

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2018

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LOCAL EDUCATION

Midland student places third in letter-writing contest.

Page 1B



MEN'S NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP

College basketball's wild 2017-18 ride ended in San Antonio, where Villanova met Michigan in the national championship game of the NCAA Tournament. Find out what happened inside.

Page 1C

Pipeline shut down after cyber attack

■ Energy Transfer system connects gas suppliers in Permian to customers out west

By Ryan Collins and Meenal Vamburkar
Bloomberg

A system that digitally processes customer transactions for

a major pipeline network in the U.S. was shut down Monday after a cyber attack.

An electronic data interchange provided by third-party Energy Services Group LLC for Energy Transfer Partners LP's Panhandle Eastern pipeline system was attacked Monday and will be unavailable until "further notice," Energy Transfer said in a notice to shippers.

The shutdown could affect a network of major pipelines owned by subsidiaries, including Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Company, which owns lines from Michigan to Texas, and Transwestern Pipeline Company LLC. The EDI system, designed to cut costs and boost speed, is used to conduct business through a computer-to-computer exchange of documents.

"This situation has not impacted our operations. We are handling all scheduling in house during this time," Vicki Granado, a spokeswoman for Energy Transfer, said in an emailed statement. Energy Services Group was not immediately available for comment.

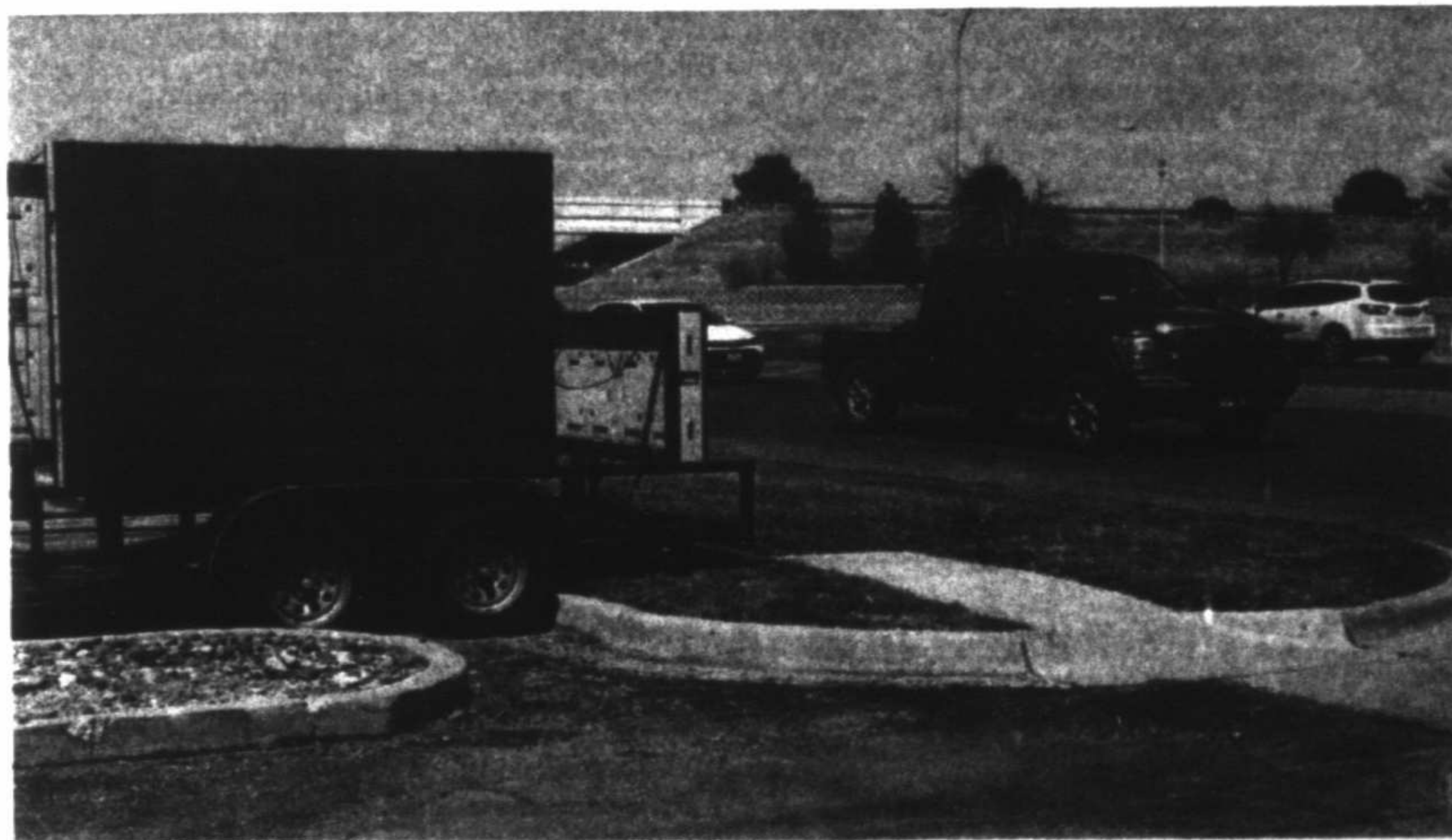
Energy Transfer, run by billionaire Kelsey Warren, isn't the only pipeline company using

EDI. Other operators with the system include Kinder Morgan Inc. and Tallgrass Energy Partners LP, according to their websites. Kinder Morgan wasn't affected, spokeswoman Melissa Ruiz said in an email. Tallgrass didn't immediately respond to requests for comment.

The Panhandle natural gas

Please see ATTACK/2A

SIGNS AND THE CITY



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

A portable electronic sign on a small trailer Wednesday in the parking lot of Garfield Plaza, near Loop 250 and Garfield Street. These signs have been seen around Midland.

LED temporary signs find place along city streets

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

The movement to LED has made its way to temporary signage.

City of Midland officials said last week there are at least two companies operating temporary or movable LED message boards, sometimes referred to as message centers.

The LED message board has replaced the older sign that offered messages using individual letters. Although newer, the more modern signage is covered by an older sign ordinance.

According to the ordinance:

■ temporary signs may be used for on-

premise or off-premise advertising only;

■ temporary signs may be placed on a lot or tract within the city for a time period not to exceed 96 consecutive hours;

■ the usage of these temporary signs may be limited to 8 a.m.-8 p.m.;

■ the area of a temporary digital LED sign shall not exceed 100 square feet;

■ temporary signs shall be contained on a business' property and shall not extend into the city's right-of-way or be located in any visibility clearance area and shall not be placed less than 10 feet from the back of the curb.

■ illumination from a temporary sign shall not exceed about 0.3 foot-candles between dusk and dawn.

The sign ordinance also called for a temporary sign to display static messages and that the hold time of each message shall be at least eight seconds. It also states that each message shall be accomplished within two seconds or less and shall occur simultaneously on the entire sign face.

Other rules involve electrical connection notices, property rights and termination notices. Also, there is a \$50 non-refundable fee to operate a sign.

Charles Harrington, with the city of Midland, said the city is working on a new sign ordinance and no major changes are expected to the temporary sign permitting.

Cruz launches re-election campaign

■ 'Tough as Texas' is senator's new slogan

By Patrick Svitek
Texas Tribune

BEAUMONT — U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, formally kickstarted his re-election campaign Monday with a focus on Texas' heroic response to Hurricane Harvey and his involvement in the recovery.

Cruz, who is defending his bid for a second term against U.S. Rep. Beto O'Rourke, D-El Paso, released

a two-minute video Monday morning trumpeting the recovery, punctuated by a new campaign slogan: "Tough as Texas."

He kept up the theme a few hours later at a rally here, extolling the bravery of everyday Texans as they responded to the storm that battered the Gulf Coast last fall.

"The people of Beaumont didn't sit here and just cry — what can we do, we're hopeless, we're helpless, there's nothing that can be done — the people of Beaumont said there's a job, let's roll up our sleeves and let's go do it," said Cruz, who also singled out some audience members for their own post-Harvey initiative. "That's part of what it means being a Texan. You know, Texans don't wait. Texans aren't afraid. Texans are strong. Texans are free ... Texans are tough."

The rally marked the beginning of a 12-city, three-day tour of Texas to kick off Cruz's 2018 bid.

The main attraction is an event Monday evening at the Redneck Country Club in Stafford, a favorite haunt of Cruz supporters in the Houston area.

Cruz is revving up his campaign almost a year to the day after O'Rourke launched his underdog effort to unseat the incumbent. O'Rourke has since proven to be a relentless campaigner and strong fundraiser, though Cruz largely ignored him until last month, when he began tearing into his

Midland is stop on campaign tour

Sen. Ted Cruz will be making a campaign stop in Midland 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Wednesday at Discovery Operating, 2800 Mockingbird Lane. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/2pZ4kDD>. Other campaign stops are McAllen, Corpus Christi, San Antonio and Austin today, followed by Amarillo, Wichita Falls and Fort Worth on Wednesday.

NWS: Last month was third warmest March on record

■ Average temperature in Midland was 62.2 degrees

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

March 2018 was the third warmest March on record in Midland.

The National Weather Service reports the 62.2-degree average temperature in March was not only well above the average for the month (55.6 degrees) but fell third in recorded history at Midland

International.

The warmest March on record happened last year when the average temperature was 64.5 degrees. Second was in 1974, with a temperature of 62.7 degrees. Three of the warmest four months of March happened in the last three years (2016-2018), and four of the warmest five happened this decade.

The higher-than-average temperatures continue a trend. Last year was the warmest year on record in Midland. The winter (December through February)

wasn't record-breaking but was nearly 1.5 degrees above average. March of this year included four days when the high temperature was 90 or higher.

The warmer-than-normal conditions are a factor in the U.S. Drought Monitor citing the area for "moderate" to "severe" drought. The month of March also didn't provide much relief because of the lack of rain.

The 0.11 of an inch recorded in March brought the yearly total to 0.16 of an inch. It is one of the driest

starts to a year in recorded history.

The Climate Prediction Center is calling for a 33 percent chance of warmer than average conditions in April and a 33 to 40 percent chance of drier-than-average conditions in the 30-day forecast. Extend the forecast to 90 days, and the CPC is calling for a 60 percent chance of a warmer April through June and a 40 percent chance of drier conditions during that period.

Please see MARCH/2A

Vol. 90, No. 23
Daily \$2, Sunday \$3

Visit us on social media



Price of oil

\$63.01 ▼ \$1.93

The big number

12

The time a teen spent trapped in a sewage system in Los Angeles, Page 8A

Word of the Day:

congruence
Do you know what it means? Find out the definition on Page 3A.

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Business 6C | Classified 1D | Comics 7C | Dear Abby 3B | Lottery 3A | Obituaries 2A | Puzzles 5C | Sports 1C | TV 3B

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Bob Booth/Fort Worth Star-Telegram via AP

Ethan Couch is released on Monday from the Tarrant County Corrections Department.

Texas man who invoked 'affluenza' defense released from jail

Associated Press

FORT WORTH — Ethan Couch, who as a 16-year-old driver drunkenly struck and killed four pedestrians but dodged prison after suggesting at trial that his irresponsibility was a result of his entitled upbringing, walked free Monday after serving almost two years in a Texas jail on a probation violation.

Couch, 20, was released from the Tarrant County jail near Dallas on Monday morning, according to Tarrant County sheriff's spokesman David McClelland, who provided no other details.

It was not immediately clear where Couch went after leaving jail.

The group Mothers Against Drunk Driving issued a statement calling Couch's short stint in jail "a grave injustice to the victims and their families who have been dealt life sentences because of one person's devastating decision to drink and drive."

Couch was found to have a blood-alcohol level three times the legal limit for adult drivers after the crash in June 2013.

He subsequently was charged with manslaughter.

A psychologist at trial blamed the teen's irresponsibility on his family's wealth, dubbing it "affluenza." A juvenile court sentenced him to 10 years of probation.

That probation was revoked in 2016 after he attended a party where alcohol was served then fled to Mexico with his mother to avoid punishment.

Couch's attorneys, Scott Brown and Reagan Wynn, issued a statement Monday saying Couch has always been sorry for what he did.

"From the beginning, Ethan has admitted his conduct, accepted responsibility for his actions, and felt true remorse for the terrible consequences of those actions," they said, adding that he will serve the remaining six years of his community supervision under the terms imposed by the court.

Those terms include wearing a tracking device, sticking to a 9 p.m. curfew and taking regular drug tests, a court filing shows.

Couch, who turns 21 next week, is prohibited from drinking alcohol

while he is on probation.

Couch lost control of his family's pickup truck in 2013 after he and his friends had played beer pong and drank beer stolen from a Wal-Mart.

He veered into a crowd of people helping the driver of a disabled vehicle on the side of the road.

Authorities later estimated that he was going 70 mph in a 40 mph zone.

The crash fatally injured the stranded motorist, a youth minister who stopped to help her and a mother and daughter who came out of their nearby home.

Couch's mother, Tonya Couch, is in jail awaiting trial on charges of hindering apprehension of a felon and money laundering arising from when she fled to Mexico with her son in 2015.

Fred Couch, Ethan's father, was sentenced in December 2016 to a year's probation for falsely identifying himself as a peace officer. He has not commented publicly on his son's release.

Police investigate video of black man's arrest

By Emily Schmall

Associated Press

FORT WORTH — The Fort Worth Police Department is investigating a weekend arrest in which a white officer was caught on video kneeling on a black man's back and punching him while a black officer knelt him.

In the 50-second video of Saturday's arrest posted on Facebook by the Next Generation Action Network, which organizes demonstrations against police abuse, two Fort Worth police officers can be seen restraining Forrest Curry as he lies face-down in the street. A white officer kneels on Curry's back and repeatedly punches him as he cries, "Why the f--- are you punching me? Why?" A black officer next to Curry kneels him repeatedly in his side.

Police Chief Joel Fitzgerald said in a statement Sunday that the officers were responding to a call for backup from fire department personnel, who told the officers that Curry "appeared to be intoxicated and had attempted to assault them."

It took three officers and one supervisor about five minutes to subdue Curry, Fitzgerald said.

Curry, 35, was booked into Tarrant County Corrections Center on charges of resisting officers and evading arrest. He was released on bond Monday afternoon.

One of his attorneys, L. Chris Stewart of Atlanta, said Curry has a history of seizures and had one Saturday while walking that caused him to collapse in the street.

When Fort Worth emergency medical staff arrived in response to a call

for help, Curry came to and, disoriented, took off running.

"It's just sad that in a medical emergency, (police) couldn't have been more patient or understanding," Stewart said.

It is the latest in a string of confrontations that have raised questions about the Fort Worth Police Department's use of force policies.

Two lawsuits related to the use of force by city police officers were filed in December.

In one of them, Jeremi Rainwater, who is white, contends that an officer shot him in the back without cause and several other officers colluded to cover up the flawed police response.

A grand jury that reviewed the officers' behavior in the 2015 shooting did not file any charges against them.

In the other, Jacqueline Craig, who is black, is suing over a December 2016 arrest in which a Fort Worth officer wrestled her and her teenage daughter to the ground. Those arrests were captured on cellphone video.

Charges against Craig and her daughter were dropped, and the officer served a 10-day suspension for violating departmental policies.

In addition, last December, a Fort Worth police sergeant was fired for ordering a rookie officer to use a stun gun on a woman who had called for help during a domestic dispute. Fitzgerald released a 12-minute video from the body camera of the rookie officer that he said showed the sergeant's behavior was "absolutely unacceptable."

Facebook CEO defends advertising-supported business model

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The CEO of Facebook is

defending its advertising-supported business model. Mark Zuckerberg's defense comes after Apple CEO Tim Cook said his company

wouldn't be in Facebook's situation because Apple doesn't sell ads based on customer data the way Facebook does.

Zuckerberg responded Monday that an advertising-supported business model is the only way that the service can survive because not everyone would be able to pay for Facebook if it charged a fee.

He says the idea that

Facebook doesn't care about its customers is "extremely glib."

Facebook is facing scrutiny over its data collection following allegations that political consulting firm Cambridge Analytica obtained data on tens of millions of Facebook users to try to influence elections.

Zuckerberg spoke with Vox, while Cook talked with Recode last week.

MARCH

From 1A

March weather report
Average high: 76.8 degrees
Average low: 47.6 degrees
Average temperature: 62.2 degrees
Typical average for March: 55.6 degrees
Days in the 90s: four
Highest high: 91 on March 22
Lowest low: 32 on March 6
Precipitation: 0.11 of an inch

Average precipitation for March: 0.60 of an inch
Highest maximum sustained wind: 37 mph on March 27
Highest gust wind: 49 mph on March 27

Warmest months of March on record
1974 64.5 degrees
1978 62.7 degrees
2018 62.2 degrees
2012 61.1 degrees
2016 60.7 degrees

Source: National Weather Service

ATTACK

From 1A

pipeline network includes four large-diameter pipelines stretching from the Anadarko Basin of Texas and Oklahoma into several other midwestern states. The Trunkline system, which extends from the Gulf Coast into the Southeast and Midwest, and the Sea Robin system in the Gulf of Mexico are also part of the Panhandle network.

Shares of Energy Transfer fell 2.3 percent

to \$15.8535 at 2:16 p.m. in New York. The Department of Homeland Security didn't immediately respond to requests for comment.

The Transwestern pipeline system connects gas supplies in the Rockies and the Permian Basin to customers in California, Arizona and Nevada. The Rover pipeline, also controlled by Energy Transfer, is designed to transport gas from West Virginia and Ohio to markets in the Midwest and Canada.

Obituaries



Gonzalo Rubio Jimenez

Gonzalo Rubio Jimenez, 43, passed away on March 30, 2018. He was the husband of Juanita Jimenez. They shared 19 years of marriage together. He was born in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico. He was the son of Luis Patricio and Maria Jimenez. He graduated from Pecos High School. He was employed at P.R. Pando Trucking. He was a member of San Miguel Arcangel Catholic Church. He loved to listen to music and enjoyed working on cars. He also loved to play jokes on family and make everyone laugh.

He is survived by wife, Juanita Jimenez, children 3 sons - Jose Luis Jimenez from Pecos, TX, Gonzalo Jr Jimenez from Midland, TX, and Jose Angel Jimenez from Midland, TX, 2 daughters - Breanna Jimenez from Pecos, TX, Alexis Jimenez from Pecos, TX, 3 Grandchildren, mother Maria Rubio Jimenez, Midland, TX, brothers - Armando Jimenez from Midland, TX, Roberto Hernandez from Nuevo Laredo, MX, Manuel Hernandez from Nuevo Laredo, MX, Sister Janie Garcia from Midland, TX, biological father Jesus Hernandez.

He is preceded in death by Father Luis Patricio Jimenez. Funeral services/graveside services will be held on Wednesday April 4, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at San Miguel Arcangel Catholic Church with interment at Serenity Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

The viewing/visitation with be held on Tuesday April 3, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 9 p.m., with rosary starting at 7:00 p.m. at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin funeral home.

The family would like to express their gratitude toward all expression of sympathy and acts of kindness shown during time of bereavement.

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

Lewallen Garcia Pipkin
Funeral Home
2300 N. Reg. Highway - Midland, TX - (409) 463-3700

Death Notices

Erma Irvin Shoopman

Erma Irvin Shoopman, 91 of Midland, Texas passed away Sunday, April 1, 2018.

The family will be accepting guests from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 4, 2018 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Funeral Service will be at 10:00 a.m., Friday, April 5, 2018 at First Baptist Chapel in Midland.

Erma is survived by her daughters, Pamela Robertson and Judith Overbeck; 1 sister; 5 grandchildren; and 9 great-grandchildren.

John Finis Millwee

John Finis Millwee, 89 of Midland, Texas passed away on Sunday, April 1, 2018.

Private family services will be held at a later date.

John is survived by his wife, Jo Ann Millwee; and daughters, Lynda Krol and Sandra Jordan.

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

R.A. "Junior" Plunk Jr.

R.A. "Junior" Plunk Jr. passed away to be with his Lord and Savior on Friday, March 30, 2018.

Junior is survived by his wife, Shirley; daughter, Ashley; 3 brothers; and 1 sister.

The family will receive friends at Nalley, Pickle & Welch Funeral Home between the hours of 6:00p.m. to 8:00p.m. on Wednesday, April 4, 2018.

Funeral services will be held at 2:00p.m. on Thursday, April 5, 2018 at Wilshire Park Baptist Church.

Ruth Elaine Attaway

Ruth Elaine Attaway, 71, Midland, Texas passed away on Saturday, March 31, 2018 in Midland. There are no services scheduled at this time with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Midland.

She is survived by her siblings, Patricia Adams of Midland; Mary Barbour of Gardendale; Dub Hearon of Michigan; and Herb Hearon of El Paso.

Soledad Garcia

Soledad Garcia, 98, of Midland, Texas passed away on March 31, 2018. There will be a Rosary at Ellis Funeral Home on Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. and a funeral mass at 2:00 p.m. at San Miguel Catholic Church on Thursday, April 5, 2018.

CRUZ

From 1A

challenger as too liberal for Texas.

Cruz did not mention O'Rourke in his remarks to a crowd of about 100 people gathered at an airport firehouse for the rally.

But he spoke of a stark choice in November and alluded to what's quickly become his favorite area of contrast with O'Rourke — gun rights — while discussing the recent call by former Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens to repeal the Second Amendment.

"Now here's a dirty little secret: There are an awful lot of Democrats in Washington who long in their heart for the repeal of the Second Amendment," Cruz said. "They're not necessarily as honest — they're not necessarily as candid — as John Paul Stevens."

Speaking with reporters afterward, Cruz said a "great question for enterprising reporters" to ask O'Rourke would be if he agrees with Stevens. On the campaign trail, O'Rourke has spoken warmly about the state's long tradition of gun ownership but has also said steps can be taken to prevent senseless violence, such as instituting universal background checks and banning the AR-15 rifle.

The latter proposal has particularly drawn the ire of Cruz, who reminded reporters Monday that his opponent has bragged about getting an "F" rating from the National Rifle Association — "an extreme position, even within Washington Democrats."

O'Rourke's campaign is not letting Cruz's statewide swing go unanswered.

It posted a Snapchat filter in Beaumont Monday, which allowed users of the app in the area to layer a cartoon of a frowning Cruz atop their posts.

The filter also included a jab at Cruz's 2016 presidential campaign, which O'Rourke has said distracted Cruz from representing Texas for much of his first term.

"Ted Cruz visited 99 of Iowa's 99 counties," the filter said. "When's the last time he listened to Texans in Beaumont?"

Cruz fired back on Twitter, contrasting the number of recent visits he has made to Beaumont with O'Rourke's apparent tally. "Maybe that's why you lost Jefferson County in the Dem primary," Cruz said to O'Rourke.

WORD OF THE DAY

brought to you daily by



congruence

[con-gru-ence]

noun

1. the quality or state of agreeing, coinciding, or being congruent
the happy congruence of nature and reason — Gertrude Himmelfarb
2. a statement that two numbers or geometric figures are congruent



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Please be advised to change: The Midland Reporter-Telegram is a newspaper of record and is published daily except on Sundays and public holidays.

Things to do

■ Float the Keg beer sampling, 5 p.m. at Little Woodrow's 3415 N. Loop 250, 21 and older. Littlewoodrows.com.

■ Buddy — The Buddy Holly Story, 7:30 p.m. at Wagner Hotel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. Broadwayinthebush.com.

■ Palette Club Painting, 9 a.m. to noon at the Palette Club, 907 W. Wadley Ave. paletteclubmidland.com.

■ Watercolor art classes by Sara Drescher. The class is for all levels. 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. at Arts Council of Midland, 1506 W. Illinois Ave. arcmidland.org.

■ Evening Family Storytime offers songs, stories and literacy activities for ages 2 to 6 and their caregivers. 4:30 p.m. at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.

■ Permian Basin Dance Club with live country music, 7:30 p.m. at Crown Royal Club, 1110 E. Scharbauer Drive. \$8. For more information, call 638-3707 or 250-8215.

■ Bingo, 6 p.m. at the Tall City VFW Post 7208, 1306 E. Taylor Ave. Children welcome.

■ Bridge game play, 1 p.m. at Alison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. \$6. For more information call 682-8595.

■ Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment, 7 p.m. at Basin Burger House, 607 N. Colorado St.

■ Two-Dollar Tuesdays with the same price for games, shoes, select beers and arcade card after 8 p.m. Bowlero, 5320 W. Loop 250 N. bowlero.com.

■ Karaoke and pool tournament at The Lone Star Bar, 521 W. Wall St. ■ Come show at Blakemore Planetarium, 1705 W. Missouri Ave., "My Backyard," 1 p.m., "Robot Explorers," 4 p.m.; museum.org.

Great American Cleanup celebration set for Saturday

A celebration for the Great American Cleanup/Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off is co-sponsored by the Texas Department of Transportation, Keep America Beautiful and Keep Texas Beautiful. Saturday's celebration is sponsored by H-E-B, First Basin Credit Union, city of Midland, Legacy Reserves

TODAY IN MIDLAND

Midlanders support MDA



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Kris Morgan was among Midland firefighters who collected donations Monday during the first day of the annual Fill-the-Boot Muscular Dystrophy Association campaign. Members of the Midland Professional Fire Fighters, Local No. 4405, will be out again on Wednesday and Friday at the intersections of Midland Drive and Loop 250, Midland Drive and Andrews Highway, Midkiff Road and Wadley Avenue and Garfield Street and Golf Course Road.

Great American Cleanup/Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off is co-sponsored by the Texas Department of Transportation, Keep America Beautiful and Keep Texas Beautiful. Saturday's celebration is sponsored by H-E-B, First Basin Credit Union, city of Midland, Legacy Reserves

LP Pioneer Natural Resources, Community National Bank, OneOK, Belarough Homes, Lone Star State Bank and Coca-Cola Southwest Beverages. For more information, KMB at 688-7750 or 688-7745.

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, April 3, the 93rd day of 2018. There are 272 days left in the year.

Today's highlight: On April 3, 1968, civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. delivered what turned out to be his final speech, telling a rally of striking sanitation workers in

Memphis, Tennessee, that "I've been to the mountain top" and "seen the Promised Land." I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land" (About 20 hours later, King was killed by an assassin's bullet at the Lorraine Motel.)

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 8-2-6
Pick 3 day: 9-6-7
Pick 3 evening: 2-3-3
Pick 3 night: 9-6-2
Daily 4 morning: 1-5-4-8
Daily 4 day: 0-7-1-4
Daily 4 evening: 4-7-8-6
Daily 4 night: 4-7-4-6
Cash Five: 3-8-13-14-27
Triple Chance: 6-15-25-34-41-42-47-48-49-52

Texas Two Step: 6-9-34-35
BB: 21
All or Nothing morning: 2-3-4-5-9-10-11-12-13-18-20-24
All or Nothing day: 4-7-10-11-13-16-18-20-21-22-23-24
All or Nothing evening: 4-5-13-14-15-16-17-19-20-21-23-24
All or Nothing night: 1-3-4-8-9-11-12-13-14-15-19-24

Weather

Monday's temperatures
High 85
Low 44
Normal high 75
Normal low 45

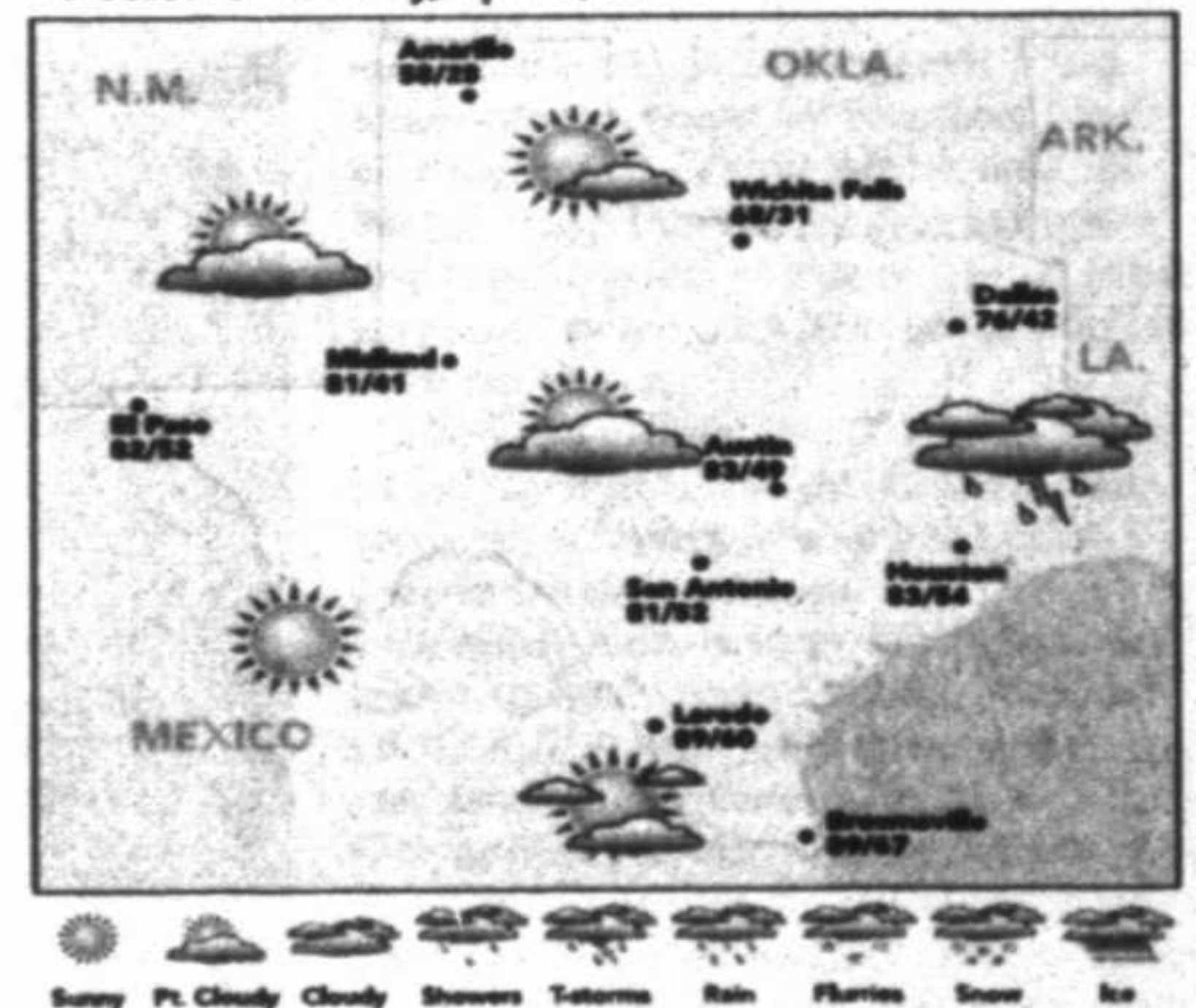
April 2's records
Record high: 95, set in 2011
Record low: 29, set in 1938

Precipitation
Saturday 0.00 in.
Sunday 0.00 in.
Month total 0.00 in.
Year total 0.16 in.
Normal total (year to date) 1.91 in.

Winds
Wind speed: 16 mph
Gust speed: 20 mph

Today's forecast
High: 79
Low: 39

Forecast for Tuesday, April 3, 2018



Conditions: Sunny today/ mostly clear tonight

Winds: Southwest 15 mph today/east 10-20 mph tonight, with gusts up to 30 mph

Chance of rain: none

Sunrise 7:35 a.m.
Sunset 8:10 p.m.

Source: National Weather Service

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have: 5-dynamic; 4-positive; 3-average; 2-so-so; 1-difficult

Note: Bigar's Stars is based on the degree of your sun at birth. The sign name is simply a label astrologers put on a set of degrees for convenience. For best results, readers should refer to the dates following each sign.

