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TAX EXEMPT STILL TAXED

McCary: Congress taxes churches and nonprofits? Yes, and it meant to!

WIMBLEDON COVERAGE

Kerber tops Williams at Wimbledon for 3rd Grand Slam title.



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MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

SUNDAY, JULY 15, 2018

mrt.com

320,000 readers in print and online

Fuel prices part of city, county budget considerations

By Simone Jasper
sjasper@mrt.com

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ways to budget estimates for the vehicles they operate.

City vehicles are used for various purposes, including police patrol, fire response, waste management and code enforcement. The city purchases gasoline for its three fueling stations, according to spokeswoman Elana Ladd.

"Being able to buy directly from the distributors, we get a slightly better rate," she said.

The city has 755 vehicles, including those that use diesel, off-road diesel and unleaded fuel, according to Ladd. She said via email that annual usage is 840,000 gallons and that the prices the city pays are generally

higher than at this point last year.

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Please see FUEL/5A

HYPING HEALTH



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

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Lobbyists target Conaway with local billboard

Physicians' group challenges head of House Committee on Agriculture to support SNAP Healthy Incentives Act

By Trevor Hawes
thawes@mrt.com

A Washington, D.C.-based doctors' lobby group wants people on government assistance to have healthier diets, and it's targeting the head of the House Committee on Agriculture in his hometown.

U.S. Rep. Mike Conaway is the subject of a billboard in south Midland that challenges him to support the SNAP Healthy Incentives Act. The bill aims to amend the farm bill to add a financial

incentives program for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program recipients to purchase fruits and vegetables, according to the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, the group behind the billboard.

Conaway is chairman of the House agriculture committee. SNAP, formerly known as food stamps, helps low- and no-income people purchase food. It is part of the larger farm bill. On June 21, Conaway's farm bill narrowly passed the House 213-211, with all 191 Democrats voting no. The Senate passed the bill 86-11 with several changes June 28, and both houses are heading into conference to resolve their differences.

One major issue that Democrats oppose is the House's proposed work requirements for SNAP recipients:

People 18 to 59 who are able to work must work at least 20 hours per week or participate in a training program, with certain exclusions. In its press release, the Physicians Committee urges Conaway and other lawmakers to instead consider a financial incentives bill to get SNAP recipients to eat healthier foods.

The sparsely worded billboard, which went up Thursday at 1503 Rankin Highway, addresses Conaway and encourages him to support HR 4855, the SNAP Healthy Incentives Act. A half-page advertisement addressing the congressman in the Reporter-Telegram's June 21 edition is more specific: "Improve the efficiency of the program, and the health of participants, by emphasizing fruits,

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Library director to make bid for MISD school board

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

The man who led the turnaround of the Midland County Public Library system has announced his candidacy for Midland ISD school board.

John Trischitti III, the director of libraries for Midland County, has announced his candidacy for District 5 trustee.

District 5 covers an area of central to north Midland and includes Early College High School, Goddard Junior High, San Jacinto Junior High, Emerson Elementary and Santa Rita Elementary. Some prominent areas/developments include Midland College, Racquet Club, the heavy growth area east and west of State Highway 191, north of Loop 250 and Saddle Club and the Midland Polo Fields. Karen Nicholson was the previous representative of that district. She resigned her seat earlier this year.

Trischitti said he is looking forward to serving the community in an area he is passionate about.

"Change is happening, and I want to be part of that change," Trischitti said. "I am a lifelong advocate for quality public education, as a product of public school myself and now sending my children to public school. I have had children in MISD for the last eight years and will continue to have a child in MISD until my youngest graduates in 2032. I want the best for the students of Midland ISD."

Trischitti says he will bring to the board his experiences as an involved parent, and an education and literacy advocate. He said working with the district on initiatives such as Project Literacy and



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

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US expected to become world's top oil producer next year

By David Koenig
Associated Press

The U.S. has nosed ahead of Saudi Arabia and is on pace to surpass Russia to become the world's biggest oil producer for the first time in more than four decades.

The latest forecast from the U.S. Energy Information Administration predicts that U.S. output will grow next year to 11.8 million barrels a day.

"If the forecast holds, that would make the U.S. the world's leading producer of crude," says Linda Capuano, who heads the agency, a part of the Energy Department.

Saudi Arabia and Russia could upend that forecast by boosting their own production. In the face of rising global oil prices, members of the OPEC cartel and a few non-members including Russia agreed last month to ease production caps that had contributed to the run-up in prices.

President Donald Trump has urged the Saudis to pump more oil to contain rising prices. He tweeted on June 30 that King Salman agreed to boost production "maybe up to 2,000,000 barrels." The White House later clarified that the king said his country has a reserve of 2 million barrels a day that could be tapped "if and when necessary."

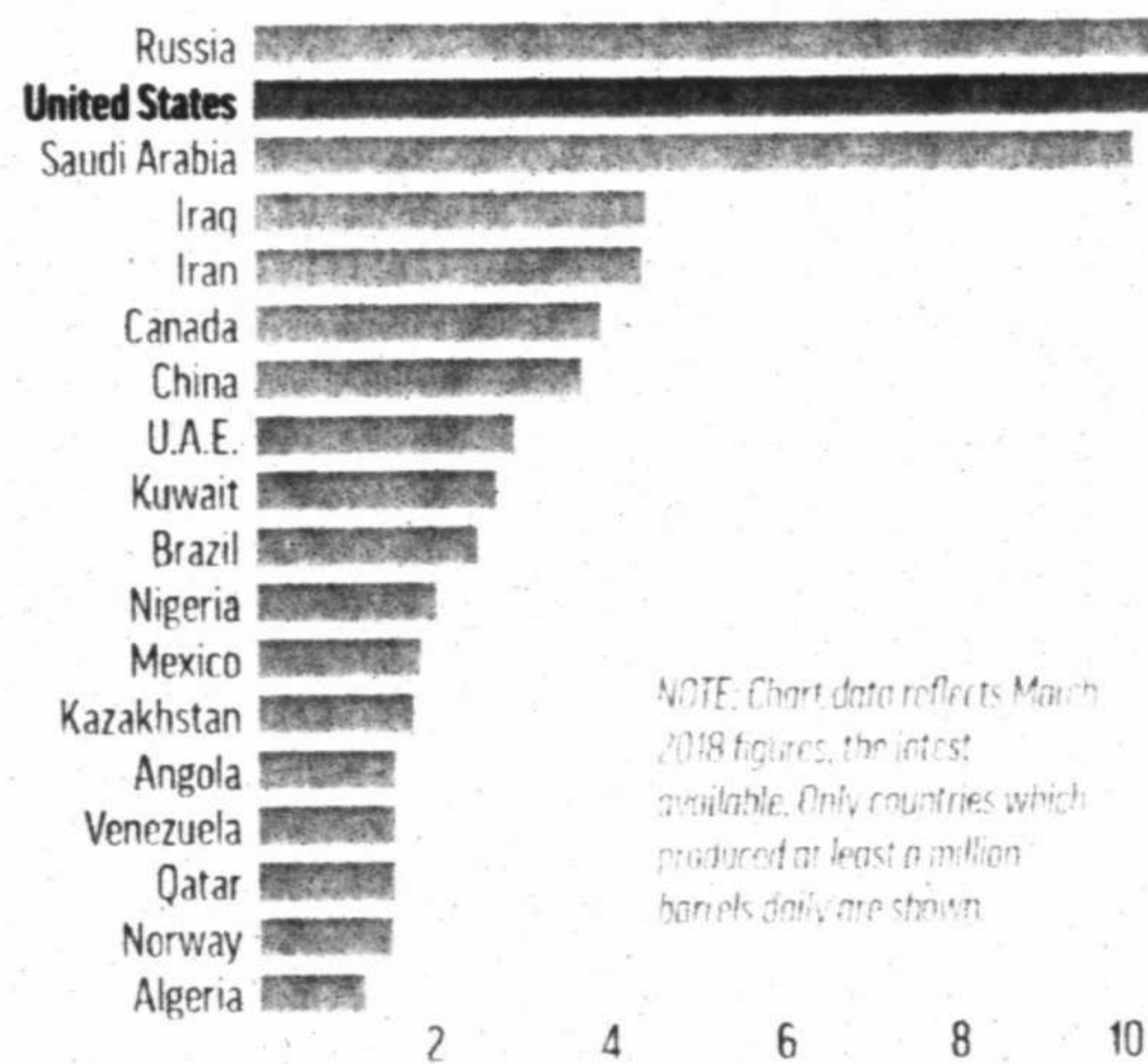
The idea that the U.S. could ever again become the world's top oil producer once seemed preposterous.

"A decade ago, the only question was how fast would U.S. production go down," said Daniel Yergin, author of several books about the oil industry including a history, "The Prize." The rebound of U.S. output "has made a huge difference. If this had not happened, we would have had a severe shortage of world oil," he said.

The United States led the world in oil production for much of the 20th century, but the

US on pace to become world's biggest oil producer

Millions of barrels of crude oil produced per day



NOTE: Chart data reflects March 2018 figures, the latest available. Only countries which produced at least a million barrels daily are shown.

SOURCE: U.S. Energy Information Administration

Soviet Union surpassed America in 1974, and Saudi Arabia did the same in 1976, according to Energy Department figures.

By the end of the 1970s the USSR was

producing one-third more oil than the U.S.; by the end of the 1980s, Soviet output was nearly double that of the U.S.

The last decade or so has seen a revolution

in American energy production, however, led by techniques including hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, and horizontal drilling.

Those innovations — and the breakup of the Soviet Union — helped the U.S. narrow the gap. Last year, Russia produced more than 10.3 million barrels a day, Saudi Arabia pumped just under 10 million, and the U.S. came in under 9.4 million barrels a day, according to U.S. government figures.

The U.S. has been pumping more than 10 million barrels a day on average since February, and probably pumped about 10.9 million barrels a day in June, up from 10.8 million in May, the energy agency said Tuesday in its latest short-term outlook.

According to the Energy Department, the U.S. edged ahead of Saudi Arabia in February and stayed there in March; both trailed Russia.

Capuano's agency forecast that U.S. crude output will average 10.8 million barrels a day for all of 2018 and 11.8 million barrels a day in 2019. The current U.S. record for a full year is 9.6 million barrels a day in 1970.

The trend of rising U.S. output prompted Fatih Birol, executive director of the International Energy Agency, to predict this spring that the U.S. would leapfrog Russia and become the world's largest producer by next year — if not sooner.

One potential obstacle for U.S. drillers is a bottleneck of pipeline capacity to ship oil from the Permian Basin of Texas and New Mexico to ports and refineries.

"They are growing the production but they can't get it out of the area fast enough because of pipeline constraints," said Jim Rittersbusch, a consultant to oil traders.

Some analysts believe that Permian production could decline, or at least grow more slowly, in 2019 or 2020 as energy companies move from their best acreage to more marginal areas.

No corner of Texas untouched as Trump's tariffs set off trade war with China

By Tom Benning
The Dallas Morning News

South Texas farmer Bobby Nedbalek figures America's growing trade conflict is the ultimate poker game.

And while he makes clear he likes the dealer in chief — explaining that he's glad President Donald Trump "is there in the game for us" — he can't help but look with trepidation at his latest hand in the wake of extraordinary antics made Friday by the U.S. and China.

Among the dueling tariffs imposed on a combined \$68 billion in goods was retaliation that Beijing aimed at cotton and grain sorghum — cash crops for Nedbalek and many other Texas farmers. "I don't think there has ever been a time when there is so much money on the line," said the 77-year-old, who sees nearly all the harvest from his 6,000-acre operation exported to China.

Texas is now all-in on the president's trade war — whether the state likes it or not.

Trump's protectionist agenda has entangled the state's trade-heavy economy on a staggering scale, with each escalation stoking fears from Texas business and political leaders that such a skirmish will risk jobs, curtail investment, increase consumer prices and destroy export markets.

The tit-for-tat exchange Friday simply provided a high-dollar exclamation point.

Payback from China and other countries for Trump's trade actions now covers billions of dollars in Texas exports, according to data collected by the U.S. Census Bureau. That hit, focused on the ag and energy industries, appears to be greater than what's being felt in any other U.S. state.

Texas has likewise borne the brunt of Trump's steel and aluminum tariffs. The state would also feel a keen impact if the U.S. ends up imposing levies on imported cars or if China follows through on a pledge to slap duties on crude oil, petrochemicals and other Texas stalwarts.

No corner of the Texas economy is likely to go untouched.

"Unprecedented," said Jeff Schott, a senior fellow at the Washington-based Peterson Institute for International Economics. "In the past, a big trade dispute was a billion dollars. This is orders of magnitude bigger."

NO SURPRISE

That such a Rubicon has been crossed is really no surprise.

Trump has railed against America's treatment on the international stage from his earliest days on the White House campaign trail. He's pressed a need to protect American workers at all costs, particularly when it comes to jobs in the beleaguered Rust Belt. Moreover, the president says his efforts to upturn the trade status quo are working.

He and defenders of his "America First" vision point out, for instance, that U.S. steelmakers have announced new jobs since the metal tariffs took hold, with Baytown-based JSW USA saying just last month that it plans to hire 1,000 workers at its facilities in Texas and Ohio.

"We are going to make great deals," Trump said Thursday night at a rally in Montana. "We hold all the cards. We are the bank everybody is stealing from." The bullish outlook belies clamors of concern emanating from Texas.

Politicians from Gov. Greg Abbott on down — both Republican and Democrat — have warned about

economic pain. The state's vast business community, from corporate titans to family-owned outfits, has likewise launched frantic lobbying efforts to sway the White House.

Their worry isn't so much that Trump is taking on China.

The economic behemoth has indeed flooded the global market with excess steel. That's the impetus for the metal tariffs. It also has no doubt flouted conventions related to intellectual property rights and other trade practices. That's the rationale for the latest trade move.

"He's doing some things that haven't been done in the past — that were maybe a little bit overdue," said Nedbalek, the South Texas farmer.

But Trump's approach is another story.

FRIEND OR FOE DOESN'T MATTER

He has not distinguished between America's friends and foes in the fight. He's barreled ahead in a manner that's confused markets and forced lawmakers like Texas Sen. John Cornyn to wonder, "How does this end?"

Trump has lanced with tariffs U.S. industries that employ, in Texas and beyond, millions more workers than sectors his trade actions are meant to prop up.

"An escalating trade war will result in a disruption to the market that will just have significant impact across the board," said Todd Staples, president of the Texas Oil and Gas Association and a former state agriculture commissioner.

The historic blows exchanged Friday between the U.S. and China spotlight those dynamics, starting with the levies Trump imposed on \$34 billion worth of Chinese goods.

The White House has said its tariff list was designed to limit harm to American consumers by avoiding most household items. And the administration did indeed recalibrate the targets after receiving public feedback, removing tariff lines on flat-screen TVs and other goods.

But tariffs on imports are ultimately taxes paid by someone in the U.S.

That fundamental truth has come through on Trump's steel and aluminum tariffs, where companies in Texas and across the U.S. have made thousands of yet-to-be-resolved requests for product-specific exclusions. These latest levies are no different.

WYLE COMPANY HURT

Take Wylie-based Sanden International USA, a maker of car air-conditioning compressors. The company in May implored the Trump administration to exclude three tariffs it said would cost it \$3.5 million a year. Or else, the company said, it would need to lay off 39 workers.

The tariffs that went into effect Friday nevertheless included those three product lines.

Adrienne Braumiller, a Dallas-based trade attorney representing Sanden and other businesses, said she was unable to provide an update on Sanden's next move. But she also laid bare the fact that many Texas companies, because of one trade move or another, are now in a tough spot.

"The current administration would be very disappointed if jobs are reduced and manufacturing is also reduced," she said. "And that's something companies are considering."

Retaliation from China on \$34 billion worth of U.S. goods, meanwhile, had a significant impact even before it was officially implemented.

Those tariffs take aim at U.S. agricultural mainstays like cotton, grain

sorghum, soybeans and wheat by raising the prices on those goods in China. That ends up reducing demand, driving down commodity prices and leaving American farmers effectively holding the bill.

"It's happening already," said Russell Boening, president of the Texas Farm Bureau. "The prices reacted right away when the threats were being lobbed back and forth."

Many Texas farmers are trying to stay optimistic, especially since Trump has promised to protect a community he talks about with near-reverence.

Wade Cowan is an eighth-generation Texas farmer who now has three crops targeted on his 1,500-acre operation outside Lubbock. He's avoiding the "doom and gloom" for now. That's in part because his sales season isn't until later in the year. Still, if the trade skirmish drags on — and he emphasizes "if" — "this could affect things pretty dramatically," he said.

So many factors come into play. Nedbalek, the South Texan, pointed to grain sorghum.

In some ways, the fact that China's new tariff on that crop is just 25 percent is a relief, he said. Earlier in the year, Beijing imposed and then eventually removed a crippling 178 percent levy on the product, which is popular in China as animal feed.

"That made us feel real special," Nedbalek said with a laugh.

But margins are always thin, particularly given the whims of Mother Nature. Last year was a bumper crop, causing many farmers to load up on expenses. Now a drought in many parts of Texas has wrecked this year's yield — "the worst time in the world to have a bad crop," he said.

"We're really vulnerable," Nedbalek said, explaining that low market prices, driven in large part by the tariffs, will make it "really hard for the numbers to work." From farm to factory — and everywhere in between — the question has now become how long will Trump's trade tit last. Especially when it comes to China.

MORE TARIFFS THREATENED

Beijing on Friday blamed the U.S. for starting "the largest trade war in economic history to date." Both sides have threatened additional rounds of tariffs, while China already appears to be exacting indirect forms of revenge. Experts point out that one factor could be that the U.S. imports many more Chinese goods than vice versa.

"There are limitations to what China will be able to do, in part because China has a lot more to lose," said Scott Paul, president of the Alliance for American Manufacturing and a supporter of Trump's trade approach.

But some damage may not be reversed with ease.

Nedbalek noted that the U.S. ag industry has spent years cultivating markets in China, calling the country a "great friend to South Texas agriculture." He worries that once Texas loses its part of that market, it may not come back in the same way.

Such an outcome would be felt well beyond the fields. All kinds of industries connected to agriculture, from tire shops to fast-food restaurants to fuel suppliers, "will feel the economic pinch from agriculture being in this real tight spot," he said.

"Unfortunately, it's like when you pray, 'I want patience, but I want it right now,'" Nedbalek said. "We're at that place right now."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Can Texas stop Trump from playing with tariffs? There'll be a price to pay

By Mitchell Schnurman
The Dallas Morning News

The business resistance is striking out with President Donald Trump.

Opponents of the Trump trade tariffs launched a public campaign, enlisted over 100 Republican members of Congress and signed up over 100 trade groups to put the pressure on. Yet the president still moved forward on steel and aluminum tariffs, and recently added tariffs on \$34 billion in Chinese goods.

As expected, the tariffs prompted retaliation from China, the European Union, Mexico and Canada. They also led to threats of overseas moves (from Harley-Davidson, no less) and worker layoffs, and fears of an escalating trade war.

This represents a novel challenge for Republicans because past GOP leaders were strong supporters of free trade. But Trump campaigned on ending what he often called bad trade deals, and he seems dug in on using tariffs to force new agreements.

So what can businesses do? They're making their case by speaking out, documenting the potential costs and lobbying presidential advisers.

"There's no way to sit by quietly and let this happen," said Priscilla Camacho, senior vice president of public policy for the Dallas Regional Chamber. "We have to be forceful on the issues."

That's largely meant sending letters to representatives and pulling together lawmakers in Washington and Austin to make the Texas case. The Texas Association of Business has asked the state comptroller to provide details of the economic threats so they can be shared with the Trump administration.

As the nation's top exporter and one of the most conservative states, there will be ripple effects if the tariffs hurt the Texas economy. They range from solar panels and washing machines to steel and aluminum to possibly imported autos. Retaliatory moves cover dozens of products and Texas is getting dinged on blueberries as well as sorghum, cotton and flax.

Texas has \$3.9 billion in exports that are exposed to retaliatory tariffs, according to a recent analysis by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Alabama and South Carolina are right behind.

Talks are underway to modernize the North American Free Trade Agreement, but Trump has not started the process of pulling out of NAFTA. That's the most important trade deal for Texas, because the state benefits greatly from integrated supply chains and billions in trade with Mexico and Canada.

While NAFTA is top-of-mind for many Texas stakeholders, Trump is at the center of so many controversies that it's hard to focus.

"It's one thing after another," Camacho said. "Businesses are trying to figure out which fights to step into first and where to put all their strength."

Trump's tariffs have heightened concerns that NAFTA could be in trouble soon. In May, the Dallas chamber sent a letter to emphasize its importance.

"Texas trade with NAFTA countries far outweighs trade between Texas and any other country, including China, South Korea, and others," the letter to U.S. Rep. Sam Johnson said.

To influence the president, the state will have to show how changes in trade policy are reverberating, said Jeff Moseley, CEO of the Texas Association of Business.

"It's important for the administration to hear real-life, real-time accounts of how tariffs will chill the economy," Moseley said.

Toyota has warned that the price of a Camry could rise by \$1,800 if Trump moves ahead on auto tariffs. Earlier, it said that steel and aluminum tariffs could boost the price of a car by \$400.

In recent surveys by the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, several anonymous contacts voiced concerns. One cited tariffs and said, "We are limiting investment at the moment."

A vehicle and car parts dealer said, "The tariffs currently being discussed will destroy our business if enacted."

"I can't believe the effect the tariff response has had on the metals trade," said a manufacturer. "Somebody needs their head examined if they think this is good for the American economy."

Will such public sentiments change the president's mind? Probably not, especially in an election year, said Gary Hufbauer, a former U.S. trade negotiator and Treasury official.

"The turning point may come when more businesses lay off a lot of workers and lose a lot of sales," said Hufbauer of the Peterson Institute for International Economics. "If enough companies feel the pain and raise their voices, that may slow this down."

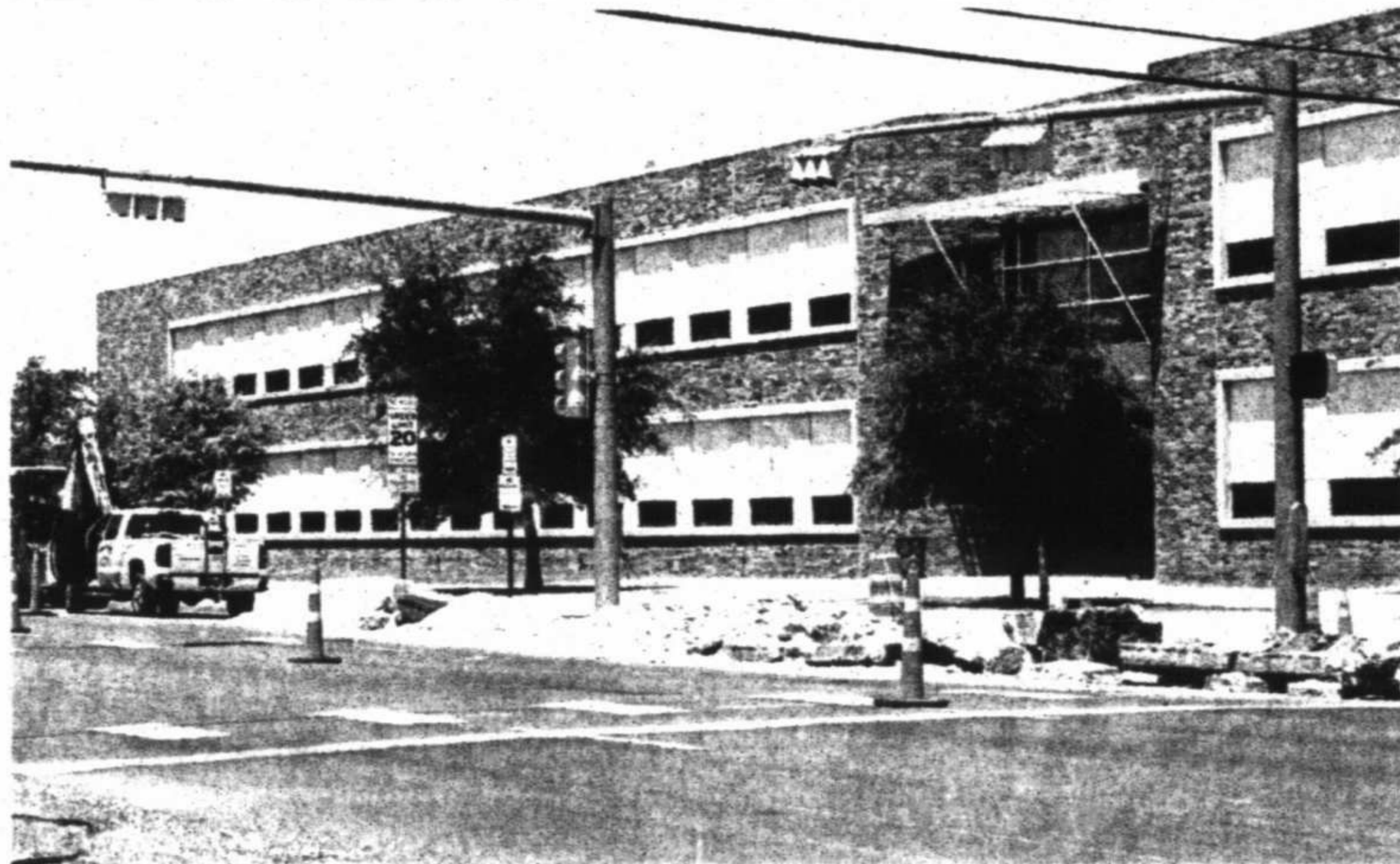
Some political leaders have pushed back aggressively. Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tenn., proposed a bill to limit Trump's tariffs and called out colleagues for their "cult-like" support of the president.

