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MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2013 mrt★com *Delivering life ... every day*

Research: Fracturing reduces threat of drought

By Emily Pickrell
Houston Chronicle

HOUSTON — While criticized as a water-intensive technique for producing oil and natural gas, hydraulic fracturing ultimately cuts overall water use in Texas and makes the state less vulnerable to drought, according to a new study from the University of Texas at Austin.

Hydraulic fracturing has helped unleash a bounty of cheap natural gas in the United States by making it cheaper to access energy trapped in deep, dense shale rock. The technique flushes massive volumes of water mixed with sand and chemicals underground to break the rock and release the gas.

As the price of natural gas has dropped, some utilities have shifted away from using coal to produce electricity. The water saved by shifting a power plant from coal to natural gas is 25 to 50 times greater than the amount of water required to extract the natural gas through hydraulic fracturing, the study said.

"The bottom line is that hydraulic fracturing, by boosting natural gas production and moving the state from water-intensive coal technologies, makes our electric power system more drought resilient," said Bridget Scanlon, senior research scientist for the University of Texas Bureau of Economic Geology.

Hydraulic fracturing can use up to 5 million gallons of water per well, leading critics to argue that it is overdependent on scarce environmental resources.

But UT researchers found that the consumption is offset by the greater water efficiency in generating power from natural gas versus coal.

In 2010, Texas generated about 40 percent of its electricity from coal and 38 percent from natural gas, according to the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, the state's primary grid operator. This year, coal has dropped to a 37-percent share of the state's power generation and natural gas had grown to 41 percent.

The water savings comes from the more efficient cooling towers used in natural gas combined-cycle plants, which have been the primary type of power plant built in Texas since the 1990s. Combined-cycle plants use about a third as much water as coal steam turbine plants.

The study notes that Texas would have consumed an additional 32 billion gallons of water in 2011 if all of its natural gas-fired power plants used coal instead, even after

Please see **DROUGHT**/4A

MIDLAND'S HIDDEN SANTAS





Courtesy photos

LEFT: Midland College accounting professor Dale Westfall pictured with attendees at this year's Christmas luncheon, benefiting the United Way of Midland. Since 1998, Westfall has co-coordinated and hosted a Christmas meal in his home for the highest-bidding Midland College employees in the annual auction for the United Way. **RIGHT:** Mr. and Mrs. Claus, Ken and Janie Riley, pose in front of the Toys for Tots vehicle at Midland College. Ken Riley works as MC's physical plant director and has served as MC's Santa since 1999.

Midlanders spread Christmas cheer through Santa visits, food

Reporters Rachael Gieswein and Meredith Moriak set out to find Midland's hidden Santas — the individuals who make Christmastime just a little more joyful for their co-workers, family and friends — and found three gentlemen who put Clark Griswold to shame. Here are their stories.

DALE WESTFALL

Christmastime truly kicks off for the Midland College accounting professor during finals week each December when he hosts a group of colleagues for a Christmas lunch. Westfall doesn't consider himself to be a cook but enjoys teaming up with others to host an elegant lunch for winners of MC's auction that benefits the United Way of Midland.

I'm sure it was Clara King's idea — she and I were teaching accounting at Midland College and partners in crime for lots of other activities — for a silent auction item for MC's United Way campaign. We offered a lunch for six at my house.

Please see **SANTA**/4A

Cruz ends year as he began it: No apologies

By Jay Root
Texas Tribune

Ted Cruz wasn't the only politician who promised to shake up Washington when he was sworn in earlier this year.

But he delivered like no other.

By the time the brash Houston lawyer and Republican firebrand completes his first year in the U.S. Senate on Jan. 3, he will arguably have become the most recognizable face of the GOP's unapologetic far right — not bad for a guy with no previous experience in elective office.

Inside

Congress does little of consequence, except argue.

Page 13A

Loathed by Democrats, feared by many moderate Republicans and practically worshiped by tea party activists, Cruz took the U.S. Senate by storm almost from the minute his hand came off the Bible.

His harsh questioning of (and

Please see **CRUZ**/4A



MRT file photo

Ted Cruz speaks in July 2012 at the Midland County Republican Women's luncheon.

Weather
Mostly sunny
47/26
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Terry Williamson
Who's the star of the show, again? Commercialization changes the reason for Christmas.
Page 1B

The big number
Reindeer eyes are sometimes
1,000 times
more sensitive to light and change color. Page 7A

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Pinky the Elf Comes to Midland. Inside today's edition

Today in Local
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AT YOUR SERVICE

ISSN 0890-5932

A Hearst Newspaper

Published each morning by the Hearst Corporation, Midland Reporter-Telegram Division, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701. Periodicals postage paid at Midland, TX 79711. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Ave., Midland, TX 79701.

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Exhibit A: Reality TV footage becomes a legal tool

By Anthony McCartney
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — They invite camera crews into their homes in the hopes of high ratings, endorsement deals and a taste of fame. Yet for some reality television stars, their notoriety brings some unexpected grief from tax collectors or pricey court cases.

That's the predicament Oscar-nominated actor Ryan O'Neal found himself in, spending several weeks in a Los Angeles courtroom as he defended himself against allegations that he didn't own one of his most cherished possessions: an Andy Warhol portrait of longtime lover Farrah Fawcett.

Some of the evidence used against him was footage shot by a reality TV crew for her series "Chasing Farrah" and other projects where O'Neal and Fawcett allowed cameras into their private lives.

The portrait is his, a jury said Thursday. But even he had to question aloud one day toward the end of the trial how much it was all costing him. (His attorney said a lot.)

With families such as the Kardashians and those on the "Real Housewives" shows opening up their homes in cities across the country, lawyers to the stars see reality television crews as a weapon that can be used against their clients.

O'Neal's troubles began when a disgruntled producer of Fawcett's show convinced her alma mater, the University of Texas at Austin, that the Warhol portrait didn't belong to the actor. But TV footage — even just a few fleeting frames — can also be used by tax collectors, bankruptcy trustees and others to wreak havoc, said Bradford Cohen, an attorney who specializes in celebrity tax and estate issues at Venable LLP.

"It's a really dumb idea," Cohen said about allowing film crews into one's home. He said he regularly advises celebrity clients not to do reality television, citing instances where tax officials have opened cases based on what they've seen on TV.

"It just provokes inquiry," Cohen said. "If it doesn't add up, it just arouses their suspicion."

When federal officials indicted Teresa and Joe Giudice, stars of Bravo's reality series "The Real Housewives of New Jersey," they noted the couple's salary from the network and accused them of hiding assets in a bankruptcy filing after the show's first season aired. Most of the charges related to loan applications the couple submitted before the show.

Cohen and other lawyers see the footage of what the University of Texas lawyers saw in "Chasing Farrah"— as evidence.

"Reality shows are especially dangerous because you don't know what context is going to be put around them," said Laura Zwicker, a partner at Greenberg Glusker who specializes in setting up high-value trusts and estates.



AP file photo

Actor Ryan O'Neal, right, leaves court Dec. 2 after he testified in a Los Angeles courtroom about his relationship with Farrah Fawcett and his claimed ownership of an Andy Warhol portrait of the actress. O'Neal spent more than a month in court defending himself against allegations he took the Warhol portrait of Fawcett without proper permission, and both sides used footage from the actress' reality show to try to prove their case. A jury sided with O'Neal, determining Thursday that the actor owned the portrait.



AP file photo

"The Real Housewives of New Jersey" stars Giuseppe "Joe" Giudice, 43, left, and his wife, Teresa Giudice, 41, of Montville Township, N.J., walk out of Martin Luther King, Jr. Courthouse on July 30 after an appearance in Newark, N.J. Federal prosecutors cited the Giudice's "Real Housewives" income in court filings and accuse the couple of hiding assets in a bankruptcy case filed after the show's first season.

"From my perspective as an estate planner, the risk is not that somebody is going to see items but is going to make comments about their value that the IRS is going to come back and stick you with."

But veteran reality television producer Jason Carbone said the benefits outweigh any potential risks.

"It makes no sense to me," said Carbone, who's CEO and founder of production company Good Clean Fun. His company's credits include "Run's House," featuring rapper Reverend Run, and "Tia & Tamera," with actresses Tia and Tamera Mowry.

Carbone said whether to show off what's in someone's home is just one of many considerations that go into planning a reality series. He said he's worked in homes where some areas are off limits, or he suggests valuables get moved so they aren't damaged.

As for attorneys who tell their clients not to do reality TV, Carbone said, "I would say get rid of your attorneys."

Reality TV is a genre where both up-and-coming stars and A-listers have seen success, Carbone said. In the right hands, "They should conceivably make your life better by the time your show is over."

While audiences love the shows, courts have to deal with the footage on a case-by-case basis. In O'Neal's trial, a judge initially blocked university lawyers from playing the sound on a video clip in which Fawcett said she was considering selling one of two Warhol portraits of her. After other evidence about Fawcett's comments to friends was introduced, the jury did hear the actress' remarks.

O'Neal's attorneys also used footage from Fawcett's show in their case, playing scenes in which the actress and O'Neal danced and kissed. The footage challenged the contention that the pair weren't close in the early 2000s.

Reality shows aren't the only media projects lawyers can scour for information. Documentaries, photo shoots and memoirs are other visual sources and increasingly only a click away.

The University of Texas' lawyers also used passages from O'Neal's 2012 memoir "Both of Us" and photos from a Vanity Fair magazine piece that showed Warhol artwork in Fawcett's condominium.

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NATIONBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

PITTSBURGH

Catholic groups win health care act ruling

Catholic groups in western Pennsylvania received another favorable legal ruling in their fight over mandates in the federal health care overhaul law.

District Judge Arthur J. Schwab on Friday granted a permanent injunction to the Catholic Dioceses of Pittsburgh and Erie in their case. That means they don't have to comply with the disputed provisions unless the ruling is overturned by a higher court.

The dioceses object to the law's requirement that contraception, including sterilization, be offered in employee health care plans.

Schwab ruled in November that forcing Catholic schools and charities to comply with the Affordable Care Act could result in decreased donations and the closure of some programs.

Both sides expect the case to be appealed to higher courts.

VIRGINIA

Memorials mark Lockerbie attack anniversary

ARLINGTON — Families of some of the 270 people who died in an airliner bombing 25 years ago gathered for memorial services Saturday in the United States and Britain, honoring victims of a terror attack that killed dozens of American college students and created instant havoc in the Scottish town where wreckage of the plane rained down.

Bagpipes played and wreaths were laid in the Scottish town of Lockerbie and mourners gathered for a moment of silence at London's Westminster Abbey, while U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder told victims' relatives at Arlington National Cemetery that they should take comfort in their unity even if time cannot erase their loss.

"We keep calling for change and fighting for justice on behalf of those no longer with us. We rededicate ourselves — and our nation — to the qualities that defined the men and women that we lost," Holder said.

The events marked the 25th anniversary of the explosion of Pan Am 103, a New York-bound flight that exploded over Lockerbie less than an hour after takeoff from London on Dec. 21, 1988. Many of the victims were American college students flying home for Christmas, including 35 Syracuse University students participating in study abroad programs.

The attack, caused by a bomb packed into a suitcase, killed 259 people aboard the plane, and 11 others on the ground also died.

FLORIDA

Space suit issue prompts delay of second spacewalk

CAPE CANAVERAL — Astronauts removed an old space station pump Saturday, sailing through the first of a series of urgent repair spacewalks to revive a crippled cooling line.

The two Americans on the crew, Rick Mastracchio and Michael Hopkins, successfully pulled out the ammonia pump with a bad valve well ahead of schedule. That task had been planned for the next spacewalk, originally scheduled for Monday but now delayed until Tuesday, Christmas Eve, because of the need for a suit swap.

"An early Christmas," said Mission Control as Mastracchio tugged the refrigerator-size pump away from its nesting spot.

If Mastracchio and Hopkins keep up the quick work, two spacewalks might be enough to complete the installation of a spare pump and a third spacewalk will not be needed as originally anticipated.

Several hours after Saturday's spacewalk ended, Mission Control bumped spacewalk 2 to Tuesday to give Mastracchio enough time to prepare a spare suit. His original suit was compromised when he inadvertently turned on a water switch in the air lock at the end of Saturday's excursion. NASA officials said Saturday night that it's unclear whether a third spacewalk will be needed and when it might occur, if required. A third spacewalk had been slated for Christmas Day before the latest turn of events. NASA requires a day off between spacewalks for astronaut rest.

The space station breakdown 10 days earlier left one of two identical cooling loops too cold and forced the astronauts to turn off all nonessential equipment inside the orbiting lab, bringing scientific research to a near-halt and leaving the station in a vulnerable state.

Mission Control wanted to keep the spacewalkers out even longer Saturday to get even further ahead, but a cold and uncomfortable Mastracchio requested to go back. The spacewalk ended after 5 1/2 hours, an hour short on time but satisfyingly long on content.

FLORIDA

Winning bid tops $100,000 for Zimmerman flag art

ORLANDO — Bidding has closed on eBay for artwork created by George Zimmerman.

The winning bid was $100,099.99 Saturday for a painting depicting a U.S. flag in shades of blue with the words "God, One Nation, with Liberty and Justice for All."

The item received 96 bids since Monday on the online auction website. A picture shows Zimmerman holding the artwork.

Zimmerman's attorney, Jayne Weintraub, told The Associated Press that her client created the artwork himself and posted it for sale.

Weintraub said that, "unfairly, he has not been gainfully employed of late, and he's utilizing his talent to make some money."

Zimmerman was acquitted in July in the shooting death of teenager Trayvon Martin. Prosecutors recently declined to file domestic violence charges against him for an incident involving his girlfriend.

ATLANTA

Online shopping is popular but won't save season

More Americans are deciding to shop online this holiday season instead of heading to crowded stores.

But that alone won't save what is turning out to be a ho-hum Christmas for department stores and clothing chains.

Online sales have surged 9 percent so far this holiday season as Wal-Mart, Macy's and other retailers improved their web sites and prices to better compete with their online nemesis Amazon.com.

Meanwhile, shopping at physical stores is up just 2 percent.

Still, it's estimated that for every $9 shoppers spend in physical stores during the two-month season that ends on New Year's Eve, they'll only spend $1 online, according to research firm comScore.

Why? Retailers haven't solved many of the challenges that initially turned many shoppers off from buying online. Some web sites still crash fairly frequently. Hot merchandise often sells out quickly online. And retailers haven't convinced people to use their shopping apps on smartphones and tablets.

These lingering issues come from years of brick-and-mortar retailers mostly ignoring the possibilities of online shopping while online giants like Amazon got shoppers used to the convenience of it. Solving these problems will help determine how retailers fare during the holiday season and beyond as shoppers increasingly buy online.

"The people that are going to win ... are the ones that are there for the customer however they want to shop," said Joel Anderson, president and CEO of Walmart.com, Wal-Mart's online business.

FLORIDA

Record number of manatee deaths reported in 2013

ST. PETERSBURG — The number of manatee deaths in Florida has topped 800 for the first time since such record-keeping began in the 1970s.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute in St. Petersburg said 803 manatee deaths have been recorded this year. That's about 16 percent of the state's estimated population of 5,000 manatees.

Martine DeWit, of the institute's Marine Mammal Pathology Laboratory, told the Tampa Bay Times that 173 of the dead were breeding-age females. It's unclear what effect these deaths will have on the endangered species' population.

The previous record for manatee deaths was 766, set in 2010 after a lengthy cold snap.

Scientists blame a massive bloom of red tide algae in southwest Florida and a mysterious ailment affecting manatees in the Indian River Lagoon for this year's deaths.

VIRGINIA

Navy seeks more sexual assault survey responses

NORFOLK — Participation is lagging in an anonymous survey geared to learning how big of a problem sexual assault is in the Navy and Marines.

The Navy said earlier this month that it had only received about half as many responses as it did to its last survey, conducted in 2011. The online survey opened on Oct. 15 and closes Jan. 6.

Getting sailors to voluntarily fill out the surveys is important to determine how wide a discrepancy there is between the number of sexual assaults that occur and those that are officially reported.

The Navy said that in the 2012 fiscal year, more than 10,000 sailors reported they were victims of unwanted sexual assault. But only 700 formal complaints were filed.

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TODAY IN MIDLAND

Things to do

Today

■ Midland Festival Ballet's "Nutcracker," 2:30 p.m., Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center. www.midlandfestivalballet.org.

■ Christmastime in the City at Stonegate Fellowship Church. stonegatefellowship.com.

Support group today

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

Restaurants open on Christmas

If you're exhausted from your holiday preparations, take the day off on Christmas and let someone else do the cooking. Although not every restaurant is keeping normal business hours, there are several that will be open.

■ Buffalo Wild Wings, 5107 W. Wadley Ave., 694-9400, 5 p.m.-2 a.m.

■ Denny's, 3701 W. Wall St., 520-5306, 24 hours.

■ Furr's, 1116 N. Midkiff Road, 694-1619, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

■ Grand Buffet, 2510 W. Louisiana Ave., 688-8881, 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

■ Hilton Midland Plaza, 117 W. Wall Ave., 683-6131, Call for hours.

■ IHOP, 2507 W. Loop 250, 684-5759, 301 E. I-20, 686-0537, 24 hours

■ MD Pizza Factory, 4706 N. Midkiff Road Suite 13, 682-4440, 4-9:30 p.m.

■ Way Out West Steak and Buffet, 515 Andrews Highway, 697-4196, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Christmas services

Christmas Eve

■ Christ Church Midland Children's Christmas Pageant and family worship at 4 p.m., Christmas carols, special music and traditional worship at 9 p.m. www.ccanglican.com.

■ Christian Church of Midland Christmas Eve Service at 6 p.m. www.ccofm.com.

■ Church on the Journey Worship service at 6 p.m. 694-2685.

■ Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity Services at 5:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. www.holytrinity.org.

■ Fannin Baptist Church Candle Light Service at 5:30 p.m. www.fanninbaptist.org.

■ First Baptist Church Candlelight services 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Worship Center. www.fbc-midland.org.

■ First Presbyterian Church Worship in sanctuary at 5:30 p.m., worship in chapel with Communion at 7:30 p.m., woship in sanctuary with Communion at 9 p.m. www.fpcmid.org.

■ First United Methodist Church Carols and Candles at noon; family service at 5:30 p.m.; and Carols, Candles and Communion at 7:30 p.m. www.firstmethodistmidland.com.

■ Holy Cross Lutheran Church Candlelight worship "Promise Fulfilled," 7 p.m. 570-8149.

■ Memorial Christian Church All Saints Christmas Eve service at 5:30 p.m. 694-5321.

■ Midland Bible Church Christmas Eve service at 6:30 p.m. www.midland-bible.org.

■ Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish and Shrine Children's Mass at 6 p.m., Mass at midnight. 682-2581.

■ St. Ann's Catholic Church Children's Christmas Mass at 5 p.m., Vigil Mass of Christmas at 8 p.m. and Choral Christmas Eucharist at 10:30 p.m. 682-6303.

■ St. Luke's United Methodist Church Family service at 5 p.m.; Lessons and Carols service at 7:30 p.m.; Traditional Candlelight Service at 11 p.m. 694-2571 or stlukesumcmidland.org.

■ St. Nicholas' Episcopal Church Christmas Eve service at 7 p.m. www.stnicksmt.org.

■ St. Stephen's Catholic Church Mass at 7 a.m., 12:15 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 9 p.m. Spanish, midnight. 520-7394.

■ Stonegate Fellowship Church Christmas Eve services at 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Free tickets ensure seats. www.stonegatefellowship.com.

Christmas Day

■ Christ Church Midland Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m. www.ccanglican.com.

■ Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish and Shrine Christmas Remembrance Mass at 10 a.m. 682-2581.

■ St. Ann's Catholic Church Mass for Christmas Day at 10 a.m., Spanish Mass at 1 p.m. 682-6303.

■ St. Nicholas' Episcopal Church service at 10 a.m. www.stnicksmt.org

■ St. Stephen's Catholic Church Mass at 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. Spanish, 5 p.m. 520-7394.

Christmas tree disposal locations

The city of Midland has two drop-off areas designated for Christmas tree disposal.

■ Citizen Collection Station, 4100 Smith Rd. (north of Claydesta Post Office off Veterans Airpark Lane)

■ Hogan Park — Field No. 7, 1201 E. Wadley Ave. (behind the Armory, enter off Lamesa Road) — trees can be dropped off through Jan. 15, 2014.

Trees from the Hogan Park location will be hauled to the city landfill for mulching. Please note that the disposal of trees in areas besides the listed sites is considered illegal dumping.

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 2-8-2
Pick 3 day: 4-9-5
Pick 3 evening: 8-4-5
Pick 3 night: 6-6-3
Daily 4 morning: 9-7-2-9
Daily 4 day: 2-7-0-0
Daily 4 evening: 6-8-3-0
Daily 4 night: 9-4-8-0
Cash Five: 2-4-13-24-27
Lotto Texas: 1-8-14-22-26-34
Powerball: 25-36-40-45-51 PB: 8
All or Nothing morning: 3-4-5-13-14-16-17-18-20-22-23-24
All or Nothing day: 1-2-3-6-12-14-16-20-21-22-23-24
All or Nothing evening: 1-2-6-8-10-11-13-14-15-16-19-24
All or Nothing night: 1-4-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-17-20-22

SANTA

From 1A

Our first luncheon was in 1998. Over the next few years we made a few changes —from having the whole thing at my house to a progressive luncheon with appetizers at my house and the main course at Clara's. Then we would alternate the houses the following year. People liked the "adventure" but we eventually moved it back to my house.

Clara was the executive chef, and I was her assistant. We both served the multicourse meal, which included hors d'oeuvres, soup, salad, entree, dessert and usually an after-meal drink. She picked recipes from her Southern Living cookbooks, and we worked for hours in the kitchen.

The food was always good, but I think the people who bought the dinner mostly liked the presentation and the full-service. We did just about everything but give shoulder massages. Some of the groups actually turned the meal into their group's Christmas party and would exchange gifts and make it an afternoon affair.

After Clara died in 2007, I persuaded my friend, Debbie Van Stavern, to bring her culinary skills to the event. She has quite a repertoire of menus that we have used for the last five years. The guests still enjoy the food and service, but Debbie also brought some additional spice. One year we encouraged a white elephant gift exchange. There were some interesting gifts. Other years we played Christmas trivia games including the "Name That Christmas Carol" game.

The 2013 Christmas luncheon took place last week. Unfortunately, Debbie was not able to help me this year. On the eve of the event, my frend and colleague, Terry Gilmour, stepped in and rescued me. I had already stolen recipes but needed help putting everything together.

The luncheon has been a good item for the silent auction, but more importantly it's just a fun time for everyone at a particularly stressful time of the year — everyone except the cleanup crew. And even they have a good time discussing the things they overheard from the kitchen and planning next year's menu and activities.

KEN RILEY

The physical plant director for Midland College was tapped 14 years ago to play Santa Claus, and although he's tried to give the suit back every year, Riley said his colleagues won't let him. There's even an expectation he'll continue to portray St. Nick long after he retires.

I've been (at Midland College) about 15 years and started around the beginning of December in 1998. In December 1999 Jan Reed, who was the director of student services, asked me if I would be interested in being Santa. I said no. What little boy grows up and wants to be Santa? I wanted to be Robert Redford or Paul Newman.

She persisted, so I agreed and said, "OK, I'll do it this one time." It was a fun experience and the kids put me on the grill. One little boy told me, 'You're not Santa. Those are cowboy boots, not Santa boots.' I asked him, "What self-respecting Santa would come to West Texas without his boots?" The next year I did it again, and eventually my wife, Janie, started doing it with me.

Each year, I keep saying this will be the last year, but you know, it touches your heart. These kids are funny. They can put you on the fence real quick, asking things like "What's the name of the elf my next door neighbor has." I also meet those kids that need my help. One little boy said all he wanted was heat for his family. A young girl, probably 10 or 11, was tugging on my sleeve and said all she wanted is daddy to quit hitting mommy and twisting her arm. I have a phone number memorized that I can direct them to if there's a need or something.

I am the real thing. I'm a little under 6-feet and well up into the 200s. I have a white beard and even though I don't like it long, from September to late December, I let it grow. I have the cheeks and have been told I have the twinkle. I never envisioned I would play Santa Claus, but truth be known, those kids touch ya.

ROSS BUSH

The district clerk straps on the Santa suit for Bonham School students every year during their Christmas program. The native Midlander grew up Christmas caroling and now spreads the holiday cheer in his office with lunch and secret Santa games and at home with presents and festive pancakes.

I do it for my office and for the one I'm most proud of, Bonham School's Christmas program. It's for special needs kids, and I play Santa Claus, who comes out at the end. For a lot of these kids, it's the only Santa they get. I've done that for seven years. Some don't even speak; they just sit in my lap. Some want a hug and to touch my beard. It's a very small gift I can give — to bring a special joy to needy children.

At the office, we decorate trees as soon as Thanksgiving is over. We draw names and do a secret Santa — there's usually a lot of laughing and giggling involved while trying to figure out who got them. We shut down the office for about two hours go out to lunch.

Growing up, we did Christmas caroling. We had a traditional Christmas at the grandparents' house on Christmas Eve. My tradition now — now that the children are gone — is to cook a Christmas brunch at about 10:30 a.m. with my wife, Tracy. The grandchildren will make red or green colored pancakes. All the children and grandchildren come over, and we thank the Lord for what we received over the year. Christmastime should be about nothing but family. We should have the computers turned off and cellphones turned off.

On occasion, my youngest daughter and I will pick a family and drop off a frozen turkey (for both the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays). We don't tell anybody. We don't give them all the trimmings, but they can grill, fry or bake it.

CRUZ

From 1A

opposition to) Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel during the confirmation process sparked comparisons to red-baiting Sen. Joe McCarthy. He helped lead the successful fight against a bipartisan bill aimed at introducing mandatory background checks for people who buy firearms over the internet or at gun shows. And, unlike fellow conservative senators such as Marco Rubio, of Florida and Rand Paul, of Kentucky, he fiercely criticized and helped derail a comprehensive immigration bill whose future is now uncertain at best.

Perhaps most significantly, Cruz was a chief architect of the budgetary confrontation that sparked a partial shutdown of the government earlier this year — all in an effort to repeal Obamacare.

In the process, he became the star of a hot-selling coloring book, sparked endless speculation about a run for president in 2016 and even prompted an addition to the political lexicon — "Cruz Control" — generally used by people opposed to his confrontational, uncompromising style.

If there was any doubt about his mark on U.S. politics, a recent poll by Rasmussen seems to clear it up. Eleven percent of the Americans surveyed in it ranked him as the most influential person of 2013 — in the world. He came in third, behind Pope Francis and President Obama.

So what does Cruz have to say for himself as he nears the one-year mark?

Sorry? You're welcome?

In a lengthy interview with The Texas Tribune on Wednesday, Cruz made it clear that he has no regrets to ponder or apologies to make. When it comes to the government shutdown, for example, Cruz said the fight helped crystallize the failures of the Affordable Care Act while strengthening his resolve to repeal it.

"The proof is in the pudding," he said. "As a consequence of that fight, we elevated the national debate over the harms Obamacare is causing, and today President Obama has the lowest approval rating he has ever had, and the American public has turned strongly against Obamacare. The reason is simple. This thing isn't working."

Democrats don't see it that way, of course. Texas Democratic Party spokesman Manny Garcia said Cruz pushed people away from the GOP and insulted hard-working Texans.

"Ted Cruz did a great job for Texas Democrats last year," Garcia said. "As he drove the Republican Party off the ideological cliff, every day Texans turned to Democrats for responsible leadership." Garcia gave Cruz an "F" for his efforts to kill Obamacare while representing a state that has the highest percentage of uninsured people.

But don't expect Cruz to back down one iota. He said he will continue to seek the repeal of Obamacare, an idea that in his view has gone from the fringes to "a common-sense, middle-of-the-road" proposal given all of the woes of the new law, such as the botched website rollout and the cancellation of existing policies.

"I intend to do everything possible to stop Obamacare because it isn't working and it is hurting millions of Americans," he said. "The path to repealing Obamacare is going to be continuing to energize and mobilize the American people. The answers are not going to come from Washington."

In the wide-ranging discussion, Cruz made a variety of other observations about his first year in office, his own future and other Texas Republican heavyweights. Among the highlights of the exchange:

Cruz said his concerns about Hagel as defense secretary were "rendered all the more relevant by the terrible deal the Obama administration has brokered with the nation of Iran." He added: "In that confirmation hearing my focus was consistently on his record, on his disclosures and on his past statements, all of which raised substantial reason to doubt that he was an appropriate nominee for that position."

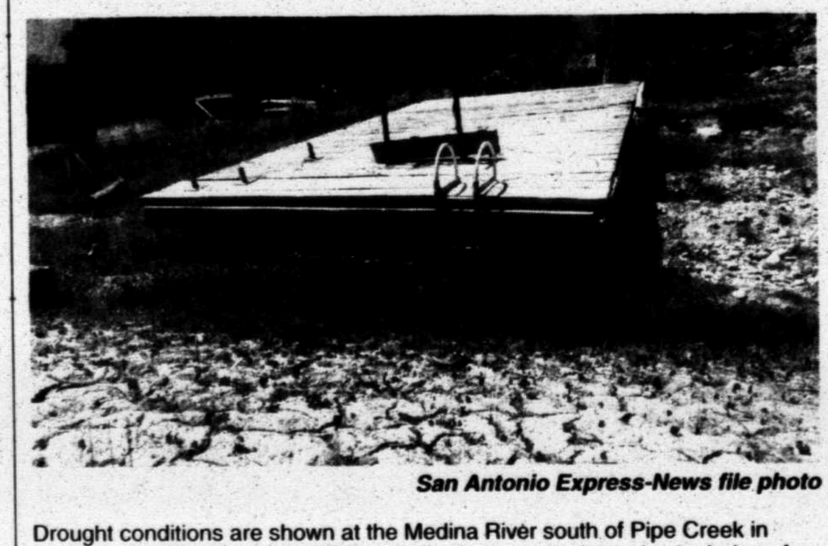
In similar fashion, Cruz defended his questioning of Sen. Dianne Feinstein during a March debate over gun restrictions, when she angrily told him she didn't need a "lecture" as if she were "a sixth-grader." Cruz said he merely wanted to know why Feinstein didn't see the proposal as a violation of the Second Amendment. "It was treated as a ridiculous question outside the bounds of reasonable discussion," Cruz said in the interview. "That's part of the reason why we have an out-of-control federal government with a $17 trillion national debt, because there is far too little focus on the Constitution and the Bill of Rights."

Cruz was perhaps the least talkative when asked about the U.S. Senate race, which pits Sen. John Cornyn against U.S. Rep. Steve Stockman and others. Reminded that Stockman was citing Cornyn's opposition to Cruz's tactics during the shutdown as a key reason he got in the race, Cruz said, "I like John Cornyn," and "I like Steve Stockman." He also noted that he and the senior U.S. senator have "stood side by side on a great many issues" but Cruz steadfastly refused to pick sides. "I've never liked it when Washington insiders try to pick winners and losers in Republican primaries," Cruz said. "I think primaries should be decided by the grassroots in each state. … I'm going to leave it to the voters of Texas to make that decision."

Cruz, who was born in Canada, said he is living up to his promise to give up his claim to citizenship there but that it's taking time. "I have retained counsel, and this is in process, but that has not been completed yet," Cruz said. "My understanding is it should be completed sometime next year, but I don't have an exact time frame."

On the topic of his failure to disclose an investment in a Jamaican private equity firm, Cruz said his amended forms ended the matter as far as he is concerned. "To the best of my knowledge, that matter is fully resolved," Cruz said. "We simply filed an amended filing because I realize I inadvertently omitted something I should have disclosed."

As for a potential run for president, Cruz wouldn't go there: "100 percent of my focus is on the U.S. Senate," he said. "The Senate is the battlefield right now." Cruz didn't care to speculate about a potential 2016 presidential primary matchup with Gov. Rick Perry, either, though he had some kind words for the longest-serving governor in Texas history. "I think he's been a good governor. He's a friend, I respect him, and the economic growth and jobs in Texas over the last two decades have been extraordinary, and Gov. Perry deserves credit for helping create, helping maintain, an environment in which small businesses can prosper and thrive," Cruz said. "I think more states should follow the model of what has worked in Texas."



San Antonio Express-News file photo

Drought conditions are shown at the Medina River south of Pipe Creek in this August 2011 file photo. While criticized as a water-intensive technique for producing oil and natural gas, hydraulic fracturing ultimately cuts overall water use in Texas and makes the state less vulnerable to drought, according to a new study from the University of Texas at Austin.

DROUGHT

From 1A

factoring in the additional water in hydraulic fracturing to extract the natural gas.

Hydraulic fracturing accounts for less than 1 percent of the water consumed statewide. But in some parts of the state that have been hit hard by drought conditions in the last three years, hydraulic fracturing may account for a larger percentage of water used, the report said. Those regions may not experience the statewide water savings, as the natural gas and generated electricity would not necessarily be consumed locally.

Texas grid planners have projected that under current natural gas prices, two-thirds of new power generation by 2030 will come from combined combustion natural-gas plants.

Natural gas-fired plants, which can be started up quickly, are also a better complement to wind generation, which does not require water. The combination of wind and natural gas will further reduce the demand for water in electricity generation, the report said.

Researchers collected water use data for all 423 of the state's power plants from the Energy Information Administration and from state agencies for the study.

Horse trainer arrested for animal cruelty not linked to Midland Polo Club

From staff reports

A Midland man arrested Thursday for beating horses with mallets and dragging them behind four-wheelers on his property is not associated with Midland Polo Club.

Byron Blain Wilson, 49, bonded out of jail Friday for the state felony charge of cruelty to livestock animals, which carries a prison sentence of up to two years.

Wilson owns the property next to Midland Polo Club, 5505 Polo Club Drive, and a member of the club took action after witnessing and video recording Wilson allegedly hitting a horse on the ground with a stick.

"The actions he is accused of committing didn't happen on the grounds of the Midland Polo Club, and we would never condone such conduct," according to a Midland Polo Club spokesman in a prepared statement.

Authorities met the complainant — who expressed concern about Wilson's training methods — at the club Thursday and later found Wilson on his own property, along with another man riding a four-wheeler with a horse tied to the back.

Wilson explained to officers the process of training horses and "what has to be done," according to his arrest affidavit.

Officers also located a horse that appeared to be worn down and tired with a right ear that was badly cut. The man riding the four-wheeler told officers the injury occurred when Wilson hit the horse with a polo mallet, the affidavit states.

"One of our members reported to the Midland police what they thought was inappropriate behavior on Mr. Wilson's property," the club spokesman said. "The Midland Polo Club has been in Midland since 1962. Our members love their horses and do not approve of anyone mistreating animals for any purpose."

Kris Bowman, executive director of the United States Polo Association Polo Development LLC, commended Midland Polo Club for its welfare practices.

"The Midland Polo Club is a recognized member club of the United States Polo Association and is held in the highest regard for their contribution to the sport and the care of their equine athletes," Bowman said in a prepared statement. "Their representatives and instructors spend countless hours participating in continuing education annually and pride themselves on being exemplary stewards of the sport, as well as in their equine welfare practices."

Gay marriage supporters see hope in deep-red Indiana

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — In one of the most conservative states in the nation, supporters of gay marriage are pondering the unthinkable: a victory, or at least not a loss.

A proposal to amend Indiana's constitution to ban same-sex marriage has sparked a flurry of phone banks and appeals to big-money donors as the state prepares to become a 2014 battleground on an issue that has largely been decided in other states.

Indiana is one of just four states that ban gay marriage in statute only; 29 others have constitutional bans. But none of the other states with statutory bans — Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Wyoming — face the pressure in place in Indiana, where lawmakers must approve a proposed ban and send it to voters in November unless they want to restart the process from scratch.

That the issue's fate is even in question is remarkable in Indiana, which in recent years has become a model of conservative causes ranging from school vouchers to right to work. In 2011, state lawmakers overwhelmingly voted in favor of the amendment in the first of two required votes, and with Republican supermajorities in both legislative chambers, its final passage seemed a slam-dunk.

But the tides have shifted. Voters in Maryland, Maine and Washington have approved gay marriage, and polls have shown increasing numbers of Indiana voters oppose a constitutional ban even though most still oppose gay marriage.

"Everyone else in the country is moving toward more equality. Indiana is kind of the last stand of folks that are trying to put something like this into their constitution," said Megan Robertson, a veteran Indiana Republican operative tapped to manage Freedom Indiana, a bipartisan coalition working to block the ban.

Opponents have argued for years that the constitutional ban is unnecessary and will paint the state as intolerant and hurt businesses' efforts to recruit top talent. They're especially concerned about a provision in the proposed amendment that also bans civil unions and employee benefits for same-sex couples.

Volunteers with Freedom Indiana are staffing nightly phone banks and calling lawmakers who supported the amendment the first time in hopes of changing their minds before the Legislature reconvenes next month. Top companies including drugmaker Eli Lilly & Co. and enginemaker Cummins Inc. have contributed $100,000 each to the campaign. And a recent fundraiser featuring Mary Cheney, the daughter of former Vice President Dick Cheney who has been a vocal supporter of same-sex marriage, was sponsored by some of the state's top GOP money men, including the campaign finance chairman for Republican Gov. Mike Pence.

Gay marriage ruling catches conservative Utah off guard

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — A day after a judge's surprise ruling overturned Utah's same-sex marriage ban, at least one county clerk intended to open early Saturday to issue licenses.

About 40 minutes north of Salt Lake City, about 300 hundred people showed up at the Weber County Clerk's Office on Saturday afternoon but were later turned away without marriage licenses.

Clerk Ricky Hatch apologized and said that county officials had told him that opening for special circumstances may violate constitutional guarantees of equal protection. Hatch told The Associatetl Press he was also told that the county's standard security requirements were not in place for a Saturday opening.

The confusion Saturday and reports of other crowds scrambling to find an open office illustrated how gay marriage caught many in Utah off guard.

On Friday, more than 100 couples rushed to wed in Salt Lake County shortly after the ruling was released. State officials slammed the decision and moved to stop licenses from being issued.

The state has given notice that it will appeal the ruling and has asked for an emergency stay to stop gay couples from getting marriage licenses. But legal experts say that even if a stay is granted, the licenses that have already been issued will likely still be valid.

For now, a state considered as one of the most conservative in the nation has joined the likes of California and New York to become the 18th state where same-sex couples can legally wed.

There's a little bit of everything in
West Texas *Living*
Look for it in today's edition of the Reporter-Telegram



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'Junk insurance' comes back to haunt its policyholders

By Tony Pugh
McClatchy-Tribune



McClatchy-Tribune

April Capil, a stage III breast cancer survivor, sits in her home in Boulder, Colo., on Dec. 3. Capil, 39, is suing her former health insurance provider for $230,000 in unpaid medical bills.

WASHINGTON — April Capil has mixed feelings about the national outcry over canceled health insurance policies.

Five years free of the stage III breast cancer that nearly claimed her life, the Boulder, Colo., resident is once again healthy, but she's still struggling to put her life back together.

Like millions of Americans, Capil thought she had solid individual health insurance. Then she got sick and found that her coverage was woefully inadequate.

The financial problems that followed would aggravate Capil's health struggles, force her into bankruptcy and trigger a fraud lawsuit over $230,000 in unpaid medical bills against HealthMarkets Inc., the parent company of her former insurer.

The litigation is nothing new for HealthMarkets. The North Richland Hills-based insurer, formerly known as UICI, has a long history of battles with state regulators trying to root out "junk insurance" in the individual market. But numerous sanctions and a host of consumer protections in the Affordable Care Act have put a financial squeeze on the company and forced it to change its business model.

Beginning in January 2014, the health care law prohibits the kind of limitations, exclusions and benefit spending caps that made Capil's coverage so problematic.

But after falsely promising that Americans could keep their health insurance if they liked it, President Barack Obama bowed to political pressure in November and OK'd a one-year extension on 2013 individual policies — even those facing cancellation next year because they don't meet the health law's new minimum standards.

Now Capil, a software project manager, wonders how many Americans will use the president's canceled-policy "fix" to unwittingly renew another year of "junk insurance" like she used to have.

"It's sad that there are people who have this insurance who don't know that they're going to end up like me if they ever get sick," she said. "I feel like people are upset that they're losing these plans and they're upset because they think their plans are comprehensive. But they aren't. These insurance companies have been selling Americans coverage that will bankrupt them if they ever have a serious illness."

It's a concern others share, as well.

"As those policies are grandfathered in, people have to be aware they may be exposed," said Mark Rukavina, a health care consultant in Massachusetts and an expert on medical debt. "It's something to think about as these people stay with these plans that seem like a good deal."

Capil thought her plan was a good deal. She said her insurance agent told her it was full, comprehensive coverage and if she ever got cancer, Capil would never pay more than a deductible or co-insurance.

What she got instead was a "limited benefit plan," which is "commonly seen as inadequate because it tends to pay for routine care and leave you without coverage fairly soon if something major costing tens of thousands of dollars kicks in," said Ed Haislmaier, a senior research fellow for health policy at the Heritage Foundation, a conservative Washington think tank.

Donna Ledbetter, HealthMarkets' director of external communications, declined an interview request for this story, citing Capil's pending lawsuit. She also declined to answer questions not involving that litigation.

Most people don't realize their policies have coverage limitations until they actually need the coverage.

Of the 16 million Americans with individual coverage, only 725,000 people had limited benefit policies in 2012, Haislmaier said, citing industry data. Of these, he said about 132,000 were enrolled in HealthMarkets limited benefit plans, which are sometimes called "scheduled benefit" plans.

"They do cover a wide range of things," Haislmaier said, "but with very low benefit levels. So they wouldn't turn you away saying, 'You have a heart condition. We only cover cancer.' They turn you away saying, 'You exceeded your $50,000 coverage limit.'"

That's what happened to Mike Adams, a 61-year-old restaurant owner and career guidance counselor in Ramona, Calif.

Only three days after complaining of chest pains in late 2011, Adams was preparing to undergo quadruple heart bypass surgery with his wife, Theresa, by his side. As she followed his gurney into the operating room area, a frantic hospital clerk came running up the hallway in hot pursuit.

"They chased down Theresa, following me into the operating room, pulled her aside, and she's scared to death already, and then they just hollered out, 'Mrs. Adams! Mrs. Adams! You have terrible insurance. We're going to have to get a check from you right now.' They wanted the entire deductible right there," Adams said.

Unable to come up with $3,600 on the spot, Theresa Adams convinced the staff to go ahead with her husband's surgery. She paid the deductible with a credit card the next day.

After 11 days in the hospital, Adams had racked up about $240,000 in medical bills. But his insurance from Mid-West National Life Insurance Co. of Tennessee, a subsidiary of HealthMarkets, wouldn't cover about $193,000 of the charges.

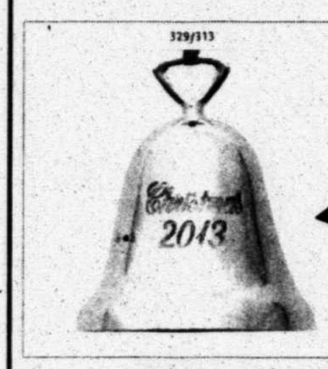
Adams thought his insurance provided comprehensive catastrophic coverage with generous benefits for major medical episodes. Like Capil, he, too, said his insurance agent assured him that it did. But Adams' plan capped payment for "miscellaneous" hospital inpatient charges at $18,000 — and most of his costly care had been lumped into that vague category.

"That's the kind of gaming that state insurance departments exist to regulate," Haislmaier said.

Adams' realization that he had junk coverage was a complete shock. He said he had paid his premiums for seven years and had never filed a major claim.

"And then all of a sudden you find out, 'Oh crud. They don't cover any of this stuff?'" Adams said. "And to have them chase Theresa down in the hospital like that? That stuff makes me mad when I think about it. It's not right. Full disclosure, that's all any of us ask for."

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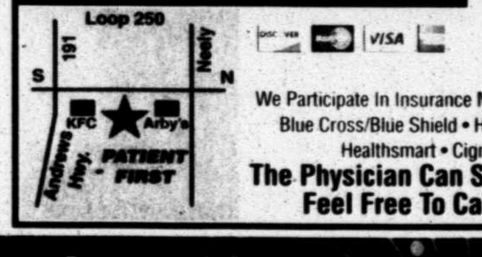
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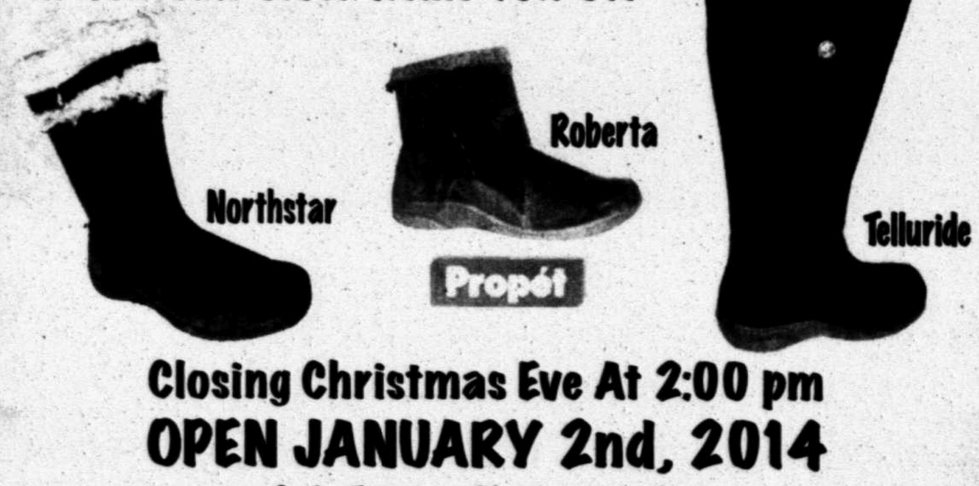
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Advertising Deadlines

Classified Word Ads

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Wed., Jan. 1st	Tues., Dec. 31st, NOON
Thurs., Jan. 2nd	Tues., Dec. 31st, 2 PM

Classified Display Ads

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Wed., Jan. 1st	Mon., Dec. 30th, 5 PM
Thurs., Jan. 2nd	Mon., Dec. 30th,, 5 PM
Fri., Jan. 3rd	Tues., Dec. 31st, NOON

Retail Display Ads

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Wed., Jan 1st	Mon., Dec. 30th, 5 PM
Thurs., Jan 2nd	Mon., Dec. 30th, 5 PM
Sun., Jan 5th (Oil Report/West Texas Living, Arts & Ent.)	Mon., Dec. 30th, 5 PM
Fri., Jan 3rd	Tues., Dec. 31st, Noon

CIRCULATION HOURS
Customer Service calls will be taken Wednesday, January 1st from 7 AM-11 AM only.
We will re-open Thursday, Jan. 2nd for regular business hours.

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Holiday magic? Reindeer eyes change color at Christmas

Los Angeles Times

Rudolph the fictional reindeer was famous for his oddly colored nose, but his true-life cousins have eyes that change color depending on the season.

In the summer, the eyes of Arctic reindeer appear gold, and around Christmas they turn to a deep blue, biologists have discovered. It's not holiday magic, but rather a unique adaptation that helps these animals deal with the strange light conditions at the top of the world.

The reindeer's world is one of extremes. Above the Arctic Circle, Christmas falls in the midst of a 10-week period of perpetual twilight in which the sun never rises and the landscape is cast in bluish hues. But from mid-May to late July, the sun never sets.

Biologists at the University of Norway in Tromso, a city situated north of the Arctic Circle, wondered how the reindeer managed the transition from a world of near-total darkness to one of blinding light, when springtime sunlight reflects off still-unmelted snow.

To find out, they collected reindeer eyes from the Sami, indigenous herders who often slaughter the animals around the solstices. The Norwegian researchers collected eyes during both the winter and summer months, then mailed them off to Glen Jeffery, a neuroscientist who studies vision at University College London.

"That first time, they sent me 10 eyes from summer and 10 eyes from winter," Jeffery said. "When I opened them, I had the biggest shock I've ever had in science — the winter ones were clearly blue and the summer ones were clearly gold."

The color change occurs not on the iris, but on a reflective surface behind the central retina that's known as the tapetum lucidum.

Karl-Arne Stokkan and his colleagues in Norway discovered.

Humans don't have this structure, but lots of other animals do. It helps nocturnal animals see at night by bouncing light back inside the eye, giving the light receptors in the retina a second chance to be stimulated. The tapetum lucidum is responsible for the flash of "eye shine" you see when a cat looks into a car's headlights.

Scientists assumed that this piece of ocular anatomy's color was fixed.

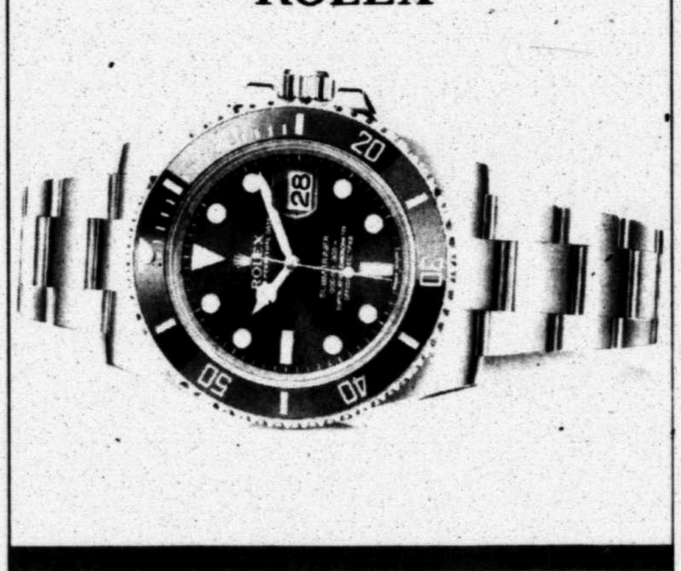
"This is the first time that a change in color in the tapetum has been shown in a mammal," Jeffery said.

In a study published in the Proceedings of the Royal Society B, Jeffrey and his colleagues in Norway explained that when a reindeer's tapetum is blue, 50 percent less light is reflected out of the eye than when the tapetum is gold. A reindeer with a blue tapetum sees less clearly than one with a gold tapetum, but its eyes are 1,000 times more sensitive to light.

"Clinically, the reindeer become glaucomic," Jeffery said.

The scientists determined that the color of light reflected by a reindeer's tapetum likely depends on how much fluid pressure there is in the eye itself. It took Jeffrey and his colleagues in Norway nearly 10 years to figure this out.

Blue and gold are not the only colors in the reindeer tapetum spectrum. The researchers also checked the eyes of a small herd of reindeer that lived on the campus of the University of Tromso that were exposed to permanent distant urban lighting. Instead of turning blue in the winter, they became green.



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Shurfine Vegetables Oil $1.98 Vegetable only 48 Oz.

Shurfine Cake Mixes 58¢ Select Varieties 16.5 Oz.

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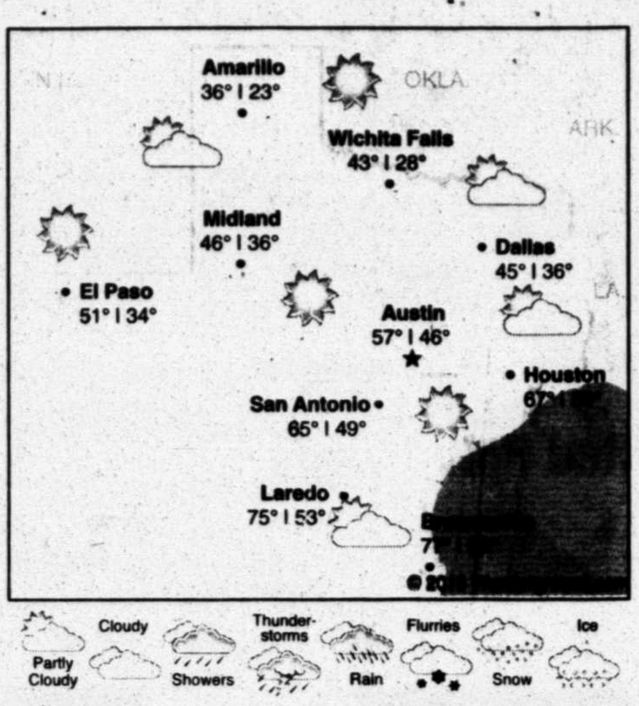
Local forecast

Expect mostly sunny skies today with a high around 47 and north wind 5 to 10 mph. Tonight's forecast calls for mostly clear conditions with a low around 26 and north wind around 5 mph becoming calm in the evening.

Monday, look for sunny skies with a high around 57 and southwest wind between 5 to 10 mph. Monday's forecast calls for mostly clear conditions with a low around 32 and south wind between 5 to 10 mph.

Tuesday, look for sunny skies during the day with a high around 57 and mostly clear conditions at night with a low around 34.

The high on Saturday reached 55 while the low dropped to 42. The record high for Dec. 21 is 81 set in 2010 and 1981. The record low is 8 set in 1989.



Precipitation

Friday	0.94 in.
Saturday	0.08 in.
Month total	1.44 in.
Year total	7.51 in.
Normal total (year to date)	14.42 in.

Saturday's temperatures

High	47
Low	26
Normal high	57
Normal low	34
Sunrise	7:46 a.m.
Sunset	5:44 p.m.

TODAY: Mostly sunny — High: 47 Low: 26
MONDAY: Sunny — High: 57 Low: 32
TUESDAY: Sunny — High: 57 Low: 34

National forecast

A large storm system lifting through the Great Lakes will bring a variety of precipitation to much of the eastern United States today.

Thunderstorms will develop from Virginia to the west coast of Florida as warm, moist air from the Gulf of Mexico is drawn northward. Steadier rain will fall in parts of Pennsylvania, New York and New England, while lighter showers will be found along the rest of the East Coast.

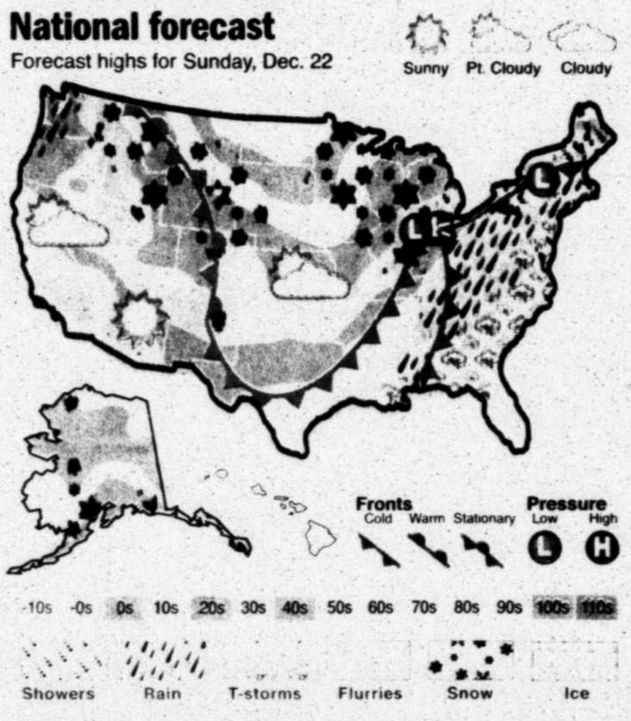
As warm air surges north ahead of this storm system, many places will experience their warmest days in quite some time. Highs will reach into the 60s across southern New England and New York and into the 70s from Philadelphia to Raleigh, N.C.

Farther west, cold air will wrap around the storm system. This will lead to snow from Chicago into Wisconsin and northern Michigan.

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from The Ivy Cottage
The Ivy Cottage
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National forecast

Forecast highs for Sunday, Dec. 22



Ice and snow frustrate US holiday travel rush

Associated Press

CHICAGO — A storm with a 2,000-mile footprint threatened to frustrate Christmas travelers from Texas to Nova Scotia with a little of everything Mother Nature has to offer, from freezing rain, ice and snow to flooding, thunderstorms and at least one tornado in the South.

Some of the millions of people hitting the roads and airports Saturday squeaked through before any major weather hit, but as the afternoon wore on, cancellations and delays started to mount at major aviation hubs. Forecasters said roads that are passable one minute could become treacherous the next as a cold blast on the backend of the storm turns rain to ice and snow.

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Isaiah 9:6
We wish you a Blessed Christmas!
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Fury, frustation mount over Target data breach

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Potential victims of credit card fraud tied to Target's security breach said they had trouble contacting the discounter through its website and call centers.

Angry Target customers expressed their displeasure in comments on the company's Facebook page. Some even threatened to stop shopping at the store.

Target's CEO Gregg Steinhafel apologized through a statement issued on Friday. The retailer also said it's working hard to resolve the problem and is adding more workers to field calls and help solve website issues. And the discounter began offering 10 percent off for customers who shop in its stores on Saturday and today and free credit-monitoring services to those who've been affected by the issue.

The Minneapolis-based discounter said that while it's only heard of "very few" reports of fraud, it's reaching out to customers who made purchases by swiping their cards when the scam occurred. The company also said it's continuing its investigation into the matter.

"We take this crime seriously," Steinhafel said in the statement.

Target's statements come after the nation's second-largest retailer acknowledged Thursday that data connected to about 40 million credit and debit card accounts was stolen as part of a breach that began over the Thanksgiving weekend.

The theft is the second-largest credit card breach in U.S. history, exceeded only by a scam that began in 2005 involving retailer TJX Cos. That incident affected at least 45.7 million card users.

Target disclosed the theft a day after reports that the company was investigating a breach. The retailer's data-security troubles and its ensuing public relations nightmare threaten to drive off holiday shoppers during the company's busiest time of year.

Christopher Browning, of Chesterfield, Va., said he was the victim of credit card fraud earlier this week and believes it was tied to a purchase he made at Target with his Visa card on Black Friday. When he called Visa on Thursday, the card issuer could not confirm his suspicions. He said he hasn't been able to get through to Target's call center.

On Monday, Browning received a call from his bank's anti-fraud unit saying there were two attempts to use his credit card in California — one at a casino in Tracy for $8,000 and the other at a casino in Pacheco, for $3,000. Both occurred on Sunday, and both were denied. He canceled his credit card and plans to use cash.

"I won't shop at Target again until the people behind this theft are caught or the reasons for the breach are identified and fixed," he said.

On Friday, Target reiterated that the stolen data included customer names, credit and debit card numbers, card expiration dates and the embedded code on the magnetic strip found on the backs of cards, Target said.

There was no indication the three- or four-digit security numbers visible on the back of the card were affected, Target said. It also said Friday there was no indication that the stolen data included a customer's birth date or social security number. The data breach did not affect online purchases, the company said.

Target also said it didn't believe that PIN numbers to customers' debit cards have been compromised. So that means someone cannot visit an ATM with a fraudulent card and withdraw cash, it said.

Target hasn't disclosed exactly how the breach occurred but said it has fixed the problem.

Given the millions of dollars that companies such as Target spend implementing credit-card security measures each year, Avivah Litan, a security analyst with Gartner Research, said she believes the theft may have been an inside job.

"The fact this breach can happen with all of their security in place is really alarming," Litan said.

Other experts theorize that Target's network was hacked and infiltrated from the outside.

Target, which has almost 1,800 stores in the U.S. and 124 in Canada, said it immediately told authorities and financial institutions once it became aware of the breach on Dec. 15. The company is teaming with a third-party forensics firm to investigate and prevent future problems.

A big bullseye

Target is investigating a security breach that began the day before Thanksgiving, involving stolen credit and debit card information of millions of its retail customers.

About the retailer

Opened 1962 in Minneapolis
Online E-commerce site launched in 1999
Employees 361,000 worldwide
Gross profit $22.73 billion
Chairman, President, CEO Gregg Steinhafel
Popularity No. 2 discount chain (behind Walmart) in the U.S.
Stores 1,797 in 49 U.S. states; 124 in Canada

Number of stores



Source: Target Corp., Hoovers, Yahoo Finance
Graphic: Melina Yingling © 2013 MCT

TARGET

Nov. 27
Criminals gained access to customer information

Dec. 15
Target identified breach, resolved the issue

40 million
Names, credit, debit card numbers, expiration dates, three-digit security codes stolen

Data can be sold on the black market; used to create counterfeit cards

US a laggard in adopting more secure credit cards

By Chris O'Brien
Los Angeles Times

The massive data breach at Target this past week has again highlighted how the United States remains a relatively insecure backwater when it comes to credit card technology.

Over the last decade, most countries have moved toward using credit cards that carry information on embeddable microchips rather than magnetic strips. The additional encryption on so-called smart cards has made the kind of brazen data thefts suffered by Target almost impossible to pull off in most other countries.

Because the U.S. is one of the few places yet to widely deploy such technology, the nation has increasingly become the focus of hackers seeking to steal such information. The stolen data can easily be turned into phony credit cards that are sold on black markets around the world.

"The U.S. is one of the last markets to convert from the magnetic stripe," Randy Vanderhoof, director of the EMV Migration Forum. "There's fewer places in the world where that stolen data could be used. So the U.S. becomes more of a high-value target."

EMV stands for Europay, MasterCard and Visa and is the technology standard that involves placing an integrated circuit of some kind into a credit card. Most European and Asian countries began adopting the technology a decade ago, pushed by regulators in those countries.

About 80 countries use smart credit cards, which allow for greater encryption and security. By comparison, only about 1 percent of credit cards issued in the U.S. contain such technology.

Smart cards in most countries are so widely adopted that U.S. travelers are increasingly running into problems using their magnetic stripe cards when they travel abroad. Banks and credit card companies often advise customers to request a smart credit card they can use for foreign travel.

The reason such technology has been embraced is simple: Hacking into a system to collect information on a chip and then creating a counterfeit credit card using similar technology is too complicated. As a result, hackers have increasingly turned to the U.S., where the cards are significantly easier to duplicate because information is stored on a common magnetic strip.

"The U.S. is slowly issuing these cards to users," said Joram Borenstein, vice president of Nice Actimize, which helps companies analyze their security systems. "It's harder to commit fraud against these cards. You have to steal the chip information, and that's a lot more difficult."

The reasons the U.S. lags so badly in adopting smart cards are complicated, experts said. In part, there hasn't been the political will to demand that businesses and financial institutions make the change. Analysts also said the payment processing system in the U.S. is more complicated, with merchants, credit companies and banks reluctant to spend the big bucks it would take to convert a system with 1 billion credit cards to EMV from magnetic stripes.

"It's a function of our system of government and culture," said Ben Woolsey, director of marketing and consumer research for CreditCards.com, which enables consumers to compare credit card offers. "Moving in that direction is going to be costly for the card industry and retailers."

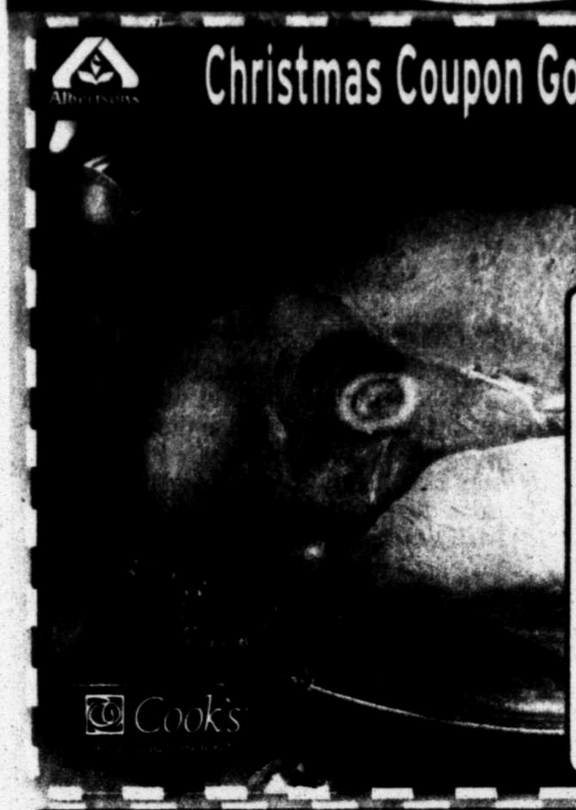
The good news for consumers is that the U.S. is indeed moving to embrace smart credit cards. In the last couple of years major card issuers have laid out road maps for upgrading the card technology, and many have set out to achieve this by October 2015.

At that point, major credit card companies will change their rules about who is liable for fraudulent purchases caused by security breaches. Under the new rules, the entity in the payment chain—merchant, credit card, banks—deemed to have the weakest security will be liable. Credit card companies can't make anyone adopt the technology, but they're giving them a hard nudge.

"The road map and larger migration has provided issuers and merchants with the flexibility to manage their business and technology decisions," Jim Issokson, a MasterCard spokesman, said in a statement. "The decision on if, how and when EMV will be implemented has been and will continue to be made independently by each issuer and merchant."

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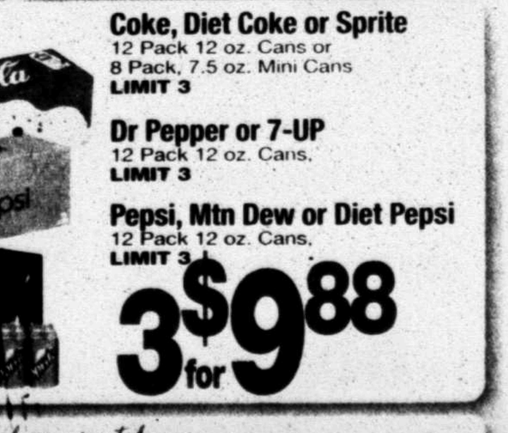
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Obama marketing team offers us Pajama Boy

■ He is the picture of perpetual adolescence, but don't expect the citizenry to buy what he's selling



RICH LOWRY
King Features Syndicate

Pajama Boy's place in Internet infamy was secured as soon as the insufferable man-child was tweeted out by Organizing for America.

He is the face of a Web ad that is the latest effort by the Obama team to leverage the holidays for conversation about Obamacare. "Wear pajamas," the ad reads. "Drink hot chocolate. Talk about getting health insurance. #GetTalking."

And, sure enough, Pajama Boy is wearing pajamas — a zip-up onesie in classic Lamar Alexander plaid — and drinking hot chocolate. He is in his 20s, sporting hipster glasses he could have bought at Warby Parker and an expression of self-satisfied ironic amusement.

Pajama Boy is about as threatening as Michael Cera and so nerdy he could guest-host on an unwatched MSNBC show. He is probably reading "The Bell Jar" and looking forward to a hearty Christmas meal of stuffed tofurkey. If he has anything to say about it, Obamacare enrollments will spike in the next few weeks in Williamsburg and Ann Arbor.

Perhaps the goal of OFA was to create a readily mockable image to draw attention to its message, in which case Pajama Boy was a brilliantly successful troll. The right immediately Photoshopped him into the Mandela funeral selfie and emblazoned his photo with derisive lines like "Hey girl, I live with my parents" and "How did you know I went to Oberlin?"

But it's hard not to see Pajama Boy as an expression of the Obama vision, just like his forbear Julia, the Internet cartoon from the 2012 campaign. Pajama Boy is Julia's little brother. She progressed through life without any significant family or community connections. He is the picture of perpetual adolescence. Neither is a symbol of self-reliant, responsible adulthood.

And so both are ideal consumers of government. Julia needed the help of Obama-supported programs at every juncture of her life, and Pajama Boy is going to get his health insurance through Obamacare (another image shows him looking very pleased in a Christmas sweater, together with the words "And a happy New Year with health insurance").

The breakdown of marriage and its drift into the 30s mean there are more Julias and Pajama Boys than ever. The growth of government feeds off this trend and, at the margins, augments it. The vision of the Obama Democrats, distilled to its essence, is of a direct relationship between the state and the individual without the mediating institutions of family, church and community that are an inherent check on government power.

Alexis de Tocqueville wrote long ago of the infantilizing tendency of all-encompassing government. "It would be like the authority of a parent," he wrote in a famous passage, "if, like that authority, its object was to prepare men for manhood; but it seeks, on the contrary, to keep them in perpetual childhood." If you wanted to illustrate what Tocqueville was getting at in one meme, Pajama Boy would be good way to do it.

Never has the difference between what Chris Matthews memorably dubbed the Mommy Party and the Daddy Party been so stark. Pajama Boy's mom probably still tucks him in at night, and when she isn't there for him, Obamacare will be. A less nurturing reaction is, as New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie put it in a counter tweet, "Get out of your pajamas." There's a reason President Barack Obama is underwater by a 2-1 margin among men in the latest Quinnipiac poll.

For all the ridicule directed at Julia during last year's campaign, she got at something important: Single women do look to government as a cushion against their economic insecurities. Pajama Boy isn't so apt. He might be glad to pay more for his health insurance to include maternity benefits he doesn't need as a blow against gender stereotyping, but most young people will presumably consider Obamacare more rationally and realize it's a scheme to get them to subsidize insurance costs for older people.

Good luck, Pajama Boy, if you hope to talk them out of that.

GUEST VIEW

Pope Francis brings a new perspective

Houston Chronicle

He's been on the job just nine months as leader of the world's 1.2 billion Roman Catholics, but that's been time enough for Pope Francis to become almost everybody's Person of the Year (literally so for both Time magazine and the national gay publication The Advocate).

It's not hard to see why. The white smoke had barely cleared from the Sistine Chapel's smokestacks signaling his selection before he turned down the palatial papal quarters for a modest two-room hotel suite, traded the chauffeured pope-mobile for a used 1984 Renault and set about tending to his flock. He washed the feet of prison inmates, including women, he kissed the terribly disfigured face of a man in a crowd, and he celebrated his 77th birthday last week by inviting four homeless men — and one dog — to mass and then to breakfast.

And there was substance behind his public gestures. Last July, when asked about a rumored "gay lobby" at the Vatican, he said he was not prepared to judge anyone, including priests, for being gay, asking: "If someone is gay and he searches for the Lord and has good will, who am I to judge?" It was a far different stance from that of his predecessor, Pope Benedict XVI, who in 2005 barred active homosexuals from the priesthood.

Then, last month, he expanded on his nontraditional stance, saying that some historical church customs "may be beautiful, but they no longer serve as means of communicating the Gospel. ... I prefer a church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets."

He has even taken on the church's long, sordid history of child sexual abuse, cover-ups and evasion. Earlier this month, he created a "commission for the protection of minors" to address the issue worldwide. And not a moment too soon, as the pattern continues: Just this week, a court ordered the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis to release the names of about 30 priests accused of sexual abuse of minors.

We wish him success in this enormous task and in all the other challenges he faces. He is not prepared, for example, to question the church's long-standing ban on abortion but has nothing but compassion, wrote Time's editors, for women considering abortion because of poverty or rape, asking, "Who can remain unmoved before such painful situations?" Similarly with the ban on women priests, he has said, "No, that door is closed," but urges a larger role in church activities and administration.

However he fares with these and other controversial issues, Francis has already succeeded in showing us all that our major concern should be caring for each other, rather than stressing our differences. And for that, we are truly thankful.

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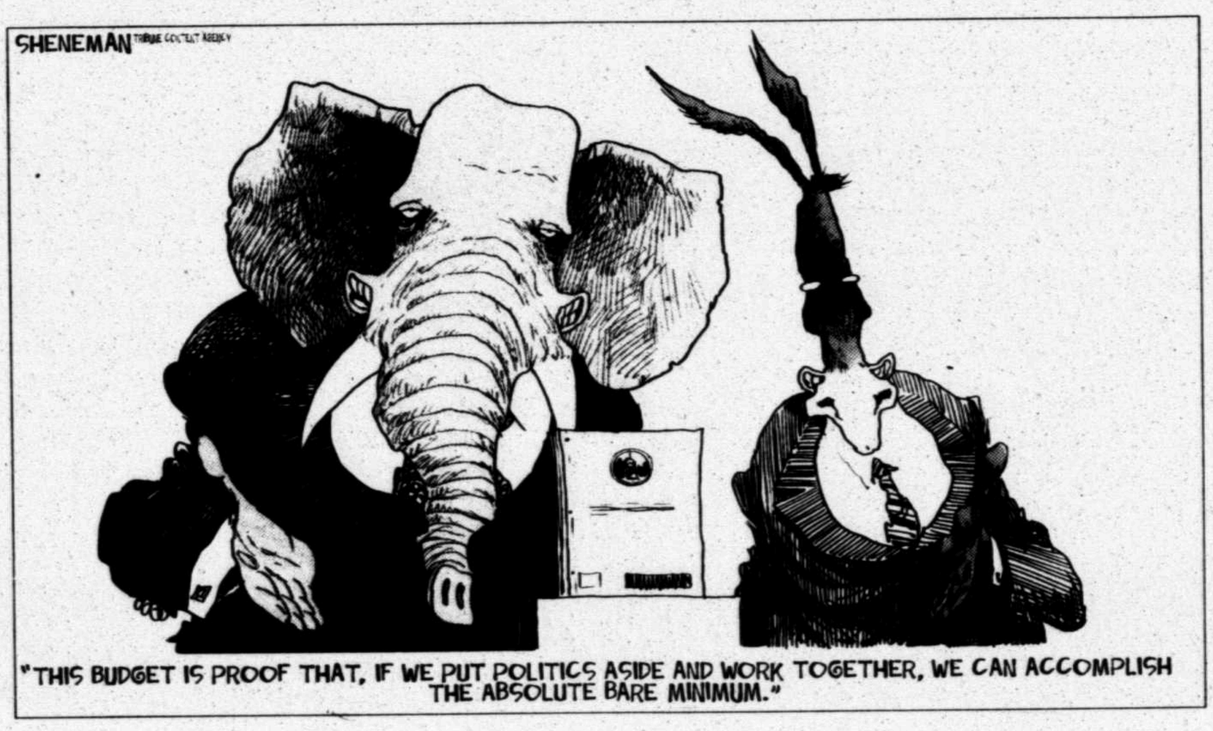
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Political godfathers run Capitol

■ Forget the spirit of compromise. Politcal hits and trash talk are becoming the new norm in today's U.S. Senate



DANA MILBANK
Washington Post Writers Group

Remember the new spirit of cooperation in Washington? That's so last week.

The era of good feeling is over, its duration measured in days, or perhaps hours. Last Wednesday, 36 Senate Republicans — 80 percent of the caucus — voted against the budget compromise drafted by Rep. Paul Ryan, of Wisconsin, last year's Republican vice presidential nominee.

Already, Republicans, including Ryan, are making noises about another showdown early next year over the federal government's debt limit. You might say they've returned to their default position.

By Thursday morning, Senate leaders were back to petty bickering. Harry Reid, the majority leader, called Republicans "very shallow" and said "obstruction has become a bad habit of theirs."

Mitch McConnell, the minority leader, accused Democrats of an "incredible abuse of power" and of running the country like a "banana republic." The Republican said he was discouraged to "see the way the United States Senate deteriorated under the current leadership."

McConnell proposed that Reid drop his demands that the Senate approve a slate of what the Republican leader called "non-urgent" presidential nominees.

"I object," Reid answered.

Reid asked that the Senate take up a tax bill passed by the House.

"I object," McConnell replied.

In retrospect, how could it have been otherwise? These aren't conventional political rivals we're talking about. They are more like warring mafia families. James Gandolfini may have left us in 2013, but the spirit of the mob boss still dominates in the Capitol. Not only is it legal to put contracts out on each other here, it is expected.

The political killings are accomplished by syndicates known as the National Republican Senatorial Committee and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, run by the senators themselves with the goal of unseating rivals across the aisle: not just disagreeing with them, but taking them out. (Similar committees exist in the House, but it's less of a problem there because district lines have left so few incumbents in jeopardy.)

Not long ago, when bipartisanship was still in the air, Reid told Bloomberg's Al Hunt that he wouldn't campaign against the McConnell, who is facing a difficult re-election. "I'm a traditionalist here, and that isn't anything I've ever done and will not do," Reid said.

That was a bit disingenuous, because Reid had already hosted a fundraiser in Las Vegas for McConnell's Democratic opponent, and Reid's political action committee had already given her money. The candidate, Alison Lundergan Grimes, would probably be hurt politically by appearing with Reid, anyway.

But in calling himself a traditionalist, Reid was arguing against the Mafia culture that has gripped the Senate since 2004, when Bill Frist, then the Republican leader, went to South Dakota to campaign, successfully, for the defeat of then-Minority Leader Tom Daschle. The DSCC, under Sen. Chuck Schumer, of New York, retaliated by running TV ads targeting McConnell in 2008. In 2012, the NRSC, run by Sen. John Cornyn, of Texas, raised money to try to defeat Reid in Nevada. The political committees are under the de facto control of the majority or minority leader, and several senators have used the chairmanships as steppingstones to leadership.

When they aren't ordering hits on each other, the senators use the committees to taunt each other. Monday morning, the Republican committee issued a statement that said: "Harry Reid will tell you he's not concerned about losing the majority — hell, Reid will say just about anything on most days, but his actions speak louder than his words." Wednesday, the Republican group declared: "Vulnerable incumbent Senate Democrats — from Kay Hagan to Jeff Merkley, Mary Landrieu to Mark Pryor, Jeanne Shaheen to Mark Begich all lied to their constituents."

When your day starts with trash talk from people who are trying to kill you politically, is it any wonder things quickly devolve?

Reid, on the Senate floor last week, accused Republicans of "hostage taking" and ridiculed McConnell for delaying what the GOP leader called "non-essential" confirmations: "Does the Republican leader consider the secretary of the Department of Homeland Security — the individual tasked with protecting us from terrorist attacks — non-essential?"

McConnell, in turn, told reporters he "can't imagine" Republicans would agree to increase the debt limit without more spending restrictions. And he delivered a broadside against Reid for stripping Republicans' right to filibuster nominees: "As we end the year, it's a tragedy the way the Senate is being run into the ground by basically one person. ... It's going to be hard to get the Senate back to normal."

But he's wrong there. Hitting the mattresses *is* the new normal.

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

There are often stories not told

A good friend of mine, Bob Hicks, whom I have known for more than 50 years, was wondering why something wasn't taught in school history classes the other day. Bob was concerned about a historic event that wasn't really taught in school. I mention to him that several events in history are slighted.

A good example is Paul Revere. History teaches us that Paul rode the countryside informing citizens the British were coming. Now if you chose to believe Sarah Palin's version that Paul rode the countryside shooting in the air and ringing a bell and informing the British of our Second Amendment right to bear arms (14 years before the Constitution was actually written), that's your right. Paul did get in a small boat and silently eased across the harbor. Once on the other side, Paul was provided a mount on which he road across the bridge and into Boston informing citizens that the British were coming, a distance of about 20 miles. Paul Revere is better known because of the epic poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

History doesn't really mention much about another young rider. He was a post rider in Massachusetts who alerted the American colonists of the British attack on April 19, 1775. He rode for four days and six hours covering the 345 miles from Watertown, Mass., to Philadelphia along the Old Post Road, shouting "To arms, to arms, the war has begun," and carrying a message from General Joseph Palmer.

Paul Revere gets all the glory for his midnight ride. After all, it was a stirring tale of patriotism told by a great storyteller. A young messenger who called the colonists to arms during a remarkable five-day dash across five states is a mere footnote — a man mentioned in historical documents that didn't even get his first name right. They called him Trail. His name was Israel Bissell, and he is one of the Revolutionary War's most unheralded heroes.

History today only covers the highlights of our past. We can choose to believe exactly what we want to believe.

Dennis Wallace

Education in America goes to pot

News stories and op-ed columns in Monday's Reporter-Telegram were shocking and disturbing, beginning with the headline about tax changes on the oil industry that the Senate is considering. A point omitted was the effect such proposals would have on every man, woman and child in the nation. Prices on fuel would skyrocket in addition to completely destroying part of the economy still works.

Education has gone to pot (figuratively and literally) since the government established the Department of Education. People hired to run the department are obviously socialists, liberals or Marxists. To fully understand what it has done to education, read just two books written by former school teachers: "Weapons of Mass Instruction," by John Gatto, and "Walking Targets: How our Psychologized Classrooms Are Producing a Nation of Sitting Ducks," by B. K. Eakman. Gatto also wrote a best-seller, "Dumbing Us Down."

Before the Department of Education, schools taught basic subjects that prepared students to be productive and how to prosper, as well as a love of country, because of a Constitution and by-laws that promoted individual and free-market freedoms, as well as virtues of good citizens.

The ideals were established by a brilliant lot of knowledgeable individuals. Such ideals created a country that was the greatest in the world, and everyone wanted to come to the United States of America. Our State Department failed to tell other countries how to become as great if they followed our example. Instead, we fought one war after another, in battles to stop Communism. Now we have an administration attempting to force it on us.

How do our school graduates compare to other countries? We import doctors and engineers. Otherwise, we have illegal immigrants who come hoping to prosper, but they end up as charity cases along with our own youth who were dumbed down and unprepared to take care of themselves. A prosperity workshop I attended had a theme song: "I stand on my two feet, solving problems that I meet."

Merrilyn Richardson

Good Samaritans do exist

It proves there are still Good Samaritans, gentlemen and thoughtful people around.

On Dec. 18, I was in the Subway shop on North Midkiff, and when I went to pay, the lady said I didn't owe anything today. When I asked why not, she said "that little gentleman over there paid for it." So the little gentleman was "Chris." He didn't know me, and I didn't know him, but he paid for this gray-haired lady's sandwich. Thank you again, Chris, for your thoughtfulness, and may God bless you now and always. Thanks for being a gentleman.

Jerry Penick

JP3 Billy Johnson deserves re-election

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Justice of the Peace Precinct 3 Judge Billy Johnson and his wonderful staff for the excellent job they perform on a daily basis.

As a bail bondsman, I deal with various county offices, and I can state without hesitation that Johnson and his staff have always conducted themselves in a courteous and professional manner in my dealings with his office. Also, I have always received excellent customer service and have observed the staff interact with the public very professionally. And with the high volume of cases and public contacts, they have demonstrated a real commitment to serving the public in a manner that deserves praise.

I without hesitation urge my fellow Midlanders to join me in supporting and re-electing Johnson.

Manuel Lujan

Editor's note: *Candidate endorsement letters for local, state or federal contests are no longer than 200 words.*



MICHAEL GERSON

Washington Post Writers Group

Scientific enterprise allows for important fights to be waged

■ Search for AIDS vaccine means much to 2.3 million infected each year and future discovery

In 1987, two young medical researchers, Anthony Fauci and Cliff Lane, conducted the first clinical trial of an AIDS vaccine. They took the envelope that surrounds the virus and simply injected it into study participants, hoping to get an immune response — an approach that had worked on Hepatitis B. It failed on AIDS.

Thus began one of history's most consequential scientific detective stories.

AIDS, it turns out, is very different from its viral relatives. Polio, for example, infects quickly, then clears the body. AIDS survives and replicates for years. To exist, it has evolved unprecedented mechanisms to escape the immune system. It is cloaked in sugar molecules, which the body doesn't recognize as a threat. And its viral shell is constantly mutating to avoid the attachment of antibodies.

"Evolution is a smart foe," Fauci told me in a recent interview. In virology, smart means deadly. When exposed to polio or measles, more than 90 percent of people get better — their immune system works. For the vast majority infected with AIDS, there is no protective immune response.

But herein lies the hope: In a minority of cases — about 20 percent across the world — the immune system does respond, adapting to the constant adaptations of the AIDS virus. But instead of coming in one or two weeks, the needed antibodies are produced in one or two years. By then it is too late.

Too late for the patient to be protected from infection, but useful for the researchers studying their immune response. At the Vaccine Research Center at the National Institutes of Health, researchers have developed high-resolution images of the AIDS virus at the atomic level. They have now identified four sites — called epitopes — where antibodies can bind to the surface of the virus and physically prevent duplication. (Antibodies are clunky things, about a third the size of the virus, that latch on by fitting the contours of the epitope.) These areas are conserved — meaning that the functioning of the virus requires their shape not to mutate too much. Scientists, in short, have identified a few vulnerable parts of the shield.

Targeting each of these four epitopes has pros and cons. Some are essential to the process of the virus entering the cell but harder for antibodies to access. Others are more exposed. An effective approach will go after more than one.

Properly shaped antibodies can be made in the laboratory and have proved effective in animal studies. In the last few weeks, NIH has begun a Phase 1 clinical trial, injecting the antibodies in nine people in order to measure the concentration and length of their response. But the application of this approach — called passive transfer — is limited. Even if large quantities of the antibodies could be produced economically, the protective effect of an injection would last only a few weeks to months. This might be very useful in some instances — say, for the nursing babies of HIV-infected mothers — but not in most cases.

The goal is a vaccine that causes the body itself to produce the needed antibodies. The problem is that the body's response is a series of adaptations that come too slowly. An effective AIDS vaccine must stimulate and speed up this sequence — something that has never even been attempted before. Says Fauci: "We have to do within months in 90 to 100 percent of cases what the immune system has done in the body over two years in 20 percent of cases. This is totally virgin territory."

So scientists are attempting to defeat a sophisticated evolutionary foe by hastening a currently inadequate evolutionary response. The project raises questions: Can the reaction be induced in everyone? Is the process too complex to be stimulated in a reasonable number of vaccinations? "We are right at the threshold of discovery and implementation," says Fauci.

All this matters directly to the 2.3 million people infected with AIDS each year — including a quarter of a million children. But it is also a tribute to the tenacity and importance of the scientific enterprise.

HIV/AIDS emerged in the early 1980s as a nameless fear, which some initially thought could be transmitted by casual contact. Scientists identified the disease's true avenues of transmission, researched the antiretroviral drugs that have rendered it a chronic condition for many, and have now identified its vulnerabilities at the atomic level — a development that may help understand and counter the next nameless fear.

For most of history, humans have been passive in the face of plague. No longer.







SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Reporter-Telegram recognizes the "Letters to the Editor" format as an important forum for citizen opinion and encourages participation of all readers. The guidelines are as follows:

- Letters must be signed and include a street address and daytime phone number for verification. Letters not including this information will not be considered for publication.
- Letters should be a maximum of 350 words in length. Letters that are more than 350 words will be returned to the writer for editing.
- Candidate endorsement letters for local, state or federal contests are no longer than 200 words.
- Letters will be edited for grammar, spelling, taste and legal reasons.
- Only one letter per month per writer will be published.
- We do not publish "open" letters, copies of letters sent to others or multiple signatures.

The Reporter-Telegram encourages anyone wanting their letter considered for publication to email the letter to letters@mrt.com.

Only those letters emailed will be guaranteed a spot in a timely fashion on the letters pages. Letters faxed, mailed or brought in will be input as soon as possible.

Because we cannot research and verify all information in letters, by publishing them we neither imply nor guarantee the accuracy of information stated by writers.

Landrieu could take gavel in Senate energy committee

By Jennifer Dlouhy
Hearst Newspapers

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama's apparent decision to nominate Sen. Max Baucus to be the next U.S. ambassador to China starts a chain of events that could put an oil-and-gas-industry ally in charge of the Senate energy committee.

If Sen. Mary Landrieu, D-La., takes the gavel of Energy and Natural Resources, it could hasten a looming debate over exporting American crude and ease congressional pressure on the Energy Department to move slowly in approving foreign sales of liquefied natural gas. But her ascendancy still wouldn't mean a slam dunk for the oil and gas industry and its wish list on Capitol Hill.

If Baucus were nominated and confirmed for the post — both of which seem likely — it would open up the chairmanship of the Senate Finance Committee, which Baucus has held since 2007. Numerous press reports said a nomination is looming, though Obama has not made it official and Baucus declined to talk about it with reporters on Thursday.

Although Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.V., is next in line for the Finance Committee gavel, he is retiring and probably will stay in the top post at the Commerce Committee instead. If so, the Finance chairmanship would almost certainly end up going to the third-ranking Democratic senator on the panel, Ron Wyden, of Oregon, who has been chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Landrieu is next in line to take over that energy panel after retiring Sen. Tim Johnson, D-S.D., who is expected to take a pass on the job. The move would give Landrieu more stature and power heading into a tough re-election fight next year. And it would put her alongside a fellow oil-state senator at the helm of the committee: ranking Republican Lisa Murkowski, of Alaska.

Kevin Book, managing director of the Washington, D.C. analysis firm ClearView Energy, said Landrieu's likely escalation could shake up energy policy debates on Capitol Hill, where lawmakers "tend to vote for what's in the ground at home." In the case of Landrieu, that's oil and gas, and she has a long track record backing the industry.

"As an outspoken proponent of oil and gas production, Sen. Landrieu could provide a very different perspective as the nation rethinks its scarcity-based energy policy in age of adequacy, especially when it comes to energy exports," Book said.

The biggest change could come on the issue of liquefied natural gas exports. Wyden has been a vocal critic of selling too much of the fossil fuel to overseas customers, insisting that the government needs to work to find a "sweet spot" that encourages more domestic production without throttling a domestic manufacturing renaissance driven by cheap natural gas. Wyden also extracted a pledge from Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz to examine new energy market data and prognostications as the Department of Energy considers LNG export applications.

Landrieu, however, is a fan of selling more LNG overseas, and her home state of Louisiana is home to several likely export facilities. She could leverage an energy committee chairmanship to push for a speedier export approval process.

She and Murkowski also could team up to propel a debate over relaxing a three-decades-old ban on most crude exports. Murkowski is set to release a major policy paper on the issue in January, amid a growing oil and gas industry clamor for greater freedom to sell U.S. crude harvests overseas.

Obama stresses economic issues in China envoy pick

Associated Press

WASHINGTON— Making Sen. Max Baucus the next ambassador to China reflects the importance the U.S. places on advancing its economic relationship with Beijing despite recent strains on security issues.

The veteran Democrat from Montana lacks foreign policy credentials, but he does have a track record in pressing China over trade barriers and its currency exchange rate.

If confirmed by fellow senators, Baucus will be looking to see that U.S. companies can benefit from market reforms promised by the ruling communist party in November.

The U.S.-China economic relationship is loaded with its own problems, including accusations of rampant Chinese cybertheft of U.S. trade secrets. But it is one where national interests are more aligned than on security, as China challenges decades of U.S. military pre-eminence in the Asia-Pacific.

China's declaration of an air defense zone over disputed territory in the East China Sea and a near-collision of U.S. and Chinese naval vessels this month brought those concerns to the fore. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel on Thursday described China's conduct in the Dec. 5 incident in the South China Sea as "irresponsible."

But when President Barack Obama announced Friday his intention to nominate Baucus, he was stressing the senator's work over two decades on economic agreements with China that he said have created millions of American jobs. "He's perfectly suited to build on that progress in his new role," Obama said.

Baucus pushed for China's inclusion in the World Trade Organization in 2001, an important step in its integration in the world economy. Since then China has emerged as world's second-largest economy after America's, and Washington's second-largest trading partner. Two-way trade is projected to reach $558 billion in 2013.

China's record on its WTO obligations is mixed, and trade with the U.S. is skewed heavily in China's favor.

As chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, which oversees trade, Baucus has sponsored legislation to punish China for undervaluing its currency to benefit its exporters. The measure never made it into law. He's also criticized China for shutting out U.S. beef imports. But he's remained a strong advocate of expanding trade.

"The economic and financial relationship with China is crucial," said Cheng Li, a China expert at the Brookings Institution, a Washington think tank. "If that part of the relationship is healthy it can spill over and have a positive effect in other areas. But if it's jeopardized it can adversely affect other areas, including on security."

He expected China's leaders to welcome Baucus' appointment, given his stature as a six-term senator and close ties with Obama.

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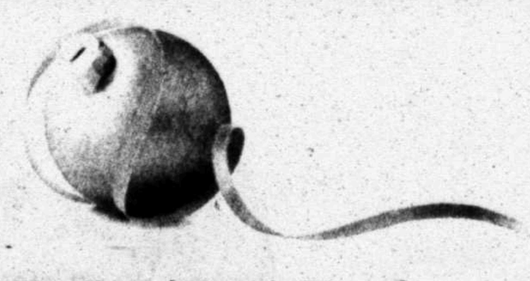


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Congress does little of consequence, except argue

■ ANALYSIS

By David Espo
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Call it a steady diet of gridlock, with "Green Eggs and Ham" on the side.

Congress did not pass White House-backed immigration or gun control legislation in 2013. Or raise the minimum wage. Or approve many other items on President Barack Obama's agenda.

But tea party-inspired House Republicans did propel the country into a 16-day partial government shutdown that cost the still-recovering economy $24 billion, by one estimate.

Congress didn't repeal the health law known as "Obamacare." Or endorse construction of the proposed Keystone pipeline. Or make it harder for the White House to put costly new federal regulations in place, or accomplish dozens of other measures on the House Republican to-do list.

But Senate Democrats did unilaterally — arrogantly, Republicans said — change century-old procedures to weaken the GOP's ability to block confirmation of Obama's appointees.

That, too, was part of a tempestuous year in which lawmakers lurched from showdown to shutdown, with time enough for Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, to read from the Dr. Seuss classic, "Green Eggs and Ham," as he held the floor around the clock for a day to protest the health law.

"The American people would get better government out of Monkey Island at the local zoo than we're giving them today," said Democratic Rep. John Dingell, of Michigan, as the government slid into shutdown mode.

"This isn't some damn game," House Speaker John Boehner erupted in frustration at the point of maximum gridlock.

Except that ... baseball had a better year under the Capitol Dome than Republicans, Democrats or Obama.

One bill that made it around the bases to the president's desk specified the size of blanks to be used in stamping National Baseball Hall of Fame memorial coins. And a new bridge over the Mississippi River was named for Stan Musial, a baseball legend admired by Republicans and Democrats alike.

But enough about teamwork.

Fifth-term Sen. John McCain, of Arizona, referred to some of his uncompromising, younger fellow Republicans as "wacko birds."

One whom he had in mind, Cruz, said, "I don't trust the Republicans. I don't trust the Democrats, and I think a whole lot of Americans likewise don't trust the Republicans or the Democrats because it is leadership in both parties that has got us into this mess."



AP file photo

This image from Senate video shows Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, speaking on the Senate floor at the U.S. Capitol on Sept. 24.

At year end, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., opined, "Congress is finishing this year less popular than a cockroach."

Among Republicans, Reid's standing might not be even that good.

Reid, as soft-spoken as he is tough-willed, is "going to be remembered as the worst leader of the Senate ever" if he insisted on changing the filibuster procedures, predicted the famously taciturn GOP leader, Mitch McConnell, of Kentucky. Reid went ahead anyway a few months later, to the anger of Republicans who predicted that Democrats would one day regret their action.

Cockroaches or not, Congress' ratings began the year at basement level, then began boring into bedrock below.

In January, an Associated Press-GfK poll put approval at 17 percent of the country.

By November, after the partial shutdown, a flirtation with an unprecedented U.S. Treasury default, gridlock for months on end and insults aplenty, it stood at 13 percent.

"Enough is enough," judged Barry Black, the Senate chaplain, nine days into the shutdown.

Evidently not.

It went on another week.

The health care law named for Obama was a constant theme, and a clear and present danger, to hear Republicans say it.

"We should not be judged on how many new laws we create. We ought to be judged on how many laws that we repeal," Boehner said as Republicans voted for the 38th and 39th time since 2011 to repeal or otherwise neuter it.

There were yet more to come — the total reached into the 40s — leading into the first partial government shutdown in 17 years. It was an event so detrimental to the Republicans' political health that Boehner blamed it on outside tea party groups he said were guilty of "pushing our members into places where they don't want to be."

There were moments of cooperation, between Republicans and Democrats at least, but they were fleeting exceptions to the rule of gridlock.

One, at year's end, undid a portion of widely disliked across-the-board spending cuts that had been put in place because of a 2011 episode of brinkmanship.

Another, passed just before the beginning of the school year, linked student loan interest rates to the financial markets, an approach the White House and Republicans favored as a way to save the government money. Some liberal Democrats opposed it as a burden on future students.

The bill prevented a spike in loan rates as schools opened for the year, but rates are predicted to rise as the economy improves and the cost of borrowing goes up.

Midway through the 113th Congress, many of the 57 laws that have been enacted were less than national in scope.

One changed the boundary of the Buffalo Gap National Grassland in South Dakota to reflect the transfer of land into the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site.

Another conveyed land to the Powell Recreation District in Wyoming for use as a shooting range maintained by the Powell Gun Club.

And the Boston Air Route Traffic Control Center in Nashua, N.H., was named after an employee, Patricia Clark, who has worked there since it opened 50 years ago.

If the accomplishments were relatively minor, the struggles were of more consequence.

On the day the new Congress convened, Jan. 3, Boehner was elected to a new term as speaker, his second. But only after surviving a challenge from his most conservative GOP members, 14 of whom declined to vote for him.

It was a harbinger.

Sweeping immigration legislation backed by the White House cleared the Senate on a bipartisan vote on the cusp of a long August break. Supporters hoped that would build support in the House.

The tea party had other ideas, dominating the summer political season with a campaign to deny necessary federal funding for the government as long as Obama's health law remained in effect.

By the time lawmakers reconvened in September, the Senate-passed immigration legislation was moribund, the campaign to cut off money for the health law ascendant, and the partial government shutdown only a matter of time.

Not long afterward, as polls sagged, Dr. Seuss' immortal words may as well have applied to the popularity of lawmakers instead of the dreaded green eggs and ham.

"I do not like them here or there," Cruz read. "I do not like them ANYWHERE!"

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Prices Good Sunday, December 22, thru Tuesday, December 24, 2013 At Your Big Spring, Burleson, Granbury, Midland, Odessa, and San Angelo H-E-B Stores.

Items not available at Central Market. Due to the [illegible] Every Day, [illegible] available in all stores. Printed on recycled paper. [illegible]

XCOR Aerospace inches closer to the Tall City

Airport awaits spaceport license as company gets spaceplane, renovations off the ground

By Rachael Gleason
rgleason@mrt.com

XCOR Aerospace recently offered a glimpse of future space flight out of the Tall City through the walls of an air traffic controller.

The private space company has high hopes of launching its Lynx 1 suborbital spaceplane into the mesosphere by next summer.

Whether that happens in Midland is up in the air: XCOR must get a prototype and hangar renovations off the ground, and the airport must wrangle a spaceport license from the Federal Aviation Administration.

Still, XCOR's chief operating officer, Andrew Nelson, asked city councilmen on Tuesday to imagine the Lynx 1 sitting on a Midland International Airport runway, waiting for clearance from the tower to depart.

"Lynx 1, climb out to Flight Level 600," Nelson said with a grin, noting how rare it is for an aircraft to climb that high. "You don't hear that called out very often."

XCOR struck a $10 million deal with the Midland Development Corp. to relocate its headquarters and research and development operations from Mojave, Calif., to Midland, which Nelson called a "big city" compared to the desert.

"We're bursting at the seams," said XCOR Chief Executive Officer Jeff Greason at a reception Thursday at the Midland tower.

The Permian Basin's oilfields and first-class airport made the move possible, Greason said.

"Encroachment is the bane of space flight," he said. "Protect your dirt."

Nelson expects the company to relocate by summer of next year. Although no one is "knocking walls down yet," he said XCOR is finishing up contract negotiations with a bidder, and the first and second phases of hangar renovations likely will be finished by May and July.

"We'll have plenty of space when the license is ready to go," he said.

The spaceport application process is "substantially complete," said Marv Esterly, the city's director of airports, who met with FAA and airport officials earlier this month in Washington, D.C., to discuss flight safety.

Please see **XCOR**/6B



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

From left, Esther Dyson, XCOR Board member; Midland Mayor Wes Perry; Pam Welch, executive director of the Midland Development Corporation; and Andrew Nelson, COO of XCOR, converse during a reception Thursday at the Midland Tower Lobby.

Christmas miracles



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Caleb Deck helps Kiara Quinones, 9, pick out a bike Saturday during the big Miracle on Tyler Street giveaway.

Neiman Marcus aims to define casual luxury

By Maria Halkias
Dallas Morning News

Jim Gold has a sweater he's worn a hundred times, and it still looks new.

It's a classic V-neck with a ribbed hem and cuffs.

Most guys' wardrobes include a couple of these pullovers, usually one in navy or gray. It's a piece that gets a lot of wear over the fall and winter. After a year or two, the pillings get bad enough that a wife, mother or close friend replaces it with a new one in a gift-wrapped box at Christmas.

Gold, who is stores division president of Dallas-based Neiman Marcus Group, says his sweater is at least 8 years old and doesn't need replacing. The sweater is cashmere, a Brunello Cucinelli, that's made in Italy and retails at Neiman Marcus for $645.

Plenty of cashmere sweaters can be bought elsewhere for $99 or less, he said, but after you wear one four or five times, it will start to look shabby.

Gold is building a case for luxury, a term he says is batted around too loosely these days.

"Too many companies and brands claim to be in the luxury business," he said. "They aren't following the strict definition."

At Neiman Marcus, the litmus test is quality, scarcity and longevity — a product that can stand the test of time, Gold said. "That's our core business."

"An important part of what we do every day is to educate people about our products. Neiman Marcus merchandise doesn't cost more because we unilaterally decide to charge more," he said. "Quantities are in smaller numbers because there's more craftsmanship and a whole lot of talent behind creating things."

The core Neiman Marcus customer already knows that.

But a broader base of customers is evolving, and some shoppers are a harder sell, said Pam Danziger, president of Unity Marketing, a Pennsylvania-based research firm that focuses on the affluent shopper.

"I would disagree with that value proposition. I don't think the consumer is buying that story," Danziger said. "You can still buy a cashmere V-neck sweater that's just as good at $300, and there are more premium brands out there now, like a J.Crew, that are fine quality and last a long time."

Danziger believes there's been a shift in the makeup of the luxury consumer market. Based on her ongoing tracking study of affluent Americans, households with income levels of $100,000 to $249,999 — known as the Henrys, for "high earners, not rich yet" — aren't playing as big a role in luxury spending as they did before the recession.

"They shop everywhere, and they view themselves as middle class. They shop at Nordstrom and Neiman Marcus, but they shop widely, and they are the heavy lifters in the overall economy," she said. "They also shop at J.C. Penney and Costco and Wal-Mart and Macy's and the dollar stores, and on occasion they shop at Neiman Marcus."

The Henrys, an acronym coined by Fortune magazine writer Shawn Tully,

Please see **NEIMAN MARCUS**/7B

TERRY WILLIAMSON
Real life columnist



Making everything commercial changes Christmas

I've found on this Christmas season that I have a lot of friends, who think just like I do.

That's a comforting fact to me because I was beginning to wonder if anyone really cared about celebrating Christmas.

It seems that Christmas comes earlier and earlier every year. I call it the Christmas Creep. It's coming so early now that I lose interest in the season even before it gets here. That's not the way Christmas is supposed be. Is it?

Let me give you an example. I saw candy canes, fake Christmas trees and Christmas lights in some stores by September. Some major brands across the country like Kmart were dishing out the Christmas themes even before the first day of fall.

This bombardment is excessive, intrusive and does nothing to inspire the celebration we seek on the reason for the season.