A baby born today has a Sun in Aries and a Moon in Scorpio.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, April 3, 2018:

This year you opt to get involved in a key cause. There will be no sitting back and letting others act on your ideas. You will personally guide your project and ideas to completion. If you become frustrated, you easily could lose your temper. Try to tame your emotions.

If you are single, your appeal soars throughout your birthday year. If you know what kind of relationship you desire, you have the ability to create it. If you are attached, the two of you could be working toward a key goal together. Listen to each other's thoughts and ideas. SCORPIO helps ground you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★ You are more than willing to make an effort toward a key person in your life. You and this person also might need to reach out to a mutual friend. Those around you will be positively affected because of the hard work you put in. Tonight: Be sensitive to a loved one's feelings.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★ ★ ★ ★ Others appear to be knocking on your door. Make it OK to ignore outside activity for a little while. You want to have less of a hectic pace. Not everyone can sustain your high level of energy, which is a gift that allows you to accomplish more than most people. Tonight: Out late.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★ ★ ★ ★ Recognize your limitations. Explain what you expect from someone, but don't forget to be receptive to his or her needs as well. You have to be more direct with a person you deal with on a daily basis. If you put in that extra effort, you will be rewarded. Tonight: Out till the wee hours.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★ ★ ★ ★ A loved one seeks you out, as he or she has a lot to share. As a result, you might need to rearrange your schedule. Your willingness to put in 100 percent when dealing with emotional situations comes back in multiples. Recognize the need to stay open. Tonight: Be spontaneous.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★ ★ ★ ★ Continue working from home, if possible. A low-key environment encourages more productivity as well as a greater sense of security. Events around your home seem fortunate at this time. Be more forthright about what is happening around you. Tonight: Stay close to home.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★ ★ ★ ★ Your ability to grasp the various outcomes that stem from one decision could surprise others. Make an effort to connect and brainstorm with friends. Screen your calls, knowing full well that you easily could go overboard if you are not careful. Tonight: Out and about.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★ ★ ★ ★ You'll want to deal with an important matter that might be affecting your ability to move forward. Be aware that relationships with siblings could be difficult right now. Share your feelings and clear the air to allow greater depth. Tonight: Pretend that you are Casper the Ghost.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★ ★ ★ ★ The Moon in your sign highlights you. Over the next few days, you'll move a project to completion, or at least to the next phase. Events occur that will leave you shaking your head in amazement. Know that

you don't need to run interference. Tonight: Go for what you want.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★ ★ ★ Take your time dealing with a difficult person. You might feel as if you can get this situation under control. You will succeed if you remain positive. Understand what is going on with others. Open up discussions once everyone is relaxed. Tonight: Express your ideas clearly.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★ ★ ★ You open up to new possibilities. The unexpected plays into a decision. A close friend understands why you are following a certain course, and won't interfere with your pace or your decision. This person will give you powerful feedback. Tonight: Out among the crowds.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★ ★ ★ ★ Be willing to take the lead with an important project. You seem to have an unusual interest in pursuing this matter. Demonstrate your leadership skills. You see what is happening in a different way from how most people involved see it. Tonight: Burn the candle at both ends.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★ ★ ★ You see what most don't. You'll want to push a key matter to fruition. Try to understand where others are coming from. You also might need to pull back in order to gain a broader perspective than you have up till now. Listen to what people share. Tonight: Enjoy the moment.

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EPA says Pruitt's condo lease didn't violate ethics rules

By Michael Biesecker
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — An agency ethics official at the Environmental Protection Agency says Administrator Scott Pruitt's lease of a Capitol Hill condo tied to a prominent fossil-fuels lobbyist didn't violate federal ethics rules.

A memo signed by Kevin Minoli contends that Pruitt's \$50-a-night rental payments constitute a fair market rate. The memo was dated March 30, the day after ABC News first reported Pruitt lived last year in condo co-owned by the wife of Steven Hart, a registered lobbyist whose firm pushed EPA to relax pollution regulations. Pruitt's college-aged daughter stayed in the second bedroom while interning at the White House last summer.

Minoli's memo says the \$50-a-night rate would total \$1,500 for 30 nights a month, which he deemed to be a fair price.

Pruitt's lease, however, required him to pay just for nights he occupied in the unit. Pruitt actually paid a total of \$6,100 over the six month period he leased the property, an average of about \$1,000 a month.

But current rental listings for two-bedroom apartments in the neighborhood show they typically go for far more than what Pruitt paid. A two bedroom townhome on

the same block as the one leased by Pruitt was advertised for rent on Monday at \$3,750 a month. Another two-bedroom unit on the next block was advertised as available for \$4,740 a month.

"The lease authorized use by the administrator and his immediate family, specifically including his spouse and children, and consistent with that provision of the lease his immediate family did stay there when they were in Washington, D.C.," Minoli wrote. "The lease did not require payment when the property was not utilized. Neither of these two provisions render the rental cost under the lease as something other than market value."

EPA did not provide a copy of Pruitt's lease and did not respond to questions about how Minoli determined what he considered to be the fair-market rate for the neighborhood. Also left unanswered was how Pruitt came to rent a property tied to a lobbyist with business interests involving his agency.

The unusual arrangement has attracted attention in Washington, where Pruitt has been under increasing scrutiny for his frequent taxpayer-funded travel, which has included first-class airline tickets. Though federal regulations typically require federal officials to fly in coach, the EPA chief has said he needed to sit in premium

seats due to security concerns.

Jennifer Kaplan, a spokeswoman for EPA's Inspector General, said Monday the office is evaluating a request to investigate the circumstances surrounding the administrator's condo lease. The EPA watchdog is already probing Pruitt's 2017 travel spending.

Walter Shaub, who ran the U.S. Office of Government Ethics until last year, rated EPA's legal justification of Pruitt's living arrangements as "Total Baloney." He jokingly tweeted on Friday that he would like to rent the Harts prime location condo for \$50-a-night.

"I'll only pay for nights I use it but need it held vacant all other nights," wrote Shaub, who has become a frequent critic of what he sees as ethical lapses in the Trump administration. "@EPA has certified that these are standard terms at market rate, so it shouldn't matter to you that I don't run EPA."

A Republican who previously served as the state attorney general of Oklahoma, Pruitt has long been a champion of the oil and gas industry. In the year he has served as the Trump administration's top environmental official, Pruitt has moved to scrap, gut or replace numerous environmental regulations opposed by the industry while boosting the continued burning of fossil fuels,



Andrew Harnik/Associated Press

The Capitol Hill condo building where Scott Pruitt, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator, has stayed is shown on Friday in Washington.

which is the primary cause of climate change.

In a statement to The Associated Press last week, Steven Hart described Pruitt as a "casual friend" from Oklahoma with whom he had only occasional contact.

Records show the powerhouse lobbying firm where Hart serves as chairman and CEO, Williams and Jensen PLLC, represents companies that include Exxon Mobil and Cheniere Energy Inc.

In December, Pruitt and

members of his staff spent about \$40,000 in taxpayer funds to fly to Morocco to help encourage the North African kingdom to import liquefied natural gas from the United States. Cheniere is currently the only exporter of liquefied natural gas from the continental United States.

The firm also represents OGE Energy Corp., an electricity company serving Oklahoma and Arkansas.

Copies of Pruitt's daily calendar obtained by the AP through a public

records request show that Pruitt met in his EPA office with two top OGE executives and a registered lobbyist from Hart's firm in March 2017, when he was living at the condo.

In October, EPA announced it would rewrite the Clean Power Plan, an Obama-era regulation that sought to limit planet-warming carbon emissions from coal-fired power plants like those operated by OGE, which paid Hart's firm \$400,000 in lobbying fees in 2017.

Trump on deal to protect 'Dreamer' immigrants: 'NO MORE'

By Darlene Superville
Associated Press

PALM BEACH, Fla. — President Donald Trump on Sunday declared "NO MORE" to a deal to help "Dreamer" immigrants and threatened to pull out of a free trade agreement with Mexico unless it does more to stop people from crossing into the U.S. He claimed they're coming to take advantage of protections granted certain immigrants.

"NO MORE DACA DEAL!" Trump tweeted one hour after he began the day by wishing his followers a "HAPPY EASTER!"

He said Mexico must "stop the big drug and people flows, or I will stop their cash cow, NAFTA. NEED WALL!" The U.S., Canada and Mexico are participating in tense negotiations over the North American Free Trade Agreement at Trump's insistence. Trump says NAFTA is bad for the U.S.

"Mexico has got to help us at the border," Trump, holding his wife's hand, told reporters before the couple attended Easter services at an Episcopal church near his Palm Beach home. "If they're not going to help us at the border, it's a very sad thing between our two countries."

"A lot of people are coming in because they want to take advantage of DACA," he added.

Former President Barack Obama created the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program to provide temporary protection and work permits to hundreds of thousands of immigrants who are living in the U.S. illegally after being brought here as children. Trump ended the program last year, but gave Congress six months to pass legislation enshrining it. A deal has so far proved elusive and Trump has blamed Democrats.

It was not immediately clear what Trump was referring to when he said people are coming to take advantage of the program.

The Department of Homeland Security is not issuing new permits, though existing ones can be renewed. The Obama administration allowed signups during a set



Pablo Martinez Monsivais/Associated Press

President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump arrive for Easter services on Sunday at Episcopal Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea in Palm Beach, Fla.

period of time, and the program is closed to new entrants.

Proposed DACA deals crafted by lawmakers and rejected by Trump also were not open to new participants.

Trump did not explain what he meant when questioned by reporters as he entered the Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea with the first lady and his daughter Tiffany. The White House did not immediately respond to a request for clarification.

Trump, when addressing reporters briefly before entering the church, again blamed Democrats for failing to protect the "Dreamers."

"They had a great chance. The Democrats blew it. They had a great, great chance, but we'll have to take a look because Mexico has got to help us at the border. They flow right through Mexico. They send them into the United States. It can't happen that way anymore."

Trump promised during the 2016 presidential campaign to build a Southern border wall to stop illegal immigration and drugs from Mexico, but Congress has frustrated him by not moving as quickly as he wants to provide money for construction.

The president also complained on Twitter that border patrol agents can't do their jobs properly because of "ridiculous liberal (Democrat) laws" that allow people caught for being in the country illegally to be released while they await a hearing before a federal immigration judge.

Trump tweeted that the situation is "getting more dangerous" and "Caravans" are coming. He did not offer details to back his comment.

The president's tweets came after Fox News' "Fox & Friends" reported early Sunday on what it said is a group of 1,200 immigrants, mostly from Honduras,

headed to the U.S. The segment was a follow-up to a report by Buzzfeed News on hundreds of Central Americans making their way through Mexico in hopes that American authorities will grant them asylum or be absent when they attempt to cross the border.

The Fox headline was "Caravan of illegal immigrants headed to U.S." The president is known to watch the cable TV program in the morning.

Brandon Judd, leader of the union representing border patrol agents, predicted on "Fox & Friends" that those in the caravan would create havoc and chaos in the U.S. as they wait for what he described as immigration reform. Judd also said Congress needs to pass tougher laws, an idea Trump appeared to echo, and create more bed space for immigration authorities to house people.

Ohio Gov. John Kasich, a Republican, chided Trump over the tone of the tweets. "A true leader preserves & offers hope, doesn't take hope from innocent children who call America home. Remember, today is Easter Sunday," tweeted Ohio Gov. John Kasich, a Trump critic who challenged him for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination.

Arizona Republican Sen. Jeff Flake, another Trump foe, urged Congress to take up the fight for Dreamers.

"There are plenty of lawmakers on both sides of the aisle who stand ready to work with the administration on legislation to protect DACA kids who call America home," he tweeted. "Let's do it."

Sunday's church visit was Trump's first public appearance with his wife since CBS' "60 Minutes" aired an interview the previous Sunday with Stormy Daniels, the adult-film star who says she had sex with Trump in 2006, early in his marriage and a few months after Mrs. Trump gave birth to their son. The White House says Trump denies the affair. Mrs. Trump spent most of the past week in Palm Beach with her son.

The Trumps returned to Washington later Sunday.

Trump pushes Republicans to use 'nuclear option' on border

By Jill Colvin
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Trump administration officials said Monday they're crafting a new legislative package aimed at closing immigration "loopholes," hours after the president called on Republicans in Congress to immediately pass a border bill using the "Nuclear Option if necessary" to muscle it through.

"Border Patrol Agents (and ICE) are GREAT, but the weak Dem laws don't allow them to do their job. Act now Congress, our country is being stolen!" President Donald Trump wrote in a series of sometimes-misleading

tweets, fired off after returning from a holiday weekend spent in Florida with several immigration hardliners.

Trump also declared protections for so-called Dreamer immigrants "dead," claimed the U.S. has "no effective border laws" and warned Mexico to halt the passage of "caravans" of illegal immigrants or risk retribution.

"They must stop the big drug and people flows, or I will stop their cash cow, NAFTA. NEED WALL!" he wrote.

Trump has been seething over immigration since realizing the major spending bill he signed last month barely funds the "big, beautiful" border

wall he has promised his supporters. The \$1.3 trillion funding package included \$1.6 billion in border wall spending, but much of that money can be used only to repair existing segments, not to build new sections.

Among the measures the administration is pursuing: ending special safeguards that prevent the immediate deportation of children arrested at the border and traveling alone. Under current law, unaccompanied children from countries that don't border the U.S. would be placed under the supervision of the Department of Health and Human Services and undergo often-lengthy deportation proceedings before an immigration

judge instead of being deported.

The administration is also pushing Congress to terminate a 1997 court settlement that requires the government to release children from custody to parents, adult relatives or other caretakers as their cases make their way through immigration court. Officials complain that many children never show up at their hearings.

The proposals appear the same as those included on a White House immigration wish list that was released in October but failed to gain traction during negotiations over the border wall. Such proposals are likely to face opposition from moderate Republicans and Democrats going into the midterm elections. But Trump appears intent on ensuring the issues remain at the forefront of public conversation, even though the omnibus was widely seen

as the last major legislation likely passed this year.

In his Easter weekend tweets and comments, Trump continued to blame Democrats for killing the Obama-era Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program despite the fact that he was the one who moved to end the program. He also claimed DACA, which has provided temporary protection from deportation and work permits to hundreds of thousands of young people, is hurting people to cross the border illegally, even though the program — and most proposals to replace it — have never been open to new arrivals.

Trump spent much of the weekend at his Mar-a-Lago club, having meals with his family, watching cable news shows and rubbing elbows with conservative commentators including Fox News host Sean Hannity, according to several club members. Also spotted at

the club: championship golfer Dustin Johnson, MyPillow maker Michael J. Lindell, boxing promoter Don King and former New York Police Commissioner Bernie Kerik.

Staffers with Trump over the holiday included policy adviser Stephen Miller, one of the chief architects of the administration's anti-immigration policies, but not his chief of staff John Kelly or his elder daughter, Ivanka, both considered more moderate influences.

Trump's past calls to use the "nuclear option" — changing the Senate rules to require a simple majority of 51 votes to override a rule instead of 60 — have been repeatedly dismissed by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, who argues Republicans will welcome the filibuster if they return to being the Senate minority. The current split is 51-49 favoring Republicans.

An atypical terror case comes to close with 20-year sentence

By Eric Tucker And
Sadie Gurman
Associated Press

BALTIMORE — It was July 2015 when the FBI, scrambling to contain a surge in Islamic State group propaganda, first visited an Egyptian-American, newspaper-deliveryman in Maryland.

Agents needed to ask Mohamed Elshinawy why his phone number had surfaced in an investigation involving IS group extremists and how he came to receive a \$1,000 Western Union transaction from Egypt.

During hours of questioning, Elshinawy first suggested the money was from his mother. Next he said it was for an iPhone purchase for a friend.

After being reminded it was a crime to lie to federal agents, he proceeded to tell a different story — that he had indeed received money from the Islamic State group but that he was actually scamming the group instead of planning an attack.

It was a pivotal moment in a monthslong FBI investigation that ended Friday with Elshinawy being sentenced to 20 years in prison on terrorism-related charges.

The case had a chilling twist: Officials say that among the roughly 150 IS-linked cases U.S. authorities have brought since 2014, this is the only prosecution they're aware of in which money was transmitted from IS group operatives abroad to someone in the U.S. The more common model is money from America being sent to fighters in Syria.

The investigation stretched from a modest townhome northeast of Baltimore across multiple continents, unveiled a shadowy network of illicit payments and shell companies, and revealed a direct link to an IS group hacker who was killed in a drone strike in Syria just before Elshinawy's arrest.

Law enforcement officials involved in the case spoke to The Associated Press about it in detail, recounting a high-intensity investigation that required constant surveillance, the scouring of money transfers and concern that funds sent to Elshinawy would fund an attack.

Brian Nadeau, a Baltimore FBI assistant special agent in charge, said the case raised a lot of red flags.

"Why is the money coming this way? Who is this person? What level are they at?" he said. The FBI, he said, "can't let someone who's receiving ISIS money be out running around. Who knows if we're in the middle of it, the beginning of it, the end, and what their plan is?"

Elshinawy's lawyers didn't return messages seeking comment, but they have argued that his social media and other communications — such as his claim that he was an IS group soldier and was committed to violent jihad — were protected by the First Amendment, were not directed by the Islamic State and were merely aspirational.

Under a plea agreement, Elshinawy admitted conspiring with the IS group, but he defended himself at his sentencing hearing, saying, "I am not a terrorist," according to the Baltimore Sun.

It's not clear how close Elshinawy came to an attack, though FBI officials said they believed the threat of violence was real.

Elshinawy's lawyers said in a sentencing memorandum that he was provided little to no specific direction, but Elshinawy had told authorities he was given multiple options for violence, including a suicide bombing, and images of individuals who were potential targets, court papers say.

The Islamic State group generally doesn't need to fund attacks in the U.S. given the inexpensive nature of the violence it advocates and its reliance on social media to motivate followers.

But officials in this case

believe jihadists exploited a personal connection: a childhood friend of Elshinawy's from Egypt who fled to Syria, joined the Islamic State, communicated with him on social media and encouraged him to pledge allegiance to the group.

His technological know-how and skill in covering his electronic tracks — he used encrypted communications applications and proxy servers — likely made Elshinawy a natural conduit, officials said.

All told, officials say, he received nearly \$9,000 in money transfers, including through PayPal accounts, and used the funds for phones, a laptop and a virtual private network for communication with militants overseas.

The funds, disguised as money for printers, were routed throughout the globe in a web of wire transfers.

Much of it came from a United Kingdom-based IT company run by Siful Sultan, an IS group computer hacker killed in December 2015 airstrikes in Syria.

"I think they thought they were going to just have a run-of-the-mill ISIS case, and when they pulled back the onion, they realized that (Elshinawy) was a key node," said Seamus Hughes, deputy director of George Washington University's Program on Extremism, who has written about the case.

The FBI's first interview with Elshinawy came amid heightened alertness of IS-inspired extremism, weeks after an attempted rampage at a Prophet Mohammed cartoon contest in Texas and one day after shootings at military facilities in Tennessee.

Officials say he deflected questions about the money transfer with answers they knew were untruthful. Officials say he pulled out an iPhone to display a Facebook conversation in Arabic, but the English translation he provided was clearly improvised, the FBI said.

After several hours, and an admonishment to come clean, he admitted receiving the money from the Islamic State but said he was scamming the group because he never intended to commit violence, officials said.

He said that his cleverness should be rewarded and that he should be hired by the FBI to help untangle the IS group money network, officials say.

The interviews continued over two weeks, and the results from search warrants and subpoenas yielded insights that alarmed officials further.

Elshinawy had pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group in February 2015 and, in conversations with his friend, pronounced himself ready for jihad and asked for advice in bomb-making, court papers say.

"I do not have dreams or aspirations in this world except the Jihad...I want just to go to Jihad and be with the Islamic State," he wrote in an April 2015 message to his friend.

He responded to the unrest in Baltimore that followed the death of Freddie Gray by praising violence against police.

And, the FBI says, he attempted to recruit a brother in Saudi Arabia to join the Islamic State group.

Elshinawy has been in custody since his 2015 arrest. Agents searching his home found articles about IS attacks.

His laptop held an image of a severed head next to an IS flag, and he accessed on his phone images of government buildings in Baltimore that officials believe were potential targets.

"If this turned out to be successful," said Hughes, "it would be a whole different way of looking at ISIS external operations in the U.S."



Cliff Owen/Associated Press

The FBI's J. Edgar Hoover headquarter building is shown on Nov. 2, 2016, in Washington. An FBI terrorism investigation that concluded last week with a 20-year prison sentence is atypical since it involves a defendant in the United States receiving funds from abroad to commit an attack locally.

for your information

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OPINION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Tuesday, April 3, 2018 | Page 6A

Paul Ryan loss in November is not unthinkable

■ Democratic opponent says House speaker is becoming creature of Washington

Randy Bryce is a Wisconsin ironworker who has badly lost two state legislative races. He's now running for Congress against one of the country's most powerful Republicans, House Speaker Paul Ryan, who clobbered his last opponent by a margin of more than 2 to 1.

Before laughing, however, consider this: By the end of (last) week, Bryce will have raised more than \$4.5 million, three-quarters of it in contributions of less than \$200. The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee just moved the contest into its "Red to Blue" list of seats it considers competitive in the November midterm elections.

A Bryce victory would be huge upset. But it's not unthinkable. If surprising Democratic victories in the last year in Alabama, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Wisconsin presage a blue wave this fall, the most prominent congressional Republican could be in trouble. A Republican wave in 1994 included the defeat of the Democratic House Speaker at the time, Tom Foley of Washington.

While Ryan's southeastern Wisconsin

ALBERT HUNT

Bloomberg View



district leans Republican, Barack Obama carried it in the 2008 presidential election and the Democratic Senate candidate, Tammy Baldwin, won it en route to her 2012 victory.

Ryan has represented the district for 10 terms and rarely faces a serious challenge. But he has been squeezed during the presidency of Donald Trump, criticized both for being insufficiently supportive of the president and for being a Trump sycophant. He faces a weak right-wing primary challenge on Aug. 14.

Bryce is a blue-collar liberal, spending most of the last two decades as a worker, some as a union official. He has a wrap-around mustache and uses the Twitter handle @IronStache.

He is emphasizing what is usually Ryan's strongest issue, the economy. The Republican tax cut passed in December,

the speaker's signature achievement, "gave \$1.5 trillion mainly to people who don't need it," Bryce said in a recent interview week in Washington where he was raising money. Now, he said, Ryan is talking about cutting back Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security to pare the expanding deficit. He said it would have been better to spend that \$1.5 trillion on infrastructure projects, which he contends would bring back higher-paying jobs that have been lost.

Bryce accuses Ryan, who was born in the District of Columbia, and whose ancestors arrived there in the 19th century, of becoming a creature of Washington.

"He spends all his time with lobbyists and billionaires," Bryce said, adding that people in Wisconsin "are becoming aware he has changed."

An Army veteran and cancer survivor, Bryce takes a liberal line on social issues: He opposes most abortion restrictions, favors gay and transgender rights, and supports a ban on assault weapons. He sidesteps questions about his allegiance to House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-California, whom Republicans love to campaign against. Asked whether he would vote for her as speaker, he replied, "I'll see who's running against her."

Ryan studiously ignores Bryce, leaving the counterattack to state and national Republicans. That they take Bryce seriously is evidenced by the growing volume of their barrage. A few months ago, the state party accused Bryce of spending a lot of time "hanging out with Hollywood elites" and called him "Red Carpet Randy."

Republicans also criticized Bryce for buying Twitter followers in 2015, and the National Republican Congressional Committee called him a "phony." (He did buy 1,000 to 1,500 followers, spokesperson Lauren Hitt said, but since then the campaign has added 200,000 more.) On the eve of a visit in February by Sen. Bernie Sanders, Wisconsin Republicans put out a statement blasting "Bernie and Bryce, two socialists with a long history of losing."

Democrats acknowledge that it would be hard to beat Ryan even in a blue-wave year. But they say that Bryce will force the speaker, a formidable fundraiser and energetic campaigner, to spend time and energy back home beating back a serious opponent.

@IronStache says he's in the race to win.

"He's never had to face a fight like this before," Bryce said of Ryan. "I'm not doing all this just to come close."

GUEST VIEW

Promise of Brown vs. Board of Education is not fully realized

The start of this week saw the end of an extraordinary, ordinary life. Linda Brown, who was 75, sat at the center of one of the most consequential court cases in our nation's history. Brown vs. Board of Education not only upended the legal cover for state-sanctioned segregation in America, it also served as the foundation of a new promise of equality.

Unfortunately, today, more than 60 years after Brown was handed down in 1954, that promise is not yet fully realized in Dallas or the rest of the nation.

For Linda Brown, it all began with a desire to attend a school just a few blocks from her house at a time when schools in Topeka, Kansas, were segregated according to race. Linda's father sued, and that case was eventually added to cases from Delaware, Washington, D.C., Virginia and South Carolina that had emerged from the NAACP's decades-long legal fight to dismantle segregation.

It's worth noting here — because of its relevance to our lives in Dallas today — that a significant portion of the NAACP's strategy was aimed at improving educational opportunities for students regardless of their race. A good education can change the trajectory of a person's life, so improving educational opportunities sits at the center of the struggle over civil rights, equal opportunity and improved quality of life for all Americans.

That struggle continues in our community, because segregation persists. When desegregation was enforced by law, white families fled. Today, 95 percent of students in DISD schools are minorities. White students still in the district are clustered in a handful of schools.

The result is a school system that is essentially segregated, where too many schools underperform — only 38 percent of DISD students hit the postsecondary readiness standard on state assessments — and where a student's ZIP code can, therefore, become a determining factor in his or her life success.

DISD wants to reverse this reality. It's working on innovative approaches, from merit pay to choice schools, that show encouraging signs of driving improvement.

Those successes, however, also highlight how far we still need to go to ensure every child has a quality education. Linda Brown's father sued to open up educational opportunities for all, and that is a legacy we need to still live up to.

— The Dallas Morning News

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

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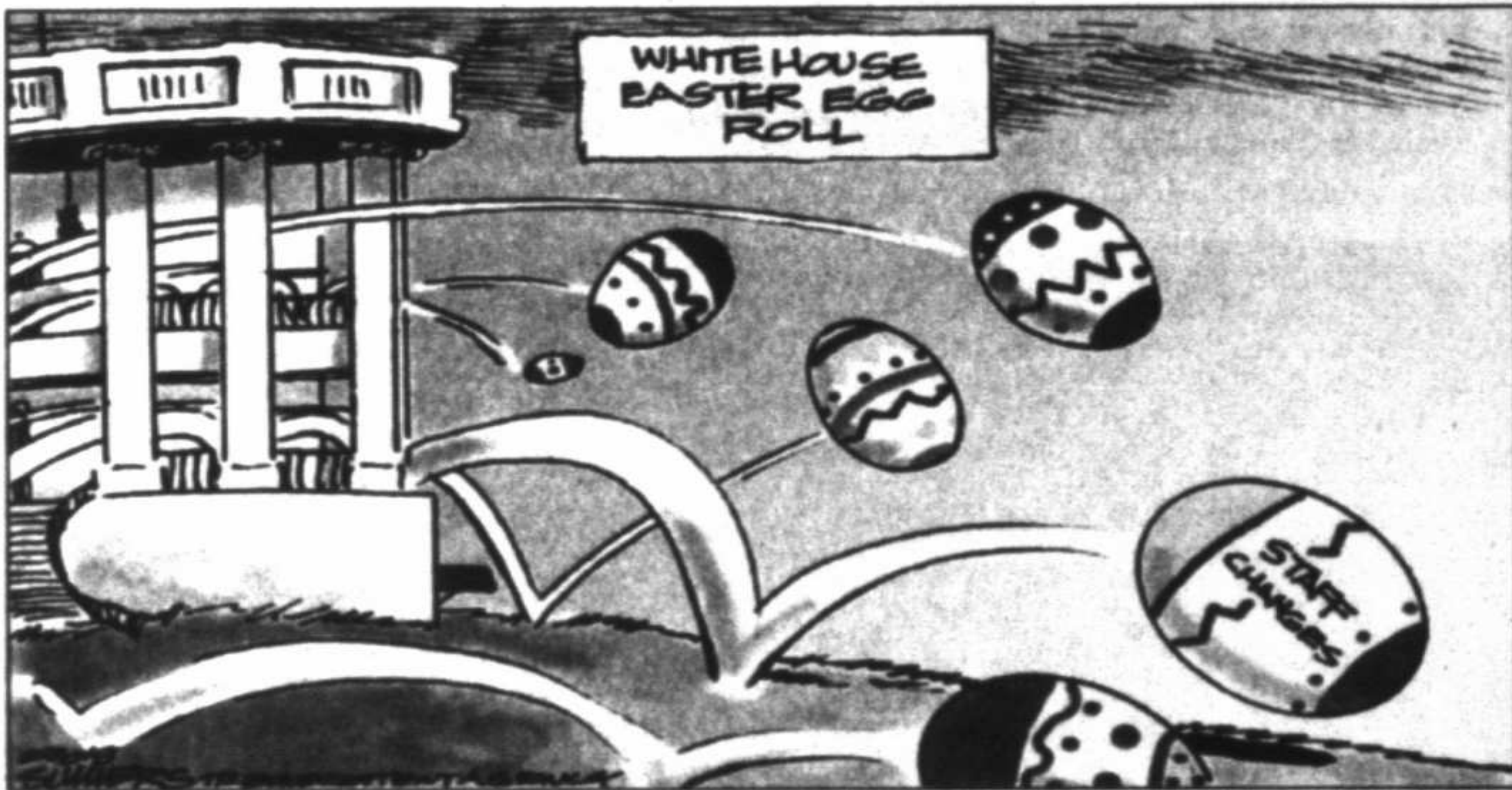
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County is misunderstood in Texas

■ Association of counties produces video to explain this form of state government

There are 254 of them, alphabetically from Anderson to Zavala. Every Texan lives in one.

Because we're Texas, we have more of them than any other state. Georgia, improbably, is second with 159. Delaware has only three. Alaska doesn't have any, opting instead for 19 "organized boroughs" and one unorganized one. Louisiana also doesn't have any, opting instead for parishes.

Our most populous one is Harris with 4.65 million people. Loving has the fewest people, 81, as of 2017.

Square-mileage-wise, Brewster's our biggest with 6,193 (though it's only the 39th largest in the U.S.) and Rockwall's our smallest with only 149.

Counties, folks. We're talking counties, easily the least understood level of Texas government.

Quick, tell me who your county commissioner is.

Texas counties have an identity problem. That's not me saying that. That's the Texas Association of Counties saying that. And it's a problem that lingers — so much so that the association is taking another shot at getting attention for its entertainingly informative video, produced in 2016 and re-promoted this week in a tweet that said, "What exactly does a county do? Find out here."

The video features characters identified as a "McLennan County girl," a city girl from Waco who asks, "All that county stuff is in the country, right?" and a state guy who assures the city girl, "Hold on there, missy. Whether you live in the city or not, you're just as much a part of the county as anyone else."

An off-screen Voice of God chimes in with "That's right. And your state, your city and your county all have important jobs to do."

Counties, the Voice (who turns out to be a guy named Chet) intones, are "where the rubber meets the road on carrying out the state's priorities."

Counties, we're told, run courts and jails, provide law enforcement, run elections, register voters, build and maintain roads, provide health care for low-income residents, collect taxes and keep track of who owns land, who's been born and who's dead.

And you thought all counties did was run rodeos. Oh, ye of little factual information.

On the video, City Girl, suddenly sounding like a substitute civics teacher, sums it all up: "Oh, so I get it. The county is actually the political subdivision enabled by the Texas Constitution to carry out state laws but with direct and connected relationship to the people it serves."