Sen. John Cornyn, whom Corker cited for backing Trump, said there was "a lot of disruption and anxiety" over the tariffs.

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TODAY IN MIDLAND

Proceed with caution



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Installation of higher-visibility traffic signals is among the improvements underway at West Illinois Avenue and C Street in front of Midland High School.

WORD OF THE DAY

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lambaste

[lam-BAYST] verb 1: to assault violently: beat, whip 2: to attack verbally: censure



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Summer education

Wonder Girls 2018: STEM Empowerment Summer Camp for girls age 9-14. Led by the Crisis Center of West Texas. Meals provided, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, Odessa College, 201 W. University Blvd. \$200. coxw.org/wondergirls.

Kids Summer Art Classes: Drawing and printing for ages 6 to 16. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday, Art Smart Studio, 2517 Neely Ave. \$175. 438-0848.

Summer Kids Art Camp: Art History Week. For ages 4-13. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Thursday, Kidd's and Canvas Parties, 3300 N. Midkiff Road. \$45 per day, \$150 all four days. kidsart.com.

July Camp Write-in for teens. 4:30 p.m. Monday, Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.

Summer STEAM will offer hands-on learning using science, math, art and more. For youth ages 7-15. 6:30 p.m. Monday, Palmer Activity Christian Center, 1305 E. Illinois Ave. mtrosetgbc.org/steam.

Learning Across New Dimensions in Science (LANDS) Workshop for educators. Sibley Nature Center and the Petroleum Museum will offer kindergarten through eighth-grade educators an interactive, nature-based curriculum. 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Thursday, Sibley Nature Center, 1307 E. Wadley Ave. sibleynaturecenter.org.

Things to do

Today Bridge game play, 1:30 p.m., Allison Bridge Center, 913 W. Wadley Ave. \$6. For more information call 682-8695.

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

Happy Hamstrings, 3:15 p.m., Lacy J. Pilates and Fitness Studio, 3211 W. Wadley Ave. \$5. lacypilates.com.

Bingo Night hosted by American Legion Auxiliary, 4 p.m., 501 Veterans Airport Lane. 682-5511.

The 35th annual Family Festa noon-11 p.m. San Miguel Arcangel Catholic Church, 1100 Camp St.

Summer Sunday Lawn Concert. Marla Lake Social Club. The theme is Pet Night. 7:30 p.m., Museum of

the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. Free. museumsw.org.

Tuesday Brown Bag Lunch and Film Series. "Petroleum Refining in Nontechnical Language" 11:30 a.m., Petroleum Museum, 1500 Interstate 20 W. Free.

Thursday Weather Safety Class with Mark Strobin from the National Weather Service will cover tornadoes, flooding and other dangerous weather. 5:30 p.m., Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250

N. Free. Eric Johnson: An Evening of Acoustic Guitar and Piano, 8 p.m., Ree-Greathouse Hall, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. \$49.50. wagnemoel.com.

Friday Movie in the Park: "Star Wars: The Last Jedi," 8:45 p.m. (dusk), C.J. Kelly Park, 5500 League Drive. Free. midlandtexas.gov.

St. Ann's Parish Pool Party. Minors must be accompanied by an adult. 7-9 p.m., Doug Russell Aquatic

Center, 900 N. Midland Drive.

Saturday Cinema Under the Stars: "Back to the Future I, II, III" noon, 3:30 p.m., 7 p.m., Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. Free. wagnemoel.com.

Saturday and July 22 2018 Bike MS: Cactus & Crude Ride is a ride from Midland to Lubbock to raise money and awareness for multiple sclerosis. For more information or to participate, call 855-372-1331 or visit bikeMS.org.

Meetings this week

Planning and Zoning Commission, 3:30 p.m. Monday, City Council Chambers, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine Ave.

MISO, 5:30 p.m. Monday, Bowie Fine Arts Academy, 805 E.

Midland College, 4 p.m. Tuesday, Gibson Board Room

Lottery

Pick 3 morning: 3-5-7 Pick 3 day: 0-2-9 Pick 3 evening: 4-5-8 Pick 3 night: 4-8-1 Daily 4 morning: 4-7-7-3 Daily 4 day: 7-9-9-4 Daily 4 evening: 8-3-0-2 Daily 4 night: 4-5-8-7 Cash Five: 12-19-22-31 Triple Chance: 1-5-21-22-23-31-35-38-39-45

Lotto Texas: 1-4-21-31-36-44 Powerball: 22-41-42-49-67 BB: 11 Power Play: 3 All or Nothing morning: 3-4-5-7-8-9-10-17-21-22-23-24 All or Nothing day: 1-7-8-9-11-13-14-16-17-18-19-21 All or Nothing evening: 2-4-5-7-8-12-14-15-16-21-22-23 All or Nothing night: 1-2-3-5-7-8-15-16-18-19-20-21

Weather

Saturday's temperatures High: 98 Low: 74 Normal high: 95 Normal low: 70

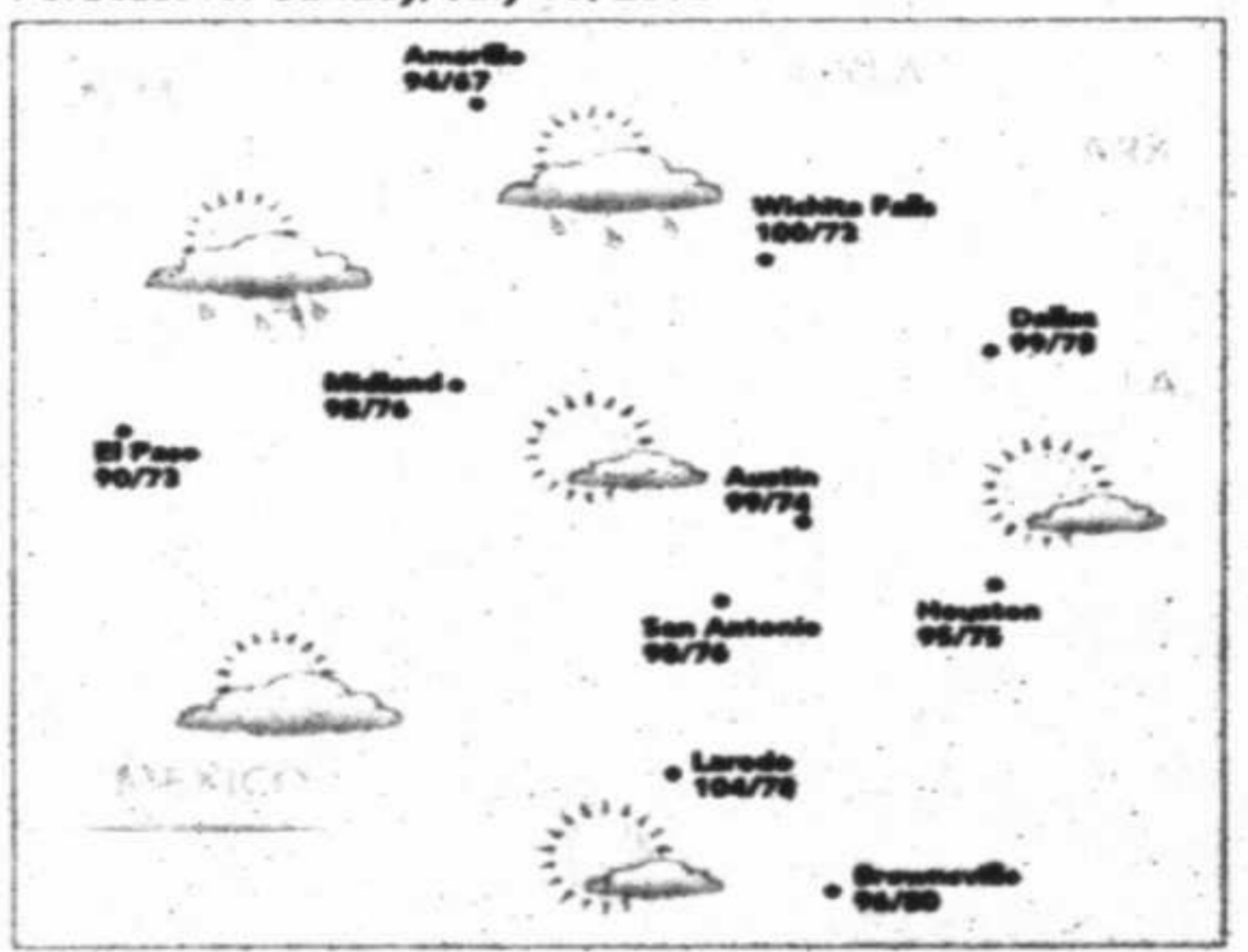
Saturday's records Record high: 107, set in 1933 Record low: 50, set in 1936

Precipitation Friday: 0.00 in. Saturday: 0.00 in. Month total: 1.19 in. Year total: 4.59 in. Normal total (year to date): 6.83 in.

Winds Highest speed: 20 mph Highest gust speed: 24 mph

Today's forecast High: 97

Forecast for Sunday, July 15, 2018



Low: 73 Conditions: Mostly sunny during the day/mostly clear at night Winds: 10-15 mph during the day and night Chance of rain: None Sunrise: 6:54 a.m. Sunset: 8:56 p.m.

Stay connected section with social media icons for Facebook, YouTube, and Instagram, along with website and Twitter handles.

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

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

A baby born today has a Sun in Cancer and a Moon in Leo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, July 15, 2018:

This year you will learn how quickly your mood can change. Your unpredictability draws many people toward you. You will be unusually strong in brainstorming situations, as you easily can see both sides. Your finances will reflect a change, as you will expand your budget. If you are single, your multidimensional personality attracts many suitors. You are likely to meet someone who seems perfectly suited to you. If you are attached, you often are the dominant party in the relationship. Be more nurturing. LEO knows how to spend money, and has great ideas for yours!

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

You are likely to get into a project that has been on the back burner for some time. You have news that might stun you and give you pause to think. Perhaps the less said right now, the better. Be aware of what is happening around you. Use caution with money. Tonight: Out late. This Week: Vagueness or confusion surrounds a financial matter.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Others notice how happy you have become. You might find it nearly impossible to slow down. Should you decide to stop for a while, a loved one will try his or her best to prevent you from succumbing. Look at the big picture. Tonight: Close to home. This Week: A loved one could be distracting.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

***** You could be dragging and somewhat tired. If you really are in such a mood, consider curling up with a good novel, or decide to watch a movie that you love. Take some downtime for yourself, and you'll emerge feeling refreshed and energized. Tonight: Enjoy a favorite dinner. This Week: Use your creativity to settle a problem.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

***** You have a light and easy way of handling matters that sometimes distresses others. You cannot change a situation, but you can move into a neutral head space. Your ability to stay carefree is the result of your past experiences. Tonight: Hang out at a favorite spot. This Week: Work from home as much as possible.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

***** You might approach a challenging situation with more buoyancy than usual. On the other hand, you might prefer not to think about the problem. The unexpected occurs, which could change the very nature of the issue. Go for a walk, if need be. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep. This Week: You need to get control of your spending.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

***** You'll finally feel as if your efforts have paid off. Your feelings and thoughts now make their way into an important conversation. With your defenses down, you can see the big picture. Understanding will follow. Tonight: Don't be a stick in the mud with a loved one. This Week: Don't allow others to distract you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

***** Deciding to commit for the day might be the right decision for you. Clearly, others do not agree, and are likely to express some surprisingly bad behavior. Still, hold your ground. You know when it is time to cast away from those and take a time out. Tonight:

Not to be found. This Week: Use Monday and Tuesday for research and quiet work.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

***** You might have been coerced into playing a stronger role in a certain area of your life. Focus on the social aspects of this role, whether they include managing a little league team or getting friends together for a barbecue. You'll be happy with the outcome. Tonight: Say "yes." This Week: Focus on a long-term desire or goal.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

***** A surprise visit from a friend or acquaintance might catch you off guard. Embrace the spontaneity, and choose to go with the flow. Be prepared to hear an unusual request. Be good-natured, and fol-

low through appropriately. Tonight: Have dinner with an older friend. This Week: You might want to shake off some responsibility.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

***** Reach out to a loved one at a distance. You could be surprised by this person's response. You might not want to do anything about what you are hearing, but you also could be flattered. Remember, you are in command of your actions and words. Tonight: Watch a favorite TV series. This Week: You will climb over any obstacles.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

***** You could be very busy, but keep in mind that you have made a commitment to a friend that needs to be handled. You will surprise others with

how easily you deal with this situation. Think seriously about the implications of saying "yes" to a friend. Tonight: Out and about. This Week: Others go out of their way for you through Tuesday.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

***** You step out the door and find smiles greeting you left and right. You might be meeting friends for brunch or going off to do some shopping. Others seem most appreciative of you and your habits. Continue the spirit of the day by joining friends for some fun. Tonight: All smiles. This Week: Say "yes" to someone else's offer.

BORN TODAY

Businesswoman Arianna Huffington (1950), singer Linda Ronstadt (1946), actress Brigitte Nielsen (1963)

Advertisement for 'UGLY TREE? GET IT REMOVED' featuring a tree silhouette and contact information for professionals.

SAFETY IN MIND



Photos by James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

The Safety in Mind event was sponsored by WesTex Urgent Care on Saturday at CJ Kelly Park. The event featured free bike helmets, safety tips from city officials, food and refreshments.



BOARD

From 1A

with students who use the library gives him a unique perspective about the educational needs of the community.

He said facilities will be a priority for the growing school district. He said he appreciates district leadership being "proactive" in dealing with the issues such as growth and Midland's older campuses. He specifically cited the current facilities study.

Trischitti came to Midland in 2011 as the director of the Midland County Public Libraries. He is a Lubbock native and graduate from Coronado High School. He then earned a bachelor's degree from Wayland Baptist University in Plainview and a Master's of Library Science from the University of North Texas in Denton.

Trischitti began his career in libraries as a children's librarian and an assistant library director in the Dallas area before

becoming Director for MCPL. He also has served on boards of local and state nonprofits, including Midland Need to Read and the Salvation Army and currently serves on the Midland Airport board. He also serves on the Texas State Library and Archives Commission Library Systems Act Board. Trischitti is a frequent speaker and program presenter, including a TED Talk on children's literature and literacy. He was named Texas Library Association's Librarian of the Year in 2014, received the 2018 TLA Branding Iron and is a Texas PTA Life member.

Trischitti and his wife, Diana, have five children, all MISD students, and are active members of Golf Course Road Church of Christ.

"I am excited about the future of MISD and want to be a part of this next evolution for public education in this community," he said.

FUEL

From 1A

according to AAA.

Though the city and county governments may not obtain gasoline in the same manner as other residents, officials still consider current prices. With the budget season underway, they have techniques to calculate the amount of money needed to keep vehicles running.

"The way we budget for fuel is we look at an average of the price for six months of gasoline and we take that ... to kind of budget forward," Ladd said.

For the county government, budgets have historically included a line item related to fuel contingency. When estimating fuel costs, the county considers price for bulk fuel as well as the mileage on its vehicles, according to County Judge Mike Bradford.

"Fuel prices affect you bulk buying or just individually," Bradford said. "It's just we use a lot of gasoline and a lot of diesel."

HEALTH

From 1A

veggies, beans, and grains instead of soda, chips, meat, cheese, and energy drinks." The same ad ran in Roll Call, a publication that focuses on D.C. politics.

The bill was introduced in January by Rep. Matt Cartwright, D-Pennsylvania, and is based on results of a pilot program to incentivize SNAP recipients to purchase healthier food.

"From 2011 to 2013, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s Food and Nutrition Service implemented a pilot program in Hampden County, Massachusetts that evaluated financial incentives for SNAP recipients to purchase healthy food," a January press release from Cartwright's office said. "The Healthy Incentives Pilot (HIP) refunded SNAP recipients 30 cents for every dollar they spent on fruits and vegetables. This generated a 25 percent increase in the consumption of fruits and vegetables among the test group."

Cartwright's bill would implement a similar program in the farm bill.

"Unfortunately, the increase in healthy food prices have put fruits and vegetables out of reach for many SNAP recipients. This bipartisan bill revamps SNAP by targeting the benefits towards healthy foods," Cartwright said in the press release. "Increased fruit and vegetable intake can help reduce rates of heart disease and prevent several cancers. Not only does this alleviate health care costs, but it can save lives."

The Physicians Committee is urging Conaway and others to adopt Cartwright's bill.

"Food Stamp participants are hit hard by diet-related diseases like diabetes — more so than their income-eligible peers," Susan Levin, director of nutrition education for the Physicians Committee, said in a press

MPD: Motorcyclist dies after accident

From staff reports

A motorcyclist died Saturday after being hit during an accident on Front Street near Bankhead Highway. Midland Police Department officials report that Alan Dale Warford, 61, was driving a black Harley Davidson motorcycle east on Front Street around 11:35 a.m. when the driver of a Ford F-150 Raptor, facing westbound on Front, failed to yield the right of way and struck the motorcycle in the intersection.

MPD reports no charges have been filed at this time and the investigation is on-going.

The fatality was the third this week and the 21st this year on roads inside Midland County, according to Reporter-Telegram reports. Last year, there were 22 deaths in accidents on Midland County roads through July 14.

Abbott and Valdez to debate amid Friday night lights

By Jonathan Tilove
Austin American-Statesman

There will be at least one debate between Gov. Greg Abbott and his Democratic rival, former Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez, to be held in Austin, and broadcast statewide, at the end of September.

The Abbott campaign effectively unveiled the debate plan Wednesday when it announced it had accepted an invitation from Nexstar Media Group to debate Valdez from 7 to 8 p.m. Sept. 28 at a location to be determined.

Valdez offered her qualified acceptance, while noting its timing — a Friday night during high school football season — in a tweet Wednesday night: "Thanks @GregAbbott_TX for accepting a debate! We're in and always happy to discuss our vision for a Texas that works for all. We haven't agreed to the terms yet — but seriously, during Friday Night Lights? Texans deserve better. Call me, maybe?"

The debate will be carried on the 12 TV stations Nexstar Media Group owns and operates across Texas, including KXAN in Austin and stations in Dallas, Houston and San Antonio. Rice University political scientist Mark Jones said the Friday night timing of the debate does not matter too much because most Texans are not going to watch a gubernatorial debate regardless of when it's on. What matters, he said, is the coverage of the debate and if either candidate performs exceptionally well or commits some kind of defining gaffe.

Abbott, seeking a second term, is well ahead in the polls and has a vastly better-funded campaign. Abbott had \$41 million in the bank as of Feb. 25, his last report. Valdez had \$115,000 in her campaign account as of May 12, her last report. New reports are due July 16.

Abbott is a practiced debater. Valdez is not, and during her primary



LEFT: Gubernatorial candidate Lupe Valdez waves June 22 as she takes the stage during the general session at the Texas Democratic Convention on Friday in Fort Worth. Richard W. Rodriguez/AP. RIGHT: Gov. Greg Abbott speaks during a news conference at the Hidalgo County Emergency Operations Center on June 26 in Edinburg. Delcia Lopez/The Monitor via AP

and runoff campaign she sometimes stumbled in discussing issues.

In her one debate with Democratic runoff rival, Andrew White, in May, moderator Gromer Jeffers of The Dallas Morning News asked Valdez about "some of the criticism from some newspapers and quite frankly some Democrats that you're not as sharp on issues as Andrew White."

"Well, it's not that I'm not as sharp because I am just as sharp," Valdez replied. "The problem may be that I don't talk newspaper language. I talk people language."

Jones said front-runners typically don't participate in debates for fear of making an error or giving their rival a leg-up, but Abbott doesn't fall into that convention.

"The reality in this case is that Abbott both has such a large advantage over Valdez in terms of polling numbers but also, I think all observers would agree, that he is a far more skilled debater and has a much firmer grasp of policy," Jones said. "He has more to lose by being seen as ducking a debate than by participating in

a debate."

Abbott debated Democratic opponent then-state Sen. Wendy Davis, D-Fort Worth, twice during the 2014 campaign. They were vigorous affairs but didn't fundamentally alter the race, which Abbott won by 20 points.

While Valdez might quibble over the terms of the debate, Jones said that she needs the debate more than Abbott does and that his campaign was smart to get out in front on the debate question.

"A statewide debate that allows voters to hear directly from candidates on what they believe is essential to the democratic process, and Gov. Abbott looks forward to this opportunity to share his vision for the future of Texas," said Abbott campaign spokesman Alejandro Treviño. "We look forward to our opponent accepting this invitation to discuss the critical issues on the minds of Texans."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Crime of the week

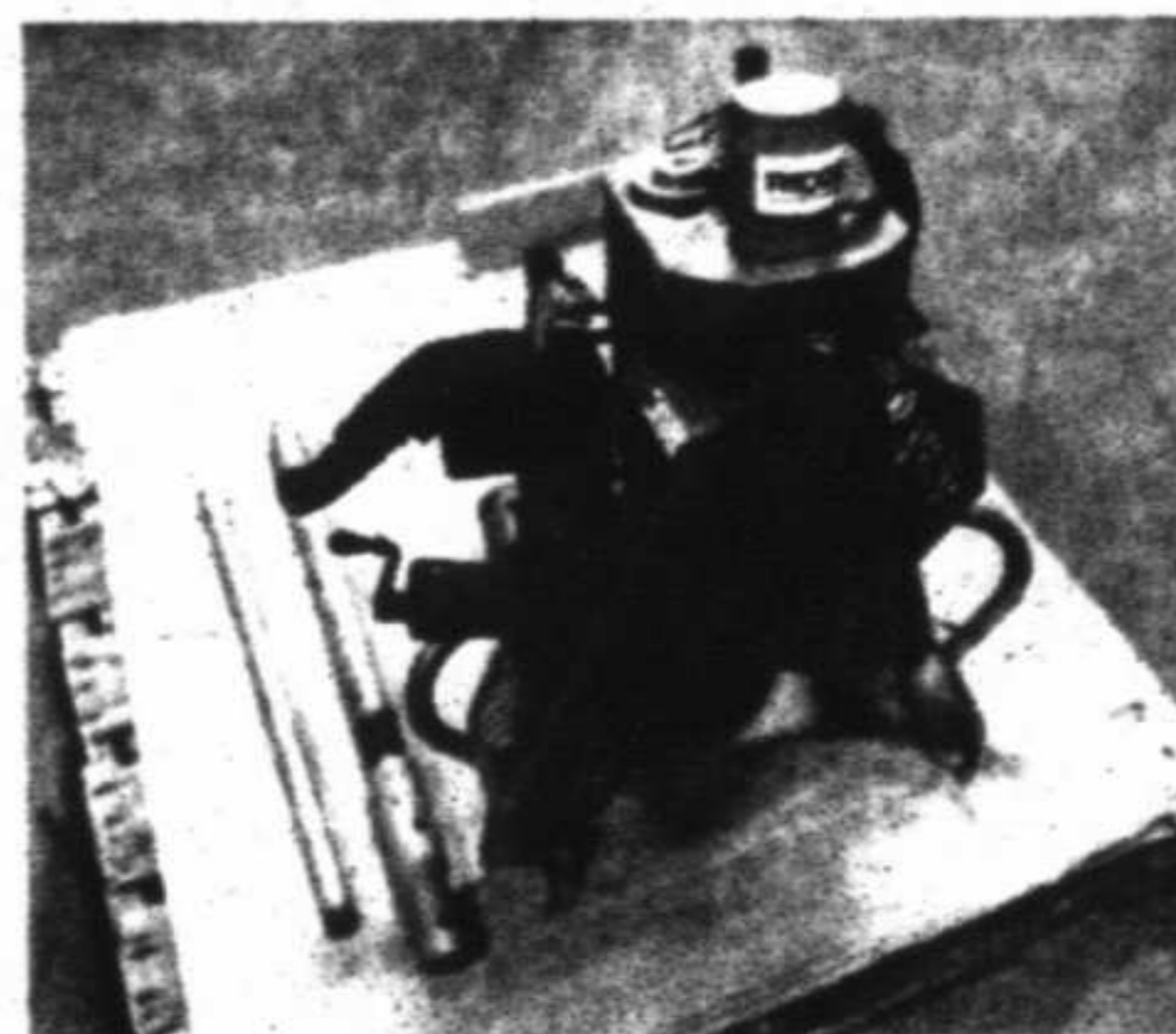
Midland Crime Stoppers is offering a \$1,000 cash reward for information leading to the arrest of person(s) responsible for a theft in Midland County.

Deputies met with the complainant on June 21 at an offsite lease road on County Road 300. The complainant stated a Rigid 920 Groover was placed in the bed of a company truck. The groover left the area for a short time and when they returned, the groover had been stolen. The item is valued at more than \$12,000.

