

MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2018

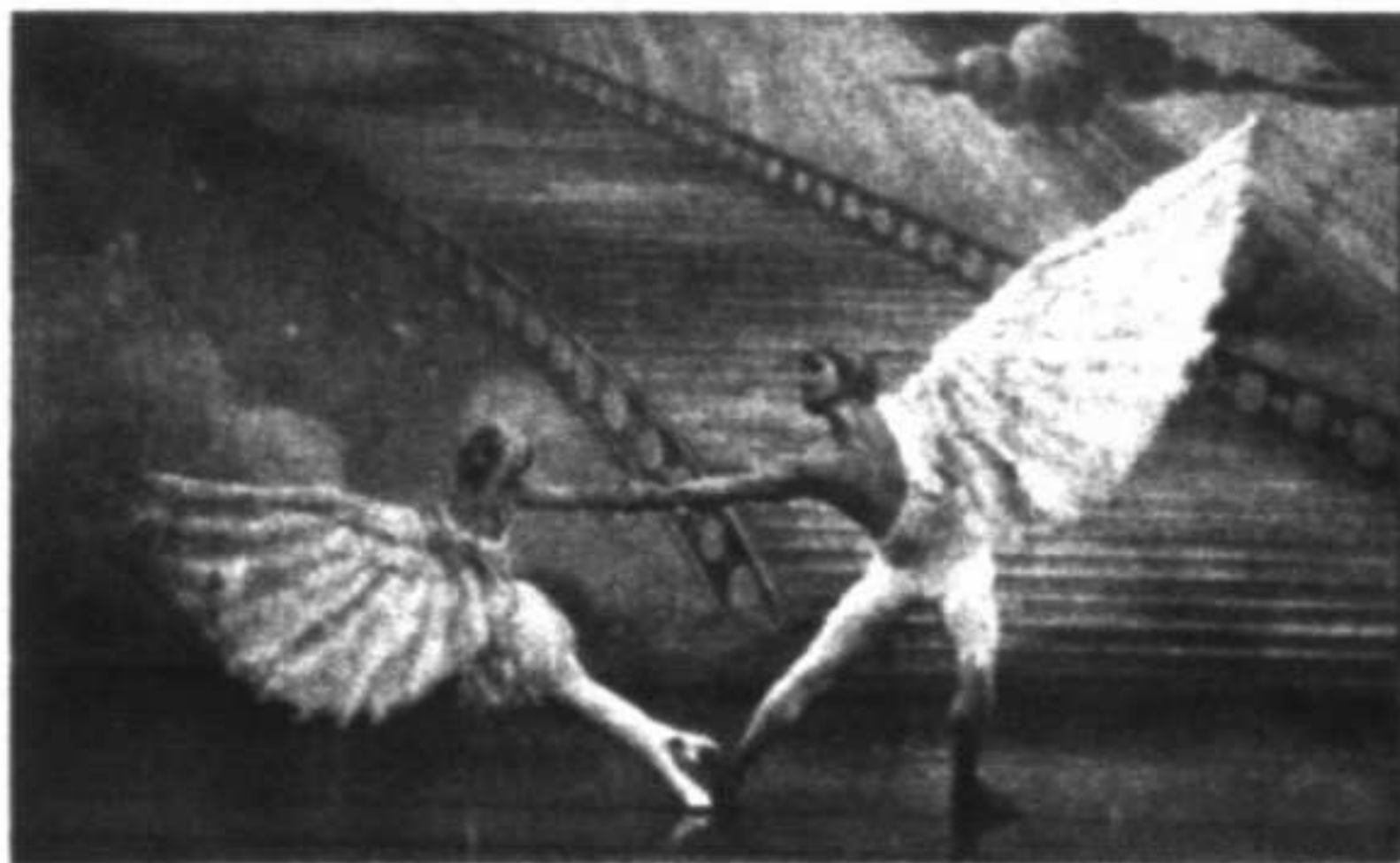
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OPINION

Will Midlanders rise up and answer a teacher's challenge?

Page 6A



ENTERTAINMENT

Check out the Weekender for information on New Year's Eve parties and Moscow Ballet's annual "Great Russian Nutcracker."

Page 1B

West Texas lawmakers support oil export platform

By Rye Druzin

San Antonio Express-News

West Texas lawmakers are cheering on controversial plans for a floating oil terminal that would be anchored less than 15 miles off Padre Island.

That's home to the Padre Island National Seashore.

The planned Texas Gulf Terminals by Swiss commodity trader Trafigura would allow U.S. crude oil to be loaded onto huge tankers — known simply as Very

Large Crude Carriers, or VLCCs — for international export. Only one port in the United States — the Louisiana Offshore Oil Port, or LOOP, which also acts as an import terminal — can fully load a VLCC.

The Port of Corpus Christi, Coastal Bend business organizations and local governments have weighed in against the project, raising the possibility of the offshore facility leaking oil and polluting Texas' shoreline. Port officials are looking to build their own large-tanker terminal onshore at Harbor Island.

Multiple companies are racing to build the first large-tanker oil export terminal along the Texas Gulf Coast. Their aim is to break up delivery bottlenecks as record amounts of U.S. crude oil production flow into the global market. In the last week of November, U.S. crude oil exports hit a record 3.2 million barrels a day.

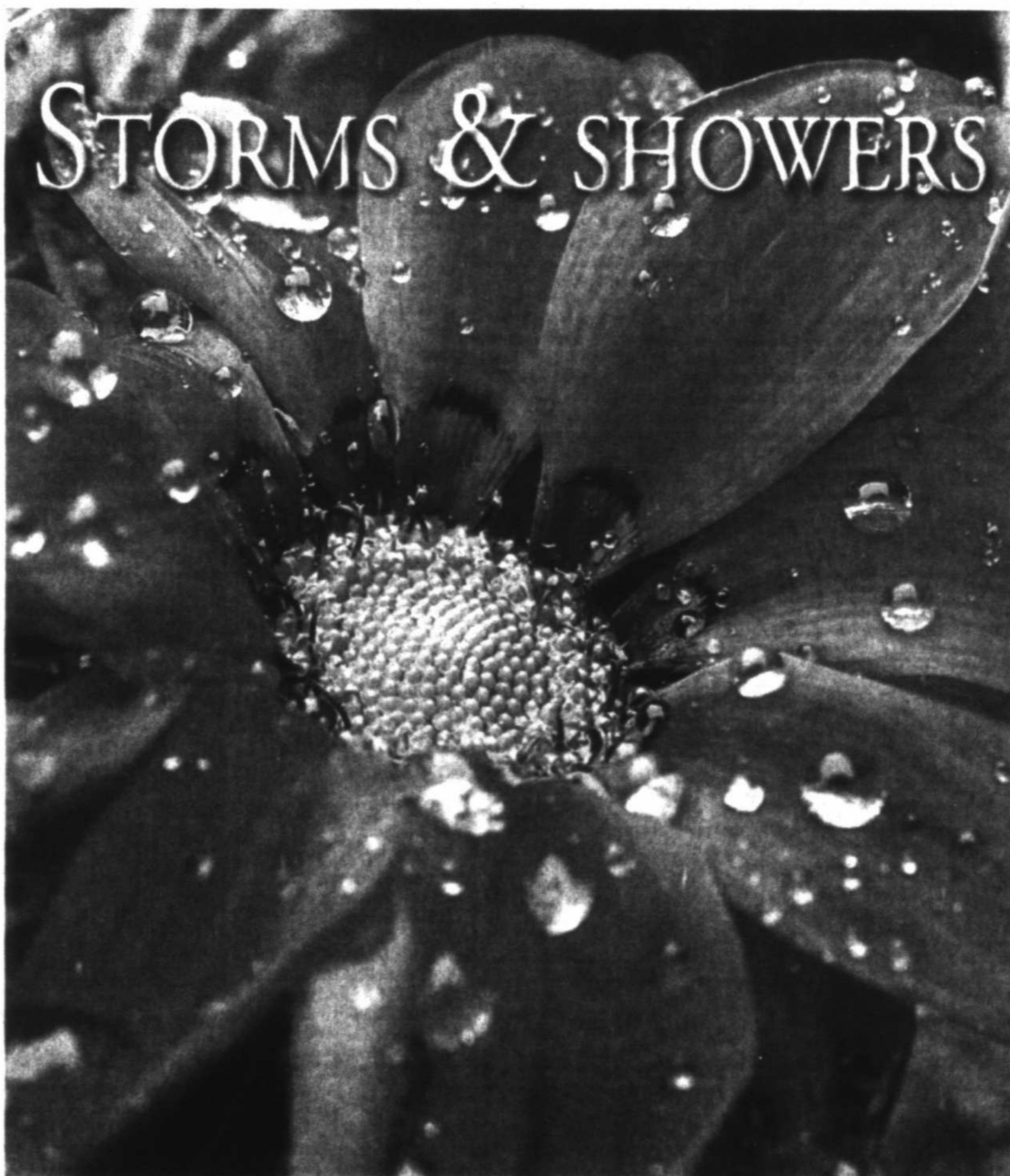
An recent letter signed by three state legislators — Sen. Kel Seliger of Amarillo, Rep. Tom Craddick of Midland and Rep. Brooks Landgraf of Odessa — voiced their support for the Trafigura

terminal. The lawmakers represent districts in West Texas' Permian Basin, the most productive oil field in the nation.

"Given the mismatch between existing infrastructure and future crude oil projections, we are encouraged to see privately funded investment projects ... that will help de-bottleneck the Gulf Coast and move Texas oil to markets where it is in high demand," the legislators wrote.

A Dec. 19 letter from the head of

Please see SUPPORT/7A



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Cooler weather and rain Wednesday dampened roadways and flowers around Midland.

Midland ISD seeks new head of Student Services

■ Person will oversee district's management of student behavior

From staff reports

Midland ISD is looking for a new executive director of Student Services.

The school district wrote this past week that Teresa Moore's role will change as she "will now focus solely on federal and state programs as the executive director of that department, overseeing more than \$15 million dollars received annually."

The district noted that previously "Moore, a veteran administrator in the district, has successfully managed both departments. ... As part of the restructuring of district administration, there will be

dedicated leaders for both student services and federal/state programs. This change will create greater efficiencies and a singular focus in these highly critical areas."

"As posted, the executive director of Student Services will oversee all departments that provide services to the more than 26,000 students in Midland ISD," MISD offered in a statement. "Those departments include: counseling, truancy, health services, student transfers, magnet programs, and the new unified enrollment system."

The pay range for a new executive director of Student Services is between \$100,241 and \$117,929, according to the district's listing. According to the Midland ISD 2018-19 compensation manual, the executive director of Student Services/Fed-

eral programs had a pay range of \$100,241 and \$135,619.

The job listing states the position function/purpose includes managing student behavior support, guidance and counseling, school health, student attendance, transfers and expulsions.

This person also facilitates and manages the district's grievance and complaint processes.

Moore was among those involved in the processes that led the formation of the anti-bullying group, Midland Moms on a Mission.

Other job listings on the district's website include: the director of the Education Foundation — posted Dec. 21; and principal at the Young Women's Leadership Academy — posted Dec. 3.

Legislator files bill to make sure we never have a state income tax

■ COMMENTARY

By Ken Herman

Austin American-Statesman

Back in 1993, I took a stroll through the Texas State Cemetery with an older gentleman who went by the perfect-for-the-Texas-Legislature name of Ben "Jumbo" Atwell. Jumbo had been a Dallas member of the Texas House from 1953 through 1974.

Our destination was the southwest corner of the cemetery, where he'd be buried five years later. Long before he died — so he could enjoy it from above ground — Atwell had erected a cliché-busting headstone on his plot. It's in the unmistakable shape of Texas, and it says: "Ben Atwell. Lawyer-Legislator. Author of tax bill."

"I had this idea for some time," he told me back then. "You'd walk around the Capitol grounds and you'd see a big monument to the firemen, a big monument to war heroes, things of that nature."

"I thought, 'Well, there is never going to be a monument to the sponsor of a tax bill because nobody wants to be taxed.'"

So, by writing a check to a La Grange monument maker for his headstone, Atwell bought away the cliché that says they never build monuments to people who sponsor tax bills. Atwell sponsored the early 1960s measure that gave Texas a sales tax.

(Atwell trivia: The Democrat claimed his guiding legislative philosophy was "vote with the conservatives and party with the liberals.")

I bring this up because there's Capitol buzz once again about a state income tax. Indeed, they'll probably never build a monument to anyone who gives Texas an income tax. In fact, that sponsor might need a headstone pretty quickly.

Not to worry, the 2019 Texas Legislature, which will begin Jan. 8, is not going to enact a state income tax. The last guy to talk about doing that later saw the political error of his ways and, in one of the great course reversals in Texas legislative history, later led the effort to bar lawmakers from enacting an income tax without voter approval.

The state income tax talk we're now hearing is related to the upcoming effort to find a better way to pay for public schools. Yes, you've heard this before. Every so often, generally as a result of litigation, the Texas Legislature finds a better way to pay for public schools.

An income tax might be one way, if those nine letters weren't a four-letter word in Texas. A case study:

Bob Bullock, already legendary by then, was our lieutenant governor in 1991. Before that, he'd been our state comptroller (tax collector) from 1975 to 1990. In 1991, Bullock had an idea. Bullock had lots of ideas, some of them good. But he was never

Please see HERMAN/7A

Price of oil

\$46.22 ▲ \$3.69

Top photos of the year

View photographer Tim Fischer's best photos of 2018 online at mrt.com.

The big number

Retail sales rose 5.1 percent between Nov. 1 and Dec. 24 from a year ago. Page 4A.

Word of the Day:

despondent

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

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Daily \$2, Sunday \$3



Classified 1D | Comics 8C | Dear Abby 5C | Lottery 3A | Obituaries 2A | Puzzles 7C | Sports 1C | Stocks 6C | TV 5C

Obituaries



Charles Olin McNeese

Charles Olin McNeese, 82, of Kingsland, Texas, passed away on December 21, 2018 after a long, courageous battle with cancer. He was born on January 13, 1936 to James Alexander McNeese and Hazel (Simpson) McNeese in Henderson, Texas. He grew up in Denham Springs, Louisiana. Charles is survived by his loving and faithful wife Ning (Tupsai) McNeese, his former wife and mother of his three children, Onie (Wheat) McNeese, his two sons Ronnie McNeese and his wife Pat (Nino) McNeese, Danny McNeese and his wife Durlene (Gunter) McNeese, his daughter Tracey McNeese Alexander and her husband Tim Alexander, his brother James Alexander McNeese, sisters Pat (McNeese) Guarino and Joy (McNeese) Bell, grandsons Lane McNeese, Michael McNeese, Jeffery McNeese, granddaughters Danielle McNeese, Kelsey Alexander and Julie (McNeese) Payne, and many great grandchildren. Charles is preceded in death by his mother, father and sister Hazel (McNeese) Bryant Lewis.

A U.S. Air Force Veteran, Charles moved to Midland, Texas in 1959 to work in the oil field. He worked for Core Lab before starting his own business, McNeese Logging Service, Inc. which he grew into a successful business before retiring in 2006. He loved family reunions, the Dallas Cowboys, LSU Tigers, Cajun food, hunting, fishing and enjoyed teaching his sons, grandsons and granddaughters about it all.

Visitation will be Thursday, December 27, 2018 at 10:00 AM and a Celebration of Life at 11:00 AM, at Clements-Wilcox Funeral Home located at 1805 Highway 281 North, Marble Falls, Texas. He will be buried in his family plot in Denham Springs, Louisiana.



Forrest Edward Taylor

Forrest Edward Taylor was born in Midland, Texas March 30, 1965, the youngest of three children to Weldon Lee Taylor and Betty Lou Taylor. Forrest died peacefully, surrounded by family on December 23, 2018, on his father's birthday, his faith rewarded in heaven.

Forrest graduated from Midland High School in 1984. He attended Texas Tech University where he studied electrical engineering and business. Forrest came home to Midland where he was involved in the family real estate business for over thirty years. Forrest sold real estate, became a real estate appraiser, and property manager. Forrest loved to hunt, classic cars, the Dallas Cowboys and his Red Raiders. His great sense of humor and gentle spirit will be missed and his love can never be replaced. His impact on this world was far greater than he could have ever imagined.

Forrest is survived by his mother, Betty Taylor of Midland, sister, Cindy Harper and husband Jeff of San Angelo, brother, Perry Taylor and wife Anna of Midland, nephew, JD Harper and wife Ashley of San Angelo, and niece, Cristin and husband Bryan

Brockman of Oklahoma City, and two great nephews, Jeffery and GW Harper of San Angelo. He is preceded in death by his father, Weldon Taylor.

A celebration service will be held at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home Chapel, 11:00 am, Saturday, December 29, 2018. A reception will follow at the Branch at npw at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory.

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

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



Jovita Hermosillo Roman

Jovita Hermosillo Roman, 78, passed away on December 21, 2018. She is survived by her two sons, Jesus F. Roman, Samuel Roman, six daughters, Rosa Eva Dominguez, Lucila Garcia, Graciela Amescuita, Rosa Emma Montoya, Patricia Montoya, Gloria Munoz; three sisters; twenty-five grandchildren; thirty-three great grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren. Visitation will be Wednesday, December 26, 2018 at Avalos-Sanchez and Thomas Funeral Home Chapel from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Thursday, December 27, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 27, 2018 at Jehova Proveera. Interment will follow at Resthaven North Cemetery.



Ned Reagan Daniels

Ned Reagan Daniels, 90, of Midland, passed away on Saturday, December 22, 2018 surrounded by his family. The family will be receiving guests from 5:00pm-7:00pm, Thursday, December 27, 2018 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Midland. Funeral services will be 10:00am, Friday, December 28, 2018 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will be at 3:00 pm on Saturday, December 29, 2018 at Cedarvale Cemetery in Bay City, Texas.

Ned was born on February 8, 1928 in Marshall, Texas. He grew up in Tatum, Texas and graduated high school from Beaumont South Park High School and then attended North Texas Agricultural College (NTAC) in Arlington, TX. He enrolled in The University of Texas at Austin and graduated with a BS in Petroleum Engineering in 1950. Following graduation from UT, he served in the US Army at the Engineer Research and Development Laboratories at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Upon discharge in 1952, he went to work for the Ohio Oil Company (now Marathon Oil Company) in Bay City, TX. Ned had a distinguished career working in the engineering and operations groups at Marathon as he held various positions in Bay City, Houston, Hobbs, NM, Iraan and Midland. He was Operations Superintendent for the prolific Yates Field from 1969 to 1982 which included the time period when the field was unitized in 1976. Ned retired in 1986

from Marathon after 37 years of service. He served as president of the Iraan Sheffield ISD school board, the Pecos County Hospital Board and was a longtime member of the Lions Club. Ned enjoyed collecting coins, bird hunting, fishing and cheering for the Texas Longhorns and Dallas Cowboys.

Ned is survived by his wife Gwen Daniels of Midland, son Reagan and wife Jennifer Daniels of Missouri City, TX, and son Steve and wife Amy Daniels of Midland. Ned is also survived by grandchildren Katie Daniels of Houston, TX, Erin and husband Colby Baker of Sugarland, TX, Austin Daniels and fiancé Jill Stiebel of Missouri City, TX, Jordan and wife Kayla Daniels of Spring, TX, Taylor and wife Sarah Daniels of Midland and one great grandson Wayde Reagan Daniels of Missouri City, TX. He is also survived by Gwen's children Brent and wife Sheri McClure of Weatherford, TX, Kelli and her husband Clay Bateman of Midland, Lance McClure of Allen, TX, and grandchildren Rachel and Jenna Bateman of Midland, Roy Bateman of Lubbock, TX, Collin McClure of College Station, TX and Cayden McClure of Allen, TX, Jake Moore of Weatherford, TX, and Melissa Baker of Ft. Worth, TX.

He is preceded in death by his parents Tommie and Floyd Daniels and brothers Whit, Tommy, Jerry and Bill Daniels as well as first wife Betty Ann Craft Daniels, to whom he was married for 35 years until her death in 1990.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Alzheimer's Association at alz.org or the Manor Park Younger Center.

The family would like to express their gratitude to Visiting Angels staff members, especially Jessica Munoz, Cynthia Burcham and Aida Prieto and the staff at the Manor Park Younger Center.

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

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



Ruben Ray Close

September 9th 2006 to December 21st 2018. Ruben came into the world on the night of September 9th, ensuring that the Close kids would have a matching set of birthdays. He was born in Katy, Texas to Tara (Graham) Close and Aaron Close, joining older siblings Kayla, Oran, and Micah.

Ruben's early years were spent living in Katy with his family and attending Redeemer Community Church. He enjoyed playing with friends and neighbors. To Ruben everyone was a friend, never considering a new person as a stranger, instead he was willing to talk for hours with someone whom he had just met. Everyone he contacted remembered the bright-eyed young man who would come by to visit and bring a big smile with him every time. He started online school while in Katy. In May of 2013, Ruben moved with his siblings and mother to Midland, Texas. While in Midland, he lived closer to many of his cousins and got to know them much better. He joined cub scouts and made new friends at Emmerson Elementary and Midland Bible Church. His favorite event for cub scouts was the pine car derby, where he built and decorated small wooden cars to race. At church, he participated wholeheartedly in Awana's, Sunday School, and Vacation Bible School, waiting for the excit-

ing day he could join the youth group and be allowed to eat their Sunday donuts.

In 5th grade, he transferred to Bunche Elementary. In 6th was able to join Orchestra and was working hard to learn the Cello. Having just played his first concert on December 4th he was thrilled to have both his parents there to enjoy the music and watch he and his brothers play. He enjoyed the opportunity to be moved up into the boy scout troop with his big brothers and being able to go to all the scout outings, following in Oran's footsteps and going to lots of scout camps. This past summer, he got the chance to visit Australia where the highlights of his time included a chance to go the Crocodile Hunter's Zoo and playing in the waves of the ocean. During his recent trip to Great Wolf Lodge, Ruben welded his wand to fight the dragon with his mother, played in the pool with his siblings, and flew down the water slides with the goofy grin so often plastered on his face.

Ruben's free time was mostly spent with his cousins and brothers in Midland. Whether he was watching YouTube, playing video games, or having nerf wars there was always fun to be had. He worked hard to have good grades with the hope of being able to go to Early College High School like his big sister and possibly become a Geologist like his dad. Ruben hugged everyone he met, bear hugged those he loved, and always gave extra hugs and cuddles to his beloved mother. He cherished the nightly prayers he shared with his mom, calling her daily whenever he was away. Ruben's loving and radiant personality brightened any room.

On December 22nd, 2018, Ruben went to be with the Lord. He joins his grandfather Alan Graham, and all his great grandparents. He leaves behind sister Kayla, brothers Oran and Micah, mother Tara Close of Midland Texas and father Aaron Close of Sealy Texas. He is survived by his grandparents Vernon and Kathryn Close of Springfield, Colorado and Lisa Graham of Midland Texas, 7 Aunts and 7 Uncles, 27 cousins and numerous other relatives and friends.

Visitation will be at Midland Bible Church, 5900 Whittman Drive on Thursday December 27th from 6:00 - 8:00pm. Services will also be at Midland Bible Church, Friday December 28th at 11:00am, with burial to follow at American Heritage Cemetery, FM 1788, Midland, TX at 2:00pm.

Contributions may be made to Boy Scout Troop 175 in Midland or the family requests that you bring a wrapped Christmas present to the Church in lieu of flowers.

Ellis Funeral Home
Funerals & Cremations
801 Andrews Hwy.
(432) 683-5335



Eric Anthony Uresti

Eric Anthony Uresti went home to be with our Heavenly Father December 19, 2018.

Eric was born April 21, 1982 in Lamesa, Texas to Sylvia Uresti. Eric moved to Midland in 1996. He had a great love for the theater and acting at an early age and was a Pickwick Player at Midland Community Theatre. He forged friendships through his very special talent that lasted throughout his entire life. He graduated from Lee High School in 2000. After college he moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico where he continued to pursue his love for acting. One of the most successful roles was that of The Cowardly Lion in the national touring production of The Wiz.

Eric moved back to Midland and started to work

for Kaplan College in 2006 where he found a real passion working with students. He met life-long friends in students and staff. Eric transferred to Houston with Kaplan where he continued working to improve the lives of students. There, he also began working for Barbizon where he was a runway coach for aspiring models. This endeavor relocated him to Tampa, Florida and he traveled the country helping young students pursue their dreams. Eric had a knack for guiding students and helping to develop their talents. Eric moved back home to Midland in 2013 to be closer to family.

Eric always wanted to help improve the lives of others and found a natural fit working in the non-profit arena. He worked at The Crisis Center in Odessa and more recently Senior Link Midland as coordinator for the Senior Companion program. Eric had a deep love and respect for his volunteers and clients and found such reward in working with seniors. Eric was a member of the Dementia Friendly initiative and was on the Alzheimer's Congressional team to advocate for a cure.

Throughout Eric's life he loved entertaining people, acting, singing, dancing. Eric also enjoyed directing and brought several amazing productions to life like The Odd Couple, A Raisin in the Sun and Dream Girls. Eric was part of Midland Community Theatre family and Maverick Players and appeared in countless shows including Evita, Hello Dolly, West Side Story, the Little Mermaid, Ladies of the Lounge and A Christmas Story. He also was involved in Summer Mommers throughout the years and his last time on stage was in the 2018 season. Eric was recently planning a new project which was set to go to production in Summer 2019. He received funding grants and positive feedback and was so excited to bring a new, diverse source of entertainment to our community.