Here's some more about our least understood level of government, including a bit about some confusing things that contribute to the confusion. The elected body in charge of counties is called the commissioners court. It's not a court like you

KEN HERMAN

Austin American Statesman



think of courts. The presiding person in this not-a-court court is the county judge. The county judge is not a judge in the way you think of judges.

Some fun facts about counties:

From 1942 through 1990, Harris County had a county commissioner named E.A. "Squatty" Lyons. Politically, you didn't mess with Squatty. Missouri and Oklahoma (Oklahoma?) have counties named Texas. Texas does not have a county named Texas.

Many Texas cities are not in the counties of the same name. Austin is not in Austin County. Anderson is not in Anderson County. Houston is not in Houston County. Burleson is not in Burleson County. Rusk is not in Rusk County. Henderson is not in Henderson County. Caldwell is not in Caldwell County. Cameron is not in Cameron County. Crockett is not in Crockett County. Terrell is not in Terrell County. Jefferson is not in Jefferson County. Johnson City is not in Johnson County.

And we wonder why people are so confused. More: Tyler's not in Tyler County. And Taylor's not in Taylor County. Somebody should fix this, though it would be kind of fun if Tyler was in Taylor County and Taylor was in Tyler County.

On the plus side (and, like the list above, this one isn't all-inclusive), some cities are where they should be: Dallas is in Dallas County. Denton is in Denton County. Galveston is in Galveston County. Lubbock is in Lubbock County. El Paso is in El Paso County and Bastrop is in Bastrop County.

My personal favorite: Gail is in Borden County and Borden County is named for Gail Borden.

Moo!

One more: If you don't know what county Jacksboro is in, you don't know Jack.

Popular misconception: The Texas Constitution does not require every county to have at least one commissioner named Bubba or Booger. It just happens (unless you have one named Squatty).

The Texas Association of Counties video has found an audience, garnering over 11,000 views, 133 thumbs up and six thumbs down.

Comments include these about counties:

"And they all take bribes and flout the law."

"We do not need county government. It's just more overhead."

Perhaps a follow-up video is needed.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



Martin Luther King Jr.'s work still resonates across Africa

By Rodney Muhumuza
Associated Press

KAMPALA, Uganda — Streets. Schools. A bridge in Burkina Faso. The name of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. can be found across Africa, a measure of the global influence of the American civil rights leader who was shot dead 50 years ago after speaking out against injustices at home and abroad.

A school for poor children that is named after King in Uganda's capital, Kampala, took as its motto, "Have a Dream," borrowing a line from one of King's most famous speeches.

"Martin Luther King stood for human rights and equality, so we wanted a way of inspiring and motivating our students," said Robert Mpala, the school's founder.

In rural Liberia, a West African nation founded by freed American slaves, one official spoke proudly of a privately owned Martin Luther King School. "Martin Luther King was a great man. We still follow his dream," said J. Maxime Bleetahn, director of communications at the Ministry of Education.

Africa's push for independence from colonialism, which mirrored

King's own movement for racial equality in America, attracted the civil rights leader's attention and support.

King first set foot on the continent in March 1957 to attend celebrations marking the West African nation of Ghana's independence from Britain.

After he returned to Africa in November 1960 to attend the inauguration of Nigeria's first president, King said African leaders had told him "in no uncertain terms that racism and colonialism must go, for they see the two as based on the same principle."

The parallels between King's efforts and Africans' quest for independence were perhaps strongest in apartheid-era South Africa, where racist laws oppressed the majority black community for decades.

In December 1965 King delivered a speech in New York denouncing South Africa's white rulers as "spectacular savages and brutes" and called on the U.S. and Europe to boycott the nation, a strategy the West eventually embraced and that helped end white rule.

King was unable to visit South Africa after being denied a visa. But years later a bust of King was slipped secretly — by

diplomatic pouch — into a South Africa still in the grip of apartheid.

American sculptor Zenos Frudakis said the U.S. government approached him about creating a bust of King that would be installed in South Africa for "political impact." As it was barred by South Africa's government from being displayed in a public space, the sculpture was dedicated in 1989 at the U.S. Embassy, visible to people outside the embassy fence.

People who were part of the struggle against apartheid spoke at the sculpture's dedication, and Frudakis said he was impressed "as they were risking their lives to bring equality and freedom to everyone in South Africa."

Today, the bust of King remains on display in a vastly different South Africa, which was transformed after anti-apartheid activist Nelson Mandela was freed from prison in 1990 and elected the country's first black president four years later.

Mandela was keenly aware of King's contribution to equal rights and mentioned him when accepting the Nobel Peace Prize along with South Africa's last apartheid-era president, F.W. de Klerk, in 1993.



Chris Marale/US Embassy South Africa via AP

In this undated photo supplied by the U.S. Embassy in Pretoria, a bust of Martin Luther King Jr. on display at the embassy in Pretoria, South Africa. The name of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. can be found across Africa on streets, schools, even a bridge in Burkina Faso. It is a measure of the influence of the American civil rights leader who was shot dead 50 years ago after speaking out against injustices at home and abroad.

"Let the strivings of us all prove Martin Luther King Jr. to have been correct when he said that humanity can no longer be tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war," Mandela said. The Nelson Mandela Foundation plans to mark the anniversary of King's assassination.

King's inspirational

speeches on love and justice, as well as his insistence on non-violent resistance, continue to resonate among some intellectuals and political activists in Africa, where many countries are now ruled by strongmen or democracy is in decline.

The civil rights leader was frequently cited by Ugandan activists last year

as lawmakers moved to pass a bill that could keep the longtime president in power for many years more.

"We as a nation must recognize what Martin Luther King Jr. referred to as the 'fierce urgency of now,'" one opposition activist, Mugisha Muntu, said at the time. "We too must make our voices heard."

Holder at MLK event: Age of bullies, bigots not fully over

By Adrian Sainz
Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Despite advances the country has made since the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was slain while fighting poverty and racism, "the age of bullies and bigots is not fully behind us," former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder said Monday.

The remark was one of two thinly veiled references to President Donald Trump that Holder made during his appearance at a symposium on the first of three days of events commemorating the 50th anniversary of King's assassination.

King was supporting striking sanitation workers when he came to Memphis in 1968. He was talking with friends on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel on April 4 when he was struck by a rifle bullet and killed.

Museums, colleges and activists have organized three days of marches, speeches and conferences to remember King and his legacy. His daughter, Bernice King, and Holder toured a new King-centered photo exhibit at the National Civil Rights Museum later Monday. She and her brother, Martin Luther King III, are scheduled to speak Tuesday at the Mason Temple.

"This is a very emotional time for me and my family," she said.

Holder, the first black U.S. attorney general, spoke at a symposium sponsored by the University of Memphis and the museum. He was introduced by U.S. Sen. Doug Jones, an Alabama Democrat who won a special election in December.

Holder said he is proud that the nation has made progress in the past 50 years achieving racial, social and economic justice. He said women, minorities, students against gun violence and members of the LGBTQ community have been inspired by King's nonviolent protests and have launched movements calling for "fairness, opportunity and justice."

But in remarks that appeared to reference Trump without mentioning his name, Holder also noted that King's dream of equality for all has not been reached.

"We're still marching, we're still striving, and we're still calling on our nation's leaders to act with a sense of justice, compassion and common humanity," Holder said. "The unfortunate fact is that in 2018, America's long struggle to overcome injustice, to eliminate disparities and eradicate violence has not yet ended, and the age of bullies and bigots is not fully behind us."

Holder said he has spoken with young people who feel lost in their own country and are "fearful that America's too-long-standing divisions are threatening to tear our nation apart."

Holder said he is concerned with gun violence, the disproportionate incarceration of young black men, and uneven educational opportunities for minorities. King's legacy includes the lesson that "it

is necessary to be indignant, and to be impatient, so that it impels us to take action," Holder said.

Holder said the "chief civil rights issue of our time" is ensuring minorities have equal voting rights.

"In many communities, our political system is far from fair," said Holder, who chairs the National Democratic Redistricting Committee, a group that is pushing back against gerrymandered political districts nationwide. "It's been undermined by spurious and outright false claims of widespread voter fraud and by acts of voter suppression."

Holder asked the crowd of hundreds to do more to help realize King's dream of racial and social equality and come together to "heal this divided nation."

"As easy as it is, we must not look back to a past that was comforting to too few, and unjust to too many," Holder said.

Then, in a reference to Trump's campaign slogan, he added: "That is not how we make America great."



Mark Humphrey/Associated Press

Former Attorney General Eric Holder speaks at the Peabody Hotel on Monday in Memphis, Tenn.



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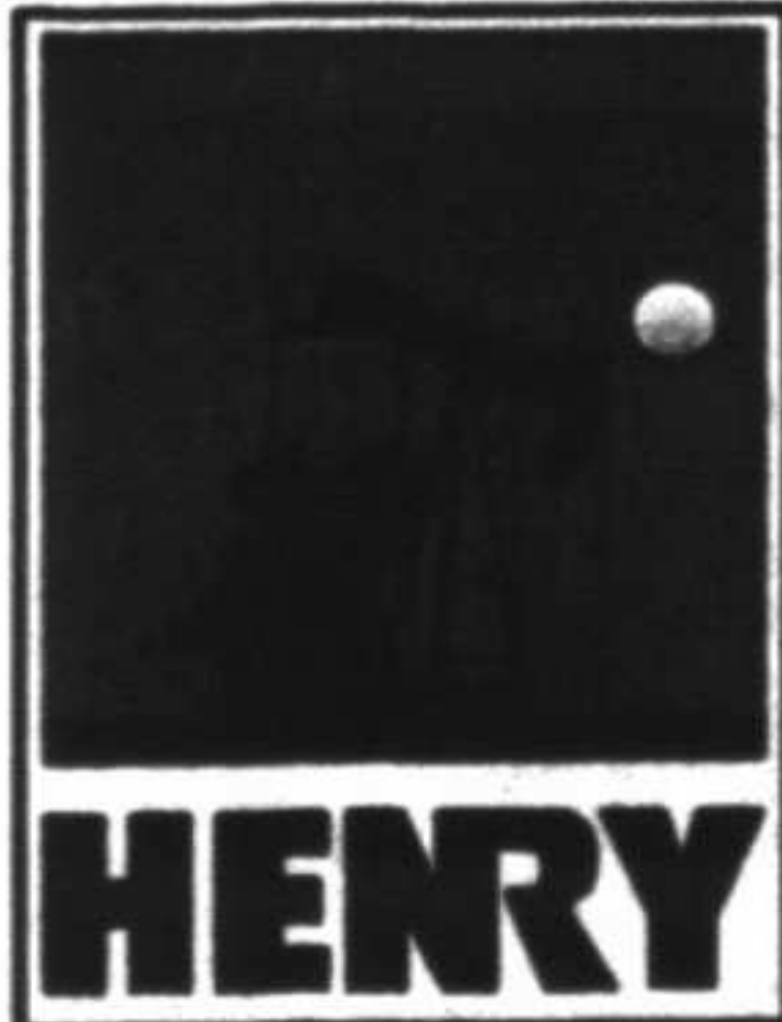
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Deadly SUV cliff crash may have been intentional

Associated Press

MENDOCINO, Calif. — An SUV carrying a large, free-spirited family from Washington state accelerated straight off a scenic California cliff and authorities said Sunday night the deadly wreck may have been intentional.

Information pulled from the vehicle's software shows it was stopped at a flat, dirt pull-off area before it sped off the steep rocky face and plunged 100 feet, said Capt. Greg Baarts with the California Highway Patrol Northern Division. Speaking at an evening news conference Baarts said the electronic information combined with the lack of skid marks or signs the driver braked led authorities to believe the crash was purposeful.

Five members of the Hart family were found dead. The search continued for three more children believed to have been in the vehicle when it went over a coastal overlook and landed on rocks in the Pacific Ocean below.

The missing children may have been washed out to sea, authorities say.

"This specific location is very difficult to search because the ocean currents and tides are strong, it's unpredictable, and the murkiness of the water makes it difficult to see," said Capt. Greg Van Patten, a spokesman for the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office.

Known as the Hart Tribe, the multiracial family of two married women — Sarah and Jennifer Hart — and six



A small vase of flowers, at left, sits beside a mile marker on Wednesday near the pullout where the SUV of Jennifer and Sarah Hart was recovered off the Pacific Coast Highway near Westport, Calif. The bodies of the two women and three of their adopted children were recovered after the vehicle plunged over the cliff two days earlier, while three more of their children, Devonte Hart, 15, Hannah Hart, 16, and Sierra Hart, 12, have not been found.

adopted children often took spontaneous road trips to camp and hike and traveled to festivals and other events, offering hugs and promoting unity.

Authorities don't know exactly when the wreck took place. A passing motorist discovered the vehicle on March 26, three days after social service authorities in Washington state opened an investigation apparently prompted by a neighbor's complaint that the children

were being deprived of food. Authorities believe at least one felony was committed but Van Patten declined to specify.

Well before the wreck, Sarah Hart pleaded guilty in 2011 to a domestic assault charge in Douglas County, Minnesota, telling authorities "she let her anger get out of control" while spanking her 6-year-old adopted daughter, court records show.

The two women, both 38,

were found dead inside the SUV, while three of their children — Markis Hart, 19, Jeremiah Hart, 14, and Abigail Hart, 14 — were discovered outside the vehicle. Searchers were looking for Hannah Hart, 16; Sierra Hart, 12; and Devonte Hart, 15.

Devonte drew national attention after the black youngster was photographed in tears, hugging a white police officer during a 2014 protest in Portland,

Oregon, over the deadly police shooting of a black man in Ferguson, Missouri. Devonte was holding a "Free Hugs" sign.

Two weeks ago, Bruce and Dana DeKalb, next-door neighbors of the Harts in Woodland, Washington, called state Child Protective Services because Devonte had been coming over to their house almost every day for a week, asking for food. Dana DeKalb said Devonte told her his parents

were "punishing them by withholding food." The boy asked her to leave food in a box by the fence for him, she said.

Social service authorities opened an investigation, and a state caseworker went to the house on March 23 but didn't find anyone home.

The agency had no prior history with the family, said Norah West, a spokeswoman with the Washington Department of Social and Health Services.

On Thursday, authorities in Washington state combed through the family's home for information. The Clark County Sheriff's Office said deputies were looking for bills, receipts or anything else to shed light on why the family left and other circumstances related to the trip, KGW-TV reported.

"To the best of my knowledge, there was not a suicide note found at the residence," said Baarts, who added that authorities have been interviewing friends and family members of the Harts.

"There have been red flags," he said, but did not elaborate.

Van Patten said he was not aware of any other evidence of abuse.

Family friend Max Ribner last week took issue with the notion it was something other than a tragic accident.

The couple adopted the six children, many of whom came from "hard backgrounds," he said. "They transformed these kids' lives."



Felix Marquez/Associated Press

Central American migrants arrive to a sports center during the annual Migrant Stations of the Cross caravan or "Via crucis," organized by the "Pueblo Sin Fronteras" activist group on Monday in Melias Romero, Oaxaca state, Mexico. A Mexican government official said the caravans are tolerated because migrants have a right under Mexican law to request asylum in Mexico or to request a humanitarian visa allowing travel to the U.S. border to seek asylum in the United States.

Migrant caravan stops in field in southern Mexico

By Mark Stevenson
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — President Donald Trump is warning about "caravans" of migrants heading to the U.S., though the caravan of Central American migrants supposedly moving across Mexico toward the border was strikingly immobile Monday.

The group of about 1,100 people, most of them Hondurans, had been walking along roadsides and train tracks, but they have stopped to camp out in a field in the southern Mexican state of Oaxaca. They are waiting and getting advice on filing for transit or humanitarian visas in Mexico.

While a group of about a couple of hundred men in the march broke off and hopped a freight train north on Sunday — probably to try to enter the United States — the rest seem unlikely to move until Wednesday or Thursday. Those are probably going to take buses to the last scheduled stop for the caravan, a migrant rights symposium in central Puebla state.

Irineo Mujica, director of Pueblo Sin Fronteras, the activist group behind the annual symbolic event, said the caravan would continue only to the city of Puebla southeast of Mexico City, "but not in a massive way." After the symposium, some migrants may continue to Mexico's capital, where it is easier to make an asylum claim. Mujica said

about 300 to 400 of the migrants say they have relatives living in Mexico and so may consider staying here at least temporarily.

It was all pretty undramatic — especially compared to 2013 and 2014, when migrants jammed Mexican trains heading north — but Trump's angry tweets raised hackles in Mexico.

"Mexico is doing very little, if not NOTHING, at stopping people from flowing into Mexico through their Southern Border, and then into the U.S. They laugh at our dumb immigration laws. They must stop the big drug and people flows, or I will stop their cash cow, NAFTA. NEED WALL!" Trump wrote in one. "With all of the money they make from the U.S., hopefully they will stop people from coming through their country and into ours."

Mexico's interior secretary, Alfonso Navarrete Prida, rejected such pressure.

"We will act with complete sovereignty in enforcing our laws," Navarrete Prida said Monday. "Of course we will act ... to enforce our immigration laws, with no pressure whatsoever from any country whatsoever."

Navarrete Prida did say he talked Monday with U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen. "We agreed to analyze the best means to handle flows of migration, in accordance with each country's laws," Navarrete Prida wrote in his Twitter

account.

A Mexican government official said the caravans are tolerated because migrants have a right under Mexican law to request asylum in Mexico or to request a humanitarian visa allowing travel to the U.S. border to seek asylum in the United States.

The "Stations of the Cross" migrant caravans have been held in southern Mexico for about 10 years. They began as short processions of migrants, some dressed in biblical garb and carrying crosses, as an Easter-season protest against the kidnappings, extortion, beatings and killings suffered by many Central American migrants as they cross Mexico.

The organized portions of the caravans usually don't proceed much further north than the Gulf coast state of Veracruz. Some migrants, moving as individuals or in smaller groups, often take buses or trucks from there to the U.S. border.

Mexico routinely stops and deports Central Americans, sometimes in numbers that rival those of the United States. Deportations of foreigners dropped from 176,726 in 2015 to 76,433 in 2017, in part because fewer were believed to have come to Mexico, and more were requesting asylum in Mexico.

Mexico granted 3,223 asylum requests made in 2016, and 9,626 requests filed last year are either under review or have been accepted.



Francisco Orr/Los Angeles Times via AP

Firefighters search for a 13-year-old boy in a hole near the LA River at the 134 and 5 Freeway interchange on Sunday in Los Angeles. The 13-year-old boy, who fell into a drainage pipe during a family Easter outing at a Los Angeles park, was found alive early Monday following a frantic, 12-hour search of the underground system, authorities said.

'Miraculous': Teen survives 12 hours in Los Angeles sewage

By Amanda Lee
Myers
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A 13-year-old boy was miraculously rescued Monday after falling into a river of sewage in Los Angeles, getting swept away and spending more than 12 hours in the city's toxic and mazelike underground sewer system.

Jesse Hernandez had been playing with other children on wooden planks over an access portal to the sewer system during a family outing Sunday at a Los Angeles park. When a plank broke, Jesse fell about 25 feet and landed in fast-moving sewage, said Brian Humphrey, a spokesman for the Los Angeles Fire Department.

The other children immediately notified adults, who called 911, initiating a frantic and exhaustive 12-hour search of labyrinthine underground pipes using cameras propped on flotation devices.

Rescuers finally found Jesse after seeing images of handprints on a sewage pipe. A sanitation crew rushed to the area and opened a manhole.

"The first thing they heard was 'Help!'" said Adel Hagekhalil, assistant general manager of the sanitation department.

The crew lowered down a hose to Jesse, who was about 11 feet deep in the pipe. "He caught onto the hose and was reeled back up," Hagekhalil said.

Rescuers gave him immediate medical attention, including hoisting him down to get rid of the sewage and cleaning out his eyes and nose with sterile saline, Humphrey said.

Jesse immediately asked for a cellphone to call his family. A worker handed him a phone, and he called his mom.

"He was happy, the family was happy," said Hagekhalil, adding that rescuers were thrilled at the outcome.

Video released by the city later in the day showed long dark marks on the sides of the dank sewage pipe, which was about 4 feet in diameter, where Jesse's fingers would have slid.

After an accident like Jesse's, rescuers

say the likelihood of someone being found safe diminishes by the hour.

"They never gave up hope," Hagekhalil said. "They wanted to bring Jesse back to his family."

About 2,400 feet of pipe had been inspected when rescuers found Jesse less than a mile from where he disappeared. He was taken to a hospital for a full evaluation and to be reunited with his family.

In addition to the massive rescue effort involving more than 100 people, Humphrey credited Jesse for his survival. Not only did he survive getting swept through sewage moving at 15 mph, he managed to find a pocket of breathable air and hang on until he was found, authorities said.

"Any subterranean location, particularly one that involves waste, can produce toxic gases — methane, hydrogen sulfide — so breathable air is a key element," Humphrey said. "The odds of someone falling into such a pipe and surviving are slim. The odds were not in his favor, and many would call it miraculous."

He called Jesse "a resolute young man."

"He has tremendous inner strength," Humphrey said. "It's obvious he's not a quitter."

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti was among the many Angelinos closely watching the rescue efforts for Jesse. In a string of tweets, Garcetti praised rescuers and thanked the teen's family for their "patience and optimism during this harrowing experience."

"We're keeping Jesse's health and recovery in our thoughts today," he said.

Also Sunday, an 11-year-old boy fell into a canal in Meadow Vista, about 40 miles northwest of Sacramento. He was found dead a couple hours later.

Famously in October 1967, rescuers freed an 18-month-old girl who had been trapped in a narrow, abandoned well in Midland, Texas, for more than 58 hours. Jessica McClure's rescue captured the nation's attention in some of the first round-the-clock television coverage in the U.S.

EDUCATION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Tuesday, April 3, 2018 | Section B

Texas has to improve schools to attract talented workers

■ Business leaders urge companies to push for education reform in Austin

About six years ago, Fidelity Investments was gearing up its operation in Westlake and was soon recruiting more than 200 workers a month from Massachusetts, California and elsewhere.

"The first question they asked: 'What are the schools like?'" said Fidelity executive Scott Orr.

That issue has taken on more significance today because employers are competing aggressively to attract talented workers and hold on to those they already have. In a booming economy with low unemployment,

MITCHELL SCHNURMAN
Dallas Morning News



ment, the quality of education has become a major factor in corporate decisions to relocate and expand.

That should prompt some soul-searching in Austin.

The state ranks near the bottom in spending per public school student and below average in many educational outcomes. In

March, Orr and other leaders urged local companies to help push for school reforms in Austin, saying the business community's voice would add clout and credibility — and drive home the need for a top workforce.

"We've talked a lot about recruiting a little company known as Amazon," Priscilla Camacho, who leads public policy at the Dallas Regional Chamber, told an audience of about 100. "But we won't be able to do that if we don't have the people to fill the jobs."

Increasingly, that means workers with a college degree or postsecondary credential. About 11.6 million U.S. jobs were created from January 2010 to January 2016, but only 80,000 — less than 1 percent of the

new jobs — went to people with a high school education or less.

About 8.4 million jobs went to workers with a bachelor's degree or higher, according to a report by the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce. The report was titled: "America's Divided Recovery: College Haves and Have-Nots."

Amazon is currently searching for a second headquarters location and has a long list of attributes. A large, high-quality workforce may be the most important.

Based on Amazon's public documents, it's looking closely at K-12 schools and colleges, and the workforce pipeline.

By one metric — the share of millennials

Please see SCHNURMAN/2B

TAKING THE RIGHT ROAD

SJ student places third in letter-writing contest

From staff reports

Caleb Lloyd, a seventh-grade student at San Jacinto Junior High School, was the only West Texas student to place in the 2018 state-level competition for Letters About Literature. In the contest, participants read a literary work and write to the author about how it affected them.

Online

Winning letters are posted on the Texas State Library website, www.tsl.texas.gov.

Centennial branch had collaborated to create a local competition for Letters About Literature. Panelists from Educate Midland and Permian Basin Bookies judged submissions for three grade-level categories.

Other local contest winners were ninth-grader Laynie Clark of Lee Freshman High School and fourth-grader Bolaji Subair of Fannin Elementary.

Lloyd's letter follows:

Dear Robert Frost,

Two roads and one sheltered seven-year old with an unimaginable decision to be made. Can he really be expected to make a life-changing choice based on a few pictures and stories told by the only "parents" he knew?

Reading your poem, "The Road Not Taken", took me back to seven years ago when my life was at a turning point. I was living in Taipei City, Taiwan, in a government-run orphanage where daily life was scheduled and methodical without any regards to what the monotony would engrain in the minds of kids like me. I had no choices to make on my own.

My visions of having a real family were influenced by watching students at school being taken to class by their moms and dads. I listened to them talk casually about their lives together and wanted to be in their shoes. The small hope I clung to was in pictures my caregivers shared with me of an unknown couple



Courtesy photo

Caleb Lloyd is seen with his parents, Michael and Erin.

who were anxiously weeding through the long adoption process to make me their son. At least that's what I was told, but it seemed as far away as the moon and back.

Leaving the orphanage was a rare occurrence. I was excited to take a ride on a train, however I didn't recognize the building we visited. The big, embellished doors and elaborate red symbols on the walls told me it was something significant. Unfamiliar words and phrases were exchanged between the adults as I was taken behind those elaborate doors. Although time seemed to be in slow motion, my heartbeat was doing double-time.

When prompted though, I courageously responded to the judge, "I want to go to

America!"

As I read your poem, I relived my feelings of having a choice that was split down two roads. I "looked down one as far as I could" and tried to envision the family I craved, even with a new country, new language, and new culture. Yet, I also had a need for what I knew was familiar down the other road.

Mr. Frost, I wonder if you realized the impact your poem would have on someone like me. It has heightened my memories of a critical choice to take the road less traveled. "And that has made all the difference."

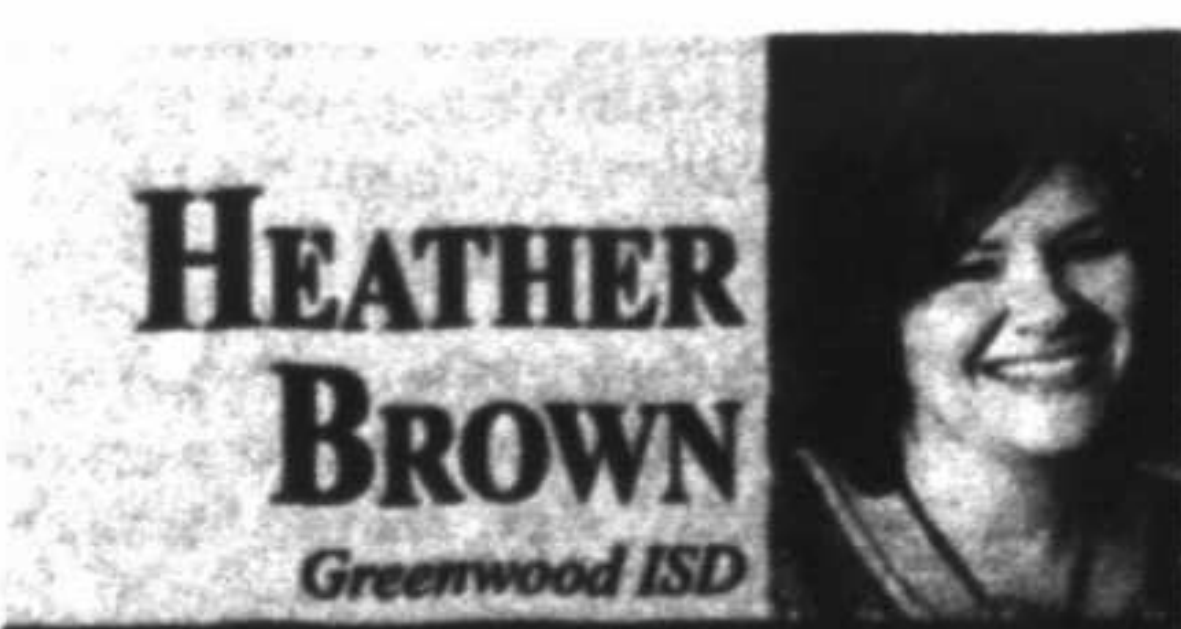
Sincerely,
Caleb Lloyd, Grade 7

Annoying behaviors often hide students' gifts

The spring is a time of testing in many school districts. This includes nomination, testing and identification of gifted students. Parents, teachers and administrators are great at noticing gifted traits. They don't miss a student who is a perfectionist, who reads widely and enthusiastically, who turns in work on time and who always knows the answer. Those students don't get passed over.

But, what about that student who's always interrupting? He seems excited about the content, but cannot just sit and let the teacher teach. He has to interrupt to share things he knows about the topic or to ask questions. Once the student starts to ask questions, he doesn't stop. He wants to know the how and the why about everything. Sometimes the teacher skips calling on him to save time. That's a student who may need a closer look and a nomination to the gifted program. One of the traits of a gifted student is asking questions because of their wide interests and advanced comprehension. Sometimes this is not the most conducive way to conduct a lesson plan, but it is where some real learning can take place, especially for those who already know the basics.

Another student who is often missed in the nomination process is that super



impulsive student who just can't seem to control his actions or his blurring out. Impulsivity is a trait of giftedness, especially in the younger years. Gifted students can be spontaneous, possess boundless enthusiasm and have an insatiable curiosity. They are high energy and require little rest. This often can look impulsive in a classroom setting, where conformity and structure are valued. Take a closer look at those students. Listen to what they're blurring. You may find someone more engaged than you think.

Gifted students have great memories, but not always for the things you would like. They may remember every word you've ever said to them and memorize information from the first time they hear it, but have a disdain for things such as math facts and spelling words. Gifted students have a desire to learn concepts and ideas. The mundane, they can do without.

Yet another student who may be overlooked for a gifted nomination is the bossy one. The bossy student is always taking over group work and often seems to have little regard for others in the class. This can be a result of the gifted student's intensity. Gifted students are sensitive. They have deep, intense feelings and reactions. They may be so focused on a task or goal that they simply block out others in the group. They often can spend long periods of time focused on a topic when working independently, but will require intervention to successfully work with others on the same topic.

As this testing season gets started, let's take a close look at the students in our lives. Let's look beyond the things that are pleasing to us and examine behaviors which, at first glance, may seem like an annoyance. Let's look beyond the teacher-pleasers, beyond the straight 'A' students, and see what's with that impulsive, high-intensity, always-questioning student. You may find gifts hidden in "annoying" behaviors that will surprise you.

Heather Brown is counselor at Brooks Middle School and GT coordinator for Greenwood ISD.

MIDLAND COLLEGE PROFILES

By Rebecca Bell

MC grad's success fueled by desire to learn

Mahatma Ghandi said, "Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever."

Perhaps Alma Martinez lives by this motto because even though she has been out of high school for 26 years and has a full-time job and four children, she continually strives to learn more. She has been in and out of college obtaining various degrees since 1992 and plans to start an online MBA program at Sul Ross State University in August.

"I've actually been enrolled in Midland College programs three times," Martinez said. "The first time was right after I graduated from Ozona High School in 1992. I attended Midland College for two years, and then in 1994, I began working for AT&T as a bilingual operator."

Martinez was employed at AT&T for 14 years. She continually strived to learn more about the company and said that she was always eager to take advantage of professional development opportunities. Her growing knowledge of the company, coupled with her talent and skill, led to several promotions within AT&T, and she worked her way up to customer service positions and eventually management.

Martinez enrolled in Midland College again in 2007 and became interested in the college's health information management program. She took classes on a part-time basis while working full time at AT&T.

"I liked the aspect of learning more about the business side of health care," said Martinez.

She was enjoying the field of health records and information technology so much that in 2008, she left AT&T with the intention of going to school full time. However, she found there is a huge demand for people trained in medical records, and her knowledge of the health records field led to a position in the Health Information Management department of Midland Memorial Hospital.