If anyone witnessed this incident or has any information about it or the suspects involved, call 694-TIPS or use mobile app P3 TIPS. Your information is important, and you will remain anonymous because no caller ID is ever used. Please visit our Facebook @MidlandTXCS or our website at www.midland-crimestoppers.com to view an example of the type of property stolen.

How to submit a secure tip

- Hotline: 694-TIPS or 1-800-7-LOCKUP
- Online: www.midlandcrimestoppers.com
- Text: Text TIP247 plus your message to 274637
- Mobile app on iPhone or Android phones: "P3 TIPS" or go to www.p3tips.com
- Facebook: Click "Submit A Tip" on left side of our Facebook page



Crime Stoppers fugitive

DEMARCUS BLACK

DOB: 9-19-1981
Height and weight: 5 foot, 10, 200 pounds
Charge: Supervised Release Violation
Original Charge: Cocaine



- Wanted as of 7-12-2018
- \$500 Cash Reward to the first person who calls Midland Crime Stoppers this week with information that leads to this fugitive's arrest.
- Call 694-TIPS or 1-800-7-LOCKUP, online at midland-crimestoppers.com or text TIP247 plus your message to 274637
- Mobile App "P3 TIPS" or go to www.p3tips.com
- As always you will remain anonymous
- NEVER attempt to apprehend this subject yourself.
- Subject may be armed or dangerous.

BIG CITY RESULTS. HOMETOWN CONVENIENCE.

Enhance your natural beauty with a refreshed look from Houston's former leading physician, Dr. Kevin Cook. NOW, home in the Permian Basin!

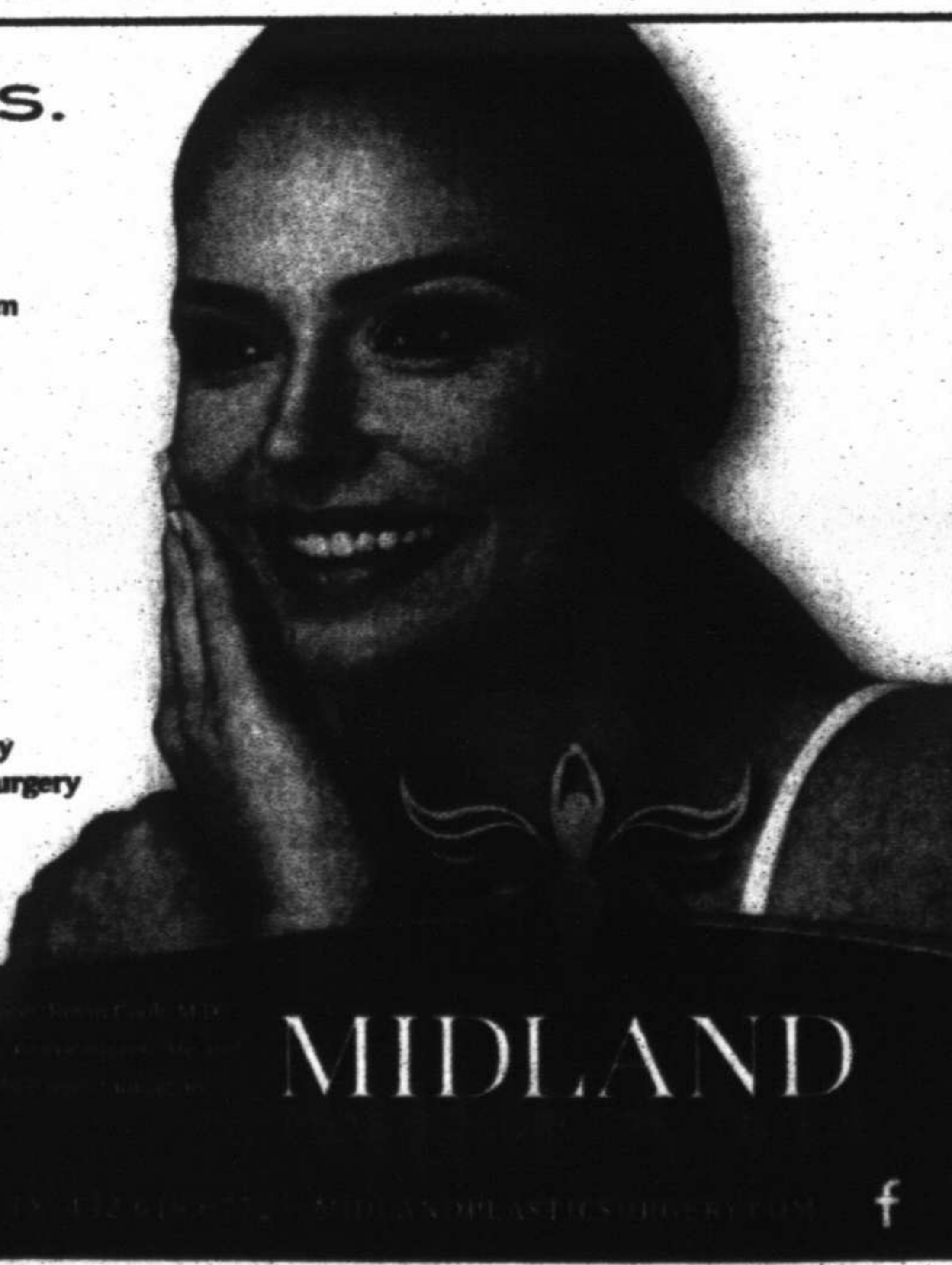
NON-INVASIVE PROCEDURES

- Skin Rejuvenation
- Body Contouring
- Skin Care

SURGICAL PROCEDURES

- Eye, Brow, Face, & Neck Lift
- Breast Augmentation, Lifts and Reduction
- Breast Reconstruction
- Facial Reconstruction
- Mommy Makeover
- Tummy Tuck
- Ear Surgery
- Skin Cancer Surgery
- Post Weight Loss Surgery

Your beautiful tomorrow can start today - call to set up your consultation!



What happens when the coal economy dies?

Here's the story of one Texas town on life support

By Jeff Mosier
The Dallas Morning News

ROCKDALE — David Montelongo isn't used to being alone.

He's spent his 60 years in the Central Texas town of Rockdale, surrounded by family and working the last 39 years in the local coal mine. He has a wife, three grown children, eight grandchildren and many other relatives in this town of 5,600.

Now, his days are lived on the road and at a West Texas oil field, where he is a supervisor.

"All I do is go home, sit in an apartment and wait for the morning to come," Montelongo said.

His time in an overpriced one-bedroom Odessa apartment is mostly quiet as he counts the weeks until he can visit his family in Rockdale and the years until retirement.

The closing of the coal-fired Sandow power plant and the mine that fed it — widely seen by outsiders as another gasp of a dying industry — forced Montelongo to find work six hours away from his family.

Sandow owner Luminant, the state's largest electricity generator, said last October it was closing three coal-fired power plants in Texas because they weren't profitable, thanks to cheap natural gas and plentiful wind energy.

Depending on whom you ask, the coal plant closure was seen as a victory for clean air, a rebuke of President Donald Trump's pro-coal agenda or a blow to a durable blue-collar economy.

Milam County residents reacted with a mixture of dread and relief. It could be a burden or an opportunity. Left behind is a one-of-a-kind industrial site that could anchor the county's future economy. But, there are no guarantees.

Sandow's closing in January ended the area's 65-year industrial golden age and sent local leaders in the county of 25,000 scrambling as tax revenue started to plummet.

In the Rockdale ISD, Luminant property accounted for more than 40 percent of the district's tax base. In 2017, the company paid at least \$4.1 million in property taxes to the school district, according to county records. This year, that's expected to shrink to \$614,000.

Luminant properties that were on the Milam County tax rolls for nearly \$632 million in 2011 are now listed at about \$47 million. In just the past year, that property value has declined by 85 percent.

The most immediate impact, though, was the loss of 325 jobs, or nearly a tenth of all private-sector jobs in the county, according to federal data. Many of those were the area's best-paying ones.

The closing of the Sandow plant wasn't the only blow to Rockdale and surrounding areas. It was the final act in a decade-long decline.

"We knew that it was coming," said Rockdale ISD Superintendent Denise Monzingo. "We just didn't think that it was coming this fast."

FIRST, THERE WAS THE ALUMINUM PLANT

The power plant existed only because of an aluminum smelter several miles southwest of Rockdale and the millions of tons of lignite coal just under the surface. The Alcoa plant started production in 1952, and the power plant and coal mine followed shortly after.

Processing bauxite ore into aluminum requires high temperatures (more than 1,700 degrees) and massive amounts of electricity. So the adjacent power plant and plentiful, nearby coal were crucial to fueling those production lines.

Eventually, Alcoa Rockdale grew into the company's largest aluminum smelter and — along with the mine and power plant — employed as many as 2,000 workers by around 2004, according to Alcoa officials.



A sign is shown June 14 at the former coal-fired Sandow power plant near Rockdale. The electric generating power plant owned by a subsidiary of Luminant was shut down this year.

The Pittsburgh-based company dominated the Rockdale area for more than a half-century. Generations of fathers and sons, uncles and nephews worked together at the aluminum smelter, the power plant or the coal mine.

Scott Randall, 64, who describes himself as an "Alcoan," said the plant and mine were godsend. Local residents without college degrees could get reliable, lucrative jobs without leaving their hometown.

On-the-job technical training and a strong union allowed them to rise through the ranks.

Randall attended college in Florida and East Texas but didn't have a clear direction. Then, his father told him Alcoa was opening a new production line and to get back to Rockdale as fast as possible.

"We didn't know how lucky we were," said Randall.

With hard work and enough overtime, he said, workers could make \$100,000 a year, buy houses and raise families.

As Randall walked down the driveway at his parent's home, he looked up and down the winding, tree-lined street and saw at least eight houses bought directly or indirectly with Alcoa salaries.

"That's an Alcoan. That's Alcoan," he said, pointing from house to house. "They did a lot for us."

Local leaders just wish their predecessors had acted sooner to reduce their dependence on one or two big employers.

"We rested on our laurels," said Dave Barkemeyer, Milam County judge. "It was easy to let Alcoa support the county instead of hustling to get more business."

DECLINE OF COAL

The Sandow plant made money for most its existence by supplying electricity to the aluminum smelter.

But in the mid-2000s, the relationship between Alcoa and Luminant started souring over a long term contract to supply electricity. That led to litigation, and, eventually, Alcoa blamed its plant's closing on an "uncompetitive power supply to that smelter and overall market conditions."

In summer of 2008, half the aluminum smelting capacity was shut down, according to the company. The rest was cut by the end of the year, but Alcoa continued operations that made aluminum powder until 2014.

As Alcoa's operations wound down, workers had to figure out their next moves. Some retired. Some switched to the Luminant plant. Some moved to Alcoa's Point Comfort plant up the coast from Corpus Christi, although that facility shut down in 2016.

Kevin Barchenger, 51, started at Alcoa as a production helper, a job known at the plant as a "piddler," sweeping up and other minor tasks. Barchenger lost his first good job when the Alcoa aluminum plant closed. Then, he was able to land a good job with Luminant.

"At least now, I'll retire," Barchenger remembered thinking at the time. "Surely a power plant is not going to shut down. They have a 30-year supply of lignite."

After a three-year apprenticeship, Barchenger was repairing and rebuilding complex equipment at the coal mine.

In 2017, Sandow's long-term contract to supply power — which continued after Alcoa's closing — was finally terminated, leaving the plant to the whims of Texas' competitive electricity market, where price rules.

Barchenger was out of work again.

"It's almost like a divorce. ... Sometimes you don't realize how blessed you are until it's gone," he said. "It's one thing that I've realized, twice now."

He counts himself among the fortunate, though. He now has a good job at Austin's Samsung semiconductor plant and commutes from his home.

Others, like Montelongo, Barchenger's old supervisor, left their families behind to live in travel trailers or apartments far away from Rockdale.

Local officials, just like the former Luminant and Alcoa employees, are now trying to figure out a path forward.

It would take a dramatic announcement — or series of them — to make up for the hundreds of jobs lost and hundreds of millions of dollars of property value leaving the books this year.

CHARTING A COURSE

Local government and economic development officials throughout Milam County are scrambling to find projects, small and large, to fill the gap.

So far, officials have built a new baseball complex,

maze of empty conveyor belts and the hum of transformers.

It's a far cry from downtown Seattle and pretty much any bid site for Amazon's HQ 2.

Dr. John Weed, president of the Rockdale Economic Development District, said the reaction to Milam County's Amazon bid was mostly positive, even though the county couldn't meet most of the company's requirements — Amazon sought bids from metro areas with at least a 1 million residents and access to mass transit and major highways.

Still, county officials liked the idea of HQ2 ultimately creating about 50,000 jobs — or double Milam County's population.

"It gave everyone a real sense of hope, even though it was long shot," Weed said.

Milam County officials haven't been notified that they were excluded. But they weren't on the list of finalists, which includes the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Known as the Blue Sky bid, its name was a nod to the natural beauty of the site as well as the county's improved air quality. For decades, Milam County was a major source of industrial pollution despite its slim population and rural surroundings.

"It's business without the congestion," the promo video said about the land, which stretches for 31 miles. "It's business under a brilliant blue sky."

The site is an unusual one. About 8,000 of the 32,000 acres are industrial land with a rail spur and heavy duty infrastructure. The remaining property is pasture land dotted with 14 lakes, some plunging as deep as 300 feet. There are full mineral rights, 200 million tons of coal still under ground, water rights to millions of gallons per day and wildlife that includes white tail deer and two nesting pair of bald eagles.

BETTING ON AUSTIN

The other reason for hope in Milam County is that — unlike other struggling rural area — it's not remote. The county is about halfway between Austin and Bryan-College Station.

Local officials noted in their Amazon bid that the old Alcoa site is within an hour of about 2.5 million people and two tier one research universities, the University of Texas and Texas A&M University.

To the east, Union Pacific Railroad announced in January it was starting construction on a \$550 million rail yard in Robertson County, in a rural area close to Bryan-College Station.

Austin, however, could be the deciding factor in Milam County's fate. At the Texas capital grows and becomes an increasingly expensive place to live, its sprawl is creeping toward Milam County.

Rockdale is about an hour from Austin (depending on traffic) and less than that to the suburbs of Round Rock, Georgetown and Pflugerville.

Even with confidence in the county's path, local leaders also realize that they'll be squeezed until their new future arrives.

Monzingo, the Rockdale ISD superintendent, said Luminant challenged the power plant's property valuation in court in recent years and didn't have to pay its taxes while the case was litigated.

After a year and half without those taxes, Monzingo estimated that the school district was two months away from bankruptcy before the case was finally settled. Now, most of that money is disappearing for good.

RETURNING HOME

Montelongo has nothing bad to say about the Permian Basin, where he now works, or its residents.

It's just not home. Montelongo hasn't given up on finding a job closer to home, but he also accepts the possibility that this is life for several years.

"Everyone in Rockdale is going to be working out of town," he said. "I don't believe they are going to move out of Rockdale."

Barchenger said these changes were traumatic, even though he landed better than many.

"I know that there are a lot of good people out there that are still struggling," he said.

Barchenger is convinced the coal industry is dying, even with the White House trying to offer life support. Now, it's up to his neighbors to rebound. And in that, he has much more faith.

"They're tough. ... One thing about it, they're resilient. They're dedicated. Most of them have strong faith. They will survive."

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Bill and Kay Burchard

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Village South at Manor Park

Schools that want to arm their employees have two choices

By Alex Samuels
Texas Tribune

Following a deadly mass shooting at Santa Fe High School, Gov. Greg Abbott rolled out a 40-page plan to keep schools safe. Proposals ranged from beefing up existing mental health screening programs to encouraging voluntary use of gun locks at home, but one component seemed to divide lawmakers, districts and Texas schools: arming school employees.

If Texas schools want to arm their staffs, they have two options. One is the marshal program, which Abbott proposed using state funds to help schools implement. It allows local school boards to authorize employees to carry a handgun on campus, but they must be specially trained and licensed by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement. Under the program, armed school personnel can't carry firearms around students.

The other option was already around when then-Gov. Rick Perry signed the marshal program into law in 2012. Created by Harrold Independent School District Superintendent David Thweatt in 2007, the Guardian Plan allows local school boards to determine training standards and authorize specific employees to carry on campus at all times.

Here are four things to know about the two existing plans that allow school districts to arm their employees:

The marshal program creates a new kind of peace officer.

For districts that choose to adopt the marshal program, teachers and other school staff members who undergo the required training are taught to act as armed security officers — or peace officers — in the absence of law enforcement.

"The marshal program is about creating an entirely new class of peace officers — certified and (Texas Commission on Law Enforcement) trained — who can act in a moment of crisis to disable and neutralize an active shooter," said state Rep. Jesse Villalba, the Dallas Republican who authored the bill that created the Texas school marshal program. Abbott wants to expand. "That's why the program is so starkly different than what Mr. Thweatt calls the guardian plan."

The Guardian Plan, on the other hand, lets school staff carry guns with or without marshal training. It doesn't train school personnel as peace officers but lets them carry their weapons as long as they undergo district-specific training and have a handgun license. And it doesn't have a maximum requirement for how many teachers can be armed, unlike the marshal program, which lets schools only designate one employee a marshal for every 400 students. Despite the differences in approach for the two plans, they both aim to mitigate tragedies in the event an active shooter comes on campus grounds.

"That's the reason we're doing it, and I think we can do that because they're not going to know from where our particular defense is going to come," Thweatt said. "When an active shooter comes to the school, they're going to get swarmed from multiple directions," he added. "Armed shooters go where they know there's going to be little resistance, but if they don't know where they're going to get resistance, they're not going to come to our schools."

Rural districts are more likely to adopt one of the plans. More than 200 of Texas' 1,000-plus school districts have adopted one of two programs. And a majority of those districts tend to be in rural communities, according to Dan Gonzalez, a spokesman for the Texas Association of School Boards.

"Generally speaking, districts with police departments ... do not tend to allow staff to carry firearms," Gonzalez said. "Those 217 are likely smaller, more rural districts that feel they cannot be serviced by local law enforcement quickly enough."

Villalba told Politico in February that he believes anywhere between 20 to 50 districts have adopted the

marshal program. At least 172 Texas districts have adopted the Guardian Plan. Training and gun storage requirements vary.

Arguably one of the biggest differences between the two programs is different requirements for teachers or other employees who want to carry a gun.

Marshals have to receive 80 training hours and keep their firearms under lock and key. The Guardian Plan, on the other hand, lets teachers keep their firearm with them at all times — as long as they have a concealed handgun license and go through 15 to 20 hours of training.

It's worth noting that these requirements could change, however. Abbott previously proposed streamlining the training course under the marshal program — which he called "burdensome" — and eliminating the lockbox requirement.

Villalba was critical of Abbott's tweaks to the marshal program, saying that parents might be upset if teachers didn't have to lock up their weapons.

But several Texas Republicans, including Jerry Patterson, Texas' former land commissioner who helped get the state's concealed handgun law passed in 1995, say the lockbox requirement does more harm than good.

"The lockbox requirement is silly. The gun needs to be carried on the person and accessible immediately," Patterson said. "Not where you have to run to the office, go through a combination and then get the gun. If you carry it all the time, you won't lose the weapon."

Individual schools and districts that adopt the Guardian Plan are also allowed to choose their own training requirements. At Harrold ISD, for example, employees who choose to carry go through at least 15 hours of training that includes videos of hostage scenarios and shooting drills.

Fayetteville ISD, which adopted the plan in February, doesn't require a specific amount of firearms training (though most staff do around 20 hours per year). And at Keene ISD, which adopted the Guardian Plan in 2016, Superintendent Ricky Stephens previously told The Texas Tribune he requires staff to undergo 80 hours of initial training and 40 hours annually after that.

Only one plan receives money from the state. To adopt either plan, districts have to find a way to pay for training, purchase firearms and ammunition and, in some cases, a lockbox. But only the marshal program has received state funding to help pay for those expenses.

When the marshal program was first signed into law, the state had a grant program in place to help districts cover training costs. But that money ran out and funding has not been reauthorized. That's why Abbott proposed that the state pay for school marshal training this summer to ease the burden on individual districts.

Funding for the Guardian Plan was notably missing from the governor's proposal, however. Instead of getting approval from the Legislature, authorization for the plan is outlined under the Texas Government Code, which lets certain school district employees who have a handgun license to carry their weapon.

Since there's no legislative recognition of the Guardian Plan, Thweatt said, districts that adopt the plan have to pay for it themselves. Thweatt said Harrold ISD reimburses employees who participate for the cost of guns, ammunition and training.

"I've never received any funding (from the state) for the Guardian Plan," Thweatt said.

Note: This story was inspired by a discussion on education policy happening now in our Facebook group. This is Your Texas. Sign up here to join the conversation.

Disclosure: The Texas Association of School Boards has been a financial supporter of The Texas Tribune, a nonprofit, nonpartisan news organization that is funded in part by donations from members, foundations and corporate sponsors.

Detaining immigrant kids is now a billion-dollar industry

By Martha Mendoza and Larry Fenn
Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Detaining immigrant children has morphed into a surging industry in the U.S. that now reaps \$1 billion annually — a tenfold increase over the past decade, an Associated Press analysis finds.

Health and Human Services grants for shelters, foster care and other child welfare services for detained unaccompanied and separated children soared from \$74.5 million in 2007 to \$958 million in 2017. The agency is also reviewing a new round of proposals amid a growing effort by the White House to keep immigrant children in government custody.

Currently, more than 11,800 children, from a few months old to 17, are housed in nearly 90 facilities in 15 states — Arizona, California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia and Washington.

They are being held while their parents await immigration proceedings or, if the children arrived unaccompanied, are reviewed for possible asylum themselves.

In May, the agency issued requests for bids for five projects that could total more than \$500 million for beds, foster and therapeutic care, and "secure care," which means employing guards. More contracts are expected to come up for bids in October.

HHS spokesman Kenneth Wolfe said the agency will award bids "based on the number of beds needed to provide appropriate care for minors in the program."

The agency's current facilities include locations for what the Trump administration calls "tender age" children, typically under 5. Three shelters in Texas have been designated for toddlers and infants. Others — including in tents in Tornillo, Texas, and a tent-and-building temporary shelter in Homestead, Florida — are housing older teens.

Over the past decade, by far the largest recipients of taxpayer money have been Southwest Key and Baptist Child & Family Services, AP's analysis shows. From 2008 to date, Southwest Key has received \$1.39 billion in grant funding to operate shelters; Baptist Child & Family Services has received \$942 million.

A Texas-based organization called International Educational Services also was a big recipient, landing more than \$72 million in the last fiscal year before folding amid a series of complaints about the conditions in its shelters.

The recipients of the money run the gamut from nonprofits, religious organizations and for-profit entities. The organizations originally concentrated on housing and detaining at-risk youth, but shifted their focus to immigrants when tens of thousands of Central American children started arriving at the U.S.-Mexico border in recent years.

They are essentially government contractors for the Health and Human Services Department — the federal



Carolyn Kester/AP

Protesters place a large inflatable balloon in the likeness of President Donald Trump dressed in a Ku Klux Klan sheet June 28 across the street from Southwest Key Campbell, a shelter for children that have been separated from their parents, in Phoenix, Ariz. during a visit by first lady Melania Trump.

agency that administers the program keeping immigrant children in custody. Organizations like Southwest Key insist that the children are well cared for and that the vast sums of money they receive are necessary to house, transport, educate and provide medical care for thousands of children while complying with government regulations and court orders.

The recent uproar surrounding separated families at the border has placed the locations at the center of the controversy. A former Wal-Mart in Texas is now a Southwest Key facility that's believed to be the biggest child immigrant facility in the country, and First Lady Melania Trump visited another Southwest Key location in Phoenix.

Advocates on both sides of the aisle criticize the growing number of kids housed in government shelters, but they have different reasons — and they blame each other.

"You can't put a child in a prison. You cannot. It's immoral," said Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, a New York Democrat who has been visiting shelters.

Gillibrand said the shelters will continue to expand because no system is in place to reunite families separated at the border. "These are real concerns that the administration has not thought through at all," she said.

But President Donald Trump says cracking down on immigration ultimately can lead to spending less money and having fewer immigrants in government custody.

"Illegal immigration costs our country hundreds of billions of dollars," he said at a recent rally. "So imagine if we could spend that money to help bring opportunity to our inner cities and our rural communities and our roads and our highways and our schools."

In April, Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced a "zero tolerance policy" directing authorities to arrest, jail and prosecute anyone illegally crossing the border, including people seeking asylum and without previous offenses. As a result, more than 2,300 children were turned over to HHS.

In a recently released report, the State Department decried the general principle of holding children in shel-

ters, saying it makes them inherently vulnerable.

"Removal of a child from the family should only be considered as a temporary, last resort," the report said. "Studies have found that both private and government-run residential institutions for children, or places such as orphanages and psychiatric wards that do not offer a family-based setting, cannot replicate the emotional companionship and attention found in family environments that are prerequisites to healthy cognitive development."