Even Thanksgiving was ruined this year. Instead of Black Friday, we now have Black Thursday as stores opened on Thanksgiving Day. They didn't even wait for the football game to end before they told us to get in line, draw a number and hope your items were still here when it was your turn. Before midnight on Thanksgiving, we were throwing punches at each other.

Do you get the picture here? Well, it's not peace on earth and goodwill to men. It's more like I'll get mine before you get yours.

When I was a kid, I usually got one or two gifts under a tree. Now the living room has enough gifts to fill a horse trailer. Somehow the commercialization of Christmas has taught us to spend more than you can afford so we can have more gifts. I'm now expecting to see Christmas specials in July. By the time our grandchildren have children, they'll probably have monthly Christmas gifts. And all without even thinking about the reason for Christmas.

It's amazing to me that the retail businesses have been so successful in selling Christmas to the public without selling the reason for the season.

It's like selling out a concert without ever saying who the star of the show is. Can you imagine that?

It has gotten to the point that we celebrate Christmas as a gift-giving event only. Even the mention of Christmas

Please see **WILLIAMSON**/3B

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Obituaries



Clara Lorain Hill

Clara Lorain Hill, age 89, of Sweetwater, Texas, passed away on Friday, December 20, 2013 in Midland, Texas

Funeral Services will be held 10:00 A.M., Monday, December 23, 2013, at Cate-Spencer & Trent Funeral Home Chapel with Dusty Lovell officiating.

Graveside services will be held 3:00 P.M., Monday, December 23, 2013 at Fairview Cemetery in Midland, Texas with Dusty Lovell officiating. Burial will follow. Arrangements are under the direction of Cate-Spencer & Trent Funeral Home, 403 Locust, Sweetwater, Texas.

Lorain was born on April 19, 1924 in Runnels County, Texas to John W. and Clara (Ellis) Benton. She married Edgar Travis Hill on August 8, 1938 in Lamesa, Texas . She worked for Sun Exploration for many years starting out as an engineering secretary and then as a materials manager. She retired from Oryx Energy and was the first female executive for that company. She was a longtime member of First Baptist Church and also she volunteered in the Hospital Auxillary for twenty seven years.

She is survived by her son, Johnny E. Hill of Sweetwater, two daughters, Jackie E. Stovall and husband Bobby and Sally Meurer and husband Pat, all of Midland, Texas; seven grandchildren, Louanna Hill-Petrie, Steven J. Hill and wife Robin, Bobby Stovall, Jr. and wife Stephanie, Travis Stovall and wife Shelley, Jim Ed Stovall and wife Shauna, Randy Meurer and wife Martha and Marty Meurer and wife Jennifer, fifteen great grandchildren, Daniel Stovall, Matthew Stovall, Jessica Stovall Ripley, Casey Hill, Haley Hill, Josh Stovall, Dodge Stovall, Amanda Petrie, Lindsay Petrie, Rachel Meurer, Cooper Meurer, Justin Meurer, Emilee Meurer, Jes Stovall, and Sonny Stovall and one great great grandchild, Maggie Ripley.

She was preceded in death by her parents, John W. and Clara Benton, husband Edgar Travis Hill, daughter-in-law, Barbara Hill, grandson-in-law, Daniel Riley, and eight brothers and sisters.

Pallbearers will be Bobby L. Stovall, Jr., Louanna Hill-Petrie, Steven J. Hill, Randy Meurer, Travis Stovall, Marty Meurer, and Jim Ed Stovall.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital Auxillary, Attention: Ame Monroe, 200 East Arizona Avenue, Sweetwater, Texas 79556.

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



Colonel William "Bill" T. Schwob

Colonel William "Bill" T. Schwob passed away on Dec. 5, 2013, in Longwood, FL. He was born in Le Sueur, MN on April 6, 1930, to Aloysius and Catherine Schwob. Bill studied for three years at St. John's University in Minnesota, before joining the Air Force in 1951. He and Jeanette Neuman of Ortonville, MN, married in 1955. During one of his many assignments with the USAF, he finished his college degree at night school and graduated from The University of Nebraska at Omaha. In 1967, he was stationed at Ubon AFB, Thailand, where he completed 128 combat flying missions in an F-4 Phantom over N. Vietnam, many as a Flight Commander. He was awarded many medals, amongst them was the Distinguished Flying Cross. In 1978, after 27 years in the Air Force, Bill retired and sold real estate. He fully retired in 1992, and enjoyed golf and life. His wife, Jeanette, passed away in 2004.

He is dearly missed by his three children. The eldest is Angela Watson of Midland & Lubbock, TX, along with her husband, Marshall and their four children, Ryan Latham, Andrew Latham and wife, Regan, Marshall Jr., and Jane Ann. His middle child is Peter Schwob of Longwood, FL, along with his wife, Terri and their two daughters, Lauren Inman and husband, Jeff & Lindsay Flint and husband, Justin. His youngest is Paula Scott of San Antonio, along with her husband, Trey and their two sons Emory and Garrett. Bill is also survived by his oldest sister, Kathleen of Bakersfield, CA and his older brother, Clair and his wife, Ann Colleen, who live close to Virginia Beach. His youngest sister, Dorothy, predeceased him in 1986.

Bill was well liked by all, due to his compassion, fairness, and humor. He was a proud member of the River Rats, a great organization, which helps children of military parents who are captured in battle or died due to combat or operational accidents. In the 1970's, he took many children of fellow US military comrades who sacrificed in Vietnam as KIA or POW's to his lake house numerous times for relaxing and activity filled retreats. In the 1990's and 2000's, he organized many golf tournaments to raise money for the River Rats.

A private service will be held. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to: www.river-rats.org.

You are invited to sign the guestbook at: www.porterloring.com.

Arrangements with: Porter Loring Mortuary 1101 McCullough Ave. (210) 227-8221.



James Lawrence "Jimmy" O'Neil

James Lawrence "Jimmy" O'Neil passed from this earth on December 19th, 2013, after a 2 year battle with pain and cancer. He was born in Dawson County on July 24th, 1937, to Leta Greaves O'Neil and Robert Lee O'Neil. He moved to Midland at the age of 6.

Jimmy was a very hard working man, and always had projects going. He was devoted to his family and loved them very much.

On October 28, 1955, he married Shirley Carlisle O'Neil. They had 2 sons, James "Lynn" O'Neil and Larry Wade O'Neil.

Jimmy started working in the oil fields of West Texas and New Mexico and then cut meat at Bowen's Grocery in the 1960's. He worked for DeCoty Coffee Company before starting his own business, H&J Food Store in Odessa in 1970. In 1979, he started a new business in Midland, O'Neil Grocery & Deli, as well as a catering service. He enjoyed cooking for people, whether it was for 5 people or 1,500 people. He sold O'Neil Grocery & Deli in 2000 due to his health, only to buy Bowen's Grocery, which he sold a year later and retired. He truly enjoyed his faithful customers and employees, as well his wonderful family and friends. Most of all he enjoyed his grandchildren, and his new great grandson, Cooper. He was a member of Valley View Baptist Church, where he made many great friends.

He was predeceased by his mother, father, and brothers: R.L. O'Neil, Olen Cecil "Sonny" O'Neil, W.R. "Hoot" O'Neil, and Delbert O'Neil. He is survived by his wife, Shirley; his sons, Lynn (Pam) of Midland and Larry (Shanda) of Robert Lee, TX; his grandchildren, Justin O'Neil, Amy Hill (David), Bryce O'Neil (Sarah), Erica O'Neil, and Hayden O'Neil; his great grandson, Cooper Hill; his sister, Nita Faubion Smith (Sonny); his brother, Elbert O'Neil (Betty); and many special nieces and nephews.

We all loved him very much and he will be greatly missed.

If you choose to make a donation rather than flowers, please remember Hospice of Midland, or Valley View Bapt. Church, Box 10397, 79702.

Family will be receiving friends on Sunday, December 22nd, from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home. Funeral service is set for Monday, December 23rd, at 2:00 p.m., at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Chapel, with Pastor Robert Frazier officiating. Interment will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park

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: lewallengarciapipkinfh.com.

Lewallen Garcia Pipkin Funeral Home
2508 N. Big Spring - Midland, TX - (432) 682-3700

Mildred Connor Stephens

Services for Mildred Connor Stephens, 92, of Temple, will be 10 a.m. Monday, December 23, 2013 at Christ Church in Temple with Reverend Mark Wilburn officiating. Burial will be in Grove Hill Memorial Park in Dallas on Tuesday, December 24.

Mrs. Stephens died Saturday, December 21, at a local care facility.

She was born December 17, 1921, in Schennectady, New York to James M. Connor, Sr. and Mary Jane Ringer Connor. She graduated from Midland High School. She married Hartzell O. Stephens in Midland on May 10, 1941. She was a housewife and a member of Christ Episcopal Church in Temple.

She was preceded in death by her husband; a son, Hartzell Stephens, Jr., two sisters, Helen Shannon and Dorothy Ferral; and a brother, James M. Connor, Jr.

She is survived by a brother, Robert Connor of Midland, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be 5 - 7 p.m. Sunday, December 22, at Harper-Talasek Funeral Home in Temple.



Roe Berta Davis

Roe Berta Davis, of Midland, passed away on Wednesday, December 18, 2013. The family will welcome guests at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home for a visitation from 4:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m., on Sunday, December 22, 2013. A private graveside service will be held at 9:00 a.m., at Resthaven Memorial Park on Monday, December 23. Funeral services will be held following the graveside services at First Presbyterian Church of Midland at 10:00 a.m.

Roe Berta Lambert Davis was born on July 28, 1921, in Spur, Texas, to Joe Lomax Lambert and Florence Dell Starett Lambert. She passed on December 18, 2013, at her home in Midland, Texas.

Roe Berta graduated from Monahans High School in 1938, then, she attended Howard Payne College. Roe Berta married RH Lee Davis on May 17, 1942, in Monahans, Texas. They celebrated their 71st wedding anniversary with family and friends.

RH and Roe Berta moved many times during the early years of their marriage. They had two children born during WWII, while RH served in the Army Air Force. After the war, they settled in West Texas and RH was employed by Stanolind Oil and Gas. This meant many moves in oilfield camp housing. Roe Berta always made sure the family found a church, home, and made many life-long friends during this time. RH and Roe Berta lived in Lubbock from 1935 - 1966, when RH was transferred to Midland.

Roe Berta has been lovingly described as "a force of nature". She loved the role of wife, mother, grandmother, and great- grandmother. She always had a special surprise for her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, when they came to visit. Roe Berta made sure that she was in attendance of all of the major events of the family. She spent all year planning special gifts for the three grandsons and their families.

Roe Berta loved to volunteer. She was a Scout leader, member of Republican Women, League of Women Voters, Pink Lady at the hospital, and a docent at the Petroleum Museum of Midland. Her lifetime commitment was to her Presbyterian Church community. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Midland. She was Sunday School Superintendent, active in Presbyterian Women, and Christian Education.

When RH was approaching retirement from the oil company, they operated Davis Garden Center in Midland from 1971 - 1992. Roe Berta was very much involved in the day to day operation of the Garden Center.

Roe Berta was an avid reader and was a long-time member of the EN AMIE Book Club. She could discuss any topic from great-grandchildren to current events. She loved to decorate for special occasions. Her favorite time of year was Advent. She had a large collection of dolls from all over the world. She loved to travel with RH, her friends, and family. She loved her friends and shared in their joys and sorrow. Roe Berta was an expert seamstress and knitted beautiful sweaters, until the last few years of her life.

She is predeceased by her parents, Joe L. and Florence Lambert; brother, Billy Joe Lambert; and son, Roy Joe Davis.

She is survived by her husband, RH Davis of Midland; daughter, Frances Carlton and her husband, Donald of Midland; grandsons, Derek Davis and his wife, Leigh of Denver, Colorado; Jeffrey Carlton and his wife, Jennifer of Fort Worth; Todd Carlton and his wife, Elizabeth of Southlake, Texas; great-grandchildren, Hadley Carlton, Andrew Carlton, Reese Carlton, Alexander Carlton, Jack Carlton, and Miller Davis.

Special thanks to loving caregiver - Karen Riley. The entire family appreciates the family and friends who have been supportive with love and prayer during the past year. Thank you to Hospice of Midland and Chaplain Ron Kirk, First Presbyterian Church, and the Rev. Steve Schorr, Connie Staton, and Judy Davis Turner. Appreciation to the entire community of Midland for your love and support of the Davis family for over 50 years.

Donations would be appreciated, in her memory, to: Hospice of Midland, 911 West Texas, 79701 or the Deacon's Fund of First Presbyterian Church of Midland, 800 West Texas, 79701.

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

Death Notices

Henry James McElreath

Henry James McElreath, 87, passed on Friday, Dec. 20, 2013, at Hospice House in Odessa, Texas.

Surviving Henry are his daughters, Lori McElreath Stricklan, Lisa McElreath Gilmore and stepdaughters, Julia Taylor Foster, Virginia Clark, and Pricilla Taylor; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; one sister, three brothers; nieces, nephews, and friends.

Memorial service Dec. 23, 2013, 10:00am, First Baptist Church of Andrews. Graveside service 4:00pm, Dec 23, 2013 at the cemetery in Desdemona, TX.

John Williams

John Williams, 58, of Midland passed away on Friday, December 20, 2013 in Midland, Texas. Services will be held on Saturday, December 28, 2013 at 2:00PM at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Williams of Midland.

Pauline "Poli" B. Chavez

Pauline "Poli" B. Chavez of Odessa, passed away December 21, 2013 at her residence. Services are pending with Odessa Funeral Home.

Robert "Bob" M. Boone

Robert "Bob" M. Boone, of Midland passed away on Saturday, December 21, 2013 in Midland, Texas. Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory.

OTHERDEATHS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

NEW YORK

Michiaki Takashi, who tamed chickenpox, dies at 85

Dr. Michiaki Takahashi, whose experience caring for his 3-year-old son after the boy contracted chickenpox led him to develop a vaccine for the virus that is now used all over the world, died Monday in Osaka, Japan. He was 85.

The cause was heart failure, said his longtime secretary, Maki Fukui.

In 1964 Takahashi, who had spent several years studying the measles and polio viruses in Japan, was on a research fellowship at Baylor Medical College in Houston when his son, Teruyuki, came down with a severe case of chickenpox after playing with a friend who had the virus.

"My son developed a rash on his face that quickly spread across his body," Takahashi recalled in a 2011 interview with The Financial Times. "His symptoms progressed quickly and severely. His temperature shot up and he began to have trouble breathing. He was in a terrible way, and all my wife and I could do was to watch him day and night. We didn't sleep. He seemed so ill that I remember worrying about what would happen to him."

"But gradually, the symptoms lessened and my son recovered," he added. "I realized then that I should use my knowledge of viruses to develop a chickenpox vaccine."

He returned to Japan in 1965 and within five years had developed an early version of the vaccine. By 1972 he was experimenting with it in clinical trials. Within a few years, Japan and some other countries had begun widespread vaccination programs. Yet the Food and Drug Administration did not approve the United States' first chickenpox vaccine until 1995.

The delay was caused by several factors, including concerns that the immunity created by the vaccine might not last long enough, that there could be unwanted side effects and, more generally, that chickenpox might not be a serious enough disease to warrant a vaccination program.

Chickenpox is caused by the varicella-zoster virus, a form of herpes. If a person contracts the virus, has an active infection and then recovers, the virus is not actually gone from the body. It can hide in nerve cells for years or decades, then emerge again to cause shingles, a painful condition that causes a skin rash and occurs mostly in adults.

Takahashi developed his vaccine by growing live but weakened versions of the virus in animal and human cells. The vaccine did not cause the disease, but it prompted immune systems to produce antibodies.

"It fools the immune system into thinking it has seen this disease before," said Dr. Anne A. Gershon, the director of the Division of Pediatric Infectious Disease at Columbia University Medical Center and a friend of Takahashi's.

Gershon said Takahashi's is "the only vaccine successful against any of the human herpes viruses."

In 2006, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention began recommending a second dose of the vaccine. The CDC recommends that children receive their first dose when they are 12 to 15 months old and a second dose when they are 4 to 6 years old.

"Prior to the licensing of the chickenpox vaccine in 1995," the agency said, "almost all persons in the United States had suffered from chickenpox by adulthood. Each year, the virus caused an estimated 4 million cases of chickenpox, 11,000 hospitalizations, and 100 to 150 deaths."

Today, chickenpox — like other childhood diseases for which vaccines had been developed earlier, including measles, mumps, rubella and polio — is largely a thing of the past. A large long-term study published this year found that a very small percentage of children who receive one dose of the vaccine still get the virus and that most of those cases are mild or moderate. Among children in the study who received a second dose, none contracted the disease.

Takahashi was born on Feb. 17, 1928, in Osaka. He received his medical degree from Osaka University in 1954. Before his work on the chickenpox vaccine, he collaborated on mumps and rubella vaccines. He later served on the board of directors of the Research Foundation for Microbial Diseases of Osaka University.

NEW YORK

Kenneth A. Schechter, Navy pilot blinded in battle, dies at 83

"On the ninth of my planned 15 bomb runs, at 1,200 feet, an enemy anti-aircraft shell exploded in the cockpit. Instinctively, I pulled back on the stick to gain altitude. Then I passed out. When I came to a short time later, I couldn't see a thing. There was stinging agony in my face and throbbing in my head. I felt for my upper lip. It was almost severed from the rest of my face. I called out over the radio through my lip mike (which miraculously still worked), 'I'm blind! For God's sake, help me! I'm blind!'"

The writer of those words, Kenneth A. Schechter, who died on Dec. 11 at 83, was no novelist. A graduate of Stanford and Harvard Business School, he spent most of his professional life as an insurance agent. But on March 22, 1952, as a Navy pilot over Wongsang-ni, North Korea, Schechter, then Ensign Schechter, was at the heart of an astonishing real-life thriller, one of the most electrifying air rescues in American military history.

Schechter, then 22, was already an experienced battle pilot; his fateful mission was his 27th over Korea. Stationed on the aircraft carrier Valley Forge in the Sea of Japan, he was a member of Fighter Squadron 194, known as the Yellow Devils, and his targets that day were standard ones: railroad tracks, marshaling yards and other enemy transportation structures. He was flying a single-seat attack plane known as the A-1 Skyraider.

Kenneth Allen Schechter was born in Harlem on Jan. 31, 1930, and lived the first few years of his life on the Upper West Side, after which his father, George, who worked with his brothers in a textile business, moved the family to Los Angeles.

Schechter died in Fairfield, Calif. His son, George, who goes by his middle name, Robert, said the cause was complications of prostate cancer.

Abbott, Davis donated less than average

Associated Press

AUSTIN — A review by a newspaper of recent years' tax returns from Greg Abbott and Wendy Davis — the top two candidates vying to be the next governor of Texas — shows they have generally given a smaller percentage of their income to charity than the average Texan.

The Austin American-Statesman reported that in each of the past three years, Abbott, the Republican Texas attorney general, and his wife, Cecilia, together earned a little over $200,000.

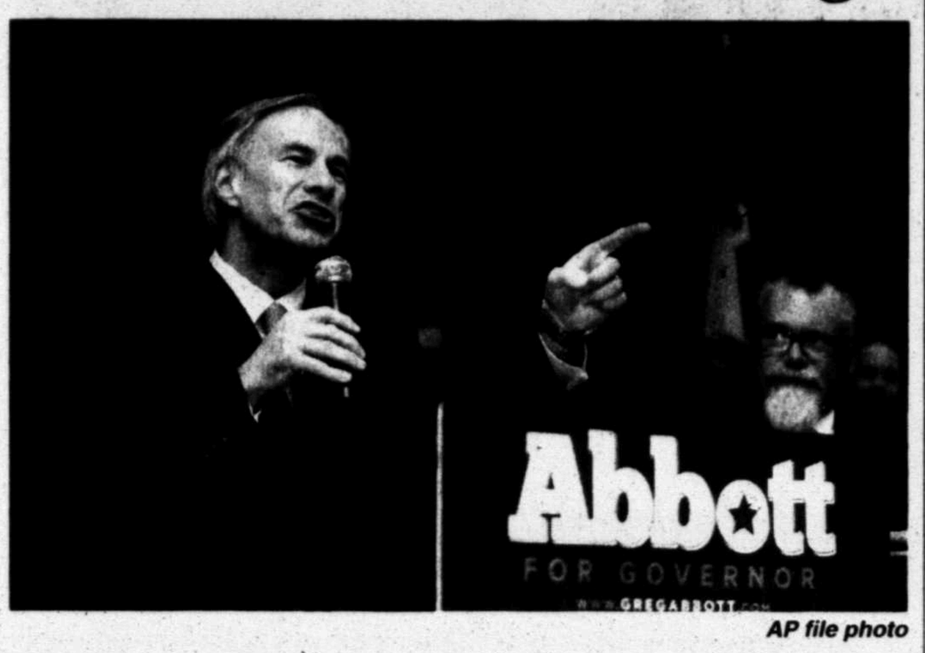
In 2010, the Abbotts gave $2,426 to charity, or 1.2 percent of adjusted gross income; in 2011, they gave $6,620, or 3.1 percent; and in 2012, $3,014, or 1.4 percent.

Davis, a Democratic state senator and an attorney, had an adjusted gross income of $130,931 in 2010; $235,428 in 2011; and $284,183 in 2012.

She contributed $2,700 to charity, or 2 percent of her adjusted gross income, in 2010. In 2011, she donated $515 or 0.2 percent, and in 2012, she gave $950 or 0.3 percent.

Abbott spokesman Matt Hirsch and Davis spokeswoman Rebecca Acuna both said that the tax statements do not fully capture their candidate's generosity or charitable giving.

In an analysis of Internal Revenue Service figures last year, the National Center for Charitable Statistics found that the average charitable contribution per return filed in 2010 was 2.1 percent, both nationally and in Texas.



AP file photo

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott speaks at a convention of the Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas on Nov. 1 in Austin.

By comparison, Lisa Fritsch, a conservative commentator from Austin who is challenging Abbott for the GOP nomination, is relatively more generous in her charitable contributions, the newspaper reported.

Fritsch and her husband have given $125,000 in charitable contributions since 2000, which is 2.3 percent of their adjusted gross income over that period.

Fritsch's charitable contributions are detailed in 13 years of tax returns that she has released. Abbott and Davis have released tax returns for the past three years.

While the 3.1 percent Abbott gave to charity in 2011 exceeded the Texas and national average, his tax returns do not reflect the annual tax-free annuity he receives each year as part of a settlement for an accident that left him paralyzed from the waist down, which includes monthly payments and a lump sum every three years. He will have received $570,000 this year as part of the settlement.

Southern Methodist University political scientist Cal Jillson said he thinks that voters "notice real stinginess more than they do average or even extraordinary generosity."

STATEBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

AMARILLO

US 287 in Texas Panhandle closed due to wrecks

A 45-mile north-south route in the Texas Panhandle has been closed because of about 20 traffic accidents during freezing, snowy conditions.

The Texas Department of Public Safety said the accidents that began Saturday morning closed U.S. 287 between Amarillo and Dumas.

Sr. Trooper Chris Ray said the wrecks continued throughout the day and officers closed the highway Saturday afternoon in order to clear the accident scenes.

Ray said nobody has been killed but a number of people were injured. He did not immediately have an estimate on how many people were hurt but said the injuries range from bumps and scratches to travelers in critical condition.

The National Weather Service reported temperatures in the 20s and snow or misty conditions late Saturday afternoon in the area.

CORPUS CHRISTI

Land buy to expand Nueces Delta Preserve

A wildlife and environmental preserve in South Texas will nearly double in size with the purchase of more than 4,700 acres from an oilman.

The Conservation Fund, in partnership with the Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program, on Friday announced the purchase in San Patricio County.

Officials said the land in the Nueces River Delta, sold by Oscar Wyatt Jr., will eventually become part of the Nueces Delta Preserve.

No purchase price was announced for the land to help create more than 10,000 acres of contiguous conserved estuary habitat.

The newly acquired acreage was part of the Dos Rios Division of Wyatt Ranches.

FELONY ARRESTS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Rafael I. Alvarado, 28, unknown address, was charged Friday with possession of a controlled substance.

Juan A. Armendariz-Baca, 26, of Midland, was charged Friday with driving while intoxicated with a child under the age of 15.

Jasmin L. Barrientos, 18, of Midland, was charged Friday with violating probation.

Ricky L. Cisneros, 30, of Brownfield, was charged Friday with violating probation.

Pete Diaz Jr., 22, of Midland, was charged Friday with possession of a controlled substance in a drug-free zone.

Marvin K. Fritts, 51, of Midland, was charged Friday with driving while intoxicated three or more times.

Deonte D. Kendricks, 17, of Midland, was charged Friday with possession of a controlled substance.

Ian O. Kepple, 17, of Midland, was charged Friday with robbery.

Juan L. Melendez, 62, of Midland, was charged Friday with injury to a child, elderly or disabled person recklessly causing bodily injury and indecency with a child by sexual contact.

Jermandrae T. Miller, 24, of Midland, was charged Friday with robbery.

Adan E. Olivas, 27, of Midland, was charged Friday with possession of a controlled substance.

Clinton O'Quinn, 27, of Midland, was charged Friday with possession of a controlled substance.

Anna M. Palko, 21, of Midland, was charged Friday with possession of a controlled substance.

David Rivera, 18, of Midland, was charged Friday with posssession of a prohibited item in a correctional facility.

Megan Rocha, 17, of Midland was charged Friday with injury to a child, elderly or disabled person recklessly causing serious bodily injury.

Raul Rojo III, 18, of Midland, was charged Friday with injury to a child, elderly or disabled person recklessly causing serious bodily injury.

Source: Midland County Sheriff's Office

WILLIAMSON

From 1B

in September sends cold chills up the spine with a foreboding of gift-buying that makes us dread the holidays.

I've read commentaries from 1785 that said the "Ten Days of Christmas" was pushing things too far. Of course, by the time the famous song reached us it was the "Twelve Days of Christmas."

Sometimes I wonder what it would be like if we could really have an old-fashioned Christmas where each family member gives each other a single gift and reflects on the birth of Jesus. It makes you wonder what it would have been like some 2,000 years ago to have been with the shepherds when angels announced the birth of a savior.

Now that would be some Christmas to remember.

For most of us, the gift-buying is pretty much finished for this year.

I hope the madness of the season hasn't ruined your Christmas. I assure you that if you take these final few days to focus on a new-born Christ child, your Christmas spirit will be once again renewed.

All your family really needs is a moment of reflection to recognize that moment when God was among us. That's the reason for the season.

Don't miss it.

Thought for the Week: "He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree." ~ Roy L. Smith, preacher.

Crime Stoppers fugitive

EMIGDIO DIAZ

DOB: 8-12-1989
Height and weight: 5 feet, 9 inches; 140 pounds
Charge: Count I & II Sexual Assault of a Child — Grand Jury Indictment



- Wanted as of 12-21-2013
- Warrant #CR38176
- $250 Reward to the first person who calls Midland Crime Stoppers this week with information that leads to this fugitive's arrest.
- Call 694-TIPS or 1-800-7-LOCKUP, online at midlandcrimestoppers.com or text TIP247 plus your message to 274637
- As always you will remain anonymous
- NEVER attempt to apprehend this subject yourself. Subject may be armed or dangerous.

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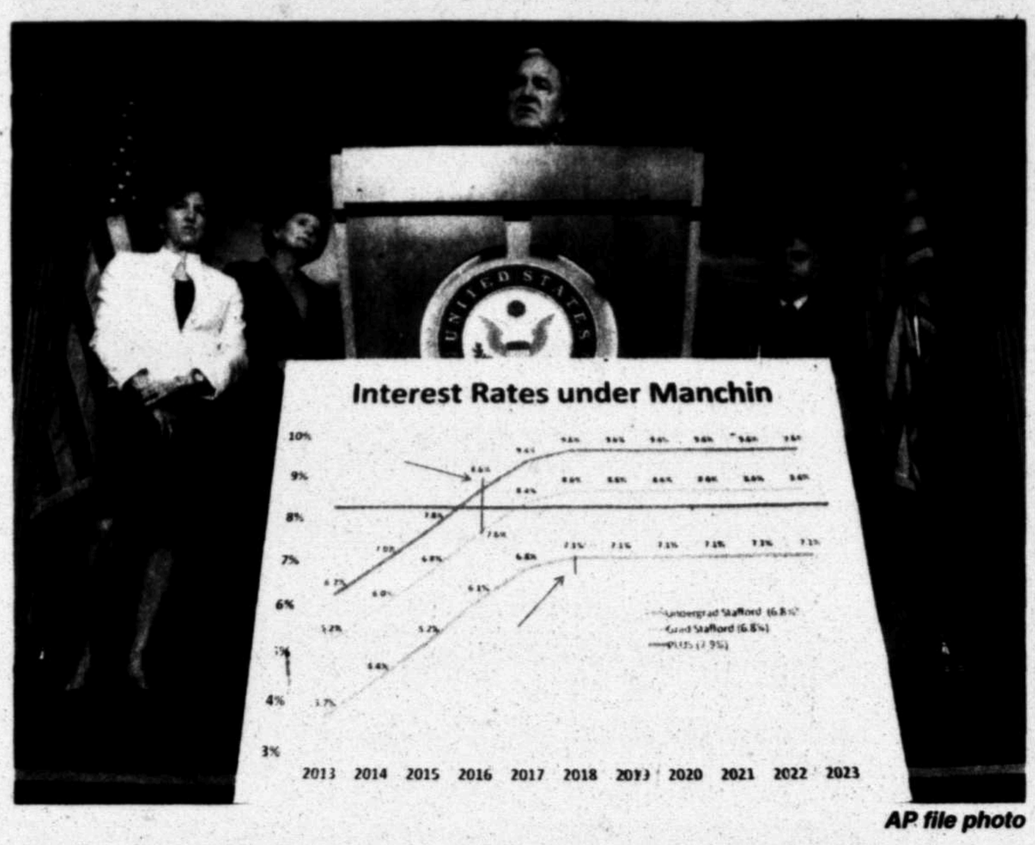
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HOTLINE: 699-4900
(Leave Message)
Thrift Store: Tues., Wed., Fri., Sat. 10 am - 2 pm — Food Pantry: Mon. & Thurs. 9 am - Noon
Call 528-8900 For Pick-Up Of Donated Items — To Volunteer: 528-6265
www.helpinghandsmidland.com

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, but I could not see it as such until long after it occurred. Fifteen years ago I met Danny. It was my first Christmas as a caseworker for Helping Hands. 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 said 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've 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 all of the "baggage" that we carry around. God finds us when we forget about ourselves and 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 his magnificent Christmas tree. Danny is my constant reminder to try to stay grounded in the present moment because it is in the present moment that God can communicate with the heart. We cannot blind ourselves to the fact that even in the deepest 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 gift to me.

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AP file photo

Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pension Committee Chairman Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, center, accompanied by, from left, Sen. Kay Hagan, D-N.C., Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich, and Sen. Jack Reed, D-R.I., talks about legislation to try and prevent the increase in the interest rates on some student loans, during a news conference on Capitol Hill on June 27 in Washington. Analysts at Standard & Poor's issued a dire warning in August about mounting student debt loads.

S&P downgrades credit rating

Associated Press

PHOENIX — One of the world's largest credit-rating agencies downgraded the marks of the nation's sixth-biggest city because of the local economy's performance, debt and other financial liabilities.

Standard and Poor's announced the newly adjusted rating Friday. Changes in criteria mean ratings are now largely based local economic conditions, and in Phoenix, property values suffered during the downturn. If market values were to climb, S&P says the city's score could improve.

The rating affects the city's ability to borrow money. With a lower rating, Phoenix may have to pay more in interest to issue bonds in the future.

While the city's AA+ rating is still among the highest for the nation's largest cities, acting City Manager Ed Zuercher said it's disappointing anytime a bond rating is downgraded.

"S&P's new criteria places great scoring emphasis on the one aspect of our economy that was hit the hardest during the Great Recession — property values," Zuercher said, noting that such values are not within the city's control.

City officials had tried unsuccessfully Friday to get S&P to hold off on its decision.

City Council members told The Arizona Republic that the downgrade was a wake-up call.

"Is the downgrade huge?" Councilman Sal DiCiccio asked. "No, it's not. But it's a warning bell. You have to actually have a real plan in place that prevents Phoenix from being the next Detroit."

S&P noted that the city has managed its budget proactively in recent years and has high levels of available cash but it noted weakness due to the city's amount of debt and liabilities.

Analysts compared the city's outstanding general-obligation debt, which is usually paid from sales and property taxes, to revenue over the course of the year. According to the report, Phoenix's payments on its debts made up nearly 10 percent of its total governmental expenses for the last fiscal year.

The report also mentioned the city's unfunded pension liabilities.

DiCiccio suggested Phoenix needs to get serious about pension reform and make changes beyond modest reforms enacted this year. He said the city must realize its growing budget impacts its ability to pay down long-term debt.

Mayor Greg Stanton said in a statement that the pension reforms will save taxpayers $829 million over the next 25 years. He added that during his tenure, the city will continue to retire its debt and maintain sound fiscal policy.

"We'll continue to work together to improve our economy, create good jobs and lead Phoenix through the lingering impact of the Great Recession," Stanton said.

New Houston light rail line opens for business

Associated Press

HOUSTON — While Houston's expansion of its light rail system won't displace personal vehicles as the primary way residents get around this sprawling metropolis, officials say it's an important component in their efforts to offer more transportation choices in a city — the nation's fourth largest — known for its congested roadways.

The new 5.3-mile extension of the system's current line made its debut on Saturday. It joins the 7.5-mile starter line, which began operating in 2004 and has a daily ridership of about 40,000 passengers. Two other lines are under construction and will be operational sometime next year.

The new light rail line cost $756 million to build, with about 60 percent of the funding coming from the federal government. It runs from downtown and goes through the city's Northside neighborhood, a mixture of older homes, businesses and an industrial/warehouse area. The starter light rail line runs from downtown and goes south past Reliant Stadium, home of the NFL's Houston Texans.

The grand opening of the new light rail line was marked with a celebration that featured musical performances and activities for kids. Rides on the new light rail line, which cost $1.25, were free on Saturday.

Gilbert Garcia, chairman of the board for Metro, the city's public transportation agency, said he believes Houston residents, like those in many U.S. cities, remain attached to their cars because they don't have enough transportation choices.

"I think now that there are transit choices and people get accustomed to using light rail ... I think they are going to see how easy it is, how efficient and reliable it is," he said. "So I think we're really at ... a nice wonderful turning point for the city."

Metro's new light rail lines are being funded in part by $900 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation. Officials say the nearly 10 year delay in expanding the light rail system was due in part to political wrangling over federal funding.

U.S. Rep. Gene Green, D-Houston, one of the first people to ride the new light rail line on Saturday said the city's transportation needs won't be met only by expanding the light rail system. More toll roads as well as expanding the area's freeway system and investing in commuter rail lines that go into the suburbs will all be needed, he said.

"But we're Texans and Houstonians. We are still going to have our cars. But (light rail) gives us another option," Green said.

Gilbert Urbano, who rode the new line on Saturday with his daughter, said he thinks light rail will be good for Houston as it brings in revenue and helps develop areas of the city. But he added it also has some drawbacks, including contributing to the closing of some smaller, family owned business that didn't survive the construction process because of reduced traffic.

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AP file photo

Master Sgt. Benjamin Simmons, center, stands with trainees on Nov. 6 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland during the invocation at the 37th Training Wing dedication ceremony of a new dormitory. Air Force recruits at Lackland will spend up to a week after graduating from basic training learning a variety of life skills, including how to better protect themselves against sexual assault during a course that is expected to roll out in 2014.

Air Force recruits in Texas to get more training

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Air Force recruits at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland would get more training on life skills ranging from managing money to protecting themselves against sexual assault in a program expected to begin in 2014.

Recruits will spend up to a week after graduating from basic training to take an expanded skills course, the San Antonio Express-News reported. The program will be part of a series of basic training changes after a sex scandal at Lackland led to more than two dozen instructors convicted of wrongdoing involving trainees.

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Cody said the curriculum is being developed in Washington, D.C., and at the Air Force Air Education and Training Command in San Antonio. The "capstone course," tentatively set for rollout next year, aims to offer a more relaxed environment where airmen could discuss issues such as sexual assault, stress and suicides.

"Will anybody ever be fully prepared for everything they might experience in life? I venture to guess the answer to that is no. You have to live some of life, you have to live and experience our Air Force," Cody told the newspaper Thursday.

"But there are certainly some things that we can do, and we will do, that are going to better prepare them ... giving them some understanding about what is about to happen or could happen," he said.

Lackland, since the sex scandal erupted, has installed more security cameras in its dorms, assigned two instructors to each group of recruits so one never is left alone with the trainees, and has begun to assign more senior instructors to basic training. Officials believe the measures, in responses to allegations of wrongdoing by instructors over the past several years, are making a difference. No instructors have been accused of assault this year.

Colleen McGee, with Lackland's 37th Training Wing, said the base will have no problem keeping the graduates another week because it has two new dorms that each are capable of handling 1,200 recruits, and a third facility will open in early 2014.

At least 5 deaths in Texas blamed on swine flu

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Texas health officials have issued new guidelines for treating flu patients after the spreading illness has left at least five people dead.

Test results returned Friday showed the cause of death for three men, ages 45, 50 and 53, was the H1N1 influenza virus, Tricia Bentley, a spokeswoman for the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences told the Houston Chronicle.

Two of the three had significant underlying health conditions including hypertensive cardiovascular disease and obesity, Bentley said.

One man died Nov. 28, another died the next day and the last man died on Dec. 9.

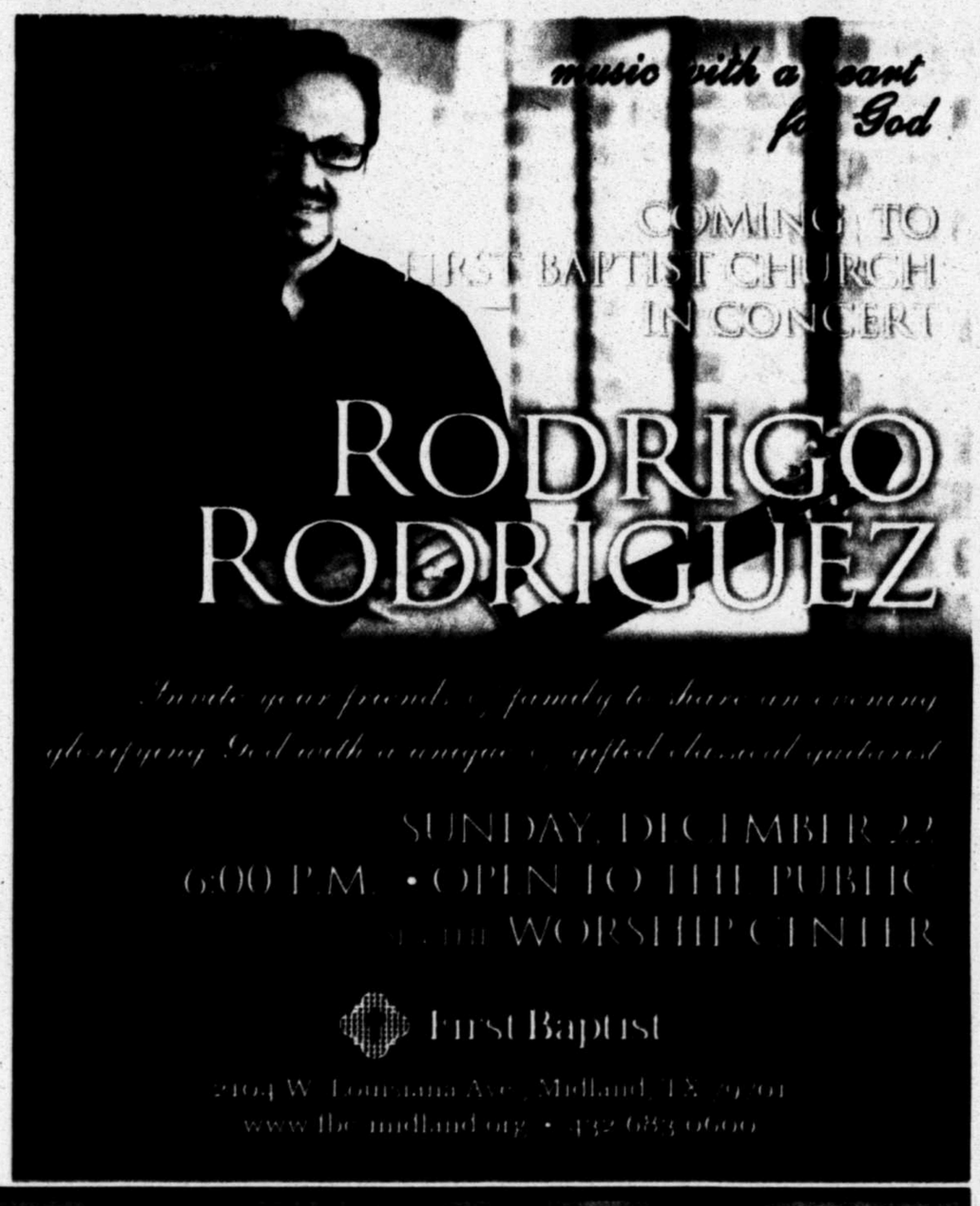
Two people who died this week at Good Shepherd Medical Center in Longview had the H1N1 virus, according to the Northeast Texas Public Health District.

"It is not uncommon to see a few people with deaths from the flu each year," George Roberts, chief executive officer of the health district, told the Longview News-Journal. Roberts urged people to get flu vaccinations and take preventive measures such as washing hands and cleaning surfaces.

In nearby Conroe, officials have reported two cases of swine flu in patients who are being treated, and they are still waiting on test results to determine if four recent deaths can be attributed to the flu strain, also known as the H1N1 virus.

The Texas Department of State Health Services on Friday asked doctors to prescribe antiviral treatments for patients with flu-like symptoms, even if initial tests come back negative. The agency said a negative result does not exclude a diagnosis of flu in a patient with suspected illness.

State health officials said that the level of flu-like illness is currently classified as "high" in Texas, although recent increases in flu activity are not unusual.





STATEBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

AUSTIN

Paid bicycle-sharing system begins

Efforts by one Central Texas city to go green have led to a pay-to-ride bicycle-sharing program.

The B-Cycle project in Austin began Saturday with 11 bicycle stations mainly in the downtown area. More than 100 three-speed bicycles are available for rental.

All of the cycles from the nonprofit Bike Share for Austin are red.

The environmentally friendly project is sponsored by a number of groups, including Downtown Austin Alliance, Capital Metro and Austin Community College.

Annual membership cost $80. Others can use a credit card to access the system, choose a bicycle, pull it out of the dock and ride. The cycle can be checked back at any of the stations. There's no charge for the first 30 minutes.

A promotional $1 daily rate runs through Jan. 1.

LAREDO

Doctor guilty in misbranded drugs case

A South Texas physician who used mislabeled and unapproved cancer drugs faces up to a year in prison and must repay more than $1 million.

Federal prosecutors in Laredo on Friday announced 55-year-old Dr. Eduardo Miranda pleaded guilty to introducing misbranded drugs into the U.S. No sentencing date was immediately set for the Laredo doctor. The treatments were from October 2007 through early 2009.

XCOR

From 1B

"You really have to do your due diligence and make sure all your bases are covered," he said.

Attorneys are currently reviewing the airport's environmental assessment, which is at the Office of Commercial Space Transportation, Esterly said.

He expects the Federal Register to publish the assessment in January, followed by a public meeting. At that point, the FAA has 180 days to approve the application, but Esterly doesn't expect it to take that long.

The space transportation office currently lists 17 active launch licenses and eight active launch site operator licenses; the closest is Spaceport America in New Mexico.

But Midland will be home to the only space launch site at a commercial service airport after Midland International gets the green light — a long and complex process, Esterly said.

The spaceport is also being designed for a specific space vehicle, which is partly why it's taking so long, said Pam Welch, executive director of the Midland Development Corp.

Most spaceports obtain a license and later go through another process to license the vehicle, she said. But Midland is doing it all at once.

"The (other spaceports) didn't have to do this from the start," she said.

City Councilman John Love III said the government shutdown earlier this year caused a delay. Love heads up the city and county Spaceport Development Corp., formed to secure state funds and issue bonds, if needed.

Mayor-elect Jerry Morales, whose excitement and patience mirrored other city officials' during the Tuesday briefing and Thursday reception, is also involved with the corporation.

Midland's investment in XCOR will help diversify the Permian Basin's economy, Morales said.

"It's going to put Midland on the map — other than oil and gas — and that's exciting," he said. "We're in the middle of the desert, West Texas, taking the lead."

XCOR is targeting three markets with its spaceplane: People who want to fly to the edge of space; scientists, educators and researchers who want to study micro-gravity experiments or upper-atmospheric weather phenomena; and entities that want to launch satellites, Nelson said.

But the company must finish its Lynx 1 prototype first, which uses a piston pump instead of a turbine pump to send fuel and oxidizer into the engine, he said.

"We really believe in wings," said Nelson, noting the Lynx 1 takes off instead of lifts off. "Wings to us mean a level of safety that, to us, is unparalleled in traditional rocketry."

Flights tests depend on spaceplane development and hangar renovations, Nelson said. Tests will start in Mojave if the Lynx 1 is done before the renovations, he said, but Midland gets to tests if both are finished.

After testing, XCOR will start working on building a production unit and a number of prototype derivatives, Nelson said.

"This is the new frontier," Mayor Wes Perry said. "This could change our community for decades."

The Tall City already made its mark in aviation history by being the home of the Pliska Aeroplane, World War II bombardier school and Commemorative Air Force headquarters.

XCOR offered a full-scale model of its Lynx spaceplane — which Greg Claxton, director of retail sales at XCOR, said offers a "private, personal experience" — at the 50th annual CAF AirSho in October.

"We make history with every flight we do," Claxton said.

The company will launch Midland's next step in flight history after relocating, and it's currently getting the right Texans on board. XCOR officials agreed to fund a payroll of at least $12 million in five years, which could mean the employment of up to 200 people or more in West Texas, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram article.

XCOR already tapped into West Texas talent by hiring four employees — one human resources manager, two senior fabricators and a designer/draftsman — and is about to make two additional offers.

Midlander Amber Culwell will likely get to know all of XCOR's employees as the new human resources manager. Culwell, who used to work for Midland Memorial Hospital, called the recruiting process "extensive."

Still, Culwell said, "Everyone is so dedicated."

XCOR has also hired six "fairly local" suppliers, including water jet and machine shop companies.

"We're giving quite a bit of our daily external machine shop, high-precision complex work done right in the area," Nelson said.

And despite the housing bubble created by a booming energy economy, four Mojave, Calif., employees have bought land, homes or rented apartments in Midland so far, Nelson said. The chief executive officer's family, who recently bought a home in the area, will also spend their first Christmas here.

"We're definitely trying to get here," Nelson said.

Woman finds tiny way to escape trappings of life

Associated Press

DALLAS — Beth Ann Norrgard spends her days working an office job she loves but plans to give it up to live in a house that's slightly larger than a cubicle.

For the last year, Norrgard, a paralegal for a downtown Dallas law firm, has been living a double life. Most nights she sheds her work clothes for bib overalls and boots and heads to a friend's 5-acre Garland property, where she's building a 112-square-foot house on wheels.

The tiny-house movement has spread nationally, with small communities such as Boneyard Studios in Washington, D.C., and a future village of tiny dwellings for Austin's homeless. Norrgard, 47, plans to leave her job eventually and hit the road with her tiny house, teaching others how to downsize and build their own. She also hopes to create a tiny-house community in Dallas.

In September 2012, Norrgard began a career-transition workshop. She wondered why she had stopped doing the things that made her happy as a kid — following her father around his workshop and building things with her hands.

"Society expects you to do adult things, so I went to college, got married, bought a house and got the 9-to-5 job downtown, and I just kept going to work and buying things and going to work," said Norrgard, who goes by B.A. "And one day it was like, 'This is not working for me at all. This is not what I want to do.'"

Norrgard, who is divorced, felt trapped in her life. The tiny-house idea was a way to break free. Change is scary, she said. But regret is worse.

"Mostly I just want to get down to the nut of what makes me happy, and I know that it's not a 30-year mortgage and an office at a law firm downtown, although I've loved that," she told The Dallas Morning News. "But I need windows that open, I need to be outside, need to be moving, using my hands."

Since that realization, and with a strong web of support, things have moved quickly.

In November 2012, Norrgard sold her two-bedroom Tudor house in Old East Dallas and almost everything in it. She gave herself a year to start her new life and moved into an apartment. Her lease was up on Thursday. She's moved into a friend's house and hopes to be living in her tiny house by Christmas.

The house is still empty. Eventually it will have a small kitchen and bath but no air conditioning. Her bed will be in a loft with a skylight and a custom stained-glass window. There will also be a wine rack, a small space for clothes, and an aerial yoga sling and chandelier that will hang from the gabled ceiling.

She justified letting go of most of her books but said she cried like a baby when getting rid of her tool bench and garden tiller. She kept her bicycle, tools and special gifts from friends and family.

The inner shell of the house is decorated with notes from the high school students who helped her build it in June at a girls' construction camp in California. The windows are low enough for her Weimaraner, Greta, to see out.

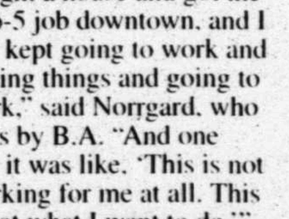
Norrgard is chronicling her progress on her blog, abedovermyhead.com. There's still a long list of projects to complete, some of which she can tackle with her experience volunteering with Habitat for Humanity. Others will be left to experts.

When complete, the house will have cost $25,000, she estimates.

Norrgard bought the plans for her house from Jay Shafer, owner of Four Lights Tiny House Company in California. In the late 1990s and early 2000s, Shafer said, it was hard to find a new house smaller than 2,000 square feet. Things changed with the housing bust of 2008.

"Some folks downsize to escape the mortgage, maintenance and burden that can accompany a bigger place, and some probably do it because they like the feeling of a space that doesn't exceed their needs," said Shafer, who lives in his own small house with his wife and two boys. "In any case, it seems most who live this way do it because, for them, it would make no sense to do anything else."

Sarah Susanka, architect and author of The Not So Big House, said the small-house concept appeals to people who want to spend money "on the things you really care about instead of trying to impress the neighbors."



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Fri., Dec. 27th	Tues., Dec. 24th, Noon

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Customer Service calls will be taken
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Midland Reporter-Telegram

South Texas oil boom turns water into gold for some

By Jennifer Hiller
San Antonio Express-News

SAN ANTONIO — In the heart of South Texas, where the muted grayish green of live oak and the slender leaves of the thorny mesquite dominate a landscape burdened by drought, hydraulic fracturing used more than 14 billion gallons of water last year.

The number far outpaces estimates of what water use in the Eagle Ford Shale might have peaked at some time in the next decade, and represents one more way in which the meteoric development of the oil field has blown past expectations.

A widely cited University of Texas at Austin study, funded by the oil and gas industry, had predicted hydraulic fracturing in the Eagle Ford would use a maximum of around 35,000 acre-feet of water annually.

But the San Antonio Express-News looked at more than 23,000 Texas wells drilled from 2011 to 2013, including more than 6,100 in the Eagle Ford, and found that the oil field already is swallowing more water.

Operators reported using around 43,770 acre-feet last year in 3,522 Eagle Ford wells, the approximate annual usage for 153,000 San Antonio households.

"The oil and gas boom is requiring more water than we have," said Hugh Fitzsimons, a Dimmit County rancher and a director of the Wintergarden Groundwater Conservation District. "Period."

Water always has been needed for oil and gas drilling, but not in this quantity. The relatively new ability to combine horizontal drilling with hydraulic fracturing has made it possible to drill in tight rock such as shale, which stores oil and gas but doesn't let go of them easily.

Hydraulic fracturing pumps a mix of water and chemicals at high pressure to break the shale. Then sand is added to the fluid in increasing amounts to hold open the fissures, letting oil and gas flow up the well to the surface.

Cleaning and recycling water so it can be used in multiple wells is on the rise in the region, but it's not standard practice.

Some portion of those 14 billion Eagle Ford gallons used for fracturing — likely around 21 percent, according to the UT study — would have come from nonfreshwater sources: brackish aquifers that can't be used for drinking, agriculture or livestock, or water that was recycled.

Fracturing each Eagle Ford well took around 3.8 million gallons of water this year, down from 4 million gallons in 2012.

But eight dozen wells used more than 10 million gallons of water — enough in each well to fill 15 Olympic-size swimming pools.

Water, though, is a complex issue.

Irrigation takes the lion's share of the state's water — about 61 percent of the state's water demand, according to the Texas Water Development Board.

By comparison, water use for mining operations, including hydraulic fracturing, is a small slice of the state's water use — around 1 percent, less than is used to keep yards green.

"A study released earlier this year showed that Texans use about 18 times as much fresh water watering their lawns as the highest estimates of the volumes of water used by the oil and gas industry in the state," industry spokesman David Blackmon said.

And there are riches in selling fresh water.

"Water for sale" signs are commonplace in South Texas, along with reports of landowners who have become millionaires not from owning mineral rights, but from selling access to their water wells. A common provision in South Texas oil and gas leases requires that operators purchase water from the rancher.

The Express-News looked at data from the nonprofit Sky-Truth, which compiled reports from FracFocus, the national registry where oil and gas operators report the chemicals and water used in every well hydraulically fractured in the U.S.

The data is not perfect. It's likely incomplete, and there's a lag between the time when a well is fractured and when the data gets reported.

However, it's the best set of publicly available information about water use for hydraulic fracturing, and gives some insight into the shale drilling boom. (Because of changes to the FracFocus website, Sky-Truth has not been able to scrape data since May.) No state agency tallies the well-by-well amount of water used in oil and gas operations.

The UT paper noted the Eagle Ford was a particularly difficult field to predict, and its lead author, Jean-Philippe Nicot, a research scientist at UT's Bureau of Economic Geology, said he now thinks the actual use in the Eagle Ford is around 40,000 acre-feet annually.

He's working on a paper that will be peer-reviewed and looks specifically at South Texas, but said the proximity to Gulf Coast refineries and oil prices staying near $100 a barrel have accelerated the field's development.

It's barely five years from discovery, but the Eagle Ford is expected to cross the 1 million-barrel-per-day mark for crude oil production sometime next year.

Three Eagle Ford counties — Karnes, La Salle and Gonzales — are the top crude oil producers in Texas. And the jobs and wealth added to the region have been unprecedented, even for a region already familiar with the booms-and-bust cycle of oil and gas.

Private property rights, economics on an overwhelming magnitude, regulatory issues, drought and complex geologic variation across a large aquifer are among the many issues tangled up in South Texas water use, along with the competition between agriculture, communities and industry.

Geologist Darrell Brownlow, a resident of Wilson County who has a ranch in La Salle County with both oil and water wells, said there's a trade-off at work.

"There's probably not a more complex situation," Brownlow said. "It's not something that's easily solved. Ten years ago, you could have bought all the land you wanted in South Texas. It wasn't worth anything." Few made enough cattle ranching or through deer hunts to even pay property taxes. Now there's less water, but much of the land can't be bought at any price.

"If somebody were to say, 'Look, you can have 10 oil wells on your property and in trade it will lower your water table by 50 feet,' what would you say?"

Now add a drought and an unprecedented oil-drilling boom.

Fitzsimons said the problems date to the early 1900s, when land promoters sold the dream of an oasis in the desert. Warm temperatures and iron-rich sandy orange soil made Dimmit, La Salle and Zavala counties, which make up the water conservation district, as well as some other surrounding counties, a top spot for growing fruits and vegetables. A land boom was on in an area once known as the despoblado, or no man's land.

NEIMAN MARCUS

From 1B

are a key demographic for luxury retailers because future ultra-affluent customers usually start out as Henrys.

The top 2 percent of the ultra-affluent households, with incomes above $250,000, and the top 1 percent, with annual incomes of more than $380,000, don't have huge buying power as a group because there aren't as many of them, she said. There are about 2.9 million in those two categories, and 1.2 million are in the 1 percent.

The Henrys have big numbers, with about 21.6 million U.S. households.

In late 2010 and early 2011, Danziger predicted that the post-recession U.S. market could no longer support the large number of stores that resulted from the pre-recession boom in luxury.

This year and last year, Saks Fifth Avenue and Barneys New York closed multiple stores throughout the U.S. Last summer, even Neiman Marcus closed a full-line store, its only one in Minneapolis.

Another post-recession year is coming to an end.

With the holiday shopping season dwindling, Americans, on average, now estimate they will spend $740 on Christmas gifts, according to a poll from Gallup last week. That is in between consumers' more positive October estimate of $786 and their less positive November estimate of $704.

The December estimate puts the season's increase in the range of 2.3 percent to 2.7 percent, below the industry's estimate from the National Retail Federation of a 3.9 percent increase.

That means that as a whole, Americans are operating with more of a recessionary mind-set than one inspired by the soaring stock market or recent reports of improved economic growth, Gallup said.

Research and consulting firm Bain & Co. estimates that the U.S. luxury personal goods market, which doesn't include cars, boats and travel, will grow 7 percent this year to $95 billion. Bain also forecast that worldwide holiday sales of personal luxury goods will be up a modest 2 percent, but it didn't break out the U.S.

Unity Marketing polled 1,208 affluent consumers with average household income of $267,100 in early October about expectations for future luxury spending in the next 12 months. Only 20 percent of those surveyed plan to spend more, down from 31 percent a year ago, Danziger said.

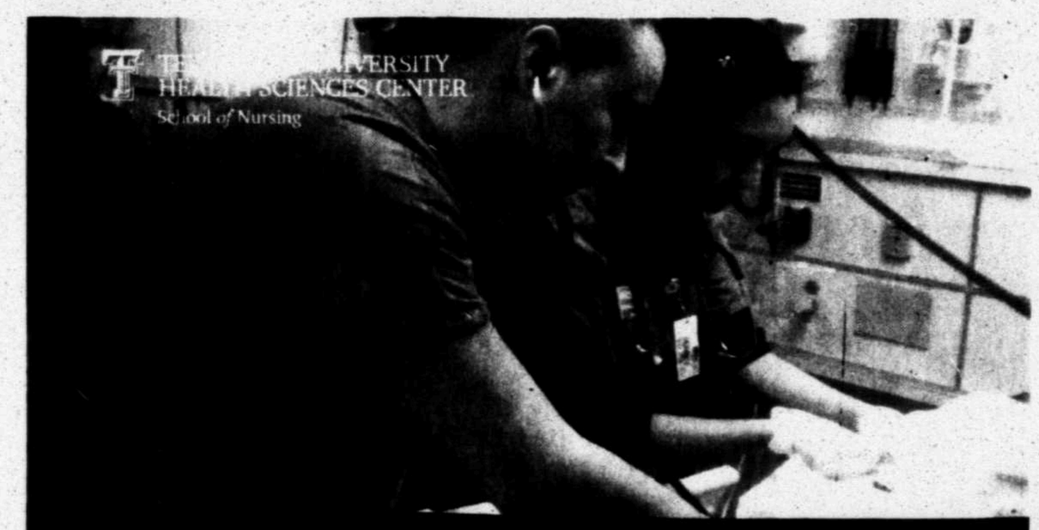
While Neiman Marcus continues to cater to the wealthiest consumers, Gold said there are plenty of ways that people with lower incomes can experience the store, by buying a $25 lipstick or a $200 pair of jeans that really fit.

"It's like driving a Porsche. Once you do, you don't want to drive a Volkswagen," Gold said.

Steven Dennis, founder of SageBerry Consulting and a former Neiman Marcus senior vice president, said there's more complexity to the luxury consumer than retailers like to talk about.

"If you grew up in a middle-class family, you went to someplace like Macy's for your nice stuff, then you're working for a hedge fund or you become a doctor and you can step up," Dennis said. "It's not obvious to you right away why you should spend $4,000 for a nice suit."

Gold says Neiman Marcus will continue to cater to the highest-end customer in the world. But for most who aren't in that group but have the good fortune to come into some money — say, with a new job starting out that pays $75,000 — there are still plenty of ways to experience Neiman Marcus, he said, "if we're doing our job right."



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PNM files plan for replacing lost coal-fired power

Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — The state's largest electric utility has a plan for replacing power that will be lost when it shutters two units at a coal-fired power plant in northwestern New Mexico that's long been a target for environmentalists.

PNM filed its plan with state regulators late Friday. The utility also asked Public Regulation Commission for permission to recover costs associated with the partial closure and installing pollution control equipment on the remaining two units.

PNM and Gov. Susana Martinez's administration negotiated a compromise earlier this year calling for the partial closure and pollution controls. The plan needs to be approved by the commission and the EPA.

Federal regulators, the state, the utility and environmentalists have been fighting for years over the best way to reduce pollution at the plant amid concerns about increasing electric costs to customers.

PNM said the plan will cost less and result in greater environmental benefits than a proposal by federal regulators to install a different type of pollution control equipment. It said electricity generated by one of San Juan's other units, the Palo Verde nuclear plant in Arizona and a new natural gas-fired plant would replace the lost power.

Critics, including environmental group New Energy Economy, argue that PNM's effort to recover its investment in the aging plant will ultimately end up costing customers through higher rates.

"They want ratepayers in New Mexico to pay for their losses. They want New Mexicans to pay for their poor financial and resource planning," said Mariel Nanasi, New Energy Economy's executive director.

The group plans to fight PNM's proposal.

PNM contends its plan will end up costing less than if the utility continues to operate all four coal-fired units. The utility pegs the saving for customers at more than $780 million over the next 20 years compared with what federal regulators had sought.

If state regulators approve, PNM said the plan will clear the way for the utility to reduce its use of coal and minimize the potential impact of future fuel cost fluctuations.

While closing part of San Juan would be a step in the right direction, Nanasi questioned PNM's plan to replace the lost power.

The utility is missing an opportunity to fold more renewable energy into their portfolio, Nanasi said.

It will likely be months before the Public Regulation Commission schedules any hearings to consider PNM's proposal.

Initially, the EPA initially ordered the utility to equip the plant with certain technology to cut pollutants that cause haze and visibility issues in national parks and wilderness areas in the region. The order sparked a round of appeals and lawsuits by the state and PNM over concerns of higher electric bills for customers.

PNM has said the compromise negotiated with the governor, if approved, would result in an increase in customers' bills of about $67 a year starting in 2017.

New Mexico still without working 'tissue digester'

Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — New Mexico officials are considering whether to fix or replace a hulking machine that's supposed to safely grind up and sterilize disease-infected animal carcasses.

The two-story tissue digester has already cost the state nearly $1.4 million, and it still doesn't work three years after it was installed. The state is now paying a consultant $42,000 to determine whether it can be fixed.

"It probably won't be able to be fixed, but given the price to purchase a new one, the thinking is it's the prudent thing to do," General Services Department spokesman Tim Korte told the Albuquerque Journal.

The $800,000 tissue digester has a troubled and expensive past.

The machine was installed in the New Mexico Department of Agriculture's Veterinary Diagnostic Services lab in Albuquerque in 2010. After the Florida-based designer filed for bankruptcy and failed to finish the job, the state hired an Illinois company. Engineers were unable to make it work despite a $565,000 effort.

In its last regular session, the Legislature earmarked $2.8 million to remove the non-working digester and to buy and install a new one. No replacement has been ordered.

The tissue digester is supposed to work like a large pressure cooker, using heat, pressure and chemicals to reduce animal tissue to a sterile slurry that's safe for disposal.

REGIONBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

NEW MEXICO

2 men accused in National Guard fraud case

ALBUQUERQUE — A sergeant with the New Mexico Army National Guard and his father-in-law are being accused of fraudulently obtaining recruiting bonuses.

The Albuquerque Journal reports Sgt. 1st Class Travis Nau, of Albuquerque, is facing one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, three counts of wire fraud and three counts of aggravated identity theft.

His father-in-law, retired Col. Isaac Alvarado, of Albuquerque, is charged with one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, four counts of wire fraud and four counts of aggravated identity theft.

NEW MEXICO

5 face charges in killing of Navajo woman

FARMINGTON — Five people are facing federal charges in connection with the murder of a woman who was stabbed repeatedly and left to die on the Navajo Nation in northwestern New Mexico.

Court records show Patrick Benally and Justin Benally, along with Lasheena Jacquez, Mariah Benally and Scott Thompson, are charged in the kidnapping and murder of a woman identified by federal authorities as Jane Doe 1.

They were all arrested last week.

A criminal complaint alleges that rage and paranoia fueled by methamphetamine appears to be behind the October slaying.

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After 2013 success, Smith looks to future in rodeo and beyond



MRT file photo

Patrick Smith takes off to heel a steer in team roping during a rodeo event in 2011.

By Len Hayward
lhayward@mrt.com

It didn't take Patrick Smith long to realize how hectic 2013 was for him.

He began the year by welcoming the third child to his family, and also starting an oil field service company at about the same time.

Oh, and he also won three rodeos with team roping partner Trevor Brazile, finished fifth in the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association world standings for heelers and was seventh overall in the National Finals Rodeo.

And when Smith looks back on this past year, he is amazed that he was not only able to finish where he did in the world standings but also qualify for the NFR.

"To be able to make the national finals, and to be able to finish in the top five like we did, it was really a blessing for me," said Smith, a native Midlander who now lives in Lipan. "It could've very well went the other way."

Smith said the hardest part about this past year in regards to rodeo was not being able to work on his craft as much as he would like.

His son, Eli, who is now 10 months old, was born in February, and he started the oil field service company at about the same time. Smith said he started the company with the idea of having something for himself once his rodeo career has finished, but said that getting the business started was very hectic.

Smith said the company, which is called Driven Services, has an office in Weatherford but is doing business all over Texas and Oklahoma.

"I've always wanted to do something just for the future," Smith said. "I know that the rodeo train is eventually going to come to an end one day, but not anywhere in the future. Being born and raised in Midland, Texas, the oilfield is in our blood. I just know so many great people and been blessed with so many good relationships it's been a good opportunity for me."

Smith said he's been able to hire people to help take care of the company while he chases rodeos, and he

Please see SMITH/2C

Seeking to end a slump



Tony Gutierrez/AP

Green Bay Packers cornerback Tramon Williams (38) stops Dallas' DeMarco Murray (29) on a running play as the Green Bay's Morgan Burnett (42) watches during the first half of a Dec. 15 game in Arlington.

Dallas tries to end December letdown vs. Washington

By Joseph White
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Shut down a healthy quarterback in December so he can have remedial offseason work? Sounds like a solution for Tony Romo.

The Dallas Cowboys are teetering toward another late-season collapse, thanks in part to Romo's decision to turn a run into a pass. Romo converted an eat-the-clock moment into a tide-turning interception in the waning minutes of last week's one-point loss to the Green Bay Packers.

The game

DALLAS AT WASHINGTON

When: Noon today
Location: FedEx Field, Landover, Md.
TV: Fox
Radio: KNFM (92.3 FM)

Now the Cowboys, who blew a 23-point lead in that game, would be eliminated from playoff contention today if they lose to the Washington Redskins and the NFC East-leading Philadelphia Eagles beat the Chicago Bears.

On the other hand, the Cowboys (7-7) still control their postseason chances. A victory today sets up a winner-take-all regular-season finale against the Eagles next week.

It's a familiar cliffhanger refrain. The Cowboys dropped four of their last five in 2011 and their last two in 2012, finishing 8-8 both times and a just a smidgen out of the playoffs.

Dallas coach Jason Garrett said he won't "directly" address the recent history. He doesn't need to.

"We certainly understand the situa-

Please see COWBOYS/5C

James qualifies for FINA World Cup

From staff reports

AUSTIN — Midlander Anna James qualified for her first FINA World Cup as an individual after finishing second in the women's 10-meter platform at the USA Diving Winter National Championships at the Lee and Joe Jamail Texas Swimming Center.



James

James, a senior at Midland High, scored 984.90 points during the course of the competition as Samantha Bromberg won the event with 1,015.50 points.

James' synchronized diving partner Jessica Parrato was third and Katrina Young was fourth.

James' finish gives her a slot on the United States team that will compete in the 2014 FINA World Cup next summer in Shanghai.

This will be the second time James, who has signed to dive at Purdue, has competed at a worldwide championship diving event as she went in 2011 to the World Championships, which was also in Shanghai. James competed with Mary Beth Dunnichay in 10-meter platform synchronized diving.

James and Parrato will be the top seeded team in today's 10-meter synchronized finals in Austin.

Westbrook leads Thunder by Spurs

Thunder	113
Spurs	100

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Russell Westbrook had 31 points and the Oklahoma City Thunder used a strong second quarter to beat the San Antonio Spurs 113-100 Saturday night for their ninth straight victory.

Reggie Jackson had 21 points, Kevin Durant added 17 and Serge Ibaka had 14 points and 14 rebounds.

Please see SPURS/3C

No. 5 Michigan State beats Longhorns

Associated Press

No. 5 Spartans	92
Longhorns	78

AUSTIN — Adreian Payne came through for Michigan State when teammate Keith Appling was having an off day.

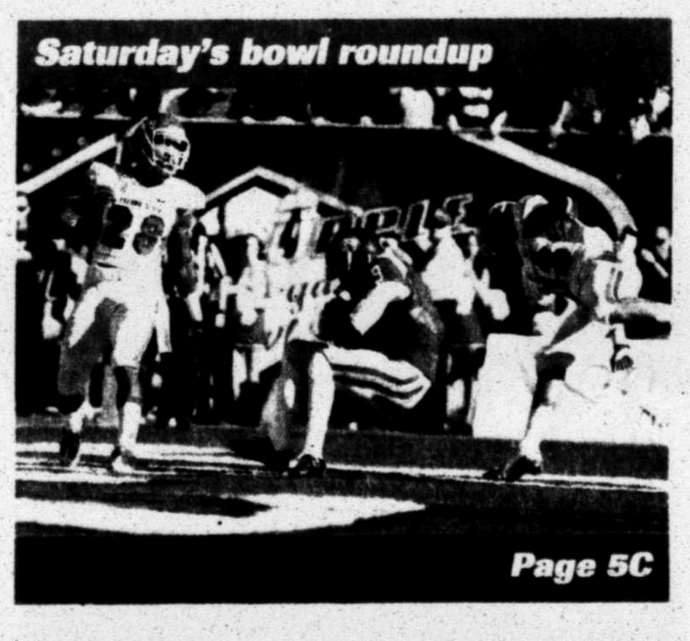
Payne scored a career-high 33 points in Michigan State's 92-78 victory over Texas on Saturday, helping the Spartans (10-1) dominate the final 11 minutes of the game after the Longhorns (10-2) controlled the game early on.

"This is probably Adreian Payne's best game of his life and definitely of his Michigan State career," Spartans head coach Tom Izzo said. "We went to him just about every time and he delivered almost every time, with the way he shot from the field, from the 3-point line, from the free throw line, getting nine boards. He did a heck of a job."

Payne hit 10 of his 13 shots from the floor and knocked down 11 of 12 attempts from the free throw line. He hit a pair of free throws to complete a 14-2 run Michigan State used to put the game away over a 4:22 stretch midway through the second half.

"Payne got off scotch-free in the second half because we didn't make him defend," Texas head coach Rick Barnes said. "Michigan State, they weren't No. 1 a couple weeks ago for no reason. They beat us. We really needed to make Adreian Payne defend. We didn't do that."

Appling, battling a hip pointer, had one of the worst shooting days of his career, connecting on only 2 of 11 attempts from the floor.



"Watch for your chance to win in the Midland Reporter-Telegram, entry forms will appear every Monday through December 23rd"

POWER POINTS

WIN $17,000

DAILY RUNDOWN

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

WHAT'S ON TV

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Southern U. at Baylor, 4 p.m., Fox Sports Southwest

E. Washington at Seton Hall, 4 p.m., Fox Sports1

California at Creighton, 6 p.m., Fox Sports 1

NFL

Denver at Houston, Noon, CBS

Dallas at Washington, Noon, Fox

New England at Baltimore, 3:25 p.m., CBS

Chicago at Philadelphia, 7 p.m., NBC

SOCCER

Premier League, Tottenham at Southampton, 7:25 a.m., NBC Sports Network

Premier League, Everton at Swansea City, 9:55 a.m., NBC Sports Network

WINTER SPORTS

USSA, Copper Mountain Grand Prix, ski slopestyle and snowboard halfpipe (same-day tape), 1 p.m., NBC

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

California vs. UConn, Noon, ESPN

WHAT'S ON RADIO

NFL FOOTBALL

Dallas at Washington, Noon, KNFM (92.3 FM)

Denver at Houston, Noon, KCRS (550 AM)

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

NCAA Football Championship Subdivision Playoff Glance

First Round

Nov. 30

New Hampshire 45, Lafayette 7
Furman 30, South Carolina State 20
Coastal Carolina 48, Bethune-Cookman 24
Fordham 37, Sacred Heart 27
Tennessee State 31, Butler 0
Sam Houston State 51, Southern Utah 20
South Dakota State 26, Northern Arizona 7
Jacksonville State 55, Samford 14

Second Round

Dec. 7

Towson 48, Fordham 28
Coastal Carolina 42, Montana 35
New Hampshire 41, Maine 27
Eastern Illinois 51, Nicholls State 10
North Dakota St. 38, Furman 7
Eastern Washington 41, South Dakota State 17
Jacksonville State 31, McNeese State 10
Southeastern Louisiana 30, Sam Houston State 29

Quarterfinals

Dec. 13

Towson 49, Eastern Illinois 39

Dec. 14

North Dakota State 48, Coastal Carolina 14
Eastern Washington 35, Jacksonville State 24
New Hampshire 20, Southeastern Louisiana 17

Semifinals

Friday

North Dakota State 52, New Hampshire 14

Saturday

Towson 35, Eastern Washington 31

Championship

Jan. 4

At FC Dallas Stadium

Frisco

North Dakota State (14-0) vs. Towson (13-2), 1 p.m.

NCAA Division II Football Playoff Glance

First Round

Nov. 23

Winston-Salem 27, Slippery Rock 20
West Chester 38, American International 7
Carson-Newman 37, Newberry 27
Grand Valley State 40, Saginaw Valley State 7
West Texas A&M 27, Indianapolis 14
North Alabama 30, Tuskegee 27
Minnesota-Duluth 55, Emporia State 13
St. Cloud State 40, Henderson State 35

Second Round

Nov. 30

Shepherd 7, Winston-Salem 0
West Chester 40, Bloomsburg 38
Lenoir-Rhyne 27, Carson-Newman 20
North Alabama 37, North Carolina-Pembroke 13
West Texas A&M 34, Ohio Dominican 27
Northwest Missouri State 45, Minnesota-Duluth 21
St. Cloud State 54, Minnesota State-Mankato 48
Grand Valley State 34, Colorado State-Pueblo 30

Quarterfinals

Dec. 7

West Chester 28, Shepherd 7
Lenoir-Rhyne 42, North Alabama 39
Grand Valley State 35, West Texas A&M 28
Northwest Missouri State 59, St. Cloud State 21

Semifinals

Dec. 14

Lenoir-Rhyne 42, West Chester 14
Northwest Missouri State 27, Grand Valley State 13

Championship

Saturday

At Braly Municipal Stadium

Florence, Ala.

Northwest Missouri State 43, Lenoir-Rhyne 28

NAIA Football Playoff Glance

First Round

Nov. 23

St. Francis (Ind.) 20, Faulkner 13
Cumberlands (Ky.) 56, St. Ambrose 28
Missouri Valley 38, Northwestern (Iowa) 13
Morningside 40, Rocky Mountain 21
Grand View 38, Ottawa (Kan.) 13
Tabor 14, Benedictine (Kan.) 13
Baker 10, Sterling 7
Carroll (Mont.) 38, Georgetown (Ky.) 28

Quarterfinals

Nov. 30

Cumberlands (Ky.) 28, Saint Francis (Ind.) 14
Morningside 36, Baker 28
Carroll (Mont.) 27, Missouri Valley 3
Grand View 44, Tabor 24

Semifinals

Dec. 7

Cumberlands (Ky.) 34, Carroll (Mont.) 27, OT
Grand View 35, Morningside 0

Championship

Saturday

At Barron Stadium

Rome, Ga.

Grand View 35, Cumberlands (Ky.) 23

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

National League

WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Agreed to terms with C Chris Snyder on a minor league contract.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

CLEVELAND BROWNS — Placed WR Davone Bess on the reserve-non-football illness list.

GREEN BAY PACKERS — Placed TE Brandon Bostick and DT Johnny Jolly on injured reserve.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Placed TE John Carlson on injured reserve. Signed RB Joe Banyard and DE Justin Trattou from the practice squad. Waived CB Robert Steeples.

HOCKEY

ECHL

ECHL — Fined Elmira G Maxime Clermont, Toledo D Richard Nedomlel and Alaska LW Tommy Mele undisclosed amounts as supplementary discipline for their actions in games on Dec. 20.

Central Hockey League

ARIZONA SUNDOGS — Waived D Andrew Eastman. Suspended F Ian Schultz for one game.

QUAD CITY MALLARDS — Waived G Michael Meadows.

WICHITA THUNDER — Suspended F Erick Lizon for three games.

COLLEGE

DUKE — Suspended sophomore RB Jela Duncan from school for an undisclosed violation of its academic policy.

FLORIDA — Announced junior F-C Damontre Harris has left the basketball program and was granted permission to transfer.

GLANTZ-CULVER LINE

NFL

FAVORITE	OPEN	Today TODAY	O/U	UNDERDOG
Miami	2 1/2	2 1/2	(43)	at Buffalo
at Carolina	3	3	(46 1/2)	New Orleans
Dallas	2 1/2	3	(53 1/2)	at Washington
at St. Louis	3 1/2	4	(43)	Tampa Bay
at Philadelphia	4	3	(55 1/2)	Chicago
at N.Y. Jets	1	1 1/2	(40 1/2)	Cleveland
at Kansas City	6 1/2	7	(45)	Indianapolis
at Cincinnati	7	8	(48)	Minnesota
Denver	9 1/2	10	(53)	at Houston
Tennessee	5 1/2	5	(44)	at Jacksonville
at Seattle	9 1/2	10 1/2	(43 1/2)	Arizona
at Detroit	9 1/2	9 1/2	(49)	N.Y. Giants
at San Diego	7 1/2	10	(50 1/2)	Oakland
at Green Bay	2 1/2	2 1/2	(44 1/2)	Pittsburgh
at Baltimore	2	2 1/2	(45)	New England
		Tomorrow		
at San Francisco	10 1/2	13	(45 1/2)	Atlanta

COLLEGE

Tomorrow

Beef 'O' Brady's Bowl

At St. Petersburg, Fla.

FAVORITE	OPEN	TODAY	O/U	UNDERDOG
East Carolina	12 1/2	14	(62 1/2)	Ohio

Tuesday

Hawaii Bowl

At Honolulu

Oregon St.	1 1/2	3	(64)	Boise St.

Thursday

Little Caesars Pizza Bowl

At Detroit

Bowling Green	5 1/2	4 1/2	(50)	Pittsburgh

Poinsettia Bowl

At San Diego

N. Illinois	2	1 1/2	(58)	Utah St.

Friday

Military Bowl

At Annapolis, Md.

Marshall	1	2 1/2	(62 1/2)	Maryland

Texas Bowl

At Houston

Minnesota	4 1/2	4	(47 1/2)	Syracuse

Fight Hunger Bowl

At San Francisco

Washington	3	3	(60)	BYU

Saturday

Pinstripe Bowl

At New York

Notre Dame	15 1/2	14 1/2	(52 1/2)	Rutgers

Belk Bowl

At Charlotte, N.C.

North Carolina	3	2 1/2	(57 1/2)	Cincinnati

Russell Athletic Bowl

At Orlando, Fla.

Louisville	3	3 1/2	(56 1/2)	Miami

Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl

At Tempe, Ariz.

Kansas St.	3	3 1/2	(55)	Michigan

Dec. 30

Armed Forces Bowl

At Fort Worth

Navy	6 1/2	6 1/2	(55 1/2)	Middle Tenn.

Music City Bowl

At Nashville, Tenn.

Mississippi	2 1/2	3	(57 1/2)	Georgia Tech

Alamo Bowl

At San Antonio

Oregon	10 1/2	13 1/2	(67 1/2)	Texas

Holiday Bowl

At San Diego

Arizona St.	11 1/2	14	(71)	Texas Tech

Dec. 31

AdvoCare V100 Bowl

At Shreveport, La.

Arizona	7	7 1/2	(57 1/2)	Boston College

Sun Bowl

At El Paso

UCLA	7 1/2	7	(47 1/2)	Virginia Tech

Liberty Bowl

At Memphis, Tenn.

Mississippi St.	7	7	(50 1/2)	Rice

Chick-fil-A Bowl

At Atlanta

Texas A&M	11 1/2	12 1/2	(74 1/2)	Duke

Jan. 1

Gator Bowl

At Jacksonville, Fla.

Georgia	9	9	(60 1/2)	Nebraska

Heart of Dallas Bowl

At Orlando, Fla.

North Texas	6 1/2	6 1/2	(55 1/2)	UNLV

Capital One Bowl

At Orlando, Fla.

Wisconsin	2	1 1/2	(51)	South Carolina

Outback Bowl

At Tampa, Fla.

LSU	7	7 1/2	(49)	Iowa

Rose Bowl

At Pasadena, Calif.

Stanford	1 1/2	5 1/2	(42 1/2)	Michigan St.

Fiesta Bowl

At Glendale, Ariz.

Baylor	17 1/2	16 1/2	(68 1/2)	UCF

Jan. 2

Sugar Bowl

At New Orleans

Alabama	14 1/2	15	(51 1/2)	Oklahoma

Jan. 3

Cotton Bowl

At Arlington

Missouri	Pk	1	(60 1/2)	Oklahoma St.

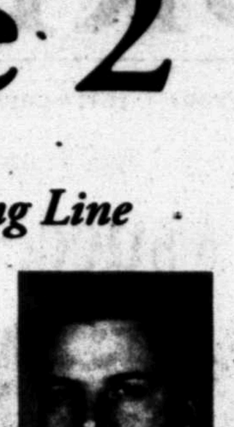
Orange Bowl

At Miami

Ohio St.	5	2 1/2	(68 1/2)	Clemson

Page 2

Sunday Morning Line



LEN HAYWARD

lhayward@mrt.com

This and that as the single site for state football championships seems to be working out, but I have one question: Who gets the television money?:

■ There's nothing that makes me smile more than the wrangling that Dallas Cowboys fans go through every year in regards to their team.

Yes we live in the heart of Cowboys country, but it's different here than in any other part of the country. Hey, I lived around Cleveland Browns fans for half my life, and they even aren't quite like this when their team struggles.

But the Monday morning quarterbacking and week-long talk about a team that is consistently inconsistent just makes me chuckle each day.

Look, I'll be the first to admit I didn't grow up a Cowboys fan, but I do realize how popular they are and when they are good, the National Football League is better off. Just look at the television ratings when the Cowboys play to give you an idea of how popular they are even when they don't make playoff runs.

The question Cowboys fans should be asking themselves is: Has Jerry Jones turned into Al Davis? Because if some things don't change, this inconsistency could last for years to come. And that's not what the Cowboys have been about over the last 60 years.

■ The Sandhills Stock Show and Rodeo is set to begin its run at the Ector County Coliseum on Jan. 3, and it's interesting to see how well that event is doing here in the Permian Basin.

The rodeo is one of this area's most popular sporting events outside of high school football and is even experiencing some growth over the last few years in attendance.

The annual rodeo in Odessa has a strong tradition, and after some conversations with some of the officials last week it seems that the rodeo world is going through a transition.

There are rumors floating around that the National Finals Rodeo could be leaving Las Vegas soon, and that is on the heels of the rodeo in Houston not being a PRCA sanctioned rodeo anymore and Jerry Jones announcing his one-day $2 million rodeo at his palace in Arlington.

It seems that change may be coming to rodeo, but the traditional rodeos are as strong as ever. No matter how much things may change, fans like tradition and going to traditional events. It's very similar in auto racing.

It's cool that Odessa has an event that is among the sport's longest running and traditional events.

■ Greenwood ISD Superintendent Ariel Elliott sent me an email this week to let me know that Stanton Middle School teacher Gail (Allison) Bullard was inducted into the Angelo State Hall of Honor this weekend.

Bullard, who went to San Angelo Central, had a stellar volleyball career at Angelo State from 1989-1992 where she set the school record for kills (1,934) and career blocks (475). Plus, Bullard, who lives in Greenwood, helped the Rambelles to three Lone Star Conference titles.

Congrats Gail.

■ And finally, have a Merry Christmas and remember the reason for the season.

SMITH

From 1C

said he will put a greater effort into honing his skills as a roper.

Smith said the number of rodeos he will compete in will be similar to what it was in 2013, but he said what will be different is the preparation and beyond.

"I've been doing this so long now that when you've been doing this for 15 years, maybe even longer than that, you get it down," Smith said. "I know that I can compete and do it. But to be the best and be among the best, no matter how good you are today you've got to keep that work ethic and staying on top of it with the best horses and the best partners. It's being able to stay sharp."

The way things went, though, for Smith was pretty good in 2013, as he won three rodeos with Brazile, including the West of the Pecos Rodeo in Pecos, and won one round at the NFR outright and tied for another. He finished seventh in the average in Las Vegas.

Now he's looking forward to a 2014 season that he hopes will bring him more time to concentrate on his roping with a new partner.

Smith said that he and Brazile will not be roping together next year, adding that the split was amicable and that the two are even business partners in the oil field service company Smith owns.

But Smith said after seven years it was time for a change, and in a few weeks when the rodeo season begins Smith will be teaming with Kaleb Driggers. Driggers, a native of Georgia who now lives near Stephenville, comes with an impressive résumé after finishing second in the world as a header in 2013.

"I've seen him rope the last three years, he's a future world champion and he's just so talented," Smith said. "I've watched him rope and I've got respect for his ability and you can never tell until you try it. I think our styles would fit and the opportunity came up for us to rope together. We'll take that next step and see what we can do."

Smith said his experience helped during some hectic times last year that kept him from working like he wanted to on roping, but he said this year he will work a little more with the goal of winning another world title.

"You have to understand that things have to go your way, and you have to rope good," Smith said. "Getting a world title takes a lot of work and a lot of things going your way. To be among the top you've got to put yourself in position for a world title and that's what I wanted to do every year. If I get everything lined up and accomplish it that makes it that much sweeter."

Follow Len on Twitter: @Len_Hayward_MRT

MCA girls top Forsan

From staff reports

FORSAN — Kayla Beattie and Delanie Griffin each scored 17 points and Alyssa Beattie added 16 as Midland Classical rolled to a 57-42 non-district victory against Forsan on Saturday.

The Lady Knights (9-2) were down 26-23 at halftime but then outscored the Lady Buffaloes 34-16 over the final two quarters to clinch the victory.

Reagan Haggard led Forsan with 10 points.

Midland Classical will take on Lee at 3 p.m. Thursday at Chaparal Center on the first day of the Byron Johnston Holiday Classic.

MIDLAND CLASSICAL 57, FORSAN 42

Midland Classical (9-2) — Alyssa Beattie 16, Kristen Johnson 2, Summer Sparks 3, Kayla Beattie 17, Delanie Griffin 17, Ellen Hasel 2

Forsan — B. Hergert 4, Willard 6, Reagan Haggard 10, Rachel Haggard 3, M. McDaniel 9, M. Ortiz 7

MCA	16	7	19	15 —57
Forsan	9	17	9	7 —42

Free throws — MCA 7-15, Forsan 6-12. 3-point goals — MCA 6 (A. Beattie 3, K. Beattie 2, Griffin), Forsan 6 (Willard 2, Reagan Haggard, Rachel Haggard, McDaniel 2). Total fouls — MCA 12, Forsan 13. Fouled out — none.

Next: Midland Classical vs. Lee, 3 p.m. Thursday, Byron Johnston Holiday Classic

HOOPS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

BYRON JOHNSTON HOLIDAY CLASSIC

Thursday – Saturday Dec. 26-28

Locations: Chap Center and Midland High

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Texas Roadhouse

★ Kids 8 and Under are FREE ★

FIRST GAMES – THURSDAY, DEC 26TH

Thursday December 26 - GIRLS Schedule
3:00 PM Chap Center — Midland Lee vs Midland Classical
3:00 PM Midland High — Permian vs Bushland
4:30 PM Midland High — Baytown Lee vs Plainview
6:00 PM Chap Center — EP Eastlake vs Midland High

Thursday December 26 - BOYS Schedule
4:30 PM Chap Center — EP Americas vs Midland Lee
6:00 PM Midland High — Bushland vs Alief Hastings
7:30 PM Midland High — EP Eastlake vs Crowley
7:30 PM Chap Center — Plainview vs Midland High

ADMISSION COST:

3-Day Tournament Pass:
Adults - $20.00
Students - $10.00
(includes free program)

Daily Pass:
Adults - $8.00
Students - $4.00
(Programs - $2.00)

NBAROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

ROCKETS 114 PISTONS 97

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — Dwight Howard had 35 points and 19 rebounds, leading the short-handed Houston Rockets to a 114-97 victory over the Detroit Pistons on Saturday night.

In one of his best games since joining the Rockets in the offseason, Howard dominated Andre Drummond, Detroit's promising 20-year-old big man, and helped Houston control the game despite the absence of star guard James Harden, who was out with a sprained right ankle.

SUNS 123 MAVERICKS 108

PHOENIX — Eric Bledsoe scored 25 points and Phoenix matched its season high with 15 3-pointers — in 30 tries — to beat Dallas in the Suns' highest-scoring game of the season.

Gerald Green made 4 of 8 3-pointers en route to 22 points and Channing Frye made 4 of 6 3s and scored 18 in the Suns' seventh win in their last eight games. Bledsoe made 3 of 4 from beyond the arc. P.J. Tucker was 2 of 3 from long-range and scored 16.

GRIZZLIES 95 KNICKS 87

NEW YORK — Zach Randolph had 25 points and 15 rebounds to help Memphis snap a five-game losing streak with a victory over New York.

Tony Allen added 19 points and eight rebounds. Jerryd Bayless scored 11 points, including two free throws to end a New York flurry that had trimmed a 19-point deficit to four in the final half-minute.

BUCKS 116 76ERS 95

MILWAUKEE — Khris Middleton scored 27 points, Caron Butler added 22 and hot-shooting Milwaukee recovered from consecutive overtime losses to pick up just their sixth win of the season with a 116-106 victory over the Philadelphia 76ers on Saturday night.

Brandon Knight contributed 21 points and six assists for the Bucks (6-21). Butler, who missed the previous 12 games with a swollen left knee, also had 11 rebounds.

WIZARDS 106 CELTICS 99

BOSTON — Trevor Ariza scored 27 points and hit a 3-pointer that capped a fourth-quarter run in Washington's comeback victory over Boston.

With Washington trailing 92-84, Ariza started a 14-1 run with a jumper from the right corner. John Wall had five of his 20 points in the surge.

KINGS 105 MAGIC 100

ORLANDO, Fla. — Rudy Gay and Isaiah Thomas each scored 23 points, Marcus Thornton added 15, and Sacramento held off Orlando for the victory.

DeMarcus Cousins added 14 points and 11 rebounds.

JAZZ 88 BOBCATS 85

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Trey Burke scored 10 of his 20 points in the fourth quarter and Utah snapped Charlotte's three-game winning streak.

Burke hit a 3-pointer with 1:38 left to put the Jazz up by three and added a pair of free throws with 10 seconds remaining.

BULLS 100 CAVALIERS 84

CHICAGO — Carlos Boozer scored 19 points and short-handed Chicago Bulls snapped a four-game losing streak with a win over Cleveland.

D.J. Augustin scored 18, Tony Snell came on strong in the second half to finish with 17 points, and Chicago prevailed after matching its longest slide in four years under coach Tom Thibodeau.

SPURS

From 1C

for Oklahoma City.

Tony Parker scored 23 points, and Marco Belinelli and Tim Duncan had 17 points apiece for San Antonio, which took only its second home loss.

The Spurs had won six of seven entering Saturday's game, but couldn't stop the Thunder's backcourt.

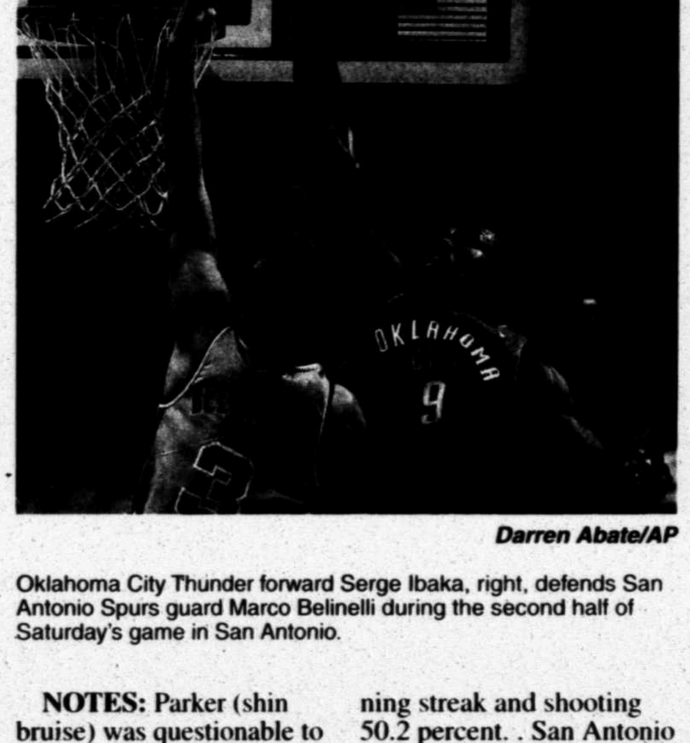
Westbrook and Jackson were a combined 21 for 36 and handed out 12 assists.

Oklahoma City never trailed after Jackson's reverse layup put them up 21-19 with a minute remaining in the first quarter.

San Antonio was outscored 40-29 in a sloppy second quarter. The Spurs committed five turnovers while taking only 17 shots in the period, which was one less than the Thunder made.

The Spurs pulled within a pair of baskets on several occasions in the second half, but the Thunder responded with a small run each time.

Jackson was usually at the forefront of the runs, going 8 for 14.



Darren Abate/AP

Oklahoma City Thunder forward Serge Ibaka, right, defends San Antonio Spurs guard Marco Belinelli during the second half of Saturday's game in San Antonio.

NOTES: Parker (shin bruise) was questionable to play, but started and played 33 minutes. He had eight assists while shooting 6 for 14. . Entering Saturday's game, the Thunder were averaging 109.9 points during their eight-game winning streak and shooting 50.2 percent. . San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich was whistled for a technical foul after complaining to official Monty McCutchen about a non-call on Tiago Splitter's dunk attempt against Ibaka.

NBA STANDINGS AND BOXES

STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	12	16	.429	—
Toronto	10	14	.417	—
Brooklyn	9	17	.346	2
New York	8	18	.308	3
Philadelphia	4	20	.286	4

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	20	6	.769	—
Atlanta	15	12	.556	5 1/2
Washington	12	13	.480	7 1/2
Charlotte	13	16	.464	9
Orlando	8	19	.296	12 1/2

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	21	5	.808	—
Detroit	13	16	.448	9 1/2
Chicago	10	16	.385	11
Cleveland	9	16	.360	11
Milwaukee	6	21	.222	15 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	21	6	.778	—
Houston	18	10	.643	3 1/2
Dallas	15	12	.556	6
New Orleans	11	13	.458	8 1/2
Memphis	11	15	.423	9 1/2

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	22	4	.846	—
Portland	22	5	.815	1/2
Denver	14	11	.560	7 1/2
Minnesota	13	14	.481	9 1/2
Utah	8	22	.267	16

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Clippers	18	9	.667	—
Phoenix	16	10	.615	1 1/2
Golden State	14	13	.519	4
L.A. Lakers	13	13	.500	4 1/2
Sacramento	8	18	.308	9 1/2

Saturday's Scores

Memphis 95, New York 87
Washington 106, Boston 99
Sacramento 105, Orlando 100
Houston 114, Detroit 97
Utah 88, Charlotte 85
Chicago 100, Cleveland 84
Milwaukee 116, Philadelphia 106
Oklahoma City 113, San Antonio 100
Phoenix 123, Dallas 108
New Orleans at Portland, late
L.A. Lakers at Golden State, late
Denver at L.A. Clippers, late

Today's Games

Boston at Indiana, 5 p.m.
Toronto at Oklahoma City, 6 p.m.
Minnesota at L.A. Clippers, 8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY'S BOXES

THUNDER 113, SPURS 100

OKLAHOMA CITY (113): Durant 6-14 3-3 17, Ibaka 6-14 0-0 14, Perkins 0-2 2-2 2, Westbrook 13-22 3-3 31, Sefolosha 2-4 2-2 6, Collison 3-4 2-2 8, Lamb 2-8 0-0 6, Jackson 8-14 3-4 21, Adams 1-3 2-4 4, Fisher 2-3 0-0 5. Totals 43-86 15-18 113.

SAN ANTONIO (100): Belinelli 6-13 0-0 17, Duncan 7-14 3-4 17, Splitter 3-9 0-2 6, Parker 6-14 11-13 23, Green 2-6 2-2 7, Ginobili 3-9 3-3 11, Diaw 6-9 2-2 14, Mills 1-6 0-0 2, Baynes 0-0 0-0 0, Bonner 1-1 0-0 3, Joseph 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 35-82 21-26 100.

Oklahoma City	21	40	24	28	— 113
San Antonio	21	29	26	24	— 100

3-Point Goals—Oklahoma City 12-27 (Jackson 2-4, Ibaka 2-4, Westbrook 2-5, Lamb 2-5, Durant 2-6, Fisher 1-1, Sefolosha 1-2), San Antonio 9-19 (Belinelli 5-8, Ginobili 2-3, Bonner 1-1, Green 1-4, Mills 0-3). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Oklahoma City 55 (Ibaka 14), San Antonio 45 (Splitter 11). Assists—Oklahoma City 22 (Westbrook 6), San Antonio 25 (Parker 8). Total Fouls—Oklahoma City 23, San Antonio 18. Technicals—Oklahoma City defensive three second, San Antonio Coach Popovich. A—18,581 (18,797).

SUNS 123, MAVERICKS 108 •

DALLAS (108): Marion 5-11 0-0 10, Nowitzki 7-17 6-6 21, Blair 3-4 0-0 6, Calderon 4-5 0-0 9, Ellis 8-17 3-5 19, Wright 8-10 3-4 19, Carter 5-11 3-4 14, Crowder 3-6 2-3 8. Datenbert 0-3 0-0 0, Ellington 0-2 0-0 0, Larkin 0-2 0-0 0, James 1-1 0-1 2, Mekel 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 44-91 17-23 108.

PHOENIX (123): Tucker 6-14 2-3 16, Frye 6-14 2-2 18, Plumlee 3-4 0-0 6, Dragic 5-13 3-3 13, Bledsoe 9-12 4-4 25, Green 6-10 6-6 22. Mark Morris 4-8 1-2 9, Marc Morris 3-7 0-0 8. Goodwin 2-3 2-2 6, Smith 0-0 0-0 0, Christmas 0-0 0-0 0, Kravtsov 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 44-86 20-22 123.

Dallas	35	33	24	26	— 108
Phoenix	38	25	28	32	— 123

3-Point Goals—Dallas 3-17 (Calderon 1-2, Carter 1-5, Nowitzki 1-6, Crowder 0-1, Marion 0-1, Ellis 0-2), Phoenix 15-30 (Frye 4-6, Green 4-8, Bledsoe 3-4, Tucker 2-3, Marc Morris 2-3, Mark Morris 0-2, Dragic 0-4). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Dallas 45 (Wright, Nowitzki, Crowder 6), Phoenix 52 (Frye, Plumlee 8). Assists—Dallas 25 (Ellis 9), Phoenix 19 (Bledsoe 6). Total Fouls—Dallas 15, Phoenix 25. Technicals—Dallas defensive three second. A—15,241 (18,422).

ROCKETS 114, PISTONS 97

HOUSTON (114): Parsons 9-16 1-1 20, Jones 3-5 0-0 8, Howard 13-18 9-14 35, Beverley 3-6 4-4 10, Garca 6-11 0-1 16, G.Smith 1-3 0-0 2, Brooks 4-10 1-1 10, Dorsey 0-2 0-2 0, Brewer 0-2 0-0 0, Motiejunas 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 44-79 17-23 114.

DETROIT (97): J.Smith 8-20 3-7 19, Monroe 5-10 0-0 10, Drummond 4-5 1-2 9, Jennings 2-11 4-5 8, Caldwell-Pope 1-3 0-0 2, Singler 5-9 2-2 12, Stuckey 4-9 1-2 9, Bynum 5-12 1-1 11, Villanueva 2-5 2-3 6. Hamilton 0-0 0-0 0, Butler 4-5 0-0 9, Mitchell 0-0 2-4 2, Jerebko 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 40-89 16-26 97.

Houston	33	28	25	28	— 114
Detroit	24	29	19	26	— 97

3-Point Goals—Houston 9-23 (Garca 4-8, Jones 2-2, Casspi 1-2, Brooks 1-4, Parsons 1-4, Beverley 0-1, Brewer 0-2), Detroit 1-12 (Datome 1-1, Villanueva 0-1, Bynum 0-1, Caldwell-Pope 0-1, J.Smith 0-2, Singler 0-2, Jennings 0-4). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Houston 54 (Howard 19), Detroit 46 (Monroe 11). Assists—Houston 33 (Casspi, Brooks 7), Detroit 22 (Jennings 10). Total Fouls—Houston 19, Detroit 17. Technicals—Bynum, Jennings 2, Detroit defensive three second. Ejected—Jennings. A—14,606 (22,076).

WIZARDS 106, CELTICS 99

WASHINGTON (106): Ariza 9-18 4-4 27, Booker 0-2 0-0 0, Gortat 6-9 1-2 13, Wall 8-18 3-4 20, Beal 3-12 2-2 9, Webster 2-4 0-2 5, Nene 4-6 5-6 13, Seraphin 6-9 1-2 13, Porter Jr. 2-4 0-0 4, Temple 1-5 0-0 2. Totals 41-87 16-22 106.

BOSTON (99): Green 4-13 5-7 13, Bass 4-9 3-4 11, Sullinger 9-18 3-4 22, Crawford 5-11 0-0 11, Bradley 12-18 0-2 26, Humphries 4-6 0-1 8, Wallace 3-5 0-0 6, Lee 0-3 0-0 0, Olynyk 0-3 0-0 0, Favours 1-1 0-0 2, Pressey 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 42-87 11-18 99.

