrine for a 23-yard gain to Cole Beasley.

The first play after a near-fumble by Fitzpatrick on a sneak for a first down was held up on review, Thompkins got behind rookie cornerback Byron Jones along the sideline before stepping out of bounds at the Dallas 26.

The last chance for the Cowboys ended on Moore's third interception when his desperation heave for Dez Bryant went over the outstretched arm of the All-Pro receiver and was caught by Marcus Williams. The Cowboys had four interceptions overall.

Cassel was replaced after two bumbling plays in the first half.

On the first, he stumbled trying to change directions after faking a throw and threw to blindly to a spot where Darrelle Revis was by himself for the easy interception. Cassel came out the series after taking a 19-yard sack, which wasn't long after he left the field to loud boos following a three-and-out.

Moore's second pass was intercepted Marcus Gilchrist before he beat a New York blitz by slinging the ball in the flat to Bryant, who got around Revis for the touchdown and a 10-9 lead.

Moore had a chance to add to that lead but threw his second interception to Calvin Pryor in the end zone in the third quarter, shortly before Fitzpatrick threw it directly to Terrance Mitchell.

It was the first interception by a Dallas cornerback this season, and came from a seventh-round pick from last year who was signed to the practice squad and activated this week after a hamstring injury sidelined Morris Claiborne.

New York's first touchdown came after a near-fumble by Decker when the receiver's left leg turned awkwardly and he dropped the ball just as he knee was hitting the turf. He left the game briefly with a knee injury.

Lee's Nunez commits to Air Force Academy

By Christopher Hadorn
chadorn@mrt.com

Lee senior defensive end/tight end Kaleb Nunez was a sought after by college programs for not only his play on the football field, but his work in classroom.

Nunez's well-roundedness as a student was reflected in his college decision, as he announced via Twitter on Saturday that he was committing to play football at Air Force, a FBS program in the Mountain West Conference.

Nunez

Nunez will join a competitive Falcons football program that has gone 67-49 under head coach Troy Calhoun and that will play in its eighth bowl game in the past nine years when they face California in the Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl on Dec. 29 in Fort Worth.

In addition to the football aspect, Nunez was drawn to the academics of the Air Force Academy, a school with a highly competitive admission process that requires a congressional or vice presidential nomination to be considered for appointment.

Nunez holds a 3.97 grade point average at Lee High School. The Rebels senior plans to major in engineering at Air Force.

"I just liked their coaches and the benefits that they have other than football," Nunez said. "It's more than a football decision. It's more of a life decision with everything that goes on in the Air Force."

Upon graduation, Nunez will be required to serve at least five years of active duty in the U.S. Air Force.

"It's a great opportunity to do that, to be in a brotherhood like that," Nunez said of the chance to serve his country.

Nunez said he chose Air Force over offers from Army and Northwestern State in Louisiana.

After playing as a tight end during his sophomore and junior seasons, Nunez moved to the defensive side of the football in 2015 to help the Rebels as a defensive end.

The 6-foot-2, 244-pound senior thrived in his new spot as he led Lee with 97 total tackles, 67 solo tackles and six sacks.

For his on-field achievements, Nunez was recognized on the All-District 3-6A first team and on the Associated Press Sports Editors Class 6A all-state team as an honorable mention selection.

Nunez said the Air Force coaches want

Please see **NUNEZ**/2C

Key AFC South game will be battle of backup quarterbacks

By Michael Marot
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Indianapolis and Houston started the season as the two best teams in the AFC South.

So perhaps today's game playing a pivotal role in determining a division champion should have been expected.

The surprise will be the quarterbacks determining the crucial outcome — Houston's T.J. Yates and either Matt Hasselbeck or Charlie Whitehurst for the Colts.

"I feel very fortunate that we've got Matt Hasselbeck," Colts coach Chuck Pagano said, sounding confident that Hasselbeck will be healthy enough to play this weekend. "He can play at a winning level, and he will play again at a winning level."

Without Hasselbeck, the Colts (6-7) might not even be in the playoff hunt.

He has won twice as many games this season (four) as the starter he replaced, Andrew Luck, and with Luck still recovering from a lacerated kidney and a partially torn abdominal muscle and ruled out of this week's game, the Colts are now pinning their playoff hopes to a 40-year-old backup who has been battered the past two weeks.

If he actually plays.

Hasselbeck left late in the loss at Pittsburgh two weeks ago after hurting his neck and shoulder and then was diagnosed with a mild separation of the ribs.

Last week, in a loss at Jacksonville, he re-injured the ribs and spent the early part of this week with his left arm in a sling.

He returned to practice Thursday and while Pagano remains hopeful Hasselbeck starts — and finishes — the game, Hasselbeck acknowledged that the hardest part has been breathing.

"I'm not in an incredible amount of pain, I just need to be able to play at a high level," he said. "That's the case at every position, but especially for me."

If he can't go, Whitehurst will.

Houston (6-7) has taken its share of hard knocks, too.

The Texans lost former NFL rushing champion Arian Foster in late October with a torn right Achilles tendon. They cut one-time starting quarterback Ryan Mallett two days

Please see **TEXANS**/5C

AP file photo

Houston Texans quarterback T.J. Yates (6) throws before an NFL football game against the New England Patriots on Dec. 13 in Houston.

DAILY ROUNDUP

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

TV

College Wrestling
Lehigh at Oklahoma, Noon, FSSW+/FCSC

Men's College Basketball
NJIT at St. John's, 11 a.m., FS1
Pittsburgh vs. Davidson, 11 a.m., ESPNU
Bradley at Boise State, 1 p.m., ROOT
Abilene Christian at TCU, 1 p.m., FSSW
UMass Lowell at Connecticut, 3 p.m., SNY
Samford at Nebraska, 6 p.m., BTN

Motorsports
Real Road Racing: Macau Grand Prix, 2 p.m., CBSSN
Score Desert Racing: Baja 1000 Qualifying at SEMA, 8 p.m., CBSSN

National Football League
Houston at Indianapolis, Noon, CBS
Carolina at NY Giants, Noon, FOX
Denver at Pittsburgh, 3:25 p.m., CBS
Arizona at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m., NBC

National Hockey League
Washington at NY Rangers, 6 p.m., NHL

Women's College Basketball
Texas vs. Arkansas, 1:30 p.m., FS1
UAPB at Texas Tech, 2 p.m., FSSW+/FCSP
Lamar at Missouri, 2 p.m., SEC+
Oklahoma vs. Texas A&M, 4 p.m., FS1
Duke at Kentucky, 6 p.m., SEC

RADIO

National Football League
Houston at Indianapolis, Noon, KCRS 97.5 FM/550 AM, KBYG 106.3 FM/1400 AM (Big Spring)

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
DETROIT TIGERS — Designated LHP Kyle Lobstein for assignment. Agreed to terms with SS Mike Aviles on a one-year contract.
OAKLAND ATHLETICS — Agreed to terms with RHP Jarrod Parker on a one-year contract.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
INDIANA PACERS — Fined Indiana F Paul George $35,000 for public criticism of officiating and using profanity in a live television interview.

FOOTBALL
National Football League
DALLAS COWBOYS — Signed CB Terrance Mitchell from the practice squad.
MIAMI DOLPHINS — Waived DT C.J. Mosley.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Placed DE Scott Crichton on injured reserve. Signed DE Zach Moore from the practice squad.
NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS — Released LB Eric Martin. Signed RB Joey Iosefa from the practice squad.
OAKLAND RAIDERS — Placed OT Austin Howard on injured reserve. Signed S Tevin McDonald from the practice squad.
TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS — Waived LB Orie Lemon.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
DETROIT RED WINGS — Recalled F Zach Nastasiuk from Toledo (ECHL) to Grand Rapids (AHL).
NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Activated C Travis Zajac from injured reserve.
WINNIPEG JETS — Assigned F Axel Blomqvist from Manitoba (AHL) to Tulsa (ECHL).
American Hockey League
AHL — Suspended Rochester LW Jack Nevins three games and Hershey LW Liam O'Brien one game.
BINGHAMTON SENATORS — Returned F Darian Dziurzynski to Greenville (ECHL).
SYRACUSE CRUNCH — Recalled D Charlie Dodero from Greenville (ECHL).
ECHL
ECHL — Suspended Quad City D Mike Monfredo one game.
ALLEN AMERICANS — Added G Nolan Bowker as emergency backup.
SOUTH CAROLINA STINGRAYS — Loaned F Derek DeBlois to Lake Erie (AHL).
TOLEDO WALLEYE — Signed D Dajon Mingo.

COLLEGE
BYU — Named Kalani Sitake football coach.
FLORIDA — Announced QB Will Grier will transfer.
INDIANA STATE — Announced the resignation of athletic director John Prettyman.

PREGAME.COM ODDS

NFL
Sunday

FAVORITE	OPEN	TODAY	O/U	UNDERDOG
at MINNESOTA	4½	5½	(43)	Chicago
at JACKSONVILLE	2	3	(49½)	Atlanta
at INDIANAPOLIS	1	2	(41½)	Houston
Kansas City	7	6½	(41)	at BALTIMORE
Buffalo	PK	2	(44)	at WASHINGTON
at NEW ENGLAND	10½	14	(46½)	Tennessee
Arizona	3½	3½	(51)	at PHILADELPHIA
Carolina	4	4	(48)	at NY GIANTS
at SEATTLE	13½	15	(43)	Cleveland
Green Bay	3	3½	(48)	at OAKLAND
at SAN DIEGO	1½	1	(46)	Miami
at PITTSBURGH	4½	6½	(45)	Denver
Cincinnati	4	6	(40½)	at SAN FRANCISCO
		Monday		
at NEW ORLEANS	2	3	(51½)	Detroit

College Football
Monday Bowls

FAVORITE	OPEN	TODAY	O/U	UNDERDOG
		Miami Beach Bowl		
		At Miami		
W Kentucky	3½	2½	(67)	South Florida
		Tuesday Bowls		
		Famous Idaho Potato Bowl		
		At Boise		
Utah State	7	6½	(47)	Akron
		Boca Raton Bowl		
		At Boca Raton		
Temple	PK	1½	(49½)	Toledo
More Bowls				
		Poinsettia Bowl		
		At San Diego		
Boise St	8½	8½	(56)	N Illinois
		GoDaddy.com Bowl		
		At Mobile		
Bowling Green	7½	8	(66½)	Georgia Southern
		Bahamas Bowl		
		At Nassau		
W Michigan	3½	4½	(63½)	MIDDLE TENNESSEE
		Hawaii Bowl		
		At Honolulu		
San Diego St	+2	1½	(56½)	Cincinnati
		St. Petersburg Bowl		
		At St. Petersburg		
Marshall	4	5	(44½)	UCONN
		Sun Bowl		
		At El Paso		
Washington St	2	2½	(62)	Miami
		Heart of Dallas Bowl		
		At Dallas		
Washington	8½	9	(54½)	Southern Miss
		Pinstripe Bowl		
		At Yankee Stadium		
Indiana	2	2	(71)	Duke
		Independence Bowl		
		At Shreveport		
Virginia Tech	14	13½	(61½)	Tulsa
		Foster Farms Bowl		
		At Santa Clara		
UCLA	6½	6½	(61)	Nebraska
		Military Bowl		
		At Annapolis		
Navy	5	3	(53½)	Pittsburgh
		Quick Lane Bowl		
		At Detroit		
Minnesota	6	6	(49)	Cent. Michigan
		Armed Forces Bowl		
		At Fort Worth		
California	6	7	(67½)	Air Force
		Russell Athletic Bowl		
		At Orlando		
North Carolina	+2½	1½	(69)	Baylor
		Arizona Bowl		
		At Tucson		
Colorado St	3	3	(56)	Nevada
		Texas Bowl		
		At Houston		
LSU	7	7	(73½)	Texas Tech
		Birmingham Bowl		
		At Birmingham		
Auburn	2½	2½	(62)	Memphis
		Belk Bowl		
		At Charlotte		
Mississippi St	5½	5	(60)	NC State
		Music City Bowl		
		At Nashville		
Louisville	+2½	5	(47)	Texas A&M
		Holiday Bowl		
		At San Diego		
SOUTHERN CAL	3	3½	(50)	Wisconsin
		Peach Bowl		
		At Atlanta		
Florida St	6½	7	(55½)	Houston
		Cotton Bowl		
		At Arlington		
Alabama	9½	9½	(46½)	Michigan St
		Orange Bowl		
		At Miami Gardens		
Oklahoma	1	4	(64)	Clemson
		Outback Bowl		
		At Tampa		
Tennessee	9	8½	(47½)	Northwestern
		Citrus Bowl		
		At Orlando		
Michigan	4	4½	(40)	Florida
		Fiesta Bowl		
		At Glendale		
Ohio State	6½	6½	(55½)	Notre Dame
		Rose Bowl		
		At Pasadena		
Stanford	6½	6½	(53½)	Iowa
		Sugar Bowl		
		At New Orleans		
Mississippi	6½	7	(68)	Oklahoma St
		Taxslayer Bowl		
		At Jacksonville		
Georgia	6½	6½	(42½)	Penn St
		Liberty Bowl		
		At Memphis		
Arkansas	12	12½	(55)	Kansas St
		Alamo Bowl		
		At San Antonio		
TCU	1½	1	(78)	Oregon
		Cactus Bowl		
		At Phoenix		
West Virginia	+1½	1	(64)	Arizona St

Get a taste of life in Midland in this Sunday's Culture section

College quarterback transfer carousel a sign of the times

OSCAR LEROY
oleroy@mrt.com

When I was kid, if another kid didn't like the way the game was being played, they would pick up the ball and go home.

That apparently still holds true when it comes to college quarterbacks.

If they don't like what's going on with the offense or if they don't get enough playing time, they pick up their ball and go home. Or, in this case, seek a transfer.

This tends to happen at every program that recruits a good quarterback. It's happened at Texas Tech, Oklahoma State, Oklahoma, Florida and, most recently, at Texas A&M, where it has lost two quarterbacks in a very short time to transfer.

While the transfer of Kyle Allen was understandable, considering that he had pretty much lost the starting job to Kyler Murray, the recent announcement that Murray was transferring is still a head-scratcher.

And nobody really knows what's going on behind closed doors. The kid might just want to go play pro baseball, he might have gotten tired of playing football, he might have gotten tired of the coaching staff, or maybe he decided that A&M wasn't for him anymore.

College football recruiting is not what it used to be 10-15 years ago. These days, it's more cut-throat, with more and more programs pressuring student-athletes to commit early. After all, for these head coaches and assistant coaches, if they don't recruit well enough and win enough, they won't have a job.

Alabama's Nick Saban is a good coach, and he wins a lot, but as good of a coach that he is, he's not going to win as many games with a bunch of two-star recruits.

The kids feel the pressure, too, but they feel it other ways. Sometimes, parents and fans think that the kid is a much better prospect than what he or she really is. The kids also feels pressure that if a Division I program doesn't come calling, then they don't feel they're good enough, even though they shouldn't because it takes a special athlete to play at the highest level of collegiate athletics.

You have to admire those who take their time in choosing a school and go to a place that's right for them.

You also have to admire those that walk on to a college program and don't expect anything in return other than maybe have a slight chance they will earn some playing time. And just to be clear: I don't include Baker Mayfield in this, as I have made my thoughts known about this in a past column.

So here's my two cents to any kid out there trying to decide on their future: Take your time, and make the choice that's best for you and not your parents, your friends or anybody else that's trying to influence you and pressure you. Make sure that when you make a decision that you don't have any regrets afterwards.

If more people do that, then maybe we won't see more young adults wanting to take their ball and go home, or go to another school.

■ Just to give you a heads up: As of this year, the Reporter-Telegram is handing out some postseason football honors. After all, we all know how much we love our football around here.

While we didn't celebrate any state football championships this season, it will still be nice to pat some folks on the back for the 2015 season. On Wednesday, we will unveil our Coach of the Year, our Defensive Player of the Year will be on Thursday, and then our Offensive Player of the Year will be on Christmas Day.

We might be doing this for other sports in the future, but we're going to start off with football this next week, so stay tuned.

■ And finally, I hope everyone enjoys the holiday season. Remember: It's not about the lights, the sales or the excuse to get inebriated that makes this time special. It's about telling people how much you care about them and appreciate them, and maybe it's a time to be a little more decent to fellow human beings.

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT

HSFOOTBALLROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Class 6A Division I

HOUSTON

Galena Park North Shore tops Austin Westlake 21-14 in OT

Maciah Long scored on a 1-yard quarterback sneak in overtime after Zafir Murphy blocked a potential winning field goal in the final seconds of regulation and Galena Park North Shore beat Austin Westlake 21-14 to win the Class 6A Division I championship Saturday.

Sam Ehlinger, the Texas Associated Press Sports Editors player of the year, completed a 27-yard pass to Kylen Granson to put Westlake in position for the win late in the fourth quarter. But Murphy got a hand on Ryan Rees' 27-yard field goal try with 8 seconds left to force overtime.

After Long's plunge for the lead, North Shore (13-3) clinched its second state title when Granson was tackled trying to throw back to Ehlinger on fourth-and-goal from the 3.

Westlake (14-2), which dropped to 1-7 in championship games, had a chance for the win in regulation after Aaron Cuevas missed a 38-yard field goal try for North Shore with 2:08 remaining.

It was the first overtime game in the state's largest classification since Westlake lost to Euless Trinity 41-38 in 2009.

Andrew Hyacinth returned a fumble 95 yards for a touchdown to give North Shore a 14-7 lead midway through the third quarter. Westlake's Matthew Sams answered by picking up a blocked punt and taking it 41 yards for a 14-14 tie late in the third.

Westlake coach Todd Dodge was back in a Texas state final for the first time since winning the last of four titles in five years with Southlake Carroll in 2006, when his team beat Westlake and quarterback Nick Foles, who is now with the St. Louis Rams.

Long had 82 yards rushing and a pair of 1-yard touchdowns on 21 carries.

Ehlinger was 14 of 28 for 219 yards and had 82 yards on 29 carries. Westlake's Chase Cokely had four catches for 107 yards.

Granson scored Westlake's first touchdown on a 16-yard run for a 7-0 lead early in the second quarter.

North Shore coach Jon Kay was an assistant for the school's other championship in 2003. He took over as coach last year.

Class 5A Division I

HOUSTON

George Ranch tops Lake Ridge

Darius Anderson rushed for 246 yards and scored two touchdowns and Richmond George Ranch dominated a battle of first-time finalists with a 56-0 win over Mansfield Lake Ridge in the Class 5A Division I championship game Friday night.

Anderson's fourth 200-yard rushing game in the playoffs included a 40-yard run for a touchdown and a 41-yard catch for a score as George Ranch (16-0) won the school's first state title in any sport in its fourth year of football.

It was the largest margin of victory in a championship game since Dallas Highland Park beat Marshall 59-0 for the 4A Division I title in 2005.

Josh Scruggs had 108 yards and a touchdown on eight carries, and Alex Fontenot rushed for three touchdowns.

Quarterback Jett Duffey of Lake Ridge (15-1), the 5A offensive player of the year on the Texas Associated Press Sports Editors all-state team, left the game in the third quarter after injuring a hamstring in last week's semifinal victory against Aledo.

Duffey was just 3 of 15 for 70 yards with two interceptions, and Lake Ridge was shut out after averaging 54 points in the first 15 games, including a 77-51 win over Tyler in the second round of the playoffs.

George Ranch quarterback Antonio Jackson had a pair of touchdown passes among his four completions in six attempts for 86 yards. His offense had 536 total yards to just 200 for Lake Ridge, which also was missing running back Duke Carter because of an ankle injury.

Scruggs opened the scoring with a 32-yard run in the first quarter, and Fontenot had a 5-yard touchdown on the final play of the quarter for a 14-0 lead.

Both of Anderson's touchdowns came in a 21-point third quarter that ended with George Ranch leading 42-0. The final touchdown came on a 24-yard fumble return by Aaron Castellano.

Class 5A Division II

HOUSTON

Cedar Park stifles 1st-time finalist Frisco Lone Star 22-6

Mak Sexton threw for two touchdowns, linebacker Mac McCaskill returned a fumble for a score and Cedar Park beat first-time finalist Frisco Lone Star 22-6 to win the Class 5A Division II championship Saturday.

Tommy Lavine had nine catches for 85 yards and a touchdown and Jack Grimm added eight for 66 yards with another score as Cedar Park (16-0) won its second title in four years.

NUNEZ

From 1C

him to play defensive end in college.

"It really doesn't matter. I like both (defensive line and tight end)," Nunez said. "Playing my senior year at d-line, I really didn't think I was going to like it, and then I played it the whole season, and I ended up loving it."

Nunez said that Rebels head coach James Morton emphasized the benefits of an Air Force Academy education in his conversations with him. Nunez said that both his father and Morton said that Colorado Springs, Colorado, the location of the Air Force Academy at the base of the Rocky Mountains, was a beautiful place to live, which also influenced his choice.

Follow Christopher on Twitter: @chris_MRTsports

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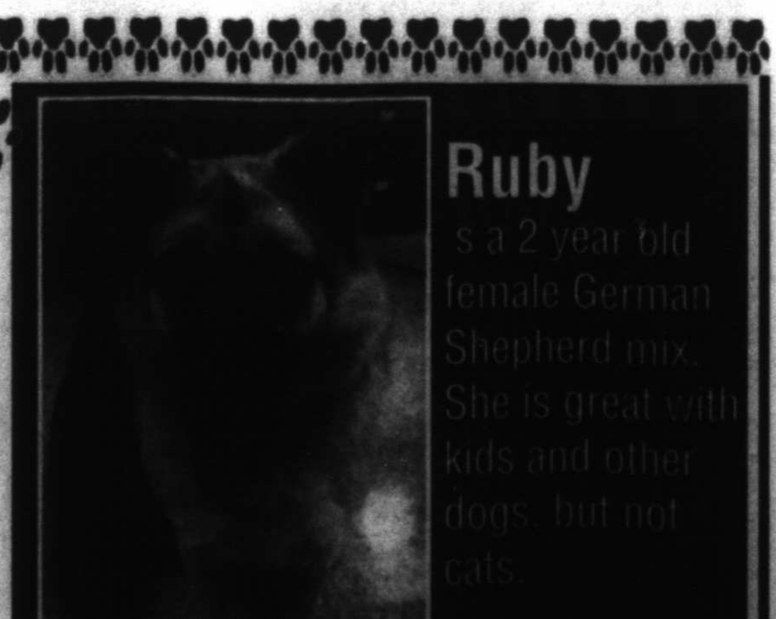

Please contact the Midland Humane Coalition (Located inside Petsmart) For more information 432.520.3134

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COLLEGEBASKETBALLROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Associated Press

Texas A&M center Tyler Davis (34) fights for a loose ball with Baylor guard Jake Lindsey, right, and guard Al Freeman during the second half Saturday in College Station. Texas A&M won the game 80-61.

NO. 1 MICHIGAN STATE 78
NORTHEASTERN 56

BOSTON — Denzel Valentine scored 17 points and Michigan State beat Northeastern to improve to 12-0.

The Spartans trailed by five midway through the first half before recovering in their first game against Northeastern. The Huskies (7-4) sold out the century-old Matthews Arena for the first time in two decades but couldn't hold on for their second victory over a ranked team this season.

Bryn Forbes scored 12 points for Michigan State and Valentine added six assists and five rebounds.

Zach Stahl had 18 points and seven rebounds for Northeastern.

NO. 2 KANSAS 88
MONTANA 46

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Perry Ellis had 18 points and nine rebounds for Kansas.

Brannen Greene and Wayne Selden added 11 points apiece, and Svi Mykhailiuk finished with 10 for the Jayhawks (9-1). They led by 20 at halftime before coasting to their eighth straight win.

Brandon Gfeller led the Grizzlies (4-6) with 12 points.

NO. 3 OKLAHOMA 87
CREIGHTON 74

NORMAN, Okla. — Buddy Hield scored a career-high 33 points to help Oklahoma pull away.

Creighton cut Oklahoma's lead to 71-68 in the second half before Hield, a preseason All-American, scored nine straight points in 1:22 to put the game out of reach.

Jordan Woodard had 15 points and seven rebounds for the Sooners (8-0). Maurice Watson scored 19 points for the Bluejays (7-4).

OHIO STATE 74
NO. 4 KENTUCKY 67

NEW YORK — Keita Bates-Diop scored 14 points and Ohio State held off a furious second-half rally by No. 4 Kentucky for a 74-67 victory Saturday in the CBS Sports Classic at Barclays Center.

The Buckeyes (6-5) led by 16 points with 11:26 to play but had to withstand not only the Wildcats' rally but a crowd of 16,311 mostly Kentucky fans making so much noise it sounded like Rupp Arena.

Freshman Jamal Murray had a season-high 33 points for the Wildcats (9-2) and kept the rally going with 3-pointer after 3-pointer. He finished 7 of 9 from beyond the arc, all the makes in the second half.

NORTHERN IOWA 81
NO. 5 IOWA STATE 79

DES MOINES, Iowa — Wes Washpun scored a career-high 28 points and had 11 assists and Northern Iowa upset Iowa State for its second win over a top-five opponent this season.

Paul Jesperson added a career-high 21 points on seven 3-pointers for the Panthers (7-3), who stunned then-No. 1 North Carolina 71-67 at home last month.

Iowa State's Georges Niang made it 80-79 on free throws with 20 seconds left, and the Cyclones (9-1) forced a subsequent turnover. Niang slipped, though, giving the Panthers the ball back. Washpun hit a free throw and Monte Morris missed a floater at the buzzer. Niang scored 30 points for the Cyclones.

NO. 6 MARYLAND 82
PRINCETON 61

BALTIMORE — Jake Layman scored a season-high 19 points and Robert Carter fueled a second-half surge that enabled Maryland to pull away.

Sophomore Jaylen Brantley scored a career-high 14 points, Carter added 12 and Diamond Stone and Rasheed Sulaimon each scored 11 for the Terrapins (10-1).

Henry Caruso led the Tigers (6-3) with 17 points.

UTAH 77
NO. 7 DUKE 75, OT

NEW YORK — Kyle Kuzma scored 21 points to lead Utah past Duke in the Ameritas Insurance Classic.

Jakob Poeltl had 19 points and 14 rebounds for Utah (9-2) before fouling out with 31 seconds left in overtime. Luke Kennard led Duke (9-2) with 24 points.

NO. 8 VIRGINIA 86
NO. 12 VILLANOVA 75

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — Anthony Gill scored 22 points and London Perrantes had 15 of his 19 in the second half to help Virginia hold off Villanova.

Malcolm Brogdon had 20 points for Virginia (9-1), including a pair of free throws with 44.6 seconds left. Kris Jenkins scored 23 points for Villanova (8-2).

NO. 17 BUTLER 74
NO. 9 PURDUE 68

INDIANAPOLIS — Roosevelt Jones scored 19 points, Tyler Lewis had 17 and Butler beat Purdue, sending the Boilermakers to their first loss of the season.

The Bulldogs (9-1) have won six straight. Purdue (11-1) was led by Freshman Caleb Swanigan had 25 points and 11 rebounds for Purdue (11-1).

NO. 10 XAVIER 85
AUBURN 61

CINCINNATI — Jalen Reynolds had a season-high 18 points as Xavier's front line dominated, and the Musketeers got their best start in school history by beating Auburn.

Xavier (11-0) was comfortably ahead the whole way after an opening 8-0 run. Kareem Canty had 25 points for Auburn (5-3).

NO. 11 N. CAROLINA 89
NO. 22 UCLA 76

NEW YORK — Brice Johnson scored 27 points, the second straight game he set his career high, and beat UCLA in the CBS Sports Classic at Barclays Center.

The senior forward missed his first shot from the field then didn't miss again, finishing 11 for 12 as he bettered the 25 points he scored against Tulane.

Joel Berry II added a career-high 17 points for the Tar Heels (9-2). Isaac Hamilton had 23 points for Bruins (8-4).

NO. 14 PROVIDENCE 73
RIDER 65

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Ben Bentil had 19 points and 12 rebounds and Providence beat Rider in the Friars' second straight game with star Kris Dunn.

Jalen Lindsey added 13 points and 13 rebounds for Providence (11-1), and fellow sophomore Rodney Bullock had 16 points and 11 boards. Dunn missed his second consecutive game with a stomach virus.

Jimmy Taylor scored 22 points for Rider (2-9).

NO. 15 MIAMI 85
COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON 63

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — Ja'Quan Newton scored a career-high 20 points, Sheldon McClellan added 14 and Miami returned from an 11-day break to beat College of Charleston.

NO. 24 TEXAS A&M 80
NO. 16 BAYLOR 61

COLLEGE STATION — Jalen Jones and Danuel House scored 17 points apiece for Texas A&M.

The Aggies (9-2) scored 14 of the game's first 16 points and led 51-30 at halftime.

NO. 19 LOUISVILLE 78
WESTERN KENTUCKY 56

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Quentin Snider scored 16 points for Louisville.

NO. 21 GEORGE WASHINGTON 87
SAINT PETER'S 74

WASHINGTON — Tyler Cavanaugh scored 18 points, and Patricio Garino added 16 for George Washington.

NO. 23 CINCINNATI 69
VCU 63

RICHMOND, Va. — Troy Caupain and Farad Cobb had 15 points apiece for Cincinnati.

Red Raiders crush Arkansas-Pine Bluff 94-54

Associated Press

LUBBOCK — First it was Zach Smith and Norense Odiase emerging as consistent frontcourt scorers for Texas Tech this season.

Reserve forward Aaron Ross has joined that pair, scoring a career-high 15 points in Texas Tech's 94-54 drubbing of the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff on Saturday afternoon.

This was the first time this season that Odiase, Smith and Ross all scored in double-digits in the same game. It was also the first time this year that all five Texas Tech starters scored in double-digits in the same game.

Smith and Odiase finished with 12 points apiece and Ross was assisted three times by 6-foot-10 walk-on Matthew Temple.

"I thought Matt Temple did an excellent job of dumping the ball inside to Ross," Texas Tech coach Tubby Smith said. "I was pleased with the interior passing. Zach (Smith), Norense (Odiase). They do a good job. We probably had a few more, but Norense, all he made was jumpshots today."

In his second appearance after becoming eligible for Texas Tech this week, Temple played 17 minutes and finished with six points, three rebounds, three assists, one block and one steal.

Temple is Texas Tech's second tallest player, and the only true center that can spell Odiase since Isaiah Manderson left the program in November.

"We need (Temple) to step up and give us a presence, a physical presence," Smith said. "I was probably more impressed with his defense because he really works to keep the ball out of the post. He's got good footwork to be able to keep people in front of him and he's fundamentally sound."

Devaugntah Williams and Toddrick Gotcher both had 11 points for Texas Tech (8-1), while Keenan Evans added 10.

"We were just executing what we went over," Williams said. "High-low. Zach and Norense. One of them shows high, the other just dive into their man. It was just there tonight. The guards, we were patient moving the ball around the perimeter and keeping the floor spaced."

During its current five-game losing streak, Pine Bluff (2-10) is losing by an average of 25.8 points.

Trent Whiting led the Golden Lions with 15 points. Deshon Bayless and Jaquan Lynch had 10 points apiece.

Texas Tech led 52-19 at halftime and closed the first half on a 14-0 run. The Golden Lions had four turnovers during a scoreless streak of 3:23 at the end of the period.

NBAGLANCE

FROM WIRE REPORTS

ROCKETS 107
CLIPPERS 97

HOUSTON — Dwight Howard had 22 points and 14 rebounds and Houston built a huge lead early and rolled to a 107-97 win over Los Angeles.

Houston led by as many as 26 points in the first half and was up by 12 after three quarters. The Rockets opened the fourth with an 8-2 run to make it 91-73. Marcus Thornton highlighted that spurt when he drove into the lane, evaded Blake Griffin and finished with a layup.

Houston pushed the lead to 95-76 with about 7 1/2 minutes left when Howard blocked a shot by Austin Rivers, and Trevor Ariza grabbed the ball and dished it to Howard, who finished with a dunk on the other end.

The starters for both teams sat down a few minutes after that.

KNICKS 107
BULLS 91

NEW YORK — Carmelo Anthony scored 27 points and the New York Knicks beat the weary Chicago Bulls 107-91 on Saturday night for their fourth straight victory.

A night after losing a four-overtime game in Chicago, the Bulls started well and had a strong third quarter, but the rest of the night mostly belonged to the Knicks.

Arron Afflalo added 18 points for New York, which got back to .500 at 14-14 after winning just 17 games last season. Lance Thomas scored 13 off the bench.

Joakim Noah had a season-high 21 points for the Bulls in his first start of the season. Rookie forward Bobby Portis had the best night of his brief career with 20 points and 11 rebounds.

THUNDER 118
LAKERS 78

OKLAHOMA CITY — Kevin Durant had 22 points and eight rebounds, Enes Kanter had 19 points and 14 rebounds and Oklahoma City beat Los Angeles for its eighth straight home victory.

Russell Westbrook added 13 points and 11 assists for his 18th double-double of the season for Oklahoma City. The Thunder won for the fifth straight time against the Lakers.

Kobe Bryant sat for Los Angeles with a sore right shoulder, and the Lakers started seldom-used rookie Anthony Brown in his place. Lou Williams scored 20 points and Jordan Clarkson added 15, but the Lakers lost for the 15th time in 17 games.

GRIZZLIES 96
PACERS 84

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Marc Gasol had 19 points and 12 rebounds, Matt Barnes finished with 15 points and 10 rebounds and Memphis beat Indiana.

Mike Conley added 20 points and eight assists as the Grizzlies snapped a two-game skid. Mario Chalmers had 12 points for Memphis and Jeff Green added 11.

Paul George led the Pacers with 29 points, despite going 8 of 22 from the field. Monta Ellis scored 13 points and Rodney Stuckey had 11 points. Jordan Hill finished with 10 points and 13 rebounds.

The loss snapped Indiana's three-game winning streak.

WIZARDS 109
HORNETS 101

WASHINGTON — John Wall had 27 points and 12 assists, Garrett Temple scored a career-high 21 points and Washington beat Charlotte.

Wall scored 20 points in the first half and then drilled a key jumper with just over 2 minutes left in the game after the Hornets nearly erased a 15-point deficit. Cody Zeller's layup cut the lead to 99-98 with 2:24 to play.

Jared Dudley matched a season high with 19 points and Marcin Gortat had 18 points for Washington.

Kemba Walker led Charlotte with 18 points, and Jeremy Lin had 15.

In the teams' first meeting of the season, the Wizards scored just six points in the fourth quarter in a 101-87 loss on Nov. 25.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL GLANCE

Men

SATURDAY'S SCORES
SOUTHWEST

Houston 81, E. Illinois 65
Mercer 69, Arkansas 66, OT
New Mexico St. 73, UTEP 53
Oklahoma 87, Creighton 74
St. Edward's 90, Oklahoma Christian 77
Stephen F. Austin 95, Our Lady of the Lake 56
Texas A&M 80, Baylor 61
Texas Tech 94, Ark.-Pine Bluff 54
Utah Valley 83, UTSA 78

MIDWEST

Aquinas 77, Madonna 69
Augustana (SD) 107, Wayne (Neb.) 62
Benedictine (Ill.) 83, Marian (Wis.) 61
Butler 74, Purdue 68
Cardinal Stritch 70, St. Francis (Ill.) 67
Carroll (Wis.) 83, Loras 78, OT
Chicago 69, Albion 65
Chicago St. 77, W. Illinois 70
Cleveland St. 67, Belmont 65
Concordia (Ill.) 84, Edgewood 79
Dayton 70, Furman 50
Detroit 95, UCF 89
Hillsdale 99, Lawrence 57
IPFW 95, Stetson 89
IUPUI 82, S. Utah 68
Illinois 91, South Dakota 79
Indiana 80, Notre Dame 73
Indiana St. 76, Saint Louis 68
Indiana-East 70, Carlow 67
Iowa 70, Drake 64
Kansas 88, Montana 46
Kansas St. 61, Colorado St. 56
Lake Superior St. 93, Silver Lake 66
Loyola of Chicago 64, Ill.-Chicago 47
Michigan 105, Youngstown St. 46
Minn. Duluth 100, St. Cloud St. 92
Minn. St.-Mankato 86, Concordia (St.P.) 59
Minn. St.-Moorhead 82, Northern St. (SD) 71
Monmouth (Ill.) 84, Beloit 80
N. Illinois 78, FIU 75, 2OT
N. Iowa 81, Iowa St. 79
N. Michigan 78, Grace Bible 59
NC State 73, Missouri 59
Northwestern 78, DePaul 70, OT
Rockford 88, Wis. Lutheran 62
SW Minnesota St. 62, Sioux Falls 60
Siena Heights 101, Great Lakes Christian 69
Toledo 102, Bethune-Cookman 66
UMKC 71, Rockhurst 60
Valparaiso 74, Missouri St. 45
Winona St. 81, Upper Iowa 65
Wis.-Parkside 70, Michigan Tech 64
Wis.-River Falls 89, Viterbo 82
Xavier 85, Auburn 61

FAR WEST

Air Force 67, UC Davis 60
Arizona St. 98, Houston Baptist 79
CS Bakersfield 82, Menlo 50
California 84, Coppin St. 51
Colorado 95, Hampton 53
Oakland 97, Washington 83
Portland 65, Cal St.-Fullerton 60
Rice 90, New Mexico 89
Wyoming 76, Nebraska-Omaha 75

EAST

Albany (NY) 65, St. Francis (Pa.) 58
Boston College 69, Delaware 61
Buffalo 80, Montana St. 73
Canisius 84, Boston U. 68
Duquesne 72, Robert Morris 65
Fordham 70, Maine 53
George Washington 87, St. Peter's 74
Lehigh 76, Mount St. Mary's 73
Maryland 82, Princeton 61
Michigan St. 78, Northeastern 56
New Hampshire 76, Dartmouth 56
North Carolina 89, UCLA 76
Nyack 62, Felician 53
Ohio St. 74, Kentucky 67
Penn 73, Ursinus 66
Penn St. 63, Drexel 57
Philadelphia 72, St. Rose 69
Providence 73, Rider 65
Rhode Island 79, Iona 74, OT
Saint Joseph's 79, Illinois St. 65
Seton Hall 80, Wichita St. 76, OT
St. Bonaventure 84, SC State 45
Stockton 68, Gettysburg 57
Syracuse 67, Cornell 46
Temple 78, Delaware St. 63
UNC Asheville 79, Georgetown 73
Utah 77, Duke 75, OT
Vermont 64, Fisher 37

William Paterson 73, Rutgers-Camden 57

SOUTH

Campbell 101, The Citadel 82
Carson-Newman 94, Lenoir-Rhyne 89
Charlotte 82, Appalachian St. 66
Cincinnati 69, VCU 63
Claflin 66, Limestone 56
Clark Atlanta 74, Shaw 71
Clayton St. 81, Francis Marion 70
E. Mennonite 61, Messiah 58
Elon 79, UNC Greensboro 69
Fairmont St. 88, Winston-Salem 78
Florida 72, Oklahoma St. 70
Florida St. 64, FAU 59
George Mason 75, Longwood 70
Georgia 75, Georgia Tech 61
Georgia St. 66, Southern Miss. 46
Hampden-Sydney 95, Immaculata 61
Howard 103, UMBC 93
Johnson C. Smith 85, Virginia Union 71
LSU 100, Oral Roberts 77
Louisville 78, W. Kentucky 56
MacMurray 79, Rhodes 71
Maryville (Tenn.) 103, Aurora 94
Miami 85, Coll. of Charleston 63
Mississippi St. 69, Tulane 59
N. Kentucky 79, SE Missouri 69
North Florida 87, Florida A&M 70
Northwestern St. 105, Missouri Valley 79
Presbyterian 69, Piedmont 65
Radford 69, UNC Wilmington 67
S. Dakota St. 58, Florida Gulf Coast 52
Tennessee St. 81, Alcorn St. 76
Thomas More 69, Franklin 84, OT
UAB 79, South Florida 68
Vanderbilt 80, Wofford 56
Virginia 86, Villanova 75
Virginia Tech 87, Grambling St. 52
Winthrop 88, Georgia Southern 81

EXHIBITION

Minot St. 101, Crossroads 66
St. Xavier 82, Calumet 69

TODAY'S GAMES
SOUTHWEST

Abilene Christian at TCU, 1 p.m.
N. Arizona at UALR, 2 p.m.
Cal Poly at Texas A&M-CC, 2 p.m.

MIDWEST

Bowling Green at Wright St., 3:30 p.m.
Samford at Nebraska, 6 p.m.

FAR WEST

Bradley at Boise St., 1 p.m.
E. Washington at Denver, 2 p.m.
Evansville at Fresno St., 3 p.m.
Bethesda at CS Northridge, 7 p.m.
San Jose St. at Seattle, 6 p.m.

EAST

Pittsburgh vs. Davidson at Madison Square Garden, 11 a.m.
NJIT at St. John's, 11 a.m.
Monmouth (NJ) at Rutgers, noon
Md.-Eastern Shore at American U., 12:30 p.m.
Marist at Army, 1 p.m.
Hofstra at Stony Brook, 1 p.m.
Liberty at St. Francis Brooklyn, 3 p.m.
Mass.-Lowell vs. UConn at the XL Center, Hartford, Conn., 3 p.m.
Texas Rio Grande Valley at Towson, 3:30 p.m.

SOUTH

Manhattan at Morgan St., noon
Alabama St. at Coastal Carolina, 1 p.m.
East Carolina at James Madison, 1 p.m.
Austin Peay at Lipscomb, 2 p.m.
W. Carolina at Morehead St., 3 p.m.

N. Dakota St. 79, Prairie View 58
N. Illinois 87, Drake 73
Nebraska 90, N. Arizona 67
Northern St. (SD) 60, Minn. St. (Moorhead) 59
Northwestern (Minn.) 64, St. Catherine 58
Oakland 74, Chicago St. 51
Ohio 64, East Carolina 61
Sioux Falls 88, SW Minnesota St. 72
South Dakota 73, North Dakota 70
Spring Arbor 60, Rochester (Mich.) 44
St. Cloud St. 55, Minn. Duluth 47
Thomas More 85, Calvin 69
UMKC 64, Bethany (Kan.) 51
Valparaiso 69, SIU-Edwardsville 56
Wartburg 57, Edgewood 41
Wichita St. 55, NC A&T 53
Winona St. 69, Upper Iowa 31
Wis. Lutheran 55, Lakeland 46
Wis.-Stevens Pt. 68, St. Mary's (Minn.) 44
Xavier 70, Howard 47

FAR WEST

Arizona St. 90, Marquette 80
Boise St. 84, Seattle 66
CS Bakersfield 57, Cal Poly 52
Colorado 72, Presbyterian 60
Loyola Marymount 83, Bristol 32
San Diego St. 54, Cal St.-Fullerton 43
San Francisco 73, San Francisco St. 45
South Alabama 59, Grand Canyon 56
Stanford 93, Cornell 38
UTEP 60, UNLV 52
Utah 78, Fresno St. 63
Wyoming 75, Montana St. 69, OT

EAST

Auburn 69, Coppin St. 54
Bryn Athyn 67, NJ City 36
Duquesne 76, St. John's 57
Franklin Pierce 73, Chestnut Hill 49
Nyack 67, Felician 62
Old Westbury 87, St. Elizabeth 74
Penn 72, Drexel 67
Rutgers 69, LSU 57
St. Bonaventure 62, Colgate 38
St. Rose 59, Molloy 57
Temple 100, Delaware St. 59
UMass 73, Boston U. 56
Washington (Md.) 55, St. Mary's (Md.) 50

SOUTH

Akron 77, N. Kentucky 75, OT
Alabama St. 71, Mobile 56
Baylor 88, Miami 81
Bellarmine 76, Ferris St. 52
Belmont Abbey 70, Mount Olive 63
Carson-Newman 68, Lenoir-Rhyne 48
Cent. Arkansas 57, Campbell 34
Chattanooga 61, UNC Wilmington 33
Clayton St. 73, Francis Marion 61
E. Mennonite 81, Hood 44
Elon 80, High Point 69
Fayetteville St. 64, Elizabeth City St. 50
Florida St. 101, Murray St. 59
George Mason 69, Air Force 52
Hanover 82, Centre 80
Hartwick 61, Randolph-Macon 57
Johnson C. Smith 77, Virginia Union 75
Kentucky St. 75, Trevecca Nazarene 53
Kentucky Wesleyan 77, McKendree 51
Liberty 69, Shepherd 57
Louisiana Tech 79, Louisiana-Lafayette 62
Louisiana-Monroe 73, LSU-Alexandria 42
Memphis 81, Illinois 75
Mississippi 96, McNeese St. 56
Mississippi St. 65, Florida Gulf Coast 60
Morehead St. 83, Kennesaw St. 77
Northwestern St. 59, Jackson St. 54
Rhodes 73, Rust 54
S. Illinois 55, Mercer 52
SC State 53, North Florida 48
SC-Upstate 68, NC Central 46
SMU 58, Arizona 46
St. Xavier 79, Davenport 71
VCU 74, Old Dominion 54
Virginia Tech 59, Mount St. Mary's 42
W. Michigan 71, Gardner-Webb 44

TOURNAMENT
Lady Griz Classic
First Round

Montana 83, FAU 69
Utah St. 63, Tennessee St. 46

EXHIBITION

Minn. St. (Mankato) 92, Concordia (St.P) 67

TODAY'S GAMES
SOUTHWEST

Texas-Rio Grande Valley at Houston, 1 p.m.
Texas vs. Arkansas at Chesapeake Arena, Oklahoma City, 1:30 p.m.
Ark.-Pine Bluff at Texas A&M, 2 p.m.

Missouri St. at UALR, 3 p.m.
S. Utah at TCU, 3:30 p.m.
Texas A&M vs. Oklahoma at Chesapeake Arena, Oklahoma City, 4 p.m.

MIDWEST

E. Illinois at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Princeton at Dayton, 1 p.m.
Georgia Tech at IUPUI, 1 p.m.
Tulsa at N. Iowa, 1 p.m.
Georgia at Wright St., 1 p.m.
Alcorn St. at Iowa St., 2 p.m.
Lamar at Missouri, 2 p.m.
Toledo at Ill.-Chicago, 3 p.m.
Washington St. at Kansas, 7 p.m.
Creighton at Neb.-Omaha, 8 p.m.

FAR WEST

Abilene Christian at Idaho, 2 p.m.
New Mexico St. at New Mexico, 3 p.m.
UNLV at Long Beach St., 4 p.m.
CS Northridge at Portland St., 4 p.m.
UC Irvine at San Jose St., 4 p.m.
La Verne at UC Santa Barbara, 4 p.m.
Colorado St. at Denver, 5 p.m.
Hawaii at Sacramento St., 7:05 p.m.

EAST

Iona at George Washington, 11 a.m.
UMBC at Loyola (Md.), 11 a.m.
Sacred Heart at Penn St., 11 a.m.
Saint Peter's at Seton Hall, 11 a.m.
UMass-Lowell at Boston College, noon
New Hampshire at Bryant, noon
Villanova at La Salle, noon
Delaware at Bucknell, 1 p.m.
IPFW at Fairfield, 1 p.m.
CCSU at Fordham, 1 p.m.
Hofstra at Marist, 1 p.m.
Vermont at NJIT, 1 p.m.
Rider at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
Providence at Rhode Island, 1 p.m.
Auburn at Towson, 1 p.m.
Manhattan at American, 4:30 p.m.
Monmouth (N.J.) at Fairleigh Dickinson, 6 p.m.

SOUTH

Florida Gulf Coast vs. Arizona at Coliseo Guillermo Angulo, Carolina, Puerto Rico, noon
Norfolk St. at Marshall, noon
Maryland at Md.-Eastern Shore, noon
East Carolina vs. South Carolina at the Myrtle Beach (S.C.) Convention Center, noon
Georgia Southern at Stetson, noon
W. Michigan vs. Mississippi St. at Coliseo Guillermo Angulo, Carolina, Puerto Rico, 12:15 p.m.
Furman at Appalachian St., 1 p.m.
S.C. State vs. Cent. Arkansas at UNF Arena, Jacksonville, Fla., 1 p.m.
Louisville at Coll. of Charleston, 1 p.m.
Charlotte at Davidson, 1 p.m.
Notre Dame (Md.) at Longwood, 1 p.m.
Oklahoma St. at South Florida, 1 p.m.
Richmond at Wake Forest, 1 p.m.
Grambling St. at Alabama, 2 p.m.
Bethune-Cookman vs. Georgia St. at the J. Ollie Edmunds Center, DeLand, Fla., 2 p.m.
Lehigh at Hampton, 2 p.m.
Tennessee Tech at Middle Tennessee, 2 p.m.
Campbell at North Florida, 2 p.m.
SMU vs. Gardner-Webb at Coliseo Guillermo Angulo, Carolina, Puerto Rico, 2:30 p.m.
Southern Miss. vs. North Carolina at the Myrtle Beach (S.C.) Convention Center, 4 p.m.
James Madison vs. West Virginia at Warden Arena, Winter Park, Fla., 4 p.m.
Duke at Kentucky, 6 p.m.
Miami vs. Indiana at Warden Arena, Winter Park, Fla., 6:15 p.m.

TOURNAMENTS
Gator Holiday Classic
At Gainesville, Fla.
First Round

N.C. State vs. E. Kentucky, 11 a.m.
St. Francis (Pa.) at Florida, 1:30 p.m.

Lady Griz Classic
At Missoula, Mont.
Third Place/Championship

Utah St. or Tennessee St. vs. FAU, 2 p.m.
Utah St. or Tennessee St. at Montana, 4:30 p.m.

Tulane Classic
At New Orleans
First Round

Cleveland St. vs. Saint Louis, 4 p.m.
UNC Greensboro at Tulane, 5 p.m.

Women of Troy Classic
At Los Angeles

Third Place, 3 p.m.
Championship, 5 p.m.

Women

SATURDAY'S SCORES
SOUTHWEST

Oklahoma Christian 83, St. Edward's 76
Texas Southern 51, Texas A&M-CC 43
Texas-Arlington 64, Houston Baptist 40
UTSA 88, Texas A&M-Kingsville 51

MIDWEST

Albion 88, Michigan-Dearborn 47
Alma 76, Lawrence 30
Augustana (SD) 59, Wayne (Neb.) 58
Beloit 91, Monmouth (Ill.) 68
DePaul 77, Northwestern 64
Green Bay 58, S. Dakota St. 57
Hope 95, Lake Forest 57
Indiana-East 90, Carlow 70
Iowa 60, Bradley 53
Kansas St. 78, Sam Houston St. 50
Michigan 97, Miami (Ohio) 55
Michigan Tech 95, Finlandia 34

NBA GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	17	11	.607	—
Boston	14	13	.519	2½
New York	14	14	.500	3
Brooklyn	7	19	.269	9
Philadelphia	1	27	.036	16

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	15	10	.600	—
Orlando	15	11	.577	½
Charlotte	15	11	.577	½
Atlanta	16	12	.571	½
Washington	11	14	.440	4

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	17	7	.708	—
Indiana	16	10	.615	2
Chicago	15	10	.600	2½
Detroit	16	12	.571	3
Milwaukee	10	18	.357	9

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	23	5	.821	—
Dallas	15	12	.556	7½
Memphis	15	14	.517	8½
Houston	14	14	.500	9
New Orleans	7	19	.269	15

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	18	9	.667	—
Utah	11	14	.440	6
Denver	11	15	.423	6½
Portland	11	17	.393	7½
Minnesota	10	16	.385	7½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	26	1	.963	—
L.A. Clippers	16	12	.571	10½
Phoenix	12	16	.429	14½
Sacramento	10	16	.385	15½
L.A. Lakers	4	23	.148	22

Scores & schedule

Saturday's Scores

Oklahoma City 118, L.A. Lakers 78
Washington 109, Charlotte 101
New York 107, Chicago 91
Memphis 96, Indiana 84
Houston 107, L.A. Clippers 97

Today's Games

Portland at Miami, noon
Minnesota at Brooklyn, noon
Philadelphia at Cleveland, 2:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Phoenix, 4 p.m.
Sacramento at Toronto, 5 p.m.
Atlanta at Orlando, 5 p.m.
New Orleans at Denver, 7 p.m.

Monday's Games

Sacramento at Washington, 6 p.m.
Minnesota at Boston, 6:30 p.m.
Orlando at New York, 6:30 p.m.
Brooklyn at Chicago, 7 p.m.
Charlotte at Houston, 7 p.m.
Portland at Atlanta, 7 p.m.
Indiana at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Utah, 8 p.m.
Oklahoma City at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.

Northwest Missouri State wins 5th Division II title

By David Smale
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — Brady Bolles threw for 233 yards and a touchdown to lead Northwest Missouri State to its fifth NCAA Division II title Saturday, 34-7 over Shepherd at Sporting Park.

Bolles completed 20 of 27 passes. The Bearcats (15-0) used two turnovers and a big play to open a 24-0 first-half lead, then coasted in the second half against overmatched Shepherd (13-1).

Defensive end Collin Bevins had four sacks to break the school record for sacks in a season with 15 1/2. The Bearcats had 10 sacks in the game.

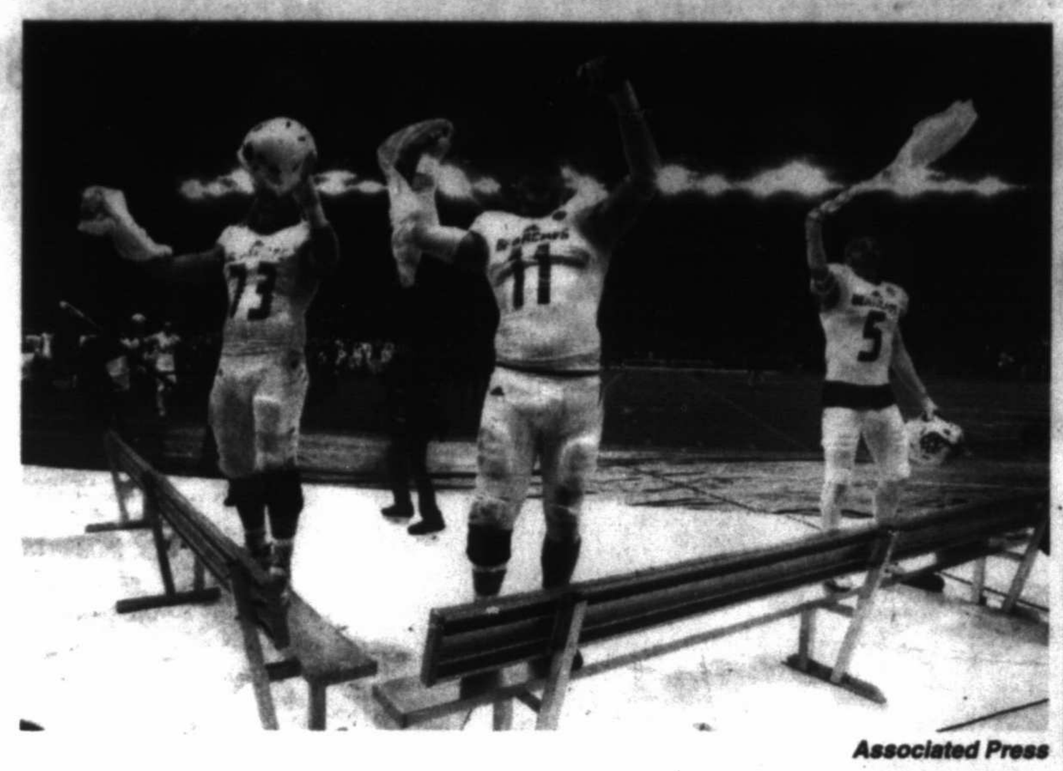
Northwest Missouri State also won titles in 1998, 1999, 2009 and 2013.

A championship-game record of 16,181 watched the game at the home of Major League Soccer's Sporting Kansas City. The crowd was slanted heavily toward Northwest Missouri, 90 miles away in Maryville.

Northwest Missouri, which came into the game with the best scoring defense in Division II by more than three points per game, held Shepherd to 97 yards of total offense.

It didn't take long for Northwest Missouri to grab the lead. The Bearcats kicked off, but on the first play from scrimmage, Jeff Ziemba bobbled a shotgun snap, and it was recovered by defensive end Cass Weitl on the 5. Two plays later, ordan Grove ran it in from the 1. The touchdown, at the 14:13 mark, was the quickest non-kick-return score in the championship game since 1974.

Shepherd got on the board with 9:49 left in the third after recovering a fumbled punt on the Bearcats 32. Two plays later, Ziemba hit receiver Billy Brown with a 21-yard touchdown pass.



Associated Press

Northwest Missouri's Cass Weitl (73) Collin Bevins (11) and Jack Young (5) celebrate winning the NCAA Division II National Championship football game against Shepherd on Saturday in Kansas City, Kan. Missouri defeated Shepherd 34-7.

Jacksonville St. runs over Sam Houston St. in semis

Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Ala. — Troymaine Pope ran for 181 yards and two touchdowns to punch Jacksonville State's ticket to the FCS Championship game, leading the Gamecocks in a 62-10 drubbing of Sam Houston State on Saturday afternoon in front of a record 23,692 fans at Burgess-Snow Field.

Eli Jenkins completed 17 of 23 passes for 247 yards and two touchdowns, and added 43 rushing yards and another score for the top-seeded Gamecocks (13-1).

Josh Barge led in receiving with six receptions for 121 yards.

Jacksonville State will play in the FCS Championship January 9 in Frisco, Texas against four-time defending champion North Dakota State.

After unseeded Sam Houston State (9-4) fumbled the opening kickoff, Jenkins connected with Barge on a 28-yard toss to get Jacksonville State to the Bearkat 3-yard-line. Three plays later, Jenkins kept the ball on a read option and scored on a 1-yard run to put the Gamecocks up 7-0.

FCS glance

First Round
Saturday, Nov. 28
Western Illinois 24, Dayton 7
Chattanooga 50, Fordham 20
The Citadel 41, Coastal Carolina 38
Sam Houston State 42, Southern Utah 39
Montana 24, South Dakota State 17
Colgate 27, New Hampshire 20
William & Mary 52, Duquesne 49
Northern Iowa 63, Eastern Illinois 17

Second Round
Saturday, Dec. 5
Richmond 48, William & Mary 13
Charleston Southern 14, The Citadel 6
Colgate 44, James Madison 38
Illinois State 36, Western Illinois 19
Jacksonville State 41, Chattanooga 35, OT
North Dakota State 37, Montana 6
Sam Houston State 34, McNeese State 29
Northern Iowa 29, Portland State 17

Quarterfinals
Friday, Dec. 11
Richmond 39, Illinois State 27
Jacksonville State 66, Charleston Southern 38
Saturday, Dec. 12
North Dakota State 23, Northern Iowa 13
Sam Houston State 48, Colgate 21
Semifinals
Friday, Dec. 18
North Dakota State 35, Richmond 7
Saturday, Dec. 19
Jacksonville State 62, Sam Houston State 10
Championship
Saturday, Jan. 9
At Toyota Stadium
Frisco
North Dakota State (12-2) vs. Jacksonville State (13-1), 11 a.m.

BOWL GLANCE

(Subject to Change)
Saturday
Celebration Bowl
Atlanta
NC A&T 41, Alcorn State 34
New Mexico Bowl
Albuquerque
Arizona 45, New Mexico 37
Las Vegas Bowl
Utah 35, BYU 28
Camellia Bowl
Montgomery, Ala.
Appalachian State 31, Ohio 29
Cure Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
San Jose State 27, Georgia State 16
New Orleans Bowl
Louisiana Tech (8-4) vs. Arkansas State (9-3), late

Monday, Dec. 21
Miami Beach Bowl
South Florida (8-4) vs. Western Kentucky (11-2), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Tuesday, Dec. 22
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl
Boise
Akron (7-5) vs. Utah State (6-6), 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
Temple (10-3) vs. Toledo (9-2), 6 p.m. (ESPN)
Wednesday, Dec. 23
Poinsettia Bowl
San Diego
Northern Illinois (8-5) vs. Boise State (8-4), 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)
GoDaddy Bowl
Mobile, Ala.
Bowling Green (10-3) vs. Georgia Southern (8-3), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Thursday, Dec. 24
Bahamas Bowl
Nassau
Middle Tennessee (7-5) vs. Western Michigan (7-5), 10 a.m. (ESPN)
Hawaii Bowl
Honolulu
Cincinnati (7-5) vs. San Diego State (10-3), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Dec. 26
St. Petersburg (Fla.) Bowl
Marshall (9-3) vs. UConn (8-6), 10 a.m. (ESPN)
Sun Bowl
El Paso
Miami (8-4) vs. Washington State (8-4), 1 p.m. (CBS)
Heart of Dallas Bowl
Washington (6-6) vs. Southern Mississippi (9-4), 2:20 p.m. (ESPN)
Pinstripe Bowl
Bronx, N.Y.
Duke (7-5) vs. Indiana (6-6), 2:30 p.m. (ABC)
Independence Bowl
Shreveport, La.
Virginia Tech (6-6) vs. Tulsa (6-6), 4:45 p.m. (ESPN)
Foster Farms Bowl
Santa Clara, Calif.
Nebraska (5-7) vs. UCLA (8-4), 8:15 p.m. (ESPN)
Monday, Dec. 28
Military Bowl
Annapolis, Md.
Navy (9-2) vs. Pittsburgh (8-4), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Quick Lane Bowl
Detroit
Central Michigan (7-5) vs. Minnesota (5-7), 4 p.m. (ESPN2)

Tuesday, Dec. 29
Armed Forces Bowl
Fort Worth
Air Force (8-5) vs. California (7-5), 1 p.m. (ESPN)
Russell Athletic Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
North Carolina (11-2) vs. Baylor (9-3), 4:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Arizona Bowl
Tucson
Nevada (6-6) vs. Colorado State (7-5), 5:30 p.m. (ASN)
Texas Bowl
Houston
Texas Tech (7-5) vs. LSU (8-3), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Wednesday, Dec. 30
Birmingham (Ala.) Bowl
Auburn (6-6) vs. Memphis (9-3), Noon (ESPN)
Belk Bowl
Charlotte, N.C.
NC State (7-5) vs. Mississippi St. (8-4), 2:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Music City Bowl
Nashville, Tenn.
Louisville (7-5) vs. Texas A&M (8-4), 6 p.m. (ESPN)
Holiday Bowl
San Diego
Wisconsin (9-3) vs. Southern Cal (8-5), 9:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Thursday, Dec. 31
Peach Bowl
Atlanta
Houston (12-1) vs. Florida State (10-2), 11 a.m. (ESPN)
Orange Bowl (Playoff Semifinal)
Miami Gardens, Fla.
Clemson (13-0) vs. Oklahoma (11-1), 3 p.m. (ESPN)
Cotton Bowl Classic (Playoff Semifinal)
Arlington
Alabama (12-1) vs. Michigan State (12-1), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Friday, Jan. 1
Outback Bowl
Tampa, Fla.
Northwestern (10-2) vs. Tennessee (8-4), 11 a.m. (ESPN2)
Citrus Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
Michigan (9-3) vs. Florida (10-3), noon (ABC)
Fiesta Bowl
Glendale, Ariz.
Notre Dame (10-2) vs. Ohio State (11-1), noon (ESPN)
Rose Bowl
Pasadena, Calif.
Iowa (12-1) vs. Stanford (11-2), 4 p.m. (ESPN)
Sugar Bowl
New Orleans
Oklahoma State (10-2) vs. Mississippi (9-3), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Jan. 2
TaxSlayer Bowl
Jacksonville, Fla.
Penn St. (7-5) vs. Georgia (9-3), Noon (ESPN)
Liberty Bowl
Memphis, Tenn.
Kansas St. (6-6) vs. Arkansas (7-5), 2:20 p.m. (ESPN)
Alamo Bowl
San Antonio
Oregon (9-3) vs. TCU (10-2), 5:45 p.m. (ESPN)
Cactus Bowl
Phoenix
West Virginia (7-5) vs. Arizona State (6-6), 9:15 p.m. (ESPN)

Monday, Jan. 11
College Football Championship Game
Glendale, Ariz.
Orange Bowl winner vs. Cotton Bowl winner, 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Jan. 23
East-West Shrine Classic
At St. Petersburg, Fla.
East vs. West, 3 p.m. (NFLN)
NFLPA Collegiate Bowl
At Carson, Calif.
National vs. American, 5 p.m. (ESPN2)
Saturday, Jan. 30
Senior Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
North vs. South, 1:30 p.m. (NFLN)

BOWL ROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Celebration Bowl

NORTH CAROLINA A&T 41
ALCORN STATE 34

ATLANTA — Tarik Cohen rushed for 295 touchdowns and three touchdowns of 73 or more yards Saturday, and North Carolina A&T used a slew of big plays for a 41-34 win over Alcorn State in the Celebration Bowl at the Georgia Dome.