Some in the Trump administration describe the new policy as a "deterrent" to future would-be immigrants and asylum-seekers fleeing violence and abject poverty in Central America, Mexico and beyond.

But Steven Wagner, acting assistant secretary for the Administration for Children and Families — an HHS division — said the policy has exposed broader issues over how the government can manage such a vast system.

"It was never intended to be a foster care system with more than 10,000 children in custody at an immediate cost to the federal taxpayer of over \$1 billion dollars per year," Wagner said in a statement.

The longer a child is in government custody, the potential for emotional and physical damage grows, said Dr. Colleen Kraft, president of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

"The foundational relationship between a parent and child is what sets the stage for that child's brain development, for their learning, for their child health, for their adult health," Kraft said.

"And you could have the nicest facility with the nicest equipment and toys and games, but if you don't have that parent, if you don't have that caring adult that can buffer the stress that these kids feel, then you're taking away the basic science of what we know helps pediatric."

A judge in California has ordered authorities to reunite separated families within 30 days — and the government has completed more than 50 of the reunions of children under 5 by Thursday.

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Joe Arpaio the latest politician to admit falling for Sacha Baron Cohen's act

By Griffin Connolly
CQ-Roll Call

WASHINGTON — Joe Arpaio, the former Phoenix-area sheriff who is running for Arizona's open Senate seat this fall, is the latest in a line of conservative American political figures to admit being duped by British entertainer Sacha Baron Cohen and agreeing to one of his famous interviews.

Cohen is well-known for conducting interviews with unwitting suspects while he role-plays as foreign characters with controversial views on race, politics and sexuality.

For Arpaio, Cohen pretended to be a Trump-supporting Finnish comedian and asked him multiple "highly inappropriate" questions involving sexual acts that made Arpaio feel "very uncomfortable," the former sheriff, who is locked in a three-way primary battle with Rep. Martha McSally and state Sen. Kelli Ward for the Republican nomination this November in Arizona, told Breitbart.

The production set where Cohen and Arpaio shot the interview, which was presented to Arpaio as a live interview, included boxes with toy cars inside.

Arpaio, an immigration hard-liner whom President Donald Trump pardoned last year from a contempt of court conviction, famously advocated for racially profiling car drivers and pulling them over for being suspected undocumented immigrants.

Unlike many of Cohen's interviewees, Arpaio white-knuckled through the whole interview.

"I felt uncomfortable with some of the words they were using but I had to live through it," he said. "I am not the type of guy



Matt York/AP

Former Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio speaks May 22 during a campaign event in Phoenix. Arpaio, now a candidate for a U.S. Senate seat, says he is among the political figures who were pranked by British comedian Sacha Baron Cohen during interviews for his upcoming Showtime series "Who Is America?" premieres today on Showtime.

who gets up and walks out. I never walked out in thousands of interviews. I just take it."

In his interviews, Cohen tries to box in his subjects and make them feel awkward and uncomfortable by asking them questions many would consider too outrageous for television. "I was very careful in responding to controversial issues," Arpaio said. "Profiling. Illegal immigration. They were hitting me with all of that."

Former Alaska governor and GOP vice presidential nominee Sarah Palin admitted recently to falling for Cohen's tricks.

For her interview, Cohen pretended to be a disabled veteran, Palin said, causing

an outrage among conservative circles and eliciting a sharp rebuke from Palin when she discovered Cohen's true identity.

"He thinks this kind of stuff is funny, and mocking the disabled and mocking and belittling our vets with his portrayal — in my book, it's not funny," Palin said.

Cohen is working on an upcoming series on Showtime, "Who Is America?" Other political figures who have admitted interviewing with Cohen include Alabama GOP Senate candidate Roy Moore and former Illinois congressman and radio host Joe Walsh.

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EYE ON DEVELOPMENT

MDC votes to acquire former Western United Life building

By Stewart Doreen
sdoreen@mrt.com

The Midland Development Corp. board agreed Saturday in a special meeting to purchase the former Western United Life Building.

The deal will put the MDC in control of two properties at the northeast intersection of Big Spring Street and Texas Avenue. The MDC purchased the former Building of the Southwest earlier this year for \$50,000.

The MDC board approved a purchase price of \$3.775 million for the former Western United Life Building. Once other transactions, including the cost for asbestos removal, are complete, the net cost will be closer to \$3.4 million, according to MDC officials at the meeting. Mehendra Patel and spouse Hema Kumar are listed in the sale agreement as the property's current owners. MDC officials said asbestos removal could be complete by the end of the month.

Current plans for the new land acquisitions are to put together a package that makes the most business sense for downtown and for Midland taxpayers, according to MDC Board Chairman Brent Hilliard.

He said after the meeting that neither downtown property alone can support a parking structure, so any future deal involving that area of downtown requires at least the demolition of one of those buildings. Acquiring both properties allows the MDC to have options: turning the former Western United Life Building into office space, lofts, a hotel or something else. Hilliard has said two separate hotels have inquired about the space at Texas and Big Spring, and a third is interested elsewhere downtown. Negotiations are continuing, he said.

With a new convention center being built across the street and development expected in the area where the former county courthouse once stood, demolishing both buildings and using the space for parking is also an option, Hilliard said.

"It is looked at as what is the best business decision," Hilliard said. "We will go out over the next few months to determine what is the best decision for those properties and what benefits the taxpayer the most. Whichever (option) that is, we will consider."

"I'm not stuck on hotels. I am stuck on where's the best return and how we make the best deal," he said.

An agreement to buy the former Western United Life Building was executed in December, Hilliard said. That purchase is contingent on asbestos removal and approval by the Midland City Council.

The city is in the process of removing asbestos from the Building of the Southwest and taking bids on demolition. City leaders also have discussed fixing the roof of the Building of the Southwest. Costs, they said, will be a factor in what's done before handing that building over to the MDC.

The former Western United Life Building, located at 304 W. Texas Ave., will remain closed. Hilliard said 3-inch plexiglass will cover the windows of the first and second floors where the building adjoins to a neighboring structure. The window coverage is for security purposes. In August of last year, a 16-year-old Midlander died after falling into an elevator shaft after students broke into the building and were playing with air-soft rifles.

The site was once being prepared to become The Hotel Fuel: a 12-floor, 144-room hotel.

June airport report

Boardings

June 2018: 54,747
June 2017: 48,080
June 2016: 43,416
June 2015: 46,549
June 2014: 48,796
Year-to-date: 428,760
(an increase of 14.2 percent compared to 2016-17)

Total number of passengers (those getting on and off a plane)

June 2018: 107,345
June 2017: 93,695

Fuel sales (in gallons)

June 2018: 514,048
June 2017: 472,153
Year-to-date: 4.186 million
(an increase of 10.6 compared to 2016-17)

Parking revenues

June 2018: \$370,987
June 2017: \$326,110
Year-to-date: \$3.138 million
(an increase of 20.9 percent compared to 2016-17)

Boardings at Midland International top 50,000 again

From staff reports

Business is booming for the three airlines at Midland International Airport.

Combined, the number of people boarding American Eagle, Southwest and United reached 54,747, a high for 2018 and a record for June

going back to at least the beginning of the decade. The total was a 13.9 percent increase from June 2017.

A majority of the 54,747 passengers boarded Southwest, but the largest increase was on United. The city of Midland showed United grew by 33.3 percent compared to June 2017. American Eagle also

posted double-digit growth but finished third in terms of the number of people flying. The totals were as follows: Southwest 28,314, United 14,176 and American Eagle 12,257.

It was the third time in the last four months that boardings (people getting on an airplane) topped 50,000.

Permits to drill oil/gas permits

by district

Midland	561
San Antonio area	147
San Angelo area	119
Refugio area	104
Southeast Texas	68
Lubbock area	67
Panhandle	44
East Texas	35
North Texas	33
West Central Texas	31
Deep South Texas	13
East Central Texas	eight

Gas completions

by district

San Antonio area	55
Midland	31
Refugio area	22
East Texas	15
Panhandle	12
North Texas	eight
Deep South Texas	eight
Southeast Texas	six
West Central Texas	one

Oil completions

by district

Midland	425
San Antonio area	163
Refugio area	96
San Angelo area	78
North Texas	40
West Central Texas	36
Southeast Texas	24
Panhandle	22
Lubbock area	18
East Texas	five
East Central Texas	four
Deep South Texas	three

RRC: Midland district leads in permits, completions in June

From staff reports

Midland tops the list of Railroad Commission districts across the state in terms of the number of permits and completions during the month of June.

The Railroad Commission reported last week that there were 561 permits issued for the Midland district. That was more than the next five districts combined (505) and around 45 percent of the permits issued across the 10 districts in

the state. The 1,230 permits across Texas in June were less than the 1,305 in June 2017.

The Railroad Commission reports 1,062 permits were issued to drill new oil or gas wells, 13 were to re-enter well bores and 155 were for re-completions of existing well bores.

The breakdown of well types included 742 for oil or gas, 342 for oil, 67 for gas and 55 for injection.

The 425 oil completions in the Midland district were more than 46

percent of the 914 reported around the state and more than the next four districts combined (415). The commission reported 510 oil completions last year.

The Midland district was second to the San Antonio area district in terms of the number of gas completions.

There were 31 in the Midland district, 55 in the San Antonio district and 158 in the 10 districts across the state. Last year, there were 96 gas completions.

Building permits July 2-6

2510 W. Ohio Ave.
4511 N. Midriff Road
5306 Whitson Drive
3713 Anetta Drive
1500 Walnut Lane
5300 Chesley Court
5307 Elen Jayne Way
1006 Upland Street
2500 Princeton Ave.
5303 Liberty Court
5307 Liberty Court
5309 Liberty Court
5311 Liberty Court
5313 Liberty Court
5315 Liberty Court
5301 Liberty Court
5208 Balfour Court
2608 Homeland Court
2819 Emerson Place
5305 Liberty Court
1209 Elm Ave.

Commercial Addition
Commercial Alteration
New Commercial
Fence
Manufactured Home
Swimming Pool
Swimming Pool
Residence-Detached
Residential Addition
New Residence
New Residence
New Residence
New Residence
New Residence
New Residence
New Residence
New Residence
New Residence
Residential Addition
New Residence
New Residence

1213 Elm Ave.
1211 Elm Ave.
809 N. Terrill Street
6615 Jamestown Street
6611 Jamestown Street
611 Victory Parkway
408 L'Enfant Lane
6703 Crown Palm Court
605 Victory Parkway
6617 Jamestown Street
6700 Crown Palm Court
1802 W. Ohio Ave.
1504 Buffalo Gap
1713 Buffalo Gap
1711 Buffalo Gap
1709 Buffalo Gap
103 W. Shandon Ave.
813 Discovery Court
814 Neely Ave.
812 Neely Ave.
810 Neely Ave.

New Residence
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407 S. Fort Worth Street
408 S. Fort Worth Street
4504 Pasadena Drive
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4621 Storey Ave.
810 W. Kansas Ave.
4705 Neely Ave.
902 Cabinet Street
4403 Casa Verde Court
1300 Convolv Court
700 S. Tilden Street
2800 Fairfield Lane
3124 Kessler Ave.
3305 Spinnere Ave.
2101 N. Midland Drive
2201 W. Billings Ave.
3205 W. Caribart Ave.

New Residence
New Residence
Residential Alteration
New Residence
Residential Addition
Residence-Detached
Residential Addition
New Residence
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New Residence
New Residence
Residential Addition
Residential Addition
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What Trump's pick for Supreme Court could mean for states' rights

By Elaine S. Povich
and Alayna Alvarez
Stalene.org

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh's rulings on federal regulatory power, and his approach to the 14th Amendment's Equal Protection Clause, provide the best hints of how he might rule on cases involving states' rights.

Kavanaugh was nominated by President Donald Trump Monday to take the seat being vacated by Justice Anthony Kennedy. Kavanaugh clerked under Kennedy.

As a judge on the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals, Kavanaugh has had the chance to rule on cases involving the balance of state and federal power. In one case, he concluded that the Environmental Protection Agency overstepped its bounds in regulating greenhouse gases. In another, he questioned the setup of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and whether it had too much power outside of congressional oversight.

But Kavanaugh hasn't always ruled against regulation. In 2010, he upheld the EPA's oversight of a California rule limiting emissions from refrigeration units in trucks. Ernest Young, a Duke University law professor, said Kavanaugh's opinions hint at a judge interested in states' point of view.

"His general, somewhat more skeptical approach toward federal agencies, which a lot of people have talked about, may have an echo in this area by being a little more protective of states' role in these schemes," Young said in an interview. "But it's just a couple of cases."

In many ways, the details of how the federal system operates would be worked out through federal statute, Young said. "And so how you approach those statutes, which are often ambiguous about the federal structures they're creating, is going to be really important in fixing where the balance is going to be between the states and the national government."

"My impression is he's very sophisticated about this stuff, cares about the states, cares about the idea of checks and balances," Young said.

Sam Erman, associate professor and constitutional law expert at the USC Gould School of Law, said decisions limiting federal power might portend good things for states.

"The states are the ones who fill in the gaps when the federal government doesn't act. If he's limiting federal power for any reason, he's creating opportunities for the states to assert themselves. Skepticism of federal power and belief in states' rights have a lot in common and

share intellectual roots."

An upcoming civil asset forfeiture case could indicate how a Justice Kavanaugh might rule on cases involving the Equal Protection Clause, a significant legal element in many state-based issues before the nation's highest court.

If confirmed by fall, as the president has suggested, Kavanaugh could take his place just in time to consider the case, *Timbs v. Indiana*. It involves an Indiana man who was forced to surrender his \$40,000 Land Rover to the state after he pleaded guilty to selling undercover officers 4 grams of heroin in 2013. He agreed to serve one year of house arrest and pay about \$1,200 in court fees.

But Tyson Timbs sued over the seizure of his SUV, arguing that the taking violated the Eighth Amendment ban on "excessive fines." Lower state courts agreed, noting that the maximum penalty for his violation was a \$10,000 fine — a quarter of the value of the vehicle.

The Indiana Supreme Court reversed that decision, saying that the "excessive fines" clause did not stop the state from getting the truck because the United States Supreme Court has not given clear direction that the clause applies to the states.

The 14th Amendment's Equal Protection Clause has been used by the Supreme Court in landmark cases such as *Brown v. Board of Education* (racial discrimination), *Roe v. Wade* (reproductive rights) and *Bush v. Gore* (the recount), to set limits on states' rights.

Civil asset forfeiture puts hundreds of millions of dollars into state and federal coffers every year. And according to a 2015 report by the Institute for Justice, a nonprofit civil liberties law firm, net proceeds from civil forfeitures across 14 states more than doubled between 2002 and 2013, jumping from around \$100 million to \$250 million.

Forfeiture also stuffs federal coffers. The report said assets in forfeiture funds within the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Treasury Department exploded during this time as well, climbing from less than \$1 billion in 2001 to nearly \$4.5 billion in 2014.

A number of states are considering changes. In Ohio, for example, Republican Gov. John Kasich signed a measure last year barring forfeitures under \$15,000 without a criminal conviction.

Kavanaugh has shown a particular interest in the 14th Amendment from his earliest law school days at Yale University. In a 1989 piece for the *Yale Law Journal*, he discussed a 1986 Supreme Court ruling in *Batson v. Kentucky* that outlawed using race as the sole criteria for preemptive

challenges to jurors, under the Equal Protection Clause.

Kavanaugh wrote the decision did not lay out enough specific criteria on how to strike jurors aside from their race, and made some suggestions that were later employed by courts. He brought up that issue again in 2006, in his hearing on his nomination as a federal judge for the D.C. Circuit, saying *Batson* was "one of the great Supreme Court decisions ever decided."

Mark Weaver, a former Ohio assistant attorney general and an adjunct professor of government at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, said he thinks it would be fair for senators to ask Kavanaugh how far he'd go in basing his rulings on the 14th Amendment, which was ratified in 1868.

"He praised the Equal Protection Clause as a way to get to the proper results," Weaver said. "A lot of scholars think the Equal Protection Clause has been overused. It was ratified largely to allow the newly freed slaves to have the same rights as other Americans. It has come to be used as something of a magic wand for judges who want to conjure up a certain result. That doesn't appear to be Judge Kavanaugh's approach. His comments at the first confirmation were puzzling."

Those people involved in the *Timbs* case think Kavanaugh is likely to rule against the Indiana court.

"I think that Judge Kavanaugh like the other justices of the court is likely to accept the principle that the U.S. Constitution provides a floor for Americans' constitutional rights," said Wesley Hottot, an attorney with the Institute for Justice who will argue the *Timbs* case before the high court. "States are not allowed to go below that floor."

A more neutral court observer, Lino Graglia, a professor at the University of Texas School of Law, said he thinks Kavanaugh would be in the mold of Kennedy, the outgoing Justice he has been nominated to replace.

"There's no reason to think that Kavanaugh would be different from Kennedy in terms of Congress' power under the Commerce Clause, and therefore on the states' power," he said.

Looking to how Kavanaugh might follow Kennedy on the *Timbs* case specifically, Graglia said Kennedy was something of a moralist. "If something really seemed immoral, then it should be unconstitutional. It certainly seems that forfeiting your property in those cases seems totally unfair and unjust."

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Pelosi suggests Democrats hold leadership elections after Thanksgiving

By Lindsey McPherson
CQ-Roll Call

WASHINGTON — Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi sent a dear colleague letter to House Democrats Friday suggesting the caucus wait until after Thanksgiving to hold its leadership elections for the next Congress.

The letter may seem strange coming four months in advance of the lame-duck session during which intraparty leadership elections would be held, but according to a Democratic leadership aide, members had been inquiring about the timing of the caucus elections, so the letter was meant to clear the matter up.

It also served to remind members the election is a long way away and the caucus should focus on winning the midterms, the aide said.

Pelosi opened the letter noting Democrats are "poised for victory" in November and that if the elections were held today the party would win many new seats and take back the majority.

"This would mean more leadership positions, more committee assignments and a large freshman class," she said.

"In that vein, I believe it is important that we follow the schedule for leadership elections that the Caucus set last cycle, allowing additional time for freshmen to get oriented," Pelosi added. "My recommendation to the Caucus would be to set leadership elections sometime after Thanksgiving, at a date to be determined by the Caucus."

Incoming freshmen get to vote in the leadership elections, while outgoing members do not. If Democrats retake the majority there will be a minimum of 45 freshmen making up at least a fifth of the caucus. In 2016, Pelosi originally scheduled leadership elections for Nov.

17, just nine days after the Nov. 8 election. Amid pressure from the caucus she later delayed the elections to Nov. 30.

The 2018 general election is on Nov. 6. The first day the House is in session after Thanksgiving is Nov. 27. If following the model of the rescheduled 2016 leadership elections that would be the week to hold them, but there are certainly scenarios in which the caucus may want to delay voting until early December.

One such scenario is if Pelosi, who has said she plans to run for speaker if Democrats win the majority, conducted an initial whip check and found she was short of the 218 votes needed to be elected speaker on the floor in January.

While that wouldn't impact her ability to win a caucus election, which only takes a simple majority, it would be unlikely Pelosi would move forward without knowing the outcome of a floor vote.

No one has announced plans to challenge Pelosi, but Ohio Rep. Tim Ryan is considering it. He ran against her in 2016 and lost, and there are no signs yet that outcome would be different this year, especially if Democrats win the majority.

But some in the caucus have already started preparing for a scenario in which Pelosi can't shore up the votes. In that context, they have been discussing the possibility of House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer or Assistant Democratic Leader James Clyburn running as a "bridge" speaker who could serve briefly and help the caucus transition to next generation of leaders.

Any shake-up in the top rungs of leadership would create additional openings that would likely result in several competitive races.

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Trump's remarks about changing European culture draw ire

By Jesse J. Holland
and Russell Contreras
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's lament this week that immigration is "changing the culture" of Europe echoed rising anti-immigrant feelings on both sides of the Atlantic, where Europe and the United States are going through a demographic transformation that makes some of the white majority uncomfortable.

Historians and advocates immediately denounced Trump's comments, saying such talk would encourage white nationalists.

"The way he put this argument about changing our culture ... about Europe becoming less nice than it is, in other words, these people are here and they are making the culture crappier and making the place lesser, that's straight out of the white supremacist/white nationalist playbook," said Heidi Beirich, director of the Southern Poverty Law Center's Intelligence Project.

Trump, in an interview with the British newspaper *The Sun*, blamed immigration for a changing culture in Europe: "I think allowing millions and millions of people to come into Europe is very, very sad. I think you are losing your culture. Look around. You go through certain areas that didn't exist ten or 15 years ago."

Trump, the grandson of a German immigrant and the son of a Scottish immigrant to the United States, repeated his contention at a news conference with British Prime Minister Theresa May.

"I just think it's changing the culture. I think it's a very negative thing for Europe. I

think it's very negative," he said. "I think it's very much hurt other parts of Europe. And I know it's politically not necessarily correct to say that, but I'll say it and I'll say it loud. And I think they better watch themselves because you are changing culture, you are changing a lot of things."

Beirich called those comments "racist."

Claire M. Massey, a scholar at the Institute for British and North American Studies at Ernst-Moritz-Arndt Universität in Greifswald, Germany, said Trump's comments were "awfully painful," especially for the United Kingdom, where immigration has played a key role in rebuilding the country after World War II. "England and the United Kingdom wouldn't be what it is today without immigrants," she said.

Massey said Trump's comments remind her of the rhetoric coming from neo-Nazis in Germany and Poland. The comments will embolden the far-right in Europe at a time when many European nations are already very diverse.

Lisbon, Portugal, for example, is now home to sizable and visible Brazilian, Cape Verdean, and Angolan populations. The immigrant groups and their Portuguese-born children have helped revitalize areas of the cities

once in disrepair and have a presence in everything from professional soccer teams to popular culture.

Portuguese Mozambique-born fado singer Mariza is among the nation's most beloved performers.

In France, immigrants from the Middle East and Africa have settled throughout Paris and have drawn the ire of the far-right and even some moderates over the city's changing makeup. Then-French Prime Minister François Fillon decreed in 2011 that women were banned from wearing face veils outside of the home except in mosques or as car passengers. A European court later upheld the ban, saying the intent was to unify the country, but not before an outcry by human rights activists.

Throughout England, from London to Liverpool, immigrants from Asia, Africa, the Middle East and the former British colonies in the Caribbean have reshaped various neighborhoods, drawing scorn from members of the far-right and some rural residents who blamed the European Union and immigrants for the economic struggles of once-prosperous mining regions.

The United States is also going through a demographic shift. The Census Bureau estimates that the country's population will have more

minorities than whites for the first time in 2043, a change due in part to higher birth rates among Hispanics and a stagnating or declining birth rate among blacks, whites and Asians.

Trump's public life has been filled with controversial statements about immigrants.

In the first moments of his presidential campaign in June 2015, he called for the construction of a border wall with Mexico and accused the country of sending migrants who were "bringing drugs. They're bringing crime. They're rapists. And some, I assume, are good people."

He continually used dark imagery to depict immigrants as dangerous invaders. Then, in the aftermath of a terrorist attack that December in San Bernardino, California, that was carried out by a U.S.-born Muslim and his Pakistani wife, who was a legal U.S. resident, Trump called for barring all Muslims from entering the country. The Supreme Court eventually upheld his executive order banning travel from several mostly Muslim countries, rejecting challenges that it discriminated against Muslims or exceeded his authority.

In January, Trump questioned why the U.S. would accept more immigrants from Haiti and "shithole countries" in Africa as he rejected a bipartisan immigration deal, according to one participant and people briefed on the conversation.

Bill would keep guns from those convicted of animal cruelty

By Eric Garcia
CQ-Roll Call

WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. Katherine M. Clark has proposed legislation that would prevent people convicted of animal cruelty from accessing firearms.

Clark, D-Mass., said her bill would close an existing loophole and cited a study from the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and Northeastern University linking animal abuse and future violence. *MassLive* reported.

Clark said the loophole exists because while federal law prohibits people with felony convictions from accessing guns, states often prosecute animal cruelty as a misdemeanor.

"From Columbine to Parkland to Sutherland

Springs, these perpetrators of mass gun violence had a history of animal abuse, and addressing this pattern of behavior is part of the solution when it comes to preventing gun violence and saving lives," she said.

The study Clark cited found animal abusers are five times more likely to commit violence against people than those who did not abuse animals.

T. Christian Heyne, legislative director of the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, praised the legislation.

"Cruelty toward and abuse of animals is often seen as a warning sign for domestic abuse and other violent behavior," he said.

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HENRY

1 Chronicles 16:31
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And let them say among the nations,
"The LORD reigns."

Top Trump team meets Mexico's incoming president in effort to repair ties

By Tracy Wilkinson
Los Angeles Times

MEXICO CITY — A team of top Trump administration officials traveled to Mexico on Friday to meet its next president and try to repair strained relations in a largely symbolic visit after nearly two years of diplomatic discord.

Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo met with Mexico's president-elect, Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, a left-leaning populist who won the July 1 vote in a landslide. He also planned to meet outgoing President Enrique Pena Nieto, who has seen his popularity plummet in recent months in part for his failure to challenge President Donald Trump more forcefully.