Washington	14	30	30	32	— 106
Boston	30	21	25	23	— 99

3-Point Goals—Washington 5-21 (Ariza 5-8, Webster 1-2, Beal 1-4, Wall 1-5, Porter Jr. 0-1, Temple 0-1), Boston 4-20 (Bradley 2-3, Sullinger 1-4, Crawford 1-5, Wallace 0-1, Lee 0-1, Green 0-6). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Washington 58 (Gortat 11), Boston 46 (Bass, Sullinger 11). Assists—Washington 24 (Wall 9), Boston 25 (Crawford 8). Total Fouls—Washington 19, Boston 14. A—18,169 (18,624).

GRIZZLIES 95, KNICKS 87

MEMPHIS (95): Johnson 2-2 0-0 5, Randolph 9-18 7-10 25, Davis 5-6 0-0 10, Conley 4-18 1-1 9, Allen 3-9 3-3 19, Leuer 1-4 0-0 2, Franklin 1-5 0-0 2, Miller 1-3 0-0 2, Koufos 5-8 0-0 10, Bayless 3-5 5-5 11. Totals 39-82 16-19 95.

NEW YORK (87): Anthony 11-22 6-7 30, Bargnani 1-5 1-2 3, Chandler 2-7 4-8 8, Udrih 2-6 0-0 4, Shumpert 1-7 0-0 2, J.Smith 6-12 2-2 16, Hardaway Jr. 7-13 0-0 16, Stoudemire 2-4 2-4 6, Murry 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 33-79 15-23 87.

Memphis	25	25	22	23	— 95
New York	22	18	21	26	— 87

3-Point Goals—Memphis 1-9 (Johnson 1-1, Miller 0-1, Allen 0-1, Franklin 0-1, Leuer 0-1, Conley 0-4), New York 6-22 (J.Smith 2-3, Anthony 2-6, Hardaway Jr. 2-7, Bargnani 0-1, Udrih 0-2, Shumpert 0-3). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Memphis 64 (Randolph 15), New York 36 (Anthony 7). Assists—Memphis 17 (Conley 8), New York 21 (J.Smith 7). Total Fouls—Memphis 16, New York 15. Technicals—Memphis defensive three second. A—19,812 (19,763).

JAZZ 88, BOBCATS 85

UTAH (88): R.Jefferson 5-10 1-2 13, Williams 2-8 0-0 5, Favors 5-11 4-4 14, Burke 7-16 2-2 20, Hayward 3-11 4-4 12, Burks 4-8 3-4 11, Garrett 0-1 0-0 0, Kanter 4-8 0-0 8, Rush 0-2 0-0 0, Lucas III 1-3 0-0 3, Evans 1-5 0-0 2. Totals 32-83 14-18 88.

CHARLOTTE (85): Tolliver 1-5 0-0 2, McRoberts 1-5 0-0 2, A.Jefferson 3-9 1-3 19, Walker 9-16 1-2 20, Henderson 4-14 4-4 12, Zeller 4-5 0-0 8, Douglas-Roberts 0-1 0-0 0, Biyombo 2-3 1-2 5, Sessions 4-10 4-5 13, Gordon 2-5 0-0 4. Totals 36-83 11-16 85.

Utah	17	25	28	18	— 88
Charlotte	21	25	20	19	— 85

3-Point Goals—Utah 10-21 (Burke 4-8, R.Jefferson 2-4, Hayward 2-4, Lucas III 1-2, Williams 1-3), Charlotte 2-12 (Sessions 1-2, Walker 1-2, A.Jefferson 0-1, Henderson 0-1, Douglas-Roberts 0-1, McRoberts 0-1, Gordon 0-1, Tolliver 0-3). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Utah 49 (Hayward 10), Charlotte 58 (A.Jefferson 11). Assists—Utah 19 (Burke 4), Charlotte 16 (Walker 4). Total Fouls—Utah 18, Charlotte 17. A—18,078 (19,077).

KINGS 105, MAGIC 100

SACRAMENTO (105): Gay 8-20 4-4 23, Thompson 5-7 1-2 11, Cousins 5-14 4-9 14, Thomas 8-15 4-4 23, Mbah a Moute 3-3 1-2 9, Outlaw 0-1 0-0 0, Williams 0-1 1-2 1, Acy 1-1 0-0 2, Fredette 2-4 0-0 5, Gray 1-3 0-0 2, Thornton 6-10 0-0 15. Totals 39-79 15-23 105.

ORLANDO (100): Harris 7-11 6-8 21, Davis 5-8 0-0 10, Vucevic 2-6 0-0 4, Nelson 5-9 1-2 13, Affalo 9-17 5-7 26, Nicholson 3-9 0-1 7, Oladipo 5-13 1-3 12, Harkless 2-3 1-1 5, O'Quinn 0-4 0-0 0, Lamb 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 39-82 14-23 100.

Sacramento	25	31	19	30	— 105
Orlando	31	27	19	23	— 100

3-Point Goals—Sacramento 12-23 (Thornton 3-6, Gay 3-6, Thomas 3-7, McLemore 2-2, Fredette 1-1, Gray 0-1), Orlando 9-20 (Affalo 3-5, Nelson 2-4, Oladipo 1-2, Harris 1-4, Nicholson 1-4, Lamb 0-1). Fouled Out—Vucevic. Rebounds—Sacramento 50 (Cousins 11), Orlando 50 (O'Quinn, Vucevic 9). Assists—Sacramento 17 (Thomas 9), Orlando 17 (Davis, Nelson 3). Total Fouls—Sacramento 23, Orlando 24. Technicals—Cousins, Sacramento defensive three second 2 A—14,283 (18,500).

BULLS 100, CAVALIERS 84

CLEVELAND (84): Gee 0-1 0-0 0, Thompson 5-12 0-0 10, Bynum 9-15 1-2 19, Irving 5-16 3-3 14, Miles 1-5 2-2 4, Jack 4-13 2-2 11, Vasquez 3-6 0-0 6, Dellavedova 4-9 0-0 10. Clark 1-3 0-0 2, Karasev 1-3 0-0 2, Zeller 3-5 0-0 6, Sims 0-1 0-0 0, Felix 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 36-90 8-9 84.

CHICAGO (100): Dentmar 5-7 1-3 11, Boozer 8-14 3-5 19, Noah 4-11 3-3 11, Augustin 7-12 0-1 18, Snell 5-11 2-2 17, Gibson 5-8 5-8 15, Teague 1-2 0-0 3, Mohammed 2-4 2-2 6, Murphy 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 37-69 16-24 100.

Cleveland	26	17	22	19	— 84
Chicago	33	27	21	19	— 100

3-Point Goals—Cleveland 4-18 (Dellavedova 2-3, Jack 1-3, Irving 1-5, Felix 0-1, Miles 0-2, Clark 0-2, Karasev 0-2), Chicago 10-15 (Snell 5-8, Augustin 4-5, Teague 1-1). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Cleveland 40 (Bynum, Thompson 7), Chicago 55 (Noah 18). Assists—Cleveland 21 (Jack 8), Chicago 27 (Augustin 10). Total Fouls—Cleveland 20, Chicago 14. Technicals—Cleveland defensive three second, Chicago defensive three second. A—21,658 (20,917).

PHILADELPHIA (106): Turner 2-15 6-6 10, Young 11-19 4-4 30, Hawes 10-15 3-3 25, Carter-Williams 7-16 4-5 19, Thompson 1-5 0-0 3, Allen 2-4 0-0 4, Anderson 0-7 2-2 2, Wroten 3-7 1-2 8, Davies 1-3 0-0 2, Williams 1-2 0-0 3. Totals 38-93 20-22 106.

MILWAUKEE (116): Middleton 11-15 4-4 27, Butler 8-21 4-6 22, Udoh 0-1 0-0 0, Knight 7-13 5-5 21, Antetokounmpo 3-7 6-6 12, Redulica 5-7 4-4 14, Mayo 3-7 0-0 7, Wolters 3-6 0-0 6, Ridnour 3-5 0-0 7. Totals 43-82 23-25 116.

Philadelphia	23	26	33	34	— 106
Milwaukee	29	30	26	31	— 116

3-Point Goals—Philadelphia 10-23 (Young 4-4, Hawes 2-3, Williams 1-2, Thompson 1-2, Wroten 1-3, Carter-Williams 1-3, Turner 0-3, Anderson 0-3), Milwaukee 7-25 (Knight 2-4, Butler 2-10, Ridnour 1-1, Mayo 1-4, Middleton 1-5, Wolters 0-1). Fouled Out—Turner. Rebounds—Philadelphia 52 (Hawes 11), Milwaukee 46 (Butler 11). Assists—Philadelphia 25 (Carter-Williams 12), Milwaukee 23 (Knight 6). Total Fouls—Philadelphia 22, Milwaukee 20. Technicals—Milwaukee defensive three second. A—14,541 (18,717).

TEXASCOLLEGEBASKETBALL

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Men

ARIZONA ST. 76 TEXAS TECH 62

TEMPE, Ariz. — Jermaine Marshall scored 20 of his 27 points in the second half, Jahii Carson had 16 points and 13 assists, and Arizona State rolled to a 76-62 victory over Texas Tech on Saturday night.

Coming off a six-day break, Arizona State (10-2) had trouble getting shots to fall early. The Sun Devils started to find the range late in the first half during a closing 11-0 run and kept the cushion in the second, improving to 7-0 at home this season.

OKLAHOMA 64 TEXAS A&M 52

HOUSTON — Jordan Woodard had 20 points as Oklahoma won their seventh straight with a 64-52 victory over Texas A&M Saturday night.

Frank Booker added nine points off the bench, and Tyler Neal chipped in eight with 10 rebounds. Ryan Spangler grabbed 13 rebounds for the Sooners (11-1).

Oklahoma shot 39.6 percent from the field and connected on 16 of 20 from the free throw line.

UTEP 64 WASHINGTON STATE 51

PULLMAN, Wash. — Vince Hunter scored 15 points on 7-of-9 shooting as four players scored in double figures to help UTEP beat Washington State 64-51 on Saturday night.

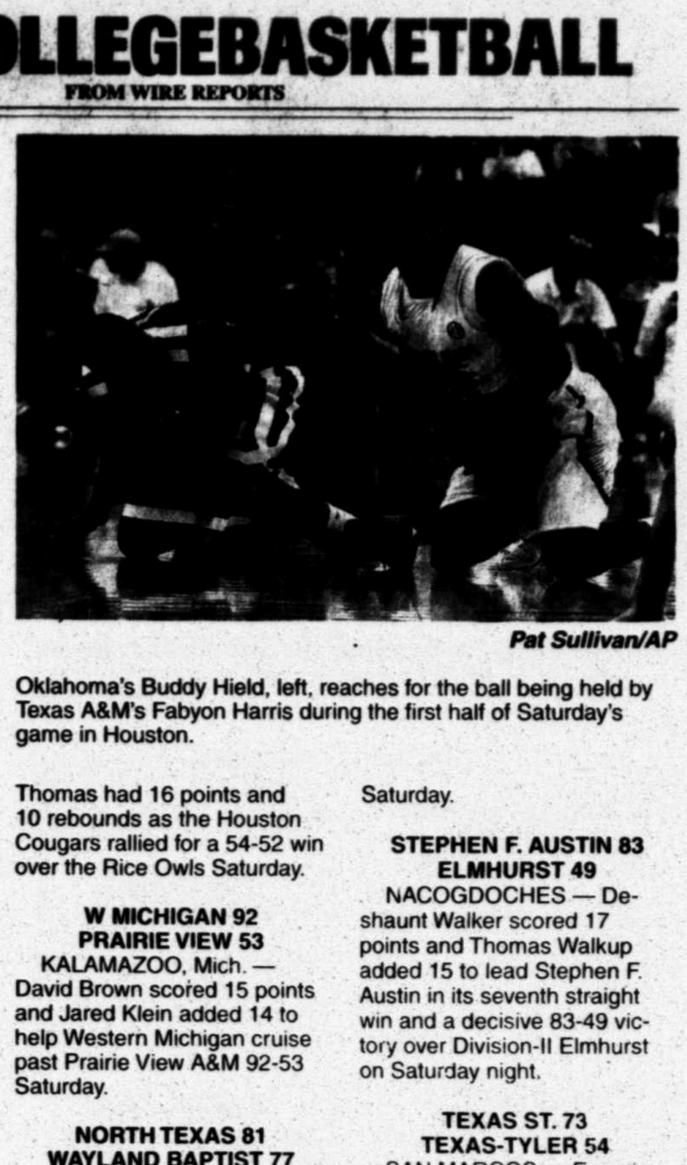
TCU 70 TULSA 58

FORT WORTH — Kyan Anderson posted his second straight 20-point game to help TCU overcome a 10-point second-half deficit in a 70-58 victory over visiting Tulsa Saturday.

Tulsa (4-8) managed just 22 points after intermission against TCU's pesky zone defense, and made just three baskets over the final eight minutes.

HOUSTON 54 RICE 52

HOUSTON — TaShawn Thomas had 16 points and 10 rebounds as the Houston Cougars rallied for a 54-52 win over the Rice Owls Saturday.



Pat Sullivan/AP

Oklahoma's Buddy Hield, left, reaches for the ball being held by Texas A&M's Fabyon Harris during the first half of Saturday's game in Houston.

W MICHIGAN 92 PRAIRIE VIEW 53

KALAMAZOO, Mich. — David Brown scored 15 points and Jared Klein added 14 to help Western Michigan cruise past Prairie View A&M 92-53 Saturday.

NORTH TEXAS 81 WAYLAND BAPTIST 77

DENTON — Alzee Williams scored 24 points and Colin Voss added a career-high 18 and grabbed 10 rebounds as North Texas topped NAIA Wayland Baptist 81-77 on Saturday.

ORAL ROBERTS 69 DALLAS BAPTIST 55

TULSA, Okla. — Shawn Glover scored 20 points on Saturday and Corbin Byford added 15 as Oral Roberts beat Division II Dallas Baptist 69-55.

PEPPERDINE 76 HOUSTON BAPTIST 64

MALIBU, Calif. — Brendan Lane and Stacy Davis combined for 42 points and 21 rebounds to lead Pepperdine to a 76-64 come-from-behind win over Houston Baptist Saturday.

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN 83 ELMHURST 49

NACOGDOCHES — Deshaunt Walker scored 17 points and Thomas Walkup added 15 to lead Stephen F. Austin in its seventh straight win and a decisive 83-49 victory over Division-II Elmhurst on Saturday night.

TEXAS ST. 73 TEXAS-TYLER 54

SAN MARCOS — Emani Gant scored 16 points and tied a career-high with 12 rebounds to lead Texas State to a 73-54 victory Saturday over Texas-Tyler.

TEXAS-ARLINGTON 79 CS BAKERSFIELD 75, OT

ARLINGTON — Brandon Edwards scored eight of his 23 points in overtime as Texas-Arlington topped Cal State Bakersfield 79-75 Saturday.

CANISIUS 87 LAMAR 74

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Billy Baron scored 16 points with seven assists and six rebounds, leading five players in double figures, as Canisius defeated Lamar 87-74 on Saturday.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL SCORES

Men

SATURDAY'S TOP 25 FARED

1. Arizona (12-0) did not play. Next: vs. Northern Arizona, Monday.
2. Syracuse (11-0) did not play. Next: vs. No. 8 Villanova, Saturday, Dec. 28.
3. Ohio State (12-0) beat Notre Dame 64-61. Next: vs. Louisiana-Monroe, Friday.
4. Wisconsin (12-0) did not play. Next: vs. Prairie View, Saturday, Dec. 28.
5. Michigan State (10-1) beat Texas 92-78. Next: vs. New Orleans, Saturday.
6. Louisville (11-1) beat Florida International 85-56. Next: at No. 19 Kentucky, Saturday.
7. Oklahoma State (10-1) vs. No. 20 Colorado. Next: vs. Robert Morris, Monday, Dec. 30.
8. Duke (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. Eastern Michigan, Saturday, Dec. 28.
9. Villanova (11-0) beat Rider 88-67. Next: at No. 2 Syracuse, Saturday.
10. UConn (9-1) did not play. Next: at Washington, today.
11. Wichita State (11-0) did not play. Next: vs. North Carolina Central, today.
12. Baylor (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Southern U., today.
13. Oregon (10-0) vs. BYU. Next: vs. Morgan State, today, Dec. 29.
14. North Carolina (8-3) beat Davidson 97-85, OT. Next: vs. Northern Kentucky, Friday.
15. Memphis (7-2) vs. Southeast Missouri State. Next: vs. Jackson State, Saturday.
16. Florida (9-2) beat Fresno State 66-49. Next: vs. Savannah State, today, Dec. 29.
17. Iowa State (8-0) did not play. Next: vs. George Mason, today.
18. Kansas (8-3) beat Georgetown 86-64. Next: vs. Toledo, Monday, Dec. 30.
19. Kentucky (9-3) beat Belmont 93-80. Next: vs. No. 6 Louisville, Saturday.
20. Colorado (10-1) vs. No. 7 Oklahoma State. Next: vs. Georgia, Saturday.
21. Gonzaga (10-2) lost to Kansas State 72-62. Next: vs. Santa Clara, Saturday.
22. UMass (10-1) lost to Florida State 60-55. Next: vs. Providence, Saturday.
23. Missouri (10-1) lost to Illinois 65-64. Next: at N.C. State, Saturday.
24. San Diego State (8-1) vs. McNeese State. Next: vs. St. Katherine, Friday.
25. Iowa (10-2) did not play. Next: vs. Arkansas-Pine Bluff, today.

SATURDAY'S SCORES

SOUTHWEST

Arkansas 72, South Alabama 60
Charleston Southern 97, Cent. Arkansas 90, 2OT
Concordia-Austin 92, Schreiner 88
Houston 54, Rice 52
Michigan St 92, Texas 78
North Texas 81, Wayland Baptist 77
Oklahoma 64, Texas A&M 52
Oral Roberts 69, Dallas Baptist 55
Stephen F Austin 83, Elmhurst 49
TCU 70, Tulsa 58
Texas St 73, Texas-Tyler 54
Texas-Arlington 79, CS Bakersfield 75, OT

SOUTH

Anderson (SC) 76, Winston-Salem 71
Appalachian St. 100, Milligan 68
Arkansas St. 83, Marshall 82
Boston U 80, Maryland 77
Campbell 95, Johnson & Wales (NC) 64
Charlotte 81, SC-Upstate 76
ETSU 84, Austin Peay 79
Florida 66, Fresno St. 49
Florida St. 60, UMass 55
Gardner-Webb 90, Hiwassee 54
Georgia 65, W Carolina 63
Georgia College 76, Lenoir-Rhyne 72
James Madison 55, Hampton 49
Kent St. 58, Coll. of Charleston 54
Kentucky 93, Belmont 80
LSU 88, UAB 83
Limestone 79, Catawba 59
Lincoln Memorial 83, Virginia-Wise 57
Louisville 85, FIU 56
Lyon 55, Grambling St. 54
Mary Washington 51, Randolph 50
Memphis 77, SE Missouri 65
Miami (Ohio) 79, Tennessee St. 64
N. Kentucky 72, Navy 65
NC State 90, East Carolina 79
North Carolina 97, Davidson 85, OT
North Florida 68, Bethune-Cookman 64
Old Dominion 68, UNC Wilmington 57
SC-Aiken 69, King (Tenn.) 63
SE Louisiana 80, UT-Martin 76
Spalding 78, Tusculum 69
Tulane 84, Alabama St. 66
UCF 86, Rio Grande 58
VCU 82, Virginia Tech 52
Vanderbilt 76, Georgia Tech 63
Virginia 57, N. Iowa 43
W. Kentucky 71, Murray St. 64
Wake Forest 59, UNC Greensboro 51
Wilmington (Del.) 65, Md.-Eastern Shore 62
Wittenberg 87, Thomas More 70
Wofford 62, Winthrop 56
Xavier 77, Alabama 74

MIDWEST

Adrian 60, Lawrence 42
Ashland 76, Ohio Christian 69
Augustana (SD) 77, Wayne (Neb.) 55
Butler 68, Evansville 59
Cincinnati 69, Middle Tennessee 48
E. Michigan 81, Oakland 79, OT
Ferris St. 96, Cornerstone 75
Findlay 114, Notre Dame (Ohio) 82
Grand Valley St. 85, Grace Bible 71
Green Bay 74, Fairfield 58
IPFW 86, E. Illinois 65
Illinois 65, Missouri 64
Indiana St. 81, IUPUI 61
Kansas 86, Georgetown 64
Kansas St. 72, Gonzaga 62
Lewis 75, Malone 71
Michigan 68, Stanford 65
Michigan Tech 83, Wis.-Parkside 79
Michigan-Dearborn 80, Indiana-East 77
Minn. Duluth 79, St. Cloud St. 78
Minn. St.-Mankato 67, Concordia (St.P) 58
Missouri St. 68, Alabama A&M 47
N.Dakota St. 90, Towson 82
Nebraska 77, The Citadel 62
Nebraska-Omaha 79, Texas-Pan American 61
SMU 82, North Texas 79, OT
Texas Tech 76, Kansas 63
Texas-Arlington 75, Texas A&M-CC 64

SOUTH

American U. 64, Coppin St. 42
Ball St. 67, N. Kentucky 63
Bucknell 71, Longwood 47
Charlotte 76, Davidson 60
Chattanooga 70, ETSU 61
Coll. of Charleston 71, South Florida 64
Columbia 78, Kennesaw St. 61
E. Illinois 76, Air Force 44
Grambling St. 70, Philander Smith 64
Hampton 86, Kansas St. 75, 2OT
Iona 78, UCF 66
Louisville 69, Colorado 62
Marshall 62, Delaware St. 47
Middle Tennessee 93, Dakota St. 44
Murray St. 81, Bethune-Cookman 70
North Carolina 103, High Point 71
North Florida 56, Georgia Southern 47
Oklahoma St. 68, Georgia Tech 60
Old Dominion 60, William & Mary 49
SC-Upstate 65, Presbyterian 57
Southern Miss. 83, New Orleans 61
Stetson 74, Nicholls St 44
Tulane 84, Florida A&M 67
UAB 67, George Mason 64
UTEP 64, Washington St. 51
Vanderbilt 83, UNC Asheville 67
Virginia 85, Florida Gulf Coast 56
Virginia Tech 82, Radford 53

MIDWEST

Auburn 66, UCLA 62
Cincinnati 47, Xavier 26
FPU 84, Detroit 73
Ill.-Chicago 74, Evansville 56
Illinois 77, UT-Martin 62
Indiana 107, Cleveland St. 73
Indiana St. 62, Butler 56
Iowa 73, Drake 51
Missouri St. 77, SE Missouri 66
N. Texas 81, Illinois 64
Nebraska 87, South Dakota 63
Northwestern 72, IUPUI 61
Saint Louis 74, Evansville 49
Wichita St. 86, Austin Peay 64

FAR WEST

Arizona 75, UC Riverside 59
Arizona St. 75, Miami 73
BYU 84, Utah St. 74
Cal St.-Fullerton 55, Seattle 53
DePaul 79, Loyola-Chicago 57
Gonzaga 69, Washington St. 62
Nevada 77, UC Santa Barbara 66
North Dakota St. 76, Colorado 65
Oregon St. 74, Clemson 41
Pepperdine 74, N. Arizona 57
Portland St. 78, Portland St. 69
Saint Mary's (Cal.) 72, CS Northridge 60
San Jose St. 81, UMKC 76
Southern Cal 84, Hawaii 55
Stanford 76, Tennessee 70
UC Davis 63, Houston Baptist 58, OT
Utah St. Samford 49
Washington 76, Pittsburgh 69
Wyoming 72, Idaho 64

EAST

Boston College 77, Holy Cross 60
Buffalo 78, Niagara 70
E. Michigan 69, Wagner 56
Fordham 71, Manhattan 46
George Washington 80, NC A&T 54
Hartford 79, Sacred Heart 64
Harvard 60, Hofstra 41
Loyola (Md.) 56, UMBC 49
Maine 72, Towson 58
Marist 76, Oklahoma 69
Mount St. Mary's 85, Md.-Eastern Shore 61
Northeastern 95, UMass 76
Penn 46, Drexel 44
Providence 54, Rhode Island 51
Quinnipiac 65, Canisius 55
Rider 61, CCSU 58
Robert Morris 76, Cornell 63
Rutgers 61, Georgia 58
Seton Hall 74, NJIT 48
Siena 49, Binghamton 41
Stony Brook 69, Monmouth (NJ) 52
Syracuse 64, Saint Joseph's 62
W Kentucky 57, Georgetown 55
West Virginia 88, Duquesne 80

TOURNAMENT

Beach Classic Championship

Florida St. 72, Long Beach St. 57

Third Place

Pacific 59, Richmond 57

Christmas City Classic Championship

Delaware 77, Lehigh 64

Third Place

Youngstown St. 74, Vermont 67

Gator Holiday Classic Championship

Florida 90, FIU 74

Third Place

La Salle 86, Tennessee St. 58

Wright State Invitational Championship

Wright St. 87, Bradley 71 Third Place

Lipscomb 86, Gardner-Webb 68

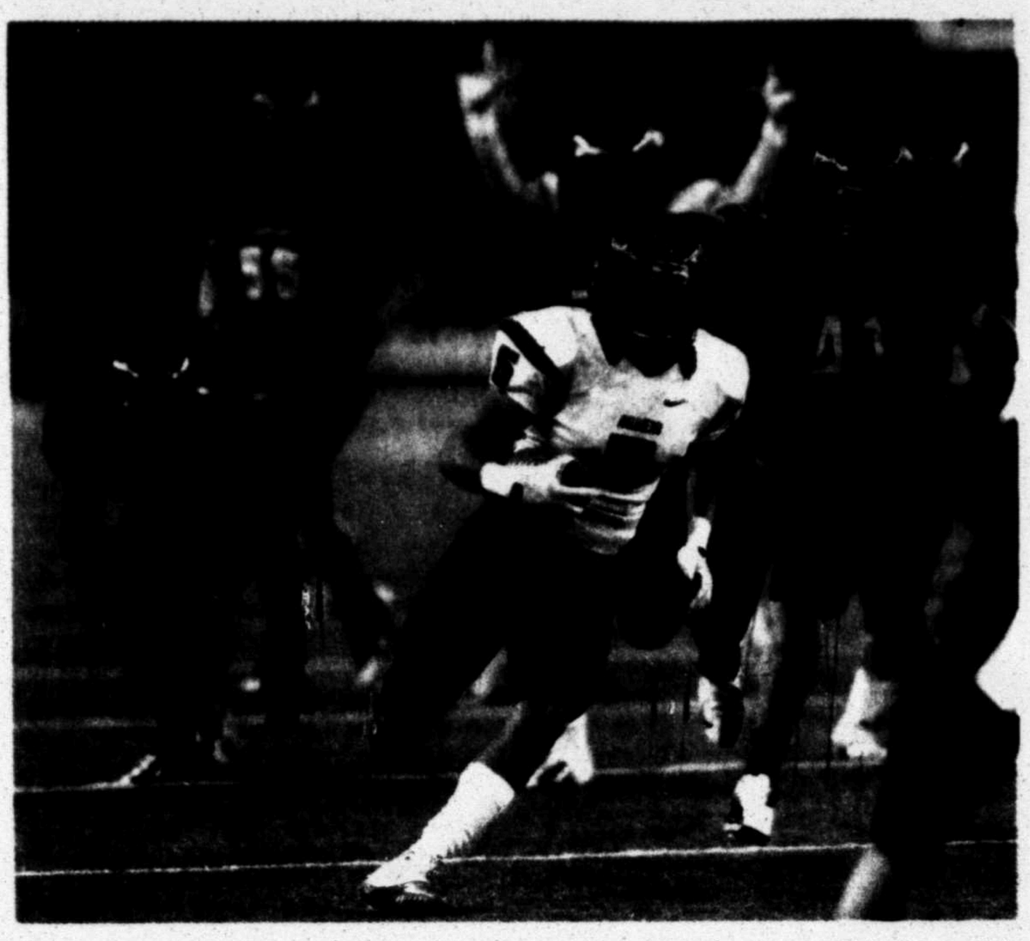
TODAY'S GAMES

SOUTHWEST

Jacksonville vs. Florida Atlantic at United Spirit Arena, Lubbock, Noon
UTSA at Texas St., 1 p.m.
Abilene Christian at Texas Tech, 2 p.m.

SOUTH

S.C. State at South Carolina, Noon
Florida A&M at VCU, Noon
Mount Olive at Elon, 1 p.m.
Al



Matt Strassen/AP

Allen's Chad Adams (5) runs upfield past Pearland's Denote Givens (41) for a second-half touchdown during a UIL Class 5A Division I state championship game on Saturday in Arlington.

STATETITLEROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

CLASS 5A DIVISION I
ALLEN 63, PEARLAND 28

ARLINGTON — Kyler Murray threw four touchdown passes and ran for 188 yards and another score and Allen defended its Class 5A Division I championship with a 63-28 victory over Pearland on Saturday.

Allen scored the most points by a champion in the state's highest classification in front of the biggest title game crowd in Texas history — 54,347 at the $1.2 billion home of the Dallas Cowboys.

The No. 1 team in the final Associated Press poll won its 27th straight game a week after a semifinal victory against DeSoto, the second-ranked team at the end of the regular season.

It was the third state title in three trips to the championship game for Allen (16-0), all in the past six years.

Connor Heath was 16 of 31 for 110 yards with two touchdowns and two interceptions for Pearland (14-2).

Allen became the first team to score 60 points in a title game in the highest classification. Lewisville Marcus had the previous high in a 59-20 victory against Alief Hastings in 1997.

CLASS 5A DIVISION II
CEDAR HILL 34, KATY 24

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — DaMarkus Lodge caught the go-ahead touchdown in a mistake-filled fourth quarter for Katy, and Cedar Hill denied the Tigers' bid to tie the record for state titles by rallying for a 34-24 victory in the Class 5A Division II championship game Saturday night.

Cedar Hill (14-2) avenged last year's loss to Katy in the championship game and ended the Houston-area school's 31-game winning streak.

Katy (15-1) blew a 24-10 lead in the second half and missed a chance to join Southlake Carroll and Celina as the only Texas high schools with eight championships.

Lodge's decisive score was set up when Xavier Washington poked the ball away from Katy running back Kyle Porter. Kyle Goss picked up the loose ball before stumbling in the open field at the Katy 36, but Justin McMillan got Cedar Hill in the end zone anyway with a 3-yard pass to Lodge.

CLASS 4A DIVISION II
ALEDO 38
BRENHAM 10

ARLINGTON — Luke Bishop passed for three touchdowns and Aledo wore down Brenham 38-10 Saturday for the Class 4A Division II championship Saturday.

Ryan Newsome and Taco Anderson scored two touchdowns apiece for Aledo.

It was the fourth state title in five years for Aledo (16-0). That stretch began with a win over Brenham for the 2009 championship.

Aledo surpassed 1,000 points for the season on Newsome's 28-yard scoring catch from Bishop 59 seconds before halftime. Aledo finished with 1,023 points.

Aledo's 38 points were their second-lowest this season behind the 29 scored in a state semifinal against Ennis.

Caleb Hill threw for 216 yards and a touchdown with an interception for Brenham (14-2).

SCORES

CLASS 5A DIVISION I
State Championship
Allen 63, Pearland 28

CLASS 5A DIVISION II
State Championship
Cedar Hill 34, Katy 24

CLASS 4A DIVISION I
State Championship
Denton Guyer 31, SA Northside Brennan 14

CLASS 4A DIVISION II
State Championship
Aledo 38, Brenham 10

CLASS 3A DIVISION I
State Championship
Carthage 34, Kilgore 23

CLASS 3A DIVISION II
State Championship
Argyle 38, Fairfield 33

CLASS 2A DIVISION I
State Championship
Cameron Yoe 35, Wall 14

CLASS 2A DIVISION II
State Championship
Cisco 56, Refugio 36

CLASS 1A DIVISION I
State Championship
Stamford 41, Shiner 28

CLASS 1A DIVISION II
State Championship
Wellington 42, Falls City 20

SIX-MAN DIVISION I
State Championship
Crowell 78, May 52

SIX-MAN DIVISION II
State Championship
Grandfalls-Royalty 73, Milford 28

NHLROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

KINGS 3
AVALANCHE 2

LOS ANGELES — Martin Jones made 23 saves and stopped all three shots in the shootout to become the second goalie in NHL history to win each of his first eight games, and the Los Angeles Kings got goals from Jeff Carter and Justin Williams in a 3-2 victory over the Colorado Avalanche on Saturday.

Jones has allowed just eight goals on 234 shots while filling in for the injured Jonathan Quick, and has posted shutouts against Montreal, Edmonton and the New York Islanders. The only other goalie to win his first eight games was Philadelphia's Bob Froese in 1982-83.

This was the second shootout involving Jones, who in his NHL debut on Dec. 3 stopped all nine shots in the tiebreaker for a 3-2 victory over the Anaheim Ducks. In this one, he stopped Matt Duchene, PA Parenteau and Ryan O'Reilly. The only goal in the shootout was by Anze Kopitar, the Kings' second shooter.

The Kings are off to the best start after 37 games in franchise history at 25-8-4, and have won nine of their last 10 games. They are 22-1-2 when allowing fewer than three goals.

O'Reilly and Erik Johnson scored power-play goals and Duchene had two assists for the Avalanche, 4-4-2 in their last 10 games following a 17-5-5 start.

PENGUINS 4
FLAMES 3

PITTSBURGH — Sidney Crosby scored his 20th goal of the season, helping Pittsburgh beat Calgary for its season-high seventh straight victory.

The Penguins led 4-1 late in the second period and had to hold off the Flames for their 10th straight win at home and 12th victory in their last 13 games.

RED WINGS 5
MAPLE LEAFS 4, SO

TORONTO — Daniel Alfredsson scored the shootout winner for Detroit against Toronto Maple Leafs in a Winter Classic preview.

The Red Wings had lost 11 straight shootouts, six this season.

COYOTES 4
SENATORS 3, OT

OTTAWA, Ontario — Antoine Vermette completed a hat trick at 2:23 of overtime to lift Phoenix past Ottawa.

Vermette pounced on the loose puck in front of goalie Craig Anderson and pushed it through to the back of the net to beat his former team. Radim Vrbata also scored to help the Coyotes snap a three-game losing streak.

BRUINS 4
SABRES 1

BOSTON — David Krejci snapped a tie and set up Milan Lucic's goal to help Boston split a two-game set with Buffalo.

Reilly Smith had a power-play and an empty-netter for Boston, which won its seventh straight at home. The Bruins haven't lost there in regulation since late October, going 12-0-2 in their last 14 games.

DEVILS 5
CAPITALS 4, OT

WASHINGTON — Andy Greene scored 43 seconds into overtime, and Marek Zidlicky had two goals in New Jersey's comeback victory over Washington.

Jaromir Jagr scored his 13th goal and added two assists. Dainius Zubrus had a goal and an assist for New Jersey, which trailed 3-1 after two periods.

BLUE JACKETS 6
FLYERS 3

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ryan Johansen and R.J. Umberger each scored two goals and Columbus pulled away in the third period to beat Philadelphia.

The game came 48 hours after the Blue Jackets led 3-0 after two periods and 4-2 with 5 minutes left in Philadelphia, with the Flyers scoring five times in the final period in a 5-4 win.

CANADIENS 4
PREDATORS 3, OT

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — David Desharnais scored at 1:43 of overtime lift Montreal past Nashville.

Desharnais stripped the puck from defenseman Mattias Ekholm along the left boards, skated to the left faceoff dot and ripped a slap shot over goalie Carter Hutton's left shoulder.

LIGHTNING 3
HURRICANES 2, OT

TAMPA, Fla. — Radko Gudas scored 2:16 into overtime to give Tampa Bay the victory over Carolina.

Gudas beat Justin Peters, who kept the Hurricanes in the game with a number of great saves, from the right circle during a 3-on-1. Victor Hedman and Martin St. Louis also scored for the Lightning.

DUCKS 5
ISLANDERS 3

UNIONDALE, N.Y. — Ryan Getzlaf scored three goals and Anaheim rallied for its team-record eighth straight win, beating New York.

Mathieu Perreault and Kyle Palmieri added goals for the Ducks. Thomas Vanek scored twice, and Frans Nielsen added a goal for New York.

NHL STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Atlantic Division							
Boston	36	24	10	2	50	100	75
Tampa Bay	36	22	#1	3	47	100	86
Montreal	38	22	13	3	47	96	84
Detroit	38	17	12	9	43	99	105
Toronto	38	18	16	4	40	105	111
Ottawa	38	14	17	7	35	106	126
Florida	37	14	18	5	33	87	117
Buffalo	36	9	24	3	21	64	104
Metropolitan Division							
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Pittsburgh	38	27	10	1	55	121	83
Washington	36	19	13	4	42	115	109
New Jersey	37	*15	15	7	37	90	94
Philadelphia	36	16	16	4	36	89	103
Carolina	36	14	14	8	36	83	101
N.Y. Rangers	36	16	18	2	34	82	100
Columbus	36	15	17	4	34	97	103
N.Y. Islanders	37	10	20	7	27	93	129

WESTERN CONFERENCE	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Central Division							
Chicago	38	25	7	6	56	140	105
St. Louis	34	23	7	4	50	119	81
Colorado	35	23	10	2	48	102	83
Minnesota	37	20	12	5	45	86	88
Dallas	34	17	12	5	39	99	102
Winnipeg	37	16	16	5	37	100	108
Nashville	36	16	16	4	36	83	103
Pacific Division							
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Anaheim	38	26	7	5	57	124	96
Los Angeles	37	25	8	4	54	104	71
San Jose	35	21	8	6	48	113	88
Vancouver	38	21	11	6	48	104	92
Phoenix	35	19	10	6	44	110	108
Calgary	36	13	17	6	32	91	115
Edmonton	37	11	23	3	25	95	127

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Saturday's Scores

Los Angeles 3, Colorado 2, SO
Detroit 5, Toronto 4, SO
Pittsburgh 4, Calgary 3
Phoenix 4, Ottawa 3, OT
New Jersey 5, Washington 4, OT
Columbus 6, Philadelphia 3
Montreal 4, Nashville 3, OT
Boston 4, Buffalo 1
Tampa Bay 3, Carolina 2, OT
Anaheim 5, N.Y. Islanders 3
St. Louis at Edmonton, late
Dallas at San Jose, late

Today's Games

Minnesota at N.Y. Rangers, 6:30 p.m.
Winnipeg at Vancouver, 7 p.m.

Choo agrees to 7-year deal with Texas

By Stephen Hawkins
Associated Press

The Rangers have made another Texas-sized deal to improve their offense.

Free agent outfielder Shin-Soo Choo agreed to a $130 million, seven-year contract with the Rangers, a person familiar with the deal told The Associated Press on Saturday.



Choo

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because there was no official announcement about the deal that is pending a physical for Choo. That person said the physical is expected to be done before Christmas, and that any formal introduction in Texas likely wouldn't come until after the holiday Wednesday.

The deal came a month after the Rangers acquired five-time All-Star first baseman Prince Fielder in a trade with Detroit for second baseman Ian Kinsler, their primary leadoff hitter.

Texas now gets the best offensive player left in free agency, with both additions to be under contract through the 2020 season.

Choo's deal, worth about $18.6 million per season, is the third-highest this offseason. Second baseman Robinson Cano got $240 million over 10 years from Seattle and outfielder Jacoby Ellsbury, like Choo, a client of agent Scott Boras, signed a $153 million, seven-year contract with the New York Yankees.

Choo could be at the top or in the middle of the Texas lineup. He was Cincinnati's leadoff hitter for 143 games last season, when he had a .423 on-base percentage with 20 stolen bases and 21 home runs.

The Rangers missed the playoffs for the first time in four years, with 730 runs scored their fewest in a non-strike season since 1992. Texas, which went to its only two World Series in 2010 and 2011 and lost in the AL's first wildcard game in 2012, lost at home to Tampa Bay in a wild-card tiebreaker.

Choo's deal calls for salaries of $14 million in 2014 and 2015, $21 million in 2016 and 2017, and $20 million in each of the last three years of the deal. He can earn a bonus for finishing in the top five of the AL MVP balloting — from $250,000 as the winner to $50,000 for fifth place. He would get a $150,000 bonus for being a World Series MVP, and an additional $100,000 for being an AL championship series MVP or an All-Star, or for winning a Silver Slugger or Gold Glove award.

There will also be a limited no-trade clause, with Choo able each year to submit a list of 10 teams he can't be dealt to without his consent.

Fielder, a .286 career hitter, was only two seasons into his $214 million, nine-year contract with Detroit when he was traded to Texas. That deal includes $30 million going back to the Rangers, though the first payment of $4 million won't come until 2016, followed by $6 million in 2017 and 2018, and $7 million in 2019 and 2020.

Choo has a .288 career batting average and .389 OBP with 104 home runs and 427 RBIs in 853 major league games for Seattle (2005-06), Cleveland (2006-12) and Cincinnati. The 31-year-old South Korean had at least 20 homers and 20 stolen bases three times, including last season.

While Choo started 150 games for the Reds in center field, he will likely play left field for Texas. The Rangers have Leonys Martin in center and Alex Rios in right.

Choo's addition almost certainly closes the door on the possible return of slugger Nelson Cruz, who had 27 homers and 76 RBIs in his 109 games for Texas last season.

Cruz was suspended 50 games after Major League Baseball's investigation into a Florida clinic accused of distributing banned performance-enhancing drugs. The 2011 AL championship series MVP finished his suspension in time to play in the tiebreaker game against Tampa Bay.

Texas will lose its first-round pick by signing Choo, but would get a first-round pick back when Cruz, presumably, signs with another team.

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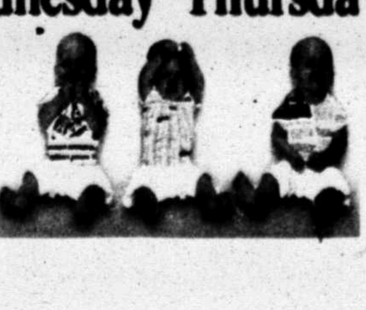
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Manning, Broncos prepare for Texans

By Kristie Rieken
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Peyton Manning was still catching up on his film study. So he avoided the question when asked this week if he was surprised by Houston's stunning downfall.

While Manning may not be well-acquainted with the dreadful 2013 Texans, he is quite familiar with many terrible Houston teams he terrorized year after year while playing for the Indianapolis Colts.

Denver's quarterback is 16-3 with 44 touchdowns against the Texans, who enter today's game looking to snap a franchise-record 12-game skid. Now 37, Manning is having one of the best seasons by a quarterback in NFL history.

His 4,811 yards passing this year are the most in NFL history through 14 games, and his 47 touchdowns passes are fourth in league history and three away from Tom Brady's single-season NFL record set in 2007.

He shied away from whether this is the best he's ever played.

"I really feel I'm in the second chapter of my football career," Manning said. "Any comparison that I make may go back to last year. Obviously, I have a little more comfort with my surroundings, the coaches, the culture, my teammates ... I've really stopped making comparisons, really to before I was injured and then before I got to Denver."

Despite Houston's struggles, Manning certainly knows better than to take the Texans lightly, especially with playoff implications riding on this game. Denver has secured a spot in the postseason and will win the AFC West with a victory over Houston and a loss by Kansas City.

The Broncos get home-field advantage throughout the AFC playoffs with a win and losses by both New England and Kansas City.

"I'm really trying to study the players they have now," Manning said. "They've had 10 games that have been one touchdown or less. All I know is we're facing a good defense. That's what I know."

The Texans have the NFL's worst record, but their defense is allowing the fourth-fewest yards in the league and is second in yards passing allowed per game.

Five things to know about the Colts-Texans game:

ANDRE THE GIANT: Houston receiver Andre Johnson needs one catch to reach 100 receptions for the fifth time in his career. If he reaches the mark, it will tie him with Denver's Wes Welker for most 100-catch seasons in NFL history. He needs 205 yards to reach 1,500 yards receiving and become the first player in NFL history to have four seasons with at least 100 receptions and 1,500 yards receiving.

WELKER QUESTIONABLE: Welker is questionable for today's game after sustaining his second concussion in four weeks on Dec. 8. Welker has 73 catches for 778 yards and 10 touchdowns. He needs eight receptions to tie Rod Smith for most catches by an undrafted player in NFL history.

"The biggest thing with him is we just want to make sure he's healthy," Broncos coach John Fox said. "When they give us the go-ahead, we'll have him out here. Right now, our biggest concern is Wes' health. When he's available, he'll be available."

SCHAUB'S BACK: Matt Schaub will start at quarterback in place of an injured Case Keenum against the Broncos. Schaub, who was benched after six games, will start for the first time since Oct. 13. Keenum has an injury to a ligament in his right thumb and was unable to grip the football this week.

"I'm excited to get back out there with my teammates," Schaub said. "Go out there and cut it loose, and end these last two weeks on a good note."

Schaub last played in the second half at Jacksonville on Dec. 5 and moved the ball well before throwing an interception on what could have been the go-ahead drive in a 27-20 loss.

A Houston loss and a Washington win clinches the first overall draft pick for the Texans.

KNOWSHON'S SEASON: Denver's Knowshon Moreno needs 8 yards rushing to tie his career-high of 947 from his rookie year in 2009, and is 61 yards from his first 1,000-yard rushing season and the 20th in Denver history. Moreno is 19 yards receiving from 500. If he reaches both of the milestones, he'll be the first player in franchise history to have 1,000 yards rushing and 500 yards receiving in a single season.

RUNNING BACK WOES: The Texans, who were already without star Arian Foster, took another blow to their running game this week when Ben Tate (rib) was placed on injured reserve. Tate hadn't missed a game despite playing with four broken ribs since October.

Undrafted rookie Dennis Johnson, who was signed in late October, will start today. Johnson has appeared in seven games this season with 37 carries for 154 yards.

NFL Standings

DENVER AT HOUSTON
When: Noon today
Location: Reliant Stadium, Houston
TV: CBS
Radio: KCRS (550 AM)

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	10	4	0	.714	369	311
Miami	8	6	0	.571	310	296
N.Y. Jets	6	8	0	.429	246	367
Buffalo	5	9	0	.357	300	354
South						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Indianapolis	9	5	0	.643	338	319
Tennessee	5	9	0	.357	326	355
Jacksonville	4	10	0	.286	221	399
Houston	2	12	0	.143	253	375
North						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Cincinnati	9	5	0	.643	354	274
Baltimore	8	6	0	.571	296	277
Pittsburgh	6	8	0	.429	321	332
Cleveland	4	10	0	.286	288	362
West						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Denver	11	3	0	.786	535	372
x-Kansas City	11	3	0	.786	399	255
San Diego	7	7	0	.500	343	311
Oakland	4	10	0	.286	295	393

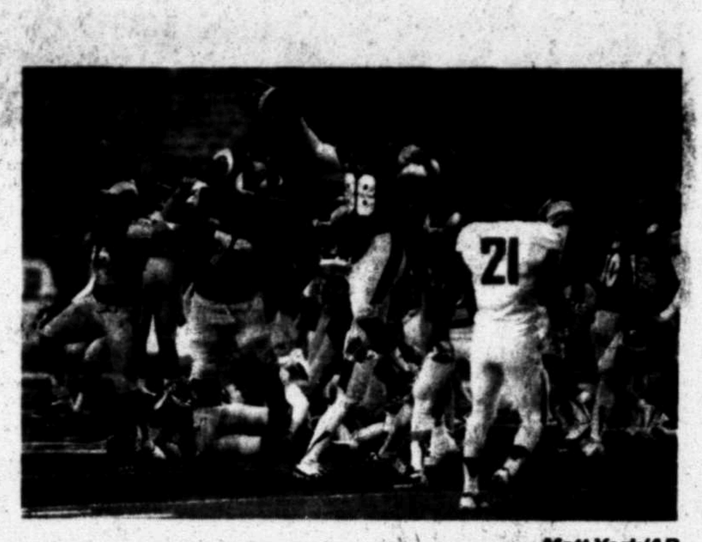
NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	8	6	0	.571	364	349
Dallas	7	7	0	.500	393	385
N.Y. Giants	5	9	0	.357	251	357
Washington	3	11	0	.214	305	434
South						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New Orleans	10	4	0	.714	359	270
Carolina	10	4	0	.714	328	208
Tampa Bay	4	10	0	.286	258	324
Atlanta	4	10	0	.286	309	388
North						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Chicago	8	6	0	.571	406	391
Green Bay	7	6	1	.536	353	362
Detroit	7	7	0	.500	362	339
Minnesota	4	9	1	.321	363	425
West						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Seattle	12	2	0	.857	380	205
San Francisco	10	4	0	.714	349	228
Arizona	9	5	0	.643	342	291
St. Louis	6	8	0	.429	316	324

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y-clinched division

Today's Games
Tampa Bay at St. Louis, Noon
Indianapolis at Kansas City, Noon
Denver at Houston, Noon
Miami at Buffalo, Noon
New Orleans at Carolina, Noon
Dallas at Washington, Noon
Cleveland at N.Y. Jets, Noon
Minnesota at Cincinnati, Noon
Tennessee at Jacksonville, Noon
Arizona at Seattle, 3:05 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Detroit, 3:05 p.m.
Oakland at San Diego, 3:25 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Green Bay, 3:25 p.m.
New England at Baltimore, 3:25 p.m.
Chicago at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.

Monday's Game
Atlanta at San Francisco, 7:40 p.m.



Matt York/AP

Colorado State players celebrate their win in the New Mexico Bowl against Washington State on Saturday in Albuquerque, N.M.

BOWL ROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

NEW MEXICO BOWL
COLORADO STATE 48
WASHINGTON STATE 45

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Jared Roberts made a 41-yard field goal with 3 seconds left and Colorado State overcame a 22-point deficit to beat Washington State 48-45 on Saturday in the New Mexico Bowl.

Garrett Grayson threw for 369 yards and Kapri Bibbs ran for 169 yards and three touchdowns for Colorado State (8-6). The Rams overcame three early turnovers, but were helped by Washington State's two fumbles with less than 3 minutes remaining.

Connor Halliday threw six touchdown passes and finished with 410 yards for Washington State (6-7).

LAS VEGAS BOWL
USC 45
NO. 21 FRESNO STATE 20

LAS VEGAS — Southern California wrapped up its rocky season by rolling over Fresno State in the Las Vegas Bowl.

Cody Kessler passed for 344 yards and a bowl-record four touchdowns in the Trojans' 45-20 victory over the 21st-ranked Bulldogs on Saturday under Clay Helton, their third head coach in less than three months.

Marqise Lee and Nelson Agholor had two touchdown catches apiece, Javorius Allen rushed two more scores, and the Trojans (10-4) answered every question about their motivation by dancing on the sideline while routing a BCS contender for the storied program's first postseason victory since 2009.

Derek Carr passed for just 217 yards and two TDs in his final game at Fresno State (11-2), which fell behind 35-6 at halftime and failed to secure the first 12-win season in school history.

FAMOUS IDAHO POTATO BOWL
SAN DIEGO STATE 49
BUFFALO 24

BOISE, Idaho — Adam Muema rushed for 229 yards and three touchdowns and Quinn Kaehler threw two scoring passes in San Diego State's 49-24 victory over Buffalo on Saturday in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl.

The Aztecs pulled away early, scoring three touchdowns in a 5:24 span stretching from the end of the first half into the third quarter. The scoring spree was fueled by two costly Buffalo turnovers, the first an interception just before halftime that set up Kaehler's 25-yard touchdown toss to Dylan Denso.

The Bulls then fumbled on the opening kick in third quarter. The Aztecs (8-5, 6-2 Mountain West) scored five plays later when Kaehler fired an 11-yard TD to Adam Roberts to go up 35-10.

Not much went right for the Bulls (8-5, 6-2 Mid-American Conference), playing in the second bowl game in the team's 100-year history.

OTHER GAMES

FROM WIRE REPORTS

NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIP
NW MISSOURI STATE 43
LENOIR-RHYNE 28

FLORENCE, Ala. — Odessa Permian graduate Trevor Adams passed for 277 yards and three touchdowns to lead Northwest Missouri State to a 43-28 victory over Lenoir-Rhyne on Saturday in the Division II championship game.

The Bearcats (15-0) won their fourth national title to match Grand Valley State for second-most behind North Dakota State's five. They're the fifth team to go 15-0, managing that feat for a second time.

Lenoir-Rhyne (13-2) fell short in only the onetime NAIA champion's second appearance in the Division II playoffs.

FCS SEMIFINALS
TOWSON 35
E. WASHINGTON 31

CHENEY, Wash. — Backup quarterback Connor Frazier scored on a 1-yard run with 17 seconds left to lift Towson to a 35-31 victory over Eastern Washington in a Football Championship Subdivision semifinal game on Saturday in foggy, wet conditions.

Towson (13-2) took over on its 29 with 1:35 left in the game and went 71 yards for the winning points.

Eastern Washington (12-3) got the ball back with 12 seconds left, but Vernon Adams' first pass was intercepted.

Towson will play two-time defending champion North Dakota State (14-0) in the national title game on Jan. 4 in Frisco.

BOWL GLANCE

Saturday
New Mexico Bowl
At Albuquerque
Colorado State 48, Washington State 45

Las Vegas Bowl
Southern Cal 45, Fresno State 20

Famous Idaho Potato Bowl
At Boise, Idaho
San Diego State 49, Buffalo 24

New Orleans Bowl
Louisiana-Lafayette 24, Tulane 21

Monday
Beef 'O' Brady's Bowl
At St. Petersburg, Fla.
Ohio (7-5) vs. East Carolina (9-3), 1 p.m. (ESPN)

Tuesday
Hawaii Bowl
At Honolulu
Oregon State (6-6) vs. Boise State (8-4), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Thursday
Little Caesars Pizza Bowl
At Detroit
Bowling Green (10-3) vs. Pittsburgh (6-6), 5 p.m. (ESPN)

Poinsettia Bowl
At San Diego
Northern Illinois (12-1) vs. Utah State (8-5), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Friday
Military Bowl
At Annapolis, Md.
Marshall (9-4) vs. Maryland (7-5), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Texas Bowl
At Houston
Minnesota (8-4) vs. Syracuse (6-6), 5 p.m. (ESPN)

Fight Hunger Bowl
At San Francisco
BYU (8-4) vs. Washington (8-4), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Dec. 28
Pinstripe Bowl
At New York
Notre Dame (8-4) vs. Rutgers (6-6), 11 a.m. (ESPN)

Belk Bowl
At Charlotte, N.C.
Cincinnati (9-3) vs. North Carolina (6-6), 2:20 p.m. (ESPN)

Russell Athletic Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Miami (9-3) vs. Louisville (11-1), 5:45 p.m. (ESPN)

Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl
At Tempe, Ariz.
Kansas State (7-5) vs. Michigan (7-5), 9:15 p.m. (ESPN)

Monday, Dec. 30
Armed Forces Bowl
At Fort Worth
Middle Tennessee (8-4) vs. Navy (8-4), 10:45 a.m. (ESPN)

Music City Bowl
At Nashville, Tenn.
Mississippi (7-5) vs. Georgia Tech (7-5), 2:15 p.m. (ESPN)

Alamo Bowl
At San Antonio
Oregon (10-2) vs. Texas (8-4), 5:45 p.m. (ESPN)

Holiday Bowl
At San Diego
Arizona State (10-3) vs. Texas Tech (7-5), 9:15 p.m. (ESPN)

Tuesday, Dec. 31
AdvoCare V100 Bowl
At Shreveport, La.
Arizona (7-5) vs. Boston College (7-5), 11:30 a.m. (ESPN)

Sun Bowl
At El Paso
Virginia Tech (8-4) vs. UCLA (9-3), 2 p.m. (CBS)

Liberty Bowl
At Memphis, Tenn.
Rice (9-3) vs. Mississippi State (6-6), 3 p.m. (ESPN)

Chick-fil-A Bowl
At Atlanta
Texas A&M (8-4) vs. Duke (10-3), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Wednesday, Jan. 1
Heart of Dallas Bowl
At Dallas
UNLV (7-5) vs. North Texas (8-4), 11 a.m. (ESPNU)

Gator Bowl
At Jacksonville, Fla.
Nebraska (8-4) vs. Georgia (8-4), 11 a.m. (ESPN2)

Capital One Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Wisconsin (9-3) vs. South Carolina (10-2), Noon (ABC)

Outback Bowl
At Tampa, Fla.
Iowa (8-4) vs. LSU (9-3), Noon (ESPN)

Rose Bowl
At Pasadena, Calif.
Stanford (11-2) vs. Michigan State (12-1), 4 p.m. (ESPN)

Fiesta Bowl
At Glendale, Ariz.
Baylor (11-1) vs. UCF (11-1), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Thursday, Jan. 2
Sugar Bowl
At New Orleans
Alabama (11-1) vs. Oklahoma (10-2), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Friday, Jan. 3
Orange Bowl
At Miami
Ohio State (12-1) vs. Clemson (10-2), 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Cotton Bowl
At Arlington
Missouri (11-2) vs. Oklahoma State (10-2), 6:30 p.m. (FOX)

Saturday, Jan. 4
BBVA Compass Bowl
At Birmingham, Ala.
Vanderbilt (8-4) vs. Houston (8-4), Noon (ESPN)

Sunday, Jan. 5
GoDaddy.com Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
Arkansas State (7-5) vs. Ball State (10-2), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Monday, Jan. 6
BCS National Championship
At Pasadena, Calif.
Florida State (13-0) vs. Auburn (12-1), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday, Jan. 18
East-West Shrine Classic
At St. Petersburg, Fla.
East vs. West, 3 p.m. (NFLN)

Saturday, Jan. 25
Senior Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
South vs. North, 3 p.m. (NFLN)

COWBOYS

From 1C

tion that we're in," Garrett said, "and you have to take advantage of the opportunity."

Here are five things to notice as the Cowboys visit the archrival Redskins (3-11), the team that actually has shut down its franchise quarterback — Robert Griffin III — so that he'll be healthy when he works on his game in the offseason:

ROMO'S STRUGGLES: The Cowboys QB is riding a four-game December losing streak and is 13-21 all-time as a starter in December and January. He's not the only thing holding Dallas back — the defense is the worst in the NFL — but another loss today will only harden his dubious legacy as a player who falters at crunch time.

WORSE FOR WARE: Dallas' defense has already set a team record for most yards allowed — and there are still two games to play. The Cowboys might be without their top four linebackers today because of injury, putting even more pressure on franchise sacks leader DeMarcus Ware. Ware's six sacks are two shy of his career low from his rookie season in 2005.

"There is no question, and he'd be the first to tell you, that he needs to make more of an impact on the game," Garrett said, "and we're going to try to help him do that."

ANOTHER BACKUP QB: The Cowboys have lost to a pair of backup QBs (Josh McCown and Matt Flynn) during their two-game losing streak, and now they face another one. With Griffin benched, Kirk Cousins will make his second consecutive start for the Redskins.

"I'll tell you what, at the end of the day, that 'backup' part as a quarterback doesn't mean anything," Ware said. "We've lost to the last two and those guys that we played are pretty good, and this guy that we're playing this week is good also. So we have to really key on him."

DISAPPOINTED DEZ: December collapses can really wear a player down, and it showed last week when Cowboys receiver Dez Bryant headed for the locker room before the game was over. Bryant admitted it was a "bad mistake" on his part, but there's no question the Packers loss presented a supreme test of the so-called "24-hour rule" players say they use to get over the previous game.

"That's something we really address every week with our team, and we address it after we win and we address it after we lose," Garrett said. "You can have hangovers from both of those things, and it's just really important that you put the last one behind you."

HOME GAME?: Cowboys fans always find ways to get thousands of tickets and make plenty of noise at Redskins home games, but this time Landover, Md., might sound more like JerryWorld. Washington has dropped six straight and has clinched last place in the division for the fifth time in six seasons. Yeah, it's "Dallas week," but wins and losses and rivalries have taken a back seat to the constant speculation over coach Mike Shanahan's future, testing his ability to get his players ready.

"We've got a chance to play a football team that's playing for a playoff spot," Shanahan said. "And if people don't think we're playing for anything, then they get a chance to see what we're made of."

TODAY'S TEXAS NFL CAPSULES

FROM WIRE REPORTS

DALLAS (7-7) AT WASHINGTON (3-11)
Noon today, Fox

OPENING LINE — Cowboys by 2 1/2

RECORD VS. SPREAD — Dallas 8-6, Washington 4-10

SERIES RECORD — Cowboys lead 65-40-2

LAST MEETING — Cowboys beat Redskins 31-16, Oct. 13, 2013

LAST WEEK — Cowboys lost to Packers 37-36; Redskins lost to Falcons, 27-26

AP PRO32 RANKING — Cowboys No. 19, Redskins No. 31

COWBOYS OFFENSE — OVERALL (20), RUSH (23), PASS (16)

COWBOYS DEFENSE — OVERALL (32), RUSH (28), PASS (32)

REDSKINS OFFENSE — OVERALL (9), RUSH (3), PASS (15)

REDSKINS DEFENSE — OVERALL (20), RUSH (17), PASS (21)

STREAKS, STATS AND NOTES — Cowboys claim NFC East if they win last two games, but would be eliminated from playoffs Sunday with loss to Redskins and Eagles victory over Bears. ... Dallas has lost two straight, both to backup QBs (Josh McCown) and (Matt Flynn). Will face another backup QB Sunday (Kirk Cousins). ... Cowboys blew 26-3 lead in loss to Packers last week, second-largest blown lead in team history. ... Cowboys have set franchise record for yards allowed at 5,982 with two games remaining. ... Dallas RB DeMarco Murray needs 23 yards for first 1,000-yard rushing season. He's had consecutive 100-yard games for first time since rookie year (2011), both losses. Before then, Dallas had never lost when he rushed for 100 yards. ... Dallas defense ranks last in numerous categories: yards allowed per game (427.3); yards passing allowed per game (297.4); plays of 10-plus yards allowed (232); completions of 20-plus yards allowed (64); fewest three-and-outs allowed (24); opponents' QB rating when blitzing (111.9); opponents third-and-long conversions (34.4 percent); and first downs allowed (350). ... Cowboys franchise sack leader DE DeMarcus Ware has just six this season, needs two to match career-low eight from rookie year (2005). Has two in last 11 games, including stretch of three games missed with thigh injury. ... Cowboys are 4-0 vs. NFC East; Redskins are 0-4. ... Dallas looking to sweep Washington for third time in five years. ... Redskins have clinched last place in NFC East for fifth time in six seasons. ... Redskins have lost six straight. Haven't lost seven in a row since 1998. ... Cousins makes second straight Redskins start in place of Robert Griffin III, who has been shut down for season. ... Washington WR Pierre Garcon leads NFC with career-high 96 catches. ... Redskins LB London Fletcher, who plans to retire at end of season, likely playing in final NFL home game. It will be his 255th consecutive game, fourth-longest streak all-time. ... Redskins rank last in several defense- and special teams-related stats: points allowed (31.0 per game); opponents' QB rating on first down (114.4); average field position (24.2-yard line); opponents' average field position (32.6); fewest drives started in opponents' territory (9); most drives by opponents started in Washington territory (33); and punt return yardage allowed (17.2 per return). ... Redskins allowed 86-yard punt return TD and 90-yard kick return by Dwayne Harris in first meeting. Harris (hamstring) might not play Sunday, but Cowboys have signed Micheal Spurlock, who has five career return TDs. ... Redskins have been outscored 119-44 in first quarter.

DENVER (11-3) AT HOUSTON (2-12)
Noon today, CBS

OPENING LINE — Broncos by 9 1/2

RECORD VS. SPREAD — Denver 9-5, Houston 2-12

SERIES RECORD — Tied 2-2

LAST MEETING — Texans beat Broncos 31-25, Sept. 23, 2012

LAST WEEK — Broncos lost to Chargers 27-20; Texans lost to Colts 25-3

AP PRO32 RANKING — Broncos No. 2, Texans No. 32

BRONCOS OFFENSE — OVERALL (1), RUSH (14), PASS (1)

BRONCOS DEFENSE — OVERALL (23), RUSH (11), PASS (28)

TEXANS OFFENSE — OVERALL (11), RUSH (17), PASS (13)

TEXANS DEFENSE — OVERALL (4), RUSH (24), PASS (2)

STREAKS, STATS AND NOTES — Broncos have clinched playoff spot, get AFC West title with win and Kansas City loss. Denver clinches home-field advantage throughout AFC playoffs with win and losses by Kansas City and New England. ... QB Peyton Manning's 4,811 yards passing are most in NFL history through 14 games. ... Manning's 47 touchdown passes are fourth in NFL history and three away from Tom Brady's single-season NFL record set in 2007. ... Manning is 16-3 against Houston with 44 touchdowns. ... RB Knowshon Moreno is 61 yards shy of reaching 1,000 yards rushing for first time in career. ... Julius Thomas has most touchdown receptions by tight end in franchise history with 11. ... DE Shaun Phillips needs two sacks to outdo career high of 11 1/2 in 2006. ... WR Wes Welker had eight receptions for 131 yards for New England against Houston in divisional playoffs last season. He's recovering from concussion. ... QB Matt Schaub will start for first time since Oct. 13 in place of injured Case Keenum. Schaub threw four touchdown passes in Houston's win over Broncos last season.

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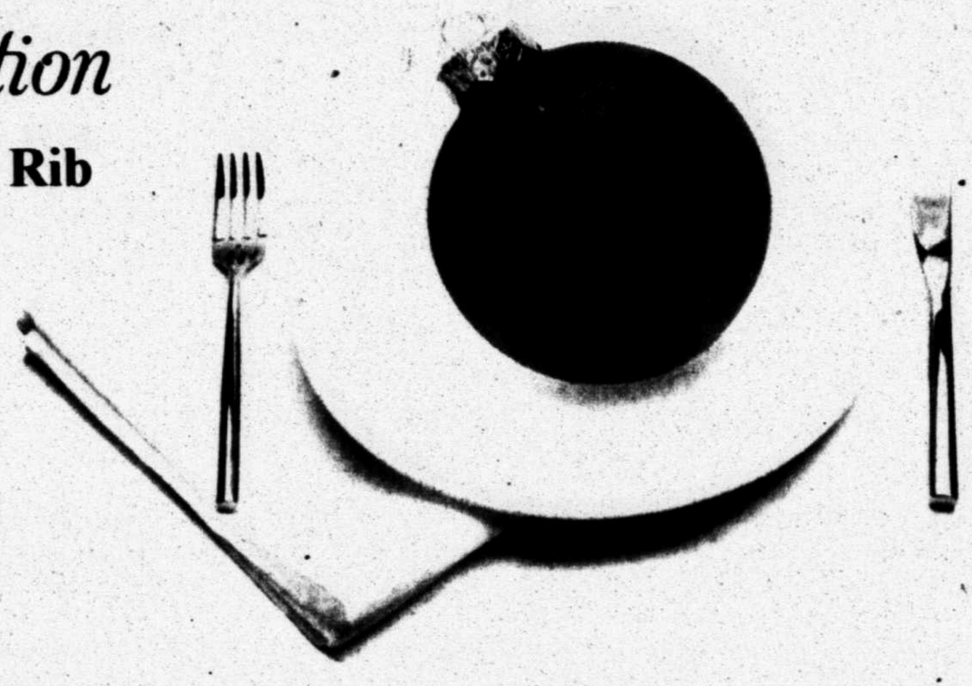
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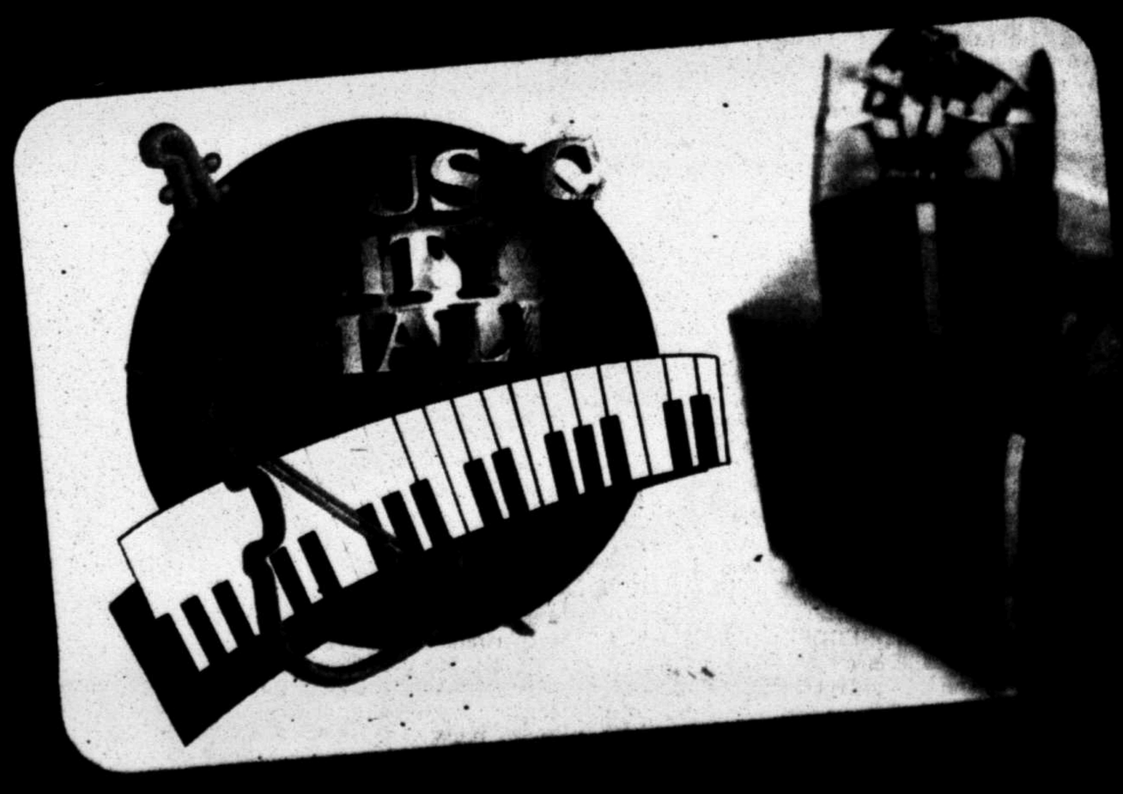
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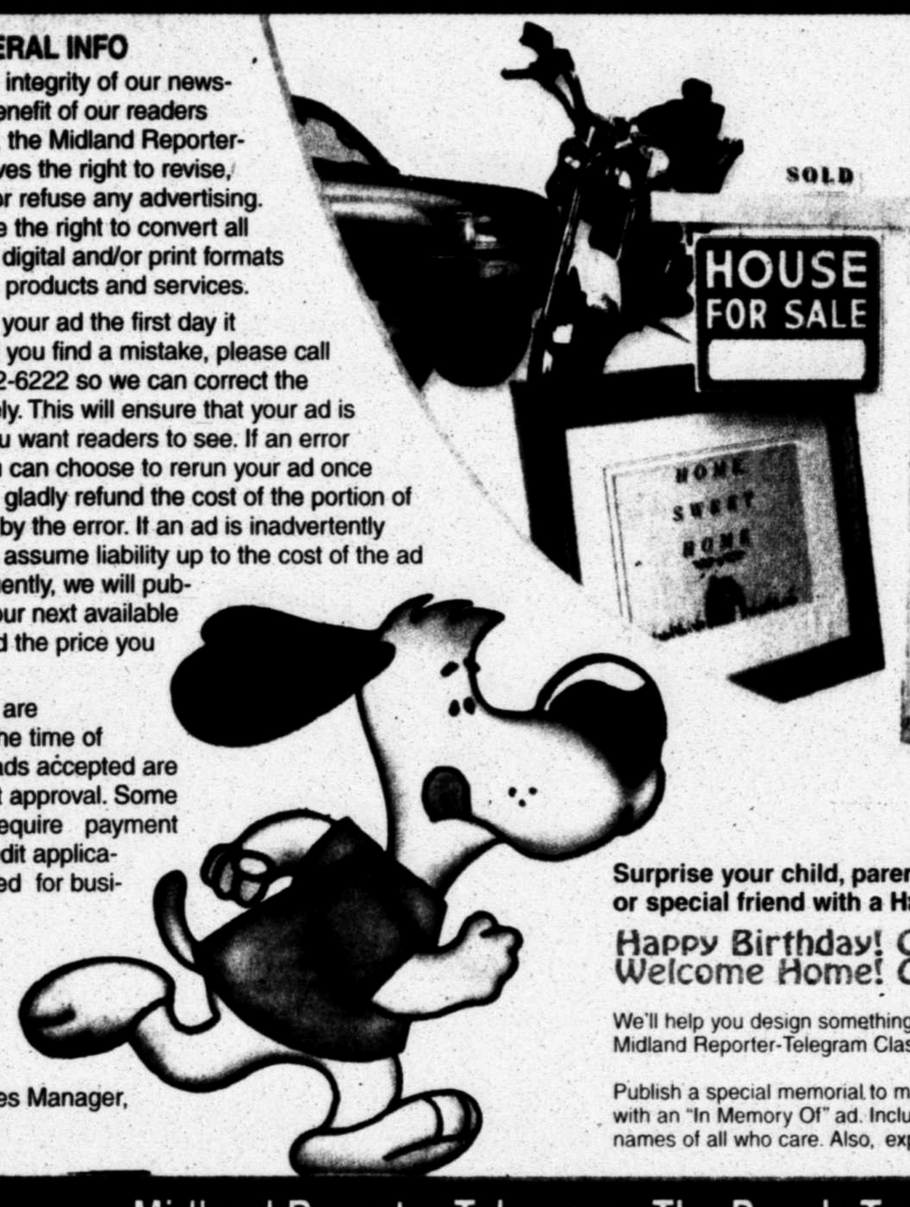
GENERAL INFO

To ensure the integrity of our newspaper, for the benefit of our readers and advertisers, the Midland Reporter-Telegram reserves the right to revise, reclassify, edit or refuse any advertising. We also reserve the right to convert all advertising into digital and/or print formats within our other products and services.

Please check your ad the first day it appears, and, if you find a mistake, please call our office at 682-6222 so we can correct the error immediately. This will ensure that your ad is exactly what you want readers to see. If an error does occur, you can choose to rerun your ad once for free, or we'll gladly refund the cost of the portion of the ad affected by the error. If an ad is inadvertently omitted, we will assume liability up to the cost of the ad itself – consequently, we will publish your ad in our next available edition or refund the price you have paid.

Rate charges are determined at the time of placement. All ads accepted are subject to credit approval. Some classifications require payment in advance. Credit applications are required for business accounts.

We welcome suggestions or comments. Please call: Jeri Houston, Advertising Sales Manager, 687-8894.





HAPPY ADS

DEADLINES:

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PUBLISHES ON:	DEADLINE IS:
Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri	5p.m. Prior Day
Saturday	12p.m. Friday
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SUDOKU

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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**

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

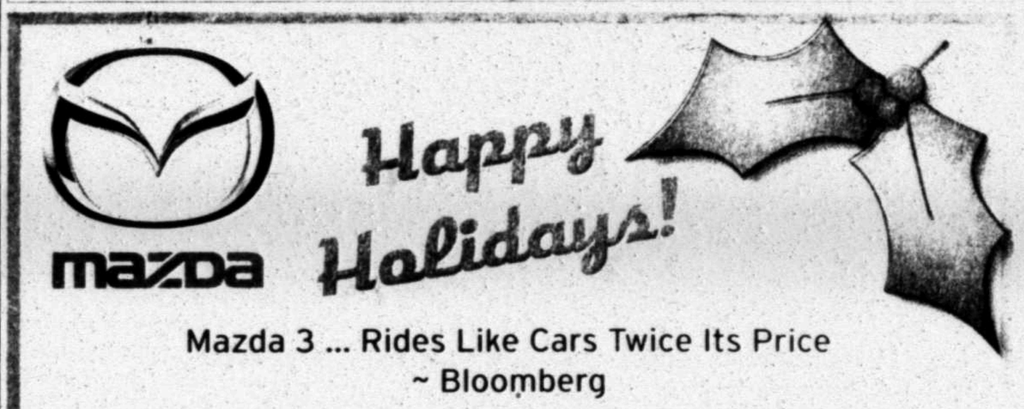
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5	8	6	4	2	3	1	9	7
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9	1	5	3	8	6	2	7	4
1	5	7	6	3	2	8	4	9
2	6	4	9	5	8	7	1	3
8	3	9	1	4	7	5	6	2

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Passenger Cars



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~ Bloomberg

[The CX-5] simply stood above the competition.
~ Motor Trend

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S10485	2012 VOLK JETTA SEDA 4DR AUTO SE	$15,225
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Attention Readers

In observance of Christmas Day

The Midland Reporter-Telegram will be closed

Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2013

Advertising Deadlines

Classified Word Ads

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Wed., Dec. 25th	Tues., Dec. 24th, NOON
Thurs., Dec. 26th	Tues., Dec. 24th, 2 PM

Classified Display Ads

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Wed., Dec. 25th	Mon., Dec. 23rd, 5 PM
Thurs., Dec. 26th	Mon., Dec. 23rd, 5 PM
Fri., Dec. 27th	Tues., Dec. 24th, NOON

Retail Display Ads

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Wed., Dec. 25th	Mon., Dec. 23rd, 5 PM
Thurs., Dec. 26th	Mon., Dec. 23rd, 5 PM
Sun., Dec. 29th (Oil Report/West Texas Living, Arts & Ent.)	Mon., Dec. 23rd, 5 PM
Fri., Dec. 27th	Tues., Dec. 24th, Noon

CIRCULATION HOURS

Customer Service calls will be taken Wednesday, December 25th from 7 AM-11 AM only.

We will re-open Thursday, Dec. 26th for regular business hours.

Midland Reporter-Telegram

Legal & Public Notices

Midland ISD is requesting bids for Telecommunication and Internet Access services. Additional information is available at www.crwconsulting.com/rfp. The district will open bids on 1/7/14 at 4:00 PM at 300 N. Carrizo St., Midland, TX 79701.

Legal & Public Notices

Notice of Sale of Personal Property to satisfy a landlords lien for CASH ONLY. Sale Date is Thursday, January 9, 2014 at 11 a.m.

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Odessa, TX 79762

#88 Cole Evans Household Goods

Legal & Public Notices

CrownQuest Operating, LLC is hereby providing Notice of Intent to Move in Equipment and Spud the COM Nail #2 well located 660' FNL and 2020' FEL of Section 36, Block 39, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey, Martin County, Texas, within the City Limits of Midland. This notice is a requirement of the City of Midland Under Title VI, Chapter 1, Section 23 labeled "Ordinance No. 8769 more particularly found under Section L (7) effective January 1, 2010.

Legal & Public Notices

CrownQuest Operating, LLC is hereby providing Notice of Intent to Move in Equipment and Spud the COM Nail #3 well located 467' FNL and 467' FEL of Section 36, Block 39, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey, Martin County, Texas, within the City Limits of Midland. This notice is a requirement of the City of Midland Under Title VI, Chapter 1, Section 23 labeled "Ordinance No. 8769 more particularly found under Section L (7) effective January 1, 2010.

Legal & Public Notices

Public Notice
Proposal #2014-015

Midland College District is accepting competitive sealed proposals for various trade contractors for remodeling and repairs at Christensen Stadium. Proposal packets may be picked up Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., in the Purchasing Office, located at 3600 N Garfield, Midland, Texas. Proposals will be accepted until 2:30 p.m., Thursday, January 9, 2014 in the Purchasing Office. The proposals will be opened and read aloud in the Administrative Conference Room # PAD 106. For proposal packet information contact Barbara Fennell, Director of Purchasing, (432)686-4250 or bfennell@midland.edu. A final determination may be made at a future board meeting. The College reserves the right to accept or reject any and or all bids submitted.

Legal & Public Notices

Public Notice
Proposal #2014-014

Midland College District is accepting competitive sealed proposals for various trade contractors to construct a restroom building at the softball field. Proposal packets may be picked up Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., in the Purchasing Office, located at 3600 N Garfield, Midland, Texas. Proposals will be accepted until 2:00 p.m., Thursday, January 9, 2014 in the Purchasing Office. The proposals will be opened and read aloud in the Administrative Conference Room # PAD 106. For proposal packet information contact Barbara Fennell, Director of Purchasing, (432)686-4250 or bfennell@midland.edu. A final determination may be made at a future board meeting. The College reserves the right to accept or reject any and or all bids submitted.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Chester R. LaRue, Deceased, were issued on December 17, 2013, in Cause No. P-17,678, pending in the County Court of Midland County, Texas, to Marilyn J. LaRue, Independent Executor, whose residence address is 2912 Moss Avenue, Midland, Texas 79705.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law, in care of the Executor.

Dated the 20th day of December, 2013.

COTTON, BLEDSOE, TIGHE & DAWSON
A Professional Corporation
P.O. Box 2776
Midland, Texas 79702
(432) 684-5782
(432) 682-3672 (FAX)

By: /s/ Jerry D. Zant
State Bar No. 22245460

ATTORNEYS FOR
INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR BID

Midland County Hospital District is accepting bids for **PATIENT CARE BEDS,** for Midland Memorial Hospital.

Specifications may be secured at the Purchasing Office of Midland Memorial Hospital on or after **Monday, December 16, 2013.**

All proposals must be received in the Department of Materials Management of Midland Memorial Hospital by **2:00 P.M. on Tuesday, January 14, 2014.**

All proposals must be sealed and labeled **"BID # 1112 - 121613.**

Under no circumstances will faxed or emailed proposals from bidders be accepted.

All proposals must be price protected for a period of **twelve (12) months.**

All proposals will remain confidential until after an award has been made. Vendors will then be allowed to review the proposals 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

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR BID

Midland County Hospital District is accepting bids for **HOSPITAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS WORKSTATIONS** for Midland Memorial Hospital.

Specifications may be secured at the Purchasing Office of Midland Memorial Hospital on or after Wednesday, December 18, 2013.

All proposals must be received in the Department of Materials Management of Midland Memorial Hospital by **12:00 p.m. (noon), Tuesday, January 14, 2014.**

All proposals must be sealed and labeled **"BID #1113-121813."**

Under no circumstances will faxed or emailed proposals from bidders be accepted.

All proposals must be price protected until May 31, 2014.

All proposals will remain confidential until after an award has been made. Vendors will then be allowed to review the proposals 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 proposals 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

76 percent of adults have read a daily newspaper in the past five days.

Source: Scarborough Research 2005

Midland Reporter-Telegram
Delivering life...every day.

201 EAST ILLINOIS AVENUE
MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701
432-682-5311
MYWESTTEXAS.COM

Legal & Public Notices

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
OIL AND GAS DIVISION

DISTRICT 7C — Rule 38 Case No. 7C-0286060
DATE OF ISSUANCE: Dec 9, 2013 — Status/Permit No. 774119
NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Jan 13, 2014
Address: Railroad Commission of Texas
ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email: SWR37@RRC.STATE.TX.US

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the APACHE CORPORATION, [RRC Operator No. 027200] has made application for a spacing and density exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 38 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.38). Applicant seeks exception to the DENSITY requirement of the field rules for the NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 36, Blk. 40 T5S, T&P RR CO/WALKER, G W Survey, A-1320, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, UPTON County, being 21.9 miles NE direction from CRANE, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at **(512) 463-6848.**

IF YOU WISH TO REQUEST A HEARING ON THIS APPLICATION, AN INTENT TO APPEAR IN PROTEST MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE RAILROAD COMMISSION'S AUSTIN OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS, FAX NUMBER, OR E-MAIL ADDRESS SET OUT ABOVE BY Jan 13, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. IF NO PROTEST IS RECEIVED WITHIN SUCH TIME, YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE REQUESTED PERMIT MAY BE GRANTED ADMINISTRATIVELY.

THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name :	CC	
Lease/Unit Well No. :	3733HU	
Lease/Unit Acres :	1298.3	
Nearest Lease Line (ft) :	100.0	
Nearest Well on Lease (ft) :	379.0	
Lease Lines :	5013.0 F NORTH L	1140.0 F EAST L
Survey Lines :	330.0 F SOUTH L.	1140.0 F EAST L

Wellbore Profile(s) : Horizontal

Lateral : TH1
Penetration Point Location
Lease Lines : 5013.0 F NORTH L, 1140.0 F EAST L

Terminus Location
BH County : UPTON
Section : 37 Block : 40 T5S Abstract : 470
Survey : T&P RR CO
Lease Lines : 100.0 F SOUTH L, 1140.0 F EAST L
Survey Lines : 100.0 F SOUTH L, 1140.0 F EAST L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:

SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) : Special Rules 467/0, 80.0 acres

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 9500 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative. Jenna Hernandez, at (432) 818-1112, x 1112.

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS
OIL AND GAS DIVISION

DISTRICT 7C — Rule 38 Case No. 7C-0286059
DATE OF ISSUANCE: Dec 9, 2013 — Status/Permit No. 774113
NOTICE OF PROTEST DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, Jan 13, 2014
Address: Railroad Commission of Texas
ATTN: Drilling Permit Unit
P. O. Box 12967
Austin, Texas 78711-2967
Fax: (512) 463-6780
Email: SWR37@RRC.STATE.TX.US

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the APACHE CORPORATION, [RRC Operator No. 027200] has made application for a spacing and density exception permit under the provisions of Railroad Commission Statewide Rule 38 (16 Tex. Admin. Code section 3.38). Applicant seeks exception to the DENSITY requirement of the field rules for the NEW DRILL permit in Sec. 36, Blk. 40 T5S, T&P RR CO/WALKER, G W Survey, A-1320, SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) Field, UPTON County, being 21.9 miles NE direction from CRANE, Texas.

PURSUANT TO THE TERMS of Railroad Commission rules and regulations, this application may be granted **WITHOUT A HEARING** if no protest to the application is received within the deadline. An affected person is entitled to protest this application. Affected persons include owners of record and the operator or lessees of record of adjacent tracts and tracts nearer to the proposed well than the minimum lease line spacing distance. If a hearing is called, the applicant has the burden to prove the need for an exception. A Protestant should be prepared to establish standing as an affected person, and to appear at the hearing either in person or by qualified representative and protest the application with cross-examination or presentation of a direct case. The rules of evidence are applicable in the hearing. If you have any questions regarding the hearing procedure, please contact the Commission's Docket Services Department at **(512) 463-6848.**

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THIS NOTICE OF APPLICATION REQUIRES PUBLICATION

The location and identity of the well is as shown below:

FIELD: SPRABERRY (TREND AREA)

Lease/Unit Name :	CC	
Lease/Unit Well No. :	3732HM	
Lease/Unit Acres :	1298.3	
Nearest Lease Line (ft) :	100.0	
Nearest Well on Lease (ft) :	499.0	
Lease Lines :	5013.0 F NORTH L,	1200.0 F EAST L
Survey Lines :	330.0 F SOUTH L,	1200.0 F EAST L

Wellbore Profile(s) : Horizontal

Lateral : TH1
Penetration Point Location
Lease Lines : 5013.0 F NORTH L, 1200.0 F EAST L

Terminus Location
BH County : UPTON
Section : 37 Block : 40 T5S Abstract : 470
Survey : T&P RR CO
Lease Lines : 100.0 F SOUTH L, 1200.0 F EAST L
Survey Lines : 100.0 F SOUTH L, 1200.0 F EAST L

Field Rules for ALL fields on the permit application are as follows:

SPRABERRY (TREND AREA) : Special Rules 467/0, 80.0 acres.

This well is to be drilled to an approximate depth of 10000 feet.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact the Applicant's representative. Jenna Hernandez, at (432) 818-1112, x 1112.

General Announcements

BETTER READ
Mark.Berryhill.com
Ministering for Christ.

Lost & Found

FOUND BROWN Female Chihuahua, standard size, Lockheed and Mogford. 432-967-5162, 432-967-5537

FOUND CHIHUAHUA tan, about 2 years old Midland Dr & Bedford area. Call Shannon's Animal Hospital. 432-683-3001.

LOST DOG from Cuthburt/Big Spring. Pomeranian Male, Brown with Black, wearing blue shirt with orange & lime green and Tiger leash. 831-756-9039

LOST WEDDING RING at Graves Post Office across from HEB on Wadley. Reward offered. Call 432-553-9410.



Schools & Instruction

Schools & Instruction

ART LESSONS for Children. Basic Art Instruction. For more information contact Margaret Hover at 432-934-4989 or 432-262-1206



Business Center

Business Opportunity

EARN 10% Interest on your money-secured by 1st lien on a home serious inquiries only. Please write: PO Box 4101 Midland, Tx 79704

Business Opportunity

LOCAL Business For Sale: Fun, service business that can be ran with 1-2 people. Established, loyal residential and commercial accounts. New customers subscribing monthly! Serious inquiries, call 432-770-3009, Owner/Agent.



Autos For Sale or Lease

Passenger Cars

2009 HYUNDAI Genesis, loaded with all options, 28,000 Miles, $19,500. Call 432-683-2369

2010 MUSTANG Runs Great! $15K. (432) 631-7202

BMW 2001 740IL Silver, 85k miles, fully loaded, excellent condition, $8,500. 432-695-6441 or 850-624-5468.

CADILLAC 2006 DTS V8, leather. We finance. 432-683-6222 bnbmidland.com

CHEVY 2008 Malibu $9950. We finance. bnbmidland.com 432-683-6222

CHRYSLER '02 300M Special garaged kept with 81,000 miles, loaded, great condition. $5,750. Call Karen 432 520-4191

DODGE 2010 Charger SXT 53k miles. Clean bnbmidland.com 432-683-6222.

FORD 2005 Mustang GT V8 auto. We finance. 432-683-6222 bnbmidland.com.

FORD 2010 MUSTANG Candy Apple Red. Tan Leather Interior. Automatic V6. Power Windows, Seats, Mirrors. 6 CD Disk Changer One Owner. Non-Smoker Only 36,000 miles $13,500 432-967-0080

Fax Your Classified Ad In Today, 682-6999

Legal & Public Notices

MIDLAND COUNTY
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Midland County is implementing a Texas Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG Contract No. 712055) Program On-site Septic Facility (OSSF) Replacement Project located in South Midland, the community south of the city limits between I-20, CR 1230 and CR 140 and FM 715. As part of this contract the County is facilitating septic system installations for qualified resident applicants. Midland County is seeking bids from qualified, registered OSSF installers.

The County is requesting bids for up to thirty (30) systems. Sealed bids marked "OSSF BID" may be mailed or hand-delivered to the Midland County Courthouse, Commissioner Sanchez's office, 500 N. Loraine St., Midland, TX 79701. Bids are due by 2:00 pm on Thursday, January 2, at which time they will be opened and read aloud.

Detailed instructions, bid schedule, and installer packages/site evaluations are available for pick-up at the Midland County Risk Management and Safety Office, tel (432) 688-4505. A bid bond in the amount of five (5) percent of the bid issued by an acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid. A certified check or bank draft payable to Midland County or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond.

The successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, age, or national origin. Adherence to the grant recipient's Section 3 Policy is required for contracts and subcontracts in excess of $100,000.00.

Midland County reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding.

Bids may be held by Midland County for a period not to exceed 30 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidders' qualifications prior to the contract award.

All OSSF installers that are debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project.

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF TEXAS

TO THE FOLLOWING:

FIDEL RUIZ, JR., ROSEMARY HERNANDEZ RUIZ, MARY ANN HERNANDEZ RUIZ, ANGIE ESQUIVEL, SANDRA NAPOLES, THEODOR RUIZ, JR., SOYLA PORTILLO, BRIDGET DOLORES LOZANO, RUBIN RUIZ, TEDDY RUIZ, AKA THEODORE AROCHA RUIZ, II, BALTAMOR RUIZ, VICTORIA GARCIA, JOSE MANUEL VILLARREAL, LISA VILLAREAL, RAYMOND VILLAREAL, ANNA VILLAREAL, ANGEL VILLAREAL DELGADILLO, VICKI VILLAREAL, AURORA V. CATANO, MARGARITA VILLARREAL, NORA GARCIA, ANITA V. HERNANDEZ, LUPE SUCHIL, HENRY VILLARREAL, CHADWICK RUIZ LOZANO, CHRIS RUIZ, ANN GONZALES, MARGARITA RUIZ AND SARAH L. PERCHEZ, individuals.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED TO APPEAR AND ANSWER HEREIN at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the first Monday after the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this citation. Your answer is due no later than 10 o'clock a.m. on Monday, January 13, 2014. You may employ an attorney. Your answer must be filed at the office of the Clerk at 500 N. Loraine, 3rd Floor, Midland, Texas 79701.

The suit is numbered CV-49,680 and is styled "RICHARD LOYA, Plaintiff, V. FIDEL RUIZ, JR., ROSEMARY HERNANDEZ RUIZ, MARY ANN HERNANDEZ RUIZ, ANGIE ESQUIVEL, SANDRA NAPOLES, THEODOR RUIZ, JR., SOYLA PORTILLO, BRIDGET DOLORES LOZANO, RUBIN RUIZ, TEDDY RUIZ, AKA THEODORE AROCHA RUIZ, II, BALTAMOR RUIZ, VICTORIA GARCIA, JOSE MANUEL VILLARREAL, LISA VILLAREAL, RAYMOND VILLAREAL, ANNA VILLAREAL, ANGEL VILLAREAL DELGADILLO, VICKI VILLAREAL, AURORA V. CATANO, MARGARITA VILLARREAL, NORA GARCIA, ANITA V. HERNANDEZ, LUPE SUCHIL, HENRY VILLARREAL, CHADWICK RUIZ LOZANO, CHRIS RUIZ, ANN GONZALES, MARGARITA RUIZ AND SARAH L. PERCHEZ, Defendants." The petition in this cause was filed on August 29, 2013 in the 441 ST Judicial District Court of MIDLAND County, Texas.

This lawsuit is a suit to quiet title.

Plaintiff's Attorney Name and Address:

Alvaro Martinez, Jr.
1703 N. Big Spring
Midland, TX 79701
432.570.0056 office
432.570.0060 fax
alvaro@alvaromartinez.com

NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANTS: 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 at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of the first Monday after the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this citation a default judgment may be taken against you. Your answer is due no later than 10 o'clock a.m. on Monday, January 14, 2014.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of office on Nov. 27, 2013, at 500 N. Loraine, 3rd Floor, Midland, Texas 79701, MIDLAND County, Texas.

(SEAL) ROSS BUSH
Clerk of the 441ST Judicial District Court
500 N. Loraine, 3rd Floor
MIDLAND County, Texas

BY: Bianca Martinez

Pickup Trucks

PONTIAC 2009 G8 GT White 95,800 Miles, new tires. Great Car. Loaded. $19,500 OBO 432-288-8018

WANTED! Will buy wrecked & unwanted cars, trucks & RVs. FREE pick-up. 432-685-4078

Pickup Trucks

CHEVY 2006 3500 Dually Crew Cab LS. 6.6 Duramax. 432-683-6222 bnbmidland.com

CHEVY 2009 Ext Cab 4x4. We Finance bnbmidland.com. Call 432-683-6222.

DODGE 1998 one ton dually, crew cab, 24V diesel, new tires, clean $12,900, 683-6222

DODGE 2002 Ram 1500. 4X4. Large Mud Tires. Dark Blue. 172000 miles. Newer Engine. $5750 OBO. 432-528-8994

FORD 2005 F250 XLT CrewCab, Diesel, 128k miles. $14,999 683-6222 bnbmidland.com

FORD 2008 F150 XLT Crew Cab. 86k miles bnbmidland.com. Call 432-683-6222

FORD '97 F150 3 door step side white exterior with burgandy interior. $2000. 432-559-5936

4WD & SUV

CADILLAC 2007 ESV Clean, 1 owner, 6.2 engine, 82,800 miles. New rubber. Asking $25,900 432-683-8345

FORD 2007 Expedition LX. 92K miles. We finance. 432-683-6222 bnbmidland.com

FORD 2008 Mustang, Limited edition, Loaded, Warrior package, Shaker stereo, Leather, seats. Clean! 75,500 miles. Asking 13,900. 432-683-8345

GMC 2004 Envoy Red Come see at 3930 Farwood CT. Good condition. Asking $7,500. 432-553-3897

JEEP 2006 BLACK Wrangler X 2 door, 26700 m, $18,000, garage kept, great condition. Call 432-556-7724

Commercial Vehicles

Heavy Equipment

INTERNATIONAL 2004 4300. Bucket truck with chip box. Great condition. With 68,390 miles. $72,400. Call 432-553-2155.

Motorcycles

2002 GOLDWING, GL1800, beautiful black, perfect condition with lots of extras. 10,200 miles. 432-520-3177 or 432-559-1674 L/M

2003 HARLEY Davidson Centennial Edition Duece. Fuel injected with 10,000 garaged miles. 1 year only Gun Metal Peal paint. all the chrome and whistles you could want. $9500.00 OBO or trade. Please call 432-557-1228.

HARLEY Davidson 2012, 1200 Sportster 72. stage 1 upgrade. Open air Willie G breather, Basanni pipes. Burly lowering kit. Leather side saddle bag. Only 3,600 miles. Garage kept. $9,500 or best offer 432-559-2508.

Passenger Cars

BMW of the Permian Basin
3715 Andrews Hwy - Midland
432-521-5900

2009 BMW 528i
Alpine/ Cream Beige Prem , Xenon, Assist & Bluetooth, 98k miles

2011 BMW X5 50i
Jet Black / Blk Sport Activity, Cold, Tech, Spare saver, Head up Avtive seats 13k miles, CPO

2013 BMW 335i Convertible
Jet Blk/Blk Conv, Prem, Nav, SaT, Though Loading System heated seats 4k miles, DEMO

2013 BMW 535i
Dark Graphite / Blk M sport , Tech, Prem , heated , head up display 6k miles, Service loaner

2013 BMW 528xi
Space Gray/Oyster Prem, Heated seats, rear view camera , Nav, 4k miles, Demo

2007 GMC Yukon
Gray/Blk Sat, Rear Seat Ent, 3rd row, 125k Super Clean

2012 BMW 535i
Space Gray/Oyster Prem sound, Sport , Prem. 11k miles, CPO

2012 Mercedes CLS550
Blk/Blk Harman Kardon, Nav., 20k miles

2012 BMW 328i Coupe
Mineral Wht/Oyster M sport , Prem., hi- fi, nav.,12k miles

2013 BMW 328i
Wht/Blk-Red Blk racing Stripe Sport line, Sport Trans, Nav, Heated seats, 3k miles, Unique

bmwpermianbasin.com

Lost & Found

FOUND AN ITEM?

If you are trying to return an item to its rightful owner, let us help you. Call 432-682-6222 For Your Complimentary Ad!

Marty's Marketplace

... leading you to the best bargains in the Permian Basin

Merchandise

Appliances

1- AAA Appliance Free pickup. Call 556-0104 / 528-3046.

FREE 30 minute pick-up appliances & metal. Call 432-352-7988.

REFRIGERATOR $225, Washer $150, Dryer $150, Electric stove $150, small Freezer $75, gas stove $225, Organ $200. 432- 352-7988.

Food, Fruit & Produce

FRESH PECANS Shelled - $10/lb In Shell - $4/lb U Pick-up $2/lb 432-528-2169

Appliances

We buy broken appliances w/ free removal. Also we repair appliances. 432-570-8278

Free Stuff

FREE 2 puppies Chihuahuas 4 months old, 1 black, 1 brown. 432-352-6174 or 432-425-4287.

FREE WOODEN PALLETS!

Midland Reporter-Telegram (on dock side)

Classified CAN 682-6222

Furniture

BEIGE CRESCENT shaped 2-piece sectional. 2 arm chairs with brown, beige and dark navy blue pattern. Excellent condition. Purchased at Carter's in March, 2011 for $3,640. Will sell for $1,800.00. Please call 218-7091 or 553-2389

Brown leather recliner. Very nice! $150. 432-689-7406

QUEEN BEDROOM set, nice rustic, includes 2 dressers. Will text picture. $450. Call 432-210-6070.

WOODEN BUNK beds with mattresses S/T $300. Damage leather sofa and love seat $100. 432-522-2324.

Fax Your Classified Ad In Today: 682-6999

Free Stuff

If You Have Items You Are Giving Away For FREE, Your Ad Is On Us! CALL 432-682-6222 TODAY!

Miscellaneous for Sale

GE Clothes dryer $50. X-Box with games $50. Neintendo Cube $25, Playstation I & II with games $50 each Cleco Vision and games $50 432-262-2685

Wood burning stove $300, Camper Shell $350, 55 gl plastic barrels $15 Call 352-8419

Miscellaneous for Sale

Sub-Zero under counter wine cooler. $250 or best offer 432-978-0532

USED GAS logs & fireplace grates for sale. Call 432-682-5157

Miscellaneous for Sale

Happy Holidays! Celebrate with Savings

Over 40 Used RV's in Stock

Your Full Service Dealer

Try us once You'll Be Back!

KEN'S RV SALES

5904 W. Hwy 80 • Midland • 432-697-6447

kensrvsales.com

Sales • Service • Parts

Financing Available up to 120 months

Credit Score From 530

Musical Instruments

OUSTSIDE ORGAN Beautiful, excellent condition. Must sell, asking $200. Call 432-684-7551.

Piano & Bench Sale Henry F. Miller, $500. 432-559-2046.

Sporting Goods

Nordic Track E-3800 Treadmill. Total Gym Schwinn exercise bike. 432-559-2046

FIREWOOD FOR sale $85 per truck load. Call 432-296-9040

OAK, PECAN, mesquite, pinon, 432-209-0416, 325-762-4262.

Industrial Products & Supplies

Oil & Gas Leases

Oil Lease available. NIOBRARA SHALE, Colorado/Wyoming border, approx. 3000 Acres surrounded by production. Middle of Shell/East resources. AMI. Great terms. Call 775-229-3783.

In A Hurry? E-Mail Your Ad Today! It's Quick & Easy mrtclassified@mrt.com

Pets

AUSTRALIAN LABRADOODLE/COBBERDOG For Sale. Apricot Male Born Nov 11. $2,600. Visit us at Crestcanyonlabradoodles.com or Like us on Facebook!

AKC STANDARD Poodles. White, Int'l American bred $1500. 432-664-1888

DACHSHUND MINI puppies. Blond/smooth coat $400-$600. Call 432-570-4646.

GOLDEN RETRIEVER AKC Great Christmas Gift. 6 weeks old 432-853-1273

REGISTERED LAB Pups $225.00 call 432-557-7255.

SCHNAUZER AKC register 2 males left. Please call 432-889-4044

SCOTTISH TERRIER puppies. Adorable. AKC register. Black beauties. Born 10/04/13. Current on shots. Call 325-207-0042

Pets

SCHNAUZER TOY AKC, Born 10/15 Price reduced by $400 each. 1 Black 2 Black and White Parti. 432-296-2316 www.snazzyschnauzers.com

YORKIE puppies, 1 females, 2 males. 9 weeks old, 1st shots. $500. 432-559-5939.