The Celebration Bowl, matching champions of the two historically black Division-I conferences, had four scoring plays in the first quarter cover a combined 315 yards.

Cohen's 73-yard scoring run with 4:17 left in the game was the game-winner, although Alcorn State threatened the Aggies till the end. Only when Lenorris Footman's fourth-and-goal pass from the 9-yard-line sailed over a receiver with nine seconds left was North Carolina A&T (10-2) safe.

Cohen, the game MVP, added two receptions for 53 yards for the Aggies, champions of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference.

Alcorn State (9-4), champion of the Southwestern Athletic Conference, was led by Footman. He passed for 144 yards and two scores and caught a scoring pass.

New Mexico Bowl

ARIZONA 45
NEW MEXICO 37

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Anu Solomon threw two touchdowns passes and ran for another score to help Arizona hold off pesky New Mexico in the New Mexico Bowl.

Arizona (7-6) and its quick offense overwhelmed the Lobos (7-6) in a game that saw New Mexico surge late after being down as many of 18 points.

Jared Baker ran for 107 yards and three touchdowns, and Cayleb Jones had 182 yards receiving and a touchdown. Linebacker Scooby Wright III, who battled injures all season, came back for the bowl game and had two sacks and 11 solo tackles. After the game, Wright announced he would enter the NFL draft.

New Mexico quarterback Lamar Jordan rushed for three touchdowns and threw a 92-yard touchdown pass to Delane Hart-Johnson before leaving the game in the third quarter with a knee injury. Arizona held star running back Jhurell Pressley to 75 yards rushing and no touchdowns.

Las Vegas Bowl

UTAH 35
BYU 28

LAS VEGAS — Utah took advantage of a disastrous start by BYU in the Las Vegas Bowl, scoring five first-quarter touchdowns on turnovers — including two interceptions by Tevin Carter — before holding on to beat the Cougars 35-28 on Saturday.

Carter returned one of the picks for a touchdown and another to the 1 as No. 20 Utah romped to a 35-0 first-quarter lead in the first meeting of the two heated rivals outside of the state of Utah. BYU turned the ball over the first five times it had the ball, with freshman quarterback Tanner Mangum throwing three interceptions and fumbling once.

That was all the scoring Utah (10-3) did, and it nearly cost the Utes the game. Mangum would bring BYU (9-4) back, throwing two touchdown passes and rushing for another with 3:23 left to get the Cougars within one score, but BYU never got the ball back.

Bronco Mendenhall's last game as BYU coach was almost over even before some of the fans settled into their seats, thanks to an opportunistic Utah defense that forced Mangum to fumble on the third play of the game. Midway through the first quarter, the Utes were already up 28-0.

Mendenhall, who is leaving BYU (9-4) after 11 seasons to coach at Virginia, failed in his try at win No. 100 at the school. Mendenhall, who wanted to coach the bowl game before leaving, finished his BYU career with a 99-43 record.

Cure Bowl

SAN JOSE STATE 27
GEORGIA STATE 16

ORLANDO, Fla. — Kenny Potter scored on a 42-yard run and threw a 1-yard touchdown pass to Josh Oliver in San Jose State's 27-16 comeback victory over Georgia State on Saturday night in the inaugural Cure Bowl.

Georgia State's Nick Arbuckle threw for 194 yards and two touchdowns.

BANANAGRAMS!

LEVEL

Change one letter in the top word to one of the letters that appears in the bottom word, then rearrange the tiles as needed to form a new common word. Do the same with each new word until you arrive at the bottom word. For example, one path from BARK to PLUM is BARK, MARK, RAMP, RUMP, PLUM.

T Y P I C A L

R H O M B U S

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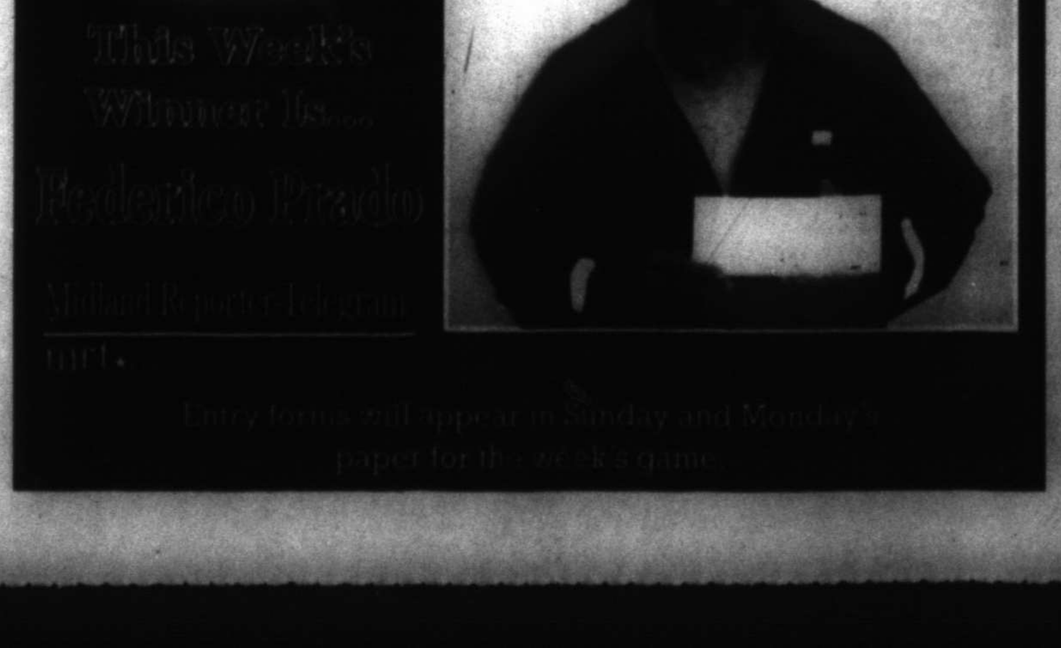
Yesterday's Answer: TURTLE/COLLAR; ORNERY/KIDNAP; MISFIT/COUGAR

12.20

Get the best energy news every week in the
OIL REPORT
Look for it in today's edition of the Reporter-Telegram



TEXANS

From 1C

after he missed a team flight. Two-time defensive player of the year, J.J. Watt, played last week after breaking his left hand in practice. And now starting quarterback Brian Hoyer is out after being diagnosed with his second concussion in less than a month.

That leaves their fate in the hands of T.J. Yates, who won his only start this season.

"He's a really bright guy, so now being here for a while, I think he has a really good grasp of our offense," coach Bill O'Brien said. "So we can do the things we need to do to help us beat the Colts."

But the better backup will probably give his team the inside track to a division title and a home playoff game, something everybody in both locker rooms understands in a high-stakes game.

"Things haven't been going our way lately but this is a must-win," Colts receiver T.Y. Hilton said. "This is our playoff game and one that we have to have."

Here are some other things to watch in today's game:

WATT'S CLUB: Watt has been one of the NFL's most dominant players but wasn't himself with the "club" cast protecting his hand last week against New England. And the Colts neutralized him in their first meeting, in October. If Watt returns to form this weekend, against left tackle Anthony Castonzo, who missed the last three games with a right knee injury, Houston's chances would increase.

DEFENSIVE DILEMMA: The last two weeks have been ugly in Indy. The Colts have been outscored 96-26, allowing Ben Roethlisberger and Blake Bortles to throw for a combined 614 yards and seven TDs. They can't afford to have a repeat against Yates and the Texans.

NO CLOWNING AROUND: Last week, outside linebacker Jadeveon Clowney, the No. 1 overall pick in the 2014 draft, sacked Tom Brady twice — the first multi-sack game of his injury-plagued career. Now Houston wants to see him do it again. "He's a confident player," O'Brien said. " When he feels good and he's healthy, he's a good football player."

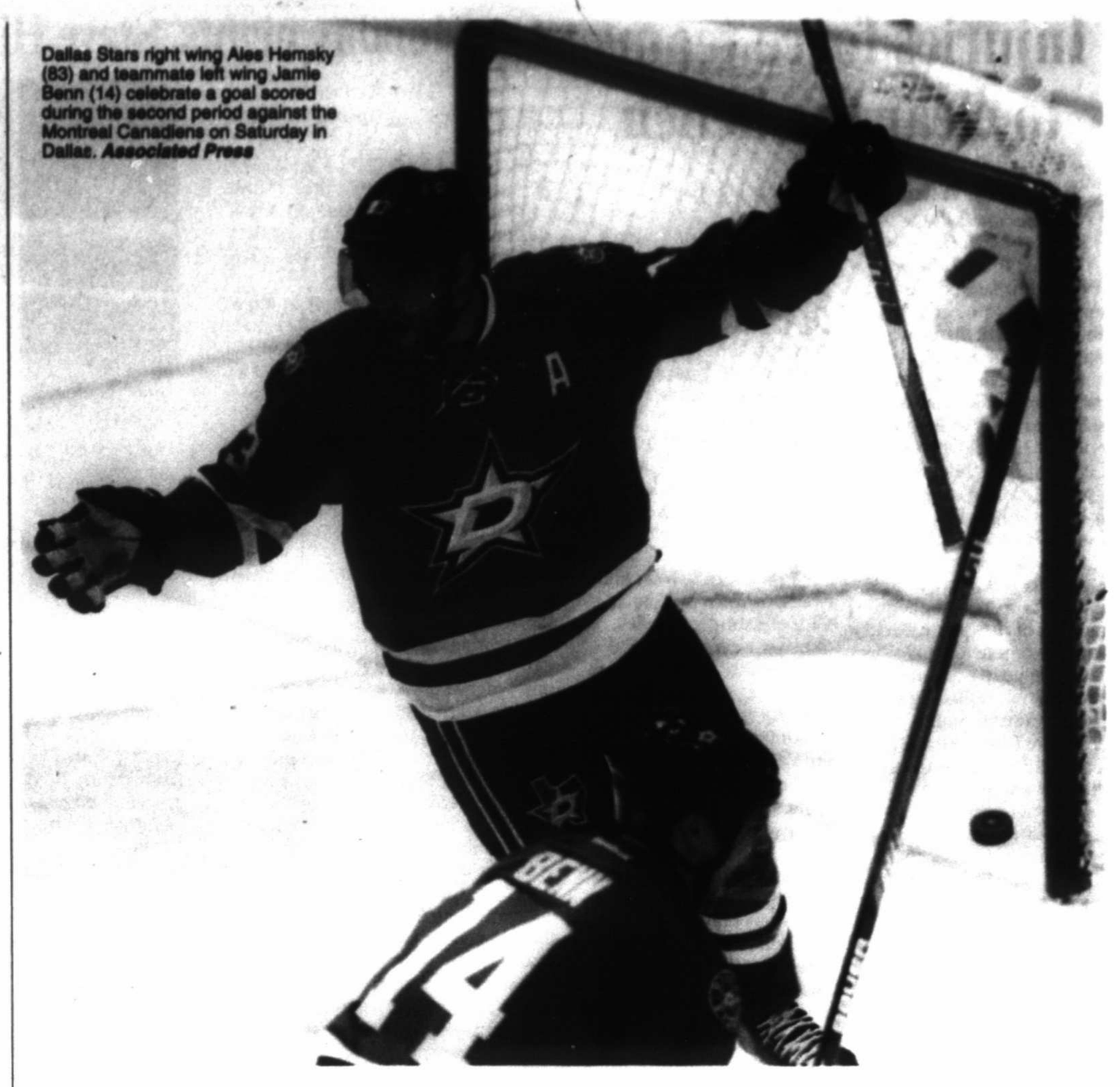
GROUNDED: For four seasons, Pagano has talked incessantly about the need to run. The Colts might need a ground game more than ever. Over the last four weeks, Indy has rushed for 62.5 yards per game and 2.7 yards per carry. Improving those numbers would help keep the quarterbacks upright.

LOPSIDED RIVALRY: Houston has a problem in Indy. It can't win. The Texans couldn't win in December 2011 when their playoff-bound team lost to a one-win Colts' team that had Dan Orlovsky at quarterback. They couldn't win in December 2012 when they were facing a rookie quarterback with a shot at the AFC's No. 1 seed. And if they want to make the playoffs this year, they need to end this 0-13 run.

Game notes

HOUSTON (6-7) AT INDIANAPOLIS (6-7)
Noon today, CBS

OPENING LINE — Off
RECORD VS. SPREAD — Texans 6-7, Colts 6-7
SERIES RECORD — Colts lead 23-4
LAST MEETING — Colts beat Texans 27-20, Oct. 8, 2015
LAST WEEK — Texans lost to Patriots 27-6; Colts lost to Jaguars 51-16
AP PRO32 RANKING — Texans No. 17, Colts No. 19
TEXANS OFFENSE — OVERALL (19), RUSH (19), PASS (15).
TEXANS DEFENSE — OVERALL (7), RUSH (19), PASS (3).
COLTS OFFENSE — OVERALL (26), RUSH (28), PASS (16).
COLTS DEFENSE — OVERALL (29), RUSH (25), PASS (29).
STREAKS, STATS AND NOTES — Game will break tie for division lead and give winner inside track to AFC South title. ... Both teams have lost two in row.



Dallas Stars right wing Aleo Hemsky (83) and teammate left wing Jamie Benn (14) celebrate a goal scored during the second period against the Montreal Canadiens on Saturday in Dallas. *Associated Press*

Benn has 2 goals as Stars beat Canadiens

Associated Press

DALLAS — Jamie Benn had two goals and an assist and the Dallas Stars beat the Montreal Canadiens 6-2 on Saturday night in a battle of first-place teams.

Benn regained the NHL lead with 22 goals, passing the Blues' Vladimir Tarasenko.

Central Division-leading Dallas scored within the first 2 minutes of each period to improve to 24-7-2 and reach a league-high 50 points in only 33 games.

Montreal leads the Atlantic Division despite losing seven of its last eight games. This loss kicked off an eight-game trip.

Jason Spezza had a goal and two assists, and Tyler Seguin and Patrick Sharp each had a goal and an assist. Patrick Eaves added a power-play goal.

Stars goalie Antti Niemi made 21 saves. Daniel Carr scored on the power play for Montreal.

NHL GLANCE

Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Montreal	34	20	11	3	43	103	82
Boston	31	18	9	4	40	102	82
Detroit	32	16	9	7	39	82	83
Ottawa	33	17	11	5	39	102	97
Florida	33	17	12	4	38	88	76
Tampa Bay	33	16	14	3	35	81	78
Buffalo	34	14	16	4	32	79	89
Toronto	31	11	13	7	29	77	86

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	31	23	6	2	48	96	67
N.Y. Rangers	34	19	11	4	42	98	84
N.Y. Islanders	33	18	10	5	41	91	79
New Jersey	33	16	13	4	36	78	82
Philadelphia	33	14	12	7	35	70	89
Pittsburgh	32	15	14	3	33	71	82
Carolina	33	13	15	5	31	79	99
Columbus	35	13	19	3	29	86	107

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	33	24	7	2	50	114	85
St. Louis	34	20	10	4	44	87	81
Chicago	34	19	11	4	42	92	80
Minnesota	31	17	8	6	40	86	73
Nashville	33	16	11	6	38	85	85
Colorado	33	16	16	1	33	90	89
Winnipeg	32	15	15	2	32	90	97

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles	32	20	10	2	42	81	71
San Jose	32	16	15	1	33	85	87
Calgary	32	15	15	2	32	85	108
Vancouver	34	12	14	8	32	85	97
Arizona	31	14	15	2	30	86	102
Edmonton	33	14	17	2	30	87	100
Anaheim	31	12	14	5	29	58	77

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss

Scores & schedule

Saturday's Games

Chicago 3, Buffalo 2, SO
Columbus 3, Philadelphia 2, SO
St. Louis 3, Calgary 2
Toronto 5, Los Angeles 0
Anaheim 2, New Jersey 1
Carolina 2, Pittsburgh 1
Dallas 6, Montreal 2
Nashville 3, Minnesota 2
N.Y. Islanders at Arizona, late
Edmonton at Colorado, late

Today's Games

Vancouver at Florida, 3 p.m.
New Jersey at Boston, 4 p.m.
Ottawa at Tampa Bay, 4 p.m.
Calgary at Detroit, 6 p.m.
Washington at N.Y. Rangers, 6 p.m.
San Jose at Chicago, 6 p.m.

Injuries force teams to clear the bench

By Barry Wilner
Associated Press

The list of key players injured this season would make even some coaches shudder. Particularly when they see who has to fill in.

A look at just the running backs who have been sidelined in 2015 is foreboding: Jamaal Charles, Le'Veon Bell, Justin Forsett, Arian Foster, Chris Johnson, Mark Ingram, Carlos Hyde, Reggie Bush.

Does anyone from Dallas to Baltimore to Indianapolis need to be reminded of the quarterbacks who have gone down?

Of the nearly 50 linebackers out, replacing the likes of Terrell Suggs, DeAndre Levy, Alex Ogletree and Jon Beason is a difficult chore.

So when coaches, personnel directors, owners — even players — speak about depth, listen deeply. It's become critical.

"The guys come in and they go," Chiefs coach Andy Reid says. "If you practice, you practice. If you c' ', you can't, and we roll. That's the approach we've taken and the guys are good with it.

"They battle like crazy to get themselves back and if they can't make it, they have trust in the guys around them that they'll step in and do a good job. We've kind of just left it at that."

Certain teams have been so ravaged by injuries from the outset of the schedule — Baltimore, San Diego, Dallas — that their seasons basically were over by Halloween. They were damaged as much by losing stars (Suggs, Tony Romo, Keenan Allen) who almost never can be adequately replaced, as they were by having inept backups at other positions.

Others who started strongly are feeling the sting of key injuries now: certainly Cincinnati without Andy Dalton and with Tyler Eifert in the concussion protocol; Denver as Peyton Manning finally returns to practice; Seattle with first Marshawn Lynch and then his replacement, rookie standout Thomas Rawls going down; and New England (Edelman, Gronkowski, Hightower, Blount).

But injuries don't have to define a season. While the next man up theory always is applied by players and coaches when a starter gets hurt, it rarely works. A second-stringer is such because he isn't as good as the regular guy.

But he can sometimes do just enough. Some backups will emerge as quality players, if not stars. For the strongest teams, that's also enough.

Charcandrick West and Spencer Ware in Kansas City are solid examples. When do-everything RB Charles tore up his knee in Week 5 against Chicago, the Chiefs dropped to 1-4. Gloom and doom clouded the KC skies.

The Chiefs now are 8-5, thanks mostly to a dynamic defense and mistake-free quarterbacking by Alex Smith. But the work of the two replacement running backs has played a significant role.

In turn, they say the tutoring of Charles helped them make quick contributions.

"I'm happy for their success," Charles said. "I knew if we got on the same page, we'd be winning. I feel like they're all clicking on the same page."

Other backups who have come to the forefront this season range from Lions RB Theo Riddick to Panthers safety Kurt Coleman to Saints WR Willie Snead to a slew of Patriots offensive linemen.

Even Ryan Fitzpatrick. The 11th-year quarterback came to the Jets as a veteran presence behind Geno Smith, and was thrust into the starting role when Smith was punched out by a teammate in preseason and suffered a broken jaw. Fitzpatrick has been everything (and more) that Brandon Weeden, Matt Cassel and Matt Schaub have not in 2015.

"He is what we expected him to be in terms of his strengths, not only as a player, but from an intangible standpoint," said Jets general manager Mike Maccagnan, who was in Houston's front office last year while Fitzpatrick was on the Texans.

On Monday nights, Steve Hirdt takes note of everything

By Tim Reynolds
Associated Press

MIAMI GARDENS, Fla. — There are many moments that Steve Hirdt can remember in exact detail. For example, there's the bottom of the ninth inning in Game 7 of the 2006 NL Championship Series.

Every play of that inning is etched into his memory, every event remembered with absolute precision. Then again, he's a New York Mets fan and still laments them not trying to have Tom Glavine lay down a sacrifice bunt with two on and none out while facing a 3-1 deficit in what became a season-ending loss to the St. Louis Cardinals.

That one, he didn't have to look up.

For everything else that's happened in sports, he's basically the curator of the records.

If you've listened to the broadcast of "Monday Night Football" at any point in the last 34 years or so, you've heard a stat that Hirdt looked up and relayed to the announcers calling the game. He's been part of 501 Monday night matchups and counting in his role as MNF's director of information — a pretty good side job for someone who is the longtime executive vice president of the Elias Sports Bureau.

"If anything, if I had one thing that I thought I might have done OK over the years, it's sort of having a sense of what would interest people," Hirdt said. "I've always believed that statistics can be analytical, descriptive, incisive, wacky, some just unexplainable."

Over time, he's offered plenty of each. No one, either in front of or behind the camera, has been part of Monday Night telecasts longer than Hirdt. And by now, he's seen just about everything.

Take the Jan. 3, 1983 game when Dallas visited Minnesota, and the Vikings had the Cowboys backed up inside their own 1-yard line in the fourth quarter. Tony Dorsett took a handoff from Danny White, found open space and simultaneously ran into both the end zone and the history books.

"That's a 99-and-a-half yard run," the legendary announcer Howard Cosell said as Dorsett celebrated in the end zone with Dallas teammates. "I think it's the longest run in the history of the league."

Of course it was, and it was Hirdt — in just his first of now 33 seasons on the MNF crew — who was in his ear to tell him that was the case. But sometimes, probably more often than not, recognizing that a moment is historic or significant isn't so easy.

Elias has been around for more than a century now and is the official statistician for Major League Baseball, the NBA, the NHL, the NFL, the WNBA and Major League Soccer. It might take some digging, but if Hirdt sees a team blowing a 21-point lead in the final 4 minutes of a Monday Night matchup he can find whether it's happened before relatively quickly.

So while it's the on-air voices — now Mike Tirico and Jon Gruden, preceded by the likes of Al Michaels, Frank Gifford, Dan Dierdorf, Dan Fouts, John Madden and Dennis Miller among plenty of others — who give the listeners those nuggets, it's Hirdt that they've all relied upon to get the facts to them.

"A lot of people would come up to me and assume I was a math major or a statistics major in college; I actually had a minor in statistics but I was a journalism major and it's helped me more than I could say," said Hirdt, 64. "As was being around someone like Cosell early in my years. He would just know what the story was. He knew what would interest people."

Associated Press

Steve Hirdt is seen at his 501st Monday night football game, between the Miami Dolphins and the New York Giants, in Miami Gardens, Fla., on Monday. Hirdt is the statistical eyes and ears of the operation, a walking encyclopedia of sorts from the Elias Sports Bureau who plays an essential role in the league's signature broadcast.

St. Louis aldermen approve financing for football stadium

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — St. Louis aldermen on Friday agreed to spend $150 million to help finance a new riverfront football stadium as part of the effort to keep the Rams from moving.

Aldermen voted 17-10 to approve the measure.

"Won by a touchdown," said Alderman Jack Coatar, a sponsor of the bill.

The vote does not guarantee that owner Stan Kroenke will keep the team in St. Louis, but was considered vital toward the effort to build the new $1 billion stadium that could entice NFL owners against allowing the Rams to move.

The Rams and two other teams are seeking to move to Los Angeles. League owners meet next month to consider the issue.

In a statement, the stadium task force appointed by Gov. Jay Nixon called the vote "a significant milestone in the effort to see our NFL stadium and riverfront renewal project come to life and, in doing so, keep the St. Louis Rams here in St. Louis."

Nixon, in a statement, said the stadium would transform the north riverfront with private investment and create jobs, all without a tax increase.

But there was plenty of opposition. Alderwoman Sharon Tyus recalled it was just 24 years ago when the same governmental body approved financing to build the now-outdated Edward Jones Dome, the Rams' current home.

"We haven't learned anything," she said during debate on the funding plan.

NFL GLANCE

Saturday's box score

JETS 19, COWBOYS 16

N.Y. Jets	6	3	0	10 —19
Dallas	3	7	3	3 —16

First Quarter
Dal—FG Bailey 27, 10:49
NYJ—Powell 12 run (kick failed), :30
Second Quarter
NYJ—FG Bullock 36, 7:01
Dal—Bryant 10 pass from Moore (Bailey kick), 1:17
Third Quarter
Dal—FG Bailey 38, 3:44
Fourth Quarter
NYJ—Decker 3 pass from Fitzpatrick (Bullock kick), 8:58
Dal—FG Bailey 50, 1:55
NYJ—FG Bullock 40, :36
A—80,345

	NYJ	Dal
First downs	20	15
Total Net Yards	372	309
Rushes-yards	26-73	21-133
Passing	299	176
Punt Returns	1-7	3-23
Kickoff Returns	3-61	5-131
Interceptions Ret	4-71	1-(-2)
Comp-Att-Int	26-39-1	18-33-4
Sacked-Yards Lost	2-0	2-19
Punts	5-40.6	4-49.5
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	8-81	6-54
Time of Possession	32:17	27:43

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—N.Y. Jets, Ivory 13-37, Powell 6-25, Fitzpatrick 5-13, Ridley 2-(minus 2). Dallas, McFadden 16-100, Whitehead 2-32, Turbin 3-1

PASSING—N.Y. Jets, Fitzpatrick 26-39-1-299. Dallas, Moore 15-25-3-158, Cassel 3-8-1-37

RECEIVING—N.Y. Jets, Powell 7-54, Decker 6-55, Marshall 4-74, Enunwa 4-49, Thompkins 2-50, K.Davis 1-9, Ivory 1-5, Ridley 1-3. Dallas, Witten 5-49, Bryant 4-50, Beasley 3-37, McFadden 2-13, Williams 2-13, Hanna 1-17, Butler 1-16.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—N.Y. Jets, Bullock 45 (WR).

Standings

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-New England	11	2	0	.846	402	253
N.Y.Jets	9	5	0	.643	344	272
Buffalo	6	7	0	.462	316	301
Miami	5	8	0	.385	264	331
South						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	6	7	0	.462	275	356
Houston	6	7	0	.462	259	291
Jacksonville	5	8	0	.385	326	357
Tennessee	3	10	0	.231	253	326
North						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Cincinnati	10	3	0	.769	354	229
Pittsburgh	8	5	0	.615	344	260
Baltimore	4	9	0	.308	278	326
Cleveland	3	10	0	.231	240	357
West						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Denver	10	3	0	.769	281	225
Kansas City	8	5	0	.615	331	243
Oakland	6	7	0	.462	299	326
San Diego	3	10	0	.231	250	334

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Washington	7	7	0	.462	291	307
Philadelphia	6	7	0	.462	301	322
N.Y.Giants	6	7	0	.462	335	320
Dallas	4	10	0	.286	248	334
South						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Carolina	13	0	0	1.000	411	243
Atlanta	6	7	0	.462	279	295
Tampa Bay	6	8	0	.429	311	353
New Orleans	5	8	0	.385	325	307
North						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	9	4	0	.692	317	245
Minnesota	8	5	0	.615	239	225
Chicago	5	8	0	.385	272	314
Detroit	4	9	0	.308	267	339
West						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Arizona	11	2	0	.846	405	252
Seattle	7	5	0	.615	340	235
St. Louis	6	8	0	.429	241	294
San Francisco	4	9	0	.308	188	315

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

Scores & schedule

Saturday's Scores
N.Y. Jets 19, Dallas 16

Sunday's Games
Chicago at Minnesota, noon
Atlanta at Jacksonville, noon
Houston at Indianapolis, noon
Carolina at N.Y. Giants, noon
Tennessee at New England, noon
Buffalo at Washington, noon
Kansas City at Baltimore, noon
Cleveland at Seattle, 3:05 p.m.
Green Bay at Oakland, 3:05 p.m.
Miami at San Diego, 3:25 p.m.
Cincinnati at San Francisco, 3:25 p.m.
Denver at Pittsburgh, 3:25 p.m.
Arizona at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.

Monday's Game
Detroit at New Orleans, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday's games
San Diego at Oakland, 7:25 p.m.

Playoff scenarios

Week 15
AFC
Clinched: New England - AFC East
NEW ENGLAND (vs. Tennessee, Sunday)
Clinches first-round bye with:
■ Win and Denver loss, or
■ Win and Cincinnati loss and Denver tie
CINCINNATI (at San Francisco, Sunday)
Clinches AFC North with:
■ Win or tie and Pittsburgh tie, or
■ Pittsburgh loss
Clinches playoff spot with:
■ Win, or
■ N.Y. Jets or Kansas City loss, or
■ Tie and Kansas City or N.Y. Jets tie
DENVER (at Pittsburgh, Sunday)
Clinches AFC West with:
■ Win and Kansas City loss or tie, or
■ Tie and Kansas City loss
Clinches playoff spot with:
■ Win, or
■ Tie and N.Y. Jets loss
NFC
Clinched: Carolina - NFC South and first-round bye; Arizona - playoff berth
CAROLINA (at N.Y. Giants, Sunday)
Clinches home-field advantage throughout NFC playoffs with:
■ Win and Arizona loss or tie, or
■ Tie and Arizona loss
ARIZONA (at Philadelphia, Sunday night)
Clinches NFC West with:
■ Win or tie, or
■ Seattle loss or tie, or
■ Clinches strength of victory tiebreaker over Seattle
Arizona clinches strength of victory tiebreaker over Seattle in scenario 3 if all of the following occurs: Cincinnati win, New Orleans win, Dallas loss, Pittsburgh loss)
Clinches first-round bye with:
■ Win and Green Bay loss or tie, or
■ Tie and Green Bay loss
GREEN BAY (at Oakland, Sunday)
Clinches playoff spot with:
■ Win or tie, or
■ Washington or N.Y. Giants loss or tie
SEATTLE (vs. Cleveland, Sunday)
Clinches playoff spot with:
■ Win and N.Y. Giants or Washington loss or tie, or
■ Win and Atlanta loss or tie and Minnesota loss and Green Bay win or tie, or
■ Tie and Atlanta loss or tie and N.Y. Giants loss, or
■ Tie and Washington loss and Atlanta and Philadelphia loss or tie
MINNESOTA (vs. Chicago, Sunday)
Clinches playoff spot with:
■ Win and Washington and Atlanta loss or tie, or
■ Win and Washington and Seattle loss or tie, or
■ Win and N.Y. Giants and Atlanta loss or tie, or
■ Win and N.Y. Giants and Seattle loss or tie, or
■ Tie and Washington or N.Y. Giants loss and Atlanta and Philadelphia loss or tie, or
■ Tie and Atlanta, Washington and N.Y. Giants loss or tie (as long as Washington and N.Y. Giants both don't tie)

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POWER POINTS
WIN $1,000 WEEKLY

Please cut along dotted line

WEEK 16
Games of Dec. 24 - 28

16	
15	
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12	
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136 TOTAL POINTS

Name
Address
City, State (zip)
Day Phone ( )
Night Phone ( )

HOW TO PLAY

Select a winner from each of the week's games, listed below. Select in descending order of your CONFIDENCE in your choices. Win points at left for each correct selection toward possible total of 136 points. See complete rules below. You must be at least 8 (eight) years old to enter. To enter, clip along dotted line, then place game entry in POWER POINTS container at co-sponsors' retail outlet(s). Entrants must list name, address and phone number below.

LIMIT: You may enter the contest only once per week.

DEADLINE: 2 P.M. THURSDAY

TIEBREAKER 1 ☐ Total points scored (both teams) in BENGALS game.

TIEBREAKER 2 ☐ Total offensive yards (both teams) in this game.

THIS WEEK'S GAMES

San Diego at Oakland	Washington at Philadelphia
Carolina at Atlanta	Dallas at Buffalo
San Francisco at Detroit	Cleveland at Kansas City
Indianapolis at Miami	NY Giants at Minnesota
Jacksonville at New Orleans	New England at NY Jets
Chicago at Tampa Bay	Houston at Tennessee
Green Bay at Arizona	St. Louis at Seattle
Pittsburgh at Baltimore	Cincinnati at Denver

MRT MEDIA GROUP

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Associated Press

Switzerland's Lara Gut, center, winner of an alpine ski, women's World Cup downhill, celebrates on the podium with second placed Larisa Yurkow of Canada, right, and third placed Switzerland's Fabienne Suter, in Val D'Isere, France, on Saturday.

Gut wins WCup downhill race in Val d'Isere, Vonn crashes

By Jerome Pugmire
Associated Press

VAL D'ISERE, France — Swiss skier Lara Gut narrowly beat countrywoman Fabienne Suter to win a World Cup downhill race Saturday, while American Lindsey Vonn skied off course while chasing a record-equaling win.

Gut, who beat Vonn by just one hundredth of a second to win Friday's super-combined race, edged Suter by 0.16 seconds on Saturday to secure her 15th career win and 23rd podium.

Gut, who also won a giant slalom last month in Aspen, Colorado, pumped her fist with joy after crossing the line.

"I worked a lot on the video yesterday and it worked well for today," the 24-year-old Gut said. "It's no coincidence that I do well at Val d'Isere, it's my third win at Val d'Isere. It's like a breath of fresh air when I come here."

Gut also won a downhill here three years ago and has a further two podium finishes in World Cups.

Canadian skier Larisa Yurkiw finished the race in third place, 0.41 seconds back.

Chasing a fifth World Cup title, Vonn still holds the overall lead. But Gut is now only two points behind and has a great chance to go first with a strong performance in Sunday's GS in Courchevel, a short trip away in the French Alps. The minimum requirement in terms of the points attributed would be for Gut to finish ninth and Vonn 10th — which makes for a difference of three points scored.

"Everything goes so quickly," Gut said. "There's no point thinking about the overall now. The season's still very long."

Vonn was looking to tie Austrian great Annemarie Moser-Proell's record of 36 downhill wins.

She already holds the women's overall record with 71 wins, having overtaken Moser-Proell's longstanding mark of 62 last season, and has men's great Ingemark Stenmark's 86 victories in her sights.

Vonn looked well-placed to take the race lead when she went up on the inside of her left ski. She somehow kept her balance and stayed upright as she glided on her right ski.

The 31-year-old Vonn, who has recovered from a career-threatening knee and injury and two operations, did not stop to speak to reporters as she left the course but gave a small wave as she walked past.

"So I probably shouldn't do that again," Vonn tweeted later, along with a spectacular shot of her going airborne and another of her landing on her right ski. "Not feeling great. Going to rest and hopefully I will be able to race tomorrow."

When Vonn first won a downhill race here 10 years ago, she was awarded the unusual gift of a cow, and when she won another cow after last year's downhill win she called it Winnie.

Gut was also awarded a cow, but said she has not found a name for it yet. She plans to take it back to the Swiss canton of Saviese, where her physical trainer is based.

Suter's last win was nearly four years ago, when she won a Super-G race at the Austrian resort of Bad Kleinkirchheim, and this was her 17th career podium, with six of those in downhill.

"At the top I was very nervous, I wanted to win but I knew it would be very difficult," the 30-year-old Suter said. "Lara and Larisa were both very quick."

Yurkiw, meanwhile, secured her second career podium after second place in downhill at the Italian resort of Cortina d'Ampezzo in January.

"I'm so happy, I made a few mistakes but it worked," Yurkiw said. "The track was beautiful."

Yurkiw will be eyeing another podium at the Austrian resort of St. Anton on Jan. 9.

Air bag helps Olympic ski champion Mayer avoid major injury

By Andrew Dampf
Associated Press

VAL GARDENA, Italy — In less than a tenth of a second, safety in ski racing took a huge leap forward on Saturday.

That was the time it took for a radical air bag system to inflate and prevent Olympic champion Matthias Mayer from serious injury during a nasty crash at the classic Val Gardena World Cup downhill.

The Austrian lost control on the Saslong course and spun around, flying down the hill backward in midair. Before he landed on his right side, the air bag vest under his race suit inflated and softened his landing.

"A crash can never be something favorable," International Ski Federation (FIS) technical expert Gunter Hujara said. "(But) maybe we have seen here he was saved from a spine injury today."

After medical attention on the slope, Mayer was airlifted to a hospital in Bolzano.

The Austrian team said late Saturday that Mayer fractured a vertebra and will likely be sidelined for only a month. He will be transferred to Innsbruck for more exams.

"It proved the air bag has an important place in speed skiing," Austrian winter sports federation director Hans Pum said.

Organizers said Mayer initially had trouble breathing, but Hujara spoke to Mayer on the slope and said the breathing problem was not due to the air bag.

It marked the first time that an air bag inflated during a World Cup race.

The system has been in development by Italian manufacturer Dainese and the FIS for years, and a handful of athletes started wearing it during races only recently.

"It's always tough to know what the injury would be like otherwise," Canadian skier Erik Guay said. "But it's been quite a few years in development and it's great that it works when it's supposed to."

Mayer had already been involved in an air bag crash when he fell during training in October on the Pitztaler glacier, injuring both legs slightly. And teammate Hannes Reichelt had the system activated while inspecting a course for a training run in Copper Mountain, Colorado, this season.

Another air bag system developed by French manufacturer In&Motion has also been approved by the FIS, and a similar system has been in use in motorcycle racing since 2009.

In motorcycle racing, the air bag system inflates when the body leaves the bike with a forward rotation. In skiing, the moment when a racer loses complete control varies from one skier to another.

WESTTEXASSPORTS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

To submit an item for West Texas Sports, please either fax, bring in, mail or email your information in hard-copy form to the Reporter-Telegram sports department.

Please make your submission as detailed as possible, including dates of events, deadlines, fees, age groups, etc.

To bring your item to the MRT, come to 201 E. Illinois Ave. in Midland. To mail your information, send it to Reporter-Telegram, c/o Sports Department, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701.

To fax your information, send to 570-7650 or you can email it to sports@mrt.com.

Baseball

GCM Baseball Academy
What: Professional private baseball lessons & clinics covering pitching, fielding, catching and hitting provided by three former professional players.
For: Ages 5 & up.
Cost: Individual lessons $65 an hour or $40 for 30 minutes. Bulk purchases & group lesson rates available at discount.
For more info: Call (432) 425-6108

Private batting and pitching instruction
For more info: Call Danny Jordan at 230-0096 for instruction on mechanics and pitch selection in a one-on-one setting

Private hitting and catching instruction
For more info: Call Scott Chapman at 967-2364 for instruction in a one-on-one environment.

Pitching, hitting and fielding lessons
For more info: Call Midland High baseball coach Barry Russell at 296-2438

Private Baseball/Softball lessons
For more info: Contact Extra Innings Midland/Odessa at (432) 617-4487 or visit www.extrainnings-midlandodessa.com

Midland Little League Umpires Needed
For more info: Contact 689-6080

WTX Baseball
What: Instruction for players 5 and up
For more info: wtxbaseball.com; facebook.com/wtxbaseballmidland; 413-0329

Private lessons
For more info: Call Mike Mungia 432-230-6477 or email mmungia@midlandchristianschool.org

Basketball

Permian Basketball Association needs officials
For more info: Jim Cox, 685-4143 or 553-3714

YMCA needs basketball referees
For more info: 682-2551

Midland Hoops 32 Basketball Skills Training
Cost: $25 per session, one to two people; $15 for groups of three or more
For more info: Contact Eddie Venzant at 254-6894 or go to midlandhoops32.com; venzanteddie@yahoo.com

Bowling

Tuesday Night Petroleum Men's League
When: Meets at 6:45 p.m.
For more info: Melton Rost 684-6176 or Cactus Lanes 694-0177

Edith McElmore Three-Person League
When: 10 a.m. Wednesdays
Where: AMF Lanes
For more info: Call AMF Lanes at 689-9725

Camps/Clinics

Ten Star All Star Camp
For whom: Boys and girls ages 10-19
For more info: Call (704) 373-0873 for a brochure

COM Aquatic Camps
What: Swimming, diving, snorkeling
Ages: Preschool and grade school
For more info: Call 684-7755

Tennis clinics and lessons
Contact Coach Jon lanier for clinics and lessons at jlanier@midlandchristianschool.org

Cycling

Permian Basin Bicycle Association Meetings
When: 7 p.m., third Monday of every month
Where: Beak Park Ranch House, 5200 W. Wall St., Midland
Dues: $25/$30 for a family
For more info: Peyton's Bikes 699-1718 or go to www.pbbatx.com

Dodgeball

Sticks and Kicks Leagues
Who: Kids, adults, co-ed players
Cost: $35 per player (8 game season)
Where: Register at Sticks and Kicks, 3918 W. Wall
For more info: Call 520-6633

Flag Football

YMCA Officials Needed
What: The YMCA needs officials for Youth Flag Football games Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.
For more info: Call 682-2551

Football

Permian Basin Officials Chapter seeks officials
Note: Education and training will be provided
For more info: Call Terrell Pierce at 559-5004 or Don Orren at 631-2395

Martial Arts

Aikido
When: Monday-Friday, 7 to 9 p.m.; Saturdays, 12:30 p.m.
Note: Specializing in traditional Hombu style Aikido
For more info: Call John Riggs, 684-7008 or 770-3155

Private Martial Art/Self-Defense Lessons
Ages: Men-Women-Children
What: Learn Basic Skills to Advanced Techniques
Note: Private, Semi-Private and Group Lessons are available
For more info: Call Master Oscar Jimenez, 432-559-5009, ojimenez3@att.net

Brazilian Jiu Jitsu
When: 6-8 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, 2-3 p.m. Saturdays
Where: Perez Martial Arts Academy, 3300 Midland Dr., Suite A
For more info: Call 634-9621 or (469) 248-8472

Matthews Martial Arts
When: Monday through Thursday, 5-8 p.m.
What: Karate-Judo-Jujitsu-Kempo-KungFu
For: Ages 3 and up
Where: 3205 Cuthbert
For more info: Contact Jason Matthews at 488-7467 or 689-8444

Miscellaneous
Student-Athlete Sports Consultant
For: Assisting high school student athletes with academic-athletic scholarships.
For more info: Call Jacob Santillano at (915) 240-1030

Poker

Lone Star Poker League
What: Free to play Texas Hold 'em Poker tournaments.
For: Beginners to experienced players. Ages 21 and up.
When/where: 6:30 p.m., Sunday, Wednesday and Friday at Woofers & Tweeters; 6:30 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday at Rednecks Drafthouse. Players must be signed in by 6:15 p.m. each night.
For more info: Go to www.lonestarpokertour.net

Professional Wrestling

Old School Wrestling School
What: Professional wrestling school for all ages.
Where: 404 E. 61st St., Odessa
When: 7-10 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday; 2-6 p.m. Sunday
Cost: $50 down; $35 a month.
For more info: Call Fred, 770-7001, or Sam, 349-3055

Rugby

Mad Dog Rugby Football Club
Practices: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7-9 p.m. at Reyes-Mashburn Park (north field)
For more info call: 432-697-6418

Running
Permian Basin Running Club
Cost: $20 per year for individual membership; $30 for per year for family membership
For more info: Go to www.pbrunningclub.com or email Shawn Hailey, president at haileyshawn@pbrunningclub.com

Gazelles Training Group
When: 6 a.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
For more info: Call Popcorn Leonard at 512-762-1020 or 682-0969

Shooting

Comanche Trail Shootists
What: Single Action Shooting Society affiliated club in Midland
When: Monthly shoots first Saturday and third Sunday of each month, first Saturday beginning at 10 a.m.; Third Sunday from 1 p.m. (Mandatory safety meeting at 12:30 p.m.) Also shoot on fifth Sunday on months that have them (begin at 1 p.m. and are no cost to the shooter); Mandatory safety meeting at 9:30 a.m.
Where: Timberline Ranch adjacent to Jake's Clays
For more info: Go to comanchetrailshootists.org or call Hoodoo Brown 682-1422.

Midland Shooters Association
What: All types of shooting practice and competition, featuring archery, benchrest rifle, bulls-eye rifle, high power rifle, pistol silhouette, rimfire silhouette, 3 gun, practical pistol, skeet, trap 5 stand and sporting clays.
When: Members can access rifle and pistol ranges from sunrise to sunset seven days a week. Shotgun ranges open 11 a.m. until dusk Wednesday to Sunday.
For more info: Go to www.midlandshooters.com

Soccer

Permian Basin Soccer Association
What: Registration for women's spring/summer season
Where: Dunagan Park, located at corner of Gist and Terrell
When: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 7 to 8:30 p.m.
For more info: Contact Jesus Chavez at 557-7032 anytime or Josh Chavez at 238-6947 after 6:30 p.m.

Midland Soccer Association
For: Youth Recreational League Ages 4-18
When: Spring/Fall Games
Note: Also information on becoming a certified referee
For more info: Register online at www.midlandsoccer.com and go to 432-684-5425

Softball

Midland Softball Association Tournament Schedule
Now available at www.midlandsoftball.com.
For more info: call Tommy Hawkins at 520-9100

Midland Men's Woodbat Fastpitch Association
What: Men's fastpitch softball
For more info: Call 634-6474 or visit www.facebook.com/pages/Midland-Texas-Mens-Fastpitch or wyofastpitch@gmail.com

Midland United Girls Softball Registration
What: Online registration is now open and registration will only be available online
Fees: T-ball ($75), 8U-18U ($100), late fee $25
For ages: A girl must be 4 by Jan. 1, 2015 to play T-ball. The same date will used to place child in each division. A parent may have opportunity to bump their child up one division.
To register: go to Midlandfastpitch.com or registration will alse be available at Midland Park Mall on March 7 and March 14 from 1-5 p.m.

Concho Valley Fast Pitch Jamboree
What: A preseason varsity tournament
When/where: Jan. 16-17, San Angelo
Team entry: $275 (15 players max)
Deadline: Jan. 12
To enter: Call Tournament Director Chris Cardenas at 325-374-2910

Swimming

COM Pre-competitive swimming
Where: Mabee Aquatic Center
Cost: $49 per month
Prerequisite: Must be able to swim 25 yards or freestyle or backstroke
For more info: 684-7755

COM Water Aerobics Classes
When: All times, Monday through Saturday
Who: All skill levels
For more info: Call Tommy McAlister at 684-7755

COM Learn to Swim
Ages: All ages
Note: Private, semi-private and group lessons are available
For more info: 684-7755

COM Masters Swimming
What: Competitive or non-competitive program for adults of all skill levels
When: 5-6 a.m., 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, Friday
Cost: $40 per month (includes cardio training)
For more info: Call 684-7755

COM Diving Instruction
Who: All ages and levels invited
For more info: 684-7755

COM Learn to Dive
What: Learn basic skills for beginners then advance to pre-competitive and competitive diving that emphasize skilled diving techniques and participation in diving meets
Ages: 4 and up
For more info: 684-7755

COM Competitive Dive Team
Who: Try out for Bronze, Silver, Gold Prep or Gold levels of COM Dive Team.
What: Emphasizes is on diving techniques and participation in local and out of town competitive meets
For more info: 684-7755

COM Elite Dive Team
What: Highest level of COM diving. Concentrates on perfecting Olympic level skills, national and international travel
For more info: 684-7755

COM Competitive Swim Team
Who: Try out for COM Swim Team, tryouts available by appointment
What: Emphasizes stroke correction and participation in local and out of town competitive meets
For more info: 684-7755

COM Adult Conditioning
What: Allows adult participation use of top quality lap pools and fitness room during specified hours
For more info: 684-7755

COM Water Walking Class
What: Unstructured, self-paced class
For more info: Call Tommy McAlister at 684-7755

COM Senior Fitness Class
Who: Senior citizens that need help with physical conditions resulting from injury, disease, chronic conditions, advanced age, etc.
For more info: Call Tommy McAlister at 684-7755

Central YMCA Water Aerobics Classes
When: Early morning, morning and evening
For more info: Call Leaf Faller 682-2551

Central YMCA Arthritis Water Exercise Classes
When: Monday, Wednesday, Friday
For more info: Call Leaf Faller 682-2551

Central YMCA Swimming Lessons
Who: All ages and ability
For more info: Call Leaf Faller 682-2551

Central YMCA Synchronized Swimming
For: Ages 6 and up
For more information: Call Leaf Faller 682-2551

Tennis

West Texas Tennis Association
What: West Texas Tennis Association, a non-profit community tennis association, promotes and oversees USTA leagues, programs and events in the area.
For more info: Call 432-210-0611 or www.westtexastennis.com for more information.

Bush Tennis Center Clinics
What: Balloon Tennis 34 (ages 3-4); Redball 58 (ages 5-8); Orange and Green Ball 910 (ages 9-10); Junior Development (6th-8th grade, freshman-JV); Junior Select (varsity); RSR Adults (adult beginners); Intermediate Adults; 4.0-5.0 Adults (advanced adults); Also Junior Team Tennis registration now open
Where: Bush Tennis Center
For more info: Visit www.bushtenniscenter.com and or call, 620-8180.

USTA Team Tennis Adult Leagues
When: Leagues run May through November
Where: Midland College Tennis Center
For more info: Sherry 620-8610 or Email www.midlandtennis@aol.com

Midland College Tennis
What: Clinics, lessons, leagues, tournaments
Where: Midland College Tennis Center
For more info: Call 687-4046

Midland College Tennis Club
When: A community tennis club
Where: Midland College Tennis Center
Annual Dues: Adults $65, youths $30, families $140
For more info: Call 563-1333 or email midlandtennisclub@aol.com

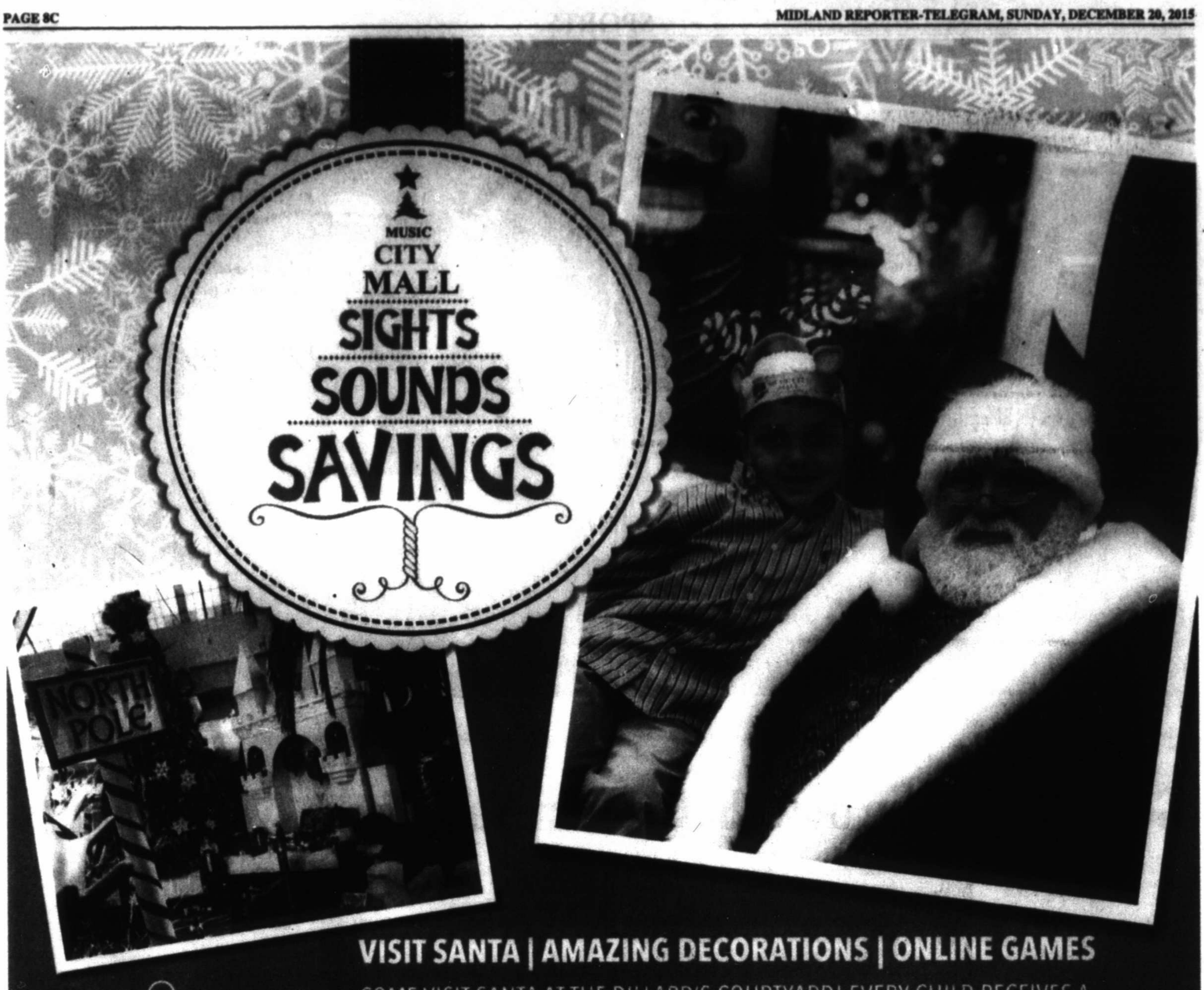
Midland Women's Tennis Association
For more info: 559-7208

Ultimate Frisbee

Midland Drought Ultimate Frisbee Club
What: The Club plays weekly casual pick-up games on Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and offer occasional opportunities for tourney travel
For ages: Males and females from the high school level to adult
For more info: Go to www.midlandultimatefrisbee.weebly.com or call Matt at 432-288-3139

Walking

Midland Walkabout AVA Club
For: All Ages
Annual dues: $15 per family
Walks: One Saturday morning per month
When: First Monday of the month at Murray's Deli on Wadley at 6 p.m.
Who: All ages
For more info: Call 432-697-4310, email gpetersen3@suddenlink.net or visit, midlandwalkabout.wordpress.com



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Peel & Eat Shrimp | Fried Shrimp | Menudo | Beef Soup
Tamales | Salad Bar | Loaded Mashed Potatoes
Primavera Mixed Vegetables | Omelet, Pasta, & Waffle Stations
Bacon & Sausage | Bisquits & Gravy

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Fresh Fruit Display | Pies | Assorted Cakes
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Adults $24.99 | Seniors (65+) $19.99
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New Year's Eve Room Rates $109.99

New Year at the Eleganté

New Year's Eve Buffet

5PM - 10PM

Prime Rib, Cod Almondine, Salmon Mango Chutney,
Peel-N-Eat Shrimp, Crab Cakes, Pistachio Chicken, Hungarian Pork Chops

Shrimp Boat SEAFOOD

Red Roasted Potatoes, Rice Pilaf, French Style Green Beans, Fresh Mixed Vegetables, Black Eyed Peas & Greens, Pasta Bar, Soup & Salad Bar, Assorted Desserts & Bread Pudding, Fruit Display

Adults $24.99 | Seniors (65 +) $19.99 | Children (6-11) $9.99 | Children (5 and Under) Free

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Ring in the New Year at Oasis Bar & Grill

$10 per person cover charge

Complimentary Champagne Toast at Midnight

Music by DJ SOS

5PM - 2AM First Come First Seated

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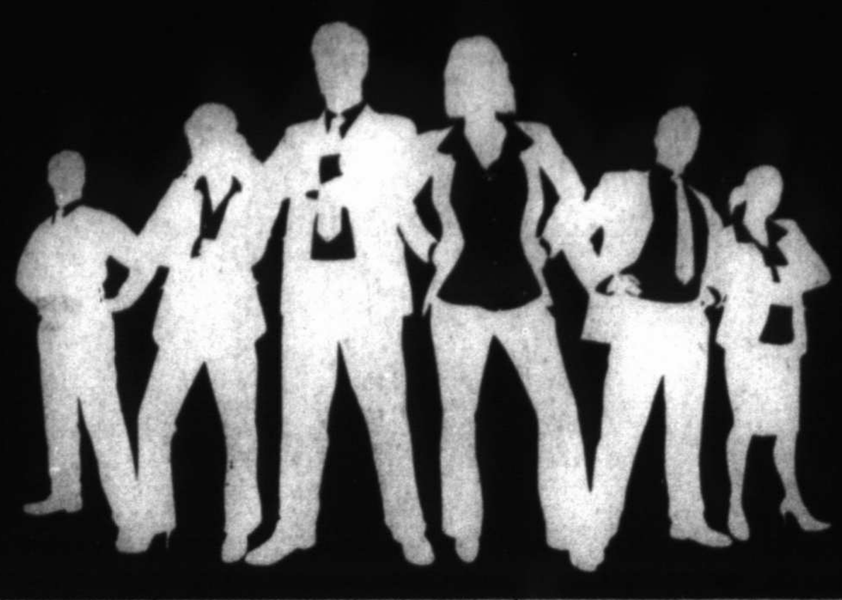

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OTHER JOBS

Midland Reporter-Telegram
HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR PART TIME DAY ASSOCIATE

Part Time Day Associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE

Must be able to work Monday thru Saturday from 8am-6pm. Tuesday will be here later till about 8 or 9 pm. Need to be able to work on your feet thru 6-8 hour shift. Will work at night occasionally. We will train the right person

$10.00 per hour

These positions require some physical lifting of 5-15 lbs. Must be able to bend and stand for at least a 6 hr. shift. No experience required we will train you. Work performed in this department includes processing and handling of newspaper bundles. Applicants must be dependable, be over 18, and have a valid ID card and social security card with dependable transportation.

Apply in person at: 201 E. Illinois, Lobby Information Desk • Monday-Friday 8-5 or email: jmaddox@hearstmp.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

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Night time associate - MUST BE DEPENDABLE

Must be able to count at a fast pace. Be able to work between the hours of 12-6 am Sunday night thru Friday night and be able to work Saturday night 8pm -4am. Will be working inside and outside depending on the job you are doing that night. Will be 5-6 nights per week. We will train the right person

$10.00 per hour

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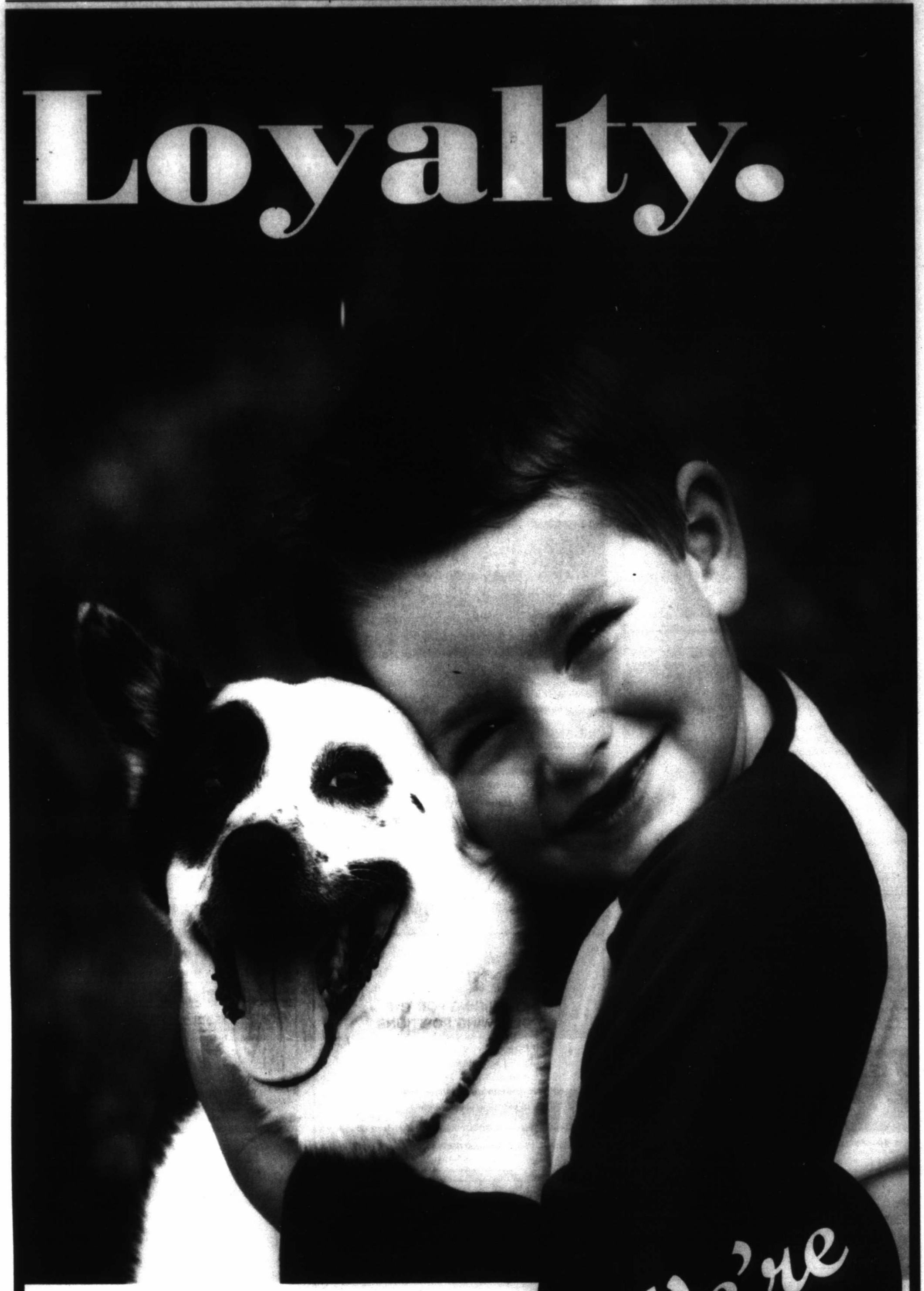

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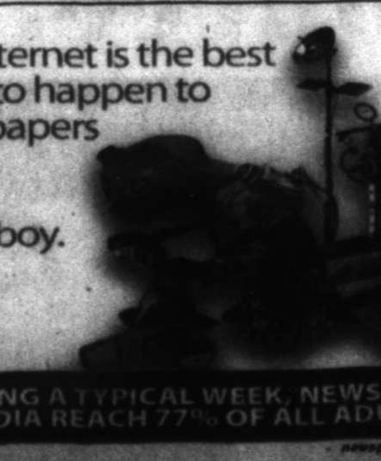

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CBS7, THE PERMIAN BASIN'S LEADING TELEVISION STATION, IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL SALES AS AN ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE AT CBS7 YOU WILL WORK WITH LOCAL BUSINESSES TO DEVELOP ADVERTISING STRATEGIES UTILIZING THE STATION'S TELEVISION AND DIGITAL ASSETS. EXPERIENCE BENEFICIAL BUT NOT REQUIRED. IF YOU LIKE TO MEET NEW PEOPLE, WORK IN A FAST-PACED AND PROFESSIONAL ATMOSPHERE, BE REWARDED FOR YOUR SUCCESS - THIS COULD BE THE JOB FOR YOU. DEPENDABLE TRANSPORTATION IS REQUIRED. SEND RESUME AND COVER LETTER TO RROBERTS@CBS7.COM. EOE

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CBS7 IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR A NATIONAL SALES MANAGER. THIS POSITION HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTAINING AND GROWING NATIONAL ADVERTISING REVENUE FOR CBS7, MY NET, WORK TV16 AND ASSOCIATED DIGITAL PROPERTIES. NSM DUTIES WILL INCLUDE: REGULAR CONTACT WITH BUYERS AND PERSONNEL AT NATIONAL ADVERTISING AGENCIES, PREPARATION OF AVAILS AND PRESENTATIONS, RATE NEGOTIATIONS, ORDER AND ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT. SOME TRAVEL WILL BE REQUIRED. THE QUALIFIED CANDIDATE WILL BE FAMILIAR WITH TELEVISION RATINGS, DEMONSTRATE AN ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE EFECTIVELY BOTH VERBALLY AND IN WRITING, BE PROFICIENT IN WO TRAFFIC AND MEDIA SALES. SEND RESUME AND COVER LETTER TO RROBERTS@CBS7.COM. EOE

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Administrative Assistant needed
IMPACT! Chemical Technologies, Inc. is seeking an administrative assistant to help with day to day reports. Must be proficient in excel. Great pay and benefits. Please send resumes to PO Box 10887, Midland, TX 79702 or tbohannon@impactchemtech.com.