Eric Uresti was a bright light and a shining star and was always the life of the party. Eric was a local celebrity of sorts - he knew everybody and those he didn't know knew him from local shows he appeared in and the work he did in the community. Eric never met a stranger and most everyone he met became a fast friend. He was larger than life. He had a huge smile and an infectious laugh. Eric not only enjoyed making people laugh but he also loved to build people up and make them feel good about themselves. He handed out compliments and always gave the best fashion advice. Eric had amazing sense of style and was always the best dressed man in the room. He was known for his dazzling shoe collection and colorful bow ties. Eric was a fierce friend, who was supportive and encouraging and loved with his whole heart. Eric was a unique personality, loved planning and attending events and parties and was just so much fun. He was very clever and could be hilariously funny.

The only two things Eric loved more than entertaining was his family and Jesus. He checked up on his Mom daily and he lived for teasing his brothers. Eric was the fun uncle. He spent special time with his niece and nephew - summer afternoons at the pool and Sunday mornings with the kids at Tita's house. Eric was orchestrating a reunion for summer 2019 for all the family to come together and celebrate. He succeeded just bringing them together a little earlier than planned. Eric was a Christian, was so strong in his faith and readily proclaimed his love for the Lord. It wasn't unusual to hear him playing his gospel music and joyously belting out the lyrics for all to hear. He attended 7 Cities Church and particularly loved the praise and worship. We know our Eric Anthony is helping to direct heaven's choir now with his first glorious performance in the stars this Christmas.

Eric is survived by his mother Sylvia Uresti, brothers Steven and his children Aadan and Aniyah and Isaac and his wife Emily and their children Joshua and Julee and many aunts, uncles and cousins. Eric is survived

by a multitude of friends and his chosen sisters/best friends and their families: Keshia Hailey, Kat Wright, Martha Oropesa and Kathleen Kirwan-Haynie. Another special person in his life was Bibi Lucio who helped raise Eric and his brothers. Eric was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents Benita and Venustiano Uresti.

Visitation will be held Thursday, December 27th 6-8pm at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and a celebration of Eric's life will be held at 11:00 am Friday, December 28th at 7 Cities Church, 5110 W. Illinois Ave Midland Texas.

Eric Anthony Uresti made his mark in this world with his effervescent personality, loving heart, amazing talent and colorful flair and he will not soon be forgotten.

Memorial donations in Eric's memory may be made to Senior Link Midland (Senior Companion Program).

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

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

Death Notices

Albert Rowe Bright, Jr.

Albert Rowe Bright, Jr., 71, of Midland, passed away surrounded by his family. There are no services scheduled at this time. He is survived by his wife Renee Bright, Connie Wilkerson and Leesa Hobbs and four children. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Caleb Wayne Andersen

Caleb Wayne Andersen, 18, passed away on Friday, December 21, 2018 surrounded by his family in Houston. There will be a memorial service on Friday, January 4, 2019 at 10:00AM at Stonegate Fellowship in Midland.

Caleb is survived by his father, Vance Andersen, mother, Ashley Jones and husband, Steve, siblings, Kenedy Andersen, Kourtnee Jones and Karrington Kumpke. Flowers can be sent to Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory in Midland.

Esteban E. Floreano

Esteban E. Floreano passed away on December 21, 2018. He is survived by his parents, Lucio and Reyna Floreano; two brothers and three sisters. Visitation was Monday, December 24, 2018 at Avalos-Sanchez and Thomas Funeral Home Chapel from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Burial will be held in his hometown in Mexico.

Joanna Gassiot

Joanna Gassiot, 74, of Midland, passed away Tuesday, December 25, 2018. The family will receive guests from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Sunday, December 30, 2018 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Midland. Funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m., Monday, December 31, 2018 at First Baptist Church Chapel in Midland. Interment will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park.

Lisa Michelle Taylor

Lisa Michelle Taylor, 52, of Midland, passed away on Monday, December 24, 2018. Services will be held at a later date. She is survived by her daughter, Brittany Hoover. Online condolences can be made at www.npwelch.com.

Yolanda Mendoza

Yolanda Mendoza, 54, of Midland, passed away Thursday, December 20, 2018. Funeral service will be held at 3:00 p.m., Friday, December 28, 2018 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Chapel in Midland. Interment will follow at Resthaven North Cemetery in Midland.

Survivors include parents, Rosa and Jesus Mendoza, children, Miguel Mendoza, Uber Mendoza, Jesus Mendoza, and Eric Mendoza, and five siblings.

WORD OF THE DAY

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despondent

[dih-spon-duhnt]

adjective

1. feeling or showing profound hopelessness, dejection, discouragement, or gloom.



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weddings@midland.com

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Things to do

(Due to the holidays, some recurring events may be affected.)

■ Italiano Night, 6 p.m., Ranchland Hills Golf Club, 1600 E. Wadley Ave. ranchlandhills.com

■ Bridge game play, 6:45 p.m., Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. \$6. For more information call 682-8595.

■ Thursday Night Dinner with live music, 7 p.m., Cafe Aldredge, 3300 N. Fairgrounds Road. alldredgegardens.com

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

■ Stoney LaRue, 8 p.m., Rockin' Rodeo, 4400 N. Big Spring St. \$12. rockinrodeoatmidland.com

■ Karaoke, 9 p.m., Delour Bar, 1708 Rankin Highway

Holiday trash

Please note that from now until Jan. 7, the city of Midland trash pickup will be once a week.

So adjust the way you use dumpsters the next couple of weeks. It's a good idea to use dumpsters for trash consisting of food scraps and anything biodegradable. That means items that will decay and smell bad. So, produce, meat and bones, dairy, those types of items should be thrown like usual. But please hang on to wrapping paper and bows from Christmas presents. They can wait till trash pickups increase again on Jan. 7.

Also, boxes from Christmas presents, packaging and No. 1 and 2 plastics can be recycled, reduced or reused. Please be certain to tie your trash bags so no trash escapes. And if your dumpster gets full, please hold all trash till it's emptied. Over stuffing dumpsters leads to litter.

Source: Keep Midland Beautiful

Know a member of the military



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Pastor Jason Ivy, center, says a prayer with his wife, Nancy, who's parents founded the Midland Soup Kitchen Ministry, and their children, J. Anthony, left and Nathen, Monday as they prepare to feed 800 at the annual Christmas meal.

coming home?

Military families can call 352-0785 or email Vickie Gomez (vzmozg@cablenet.net) when they know their member of the military is flying into Midland International Airport so the

Permian Basin Welcome Home Committee can be there to greet them.

Honor those who served

There are many organizations in

operation right here in the Permian Basin that are at the task of serving all kinds of needs for present and former members of our military. Some of them are:

■ Centers for Children and Families (570-1084)
■ Midland College Veterans Affairs Office (685-4511)
■ Permian Basin Welcome Home Committee (366-3458)
■ Soldiers of Today and Yesterday (631-3429)

■ Show of Support (687-2167)
■ Honor Our Troops (889-0177)
■ Reel Thru (528-6633)

Lottery

All or Nothing morning: 1-2

3-4-8-12-13-14-15-16-20-24

All or Nothing day: 3-5-8-9

10-12-13-17-19-20-21-22

All or Nothing evening: 1-7-9

10-12-14-17-19-20-21-22-23

Daily 4 morning: 9-9-6-2

Daily 4 day: 5-4-9-2

Daily 4 evening: 3-3-4-3

Pick 3 morning: 0-1-3

Pick 3 day: 4-5-4

Pick 3 evening: 9-5-3

Because of an earlier deadline, the night drawings were unavailable.

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Weather

Wednesday's temperatures

High: 58

Low: 32

Normal high: 57

Normal low: 30

Dec. 26's records

Record high: 78, set in 2005 and equaled in 2008

Record low: 11, set in 1939

Precipitation

Tuesday: 0.00

Wednesday: 0.14 in

Month total: 1.02 in

Year total: 17.69 in

Normal total (year to date): 14.51 in

Winds

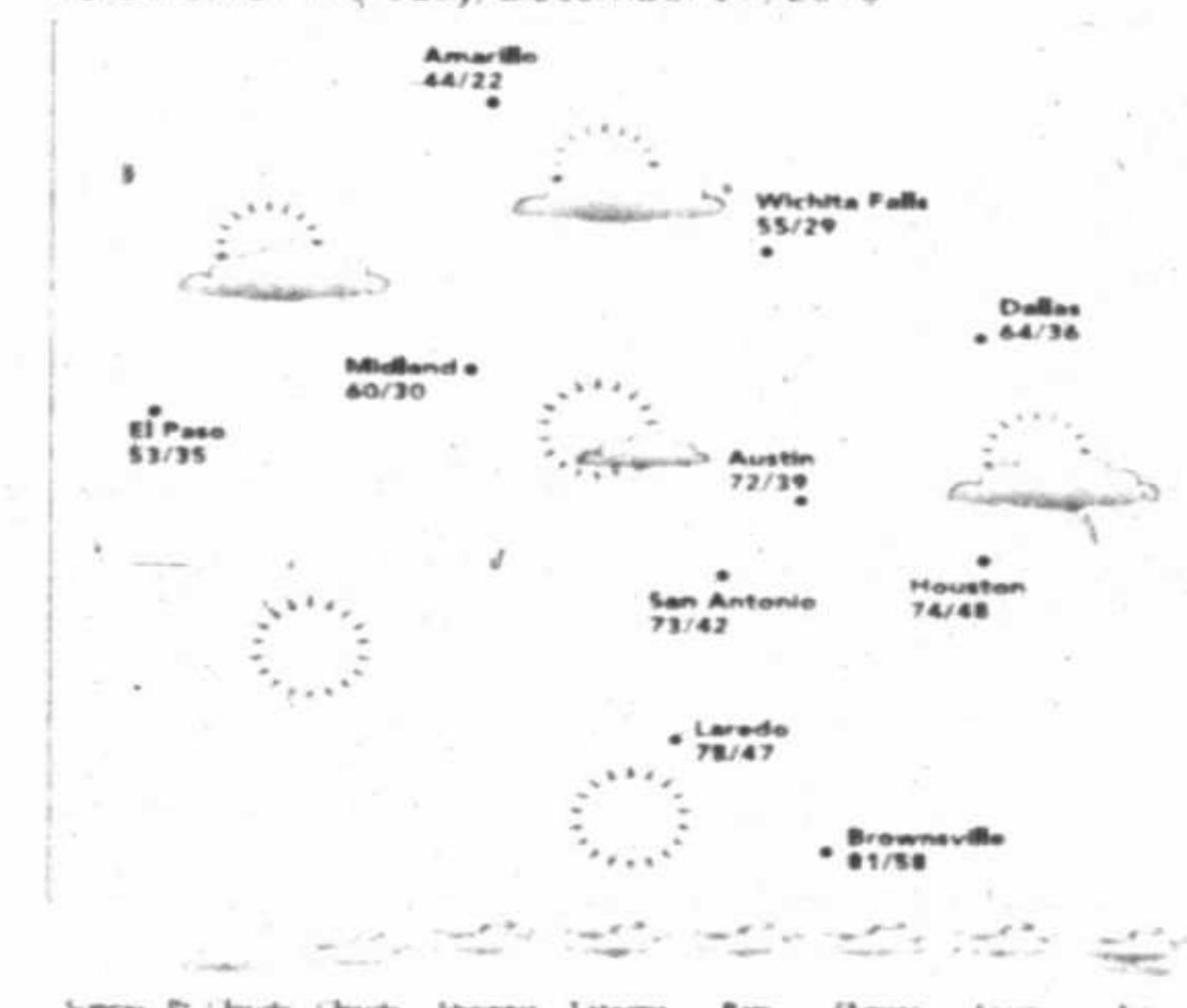
Average speed: 20.8 mph

Highest speed: 44 mph

Highest gust speed: 52 mph

Today's forecast

Forecast for Thursday, December 27, 2018



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

ARIES

(March 21-April 19)

★★★★ You might be very goal-oriented, nevertheless, you are likely to find yourself on a wild goose chase at some point in the day. You might not even know how you got there. Do not be concerned. Simply continue on your desired path. Tonight: Be willing to adapt your plans.

TAURUS

(April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Although others might have difficulty during the day and feel confused, you'll understand what is happening. Focus on your goals. You are in an unusually creative period. Work with some of your unusual ideas. Tonight: Act as though there is no tomorrow.

GEMINI

(May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Whether an issue slows you down, you feel that you do not have the energy or the time that you need. Clear up the problem. Your imagination allows you to come up with

unique and exciting ideas. Try to start conversations without bias. Tonight: Make it easy and relaxing.

CANCER

(June 21-July 22)

★★★★ When the opportunity appears, speak your mind. Holding off might not be wise because your irritation levels will mount. Confusion surrounds potential trips or happenings. Try to be clear about what you think and feel. If needed, ask questions. Tonight: Speak your mind.

LEO

(July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Make sure that you are on the same page as another person, especially if dealing with funds. You might not appreciate the upset otherwise. Confusion marks a conversation. If needed, get clarification. You are more in tune than you believe you are. Tonight: Fun does not have to cost.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ If you find yourself in a disagreement with an associate, try to clarify what you mean. You could discover that your expectations were off or that you were not seeing the other person realistically. You are likely to become surer of your choices. Tonight: Ask, and you shall receive.

LIBRA

(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ If you feel a little off after all the excitement of the holidays, do not be surprised. Clarify a conversation regarding upcoming plans. Another person might hear your words but interpret them differently. A family member poses an obstacle of some sort. Tonight: Hang in there.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ If you let someone's misconceptions get the best of you, you could feel out of sorts. A friend could be responding to you inappropriately. You will feel much better later in the day, when the initial haze of a problem disappears. Tonight: Meet the gang at a favorite place.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ When dealing with your finances, use your self-discipline and knowledge. If your budget is out of whack, take steps to change the scenario. You still might want to do something special for a loved one. Just compensate elsewhere for the expense. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Look at the long-

term implications of continuing as you have been. If you do not like what you are seeing, an adjustment might be in order. Confusion could surround a trip. Recognize that you have time for clarification. Tonight: If you want to take off, make it happen.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ A conversation could be noteworthy. Listen to where the other party is coming from. Use caution around finances. You might think that you have a verbal agreement, only to discover that you don't. Go along with a suggestion, even if it means changing plans. Tonight: Paint the town red.

PISCES

(Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ If possible, curb spending. You might be taken aback by everything that is happening around you. Clearly, you cannot change people or situations, but you can change your perspective. Approach others with a positive attitude. Tonight: First, balance your budget.

BORN TODAY

Actress Mariene Dietrich (1901), actor John Amos (1939), actress Olivia Cooke (1993)

Don Manley's Memorial will be on January 19 time pending as per Don's request to wait til after the holidays.

Don's wish was to be cremated and all wishes will be carried out. Judy Manley his wife will not be in attendance this Friday the 28th of December due to not being invited by his children. Don and Judy had 11 yrs of marriage together even in the denial of his children and had a lot of wonderful memories up until his last breath. There will be a posting as soon as all details are final.

Thank you Judy Manley

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With Trump preaching buy the dip, stocks look cheapest in years

■ ANALYSIS

By Christopher Anste
Bloomberg

The flip side of what's been the third-worst month for American stocks in the postwar era is that prices are a whole lot cheaper than they were before the rout.

While it may take a strong stomach to nibble at U.S. equities, they do offer the most attractive valuations since 2013, measured by the price-to-earnings ratio for the S&P 500 Index in data compiled by Bloomberg. At little more than 13 times the coming year's estimated earnings, American stocks are also looking less of an outlier versus other advanced markets than earlier this year.

"Relative to the stretched valuations we have seen for U.S. indices in 2017, the current levels certainly appear more attractive," said Jingyi Pan, market strategist at IG Asia Pte. in Singapore. "That being said, just as markets overlooked the high valuations and focused on the growth potential through to the peak this year, the current lowered valuations alone do not make for buying reasons."

President Donald Trump was less equivocal about American companies at the White House Tuesday. "They have record kinds of numbers. So I think it's a tremendous opportunity to buy. Really a great opportunity to buy."

In retrospect, the last time valuations were around current levels certainly proved a great chance to get in. The S&P 500 has handed investors a 56 percent return since the start of the final quarter of 2013, a period that includes the near 15 percent tumble in the index this month. And earnings growth has been much stronger this year than earlier this decade, a trend that many see continuing thanks to solid U.S. job and consumption growth.

"You've just got to wait for prices to get down to a level where somebody's going to buy it — I think it's gone too far," said Chris Rupkey, chief financial economist at MUFJ Union Bank, referring to the U.S. stock market. "I expect it to recover from here certainly."

Some sectors have dropped so much they're even cheaper on an historical basis than the broad big-cap index. Financial shares have been beaten down thanks to a flattening in the U.S. yield curve, where Federal Reserve interest-rate hikes have pushed up shorter-dated rates while turmoil in stocks has contributed to haven demand for longer-dated Treasuries.

Valuations on energy stocks are also around their lowest since early this decade, hammered by the \$30-plus a barrel collapse in the price of West Texas Intermediate crude since early October. Others aren't as much of a bargain. The Dow Jones Industrial Average Index was less expensive as recently as early 2016, as was the Nasdaq Composite.

While few economists see elevated danger of an impending recession in the U.S., and indicators ranging from the job market to manufacturing PMIs suggest solid growth will continue, what gives some investors pause is broader concern about policy maker errors. Back in 2013, the Fed unsettled markets by warning that its quantitative easing was coming to an end. This time around, it's an accelerating global withdrawal of liquidity, alongside unexpected question marks around the longevity of U.S. policy makers, that's hurting confidence.

"After an extraordinary period of eight, nine years of quantitative easing from the major central banks, which topped out earlier in the year at \$24 trillion — that's about a third of the market capitalization of all global equities — now we're seeing that go into reverse," said Simon French, chief economist at Panmure Gordon in London, on Bloomberg Radio.

Futures trading Wednesday in European hours suggested limited odds for a bounce in U.S. stocks as trading resumes after the Christmas break. Contracts on the S&P 500 climbed as of 10:07 a.m. in London Wednesday after swinging between gains and losses during the Asia trading day. Headlines raising doubts about Trump's confidence in Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin were the latest source of disquiet, days after Bloomberg reported the president discussed firing Chairman Jerome Powell out of frustration over interest-rate hikes.

"Destabilization in institutions that we've come to rely on" is the key worry, said Julia Coronado, president and founder of MacroPolicy Perspectives LLC in New York. For now, the market correction hasn't fed through to damage business confidence, but it will be important to monitor investment and spending plans, she said.

A strong economy translates into big sales this holiday

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Americans buoyed by a strong economy pushed holiday sales growth to a six-year high.

Retail sales rose 5.1 percent between Nov. 1 and Dec. 24 from a year ago, according to Mastercard SpendingPulse, which tracked spending online and in stores across all payment types, including those who paid by cash or check. Total sales topped \$850 billion this year, Mastercard said.

"From shopping aisles to online carts, consumer confidence translated into holiday cheer for retail," said Steve Sadove, a senior adviser at Mastercard and the former CEO of the department store chain Saks. Online sales continued to grow, up more than 19

percent from a year ago. Last week, Mastercard said online sales made up 13 percent of total retail sales.

Clothing sold well this year — up nearly 8 percent from last year, the biggest growth for apparel sales since 2010, Mastercard said. Home furniture sales rose 2.3 percent, while electronics and appliances slipped 0.7 percent.

Shoppers spent less at department stores, which Mastercard said was partly due to store closings. But shoppers did head to the websites of department stores, where sales rose 10.2 percent, Mastercard said. Traditional retailers have been updating their websites and smartphone apps, as well as making it easier for shoppers to buy online and then pick up their items in store.

How stock indexes fared Wednesday

Stocks surged on Wall Street Wednesday, with the Dow Jones Industrial Average vaulting more than 1,000 points, its biggest one-day point-gain ever. Investors reaped all their losses from a Christmas Eve plunge as stocks rallied across all sectors, giving the Dow and benchmark S&P 500 index its best single-day percentage gain in 10 years.

Associated Press

In volatile market, companies can plan for possible slowdown

By Joyce M. Rosenberg
Associated Press

NEW YORK — As the Dow Jones Industrial Average seesaws and mostly drops by hundreds of points a day, Kathy Barnes sees the impact of the volatility on homebuilders and general contractors in the St. Louis area.

Barnes, who helps these small business owners manage their projects, says her clients are worried that the bull market that gave customers the confidence to do major work on their homes is at an end. Builders are investing in fewer properties and contractors are handling smaller-scale renovations.

"People are holding back for fear of the worst," Barnes says.

Although the overall economy and consumer spending have been strong, some small business owners, particularly those who supply big-ticket items and services like home remodeling, are feeling the effects of volatility in stocks that has persisted for much of this year. And some small companies seeking investors are finding resistance, even from people who just a few months ago were willing to put their money down.

As of Monday, the Dow was down nearly 19 percent from its record high of 26,828.39 reached Oct. 3 and the Standard & Poor's 500 Index was down nearly 20 percent since it peaked at 2,930.75 Sept. 20, but the gyrations started back in January. Investors have been troubled by the prospect of slower economic growth in 2019, and concerns including the impact of Trump administration trade tariffs on U.S. companies.

Government reports on retail sales and consumer spending show few signs that consumers are anxious, and while the Conference Board's monthly Consumer Confidence Index fell a little over 2 points to 135.7 in November, it was still near its highest point in 18 years. But many business owners remember the devastating losses stocks suffered in 2008 and their impact on consumer spending.

When consumers start feeling uneasy or less wealthy, they forgo or postpone the big discretionary items on their budgets, says Priya Raghubir, a marketing professor at New York University's Stern School of Business.

"Large expenses such as home renovations, cars, all of those could be put on hold," Raghubir says.

Barnes' clients are buying cheaper building materials because of homeowners' smaller budgets.

"I've seen a tremendous decline when it comes to discretionary items — cabinets, flooring, things that you have some choice about," Barnes says. She also sees general contractors handling more of the work themselves instead of using subcontractors, a way to preserve their profit margins.

Continuing volatility can lead consumers to spend less even if they

NEW YORK — The stock market's volatility this year has some small business owners deciding to run their businesses more cautiously.

Consumer spending and the economy are strong and many businesses report all is well. But some owners are worried because their customers are spending less.

Some owners are thinking of taking fewer risks. One concern is that the gyrations are a harbinger of recession; investors tend to buy and sell based on what they think the economy will do in six to nine months.

And while the market has been right before — as in mid-2007, when it began falling half a year before the Great Recession began — it's not foolproof.

Chester Spatt, a finance professor at Carnegie Mellon University's Tepper School of Business, notes that when the market crashed in October 1987, "that fall was not really associated with a material change in business."

Still, when there's volatility, "businesses may react, for example by reducing their orders in advance," Spatt says.

What some owners are doing:

■ Cost-cutting is becoming a priority. In the home remodeling industry, contractors are using cheaper materials as customers lower their budgets on projects. The frugality extends to developers who build houses — they're making smaller investments in new properties, says Kathy Barnes, who helps manage projects in the St. Louis area.

■ The Slumber Yard, which operates product review websites, will hire more slowly next year, co-owner Jeff Rizzo says. Owners have been conservative

don't consciously feel anxious, says Burt Flickinger, managing director of Strategic Resource Group, a consultancy based in New York. But small businesses will notice.

"Even if someone's a viable and successful online retailer, restaurant, salon or service company, their customer counts can be cut by 25 percent or more through no fault of their own," he says. Flickinger noted that stock market volatility in the past contributed to the collapse of plans to build big retail projects.

Owners who recall uncertain times in the market are looking for signs that their companies might be affected by current fluctuations. Mark Ehrhardt, who owns a moving company in New York, says he starts to see his business slow about six months after the market becomes turbulent.

"Stock market volatility, and (economic) downturns tend to hit the ground level by causing the general public to sit on their hands before making large financial decisions," says Ehrhardt, owner of Movers Not Shakers. Ehrhardt, a stock broker before he went into moving, is prepared to step up his networking with building managers, mortgage brokers and title companies if requests from homeowners start to slip.

The fallout Steve and Bea Fisher are seeing comes in the form of investor and supplier anxiety. Bea Fisher plans to open a hardware store in a rural part of Nevada early in 2019. Most of the people who were

What businesses are doing

about hiring since the recession, and market volatility is likely to make some even more cautious. They're likely to deal with slower hiring in the same ways they've handled the lack of qualified candidates for their job openings: In a Bank of America survey released this month, owners said outsourcing work or taking on more tasks themselves were ways they've coped. They're also training current staffers to give them more skills.

■ Prospecting for business, something many owners do continually, is becoming more important. Mark Ehrhardt, owner of Movers Not Shakers, a moving company in New York, is ready to start contacting mortgage brokers and building managers, who know of people selling their apartments and homes and moving. "You just have to be smarter and figure out where the activity is," he says.