YORKIE PUPPIES. Teacup. CKC Registered. First Shots. Ready Now! $900 **432-213-2138 or 432-816-4216.**

FAX YOUR AD 24/7 682-6999

DON'T MISS OUT!

The deadline for a Saturday Garage Sale ad is Friday at 12 noon

Please be sure to call 682-6222, by 11:30 am, to ensure your ad will be in Saturday's paper.

4WD & SUV

Auto Sure Sell



30 days Midland Reporter-Telegram

30 days Mywesttexas.com

New Today Banner 1st day only

Up to 10 lines of text $40 (each line after $5) (Private Parties Only)

Motorcycles

VESPA SCOOTER 2009 GTV 250ie 70mpg 1025 miles. Garage kept Windshield, sharp looking! Scooter MFG (Italian) Located in Abilene $5000 OBO 325-692-9163 or 325-518-2453

RVs

2011 TRAIL Runner for sale $10,000. Clean and roomy travel trailer, has plenty of storage both inside and outside. Two 30 gallon propane bottles located on the front of the trailer. Fully equipped kitchen. Travel trailer sleeps six comfortably, fold out couch, kitchen table folds down to make a bed. Furnace and A/C work perfectly. Call 832-579-6484

Utility Trailers

NEW TODAY!

8x18 TANDUM trailer with ramp for rent. Call 432-634-7110

Get Framed

See how this ad caught your eye with its effective use of a border as a frame? Ask your Rep about framing your ad today!

432-682-6222

or fax to

432-682-6999

4WD & SUV

2007 ESCALADE PEARL White 132,800 miles New Tires $23,900 432-557-5557

Recreational Vehicles

2012 WILDWOOD X-Lite Series, power awning & tongue jack, easy lube axles, radio w. CD player, & 18" TV, pass through storage on front, stabilizer jacks. Refrigerator & 3 burner cook top. Like new, used twice $25,000. Call Robert 432-934-5194

FLEETWOOD 2006 Discovery 39L Diesel 4 slides 17k miles $94,000 Call 432-631-9868

FOR SALE 2012 Lexion S-Lite 31' with 1 slide. Loaded! Pulled 1 time. Used retail $30,310. Asking $27,300 or best offer. 432-687-2621 after 5pm

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Attention Readers

In observance of

New Year's Day

The Midland Reporter-Telegram will be closed

Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2014

Advertising Deadlines

Classified Word Ads

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Wed., Jan. 1st	Tues., Dec. 31st, NOON
Thurs., Jan. 2nd	Tues., Dec. 31st, 2 PM

Classified Display Ads

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Wed., Jan. 1st	Mon., Dec. 30th, 5 PM
Thurs., Jan. 2nd	Mon., Dec. 30th,, 5 PM
Fri., Jan. 3rd	Tues., Dec. 31st, NOON

Retail Display Ads

Publishing On:	Deadline is:
Wed., Jan 1st	Mon., Dec. 30th, 5 PM
Thurs., Jan 2nd	Mon., Dec. 30th, 5 PM
Sun., Jan 5th (Oil Report/West Texas Living, Arts & Ent.)	Mon., Dec. 30th, 5 PM
Fri., Jan 3rd	Tues., Dec. 31st, Noon

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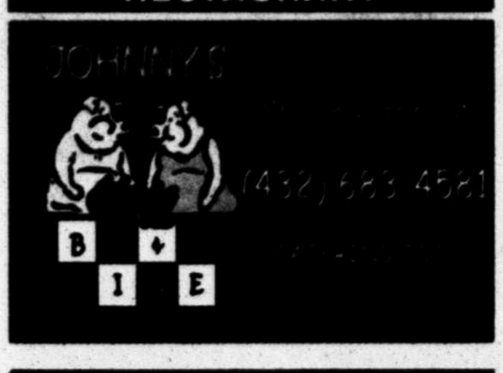
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JOB WEEK



Percent of employers who say blue is the best color to wear to a job interview.
SOURCE: CareerBuilder.com
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KNOW WHO'S BOSS

By PATRICIA RIVERA
CTW Features

Far from brown nosing, keeping a boss happy is a smart strategy for any worker – and an easy way to stand apart from your peers.

Because when you build a relationship in which both you and your boss are interested in helping out each other, you'll enjoy a happier work life.

Bonnie Low-Kramen, a New Jersey corporate trainer and author of "Be the Ultimate Assistant," (NK Publications, 2008) says the trick is to scratch the boss' itch and ease his or her pain.

"The [employee] who understands the goals of their supervisors and does everything she can to achieve those goals will be the staffer who is continually employed," Low-Kramer says. "Being proactive is a great strategy."

Hence, offering help on a project before you're asked shows that you pay attention and can think independently.

Low-Kramen also suggests going above and beyond in a personalized way. No supervisor is the same, so it's important to understand their individual pet peeves, likes and dislikes.

Kindness goes a long way, she adds. Bring additional research for the meeting your manager is having today. Go on LinkedIn and print out photos of the people she will be meeting with and know a few keys facts about them.

"Be the one who walks towards a problem or a difficult project and do it with a smile on your face and a positive attitude," Low-Kramen says.

Alan Allard, an Atlanta leadership coach and talent management expert, says keeping a boss happy requires a process.

At least once a quarter, sit down with your boss and ask what he or she sees as expectations for you.

"Then make them your priorities and meet or exceed expectations," he says. "And find a way to help him or her achieve those priorities. For example, find something your boss is responsible for but doesn't like doing or isn't so good at. If they hate writing reports, offer to edit them. Your boss will love you for taking something they dread off his or her plate."

Focus on your boss's strengths and give regular feedback on how they're doing. Don't overdo it, but be consistent over time, Allard says. For example, tell you boss at least once a week something positive about their work or leadership. Once a quarter, send them an email or better yet, a handwritten note.

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MIDDLE MILE MARCH



A STEADY PACE TOWARD AN ULTIMATE GOAL CAN ELIMINATE WORK FATIGUE AND PREVENT A CAREER BURNOUT.

By DAWN KLINGENSMITH
CTW Features

When making New Year's resolutions for 2014, think "marathon."

No one is asking you to run 26.3 miles. But businessman and author Daniel Steenerson would like to see more professionals think of their careers in terms of a marathon. Instead of start and finish lines, there are a series of fresh starts and long-term goals. And in between are the "middle miles," where fatigue sets in and employees start reporting to work as though on a treadmill.

Though Steenerson typically counsels entrepreneurs – who fail in such high numbers because the business equivalent of a "runner's high" isn't everlasting – his advice about muscling through the middle miles also applies to employees struggling to put one foot in front of the other.

During the middle miles, "It's particularly important to apply a disciplined approach," Steenerson says. "Every day, know what you will accomplish and how."

Make sure your daily routine consists not of walking in place, but taking small steps toward your ultimate goal. Remind yourself that consistency is a quality that employers notice. So though the finish line is still far away, your determination and progress could gain you some fans and cheerleaders along the way.

Since mistakes can happen when fatigue sets in, take a pause if necessary before pressing on to assess and address the underlying causes, advises Russ Hovendick, founder, Directional Motivation, Sioux Falls, S.D.

"Self-assessment is really important," Hovendick says, and begins with a series of questions.

1) Why am I feeling this way?
2) Am I overtaxed or am I bored?
3) Do I need more resources or more of a challenge?
4) Do I need to ask for help?
5) What will revitalize me?

An honest self-assessment may reveal the problem is complacency. "Sometimes, good is the enemy of great. Very often, people who achieve a certain degree of success stop visualizing the finish line," Steenerson says. "They've gotten to where they are good at what they do, have the things in life that they want, so they see no incentive to work harder."

But settling for "good" when great is on the horizon is the same thing as stalling out, with no further development.

If depletion is the underlying cause, it's necessary to refuel, which takes effort. In a marathon, orange slices and cups of water are there for the taking all along the course – all runners do is stick out their hands to accept this refreshment. By contrast, an employee's experience is more like the desert wanderer who must seek out water on hands and knees if necessary.

"When you're in the middle mile and you're dragging, it's very counterintuitive but that's when you have to dig even deeper," Steenerson says.

And just when you think you cannot take on anything else, it may be time to do just that, he adds.

Take classes. Find a mentor. Hire a career coach. Or simply read. "Invest in yourself and get those creative juices flowing," Steenerson says.

Piling more on isn't always the answer. Sometimes paring down is the key to getting ahead. "Maybe you're banging your head against the wall because you've made things too complicated. Maybe you've become bogged down in details and it's time to simplify," Steenerson says.

With a finish line in sight, business professionals – like runners – experience a sense of elation. Having crossed the finish line, "as soon as you take on a new role or challenge, sit down and make a list of why you want to be in that role," Hovendick says.

Later, with the exhilarating start and the exultant finish both miles away, you can refer back to the list "as sort of a GPS system to keep you motivated and on track," he says.

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JOB TRENDS

HOMEBODY WORKFORCE

A sweeping change has transformed the job market.
But it's been happening slowly – over the course of three decades – so you may not have noticed, unless it's occurring right under your own roof.



Some 4.4 percent of all workers work from home, up from 2.3 percent in 1980, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey.

While 4.4 percent may sound like it's still a tiny slice, it's not, say experts. Stanford University economics professor Nicholas Bloom, for instance, notes that the rise is "massive and reflects a widespread increase in home-based working."

Moreover, the data understates the trend, because millions work at home for part of their workweek, adds Anthony Carnevale, director of Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce.

"If your job is unloading trucks, you can't work at home," says Carnevale. But since the 1980's there's been a shift from manufacturing and other on-site jobs to work that requires only a telephone and/or a computer, he explains..

"Full-time, at-home jobs are offered by a wide variety of industries, which is often surprising to people," adds Sara Sutton Fell, CEO of FlexJobs.

Home-based workers can command pay commensurate with on-site workers, according to Carnevale.

"The distribution of salaries for home workers is wide," he says. "A lawyer who's a partner in a firm, for instance, may work at home and earn a lot of money."

However, Carnevale notes that one key reason companies like home-based employees is because they can easily "expand and contract these networks [of home-based workers]. When business declines, these are the people who lose their job, whereas the 'core' workforce usually are working on-site."

– Marilyn Kennedy Melia

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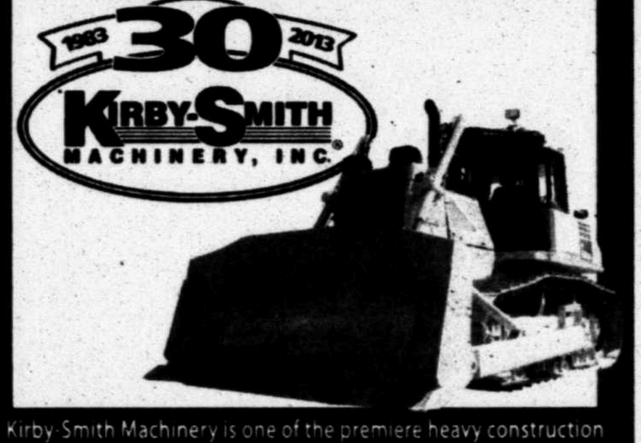
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- **EHS & Regulatory Specialist** - strong oil & gas operational knowledge; experience in implementing safety & regulatory plans
- **Field Clerk** - experience as an Administrative Assistant or Field Clerk; High school diploma with college degree a plus
- **Production Engineer** - 3+ years' experience in Production Engineering and/or Well Completions; BS in Engineering required
- **Sr. Production Engineer** - 8+ years' experience in Production Engineering and/or Well Completions; BS in Engineering required
- **Assistant Foreman** - 7+ years' experience in operations; experience in field level supervision preferred
- **Gang Pusher** - 5+ years' experience in production; High school diploma or equivalent required.

Interested parties; please visit our website at www.huntoil.com and select the Career Opportunities link to find the appropriate position. You can "Apply for this Position" or if you are already registered use your email and password and select "Add to my Jobs" to be considered for this opportunity.

DIRECTIONAL DRILLER

Directional drilling company seeking experienced drillers in West Texas. Must have at least 2 yrs experience. Send resume to resumes@aimdir.com.

Sr. Production Foreman & Production Foreman

Diamondback Energy, a publicly traded E&P company with extensive acreage holdings in the Permian Basin, is in the process of expanding. We are currently seeking a **SENIOR PRODUCTION FOREMAN & PRODUCTION FOREMAN.** Must have complete knowledge of all types of artificial lifts, production operations and flowback operations for horizontal wells. Will be responsible for coordinating and supervising the activities of lease operators and production technicians. Must have knowledge of chemical and corrosion programs. Requires basic computer skills with knowledge of Wellview or similar well data base program. Successful candidate will have a High School Diploma and at least 10 years' oil field experience. Excellent compensation package, including very competitive salary (based on experience) and medical, dental, vision, LTD, STD, life insurance, 401(k) (with 6% match). Please submit resume with salary requirements to: diamondback4man@yahoo.

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

ENERGY & UTILITIES

HY-BON

ENGINEERING COMPANY, INC.

Phone (432) 697-2292 Fax (432-697-2310
2404 Commerce, Midland, Texas 79703
www.hy-bon.com

Hy-Bon Engineering is a global industry leader since 1952 and provides leading edge design and fabrication of customized compressor packages for handling low-pressure gas streams. Hy-Bon is a well-established family oriented company that is committed to providing excellent service to our Customers and proudly offers our employees excellent benefits, including health insurance, 401(k) plan, holiday, sick and vacation pay. Uniforms and steel-toed boots are provided.

Field Service Technician

Perform service work for fleet of oil flooded screw rotary vane and reciprocating gas compression units. Knowledge of compressor unit wiring and PLC controls a plus. Must have own tools and clean driving record.

Purchasing Agent - Midland TX

Ideal candidate must be familiar with oilfield parts and products. Position requires heavy data entry with inventory system and accuracy is a must! Must be able to professionally communicate with vendors and have strong customer service skills.

All qualified candidates should send their resume and/or qualifications to: employment@hy-bon.com. Hy-Bon Engineering Company, 2404 Commerce, Midland, Texas 79703. If you have any questions, please call at 432-697-2292. Wages are based on experience. All applicants required to pass drug test and background check.

Experienced Well Testing Operators

South Texas based well testing company looking for Experienced Well Testing Operators for project to commence mid to late January 2014. Salary compatible with experience. Send resumes to: rgarza8209@gmail.com

Field Technician (Midland, TX)

An established environmental consulting company is currently looking to fill a field technician position. The position is fulltime with benefits and requires working in the field. Good mechanical aptitude is preferred, but not required. Duties include: groundwater sampling, obtaining groundwater data from monitor wells, and recovering phase separated hydrocarbons from monitor wells. Use of personal vehicle may be required and may travel more than 150 miles per day. Compensation is hourly and will be discussed during the interview. Please send resumes to Becky via email to rhaskell@novatraining.cc or by mail to 2057 Commerce Drive, Midland, Texas 79703.

Energy Sales

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN ENERGY SALES
MANUFACTURER'S REP FOR MULTIPLE OILFIELD PRODUCTS

CURRENT POSITIONS AVAILABLE:
CORPORATE SALES

Required experience
- 5-10 years' experience calling on engineering and corporate level project managers within the oil and gas industry.
- 5 years' direct experience selling related products to oilfield services clientele.
- Degree preferred but not required for right candidate.

Required characteristics
- Naturally conveys passion and enthusiasm for the company's products; able to convey technical product details in the most effective manner.
- Polished sales skills at the executive level – adept at interacting with and cultivating relationships with engineering design and project coordinators for major projects within oil and gas industry.
- Equally comfortable delivering high-impact sales presentations in boardroom settings as well as going into the field to ensure delivery/installation has gone smoothly.
- Self-directed; highly competitive and goal-oriented.
- Ability to identify, strategize, and pursue major sales opportunities.

Location Flexible: Midland, TX/Houston, TX/Oklahoma City, OK
—Travel Necessary
Salary Dependent on Experience + Competitive Bonus + Company Vehicle + Country Club Membership + Health Insurance + 401K

CALL US TODAY!
432.580.7200 | www.EnergySalesLLC.com
1400 W Interstate 20
Odessa, Texas 79763

Office Assistant

Diggers Oilfield Services, LLC FT

Part time Office Asst. needed. Microsoft Office a must. QuickBooks knowledge a plus. Must be detailed oriented and have strong written and verbal skills. Please send resumes to Sara Anderson at sanderson@diggersoilfieldservices

Plant Operator

West Texas Gas FT

PLANT OPERATOR NEEDED IMMEDIATELY: Experience preferred but not required. Location near Stanton, TX. Fax resume to: (432) 458-3423 or mail to: Sale Ranch, 2873 FM 829, Stanton, TX 79782. Can Email resume to dsatterfield@wtgbenedum.com.

Tubing Testers & Scanners

Confidential FT
Odessa, TX 79763
Oilfield Service Company in Odessa, TX looking to hire Tubing Testers and Scanners. Must have clean driving record and be able to pass a drug test. Come to 1535 Windcrest, Odessa, TX to fill out application.

HEALTHCARE

Health Care Professionals

- **Licensed Vocational Nurses (PRN)**
- **Certified Nurse Aides (2p-10p & 10p-6a)**
- **Dietary Cook & Aide (2 morning, 2 evening)**
- **Dietary Dishwasher (PRN)**

We offer a new salary and benefits are available. If you are a person dedicated to providing quality care, please apply in person or email resume to:

Terrace West Nursing & Rehabilitation
2800 Midland Drive • Midland, TX 79707
Phone: 432-697-3108 • Fax: 432-689-0486
ADM.TerraceWest@daybreakventure.com

For other job opportunities please visit our website
www.daybreakventure.com
EOE

Health Care Professionals

- **Licensed Vocational Nurse (6a-6p)**
- **Certified Nurse Aides (6a-6p)**
- **Maintenance Supervisor (8a-4p)**

If you are a person dedicated to providing quality care please apply in person or email resume to:

Stanton Nursing and Rehabilitation
1100 West Broadway • Stanton, TX 79782
PH: 432-756-2841 • FX:432-756-2904
ADM.Stanton@daybreakventure.com

For other job opportunities please visit our website at
www.daybreakventure.com
EOE

Mansfield Chiropractic

Our team has an opening for a motivated, energetic and dependable member to help us provide quality care to our patients. Experience is not mandatory but a great attitude is. Please bring resume to Mansfield Chiropractic at 4107 West Illinois

mywesttexas jobs

http://www.mywesttexas.com/jobs

Midland Reporter-Telegram in partnership with monster

HEALTHCARE

Nursing Department staffing schedule offers one 3 day weekend off each month. Benefits are available. If you are a person dedicated to providing quality care, please apply in person or email resume.

Healthcare Professionals

- Registered Nurses (2p-10p & 10p-6a)
- Licensed Vocational Nurses (2p-10p & 10p-6a)
- Certified Nurse Aides (2p-10p & 10p-6a)
- Certified Medication Aide (2p-10p)

NEW WAGE SCALE IN PLACE

Email resume to:
ADM.Deerings@daybreakventure.com

www.daybreakventure.com

Activity Assistant
Legacy Ranch FT
Now hiring FT Activity Assistant to work with elderly clients in a professional environment. Apply in person at: 4800 Briarwood Ave. . Midland, TX 79707

Caregiver
Morning Glory PT/FT
Position available for honest, dependable care giver, training provided. OVER-NIGHT SHIFTS AVAILABLE, full time position. Excellent Benefits. If interested please contact: 432-697-8749

HEALTHSOUTH
Rehabilitation Hospital of Midland /Odessa
1800 Heritage Boulevard, Midland, TX 79707

HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Midland is a 60-bed acute medical rehabilitation hospital that offers comprehensive inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation services. Providing the latest technology, HealthSouth Midland serves patients throughout the Permian Basin. HealthSouth uses an interdisciplinary team approach, offering patients a more intense regimen and higher level of care. Work at a place that allows you to practice the heart of your profession to advance the patient's progress throughout their stay. Take pleasure in seeing the results of your efforts when patients return to independence within their everyday lives. A combination of experienced staff and innovative technology but, most importantly, quality patient care, is what makes HealthSouth a leader that you can count on!!

We are currently seeking:

Home Health

OT – PRN (Home Health in Midland/Big Spring area)

C N A – PRN (Home Health in Midland/Big Spring area)

PTA – PRN (Home Health in Midland/Big Spring area)

Inpatient Rehab Hospital

Rehab Nurse Tech –FT/PRN (7a-7p/7p-7a)

Pharmacy Tech – PRN

Therapy Tech - PRN

Director of Plant Operations - FT

Housekeeper – FT

Total Compensation Package for Full Time Employees includes:
- Fantastic PTO Plan- starting day one
- Day 1 coverage - Medical, Dental, and Vision Plans
- Day 1 coverage – Short & Long Term Disability, Life Insurance
- Day 1 coverage – 5 different AFLAC Plans
- Day 1 coverage – Group Prepaid Legal
- 401k & 529 College Savings Plans
- Continuing Educational Opportunities
- And we haven't even discussed all the plan options

We offer competitive salaries and a great working environment!

For immediate consideration, please e-mail your resume directly to:
Tina Parker
Director of Human Resources
E-mail: tina.mparker@healthsouth.com
Phone: 432-520-1607 Fax: 432-520-1704
Website: www.HealthSouth.com/careers
Check us out on:

Not looking for an opportunity? Please share this information with anyone who might be interested!

PREMIER PHYSICIANS

Premier Physicians currently has openings in the following offices:

Urgent Care – Walk In Clinic
Experienced Physician's Assistant or Nurse Practitioner – must have at least one year experience in busy clinic setting.

Premier Physicians offers a competitive benefit package including paid vacation and sick time, health insurance and retirement.

Please send qualified resumes to:
Premier Physicians
Attn: Arita Routh
P.O. Box 5291
Midland, TX 79704 or by fax to 432.682.2284
PO# UC-7090

Housekeeper
Legacy Ranch FT
Midland, TX
Now Hiring FT Housekeeper to work with elderly clients in a professional environment. Apply in person at: 4800 Briarwood Ave., Midland, Tx 79707

Nursing Supervisor/Manager

Well organized self starter
Small stable staff
Some local travel (Midland/Odessa)
No Nights, Weekends or Holidays
Experience in sterile technique helpful (operating room, etc)

Apply in confidence. Mail resume to:
M- 12 c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram
201 E. Illinois Midland, TX 79701

Medical Assistant
Medical Assistant needed for busy physicians practice. Great Benefit Package.
Please fax resumes to 682-2284 or mail to Premier Physicians, Attn: Arita Routh, PO Box 5291, Midland, Texas 79704. No phone calls please
PP-7233

RNs for Su Casa Home Health
RN position is PT. Great benefits and pay rate. Fax resume to 432-570-0823 or come by 1311 W. Florida, Midland, TX.

Permian Basin Community Centers

A Great Place to Work and Make a Difference in our Community
Salary positions enjoy a full benefit package with outstanding health coverage, affordable dependent health coverage, retirement, life insurance, scheduled pay increases, optional cafeteria coverage for dental insurance, vision insurance, AFLAC, and paid leave. Hourly positions enjoy flexible work schedules and retirement.

Salary positions available

Rehab Provider or Service Coordinator (Qualified Mental Health Professional) - Midland, Odessa, Fort Stockton - Provide rehabilitative, medical, service coordination and case management services to eligible adults in the community setting.
IDD Respite Provider - Midland and Odessa - Assist eligible individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in accessing medical, social, educational, and other appropriate services.
Social Service/Data Manager - Provides social service case management functions including, but not limited to, linking and referrals, coordination, intakes, service plan monitoring and updating, documentation, file maintenance and reception duties.
Clinician (LPC, LCSW, or LMFT) -Odessa - Responsible for service coordination duties and counseling eligible individuals using the State of Texas approved curriculum for Cognitive Behavior Therapy.
Rehabilitative Crisis Worker -Midland - Responsible for daytime response to mental health crisis calls from Law Enforcement, Emergency Room, and community; and walk-in crisis in the Mental Health Clinic.
Family Partner -Midland or Odessa - Provide peer supports to children suffering from mental illness and their families. Applicant must have one year of experience raising a child or adolescent with an emotional or mental health issue.
Early Intervention Specialist -Midland and Odessa - Provide education services to children 0-3 years of age.
Clinic Assistant/Peer Support Provider - Ector - Assists caseworkers by providing requested transportation, direct support services and indirect support services to persons with severe and persistent mental illness.

Hourly positions available
(Starting from $10.50 to $14)

Counselor Intern ($14) / Residential Monitor ($12) - Odessa - Provide daily support to individuals in a residential substance use treatment facility. Earn valuable hours toward your chemical dependency counselor license
Community Living Instructor ($10.50) - Midland and Odessa - Positions are responsible for the daily supervision, care training, assessment, and assistance of individuals with developmental disabilities. Work a designated shift or request to work on an "as needed basis".

All applicants must have a valid Texas Driver's License, proof of auto liability insurance coverage, and will be subject to a criminal history background check. For additional information and qualifications for all positions, see our PDF application and current job listing available at www.pbmhmr.com. For questions, contact the Human Resources Department at 432-570-3322.

PRN Nurses/FT Caregivers
Legacy Ranch FT
Midland, TX
Now Hiring PRN Nurses and FT experienced Caregivers to work with elderly clients in a professional environment. Apply in person at: 4800 Briarwood Ave., Midland, Tx 79707

Registered Radiologic Technologist
American Medical Group FT
Tired of working holidays, weekends and on-call? American Medical Group has an opening for a Registered Radiologic Technologist. Full time with competitive pay and benefits. Apply in person at 2410 N Fowler St Hobbs, New Mexico or fax resume to **575-392-0087**. No phone calls, please.

Sitters / CNAs
Nurses Unlimited, Inc. FT/PT
NURSES UNLIMITED INC IS SEEKING SITTERS / CNAs TO WORK FOR PRIVATE DUTY CLIENTS. MUST PASS DRUG TEST AND BACKGROUND CHECK. ALL SHIFTS AVAILABLE. E.O.E. CALL: 432-522-5080

TEXAS ONCOLOGY

Texas Oncology, P.A., an affiliate of US Oncology, the largest oncology network in the nation, has the following opening at the Allison Cancer Center:

RN - Full Time - Infusion Nurse

US Oncology offers competitive salaries and an excellent benefits package, including 401(k) and tuition reimbursement. Interested candidates should forward resume with salary requirement to: Attn: Carmen Cross, Texas Oncology - Allison Cancer Center, Craddick Medical Office Building, 400 Rosalind Redfern Grover Parkway, Suite 100, Midland, TX 79701, fax **(432) 687-4251** or email carmen.cross@usoncology.com. We are an equal opportunity employer.

Veterinary Technician
Veterinary Technician. Experience preferred. Call 432-687-4118 to schedule an interview.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources Assistant
Natural Gas Services Group FT
NGSG is seeking a Human Resources Assistant. Responsibilities will included Multi-state payroll, Benefit Administration, HR administration, maintaining files, reports and working with the accounting Department. This individual must have at minimum of 3 years payroll service and 3 years Human Resources experience. Excellent Salary & Benefit package. For more information or to submit resume contact Employment@ngsgi.com or call 432.262.2700.

LAW ENFORCEMENT & SECURITY

Security Guard
Finley Investigations & Security (Lic# C09211) FT/PT
7500 N CR 1294, Midland, TX 79707.
Hiring now! Full-time security guards. Retirees and college students welcome. Safe environment. We will train. Competitive pay. Growing company. 432-561-5660. tomfinley@oilfieldsecurity.com

OTHER JOBS

All Positions
Firehouse Subs FT
Midland, TX 79701
Now hiring Slice, Prep, Cashiers, Catering & Kitchen help for AM/PM positions. Apply in person: 2900 W. Loop 250 North, Ste 162.

Mason Helper
17 temporary positions, Villanueva Masonry, Midland, TX. 3/01/2014 - 12/1/201. Assist mason: prepare & install brick/concrete surfaces; mix & set forms; provide materials/tools; clean work area. No experience required, will train, able to lift up to 70 lbs., $9.13/hr, $13.70/hr OT, 40 hrs/wk, OT varies, 9am-5:30pm, M-F. Transportation provided from central location for multiple job sites in Midland & Ector Counties. Call 432-770-4545 or email resume: emanuelvillanueve@yahoo.com. Refer to JO#8823258

Fax Your Classified Ad In Today! 682-6999

OTHER JOBS

WE ARE GROWING
AND ARE NOW HIRING FOR ALL POSITIONS FOR OUR NEW LOCATION AT 4020 FAUDREE ROAD, ODESSA, TX

Great Benefits including:
- Nights/Holiday's Off
- Tuition Reimbursement
- 401K & Insurance
- Great pay + Bonuses
- Weekly Pay
- Sick Pay/Vacation

AVIS LUBE
THE KENT COMPANIES
BEST OIL CHANGE CENTERS

APPLY TODAY AT:
2408 N. Big Spring St., Midland, TX
Any Avis Lube Location OR online at:
www.thekentcompanies.com

CDL Bus Driver
The Boys & Girls Club of Midland seeking afternoon CDL Bus Driver. Approximately 2 hours per day @ $25 per hour. Mon-Fri. Call Michael 683-0050

Housekeeper
Villa Chateau Apartments FT
Full time Housekeeper needed. Physical/Drug screen & Background check done. Apply in person at: Villa Chateau Apts., 1603 N. Midkiff Rd, Midland, TX 79701. No phone calls please.

1staffing
IMMEDIATE OPENINGS
- Marketing Specialist - Sales
- Pipe Inspection
- Bilingual Admin Assistant
- Meat Processors
- Class A & B CDL Drivers
- Warehouse - Shop Hands
- Single-hand Welders
- Audio-Video Installation Tech
- Hot Sauce Processors
- Delivery Drivers
- Chemical Blending

Apply in person at:
4400 N. Big Spring St., Ste. C 26,
Midland, TX. 79705
432-550-4059.
www.staffitusa.com

Janitorial Help
Part-time Janitorial work in the evening. Apply at 2311 Elizabeth Ave or call 432-570-9903

THE KENT COMPANIES
KENT KWIK
New
OPENING SOON AT 1709 RANKIN HWY., MIDLAND, TX

GREAT Benefits including:
- Tuition Reimbursement
- 401K & Insurance
- Great Pay + Bonuses
- Weekly Pay
- Sick Pay/Vacation

We are growing and are now hiring for all positions for our new location!

APPLY TODAY AT:
2408 N. BIG SPRING ST., MIDLAND, TX
ANY KENT KWIK LOCATION OR ONLINE AT:
WWW.THEKENTCOMPANIES.COM

The Midland Reporter-Telegram has an opening in its Production Department for the position of:

Pressman/Pressman Trainee

for our Harris N-1650 Printing presses. This 5-6 day per week, fast-paced, deadline oriented position, requires: night shift/ weekend work, with a strong emphasis on safety. The Midland Reporter-Telegram offers a full package of company benefits including 401K program. Salary DOE.

Send resume and salary requirements to:
John Maddox, Production Director
c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram
201 E. Illinois St., Midland, TX 79701
E-mail: jmaddox@hearstnp.com
or
come by 201 E. Illinois Street to fill out an application.

HEARST corporation
Midland Reporter-Telegram is a part of Hearst Corp.
NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE

Pump Down Supervisors and Operators
O-Tex FT/PT
Midland, TX
O-Tex Pumping is currently hiring experienced pump down supervisors and pump down operators. We offer competitive pay, job bonuses, matching 401K, full medical benefits, and life insurance. Please come by 2611 E. I-20 or go to www.otexpumping.com and fill out an application. Must be able to pass a MVR and drug screen. O-Tex Pumping is an EOE.

Let Classifieds Work for You! Call

432-682-6222

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http://www.mywesttexas.com/jobs

Midland Reporter-Telegram in partnership with monster

OTHER JOBS



NOW HIRING
BECAUSE YOU TOO CAN OWN THIS FACE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

Apply at 2408 N. Big Spring St. • Midland, TX
www.thekentcompanies.com

THE KENT COMPANIES
Making your life easier

NOW HIRING EXTRA! EXTRA!

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR NIGHT TIME ASSOCIATE

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

Pay $10.00 per hour paid every 2 weeks

These positions require some physical lifiting 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: lmaddox@heartsip.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

Midland Reporter-Telegram HAS IMMEDIATE OPENINGS IN ITS DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT FOR PART TIME DAY ASSOCIATE

NOW HIRING EXTRA! EXTRA!

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

Pay $10.00 per hour paid every 2 weeks

These positions require some physical lifiting 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: lmaddox@heartsip.com
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

FTS International

FTS INTERNATIONAL IS HIRING!
FTSI IS INTERVIEWING FOR:

GREAT PAY AND EXCELLENT BENEFITS

Administrative Assistant
One to two years of payroll and accounts payable experience required.

Electronic Techs
One year experience preferred.

Equipment Operators
Class A CDL required, tanker and hazmat endorsements preferred.

Mechanics
Must have own tools, two years experience required.

Dispatcher
Basic computer skills required.

Candidates must pass FTSI conditions of employment (background check, drug screening, etc) prior to hire date.

Apply at:
986 S. Maurice St.
Odessa, TX

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 432-368-8100

FTS INTERNATIONAL

FTSI is one of the largest and most respected providers of well stimulation and completion services

Visit www.ftsi.com/careers for more information on available positions

MIDLAND JUDICIAL DISTRICT
COMMUNITY SUPERVISION AND CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT
MIDLAND, TEXAS HAS THE FOLLOWING JOB VACANCY:
DRUG TREATMENT FACILITY RESIDENTIAL MONITOR

Facility Residential Monitor: Supervises daily activities of adult male probationers in court ordered drug/alcohol treatment center. Salary $2,140/mo. Plus retirement and employer paid medical. Minimum GED or H.S. Diploma and favorable background check. **Application and a complete job description** may be obtained from the Midland CSCD M-F 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. 200 N. Main, Midland, Texas 79701. For more information: 432-688-4174.

Oilfield Construction Manager
Minimum 5 years experience with bidding, invoicing and job cost tracking. Oversee building locations, roads, and containment pads. Please send resume to M-31 c/o Midland Reporter Telegram, 201 E. Illinois, Midland, Tx. 79701

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

QA & QUALITY CONTROL

NACE Level 1 Inspector
NACE Level 1 Inspector with ASME code experience needed to act as Quality Assurance Manager. Salary DOE. Send resume and salary requirements to RWI Construction, 10700 State Hwy 191, Midland, TX 79707.

RESTAURANT & FOOD SERVICE

Now Hiring
Taste at 508 Barista Cafe All Arounder. Call 432-230-0225

RESTAURANT & FOOD SERVICE

Food Service Worker
ABL Management FT
Immediate openings at the Midland Detention Center. Institutional cooking and hands-on experience preferred. Competitive Hourly Wage and Benefits. Must pass background check and pre-employment drug screen. Contact Ruth @ 432 688-4772 or fax resume with salary history to 432 688-4772 or email to dept2@ablmanagement.com attn: Ruth EOE

SALES JOBS

MIDAS **SALES ASSOCIATE**

Starting At $50k Per Year

Must have experience in selling auto repairs and maintenance. Candidate must have excellent communication skills, hard work ethic, clean cut image, professional character and must be punctual and reliable. Great benefits. Matching 401k.

EOE • Drug Free Workplace

432-638-1248 — 3301 W. Wall
dmitchell@midastexas.com

FLOOR MANAGER
Westlake ACE Hardware, one of the largest retailers of home hardware in the U.S., has an opening for **Floor Manager** for our Midland TX store. Our Floor Manager reports to the General Manager. **Westlake** operates 85 stores in seven states and we are growing. We offer starting salary of $40,000, bonus eligibility, two weeks paid vacation and holidays, a liberal employee discount and other benefits. Whether you've worked in the hardware industry, another retail environment or you're just getting started in your retail career, **Westlake ACE** could be the right fit for you. Submit resume and salary history to **resumes@westlakehardware.com** or fax to **866-490-0460**.

Rural Field Agents (3)
We are a Midwest company looking for agents to facilitate growth in this market. We provide an in-demand product, proven sales training, **6-figure earning potential** and 3-day weekends (overnight travel Mon.-Thurs.)
Apply Now:
(855) 888-4026 •
pltnm.com/Midland

Sales
FLOWERLAND FT/PT
Salesperson needed. Must have good customer relations and phone etiquette. Computer experience preferred. Saturdays & holidays included. Fax resume to 432-682-8949, apply in person, or email resume to tomwilliams@flowerlandmidland.com, no phone calls please.

Salesperson
Salesperson needed for mattress store in Midland. Are you tired of working furniture store hours from dawn to dark? Personable, energetic individual needed for full time position. Should be good with people and have a professional appearance. Job description includes both sales and clerical/administrative duties. Compensation includes full commission (no tiers, minimums or holdbacks), plus spiffs, vacation, and 401k. No late hours or Sundays. Mail resume to Sleep Shop, 3303 W. Illinois, Midland, TX. 79703

STORE MANAGERS and CASHIERS
Smoker's Outlet is looking for **Store Managers** and **Cashiers** in the Midland area. We offer competitive wages and a good work environment. Paid weekly. Go by your nearest **Smoker's Outlet** to apply.

SKILLED LABOR

Home Every Night



SOUTHERNSTAR dish

Guaranteed $1,000 bonus every three months
40+ Hours per week
Satellite Installation and Repair Technician

Midland
and Surrounding area
$16.00 per hour training pay
Applicants must be 18 years and older
Health, Dental, Vision, 401K, Bonuses
No out of pocket costs—Tools, Vehicle, Uniform provided by the Company

Apply Online:
www.southernstarjobs.com

Apprentice/Journeyman Electricians
Apprentice/Journeyman Electricians needed. Fort Worth Electrical Contractor needs Apprentice and Journeyman Electricians for work in Andrews, TX area. Please fax resume, list of experience & salary requirements to: 817-355-5355, Attn: H.R. Dept.

Diesel Mechanic Night Supervisor
LPC Crude Oil Marketing, LLC FT
P. O. Box 3821
Midland, TX 79702
LPC Crude Oil Marketing LLC is seeking an Experienced Diesel Mechanic Night Supervisor. The qualified candidate will be responsible for performing routine maintenance as well as variety of repair work on Cummins and Cat engines. In doing so, the candidate must be able to safely drive the service truck to perform the repairs. All work done in this capacity is crucial to the safe and productive operation of the fleet. A class A or B CDL is preferred, but not required. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, performing repairs in an efficient, effective and timely manner. The qualified candidate must be able to communicate effectively. LPC offers a full benefit package including health, dental, vision and life insurance, as well as a retirement package. Please contact Darryl Mulkey at (432) 934-6148 or dmulkey@lpccrude.com

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Midland Reporter-Telegram in partnership with monster

OTHER JOBS



SKILLED LABOR

BAY Ltd.
A BERRY Company

HEAVY CRANE OPERATORS
RIGGERS

BAY Ltd., Berry Crane Service & Heavy Hauling Division, is currently hiring experienced Heavy Crane Operators and Riggers to work in the Midland-Odessa area.

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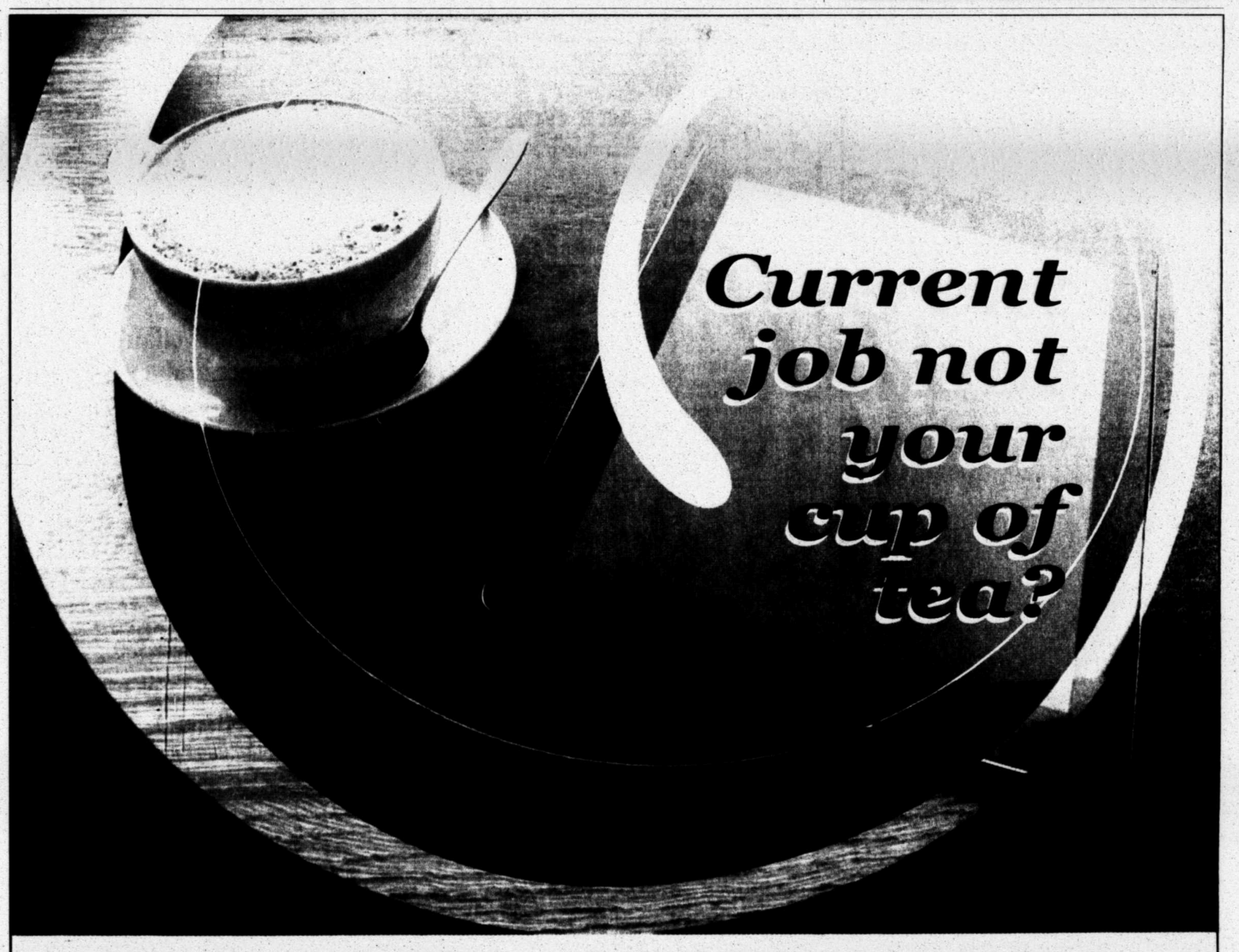
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- Must be able to work weekends when necessary

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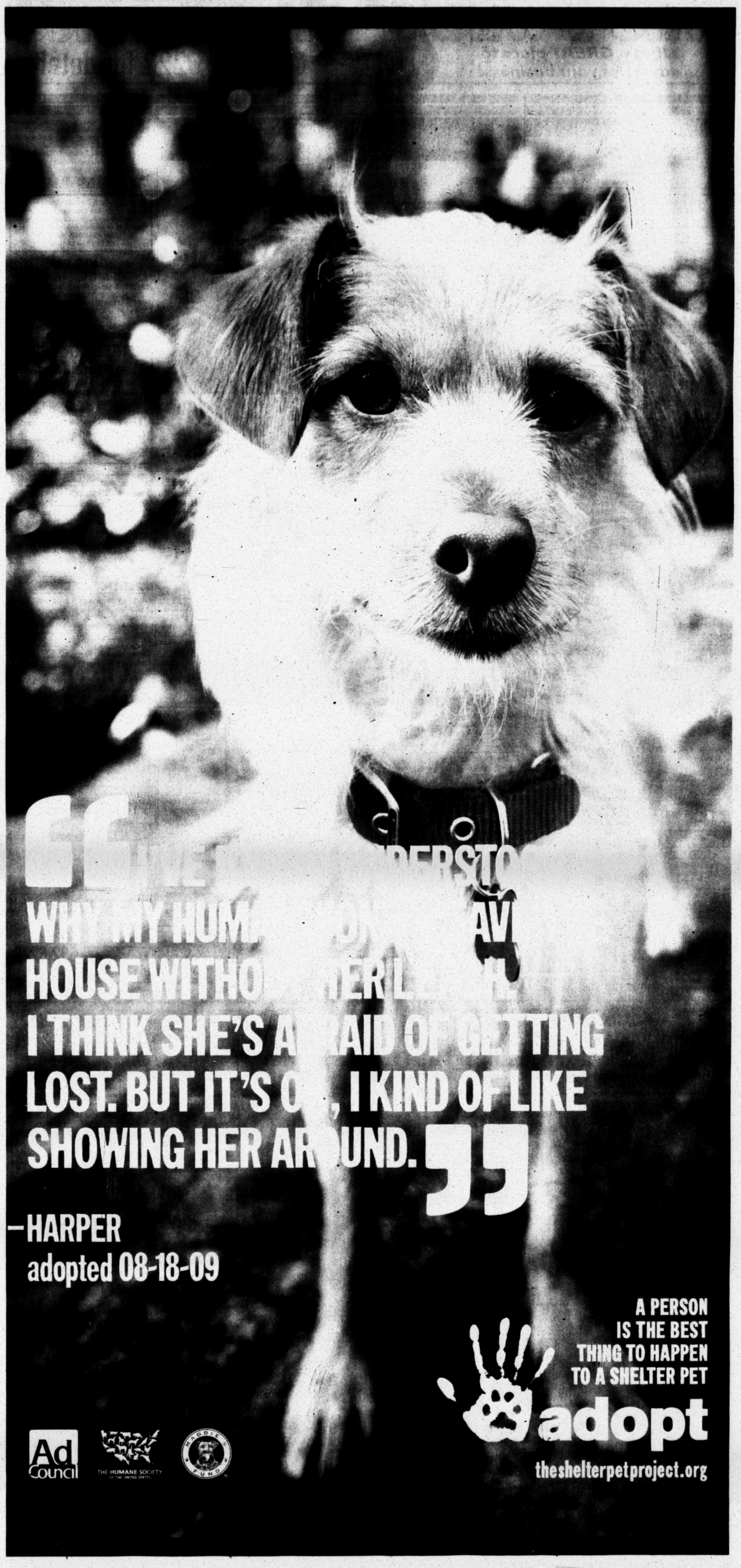


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REAL ESTATE



Female real estate brokers earn this percentage of the wages earned by men in the same field, the fourth worst gender pay gap among 15 fields ranked.

Source: Business Insider, November 14, 2013 report
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Ask our broker



WITH PETER G. MILLER
peter@ctwfeatures.com

BANK BAILOUT EFFECTS

QUESTION:

Did bailing out the banks prevent home values from falling further? I ask because I believe, with the bailouts, lenders could afford to hold on to underwater properties until prices rose to their liking.

ANSWER:

Banks do not gleefully acquire borrower homes. The property is security for a loan. When a borrower is unable to pay the loan, the lender does not just get title. Instead, the property is foreclosed.

The foreclosure process exposes the property for sale to the public. The idea is to get the highest possible value at auction because any price above what's owed to the lender is paid back to the owner. However, the owner rarely gets money from a foreclosure for two reasons: If the local home market is strong, the property will rarely go to foreclosure because it can simply be sold. If the market is weak, a foreclosure sale will not result in a sale price higher than what the owner owes.

To make matters more complex, the mortgage is likely not owned by a "bank." Instead, it is probably owned by an investor such as a pension fund or insurance company. These investors are now suing lenders for hundreds of billions of dollars, claiming that the mortgages they bought did not meet promised standards.

It can be argued that federal bailouts allowed lenders to hold foreclosed properties for longer periods and that by keeping large numbers of distressed homes off the market, there was less pressure to reduce home prices. However, other factors also prevented quick sales.

First, lenders were not equipped to handle the volume of foreclosures that arose.

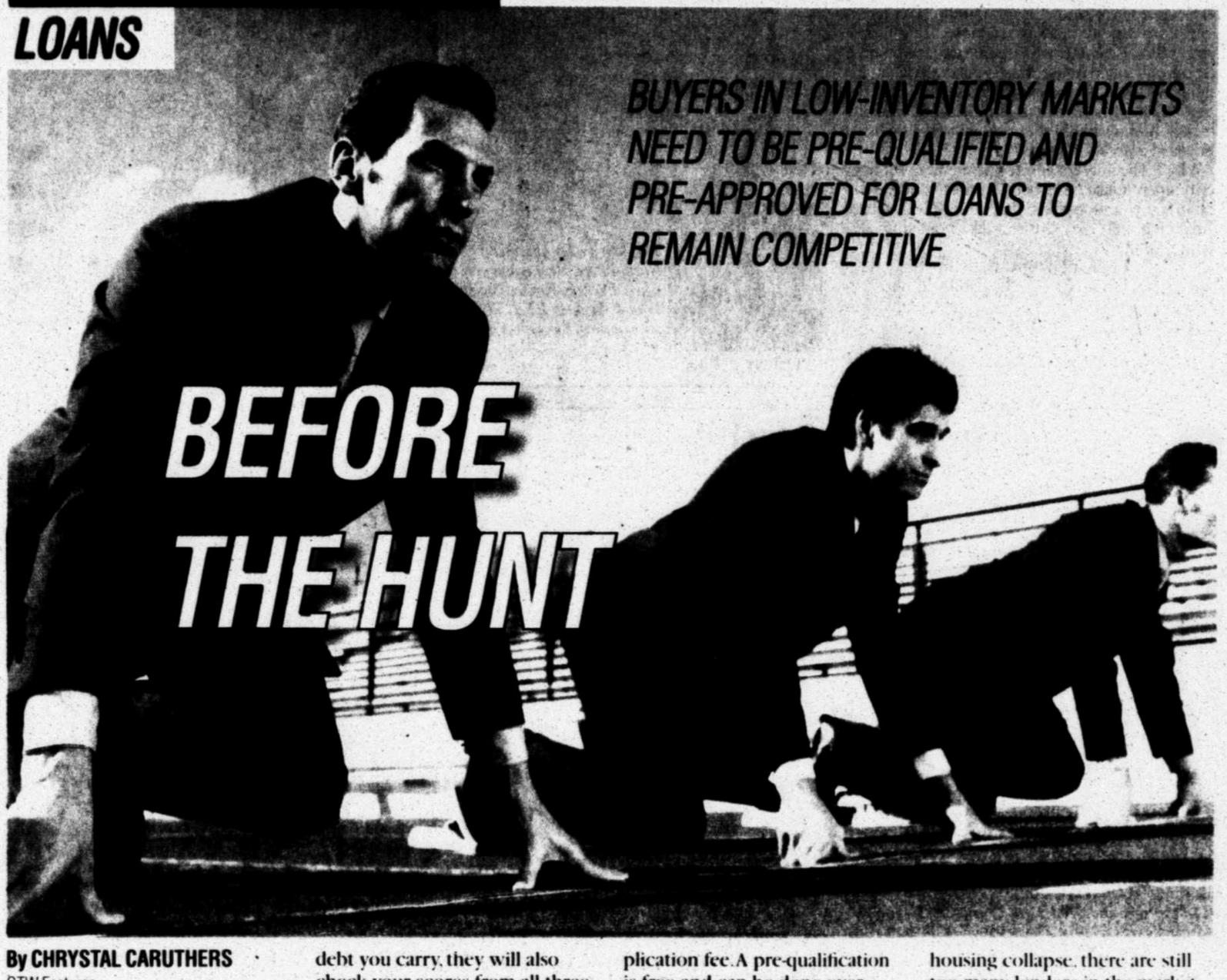
Second, with robo-signing problems and electronic note issues, lenders in many states could not quickly foreclose properties even if they wanted because of litigation delays.

Third, in major foreclosure centers the market for such properties was so weak that selling quickly was not a viable option.

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Email peter@ctwfeatures.com. Due to volume, not all questions may be answered.

LOANS



BEFORE THE HUNT

BUYERS IN LOW-INVENTORY MARKETS NEED TO BE PRE-QUALIFIED AND PRE-APPROVED FOR LOANS TO REMAIN COMPETITIVE

By CHRYSTAL CARUTHERS
CTW Features

Real estate markets across the country are suffering from low inventory, which means there are few homes for sale and competition is fierce. In these markets, real estate experts recommend that buyers be prepared to pounce when they find a house they like.

So how do these low-inventory market buyers prepare for the hunt? The most important step is to get pre-qualified or – even better – pre-approved for a loan.

Some people use these two terms interchangeably, but there is a big difference: A pre-approved buyer has not only talked to a lender, but that lender has verified everything the potential buyer has told them.

In short, the pre-approval process is a documented application. A pre-qualification can happen simply after a discussion about getting to the next step, pre-approval.

When getting pre-approved, lenders will not only ask how much you make, where you work and how much credit card debt you carry, they will also check your scores from all three credit agencies, verify your employment status and income.

They will also need proof that you have enough money for a down payment in an easily accessible account.

Lenders will need several documents to pre-approve you.

- Two years worth of tax returns
- Two months worth of bank statements
- Two years worth of W2 forms
- Your last two pay stubs
- A copy of a state issued identification

"This is what most [real estate agents] look for before they work with a buyer," says Adam McLain, loan officer at Wintrust Mortgage, a Rosemont, Ill.-based lender. "If a client sends me all of their documents, that tells me they're serious. When they're just kicking the tires, they don't want to go through all of that."

Besides the heavy burden of documentation, some potential buyers are deterred from pre-approval because it requires them to pay a non-refundable application fee. A pre-qualification is free and can be done over the phone or on any number of websites very quickly.

For serious buyers, the most basic advantage of pre-approval is knowing exactly what they can afford before they begin their house hunt. The pre-approval will tell you how much money you will be able to borrow and the interest rate you should expect.

Sybil Martin, a Coldwell Banker real estate broker in Chicago, specializes in working with buyers. She says even when her clients show her a pre-approval letter, sometimes lenders have not done their due diligence (checking tax returns, for instance) so she will call to double-check. Unfortunately, she says, pre-approvals that were not thoroughly researched have led to deals falling through or being delayed.

"People can say they make $100,000 and they may have the pay stubs to prove it, but if you wrote off $50,000 then you don't make $100,000," she explains.

Martin believes even after the housing collapse, there are still too many lenders in the marketplace giving erroneous information. Consumers should be wary of lenders who are willing to issue pre-approval letters without asking for full documentation. "These lenders are not in the business to lend but to collect fees," she says.

On the other hand, in a rising market, it's not uncommon to pay a fee to lock in a quoted interest rate. Rates are historically low right now, and most buyers are not yet paying a rate lock fee. But each mortgage is different, says McLain: "Mortgages are like fingerprints. They are based on each applicant's financial picture."

One important note, though, is that pre-approval does not commit a lender to issuing a loan.

Before a loan is finalized, there are other factors to take into consideration – the appraised value of the property, whether the property qualifies for a mortgage, the financial health of the homeowner's association if buying a condominium and the terms of the offer.

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MORTGAGES

WHEN PARENTS BECOME LENDERS

Family-financed down payment loans are increasingly common. Follow these guidelines to make the process smoother



With tightening credit markets, low savings rates and stagnant wages, many first-time homebuyers find themselves struggling to amass a down payment.

The solution? Parents.

Twenty-seven percent of first-time homebuyers received a down payment as a gift from "the good ol' bank of mom and dad," says Walter Molony, economics spokesperson for the National Association of Realtors.

Adam McLain, a Chicago-based loan officer with Wintrust Financial cites the Millennial generation for the increase.

"They're the most conservative generation," McLain says. But they also recognize a good time to buy. McLain says every third or fourth deal he does has parental cash attached. "The parents are saying, 'Here's $50,000, get out of my basement!'"

Parents can legally give each child $14,000 per year without worrying about tax implications, according to the IRS. To be more specific, each parent can give a child $14,000, for a total of $28,000 from mom and dad. Moreover, those same parents can give their child's spouse an additional $28,000 without triggering a tax penalty. Always consult a certified tax professional when dealing with tax liabilities.

Here are some guidelines:

1. Season the Funds: Parents should transfer the cash into the buyer's account immediately. Lenders look at two months of bank statements. While searching for a house, the cash could be "seasoning" in your account.

2. Cashier's Check: Another option is to bring a cashier's check to the closing with all the funds needed to close. Lenders are not required to report to the IRS, however, every dollar must be accounted for and documented.

3. The Paper Trail: Ensure there is adequate documentation for how the money ends up in the buyer's account. For instance, parents could liquidate some stock, deposit the money into their account, write a personal check to their child to physically take that paper check to a teller and deposit at the bank, creating a paper trail. — *Chrystal Caruthers*

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QUESTION: Exactly what is a deed?

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Every deed must have a grantor (seller) - of legal age, mentally competent, and legal owner of the property. If all three requirements are not fulfilled, the deed is worthless.

If husband and wife are to be co-owners, the property will be conveyed to "John Doe and Mary Doe, wife." Proper wording will insure that if either spouse dies, the survivor will become the sole owner.



Pruitt

Jeaneen Pruitt, Broker/Associate, Pine & Beckett Realtors.

Selling Your Lux Listing: An Invitation-Only Affair

You're selling your home, and your agent has suggested you have an invitation-only open house. Is this an idea you should consider?

This trend in real estate is especially popular for those belonging to a Homeowners' Association, as they often have limits for such public access, and/or those with luxury properties for sale.

These events also take place when more than one home is for sale in a community, and agents join up with one another to showcase multiple properties at once. If your agent suggests an invitation-only open house, this is generally a terrific thing. While it may seem exclusive, it weeds out any buyers who aren't a good fit, and actually makes it more likely that you will find the right buyer in a timely fashion.

Why? The buyers invited to your invitation-only open house have been well groomed. They qualify for a mortgage, they are able to secure financing, and they are serious about finding a home similar to yours.

During an invitation-only affair, several buyers will gather and tour several homes in one evening. Sometimes the events are kept simple, but sometimes agents go all out with hors d'oeuvres and champagne.

Presenting multiple homes in one event may seem like it will prevent you from finding a buyer, but this is not the case. With several promising buyers viewing several similar homes, it enables you to find the right buyer.

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Beckett & Pine

This story was submitted by Norma Pine, Broker/Owner Chris Beckett, Broker/Owner Pine & Beckett, REALTORS www.pineandbeckett.com

Home Ownership

The Mortgage Bankers Association's (MBA) Research Institute for Housing America (RIHA) released a new report entitled A Profile of Housing and Health among Older Americans authored by Professors Michael D. Eriksen of Texas Tech University, Gary V. Engelhardt of Syracuse University, and Nadia Greenhalgh-Stanley of Kent State University. "The study found older Americans who own their homes are more financially secure and generally experience fewer impediments to good health than their peers who rent," said Professor Eriksen. "Owning a home provides the single largest asset in most Americans' retirement portfolios, while renters have far more difficulty modifying their living space to adapt to any of the myriad physical ailments that tend to affect older people. Our report serves as a useful reference for all parties interested in the implications of housing on an aging society, a situation America now faces with large numbers of the Baby Boomer generation rapidly heading into retirement age." This latest study provides a profile of the housing, functional status and health status of the near old (individuals aged 55 through 64) and older Americans (aged 65 and older) using the most recent data available from the Health and Retirement Study, a joint product spearheaded by the National Institute on Aging and the University of Michigan. "Housing demand over the next decade will be significantly impacted by the aging of the U.S. population. Real estate finance must also evolve to meet these changing needs, whether older Americans age in place and continue to own their homes, or whether they rent," said Mike Fratantoni, executive director of RIHA, and vice president, Research and Policy Development for MBA. The study found that there were more than 47 million near old and older American households in 2010, of which 80 percent were homeowners. In addition, housing is still the dominant asset in the portfolios of older Americans. Median housing equity for older American homeowners was $125,000; the median housing-equity-to-income ratio was 2.4:1; and 50 percent of the typical older homeowner's portfolio was composed of housing wealth. *Source: NMP Daily*



Smith

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

Looking at homes for sale? Avoid these mistakes

If you're looking for a reason not to buy a home, you'll probably find one. Maybe the den is painted in the school colors of your most-despised college team. Or the granite counter in the kitchen has a foot-long crack. Perhaps the otherwise fantastic house has only two and a half baths rather than three full bathrooms you desire. Before you decide undesirable features like these are deal killers, take a moment to consider them. Not every shortcoming in a property should disqualify it.

How big a deal is it?

Take the den with the rival college's colors on the wall; it's not hard or expensive to repaint it a more agreeable color. Turning that half bath into a full bath takes considerably more time and money. The crack in the counter may warrant further investigation. Is it the result of dropped object ... or a shifting foundation? The point is to figure out whether an objectionable aspect of the property is a minor annoyance or a serious deficiency that means you should move on to the next house for sale. A REALTOR® can assist you in assessing these situations and help you sort through your options.

What about stuff you can't see?

There's more to a property than meets the eye. That's why most people pay for a professional inspection of a home they're considering buying before proceeding with the purchase. An inspector will almost certainly find at least a few items—perhaps more than a few—to call to your attention. Like the negative features you noted in your own observations, these unwanted surprises will range in degree of seriousness. Installing a new electrical outlet is often cheap; fixing a chimney pulling away from the house usually is not. You may decide to hire an expert to further investigate problems identified in the inspection report. For example, a structural engineer can offer a more detailed opinion of a foundation's condition. You also can get repair quotes on conditions you think must be fixed. That knowledge will help you make an informed decision on how to proceed.

Is there any problem that can't be fixed?

While it's not helpful to use a hair trigger to disqualify properties, the opposite attitude—that no obstacle is insurmountable—can also put you in a bind. If you've decided to buy a property where you can "age in place," you should probably pass on the multilevel house that's amazing in every other respect. A REALTOR® can help you make sense of all this, pointing out important timing issues of inspections and option periods, helping you with negotiations and sifting through all the information you receive on a property.

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McCourt

Bobby McCourt president@pbbor.org 2013 President of the Permian Basin Board of Realtors, Inc.

The Bottom Line

76 percent of adults have read a daily newspaper in the past five days.

Source: Scarborough Research, 2005

Midland Reporter-Telegram

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Distinctive and beautiful four bedroom, three and one-half bath home on an oversized lot. Gorgeous master suite with dual closets and a luxurious spa bathroom; open plan with gourmet kitchen, media room, private office, library, sparkling pool, outdoor fireplace and grill area, wet bar, superb top-of-the-line amenities and decor.

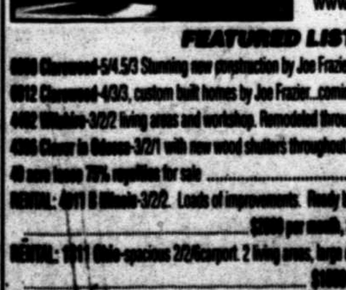


CALL ROBERTA FOR DETAILS 559-5049

Roberta Aldridge. Broker, CRS, GRI, ABR 559-5049
Craig Aldridge, Realtor Associate, ABR 352-6176
Claire Heck, Realtor Associate 553-2517
3300 North A Street, Bldg.7. Ste 100
Midland, Texas 79705
432-682-1111 reception
rsa@e-roberta.com

Roberta Aldridge
Real Estate one Midland

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Shane Curry
Broker/Owner
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1003 N. Midkiff
www.mypermianbasinrealestate.com

FEATURED LISTING



4500 Breezeway Ct. - $419,900
Gorgeous 4/3/3 with spacious rooms, open plan and private water well.
www.midlandtxgreentreenorth.com

FEATURED LISTINGS

4000 Glenwood-5/4.5/3 Stunning new construction by Joe Frazier. Estimated completion May 2013.....SOLD
4010 Glenwood-4/3/3, custom built homes by Joe Frazier...coming soon.....TBD
4402 Whalen-3/2/2 living areas and workshop. Remodeled throughout.....SOLD
4500 Clover to Elmore-3/2/1 with new wood shutters throughout. New roof on the way.....NFC
49 acre farm 70% cultivation for sale.....$199,000
NEWER!! - 4911 & 4915 Whalen-3/2/2. Lease of improvements. Ready by December 15th.....$2000 per month, $2000 deposit, 1 year lease, pets welcome
NEWER!! - 4911 Olds-spacious 2/2/Carport. 2 living areas, large corner lot. Quiet area.....$1000 per month, $1000 deposit, 1 year lease.

Take advantage of our 4% listing. It is only available for homes listed by December 24, 2013.
Call for custom building opportunities in Rheinlander Estates! Only 4 lots left! We offer competitive property management rates. Call for complete details.



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SPACIOUS 2 STORY HOME
3-4 Bed, 5 bath(full) in Ranches of Sonterra. Cherry cabinets & granite countertops. Vermont slate & cherry flooring. 1,800 sq. ft. heated basement/workshop. Huge unattached RV garage & oversized 2 car garage. $529,999. #112905



VERY NICE 3/2 + 2 CAR GARAGE HOME ON LEVEL LOT
View of Sierra Blanca and terrific view of Kokopelli Lake and Capitans. A very large deck to enjoy beautiful scenery - nicely furnished. Full golf membership. $329,500. #113320



RIDGE TOP HOME
Prestigious area close to town. Large 4 BR home on big lot with views east & west. Low maintenance stucco. Gazebo in backyard. $325,000. #113235



LOTS OF EXTRAS IN THIS 3/2 ON QUIET CUL-DE-SAC
In White Mntn Est w/sm view of SB in private backyard. Dbl paned tilt-out wndws. Refrig air, gas or wood FP. New countertops in kitchen & baths. Water softener & rev osmosis in kitchen, + Jacuzzi, fenced backyard, dbl garage. $249,000. #113592



BIG LAND
Great useable 228 acres with views of the Capitan Mts. Easy access & super rock formations. OK for horses & homesites. $186,000. #110455



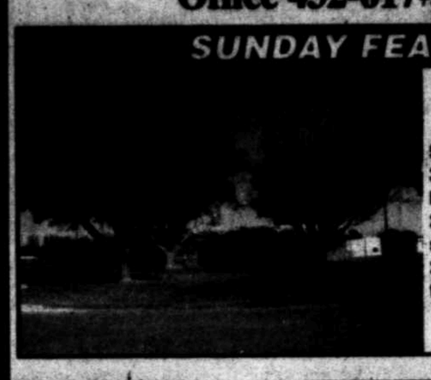
NICELY REMODELED HOME
Convenient to shopping. Very large fenced backyard. Large covered private deck in back of home. Large storage/work shed. Domestic well also. $169,900. #113646

Century 21 The Edge

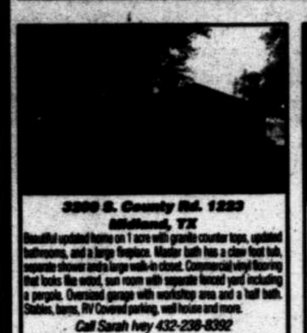
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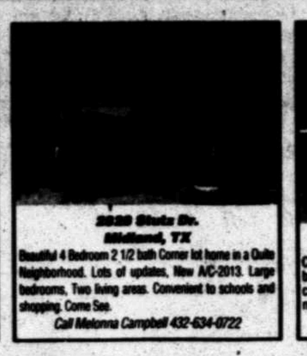
SUNDAY FEATURED HOME



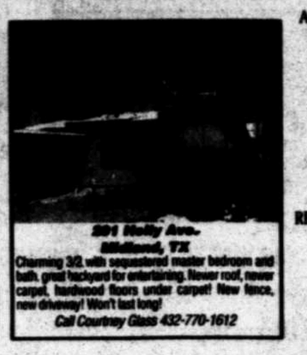
3905 S. County Rd. 1187 Midland, TX
5 acres with 2 Beautiful Homes. Main house is 3035 sq. ft., 4 bed, 3 bath, 2 living areas plus sunroom, 3 car carport, 1 car garage, built in 1970. Second house is 1507 sq. ft., 3 bed, 2 bath, 2 car garage, built in 2011. Shop behind main house and huge shop out back w/4 covered horse stalls and tack area. 3 wells, 2 separate septic systems in 2011. Granite countertops and a fireplace in both houses.
Call Brandi Geron 432-238-2402



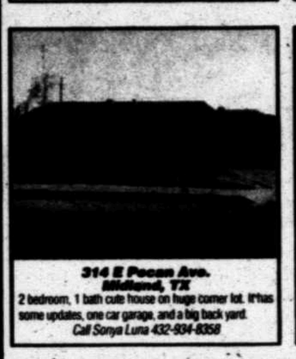
3000 S. County Rd. 1283 Midland, TX
Beautiful updated home on 1 acre with granite counter tops, updated bathrooms, and a large fireplace. Master bath has a clam shell tub, separate shower and large walk-in closet. Oversized vinyl fenced yard backs the wood, gas room with separate fenced yard and room for 4 people. Oversized garage with workshop area and a half bath. Circular, brick, RV Covered parking, roof house and more.
Call Sarah Ivey 432-238-8392



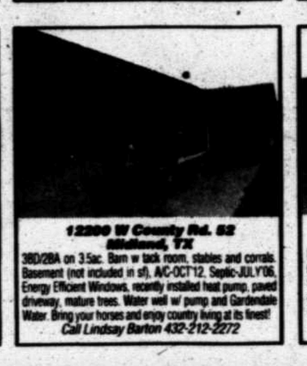
3520 Glade Dr. Midland, TX
Beautiful 4 Bedroom 2 1/2 bath Corner lot home in a Quite Neighborhood. Lots of updates, New A/C-2013. Large bedrooms, Two living areas. Convenient to schools and shopping. Come See.
Call Melonna Campbell 432-634-8722



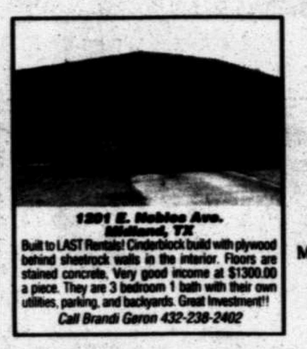
201 Holly Ave. Midland, TX
Charming 3/2, with unparalleled master bedroom and bath, great backyard for entertaining, flower bed, corner carport, hardwood floors under carpet! New fence, sun shelter! Won't last long!
Call Courtney Glass 432-770-1612



314 E Pecos Ave. Midland, TX
2 bedroom, 1 bath cute house on huge corner lot. W'has some updates, one car garage, and a big back yard.
Call Sonya Luna 432-934-8358



12300 W County Rd. 62 Midland, TX
3BD/2BA on 3 Sac. Barn w/ tack room, stables and corrals. Basement (not included in sf), AC-OCT 12, Septic-JUL'08, Energy Efficient Windows, recently installed heat pump, paved driveway, mature trees. Water well w/ pump and Centralized Water. Bring your horses and enjoy country living at its finest!
Call Lindsay Barton 432-212-2272



1201 E. Hobbs Ave. Midland, TX
Built to LAST Rental! Cinderblock build with plywood behind sheetrock walls in the interior. Floors are stained concrete. Very good income at $1300.00 a piece. They are 3 bedroom 1 bath with their own utilities, parking, and backyards. Great Investment!!
Call Brandi Geron 432-238-2402

Land For Sale

0 County Rd. 2240, Stanton, TX – 6 Acres ..... Call Warren Ivey **432-238-7832**

0 W Robbee Dr., Odessa, TX – 1.04 Acre Lot ..... Call Melonna Campbell **432-634-8722**

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R. Scott Kesner
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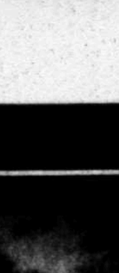


Andy Shipman
REALTOR®
432-638-7760

Melonna Campbell
REALTOR®
432-634-8722



Anna Smith, GRI
REALTOR®
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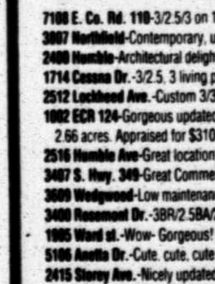


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432-816-7341



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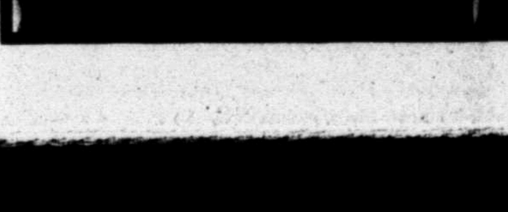
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Featured Homes



1101 E. County Rd. 124 - $310,000



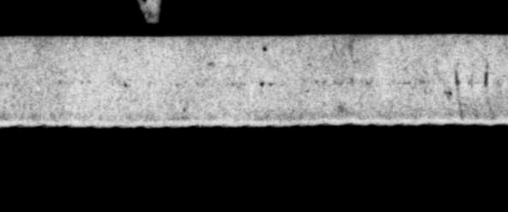
6706 West Wind Ct. - $1,300,000

Merry Christmas

May your home be filled with happiness, your hearts with love and your days with joy at Christmas and always.



6902 Island Circle - $744,900



4001 Baybrook Dr. - $569,000

WWW.REMIDLAND.COM TO VIEW ALL MLS LISTINGS

New and Reduced Listings

6706 West Wind Ct. -Elegant, family friendly 5/6 bedroom, 5.5 bath, 4/5 living areas, 5 car garage, parking pad, gorgeous pool/spa, koi pond, plus family yard on #6 Tee Box Green Tree North $1,300,000
2000 Shell-5 bedroom in the "Heart of Warwick" $695,000
6902 Island Circle-Awesome 5/4/3 home on the lake at Green Tree North. Must see! $744,900
2512 Lockheed Ave.-Custom 3/3 1/2/2 townhome in "Old Midland" $325,000
1002 E. Co. Rd. 124-Reduced $15,000 - Appraised for $310,000. Listed for $290,000
5105 Anetta Dr.-Cute, cute, cute $169,900
2107 College Ave.-Cottage look from the outside but big & grand inside. Wonderful open plan w/tons of space $169,000
2415 Stacey Ave.-Nicely updated 3bdr/2bath home w/beautiful hardwood floors on large lot $179,000
3302 Haynes (B)-Large 3BR, 2BA, no pets ..... $1,600 Month

Two Bedrooms

915 Bedford-Would you believe it has a racquetball court? Loads of custom features! $765,000
1503 Club Drive.-Low maintenance high efficiency, new construction, 2bd/2BA townhomes near duck pond! $169,900
1502 N. "A" Street-Low maintenance, high efficiency new construction, 2bd/2bth townhomes near duckpond! $169,900
1504 N. "A" Street-Low maintenance, high efficiency new construction, 2bd/2bth townhomes near duckpond! $169,900
1510 N. "A" Street-Low maintenance, high efficiency, new construction, 2BD/2BA townhome near duck pond $169,900
1211 W. Illinois Ave.-Great 2bdr/1bth in Old Midland. Ideal to make an office or cozy cottage $165,000

Three Bedrooms

7109 E. Co. Rd. 110-3/2.5/3 on 155.29 Acres, totally irrigated, perfect for development "ABUNDANT WATER!!" $2,750,000
2007 Hartfield-Contemporary, updated, beautiful! 3BR, 4.5BA, pool and bonus rooms! $1,375,000
2400 Humble-Architectural delight! 3-2, 3 living areas & study, vaulted ceilings w/beams, copper FP, fabulous! $695,000
1714 Cessna Dr.-3/2.5, 3 living patio home. Lush landscaping w/mature trees in front $330,000
2512 Lockheed Ave.-Custom 3/3 1/2/2 townhome in "Old Midland" $325,000
1002 ECR 124-Gorgeous updated 3BR, 2BA, open spacious, kitchen/den, 2 car garage, 40x60 workshop, pool, 2.66 acres. Appraised for $310,000 ..... $290,000
2510 Humble Ave.-Great location! Open floor plan, huge kitchen! $279,000
3407 S. Hwy. 349-Great Commercial location $250,000
2609 Wedgewood-Low maintenance and loaded - granite, stainless, plantation shutters, 3BR, 2BA, 2CG $240,000
2400 Rosemont Dr.-3BR/2.5BA/2 garage $239,900
1005 Wood st.-Wow- Gorgeous! $209,000
5105 Anetta Dr.-Cute, cute, cute $169,900
2415 Stacey Ave.-Nicely updated 3bdr/2bth home w/beautiful hardwood floors on large lot $179,000
4701 Boulder-3/2 townhome, 2-story, low maintenance, 2 car garage $169,000
305 Keith-one owner 3br/3ba/2 living, 1 garage. Could be 4br as den has closet and bath. Washer, dryer, frig, gas range, & microwave. Two storage buildings, storm cellar, plus well. Newer roof shingles, HVAC $162,000
504 Brandeway/Stanton-Wonderful Historic home w/3 bedrooms, ready for move-in! $142,000
3519 W. Illinois-Updated & Cute! New price, bonus room, detached garage! $140,000
101 W. Spruce-3br, 1bath, 2 living, lots of updates - open floor plan $120,000

Three Bedrooms

207 W. Hanby-3 bedroom or 2 bedroom with study, 2 baths, 2 living areas, 1 dining area, hardwoods, large bonus room and utility room, 2 garage ..... 6/C...$129,900

Four Bedrooms

2900 Passage Way-20 acres in town, gorgeous! $2,595,000
4107 Tonkawa Ave.-Perfect home in Mockingbird Heights w/4BR/3.5BA. See the many amenities, gorgeous custom decor plus pool and much more $1,600,000
4205 Red Tree-Lovely home in Green Tree North with pool! $795,000
2910 Inwood-Beautifully updated 4bdr/3.5bths/2 car gar/2LA and 2FP. A must see property $694,900
4001 Baybrook-Lovely 4BR/3 full baths/2 half baths, Mockingbird Heights $569,000
6903 Mahoney Ct.-Beautiful Oversized Home on fabulous cul-de-sac. All the bells & whistles. Huge backyard $459,900
3211 Shell-Great home in Mellon! Lots of new here! $399,900
7005 Raphanee-Hurry to make your selections on this custom 4/3/3 Trailbridge Home in Odessa! $395,725
7004 Raphanee-Make your selections for this beautiful 4/3/3 custom Trailbridge Home in Odessa! $389,900
7008 Raphanee-Beautiful Trailbridge Home! Hurry this one won't last long! 4/2 1/2/3 Trailbridge Home in Odessa! $389,900
2302 Olde Pl.-Beautifully updated 4BR, 2.5BA, 3 living areas, extra parking. Lush landscaping $315,000
4609 Mahilla-Crowd pleaser w/2 large living areas, flowing floor plan, bright 4bdr/2.5bth, covered patio, double garage plus workshop too for only $275,000
4001 Whitman Dr.-Looks like a model home. Gently lived in 4 br with decorators colors, WOW! $277,000
2307 Bluewell-Terrific 4 bdrm home with great floor plan, high ceilings, updated kitchen and bathrooms in central location $249,900
2107 College Ave.-Cottage look from the outside but big & grand inside. Wonderful open plan w/tons of space $169,000
305 Keith-one owner 3br/3ba/2 living, 1 garage. Could be 4br as den has closet and bath. Washer, dryer, frig, gas range, & microwave. Two storage buildings, storm cellar, plus well. Newer roof shingles, HVAC $162,000

Five or More Bedrooms

4 Wilson Ct.-Racquet Club at its finest. Perfect location, fantastic space, gorgeous amenities. Must see! $2,695,000
6011 E. Midland Dr.-This spacious home has it all! Contemporary style great guest house, beautiful grounds, horse lovers dream includes an indoor arena! $2,300,000
2003 Sherlock-Fabulous 5BR in Warwick, 4LA, pool, spa, gameroom, beautifully updated $1,100,000
6705 West Wind Ct.-Elegant, family friendly 5/6 bedroom, 5.5 bath, 4/5 living areas, 5 car garage, parking pad, gorgeous pool/spa, koi pond, plus family yard on #6 Tee Box Green Tree North $1,300,000
6609 Island Circle-Amazing 5/4/3 home on the lake at Green Tree North. Must see! $744,900
2000 Shell-5 bedroom in the "Heart of Warwick" $695,000

Town Homes and Patio Homes

2512 Lockheed Ave.-Custom 3/3 1/2/2 townhome in "Old Midland" $325,000
3609 Wedgewood-Low maintenance and loaded - granite, stainless, plantation shutters, 3BR, 2BA, 2CG, outstanding $249,000
1503 Club Drive.-Low maintenance high efficiency, new construction, 2bd/2BA townhomes near duck pond! $169,900
1502 N. "A"-Low maintenance, new construction, 2BR/2BA/2gar $169,900
1504 N. "A"-Low maintenance, new construction, 2BR/2BA/2gar $169,900

Town Homes and Patio Homes

1510 N. "A"-Low maintenance, high efficiency, new construction, 2BD/2BA townhome near duck pond ..... 6/C...$169,900
4701 Boulder-3/2 town home, 2 story, low maintenance, 2 car garage $169,000

New Construction

7005 Raphanee-Hurry to make your selections on this custom 4/3/3 Trailbridge Home in Odessa! ..... 6/C...$395,725
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For Lease

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Lots, Land and Acreage

7109 E. Co. Rd. 110-3/2.5/3 on 155.29 Acres, totally irrigated, perfect for development "ABUNDANT WATER!!" ..... 6/C...$2,750,000
E. I-20 @ 600+ acres just East of Midland on Interstate 20. Call Bill Scott for details ..... 6/C...$1,200,000
4000 Rhodes-20 acres in Greenbelt, ready for development! $600,000
Loop 338 & I-20-approx. 20 acres, call Bill Scott ..... 6/C...$600,000
04 Lincoln Park-Cul-de-sac/Angelo Isd & boat house, Lake Nasworthy $170,000
Undeveloped Duke-1 Acre lot $131,000
2300 Sherlock Ave. ..... 6/C...$125,000
7005, 7002 & 7010 Raphanee, Odessa-Very few lots left in Castle Ridge Phase 2-Hurry! ..... $62,000 ea.

Commercial Investment Property

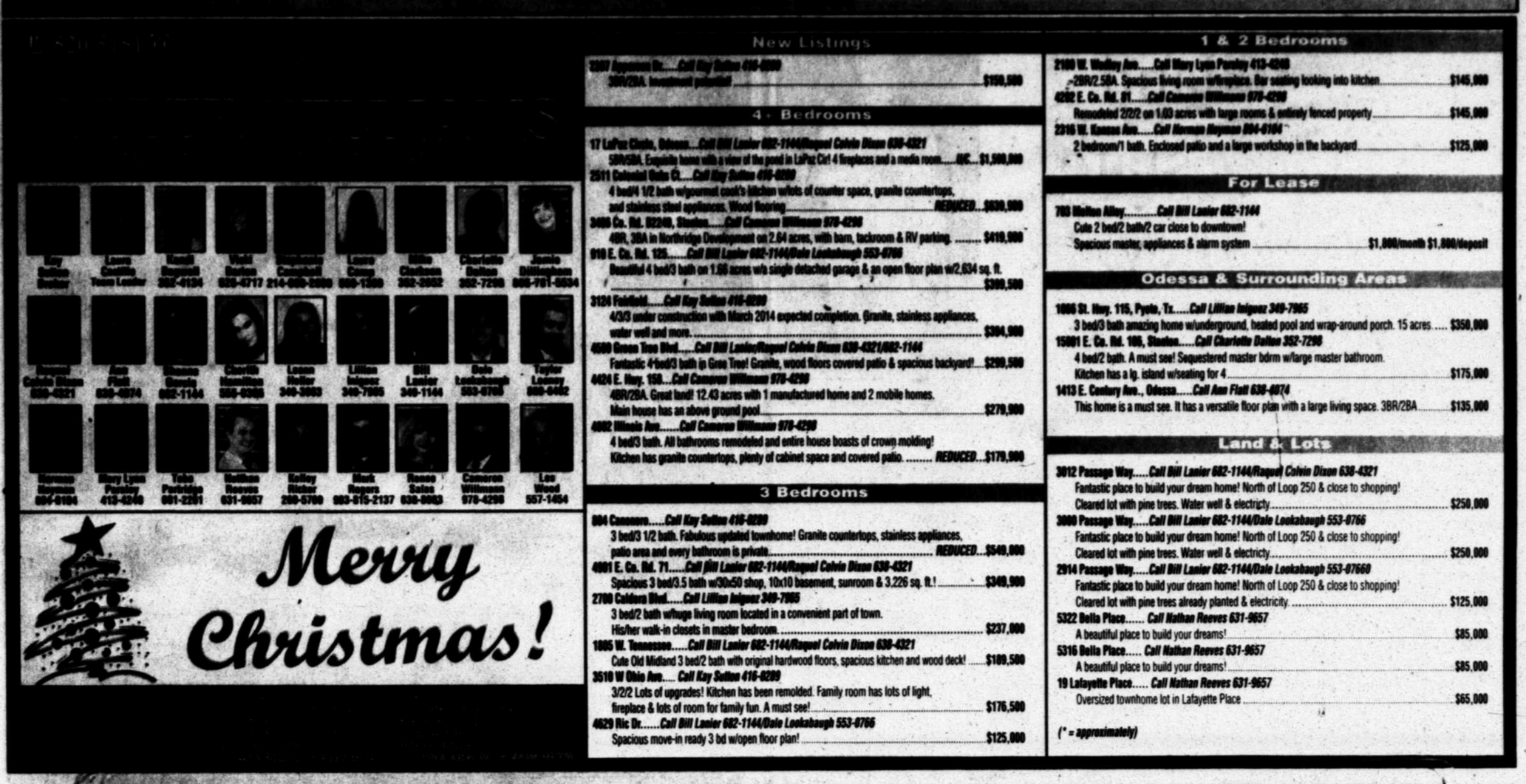
One Petroleum Center, Bldg. 4-Subleases or possible new lease. 4,000 NRSF. 10 offices, conference room, breakroom, file room and reception area ..... Call Bill Scott for lease....432-1111 or 682-4240 or Brandee Hall at 230-0488
One Petroleum Center, Bldg. 4-Subleases or possible new lease. 4,021 NRSF. 13 offices, file room and conference room. ..... Call Bill Scott for lease....432-1111 or 682-4240 or Brandee Hall at 230-0488
214-216 Brown-Free standing building with 2 suites. Clinic with 7 exam rooms, 2 offices, copy room, waiting area, reception & 5 bathrooms. 2nd office suite with 11 offices, reception, conference room, 2 break rooms, storage and 5 bathrooms. Call Bill Scott or Brandee Hall $1,200,000
2120 Commerce Dr.-Approximately 32,600 sq. ft. warehouse/fabrication facility with over 6,400 sq. ft. of office, easy access to I-20 or Hwy. 80. Call Bill Scott $595,000
3303 Neal rd ft. Stanton-2.0+/- acres for development, great for office complex. Call Bill Scott $375,000
1702 E. New Jersey-3,000 sq. ft. warehouse or shop. Call Bill Scott 682-1111 or Brandee Hall 230-0488 ..... $169,000
0 Cotton Flat Rd.-Zoned Industrial Park $350,000

Out of Town Properties

2022 Country Club, Bee Angelo-Fabulous! Lake front home, Southwestern Style $550,000
7005 Raphanee-Hurry to make your selections on this custom 4/3/3 Trailbridge Home in Odessa! ..... 6/C...$395,725
7004 Raphanee-Make your selections for this beautiful 4/3/3 custom Trailbridge Home in Odessa! $389,900
7008 Raphanee-Beautiful Trailbridge Home! Hurry this one won't last long! 4/2 1/2/3 Trailbridge Home in Odessa! $389,900
04 Lincoln Park-Cul-de-sac/Angelo Isd & boat house, Lake Nasworthy $170,000
7005, 7002 & 7010 Raphanee, Odessa-Very few lots left in Castle Ridge Phase 2-Hurry! ..... $62,000 ea.



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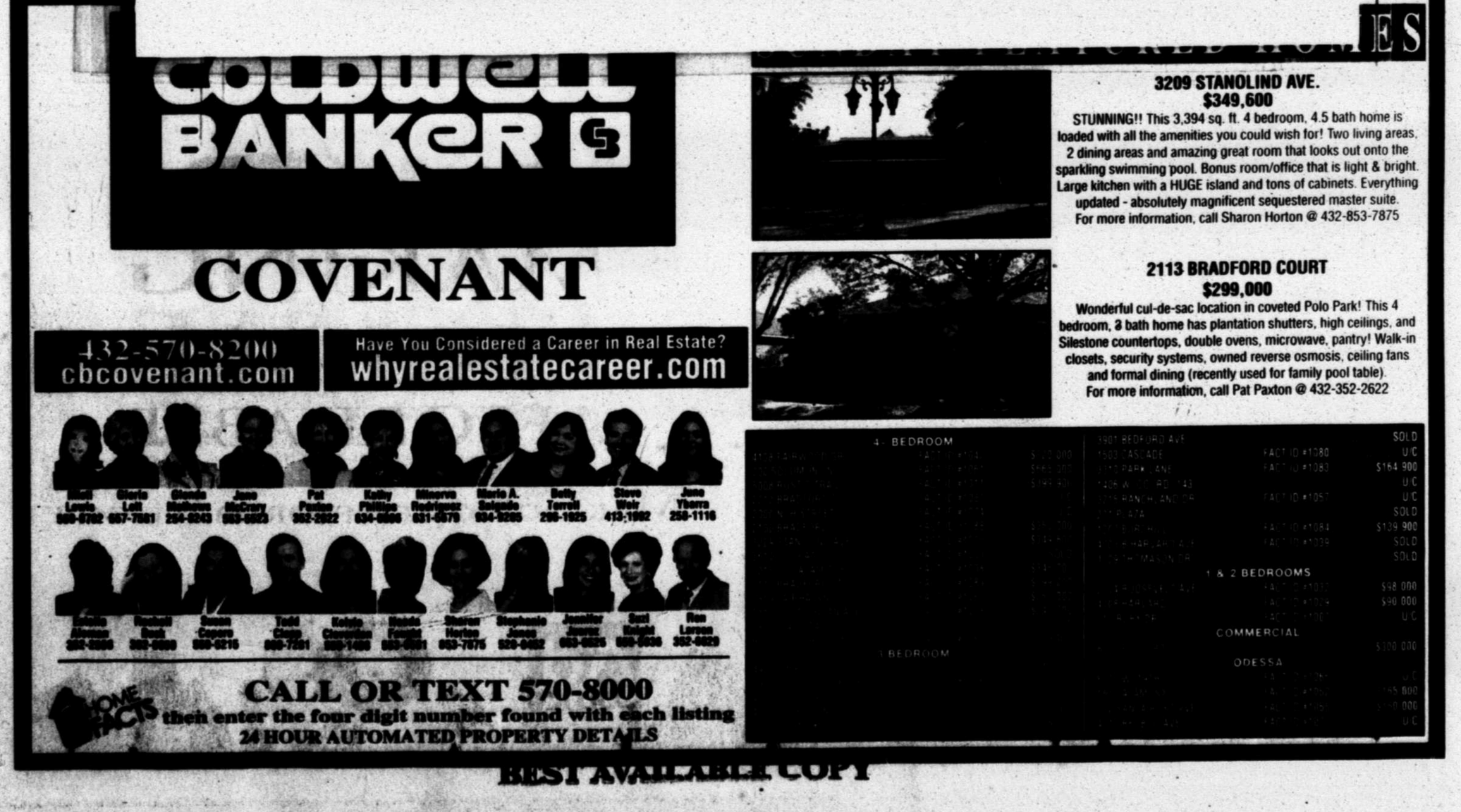


NOTICE

Because of the holiday, this newspaper was not published.

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Century 21 The Edge

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Office 432-617-3053 - Fax 432-617-3055

SUNDAY FEATURED HOME

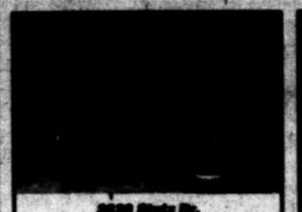
3008 S. County Rd. 1187 Midland, TX

5 acres with 2 Beautiful Homes. Main house is 3008 sq. ft., 4 bed, 3 bath, 2 living areas plus sunroom, 3 car carport, 1 car garage, built in 1970. Second home is 1007 sq. ft., 3 bed, 2 bath, 2 car garage, built in 2011. Shop behind main house and huge shop out back w/4 covered horse stalls and tack area. 3 wells, 2 separate septic systems in 2011. Granite countertops and 4 fireplaces in both houses.

Call Brandi Geron 432-238-2402



3009 S. County Rd. 1189 Midland, TX
Beautiful updated 3/2 home on 5 acres. Main house has updated hardwood floors, updated kitchen and bathrooms, and a living room that opens into a nice size hot tub, surrounded by large windows to enjoy the beautiful scenery. Second home has 2 bedrooms and 1 bathroom and could be used as a guest house. Oversized shop with 4 garage doors, oversized garage with workshop area and a half bath. Stables, barns, RV/covered parking, well house and more.
Call Sarah Ivey 432-238-8392



3020 Shasta Dr. Midland, TX
Beautiful 4 Bedroom 2 1/2 bath Corner lot home in a Quite Neighborhood. Lots of updates. New A/C-2013. Large bedrooms. Two living areas. Convenient to schools and shopping. Come See.
Call Melonna Campbell 432-634-0722



3301 Rocky Acres Midland, TX
Charming 3/2 with exceptional master bedroom and bath, great floor plan perfect for entertaining. Kitchen and master bedroom features newer carpet. New fence, sprinkler system, and landscaping.
Call Courtney Glass 432-770-1612



314 E Pecan Ave. Midland, TX
2 bedroom, 1 bath cute home on huge corner lot. It has some updates, one car garage, and a big back yard.
Call Sonya Luna 432-934-8358



12000 W County Rd. 62 Midland, TX
3BD/2BA on 3 Ac. Open w/ bath, cabins and corrals. Basement (not included in sf). AC-3D*12, Septic-3D,YRS, Comp (Glass) Shower, recently installed hard stone, paved driveway, mature trees. Water well w/ pump and Guadalupe Water. Bring your horses and enjoy country living at its finest!
Call Lindsay Burton 432-212-2272



1201 E. Holiday Ave. Midland, TX
Built to LAST Ranch Style Custom Block Build with plumbed behind sheetrock walls in the interior. Floors are stained concrete. Very good income at $1300.00 a piece. They are 3 bedroom 1 bath with their own utilities, parking, and backyards. Great Investment!!!
Call Brandi Geron 432-238-2402

Land For Sale

0 County Rd. 2249, Stanton, TX – 6 Acres ..... Call Warren Ivey 432-238-7832

0 W Robbins Dr., Odessa, TX – 1.04 Acre Lot ..... Call Melonna Campbell 432-634-0722

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
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432-212-2272



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432-967-0652



R. Scott Koser
Texas & New Mexico Broker
915-588-2188



Warren Ivey
Managing Broker
432-238-7832



Sarah Ivey
Agent Development
432-238-8392

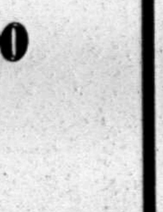


Lou Maison
REALTOR®, CRS, GRI
432-559-1950



Andy Shannon
REALTOR®
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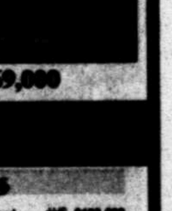
Melonna Campbell
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Anna Smith, GRI
REALTOR®
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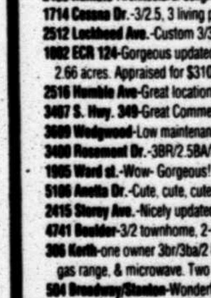


Vickie Wallis
REALTOR®
432-816-7341



Courtney Glass
REALTOR®
432-770-1612

The ONE Team to Call on for All your Real Estate Needs

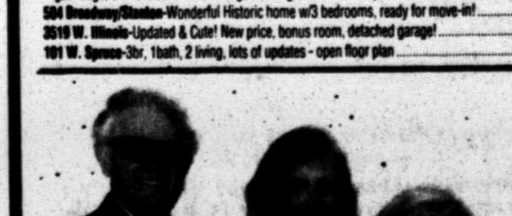


one

682-1111
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Featured Homes



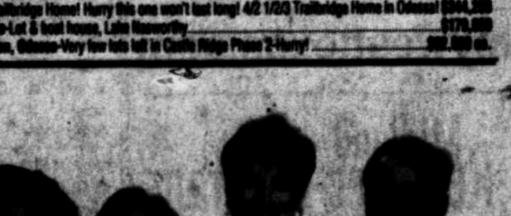
1101 E. County Rd. 124 - $310,000



6706 West Wind Ct. - $1,300,000

Merry Christmas

May your home be filled with happiness, your hearts with love and your days with joy at Christmas and always.



6802 Island Circle - $744,900



4001 Baybrook Dr. - $569,000

WWW.REMIDLAND.COM TO VIEW ALL MLS LISTINGS

New and Reduced Listings

6706 West Wind Ct.-Elegant, family friendly 5/6 bedroom, 5.5 bath, 4/5 living areas, 5 car garage, parking pad, gorgeous pool/spa, koi pond, plus family yard on #6 Tee Box Green Tree North $1,300,000
2009 Shell-5 bedroom in the "Heart of Warwick" $799,000
6802 Island Circle-Awesome 5/4/3 home on the lake at Green Tree North. Must see! $744,900
2512 Lochhead Ave.-Custom 3/3 1/2/2 townhome in "Old Midland" $525,000
1002 E. Co. Rd. 124-Reduced $15,000 - Appraised for $310,000. Listed for $280,000
5106 Anetta Dr.-Cute, cute, cute $189,900
2107 College Ave.-Cottage look from the outside but big & grand inside. Wonderful open plan w/tons of space $180,000
2415 Storey Ave.-Nicely updated 3bdr/2bth home w/beautiful hardwood floors on large lot $179,000
3202 Haynes (B)-Large 3BR, 2BA, no pets ..... $1,000 Month

Two Bedrooms

915 Bedford-Would you believe it has a racquetball court? Loads of custom features! $765,000
1503 Club Drive.-Low maintenance high efficiency, new construction, 2BR/2BA townhomes near duck pond! $189,000
1508 N. "A" Street-Low maintenance, high efficiency new construction, 2bdr/2bth townhomes near dockpond! $189,000
1506 N. "A" Street-Low maintenance, high efficiency new construction, 2bdr/2bth townhomes near dockpond! $189,000
1510 N. "A" Street-Low maintenance, high efficiency, new construction, 2BD/2BA townhome near duck pond. $189,000
1211 W. Illinois Ave.-Great 2bdr/1bth in Old Midland. Ideal to make an office or cozy cottage. $109,000

Three Bedrooms

7100 E. Co. Rd. 110-3/2.5/3 on 155.29 Acres, totally irrigated, perfect for development "ABUNDANT WATER!!" $2,700,000
3907 Northfield-Contemporary, updated, beautiful! 3BR, 4.5BA, pool and bonus rooms! $1,375,000
3400 Monticello-Architectural delight! 3-2-2, 3 living areas & study, vaulted ceilings w/beams, copper FP, fabulous! $795,000
1714 Cannon Dr.-3/2.5, 3 living patio home. Lush landscaping w/mature trees in front $339,900
2512 Lochhead Ave.-Custom 3/3 1/2/2 townhome in "Old Midland" $325,000
1002 ECR 124-Gorgeous updated 3BR, 2BA, open spacious, kitchen/den, 2 car garage, 40x60 workshop, pool, 2.66 acres. Appraised for $310,000 ..... $280,000
2516 Hendin Ave-Great location! Open floor plan, huge kitchen! $275,000
3407 S. Hwy. 349-Great Commercial location $265,000
3609 Wedgewood-Low maintenance and loaded - granite, stainless, plantation shutters, 3BR, 2BA, 2CG $260,000
3400 Rosewood Dr.-3BR/2.5BA/2 garage $255,000
1505 Ward st.-Wow- Gorgeous! $237,500
5100 Anetta Dr.-Cute, cute, cute $169,900
2415 Storey Ave.-Nicely updated 3bdr/2bth home w/beautiful hardwood floors on large lot $179,000
4301 Boulder-3/2 townhome, 2-story, low maintenance, 2 car garage ..... $850 - $169,000
306 Keith-one owner 3br/3ba/2 living, 1 garage. Could be 4br as den has closet and bath. Washer, dryer, frig, gas range, & microwave. Two storage buildings, storm cellar, plus well. Newer roof shingles, HVAC $162,500
504 Dewdney/Stanton-Wonderful Historic home w/3 bedrooms, ready for move-in! $140,000
3510 W. Illinois-Updated & Cute! New price, bonus room, detached garage! $139,900
101 W. Spence-3br, 1bath, 2 living, lots of updates - open floor plan $120,000

Three Bedrooms

207 W. Hamby-3 bedroom or 2 bedroom with study, 2 baths, 2 living areas, 1 dining area, hardwoods, large bonus room and utility room, 2 garage ..... SOLD - $129,500

Four Bedrooms

2000 Passage Way-20 acres in town, gorgeous! $2,595,000
4107 Tamforan Ave.-Perfect home in Mockingbird Heights w/4BR/3.5BA. See the many amenities, gorgeous custom decor plus pool and much more $1,350,000
4305 Bent Tree-Lovely home in Green Tree North with pool! $795,000
2910 Inwood-Beautifully updated 4bdr/3.5bths/3 car w/2LA and 2FP. A must see property $594,000
4001 Baybrook-Lovely 4bdr/3 bath home/2 half bths, Mockingbird Heights $569,000
3300 Bethany Ct.-Beautiful Overland Home on fabulous cul-de-sac. All the bells & whistles. Huge backyard ..... SOLD - $565,000
2211 Shell-Great home in Mahler! Lots of new here! ..... SOLD - $561,000
7005 Raphanus-Hurry to make your selections on this custom 4/3/3 Trailridge Home in Odessa! ..... SOLD - $555,725
7004 Raphanus-Make your selections for this beautiful 4/3/3 custom Trailridge Home in Odessa! $550,000
7008 Raphanus-Beautiful Trailridge Home! Hurry this one won't last long! 4/2 1/2/3 Trailridge Home in Odessa! $549,900
2302 Hale Pl.-Beautifully updated 4BR, 2.5BA, 3 living areas, extra parking, Lake landscaping ..... SOLD - $516,000
4003 Rolette-Crowd pleaser w/2 large living areas, flowing floor plan, bright 4bdr/2.5bth, covered patio, double garage plus workshop too for only ..... SOLD - $379,000
4001 Whitman Dr.-Looks like a model home. Gently lived in 4 br with decorators colors, WOW! ..... SOLD - $377,000
2307 Russell-Terrific 4 bdrm home with great floor plan, high ceilings, updated kitchen and bathrooms in central location ..... SOLD - $345,000
2107 College Ave.-Cottage look from the outside but big & grand inside. Wonderful open plan w/tons of space $180,000
306 Keith-one owner 3br/3ba/2 living, 1 garage. Could be 4br as den has closet and bath. Washer, dryer, frig, gas range, & microwave. Two storage buildings, storm cellar, plus well. Newer roof shingles, HVAC $162,500

Five or More Bedrooms

4 William Ct.-Racquet Club at its finest. Perfect location, fantastic space, gorgeous amenities. Must see! $2,000,000
5011 N. Midland Dr.-This spacious home has it all! Contemporary style great guest house, beautiful grounds, home lovers dream includes an indoor pool! $1,250,000
2003 Sheffield-Fabulous 5BR in Warwick, 4LA, pool, spa, gameroom, beautifully updated $1,100,000
6706 West Wind Ct.-Elegant, family friendly 5/6 bedroom, 5.5 bath, 4/5 living areas, 5 car garage, parking pad, gorgeous pool/spa, koi pond, plus family yard on #6 Tee Box Green Tree North $1,300,000
2501 Island Circle-Awesome 5/4/3 home on the lake at Green Tree North. Must see! $744,900
2009 Shell-5 bedroom in the "Heart of Warwick" $799,000

Town Homes and Patio Homes

2512 Lochhead Ave.-Custom 3/3 1/2/2 townhome in "Old Midland" $525,000
3609 Wedgewood-Low maintenance and loaded - granite, stainless, plantation shutters, 3BR, 2BA, 2CG, outstanding $260,000
1503 Club Drive.-Low maintenance high efficiency, new construction, 2BR/2BA townhomes near duck pond! $189,000
1508 N. "A"-Low maintenance, new construction, 2BR/2BA/2gar ..... SOLD - $189,000
1506 N. "A"-Low maintenance, new construction, 2BR/2BA/2gar ..... SOLD - $189,000

Town Homes and Patio Homes

1510 N. "A"-Low maintenance, high efficiency, new construction, 2BR/2BA townhome near duck pond ..... SOLD - $189,000
4301 Boulder-3/2 town home, 2 story, low maintenance, 2 car garage $169,900

New Construction

7005 Raphanus-Hurry to make your selections on this custom 4/3/3 Trailridge Home in Odessa! ..... SOLD - $555,725
7004 Raphanus-Make your selections for this beautiful 4/3/3 custom Trailridge Home in Odessa! $550,000
7008 Raphanus-Beautiful Trailridge Home! Hurry this one won't last long! 4/2 1/2/3 Trailridge Home in Odessa! $549,900

For Lease

2302 Haynes (B)-Large 3BR, 2BA, no pets ..... $1,000 Month

Lots, Land and Acreage

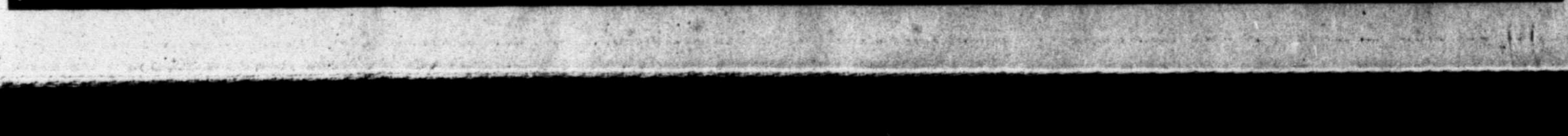
7100 E. Co. Rd. 110-92.50 on 155.29 Acres, totally irrigated, perfect for development "ABUNDANT WATER!!" ..... SOLD - $2,700,000
E. I-20 405+ acres just East of Midland on Interstate 20. Call Bill Scott for details ..... SOLD - $1,200,000
4200 Bluebird-20 acres in Greenbelt, ready for development! $600,000
Loop 250 & I-20 corner, 20 acres, call Bill Scott ..... SOLD - $600,000
Loop 250 & I-20 corner, 10 acres, call Bill Scott $300,000
Moonlight Estates I Acre lot $120,000
2305 Bellaire Ave. ..... SOLD - $100,000
7000, 7002 & 7006 Raphanus, Odessa-Very few lots left in Castle Ridge Phase 2-Hurry! ..... $50,000 ea.