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Computer System Analyst needed in Midland
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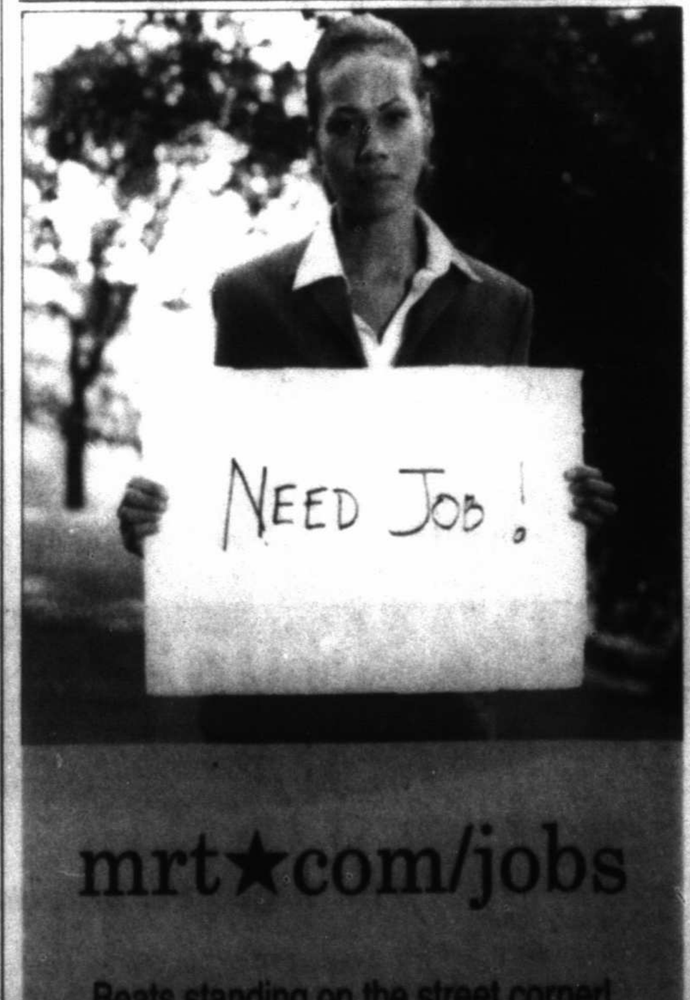
Winch Truck Drivers
Phoenix Lease Services now has openings for Winch truck drivers. Must have Class A CDL in good standing. Previous Winch Truck experience is preferred. Competitive pay and benefits offered. Please apply in person at 8310 W. I-20 in Midland or call 432-563-9800.



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JOB WEEK

The most hours anybody should work from home: any more will decrease job satisfaction

Source: Psychological Science in the Public Interest review

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ENTER JOB SEARCH WITH CONFIDENCE

4 STEPS TO TAKE TO POSITION YOURSELF FOR A SUCCESSFUL JOB HUNT

By PATRICIA V. RIVERA
CTW FEATURES

If your job search has you feeling meek and doubtful, now is the time to stop, recharge and rebuild your confidence.

The holidays and the start of the new year give everyone an opportunity to assess where they've been and where they want to go. This exercise is particularly important for job seekers who are losing their edge, says certified career coach Stacey Lane, of Portland, Oregon.

"You definitely want to ask yourself, 'What has been working and what can I do better?' You need to build confidence about your career direction," she says.

Lane says surefire techniques for job seekers to build their confidence is by developing their personal brand.

"Remember that what makes you unique also makes you more marketable. Make sure you're crystal clear about your differentiators," she says

Lane says this may sound basic but many people have not developed their brand and career story. Your brand helps to tell people what they can expect and what you'll deliver on. She offers the additional four confidence-boosting tips:

KEEP THE JOB SEARCH IN ACTION

You don't want to take a break from your job search. Attend networking events. Ask people to coffee. Reach out to a contact you haven't connected with in a while with a personal note. Use all of the events around town to get out and about, just keep it moving.

SURROUND YOURSELF WITH POSITIVITY

Don't make the mistake of spending too much time with other people who are looking for work and who may be feeling less than confident. Instead, look for people who may have recently landed a job and ask them about their techniques and any leads that they may know about.

TIDY UP PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY

Get rid of all those projects that you started but never finished. Stop holding on to whatever is incomplete – that MBA you never finished, the sugar dish lid you need to glue together, or the clothes that don't fit. Get rid of them. This is a time to clear out incompletes that suck energy and focus. Your self-confidence is too important to let those incompletes linger.

MOVE OUT OF YOUR COMFORT JOB

It's easy to want to stay comfortable and do wat you've always done, or look for job the way you did five years ago. It feels productive. Taking a risk and trying something new may take a learning curve, but it's a great way to boost your confidence and effectiveness. Try a new approach to networking or job hunting. Ask yourself if you'd rather remain comfortable or feel proud of taking chances. Appreciating that discomfort often means you're standing on the edge of a break through.

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OFFICE *SPACE*

NASA IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE NEXT CLASS OF ASTRONAUTS, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO INTO ORBIT TO FIND WORK THAT'S OUT OF THIS WORLD

By CARLEY LINTZ
CTW FEATURES

Taking off in a rocket, feeling zero gravity and exploring outer space – it's the kind of job childhood dreams are made of. And NASA again is making it a reality by hiring the next class of future astronauts.

The measure is in preparation for the return of human spaceflight launches to the U.S. and NASA's future journey to Mars. The agency is accepting applications from December 14 through mid-February and expects to announce candidates in mid-2017.

"This next group of American space explorers will inspire the Mars generation to reach for new heights, and help us realize the goal of putting boot prints on the Red Planet," NASA Administrator Charles Bolden said in a statement. "Those selected for this service will fly on U.S.-made spacecraft from American soil, advance critical science and research aboard the International Space Station, and help push the boundaries of technology in the proving ground of deep space."

Requirements for applicants include: a bachelor's degree in engineering, biological science, physical science or mathematics from an accredited university; at least three years of related professional experience or 1,000 pilot hours; and passing the spaceflight physical. Aspiring space explorers can apply at www.usajobs.gov.

If donning a space suit isn't for you, check out these other space-related careers to keep you close to the stars:

NASA Aerospace Engineer

Description: Aerospace engineers conduct research into, design and test flying vehicles for atmospheric and space environments. Specialized jobs may include responsibilities like analyzing flight paths, risk assessment and mission errors.

Education/Requirements: Bachelor's degree in engineering, physical science, mathematics or other field of science; one year of specialized experience (air traffic management, electronics packaging, failure analysis, etc.); one year probationary period may be required.

Salary range: $88,000 to $158,000, depending on job

SpaceX Rocket Development Test Engineer

Description: SpaceX is a private aerospace manufacturer and space transport company famous for their goal of colonizing Mars. Job responsibilities include: conducting tests to evaluate rocket performance (hardware, electrical, thermal, etc.) and develop new test procedures.

Education/Requirements: Bachelor's degree in mechanical, electrical or aerospace engineering or related field (preferred Master's degree); at least one year using LabVIEW and MATLAB; general fitness also is required.

Salary range: $60,000 to $100,000

Observational Astronomer

Description: Typically employed by research institution or universities, professional astronomers try to answer questions about the universe by observing the universe through a telescope or even a spacecraft. Most also spend their time teaching at universities and traveling for lectures and conferences.

Education/Requirements: Ph.D. in astronomy or physics; post-doctoral research; aptitude for math, physics and computer proficiency

Salary range: $50,000 to $90,000

Science Writer

Description: Researching, reporting and writing for a news outlet or blog about anything from breaking news like finding water on Mars to interactive pieces on climate change. Writers face the challenge of translating complicated and highly technical topics to the public in an engaging, entertaining, easy-to-understand way.

Education/Requirements: Bachelor's degree in related field, preferably journalism; solid base of science knowledge and experience writing about scientific topics (writing samples, blogging).

Salary range: $24,000 - $50,000

High School Physics Teacher

Description: Physics teachers educate the next generation about the physical world around them and the invisible forces at work. They cover subjects ranging from the laws of motion to thermodynamics. Other responsibilities include creating lesson plans, assigning homework, writing exams and grading student work.

Education/Requirements: Bachelor's degree in physics with teacher prep program or education minor; state teaching license; may need to pursue master's degree

Salary range: $30,000 to $70,000

Sources: USAJobs.gov; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, PayScale.com

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ON THE JOB

HOW TO HANDLE WORKPLACE DELIVERIES WITH CARE

'Tis the season for online shopping. Here's how to manage all the gifts being delivered to the office

Better to give than receive?

For busy workers who can quickly click off their holiday list online, it's certainly easier to give.

But how can you receive those packages when you're working all day, and it's not safe to send deliveries to a vacant home?

Post that question to your manager before inputting your work address on the "send" form, suggests Tara Goodfellow, managing director of Athena Educational Consultants, a career consulting firm in Charlotte, North Carolina.

"Give your manager the courtesy of understanding why [packages can't be delivered home]," she advises.

By asking – and getting – approval "you don't have to act like you're hiding anything," Goodfellow adds.

Then again, workers do want to keep packages shielded from workplace activity. "It's distracting and disruptive to co-workers to accept and sign for your orders, and navigate their way around your boxes," says Diane Gottsman, workplace coach and etiquette expert with The Protocol School of Texas in San Antonio.

Indeed, striking the right tone on how package deliveries can involve some of the same nuanced judgment it takes to select the right gifts.

"Every workplace is different, so sensitivity to the environment and any rules is important," says Henry Goldbeck, of Goldbeck Recruiting in Vancouver.

Many experts advise moderation even when an employer allows deliveries. "Two to three packages per holiday season, max," says Kristie Santana, a New York career coach.

Shippers now are offering alternatives. United Parcel Service, for example, has a "UPS My Choice" program. Some 20 million people have signed up to direct deliveries to neighborhood businesses that will accept and hold packages, , says UPS spokeswoman Susan Rosenberg,.

Similarly, FedEX has a "delivery manager" program to request delivery at a certain time or location.

—Marilyn Kennedy Melia

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Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE of Sale of Personal Property to satisfy a landlords lien for CASH ONLY. Sale date is Monday, January 11, 2016 at 10:25 a.m.

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Midland TX 79703

Household Goods
334 Petra Lucio

The **City of Midland Engineering Department**, in accordance with National Flood Insurance Program regulation 65.7(b)(1), hereby gives notice of the **City of Midland's** intent to revise the flood hazard information, generally located between **Overshine Lane and Lumina Court in Daybreak Estates**. Specifically, the flood hazard information shall be revised along **the Unnamed Playa 1,100 feet southeast of Playa MI42**.

As a result of the revision, the **1% annual chance water-surface elevations shall decrease**, and the **1% annual chance floodplain shall widen and narrow** within the area of revision.

Maps and detailed analysis of the revision can be reviewed at the **City of Midland Engineering Department at 300 North Loraine Street, Midland, TX 79701**. Interested persons may call **Assistant City Engineer Jeffrey H Cohen, P.E., CFM at 432-685-7287** for additional information from **December 14, 2015 to December 23, 2015**.

Notice Of Application For Fluid Injection Well Permit

XTO Energy, Inc., Opr. No. 945936, 500 W. Illinois , Suite 100, Midland, Texas 79701 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas to amend an existing injection permit to inject fluid, and gas into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. XTO Energy Inc. will modify the injection interval.

The applicant proposes to dispose of these fluids into the Grayburg, San Andres Formations in the Means/ San Andres/ Unit Lease, well number: 1222Z. It is located in Blk A35, Section 1, which is approximately 10 miles northeast from the city of Andrews and is in the Means Field in Andrews, TX. Fluid will be injected into the strata in the subsurface depth interval from 4100 to 5000 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.

Request 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, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-463-6792).

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR BID

Midland County Hospital District is accepting proposals for Sewage Ejector Upgrade for Midland Memorial Hospital.

Bidders may secure bid documents from David D. Laughlin, PE, Agnew Associates Inc. (dlaughlin@agnewassociates.com) at 13033 Quaker Ave., Suite A, Lubbock, Texas 79423. Please contact 806-799-0753 for more information. Bid documents are available on or after **Wednesday, December 16, 2015**.

Pre-Bid conferences will be held Monday, December 21, 2015 and Tuesday, December 22, 2015 at 10:00 AM in the Facilities Services conference room in the basement. A tour of the proposed construction area will follow this conference. All interested Sub-Contractors are encouraged to attend.

A Bid Bond in an amount not less than five percent (5%) will be required for all bids. A Performance Bond and Payment Bond in an amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract price will be required by the Owner.

The successful bidder will be required to enter into a general contract with the Midland County Hospital District.

Three (3) hard sealed copies and **One (1) electronic copy** of all bids must be received in the Department of Materials Management of Midland Memorial Hospital - Main Campus, 400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Parkway, Midland, Texas, 79701 by **12:00 PM, Tuesday, December 29, 2015**. Send the electronic (PDF) copy of your submission to: rhanna@midland-memorial.com. To protect your privacy, you may elect to password protect your electronic submission with the password provided after the submission deadline.
Under no circumstances will bids received beyond 12:00 PM, Dec. 29, 2015 be accepted.

All bids must be sealed and labeled **"BID # 1180-121615 Enclosed."**

All bids must be price protected until March 31, 2016.

All bids will remain confidential until after an award has been made. Vendors will then be allowed to review the bids in the purchasing office according to the policy/procedure of Midland Memorial Hospital. Midland County Hospital District reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive formalities.

Proposals shall be addressed to:
Rachel Hanna Jones
Director of Materials Management
Midland County Hospital District
Midland Memorial Hospital
400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Pkwy
Midland, Texas 79701

The Bottom Line

As household income, education levels and job responsibility increases, so does readership.

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Legal & Public Notices

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals addressed to the Honorable Mayor and City Council of Midland, Texas, will be received at the office of the City Secretary, City Hall, Midland, Texas until 1:30p.m. on January 21, 2016 for furnishing all necessary materials, machinery, equipment, superintendence, and labor for constructing certain improvements at Midland International Air & Space Port, Midland, Texas. These improvements are contained in the plans and specifications entitled, "Midland International Air & Space Port, Aircraft Ramp Lighting System Improvements, Midland, Texas" dated November 2015.

Immediately following the closing time for receipt of bids, proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened.

The principal items of work are set forth in specific detail in the proposal section of these specifications; however, the work items may be generally described as: Replace existing ramp light fixtures with new LED fixtures, install four (4) new light poles with new LED fixtures, and connect new light poles to electrical service.

The work will also include other miscellaneous materials, equipment, machinery, superintendence and labor for constructing these improvements for the Midland International Air & Space Port, Midland, Texas.

A bid proposal guaranty is to accompany the bid, thereby guaranteeing the good faith of the bidder and that the bidder will enter into the written contract. The guaranty is to amount to 5% of the total bid and must be in the form of cash or certified check, issued by a bank satisfactory to the City of Midland, or a bid bond.

Bidders are expected to inspect the site of the work and to inform themselves regarding all local conditions.

This project is an AIP Project. The proposed contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, as amended, and to the equal opportunity clause contained in these specifications. The Bidder must supply all the information required by the proposal form.

The successful bidder will be required to submit a Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities prior to award of the contract, and to notify prospective subcontractors of the requirement of such a Certification where the subcontract exceeds $10,000. Samples of the Certification and the Notice to Subcontractors appear in the specifications.

In all areas of employment women will be afforded equal opportunity for employment. The employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for the employment of minorities.

Minimum wages and labor rates for the construction of the proposed work have been established by the Secretary of Labor. A schedule of labor classifications and wage rates to be paid are included in the specifications and will be made a part of the contract. The bid form shall contain a statement that the prices bid are based on such wage rates.

This project is subject to Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, Minority Business Enterprise Contract Provisions, and other requirements stated in the Instructions to Bidders and other sections of the project specifications and contract documents.

Policy. It is the policy of the Department of Transportation (DOT) that disadvantaged business enterprises as defined in 49 CFR Part 26 shall have the maximum opportunity to participate in the performance of contracts financed in whole or in part with Federal funds.

Buy American Provision. The proposed contract is subject to the Buy American Provision under Section 9129 of the Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990. Details of such requirement are contained in the Specifications.

MAF treats bidder/offers' compliance with good faith efforts' requirements as a matter of responsiveness.

The requirements of 49 CFR Part 26, Regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation, apply to this contract. It is the policy of MAF to practice nondiscrimination based on race, color, sex, or national origin in the award or performance of this contract. All firms qualifying under this solicitation are encouraged to submit bids/proposals. Award of this contract will be conditioned upon satisfying the requirements of this bid specification. These requirements apply to all bidders/offerors, including those who qualify as a DBE. A DBE contract goal of 5.8% has been established for this contract. The bidder/offeror shall make good faith efforts, as defined in Appendix A, 49 CFR Part 26, to meet the contract goal for DBE participation in the performance of this contract.

The bidder/offeror will be required to submit the following information: (1) the names and addresses of DBE firms that will participate in the contract; (2) a description of the work that each DBE firm will perform; (3) the dollar amount of the participation of each DBE firm participating; (4) Written documentation of the bidder/offeror's commitment to use a DBE subcontractor whose participation it submits to meet the contract goal; (5) Written confirmation from the DBE that it is participating in the contract as provided in the commitment made under (4); and (6) If the contract goal is not met, evidence of good faith efforts.

Information for bidders, proposal forms, specifications and plans are on file in the office of the Director of Airports, Midland International Air & Space Port, Midland, Texas, at the office of Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc., Consulting Engineers, 1700 W. Wall Street, Suite 100, Midland, Texas 79701, Phone (432) 697-1447.

Paper copies of the plans and specifications may be secured at the office of Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc., Consulting Engineers, 1700 W. Wall Street, Suite 100, Midland, Texas 79701, (432) 697-1447, at a cost of $50.00 for a set of specifications and full size plans. The cost for the plans and specifications is **NON-REFUNDABLE.** Download documents (.pdf file extension format) can be obtained from PSC's Info Exchange web site after registering as a plan holder with the office issuing paper copies. There is no cost or deposit required for this option.

CITY OF MIDLAND, TEXAS
Amy M. Turner
City Secretary

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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

Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit *www.sudoku.org.uk*

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

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

12/20/15

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Attention Readers

In observance of Christmas Day

The Midland Reporter-Telegram will be closed

Friday, December 25th, 2015

Advertising Deadlines

Classified Word Ads

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Fri. Dec 25th	Thurs., Dec 24, 10am
Sat., Dec 26th	Thurs., Dec 24, Noon
Sun., Dec 27th	Thurs., Dec 24, Noon
Mon., Dec 28th	Thurs., Dec 24, Noon

Classified Display Ads

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Thurs., Dec 24th	Tues., Dec 22, 5pm
Fri. Dec 25th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Sat., Dec 26th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Sun., Dec 27th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Mon., Dec 28th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm

Retail Display Ads

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Thurs., Dec 24th	Tues., Dec 22, 5pm
Fri. Dec 25th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Sat., Dec 26th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Sun., Dec 27th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Mon., Dec 28th	Wed., Dec 23, 5pm
Sun., Dec 27th	Mon., Dec 21, 5pm
(Oil Report\West Texas Living)	

CIRCULATION HOURS
Customer Service calls will be taken
Friday, December 25th from 7 AM-11 AM only

General Announcements

BETTER READ
Mark Berryhill.com
Ministering for Christ.

THANK YOU SAINT EXPEDITE for your intercession.

Autos For Sale or Lease

Passenger Cars

06 VOLK NEW BEETLE 2DR TDI DSG CALL VICTORIA 432-530-4407

12 FORD F-150 2WD SUPERCREW 145" P CALL JUSTIN 432-210-1093

12 TOYOTA 4 RUNNER RWD 4DR V6 SR5 CALL STEVEN 765-513-7095

12 VOLK PASSAY 4DR SDN 2.5 L AUTO CALL VICTORIA 432-530-4407

12 VOLKS BEETLE 2DR CPE AUTO 2.5L CALL STEVEN 765-513-7095

13 FIAT 500 2DR CONV POP SILVER EA CALL JUSTIN 432-210-1093

13 FIAT 500 2DR HB POP SILVER EAB CALL JUSTIN 432-210-1093

13 FIAT 500 2DR HB POP WHITE EAB CALL JARED 432-258-2263

13 FORD FOCUS 4DR SDN TITANUM BLACK CALL JUSTIN 432-210-1093

13 VOLKS BEETLE CON 2DR AUTO 2.5L WHITE CALL STEVEN 765-513-7095

13 VOLKS JETTA SEDA 4DR MAN TDI CALL VICTORIA 432-530-4407

13 VOLK TOUAREG 4DR TDI SPORT CALL VICTORIA 432-530-4407

14 CHEVY CRUZ 4DR SDN AUTO 1LT WHITE CALL JARED 432-258-2268

14 FORD MUSTANG 2DR CONV V6 BLACK CALL JUSTIN 432-210-1093

14 VOLK JETTA SEDA 4DR AUTO CALL VICTORIA 432-530-4407

14 VOLK PASSAT 4DR SDN 1.8T AUTO CALL VICTORIA 432-530-4407

14 VOLKS BEETLE COU 2DR AUTO 1.8T CALL STEVEN 765-513-7095

14 VOLK TOUAREG 4DR 3.6L SPORT CALL VICTORIA 432-530-4407

15 CHEVY TAHOE 2WD 4DR LT SILVER L8 CALL JARED 432-258-2269

15 DODGE DURANGO 2WD 4DR LIMITED WHITE CALL JUSTIN 432-210-1093

15 DODGE JOURNEY FWD 4DR SXT BLACK CALL JARED 432-258-2263

16 VOLKS BEETLE COU 2DR AUTO 1.8T CALL STEVEN 765-513-7095

2012 FIAT 500 2DR HB SPORT WHITE EAB CALL JARED 432-258-2264

Passenger Cars

2013 FIAT 500 2DR CONV ASBARTH RED EA CALL JUSTIN 432-210-1092

FORD 1997 Taurus, good condition, new tires & battery, asking $1800. Call 432-528-1029

LEXUS 1995 SC400 136k miles, good tires, new battery, $2,800 OBO. 238-8480

TOYOTA 2005 Avalon XLS Gray w/ Gray leather, 120k miles, very good cond., $7,000 firm. Call Craig 432-889-0616

Antique & Vintage

86 Camaro IROC-Z. T-tops. As seen on E-bay. $5,000. 432-559-0692.

Pickup Trucks

2001 GMC 2500 HD 4x4 Crew Cab 8.1L Gas, 66k mi, 8' lift, off road tires. $12,500 OBO. 432-413-0994.

FORD, 2008 Ranger, $11,000. 53,500 miles, dark grey, excellent condition, bed liner & locked cover, clean title. Call or text Mike 432-664-6924.

Vans & Minivans

DODGE 2007 Caravan $1000 runs good needs work call 432-813-0031

4WD & SUV

2008 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER, fully loaded. Heated leather seats, sun roof, chrome wheels, 90,628 miles. Asking 11,500 OBO. Please call 432-413-3792.

Motorcycles

95 SPORTSTER in good condition, custom paint, many extras, must see! 432-234-3950 or 432-684-8502.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Motorcycles

HARLEY XLHS 2008 Roadglide garage kept, runs great. $13,500. Will text pictures. Call 432-694-4692 or 432-556-6029

RVs

2008 29' DENALI Travel Trailer for sale, $15,000. Central Heat/AC Ducted, 14' Flat Screen TV, Power Slide out, Electric jack & awning. Call 432-425-7458.

RV SPACES for rent. $500 month, utilities, furnished. Call 432-894-8234.

Recreational Vehicles

2015 43' fifth wheel, 3 slideouts, 3 A.C's, washer & dryer, 2 bedrooms, bunks, sleeps 6, fireplace, lots of storage. Non smoking no pets. Loaded. Must sell. $35,000 OBO or trade. 432-934-5147

ROYAL TRAVEL 2014 5th wheel, 37 feet, 3 slides, 2 AC's, washer & dryer, electric awning,fireplace, fully loaded!! Asking $37,500, will deliver. 806-470-2414.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Merchandise

Free Stuff

FREE PUPPIES to a good home. Adorable 5 weeks olds, 2 males, & 3 females. 432-230-2763.

FREE TO GOOD HOME - Rescued cats & yourig cats, fixed, boxed trained shots. Call 661-1817.

FREE WOODEN PALLETS!
Midland Reporter-Telegram
(on dock side)

Miscellaneous for Sale

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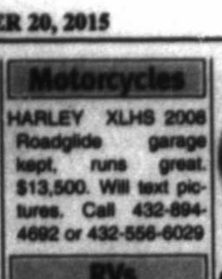

Garage -Estate & Yard Sales

Yard & Garage Sales

79706

1010 WCR 126 Saturday & Sunday 9am-3pm. A little bit of everything, Winter cleaning.

Furniture

TEAK DINING room set, table with 6 chairs, china cabinet with sliding glass doors, and buffet. Excellent condition. $9,500. Call Chip 432-638-8372

Miscellaneous for Sale

NEW WOOLRICH king quilt, shams, throw & pillow. $100. 686-8203

WEBBER GENESIS propane gas grill. Great condition. Asking $330 (new-$795). 432-254-8706.

WESTERN ART for Christmas! H. Terpning, W. Baize, T. Ryan, R. Summers & J. Fallier. 432-631-3156

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FREE voice & piano lessons. Call Ronald Thomas 432-695-4341

OAK, PECAN, mesquite, pinon. 432-209-0416 or 325-762-4262

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WEST TEXAS WOOD $80 minimum, split, stacked and delivered Call Will and make a deal. 432-741-2491.

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Agriculture & Farm Equipment, Parts & Supplies

2008 PJ 40' Dovetail-dual- tandem goose-neck trailer. Like new. 432-254-9209

Animals & Pets

Pets

FREE KITTENS. 2 black 2-black striped /brindle. Also female siamese 2 years old. 432-269-5365

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LAB PUPPIES AKC & started dogs. Hips/eyes guaranteed. Training available. Pooles Labs. www.pooleslabs.com. Call (806) 633-4364.

PRECIOUS LABRAHOULAS (Labrador/Catahoula) PUPPIES!! Ready on 12/21. $175.00. Call (432) 557-1504.

TINY MALTESE white fluff ball. Champion blood line. Dad weight 3 1/2 lbs. Male, he is ready for Christmas. 806-786-6404

Find it fast in the Midland Reporter-Telegram

Legal & Public Notices

REQUEST FOR SEALED BIDS

Sealed Bids addressed to Jill Hallmark, Director of School Plant Services, Midland ISD, 801 South Moran, Midland, TX 79701, for Professional Turf and Landscape Maintenance Services for MISD Schools, located in Midland, TX, will be received at the above address no later than 2:00 PM, on Tuesday, January 12, 2016. The bid forms and specifications may be obtained at 801 South Moran, Building #1 Midland, TX or by calling 432-240-1600.

LEGAL NOTICE

SEALED BID(S) will be received until 2:00 P.M., January 6, 2016 to be opened at 2:00 P.M., in the Office of the City Secretary City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas for the following Bid(s):

Bid No. 16000938
For: Employee Uniforms

If the Contract is awarded, it will be awarded to either the lowest responsible bidder, or to the bidder who provides goods or services at the best value for the City of Midland. In determining the best value for the City of Midland, the City of Midland may consider the criteria enumerated in Section 252.043 of the Texas Local Government Code. Information for Bidders, Proposal Forms, Specifications and General conditions for bidding may be obtained from the office of the Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas.

Purchasing Division
City of Midland, Texas

Request For Bids

Lee Lewis Construction, Inc., as construction manager, will be receiving bids for the Fort Stockton ISD High School Additions and Renovations.

A Pre-Bid meeting is scheduled for 1:00 PM, January 6, 2016, at the Fort Stockton High School, 1200 W. 17th St. Fort Stockton, TX.

Bids are due by 3:00 PM, January 14, 2016.

Location:
Lee Lewis Construction, Inc.
7810 Orlando Ave
Lubbock, Texas 79423
Phone: 806-797-8400
Fax: 806-797-8492

Bid packages will be available at the following locations:
AGC Plan Room / Dodge Plan Room - Lubbock, Texas
Lee Lewis Construction - Lubbock, Texas
www.isqft.com

Lee Lewis Construction specifically invites Small Business Concerns and Women Owned Business Concerns and Small Business Concerns Owned/Controlled By Socially And Economically Disadvantaged Individuals to bid this project.

Notice Of Application For Fluid Injection Well Permit

XTO Energy, Inc., Opr. No. 945936, 500 W. Illinois , Suite 100, Midland, Texas 79701 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas to amend an existing injection permit to inject fluid, and gas into a formation which is productive of oil and gas. XTO Energy Inc. will modify the injection interval.

The applicant proposes to dispose of these fluids into the Grayburg, San Andres Formations in the Means/ San Andres/ Unit Lease, well number: 1320A. It is located in Blk A35, Section 1, which is approximately 9.6 miles northeast from the city of Andrews and is in the Means Field in Andrews, TX. Fluid will be injected into the strata in the subsurface depth interval from 4100 to 5000 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.

Request 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, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512-463-6792)

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF TEXAS

TO: **Gerald E. Kern, Defendant, and to all whom it may concern:**

You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. The petition of WTG FUELS, INC., Plaintiff, was filed against GERALD E. KERN, Defendant, on February 26, 2015, in the Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 3 of Midland County, Texas, and is numbered C3140020, and entitled *WTG Fuels, Inc. vs. Gerald E. Kern*. This lawsuit is a suit on a sworn account, breach of contract and unjust enrichment for purchases of gasoline and other products in the amount of $2,613.14.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the Plaintiff's interest which will be binding upon you.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Midland, Texas, this November 25, 2015.

Gail Andrews
Clerk of the Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 3
Midland, Midland County, Texas

Legal & Public Notices

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF TEXAS

TO: **ROLANDO CASTANEDA, INDIVIDUALLY AND D/B/A AMERICAN REVOLUTION CARRIERS, Defendant, and to all whom it may concern:**

You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. The petition of WTG FUELS, INC., Plaintiff, was filed against ROLANDO CASTANEDA, INDIVIDUALLY AND D/B/A AMERICAN REVOLUTION CARRIERS, Defendant, on April 21, 2014, in the Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 3 of Midland County, Texas, and is numbered C3140032, and entitled WTG Fuels, Inc. vs. Rolando Castaneda, Individually and d/b/a American Revolution Carriers. This lawsuit is a suit on a sworn account, breach of contract and unjust enrichment for purchases of gasoline and other products in the amount of $4,650.00.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the Plaintiff's interest which will be binding upon you.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Midland, Texas, this October 30, 2015.

Gail Andrews
Clerk of the Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 3
Midland, Midland County, Texas

Auctions

CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT
INTERNET AUCTION
WED., DEC. 30 Bidding closes at 10 a.m. CST

L7286 '10 CAT 160M

L4461 Samsung 120-2 wheel loader

L4459 '05 Caterpillar RM-350B reclaimer

325+ items selling without reserve! backhoes, dozers, dump trucks, graders, loaders, skid steers, tractors & more.

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Paul St. Hilaire, Executive Director 432-685-1112

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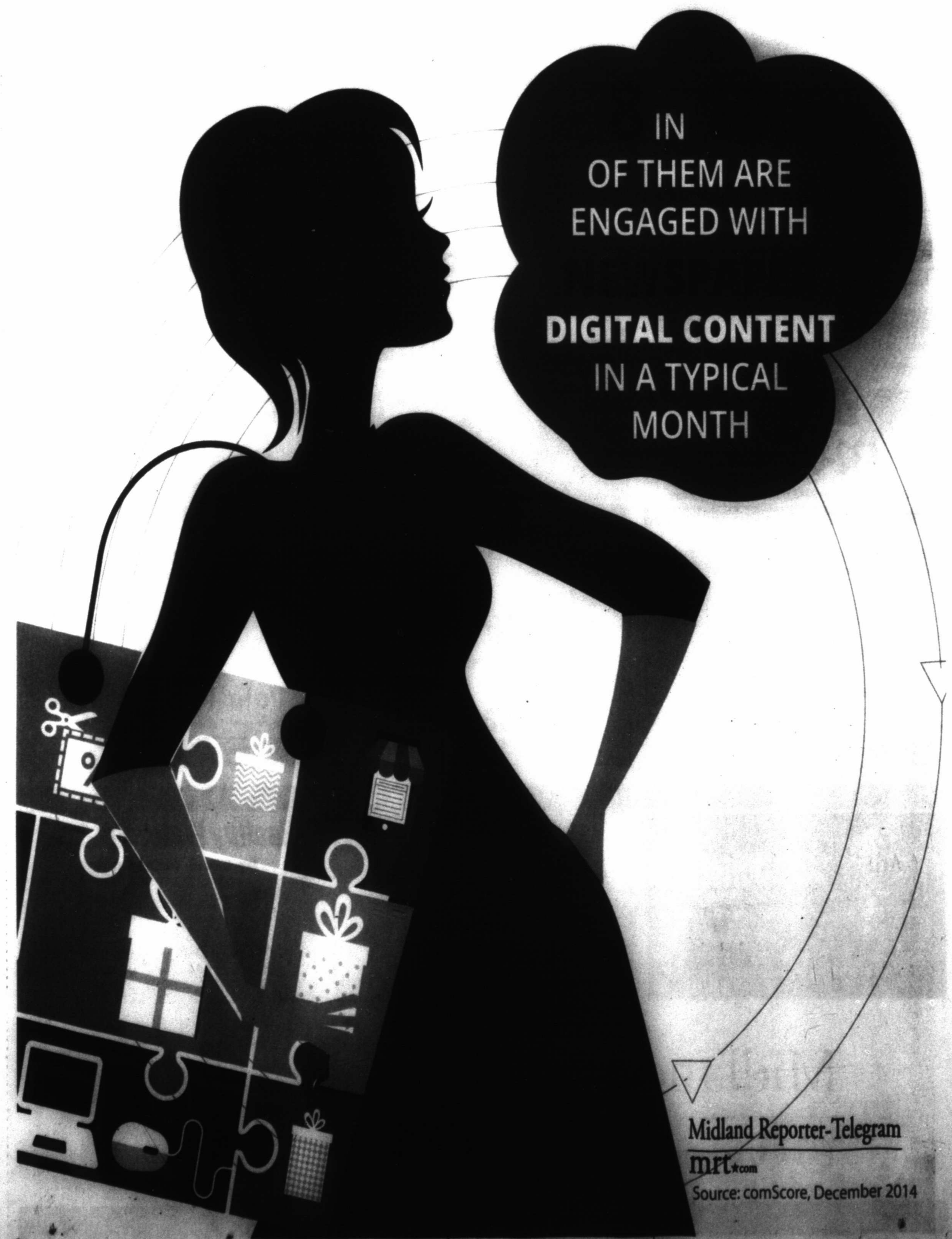

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HOUSEKEEPING 17 years experience. References available. Call 432-553-0928.

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Home Services & Home Improvement

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JS Concrete
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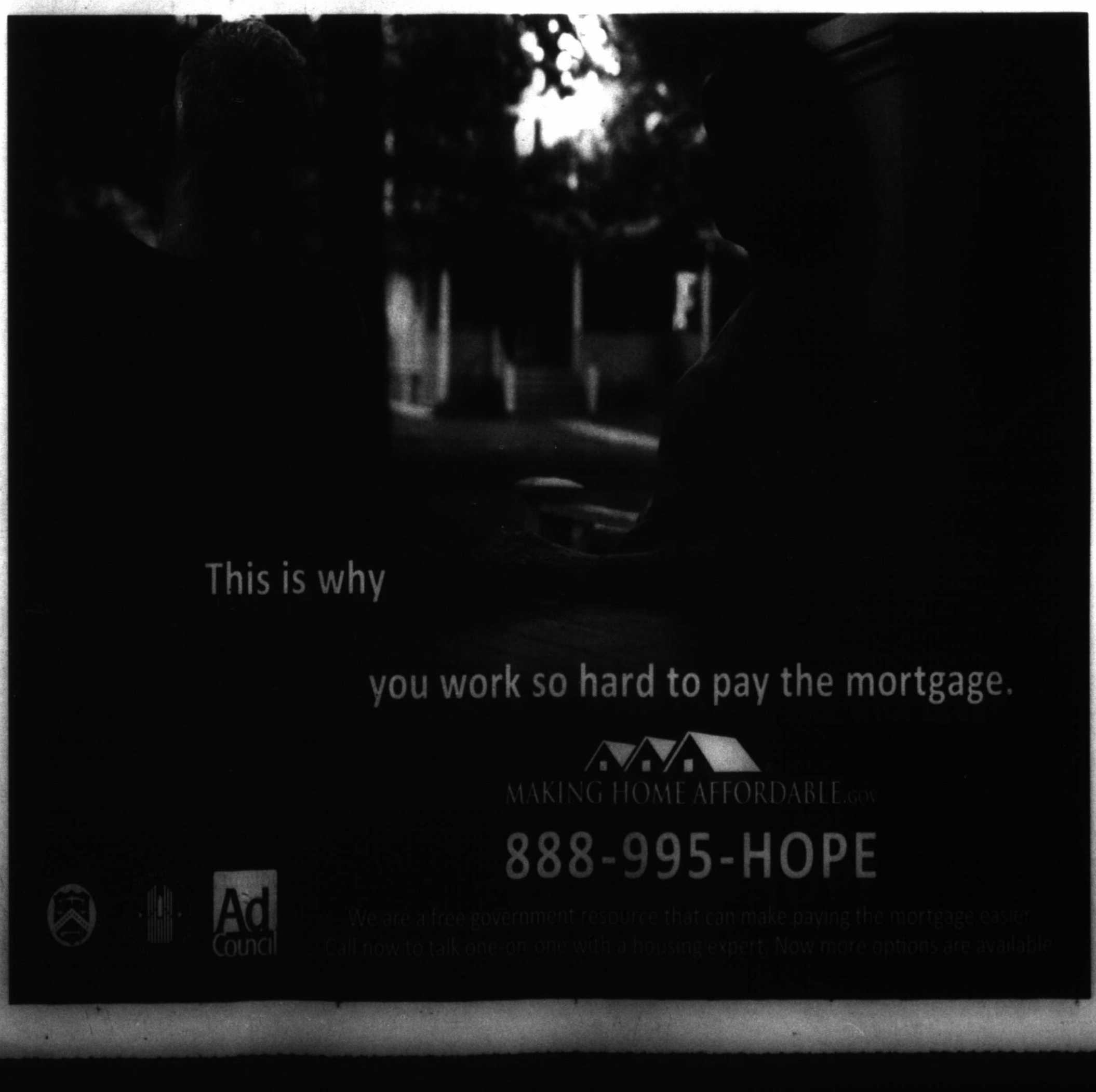

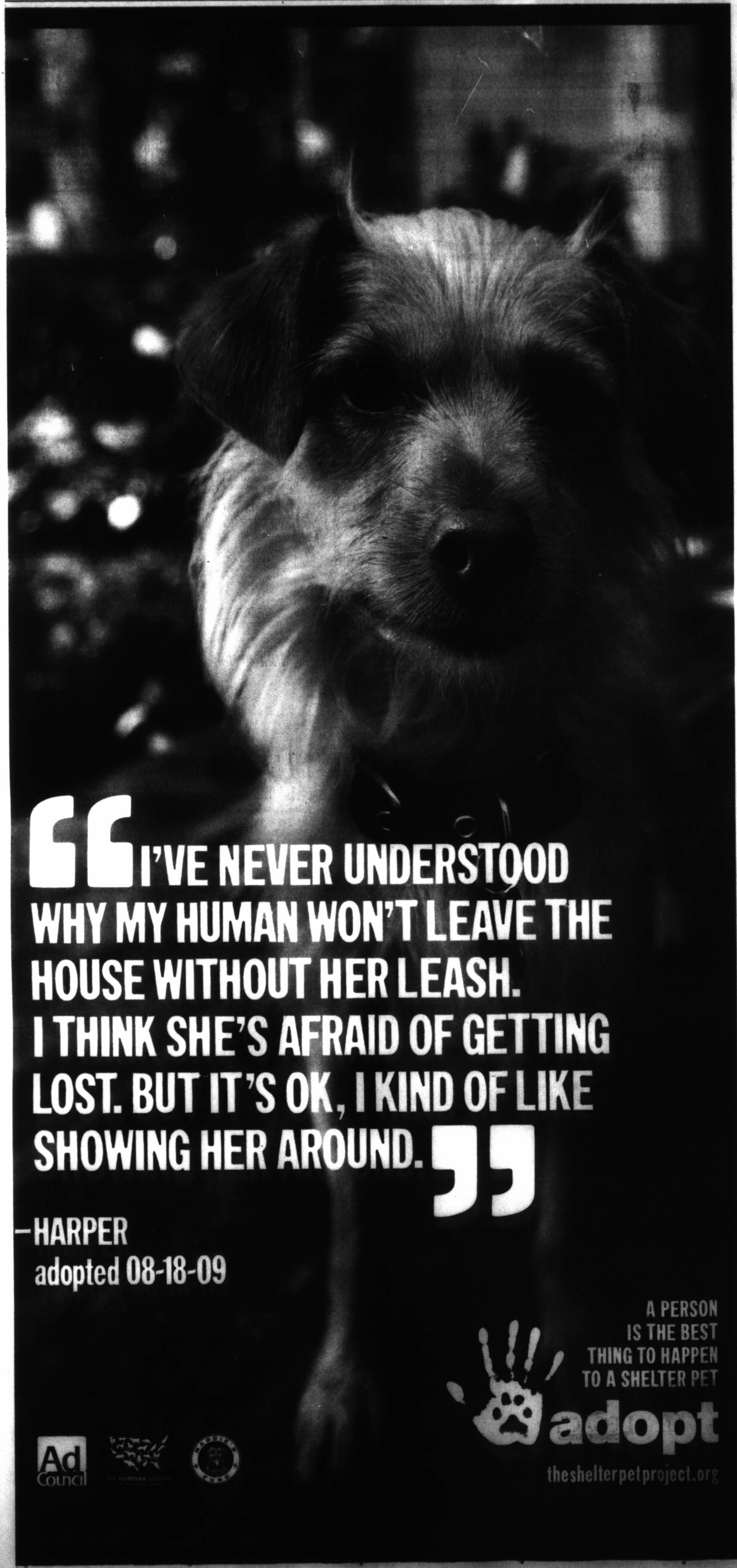
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Source: Yelp

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Ask our broker

WITH PETER G. MILLER

TURNED DOWN FOR LOAN. NOW WHAT?

QUESTION:

We recently applied for a mortgage and were turned down. How can we buy a home if lenders won't give us a chance? What can we do to get financing?

ANSWER:

"Lenders" didn't turn you down; just one lender said "no," and that lender may simply be the wrong one for you.

Most loan applications, most of the time, sail through the system. According to the Ellie Mae Origination Insight Report for August, the closing rate for all loans was 66.3 percent, however borrower success varies substantially depending on whether you want a purchase money mortgage to buy a home (with a 70.8 percent success rate) or you're refinancing (59.2 percent). The type of mortgage also counts. Ellie Mae says conventional borrowers do best (66.2 percent), followed by those who want VA financing (61.1 percent) and FHA mortgages (60.2 percent).

The fact that your mortgage application has been declined should not deter you from getting a mortgage. The real question is why the lender declined it.

If a mortgage application is turned down you will receive what is commonly called a "denial letter" or "adverse action" notice. The Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis explains that "two federal laws – the Equal Credit Opportunity Act, as implemented by Regulation B, and the Fair Credit Reporting Act – reflect Congress's determination that consumers and businesses applying for credit should receive notice of the reasons a creditor took adverse action on the application or on an existing credit account. Notice also required under the FCRA for adverse actions taken with respect to insurance transactions, employment decisions, and in certain other circumstances."

You then have 60 days from when the notice was sent out to follow up. For instance, did the lender act on incorrect information? If yes, that's something to discuss with the lender. Effectively, the 60-day period gives you a window to protest a lender decision.

However, and most likely, the lender's information will be correct. In that case the problem could show up again if you apply for financing with another lender.

The most likely reasons for a loan rejection include issues such as poor credit, a big purchase during the loan application period which reduced your ability to qualify, a low appraisal, and insufficient income.

The last item needs a little bit of explaining. If the lender finds that your income is lower than expected, say $6,250 a month instead of $6,350 it means a greater proportion of your income will be needed for monthly debts. This can be a problem if your debt-to-income ratio exceeds 43 percent, the limit used by most loan programs.

As you review the lender's letter consider correcting any erroneous information you find, getting a smaller loan, working out the problems outlined in the notice, re-submitting your application, or contacting another lender.

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Email peter@ctwfeatures.com. Due to volume, not all questions may be answered.

4 PRE-SALE PROJECTS EVERY SELLER SHOULD DO

FOLLOW THESE PRO TIPS TO MAKE YOUR HOUSE MORE ATTRACTIVE TO POTENTIAL BUYERS

By ALEX BURNHAM
CTW Features

One of the joys of buying and moving into a new home is just that — everything is new, and everything. But if a seller doesn't have newness to offer but rather a bunch of faulty features, the buyers may be scarce.

"Most people want to move in [to a home] and have the work already done," says Jann Seal, a sales associate with Exit Realty Premier in Wellington, Florida.

If you're getting ready to sell, here are four pre-listing preparations to get your house ready for buyers

1. TOUCH-UPS

The easiest thing a homeowner can do to make his or her property more attractive is to touch up the little things. This includes restructuring anything with a functionality problem. Examples include fixing broken doors or cabinets or replacing failing windows. Replace any broken screens too, if more than the window frame is broken. And don't forget the outside.

"The most common suggestion we make is for color to be added to the exterior either in the form of flowers or through painting," says Scott Newman, of Newman Realty in Chicago. You should also depersonalize the property. "Remove all personal photographs. Take the magnets off the refrigerator," Seal says. "Let the potential buyer imagine himself, his family and his belongings in the house."

2. PAINTING

Painting may not be the first thing on a seller's mind; but it can completely change the look of a home. In addition to outside touch-ups, fresh coats on the interior can transform the way someone feels when walking into a room. Seal says neutral colors are the best. "Latte or dove gray gives the rooms a clean, modern feel," she says. "Keep the trim white."

Adds Todd Polinchock, a Realtor in Doylestown, Pennsylvania: "Paint is worth its weight in gold."

3. CARPETS AND FLOORING

Alongside paint, new flooring affords the homeowners the opportunity to change the look and feel of a property.

Both Newman and Polinchock suggest replacing old carpet, noting it's a "relatively small" investment compared to other home repairs, and since stained or dated carpet can be an eyesore to potential buyers.

The same goes for hardwood flooring. Though it is more expensive per square foot than carpeting - the World Floor Covering Association says carpet can start at just $2 per square foot installed, with wood starting at $6 per square foot installed — a study using data from the National Association of Realtors found that buyers are willing to spend more than $2,000 more on a house with hardwood flooring than a house without. Both routes will make your house look much newer, but if replacement is not an option, try to find a cost-effective professional cleaning method to get flooring looking as fresh as possible

4. UPDATES

The largest project a seller needs to worry about is updating the house that's for sale. Ask your agent about what items or systems in your home need to be upgraded to compete with comparable houses. It could be anything from kitchen upgrades (new countertops or appliances) or bathroom updates (new sinks, faucets and showerheads).

"Today's buyer is increasingly interested in modern, sexy upgrades from a much more expensive home and are the kinds of things their friends will say 'oh' and 'ah' to when they come over," Newman says. "People love an eye-catching backsplash in the kitchen and hotel-style bathroom upgrades that look like something out of a five-star spa."

While pricey updates may make your home attractive to buyers, Seal recommends not going overboard. Though many projects can recoup a significant portion of their cost, rarely do they recoup their full cost, according to Remodeling magazine's Cost vs. Value Report.

Instead of a full-on upgrade, Polinchock suggests picking one or two items to replace.

"It's about making those changes [that] will give you the best chance to sell in the shortest period of time for the best price," Polinchock says.

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MORTGAGES

STEADY MORTGAGE PAYMENTS WHEN INCOME IS UNSTEADY

Lenders put increased scrutiny on borrowers with fluctuating incomes

Fifth-grade math skills come in handy when you're home shopping.

Lenders usually don't want to see a monthly mortgage payment – plus all other regularly occurring debts – exceed more than about 36 to 43 percent of a borrower's gross monthly income.

No matter how adept they are converting ratios into percentages, however, many mortgage seekers will find this equation difficult because they can't pin down a monthly income number.

A recent study by J.P. Morgan Chase Institute, a nonprofit arm of the banking firm, found that 41 percent of individuals experience monthly income fluctuations of more than 30 percent.

Irregular work schedules and other changes in employment patterns cause pay variability, posing a budget problem.

Indeed, the JPMCI report reads: "Individuals need to appreciate the degree to which income and consumption are volatile, and to prepare for the possibility that they might – unexpectedly or outside of their control – experience a negative swing in income."

Income swings concern mortgage lenders, who will apply added scrutiny to loan applicants with variable pay stubs.

But "fluctuating income is not usually a problem as long as we can document why it is fluctuating and establish a history that makes sense," notes Neil Caron, vice president at Freedom Mortgage Corp. in South Windsor, Connecticut.

An income history helps put monthly fluctuations in context. For instance, a server at a high-end restaurant who's been on the job five years but whose annual income dropped 10 percent last year may be required to submit a letter of explanation, says Caron. And, if income has declined for two years, the lender will use the lower figure.

A consistent annual pattern of monthly fluctuations gives lenders comfort.

Still, lenders are "looking for borrowers they can trust," notes Grace Currid, senior vice president, HomeBridge Financial Services in New York. Trust is demonstrated with a good credit score, which comes from paying bills promptly.

— Marilyn Kennedy Melia

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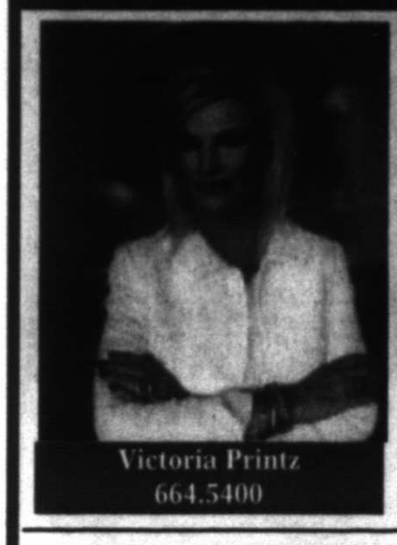

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5300 Balfour Ct-Extraordinary showstopper on quiet cul-de-sac has 4 bed/3 baths/greatroom+study/3 car gar + fabulous outdoor kitchen & 2nd fireplace! Stucco & stone exterior! $475,000

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3405 Trinity Meadows-Totally spectacular 4 bed/3.5 Bath/3 living area home on quiet street w/lushly landscaped grounds! 4191 square feet! Gorgeous saltillo tile flows thru-out $399,900

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3005 Vermont-Absolutely stunning 4 bed/2 bath home (2010) on quiet cul-de-sac...Miles of gleaming dark hardwood floors, plantation shutters, crown molding, walls of windows & soaring ceilings! $240,000

5807 Nolan Ryan-Better than new & absolutely darling 4 bedroom/2 bath/2 living area (great room+study/playroom) formal dining or breakfast room w/2 car garage-built in 2012! $235,000

3800 Fannin Ave.- Super cute & spacious 4 bedroom/2 bath/3 living area /1 dining area/2 car garage home! Floorplan is great for entertaining & family time! $189,900

3317 W. Cuthbert-Cute 4 bedroom/2 bath/2 living area/2 dining area home on large lot with recent 6 ft cedar fence! Very spacious with versatile plan! Great storage! Nice mature trees! $135,000

1, 2 & 3 BEDROOMS

10100 W County Rd 150 - 4 bed/2.5 Baths/4+living areas & several garages! Very versatile property w/endless options for use on 14.99 Acres! Must see to understand! $575,000

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7324 Fox River Ridge, Odessa-Beautiful 3bed/2.5Bath/3car garage in Castle Ridge Estates! Fabulous hard wood floors in dining and living areas, roof replaced nov 2015, instant hot water system and tankless water heater installed in 2015! $406,900

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2805 Andover-Spectacular & super spacious 3 bed/2.5 Bath/3 living area (den, formal living & sun room), 2 dining, 2 car gar home in quiet cul-de-sac! Miles of tile (carpet in bedrooms), walls of windows & soaring ceilings! $292,000

4205 Dawn Circle-Absolutely fabulous & beautifully updated w/contemporary flare! Very spacious 3 bed/3 bath/2 living area w/soaring ceilings, skylights, all tile flooring (carpet in bedrooms) & recently (2015) updated gourmet kitchen w/granite, stainless backsplash & appliances! $289,900

6005 Miles High Lane- Absolutely darling--better than new! Precious 3 bed/2 bath w/formal dining or breakfast room/2 car gar, built in 2014! Sequestered master suite w/sep garden tub & shower, 2 sinks & huge closet! $234,900

3704 Gulf-Cute & updated 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 dining area, 2 living area, 2 car garage (added in 2007) home in Wedgewood Park neighborhood! Beautiful mature pecan trees, patio & breezeway! $215,000

3608 W. Louisiana-Spacious 3 bed/2 bath/ 3 living area (formal living, den, sunroom) home w/ great curb appeal! Walls of windows, plantation shutters thru-out & miles of tile! $199,900

2609 A Haynes-Super cute & lovely 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath & 2 car carport home! Extremely low maintenance! Huge living area w/ charming fireplace! Darling front courtyard & open entry! $189,900

701 S. Lincoln - Absolutely spectacular new construction from G.O. Homes! Fabulous kitchen with granite, tons of cabinets! 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms! Large backyard with cinder block fence! $165,000

1303 E Cuthbert-Cute 3 bedroom/ 1 bath brick home will surprise you with its size and the large two workshops (tools and equipment will stay)! Ample storage and closets in this great starter home! $114,900

1902 E. California-Quaint 3 bedroom/1 bath starter home with 1 living area in greenwood subdivision, tile flooring, wall heaters, and window units! Composition roof only 4 years old, recent electrical updates, large, roomy backyard with privacy wood fence! $99,900

600 Liddon #68-Darling and updated 2 story liddon townhome in sutton place! HOA fee covers all utilities (except cable)! Fantastic fireplace! Beautiful french doors! Cute back patio! $99,900

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304 George-Recently replaced roof, wood fence! Office area in front of building w/ shop in the back includes one garage bay w/ roll door. Paved parking on south & east side of building $72,000

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3224 Dengar - 4 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms $1,800
3217 Whittle Way - 3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms $1,550
4509 Parkdale - 3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms $1,500
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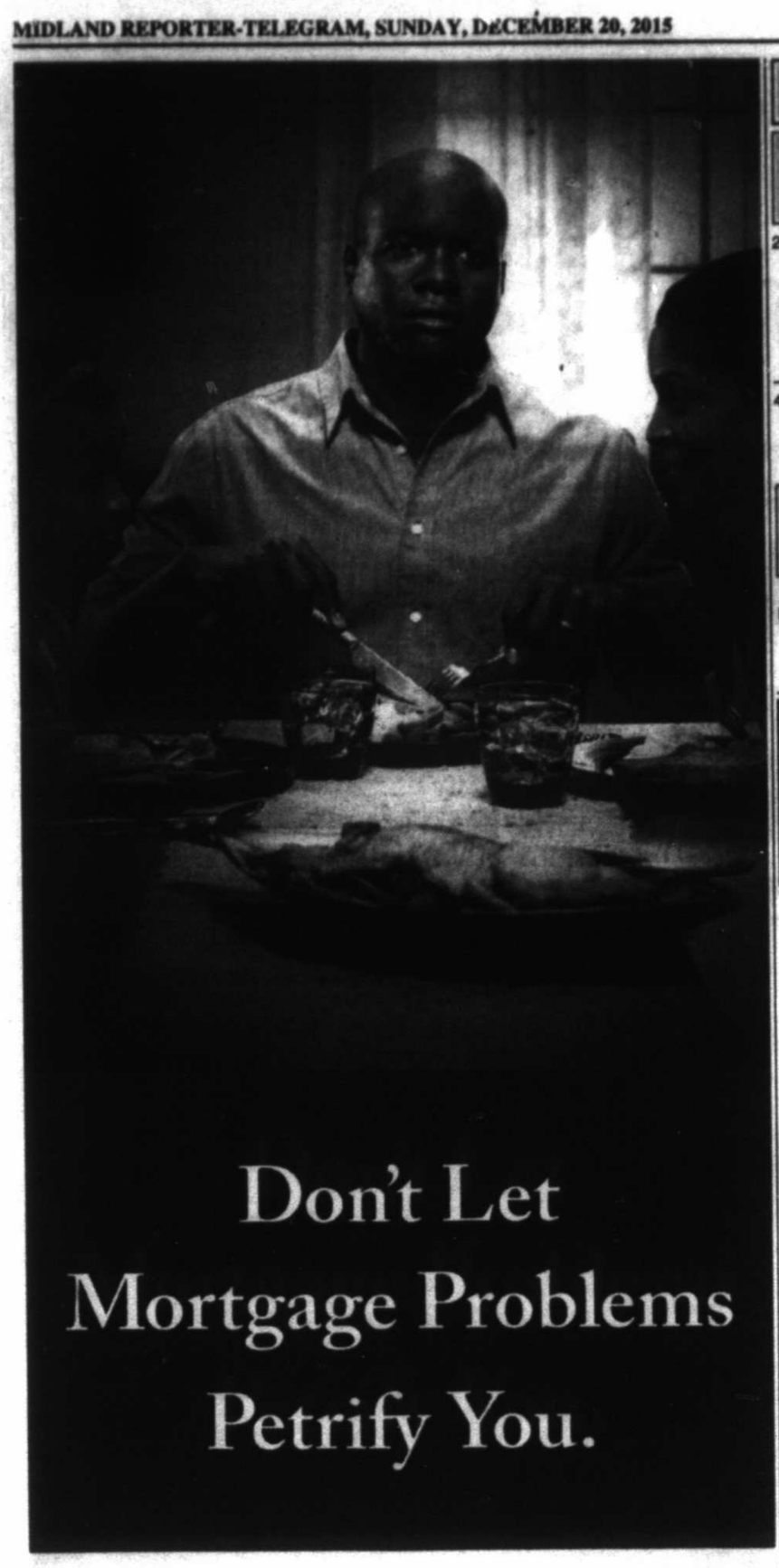

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Residential Rentals

Apartments for Rent Furnished

2901 W ILLINOIS, 1600sft 2BD/2BA Remodeled Executive Patio apartment with garage. $1,150 monthly. Call 432-631-6100 or 432-266-1212

4409 CROCKETT Apt. A. 2bed/1bath. $900 mo, $900 dep. 432-978-2074.

Apartments for Rent Unfurnished

ALL BILLS PAID INCLUDING EXTENDED BASIC CABLE VILLA CHATEAU APTS. 432-694-1112

DUPLEX FOR LEASE. 3105 Mark Lane 2bed/2bath/2car garage/ fireplace. $1,250 mo. $1,000 deposit. No Pets. 432-557-5557.

LOWEST RENT! Spacious 1 - 2 - 3 Bedroom Apartments. 432-687-4514.

MIDLAND VILLAGE APARTMENTS. single story. never an upstairs neighbor. 1, 2 & 3 bedrooms. 432-683-9726.

Townhouse/ Condo for Rent Unfurnished

1 BDRM remodeled for lease. $1,450/mo all bills paid. Call 432-556-6129

2811 MOSS Large 4 bed 3 bath. 2 car garage Emerson/Goddard/ MHS. $2,350 UP Group 889-2934

LOFT apartment 1 bedroom. 1 1/2 baths. patio. washer & dryer connections. Available now. $1,000 per mo. $350 deposit 432-425-4871.

SPECIAL!!! 2 BD/1 & 1/2 baths. Townhouse. no pets. utility room with washer & dryer $1,250 per month, $1,000 deposit. Small front & back yards. 432-699-4420 or 432-553-8397

Houses for Rent Unfurnished

2 BEDROOM, 1 bath, 1 living room, kitchen, dining room. Call for more information 432-631-9629

312 WILLOWWOOD, 3 bedroom 2 bath, nicely remodeled. Non smoking no pets $1,300 monthly Call 432-683-2243

3515 STANOLIND. nice 3 BD/2BA, 2car garage, credit check required, non-smoker $1800 dep, $1800 rent. 432-631-6914

3 BEDROOM 2 bath, double garage, $2,000 monthly $2,0000 deposit. $35 application fee. No pets. Call 432-813-6526.

4412 TANNER 3bed/2bath, double garage. $1,500 mo, $1,500 dep. 432-978-2074.

FOR LEASE: 2608 Delano Ave. 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath, fenced, refrigerator, stove, no smoking, no pets, background/credit check, verification of employment, $1,000 security deposit $1,000/ month. Available now. 432-222-0794 after 6pm. Serious inquiries only.

Large 3 BEDROOM 2 bath, 2 car garage near Wadley Barron Park. $1,600 monthly, $800 deposit. Please call 432-230-9667.

LARGE 3 bedroom 2 bath with large fenced back yard $1,200 monthly. 432-770-3706

LOVELY 3 bedroom 2 bath, brick home with fireplace, attached garage & large backyard in great neighborhood. Has refrigerator & stove. $1,300 deposit. $1,500 month for a years lease. 1908 Woodlawn near downtown. 903-385-2017 for showing appointment.

NICE HOMES remodeled with garage, great neighborhood. Northwest Midland. 3 bed 2 bath and larger. From $1,500 monthly. Call 432-631-6100 or 432-266-1212

Residential Sales

Open Houses

OPEN HOUSE Sunday 12-2. 507 Nolan Ryan Dr. (Legends Park) 4 bedroom, 3 bath, formal living area, 2 car garage. 2672 sq. ft. Scharbauer, Goddard, Midland High. $290,000. Lorenzo Sanchez Realtor Keller Williams.