■ Entrepreneurs having a harder time getting investor money are putting Plan B together. When it looked like Steve and Bea Fisher wouldn't get investors for a hardware store in a rural part of Nevada, the couple looked at their savings and began inquiring about non-traditional lenders. But they found that lenders, even those catering to small businesses, offered only small amounts, sometimes \$2,000 out of \$10,000. "We thought we might be forced to dig a little bit deeper into our pockets," Steve Fisher says.

Joyce M. Rosenberg
Associated Press

excited about investing in the store a few months ago have turned hesitant, not returning calls or texts as they once did. And even an investor who came through last week was also a little cautious, asking Fisher, "what are you hearing from other people?"

It's "not easy when potential investors watch five or six figures of worth wiped from their accounts in a single day. It does affect the conversation. How do I know? They tell me," Fisher says.

Fisher also sees a shift in suppliers' attitudes. A few months ago they reassured him that "we'll give you everything you need," but now they're warning he'll need to pay up front.

"You can feel terms changing on the fly," he says.

Jeff Rizzo says he nervously watches the stock market every day. Rizzo, who co-owns The Slumber Yard, the operator of product review websites, says "we are 100 percent at the whim of consumer demand."

"The more consumers shop, the more they search for reviews. If consumer spending dips, we will certainly feel it," says Rizzo, whose company is based in Reno, Nevada.

This has him looking more cautiously at 2019. The company, which has about 10 employees, is trying to expand.

"We still plan to hire more employees come the new year, but we are going to do so at a slower pace so that we can see what happens in the broader economy," Rizzo says.

World's richest people lost \$511 billion in 2018

Bloomberg

The richest people on Earth lost \$511 billion this year after record first-half gains were obliterated by a succession of bruising market sell-offs.

Global trade tensions and worries about a U.S. recession dragged markets lower at year-end, leaving the 500 people on the Bloomberg Billionaires Index with a combined net worth of \$4.7 trillion as of Friday's close. It's only the second annual decline for the daily wealth index since its 2012 debut, and represents a sharp about-turn from the start of the year, when bullish investors helped propel the fortunes of the richest to a record \$5.6 trillion.

"As of late, investor anxiety has run high," said Katie Nixon, chief investment officer at Northern Trust Wealth Management. "We do not expect a recession, but we are mindful of the downside risks to global growth."

Even Jeff Bezos, who recorded the biggest gain for 2018, wasn't spared the volatility. His fortune peaked at \$168 billion in September, a \$69 billion gain. It later tumbled \$53 billion — more than the market value of Delta or Ford — to leave him with \$115 billion at year-end.

The Amazon.com founder had a better year than Mark Zuckerberg, who recorded the biggest loss since January, dropping \$23 billion as Facebook Inc. careened from crisis to crisis. Overall, the 173 U.S. billionaires on the

list — the largest cohort — lost 5.9 percent from their fortunes to leave them with \$1.9 trillion.

Even Asia's famed wealth-creation machine stumbled as the region's 128 billionaires lost a combined \$144 billion in 2018. The three biggest losers in Asia all hailed from China, led by Wanda Group's Wang Jianlin, whose fortune declined \$11.1 billion.

Despite the turmoil, Asia continued to mint new members of the three-comma club. The Bloomberg index uncovered 39 new members from the region in 2018, although that status proved short-lived for some. About 40 percent had lost their 10-figure status as of Dec. 7.

The Middle East had an even more turbulent year. While many of the billionaires ensnared in Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's corruption crackdown were released, doubt and fear about the powerful royal's methods sent a chill through the Saudi economy.

The Kingdom's richest person, Prince Alwaleed, who was released in March after 83 days in detention, lost \$3.4 billion. His net worth has fallen by 60 percent since its peak in 2014. One of the remaining Saudi captives, Mohammed Al Amoudi, managed to become richer during his year in detention, as the value of his Swedish energy and property assets rose. The Saudi government confirmed this month that he was facing charges on graft and corruption and

is awaiting trial. Meanwhile, Africa's richest saw their fortunes shrink by 14 percent as the emerging-market rout hammered assets.

From Zara founder Amancio Ortega to former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, most of Europe's billionaires saw their fortunes fall. Germany's Schaeffler family, the majority shareholders of car-parts maker Continental AG, lost the most as extra costs and tough business conditions in Europe and Asia hampered the company's performance.

Georg Schaeffler and his mother Maria-Elisabeth Schaeffler-Thumann are \$17 billion worse off than at the start of the year. That sum alone would place them among the world's 100 richest people.

Mexico's Carlos Slim, the majority shareholder of Latin America's largest mobile-phone operator, also suffered big losses. Once the world's richest person, Slim now ranks sixth with a \$54 billion pile. 3G Capital co-founder Jorge Paulo Lemann saw his fortune drop the most among Latin American billionaires, losing \$9.8 billion. But even with that fall, he remains Brazil's richest person.

Russian fortunes on average fared better. The volatility caused by collapsing oil prices, a flare-up in tensions with Ukraine and tightening sanctions was partially offset by periodic gains. The combined net worth of the country's 25 wealthiest people was down only slightly, ending

at \$255 billion, according to the ranking.

Still, 16 of the 25 Russian billionaires on the Bloomberg index saw their net worth fall in 2018. Aluminum magnate Oleg Deripaska, who remains under U.S. sanctions, lost the most — \$5.7 billion — and dropped out the Bloomberg ranking of the world's top 500 richest people.

By contrast, energy moguls Leonid Mikhelson, Gennady Timchenko and Vadim Alekperov added a total of \$9 billion. Timchenko, sanctioned in 2014, added 27 percent to his net worth as shares of gas producer Novatek rose 40 percent.

Those gains were the main reason why energy billionaires as a group had the best year, adding a collective \$6 billion. Technology fortunes — the best performing in 2017 after climbing \$262 billion — were down a total of \$55 billion, even including Bezos's gain. All other industries were down, including a \$75 billion decline for retail tycoons and a \$79 billion drop for industrialists.

The number of women on the list inched up by one to 66 as Denise Coates, the British founder and chief executive officer of online bookmaker Bet365 Group Ltd., joined the ranking for the first time. She pocketed 220 million pounds (\$282 million) in remuneration last year, one of the highest disclosed pay packages anywhere, after the company reported record results.



In this image released by CBS, Paul McCartney, right, joins host James Corden as they take a selfie on Penny Lane during the "Carpool Karaoke" segment on "The Late Late Show with James Corden."

A journey through 2018's top pop culture moments

By Jocelyn Noveck
Associated Press

And the top pop culture moments of 2018 are ... Wait. WAS there any pop culture this year? Of course there was, but you could be forgiven for forgetting, because more than ever it was politics, politics, and more politics occupying the zeitgeist and sucking the proverbial air out of the room.

Still, if you wanted a break from that, there was a royal wedding with something for everyone, some groundbreaking movies, the return of Mary Poppins (to the screen) and Harry Potter (to Broadway), a goodbye to some favorite celebrities, a tale of two coats that were more than just coats, and more. Join us on a highly selective chronological journey through a year in pop culture.

JANUARY

The first awards shows reflect a changed Hollywood, only a few months after the #MeToo movement engulfed the industry. At the Golden Globes, the red carpet becomes a sea of glittering black gowns in solidarity with victims of sexual misconduct, and Oprah Winfrey gives a barn-burner of a speech, looking to a day "when nobody ever has to say 'Me Too' again!" At the Grammys, stars don white roses, and singer Kesha dedicates a tearful performance of "Praying" to the #MeToo movement.

FEBRUARY

Welcome to Wakanda: The latest Marvel hero to jump off the page into his own movie is the "Black Panther," and Ryan Coogler's film is universally acclaimed. "Show them who we are," goes a line from the film, an appropriate pre-Oscar chant for Coogler and a starry cast including Chadwick Boseman, Michael B. Jordan, Lupita Nyong'o and a slew of others. Ten months later the film will be nominated for a Golden Globe, beginning its awards journey.

MARCH

Speaking of OSCAR, it's that time, and we're still talking about #MeToo, not to mention "Time's Up!" Appearing onstage to mark the moment is a powerful trio of Harvey Weinstein's accusers: Ashley Judd, Annabella Sciorra, and Salma Hayek. And when Frances McDormand says she has "some things to say," people listen: The best actress winner asks all the women nominees in the room to stand, and instructs Hollywood to tell their stories.

APRIL

Times are changing at the Pulitzers, too, where rapper Kendrick Lamar wins the music prize for "DAMN." He's the first rapper to win the prestigious laurel and the first winner who's not a classical or jazz musician. In film, director John Krasinski energizes the horror genre with the creepy, silent "A Quiet Place," also starring wife Emily Blunt. On Broadway, the enduring magic of Harry Potter is conjured with the hit London transplant, "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child."

MAY

Let's say "Do Svidaniya" to our favorite Soviet spy couple as "The Americans" ends its six-season run on FX with an elegant, surprising and moving series finale. At the annual glittery Met Gala, the theme is "Fashion and the Catholic Imagination," and imaginations are running rampant — we're talking about you, Katy Perry and your giant angel wings! But perhaps the most memorable fashion statement comes when the very American Meghan Markle weds the very British Prince Harry in a refreshingly unadorned white gown. A gospel choir sings "Stand By Me," and an American bishop, Michael Curry, almost steals the show with a spirited improvisational sermon before saying: "We gotta get y'all married!" Also this month, "This Is America" by Childish Gambino, aka multi-talented Donald Glover (also having a big year with "Atlanta") opens at No. 1 on the Billboard chart, accompanied by a viral video of nonstop dancing punctuated by shocking scenes of shootings. And goodbye, Roseanne: The show's reboot is canceled following her racist tweet.

JUNE

What was she thinking? Melania Trump doesn't say, but the writing on her Zara jacket has everyone talking. "I don't really care. Do U?" reads the garment worn by the first lady on parts of her trip to visit detained migrant children in Texas. Four months later she'll explain it was "for the people and for the left-wing media who are criti-

cizing me." In music, Jay-Z and Beyonce continue to exert their unique influence with a surprise joint album, "Everything Is Love." On a sad note, two admired celebrities are mourned after taking their own lives: global culinary chronicler Anthony Bourdain and colorful it-bag designer Kate Spade.

JULY

Last year, it was Weinstein. This year, it's Les Moonves, one of the most powerful men in television. Reporter Ronan Farrow breaks the explosive story of sexual misconduct on the part of the CBS chief executive; in September, with accusations escalating, Moonves will step down. And at year's end he'll lose his \$120 million severance when CBS says it has grounds to fire him for cause, concluding he violated company policy and was uncooperative with an investigation — a claim Moonves' attorney denies.

AUGUST

Farewell to the Queen of Soul: Aretha Franklin's death sparks worldwide mourning, and the singer is hailed not only for her talent — the greatest of a generation — but her lifelong demand for "Respect," as a woman and an African-American. She is eulogized in an epic eight-hour funeral. Another longtime great, Paul McCartney, does carpool karaoke with James Corden, and their visit to McCartney's hometown of Liverpool that has many fans crying sweet tears of nostalgia.

SEPTEMBER

"Believe in something, even if it means sacrificing everything," says a new Nike ad that makes waves because of the man speaking the lines: Colin Kaepernick, the former San Francisco quarterback who began a wave of protests among NFL players against police brutality and racial inequality. At the Emmys, the awards themselves are upstaged by a surprise marriage proposal. And happy birthday, Harry Potter! Wow, you're 20 years old.

OCTOBER

Usually Donald Trump

has the spotlight in the Oval Office, but apparently not when Kanye West visits. The rapper, ostensibly there to discuss prison reform, delivers a 10-minute speech about the president, politics, and of course himself. "You are tasting a fine wine," he says, referring to, er, his truly. "It has multiple notes to it." Onscreen, the ultimate chameleon, Lady Gaga, reinvents herself yet again with a stunning turn in Bradley Cooper's acclaimed "A Star Is Born." And some fine-art news: The elusive Banksy pulls a stunt for the ages with his self-shredding painting at a Sotheby's auction. But was that him, in the audience? Maybe.

NOVEMBER

Three broken ribs might sideline a football player, but Ruth Bader Ginsburg? Nah. Days after her injury from a fall, the 85-year-old Supreme Court justice is back on the job, capping a year in which she's emerged as a true pop culture heroine. Already in the spotlight for "RBG," the documentary in which she's shown doing push-ups among other things, she's also the subject of a popular SNL rap video, and by year's end a new feature film, "On the Basis of Sex." Oh, and she's back at the gym, too.

DECEMBER

Wanna be the new Oscar host? They're hiring! (Unless you'd prefer to be Trump's chief of staff.) Kevin Hart is forced to step down — two days after being named — when past homophobic tweets are aired. And remember all the talk over the first lady's Zara coat? Now it's Nancy Pelosi's Max Mara coat we're discussing, a fiery orange-red number that she wears — with Armani shades — emerging from a tense showdown with the president. The fashion label immediately reissues the discontinued "Fire Coat." And speaking of hot (or cool) overcoats: A stylish new Mary Poppins is on the block, thanks to Blunt, who proves a worthy successor to Julie Andrews in the Disney sequel. At the end of a tough year, it feels nice to indulge with just a spoonful of sugar.

Netflix named Associated Press' Entertainer of the Year

By Mark Kennedy
Associated Press

NEW YORK — After a year like this, Netflix shows no signs of chilling.

The dominant online video streamer started 2018 with almost 118 million subscribers, went on to win its first feature-film Oscar, briefly surpassed Disney as the most valuable U.S. media company, lured the likes of superstar show runners Shonda Rhimes, Kenya Barris and Ryan Murphy — not to mention Barack and Michelle Obama — and is expected to end the year with 146 million subscribers and a likely best picture Oscar nominee in "Roma."

In a sign of how influential the giant streamer has become, it also got what every celebrity gets — a gentle mocking on "Saturday Night Live." The sketch comedy show's season-ending episode this month aired a fake ad highlighting Netflix's enormous effort to produce as much content as possible.

"Our goal is the endless scroll. By the time you reach the bottom of our menu, there's new shows at the top," explained the voice over.

For a dominating 12 months, Netflix has been named The Associated Press Entertainer of the Year, voted by members of the news cooperative.

There's been so much amazing entertainment this year, and we're proud of the part we've played and humbled by this recognition from the AP, Ted Sarandos, Netflix's chief content officer, said Thursday after being told of the honor.

"We are thrilled to be working with the best creators who have helped us to entertain the world with shows, films and specials from Hollywood, Mumbai, Madrid, Seoul, Berlin and everywhere in between."

Netflix topped other candidates including Donald Glover, Ariana Grande, Bradley Cooper and Michelle Obama, among others. Previous AP Entertainer of the Year winners have included Lin-Manuel Miranda, Adele, Taylor Swift, Jennifer Lawrence, Lady Gaga, Tina Fey and Betty White.

Though Netflix doesn't release ratings, 2018 was a year when it seemed to really flex its digital muscles, showing off its deep reservoir of titles, from original unscripted shows to those produced in other countries, to even becoming a home for shows canceled elsewhere.

The company that once concentrated on sending DVDs through the mail in little red envelopes scored its first feature-film Oscar in March, with a best documentary trophy going

to "Icarus." Bryan Fogel's investigation into doping in sports. (Netflix won its first ever Oscar last year with the short doc "The White Helmets.")

Netflix movies, specials and shows were all over popular culture this year, including "The Kissing Booth," "Nanette," "To All the Boys I've Loved Before," "The Kominsky Method," "The Haunting of Hill House," "GLOW," "Lost in Space," "The Great British Baking Show," "Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat" and "Queer Eye." "House of Cards" — Netflix's first original series — debuted just six years ago.

It has backed such Oscar bait as "Roma" and "The Ballad of Buster Scruggs" and TV fans await more episodes from "Stranger Things," "The Crown," "Orange Is the New Black" and "Ozark." The company has even seen the phrase "Netflix and chill" part of the mainstream vocabulary.

In May, Netflix's market capitalization — or the total value of its stock — shot higher than the capitalization for mighty Disney, previously the most valuable media company in the world. The Champagne-popping moment didn't last very long but it was a sign of how a maverick company could disrupt the order.

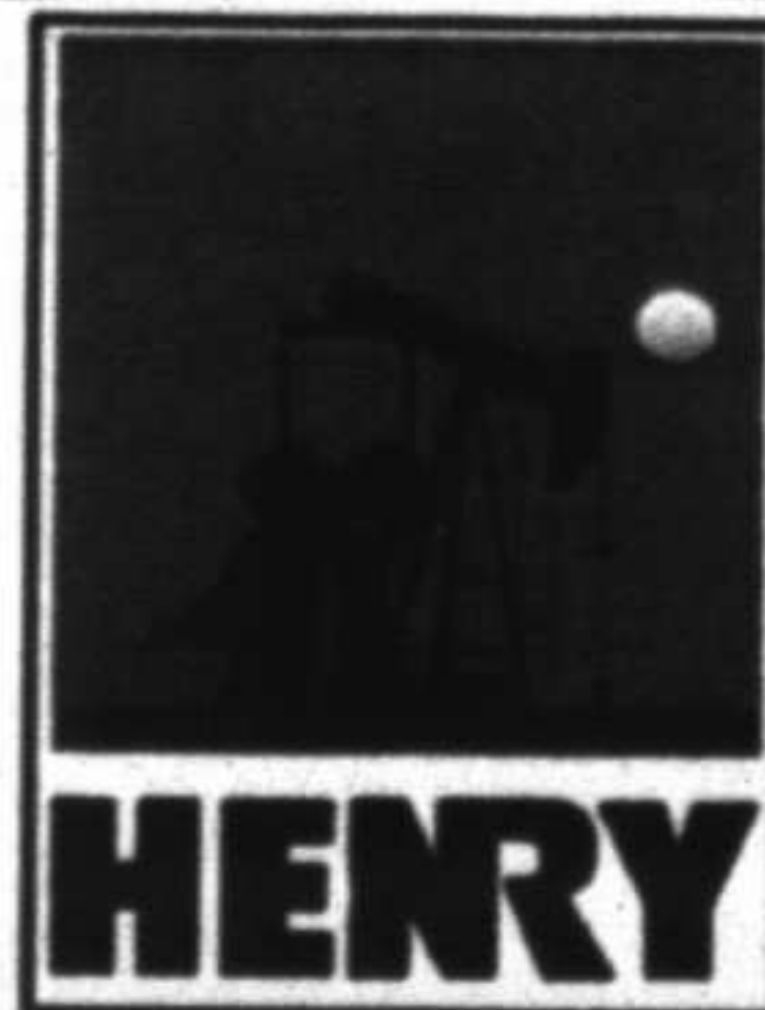
Netflix then knocked HBO off its longtime perch — 18 years — as the most nominated Emmy Award platform, eventually earning 112 nods. The streaming behemoth would go on to tie the premium cable network with 23 wins at the Emmy Awards. Netflix also dominated the television categories at the Screen Actors Guild Awards with 15 total nods, nearly double any other network.

Top filmmaking talent like Martin Scorsese, the Coen brothers and Michael Bay are working for Netflix, and the streaming giant convinced Charlie Brooker to bring his "Black Mirror" to its platform. It hired Channing Dungey from ABC Entertainment and Kira Goldberg from 21st Century Fox. It has promised to spend more than \$8 billion on content this year alone.

In 2019, Netflix will likely face stiffer challenges from the likes of Amazon, Hulu, Apple, WarnerMedia and Disney, as well as needing to handle its long-term debt. But Netflix is looking for more subscribers in India and South America and the company's market value is over \$100 billion.

"At Netflix, we're always working to give our members great choice and a better entertainment experience, and we're excited about what's in store for 2019," Sarandos said.

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Matthew 14:14

When He went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and felt compassion for them and healed their sick.

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10% of the World's population is left handed.

OPINION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Thursday, December 27, 2018 | Page 6A

Why is Wall Street surprised by Trump now?

Trump has always been erratic and impulsive. Why is Wall Street surprised now?

There isn't any good explanation for President Trump's abrupt announcement last Wednesday that he was withdrawing all U.S. troops from Syria. Conservative hawks are livid, of course, and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., called the decision a Christmas gift to Russian President Vladimir Putin. But even those who favor withdrawal seem bemused. International-relations analyst Stephen M. Walt cheered the troop withdrawal in a Foreign Policy article headlined: "Good Riddance to America's Syria Policy: As usual, Donald Trump has done the right thing in the wrong way."

Was the president trying to shore up his support with a base grown tired of foreign interventions? Did he cave when Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan told him over the phone that he was going to carry his operations against the Kurds into Syrian territory? Was Trump's decision a momentary whim now incredibly become indecipherable? Who can say? Just in time for Christmas, Trump has finally brought us the peace that passeth all understanding.

Even by Trumpian standards, the troop-withdrawal announcement looked haphazard. And it wasn't the Trump administration's only holiday surprise. On Saturday, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin

MEGAN MCARDLE
Washington Post Writers Group



announced (on Twitter, naturally) that the president had no intention of firing Federal Reserve Chair Jerome H. Powell. Which of course raised the possibility that he might. On Sunday, Mnuchin returned with a stunning encore: He said he had spoken with the heads of the United States' six largest banks to confirm that they had "ample liquidity available for lending" and haven't had "any clearance or margin issues... the markets continue to function properly."

Always nice to hear, of course, but because no one had suggested the markets weren't functioning properly, the news was startling. Such announcements are traditionally made only on the eve of a crisis, not an otherwise dull Sunday afternoon.

Inevitably, people feared they had somehow overlooked a looming disaster in what had seemed, until then, merely a mild and orderly market correction from an exuberant boom. Markets skidded

further Monday.

Mnuchin's actions are both more and less mysterious than the president's. Less, because it seems clear why his Twitter feed developed a sudden nervous tic: He was trying to appease his boss. More, because neither Mnuchin nor anyone else understands how to calm the impetuous, irascible occupant of the Oval Office.

Presumably, the president is displeased by the recent decline in financial markets. It's less clear whether he, or anyone else, actually believed that investors would perk right up if the treasury secretary, for no apparent reason, started shouting, "Guys, everything's fine! We're not going to have another financial crisis, okay?"

To be fair, it's not clear what would cheer them up. Which brings us to the deepest mystery of all: Why were investors so optimistic in the first place?

I asked a number of financial professionals that question back when the bull market was still charging ahead. After all, Trump had promised tariffs, which large, publicly traded corporations tend not to like; he had promised immigration restrictions, which such companies really don't like; and finally, he had promised lots of uncertainty, which those firms hate with the white-hot fire of a thousand suns.

The boom could be viewed as a collective sigh of relief that Democrats wouldn't be finding new and creative ways to

regulate the private sector. But given the protectionist drawbacks of a Trump administration, this didn't really justify a 35 percent increase in the value of the S&P 500 from November 2016 to September 2018.

The best answer I got was that investors and chief executives assumed that Trump was planning to do the stuff they wanted — the tax cuts, the deregulation — and that the rest of his campaign promises were just base-pandering rhetoric that would be quickly abandoned. Their belief seemed touchingly naive, even quaint. But also sincere and strongly held.

Which may solve the twin mysteries of boom and the bust: Wall Street believed that Trump was just playing erratic and impulsive for the cameras, but that behind the policy scenes, what they'd be getting was a normal Republican presidency, only maybe a bit more so. The current correction may simply reflect Wall Street's belated realization that investors would be getting exactly what they'd seen on the stump: a man who substitutes reaction for planning, and angry tweets for policy.

One thing, of course, is totally unsurprising: that when those on Wall Street finally figured out who they were really dealing with, and prices slumped, the guy from the campaign stump was going to find a way to make it all worse.

OUR VIEW

Will Midlanders rise up and answer a teacher's challenge?

We appreciate a good challenge when we see one. That's why we would like to see our readers take seriously the challenge posed by Bowie Fine Arts Academy teacher Stacey Callaway.

She brought attention to a website called "Donor's Choose," which "empowers public school teachers from across the country to request much-needed materials and experiences for their students," according to the website — www.donorschoose.org.

She wrote about her success in getting projects she listed funded through the site and that there were 221 local projects waiting to be funded. The number of projects currently is 207 — most likely because of this line from her Christmas Day column in the Reporter-Telegram:

"I'm putting forth a challenge to all of Midland. Let's get all 221 of these projects funded before Jan. 1. The donations are tax deductible, and the teachers funded can have a special bonus to begin the rest of the school year."

We love it when Midlanders get behind a good cause, and there probably isn't a more worthy cause than supporting teachers in our community. One look through the 21 pages of requests will show many classrooms are represented: elementary, junior high and high schools; public and charter schools; Midland ISD and Greenwood ISD. Many teachers are asking for technology, specifically Chromebooks. Our guess is, technology suffers when a school district is forced to send tens of millions of dollars to Austin to be distributed elsewhere.

Can all these requests be fulfilled by Jan. 1? Barring an oil company or foundation stepping in and picking up the check for an unbelievable post-Christmas miracle, it seems Jan. 1 is overly ambitious, but then again, why not? Midlanders certainly have responded to challenges before. So what do you say? Can you spare a buck or \$10 or \$100 or more?

There are plenty of teachers who are trying to make their classrooms a better place for their students — this community's children.

We believe 2019 has the potential to be transformational when it comes to education in Midland. Midland ISD appears up to the task. The Legislature could surprise us with a real solution to the school finance process, and Midland voters might have a bond plan to consider that will help with facilities. The district is growing, after all.