Commercial Investment Property

Gas Petroleum Center, Bldg. 4-5 offices or possible rest/ bars, 4,000 SRSF, 16 offices, conference room, lounge, file room and reception area ..... Call Bill Scott for lease....888-1111 or 699-4369 or Brandon Hall at 238-4488
Gas Petroleum Center, Bldg. 6-5 offices or possible rest/ bars, 4,021 SRSF, 13 offices, file room and conference room ..... Call Bill Scott for lease....888-1111 or 699-4369 or Brandon Hall at 238-4488
214-216 Goose Flue-standing building with 2 suites, Clinic with 7 exam rooms, 2 offices, large reception area & 5 bathrooms. Back office suite with 11 offices, reception, conference room, 2 bath rooms, shower and 5 bathrooms. Call Bill Scott or Brandon Hall $1,500,000
2125 Commerce-Approximately 22,000 sq. ft. warehouse/fabrication facility with over 6,000 sq. ft. of office, easy access to I-20 or Hwy. 80. Call Bill Scott $900,000
2000 Block of E. Wadley-2.5+/- acres for development, great for office complex. Call Bill Scott $275,000
1702 E. West Avenue-3,000 sq. ft. warehouse or shop. Call Bill Scott 682-1111 or Brandon Hall 238-4488 ..... $195,000
0 Cotton Flat Rd.-Zoned Industrial Park $80,000

Farms and Ranches

2000 County Club, San Angelo-Fabulous Lake front home, Sunken Living Style $599,000
7004 Raphanus-Hurry to make your selections on this custom 4/3/3 Trailridge Home in Odessa! ..... SOLD - $555,725
7005 Raphanus-Make your selections for this beautiful 4/3/3 custom Trailridge Home in Odessa! $550,000
7008 Raphanus-Beautiful Trailridge Home! Hurry this one won't last long! 4/2 1/2/3 Trailridge Home in Odessa! $549,900
60 Lincoln Park, Rangerville-Lot 1 land homes, Lake Winnie $79,900
7000, 7002 & 7006 Raphanus, Odessa-Very few lots left in Castle Ridge Phase 2-Hurry! ..... $50,000 ea.



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New Listings

2107 Avenue N.....Call Ray Dalton 638-4209
3/2/2CG, basement potential $169,000

4+ Bedrooms

47 Lafitte Circle, Odessa.....Call Bill Lanier 682-1144/Raquel Calvin Rizzo 638-4221
3/2/2CG/BA, Executive home with a view of the pond in Lafitte Cir! 4 fireplaces and a media room!.....MLS#... $1,199,000

2511 Kimball Dale Ct.....Call Ray Dalton 638-4209
4 bath/ 1/2 bath w/ granite/ cook's kitchen w/lots of counter space, granite countertops, and stainless steel appliances. Wood flooring ..... REDUCED!....$539,900

3400 Co. Rd. 120/CR 120.....Call Bill Lanier 682-1144
4BR, 3BA in Northridge Development on 2.84 acres, with barn, bedroom & RV parking $419,900

610 E. Co. Rd. 120.....Call Bill Lanier 682-1144/Dale Lookabaugh 553-6766
Beautiful 4 bed/3 bath on 1.86 acres with single detached garage & an open floor plan w/2,524 sq. ft. $389,900

2104 Foothill.....Call Ray Dalton 638-4209
4/3/2 under construction with March 2014 expected completion. Granite, stainless appliances, water well and more..... $364,000

4500 Green Tree Blvd.....Call Bill Lanier/Raquel Calvin Rizzo 638-4221/682-1144
Fantastic 4 bed/3 bath in Green Tree! Granite, wood floors covered patio & spacious backyard! $299,900

4626 E. Hwy. 158.....Call Cameron Williamson 618-4259
4BR/2BA, Great bath! 12.43 acres with 1 manufactured home and 2 mobile homes. Multi income has an above ground pool $270,000

4602 Woods Ave.....Call Cameron Williamson 618-4259
4 bed/3 bath. All bathrooms remodeled and entire house boasts of crown molding! Kitchen has granite countertops, plenty of cabinet space and covered patio ..... REDUCED!....$179,500

3 Bedrooms

604 Cameron.....Call Ray Dalton 638-4209
3 bed/2 1/2 bath. Fabulous updated townhome! Granite countertops, stainless appliances, patio area and every room is granite! ..... REDUCED!....$149,900

4501 E. Co. Rd. 70.....Call Bill Lanier 682-1144/Raquel Calvin Rizzo 638-4221
Spacious 3 bed/3.5 bath w/Bonus on 1.5 acres! Basement, sunroom & 3,226 sq. ft.! $349,900

2700 Caldera Blvd.....Call Lillian Iniguez 349-7865
3 bed/2 bath w/huge living room located in a convenient part of town. Walker walk-in closets in master bedroom $237,000

1608 N. Tennessee.....Call Bill Lanier 682-1144/Raquel Calvin Rizzo 638-4221
Cute Old Midland 3 bed/2 bath with original hardwood floors, spacious kitchen and wood deck! $189,500

3610 W Olds Ave.....Call Ray Dalton 638-4209
3/2/2 Lots of upgrades! Kitchen has been remodeled. Family room has lots of light, fireplace & lots of room for family fun. A must see! $176,500

4629 Rio Dr.....Call Bill Lanier 682-1144/Dale Lookabaugh 553-6766
Spacious move-in ready 3 bd w/open floor plan! $125,000

1 & 2 Bedrooms

2100 W. Wadley Ave.....Call Mary Lynn Pressley 413-4368
+/-2BHC/2BA. Spacious living room w/fireplace, for seating looking into kitchen $145,000

4402 E. Co. Rd. 91.....Call Cameron Williamson 618-4259
Remodeled 2012! on 1.03 acres with large rooms & entirely fenced property $145,000

2310 W. Kansas Ave.....Call Norman Ingram 894-6909
2 bedroom/1 bath. Enclosed patio and a huge workshop in the backyard $129,900

For Lease

703 Wallen Alley.....Call Bill Lanier 682-1144
Cute 2 bed/2 bath/2 car close to downtown! Spacious inside; appliances & storm system $1,000/month $1,000/deposit

Odessa & Surrounding Areas

1005 St. Hwy. 115, Pyote, Tx.....Call Lillian Iniguez 349-7865
3 bed/3 bath amazing home w/underground, heated pool and wrap-around porch. 15 acres $350,000

11031 E. Co. Rd. 100, Stanton.....Call Charlotte Dalton 262-7290
4 bed/2 bath. A must see! Sequestered master bdrm w/large master bathroom. Kitchen has a lg. island w/seating for 4 ..... $175,000

1413 E. Century Ave., Odessa.....Call Ann Flatt 638-4074
This home is a must see. It has a versatile floor plan with a large living space. 3BR/2BA $135,000

Land & Lots

3012 Pasuque Way.....Call Bill Lanier 682-1144/Raquel Calvin Rizzo 638-4221
Fantastic place to build your dream home! North of Loop 250 & close to shopping! Cleared lot with pine trees. Water well & electricity $250,000

3009 Pasuque Way.....Call Bill Lanier 682-1144/Dale Lookabaugh 553-6766
Fantastic place to build your dream home! North of Loop 250 & close to shopping! Cleared lot with pine trees. Water well & electricity $250,000

2914 Pasuque Way.....Call Bill Lanier 682-1144/Dale Lookabaugh 553-6766
Fantastic place to build your dream home! North of Loop 250 & close to shopping! Cleared lot with pine trees already planted & electricity $125,000

5322 Bella Plaza..... Call Nathan Reeves 631-9657
A beautiful place to build your dreams! $85,000

5316 Bella Plaza..... Call Nathan Reeves 631-9657
A beautiful place to build your dreams! $85,000

19 Lafayette Plaza..... Call Nathan Reeves 631-9657
Oversized townhome lot in Lafayette Place $65,000

(= approximately)*

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'TIS THE SEASON! LET US HELP YOU DECK SOME NEW HALLS! MERRY MERRY...HAPPY HAPPY!

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NEW & ACTIVE LISTINGS

11500 WCR 30-50d, 4 1/2ba, 4liv, 2din, pool, 10.8 AC $3,500,000
5305 DCR 1005-Abdr, 6.5bath, 4 gar, 9500sqft, 32 acres, Taraofwesttexas.com $1,200,000
10.54 Ac. Rhoshipkind Lane $1,600,000
4415 Wood -3.36 acres, 4bd, 3 1/2ba, media room $925,000
3504 Cardinal Lane-5bd, 5 full ba, 2 1/2 baths, 4,17 acres, pool, hot tub $850,000
1002 I-20-5.71 AC $695,000

Bonita Estates Lots - 10 To Choose From

4009 ECR 63-4bd, 3 1/2ba, 3 car garage, Bonito Estates New Const $637,500
4316 ECR 63-4bd, 3 1/2ba, 3 car garage, Bonito Estates New Const $637,500
FM 715-20 AC MORE OR LESS LAND! $325,000
1409 DCR 1130 - Greenwood 3/2/2 complete remodel, 2900 sq. ft., outdoor kitchen, tennis courts $449,900
4116 Fox Hollow-5 bd, 3 1/2 ba, 2 living/ ..... REDUCED....$443,000
5329 Shady Road - 5bd, 3ba, pool, Green Tree North $425,000
10312 & 10316 WCR 80-2 story home. Huge shop, two homes for the one price $399,000
1002 Boyd-5bd, 3ba $397,000
6111 ECR 185-3bd, 2 1/2ba, 2,296 acres, huge shop, pond $375,000
2804 Garfield St.-Stunning townhome with pool, gourmet kitchen $375,000
4411 Tamforan Ave.-4br, 3.5ba, 2 acres/ ..... REDUCED....$335,000
4911 Heather-Touch of Tuscany, 4/3 ..... $299,000
1709 Community Ln. - 4bd/3bd, in-law plan, great location ..... REDUCED....$299,000
4108 WCR 1133 - New Construction, 4bd, 2ba, 2car, guest quarters, 1.2 acres $299,000
4210 Downing-4br/2ba, workshop/storage, spacious rooms, covered patio ..... REDUCED....$289,000

1704 N. "H" St.- 3bd, 2ba, 2car, open floor plan $279,900
42 Quitclaim Dr-2bd, 2ba, 2 din, guest quarters in gated community $279,900
4404 Dalton Dr.-Low maintenance & large rooms, 3bd, 2.5ba, $5,000 incentive $259,900
2600 Sheridan-SO MUCH UPDATING $242,000
2903 Wedgewood Dr.-3br/2ba, new listings, lots of updates and hot tub $235,000
3320 W. Sheridan-3bd, 2ba, Artist/Study $229,000
2303 W. Oranger Ave.-3bd, 2ba, 2car, formal dining, in-ground pool $219,000
Cuttonflat & Harris-2 Acres $210,000
Commercial Lots-10 Lots on Front St $199,000
2202 Shell - 3bd, Borders Warwick, workshop + storage bldg $169,000
208 E. Dunnard - 4bd, 2ba, new carpet & paint $160,000
4801 ECR 130-10 AC LAND! $160,000
4411 Storey-3bd, 2 ba $150,000
4405 Brookdale-3bd, 2ba, tons of updates, saltillo tile $139,900
3225 Travis-2bd, 2ba, remodeled $126,500
33616 Caldera - Sagewood Condo, high ceilings, fireplace $119,900
4209 ECR 61-2.34 AC. Bonito Estates $104,130
4001 ECR 61-2.34 AC. Bonito Estates $104,130
4201 ECR 61-2 AC. Bonito Estates $89,000
1002 E. California-2br, 1 ba, New paint & carpet $69,900
3219 Roosevelt-2br, 1 ba, 1 car garage. Cute & clean. New roof $69,000

Ghost Town Realtor/Co-Owner 432.352.4826 | Rosina Underwood Realtor/Co-Owner 432.553.9121 | Bill Underwood Sales Associate 432.413.8855 | Dorthea Frango Sales Associate 432.556.5563 | Diane Green Sales Associate 432.559.9900 | Lisa Boescher Sales Associate 432.413.1708 | Joyce Reaves Sales Associate 432.352.3956 | Deborah Pierce Sales Associate 432.889.2499 | Les Caress Sales Associate 432.528.9577 | Jo Braden Broker Associate 432.352.5045 | Tom Younger Sales Associate 432.934.9183 | Brooke Underwood Sales Associate 432.978.5380 | Linda Guerrero Sales Associate 432.528.4141 | Ernesto Calderon Sales Associate 432.413.4347

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The VICTORIA Printz Team, Realtors

To See All Of Our Listings Visit Our Website: www.victoriaprintz.com

Victoria Printz 556-1111 | Lisa Smith 556-1111 | Stephanie McSwain 556-1224 | Deborah Boler 934-3881

Jeff Wilson 556-1111 | Crystal Brooks 556-1111 | Kelci Payne 557-1111

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 4:00 TO 5:00

4+ BEDROOMS

435 Rosewood Dr - NEW! Immaculate move-in ready 4 bed/3 bath home in Briarwood! Beautifully updated throughout! Spacious living area with soaring ceilings & Built-Ins! Gourmet kitchen with granite tops, ... $385,000

3124 Candy Rd. - NEW! Fabulous 4 bed/3 bath home in Greenwood & Stonehedge additions! 4 bed/3 bath home with 4 ground floor and 2 upstairs master suites! Gourmet kitchen with granite counters, ... $365,000

4504 San Pedro - REMODELED! Rustic waterfront! 2 story, 3 bed/2 bath home in Oak Point! Guest quarters, storage, and outdoor kitchen! Recent paint and gorgeous floors throughout! Tile ... $340,000

5104 Llano - NEW! Adorable 3 bed/2 bath home in Hogan Park! Spacious living area + formal room! Gourmet kitchen w/granite countertops, cherry cabinets, ... $265,000

2700 DCR 1000 - Fabulous 3 bed/2 bath home in Dark Acres subdivision on 2.83 acres in Greenwood! Open floor plan - living area is huge throughout! Living area w/ ... $275,000

4208 Cunningham Dr - NEW! Spacious 4 bed/2 bath home sits on corner lot with amazing backyard in Parker Elementary! Living room boasts a wood-burning fireplace, built-ins & plantation ... $265,000

2706 Dawn Dr - NEW! Adorable 3 bed/2 bath home in Dawn Addition! Recently updated throughout! Kitchen with granite counters, stainless steel appliances, ... $214,900

2605 Rex Dr - NEW! Wonderfully updated 3 bed/2 bath home near the mall. Updated, and stylish. Beautiful living room with fireplace and wood window accents. Recent ... $210,000

1005 Fedex Pl - NEW! Fabulous updated 3 bed/2 bath home in Wedgewood Estates located within walking distance to Bush Elementary! Some of its features include: ... $205,000

2501 Dunbar - NEW! Updated 3 bed/2 bath move-in ready home with an open floor plan! Beautiful brick wood burning fireplace in the large living area! Kitchen with ... $172,000

2501 Cypress Dr - Lovely single story 3 bed/2 bath + bonus room in Fairview school district! Hardwood floors throughout! Inviting living area with fireplace! Open floor ... $162,500

2501 Cypress Dr - Lovely single story 3 bed/2 bath + bonus room in Fairview school district! Hardwood floors throughout! Inviting living area with fireplace! Open floor ... $162,500

1704-C E Dakota - NEW! Updated 2 bed/2 bath duplex with wonderful curb appeal! Large backyard has mature trees, and a 2 car garage! Open floor plan with ... $162,500

1310 W. Tennessee Ave. - NEW! Updated and absolutely charming 3 bed/2 bath home on a landscaped corner lot! Beautiful hardwood flooring! Updates throughout with recent ... $150,000

4204 Cypress Dr - NEW! Updated 3 bed/2 bath home in Fairview school district! Hardwood floors throughout! Living room with fireplace! Kitchen with granite counters, ... $150,000

2501 Dunbar - NEW! Updated 3 bed/2 bath move-in ready home with an open floor plan! Beautiful brick wood burning fireplace in the large living area! Kitchen with ... $148,000

2005 Wallace - Absolutely spectacular 3 bed/2 bath new construction home in C.C. Holmes! Fabulous features include walls of windows, 9 foot ceilings, gourmet ... $145,000

1113 Yale - Absolutely spectacular 3 bed/2 bath new construction home in C.C. Holmes! Walls of windows, 9 foot ceilings, gourmet kitchen with granite counters, ... $145,000

4000 Lenox Rd - Fabulously remodeled 2 bed/1.5 bath townhome with large corner yard! The hardwood look flooring in the spacious living and kitchen! Kitchen features gas range, stainless appliances, and abundant cabinetry! Updated baths! ... $85,000

LAND, LOTS AND RENTALS

4501 W Old 80 - Gated commercial yard 3 +/- acres with interstate 20 frontage! Business Park Zoning! ... $875,000

County Rd. 2280 - Prime location for residential building sites minutes from Midland's water access to the east! Deed restrictions are in place! ... $280,000

2270 County Rd. 2280 - +/-2.82 acre corner lot with more adjoining acreage available! Great location in developing area with easy access to Loop 250 North! ... $249,000

County Rd. 2280 - Prime location for residential building sites minutes from Midland's water access to the east! Deed restrictions are in place! ... $240,000

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CALL OR TEXT 570-8000 then enter the four digit number found with each listing 24 HOUR AUTOMATED PROPERTY DETAILS

SUNDAY FEATURED HOMES



3209 STANOLIND AVE.
$349,600

STUNNING!! This 3,394 sq. ft. 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath home is loaded with all the amenities you could wish for! Two living areas, 2 dining areas and amazing great room that looks out onto the sparkling swimming pool. Bonus room/office that is light & bright. Large kitchen with a HUGE island and tons of cabinets. Everything updated - absolutely magnificent sequestered master suite. For more information, call Sharon Horton @ 432-853-7875



2113 BRADFORD COURT
$299,000

Wonderful cul-de-sac location in coveted Polo Park! This 4 bedroom, 3 bath home has plantation shutters, high ceilings, and Silestone countertops, double ovens, microwave, pantry! Walk-in closets, security systems, owned reverse osmosis, ceiling fans and formal dining (recently used for family pool table). For more information, call Pat Paxton @ 432-352-2622

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SPACIOUS 2 STORY HOME
3-4 Bed, 5 bath(full) in Ranches of Sonterra. Cherry cabinets & granite countertops. Vermont slate & cherry flooring. 1,800 sq. ft. heated basement/workshop. Huge unattached RV garage & oversized 2 car garage. $529,999. #112905



VERY NICE 3/2 + 2 CAR GARAGE HOME ON LEVEL LOT
View of Sierra Blanca and terrific view of Kokopelli Lake and Capitans. A very large deck to enjoy beautiful scenery - nicely furnished. Full golf membership. $329,500. #113320



RIDGE TOP HOME
Prestigious area close to town. Large 4 BR home on big lot with views east & west. Low maintenance stucco. Gazebo in backyard. $325,000. #113235



LOTS OF EXTRAS IN THIS 3/2 ON QUIET CUL-DE-SAC
In White Mntn Est w/sm view of SB from privacy decks. Dbl paned tilt-out wndws. Refrig air, gas or wood FP. New countertops in kitchen & baths. Water softener & rev osmosis in kitchen; + Jacuzzi, fenced backyard, dbl garage. $249,000. #113592



BIG LAND
Great useable 228 acres with views of the Capitan Mts. Easy access & super rock formations. OK for horses & homesites. $186,000. #110455



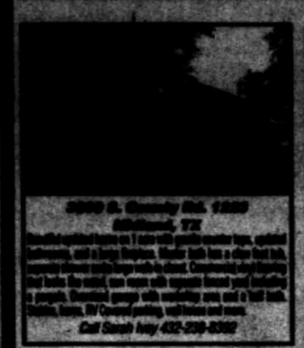
NICELY REMODELED HOME
Convenient to shopping. Very large fenced backyard. Large covered private deck in back of home. Large storage/work shed. Domestic well also. $169,900. #113646

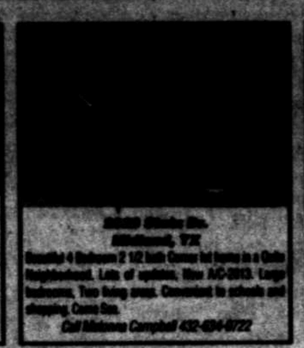
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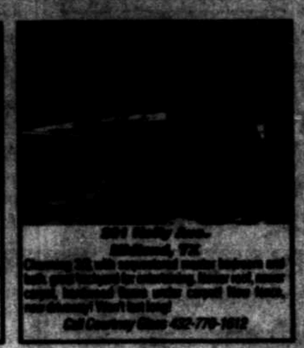
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Office 432-617-3053 - Fax 432-617-3055

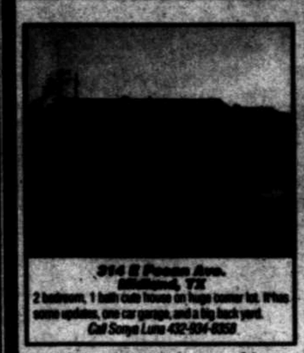
SUNDAY FEATURED HOME

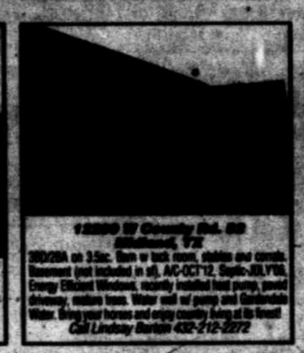


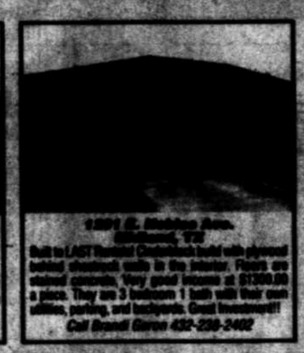












Land For Sale

9 County Rd. 2240, Elkins, TX – 6 Acres ..... Call Warren Ivey 432-559-7832

9 W Holiday Dr., Odessa, TX – 1.04 Acre Lot ..... Call Melonna Campbell 432-694-0722

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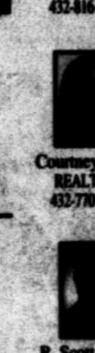

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Warren Ivey
Managing Broker
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Beth Ivey
Agent Development
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Lisa Malone
REALTOR® CRS, GRI
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Andy Chavez
REALTOR®
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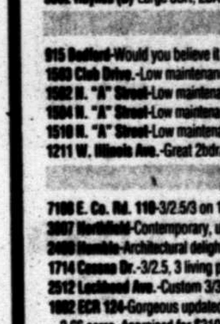

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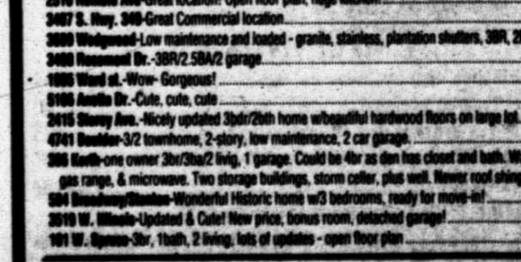


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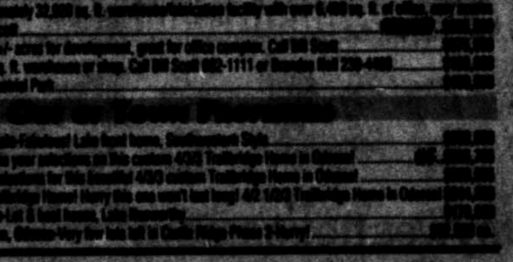
FEATURED HOMES


1101 E. County Rd. 124 - $310,000


6706 West Wind Ct. - $1,300,000

Merry Christmas

May your home be filled with happiness, your hearts with love and your days with joy at Christmas and always.


6902 Island Circle - $744,900


4001 Baybrook Dr. - $569,900

WWW.REMIDLAND.COM TO VIEW ALL MLS LISTINGS

New And Reduced Listings

6706 West Wind Ct. -Elegant, family friendly 5/6 bedroom, 5.5 bath, 4/5 living areas, 5 car garage, parking pad, gorgeous pool/spa, koi pond, plus family yard on #6 Tee Box Green Tree North $1,300,000
2609 Shell-5 bedroom in the "Heart of Warwick" $699,000
6902 Island Circle-Awesome 5/4/3 home on the lake at Green Tree North. Must see! $744,900
2512 Lochhead Ave.-Custom 3/3 1/2/2 townhome in "Old Midland" $685,000
1602 E. Co. Rd. 124-Reduced $15,000 - Appraised for $310,000. Listed for $295,000
5105 Aniita Dr.-Cute, cute, cute $199,900
2107 College Ave.-Cottage look from the outside but big & grand inside. Wonderful open plan w/tons of space $332,000
3415 Stony Ave.-Nicely updated 3bdr/2bth home w/beautiful hardwood floors on large lot $179,000
3302 Haynes (B)-Large 3BR, 2BA, no pets ..... $1,600 Month

Two Bedrooms

915 Bedford-Would you believe it has a racquetball court? Loads of custom features! $750,000
1020 Club Drive.-Low maintenance high efficiency, new construction, 2bd/2BA townhomes near dock pool ..... $SOLD
1026 N. "A" Street-Low maintenance, high efficiency new construction, 2bd/2BA townhomes near dockpond ..... $SOLD
1030 N. "A" Street-Low maintenance, high efficiency new construction, 2bd/2bth townhomes near dockpond ..... $SOLD
1010 N. "A" Street-Low maintenance, high efficiency, new construction, 2BD/2BA townhome near dock pond. ..... $SOLD
1211 W. Illinois Ave.-Great 2bdr/1bth in Old Midland. Ideal to make an office or cozy cottage. $169,000

Three Bedrooms

7108 E. Co. Rd. 110-3/2.5/3 on 155.29 Acres, totally irrigated, perfect for development "ABUNDANT WATER!!" $2,250,000
2007 Smithfield-Contemporary, updated, beautiful! 3BR, 4 1/2BA, pool and tennis rooms! $1,275,000
2600 Dunlin-Architectural delight! 3-2, 3 living areas & study, vaulted ceilings w/skylights, copper FP, Windsor! ..... $SOLD
1714 Cowan Dr.-3/2.5, 3 living patio home. Lush landscaping w/mature trees in front $299,000
2512 Lochhead Ave.-Custom 3/3 1/2/2 townhome in "Old Midland" $685,000
1602 ESA 124-Gorgeous updated 3BR, 2BA, open spacious, kitchen/den, 2 car garage, 40x80 workshop, pool, 2.66 acres. Appraised for $310,000 ..... $SOLD
2500 Humble Ave.-Great location! Open floor plan, huge kitchen! ..... $SOLD
3407 S. Hwy. 349-Great Commercial location ..... $SOLD
3500 Wedgewood-Low maintenance and loaded - granite, shutters, plantation shutters, 3BR, 2BA, 2CD ..... $SOLD
3400 Rosewood Dr.-3BR/2.5BA/2 garage ..... $SOLD
1800 West st. #One-Gorgeous! ..... $SOLD
5105 Anita Dr.-Cute, cute, cute $199,900
3415 Stony Ave.-Nicely updated 3bdr/2bth home w/beautiful hardwood floors on large lot $179,000
4701 Dunbar-3/2 townhome, 2-story, low maintenance, 2 car garage ..... $SOLD
306 North-one owner 3br/2ba/2 bdg, 1 garage. Could be 4br as den has closet and bath. Washer, dryer, frig, gas range, & microwave. Two storage buildings, storm cellar, plus well. Newer roof shingles, HVAC $169,900
504 Broadway/Ranker-Wonderful Historic home w/3 bedrooms, ready for move-in! $149,900
2010 W. Illinois-Updated & Cute! New price, bonus room, detached garage! $249,000
101 W. Oyster-3br, 1bath, 2 living, lots of updates - open floor plan $109,000

Four Bedrooms

207 W. Hendy-3 bedroom or 2 bedroom with study, 2 baths, 2 living areas, 1 dining area, hardwoods, large bonus room and utility room, 2 garage ..... $SOLD

Five+ Bedrooms

2500 Passage Way-39 acres in town, gorgeous! $2,695,000
4107 Tarleton Ave.-Perfect home in Washington Heights w/4BR/3.5BA. See the many amenities, gorgeous custom decor plus pool and much more. $1,600,000
4205 Surf Trap-Lovely home in Green Tree North with pool! ..... $SOLD
2610 Inwood-Beautifully updated 4bdr/3.5bth/3 car gar w/BLA and 2FP. A must see property $694,900
4001 Baybrook-Lovely 4BR/3 full bath/2 half bath, Washington Heights $569,900
2305 Dublin Ct.-Executive Inverness home on fabulous cul-de-sac. All the bells & whistles. Huge backyard ..... $SOLD
2211 Shaff-Great home in Midkiff! Lots of new items! ..... $SOLD
2500 Highview Hwy 9-make your selections on this custom 4/3/3 Trailridge Home in Odessa! ..... $SOLD
2504 Highview Hwy 9-make your selections for this beautiful 4/3/3 custom Trailridge Home in Odessa! ..... $SOLD
2508 Highview Hwy 9-Beautiful Trailridge Home! Hurry this one won't last long! All 1/00 Trailridge Homes in Odessa! ..... $SOLD
2300 Shale Pl.-Beautifully updated 4BR, 2.5BA, 3 living areas, utility parking, Lush landscaping ..... $SOLD
2400 Rolando Court-please no2 large living areas, Vaulting floor plan, bright 4bdr/2.5bth, covered patio, double garage plus workshop for her only ..... $SOLD
2001 Williams Dr.-Looks like a model home. Quality finish in 4 br with detached option, WOW! ..... $SOLD
**2307 Hemphill-Terrific 4 bdrm home with great floor plan, high ceilings, updated kitchen and bathrooms in central location ..... $SOLD
2107 College Ave.-Cottage look from the outside but big & grand inside. Wonderful open plan w/tons of space ..... $SOLD
306 North-one owner 3br/2ba/2 bdg, 1 garage. Could be 4br as den has closet and bath. Washer, dryer, frig, gas range, & microwave. Two storage buildings, storm cellar, plus well. Newer roof shingles, HVAC ..... $SOLD

Five+ Bedrooms

4 Million SQ.-Ranger Club at its finest. Perfect location, fantastic home, gorgeous panoramic, Must see! $2,695,000
2211 S. Midkiff Dr.-This spacious home has it all! Contemporary style great floor plan, beautiful granite, huge bonus room includes an indoor pool! $1,300,000
**2002 Shallick-Fabulous 5BR in Wiesita, 4.5 bath, spa, gameroom, beautifully updated $1,100,000
6706 West Wind Ct.-Elegant, family friendly 5/6 bedroom, 5.5 bath, 4/5 living areas, 5 car garage, parking pad, gorgeous pool/spa, koi pond, plus family yard on #6 Tee Box Green Tree North $1,300,000
4205 Surf Trap-Lovely home in Green Tree North with pool! ..... $SOLD
1800 Shell-5 bedroom in the "Heart of Warwick" $699,000

Six+ Bedrooms

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2500 Wedgewood-Low maintenance and loaded - granite, shutters, plantation shutters, 3BR, 2BA, 2CD, gameroom ..... $SOLD
2020 Club Drive.-Low maintenance high efficiency, new construction, 2bd/2bth townhomes near dock pool ..... $SOLD
1026 N. "A" Street-Low maintenance, new construction, 2BD/2BA townhomes ..... $SOLD
1004 N. "A" Street-Low maintenance, new construction, 2BD/2BA townhomes ..... $SOLD

Three Bedrooms

1030 N. "A"-Low maintenance, high efficiency, new construction, 2BD/2BA townhome near dock pool ..... $SOLD
4701 Dunbar-3/2 town home, 2 story, low maintenance, 2 car garage ..... $SOLD

Four Bedrooms

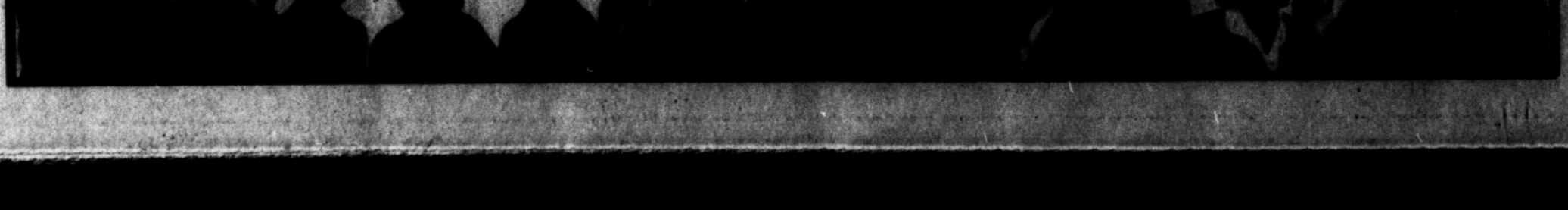
7108 E. Co. Rd. 110-3/2.5/3 on 155.29 Acres, totally irrigated, perfect for development "ABUNDANT WATER!!" $2,250,000
E. 1-20 Exit-acres just East of Midland on Interstate 20. Call Bill Dodd for details ..... $SOLD
Loop 250 & I-20-corner, 20 acres, call Bill Dodd ..... $SOLD
2500 Highview Hwy 9-make your selections on this custom 4/3/3 Trailridge Home in Odessa! ..... $SOLD
2504 Highview Hwy 9-make your selections for this beautiful 4/3/3 custom Trailridge Home in Odessa! ..... $SOLD
2508 Highview Hwy 9-Beautiful Trailridge Home! Hurry this one won't last long! All 1/00 Trailridge Homes in Odessa! ..... $SOLD
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2400 Rolando Court-please no2 large living areas, Vaulting floor plan, bright 4bdr/2.5bth, covered patio, double garage plus workshop for her only ..... $SOLD
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1800 Shell-5 bedroom in the "Heart of Warwick" $699,000

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2500 Wedgewood-Low maintenance and loaded - granite, shutters, plantation shutters, 3BR, 2BA, 2CD, gameroom ..... $SOLD
2020 Club Drive.-Low maintenance high efficiency, new construction, 2bd/2bth townhomes near dock pool ..... $SOLD
1026 N. "A" Street-Low maintenance, new construction, 2BD/2BA townhomes ..... $SOLD
1004 N. "A" Street-Low maintenance, new construction, 2BD/2BA townhomes ..... $SOLD





Merry Christmas!

1 & 2 Bedrooms

3 Bedrooms

For Lease

Odessa & Surrounding Areas

Land & Lots

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SUNDAY FEATURED HOMES



3209 STANOLIND AVE.
$349,600

STUNNING!! This 3,394 sq. ft. 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath home is loaded with all the amenities you could wish for! Two living areas, 2 dining areas and amazing great room that looks out onto the sparkling swimming pool. Bonus room/office that is light & bright. Large kitchen with a HUGE island and tons of cabinets. Everything updated - absolutely magnificent sequestered master suite.
For more information, call Sharon Horton @ 432-853-7875



2113 BRADFORD COURT
$299,000

Wonderful cul-de-sac location in coveted Polo Park! This 4 bedroom, 3 bath home has plantation shutters, high ceilings, and Silestone countertops, double ovens, microwave, pantry! Walk-in closets, security systems, owned reverse osmosis, ceiling fans and formal dining (recently used for family pool table).
For more information, call Pat Paxton @ 432-352-2622

BEST AVAILABLE COPY





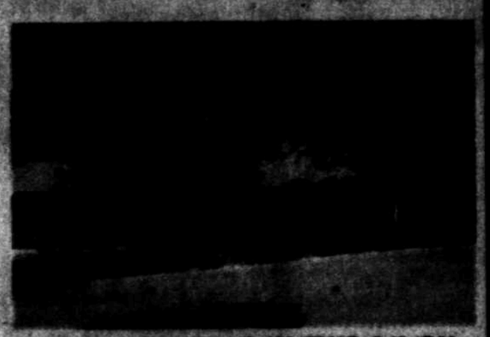
SPACIOUS 2 STORY HOME
3-4 Bed, 5 bath(full) in Ranches of Sonterra. Cherry cabinets & granite countertops. Vermont slate & cherry flooring. 1,800 sq. ft. heated basement/workshop. Huge enclosed RV garage & oversized 2 car garage. $629,900. #112905



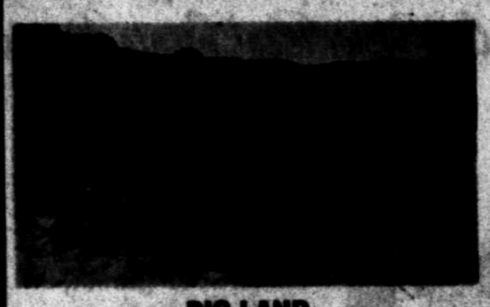
VERY NICE 3/2 + 2 CAR GARAGE HOME ON LEVEL LOT
View of Sierra Blanca and terrific view of Kokopelli Lake and Coahoma. A very large deck to enjoy beautiful scenery - nicely furnished. Full golf membership. $329,500. #113320



RIDGE TOP HOME
Prestigious area close to town. Large 4 BR home on big lot with views east & west. Low maintenance stucco. Gazebo in backyard. $325,000. #113235



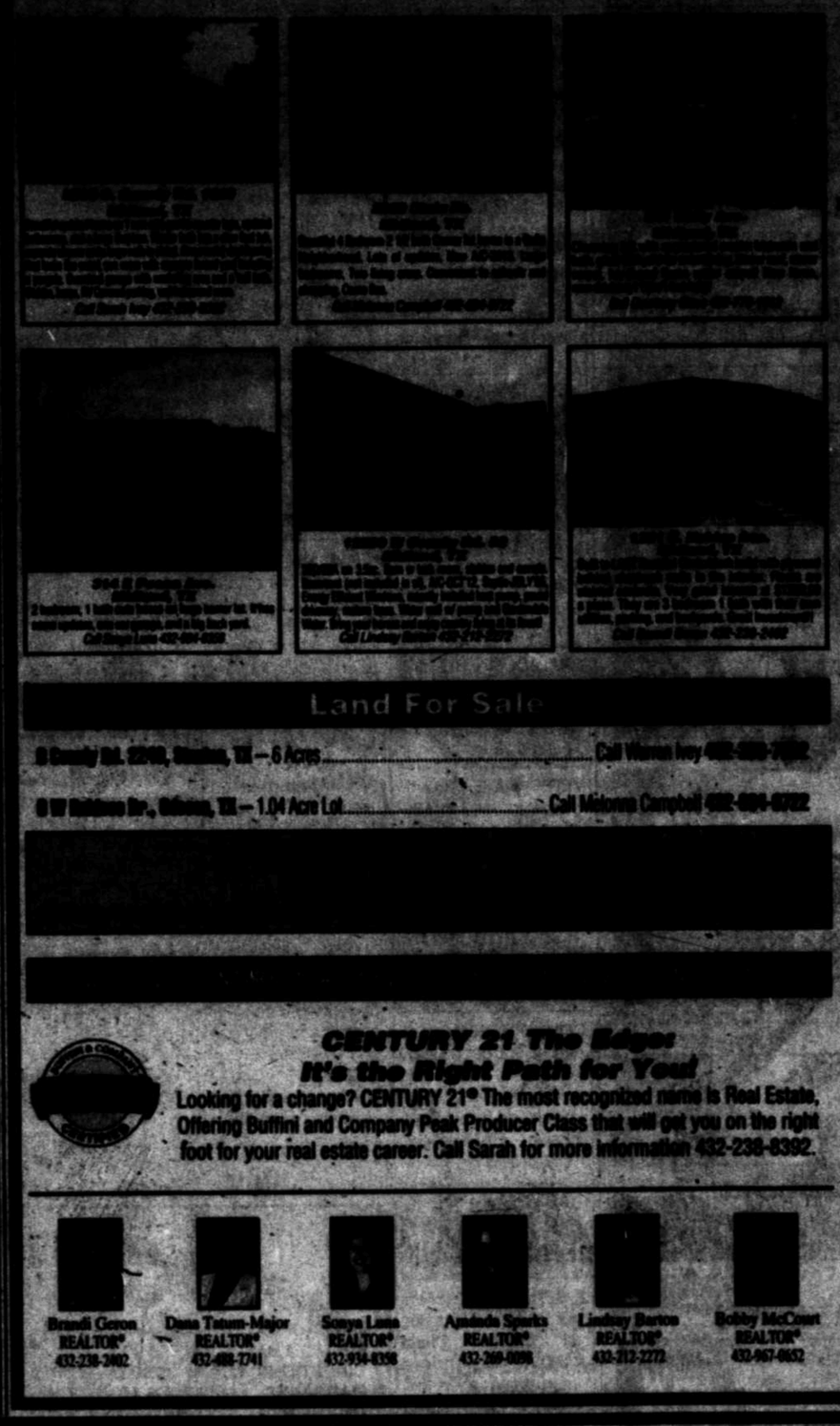
LOTS OF EXTRAS IN THIS 3/2 ON QUIET CUL-DE-SAC
in White Mntn Est w/sm view of SB from privacy decks. Dbl panel tilt-out wndws. Refrig air, gas or wood FP. New countertops in kitchen & baths. Water softener & rev osmosis in kitchen + Jacuzzi, fenced backyard, dbl garage. $249,000. #113592



BIG LAND
Great useable 228 acres with views of the Capitan Mts. Easy access & super rock formations. OK for horses & homesites. $186,000. #110455



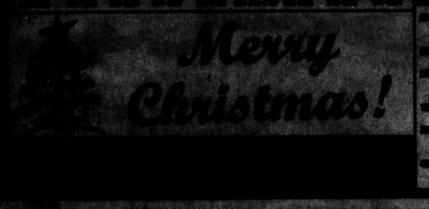
NICELY REMODELED HOME
Convenient to shopping. Very large fenced backyard. Large covered private deck in back of home. Large storage/work shed. Domestic well also. $169,900. #113646











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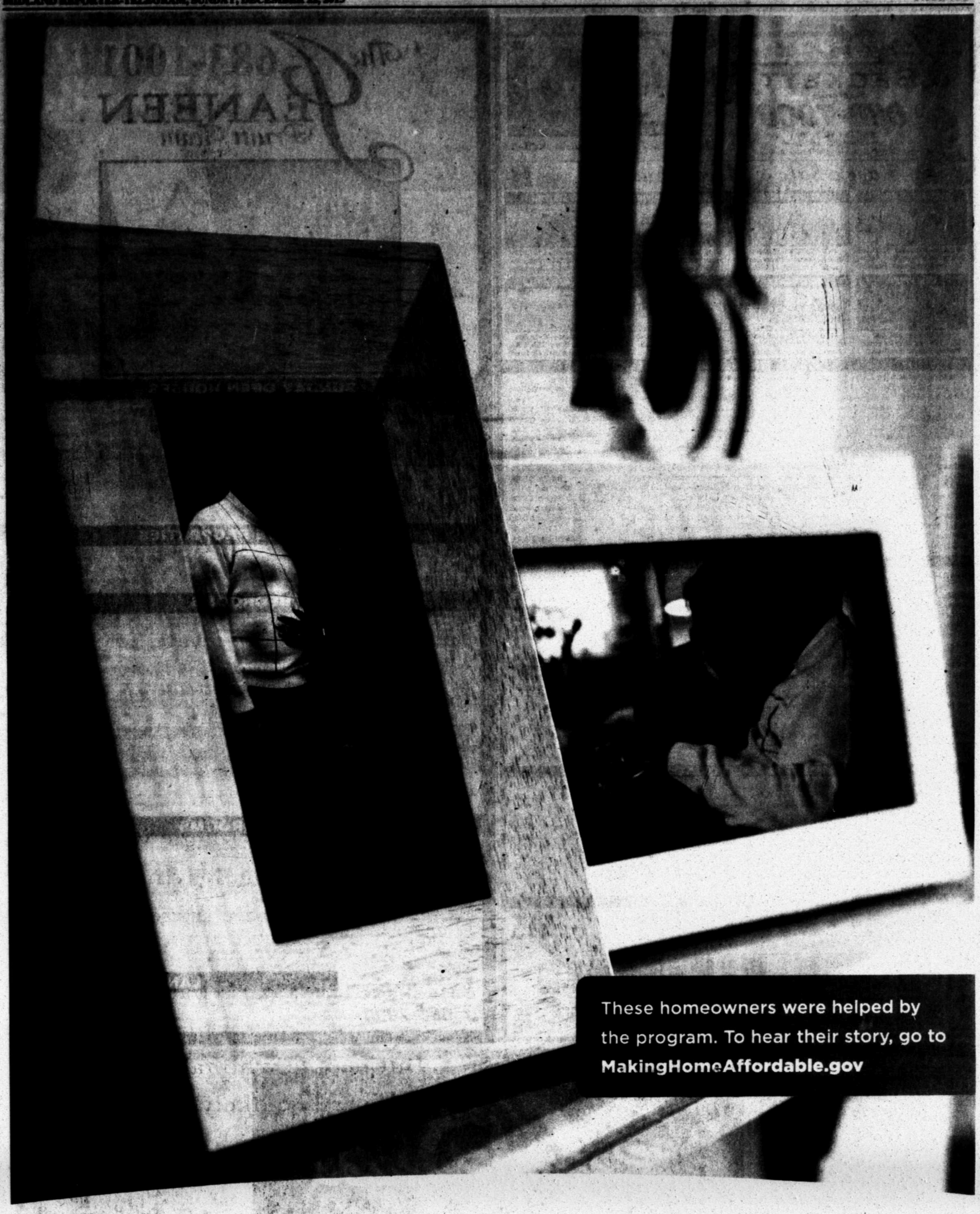
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The #1 Real Estate Boutique in Midland

Have a Safe & Merry Christmas!



EXCLUSIVE HOME

48 Oak Hill Ave., Brownwood - $3,200,000
Built by Dick Clark Architect! Nothing like This Home! Stunning Property!



FEATURED HOME

4100 E Cr Rd 61 - $520,000
Stunning Custom 1 Owner Home on 2.3 Acres! Fully LOADED!



NEW CONSTRUCTION

6406 Stonewood - $400,000
Sensational NEW Floor plan, 3BR, 3BA, 2 Living! Ready For You To Move In!!



NEW LISTING

3215 Roosevelt - $117,000
3BR, 1BA, ADORABLE Cute Cottage! Updated Kitchen & Bath! Roll House Deleted!



NEW PRICE

3607 Godfrey - $225,000
4BR, 2.5BA on a Quiet Cul-de-sac! Walking distance to Lee High!!



NORTHGATE

4210 Amistad - $189,900
Picture Perfect Home! Pool, Pond, & Pergola! Perfect for Entertaining!



NEW PRICE

3500 Wydewood - $180,000
Super Cute, 3BR, 2BA! Great Price!



FEATURED HOME

1605 Butternut - $119,000
Immaculate Home! 3BR, 1 BA, 2 Living! Completely Updated!

4+ BEDROOMS

48 Oak Hill Ave., Brownwood, TX - Exclusive Home Built by Dick Clark Architect! Nothing like this home! Uber Contemporary with Distinctive Upgrades! 3 Bedroom on almost 5 Acres. Please call Chris Beckett 349-7000 for further details & private showing! ..... **Call Chris! $3,200,000**

2905 Maxwood - 5 Bedroom 3.5 Bath. 3 Living Areas. 4 Car Garage! Brand NEW McPherson Construction. Double 10' Iron Doors, Granite. Stainless. Plantation Shutters on 0.360 Lot! Still Time To Make Selections! Est Completion 3/15/2014 ..... **Sale Pending! $600,000**

6405 Maxwood - 4 Bedroom. 3 Bath. 2 Living. Sensational NEW Plan by Almand Construction! All The Bells & Whistles! Granite. Stainless. Faux Paint & Stone Accents! Total Landscape Package! ..... **New Construction! $489,000**

4901 Thames Ct. - 4 Bedroom. 2.5 Bath. 3 Living Areas! Gourmet Kitchen w/Granite! Porcelain Tile Throughout Entire Home! So Much More! ..... **New Price! $350,000**

5001 Canterbury - 4 Bedroom. 3 Bath Home with Many Recent Updates in Prin Park! Spacious over 2,600 sqft with Sequestered Master! Hard WOOD Flooring! ..... **Sale Pending! $349,900**

5204 Teakwood Trace - 4 Bedroom. 3 Bath. 2 Half Baths! 2 Car Garage. Golf Course View!!! Call Chris for details! ..... **New Price! $349,900**

3113 Patrick - 4 Bedroom. 3 Bath in Mayfield Place! Beautiful moldings, high ceilings, granite, stainless appliance package! Better Than New! ..... **SOLD! $329,900**

2601 Dengar - 5 Bedroom. 3 Bath. Rare 2 Story in Fannin Terrace! Appry 3,406 sq. ft. Lots of Updates & Upgrades. Giant Rooms! Inground Pool! ..... **New Price! $319,900**

1216 S Co Rd. 1120 - 4 Bedroom. 3 Bath. 5 Car Garage. 3,500+sq. ft.! In Coveted Greenwood on 1.94 ACRES, recent septic, water well, 18GPM. Storage All Over! ..... **Offers Pricer! $270,000**

4012 Norwood - 4 Bedroom. 3 Bath. 2 Dining. Updated Kitchen with Granite!!! Wet Bar & Great Covered Patio for Entertaining! ..... **New Price! $270,000**

4420 Jameson Rd., San Angelo - 4 Bedroom. 4.5 Bath. Vintage Midcentury Modern Ranch Style Home! Approx 4,400 sq. ft. Granite in Kitchen. Pool! ..... **New Listing! $249,900**

3607 Godfrey - 4 Bedroom. 2.5 Bath. 2 Living. 2,500+ sq. ft. Located in a cul-de-sac, within walking distance to Lee High! ..... **New Price! $225,000**

1003 S Co Rd. 1120 - 4 Bedroom. 2 Bath on just over an Acre! Greenwood School District! Endless Possibilities Here! As Is Sale! ..... **SOLD! $189,000**

5001 S Co Rd. 1136 - 4 Bedroom. 2 Bath on 1 Acre in a Quiet Cul-de-sac! Open Plan. Sequestered Master. HOA Neighborhood. FHA Approved! ..... **Offers Pricer! $159,000**

2373 CR 2571, Stanton - 4 Bedroom. 2 Bath. 2 Carports! 1993 Single wide on 2 ACRES!!! ..... **New Listing! $74,900**

2 & 3 BEDROOMS

5104 N Co Rd. 1150 - 3 Bedroom. 3 Bath on 5 Acres! Tucked away on your own private retreat! Winding porch, granite, wood floors, heated tile floors in bathrooms! Sumptuous Master Bedroom w/2 complete master baths! Park like setting w/mature pecan trees! ..... **New Price! $645,000**

33 Lafayette - 3 Bedroom. 2.5 Bath in Burkman Square! 2 Story Townhome. Granite. Top of Line Appliances! Custom Metal Work! ..... **Sale Pending! $354,900**

3221 Chelsea Pl - 3 Bedroom. 2 Bath in Mayfield Place! Better Than NEW 2012 Resale! Granite, Stainless, Oil Bronze. Large Corner Lot! ..... **Sale Pending! $297,500**

5009 Los Alamitos - 3 or 4 Bedroom. 2.5 Bath. 2 Living Areas. Custom Location! Saddle Club South! Beautiful Curb Appeal. New Outside A/C Unit. Huge Master. Lots of Storage! ..... **New Listing! $298,000**

3202 Wadley - 2 Bedroom. 2 Bath. 3 Living. Great Wet Bar in Family Room for Entertaining! Low Maintenance Patio Home! ..... **New Price! $285,000**

29 Lafayette - 3 Bedroom. 2.5 Bath in Burkman Square! Custom 2 Story Townhome with ALL the Bells & Whistles! ..... **Sale Pending! $248,150**

5010 Jay - 3 Bedroom. 2.5 Bath. GREAT FIND! House w/extra apartment/office. Great Condition! ..... **Sale Pending! $219,900**

2600 Wydewood - 3 Bedroom. 2 Bath. Super Cute Home in Wydewood Estates! Bush. Abell. Lee District. Close to Shopping! ..... **New Price! $189,500**

4210 Amistad - 3 Bedroom. 2 Bath. Picture Perfect Home in Northgate! Updated! Above ground pool, fish pond, pergola w/lights! Great for entertaining!!! ..... **New Price! $189,900**

3118 Teakwood - 2 Bedroom. 2.5 Bath. 2 Story Townhome! Great Open Plan. Low Maintenance! Just inside the Loop across from the Mall!!! ..... **SOLD! $188,900**

1005 Tarleton - 3 Bedroom. 2 Bath. Open Plan! All Appliances Pass w/Sale. 3 Car Garage. 1 Carport. Workshop. & Storage Shed! Well Maintained & Super Clean! ..... **New Price! $182,500**

1509 N Garfield - 3 Bedroom. 1 Bath. Adorable Cozy Cottage. Original Hard WOOD flooring & Updated Kitchen!!! ..... **SOLD! $138,900**

4302 Tanner Dr. - 3 Bedroom. 2 Bath. 1 Car Garage! CREAM PUFF Perfection! Recent paint & carpet. Super Clean! ..... **New Price! $135,900**

313 S Glenwood - 3 Bedroom. 1.5 Bath. Amazing. Clean Updated Home! New Cabinets. Countertops. Stainless Appliances. & So Much More! Workshop! ..... **New Listing! $132,500**

1500 S Weatherford - 3 Bedroom. 2 Bath. ALL UPDATED! Recent paint, carpet, lighting, roof windows, & more! ..... **Sale Pending! $129,900**

1605 Butternut - 2 Bedroom. 1 Bath. 2 Living Areas. IMMACULATE Home! What a Find! Hardwood Floors. Tile. Roof 2 years old. Expect to be impressed! ..... **New Price! $119,000**

3215 Roosevelt - 3 Bedroom. 1 Bath. ADORABLE Cute Cottage! Central Heat/Air. Doll House Deleted! ..... **New Listing! $117,000**

3618 Pershing, Odessa - 3 Bedroom. 1 Bath. Darling Clean Doll House!!! Updated paint & carpet. ALL Appliances Pass w/Sale! ..... **New Price! $97,500**

COMMERCIAL/LOTS/ACREAGE

1901 N. Big Spring - 2 Lots. High Traffic. Highly Profitable Business Opportunity! Call Chris for more info ..... **New Price! $995,000**

2903 Wall St - 2.67 ACRES with Buildings & Warehouses! Perfect for trucks, fuel, oil company, retail store ..... **New Listing! $975,000**

520 N CR W, Odessa - Phenomenal Investment Opportunity Here! ENTIRE block of land. Churn# & Warehouses included! ..... **New Price! $600,000**

3501 Billy Hext Rd., Odessa - Fabulous Pad Site in Eastridge Office Park! Anchor Location! Call Chris for more details! ..... **New Price! $450,000**

1111 W Wall - Fantastic Opportunity to Own Your Own Business!!! Loads of Space. High Traffic Location! Zoned 01. Call Chris for Details! ..... **New Price! $325,000**

6112 Dunbarton Oaks - Build Your Dream Home in New Mockingbird Oaks Subdivision! 1.01 Acres! ..... **Lot! $155,000**

6008 Dunbarton Oaks - One of the last Residential Lots Available in the NEW Mockingbird Oaks Subdivision! On 1 Acre! ..... **SOLD $155,000**

Scharbauer Dr - Investor Opportunity! 4 Lots Sold in package. 1201-1267 Scharbauer Dr. Owner will not subdivide. Ready to Build! May require flood insurance ..... **Lots! $65,000**

N. Knotty Pine, Gardendale - Wonderful Opportunity to Build Dream Home! Quiet County Setting on 2.41 ACRES! Call Norma ..... **Land! $45,000**

Loop 464, Monahans - No Known Restrictions! Corner lot on 0.41 Acres. Call Carol for details! ..... **Lot! $10,000**

E County Rd. 60 - Lots Available! Horses Allowed. No Mineral Rights. Model & Modular Homes Allowed! ..... **Call Ron! 349-6140**

L❍❍KING IN AUSTIN AREA?

5611 Woodview Ave. - In the heart of Shoal Creek! Super Charming Cottage on an oversized lot. Wood Floors ..... **New Price! $549,900**

2112 Townsman Trail - Cedar Park 2 Yr old home by KB Homes! 4 Bd 2 Living in Fantastic Silverado close to 1431 shopping! ..... **New Price! $244,900**

138 Dove Lane - 3 Bedroom. 2 Bath in gated Meadowlakes with access to lake LBJ! ..... **New Price! $199,900**

404 Emerald Way - Fabulous Cul-de-sac Lot in Horseshoe Bay West Ready to Build On! Call 512-796-4340 ..... **New Price! $29,900**



Norma Cruz Realtor (Sales) 349-3449 | Chris Beckett Broker/Owner Lic. Realtor 349-7000 | Ginger Reed Co-Owner/ Lic. Realtor 686-7005 | Ron Cole Realtor 349-6140 | Blanca Salgado Realtor Associate 238-0177 | J. David Pine Realtor Associate 889-3381 | Sabrina Rader Realtor Associate 312-5081 | Miranda Sigler Realtor Associate 770-2512 | Carol Castillo Realtor Associate 425-5407

Amelia Jaquez Realtor Associate 686-7000 | Jeannie Pratt Broker Associate 557-9212 | Lillian Gonzalez Realtor Associate 210-9682 | Amber Smith Realtor Associate 288-4406 | Myra McKinley Realtor Associate 889-4294 | Ashley Hall Realtor Associate 553-8277 | Kandra Rhodes Realtor Associate 413-5668 | Kelly Richardson Realtor Associate 570-3900 | Liz Pruitt Realtor Associate 853-3787

The Janeen Pruitt Team

683-1001



SUNDAY OPEN HOUSES



6107 DUNBARTON OAKS - $975,000
Spectacular custom 5 bed/5 bath/5 car garage! Main house has 4 bed/3 bath. across portico there is 1 bed/1 bath/1 garage! Beautiful iron front doors; hardwood floors in formal dining, gourmet kitchen boasts stainless appliances, granite, 6 burner gas cook top & ice maker. Seq. Master suite w/jetted tub, sep shower (dual heads). Wall of windows overlook back porch w/fireplace & outdoor kitchen. Mockingbird Oaks!



3533 BOYD - $290,000
Upscale townhome in Lone Oak. All 3 bedrooms have private baths and even a half bath for guests! Amazing soaring ceiling in den with massive fireplace with gas logs for a warm and cozy atmosphere. 2 bedrooms downstairs with private baths and 1 bedroom upstairs with private bath and beautiful loft overlooking den. Tankless water heater with instant and endless water. Impeccably maintained!

GREEN TREE PROPERTIES

4800 Rustic Trail - Gorgeous golf course living, move-in ready! Grand entry leads to 2 living areas w/amazing views & miles of imported tile! Private study, downstairs master suite, 3 beds up 2 w/private baths & walk-in closets. Family room w/balcony + bonus rooms. Updated kitchen w/granite, island & breakfast bar! Pool sized yard w/3 patio areas perfect for entertaining! 4 Oversized garages + water well for grounds. **$640,000**

7004 Courtney Ct. - Located in coveted Green Tree North. Lovely 5 bed/3.5 Ba/3 car gar. Formal dining w/hardwood floors. Formal living w/wall of windows that overlook lush grounds. Spacious kitchen w/quartz countertops, island, 2 ovens & walk-in pantry. Open den w/brick fireplace, crown molding & built-ins. Seq. Master suite offers jetted tub, shower, 2 vanities & huge closet. Recent hvac, water softener, water heater, & disposal. Covered patio & trees! **$410,000**

4+ BEDROOMS

1107 Dunbarton Oaks - Spectacular custom 5 bed/5 bath/3 car garage! Main house has 4 bed/3 bath. across portico there is 1 bed/1 bath/1 garage! Beautiful iron front doors; hardwood floors in formal dining, gourmet kitchen boasts stainless appliances, granite, 6 burner gas cook top & ice maker. Seq. Master suite w/jetted tub, sep shower (dual heads). Wall of windows overlook back porch w/fireplace & outdoor kitchen. Mockingbird Oaks! **$975,000**

4109 Fawnoak Dr. - REDUCED - Fabulous 5 bed, 3.5 Bath on 2 lots in mockingbird heights! Tons of storage! Spacious 3 living & 2 dining areas. Gourmet kitchen with recent granite countertops, gas range, double ovens & beautiful stone backsplash! Sequestered master suite with private study/office! Large master bath with dual vanities, oversized soaking tub & separate shower. Excellent floor plan! 3 Car garage! **$650,000**

3303 Trinity Meadows Dr. - REDUCED - Beautiful 5 bed/3.5 Bath/4 garage w/dazzling pool! Spacious formal living & dinning w/wall of windows that over look pool & yard. Large "Kitchen w/granite countertops opens to den. brick fireplace. Sequestered master suite w/granite. updated fixtures, jetted tub & shower. (New tile for floor, tub & shower in master on the way!) Large backyard w/covered patio, water well, storage bldg, pool + yard. **$474,000**

7515 Gravenseer Ave. Odessa TX - gorgeous 5 bedroom/4 bath/3 garage ! Pride of ownership shows. Grand entry w/barrel ceiling & custom tile. Gourmet kitchen w/granite, custom cabinets w/display shelves, gas cook top & stainless appliances, large living w/crown molding, fire place & built-ins. Miles of tile! Seq. Master suite w/tray ceiling, jetted tub, shower, dual heads, 2 vanities & 3 closets! Covered patio, auto sprinkler! **$429,000**

4109 Baybrook Dr. - NEW - Lovely 4 bed+office/3.5 Ba/2 ta/3 car garage in mockingbird! Updated kitchen w/granite & backsplash. opens to the den. Pretty 18x18 tile throughout! Formal living & dining, hardwood floors, plantation shutters, lots of storage! Gorgeous grounds w/outdoor kitchen. flagstone patio,fireplace. pond, speakers & lights in trees! Extra concrete in the back! **$399,900**

5306 Greenhouse-NEW - Gorgeous troy hunt resale. 4Bed/3bath/3Car garage. Beautiful kitchen with granite countertops!, lot's of storage. great pantry, stainless appliances, and island. Kitchen looks over breakfast bar that flows into fantastic den with hardwood floor and brick fireplace. Playset in backyard stays. Chandelier in pink ceiling bedroom can stay or be switched out with fan light that matches other fixtures. All recent carpet in bedrooms! **$369,900**

2302 Culpepper - Beautiful 4 bed/3 bath/3 living area!! Scraped hardwoods in entry, living, breakfast & dining. Large gameroom overlooks back yard. Lovely den w/fireplace & built-ins. Spacious kitchen w/granite tile, recent backsplash & fixtures. Seq. Master with his/her closets & vanities. Study/office off large laundry room. Mature trees in front & spacious back yard. **$305,000**

5703 Santiago - NEW - Wonderful 4bed, 2 1/2bath, 3car garage, & 2 living areas in green hill terrace! Tons of space for the price!! Recent roof & upstairs bath recently remodeled! Gorgeous stone corner fireplace in living opens up to kitchen & dining. Nice sunroom & spacious back yard! Tons of storage! Upstairs bedroom can be a perfect gameroom. Terrific location!!! **$225,000**

2822 Metz - NEW - Awesome 4/2/2 in fabulous neighborhood! So many updates! Recent roof, 5 ton hvac updated in 2011. recent paint throughout, 2 ovens, granite look counters, backsplash w/maple cabinets! Tons of space! Huge utility room! Seq. Master! Bedrooms have walk in closets &recent carpet! Plenty of parking w/circle dr, 2 car garage & carport! Stainless fridge, relaxing hot tub in sunroom & storage unit may stay! **$219,900**

2 & 3 BEDROOMS

3533 Boyd - Upscale townhome in Lone Oak. All 3 bedrooms have private baths and even a half bath for guests! Amazing soaring ceiling in den with massive fireplace with gas logs for a warm and cozy atmosphere. 2 bedrooms downstairs with private baths and 1 bedroom upstairs with private bath and beautiful loft overlooking den. Tankless water heater with instant and endless water. Impeccably maintained! **$290,000**

2907 Golf Course Rd - NEW - This lovely 3 bed/2.5 Bath/2 car gar. Patio home w a must see' kitchen w/granite, island stainless appliances, ro & pantry. Spacious living w/ fireplace opens to kitchen. Sequestered master, w/tray ceilings separate tub & shower & large closet. Big yard w/covered patio & auto sprinkler. **$297,900**

2604 Faulkner - NEW - Adorable low maintenance 3 bed, 2 1/2 bath 2 garage built in 2005! Nice open floor plan! Wood floors & gas fireplace in living area! Seq. Master offers dual vanities, large soaking tub & walk-in closet! Wood deck in back yard makes perfect for entertaining! **$229,900**

10903 E. County Rd 109 - Beautiful four bedroom/2 bath home on .46 Acre lot! Big kitchen w/granite, island stainless appliances, ro & pantry. Spacious living w/ fireplace opens to kitchen. Sequestered master, w/tray ceilings separate tub & shower & large closet. Big yard w/covered patio & auto sprinkler. **$240,000**

11306 W. County Road 150 - Quiet country living! Primary residence offers 2 bed/1 bath/office/2 living (could be 3 bedroom?). Great kitchen w/lots of cabinets & fridge. Updated metal roof, hvac, & neutral paint. Large covered patio & storage building. Guest house is 2 bed/1 bath/1 living. Updated kitchen w/lots of cabinets, tile counter tops & backsplash, flooring & paint. **$174,900**

3517 W. Wadley - NEW - Cute 2/2/2 home in a great neighborhood! Close to shopping and walking distance from schools! Recent roof, tile & granite look countertops in the kitchen! Back yard includes a nice sized workshop, covered patio, a big wooden deck with a hot tub & bar! Perfect for entertaining! **$153,900**

307 W 5th Stanton TX - NEW - Nice renovated 3 bedroom/2 bath/1 living stucco cottage on 3 lots across from city park!! Lots of recent updates: walls & ceiling raised, kitchen cabinets, counter tops & appliances, hvac, roof, windows, water heater, bathrooms & fixtures & flooring. 10 × 10 shop, 3 lots + water well! **$139,900**

LAND

5260 N County Road 41 - NEW - Wonderful 3.53 Acres lot in one of Midland's prettiest subdivisions w/acreage! Perfect location to build your dream home & watch West Texas sunsets! Water well installed well produces approx 22-28 GPM! **$140,000**

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ASHINGDON HOMES



2501 Legacy Oaks Court
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $545,000

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5907 Crista Lane
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $437,000

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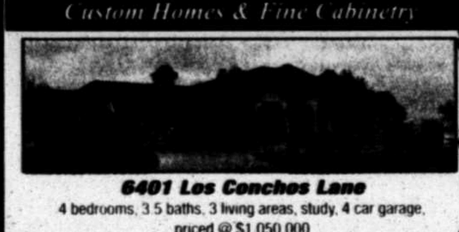


2507 Regency Oaks
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $598,500

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~ Burton Hillis

NEW CONSTRUCTION

Crystal Homes
Custom Homes & Fine Cabinetry



6401 Los Conchos Lane
4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 3 living areas, study, 4 car garage, priced @ $1,050,000

Saenz Signature Homes



2510 Regency Oaks Court
3 bedrooms, 3 baths, study, 3 car garage, priced @ $615,000

Carrasco Homes



6500 Saddle Horn Lane
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $798,500

RESIDENTIAL LISTINGS/HOME SITES/ACREAGE

RESIDENTIAL

4709 Wiltshire Dr ..... 4 Bdrm/2 Ba ..... U/C
305 E. Dormard Ave ..... 3 Bdrm/2 Ba $150,000
3603 Dentcrest Dr ..... 4 Bdrm/2 Ba/2 Car Garage ..... SOLD
1307 E. Jax St ..... 6 Bdrm/3.5 Ba/2 Living Areas ..... U/C
5004 Widener Strip ..... 5 Bdrm/4 Ba/4 Car Garage $529,000
500 Affirmed Lane ..... Rama Homes/4 Bdrm/4.5 Ba/2 Living/3 Car Garage $775,900

RESIDENTIAL HOME SITES

5900 Shadyview Pl ..... Mockingbird Heights/0.353 Acres ..... SOLD

NEW CONSTRUCTION

409 Springwood Ct ..... James Isbell Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage ..... SOLD
308 S. Tilden ..... Madogul Construction/3 Bdrm/2 Ba $139,900
923 N. Edwards ..... Gomez Construction/3 Bdrm/2 Ba/2 Car Garage $174,500
5900 Dunbarton Oaks ..... Houston Chalmers Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage ..... SOLD
2501 Legacy Oaks ..... Ashingdon Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage ..... U/C
6005 Medina Dr ..... 4 Bdrm/3 Ba/2 Car Garage ..... U/C
506 Affirmed Ln ..... Rama Homes/4 Bdrm/4.5 Ba/3 Car Garage ..... SOLD
3205 Fairfield Lane ..... Carrasco Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage $418,500
3209 Fairfield Lane ..... Carrasco Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage $432,500
2505 Regency Oaks ..... Houston Chalmers Homes/3 Bdrm/2.5 Ba/3 Car Garage $535,000
2509 Regency Oaks ..... Carrasco Homes/4 Bdrm/3.5 Ba/3 Car Garage ..... SOLD
2507 Regency Oaks ..... Carrasco Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage $598,500
2510 Regency Oaks ..... Saenz Signature Homes/3 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage $615,000
6500 Saddle Horn ..... Carrasco Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage $798,500
6401 Los Conchos Lane ..... Crystal Homes/4 Bdrm/3.5 Ba/4 Car Garage $1,050,000
5219 Alyshebo ..... Rama Homes/4 Bdrm/5.5 Ba/3 Car Garage $1,083,900
5108 Alyshebo ..... Diamond Homes/5 Bdrm/4 Ba/4 Car Garage $1,150,000
6412 Los Conchos Lane ..... Diamond Homes/5 Bdrm/4 Ba/4 Car Garage $1,150,000

SUBURBAN/ACREAGE

Luna Rosa Estates ..... Gardendale/New Homes ..... Call Gary
Co. Rd. A 3601 ..... 35.52 Acres/Lenorah, Tx $71,000
16076 N. Pecan Ave ..... Gardendale/3 Bdrm/2 Ba/4.49 Acres $149,000
2201 W. Co. Rd. 137 ..... 4 Bdrm/3 Ba/2 Car Garage $240,000
3701 W. Co. Rd. 145 ..... 3 Bdrm/2.5 Ba/2 Car Garage/29.99 Acres ..... U/C
8411 E. Co. Rd. 90 ..... Greenwood/4 Bdrm/2.5 Ba/3 Car Garage ..... U/C
16900 N Windswept ..... Gardendale/4 Bdrm/2.5 Ba/ 3 car garage/ 9 acres ..... U/C
13166 E. Co. Rd. 129 ..... Greenwood/3 Bdrm/2 Ba/Mobile Home/22.48 Acres $500,000
FM 1213 ..... Approx 30 Acres $60,000
6401 Los Conchos Lane ..... 4 Bdrm/3.5 Ba/4 Car Garage $1,050,000
6412 Los Conchos Lane ..... 5 Bdrm/4 Ba/4 Car Garage $1,150,000

SUBURBAN HOME SITES

FM 1212 ..... Terzan/Approx. 66.6 Acres $100,000
Hwy 137 ..... Lenorah/3 shops/1.8 acres $125,000
9815 S. County Rd. 1218 ..... 10 Acre Home Site $150,000
Luna Rosa Estates ..... W. Co. Rd. 30/1.5-2 Acre Lots ..... Call Gary
Co. Rd. 1105 ..... Greenwood/3.67 Acres ..... U/C

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

3006 Elkins Rd ..... 3.25 Acres/Office/Warehouse $1,700,000

FEATURED PROPERTIES

6412 Los Conchos Lane



5 bedrooms, 4 baths, 4 car garage, priced @ $1,150,000

500 Affirmed Lane



4 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, 2 living areas, 3 car garage, priced @ $775,900

5004 Widener Strip



5 bedrooms, 4 baths, 4 car garage, priced @ $529,000



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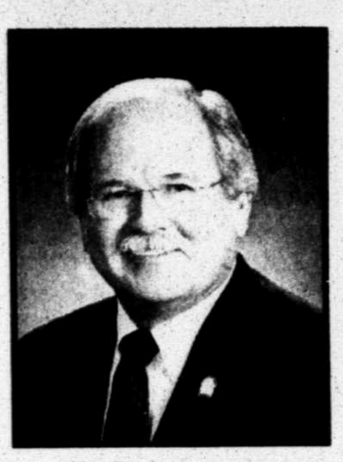
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HOMESTYLE
SIMPLE SOLUTIONS FOR EVERYDAY LIVING Sunday, December 22, 2013

Cozy Up to a Cabin Getaway

Don't own a cabin in the mountains? That doesn't mean you can't have a rustic, warm, inviting space to retreat to this winter

By JULIA HASKINS | CTW Features

What's cozier than curling up in a rustic log cabin, fireplace near and warm drink in hand? It's a picturesque scene that many strive for in resort chalets on pricey vacations. But you don't have to travel to the wilderness to enjoy the feel of a beautiful cabin-style home. Here's how to bring the look to your own home whether you reside in an urban high-rise or out in the country.

Start With the Basics

Most cabin-style homes begin with a strong wood foundation that tell you something about the inhabitants. "Cabins are not a highly maintained interior," says Chris Sy of Carlisle Wood Plank Floors, based in Stoddard, N.H. "They reflect a life lived."

Homeowners can choose from a variety of woods that create a different ambience. For example, "Flooring that speaks to the use of softer woods, such as Eastern White Pine, allows for dents and dings that tell the story of the family that lives there," Sy says. "Embrace the imperfections that can come only through living in a space and letting it tell the story of how it is used."

Whether you're aiming for ruggedness or just a hint of rough-hewn quality, there's a wood that will fit the bill. Gia Albergo, co-founder and head designer at Albergo Delmar design and build firm in Hudson, N.Y., likes reclaimed hickory in particular. "It's warm, it's beautiful and it smells really good," she says.

Balance It

Want a space that looks rustic without looking like you're roughing it? Balance a cabin style home with modern accents to keep the style classy, not overwhelming. For every worn or vintage item, complement with a contemporary piece of furniture or art.

Choose materials that work well against rough wood. Meghan Blum, interior designer at The Mansion, Des Moines, Iowa, suggests incorporating aged copper and worn leather into the decor. "Approach it as a shabby chic cabin style," she says, encouraging homeowners to keep the "bones of the house cabin-like."

Mixing styles allows homeowners to bring their creativity out. Albergo recommends pairing wooden fixtures with shiny marble, bold wallpaper or crystal chandeliers for a pop of elegant contrast.

Make It Your Own

The cabin style is a warm, inviting one, so create a space that lets you express your identity.

Blum calls the rustic style "very character-driven." Some prefer traditional elements like wall-mounted antlers, while others opt for more subtle pieces such as woven throw pillows. All have their place in a rustic home.

The best way to make it unique, though, is to use items that can't be found in big box stores. Many antique stores now focus solely on salvaged items – an excellent way to add a personal touch to the home. Seek out recycled flooring, distressed wooden pallets or even parts from old barns.

"Try to salvage old material as much as possible," Albergo says. It's good for the environment and perfect for achieving a one-of-a-kind interior.

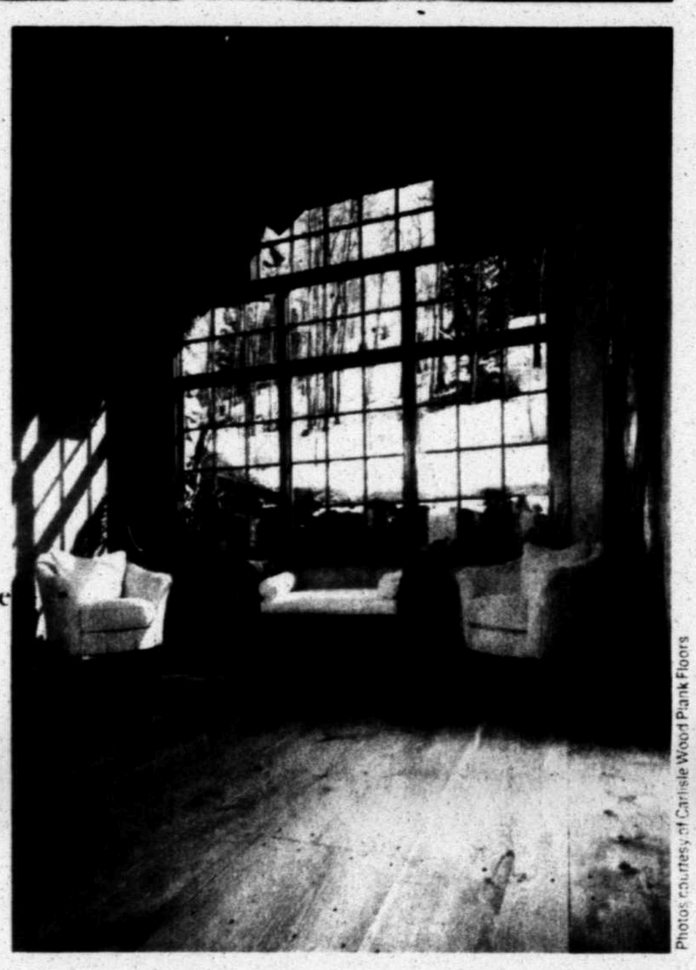
Bring the Outside In

The cabin style is most appealing because it feels at one with nature. That's why a designers recommend bringing natural elements indoors. Wendy Froelich, vice president of marketing for Homes.com, likes large windows so that homeowners "can see nature and be involved."

If large windows are aren't possible, Froelich suggests spray painting natural artifacts such as twigs, stones and leaves that can be scattered across a mantle or displayed in Mason jars. She calls these accents "glam farmhouse style."

With a look as charmingly exaggerated as rustic cabin-style, homeowners have the freedom to go big. "Never be afraid to try something," Froelich says.

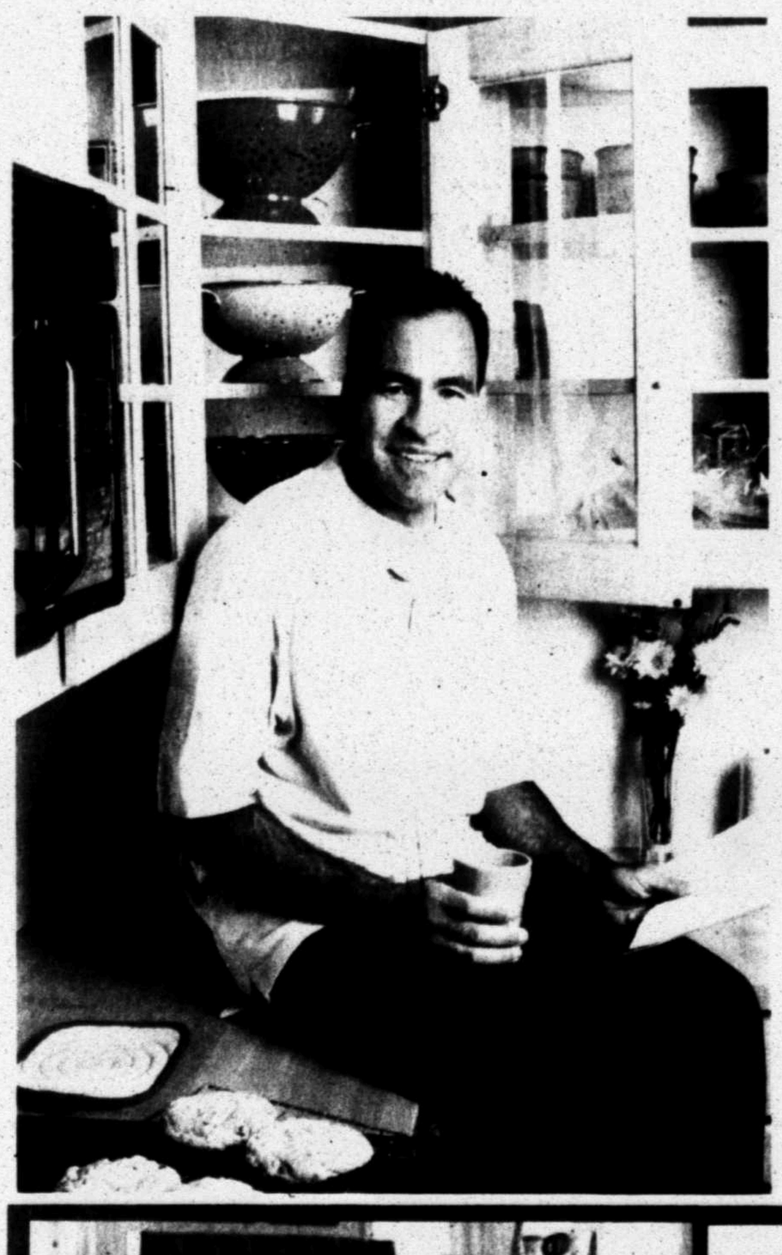




Natural elements and big windows to see the outdoor scene are important elements to a cabin-chic style. Include updated elements like sleek white chairs to balance the aesthetic.

Photos courtesy of Carlisle Wood Plank Floors

© CTW Features



Pesky Kitchen Corner

Make the most of a tricky space with better organization and storage solutions

By JULIA HASKINS | CTW Features

The corner kitchen cabinet is one of the peskiest features in any home. It's awkward, under-utilized and just plain frustrating. What's a homeowner to do besides haphazardly stuffing it with pots and pans? Try these clever options to make the most of this tricky space.

Give It a Purpose

Decide what function your corner cabinet will serve. Do you need more space for baking sheets? Room for kitchen cleaning supplies? Give your cabinet a specific designation to avoid creating a hodgepodge of items. And remember, there's no rule about using your corner cabinet for strictly kitchen purposes. This space can serve as the perfect spot for a small wine rack or tool kit.

Keep It Neat

Maximize all possible space by keeping items in the cabinet stacked and sorted for easy identification and retrieval. Insert hanging wire baskets or even magazine filing boxes for optimal organization. One of the most tried-and-true corner cabinet savers is the Lazy Susan, which makes spice and canister storage a snap.

"The most difficult part is access," says Ashley Steinkohl, director of kitchen and bath design at Knockout Renovation, New York City. So keep the most important items toward the front and code them if needed.

Use Every Last Inch

Fortunately, some products are designed to fit cumbersome corners. If it looks like you've run out of space, you probably haven't considered all the possibilities. Opt for gadgets that will increase the amount of available space without expanding the cabinet itself. Attach hooks to the inside of the door to hang dishtowels or recycled shopping bags. A pricier but extremely efficient option is to install V-shaped drawers in the cabinet for additional cutlery and other kitchenware.

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4711 YEARWOOD DR.		MLS #96942	$344,900
6600 FM 715		MLS #96956	$499,900
4207 S. Co. Rd. 1135-Commercial		MLS #96679	$250,000
FM 715-22 Acres		MLS #96888	$484,000
405 ECR 127		MLS #96749	$395,900
10310 S. Co. Rd. 1210-Commercial		MLS #96680	$695,000
4702 Island Dr.		MLS #96768	$729,900
3905 E. Golf Course Rd.-New Construction		MLS #96420	$335,000
2109 Evans Ln.-New Construction	UNDER CONTRACT	MLS #96103	$413,250
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2104 Evans-New Construction	UNDER CONTRACT	MLS #95808	$359,900
3604 Storey Ave.		MLS #95810	$167,900
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3902 MEADOWBROOK DR ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #95990 ..... $295,000
4008 CRESTGATE ..Josie Alvarez 618-5013 ..... MLS #95137 ..... $294,900
3414 ROSEMONT ..Donna Omar 349-1458 ..... MLS #95940 ..... $290,000
5117 KING RICHARDS ROW ..Jane Wolf 352-4808 ..... MLS #96947 ..... $288,900
2800 CIMMARON ..Lisa Jansa 661-3389 ..... MLS #96802 ..... $285,000
4610 ST. ANDREWS ..Stephanie Rogers 978-9757 ..... MLS #96311 ..... $283,000
5701 CROWLEY BLVD ..Larry Hatfield 349-4790 ..... MLS #97051 ..... $278,500
4217 GREENBRIAR AVE ..Josie Alvarez 618-5013 ..... MLS #96416 ..... $275,000
4313 BOULDER DR ..Laura Sales 618-1818 ..... MLS #97047 ..... $262,500
2810 FAIRGATE ..Lavonne Johnson 770-3883 ..... MLS #96308 ..... $255,000
1208 STANOLIND AVE ..Clemmie Sorge 553-9136 ..... MLS #96226 ..... $235,000
2508 EMERSON ..Karen Foster 559-4086 ..... MLS #96516 ..... $234,900
5000 YORKSHIRE ..Ruth Young 352-3096 ..... MLS #95129 ..... SALE PENDING
2104 WHITNEY DR ..Leah Watkins 599-2187 ..... MLS #94725 ..... SALE PENDING
3500 BAUMANN AVE ..Clemmie Sorge 553-9136 ..... MLS #95537 ..... $218,000
3200 MARK LANE ..Melissa Williams 349-2812 ..... MLS #96247 ..... $210,000
1106 PORTERFIELD RD ..Cheryl Parrish 352-3053 ..... MLS #96799 ..... SALE PENDING
3629 HYDE PARK ..Jane Wolf 352-4808 ..... MLS #96074 ..... $172,000
4410 FAIRGATE ..Angie McKay 599-0272 ..... MLS #95633 ..... $165,000
3901 RODGEVELT AVE ..Melissa Williams 349-2812 ..... MLS #96713 ..... $165,000
2401 NORTHTOWN COURT ..Angie McKay 599-0272 ..... MLS #94902 ..... $136,000
3416 TANNER ..Josie Alvarez 618-5013 ..... MLS #96179 ..... $130,000
2811 W. CO. RD. 116 ..Mark Phillober 222-5071 ..... MLS #93898 ..... $129,900
1707 MARIENFELD ..Laura Sales 618-1818 ..... MLS #95116 ..... SALE PENDING

THREE BEDROOMS IN MIDLAND

3302 BLUEBIRD LANE ..Lavonne Johnson 770-3883 ..... MLS #94206 ..... 5.13 Acres/$550,000
5333 BELLA PL ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #96861 ..... $550,000
6516 GLADIOLA ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #95989 ..... $510,000
4220 BAYBROOK PL ..Kim Merrill 664-4702 ..... MLS #96892 ..... $499,900
4491 HACKBERRY CT ..Stephanie Rogers 978-9757 ..... MLS #96850 ..... $479,900
6017 CLAREWOOD DR ..Jane Wolf 352-4808 ..... MLS #96459 ..... $435,000
4910 KINGSBORO CT ..Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ..... MLS #96081 ..... SALE PENDING
10308 E. CO. RD. 105 ..Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ..... MLS #95313 ..... $403,000
1910 SPARKS ST ..Cheryl Parrish 352-3053 ..... MLS #96165 ..... $369,900
5306 DUCKSAND COVE ..Brooks Smith 528-2980 ..... MLS #95742 ..... $354,000
2700 SANDY ..Brooks Smith 528-2980 ..... MLS #95610 ..... $350,000
5315 BELLA PLACE ..Karen Foster 559-4086 ..... MLS #96775 ..... $349,900
2403 STUTZ PLACE ..Angie McKay 599-0272 ..... MLS #96399 ..... $349,900
5205 ELLEN JAYNE WAY ..Karen Foster 559-4086 ..... MLS #96838 ..... $335,000
3306 HAYNES AVE ..Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ..... MLS #96294 ..... SALE PENDING
4805 CRISTA LN ..Ruth Young 682-7884 ..... MLS #95352 ..... $331,000
2501 WCR 130 ..Jennifer Martin 349-2632 ..... MLS #96114 ..... $325,000
3805 MOSS AVE ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #97096 ..... $309,000
4821 ROSEWOOD ..Peggy Spence 664-3011 ..... MLS #96466 ..... SALE PENDING
3508 WOODHAVEN ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #95192 ..... SALE PENDING
5208 GREEN TREE BLVD ..Laura Sales 618-1818 ..... MLS #95633 ..... SOLD
2204 STANOLIND AVE ..Martha Manulik 557-8744 ..... MLS #95293 ..... SALE PENDING
3206 HAYNES ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #96117 ..... $299,000
1604 WINFIELD ..Karen Mason 349-3550 ..... MLS #96119 ..... $295,000
2802 S. CO. RD. 1066 ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #95924 ..... $289,000
3903 WESTMINISTER ..Brian Sales 618-1818 ..... MLS #96250 ..... $275,000
1410 W. TEXAS AVE ..Jane Wolf 352-4808 ..... MLS #97044 ..... $275,000
3107 BAYBRIDGE CT ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #96508 ..... $275,000
4505 STILLMEADOW ..Lydia Scudder 853-2200 ..... MLS #95352 ..... $274,900
9701 W. CO. RD. 154 ..Jane Wolf 352-4808 ..... MLS #96160 ..... 7 Acres/$260,000
4010 ANGELINA DR ..Darla Davis 260-8077 ..... MLS #96890 ..... $259,995
2404 FAIRVIEW LANE ..Laura Sales 618-1818 ..... MLS #96266 ..... $259,900
1306 W. LOUISIANA AVE ..Angie McKay 599-0272 ..... MLS #97043 ..... $249,900
3213 APPERSON DR ..Susan Palmer 978-7816 ..... MLS #96751 ..... $249,500
5200 LAVACA ..Ashley St John 352-6254 ..... MLS #96280 ..... $239,900

4201 SKYLINE ..Ruth Young 682-7884 ..... MLS #96167 ..... $239,900
1913 PUEBLO ST ..Brooks Smith 528-2980 ..... MLS #95259 ..... SALE PENDING
1800 RANGER ROAD ..Lisa Jansa 661-3389 ..... MLS #95544 ..... SALE PENDING
2818 MOSS ..Karen Foster 559-4086 ..... MLS #96251 ..... $234,900
1402-1404 E. WADLEY ..Karen Foster 559-4086 ..... MLS #96139 ..... SALE PENDING
4512 SPENCE DR ..Sue Lytle 661-5338 ..... MLS #95639 ..... $230,000
4404 TREVINO ..Mark Phillober 222-5071 ..... MLS #96811 ..... $239,000
3808 STANOLIND ..Reece Bivens 230-9847 ..... MLS #96862 ..... $229,900
5118 ASHDOWN PLACE ..Kim Merrill 664-4702 ..... MLS #94788 ..... $225,000
722 W. KANSAS AVE ..Angie McKay 599-0272 ..... MLS #97046 ..... $224,900
4307 MERRILL CT ..Laura Sales 618-1818 ..... MLS #96453 ..... $220,000
4603 BISHOPS CASTLE ..Barbara McWilliams 230-2034 ..... MLS #97010 ..... $220,000
1501 VENTURA AVE ..Josie Rendon 889-8394 ..... MLS #95597 ..... SALE PENDING
4501 ST. ANDREWS DR ..Lisa Jansa 661-3389 ..... MLS #96680 ..... $220,000
2404 APPERSON ..Laura Sales 618-1818 ..... MLS #96650 ..... $219,900
4419 LANHAM ST ..Ruth Young 682-7884 ..... MLS #95102 ..... $218,900
2824 DENGAR ..Danny Norwood 618-5012 ..... MLS #96414 ..... $214,900
3209 SHANNON ..Donna Omar 349-1458 ..... MLS #95885 ..... $210,000
3326 CAMARIE AVE ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #96621 ..... $209,900
5110 ANETTA ..Melissa Williams 349-2812 ..... MLS #95882 ..... $198,000
2817 MARMON DR ..Ruth Young 682-7884 ..... MLS #95168 ..... SALE PENDING
4307 FERNCLIFF ..Danny Norwood 618-5012 ..... MLS #96558 ..... SALE PENDING
2804 CHICKASAW ..Mona Lopez 967-8602 ..... MLS #94892 ..... SALE PENDING
3567 CRESTMONT DR ..Lydia Scudder 853-2200 ..... MLS #95289 ..... SALE PENDING
1002 ALPINE ST ..Clemmie Sorge 553-9136 ..... MLS #95210 ..... SALE PENDING
3603 W. WADLEY AVE ..Kay Bivens 934-5995 ..... MLS #94288 ..... $197,500
1408 KANSAS ..Mona Mallory 352-4071 ..... MLS #96493 ..... $195,000
4823 W. STOREY ..Angie McKay 599-0272 ..... MLS #95819 ..... $189,900
3802 PERMIAN CT ..Sue Lytle 661-5338 ..... MLS #95664 ..... $185,000
4718 COUNTRY CLUB DR ..Lydia Scudder 853-2200 ..... MLS #96314 ..... $180,000
2100 ABBEY PLACE ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #96662 ..... $175,000
306 GODFREY ST ..Laura Sales 618-1818 ..... MLS #96320 ..... SALE PENDING

3802 PERMIAN CT ..Sue Lytle 661-5338 ..... MLS #96623 ..... SALE PENDING
4326 GREENBRIAR ..Danny Norwood 618-5012 ..... MLS #96555 ..... $172,000
5001 CANADIAN ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #96305 ..... $170,000
1328 E. PINE ..Darla Davis 260-8077 ..... MLS #96302 ..... $169,900
1704 W. ILLINOIS AVE ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #96700 ..... $169,000
905 ALAMO DR ..Laura Sales 618-1818 ..... MLS #96752 ..... $167,000
3105 WEST KANSAS ..Virginia Elizondo 349-7782 ..... MLS #96766 ..... $167,000
3604 STOREY AVE ..Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ..... MLS #95810 ..... $167,000
2808 N. MIDKIFF ..Tracy Farrow 413-4412 ..... MLS #97024 ..... $157,900
2314 HAYNES ..Susan Palmer 978-7816 ..... MLS #96851 ..... SALE PENDING
4616 MONTY DR ..Melissa Williams 349-2812 ..... MLS #95704 ..... SALE PENDING
4600 ANETTA DR ..Jane Wolf 352-4808 ..... MLS #95494 ..... SALE PENDING
5116 SUNNYSIDE DR ..Lydia Scudder 853-2200 ..... MLS #95307 ..... SALE PENDING
3402 W. KANSAS AVE ..Angie McKay 599-0272 ..... MLS #95534 ..... SALE PENDING
2513 N. BEECH ST ..Jane Wolf 352-4808 ..... MLS #96523 ..... $155,000
3320 CIMMARON AVE ..Lydia Scudder 853-2200 ..... MLS #95111 ..... SALE PENDING
111 N. GLENWOOD AVE ..Clemmie Sorge 553-9136 ..... MLS #95689 ..... $138,500
3216 OHIO AVE ..Donna Omar 349-1458 ..... MLS #94377 ..... $147,500
3708 AVONDALE ..Randy Poets 889-8296 ..... MLS #96401 ..... $144,900
1118 N. EISENHOWER DR ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #94986 ..... SALE PENDING
1125 S. BERKLEY DR ..Josie Rendon 889-8394 ..... MLS #95178 ..... SALE PENDING
4623 THOMASON DRIVE ..Mark Phillober 222-5071 ..... MLS #95326 ..... SALE PENDING
4607 MCKNIGHT DR ..Susan Palmer 978-7816 ..... MLS #95674 ..... $135,000
2104 TODD ..Josie Alvarez 618-5013 ..... MLS #97073 ..... $129,900
3311 W. LOUISIANA ..Lisa Jansa 661-3389 ..... MLS #96967 ..... $129,900
1941 ENGLISH DR ..Michelle Leslie 230-3633 ..... MLS #97008 ..... $125,000
4207 ANETTA DR ..Pam Messer 349-3075 ..... MLS #95057 ..... $119,000
1205 CENTURY ..Jennifer Martin 349-2632 ..... MLS #96047 ..... $118,000
803 SPRUCE AVE ..Melissa Williams 349-2812 ..... MLS #91035 ..... SALE PENDING
410 N. FORT WORTH ..Gloria Valdez Farmer 563-2732 ..... MLS #91785 ..... SALE PENDING
1414 E. PARKER ..Lisa Jansa 661-3389 ..... MLS #96973 ..... $99,000
1208 BURCHILL DR ..Sam McCrary 634-8370 ..... MLS #95144 ..... $97,500
4512 BROOKDALE DR ..Sue Lytle 661-5338 ..... MLS #95551 ..... SALE PENDING
1813 E. OAK ..Danny Norwood 618-5012 ..... MLS #94686 ..... SALE PENDING

ONE/TWO BEDROOMS IN MIDLAND

4900 & 4902 ANDREWS HWY ..Ruth Young 352-0996 ..... MLS #94450/94453 ..... $425,000
3608 WEDGEWOOD ..Ruth Young 682-7884 ..... MLS #96196 ..... $275,000
2100 W. WADLEY #68 ..Kay Bivens 934-5995 ..... MLS #94465 ..... $205,000
4421 NORWOOD ST ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #95457 ..... SALE PENDING
1207 W. LOUISIANA AVE ..Kay Bivens 934-5995 ..... MLS #95130 ..... $185,000
5087 BELLE GROVE ..Lisa Jansa 661-3389 ..... MLS #96761 ..... $175,900

2108 WADLEY AVE. #37 ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #96728 ..... $140,000
4418 FAIRGATE ..Angie McKay 599-0272 ..... MLS# 95633 ..... SALE PENDING
2503 IDLEWILDE DR ..Cheryl Parrish 352-3053 ..... MLS #95585 ..... SALE PENDING
4607 MCKNIGHT, ODESSA ..Susan Palmer 978-7816 ..... MLS #95674 ..... $129,900
1707 N. MARIENFELD A&B ..Laila Sales 618-1818 ..MLS #95116 ..... SALE PENDING

3709 CEDAR SPRING ..Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ..... MLS #95795 ..... $120,000
4209 HARLOWE DR ..Mona Lopez 967-8602 ..... MLS #95335 ..... SALE PENDING
417 E. PINE AVE ..Josie Rendon 889-8394 ..... MLS #94776 ..... SALE PENDING
304 E. ESTES AVE ..Josie Alvarez 618-5013 ..... MLS #94488 ..... $97,000
1603 W. WASHINGTON AVE ..Ruth Young 682-7884 ..... MLS #94729 ..... $79,000

HOMES IN MIDLAND COUNTY

6800 E. CO. RD. 109 ..Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ..... MLS #96761 ..... 4BD/$680,000
901 E. CO. RD. 125 ..Clemmie Sorge 553-9136 ..... MLS #95539 ..... 4BD/$649,900
4303 N. CO. RD. 1284 ..Leah Watkins 599-2157 ..... MLS #95058 ..... 4BD/$595,000
6100 E. CO. RD. 109 ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #95989 ..... 3BD/$540,000
1312 E. CO. RD. 128 ..Melissa Williams 349-2812 ..... MLS #95538 ..... 4BD/$539,000
8605 W. CO. RD. 170, BARNOMINIUM ..Caleb Matott 349-3330 ..... MLS #95103 ..... SALE PENDING
6600 FM 715 ..Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ..... MLS #96956 ..... 3BD/$499,900
10508 E. CO. RD. 103 ..Tracy Farrow 413-4412 ..... MLS #95069 ..... 4BD/$480,000
12810 E. CO. RD. 103, GREENWOOD ..Caleb Matott 349-3330 ..... MLS #95768 ..... SOLD
1000 N. HWY. 137 ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #95267 ..... 4BD/$475,000
6482 FM 307 ..Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ..... MLS #96995 ..... SALE PENDING
5508 S. CO. RD. 1260 ..Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ..... MLS #96080 ..... 4BD/$399,000
405 E. CO. RD. 127 ..Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ..... MLS #96749 ..... $395,900

2501 W. CO. RD. 130 ..Jennifer Martin 349-2632 ..... MLS #96114 ..... 3BD/$375,000
10308 E. CO. RD. 105 ..Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ..... MLS #95313 ..... 3BD/$369,900
1207 N. CO. RD. 1084 ..Tracy Farrow 413-4412 ..... MLS #95433 ..... 4BD/$359,500
10401 S. CO. RD. 1120 ..Tracy Farrow 413-4412 ..... MLS #96681 ..... $350,000
4296 N. CO. RD. 1130, GREENWOOD ..Caleb Matott 349-3330 ..... MLS #96528 ..... 1.5 Acres/$315,000
2501 S. COUNTY RD. 1066 ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #95924 ..... 3BD/$293,000
4610 S. HIGHWAY 349 ..Caleb Matott 349-3330 ..... MLS #92898 ..... 4 Acres/$275,000
607 E. CO. RD. 132 ..Clemmie Sorge 618-5019 ..... MLS #95355 ..... 3BD/$267,900
9701 W. CO. RD. 154 ..Caleb Matott 349-3330 ..... MLS #96160 ..... 7 Acres/$260,000
3900 S. CO. RD. 1187 ..Jose Alvarez 296-1395 ..... MLS #95547 ..... 3BD/$259,900
3213 APPERSON DRIVE ..Susan Palmer 978-7816 ..... MLS #96751 ..... $249,500
2811 W. CO. RD. 115 ..Mark Phillober 222-5071 ..... MLS #96983 ..... 4BD/$129,900
4404 TREVINO ST. ..Mark Phillober 222-5071 ..... MLS #96717 ..... 3BD/$244,500

6109 S. CO. RD. 1178 ..Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ..... MLS #95812 ..... $241,900
4100 N. CO. RD. 1133 ..Tracy Farrow 413-4412 ..... MLS #95169 ..... SALE PENDING
7212 N. CO. RD. 1298 ..Mona Lopez 967-8602 ..... MLS #95021 ..... 3BD/$234,900
1106 PORTERFIELD RD ..Cheryl Parrish 352-3053 ..... MLS #96799 ..... 3BD/$202,500
310 E. CO. RD. 148 ..Jose Alvarez 618-5013 ..... MLS #95932 ..... 2BD/$189,500
4404 TREVINO ..Mark Phillober 222-5071 ..... MLS #95764 ..... SALE PENDING
6720 E. CO. RD. 94 ..Brooks Smith 528-2980 ..... MLS #95582 ..... 3BD/$160,000
1304 W. CO. RD. 148 ..Jose Alvarez 618-5013 ..... MLS #95891 ..... 2BD/$159,900
1490 S. CO. RD. 104 ..Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ..... MLS #94961 ..... 3BD/$159,000
2811 W. CO. RD. 115 ..Mark Phillober 222-5071 ..... MLS #93898 ..... 4BD/$129,900
1907 JOHNSON AVE. ..Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ..... MLS #95741 ..... 3BD/$128,000
1712 HACKBERRY ST., PECOS ..Danny Norwood 618-5012 ..... MLS #88971 ..... SALE PENDING
2705 BAGLEY, ODESSA ..Lydia Scudder 853-2200 ..... MLS #96570 ..... 3BD/$119,900
3104 MERRILL AVE., ODESSA ..Darla Davis 260-8077 ..... MLS #96052 ..... 2BD/SALE PENDING
1407 NW AVE. B, ANDREWS ..Cynthia Blocker 266-1448 ..... MLS #89176 ..... 2BD/$38,000

HOMES OUTSIDE OF MIDLAND COUNTY

12278 W. HIGHWAY 158, GARDENDALE ..Caleb Matott 349-3330 ..MLS #94739 ..3BD/1½ Acres/$1,180,000
10 WOODHAVEN DR., ODESSA ..Caleb Matott 349-1458 ..... MLS #94737 ..... 5BD/$497,500
345 CO. RD. 302 E., SEMINOLE ..Ruth Young 682-7884 ..... MLS #94506 ..... 4BD/$450,000
105 OASIS, HORSESHOE BAY ..Peggy Spence 664-3011 ..... MLS #173919 ..... 4BD/$399,000
7578 W 16TH ODESSA ..Caleb Matott 349-3330 ..... MLS #95955 ..... 4BD/ 10 Acres/$395,000
1775 TRAIL DRIVE, ODESSA ..Brian Sales 618-1818 ..... MLS #96280 ..... SALE PENDING
1202 S. NELSON, MONAHANS ..Lydia Scudder 853-2200 ..... MLS #95441 ..... 3BD/$275,000
607 E. CO. RD. 132 ..Clemmie Sorge 618-5019 ..... MLS #95355 ..... 3BD/$267,900
3008 SAN PEDRO- ODESSA ..Maria Mallory 352-4071 ..... MLS #90804 ..... 4BD/$263,000
503 W. 3RD ST., STANTON ..Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ..... MLS #94551 ..... 4BD/$240,000
2309 CO. RD. 2651, STANTON ..Lavonne Johnson 770-3883 ..... MLS #91080 ..... 3BD/$220,000

4474 E. GOLDENROD DR., CARDENDALE ..Caleb Matott 349-3330 ..MLS #96674 ..... 4.5 Acres/$265,000
327 9TH ST., IRAAN ..Pam Messer 349-3075 ..... MLS #92308 ..... 5BD/$179,000
202 E. 19TH, CRANE ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #96214 ..... 3BD/$175,000
2675 SE CO. RD. 5501, ANDREWS ..Cynthia Blocker 266-1448 ..... MLS #89268 ..... 3BD/$169,900
1221 MARY ST., CRANE ..DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ..... MLS #96040 ..... 3BD/$160,000
404 SANTA ROSA AVE., ODESSA ..Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ..... MLS #94765 ..... 2BD/$160,000
900 NE 2ND, ANDREWS ..Cynthia Blocker 266-1448 ..... MLS #96362 ..... 3BD/$140,000
1211 NW 4TH ST., ANDREWS ..Cynthia Blocker 266-1448 ..... MLS #89898 ..... SALE PENDING
708 COLLIE WAY, ANDREWS ..Cynthia Blocker 266-1448 ..... MLS #89681 ..... SALE PENDING
109 GRAY ST., STANTON ..Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ..... MLS #94144 ..... 4BD/$132,000
2102 ALLENDALE, BIG SPRING ..Danny Norwood 618-5012 ..... MLS #95681 ..... 4BD/$130,900

1800 N. CO. RD. W., ODESSA, TX ..Brooks Smith 528-2980 ..... MLS #83958 ..... $170,000
1707 MARIENFELD ..Laura Lyons Sales 618-1818 ..... MLS #95116 ..... SALE PENDING
608 E. BROADWAY, ANDREWS ..Cynthia Blocker 266-1448 ..... MLS#78313 ..... $95,000
310 ST. PETER, STANTON ..Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ..... MLS #93966 ..... $95,000
1103 N. MIDKIFF RD. ..Ruth Young 682-7884 ..... MLS #94455 ..... $90,000
583 E. BROADWAY, ANDREWS ..Cynthia Blocker 266-1448 ..... MLS #89899 ..... $75,000

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL

2800 ILLINOIS AVE. ..Brooks Smith 528-2980 ..... MLS #93478 ..... $5,500,000
W. CO. RD. 116 ..Caleb Matott 349-3330 ..... 12.54 Acres/$4,000,000
I-20 ..Brooks Smith 528-2980 ..... MLS# 94526 ..... + 22.87 Acres/$1,143,500
1501 N. FAIRGROUNDS RD ..Caleb Matott 349-3330 ..... MLS #95778 ..... 2+ Acres/$1,143,000
600 N. WEATHERFORD ST ..Brooks Smith 528-2980 ..... MLS #93661 ..... $900,000
10310 S. CO. RD. 1210 ..Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ..... MLS #96680 ..... $695,000
2112 E. I-20 SERVICE RD ..Clemmie Sorge 618-5019 ..... MLS #92155 ..... SALE PENDING

FM 307 ..Caleb Matott 349-3330 ..... MLS #96470 ..... - SOLD
107 CLARK ST ..Ruth Young 352-0996 ..... MLS #95196 ..... $425,000
1205 W. INDUSTRIAL AVE ..Larry Hatfield 684-0369 ..... MLS #95165 ..... $299,000
4610 S. HIGHWAY 349 ..Caleb Matott 349-3330 ..... MLS #92898 ..... 4.2 Acres/$275,000
4207 S. CO. RD. 1135 ..Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ..... MLS #96679 ..... $250,000
1105 N. MIDKIFF RD ..Ruth Young 682-7884 ..... MLS #94456 ..... $180,000

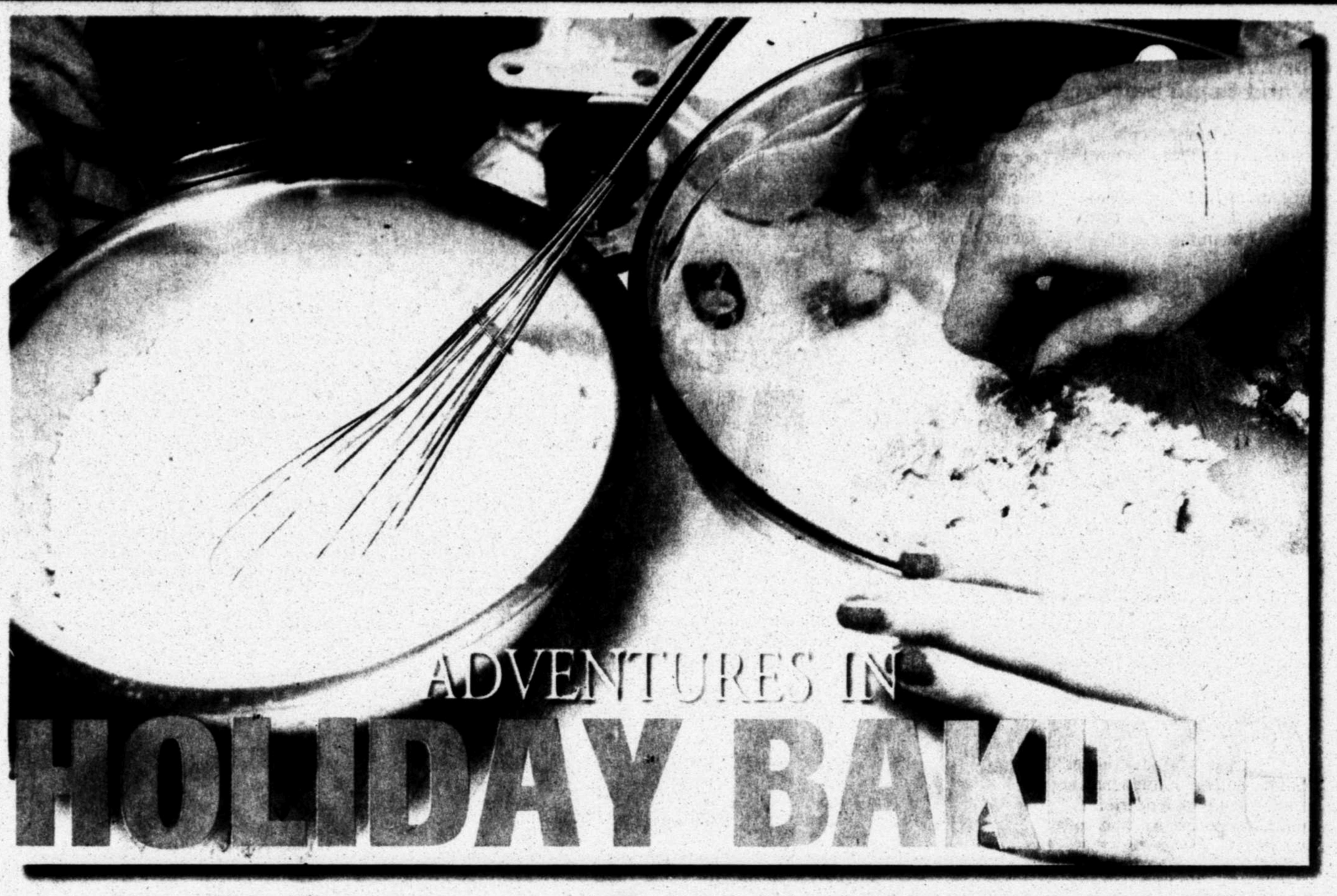
LANDS AND LOTS

8911 FM 307, GREENWOOD ..Josie Rendon 889-8394 ..... MLS #95563 ..... $3,180,000
W. CO. RD. 116 ..Caleb Matott 349-3330

West Texas Living

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt*com | Sunday, December 22, 2013 | Section E

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ADVENTURES IN HOLIDAY BAKING

Story by Ragini Venkatasubban
Photos by James Durbin



Reporter-Telegram reporters Ragini Venkatasubban, left, and Rachael Gleason add icing to gingerbread cookies.