Homes for Sale

2403 METZ Place: 5 bd, 3 1/2 bath, 2 lvg. areas, dining room and office. Great location close to Emerson Elementary and Goddard Jr. High. For more info please call 432-352-1218

3527 GULF. 3BD/2BA. Newly Remodeled. fireplace. 2000+ sf Large backyard. $219,000 Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

3608 SINCLAIR 2939sf 4BD/3BA. fireplace. Water well. Remodeled. $249,000 Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

4500 SQ. ft. spec home on 20 acres off 349 (still under construction) Qualified buyers only by appointment. Call Eric 432-934-6198 for home built your way.

4803 B. HARVARD CUTE 2 bed/ 1 bath. One carport, new paint and carpet, fenced yard, outside storage, no smoking, no pets. $1100/ mo. 432-620-9222 or 432-425-2739

5221 CANADIAN Beautiful 4 bedroom 2 bath, 2 living areas, large kitchen, computer room & laundry room. $227K. Open house 2-4 every Sunday or call for an appointment 432-683-2243

5225 Brazzos Ave, Midland. 3/2 Sequestered master bedroom. Breakfast nook. Dining room. 2 car garage. Central heat and air. Kids swing set. Good school district. Home warranty for 1 yr. $229K. Call Robert anytime 4328533009

802 SHEA LANE Spotless home, 3 bed / 2 bath, 2 car garage, tile/carpet, garden tub, fenced backyard, all appliances. Legends Park, no pets, no smoking, $2275/mo. 432-638-0138.

♠ EXECUTIVE HOME FOR SALE ♠ 4 bed, 3 bath, approximately 2800 sq. ft. Fully furnished. $349,000. Available now. Realtors welcome. 432-685-7041

FOR SALE BY OWNER 3bd 1ba house on large lot in Andrews. Water well, fireplace. 2 living areas. $90K. House is on a large lot with very few close neighbors, privacy is great! Near the court house. Call 432-847-8776 or 432-269-2899

OLD MIDLAND HOME

For sale, by owner. Approximately 3800 sq. ft. 4 bedroom 4 bath With guest house. Qualified buyers only. $549,000. Realtors welcome. 432-685-7041

Remodeled 3 & 4 bedroom homes. Northwest Midland. Possible financing. Call 432-631-8100 or 432-266-1212

Fax Your Classified Ad in Today! 682-0999

Residential Sales

Homes for Sale

REDUCED 901 Canyon Drive. 2 bed/1 bath with garage. Recent remodel, fenced yard, all appliances, central air & heat. Pet requires additional fees. Application required. $1,000 mo/ $1,000 deposit. 432-288-2939.

Lots & Land

Acreage

2.5 ACRES in Saddle Club Ranch Estates. Trenton Dr. 432-254-9209

FOR SALE or lease one acre water, electric. Nine RV spaces, metal building 40'x30'x12 1/2 ft high, over head door with remote, 18'x10' high, 36" walk in door all finished & insulated. Excellent location, WCR 40, 1/8 mile from Hwy 1788 N., Gardendale, Midland, TX. Sell $175,000 or lease $5,000/mo 480-729-9641

Ranches

RANCH FOR SALE 4,212 Acres near Snyder Tx Water, 3 houses, great hunting. Owner Financing $795/ Acre (432) 664-7764

Commercial

Commercial Building For Lease 13,500sq/ft Fenced/Paved Yard Midland, Texas $8,500/month 432-664-7764

COMMERCIAL YARD FOR LEASE 5 ACRES, FENCED 2 AC CALICHED ELECTRIC GATE $2200/MONTH JUST EAST OF MIDLAND 432-664-7764

FOR LEASE /Build to Suit Commercial shop with 5 acre yard East of Midland 432-664-7764 432-934-7777

FOR LEASE Retail Office Spaces 2203 "B" N. Big Spring, 2600 sq. ft 2209 N. Big Spring, 48' x 75' Call Realtor Matt Pillado 800-672-3911 or 432-238-4594

"MAN CAVE" New storage on 1788. 1500-4500 square ft starting at $650 RV's/cars/industrial ask for Don 352-2067

Commercial

NOW LEASING
• Office/Warehouses •
• Small Office Suites •
• Fenced Yards •
Various locations.
Call 432-661-4057

FOR SALE OR LEASE 13520 HWY. 80 MIDLAND, TEXAS 6000 sq. ft. building with offices on approximately 8 acres of land. $4,500.00 a month with a $4,500 security deposit. For more information, please call 432-263-5000.

LARGE METAL building with apartment built-in. A little over an acre of land. Was used as church but can be anything. Call 432-214-6724 or 432-215-8670

NEW CONSTRUCTION 5/10/20/50 acres +/- yard with 5,000 or 10,000 sq. ft building with Bridge Cranes/ wash bays Ask for Don. 563-1610 or 352-2067

Mobile Homes for Rent

3 BEDROOM. 2 Bath mobile home. December rent $200/ $950 deposit $950/mo with approved credit 432-570-8555.

RVs and RV Spaces. All bills included. Call 432-770-7054 or 432-634-0978

Mobile Homes for Sale

OWNER CARRY WAC. Easy terms. 1975 Solitaire. 3 bed 2 bath 14 x 80' with appliances & much more. Low down $500 monthly plus lot rent. Background/ credit check. Must See! 432-631-9882 or 928-812-1389

Lots & Land

15.6 AC. W. OF MENARD, LIVE OAK, MESQUITE COVER. NATIVE, EXOTIC GAME. $2,485 DOWN, $495/MO. 800-876-9720 ranchenterprisesltd.com

Commercial

COMMERCIAL BLDG
For Lease 2817 W. Industrial Ave.
Office Area includes reception area, 5 offices, 2 restrooms and break area
Shop area includes 1 restroom with overhead door. Gross building area approx 8500 sq ft. Fenced Yard.
Call 683-6276 ext 305 leave a message.

READY-RANCH
WWW.READY-RANCH.COM
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.READY-RANCH.COM

- **Kent County**
*11,155 ac., ft. of Snyder, 4 houses, pens/roping arena, 950 ft. mtn., creek, lakes, Whitetail deer, mule deer, and quail. $795/ac
*4,212 ac, Maverick Creek canyons, whitetail and mule deer and quail $825/ac
*1,771 ac, windmill, creek, blinds and feeders, great w-tail and mule deer, turkey, hogs, quail $850/ac
- **Nolan County**
*646 ac, over 1 mile SOLD creek, blinds, feeders elevation change, cedar/mesquite $3,550/ac
*565 ac, Pecan Creek, New Living/Shop, 200 acres planted for Cattle, blinds/feeders, windmill $3,550/ac
- **Howard County**
*842 ac, canyons, blinds/feeders, great deer cedar/mesquite, surface water, some oilfield traffic $750/ac
*150 ac, big canyons SOLD banks, cedar/mesquites, great deer, turkey and hogs $850/ac
- **Martin County**
*135 ac, Sulphur Springs SOLD deer and whitetail hogs, varmints, metal storage $1,150/ac

(432) 664-7764 or (432) 934-7777
No Realtors - Buy Direct!!!
Deal with Landowners that know the Country!
Owner Financing Available!

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

All real estate advertising herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to indicate any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, age, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitations or discrimination.

We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate, which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on equal opportunity basis.

To file a complaint, contact www.hud.gov or 1800-669-9777

Homes for Sale

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432-694-7333
1009 N. Midkiff
www.mypermianbusinessestate.com

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OPEN TODAY 1PM-3PM

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4/3/3 with water well, beautiful privacy fence, outdoor kitchen. $400,000

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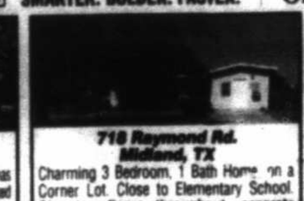
5104 Brighton Pl. Midland, TX
Charming Home in Saddle Club South!! Living area has beautiful Hickory Forge Wood Floor, brick fireplace, vaulted ceiling. Kitchen has an abundance of cabinets, pantry, granite counter tops,open to the breakfast area. Formal dining area. Secondbedroom has sliding area with fireplace, walk in closet. Master bath has dual sinks,separate tub and shower. Landscaped yard is great for entertaining. Call Warren Ivey 432-238-7832



710 Raymond Rd. Midland, TX
Charming 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath Home on a Corner Lot. Close to Elementary School. Stunning floors throughout, separate Utility Room, 2nd Living Area may be used as family room or a bedroom. Landscaped front yard and fenced backyard. CALL TO SEE!!! Call Rosalie Barrios 432-208-9040

3220 Marlene Ave. Midland, TX
Nice starter home with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a large utility room and a bonus room that could be the formal dining or den. Needs your personal touch to make it home. 1435 square feet-information of gross living area above grade is from the FHA Appraisal and is deemed reliable but not guaranteed. Call Warren Ivey 432-238-7832

4812 W. Illinois Ave. Midland, TX
Looking For A House To Put Your Stamp On? THIS IS IT!! Four bedrooms, Jack and Jill bath, two living areas, fireplace in second living area. Large kitchen with separate dining area. Easy access to Loop 250 and close to schools. Call Warren Ivey 432-238-7832

3018 W. County Rd. 116 Midland, TX
3 Bedroom, 2 bath home with LOTS of room to ROAM!! Country living without being far from downtown Midland! GREAT space!! Well maintained HOME!! Call Today!!! Call Genie McMahan 432-664-0813

4003 Thompson Dr. Midland, TX
ADORABLE 4 bedroom, 3 bath home!! Sequestered master with JETTED TUB!! HUGE 1,200 square foot 2 story work shop with AUTOMATIC door and A/C. Workshop has two levels- bottom could be used as a garage. LARGE low maintenance backyard!! Call for a private showing TODAY!!! Call Genie McMahan 432-664-0813

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT CALL 432-238-6832
If You Are Tired Of Worrying With Renters Or Thinking About Renting Out Your Property - Let Us Manage It For You.
4207 Harkness Dr $2,250
1010 W. Indiana Ave ..... $1,300+
Warren Ivey
Broker
Texas Residential Leasing Specialist
432-238-7832

Bobby McCourt REALTOR® 432-967-0822 | Sonya Lane REALTOR® 432-934-6358 | Shelly Miller REALTOR® 432-741-2290 | Tina Powell REALTOR® 432-599-1439 | Tina Hickey REALTOR® 432-556-6539 | Genie McMahan REALTOR® 432-664-0813 | Rosalie Barrios REALTOR® 432-208-9040 | R. Scott Kruse Texas & New Mexico Broker 915-386-2188

Warren Ivey Managing Broker 432-238-7832

Sarah Ivey Managing Broker 432-238-8392

Lou Mason REALTOR®, CRS, GRI 432-559-1950

Melonie Campbell REALTOR® 432-634-0722

Marianne Enoch REALTOR® 432-270-1055

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Real Estate one Midland

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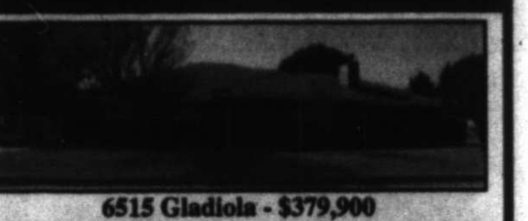
Where you get local personalized service, the kind of first class service Midlander's expect.

Featured Homes

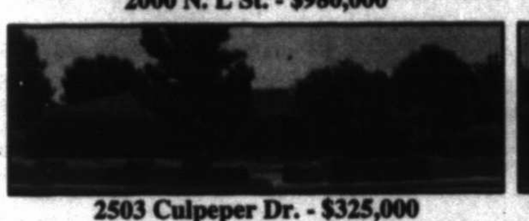
Merry Christmas
from our family to yours!

2000 N. L St. - $980,000

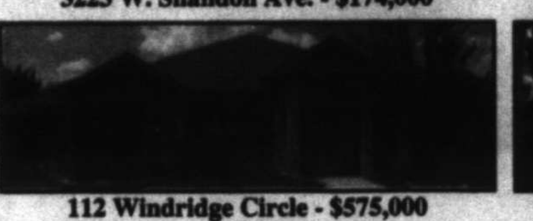
3223 W. Shandon Ave. - $174,000



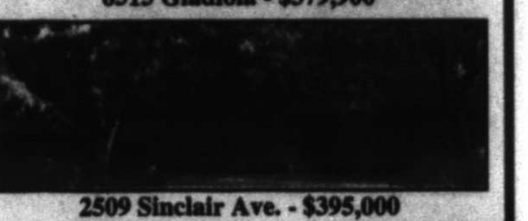
6515 Gladiola - $379,900



2503 Culpeper Dr. - $325,000



112 Windridge Circle - $575,000



2509 Sinclair Ave. - $395,000

WWW.RE1MIDLAND.COM TO VIEW ALL MLS LISTINGS

New and Reduced Listings

510 Sir Barton Pkwy-Custom built home in Solomon Estates. Open spacious plan $1,150,000
2000 N. L St.-Fabulous Warwick! Updates everywhere! Contemporary flair! Great plan!! $980,000
2509 Sinclair Ave.-Tree shaded 3bdrm/2bth townhome in very established neighborhood $395,000
3223 W. Shandon Ave.-Priced to sell, loads of potential!! $174,000

Two Bedrooms

2901 E FM 1379-Fabulous home on 54+ ac. 1/2 ac. Long list of amenities! $550,000
412 E. Wadley Ave.-Very well taken care of and is lovely and comfortable as can be! ..... U/C $139,000
4700 Boulder Dr.-Move in ready! 2 bdrm/2bth condo. Corner lot with view of POOL! $79,000

Three Bedrooms

2211 N. County Rd. 1129-Greenwood property! 3 bdrm/2.5 bth home on 30 acres $795,000
2106 N. H St.-Old Midland treasure! 3bdrm/3bth, just amazing! Must see! $775,000
1609 Crescent Pl.-Wonderful townhome in Crescent Place $599,000
112 Windridge Circle-Truly beautiful 3 bdrm/3.5 bth home w/pool & hot tub $575,000
10065 S. Co. Rd. 1213-Great country property! New appliances, granite, wood shutters and more! $575,000
4449 Tasbrook Ave.-Best acreage in city limits! Wonderful 3 bdrm/2 bath home on 2.75 acres with room to roam! ..... U/C $419,000
2508 Sinclair Ave.-Tree shaded 3bdrm/2bth townhome in very established neighborhood $395,000
Lot10B&3 E. County Rd. 129-New construction 3 bedroom/2.5 bath home in The Meadows $376,000
4910 Kingsboro Ct.-Meadow Park jewel! Lots of new in this spacious 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath home! Walk to Pool and Clubhouse! $360,000
2102 Neely Ave.-Many updates in this 3 bdrm/2.5bth townhouse in Old Midland $345,000
1404 Douglas-Lovely 3 bdrm/2bth home in great neighborhood! great plan w/POOL! ..... U/C $325,000
902 W. Pine Ct.-Lovely townhome in Highland Park. $324,900
3000 S. County Rd. 1184-Spacious 3BR, great country property $299,000
904 Neely Ave.-Charming 3bdrm/2bth Highland Park Townhouse with many updates! $298,000
13304 FM 307-Wonderful 3Bdrm/2Bth home with great additions $295,000
3911 County Rd. 1185-Wonderful country property close to town w/large open concept plan $279,000
2206 Neely Ave.-Great home with 3 bedrooms/2.5 baths $269,000
5132 Ashdown Place-Tons of space in this 3bdrm/2bth home in Saddle Club South $249,900
3103 Elma Dr.-Spacious 3 bdrm/2 bth home in lovely quiet neighborhood with mature trees $236,000
4717 Boulder Ave.-Beautiful 3 bedroom/2 bath townhouse w/so many updates! $225,000
3701 Dubonnet Dr.-Wonderfully kept 3 bedroom/2 bath with some lovely updates! ..... U/C $205,000
9700 Dublin Ave.-Odessa! Beautifully maintained 3 bdr/2.5bth w/open floor plan ..... U/C $199,900
3223 W. Shandon Ave.-Priced to sell, loads of potential!! $174,000
2100 Wadley #65-Large spacious Chandelle Condo w/3 bdrms/3bths. $145,900

Four Bedrooms

510 Sir Barton Pkwy-Custom built home in Solomon Estates. Open spacious plan $1,150,000
2000 N. L St.-Fabulous Warwick! Updates everywhere! Contemporary flair! Great plan!! $980,000
2002 Stanolind-Coveted Warwick - 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, move in ready! $779,000
2105 Co. Rd. 1000-Beautiful custom 4bdr/3bth Tom Woodruff resale on 5 acres w/all the bells and whistles! $495,000
Lot119b3 E. County Rd. 129-home 'n The Meadows. Call Holly to make selections now such as granite, brick, etc. $446,000
811 Trinidad Place - Woodland Park/dark Payne 4Bdrm/3Bth Beauty with lush landscaped yard, bricked beds & back courtyard $440,500
0607 E. Co. Rd. 110-Beautiful 4 bdr/3bth Ashington home offers quiet spacious country living w/all the bells & whistles! $430,000
7250 E. Co. Rd. 112-Beautiful Chaney Ranch Hurry while you can still choose your selection today $408,300
3000 Wedgewood-Gorgeous 4bdrm/3bth w/perfect kitchen, large living areas ..... U/C $398,000
7298 E. County Rd. 112-Chaney Ranch is finally ready for you! Dream Home! You can make all your selections now $388,400
2711 Savoy-Beautiful 4bdrm/2.5bth custom built home w/fabulous attention to detail ..... U/C $379,900
Lot59b3 E. County Rd. 129-New construction in The Madows. Call Holly to make selections now. $353,760
5000 Mount Vernon Ct.-Fantastic 4bdrm/2.5bth home! Move-in condition! ..... U/C $340,500
2701 S. Co. Rd. 1080-better than new! 4 bdrm/3 bth with lots of amenities, good plan, great fenced yard on 1.2 acres! $330,000
2503 Culpeper Dr.-Gorgeous 4 bdrm, 2 bath, updated kitchen, fabulous landscaping plus workshop $325,000
5213 Arbor Ct.-Odessa! Immaculate and inviting! 4bdr/2.5bth home w/flexible plan and spacious rooms ..... U/C $309,900
3605 Roosevelt Ave.-Remodeled 4 bdrm/3 bth home w/2 car garage $229,000
5201 Co. Rd. 1157- 4 bedroom/3 bath home on 3.76 acres. A perfect little oasis in the country $215,000

Five or More Bedrooms

2901 Sinclair Ave.-Best of the best in Warwick! 7bdrms/6bths/4baths. WOW! $2,000,000
6826 Island Circle-6/5.5-Exquisite Greentree jewel. Fabulous master suite. ESTATE on the LAKE!! $940,000
6515 Gladiola-So much space for the money!! 5bdrms/4.5baths with finished basement $379,900

New Construction

Chaney Ranch-Call Holly Cohen to build your dream home Greenwood subdivision w/acreage $30-300K

Town Houses and Patio Homes

4306 Guadalupe-3BR/2BA/2 car patio home ..... U/C $280,000

For Lease

1400 Connell St.-6,000 sq. ft. industrial/whse w/2 restrooms, paved and fenced yard. Perfect for light duty manufacturing, warehouse or storage ..... Call Bill Scott or Brandee Noll 682-1111
10001-A W. Murphy, Odessa-For sublease. 7,750 shop & 1,500 sq. ft. of office. on I-20 Service Rd ..... Call Bill Scott or Brandee Noll 682-1111
4315-B W. Dengar-2bdrm/1bth w/private fenced back yard with patio area for grilling ..... For Lease $1,150

Lots, Land and Acreage

Chaney Ranch-Call Holly Cohen to build you dream home $30-300K
S. Co. Rd. 1128-Could be a great location for cattle and livestock, truck yard, pipe yard, etc. on 160 acres in Greenwood $2,000,000
I-20, West Murphy & Loop 338 in West Odessa-1116.26 acres, terrific frontage. Call Bill Scott or Brandee Noll 682-1111 ..... $2,000,000
S. Co. Rd. 1040-Perfect area for subdivision development - 325.8 acres in Greenwood $1,300,200
2901 E FM 1379-Fabulous home on 54+ ac. 1/2 ac. fishing pond! Willing to subdivide $550,000
2010 Jasmine-Oasis on the Interstate! $475,000
1100 E. Co. Rd. 150-56.39 acres with a 4,500 sf quonset barn, mobile home can stay for $50,000. Perfect for all field business or pipe yard. Call Bill Scott or Brandee Noll 682-1111 ..... $401,128
600 Healy Ave.-Eight (8) townhome lots sold as a whole ONLY - No individual lots sales $300,000
5705 E. Co. Rd. 80-2784 sq. ft. w/in-law plan $300,000
6701 Desert Wind-10 acres - Perfect for one home w/lots of land or nice location to develop a small community $275,000
W. County Rd. 120-Ready to develop! $250,000
44 Lincoln Park-San Angelo lot & boat house, Lake Nasworthy $170,000
4405 Green Tree Blvd.-Lot in Green Tree North 0.18 acres $125,000
11010 W. County Rd. 50 1/2-W - 6 acres. in a great residential neighborhood $114,000
2500 Regency Oaks Ct.-0.224 acre lot in Mockingbird Oaks $57,000
E. Co. Rd. 120-Four 1 acre lots in new subdivision in Greenwood - The Meadows ..... U/C $99,000
0 S. Weatherford St.-Residential Lot close to downtown ..... U/C $29,500

Commercial Investment Property

1400 Connell St.-6,000 sq. ft. industrial/whse w/2 restrooms, paved and fenced yard. Perfect for light duty manufacturing, warehouse or storage ..... Call Bill Scott or Brandee Noll 682-1111
10 Desta Drive-For Sublease, approx. 13,599 sq. ft. of Class A office space - entire floor ..... Call Bill Scott or Brandee Noll 682-1111
3415 Caldera-For Lease, beautiful custom office building, approx. 2,132 sq. ft. ..... Call Bill Scott or Brandee Noll 682-1111
501 Andrews Hwy-Approx. 9,301 sq. ft. office building, great location - near hospital ..... Call Bill Scott or Brandee Noll 682-1111
Centennial Tower-Downtown Sublease, approx. 3,729 sq. ft., Class A Bldg. with covered parking. ..... Call Bill Scott or Brandee Noll 682-1111
4000 N. Big Spring-Sublease in Class A Bldg., approx. 10,507 sq. ft. ..... Call Bill Scott or Brandee Noll 682-1111
501 Andrews Hwy-For lease, approx. 9,301 sq. ft. of very attractive site, convenient location w/parking ..... Call Bill Scott or Brandee Noll 682-1111
7000 Greenleaf-Industrial sublease, 14,996 sq. ft. on 4.74 acres. In Leaco Industrial development w/city utilities ..... Call Bill Scott or Brandee Noll 682-1111
2211 N. County Rd. 1129-Greenwood property! 3 bdrm/2.5 bth home on 30 acres $795,000
501 S. Garfield St.-Wonderful money making commercial building! $650,000
5000 Block of N. Midkiff-2 6+/- acres for development, great for office complex. Call Bill Scott $575,000
1023 N Midkiff-5,000 sq. ft. Retail space, terrific high traffic location ..... Call Bill Scott or Brandee Noll 682-1111 $280,000
0 Cotton Flat Rd.-Zoned Industrial Park $100,000

Out of Town Properties

5213 Arbor Ct.-Odessa! Immaculate and inviting! 4bdr/2.5bth home w/flexible plan and spacious rooms ..... U/C $309,900
51 Ward Rd.-Fabulous Lake Henry get-away 3 bdrm/2bth home located within HOA gated community in Oak Canyon Estates $240,000
9700 Dublin Ave.-Odessa! Beautifully maintained 3 bdr/2.5bth w/open floor plan ..... U/C $199,900

NEW CONSTRUCTION

Saenz Signature Homes

4302 Coronado Court
3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $387,500

Ashington Homes

4405 Casa Verde Court
3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $425,000

Walter Pate's Texas Classic Homes
432.853.5782 www.TexasClassicHomes.net

4306 San Pedro Court
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $435,000

Carrasco Homes

5306 George Yard Court
4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $482,500

The Real Estate Company
432-618-0286

FEATURED HOME

917 N. Weatherford Street
3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage, priced @ $199,800

Midland Gallery Homes

5302 George Yard Court
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $509,900

"The gift of Christmas is a precious reminder that we are loved."
~ Unknown

RESIDENTIAL LISTINGS/HOME SITES/ACREAGE

RESIDENTIAL

1004 E. Pine ..... 1 Bdrm/1 Ba/Mobile Home $29,500
901 Scharbauer Dr ..... 1 Bdrm/1 Ba $94,000
3404 Flare Court ..... 3 Bdrm/2 Ba/2 Car Garage ..... N/C
7217 Raphael St. ..... Odessa/3 Bdrm/2 Bath/ Car Garage $252,000
5112 Brighton Place ..... 3 Bdrm/2 Ba/3 Car Garage $299,900
4008 Lenamwood Lane ..... Odessa/4 Bdrm/3.5 Bth/4 Car Garage $319,000
3700 Cassidy Court ..... 4 Bdrm/3.5 Ba/3 Car Garage/Pool $439,900
5314 Brown Heart Lane ..... 4 Bdrm/3.5 Ba/3 Car Garage $459,900
5317 Half Moon Circle ..... 4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 car garage $469,000

NEW CONSTRUCTION

917 N. Weatherford ..... Carrasco Homes/3 Bdrm/2 Ba/ 2 Car Garage $199,800
1003 S. Mineola St ..... Carrasco Homes/ 4 Bdrm/2 Ba/ 2 Car Garage $248,500
1505 Mineola St. ..... Carrasco Homes/3 Bdrm/2 Ba/2 Car Garage ..... N/C
3007 Conway Route ..... Carrasco Homes/3 Bdrm/2 Ba/2 Car Garage ..... N/C
4302 Coronado Ct. ..... Saenz Signature Homes/3 Bdrm/2.5 Ba/3 Car Garage $387,500
7117 S. Co. Rd 01 ..... Crystal Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3+ Car Garage $410,700
4405 Casa Verde Ct. ..... Ashington Homes/3 Bdrm/2.5 Ba/3 Car Garage $425,000
5309 Brown Heart Ln ..... Ashington Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage $425,500
10003 S. Co. Rd. 109 ..... Michael Davis Homes/5 Bdrm/ 3 Ba/ 2-Car Garage $432,900
4305 San Pedro ..... Texas Classic Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage $435,000
7407 E. Co. Rd. 90 ..... Crystal Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/2 Car Garage $439,000
5315 Brown Heart Ln ..... Wes Hanson/5 Bdrm/2.5 Ba/3 Car Garage $440,000
5306 George Yard Ct ..... Carrasco Homes/5 Bdrm/2.5 Ba/3 Car Garage $482,500
5302 Balfour Ct ..... A&E Home Construction/5 Bdrm/ 3 Ba/ 3 Car Garage $516,000
5302 George Yard Ct ..... Midland Gallery Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage ..... U/C
5417 Snowbird St ..... Diamond Homes/5 Bdrm/4.5 Ba/4 Car Garage $1,250,000

SUBURBAN/ACREAGE

14043 Sunflower Ave ..... Bordenbuilt/3 Bdrm/2 Ba/2 Car Carport $123,000
6018 Mockingbird Ln ..... 1.057 Acres $135,000
3406 S. Co. Rd. 1071 ..... 3 Bdrm/2 Ba/Mobile Home/1.1 acres $135,000
0007 Dunbarton Cuts ..... Mockingbird Oaks $149,000
14041 Sunflower Ave ..... Bordenbuilt/4 Bdrm/2.5 Ba/1.2 Acres ..... N/C
Lena Rose Estates ..... Residential/New Homes ..... Call Gary
4201 S. Co. Rd. 1109 ..... 1 Bdrm/2 Ba/2 Car Garage $210,000
2012 S. Co. Rd. 1090 ..... Greenwood/4 Bdrm/2 Ba/2 Car Garage $242,000
7112 FM 307 ..... Greenwood/4 Bdrm/2 Ba/2 Car garage ..... N/C

SUBURBAN HOME SITES

Lena Rose Estates ..... W. Co. Rd. 30/1.5-2 Acre Lots ..... Call Gary

OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES

450 Buck Puddle Road ..... Colorado City/4 Bdrm/2 Ba/Guest House $199,000

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

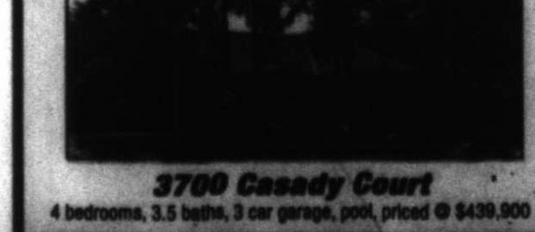
E. Co. Rd. 140 ..... 10.2 Acres $200,000
1400 Webb Lane ..... Big Spring/4 Acres $200,000
Seal Parkway ..... 3.68 Acres $1,475,000
3000 Elkins Rd. ..... 3.25 Acres/Office/Warehouse $1,200,000

RENTAL PROPERTIES

501 Scharbauer Dr ..... 1 Bdrm/1 Ba $1,200
4013 Aspen ..... 3 Bdrm/2.5 Ba $2,200
405 N. D Street ..... 4 Bdrm/2 Ba $2,000
5309 Brown Heart Lane ..... 4 Bdrm/3 Ba $3,500

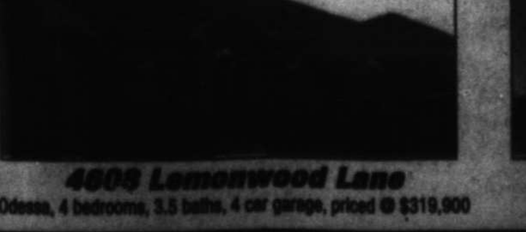
Contact Lillian Reynolds @ 432-218-3037

FEATURED PROPERTIES



3700 Cassidy Court
4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 3 car garage, pool, priced @ $439,900

5317 Half Moon Circle
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $469,000



4008 Lenamwood Lane
Odessa, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 4 car garage, priced @ $319,900

5314 Brown Heart Lane
4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $459,900

Open Houses

Residential Sales

5 LA PROMESA, ODESSA - $1,100,000

Uber LUX Exclusive property. 18 foot barrel ceiling, 12 foot iron doors. Custom glass mosaic tile features. Sequestered master bedroom, Walk-in master closet rivaling any Beverly Hills Estate, open kitchen with The utmost quality and design. Wine Pantry, Glorious Formal dining room, Plantation shutters. Hand scraped hardwood floors. Outstanding in every Way!! For your private tour contact me personally Chris Beckett Broker/Owner 432-349-7888

PINE & BECKETT, REALTORS 686-7000

Homes for Sale

Residential Sales

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JAN MELTON & ASSOCIATES
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www.callieshouses.com
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3021 Pelagowood-Gradient Wint with POOL-4 bedrooms, 3 full + 2 half baths, 2 living, 2 dining, gameroom, & office or corner lot. Outdoor entertaining with fireplace. 4 CAR GARAGE. Large parking pad. UPDATED. REDUCED $650,000
4817 Hilltop-4 bedroom, 3 bath, 3 car garage w/2 HUGE living areas +2 dining areas in Briarwood. GRANITE, tile or hard surface flooring through most of home, 2 new HVAC systems. Park Like yard. Over 3,300 sq. ft. REDUCED $444,500
3404 W. Pine-WALLACE TOWNHOME- BIG REDUCTION Over 3,000 sq. ft. w/3 bedrooms, 2 baths, and 2 huge living areas, awesome Dealer's pantry. Goodbye yard work! $319,900
4701 RCR 55, SHORT SALE-sellers loss is your gain! Almost 3,000 sq. ft., 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath Titan modular home on 2 acres. Great condition, REDUCED AGAIN! $309,900
34 Kanai, Odessa- New, Gated, 3/3/1 HIGH QUALITY patio home REDUCED $375,000

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Homes for Sale

LANCE BROCK REALTORS
3303 N MIDKIFF, SUITE 266
432-262-6750 OFFICE
432-528-6750 CELL
432-262-2433 FAX

COUNTY ROAD 56 - Less than 2 years old! Space to roam and QUIET! 3/2 sitting on 2.3 Acres! Priced to move, modular home, (not mobil). REDUCED/ Quick Sale $165,000

2400 WEST WALL - 1/2 Acre on perfect location!! Super close to Chik-Fil-A. Frontage on Wall Street, and side street. Endless possibilities, could make good restaurant location. $165,000

9000 ANDREWS HWY. - 2 Acres. Very High Visibility location. Next to loop and 191. With new HEB, this location should have crazy visibility. UNDER CONTRACT

NEW OFFICE BUILDING ON WALL ST. - Exam rooms, with nice reception area. 2 years new, 2,250 Square Feet. $500,000

3805 ST. ANDREWS COURT - 4 bed. 2.5 baths with generous living spaces. Park like backyard is very Impressive. Cul-de-sac for quiet. $475,000

WONDERFUL REPAIR SHOP - Four large bays for work and just off Wall St. 107 Clark St. $349,000

The Bottom Line

As household income, education levels and job responsibility increases, so does readership.

Source: Scarborough Research, 2015

Midland Reporter-Telegram
mrt.com
201 EAST ILLINOIS AVENUE
MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701
432-682-5311

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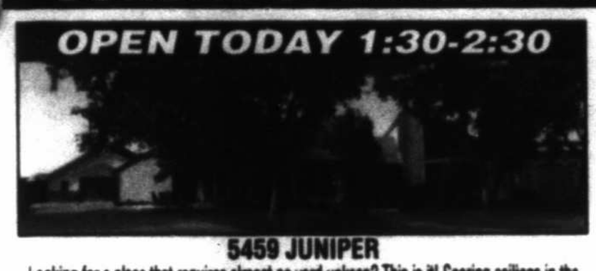
SUNDAY OPEN HOUSES & FEATURED HOMES

OPEN TODAY 1:30-2:30



5459 JUNIPER

Looking for a place that requires almost no yard upkeep? This is it! Soaring ceilings in the house make it feel gigantic. Saltillo tile floors, tons of windows, big trees. Large bedrooms, outside is a separate unit that can be a workshop/mancave/whatever you wish and beyond.
Shown by Deborah Pierce 432-889-2469

OPEN TODAY 3:00-4:00

3204 DENGAR

Warm up by the wonderful brick fireplace! 3 Bedroom 2 bath in fannin school district! Open design living,dining & kitchen! Master bed w/bath & double closet's!
Shown by Deborah Pierce 432-889-2469

FEATURED HOME

6704 MOSSWOOD - $486,458

All of the quality and beauty of a Robert Graham new construction! 10 foot tall ceilings, 8' doors, granite package and wood shutters, STUNNING kitchen, light and bright, but private.
Call Denise Underwood for more information 432-553-0121

FEATURED HOME

2313 HOMELAND - $807,482

New Construction Robert Graham Home. 5 Bedrooms 5.5baths 3 LA 2 Dining Area.
Call Denise Underwood for more information 432-553-0121

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Residential Sales

COLDWELL BANKER

COVENANT
432-570-8200

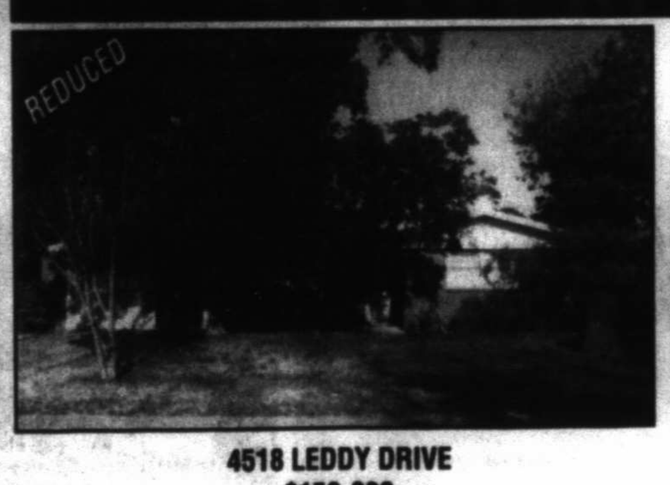
cbcovenant.com

OPEN HOUSE

OPEN TODAY 2:00-3:30
5102 LAVACA AVE.
$215,000

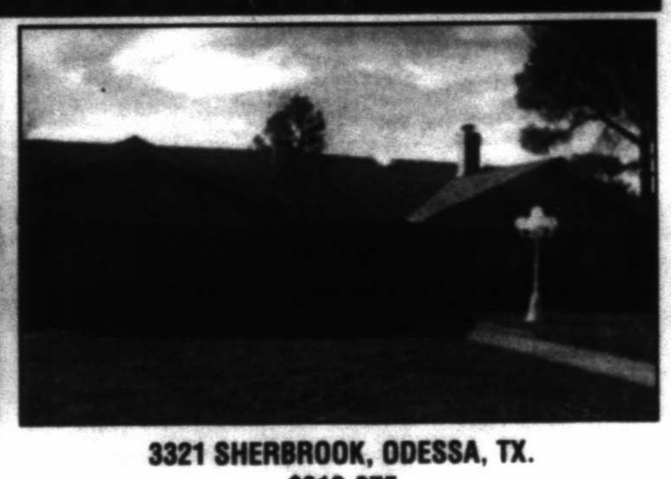
Nice three bedroom, 2 bath in Northgate with two living areas and den with lovely, brick fireplace. Updated kitchen. All bedrooms are a good size. Master bath has dual sinks and closets. Landscaped lot with nice size back yard, covered patio and storage shed.
Call Sharon Horton, 432-853-7875

FEATURED HOMES



4518 LEDDY DRIVE
$159,000

Home has great flex Potential in the spacious, bright, open kitchen. Stainless refrigerator and stove will remain. New paint in most rooms. Also new ceilings fans. Water well for yard. Mature trees and landscaping. Move in ready!!
Call Gloria Lott, 432-557-7581



3321 SHERBROOK, ODESSA, TX.
$312,375

Country Club Charm! 4BR, 3.5 bath, spacious home. 4th bedroom is as in-law suite! Loads of updates over the years; thermopane windows, flooring, 2011 HVAC with all new ducting, 24x30 insulated shop with 16x8 over head door, roof approx. 5 yrs. old with 15 roof vents. Water well with pump and auto sprinklers for a healthy yard!
Call Susan Copero, 432-570-8200

HOME FACTS
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Residential Sales

FEATURED LISTINGS

5713 HIGHLAND BLVD.
$354,900
Pride of ownership shows! 3 bed/2.5 bath/3 garage in grassland!

4929 TATTENHAM
$695,000
Beautifully updated 5 bed/4 bath/3 living w/tff pool on 3 acres in the city!

1106 PORTERFIELD RD.
$223,000
Lovely Mark Payne resale in pristine condition!

5311 HALF MOON CIRCLE
$465,000
Gorgeous new construction 4 bed/3 bath/ 3 car by Greg Lacy homes in Greathouse!

4313 WOOD DR.
$525,000
Beautiful 4 bedroom/3 bath/3 garage in Mockingbird Heights.

5205 HILLTOP
$599,500
Spacious 4,000 sq. ft. home w/giant gourmet kitchen

4300 GUADELUPE
$296,000
Gorgeous Scott Dickerson custom home loaded w/upgrades! Covered patio!

UNDER CONTRACT
2203 HOLLOWAY
$134,500
This property features 3 bedrooms. There are 2 bathrooms

4411 CARDINAL
$1,800,000
Gorgeous oasis on 2 acres w/guest house & pool in town!

12101 E. CO. RD. 102
$395,000
Fabulous 4 bed / 2 ba. 2 car on 1.15 acres w/a dazzling pool, pergola, workshop & storage bldg

UNDER CONTRACT
2915 PARK BLVD., ODESSA
$150,000
Super cute recently renovated 3 bed/2 bath home on big corner lot!

UNDER CONTRACT
4909 WOODHOLLOW
REDUCED $292,000
Fabulous move in ready 3 bed/2 bath/2 car house in Greathouse!

2518 FAULKNER
$205,000
Pride of ownership shows in this lovely low maintenance patio home. Spacious living area w/brick fireplace.

776 NE 1500, ANDREWS, TX
$899,900
Beautiful country estate on 1 acre w/pool, hot tub & full outdoor kitchen!

1 BENTLEY CT.
$230,000
Spacious 3 bed/2.5 bath/2 car garage in central location on quite cul-de-sac!

UNDER CONTRACT
905 W. MICHIGAN
$155,000
Charming 2 bedroom 1 bath home in Old Midland

UNDER CONTRACT
4710 NEELY
$219,900
Move in Ready! 3 bed 2 bath nice corner lot!

UNDER CONTRACT
4512 PLEASANT
$145,000
Cute! 3/2/1 home in established neighborhood

UNDER CONTRACT
4516 BENT TREE TRAIL
$640,000
Gorgeous 4 bed/3 bath/ 2 dinning/3 gar located on the golf course!

Homes for Sale

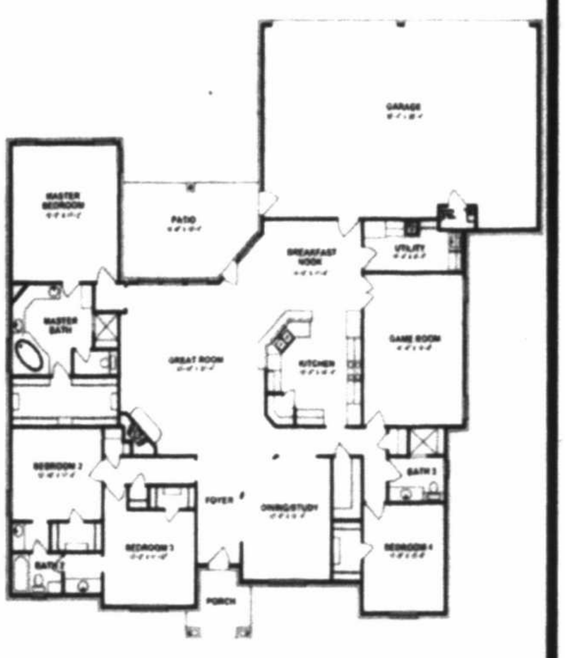
Mark Payne Homes

4007 Navasota
$309,500

Don't miss this beautiful home in Heritage Oaks! It offers 4 bedrooms, 2 baths & an abundance of storage. The open kitchen features granite countertops, custom cabinets, and stainless steel appliances.

4001 Heritage Oaks
$478,500

Over 3,000 sq ft of gorgeous detail in this 4 bed, 3 bath home on a large cul-de-sac lot. Spacious kitchen features granite countertops & stainless appliances. Nearing Completion!



Mark Payne Homes Available Homes

4009 Navasota- 3 Bed, 2 Bath, Study, 2 Car Garage	$296,500
4011 Navasota- 3 Bed, 2 Bath, 2 Car Garage	$282,500
6017 Rio Grande- 4 Bed, 3 Bath, Study, 2 Car Garage	$364,500
4006 Heritage Oaks- 4 Bed, 3 Bath, Formal Dining, Game Room, 3 Car	UC
4011 Heritage Oaks- 4 Bed, 3 Bath, Formal Dining, Game Room, 3 Car	$421,500

For More Information call Jamie Pruitt 432-520-0000

Homes for Sale

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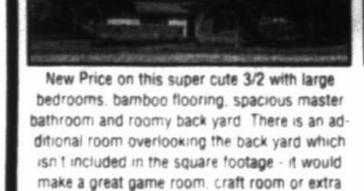
To view additional professional photos of these and our other homes, courtesy of David Pine Photography, please visit our websites - www.pineandbeckett.com, www.facebook.com/pineandbeckettmidland

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

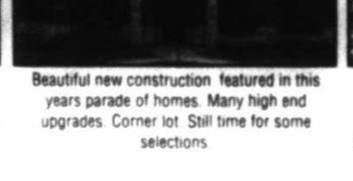
SUNDAY OPEN AND FEATURED HOMES

OPEN TODAY 2:30 - 3:30
2502 Country Club Dr.
$173,900



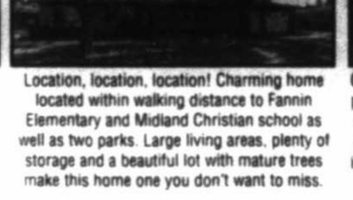
New Price on this super cute 3/2 with large bedrooms, bamboo flooring, spacious master bathroom and roomy back yard. There is an additional room overlooking the back yard which isn't included in the square footage - it would make a great game room, craft room or extra space for entertaining!

OPEN TODAY 1:00 - 2:00
5521 Casa Grande
$443,000



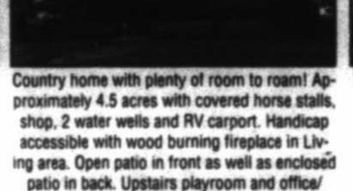
Beautiful new construction featured in this years parade of homes. Many high end upgrades. Corner lot. Still time for some selections.

NEW PRICE!
2519 Gulf Ave.
$217,700



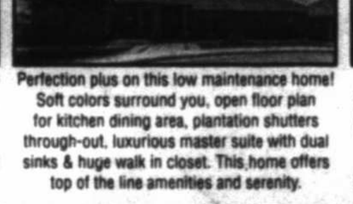
Location, location, location! Charming home located within walking distance to Fannin Elementary and Midland Christian school as well as two parks. Large living areas, plenty of storage and a beautiful lot with mature trees make this home one you don't want to miss.

FANTASTIC HORSE PROPERTY!
1905 W. CR 137
$499,900



Country home with plenty of room to roam! Approximately 4.5 acres with covered horse stalls, shop, 2 water wells and RV carport. Handicap accessible with wood burning fireplace in Living area. Open patio in front as well as enclosed patio in back. Upstairs playroom and office/ study right off the living room.

BEAUTIFUL CULDESAC!
3001 Baybridge Court
$359,900



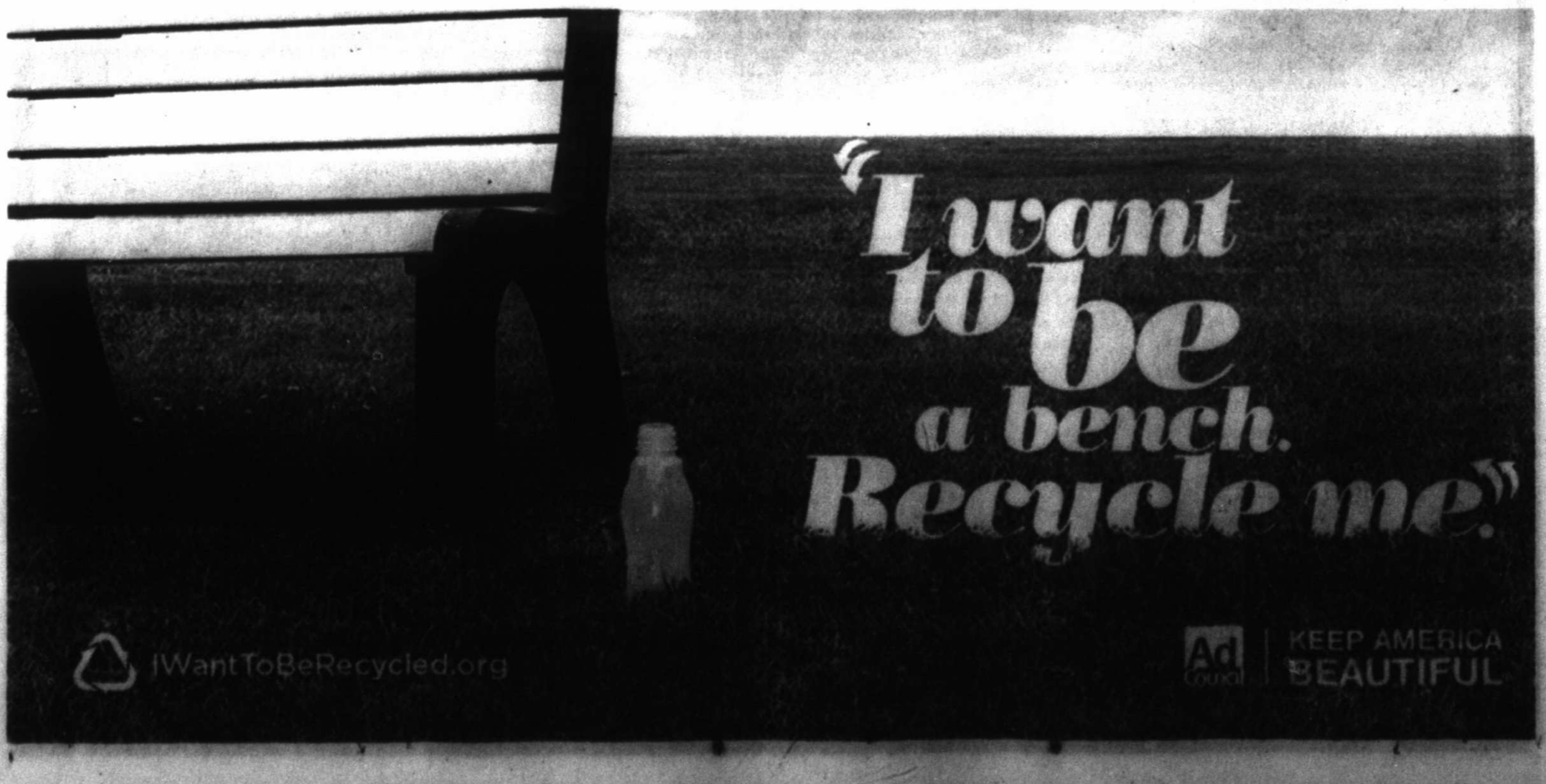
Perfection plus on this low maintenance home! Soft colors surround you, open floor plan for kitchen dining area, plantation shutters through-out, luxurious master suite with dual sinks & huge walk in closet. This home offers top of the line amenities and serenity.

3 LIVING AREAS!
S. CR 1184
$325,000

Lovely Ridge Heights home on 1.49 acres with 21x21 shop! Extremely well maintained home has large family room with coy brick fireplace, vaulted ceiling & window seat. 3 Living areas total. 3 Bed, 2 Bath, 2 car garage & enclosed hot tub room off the master. Covered patio with insulated roof. Many recent improvements include roof, A/C, isul. garage door, paint & custom wood shutters.

CALL ONE OF OUR TOP NOTCH AGENTS

Jeaneen Pruitt Team



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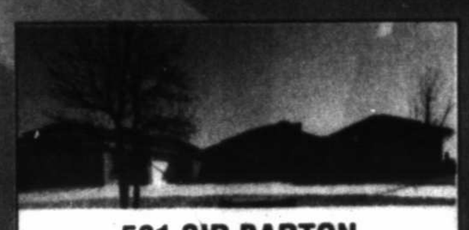
ACTIVE LISTINGS


531 SIR BARTON
$1,750,000

1920 PAGEWOOD DR.
$725,000

4300 TUMBLEWEED TRAIL
$650,000

6508 WCR 41
$600,000

6324 PRAIRIE RIDGE
$645,000

2104 DEEANNA LANE
$600,000

1904 SCR 1121, GREENWOOD
$530,000

58 LAFAYETTE PLACE
$520,000

4204 BAYBROOK PLACE
$500,000

4011 HERTIAGE OAKS
$421,500

219 WINDRIDGE CIRCLE
$400,000

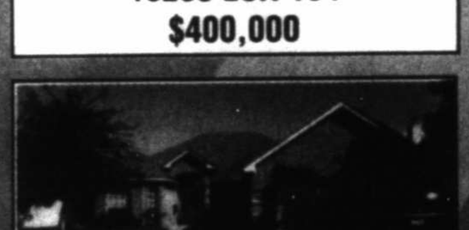
3809 TODD
$400,000

10205 ECR 104
$400,000

5003 APPLE CREEK RD.
$400,000

201 SKYWOOD CIRCLE
$400,000

503 SOLOMON LANE
$375,000

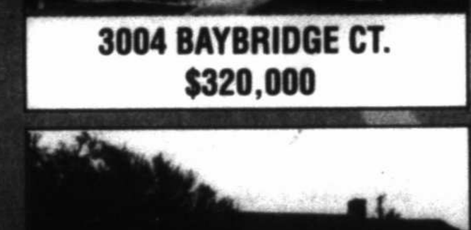

5012 WHITMAN DR.
$325,000

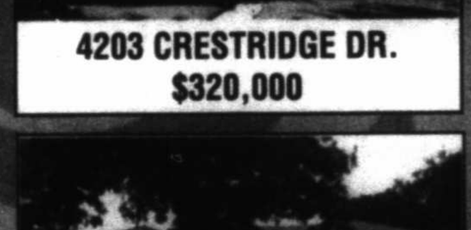
3004 BAYBRIDGE CT.
$320,000

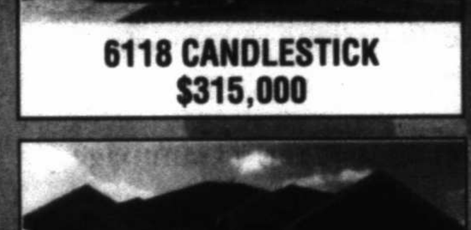
4203 CRESTRIDGE DR.
$320,000

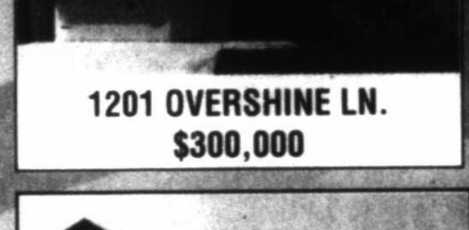
6118 CANDLESTICK
$315,000

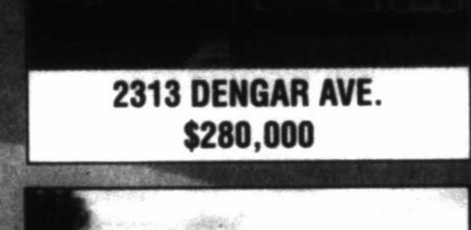
1201 OVERSHINE LN.
$300,000


2313 DENGAR AVE.
$280,000

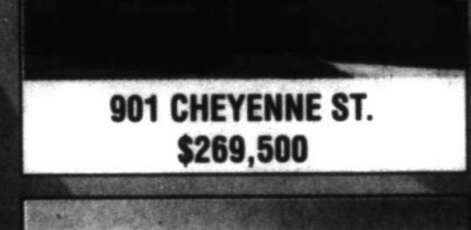

2303 CAMARIE AVE.
$275,000


901 CHEYENNE ST.
$269,500


2604 ADONIA ST.
$250,000


1400 N. CO. RD. 1110
$250,000

917 NOLAN RYAN
$245,000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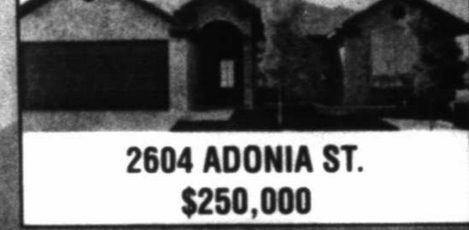
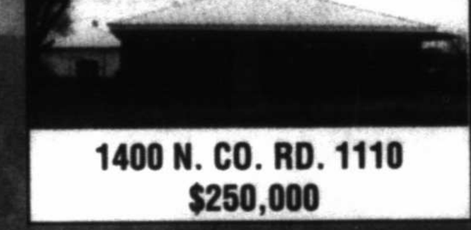
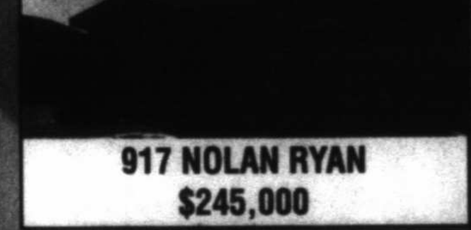
$240,000


1104 GODFREY ST.
$229,000


1125 POTTERFIELD RD.
$225,000


2410 CAMARIE AVE.
$217,500

5105 CONCHO DR.
$200,000

805 CHEYENNE ST.
$199,995

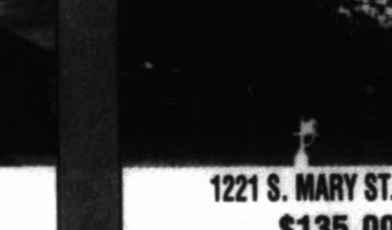
1221 S. MARY ST., CRANE
$135,000

211 E. 6TH ST., CRANE
$85,000

4700 BOULDER DR. #101
$75,000

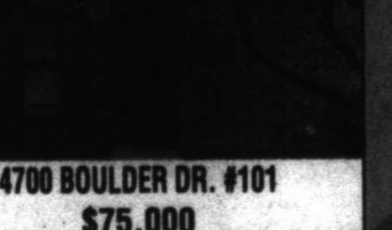
UNDER CONTRACT LISTINGS

SALE PENDING
2903 SAVOY
$375,000

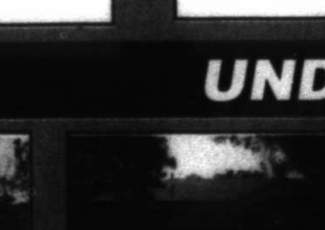

SALE PENDING
1507 DOUGLAS AVE.
$500,000

SALE PENDING
4010 HERTIAGE OAKS
$431,500

SALE PENDING
1904 SPARKS ST.
$425,000


SALE PENDING
6013 RIO GRANDE
$332,500

SALE PENDING
6019 FRIO DR.
$292,900


SALE PENDING
4300 BOULDER DR.
$250,000

SALE PENDING
3501 PRINCETON AVE.
$225,000

SALE PENDING
2602 SPARTAN DR.
$215,000

SALE PENDING
3210 WHITTLE WAY
$200,000

SALE PENDING
4603 W. DENGAR AVE.
$195,000

SOLD LISTINGS

★★SOLD★★
3529 LONOKE AVE.
$235,000

★★SOLD★★
4300 AMISTAD DR.
$180,000

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Merry Christmas!

Angel Tree & Toy Drive

The Salvation Army and Mission Agape have so many wonderful programs for our community that they can always use more resources and volunteers.

The agents and staff at Legacy Real Estate have always given back to our community with resources of time and money.

Our office began dressing children through the Salvation Army's "Angel Tree Program" (formerly called Dress A Doll) in lieu of exchanging gifts among ourselves.

Several years ago we began the toy drive and Mission Agape has the resources to reach out to school age children.

We thank the support of staff; Pat Chancellor, Gina Lann and Tandi Wright and the generous contribution of the following agents:

DeLaura & Terry Gammage
Tracy Farrow
Betty Hicks
Sandy Hanson
Lydia Scudder
Karen & Gerald Foster
Reannah Glover
Janice Murrell
Donna Omar
Debbie & Larry Hatfield
Stephanie Rogers
Cynthia Blocker
Lavonne Johnson
Denise Brasher
Leah Watkins
Karen Mason
Madison Shaw
Pam Dodd
Danny Norwood
Kim Merrill
Kay Bivens
Josie Rendon
Samantha Smith
Wendy Waddell
Jo Keller
Pam Messer
Josie Alvarez
Nathan Pinkerton
Virginia Elizondo
Cheryl Parrish
Darla Davis
Michelle Kidd
Gina Reyes
Lisa Russell
Sue Lytle

Sunday Feature!

6009 Medina

An elegant Mark Payne home welcomes guests in with it's beautiful exterior, featuring custom wooden shutters. Inside you will walk through a perfectly maintained home with a sequestered master bedroom. The master bathroom has a separate his and her sinks and also a separate shower and bathtub. The living room and dining offer beautiful natural lighting from the walls of windows! The gas fireplace warms the house with a peaceful ambiance. The kitchen offers informal dining at the island bar, but there is also plenty of room for a large dining table for a more formal dining experience. The two guest bedrooms are nicely sized and offer nice closet space. There is a fantastic bonus room that could be used as a children's playroom, a study space or even a nice office! Please contact myself or your Realtor to schedule an appointment to view this spectacular home!

Jerrilyn Garrison
Realtor Associate
202-0276

SUNDAY OPEN HOUSES

OPEN 1:00-2:00
4902 BROOKDALE
Great 4 bed/2 bath/3 car garage, low maintenance home!
Shown by Ashley St. John

OPEN 2:00-3:00
2909 SAVOY
Shown by Lana Flores

Come Join Us For Our Sunday Open Houses

"Voted Midland's Favorite Real Estate Agency!" Midland Reporter-Telegram 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 & 2013 Readers Choice Award

1100 N. Big Spring, Suite #101, Midland, Texas 79705

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HOMESTYLE

SIMPLE SOLUTIONS FOR EVERYDAY LIVING

Sunday, December 20, 2015

Guest Room Revival

With the holidays in full swing, organizing experts give tips on how to reclaim your guest rooms

By Lindsey Romain | CTW Features

It's there, at the end of the hall, tauntingly filled with boxed ornaments, folded tablecloths and holiday-themed towels: The dreaded guest bedroom, holder of all things leftover and misplaced.

With the holidays approaching and guests arriving, it's time to clean it out. Where to start?

"The first step is not to necessarily take everything out, but to take out the things that you know have other places to go," says Jennifer Snyder, a professional organizer and founder of the Waco, Texas-based company Neat As a Pin Organizing Experts. "Then, you're left with the things that live there."

By "things that live there," Snyder means the items that were originally part of the room that can be incorporated into the decoration scheme. Craft projects and wall hangings are perfect buried treasures that can be re-purposed for visitors.

"A lot of times, the things that we accumulate are our passion," Snyder says. "You're adding an element of yourself. Even half-finished craft projects are endearing in their own right." So leave those personal items in the guest room – as long as you don't have tools or equipment lying around.

Snyder also suggests breaking the room into "zones" as an organizational aid. "Ask yourself, 'Where would I look for it?' Then put items in logical order according to that," she says. "Assign a purpose to everything, even the closets, the drawers and under the bed." She suggests drawing a map of where things go, if that helps.

For future reference, this all might be easier if the guest room never got too cluttered in the first place. Jodie Watson, who has been called "L.A.'s Most Innovative Organizer" and is the founder of the professional organizing company Supreme Organization, suggests actually using the guestroom for something during the year.

"It can double as an office, or a craft or exercise room," she says. That alternative use provides a reason to stop clutter at the door.

No matter how you end up using the room, Watson says to keep the room "guest-ready" 24/7 by making sure the bed is made, the floors and surfaces are clear and that there is space in the closets and drawers. "Just be sure that what you keep in there doesn't exceed the limits of the storage space available," she advises.

If you do leave items in drawers, make sure there's nothing confidential. "When people come into your house, they open cabinets, they open drawers," Snyder says. "We all do it, so be careful what you keep in there. Don't store anything you wouldn't want someone to look at."

And what about all of those holiday decorations that gather dust in boxes under the bed? Jane Carroo, a certified professional organizer and founder of Clutter Coach Company, says to first and foremost get rid of things you no longer use. Gift the stray items to friends or donate them to charity.

If there are important personal items that don't have a place elsewhere in the house, try turning them into holiday crafts.

"Consider having a wreath in the room and decorating it seasonally so that you're working off of one piece," Carroo says. She also suggests making homemade disposable items like Thanksgiving napkin rings. Watson recommends re-using tucked away holiday cards by cutting them out, putting them on cardstock and turning them into new cards.

If it's clothing that's taking up space in the room, Snyder has some simple advice: "If you're saving it for when you lose weight or whatever, you're just going to buy new clothes anyway. Let them go." © CTW Features

Tree Traditions

While the cast of characters and décor may change year-to-year, the traditions rarely do. These designers and celebrities share their favorite decorating stories

By Alice Ogilethorpe | CTW Features

Barbara Barry

Los Angeles-based interior and furniture designer

"The best thing about the holidays is getting to use a lot of red. I love how it makes everything so cheery. A favorite for small tables or large are silver beakers of pine bough, red tulips, white freesias and holly. They look wonderful down the center of the table interspersed with low votives. Sparkling and festive."