But we are not there yet. There is still time to end 2018 with a bang. A Bowie teacher has thrown out a challenge for this community — companies, foundations, the Midland Chamber, residents, etc. How will we respond?

CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVE

MIDLAND ISD
Phone: 432-240-1000
Website: midlandisd.net
Facebook: [facebook.com/midlandisd/](https://www.facebook.com/midlandisd/)
Superintendent: Orlando Roldan 240-1001
District 1: James Fuller, District 2: Robert Marquez, District 3: Tommy Bishop, District 4: John Kennedy, District 5: vacant, District 6: Rick Davis, District 7: Bryan Murry

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Facebook: [facebook.com/MidlandCollege/](https://www.facebook.com/MidlandCollege/)
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TO OUR READERS

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Keystone Cops capture U.S. economy

The Keystone Cops are officially in charge of our economy.

Markets have been plunging, with the S&P 500 down 20 percent from its September peak. A lot of factors have driven the correction, including President Trump's trade wars, his government shutdown and a surprise court ruling declaring Obamacare unconstitutional.

Trump needs a villain, though, and that villain can't be Trump. Why, according to the president, markets love Trump!

So instead, he declared the villain to be Federal Reserve Chair Jerome H. Powell, a man Trump personally chose for the job a year ago.

As Trump and his surrogates love to remind us, most major economic measures — unemployment, gross domestic product, consumer spending — still look strong. Under such circumstances, it's unsurprising that Powell has continued the gradual interest rate increases begun three years ago under his predecessor, Janet L. Yellen.

Nonetheless, Trump has said the Fed should stop its rate hikes because the economy is too fragile to withstand them. Instead of abiding by tradition and never talking about monetary policy, the president has gone public with his fury with the Fed.

Then, over the weekend, things got exponentially worse: News broke that Trump was thinking about firing Powell.

Whether Trump has the legal authority to do so remains ambiguous. Unambiguous, though, is how economically cataclysmic even such an attempt would be.

There are reasons we want central banks to remain politically independent. As Argentina, Venezuela, Turkey and other hyperinflationary economies have shown us, putting the printing press in the hands of politicians is a recipe for disaster.

Politicians always have an incentive to crank out a more money, which juices growth in the short term but jeopardizes price stability longer term.

Over the decades, the Federal Reserve has cultivated a hard-won, well-deserved reputation for political independence — and with it, a credible commitment to stable prices. The entire worldwide financial system depends on that independence.

With one fell swoop, Trump could destroy it, and set off a global panic.

None of that has stopped some of Trump's economic advisers, such as Heritage Foundation fellow Stephen Moore, from encouraging Trump to fire Powell, plus everyone else at the Fed, too. That's ultimately what would be necessary for Trump to get the looser money he wants: He appointed four of five sitting Fed board governors, and last week they all voted for a rate hike.

Fortunately, some Trump officials know how disastrous such developments could be. Unfortunately, those officials also appear to be incompetent.

CATHERINE RAMPELL
Washington Post Writers Group



First, Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin tweeted a quote purportedly from Trump, declaring that "I never suggested firing Chairman Jay Powell, nor do I believe I have the right to do so."

Call me crazy, but Trump seems to know his way around Twitter. If that's really what he believes, he certainly has the means to deliver the message himself. The fact that he didn't was less than reassuring. (In fact, Trump continued cyberbullying the Fed, further spooking markets.)

Then Mnuchin decided to make things worse.

On Sunday, he released a seemingly panicked statement urging the public not to panic. From his Mexican golf vacation, Mnuchin had called heads of our biggest banks and then told the world that these banks had enough liquidity to continue lending. He also announced an emergency Christmas Eve convening of the "Plunge Protection Team," which includes heads of the Fed, Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

I cannot sufficiently stress how amateurish it was for Mnuchin to make this announcement.

If markets were worried about anything, it was Trump's scheme to fire Powell, not bank liquidity — until Mnuchin suggested they should be worried about bank liquidity. The whole episode was like going to your doctor for a heart attack and being told not to worry because he knows how to treat brain cancer.

Maybe Mnuchin was trying to put on an ill-devised show of strength for his boss. Maybe he wanted to assure Wall Street that he had Trump under control, and needed a cover story for the calls. Maybe he was trying to draw from the playbook written during the 2008 financial crisis, not realizing that the conditions, the players and the threats are all quite different this time.

Other, more seasoned members of the Plunge Protection Team — including Powell — certainly would have warned Mnuchin that releasing such a statement would backfire. The fact that the statement came out at all suggests he either ignored or didn't seek their input, either of which is alarming.

In any case, if you've been wondering how this administration would handle a real financial crisis, we just had a dry run.

Two, sort of. Neither went well.

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



Deaths of 2 children raise doubts about US border agency

By Nomaan Merchant
Associated Press

HOUSTON — The deaths of two migrant children in just over two weeks raised strong new doubts Wednesday about the ability of U.S. border authorities to care for the thousands of minors arriving as part of a surge of families trying to enter the country.

Eight-year-old Felipe Gomez Alonzo died in U.S. custody at a New Mexico hospital on Christmas Eve after suffering a cough, vomiting and fever, authorities said. The cause is under investigation, as is the death Dec. 8 of another Guatemalan child, 7-year-old Jakelin Caal.

"There is a real failure here that we all need to reckon with," said incoming Rep. Veronica Escobar, a Democrat elected last month to represent El Paso in

Congress. "We need to know how many other Jakelins and Felipes there have been."

Felipe had been detained by U.S. border authorities for a week and moved between facilities with his father, officials said. The last place the boy was held — after the first of two visits to the hospital on the day he died — was a highway checkpoint in New Mexico.

By its own regulations, U.S. Customs and Border Protection is supposed to detain people for no more than 72 hours before turning them over to other government agencies responsible for long-term detention. CBP facilities are typically spartan, with food, water and blankets but often no medical professionals, teachers or some of the other resources longer-term detention centers offer.

Similarly, Jakelin was first held with her father at a small base in rural New Mexico that did not have

running water, according to Democrats who visited it after the girl's death.

The U.S. government's system for detaining migrants crossing the border is severely overtaxed. Authorities would not say how many children CBP is now holding. But the U.S. is seeing a sharp rise in families with children.

Homeland Security Kirsten Nielsen on Wednesday blamed "a system that prevents parents who bring their children on a dangerous illegal journey from facing consequences for their actions." Her department argues that it must detain more people to discourage other Central American families from trying to migrate.

In the wake of the deaths, Nielsen ordered a study of CBP's medical programs and a "more thorough" assessment of all children who enter the agency's custody.

Also, border authorities said that they completed

health checks in reaction to Felipe's death on nearly all children in their custody. They did not disclose the results.

Rep. Henry Cuellar, a Texas Democrat who sits on a key subcommittee overseeing border funding, said he has pushed to fund more alternatives to detention such as ankle monitors, which he said could have been assigned to Felipe's father.

He said President Donald Trump's administration has prioritized a border wall — the subject of the partial government shutdown since last week — over investing in CBP checkpoints that have long needed attention.

"They're not set up to hold people for a long time," Cuellar said. "There's so much money that the wall sucks up that it's hard to address some of the other issues. I wish the administration would understand that."

CBP said it is reviewing all available options to relieve overcrowding in the El Paso sector, where Felipe and his father were apprehended. The agency also said it has reached out to other government agencies for "surge medical assistance."

HERMAN

From 1A

What Texas needs, Bullock said one day in 1991, is a state income tax.

"I am convinced in my mind that there is a revolt among Texas taxpayers on school taxes," he said in pitching it. "And rightfully so."

He suggested a 5 percent tax on individuals and an 8 percent levy on corporations. Then-Gov. Ann Richards, recognizing political suicide when she saw it, opposed the idea, saying, "I detect no sympathy or support in the general public."

What ensued was some discussion about the relative merits of a state income tax. Generally, it was a discussion about who hated it most. Bullock, no fool, got the message and backed off. In 1993, prepping for his 1994 reelection campaign, he led the effort to make it more difficult to enact a state income tax. A constitutional amendment approved in 1993 by lawmakers and voters says it can happen only if voters approve it and the money goes for the "support of education."

That would seem to be a formidable obstacle. And it is. But Gov. Greg Abbott and some lawmakers say it's not

formidable enough. To use the parlance of our day, they want to build a wall between Texans and an income tax.

Rep. Jeff Leach, R-Plano, has filed House Joint Resolution 38, a proposed constitutional amendment Leach says would help defend the "Texas Miracle." (He's referring to our robust economy, not the Longhorns' win over OU back in October.)

A personal income tax, says Leach, "would have disastrous effects on the future of our great state."

If approved by a two-thirds margin in each chamber, HJR 38 would go on the November 2019 ballot for voter review. Under the current constitutional provision, Texas lawmakers cannot enact an income tax without voter approval. If HJR 38 is added to the Constitution, we'd have a provision saying, "The Legislature may not impose a tax on the net income of individuals, including an individual's share of partnership and unincorporated association income."

So here's the change this would make. Currently, to get a state income tax, it would take a majority vote in each chamber and voter approval. If HJR 38 is approved, the Constitution

would bar an income tax. That's not as definitive as it sounds. Our Constitution is amendable. We've done it 498 times. Leach's proposed constitutional provision would set an additional barrier because it would take a two-thirds vote in each chamber — as opposed to the current majority vote — and voter approval to enact a state income tax.

Leach says the change is needed "to keep our Texas economy strong. That's why we think it's important to put it in the Constitution once and for all so that we won't have a state income tax." He acknowledges, however, the reality that there would still be a pathway to an income tax.

Rep. Gina Hinojosa, D-Austin, kind of pointed this out in a recent tweet about a state income tax: "It's already prohibited by the Texas Constitution (Art. VIII, Sec. 24) unless approved by voters in a statewide referendum."

Would Texans ever build a monument to someone who passed a state income tax? Doubtful. But we did name a museum for a former lieutenant governor who once proposed one.

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SUPPORT

From 1A

Midland's Chamber of Commerce also argued for the Trafigura terminal.

The Port of Corpus Christi is leading the opposition to the project, its concerns echoed in multiple letters to Gov. Greg Abbott from Gulf Coast legislators. Corpus Christi-area economic-development groups and local governments have also passed resolutions opposing Trafigura's project.

The port is pursuing its own VLCC-capable crude oil export terminal on land it owns on Harbor Island within the city limits of Port Aransas. The terminal, if completed, would cost \$1 billion and be just two miles from the entrance to the Gulf of Mexico. The Port of Corpus Christi has teamed up with investment firm the Carlyle Group to fund the project.

Port CEO Sean Strawbridge said while he's sympathetic to West Texas oil producers' needs to move their product onto the international market, "we don't want to cut corners."

"I think that will show poorly on the industry if there's an embracing of high-risk solutions when there are alternative solutions that are much more responsible, sustainable, proven," Strawbridge said.

But, activists in Port Aransas, concerned about potential damage to the environment and the city's tourism industry, are fighting the port's plans. They support the construction of an offshore oil loading platform.

The Port Aransas Conservancy objects to the Harbor Island project, but said it would support the Port of Corpus Christi if it builds an offshore terminal similar to Trafigura's.

Meanwhile, Brazilian prosecutors have accused Trafigura in recent weeks of paying bribes to Brazil's state-owned oil company Petrobras. The accusations led Petrobras to suspend oil and fuel trading with Trafigura and Glencore, another Swiss commodities trader, Reuters reported.



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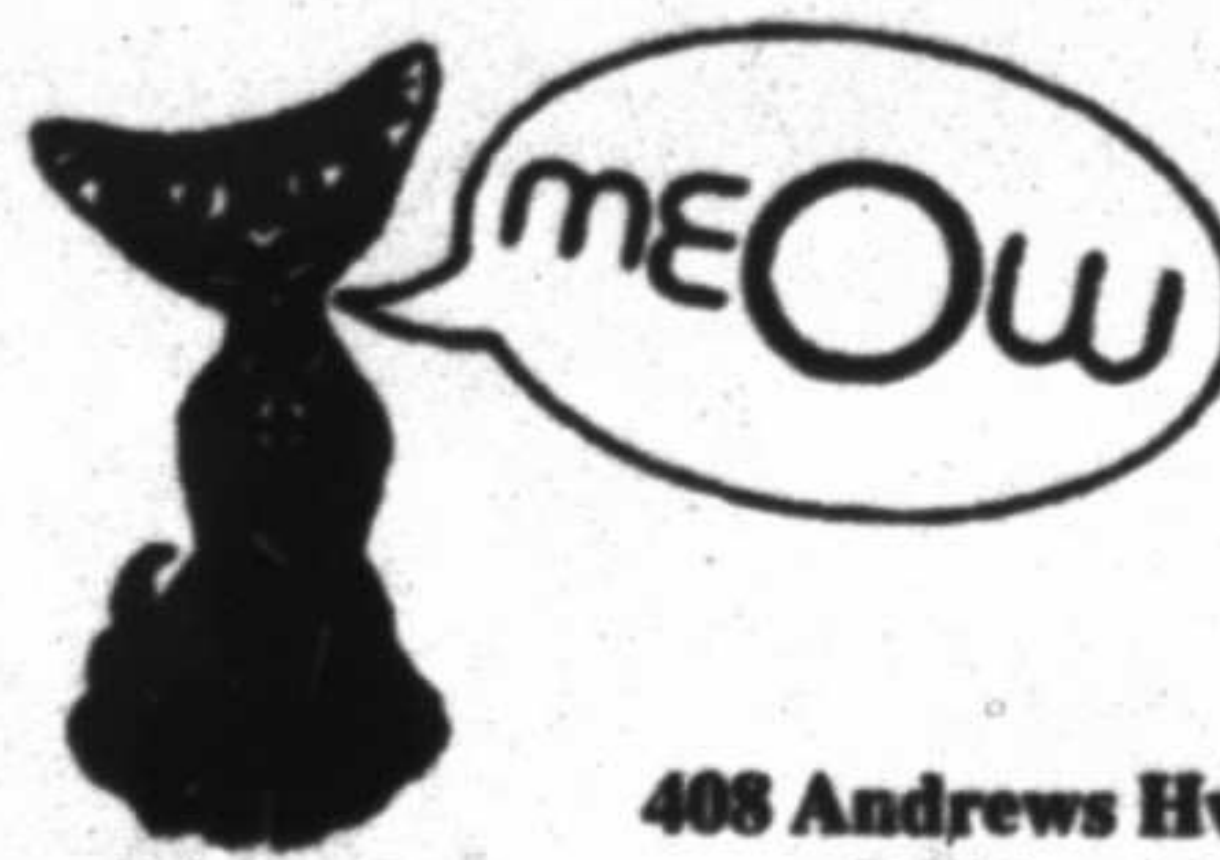
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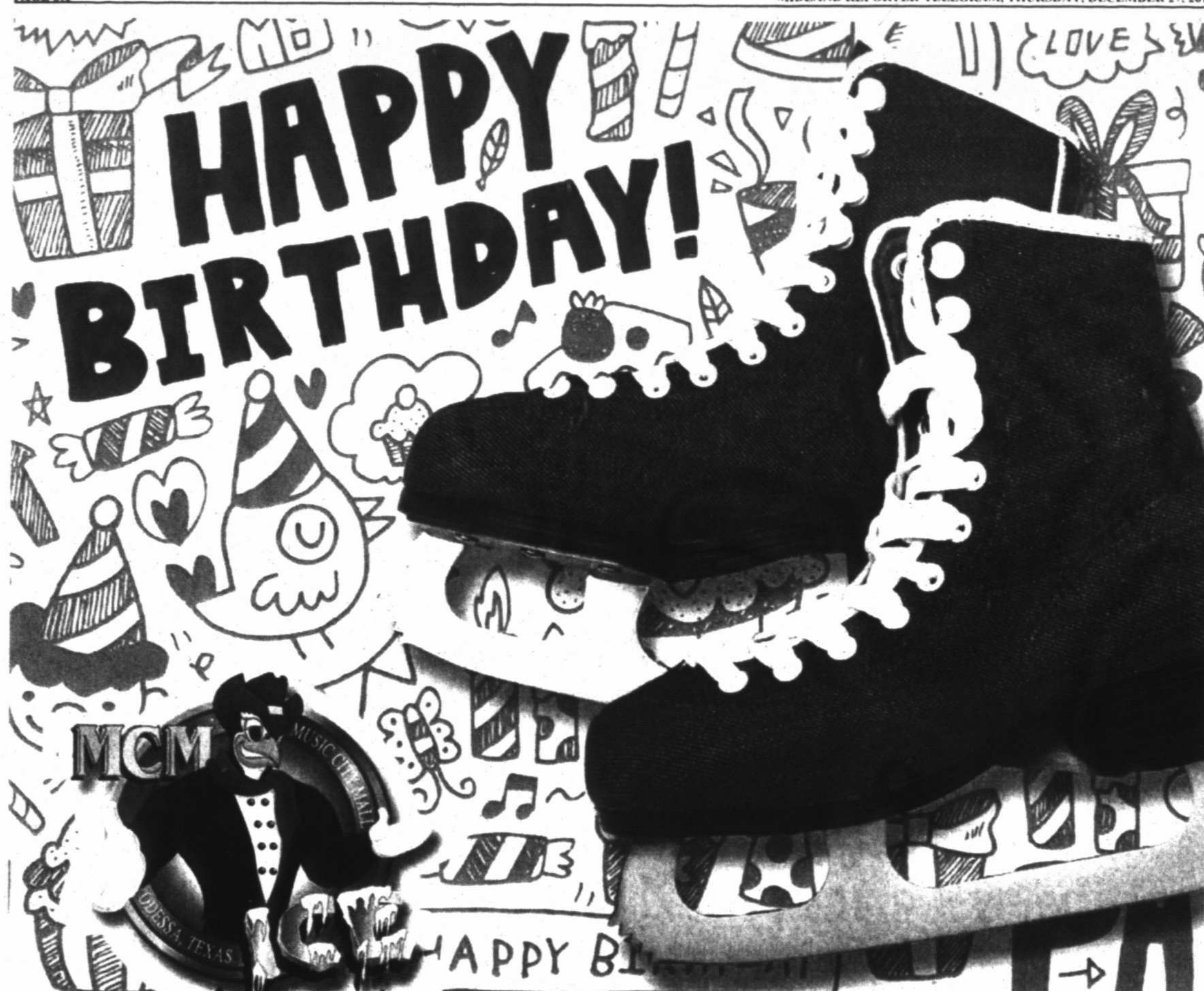
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WEEKENDER

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN THE PERMIAN BASIN

BEST BETS TODAY



WELCOME IN
The Museum of the Southwest offers free admission through Sunday. Take advantage of this to see the enthralling "Into the Great White Sands: Photographs by Craig Varjabedian." Visit museumsouthwest.org for hours.

SATURDAY

TRIP THE LIGHTS

These aren't your usual Christmas lights. Dance and theater come together in "A Very Electric Christmas" at the Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center. Lightwire Theater turns popular holiday tunes into a dazzling display. 7:30 p.m.



COUNTRY NIGHT
Aaron Watson keeps the holidays going with his new "Family Christmas" album and December tour. See new and favorite hits when he headlines Dos Amigos. 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

IN STOCK
The Sandhills Stock Show and Rodeo begins its run at Ector County Coliseum and runs through Jan. 12. Shows, competitions and performances are part of this annual event. Visit sandhillssr.com for more information.

See complete schedule of weekend events on Page 2.

MOVIES

Movies opening this week



Vice

Holmes and Watson



Heat Index: The New Year's Eve edition

By Rich Lopez
rllopez@mrt.com

Monday hardly seems the night for some of the area's biggest parties, but New Year's Eve can't be stopped. Whether you stay in town, or take to the road, the Permian Basin options to welcome in 2019 are plenty.

■ Dinner service beginning at 4:30 p.m. with complimentary glass of sparkling wine at Opal's Table, 223 W. Wall St. opalstable.com.

■ New Year's Eve BBQ dinner is open to the public and will include sides and dessert for one price. 5-8 p.m. at Ranchland Hills Golf Club, 1600 E. Wadley Ave. \$18.99.

■ 2019 on the Lanes at Bowlero: Bowl a strike for the new year with two packages for day and night. Bowlero will have the Daytime NYE Family Package with two hours of unlimited bowling, four menu options, unlimited soft drinks and a game card. The Evening NYE Ball Drop begins at 9 p.m. will offer four hours of unlimited bowling with six menu options, champagne toast and more.

Both include shoe rentals. At 5320 W. Loop 250 N. \$24.99 per person day package, \$37.99 per person evening package. bowlero.com.

■ New Year's Eve Bash at The Bar will celebrate with live music by the Electric Gypsies. Party favors and champagne at midnight with breakfast burritos. The kitchen's full menu will also be available for dinner. Reservations encouraged. Doors at 6 p.m. at 606 W. Missouri Ave. \$25.

■ New Year's Eve Party with party favors, games and black-out skates. 7 p.m. at KC's Nutty Roller, 1004 Andrews Highway. \$16 admission, \$1 skate rental, \$5 blades. Cash only. kcsnuttyroller.com.

■ New Year's Bash will feature all-you-can-play attractions, bowling, games and a chef-prepared buffet. For ages 10 and older. 7:30 p.m. at Cinergy Odessa, 8250 State Highway 191. \$24.99. cinergy.com.

■ New Year's party at American Legion Woods Lynch Post 19. The post opens up its ballroom to feature music by Dennis Snyder and the Sundowners. The event will feature snacks, party favors, a cash

bar and champagne and breakfast at midnight. 21 and older only. 7:30 p.m. at 501 Veterans Airpark Lane. Advance \$30-\$50, door \$40-\$60. Call 432-682-3511 for reservations.

■ New Year's Eve 2018 at Hotel Saint George celebrates the holiday in its Saint George Hall with a big night of music to usher in the new year. Butch Hancock and Jimmie Dale Gilmore headline the evening with Colin Gilmore and Rory Hancock and special guests The Mastersons. All table and seated ticketing includes unlimited beer, wine, margaritas, soda, Topo Chico and bottled water. 7:30 p.m. at 105 S. Highland Ave. Marfa. \$40 general admission, \$200-\$500 tables. ticketstripe.com/marfanyee2018.

■ New Year's Eve Party at the Boardroom. Head upstairs at Torino's Pizzabar for music, dancing and drinks. DJ Bryan Salazar spins the tunes into the new year. Dress to impress. 8 p.m. at 3303 N. Midkiff Road.

■ 70s Retro Party at The Reserve in the Doubletree by Hilton will feature appetizers, champagne toast and classic disco hits by DJ Shock in its onsite nightclub. Make a staycation out of it with hotel packages that include a room, dinner and

tickets to the event. 9 p.m. at 117 W. Wall St. \$15 cover.

■ New Year's with Dirty Glass. 9 p.m. at Hot Shots, 615 W. Wall St.

■ New Year's Eve Party in the historic ballroom at Hotel Settles. This glitzy party with live music by Spur 327 comes with a tier of packages that include dinner buffet for two, party favors, a bottle of champagne and midnight snack and more. 9 p.m. at 200 E. 3rd St., Big Spring. \$199-\$499. hotelsettles.com.

■ New Year's Eve Party at Pharmacy Bar and Parlor at the Settles will feature live entertainment, party favors and champagne toast with gift cards given out to the bar for use in January. 10 p.m. \$15.

■ Midnight champagne toast at Midland Beer Garden, 7112 W. Hwy 80. midlandbeergarden.com.

■ New Year's Day Brunch will feature omelet and waffle bars, carved prime rib, black-eyed peas and more. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Ranchland Hills Golf Club, 1600 E. Wadley Ave. \$21.99.

10 worst movies of 2018

By Michael Phillips
Chicago Tribune

Most years, I come to the end of our 12 months together in filmdom and end up picking a smallish, nearly flawless picture for my No. 1 slot. Then there's a larger, more expensive, more obviously imperfect No. 2. This year, "The Rider," #1; "Roma," #2. See?

"Worst" lists are different. I don't seem to veer in a particular direction for those, though nothing stings like a terrible comedy. Then again, at this point in the Marvel and DC superhero cycles (three clicks past the rinse cycle, and one click the right of "enough already"), there's something especially grinding about a franchise product rollout that holds next to nothing for you, personally. It's all personal, of course. Criticism is subjectivity, not objectivity.

With this exception: These 10 films really were the stinkiest worst.

10. "Red Sparrow." A lugubrious semester spent in what Jennifer Lawrence's Mattie Hari knock-off describes as "where school."

9. "Death Wish." Sleaziest reboot of the year. Vigilante slaughter as self-actualization therapy. Director Eli Roth is a moral idiot.

8. "Rampage." Joel Coen describes a director's job as "tone management." For the year's worst example of tone



This image released by STX Entertainment shows Joel McHale in a scene from "The Happytime Murders."

mismanagement, try the Dwayne Johnson/killer gorilla movie, cute one minute, punishing the next.

7. "The 15:17 to Paris." Clint Eastwood couldn't figure out how to tell this true-life, good-news, anti-terrorism story, but he went ahead and starting filming anyway.

6. "Aquaman." Even with a talented, versatile director (James Wan) at the helm, this one feels like being trapped in a Wisconsin Dells water park for, like, a week.

5. "Avengers: Infinity War." Two billion dollars in the coffers can't possibly indicate a granite slab of mediocrity, can it? Can it?