Pompeo was joined by Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen M. Nielsen, Treasury Secretary Steven T. Mnuchin and Jared Kushner, Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser, who has Mexico in his portfolio of responsibilities. The delegation also included Carl Risch, head of consular affairs at the State Department, a sign of the priority on immigration.

In their meeting with Lopez Obrador, Pompeo said the presence of "four of our most senior people" showed that Trump was serious about improving ties with one of America's closest allies after bitter clashes over border security, trade and other disputes.

"We wanted to come down here to let you know that President Trump cares deeply for the success of the relationship between our two countries," Pompeo said.

"Our presence here today signals that to you," he added. "We know there have been bumps in the road between our two countries, but President Trump is determined to make the relationship between our peoples better and stronger."

The daylong trip, which Pompeo undertook hours after returning to Washington from the NATO summit in Brussels and before he heads to Helsinki for Trump's meeting Monday with Russian President Vladimir Putin, comes after months of rancor between Trump and Mexico.

Trump has referred to Mexicans as criminals, demanded Mexico pay for a border wall it doesn't want and insulted Pena Nieto. The Mexican president canceled a planned trip to Washington in February after he and Trump tangled on the phone.

So far, Trump has been kinder to Lopez Obrador, including what both governments labeled a positive and cordial half-hour phone call after his election. Trump has pledged to work with the incoming Mexican leader after he takes office Dec. 1.

Pena Nieto was not eligible to run because the Mexican constitution prohibits re-election. The presidential candidate for his Institutional Revolutionary Party came in a distant third.



Press Office of Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador via AP

United States Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, left, shakes hands with Mexico's president-elect Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador on Friday at Obrador's campaign headquarters in Mexico City. Pompeo is visiting Mexico with Cabinet-level officials to meet with both President Enrique Pena Nieto and president-elect Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador after a sea-change election that could offer a chance for the neighbors to repair strained relations.

For all the initial rapprochement, Trump and Lopez Obrador almost certainly will clash on both substance and style.

"It's a good start, but there are still a lot of issues that will be areas (of disagreement)," said Roberta Jacobson, who until May served as U.S. ambassador to Mexico. Trump "needs to stop vilifying Mexicans and blaming them for so many of the United States' problems."

Despite Trump's claims, the Pena Nieto government has taken numerous steps to stem illegal immigration. Funded in part by the United States, Mexico has reinforced its southern border with Guatemala and deported nearly 150,000 Central Americans in the last year. But those policies are increasingly unpopular.

The Trump administration also has sought to persuade Mexico to accept the status of "safe third nation," which would make it easier for Mexico to accept asylum applicants fleeing violence or persecution at home — and stop them from continuing north to the United States to seek refuge.

Mexico has long resisted the proposal. Although Mexico has accepted significantly more asylum applicants, it is reluctant to shoulder a burden likely to be many times greater. And human rights advocates oppose the plan because Mexico is hardly a safe country for immigrants and the vulnerable, who often are preyed on by human-trafficking networks and murderous drug gangs.

Whether Lopez Obrador will

continue to pursue the U.S.-financed immigration policies is yet unknown. Many of his supporters see Mexico's reinforcement of its borders as doing the U.S.' dirty work.

Lopez Obrador has spoken frequently about tackling the root causes of poverty and insecurity that drive people northward in the first place, but he has yet to detail a plan for accomplishing those goals.

Another area of divergence will be foreign policy, where the Trump administration likely will lose a key partner.

Washington has relied on Mexico to take the lead in efforts to isolate Venezuela and urge its embattled socialist government to step down, in part to minimize an appearance of U.S. intervention in a region where American meddling is a sensitive issue.

Lopez Obrador, however, has pledged to return to Mexico's tradition of keeping a low profile in international affairs.

Reflecting the domestic pressure, Mexico's leading leftist newspaper La Jornada ran a column Friday warning the incoming president to be prepared to stand up to Trump's team.

"More than a courtesy visit," Soledad Loeza wrote of the visitors, "this seems to be an intimidation tactic to warn the new president that he must do ... whatever they ask."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Republicans back from Russia have advice for Trump before Putin summit

By Niels Lesniewski
CQ-Roll Call

WASHINGTON — Republican senators who recently returned from Moscow have some advice for President Donald Trump ahead of his meeting Monday in Helsinki with Russian President Vladimir Putin: Be prepared, be careful and try not to be alone.

"He better know the right Russian psyche," said Senate Appropriations Chairman Richard C. Shelby. "All he's got to do is start with Stalin and come on up and see what's changed."

The Alabama Republican led the delegation, which met with senior Russian officials, including Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov.

Sen. Jerry Moran of Kansas, who was on the trip, said in an interview that he had particular concerns about the possibility of Russian media entities misreporting the outcome of any one-on-one meeting between Trump and Putin.

"They're propagandists. When I read what the Russian press said that transpired in those meetings, I don't know why — I don't believe them when they say they weren't involved in meddling in U.S. elections," Moran said. "I don't know why people would believe them when they say their description of the meeting."

"There is value in protecting the president in having a number of Americans in the room when the conversations take place, because just what I saw on the scale of a congressional visit can happen in a presidential visit in which the description of what transpired in the meeting does not fit reality," Moran said.

Senate Republican Conference Chairman John Thune, who also traveled to Russia, said Trump should be prepared for complete denials and well-rehearsed answers when he meets with Putin in Finland's capital.

"I think he has to expect they're going to deny, deny everything," the South Dakotan said. "I would think that Putin would be very well prepared, obviously, with answers ... that they've been thinking about for a long time."

Shelby pointed to the importance of Trump being properly briefed ahead of the sit-downs.

"It's got to be more than a photo-op. They've got to want to do better with us," Shelby said. "I would imagine that President Trump will be well prepared by the National Security Council and all of his people, knowing that dealing with Putin, who will be ultra-prepared, tough, ruthless ... not want to give nothing."

Montana GOP Sen. Steve Daines suggested that Jon Huntsman, the U.S. ambassador to Russia, should be highly involved in the discussions.

"Ambassador Huntsman is a tremendous asset. He is a great diplomat and a great representative for us having been ambassador to ... China, Singapore and now Russia," he said.

A pair of GOP senators who have been more critical of Trump's foreign policy took a separate trip to Europe over the July Fourth recess.

And they were more direct in expressing concerns about Trump's treatment of allies and what he might agree to with his Russian counterpart.

Sen. Jeff Flake of Arizona wants Trump to tell Putin his invasion and occupation of the Crimea region of Ukraine is "illegal" and his activities in Syria are "detrimental." He described U.S. allies in the region as "afraid about what our president might agree to," and he told reporters he "very much" shares their worries.

"I just came from the region and people are genuinely concerned about how reliable we are as a partner," said retiring Foreign Relations Chairman Bob Corker of Tennessee. "And when you have that occurring, especially with Russia's activities, yeah, it undermines our alliance."

The first full day of his European tour, at the NATO summit in Brussels, illustrated Trump's complicated relationship with the leaders of other member countries.

He and first lady Melania Trump were caught on camera chatting with NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg and German Chancellor Angela Merkel during an evening reception before a working dinner. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, full champagne flute in hand, came over to greet the first lady, and the two talked for several minutes.

Earlier in the day, Trump was on the attack, going after America's allies even as he refused the day before to call Putin an adversary of the United States.

Trump took his war of words with America's allies to a new level Wednesday, telling NATO's top official that Germany is "captive" to Russia due to a recent energy deal. And he called alliance members "delinquent" on their contributions to NATO's budget.

On both matters, Republican senators said they agreed with Trump's message. Some were less enthused by how he delivered it, however.

"The president has a very legitimate point in that the Russians are doing some very bad things and NATO is supposed to be countering that," said Sen. Jim Risch of Idaho, the expected next chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee if Republicans hold control of the Senate.

"Well, what you have is, you have the Germans holding hands under the table with them while we're supposed to be disciplining them and trying to get a handle on it," he said.

Oklahoma Sen. James M. Inhofe, who has been performing the duties of Armed Services chairman with Sen. John McCain at home in Arizona, agreed.

"People are saying, 'He's picking on Germany.' Well, he was," Inhofe said with a chuckle, criticizing the German government for "not even trying to" meet a pledge to devote more to NATO's coffers.

"And on top of that, they're showing in the future they'll be even closer to Russia because of the pipeline they're putting in," he added. "So I think (Trump) has every justification for saying it."

Inhofe, however, opted against giving the president any advice for his Monday summit with Putin. "You know, he's done so well in his negotiations," he said. "I'm not about to second-guess how he's doing it."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Iran role in Syria key item at Trump-Putin summit

By Zeina Karam
Associated Press

BEIRUT — When President Donald Trump meets Russia's Vladimir Putin on Monday, the Syrian conflict will be one of the most immediately pressing issues on a wide-ranging agenda.

As fighting wanes after seven years of war, the U.S. has made curtailing Iran's influence in post-war Syria a strategic objective — one strongly backed by Israel. And U.S. and Russian officials have signaled that a broad framework for such a deal is likely to be the main outcome of the summit.

Any agreement is likely to be general in nature, and discussions are likely to be centered more on limiting Iran's presence rather than ending it, analysts say.

A full withdrawal of Iranian-backed forces from Syria is a virtual non-starter. After years of ruinous civil war, Iran and its proxy militias, including the Lebanese Hezbollah, have built up a formidable presence stretching from the Iraqi border through central Syria to Lebanon.

President Bashar Assad, with military and political assistance from Iran and Russia, has recaptured 60 percent of the country, putting an end to any serious talk of regime change. And, amid a declining U.S. role, Russia has emerged as an uncontested power broker in the country.

Still, both Russia and the U.S. have an interest in working together in Syria and beyond, and while Russia and Iran have been on the same side of the war, their interests do not

always converge. Here's a look at potential outcomes from Monday's meeting:

WHAT'S ON THE TABLE

With Assad's removal from power no longer an actively sought objective, the focus has shifted to Iran's influence in Syria. Tehran is now believed to command up to 80,000 fighters in Syria — members of Shiite militias and paramilitary forces loyal to Iran.

In an interview with CBS news this month, U.S. national security adviser John Bolton said Iran, not Assad, was the "strategic issue." Israel, for its part, has repeatedly warned it will not allow Iran or its Shiite proxies to establish a permanent presence in postwar Syria.

After two weeks of intensive military operations, Assad's forces now control the southern city of Daraa, where the revolution against Assad started, and the surrounding countryside. They are ready to move west to the frontier near the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, triggering concerns of a showdown between Israel and Iranian-backed forces nearby.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with Putin in Moscow on Wednesday for talks focusing on Iran's presence in Syria.

"Our opinion is known that Iran needs to leave Syria," Netanyahu said after that meeting.

CONTOURS OF A DEAL

So what might a potential deal look like?

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov last week said it would be "absolutely unrealistic" to expect Iran to fully withdraw from Syria.

That signals Russian acceptance that at least some of those forces should pull back.

Comments by some U.S. officials have also indicated what might be an emerging compromise.

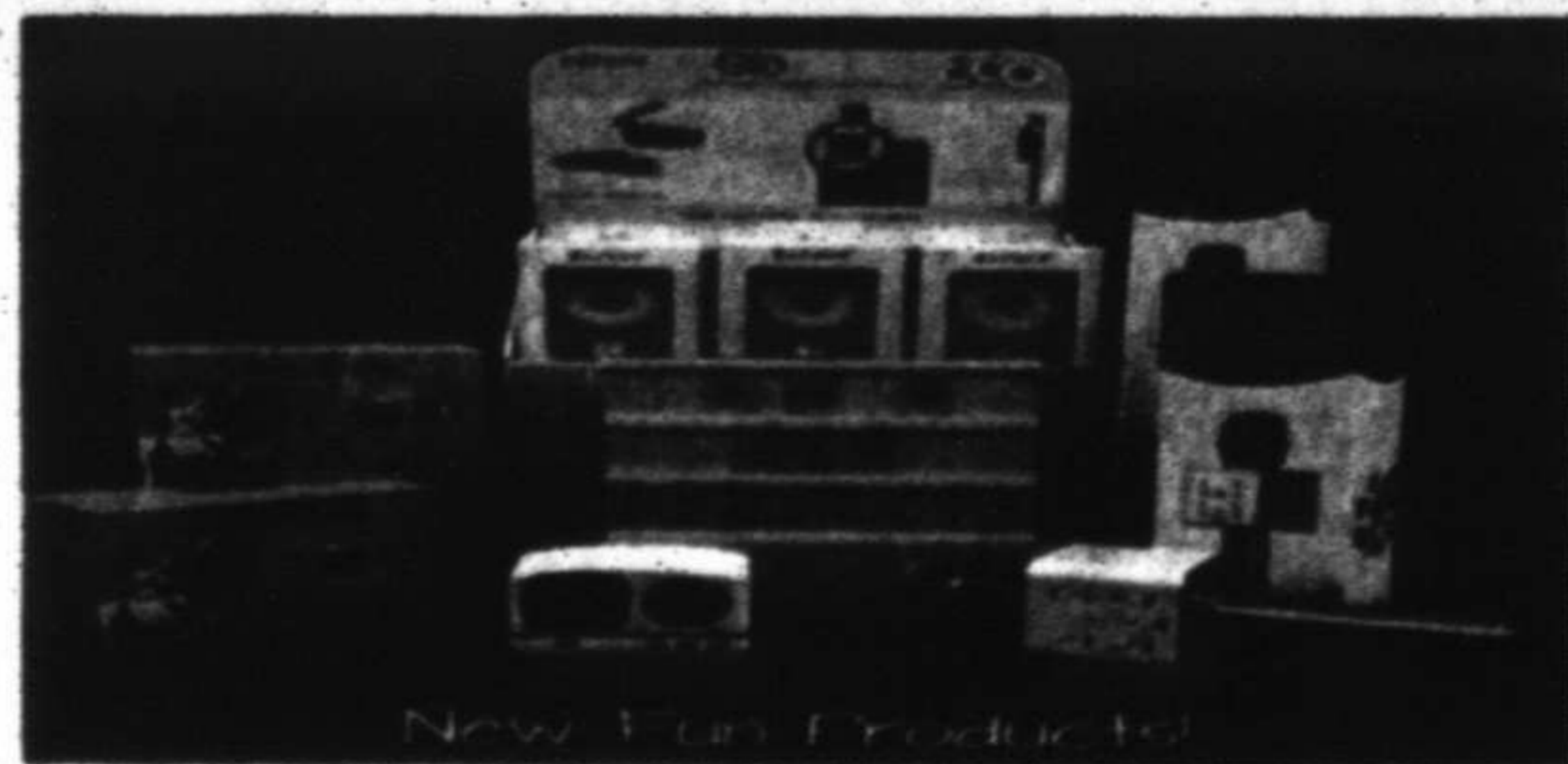
"There are possibilities for doing a larger negotiation on helping to get Iranian forces out of Syria and back into Iran, which would be a significant step forward," Bolton told CBS.

One possibility is that Putin and Trump could reach a deal that would envisage the deployment of Syrian government forces along the frontier with the Israeli-held side of the Golan Heights and the withdrawal of Iranian forces and Hezbollah from the area.

For that to happen, Israel would want guarantees that Assad honor a decades-old agreement that sets out a demilitarized zone along the frontier and limits the forces each side can deploy within 15 miles. Aymen Kamel, an analyst with Eurasia Group, said Moscow may ask for acceptance of Assad and an eventual withdrawal of U.S. troops from Syria, as Trump has suggested he would like to happen by the end of the year.

"A public deal that accepts Assad in return for limiting Iranian influence implicitly if not explicitly gives him some legitimacy," Kamel said.

WOULD IRAN ACCEPT A DEAL?



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The world has never seen a Category 6 hurricane, but the day may be coming

By David Flesher
Sun Sentinel

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — As a ferocious hurricane bears down on South Florida, water managers desperately lower canals in anticipation of 4 feet of rain.

Everyone east of Dixie Highway is ordered evacuated, for fear of a menacing storm surge. Forecasters debate whether the storm will generate the 200 mph winds to achieve Category 6 status.

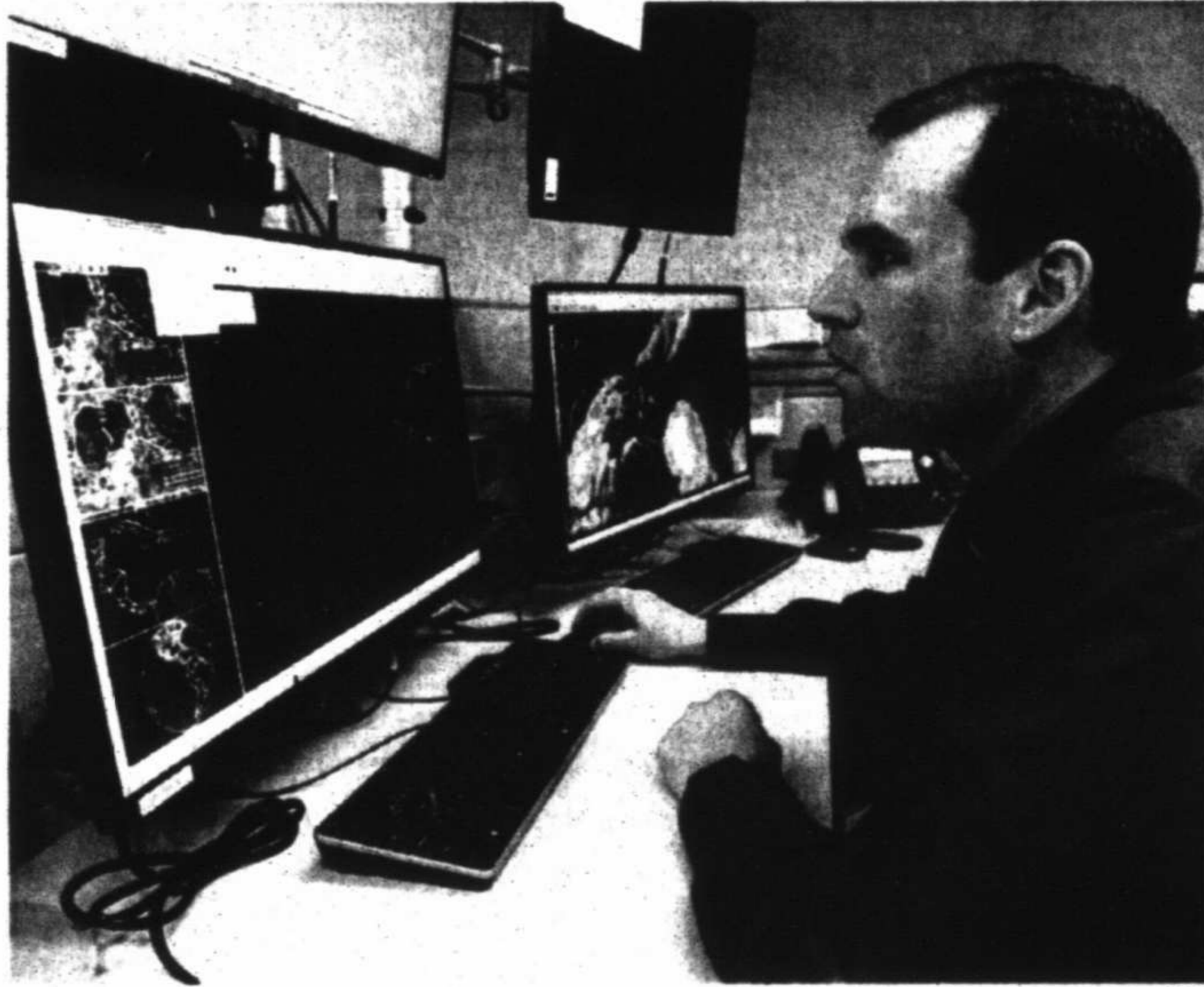
That is one scenario for hurricanes in a warmer world, a subject of fiendish complexity and considerable scientific research. Some changes — such as the slowing of hurricanes' forward motion and the worsening of storm surges from rising sea levels — are happening now. Other effects, such as their increase in strength, may have already begun but are difficult to detect, considering all of the other climate forces at work.

But more certainty has developed over the past few years. Among the conclusions: Hurricanes will be wetter. They are likely to move slower, lingering over whatever area they hit. And although there is debate over whether there will be more or fewer of them, most researchers think hurricanes will be stronger.

"There's almost unanimous agreement that hurricanes will produce more rain in a warmer climate," said Adam Sobel, professor of applied physics at Columbia University and director of its Initiative on Extreme Weather and Climate.

"There's agreement there will be increased coastal flood risk, at a minimum because of sea-level rise. Most people believe that hurricanes will get, on average, stronger. There's more debate about whether we can detect that already."

No one knows how strong they could get, as they're fueled by warmer ocean water. Timothy Hall, senior scientist at the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies, said top wind



Michael J. Brennan, branch chief, Hurricane Specialist Unit, pictured June 1 at the National Hurricane Center in Miami.

speeds of up to 230 mph could occur by the end of the century, if current global warming trends continue.

That would be the strength of an F-4 tornado, which can pick up cars and throw them through the air (although tornadoes, because of their rapid changes of wind direction, are considered more destructive).

Does that mean the current five-category hurricane scale should be expanded to include a Category 6, or even Category 7?

The Saffir-Simpson hurricane wind scale, developed in the early 1970s, ranks hurricanes from Category 1, which means winds of 74-95 mph, to Category 5, which covers winds of 157 mph or more.

Since each category covers a range of wind speeds, it

would appear that once wind speed reaches 190 or 200 mph, the pattern may call for another category. Last season saw two Category 5 hurricanes, Irma and Maria, with Irma reaching 180 mph. And in 2015, off Mexico's Pacific coast, Hurricane Patricia achieved a freakish sustained wind speed of 215 mph.

"If we had twice as many Category 5s — at some point, several decades down the line — if that seems to be the new norm, then yes, we'd want to have more partitioning at the upper part of the scale," Hall said. "At that point, a Category 6 would be a reasonable thing to do."

Many scientists and forecasters aren't particularly interested in categories anyway, since they indicate only wind speed, not the other dangers posed by

hurricanes.

"We've tried to steer the focus toward the individual hazards, which include storm surge, wind, rainfall, tornadoes and rip currents, instead of the particular category of the storm, which only provides information about the hazard from wind," said Dennis Felten, spokesman for the National Hurricane Center. "Category 5 on the Saffir-Simpson scale already captures 'catastrophic damage' from wind, so it's not clear that there would be a need for another category even if storms were to get stronger."

Among the most solid predictions is that storms will move more slowly. In fact, that has already happened. A new study in the journal *Nature* found that tropical cyclones have decreased their forward speed by 10 percent

since 1949, and many scientists expect the trend to continue.

That doesn't mean a hurricane's winds would slow down. It means the hurricane would be more likely to linger over an area — like last year's Hurricane Harvey. It settled over the Houston area and dropped more than 4 feet of rain on some areas, flooding thousands of houses.

In addition to moving slower, future hurricanes are expected to dump a lot more rain. A study by scientists at the National Center for Atmospheric Research this year looked at how 20 Atlantic hurricanes would change if they took place at the end of the century, under the average projection for global warming. Warm air holds more water than cold air. The study found that hurricanes would generate an average of 24 percent more rain, an increase that guarantees the more storms would produce catastrophic flooding.

The production of horrifying amounts of rain shows another way in which Harvey is a window into the future. One study, which looked at how much rain Harvey would have produced if it had formed in the 1950s, found that global warming had increased its rainfall by up to 38 percent.

Other scientists see Harvey less as a symptom of climate change than an indication of what we can expect in the future.

"Whether we're talking about a change in the number of storms or an increase in the most intense storms, the changes that are likely to come from global warming are not likely to be detectable until 50 years from now," said Brian Soden, professor of atmospheric sciences at the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science. "There's so much natural variability in the system, the typical year-to-year variability in hurricane activity, that the signal really doesn't emerge from that background variability until the latter half of this century."