Suzanne Alexander

On-air host, Great American Country, country music radio network, Nashville

"I've got a bit of an addiction when it comes to holiday décor! My overall theme is a Western Christmas, complete with Santas with cowboy hats. Our living room Christmas tree goes up by Thanksgiving; I decorate it with ornaments from places I've visited, and 90 percent of them are made from wood. I also put up one in my bedroom and one in the sunroom (renamed the Christmas Room during the holidays), which stands 14 feet high."

Timothy Corrigan

Interior designer with offices in Los Angeles and Paris

"I spend every Christmas at my home in the French countryside, the Chateau du Grand-Lucé. Topiary trees and wreaths festooned with red velvet ribbon greet visitors. The Christmas tree is decorated with heirloom ornaments that have been given to me by family and friends over the years. I also like to add antique ornaments and decorative objects I may find throughout my flea market hunts."

Laura Day

New York City-based interior designer and founder of online magazine "Laura Day Living"

"My family has two trees: We have a fun tree for the kids, with homemade decorations and strung popcorn. They have so much fun creating for it and decorating it with us. The more serious tree tends to be monochrome with little white lights and a white owl on top. I do find it much easier to keep the tree looking beautiful if you keep the scheme simple. Most importantly you, your family and friends have to love it."

Suzanne Kasler

Atlanta-based interior designer

"I love decorating for the holidays. It's a way to transform your house into a whole different look for an entire month. I always start with a concept, then pick and choose from my collection of holiday ornaments. I like to use things from my Christmas collection for Ballard Designs …it was inspired by antique ornaments I've collected in muted colors. It pairs beautifully with my "Twelve Days of Christmas" collection from Christopher Radko. I have such wonderful memories associated with each Christmas, it is fun to recall them as we begin to decorate for the season and celebrate with family and friends."

© CTW Features

Homes for Sale

Sandy J. Hanson
REALTOR ASSOCIATE
ABR, GRI, CRS, ASR
Office: 618-0613
Cell: 638-3819
NEW EMAIL: sandy@sandyjhanson.com
The "KEY" to your Real Estate needs!

SUNDAY FEATURED HOME

3300 WINDSOR DRIVE

One owner custom home, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths 3 living area's 2 dining area's. Spacious kitchen with ample cabinetry, 2- car carport, and hobby shop. Wonderful additional space in the bonus/sunroom with wall HVAC and not in MLS square footage. Updates in the last 5+/- years: oversized HVAC, metal siding, fence and roof. · Schools: Parker, Alamo and Lee · Please verify schools as MISD as rezoned the schools districts for 2015-2016 · Square Footage: 2438 MCAD · Year Built: 1968· Lot size: 0.195 **$239,900 MLS# 107614**

FEATURED LISTINGS

8 Warwick	3 Bed, 2 Full Bath, 2 Half Bath, 7 Car Garage, Odessa, TX, Carpet Allowance	MLS #104559	UNDER CONTRACT	$550,000
1306 West Co. Rd 130	2 houses, barn with 6 stalls, arena, 2 shops 12.43+/- acres	MLS#106546		$498,000
801 ECR 130	4 Bed, 2 Bath on 5.75 acres Barns, Pens, Stalls	MLS #106761		$380,000
7417 ECR 93	4 Bed, 2 Bath, 2 Car Garage, New Construction, 1.10 Acres	MLS#105214	UNDER CONTRACT	$374,900
3400 Alicia Ct.	5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 LA's, 2 DA's, pool	MLS# 107193	NEW PRICE	$289,000
3200 W. Wadley Ave	3 Bed, 2.5 Bath, 2LA's, 2DA's & atrium	MLS #107377		$272,900
3300 Windsor Dr.	One Owner, 4 bedroom 3 bath home	MLS #107614		$239,900
2910 Sand Hill Circle	3 Bed, 2 Bath, 1 LA, 2 DA's	MLS #107282	UNDER CONTRACT	$234,000
6109 South Co. Rd. 1178	4 bed, 2 bath, 1 LA,1 DA, barns, arena, pens. 11.55 acres	MLS#106219	UNDER CONTRACT	$219,900
609 S. Jackson St.	3 bedrooms, 2 baths, NEW PRICE	MLS#106569		$173,900
5252 Lake Co. Rd. 256	3 Bed, 2 Bath, On Lake Colorado City	MLS#106038		$99,400
102 Waverly Dr.	Nicely update 2 bedroom , 1bath home	MLS #107630		$97,500
6213 Dunbarton Oaks Blvd.	.97 acres RESIDENTIAL LOT	MLS #102876		$140,000
6714 FM 715	-22 Acres	MLS #96888		$444,000
Sandridge Ranch Estate -New Homesites (Only 4 Lots)				3+ acre lots $135,000

Barbara Bates
Office Manager for Sandy Hanson

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Homes for Sale

TROY HUNT HOMES & MASTER BUILDERS

QUAIL RIDGE ADDITION

EAST OF FAIRGROUNDS AND HWY 80
Coming Soon: Park, Walking Trail and Picnic Area.
ALL CITY SERVICES

TROY HUNT HOMES & MASTER BUILDERS AVAILABLE HOMES

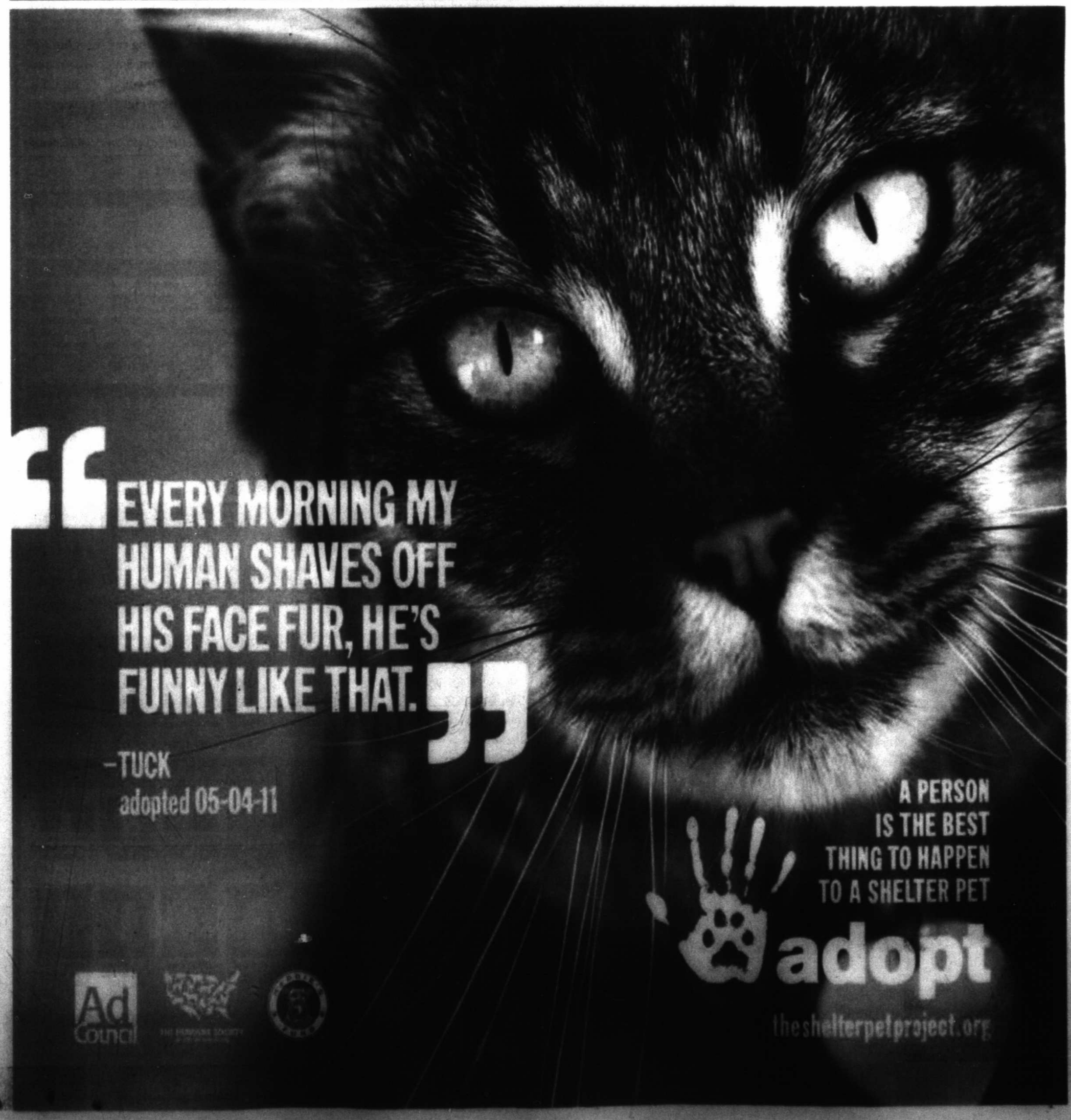
(HOUSES STARTING IN THE $170)

806 CHEYENNE - 3 BED, 2 BATH, 2 CAR, PARKING PAD FOR LARGE TRUCKS-----$199,900
809 CALUMET - 4 BEDS, 2 BATH, 2 CAR, PARKING PAD FOR LARGE TRUCKS-----$199,900
2604 ADONIA - 3 BED, 2 BATH, 2 CAR----------$250,000
2703 ADONIA - 3 BED, 2 BATH, 2 CAR----------$199,900
807 CHEYENNE - 3 BED, 2 BATH, 2 CAR, PARKING PAD FOR LARGE TRUCKS---SOLD---$229,900

808 CALUMET STREET ----------SOLD
811 CALUMET STREET ----------SOLD
2600 ADONIA ----------SOLD
803 CHEYENNE STREET ----------SOLD
905 CHEYENNE STREET ----------SOLD

(LOTS STARTING AT $32,000)

TROY (432) 528-4512
LOUIE (432) 559-0715



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NEW CONSTRUCTION IN MIDLAND

6500 W. CO. RD. 41 DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107734	$600,000
4011 HERITAGE OAKS DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107695	$421,500
901 CHEYENNE ST DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #106037	$269,500
CTC HOMES - COBY FARROW		
7315 E. CO. RD. 93 Tracy Farrow 413-4412	MLS #106628	$389,900
PERMIAN BASIN COVENANT HOMES		
1106 E. CO. RD. 1118 Tracy Farrow 413-4412	MLS #106626	$325,000
FORMOSA HOMES, LLC		
308 S. DALLAS ST Josie Rendon 889-8394	MLS #106637	$155,750
TROY HUNT		
805 CHEYENNE ST DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #106624	$199,995
KEA BUILDERS, LLC		
7417 E. CO. RD. 93 Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819	MLS #105214	SALE PENDING
609 S. JACKSON ST Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819	MLS #106569	$176,000
BOB FRIDAY HOMES		
GREENWOOD Michelle Lesikar 230-3633	MLS #107720	1 Acre/$439,000
CHRIS HOLLIS HOMES		
56 LAFAYETTE DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #103004	$520,000
GOMEZ CONSTRUCTION		
1203 E. NOBLES Josie Rendon		$202,625
KAHLER HOMES		
6019 FRIO DR. DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107521	SALE PENDING
MA CUSTOM HOMES, LLC		
1210 S. CO. RD. 1117 Josie Rendon 889-8394	MLS #105385	$443,745
MARK PAYNE		
4010 HERITAGE OAKS DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #106568	SALE PENDING
6013 RIO GRANDE DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107272	SALE PENDING
GREG LACY HOMES		
5500 CASA GRANDE TRAIL Larry Hatfield 349-4788	MLS #101011	SOLD
[illegible]		
1400 CHUKAR LANE Josie Rendon 889-8394	MLS #103951	SALE PENDING
606 CARVER Josie Rendon 889-8394	MLS #106250	$179,000
EE HOMES, INC.		
7401 E. CO. RD. 93 Josie Rendon 889-8394	MLS #106080	$379,000
MASTER BUILDERS CONSTRUCTION		
2604 ADONIA ST DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #101146	$250,000
[illegible]		
13017 E. CO. RD. 116 Tracy Farrow 413-4412	MLS #106968	$499,000

FOUR OR MORE BEDROOMS IN MIDLAND

531 SIH BARTON DeLaura Gammage 288-3880		$1,750,000
5409 SECRETARIAT ST Tracy Farrow 413-4412	MLS #104142	$1,500,000
401 AFFIRMED AVE Tracy Farrow 413-4412	MLS #106308	$1,250,000
1010 W. CUTHBERT Amy Barnett 352-6714		$874,000
1920 PAGEWOOD DR DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #1070844	$725,000
7010 CACTUS TRAIL Nathan Pinkerton		$699,000
4300 TUMBLEWEED TRAIL DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107456	$650,000
6324 PRAIRIE RIDGE DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #106956	$645,000
4001 FAIRWOOD Danny Norwood 413-2764		$629,900
2104 DEEANNA LANE DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #106091	$600,000
4204 BAYBROOK PLACE DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #106071	$500,000
1507 DOUGLAS AVE DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107198	SALE PENDING
1702 W. STOREY Martha Manulik 557-8744	MLS #106242	SALE PENDING
3511 MEADOWRIDGE LN Ashley Brasher-St. John 352-6254	MLS #106925	$479,900
5316 SCOTTSBORO LN [illegible] Jansa	MLS #106557	SALE PENDING
6208 SEQUOIA DR Darla D[illegible]s 260-8077	MLS #105743	$449,900
2014 EVANS LANE Larry Hatfield 349-4788	MLS #106156	$449,900
1101 CASTLEFORD Amy Barnett 352-6714		$499,500
1210 S. CO. RD. 1117 Josie Rendon 889-8394	MLS #105385	$443,745
6303 DRIFTWOOD Donna Omar 349-1458	MLS #107037	$438,500
1904 SPARKS ST DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107177	SALE PENDING
5003 APPLE CREEK RD DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107227	$400,000
201 SKYWOOD CIRCLE DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107510	$400,000
5911 OAK CREEK DRIVE Tracy Farrow 413-4412	MLS #107517	$399,000
1600 N. I ST Kim Merrill 664-4702	MLS #106753	$399,000
7401 E. CO. RD. 93 Josie Rendon 889-8394	MLS #106080	$380,850
2903 SAVOY DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107237	SALE PENDING
2909 SAVOY Lana Flores 385-5843		$375,000
3104 PATRICK Martha Manulik 557-8744	MLS #103108	SOLD
503 SOLOMON DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #104825	$375,000
4212 BAYBROOK Karen Foster 559-4086	MLS #104745	$374,900
2904 SAVOY Lisa Jansa	MLS #106440	$350,000
5005 CASTLEFORD RD Jo Keller 432-269-8319		SOLD
1605 WASHITA Pam Messer 349-3075	MLS #106777	$350,000
1406 CHUKAR LANE Josie Rendon 889-8394		SALE PENDING
5012 WHITMAN DR DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107361	$325,000
3917 GOLF COURSE Josie Rendon 889-8394	MLS #107089	SALE PENDING
4203 CRESTRIDGE DR DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #106916	$320,000
6118 CANDLESTICK DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #104691	$315,000
4904 LANCASHIRE Tina Atkins 661 0062		$309,000
5711 SAN SABA Ashley Brasher-St. John 352-6254	MLS #104259	SOLD
3 CAMBRIDGE Danny Norwood 413-2764	MLS #105047	$295,000
2313 FANNIN AVE Donna Omar 349-1458	MLS# 107439	SALE PENDING
2313 DENGAR AVE DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107020	$290,000
2300 CIMMARON AVE Tracy Farrow 413-4412	MLS #103839	$290,000
6903 RANCHLAND DR. Lisa Russell		$263,900
2602 MAXWELL DR Cheryl Parrish 352-3053	MLS #106719	$259,900
2917 GODDARD PL Reece Bivens 230-8647	MLS #103424	$259,900
2811 METZ Josie Alvarez 618-5013	MLS #106669	$249,900
4002 BROOKDALE Ashley St. John 352-6254	MLS #104949	$245,000
3300 WINDSOR DR Sandy J. Hanson	MLS #107614	$239,900
2801 DURANT Lisa Jansa	MLS #105560	SOLD
2402 CAMARIE Pam Dodd 413-0780	MLS #104861	$215,000
4602 DENGAR AVE Cheryl Parrish 352-3053	MLS #105413	SALE PENDING
1416 SPARKS Leah Watkins 599-2187	MLS #103539	$209,900
3606 SHELL AVE Leah Watkins 599-2187	MLS #103666	$206,000
606 CARVER Josie Rendon 889-8394	MLS #106250	$187,000
2622 MARIANA Reannah Wyatt 210-275-9015	MLS #105593	$184,900
2408 NEELY AVE Kay Bivens 934-5995	MLS #102414	$180,000
3417 W. MICHIGAN Josie Alvarez 618-5013	MLS #107170	$179,900
1510 N. TERRELL Nathan Pinkerton	MLS # 105799	$159,900
1622 HICKORY Angie McKay 599-0272	MLS #105629	$159,900
3502 BAUMANN Lavonne Johnson 618-5002	MLS #105564	SALE PENDING

THREE BEDROOMS IN MIDLAND

727 SOLOMON LANE Angie McKay 599-0272	MLS #107467	$899,999
4100 EDGEBROOK Tracy Farrow 413-4412	MLS #107075	$459,900
3809 TODD DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #105012	$400,000
2206 COUNTRY CLUB Martha Manulik 557-8744	MLS #107175	SOLD
1909 BRUNSON Denise Brasher 889-5022	MLS #107386	$379,900
4531 SHADY OAK CT Susan Palmer 978-7816	MLS #107715	$365,000
4012 TRINITY COURT Reece Bivens 230-8647	MLS #104840	SALE PENDING
1910 SPARKS ST Cheryl Parrish 352-3053	MLS #105239	SALE PENDING
3004 BAYBRIDGE CT DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #106395	$320,000
5511 CARMEL CT Lisa Jansa 618-3389	MLS #106054	SALE PENDING
1201 OVERSHINE LN DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #105501	$300,000
3215 SOUTHRIDGE CT Lisa Jansa 618-3389	MLS #107157	$299,900
4304 BOULDER Danny Norwood 413-2764		$299,900
802 ELK Kim Merrill 664-4702	MLS #106248	$299,000
6009 MEDINA Jerrilyn Garrison 202-0276	MLS #107402	$294,900
3100 CHELSEA PLACE Cheryl Parrish 352-3053	MLS #106889	$294,900
802 ELK Kim Merrill 664-4702	MLS #106248	$289,500
2911 CALDERA Maria Mallory 352-4021	MLS #105666	$285,000
2509 CASTLEFORD Larry Hatfield 349-4788	MLS #107134	$279,900
3220 CHELSEA PLACE Larry Hatfield 349-4788	MLS #106821	$275,900
2303 CAMARIE DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #106749	$275,000
1009 VENTURA AVE Nathan Pinkerton 638-2121	MLS #105620	$274,900
3200 W. WADLEY AVE Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819	MLS #107277	$272,900
6009 RIVER FRONT DR Karen Foster 559-4086	MLS #106900	SALE PENDING
5108 SHERWOOD DR Josie Rendon 889-8394		SOLD
4300 BOULDER DR DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #106685	SALE PENDING
1904 WASHITA Gina Reyes 553-6381	MLS #105798	$250,000
2604 ADONIA DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #101146	$250,000
917 NOLAN RYAN DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107676	$245,000
3401 S. CO. RD. 1066 Tracy Farrow 413-4412	MLS #106231	SOLD
3503 DOUGLAS AVE Tracy Farrow 413-4412	MLS #105059	SOLD
3529 LONOKE AVE DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #105907	SOLD
2910 SAND HILL CIRCLE Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819	MLS #107282	SALE PENDING
1414 CERRILLOS AVE Samantha Smith 432-978-3588	MLS #106221	SALE PENDING
6202 OLYMPIC CT Leah Watkins 599-2187	MLS #106886	$233,000
2505 NEELY Danny Norwood 413-2764		$229,900
1104 GODFREY ST DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107613	$229,000
4804 SUNSHINE PKWY Pam Dodd 413-0780		SALE PENDING
4202 VALLEY DR Darla Davis 260-8077	MLS #105948	$229,000
1412 VENTOR Lisa Jansa	MLS #107541	$229,000
4607 PINE MEADOW DR Paul Culver 934-1021		$227,000
4701 TIMBER LN Lisa Jansa	MLS #106731	$226,000
1125 PORTERFIELD RD DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107319	$225,000
3501 PRINCETON AVE DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #106775	SALE PENDING
4207 VALLEY DR Reece Bivens 230-8647	MLS #105776	$225,000
3405 SINCLAIR AVE Leah Watkins 599-2187	MLS #106570	$225,000
4407 PASADENA DR Cherith Hamilton 556-0306	MLS #107148	$225,000
3107 BOARDWALK Darla Davis 260-8077	MLS #107012	$219,900
3606 JORADN Virginia Elizondo 349-7782	MLS #107636	$219,000
2410 CAMARIE AVE DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #105951	$217,500
3311 TERRACE AVE Michelle Lesikar 230-3633	MLS #106102	$215,000
5213 ANETTA DR Kay Bivens 934-5995	MLS #105622	SALE PENDING
1402 VENTNOR AVE Nathan Pinkerton 638-2121	MLS #105734	SALE PENDING
4504 PATMAN Karen Foster 559-4086		$209,900
3003 BOARDWALK Kim Merrill 664-4702	MLS #107318	$209,000
1203 NOBLES AVE Josie Rendon 889-8394	MLS #105412	$202,625
3210 WHITTLE WAY DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #106803	SALE PENDING
903 CANDLESTICK DR Lisa Jansa 618-3389	MLS #106081	SOLD
1603 MCDONALD ST Cheryl Parrish 352-3053	MLS #106691	$199,900
4512 PALMER Kay Bivens 934-5995	MLS #106693	$199,900
4603 W. DENGAR AVE DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #106917	SALE PENDING
3329 W. SHANDON Karen Foster 559-4086	MLS #106352	$194,500
4503 WATSON CT Amanda Gunter 413-7330	MLS #106673	SALE PENDING
1300 CHUKAR LANE Josie Rendon 889-8394	MLS #106547	$185,000
2105 NORTHRUP DR Nathan Pinkerton 638-2121	MLS #10357	$184,000
3600 JORDAN Danny Norwood 432-413-2764	MLS #106965	$181,800
4300 AMISTAD DR DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107363	SOLD
113 SOUTH TYLER Pam Messer 432-349-3075	MLS #106445	$179,500
1400 AINSLEE Skye Farris 294-3336	MLS #107202	$179,500
211 CARVER Virginia Elizondo 349-7782	MLS #105318	$179,000
3300 TERRACE AVE Tracy Farrow 413-4412	MLS #105565	SOLD
1400 AINSLEE Skye Farris 432-294-3336	MLS #105276	$175,000
400 CRENSHAW Tracy Farrow 413-4412	MLS #10613	SALE PENDING
4507 PASADENA Josie Alvarez 618-5013	MLS #106995	$169,900
4720 RIC DR Lisa Jansa	MLS #107536	$169,000
2511 EMERSON DR Cheryl Parrish 352-3053	MLS #106045	SALE PENDING
313 ROCKY LANE Lavonne Johnson	MLS #104500	SALE PENDING
4426 FAIRGATE Donna Omar 349-1458	MLS #105359	SALE PENDING
1605 W LOUISIANA Virginia Elizondo 349-7782	MLS #106185	$165,000
113 S. TYLER Pam Messer 349-3075	MLS #106445	$165,000
4706 COUNTRY CLUB Reannah Wyatt 210-275-9015	MLS #105980	$165,000
3804 CEDAR SPRING Angie McKay 599-0272	MLS #106066	$164,500
4814 SHADYLANE Virginia Elizondo 349-7782	MLS #107161	$160,000
4406 GULF AVE Josie Rendon 889-8394	MLS #106247	SALE PENDING
1113 GULF AVE Susan Palmer 978-7816	MLS #105199	SALE PENDING
702 S. MARSHALL Pam Messer 349-3075	MLS #107322	$159,200
308 S. DALLAS ST Josie Rendon 889-8394	MLS #106637	$155,750
4001 MONTY Virginia Elizondo 349-7782	MLS #107324	$155,000
2902 SPARTAN DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107230	SALE PENDING
409 W. COWDEN Josie Rendon 889-8394	MLS #106637	SOLD
307 S. ADAMS Lana Flores 385-5843		$150,000
5111 W. STOREY Josie Alvarez 618-5013	MLS #105789	$139,900
3213 W. ILLINOIS Donna Omar 349-1458	MLS #107188	$135,000
4203 PLEASANT DR Reannah Wyatt 210-275-9015	MLS #105487	$129,000
2509 W. WASHINGTON AVE Skye Farris 294-3336	MLS #105613	$118,000
403 SPRABERRY DR Samantha Smith 978-3588	MLS #105232	SOLD
4304 THOMASON Danny Norwood 618-5012	MLS #103796	$106,700
4327 CEDAR SPRING Janice Murrell 349-7242	MLS #104223	SOLD

ONE/TWO BEDROOMS IN MIDLAND

219 WINDRIDGE CIRCLE DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #105215	$400,000
2510 QUAIL POINT Lisa Russell	MLS #105892	$240,000
2402 CASTLEFORD Larry Hatfield 349-4788		SOLD
907 VENTURA AVE Danny Norwood 413-2764		$209,900
5105 CONCHO DR DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #106360	$200,000
3208 CAMARIE Kim Merrill 664-4702	MLS #107078	$169,900
1306 COLLEGE AVE Kim Merrill 664-4702		$130,000
4203 PLEASANT DR Reannah Wyatt 210-2759015	MLS #105487	$129,900
2210 COLLEGE AVE Skye Farris 294-3336	MLS #105098	$124,500
330 E. CLOUD Jennifer Martin 349-2632	MLS #102286	$120,000
3330 CALDERA # 248 Cheryl Parrish 432-352-3053	MLS #106220	$109,900
600 LIDDON AVE. #52 Darla Davis 260-8077	MLS #105729	$99,500
102 WAVERLY DR Sandy J. Hanson	MLS #107630	$97,500
1315 E. COWDEN Josie Alvarez 296-1395	MLS #105398	$94,000
4700 BOULDER #1301 Ashley St. John	MLS #107054	$89,900
311 S. BENTON Susan Palmer 978-7816	MLS #105052	$88,000
3207 DELANO Karen Foster 559-4086	MLS #105904	$79,500

HOMES IN MIDLAND COUNTY

6704 E. CO. RD. 107 Tracy Farrow 413-4412	MLS #106602	2 Acres/$729,900
801 E. CO. RD. 130 Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819	MLS #104808	$599,000
4303 N. CO. RD. 1284 Lisa Jansa 618-3389	MLS #104991	$575,000
1904 S. CO. RD. 1121, GREENWOOD DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107015	$550,000
2101 S. CO. RD., GREENWOOD Michelle Lesikar 230-3633	MLS #107160	SALE PENDING
1306 W. CO. RD. 130 Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819	MLS #106546	$498,000
2007 S. CO. RD. 1063 Tracy Farrow 413-4412	MLS #105715	SOLD
2024 S. CO. RD. 1063 Tracy Farrow 413-4412	MLS #106536	7 Acres/$419,900
10205 E. CO. RD. 104 DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #107581	$400,000
2025 S. CO. RD. 1066, GREENWOOD Larry Hatfield 349-4788	MLS #107205	$399,900
12900 FM 307, GREENWOOD Michelle Lesikar 230-3633		5 Acres/$399,900
1003 E. CO. RD. 126 Tracy Farrow 413-4412	MLS #107245	$399,500
1310 E. CO. RD. 127 Pam Messer 349-3075	MLS #107430	$397,000
7315 E. CO. RD. 93 Tracy Farrow 413-4412	MLS #106628	SALE PENDING
801 E. CO. RD. 130 Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819	MLS #106761	$380,000
10111 W. CO. RD. 150 Angie McKay	MLS #106817	$339,900
1106 S. CO. RD. 1118 Tracy Farrow 413-4412	MLS #106626	$325,000
9103 W. CO. RD. 160 Lisa Russell	MLS #107091	$275,000
1400 N. CO. RD. 1110 DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #103113	$250,000
1406 W. CO. RD. 143 Kim Merrill 664-4702	MLS #107427	2 Acres/$249,900
10502 FM 307, GREENWOOD Michelle Lesikar 230-3633		SALE PENDING
4507 N CO. RD. 1284 DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #106158	$240,000
4401 FM 307 Susan Palmer 978-7816	MLS #107321	$240,000
2714 S. CO. RD. 1052 Mark Philliber 222-5071	MLS #107194	$196,000
5402 E. CO. RD. 136 Samantha Smith 432-978-3588	MLS #106946	$120,000
505 E. CO. RD. 136 Larry Hatfield 349-4788	MLS #107461	$84,000
6109 S. CO. RD. 1178 Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819	MLS #106219	SALE PENDING
2811 W. CO. RD. 116 Mark Philliber	MLS #93898	SALE PENDING

HOMES OUTSIDE OF MIDLAND COUNTY

8 WARWICK, ODESSA Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819	MLS #104602	$550,000
2108 WESTSIDE DR., STANTON Michelle Lesikar 230-3633	MLS #105659	$295,000
17039 INDIAN BLANKET TR., GARDENDALE Denise Brasher 889-5022	MLS #107346	5.14 Acres/$279,900
309 LAMAR CT., ODESSA Virginia Elizondo 349-7782	MLS #98183	$249,900
3909 ELDERICA CT., ODESSA DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #106607	SOLD
4810 N. COUNTY RD. 1123 Skye Farris 432-294-3336	MLS #105921	$230,000
4601 APPLEWOOD DR., ODESSA Janice Murrell 349-7242	MLS #98351	$215,000
106 CHUKAR RUN, ODESSA, TX. Mark Philliber 222-5071	MLS #105898	$199,500
1103 CARPENTER, STANTON Michelle Lesikar 230-3633	MLS #105750	SALE PENDING
10977 DRAKE, GARDENDALE Lisa Jansa	MLS #105721	1.6 Acres/$139,900
1221 S. MARY ST., CRANE, TX. DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #102029	$135,000
404 S. ODESSA ST. Leah Watkins 599-2187	MLS #107041	$105,000
5252 LAKE CO. RD. 256 Sandy J. Hanson	MLS #106038	$99,400
211 E. 6TH ST., CRANE, TX. DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #104054	$85,000

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL

807 E. 2ND ST., ODESSA Sue Lytle	MLS #107382	
3114 SUNBURST Wendy Waddell 638-9955	MLS #102751	$1,900,000
3400 W. 7TH ST., BIG SPRING Mark Philliber 222-5071	MLS #106813	$1,500,000
807 E. 2ND ST., ODESSA Sue Lytle		$870,000
5308 WALL ST Gina Reyes 553-6381	MLS #99121	$799,000
1002 MARIENFELD Josie Rendon 889-8394		$489,000
S. HWY. 137-TRACT 4, MARTIN CO. Mark Philliber 222-5071	MLS #102474	7.817 Ac/$337,560
S. HWY. 137-TRACT 3, MARTIN CO. Mark Philliber 222-5071	MLS #102474	11.252 Ac/$337,560
S. HWY. 137-TRACT 1, MARTIN CO. Mark Philliber 222-5071	MLS #102472	9.479 Ac/$284,370
17039 INDIAN BLANKET TR., GARDENDALE Denise Brasher 889-5022	MLS #107346	5.14 Acres/$279,900
S. HWY. 137-TRACT 2, MARTIN CO. Mark Philliber 222-5071	MLS #102473	9.296 Ac/$209,160
401 MIDLAND DR. Lydia Scudder 853-2200	MLS #103887	$90,000

LAND AND LOTS

CO. RD. 55 Jennifer Martin 349-2632	MLS #102675	5 Acres
S. HWY 137, STANTON Mark Philliber 222-5071	MLS #103592	363 Acres/$525,000
2415 IDLEWILDE DR Leah Watkins 599-2187	MLS #102445	SALE PENDING
FM 715 Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819	MLS #96888	22 Acres/$444,000
S. HWY 137, STANTON Mark Philliber 222-5071	MLS #102471	11.25 Acres/$253,170
1108 W. HWY. 80, STANTON Kay Bivens 934-5995	MLS #107158	0.743 Acre/$220,000
S. HWY 137, STANTON Mark Philliber 222-5071	MLS #102472	9.47 Acres/$213,300
S. HWY 137, STANTON Mark Philliber 222-5071	MLS #102473	9.29 Acres/$209,160
S. HWY. 137, STANTON Mark Philliber 222-5071	MLS #102474	7.8 Acres/$175,882
SUNRIDGE RANCH ESTATES Sandy Hanson 638-3819		3+ Acre Lots/$135,000
6601 CO. RD. 41 DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #103862	$125,000
7208 E. CO. RD. 111 Josie Rendon 889-8394	MLS #103299	$122,000
CO. RD. 54 Pam Messer 349-3075	MLS #100052	$105,000
CO. RD. C2701, MARTIN CO Mark Philliber 222-5071	MLS #106784	21.54 Acres/$95,000
S. CO. RD. 1133, GREENWOOD Lana Flores		2 Acres/$80,000
7209 E. CO. RD. 112 Josie Rendon 889-8394	MLS #103298	$82,500
GREENWOOD-CHAMPION RUN ADDN. 1.5 ACRES Tracy Farrow	MLS# 106537	$68,000
GREENWOOD-CHAMPION RUN ADDN. 1.5 ACRES Tracy Farrow	MLS3 106538	$68,000
GREENWOOD-CHAMPION RUN ADDN. 1.5 ACRES Tracy Farrow	MLS# 106544	$68,000
6607 CACTUS TR. Denise Brasher	MLS #107064	0.921 Acre Lot/$65,000
0000 W. Co. Rd. 35 1.393 Acres Kim Merrill 432-664-4702	MLS #106349	$45,000
QUAIL RIDGE SUBDIVISION DeLaura Gammage 288-3880		64 Lots Available/Starting At $43,500
3202 S. CO. RD. 1130 Reece Bivens 230-8647	MLS #107116	5 Acres/$42,500
813 N. MAIN Josie Alvarez 618-5013	MLS #107210	$20,000

TOWNHOMES-PATIO HOMES

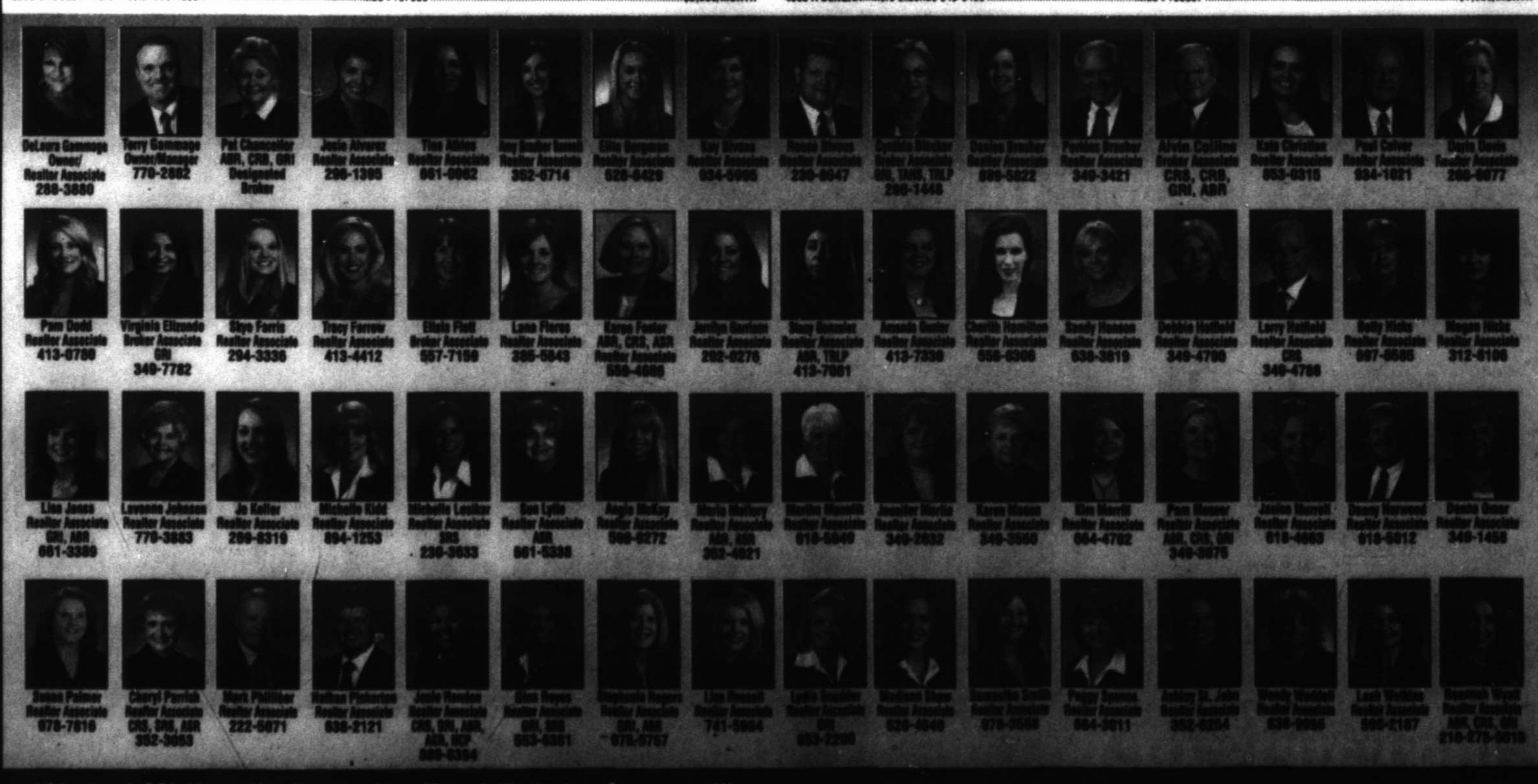
3529 BOYD AVE Lydia Scudder	MLS #103042	SALE PENDING
4700 BOULDER DR. #101 DeLaura Gammage 288-3880	MLS #105377	$75,000

FOR LEASE

2401 DARTMOUTH Barnett	MLS #102010	$3,750/MONTH
4012 TRINITY COURT Reece Bivens 230-8647	MLS #106704	$3,000/MONTH
503 COMISKEY Karen Foster 559-4086	MLS #105891	$2,800/MONTH
6210 MILE HIGH Karen Foster 559-4086	MLS #107292	$2,800/MONTH
6209 CROSLEY Karen Foster 559-4086	MLS #107358	$2,350/MONTH

FOR LEASE

513 THREE RIVERS LN. Virginia Elizondo 349-7782	MLS #107650	$2,350/MONTH
3806 MONTY DR. Mero Elizondo 349-6490	MLS #106765	$1,950/MONTH
1009 SHIRLEY LANE Cheryl Parrish 352-3053		$2,000/MONTH
4707 COUNTRY CLUB Mero Elizondo 349-6490	MLS #107539	$1,750/MONTH
3410 STOREY AVE Mero Elizondo 349-6490	MLS #107354	$1,550/MONTH
3330 CALDERA #146 Cheryl Parrish 352-3052	MLS #107049	$1,400/MONTH
4321 A. STOREY Jennifer Martin 349-2632	MLS #106206	$1,400/MONTH
3210 ILLINOIS Mero Elizondo 349-6490	MLS #107474	$1,350/MONTH
4303 A DENGAR Mero Elizondo 349-6490	MLS #106657	$1,000/MONTH



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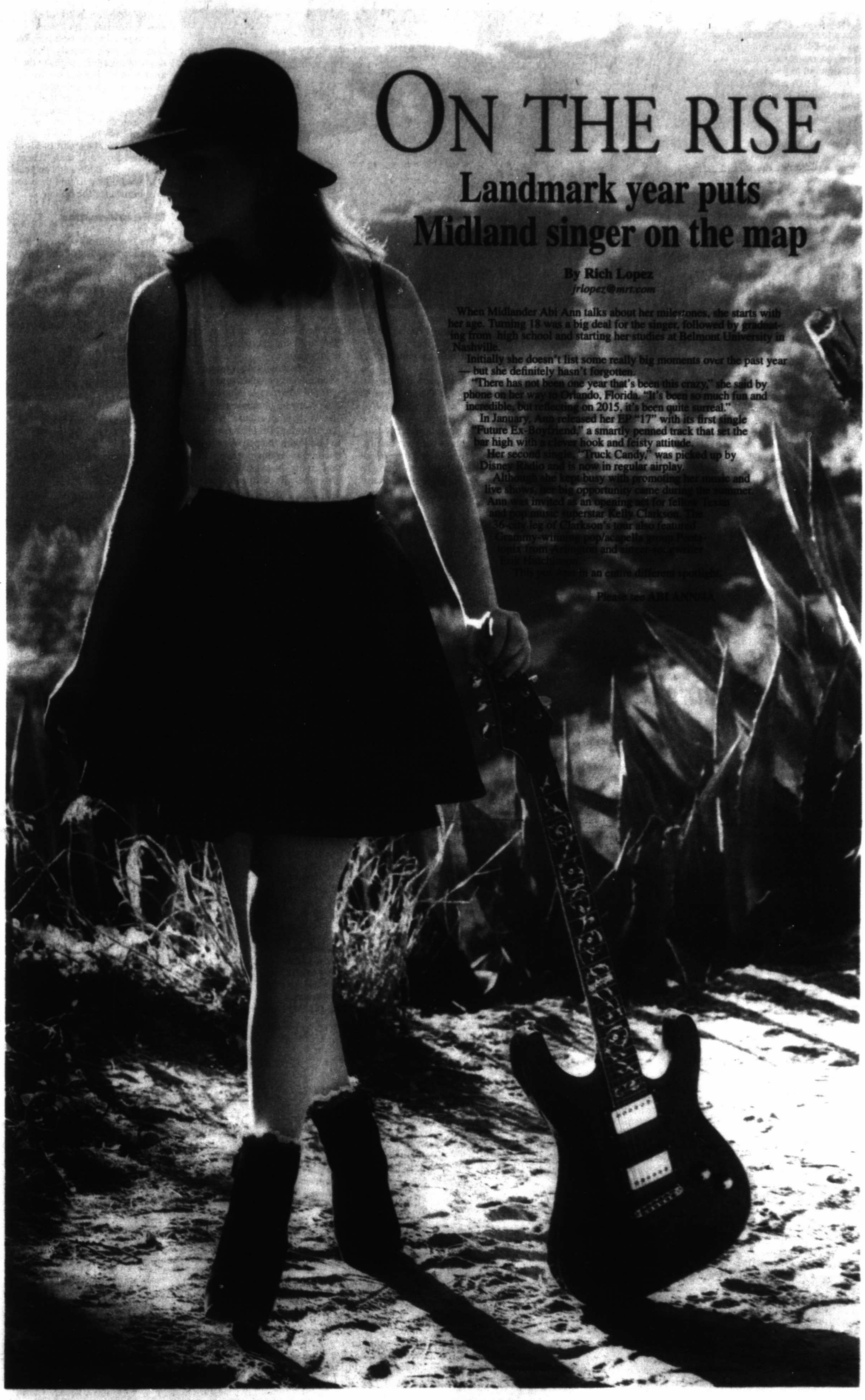


ON THE RISE

Landmark year puts Midland singer on the map

By Rich Lopez
jrlopez@mrt.com

When Midlander Abi Ann talks about her milestones, she starts with her age. Turning 18 was a big deal for the singer, followed by graduating from high school and starting her studies at Belmont University in Nashville.

Initially she doesn't list some really big moments over the past year — but she definitely hasn't forgotten.

"There has not been one year that's been this crazy," she said by phone on her way to Orlando, Florida. "It's been so much fun and incredible, but reflecting on 2015, it's been quite surreal."

In January, Ann released her EP "17" with its first single "Future Ex-Boyfriend," a smartly penned track that set the bar high with a clever hook and feisty attitude.

Her second single, "Truck Candy," was picked up by Disney Radio and is now in regular airplay.

Although she kept busy with promoting her music and live shows, her big opportunity came during the summer. Ann was invited as an opening act for fellow Texan and pop-music superstar Kelly Clarkson. The 19-city leg of Clarkson's tour also featured Grammy-winning pop/acapella group Pentatonix, guest from contestant and country-music phenom Dan + Shay.

The experience is an entire different spotlight.

Please see ABI ANN, E3

5 QUESTIONS

With Kathy Armstrong | actor

What's inside

What to know before giving someone a pet as a holiday gift

By Trent Johnson
tsjohnson@mrt.com

A dog gets some love from a child May 25, 2015, during the Dustbowl Animal Rescue adoption drive Saturday at the PetSmart in Odessa. MRT file photo

A cuddly, cute puppy or kitten can make an endearing gift for the holidays. Instant, unconditional love is hard to resist. But also consider that bringing a living being into the family is a decision not to be made lightly.

For those considering giving a four-legged, breathing gift to a significant other, child or family for the holidays, there is much to think about.

The Midland Humane Coalition is a local nonprofit with the mission of finding homes for adoptable dogs and cats and is located inside PetSmart. The agency offered tips on how to best approach a new addition to the home.

"Choosing a pet that is perfect for you and your family is a special process," said Melissa Rowland, who works with the Midland Humane Coalition. "A new dog or cat can be a perfect addition to your family, and many families choose to adopt during the holidays because it can be a very memorable event for the whole family."

Regardless of time of year, it's imperative that the person you're giving the pet to accompany you throughout the process to ensure a proper match. Because of the level of commitment, it's a good idea to have input from the recipient, Rowland said.

"The rescue groups in our area are committed to finding the perfect match," Rowland. "It is important that the whole family be involved in the adoption process. Adopting an animal is a lifelong commitment to the inclusion that the animal in your home and your day to day life."

Puppies and kittens can be adorable, but remaining open-minded to older animals can be beneficial. Seasoned dogs and cats are often overlooked but can still make beneficial additions to a person or family. An added bonus could be that they are more established within a home and family setting.

And while it's encouraged to choose the pet as a family effort, the surprise isn't necessarily ruined.

Rowland suggests wrapping up a collar, food bowls, bedding or even pet toys for your family members to open and then choosing the right time to go adopt the perfect pet for your situation.

For Beth Meeks from Lone Star Sanctuary for Animals, this is the ideal option.

"We absolutely discourage adoptions as presents, and we will not adopt a pet to anyone who plans on giving it as a gift," she wrote in an email. "We think it's important for the new owner to bond with the pet. We do encourage buying pet supplies and giving those as a gift. We also have gift certificates, which allows someone to pay the adoption fee, then give the certificate to the potential owner. That way, again, they are able to meet and pick out their own pet."

As evidenced by the agencies' guildelines, they work first to provide the best possible home for their animals. That is the common goal: to place the animal in the right home for its growth and quality of life.

"We work to ensure that your new dog or cat gets along with you, your children, your current pets, and any other family members who will be a part of his or her life," Rowland said. "There are many loveable dogs and cats who would love to find their forever homes for the holidays."

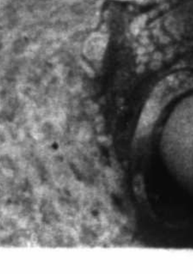
More information

For more information on animal adoption visit or call these area organizations:

- Midland Animal Control, 1200 N. Fairgrounds Road. 432-685-7387.
- Lone Star Sanctuary for Animals, at 4200 N. Fairgrounds Road. 432-683-7387.
- Midland Humane Coalition in PetSmart, 4206 Loop 250 Frontage Road. 432-520-3134.
- Diamonds in a Ruff, call 201-923-4140 or visit diamondinaruff.com.
- Odessa Animal Control at 910 W. 42nd St., Odessa. 432-368-3527.
- Humane Society of Odessa at 7012 W. Mockingbird Lane, Odessa. 432-381-5503.

TUMBLEWEED SMITH

Storyteller



Watering hole reopens near Terlingua

I spent a day in Terlingua, the Temple of Chili-dom. There I got to visit with John Holroyd, the new owner of La Kiva, the well-known watering hole just above Terlingua Creek. He has made some grand improvements to the place, which once used a black pot for a urinal.

John hails from Yorkshire, England, and migrated to Oklahoma about 30 years ago. He is retired now and has been a frequent visitor to the desert country.

He was a friend of the previous owner, Glen Felts, who died last year.

La Kiva stayed closed for six months and John didn't want to see it turn to dust — so he bought it. He stayed closed another year to do the refurbishing. The bar is open now, and the restaurant will open soon with gourmet pizzas, brisket and more. He has a barbecue cooker that can handle 1,000 pounds of meat. All the kitchen equipment is state-of-the-art.

I also interviewed Lauren Stedman, who has the Menagerie Press in Terlingua. She makes exquisite invitations, business cards and other printed items using old-fashioned letterpress equipment and high-grade papers. She is a graphic design artist, and her creations can be seen all over the country.

I also met a genuine "diva." Diane Wysocki is a member of DIVA Women Outdoors Worldwide, a group of women who shoot guns, slingshots and bows and arrows. They also do fly-fishing, and all members are DIVAs. They promote shooting safety and have worldwide shooting competitions. The organization's headquarters is in Dallas.

The next day, I went to Alpine and visited with Dr. Paul Will, chair of the Meat Science department at Sul Ross State University, who teaches a course called Sausage Manufacturing. It's a two-week course beginning Jan. 4. Students of all disciplines flock to the course, where they can earn four semester hours credit.

"I give them 25 pounds of meat and some seasoning and teach them how to make sausage," he said. "Then, they make their own sausage using family recipes or whatever. At the end of the course we have a contest to see who has the best sausage according to a panel of judges."

I visited my friend Jim Glendenning who had just returned from a monthlong 26,000 mile trip around the world. He knows how to travel. His entire transportation bill was $1,800. He walked to the train station in Alpine and took an overnight train to Los Angeles where he boarded a plane for London. On his circle of the globe, he made five stops along the way then took the train back to Alpine and walked home.

The new managers at the Holland Hotel are Marcus and Nicole Van Winden, who met on a Holland-America cruise ship. He was a chef. She was cruise director. He is from Holland. It was only natural that they end up managing the Holland Hotel.

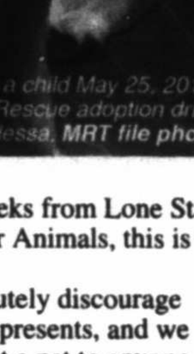
I went to Marfa and visited with Mayor Dan Dunlap. He told me about the new four-story hotel being built downtown and a new $5 million dollar art installation due next year at Chinati.

Lots of stuff goes on in the mountain country

Year in review: The library by the numbers

JOHN TRISCHITTI

Director of Midland County Public Libraries



Looking back, 2015 was another banner year for Midland County Public Libraries (MCPL) as we continued to strive toward the goals of redefining what a public library is and what it can be for the community.

Here is a snapshot of some key statistics the library achieved in the past year:

- 294,879 members of the general public visited the libraries in the past year, a new record for MCPL. Those patrons checked out 373,066 materials in that time.
- 2,091 unique users checked out 49,026 digital items, a new record for e-books and downloadable audio usage.
- Between the downtown and Centennial libraries and the new bookmobile, 7,795 new library cards were issued, a record for new borrowers in a 12-month time span.
- Over the last year, 21,035 items we added to the libraries collections, bringing the total number of items in the library system up to 286,013.
- 2,862 volunteer hours were served in the library system.
- About 87,000 people came to see the "Permian Monsters" exhibit in the summer. That included more than 1,100 students from 31 classes, nine schools and six different school districts in the area on field trips. In total, the library hosted 140 classrooms from 25 schools in nine districts and welcomed 3,309 children to the library from 12 grade levels.
- 19,660 children attended storytimes and other youth service-related programs.
- The Centennial branch was selected by Lone Star Literary Life as the No. 2 Literary Destination in Texas behind only the Texas Book Festival in Austin. This online publication is dedicated to Texas literary arts, and the list includes an array of locations across the state, making our inclusion all the more special.

MCPL will continue to raise the bar in 2016 by providing new services, including a full rollout of the bookmobile, which has been making stops since November. We are rededicating our focus and commitment to delivering a high level of patron service. It just two months of service, the bookmobile has reached more than 300 new patrons and issued 60 library cards to residents who historically do not use traditional libraries or library services.

The new year will also mark the beginning of a collaboration between MCPL and the Petroleum Museum to develop a robotics and engineering lab. The lab with feature LittleBits programming, 3-D printing and other resources to further the creative process and STEM-learning that is necessary for the next generation of scientist and engineers. MCPL is thrilled to have an established partner like the Petroleum Museum to bring this exciting new service to the community.

In the coming months, we'll work to add to our number of online and digital services to complement our print material offerings. In addition to e-books, we offer Chilton's online, Tumblebooks, WorldBook online, Morningstar and more.

Whatever your format preference is, we hope to provide it.

Keep up with library happenings online at our website at www.co.midland.tx.us/lib and follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/MidlandCountyPLTX

John "Mr.T" Trischitti III was the 2014 Texas Librarian of the Year. He reviews children's literature for School Library Journal and is a frequent speaker and program presenter across the state and nation on children's literature and best practices for public libraries. Follow him on Twitter @MrTlibrarian.

50s

From 1E

preoccupied with projecting an image of perfection.

MRT: What is the best thing you cook?

Armstrong: Ha! There is nothing I cook well. I am the queen of carryout and delivery. I'm not even sure we have a kitchen at my house.

MRT: Who is a fictional and real-life hero and why?

Armstrong: My real-life hero would be Robert Stovall. He was my high school choir director and the reason I pursued a music degree. He taught me the importance of doing everything that matters with excellence. Fictional would be Mary Richards from the "Mary Tyler Moore Show." Her vulnerability was what made her so funny and beautiful to me.

MRT: Your not-so-secret indulgence.

Armstrong: Early morning workouts with my "wunning" buddies, followed by Starbucks. "Wunning" is our very complex exercise circuit of running, walking and talking. It's mostly talking, with just enough heavy breathing to justify the Starbucks.

ABI ANN

From 1E

Courtesy photo

"These were big crowds and it was just a thrill to put my music out there in front of so many people," she said. "It was just crazy, and Kelly's someone I've always looked up to and the kind of artist I see myself as."

Ann didn't stop there. She just wrapped up a monthlong leg of tour dates with the Eli Young Band.

With her pop/country sound and a smart navigation of her career, Ann could very likely be the next big thing. She's often touted as such, and she's using that buzz and momentum to her advantage.

"It's an honor to be recognized that way, and when someone says I'm going to be big, that's such a confidence boost," she said. "To me, it just really means that I'm doing my job right."

Born Abigail DawnAnn Hoffman, she has come a long way from her days as a Pickwick Player at Midland Community Theatre. Her mother, Vicki Hoffman, sees much of Ann's success because of her formative years in Midland.

"We attribute her strong base and work ethic to many who mentored her in Midland, from her schools, to the theaters and to every supportive person who are still a part of her life and support her continually," she said.

Ann agrees, as she credits her experience with the Pickwicks and local theater as contributing to her love of performing live and often.

"I could tour 365 days a year, and you'd hear no complaints from me," she said. "I came from a musical theater background, so I enjoy the performance aspect of that. MCT and Permian Playhouse are where I really got my start and that enjoyment. I was only part of Pickwicks for a year, and I always wished it had been longer."

She attended Trinity School through eighth grade before moving to Studio City, California, with her mother where she attended Campbell Hall High School, which has a strong performing arts program. Her father, Donald Hoffman, remained in Midland to oversee their business, Amera Travel Network. Ann also pursued her acting and singing career. Since graduation, she has relocated to Nashville to major in business entrepeneurship.

With the likes of Taylor Swift, Lorde, Selena Gomez and other young female singers who exhibit a strong sense of self, Ann finds much to look up to in female acts. She also joins a strong list of up-and-coming singers who embrace an empowered perspective, such as Maddie and Tae ("Girl in a Country Song") and Tinashe ("2 On"). In "Truck Candy," Ann defies a young man's expectation that she's just a pretty face.

At 18, Ann's insight to what's ahead of her in the music business is rather astute.

"There's a higher standard for women in country music, and in general I think, but because of that, I look up to mostly female musicians. When artists like Taylor come to the table and break expectation, it's exciting. I'm just happy to be part of that community."

With a new year around the corner, her enthusiasm for what's ahead has already kicked in.

"It's looking exciting because we have some shows and festivals on our radar," she said.

In early December it was announced that Ann was part of the lineup for Bud Light's Country Fest 30, which is June 16-19 in Cadott, Wisconsin. The music festival will be headlined by Kenny Chesney, Carrie Underwood and Dierks Bentley, to name a few.

Ann has one additional goal for 2016.

"I have new music to prepare for the next year," she said. "It's time to get that full album done, so I'll be focusing on that."

And while her star may be rising, she's still the average teen on the verge of adulthood. She's currently enrolled at Belmont University in Nashville and soon will head back to Midland for the winter break to visit her parents and family.

"I love being home and going to my favorite places," she said. "Rosa's is obviously my jam, but I am obsessed with Grub Burger. My family still lives there, and I'll always look fondly on Midland. I love going home."

HINTS FROM HELOISE

King Features Syndicate

Can cloves have a second chance?

Dear Heloise: We always use whole cloves when baking a ham. Cloves are quite expensive, so we are wondering if they can be saved after baking, refrigerated and used a second time? — Sharon in Middletown, Ohio

The manufacturers suggest not reusing them for this purpose, as the "flavor" may have been affected. The cloves have been stuck into ham and exposed to ham juices and cooking.

I say rinse them in cold water, dry on a paper towel, put them in a zip bag and freeze. Take a few out and test them. What have you got to lose?

Or poke them into an orange to make a pomander. — Heloise

Tea holder

Dear Heloise: I am writing in response to your column regarding making pots of tea. My mother always read the Hints From Heloise column. I have early childhood memories of this. She passed in 2012, at the age of 93.

My mother used a clothespin to attach the paper tabs of the tea bags to the side of the pot. Like Mom, I always have used a clothespin, and like Mom, I've passed on this helpful hint to my children.

I love it that Hints From Heloise is still going strong! Keep up the good work! — Renee W. in San Antonio

Checklist for dinner

Dear Heloise: I've hosted many holiday dinners, but usually had a lot of help from family and houseguests. However, a new home and a new lifestyle meant I was on my own, with 15 people coming to dinner.

A couple of things I did saved the day, and I thought they might help others. I placed serving dishes where I wanted them to go on the buffet, with a piece of paper identifying what each was, the recipe and any nonperishable ingredients. This ensured that I didn't forget to make something and that I had everything I needed.

I made a list containing a timeline of when things had to be done, and I posted it on the refrigerator. Finally, I used the clock alarm on my phone and set a loud and annoying alarm for every time I had to do something. For the first time I can remember, dinner was served on time, and it was perfect! — Liz T., via email

Clarified butter

Dear Heloise: I like to pre-make clarified butter for cooking. I make a garlic, a jalapeño and a plain version. After they cool, I pour them into ice-cube trays and keep them in the freezer. That way, I can pop out whatever I need, and it's ready to use. — Drew L., Katy, Texas

Yummy! Garlic jalapeno clarified butter sounds sinful. For those who don't have ice-cube trays, use a muffin tin. The small ones are perfect. — Heloise

Knife on the go

Dear Heloise: My husband takes his lunch to work and sometimes needs a sharp knife. I place it in a plastic toothbrush holder that comes in two parts and slides together. — Dianne P., via email

Send a great hint to Heloise, P.O. Box 795000, San Antonio, TX 78279-5000 or email heloise@heloise.com.

Associated Press

A little reduction has a big impact on a simple cocktail

By J.M. Hirsch
Associated Press

All the best holiday cocktails start with drinks you make for your 11-year-old, right? Or is that just me?

The boy was craving what is known in our house as a "special drink," which basically means anything with sugar. Except we rarely have soda in the house, so special drinks usually are homemade concoctions combining some blend of seltzer water, juice and whatever else inspires me in the moment.

On this night, all I had in the refrigerator were apple cider and orange juice. So using my killer mixology skills, I dumped those together then added a splash of seltzer. He loved it.

And that is how I got the inspiration for this adult version. I still combine the cider and juice, but then simmered them down in a reduction. The resulting syrup is spooned into glasses, topped with a splash of amaretto liqueur, then finished with a healthy pour of sparkling wine. A sprig of rosemary adds a fresh touch.

The sparkling orchard grove

Start to finish: 25 minutes
Servings: 8

- 1 cup apple cider
- 1/2 cup orange juice
- 4 ounces amaretto liqueur
- 750-milliliter bottle sparkling wine
- 8 sprigs fresh rosemary

In a small saucepan over medium-high, combine the cider and orange juice. Simmer until reduced to 1/2 cup, 20 to 25 minutes. Set aside to cool.

To prepare each cocktail, pour 1/2 ounce of the cider-juice reduction into a sparkling wine flute. Add 1/2 ounce of amaretto liqueur to each glass, then top with sparkling wine. Lightly smack each rosemary sprig several times against the counter to release the oils, then add 1 sprig to each cocktail.

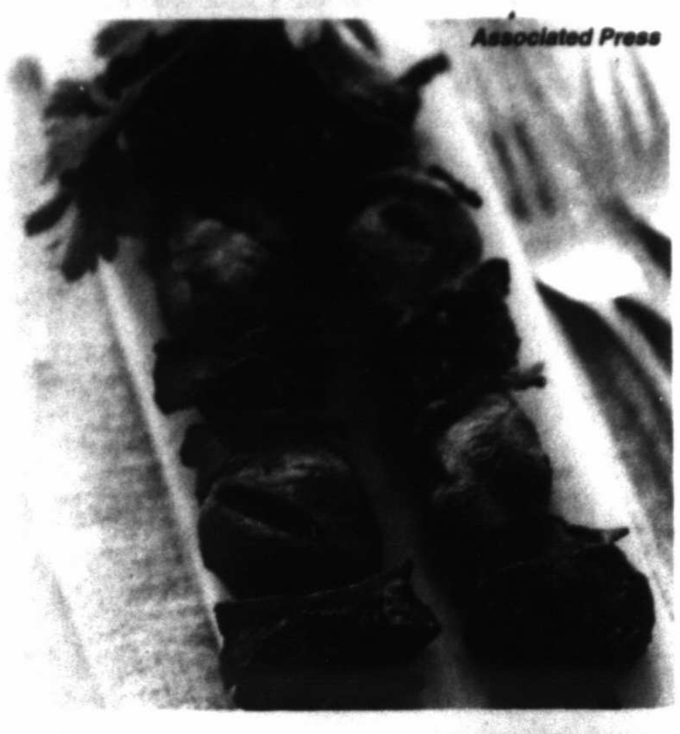
Classic steakhouse foods inspires a New Year's Eve kebab

By Elizabeth Karmel
Associated Press

The best New Year's Eve party I ever attended was a progressive graze of one appetizer after another all evening. When a dish came off the grill or out of the oven, we nibbled on it until we were ready for the next course. What a great vibe.

For my own offering that evening, I took inspiration from my favorite steakhouse ingredients — beef, mushrooms and bacon — and turned them into a sizzling steakhouse kebab. There is nothing as festive as food on a stick. And this kebab is extra special and easy. Because both the chunks of filet and the mushrooms are bathed in bacon fat as they cook, there is little that you need to do to the ingredients to make them taste spectacular.