Let's be real: I'm not a chef. I'm not even an adequate preparer of food. In college, I blew up Easy Mac in the microwave. I frequently burn break-and-bake cookies and make disgusting lunches for myself like cucumbers and feta cheese with rice vinegar (I thought it was super classy, but it actually tasted like vomit.)

In high school, I tried to alleviate the shame I had brought upon my huge Indian family of expert cooks by enrolling in a class called professional cooking. OK. I was actually transferred to the class against my will because a scheduling conflict. No matter — I decided to unleash my previously unknown cooking prowess upon the world.

A series of inedible cakes and meat dishes later, the teacher gave me an A out of pity, or maybe because her life had been so ruined by horrible food made by high school delinquents that she didn't even care anymore.

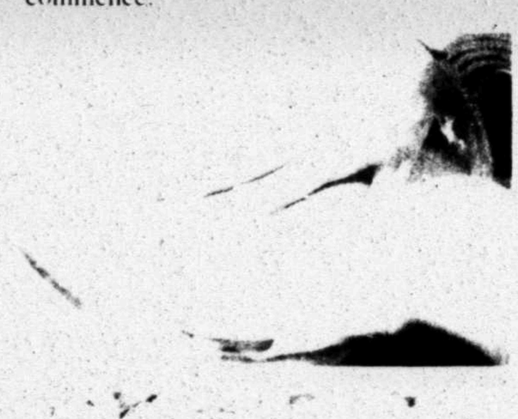
My proudest moment came when I learned to boil water on the stove, courtesy of my friend who taught me when we were studying abroad in France and living sans microwaves. I officially learned to cook my first real meal — packaged spaghetti with sauce from a can.

That meal lasted me through the rest of college. Though I've added a few more dishes to my cooking repertoire since then (but none that actually involve a stove), I still subsist mainly on Lunchables, Olive Garden takeout and Caprese salads. I don't know who let me be an adult.

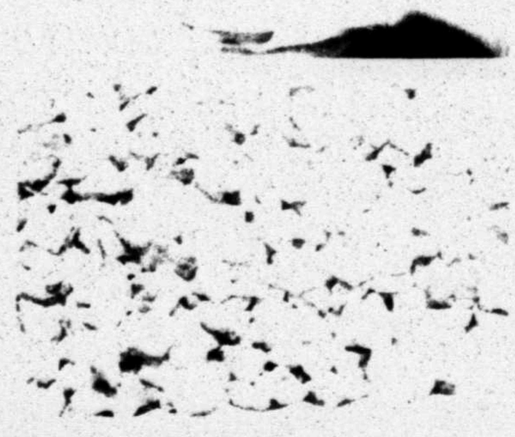
So, when it came time to write a column on holiday baking, I was justifiably unprepared. Enter my roommate, fellow Reporter-Telegram reporter Rachael Gleason, who I like to call a combination of Betty Crocker and Martha Stewart. She's constantly whipping up things like complicated soups with 95 ingredients and homemade hamburgers from ground meat. Once, she made me ginger snaps from scratch (like, with actual ginger and nutmeg and stuff, not from a mix) because I gave her a water bottle. That is just the kind of person she is.

Together, we embarked on a holiday journey to make three Christmas-themed desserts, two that a person of my cooking caliber could make, and one more that's slightly more complicated (Rachael made that one, and it has a billion more ingredients than the other two). Let the cooking saga commence.









Cookies 'n cream, America's favorite flavor

Oreo truffles are possibly the easiest things in the world to make. There is no way to mess them up. There are literally two ingredients: Oreos and cream cheese. If you're getting fancy like I did, you can dip them in melted chocolate, and they become chocolate-covered Oreo truffles.

20-25 Oreos
Half a pack (4 oz.) cream cheese
Chocolate chips

Put the Oreos in a plastic bag and crush them. Mix the crushed Oreos and cream cheese thoroughly in a bowl. Shape the mixture into small balls. Put on a pan and place in the fridge for about 20 minutes. Dip each ball in melted chocolate. Put back in the fridge to harden.

'Why can't I stop eating this?' A tale of puppy chow

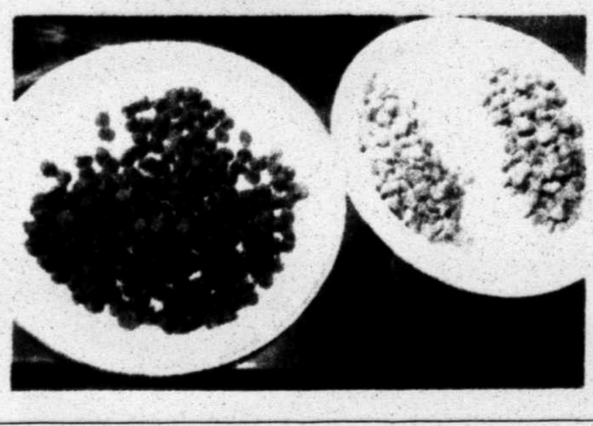
Here's a disclaimer: Do not feed puppy chow to your dogs. It is not puppy food. It is human food, and you should embrace it for the God-given gift that it is.

This particular form of puppy chow involves white chocolate and those Christmas-themed red and green semisweet chocolate chips you find at grocery stores around the holidays. It is the second easiest dessert snack in the world, right after Oreo truffles.

Here's another disclaimer: You will not be able to stop eating this. You will have a bag of puppy chow on your lap while watching TV or reading a book, and before you know it, the bag will be empty.

One bag white chocolate chips
One box Chex cereal
Red and green holiday chocolate chips
Powdered sugar

Melt the white chocolate. Mix the Chex cereal and white chocolate, adding a little bit of cereal



Please see BAKING/2E

Bridal expo to feature wedding services in Permian Basin

By Ragini Venkatasubban
ragini@mrt.com

From the perfect wedding dress to a delicious cake to a photographer who will capture every moment of your special day, the 18th annual Basin Bridal & Quinceanera Expo will have it all.

This year's convention will be held from 1-5 p.m. Jan. 5 at the Commemorative Air Force hangar, 9600 Wright Drive. Admission is $10 online or $15 at the door. Children under 10 are not allowed.

The expo is held annually by the Permian Basin Bridal Association and will feature more than 50 booths by local bridal shops, bakeries, caterers, decorators, DJs, event planners, florists, limo services, photographers and wedding venues.

This year's vendors include Absolute Bridal, Barnett & Company Floral and Event Design, DJ John Wojtkun, Ellen Noel Art Museum, Eternal Bliss Photography and Tall City Sweets. For a complete list of vendors, visit www.basinbridal.org.

The expo was started in 1995 to bring awareness to the vast array of wedding services available in the Permian Basin, said PBBA president John Wojtkun, who doubles as "DJ John."

The average cost of a wedding in the U.S. today is $28,000, according to CNN Money. More than 220 brides attended last year's expo, and that number is expected to rise.

Kristen Lopez, PBBA vice president and owner of Eternal Bliss Photography, said she is seeing many "higher-end" weddings in the Midland area. She has photographed 55 weddings since launching her business three years ago.

Proceeds from the expo will be donated to The Life Center, Midland Fair Havens, Community & Senior Services of Midland, Inc. and the Dixie Dolls, Lee High School's drill team. The Permian Basin Bridal Association has donated more than $70,000 to local nonprofit organizations since it began 18 years ago.

This year's expo will feature a new, exclusive champagne preview for 50 brides and one guest each, who will be able to view the entire expo one hour before it opens to the public. Brides will be treated to hors d'oeuvres and champagne. Preview tickets are $35 per bride or $45 for a bride and one guest.

Each booth will offer a giveaway, ranging from free photography services to a free cake to a free honeymoon. The expo will also feature a fashion show by The Wedding Connection, a wedding magazine serving West Texas.

Limited booths are still available for vendors. To sign up, visit www.basinbridal.org.

If you go

When: 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5 (exclusive champagne preview from 12-1 p.m.)

Where: CAF hangar

Admission: $10 online, $15 at the door

Preview admission: $35 per bride, $45 for a bride and one guest

For a complete list of vendors or to buy tickets, visit www.basinbridal.org.

BAKING

From 1E

at a time. Add the red and green holiday chocolate chips to the mixture. Put powdered sugar in a large plastic bag and put the Chex-chocolate mixture inside. Shake it like a Polaroid picture. The sugar will coat the mixture. When it's coated enough, empty into a tray. For best results, refrigerate the mixture for a short time.

Gingerbread men, candy canes and Santa hats

Though the instructions are simple, Rachael made this one because I knew I would mess it up. She actually made an entire batch of gingerbread cookies and most of the puppy chow in the time it took me to make a few Oreo truffles.

3 1/4 cup flour
3/4 teaspoon baking soda
3/4 cup (1 1/2 sticks) butter
1/2 cup brown sugar
1 teaspoon ground ginger
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
Black pepper
Salt
1 large egg
1/2 cup molasses

Combine all dry ingredients and spices in one bowl. In another bowl, cream the butter until fluffy. Add sugar. Stir. Add molasses and the egg. Stir. Add the dry ingredients slowly. Chill the dough in the fridge overnight or for an hour at least. Shape into individual cookies. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes. *Recipe adapted from Food Network*



elegant

HOLIDAY DINNER

Lean pork roast packs rich flavor

By Sara Moulton
Associated Press

My choice for an elegant holiday dinner? It's hard to beat a roast, and more often than not my pick is a lean and moist pork tenderloin.

But let's face it, as much as we want to be healthy, there is such a thing as roast that is too lean. A lack of fat often means a lack of flavor. So how to make up this deficit? With plenty of high-flavor ingredients, like prosciutto, fresh herbs, mushrooms and wine.

Prosciutto packs a ton of flavor, and the slight amount of fat it adds is well worth it. As for the herbs, I took a tip from the Italians, who often top off a grilled steak with fresh herbs and a drizzle of olive oil. I tested out several herbs in this recipe, both alone and in combinations. Though I was rooting for fresh sage — a classic match with prosciutto — my tasting panel (the family) overruled me in favor of rosemary and thyme.

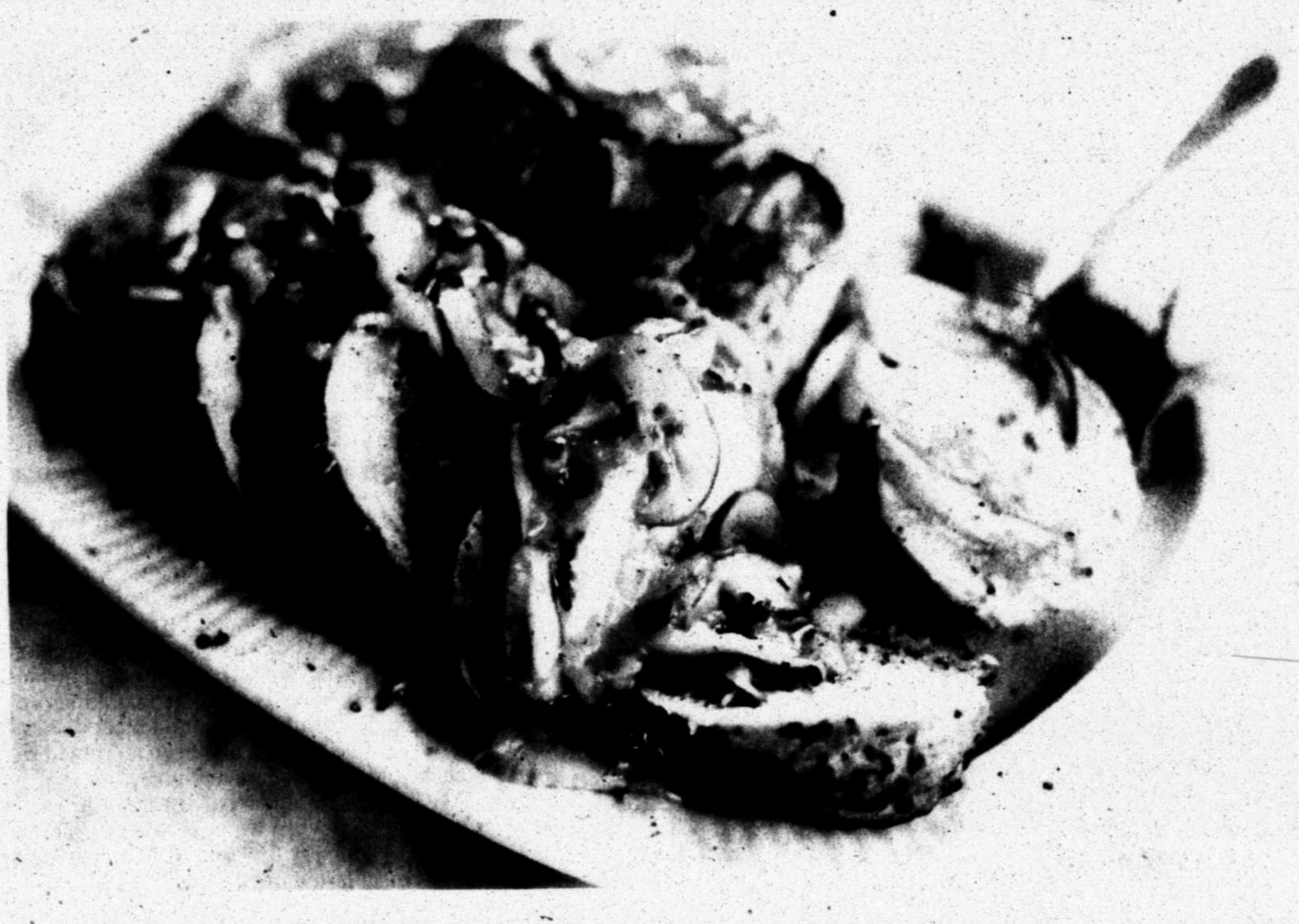
Given the roast's Italian inflections, I chose a mushroom Marsala sauce to go with it. Any mushroom will work, from the most affordable white button to the quite pricey shiitake. Whichever you choose, if you need to save time you can usually find them sliced and ready to go at the supermarket.

If you don't have Marsala at home, you can swap in Madeira, dry sherry, white vermouth or even white or red wine. All pair up nicely with mushrooms. And, as ever, if you don't want to use alcohol, leave it out.

In order to stuff these pork roasts, you need to butterfly them. If you've never done this before, don't worry. You simply lay the log-shaped roast on a cutting board and, using a sharp knife, cut in from the side of the roast about halfway down. Cut almost — but not completely — through; leave about 1/2 inch of meat on the far side. You should be able to open the roast like a book.

Next, put plastic wrap on top of the roast and — using either a meat pounder or rolling pin — pound it to an even thickness. You can help to make sure that the meat won't stick to the plastic and tear if you first sprinkle both sides of it with some water. And even if the meat does shred a bit, don't worry. It will knit back together as it cooks.

One of the great things about this recipe is that you can prepare and roll the roast a day ahead. You also can make the mushroom sauce in advance, then warm it up in the saute pan after you've browned the pork roast, which allows you to take advantage of any browned bits sticking to the bottom of the pan after the roast has left the premises. This isn't just smart time management, it's good cooking; both the roast and the sauce will taste better if you prepare them a day ahead of time. And it'll free you up to prepare the rest of your holiday meal on the big day itself.



Double Pork Roast with Mushroom Marsala Sauce

Start to finish: 1 hour
Servings: 6

2 pork tenderloin roasts (3/4 to 1 pound each), trimmed of all fat
2 tablespoons packed fresh rosemary leaves, chopped
2 tablespoons packed fresh thyme leaves, chopped
4 ounces thinly sliced prosciutto
3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
Kosher salt and ground black pepper
1/2 cup finely chopped shallots or onion
1/2 pound mushrooms (cremini, white button, shiitake, oyster or a mix), trimmed and sliced
1/2 cup dry Marsala wine
1 1/4 cups low-sodium chicken broth
1 tablespoon all-purpose flour

Heat the oven to 350 F.

Cut down through each tenderloin lengthwise so that you can open it up like a book, but do not cut all the way through. Sprinkle water on the cutting board under the tenderloin and sprinkle a little water on top of the tenderloin (this will help prevent the meat from tearing when you pound it). Cover the tenderloin with plastic wrap and pound the meat using a meat mallet or rolling pin until it is about 1/2-inch thick.

Sprinkle half the rosemary and thyme leaves all over the inside of each butterflied and pounded pork tenderloin and spread the prosciutto evenly in one layer over the herbs. Beginning with the long end, roll up the tenderloin tightly, tucking in the ends (as you would a burrito). Use kitchen twine to tie the roll in a bundle, tying it every 2 inches.

In a large nonstick skillet over medium-high, heat 1 tablespoon of the oil. Season the pork lightly on all sides with salt and pepper, then add it to the skillet. Sear until golden brown on all sides. Transfer the pork to a shallow baking pan, then roast on the oven's middle shelf until the center reaches 145 F, about 20 to 25 minutes. Remove the pork from the oven and cover loosely with foil.

Meanwhile, make the sauce. Return the skillet to medium heat. Add the remaining 2 tablespoons of oil and the shallots and cook, stirring, until the shallots are golden. Add the mushrooms and cook, stirring often, until the mushrooms give off all their liquid and are lightly browned.

Add the Marsala and simmer until almost all of it is reduced. Add 1 cup of the chicken broth and bring back to a boil. In a small bowl whisk the remaining 1/4 cup of chicken broth with the flour. Add the flour mixture to the skillet in a stream while whisking and simmer for 2 minutes. Add any juices that have accumulated from the resting pork to the sauce.

Slice the pork crosswise into 1-inch-thick slices. Transfer several slices to each of 6 serving plates. Spoon some of the mushroom sauce over each serving.

Nutrition information per serving: 330 calories; 110 calories from fat (33 percent of total calories); 13 g fat (3 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 115 mg cholesterol; 9 g carbohydrate; 1 g fiber; 3 g sugar; 39 g protein; 770 mg sodium.

Forgotten Nashville holiday specialty poised for comeback

By Erik Schelzig
Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Fueled by heavy doses of nostalgia and local lore, a largely forgotten Christmastime beef specialty called "the spiced round" is poised for a comeback in Nashville.

The cured top round — traditionally laced with strands of lard mixed with a variety of spices including cinnamon, allspice and clove — was popularized by the city's German and English meatpackers after the Civil War. Spiced round slices served wafer-thin on warm biscuits became a mainstay of holiday feasts running from Thanksgiving through the New Year.

But the specialty meat reminiscent of corned beef had all but disappeared in recent decades amid changing tastes and the steady decline of local butchers to prepare it.

"It's something you always had at Christmas," said Debie Cox, a retired archivist and granddaughter of a German butcher who had a store on the city's public square.

"It's a bit of an odd, spicy meat," she said. "I didn't particularly like it as a child. I don't think most children probably would. I like it as an adult, though you can't get the real thing anymore."

A lone commercial meatpacker, Elm Hill, has continued to make the spiced round — though no longer with the infused strands of pork fat — for seasonal distribution to a limited number of Nashville grocery stores.

Chris Carter, a Nashville native, said he had never heard of spiced round before he and business partner James Peisker founded Porter Road Butchers two years ago. The whole-animal butcher shop specializes in processing local, pasture-raised livestock.

"We have a couple customers who are just die-hard fans," Carter said.

So Porter Road Butchers set out to create its own version of the faded favorite, using its own spice recipe and braising the rounds sous vide, a gentle cooking method in which the meat is seasoned, then vacuum-sealed then cooked in a warm water bath. Carter said the rounds will be wrapped in seasoned pork back fat, a process called barding, instead of the traditional — and more cumbersome — larding method.

"It might not be what your grandmother ate 50 years ago, but we hope it's something people will enjoy," said Carter.

Recent media attention and research into the dish's history by Cox and others has helped rekindle enthusiasm. "Nashville is so very different now," she said. "But people want to see what the old traditions are."

The origins of the spiced round were the subject of much dispute. After the Civil War, much of the meatpacking in Nashville was run by German immigrants and their descendants, and it was widely believed that the dish had its roots in the old country, but English-style meatpackers also claimed credit.

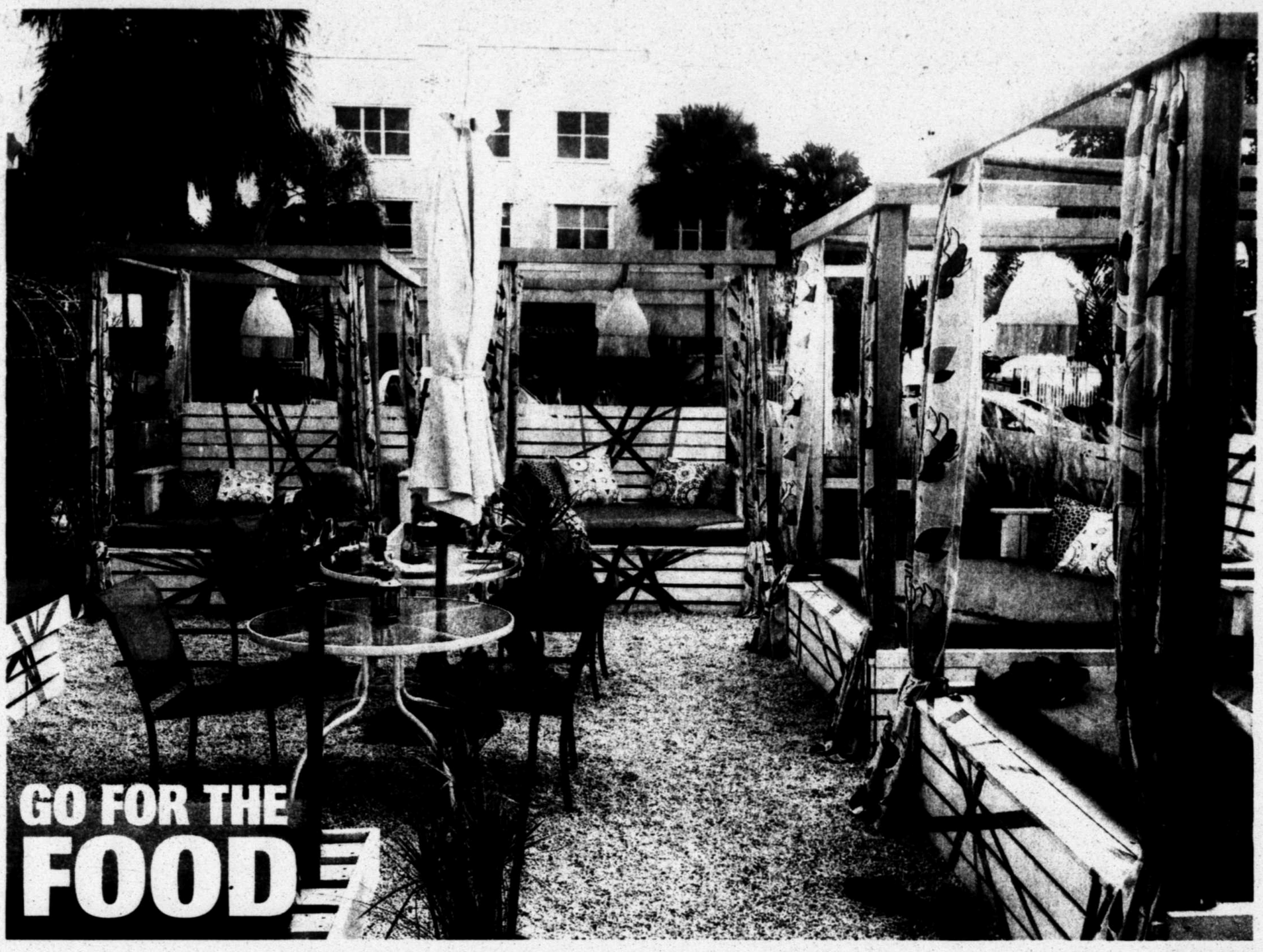
An 1868 edition of the Nashville Union and American newspaper includes a notice of a luncheon at the Merchants Exchange that included spiced round among the "delicacies" being served. Another item on the menu that day, opossum, seems less like to be headed for revival among the city's craft butchers.





Chris Carter slices a "spiced round," a Christmastime beef specialty, to give employees, including Alex Welsch, left, and customers a taste Dec. 11, at the Porter Road Butcher in Nashville, Tenn.

Mark Humphrey/AP



AP file photo

This photo taken Oct. 11 shows the spacious outdoor seating area at Queenshead, a restaurant in the emerging, funky Grand Central District of St. Petersburg, Fla. The restaurant's interior decor is vaguely British, with a Union Jack and a bust of Queen Elizabeth, while the outdoor area is Florida-style with lounges and cabanas.

Tourists find fun eats in Florida's St. Petersburg

By Beth J. Harpaz
Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — A typical St. Petersburg itinerary might include seeing the Dali Museum, having a drink at the storied Vinoy hotel and checking out nearby beaches. As in any good-sized city, the downtown and waterfront areas have plenty of restaurant options, from seafood and Italian to Asian and Mexican.

But just west of downtown along Central Avenue, in St. Pete's emerging Grand Central District, a funkier, somewhat less grown-up array of eateries is bubbling up. Here, amid a dozen antique and thrift shops, just beyond Haslam's enormous book emporium, you'll find bars and cafes with unique themes. The clientele ranges from hipsters and tattooed 20-somethings to middle-aged couples and groups of friends out for a fun evening.

One area of note begins around 23rd Street with Taco Bus, a bright-yellow food truck that looks like an overgrown toy, with outdoor tables shaded by colorful umbrellas. The menu of standard tacos and burritos also offers items like tofu fajitas and vegan steak strip quesadillas. At night, the spot is brightly lit along an otherwise dark stretch, giving the truck, tables and line of customers a moody look reminiscent of the lit-up diner in Edward Hopper's "Nighthawks" painting.

A block away, Nitally's offers Thai-Mex cuisine — reflecting the owners' dual heritage — along with bi-cultural decor, like decorations for the Mexican holiday Day of the Dead at Halloween alongside Buddhas. There are Thai dishes on the menu, Mexican dishes and some fusion dishes that combine the two (though truth be told, panang mole is more entertaining as a concept than as reality).

Across the street, Beak's St. Pete has a fun, laidback, Old-Florida vibe complete with shell art decor and twangy guitar music. (Beak's refers to a parrot, in case you were wondering.)

The real gem here for serious foodies, though, is a slightly more upscale place across the street from Beak's and Nitally's called Queenshead. The interior decor is vaguely British, with a Union Jack and a bust of Queen Elizabeth, while the spacious outdoor seating is Florida-style with lounges and cabanas. But there's nothing standoffish about these Anglophiles: If you choose to eat at the bar, friendly bartenders will keep you company while other patrons recommend their favorite dishes.

Entrees echo the British theme: shepherd's pie, fish and chips, bangers and mash. But the real stars here are the creative small-plate starters. Some work as bar snacks if you want something to anchor your cocktails, but you could also make a meal out of ordering a few of them. These are all as utterly scrumptious as they sound: crispy chickpeas dusted with smoked paprika (way better than bar popcorn to accompany your black-and-tan); huge, sweet, seared scallops with the best darn brussels sprouts you ever ate; and pumpkin-flavored goat cheese on house-made crackers. And here's an idea worth copying for your next at-home party: a plate of caprese skewers, with cherry tomatoes, a folded basil leaf and slivers of mozzarella speared on a long cocktail pick, turning the classic caprese salad into finger-food that's easy to share.



Dishes at Queenshead, a restaurant in the emerging, funky Grand Central District of St. Petersburg, Fla. include seared scallops with brussels sprouts, pumpkin-flavored goat cheese on house-made crackers with beets and caprese skewers with tomatoes, mozzarella and basil.

AP file photos

For dessert, try the sticky toffee, and don't worry about some scary crunchy surprise getting stuck in your teeth — it's as smooth as homestyle butterscotch pudding.

Bake coconut before cracking to remove meat

HINTS FROM HELOISE

King Features Syndicate

Dear Heloise: I enjoyed meeting you at an event in Houston. I love fresh coconut, but after I drain the coconut and crack the shell, it takes major surgery to get the meat out. There has got to be an easier way to do it. Any suggestions? I saw a Samoan in Hawaii use a pointed stick in the ground, but I don't think I can keep one around for just that! — Ann S. in Houston

I enjoyed meeting you and your daughter; please give her a hug for me! Trying to crack a coconut can drive you nuts! The coconut needs to be baked before the meat is removed.

Put the coconut in the oven (on 350 F) for 15-20 minutes. Remove carefully and wrap in a heavy towel. Use a hammer to whack the heck out of it. Just keep hammering away, and it should break into pieces, which makes it easier to remove the meat.

Next, use a flat-head screwdriver, nut pick or a paring knife to pick out the meat. — Heloise

The foiled touch

Dear Heloise: When I cook with aluminum foil, I sometimes notice that there are black specks left on the food after cooking. What causes this, and is it something I need to worry about? — Rachel T., via email

Don't worry. These specks can be caused when aluminum foil touches food that contains vinegar or salt or that is highly acidic or spicy. It's a reaction between the foil and the food. It's not harmful, and you can safely eat the black specks. But if you would rather not, then just remove them. — Heloise

Kitchen hints

Dear Heloise: While visiting a friend, I asked where she had found the big, wide rubber bands that are so handy for large extension cords, boxes in the pantry, etc. She said that when her rubber gloves develop holes, she cuts across the cuffs to form the wide bands. Not only handy, but a great way to recycle.

Another hint is that after dropping a piece of eggshell into a light-colored batter and not finding it, I now keep a stack of disposable, clear plastic cups in the kitchen. When a recipe calls for eggs, I break the eggs into the plastic cup, and if there is a problem, I can solve it and then toss the cup. — Zelda W. in Missouri

Cucumber pickles

Dear Readers: I love to eat pickles, and I always save the juice after finishing a jar. When I eat a cucumber, I score the sides with a fork and make a design in the skin. This is nice if the skin is a little tough to eat. Remember, the skin is where all of the vitamins and nutrients are! Then I cut it into slices and place them in the pickle juice. The cucumbers stay crispy for a day or two, but still are a delicious treat days after placing them in the pickle juice. — Heloise

Send a hint to Heloise at P.O. Box 795000, San Antonio, 78279-5000, fax 210-HELOISE or email heloise@Heloise.com.

Christmas breakfast can bake while you celebrate

By Alison Ladman
Associated Press

With all those presents to open, nobody wants to spend Christmas morning in the kitchen. So we created this easy raspberry and cream cheese stuffed breakfast biscuit that is fast and easy to assemble. It also can be prepped a week or more in advance, then frozen. Just bake it Christmas morning right from the freezer.

And if you don't care for raspberry, use any jam you prefer. Strawberry, apricot or even fig would be delicious. If you go with fig, consider adding some chopped ham at the same time as the jam.

Raspberry and Cream Cheese Stuffed Biscuits

Start to finish: 40 minutes
Servings: 16

This breakfast biscuit is simple enough to assemble Christmas morning, but also can be prepped in advance. To do so, assemble as directed, then cover tightly with plastic wrap and freeze. When ready to serve, bake at 400 F for 25 to 30 minutes, or until golden brown and cooked through.



3 cups all-purpose flour
1 tablespoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon kosher salt
2 tablespoons granulated sugar
1 cup buttermilk
1/3 cup heavy cream
2 eggs
3/4 cup (1 1/2 sticks) cold unsalted butter, cut into small cubes
1 cup (8 ounces) raspberry jam
4 ounces cream cheese, room temperature
2 tablespoons turbinado sugar

If cooking immediately, heat the oven to 400 F.

Coat a 9-by-13-inch baking pan with cooking spray.

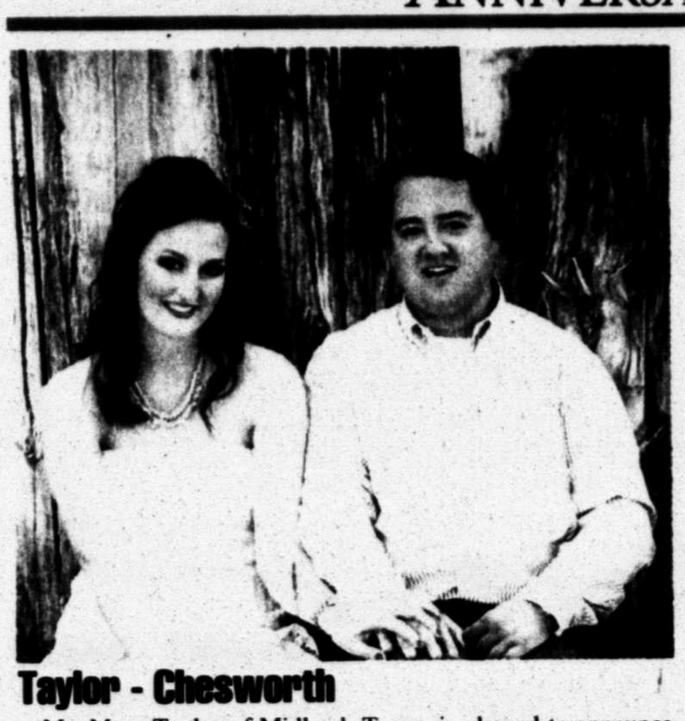
In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt and sugar. In another bowl, whisk together the buttermilk, cream and eggs.

Stir the butter cubes into the flour, flattening them and breaking them up slightly. Gently stir the buttermilk mixture into the flour and butter. It should make a shaggy dough with clumps of butter clearly visible. Dollop half of the mixture into the prepared pan, patting it with slightly dampened hands to cover the bottom of the pan.

Spread the jam over the surface, coming to just a 1/2 inch from the edge. Dot small dollops of cream cheese over the jam. Dollop the remaining biscuit dough over the top, then sprinkle with turbinado sugar. Place the pan in the freezer for 10 minutes. (If not cooking immediately, cover tightly with plastic wrap and freeze.)

If cooking immediately, bake for 15 to 20 minutes, or until golden brown and cooked through. Serve warm.

Anniversaries, Engagements and Weddings



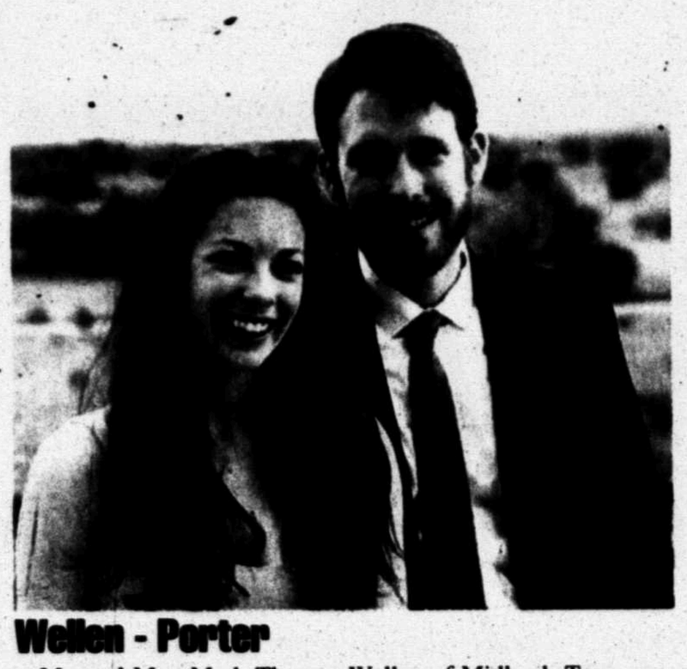
Taylor - Chesworth

Ms. Mary Taylor of Midland, Texas, is pleased to announce the engagement of her daughter, Sarah Catherine Taylor, to Tyler Ross Chesworth, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Chesworth of Big Spring, Texas. The bride-elect is also the daughter of the late Mark Hill Taylor, and is the granddaughter of Mrs. Marjorie Tarver of Edgewood, Texas, and Dr. and Mrs. Leslie G. Taylor, Jr. of Litchfield Park, Arizona. The prospective groom is the grandson of Mr. Lon Baucum of Abilene, Texas, and the late Iris Baucum of Big Spring, and the late Mr. and Mrs. James Chesworth of Riverside, California, and Big Spring.

Sarah is a 2009 graduate of Midland High School and a 2012 Summa Cum Laude graduate of Texas Tech University, College of Human Sciences. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood Education and was an active member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority and Association of Childhood Education. She is currently employed by Midland Independent School District as a kindergarten teacher at Emerson Elementary School.

Tyler is a 2009 graduate of Big Spring High School. He will graduate from The University of Texas of the Permian Basin in May of 2014 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Petroleum Geology and a minor in Energy Studies, and will pursue a master's degree. He is a member of West Texas Geological Society and American Association of Petroleum Geologists. He is currently employed as a Geological Technician by Linn Energy in Midland.

The couple will wed on March 8, 2014, at The Plantation House in Pflugerville, Texas.



Wellen - Porter

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Thomas Wellen of Midland, Texas, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Miss Blair Dawson Wellen to Mr. John Austin Porter, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Porter of Sugar Land, Texas. Miss Wellen is the granddaughter of Lieutenant General (USAF ret.) and Mrs. Bruce Kilroy Brown of Vienna, Virginia, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Donald P. Wellen of Alvord, Texas. Mr. Porter is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Whitehead of Sugar Land, Texas, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Harry Porter of Houston, Texas.

The bride-elect is a 2005 graduate of Midland High School and a 2009 graduate of the University of Texas, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Applied Learning & Development in Early Childhood Education and was a member of the Delta Delta Delta sorority. She is currently working as a first-grade teacher for City School in Austin, Texas.

The prospective groom is a 2004 graduate of Kempner High School and a 2008 graduate of the University of Texas, where he earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance at the McCombs School of Business. He is presently employed with Calxeda in Austin, Texas.

The couple will be married in January, at Barr Mansion in Austin, Texas.

To submit engagement, wedding, anniversary or quinceneara announcements email weddings@mrt.com or call 682-6222.



Hunnicutt 50th Anniversary

Jack and Judy Hunnicutt are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. On December 21st, 1963, Jackie Ray Hunnicutt and Julia Ellen Bowman were wed at the First Christian Church in Levelland, Texas. They then lived in Odessa before moving to Hobbs, New Mexico for short time then moved to Midland. Other than a few years in Tulsa, Oklahoma, they have lived in Midland where they raised their two children, Bryan and Kara.

Judy is a retired School Teacher and an avid golfer. She remains very active with her many friends in her Ladies Golf Association, Bridge Club, Garden Club, as well as volunteering and helping organize ladies golf tournaments in West Texas. Jack retired from Willbros Group about 17 years ago but it didn't take. After moving back to Midland, he has continued to work as a representative for several oil and gas service companies and currently works for Rockwater Energy Solutions. They are blessed with many friends and enjoy spending time with them at Ranchland Hills Country Club and the Midland Petroleum Club.

Jack and Judy have 5 grandchildren; Kara and Jack's kids, Ashley, Bradley and Cali Melton of Lubbock Texas; and Bryan and Cindy's kids, Amanda and Jake Hunnicutt of The Woodlands, Texas. Their children and grandchildren love them very much and would like to wish them the happiest 50th Anniversary!

Modern wedding: A groom's guide to getting involved (sort of)

By Dan Zevin
Associated Press

Generations ago, planning a wedding was 100 percent the bride's job. But in today's age of gender equity, it's a mere 99 percent.

Yes, we modern men are more involved than ever, but many of us are still left wondering, "How can I take a more active role in the stress and panic of planning the happiest day of my life?" Gentlemen, you've come to the right guy.

Groom job 1: Plan the menu

When it comes to cuisine, the crucial question is: cash bar or open bar? Once you've chosen the latter, tackle other meal-related matters. Will you keep your open bar open throughout the reception or for the first hour only? (Hint: throughout the reception.) What about hors d'oeuvres? Will your guests be sipping them through bottles, glasses or cans? Remember, you can't please everyone. Therefore, it's best to inscribe BYOB under RSVP on your wedding invitations. You may also want to consider serving some food.

Groom job 2: Book the music.

Wedding musicians are expensive, so cut costs by asking your groomsmen to lip synch and air guitar to a playlist you'll download from iTunes. Alternatively, you can hire a deejay. A deejay is an individual who sees your wedding as an opportunity to act out his fantasies of being Eddie Van Halen, Rock God, by dancing in place to all his favorite hits. Remind him that it is your special day, not his. Inform him that the song you've chosen for your first dance isn't actually "Hot For Teacher." Request that he blend into the background, perhaps by streaming his set to the dance floor from his booth in the banquet hall boiler room.

Groom job 3: Manage the guest list

Tradition dictates that the groom cut everyone off his list to make more room for his bride's list. This is easier than it sounds. Just review all the people on your list and think of one reason not to invite them.

Let's start with your best man, "Bob." Remember that time "Bob" borrowed your drill and returned it without recharging the battery? Put a big red slash through "Bob's" name right now. Before you know it, the only one left on your list will be you. To demonstrate what a generous husband you'll be, cut yourself from the list, too. Dude, you'll be spending the rest of your life with your bride. Is it really going to kill you if you're not together on one lousy day?

Groom job 4: Help register for gifts.

From the male point of view, there are three kinds of gifts: 1. things you already have; 2. things you don't need; and 3. bowls. To help your guests select stuff you actually want, you may be tempted to register at offbeat places like Sports Authority and Home Depot. This is fine as long as you realize that no one's going to get you anything from these places. They are going to get you bowls. So go help your bride pick out punch bowls, bisque bowls, bowls to hold other bowls. If you don't, you'll miss out on the most rewarding groom job of all: returning them for a full cash refund as soon as you get back from your honeymoon.

Groom Job 5: Plan the honeymoon

Choosing a destination typically falls to the man, which explains why many couples are slapped with steep penalty fees upon cancelling their flights to the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Remember, your honeymoon is a time to rest, to recuperate, to experience the phenomenon of everyone being uncharacteristically nice to you.

Groom: Excuse me, flight attendant, do you think we can have two peanuts instead of one?

Flight Attendant: What does this look like, Chez Panisse?

Groom: We are on our honeymoon.

Flight Attendant: Right this way to first class, you adorable honeymooners! Do you prefer Moet or Veuve Clicquot with your caviar? Here's to the happy couple!

Dan Zevin is the author of "The Nearly-Wed Handbook: How To Survive The Happiest Day of Your Life" (Kindle edition 2013) and "Dan Gets a Minivan" (Scribner, 2013), among other books. The 2013 winner of the Thurber Prize for American Humor, he can be reached at www.DanZevin.com.

Ethnic menus: Hotels loosen rules on outside food at weddings

By Melissa saKossler Dutton
Associated Press

"It's a whole family celebration. It's got to be right. It's got to be memorable."

Jim Carmody, general manager of the Seaport Hotel and World Trade Center in Boston

Mariam Hashimi and her husband, Munis Alkouz, chose the hotel for their November wedding reception mainly for one reason: It allowed them to use a local caterer to bring in the traditional Afghan rice and meat dishes that hotel chefs often aren't trained to prepare.

"For our weddings, food is really important," said Hashimi, who grew up in an Afghan immigrant family and lives in Albuquerque, N.M. She had her reception at the Sheraton Uptown Hotel there.

Many hotels and banquet halls have begun permitting brides and grooms to hire outside caterers and work with local restaurants to serve menus reflecting a wider range of cultures and cuisines. It's a change from the long-held practice of insisting that customers use only in-house food choices, said Sharon Ringier, president of the Chicago chapter of the Event Planners Association.

"They don't want to miss out on the revenue," Ringier said. "It's better to accommodate (customers)."

That's good news for couples wishing to serve ethnic foods at wedding receptions.

Venues typically charge customers an outside catering fee that covers use of the venue's equipment and staff, who still have to set up the room and clean up after the party.

The Sheraton Uptown in Albuquerque started allowing guests to contract with outside caterers for weddings, bar mitzvahs and other special events about two years ago, said catering sales manager Cindy Martinez.

Specifically, it was the demand for traditional Indian food that prompted the change, she said.

"Indian weddings tend to be very large. They're nice events," Martinez said. "They generate good revenue."

The hotel worked with a local restaurant to develop an Indian menu. "Instead of the client going to them, it's all done in one stop," Martinez said. Clients can choose from other approved caterers, too.

Likewise, the Hilton Columbus/Polaris hotel in Ohio began working with outside caterers about three years to accommodate an Indian wedding, said senior catering manager Jacob Kristensen.

"We wanted to be able to offer them something authentic. They had many guests coming from India," he said. "We didn't feel like we could do it" without help from a restaurant.

Since then, the hotel has hosted a number of Indian events.

"The word spread very fast," said Kristensen, adding that the policy also extends to kosher food since the hotel does not have a kosher kitchen.

In the past, families that wanted to cap a celebration with a traditional meal may have had to go to a restaurant, said Marie Reeder, catering director at the Anaheim Hills Golf Clubhouse in California, which works with a variety of specialty caterers, including South Asian, Persian and Chinese.

"The younger generation can have their event at a country club and still serve traditional foods," she said.

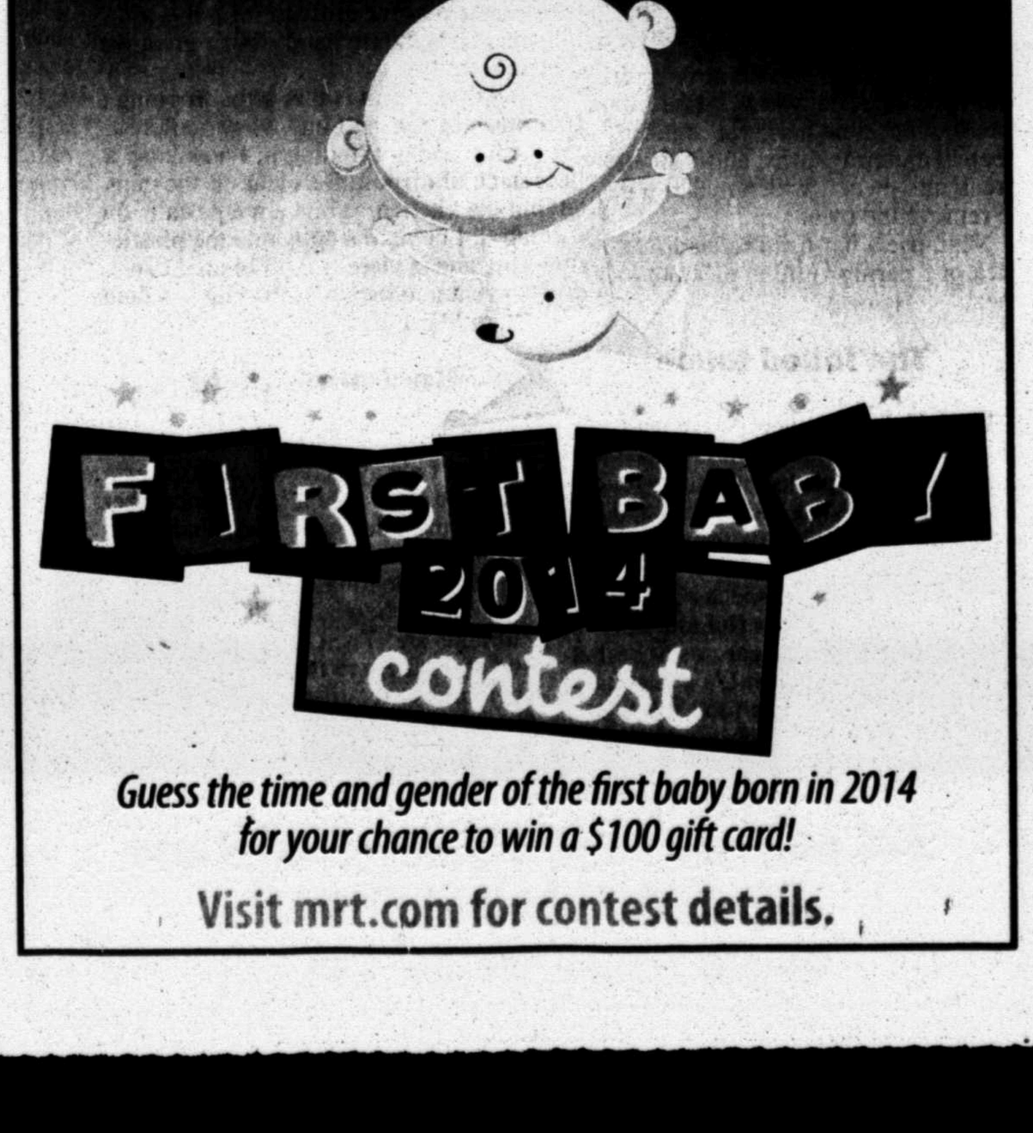
Finding a venue that allowed outside catering was a must for Nadiaa Ansari when she was planning her brother's July wedding. The Muslim family needed to serve halal meat for religious reasons. She chose the Owego Treadway Inn & Suites in Owego, N.Y., because of its willingness to accommodate them.

• "It's hard to find venues in smaller towns that are aware of those things and are willing to work with you," said Ansari, who handled the wedding planning because tradition dictates that the groom's family host the celebration.

Families will recommend a venue or come back again if they feel their needs and traditions have been understood, said Jim Carmody, general manager of the Seaport Hotel and World Trade Center in Boston, which has permitted outside catering for more than a decade. Kids who had their bar or bat mitzvah there have come back for their weddings, he said.

"It's a whole family celebration. It's got to be right. It's got to be memorable," he said.

Read more about living in and around Midland in Tuesday's
WEST TEXAS LIVING



Guess the time and gender of the first baby born in 2014 for your chance to win a $100 gift card!
Visit mrt.com for contest details.

What happens when parents don't like to play?

By Leanne Italie
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Silvana Clark spent 10 years as a parks and recreation supervisor for the city of Bellingham, Wash., yet when it came time to raise children, there were certain things she just didn't love to play.

"When we played Monopoly, we were the worst. We actually applauded each other if you could steal money out of the bank without the other person knowing it," she said. "We would say to our daughter, 'You stole $100. That was so good. Just don't do that with your friends.'"

When the younger of her two now-grown daughters was about 8, mom realized she hadn't experienced the scent of fresh-baked cookies filling their house.

"I just don't like to bake cookies, so I took a pot of water and I put cinnamon and vanilla in it and I boiled it," Clark said. "She came home from school and she goes, 'Wow, what's that smell? That smells so good.' And I said, 'Well if I were baking cookies, that's what it would smell like.'"

But there were countless other things Clark and her husband enjoyed, like making homemade Play-Doh or pushing the girls on a rope swing that straddled a pond. The couple lived guilt-free about the rest, believing their kids had plenty of quality time with their parents.

When it comes to play, parents should not feel honor-bound to participate in exactly what their kids want to do, said Clark, who now lives in Seattle and has written a dozen primarily family-focused books.

Like it or not, the bigger question, she said, is whether parents have forgotten how to play altogether in these stressed-out, overbooked times, when dropping kids off at classes or other structured activities prevails, along with loads of time-eating homework.

"I'm totally shocked when I'll do a parenting seminar and I'll do something as simple as say, 'Why don't you play hide and seek in your house?' and people look at me and they'll go, 'What? I never thought of playing hide and seek in our house,'" Clark said. "I'm not asking them to construct a model of the Eiffel Tower or anything."

Quality time, she suggested, doesn't have to mean a hated board game or endlessly pretending you're a cat. It can mean a trip to the hardware store, if done with spirit — and even TV, something parents may depend on a little too much during school breaks.

One weekend ahead of the Tony Awards, her theater-loving family spent an afternoon drawing the New York skyline on a huge length of butcher paper and taped it to the wall. They taped down red construction paper for a red carpet leading to the TV room, bought sparkling cider and dressed in their fanciest clothes for the broadcast.

"As long as kids have your full attention, it can be as simple as taking the dog for a walk together or getting a bird feeder and reading about how to attract birds," Clark said.

Parents shouldn't feel guilty for not liking certain games or a particular type of play, agreed Rita Eichenstein, a developmental psychologist in Los Angeles.

"Your child will know how you are feeling, no matter how much you fake it, so it's best to create games and activities that you both find fun," she said.

In addition to developmental benefits for kids, play can reawaken and relax parts of parents' brains that help them live more in the moment, where children naturally dwell, Eichenstein said.

When a parent has to suck it up and play something they're not into, Clark suggests setting a timer for 15 or 20 minutes, or establish a special time of the week that's "kid choice."

Motivational coach Darah Zeledon in Plantation Acres, Fla., is the mom of five, ranging from 5 to 12, and acknowledges she has trouble unplugging if the laundry, dishes and spilled cat litter aren't dealt with.

"It saddens me to be this way because I recognize that this window is short and time is fleeting, and for not much longer will my kids be begging me to play with them," she said.

She's honest with her kids about it, though, and works to remain approachable.

"My kids always tell me what they're feeling, even and especially when they're pissed at me for not taking the time to play with them," Zeledon said.

Patrick Lee, in the central Missouri city of Ashland, raised four daughters and fostered two sons. "I played some, but I didn't need to be their playmate all the time and I certainly didn't feel guilty about it," he said, noting he worked from home during much of their upbringing and his wife homeschooled.



Think beyond gift bags and bows when wrapping gifts



FAMILY FUN
Email Joan Huff at foodetcmrt@aol.com.

Cookies are baked, the house is cleaned, cards have been mailed — but have you wrapped all your gifts? This last, necessary item to check off your list might consist of paper, ribbon and bows. To make it interesting, have some fun and try some of these creative ideas. You may never look at everyday items the same when you consider their alternative potential. I know I won't.

■ Use white paper, attach some crayons, and stamp the words "Color Me." This will keep small children busy as they wait to open their gift. Or use green construction paper and cut out a green tree. Glue it to the white paper and attach a package of stickers. Stamp the words "Decorate Me."

■ Use the stamp pad on brown paper with Christmas stamps such as a reindeer or Christmas tree. Red pom poms can be hot-glued to the reindeer to make Rudolph wrap or various decorations can be hot glued to make Christmas trees.

■ Hot glue googly eyes and a red nose to make a reindeer package or decorate white paper to look like a snowman.

■ Using the ribbon on your package, attach a jingle bell. (This works well as an alarm that makes noise when children — or grown-ups — try to sneak a peek at their gifts.)

■ Make countdown tags so a child can tear them off each day until Christmas.

■ Your stamp pad can also come in handy to embellish the gift with a person's name or initials.

■ Cut out the back pocket from a pair of jeans and hot glue it to white or brown wrapping paper. Use it as a pocket to include a gift card or a simple candy cane for decoration.

■ For the traveler in your life, pull out the old atlas that you may not be using anymore and tear out the pages to use as gift wrap. Tie with brown string for a vintage appearance and write on it "Joy to the World." Or, print out black and white travel pictures and use as your decoration on brown paper.

■ Music lovers will appreciate gifts wrapped in sheet music or you could stamp musical notes on solid paper to use as the wrapping.

■ Find unique containers at the craft store such as Chinese take-out boxes or various shaped tins.

■ To label the gifts, print out a photograph of the recipient and put it on the top.

■ If someone on your list enjoys word games, use wooden scrabble squares to write their name or a special sentiment.

■ Fill a mitten with small items, tie up gifts in scarves or fleece blankets.

■ For the person who enjoys sewing, use Christmas fabric to make simple bags and fill them with your gift. Or, wrap your package and use vintage ribbons, lace, buttons and strands of pom poms to embellish. If using white or brown paper, use a marker to write words that appear to be stitched.

■ Grandparents would love gift wrapping paper that has been stamped with their grandchild's foot or handprint.

■ Gardeners may enjoy a bucket filled with their favorite small garden tools and seed packets tied on the top.

■ Initials can be cut out of sandpaper for the tool lover. Or, draw around various tools with a sharpie on paper to make your own do-it-yourself paper.

■ Use black paper to appear like a chalk board. Write with a white paint pen various sentiments and include "to and from" so no extra card is needed.

■ Toilet paper or paper towel holders can be used as a stamp to make circles of paint on paper.

■ Just as easy, use cookie cutters (after you have finished baking) as stamps in paint to create various shapes on paper.

■ Last year's Christmas cards can be hot glued on the front of packages for an elegant appearance.

■ Candy such as peppermints can become letters for example: "Joy" — write the "j" and "y" and use a round candy for the "o."

■ Canning jars can hold all types of small gifts.

■ Book lovers would enjoy a library card as a gift label.

■ Using glue, write "Merry Christmas" or a special sentiment and fill in with colorful string.

Christmases past often color feelings of the season



FAMILY MATTERS
Jim May, Ph.D., is director of the Family Wellness Center

DEAR READERS: Christmas is here again. For some it is a time of great joy and excitement. For others it is a time of sadness, loneliness, disappointment, agitation, stress and often depression. The sources of these season-induced undesired feelings are many and varied. However, a common source is the Christmases experienced in our family of origin.

During this season I have found it very helpful to write about my feelings, whatever they are. Our conscious mind will typically try to protect us from past pain. However, it is rarely able to completely block feelings of Christmases past. In Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," Scrooge is confronted with the visions of Christmases past, present and future. Happily this powerful one-night's experience changed his life. He became the person that God had intended for him to be.

The ghosts of Christmases past often present themselves in feeling form this time of the year. We may not get as direct a visual and physical intervention as Scrooge, but many of us will get a direct unwanted emotional intervention. This ghost is often the source of depression for many at Christmas — the pain and disappointments from childhood Christmases.

Instead of fighting the feeling, I have found it to be helpful to accept and embrace the reality of the feeling. Rather than hiding under the covers like Scrooge, going directly to the pain often helps identify long-standing issues. I am very partial to writing about feelings as a direct path to the pain. Through such writing, or journaling, we can often become aware of the actual sources of our feelings. They are grounded in our reality at the time of the experience — in alcoholism, disappointment, loss, grief and fear. Why would we try to bring up the pain rather than avoiding it? Because, as Fredrick Buechner writes, "It is through memory (writing) that we are able to reclaim much of our lives … by finding that in everything that has happened to us over the years God was offering us possibilities of new life and healing which, though we may have missed them at the time, we can still choose and be brought to life by and healed by all these years later."

If you are experiencing unexplained feelings that seem inconsistent with the season I would encourage you to consider writing about your feelings. Give your inner feelings a vehicle for expression — a safe way to speak out. We do not have to stay trapped with the ghost of Christmases past, rather we can do as Scrooge did and create a new and wonderful ghost for Christmas future for ourselves and our loved ones.

Another one of the feelings that often presents itself is a sadness or hurt associated with gift giving and/or receiving. I would like to share a story about Christmas that speaks about gift giving and what it can mean. In the beautiful short story, "The Gift of the Magi," O. Henry captures the essence of the spirit of giving. He tells of a young married couple, Jim and Della Young, who had little money but each had one most prized possession — Jim's gold watch that had been his father's and grandfather's, and Della's beautiful brown hair that fell below her knees.

On this special Christmas, Della cut off her beautiful hair in order to sell it and buy a watch fob chain for her husband's prized watch. Unknown to Della, Jim had sold his watch in order to buy Della a set of beautiful combs for her hair.

O. Henry writes, "The magi, as you know were wise men — wonderfully wise men — who brought gifts to the Babe in the manger. They invented the art of giving Christmas presents. Being wise their gifts were no doubt wise ones, possibly bearing the privilege of exchange in case of duplication.

"And here I have lamely related to you the uneventful chronicle of two foolish children in a flat who most unwisely sacrificed for each other the greatest treasures of their house. But in a last word to the wise of these days let it be said that of all who give and receive gifts, such as they are the wisest. Everywhere they are wisest. They are magi."

A final thought regarding this same supernatural process expressed in human form that O. Henry observed. The incredible mystery of the birth of Jesus — God coming to earth as a human — is the reason we celebrate. As Henri Nouwen observes, "A greater displacement cannot be conceived. The mystery of the incarnation is that God assumed the condition of a suffering human being. Thus God became a displaced God to whom nothing human was alien; a God who could fully experience the brokenness of our human condition ... Jesus Christ is the displaced Lord in whom God's compassion becomes flesh. In him we see a life of displacement lived to the fullest. It is in following our displaced Lord that the Christian community is formed."

Merry Christmas!

Distraught daughter won't let couple tie the knot



DEAR ABBY
Universal Press Syndicate

DEAR ABBY: I'm 50 and my boyfriend, "Ray," is 55. We have been together for 11 years. He's divorced with two children. I am single and childless. We owned our own homes until a year ago, when we sold them and bought a house together. We each pay half the bills including the mortgage. We love each other, get along great, have similar values and can't imagine not being together.

My problem is I want to get married. Ray does too, but his 20-year-old daughter isn't ready for it yet. She and I get along fine, but she gets very stressed and cries when the topic is mentioned. I told Ray I think she has learned from her childhood that crying enables her to get her way. But Ray insists she has anxiety issues, and he's afraid she will hurt herself if we get married. I say we should just do it and hope that, eventually, she accepts it.

Counseling is out of the question for her. She won't go. Ray and I did go for advice about this. The counselor agreed that his daughter needs counseling, but we can't "make" her go. My question is, is Ray ever going to marry me? Any suggestions on what we should do? — CONFUSED IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR CONFUSED: If Ray waits for his daughter's blessing, it may take another 11 years for her to give it — if she ever does. You and Ray should get more counseling to help him find the strength to stop allowing his troubled daughter to rule his life.

DEAR ABBY: My hog-mouth husband and I are having an ongoing disagreement about food. When there is special food in the house, something we both like, he feels free to eat as much of it as he wants without leaving any for me. His argument is that if it's around for several days — even if it's frozen — I have had "plenty of time to get my share." I feel it shouldn't be up to him to tell me how much to eat, and when.

He weighs almost twice as much as I do, and eats accordingly. It's particularly upsetting if I have invested hours in the preparation of a dish, only to find it's gone when I want my second helping. I think he is being inconsiderate at best. Am I wrong? — WHERE'S MY BEEF?

DEAR WHERE'S: I don't think so. Your husband is behaving like a selfish child. If you have been cooking in large quantities, try preparing only enough for two portions for a while — a long while.

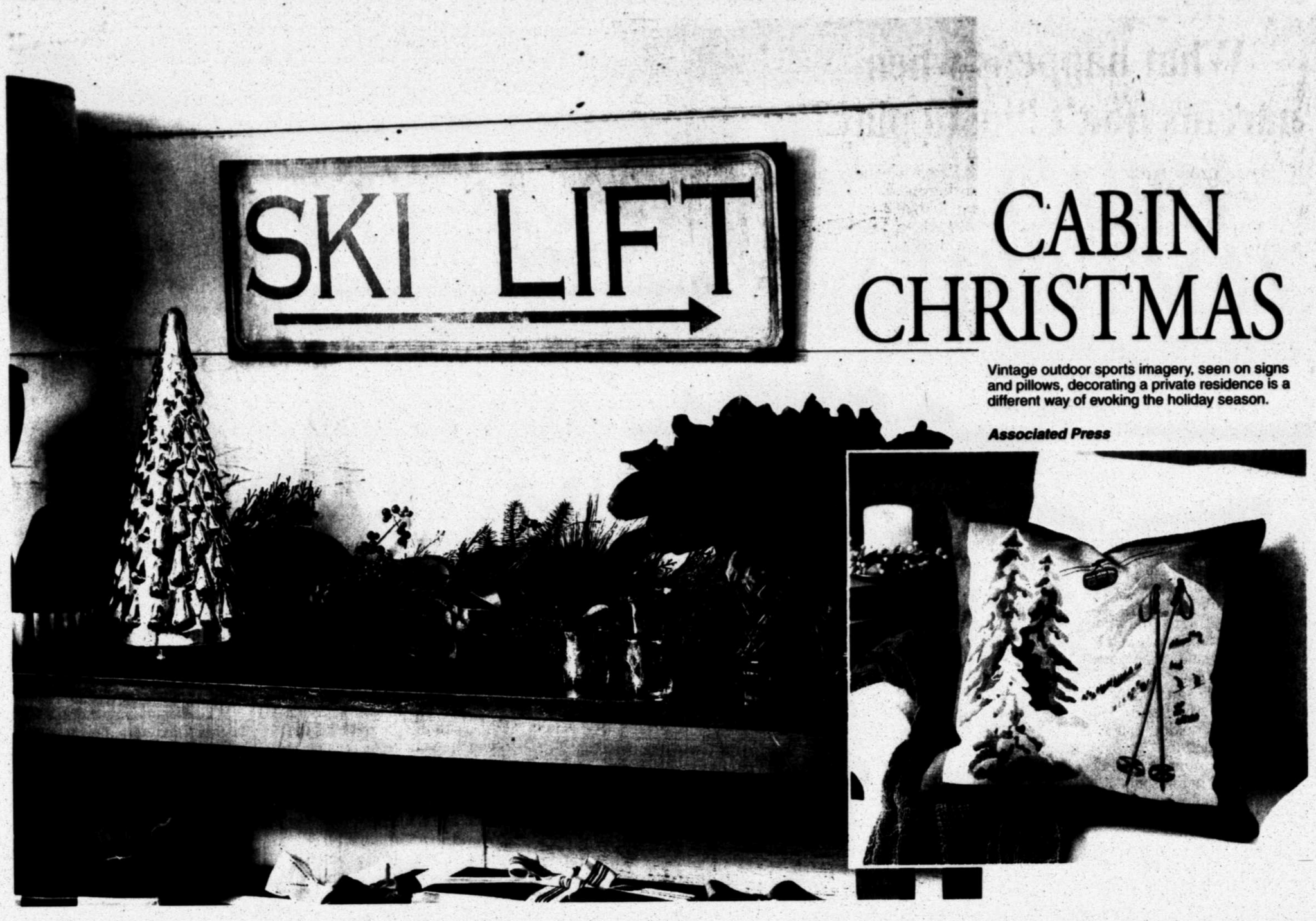
DEAR ABBY: My 30-year-old niece passed away, leaving a 7-year-old daughter. Her grieving husband found a married woman two months later. She divorced her second husband, and now all three of them are living together.

Abby, the little girl is not allowed to tell anyone that her mommy died and has to tell all her friends that her father's new girlfriend is her mom. Is it right to keep her from talking about her mommy? — MARIA FROM TEXAS

DEAR MARIA: Of course not! While the father and his girlfriend might wish to erase the child's mother from her memory, she is old enough to always remember not only that her mother died, but also that her father and this woman want to bury the fact that she ever existed. That child needs to talk about her mother, and to forbid it will cause problems when she is older. Count on it.

DEAR ABBY: I work with several women who are Hispanic. They are all very nice and I love working with them. The problem is when they are together they speak Spanish. I do not understand a word they say, so I am left out of the conversation. How can I let them know how rude I think this is? — LEFT OUT IN TEXAS

DEAR LEFT OUT: Say it in English, and if they are as nice as you say they are, they will make an effort to include you.



CABIN CHRISTMAS

Vintage outdoor sports imagery, seen on signs and pillows, decorating a private residence is a different way of evoking the holiday season.

Associated Press

Holiday, winter decorations take on rustic vibe

By Kim Cook
Associated Press

Stores are full of colorful ornaments and sparkly decor that set the holiday tone with glamour and panache.

But there's also decor for those who prefer to welcome the season with more homespun serenity.

Many of these items reference nature with quiet wintry hues and rustic textures. You can imagine fireplaces ablaze, skis and skates at the ready and cozy lodges set up for holiday gatherings.

"We love all the adorable woodland-themed decorations on everything from pillows and throws to ornaments and tableware," says HGTV Magazine's Sara Peterson.

Collections of these creatures — deer, foxes, bears and so on — are available in any number of crafted forms: bottlebrush squirrels, raccoons and hedgehogs at Pottery Barn, faux fur and fiber owls and moose at West Elm. (www.potterybarn.com; www.westelm.com)

Plaid mitten, heart and tree ornaments are part of Target's Smith & Hawken holiday collection. (www.target.com)

"Advent garlands are popular this year too. Garlands with fabric pouches that count down to Christmas, or a string of colorful envelopes," said Peterson.

German designer Irmi Black makes a knitted-mitten Advent garland; small treats can be tucked in each mitten and the garland can be used as an organizer after the holidays. Target's Threshold Rustic Advent Calendar is a veritable mini-cabin, complete with tiny drawers printed with snowflakes, trees and seasonal patterns. (www.etsy.com/shop/irmiblack)

If you're crafty, consider making your own garland. Stamp kits, swatches of fabric and felt, and a ball or two of wool will set you on your way. (www.michaels.com; www.joann.com)

A collection of wooden trees to decorate a tabletop or mantel can be found at Homegoods, as well as some cozy Fair Isle-patterned throws with a ski chalet vibe. (www.homegoods.com)

Fill large clear hurricanes with tin jingle bells, birch branches or white painted twigs, or make a non-edible version of holiday trifle with layers of faux snow or moss and tiny red ornaments.

Arhaus has pillar candles in cream and dove gray that are carved to look like cable knit sleeves. Felted throw pillows embroidered with deer, rabbits and other forest friends add charm. Find chunky knit throws here, too. (www.arhaus.com)

North Pole flannel bedding from Garnet Hill depicts Santa's snowy home complete with cocoa stands, reindeer barns and sled shops. Ikea's Annbritt collection includes woolly blankets, plaid cushions and duvet covers in rich reds. (www.garnethill.com; www.ikea.com)

Or evoke the chalet vibe with canoe and lumberjack ornaments. The old camp standard Stanley Thermos is updated in green, red or ivory — perfect for skating or sledding parties. (www.westelm.com)

Artist Rachel Kozlowski's imaginative plates have found a following beyond her Etsy.com fans; she's featured at West Elm this season with a collection of Dapper Animal plates: bears with trapper hats, owls in plaid shirts and other whimsical designs. At her Etsy shop, a plate features a moose emerging from a woodsy plaid background. (www.etsy.com/shop/RKArtwork)

If you'd like to take the chalet theme in a more literal direction, consider decorating with actual skis and snowboards. The artwork on many snowboards has great graphic oomph. Use a board as the focal point for a mantel display, adding ornaments or pine rope to reference the holidays. (www.ridesnowboards.com; www.k2snowboarding.com)

Or consider a bronze-finished ski door knocker or a retro-style "Ski Lift" sign, as well as ski tourism posters and throw pillows with 1940s-era, ski-resort postcard art. (www.potterybarn.com)

Doors that pop: Rethinking entranceway color

By Diana Marszalek
Associated Press

When Tracy Proctor Williamson bought her house in Larchmont, N.Y., a year ago, it was "just a kind of dark and sad-looking building."

The front door and trim were a depressing "yucky cream color," said Williamson. The town assessor categorized the architecture of the two-story brick home simply as "old style."

Since then, Williamson has tried to bring the house back to life, most notably by boosting its mood with a sun-kissed yellow front door. "At first I was horrified because I thought the neighbors would hate me," she said. "But I like it. It makes me feel really good."

Painting the front door a color that packs a punch is one of the quickest and easiest ways to change a house's look and help it stand out from the rest.

"It's the difference between choosing classic red or something that has a little bit of fuchsia in it — something more like the color you love," said Kate Smith, a Newport, R.I., color consultant.

"Just that little bit of color can give you the lift that makes everything look better."

Smith — whose job includes advising everyone from paint companies to the film industry on color choices — says homeowners like Williamson are making the right move by making bland front doors bold. As the entryway to your home, a front door should be an attention-getter, she said.

"You want it to be the focal point," she said. Emphasizing the front door can "improve the look of the entire house."

Smith tells people selling their homes that if they "can't do anything else, put some time and energy into your front door."

The trick, however, is getting it right; it can be a fine line between bold, eye-catching color and neon that looks better on paper than on doors or walls.

Smith advises choosing a front-door color that jibes with your home's other features, starting with the style and color of the roof. The colors of fixed features, such as window grids, as well as trim and shutters should also be considered. So should a home's architectural style.

Derek Fielding, who oversees product development for the door manufacturer Therma-Tru, sees a trend toward colorful front doors and spiced-up entryways.

"People don't want that cookie-cutter look that comes with having the same door that's on everybody else's house," Fielding said.



Associated Press

Bold colors are becoming increasingly popular options for front doors. Color expert Kate Smith predicts we'll see more homes with doors painted in tropical blues, energetic oranges and deep purples in 2014.

Besides adding color, homeowners are opting for doors with different textures, more ornamental detail and decorative glass, he said.

"It's all about curb appeal and perceived value," Fielding said. "If you look at a neighborhood and every house has a six-panel door that is black, the one that is painted red is going to pop."

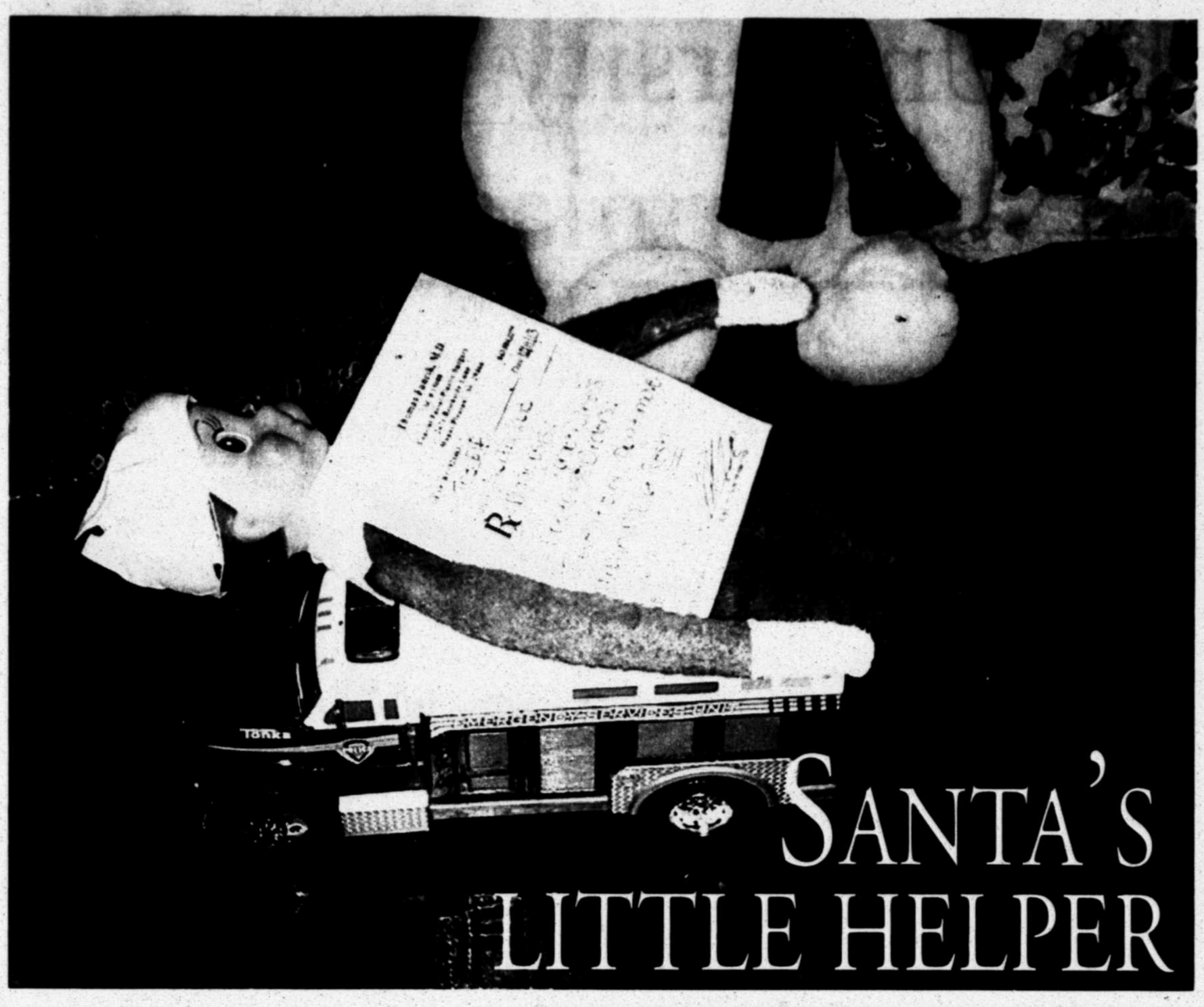
Smith says the most popular front-door colors this year among homeowners who want to make a statement are tropical blues, vibrant oranges, violet, mustards and plums. Those who want to perk things up but stay more subdued are choosing blues a notch brighter than navy, warm reds and classic grays, she says.

Williamson worried initially that painting her door bright yellow was going to make her house "look like a bumblebee," but that in fact "the lemon yellow is really nice," particularly on gray days.

"I just decided that if some people don't like it, I don't care," Williamson said. "It makes me happy."







A bandaged elf from the Elf on the Shelf with a prescription rests by the Christmas tree Dec. 11 in the Boerman home in Charleston, S.C. Kim Boerman procured a doctor's prescription after the elf fell from the chandelier during dinner.

Kim Boerman/AP



Parents admit to Elf on the Shelf fails

By Leanne Italie
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Carly Kerby, a mom of four girls, doesn't have the greatest track record as the Tooth Fairy, but it was another family tradition that nearly did her in: The Elf on the Shelf.

In case you've been hitting the egg nog a little too hard all these years, the elf is a big seller. It involves a picture book and a stuffed, felt elf that serves as a scout for Santa and has to be moved stealthily every night, traditionally around Thanksgiving until Christmas Eve.

The elf's mission? To report back to the boss in red on who's been naughty or nice. After eight years on the market, more than 6 million of the kits, book and elf, have been sold, and it has climbed high on best-seller lists, with two sexes and different skin tones now available.

Kerby, in Salt Lake City, thought it sounded like fun when she took it on last Christmas.

"My first epic mistake was not knowing that a female elf existed," she said. "My daughters were devastated that their elf was a boy and not a girl. Heaven forbid we have anything boy-related in our house. It went downhill from there."

She forgot to move it for days and days. And her youngest, at 18 months, loves to grab it King Kong-style, a no-no by elf rules.

"Everyone here freaks out because they read the book and it says if you touch it the magic is gone," Kerby said. "It really creates a lot of drama, but with four daughters,. everything is drama!"

While, clearly, millions of people enjoy their elves on shelves, a backlash has bubbled up. There are anti-elf rants on Facebook and raunchy, bawdy and bloody visuals on Tumblr and Instagram. One photo circulating shows a green Grinch hat tied to the head of a large dog with one of those damning cardboard signs around his neck that reads: "I ate your Elf on the Shelf."

Kim Boerman in Charleston, S.C., has pulled hard elf duty with her 12-year-old daughter. There was the time it barely escaped their German shepherd, Myka, and another time it fell from the chandelier during dinner as it hung upside down.

She procured a doctor's prescription that states: "To Elf, address North Pole. Doctors orders: Take it easy, don't move around a lot ... rest!" Boerman and her husband even threw in a head bandage for the little guy before planting him under their Christmas tree with a toy ambulance for the duration.

Kerby said she had tons on her holiday to-do list before adding the elf, but mishaps aside, "it's quite fun for our little girls and a nice tradition."

The Elf on the Shelf — you get to name it — was born in 2005 as a self-published labor of love from Carol Aebersold and daughters Chanda Bell and Christa Pitts, co-founders of Creatively Classic Activities and Books. The company is dedicated to promoting and distributing the storybook and elf, recently launching its first sequel, a birthday elf and book. A dollar for every birthday kit sold goes to a charity working to provide clean drinking water in more than 20 countries.

"Every-year we continue to be amazed and blessed with the fan response," Aebersold said in a statement, put out after their creation recently claimed the No. 1 spot on USA Today's best-seller list for the first time.

Other companies have gotten in on the game, including the makers of "Maccabee on the Mantel," which includes a snuggly plush soldier for Hanukkah. And Aebersold's company now offers games, a movie, elf couture, an elf registry online and elf adoptions in select locations around the country.

Meaghan B. Murphy isn't ho-ho-hoing. As deputy editor of SELF magazine, the busy and tired mom of three kids — ages 3, 20 months and 4 months — is on elf duty with her husband.

"The elf is the bane of my December," she said. "Her name is Arielle. She wears a Target-exclusive sparkly tutu that cost like 15 bucks. She has two. I can barely remember to brush my teeth, let alone hide her nightly or do an outfit change."

The fact that she forgot to move the elf usually hits around 3 a.m., while she's feeding her newborn. "At which point I run downstairs only to discover that I can't reach her because my husband who is 6-foot-3 hid her the night before on the ledge of crown molding 12 feet high," Murphy said. "I then peg her with things in the dark until I finally knock her down, at which point I hide her someplace glaringly lame."

She knows an elf supermom or two. Their Facebook feeds are hard to ignore, Murphy said.

"I have a friend who staged a marshmallow snowball fight between the elf and 'Monsters Inc.' (characters)," she said. "Honestly, I don't think my kids give a crap. They're more excited about the chocolates in their Advent calendars."



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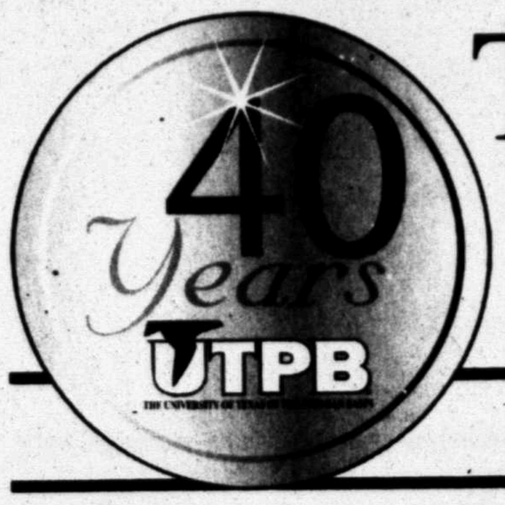
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Congratulations Fall 2013 Graduates!

Presentation of the Candidates - 10:00 a.m. Ceremony
Baccalaureate Degrees - College of Arts and Sciences

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Art
* Lyne V. Brown — Midland TX
* Sue Ann Vyda Daniel — Midland TX

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Child and Family Studies
* Whitney Shae Creekmore — Odessa TX
Jennifer Leigh Daniel — Midland TX
Amber Dawn Davis — Odessa TX
* Sally Quintanilla Dominguez — Midland TX
Jami Lyn Gatewood — Odessa TX
Judith Owusu Gyimah — Wylie TX
Jessica Renee James — Midland TX
Flor B. Lara — Plains TX
* Alexa Jo Luck — Midland TX
Megan Marie Mansell — Odessa TX
Annette Prieto Martinez — Odessa TX
Elsie Pallanes — Midland TX
Tiffany Mari Rodriguez — Odessa TX
* Frieda Kay Rowe — Andrews TX
Christie Michelle Williams — Midland TX

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Communication
* John Aaron Braze — Los Gatos CA
* David M. Holmes — Austin TX
Orlando Leshawn Rule — Midland TX
Benjamin Paul Spencer — Midland TX
Jared Aaron Wilson — Odessa TX

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Criminology
* John Martin Flores — Odessa TX
Danielle S. Maphis — Odessa TX
Anna Marie Mendez-Bernal — Odessa TX
Jessi Raylene Montez — Midland TX
Naomi M. Perez — El Paso TX
Mark Anthony Varela — Odessa TX

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Criminal Justice
* Amanda M. Howard — Seminole TX
Ramon Piña Lujan, Jr. — Pecos TX

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in English
Christopher Robert Bartlett — Odessa TX
Brance Stuart Davis — Odessa TX
* Dillon Colter Gerald — Andrews TX
Ashlea Elizabeth Humphreys — Odessa TX
Vikki Tercero Marquez — Crane TX
Kody Shane Morris — Midland TX
* Rae Xenophon Piazza — Midland TX
Christopher Morris Zamora — Odessa TX

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in History
* Crystal Deann Alexander — Odessa TX
Tiffany Arianne Barrera — Odessa TX
* Karrah Nicole McCrary — Odessa TX
* Iris Leigh Minor — Midland TX
Rueben Rodriguez Ochoa — Midland TX
* Michael Lee Perkins — Odessa TX
* Blair Dean Sorsby — Odessa TX
* Ashley De Lynn Weehunt — Odessa TX

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Humanities
Christopher Lewis Worthington Grant — Pflugerville TX
Justin Glynn Jacobson — Richardson TX
* Richard Jonathan Lee — Dallas TX
Carlos E. Rios — San Antonio TX
* Patricia Falcon Semenov — Manor TX

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Multidisciplinary Studies
Joe Ector Carrillo, Jr. — Odessa TX
Shelley Lynn Carrillo — Odessa TX
* Veronica Lisa Casas — Odessa TX
* Victoria Marie Cerda — Odessa TX
Myrna Lopez Diaz — Odessa TX
Leslianne Ericson — El Paso TX
Ihenytzel Aline Fernandez — Presidio TX
Alejandra Galindo — Midland TX
Amanda Cheyenne Garcia — Crane TX
Aimee Louise Herman — Midland TX
* Shannon McNamara Huston — Midland TX
Holly Lynn Kincheloe — Odessa TX
Alicia May — Andrews TX
Ileana Alexandra Meraz Bravo — Midland TX
* Heather Diane Overmiller — Midland TX
Alyssia Danielle Simmons — Midland TX
* Kelsie Ann Taylor — Midland TX
Samara Amanda Terrazas — Ft. Stockton TX
* Rossy Y. Tirado — Andrews TX
* Mayra Rosario Venegas Reynoso — Crane TX
* Amanda Renee Welsh — Midland TX

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Political Science
Daniel Chase Frost — Odessa TX
Julio Cesar Gonzalez — Odessa TX
Robert Shane Griego — Midland TX
* Saige T'Rae Lee — Brownfield TX
Raymond Oliver Williams — Midland TX

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Music
Adrian Carlos Rios — Houston TX

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Psychology
Taniqua Porsche Catheryn Ards — Lubbock TX
Kaecye Brook Bedell — Odessa TX
* Hally Renee Fonseca-Bell — Midland TX
Chelsea Lee Ann Garcia — Odessa TX
Carrie LaNell Kennedy — Odessa TX
Yvonne Landeros — Seminole TX
* Jaime Hernandez Lopez — Odessa TX
Norma Marie Luna — Odessa TX
Caitlyn Cheyenne Macias — Stanton TX
Lisa Marie Martin — Austin TX
Christina Guadalupe Parra — Odessa TX
* Crystal Dawn Peters — Midland TX
Kristina Monique Robles — Odessa TX
Tiffany Mari Rodriguez — Odessa TX
Samuel McGuire Romero — Odessa TX
Kelli Michele Thummel — Monahans TX
Christina M. Wheeler — Odessa TX

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Sociology
Tracy Marie Hernandez — Midland TX
* Annette Hamilton McCrary — Yantis TX
Yvonne Evadnie Spence-Cameron — Houston TX
Joe Dean Whitley, Jr. — Odessa TX
Elisapeta Sionenda Yandall — Long Beach CA

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Spanish
* Ileana Esparza — Andrews TX
Yurissa Hernandez — Odessa TX
Lizeth Huerta-Galindo — Kermit TX
Pricila Lara — Odessa TX
Yvonne Lugo Lozoya — Odessa TX
Daniel G. Lujan — Odessa TX
* Trancito M. Morrison — Midland TX
Lorena Pacheco Ochoa — Midland TX
Maira A. Sifuentes — Midland TX

Graduate Degrees - College of Arts and Sciences

Master of Arts with a Major in Applied Research Psychology
Kimberley Sue Elkins — Cloudcroft NM

Master of Arts with a Major in Clinical Psychology
Lyndsay Anne Freeman — Midland TX
Robert J. Gonzalez — Odessa TX
LaUrsha Marnell White — Midland TX

Master of Science with a Major in Criminal Justice Administration
Jerry Paul Harvell — Odessa TX
Joseph Millard Smith — Lamesa TX

Master of Arts with a Major in History
Judy Beth Madison — Stanton TX

Master of Public Administration - emphasis in Leadership
Mylinda Jo Allen — Odessa TX
Rachelle Mae Arzadon — Odessa TX
Matthew Shawn Cottrell — Odessa TX
Belsora B. Heredia — Odessa TX
Katherine Nicole Phillips — Odessa TX
Luis D. Sánchez — Midland TX
Johnny Evan Womack — Midland TX

Master of Arts with a Major in Spanish
Noé Salatiel Cerezo — Odessa TX
Teresa T. Hermosillo — Odessa TX
Enrique Vargas — Odessa TX

College of Education
Master of Arts with a Major in Counseling
Joneisha La'Shay Anderson — Odessa TX
Melinda Rangel — Ft. Stockton TX

Master of Arts with a Major in Educational Leadership
Andrea Nicole Arnold — Odessa TX
Haley M'Lee Goodman — Midland TX
Brandi Machelle Moore — Monahans TX
Samantha N. Villarreal — Odessa TX

Master of Arts with a Major in Professional Education
Jonathan Grant Brown — Odessa TX
Jay Dee Burns — Midland TX
Milagros Gonzalez Carrasco — Midland TX
Karen Lynn Haynes — Wink TX
Linda Burrus Hill — Midland TX
Jennifer Christine Oso — Odessa TX
Suzanne Leslie Rowland — Andrews TX

Master of Arts with a Major in Special Education
Dollye Renae Cura — Rankin TX
Marissa Dawn King — Odessa TX
Lucinda A. Magee — Goldsmith TX
Ruth A. Merino — Midland TX
Anissa M'Lynne Riley — Katy TX
Angela Dawn Vaughn — Andrews TX

Doctor of Education–Educational Leadership
Ian R. Roark — Midland TX

Presentation of the Candidates - 2:00 pm Ceremony
Baccalaureate Degrees - College of Arts and Sciences

Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences
* Bryan Wayne Gentry — Midland TX
Miranda A. Hinojos — Odessa TX
Robert Ray Paredes — Odessa TX
* Randi Michelle Young — Odessa TX

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Economics
Michael Joseph Briseno — Odessa TX
Thomas Alan Pitt — Midland TX

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Athletic Training
Krista Lynn Elkins — Odessa TX
Ruben Ivan Guerrero — Presidio TX
Raelyn Rose Ramirez — Andrews TX

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Biology
Norberto S. Aguilar — Odessa TX
Fidel David Banuelos — Odessa TX
* Michael Aaron Berdoza — Midland TX
Yadira Bustamante — Midland TX
Heather Mendoza Dominguez — Odessa TX
* Anna Elizabeth Hollingsworth — Lago Vista TX
Crystal Jennay Ikeler — Odessa TX
Alan G. Ramirez — Midland TX
Jose Antonio Ramirez-Bravo — Big Spring TX

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Computer Science
* Tomie Leanna Ellard — Odessa TX
Estevan Juan Flores — Andrews TX
Wilson Barrett Hamilton — Odessa TX
Esgard D. Jimenez — Odessa TX
David Anthony Krause — Odessa TX
Luciano Adan Mireles — Midland TX

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Geology
* Clair Rae Gonzales — Big Spring TX
Melinda Elaine Martinez — Odessa TX
Tom Manuel Pineda — Odessa TX

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Information Systems
Alma J. Garcia-Gamboa — Odessa TX
Anthony Christopher Garcia — Odessa TX
* Joseph Karl Moses Grawburg — Crane TX
Ramiro M. Guerra — Odessa TX

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Kinesiology
* Roxana Celine Bridges — Odessa TX
Katie Allison Cruz — Crane TX
Isaac Noel Diaz — Lamesa TX
Teika L. Dorethy — Odessa TX
Leigh Ann Fierro — Midland TX
Gabriella Nicole Garcia — Pecos TX
Danylle C. Hale — Odessa TX
Ryne P. Head — Canyon TX
Analiesé Rose Herrera — Midland TX
Travis Garrett Jones — Odessa TX
Shayla Dynette Neptune — Odessa TX
Victoria Marie Ramirez — Midland TX
Nicole Marie Rodine — Carmichael CA
Abbey Ramirez Rodriguez — Odessa TX
Tiana J'nice Townsend — Maywood IL
* Travis M. Wilcox — El Centro CA

Bachelor of Science with a Major in Mathematics
Teresa Holly Byrom — Midland TX
Miriam Jazmin Lopez Trejo — Odessa TX
Daniela Rodriguez — Ft. Stockton TX
Breigh Delanie Shotwell — Alvin TX
Patrick Wayne Wilkerson — Odessa TX

College of Business and Engineering
Bachelor of Business Administration with a Major in Accountancy
Gabriela Alvarez-Lomeli — Odessa TX
* Charlotte Ann Boyd — Midland TX
Edna G. Franco — Odessa TX
Martha Gail Greer — Odessa TX
William Dayton Harris — Midland TX
Madeleine Bea Hopkins — Midland TX
Lauren Jerrice Johnston — Midland TX
Krysta Nicole Kennedy — Midland TX
Esmeralda Martinez — Andrews TX
Stephanie Bolivar Martinez — Midland TX
Mauro Montoya — Midland TX
Tissie Jeanae Perez — Midland TX
Maria Beatriz Price — Odessa TX
Samuel James Primera — Odessa TX
Kayla Marie Richardson — Odessa TX
Miriam Madrid Vasquez — Andrews TX
* Mariana Venegas — Andrews TX

Bachelor of Business Administration - Major in Finance
Thomas James Candelaria — Midland TX
Evelyn Hernandez — Eunice NM

Bachelor of Business Administration - Major in Management
Matthew Glenn Belt — Odessa TX
Seth Thomas Blackstone — Odessa TX
Dakota Sage Bramblette — Odessa TX
James Randall Brooks — Midland TX
Brenda Leticia Campa — Odessa TX
* Lisa Dawn Davis — McKinney TX
* Paul Louis Eaton — Odessa TX
* Sylvia Espinoza — Odessa TX
Gina Lee Garcia — Odessa TX
* Dalia Marquez Hemphill — Odessa TX
Mattie Mariah Jenkins — Seminole TX
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* Vanessa D. Pope — Odessa TX
Nicolas Brandon Reyes — Odessa TX
Michael Cosme Scown — Odessa TX
William George Weekly — Odessa TX
Austin Browne Williams — Odessa TX

Bachelor of Business Administration- Major in Marketing
Christina Ryann Ellsworth — Odessa TX
Fabian U. Franco — Odessa TX
Abelita-Rose Freeland — Odessa TX
Brooke Dejon Patterson — Odessa TX
Amanda Crystal Perez — Odessa TX
Justin Craig Ramirez — Odessa TX
* Jamie Lynne Roberts — Midland TX

Bachelor of Science- Major in Industrial Technology
Ryan Raphael Martinez — Midland TX
* Alan Eduardo Quiñonez — Midland TX
Dylan Colter Slaughter — Granbury TX

Bachelor of Science - Major in Mechanical Engineering
Jack Meredith Murphy, III — Midland TX

Bachelor of Science - Major in Petroleum Engineering
David Elijah Baccus — Midland TX
Brandie Eudora Biffle — Midland TX
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Chad Allen Rice — Midland TX
* Sam Sidney Robbins — Midland TX

Graduate Degrees
College of Arts and Sciences

Master of Arts with a Major in Mathematics
John W. Williams — Midland TX

Master of Science with a Major in t
Robert Andrew Bergman — Midland TX
Nathaniel Guy Callicoatte — Midland TX
Jonathan Patrick Repman — Midland TX
Joshua Joseph Russo — Midland TX

Master of Science with a Major in Kinesiology
Kimberly Christeen Berry — Plainview TX
Holly Elizabeth Schoettlin — Kingwood TX

College of Business and Engineering
Master of Business Administration
Ashley Lynn Abbott — Midland TX
Tunde Adewuni Ajibade — Odessa TX
Daniel Malachi Bernal — Midland TX
Brandi Raschel Burkart — Midland TX
Reen Ann Downing — Irving TX
Tamim Ghith — Fort Myers FL
Case Bryan Gilliam — Midland TX
Cortney Marie McAnaw — Waco TX
Tyler Alan Milam — Midland TX
Amy Marie Ricks — Midland TX
Penny Orlene Segura — McKinney TX
Elizabeth Solis — Midland TX
Bailie Ann Summers — Midland TX
Elizabeth Ann Wallace — Odessa TX

Master of Professional Accountancy
Seth Thomas Boles — Midland TX
Charlotte Ann Boyd — Midland TX
Nathan Daniel Gomez — Midland TX
Xiao Han — Odessa TX
Elena Levario — Odessa TX
Mary Mata — Seminole TX
Jovi Anthony Paniagua — Coahoma TX
Purnmala Ramkissoon — Midland TX
Amy A. Randolph — Andrews TX

Note: Designation of degree candidates is based on incomplete records and is subject to change.