Martinez continued to attend Midland College part-time, and in 2011, she graduated with an associate of applied science degree. It wasn't long, however, before her desire to learn more led her once again to Midland College — this time as a student in the organizational management program.

Martinez and her husband, Chris, were raising four children, and she had a full-time job at Midland Memorial Hospital. She managed to find time to attend school part-time, and in May 2016, she graduated with a bachelor's degree in applied technology.

Just like she did at AT&T, Martinez worked her way up the ladder at Midland Memorial Hospital, and eventually her responsibilities included overseeing physicians' credentials in the Medical Staff Services department.

Martinez decided to combine her love of learning and being in an educational environment with her skills in health information and in February accepted the position of advisor/clinical coordinator for MC's health information management program.

"I love being able to show and teach people about the business side of health," she said. "This field is growing rapidly; the job outlook is tremendous. All the classes are taught online, and students can take classes on a part-time basis like I did or full-time. The faculty are knowledgeable, and even though the program is completely online, the faculty are also very accessible. The fact that I went through the program myself helps when I'm advising students who are thinking about starting it. The whole area of health records is a career field that a lot of people don't even know exists, but the job potential is tremendous, and salaries are very competitive."

Please see PROFILE/2B

Midland High School senior Maya Duarte has been honored by the Midland Rotary Club.



Duarte

She is the daughter of Mary Watson and Baldemar Duarte. She is a member of basketball team, Permian Basin Youth Health Services Corp and National Honor Society. She attends the Certified Nursing Assistant Program and is president of SkillUSA Health and Science. She is a member of the second team All District in basketball.

She volunteers at St. Ann's Family Fair, Keep Midland Beautiful, Midland Memorial Hospital, Midland YMCA, Senior

MAKINGTHEGRADE

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Care and Manor Park. Duarte plans to attend the University of Texas at the Permian Basin and major in nursing.

The Midland College chapter of Phi Theta Kappa was recognized last month at the honor society's regional conference. The chapter received Five Star Distinction, the highest distinction for PTK chapters and received the following awards:

■ Tejas Award for an Outstanding Friend of Texas was presented to Ken Riley, MC director of physical plant, who demonstrates exemplary support of Phi Theta Kappa.

■ Horizon Award for advisors who have gone the

extra mile was presented to Lea Keesee.

■ Hall of Honor for Alumni, an award of merit for promoting the hallmarks of PTK, was presented to Lauren Bell.

■ Chapter Award was presented for Honors in Action and College Project Participation.

■ District 1 Hall of Honor includes chapter members Ryan Adams, Brandee Brown, Jacob Baley, Tracey Taylor, Katherine Whiteman and advisors Keesee and Terry Gilmour.

■ Hall of Honor for Chapter Officer recognized Adams, chapter president, for embodiment of the society's hallmarks.

■ Honors in Action Award of Merit for the Honors Study Topic Theme of Beauty and Vulgarly — top three in the state

■ District 1 Vice President for the Texas Region — Midland College will be represented by PTK member Jamie Parks.

Phi Theta Kappa is an honor society for two-year colleges. Membership is conferred on students who have a minimum 3.5 GPA.

Two Midlanders recently were initiated into Phi Kappa Phi. Joshua Brooks and Tayler Franco are students at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

The top 10 percent of seniors and top of 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership in the honor society.

EDUCATIONINBRIEF

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Applications being accepted for Houston

Houston College Prep is accepting applications through Friday. Two meetings about the new school are planned for next week.

The sessions are 6-7 p.m. today and 7:30-8:30 a.m. Wednesday at the school, 2000 W. Louisiana Ave.

To apply, visit www.midlandisd.net/samhouston application.

Spaceship design contest accepting entries

A contest this month challenges students to design and build model spaceships using everyday objects. Kindergarten through 12th-grade participants can use any materials to make a rocket that is to be no larger than 15 inches on all sides.

Entries for The SpaceXplore Rocket Competition must be submitted between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. April 21 at the Blakemore Planetarium. They will be judged for design, creativity and appearance during that day's astronomy celebration. Retired Col. Eileen Collins, NASA's first female space shuttle commander, will announce winners at 4 p.m.

Museum of the Southwest previously held a spacecraft-building competition for Astronomy Day in 2015. For information about this year's contest and programming, visit museumswo.org.

MC center to offer peace officer training

The Texas Commission on Law Enforcement has licensed the Midland College Williams Regional Technical Training Center as a law enforcement academy. The center in Fort Stockton will begin offering basic peace officer training in early summer.

"There is a huge need for licensed peace officers in Pecos County and other rural West Texas counties," said Matt Tarpley, director of the Williams center. "When we approached staff at TCOLE about establishing an academy in this area, they were very enthusiastic about having an academy in what they termed as an 'underserved area of the state.'"

Classes will be offered Monday through Thursday evenings to accommodate people with full-time jobs. Upon successful completion of the 10-month, 720-hour basic peace officer course, students will be qualified to sit for commission's licensed peace officer exam. Classroom instruction will be offered at the center, and driving and shooting skills will be taught at the Texas Proving Grounds and city of Fort Stockton Shooting Range.

For more information about the WRTTC's law enforcement academy, contact Tarpley at 432-336-7882 or mtarpley@midland.edu.

CHEMISTRY CLUB HONORS



Courtesy photo

The Midland College Chemistry Club attended the American Chemical Society national meeting in New Orleans. During the meeting, the club was recognized as an Outstanding Chapter and received the Green Chemistry Award. Club members and advisors are Jawad Khan, from left, Golbon Marandiz, Mariah Martinez, Deverie Livsey, Professor Pat Kesavan, Laura Madrid, Department Chair John Anderson, Salman Mohiuddin and Zaid Isa.

App teaches kids about chores, budgeting money

By Scott Smith

Times Record (Fort Smith, Ark.)

Many children as young as 4 and 5 can grasp the concept of being responsible with chores, budgeting allowances and keeping important paperwork, according to one official.

With the current tax season upon everyone, now is the perfect time for parents to teach their children how to do weekly chores, monitor their allowance money and learn how they can eventually become productive, skilled adults, said Gregg Murset, CEO of the Scottsdale, Arizona-based BusyKid and its accompanying website, www.busykid.com.

"One of the most important things is for parents to teach the fundamental life skills that will literally get the kids out of your house for good when they become adults, and will make it where they visit occasionally," he said with a laugh.

"We now see what I call the boomerang generation — kids living in their parents' basements until they are 35," added Murset, who himself has six children and is a certified financial planner. "The main thing is, kids aren't able to reach their full potential because they don't know how to work and they don't know how to handle money."

By assigning chores and allowances to children when they are young, parents can serve as financial teachers and motivators, he said. Children who learn how to be responsible with chores and understand how to budget and save their allowance money are more likely to reach a higher level of success in numerous areas later in life, Murset said.

"One of the hardest things for a parent to do is teach their kid about money because of the concept that is financial abstraction, which also is known as invisible money," he said. "We are teaching kids about money, which is something they rarely see, because gone are the days whenever we pull a wad of bills out of our pocket to pay for something. Kids don't ever see money, so it's hard to teach them."

One way that makes chores and allowances easier "and more fun" for

"Our BusyKid system pitches ideas on chores and allowance rates to the parent based on kids' ages. The chores can be anything from cleaning the bedroom, brushing teeth and cleaning the fishbowl to washing the car, doing the dishes and vacuuming the family room. There's a million things, and parents can custom-make chores, too."

Gregg Murset, CEO of the Scottsdale, Arizona-based BusyKid

children and adults can be found in the BusyKid phone app, which helps teach children about the real world in "a digital way," Murset said.

"I like to say that BusyKid is your kid's first job with direct deposit," he said. "A kid who is 11 or 13 can't go out and get a real job yet, so BusyKid is their first job."

Families who use the BusyKid app are sent a weekly text that lists the child's chores and allowance rate. When the parent approves the chores/allowance list, that dollar amount is removed from the parent's bank account and placed directly into the BusyKid system, Murset said. The child also has what is equal to a debit card and, under the supervision of the parent, can use the card to purchase toys or other items, he said.

"Our BusyKid system pitches ideas on chores and allowance rates to the parent based on kids' ages," Murset said. "The chores can be anything from cleaning the bedroom, brushing teeth and cleaning the fishbowl to washing the car, doing the dishes and vacuuming the family room. There's a million things, and parents can custom-make chores, too."

Children in the BusyKid program also are encouraged to save some of their allowance earnings. The BusyKid app has three "buckets" allowance money can be placed in — Sharing, Saving and Spending, Murset said.

"That is exactly what we do as adults — we go to work, we save some money and we share some money with a church or charity," he said.

"This teaches the kids in that same invisible way, because we all, or at least most people, get direct deposits."

"The days of jars and piggy banks on the dresser and old-school envelopes, that ship has sailed," Murset added. "You can teach a child how much a quarter is worth for five

minutes, sure, but you have to move onto the real world."

Children are smarter than many people will admit, he said. For children, technology is "their deal," which makes it easier to teach most of them about saving and spending money and holding onto important receipts and other documents, Murset said.

"Sometimes the tax conversation becomes a little hard to deal with, especially when the kid has worked for his or her money," he said. "The kid says, 'They're taking my money after I cleaned after the dog for a week?'"

"The best thing to do is when you are at a restaurant and you want to keep the receipt, take a photo with your phone of the receipt and explain right then and there that you are keeping the receipt for tax purposes," Murset said. "That's a digital way, and it's a great way. Tell the kids you are sending the photo to the Cloud so you can do your taxes with it."

One website, www.scholastic.com, offers teachers lesson plans to help students learn about taxes and other responsibilities. The first lesson plan, Creating a Classroom Economy, is for students in grades 3-5 and focuses on economics and introduces real-world economic concepts with play money, banks, credit and entrepreneurship, while the second lesson plan, Hello Working World, is aimed at students in grades 6-8. The latter shows students how to budget an income involving housing, taxes, transportation, food, utilities, savings and entertainment.

A third lesson plan found at www.scholastic.com is for high school students and includes a pocket monthly budget to help pupils keep track of their spending and plan for their future.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

SCHNURMAN

From 1B

with a college degree — the Dallas area ranks next to last among the finalists for Amazon HQ2. In Dallas County, just 16 percent of eighth-graders in 2006 completed a college degree or postsecondary certificate within six years of high school graduation.

Gov. Greg Abbott has set a goal of 60 percent of Texans getting a postsecondary credential by 2030. At the current trajectory, Texas won't hit that mark until 2051, according to the Commit Partnership, a non-profit focused on improving education.

In 2011, after the recession, Texas legislators cut \$5 billion in education spending. Since then, academic progress has declined dramatically, Tori Luce told a commission on public school finance in March.

Luce is a highly regarded expert on education and helped lead a statewide push to reform schools in the 1980s. That effort led to more funding and accountability — including no-pass, no play — and prepared Texas for the economic growth that followed.

Most people believe the public school finance system is broken today, in part because more districts are contributing much more to help low-income schools. The largest districts in Austin and Houston are pumping in hundreds of millions annually. Next year, Plano ISD payments will top \$200 million and Dallas ISD is expected to contribute at least \$50 million.

Residents are paying much higher property tax bills but most of the additional money is leaving their local districts. Meanwhile, the state's share of education funding is dropping from about half to 38 percent.

Luce advised the state panel to think big as it considers an overhaul.

"You cannot change the school financing system and deal with adequacy and equity unless you strike a grand bargain with the taxpayers and policymakers of the state," Luce said. "You

have to persuade the public that they will receive more if they invest more."

Despite the state's record on education, both Dallas-Fort Worth and Texas have been leaders in recruiting new employers and workers. One reason is there's a wide range in quality among districts and individual campuses.

In one measure of college readiness, just 22.5 percent of students statewide met the college testing criterion in 2016, according to the Texas Education Agency. But in Plano ISD, the number was 61 percent. In Southlake Carroll, it was 77 percent. In Highland Park, 83 percent.

At Dallas ISD's School for the Talented and Gifted, 95 percent met the college-testing criterion.

Such results demonstrate that a high-quality education is widely available in the metro area. The challenge is to reach more students, especially from low-income families. That would improve their prospects and the economy, and help Texas remain a top choice for expanding businesses.

In the past, Sun Belt cities were popular destinations largely because they had low costs, said Gene DePrez, a longtime site selection expert at Global Innovation Partners in the New York area.

"That battle is kind of over," he said. "Now everybody's talking about talent and the quality of the workforce. You gotta have that to compete for high-wage jobs and high-tech industries."

Having enough high-end workers may not be enough. Companies are increasingly concerned about a community's openness and reputation because they affect recruiting and retention.

Employers often ask about diversity and culture, and growing gaps in inequality, he said. A great disparity in education could be an issue.

"Companies want to be in cities that are preparing for the future," DePrez said.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

PROFILE

From 1B

"A lot of the students I meet are in the exact same place in life where I was when I decided to start the program," Martinez said. "They have families that demand a lot of their time. This program leads itself to parents with family and job responsibilities because it is online; however, it's

still important to be a good time manager. I tell people that if you have the willingness to do it, you'll get through it. After all, I'm living proof that a happy life is one spent always wanting to learn more."

Rebecca C. Bell is executive director, Institutional Advancement, at Midland College.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

For Complete Information

[illegible]

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION

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Boyfriend's chronic conditions prompt partner to weigh options

We are indebted to Florida expert Richard Pavlicek for this deal. Another hand from Pavlicek tomorrow.



Photos courtesy Chatham County Sheriff's Office/TNS

One of the students shows his dance moves with deputies at the dance at Bonlee Elementary in Bear Creek, N.C.

Deputies get high marks for stepping in at school dance

By Mark Price
The Charlotte Observer

A daddy/daughter mother/son dance held recently at a small North Carolina elementary school is getting national attention after news spread on social media that some deputies stepped in for the parents who didn't show up.

It happened at Bonlee Elementary School in the Chatham County community of Bear Creek, and nearly 100 students in kindergarten through fifth grade attended.

Four deputies attended with the idea of replacing the missing parents. Photos posted on Facebook show their act of kindness worked. They not only successfully coaxed children to the dance floor, but some of the

kids started showing off their dance moves.

"We wanted families to have a good time together, but we recognize that not all children live with their parents and not all parents are able to take off work to attend a school event," said a Facebook post by Donna Griffith of the Chatham County Sheriff's Office.

"The community really seemed to embrace it and students are already asking for it to be offered again next year."

The event was sponsored by the Bonlee School Parent Teacher Association and raised more than \$700 for school programs.

"It felt like something the kids really needed," Deputy Jonathan Thomas wrote in a Facebook post. "School dances can feel a little

awkward at first, but once the kids saw us out there being silly they knew it was okay for them to jump in. I think it also gave parents the courage to let go and join in with us."

The four deputies have been praised on social media for their act of kindness.

"Saying I love this just isn't enough," posted Daphne Owings on Facebook. "Please make this happen again next year."

"Y'all are wonderful!" posted Debbie Sumner on Facebook.

"You guys are awesome and you have some pretty good dancers on your team," posted Lindsay Griffith Holton on the department's Facebook page.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency



One of the deputies takes to the dance floor with a student.



Deputies with the Chatham County Sheriff's Office attended a Father/Daughter and Mother/Son Dance at Bonlee Elementary in Bear Creek, stepping in for parents who didn't attend.



Evan Cobb/The Daily Herald via AP

Dan McKown, the Orem High School resource officer, writes the license plate of a car that the K-9 dogs identified as potentially containing narcotics in the parking lot of the school March 22 in Orem, Utah.

A constant presence — Orem High's resource officer

By Evan Cobb
The Daily Herald

PROVO, Utah — Former Odessa Dan McKown, Orem High School's resource officer, glances at the clock; first period is still in session. McKown heads out to walk the hallways for the first time that day. McKown estimates that he walks the entire school eight times a day. "It is about being seen," McKown said as he passes through the hallways and back to his office.

The presence of McKown and other officers is a goal of Mike Browning, principal of Orem High School. "I love seeing Dan talking to kids in the halls," Browning said. Browning explains that this relationship benefits the students and allows for corrective behavior to come in the framework of education.

The relationship between police and schools is something McKown didn't grow up with,

but has evolved over the course of his life.

"When I went to school, we didn't have an SRO (school resource officer). Now, they have two," McKown said about the changes at his alma mater in Odessa.

McKown initially started working as a resource officer at Lone Peak 19 years ago.

As first period ends, McKown heads back out of his office to the hallways to visit with the students as they head to the next class. As classes begin for second period, McKown meets with Patrol Sgt. Travis Anderson and Principal Browning to work on implementing a new system that aims to decrease response times for emergency situations. In these events, "time is of the essence, we are working on trimming seconds," McKown said.

"We're partnering with the police department. I want cops here as much as I can get them here, the more they know this building, the faster

they can respond, the faster they can get here," Browning said.

The presence of police was on display that day. Before lunch, six K-9 units arrived to train in the school's parking lot. McKown sees these trainings as a chance to not intrude on the education, but to be vigilant with safety and policy.

Students lined the windows that overlooked the parking lot. They watched the police dogs weave in and out of the cars. McKown laughs as he explains that his daughter goes to Pleasant Grove, but she texted him about the police dogs at the school.

McKown smiles as he reads the last line of the text, "I've never felt more safe at school."

To achieve this sense of security, McKown is not alone in the effort.

"Dan's building relationships, our custodians are building relationships, our lunch ladies are

Please see OFFICER/5B

PRESENTS

JOSH TURNER

and Special Guest Artist

Saturday, April 14, 2018
6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Midland County Horseshoe Pavilion

The Event Also Includes:
Live & Exclusive Car Show
Expert's Panel • Open Bar

LET'S CELEBRATE
COMMUNITY

Please see OFFICER/5B

OFFICER

From 4B

building relationships and the teachers obviously," Browning said.

The aim is to not isolate people and to create a culture that students feel safe and welcome to voice their concerns.

Even if students don't feel comfortable to talk with anyone, the school is also promoting the use of SafeUT app, which is a tip line that provides real-time crisis intervention from one's smartphone.

The advances in technology have also created issues for those who work in schools.

"Social media is an easy place to write things that they typically wouldn't say in person," McKown said.

The issues that arise from posts and messages are dealt with as they come to the administrators, but there is no perfect system for dealing with these yet. However, the messages on cellphones are evidence that usually wouldn't be available in many circumstances.

In a normal day, McKown works with teachers and administrators to solve problems related to smoking, thefts, bullying, and paraphernalia.

"The only thing that is different is instead of cigarettes, they are now smoking e-cigs," McKown said.

He will usually see two to four students in his office a day, but sometimes it is more than 10.

McKown sees his role very clearly. "To be here, this is my responsibility," McKown said. "Whatever we can do to provide safety for students and comfort for parents we try to do."

Safety in schools has been in constant discussion. Browning explains that in the last professional development day, there was a great conversation about the topic.

The conversation is happening at many levels. However, last week, it was unclear if Gov. Gary Herbert would call a special session to address gun violence and school shootings, which was suggested by some lawmakers.

Other entities are becoming more involved too, Orem Police Department offered conceal-and-carry classes to teachers for free on March 17. Browning estimated that 50 teachers from the district attended. Utah state laws allow for permit holders to conceal and carry on school campuses, without having to notify the district or administration. McKown highlighted the fact that many of those in these trainings may choose to not carry after the class.

Browning would rather not focus on the politics of the topic, but the positives that are being implemented in his school. He highlights the standardized response training in the district and the 24-hour-or-less response time when issues are reported to a counselor at school.

Although McKown focuses his time mainly on Orem High School, he has a cluster of schools that he is responsible for. "I cover eight schools," McKown said. It is usually thefts that will bring him to the other schools.

The benefit of a resource officer is clear to Browning. "We're really pushing the idea that we need another officer in the junior highs, not because we are having so many crimes, but to start corrective behavior and build relationships."

As second period ends, McKown glances at the large-screen TV on the wall in his office. Thirty-six cameras monitor different sections of the school at all times. Just last year, the school added six new cameras to the system. Even with the cameras, McKown continues to trust the safety of the school with his own eyes. McKown leaves his office and steps back out into the hallways.

Distributed by the Associated Press



Photos by Evan Cobb/The Daily Herald via AP

Dan McKown, the Orem High School resource officer, speaks with a student between classes March 22 at the school, in Orem, Utah. McKown steps out of his office at times to chat with students as they walk from their classrooms.



McKown patrols the parking lots and roads near the school.



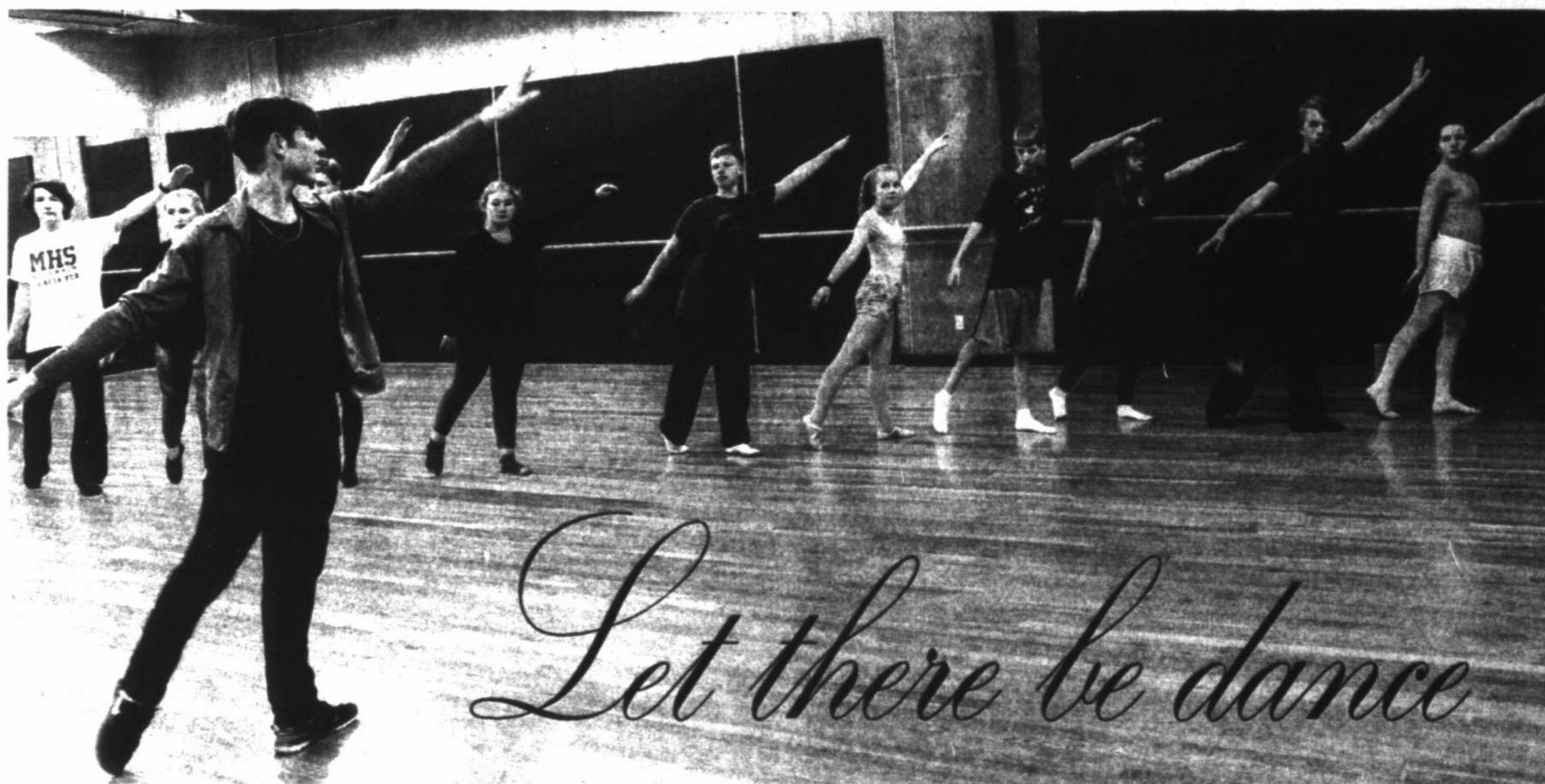
McKown watches as Rusty and Greer Haymond, senior K-9 handler, prepare to train in the parking lot of the school.



McKown discusses the placement of placards for safety drills with Patrol Sgt. Travis Anderson and Principal Mike Browning, at the school.

EXTRA CREDIT

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Tuesday, April 3, 2018 | Page 6B



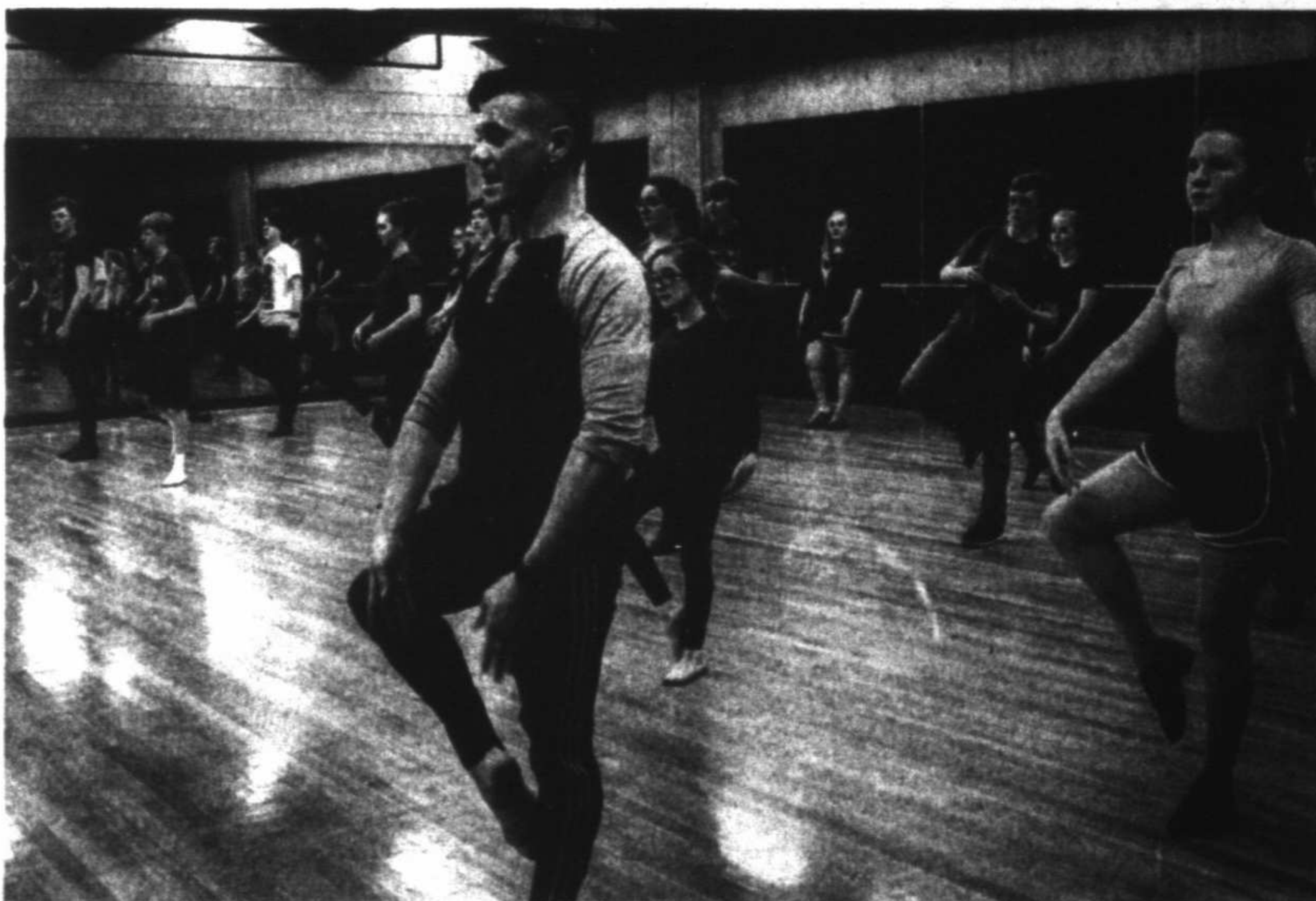
Let there be dance

Above: Tyler Rhoads, a former member of Pickwick Players, works with current members.

Right: Clayton Cross leads Pickwicks in a musical theater piece.

Below right: Pickwicks Jordan Sanz, left, and Avery Struble practice a lift for their ballet number in the upcoming performance of "Ascend."

Below: Sarah Newton, left, instructs Pickwicks in her contemporary modern dance piece.



If you go

"Ascend," 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at Midland Community Theatre's Mabey Theatre II. General admission tickets will be available at the door. This project was made possible by generous funding from the FHM Foundation.



Professional dancers work with Pickwick Players

■ Former troupe members return to Midland to present dance workshop, prepare students for upcoming program

By Elissa Russell
Midland Community Theatre

Midland Community Theatre's Education Department is known throughout the community for its many programs: Theatre School for elementary students; educational outreach within MISD schools; the Applause Players — a program for students on the autism spectrum; and the Pickwick Players teen acting troupe. However, the through line in MCT Education's approach can often get lost in the shuffle: its focus on mentorship. This mentorship-driven mentality is at

the heart of our latest endeavor, the Pickwick Players' upcoming dance program, "Ascend."

Judith Giebler, education director at MCT and choreographer for the Pickwick Players, conceived the idea for this program, which enlists the choreography of three former Pickwick Players who have since moved on to become professional dancers. The project began in December, when Pickwicks were invited to participate in a two-week intensive workshop in ballet, contemporary modern dance and/or musical theatre. Professional choreographers Tyler Rhoads, Sarah Newton, and Clayton Cross graciously contributed their time and talents to the project. Giebler has continued to incorporate the choreographers' pieces in her weekly Pickwick Player dance class, all in preparation for the "Ascend" performances on Saturday and Sunday.

Though the Pickwicks perform in a yearly summer musical and the Yuletide at the Yucca holiday dance program, they tend to be known as an acting group. Giebler has worked to change this in recent years.

"We have slowly tried to develop dance at MCT as part of our education programming, dabbling in classes for all ages," she said. "Dance and movement have begun to permeate nearly all of our stage pieces. Our recent production of 'The Jungle Book' is a great example of this, as the rehearsal process included movement technique to develop animal-like movements of the jungle characters and Indian-inspired movement to set the atmosphere of the piece."

Former Pickwick Players returning to MCT to mentor current Pickwick Players has been a full-circle experience. Rhoads, who now dances with the Colo-

do Ballet, said the opportunity is one of the most rewarding of his professional career thus far.

"Being able to share the knowledge I have gained ... with children and teens who are no different than I was at their age was such a fulfilling and humbling experience," Rhoads said. "It was my way of giving back and saying thank you to the program that nurtured me as a young artist. A profession in the arts is not for everyone, but everyone deserves the chance to discover and explore if it is for them, and in that way, MCT's educational programs go above and beyond in service of the Midland community."

The experience has been invaluable to Giebler as well, who taught each of the choreographers during their time at MCT. Cross is the choreographer in residence with Music Theatre Works of Chicago, and Newton

is instructor in dance at Texas Christian University.

"I'm honored that these dancers have returned to share their talents and mentor our students. By facilitating this work, I also hope our students see that as their teacher, I can still be taught. As much as we expect our students to be courageous and try new things, it's important they see that someone my age is still willing to be mentored as well. I couldn't be prouder of the passionate work the Pickwick Players have given to this project. The rehearsal process has been collaborative in the best way. Each cast member has given their all to grow their skill and honor the choreographers who have given them an amazing gift."

Elissa Russell is education assistant for Midland Community Theatre.