For a dish as simple as this, buy the best possible raw ingredients. This steak recipe allows you to stretch two filets among six people, so you can afford to splurge on prime beef. I chose mushrooms because I love them and because they take about the same amount of time as filet to cook. But if you prefer, you could substitute cherry tomatoes or any of your favorite vegetables. If the vegetables take a lot longer to cook (such as potatoes), make sure that you partially cook them first.



Associated Press

Steakhouse kebabs with mushrooms and bacon

Start to finish: 35 minutes
Servings: 6

- 8 slices center-cut bacon
- Two 10-ounce center cut filet mignons
- Olive oil
- Kosher salt
- 18 large white mushrooms, cleaned and stemmed
- 6 long bamboo skewers, soaked in water

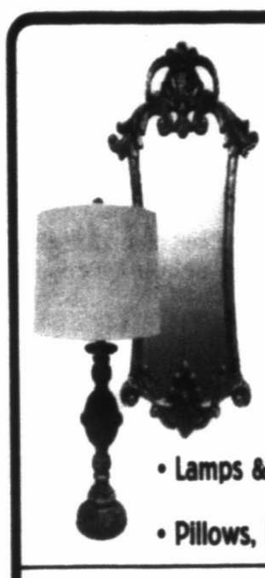
Heat the grill to medium. Heat the oven to 400 F. Line a rimmed baking sheet with foil.

Lay the bacon on the prepared baking sheet and cook for 10 minutes, or until the fat begins to render but the bacon is not fully cooked. Use tongs to transfer the bacon to a paper towel-lined plate to drain and cool. Once the bacon has cooled enough to handle, cut each strip crosswise into 4 pieces. Set aside.

Meanwhile, cut each filet lengthwise into thirds, then cut each slice into thirds again to create 9 pieces from each. Brush the beef cubes with oil, then season lightly with salt. Set aside. Season the mushrooms with oil and salt, then set aside.

To assemble the kebabs, thread the beef and mushrooms onto skewers starting with a beef cube and placing a piece of bacon between each. Grill the assembled kebabs for 7 to 10 minutes, turning once halfway through the cooking time, or until the bacon is crispy and the mushrooms are marked and tender and the beef is cooked rare to medium-rare. Serve hot or at room temperature.

Nutrition information per serving: 240 calories; 140 calories from fat (58 percent of total calories); 15 g fat (5 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 70 mg cholesterol; 420 mg sodium; 1 g carbohydrate; 0 g fiber; 1 g sugar; 25 g protein.



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WEDDING, ANNIVERSARY & ENGAGEMENTS

Palmer - Wiederstein

Miss Dotty Duncan Palmer and Mr. Richard Aaron Wiederstein were united in Holy Matrimony on Saturday, November 21, 2015 at eleven o'clock in the morning at the Kent R. Hance Chapel on the beautiful campus of Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. Fr. Francis Onyekozuru officiated the double ring ceremony. Scriptures were read by Rachel Hooper and Rick Wiederstein.

Following the ceremony, the bride's parents hosted a reception at the Overton Hotel & Conference Center with entertainment provided by West Texas DJ. On the eve of the wedding, the parents of the groom hosted a rehearsal dinner at Cagle Steaks & BBQ.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Felix Palmer of Nassau Bay, Texas. She is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Wesley Palmer of Irving, Texas, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bancroft Prentice of Houma, Louisiana.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Adam Wiederstein of Midland, Texas. He is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Allen H. Wiederstein of Hitchcock, Oklahoma, and of the late Mr. and Mrs. M.A (Jack) Schwartz of Okeene, Oklahoma.

Presented in marriage by her parents and escorted to the altar by her father, the bride wore a white couture silk taffeta A-line ball gown with a semi-sweetheart bodice scattered with baby pearls, crystals, and sequins. Her veil was finger-tip length with scattered crystal edging on a free form headpiece comprised of seed pearls and silver Swarovski crystals. She carried a bouquet of pink hydrangea, light pink roses, crème roses, pink sweet pea, pink bouvardia, stephanotis and dusty miller contrasted against variegated pittosporum.

Serving as her Matron of Honor was her sister, Rachel Palmer Hooper of Houston, Texas. Alex Wiederstein of Midland, Texas, the brother of the groom, served as Best Man.

In 2004, the bride received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Texas Tech University, where she was a member of Alpha Delta Pi. She is currently employed by the Ector County Independent School District as an English teacher at Odessa High School.

The groom graduated from Texas Tech University in 2006. He holds a degree in communications and is a manager at Enterprise Truck Rental.

Following a honeymoon in Ruidoso, New Mexico, the couple will reside in Midland, Texas.

Tolles - Vasicek

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Tolles of Midland proudly announce the engagement of their daughter, Ashley Nicole Tolles, to Michael Lance Vasicek, son of Ms. Debbie Vasicek of Midland, Texas and Mr. and Mrs. Robin Vasicek, also of Midland, Texas.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Tolles of Marble Falls, Texas, and Mrs. Robbie Jo Kenimer and the late Mr. Dale Kenimer of Lubbock, Texas. Ashley is a graduate of Midland Lee High School and a proud member of the Fightin' Texas Aggie Class of 2012. She graduated from UTPB with a degree in Sociology. She is employed at Midland Independent School District as a second grade teacher.

Grandparents of the prospective groom are Mrs. Florine Teinert and the late Mr. Walter Teinert of Round Rock, Texas, and Mrs. Iona Vasicek and the late Mr. Vic Vasicek of Midland, Texas. Lance is a graduate of Midland High School and a 2011 graduate of the University of Texas, where he received his Petroleum Engineering degree. He is employed with SAGA Petroleum in Midland, Texas.

An April wedding will take place at the Plantation House in Pflugerville, Texas. After a honeymoon to Belize, the couple will reside in Midland, Texas.

Tucek - Pitts

David and Jeanne Pitts of Midland joyfully announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of their son, Nicholas Andrew Pitts, to Nicole Danielle Tucek, daughter of Randy and Karen Tucek of Abilene.

The groom-to-be is the grandson of Jerry and Carol Pitts, and Sue and the late Richard Armstrong, both of Midland. Nick graduated from Midland Lee High School in 2011 and is currently attending Texas A&M University, where he will graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering in May of 2016.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Lanie Tucek, James and Marilyn Tucek, and the late James and RoseMary Wagner, all of South Dakota. A 2012 graduate of Wylie High School in Abilene, Nicole is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the Texas A&M University School of Nursing. She will graduate in May of 2016.

The couple will be united in marriage on January 8, 2016 at Gabriel Springs in Georgetown, Texas.

To submit wedding, engagement or anniversary announcements, email weddings@mrt.com or call 682-6222.

Carrolls Renew Wedding Vows to Celebrate 50 years

James and Linda Carroll celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary by renewing their vows at New Harvest Fellowship where they have attended church for many years.

James Clinton Carroll and Linda Rena Reffel (of Denver, Colorado) were married in Fort Worth, Texas on December 10, 1965. They have five children, 16 grandchildren, one great-grand child (and more on the way.)

(Ice sculpture by Terry Gouley, Photo by Ariel Nicholas, Composition by Crystal Carroll.)

How to choose the right chili pepper for your garden

By Dean Fosdick
Associated Press

There are hundreds of chili pepper varieties from which to choose for the home garden, so it pays to know which deliver the most flavor and which pack the most heat. Others are popular simply for their looks.

"Color is a big factor," said Robert Westerfield, a horticulturist with University of Georgia Extension. "People are very color-conscious. Most peppers in the garden are green but if you leave them in the ground long enough, they change colors. They sell a lot better with color."

Curiosity also drives purchases, said Dave DeWitt, an adjunct associate professor at New Mexico State University and co-author of "The Field Guide to Peppers" (Timber Press, 2015). "There's something appealing about taking visitors out to the garden and showing them 'the hottest pepper in the world,'" he said.

Super-hot varieties, in fact, have become the most popular of the 500 different sweet and hot pepper plants sold by Janie Lamson, owner of Cross Country Nurseries in Rosemount, New Jersey, and co-author with DeWitt of "The Field Guide to Peppers."

"While some buy one super-hot for curiosity, others do enjoy them and buy in quantity," Lamson said. "Gardeners are making hot sauce like crazy now and giving it as gifts, using all sorts of varieties.

"They also are experimenting with more unusual and different varieties, using them to make new dishes, often from other ethnicities. It does seem that our tastes for different cuisines have evolved and expanded."

Peppers are tender perennials, but most are grown as annuals because of their vulnerability to frost, Lamson said.

"We do have customers in Alaska," she said. "As long as there is decent weather for 60 to 70 days, you can grow early season varieties."

Peppers need sun and warm temperatures, but very hot weather will cause plants to abort their buds. "Folks in Florida have issues when the heat is high," Lamson said.

Christmas flowers can offer lasting beauty past winter

CAROL SIDDALL

Master Gardener

Loving Christmas and flowers, it is no wonder I have three of my favorites in my home at Christmastime, the poinsettia, the amaryllis and a Christmas cactus. Let's talk about the first two.

Having been a December bride, the poinsettia was my choice for my flower arrangements. After danger of frost and the ground had warmed, my mother planted all the potted ones that had survived the winter, along a south facing wall (this was in El Paso). The next Christmas, she had large, blooming poinsettia plants.

El Paso is quite a bit warmer than the Permian Basin, a bit more like the countries it is native to — Mexico and Central America. This plant was first introduced to the United States by Joel Poinsett, the U.S. ambassador to Mexico, and was subsequently renamed the poinsettia.

In my research for this article, I was surprised to learn that the flowers of the poinsettia are actually the yellow blooms at the middle of the bright red or white bracts that form on the plant.

The poinsettia is no longer just red in color. Several beautiful colors are available now. This plant will last way past Christmas if given plenty of light. Mist the plant for help in retaining humidity and adding adequate moisture to the plant. If leaves start to drop, more moisture is needed. Another cause of leaf dropping is a change in temperature.

The goal is to keep the indoor temperature consistent.

While many poinsettia plants are discarded after the holiday season, these plants actually can be cut back and saved for next season. If you do try to save your plant for another season, start reducing the plant's exposure to sunlight in mid-September to October. This means moving the plant to an area that is in complete darkness each night, possibly a dark closet for 12 to 14 hours each night. During the day, the plant should be in a sunny window where it will have access to bright light. How exciting to see the leaves start to turn in November.

This is a beautiful plant that gives lasting beauty if treated correctly.

The amaryllis is a beautiful and showy bulb. Red and scarlet are the most popular colors, but there are many colors available, as well as single or double blooms. You may purchase the amaryllis as a bulb or a plant. If you chose to grow from a bulb, it is best to select the largest bulbs available as they will produce more stalks and blooms the first year. They should be firm and dry with no signs of mold, decay or injury. If you buy around Christmas, the bulb will come with its own container and soil.

When planting, the bulb should be positioned so that at least one-third, preferably one-half, of the bulb is above the surface of the potting medium. Firm the potting medium around the bulb, water it thoroughly and place the container in a warm, sunny spot. Move the plant out of direct sunlight when the flower buds have begun to show color. Remove the spent blossoms to prevent seed formation by cutting the stem off just above the bulb. Place the plant in a sunny window and water regularly. After all danger of frost is gone and the soil warms, they may be planted outside. They probably will not bloom that first spring, but never give up on them.

I have amaryllis plants that come back every year and bloom. It is always such a nice surprise to see that green leaf coming up out of the ground come spring. Enjoy this bulb that produces such gorgeous large blooms.

For more information on Christmas flowers, please contact the AgriLife Offices in Midland at 432- 686-4700.

Winter has come: what to do with a resodded yard

NEIL SPERRY

Dear Neil: I had my front lawn resodded about two months ago. They scraped off the top layer of soil and weeds and then planted the sod. I watered it every day until the recent rains. What do I do now in the winter? Do I need to feed it? Do I need to water it, and should I mow it?

Answer: Water it as the soil begins to feel dry to the touch. It certainly won't be daily. In fact, it won't be on a regular schedule of any kind. Don't apply fertilizer until late March or early April. Mow it only as needed to keep it tidy. There really are no big maintenance responsibilities for now.

Dear Neil: I have a large bed of liriope that I would like to divide and use in another shaded bed. Is this a satisfactory time to do it?

Answer: Yes. You can dig and divide both liriope and mondograss at any time of the year. Probably the only time not to do so would be early spring as the new, soft and succulent growth is emerging. Divide it into clumps approximately baseball-sized, and checkerboard them 8 or 10 inches apart.

Dear Neil: What color of oleander is most winter-hardy? When should they be planted?

Answer: For whatever the reason, red oleanders are generally the most winter-hardy. Pink varieties come next, followed by white and then the creamy yellow form. But, any oleander can be damaged by temperatures in the low 20s, especially if the cold spells come after warm spells very early in the winter or in early spring. While fall is the best time for planting most types of trees and shrubs, winter-tender types do better if they're planted in the spring. That gives them the longest possible time to become established before cold rolls through.

Dear Neil: I have three acres in South Central Texas that are covered in native trees and yaupon hollies. About one-fourth of my hollies have died over this past summer. Some are in areas that are irrigated, so it can't be drought. Any ideas?

Answer: I can honestly say that I have never seen any pest or disease kill yaupon hollies. I'm not ignoring your comment about watering, but I must say that all of the dieback I have seen on yaupons and other hollies in the past year has been due to the plants' having gotten too dry one or more times. This year was so unusual with all the heavy rains across big parts of Texas in May, then the terribly dry weather all summer before the fall rains. Hollies don't really wilt, so they can get too dry without our realizing it. Sadly, I've even let that happen with my own plants in past years, so I'm speaking from firsthand experience. It's very difficult for me to look past the possibility that your plants got too dry. Any other cause would be something pretty exotic (extreme woodpecker damage, grade change, herbicide drift, etc.).

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Betenbough Homes sponsored the North Pole In Your Neighborhood event, which took place Dec. 8 at the Betenbough New Home Center on North Highway 349. For each group picture with Santa, Betenbough donated $1 to Big Brothers Big Sisters.

CALENDAR

Compiled from staff reports and from the Arts Council of Midland | acmidland.org

TODAY

MOSC: A Lone Star Brass Christmas, 3 p.m. in the Rea-Greathouse Hall at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. FM 1788. $15. MOSC.org.

"Peter Pan" closes today at Midland Community Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. $28 adults, $20 youth and seniors. Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. mctmidland.org.

"Miracle on 34th Street" presented by TCM. The holiday classic stars Edmund Gwenn, Natalie Wood and Maureen O'Hara and screens with a TCM introduction. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tall City Stadium 14, 4915 W. Loop 250 N. fathomevents.com.

MONDAY

Midland Community Band's weekly meeting and rehearsal at Midland College Fine Arts Building Band Hall. 7-9 p.m. New members welcome and some instruments are available for use at the colledge. Contact 432-553-0632 for more information.

TUESDAY

Christmas at the Mansion: Christmas cartoons in the Blakemore Planetarium. Classic holiday cartoons will be screened daily throughout December. Noon. Tuesday-Saturday at at Museum of the Southwest, 3705 W. Missouri Ave. Free. museumsw.org.

Tuesday Night Open Mic Comedy hosted by Cesar Udave and Willy Olguin. 7 p.m. weekly at Wyndham Garden, 3100 W. Wall St.

Permian Basin Dance Club with live country western bands weekly. 7:30-10 p.m. at St. Stephens Ballroom, 4601 Neely St. 432-520-4343 or 432-296-9840.

Palette Club Painting session from 9 a.m.-noon weekly. Meeting and demonstrations on the second Tuesday of the month. 907 W. Wadley Ave. palleteclubmidland.com.

"Nature Notes" on Marfa Public Radio-Every Tuesday -Thursday at 8:35 a.m. and 4:45 p.m.: KXWT-Midland/Odessa-91.3 FM

Crossing the Line: West Texas Line Dancing weekly meetup. 7:30-9 p.m. at MLK Community Center, 2300 Butternut Lane.
Classes are free but there is a $1 center entry fee. 713-876-9097. bbberesik@gmail.com. meetup.com/CrossingTheLineWestTexas.

WEDNESDAY

"Miracle on 34th Street" encore screening. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tall City Stadium 14, 4915 W. Loop 250 N. fathomevents.com.

Midland Arts Association Meeting, noon at Midland College, Room 185. midlandartsassociation.org.

MusikGarten classes for infants 3-5 years. Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 1412 W Illinois Ave. Call 432-683-4207 for class times and registration.

Story Time, 9:30 a.m. for ages up to 2 years; 10:30 a.m. for ages 2-6 at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch.

THURSDAY

West Texas Dance Club with live country music, 7:30-10 p.m. at 301 E. 61st St. in Odessa. 697-0281 or 631-6125.

FRIDAY

The Texicanos, 8 p.m. at Fire Water Bar and Grill, 3113 W. Industrial Ave. firewaterbarandgrilltx.com.

SATURDAY

Miracle on Tyler Street will feature a Winter Wonderland Village on display through Dec. 31 at Greater Ideal Baptist Church's Family Life Center, 301 S. Tyler Street.

ON DISPLAY

Midland College Printmakers. Works on display by MC artists will feature block prints, etchings, monotypes and more. Kamiposi, 510 S. Big Spring St. Free. On display through Dec. 31. facebook.com/kamiposi.

Winter Exhibit featuring artists from ArtQuest, ArtiZen, Midland Arts Association and Palette Club of Midland, MARC and Rays of Hope. The Gallery at Midland Shared Spaces, 3500 N. A St. midlandss.org.

"Merry Christmas, Charlie Brown" exhibition is organized by the Charles M. Schulz Museum in Santa Rosa, California. The exhibition contains reproduction comic strips, quotes by Schulz, memorabilia from "A Charlie Brown Christmas special" and more. Through Jan. 31, 2016 at Durham Children's Museum. Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday 2-5 p.m. MSW Sculpture Park has 14 sculptures on display along with Ben Wollena's "Windswept."$5 adults, $3 children. Admission free throughout December. Museum of the Southwest 1705 W. Missouri Ave.museumsw.org.

"Rob Vander Zee: Worlds of Present and Future" through Dec. 20. Ellen Noel Art Museum, 4909 E. University Blvd. Odessa. Free admission. noelartmuseum.org.

"Some Things Have Meaning, Others Don't." Works by Zipora Fried feature sculptures, drawings and video. Through Jan. 4, 2016 at Marfa Contemporary, 100 E. San Antonio St., Marfa. marfacontemporary.org.

"Apparat" features works by 13 artists. Through Feb. 14, 2016. Ballroom Marfa, 108 E. San Antonio St. ballroommarfa.org.

Artizen Outlet, 436 Andrews Highway. Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 432-770-3494. artizenoutlet.com.

ArtQuest Studios 700 Andrews Highway. 432-664-3197. artquesttx.com.

Blakemore Planetarium, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. . Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Dome shows Tuesdays -Saturdays. Current screenings include "Zula Patrol: Under the Weather" at noon, "From Earth to the Universe" at 2 p.m. and "Two Small Pieces of Glass" at 4 p.m. Closed Sunday and Monday. 432-683-2882. museumsw.org.

George Bush Childhood Home. Tours and gift shop hours are 2-5 p.m. Sundays and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturdays. Admission charged. 1412 W. Ohio Ave., 432-685-1112

Haley Library and History Center, 1805 W. Indiana Ave. Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. 432-682-5785. haleylibrary.com.

Midland Arts Association presents works by Janet Haney, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays, in the Community National Bank lobby, 401 W. Texas Ave., during December. midlandartsassociation.org.

Midland County Historical Museum, 301 W. Missouri Ave. Permanent exhibits include early Midland artifacts, pioneer relics and fossil remains. Archives include photographs, documents, newspapers and extensive obituary files. Open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 2-5 p.m. Free. 432-688-8947.

Midland County Historical Society's Z. Taylor Brown-Sara Dorsey Medallion Home, oldest restored home in Midland. Open by appointment. 213 N. Weatherford St., 432-682-5447.

Midland Shared Spaces Gallery Fall Exhibit with featured artists from ArtQuest, Artizen Outlet, Midland Arts Association and Palette Club of Midland through Dec. 10. 685-0400. sharedspaces.org.

Options Gallery, Odessa College, 201 W. University Blvd. Monday-Thursday 7:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m., Friday 7:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Sunday 2-5 p.m. Free. 432-335-6640. odessa.edu.

Permian Basin Petroleum Museum, 1500 Interstate 20 West. Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday 2-5 p.m. 432-683-4403. petroleummuseum.org.

Scarborough-Linebery House, 802 S. Main St. Call for appointment. Available for rental for weddings and special occasions. 432-685-7368. midlandtexas.gov.

Sibley Nature Center, 1307 E. Wadley Ave. Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 432-684-6827. sibleynaturecenter.org.

DEAR ABBY

Universal Press Syndicate

Pressure of picking good gifts turns office party into a chore

DEAR ABBY: I am an administrative assistant. Part of my job is to make the arrangements for our department Christmas party. Every year we go out in a group of about 15 people. I no longer wish to attend these events. Group settings make me nervous. In addition, we all have to buy gender-neutral gifts to exchange.

I have tried to talk with my boss about it, but he doesn't seem to understand. We have bi-monthly staff meetings, and after everyone is done with business, we always have discussion time for things other than work. Most of us have lunch together every day and talk then. We also have group birthday celebrations four times a year.

I get a sick feeling every time I think about going to this party, and then the headache of trying to choose a gift that won't be made fun of. (I am not good at it.) Last year I called in sick so I wouldn't have to attend. I have tried taking a personal day off, but then my boss gets mad at me. Should I be forced to go to this? — NOT A GIFT PICKER IN ST. PAUL

DEAR NOT A GIFT PICKER: No, you shouldn't. Because you find these functions to be onerous, consider putting in a short appearance at the Christmas party and then "rushing off" because you have a "schedule conflict." As to your gift selection problem, at this time of year most people are inundated with catalogs with all sorts of offerings. Open a few, select any item in your price range and order it. Or consider a gift card. Problem solved.

DEAR ABBY: Is it OK to hang up the phone on someone who's making you angry on a personal call? I'm referring to adult conversations, not children calling each other.

For instance, when I'm talking to my husband, my mother or a friend and the conversation has deteriorated to an argument or become unbearable and insufferable, can I just hang up the phone? Or must I first blurt out, "I'm hanging up the phone now"?

Are there rules for hanging up the phone angry? Do manners require that phone calls must end by mutual agreement? Please, Abby, give us your permission to "cut off the crazies." — SICK OF IT IN MICHIGAN

DEAR SICK OF IT: I do not think it is constructive to slam the phone down. If a caller becomes abusive, you could say, "I can't listen to this," or, "We'll talk later when you're not upset," before putting the phone down. However, if these ugly conversations happen often, you might be wise to consider screening your calls before answering.

DEAR ABBY: After reading about the woman who accidentally passed gas in the office after eating "beans, the musical fruit," I have to share the following:

An elderly married couple were attending church one Sunday when halfway through the sermon the wife turned to her husband and whispered, "I just let out a long, silent toot! What should I do?" The husband replied, "Replace the battery in your hearing aid!" — ONLINE READER IN TEXAS

DEAR ONLINE READER: Versions of that joke have been around since Cary Grant told it to my mother — but it's still funny. Thanks for sharing.

Have yourself a merry, little ... wedding

By Leanne Italie
Associated Press

NEW YORK — From red marzipan bows on the cake to holiday wreaths on tables, December brides and grooms have found many ways to incorporate Christmas into their weddings.

December nuptials remain a small minority — 2 percent of couples surveyed last year by the bridal site TheKnot.com — and not all are looking to take on the holiday in a big way, but embracing readily available festive decor makes it easy to incorporate the spirit of the season. And it saves money in the process.

"But couples should keep in mind that there may be competition for venues thanks to holiday parties," said Lauren Kay, senior style editor for TheKnot.

Brighid Molway and David Burns plan to take photos in front of a huge Christmas tree inside the 900 North Michigan Shops when they tie the knot the evening of Dec. 19 at a downtown Chicago hotel. Their DJ has a play list of holiday songs, including Elvis singing "Blue Christmas" and two versions of "White Christmas" by Bing Crosby and The Drifters.

Molway and Burns will take to the floor at their reception for their first dance as a married couple to Judy Garland singing "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas." Clips from "It's a Wonderful Life" will roll on a screen as they dance, Molway said.

"That was my mom's favorite Christmas movie and she is no longer with us, so we're going to dedicate the dance to her," Molway said. "We decided to get married around this time because it's my favorite time of year. It's also a time that screams family to me."

The two will hand out ornaments at their rehearsal dinner and also plan outside photos taking advantage of the plentiful holiday decorations around town.

For Suzanne McCullough's Dec. 4 wedding five years ago, it started with her dress. She wanted velvet.

"We needed a time of the year when velvet would be appropriate so we decided on Christmas, which I think is the most romantic time of the year anyway," said McCullough, of Burlington, New Jersey.

"We were married in a 300-year-old bed-and-breakfast that was beautifully decorated for Christmas. We served a hot wine punch with hors d'oeuvres and a croquembouche for dessert," she said.

Their centerpieces were wreaths with frosted red berries tucked in and a mirror and a votive candle at the center. McCullough's bouquet featured red and white flowers, and a flower girl wore a sparkly, Christmas red dress.

"The town's Christmas parade was going on while we were being married," she recalled.

Associated Press

Suzanne McCullough kisses her husband, Charles McCullough, as niece Aria Scaglione looks on Dec. 4 at the couple's wedding at the Lily Inn in Burlington, N.J. From red marzipan bows on the cake to holiday wreaths on tables, December brides and grooms have found many ways to incorporate Christmas into their weddings.

Kellee Khalil, founder and chief executive of the wedding site Lover.ly, said incorporating holiday touches can span the wedding experience, Khalil said.

Try serving up some seasonal favorites, for instance, such as roast turkey or ham. Embrace modern mixology with cocktails like a peppermint bark martini or a bourbon-cranberry blizzard.

"If you're not about those flavors, opt for more festive accoutrements like red and white or metallic-stripe straws and swizzle sticks with candy cane stirrers," Khalil suggests.

Couples can orchestrate holiday decor without falling prey to a played-out color palette, she said.

"I love mixing metallics like gold, silver, bronze, rose gold, platinum and pearl into tablescapes.

"Or get a little bit more literal with mistletoe. Hang it at the altar or use it as the muse for your photo booth," Khalil said.

For couples willing to go over the top, treat guests to a performance by carolers, she said. Maybe have Santa make an appearance for little guests. Set up a hot cocoa and cookie station with frosting to keep them occupied.

Susan Colby was married Dec. 14, 2013, at a Chicago hotel that was beautifully decorated for the season. Her white, four-tier cake had an edible bow at the top, with ribbons cascading down to the red tablecloth at the cake station. Her groom wore a red bow tie and vest with his tuxedo and Colby's bouquet was red roses.

For photos, they draped themselves in a string of twinkling snowflake lights that matched a snowflake bauble in her hair.

Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

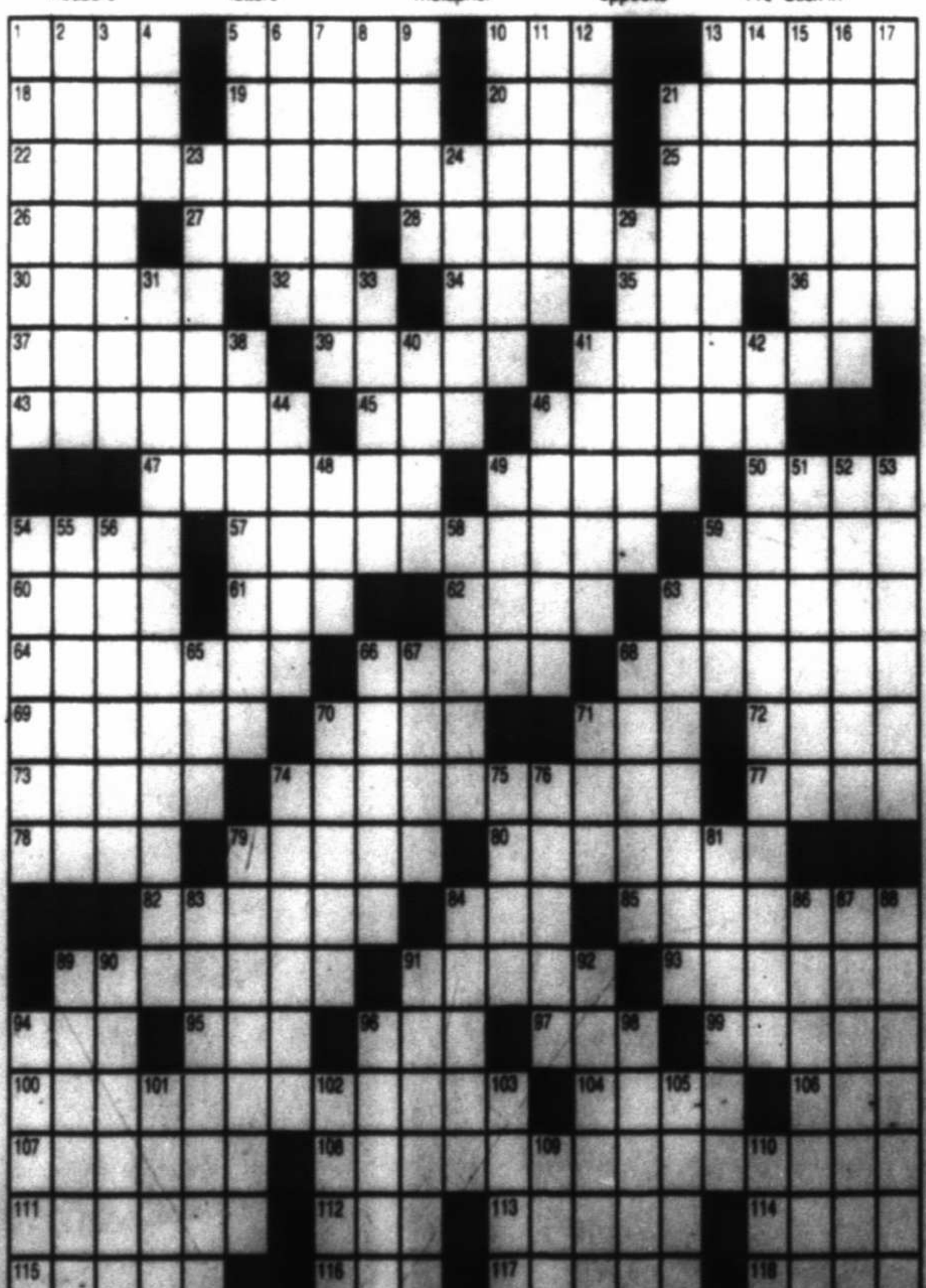
"LA-LA LAND" By GARRY MORSE

ACROSS

1 Dance with a queen
5 Facebook tally
10 Bug
13 Conductor's setting
18 Texter's guffaw
19 The Little Mermaid
20 Catching-on cry
21 Survived the test
22 Cocktail made with Southern Comfort
25 Rat, for one
26 Plural French pronoun
27 Mets' rival
28 Starbucks order
30 Origins
32 Common Market inits
34 From, in German names
35 Texter's "Beats me"
36 __ student
37 How some flowers are planted
39 Kate, before being "tamed"
41 Joined in a film lab
43 Eponymous band location
45 Geologic time unit
46 22-year-old golf phenom Jordan who won the Masters, U.S. Open and FedExCup in 2015
47 Syrup source
49 Disreputable
50 12-member oil gp.
54 Eighth-century year
57 Windows material
59 Italy's La __
60 Like some hygiene
61 Prince __ Khan
62 Chicago mayor Emanuel
63 Reproductive units
64 Like an ill-equipped rowboat
66 Wranglers, e.g.
68 Sub compartment
69 King who succeeds his father, say
70 Of the highest quality
71 Old televangelist org.
72 Old, to Oskar
73 Takes it easy
74 With "The," 2002 Steven Pinker best-seller subtitled "The Modern Denial of Human Nature"
77 School barometer
78 Ltr.-bottom letters
79 __ cum laude
80 Cough drop
82 "The Joy Luck Club" author
84 Dog days mo.
85 Cut back on food intake
89 How food may be salted
91 Threaded hardware
93 "... baked __"
94 Passel
95 GPS offering
96 School attendance drop-off cause
97 __ Miguel, largest of the Azores
99 Balearic island
100 Security measure
104 Machu Picchu dweller
106 Film lover's collectible
107 Web browser?
108 Modifying words
111 Nuts in some ice cream
112 Fair-hiring initials
113 Gradually gather
114 Anesthetize
115 "Later!"
116 One of 400,000-plus in the U.S.
117 Before the crowd
118 Drive-thru transactions: Abbr.

DOWN

1 Grassland
2 Deodorant options
3 In some respects
4 Diamond org.
5 Dalai __
6 Steamed
7 X's in some letters
8 Slender fish
9 Pole or Croat
10 Irritated response to "Aren't you awake yet?"
11 Bonn's river, in Bonn
12 Marx not seen in films
13 Mechanic's set
14 "Ring Cycle" goddess
15 Tryster's request
16 Gave up the ball
17 Chose, with "for"
21 Basketball Hall of Famer who was inducted while a U.S. senator
23 Comeback
24 Expert
29 Fatty compounds
31 Steinbeck novel set in Monterey
33 Look the wrong way, maybe
38 Look beyond
40 Leeway metaphor
41 Muscle malady
42 Dog once shunned because it wasn't black
44 Blinking and sweating, in poker
46 Persian sovereigns
48 For instance
49 Offended smack
51 __ officer
52 Chooses
53 Vampire's bed?
54 Idle drawing
55 Drawing stick
56 Envelope-to-the-forehead TV persona
58 __ salad
59 It starts in Mar.
63 Sailing component?
65 Superman's symbol
66 Big name in fabric stores
67 Sicilian resort
68 Attending an afternoon social
70 Pond plants
71 Guerra's opposite
74 One swinging in a box
75 Derogatory remark
76 Theater sections
79 "Goodness me!"
81 Friendly
83 1963 hit on the flip side of "Candy Girl"
84 Integra maker
86 Gastronome
87 Judges
88 What landlubbers lack
89 Piece on top
90 How chop suey may be served
91 Race with gates
92 Relinquishing of rights
94 Cookbook amts.
96 Speedy
98 Oscar winner at age 10
101 Down Under howdy
102 Vicinity
103 Monthly budget amt.
105 Harlem sch.
109 Dockworker's org.
110 Stick in



12/20/15 xwordeditor@aol.com ©2015 Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Bob Jones

More world-class defense

Neither vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♠ 6 5
♥ J 10 7 5 3 2
♦ Q 10 7 2
♣ 5

WEST
♠ 10 4
♥ 9 6
♦ J 6 5 4
♣ J 10 7 6 3

EAST
♠ Q 8 3
♥ A K 8
♦ A K 8 3
♣ 9 4 2

SOUTH
♠ A K J 9 7 2
♥ Q 4
♦ 9
♣ A K Q 8

The bidding:

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
1NT	Dbl	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
Dbl	All pass		

Opening lead: ?

The Bermuda Bowl was recently contested in Chennai, India. Today's deal is from the match between the two American teams. Note the aggressive four-spade bid made by North at both tables, after similar auctions.

At one table, the jack of clubs was led. Declarer won, ruffed a club in dummy, and led a trump to the jack. When that held and the trumps behaved, he had his 10 tricks.

At the table we are featuring here, East and West were John Kranyak and Vince Demuy, respectively. Demuy found the killing lead of the nine of hearts, but excellent defense was still required to defeat the contract. Kranyak won the first trick with the king of hearts and continued with the ace. What next? It wasn't clear that a third round of hearts would create a trick and he might have two cashing diamond tricks.

Kranyak found an expert solution. He led the king of diamonds. Demuy realized that Kranyak also held the ace of diamonds and needed to know if a second diamond was cashing. Demuy followed with the six of diamonds, showing an even number of cards in the suit. Kranyak now led a third heart, and Demuy's 10 of spades was enough to uppercut a trump trick for the defense. Down one!

Note that a third heart before cashing a diamond would allow declarer to discard his diamond as West ruffed. South might mis-guess the trumps from this position, but the defenders would no longer be in control.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, Dec. 20, 2015:
This year you have the energy and wherewithal to create much more of what you desire from life. Your ability to follow through on daily matters remains high.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★ You need to use all your energy in a positive way. You might want to get involved with a favorite winter sport. Take an overview of what you need to do.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★ If you want to take the day off, make it so. Time off during this busy season could refuel your energy. You don't need to explain anything to anyone.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★ You might need to gain a different perspective about a personal matter. One of the best ways is to pull yourself away from the issue and go enjoy yourself in a different situation.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★ All eyes look to you for leadership, or at least for ideas as to what to do. You might be up for a lazy brunch and visit with friends.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ You might be in the midst of a difficult situation. Try not to get involved, and go on your merry way. You don't need to resolve everyone else's problems.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★★ One-on-one relating will be very satisfying. You have an opportunity to catch up on someone's news. As a result, you'll enjoy the depth that exists between you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Others will be running with the ball before you even arrive. Make their dominance OK. Your need for some special downtime will help you feel great.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★ Clear out some of your obligations involving the holidays. By the late afternoon, you will be able to start enjoying yourself. .

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ You could feel pushed by a child or new friend. You might feel pressured by a situation involving an older person.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ Attend to a family matter, and don't lose your focus when it comes to a relative; this person needs your attention.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ You could be full of energy and ready to proceed with your plans; however, you might get caught up in a long conversation.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★ Getting everything done would be nice, but you don't want to miss an opportunity to visit with friends and family.

BORN TODAY
TV producer Dick Wolf (1946), businessman Harvey S. Firestone (1868), actress Irene Dunne (1898)

ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE

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

52 FACES OF COMMUNITY

To nominate a Face of Community, please visit mrt.com/52Faces

PRESENTED BY CHEVRON AND THE MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

SUNDAY MORNING — DECEMBER 20, 2015

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

	G	S	R	C	W	6 AM	6:30	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30
KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	In Touch Ministries		GMA/Sunday		The Truth	House	J.Jones	This Week		Church	Paid	Paid
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	Paid	Hunt	Paid	M. Lyon	CBS Sunday Morning			FaceNat.	First Baptist Church		First Baptist Odessa	
KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	F Troop	F Troop	BackKotter	BackKotter	Gilligan	Gilligan	SaveBell	SaveBell	SaveBell	SaveBell	BradyB.	BradyB.
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Support	W.Minist	Insight	FaithAve	Fox News Sunday		Odessa	Rain	NFL Kickoff (L)		Fox NFL Sunday (L)	
KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	Light of Southwest		Walking	Mission	In Touch Ministries		Zion	R/Manusc	Day Disc.	Enarson	Nueva Vida	
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	Havas	Secrets	Mercury	B&N Min.	Sunday Today (N)		Meet the Press (N)		First Baptist Church		W.America	Whack
KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	Sesame	D.Tiger	Curious George...		Sid	Wild Kratts		Odd Sqd	Arthur	Cyberch.	Wild K.	Maya&M.
KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	Pagado	Pagado	Programa pagado		Rosa "en Navidad"		Al punto		La abuela fue		Pocoyo	Amigos
KOSA MNT	16	16		16		JTV	JTV Direct	Spaces	Homeown.	Green	Hazelton	O.House	HomeT.	Bucket	RawTrav.	The NFL Today (L)	
FLIX	340	575		165		★★ The Adventures of Huck Finn				Things to Do in Denver When You're ...				★★ Mansfield Park Frances O'Connor.			
HBO	300	550	14	14		Movie	(:45) ★★ Rumor Has It Kevin Costner.				Boxing After Dark				(:45) Fight	1stLook	Movie
HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	Movie	(:45) Real Sports		(:45) Vice		(:35) Kingsman: The Secret Service				Making	★★ Best in Show	
HBOS	304	552	16	102		(5:10) Because I S...		(:55) The Ladies...		(:20) Promised Land Matt Damon.				(:10) GetOn	(:45) ★★ Burn After Reading		
MAX	380	557	17	120	24	(5:30) What's Up, ...		(:05) ★★★ Neighbors			(:45) ★★★ Jupiter Ascending ('15, Sci-Fi) Mila Kunis.					(:55) A Walk Am...	
MAX2	382	558	18	122		(:55) ★★★ Moulin Rouge! Nicole Kidman.				(:05) ★★ The Other Woman				(:55) Blackhat ('14, Act) Chris Hemsworth.			
PLEX			96			(:20) ★★ Sugar and Spice			(:45) ★★ Mixed Nuts Steve Martin.				(:25) Robin Cook's Terminal			Armed & Dange...	
SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	(4:55) The 6th Day		Inside the NFL		60 Minutes Sports		Homeland		Homeland	(:45) Homeland		Homeland
TMC	336	573	22	155	26	Movie	(:45) Lost Christmas ('11, Dra) Eddie Izzard.				(:25) ★★ Vampire Academy			(:10) Safelight Evan Peters.			Movie
A&E	27	58	28	35	47	C.Minds "Conflicted"		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		C.Minds "Hopeless"		★★ Ocean's Twelve George Clooney.			
AMC	40	74	23	42	51	(5:00) ★★★ Outbreak Dustin Hoffman.				★★ The Karate Kid ('84, Dra) Pat Morita, Ralph Macchio.						Dragon: The Bru...	
BET	58	-		40		D. Grier	Creflo	★★★ Down in the Delta ('98, Dra) Esther Rolle, Al Freeman Jr.						★★ First Sunday ('08, Com) Ice Cube.			
BRAVO	65	76		41		A.Studio "Steve Carell"		Top Chef		Top Chef		Chef "It's a Dry Heat"		Work Out New York		Work Out New York	
CNBC	46	52		39	72	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
CNN	43	50	51	30	56	New Day Sunday		New Day	Politics	State of the Union		Fareed Zakaria GPS		Reliable Sources		State of the Union	
DISC	50	60	31	24	42	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Mnshiner "Still Life"		Moonshiners		Gold Rush		Rush "Parker's 21st"	
DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	Mickey Mouse Club		M.Mouse	Sofia 1st	Descend.	Dog Blog	Austin	Liv/Mad	Bunk'd	Underc.	Girl M.	Friends
ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	SportsCenter		SportsCenter		SportsCenter		NFL "Sunday Edition"		Sunday NFL Countdown (L)			
ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	30 for 30 "Four Falls of Buffalo"				OLines	Report	SportsCenter		Fantasy Football Now			
FAMILY	53	63	34	42	33	Rudolph's New Year		★★ Jack Frost ('98, Fam) Michael Keaton.				★★ Prancer ('89, Fam) Cloris Leachman, Sam Elliott.					Movie
FNC	45	48	53	23	55	(5:00) FOX & Friends Sunday						Morning Futures		Media Buzz		News HQ	Housecall
FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Barefoot Contessa		The Pioneer Woman		Southern	Big Bite	Patti (N)	Cooking	Holiday	Pioneer	Heart	Brunch
FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	Diaries	Mavericks	Huddle	Texans	Paid	Paid	H.S. Scoreboard		Countdown (L)		NCAA Basketball	
FX	31	56	59	64	69	Ellen	Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Mother	Mother	Mother	Mother	★★★ Salt ('10, Act) Angelina Jolie.				Movie
HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	(5:00) Let It Snow		Matchmaker Santa Lacey Chabert.				A Bride for Christmas Andrew W. Walker.				A Christmas De...	
HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper	
HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	Cajun	Cajun	Cajun	★★ Troy (2004, Action) Orlando Bloom, Eric Bana, Brad Pitt.							Rome: Engineering	
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	In Touch Ministries		Amazing	David Jer.	J.Osteen	Paid	Unsolved Mysteries		A Snow Globe Christmas Christina Milian.			
MSNBC	47	53		49	73	Lockup	Business	PoliticsNation		Up		Melissa Harris-Perry				Weekends-Alex Witt	
NBCSN	38	43				MatchDay	Leauge Live (L)		EPL Soccer Liverpool at Watford (L)				Live	EPL Soccer West Ham U. vs Swansea (L)			
NICK	55	-	39	34	37	ALVINNN	ALVINNN	Dino	Dino	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	Ninja	Sponge	Cat Noir	ALVINNN
SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	Paid Program		Paid Program		Power	Power	Power	Power	★★★ Law Abiding Citizen Jamie Foxx.			
SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	(5:00) Paid Program		Expanse "Dulcinea"		Childhood's End "Night One: The Overlords"				Childhood's End "Night Two: The Deceivers"			
TBS	25	33	44	66	41	Seinf. 1/2	Seinf. 2/2	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	★★ The Sorcerer's Apprentice				Percy Jackson ...	
TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(5:00) Follow the...		★★★★ Scrooge ('70, Mus) Albert Finney.				★★★ It Happened on Fifth Avenue				Meet Me in St....	
TELE	20	-	10	20		Pagado	Pagado	Pagado	Pagado	Raggs	Noodle	De chica	LazyTown	Pagado	Pagado	Pagado	Angel
TLC	51	61	32	38	52	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Yes Dress	Yes Dress	Yes Dress	Yes Dress	Yes Dress	Yes Dress	Yes Dress	Yes Dress
TNT	24	34	40	26	50	Law & Order		Law & Order		LawOrder "Magnet"		Law & Order		Law & Order		Law & Order	
TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	(:10) Chris	(:50) G. Girls	(:25) The Golden Girls		G. Girls	(:35) G.Girls	(:10) G.Girls	(:50) G.Girls	(:25) The Golden Girls		G. Girls	G. Girls
USA	26	55	42	27	49	Paid	Turning	Miracles	J.Osteen	Chrisley	Donny!	★★★★ Raiders of the Lost Ark Harrison Ford.					Movie
WGN	19	85				Lord	Creflo	Key David	Paid	Law & Order		Parks/Rec	★★★ Grumpy Old Men ('94, Com) Jack Lemmon.				

SUNDAY AFTERNOON — DECEMBER 20, 2015

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

	G	S	R	C	W	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30
KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Paid	Paid	To Be Announced		TBA	Barbara Walters			Paid	Paid	News	Paid
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	NFL Football Houston Texans at Indianapolis Colts Site: Lucas Oil Stadium (L)							(:25) NFL Football Denver Broncos at Pittsburgh Steelers (L)				
KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	BradyB.	BradyB.	Gilligan	Gilligan	HappyD.	Laverne	Lucy	Lucy	The Love Boat		The Love Boat	
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	NFL Football (L)						The OT	For the Holidays (N)		Paid	Paid	Paid
KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	S. Baras	Mani Erfan	Z. Levitt	Sal.	Light of Southwest		Light of Southwest		Joshua	Biblical	House	About Us
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	TBA	World of Adventure Sports			Dew Tour Highlights		ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix				Inside Ed.	News
KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	Innovati	2.Opinion	Yoga	W.L.Yoga	Sewing	Beads	Nature		Nova		News. (N)	Ireland
KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	Mickey	Mickey	Handy	Handy	Republica deportiva		Rosa "en Navidad"		Laura Pausini		Nacional	Noticiero
KOSA MNT	16	16		16		America	Gigging	Green	Homes	CARS.TV	AmAthlete	Entertainers		Missing	Insider	The Good Wife	
FLIX	340	575		165		★★ The Crossing Guard Jack Nicholson.				★★★ Ruthless People			(:35) ★★ Superstar			★★ Metro	
HBO	300	550	14	14		(11:30) ★★ Joyful Noise			U2: Innocence + Experience Live in Paris					★★ The Maze Runner Dylan O'Brien.			
HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	Movie	The Signal Brenton Thwaites.			(:10) Ties That Bind		(:10) Wish I Was Here Zach Braff.				Get On	Get On
HBOS	304	552	16	102		Movie	(:25) ★★★ Bull Durham			(:15) Boxing (L)						Fight	Movie
MAX	380	557	17	120	24	Movie	(:50) ★★★ Miami Vice ('06, Act) Colin Farrell.					(:05) ★★★ The Invasion			(:45) The Knick		Movie
MAX2	382	558	18	122		(:10) ★★ Reindeer Games Ben Affleck.				★★★ Snatch ('01, Com)			(:45) ★★ Tammy Melissa McCarthy.				Movie
PLEX			96			Movie	★★★ Clue Tim Curry.			(:10) MacShayne: The Final ...			(:45) ★ Let It Ride			(:20) Mixed Nuts	
SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	Homeland	(:35) Homeland		Homeland	(:20) Homeland		(:10) Homeland		(:05) Homeland		(:05) Homeland	
TMC	336	573	22	155	26	(11:35) Walter		(:05) ★★★★ 12 Monkeys Bruce Willis.				(:15) ★★ Vampire Academy Zoey Deutch.				Rampart	
A&E	27	58	28	35	47	(10:00) Ocean's ...		You Do?		You Do?		You Do?		You Do?		You Do?	
AMC	40	74	23	42	51	(11:00) Dragon: The Bruce L...		★★★ Enter the Dragon ('73, Act) Bruce Lee.						Badlands "The Fort"		Into the Badlands	
BET	58	-		40		(10:00) First Sunday		★★ Waiting to Exhale ('95, Dra) Whitney Houston.						(:15) Madea's Big Happy Family			
BRAVO	65	76		41		VanderR "Love Bites"		VanderR "Spit Take"		Beverly Hills		Beverly Hills		Housewives Atlanta		Housewives Atlanta	
CNBC	46	52		39	72	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
CNN	43	50	51	30	56	Fareed Zakaria GPS		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom	
DISC	50	60	31	24	42	Bush "Dock-U-Drama"		Alaskan Bush People		Alaska/Frontier		Alaska/Frontier		Alaska/Frontier		Alaska/Frontier	
DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	Friends	Austin/Ally	I Didn't	Liv/Mad	Jessie	Jessie	Girl M.	Bunk'd	Austin	Liv/Mad	Friends	Underc.
ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	PBA Bowling		SportsC.	30 for 30 "Trojan War"			30 for 30 "The Gospel According to MAC"				SEC	SEC
ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	Billiards		Billiards		Billiards		Poker World Series		Poker World Series		Poker World Series	
FAMILY	53	63	34	42	33	(11:45) ★★ A Christmas Carol Jim Carrey.				The Nightmare Before Chr...			(:45) ★★ The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause				
FNC	45	48	53	23	55	America's News HQ		Fox News Sunday		Property	Journal E.	America's News HQ		Media Buzz		Fox News Sunday	
FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	The Kitchen		Guy's Game		F. Fight	Beat Flay	Chopped		Chopped Junior		Hol.Bake "Re-Gifting"	
FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	(11:00) NCAA Basketb.		NCAA Basketball Abilene Christ. vs TCU (L)				Texans Wrap (L)		Game365	Crashed Ice		
FX	31	56	59	64	69	(11:30) ★★★ This Means War			★★★ 21 Jump Street ('12, Act) Jonah Hill.					★★★ Star Trek ('09, Sci-Fi) Chris Pine.			
HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	(11:00) A Christma...		A Christmas Melody (2015, Drama)				A Princess for Christmas Katie McGrath.				Royal Christmas	
HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	Love It or List It		Love It or List It		Love It or List It		Love It or List It		Love It or List It		Love It or List It	
HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	(11:00) Rome: Engin.		Caligula: 1400 Days of Terror				Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.	Pawn S.
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	The Spirit of Christmas Jen Lilley.				Dear Secret Santa ('13, Dra) Tatyana Ali.				All About Christmas Eve Haylie Duff.			
MSNBC	47	53		49	73	(11:00) Alex Witt		Meet the Press		Caught on Camera		Caught on Camera		Caught on Camera		Caught on Camera	
NBCSN	38	43				Goal Zone (L)		Match of the Day (L)		Premier League		NASCAR	Racer TV	Motorsport Hour (N)		Motorsport Hour (N)	
NICK	55	-	39	34	37	ALVINNN	ALVINNN	SpongeBob "SpongeBob's Christmas in Bikini Bottom"					SpongeBob		SpongeBob "Runaway Roadtrip"		
SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	Movie	★★★ Four Brothers ('05, Act) Mark Wahlberg.					Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue	
SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	Childhood's End "Night Three: The Children"				★★★ Angels and Demons ('09, Myst) Tom Hanks.						★★★★ Skyfall	
TBS	25	33	44	66	41	(11:00) Percy Jack...		★★★ Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters					★★★ The Dark Knight Rises Anne Hathaway.				
TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(11:00) Meet Me ...		★★ The Blue Bird			(:45) ★★★ Come to the Stable				How Green Was My Valley?		
TELE	20	-	10	20		Enfoque	Monster House Mitchel Musso.			Apocalypto ('06, Dra) Dalia Hernández, Rudy Youngblood.						Noticiero	Videos
TLC	51	61	32	38	52	Yes Dress	Yes Dress	Yes Dress	Yes Dress	Hoarding		Hoarding		Hoarding		Hoarding	
TNT	24	34	40	26	50	★★ Surviving Christmas Ben Affleck.				(:05) Grinch	(:40) ★★★★ The Wizard of Oz Judy Garland.					Four Christmases	
TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba
USA	26	55	42	27	49	(11:30) Indiana Jones & the Temple of ...				(:05) ★★★★ It's a Wonderful Life ('46, Dra) James Stewart.						Jingle All the ...	
WGN	19	85				★ Beverly Hills Chihuahua				The Search for Santa Paws				Santa Buddies ('09, Fam) Craig Anton.			

SUNDAY PRIME TIME — DECEMBER 20, 2015

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

	G	S	R	C	W	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMID ABC	3	3	4	3	2	★★★★ The Sound of Music: Sing-a-Long ('65, Mus) Christopher Plummer, Julie Andrews. A woman leaves an Austrian convent to become a governess to a widower's seven children.								KMID News	(:35) Cowboys	(:05) Monopoly	(:35) Paid Program
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7	(3:25) NFL Football	60 Minutes		Boss "Buffalo Wings and Rings" (SP) (N)		Madam Secretary		CSI: Cyber "Shades of Grey" (N)		CBS 7 News	(:05) CBS 7 Wire	(:35) Element.
KWWT CW	5	14		5	14	A. Griffith	A. Griffith Show	Columbo "Publish or Perish" Publisher hires gunman.			M*A*S*H	The Odd Couple	Honey-mooners	Cheers	B.New-hart	MaryTy-lerM.	Taxi
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Miss Universe Pageant The most beautiful women in the world will compete to become the next Miss Universe. (L)						Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	2 Broke Girls	Texans Show	Jack Van Impe	Met Your Mother
KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11	Mission: M25	Shepherd's Heart		Walking	Light of the Southwest		Light of the Southwest		Rocks/Manuscripts	Update News	Lars Enarson	Creation Proclaims
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9	9	Football Night in America (L)		(:20) NFL Football Arizona Cardinals at Philadelphia Eagles Site: Lincoln Financial Field -- Philadelphia, Pa. (L)							(:35) News	Country Reporter	Whacked Out
KPBT PBS	13	13		13	8	G. Trekker "Art Trails of the French Riviera"		GrtHouse "Goodwood House" (N)		Masterp. "Downton Abbey, Season Five"		Masterpiece Classic "Downton Abbey, Season Five"			Salute Downton	The Forsyte Saga	
KUPB UNI	4	4		4	16	El gordo y la flaca "Noche de estrellas"		Premios Univision Deportes				Sal y pimienta		Familia P. Luche	Noticiero Univision	Republica deportiva	
KOSA MNT	16	16		16		Rizzoli & Isles		Castle		Scandal		Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Anger M.	Office	NameG.	Fam.Feud
FLIX	340	575		165		(5:00) ★★ Metro		★ Desert Saints			★★★ Ground Control			(:10) ★★ The Crossing Guard			
HBO	300	550	14	14		★★ Divergent ('14, Act) Shailene Woodley.					Insurgent ('15, Sci-Fi) Shailene Woodley.				Gone Girl Ben Affleck.		
HBO2	302	551	15	101	23	Get On	Getting On	Get On	Get On	★★★★ Kingsman: The Secret Service				(:15) ★★★ Horrible Bosses 2			
HBOS	304	552	16	102		(5:45) American Sniper Bradley Cooper.				★★★★ John Wick			(:45) ★★★★ The Last King of Scotland				Movie
MAX	380	557	17	120	24	(5:45) That Awkw...		(:20) ★★★ Neighbors Seth Rogen.				★★ Face/ Off ('97, Act) John Travolta.				(:20) Sexual Wis...	
MAX2	382	558	18	122		(5:25) The Marine		The Knick		★★ Just Friends			(:35) ★★ Unhitched			(:15) Super Troo...	
PLEX			96			(5:20) Mixed Nuts		★★★ Clue Tim Curry.			(:40) Armed and Dangerous			(:10) ★ Let It Ride			Movie
SHOW	320	565	19	140	25	Homeland		The Affair		Homeland (N)		The Affair (SF) (N)		Homeland		The Affair	
TMC	336	573	22	155	26	(5:00) Rampart		★★★ Pulp Fiction ('94, Cri) John Travolta.					(:35) ★★★★ 12 Monkeys ('95, Sci-Fi) Bruce Willis.				
A&E	27	58	28	35	47	What Would You Do?		The Making of Trump "The Swagger"				Donald Trump		You Do? (N)		Trump "The Swagger"	
AMC	40	74	23	42	51	Into the Badlands		Into the Badlands		Into the Badlands		Badlands (N)		Into the Badlands		Into the Badlands	
BET	58	-		40		(4:15) Madea's Bi...		★ For Colored Girls ('10, Dra) Janet Jackson, Phylicia Rashad, Loretta Devine.							(:25) Payne	P. Popoff	Ministries
BRAVO	65	76		41		Atlanta Social (N)		Housewives Atl. (N)		Watch (N)	Work Out NY (N)		Housewives Atlanta		Watch (N)	Housewives Atlanta	
CNBC	46	52		39	72	American Greed		American Greed		American Greed		American Greed		American Greed		American Greed	
CNN	43	50	51	30	56	Finding Jesus		Finding Jesus		Finding Jesus		Finding Jesus		Finding Jesus		Finding Jesus	
DISC	50	60	31	24	42	Alaska/Frontier		Alaska: Exposed (N)		Alaska/Frontier (N)		Alaskan Bush People		Men, Women, Wild		Alaska/Frontier	
DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36	Underc.	Bunk'd	Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinos...			ToyStory	Friends	Liv/Mad	Underc.	Austin	Jessie	Jessie
ESPN	32	35	48	31	30	(5:30) SEC	SportsCenter		30 for 30 "The Gospel According to MAC"				SEC	SportsCenter			SportsC.
ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31	Poker World Series		Poker World Series		Poker World Series		Poker World Series		Poker World Series		ESPN FC	
FAMILY	53	63	34	42	33	National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation				(:15) ★★★ Elf ('03, Com) James Caan, Will Ferrell.					Mickey	J.Osteen	Jeremiah
FNC	45	48	53	23	55	FOX Report Sunday		The O'Reilly Factor		Justice JudgeJeanine		Greg Gutfeld Show		The O'Reilly Factor		Justice JudgeJeanine	
FOOD	64	70	27	68	54	Guy's Grocery Games		Guy's Game (N)		Holiday Baking (N)		Cuthroat (N)		Cutthroat Kitchen		Holiday Baking	
FSSW	37	38	50	45	29	Monster Jam (N)		Big 12	Xterra	WPT Poker		Legends Foot (N)		DCowboys	School (N)	WPT Poker	
FX	31	56	59	64	69	(4:00) Star Trek		★★★★ Star Trek: Into Darkness ('13, Sci-Fi) Chris Pine.						★★★ Star Trek ('09, Sci-Fi) Chris Pine.			
HALLMARK	54	71	58		34	(5:00) Royal Chris...		Christmas Land (2015, Drama)				Christmas Under Wraps				Merry Matrimony	
HGTV	63	69	26	48	44	Love It or List It		IslndLif	IslndLif	IslndLif	IslndLif	Island	Island	H.Hunt	House	IslndLif	IslndLif
HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43	Pawn S.	Pawn Star	Ax Men (N)		Ax Men		(:05) Oak Island		(:05) Ax Men		Ax Men "Sloppy Joe"	
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48	Twelve Men of Christmas				A Gift Wrapped Christmas				Twelve Men of Christmas			
MSNBC	47	53		49	73	Sex Slaves		Sex Slaves "Branded"		Locked Up Abroad		Locked Up Abroad		Lockup		Lockup	
NBCSN	38	43				Mobsteel		Mobsteel		Mobsteel		Mobsteel		Match of the Day		MatchOfWeek (N)	
NICK	55	-	39	34	37	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	F.House	F.House	F.House	F.House	Friends		Friends	Friends
SPIKE	30	-	55	53	58	Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue		Bar Rescue	
SYFY	66	82	41	57	67	(5:00) ★★★★ Skyfall Daniel Craig.				★★★ The Bourne Ultimatum ('07, Act) Julia Stiles.					The Bourne Ultimatum		
TBS	25	33	44	66	41	(5:30) The Dark Kn...		BigBang	BigBang	BigBang	BigBang	BigBang	BigBang	★★★ Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters			
TCM	41	75	24	63	66	(4:30) How Green ...		★★★ Broadway Melody of 1940				★★★ Born to Dance Eleanor Powell.				Ben-Hur: A Tale...	
TELE	20	-	10	20		Vecinos invasores ('06, Ani)			★★★ X-Men: First Class ('11, Act) James McAvoy.					Ya era hora		Titulares	Videos
TLC	51	61	32	38	52	Hoarding		Jill Jessa Count On		Jill Jessa Count (N)		Married (N)		(:05) Jill Jessa Count		(:05) Married	
TNT	24	34	40	26	50	(5:00) Four Chris...		The Librarians (N)		Agent X (N)		The Librarians		Agent X		The Librarian: ...	
TVLAND	49	-	35	54	35	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Loves Ray	Queens	Queens	Queens	Queens
USA	26	55	42	27	49	(5:00) Jingle All th...		Santa's Little Helper Mike Mizanin.				Modern	Modern	Modern	Modern	Modern	Modern
WGN	19	85				Santa Paws 2: The Santa Pups				★★★★ The Muppet Christmas Carol				Home Videos		Mother	Mother

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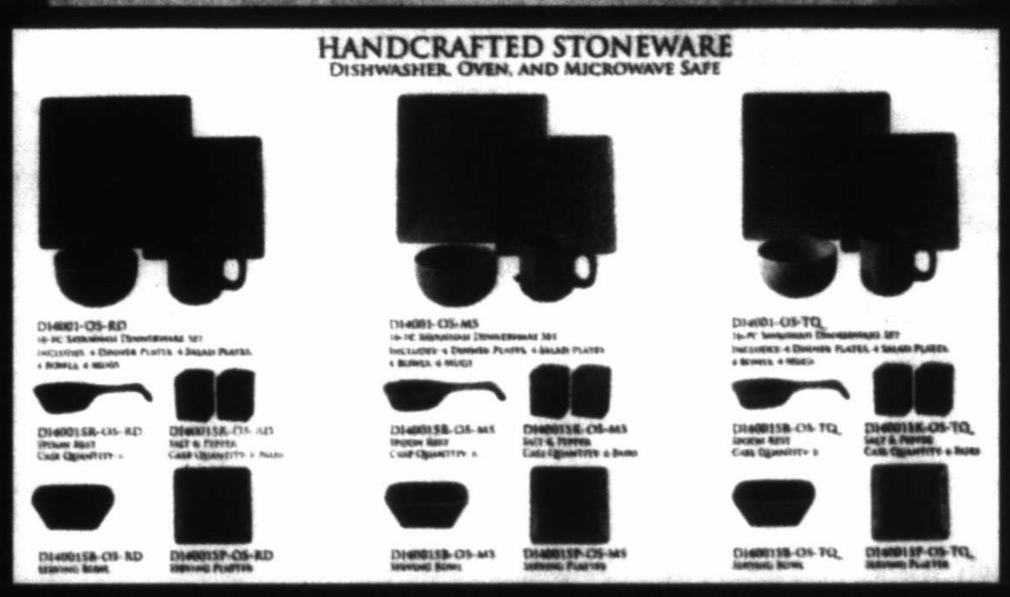

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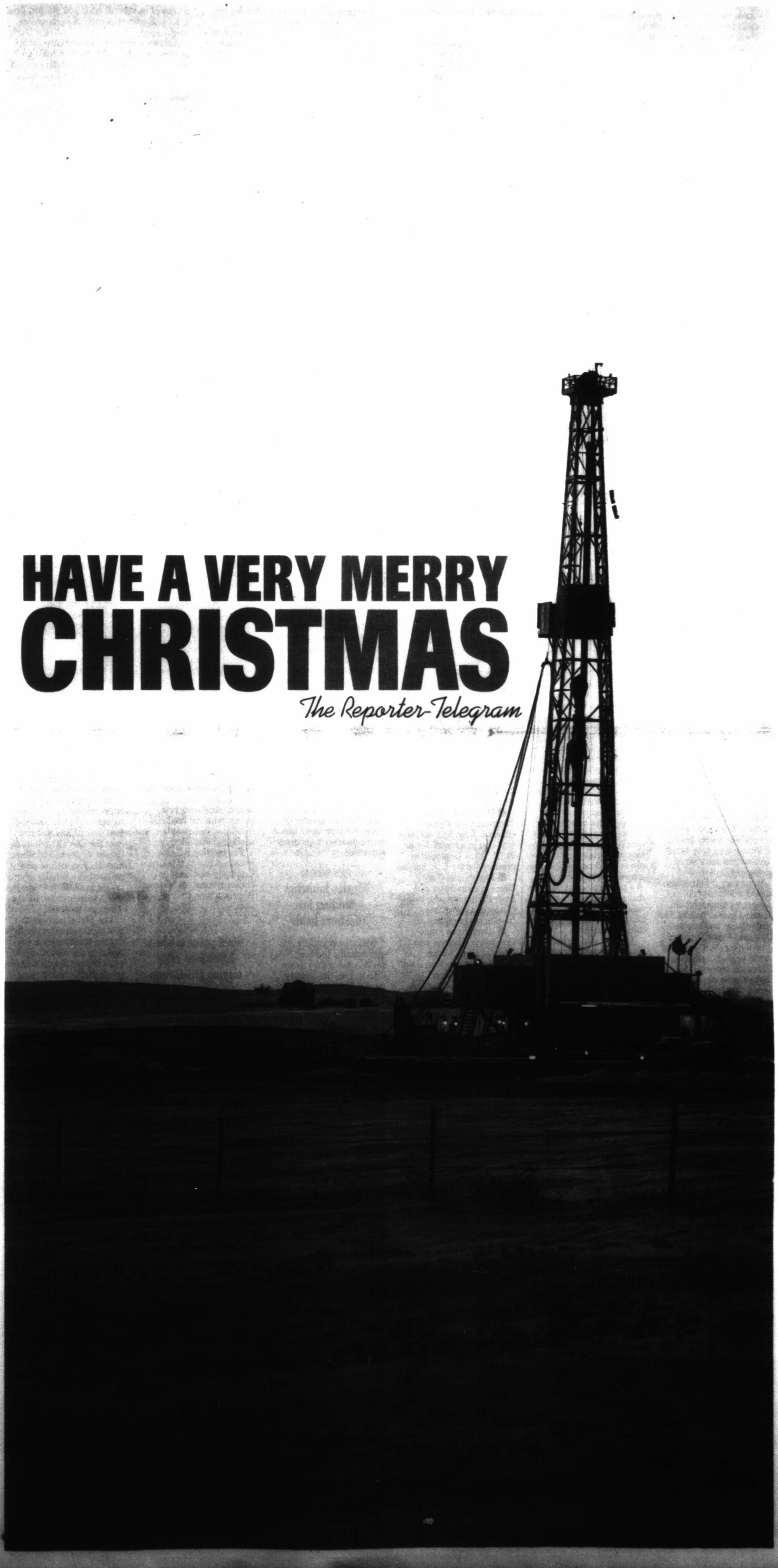

Investment banker: Pressure on E&P cos. likely to intesify

By Mella McEwen
mmcewen@mrt.com

As crude and natural gas prices have plunged over the past year, energy companies have moved to shed assets and form alliances to survive the downturn.