4. "Welcome to Marwen." See the documentary on Mark Hogancamp's life and work sometime; the Hollywood version, directed by Robert Zemeckis

and starring Steve Carell, turns everything to creepy sentimentality.

3. "Death of a Nation." Dinesh D'Souza's Trump infomercial equates the president's accomplishments with those of Abraham Lincoln's. No more need be said at this time.

2. "Life Itself." From the creator of "This Is Us" comes the most resentable romantic weepie of the year.

1. "The Happytime Murders." Brutally unfunny revenge on the Muppets, starring Melissa McCarthy, who also led one of the year's best films, "Can You Ever Forgive Me?" Which proves the axiom: Everything truly wrong with a movie goes wrong long before the actors are called to the set.

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Moscow Ballet's new Dove of Peace exclusive to annual 'Great Russian Nutcracker'

From staff reports

The dove is the central theme to the Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker this year. The show spotlights the Dove of Peace as a symbol of unity to promote peace through the arts and brings a new variation to this production, which returns to the Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center on Friday.

"The biggest peace advocacy ballet tour ever, the show features the acrobatic dove duet unique to Moscow Ballet," producer Akiva Talmi said in a press release. "The Dove of Peace role was inspired by Bolshoi Ballet principal dancer Stanislav Vlasov, who was the choreographer/balletmaster of Moscow Ballet's inaugural 1993 Great Russian Nutcracker, along with partner Lilia Sabitova."

The two-person Dove of Peace premiered in 2012 during the show's 20th Anniversary Tour and was debuted by Moscow Ballet's dancer Sergey Chumakov and ballerina Elena Petrichenko, who both still tour with the company.

In the ballet, Spanish, Arabian, Russian and French couples demonstrate the dances and spirit of their heritage and accompanied by 12-foot

IF YOU GO

"The Great Russian Nutcracker: Dove of Peace" by the Moscow Ballet, 7 p.m. Friday, Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. \$30-\$70. VIP packages available from \$104-\$177. nutcracker.com.

tall puppets symbolic of each country's cultural attributes.

The show also will include local ballet students performing alongside the Moscow Ballet through its Dance with Us program. Moscow Ballet Audition Directors auditioned local dance students for roles this fall. Rehearsals took place at Moscow Ballet host studio Dance Expressions by Debra. Children's roles are as party children, mice, snowflakes and snow maidens.

"These children carry the torch of peace," Talmi said. "Nine thousand children from 130 cities across the United States and Canada performing to 300,000 patrons presenting 200 shows join the Moscow Ballet's Dove of Peace tour in a quest for peace. The arts can make a difference."

COMING SOON

JANUARY

"Sesame Street Live! Let's Party," 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Jan. 5 and 6, Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. \$23-\$53. wagnernoel.com.

Volunteer Orientation, 1:30 p.m. Jan. 5, Lone Star Sanctuary for Animals, 4200 N. Fairgrounds Road. Volunteers under the age of 16, or those with special needs are very welcome with a parent or legal guardian.

Art by Daiken Asakawa (opening reception), 6 p.m. Jan. 5, Black Hen Gallery, 2034 W. Cuthbert Ave.

Musical Theatre Dance Workshop with Clayton Cross, 5 p.m. Jan. 6, Midland Community Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. \$20. mct-midland.org.

Van Gogh Acrylic Workshop, noon-4 p.m. Jan. 12, Art Smart Studio, 2517 Neely Ave. \$60. The workshop will be based on the "Cafe Terrace at Night" painting. For ages 12 and up. Supplies included with price.

Jake "The Snake" Roberts — Comedy and Stories from the Road, 8 p.m. Jan. 13, Dos Amigos, 4700 N. Golder Ave., Odessa. \$20-\$50.

Vocal Trash, 7 p.m. Jan. 16, Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. \$35. liveonstage-pb.com.

The Oak Ridge Boys, 7:30 p.m. Jan. 17, Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. \$42-\$67. wagner-noel.com.

"The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show featuring Brown Bear, Brown Bear," 2 p.m. Jan. 21, Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. \$27-\$67. wagnernoel.com. This stage show is based on four books by Eric Carle.

"Legally Blonde the Musical," 7:30 p.m. Jan. 23, Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. \$47-\$90. Broadwayinthebasin.com.

Family Science Night: Powered by Science, 6:30-8 p.m. Jan. 24, Petroleum Museum, 1500 N. Interstate 20 W. Free. pbpetro.org.

Odessa Jackalopes play the Lone Star Brahmas, 7 p.m. Jan. 25 and 26, Ector County Coliseum, 4201 Andrews Highway, Odessa.

MOSC Masterworks: "The Russians," 7:30 p.m. Jan. 26, Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. MOSC.org.

Brian Regan, 7 p.m. Jan. 27, Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. \$44.50. wagnernoel.com.

ECISD Music for Kids featuring music education and performances with a final concert by West Texas Jazz Society, Jan. 28-Feb. 1. wjjs.org.

The Jay Sekulow Band, 7 p.m. Jan. 29, Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. \$37-\$52. wagner-noel.com.



12 Moscow Ballet's signature Dove of Peace

CALENDAR

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Due to the holidays, some recurring events may be affected.

ART & DANCE

CLOSING Midland Arts Association lobby show: Diane K. Browne. During business hours in December at Community National Bank, 401 W. Texas Ave.

"The Great Russian Nutcracker: Dove of Peace" by the Moscow Ballet, 7 p.m. Friday, Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. nutcracker.com.

Winter Art Exhibit featuring works by area art associations. During business hours Monday-Friday at The Gallery at Midland Shared Spaces, 3500 N. "A" St.

OPENING: Midland Arts Association lobby show: Geoff Browne. During business hours in January at Community National Bank, 401 W. Texas Ave.

"A Legacy of Leadership: Winston Churchill" 10 a.m.-7 p.m. through Jan. 16 at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.

"Into the Great White Sands: Photographs by Craig Varjabedian. On display through Jan. 29. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Tuesday through Saturday, and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday at Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. museumsw.org.

"Golden Age of Hollywood: Costumes from the Gene London Cinema Collection." This exhibition features more than 50 costumes and personal effects of vintage movie stars such as Bette Davis, Joan Crawford, Doris Day, Tallulah Bankhead, Greta Garbo, Judy Garland, Katharine Hepburn, Grace Kelly, John Wayne, Tyrone Power, Elizabeth Taylor and Marilyn Monroe. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays (open to 8 p.m. Thursdays), 2-5 p.m. Sundays. Through March 10 at the Ellen Noel Art Museum, 4909 E. University Blvd., Odessa. noelartmuseum.org.

Palette Club Painting, 9 a.m. to noon Tuesdays. Palette Club, 907 W. Wadley Ave. paletteclub-

midland.com.

West Texas Legends in Line dancing classes for all levels, 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Midland Senior Center, 3303 W. Illinois Ave. meetup.com/crossingthelinewestexas.

Permian Basin Dance Club with live country music, 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Midland Downtown Lions Club, 200 Plaza St. \$8. For more information, call 432-638-3707.

CLASSES, LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS

Divination Membership Class, 7-9 p.m. today, Earth, Body and Soul, 333 N. Midkiff Road. \$30-\$40. earthbodyandsoul01.com

Open Shop Nights are every Monday hosted by the Midland Gem and Mineral Society and open to the public, 6:30-9 p.m. Mondays, 602 S. Main St. midlandgemandmineral.org. Visitors can watch members cut rock and work on lapidary projects.

COMEDY, FILM, STAGE

Dome shows: "Secret Lives of Stars," 3 p.m. Sunday and 4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday; "Zula Patrol," 1 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Blakemore Planetarium, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. museumsw.org.

EVENTS

CLOSING: Star-bright Village and Community Tree Lighting. View one of the largest displays in the area with more than 300,000 lights and holiday displays, 6-11 p.m. through Tuesday, McKinney Park, 625 W. Pool Road, Odessa. Free. odessaparks.org.

Lightwire Theatre's A Very Electric Christmas, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. \$29.50-\$104.50. wagnernoel.com.

New Year's Eve Party with party favors, games and blackout skates, 7 p.m. Monday, KC's Nutty Roller, 1004 Andrews Highway. \$16 admission, \$1 skate rental, \$5 blades. Cash only. kcsnuttyroller.com.

New Year's Bash will

feature all-you-can-play attractions, bowling, games and a chef-prepared buffet. For ages 10 and older, 7:30 p.m. Monday, Cineroy Odessa, 8250 State Highway 191. \$24.99. cineroy.com.

FAMILY AND YOUTH

Evening Storytime at the Library, 4:30 p.m. (2-6 years) Fridays, Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.

Wednesday Storytime with crafts for preschool children, 11 a.m. weekly at Barnes and Noble, 2617 West Loop 250 N. Barnesandnoble.com.

FOOD AND DRINK

Italiano Night, 6 p.m. Thursdays, Ranchland Hills Golf Club, 1600 E. Wadley Ave. ranchlandhills.com.

Thursday Night Dinner with live music, 7 p.m. Thursdays, Cafe Alldredge, 3300 N. Fairgrounds Road. alldredgegardens.com.

Beef Rib Night, 5 p.m. Fridays, True Texas BBQ, 5407 Andrews Highway.

Seafood Night, 6 p.m. Fridays, Ranchland Hills Golf Club, 1600 E. Wadley Ave. ranchlandhills.com.

Cookies and Cocoa with Santa, 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Opal's Table, 223 W. Wall St. \$20. Opal-stable.com.

Steak Night, 6 p.m. Saturdays, Ranchland Hills Golf Club, 1600 E. Wadley Ave. ranchlandhills.com.

Pint Nights featuring one-dollar pints, 5-9 p.m. Sundays and Wednesdays, Double Dave's Midland, 3208 N. Loop 250 W.

GAMES

Bingo Nights, 7 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, 4 p.m. Sundays, American Legion, 501 Veterans Airpark Lane. 682-5511.

Zia Park Casino Hotel and Racetrack bus trips by Midland Shuttle Services. Departs at 5 p.m. First Fridays and Sundays to Hobbs, New Mexico. \$55 for adults, \$45 for 65 and older. RSVP by calling 260-5428. midlandshuttleservices.com.

Live Event Trivia, 7 p.m. Fridays through Jan. 25, Twist Restaurant and Bar, 5518 Starboard Drive.

Bridge lessons, 10 a.m. Saturdays, Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. \$3. Permianbridge-club.com.

Yugioh tournaments, 6-10 p.m. Saturdays, Entertainment, 3111 W. Cuthbert Ave. \$5.

Bingo, 6 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, Tall City VFW Post 7208, 1306 E. Taylor Ave. Children welcome.

Bridge game play, 6-45 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays; 1 p.m. Tuesdays; 10:30 a.m. Saturdays; 1:30 p.m. Sundays, Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. \$6. For more information call 682-8595.

Monday Mayhem features unlimited bowling for \$14.09 with free shoe rentals after 8 p.m. Bowlero, 5320 W. Loop 250 N. bowlero.com.

Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment, 7 p.m. Tuesdays, 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.

Pool tournaments, 7 p.m. Wednesdays, The Detour, 1709 Rankin Hwy.

Trivia Game Night, 7 p.m. Wednesdays, True Texas BBQ, 5407 Andrews Highway. Free.

Live Trivia by Challenge Entertainment, 8 p.m. Wednesdays, Torino's, 3303 N. Midkiff Road. challengeentertainment.com.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Free Yoga, 9 a.m. Saturday through Saturday, Unitarian Universalist Church of Midland, 3301 Neely Ave. Free. Open class but mats are encouraged to bring.

Crossfit Community Day, 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Crossfit MX, 4519 Garfield St. Free. crossfit-mx.com. The fitness center hosts this introduction class to Crossfit. Sign-up

online.

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

MUSIC

Country
Stoney LaRue, 8 p.m. today, Rockin' Rodeo, 4400 N. Big Spring St. \$12. rockinrodeomidland.com.

Aaron Watson, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dos Amigos, 4700 N. Golder Ave. \$25 advance, \$30 door. Dosamigos.com.

Cover/Tribute
Runnin' Blind, 9 p.m. Saturday, Your Place, 3704 W. Wall St.

New Year's with Dirty Glass, 9 p.m. Monday, Hot Shots, 615 W. Wall St.

DJ/Dance
ClubNights with DJ Bookie and DJ Danny G, 8 p.m. Fridays, The Reserve in the DoubleTree, 117 W. Wall St.

Noche Caliente with DJ Sancho, 8 p.m. Friday, Club Arriba, 1006 S. Midkiff Road.

VIP Night: The Business Party with DJ Q, 9 p.m. Saturday, DoubleTree by Hilton, 117 W. Wall St.

DJ Wildman, 9 p.m. Friday and Sunday, The Lift on 7th, 1401 E. Seventh St. Odessa.

#HangoverSundays, 7 p.m. Sunday, Atrium Lounge, 3904 W. Wall St.

Karaoke
Karaoke, 9 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, Detour Bar, 1708 Rankin Highway.

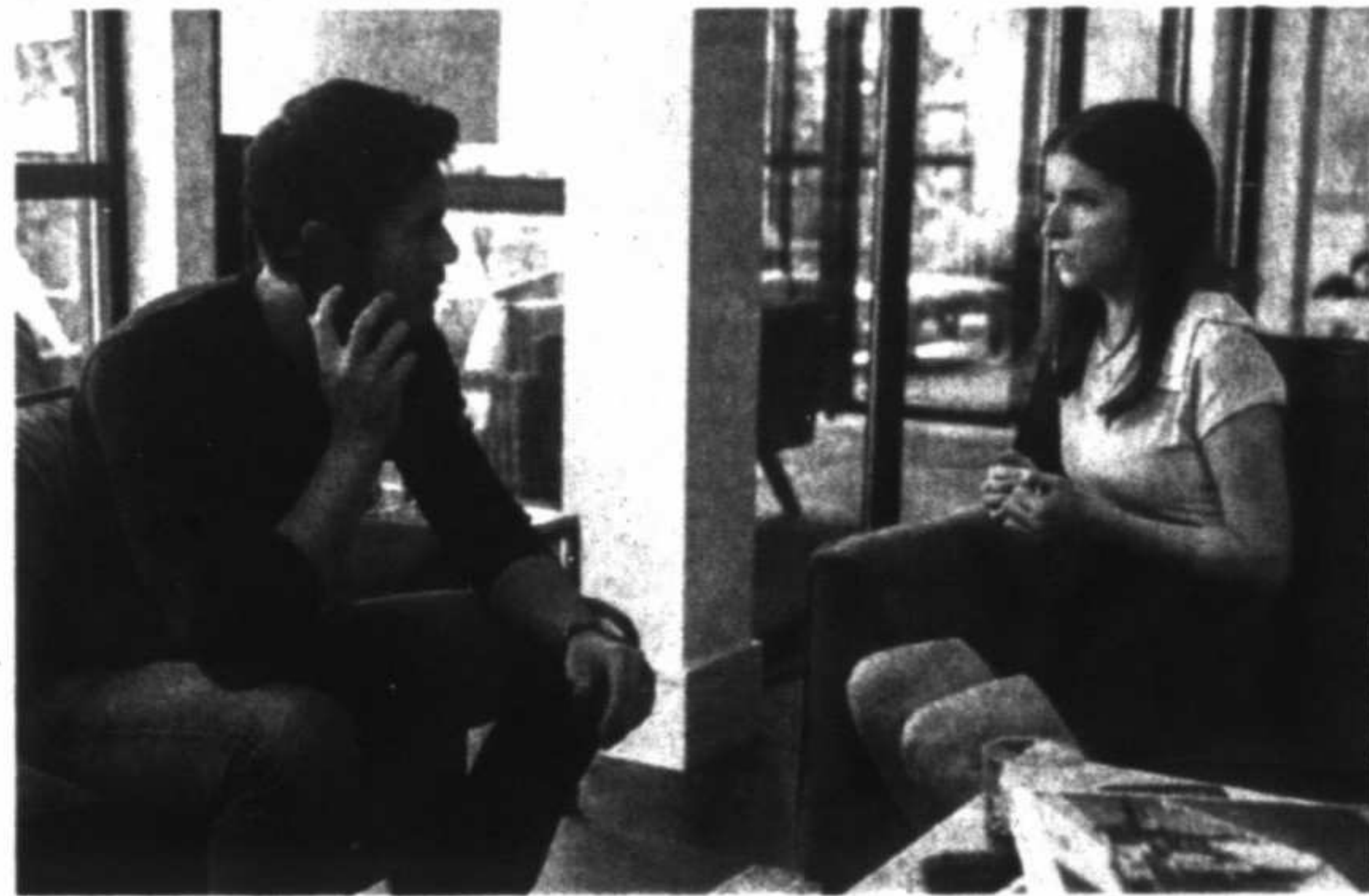
Karaoke Karaoke with DJ Cisco, 9 p.m. Fridays, Midland Beer Garden, 7112 W. Highway 80.

Karaoke Night, 8 p.m. Tuesday, Triple Threat Sports Bar and Grill, 12 Meta Drive.

Karaoke and pool tournament, Tuesdays, The Lone Star Bar, 621 W. Wall St.

Rock
Southern Struggle, 7 p.m. Monday, Starlite Saloon, 1915 Garden City Highway.

ON SCREEN



This image released by Lionsgate shows Henry Golding, left, and Anna Kendrick in a scene from "A Simple Favor."

Anna Kendrick, Blake Lively shine in unique comedy

Pick O' the Week

"A Simple Favor" (R) Everything is rarely as it seems — and gloriously so — in this tale centered around an unlikely friendship between an insecure cooking vlogger and a confident, upper-class businesswoman. Director Paul Feig — whose specialty is Melissa McCarthy comedies ("Bridesmaids," "The Heat," "Spy" and "Ghostbusters") — keeps things lighthearted right up until the plot takes a turn you never expect. And he does it again and again. DID YOU KNOW? Feig wears a suit and tie to work every day. He even has his own dapper Funko Pop vinyl figure wearing a three-piece suit. It's super rare and can fetch up to \$1,000 on eBay. A-

Ick! O' the Week

"Air Strike" (R) Bruce Willis is asked to do very little for his star billing in this Chinese film except bark out a few orders at the pilots. He is almost a laughable caricature of himself in so doing. Yet there's not anything too funny about his career anymore. His on-screen time might total 10 minutes in this story based on the incessant Japanese bombing of Chongqing, China, in 1940. The budget was about \$65 million, and it shows in the effects, which are spectacular. But dubbing the actor's voices and the inexplicable attempt at Stephen Chow-esque comedy toward the end snuff out anything positive this film might have. D

More reviews

"Assassination Nation" (R) Four teen girls seek

Reeled Stream

By Nancy Adamson | nadamson@mrt.com

retribution against accusers who have ruined their reputations. Appropriately set in a town called Salem, this witch hunt backfires on the townfolk in a violent, unbelievably bloody way, and it's wonderful. B+

"Boundaries" (R) A terrific supporting cast lend to the star chemistry of Vera Farmiga and Christopher Plummer in this delightful comedy. It doesn't always hit its mark — some of the characters emote a little too much at times — but an endless parade of adorable dogs and the naked backside of Christopher Lloyd — erase that deficit. B+

"Fahrenheit 11/9" (R) You may not like what Michael Moore has to say in his new documentary, but at least you can laugh at the way he says it. His newest is not solely throwing darts at President Donald Trump — though he lobs plenty — because he's an unabashed Bernie Sanders-loving socialist. That means he doesn't let Bill Clinton or Barack Obama off the hook, the latter, in particular, when it comes to the water crisis in Moore's beloved hometown of Flint, Michigan. That crisis is the real focus of this film, and it's startling to see the ways bureaucracy and hypocrisy walk hand-in-hand to poison the town's residents. A-

"The House With a Clock in the Walls" (PG)

I suspect my tolerance for Jack Black has risen considerably over the years because he's way over the top in this film and I found it absolutely adorable. This story of warlocks and a decades-old spell and a magical house didn't earn the respect of the critics, but it's the best medium to feature a pet recliner since Chairy charmed in "Pee-wee's Playhouse." B

"The Predator" (R) If you like your action movies without a lot of pesky plot diversions of reasons to think about things — and who doesn't? — you are in for a treat. This gorefest is 107 minutes of fast-paced action with brief intervals to sympathize at the young, bullied boy genius or laugh with the comic relief of Keegan Michael Key. B-

"The Super" (R) An ex-military widower with two daughters takes a job in maintenance in an older apartment building that has an ominous presence. The creepy content tries too hard to muster up the scares but it eventually all starts to gel as it nears its end. B-

"Venom" (PG-13) Maligned by most critics, this film plays great on the small screen. The special effects don't seem up to Marvel's usual story and the story is weak. But the levity — and a chance to see the late, great Stan Lee in one of his final roles — saves it. B-

Kenneth Turan's best movies of 2018: 'Black Panther' and 'Leave No Trace' top a banner year

By Kenneth Turan
Los Angeles Times

In movie business parlance, a four-quadrant film is one that appeals to each of a potential audience's four demographic groups: men and women, those over and those under 25 years of age. A film that succeeds with all four quadrants — think "Star Wars," "Toy Story," "Lord of the Rings" — is doing very well indeed. Critics don't look at films in a four-quadrant way but you could say that there is an equivalent, that a year's worth of movies can also be divided into four groups: big studio blockbusters, independent films, foreign-language efforts and documentaries.

The best way to understand why 2018 was an exceptional movie year, and it was, is to realize that each of these four categories boasted better than average films, films not only worthy of a 10-best list but also suitable for an all-time classics registry as well.

In recognition of this, I'm splitting my No. 1 pick between two memorable films that each represents a pinnacle of its particular group: Ryan Coogler's dazzling, massively successful blockbuster "Black Panther" and Debra Granik's emotionally resonant, piercingly insightful independent gem "Leave No Trace."

A superhero movie whose characters have integrity and dramatic heft, laced with socially conscious commentary as well as wicked laughs, "Black Panther" is the model of what an involving popular entertainment ought to be but hardly ever is.

Fiercely involving in a way we're not used to, made with sensitivity and honesty, "Leave No Trace" tells its emotional story of a father and daughter living dangerously off the grid in way that is unnerving and uncompromising yet completely satisfying.

As in years past, I am going to order the rest of my list alphabetically, but, in recognition of how strong individual films were in 2018, I will also do a few things differently.

That starts with not including more than one film in each choice (as has been my habit in the past) but letting each of these films stand alone. Here goes:

"Cold War." Poland's Pawel Pawlikowski has made a star-crossed love story, haunting, atmospheric, passionate and tempestuous.

"Free Solo." Both intimate and expansive, this eye-widening documentary about a climber who disdains ropes has an unexpected human dimension.

"Incredibles 2." If all sequels were as good as this 14-years-later follow-up, what a fine movie world this would be.

"Roma." Mexican filmmaker Alfonso Cuarón's impeccably realized memory piece allows us to feel we haven't merely witnessed a life, we've been fully immersed in one.

"Shoplifters." The latest from Japan's Hirokazu Kore-eda, a master of unforced intimacy, this wise and insightful film is delicate, poignant and unexpectedly powerful.

"A Star Is Born." This is the fifth version of a venerable Hollywood tale, but you wouldn't know it from Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper's fearlessly emotional performances.

Sundance documentaries. It's a truism that the Park City festival is the U.S.' premiere doc showcase, but in 2018 something like 20 top docs debuted there on the way to theatrical release. Just listing my favorite 15 in alphabetical order takes my breath away:

"Bisbee '17," "Crime + Punishment," "Dark Money," "Hal," "Hale County This Morning, This Evening," "Jane Fonda in Five Acts," "King In the Wilderness," "The Last Race," "On Her Shoulders," "The Oslo Diaries," "RBG," "The Sentence," "Shirkers," "Three Identical Strangers," "Won't You Be My Neighbor?"

Wow. "Vice." "The Big Short" showed that Adam McKay was a writer-director to reckon with, and this wicked smart Christian Bale-starring satirical biography of Vice President Dick Cheney proves that in spades.

But listing 10 films is not going to do justice to the kind of year 2018 was, so I am presenting an unprecedented (for me) follow-up: a Second 10 list, terrific films that in a weaker year would have had no trouble making it to the top group but

Please see BEST/4B



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Happy New Year

We will be closed on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day

(Open regular hours on other days)

"We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day."

Thanks for a great 2018!

REVIEW

'Vice' is exhausting, but Bale's something to behold

By Jocelyn Noveck
Associated Press

Blow your nose, and you'll miss the split-second shot of a younger Donald Trump in "Vice," Adam McKay's exhaustingly entertaining (and entertainingly exhausting) Dick Cheney movie.

But make no mistake: the filmmaker wants us to be thinking about Trump. What he's telling us — implicitly, then more obviously — is that if you're upset today about what you might see as, say, a brazen executive-branch power grab, well, that already happened — and pretty recently. It's just that we didn't really notice because, McKay argues, Dick Cheney did it so darned quietly.

Let's pause a moment to note the obvious: "Vice," which features a terrifically committed performance by Christian Bale, is not a neutral biopic in any sense. It's more of a political lecture on steroids, using every clever filmmaking device up the talented McKay's sleeve, much like "The Big Short," his journey through the 2008 financial collapse.