SPORTS

To submit information to the sports department, email sports@mrt.com

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Tuesday, April 3, 2018 | Section C

Villanova takes title, 79-62 over Michigan

By Eddie Pells
Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — They chanted his name from the cheap seats: "Di-Vin-cen-zo, Di-Vin-cen-zo." By the time Donte DiVincenzo was done doing his damage, Villanova had another title and college basketball had its newest star.

The redhead kid with the nickname Big Ragu scored 31 points Monday to lift 'Nova to another blowout tournament victory — this time 79-62 over Michigan for its second title in three seasons.

The sophomore guard had 12 points and an assist during a first-half run to help the Wildcats (36-4) pull ahead, then scored nine straight for Villanova midway through the second to put the

game away — capped by a 3-pointer he punctuated with a wink over to TV announcers Jim Nantz and Bill Raftery on the sideline.

Villanova won all six games by double digits over this tournament run, joining Michigan State (2000), Duke (2001) and North Carolina (2009) in that rare air.

One key question: Could this be one of the best teams of all-time?

Maybe so, considering the way Jay Wright's team dismantled everyone in front of it in a tournament that was dripping with upsets, underdogs and parity.

Maybe so, considering the Wildcats won in seemingly every way imaginable. This victory came two nights after they set a Final Four record with 18 3-pointers, and one week after they

relied more on defense in a win over Texas Tech in the Elite Eight.

That debate's for later.

DiVincenzo squashed any questions about this game with a 10-for-15 shooting night that was better than that.

He opened his game-sealing run with an around-the-back dribble to get to the hoop and get fouled. On the other end, he delivered a two-handed rejection of Michigan's Charles Matthews, when Matthews tried to bring it into the paint.

The 3 that sealed it came from a big step behind the arc; yes, the man was feeling it.

About the only drama as the night closed was whether DiVincenzo could unwrap himself from his teammates' mob hug to toss the ball underhanded toward the scoreboard. He succeeded there, too.



Eric Gay/Associated Press

Villanova's Eric Paschall (4) shoots over Michigan's Xavier Simpson during the second half in the championship game of the Final Four NCAA basketball tournament Monday in San Antonio.

The boys are back in town



Photo courtesy of Texas Tech athletics

Texas Tech's Grant Little runs toward third base during Saturday's game against West Virginia at Dan Law Field at Rip Griffin Park.

Texas Tech game a homecoming for Beck, Little

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroymrt.com

Memories tend to come in waves for Grant Little and Connor Beck every time they come back home.

At 7 p.m. today at Security Bank Ballpark, Little and Beck return home with the Texas Tech baseball team when the Red Raiders face New Mexico State University in a non-conference game.

For two athletes who played their high school ball in Midland, this yearly trip is special for them as it's not only a chance to showcase the No. 12-ranked Red Raiders (23-6, 3-3 in Big 12) but it gives them an opportunity to see plenty of familiar faces in the stands when they play the Aggies (16-12, 3-3 in WAC).

"I've played there a couple of times and it's a fun ballpark to play at," said Little, a sophomore outfielder and a Midland Christian grad. "When I go there I am reminded of the things about Midland that I miss. Even though I wasn't born there originally, I always claim Midland as my home because of all the people there and the memories that I have."

For Beck, a Midland High grad who also played his sophomore year at

Midland College, he said he is always impressed by the kind of support the Red Raiders get when they come to town.

"It's always a fun game," said Beck, a senior outfielder.

"I don't know if I'm surprised but there are always a lot of people that come out to support the Red Raiders at a neutral site game. The amount of people that come out to see is the thing that stood out to me about last year's trip. There will be quite a few people, family and friends that will be coming out (tonight)."

Little has developed into one of the team's best hitters this season. He is second on the team with a .396 batting average, to go with five home runs and 12 doubles, two triples and 28 RBI, usually batting in the middle of the order.

In Saturday's 8-5 win over West Virginia, which clinched the Big 12 series for the Red Raiders, Little tied the game at 3 in the sixth inning with a two-run home run. That hit seemed to give Tech the spark it needed at the plate.



Beck

"That was a big win for us. It was good to get some runs on the board after we were shut out on Thursday (a 1-0 loss)," said Little about the 2-1 series win.

Little said part of his development this season was due in part to the workout regimen he had in the offseason. He said he's gotten bigger and stronger since his freshman year, when he usually batted at the top of the order and received Freshman All-America honors from Baseball America, NCBWA and D1 Baseball.

"I had to get used to things that you don't see in high school and I'm just more comfortable in the batter's box," Little said. "I'm pretty confident at the plate right now. I've also had to make the transition from batting leadoff to middle of the order. I've always been more of an aggressive hitter and as a leadoff hitter, you have to see more pitches, try to get on base and set the table for the other hitters in the lineup. This year, usually hitting fourth or fifth, I have been more aggressive and that suits me better. It's fun hitting in the middle of the order with players like (Brian) Klein, (Cody) Farhat, (Michael) Davis

Please see TECH/3C

Closing act: Uncertain future looms for college hoops

By Eddie Pells
Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — For the past three weeks, it's been all about buzzer-beaters, bracket-busters and basketball — a much-needed reminder about just how beautiful this game can be.

For the next six months, it will be all about ugliness and uncertainty, while college basketball wrestles with the changes it must make to keep the sport alive.

The 2017-18 campaign could very well be remembered as the season that ridded the upper echelon of college hoops of any last whiffs of the notion that it is all about amateurs, "student-athletes" and playing for nothing more than a scholarship and pride.

An FBI investigation that resulted in the September arrests of 10 agents, coaches and businessmen with basketball ties did what the NCAA never really could — laid bare the inner-workings of a shady, money-grubbing business that's been teetering on the edge of the rule-book, and the law, for decades.

"The state of the game, there's no doubt, there's some question marks now," Kansas State coach Bruce Weber said.

Between the FBI probe and other media reports, violations have been alleged at 28 schools, ranging from businessmen taking recruits' parents out to lunch to \$100,000 payoffs to get them to sign with certain programs; 17 of those teams were in the March Madness bracket. A panel led by Condoleezza Rice is examining the problems and is expected to release a report, and its recommendations, on April 25.

The president of the NCAA has promised action, but said he would not support anything truly game-changing — as in, rules that would fundamentally alter the amateur status of the "student-athletes" whose efforts are the underpinnings of the \$1.1 billion the NCAA earned in 2017. The lion's share of that comes from the men's basketball tournament that brought Villanova and Michigan to Monday night's final.

More significant change might have to come from the NBA, which is considering ending the "one and done" rule that calls for players to either be 19 or complete at least one year in college before becoming eligible for the draft.

Passed in 2005, that rule altered the landscape of college basketball, putting the lie to the notion that these players — at least the very best ones — come to school to earn a degree. "One and Done" is often derided as the catchall explanation for everything bad about the college game.

Changing the rule, however, won't necessarily change the roles of agents, AAU coaches, college coaches, middlemen, handlers and shoe companies, all of whom partake in what is essentially an unregulated, underground talent-acquisition business, the likes of which the NCAA hasn't the resources or rulebook to control.

"Any time there's money involved, isn't there always corruption?" West Virginia coach Bob Huggins asked, rhetorically. "We'll have to wait and see how wide-spread it is. If that's it, and you see it's only four (coaches) who were guilty, that's pretty good."

But Huggins, like most coaches The Associated Press talked to last week, says he has no idea what to expect.

"Nothing personal, but I'm the wrong person to ask," said Andy Enfield, the coach of Southern California, which fired associate coach Tony Bland after he was

Please see NCAA/2C

Monday roars sound like Sunday when Woods arrives

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Ga. — The roar sounded like Sunday at Augusta National.

This was Monday afternoon, and it was so sudden and thunderous that it reached the clubhouse. It was loud enough to startle spectators who wondered what they had missed. They had a pretty good idea who it was.

Tiger Woods is back at the Masters.

Woods teed off with Justin Thomas and Fred Couples shortly before 3 p.m. when thousands of fans were making their way toward the exit. Thousands more

crowded around the tee, lined the first fairway and followed him down the par-5 second hole. Some of them rushed over to the third hole to stake out a spot. Most of them surrounded the second green, and they were responsible for all the noise when Woods chipped in from behind the green.

About the only thing missing was a beam of light from the heavens.

Any talk about this being one of the most anticipated Masters in years starts with one player. Woods is at Augusta National for the first time since 2015, at least with his golf clubs, and he



Charlie Riedel/Associated Press

Tiger Woods hits his tee shot on the eighth hole during practice for the Masters golf tournament at Augusta National Golf Club on Monday in Augusta, Ga.

Please see WOODS/4C

DAILYRUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

College Baseball
North Carolina at South Carolina, 6 p.m., SEC
Oklahoma State at Oklahoma, 6:30 p.m., FCS
College Softball
New Mexico at New Mexico State, 6:30 p.m., FCS
Major League Baseball
Kansas City at Detroit, Noon, MLB
Seattle at San Francisco, 3:30 p.m., MLB
Philadelphia at NY Mets, 6 p.m., MLB
Baltimore at Houston, 7 p.m., ATTSW+
Texas at Oakland, 9 p.m., FSW
Cleveland at LA Angels, 9 p.m., ESPN
Men's Soccer
UEFA Champions Quarter-final, Leg 1, Juventus FC vs. Real Madrid, 1:30 p.m., FS1, FXDEP
National Basketball Association
Golden State at Oklahoma

WHAT'S ON DECK

College Baseball
Texas Tech vs. New Mexico State, 7 p.m. at Security Bank Ballpark
HS Baseball
Odessa Permian at Lee, 4:30 p.m.
Midland High at Odessa High, 4:30 p.m.
Greenwood at Pecos, 7 p.m.
Trinity at Lubbock Christian, 6 p.m.
Coshoma at Colorado City, 7 p.m.
HS Softball
Odessa High at Midland High, 4:30 p.m.
Lee at Odessa Permian, 7 p.m.
Greenwood at Pecos, 5 p.m.
Midland Christian at Crane, 5 p.m.
Colorado City at Coshoma, 5 p.m.
JC Golf
Midland College at Bearkat Invitational at Walden, Montgomery

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Acquired LHP Luis Valdez from the Los Angeles Dodgers for RHP Jesus Lirio. Agreed to terms with OF Michael Saunders on a minor league contract.
KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Claimed OF Abraham Almonte off outright waivers from Cleveland. Designated RHP Miguel Alcantara for assignment.
NEW YORK YANKEES — Voted the minor league option of RHP Ben Heller and placed him on the 10-day DL, retroactive to March 27.
SEATTLE MARINERS — Signed OF Cameron Pedersen outright to Tacoma (PCL).
TEXAS RANGERS — Selected the contract of RHP Bartolo Colon from Round Rock (PCL). Options RHP Nick Garza to Round Rock. Transferred RHP Ricardo Rodriguez from the 10- to the 60-day DL. Announced 1B Tommy Joseph cleared waivers and accepted an outright assignment to El Paso (Texas).
National League
ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS — Sent LF Yoenis Cespedes outright to Reno (PCL). Options RHP Dylan O'Brien to Reno (PCL).
ATLANTA BRAVES — Selected the contract of RHP Andrelton Simmons from Gwinnett (IL). Activated C Carlos Perez. Designated RHP Miguel Socolovich for assignment. Placed RHP Josh Roys on the 10-day DL.
LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Acquired RHP Jesus Lirio from Baltimore for LHP Luis Valdez and optioned him to Tulsa (Texas).
MIAMI MARLINS — Designated RHP Severino Gonzalez for assignment. Selected the contract of RHP Trevor Richards from Jacksonville (FL).
PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Placed RHP Joe Mauer on the 10-day DL, retroactive to Friday. Recalled RHP Clayton Kershaw from Indianapolis (IL).
WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Placed C Matt Wieters on the 10-day DL. Recalled C Pedro Severino from Syracuse (IL).
Frontier League
JOLIET SLAMMERS — Signed LHP YHB Trenton Hill.
LAKE ERIE CRUSHERS — Signed UTI Carlos Garcia. C Brian Mayes. OF Mike McLean and LHP Ben Smith. Traded INF D.J. Martinez to Normal. Released RHP Parker Norris.
WASHINGTON WILD THINGS — Signed 1B James Huggins.
BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
ATLANTA HORNETS — Signed G Doreen Lee for the remainder of the season. Assigned FS Tyler Cavanaugh and Jeremy Evans, and transferred G Josh Maggette and F Andrew White to the NBA.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Signed LS Luke Pritchett.

NBA GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE				WESTERN CONFERENCE			
Team	W	L	Pct	Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	47	30	.610	Portland	48	29	.621
Boston	46	31	.600	Oklahoma City	45	30	.600
Brooklyn	46	30	.607	Utah	45	30	.600
Charlotte	46	30	.607	Minnesota	44	30	.595
Cleveland	46	30	.607	Dallas	42	30	.583
Denver	46	30	.607	Phoenix	42	30	.583
Detroit	46	30	.607	San Antonio	42	30	.583
Indiana	46	30	.607	San Diego	42	30	.583
Los Angeles	46	30	.607	Seattle	42	30	.583
Memphis	46	30	.607	Utah	42	30	.583
Minnesota	46	30	.607	Washington	42	30	.583
Mississippi	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
Orlando	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
Philadelphia	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
Pittsburgh	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
Portland	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
Sacramento	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
San Antonio	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
San Diego	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
Seattle	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
Utah	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
Washington	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
Wizards	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583

NHL GLANCE

EASTERN CONFERENCE				WESTERN CONFERENCE			
Team	W	L	Pct	Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	47	30	.610	Colorado	48	29	.621
Boston	46	31	.600	Edmonton	45	30	.600
Brooklyn	46	30	.607	Los Angeles	45	30	.600
Charlotte	46	30	.607	Minnesota	44	30	.595
Cleveland	46	30	.607	Dallas	42	30	.583
Denver	46	30	.607	Phoenix	42	30	.583
Detroit	46	30	.607	San Antonio	42	30	.583
Indiana	46	30	.607	San Diego	42	30	.583
Los Angeles	46	30	.607	Seattle	42	30	.583
Memphis	46	30	.607	Utah	42	30	.583
Minnesota	46	30	.607	Washington	42	30	.583
Mississippi	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
Orlando	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
Philadelphia	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
Pittsburgh	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
Portland	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
Sacramento	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
San Antonio	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
San Diego	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
Seattle	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
Utah	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
Washington	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583
Wizards	46	30	.607	Wizards	42	30	.583

Chaps sit in 5th at Bearkat Invite

From staff reports

MONTGOMERY — The Midland College golf team is in fifth place after the first two rounds of the Bearkat Invitational at Walden on Lake Conroe golf club on Monday.

Midland College, which is the only junior college team in the field of four-year university programs, shot 302-300—602 to put it 32 shots back of first place U.T.-Rio Grande Valley. Host Sam Houston State is second with a 572

total, Incarnate Word University (572) is third and Stephen F. Austin (595) is fourth.

Leading the Chaparrals on Monday were Chris Ayers and Michael Salazar, who each shot a 151 and are tied for 22nd in the individual standings. Salazar actually bounced back from a 79 morning round to shoot a 72 in the afternoon.

The tournament concludes today with the final round.

NJCAA RANKINGS:

Also on Monday, the Chaps found out that they moved up a spot to No. 2 in the NJCAA Division I men's golf rankings.

Indian Hills (Iowa) is the No. 1 ranked team.

Other Western Junior College Athletic Conference teams ranked are New Mexico Junior College (8), Western Texas College (10) and Odessa College (13).

Bearkat Invitational at Walden on Lake Conroe, Montgomery
Par: 72; Score: 5,798
Monday's results

Team standings — 1. UT Rio Grande Valley 290-280—570; 2. Sam Houston State 285-287—572; 3. Incarnate Word University 285-287—572; 4. Stephen F. Austin 289-291—580; 5. Midland College 302-300—602; 6. University of New Orleans 310-305—615; 7. Prairie View A&M 310-307—618; 8. Houston-Victoria 309-318—627; 9. St. Thomas (Texas) 323-310—633; 10. Texas Southern 324-311—635.
Individual standings (top 10) — 1. Mike McCarty, Sam Houston, 70-74—147; 2. Tannash Ogas, UT Rio Grande Valley, 71-70—141; 3. (tie) William Holcomb, Sam Houston, 71-72—143; 4. (tie) Aaron Hernandez, UT Rio Grande Valley, 71-72—143; 5. (tie) Pedro Lamas, UT Rio Grande Valley, 70-74—144; 6. (tie) Puyas Bechory, Houston, 70-74—144; 7. (tie) Christian, Sam Houston, 72-73—145; 8. (tie) Angelo Luyten, Stephen F. Austin, 72-74—146; 9. (tie) Mike Holcomb, New Orleans, 73-70—143; 10. (tie) Al Khaznab, UT Rio Grande Valley, 72-75—147; 11. (tie) Noah Steele, Sam Houston, 72-75—147.
Midland College — Chris Ayers 74-77—151; Michael Salazar 73-75—151; Alex Moss 74-80—154; Calum Bruce 81-74—155; Bailey Noel 75-77—152.

Garden City boys win District 14-A title

From staff reports

SAN ANGELO — The Garden City A boys team won the District 14-A Golf Tournament for the second straight year with a score of 364-391—755 following Monday's final round at Bentwood Country Club.

Freshman Nick Lara, of the Garden City B team, was the boys medalist after he carded 87-95—182 over two rounds.

Garden City sophomore Logan Wood claimed her second straight District 14-A girls medalist title after shooting a 92-88—180.

The Garden City A boys team and Lara advanced to the Region II-A Boys

Golf Tournament, April 23-24 at Quicksand Golf Course in San Angelo, while Wood punched her ticket to the Region II-A Girls Golf Tournament, April 23-24 at Bentwood Country Club.

Following Lara's first-place finish, the Garden City A team claimed the 2-5 spots as Hagan Halfmann placed second with a 183, Trent McMillian was third with a 185, Dakota Roberts shot a 189 to finish fourth and Zach Burnett came in fifth with a 199.

The Garden City girls team finished third with a 452-458—910, missing a regional spot by nine strokes behind runner-up Robert Lee. The Garden

City B boys team finished third, too, with a two-day total of 867.

"I was very proud of them," Bearkats golf coach David Wood said of the boys. "We tried to sneak two teams in; the B team came up a little short. I am very proud of them. They have come a long way in a year."

District 14-A Golf Tournament
Final results through two rounds
First round: Quicksand Golf Course, San Angelo, March 28; Second round: Bentwood Country Club, San Angelo, Monday
Top 2 teams and top 2 individuals from non-qualifying teams advance to Region II-A Tournament
District 14-A Tournament qualifier boys
Team standings — 1. Garden City A 364-391—755; 2. Garden City B 400-407—807; 3. Garden City C 400-407—807; 4. Garden City D 400-407—807; 5. Garden City E 400-407—807; 6. Garden City F 400-407—807; 7. Garden City G 400-407—807; 8. Garden City H 400-407—807; 9. Garden City I 400-407—807; 10. Garden City J 400-407—807.
Individual standings — 1. Nick Lara, Garden City A, 87-95—182; 2. Trent McMillian, Garden City A, 88-97—185; 3. Dakota Roberts, Garden City A, 89-97—186; 4. Zach Burnett, Garden City A, 90-99—199.

180; 5. Zach Burnett, Garden City A, 90-104—198; 6. K. Johnson, Garden City A, 100-100—200; 7. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 90-110—200; 8. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 101-100—201; 9. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 101-100—201; 10. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 101-100—201; 11. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 101-100—201; 12. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 101-100—201; 13. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 101-100—201; 14. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 101-100—201; 15. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 101-100—201; 16. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 101-100—201; 17. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 101-100—201; 18. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 101-100—201; 19. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 101-100—201; 20. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 101-100—201; 21. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 101-100—201; 22. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 101-100—201; 23. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 101-100—201; 24. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 101-100—201; 25. (tie) W. Bice, Garden City A, 101-100—201; 26. (tie) W. 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MLB ROUNDUP

Associated Press

American League

TIGERS 6,
ROYALS 1

DETROIT — Ron Gardenhire's first win with the Detroit Tigers came courtesy of a couple other grizzled veterans. Francisco Lirio pitched into the seventh inning in his Detroit debut and Victor Martinez drove in three runs to give the Tigers a 6-1 victory over the Kansas City Royals on a chilly Monday.

Gardenhire won 1,068 games as Minnesota's manager from 2002-14. This is his first year at the helm in Detroit. "I know what this city's all about, I know what this team's all about, so I'm very proud to be a part of it," Gardenhire said. "Now I'm in their history books. I got one win."

The temperature was in the mid-30s at Comerica Park for a matchup between the last two winless teams in the American League. Some fans came dressed in Michigan winter gear — the Wolverines played Villanova hours later in the NCAA men's basketball championship game.

Lirio (1-0) allowed a run and four hits in 6 2/3 innings. The 34-year-old lefty, signed as a free agent in February, struck out three and walked two while throwing 94 pitches.

The Tigers scored four runs in the fifth, with Martinez delivering a two-run single off Jason Hammel (0-1).

"The third time through the order, they started finding holes," Royals manager Ned Yost said. "We had them played right and he was making decent pitches, but it didn't work out."

Kansas City took a 1-0 lead in the third on a sacrifice fly by Drew Butera, but Detroit tied it in the bottom half on an RBI single by Miguel Cabrera.

The Tigers broke open the game in the fifth. With one out, Leonys Martin singled and Joimer Candelario doubled. After an intentional walk to Cabrera loaded the bases, Nicholas Castellanos hit a soft line drive to left for a run-scoring single.

National League

REDS 1,
CUBS 0

CINCINNATI — Four days into the season, the Reds finally got their opening-day parade — and a win, too. The Cubs? Still trying to locate their offense.

Rookie Tyler Mahle pitched one-hit ball for six innings. Raisel Iglesias fanned Anthony Rizzo with the bases loaded to end the eighth, and the Reds edged Chicago 1-0 Monday for their first win of the season.

Cincinnati was swept at home by Washington, falling to 0-3 for the first time since 2003. It also trailed in all 27 innings — the Nationals scored in the first inning each time. "It was going to happen, regardless, and I'm glad it was in a game I started," said Mahle, who got his second major league victory. "So many guys contributed to that win."

After their traditional opening parade, the Reds finally got a lead, too, when Eugenio Suarez tripled in the fourth and scored on Adam Duvell's groundout. Mahle (1-0) earned the victory in only his fifth major league start, outpitching Tyler Chatwood (0-1) in his Cubs debut.

The Cubs were coming off a 6-0 loss in Miami and managed only four baserunners against Mahle, who walked two, hit one and struck out a career-high seven.

Ian Happ singled in the eighth, but Iglesias came in later and got Rizzo to swing through a high fastball to escape. Iglesias got last four outs for the save.

Rizzo is 1 for 7 with runners in scoring position this season and batting .130 overall, a slump he figures won't last long.

NATIONALS 8,
BRAVES 1

ATLANTA — Bryce Harper hit a three-run homer and the quick-scoring Nationals beat the Atlanta Braves 8-1 on Monday night for the first 4-0 start to a season in their Washington history.

Harper's second-inning shot off Sean Newcomb (0-1) to center field gave the Nationals a 5-0 lead. He also drew four walks and scored three runs. For the fourth straight game as the road team, the Nationals scored in the first inning to give their starting pitcher a lead before his first pitch.

This time, the beneficiary was Tanner Roark (1-0), who allowed one run in seven innings. Roark gave up four hits with one walk and six strikeouts.

Howie Kendrick's double to right field drove in Harper, who walked, in Washington's two-run first inning.

Newcomb's troubles continued in the second. After Newcomb gave up singles to Pedro Severino and Anthony Rendon, Harper walked to the plate as stadium organist Matthew Kaminski played the somber "Imperial March." Braves fans chimed in with boos.

Harper crushed a first-pitch fastball. The homer landed in the decorative racks behind the 400-foot marker on the center-field wall. He has three homers — including two in Sunday's 6-5 win at Cincinnati — and seven RBIs.

Newcomb allowed six runs, five earned, on five hits and four walks in 4 1/3 innings.



Nathan Denette/The Canadian Press via AP

Toronto Blue Jays left fielder Randal Grichuk (15) reacts after flying out to right field during seventh inning baseball action Monday in Toronto.

Braves right-hander Anibal Sanchez, whose contract was purchased from Triple-A Gwinnett before the game, pitched three scoreless innings in relief to strengthen his bid for a spot in the rotation.

Freddie Freeman's single drove in Ender Inciarte, who singled and stole second, in the fourth.

Nationals pinch-hitter Brian Goodwin had a two-run single off Jose Ramirez in the ninth.

CARDINALS 8,
BREWERS 4

MILWAUKEE — Miles Mikolas won in his first big league game after a three-year stint in Japan, but left his biggest impression at the plate.

Hitting a home run to help spoil the Milwaukee Brewers' home opener sure was special for the St. Louis Cardinals right-hander.

Paul DeJong connected for the second straight game, hitting his third homer this season, and Mikolas collected his first big league hit with a two-run homer in the Cardinals' 8-4 win on Monday.

Mikolas (1-0) gave up a two-run homer to Eric Thames and solo shots to Lorenzo Cain and Manny Pina. But the 29-year-old righty benefited from the Cardinals' own outburst at hitter-friendly Miller Park.

"I guess I figured if I'm going to give up some home runs, I might as well try to get one back, help my cause a little bit," Mikolas joked.

It was a memorable return to the majors for Mikolas, and a disappointing opener for the Brewers. They lost for first time after opening the season with a three-game sweep at San Diego.

"Any pitcher home run, pitcher RBIs, it always feels tough to come back from that," manager Craig Counsell said.

Mikolas gave up seven hits and four runs in 5 2/3 innings in his first big league start since Aug. 25, 2014, when he pitched eight innings for the Texas Rangers in a 2-0 win over Seattle.

He played 37 games for San Diego and Texas in 2012-14. He was 4-6 on the mound and 0 for 4 at the plate.

The power started building in Japan, where Mikolas hit two home runs in three seasons.

He'll save his fifth-inning drive off Zach Davies (0-1) that broke a 2-all tie for a while.

"I might remember the home run just because that was a highlight of the day," Mikolas said. "But looking back I'd probably look at the mistakes I made as a pitcher ... and make myself better moving forward."

Interleague

PIRATES 5,
TWINS 4

PITTSBURGH — Colin Moran's name will forever be entwined with Gerrit Cole's whether the new Pittsburgh Pirates third baseman likes it or not. It simply comes with the territory when you're part of the trade that sends a franchise cornerstone out of town.

Moran did little during spring training to hint at the power potential the Pirates saw in him when they made him part of the deal that sent Cole to Houston in January. Even as Pittsburgh led the Grapefruit League in homers, he failed to go deep even once.

Then Moran swung at a full-count fastball from Minnesota's Lance Lynn with the bases loaded in the first inning on Monday. A minute later he was taking a curtain call after the first grand slam of his young career helped the Pirates edge the Minnesota Twins 5-4 to give the franchise just its third 4-0 start in 35 years.

"Probably one of the coolest things I've ever experienced on a baseball field," Moran said after hitting his second home run in the majors.

Even Pittsburgh manager Clint Hurdle admitted to getting goose bumps, a rarity now for someone entering their fifth decade in pro baseball.

"To hear our home crowd embrace him like that and ask

him to come back out for a curtain call, that's never not good," Hurdle said.

Moran's shot to the seats above the Clemente Wall in right field staked Jameson Taillon to a five-run cushion. Taillon lapped down his pregame butterflies to keep the Twins off balance for 5 1/3 innings and the bullpen narrowly avoided letting things slip away. Taillon allowed two runs and four hits in 5 1/3 innings, but his stellar work was nearly undone by a shaky bullpen.

Minnesota rallied for four runs in the sixth off Taillon and three relievers then put the tying base on in the seventh and eighth but couldn't pull even. George Kontos worked a perfect ninth for his second career save with usual closer Felipe Rivero unavailable after finishing up both ends of a doubleheader on Sunday in Detroit.

"They put the barrel on us a little bit but we got the outs we needed," Hurdle said.

Brian Dozier homered for the second straight day for the Twins. Eduard Escobar had two hits and an RBI. Max Kepler also drove in a run for Minnesota but Lynn lasted just four innings in his first game with the Twins since signing a one-year deal last month.

He struggled with his location, walking six and striking out just one.

Three walks in the first helped set the stage for Moran, who sent a chest-high offering from Lynn over the 21-foot high Clemente Wall for just the third grand slam in a Pittsburgh home opener according to STATS, joining Hall of Famers Ralph Kiner in 1949 and Roberto Clemente in 1962.

"I've got to do better than that," said Lynn. "You can't put your team in a 5-0 hole in the first inning. That's asking a lot for the guys to dig out of. It was a little bit frustrating. I could have got out of the inning giving up one run then I hung a pitch."

RED SOX 7,
MARLINS 3

MIAMI — Brian Johnson gave the Boston Red Sox their fifth solid start in five games, allowing one run in six innings in a 7-3 victory over the Miami Marlins on Monday night.

All five Boston starters have allowed less than two runs, a franchise first to begin a season.

Hanley Ramirez and Mookie Betts each hit his first home run of the season for the Red Sox, who doubled their season total. They scored 10 runs in their first four games but are 4-1 because they have allowed only 12 runs.

Johnson (1-0) gave up rookie Brian Anderson's first career homer but stranded six runners. The Red Sox improved to 6-0 in Johnson's starts over the past two seasons.

Boston starters have allowed three earned runs in 30 innings with 28 strikeouts.

The Marlins could have used some help from their owners' box, where CEO Derek Jeter watched his old rivals struggle against his new team.

Joining him as spectators were former Marlins teammates Jorge Posada and ex-Red Sox slugger David Ortiz.

Trevor Richards (0-1), the Marlins' minor league pitcher of the year in 2017, retired the first seven batters in his major league debut but then allowed five runs in 4 1/3 innings.

A two-out swinging bunt single by Xander Bogaerts spirited the Red Sox in the fourth. Eduardo Nunez followed with an RBI double, and Christian Vazquez hit a two-run double.

Ramirez hit a two-run homer in the fifth. As he approached first base, he pointed at the large throng of cheering Red Sox fans behind their dugout.

Rafael Devers doubled home a run in the ninth and has at least one RBI in each of his four games.

The Marlins' Starlin Castro had three hits and his 500th career RBI.



Brett Coomer/Houston Chronicle

Houston Astros catcher Evan Gattis (11) is hit by a pitch from Baltimore Orioles relief pitcher Richard Bleier during the seventh inning at Minute Maid Park on Monday in Houston.

Orioles fall flat to Astros in 6-1 loss

By Eduardo A. Encina
The Baltimore Sun

HOUSTON — It's far too soon to dismiss the possibility of the Chris Tillman of old returning to the Orioles' starting rotation, but his regular-season debut bore more signs of last year's disaster of a season than the previous four in which Tillman was the unit's anchor.

Tillman lasted just one batter into the fifth inning in the Orioles' 6-1 loss to the Houston Astros on Monday night.

He allowed four runs — three in a fourth inning that included three hits that came off the bat at 95 mph or faster.

The Orioles offense wasn't void of blame. The Orioles scored just one run — Trey Mancini's homer to open the top of the ninth off Collin McHugh — and before that had gone 17 straight innings without scoring a run.

Over the past three games, the Orioles have been outscored 19-3.

Tillman battled with his control. He walked four batters — and even though none of those four baserunners ended up scoring — he was all over the zone.

Tillman threw just eight of 23 first-pitch strikes.

And the Astros didn't miss many pitches that Tillman threw in the zone. Tillman recorded just two swings and misses in his 84-pitch outing.

Tillman recovered from what could have been a disastrous first inning after falling behind 1-0 four pitches into the game when George Springer and Alex Bregman opened the frame with back-to-back doubles.