This page is a paid advertisement produced by The University of Texas of the Permian Basin.



ALL ABOUT THE MUSIC

Blue Max owner boosts Basin's underground music scene

It only takes a few minutes sitting at the bar at Blue Max to realize it's all about the music. Drum heads, concert posters and even a skateboard hang on the wall telling visual stories of the bands that have passed through and the music made.

Owner Erika Berry points to signatures and a sketch of a blood-shot eye covering a drum head. The autographed momento was left after a performance by The Sawyer Family — the band from Eugene, Ore., that was en route for another Blue Max show on a recent Monday afternoon.

"That kind of started that wall," Berry said, listing some of the bands she has booked to play at the bar.

Blue Max has hosted Filter, Shadows Fall, Independents — that band was managed by Joey Ramone until he died, Berry points out — Koffin Kats, Mothership and Joe Buck. The list of performers is long and spans the spectrum of genres. One show might be metal, while the next night's lineup is bluegrass or rockabilly.

"We just decided to stick with the underground music and things the bars don't use," Berry said.

With it's only-thing-in-miles-that's-not-a-warehouse location on Industrial Avenue between Midland and Odessa, the Blue Max attracts a crowd looking for shows they can't see at other, more accessible, venues.

"This is the only place here that does this," said soundman Jay Estrada. "We're the only place that does all original music all the time."

Music as therapy

Berry has owned Blue Max for two years and managed it for a year before taking it over. In January 2010, Berry was working at Fast Freddie's in Midland when she suffered a ruptured brain aneurysm.

She was getting ready for work when it happened and spent eight hours lying on her bathroom floor, drifting in and out of consciousness.

"Everyone had been trying to call me all day and luckily I was supposed to take my friend to a Pumpjack concert at Dos Amigos that night," she said. "When I didn't answer, she knew something was up and came and found me."

Berry was treated at Medical Center Hospital in Odessa and then flown to University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. After recovering at her father's farm in Dublin, she moved to Fort Worth to find work. Three months later, she moved back to the Permian Basin.

Berry started working at Blue Max in January 2011, a year after her aneurysm.

She booked the bar's first show with a regular named Bob Wayne.

Please see BLUE MAX/3F



Erika Berry, right, owner of the Blue Max, stands next to a wall with mementoes from some of the bands that have played at the bar. **TOP LEFT:** A sign inside Blue Max is surrounded by concert posters. **TOP RIGHT:** Blue Max patrons sit at the bar.

STORY BY MEGAN LEA BUCK | PHOTOS BY TIM FISCHER

'Color of Oil' exhibit on display at Ellen Noel Art Museum

By Nick Wendel

Margarete Bagshaw's mother was an artist. Her grandmother was an artist.

But she was determined to avoid the family business.

"I never thought I would be a painter," Bagshaw said. "I always wanted a 'real' job. I wanted to be a doctor, and I never went the way of art. I wanted to rebel. It wasn't until I was in my early 20s that I started painting in the middle of the night because I was pregnant and couldn't sleep. I didn't seek out an art career. It found me. It felt like destiny — I couldn't avoid it."

The Ellen Noel Art Museum in Odessa has Bagshaw's work on display in an exhibit called "The Color of Oil: Paintings by Margarete Bagshaw." The display will remain open until March 2.

"Fortunately, we know where a bunch of my major paintings are, and the people who own them have been very gracious to let us borrow them back for this exhibit," Bagshaw said. "A lot of people don't like to have their artwork out of their houses for more than a few months. It's really asking a lot of them, so we won't be touring the exhibit. The Ellen Noel is a very wonderful museum and we love the layout of it."

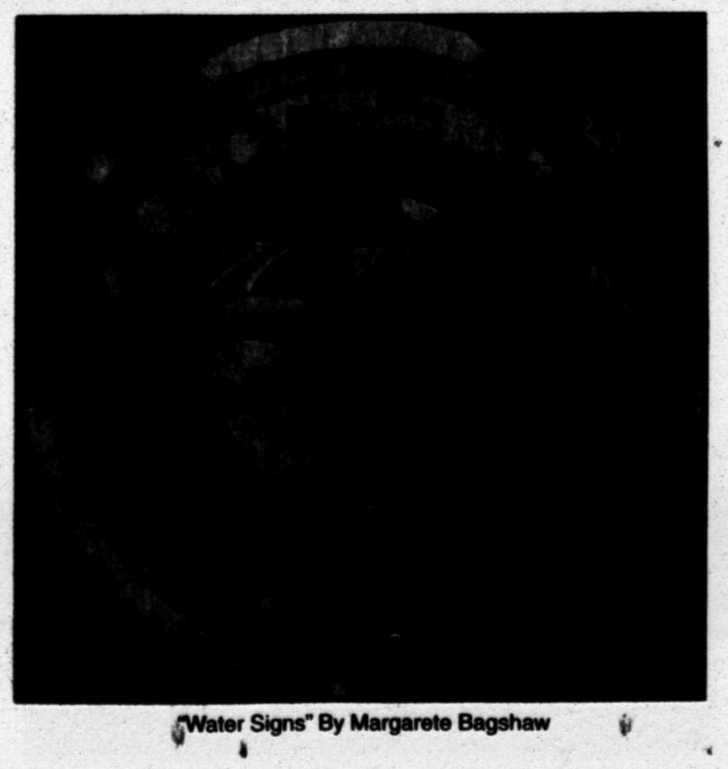
Bagshaw gave an artist talk and reading from her book "Teaching My Spirit to Fly" at the museum on Nov. 22. The New Mexico artist is not so familiar with the Permian Basin.

"I think the only thing I've ever had to do with Midland or Odessa was flying through the airport," she said.

The third-generation artist has a specific goal in mind when she creates new pieces.

"I want people to know that art does not have to be boring," she said. "What usually happens is in most towns, fine art collectors are generally older people in their 60s and 70s, but with what's happened with my artwork is it has grabbed the attention of a very young audience of professionals in their 30s and 40s. That's exciting because most young people spend their money and time on movies and cars and things that are eventually things they throw away. But I get the chance to help introduce them to something that's cultural with historical, lasting value."

The Ellen Noel Art Museum's normal hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 2-5 p.m. Sundays. The museum will be closed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Dec. 31 and Jan. 1. Admission is free.



"Water Signs" By Margarete Bagshaw



The Midland Marquee
THE ARTS CALENDAR OF EVENTS
A project of Arts Council of Midland
P.O. Box 3494, Midland, Texas 79702
432-687-1149
FAX: 432-687-1600
info@acmidland.org

Dec. 22-28

Arts Council of Midland: Midland's nonprofit arts council and umbrella organization for performing and visual arts organizations, 401 W. Texas Ave., Suite 508, 687-1149, email: info@acmidland.org. Arts Council of Midland's mission is enriching lives with the arts through community-wide advocacy, education, outreach and promotion. www.acmidland.org

SUNDAY

The Ellen Noël Art Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Adm The Ellen Noël Art Museum is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 2-5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free. For more visit www.noelartmuseum.org or call 550-9696.

George Bush Childhood Home: Historic home: Tour unique landmark home to two presidents, two governors and a first lady. Listed on the National Register of Historic Sites and restored to the 1950s period when the Bush family lived in the home. Gift shop features 1950s toys, books, clothing and patriotic items. 1412 W. Ohio Ave., 685-1112. Tours and gift shop hours are 2-5 p.m. Sundays and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturdays. Admission charged.

Fredda Turner Durham Children's Museum: Golden Legacy: Original Art from 65 Years of Golden Books through Dec. 29. 1705 W. Missouri Ave., 683-2882 Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday 2-5 p.m. Admission charged.

Permanent exhibits include "My Town," "Beach Babies" and "Touch of Sound." Regular museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 2-5 p.m. Sunday. 1705 W. Missouri Ave., 683 -2882. Admission charged.

Midland Festival Ballet presents the final performance of "The Nutcracker" 2:30 p.m. matinee at the Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 North FM 1788, Midland, Texas 79707. For tickets call 1-800-514-3849. For more information contact rkerr@midlandfestivalballet.org or call 432-686-0071.

Museum of the Southwest: Greg Davis: India's Kumbh Mela in the Here and Now Gallery through Dec. 29. 1705 W. Missouri Ave., 683-2882 Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday 2-5 p.m. Admission charged.

Exhibit: Taos Master: Taos Society of Artists collection on view all year. MSW Sculpture Park has 14 sculptures on display. Pick up a walking guide with descriptions of all sculptures. 1705 W. Missouri Ave., 683-2882 Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday 2-5 p.m. Admission charged.

Permian Basin Petroleum Museum, Library and Hall of Fame: Museum hours 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 2-5 p. m. Sunday, 1500 Interstate 20 West, 683-4403.

MONDAY

Haley Library and History Center: 1805 W. Indiana Ave. 682-5785. Regular hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Free.

Midland County Historical Museum: Exhibit honoring World War II veterans in cooperation with the Texas Historical Commission's three-year program. Permanent exhibits: Native American artifacts; early Midland photos and relics; replica of Midland Man discovery; early obituary files available for research, 301 W. Missouri Ave. Open 2-5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Call 682-2931or 688-8947. Free.

Midland County Historical Society: Historic home: Z. Taylor Brown-Sara Dorsey Medallion Home, oldest restored home in Midland, 213 N. Weatherford St., 682-5447. Open by appointment.

Odessa College: 201 W. University Blvd. Call 432-335-6640 for Options Gallery schedule. Free.

Scarborough-Lineberry House: Historic home: 802 S. Main St., 685-7368. Open by appointment and available for rental for weddings and other special occasions.

Tall City Cloggers: Dances every Monday at M-Squarena. Information about clogging can be obtained by contacting Lynn Myers, 697-6416.or danznfool@grandecom.net

THURSDAY

Permian Basin Petroleum Museum, Library and Hall of Fame: Museum hours 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 2-5 p.m. Sunday, 1500 Interstate 20 West, 683-4403

FRIDAY

Blakemore Planetarium: Permanent exhibits are open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Closed Sunday and Monday. Sky shows 4:15 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 7:15 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Friday and 1:15 p.m. and 3:45 p.m. Saturday. Admission charged. 1705 West Missouri Ave. For more information call 432-683-2882.

Midland Arts Association: Artist displaying artwork for the month of December will be Mary Lambeth. Community National Bank, 401 W. Texas Ave. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays, closed Saturdays and Sundays.

The Ellen Noël Art Museum: The Color of Oil: Paintings by Margarete Bagshaw through March 2. For more information call 550-9696.

SATURDAY

Blakemore Planetarium: Permanent exhibits are open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Closed Sunday and Monday. Sky shows 4:15 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 7:15 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Friday and 1:15 p.m. and 3:45 p.m. Saturday. Admission charged. 1705 W. Missouri Ave. 683-2882.

Museum of the Southwest: Greg Davis: India's Kumbh Mela exhibition made possible by Arts Council of Midland through Dec. 29 in the Here and Now Gallery. 1705 W. Missouri Ave., 683-2882 Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday 2-5 p.m. Admission charged.

ArtQuest Studios: Reserved Studio time. Artists can reserve space to work alongside other artists. Work completed may be entered in competitions. Space is limited to eight artists. Cost is $35 per month beginning in January. 700 Andrews Highway. For more information, call 553-0420 or email heronartconnection@sbcglobal.net.

Arts Council of Midland maintains a calendar of all submitted arts-related activities. To avoid conflicts with other organizations, please call 432-687-1149, P.O. Box 3494, Midland, TX 79702; or email info@acmidland.org. To submit events see use form from website www.acmidland.org

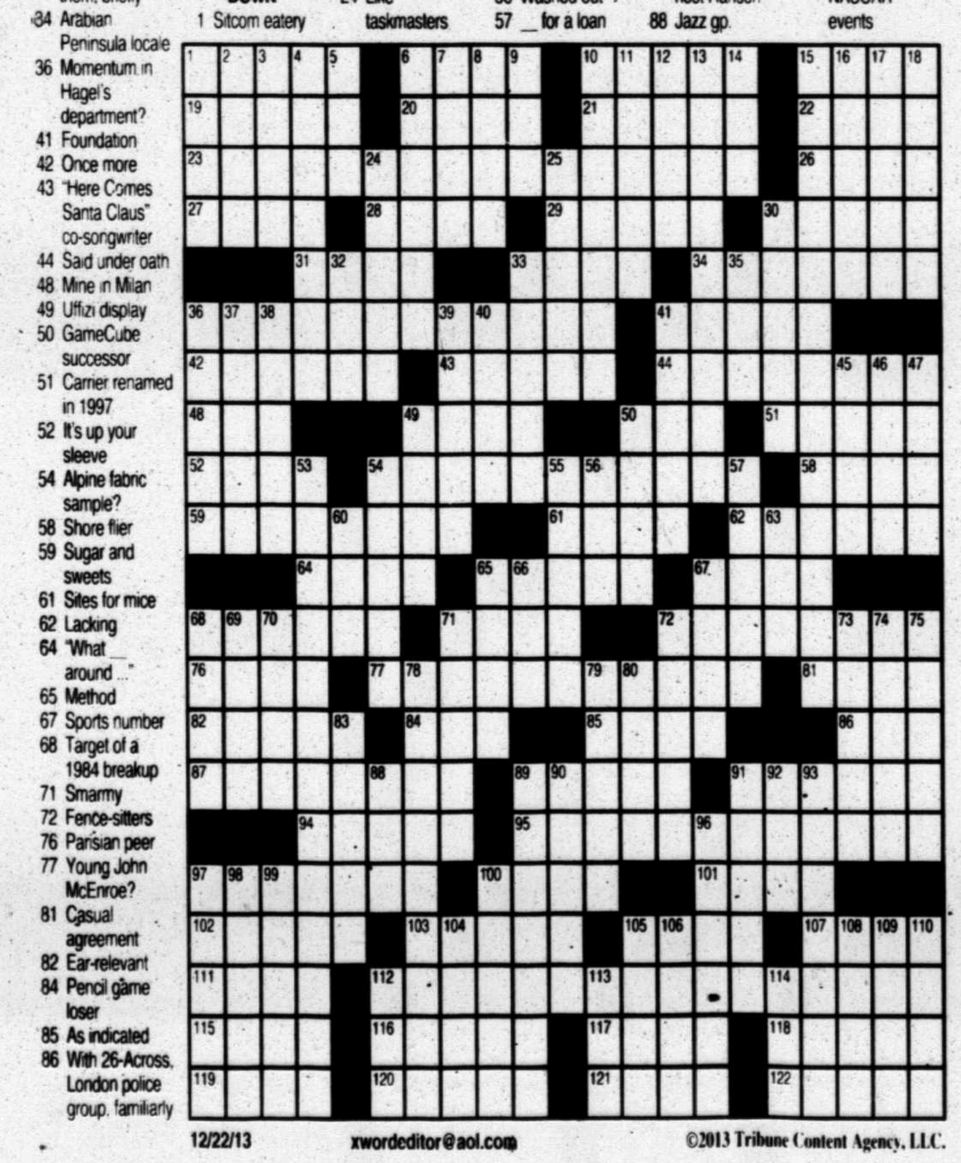
Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

"EXTRAS" By PAM AMICK KLAWITTER

ACROSS
1 Stonewaller?
6 Shooter's stockpile
10 Building toy
15 '70s-'80s Big Apple mayor
19 With 30-Across, Revolutionary patriot
20 Nest protest
21 1978 Broadway revue
22 Quito's land: Abbr.
23 Comment about paparazzi?
26 See 86-Across
27 Lend, as a fin or a fifty
28 Turkish VIP
29 Home
30 See 19-Across
31 Less than medium
33 Nicklaus has won five of them, briefly
34 Arabian Peninsula locale
36 Momentum in Hegel's department?
41 Foundation
42 Once more
43 "Here Comes Santa Claus" co-songwriter
44 Said under oath
48 Mine in Milan
49 Uffizi display
50 GameCube successor
51 Carrier renamed in 1997
52 It's up your sleeve
54 Alpine fabric sample?
58 Shore flier
59 Sugar and sweets
61 Sites for mice
62 Lacking
64 "What __ around ..."
65 Method
67 Sports number
68 Target of a 1984 breakup
71 Smarmy
72 Fence-sitters
76 Parisian peer
77 Young John McEnroe?
81 Casual agreement
82 Ear-relevant
84 Pencil game loser
85 As indicated
86 With 26-Across, London police group, familiarly
87 Makes privy to
89 Studio sign
91 Ballet position
94 First Niagara Center NHLer
95 Why the clown retired?
97 Annual bestseller
100 Canonical hour
101 Apollo org.
102 Knock off
103 Weaving fiber
105 Curious as __
107 Small cleaner
111 91-Down section
112 What the fencer proved he was?
115 Tivoli's Villa d'__
116 Coup __
117 Shuffle follower
118 Shire of "Rocky"
119 Jeanne d'Arc et al.: Abbr.
120 Aides: Abbr.
121 Granola grain
122 Reporters

DOWN
1 Sitcom eatery
2 Sitting on
3 "Buzz off!"
4 Yellow ribbon site of song
5 Miami-to-Orlando dir.
6 Orbital point
7 Screen door makeup
8 Arizona desert sight
9 Make a decision
10 Ralph who played FDR in "Sunrise at Campobello"
11 Haas of "Jobs"
12 Passing remarks?
13 Movie-related
14 Frat party dispenser
15 Forgetful night watchman?
16 City in Florida's horse country
17 Magic bullets, so to speak
18 Lacked
24 Like taskmasters
25 Eponymous newborn score creator
30 Bid word
32 Short reply?
33 "For __ sake!"
35 Believer's ending
36 Obstruct
37 IRS requirement, often
38 Battle site
39 "Slumdog Millionaire" wear
40 Sounds of rebuke
41 Sets, as a trap
45 Container weight
46 German "a"
47 Slave Scott
49 Leaves wide-eyed
50 Rolls (up)
53 Accessories for Lansbury?
54 Refine, as ore
55 Fixes
56 Washed-out
57 __ for a loan
60 MapQuest parent
63 D.C. player
65 Seductress
66 Giant Manning
67 Sch. periods
68 Happy __
69 It can give you fits
70 Toon troublemaker
71 Live-income filler
72 Pacific island republic
73 Blue Cross rival
74 Christine who directed the Oscar-winning short film "Lieberman in Love"
75 Polish
78 Emulates Father Damien, in a 1973 movie
79 Where to begin
80 Stylish
83 Former NPR host Hansen
88 Jazz go.
89 Leopardlike cats
90 Said no to
91 H.S. exams
92 Five-minute 88-Down periods
93 21st-century conflict
96 Sluggards
97 Pinnacles
98 LCD component
99 Photo finish
100 Weasel relative
104 Friday and York: Abbr.
105 Crossing the ocean
106 Casual talk
108 Gilded metalware
109 You can see right through it
110 Modern organizers, for short
112 Oral health org.
113 Kerfuffle
114 Longtime sponsor in NASCAR events



12/22/13 xwordeditor@aol.com ©2013 Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Lead directing?

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 10 8 7
♥ 10 8 4
♦ 10 6 3
♣ K 8 6 4

WEST
♠ K 5
♥ A J 6 2
♦ A J 8 2
♣ A 7 3

EAST
♠ A Q 6 4 2
♥ 9
♦ K 7 5
♣ J 10 9 2

SOUTH
♠ J 9 3
♥ K Q 7 5 3
♦ Q 9 4
♣ Q 5

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
Pass	1♣*	Pass	1 ♥**
Dbl	Rdbl	Pass	Pass
1NT	Dbl	Pass	Pass
Pass			

*Artificial, 15 plus points
**Artificial, 10 plus points

Opening lead: Two of

Many players like to make "lead-directing" doubles of artificial bids to suggest a lead in that suit should partner be on lead. Under the laws of bridge, however, any double is a penalty double until someone takes it out. Before a player makes a "lead-directing" double, he must be sure he has enough length and strength in the suit to prevent his opponents from making the contract, should they elect to play it there.

Today's hand comes from an expert game, hence the high-tech auction. South, one of the best players in the world, made a "lead-directing" double of the artificial one-heart response. West's re-double said he wanted to play it right there and when it got back to South, he knew he was in trouble. His one no-trump bid was a desperate attempt to save himself, to no avail.

The defense started with four diamond tricks, East discarding the two of clubs on the last diamond. West shifted to the king of spades. The defense now ran their five spade tricks, West discarding three hearts. The jack of clubs shift from East now held South to one trick. The contract was down six for a 1,400 point penalty! Had East been allowed to play the hand in one heart re-doubled, he could not have been prevented from scoring three spades, three diamonds, two hearts and one club.

South actually saved a few points by running to one no-trump!

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, Dec. 22, 2013:
This year you often need to spend extra time at work, with an older relative or perhaps at school. Demands on you are heavy. **VIRGO** can get picky about details. **ARIES** (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ Excitement heads your way, and it is packed with news as well. Stay mellow for now, as there could be a misrepresentation of the facts. Tonight: Get some R and R. **TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) ★★★★★ Your methodical ways help you get a lot done. You even might find that you have more time for a loved one. Tonight: Forget the holidays; go for the moment!
GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★ The phone rings and the emails arrive. Communication will accelerate in the morning. You might want to go back to bed after you respond to everyone. Tonight: Be lazy for a change.
CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★★ Make sure your checkbook is balanced before you walk out the door for brunch and/or maybe some gift giving with friends. Tonight: Listen to news carefully.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ Catch up on the news of a younger person. Whether you invite this person over or take him or her out, you will manage to bring a smile to his or her face. Tonight: Slow down.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★ You could feel off-kilter in the morning. By the afternoon, you will be planning your day with a loved one. Tonight: You regain your energy and charisma.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ Remain sensitive to others, yet allow yourself some time to mull over a situation in which someone is being deceptive. Tonight: Make it early.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★★ Deal with a relative first thing in the morning. You might enjoy brunch together, yet you will use the afternoon for other matters. Tonight: Where the action is.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ Make important calls in the morning. You might have a chance to wish someone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Tonight: A must appearance.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★★ You have very little choice but to spend time with a loved one. Catch up on this person's news, watch a movie and just relax together. Tonight: Enjoy yourself.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ Remain open to last-minute suggestions. This spontaneity will keep everything light and easy. Tonight: Quality time with a special person.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★ Try to run around less for errands, and spend more time with a partner or loved one. You will get very few quiet moments in the next week. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer.

***

BORN TODAY
Former U.S. first lady Claudia Taylor "Lady Bird" Johnson (1912), singer Jordin Sparks (1989), news anchor Diane Sawyer (1945)

ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE

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







AP photos

Jefferson Mays as Henry D'Ysquith, Jennifer Smith and Bryce Pinkham as Monty Navarro, at top, are shown in a scene from "A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder." The play is one of 11 in theaters this year that were nurtured and polished during Sundance theater workshops. **ABOVE LEFT:** Michael Cerveris and Sydney Lucas perform in "Fun Home," one of 11 plays in theaters this year that were nurtured during Sundance theater workshops. **ABOVE RIGHT:** This image released by The Public Theater shows the cast of "Fun Home."

Sundance Institute builds reputation for lesser-known theater program

By Brady McCombs
Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Robert Redford's Sundance Institute has gained worldwide recognition for helping bring risky, creative and boundary-pushing films into the mainstream through its star-studded annual film festival that is set to kick off again next month in Utah.

Now, the institute's lesser-known theater program is also cementing its reputation for helping develop celebrated plays and musicals in the same avant-garde mold of the film festival.

The 11 plays in theaters this year that were nurtured and polished during Sundance theater workshops are more than ever before. They explore territory that mainstream plays often shy away from.

They include the critically-acclaimed "Fun Home," a musical based on a lesbian comic book about a gay dad's suicide at The Public Theater in New York City; "Appropriate," a play heading to New York about adult children who discover chilling photos of lynchings at their late father's Southern plantation; and the Broadway show, "A Gentlemen's Guide to Love and Murder," a musical comedy about a British man who murders the eight heirs that stand in between him and a family fortune.

Sundance's growing influence on theater comes after two decades of gradually increasing the number of labs and workshops it holds each year and broadening its search for the next great, risk-taking playwright.

Through its five workshops and labs, including the main three-week summer program in the mountains of northern Utah, the program creates a collaborative, non-competitive environment that unleashes the creativity needed to make memorable plays, say participants and theater directors.

One key to that: the Sundance Theater Program only develops the works, meaning participants aren't competing against each other to earn the financial backing of the institute for production credits. Sundance focuses only on helping playwrights and directors finish, fine-tune and polish plays and musicals, leaves it to professional theaters to pick up the works for production.

Theaters are attracted to theater pieces that have gone through Sundance workshops because they represent the spirit of adventure and experimentation the program encourages, said Oskar Eustis, a past participant in the workshops and artistic director of The Public Theater, where "Fun Home" is playing.

"There is genuine artistic exploration," said Eustis. "Even if there are shows that end up being commercially successful they weren't shows that were designed to be commercially successful. They were designed to tell the truth of an artist's experience."

The program's artistic director, Philip Himberg, said he and his staff read 800-900 plays submitted each year from around the country before selecting seven or eight people for their summer workshop in Utah.

They have scouts watching local theater around the country in search of plays and playwrights that represent the geographic, gender, racial and social prisms of the American landscape, he said. Last summer's participants ranged from young novice playwrights to well-known Pulitzer Prize-winning playwrights.

"What keeps me up at night, what makes me anxious, is that someone else is going to discover a playwright before I do," said Himberg, who took over the program in 1996.

At the workshop, paid for private grants, playwrights alternate days writing with days rehearsing with theater actors.

That jambalaya of playwrights and plays fosters an environment that promotes experimentation, boundary-pushing and erases fear of failure, said director Liesl Tommy, who has taken three plays to the Sundance summer lab.

"You are part of really exciting group of artists making really extraordinary theater," Tommy said. "That inspires you."

Tommy has taken three plays to the Sundance summer lab, and each has made into production. She's currently the director of "Appropriate," written by fellow Sundance alum Branden Jacobs-Jenkins. It has recently played at theaters in Washington D.C., Chicago and Louisville and is set to begin playing at the Signature Theater Company in New York in February.

The setting of the summer workshop — in the serene mountains in Sundance, Utah far away from the bustling cities and stressful lives many of the playwrights come from — helps playwrights work through the creative process, said Jacobs-Jenkins, from Washington D.C. He rode the ski lift every day in between rehearsals.

"They remove you from everything in your life that can distract you," said Jacobs-Jenkins. "They've got all the ingredient right to make work the easiest and most enjoyable thing to be doing.

In addition to the summer lab at the Sundance Resort in Utah , the program runs a playwrights retreat in Wyoming; a theater lab in the mountains of Massachusetts that focuses on musical and ensemble work; a rotating international workshop that is currently in East Africa; and a directors retreat in France.

The theater program has been around since Redford founded the institute in 1981 but it's really grown since Himberg took over in the mid-1990s, Eustis said.

Blue Max

From 1F

"I actually didn't own it at the time, I was just bartending here and managing it," she said. "Bob Wayne texted and just wanted a place to play for tips. I put him here on a Monday night and he packed the house."

When she purchased the bar, Berry made music her priority.

She went from bringing in one or two bands a week to hosting three or four shows a week. She rearranged tables and pool tables to give performers center stage.

"Music is therapy," she said.

Having overcome a medical emergency that is often fatal, Berry said her perspective and priorities changed.

"I don't want to get paid," she said. Berry rarely brings home a paycheck and hopes to fill the bar only to cover the cost of the bands, an expense that otherwise comes from her own bank account.

Building a family

Growing up in the 1970s listening to everything from Honky Tonk country to Elvis to Donna Summer to the Rolling Stones, Berry appreciates almost any type of music.

She's booked bands that bring mandolins and upright basses as well as those with electric guitars.

"It's every subculture genre you can think of," said Estrada.

He and Berry laughed when they recalled a band that played death polka.

"We even have Texas country," Berry said. "It's pretty much everything that anyone else won't book, we'll take a chance on."

Dedicated to supporting musicians, Berry and the Blue Max staff are sure to give band members a place to relax and recharge when they stop in the Permian Basin.

Many bands have responded to the kindness by returning to the venue. Only two years into the venture, Berry now struggles to find space on the calendar for new bands between the returning acts.

"It's become like a big family," she said. "We're super excited when they come back. It's like family coming in."

Bands are even treated to homecooked meals prepared by Berry, Manager James Banks or Berry's boyfriend Derek Dunton.

On the day The Sawyer Family was scheduled to perform, a pot roast with fingerling gold potatoes simmered in a slow cooker waiting to be served with a salad and bread. Sometimes Blue Max serves chicken spaghetti, sometimes brisket or ribs.

"I just decided a long time ago to feed the bands because they typically get grilled cheese or pizza," Berry said, noting a meal is required in some bands' contracts.

Food is also made available to bar patrons.

"I decided to feed (the bands) a good meal and have some for our fans because if they leave (to get food) they typically don't come back," she said.

Blue Max doesn't charge for the meal but accepts donations to cover food costs.

Setting the stage

Berry stops to think when asked about her hopes for the future of Blue Max.

"Since I'm a take-it-day-by-day kind of person, I would just like to see us expand on our equipment (and) build another outdoor stage."

She tells a story of the bar regulars and friends building a new outdoor stage in advance of a Vallejo concert. Regulars also constructed an inside stage to improve the sound from bands playing in the bar.

"I kind of want to get to the point of having a small indoor stage, a medium outdoor stage and a large outdoor stage because that would open up a lot of doors for us," Estrada said.

With more options for shows, Berry hopes to continue to pack Blue Max for shows and expose fans to new music.

Noting an increase in music festivals and venues like the Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, she's optimistic about the music scene in the Permian Basin.

"I see more of an interest in building a music scene than I've seen in a very long time," she said.

HOW TO SUBMIT
Events for Weekender calendar:
Megan Lea Buck
mbuck@mrt.com | 687-8871
Items for Names and Faces:
Mary Dearen
mdearen@mrt.com | 687-8852

Art Lessons for Children
Basic Art Instruction
Ages 4 and up!
For more information contact
Margaret Hover at
432-934-4989
or 432-262-1206

MIDLAND COMMUNITY THEATRE
IMPROV AT THE YUCCA
Thursday, January 9th, 2014 at 8 PM
Join us January 9th at the Historic Yucca Theatre for our inaugural "Thirsty Thursday" event when we make lowbrow comedy and cheap booze a monthly part of your life.
(Due to the adult nature, Improv at the Yucca is recommended for mature audiences only)!
The Yucca is located in Downtown Midland 208 Colorado Ave.
Doors open on Thursday at 7PM and the show starts at 8 PM
Don't miss this ridiculously entertaining event!
Call 570-4111 for more information or visit us
online at www.mctmidland.org

MIDLAND COMMUNITY THEATRE
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SOUNDBITES

Reviews of recent CD releases

BEYONCE
"Beyonce"



Beyonce is a beast.

Her fifth self-titled album, released in surprise form late last week, is a collection of songs that highlight Beyonce's evolution as a woman and artist. It's her strongest and most cohesive album to date.

What's most appealing about "Beyonce" is that it shows — in the sound and method of release — how she isn't conforming to mainstream and commercial standards: The songs, while some will find success as singles, play like a unified assembly, instead of a loose body of work (that's a hit at the slew of contemporary pop singers who are singles artists). On the gloomy "Haunted," Beyonce even hints at the album's future success (or lack thereof): "This probably won't sell," she says. "I don't trust these record labels, I'm torn."

The album marks a powerful time for Beyonce. While her competitors include acts like Katy Perry, Rihanna and Lady Gaga — singers who consistently release chart-topping songs — Beyonce jumps back in front of the pack with an album that is both commercially appealing and artistically enticing.

She kicks off the 14-track set in a supreme way with the Sia-penned "Pretty Hurts," a mellow R&B number about the sickness behind attempting perfection. It's matched with a beautiful video — as are the other songs — and features lyrics like, "It's the soul that needs surgery." That's followed with the Jay Z-assisted "Drunk in Love," a strikingly thumping, sexually charged jam that's irresistible. And sexuality is a large part of Beyonce's album.

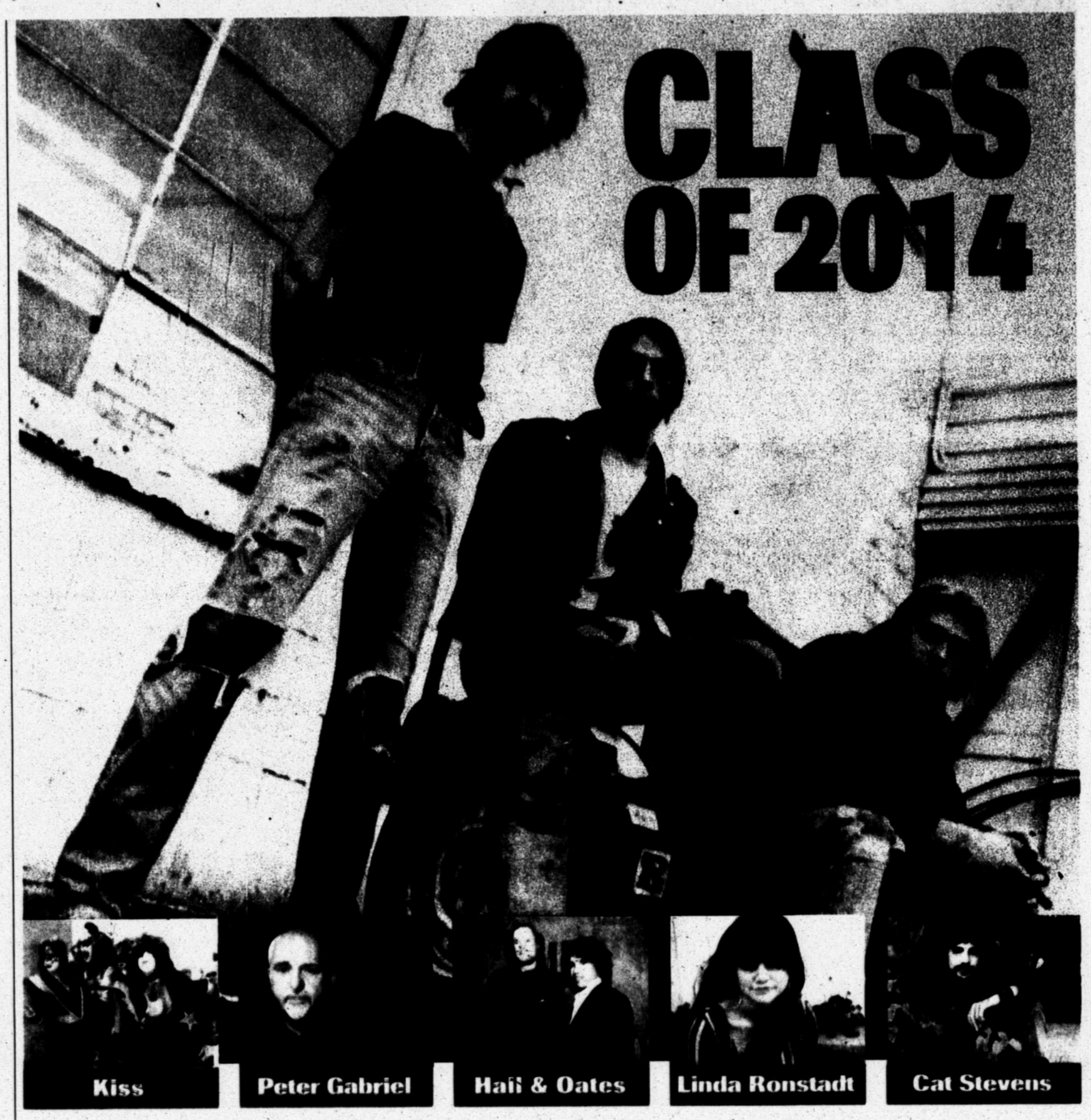
On the old school-flavored "Blow," one of the disc's best tracks, Beyonce sings proudly of hitting the sheets with her lover, and on "Rocket," co-written with Justin Timberlake, she provides a Quiet Storm-anthem, where she sings softly: "Punish me, punish me please." On the falsetto-heavy "No Angel," Beyonce declares she's a freak.

The songs on "Beyonce" often double up in sound like two tracks combined, in the vein of Timberlake's work, though most of Beyonce's songs aren't as long. "(asterisk)(asterisk)(asterisk)Flawless" interpolates parts of the previously released "Bow Down/I Been On" and is full of swag, much like the beat-heavy "Partition."

Beyonce, a mostly guarded celebrity, has become more open over the years, and that's especially the case with songs like the self-explanatory "Jealous" and "Heaven," a soft and slow song about a loved one's death that could refer to her miscarriages.

"Blue," which includes the voice of her daughter Blue Ivy, closes the album and features Beyonce's beautiful tone and pitch. And that's just it — "Beyonce" is pitch perfect.

Mesfin Fekadu/AP



Nirvana, Kiss, Peter Gabriel headed to Rock Hall

By Mesfin Fekadu
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Nirvana, Kiss and Peter Gabriel will be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame next year.

The Rock Hall announced Tuesday that Hall and Oates, Linda Ronstadt and Cat Stevens also will be inducted April 10 at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn.

Artists are eligible for induction 25 years after their first release. Nirvana received a nomination in its first year of eligibility, and next year the band will celebrate the 25th anniversary of its debut, "Bleach." The induction comes 20 years after frontman Kurt Cobain committed suicide at age 27.

"For once ... I'm speechless. From the basements, to the dingy clubs, to the broken down vans, to ... the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame," former Nirvana drummer Dave Grohl, now the frontman for Foo Fighters, said in a statement Tuesday. "I'd like to thank the committee not only for this induction, but also for recognizing Nirvana for what we were: pure rock and roll."

"Thank you most of all to Kurt Cobain," bassist Krist Novoselic said in the statement issued on behalf of Nirvana. "And to everyone who's kept rock music going strong for 60 years and counting."

This year also marked first-time nominations for Hall and Oates, Gabriel and Ronstadt. Kiss and Stevens, who have been nominated in the past, made the cut after being absent from the list for several years.

Peter Criss, Kiss' original drummer and vocalist, said the band changed rock forever by raising the bar for live performances.

"We were four guys from New York City who brought Barnum & Bailey into rock 'n' roll," he told The Associated Press. Criss last toured with the band in 2003 and hopes to be asked to perform with the other three founding members at the induction ceremony at New York's Barclays Center. The Hall of Fame is in Cleveland, but the location of the induction ceremony varies from year to year.

"We wanted the makeup and the costumes and the bombs," Criss said. "Our idea was to give people a hell of a lot more for their money. We changed music by insisting you can't go up there and just sing anymore. That's going to stand forever."

Singer/guitarist Paul Stanley, who with bassist Gene Simmons has anchored Kiss' changing lineup for 40 years, said the band never cared when critics slammed them. And Ace Frehley, the band's original lead guitarist, said news of the induction was a welcome pick-me-up just days after his suburban New York home was gutted by fire.

"I'm sad about (the house) but the news I got last night will lift my spirits," he told the AP. "It's a great honor, and a long time coming. Our fans never gave up on us."

Also at the ceremony, Rolling Stones manager Andrew Loog Oldham and the late Beatles manager Brian Epstein will receive Ahmet Ertegun awards, a non-performing honor. And Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band will get the award for musical excellence.

N.W.A., one of the 16 nominees announced in October, did not make the cut. The iconic rap group includes Dr. Dre, who has launched successful solo albums and is the producer behind Eminem, 50 Cent and Kendrick Lamar.

More than 700 Rock Hall voters determined the 2014 class.

The 29th annual Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will be open to the public. Tickets go on sale next month.

The event will air on HBO in May.

Coming Tuesday



Various artists 'American Hustle' soundtrack



Various artists '47 Ronin' soundtrack



Prurient 'Heavy Rain Returns'



Yes 'The Studio Albums 1969-1987'



Raja Ram's Flyadrums 'Raja Ram's Flyadrums 2'

LIVEWIRE

MIDLAND/ODESSA/ BIG SPRING/ANDREWS

DECEMBER

22 **Goodtimers, Padlock, Tucker Binkley Matthew Rios** @ Music City Mall
22 **No Dry County** @ Lone Star Bar
26 **Matt Caldwell** @ Rockin Rodeo
27 **Gary Nix & West Texas** @ Lone Star Bar
27 **Blue Cats** @ The Detour
27 **Hybrid Suns** @ Music City Mall
27 **Forgotten Road** @ Redneck's
27-28 **Freeride** @ The Bar
28 **Nicro, Sir Hobbit, CovenantMS, Dirty Jonez, DJ Tandom** @ Pine Box
28 **Ernesto Calderon** @ The Wine Rack
28 **Dusty McNew, Arioso Strings, Hybrid Suns, Mike Leonard, Chiquasta Hines, Martha Elliot** @ Music City Mall
28 **Least of These** @ Rock Fellowship Church
28 **Phil Hamilton** @ Lone Star Bar
28 **Lauren Kent Band** @ Redneck's
28 **Daniel Dossey, Scotland Rising** @ Ector Theatre
29 **Danielle Grubb, The Feeble Contenders, Wildfires, Jackson's Lost Cause** @ Pine Box
29 **Kenneth Knotts, Tech Jazz, Matthew Rios** @ Music City Mall
31 **Moneyshot** @ The Bar
31 **The Texas Treetop Flyers** @ Odessa Shriners Club
31 **DJ Frank** @ Hilton Garden Inn

JANUARY

2 **Brian Milson** @ Rockin Rodeo
3 **Big Perk, Free, Tarah B, Al-E** @ Salinas Community Center
3 **Fusion** @ The Roadhouse
3 **Urban Spur, Midwest Tragedy** @ Redneck's
3 **No Dry County** @ Lone Star Bar
4 **Whiskey River Ramblers** @ Redneck's
4 **Vince King as Elvis** @ Ector Theatre
7 **Mister Happy** @ The Bar
9 **Zack Walther** @ Rockin Rodeo
10 **No Dry County** @ Lone Star Bar
10 **Izzy Cox** @ Blue Max
11 **Texas Cadillac Jack Band** @ Lone Star Bar
11 **The George Brothers** @ Ector Theatre
11 **Phil Wallace** @ Redneck's
14 **Styx** @ Wagner Noel
15 **Elvis Lives** @ Wagner Noel
15 **Kingfishers, Bad Antics, Half Goon** @ Pine Box
16 **Costello** @ Lone Star Bar
16 **Bart Crow** @ Rockin Rodeo
17 **Sons of Fathers** @ Lone Star Bar
18 **Thieving Birds** @ Lone Star Bar
22 **Tony Bennett** @ Wagner Noel
23 **Travis Tritt** @ Wagner Noel
23 **Curtis Grimes** @ Rockin Rodeo
24 **The Oak Ridge Boys** @ Wagner Noel
24 **Whiskey Myers** @ Graham Central Station
24 **Callahan Divde** @ Redneck's
26 **West Texas Winds** @ Wagner Noel
28 **Transit Authority** @ Wagner Noel
30 **Brandon Rhyder** @ Rockin Rodeo
30 **Mobile Deathcamp** @ Blue Max
31 **Clay Thrash, Six Market Blvd.** @ Lone Star Bar

FEBRUARY

1 **Aaron Einhouse** @ Lone Star Bar
1 **Gayle Spradley Bizzell** @ Odessa College
1 **Stephen Curtis Chapman** @ Wagner Noel
2 **Jayke Orvis and The Broken Band, Carrie Nation and The Speakeasy, James Hunnicutt** @ Blue Max
7 **Foreigner** @ Wagner Noel
7 **Mark McKinney, Randell King Band** @ Lone Star Bar
10 **Gordon Lightfoot** @ Wagner Noel
14 **Christopher Cross. Stephen Bishop** @ Wagner Noel
15 **Sally Anderson as Dolly Parton** @ Ector Theatre
16 **Permian Basin String Quartet "Something Borrowed, Somethin' Blue" Chamber Concert** @ Wagner Noel

LUBBOCK

JANUARY

30 **Luke Bryan, Lee Brice, Cole Swindell** @ United Spirit Arena

FEBRUARY

9 **Skillet, Third Day, Andy Mineo, Jamie Grace, Royal Tailor, We Are Human, The Neverclaim, Vertical Church Band, Soulfire Revolution** @ United Spirit Arena

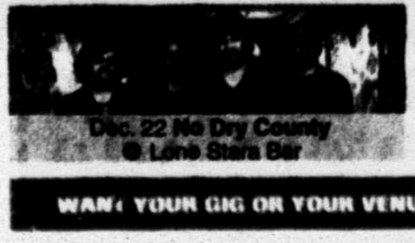
DALLAS-FORT WORTH AREA

DECEMBER

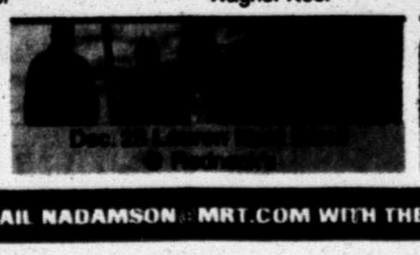
27 **Deadmau5, DJ Carnage, Fedde Le Grand, Krewella, Zomboy, Icona Pop, The Knocks, Le Castle Vania, HeRobust, David Starfire, DJ Fergie, Griz, Gramatik, Green Lantern, Dj Getter** @ Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center
31 **Lee Brice** @ Billy Bob's

JANUARY

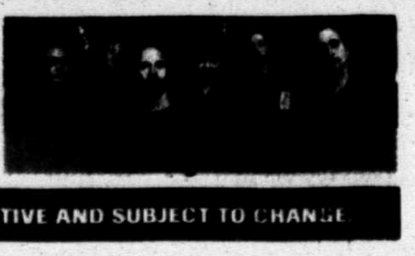
10 **James Durbin, Kelley James** @ Cambridge Room
11 **Johnny Winter** @ The Pub in Frisco
11 **The Molly Ringwalds** @ House of Blues
15-16 **Rick Springfield** @ Dee & Charles Wyly Theatre


Dec. 22 No Dry County @ Lone Star Bar

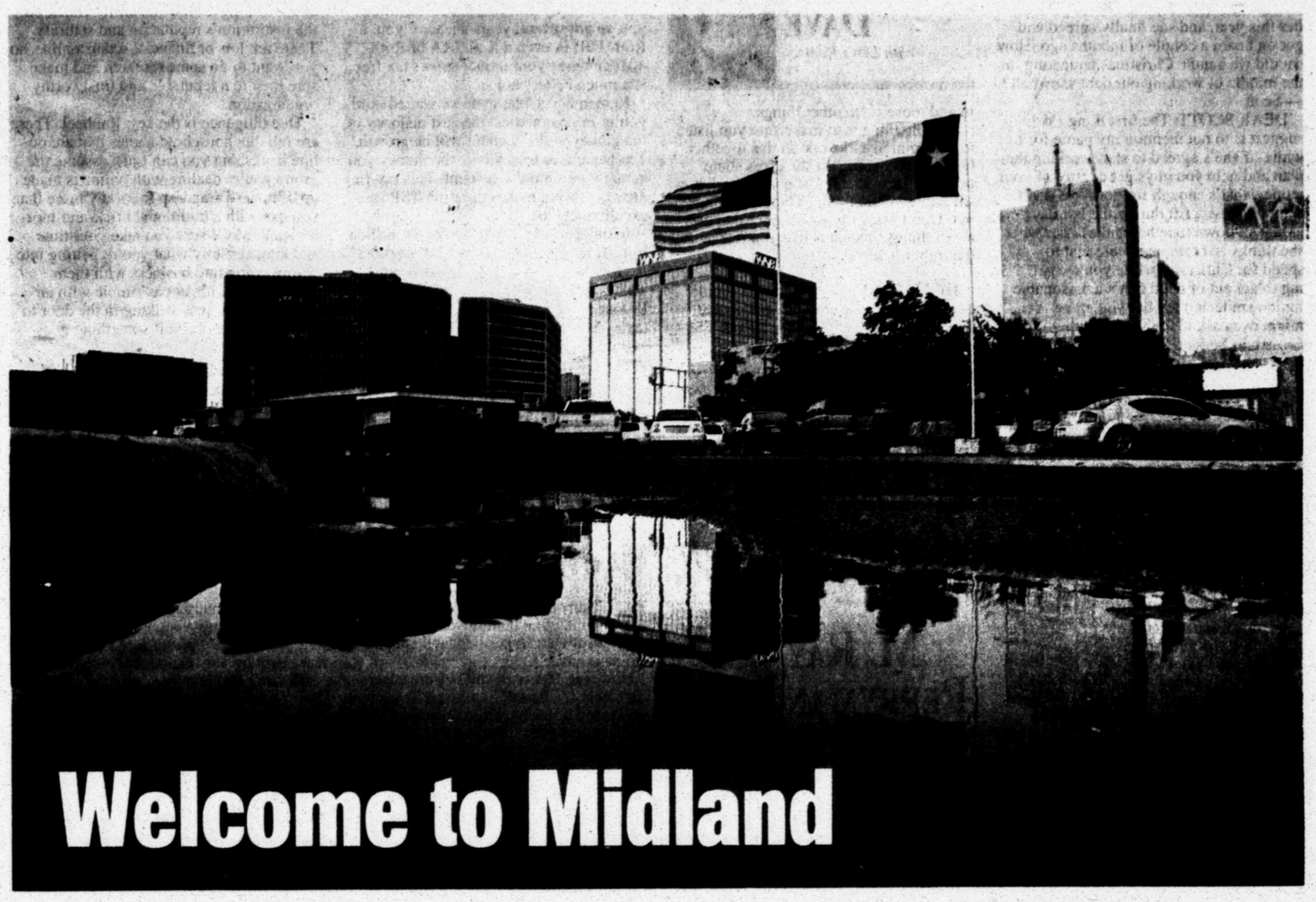

Dec. 28 Least of These @ Rock Fellowship







WANT YOUR GIG OR YOUR VENUE'S EVENT LISTED IN LIVE WIRE? EMAIL NADAMSON@MRT.COM WITH THE DETAILS. ALL LISTINGS ARE TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE



Business gives baskets to new Tall City residents

By Audrie Palmer
MRT correspondent

When Christine Hager moved with her husband to Grand Junction, Colo., she was a stay-at-home wife coming to a small town from the metropolis of Houston.

"Moving in general is stressful and hard," she said, adding that because she wasn't working, she didn't have the connections to places in the area or referrals for doctors, dentists or veterinarians.

Soon after moving to Grand Junction, Hager was greeted by a company called Welcome Home, with a plethora of information that was pertinent to a newcomer.

"It was so nice to be greeted by someone. I thought it was the coolest thing; it's a really special service and I was touched by it," she said.

She found she was using a lot of the items given to her and contacted the business to see if she could work as a greeter or in sales.

When her husband was transferred to Midland in April, Hager decided to start her own greeting service and found that there was nothing here similar to the Colorado company.

While Welcome Home, Your Permian Basin Welcoming Service is not affiliated with the Grand Junction branch, Hager said her former boss has allowed her to use logos and concepts that she's brought to Midlanders, both new and old.

Working with a Realtor, Hager said there are between 200 and 250 new families moving into homes in Midland each month. Out of those, Hager tries to greet at least 50 a month by making house calls with her basket of goodies.

If the new homeowner isn't home, Hager leaves a note with her contact information and tries to set up an appointment later to meet and greet the new residents.

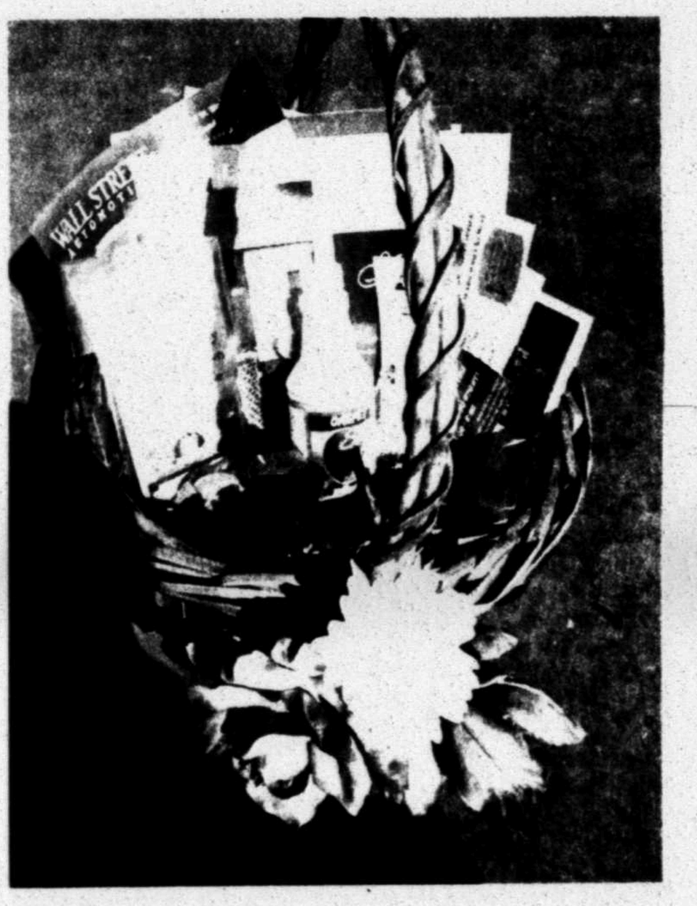
Armed with information from local businesses, civic organizations and the Chamber of Commerce, Hager personally meets each family and explains the information she has brought with her. All the information and items are then transferred from the basket to a folder and left with the homeowner.

Since starting the business in May, Hager said she has 17 sponsors from nonprofits such as the Petroleum Museum, Museum of the Southwest, Midland-Odessa Symphony and Chorale to businesses such as DEFINE Midland, The Canopy and Heavenly Photos. In each basket, Hager also includes a personalized welcome letter from herself to the new Midlander and will be working mayor-elect Jerry Morales to also include a welcome letter from him as well.

The sponsors include everything from brochures and pamphlets about their businesses and organizations to gifts and coupons.

Carter's Furniture, Hager said, gives every basket a Circle E candle from their gift store, while The Pottery includes a $5 discount, and The Canopy offers new residents a discount of 25 percent. Other swag items include free pictures with a photography session, free exercise

Please see **WELCOME/7F**



The Vitamin Shoppe now open in The Commons at North Park

Now open in The Commons at North Park at 2820 W. Loop 250 North is The Vitamin Shoppe, which will soon be sharing a building with Chipotle Mexican Grill.

The Vitamin Shoppe carries a wide variety of vitamins and minerals, nutrition supplements, sports nutrition, omega fatty acids, joint supplements, homeopathic and herbal supplements. The store also carries a large selection of pre- and post-workout proteins, weight management supplements and personal care items, including national brands.

Supplements target the entire family, from prenatal through infants and children, adults and "those over 40 and wiser and those over 50 and wiser."

The Vitamin Shoppe began in 1977 as a single store and has grown to over 500 locations in 42 states and Puerto Rico.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

Additional information is available by calling 689-2728.

Ready to groom Midland's cats and dogs is Tobar's Doganista, now open adjacent to Tobar's Custom Fitness at 350 N. Midland Drive.

Owner Elena Tobar offers grooming services for all breeds of dogs and cats, from trims to bath and brush and nail trimming.

Pick-up and delivery services are available and Tobar's also offers pet sitting.

Hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. Appointments are available and walk-ins are welcome.

More information is available and appointments can be made by calling 262-3507.

Expanding into Midland-Odessa is A-MAX Auto Insurance, which now has two offices in Odessa and a new office in Midland at 1105 N. Midkiff Road.

A-MAX offers affordable auto, home, commercial, motorcycle, renters, general liability, surety bonds and tourist insurance.

The company has over 50 offices across Texas, from Dallas-Fort Worth to San Antonio, Austin, Waco, Longview, Tyler, Seguin, New Braunfels and more.

The Midland office can be reached at 682-3434.

Potential customers can also receive insurance quotes from the company's website at www.amaxinsurance.com.

Mella McEwen is Oil Editor for the Reporter-Telegram. She can be contacted at mmcewen@mrtcom.

BUSINESS SCENE

By Mella McEwen



Inside this edition

- This week Dave Ramsey answers questions about fitting in Christmas spending while working out your debt snowball, switching from a Thrift Savings Plan to a Roth Thrift Savings Plan and using an online bank for your emergency fund.
- Economist M. Ray Perryman says that mounting evidence shows you should add "coding" to reading, writing and arithmetic.
- The Better Business Bureau warns that relying on advance payday loans could end up costing you more money than you think.

Page 6F

- Check out the latest building permits for Midland

Page 7F

NAMESINTHENEWS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Scott Sheffield receives Pitts Energy Leadership Award

The Maguire Energy Institute at SMU Cox School of Business honored Scott Sheffield, chairman and chief executive officer of Pioneer Natural Resources Company, with the 2013 L. Frank Pitts Energy Leadership Award at a luncheon ceremony earlier this month at the Cox School's Collins Center.

The Energy Leadership Award was presented to Sheffield as an individual who, like the late oilman for whom the award is named, exemplifies the spirit of entrepreneurship, ethical leadership and innovation in the energy industry.

"We are proud to honor Scott Sheffield with this prestigious award because of the positive impact he has made on the oil and gas industry throughout his almost 40 years in the business," said Bruce Bullock, director of the Maguire Energy Institute. "Scott's leadership extends beyond his own company and onto the boards of several industry-related and community boards. He serves as an outstanding example to those just beginning their careers in the industry."

Sheffield is the fourth recipient of the L. Frank Pitts Energy Leadership Award. The first recipient, in 2010, was Ray L. Hunt, chairman and CEO of Hunt Oil Company and chairman, CEO and president of Hunt Consolidated Inc. Co-founder and executive chairman of Devon Energy Corporation J. Larry Nichols was the 2011 honoree, and in 2012, the award was presented to Mark Papa, chairman and chief executive officer of EOG Resources Inc.

The Maguire Energy Institute and the Cox School of Business created the L. Frank Pitts Energy Leadership Award to honor the legacy of independent oil and natural gas producer L. Frank Pitts, who participated in the drilling of more than 3,000 wells over almost seven decades. The late oilman formerly served as a member of the Maguire Energy Institute's Advisory Board. His daughter, Linda Pitts Custard, is a former member of the SMU Board of Trustees, an alumna of SMU Cox and serves on the Award Event Committee for the Pitts Energy Leadership Award Luncheon.

ST. LOUIS

Graybar elects new board member

Graybar, a distributor of electrical and communications products and related supply chain management and logistics services, which just opened a West Texas location in Odessa, has named David Bender to the company's Board of Directors. Bender currently serves as District Vice President of Graybar's Atlanta regional operations.

David began his Graybar career in 1988 and has served in a broad range of sales and management roles. He was promoted to Seattle District Vice President in 2010 and moved to his current role as District Vice President of Graybar's Atlanta district in 2012.

When it comes to a Christmas budget, work it out together

ASK DAVE

With Dave Ramsey



DEAR DAVE: My wife and I have $15,000 in debt left to pay off. We bring home around $32,000 a year, and we usually spend $250 to $300 on Christmas. I started talking to her about your plan earlier this year, and she finally agreed and got on board a couple of months ago. How should we handle Christmas budgeting in the middle of working our debt snowball? — Scott

DEAR SCOTT: The first thing I'd suggest is to not mention my name for a while. If she's agreed to start working the plan and help you guys get control of your money, that's enough for now. We don't want to cause a rift during the holidays.

Just sit down together and ask her what she thinks is a reasonable amount to spend for Christmas while you're trying to get out of debt. If it's a reasonable figure, smile and tell her you agree. You might even ask if she's okay with your old Christmas budget. If she is, then pencil it in and move on to other things.

The big thing is to make sure you listen to her opinion and work on this together. On the off chance that she gives some crazy dollar amount, just nod and ask how she came to that figure. Then talk things out. Don't bring up my name or go crazy about things. It sounds like you two are on the right track!

DEAR DAVE: Do you think I should consider switching from my traditional TSP (Thrift Savings Plan) to a Roth TSP? — Jeremy

DEAR JEREMY: If I've got a choice, I'm going with the Roth TSP. Now, if you're starting out really late with your saving and investing, the math might work out either way. But in most cases, when you've got several years ahead of you, a Roth TSP, or even a Roth IRA or Roth 401(k) where your money grows tax free, is a much better choice.

Remember: Unless you've waited until you're in your sixties, the vast majority of the money in the account will be growth. Ten percent or less will be the money you actually put into the account. This tax-free growth is what makes the Roth TSP an excellent choice.

In other words, if you've got $1 million in your current investment, and $900,000 is growth, you'll get taxed on that portion. That would amount to around $300,000. If your money is in a Roth, there are no taxes. You just saved $300,000 out of every $1 million. Not a bad deal, is it?

DEAR DAVE: What do you think about using an online bank for my emergency fund? — Raphael

DEAR RAPHAEL: It's not a bad idea at all, as long as you can easily check out the institution's reputation and stability. There are lots of financial scams online, so you want to do some research and make sure they're a reputable and trustworthy organization.

Due diligence is the key, Raphael. There are reliable household names that are online banks, but you can't just assume the group you're dealing with online is made up of honest, stand-up folks any more than you can with a traditional brick-and-mortar bank. Make sure you take your time and know exactly what you're getting into before going into business with them.

Remember, it's not as simple with an online bank as just walking in the door to get your money back if something goes wrong!

THE ECONOMIST

Evidence shows coding should join the 'Three Rs' of education

M. RAY PERRYMAN

The Perryman Group



There are certain skills that fundamentally give you a leg up in the workplace (and life), regardless of occupation. Some of these are the familiar subjects of much of our education: reading, writing and arithmetic. Mounting evidence suggests we should add "coding" to this must-have list. For those of you who aren't as technology-oriented, the type of code I am referring to is the systems of symbols and commands used to translate tasks into languages computers can understand.

Codes are nothing new. Encrypting information has been crucial to everything from successful military operations centuries ago to protecting account information for an ATM transaction today. With the proliferation of technology in the workplace, the importance of knowing how to use it effectively has increased. Now, we're at the point where regardless of the type or size of business, there is probably a website to maintain, a database to keep up with, and myriad ways technology could be harnessed to increase sales and/or efficiency (and, therefore, profits). Taking care of these things can be handled by an outside consultant or someone within the firm with specialized knowledge. However, looking to the future, it's likely that most people coming up through the ranks will be expected to take care of these routine aspects of the business world themselves.

Looking around my office (where there are a number of really smart people in their twenties), I see the benefits of this skill first hand. My younger employees are often more at home with all things technical, and several have picked up some coding skills along the way. Although I'm not hiring them to be programmers, their knowledge is of value to me as an employer in that I can ask them to combine those skills in their work (automating processes we use every day, for example). I suspect that my firm is typical, and in the decades to come, those without coding skills will be at a distinct disadvantage in landing the best jobs.

One good thing about coding is that you can do some of the learning on your own. There are resources ranging from online courses to short "boot camps" to fit virtually any schedule. People who have the skills are being hired by top technology companies regardless of formal training. In some cases, it's the skills that matter, rather than the credentials.

Even so, a computer science or related degree remains the gold standard. Such educational programs combine technical coding skills with a broader understanding of issues such as how to approach the types of problems coding can solve, software design, and much more. While there may be ways in the future to automate some low-level coding tasks by making the languages even more like natural ones — where you can basically speak in common words what you want the machine to be able to do and the necessary code is generated — there will still be a need for people who can think strategically and critically about the process (and generate the code used to generate the code).

For 2013 college graduates, data from the National Association of Colleges and Employers indicate that computer science majors were a close second to engineering majors for the highest starting salaries; computer engineering was second only to red-hot petroleum engineering. The Bureau of Labor Statistics is projecting that there will be a need for far more computing experts than there are computer science graduates, a situation which will work to increase salaries.

One problem is that many students in public K-12 schools never take computer science classes and, hence, don't consider it as a major or a career. Sometimes it's not offered at all, and in other cases students elect to take other classes. This is particularly true of girls, who tend to be extremely underrepresented in the field.

Code.org (which is sponsoring Computer Science Education Week this year) was founded to get the word out about coding. Supported by some of the biggest corporations in the business as well as a number of high-profile individuals, the code.org and Computer Science Education (csedweek.org) websites provide pathways for anyone to spend an hour getting a free taste of various types of programming. Its "Hour of Code" initiative, which is underway in mid-December, seeks to provide an introduction to coding to 10 million people. By giving young people (and middle-aged and old people, for that matter) a glimpse of the power of knowing a little code, the hope is that they will go on to pursue additional training. It's worth a look and an hour of time for anyone who has never been exposed to coding.

It is impossible to precisely predict how the future of technology will look. One thing I do feel certain about is that we will continue to integrate it into our work and daily lives. As that happens, people who understand how to harness the power of programming will have a decided edge.

Dr. 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.

BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

Fast cash for the holidays may end up costing consumers

Many cash-strapped consumers may find themselves in need of an advance payday loan this holiday season.

However, Better Business Bureau serving Central, Coastal, Southwest Texas and the Permian Basin warns consumers of the high interest rates, unaffordable payment terms and high-pressure collection tactics that can make these debts impossible to get out of. According to a study by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the annual percentage interest rates for payday loans average 339 percent.

Payday lenders tend to target people whose credit may not be good enough to obtain a credit card or bank loan, who therefore rely on advance short-term loans to get by. What most borrowers don't realize is the high interest rates attached to these loans can trap them into what's called a "debt cycle." This debt cycle forces borrowers to repeatedly have to renew the loan and pay associated fees every two weeks until they can finally save enough to pay off the principal and get out of debt.

Before you decide to take out a payday loan, consider some alternatives like small bank loans, credit counseling and credit cards. For those with no other options, BBB offers the following tips:

- Start with trust. Check out the company's BBB Business Review to see its rating, history of complaints and other information.
- Never pay an upfront fee. Some short-term loan providers will ask for a post-dated check to cover the amount you borrowed plus interest and fees. However, if any lender asks for those fees in cash before giving you any money, walk away — especially if it's an online lender asking for money via wire transfer. Charging undisclosed upfront fees is illegal, and cash sent by wire cannot be traced.
- Limit the amount you borrow. Only borrow what you know you can pay off with your first paycheck. Most companies will allow you to "rollover" the balance for several weeks or months, but will tack on fees the whole time. This can result in you owing several times what you borrowed in the first place.
- Know your rights. According to the National Conference of State Legislatures; in Texas, payday lenders are required to disclose certain information before initiating a loan. That information includes the cost, the interest rate to be paid and the specific fees that will be paid.
- Read the fine print. Pay close attention to fees and consequences of nonpayment. Will the company allow you to make arrangements if you cannot pay?
- Keep your documentation. Many consumers said they started receiving calls from collections agencies years after they paid off a payday loan. Some of these calls were simple errors; others were attempts by scammers to collect a debt that is not owed. Protect yourself by having documentation that all loans were paid in full.
- Know where to turn. If you feel a lender has committed fraud or taken advantage of you, file a complaint with BBB, the Federal Trade Commission and the Texas Attorney General.

This article was made available by Tyler Patton, Regional Director of the Better Business Bureau in the Permian Basin. Learn more about the Better Business Bureau at permianbasin.bbb.org.

BANANAGRAMS!

LEVEL

For each phrase below, rearrange the letters to spell two new words that are both things that move, happen or can be fast. For example, POSSIBLE GLUT becomes BULLET and GOSSIP.

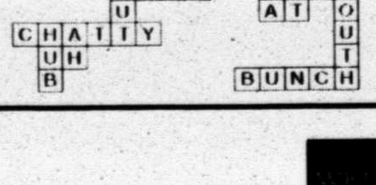
NICE DODO FACT

MOCK CRAYON PET

HIS POTTED BAGEL

MACHO MEN TEETH

Yesterday's Answer:



12.22

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Quality improvement on agenda for Ford's Hinrichs

Associated Press

DEARBORN, Mich. — It's been a year since Joe Hinrichs took over as head of Ford Motor Co.'s Americas division, the latest step in a journey many think could eventually lead to the CEO's office.

Hinrichs, 46, got the job running Ford's North and South American businesses after a three-year stint as head of its Asia Pacific division. In Asia, he presided over Ford's most ambitious growth plan in 50 years.

He says his experience with Asia's prickly governments, nascent supplier network and volatile markets is helping him in South America, where new vehicles like the Ranger pickup and EcoSport SUV have helped Ford eke out a small profit this year despite inflation and instability.

Meanwhile, North America has enjoyed record profits and market share gains thanks to strong sellers like the F-Series pickup and Ford Escape SUV. Hinrichs has been quietly preparing for a big product rollout in 2014. Ford plans to introduce 16 new vehicles in the U.S., including the new Mustang sports car and Lincoln MKC small crossover. A new F-150 pickup is also in the works, but details are under wraps.

Hinrichs sat down with The Associated Press Monday to talk about his first year in the Americas and what's ahead in 2014. On Wednesday, Ford said pretax profit could decline next year, including in North America, partly because of the cost of the big vehicle launch.

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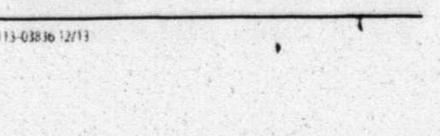
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A look back at 2013's small business challenges

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Small business owners are probably glad to put 2013 into the books.

For many, it was a frustrating year of waiting. Waiting to learn about the new health care law. Waiting for lawmakers to solve budget disagreements. And waiting for the economy to improve. Many put off big decisions like purchasing equipment and hiring as they sought clarity. But in the end, owners fought inertia and appear to be looking forward to 2014. Hiring seems to be showing an uptick and lending to small businesses is improving.

Here's a look back at some of the big issues:

Health care

Small businesses began 2013 with questions and by the year's end, there were few answers.

Companies struggled to sign up for insurance for employees on federally run websites. After a series of computer glitches and delays, the government said businesses would have to buy through brokers, agents and insurance companies until November 2014.

Coverage that goes into effect Jan. 1 or later must conform to the law. Many businesses sidestepped the requirements by renewing policies in 2013.

Owners had mixed reviews about coverage on government websites. Some with mostly younger workers found they'll be paying more than expected. The law is designed to lower premiums for older and sicker workers by including younger, healthier ones in the pool of insured people. Many owners were disappointed by the limited choice of plans.

Budget problems

The $85 billion in budget cuts that took effect March 1 hurt small businesses with federal contracts. Some lost revenue and had to lay off workers. Companies like retailers whose customers include federal workers also lost revenue. Businesses in states with a large concentration of government facilities, including Virginia and California, bore the brunt.

Hiring

In January, small businesses added 106,000 jobs, according to payroll provider ADP. But optimism about a small business hiring boom dissipated as the number of new jobs fell in February and then averaged nearly 70,000 through October. Owners said they weren't planning to add workers because they didn't have the sales to justify the expense, or they didn't need to hire to grow, according to an American Express survey back in the spring. Uncertainty about health care also made them wary.

Through most of the year owners stuck to those plans, but near then end of the 2013 there was a glimmer of hope. ADP reported that small businesses created 102,000 new jobs in November. More insight that could bode well for small business hiring next year, came from a Bank of America survey. Thirty-one percent of owners questioned in the fall said they planned to hire, and 56 percent of those owners said they needed employees to boost business in 2014.

Lending

The largest of small businesses had an easier time obtaining credit in 2013, partly because small businesses are getting healthier, said Jeffrey Stibel, CEO of Dun & Bradstreet Credibility Corp. Revenue at larger small businesses had growth of slightly more than 1 percent, according to the company, which issues credit ratings on small businesses.

WELCOME

From 5F

classes and samples.

"When you're buying a home — whether you're new or old to town — the discounts help alleviate some of the financial stress you just took on," Hager said.

Hager began greeting and welcoming in September and said in the past three months she's found that about 70 percent of the homeowners are new to Midland while 30 percent are moving from Odessa or the surrounding areas or just in and around Midland.

The response she's received though is that whether they are new to the area or have been around for a while, they are all very happy and pleased to be greeted.

But there are still more to greet, Hager said, and she's looking to expand her sponsorships and partnerships with area businesses and organizations to get as much information out to residents.

She'd also like to bring on additional greeters and in the future, hopefully expand the welcoming service to Odessa, where there isn't one. Hager is also working on developing a website for the company so that newcomers can request the service and a greeter to come to their home.

"It's a great service to the homeowner as well as your introducing a business and helping with their marketing and advertising," she said.

For more information about sponsorships or to receive a Welcome Home basket, call 713-256-4106.

BUILDING PERMITS

Building permits for Dec. 9-13

30 Smith Road	Commercial-Detached	$2,500
425 Elm Ave.	New Residence	$140,220
2500 Haynes Drive	Commercial-Detached	$7,000
2500 Haynes Drive	Commercial-Detached	$7,000
3502 Woodhaven Drive	Residential Addition	$20,000
5005 Hilltop Drive	Residential Addition	$25,000
6302 Colt Court	Residence-Detached	$5,000
1202 Cerrillos Ave.	New Residence	$168,480
1301 Cerrillos Ave.	New Residence	$181,080
1117 Cerrillos Ave.	New Residence	$159,120
1201 Cerrillos Ave.	New Residence	$168,480
1210 Cerrillos Ave.	New Residence	$159,390
1204 Cerrillos Ave.	New Residence	$270,000
406 Affirmed Lane	New Residence	$383,850
1203 Cerrillos Ave.	New Residence	$216,162
1205 Cerrillos Ave.	New Residence	$270,000
1215 Conquistador Ct.	New Residence	$181,080
5710 Rio Grande Ave.	Residential Addition	$3,000
1401 Catalina Drive	Sign	$25,000
1401 Catalina Drive	Sign	$25,000
1401 Catalina Drive	Sign	$25,000
1401 Catalina Drive	Sign	$25,000
1505 Catalina Drive	Sign	$250,000
1505 Catalina Drive	Sign	$250,000
1505 Catalina Drive	Sign	$250,000
1101 Andrews Highway	Sign	$175,000
5500 Los Patios Drive	New Residence	$181,080
1703 Princeton Ave.	Residential Addition	$30,000
4401 Meadowlark Lane	Swimming Pool	$71,016
2014 Sinclair Ave.	Residential Addition	$40,000
312 Magnolia Ave.	New Residence	$115,000
1107 Breckenridge Drive	Residential Addition	$54,295
4416 Briarwood Ave.	Sign	$2,847
1008 W. Washington	Residential Addition	$3,000
1009 Austin St.	Commercial Addition	$2,961
1011 Austin St.	Commercial Addition	$2,519
4523 Leddy Drive	New Residence	$148,590
6009 Barton Springs	New Residence	$227,700
2700 W. Kentucky Ave.	Commercial Addition	$27,700
508 Coliseum Court	New Residence	$195,000
510 Coliseum Court	New Residence	$187,000
511 Coliseum Court	New Residence	$199,000
6303 Colt Court	Swimming Pool	$31,500
5309 Castle Pine Road	Swimming Pool	$34,630

Source: City of Midland

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SUNDAY MORNING — DECEMBER 22, 2013

For Complete Information Please Check Movie Listings

						6 AM	6:30	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30
BROADCAST	KMID	ABC	3	3	4	3	2	In Touch Ministries		GMA/Sunday		The Truth	House	J.Jones	This Week (N)		Church	Paid	Paid
	KOSA	CBS	7	7	7	7	7	Paid	Hunt	Rain	M. Lyon	CBS Sunday Morning			FaceNat.	First Baptist Church		First Baptist	Odessa
	KWWT	CW	5	14		5	14	Kingdom	In Search	Tomorr.	In Touch Ministries		Key David	Paid	Paid	Animal	Stanton	Live Life	Hollywd.
	KPEJ	FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Support	W.Minist	F.Hardin	Cowboy	Fox News Sunday		Odessa	FaithAve	Rain	J.Jones	Fox NFL Sunday	
	KMLM	IND	11	11	12	11	11	(5:00) Light of		Walking	LifeBynd	In Touch Ministries		Zion	Day Disc.	DoorwaytoWisdom		Nueva Vida	
	KWES	NBC	9	9	9	9	9	Havas	Secrets	Mercury	Mercury	Sunday Today (N)		Meet the Press		First Baptist Church		W.America	Havas
	KPBT	PBS	13	13		13	8	C.George	Cat/ Hat	Peg + Cat	DinoTrain	D.Tiger	SuperWI	Sid	Wild K.	Arthur	SciGirls	WordGirl	Company
	KUPB	UNI	4	4		4	16	Pagado	Pagado	Para volver a amar		La hora pico		Al punto		Republica deportiva			
	KOSA	MNT	16	16		16		JTV	JTV Direct	Bob Vila	Homeown.	Faith	Hazelton	O.House	HomeT.	Bucket	Game	The NFL Today (L)	
PREMIUM	FLIX		340	65		165		Movie	(:35) ★★	No Looking Back		(:15) ★★★★ Before and After				(:05) ★★★ Medicine Man Sean Connery.			
	HBO		300	68	14	14		(5:20)	Beach Kings	Real Sports		★★ Meet the Fockers Robert De Niro.				McFerrin	24/7		Movie
	HBO2		302	69	15	101	23	Movie	(:50) ★★	Sliding Doors Gwyneth Paltrow.				Get On	Fight	Detective (:50) Play		(:50) The Watch Ben Stiller.	
	HBO5		304	70	16	102		Movie	(:40) ★★	Spanglish ('04, Com/Dra) Adam Sandler.				(:55) ★★★ The Descendants				(:55) Revolution...	
	MAX		380	71	17	120	24	(5:45)	★★★	Apollo 13 Tom Hanks.		(:10) ★★ In Good Company Dennis Quaid.				(:05) ★★★★ Safe House			
	MAX2		382	72	18	122		(:20)	★★ Ocean's Twelve ('04, Act) George Clooney.			(:25) The Philly Kid				Parental Guidance ('12, Com)		Movie	
	PLEX				96			(:15)	American Bandits: Fra...		(:50) ★★ The Next Karate Kid Pat Morita.			(:45) ★★★ The Thing Called Love				Movie	
	SHOW		320	66	19	140	25	(5:00)	Touchback	Inside the NFL		60 Minutes Sports		Jim Rome		Comedy Warriors		(:15) Just Like Us	
	TMC		336	67	22	155	26	(5:15)	That's Wha...	Knuckleball! Tim Wakefield.		(:35) The Twilight Saga: Breaking Daw...				(:35) ★★ Step Up Revolution			
CABLE	A&E		27	32	28	35	47	Criminal Mind "Hope"		Criminal Minds		C.Minds "True Night"		Criminal Minds		★★ The Rainmaker Matt Damon.			
	AMC		40	21	23	42	51	Mad Men		★★ You've Got Mail ('98, Rom) Meg Ryan.						★★★ Big ('88, Com) Elizabeth Perkins, Tom Hanks.			
	BET		58	26		40		(5:00) BET Inspiration		Thicker Than Water		(:55) Thicker/ Water		Bobby Jones Gospel		Lift Voice	Moesha	Moesha	Sistas (2013, Drama)
	BRAVO		65	63		41		Thicker Than Water		(:55) Thicker/ Water		Beverly Hills				Beverly Hills		VanderR "Surlesque"	Vanderpump Rules
	CNBC		46	45		39	72	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
	CNN		43	24	51	30	56	NewDay	Sanjay	New Day		State of the Union		Fareed Zakaria GPS		Reliable Sources		State of the Union	
	DISC		50	20	31	24	42	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Rush "Ready to Roll"		Bering Sea Gold		Salvage City		Salvage City	
	DISNEY		56	27	36	25	36	M.Mouse	McStuffins	Jake	Sofia 1st	★★★ Despicable Me		(:45) ★★★ Meet the Robinsons				Movie	
	ESPN		32	29	48	31	30	SportsCenter		SportsCenter		SportsCenter		Sunday NFL Countdown					
	ESPN2		34	28	49	32	31	E:60		OLines	Report (N)	Colin's Football (L)		SportsCenter		Fantasy Football Now (L)			
	FAMILY		53	54	34	42	33	★★ Santa Who? ('00, Com) Leslie Nielsen.				★★ I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus				★★ Unaccompanied Minors Lewis Black.			
	FNC		45	58	53	23	55	(5:00) FOX & Friends		Sunday				News HQ	Housecall	Media Buzz		America's News HQ	
	FOOD		64	59	27	68	54	Barefoot	Giada	Pioneer	Southern	Ray's... "Layer It Up"		Giada at Home		Pioneer	Rules (N)	Game "Feisty Fiesta"	
	FSSW		37	43	50	45	29	Paid	Paid	E. Games	Xterra	LA Rider	Paid	H.S. Scoreboard		Countdown (L)		H.S. Football	
	FX		31	31	59	64	69	Ellen	★★ Green Lantern ('11, Act) Ryan Reynolds.							★★★★ X-Men: The Last Stand		X-Men Origins:...	
	HALLMARK		54	49	58		34	(5:00) Naughty or ...		★ The Most Wonderful Time of the Year				★ Fir Crazy ('13, Rom) Craig Pryce.				Finding Christmas	
	HGTV		63	50	26	48	44	Property	Property	Property	Property	Property	Property	Property	Property	Property Brothers		LoveList "Host Home"	
	HISTORY		71	62	29	50	43	Modern Marvels		Restore	Restore	Restoration		Restore	Restore	Restore	Restore	Counting	Counting
	LIFETIME		28	25	25	28	48	In Touch Ministries		Amazing	David Jer.	J.Osteen	Paid	Rockers	Rockers	★ Holiday Baggage Cheryl Ladd.			
	MSNBC		47	51		49	73	Hardball	Business	Up With Steve Kornacki				Melissa Harris-Perry				Weekends-Alex Witt	
	NBCSN		38	39				Match-of the Day		Live	EPL Soccer	Tottenham vs Southampton (L)		Live		EPL Soccer	Everton vs.	Swansea City (L)	
	NICK		55	34	39	34	37	Fanboy	KungFu P	Mega	Rabbids	Sponge	Sponge	SanjayCr	Ninja	Sponge		Sam. Cat	Sam. Cat
	SPIKE		30	22	55	53	58	Paid Program		Paid Program		Search	Search	Search	Cops	Cops		★★★ Kick-Ass	
	SYFY		66	64	41	57	67	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Twilight	Twilight	★ The Bleeding ('09, Hor) Michael Madsen.				★ Black Christmas	
	TBS		25	11	44	66	41	Married	Married	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	★★ Year One ('09, Com) Jack Black.				★ Land of the Lost	
	TCM		41	61	24	63	66	(5:00)	Sweethearts	★★★★ One Foot in Heaven				★★★ On Moonlight Bay Doris Day.				★ Period of Adjust...	
	TELE		20	8	10	20		Pagado	Pagado	Raggs	Raggs	Noodle	LazyTown	Pagado	Pagado	Pagado	Op. Repo	Enfoque	Movie
	TLC		51	33	32	38	52	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Four Weddings		Four Weddings		Four Weddings		Four Weddings	
	TNT		24	23	40	26	50	Law & Order		LawOrder	"Amends"	LawOrder "Thin Ice"		LawOrder "Hubris"		Law & Order		LawOrder "Standoff"	
	TVLAND		49	48	35	54	35	(:10) G.Girls	(:50) G. Girls	G.Girls	(:25) Golden Girls	BradyB.	BradyB.	BradyB.	BradyB.	BradyB.	BradyB.	The Exes	(:35) Kirstie
	USA		26	30	42	27	49	Paid Program		Paid Program		White Collar		Psych: The Musical				SVU "Rooftop"	
	WGN		19	18				Paid	Facts	Key David	Beyond	Matlock		Matlock		★★ Red Planet Carrie-Anne Moss.			

SUNDAY AFTERNOON — DECEMBER 22, 2013

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
BROADCAST	KMID	ABC	3	3	4	3	2	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	CMA Country Christmas				News	Christmas
	KOSA	CBS	7	7	7	7	7	NFL Football Denver Broncos vs. Houston Texans Site: Reliant Stadium (L)						(:25) NFL Football New England vs Baltimore (L)					
	KWWT	CW	5	14		5	14	Browns	Browns	Made in Hollywood		★★★ The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King Viggo Mortensen.						Movie	
	KPEJ	FOX	8	5	5	8	3	NFL Football Dallas Cowboys vs. Washington Redskins (L)						The OT	HomeT.	Cheerleader Special		Consumer	Consumer
	KMLM	IND	11	11	12	11	11	Biblical	Mani Erfan	Dr. Will	Sal.	Light of the Southwest		Best of Week		J.McGee	Dollars	House Call	Dr. R.B.
	KWES	NBC	9	9	9	9	9	Adventure Sports		USSA Skiing Grand Prix				Swimming Duel in the Pool				Inside Ed.	News
	KPBT	PBS	13	13		13	8	Parks	Travel Kids	Travel	CEO Glob	Art	Beads	Sewing	Knitting	Generation	E.Smith	News.	Heroes
	KUPB	UNI	4	4		4	16	Tras la Verdad		Navidad en el Vaticano				El Chavo Animado		Corazon Indomable		Humor es	Noticiero
	KOSA	MNT	16	16		16		Christmas at the	Grove	Green	Homes	CARS.TV	AmAthlete	The FBI Files		RedCarpe	OMG	Access Hollywood	
PREMIUM	FLIX		340	65		165		★ Beowulf Christopher Lambert.		(:35)	★★★ October Sky Jake Gyllenhaal.			★★★ Heathers				(:15) Medicine M...	
	HBO		300	68	14	14		(11:45)	Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Sha...			★★ Jack the Giant Slayer Nicholas Hoult.		★★ Meet the Fockers Robert De Niro.					
	HBO2		302	69	15	101	23	Movie	(:35) ★ First Cousin Once Rem...			★★★ Ruby Sparks		Warrior	1stLook	Fight	(:05)	Promised ...	
	HBO5		304	70	16	102		(10:55)	Revolution...	Crisis	(:50)	★★★ L.A. Confidential ('97, Susp) Kevin Spacey.		(:15)	★★★ Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy				
	MAX		380	71	17	120	24	(:05)	★★ Alexander ('04, Adv) Angelina Jolie, Colin Farrell.					(:55)	Snow White and the Huntsman			(:10)	Abraham L...
	MAX2		382	72	18	122		(11:45)	★ Let's Go t...	(:15)	★★ Taxi ('04, Com) Queen Latifah.			(:55)	★★★ Red Tails Cuba Gooding Jr.			★	Office Space
	PLEX				96			(11:45)	Three Can ...	(:20)	★ Mortal Kombat II: Annihilation			★★ The Next Karate Kid				(:50)	American Bandits: Fra...
	SHOW		320	66	19	140	25	LikeUs	Welcome to the Punch			(:15) ★★★★ 50/ 50 Joseph Gordon-Levitt.		(:55) ★★ Out of Sight George Clooney.					
	TMC		336	67	22	155	26	(:15)	A Dark Truth ('12, Thril) Andy Garcia.			(:05) ★ Between Us ('13, Drama)		(:40) ★ Apollo 18 (2011, Sci-Fi)				(:10) ★ Stir of Echoes	
CABLE	A&E		27	32	28	35	47	(10:00)	The Rainm...	★★★★★ The Shawshank Redemption ('94, Dra) Tim Robbins.						Duck Dy	Duck Dy	Duck Dy	Duck Dy
	AMC		40	21	23	42	51	★★ Legally Blonde Reese Witherspoon.						★★★ Home Alone ('90, Com) Macaulay Culkin.				Home Alone 2: Lost in Ne...	
	BET		58	26		40		(10:30)	Sistas	TD Jakes				★★ Cadillac Records ('08, Dra) Emmanuelle Chriqui.				Winnie Terrance Howard.	
	BRAVO		65	63		41		VanderR "Addicted"		Shahs of Sunset		Shahs of Sunset		Housewives Atlanta		Housewives Atlanta		Housewives Atlanta	
	CNBC		46	45		39	72	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
	CNN		43	24	51	30	56	Fareed Zakaria GPS		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom	
	DISC		50	20	31	24	42	Salvage City		Street Outlaws		Street Outlaws		Dude, You're...		Dude, You're...		Alaska/Frontier	
	DISNEY		56	27	36	25	36	(11:30)	Chicken Li...	Dog Blog	Dog Blog	A.N.T.	Dog Blog	Jessie	Shake Up	GoodLuck	GoodLuck	Austin	Austin
	ESPN		32	29	48	31	30	NCAA Basketball Maggie Dixon Classic Con./Cal. (L)						PBA Bowling World Series				Poker World Series	
	ESPN2		34	28	49	32	31	ESPN Radio (L)											
	FAMILY		53	54	34	42	33	★★★ The Santa Clause Tim Allen.						★★ The Santa Clause 2 Tim Allen.				★ The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause	
	FNC		45	58	53	23	55	America's News HQ		Fox News		Journal E.	News HQ	Healthy	Housecall	Media Buzz		Fox News	
	FOOD		64	59	27	68	54	Restaurant		Iron Chef America		Chopped		M. Diners	M. Diners	Diners, Drive-ins		Chopped	
	FSSW		37	43	50	45	29	(11:00)	H.S. Football	UHSAA Playoffs		Game365	Icons	Texans Wrap (L)		NCAA Basketball Southern U. vs Baylor (L)			
	FX		31	31	59	64	69	(11:00)	X-Men Origins: Wolve...			★★★★ X-Men: First Class ('11, Act) James McAvoy.						★★★ Thor Chris Hemsworth.	
	HALLMARK		54	49	58		34	(11:00)	Finding C...	★★★ The Christmas Blessing				★ Christmas Magic ('11, Dra) Lindy Booth.				★ Naughty or Nice	
	HGTV		63	50	26	48	44	Property Brothers		Property Brothers		Property Brothers		Property Brothers		Property Brothers		HouseH	House
	HISTORY		71	62	29	50	43	Counting	CountCars	Counting	Counting	Pawn Star	Pawn Star	Pawn Star	Pawn Star	Pawn Star	Pawn Star	Pawn Star	Pawn Star
	LIFETIME		28	25	25	28	48	★ Call Me Claus ('11, Fam) Whoopi Goldberg.				★ The Real St. Nick Torrey DeVitto.				★ A Snow Globe Christmas Christina Milian.			
	MSNBC		47	51		49	73	Weekends-Alex Witt		Meet the Press		MSNBC News Live		Disrupt		Caught on Camera		Caught on Camera	
	NBCSN		38	39				GoalZone	Premier League	Peace		Babe W.	Offense	FLW Outdoors		Hunter	Whitetail	Alaska	Fishing
	NICK		55	34	39	34	37	★ A Fairly Odd Christmas		Sponge		Sponge		★★★ Merry Christmas, Drake & Josh		iCarly	Victori.	Parents	
	SPIKE		30	22	55	53	58	(11:00)	★★★ Kick-Ass			★★ Ghost Rider ('07, Act) Eva Mendes, Nicolas Cage.				★★★ The Bourne Identity Matt Damon.			
	SYFY		66	64	41	57	67	(11:00)	Black Chris...	★★★ 28 Days Later ('02, Hor) Cillian Murphy.						★★ The Faculty Jordana Brewster.		Movie	
	TBS		25	11	44	66	41	(11:00)	Land of th...	★★ Hot Tub Time Machine John Cusack.				★★ Zoolander ('01, Com) Ben Stiller.				★ Talladega Night...	
	TCM		41	61	24	63	66	(11:00)	Period of ...	★★★ Christmas in Connecticut						★★★ Now, Voyager Bette Davis.		★★★ Gigi	
	TELE		20	8	10	20		(11:30)	★★★ Man on Fire			★★ Miami Vice ('06, Act) Jamie Foxx, Colin Farrell.				Op. Repo		★ Our Family Wed...	
	TLC		51	33	32	38	52	Faith "Keep Sweet"		Faith "On the Run"		Breaking the Faith		Faith "Temptation"		Medium	Medium	Long Island Medium	
	TNT		24	23	40	26	50	To Be Announced				Breaking the Faith		(:15) ★★★ Larry Crowne Tom Hanks.		(:15) ★★★ The Holiday Cameron Diaz.			
	TVLAND		49	48	35	54	35	(:10) Cosby	(:50) Cosby	(:25) The Cosby Show		Cosby	Cosby	Cosby		Roseanne	(:40) Rose.	(:15) Rose.	(:55) Rose.
	USA		26	30	42	27	49	Law&O...SVU "Stolen"		SVU "Dominance"		Law&O...SVU "Blood"		Law&O...SVU "Parts"		Law&O...SVU "Strain"		SVU "Annihilated"	
	WGN		19	18				★★★ Get Shorty ('95, Com) John Travolta.				Bones				★★★ Deep Blue Sea Saffron Burrows.			

SUNDAY PRIME TIME — DECEMBER 22, 2013

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
BROADCAST	KMID	ABC	3	3	4	3	2	★★★ The Sound of Music ('65, Mus) Christopher Plummer, Eleanor Parker, Julie Andrews. A woman leaves an Austrian convent to become a governess to a widower's seven children.								KMID News	(:35) Post-Game	(:05) White Collar	
	KOSA	CBS	7	7	7	7	7	(3:25) NFL Football	60 Minutes		The Good Wife "Hitting the Fan"		The Mentalist		Elementary		CBS 7 News	(:35) The Wire	(:35) The Closer
	KWWT	CW	5	14		5	14	Christmas Is Here Again		Hollywood Christmas Parade				Seinfeld	Seinfeld	King of Queens	King of Queens	'Til Death	'Til Death
	KPEJ	FOX	8	5	5	8	3	Bob's Burgers	American Dad	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	Family Guy	AxeCop(:4 5) Axe Cop	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Modern Family	Texans Weekly	Modern Family	Jack Van Impe
	KMLM	IND	11	11	12	11	11	Doorways to Wisdom		Walking	Dr. Rik Wadge	Light of the Southwest				Zola Levitt	Update	Day of Discovery	Dollars & Sense
	KWES	NBC	9	9	9	9	9	Football Night in America (L)		(:20) NFL Football Chicago Bears vs. Philadelphia Eagles Site: Lincoln Financial Field - Philadelphia, Pa. (L)						News-West 9		Country Reporter	Whacked Out
	KPBT	PBS	13	13		13	8	Nature "Cold Warriors: Wolves and Buffalo"		Mr. Stink (N)		Masterpiece Classic "Downton Abbey: Series III" A yearly cricket match settles old scores.				Austin City Limits "Tom Waits"		Backst.Pass "Bryan Michael Fischer"	
	KUPB	UNI	4	4		4	16	Aqui y Ahora		Corazon Indomable				Sal y pimienta		Perspec-tiva	Noticiero Univision	Tras la Verdad	
	KOSA	MNT	16	16		16		Ent. Tonight		Burn Notice		The Closer		Private Practice		30 Rock	Sunny	Office	Trobador
PREMIUM	FLIX		340	65		165		(5:15)	Medicine M...	★★★ Elizabeth ('98, Dra) Cate Blanchett.				(:05) ★★★ Basquiat Jeffery Wright.				★ Fahrenheit 9/11	
	HBO		300	68	14	14		(:05)	Broken City ('12, Cri) Mark Wahlberg.			Treme (N)		Get On	Ja'mie (N)	Treme		Get On	Ja'mie
	HBO2		302	69	15	101	23	(5:05)	Promised La...	★ Stoker Mia Wasikowska.				(:45) ★ The Watch ('12, Com) Ben Stiller.		RedWings/ Leafs		Movie	
	HBO5		304	70	16	102		Movie	(:25) ★ Beasts of the Southern ...			★★★★ The Descendants George Clooney.				★★★ L.A. Confidential Kevin Spacey.			
	MAX		380	71	17	120	24	(5:10)	Abraham L...	★★★★ Argo ('12, Thril) Ben Affleck.						★★★ Gangster Squad Sean Penn.		(:55) F.Fatales	"Libra"
	MAX2		382	72	18	122		Movie	★ Vehicle 19 ('13, Thriller)			★ Parental Guidance ('12, Com)		JumpOff		(:20) Zane's Jump Off		(:55) Recoil	
	PLEX				96			(:20)	★★ Three Can Play That Game			★★★ The Thing Called Love				★★ The Next Karate Kid		Movie	
	SHOW		320	66	19	140	25	Homeland "The Star"		Masters "Manhigh"		★ Sinister ('12, Hor) Ethan Hawke.				★ Lawless ('12, Cri) Shia LaBeouf, Tom Hardy.			
	TMC		336	67	22	155	26	(5:10)	Stir of Echoes	★ The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Pa...				★★ Step Up Revolution				(:40) John Dies at the End	
CABLE	A&E		27	32	28	35	47	Duck Dy	Duck Dy	Duck Dy	Duck Dy	Duck Dy	Duck Dy	Duck Dynasty		Duck Dy	Duck Dy	Duck Dy	Duck Dy
	AMC		40	21	23	42	51	(4:30)	Home Alone...	★★★ Home Alone ('90, Com) Macaulay Culkin.						★★★ Home Alone 2: Lost in New York			
	BET		58	26		40		(4:30)	Winnie Terrance Howard.	★★★ The Perfect Holiday Morris Chestnut.						TD Jakes		BET Inspiration	
	BRAVO		65	63		41		Atlanta Social (N)		Housewives Atl. (N)		Thicker/ Water (N)		Housewives Atlanta		Watch (N)	Queens	Housewives Atlanta	
	CNBC		46	45		39	72	Til Debt	Money	60 Minutes		Mob Money		American Greed		60 Minutes		Car	Car
	CNN		43	24	51	30	56	CNN Special Report		Anthony Bourdain		Anthony Bourdain		CNN Special Report		Anthony Bourdain		Anthony Bourdain	
	DISC		50	20	31	24	42	Alaska/Frontier		Alaska/Frontier		Alaska/Frontier		Screwed "Green Hell"		Alaska/Frontier		(:05) Dude, You're...	
	DISNEY		56	27	36	25	36	Shake Up	GoodLuck	Liv/Mad	Dog Blog	Good Luck	Jessie	A.N.T.	Dog Blog	Gravity	Jessie	GoodLuck	GoodLuck
	ESPN		32	29	48	31	30	SportsCenter		College Gameday		30 for 30		Nine for IX		SportsCenter		SportsC.	
	ESPN2		34	28	49	32	31	Radio	Poker	Poker World Series		Poker World Series		Poker World Series		Poker World Series		ESPNFC Press Pass	
	FAMILY		53	54	34	42	33	★★★ Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas				★★★ Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas						J.Osteen	Enjoy Life
	FNC		45	58	53	23	55	FOX Report Sunday		Huckabee		Justice JudgeJeanine		Stossel		Huckabee		Justice JudgeJeanine	
	FOOD		64	59	27	68	54	Guy's Grocery Games		Guy's Game		Chopped		Cuthroat (N)		Restaurant		Chopped	
	FSSW		37	43	50	45	29	Xterra	FBIShow	BMX		WPT Poker		Bull Riding		Cowboys	Spotlight	WPT Poker	
	FX		31	31	59	64	69	(4:30)	★★★ Thor	★★★ Iron Man 2 ('10, Act) Robert Downey Jr...						★★★ Iron Man 2 ('10, Act) Robert Downey Jr...			
	HALLMARK		54	49	58		34	(5:00)	Naughty or ...