These devices include broken fourth walls, surreal vignettes, fun celebrity cameos, a mysterious narrator, and — best of all — Dick and Lynne Cheney in the bedroom, plotting his next political move, suddenly launching into iambic pentameter for several minutes. Macbeth much?

The parallels with the Scottish play are obvious: McKay presents Lynne (Amy

Adams, memorable as always) as the ideological force behind the man, her husband's private coach in every step he takes on the way to becoming a virtual co-president and perhaps the most powerful man on the planet.

But while Macbeth becomes wracked with guilt and paranoia, "Vice" chronicles a man with no guilt or doubt whatsoever, and that matter-of-fact certainty of purpose was indeed one of the reasons he was able to climb so fast, McKay argues: He simply saw opportunities and took them.

The weakness here, though, is that we never get a sense of what truly drives Cheney the man. The shiny bells and whistles that McKay employs — because, well, he's good at it — detract from our ability to get to know his subject. Is McKay's Cheney merely an opportunist, or is he fueled by a deeper purpose, and how? It's not totally clear.

Although Cheney fans will likely not find much to appreciate here, that doesn't mean you need be a committed liberal to enjoy "Vice." You can simply be an admirer of committed acting, the sort that Bale specializes in.

Yes, the actor famously gained a lot of weight, and mastered that way Cheney speaks from the side of his mouth. (There's also amazing makeup work here.) Alone, these would be gimmicks, but Bale also disappears so deeply into his balding, portly,

Please see VICE/4B

'Burning,' 'Cold War' top AP's best films of 2018

By Jake Coyle and Lindsey Bahr
Associated Press

Associated Press Film Writers Jake Coyle and Lindsey Bahr name their choices for the best films of 2018.

JAKE COYLE

1. **"Burning"**: It was, for sure, an extraordinary movie year. Little to nothing separates my favorite 10 films, or, for that matter, my top 20 or 30. Many of the year's best were found overseas, and none haunted me more than Lee Chang-dong's smoldering slow-burn thriller. An adaptation of a Haruki Murakami short story, "Burning" is about a triangle of young Koreans (Yoo Ah-in, Jeon Jong-seo, Steven Yeun — all astonishing) divided by class but united in heartache and rage. At sunset, with Miles Davis playing, it reaches an aching crescendo.

2. **"Private Life"**: Tamara Jenkins' comic and compassionate fertility drama is like "Waiting for Godot" with two of the best actors around: Kathryn Hahn and Paul Giamatti. In a movie year where love that lasts was hard to find, the searching couple in "Private Life" made for an affectionate and indelectable portrait of middle-aged marriage.

3. **"First Reformed"**: Chiseled out of a lifetime of doubt, Paul Schrader's late-in-life masterpiece throbs with an existential despair that has hardened into a taut and tormented religious drama. It's a culmination for Schrader — an anguished bookend to "Taxi Driver," which he wrote — about a priest (a never-better Ethan Hawke) in desperate search for grace.

4. **"Shoplifters"**: The films of Hirokazu Kore-eda unfold so nimbly and breezily that their profundity (and your tears) can come as a surprise. In this, a high-point for Kore-eda and the winner of Cannes' Palme d'Or, the Japanese master depicts the ragtag life of a makeshift, impoverished family that slowly, heartbreakingly gnaws at the question: What makes a family? The answer is more than DNA.

5. **"The Ballad of Buster Scruggs"**: Take the Coen brothers for granted at your peril. In this, an anthology of six Western tales of death and storytelling, life is a Poker game where everyone's holding — like the two pair of black aces and eights that Scruggs (Tim Blake Nelson) refuses to play in the film's first chapter — a dead man's hand.

6. **"Cold War"**: A stone-cold stunner, the second straight from Pawel Pawlikowski ("Ida"), about a romance torn between exile and home (and based on the director's parents). Pawlikowski's command is absolute. His smoky, shimmering images — dense with atmosphere, luminous with mystery — are what celluloid was made for.

7. **"The Rider"**: Chloe Zhao's second feature, starring real-life rider Brady Jandreau as an injured South Dakota cowboy forced to give up the only life he knows, is so richly filled with the beauty and struggle of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation where it's set. Blending fiction with real life, Zhao achieves something spiritual.

8. **"Paddington 2"**: In an endlessly dispiriting year, Paul King's charm overload was the go-to antidote, a salve of confectionary delight: marmalade for your maladies.

9. **"The Favourite"**: It's just such an irresistible acting spectacle. Olivia Colman, Rachel Weisz and Emma Stone set a torch to the traditional historical drama in Yorgos Lanthimos' wild and caustic period romp.

10. **"Zama"**: Argentine filmmaker Lucrecia Martel's elliptical tale of a Spanish magistrate in remote 18th century Argentina, adapted from Antonio di Benedetto's novel, casts a deliriously hypnotic spell. The vivid, formalist imagery unravels the pathetic absurdities of a colonist whose stature, tenuous from the start, is disappearing before his eyes.

Honorable mentions: "You Were Never Really Here," "The Hate U Give," "Eighth Grade," "Black Panther," "Minding the Gap," "Sorry to Bother You," "Roma," "Free Solo," "Support the Girls," "Let the Sunshine In."

LINDSEY BAHR

1. **"Cold War"**: Romantic, passionate, tragic and perfectly unsentimental, filmmaker Pawel Pawlikowski's "Cold War" is

an intoxicating portrait of an impossible, cruel and undeniable love between a musician, Wiktor (Tomasz Kot) and a singer with an "it factor," Zula (Joanna Kulig). Shot in stunningly crisp black and white, Pawlikowski's film is a triumph in an 85-minute package.

2. **"Can You Ever Forgive Me?"**: Lee Israel is not your typical leading lady, and that's what makes her so great. You can imagine one version of this movie, about a washed-up biographer who starts a side hustle forging personal letters of some of the wittiest literary minds of all time, relishing in and exploiting her unglamorous life. But director Marielle Heller and star Melissa McCarthy just let Lee Israel be: Sharp, unpleasant, infuriating, compelling, terrible and heroic. Heller's early '90s New York feels like the real thing too.

3. **"Roma"**: Alfonso Cuarón's deeply personal ode to women who raised him, "Roma" is a film going experience like few others — tranquil but urgent, meditative but exciting, and told with pure love and humanity. Like "Cold War," "Roma" is also shot in black and white, but it rarely feels like it. His images are so vivid and full of life you can almost feel the prism of colors peeking through.

4. **"Wildlife"**: This adaptation of Richard Ford's novel about a family in 1960s Montana feels like it was made by someone much older and much more experienced than 30-something, first-time director Paul Dano. And yet he's made one of the most elegant and heart wrenching examinations of a nuclear American family (Carey Mulligan, Jake Gyllenhaal and Ed Oxenbould) that's dissolving under capitalist systems and gender essentialism.

5. **"BlackKkKlansman"**: Ron Stallworth's story of infiltrating the Ku Klux Klan is a good one, but Spike Lee made it even better in "BlackKkKlansman," an explosive and essential treatise on racism in America with a rallying score, a surprising amount of humor, and some unforgettable performances (from John David Washington and Adam Driver).

6. **"A Star Is Born"**: Bradley Cooper's achievement with "A Star Is Born" is hard to quantify. As an actor, he's never been better as the self-destructive rock star Jackson Maine, who has one gesture of love left in his pill and alcohol addled body — to help Lady Gaga's Ally reach the heights she deserves. And as a director? This is just the beginning, I'd imagine.

7. **"Private Life"**: Tamara Jenkins found something novel, and wonderfully feminine, to say about middle-class New York intellectuals in this impeccably written and acted story about marriage, fertility and hope in middle age, that is humorous, precise and true, and a great spotlight for the equally excellent Kathryn Hahn and Paul Giamatti.

8. **"The Favourite"**: This movie about power struggles in the court of Queen Anne is deliciously deranged, and wickedly cynical, but somehow more accessible and lighthearted than what we've typically come to expect from Yorgos Lanthimos. With fiercely fun and piercing performances from Olivia Colman, Emma Stone, Rachel Weisz and Nicholas Hoult, it's a fully engrossing experience that will leave you looking for some pearls to clutch (and then smash on the ground in devious glee).

9. **"Juliet, Naked"**: I won't pretend like "Juliet, Naked" has the gravitas or prestige of most of the other films on this list, and yet it is quietly, unassuming one of the more poignant, and straightforwardly enjoyable movies of the year about mid-life second chances, for those who have never made any mistakes (Rose Byrne's small-town character Annie), and those who've made all of them (Ethan Hawke's elusive, cult rock star Tucker Crowe).

10. **"The Ballad of Buster Scruggs"**: The Coen brothers show off their best tricks in this deliciously entertaining Western anthology. It's the kind of film that feels new but familiar and nihilistic yet comforting, as you jump between a singing sharpshooter (Tim Blake Nelson), an old prospector (Tom Waits) and his "pocket," to a woman (Zoe Kazan) on a wagon trail getting her first glimmer of happiness.

Honorable Mentions: "First Reformed," "Burning," "Leave No Trace," "If Beale Street Could Talk," "A Simple Favor," "Minding the Gap."

VICE

From 3B

pasty character that for long minutes you forget it's him.

As for Adams, her Lynne is bright, witty and gritty, a woman one imagines might have become a top politician herself had she been born a few decades later. Sam Rockwell has less screen time, but delivers a hilarious impression of George W. Bush, all folksy and jocky. "Wanna jump on board?" he asks Cheney about the VP job. "Let's go, c'mon now!" Is it fair to portray Bush as such a man-child, motivated by pleasing his father, and so uninvolved in decisions? Perhaps not, but Rockwell is sure entertaining.

We first meet Cheney in 1963, staggering blind drunk from a car during a traffic stop. Fast forward to 9/11, and he's the guy taking charge of the nation's response, with Bush nowhere in sight. How did we get from A to B, McKay is asking?

Well, partly because of Lynne. Early on she confronts Dick, who's bombed out of Yale. "Can you change, or am I wasting my goddamned time?" she asks. Dick does change. At a



AP Photo

Amy Adams as Lynne Cheney and Christian Bale as Dick Cheney in Adam McKay's VICE.

congressional internship program in 1968, he takes a shine to future ally Donald Rumsfeld (a wisecracking Steve Carell.) Cheney is so green he doesn't even know what party to join; he simply asks what party Rumsfeld's in.

Yet he rises up the ranks, through the Nixon and Ford administrations, eventually becoming chief of staff. He serves six terms in Congress, becomes secretary of defense under Bush senior, then enters the corporate world as CEO of Halliburton.

And then we're done, right? In McKay's cleverest

moment — we won't spoil the surprise — he shows us that this is how it could have ended, comfortably for all. But then the phone rings. It's Bush junior.

"Vice" is frenetic and fun, flippant and frustrating (to stick with one letter of the alphabet). Is it, um, factual? Well, McKay has based his research on some important books by journalists like Ron Suskind, Barton Gellman and Jane Mayer. But he also surely injects plenty of his own analysis, and unless you're an expert, you may not know where the hypothesizing begins.

BEST

From 3B

just couldn't fit this time around. Alphabetically they are:

"At Eternity's Gate." Willem Dafoe's deep dive into playing Vincent van Gogh elevates everything it touches.

"The Ballad of Buster Scruggs." The Coen brothers' take on the traditional western is hard to resist.

"BlackKkKlansman." Spike Lee reaffirms that he's as skilled as a filmmaker as he is as a committed polemicist.

"Can You Ever Forgive Me?" Melissa McCarthy gives a nuanced dramatic performance as a woman you hate to care about.

"The Front Runner." Jason Reitman's fine, un-

justly neglected film about politician Gary Hart and his relevance to today.

"The Mule." At age 88, Clint Eastwood continues to do things his own way, and we're all richer for it.

"A Private War." Rosamund Pike brilliantly brings to life foreign correspondent Marie Colvin's magnificent obsession with the truth.

"They Shall Not Grow Old." Peter Jackson's ground-breaking documentary uses the most modern technology to bring ancient World War I footage magnificently alive.

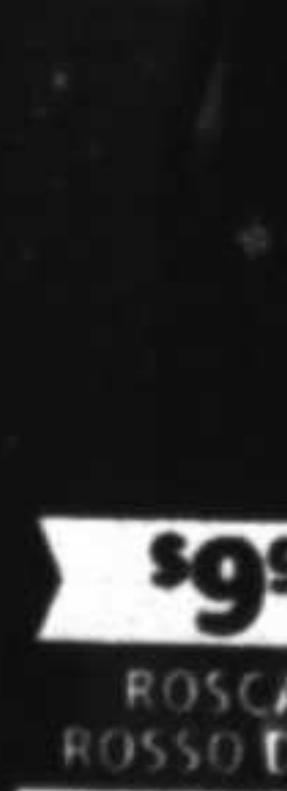
"22 July." Paul Green-grass' ambitious, somber and significant re-creation of a horrific terrorist attack

"Wildlife." An impeccably made, beautifully

restrained emotional drama that is also an impressive directing debut for actor Paul Dano.

Lastly, I want to put in a good word for the wonderful films that didn't all last long at theaters but still linger in my mind. Let's hear it for, in no particular order: "Puzzle," "Early Man," "Juliet Naked," "Beirut," "The Guilty," "The Land of Steady Habits," "Big Fish and Begonia," "Mirai," "The Death of Stalin," "The Guardians," "American Animals," "Hearts Beat Loud," "Custody," "The Cake-maker" and "I Am Not A Witch." They enriched my year and, given the chance, they will yours as well.

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Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Thursday, December 27, 2018 | Section C

Kansas once more favored to win 15th straight Big 12 title

By Dave Skretta
Associated Press

LAWRENCE, Kan. — There have been plenty of times over the past 14 years that Kansas was supposed to have a tough test in the Big 12, only for the Jayhawks to emerge on top when March rolled around.

The year Texas had Kevin Durant, or Oklahoma boasted Buddy Hield. The years that Jayhawks coach Bill Self had to replace all five of his starters, or that some other up-and-coming program was stocked with the kind of talent that Kansas seems to get every season.

This was not supposed to be one of those years.

Yes, the Jayhawks lost their entire backcourt of Devonte Graham, Svi

Mykhailiuk and Malik Newman to the NBA. And yes, rival Kansas State returned almost its entire roster from a team that went to the Elite Eight last year, giving the Wildcats a real feeling of confidence heading into the season.

But the Jayhawks merely restocked with a bevy of high-profile transfers and five-star recruits, and the result was a No. 1 ranking that they held through much of the nonconference slate. It wasn't until this past weekend against Arizona State that they lost their first game — without injured big man Udoka Azubuike — that they dropped further than second in the AP poll.

Now, the fourth-ranked Jayhawks (10-1) have a final tuneup Saturday against Eastern Michigan before setting their sights on an unprecedented 15th consecutive conference

championship.

"The reality of it is we weren't going to run the table," Self said. "Let's not get carried away, and I hate saying this — you never want to lose — but certainly you'd rather learn from a nonconference loss than a conference loss, so hopefully we get something from (the loss to Arizona State). I think it's a teaching moment."

Meanwhile, the Jayhawks might have much more competition in the Big 12 than previously thought.

The Wildcats (9-2) are coming off an impressive win over Vanderbilt despite losing preseason player of the year Dean Wade to a foot injury. No. 11 Texas Tech (11-1) leads the nation in adjusted defensive efficiency and

Please see KANSAS/2C



Rick Scuteri/AP

Arizona State guard Rob Edwards, left, knocks the ball away from Kansas guard Quentin Grimes during the first half Dec. 22 in Tempe, Ariz.

A Tall City holiday tradition



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Midland High's Nicholas Terrazas (12) dribbles to the hoop against Lubbock Monterey on Nov. 27 at Midland High.

Byron Johnston tourney back for 26th year

By Christopher Hadorn
chadorn@mrt.com

For more than a quarter of a century, the ensuing days after Christmas have been a special time for Tall City basketball fans.

The Byron Johnston Holiday Classic Basketball Tournament, now in its 26th year, has become a post-Christmas tradition. The Midland High-hosted tournament welcomes eight boys teams and eight girls teams when it takes place today through Saturday at Chaparral Center, Midland High and Lee.

The tournament honors the memory of Byron Johnston, who launched the first holiday classic with the help of then MHS boys basketball coach Jack Stephenson in 1993. The tournament was named after Johnston following his passing in a July 1994 auto accident.

Twenty-five years later, MHS boys coach Shan Hooker and MHS girls coach Wes Torres say the Johnston fam-

ily are a major reason why the tournament has thrived and become part of the fabric of the Tall City basketball community. One of the tournament's organizers is Byron's son Blake Johnston, who led the Bulldogs to the 1998 state title and went on to play in the 2002 Final Four for Oklahoma.

"Blake, his mother and his family do a good job in honor of his late father," Hooker said. "His family loves Midland Bulldog basketball so much. They want to give back to the program."

Torres says Blake Johnston is the number one contributor to the success of the Byron Johnston Holiday Classic.

"My family invests a lot of time in the tournament," Blake Johnston said. "We love Midland. We love basketball in Midland. This tournament is special to us. Yes, there's a lot of time invested. We're happy to do it and privileged to do it and continue a great event here in the community."

One of the major storylines in this year's girls

Please see TOURNAMENT/3C

Baylor tries to build on turnaround in Texas Bowl

By Kristie Rieken
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Baylor made an impressive turnaround this season, winning six games after managing just one win in 2017.

The Bears (6-6) will try to cap their successful year with one more victory Thursday when they meet Vanderbilt (6-6) in the Texas Bowl.

"It's really important that we go out and play our best game," Baylor coach Matt Rhule said. "It's really important that we go out and show that we know how to win versus an SEC team and I hope we make that jump. But I think the real progress has been made over the last month, and I'm real proud of the work the guys have put in."

The Commodores enter the game having won three of their last four and looking for their first bowl win since 2013. Vanderbilt coach Derek Mason hopes that their strong finish to the regular season will carry over into Thursday night's game.

"I think the way you end one chapter is the way you start another, so we were able to garner some momentum toward the end of the season," Mason said. "That was exactly what we needed to get a 13th game. And now in this 13th game, we try to maximize every practice, opportunity, every meeting and everything that's been in front of these guys. I think these guys have really attacked it."

Mason raved about the job Rhule has done since taking over at Baylor before the 2017 season one year after the firing of longtime coach Art Briles because of allegations of sexual assault by football players.

"I'm really impressed with Matt Rhule," Mason said. "I know coach Rhule and I know what he walked into. I know what he encountered, and what he's been able to do in a short amount of time is worked toward pushing that program back to relevance, and that's no easy task."

Some things to know about the Texas Bowl.

Vaughn's healthy

Vanderbilt running back Ke'Shawn Vaughn is healthy after sustaining an arm injury in the team's last game and will be ready to go on Thursday. Vaughn, the SEC newcomer of the year, has a career-high 1,001 yards rushing with 13 rushing touchdowns and two TD catches after sitting out last year following a transfer from Illinois.

"He's a tremendous back," Rhule said. "They run a lot of outside zone where they get you running and then they do a tremendous job of cutting the ball up. It presents a challenge for us because ...not many teams in the



Rhule

Please see BAYLOR/3C

Texans are 6th team since 1980 in playoffs after 0-3 start

By Kristie Rieken
Associated Press

HOUSTON — The Houston Texans are the sixth team since 1980 and the first in 20 years to make the postseason after a 0-3 start.

"When you start off 0-3 and you're sitting here at 10-5 with a chance to win the division on Sunday you've done a lot of good things over the course of those games since we were 0-3," defensive end J.J. Watt said. "But we have to make sure that we do what we need to do to make sure that doesn't all go to waste."

They've lost two of their past three games, capped by Sunday's 32-30 loss at Philadelphia, but earlier had won nine straight games after their dismal start to turn their season around and

reach the playoffs for the fifth time in franchise history and first since 2016.

The Texans (10-5) opened with losses to New England, Tennessee and the New York Giants that left them 0-3 and were all close games decided by a total of 15 points.

Houston's rebound began with consecutive three-point wins in overtime against Indianapolis and Dallas before seven-point victories over Buffalo and Jacksonville.

The Texans scored their most points of the season the following week in a 42-23 trouncing of the Miami Dolphins. Their next two wins both came by two points after both Denver and Washington missed long field goals in the final seconds of those games.

The Texans extended their winning streak to nine games with victories

over Tennessee and Cleveland before their first loss since Sept. 23 came in a 24-21 defeat against the Colts on Dec. 9.

Houston led early against the New York Jets before falling behind and needing a fourth-quarter rally to get a 29-22 win on Dec. 15.

As the Texans prepare to wrap up the regular season with a visit from the Jaguars where they need a win to clinch the AFC South title, here's a look at the other teams who reached the playoffs after 0-3 starts.

1981 New York Jets

New York's winless start came thanks to losses to Buffalo, Cincinnati

Please see TEXANS/4C



Matt Rourke/AP

Houston Texans' D'Onta Foreman, right, and Jordan Akins celebrate after Foreman's touchdown during the second half against the Philadelphia Eagles on Sunday in Philadelphia.

Tannehill may be about to play final game for Dolphins

By Steven Wine
Associated Press

DAVIE, Fla. — Ryan Tannehill, a Big Spring graduate, is hoping he'll be the Miami Dolphins' quarterback again in 2019, which may place him in the minority in South Florida. Long-suffering Dolphins fans are ready to move on, gauging from Twitter buzz and boos that rained down on Tannehill and his offense in last week's dismal home finale.

Detractors are likely to get their wish. Tannehill, who became Miami's starting quarterback in 2012 and has still never taken a postseason snap, probably will play his final game for the franchise Sunday.

His contract balloons to \$18.7 million in base salary next year, when he would count \$26.6 million against the salary cap, and the Dolphins are expected to seek a cheaper, younger alternative at quarterback.

Tannehill, 30, shrugs off the uncertainty of the moment.

"You can't think about it," he said Wednesday. "You can't. What's the good in wondering and pondering and wasting time? It's out of my control. The powers that be will make those decisions, and we'll go from there."

Tannehill, 42-45 as a starter, wants to return. "I love this organization," he said. "I love competing with the guys on this team. I've been here my whole career and love it in South Florida. Yeah, I'd love to be here."

Tannehill ranks 11th in the NFL with a passer rating of 99.0, highest of his career. He's third in touchdown percentage.

But he missed five games with an injury to his throwing shoulder. And when he played, the offense was wildly inconsistent.

Miami (7-8) ranks 30th in total yards, and poor performances the past two weeks may have sealed Tannehill's fate. The offense sputtered to losses against Minnesota and Jacksonville, eliminating the Dolphins from the playoffs for the sixth time in seven seasons since he joined them.

The only time they made the postseason was in 2016, Adam Gase's first season as head coach, when Tannehill had the best stretch of his career before missing the final four games with a knee injury.

Gase's status beyond Sunday's finale at Buffalo is also uncertain. The coach has been Tannehill's most ardent defender, and Gase said the team's rough

patches — such as this week — have only strengthened their relationship.

"You're under fire all the time," Gase said. "When you're the head coach and the quarterback, you're not missed. Everybody knows where you are."

"At quarterback you take a lot of bullets, and sometimes you don't get the credit you deserve."

Earlier this week, while discussing Tannehill's struggles in the dysfunctional offense, Gase said, "Nobody helps him." Tannehill said he doesn't look at that way, even though he's playing behind a patchwork line and lost two key receivers to season-ending injuries.

"You have to control what you can control," Tannehill said. "If you play the what-if games, you're not going to be growing as a person and a player."

Partly because of chronic issues with pass protection, Tannehill has been sacked 244 times. His toughness has never been questioned, but durability is an issue because he has missed 24 games in the past three seasons.

When asked about the next step for Tannehill in 2019, Gase said, "The biggest thing is to stay healthy."

That will likely be a concern for another coach and another team.



Stephen Brashear/AP

Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes (15) passes against the Seattle Seahawks on Sunday during the second half of an NFL game in Seattle.

Chiefs' Mahomes has been strikingly consistent in MVP run

By Dave Skretta
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Patrick Mahomes awoke early on Tuesday to open presents with his little sister and the rest of his family, then the Chiefs quarterback hopped in his car for a quick trip to Arrowhead Stadium.

Where he watched film. On Christmas. He got in his usual couple of hours of game-week prep on what is typically a day off for NFL teams, then hopped back in his car and headed home for the family feast.

Then he watched more film. Still on Christmas.

It's that dedication to Mahomes' craft that has helped the second-year pro become an MVP candidate as a first-time starter. He already has shattered numerous franchise records, including yards passing and TD passes in a single season, and Mahomes has positioned Kansas City for a third straight AFC West title and the No. 1 seed in the playoffs with a victory Sunday over Oakland.

The biggest wild card for the Chiefs entering the season has become their one constant.

"It's the process. You set up the schedule for a reason," Mahomes said Wednesday, when the rest of the Chiefs returned to practice.

"You follow the same schedule — game plan, watch film, practice — and you do the same things you've been doing to have success."

At this point, why would Mahomes deviate from his routine?

He's thrown 48 touchdown passes to lead the NFL by a dozen, and his 4,816 yards passing trail only Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger. He leads the league in yards per attempt among QBs that have started all season, and only the Saints' Drew Brees has a better quarterback rating.

Speaking of ratings, Mahomes only has had three games in which his rating has failed to reach 100, and the Chiefs still won all of those games. He's thrown a TD pass in every game except one, and that was a 30-14 rout of Jacksonville.