After a wild pitch, shortstop Manny

Machado made a savvy play on Jose Altuve's grounder, catching Bregman off third to erase the lead runner, a play that helped Tillman escape further damage in the opening frame.

In the third, Tillman hung a 3-1 four-seam fastball that Marwin Gonzalez took over the right-field fence. Two batters later, Brian McCann just missed a home run that hit off the top of Minute Maid Park's high left-field fence and settled for a long single. Derek Fisher then tagged a 0-1 changeup into the right-center field gap to score McCann. Springer's RBI single made it 4-0.

The Orioles' offense has disappeared over the past three games, and even though the club has faced quality pitching over that stretch, the Orioles are beginning to look too much like last year's version.

Since the Orioles' 11-inning walk-off win on Opening Day, they haven't held a lead. They've scored two runs over a span of 27 innings, and after their 4-0 loss to the Houston Astros on Monday night, they had gone 18 innings without a run.

The Orioles (1-4) managed just three hits of Astros starter Charlie Morton over six shutout innings.

Since Dylan Bundy's seven shutout innings on Opening Day, Orioles starters having don't beyond five outs in any of the last three games. In fact, both Kevin Gausman and Tillman failed to record an out in the fifth.

Over the past three games, Orioles starters have allowed 15 runs in 13 innings.

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MLB GLANCE

Standings

American League			
Team	W	L	Pct
Boston	4	1	.800
Toronto	3	2	.600
New York	2	2	.500
Baltimore	1	3	.250
Tampa Bay	1	3	.250

National League			
Team	W	L	Pct
St. Louis	2	1	.667
San Francisco	2	2	.500
Los Angeles	1	3	.250
Arizona	1	3	.250
San Diego	0	3	.000

American League			
Team	W	L	Pct
Pittsburgh	4	0	1.000
St. Louis	2	1	.667
San Francisco	2	2	.500
Los Angeles	1	3	.250
Arizona	1	3	.250
San Diego	0	3	.000

National League			
Team	W	L	Pct
Pittsburgh	4	0	1.000
St. Louis	2	1	.667
San Francisco	2	2	.500
Los Angeles	1	3	.250
Arizona	1	3	.250
San Diego	0	3	.000

American League			
Team	W	L	Pct
Pittsburgh	4	0	1.000
St. Louis	2	1	.667
San Francisco	2	2	.500
Los Angeles	1	3	.250
Arizona	1	3	.250
San Diego	0	3	.000

National League			
Team	W	L	Pct
Pittsburgh	4	0	1.000
St. Louis	2	1	.667
San Francisco	2	2	.500
Los Angeles	1	3	.250
Arizona	1	3	.250
San Diego	0	3	.000

American League			
Team	W	L	Pct
Pittsburgh	4	0	1.000
St. Louis	2	1	.667
San Francisco	2	2	.500
Los Angeles	1	3	.250
Arizona	1	3	.250
San Diego	0	3	.000

National League			
Team	W	L	Pct
Pittsburgh	4	0	1.000
St. Louis	2	1	.667
San Francisco	2	2	.500
Los Angeles	1	3	.250
Arizona	1	3	.250
San Diego	0	3	.000

American League			
Team	W	L	Pct
Pittsburgh	4	0	1.000
St. Louis	2	1	.667
San Francisco	2	2	.500
Los Angeles	1	3	.250
Arizona	1	3	.250
San Diego	0	3	.000

Tillman pitched to 1 batter in the 9th. 1B — by Mark (Pittsburgh), by Steve (St. Louis). 2B — by (Pittsburgh). 3B — by (Pittsburgh). 4B — by (Pittsburgh). 5B — by (Pittsburgh). 6B — by (Pittsburgh). 7B — by (Pittsburgh). 8B — by (Pittsburgh). 9B — by (Pittsburgh). 10B — by (Pittsburgh). 11B — by (Pittsburgh). 12B — by (Pittsburgh). 13B — by (Pittsburgh). 14B — by (Pittsburgh). 15B — by (Pittsburgh). 16B — by (Pittsburgh). 17B — by (Pittsburgh). 18B — by (Pittsburgh). 19B — by (Pittsburgh). 20B — by (Pittsburgh). 21B — by (Pittsburgh). 22B — by (Pittsburgh). 23B — by (Pittsburgh). 24B — by (Pittsburgh). 25B — by (Pittsburgh). 26B — by (Pittsburgh). 27B — by (Pittsburgh). 28B — by (Pittsburgh). 29B — by (Pittsburgh). 30B — by (Pittsburgh). 31B — by (Pittsburgh). 32B — by (Pittsburgh). 33B — by (Pittsburgh). 34B — by (Pittsburgh). 35B — by (Pittsburgh). 36B — by (Pittsburgh). 37B — by (Pittsburgh). 38B — by (Pittsburgh). 39B — by (Pittsburgh). 40B — by (Pittsburgh). 41B — by (Pittsburgh). 42B — by (Pittsburgh). 43B — by (Pittsburgh). 44B — by (Pittsburgh). 45B — by (Pittsburgh). 46B — by (Pittsburgh). 47B — by (Pittsburgh). 48B — by (Pittsburgh). 49B — by (Pittsburgh). 50B — by (Pittsburgh). 51B — by (Pittsburgh). 52B — by (Pittsburgh). 53B — by (Pittsburgh). 54B — by (Pittsburgh). 55B — by (Pittsburgh). 56B — by (Pittsburgh). 57B — by (Pittsburgh). 58B — by (Pittsburgh). 59B — by (Pittsburgh). 60B — by (Pittsburgh). 61B — by (Pittsburgh). 62B — by (Pittsburgh). 63B — by (Pittsburgh). 64B — by (Pittsburgh). 65B — by (Pittsburgh). 66B — by (Pittsburgh). 67B — by (Pittsburgh). 68B — by (Pittsburgh). 69B — by (Pittsburgh). 70B — by (Pittsburgh). 71B — by (Pittsburgh). 72B — by (Pittsburgh). 73B — by (Pittsburgh). 74B — by (Pittsburgh). 75B — by (Pittsburgh). 76B — by (Pittsburgh). 77B — by (Pittsburgh). 78B — by (Pittsburgh). 79B — by (Pittsburgh). 80B — by (Pittsburgh). 81B — by (Pittsburgh). 82B — by (Pittsburgh). 83B — by (Pittsburgh). 84B — by (Pittsburgh). 85B — by (Pittsburgh). 86B — by (Pittsburgh). 87B — by (Pittsburgh). 88B — by (Pittsburgh). 89B — by (Pittsburgh). 90B — by (Pittsburgh). 91B — by (Pittsburgh). 92B — by (Pittsburgh). 93B — by (Pittsburgh). 94B — by (Pittsburgh). 95B — by (Pittsburgh). 96B — by (Pittsburgh). 97B — by (Pittsburgh). 98B — by (Pittsburgh). 99B — by (Pittsburgh). 100B — by (Pittsburgh). 101B — by (Pittsburgh). 102B — by (Pittsburgh). 103B — by (Pittsburgh). 104B — by (Pittsburgh). 105B — by (Pittsburgh). 106B — by (Pittsburgh). 107B — by (Pittsburgh). 108B — by (Pittsburgh). 109B — by (Pittsburgh). 110B — by (Pittsburgh). 111B — by (Pittsburgh). 112B — by (Pittsburgh). 113B — by (Pittsburgh). 114B — by (Pittsburgh). 115B — by (Pittsburgh). 116B — by (Pittsburgh). 117B — by (Pittsburgh). 118B — by (Pittsburgh). 119B — by (Pittsburgh). 120B — by (Pittsburgh). 121B — by (Pittsburgh). 122B — by (Pittsburgh). 123B — by (Pittsburgh). 124B — by (Pittsburgh). 125B — by (Pittsburgh). 126B — by (Pittsburgh). 127B — by (Pittsburgh). 128B — by (Pittsburgh). 129B — by (Pittsburgh). 130B — by (Pittsburgh). 131B — by (Pittsburgh). 132B — by (Pittsburgh). 133B — by (Pittsburgh). 134B — by (Pittsburgh). 135B — by (Pittsburgh). 136B — by (Pittsburgh). 137B — by (Pittsburgh). 138B — by (Pittsburgh). 139B — by (Pittsburgh). 140B — by (Pittsburgh). 141B — by (Pittsburgh). 142B — by (Pittsburgh). 143B — by (Pittsburgh). 144B — by (Pittsburgh). 145B — by (Pittsburgh). 146B — by (Pittsburgh). 147B — by (Pittsburgh). 148B — by (Pittsburgh). 149B — by (Pittsburgh). 150B — by (Pittsburgh). 151B — by (Pittsburgh). 152B — by (Pittsburgh). 153B — by (Pittsburgh). 154B — by (Pittsburgh). 155B — by (Pittsburgh). 156B — by (Pittsburgh). 157B — by (Pittsburgh). 158B — by (Pittsburgh). 159B — by (Pittsburgh). 160B — by (Pittsburgh). 161B — by (Pittsburgh). 162B — by (Pittsburgh). 163B — by (Pittsburgh). 164B — by (Pittsburgh). 165B — by (Pittsburgh). 166B — by (Pittsburgh). 167B — by (Pittsburgh). 168B — by (Pittsburgh). 169B — by (Pittsburgh). 170B — by (Pittsburgh). 171B — by (Pittsburgh). 172B — by (Pittsburgh). 173B — by (Pittsburgh). 174B — by (Pittsburgh). 175B — by (Pittsburgh). 176B — by (Pittsburgh). 177B — by (Pittsburgh). 178B — by (Pittsburgh). 179B — by (Pittsburgh). 180B — by (Pittsburgh). 181B — by (Pittsburgh). 182B — by (Pittsburgh). 183B — by (Pittsburgh). 184B — by (Pittsburgh). 185B — by (Pittsburgh). 186B — by (Pittsburgh). 187B — by (Pittsburgh). 188B — by (Pittsburgh). 189B — by (Pittsburgh). 190B — by (Pittsburgh). 191B — by (Pittsburgh). 192B — by (Pittsburgh). 193B — by (Pittsburgh). 194B — by (Pittsburgh). 195B — by (Pittsburgh). 196B — by (Pittsburgh). 197B — by (Pittsburgh). 198B — by (Pittsburgh). 199B — by (Pittsburgh). 200B — by (Pittsburgh). 201B — by (Pittsburgh). 202B — by (Pittsburgh). 203B — by (Pittsburgh). 204B — by (Pittsburgh). 205B — by (Pittsburgh). 206B — by

After all of this, the Cowboys should let Dez Bryant go

MAC ENGEL

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

The scenario brewing at The Star is not War of the Roses but Jerry vs. Stephen. And it's the most entertaining development during the offseason for America's Most Maddening Team.

A meeting between Dez Bryant and the Cowboys has been on the to-do list since the first week of January, and we are fast approaching the time for the team to have its face-to-face with the player who, despite recent acquisitions, remains their top wide receiver.

It's a little surprising they aren't selling tickets. The last time Jerry Jones had a slight disagreement with his son, and a redhead he employs, over a certain wide receiver was in 2008. The team did not have a consensus on Terrell Owens.

Jerry wasn't so sure about T.O., but Stephen Jones and then-offensive coordinator Jason Garrett were resolute: Owens had to go.

In front of T.O. and his agent, Drew Rosenhaus, Jerry famously took a Sharpie to paper and drew an arc above an assortment of names, with "Dallas Cowboys" at the top; the point was, the name at the top was more important than those below.

However the scenario with this receiver ultimately plays out, considering the player involved and how things have evolved this off-season, the safest course of action is to let Dez go.

Make no mistake, Dez Bryant is not T.O. When the Cowboys cut T.O., he was 35 and had alienated himself from the locker room, including the offensive coordinator and the quarterback. T.O. was no longer worth the drama.

When this off-season began and talk of a pay cut swirled, Dez had leverage. The Dallas Cowboys' addition of Spare 1 and Spare 2 at wide receiver changes that.

Despite love language from the new receivers coach and the Chief Optimist in Charge — Jerry — the Cowboys' actions are telling the former darling receiver exactly what they think of him.

Start with the cryptic words from Garrett and Stephen earlier this off-season, and then go to the Cowboys' jumping into the Manager's Special rack of NFL free agency when they added receivers Deonte Thompson and Allen Hurns.

All you need to know about Thompson is that he played for two teams last season, Chicago and Buffalo. The Bears and the Bills are two teams whose passing offenses were worse than Dallas'. Chicago finished 32nd in passing, Buffalo 31st, and the Cowboys just plucked away one of their receivers.

Thompson caught 38 passes last season. Hurns, who was with Jacksonville last season, had one more reception last year than

Thompson.

Right now, Dak Prescott must be thinking what we all know: Dez Bryant is still his best choice on the outside.

Nonetheless, the Cowboys have intentionally created an awkward situation for any future team meetings or practice huddles involving Dez.

The Cowboys have to cut Dez Bryant.

If they thought Dez was an issue before, just wait until his feelings are hurt, or he's been devalued.

And, assuming Dez is dumped, if the Cowboys didn't think they had a true No. 1 receiver in 2017, just wait 'til 2018.

Even if Dez accepts a pay cut, this relationship is now fractured to the point not even Jerry's best sales pitch can save it.

Dez is an emotional soul who feels everything, and Jerry can't change what Eight-Eight sees: His Cowboys don't love him the same way.

Specifically, the head coach and The Sheriff, Stephen Jones, don't want Dez anymore. Offensive coordinator Scott Linehan surely has a vote in this matter, too.

In the collective minds of the Cowboys' "brain trust" (a contradiction in terms if there ever was one), Dez is the former trophy girlfriend who was all kinds of crazy but just so "hot" they could deal with tantrums and the emotion.

Before he was drafted out of Oklahoma State, NFL types warned the world, and Jerry, to stay away from Dez for exactly these reasons. Among others, Jerry grabbed him with the 24th pick in 2010.

A little personality has never scared Jerry. But that was in 2010.

We are in 2018, and Dez will turn 30 this season. As a receiver, Dez was never going to age well. He was never a beautiful route runner with gorgeous hands, like Larry Fitzgerald. Dez is fearless and physical. That type of player doesn't transition well after 30.

Nonetheless, the Cowboys are still fooling themselves about their receivers. Dak is good, but he has not shown he can turn a decent receiver into a great one.

Today, his receiving corps consists of Dez, Terrance Williams, Cole Beasley, Hurns, Thompson, Noah Brown and Ryan Switzer. Throw in a draft pick or two, too.

Dez is the best of the lot, but to the Cowboys, Spare 1 and Spare 2 are better alternatives.

There is no way this can work. Let Dez go.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Pernilla Lindberg wins ANA Inspiration on 8th extra hole

By John Nicholson
Associated Press

RANCHO MIRAGE, Calif. — Pernilla Lindberg plunged into Poppie's Pond with her parents and fiancé-caddie Daniel Taylor, celebrating her first professional victory in about the biggest way possible in women's golf.

"I can't believe that I can call myself a major champion," Lindberg said.

It wasn't easy. The 31-year-old Swede needed a major-record eight sudden-death holes over two days to finish off Inbee Park in the ANA Inspiration, ending it Monday morning with a 30-foot birdie putt on the par-4 10th.

"I just know I'm a grinder, and I just felt: 'This is mine. I'm going to do this,'" Lindberg said. "I just knew I could, and I just kept fighting away. I just couldn't believe when that last putt went in."

Park's 20-footer to match missed to the left.

"The putt Pernilla made on the last was a champion's putt," Park said. "I'm really happy for her. This one was not an easy major win for her, as well. I mean, eight-hole playoff, I've never done something like that before, either."

They played four holes Monday after going until it was too dark to see — and then played some more — Sunday night.

Lindberg won in her 250th start on the LPGA, Ladies European and Symetra tours, sharing the moment with father Jan and mother Gunilla. They introduced her to golf at Bollnas Golf Club about 150 miles north of Stockholm.

"It's so cool," Lindberg said. "The only reason I'm playing golf is because of them. I'm so happy they're here. I've probably given my dad I don't know how many heart attacks over the last few days."

On Sunday, Jennifer Song dropped out with a par on the third playoff hole, and Park and Lindberg decided to take one more trip down the par-5 18th in fading light. With portable lights and the scoreboard helping illuminate the green, Park holed a 6-footer for par and Lindberg made a short putt to match. They finished at 7:21 p.m., 15 minutes after sunset.

Play resumed at 8 a.m. on No. 10, with Lindberg leaving a birdie putt an inch short from a little lower on the green than her winner later on the hole.

They made up-and-down pars on the par-3 17th, with Park holing a tricky 8-foot downhill putt and Lindberg staying alive from a foot closer.

Lindberg then reached the 18th in two — the first time one of them went for it in the six times they played the par 5 in the playoff and regulation — but was on the far left side and was only able to get her eagle putt within 7 feet. Park laid up and hit a wedge to 8 feet. They both missed.

"I didn't make many



Alex Gallardo/Associated Press

Pernilla Lindberg, of Sweden, holds up her trophy after winning on the 10th hole during the eighth playoff round to win the LPGA Tour ANA Inspiration golf tournament over Inbee Park, of South Korea, at Mission Hills Country Club on Monday in Rancho Mirage, Calif.

mistakes, but I just couldn't make the putts," Park said. "The morning greens were a little bit slower than I anticipated. I hit a couple putts short. I had a couple of opportunities."

Lindberg, Park and Song birdied the 18th in regulation. Song got to 15 under first with a 5-foot putt, Park followed with a 4-footer in the next group and Lindberg matched her in the final group. Park and Song shot 5-under 67, and Lindberg had a 71.

Lindberg is the fourth player to lead wire-to-wire in the event and first since Pat Hurst in 1998, and the fifth to win the tournament for her first LPGA Tour victory. She's the sixth Swedish female major champion, joining Liselotte Neumann, Helen Alfredson, Annika Sorenstam, Anna Nordqvist and Jenny Lideback (born in Peru to Swedish parents) — and all of them also won their first LPGA Tour title in a major.

"I remember writing some goals probably right when I got to high school," Lindberg said. "Writing about the dream scenario, and it would be to obviously win a major championship and leave a mark in history. But at the same time it felt like too big of a dream to come true, but it has."

She jumped from 95th to 34th in the world ranking.

Park won in 2013 at Mission Hills and is a seven-time major champion. The 29-year-old Hall of Famer won the Founders Cup two weeks ago in Phoenix for her 19th tour title, a day after revealing she was 50-50 about retiring before returning from a long break that started after Women's British Open in August.

"I'm a little bit disappointed, but I'm really happy the way I played this

week," Park said.

Jessica Korda and Ariya Jutanugarn finished a stroke out of the playoff.

ANA Inspiration Scores Monday at Mission Hills CC (Stroke Play)

Pernilla Lindberg, 67, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

PRO RODEO LEADERS

Through April 1

1. Ted Cooper, Decatur, Texas \$65,067
2. Ryle Smith, Oklahoma City \$46,799
3. Trevor Brazner, Decatur, Texas \$40,000
4. Ryan Richard, Houston, Texas \$35,000
5. Clayton Koss, Weatherford, Texas \$27,280
6. Marcus Thomas, Poncha, Texas \$25,174
7. Bart Branson, Terry, Texas \$24,120
8. Wesley Branson, Terry, Texas \$24,279
9. Paul David Tarnay, Oklahoma City, Okla. \$17,200
10. Cody Donohue, Oklahoma City, Okla. \$16,987
11. Shane Proctor, Grand Coulee, Wash. \$15,012
12. McCoy Profit, Okemah, Okla. \$11,270
13. Ed Lant, Sugar, S.D. \$11,264
14. Zach Jorgensen, Iowa, La. \$11,171
15. Chad Caldwell, Weatherford, Texas \$10,300
16. Cole Eshen, Fair, S.D. \$8,888

Barrel Racing

1. Caleb Brown, Thornton, Utah \$58,950
2. Mason Clements, Springville, Utah \$42,550
3. Bill Tate, Weatherford, Texas \$38,310
4. John Brown, Cleveland, Texas \$35,580
5. Shane O'Connell, Rapid City, S.D. \$31,750
6. Tilden Hooper, Carthage, Texas \$28,885
7. J.P. Nease, Conway, Texas \$28,700
8. Don Lerner, Lodi, Nevada \$27,301
9. Luke Cline, Hobbs, N.M. \$27,218
10. Ty Brown, Mandan, N.D. \$27,171
11. Kaylene Field, Spanish Fork, Utah \$25,100
12. Tanner Ann, Granite Falls, Minn. \$22,412
13. Tim O'Connell, Zephyr, Texas \$22,001
14. Wade Eiken, Corvallis, Ore. \$21,551
15. Chad Lyle, Pocatello, Idaho \$21,307
16. Evan Joyce, Moravia, Texas \$20,880
17. Austin Foss, Trenton, Okla. \$19,779
18. Steven Dink, Mullan, Neb. \$19,550
19. Jesse Davis, Poncha, Texas \$19,000
20. Logan Corbett, Las Cruces, N.M. \$18,012

Steer Wrestling

1. Cole Edge, Decatur, Okla. \$47,100
2. Curtis Cassidy, Decatur, Texas \$35,679
3. Dakota Donaghy, Elko, Neb. \$34,387
4. Tyler Waggoner, Garrettsville, Ohio \$33,307
5. Jacob Taylor, Weatherford, Texas \$33,280
6. Tyler Freeman, Louisville, Miss. \$33,044
7. Riley Dwyer, Cheyenne, Wyo. \$33,032
8. Tanner Branson, Poncha, Texas \$32,884
9. Scott Gaudin, Poncha, Texas \$32,121
10. Matt Brown, Grand Coulee, Wash. \$31,875
11. Clayton Hays, Weatherford, Texas \$31,870
12. Jacob Shaffer, Weatherford, Texas \$31,800
13. Jason Gurnea, Live Oak, Calif. \$31,540
14. Cameron Mowatt, Glen Urie, N.D. \$31,279

Team Roping (Headed)

1. Clay Smith, Broken Bow, Okla. \$48,437
2. Dakota Buckner, Kingston, Okla. \$37,730
3. Luke Brown, Rock Hill, S.C. \$33,254
4. Cody Stone, Los Olivos, Calif. \$33,003
5. Coleman Proctor, Poncha, Texas \$33,191
6. Travis Dorman, Dale City, Pa. \$31,810
7. Cory Reed, V. Bismarck, N.D. \$31,779
8. Nelson Ryck, Cheyenne, Wyo. \$31,388
9. Dustin Eggen, Moravia, Texas \$31,212
10. Tyler White, Decatur, Texas \$31,200
11. John Allen, Decatur, Texas \$31,001
12. Steven Dink, Mullan, Neb. \$31,007
13. John Cooper, Moravia, Texas \$31,000
14. Chad Caldwell, Weatherford, Texas \$31,019
15. Lyle Jay, Poncha, Texas \$31,000
16. John Brown, Poncha, Texas \$31,000
17. Bart Branson, Terry, Texas \$31,000
18. Logan Brown, Poncha, Texas \$31,000
19. Trevor Brazner, Decatur, Texas \$31,000
20. Matt Brown, Poncha, Texas \$31,000

Team Roping (Headed)

1. Paul Brown, Poncha, Texas \$48,437
2. Joseph Hamilton, Cheyenne, Wyo. \$35,381
3. John Long, Cheyenne, Wyo. \$35,381
4. Billy Jack, Cheyenne, Wyo. \$35,381
5. Wesley Thompson, Cheyenne, Wyo. \$35,381

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4. Billy Jack, Cheyenne, Wyo. \$35,381
5. Wesley Thompson, Cheyenne, Wyo. \$35,381

Team Roping (Headed)

1. Paul Brown, Poncha, Texas \$48,437
2. Joseph Hamilton, Cheyenne, Wyo. \$35,381
3. John Long, Cheyenne, Wyo. \$35,381
4. Billy Jack, Cheyenne, Wyo. \$35,381
5. Wesley Thompson, Cheyenne, Wyo. \$35,381

Team Roping (Headed)

1. Paul Brown, Poncha, Texas \$48,437
2. Joseph Hamilton, Cheyenne, Wyo. \$35,381

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephem Group

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

Level:

1 2

3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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JUMBLE CROSSWORDS

by David L. Hoyt

CLUE ACROSS

- Pacific
- Water
- singer
- Valuable

CLUE DOWN

- Tasty
- Poms and Pokes
- Pompous pronoun
- Wreck, frustrate

ANSWER

OSNAML
PROAV
EPOAR
FLUEUS

ANSWER

RAVYSO
LOGPSDA
SLFUOER
EILDRA

How to play - Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

BONUS O O O O O O O O O O O O

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 ANSWERS: 1-A-Southwest 2-A-Hopewell 3-A-Opera 7-A-Water 10-Song 20-Landscape 22-Song 30-Quint 32-Ferry 33-Watson
 Send comments to TCA - 435 N. Michigan Ave., Third Floor, Chicago, IL 60611 or DLHoyt@aol.com.

DAILY CROSSWORD

Edited By Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

- Sound from Rover
- Quite anxious
- Canada's most populous prov.
- Corporate VIP
- Pudding choice
- Canada's least populous prov.
- Mess up
- "Sci-fi" energy ray that grabs ships
- Set of guidelines, as for grading papers
- Big stretch of time
- Pay to play
- Tattle
- Cheer on
- Moines
- Hailed car
- Sign before Virgo
- "Then what happened?"
- Sang 29-Down
- Tattle
- "Joltin'" DillMaggio
- Puts in new film
- "Dawg"
- Columnist Landers
- Sees right through
- Salt Lake City athlete
- Family cat, e.g.
- In medias
- "Big Brother" channel
- Soda can feature
- Yacht spot
- Word of lament for "poor Yorick"
- pitch softball
- The "U" in "MYEMUSUN"
- Small, influential group ... and a hint to the word hidden in each answer to a starred clue
- Suffix with ranch
- "Norma ...": Sally Field film
- Witty remarks
- ID on a W-9 form
- Concorde, e.g., briefly
- Martyred bishop of Paris
- "He! Told ya!"

DOWN

- Taiwanese laptops
- Syndicated sitcom, say
- "Sci-fi" classic featuring Robby the Robot
- Top stories
- Durable wood
- Mental health org.
- Beans go-with
- Vessels pulling water-skiers
- Budget, in product names
- Patriotic women's org.
- "Sign outside a new store"
- "That's awesome!"
- Sometimes egg-shaped kitchen gadget
- Diminish
- Numbered rd.
- Auto pioneer
- "Unable to tell red from green, say"
- Without company
- "How to Get Away With Murder" actress
- Naomi King

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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

04/03/18

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LUTYR

TIODT

GOIBNX

NEETTX

So, shirts get hung up instead of putting them in the basket. Agreed?

Yes, I agree.

AFTER THEY ARGUED ABOUT THE WRINKLED CLOTHES, THEIR PROBLEMS WERE ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: O O O O O O O O O O O O

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ADAPT ABOUT THEORY SCULPT
 Answer: When firefighters rescued the kittens from a tree, they averted a — "CAT-ASTROPHE"

WUZZLES

WORD PUZZLES BY WOOD TOM

1. Voter®

2. P P
I I
N N

Print Your Answers Here:

1. _ _ _ _ _

2. _ _ _ _ _

Today's Answers:

1. Registered voter

2. Plus down

4-3

Created by Tom Underwood
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There's a little bit of everything in

Education

Look for it in Tuesday's edition of the Reporter-Telegram

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HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



FUNKY WINKERBEAN



LUANN



BLONDIE



MARY WORTH



BEETLE BAILEY



ZITS



CLASSIC PEANUTS



BOBBY BLUES



SHOE



MUTTS



GARFIELD



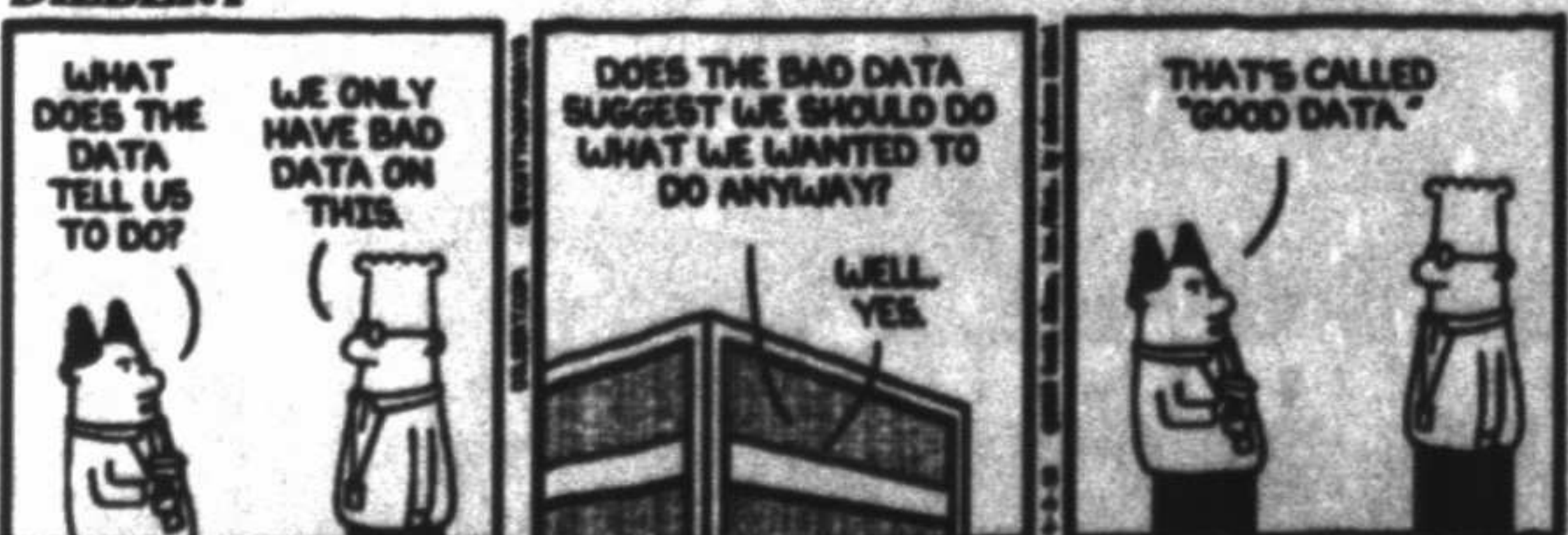
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT



CLOSE TO HOME



DENNIS THE MENACE



LOCKHORNS



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at home

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432.682.6222

mrtclassifieds@mrt.com

ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT



COPY EDITOR/DESIGNER

WANTED: A team-oriented, deadline-conscious copy editor/designer. You're a good fit if you're creative; willing to work nights, weekends and holidays; have at least one year of layout or copy editing experience, are InDesign proficient; can learn quickly; aren't afraid to ask questions; have an eye for detail; have a firm grasp of punctuation, grammar and AP style; and have a strong commitment to visual journalism. About us: The Midland Reporter-Telegram has a universal copy desk that handles the daily paper as well as products from other Hearst newspapers in the region.

About the job: This is an entry-level position that offers paid vacation, a 401(k) and other benefits. Experience in design is necessary, experience with sports is a plus. Recent college graduates are encouraged to apply. This would be a good job for someone looking to perfect their copy editing/design skills.

If you're interested: Submit your cover letter, résumé and clips in PDF format to Editor Stewart Doreen at sdoreen@mrt.com.

CLERICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

NOW HIRING
Administrative Assistant - SSB

Performs all routine and specialized secretarial work for the Midland Police Department.

Job Duties:
• Answers phone, take messages, greets visitors and assists citizens with questions or concerns.
• Maintains calendar for assigned personnel.
• Develops, types and files correspondence.
• Enters data into the computer regarding police actions or projects.
• Processes and routes mail as needed.
• Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
Ability to effectively communicate with employees, management and citizens when acting as a receptionist, answering inquiries, processing information or making referrals to the proper staff person.