"There's a more visible effect on the exploration and production side," said investment banker Grant Swartzwelder, founder and managing director of Wilcox Swartzwelder & Co.

Speaking from his Dallas office, Swartzwelder said a shrinking borrowing base has pressured exploration companies to sell assets or themselves "to make it work for banks or investors."

He said that pressure is likely to intensify as banks have turned conservative with energy lending and will become more so as bank regulators scrutinize their oil- and gas-related loan portfolios.

Large transactions will happen, but he expects smaller companies to be sold or chunks of smaller companies to be sold.

Concho Resources and Occidental Petroleum are seen as dominant players, he said. Last month's brief attempt by Anadarko Petroleum to buy Apache Corp. was interesting, he said.

"Apache has been very proactive in getting ready for this low-cost environment. Apache has such good assets," he said.

Swartzwelder said that as far as merger and acquisition trends, his company expects that strategic consolidation — primarily to fill in product and service lines — and niches will be the main driver of deals.

Another trend he sees is cautious support from private equity-backed companies for bolt-on acquisitions. Price uncertainty, combined with falling capital spending by exploration and production companies, means deals in the current environment will include some form of non-cash consideration such as stock, earnout and possibly seller financing.

The current economic environment presents an interesting challenge for those seeking to sell and those seeking to buy assets, Swartzwelder said. The assumption is, that in the current downturn there are stressed assets that can be bought for a good price.

"But there's so much capital out there, it's driving prices up," he said.

Those companies focused on the Permian Basin benefit because "everyone is focused on the Permian Basin. It's still the crown jewel and will be. With its acreage and wealth of opportunities, lifting costs that are so competitive, it's definitely the place to be."

There is also renewed interest in vertical drilling in the Midland and Delaware basins because the costs are lower and infrastructure is in place to support drilling and moving production to market.

The picture is far less rosy for the service side of the industry, he said.

"Exploration and production companies have things people want to buy," Swartzwelder said, but there are few buyers for service company assets.

"There are quite a few companies not making money and losing value, but they're not willing to shut down. The question is, what would they do with their assets? What would they do with the organization? They could take some assets to auction, but you need buyers willing to buy. With the outlook for oil prices to remain low through 2016, it's hard to think of someone buying service company assets and holding them until prices recover. You could buy at 30 cents on the dollar, but six months later you may have to sell at 10 cents on the dollar," he said.

There have been reports of 20 percent to 30 percent reductions in service company rates "and probably more in certain areas, like transportation," he said.

Exploration and production companies have spent the last year or more pressuring service companies to cut rates as crude prices continue to fall.

"They've enjoyed low prices, but at some point you'll run some companies out of business. At that point, you'll have less selection or poorer quality of service. It's a case of be careful what you ask for. Low prices come with a cost," Swartzwelder said.

Service companies should keep cash as close as they can, he said. Bankruptcy may not be an option because the process is expensive, and some companies will have no choice but to close their doors, he said.

"Some companies need to shut their doors and liquidate. The question is, who will be the buyers? It's going to be challenging for anyone to have a silver-bullet answer," he said.

"If you look at facilities in Midland and Odessa, they're still full. There aren't that many yards available, there aren't that many offices available. Companies are hanging on. I would have thought you'd see a mass exodus of service companies but that hasn't happened. Of course, many don't have any other option," Swartzwelder said.

"At some point things will turn around and for those who are left standing, there will be huge opportunities. It will be a huge pot of gold at the end of the rainbow."

New CEO hopes to expand STW Resources' portfolio of water solutions

By Mella McEwen
mmcewen@mrt.com

Advances in hydraulic fracturing, coupled with horizontal drilling advances, unleashed a flood of new crude oil and natural gas production from the Permian Basin.

Those advances also unleashed a flood of demand for water, and that, in turn, unleashed a flood of concern about fresh water supplies.

Those concerns prompted Stan Weiner — a veteran of the oil and gas industry whose father, grandfather and two uncles are in the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum Hall of Fame — to found STW Resources. The company was founded on the principle that reclaiming and reusing fracturing flowback and produced water was both an economic and environmental necessity.

Alan Murphy has now been installed as chairman and chief executive officer of Midland-based STW Water Process & Technologies and chief executive officer and chairman of the board of STW Resources Holding Corp., and plans to continue recent trends of introducing new water reclamation and reuse technology.

In January the company hosted a demonstration of a water treatment system licensed by SaltTech of The Netherlands and based on Dynamic Vapor Recompression (DyVaR) cyclonic centrifugal crystalization formation process. The DyVaR units can treat produced, flowback or fracturing water, water with high levels of total dissolved solids or high- salinity water and generate fresh water for use in future drilling, completion or fracturing operations. That eliminates the expense of purchasing fresh water and trucking it to the location, as well as the expense of disposing of produced water.

"That's one of many technologies we're going to bring in as a water solutions-based company," Murphy said.

As the new CEO, he said he plans to widen the company's focus from primarily treating reusing, recovering and reclaiming water to finding alternative water sources no one is using and cleaning up that water for municipal, agricultural, industrial or oil and gas use.

"The primary focus I have currently is on the water needs of West Texas," he said.

The recent drought and influx of people drawn to the area's booming economy has created a need for water sources that is sustainable and can continue to support the growth of oil and gas activity and new businesses coming into the area, he said.

Technology to clean alternative water sources will be sought and demonstrated by the company, he said.

A small DyVaR unit is providing drinking water to Mentone in Loving County. The company just received a permit from the Middle Pecos Water District that will allow it to drill, produce and transport water from the San Andres formation for utilization within Pecos County and surrounding areas. Murphy has had talks with city officials from Midland, Odessa, San Angelo and Abilene on implementing technology to reclaim and clean water to provide a source of drinking water for their residents.

Municipalities aren't the company's only focus. Next month the company will demonstrate technology that is designed to take waste water from the oil field and clean it so that it can be used for agricultural purposes.

"While we're helping one industry, we're helping others," he said,

Desalination technology also will be a major focus, he said. Earlier this year the company demonstrated the DyVaR system in Corpus Christi, using it to turn ocean water into fresh water for residents and creating a revenue stream for the minerals removed from the ocean water. Those minerals can be used in products like batteries.

The company will combine new technology with existing technology to improve performance. For example, Murphy is looking at a new species of bacteria that eats hydrocarbons. If feasible, that bacteria could clean water before it's sent through filtration.

Murphy said he has made the rounds of major financial centers from Los Angeles to New York seeking investors to help finance the company's major projects. He said his efforts have been extremely successful because of the company's portfolio and its water-based services.

Investors in Los Angeles and San Francisco "love the fact we're bringing green technology to oil and gas and creating clean water. The oil and gas industry is not the bad guy. I remind them that, if it wasn't for electricity, they wouldn't have water, and without water they wouldn't have electricity. We need power, we need oil and gas."

Oil and gas operators are quick to embrace new technology that would allow them to reclaim, clean and use fracturing water, flowback water or produced water, Murphy said.

"They understand the need; it affects their bottom line," he said. "I've met with CEOs in Houston and in Midland. They want ways to use other water sources other than fresh water."

The company is prepared to not only design, engineer, install and start water systems and train customers to use them but also maintain those systems. Murphy said he keeps tools in his pickup and will head out to the field to work on a problematic system, even when called at 2 a.m.

"Our job is to find the technologies that work, that work economically and that I will stand behind. I won't put out a technology I won't stand behind," he said.

ENERGYBRIEFS

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

HOUSTON

7 candidates vie for a seat on the Texas RRC

Monday was the deadline for candidates seeking political office in Texas to file paperwork for their campaigns. Among them were seven candidates who announced they were running for a seat on the Railroad Commission, the state's top oil and gas industry regulator.

The position will be left vacant after David Porter, the Republican chairman of the commission who was first elected in 2010, said last week that he would not seek reelection.

The group of challengers seeking Porter's old spot include four Republicans and three Democrats. Here's the list:

- Democrat Lon Burnam is a former state representative from Fort Worth who served nearly two decades in the Texas House, before losing in 2014.
- Republican Wayne Christian from East Texas is a former state. representative who ran for a seat on the RRC in 2014 but lost in a runoff
- Democrat Grady Yarbrough is a former educator from San Antonio who lost in a runoff for the 2012 Texas Democratic primary for the U.S. Senate
- Republican Gary Gates is a businessman from Richmond who owns Gatesco, a real estate investment company.
- Republican John Greytok is a lawyer and lobbyist from Austin.
- Republican Ron Hale is an engineer from Cypress whose website says he is the CEO for Duboise Industries.
- Democrat Cody Garrett is former reporter for CBS 42 in Austin and a Democratic Party precinct chair in Texas.

One surprise move was former Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson saying on Monday that he was declining to run. The Texas Tribune said Patterson cited billionaire Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump among his reasons for not joining the race.

The Tribune also noted that current Republican State Rep. Jim Keffer of Eastland said on Monday that he wouldn't run after deliberating over the weekend.

HOUSTON

Anadarko releases preliminary fourth quarter update

Anadarko Petroleum Corp. announced extensions to the maturity dates of its credit facilities and also provided an interim update on its fourth-quarter performance.

Anadarko extended the maturity of its $3 billion unsecured revolving credit facility to January 2021 and received commitments to renew its $2 billion 364-day credit facility upon its expiration in January 2016, to a new maturity in 2017.

Production increases relative to guidance are being driven by the company's core oil-producing areas in the Wattenberg field and the Delaware Basin. As a result, the company is increasing the midpoint of its fourth-quarter oil sales-volume guidance by more than 15,000 barrels of oil per day to a range of 314,000 to 319,000 BOPD. This outperformance is the primary contributor to a 2 million BOE increase in the company's total fourth-quarter sales-volume guidance, resulting in a new range of 70 to 72 million BOE.

Along with the strong production performance, the company's continued efficiency gains are driving lower capital expenditures, with fourth-quarter capital investment expected to be at or below the mid-point of current guidance. Additionally, the company is continuing to make meaningful improvements to its cost structure, with direct oil and natural gas operating expense per BOE expected to be below the low end of current guidance.

Anadarko also continues to make significant progress at its Heidelberg development in the Gulf of Mexico, which is well ahead of schedule and now expected to achieve first oil in the first quarter of 2016 from the three initial wells, pending regulatory approvals.

HOUSTON

Mexico launches bidding for onshore fields

Mexican regulators began opening the final bids for 25 onshore oil fields Tuesday, as the country pushes forward with a privatization intended to revitalize its energy sector.

The onshore fields hold a smaller bounty of oil and represent less potential investment than some of the offshore fields presented in other auctions. But the bidding's more accessible scale means that a large number of smaller, private Mexican oil and gas operators will for the first time have a way into the country's oil and gas industry — giving the round an outsize symbolic importance for regulators hoping to create a vibrant Mexican industry.

The onshore fields span Mexico's east coast and are concentrated in three regions in the north, central and south of the country along the Gulf of Mexico. Most of them contain fewer than 100 million barrels of oil equivalent.

Fifty-one bidders qualified to submit offers on the properties, including 33 individual companies and 18 consortiums. The majority of the companies are incorporated in Mexico, though a handful of companies from the U.S. and other nations also qualified.

Tuesday's auction is the latest in a round of tenders the Mexican government launched following its December 2013 decision to break its state oil and gas monopoly. Previous rounds have offered up offshore or exploratory blocks, and bidding has mostly been limited the larger companies with the financial resources and expertise needed to drill offshore.

The bidding is being streamed live by Mexico's Comision Nacional de Hidrocarburos, or National Hydrocarbons Commission.

LONDON

Shell plans to shed 2,800 jobs after buying BG Group

LONDON — Royal Dutch Shell says it expects to cut 2,800 jobs once it completes its takeover of rival BG Group.

The losses amount to about 3 percent of the combined workforce, and come on top of Shell's previously announced plan to shed 7,500 staff and contractor positions.

Shell agreed to buy British rival BG Group for $71 billion, or 47 billion pounds, in April. The deal will boost Shell's oil and gas reserves by 25 percent and give it a bigger presence in the fast-growing liquefied natural gas market.

HOUSTON

EIA ups world total for recoverable shale oil

The Energy Department said on Monday that billions more barrels had been added in 2015 to its estimate of recoverable shale oil around the world.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration said that new estimate comes after reviews of shale oil and natural gas reserves in four more countries — the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Chad and Kazakhstan.

The new reserves in those countries pushed up the worldwide total of shale oil that can be recovered using existing technology to 419 billion barrels, a 13 percent rise over the EIA's previous estimate, or about 48 billion barrels. The review also resulted in a smaller increase in shale gas reserves to 7.5 trillion cubic feet, a 4 percent increase.

The EIA report noted that most countries, including the most recent four added to the report, still can't deploy the drilling technology capable of accessing shale oil reserves that has turned the United States into the world's largest oil producer. Only the U.S., Canada, China and Argentina are current shale oil producers, and the U.S. owns more than 90 percent of that production.

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On-Line Land Management Certificate Program-Module 4: Oil and Gas Law and its Impact on Land Practices
Instructor: Alyce Hoge
Start Date: January 5; End Date: January 30
Returning Registrants: $612.50; New Registrants: $662.50

On-Line Division Orders Certificate Program-Module 4: Calculations
Instructor: Sherry Robinson
Start Date: January 5; End Date: January 30
$612.50; the required text is the NADOA Study Guide, which is $75 (one-time charge). Students need to join NADOA for $75 to download the "no cost" manual only available to members.

Petroleum Land Management
Instructor: Alyce Hoge
January 12-13, Tue-Wed, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
$649; Out of State, $674

Fundamentals of Directional Drilling
Instructor: Mark Bland
January 13-15, Wed-Fri, 8:30 a.m .- 3:30 p.m.
$1,295

I.A.D.C. Well Control Drilling/Workover (WellSharp)
Instructor: Larry Chapman
January 25-29, Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
$1,350

New Developments and Best Practices: CO2 EOR and Residual Oil Zones
Instructors: L. Stephen Melzer, Robert Trentham, Ph.D., Ron Wackowski, David Vance, and Ed Payne
January 26-29, Tue-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
$1,895

Polymer Gels for Conformance-Improvement
Instructor: Randy Seright
February 1, Mon, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
$375

On-Line Land Management Certificate Program-Module 5: Legally Enforceable Oil and Gas Contracts
Instructor: Alyce Hoge
New: G069 152Q; Returning: G071 152Q
Start Date: February 1; End Date: February 27
Returning Registrants: $612.50; New Registrants: $662.50

On-Line Division Orders Certificate Program-Module 5: Oil and Gas Law
Instructor: Alyce Hoge
Start Date: February 1; End Date: February 27
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Introduction to Log Interpretation and Quality
Instructor: Gary Batchelier
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$1,095; Out of State, $1,120

Introduction to Well Completion Design
Instructor: Gary Batchelier
February 4-5, Thu-Fri, 8 a.m.-Noon
$695; Out of State, $720

Petroleum Geology for Non-Geologists
Instructor: Paul H. Pause
February 8-11, Mon-Thu, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
$1,835; Out of State, $1,860-lunch included

PHDWIN
Instructor: Celia Payne
February 9-10, Tue-Wed, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
$625; Out of State, $650

PETRA Fundamentals
Instructor: Greg Hinterlong
February 11-12, Thu-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
$625; Out of State, $650

Report: Most oil companies score low on fracturing disclosures

By Joshua Cain
Houston Chronicle

A small group of oil and gas companies have gotten better at disclosing the health and environmental risks associated with hydraulic fracturing, according to a report card for the industry released on Thursday.

But most still don't do enough to address the potential hazards of the well completion process which involves blasting a mixture of water, chemicals and sand underground to unlock tight oil trapped in shale formations.

The groups behind the report are advocacy groups As You Sow and the Investor Environmental Health Network, which promote environmental activism among oil and gas company shareholders, and investment firm Boston Common Asset Management LLC. They say that failing to provide public disclosures of risks from fracturing exposes those companies to financial harm from fines, regulations and disputes with local communities concerned over nearby fracturing activity.

The annual scorecard graded 30 oil and gas companies for disclosures on five criteria: toxic chemicals, water and waste management, air emissions, community impacts, and management accountability.

Despite the low oil price environment that may have encouraged drillers to abandon or slow some disclosures in order to save money, the report's authors found that generally wasn't the case among the companies they studied. More than half of the companies studied improved their scores, with even some "disclosure laggards," as the report called them, showing improvement.

BHP Billiton, the Australia-based mining giant with a significant presence in U.S. oil fields, was again the report's top-ranked company, scoring 32 out of 39 possible points, two years after being ranked among its worst.

But good marks for a small slice of the industry still left the majority of companies, nearly two-thirds of those analyzed for the report, lacking in good disclosure practices. Continental Resources and Whiting Petroleum had two of the worst scores, with just two points each. Carrizo Oil & Gas was the only company to score zero points, recieving the same score for a second year.

The two largest U.S. oil and gas companies, Exxon Mobil and Chevron, also had among the worst scores, with just four points each.

As the report noted, many drilling companies have dealt with increased scrutiny over links between hydraulic fracturing activity in Oklahoma and Texas and recent earthquakes in those states.

"Companies continue to miss opportunities to address issues of public concern that feature prominently in media reports and activist advocacy critical of the industry," the report authors wrote. "While companies increasingly acknowledge induced seismicity as a risk, they often fail to discuss the specific steps they are taking to manage the hazard."

Regulators also are looking into methane leaks from well sites, emissions that activists say significantly reduce the environmental benefits of natural gas. The oil and gas industry has championed natural gas as an alternative to coal power, but reports on plumes of methane over areas of heavy drilling have dampened some of the enthusiasm.

Methane, the main component of natural gas, is a more powerful greenhouse gas than the carbon dioxide natural gas produces during combustion as fuel.

Besides the operating disclosures that could help stave off activist criticism, the report also highlighted what the authors consider some of the best practices in the oil field that could yield environmental benefits.

These include, for example, substituting pipelines for trucks to move water and waste water, enhancing leak detection and repair efforts, and using fewer, safer and more cost-effective chemicals.

Merry Christmas to the Permian Basin!

MID-WEEK WTI AVERAGE PRICES

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SPOT NATURAL GAS PRICE PROFILE

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ENERGYBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

HOUSTON

Cameron shareholders OKs Schlumberger's takeover bid

Cameron shareholders Thursday approved a bid by oil services behemoth Schlumberger to take over the company in a deal worth about $12.7 billion, paving the way for the transaction to close early next year.

In a special meeting Thursday, stockholders "overwhelmingly voted" to adopt the previously announced acquisition of Cameron, the Houston-based oil tool maker said in a statement. Of the shares that voted, 99 percent approved the proposal.

Once the deal gets finalized, Cameron shareholders will get 0.716 shares of Schlumberger stock for every one share of Cameron stock, plus $14.44 in cash.

"We are pleased that our stockholders have clearly recognized and endorsed the significant value generated by this transaction," Cameron CEO Scott Rowe said in a statement. "The combination of the two organizations will create a premier oilfield equipment and services company uniquely positioned to deliver superior value to the industry."

Approval was needed from Cameron shareholders to fuse the two companies together, but Schlumberger's shareholders did not have to vote on the proposal.

The deal has received regulatory approval from the U.S. Department of Justice, which cleared the transaction last month without conditions, but the proposal faces other regulatory hurdles before it can be finalized. The companies are still awaiting regulatory approval from the European Commission as well as other jurisdictions that have not been publicly identified in documents. The companies still expect to close the acquisition in the first quarter of 2016.

HOUSTON

Texas leads nation in both wind and natural gas power growth

Texas is leading the nation by far in the growth of new power generation from both wind and natural gas as more states continue to retire their coal-fired power plants.

Texas accounted for more than one-third of the new wind and natural gas-fired power added to the nation's electric grid this year through September. But all of the nation's growth in wind, solar and gas power only offsets the loss of coal power, according to a new report Tuesday from the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

The national grid this year saw the addition of 5,000 new megawatts of power from gas-fired plants, 4,000 megawatts from wind farms and about 1,500 megawatts from the burgeoning solar industry, but the U.S. lost a whopping nearly 11,000 megawatts from coal plant retirements, according to the report. The coal industry is suffering from a combination of new regulations on emissions and from the cheap price of natural gas that has placed coal at an economic disadvantage.

Texas accounts for about 1,400 new megawatts in gas-fired power — about twice the amount of New Jersey, which is second in new gas power generation — and roughly 1,800 new megawatts in wind power, which is triple the nearly 600 new megawatts of wind in second-placed Oklahoma, according to the EIA. Texas is fifth in new solar power generation in a category where California is the clear leader.

Despite its size though, Texas does not rank among the top states in coal power retirements, even though the Lone Star State has begun to see the elimination of some coal power. The Electric Reliability Council of Texas, which oversees about 90 percent of the state's grid power, projects companies will retire more coal plants in Texas in the coming years.

Although Texas is still heavily reliant on coal power, the shift is quickly occurring. Through October, 48.7 percent of the ERCOT-managed grid power came from natural gas, compared with 28.6 percent from coal. In 2014, the proportions were 41.1 percent gas and 36 percent coal. The rest came from nuclear and wind, with a small portion from solar and other generation.

HOUSTON

Israel gives final approval to Noble's development plans

The Israeli government has agreed to implement a natural gas framework, paving the way for Noble Energy to develop two massive gas fields offshore Israel's coast and ending a year of regulatory limbo for the projects.

By resolving the final sticking points in the antitrust dispute, the Houston-based oil company can begin pressing forward with plans to expand the Tamar and develop the Leviathan. Noble, which has been conducting technical work on the projects and negotiating sales agreements, said it plans to announce a final investment decision on both developments by the end of 2016.

"We are pleased that the Government of Israel, under the leadership of Prime Minister and Minister of Energy, has recognized the importance of natural gas development to the security and economy of Israel and the region," Keith Elliott, senior vice president of the Easter Mediterranean said in a statement. "This enables us to move forward with development planning."

The announcement marks a victory for Noble, which has been working for nearly a year to persuade Israeli government officials and regulators to approve its plans. The company froze its investment last year after an antitrust commissioner raised concerns that the development plans gave Noble and its Israeli partners too much control over the country's newfound bounty of natural gas.

Israel's parliament, the Knesset, approved a deal in September regulating how Noble and its partners can develop the gas fields, resolving a key sticking point in the negotiations. However, an economy minister required to sign off on the deal did not done so. He resigned in November, transferring his authority to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has long been a supporter of the project.

Noble on Thursday said the government has executed a section of the restrictive trade practices act that "resolves and provides exemption from claims of the anti-trust authority" regarding the acquisition of petroleum rights by the Leviathan joint venture partners.

The framework "establishes the regulatory certainty and stability necessary to proceed with the development of the Tamar expansion and Leviathan, while providing transparency for future domestic pricing and natural gas competition in Israel," Noble said in a statement.

The arrangement also enables Noble to and its partners to sell gas extracted from the massive Leviathan field to customers in Israel.

"The development of Leviathan will substantially expand Noble Energy's capacity to deliver gas to Israel and the region, a well as provide a second source of domestic natural gas supply and redundancy of infrastructure for the people of Israel," the company said in a statement.

Noble has a 36 percent stake in the Tamar and a nearly 40 percent interest in the Leviathan. It is the operator of both projects.

HOUSTON

Magnum Hunter seeks bankruptcy amid oil rout

The collapse of fuel prices has claimed another Texas driller.

Magnum Hunter Resources Corp. said Tuesday it is seeking Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, becoming the 19th oil producer in the state to file for bankruptcy since the oil bust began last year.

The Irving-based company, which pumps most of its natural gas and oil from Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale and Ohio's Utica Shale, said it had $6.4 million in cash and $1.1 billion in total liabilities at the end of September. It had 440 employees at the end of 2014.

IOWA

Judge orders city to pay tax rebates to turbine maker

WEST BRANCH — A judge is ordering the city of West Branch to pay nearly $500,000 in tax rebates to a manufacturer of wind turbines.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Jon Scoles ruled Thursday that the city breached an agreement with Acciona Windpower when it refused to reimburse part of its property taxes in 2013 and 2014.

The city had promised the company eight years of property tax rebates, under an agreement in which Acciona would invest $11 million in its West Branch plant and add 110 jobs over five years.

West Branch paid tax rebates the first three years as required. But in 2013, the city accused the company of not living up to its job-creation goal and stopping paying.

Investment banker: Pressure on E&P cos. likely to intesify

By Mella McEwen
mmcewen@mrt.com

As crude and natural gas prices have plunged over the past year, energy companies have moved to shed assets and form alliances to survive the downturn.

"There's a more visible effect on the exploration and production side," said investment banker Grant Swartzwelder, founder and managing director of Wilcox Swartzwelder & Co.

Speaking from his Dallas office, Swartzwelder said a shrinking borrowing base has pressured exploration companies to sell assets or themselves "to make it work for banks or investors."

He said that pressure is likely to intensify as banks have turned conservative with energy lending and will become more so as bank regulators scrutinize their oil- and gas-related loan portfolios.

Large transactions will happen, but he expects smaller companies to be sold or chunks of smaller companies to be sold.

Concho Resources and Occidental Petroleum are seen as dominant players, he said. Last month's brief attempt by Anadarko Petroleum to buy Apache Corp. was interesting, he said.

"Apache has been very proactive in getting ready for this low-cost environment. Apache has such good assets," he said.

Swartzwelder said that as far as merger and acquisition trends, his company expects that strategic consolidation — primarily to fill in product and service lines — and niches will be the main driver of deals.

Another trend he sees is cautious support from private equity-backed companies for bolt-on acquisitions. Price uncertainty, combined with falling capital spending by exploration and production companies, means deals in the current environment will include some form of non-cash consideration such as stock, earnout and possibly seller financing.

The current economic environment presents an interesting challenge for those seeking to sell and those seeking to buy assets, Swartzwelder said. The assumption is, that in the current downturn there are stressed assets that can be bought for a good price.

"But there's so much capital out there, it's driving prices up," he said.

Those companies focused on the Permian Basin benefit because "everyone is focused on the Permian Basin. It's still the crown jewel and will be. With its acreage and wealth of opportunities, lifting costs that are so competitive, it's definitely the place to be."

There is also renewed interest in vertical drilling in the Midland and Delaware basins because the costs are lower and infrastructure is in place to support drilling and moving production to market.

The picture is far less rosy for the service side of the industry, he said.

"Exploration and production companies have things people want to buy," Swartzwelder said, but there are few buyers for service company assets.

"There are quite a few companies not making money and losing value, but they're not willing to shut down. The question is, what would they do with their assets? What would they do with the organization? They could take some assets to auction, but you need buyers willing to buy. With the outlook for oil prices to remain low through 2016, it's hard to think of someone buying service company assets and holding them until prices recover. You could buy at 30 cents on the dollar, but six months later you may have to sell at 10 cents on the dollar," he said.

There have been reports of 20 percent to 30 percent reductions in service company rates "and probably more in certain areas, like transportation," he said.

Exploration and production companies have spent the last year or more pressuring service companies to cut rates as crude prices continue to fall.

"They've enjoyed low prices, but at some point you'll run some companies out of business. At that point, you'll have less selection or poorer quality of service. It's a case of be careful what you ask for. Low prices come with a cost," Swartzwelder said.

Service companies should keep cash as close as they can, he said. Bankruptcy may not be an option because the process is expensive, and some companies will have no choice but to close their doors, he said.

"Some companies need to shut their doors and liquidate. The question is, who will be the buyers? It's going to be challenging for anyone to have a silver-bullet answer," he said.

"If you look at facilities in Midland and Odessa, they're still full. There aren't that many yards available, there aren't that many offices available. Companies are hanging on. I would have thought you'd see a mass exodus of service companies but that hasn't happened. Of course, many don't have any other option," Swartzwelder said.

"At some point things will turn around and for those who are left standing, there will be huge opportunities. It will be a huge pot of gold at the end of the rainbow."

New CEO hopes to expand STW Resources' portfolio of water solutions

By Mella McEwen
mmcewen@mrt.com

Advances in hydraulic fracturing, coupled with horizontal drilling advances, unleashed a flood of new crude oil and natural gas production from the Permian Basin.

Those advances also unleashed a flood of demand for water, and that, in turn, unleashed a flood of concern about fresh water supplies.

Those concerns prompted Stan Weiner — a veteran of the oil and gas industry whose father, grandfather and two uncles are in the Permian Basin Petroleum Museum Hall of Fame — to found STW Resources. The company was founded on the principle that reclaiming and reusing fracturing flowback and produced water was both an economic and environmental necessity.

Alan Murphy has now been installed as chairman and chief executive officer of Midland-based STW Water Process & Technologies and chief executive officer and chairman of the board of STW Resources Holding Corp., and plans to continue recent trends of introducing new water reclamation and reuse technology.

In January the company hosted a demonstration of a water treatment system licensed by SaltTech of The Netherlands and based on Dynamic Vapor Recompression (DyVaR) cyclonic centrifugal crystalization formation process. The DyVaR units can treat produced, flowback or fracturing water, water with high levels of total dissolved solids or high- salinity water and generate fresh water for use in future drilling, completion or fracturing operations. That eliminates the expense of purchasing fresh water and trucking it to the location, as well as the expense of disposing of produced water.

"That's one of many technologies we're going to bring in as a water solutions-based company," Murphy said.

As the new CEO, he said he plans to widen the company's focus from primarily treating reusing, recovering and reclaiming water to finding alternative water sources no one is using and cleaning up that water for municipal, agricultural, industrial or oil and gas use.

"The primary focus I have currently is on the water needs of West Texas," he said.

The recent drought and influx of people drawn to the area's booming economy has created a need for water sources that is sustainable and can continue to support the growth of oil and gas activity and new businesses coming into the area, he said.

Technology to clean alternative water sources will be sought and demonstrated by the company, he said.

A small DyVaR unit is providing drinking water to Mentone in Loving County. The company just received a permit from the Middle Pecos Water District that will allow it to drill, produce and transport water from the San Andres formation for utilization within Pecos County and surrounding areas. Murphy has had talks with city officials from Midland, Odessa, San Angelo and Abilene on implementing technology to reclaim and clean water to provide a source of drinking water for their residents.

Municipalities aren't the company's only focus. Next month the company will demonstrate technology that is designed to take waste water from the oil field and clean it so that it can be used for agricultural purposes.

"While we're helping one industry, we're helping others," he said,

Desalination technology also will be a major focus, he said. Earlier this year the company demonstrated the DyVaR system in Corpus Christi, using it to turn ocean water into fresh water for residents and creating a revenue stream for the minerals removed from the ocean water. Those minerals can be used in products like batteries.

The company will combine new technology with existing technology to improve performance. For example, Murphy is looking at a new species of bacteria that eats hydrocarbons. If feasible, that bacteria could clean water before it's sent through filtration.

Murphy said he has made the rounds of major financial centers from Los Angeles to New York seeking investors to help finance the company's major projects. He said his efforts have been extremely successful because of the company's portfolio and its water-based services.

Investors in Los Angeles and San Francisco "love the fact we're bringing green technology to oil and gas and creating clean water. The oil and gas industry is not the bad guy. I remind them that, if it wasn't for electricity, they wouldn't have water, and without water they wouldn't have electricity. We need power, we need oil and gas."

Oil and gas operators are quick to embrace new technology that would allow them to reclaim, clean and use fracturing water, flowback water or produced water, Murphy said.

"They understand the need; it affects their bottom line," he said. "I've met with CEOs in Houston and in Midland. They want ways to use other water sources other than fresh water."

The company is prepared to not only design, engineer, install and start water systems and train customers to use them but also maintain those systems. Murphy said he keeps tools in his pickup and will head out to the field to work on a problematic system, even when called at 2 a.m.

"Our job is to find the technologies that work, that work economically and that I will stand behind. I won't put out a technology I won't stand behind," he said.

ENERGYBRIEFS

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

HOUSTON

7 candidates vie for a seat on the Texas RRC

Monday was the deadline for candidates seeking political office in Texas to file paperwork for their campaigns. Among them were seven candidates who announced they were running for a seat on the Railroad Commission, the state's top oil and gas industry regulator.

The position will be left vacant after David Porter, the Republican chairman of the commission who was first elected in 2010, said last week that he would not seek reelection.

The group of challengers seeking Porter's old spot include four Republicans and three Democrats. Here's the list:

■ Democrat Lon Burnam is a former state representative from Fort Worth who served nearly two decades in the Texas House, before losing in 2014.

■ Republican Wayne Christian from East Texas is a former state. representative who ran for a seat on the RRC in 2014 but lost in a runoff

■ Democrat Grady Yarbrough is a former educator from San Antonio who lost in a runoff for the 2012 Texas Democratic primary for the U.S. Senate

■ Republican Gary Gates is a businessman from Richmond who owns Gatesco, a real estate investment company.

■ Republican John Greytok is a lawyer and lobbyist from Austin.

■ Republican Ron Hale is an engineer from Cypress whose website says he is the CEO for Duboise Industries.

■ Democrat Cody Garrett is former reporter for CBS 42 in Austin and a Democratic Party precinct chair in Texas.

One surprise move was former Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson saying on Monday that he was declining to run. The Texas Tribune said Patterson cited billionaire Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump among his reasons for not joining the race.

The Tribune also noted that current Republican State Rep. Jim Keffer of Eastland said on Monday that he wouldn't run after deliberating over the weekend.

HOUSTON

Anadarko releases preliminary fourth quarter update

Anadarko Petroleum Corp. announced extensions to the maturity dates of its credit facilities and also provided an interim update on its fourth-quarter performance.

Anadarko extended the maturity of its $3 billion unsecured revolving credit facility to January 2021 and received commitments to renew its $2 billion 364-day credit facility upon its expiration in January 2016, to a new maturity in 2017.

Production increases relative to guidance are being driven by the company's core oil-producing areas in the Wattenberg field and the Delaware Basin. As a result, the company is increasing the midpoint of its fourth-quarter oil sales-volume guidance by more than 15,000 barrels of oil per day to a range of 314,000 to 319,000 BOPD. This outperformance is the primary contributor to a 2 million BOE increase in the company's total fourth-quarter sales-volume guidance, resulting in a new range of 70 to 72 million BOE.

Along with the strong production performance, the company's continued efficiency gains are driving lower capital expenditures, with fourth-quarter capital investment expected to be at or below the mid-point of current guidance. Additionally, the company is continuing to make meaningful improvements to its cost structure, with direct oil and natural gas operating expense per BOE expected to be below the low end of current guidance.

Anadarko also continues to make significant progress at its Heidelberg development in the Gulf of Mexico, which is well ahead of schedule and now expected to achieve first oil in the first quarter of 2016 from the three initial wells, pending regulatory approvals.

HOUSTON

Mexico launches bidding for onshore fields

Mexican regulators began opening the final bids for 25 onshore oil fields Tuesday, as the country pushes forward with a privatization intended to revitalize its energy sector.

The onshore fields hold a smaller bounty of oil and represent less potential investment than some of the offshore fields presented in other auctions. But the bidding's more accessible scale means that a large number of smaller, private Mexican oil and gas operators will for the first time have a way into the country's oil and gas industry — giving the round an outsize symbolic importance for regulators hoping to create a vibrant Mexican industry.

The onshore fields span Mexico's east coast and are concentrated in three regions in the north, central and south of the country along the Gulf of Mexico. Most of them contain fewer than 100 million barrels of oil equivalent.

Fifty-one bidders qualified to submit offers on the properties, including 33 individual companies and 18 consortiums. The majority of the companies are incorporated in Mexico, though a handful of companies from the U.S. and other nations also qualified.

Tuesday's auction is the latest in a round of tenders the Mexican government launched following its December 2013 decision to break its state oil and gas monopoly. Previous rounds have offered up offshore or exploratory blocks, and bidding has mostly been limited the larger companies with the financial resources and expertise needed to drill offshore.

The bidding is being streamed live by Mexico's Comision Nacional de Hidrocarburos, or National Hydrocarbons Commission.

LONDON

Shell plans to shed 2,800 jobs after buying BG Group

LONDON — Royal Dutch Shell says it expects to cut 2,800 jobs once it completes its takeover of rival BG Group.

The losses amount to about 3 percent of the combined workforce, and come on top of Shell's previously announced plan to shed 7,500 staff and contractor positions.

Shell agreed to buy British rival BG Group for $71 billion, or 47 billion pounds, in April. The deal will boost Shell's oil and gas reserves by 25 percent and give it a bigger presence in the fast-growing liquefied natural gas market.

HOUSTON

EIA ups world total for recoverable shale oil

The Energy Department said on Monday that billions more barrels had been added in 2015 to its estimate of recoverable shale oil around the world.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration said that new estimate comes after reviews of shale oil and natural gas reserves in four more countries — the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Chad and Kazakhstan.

The new reserves in those countries pushed up the worldwide total of shale oil that can be recovered using existing technology to 419 billion barrels, a 13 percent rise over the EIA's previous estimate, or about 48 billion barrels. The review also resulted in a smaller increase in shale gas reserves to 7.5 trillion cubic feet, a 4 percent increase.

The EIA report noted that most countries, including the most recent four added to the report, still can't deploy the drilling technology capable of accessing shale oil reserves that has turned the United States into the world's largest oil producer. Only the U.S., Canada, China and Argentina are current shale oil producers, and the U.S. owns more than 90 percent of that production.

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Petroleum Professional Development Center

To register, go to the Midland College PPDC's Website: www.midland.edu/ppdc

PPDC courses

All classes but the online classes will be held at the Midland College PPDC, 105 W. Illinois Ave.

On-Line Land Management Certificate Program-Module 4: Oil and Gas Law and Its Impact on Land Practices
Instructor: Alyce Hoge
Start Date: January 5; End Date: January 30
Returning Registrants: $612.50; New Registrants: $662.50

On-Line Division Orders Certificate Program-Module 4: Calculations
Instructor: Sherry Robinson
Start Date: January 5; End Date: January 30
$612.50; the required text is the NADOA Study Guide, which is $75 (one-time charge). Students need to join NADOA for $75 to download the "no cost" manual only available to members.

Petroleum Land Management
Instructor: Alyce Hoge
January 12-13, Tue-Wed, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
$649; Out of State, $674

Fundamentals of Directional Drilling
Instructor: Mark Bland
January 13-15, Wed-Fri, 8:30 a.m .- 3:30 p.m.
$1,295

I.A.D.C. Well Control Drilling/Workover (WellSharp)
Instructor: Larry Chapman
January 25-29, Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
$1,350

New Developments and Best Practices: CO2 EOR and Residual Oil Zones
Instructors: L. Stephen Melzer, Robert Trentham, Ph.D., Ron Wackowski, David Vance, and Ed Payne
January 26-29, Tue-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
$1,895

Polymer Gels for Conformance-Improvement
Instructor: Randy Seright
February 1, Mon, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
$375

On-Line Land Management Certificate Program-Module 5: Legally Enforceable Oil and Gas Contracts
Instructor: Alyce Hoge
New: G069 152Q; Returning: G071 152Q
Start Date: February 1; End Date: February 27
Returning Registrants: $612.50; New Registrants: $662.50

On-Line Division Orders Certificate Program-Module 5: Oil and Gas Law
Instructor: Alyce Hoge
Start Date: February 1; End Date: February 27
$612.50; the required text is the NADOA Study Guide, which is $75 (one-time charge). Students need to join NADOA for $75 to download the "no cost" manual only available to members.

Introduction to Log Interpretation and Quality
Instructor: Gary Batcheller
February 1-3, Mon-Wed, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
$1,095; Out of State, $1,120

Introduction to Well Completion Design
Instructor: Gary Batcheller
February 4-5, Thu-Fri, 8 a.m.-Noon
$695; Out of State, $720

Petroleum Geology for Non-Geologists
Instructor: Paul H. Pause
February 8-11, Mon-Thu, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
$1,835; Out of State, $1,860-lunch included

PHDWIN
Instructor: Celia Payne
February 9-10, Tue-Wed, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
$625; Out of State, $650

PETRA Fundamentals
Instructor: Greg Hinterlong
February 11-12, Thu-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
$625; Out of State, $650

Report: Most oil companies score low on fracturing disclosures

By Joshua Cain
Houston Chronicle

A small group of oil and gas companies have gotten better at disclosing the health and environmental risks associated with hydraulic fracturing, according to a report card for the industry released on Thursday.

But most still don't do enough to address the potential hazards of the well completion process which involves blasting a mixture of water, chemicals and sand underground to unlock tight oil trapped in shale formations.

The groups behind the report are advocacy groups As You Sow and the Investor Environmental Health Network, which promote environmental activism among oil and gas company shareholders, and investment firm Boston Common Asset Management LLC. They say that failing to provide public disclosures of risks from fracturing exposes those companies to financial harm from fines, regulations and disputes with local communities concerned over nearby fracturing activity.

The annual scorecard graded 30 oil and gas companies for disclosures on five criteria: toxic chemicals, water and waste management, air emissions, community impacts, and management accountability.

Despite the low oil price environment that may have encouraged drillers to abandon or slow some disclosures in order to save money, the report's authors found that generally wasn't the case among the companies they studied. More than half of the companies studied improved their scores, with even some "disclosure laggards," as the report called them, showing improvement.

BHP Billiton, the Australia-based mining giant with a significant presence in U.S. oil fields, was again the report's top-ranked company, scoring 32 out of 39 possible points, two years after being ranked among its worst.

But good marks for a small slice of the industry still left the majority of companies, nearly two-thirds of those analyzed for the report, lacking in good disclosure practices. Continental Resources and Whiting Petroleum had two of the worst scores, with just two points each. Carrizo Oil & Gas was the only company to score zero points, recieving the same score for a second year.

The two largest U.S. oil and gas companies, Exxon Mobil and Chevron, also had among the worst scores, with just four points each.

As the report noted, many drilling companies have dealt with increased scrutiny over links between hydraulic fracturing activity in Oklahoma and Texas and recent earthquakes in those states.

"Companies continue to miss opportunities to address issues of public concern that feature prominently in media reports and activist advocacy critical of the industry," the report authors wrote. "While companies increasingly acknowledge induced seismicity as a risk, they often fail to discuss the specific steps they are taking to manage the hazard."

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Cameron shareholders OKs Schlumberger's takeover bid

Cameron shareholders Thursday approved a bid by oil services behemoth Schlumberger to take over the company in a deal worth about $12.7 billion, paving the way for the transaction to close early next year.

In a special meeting Thursday, stockholders "overwhelmingly voted" to adopt the previously announced acquisition of Cameron, the Houston-based oil tool maker said in a statement. Of the shares that voted, 99 percent approved the proposal.

Once the deal gets finalized, Cameron shareholders will get 0.716 shares of Schlumberger stock for every one share of Cameron stock, plus $14.44 in cash.

"We are pleased that our stockholders have clearly recognized and endorsed the significant value generated by this transaction," Cameron CEO Scott Rowe said in a statement. "The combination of the two organizations will create a premier oilfield equipment and services company uniquely positioned to deliver superior value to the industry."

Approval was needed from Cameron shareholders to fuse the two companies together, but Schlumberger's shareholders did not have to vote on the proposal.

The deal has received regulatory approval from the U.S. Department of Justice, which cleared the transaction last month without conditions, but the proposal faces other regulatory hurdles before it can be finalized. The companies are still awaiting regulatory approval from the European Commission as well as other jurisdictions that have not been publicly identified in documents. The companies still expect to close the acquisition in the first quarter of 2016.

HOUSTON

Texas leads nation in both wind and natural gas power growth

Texas is leading the nation by far in the growth of new power generation from both wind and natural gas as more states continue to retire their coal-fired power plants.

Texas accounted for more than one-third of the new wind and natural gas-fired power added to the nation's electric grid this year through September. But all of the nation's growth in wind, solar and gas power only offsets the loss of coal power, according to a new report Tuesday from the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

The national grid this year saw the addition of 5,000 new megawatts of power from gas-fired plants, 4,000 megawatts from wind farms and about 1,500 megawatts from the burgeoning solar industry, but the U.S. lost a whopping nearly 11,000 megawatts from coal plant retirements, according to the report. The coal industry is suffering from a combination of new regulations on emissions and from the cheap price of natural gas that has placed coal at an economic disadvantage.

Texas accounts for about 1,400 new megawatts in gas-fired power — about twice the amount of New Jersey, which is second in new gas power generation — and roughly 1,800 new megawatts in wind power, which is triple the nearly 600 new megawatts of wind in second-placed Oklahoma, according to the EIA. Texas is fifth in new solar power generation in a category where California is the clear leader.

Despite its size though, Texas does not rank among the top states in coal power retirements, even though the Lone Star State has begun to see the elimination of some coal power. The Electric Reliability Council of Texas, which oversees about 90 percent of the state's grid power, projects companies will retire more coal plants in Texas in the coming years.

Although Texas is still heavily reliant on coal power, the shift is quickly occurring. Through October, 48.7 percent of the ERCOT-managed grid power came from natural gas, compared with 28.6 percent from coal. In 2014, the proportions were 41.1 percent gas and 36 percent coal. The rest came from nuclear and wind, with a small portion from solar and other generation.

HOUSTON

Israel gives final approval to Noble's development plans

The Israeli government has agreed to implement a natural gas framework, paving the way for Noble Energy to develop two massive gas fields offshore Israel's coast and ending a year of regulatory limbo for the projects.

By resolving the final sticking points in the anti-trust dispute, the Houston-based oil company can begin pressing forward with plans to expand the Tamar and develop the Leviathan. Noble, which has been conducting technical work on the projects and negotiating sales agreements, said it plans to announce a final investment decision on both developments by the end of 2016.

"We are pleased that the Government of Israel, under the leadership of Prime Minister and Minister of Energy, has recognized the importance of natural gas development to the security and economy of Israel and the region," Keith Elliott, senior vice president of the Easter Mediterranean said in a statement. "This enables us to move forward with development planning."

The announcement marks a victory for Noble, which has been working for nearly a year to persuade Israeli government officials and regulators to approve its plans. The company froze its investment last year after an antitrust commissioner raised concerns that the development plans gave Noble and its Israeli partners too much control over the country's newfound bounty of natural gas.

Israel's parliament, the Knesset, approved a deal in September regulating how Noble and its partners can develop the gas fields, resolving a key sticking point in the negotiations. However, an economy minister required to sign off on the deal did not done so. He resigned in November, transferring his authority to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has long been a supporter of the project.

Noble on Thursday said the government has executed a section of the restrictive trade practices act that "resolves and provides exemption from claims of the anti-trust authority" regarding the acquisition of petroleum rights by the Leviathan joint venture partners.

The framework "establishes the regulatory certainty and stability necessary to proceed with the development of the Tamar expansion and Leviathan, while providing transparency for future domestic pricing and natural gas competition in Israel," Noble said in a statement.

The arrangement also enables Noble to and its partners to sell gas extracted from the massive Leviathan field to customers in Israel.

"The development of Leviathan will substantially expand Noble Energy's capacity to deliver gas to Israel and the region, a well as provide a second source of domestic natural gas supply and redundancy of infrastructure for the people of Israel," the company said in a statement.

Noble has a 36 percent stake in the Tamar and a nearly 40 percent interest in the Leviathan. It is the operator of both projects.

HOUSTON

Magnum Hunter seeks bankruptcy amid oil rout

The collapse of fuel prices has claimed another Texas driller.

Magnum Hunter Resources Corp. said Tuesday it is seeking Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, becoming the 19th oil producer in the state to file for bankruptcy since the oil bust began last year.

The Irving-based company, which pumps most of its natural gas and oil from Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale and Ohio's Utica Shale, said it had $6.4 million in cash and $1.1 billion in total liabilities at the end of September. It had 440 employees at the end of 2014.

IOWA

Judge orders city to pay tax rebates to turbine maker

WEST BRANCH — A judge is ordering the city of West Branch to pay nearly $500,000 in tax rebates to a manufacturer of wind turbines.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Jon Scoles ruled Thursday that the city breached an agreement with Acciona Windpower when it refused to reimburse part of its property taxes in 2013 and 2014.

The city had promised the company eight years of property tax rebates, under an agreement in which Acciona would invest $11 million in its West Branch plant and add 110 jobs over five years.

West Branch paid tax rebates the first three years as required. But in 2013, the city accused the company of not living up to its job-creation goal and stopping paying.

Lawmakers question delays in energy lease sales

Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. — The postponement of some oil and gas lease sales by the U.S. Interior Department is drawing criticism from Republicans in Congress who say federal officials are bending to the wishes of environmentalists.

Lawmakers from 11 states asked U.S. Interior Department Assistant Secretary Janice Schneider to explain the delays by Jan. 5. They cited postponed sales on public lands involving 37,500 acres in Utah and 507 acres in Arkansas and Michigan.

A left-leaning group focused on energy development on public lands said the Republicans' criticism was overblown and ignored low oil prices that have dampened industry interest in acquiring more leases.

The criticism against Interior was led by two Utah House Republicans — Natural Resources Committee Chairman Rob Bishop and Oversight Committee Chairman Jason Chaffetz.

Also signing onto a Wednesday letter to Schneider were Republican lawmakers from Louisiana, Arkansas, Michigan, Montana, Wyoming, Nevada and several other Western states.

The postponed lease sales have been rescheduled for early 2016. BLM officials did not respond to requests for comment.

Acreage leased by Interior's Bureau of Land Management dropped sharply over the past eight years, according to statistics kept by the Interior Department. More than 4 million acres were leased in 2007, compared to 1.2 million acres in 2014.

PAID CONTENT

around the oil patch

To appear in *Around the Oil Patch* call Paul Wiseman at 697-7468 or your Oil Report account executive at 687-9004.

Reduce operating costs with Plunger Lift

When plunger lifts are applied, well costs are significantly reduced. Plunger lift can reduce such costs as well treatments, electricity, workovers and swabbing.

Plunger lifts also reduce or eliminate the need for well treatments such as blowdowns or soaping. Well treatments eliminated or drastically reduced by plunger lifts include chemical treatments, microbial cleanups and removal. Chemical treatments include inhibitors, solvents, dispersants, hot fluids, crystal modifiers and surfactants.

Swabbing costs are reduced because a plunger lift helps keep the well unloaded and flowing, and also keeps the tubing clean, eliminating paraffin and scale build-up.

Rod, pump and tubing repairs are also eliminated. Plungers can eliminate the need for mechanical repairs to pumps or for the removal of debris such as scale and paraffin from sucker rods and tubing.

No electrical costs are associated with a plunger lift, making that an area of major savings. Plunger lifts are self-sufficient, energy-wise, because controllers are solar powered, with a battery backup, and the well uses its own energy to produce itself.

Installation of a plunger system is also cost-effective because it does not require the use of a pulling unit. PLSI companies can swab, wireline and install a plunger lift system for turn-key results.

Investment in equipment is also reduced. With the major increase in production in the Permian Basin, there is an ongoing need for more production equipment. That means, if a plunger lift is replacing a beam pump, the producer can sell the beam pump at a good price or re-use on another location, recouping significant costs.

In addition to reducing costs, a plunger lift can increase production. Workovers and most other treatments involve shutting in the well during the procedure, robbing the producer of production during this time. By eliminating workovers, the plunger lift allows the well to have more days on production during the year, making the well more profitable. Studies have shown that an average well can need one or more workovers per year.

Reduced workovers on plunger lift wells also allow producers to focus their resources in other places—such as drilling or completions, making the company more efficient in those areas as well.

Economically, plunger lift installations on declining wells also make more sense. At some point the operating costs of a well may over-run the production of the well. Plunger lift can extend the economic life of a well by maintaining the wells profitability.

To learn more about the advantages of plunger lift, call PLSI.

The phone number for Production Lift Systems is 432-699-1200 or 800-594-3887. The website is www.productionlift.com.

Plunger lift reduces well costs in many ways—call PLSI, at (800) 594-3887 to learn more.

Comfort Keepers make a real difference in their clients' lives

Jim Parker's daughter Shellie contracted an illness as a child, which has left her with some physical and mental challenges. Now nearly 50 years old and able to live on her own, she still needs some help.

For about three years Parker has relied on Comfort Keepers to help Shellie with laundry, housekeeping and errands. At first Comfort Keepers came 2-3 half-days days a week. Now it's one half day weekly, "because Shellie's doing real well."

Says Jim, "I have really been happy with the way they have helped. They help her with her groceries, take her to do some shopping and help her keep her house."

Comfort Keepers provided some extra help awhile back, when Shellie fell and broke her foot. "One thing I really like about Comfort Keepers is we can increase or decrease their hours as we need," Jim reports.

Another client, Barbara North, is legally blind, although she does have some vision. Her once-a-week Comfort Keepers caregiver helps by taking her on trips to the doctor, shopping, a ceramics class and other outings. She also bathes Emma, the dachshund. "Melanie (her caregiver) says, 'Whatever you want me to do, I'll do,'" says Barbara.

"I am so thankful to Comfort Keepers. Melanie amazes me! It's not just a job to her."

Jessica Martinez, a Comfort Keepers Caregiver for nine years now, agrees that it's not just a job. Her favorite part of the job is, "Showing them love, that somebody's there for them, helping them with safety—I just like being around them."

Do you have a loved one who needs some help at home? Do you need cargiving respite occasionally? Call Comfort Keepers at 520-0414 to learn how they can help.

At six years and counting, Kathy Lasley is another longtime Comfort Keepers caregiver. Retired from a regular job, she enjoys spending a few hours every week helping people. "Everyone I've worked for has been very nice, easy to get along with," she says.

For Mary Morgette, a childhood bout with polio left her now partially bedridden and needing some extra help twice a week. Having a Comfort Keepers caregiver on Mondays and Wednesdays allows Mary to get out to doctor appointments and other errands, giving her husband some rest at the same time.

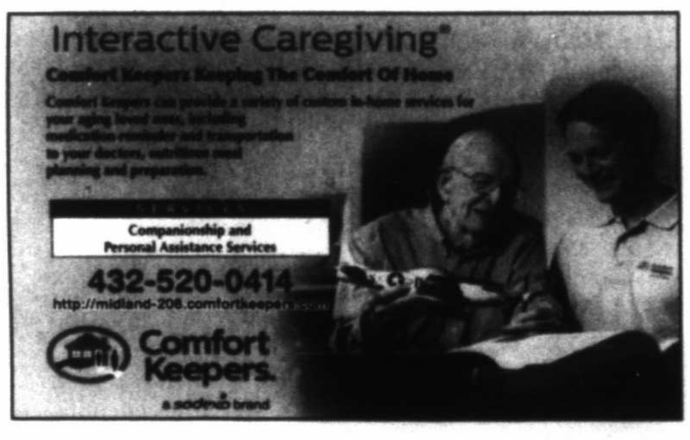
More independent for most of her life, Mary's condition worsened about a year ago, at which time her physician recommended Comfort Keepers. Her health insurance covers the cost.

Everyone at Comfort Keepers is great, says Mary, from her caregiver to the administrative staff. "I highly recommend them to everyone," she says.

Having a caregiver can help your loved one stay at home longer. It can help you sleep better at night as well, knowing your family member is in good hands. And having the right caregiver can make everyone happy.

Call Comfort Keepers today to learn more about the services they provide to help you and your loved one.

Comfort Keepers Midland and Odessa office is locally owned and operated by Ramon and Suzette Doria. They provide a complete range of Non-medical In-home Care services. Call 520-0414 for more information. Their website is http://midland-208.comfortkeepers.com.



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around the oil patch

To appear in *Around the Oil Patch* call Paul Wiseman at 697-7468 or your Oil Report account executive at 687-9004.

New Victaulic Style 907 quickly and simply joins HDPE to grooved steel pipe

Style 907 Stands tall in the toughest of environments

Time is always money in the oil patch and the less time spent joining or separating pipe sections, the more efficient your company is. For decades, companies have relied on Victaulic for pipe joints that can be installed quickly with minimal tools, lasting for decades, even in the harshest conditions.

For years the Victaulic Style 905 has provided a secure joining method for HDPE to HDPE pipe connections . Now accompanying the Style 905 is the Style 907 coupling connecting HDPE to grooved steel pipe.

Victaulic's Refuse-To-Fuse™ products, including the 905 and the 907, are capable of withstanding daily temperature swings from 40° F to 110° F without batting an eye. Whether you use SDR 7 or 17, it'll keep the joint together long after the pipe has failed.

And it doesn't take long training and expensive machinery to install the 905 or the 907. Just a wrench and some elbow grease will do for both installation and disconnecting. Applicable in vertical installations, on-site repairs and connections to existing grooved Victaulic systems, the 907 will join HDPE to grooved steel sized piping system components without requiring multiple installation steps. And it gives you access to the entire Victaulic toolbox of grooved components such as valves, strainers and more.

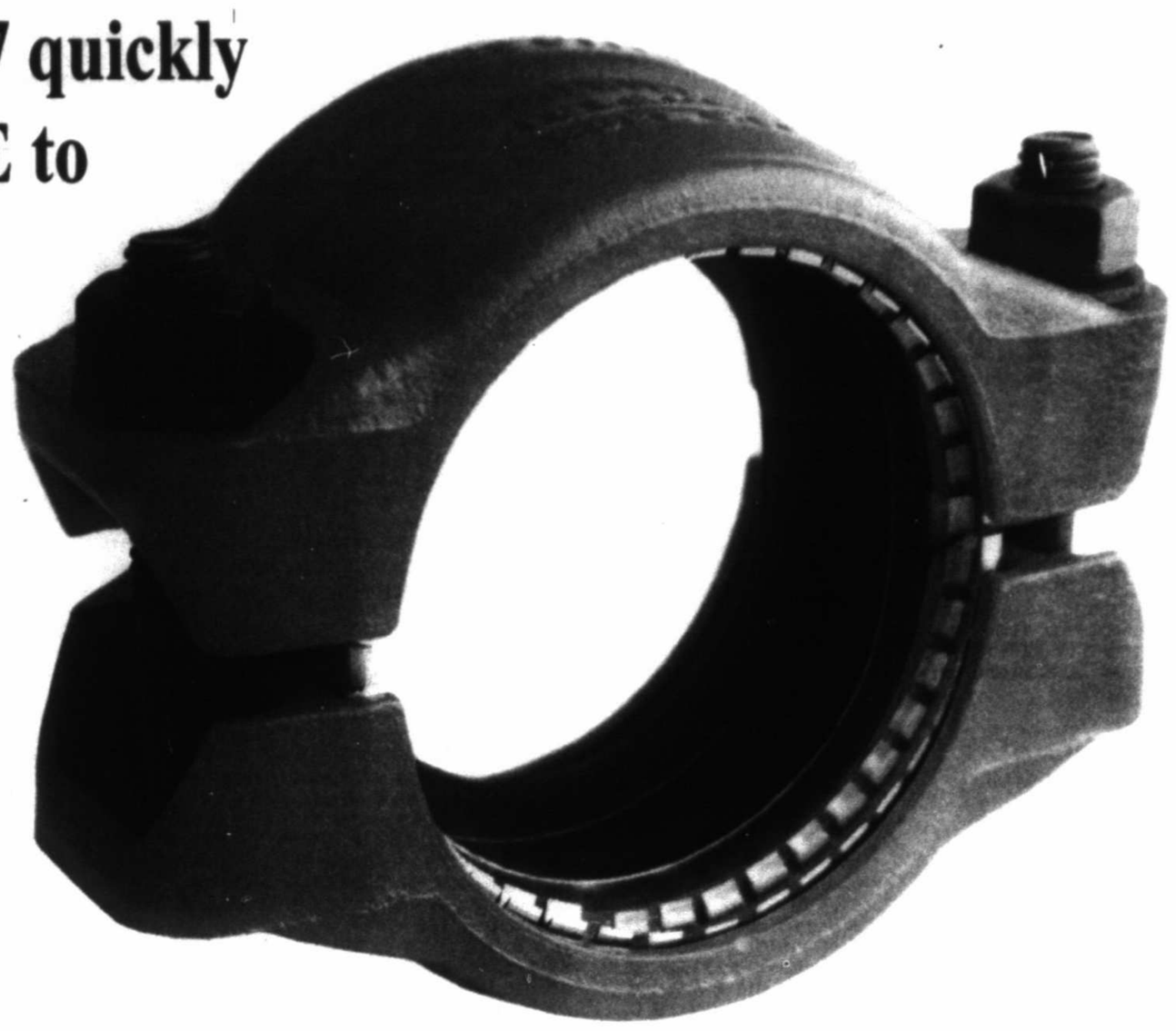
All these are huge advantages over the older system of butt fusing, and here's another advantage: pipe joined with the Refuse-To-Fuse method is ready to use immediately, with no heat-up or cool-down time needed.