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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

7	4		2			6
		5	8		2	
8			1			7
	1	3		8		
2						6
	3	8		9		
3		6				4
	9	8	2			
6		1	2	5		

Level:
1 2
3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

8	6	7	4	1	9	5	3	2
1	2	4	5	3	6	8	9	7
5	9	3	7	2	8	6	1	4
2	8	9	6	4	1	3	7	5
6	7	1	9	5	3	4	2	8
3	4	5	2	8	7	1	6	9
9	1	6	8	7	5	2	4	3
7	5	2	3	6	4	9	8	1
4	3	8	1	9	2	7	5	6

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Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

"WATTS HAPPENING" By JOE KIDD

ACROSS

1 Depressing

7 Arnold's Terminator

13 Absorbent feature

16 Some ski bodge

20 Longhorn wale

22 Island

23 Pizet & Whitney hee-hee

24 Unsteadily walk while using social media?

26 Fuel for a larry

28 Leslie Caron life role

29 "Court me in"

30 Field in acting

32 Detroit labor org.

34 Prehis meaning "billions"

36 In reserve, with "or"

37 It tops a deuce

38 Lowly short-order cook?

41 24 minutes in the NBA

44 Tommy's kid brother on "Rugrats"

45 Marquis

46 Enjoys courses

48 "Billie Jean" singer

50 In short order

52 Neely storm

58 Poppy's

59 Plus

60 X + XXX

61 Storage compartments

62 Sandburg's "furry cat" lover

63 Maure

64 Twisting

66 Intellectual

70 Deliberate

73 Words with a gl

74 Lard

76 Yell as a return

77 Fannie

78 Food punner

79 Beakbeak's breakfast

84 The "Cassidy" horse

85 "...gust" for mariner

87 Lie top

88 Toonster's Le Pew

89 Flood burner

90 "Sweet" relative

91 Spoke

93 Maple extract

96 Big top, for one

98 Return from a salamander

102 Work unit: abbr.

103 Bo

105 Stadium

106 PC hookup

107 Thai currency

108 Easily bent

112 Kitchen of "bridesmaids"

114 Mully

116 Drawback of the best place to watch the light?

119 Debate decider

122 En points, in

123 Give an oath to

124 Entangling, as a hole

125 Contradictory word

126 Some Dances parties

127 Brings honor to

DOWN

1 Bl in a "one's" mouth?

2 Agric. labor group

3 Dessert for a large legal firm?

4 In a reasonable manner

5 What "E" rily mean

6 Get emotional, with "up"

7 Wiccan

8 Dried-out

9 Enola Gay manufacturer

10 Trax circuit

11 Eye layer

12 M.A. seeker's

13 Turle

13 Don't know, e.g.

14 Easily tied

15 It's tossed into a pot

16 Road sign

17 Thornfield Hall governess

19 Searches carefully

21 India's term of respect

25 "Don't worry, know that"

27 Bomb big-time

30 Line AC in most cars

31 Radio host

33 Helms, peraps

35 Have credit with "up"

36 Marshland

39 Uncool one who

40 Scott's note

42 Number for the weight

43 Line Howdy

44 Doo's face

45 Circa boss

47 Accord

49 Judge's announcement

51 Lack of influence

53 Comics screen

54 Waiting son of Zeus

55 Eugene Penson site

57 "Don't change anything"

58 Actor Chaney

59 Disturbing bank

60 Line AC in most cars

61 Like some cheer doors

62 Last down

65 Exaggerate on stage

67 Crowd around

68 Coastal neighbor

69 Overblowing

71 Mail regular

72 Down VIPs

75 Polite online letters

80 "Two ows and ..."

81 March line

82 Suffer for fabric

83 Pope John Paul

84 Went before

86 Big brass container?

88 Favorite one

89 Karaoke performer's pick

94 PC key under Z

95 "Masterpiece" error

97 Word processing function

98 Humdinger

100 Famous, now

101 Bullfrogs

102 Husband's test wife

104 Footer for the

107 Picture book

108 Figurehead spot

109 Director

110 Obit' stats

111 May hunches

113 Walk or trot

115 Norman on the line

117 Girl in the pasture

118 Shipping via

120 Vegas-to-Denver dr.

121 Some NFL linemen

7/15/18 wordsfor@com ©2018 Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Krueck

Unscramble these six Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form six ordinary words.

NETOED

SLEUUF

CACURE

WREPT

RFAMOL

CONOPU

I know we scheduled this performance last minute, but if we pull together, we can be ready.

TO GET THE SYMPHONY READY FOR ITS BIG PERFORMANCE, IT WOULD TAKE A ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW

JUMBLE

Answer:

DENOTE ACCRUE FORMAL USEFUL PEWTER COUPON

To get the symphony ready for its big performance, it would take a ---

"CONCERT-ED" EFFORT

JULY 15, 2018

WUZZLES

WORD PUZZLES BY TOM

Each Wuzzle is a word riddle which creates a disguised word, phrase, name, place, etc. For example: **GOOD AFTERNOON**

3 WUZZLES BOOKLETS

"The Best of Wuzzles" (\$4.00), "More of the Best of Wuzzles" (\$4.00), and "Wuzzles for Kids" (\$4.25) are available postpaid from Wuzzles, Box 1441, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406.

Form Miss Form

1

3. The Weekly "Brain Breaker"

man boy

man boy

Print Your Answers Here:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Created by Tom Underwood www.wuzzles.com © North America Syndicate, 2018

JUMBLE CROSSWORDS

by David L. Hoyt

Sunday Puzzle

ACROSS

1. Depiction image

6. Abstain

8. Signify

9. Mix

11. Show

12. ___ shirt

DOWN

2. Blow up

3. Frog relative

4. ___ hammer

5. Parched

7. Important, famous

10. Stinky

ANSWER

CTPIERU
AINREFR
EMNA
SRIT
IBHETXI
NEANFLI

LTNFAEI
TDOA
RNGAIFM
HSTYIRT
ENLTBOA
TIHM

BONUS

CLUE: This actor was voted the "28th Greatest Movie Star of All Time" by Entertainment Weekly.

How to play: Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

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ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE

OUTSET	CYBORG	SHADE
AFRAMES	SOONERS	CONEY
TWINPAC	TWEETERTOTTER	
PETROL	LILI	IMTHERE
SALLY	UAW	NANO
TREY	FRYINGPAWN	HALF
DIL	DESAD	EAT
ANON	NOREASTER	SWEET
IWON	LEWDERHOSEN	CCC
BAYS	FOG	KEA
IDEAMONGER	SHORTFALLS	
FORYOU	RIP	PAY
ORC	BRAWNFLAKES	LUND
LEAP	THREESTAR	PEPE
DIKE	HEY	ORATED
TENT	NEWT	PROFIT
TAE	ROAR	LAN
PLIABLE	WIIG	NEGATE
RINGSIDESWEAT	ARBITER	
ONTOE	SWEARIN	REAMING
WASHT	ERNSTS	GRACES

1. Miniatures

2. One-of-one

3. Separate the men from the boys

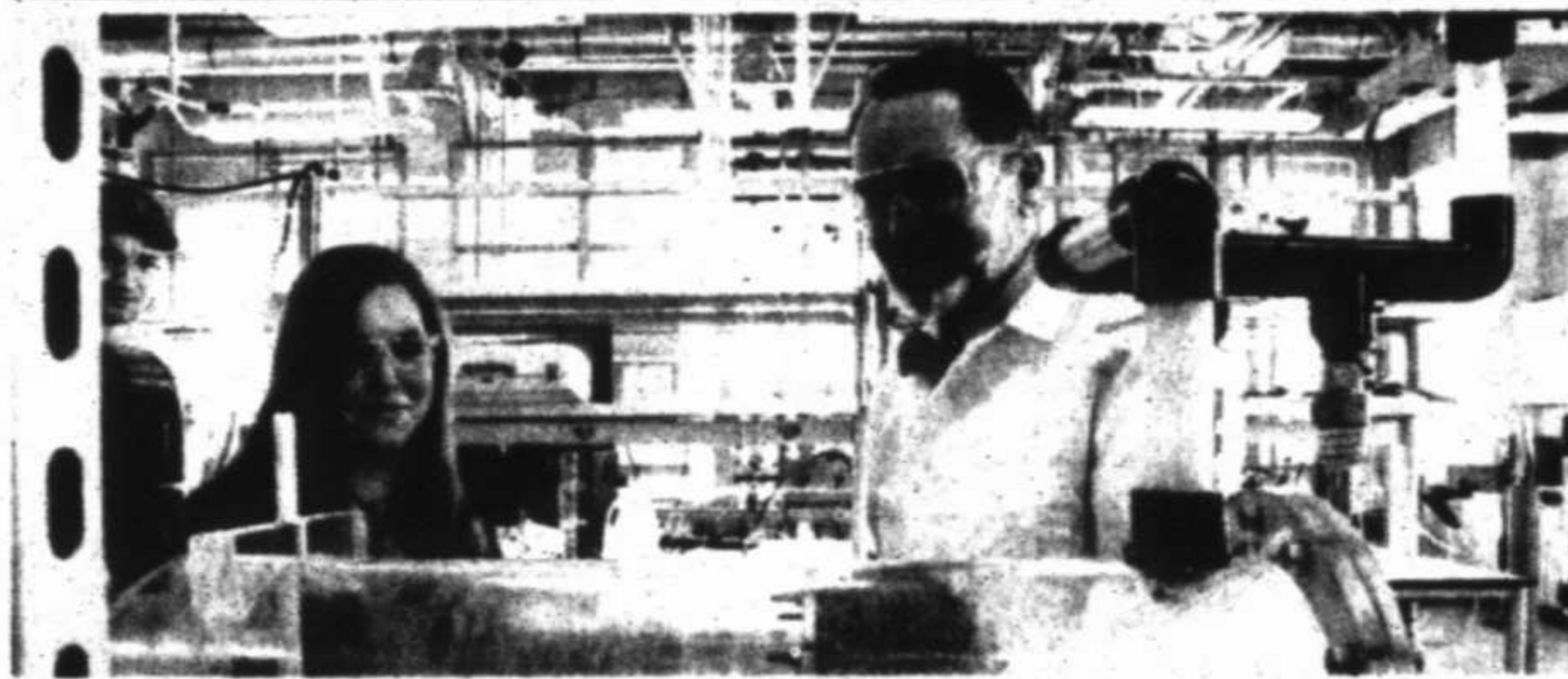
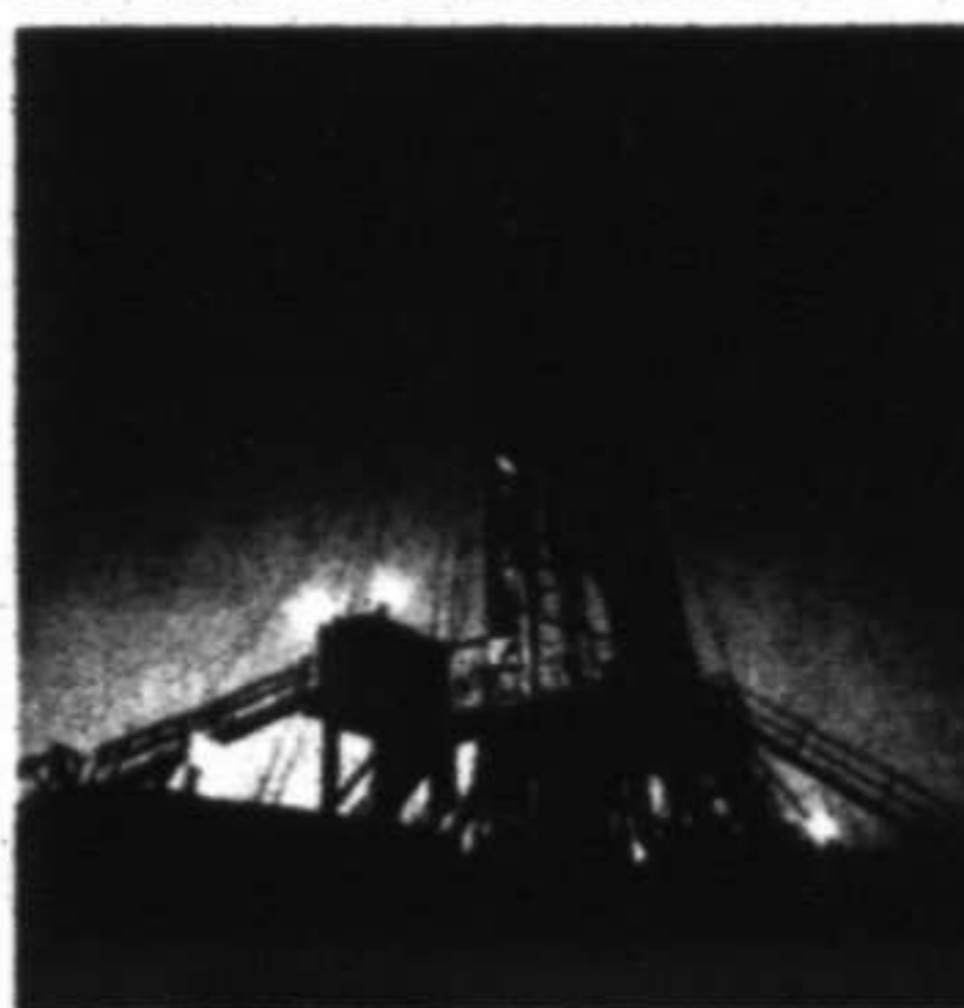
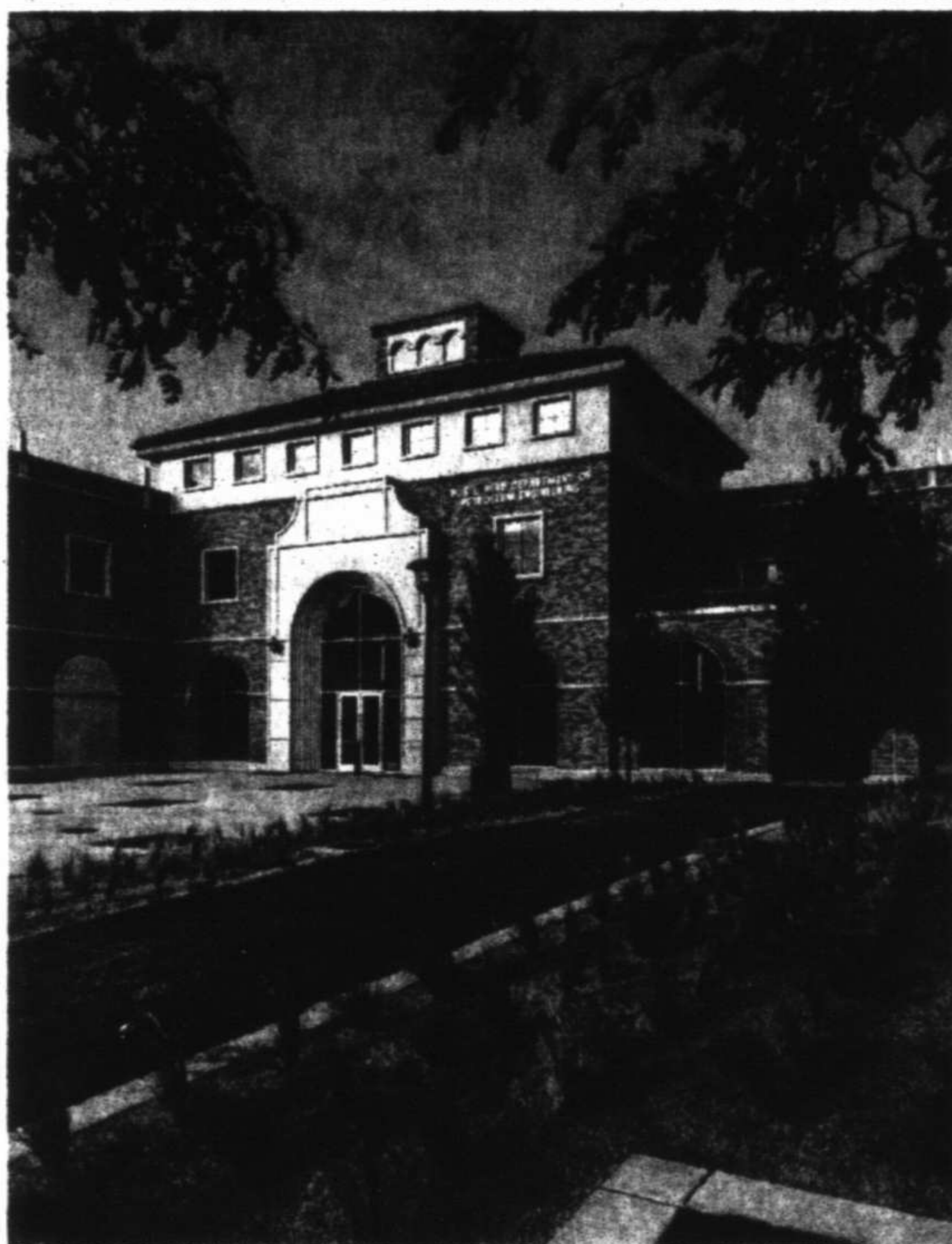
WUZZLES

Answers

Be sure to check out Sunday's edition to read weekly

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TEXAS TECH PETROLEUM ENGINEERING NIGHT CLASSES



The Bob L. Herd Department of Petroleum Engineering is now offering the following graduate-level night courses:

- Advanced Reservoir Engineering:** Monday 6:00-9:00 pm
- Water Flooding Techniques:** Tuesday 6:00-9:00 pm
- Advanced Drilling Techniques:** Wednesday 6:00-9:00 pm

This program caters to the non-traditional student. Classes will be held in modern classrooms with digital recording options of lectures.

Visit our website:
www.depts.ttu.edu/pe/grad/admissions.php
for more information regarding applying.

Applications due August 20th. First day of class is August 27th.



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VIEWPOINTS

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Sunday, July 15, 2018 | Section B

Congress taxes churches and nonprofits? Yes, and it meant to!

The Public Law 115-97 Tax Cuts & Jobs Act of 2017 that Congress passed in late December has some very appealing provisions. Who would argue against reducing taxes to households and businesses?

But included in the Tax Cut Act, was a new tax on churches and nonprofit organizations that daily strive to meet our society's needs — when government refuses, fails or makes it too complicated to be of effective service.

I appreciate the poignant article by Simone Jasper in last Sunday's Midland

GUY McCRARY
Permian Basin Area Foundation



Reporter-Telegram about taxing tax-exempt organizations and Congressman Mike Conaway's efforts to repeal this new tax by filing H.R. 6037. We are grateful for Mike's

understanding that taxes on tax-exempt organizations make no sense.

Subsection 512(a)(7) of the new law provides that certain benefits such as employee parking on property owned by churches and nonprofit organizations have a value or cost and will be considered "Unrelated Business Activities," which will be taxed at the for-profit corporate tax rate of 21 percent.

Please wrap your head around this maligned idea: Tax-exempt organizations that diligently serve our communities, including churches, will be taxed for permitting their employees to park on their tax-exempt

property.

Generous donors' financial support should be allocated for direct services and program operating costs, not to pay taxes by the tax-exempt organizations that serve our communities: providing food for the hungry, supporting the disadvantaged, sheltering the homeless, keeping our children safe. These are the needs our nonprofits and churches are asked to meet daily. Their precious time and resources should not be used filing new and inane tax forms, nor should they be paying ludicrous, nonsensical taxes.

The obscure subsection 512(a)(7) of the new tax code appears intrinsically onerous on churches and nonprofits, depending on implementation guidelines that are yet to be provided by the IRS. Our local nonprofits may have already incurred tax liabilities — without even knowing it.

I have been inspired and motivated through involvement in the good works

Please see MCCRARY/4B

Children caught in the news



Eighteen-month old Jessica McClure is rescued Oct. 16, 1987, after she was trapped 22 feet under ground in an abandoned water well in her aunt's backyard in Midland.

What would Baby Jessica coverage have been like today?

It wasn't much of a leap to connect the recent effort to save a Thai soccer team stranded in an underground cave with rescue efforts that happened closer to home in 1987.

So I wasn't surprised that someone made the effort to call Jessica McClure Morales to get her perspective. The New York Times did, in a "What did Baby Jessica think of the Thai Cave rescue? She has no idea it happened."

It is an interesting read. One thing that is hard to escape is that the person who laid the foundation for 24-hour cable news coverage is now admittedly disconnected from the world. But it's true. Baby Jessica's rescue, as reported in the New York Times piece, did "coincide with the dawn of round-the-clock cable television news, becoming at once a cultural

STEWART DOREEN
Editor



touchstone and template for the juggernaut coverage Americans have come to expect of certain events."

Of course, it would be interesting to see how cable news would have covered the event. I imagine Nancy Grace would have tried to prosecute the case that someone should have gone to jail because Baby Jessica fell down that well.

Over on MSNBC, Rachel Maddow

would have pointed out that this saga was taking place in one of the most Republican counties in the state. A colleague would have reminded viewers this was the hometown of George W. Bush and argued it wasn't a coincidence.

Sean Hannity at Fox News would have spent 30 minutes talking about a "well-thought out" and "brilliant" Trump tweet about the rescue. He then would have spent the rest of the show explaining how the drive-by media was using the Baby Jessica saga to manipulate Americans to vote Democrat in 2018.

On CNBC, the Shark Tank marathon continues. All roads lead back to Mr. Wonderful.

On CNN ... well ... nobody watches CNN.

Seriously, it would be something to see how the "Baby Jessica" made-for-TV saga would have played out in this over-analyzed, constant conversation broadcast coverage. Would it have been politicized, would it have portrayed Midland in a negative light, would it

Please see DOREEN/3B

Local newspapers help taxpayers as watchdogs on government

Daily newspapers long have been the barking — and oftentimes biting — watchdogs that keep

ALBERTA PHILLIPS

Austin American-Statesman

the public informed about what their government is doing, be that rescuing people from massive flooding in Austin in 2015, or the mismanagement of \$2 billion in contracts by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, which came to light that same year.

Last week, the American-Statesman reported on the financial challenges that have befallen the Austin Film Society and its arthouse theater, the AFS

Cinema. It seems the enterprise has come up short on its financial goals.

It's true the film society is a nonprofit, and as such, its financial peaks and valleys might not seem any of our business. But through the years, it has received more than \$5 million in support from Austin taxpayers — money it has used to help grow the film society and Austin's film economy. That public investment makes it our business.

We know about the film society's financial matters not because it told the public. It would have preferred the information be kept confidential. The Statesman reported the story. Is the nonprofit inclined to be more efficient in its financial dealings because it is being

Please see PHILLIPS/4B



MELANIE NICHOLAS

Be one with the force, Hubs, there's a room to decorate

When my daughter Bodacious turned 6, she told me that instead of a party or gifts, she wanted to redecorate her room. And I didn't blame her. When we moved into this house, we didn't change anything. Her room was a cool blue-gray color, but it didn't suit her personality much.

So for her "big girl" room, she wanted new paint, lights, bedding and a rug. Ch-ching! The Hubs and I discussed a budget for the project and set a \$500 limit. Well, as any of you know who have redecorated a room, \$500 does not go very far when paint and Pottery Barn Kids are involved. I started looking for ways to pinch pennies. I found an online coupon for her duvet, lucked into a good paint sale, gave her the new rug I had gotten for my own room and purchased a black crystal chandelier online from Joss & Main that was available for the low, low price of \$68.

Now, I had never purchased a light fixture from Joss and Main before, and was completely surprised when I opened the box. It was in pieces. Like, hundreds of pieces. I had no idea that I would have to put the blasted thing together myself! No wonder it was so cheap.

I can do lots of things, but putting small crystals on smaller wire loops to hook onto other microscopic wire hooks is not one of them. Because of my MS, my hands don't always work that well, a basic braid is sometimes hard for me. Plus, I'm blind as a bat. So the umpteenth hours it took me to put that chandelier together were extremely challenging. So challenging in fact that I looked online at Lowe's and Home Depot for a similar, pre-assembled fixture. I found one, too, for \$140. And I really considered it. But \$70 is a lot of money, especially when you are trying really hard to stay on a budget and still have to pay the painter. And your decorator friend says you need a curtain panel.

So I persevered. I opened all the blinds in the house so I could see better and spread out over the dining room table and worked at it for two days. The Hubs was impressed with my fortitude and my unwillingness to spend another \$70. But he is used to my crazy project ideas.

Four years ago, I found an awesome Pinterest idea for displaying children's art work. The project involved the Ikea stainless steel wire curtain rod system, DIGNITET. On the surface, like all Ikea products, it looked straightforward, with minimal work involved. Six circular bases, six prongs that insert into the bases, three pieces of wire. You install a base and prong, then move a few feet down, and install its mate, then

Please see NICHOLAS/2B

I reserved my perfect residential lot at Village South!

My sister is a long time resident of Manor Park, and I have been thinking about making the move for a while.

When I heard about their new development for active seniors, Village South, I chose my floorplan and signed up!

Village South at Manor Park



Hazel Williams

Obituaries

**Billy Gene Freeman**

Billy Gene Freeman beloved husband, father, grandfather, nephew, brother, uncle, cousin and friend, departed for the heavenly plane Wednesday, July 11, 2018 at the age of 80. Celebration of life will be 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, July 18, 2018 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home Chapel in Midland.

He was born March 30, 1938 in Big Spring, Texas to Vernon and Lillie Mae Freeman. Billy began his career as a Sears technician at the age of 29 and retired with 30 years of service.

While working at Sears, he met the love of his life, Mary Helen Carter in 1977.

After 10 years of dating, Billy and Mary were married in 1986. They joined their families after their marriage with his son Barron and Mary's daughter Tangi.

Billy loved watching sports, the news and his favorite soap opera, *The Bold and the Beautiful*. His favorite football team was the Dallas Cowboys and he wore his Jersey at every game he watched to make sure they would win! He was the most humble and loving man you'd ever meet and never missed an opportunity to tell you he loved you.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his daughter Geraldine Edwards, and sister Addie Maddison. He leaves to cherish his memory his loving wife Mary, son, Barron Freeman, daughter, Tangi Dickens, two sisters, Jessie Morris, Vernie Franklin, his favorite cousin Caroline Sue Haywood and grandchildren, great grandchildren, and a host of relatives and friends.

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

Nalley-Pickle & Welch
Funeral Home
& Crematory
(432) 550-5000

**Charles R. Perry**

Charles R. Perry passed away July 12th, 2018. He was born in Shamrock, Texas on September 8th, 1929, just in time to see the stock market crash and the Depression begin. But those humble roots would only set the stage for a stunning lifetime where he was widely known for entrepreneurship, business dealing and innovative advances in gas processing.