And he's thrown at least three touchdown passes in 10 games, with a pair of six-touchdown efforts in shootouts against the Patriots and Rams.

"You just trust the process," Mahomes

said in explaining his unflappable nature. "Trust that your teammates are going to make the big plays they've made all year, and trust in my ability not to do too much. You just play the same game you've played all year."

Or the same game he's played his whole life.

Few were convinced that Mahomes would seamlessly transition from the Air Raid system of Texas Tech to the versatile, complex West Coast offense of Andy Reid. But the Chiefs coach saw enough of him last season in practice that Reid was willing to trade away Alex Smith and give him a shot.

Now, the Chiefs are promoting Mahomes in MVP hype videos as they barrel toward the playoffs.

"I am happy for all these guys, whatever accolades they get," Reid said. "Patrick has worked hard for all of that stuff. There are a lot of great players in this league, so all the sudden you get pointed out as doing that, it's important. Then it's important to get back to what is real and that's the game. But I am happy for him. A lot of work went into that for him."

Right, the game. The one that Mahomes was in the film room prepping for on Christmas, while the rest of his family was relaxing at home. The Chiefs have already squandered two chances to lock up the division title, and they could fall all the way to the No. 5 seed with a loss Sunday.

So it makes sense that Mahomes was cramming for the Raiders on Tuesday. Even if it didn't mean straying from the norm.

"Everybody is excited for the opportunity," Mahomes said, "getting to play a division opponent, a rival in our division, then get to play at Arrowhead Stadium. We want to stay here from here on out. If we come out and play like we know we can, we can make a run at this thing."

Notes: RG Laurent Duvernay-Tardif returned to practice for the first time since breaking his fibula and tearing ligaments in Week 5 against Jacksonville. It begins a three-week window in which Duvernay-Tardif can get up to speed. "We'll just bring him back gradually," Reid said. "It's just a matter of getting caught up with the speed of the game." ... Reid said WR Sammy Watkins was out of a walking boot and "moving around," though his return remains uncertain. He hasn't played a full game since early November.

2018 NFL season featured the young and the old

By Arnie Stapleton
Associated Press

DENVER — For all the excitement over the electrifying Patrick Mahomes and Baker Mayfield, two of the baby-faced, new-age quarterbacks bringing their spread DNA from college towns to NFL cities, old standbys still stood out in 2018.

"I still see older guys that are making an impact," said Broncos linebacker Von Miller, one of those seasoned stars who shined in 2018. "I mean, we're old, but we're not OLD. The thing is, the young guys are playing at a higher level."

So are plenty of the "old" guys. Miller's 14½ sacks are his most in six seasons and pushed him past Simon Fletcher's franchise marks for most regular-season sacks in a career (98) and most career sacks including playoffs (104 1/2).

Of course, there were the greybeards, quarterbacks benefiting from fewer practices and less pummeling, favorable rules and a league bent on protecting them like the golden geese they are.

Drew Brees will be 40 on Jan. 15, and if things go as he hopes, he'll be preparing for the Saints, who own the league's best record at 13-2, to host the NFC championship.

At 37, Philip Rivers is having his best season in a decade and still has a chance this

weekend to land the Chargers ahead of Mahomes and the Chiefs in the AFC playoffs.

Ben Roethlisberger, 36, could still steer the slumping Steelers into the playoffs, although they've been surpassed by the Lamar Jackson-led Ravens.

And Tom Brady, who was getting college recruiting letters when Mahomes and Mayfield were born in 1995, is starting to show signs he's 41, but nevertheless has the Patriots positioned for a ninth consecutive first-round bye.

It wasn't just the better-protected passers who excelled in 2018. Several seasoned position players showed the kids a thing or two, including vintage running backs Adrian Peterson, 33, Frank Gore, 35, and Darren Sproles, 35.

Colts kicker Adam Vinatieri, who turns 46 this week, surpassed Morten Andersen's all-time mark for field goals in September, and a month later broke Andersen's NFL career points record.

Providing the perfect target for Mahomes' high-flying run-pass-option repertoire is 29-year-old Travis Kelce, who needs 54 receiving yards Sunday against Oakland to break Rob Gronkowski's single-season record for tight ends of 1,327.

Last week, Philadelphia's Zach Ertz, 28, surpassed Jason Witten's single-season receptions record for tight ends and now has 113 catches for 1,148 yards.

TEXANS

From 1C

and Pittsburgh. The Jets' first win of the season came in a 33-17 defeat of the Oilers before they played to a 28-28 overtime tie with the Dolphins.

They won two in a row after that before a loss to the Seahawks. A season-long five-game winning streak followed before the Seahawks downed them once again. But they bounced back with two wins to wrap up the regular season and finish 10-5-1 and second in the AFC East.

They hosted the Bills in the wild-card game and scored 14 points in the fourth quarter to cut the deficit, but came up just short in the 31-27 loss.

1992 Tampa Bay Buccaneers

This team is different than the others on this list because Tampa Bay's turnaround from 0-3 to the playoffs came in a season that was shortened to just nine games because of a 57-day strike by the players. Because of the strike the league adopted different rules for qualifying for the playoffs that weren't tied to division standings, leading to two teams Cleveland (4-5) and Detroit (4-5) making the postseason despite losing records.

Tampa Bay won its next two after starting 0-3 before a loss to the Jets. The Buccaneers, who were led by quarterback Doug Williams then won their last three regular-season games, capped by a 26-23 overtime victory against the Bears to finish 5-4 and reach the

postseason.

But just as the Jets had a year before, the Buccaneers fell in the wild-card game when Williams threw three interceptions, one of which was returned for a touchdown, in a 30-17 loss to the Cowboys.

1992 San Diego Chargers

It would be a decade until another team opened the season 0-3 to make the playoffs, and the San Diego Chargers stand out on this list because they are the only team to drop their first four games and reach the postseason.

The Chargers fell in the huge hole early after Stan Humphries threw eight interceptions with just one TD in the first four games. San Diego got going after that, winning four in a row to reach .500 before its second loss of the season to Kansas City. The Chargers rebounded the next week with a win to start a seven-game streak to end the season at 11-5 and give them the AFC West title.

They became the first of these teams to win a playoff game when they beat Kansas City 17-0 in the wild card after the Chiefs beat them twice in the regular season.

Their season ended when Humphries threw four interceptions and Dan Marino had three touchdown passes in a 31-0 win by the Dolphins in the divisional round.

1995 Detroit Lions

The Lions won two in a row after their 0-3 start

but then lost their next two to fall to 2-5. Another win followed by their sixth loss came after that before they finally got rolling, winning their last seven regular-season games to finish 10-6 and second in the NFC Central.

Barry Sanders ran for 1,500 yards and 11 touchdowns that season, with 10 of those scores coming in Detroit's wins.

Detroit met Philadelphia in the wild-card and Sanders managed just 40 yards rushing as Rodney Peete threw three touchdowns to lead the Eagles to a 58-37 win.

1998 Buffalo Bills

Former Texans defensive coordinator Wade Phillips coached the 1998 Bills when they turned their season around to reach the playoffs after a 0-3 start. The Bills opened the season with Rob Johnson at quarterback, but Doug Flutie took over during the fifth game when Johnson was injured and helped them to a 31-24 comeback win over the Colts. The next week Flutie made his first NFL start since 1989 and led the Bills to a 17-16 win over the Jaguars for their first loss of the season.

Those two wins were part of a five-game streak that came after the winless start. The Bills won four of six after that streak and ended the regular season with a loss to the Jets and a win over the Saints to finish 10-6 and in third place in the AFC East.

The Bills lost to Miami 24-17 in the wild card when Flutie threw an interception and they lost four fumbles.

With future uncertain, Eli Manning focusing on Cowboys

By Tom Canavan
Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.

For the second straight year, two-time Super Bowl MVP Eli Manning is heading into an offseason with an uncertain future as New York Giants quarterback.

The Giants (5-10) are going to miss the playoffs for the sixth time in seven years. Many are wondering whether general manager Dave Gettleman and coach Dave Shurmur will be looking for a more mobile quarterback to replace the soon-to-be 38-year-old Manning.

The Giants don't have any heir apparent on the roster with rookie Kyle Lauletta and veteran Alex Tanney. That would leave the draft or free agency to find one.

Manning has not had a bad year statistically. He is 356 of 535 for 3,998 yards, 19 touchdowns and 10 interceptions. When his shaky line gives him time to throw (46 sacks allowed) and opens up holes for rookie Saquon Barkley, he is more than adequate. He still has the arm, he rarely gets hurt, and his understanding of the game is better than most quarterbacks.

His drawback is a \$22 million salary cap hit next season, something Gettleman might look to adjust.

Manning said last year was the first time his future really came up. He is not surprised it's happened again.

However, he is not going into Sunday game against

the NFC East champion Dallas Cowboys (9-6) thinking this might be his last game with the Giants. He has been their starting quarterback since the second half of his rookie year in 2004.

"No, just worried about this game and finishing this season, and going out there and playing hard," Manning said of the last-game question.

Manning said he has not had talks with the front office about either reworking or extending his contract, a four-year, \$84 million deal that ends after next season. He said those discussions would happen after this season.

The Giants have played better in the second half of the schedule, going 4-3. They lost last weekend on a last-minute touchdown to the Colts, and blew a 12-point lead against Philadelphia on Nov. 25. The other loss was a 17-0 decision in the rain to Tennessee.

Manning said the Giants are trying to finish the season strong and build momentum.

"I can't remember how the last game of every season worked out," said Manning, who led the Giants to Super Bowl wins after the 2007 and '11 seasons. "I think we are building something. I think when you have new players, and a new team, and a bunch of new guys coming from one year that hopefully will be here next year, I think you are building kind of the character and a winning attitude. So, I think those things can

carry over."

Manning hasn't spent much time thinking about the future. "Yeah, when you get to Year 15, these things come up," he said.

Wide receiver Sterling Shepard said he would love to have Manning back.

"He still has it in him, in my eyes," Shepard said. "Smartest guy I ever played with and he's still making all the throws. You can see last week, he made a lot of great throws, made great decisions with the ball, so I don't see why not."

Shurmur indicated little about Manning's future, saying No. 10 gives them the best chance to win this week.

"That's where we're at," Shurmur said. "I think when the game is over and we start talking in depth about what's going to happen moving forward, that's when you worry about it. I'm not worried about that. Again, you're talking to the coach. I'm worried about the game."

NOTES: Shepard won the 18th annual George Young Good Guy Award, as voted on by the Giants' chapter of the Professional Football Writers of America. Named for the late Giants general manager, it is given annually to recognize a Giants player for his consistent and outstanding cooperation with the writers who cover the team on a daily basis.

... WR Odell Beckham Jr. (quad) and LB Alec Ogletree (concussion) did not practice Wednesday. Beckham has missed the last three games.

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

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	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
KMD ABC	3	3	4	3	2							
KOSA CBS	7	7	7	7	7							
KWWT CW	5	14	5	14								
KPEJ FOX	8	5	5	8	3							
KMLM IND	11	12	12	11	11							
KWES NBC	9	9	9	9								
KPBT PBS	13	13	13	8								
KUPB UNI	4	4	4	16								
KOSA MNT	16	16										
FLIX	340	525	185									
HBO	300	590	14	14								
HBO2	302	591	15	101	23							
HBO3	304	592	16	102								
HBO4	306	594	17	104								
MAX	382	588	18	122								
PLEX	9	96										
SHOW	320	585	19	140	25							
TMC	336	579	22	155	26							
ABC	27	58	28	35	47							
AMC	40	74	23	42	51							
BET	58	-	40									
BRAVO	65	76	41									
CHBC	46	52	39	72								
CNN	43	50	51	30	56							
DISC	50	60	31	24	42							
DISNEY	56	64	36	25	36							
ESPN	32	35	48	31	30							
ESPN2	34	36	49	32	31							
FNC	45	48	53	23	55							
FOOD	64	70	27	68	54							
FREEFORM	53	63	34	42	33							
FSSW	37	38	50	45	29							
FX	31	56	59	64	69							
HALLMARK	54	71	58	34								
HGTV	63	69	26	48	44							
HISTORY	71	59	29	50	43							
LIFETIME	28	30	25	28	48							
MSNBC	47	53	49	73								
NBCSN	38	43										
NICK	55	-	39	34	37							
SPICE	30	-	55	53	58							
SYFY	66	62	41	57	67							
TBS	25	33	44	66	41							
TCM	41	75	24	63	66							
TELE	20	-	10	20								
TLC	51	61	32	38	52							
TNT	24	34	40	26	50							
TYLAND	49	-	35	54	35							
USA	26	55	42	27	49							
WGN	19	85										

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Joining police force changes view toward brother's drinking

DEAR ABBY: My brother is my best friend. He is also an alcoholic. It runs in our family, and he has been addicted for years. His drinking has affected me in several (minor) ways over the years, but I have always taken a hands-off approach, knowing I can't force him to get help.

Well, his drinking is starting to affect my life in a more severe way now. I joined the local police force. I am afraid that my brother's behavior could cost me my job if I'm seen with him while he acts out, or if I try to defend him.

I love my brother fiercely, and I don't know what to do anymore. I feel like I need to avoid him, but I love him. Please help. — CHALLENGED IN THE EAST

DEAR CHALLENGED: Establish some ground rules by explaining to your brother that although you love him, you cannot be seen with him if he has been drinking, for fear it will jeopardize your job. It's a valid concern. Make clear that if he breaks the law, you will be unable to intercede for him.

You are not responsible for his addiction or for what he does when he's under the influence. I'm not saying this will be emotionally easy for you, but you must let your brother suffer the consequences for his behavior if he acts out.

DEAR ABBY: I have severe asthma and allergies, and I'm particularly sensitive to bug sprays. If I'm exposed to them, my lips and tongue tingle for hours.

Every time my husband of 30 years sees a bug or even a small ant in our house, he reaches for the bug spray and saturates the house with it. Given the length of our marriage, he is well aware of how it affects me. I have asked him many times to please not use spray in the house, particularly when I am home, to no avail.

He did it again yesterday and got angry with me when I asked why. He reads your column, so I know he will see your response to my inquiry. What is your advice? — FED UP IN FLORIDA

DEAR FED UP: Stop asking your husband not to use bug spray while you are in the house. Be proactive and throw it out! You clearly have a severe allergy to something in it, and for him to persist in spraying while you are on the premises strikes me as not only selfish but also as a form

of assault that's potentially very serious. Call an exterminator to have it professionally done. There are other, less toxic ways to get rid of pests, and you should go online and explore them.

DEAR ABBY: I asked a woman I know professionally if she'd be interested in having lunch. She said she would, and we had a lovely lunch — until the bill came. When I suggested we split it, she suggested I make it a business expense. I told her I couldn't do that because it wasn't a business lunch.

I know if you invite someone to lunch, you pay, but I didn't think that's what I did. I have done this before — and since — and everyone pays for themselves. Do I owe this woman an apology? — EVERYONE PAYS IN TEXAS
DEAR EVERYONE: Not unless she became defensive. However, because you did the inviting, you should have paid the bill. If you want to lunch with her again, you should specify, "Let's split it."

DEAR ABBY

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



GOREN BRIDGE

With Bob Jones

Brave bid

Neither vulnerable. West deals

NORTH
♠ Q 10 6 5
♥ 10 8 6
♦ A 10 8 4
♣ A J

WEST
♠ A
♥ A J 7 4 3
♦ 9 7 6
♣ Q 10 8 2

EAST
♠ K J
♥ Q 9 5 2
♦ K Q 2
♣ 9 7 5 3

SOUTH
♠ 9 8 7 4 3 2
♥ K
♦ J 5 3
♣ A 6 4

The bidding:
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
10 Pass 2NT* Pass
30 Pass 34
All pass
*At least invitational values with heart support

Opening lead: Ace of ♣

The East-West auction came to an abrupt halt, leaving South with a close decision — should he sell out or bid three spades?

The auction marked his partner with reasonable values, or else the opponents would have gone on to game, and he was likely to catch enough

spades to have a useful fit. The danger was in pushing the opponents to four hearts with such little defense. In fact, it would have required excellent defense to hold East-West to nine tricks in a heart contract. Interested readers can work that out for themselves.

Three spades it was and South was relieved to buy it there. A diamond shift at trick two would have defeated the contract but that was hard to see. West continued with a "safe" second heart and declarer was in control. South ruffed, led a club to the king, and ruffed dummy's last heart. The ace of clubs and a club ruff eliminated that suit also, and a low spade put West on lead with no winning defense left.

A low diamond was ducked to East's queen. East could cash his high trump, but then had to yield a ruff-shuff or lead a diamond into dummy's ace-10. Nine tricks either way, and a well-played and well-bid hand.

Name	Div	P/E	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg	Name	Div	P/E	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
AT&T Inc.	204F	5	29.08	+72	+27.7	Luby's			1.23	15	-53.4
Abraxis		37	11.00	+16	-55.3	Marathon	20		14.17	+151	+16.1
AdvantaEq	133e		12.52	+55	-5.3	McDonalds	444f	26	174.03	+375	+1.1
Advent			17.90	+75	+2.5	Merrill	270F	28	120.00	+285	+1.1
AlphaMed	1.13x		1.07	+5	-18.7	MetroPCS		53	53.22	+40	-34.4
Altra	3.04f	15	48.43	+87	32.2	MicroCent			2.58	+04	-34.4
Ambev	0.55f	6	3.90	+08	-39.6	MicroTrn		3	30.89	+187	+24.9
Angen	5.80f	16	187.86	+98	+8.0	MicroSoft	1.84	42	100.56	+467	+17.6
Anheuser	1.20f	14	40.55	+33	+28.8	RingStar	1.20	9	19.30	+229	+29.5
Apple	1.20f	11	11.00	+15	-13.5	RiteAid	20		12.00	+10	-34.4
AppLe Inc.	2.92	167	27.04	+64	-36.0	NorVaco	20		26.04	+161	+27.1
Appl Inc.	2.92	167	157.17	+10	+34.1	NokiaCp	19e		5.56	+07	-19.3
ApplRtInt	80	9	36.84	+185	-48.1	NSTPDC	35e		14.17	+91	-4.7
Arco	53	1	1.97	+4	-1.7	Norfolk	68		67.82	+24	-34.4
ATMOS	1.94	17	90.12	+79	+40.9	Nvidia	64f	22	133.10	+602	+31.9
AutoData	3.16f	34	127.70	+575	+9.0	OasisPet			5.38	+64	-36.0
BPL PLC	2.38f	14	38.96	+41	-9.4	OscorPet	312	47	60.60	+489	-17.7
Bayer	1.00	60	24.11	+13	-18.3	OptiCom	78		44.59	+56	-34.4
B-B VYST m	1.00	60	24.11	+13	-18.3	Parsons	29.24		25.96	+23	-34.4
BarringsCap	1.20		14.88	+16	-2.5	PerTech	16		90.28	+133	+106.2
Berkite A			2424950.60	+12210	0.5	PATIUTI	16		10.46	+79	-54.5
BHMSIncCP	2.82f	18	61.29	+82	+2.0	PennRae	84	8	6.12	+44	-48.5
BioSilyeq	590	50	56.83	+87	-27.4	Pharm	61e	16	5.98	+33	-34.4
BrownBFA s	66f	29	6.07	+81	-8.2	Petrolas			12.72	+62	-0.6
Brown/B F	1.68f	29	46.57	+81	+8.6	Pfizer	1.44f	17	42.19	+64	-13.5
CVS Health	2.00	11	65.41	+249	-9.8	PoNori	32		20.80	+95	+2.4
CantelEnt			6.60	+70	-47.8	PlasmaAAP	1.95	33	130.03	+895	+14.2
Catalent	3.44	12	124.76	+781	-20.8	Procter			15.86	+55	-22.4
Celestic g			7.87	+10	-16.8	PrufIncG	2.87	22	90.09	+273	-1.9
CenlyInc	2.16	15	15.00	+78	-8.3	PROSPAS			31.86	+73	+5.6
Cesincing	4.46	4	2.19	+46	-44.7	PROSPUS r			43.34	+510	+8.0
Chemtron	6.82	22	10.30	+67	-14.0	PSQDQ m	07p		17.23	+39	-34.4
Chicos	34	9	5.76	+18	-34.7	PUKSONI			20.36	+35	+4.4
Cimarex	72	9	61.99	+467	+42.9	Quadrox	2.48		55.96	+231	-12.6
Cignex	1.30f	19	42.47	+127	+10.9	RangerR	08	11	104.10	+300	+8.9
Circuit City	1.82f	9	51.44	+218	-30.0	Rapson/r	58	11	13.92	+09	-22.5
CocaCola	1.56	89	46.94	+98	+2.3	Roku n	28		30.35	+318	+41.4
ColdPaln	1.88	25	49.40	+36	-21.3	Roscan	40	16	9.02	+91	-42.4
Concentra			76.16	34.14	+107	SprGrSHA	1.76	87	57.10	+224	13.5
Conch Resources			85.12	11.22	+14.7	SprGrSHL	3.96f	22	246.18	+246	
Conchos	15	10	10.57	+67	-31.7	SAPSQDQ	413e	246	118.77	+114	7.7
ConocoPhill	1.22f	49	61.50	+48	+12.8	SprGrLHY	230	30	33.51	+56	-8.7
CrackerH	5.00	16	160.73	+182	+1.2	SprGrDEX	73e	26	65.52	+53	-28.3
Criti-Tim	1.25e	12	11.98	+34	-19.1	SatNet	2.63e		33.37	+35	-23.7
Cummins	5.1	31	27.21	+91	+30.0	Shawmut	1.2		11.26	+10	-34.4
DTE	35.2	10	109.65	+70	+2	Schlingb	200	21	36.61	+42	-45.7
DeburyrR	1.77	34	1.77	+34	-19.9	SchwartzE	71e	28	10	+66	17.5
Devenet	1.25	22	22.71	+73	-48.5	SirusCM	05f	32	5.73	+22	+6.9
Diamond			98.82	+36	-30.0	Smucker	3.40	14	64.16	+162	+23.7
DIGR Basic Res	1.78f	14	105.43	+48	+12.8	Struc-A-C	2		5.42	+79	-34.4
Encana	06	10	5.79	+68	-56.6	SuwinEng	4	3	3.66	+41	-34.4
EgyrMetr	1.22	15	12.94	+14	-25.5	Square n		55	56.32	+60	+59.6
Enbridge	36	34	98.82	+36	-30.0	SprGrM	96e		14.82	+9	-18.4
ENSCO	04	3	3.74	+47	-36.7	SP HCNt	101e		84.22	+532	+1.9
EntProPrt	1.73	18	24.70	+19	-8.4	SP OnSt	128e		50.09	+136	-12.0
Ericsson	13e		66.64	+33	-27.2	SPDR	204e		57.19	+335	-20.9
ExxonMobil	3.28	13	66.64	+33	-17.8	SPGY Fnc	46e		23.32	+31	-16.4
Exxon	25	13	66.64	+33	-17.8	SprGrM	11e		11.26	+9	-18.4
Ford	60e	4	7.85	+22	-37.1	SP Tech	78e		61.10	+348	+5.5
FPLiCM	20	7	10.40	+62	-45.1	SP UI	155e		52.26	+70	-8
GATX	1.78f	14	71.79	+335	+15.5	Starbucks s	1.44	29	63.08	+522	+9.9
GAFF			88.88	+38	-22.5	Stamps			99	+02	-34.4
GenCorp	15e		27.98	+80	-11.4	StarK	1.28e	84	84.82	+21	-12.7
GenElec	04e		7.39	+47	-67.7	SteelPhm	73e	10	15.82	+123	16.5
HealthTris	72		26.43	+28	-48.5	3M Co	5.44	26	186.26	+764	+20.9
HeliosR m	31	00	100.00	0	-100.0	Torchmark	84	8	73.44	+883	-19.9
Herc	01	17	3.30	+67	-7.8	TransCo	1.28e		11.26	+9	-18.4
HSBCRst	67e	3	3.30	+67	-7.8	TRCNet	1.82e		23.87	+95	-14.4
HSISher	14.41		24	+14	-11.8	Twitter			28.86	+221	+19.4
HSChmetCL	67e	36	36.46	+79	-14.5	TylerTech		42	181.12	+727	+23.3
HSR	50e		38.82	76	-17.4	Unicom	1.36	18	30.86	+34	-12.1
HS ACW	143e		63.44	+42	-11.4	US OFB			14.82	+9	-18.4
IS E	1.66e		56.21	+32	-17.2	Vale SA	29e	13	13.07	+47	-12.0
HSBIBYB	50e	80	80.37	+34	-7.2	ValeS	3.20	19	73.31	+437	-20.2
ISPRK	1.77e	13	131.93	+65	-13.5	ValeoG	06e		20.62	+47	+11.3
HS-CofA	1.20f	14	40.55	+33	+28.8	ValeoG			29.26	+62	-34.4
Integ	1.28	17	46.19	+28	+0	VangREIT	30e		30.89	+187	+24.9
Integ Int	140	11	64.93	+86	-14.7	VangE	110e		37.88	+66	-17.3
Integ QQQ	1.31e	15	152.46	+86	-2.1	VangTSE	110e		36.75	+91	-18.1
ISJapan m			50.05	+63	-16.5	VangTSM	2.41f	7	54.44	+38	+29.9
ISJapan	95e	44	44.44	+63	-17.5	VangTSM	2.41f	7	54.44	+38	+29.9
IntellJmH s			8.64	01	-100.0	WEC Eng	2.21	22	68.85	+83	+0.7
JID.com	38	21	10.10	+35	-48.9	WebBoots	1.76	12	67.72	+46	-3.0
JPMChn	2.24f	13	95.96	+82	-10.3	WheatRst			26	+02	-83.9
Johmson	1.80f	14	38.96	+41	-9.4	WheatFrgo	1.72f	11	45.59	+19	-29.9
Johnson	4.00	24	119.9	+387	+10.3	WheatFrgo	1.72f	11	45.59	+19	-29.9
KinMed	80	20	15.64	+93	-13.4	XenonE	1.52	21	49.58	+96	+8.9
Kinross g	24	3	3.14	+16	-27.3	Xerox m	100		19.70	+78	-32.4
LegacyRes			1.97	+4	-19.3	Zynga	96	3.82	2.00	+45	-4.5