Ability to read and understand manuals and reports in order to record work activities, keep records or work with computers. Skill in the operation and maintenance of a number of office machines and equipment such as computers, copiers and printers. Skill in typing and word processing. Skill and experience in the operation of computerized systems in order to design or complete spreadsheets, forms or word processing assignments, brochures, certificates and programs. Experience in software with personal computers related to spreadsheets, databases and word processing.

High school diploma or equivalent required. Must be able to pass typing test with minimum score of 45 wpm.

Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

Customer Service/Order Entry

Receive and enter customer orders in OSI order management program and manage them through delivery. Communicate with customers concerning the status of orders. Answer phones. Great guest! Must have good computer skills (excel, word). Good communication skills (phone, in person and email). Quick learner. Hours: 8-5 Monday-Friday. Competitive pay and health benefits. Send resume to galison@oilfieldcommunications.com

DOT, Safety & Inventory Clerk

Established company in Midland looking for DOT, Safety and Inventory Clerk. Valid driver's license required. Must be willing to relocate to Midland area. Pay will be determined based on onfield experience. This company offers excellent pay, medical insurance and retirement benefits. Send resumes and salary requirements to Diamond D Stickline Service Co., P. O. Box 216, Snyder, Texas 79550

Stickline Operators

Established company in Midland looking for stickline operators. Valid driver's license required. Must be willing to relocate to Midland area. Pay will be determined based on onfield experience. This company offers excellent pay, medical insurance and retirement benefits. Send resumes and salary requirements to Diamond D Stickline Service Co., P. O. Box 216, Snyder, Texas 79550

NOW HIRING
Associate Traffic Engineer

Job Duties:
• Support or substitute for the City Traffic Engineer as needed.
• Oversee and/or participate in the development, configuration, and operation of the City's computerized control systems.
• Manage and perform warrant studies for traffic signals, stop signs, crosswalks, school zones, speed limits and others.
• Review commercial and residential development requests.
• Review all phases of the planning process for commercial and retail development.
• Prepare analysis and recommendations in support of geometric, roadway, intersection, and other infrastructure improvements.
• Prepare analysis and recommendations for the installation and maintenance of traffic control devices within the city.

Qualifications:
• Bachelor's degree in civil engineering or related field with a minimum of three years' experience in traffic engineering or related field.
• Master's degree in civil engineering or related field may be substituted for three years' experience.
• Valid Texas driver's license required.
• Certification as an Engineer in Training (EIT) preferred.

Benefits:
• Healthcare Plans
• Paid Vacation/Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs

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432-682-6222

NOW HIRING
GIS Manager

Reporting to the Engineering Services Director, this position oversees the development and management of the City of Midland Geographic Information System (GIS). This includes staff supervision, budgeting, training, etc.

BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Manages the GIS Division budget and recommends budget request for new hardware and software as appropriate.

Job Duties:

• Supervises all phases and implementation of the City Enterprise GIS.
• Supervises GIS Division staff.
• Provides planning and direction for GIS growth to serve the City and Public.
• Provides general customer service; responds to concerns and inquiries related to - Division services.
• Negotiates and reviews contracts provided by consultants for GIS services, e.g. - LIDAR, ortho-mosaic imagery, Cityworks, etc.
• Develops policies and standards for the GIS Division.
• Manages the setting of priorities for projects, software, database, and application development.
• Oversees development of GIS applications, web services, and tools to ensure they are current and within industry standards and practices.
• Oversees the GIS Division in managing ArcGIS Server installation, maintenance, upgrades and use.
• Provides recommendations to the Director of Engineering Services regarding annual GIS Division budget, priorities for projects, and resources required to complete them.
• Provides user-training services, as requested.
• Independently prepares and delivers reports and presentations to City Councilmembers, City Management, and outside agency officials. Serves as representative of GIS (or the City) to other departments and outside agencies.
• Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with employees within and outside the department, and with outside agencies; and to respond to questions from Councilmembers, City Management, constituents, vendors, businesses, and other governmental agencies or staff.

Proven ability to plan, organize and manage multiple concurrent projects with minimal supervision. Willingness to work in a team environment and learn new skills to help improve systems and procedures. Ability to supervise and manage other staff with a variety of skills and abilities.

Demonstrated proficiency in the use of Esri ArcGIS software (ArcGISDesktop, ArcGISOnline, ArcGISPro). Solid understanding of database design/management and programming is desirable.

Knowledge of land surveying, municipal governmental operations, acquisitions and procedures is desirable.

Bachelor's degree in GIS, Geography, Computer Science, Engineering, or a related technical or business field required. Minimum of five years' experience using Esri GIS software required. Master's degree in a related field preferred. Valid Texas driver's license required.

Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVE

NOW HIRING
Planning Division Manager

Manages Planning Division office including professional planners, technicians, and secretarial staff. Reviews items for consideration by appointed boards and commissions and elected officials.

BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Prepares and administers the annual division budget. Monitors expenditures during the year and makes recommendations for budget modifications.

Job Duties:

• Reviews staff work including reports, maps and special studies for presentation to Planning Commission and City Council.
• Coordinates, supervises and manages staff time.
• Prepares, administers and monitors annual budget.
• Presents information at public meetings. Participates with other staff members concerning interested projects.
• Answers various questions from general public and developers concerning city ordinances, development trends, and population.
• Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:
Employee communicates with other employees in the work group. Communication with the general public, developers, outside agencies and other departments within the organization is required.

Knowledge of planning and zoning process. Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Skill in writing and interpreting budgets. Ability to write and review reports, memos and other correspondence. Ability to supervise and communicate with employees. Basic comprehension of computer use. Valid Texas Driver License.

Bachelor's degree or equivalent in geography, planning or related field required. Graduate work or advanced degree in planning preferred. Three to five years experience in a related field required, preferably including supervisory experience.

Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
• Tuition Reimbursement
apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer

MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVE

NOW HIRING
Assistant Coordinator

SIVALLS INC
Currently has opening for a
Assistant Coordinator
Experience in following
Microsoft Office/Excel, Inventory Control, Computer based ERP Programs. Good math skills and ability to learn and retain new information is needed. Computer literacy is required.

Must be able to multi-task and perform in time constraint environment.

Applications taken 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon-Fri.

2200 E 2nd St.
Odessa, TX
79761

Mobile Crane Operators
Wanted: Crane seeking NCCCO certified hydraulic, oil finish operators. Please. Pay based on experience. Email: wantonruss@yahoo.com

NOW HIRING
Right-Of-Way Manager

This position manages the acquisition, sale, and licensing of City rights-of-way and other real property; oversees the execution of transactions of real property; and administers the issuance of easements and licenses to outside parties for the use of City-owned rights-of-way and property.

Budgetary Responsibilities:

Assist management staff with recommendations and budget data for potential right-of-way and easement acquisitions for public improvements.

Job Duties:

• Develops policies and procedures for standardization of third-party use of City rights-of-way and property.
• Manages the distribution of surface damages for City rights-of-way and other real property owned by the City; including 47,000+ acres of City-owned parcels.
• Develops and negotiates Surface Use Agreements, Right-of-Way License Agreements, Easement Agreements, for third-party users of City-owned parcels or rights-of-way, and coordinates with appropriate City Departments or Management.
• Prepares and presents reports to City officials, Council members, and representatives of outside agencies.
• Obtains Appraisals, Title Work, and coordinates Closings on tracts of interest.
• Coordinates and processes public easements for City projects.
• Coordinates departmental actions related to acquisition of real property to ensure compliance with City policies, and legal and regulatory guidelines.
• Coordinates preparation of offers to purchase, leases, deeds, exchange agreements, easements, releases, and related property transaction documents.
• Coordinates with others and utilizes engineering plans and plats to determine accuracy of property legal descriptions and boundaries, life histories, etc.
• Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
Proven ability to plan, organize and manage multiple concurrent projects with minimal supervision. Willingness to work in a team environment and learn new skills to help improve systems and procedures.

Knowledge of land surveying, oil drilling and pipeline operations, and typical petroleum industry practices related to land use and acquisition is desirable. Knowledge of municipal governmental operations, acquisitions and procedures is helpful.

Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with employees within and outside the department, and with outside agencies; and to respond to questions from Council members, constituents, vendors, businesses, and other governmental agencies or staff.

Demonstrated proficiency in the use of Esri ArcGIS software is desirable.

Bachelor's degree required. Minimum of five years' experience in real estate, land acquisition, or a similar field. Valid Texas driver's license required.

Benefits:
• Health care Plans
• Paid Vacation/Sick Leave
• Paid Holidays
• Employee Wellness Program
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OTHER JOBS

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CDL Drivers Needed

Come Join our family! Jones Bros. Dirt and Paving

We want your work experience and your hard work!

NOW HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS

• Water truck drivers • Bulk Dump drivers

Home every night and new equipment

Requirements: 1 year of driving experience. Valid Texas Class A CDL, preference for water truck driver.

Benefits: Medical, dental vision, life insurance. After 1 year of service Paid vacation and 401K

Apply in person at Jones Bros. Dirt & Paving Contractors, Inc. 1401 S. Granddine Odessa, Texas 79761

Field Service Mechanics

Come Join our family! Jones Bros. Dirt and Paving

We want your work experience and your hard work!

NOW HIRING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION

Field Service Mechanics

Requirements: 3 years mechanic experience. Must have own tools. Valid Texas Drivers License. Pay will depend on work experience. 80 plus work week.

Benefits: Medical, dental vision, life insurance. Paid vacation after 1 year of service, and 401K

Apply in person at Jones Bros. Dirt & Paving Contractors, Inc. 1401 S. Granddine Odessa, Texas 79761

WAREHOUSE CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSOCIATE

Big Griffin Oil Company, 2010 E. FM 1782, Midland, Texas 79705.

Warehouse Customer Service Associate. Duties include: Answer phones, Take customer orders, Coordinate deliveries, Maintain inventory, Encourage safe work habits, Keep all files current, Handle customer order telephone requests. Good pay, Good benefits, Let's discuss. Resumes to pgiffen@biggriffin.com for an interview

OTHER JOBS



DOT Driver II

JOB DESCRIPTION: Job responsibilities include local (within Midland City and County) transportation by truck for Endeavor Energy completions or production crews. Cargo transport varies depending on driver's licensing.

Essential Functions:

- Follow instructions, and maintain compliance with all DOT, company and customer safety and operational policies and procedures
- Properly load and unload product at various customer locations in a professional, courteous, timely, safe, and efficient manner
- Connect and disconnect hoses, operating pumps and valves for loading and unloading
- Complete all paperwork accurately and timely, if applicable
- Complete other related tasks as assigned by manager

Minimum Requirements:

- High school diploma or GED required, must be at least 18 years of age
- Ability to read, write and communicate effectively required
- Computer proficiency is required
- Valid Texas Driver's License is required
- Class A CDL and Haz Mat is preferred but not required
- Must be able to pass background screening including MVR and criminal
- Must be able to work nights, weekends, and an extended workweek
- Strong customer service skills, and the ability to effectively prioritize, multi-task, manage time, organize and execute tasks in a high-pressure environment

Supervisory Responsibilities:

No supervisory responsibilities are associated with this position.

Work Environment:

Work is often outdoors. Working conditions range from frigid to hot temps, high winds, flying dust, slipping hazards and conditions and frequently exposed to loud noise from heavy equipment and machinery.

Physical Demands:

Ability to sit, stand, walk, reach with hand and arms, climb, squat, kneel, and bend is required. Must also be able to occasionally lift, carry, push, pull, move, and drag up to 50 lbs.

Position type and expected hours of work:

This is a full-time position. The ability to work overtime is a requirement to performing this job.

Endeavor Energy Resources, LP is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in regards to race, color, creed, age, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, marital status or disability. We comply with all local, state, and federal laws pertaining to employment and discrimination will not be tolerated.

Landscape/Irrigation Help

Wanted landscape and irrigation employee. Please call (432)-770-2399



Now hiring for a Field Technician.

The Field Technician will provide advanced refining services to support the Frac operations on location. Endeavor Energy will provide all necessary training for new employees. This is a non-driving position.

Job Duties:

- Comply with all OSHA and company safety procedures, rules and regulations
- Proper pre and post trip of equipment
- Consistently demonstrate safe unloading of fuels while handling, hooking and unhooking hoses and operating pumps while following directions and standard operating procedures
- Safely using pipe wrenches, crescent wrenches and other hand tools
- Immediate reporting and cleaning of any spills during shift
- Maintain professionalism through working courteously with supervisors, dispatchers, fellow co-workers and customers
- All other duties as assigned

Minimum Qualifications:

- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment
- Proven capability to work both independently and collaboratively with different levels of management and individual contributors
- Demonstrated ability to manage work in stressful situations
- High school diploma or GED required, must be at least 18 years of age
- Ability to read, write and communicate effectively required
- Computer proficiency is required
- Valid Texas Driver's License is required
- Experience working on Frac site or similar responsibilities is preferred

Work Environment:

Work is often outdoors. Working conditions range from frigid to hot temps, high winds, flying dust, slipping hazards and conditions and frequently exposed to loud noise from heavy equipment and machinery.

Physical Demands:

Ability to sit, stand, walk, reach with hand and arms, climb, squat, kneel, bend, and occasionally lift/carry/push/pull/move/drag up to 60 lbs.

Position type and expected hours of work:

This is a full-time position.

Endeavor Energy Resources, LP is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in regards to race, color, creed, age, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, marital status or disability. We comply with all local, state, and federal laws pertaining to employment and discrimination will not be tolerated.

Groundskeeper

Sagewood Condominiums now hiring Groundskeeper apply Monday through Friday 8am-5pm, 3336 Calders Blvd. - Office



Planner

Performs field and office work related to planning and development programs for utilization of land and physical facilities of the city.

Job Duties:

- Prepares special studies and reports related to code amendments and annexation studies. Assists with comprehensive plan and studies and updates as necessary.
- Prepares statistical reports such as annual population estimates.
- Reviews requests and prepares written reports for zone change and proposed subdivision plat applications and special studies.
- Presents information and recommendations to the Planning and Zoning Commission.
- Reviews miscellaneous applications including temporary land uses, special events, public rights of way, etc.
- Responds to public inquiries concerning development of the city in general as well as specific areas.
- Researches, compiles and analyzes land use and related data.
- Works with the public and developers in answering questions and providing information.
- Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:

Ability to effectively communicate with developers and citizens in order to provide information and guidance on planning and zoning issues. Ability to work in conjunction with employees from different departments.

Knowledge of current planning processes and procedures. Ability to read and understand technical materials, reports and journals. Skill in developing related reports and ability to analyze and present data on land use applications and planning. Ability to effectively communicate, both orally and in writing, to citizens and other government officials.

Bachelor's degree or equivalent in architecture, planning, engineering or economics plus one to three years of experience. Valid Texas Driver's License.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

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Equal Opportunity Employer

Service Technician

Service Technician wanted. Servicing Safety Related equipment. Mechanical aptitude required with attention to detail. Requires licensing through TX State Fire Marshall for Portable Fire Extinguisher within 60 days of hire date. Paid Holiday, Accrued Paid Time Off, Medical Insurance, and 401K. Resume may be submitted by email darrin@blazsafety.com. Apply at 1000 S Goode St Midland.

OTHER JOBS

Restaurant Positions

La Bodega of Midland now hiring Dishwashers & Servers. Must be willing to work weekends. Please apply in person Monday - Friday between 1pm-5pm at 2700 N. Big Spring Street, Midland, TX.

OTHER JOBS



NOW HIRING

Public Safety Dispatcher

Directs calls for service for emergency purposes and directs non-emergency inquiries.

Job Duties:

- Answers the phone and assists citizens with requests for emergency and non-emergency services for police, fire, sheriff and emergency medical service.
- Directs citizen inquiries and non-emergency calls to the appropriate agency or organization.
- Dispatches law enforcement and fire and rescue personnel and notifies support and crisis personnel as needed through the use of multi-channel radio system and computer aided dispatch system.
- Requests and disseminates vehicle registration, driver's license, criminal history information through the use of the Texas National Computer System (TNCS, NCIC).
- Obtains computer information and disseminates to law enforcement officials and investigators. Enters related information into the system.
- Searches and receives telephone information to and from related agencies.
- Maintains records of work performed.
- Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

Ability to work with dispatch equipment and communicate with citizens and emergency personnel in highly stressful, possibly emergency situations. Employee communicates with other employees in the work group, citizens and other law enforcement agencies in order to discuss requests for service and possible criminal activities. Will also exchange information or request assistance from other agencies and make referrals when necessary.

Ability to read and understand technical and professional manuals in order to record work activities, keep records or work with computers. Skill in the operation and maintenance of a number of office machines and equipment such as specialized computers and related information systems and two-way radio dispatch equipment. Typing speed of 38 WPM.

Will also be required to take and pass ALL tests.

- Keyboarding
- Data Entry MT
- Data Entry MT (Audio)
- Call Summarization
- Memory Recall-Numeric (Audio)
- Map Reading
- Spelling
- Sentence Clarity
- Reading Comprehension

Employees work rotating shifts and gather, organize, translate and process information from various emergency callers.

DAYS & HOURS:

Rotating Shifts; Rotating Days Off - Valid Texas Driver License.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtx.com/jobs

Equal Opportunity Employer

OTHER JOBS

WAREHOUSE

Looking for someone who is self-motivated, able to operate forklift, and able to lift heavy material loading customers and unloading. Monday through Friday 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Apply at 1700 South Midland, Midland, Texas.



NOW HIRING

Recycle Supervisor

Supervises and monitors Citizens Collection Station and recycle drivers in day to day operations and projects. Works as a service attendant at the Citizens Collection Station as needed. Acts as a Solid Waste Supervisor as needed.

BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Provides input as to needed equipment and employment positions. Monitors supplies and equipment at the Citizens Collection Station.

Job Duties:

- Schedules and monitors the work of subordinate employees.
- Instructs employees in the use, care, and preventive maintenance of equipment and machinery.
- Reads schematics, manuals, and other specifications in order to determine and make necessary repairs and maintenance.
- Maintains equipment in good working order and keeps records of work performed.
- Ensures the cleanliness and maintenance of facilities, equipment, tools and grounds.
- Acts as the customer service representative of the Recycle Division at the Citizens Collection Station and on recycle issues.
- Keeps records and reports readily available.
- Coordinates efforts with Solid Waste operations.
- Serve as service attendant when necessary.
- Serves as a Solid Waste Supervisor when necessary.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

Ability to effectively communicate with employees and to receive work orders or instructions for any project. Interacts frequently with the public, vendors, and government agency representatives.

Ability to read, interpret, and understand local, state, and federal regulations related to disposal of refuse. Knowledge of processes used in the disposal of solid waste. Skill in the use of various equipment and machinery such as hand and electrical power tools and heavy equipment utilized in disposal activities. Ability to train others in safe operation of equipment. Ability to work with cash and adhere to cash-handling policies. Ability to properly evaluate activities and make recommendations for improvement. Good public relation skills as well as verbal and written communications skills.

High school diploma or general education degree required and some college preferred. One to three years of experience in Solid Waste and/or supervising and evaluating the work of others preferred. Must possess a valid Texas Driver's License and possess or acquire a valid Texas Class 'B' Municipal Solid Waste Operator License within two years of hire date.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtx.com/jobs

Equal Opportunity Employer

RESTAURANT FOOD SERVICES

Cashier & General Help

KD's Bar-B-Q is looking for cashier & general help. Have a good attitude, love working with others and work hard? Then we want you! Full or part time. Closed Sunday & Monday.

Fun & friendly place to work, family-owned, insurance provided. Must speak English, have great customer skills, be a quick learner, reliable & responsible. Apply in person: 3109 Garden City Hwy. or submit resume.

Server / Host / Bartender

Are you fun, attractive, charming & have a great personality? Do you love making great money while having fun at your job?

If so, we were made for each other!

Apply today in person or at titledkt.com/careers.

Titled Kt Pub & Eatery, 1119 Tradewinds Blvd., Midland, TX 79706, (432) 696-5458

RETAIL JOBS

Retail Professional

Julian Gold, Midland's premier women's fashion store, is seeking a full time retail professional to join our sales team. The ideal candidate will have fashion retail experience and be eager to grow in our fast paced environment.

Merchandising or management experience a plus!

We offer great benefits, including paid vacation, insurance and 401K.

Applications accepted in store or online - no phone calls, please.

Email resumes to: ginger@juliangold.com

2101 W. Wadley, Ste. 16, Midland, TX 79705

Julian Gold

SALES JOBS

Digital Media Account Executive

"We must be alarmingly enterprising and startlingly original. We must be honest and fearless. And we must spark a revolution." William Randolph Hearst, 1887

The Midland Reporter-Telegram, part of Hearst Communications, is excited to announce that due to our continued growth in the Midland, TX market, we are seeking a Digital Media Account Executive just like you to join our team! Our industry is changing into a digital world, and we are looking for experienced professionals who are eager to facilitate our innovative efforts.

Join Midland's leading media company and become part of the winning sales team that offers advertisers a robust suite of digital and print products to help them achieve their business objectives. We are seeking digital savvy, highly motivated sales professionals to sell our marketing solutions to local businesses. Our ideal candidate will be goal oriented, is a relentless hunter, driving to win new businesses, and has a track record of exceeding monthly goals.

As a Digital Media Account Executive, you can expect the following:

- Drive digital product sales.
- Be the Digital Media Guru with a solid understanding of Digital Media, Marketing and Advertising.
- Ability to conduct sales calls with SMB owners.
- Be in the field and on sales calls, leading by example, to sell our various digital products using the current and evolving sales process.
- Consult and educate clients in Digital Advertising and Marketing.
- Assist sales and marketing in promoting the entire line of digital products.
- Develop coaching plans and track results through sales management team.
- Identify trends, quantify impact, and communicate improvement opportunities to the product team
- Primary source of sales pitch and strategy development and implementation for digital products.

Requirements:

- Highly knowledgeable with digital media, SEO, SEM, Digital Advertising.
- Confidence in pitching and closing business.
- Strong focus on teamwork and ability to manage relationships across multiple departments
- Ability to multi-task, meet deadlines, and thrive in a fast-paced, deadline-oriented environment
- Bachelor's Degree preferred
- Valid US driver's license and reliable transportation.

The perks:

- A great work environment it's never boring here!
- Paid in-depth sales and product training.
- Competitive base salary, uncapped commissions for unlimited earning potential, and significant opportunity for advancement within the company
- Collaboration ideas and input are always welcome
- Health, dental, 401k, paid time off we have you covered

Send resume to David Robbins at david.robbins@hearstnp.com

No Phone Calls Please.

OTHER JOBS

Warehouse Personnel

Competitive Pay, 401K, and Health Benefits Apply in person at Sims Plastics 2700 W Front St- Midland or 1101 W 42nd St- Odessa

Recycle Your Stuff for Cash in the Classifieds



Call or go online to browse buy or sell

Midland Reporter-Telegram
CLASSIFIEDS

sellittexas.com • 432-682-6222

SALES JOBS

Employment Account Executive

The Midland Reporter-Telegram, part of Hearst Communications, is excited to announce that due to our continued growth in the Midland, TX market, we are seeking an Employment Account Executive just like you to join our team! We are looking for an experienced Human Resources executive that wants to help hiring managers in Midland and West Texas utilize our advanced hiring platform - TexasBackToWork.com. This platform allows hiring managers to access the largest pool of potential job candidates and track them through the recruitment process.

Join Midland's leading media company and become part of the winning sales team that offers advertisers a robust suite of digital and print products to help them achieve hiring needs. We are seeking digital savvy, highly motivated sales professionals to sell our marketing solutions to local businesses. Our ideal candidate will be goal oriented, is a relentless hunter, driving to win new businesses, and has a track record of exceeding monthly goals.

The ideal candidate will have experience in the Human Resources area and will maximize advertising sales potential, through the development of quality business relationships with hiring managers. This position requires a heavy amount of prospecting and lead-development with local and regional businesses. We pride ourselves on simplifying the hiring process for our customers. You will be selling a digital hiring solution to your customers with a regional, statewide and national footprint.

Responsibilities include:

Consistently meets/exceeds revenue goals.

Develops relationships with HR departments throughout West Texas to sell and promote Texas Back to Work.

Delivering customized sales presentations in person, or by phone/web-demos

Be the face of the Midland Reporter-Telegram and ensure a superior customer experience

The Ideal Candidate:

Experience within Human Resources or Employment Agency is preferred.

You have an outgoing, resilient personality

You enjoy the thrill of the hunt by bringing in new business

You're confident and not willing to accept average

Required Skills & Experience:

Passion to succeed and close deals

Exceptional communication and presentation skills

Strong computer skills, Digital Sales experience a plus

Bachelor's degree preferred

What's in it for you?

Paid training

Competitive Base Salary & Commissions

Medical, Dental and Vision Coverage

Flex spending accounts

Short & Long-Term Disability Insurance

401K with company match

* Paid time off & more!

Send resume to David Robbins at david.robbins@hearstnp.com

No Phone Calls Please

SKILLED LABOR



NOW HIRING

Systems Administrator

Performs network and system support functions on segments of the computer environment, including planning and emergency maintenance, performance and security analysis, and monitoring, tuning, and implementing new products and procedures. Analyzes emerging technology and makes recommendations for constant improvements to network and infrastructure services and capabilities.

Job Duties:

- Designs and coordinates segments of the IT architecture
- Manages server applications, including but not limited to social media, Active Directory, operating systems, and email
- Produces and maintains IT design, architectural, and specifications documentation, as identified
- Monitors information storage systems, schedules, and tests, including backup and recovery tests, as identified
- Provides research, development, and planning of the IT infrastructure
- Is responsible for the validating, building, and testing IT solutions, analyzing IT infrastructure technical issues, and supporting the design, planning, building, and testing of new IT solutions, as assigned
- Performs related duties as assigned
- Subject to recall 24/7

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science plus two years of experience in a related field is required.
- Four years experience may be substituted for the Bachelor's degree requirement.
- Valid Texas Driver's License

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs

Equal Opportunity Employer



NOW HIRING

Fleet Technician

Diagnoses, repairs and maintains city trucks and heavy equipment.

Job Duties:

- Diagnoses equipment and vehicle malfunctions such as ignition, steering, emission control, electrical, and heating and air conditioning. Estimates costs and rebids to specifications.
- Determines the appropriateness of off-site repairs such as oil and filter changes, tires and mufflers.
- Inspects vehicles for state stickers.
- Determines readiness and fitness of new vehicles. Installs special equipment.
- Employees must provide own hand tools. City supplies major equipment including power tools, computerized analyzer, and other diagnostic equipment.
- Reads blue prints, electrical diagrams, manuals and other specifications in order to make repairs.
- Performs emergency repairs for various departments.
- Maintains records of work performed such as work orders, logs, historical information, and special written requests.

Qualifications:

- High School graduate or GED
- Knowledge of proper tools used in welding and fabrication
- Three years training as a mechanic or in a related field
- Valid Texas Class A CDL Driver's License within one year of employment
- Texas Department of Public Safety Inspector Certificate required within one year of employment

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

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Equal Opportunity Employer



NOW HIRING

Transportation Truck Driver

Responsible for driving Water, Dump, and/or Belly Dump Truck and hauling water/culch to drill rigs, fracturing crews, etc. Hauls water/culch from well locations to proper disposal facilities.

Qualifications:

- High school education or equivalent.
- Experience can range from commercial truck driving experience preferred to one year as a water truck driver required.
- Valid Class A CDL with Tanker endorsement.
- Clean driving record.
- Salary competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Comprehensive Benefits package!

- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pnr.com/careers/job-openings

SKILLED LABOR



NOW HIRING

Code Enforcement Officer

Performs inspections of private and public properties to ensure compliance with municipal ordinances, zoning and land use regulations which govern the maintenance of property, grounds and structures.

Job Duties:

- Visually inspects properties for code violations as initiated by a complaint or routine inspection
- Enters data into the computer to generate notice of violations to property owners or to record inspections
- Responds to citizen calls regarding code violations, mail information regarding zoning or city regulations
- Researches planned districts, nonconforming uses, plats and legal uses of property for the department
- Manages city contracts for the clearing of lots, to include bidding projects, preparing contracts, awarding contracts and preparing payments to contractors
- Conducts inspections to ensure proper environmental compliance in response to complaints
- Provides information to the public and contractors regarding the requirements of zoning and related code and city requirements
- Conducts field inspections of junked and abandoned vehicles, abandoned structures and other properties for compliance with city codes
- Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:

Ability to effectively communicate with developers, citizens and other employees in order to provide information regarding city codes and possible violations.

Ability to read and understand materials including City Ordinances, professional literature, plans, correspondence and manuals. Ability to write reports and correspondence. Skills in math. Skills to communicate both orally and in writing. Knowledge of office equipment including personal computer.

High school diploma or equivalent and a valid Texas driver's license required. Certification through Texas Department Health as a Certified Code Enforcement Officer, or ability to obtain after one year of training. Certification as Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector, or ability to obtain within one year.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs

Equal Opportunity Employer



NOW HIRING

Customer Service (Field Work)

Performs field work regarding current or past water service.

Job Duties:

- Turns water on for new customers, disconnects water for customers leaving or re-connects service that had been disconnected. Obtains new or current readings due to new service or broken lines.
- Sets meters to establish or re-establish service.
- Pulls meters should instances occur when customer fails to set up service.
- Collects past due utilities bills so that water can be connected.
- Changes our broken meter stop valves and meter box lids.
- Verifies or re-reads meter information when complaints are filed.
- Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:

Ability to effectively communicate with citizens, other departments and employees in order to provide information on current repairs or the reading of meters.

Ability to read work orders and maps in order to find street locations. Skill in math in determining amount of water utilized. Skill in the use of variety of hand tools such as shovels, meter wrenches and meter keys.

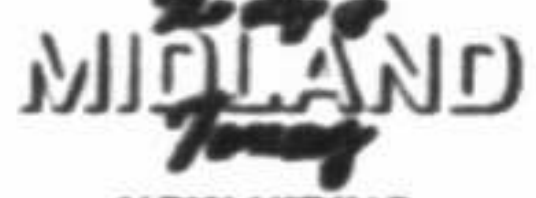
Valid Texas Driver's License required. Employee must be bondable.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs

Equal Opportunity Employer



NOW HIRING

Effluent Distribution Technician

Maintains photo in good working order and prevents holding ponds from overflowing.

Job Duties:

- Determines which pump units to operate and maintains center pivots in good working order. Repairs and services when necessary.
- Operates gates and bagon system in order to store water without allowing holding ponds to overflow. Determines where and when to store water.
- Monitors operations in order to apply the proper amount of water.
- Repairs water line leaks and breaks.
- Uses equipment such as loaders and backhoes in order to fill gullies caused by operations.
- Maintains and repairs electrical systems on central pivot units.
- Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:

Ability to effectively communicate with employees in order to receive work orders or instructions for any project.

Ability to read operator's manuals, gauges and work orders in order to maintain or repair meters or parts. Skill in writing to record results.

High school diploma or equivalent required plus six months to one year of experience. C Operator's certification from the THRC. Valid Texas Driver's License required.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs

Equal Opportunity Employer



NOW HIRING

Electronics Tech - Airport

Performs routine and preventive maintenance of electrical equipment systems. Works under the direction of the Electrical/Electronics Specialist.

Job Duties:

- Performs preventive maintenance on automatic gates, automatic doors, parking lot equipment, lighting, security systems, jetway systems, etc.
- Assists the Electrical/Electronics Specialist in the day to day operations of the Airport facility as needed.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

Employee communicates with other employees in the work group and may respond to questions from the general public regarding services or specific projects.

Ability to read and understand work orders and equipment manuals. Skill in the operation of hand tools and equipment such as electrical measuring meters and devices.