Growing up in Shamrock, he was destined for a career in the sciences, having set fire to his bedroom with a chemistry set. His family moved to Odessa when his father, Charles B. Perry,

founded First State Bank. Charles graduated from Odessa High School where he played tackle on the 1946 football team that won OHS's first and only state championship. His contribution to the team was tutoring the star players so they could pass their classes to be able to play.

With football and chemistry in his blood, the clear choice for college was the University of Oklahoma where he studied Chemical Engineering. Charles was very proud to have studied under several legendary engineering professors, and even more proud to have a lifelong connection with the greatest college football program of the past hundred years: the Oklahoma Sooners.

Following college, Charles took a process engineering job at Union Carbide in Texas City, Texas. But that was not to last long, when Uncle Sam called in 1954 and insisted that he become a member of the United States Army. Despite his university degree, he went in as a buck private. However, with his degree and the fact that he had the second highest IQ on the entire Fort Bliss Army base in El Paso, he was sent to Fitzsimons Army Medical Center in Denver, Colorado instead of Korea. There he worked in a research laboratory developing treatments for tuberculosis. He had the idea to combine two drugs together which resulted in longtime TB patients walking out of the hospital after languishing there for years.

It was in the Rockies that this boy from the desert fell in love with the mountains. It was also there that he took a blind date, fell in love with and married Nancy Joanna White in 1955. As Charles would say, they had one of those "war time marriages that would never last." He was honorably discharged from the Army as a Sergeant and took this girl from Minnesota back to Odessa.

At that time, Odessa had a fantastic group of young professionals, all of whom made significant impacts on the growth of the Permian Basin.

They settled in this West Texas town where everyone knew everyone. Charles took a job at Sivalis Engineering as a process engineer and one day he was asked to take a sales engineer job. Charles had his doubts about the job, but his boss said, "Suit yourself, but if I were you, I'd get closer to the cash register." He took the job and that phrase guided his career from then on: "stay close to the cash register."

In 1967, Charles left Sivalis and bought a tiny company called Portable Treators, which built skid-mounted gas processing units. Charles took that idea and turned it into an innovation of renting the use of treating plants and charging by the throughput. This was three full decades before also-rans like Uber and Airbnb copied his idea. The name was changed to Perry Gas Companies and it became one of the largest gas treating companies in the world before it was sold to Parker Drilling in 1980.

Throughout his lifetime, Charles was known for three things: his integrity, his insistence on giving back to the community, and his lack of awareness about how much of a nerd he was. One of the famed West Texas stories is about Charles sealing a multi-million dollar deal on nothing but a handshake. Charles' word was his bond. His business acumen led to a list of accomplishments too lengthy to list, but the highlights include the Perry Award from TxDOT, Distinguished Graduate Award from the University of Oklahoma, the Silver Bar Award

and the Hanlon award from the Gas Processors Association. He also was a Director for TXU and founded nine other companies. Additionally, Charles was awarded 5 patents in gas treating and published numerous technical papers.

Giving back to the community meant both time and money to Charles. Working to better the community was important to him especially with the Colorado River Municipal Water District and continuing the legacy started by his father Charles B. Perry over 70 years ago to ensure the residents of West Texas had water for decades to come. His leadership in volunteering made an impact on the Salvation Army, United Way of Odessa, UTPB Development Board, Texas National Research Commission and the University of Oklahoma School of Chemical Engineering Board along with dozens of other organizations.

As a nerd, he loved airplanes and owned many of them. On more than one occasion, he offered his airplane to families in crisis. For fun, he enjoyed working on natural gas calculations well into his 70's resulting in the creation of massive excel spreadsheets to analyze treating designs. Lastly, he always made a fashion statement with his collection of "Dad" clothes.

In his retirement years, Charles took his wedding vows seriously and was focused on the tireless and unrelenting care of his wife. Who is afflicted with dementia. His last conscious moments before he died were with her and we believe that is just the way he would have wanted it.

Charles deeply loved his family and was very proud that his kids turned out great despite their many hijinks growing up. He was a great mentor to each of his children throughout their careers. He was even more proud to spend time with the next generations as a Grandpa and then as a Great-Grandpa.

Charles is survived by his wife of 63 years Nancy Joanna White Perry, daughters Beth Sewell (Richard) and Nancy Perry Eaton (Peter) and son Tom Perry (Ruth), six grandchildren Lauren Henderson (Bryan), Shannon Wade (Blake), Alex Perry (Amber), Andrea Abbott (Sam), Wesley Perry and Mac McCutcheon and four great-grandchildren Blair Henderson, Charlotte Perry, Josephine Perry and Annabelle Wade. He is predeceased by his daughter, Diane Perry, parents, Charles B. and Sunshine V. Perry, brother, James R. Perry and grandson, David Perry Rowe. Memorial services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, August 11 at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 4501 Maple Ave in Odessa, TX.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to The Salvation Army of Texas at <http://www.salvationarmytxas.org/odessa> or The American Heart Association at <http://www.heart.org> or the charity of your choice. Boomer Sooner, Pops! Services in the care of Broecker Funeral Home, Salado, Texas.

Midland Reporter-Telegram
MRT.com

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

**Mary Jane Jean Scott**

Mary Jane Jean Scott was born on December 25, 1922 raised in Brownsville, Minnesota then moved to Midland, TX. Mary met our heavenly father on July 12, 2018.

She is survived by Rick Scott, Barbara Wiese and a 6 generation family.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Oren Thomas Scott and daughter, Kathy Speetzen among many friends and family.

Memorial services will be held at Heart of Worship Baptist Fellowship, 1306 E. Taylor Ave., Midland, TX 79701 in the Auxiliary Room Sunday July 15, 2018, at 12pm.

Our family is thankfully blessed by the support and love of our family and friends. And by Home Hospice, Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home, Heart of Worship Baptist Fellowship & pastor Carl Raymond.

**Melton Durwood Post**

Melton was born on November 28, 1931 in Martin, Texas to Roy and Floy Post. The family lived in Ralls and Crosbyton Texas, attending elementary school in Ralls, and later graduating as Salutatorian from Crosbyton High School in 1949. After working several years in the Crosbyton area, he joined the Army to proudly serve his country during the Korean War. Initially stationed at Fort Bliss, he went overseas to serve in reconnaissance in the 38th parallel, before being honorably discharged in 1954, having earned the rank of sergeant.

On March 20, 1954, Melton married the love of his life, his "sweetheart" Sue Post. He was a devoted husband to her for 61 years, and faithfully and lovingly cared for her during her lengthy illness, living out the vow "in sickness and in health". He was a member of Wilshire Park Baptist Church in Midland, Texas, where he was a Sunday School Teacher and served on various committees.

Melton had a lengthy career as an independent businessman, starting off in Ralls as a small grocery store owner and then a Carnation Milk deliveryman. In 1960 he moved his family to Midland where he was a bookkeeper for a roofing company, ultimately retiring in 2012 as owner and operator of Stanley Roofing Company and Midland Roofing Supply. Melton was a 24 year Veteran Scoutmaster, serving as

Scoutmaster for BSA Troop 280 of Midland, Texas. He was awarded the Silver Beaver award, one of the highest honors awarded by the Boy Scouts of America for noteworthy service of exceptional character.

To say he was an avid bowler is an understatement. He bowled on at least two leagues every year, and served as secretary and book-keeper of the leagues. On November 20, 1997 - "A Day in History" - he achieved his lifelong goal of bowling a perfect game of 300 and also his first "700 series".

His generous spirit was evident by his involvement in his community, including coaching Little League baseball, serving as a member of the Midland West Rotary, donating to Habitat for Humanity, and his favorite - giving to Christmas in April.

He was so very proud of his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and they gave him great joy. He especially loved the Christmas season with his family - decorating the house, tree, and surprising them with the early arrival of Santa to Midland every year.

He is leaving behind his three children: Keith Post and his wife Carla of Lubbock, Shanna Zecchin of Midland, and Stephen Post and his wife Anne of Abilene. Seven grandchildren:

Courtney Leapley and her husband Mike, Jennifer Montgomery and her husband Ben, Kyle Post and his wife Jessica, Lindsey Post, Allison Bass and her husband Dallas, Cody Zecchin and his wife Deanna, and Amanda Lawrence and her husband Josh. Four great-grandchildren: Van Leapley, Addy Zecchin, Harper Montgomery, and Calvin Bass. Two sisters: Jean Campbell and Jane Broyles.

Melton was preceded in death by the love of his life Sue (Susie) Post and his parents Roy and Floy Post.

Visitation will be on Monday, July 16 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at the Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Chapel in Midland, Texas. Service will be held at 11:30 a.m. in the Chapel. Burial will follow at Serenity Memorial Gardens in Midland.

Pallbearers will be Kyle Post, Mike Leapley, Cody Zecchin, Dallas Bass, Josh Lawrence and Neal Edwards. For those who would like to, the family suggests memorials may be made to The American Lung Association.

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

**Ricardo Flores Silva Martinez**

Ricardo Silva, 26 passed away suddenly in an automobile accident on Tuesday, July 10, 2018, in Midland County. Ricardo was born September 9, 1991 in El

Pollo Aguascalientes, Mexico. On June 27, 2013 he married the love of his life, Raquel in Lamesa, Texas. Ricardo was a very happy and friendly person. He loved to sing joke around with his family and friends and make them laugh. He was also very adventurous and enjoyed going different places with his wife. On his spare time he liked to sing, dance, and get together with his family and friends. He had a passion for baseball and soccer and followed the World Cup.

Ricardo is survived by his wife, Raquel Silva, his parents, Jorge Silva and Juana Martinez, three brothers: Jorge Silva, Jose Francisco Silva, and Fernando Silva.

Viewing will be Monday July 16th 2018 from 1:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. with a rosary starting at 7 p.m. at Lewallen Garcia Funeral Home & Chapel.

Funeral mass will be Tuesday July 17th 2018 at 9:30 a.m. at San Miguel Arcangel Catholic Church. Burial will be in Mexico.

Arrangements were made with Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home and Chapel. Family messages and condolences may be emailed to pipkin@nts-online.net or you can visit the website at www.lewallengarciapipkinfh.com.

Lewallen Garcia Pipkin
Funeral Home
208 N. Big Spring - Midland, TX - (432) 422-7700

Death Notices

Albert Mendoza

Albert Mendoza, 63, of Midland, Texas passed away surrounded by his family Thursday, July 12, 2018.

He is survived by Lousa Navarrete, Elvera Hammond, Frank, Raymond, Richard, and Robert Mendoza.

Angela Martinez

Angela Martinez, 102, passed away Friday, July 13, 2018. Viewing will be Sunday, July 15th from 1:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. and Monday, July 16th from 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. with a prayer service starting at 7:00 p.m. Sunday evening at Heavenly Gate Chapel. Funeral service is set for Monday, July 16th at 2:30 p.m. also at Heavenly Gate Chapel. Interment will follow at Serenity Memorial Gardens. She is survived by one daughter, Berta Lydia Martinez of Midland.

Curtis Erwin

Curtis Erwin, Jr., 94, of Midland, Texas, passed away in his home July 12, 2018. A memorial service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, July 20, 2018 at The Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity.

Flowers can be sent to Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory.

Robert Lee (R.L.) Southernland

Robert Lee (R.L.) Southernland, age 81, of Midland, Texas, died Thursday July 12, 2018, at home surrounded by his family. He was born February 17, 1937. A service will be held Monday, July 16, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at American Heritage Funeral Home 4100 N FM 1788 Midland, Texas 79707.

Midland Reporter-Telegram
MRT.com

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

NICHOLAS

From 1B

run the wire between them. Once all the pieces are installed, you have three tiers of wire you can attach art work to by securing said masterpieces with little metal clothespins. It literally looks like you stacked metal clotheslines onto your wall for your very own gallery display! Genius!

What Pinterest did not tell me was that each round base is actually a bracket that screws onto the wall with three of the smallest screws you have ever seen. Then the circular base and prong slide onto the bracket. If you drop one of the screws, you are, well, screwed because there are no extras included. So your family will spend 15 minutes

on hands and knees looking for the dropped hardware. There is also lots and lots of measuring, checking, rechecking and leveling involved. The pair of prongs have to be installed at exactly equal heights or the wire gets lopsided and the art work slides about. Each tier also needs to have an equal amount of space between the next for perfect balance and symmetry. What looked like a 30-minute, \$30 Pinterest project probably took The Hubs most of an afternoon. And he is handy, y'all! But the results were worth his effort. Seeing all the kid's projects hanging proudly in their own little gallery made me giddy. We have been married almost 20 years now, and I have asked him to do some crazy stuff during our time together. But

in my opinion, nothing says love quite like a spouse willing to put together anything from Ikea!

This summer, Little Son will turn 10. He has requested a new room for his birthday as well. Apparently, he has outgrown his Lego Batman room. I know, I know. It kills me, too. Now, he wants to do Star Wars. I was really excited about that, I love all things sci-fi! I told him to pick out paint and new comforters for his bunk beds. He wants black walls and the dark gray and red The Force Awakens bedding from Pottery Barn Teen. Tom: How could my firstborn-love-of-my-life-boy want a teen-aged room? And of course, he is going to need a cool new light fixture. I found the perfect one, too. It looks like the Deathstar, and

it's only \$50! When I showed it to my decorator friend for approval, she just laughed and laughed.

"It's from Ikea, Melanie. You know you have to put all those pieces together, right? It comes flat."

No, no I did not know that. So I reviewed the 10 pages of instructions online. It has 40 little pieces that fit together like a big round jigsaw puzzle onto 10, hinged brackets. The light then can expand and contract on the brackets using a pull chord. It is, essentially, the Ikea version of Empire Strikes Back at Buyars.

Forty pieces? Hinged brackets? I loathe puzzles! But I bet you can guess who is great at puzzles. That's right — my precious spouse and father of children whom he

loves more than life. When that Ikea box arrives next week, I will tell him that this is my most desperate hour.

"Help me Hubs-Wan Kenobi. You're my only hope!"

You can see our project pictures and follow our progress on my Facebook page and online at The-BathwaterBlogs.com.

Melanie Nicholas is a full-time momma, writer and mommy blogger. She and The Hubs have two amazing children, Parkasol, 9, and Bodacious, 7. You can follow her amazing adventures fighting grime and insecurity on Facebook @MelNicholas13 and at The-BathwaterBlogs.com. Her column appears in the Midland Reporter-Telegram every other week.

PRO

"Was Brett Kavanaugh the best choice President Donald Trump could have made?"

Kavanaugh is truly a 'judge's judge' and precisely what our nation needs!

What can we expect of Brett Kavanaugh if he's confirmed as Justice Anthony Kennedy's successor on the Supreme Court?

Kavanaugh's record and background show he will be a fair, impartial and principled justice — and that's precisely what our nation needs.

A graduate of Yale College and Yale Law School and former law clerk to Justice Kennedy, Kavanaugh has served for the last 12 years on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

On this court, Kavanaugh has tackled weighty issues from the First Amendment's ban on the establishment of a particular religion by Congress and the Second Amendment's guarantee of a right to bear arms to the constitutionality of administrative agencies such as the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

A "judge's judge," as President Donald Trump called him, Kavanaugh's record shows a commitment to interpreting laws according to their text. He's written that "the text of the law is the law" and explained that judges may not "rewrite statutory text simply because we might think it should be updated."

Kavanaugh is regarded as "one of the finest and sharpest legal minds of our time," Trump said.

Indeed, in addition to writing more than 300 opinions on the appeals court, he speaks and writes often about the separation of powers, agency deference and statutory interpretation. He also co-authored a book on the topic of precedent along with Bryan Garner and 11 other judges, including then-Judge Neil Gorsuch.

As a judge on a court dominated by Democratic appointees, Kavanaugh is often in the minority, issuing powerful dissents that the Supreme Court has cited in several cases.

For example, a 2014 case looked at whether the Environmental Protection Agency could ignore cost-benefit analysis when considering a proposed hazardous air pollutants rule that would cost power plants an estimated \$9.6 billion a year for a societal benefit amounting to no more than \$6 million a year.

The D.C. Circuit deferred to the agency's interpretation of the law. But Kavanaugh wrote a separate opinion

ELIZABETH SLATTERY

Tribune News Service

noting it was "entirely unreasonable for EPA to exclude consideration of costs," under the relevant statute. Two years later, the Supreme Court agreed with Kavanaugh's criticisms and reversed the decision.

In a 2008 case, the D.C. Circuit dealt with the structure of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board. Congress had created it by statute and then insulated its board members from presidential control by having them appointed and removable only for cause by members of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Kavanaugh dissented from his court's ruling that this arrangement was constitutional. He wrote that the dual protection clause would "eliminate any meaningful Presidential control" and noted that the president's removal power is "critical" for him to "perform his Article II responsibilities." The Supreme Court agreed with Kavanaugh.

In a 2017 speech at Notre Dame Law School, Kavanaugh declared the "structural provisions of the Constitution," including the separation of powers, "are not mere matters of etiquette or architecture." They are "essential to protecting individual liberty." Courts, he said, have a "critical role...in enforcing those separation of powers and federalism limits."

Kavanaugh is a judge who understands that he has an important but limited role in our system of government. That's why he strives to interpret the law and constitutional provisions by their text and original public meaning, and above all strives to be a faithful servant to the Constitution.

That's exactly what our country needs on the Supreme Court.

Elizabeth Slattery is a legal fellow at The Heritage Foundation and host of SCOTUS 101, a podcast about the Supreme Court. She is a graduate of George Mason University's Scalia School of Law and holds a bachelor's degree in history from Xavier University in Cincinnati.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

His pick is bad news indeed for health care, women, consumers and unions

DON KUSLER

Tribune News Service

Brett Kavanaugh, President Donald Trump's nominee for the United States Supreme Court, is a bad choice for most Americans.

His political, legal and judicial career is littered with activist ideological opinions out of step with the American majority and established law.

His views on executive power related to legal issues alone are enough to reject his nomination.

As the vetting process begins in Washington, this nomination should get a careful and detailed review.

Supreme Court justices, when confirmed, serve life terms. A wise choice can be an amazing power for the incremental progress that has been the norm throughout our nation's history. However, a poor choice will impede that tradition of progress and take the nation backward.

Unfortunately, Brett Kavanaugh's record suggests he fits into the latter category.

In public statements and in judicial opinions, he has repeatedly expressed opinions that are counter to both established law and popular common sense policy positions.

If Kavanaugh is confirmed, the Supreme Court could take health care back to a time when insurance companies denied coverage for pre-existing conditions and coverage costs soared even as care declined; back to a time when corporations had free reign over workers and consumers damaging their lives and livelihoods — and back to a time when our essential resources such as water and air were freely open to polluters to do as they wished.

Other Kavanaugh opinions and rulings that should be of concern to any American interested in a just and fair society include writing an opinion upholding a voting law in South Carolina that would deny voting rights to tens of thousands of voters and his curious belief that assault weapons bans are unconstitutional.

Perhaps the most disturbing opinions Judge Kavanaugh has expressed relate to executive powers of the president which, essentially leave the president above the law.

These opinions include a view that a sitting president should never be able to be criminally indicted; that the president "should have absolute discretion (about) whether and when" he or she can be independently investigated, including deciding who the investigators are; and that any special prosecutor should be removable at will by the president.

This is an unacceptable set of positions for any judge being appointed by a president whose campaign, campaign associates, administration officials and perhaps even himself are under current investigation for their roles in Russian meddling in our elections and potential obstruction of justice by the president.

Should any person under investigation get to choose who investigates potential wrongdoing, hire and fire investigators at will, and then appoint a judge that might be ruling on any relevant case? Certainly not!

In fact, no president who is subject of a counterintelligence investigation should receive so much as a hearing for any nomination to the Supreme Court.

Our democratic and judicial systems demand that no action be taken until the investigation has taken its full independent course.

Only when that investigation is complete should the United States Senate move forward.

Then and only then, the Senate should consider the president's nominee.

This means a full vetting of any nominee's statements, judicial opinions and political career to ensure that we do not make a mistake that will haunt our justice system and way of life for decades to come.

There is simply too much at stake to rush a careful process, too much at stake on critical issues like health care and corporate power and too much at stake to play political games or allow anyone to be above the law.

If this common sense process plays out, the American people and their representatives in the United States Senate will soon conclude that Brett Kavanaugh is the wrong choice for the court and for our country.

Don Kusler is national director of Americans for Democratic Action (ADA), the nation's most experienced progressive advocacy organization. Readers may write him at ADA, 1629 K Street NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20006.

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Brexit brouhaha: Now it's getting real

In June 2016, the people of the United Kingdom voted to "Brexit," or leave the European Union. It was a divisive issue with a very close margin (about 52 percent to 48 percent). Unwinding the UK from the EU is an exceedingly complicated process, and recent news out of London confirms that there is still a long way to go. Economists (including me) and numerous world leaders advised against the breakup, as the adverse consequences for growth and standards of living could be severe. Now, it is getting real!

At issue is the UK-EU relationship going forward. Some favor a "hard Brexit" where most ties are cut, while others envision a "soft Brexit," with some separation, but a closer future relationship. It recently appeared as if soft Brexit (as proposed by Prime Minister Theresa May) would occur, maintaining free trade with the EU.

Within days, however, several key officials had resigned in protest and her

M. RAY PERRYMAN

The Economist



tenure was in jeopardy.

Uncertainty is taking a toll on economic growth, as companies around the world delay investments. According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, UK economic growth is projected to be just 1.4 percent this year and 1.3 percent in 2019, which is significantly slower expansion than in the Euro area. (The UK was outperforming the Euro area before the Brexit vote.)

The 2016 popular vote to Brexit was based on issues such as EU rules on businesses (which can be convoluted), key decision-making authority vested in the EU, and high EU membership fees (which exceed what the UK receives back each year). Some voters were particularly concerned with immigration and the lack of British control over its borders.

Weighed against this set of motivations are the reasons to remain closely tied to the EU. Free trade among member nations and the preservation of stable and long-standing institutional arrangements are among the most crucial from an economic perspective.

Given the UK's aging workforce, workable

immigration policies are also needed to allow for an inflow of young workers.

For the United States, Brexit negotiations and outcomes are important (particularly how efficiently and effectively the UK is unwound from various trade agreements), since the UK and several other European nations are significant US trading partners. Because Mexico and Canada are far and away the dominant trading partners for Texas, Brexit issues affect the state somewhat less than some areas with more European-dominated trading patterns.

Key leaders have resigned even as time runs out for the negotiation process, and the world's attention is back to Brexit.

It remains to be seen how things will conclude, but long-term economic dislocations are likely irrespective of the outcome. Breaking up is hard to do!

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

DOREEN

From 1B

have looked for someone to put on trial or would it have followed today's cable news script, in which an event or incident can stay interesting only for a week or two and then the story and its major players become a footnote in the year-end coverage.

Would the rescue itself have been the story?

Also, could there be a scenario in which a Baby Jessica today is still relevant 31

years from now or would she be a long-lost memory?

It is so interesting that Jessica McClure Morales, of all people, is "unplugged." She says her internet is "spotty" and cable is too expensive. Again, she is "Baby Jessica," and we all made sure we stayed tuned to see how her story ended.

"Things can change and happen on a dime," Morales said in the article.

She didn't have to watch the cave rescue to know that. She's lived it. We all did.

Helping Hands of Midland
An All-Volunteer Organization Answering Our Door to Others

1301 BRINSON LANE
(BEHIND ROGERS FORD)
520-8900

www.helpinghandsmidland.com

Because we feel it is important that you know how and where your donations to Helping Hands are spent, here is what was done last week:

Electric	4 families	\$1,132.87
Water	2 families	\$224.56
Rent	24 families	\$25,897.77
TOTAL		\$27,255.20

We were asked recently if the people we help ever paid us back. While the person who asked the question knew that we never asked for remuneration, he wondered if people ever tried to "return the favor."

While at the time the question caught us off guard, and while we knew that yes, the people we help do sometimes try to return the help, the question led us to pay more careful attention to the actual everyday workings of Helping Hands.

We wrote several weeks ago of the man to whom we had given boxes of food. The man shared his food with another man in need. Over the years he developed a friendship with the man, and he finally came into some money, he not only took care of his friend financially, but he donated several checks to Helping Hands in return for the help he had received from us so many weeks ago. The monetary donations far outweighed anything we had done for him financially.

We oftentimes receive donations in the mail from people with simple notes such as "You helped me when I was down and out." "You saved me, and now I would like to do what I can to help someone else." The checks or money enclosed may range from a few dollars to a few hundred. Every penny received is a tremendous blessing to us because we know that it came to us from someone from whom that money was precious.

Every day that our store is open we receive unsolicited donations. While we may charge \$2 for an item, we are oftentimes given \$5 or even more. The comments range from: "you helped me when I was in need, and I want to do what I can to help someone else;" to "you do such good work; let me help you do more;" to "just give it to help someone out." Those donations amount to many, many dollars each day that the store is open.