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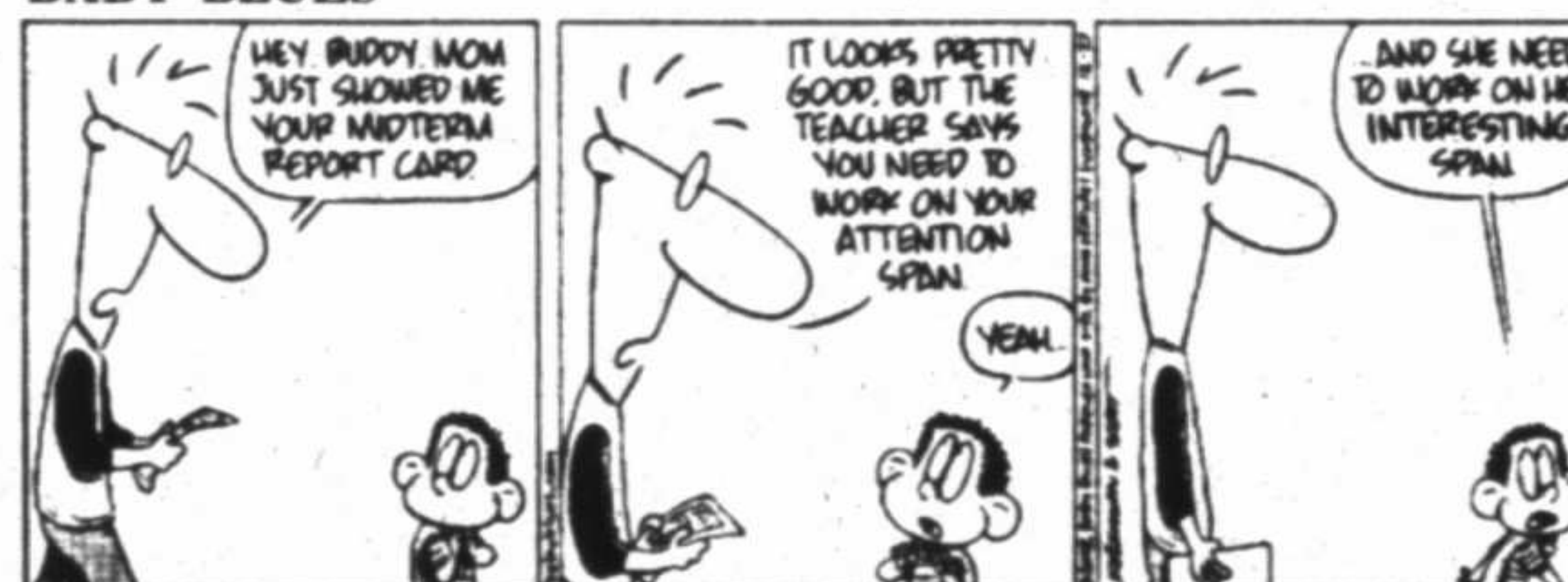
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Employment ads by:

432.682.6999

432.682.6222

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Textures & Fabric LTD is now Hiring!
Looking for a Customer Services Rep
Job Includes:
* Answering incoming calls from customers needing assistance in variety of areas
* Fulfill customer service functions
* Answer questions, give explanation, and solve problems for customers
* Complete special projects as assigned Send resume to ptjob001@aol.com

HEALTHCARE

Home & Office Cleaners
Home & Office Cleaners wanted \$800/week Cleaning position available, working days Mon - Fri 11am-3pm. Minimum requirement. Email: patriciatracy164@gmail.com

OTHER JOBS

**\$500
SIGN ON BONUS**
For the first 10 people who sign on for a route

Be In Business for Yourself With No Money Down Home Delivery Routes Available

The Midland Reporter Telegram's Circulation Department is looking for independent contractors to deliver newspapers to home delivery subscribers in **Midland city & county areas**

Applicants must be dependable, service oriented to provide excellent service to our readers. You must also be available early morning hour's 7 days a week [Our Distribution Centers open as early as 1:30 am with route delivery deadlines of 6 am during the week and 7 am on Sunday]. Compensation is dependent on route size and the number of copies delivered with the approximate gross profit potential between \$250 - \$630 every 2 weeks for 2 1/2 - 3 hours per day. The successful applicant must be able to work independently of direct supervision.

Applicants must have a dependable vehicle, valid driver's license and proof of insurance.

For more information and to be considered for a route please contact the Midland Reporter Telegram representative listed below.

Adam Kahle
432-238-4998

Oscar Ronquillo
432-687-9001

Wash & Lube Positions

Mighty Wash NOW Hiring Full/Part-Time Positions
Wash & Lube 3314 N Loop 250
or email daniel@mighty-wash.com or online mighty-wash.com



OTHER JOBS



CIRCULATION CLERK

The purpose of this position is to assist Circulation department in reaching goals for start pressure, volumes, retention, single copy, and customer service. The primary function of the Circulation Clerk is to handle administrative functions of the department including tracking and analysis.

Maintain reports for Circulation including tracking of start pressure, volumes, service and collection statistics, and retention for all properties in West Texas primarily the Plainview Herald and Midland Reporter Telegram. Report return information to the Accounting department on a timely basis for Plainview Herald and the MRT.

Process customer and DSM written and email correspondence, and respond to their phone inquiries. Work with the call center to resolve customer complaints as well as helping walk in customer's in reference to their account.

Work with customers and delivery staff to resolve delivery questions and service issues for our West Texas properties.

Special projects and administrative support tasks assigned by Circulation Managers as needed.

Designated back-up for other Circulation & Finance support staff members as needed.

Able to react to change productively and handle other essential tasks as assigned.

In order to communicate with company personnel and customers English is vital.

College degree or equivalent years of experience in office management or related areas required.

Proficient computer skills including Microsoft Office package (Excel, Word, PowerPoint and Access), experience in data entry and typing speed minimum 35wpm required.

Customer Service Skills: computer skills, analytical skills. Must be goal oriented, energetic and have good time management and organizational skills. Must be able to react to change productively.

This position is instrumental in analyzing data, interacting with all department personnel and resolving customer problems.

Sign-On Bonus

Send resumes to heckler@hearstnp.com



NOW HIRING 100 DELIVERY DRIVERS

- Great attitude and desire to be part of the Domino's team a must!
- Must be 18 years of age or older with a good driving record.
- Valid Driver's License
- Your own vehicle with insurance
- Earn hourly wage plus tips and mileage. Great drivers can earn \$18-\$25 per hour with a great attitude and hustle.
- Full time & Part-time positions available with flexible hours.

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- Great first job for student over 16 years old!
- Earn a \$12 hourly wage with quick raise opportunities.
- Full time & Part-time positions available.

APPLY ONLINE at JOBS.DOMINOS.COM

or any of the 10 Midland & Odessa locations
1307 N Loop 250 - Midland
3300 W Illinois - Midland
4519 N Garfield - Midland
604 N Big Spring St - Midland
5031-20 - Midland
3111 Faudree Rd - Odessa
960 E 87th St - Odessa
1106 E 42nd St - Odessa
2251 Linda Ave - Odessa
9001 W University Blvd - Odessa

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

WORKFORCE PROGRAM SPECIALIST

Accepting applications for the position of Workforce Program Specialist. Position is responsible for monitoring and quality assurance activities for compliance with federal/state regulations and local policies, providing training and/or technical assistance, and coordinating the development and implementation of local policies. Minimum qualifications: Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with major course work in a relevant field is preferred. Two years of full-time experience in eligibility determination, social service work, workforce development, or interpretation of policies in a public or private enterprise. One semester (15 semester hours) of accredited college may be substituted for each six months of required experience. Knowledge of federal and state workforce development program design and operation preferred.

Please submit resume to:
Permian Basin Workforce Board
Gail.dickenson@workforcepb.org OR
Fax: 432-561-8785

SALES JOBS

Manager & Cashiers

Smoker's Outlet has SIGNING BONUS for MANAGER TRAINEE & CASHIERS Full-time & Part-time position must have own transportation. Apply in person Mon-Fri 8-5 at either store.
5000 E University, Ste 11, Odessa, Tx & 312 N Midland Dr, Midland, TX

SKILLED LABOR

Owl Energy Services

General Labor/Field Hand
Poly Line Installation
Requirements:
Valid DL
Drug Testing

Monday - Friday w/occasional weekend work.
Benefits include 401K & Medical

\$5 Paid Holidays \$5

Apply @ Owl Energy Services, 2052 Commerce St, Midland, Texas 79703. Between 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

NO PER DIAM

NO TELEPHONE CALLS ACCEPTED, MUST COME TO IN AND FILL OUT APPLICATION. BRING ID's with You.

Technical Service & Field Sales

J&W Services and Equipment Co. is seeking a Technical Service and Field Sales rep for our Rader Electric Feed Thru division (a BW Distributor). 2+ yrs experience preferred but willing to train. Benefits include health, dental & life ins. Vacation & Sick pay. Opportunities to earn commissions and quality bonuses. Participation in 401k after one year. Stop at 3510 E Hwy 158 in Midland online www.jandwservices.com for app & submit to jobs@jwellheads.com

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Browse Dozens of Rewarding Career Opportunities for

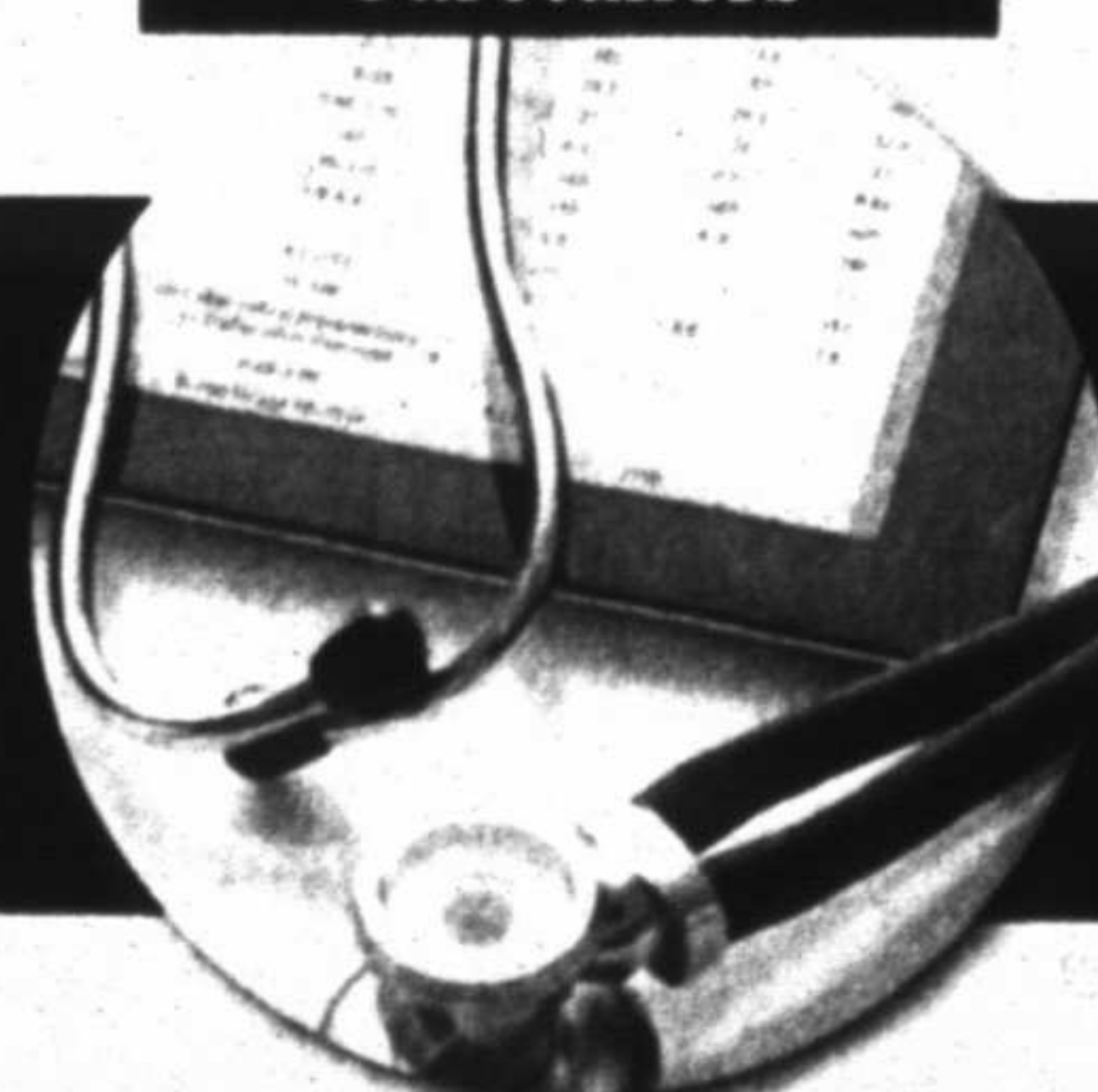
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- Reach over 4 million job seekers on 3,000 job boards



PERFORMANCE BOOST

- Provides additional exposure and better visibility for your job across the network.
- Perfect for those hard to fill roles or when you need to hire quickly



SOCIAL BOOST

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- Facebook, Twitter & LinkedIn



RESUME BOOST

- Real-Time job matching technology automatically identifies qualified candidates from our vast national resume database and delivers them instantly to your employer account ranked by match score so you can save time and focus on the best matches
- Find the perfect candidates from over 4 million resumes

Contact an account executive today!



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Legal and Public Notices

Notice of Bank Merger

FirstCapital Bank of Texas, National Association, Midland, Texas, applied to the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency on December 20, 2018 for permission to merge with Fidelity Bank, Wichita Falls, Texas. The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency considers a number of factors in deciding whether to approve the application/notice including the record of performance of banks in helping to meet local credit needs. It is contemplated that all of the branch offices of the above named banks will continue to operate following the transactions set forth in this notice.

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency Comment

This notice is published pursuant to 12 U.S.C. 1828(c) and 12 C.F.R. 5. Anyone may submit written comments on this application on or before January 19, 2019 to: Director for District Licensing, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Southern District Office, 500 North Akard Street, Suite 1600, Dallas, TX 75201 or SO.Licensing@occ.treas.gov.

The public file is available for inspection in the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency's Southern District Office during regular business hours. Written requests for a copy of the public file on the application should be sent to the Director of District Licensing. Additional information regarding the filing, including the date of the end of the public comment period, is available in the OCC Weekly Bulletin at www.occ.gov.

Legal and Public Notices

Notice is hereby given that Extra Space Storage will sell at public auction on January 11, 2019, to satisfy the lien of the owner, personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the following locations:

Facility 1772: 1904 W Loop 250 N Midland, TX 79705, January 11th 10:00AM

Ricky Tolbert chair, boxes, golf clubs, Joy Maria boxes, shelves, Christina Shandale Lucero furniture, Wesley Laman power tools, household items, Andres Brito 2 bedroom home

Facility 1813: 3111 Caldera Blvd Midland, TX 79705, January 11th, 10:30AM

Mania Quinonez home goods, Korin Heizman washer dryer toys clothes

Facility 1770: 5005 Andrews Hwy Midland, TX 79703, January 11th, 11:00AM

Ruby Amor Unit #0206 Tools, motor, fan and couch Laura Serrano Unit #1110 chair and boxes

Facility 1814: 2504 N Loop 250 W Midland, TX 79707, January 11th, 11:30AM

Enica Fenton bed, dresser, entertainment center, table, computer, clothes, pictures, toys, desk, shelves

Denise Rodriguez couch, and table, microwave, three TVs, toys, shelves Craig Houston clothes, shopping basket

Auctioneer Chris M. Watkins, TX Lic. #17951 Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

Auctioneer Chris M. Watkins, TX Lic. #17951 Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

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2007 KEYSTONE Large

5th wheel, 30' long with 26' miles, new refrigerator, everything works. Asking \$13,500. Located in Midland. 817-694-8780 or 432-889-8921

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LOT FOR SALE 204 S

Minerals is fenced in with driveway. Owner finance \$59,000K, down payment \$5,000, payments \$500 per month. 432-631-2905

Firewood For Sale

Oak, Pecan, Hickory, Mesquite, Pinon 325-762-4262

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2 acres plus SE Midland County \$84,900 Call 432-631-3650

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10' x 18' cool room, 5 doors and 1 walk door. \$2,000 month. \$1,000 deposit 432-528-1809

CORNER LOT FOR SALE

412 BAIRD, water tap, sewer tap, paved. Walk to Court house \$189,000K 432-631-2905

LABRADOR RETRIEVER PUPPIES

Grand Hunting Retriever Champ bloodlines. Comes day delivery in Midland! \$1,200 English Labs OFA Cert Hips & elbows Brooke 432-978-5300

700 SCENIC acres in SW

Runtles County Upland elevations to Large Creek Bottom Large Ponds(Stocked) & Rural Water Meter on Property. Electric close to Property. Whitetail Deer Quail Turkey Dove Provides Excellent Hunting. All Minerals & Water Rights will Convey \$1800.00 Per Acre Contact Rick 596-820-8881

84 +/- ac. Voca TX

8 miles from Brady Beautiful property covered with oaks. This property has a large tank, pad for house, good fencing, electricity, and a well. Perfect for hunting and building. Surrounded by large ranches. \$380,000 Call Becky with James Long Real estate for more information at 214-662-9561

REAR-RANCH

WWW.REAR-RANCH.COM

• East County 11,150 ac. 4 of Snyder, 4 houses, panoramic views, 800 ft. min. creek, later, whitetail deer, make deer and goat \$795,000

• 4,712 ac. Mescal Creek, canyon, whitetail and make deer and goat \$825,000

• 7,771 ac. whitetail, creek, blinds and headers, great water and make deer, turkey, hog, goat \$1,150,000

• 2,448 ac. over 1 mile creek, blinds and headers, elevation change, oak, SOLD \$3,550,000

• 1,565 ac. Pecan Creek, New Livingston 200 acres cleared for cattle, blinds/headers, whitetail, SOLD \$4,425,000

• 1,402 ac. canyon, blinds/headers, great deer, cedar/mesquite, surface water, some whitetail, SOLD \$750,000

• 1,150 ac. big canyon, blinds/headers, great deer, turkey, hog, SOLD \$695,000

• 1,150 ac. big canyon, blinds/headers, great deer and whitetail, SOLD \$1,150,000

(432) 664-7784 or (432) 934-7777 No Realtors - Buy Direct!!! Deal! Landowners Real Estate!!! ***Owner Financing Available***

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You can advertise your business for as little as \$47.00 monthly. Call 682-6222 for details.

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junk, trash, treasures. We clean garages, yards & storage buildings. Flexible, competitive rates. Call Earl @ 432-288-0040

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CARPENTRY, FLOORS, paint, yard

work, clean windows, doors, brick, remodeling. Call Theodore Lored 806-559-1772

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WILL TRIM, prune or

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Reliable private duty

care giver, meal prep, light house cleaning, bath, doctor visits, assistant basic medical procedures, and etc. Call (432) 880-4989 if no answer leave message will give call back ASAP!!!

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Midland Reporter-Telegram

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Weekly Writing Corner

Holiday Laughs
Students tell us their holiday jokes and riddles.

What is solid when it's cold and liquid when it's warm?
A: A snowman!
Elizabeth, 5th grade

What are Santa's three favorite places?
A: Santa Cruz, Santa Barbara and Santa Fe!
Noah, 5th grade

What did the pirate say during the winter?
A: "Shiver me timbers!"
Emily, 5th grade

What do you call a reindeer in the rain?
A: Raindeer!
Cooper, 5th grade

What's red and white and loved all over?
A: Santa Claus!
Liam, 5th grade

What's the best thing to give your parents for the holidays?
A: A list of everything you want!
Autumn, 5th grade

What Christmas carol does every horse love?
A: Deck the stalls!
Mikayla, 5th grade

Which reindeer has a cold?
A: Rudolf the red nose reindeer!
Kai, 7th grade

If athletes get athletes foot, what do astronauts get?
A: Mistletoe!
Liam, 7th grade

Why does Santa have three gardens?
A: So he can ho-ho-ho!
Andrew, 7th grade

Which reindeer tackles the quarterback most in football?
A: Blitzen!
Kurtis, 7th grade

Where do snowmen dance?
A: At the snow ball!
Buddy, 6th grade

What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus?
A: Claustrophobic!
Miranda, 4th grade

What do you call a singing elf?
A: A wrapper!
Freddy, 4th grade

Write On!

If I Were President
What would you do? How would you spend your days? Why would you want to be president?
Deadline: January 20
Published: Week of Feb. 17
Send your story to:
Newspaper In Education
201 E. Illinois
Midland, TX 79701
ljdz@mr.com
Please include your school and grade.

Elf Clothes
How tall is an elf? Here are some hints from Leroy, one of Santa's elves.

Measure my clothes and my head to see if you can figure out how tall I am.

in _____ cm _____

in _____ cm _____

in _____ cm _____

in _____ cm _____

Leroy is _____ inches tall.
He is _____ cm tall.

Elf Seavenger Hunt
Look through the newspaper to find:
• Something sweet
• Four 4-digit numbers
• Something small
• Something smaller
• Something huge
• Something that shows what the weather is like

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

The BIG FUN with Little People GAME

Whoops! Edgar Elf dropped candy canes all over this page. How many can you find?

Get Ready to Play!

1. Find a marker for each player. Buttons and small pebbles work great!
2. Get a piece of paper and a pencil for each player.
3. Find one die.
4. Cut out the Little People cards.
5. Each player chooses a Little People card.
6. Start on the star.
7. Roll the die. Move that number of spaces.
8. If a player lands on a space with a letter that can be used on his/her card, write the letter on the piece of paper.
9. First person to spell the name on his/her card, wins the game.

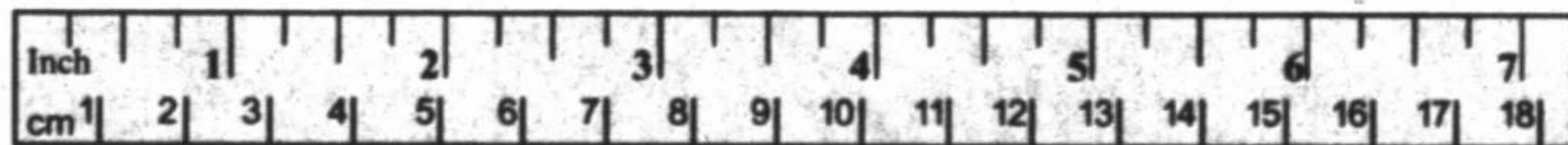
elfin goblin troll pixie fairy gnome

BN OG MT YO RI EG FM OD YP EX WY XO GM IL TD LE FG PB LB

Elf Clothes

How tall is an elf? Here are some hints from Leroy, one of Santa's elves.

Measure my clothes and my head to see if you can figure out how tall I am.



Standards Link: Math: Measurement using standard units, computing sums.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

"WEE" is found inside some words you know. Do you know these?

Not on top, not on the bottom, but
--- WEE ---
Sugar is
--- WEE ---
To cry or to
--- WEE ---
What do you do with a broom?
--- WEE ---
A bird says
--- WEE ---

Standards Link: Word Recognition: Recognize and use knowledge of spelling patterns and word chunks.

Double Double Word Search

SCAVENGER

BUTTONS

CANDY

CANES

PLAY

WEATHER

READY

CLOTHES

TALL

GAME

ELVES

SHORT

POLE

FUN

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

S E V L E S Y E R L
F G A L M R E E W R
E N S A O S G N E N
B U T T O N S A A O
W F C C E S D E T C
F A U V A Y H L H N
F Y A L P N C O E A
N C G A M E D P R D
S E H T O L C Y Y T

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Scan and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

The Long and Short of It

St. is an abbreviation or shorter way to spell the word *saint*. Clip examples of abbreviations from the newspaper. Paste them onto a piece of paper. Write the whole word next to the abbreviated form.

Standards Link: Word Recognition: Recognize common abbreviations.



What does Santa Claus do when it is not Christmas?

ANSWER: He is probably a farmer because he always says, "Ho, ho, ho, ho!"



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