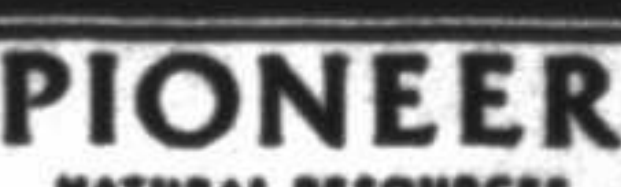
High school diploma or equivalent plus two to three years of experience as an electrician required. Journeyman's License as an electrician required. Valid Texas Driver's License required.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs

Equal Opportunity Employer



NOW HIRING

Local Drivers

Local truck drivers needed. Home nightly, local routes, scheduled shifts Sun - Sun (14/7 rotational) never on call, optional overtime.

Qualifications:

- High school education or equivalent.
- Valid operator's license.
- Clean driving record.
- DOT compliant

Comprehensive Benefits package!

- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

Apply at www.pnr.com/careers/job-openings



NOW HIRING

Electrical/Electronics Tech - WPP

Troubleshoots and maintains electrical, SCADA and control equipment for the well, field, Purification Plant, Water Pollution Control Plant, water storage towers, booster station.

BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Assists in the development of the budget and makes recommendations for purchases and capital items to the appropriate division during the annual budget process.

Job Duties:

- Troubleshoots and repairs electrical service to any facility within the Utilities Department.
- Troubleshoots and repairs control circuits at any facility within the Utilities Department.
- Troubleshoots and repairs SCADA equipment at any facility within the Utilities Department.
- Programs SCADA and control circuits at any facility within the Utilities Department.
- Instructs users of SCADA and control circuits at any facility within the Utilities Department.
- Calculates electrical loads for equipment and installs wiring.
- Determines equipment and supplies required for jobs by reading code books and blue prints.
- Keeps abreast of changes in the Electrical Code and Regulations and makes recommendations on their impacts to the City.
- Maintains inventory of supplies used and replaces as needed.
- Performs Operations & Maintenance duties as assigned.
- Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:

Employee communicates with other employees and the public, as necessary.

Ability to read operator's manuals, blue prints and schematics in order to maintain electrical, SCADA and control equipment throughout the Utilities Department in good working order. Skill in the operation of electrical and mechanical hand and power tools. Employee must perform mathematical calculations in order to determine electrical needs. Skill in writing to record results and track work. Will be on-call.

High school diploma or equivalent required plus two years of experience. A valid Apprenticeship Electrician license from the State of Texas or have successfully completed 12 college hours of electronics coursework would be preferred. Valid Texas driver's license required. Must also obtain a valid state of Texas class 'C' or above water works license.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

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Equal Opportunity Employer

SKILLED LABOR

Electrical Apprentice

Immediate Opening for Electrical Apprentice with sign on BONUS!! Please Call 432-947-1998

SKILLED LABOR



NOW HIRING

Engineering Tech - Construction Inspector

Perform responsible work in support of city engineering staff. Work relates to engineering construction activities such as construction inspection of municipal projects involving construction of asphalt or concrete pavement, sidewalks, ramps, water lines and sewer lines.

Job Duties:

- Inspect forms, materials and workmanship for compliance with plans and specifications. Tests materials and workmanship as required.
- Maintain daily diary and records on projects including emergency telephone numbers for key people.
- Maintain inspection project files for all phases of construction for each project. Provides information to update record drawings.
- Inspect traffic control devices for compliance with plans and the Texas Manual on Uniform Control Devices. Make safety inspections to note deficiencies for correction.
- Analyze field construction problems and assists engineers with recommending corrections.
- Performs survey work as requested by Engineering staff.
- Coordinates with traffic, utility companies, landowners, etc. before and during construction.
- Acts as project field coordinator for contractors, utility companies and city departments.
- Researches utility locations and right of way, assembles plat and deed information and produces plan views.
- Also appropriate, tests and evaluates the progress of other employees.
- Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

Must be able to use and communicate by hand-held radio. Basic skill in the use of a variety of machines, including personal computers, printers, calculators, scanners and large document copier are preferred.

Must have a valid Texas Driver's License and a good driving record. Employee must be able to effectively communicate with other employees in the work group. Must be able to correctly respond to questions from contractors, surveyors, inspectors, or city staff regarding work performed or applicable specifications related to a design or construction project.

Must coordinate effectively with other city departments, contractors, and utility companies when designing or scheduling work. Must possess skill to observe, read, and interpret written technical materials and construction drawings. Ability to use testing and measuring equipment.

Must have obtained a High school diploma or equivalent GED plus 5 years of experience in civil construction trades. College degree or construction certificate preferred. Extensive knowledge of state, federal, and local laws and requirements regarding construction, surveying and safety standards.

Extensive skill in observing, reading and interpreting written technical materials and construction drawings. Extensive knowledge of city codes and ordinances and other state and federal requirements regarding utility construction and safety standards.

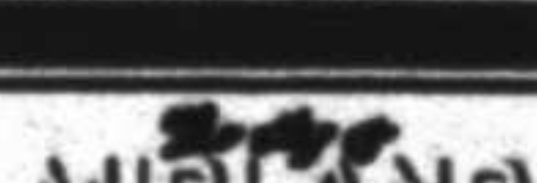
Extensive knowledge of engineering standards and construction practices for water, sewer, street and drainage design. Intermediate in drafting with computer aided design systems such as AutoCAD. Intermediate skill in developing field notes and survey plans for boundary surveys.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs

Equal Opportunity Employer



NOW HIRING

Equipment Operator - Landfill

Disposes for refuse through the use of heavy equipment at the Landfill.

Job Duties:

- Disposes of refuse with the use of heavy equipment such as compactors, scrapers, bulldozers and related equipment.
- Maintains access roads to the Landfill.
- Covers refuse at the end of each day.
- Maintains all equipment in good working order and keeps records of service problems. Submits daily maintenance sheets to supervisor.
- Performs preventive maintenance on equipment such as oil changes. Determines when servicing of vehicles is required.
- Monitors vehicles as they enter, unload and leave the Landfill. Gives directions to citizens.
- Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

Ability to effectively communicate with employees in order to receive work orders or instructions for any project.

Ability to read, interpret and understand local, state and federal regulations related to disposal. Knowledge of the processes used in collection and disposal of waste materials. Ability to follow instructions and manuals for equipment repair and maintenance. Skill in the use of various equipment and machinery such as hand and electrical power tools and heavy equipment utilized in disposal activities such as compactors, lifts, claws and hydraulic systems as well as single shovels, brooms and rakes. Ability to read operator's manuals and work orders.

High school diploma or equivalent, plus one to three years of equipment operation preferred. Valid Texas driver's license required.

Benefits:

- Health care Plans
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Holidays
- Employee Wellness Program
- Tuition Reimbursement

apply online at www.midlandtx.gov/jobs

Equal Opportunity Employer

Field Service Techs, Shop Techs & Machinist

J&W Service and Equipment Company is seeking Field Service Technicians, Shop Technicians and Machinist. Experience preferred. However, we are willing to train. Hourly pay and covering with benefits of group health, dental, life insurance and vacation pay. There is an opportunity to earn commissions and be awarded bonuses. Participation in matching 401k plan after one year of employment. You can stop by 3510 E. Hwy 188 in Midland or go online to www.jandwservice.com for application and submit to jandwrecruiting@jandw.com.

SKILLED LABOR



NOW HIRING

Equipment Operator - Water and Wastewater

Perform manual and unskilled labor of more than ordinary difficulty, which often involves the use of acquired skills and operates several types of light vehicles and equipment. Does related work and training as required.

Qualifications:
Ability to effectively communicate with employees in order to receive work orders or instructions for any project.

Ability to read, interpret and understand local, state and federal regulations related to water and sewer system maintenance. Knowledge of the processes used in utility maintenance. Ability to follow instructions and manuals for equipment repair and maintenance. Skill in the use of various equipment and machinery such as hand and electrical power tools. Skill in the use of heavy equipment utilized in maintenance activities such as backhoes, ditch witch, and jet truck. Ability to read operator's manuals and work orders.

High school diploma or equivalent required. Valid Texas CDL Class A driver's license required or must be obtained within 6 months of employment. Must possess or be able to obtain Wastewater Certification Class I and Water Distribution D Certificate within a reasonable length of time.

- Benefits:**
- Health care Plans
 - Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
 - Paid Holidays
 - Employee Wellness Program
 - Tuition Reimbursement
- apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer



NOW HIRING

Lab Technician

The employee is responsible for performing, monitoring, and interpreting the results of tests necessary for the operation and regulatory compliance of the water and wastewater operations of the City of Midland. They are also responsible for the interpretation and implementation of regulations promulgated by State and Federal authorities.

Assists in the development of the budget for laboratory operations and makes recommendations for purchases and capital items during the annual budget process. Monitors expenditures during the year.

Job Duties:

- Responsible for the daily operation of laboratories in support of the Utilities Department. Conduct bacteriological, chemical, physical and instrumental analysis of water and wastewater samples submitted to the laboratory.
- Maintains equipment and supplies for the laboratory as well as for the City's facilities. This includes accurately maintaining extensive records tracking all chemicals, supplies, and equipment used for daily operations.
- Collects, analyzes, and interprets results of environmental, water and wastewater samples.
- Prepares reagents for use at the laboratory and performs standardization of reagents to ensure quality.
- Must maintain work area, supplies, and equipment in an orderly, safe, and clean manner.
- Maintains accurate and extensive analytical data records of data for future use.
- Investigates and reports on complaints and all other problems delegated by the Director of Utilities.
- Make monthly reports or as required to the Water Regulator Agencies and Utilities.
- Keeps abreast of professional developments in the field.
- Keeps apprised of State/Federal regulations and makes recommendations on their impacts to the City.
- Performs related duties as required. Available for on-call obligations and work on weekends as needed.

Qualifications:
Employee has contact with general public, other employees, and other organizations.

Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Must have skill in writing to record results of analysis. Employee generates memos and reports of work performed. Ability to perform chemical analysis. Must have thorough knowledge of chemistry and good knowledge of water and wastewater treatment. Must possess knowledge of computer software and applications. Working in experience lab preferred.

Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry, Biology or related field is preferred. Must be able to obtain Class D water operator license in the State of Texas within a year after hire and be able to maintain the license while employed.

- Benefits:**
- Health care Plans
 - Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
 - Paid Holidays
 - Employee Wellness Program
 - Tuition Reimbursement
- apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer



NOW HIRING

Lead Water Purification Plant Operator

This position requires a demonstrated ability to perform advanced functions related to the operation and maintenance of equipment at all water treatment facilities. This position functions as a Lead Operator and also as Chief Plant operator when required, performing complex analysis of the Water Treatment Plant operations and having direct charge of the operation of a water treatment facility or Water Production Facilities. Positions at this level provide instruction and assistance to lower level Water Treatment Plant Operators. This position is normally filled by advancement from the Water Treatment Plant Operator II Position and requires three to five years of experience in a Surface Water Treatment Plant Operator position and must possess a minimum of a Class C Surface Water Treatment Plant Operator Certificate issued by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality at the time of accepting position.

- Benefits:**
- Health care Plans
 - Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
 - Paid Holidays
 - Employee Wellness Program
 - Tuition Reimbursement
- apply online at www.midlandtexas.gov/jobs
Equal Opportunity Employer



NOW HIRING

Maintenance Specialist - Animal Services

Maintains the animal shelter and grounds, provides quality care for the animals in our custody and assists the public and other animal control personnel.

Job Duties:

- Processes animals that are brought to the animal shelter by providing health evaluations, parasitic controls, scanning for microchips and placing in the proper holding area.
- Maintains the sanitation and environment of kennel areas, cat facilities, quarantine areas, wildlife facilities and sickle/infant animal room.
- Assists in euthanasia and the disposal of animals as required.
- Maintains and operates the animal cremation system for mass disposal and private cremations.
- Picks up large quantities of dead animals from veterinarians for disposal by cremation.
- Micro-chips animals that leave animal control custody.
- Unloads dead and live animals from the public, veterinarians and animal control facilities.
- Performs preventative maintenance on equipment, building and grounds.
- Provides assistance to visitors.
- Operates a vehicle to pick up dead livestock and supplies and other machinery.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
Employee communicates with other employees in the work group and may respond to questions from the general public regarding services or animals that may be in the kennel. Employee may have direct contact with other animal control personnel such as the SPCA, various humane societies and animal rescue organizations.

Ability to deal with the public and provide humane care for the animals. Some knowledge in the recognition of animal diseases is needed. Ability to follow both written and oral instructions is also necessary.

High school diploma or equivalent preferred. Valid Texas driver's license required. Must be able to obtain Department of State Health Services Basic Certification within one year of employment. Must be able to obtain euthanasia certification within six months of employment.

- Benefits:**
- Health care Plans
 - Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
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 - Employee Wellness Program
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NOW HIRING

Maintenance Specialist - Parks - Sports Complex

Performs all routine maintenance work for the parks division at the sports complex, including special events.

Job Duties:

- Performs routine buildings and grounds maintenance.
- Removes trash from containers.
- Inspects grounds and athletic areas and facilities for repairs.
- Operates and maintains equipment used in daily operations. Fills out reports and submits to supervisor.
- Helps set up of special events and sports tournaments.
- Works weekends and evenings as required.
- Performs other related duties as required.

Qualifications:
Employee communicates with other employees in the work group and may respond to questions from the general public regarding services or specific projects.

Ability to read and understand work orders and equipment manuals. Skill in troubleshooting air conditioning and plumbing. Ability to operate hand tools and equipment such as mowers, gas powered trimmers, saws and other gardening and maintenance tools.

High school diploma or equivalent preferred. Valid Texas Driver's License, CDL preferred.

- Benefits:**
- Health care Plans
 - Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
 - Paid Holidays
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NATURAL RESOURCES

NOW HIRING

Instrumentation & Electrical Technician

Maintains all electrical equipment used to monitor and control oil well services equipment. Home nightly.

Qualifications:

- High school education or equivalent.
- 6 months experience maintaining and repairing electronic instrumentation and automation equipment.
- Valid operator's license with clean driving record.

Comprehensive Benefits package!

- Medical, Dental, & Vision
- Prescription Drug
- 401 K
- Vacation, Sick Time, & Company Paid Holidays
- Company Paid Life
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Onsite Fitness Center

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NOW HIRING

Plant Maintenance Mechanic - Water Purification Plant

Performs skilled & Semi-skilled maintenance duties as they relate to equipment repair and upkeep. Perform manufacturer recommended preventative maintenance to equipment at the Water Purification Plant.

Job Duties:

- Repairs equipment including pumps, chemical feeders, valves and specialized equipment.
- Performs preventative maintenance on plant equipment according to manufacturer's recommendations.
- Performs annual maintenance at plants including but not limited to cleaning and painting of water treatment basins and painting of equipment.
- Performs electrical repairs including wiring of electric motors, switches, and panels.
- Troubleshoots electrical problems including checking and repairing control circuits.
- Serves as a shift relief as needed, assuming full authority, duties and responsibilities of position that is being filled.
- Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:
Employee communicates with other employees and the public, as necessary.

Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Knowledge of plant operations and maintenance. Skill in performing mathematical calculations. Ability to use testing and measuring equipment. Skill in the use of hand tools, test equipment, and welding tools. May work rotating shifts.

High school diploma or equivalent required. One to three years experience in a related field preferred. Must receive and retain a valid "C" Water license within 3 years of employment. Must receive Hazmat Awareness level and SCBA certifications within 1 year of employment. Must remain qualified to wear SCBA. Must possess a valid Texas Class "B" CDL or have the ability to obtain license within a reasonable amount of time.

- Benefits:**
- Health care Plans
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NOW HIRING

Service Center Technician

Performs the installation and repair and general maintenance on vehicles and machinery.

Job Duties:

- Repair flat tires. Removes and installs wheels and tires from vehicles and equipment.
- Responds to requests for towing and service calls.
- Performs electrical jump starts on vehicles and equipment.
- Performs diagnostic checks on batteries and alternators. Changes out as necessary.
- Balance tires.
- Performs engine oil and filter changes. Changes transmission oils and filters.
- Cleans and maintains shop facilities, equipment, tools and grounds.
- Orders and issues parts.
- Opens work orders, charges out parts and closes work orders as required.
- Performs related duties as required.

Qualifications:
Ability to effectively communicate with employees, management and vendors in order to diagnose repairs and order materials for repair.

Knowledge of proper tools used in general automotive repairs. Ability to safely use tools, vehicles and equipment such as wrenches, tire hammers and breakdown bars, tire and wheel balancers, the machine, jacks, air impact wrenches, fork lifts and assorted hand tools. Skill in the reading and practical application of manuals, schematics and other similar specifications used by city departments. Ability to read, measure and calculate types and sizes of materials needed and ability to understand and follow instructions in English.

High school diploma or equivalent plus one year of general service station experience is required. Experience in fueling vehicles, changing oil and oil filters, and changing or repairing auto and large equipment tires is also required. Employee must have dependable transportation and a telephone at their residence. A valid Texas license required, CDL preferred. Must have a State of Texas Inspection License or ability to obtain within 90 days.

DAYS & HOURS:
Monday - Friday: 2:00 pm to 11:00 pm

- Benefits:**
- Health care Plans
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NOW HIRING

Utility Plant Operator - Water Purification Plant

The primary function of a Water Plant employee is to perform semi-skilled and skilled operations and maintenance duties in our water facility, including monitoring, operating, maintaining and adjusting equipment. Additionally, an employee performs data collection and reporting functions to ensure compliance with Federal and State water quality requirements & Standards.

Job Duties:

- Gathers and computes chemical analysis of water samples. Interprets and logs results.
- Controls water treatment processes to meet regulatory standards.
- Operates and monitors various water plant equipment and machinery.
- Maintains daily and hourly records of plant operations.
- Monitors and controls booster pumps and storage within the City.
- Keeps abreast of professional developments in the field.
- Operates SCADA system to monitor and control well field production.
- Reports maintenance issues that affect plant operations.
- Assists maintenance personnel as assigned and when needed.
- Performs routine cleaning of work areas.
- Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
Employee communicates with other employees and the public, as necessary.

Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Skill in performing mathematical calculations. Ability to use testing and measuring equipment. Must work rotating shifts.

High school diploma or equivalent required. Must receive and retain a valid "C" Surface Water license from the State of Texas within 3 years of employment. Must receive Hazmat Awareness level and SCBA certifications within 1 year of employment. Must remain qualified to wear SCBA. Must possess a valid class "C" Texas driver's license.

- Benefits:**
- Health care Plans
 - Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
 - Paid Holidays
 - Employee Wellness Program
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NOW HIRING

Well Field Technician - Paul Davis

Has primary responsibility for operation and maintenance of well fields, Water Purification and associated potable water storage.

Job Duties:

- Assists other Utility Department Divisions as required.
- Performs Operations & maintenance duties as required at WPP.
- Controls water disinfection processes to meet regulatory standards.
- Operates and maintains various water production and storage equipment.
- Maintains required records of operations, generates monthly report and maintenance records.
- Monitors and controls booster pumps and storage.
- Keeps abreast of professional developments in the field.
- Operates SCADA system to monitor and control well field production.
- Performs routine cleaning of assigned areas. Maintains grounds at well field compounds.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
Employee communicates with other employees and the public, as necessary.

RELOCATION MANDATORY

Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Knowledge of pumps, motors and lower operations and maintenance. Knowledge of electricity and electronics. Skill in performing mathematical calculations. Ability to use testing and measuring equipment. On call 50% evenings and weekends.

High school diploma or equivalent required. Must receive and retain a valid "C" Groundwater license from the State of Texas within 3 years of employment. Must receive Hazmat Awareness level and SCBA certifications within 1 year of employment. Must remain qualified to wear SCBA. Must possess a valid Texas Class "B" CDL required or have the ability to obtain license within a reasonable amount of time.

- Benefits:**
- Health care Plans
 - Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
 - Paid Holidays
 - Employee Wellness Program
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NOW HIRING

Well Field Technician - Airport Well Field

Has primary responsibility for operation and maintenance of well fields, Water Purification Plant and associated potable water storage.

Job Duties:

- Assists other Utility Department divisions as required.
- Performs operations and maintenance duties as required at WPP.
- Controls water disinfection processes to meet regulatory standards.
- Operates and maintains various water production and storage equipment.
- Maintains required records of operations.
- Generates monthly reports and maintenance records.
- Monitors and controls booster pumps and storage.
- Keeps abreast of professional developments in the field.
- Operates SCADA system to monitor and control well field production.
- Performs routine cleaning of assigned areas.
- Maintains houses and grounds at well field compounds.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
Employee communicates with other employees and the public, as necessary.

Skill in observing, reading and interpreting written materials. Knowledge of pumps, motors and lower operations and maintenance. Knowledge of electricity and electronics. Skill in performing mathematical calculations. Ability to use testing and measuring equipment. On call 50% of evenings and weekends.

High school diploma or equivalent required. Must receive and retain a valid "C" Groundwater license from the state of Texas within 3 years of employment. Must receive Hazmat Awareness level and SCBA certifications within 1 year of employment. Must remain qualified to wear SCBA. Valid Texas class "B" CDL required or must be obtained within 1 year of employment.

- Benefits:**
- Health care Plans
 - Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
 - Paid Holidays
 - Employee Wellness Program
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NOW HIRING

Utility Plant Operator - WPCP

Assists in the operation of the waste water treatment plant.

Job Duties:

- Collects water samples for testing and analysis in primary treatment tank.
- Operates and maintains primary treatment equipment and observes the operation of related plant equipment.
- Reads gauges, records information and reports problems to the Operator, or other supervisors.
- Performs janitorial and grounds keeping duties in assigned areas.
- Performs related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:
Ability to effectively communicate with employees and supervisors on plant condition and in order to receive work orders or instructions for any project.

Ability to read operator's manuals, gauges and work orders to collect samples for analysis. Skill in writing to record results. Shift work required.

High school diploma or equivalent required plus ability to obtain C operator's certification from the WPCP within established time constraints. Valid Texas Driver's License.

DAYS & HOURS:
Rotating Shift, Rotating Days Off

- Benefits:**
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ANCIENT HUMAN PRESENCE



Grant Collier-Hakal Institute

Duncan McLaren and Daryl Fedje excavate one of the footprints on Calvert Island.

Oldest footprints in North America are right where native historians said they should be

By Sarah Kaplan
Washington Post

The Heiltsuk people of British Columbia have long spoken of a time when most of Canada was entombed beneath glaciers, and their ancestors fished and foraged along the coastline that formed a thin green margin between open ocean and impenetrable ice.

Now an archaeological dig has unearthed physical evidence of ancient human presence: 29 footprints pressed into the shoreline of Calvert Island, part of the Heiltsuk's traditional territory. The prints represent at least three people — perhaps two adults and a child — and they date back more than 13,000 years, to the end of the last ice age.

"Just to know that it's a place that our ancestors previously walked and now here we still are today, it's really powerful for us," said William Housty, a member of the Heiltsuk Nation.

Archaeologists say the footprints are the oldest in North America — proof that humans were here at the end of the Pleistocene. But they are not simply evidence of where people have been. Footprints tell you where someone was going, and these tracks lend credence to the theory that North America's earliest inhabitants navigated the continent's Pacific coastline by boat, following a "kelp highway" to greener regions in the south.

To the Heiltsuk, the prints are an affirmation of a tradition that goes back to time immemorial.

"It's really, really exciting but also very emotional," said Housty, a member of the board of directors for the Heiltsuk Integrated Resource Management Department, which authorizes and oversees projects such as the one at Calvert Island.

"You hear the history and the stories,

and now you're standing and looking at something that's real, that's confirming the stories that have been handed down over the generations."

Archaeological material and genetic studies suggest that people first ventured into the Americas via a land bridge between Asia and Alaska. Further travel would have been blocked by the two massive ice sheets that covered most of Canada until about 10,000 years ago, yet scientists keep finding signs of human presence many thousands of years before that: in Washington, a mastodon rib with a stone point buried in it; in Chile, chipped tools and burned bones; in Oregon, fossilized feces containing ancient human DNA.

So how did those early settlers get here? For years, it was thought that they followed an "ice-free corridor" between the two ice sheets. Now scientists increasingly favor the "kelp highway" hypothesis. The only problem: Any evidence of the first Americans' coastal presence would have been submerged when melting ice caused sea levels to rise 400 feet.

That's where Calvert Island is special. Partly because of the way the ice sheets pressed down on the mainland, sea levels off this part of the Canadian coast were only six to 10 feet different from where they are today.

Calvert Island is also of profound importance to the Heiltsuk: Housty said there are burial sites and ancient villages on the land, and oral histories tell of a long Heiltsuk presence there.

So in 2014, scientists from the Hakai Institute and the University of Victoria, alongside representatives of the Heiltsuk and Wuikinuxv First Nations, set about sampling a small stretch of the island's northwest shoreline.

As soon as they dug a shoebox-size test pit, they unearthed a dark impression of a

foot pressed into the light brown clay.

At first, "we were uncertain if we were fooling ourselves that this was a human track," said Hakai archaeologist Duncan McLaren, the lead author of a report published this week in the journal PLOS One.

But two more years of excavation revealed 28 additional prints that were unmistakably human. There was the curve of an arch, the pinpoints of five toes, a smear where someone may have slipped in the mud. Some looked as though they would fit into a size 7 or 8 man's shoe; others, a size 3 woman's; the third set of prints corresponded to a junior size 8. The researchers determined the fossils' age by measuring the decay of radioactive carbon in the bits of wood pressed into the prints.

From the clearly visible toe marks, it doesn't seem as though any of the people who made the prints were wearing shoes. And unlike other trackways, which march in more or less straight lines to long-gone destinations, these footprints follow no apparent pattern.

Housty imagines that they were a father, mother and child, visiting the beach to gather food. To McLaren, they look like the prints of people congregating on the shore.

"The area that was tracked would have been just above the high-tide line 13,000 years ago," he said. "I imagine a group of people disembarking from a boat, leaving their tracks in a wet area before moving somewhere that was dry."

As the tide retreated, the mud would have been exposed to the sun, drying and preserving the prints. The next tide then filled the depressions with sand and gravel. Over thousands of years, forest soils developed over the site, protecting it from erosion. Today, the rock layer bearing the footprints is about two feet below the surface.

Astronomers baffled by distant galaxy void of dark matter

By Seth Borenstein
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — It's a double cosmic conundrum: Lots of stuff that was already invisible has gone missing.

Astronomers have found a distant galaxy where there is no dark matter. Dark matter is called "dark" because it can't be seen. It is the mysterious and invisible skeleton of the universe that scientists figure makes up about 27 percent of the cosmos. Scientists only know dark matter exists because they can observe how it pushes and pulls things they can see, like stars.

It's supposed to be everywhere.

But Yale University astronomer Pieter van Dokkum and colleagues spied a vast, old galaxy with relatively few stars where what you see truly is what you get. The galaxy's stars are speeding around with no apparent influence from dark matter, according to a study published in Wednesday's journal Nature.

Instead of shaking the very foundations of physics, scientists say this absence of dark matter may help prove the existence of, wait for it, dark matter.

"Not sure what to make of it, but it is definitely intriguing," wrote Case Western Reserve astronomer Stacy McGaugh, who was not part of the study, in an email. "This is a weird galaxy."

Van Dokkum studies diffuse galaxies, ones that cover enormous areas but have relatively few stars. To look for them he and colleagues built their own makeshift telescope out of 48 telephoto lenses that he first tested by using a toy flashlight to shine a light on a paper clip. The bug-eyed telescope, called Dragonfly, peers into the sky from New Mexico.

Using Dragonfly, van Dokkum and colleagues found a large, sparse galaxy called NGC1052-DF2 in the northern constellation Cetus, also known as the whale. It's as big as the Milky Way but with only one percent of its stars. Then they used larger telescopes on Hawaii and eventually the Hubble Space Telescope to study the galaxy.

Even though the galaxy is mostly empty, they found clusters of densely grouped stars. With measurements from the telescopes, van Dokkum and colleagues calculated how fast those clusters moved. If there were a normal amount of dark matter those clusters would be speeding around at about 67,000 mph. Instead, the clusters were moving at about 18,000 mph. That's about how fast they would move if there were no dark matter at all, van Dokkum said.

The team also calculated the total mass of the galaxy and found the stars account for everything, with little or no room left for dark matter.

"I find this unlikely in all possible contexts," said McGaugh, who is a proponent of a "modified gravity" theory that excludes the existence of dark matter altogether. "That doesn't make it wrong, just really weird."

Several companies specialize in building good-looking, mobile-friendly websites

Dear PropellerHeads: Dude. Like why should I pay you thousands of dollars to build me a website when I can do it on Wix for free?

A: You shouldn't. We aren't for everybody. In fact, we turn away a lot of potential customers for exactly this reason. If you are setting up a small site for yourself, a nonprofit you volunteer for, or some similarly small organization, then you probably don't need us.

You mention Wix (wix.com). This is but one of several companies that specialize in getting a good-looking, mobile-friendly website with all sorts of bells and whistles and social networking integrations up and running in just minutes for little to no cost. Who are some of the others?

BigCommerce (bigcommerce.com), Jimdo (jimdo.com), Shopify (shopify.com), Squarespace (squarespace.com), Weebly (weebly.com) and Wix (wix.com). Though for you, dude, I might recommend DudaOne (dudamobile.com/responsive-website), affectionately named after "The Dude" of Big Lebowski fame. There are dozens more. I found Jason Vissers at Merchant Maverick does a good job reviewing most of them (bit.ly/2mGxOWp).



ly/2mGxOWp).

Now your grandma (the reason you're setting up a site in the first place, as she refuses to join Facebook) probably beat into your noggin that "there ain't no such thing as a free lunch." But you, wise webizen that you are, know there is plenty that is free in the world, but it is either limited or has ads. The same is true for a free website.

The typical restrictions one encounters are a 500MB storage limit, though some will limit the number of pages you can have. Your site will be a subdomain of the host. For example, thedude.wixsite.com, as opposed to the much more appealing thedude.me. Ads? Yep, your site will have them. Many hosts also have monthly bandwidth limits, much like your phone has. Though, unless you are delivering lots of high-resolution photos and videos, that likely won't be a problem.

If you want to have your own domain name, get rid of ads and get bumps in storage as well as some other perks, you are looking at the \$8-12/month range. If you are looking to sell merchandise online, another important detail you will need to know is what the host's cut is. This usually starts at about 3% and goes down the more you upgrade your plan.

But, with all that said, I have to admit there are some pretty crazy cool sites one can whip up without knowing much at all about web development. The biggest problem you will have is selecting which template best represents what you are trying to accomplish with your website.

I gave Wix a deep dive, designing a website for my sister-in-law. Yes, it was an understood responsibility going into my marriage that I'd be doing all of my relatives' websites. I found navigating through the editor pretty straightforward and understandable. Rarely did I get stuck wondering how to do something. It was more like "I wonder if they'll let me..."

The quantity and variety of widgets you can include on your website is truly mind-blowing. In addition to the out-of-the-box elements such as photo galleries, lightbox-

es, maps and lists, you can add "apps" that will really open up doors. They include customized forms, chats, social networking feeds and sharing options, event calendars, storefronts, and the list goes on.

The only downside I had during the experience is often there was a bit of delay from when I clicked on something before the expected response actually occurred. But when building a website this cool, it is often worth the wait.

So yes, I'd definitely recommend Wix or one of their competitors if you just need a simple website. However, if your website ambitions involve integrating with multiple databases, interfacing with third-party APIs, or retiring an ancient AS/400, all while being scalable and reliable, then by all means, give us a buzz.

When the PropellerHeads at Data Directions aren't busy with their IT projects, they love to answer questions on business or consumer technology. Email us at askthepropellerheads@data-directions.com or contact us at Data Directions, Inc. 8510 Bell Creek Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116. Visit our website at data-directions.com/askthepropellerheads.



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