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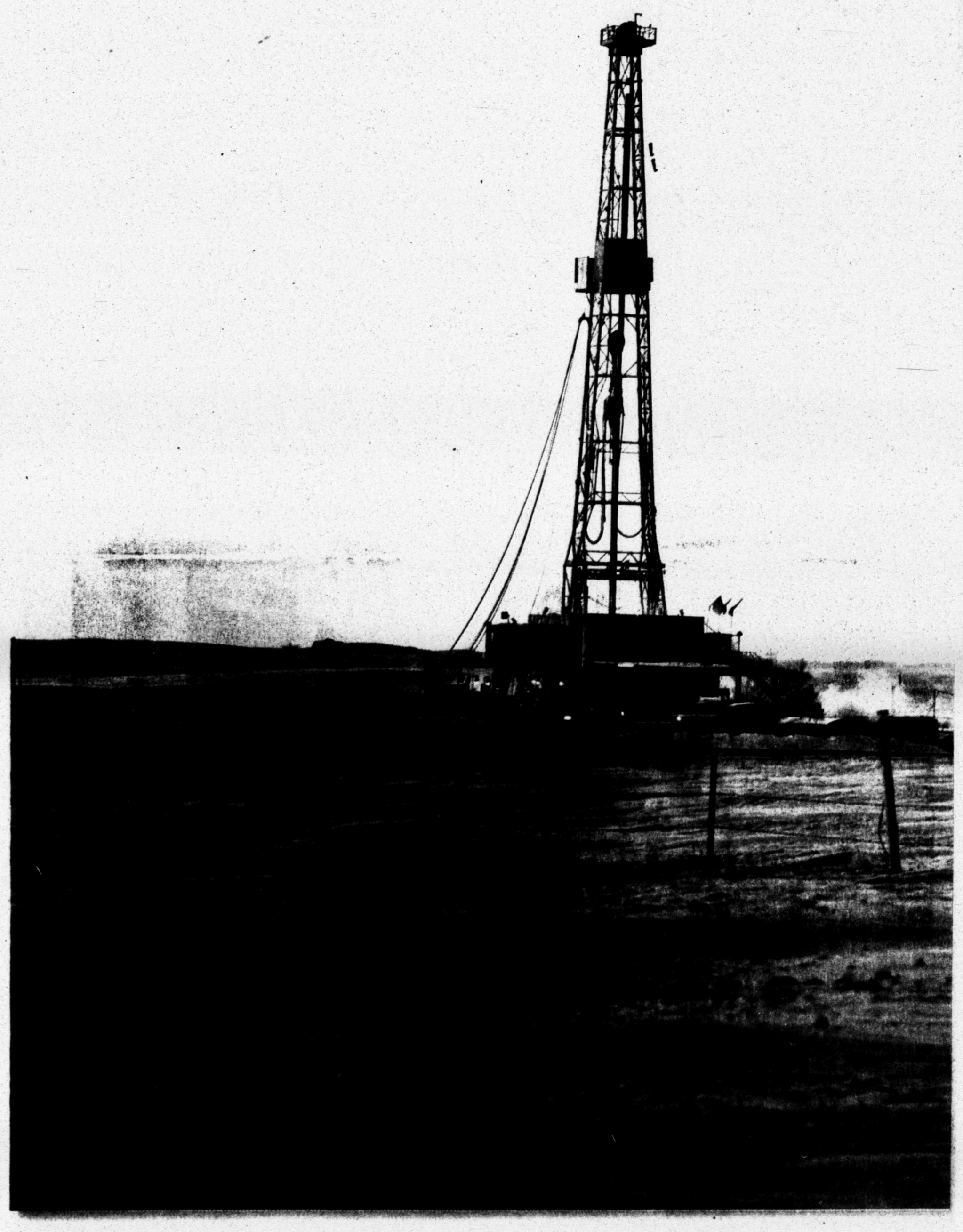
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OIL REPORT

MERRY CHRISTMAS



from the Oil Report

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We wish to say *thank you* to all who had the privilege of working with us this year and we look forward to serving you in 2014 as the Premier A&D Energy Marketers of the Permian Basin.
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Merry Christmas!

The night shines as the darkness but the darkness has not overcome it.
John 1:5 NLT

Midland College

PETROLEUM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

To register, go to the Midland College PPDC's Website: www.midland.edu/ppdc

Midland College will be closed for the Christmas holidays from Dec.15-Jan. 1.

Some of the classes below might not be posted on our website until Jan..

Courses

Managing Sucker Rod Lift Well Failures
Instructor: Kent Gantz
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Jan. 16
$350; Out of State, $375
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois Ave.

IHS: Advanced Cross Sections and Correlation Techniques
Instructor: To be announced
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Jan. 21-22
$1,500
Register directly with IHS

Well Control Drilling/Workover (WellCAP)
Instructor: Larry Chapman
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Jan. 27-29; 8 a.m.-noon Jan. 30
$900; out of state, $925
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois Ave.

C02 School
Instructor: Steve Melzer, Robert Trentham, Bob Kiker, Ed Payne
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Jan. 28-31
$1,895; out of state, $1,920
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois Ave.

On-Line Land Management Certificate Program - Module 1 of 6 Modules: Introduction to Land Management Practices
Instructor: Alyce Hoge
Start Date: Feb. 3; end date: Feb. 28; registration deadline: noon, Feb. 3
Returning registrants: $599; out of state, $624 (purchased book for previous modules)
New registrants: $649; Out of State, $674; (includes $50 manual (AAPL Land Reference Guide). If you plan to register for additional modules the $50 materials fee is a one-time charge.

Basic Drilling for Non-Drilling Engineers
Instructor: Tommy Lent
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Feb. 4-5
$430; out of state, $455
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois Ave.

Oilfield Manager (OFM) - Introduction
Instructor: Celia Payne
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Feb. 5-6
$870; out of state, $895
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois Ave.

PetroSkills: Plunger Lift
Instructor: Dr. James F. Lea
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 10-14
$3,950; contact www.petroskills.com or call (800) 821-5933. Fee is paid directly to PetroSkills
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois Ave.

SPEE Midland Texas Chapter/ PPDC: Production Forecasting for Unconventional Resources
Instructor: Dr. John Lee
8.a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 10-11
$1,500; out of state, $1,525
Midland College Advanced Technology Center, 3200 W. Cuthbert Ave.

Understanding and Optimizing Hydraulic Fractures (Even Wimps Can Double Well Productivity!)
Instructor: Mike Vincent
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 12-13; 8 a.m.-noon Feb. 14
$2,195; out of state, $2,220
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois Ave.

Fundamentals of Hydraulic Fracturing
Instructor: Dr. Ali Daneshy
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 17-18
$2,150; out of state, $2,175
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois Ave.

Advanced Horizontal Well Fracturing
Instructor: Dr. Ali Daneshy
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 19-21
$2,950; out of state, $2,975
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois Ave.

8 a.m.-5 p.m.omprehensive Hydraulic Fracturing (combination of two classes above)
Instructor: Dr. Ali Daneshy
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 17-21
$4,900; out of state, $4,925
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois Ave.

Petroleum Geology for Non-Geologists
Instructor: Paul H. Pausé
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m Feb. 18-19
$1,795; out of state, $1,820
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois Ave.

Well Service and Pressure Control
Instructor: Mike Cure
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 20
$375; out of state, $400
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois Ave.

The Oilfield from Planning to Plugging
Instructor: T.E. Gill
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 25-26
$430; out of state, $455
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois Ave.

PETRA Fundamentals
Instructor: Greg Hinterlong
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 27-28
$625; Out of State, $650
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois Ave.

ENERGY OUTLOOK

Natural gas production will expand and diversify over the coming decades. While **North America and Russia/Caspian will continue to be the two leading natural gas-producing regions**, other regions will also see strong growth. **Asia Pacific, Africa and Latin America are each expected to more than double their gas production over the *Outlook* period.** This growth will be spurred by both strong regional demand and export projects.

215 billion

Global demand for natural gas will rise by 215 billion cubic feet per day over the *Outlook* period. That is equal to adding more than three times the natural gas consumed in the United States in 2010.

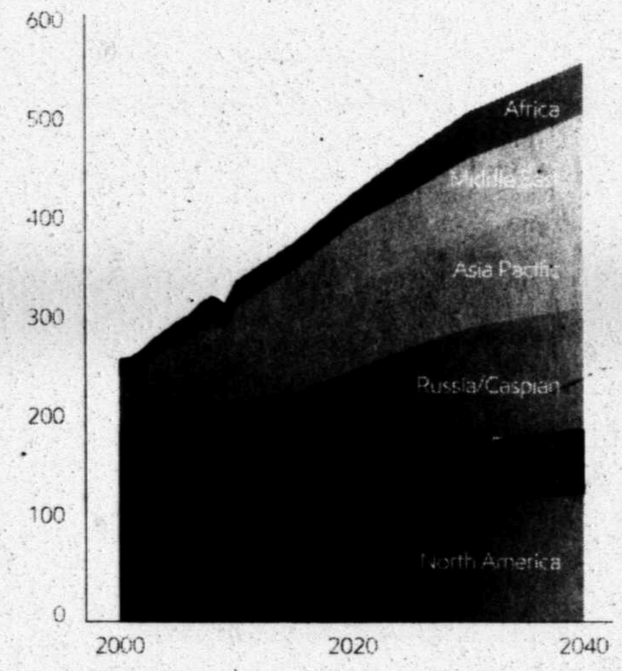
Shale, LNG continue to reshape natural gas market

Two significant developments in natural gas — shale gas production in North America and the growth of the global LNG market — are likely to play a major role in expanding and reshaping natural gas supplies over the coming decades.

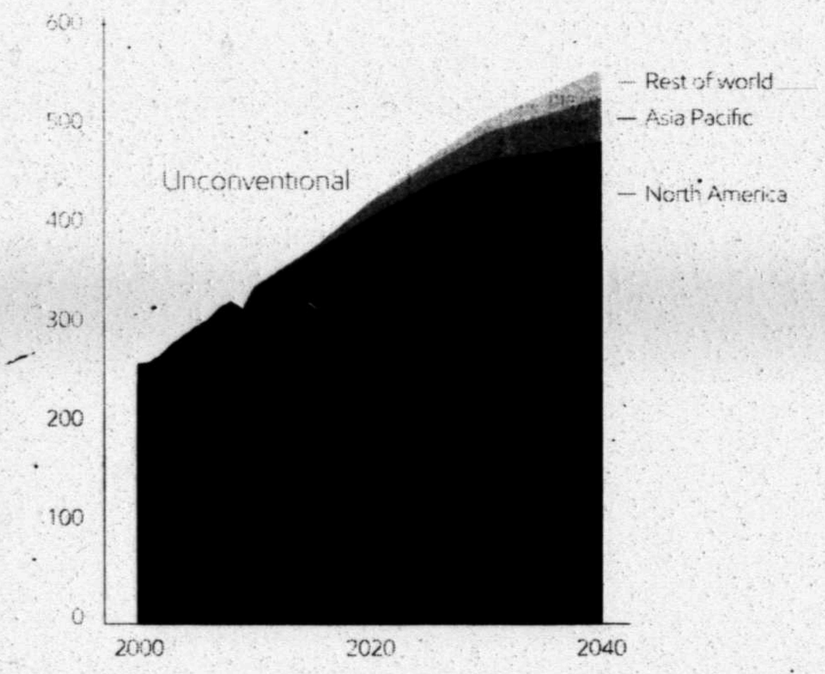
Unconventional gas — including shale gas, tight gas and coalbed methane — accounts for about 40 percent of the world's remaining recoverable gas resource, according to IEA estimates. Unconventional development is expected to play an increasing role in the global gas supply.

Advances in technology and favorable market conditions have unlocked North America's vast resources of shale gas and other unconventional sources such as tight gas and tight oil. From 2010 to 2040, unconventional gas production in North America is expected to grow by around 65 billion cubic feet per day, which is about the size of total U.S. gas production today. This abundant supply is expected to enable **North America to shift from a net importer to a net exporter of natural gas by 2020** as production outpaces demand.

Natural gas production by region



Natural gas production by type



The Outlook for Energy: A View to 2040 41

Graphic courtesy ExxonMobil

Even with expected exponential growth in natural gas use for electricity generation, the world has approximately a 200-year supply of the fuel at current technology levels. This and other projections were made public in ExxonMobil's annual Outlook, released this month.

Report: Technology will boost fossil fuel production for next 200 years

By Paul Wiseman
Special to the Oil Report

Even as energy demands grow, especially in the developing world, through 2040 and beyond, new drilling technology is more than keeping up with supplies.

That is one of the themes of this year's ExxonMobil Outlook for Energy report. This is the fourth year the energy giant has publicized this report, which incorporates projections for both consumption and production on a global basis through the year 2040. The report was presented by William Colton, the company's vice president of corporate strategic planning.

While the report showed conventional oil production is expected to remain flat, deep water drilling, shale, tight sands and NGLs are likely to grow robustly through 2040.

Colton stated, "The outlook is clearly a technology story." He referred to a chart showing the International Energy Agency's estimation that the world currently has 5.7 trillion barrels of oil reserves, compared to expected consumption of just over 2 trillion barrels through 2040. "If you do the math," he pointed out, "you can see, looking forward, the world has well over 100 years of supply."

Unconventionals are projected to expand at a rate that will see 45 percent of liquids production coming from sources other than conventional crude and condensate sources. On the gas side, unconventionals already account for 40 percent of production.

Natural gas supplies listed by the same agency play out to about a 200 year supply. This is interesting in light of the fact that the greatest growth in demand is expected to be in natural gas as developing countries expand their electrical grids to supply growing cities.

Because many of the natural gas resources are located thousands of miles from where they are needed, the report lists liquefied natural gas, or LNG, as the primary growth area in gas transportation. The Outlook states, "LNG volume is expected to triple over the Outlook period to meet approximately 15 percent of global gas demand. The growth of the LNG market will facilitate trade between regions, helping to balance global supply and demand of natural gas."

Colton stressed the need for free trade to allow oil and gas to get where it is needed, saying that trade is a win-win situation for both producer and consumer.

Globally, liquid fuels are expected to continue to be the choice in transportation except for short-haul fleets. For power generation, coal will continue to expand until about 2025, when the demand for reductions in greenhouse gases will force more of a shift to more greenhouse-friendly natural gas. The United States should be one of the exporters during this time frame.

Renewable energy will continue to be the fastest growing fuel, rising by 60 percent over the time frame. However, because of its small starting point, it will still be only a tiny fraction of the whole energy equation by 2040.

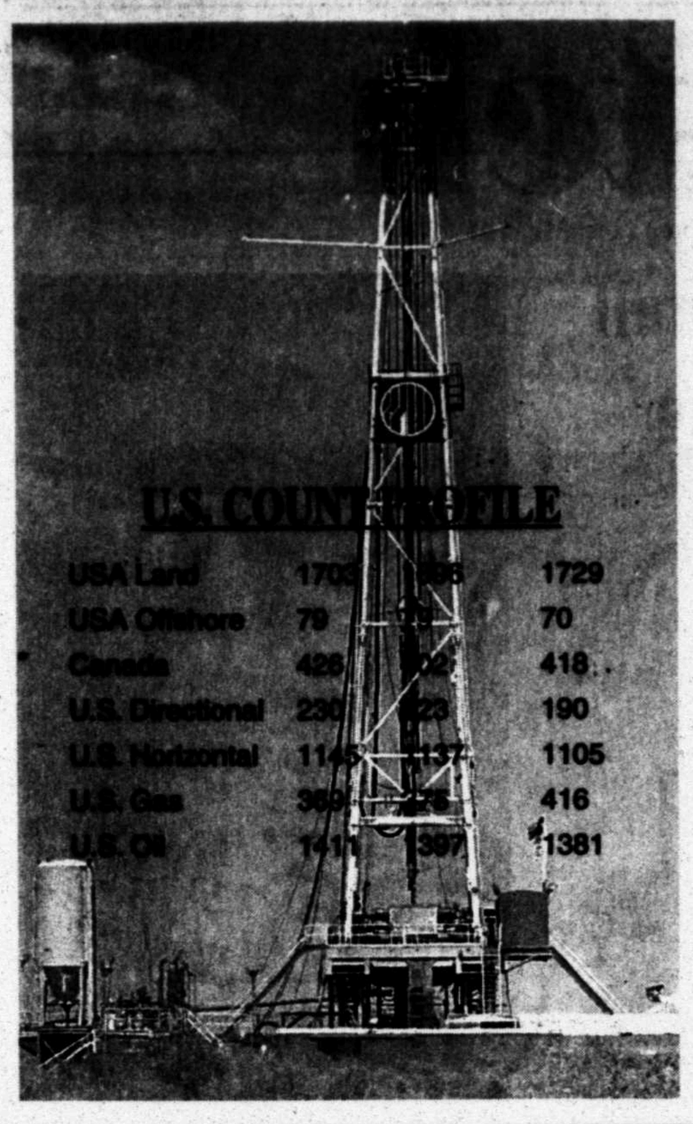
Closer to home, the United States, currently one of the top three oil importers, is expected to achieve a relatively balanced position by 2030. Increases in both conservation and production will be key factors.

Higher fuel economy standards expected to take effect in coming years will keep a lid on liquid fuel use, even as more vehicles take to the roads. And the same uptick in unconventional production that is seen worldwide will continue to move here — in fact, as Colton pointed out, most of the technology involved in unconventionals was developed in the United States.

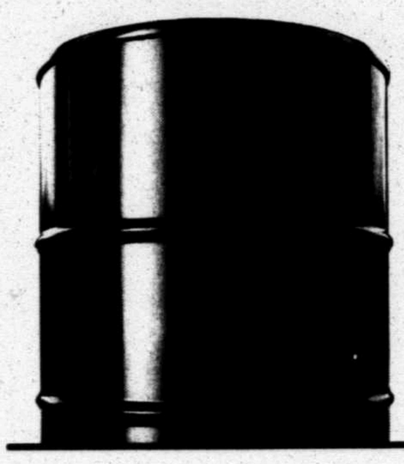
As technology continues to expand the amount of recoverable resources, the energy is available. As the Outlook stressed the need for free trade and as Colton underlined the fact that free markets and private industry have provided the foundation of the locating and producing of oil in America, it seems apparent that freedom is a key underlying theme of the report.

The entire Outlook is available online at http://corporate.exxonmobil.com/en/energy/energy-outlook

Paul Wiseman can be reached at fitoprint@sbcglobal.net.







MID-WEEK WTI AVERAGE PRICES

Posted	$93.80
Flint Hills Resources*	$94.25
Phillips 66	$94.42
Plains*	$94.25
Shell Trading	$94.40
Sun*	$94.25
NYMEX futures	$97.32

*Net price without transportation charge
Note: Posted prices as of December 19, 2013

SPOT NATURAL GAS PRICE PROFILE

Current natural gas prices (price per MMBtu)

	First of the month price	Closing price 12/18/13	Same period one year ago
NYMEX future price	$3.818	$4.251	$3.418
Composite Field Prices For Waha Hub	$3.590	$4.140	$3.140
Composite Field Prices For Rocky Mountains	$3.593	$4.170	$3.186
Composite Field Prices For Permian Basin	$3.560	$4.175	$3.127
Composite Field Prices For San Juan Basin	$3.590	$4.170	$3.135
Composite Field Prices For Midcontinent	$3.525	$4.095	$3.119
Composite Field Prices For Gulf Coast	$3.733	$4.182	$3.180

PERMIAN BASIN RIG COUNTS

Texas

DIST. #7C

Coke	0
Concho	1
Crockett	6
Irion	15
Kimble	0
McCulloch	0
Menard	0
Reagan	19
Runnels	2
Schleicher	1
Sutton	0
Terrell	0
Tom Green	1
Upton	31

DIST. #8

Andrews	22
Brewster	0
Crane	9
Culberson	10
Ector	18
Glasscock	34
Howard	24
Hudspeth	0
Jeff Davis	0
Loving	16
Martin	41
Midland	26
Mitchell	2
Pecos	7
Presidio	0
Reeves	44
Sterling	6
Ward	18
Winkler	4

DIST. #8A

Bailey	0
Borden	4
Cochran	0
Cottle	0
Crosby	1
Dawson	3
Dickens	0
Floyd	0
Gaines	6
Garza	3
Hale	0
Hockley	5
Kent	1
King	1
Lamb	1
Lubbock	0
Lynn	0
Motley	0
Scurry	6
Terry	1
Yoakum	5
TEXAS TOTAL	394

New Mexico

Chaves	1
Eddy	40
Lea	34
Roosevelt	0
N.M. TOTAL	75

Veteran oilmen found True Oil with $500M in equity

By Mella McEwen
mmcewen@mrt.com

"We are excited about our commitment to True Oil and its management team. With Ronnie and the team's deep experience in the Permian Basin, we are confident in True Oil's ability to acquire and develop oil and gas assets and become a leading operator in this particularly attractive area."

Nate Walton, True Oil chairman

Veteran Permian Basin oilmen are jumping into the Permian Basin exploration mix, announcing the formation of True Oil Company LLC.

"We decided now was a good time to raise funding," said Ronnie Scott, who serves as True Oil's chief executive officer and president.

Scott, who had served as president and chief operating officer of Henry Petroleum, Henry Resources and HPC Energy, formed True Oil with Keith Maberry, Michael Rhoads, Will Kiker, and Jamie Rhoads.

Joining the True Oil founders in Permian Basin exploration is Ares Management of Los Angeles, which is leading an investment group that includes True Oil's management and other institutional investors. The investment group has committed $500 million in equity capital for True Oil to acquire and develop Permian Basin oil and gas assets.

Scott said he feels honored that Ares chose True Oil as a vehicle to return to exploration and production investment. Ares currently has $68 billion in capital under management.

In a press release, Nate Walton, who will serve as True Oil's chairman and is a principal in the Private Equity Group at Ares Management, said, "We are excited about our commitment to True Oil and its management team. With Ronnie and the team's deep experience in the Permian Basin, we are confident in True Oil's ability to acquire and develop oil and gas assets and become a leading operator in this particularly attractive area."

As a team, the True Oil managers have been responsible for close to $3 billion of development, acquisition, and divestiture activity within the Permian Basin over the last few years.

True Oil's management has spent the last couple of months building infrastructure, he said, setting up revolving credit lines with banks and securing office space in Centerpoint, the office building on Andrews Highway that also houses Wells Fargo. The company is about to begin build-out on 20,000 square feet of office space for its staff, which began with five and has grown to 16. Scott plans are to have 19 or 20 employees soon. Scott said he has been hiring engineers and geologists.

With $500 million in initial funding in the bank, he said True Oil is now looking for properties with infill drilling potential to acquire.

"We won't lease a lot of acreage," he said. "Pretty much all the Permian Basin is under lease right now."

He noted that at Henry the focus was on the Midland Basin while others have experience in the Central Basin Platform and the Delaware Basin. "We'll be looking at all the Permian Basin," he said.

While no acquisitions have been made yet, Scott said the company has had what he called a couple of trial runs. He is also looking for joint ventures, working with companies wanting to develop their properties.

"We think there are a lot of wells to be drilled, both vertically and horizontally," Scott said. "There's a lot of competition, but we hope to be in the mix."

The next couple of years will be very interesting, said Scott, who added he is very bullish long-term about the future of the domestic oil and gas industry. "I think we'll have excess production before we have a production shortage," he said.

Short-term, however, there are a couple of developments to closely watch over the next couple of years, he said.

First is the growth of horizontal drilling, which he said has dome remarkable things for Permian Basin operators and yielded some extraordinary wells. "But we're not hearing about the bad wells," he said.

He agrees with Pioneer Natural Resources' President and Chief Operating Officer Tim Dove, who said the industry is "in the batting cage before the game" in terms of developing unconventional resources.

"My cautious approach is that not all horizontal wells are good and we don't have enough data yet to differentiate," he said. "We're in the data gathering phase. As we gather data, we'll see horizontal wells segregated into great, good and poor wells. We'll be winnowing wells as we gather data."

He is also more cautious, short-term, about oil prices. Acknowledging that "I'm bad about forecasting, but I do have an opinion. It seems there's a lot of production coming online and, given flat to slightly lower demand, that has to put a lot of pressure on prices. I'm not expecting some terrible but, but I do see some price pullback and some rigs being laid down."

Oilmen want continued success, regulatory freedom for Christmas

By Mella McEwen
mmcewen@mrt.com

Permian Basin oilmen are putting the finishing touches on their 2014 capital expenditure budgets, planning drilling programs and considering joint ventures. They're also in the midst of celebrating Christmas and New Year's with family, friends and co-workers.

But several of them too a few minutes to ask Santa Claus for some special goodies this Christmas.

Clayton Williams asks Santa for "a doubling of oil reserves in the Permian Basin! Maybe even tripling of oil reserves!"

He notes that he has already received an early Christmas present in that his company is now valued at $1 billion and is moving its stock listing to the New York Stock Exchange from NASDAQ. He also has 1,200 locations to drill, which he said should keep him busy for awhile.

"My letter to Santa on behalf of Elevation Resources would humbly request:

1. World peace and the end of hunger and religious repression on earth.
2. The successful completion of our University 1-25H, our first Elevation well.
3. Three more technical professionals just as good as the ones we have.
4. A stable and fair regulatory and legislative environment for 2014.
5. All of my candidates for political office and regulatory positions would win their elections in 2014.

That's not too much to ask, is it (except for #1)?

Merry Christmas to all, and to all a blessed 2014."

Steven H. Pruett, president and chief executive officer, Elevation Resources

"Twelve million Prairie Chickens!"

Ben Shepperd, president of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.

"Dear Santa,

"I would like for Texas to be able to regulate its own energy industry without any interference from the federal government."

Jeff Sparks, chief operating officer, Discovery Operating

"Please bring us a safe 2014, with no oilfield injuries or lost time accidents, and continued stable oil prices. Some additional gas pipeline capacity across the Permian in my stocking would also be appreciated!"

Larry Richards, president and chief operating officer, Hy-Bon Engineering

"Dear Santa,

First of all, I want to say thanks to you and God for allowing the oil and gas industry to be in our lives here in West Texas. The

Please see SANTA/5G

What's happinging in Midland this weekend? Find out by reading
WEEKENDER
Look for it inside Thursday's edition of the Reporter-Telegram



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around the oil patch

PAID CONTENT

To appear in *Around the Oil Patch* call Paul Wiseman at 697-7468 or your Oil Report account executive at 687-9004.

Victaulic pipe joining systems are easier to install and safer than welding, flanging or threading

If there were a system that joined pipe 5-6 times faster than your current method and also had the advantages of being safer, less likely to leak and easier to adapt when changes were needed, that would save you a lot of time and money. It would be well worth looking into.

There is such a system. For almost 90 years now, Victaulic has been providing just such pipe joining systems to the oil patch all across the United States and the world. They have had an office in Odessa since the 1960s. The company invented the grooved-end pipe joining system in 1925 and has been expanding and improving on that system ever since. Victaulic systems are suitable for production flow lines and headers, tank batteries and secondary recovery, drilling, collection tanks and refinery plant piping, among other applications.

Over those nine decades product durability has been thoroughly tested in the most hostile environments. The company reports couplings installed in those early days—the 1920s and 30s—are still in service, with connectors and gaskets still intact. Today's couplings are manufactured to the same rigorous standards, meaning you can expect the same long-term service.

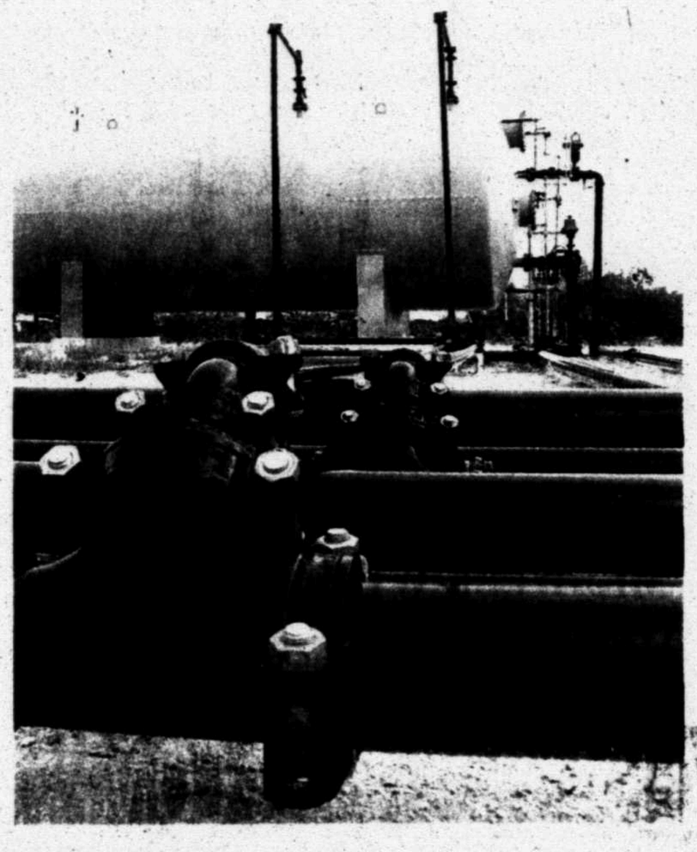
While Victaulic couplings are well suited to the most common pipe sizes—2-6 inch OD—there are plenty of options for any size pipe from ¾" to 60" OD. In addition to couplings, Victaulic supplies valves and fittings for any diameter pipe.

Victaulic products are designed for transporting wet and dry media through standard, light wall or extra heavy carbon steel, aluminum, internally coated plastic, FRP and stainless steel pipe.

In particular, the grooved system works well with coated pipe. Grooves can be put in the pipe prior to coating. Since this is a cold formed system the coating is not compromised when the couplings are installed. As stated above, these connections are 5-6 times faster to install than welding, flanging or threading. They are also much easier to disassemble, making them the right choice for any pipe that must be reconfigured from time to time. Flow lines for produced water or for other field applications benefit greatly from this aspect. Any facility needs to be changed from time to time, so even there Victaulic systems save time and money.

In all applications Victaulic connections are designed to eliminate leaks,which accomplishes several things. First, it does away with expensive loss of product—what goes in on one end comes out the other end. Second, because there are no leaks, environmental hazards are reduced. You will not need to call a hazmat team to a site to clean up a leak from a properly connected Victaulic joint.

...couplings installed in those early days—the 1920s and 30s—are still in service, with connectors and gaskets still intact. Today's couplings are manufactured to the same rigorous standards...



Victaulic systems improve safety in other ways. Because there is no welding involved, there are no hazardous flames or joint compounds, personnel face fewer risks in the installation process.

The reasons to use this system are many and varied—and they all make perfect economic sense. For anyone still thinking, "We've never done it that way before—I don't know if we should change," Victaulic offers full support for first-time clients. Although the system is simple enough that help is often not necessary, that extra service gives new clients confidence that the transition will be smooth and flawless.

Very quickly, new users wonder how they managed with welding or flanging, and why they didn't make the change to Victaulic sooner.

Call Victaulic at 432-332-1489 to learn more.



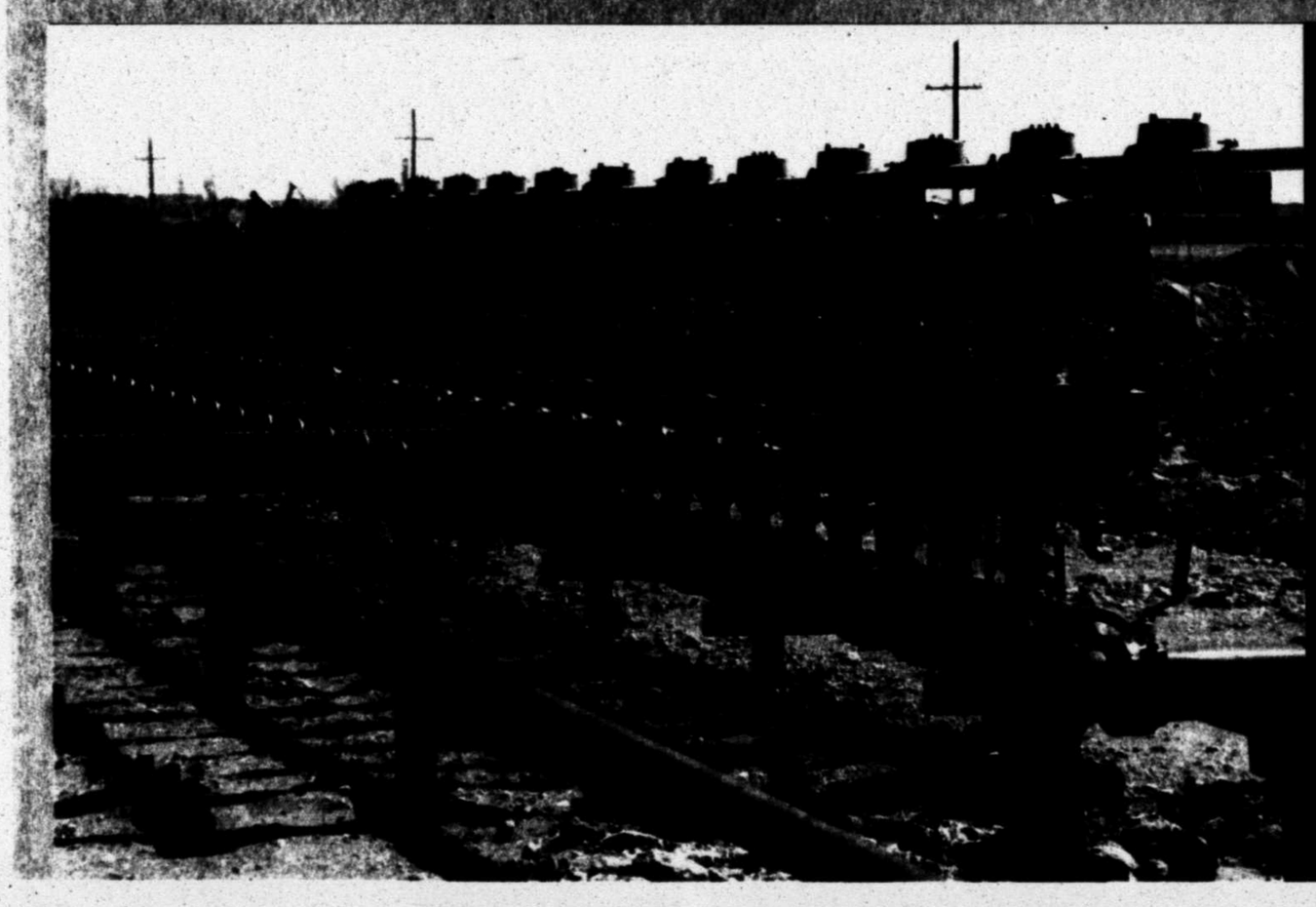
Above: Fast to install and secure to operate, Victaulic pipe joining systems, including joints, valves and fittings save time and money throughout their long life. Call 432-332-1489 to learn more.

Left: With installation times five to six times less than with other connections, Victaulic saves time and money when pipe needs to be installed or moved.



Victaulic connections cut product loss and reduce environmental hazards.

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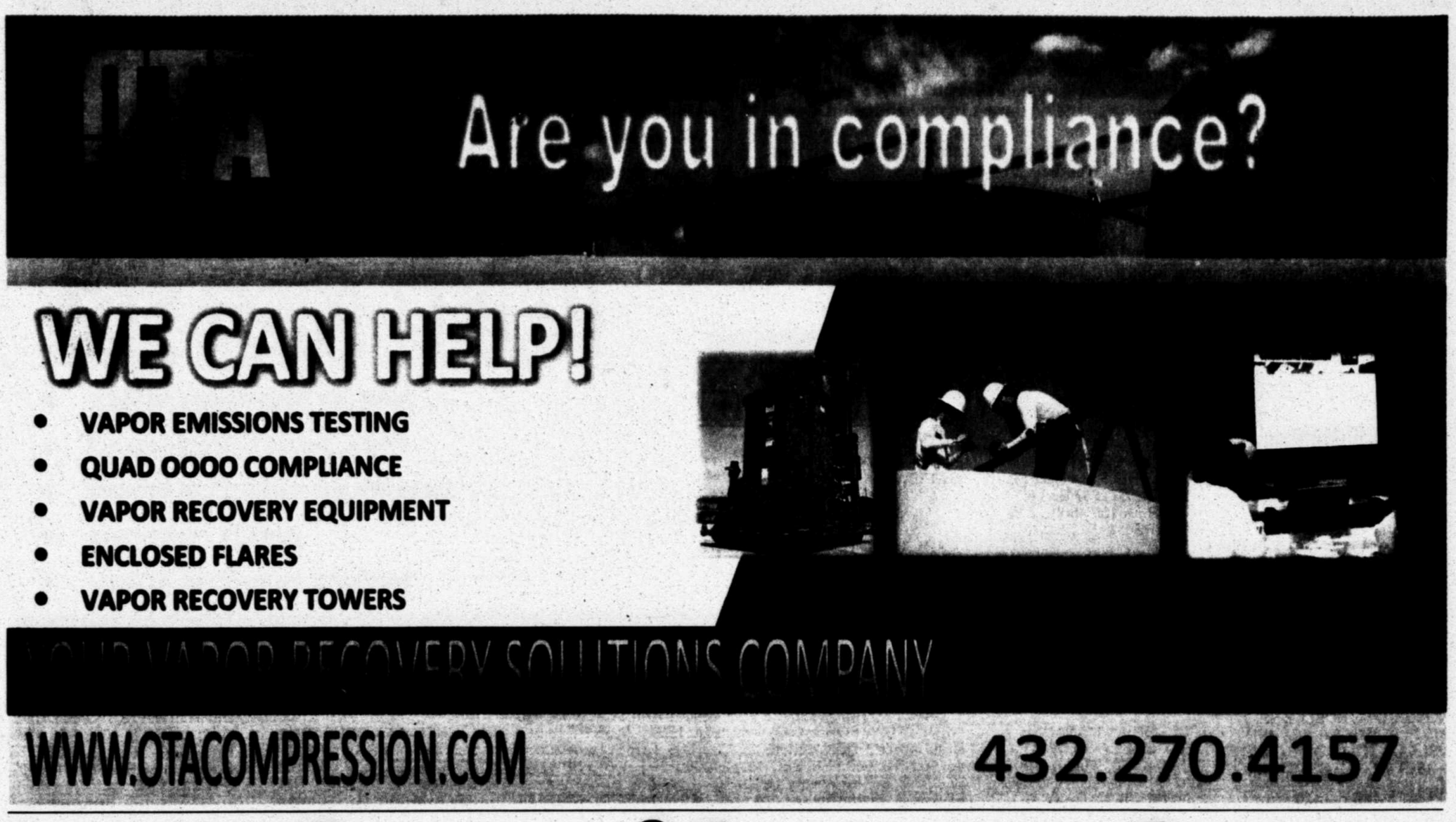
From 3G

energy that this earth has allowed us to extract has brought a phenomenal change to our local citizens and status of our area to the world and for that we are thankful.

If I had one wish for our industry, it would be for the politicians and environmentalists that are trying to make money off of our industry, and at the same time try to shut it down, through frivolous claims of endangered species, like the dune sand lizard and prairie chickens, just leave us in Texas alone. We all know they are doing their best to ruin the industry that we steward on a daily basis but hopefully education and science will prevail in the end to stop the threats that we see looming on the horizon each and every day.

Again, we are thankful for this industry and appreciative of being a part of changing the entire world's economy. We will continue to do so if our one wish of being left alone from the negative forces that exist against our industry is granted."

Kirk Edwards, president, Las Colinas Energy Partners



PAID CONTENT

around the oil patch

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Advantage Control Solutions (ACS) and ACS Electric have joined with Pioneer Natural Resources in the recycling of waste water for use in the frac process. ACS has designed an automation system which allows the operators to control and mix recycled and waste water in multiple ponds remotely. The use of such systems will reduce the need for fresh water.

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Advantage Control Solutions is at 1625 West Florida in Midland. The phone number is 432-682-7070 and the web address is www.theacontrolsolution.com.

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BP still paying for Deepwater Horizon blowout

ALEX MILLS
Texas Alliance of Energy Producers

A little over three years ago — April 20, 2010, to be exact — a rig named the Deepwater Horizon was drilling in the Gulf of Mexico when an explosion occurred and created one of the largest oil spills in history. The accident killed 11 people, and the drilling rig sank two days later, on April 22. The well oozed crude oil and natural gas until for several months. On July 15, the well was temporarily plugged and completely plugged on September 19.

The blowout of the Deepwater Horizon was a great tragedy in many ways. But what has happened to BP, the company that was the operator of the well, is a tragedy, too.

For example, the Gulf Settlement Program, which was created to make monetary awards to people who had been harmed by the accident, has awarded millions of dollars to people under very questionable circumstances, according to legal papers filed by BP.

In November, BP filed papers with the District Court Supervised Settlement Program stating that there are claims for losses that "are either non-existent, exaggerated or have nothing to do with the Deepwater Horizon accident."

BP stated that the Gulf Settlement Program "has handed out more than $540 million to more than 1,196 claimants located more than 100 miles from the Gulf, and who work in industries unlikely to have been impacted by the spill, including agriculture, construction, legal services and even nursing homes."

BP recently noted in an ad in The Wall Street Journal that the Gulf Settlement Program has awarded $173,000 to an adult escort service in support of its claim of lost income because of the blowout. The ad stated that "an adult escort service submitted tax returns from 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 to support their claims of lost income. All of the tax returns were dated 2012 and were unsigned."

The ad noted that the IRS does not accept unsigned tax returns.

"In fact, many claims are paid with shockingly little scrutiny," the ad stated.

BP listed an Alabama medical clinic that was awarded $662,586 even though its chief revenue generator had his medical license revoked before the spill; a Floridian who claimed to be a builder of custom homes despite having no active contractor's license in Florida, and no payroll but received an award of $274,944; and a wheat farm located more than 200 miles from the Gulf that elected not to grow wheat and was awarded $266,730.

There were more cases listed on the web site, www.thestateofthegulf.com.

BP has asked the District Court to allow for an examination of the claims administrator's policies regarding these claims and to stop payments to those who did not suffer a loss as a result of the Deepwater Horizon accident.

Meanwhile, federal and state Natural Resource Damages (NRD) Trustees have released their Phase III Draft Early Restoration Plan that outlines 44 proposed projects on which BP and the Trustees reached agreement in principle.

The projects, totaling an estimated $627 million, are part of BP's commitment to provide up to $1 billion in early restoration funding to expedite recovery of natural resources injured as a result of the Deepwater Horizon accident.

Twenty-eight of the projects contained in the plan were announced in May of this year and are estimated to cost $594 million.

BP has set aside $42.5 billion for costs and claims related to the accident.

Has BP paid enough? That will be determined by the courts. Clearly, the court needs to re-evaluate the awards granted by the Gulf Settlement Program.

Alex Mills is President of the Texas Alliance of Energy Producers. The opinions expressed are solely of the author.

DEVELOPMENT WELLS

Texas RRCD 7C

Crockett County

GREEN CENTURY E&P, LLC SE NOELKE (QUEEN) (O) DRILL Well# W 7 SHANNON ESTATE NOELKE SE, 130 FWL 960 FNL, ARCHER CSL/SUB 22/LEAGUE 4 SUR., A-1869 2300', 8 SE IRAAN

GREEN CENTURY E&P, LLC SE NOELKE (QUEEN) (O) DRILL Well# W 5 SHANNON ESTATE NOELKE SE, 315 FWL 280 FSL, ARCHER CSL/SUB 22/LEAGUE 4 SUR., A-1869 2250', 8 SE IRAAN

Irion County

BROAD OAK ENERGY II, LLC LIN (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# S114HU FARMAR A, 2268 FWL 2190 FNL, SEC 11 BLK 1, H&TC SUR., A-236 6300', 11 NW MERTZON

BROAD OAK ENERGY II, LLC LIN (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# N492HU FARMAR B, 1829 FSL 1265 FWL, SEC 49 BLK 1, H&TC SUR., A-255 6300', 10 NW MERTZON

FORELAND OPER., LLC LIN (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 5H CLARA ALLEN 12, 1185 FEL 2650 FNL, SEC 12, WC/H CAMPBELL SUR., A-902 9500', 14 SW MERTZON

JM COX RES., LP SPRABERRY (TREND) (O) DRILL Well# 10 ROCKER B 82, 1995 FEL 1993 FNL, SEC 82 BLK 1, T&P/LH SALTER SUR., A-1152 11000', 16 NE BIG LAKE

Menard County

FLAG ENERGY, LLC WILHELM LANE (HOPE LM) (O) (RE-ENTER) Well# 1 CARL MENZIES 99, 2258 FEL 467 FNL, SEC 99, JH GIBSON SUR., A-890 2000', 12 NW MENARD

Reagan County

APACHE CORPORATION SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 2D SAU 20-2, 2561 FNL 1320 FWL, SEC 20 BLK B, L&SV/FIRST NAT'L BANK OF AASON TEXAS SUR., A-970 8400', 25 SW GARDEN CITY

CALLON PETRO. OPERATING CO. LIN (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1H PEMBROOK 10112 POOLED UNIT, 1501 FWL 2603 FNL, SEC 10, GC&SF/JW SAMMONS SUR., A-792 7900', 2 NW BIG LAKE

CALLON PETRO. OPERATING CO. LIN (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1H PEMBROOK 10113 POOLED UNIT, 1531 FWL 2603 FNL, SEC 10, GC&SF/JW SAMMONS SUR., A-792 7900', 2 NW BIG LAKE

CALLON PETRO. OPERATING CO. LIN (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1H PEMBROOK 10111 POOLED UNIT, 1471 FWL 2603 FNL, SEC 10, GC&SF/JW SAMMONS SUR., A-792 7900', 2 NW BIG LAKE

CIMAREX ENERGY CO. SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1H RINGO 14, 200 FSL 510 FEL, SEC 14 BLK H, L&SV/RE RINGO SUR., A-790 12770', 10 W STILES

EP ENERGY E&P CO., LP LIN (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 824BH UNIVERSITY CENTRAL, 2555 FNL 600 FEL, SEC 24 BLK 8, UL SUR. 12990', 5 SE TEXON

FIML NATURAL RESOURCES, LLC SPRABERRY (TREND) (O) DRILL Well# 81E ROCKER B 80, 1736 FNL 588 FWL, SEC 81 BLK 1, T&P SUR., A-511 10000', 15 NE BIG LAKE

Runnels County

ENRICH OIL CORP. WFM (GOEN LIME) (O) DRILL Well# 1 KAYLEA, 260 FNL 1023 FEL, SEC 58 BLK 63, CT/AG SAWYER SUR., A-1268 5000', 5 W WINTERS

ENRICH OIL CORP. WFM (GOEN LIME) (O) DRILL Well# 3 PHELPS, 1120 FSL 1820 FEL, SEC 57 BLK 63, CT SUR., A-100 4800', 5 W WINTERS

SOVEREIGN PETRO. CO., LLC N NORTON (CAPPS U) (O) (RECOMP) Well# 3 GILBERT MINZENMAYER, 1348 FSL 2543 FWL, SEC 442, JL LYNCH SUR., A-346 4697', 3 S WILMETH

Upton County

CAMBRIAN MANAGEMENT, LTD. DAVIS (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL Well# 3302 MORGAN B, 1945 FNL 2190 FEL, SEC 33 BLK B, CCSD&RGNG SUR., A-27 13000', 13 N RANKIN

CAMBRIAN MANAGEMENT, LTD. DAVIS (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL Well# 1 MORGAN 26 A, 467 FNL 467 FWL, SEC 26 BLK B, CCSD&RGNG/ SR PRESTON SUR., A-1487 13000', 15 N RANKIN

PARSLEY ENERGY OPERATIONS, LLC DAVIS (PENNSYLVANIAN) (O/G) DRILL Well# 12 JRS FARMS 24A, 2273 FWL 2206 FSL, SEC 24 BLK 39 T5S, T&P/ JG HALL SUR., A-1415 13000', 5 SW MIDKIFF

PARSLEY ENERGY OPERATIONS, LLC JAR (PENNSYLVANIAN) (O) DRILL Well# 12 SHACKELFORD 7, 519 FWL 1677 FSL, SEC 7 BLK 38 T5S, T&P SUR., A-400 13000', 5 W MIDKIFF

SUMMIT PETROLEUM LLC SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 1314 CINDY B, 467 FWL 2080 FNL, SEC 13 BLK 42 T5S, T&P SUR., A-523 11200', 28 NW RANKIN

SUMMIT PETROLEUM LLC SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 1011 CINDY A, 1980 FWL 1980 FSL, SEC 10 BLK 42 T5S, T&P/ WJ HARDEN SUR., A-747 11000', 30 NW RANKIN

SUMMIT PETROLEUM LLC SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) (RECOMP) Well# 1 LUNDEN, 1041 FNL 705 FEL, SEC 65 BLK C, CCSD&RGNG SUR., A-43 9600', 9 NW RANKIN

Texas RRCD 8

Andrews County

APACHE CORPORATION THREE BAR (WICHITA) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 111H UNIVERSITY TB (SHALLOW) UNIT A-1, 105 FNL 2346 FEL, SEC 17 BLK 11, UL SUR. 7300', 20 SW ANDREWS

APACHE CORPORATION THREE BAR (WICHITA) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 115H UNIVERSITY TB (SHALLOW) UNIT A-1, 100 FSL 1220 FEL, SEC 8 BLK 11, UL SUR. 7300', 20 SW ANDREWS

SANDRIDGE E&P, LLC N SHAFTER LAKE (SA) (O) DRILL Well# 11 UNIVERSITY A 4318, 525 FSL 330 FEL, SEC 18 BLK 14, UL SUR., A-U458 5200', 13 NW ANDREWS

SANDRIDGE E&P, LLC N SHAFTER LAKE (SA) (O) DRILL Well# 5 UNIVERSITY A 4318, 515 FSL 1650 FEL, SEC 18 BLK 14, UL SUR., A-U458 5200', 13 NW ANDREWS

SOUTHWEST ROYALTIES, INC. FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) DRILL Well# 12 LINDLEY, 990 FNL 330 FEL, SEC 17 BLK A47, PSL/AW SEARS SUR., A-1627 5000', 9 SW ANDREWS

SOUTHWEST ROYALTIES, INC. FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) DRILL Well# 10 LINDLEY, 990 FNL 2310 FWL, SEC 17 BLK A47, PSL/AW SEARS SUR., A-1627 5000', 9 SW ANDREWS

SOUTHWEST ROYALTIES, INC. FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O)DRILL Well# 9 LINDLEY, 990 FNL 990 FWL, SEC 17 BLK A47, PSL/AW SEARS SUR., A-1627 5000', 9 SW ANDREWS

SOUTHWEST ROYALTIES, INC. FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) DRILL Well# 11 LINDLEY, 990 FNL 1651 FEL, SEC 17 BLK A47, PSL/AW SEARS SUR., A-1627 5000', 9 SW ANDREWS

Crane County

APACHE CORPORATION BLOCK 31 (DEVONIAN) (O/G) DRILL Well# 2 UNIVERSITY DEVONIAN 16, 1787 FSL 467 FEL, SEC 16 BLK 31, UL SUR., A-U64 9500', 10 NW CRANE

Culberson County

CAMBRIAN MANAGEMENT, LTD. W FORD (O/G) DRILL Well# 1 COMANCHE 46, 560 FNL 660 FEL, SEC 46 BLK 58 T1S, T&P/WH ROGERS SUR., A-2067 5500', 74 NE VAN HORN

CAMBRIAN MANAGEMENT, LTD. W FORD (O/G) DRILL Well# 8 COMANCHE 46, 1980 FNL 660 FEL, SEC 46 BLK 58 T1S, T&P/WH ROGERS SUR., A-2067 5500', 74 NE VAN HORN

CAMBRIAN MANAGEMENT, LTD. W FORD (O/G) DRILL Well# 7 COMANCHE 46, 1980 FNL 2040 FEL, SEC 46 BLK 58 T1S, T&P/ WH ROGERS SUR., A-2067 5500', 74 NE VAN HORN

CAMBRIAN MANAGEMENT, LTD. W FORD (O/G) DRILL Well# 6 COMANCHE 46, 1980 FNL 1980 FWL, SEC 46 BLK 58 T1S, T&P/ WH ROGERS SUR., A-2067 5500', 74 NE VAN HORN

CAMBRIAN MANAGEMENT, LTD. W FORD (O/G) DRILL Well# 5 COMANCHE 46, 1980 FNL 660 FWL, SEC 46 BLK 58 T1S, T&P/WH ROGERS SUR., A-2067 5500', 74 NE VAN HORN

CAMBRIAN MANAGEMENT, LTD. W FORD (O/G) DRILL Well# 4 COMANCHE 46, 660 FNL 660 FWL, SEC 46 BLK 58 T1S, T&P/WH ROGERS SUR., A-2067 5500', 74 NE VAN HORN

CAMBRIAN MANAGEMENT, LTD. W FORD (O/G) DRILL Well# 3 COMANCHE 46, 710 FNL 1980 FWL, SEC 46 BLK 58 T1S, T&P/WH ROGERS SUR., A-2067 5500', 74 NE VAN HORN

CAMBRIAN MANAGEMENT, LTD. W FORD (O/G) DRILL Well# 2 COMANCHE 46, 660 FNL 2050 FEL, SEC 46 BLK 58 T1S, T&P/WH ROGERS SUR., A-2067 5500', 74 NE VAN HORN

Ector County

BERRY OIL COMP. SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 13 GARDENDALE 8, 1600 FSL 2100 FEL, SEC 8 BLK 41 T1S, T&P/JW DYCUS SUR., A-548 11900', 12 NE ODESSA

XTO ENERGY INC. GOLDSMITH (CLR FRK) (O) DRILL (DIREC) Well# 2327 CA GOLDSMITH ET AL, 1273 FNL 1850 FWL, SEC 29 BLK 44 T1S, T&P SUR., A-284 6750', 5 SW GOLDSMITH

Glasscock County

APACHE CORPORATION SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 4 CLEVELAND 5, 2087 FNL 2173 FWL, SEC 5 BLK 34 T5S, T&P SUR., A-267 11000', 8 W GARDEN CITY

APACHE CORPORATION SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 3 CLEVELAND 5, 467 FNL 467 FWL, SEC 5 BLK 34 T5S, T&P SUR., A-267 11000', 8 W GARDEN CITY

APACHE CORPORATION SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 2104 BARBANEAL, 1743 FSL 833 FWL, SEC 21 BLK 33 T3S, T&P SUR., A-133 10650', 7 E GARDEN CITY

ENERGEN RESOURCES CORP. JAILHOUSE (FUSSELMAN) (O) DRILL Well# 1 WICHITA 41, 2520 FNL 1375 FWL, SEC 41 BLK 33 T5S, T&P SUR., A-189 11000', 13 SE GARDEN CITY

LAREDO PETROLEUM, INC. S GARDEN CITY(WLFCMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 153HU CURRYGLASS 10 (ALLOC), 250 FSL 1675 FEL, SEC 15 BLK 33 T5S, T&P SUR., A-176 9000', 11 SE GARDEN CITY

LAREDO PETROLEUM, INC. S GARDEN CITY(WLFCMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 152H CURRYGLASS 10 (ALLOC), 250 FSL 1650 FEL, SEC 15 BLK 33 T5S, T&P SUR., A-176 10000', 11 SE GARDEN CITY

Howard County

ATHLON FE OPERATING LLC STA (ATOKA) (O) DRILL Well# 1 RAILSBACK 13, 990 FNL 1809 FWL, SEC 13 BLK 33 T1N, T&P SUR., A-308 10000', 6 NW BIG SPRING

ATHLON FE OPERATING LLC SE ELBOW (FSLM) (O) DRILL Well# 2 CATCHER 40, 467 FNL 1709 FWL, SEC 40 BLK 33 T1S, T&P/ AJ KERCHEVILLE SUR., A-1146 10300', 9 NW FARSAN

ATHLON FE OPERATING LLC HILL RANCH (MISS) (O/G) DRILL Well# 1 GLADYS 17, 467 FNL 1088 FEL, SEC 17 BLK 31 T1N, T&P SUR., A-88 9600', 9 NE BIG SPRING

CROWNQUEST OPERATING, LLC SPRABERRY (TREND) DRILL (WIW) Well# 1WS S WILKINSON, 485 FNL 748 FEL, SEC 18 BLK 34 T1N, T&P/EM ROSS SUR., A-1341 2000', 11 SW KNOTT

LAREDO PETROLEUM, INC. S GARDEN CITY(WLFCMP) (O/G) DRILL Well# 1 LANGLEY 41B, 474 FSL 1102 FWL, SEC 41 BLK 33 T1S, T&P SUR., A-378 12000', 19 NW GARDEN CITY

SHERIDAN PRODUCTION CO., LLC HOWARD GLASSCOCK (O) DRILL Well# 346 DORA ROBERTS BDE, 2432 FNL 558 FWL, SEC 136 BLK 29, W&NW/EH NUNN SUR., A-1318 3300', 14 SE BIG SPRING

Loving County

ATLANTIC OPERATING, INC. GRICE (DELAWARE) (O/G) DRILL Well# 2 BERING, 1980 FEL 2288 FSL, SEC 42 BLK 76, PSL/WD JOHNSON SUR., A-1116 5000', 13 N MENTONE

SHELL WESTERN E&P PHANTOM (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1H WHEAT TRUST C27-4 LOV, 250 FSL 660 FWL, SEC 4 BLK C27, PSL/MRS M DODD SUR., A-771 12500', 6 NE MENTONE

TEMA OIL & GAS COMPANY SANDBAR (BONE SPRING) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# C002AH Z&T 32, 200 FNL 1927 FWL, SEC 32 BLK 54 T1, T&P/CF CARMINE SUR., A-1269 9000', 15 NW MENTONE

Martin County

CROWNQUEST OPERATING, LLC CEDAR FLATS (MISS) (O) DRILL Well# 2 QUARTZ STONE 6, 475 FEL 2173 FSL, SEC 6 BLK 35 T1S, T&P/ JE MILLHOLLON SUR., A-657 12000', 4 NE STANTON

ENERVEST OPERATING, LLC SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 4 MABEE E, 2048 FNL 1993 FEL, SEC 9 BLK 39 T2N, G&&MMB&A SUR., A-409 14000', 28 NW STANTON

PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC. SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 1 MARSHALL 5, 1980 FNL 660 FEL, SEC 5 BLK 35 T3N, T&P SUR., A-86 11100', 27 NW STANTON

PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC. SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 2 ELROD 5, 2165 FSL 660 FEL, SEC 5 BLK 35 T1N, T&P SUR., A-43 10900', 10 N STANTON

PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC. SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 8 COOK 21, 467 FSL 1690 FEL, SEC 21 BLK 35 T3N, T&P SUR., A-94 11790', 24 N STANTON

PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC. SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 1 DAVIS 42, 467 FNL 467 FWL, SEC 42 BLK 34 T3N, T&P/J COKER SUR., A-704 10750', 22 NE STANTON

PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC. SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 5 KEY 9, 660 FNL 560 FEL, SEC 9 BLK 37 T2N, T&P SUR., A-240 11750', 3 NW TARZAN

PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC. SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 2 ELLIS 38, 467 FSL 660 FEL, SEC 38 BLK 35 T1N, T&P/DJ WILSON SUR., A-980 10600', 7 NE STANTON

RELIANCE ENERGY, INC. SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 3HW MABEE OH, 800 FNL 1450 FEL, SEC 2, IH REED/ CE SHUMAKE SUR., A-921 10200', 11 SW TARZAN

THREE RIVERS OPER. CO. II LLC CRACKER JACK (FSLMN) (O) DRILL Well# 1033 BROWN II, 2483 FEL 1890 FSL, SEC 10 BLK 34 T3N, T&P/ NL WRIGHT SUR., A-862 11500', 1/2 W ACKERLY

Midland County

ATHLON ENERGY OPER. LLC PARKS (CONS) (O/G) DRILL Well# 13 DAVIDSON 27D, 1165 FSL 700 FEL, SEC 27 BLK 40 T4S, T&P SUR., A-306 11500', 23 S MIDLAND

BLUESTEM ENERGY HOLDINGS, LLC SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 6 AXP B, 1008 FSL 475 FWL, SEC 1 BLK 37 T2S, T BURNAM SUR., A-537 12000', 8 E MIDLAND

CROWNQUEST OPERATING, LLC SPRABERRY (TREND) DRILL (WIW) Well# 1WS TRIPLE HOP, 1740 FEL 5150 FNL, SEC 40, L LEECH SUR., A-1036 2000', 3 W SPRABERRY

DISCOVERY OPERATING, INC. BRADFORD RNCH (STRWN) (O) DRILL Well# 11 JW 9, 467 FNL 467 FEL, SEC 9 BLK 39 T3S, T&P SUR., A-199 11800', 10 S MIDLAND

Pecos County

COG OPERATING, LLC HOEFS T-K (WOLFCAMP) (O) DRILL Well# 1805 EMMETT MCCOY, 1980 FEL 2350 FSL, SEC 18 BLK 1, H&TC/H JOURNEAY SUR., A-5857 12000', 29 E FT STOCKTON

INCLINE ENERGY ABELL(PERMIAN-GENERAL) (O) DRILL Well# 2 BYERLEY, 660 FWL 8454 FSL, SEC 29 BLK 9, H&GN SUR., A-267 3990', 5 E IMPERIAL

Reeves County

CIMAREX ENERGY CO. AYLESWORTH DRILL (INJ) Well# 1 WOOD 57-26 WD, 500 FSL 500 FEL, SEC 26 BLK 57, PSL/WJ SWEENEY SUR., A-2488 6000', 16 SW MENTONE

CIMAREX ENERGY CO. S ORLA (DELAWARE SD) DRILL (INJ) Well# 1 BEARTOOTH C20-11 WD, 2440 FNL 660 FWL, SEC 11 BLK C20, PSL/AL PREWIT SUR., A-2399 6000', 24 NW PECOS

CIMAREX ENERGY CO. PHANTOM (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 3H RED LODGE C20-11, 200 FSL 1980 FWL, SEC 11 BLK C20, PSL/AL PREWIT SUR., A-2399 11000', 23 NW PECOS

OXY USA, INC. COLLIE

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7G

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DEVELOPMENT WELLS

(DELAWARE) (O/G) DRILL (DIREC) Well# 12 COLLIE A, 4297 FSWL 1094 FNWL, SEC 1 BLK 5, H&GN SUR., A-422 6500', 3 SE PECOS

OXY USA, INC. WOLFBONE (TREND) (O) DRILL Well# 6 ALYX STATE 22, 571 FNL 1599 FEL, SEC 22 BLK 51 T7S, T&P/ MRS MJ BROWN SUR., A-1942 13500', 13 S PECOS

OXY USA, INC. WOLFBONE (TREND) (O) DRILL Well# 5 ALYX STATE 22, 2255 FSL 1621 FEL, SEC 22 BLK 51 T7S, T&P/ MRS MJ BROWN SUR., A-1942 13500', 13 S PECOS

OXY USA, INC. COLLIE (DELAWARE) (O/G) DRILL (DIREC) Well# 11 COLLIE A, 5751 FSWL 1055 FSEL, SEC 1 BLK 5, H&GN SUR., A-422 6500', 3 E PECOS

OXY USA, INC. (713) 350-4982, PHANTOM (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 5H EAGLE STATE 28, 200 FSL 500 FEL, SEC 28 BLK 6, H&GN/B RANDALS SUR., A-4877 13500', 6 SE PECOS

ROSETTA RES. OPER. LP WOLFBONE (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 4 RAGAN SMITH 37, 1650 FSL 1650 FWL, SEC 37 BLK 6, H&GN SUR., A-40 14000', 8 S PECOS

ROSETTA RES. OPER. LP WOLFBONE (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 1 RAGAN SMITH 37, 990 FNL 990 FEL, SEC 37 BLK 6, H&GN SUR., A-40 14000', 8 S PECOS

ROSETTA RES. OPER. LP WOLFBONE (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 3 RAGAN SMITH 37, 990 FNL 1650 FWL, SEC 37 BLK 6, H&GN SUR., A-40 14000', 8 S PECOS

ROSETTA RES. OPER. LP WOLFBONE (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 2 RAGAN SMITH 37, 1650 FSL 990 FEL, SEC 37 BLK 6, H&GN SUR., A-40 14000', 8 S PECOS

Ward County

ANADARKO E&P ONSHORE LLC PHANTOM (WOLFCAMP) (O) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 4H BURRELL STATE 34-143 UNIT, 177 FWL 622 FSL, SEC 143 BLK 34, H&TC SUR., A-249 14000', 7 NE BARSTOW

SHELL WESTERN E&P PHANTOM (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1H RICKY BOBBY 33-62 WRD UNIT, 693 FNWL 250 FNEL, SEC 62 BLK 33, H&TC/JJ DAVIS SUR., A-606 12000', 12 NW BARSTOW

SUNDOWN ENERGY LP N WARD-ESTES (HOLT) (O/G) DRILL Well# 3050 HUTCHINGS STOCK ASSN, 690 FSL 2000 FEL, SEC 4 BLK F, G&MMB&A SUR., A-104 11000', 6 NW MONAHANS

Texas RRCD 8A

Borden County

P.O.&G. OPERATING, LLC HOBO (PENNSYLVANIAN) (O) DRILL Well# 14 BOEDEKER, 1462 FSL 2622 FEL, SEC 38 BLK 25, H&TC/H HALLER SUR., A-928 8000', 19 SE GAIL

RAW O&G, INC. LOCK-POT (FUSSELMAN) (O) DRILL Well# 3 HUBBARD 3, 1606 FEL 1668 FNL, SEC 3 BLK 32 T4N, T&P SUR., A-296 10000', 10 SW GAIL

SM ENERGY COMPANY PEGI'S DRAW (MISS) (O) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 3501H ROY, 1457 FEL 2080 FSL, SEC 26 BLK 31 T6N, T&P/ L HERMAN SUR., A-1149 10000', 11 NW GAIL

Dickens County

CANAN MOWREY OPER., LLC TRIFECTA (TANNEHILL) (O) DRILL Well# 1 MCARTHUR B, 1179 FWL 467 FNL, SEC 145 BLK 1, H&GN SUR., A-79 7200', 7 SW SPUR

HALLIBURTON OPER. CO. TRIFECTA (CROTON LM) (O) DRILL Well# 1 KATHI A, 35 FSL 550 FWL, SEC 275 BLK 1, H&GN SUR., A-144 6000', 5 E SPUR

Gaines County

OXY USA, INC. NORMAN (CANYON) (O) (RECOMP) Well# 1 NORMAN A, 1991 FSL 2483 FEL, SEC 8 BLK C45, PSL/JL EIDSON SUR., A-722 10300', 12 SE SEMINOLE

XTO ENERGY INC. N ROBERTSON(CLRFRK) (O) DRILL Well# 156 ROBERTSON CLEARFORK UNIT, 1084 FNL 470 FWL, SEC 4 BLK AX, PSL/MRS IM WESCOTT SUR., A-1162 7600', 8 SW SEMINOLE

XTO ENERGY INC. RUSSELL (CLEARFORK) (O) DRILL Well# 600 RUSSELL CLEARFORK UNIT, 2050 FSL 1220 FWL, SEC 417 BLK G, CCSD&RGNG SUR., A-123 8100', 5 SW DENVER CITY

XTO ENERGY INC. RUSSELL (CLEARFORK) (O) DRILL Well# 605 RUSSELL CLEARFORK UNIT, 530 FNL 2620 FWL, SEC 454 BLK G, CCSD&RGNG/ T ROSS SUR., A-628 8100', 6 SW DENVER CITY

Hockley County

ROCKER A OPERATING, CO. LINKER (CLEAR FORK) (O) (RECOMP) Well# 1AR CADDELL, 992 FWL 1337 FSL, SEC 31, BAYLOR CSL/ LABOR 11/LEAGUE 31 SUR., A-3 10409', 4 SW LEVELLAND

Lubbock County

TEXLAND PETROLEUM, LP SE STINNETT (CLR FRK) (INJ) (FDTFR) Well# 2 MARY L CRAWFORD, 660 FNL 660 FEL, SAN AUGUSTINE CSL/ LEAGUE 2/ LABOR 8 SUR., A-78 4700', 16 E LUBBOCK

TEXLAND PETROLEUM, LP SE STINNETT (CLR FRK) (O) (FDTFR) Well# 2 YVONNE POUNDS A, 1980 FNL 660 FEL, SAN AUGUSTINE CSL/ LEAGUE 1/LABOR 25 SUR., A-79 4800', 9 E LUBBOCK

TEXLAND PETROLEUM, LP SE STINNETT (CLR FRK) (O) (FDTFR) Well# 3 YVONNE POUNDS A, 660 FSL 467 FEL, SAN AUGUSTINE CSL/ LEAGUE 2/ LABOR 7 SUR., A-78 4750', 13 E LUBBOCK

XTO ENERGY INC. SE STINNETT (CLR FRK) (O) (FDTFR) Well# 1 MARY L CRAWFORD, 660 FNL 660 FWL, SAN AUGUSTINE CSL/ LEAGUE 2/ LABOR 8 SUR., A-78 4750', 16 E LUBBOCK

Yoakum County

OXY USA WTP LP WASSON (O/G) DRILL Well# 173C WILLARD UNIT, 2258 FNL 1815 FWL, SEC 736 BLK D, JH GIBSON/ CB SHIPLEY SUR., A-1840 5800', 5 N DENVER CITY

COMPLETIONS

Texas RRCD 7C

Irion County

Fortune Energy Inc.
Monk #1
Baker Ranch (Canyon); 467 fwl, 667 fsl, Sec 1229, Abst. 134, GC&SF RR, 8 n Mertzon; TD 6954; Comp 12/2/2013; producing from 6698-6793, treated with acid and fracture stimulated; flow 72 BO, 374 MCF, 23 BW on 12/64 inch choke, FTP 770 psi, 42.8 Oil Gravity; API #42-235-35463

Banner Operating Inc.
Stephens #1012
Funk (San Andres); 2263 fnl, 2260 fwl, Sec 10, Blk 5, Abst. 1169, H&TC RR, 19 nw San Angelo; TD 1173; Comp 11/18/2013; producing from 862-877; pump 5 BO, 25 BW, 35 Oil Gravity; API #42-235-35577

Texas RRCD 8

Andrews County

Oxy USA Inc.
Mabee "139" #4315
Spraberry (Trend Area); 1469 fsl, 12273 fwl, Sec 43, Blk 40, T-1-N, Abst. 78, G&MMB&A, 14.4 nw Midland; TD 11790; Comp 11/20/2013; producing from 8493-11511, treated with acid and fracture stimulated; pump 13 BO, 24 MCF, 226 BW, 42.5 Oil Gravity; API #42-003-45037

Occidental Permian Ltd.
Mabee "139" #4609
Spraberry (Trend Area); 2440 fnl, 5532 fwl, Sec 46, Blk 40, T-1-N, Abst. 101, G&MMB&A, 15.1 nw Midland; TD 11218; Comp 11/19/2013; producing from 8517-10904, treated with acid and fracture stimulated; pump 36 BO, 41 MCF, 184 BW, 42.5 Oil Gravity; API #42-003-45200

SandRidge Exploration and Production LLC
University "D" #8
Shafter Lake North (San Andres); 881 fsl, 1320 fwl, Sec 17, Blk 14, Abst. 457U, ULS, 9 nw Andrews; TD 4946; Comp 11/23/2013; producing from 4492-4632, treated with acid and fracture stimulated; pump 53 BO, 27 MCF, 222 BW, 32 Oil Gravity; API #42-003-45499

Ector County

BC Operating Inc.
Jonah #1
Goldsmith (Clearfork); 389 fnl, 1108 fel, Sec 23, Blk 44, T-1-N, Abst. 263, T&P RR, 2.6 ne Goldsmith; TD 7215; Comp 11/18/2013; producing from 6036-7016, fracture stimulated; pump 69 BO, 243 MCF, 1758 BW, 39.4 Oil Gravity; API #42-135-42507

BC Operating Inc.
Adam #5
Goldsmith (Clearfork); 2310 fsl, 990 fel, Sec 26, Blk 44, T-1-N, Abst. 700, T&P RR, 2 ne Goldsmith; TD 7213; Comp 11/21/2013; producing from 6068-7021, fracture stimulated; pump 12 BO, 28 MCF, 924 BW, 39.6 Oil Gravity; API #42-135-42745

Howard County

Breitburn Operating LP
Nova "33" #2
Spraberry (Trend Area); 487 fnl, 525 fel, Sec 33, Blk 33, T-2-N, Abst. 334, T&P RR, 3.9 se Knott; TD 10343; Comp 11/25/2013; producing from 7740-10150, fracture stimulated; pump 77 BO, 207 MCF, 50 BW, 38 Oil Gravity; API #42-227-37526

Athlon FE Operating LLC
Donelson "48A" #4
Spraberry (Trend Area); 281 fnl, 467 fwl, Sec 48, Blk 32, T-2-N, Abst. 1182, T&P RR, 9.2 n Big Spring; TD 9620; Comp 11/19/2013; producing from 7023-9530; pump 90 BO, 96 BW, 38 Oil Gravity; API #42-227-37562

Cobra Oil & Gas Corporation
Gaskins "18" #1
Spraberry (Trend Area); 467 fnl, 467 fel, Sec 18, Blk 34, T-2-N, Abst. 1335, T&P RR, 1.76 ne Knott; TD 10510; Comp 11/22/2013; producing from 7379-9203, treated with acid and fracture stimulated; flow 29.4 BO, 938 BW on 14/64 inch choke, FTP 190 psi, 42 Oil Gravity; API #42-227-37274

Loving County

Shell Western E&P
Johnson "1-87 LOV" #4H
Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal; 369 fswl, 646 fsel, Sec 87, Blk 1, Abst. 198, W&NW RR, 3.68 ne Mentone; TD 11021 TVD, 16050 MD; Comp 11/18/2013; producing from 11503-15772, fracture stimulated; flow 375 BO, 1135 MCF, 955 BW on 20/64 inch choke, FTP 2150 psi, 45.8 Oil Gravity; API #42-301-31926

Mewbourne Oil Company
TXL West "11" #B201PA
Sandbar (Bone Spring)-Horizontal; 170 fsl, 510 fel, Sec 11, Blk 57, T-1, Abst. 166, T&P RR, 10.1 n Orla; TD 8896 TVD, 13680 MD; Comp 11/25/2013; producing from 9337-13641, fracture stimulated; flow 474 BO, 1789 MCF, 2194 BW on 40/64 inch choke, FTP 40 psi, 40 Oil Gravity; API #42-301-32000

Martin County

Occidental Permian Ltd.
South Curtis Ranch #2107
Spraberry (Trend Area); 2667 fnl, 467 fwl, Sec 21, Blk 39, T-1-N, Abst. 307, T&P RR, 10 n Midland; TD 10985; Comp 11/19/2013; producing from 8426-10838, treated with acid and fracture stimulated; pump 11 BO, 10 MCF, 241 BW, 42.5 Oil Gravity; API #42-317-38854

Occidental Permian Ltd.
South Curtis Ranch #2113
Spraberry (Trend Area); 4896 fnl, 707 fwl, Sec 21, Blk Blk 39, T-1-N, Abst. 307, T&P RR, 9.5 n Midland; TD 10950; Comp 11/21/2013; producing from 8352-10620, treated with acid and fracture stimulated; pump 4 BO, 15 MCF, 301 BW, 42.5 Oil Gravity; API #42-317-38855

Reeves County

Oxy USA Inc.
Perkins -F- #25
Collie (Delaware); 420 fnwl, 1137 fsel, Sec 2, Blk 6, Abst. 4882, H&GN RR, 3.5 e Pecos; TD 6184; Comp 11/21/2013; producing from 4732-5959, treated with acid and fracture stimulated; pump 89 BO, 133 MCF, 1314 BW, 33.6 Oil Gravity; API #42-389-33771

Sterling County

FIML Natural Resources LLC
Betty Glass "42" #42A
Spraberry (Trend Area); 557 fnl, 844 fel, Sec 42, Blk 2, Abst. 1123, T&P RR, 20 sw Sterling City; TD 9401; Comp 11/17/2013; producing from 5236-9274, fracture stimulated; pump 42 BO, 60 MCF, 101 BW, 38.6 Oil Gravity; API #42-431-33412

FIML Natural Resources LLC
Betty Glass "42" #42G
Spraberry (Trend Area); 1802 fnl, 2176 fel, Sec 42, Blk 2, Abst. 1123, T&P RR, 21 sw Sterling City; TD 9417; Comp 12/4/2013; producing from 5315-8916, fracture stimulated; pump 83 BO, 72 MCF, 112 BW, 37.8 Oil Gravity; API #42-431-33413

FIML Natural Resources LLC
Betty Glass "42" #42K
Spraberry (Trend Area);1872 fsl, 1110 fel, Sec 42, Blk 2, Abst. 1123, T&P RR, 21 sw Sterling City; TD 9414; Comp 11/23/2013; producing from 5205-8999, fracture stimulated; pump 69 BO, 149 MCF, 68 BW, 38.3 Oil Gravity; API #42-431-33419

FIML Natural Resources LLC
Betty Glass "42" #42M
Spraberry (Trend Area); 1223 fsl, 1049 fwl, Sec 42, Blk 2, Abst. 1123, T&P RR, 21 sw Sterling City; TD 9409; Comp 11/22/2013; producing from 5171-8980, fracture stimulated; pump 71 BO, 58 MCF, 67 BW, 38.3 Oil Gravity; API #42-431-33421

Ward County

Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation
Hutchings Stock Association #1749
Ward-Estes North; 11266' fnl, 1104 fwl, Sec 3, Blk F, Abst. 103, G&MMB&A, 6 nw Monahans; TD 3576; Comp 11/21/2013; producing from 3024-3296, treated with acid and fracture stimulated; flow 1 BO, 2 MCF, 600 BW on open choke, FTP 185 psi, 37 Oil Gravity; API #42-475-36382

Texas RRCD 8A

Cochran County

Apache Corporation
F.L. Woodley #85
Slaughter; 1784 fnl, 5818 fel, Labor 8, League 57, Abst. 67, Oldham CSL, 7.5 s Whiteface; TD 5095; Comp 11/27/2013; producing from 4912-4962, treated with acid and fracture stimulated; pump 38 BO, 76 MCF, 422 BW, 31 Oil Gravity; API #42-079-33281

King County

Hunt Oil Company
S.B. Burnett Estate #N10R
Anne Tandy (Strawn); 3531 fnwl, 5504 fwl, Sec 9, Blk X, Abst. 647, R.M. Thomson, 17 se Guthrie; TD 5852; Comp 11/17/2013; producing from 5102-5370, fracture stimulated; pump 11.5 BO, 1 MCF, 1866 BW, 36 Oil Gravity; API #42-269-32864

Yoakum County

Apache Corporation
Roberts Unit #3356
Wasson; 5289 fnl, 8585 fwl, Sec 794, Blk D, Abst.1583, J.H.Gibson, 7.8 nw Denver City; TD 5411; Comp 11/21/2013; producing from 4944-5165, treated with acid and fracture stimulated; pump 14 BO, 6 MCF, 301 BW, 30.3 Oil Gravity; API #42-501-36061

New Mexico

Eddy County

Read & Stevens Inc.
Hot Dog 23 Federal #4
Dog Canyon; Sec 23 T16S R27E; 990/S & 330/W; EL 3543 GL, TD 1652, PBTD 1595; Spud 1-18-13, Comp 2-25-13; production is through treated perfs: 1532-1536. Treat: Acdz w/1600 gals 15% NEFE HCL, Frac w/100,000# 16/30 brown sd. IP: 3-11-13 Pump 24 hrs 20 BO, 0 BW, 0 MCF. Csg: 8 5/8 @ 385 w/250 sx, 5 1/2 @ 1650 w/410 sx; API #30-015-40841

LRE Operating LLC
Enron Federal #18
Red Lake; Sec 25 T17S R27E; 985/S & 2310/E; EL 3596 GL, TD 3157, PBTD 3108; Spud 6-10-13, Comp 6-19-13; production is through treated perfs: 2015-2188, 2222-2550, 2590-2826. Treat: 8307 gals 15% HCL & Frac w/184,187# 16/30 barry white & 64,825# 16/30 resin coated sd in 20# xlink. IP: 7-9-13 Pump 24 hrs 51 BO, 320 BW, 38 MCF. Csg: 8 5/8 @ 439 w/300 sx, 5 1/2 @ 3157 w/650 sx, 2 7/8 @ 2916; API #30-015-41289

Oxy USA WTP LP
Chris Robin 20 Federal #8
Artesia; Sec 20 T17S R28E; 402/N & 2183/E; EL 3628 GL, TD 4880, PBTD 4846; Spud 1-8-13, Comp 5-3-13; production is through treated perfs: 3570-4676. Treat: 11,610 gals wtr frac linear gel, 509,285 gals delta frac 140-R. IP: 6-16-13 Pump 24 hrs 27 BO, 817 BW, 96 MCF, GOR 3630, Gty 39. Csg: 11 1/2 @ 370 w/615 sx, 8 5/8 @ 478 w/200 sx, 5 1/2 @ 4880 w/980 sx, 2 7/8 @ 4627; API #30-015-40673

Oxy USA WTP LP
Piglet 21 Federal #10
Artesia; Sec 21 T17S R28E; 1673/N & 990/W; EL 3622 GL, TD 4835. PBTD 4805; Spud 3-19-13, Comp 5-9-13; production is through treated perfs: 3525-4680, 3559-4678. Treat: 87,922 gals wtr frac linear gel, 332,431 gals crosslink. IP: 6-26-13 Pump 24 hrs 39 BO, 910 BW, 31 MCF, GOR 571, Gty 39. Csg: 8 5/8 @ 442 w/600 sx, 5 1/2 @ 4835 w/830 sx, 2 7/8 @ 4620; API #30-015-40948

Oxy USA WTP LP
Piglet 21 Federal #13
Artesia; Sec 21 T17S R28E; 965/N & 1038/E; EL 3602 GL, TD 4800, PBTD 4755; Spud 3-2-13, Comp 4-22-13; production is through treated perfs: 3500-4699. Treat: 103,330 gals linear gel, 504,999 gals crosslink gel. IP: 6-17-13 Pump 24 hrs 55 BO, 352 BW, 118 MCF, GOR 2145, Gty 39. Csg: 8 5/8 @ 450 w/210 sx, 5 1/2 @ 4880 w/830 sx, 2 7/8 @ 4566; API #30-015-40670

Oxy USA Inc.
Roo 22 State #12
Artesia; Sec 22 T17S R28E; 2032/N & 2087/W; EL 3587 GL, TD 4947, PBTD 4919; Spud 5-29-13, Comp 6-20-13; production is through treated perfs: 3563-4855. Treat: 113,275 gals linear gel, 502,664 gals crosslink, 9000 gals 15% HCL, 20,080# 100 mesh, 900,001# 16/30 brown sd. IP: 7-30-13 Pump 24 hrs 17 BO, 640 BW, 32 MCF, Gty 39. Csg: 8 5/8 @ 402 w/210 sx, 5 1/2 @ 4947 w/830 sx, 2 7/8 @ 4807; API #30-015-40534

COG Operating LLC
Dodd Federal Unit #510
Dodd; Sec 14 T17S R29E; 1980/N & 1430/E; EL 3627 GL, TD 4559, PBTD 4499; Spud 3-18-13, Comp 4-13-13; production is through treated perfs: 4135-4385. Treat: Acdz w/2000 gals 15% acid, Frac w/101,900 gals gel, 115,972# 16/30 brown sd, 17,150# siberprop. IP: 4-24-13 Pump 24 hrs 50 BO, 185 BW, 24 MCF, GOR 480, Gty 38.2. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 301 w/400 sx, 8 5/8 @ 987 w/500 sx, 5 1/2 @ 4549 w/900 sx, 2 7/8 @ 4458; API #30-015-40595

COG Operating LLC
Burch Keely Unit #901
Burch Keely; Sec 24 T17S R29E; 2530/S & 1155/W; EL 3595 GL, TD 4742, PBTD 4692; Spud 5-25-13, Comp 6-14-13; production is through treated perfs: 4112-4436. Treat: Acdz w/2000 gals 15% acid, Frac w/104,890 gals gel, 120,040# 16/30 brown sd, 15,742# 16/30 siberprop. IP: 6-18-13 Pump 24 hrs 28 BO, 225 BW, 50 MCF, GOR 1786, Gty 38.7. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 353 w/400 sx, 8 5/8 @ 990 w/500 sx, 5 1/2 @ 4742 w/900 sx, 2 7/8 @ 4551; API #30-015-40886

COG Operating LLC
Burch Keely Unit #588
Burch Keely; Sec 18 T17S R30E; 10/S & 1320/W; EL 3630 GL, TD 4675, PBTD 4591; Spud 3-4-13, Comp 4-7-13; production is through treated perfs: 4200-4454. Treat: Acdz w/1500 gals 15% acid, Frac w/103,208 gals gel, 113,094# 16/30 brown sd, 17,202# siberprop. IP: 4-19-13 Pump 24 hrs 105 BO, 332 BW, 267 MCF, GOR 253, Gty 39. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 305 w/950, 8 5/8 @ 1065 w/500 sx, 5 1/2 @ 4675 w/900 sx, 2 7/8 @ 4555; API #30-015-40702

COG Operating LLC
Burch Keely Unit #945
Burch Keely; Sec 18 T17S R30E; 585/S & 465/W. BHL: 363/S & 343/E; EL 3628 GL, TD 9102 MD, 4868 TVD, PBTD 9102 MD, 4868 TVD; Spud 12-6-12, Comp 1-28-13; production is through treated perfs: 5211-8984. Treat: Acdz w/36,769 gals 15% acid, Frac w/182,756 gals wtr frac, 1,393,320 gals gel, 41,323# 100 mesh sd, 1,603,448# 16/30 brown sd, 274,147# CRC. IP: 2-1-13 Pump 24 hrs 343 BO, 391 BW, 192 MCF, GOR 560, Gty 38.7. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 290 w/1400 sx, 9 5/8 @ 1195 w/650 sx, 7 @ 4288-4329, 5 1/2 @ 4288-9035 w/900 sx, 2 7/8 @ 4213; API #30-015-39578

Mewbourne Oil Co.
Bradley 30 Federal Com #1
Santo Nino; Sec 29 T18S R30E; 1850/S & 330/W. BHL: 1967/S & 339/W; EL 3424 GL, TD 13093 MD, 8122 TVD, PBTD 13020 MD, 8121 TVD; Spud 9-11-11, Comp 11-6-11; production is through treated perfs: 8685-13020 MD, 8193-8121 TVD. Treat: Frac w/20,000 gals 15% HCL & 400,000 gals slickwater & 300,000 gals 20# linear & 1,060,000 gals 20# x-linked gel carrying 1,633,500# 20/40 white sd & 362500# SB excel sd. IP: 11-23-11 Flow 24 hrs 322 BO, 1269 BW, 320 MCF, TP 140, CP 1000, GOR 994, Gty 40. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 370 w/775 sx, 9 5/8 @ 1510 w/620 sx, 7 @ 8633 w/1400 sx, 4 1/2 @ 8331-13020, 2 7/8 @ 7752; API #30-015-38451

SM Energy Co.
East Shugart Delaware Unit #28
Shugart; Sec 24 T18S R31E; 2280/N & 810/E; EL 3701 GL, TD 5510, PBTD 5467; Spud 1-12-13, Comp 2-27-13; production is through treated perfs: 5033-5198. Treat: 62 bbls 15% HCL, 1854 bbls gelled fluid, 86038# 16/30 mesh, 30,700# 16/30 RCS. IP: 3-7-13 Pump 24 hrs 36 BO, 408 BW, 25 MCF, GOR 694, Gty 41.4. Csg: 8 5/8 @ 935 w/560 sx, 5 1/2 @ 5500 w/670 sx, 2 7/8 @ 5297; API #30-015-40871

COG Operating LLC
Hearse 36 State #4
North Seven Rivers; Sec 36 T19S R25E; 455/N & 1700/E. BHL: 364/N & 1705/E; EL 3401 GL, TD 7194 MD, 2853 TVD, PBTD 7192 MD, 2851 TVD; Spud 10-28-12, Comp 12-19-12; production is through treated perfs: 3250-7100. Treat: Adz w/29,228 gals 15% HCL, 2,065,334 gals gel, 4,606,790# 16/30 Brady sd, 2,915,430# 20/40 brady sd, 1,508,020# 100 mesh, 3,116,860# 16/30 CRC. IP: 1-16-13 Pump 24 hrs 153 BO, 542 BW, 92 MCF, GOR 601, Gty 39.7. Csg: 8 5/8 @ 1106 w/1225 sx, 5 1/2 @ 7194 w/1000 sx, 2 7/8 @ 2337; API #30-015-39264

Devon Energy Production Company LP
Regulus 26 Federal #3
NW Hackberry; Sec 26 T19S R31E. 1700/S & 340/E. BHL: 1658/S & 432/W. EL 3494 GL, TD 13,520 MD, 9202 TVD, PBTD 13,474. Spud 12-7-12, Comp 2-10-13; production is through treated perfs: 9600-13,448. Treat: Acdz w/17,986 gals 7.5% HCL, 73,890# 100 mesh white sd, 1,728,489# 20/40 white sd, 521,419# Super LC 20/40. IP: 2-10-13 Pump 24 hrs 628 BO, 1722 BW, 363 MCF. Csg: 20 @ 916 w/1840 sx, 13 3/8 @ 2598 w/1875 sx, 9 5/8 @ 4630 w/1965 sx, 5 1/2 @ 13520 w/350 sx, 2 7/8 @ 8964; API #30-015-40221

COG Operating LLC
Birdseye 32 State #2
Gatuna Canyon; Sec 32 T19S R31E; 190/S & 330/E. BHL: 332/N & 417/E; EL 3462 GL, TD 13612, PBTD 13608; Spud 2-26-13, Comp 4-26-13; production is through treated perfs: 9238-13457. Treat: Acdz w/33205 gals 7.5%, Frac w/3073037# sd & 2581486 gals fluid. IP: 5-7-13 Flow 24 hrs 656 BO, 1469 BW, 762 MCF, 28/64" Ch, TP 380, CP 200. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 630 w/750 sx, 9 5/8 @ 3950 w/1450 sx, 5 1/2 @ 13612 w/1200 sx; API #30-015-40954

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"Well, this'll show Santa," Pinky mumbled as the bus pulled away. She had saved all her elf money for a ticket to Midland, hoping the trip would get her away from the frustrations at the North Pole as Christmas was drawing near. She just needed an escape.



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Pinky was sad. She slumped in her seat, thinking about the things that she couldn't do. She was the tiniest elf, after all. All the other elves were big enough to help Santa with his big jobs — loading the sleigh with packages, using heavy power tools to make toys, or even fixing Mrs. Claus' rocking chair.





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When the bus slowed down, rolling past pump jacks and drilling rigs everywhere, Pinky knew she had made it to Midland. She'd heard what a great place it was, filled with friendly people and fun things to do. "Do you know how far it is to The George W. Bush Childhood Home?" she asked the bus driver, hoping it could get her mind off all the tasks she was too small to perform at the North Pole.

Merry Christmas from the Security Bank Team!

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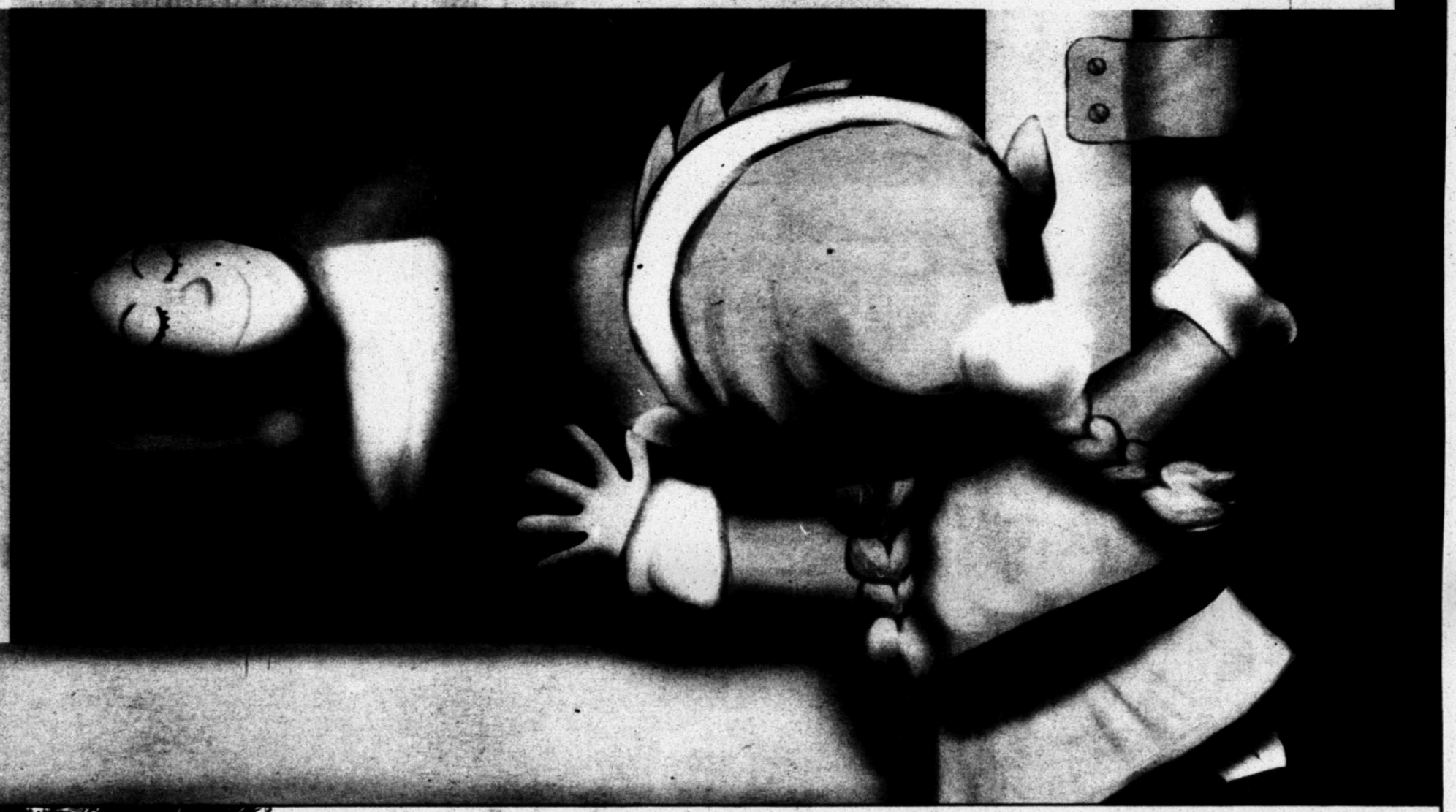
After getting her directions, she started walking right away, glad to be out of Santa's workshop for once. She was admiring all the cute houses in Midland when she suddenly saw something that caught her attention: smoke pouring from the roof of a two-story house.
All alone in a new place, Pinky didn't



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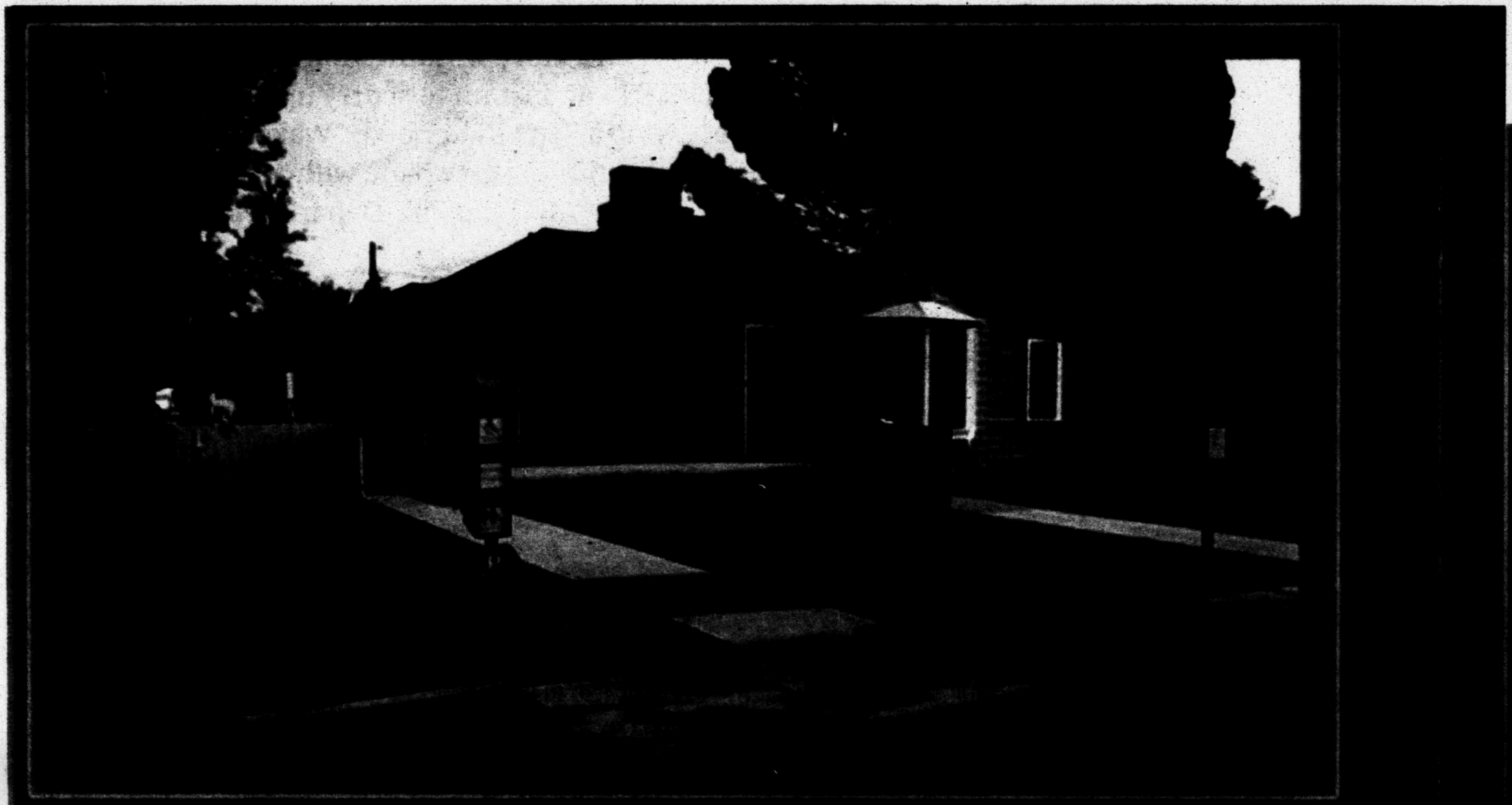
know what to do. She saw a light on in the second-story window, noticing flames starting to emerge from the roof. She decided in an instant to scurry up the drain-pipe and peek inside, seeing a young girl laying asleep in her bed. "Wake up! Wake up! There's a fire!" Pinky shouted, pounding on the window pane with all the strength her little elf body could muster. "Call the Midland Fire Department!"





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The George W. Bush Childhood Home, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization supporting the restoration and operation of the George W. Bush Childhood Home. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by applicable law.

Pinky's noise drew the attention of the girl's parents, who rushed into the bedroom, shocked to see a tiny elf yelling at their window. They immediately smelled the smoke and carried their daughter down to safety, calling 9-1-1 after they had escaped the burning house.

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The Midland Fire Department rushed to the scene and doused the flames, glad to see the family had made it out unharmed. "That little elf saved our lives," said the daughter, giving the tiny Pinky a great big hug. "Thank you so much!"

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The next day, Pinky was a hero. Her story made the front page of The Midland Reporter-Telegram and MRT.com, and everybody in Midland was talking about her bravery. She even got a medal from Fire Chief Robert Isbell for courage and service to the community.





That's not all. When word got around about Pinky's heroism, some businesses thought it would be a good idea to hire someone with that kind of character. "We could use some help counting coins," said the manager of Security Bank. "I bet Pinky would be perfect for setting appointments," said Dr. Golightley of Golightley Chiropractic. "And I'd love for her to keep our patients company," said the administrator at Texas Tech Physicians of the Permian Basin.



Pinky thought about it. Staying in Midland sounded so appealing, but she also knew her calling in life was to be an elf. As she bought her bus ticket back to the North Pole, she realized she'd learned an important lesson that would serve her well at Santa's workshop: It's the size of your heart that matters more than anything.



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Upon returning to the North Pole, Santa was already waiting for her. "I've got a job for you, Pinky," he said, holding up a list of the good girls and boys who deserved extra toys this year. "I need you to check and double-check this list. It's a big job, but I think you can handle it."

Now thanks to Pinky — and the lessons she learned in Midland — all the Christmas toys will arrive on schedule this year.



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