This is true wherever pipe comes together—gathering lines, flow lines, water lines, SWD facilities, manifolds, buried services, compressor hookups—it replaces butt fusion just about anywhere.

The Style 907 is made for HDPE to grooved steel joint sizes 2 – 6" IPS, HDPE to 2 – 6"/50 – 150 mm IPS grooved steel and 63 mm – 160 mm ISO HDPE to 2 – 6"/50 – 150 mm ISO grooved steel.

Couplings are laboratory and field tested to verify that their working pressure exceeds that of the pipe itself.

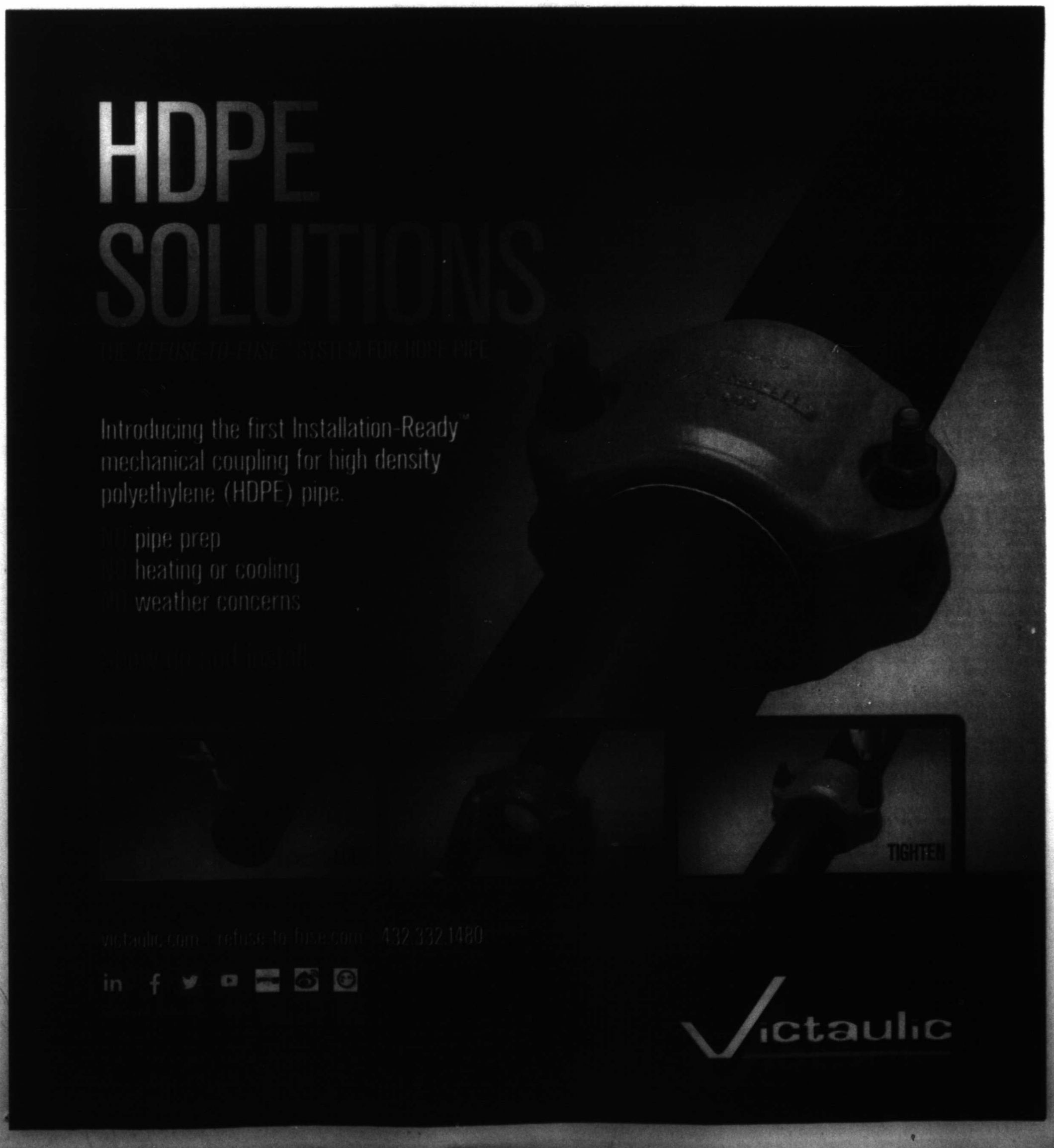
You can count on Victaulic couplings. They're solidly made with a durable ductile iron body and are ready for the harshest service conditions, due also to the standard-feature dipped enamel finish. For particularly aggressive environments, special coatings are also available. Whether you're a longtime Victaulic client who's interested in how the new 907 can help you, or you're new to the idea of Victaulic's faster-than-lightening pipe joining systems, call Victaulic today to learn more.



ABOVE: The Victaulic Style 907 coupling system is designed to outlast the pipe it's joining. The 907 can be installed and removed in minutes, saving multiple man-hours compared to old style butt fusion. Call Victaulic at 432-332-1480 to learn more.

Call Victaulic at 432-332-1480 to learn more. The web address is www.victaulic.com. To learn more about the Refuse-to-Fuse system specifically, go to http://www.victaulic.com/en/products-services/products/plain-end-coupling-for-hdpe-pipe-style-905/

RIGHT: Victaulic's HDPE line, including the 905 and the brand new 907, are ready for use in the field, plant or anywhere pipe joins together.



COMPLETIONS

Texas RRCD 8

Andrews County

Ring Energy Inc.
12th Man State #4
Block A-34 (San Andres); 330 fwl, 331 fnl, Sec 8, Blk A-34, Abst. 1676, PSL, 14 nw Andrews; TD 4910; Comp 11/24/2015; producing from 4631 -4760, treated with acid and fracture stimulated; pump 125 Bo, 60 MCF, 238 BW, 40 Oil Gravity; API #42-003-47189

Culberson County

Ring Energy Inc.
Kingfisher "6" #2
Ford West (4100); 330 fel, 2310 fnl, Sec 6, Blk 58, T-2-S, Abst. 1899, T&P RR, 10 w Orla; PBTD 4445; Comp 11/14/2015; producing from 3474 -3680, treated with acid and fracture stimulated; pump 7 BO, 75 MCF, 2063 BW; API #42-109-32796

Glasscock County

EQT Production Texas LLC
Edmondson "A" #U294H
Spraberry (Trend Area)-Horizontal; 2653 fsl, 636 fel, Sec 29, Blk 32, T-5-S, Abst. 95, T&P RR, 14.3 se Garden City; TD 15015 MD; Comp 11/11/2015; producing from 14869 -14992, fracture stimulated; gas lift 315 BO, 161 MCF, 1589 BW, FTP 154 psi, 38 Oil Gravity; API #42-173-37080

Howard County

Cinnabar Operating LLC
Quahadi "A" #4402
Spraberry (Trend Area); 467 fnl, 1980 fel, Sec 44, Blk 33, T-1 S, Abst. 1254, T&P RR, 8.9 sw Big Spring; TD 10008; Comp 11/27/2015; producing from 7460 -9772, fracture stimulated; flow 143 BO, 299 MCF, 531 BW on 24/64 inch choke, FTP 75 psi, 41 Oil Gravity; API #42-227-38317

Reeves County

Manti Tarka Permian Operating LLC
Affirmed "48" #1 HA
Wolfbone (Trend Area)-Horizontal; 200 fsl, 380 fel, Sec 48, Blk 5, Abst. 5635, H&GN RR, 2.83 sw Linday; PBTD 10185 TVD, 15032 MD, Comp 11/11/2015; producing from 10364 -14895, fracture stimulated; flow 946 BO, 1880 MCF, 1620 BW, 39 Oil Gravity; API #42-389-34877

Ward County

Saga Petroleum LLC of Colorado
Shipley Queen Sand Unit #652
Shipley (Queen Sand); 1316 fnwl, 1959 fswl, Sec 23, Blk 5, Abst 316, H&TC RR, 3 n Grandfalls; TD 3050; Comp 11/16/2015; producing from 2880 -3000, treated with acid and fracture stimulated; pump 47 BO, 1 MCF, 370 BW, 38.6 Oil Gravity; API #42-475-36922

Saga Petroleum LLC of Colorado
Shipley Queen Sand Unit #670
Shipley (Queen Sand); 2695 fswl, 4633 fnwl, Sec 23, Blk 5, Abst. 316, H&TC RR, 3 n Grandfalls;; TD 3050; Comp 11/20/2015; producing from 2522-2988, fracture stimulated; pump 47 BO, 1 MCF, 363 BW, 37.5 Oil Gtravity; API #42-475-36914

Texas RRCD 8A

Borden County

PPC Operating Company LLC
Canon "27" #100
Jo-Mill (Spraberry); 625 fnl, 651 fel, Sec 27, Blk 33, T-5-N, Abst. 374, T&P RR, 15 sw Gail; PBTD 7432; Comp 11/19/2015; producing from 7139 -7273, treated with acid and fracture stimulated; pump 58 BO, 31 MCF, 279 BW, 40 Oil Gravity; API #42-033-32379

New Mexico

Eddy County

COG Operating LLC
Burch Keely Unit #542
Bruch Keely; Sec 24 T17S R29E; 125/N & 1370/W. BHL: Sec 13 19/S & 1282/W; EL 3611 Gl, TD 4748 MD, 4789 TVD, PBTD 4718; Spud 11-22-14, Comp 12-11-14; production is through perfs: 4150-4500. IP: 12-15-14 Pump 24 hrs 58 BO, 197 BW, 96 MCF. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 270 w/400 sx, 8 5/8 @ 1141 w/500 sx, 5 1/2 @ 46767 w/900 sx, 2 7/8 @ 4620; API #30-015-39565

Memorial Production Operating LLC
Lynn #3
Atoka; Sec 26 T18S R26E; 1658/N & 2327/W; EL 3309 GL, TD 3450, PBTD 3439; Spud 9-18-14, Comp 2-10-15; production is through treated perfs: 2758-2922, 3010-3246. Treat: Frac w/80622# 20/40 brady & 5220# 20/40 SLC. IP: 3-3-15 Pump 24 hrs 60 BO, 24 BW, 46.4. MCF, GOR 773/1, Gty 38,37. Csg: 8 5/8 @ 929 w/633 sx, 5 1/2 @ 3439 w/275 sx, 2 7/8 @ 3268; API #30-015-42465

COG Operating LLC
Falabella 31 Fee #7
Penasco Draw; Sec 31 T18S R26E; 150/S & 1700/E. BHL: 352/N & 1672/E; EL 3403 GL, TD 7432, PBTD 7420; Spud 3-4-14, Comp 4-21-14; production is through treated perfs: 3052-7394. Treat: Acdz w/34,486 gals 7.5% HCL, Frac w/1,215,824 gals gel, 90,437 gals water frac R9, 204,216 gals water frac R3, 66,180 gals trt etr, 2,898,197# 20/40 white sd, 507,882# 20/40 CRC, 51,975# 100 mesh. IP: 5-7-14 Pump 24 hrs 166 BO, 1141 BW, 134 MCF, GOR 807, Gty 41.3. Csg: 8 5/8 @ 1219 w/1100 sx, 5 1/2 @ 7432 w/1500 sx, 2 7/8 @ 2526; API #30-015-39514

COG Operating LLC
Falabella 31 Fee #8
Penasco Draw; Sec 31 T18S R26E; 150/S & 380/E. BHL: 352/N & 351/E; EL 3391 GL, TD 7479, PBTD 7464; Spud 2-19-14, Comp 4-16-14; production is through treated perfs: 3119-7406. Treat: Acdz w/34,654 gals 7.5% HCL, Frac w/1,220,476 gals gel, 76,369 gals trt water, 212,955 gals water frac R9, 2,752,861# 20/40 brown sd, 522,714# 16/30 CRC, 47,144# 100 mesh. IP: 5-8-14 Pump 24 hrs 137 BO, 2052 BW, 47 MCF, GOR 343, Gty 41.9. Csg: 8 5/8 @ 1228 w/1150 sx, 5 1/2 @ 7479 w/1500 sx, 2 7/8 @ 2339; API #30-015-39515

Lime Rock Resources II-A LP
Kaiser 7K #3
Red Lake; Sec 7 T18S R27E; 1650/S & 2310/W; .EL 3291 GR, TD 4750, PBTD 4701; Spud 7-21-14, Comp 9-17-14; production is through treated perfs: 4052-4228, 4380-4646. Treat: 3000 gals 15% HCL, Frac w/59088# 100 mesh & 382,281# 40/70 sd in slick wtr. IP: 5-2-15 Pump 24 hrs 89 BO, 1060 BW, 110 MCF. Csg: 8 5/8 @ 482 w/350 sx, 5 1/2 @ 4747 w/1105 sx, 2 7/8 @ 3980; API #30-015-39453

Mewbourne Oil Co.
Ursa 27 Federal Com #1
South Lea; Sec 27 T18S R30E; 147/S & 233/W. BHL: 683/S & 446/E; EL 3433 GI, TD 12990 MD, 8386 TVD, PBTD 12961 MD, 8386 TVD; Spud 1-1-14, comp 3-27-14; production is through treated perfs: 8357-8385, 8762-12961. Treat: Frac w/300,846 gals slickwater, 214,032 gasl 20# linear gel, 784,182 gals 20# X-link gel, 98,206# 100 mesh, 1,626,654# 20/40 white sd & 369,041# 20/40 SB Excel sd. IP; 3-28-14 Pump 24 hrs 805 BO, 1190 BW, 235 MCF, GOR 465, Gty 41. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 396 w/450 sx, 9 5/8 @ 1620 w/500 sx, 7 @ 8687 w/1000 sx, 5 1/2 @ 8447-12978, 2 7/8 @ 7929; API #30-015-39581

Mewbourne Oil Co.
Ursa "27" Federal Com #4
Santo Nino; Sec 27 T18S R30E; 855/N & 70/W. BHL: 675/N & 530/E; EL 3440 GI, TD 12770 MD, 8336 TVD, PBTD 17239 MD, 8336 TVD; Spud 10-21-13, Comp 12-12 13; production is through treated perfs: 8326-8336, 8746-12739. Treat: Frac w/307,348 gals slickwater, 286,296 gals 20# linear gel, 856,154 gals 20# X-link gel carrying 84,419# 100 mesh, 1,592,929# 20/40 white sd, 433,483# SB Excel sd. IP: 12-14-13 Flow 24 hrs 424 BO, 1784 BW, 360 MCF, TP 160, CP 1140, GOR 849, Gty 41. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 378 w/400 sx, 9 5/8 @ 1560 w/500 sx, 7 @ 8678 w/1050 sx, 4 1/2 @ 8450-12752, 2 7/8 @ 7908; API #30-015-39582

COG Operating LLC
Lee 3 Fee #1
Atoka; Sec 3 T19S R26E; 330/S & 380/W. BHL: 356/N & 372/W; EL 3344 GL, TD 7500 MD, 3147 TVD, PBTD 7477; Spud 4-29-15, Comp 5-29-15; production is through perfs: 3429-7457. IP: 6-17-15 Pump 24 hrs 47 BO, 1932 BW, 263 MCF. Csg: 8 5/8 @ 1205 w/1479 sx, 5 1/2 @ 7500 w/1100 sx, 2 7/8 @ 2785; API #30-015-39586

COG Operating LLC
Sherman 4 Fee #3
Atoka; Sec 4 T19S R26E; 150/S & 2260/E. BHL: 376/N & 2258/E; EL 3347 GL, TD 7587, PBTD 7555; Spud 1-6-15, Comp 2-13-15; production is through treated perfs: 3363-7538. Treat: Acdz 13 stages w/48,996 gals 15% HCL, Frac w/1,742,217 gals gel, 78,305 gals waterfrac R9, 43,548 gals Water Frac R3, 179,627 gals trt wtr, 3,87,960# 20/40 brown sd, 593,024# 20/40 CRC. IP: 3-13-15 Pump 24 hrs 163 BO, 1280 BW, 89 MCF, GOR 546, Gty 37.8. Csg: 8 5/8 @ 1225 w/500 sx, 5 1/2 @ 7587 w/1100 sx, 2 7/8 @ 2679; API #30-015-39717

Mewborne Oil Co.
Ruger 31 B3DA Federal #2
Winchester; Sec 31 T19S R29E; 960/N & 290/W. BHL: 334/N & 335/E; EL 3299 GL, TD 13080 MD, 9806 TVD, PBTD 13080 MD, 8906 TVD; Spud 5-5-15, Comp 7-29-15; production is through treated perfs: 9454-13070. Treat: 18,312 gals 10% acid, 5,515,983 gals slickwater carrying 3,735,224# 100 mesh sd & 1,917,274#. IP: 7-30-15 Flow 24 hrs 560 BO, 2137 BW, 937 MCF, 64/64/ Ch, CP 760, GOR 1673, Gty 88. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 333 w/350 sx, 9 5/8 @ 2955 w/2115 sx, 4 1/2 @ 8270-13080 w/250 sx; API #30-015-43063

Mewbourne Oil Co.
Perazzi 9 B2EH Federal #1
Parkway; Sec 9 T20S R29E; 2310/N & 35/W, BHL: 2225/N & 332/E; EL 3278 GI, TD 12570 MD, 8020 TVD, PBTD 12563 MD, 8023 TVD; Spud 6-7-15, Comp 8-22-15; production is through treated perfs: 8280-12560. Treat: 5,509,518 gals slickwater, carrying 3,981,178# 100 mesh sd, 1887,543# 30/50 sd & 437,530# 20/40. IP: 8-24-15 Flow 24 hrs 565 BO, 1257 BW, 771 MCF, 25/24" ch, CP 540, GOR 1365, Gty 43.9. Csg: 20 @ 330 w/600 sx, 13 3/8 @ 1378 w/1050 sx, 9 5/8 @ 3211 w/950 sx, 7 @ 8222 w/950 sx, 4 1/2 @ 7332-12570 w/250 sx; API #30-015-42970

Mack Energy Corp.
Lava Fee #1
Wildcat/Cass Draw; Sec 3 T21S R27E; 1150/S & 1150/E, BHL: 898/S & 968/E; EL 3092 GL, TD 9396, PBTD 9396; Spud 7-26-14, Comp 11-7-14; production is through perfs: 9023-9121. IP: 8-30-15 Pump 24 hrs 54 BO, 105 BW, 102 MCF. Top Pay (Bone Spring) 6556. Perfs; 6556-9023. IP: Pump 24 hrs 56 BO, 109 BW, 106 MCF. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 420 w/470 sx, 9 5/8 @ 2007 w/670 sx, 7 @ 9296 w/1460 sx, 2 7/8 @ 6425; API #30-015-42136

Mewbourne Oil Co.
Layla 35 W20B Fee #3
South Culebra Bluff; Sec 35 T23S R28E; 185/S & 2435/E. BHL; 328/N & 2153/E; EL 3010 GL, TD 15230 MD, PBTD 15215 MD; Spud 2-2-15, Comp 8-22-15; production is through treated perfs: 11095-15210 MD. Treat: Frac w/7,612,652 gasl slickwater, carrying 4,705,680# 100 mesh sd, 1,826,040$ 40/70 sd & 450,050# 40/70 oil plus sd. IP: 8-24-15 Flow 24 hrs 152 BO, 1656 BW, 1832 MCF, 18/48" Ch, CP 3800, GOR 7270, Gty 57. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 498 w/500 sx, 9 5/8 @ 2600 w/750 sx, 7 @ 10675 w/1200 sx, 4 1/2 @ 9913-15230; API #30-015-42407

Dinero Operating Co.
Dewey 24 Federal #4
Malaga; Sec 24 T24S R28E; 1980/N & 1980/E; EL 2615 Gl, TD 2768; Spud 2-25-15 Comp 6-22-15; production is through perfs: 2498-2760. IP: 7-1-15 Pump 24 hrs 15 BO, 135 BW, 0 MCF. Csg: 8 5/8 @ 293 w/500 sx, 5 1/2 @ 2498 w/817 sx, 2 7/8 @ 2430; API #30-015-42799

Lea County

COG Operating LLC
Stratojet 31 State Com #6
North Berry; Sec 31 T20S R35E; 390/S & 2080/E. BHL: 358/N & 2004/E; EL 3711 GL, TD 15250, PBTD 15190; Spud 4-12-15, Comp 7-8-15; production is through treated perfs: 10961-15150. Treat: Acdz w/133273 gals 7.5%, Frac w/7010311# sd & 7372024 gals fluid. IP: 7-25-15 Pump 24 hrs 839 BO, 551 BW, 750 MCF. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 1898 w/1220 sx, 9 5/8 @ 5990 w/2100 sx, 5 1/2 @ 15240 w/2225 sx, 2 7/8 @ 10365; API #30-025-42452

COG Operating LLC
Macho Nacho State Com #6
West Triple X; Sec 7 T24S R33E; 190/S & 2155/E. BHL: 230/N & 1501/E; EL 3571 GR, TD 14247, PBTD 14193; Spud 5-19-15, Comp 7-30-15; production is through treated perfs: 9600-14140. Treat: Acdz w/89292 gals 7.5%, Frac w/6887886# sd & 7599625 gals fluid. IP: 8-15-15 Flow 24 hrs 657 BO, 818 BW, 2865 MCF, CP 340. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 1230 w/1050 sx, 9 5/8 @ 5018 w/1300 sx, 5 1/2 @ 14247 w/2150 sx; API #30-025-42488

COG Operating LLC
Macho Nacho State Com #7
West Triple X; Sec 7 T24S R33E; 190/S & 2255/E, BHL: 266/N & 2358/E; EL 3572 GR, TD 14153, PBTD 14100; Spud 5-1-15, Comp 7-16-15; production is through treated perfs: 9587-14060. Treat: Acdz w/92828 gals 7.5%, Frac w/7243833# sd & 7971076 gals fluid. IP: 8-14-15 Flow 24 hrs 415 BO, 989 BW, 1394 MCF, CP 200. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 1220 w/1050 sx, 9 5/8 @ 5025 w/1300 sx, 5 1/2 @ 14153 w/2100 sx, 2 7/8 @ 8810; API #30-025-42489

EOG Resources Inc.
Neptune 10 State Com #501
West Triple X; Sec 10 T24S R33E; 251/S & 1090/E. BHL: 207/N & 388/E; EL 3609 GL, TD 16005 MD, 11171 TVD; Spud 1-31-15, Comp 7-23-15; production is through perfs: 11306-15851. IP: 7-30-15 Flow 24 hrs 2218 BO, 4274 BW, 2278 MCF, 44/64" Ch, CP 1251. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 1361 w/1000 sx, 9 5/8 @ 5150 w/1425 sx, 5 1/2 @ 16005 w/1850 sx; API #30-025-42322

EOG Resources Inc.
Neptune 10 State Com #502
West Triple X; Sec 10 T24S R33E; 251/S & 1120/E. BHL: 230/N & 1361/E; EL 3610 GL, TD 15962 MD, 11205 TVD; Spud 2-17-15, Comp 7-23-15; production is through perfs: 11287-15832. IP: 7-30-15 Flow 24 hrs 2031 BO, 3911 BW, 2037 MCF, 48/64" Ch, CP 1083. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 1358 w/950 sx, 9 5/8 @ 5180 w/1350 sx, 5 1/2 @ 15962 w/1800 sx; API #30-025-42323

Mewbourne Oil Co.
Paduca 76 A2ED Fed Com #1
Jennings; Sec 7 T26S R32E; 2455/N & 990/W. BHL: 336/N & 1019/W; EL 3249 GL, TD 16000 MD, 8863 TVD, PBTD 15946 MD, 8863 TVD; Spud 12-21-14, Comp 6-6-15; production is through treated perfs: 9170-15940. Treat: 66,864 gasl 10% acid, 11,908,638 gals slickwater carrying 7,805,729# 100 mesh, 3,324,349# 40/70. IP: 6-9-15 Flow 24 hrs 119 BO, 1375 BW, 119 MCF, 48/64" Ch, CP 370, GOR 456, Gty 51.4. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 1210 w/1015 sx, 9 5/8 @ 4256 w/1300 sx, 5 1/2 @ 1594 w/1400 sx; API #30-025-42320

COG Operating LLC
Gunner 8 Federal Com #4
Wildcat; Sec 8 T26S R34E; 190/S & 380/E. BHL: 331/N & 435/E; EL 3335 GL, TD 19730 MD, 9687 TVD, PBTD 19640 MD, 9696 TVD; Spud 4-6-15, Comp 6-5-15; production is through perfs: 9923-19615. IP: 7-20-15 Flow 24 hrs 317 BO, 2821 BW, 480 MCF, CP 1070. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 840 w/650 sx, 9 5/8 @ 5280 w/1550 sx, 5 1/2 @ 19730 w/3650 sx, 2 7/8 @ 9890; API #30-025-41187

Devon Energy Production Co. LP
Cobber 21 Federal #1
Wildcat; Sec 21 T26S R34E; 65/S & 660/E. BHL: 333/N & 382/E; EL 3286 GL, TD 1402 MD, 9788 TVD, PBTD 14352; Spud 4-23-15, Comp 7-25-15; production is through treated perfs: 9944-14252. Treat: 28,507 gals 15% HCL acid, 728,000# Ottawa sd 40/70, 5, 165,000# Ottawa sd 30/50, 46,00# 100 mesh sd. IP: 8-15-15 Pump 24 hrs 217 BO, 2167 BW, 510 MCF, GOR 2350.23. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 1004 w/865 sx, 9 5/8 @ 5337 w/2290 sx, 5 1/2 @ 14400 w/1825 sx, 2 7/8 @ 9104; API #30-025-42311

DEVELOPMENT WELLS

Permits to drill provided by Wellreports.com

Texas RRCD 7C

Crockett County

APPROACH OPER., LLC, HOLT RANCH (CONS) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 119HC BAKER B, 6720 FNL 680 FWL, RUNNELS CSL SUR., A-2830 7800', 13 N OZONA API# 42-105-42280

APPROACH OPER., LLC, HOLT RANCH (CONS) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 133HB BAKER B, 6740 FNL 2750 FWL, RUNNELS CSL SUR., A-2830 7800', 13 N OZONA API# 42-105-42282

APPROACH OPER., LLC, HOLT RANCH (CONS) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 137HC BAKER B, 6740 FNL 2780 FWL, RUNNELS CSL SUR., A-2830 7800', 13 N OZONA API# 42-105-42283

APPROACH OPER., LLC, HOLT RANCH (CONS) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 115HB BAKER B, 6720 FNL 650 FWL, RUNNELS CSL SUR., A-2830 7800', 13 N OZONA API# 42-105-42279

BONFIRE OPER. LLC, N OZONA (CLEARFORK) (O/G) (RE-ENTER) Well# 3 HOOVER, 660 FNL 2339 FWL, SEC 12 1/2 BLK R, TC/J MCAFEE SUR., A-4901 3200', 16 SW OZONA API# 42-105-39427

EOG RESOURCES, INC, SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 3601H SHANNON ESTATE BB, 399 FNL 1675 FWL, SEC 36 BLK BB, TC/ BR COX SUR., A-5072 9000', 20 NE IRAAN API# 42-105-42281

Reagan County

CALLON PETRO. OPERATING CO., LIN (WOLFCAMP) DRILL (INJ) Well# 1D UNIVERSITY 27-34, 210 FSL 2180 FEL, SEC 34 BLK 2, UL SUR. 4650', 16 NW BIG LAKE API# 42-383-39450

CALLON PETRO. OPERATING CO., LIN (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 8LH UNIVERSITY 27-34, 230 FNL 800 FEL, SEC 22 BLK 2, UL SUR., A-U58 8850', 16 SE BIG LAKE API# 42-383-39449

CALLON PETRO. OPERATING CO., LIN (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 9CL UNIVERSITY 27-34, 231 FNL 861 FEL, SEC 22 BLK 2, UL SUR. 10200', 16 SE BIG LAKE API# 42-383-39451

LAREDO PETROLEUM, INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 884SU BODINE B, 190 FNL 2321 FWL, SEC 88 BLK 2, T&P/S TICER SUR., A-449 12000', 30 NE BIG LAKE API# 42-383-39453

LAREDO PETROLEUM, INC., SPRA (TREND) R 40 EXC (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 2SM BOOK A 190-28 (ALLOC-B), 240 FNL 673 FWL, SEC 190 BLK 2, T&P/S WELCH SUR., A-699 12000', 22 N BIG LAKE API# 42-383-39447

PARSLEY ENERGY OPERATIONS, LLC, SPRA (TREND) R 40 EXC (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 4225H CHAR HUGHES, 2660 FWL 1140 FSL, SEC 8, M DARBOSON/ EW WALKER SUR., A-677 7500', 12 N BIG LAKE API# 42-383-39454

Tom Green County

BANNER OPERATING, LLC, FUNK (SAN ANDRES) (O) DRILL Well# 2217 SULLENGER, 990 FNL 1320 FEL, SEC 22 BLK 5, H&TC/I FUNK SUR., A-8568 2000', 20 NW SAN ANGELO API# 42-451-32838

BANNER OPERATING, LLC, FUNK (SAN ANDRES) (O) DRILL Well# 2 DEVON 21, 2310 FSL 1650 FEL, SEC 21 BLK 5, H&TC SUR., A-896 2000', 20 NW SAN ANGELO API# 42-451-32837

DURANGO RESOURCES CORP., N CHRISTOVAL (SWS-TIKA) (RE-ENTER) (INJ) Well# 7 JOHNSON, 364 FSEL 823 FNEL, SEC 1, JR CRADDOCK SUR., A-5219 3400', 6 E CHRISTOVAL API# 42-451-30590

Upton County

APACHE CORPORATION, SPRABERRY (TREND) DRILL (INJ) Well# 1SW CC 45, 1304 FNL 556 FWL, SEC 45 BLK 39 T5S, T&P SUR., A-445 7500', 22 NW RANKIN API# 42-461-40162

PARSLEY ENERGY OPERATIONS, LLC, PEGASUS (CONS) (O/G) (FDTFR) Well# 1 ELAINE 48, 2329 FNL 1803 FEL, SEC 48 BLK 40 T4S, T&P/ T WINDHAM SUR., A-1519 12200', 11 W MIDKIFF API# 42-461-38959

XTO ENERGY INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) (RECOMP) Well# 1731WB MCELROY RANCH, 2013 FEL 878 FNL, SEC 117 BLK D, CCSD&RGNG SUR., A-69 11600', 12 NE CRANE API# 42-461-39400

XTO ENERGY INC., WILSHIRE (PENN) (O/G) (RECOMP) Well# 3224 MCELROY RANCH, 2176 FWL 659 FSL, SEC 132 BLK D, CCSD&RGNG/ JT MCELROY SUR., A-1465 11360', 11 NE CRANE API# 42-461-38796

XTO ENERGY INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) (RECOMP) Well# 3132WB MCELROY RANCH, 2070 FEL 1880 FNL, SEC 131, BLK D, CCSD&RGNG SUR., A-76 10800', 11 E CRANE API# 42-461-38936

XTO ENERGY INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) (RECOMP) Well# 3024WB MCELROY RANCH, 1433 FWL 1106 FSL, SEC 130 BLK D, CCSD&RGNG/ JT MCELROY SUR., A-1464 11220', 10 NE CRANE API# 42-461-38988

XTO ENERGY INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) (RECOMP) Well# 3342 MCELROY RANCH, 660 FEL 1980 FNL, SEC 133 BLK E, CCSD&RGNG SUR., A-77 11775', 10 E CRANE API# 42-461-39012

XTO ENERGY INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) (RECOMP) Well# 3431 MCELROY RANCH, 660 FNL 1820 FEL, SEC 134 BLK E, CCSD&RGNG/ JT MCELROY SUR., A-1466 11830', 10 NE CRANE API# 42-461-39013

XTO ENERGY INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) (RECOMP) Well# 3532 MCELROY RANCH, 1980 FNL 1969 FEL, SEC 135 BLK E, CCSD&RGNG SUR., A-78 11740', 10 NE CRANE API# 42-461-39014

XTO ENERGY INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) (RECOMP) Well# 3541WB MCELROY RANCH, 1113 FEL 718 FNL, SEC 135 BLK E, CCSD&RGNG SUR., A-78 11750', 10 E CRANE API# 42-461-39367

XTO ENERGY INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) (RECOMP) Well# 3G CAROLINE, 1925 FSL 3180 FEL, SEC 3 BLK 1, GC&SF SUR., A-223 11130', 16 NW RANKIN API# 42-461-39438

XTO ENERGY INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) (RECOMP) Well# 3141WB MCELROY RANCH, 523 FNL 569 FEL, SEC 131 BLK D, CCSD&RGNG SUR., A-76 11850', 11 E CRANE API# 42-461-39232

XTO ENERGY INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) (RECOMP) Well# 3213WB MCELROY RANCH, 1859 FSL 525 FWL, SEC 132 BLK D, CCSD&RGNG/ JT MCELROY SUR., A-1465 11750', 10 NW CRANE API# 42-461-39231

Texas RRCD 8

Andrews County

CITATION OIL & GAS CORP., FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) (RECOMP) Well# 32 EF KING, 330 FSL 1349 FEL, SEC 10 BLK A42, PSL/EF KING SUR., A-1961 6400', 8 SW ANDREWS API# 42-003-46068

CITATION OIL & GAS CORP., FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) (RECOMP) Well# 26 EF KING, 1656 FWL 1421 FNL, SEC 10 BLK A42, PSL/EF KING SUR., A-1961 6110', 8 SW ANDREWS API# 42-003-45449

CITATION OIL & GAS CORP., FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) (RECOMP) Well# 29 EF KING, 1280 FSL 330 FWL, SEC 10 BLK A42, PSL SUR., A-1961 6100', 8 SW ANDREWS API# 42-003-45454

CITATION OIL & GAS CORP., FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) (RECOMP) Well# 31 EF KING, 330 FSL 2629 FWL, SEC 10 BLK A42, PSL/EF KING SUR., A-1961 6225', 8 SW ANDREWS API# 42-003-46067

CITATION OIL & GAS CORP., FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) (RECOMP) Well# 30 EF KING, 330 FSL 1300 FWL, SEC 10 BLK A42, PSL SUR., A-1961 6090', 8 SW ANDREWS API# 42-003-45448

XTO ENERGY INC., MEANS (O) (RECOMP) Well# 1424 MEANS SAN ANDRES UNIT, 660 FNL 664 FEL, SEC 10 BLK A35, PSL/HD DENNIS SUR., A-379 5500', 10 NE ANDREWS API# 42-003-02314

XTO ENERGY INC., MEANS (O) (RECOMP) Well# 1466 MEANS SAN ANDRES UNIT, 28 FNL 1443 FEL, SEC 9 BLK A35, PSL/HD DENNIS SUR., A-377 5500', 9 NE ANDREWS API# 42-003-30937

XTO ENERGY INC., MEANS (O) (RECOMP) Well# 1764 MEANS SAN ANDRES UNIT, 1318 FSL 1249 FEL, SEC 9 BLK A35, HD DENNIS SUR., A-377 5500', 9 NE ANDREWS API# 42-003-33153

XTO ENERGY INC., MEANS (O) (RECOMP) Well# 1566 MEANS SAN ANDRES UNIT, 1325 FNL 1344 FEL, SEC 9 BLK A35, PSL/HD DENNIS SUR., A-377 5500', 9 NE ANDREWS API# 42-003-31183

Crane County

APACHE CORPORATION, BLK 31 (DEVONIAN) (O/G) (RECOMP) Well# 1 UNIVERSITY 44, 1519 FSL 477 FWL, SEC 44 BLK 31, UL SUR., A-U92 9600', 7 NW CRANE API# 42-103-36417

DEVON ENERGY PROD. CO., LP, S LEA (WOLFCAMP) (O) (RECOMP) Well# 219 PJ LEA ETAL, 2152 FSEL 2106 FSWL, SEC 47 BLK 32, PSL/WB HILL SUR., A-566 8676', 10 NW CRANE API# 42-103-33603

DEVON ENERGY PROD. CO., LP, UNIV WADDELL (PENN) (O) (RECOMP) Well# H 10H TEXAS CONSOLIDATED #1, 1240 FNL 1315 FEL, SEC 3 BLK 31, UL SUR., A-U51 9250', 11 NW CRANE API# 42-103-30828

DEVON ENERGY PROD. CO., LP, S LEA (WOLFCAMP) (O) (RECOMP) Well# 230 PJ LEA ETAL, 760 FNL 1932 FWL, SEC 39 BLK 32, PSL/C WELCH SUR., A-647 8105', 12 W CRANE API# 42-103-34790

Culberson County

CAPITAN ENERGY, INC., W FORD (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1H JS BLAIR 2, 130 FSL 869 FEL, SEC 2 BLK 112, PSL/JM LEDEHAM SUR., A-1570 10200', 48 NW KENT API# 42-109-32874

CIMAREX ENERGY CO., W FORD (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 2H TWENTY GRAND 26 UNIT A, 410 FSL 615 FWL, SEC 26 BLK 59 T2S, T&P/ HT COLLIER SUR., A-5083 9794', 14 W ORLA API# 42-109-32873

CIMAREX ENERGY CO., W FORD (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 3H SUNNY'S HALO 40 UNIT, 2110 FNL 1086 FEL, SEC 40 BLK 59 T2S, T&P/ HT COLLIER SUR., A-5087 9808', 15 S ORLA API# 42-109-32876

CIMAREX ENERGY CO., W FORD (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 2H SUNNY'S HALO 40 UNIT, 2110 FNL 1106 FEL, SEC 40 BLK 59 T2S, T&P/ HT COLLIER SUR., A-5087 9808', 15 S ORLA API# 42-109-32875

CIMAREX ENERGY CO., W FORD (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 3H GATO DEL SOL 34 UNIT, 210 FNL 1555 FWL, SEC 34 BLK 59 T2S, T&P/ HT COLLIER SUR., A-5085 9810', 15 W ORLA API# 42-109-32872

CIMAREX ENERGY CO., W FORD (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 2H GATO DEL SOL 34 UNIT, 210 FNL 1575 FWL, SEC 34 BLK 59 T2S, T&P/ HT COLLIER SUR., A-5085 9760', 15 W ORLA API# 42-109-32871

Glasscock County

XTO ENERGY INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 4712AH ZANT, 1190 FWL 1074 FSL, SEC 2 BLK 36 T3S, T&P/ M BOATNER SUR., A-919 8620', 16 NW GARDEN CITY API# 42-173-37223

XTO ENERGY INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 4701BH ZANT, 890 FWL 1075 FSL, SEC 2 BLK 36 T3S, T&P/ M BOATNER SUR., A-919 8850', 16 NW GARDEN CITY API# 42-173-37222

XTO ENERGY INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 4721SH ZANT, 840 FWL 1075 FSL, SEC 2 BLK 36 T3S, T&P/ M BOATNER SUR., A-919 8160', 16 NW GARDEN CITY API# 42-173-37221

Please see 8F

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Charles Travis Short — Midland TX

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Nicole DiSera — Riverton UT
Patricia H. Hawthorne — Taylor TX
Joy Hubbard — Midland TX
Kayla Mareschal — Odessa TX
Judy Ann Montoya — Kyle TX
Keshia D. Sellers — Midland TX

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Criminology
Eliana Arnold — Midland TX
Clovis Gene Connelly — Andrews TX
Adrian Aubrey Flores — Midland TX
Jennifer Lynette Gilley — Odessa TX
Roy Mena Cruz Gonzalez — Midland TX
James Brendon Lujan — Sierra Blanca TX
Yvette Chavez Rodriguez — Odessa TX
Jennefer Lee Soto — Cedar Creek TX
Michael Ray Tarin — Odessa TX
Stephan Charles Thompson — Las Vegas TX
Pedro Daniel Torres — Odessa TX

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Shelby Paige Bullock — Odessa TX
Sarah Elisabeth Navarro — Midland TX
Cara Glyn Nelson — Odessa TX
Meredith Kay Smiley — Odessa TX
Christopher M. Zamora — Austin TX

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in History
Larry Galindo — Odessa TX
Thomas Wesley Glenn — Midland TX
Jeffrey Ryan Longino — Odessa TX
Gilbert M. Ybarra — Odessa TX

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Humanities
Pearl Maske — El Paso TX
Justin DeWayne McCowin — Tyler TX

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Political Science
Jovan Jacob Lopez Pando — Odessa TX
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Sarah Elizabeth Fierro — Odessa TX
Andrea Monique Flores — Monahans TX
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Evelena McCutcheon — Odessa TX
Angelica Dolores Mijares — Odessa TX
Alexxy Mercedes Olgin — Midland TX
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Jesse Donald Hogan — Princeton WV
Debbie Lynn Hutson — Odessa TX
Kathryn A. Lopez — Waco TX
Margaret L. Mota — Odessa TX
Tiffany Jewell Murphy — San Angelo TX
Sibyl N. Rogers — Palo Pinto TX
Teigan Rose Tuala — Midland TX
Jaqueline Valencia — San Antonio TX
Amanda Marie Vick — Midland TX

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Daniel Edward Guerrero — Odessa TX

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Athletic Training
Christopher Ryan Williams — Odessa TX

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Biology
Madison Amron Armenta — Odessa TX
Robin Louis-Nicolas Désiré Dassy — Odessa TX
Madeline S. Diais — Odessa TX
Robert Michael Diaz — Odessa TX
Alejandra E. Espinoza — Odessa TX
Stephanie Rodriguez Franco — Midland TX
Scott Alexander Fraser — Odessa TX
Nakira Cheraé Jones — Odessa TX
Kaitlyn Ann Kesey — Monahans TX
Sara Moreno Mascaraque — Odessa TX
Brek N. Paz — Odessa TX
Danielle Abby Soliven Rubio — Midland TX
Brenda Saenz — Odessa TX
Sunnie Jan Stewart — Odessa TX
David Lee Villesca — Odessa TX

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Computer Science
Jaelan Thomas Allen, I — Houston TX
Mayur R. Bhakta — Iraan TX
Roger Dewayne Cline — Big Spring TX
Jon Andrew Crain — Odessa TX
Cory Glenn Davenport — Big Spring TX
Uric Marcus Estrada — Odessa TX
Ryan Gregory Fiske — Midland TX
Jacob Andrew Jordan — Odessa TX
Alfonso Lozoya — Gardendale TX
Jamie Dan Ogletree — San Angelo TX
Angilia Taulese Smith — Lakewood WA
Melody Sheree Snitker — Midland TX
Jefferson Wood — Midland TX

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Geology
Isaac Michael Bancroft — Katy TX
Jessica Estelle Kilpatrick — Odessa TX
Clint Curtis Merritt — Midland TX
James Daniel Newcomb — Snyder TX
Adeolu Daniel Ojo — Odessa TX
Sinmilola Habeeb Olagunju — Odessa TX
Kimberly A. Sawyer — Midland TX
Michol C. Urias — Midland TX

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Information Systems
Alma Cynthia Durán — Odessa TX
Lynzi Richale Pinter — Odessa TX

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Kinesiology
Kadye Lynn Bedell — Odessa TX
Zachary Christian Cavazos — Odessa TX
Irvin Alaan Hernandez — Midland TX
Kimberlin Danielle Hughes — Odessa TX
Gary Kenneth Kerr, III — Odessa TX
Erika Lea Lewis — Odessa TX
Joshua Lup — Spring TX
David B. Muniz — Odessa TX
Jessica Tiffany Payen — Odessa TX
Lauren Nicole Porras — El Paso TX
Cameron Cole Stinnett — Alpine TX

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Mathematics
Joshua James Boyer — Midland TX
Sarai Rubi Sanchez — Andrews TX
Jennifer Hien Vu — Odessa TX

Department of Nursing
Bachelor of Science with a Major in Nursing
Alejandra Bahena — Odessa TX
Kelsey LeAnn Conlin — Odessa TX
Francisca Nnedinma Egboh — Midland TX
Michelle Garcia-Teliz — El Paso TX
Esther Ebele Ihediwa — Midland TX
Rachel Irene Johnson — Odessa TX
Sara Francise Levario Natividad — Midland TX
Bianca R. Machuca — Odessa TX
Cody Eugene McIntyre — Midland TX
Merceiris Chacon Montoya — Odessa TX
Alivia Rose Pape — Midland TX
Adrian Ramirez — Midland TX
Analee Rodriguez — Odessa TX
Jaleecia Ja'Nae Rollie — Odessa TX
John Manuel Caniamo Rosero — Odessa TX
Manuel John Caniamo Rosero — Odessa TX
Ariana Raquel Rubio — Odessa TX
Brandi Jo'Nell Spinks — Odessa TX
Berkley Marie Timmons — Odessa TX
Leslie Ann Villa — Crane TX

Graduate Degrees
College of Arts and Sciences

Master of Arts with a Major in English
Jessica Sheppard McCaslin — Midland TX

Master of Arts with a Major in Psychology-Clinical
Jodi LéChelle Creech — Odessa TX

Master of Public Administration with an emphasis in Leadership
Angela Minjarez Galvan — Odessa TX
Bryant Randall Hunt — San Antonio TX
Raymond Oliver Williams — Midland TX

Master of Science with a Major in Biology
Stacy Que Trieu — Odessa TX

Master of Science with a Major in Geology
Olakemi Busede Afuape — Midland TX
Adekunle Olusola Amoo — Midland TX
John James Braswell — Denver CO
Ettenbong Eshiet Emmanuel — Odessa TX
Danette Whittle Murphy — Midland TX
Lydia Gail Roundtree — Midland TX
Austin Vise Shelton — Odessa TX
Calvin Scott Smiley — Midland TX

Master of Science with a Major in Kinesiology
Liseth Orrego — Odessa TX
Lauren Elizabeth Unger — Fort Smith AR
Kristin Diane Wagner — Wylie TX
Evelyn Wingard — Dallas TX

Baccalaureate Degrees
College of Business and Engineering

Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences
Justin Duane Boudreau — Simonton TX
Brandon Erik Broom — Baytown TX
Caleb Rigobertho Hernandez — Midland TX
Manuel Lorenzo Mendiola — San Antonio TX
Carime Muniz — Odessa TX
Shelly Ann Pope — Odessa TX

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Economics
Chelsi Maegan Dry — Midland TX

Bachelor of Business Administration with a Major in Accountancy
Vanessa Arguello — Midland TX
Sherard Bryant Baeza — Midland TX
Candi Lynn Bucholz — Odessa TX
Nikki Lynn Day — Gardendale TX
Alexandria DeLaGarza — Midland TX
Brianna Marie Dominguez — El Paso TX
Angie Berenice Favela — Odessa TX
Timothy Michael Fuentes — Monahans TX
Charles Austin Good — Midland TX
Lilian Raquel Guerra — Round Rock TX
Markiesha De'Nae Johnson — Midland TX
Kevin Joseph Knorr — Midland TX
Myranda Danielle Lopez — Covington TX
Karina Lynn Ochoa — Monahans TX
Karla Mariel Olivas — Odessa TX
Ricardo U. Rodriguez — Odessa TX
Cynthia Valles Rondan — Odessa TX
Lucero Sandoval — Pecos TX
Jacob Thomas Scott — Odessa TX
Bekah Elizabeth Weaver — Midland TX

Bachelor of Business Administration with a Major in Finance
Morgan Rhea Henderson — Midland TX
Ashton Nicole Johns — Midland TX
Kyra Corin Lara — Snyder TX
Brittany Nichole Molinar — Odessa TX
Andre Amir Rieder — Boulder CO
Jessica M. Smithwick — Big Spring TX

Bachelor of Business Administration with a Major in Management
Michelle Joanne Bruce — Arlington TX
James Houston Burleson — Odessa TX
Bradley James Carter — Midland TX
Adrian Collazo — Odessa TX
Isabella Sophia Crofts — Odessa TX
Angela Montez Davis — Odessa TX
Bryant Anthony Davis — Tyler TX
Mason Clark Elam — Midland TX
Vanessa Kevina Fowler Hamblin — Waco TX
Paul Michael Freeman — Odessa TX
Jacob Kenneth Froman — Big Spring TX
Jaziel Rogelio Gomez — Midland TX
Isela Anatti Granados — Odessa TX
Yesenia Loya — Midland TX
Alexandra Maytubby — Oklahoma City OK
Janette Medina — Midland TX
Candice Renee Miller — Monahans TX
Clint Robinson Painter — Midland TX
Eric Chance Plymell — Arlington TX
Jessica Leonor Ruiz — Seminole TX
Nikolas Seth Ruiz — Odessa TX
Stephen Wayne Shaw — Midland TX
Bryce Douglas Warren — White Settlement TX

Bachelor of Business Administration with a Major in Marketing
Jovan Garcia — Irving TX
Travis Marshall Pool — Odessa TX
Terin Elizabeth Rivera — Odessa TX
Cristian Bernardo Rodriguez — Allen TX
Jacqueline Saucedo — Odessa TX

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Industrial Technology
Stimson Edward Baldonado Martinez — Odessa TX
Tamara Lynn Feazell — Odessa TX
Rachel Ann Kinman — Midland TX
Andriena Meraz — Midland TX

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Mechanical Engineering
Sawyer Alan Benavidez — Odessa TX

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Petroleum Engineering
Oluwatosin Victor Abegunde — Odessa TX
Angel Beltran, III — Odessa TX
Shai Dean Biggerstaff — Odessa TX
Rafael Dutra Borges — Odessa TX
Ivan Campos Gomez — Kermit TX
Justin Lee Gregg — Midland TX
Dustin Douglas Hall — Midland TX
Muftau Abiudun Ibraheem — Midland TX
Lyndsie Jordan Matthews — Odessa TX
Joel Wesley Milam — Midland TX
Jesus Alberto Moreno Castañeda — Crane TX
Brit Gustavo Morris — Dallas TX
Abisola Oluwabusayo Orogbemi — Odessa TX
Dante Alonso Perez — Odessa TX
Nicole Rhiannon Ramirez — Odessa TX
Caitlin Shirey — Odessa TX
Rachelle Elizabeth Wells — Midland TX

College of Education

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Child and Family Studies
Halee Shea Brown — Midland TX
Kristie Giselle Caudillo — Odessa TX
Elimari Gonzalez — Ft. Worth TX
Angel Renee Johnson — Midland TX
Sheila Rena McDonald — Odessa TX
Kelly Zane Miller — Ralls TX
Angelica Machado Olivas — Andrews TX
Crystal Lynn Putty — Odessa TX
Laura Lee Robinett — Midland TX
Paula Angelica Ruiz — Andrews TX
Ocie Roseann Sewell — Odessa TX

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Multidisciplinary Studies
Danyela Lucia Aguilar — Odessa TX
Angela Leann Arthur — Andrews TX
Taylor Renee Harmon — San Antonio TX
Kendra Renee Houston — Midland TX
Cynthia Pando Jaquez — Pecos TX
Jennie Y. Leyva — Odessa TX
Belinda Jessica Loeppky — Seminole TX
Kimberly Victoria Lutz — Odessa TX
Veronica M. Mendoza — Balmorhea TX
Ana Maria Morales — Andrews TX
Ashley Elizabeth Northern — Midland TX

Graduate Degrees
College of Business and Engineering

Master of Business Administration
Christopher G. Bremer — Propser TX
Chelsea Elizabeth Dey — Midland TX
Michael Shayne Tomlin — Midland TX
Erik Thomas Valenzuela — Odessa TX

Master of Professional Accountancy
Gabriela Alvarez-Lomeli — Odessa TX
Chau Tran — Odessa TX

College of Education
Master of Arts with a Major in Bilingual Education
Karime Dominguez Roman — Odessa TX
Germaine Elizabeth Koskina — Ponder TX

Master of Arts with a Major in Counseling
Taylor Grace Ingram — Midland TX
Jessica Ann Schuler — Odessa TX

Master of Arts with a Major in Educational Leadership
Shanna Nicole Alstead — Amarillo TX
Kenneth David Anstead, Jr. — LaPorte TX
Jaime Lynn Bahlman — Lamesa TX
Reagan Michelle Berry — Abilene TX
Stephanie Kay Carnett — Midland TX
Jennie Chavez — Odessa TX
Alejandra Garcia — Odessa TX
Dennis O'Briant Jamison — Cleveland TX
Otto Herbert Keubler, IV — Burleson TX
August Lee Lewis — Andrews TX
D' Lee Marble — Plainview TX
Linda Ivette Martell — El Paso TX
Wendy Curtner McAshlan — Santa Fe TX
Eugene Thomas Miller — Richmond TX
Trisha Lynnette Montalvo — Odessa TX
Melanie Ann Rich — Crowley TX
Amy Diane Russell — Odessa TX
Marielena Vasquez Saenz — Odessa TX
Autumn Schoenbeck — Harker Heights TX
Kamye LaNell Smith — Odessa TX
April Dawn Snelson — Amarillo TX
Michelle Lyn Spitler — Houston TX
Douglas Wayne Tipton — Wolfforth TX
Brittany Nichole Welborn — Odessa TX
Krystle Elizabeth Yanoff — Butler PA

Master of Arts with a Major in Professional Education
Danielle Cruzan Pinter — Midland TX

Master of Arts with a Major in Special Education
Coraglyn CoCo Caldwell — Victoria TX
Heather Renee Carrillo — Odessa TX
Dean Robert Garrity — Livonia MI
Candice Renee Kendrick — Midland TX
Brittany Dawn Lopez — Glenn Heights TX
Stacy Denise Stewart — Lamesa TX

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XTO ENERGY INC, SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 4703SH ZANT, 1740 FWL 1148 FSL, SEC 2 BLK 36 TSS, T&P/ M BOATNER SUR., A-919 8850', 16 NW GARDEN CITY API# 42-173-37220

Loving County

APACHE CORPORATION, PHANTOM (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 208HR CONDOR, 656 FNEL 836 FNWL, SEC 87 BLK 33, H&TC SUR., A-11 12000', NW MENTONE API# 42-301-32661

APACHE CORPORATION, PHANTOM (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 256H MOCKINGBIRD STATE UNIT 9, 215 FSWL 530 FNWL, SEC 9 BLK 2, W&NW SUR., A-204 13000', 3 NW MENTONE API# 42-301-32660

APACHE CORPORATION, PHANTOM (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 255H MOCKINGBIRD STATE UNIT 9, 215 FSWL 560 FNWL, SEC 9 BLK 2, W&NW SUR., A-204 13000', 3 NW MENTONE API# 42-301-32662

APACHE CORPORATION, PHANTOM (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 103H MAGPIE UNIT, 1210 FNWL 176 FNEL, SEC 4 BLK 2, W&NW/JJ VICTOR SUR., A-1305 13000', 13 NW TOYAH API# 42-301-32663

RKI E&P, LLC, SANDBAR (BONE SPRING) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 3H BOWDLE 47, 241 FNL 567 FWL, SEC 47 BLK 29, PSL/F BOWDLE SUR., A-1387 16000', 22 SW KERMIT API# 42-301-32656

Martin County

DEVON ENERGY PROD. CO., LP, SPRA (TREND) R 40 EXC DRILL (INJ) Well# 13 JOHNSON RANCH SWD, 415 FNL 1890 FWL, SEC 13 BLK 38 T1N, T&P SUR., A-275 12600', 16 NW STANTON API# 42-317-40251

DEVON ENERGY PROD. CO., LP, SPRA (TREND) R 40 EXC DRILL (INJ) Well# 18 JOHNSON RANCH SWD, 2249 FNL 548 FWL, SEC 18 BLK 38 T1N, T&P/ JW WOOLDRIDGE SUR., A-860 4700', 15 NW STANTON API# 42-317-40258

DIAMONDBACK E&P LLC, SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 3903LS MABEE BREEDLOVE, 3847 FWL 5354 FNL, SEC 256, BRISCOE CSL SUR., A-595 10000', 14 NW TARZAN API# 42-317-40254

DIAMONDBACK E&P LLC, SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 3905LS MABEE BREEDLOVE, 3817 FWL 5354 FNL, SEC 256, BRISCOE CSL SUR., A-595 10000', 14 NW TARZAN API# 42-317-40255

DIAMONDBACK E&P LLC, SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 3901LS MABEE BREEDLOVE, 3877 FWL 5354 FNL, SEC 256, BRISCOE CSL SUR., A-595 10000', 14 NW TARZAN API# 42-317-40253

ENCANA O&G (USA) INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 2001A DOROTHY FAYE K, 467 FNL 467 FEL, SEC 319, GARZA CSL SUR., A-998 12410', 9 W TARZAN API# 42-317-40256

Midland County

PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC, SPRA (TREND) R 40 EXC (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 3312H SHACKELFORD L, 2565 FWL 276 FSL, SEC 33 BLK 37 T3S, T&P SUR., A-140 10500', 18 SE MIDLAND API# 42-329-40386

XTO ENERGY INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 3106BH NOBLES, 1008 FEL 552 FNL, SEC 30 BLK 40 T1S, T&P/C QUINN SUR., A-818 10200', 10 NW MIDLAND API# 42-329-40392

XTO ENERGY INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) (RECOMP) Well# 14 MARALO 41, 1787 FSL 1127 FEL, SEC 41 BLK 38, T&P SUR, 11950', 6 NW MIDKIFF API# 42-329-39235

Pecos County

KINDER MORGAN PROD. CO. LLC, YATES (O/G) (HORZ) (RECOMP) Well# 40E12 YATES FIELD UNIT, 967 FSL 2731 FEL, SEC 61 BLK 1, I&GN SUR., A-727 1999', 1 S IRAAN API# 42-371-06110

KINDER MORGAN PROD. CO. LLC, YATES (O/G) (HORZ) (RECOMP) Well# 273C56 YATES FIELD UNIT, 2453 FSL 1180 FWL, SEC 28 BLK 194, GC&SF SUR., A-4556 1999', 5 SW IRAAN API# 42-371-35901

KINDER MORGAN PROD. CO. LLC, YATES (O/G) (HORZ) (RECOMP) Well# 23G30 YATES FIELD UNIT, 788 FNL 8217 FEL, SEC 34 1/2 BLK 194, IG YATES/ SF 12394 SUR., A-8196 1999', 2 W IRAAN API# 42-371-33900

KINDER MORGAN PROD. CO. LLC, YATES (O/G) (HORZ) (RECOMP) Well# 22B12 YATES FIELD UNIT, 1048 FNL 1287 FEL, SEC 103 BLK 194, TC SUR., A-4715 1999', 2 W IRAAN API# 42-371-32741

KINDER MORGAN PROD. CO. LLC, YATES (O/G) (HORZ) (RECOMP) Well# 37F58 YATES FIELD UNIT, 633 FESL 462 FEL, SEC 34 BLK 194, GC&SF/ TF MICKOX SUR., A-6319 1999', 2 SW IRAAN API# 42-371-35721

Reeves County

ANADARKO E&P ONSHORE LLC, PHANTOM (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1H SIEVERS UNIT 2-29, 500 FNEL 467 FSEL, SEC 29 BLK 2, H&GN SUR., A-375 13000', 17 SE ORLA API# 42-389-34945

BHP BILLITON PET (TXLA OP) CO., PHANTOM (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1H JR 56-T3-26, 275 FNL 990 FWL, SEC 26 BLK 56 TSS, T&P/ JR MEEKER SUR., A-5695 13000', 9 S ORLA API# 42-389-34954

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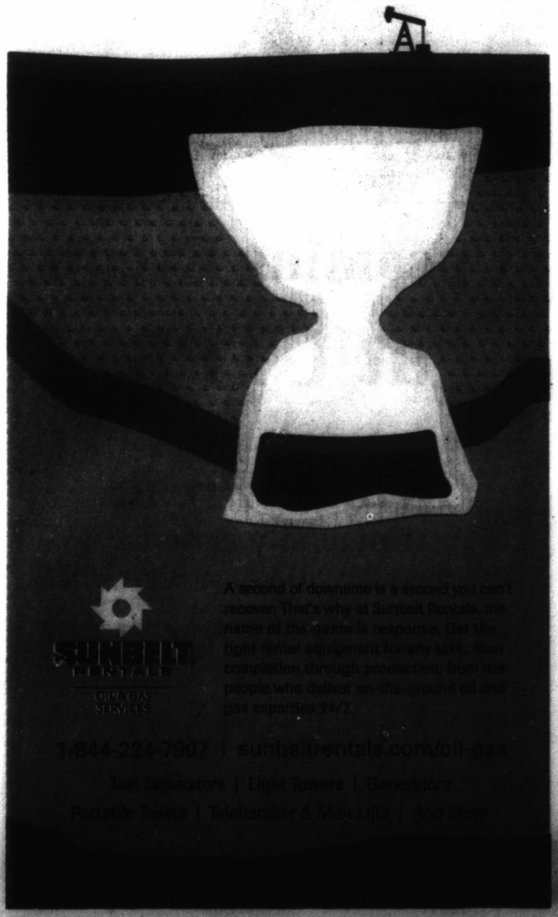

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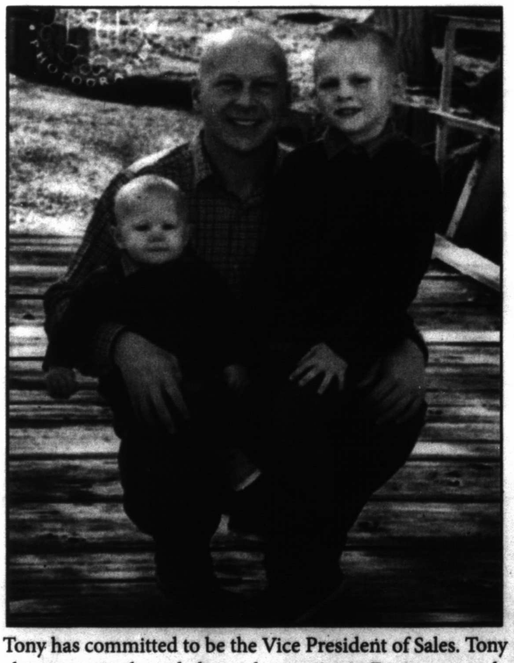
Tony Wharry



Tony has committed to be the Vice President of Sales. Tony has extensive knowledge and expertise in Environmental Liners and Containment having been a founding member and operational leader in a company that eclipsed over $80M in annual revenues. Tony is also a proud father of two sons Jaxon and Braxton.

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