Still other people use our thrift store as a means of helping the poor. They know that we are an all-volunteer organization and that all of the money we take in goes to alleviate the needs of the poor. One wonderful man each year will come to our store, buy an item for while we normally charge \$1. He hands us a check for \$1,000 and tells us to keep the change. With a wink and a smile he tells us that he is sure we can find a good way to use it.

We are both blessed and humbled because in all of those cases the money was never solicited. Yes, the people we help, and our customers all help us to pay it forward, as much as they are capable of doing so. And for those who cannot, there are a multitude of people in our wonderful city who watch over the poor every day. Those people are you, who help us care for them through your generous donations.

What a special ministry we have at Helping Hands! We cannot help but know that God's gentle, loving arms are embracing us as we seek to care for His most favored ones. And those arms embrace us through your support of Helping Hands. Thank you so very, very much!

\$10.00 PURSE SALE!!!

Name brand purses on sale for only \$10.00 each this Friday and Saturday, July 20 and 21. Coach, Vera Bradley, Fossil, Jessica Simpson and many more. Don't miss it!

Big Spring man's dream leads to career in music

Brian Zack (B.Z.) Lewis grew up in Big Spring. When he was 6, he took piano lessons, not knowing that music was going to be a lifetime pursuit. When he was 14 he took up guitar.

"My brother was learning guitar and he showed me a chord. Since day one I was just completely absorbed, absolutely hooked. I think I've played guitar just about every day except when I was on vacation or away from a guitar."

He played in a few bands all over Texas and Louisiana.

"My first one was a metal band we called Stainless Steel. Later, I started playing classical guitar, a truly solo endeavor. You should figure out how to move your fingers in a way to make a musical passage work. It's just you and your instrument and hours and hours of practice."

TUMBLEWEED SMITH



As he approached adulthood he was concerned he couldn't make a living with music. So, he enrolled in the University of Texas to study engineering. That didn't last very long.

"I felt really bad about abandoning music. I felt like guitar was something I had to do." B.Z. has long hair, which played a part in a dream he had.

"In this dream I was walking around this

office building and there was this guy with long gray hair carrying a stack of papers, and he bumped into me. Papers went everywhere.

As I was helping him gather them up, I noticed they were all blank musical manuscript pages except for the first few layers, which had music written on them. I looked into the guy's face and it was my face. I interpreted that dream as telling me I've got a lot of music to write."

In the dream, a classical guitar piece, "Recuerdos de la Alhambra" by Francisco Tarrega, was playing over the loud speaker.

Two weeks after the dream, the university began a classical guitar course, limited to just 12 people.

When B.Z. showed up to talk to the teacher, he was told the class was full. B.Z. had his guitar with him, got it out and played

"Recuerdos de la Alhambra" for the teacher. B.Z. was admitted to the class.

He has made it living with music since graduating with a degree in music from UT.

Recently, he returned to the university to lecture and encourage music majors. He has composed music for movies, television shows, commercials and international sporting events.

He has a recording studio (Studio 132) and records musicians in the bay area of California, where he now lives.

His music has been on virtually every television network, and he has earned numerous awards, including six Emmys, for music he composed for television.

Every speaker in his studio has an Emmy statuette on it. He is a judge for the Grammys. For the past few years he has composed music for the World Poker Tour.

GUEST VIEW

DISD will send millions back to the state — and Texas needs to help schoolkids keep more of it

The Dallas Morning News

There's no way to sugarcoat the budget woes ahead for Dallas ISD and other North Texas school districts for the coming academic year.

Because of the state's convoluted school funding system, they'll join a growing list that will have to send tens of millions of dollars back to the state.

By the Texas Education Agency's count, 25 local districts are expected to surrender an estimated \$539 million through "recapture," designed to better balance school funding between "property-rich" and "property-poor" districts.

But the situation DISD finds itself in for the first time — 90 percent of its students are poor, but it has to relinquish at least \$39 million next year — couldn't have been what state lawmakers had in mind.

It's up to legislators to come out of public school finance hearings this summer with the goal of revisiting this policy and finally overhauling the system — so the very kids they were trying to help won't be hurt.

It can't come soon enough. For DISD, a combination of rising property taxes and declining enrollment means the district will lose as much as 5 percent of its budget in 2018-19.

The hit comes just as some of the district's most innovative programs — like pre-K and its teacher performance initiative — are starting to boost achievement.

Consider that Superintendent Michael Hinojosa projected a dramatic decrease in the number of "improvement required" schools, from 13 this past year to three. It's the teacher evaluation system, which puts the most effective instructors on campuses that need it most, that's credited

with turning around schools.

And in the spring, DISD saw across-the-board improvements on STAAR tests in reading and math.

Those results are noteworthy in a district where the vast majority of students are poor and carry many challenges into the classroom each day, but they also aren't enough.

DISD has a lot of work ahead of it, some of which will require serious investment.

That is why we've supported trustees calling a tax ratification election for November to increase the tax rate by 13 cents to bring in an additional \$116 million for programs.

Such funds would go a lot further if they didn't have to backfill funds lost to recapture.

We urge legislators to ensure that the state funding formula takes better account of the cost of educating kids who live in

poverty. They also have to figure out a way to get more money to districts that provide effective programs for early education and parental involvement that can help move the needle.

No matter the recommendations coming out of the legislative hearings, DISD will have to live with the current policy for the upcoming year.

That means it'll have to make some hard decisions.

We hope voters understand this reality and support officials who are willing to make them.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

Key legislators on the Texas Commission on Public School Finance include:

Rep. Dan Huberty, R-Houston: 512-463-0520

Sen. Paul Bettencourt, R-Houston: 512-463-0107

Email them or your representative by visiting senate.texas.gov or house.texas.gov.

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McCRARY

From 1B

of our churches and other tax-exempt organizations from my youth and through these last four decades that I have enjoyed life in West Texas. In addition, as an employee of Permian Basin Area Foundation, I have witnessed first-hand the invaluable impact of tax-exempt organizations.

On behalf of the numerous nonprofit organizations that I have had the privilege of serving and all those that provide services to the communities of our region, as well as those across our great nation, I appeal, specifically to Congressman Kevin Brady, 8th Congressional District of Texas, and chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, and to all others who can and have the will, to repeal these offensive and inane provisions in the Tax Act that you knowingly approved.

Chairman Brady, are you really serious about taxing tax-exempt organizations — our faithful churches and nonprofits that serve local communities across the U.S. every day?

Shame on you, Congressman Brady. Your lack of political will to protect those who serve an unaccountable good to our society and nation, for which government could never make up, all for the sake of taxing non-profits, is an unconscionable wrong. Now, it is time to correct it.

PHILLIPS

From 1B

watched?

That is the question that several economists set out to answer regarding governments and local daily newspapers.

Their research shows that the watchdog function of daily newspapers also provides a financial benefit to taxpayers in the public financing arena — and therefore, when newspapers close, taxpayers lose.

Despite that crucial role, daily newspapers are taking a financial beating as more Americans consume their news from digital sources that deliver news almost instantly to our mobile phones and devices.

Consider that on a typical weekday, three-quarters of U.S. Latinos get their news from internet sources, according to the Pew Center.

Put cable television, radio and various other news outlets in the diverse mix of news providers.

The more the better doesn't work as a check on local governments, however, because those news outlets are less likely to focus on local, investigative news compared with local newspapers.

Statesman city hall reporters aren't likely to bump into writers from the New York Times or Wall Street Journal on any regular basis at marathon council meetings, unless the issue has national appeal. As watchdogs go, daily newspapers are the pit bulls.

That is no surprise. But what did surprise me is learning that our watchdog function also provides a financial benefit to taxpayers.

Sounds remarkable, but it makes total sense, as the lead researcher, Dermot Murphy explained in a recent interview on NPR's "Here and Now."

"Our intuition was that if a local newspaper closes, it no longer is providing a crucial watchdog role for local governments," Murphy said. "When a local government is not being watched it is more likely to engage in bad behavior and just be more inefficient in general."

By way of credentials, Murphy, a co-author of the study, is an assistant professor of finance at

the University Illinois at Chicago.

The way it works, Murphy explained, is that local governments borrow money to finance public works projects — hospitals, roadways and schools — as the Austin Independent School District Board is doing following voters' approval last year of a \$1.1 billion bond package.

The idea is that if newspapers are not there to keep local governments in check, then the local government is considered a higher risk for a loan, and interests rates are higher, which means taxpayers pay more.

That concept was confirmed by a study Murphy and other economists conducted of borrowing costs in the United States for the period from 1996 to 2015.

The team identified newspaper closures, then cross referenced that data with government borrowing cost information during the same period.

They found that local government borrowing costs increased significantly for counties that

experienced a newspaper closure, compared to nearby counties with similar demographic and economic characters without newspaper closures. Interest rates went up about .1 percentage point on average, Murphy said, or about \$650,000 per issuance. In one case, that amounted to \$70 on average per taxpayer.

Another interesting finding that emerged after a newspaper shut down was the increase in county government employee wages (as a percentage of all wages in a county, where a newspaper closed).

Murphy added that while local television news outlets can do some things as watchdogs, they "are spread pretty thin."

The study by Murphy offers another reason we still need vigilant watchdogs.

At the state health and human services department, watchdog coverage led to big changes in personnel and procedures following the scandal uncovered by the Statesman.

Last year, watchdog coverage forced the

Austin City Council to tell the public the names of the finalists being considered for the key post of city manager.

And while the film soci-

ety is not a government, it knows there is a watchdog at its door.

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AUGUST 16, 2018
MIDLAND COUNTY HORSESHOE PAVILION

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ELLEN K. RAMSEY
MARY ELIZABETH 'IBBY' WHITAKER HARDIE AWARD

TRIBUTE TO ANN BRADFORD
BY KRISTI EDWARDS, CENTERS CEO

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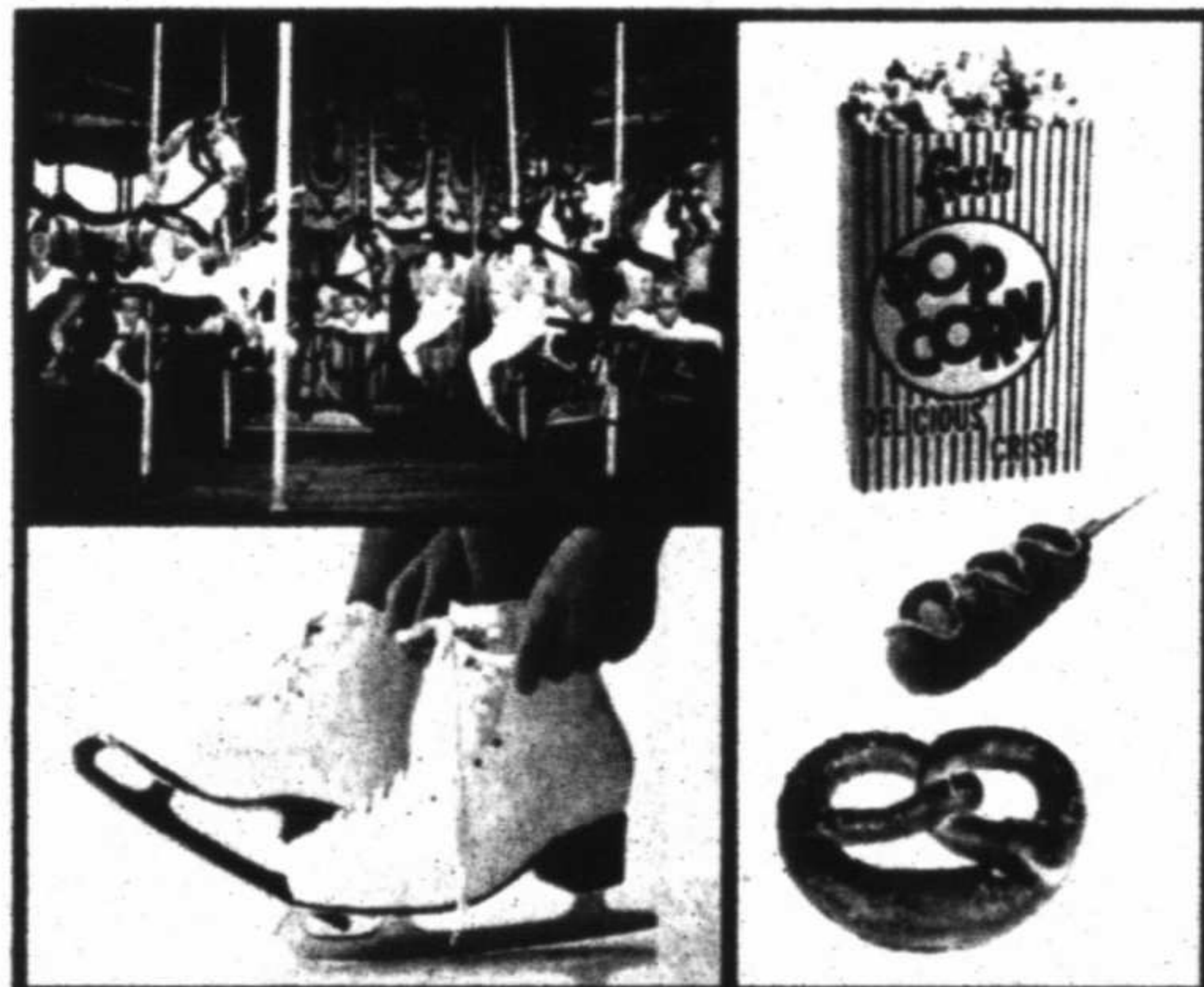
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Deluxe with rice	Deluxe with rice	Deluxe with rice
Grilled with mushroom	Butter and fruit	Roasted potatoes
Chick with rice	Chick with rice	Chick with rice
Deluxe with rice	Deluxe with rice	Deluxe with rice



OPINION

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Sunday, July 15, 2018 | Page 6B

Business Insider gives in to social justice mob

A fascinating series of controversies erupted last week, and they had nothing to do with Donald Trump or Robert Mueller.

Business Insider ran a column defending actress Scarlett Johansson from fierce criticism for her decision to play a transgender man in a forthcoming film called "Rub and Tug." The writer, Daniella Greenbaum, took the apparently outrageous position that actors can pretend to be people they are not. Or, as Greenbaum put it, "Scarlett Johansson is the latest target of the social-justice warrior mob. The actress is being chastised for, well, acting."

Ironically, Greenbaum's column rendered this claim outdated, because by writing that, Greenbaum herself became an even more recent victim of the social-justice warrior mob. In response to complaints, internal and external, Business Insider pulled the column from its website and invented some new editorial standards to justify the decision.

So now we have three separate controversies: 1) Is it OK for non-transgender actors to play transgender people? 2) Is it OK for people to defend said actors? 3) Is it OK for publications to retroactively memory-hole said defenses.

JONAH GOLDBERG
Tribune News Agency



Let's look at them in order. The answer to the first question is at once simple and complicated. As a matter of law and common sense alike, of course actors can pretend to be anyone. The law is clear-cut (for now at least), and common sense tells us that this is in fact what actors do for a living.

But to be fair to the other side of the argument, such complaints are nothing new. Whenever some minority group fights its way into social acceptance — and into the sort of political and cultural power that comes with such acceptance — these controversies emerge. White actors playing African-Americans is culturally taboo today, and rightly so. But one of the reasons such minstrel-show spectacles are in poor taste is that historically they were a form of racist mockery and disrespect. That's not applicable here. Trace

Lysette, a transgender actress who plays a transgender character on the Amazon series "Transparent," didn't protest the casting of Johansson because the character was an insult to the transgendered. Lysette was offended that Johansson was taking work from people like her.

Lysette complained on Twitter that "... not only do you play us and steal our narrative and our opportunity but you pat yourselves on the back with trophies and accolades for mimicking what we have lived ... so twisted. I'm so done."

This strikes me as silly. Not long ago, simply calling attention to the existence of the transgendered was deemed a victory for their cause. In 1999, Hillary Swank received massive critical praise — and an Oscar — for playing a transgender woman in "Boys Don't Cry" (a movie I despise). No one complained about stolen narratives then. (By the way, did anyone complain when Charlton Heston, an Episcopalian, stole the most famous Jewish narrative of all time by playing Moses?)

But we have passed the awareness-raising phase, and now the issue is about cultural clout. The transgendered are following in the footsteps of other identity-politics groups that want to use their cultural power to carve out more roles for their

members. They're free to do so, of course. But it's worth noting that it is hardly outrageous for a movie studio to prefer an international movie star like Johansson over an obscure transgender actor.

Regardless, this cultural power play is the real issue, and it is the only relevant prism for questions two and three.

There's nothing remotely beyond the pale about what Greenbaum wrote. Her sin was simply to point out the obvious, which is often considered a great offense without actually being offensive. That is why what she calls the "social-justice warrior mob" turned on her and Business Insider.

Again, no laws were broken. Greenbaum has a right to say what she believes to be true, and Business Insider has every right to publish (or unpublish) what it wants.

If Business Insider had simply opted to reject the piece at first, that would have been fine, and it would have spared itself a lot of embarrassment. Instead, its editors opted to cave to political pressure. Its surrender to the mob tells us a lot about the power of the social-justice warrior mob and the weakness of Business Insider's editors.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

OUR VIEW

Taxing entities need to produce budgets that deal with growth

Budget season is upon us. Taxing entities will be presenting for approval their budgets for the next fiscal year. For many in Midland, budget season represents the worst time of year. Those people worry about the possible impact on their tax bill. We get their concerns; we pay taxes, too.

This budget season will be interesting because it seems as if entities are taking more seriously the notion that this is a growing community. Maybe it is because they see the record sales tax collections or housing developments to the north that are pushing all the way to the Martin County line. We don't know why this year seems different with elected officials, but we appreciate the sentiment.

Those representatives not planning for a larger Midland will make our shortcomings much worse. Decisions to not spend money on infrastructure — specifically roads and utilities in northeast Midland — will lead to an increase in the inevitable price tag and an increased burden on people already here in the form of higher housing costs, rents and future property taxes.

Our message to taxing entities is a clear one. If you spend money in an appropriate manner to help alleviate the real pains of a community growing to and past 150,000 inside city limits, you likely won't have any arguments from us. If we need to spend millions to bring more housing online, we get it. If we need to incentivize apartment building — or at least expedite the process to get more units online quicker — we welcome the discussion because we want to see action. We know the price tag will be larger than some will be comfortable with, but there are no discounts for those behind the eight ball.

For what it's worth, we have seen initial reports on the city budget, and officials appear to have a budget that can help deal with issues of a growing city. Could it be more aggressive in getting our community back on track? Yes, but we will take what we can get.

For Midland residents, now is the time for you to weigh in. Check out the proposed budget and have conversations with your representatives (no matter the taxing entity). The city of Midland gets a lion's share of the attention during this period, but let's make sure we are communicating with everyone.

At a recent Midland Development Corp. meeting, it was reported that more than 80 teachers told central office that the high cost of living was the reason for their decision to resign and look for employment elsewhere. Quite honestly, we wouldn't be surprised if that number doesn't get higher.

The housing issue won't be solved with comments such as teachers who feel the pain of the housing crunch should move in with retired teachers around the community. We also can't solve budget issues by not being informed. Be educated on the budgets and then come to the table with your ideas to be more efficient and more effective.

The process deserves it.

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Trump is strengthening NATO

As President Trump put Germany and other allies on notice for the harm they are doing to NATO with their failure to spend adequately on our common defense, Democrats in Washington came to Germany's defense. "President Trump's brazen insults and denigration of one of America's most steadfast allies, Germany, is an embarrassment," Senate Minority Leader Charles E. Schumer and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi said in a joint statement.

Sorry, Trump is right. The real embarrassment is that Germany, one of the wealthiest countries in Europe, spends just 1.24 percent of its gross domestic product on defense — in the bottom half of NATO allies. (The U.S. spends 3.5 percent of GDP on its military.) A study by McKinsey & Co. notes that about 60 percent of Germany's Eurofighter and Tornado fighter jets and about 80 percent of its Sea Lynx helicopters are unusable. According to Deutsche Welle, a German parliamentary investigation found that "at the end of 2017, no submarines and none of the air force's 14 large transport planes were available for deployment due to repairs," and "a Defense Ministry paper revealed German soldiers did not have enough protective vests, winter clothing or tents to adequately take part in a major NATO mission." Not enough tents?

To meet its promised NATO commitments, Germany needs to spend \$28 billion more on defense annually. Apparently Germany can't come up with the money, but it can send billions of dollars to Russia — the country NATO was created to protect against — for natural gas and support a new pipeline that will make Germany and Eastern European allies even more vulnerable to Moscow. Sadly, Germany is not alone. Belgium, where NATO is headquartered, spends just 0.9 percent of GDP on defense — and fully one-third of its meager defense budget is spent on pensions. European NATO allies have about 1.8 million troops, but less than a third are deployable and just 6 percent for any sustained period.

When Trump says NATO is "obsolete," he is correct — literally.

This is not a new problem. I was in the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001, and vividly recall how, when it came time to take military action in Afghanistan, only a handful of allies had any useful war-fighting capabilities they could contribute during the critical early stages of Operation Enduring Freedom. At NATO's 2002 Prague summit, allies pledged to address these deficiencies by spending at least 2 percent of GDP on defense and investing that money in more usable capabilities. Instead, defense investments by European allies declined from 1.9 percent of GDP in 2000-2004 to 1.7

percent five years later, dropping further to 1.4 percent by 2015.

Little surprise that when NATO intervened in Libya a decade after 9/11, The Post reported, "Less than a month into the Libyan conflict, NATO is running short of precision bombs, highlighting the limitations of Britain, France and other European countries in sustaining even a relatively small military action over an extended period of time." An alliance whose founding purpose is to deter Russian aggression could not sustain a limited bombing campaign against a far weaker adversary.

President Barack Obama called NATO allies "free riders," and President George W. Bush urged allies to "increase their defense investments," both to little effect. But when Trump refused to immediately affirm that the United States would meet its Article 5 commitment to defend a NATO ally, NATO allies agreed to boost spending by \$12 billion last year. That is a drop in the bucket: McKinsey calculated that allies need to spend \$107 billion more each year to meet their commitments. Since polite pressure by his predecessors did not work, Trump is digging in on a harder line: On Thursday he suggested NATO members double their defense spending targets to 4 percent of GDP.

This is not a gift to Russia, as his critics have alleged. The last thing Putin wants is for Trump to succeed in getting NATO to spend more on defense. And if allies are concerned about getting tough with Russia, there is an easy way to do so: invest in the capabilities NATO needs to deter and defend against Russian aggression.

Trump's hard line also does not signal that he considers NATO irrelevant. If Trump thought NATO was useless, he would not waste his time on it. But if allies don't invest in real, usable military capabilities, NATO will become irrelevant. An alliance that cannot effectively join the fight when one of its members comes under attack or runs out of munitions in the middle of a military intervention is, by definition, irrelevant.

NATO needs some tough love, and Trump is delivering it. Thanks to him, the alliance will be stronger as a result.

MARC THIESSEN
Washington Post Writers Group



editor and more at

From the Left | Doonesbury



From the Right | Mallard Fillmore



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

City's road priorities seem to have changed

As we look at the sorry condition that our older residential (emphasis on residential) streets are in, it occurs to us that we haven't seen the extensive annual chip seal/seal coat project in a number of years, anywhere in town.

It seems like the city used to do this in a quarter of our town every year. So, what changed?

We are concerned that we will soon have the same situation on our residential streets as we now have on the arterials. Based upon our experience, we have to wonder how long it will be before we start seeing a "residential street maintenance" assessment on our municipal utility bill, or yet,

another multimillion-dollar bond issue.

From the American Public Works Association: "Maintaining streets when they are still in good condition ultimately costs less over their lifetime than waiting to fix roads that have fallen into poor condition. In other words, the proactive approach of routine pavement management means less money wasted on frequent roadway reconstruction, and a potential savings of millions of dollars." Well, duh.

Various APWA articles confirm that chip seal is still a viable (economical) alternative to extend the life of a roadway.

Other than a difference of priorities of city management, this citizen has to wonder what the compelling reason is that this maintenance is no longer being

performed locally.

Shelley Wood

Be stewards of life to keep 'cancer' from returning

There are signs I see as I drive into Midland, every once in a while, that say, "Keep Midland Beautiful." Being from out of town, a couple of thoughts run through my head:

■ People must really care about this place.

■ Maybe I need to help keep this place beautiful.

I go through Odessa and other towns much for work and recreation. Midland is a nice place, really.

But there was a thing that kept Midland from being completely beautiful. Like a pretty face,

but suddenly there is this ugly blotch, dark and growing. A great cause for concern really, enough to make one run to the doctor and specialists for help. I would go a few years back, called in by specialists to this specific place in town. It was a health concern, yes. This place was causing the health of the city to deteriorate. It was as if a growing cancer. Right downtown, right there a little off to one side, was a place that said they were a clinic, but it was a place to get rid of pregnancy, a child. It seemed now, that simultaneously, businesses around were shutting doors. And in the news, it seemed the city was calling for a rejuvenation of downtown. But it couldn't until, after many efforts and prayers, the clinic shut down. Soon thereafter, rejuvenation

efforts began to take place and were taking root.

Then, they came back; the cancer reared its head and opened up shop on the other side of downtown, close to the hospital (for good reason, many innocent women wind up heading to the ER after some of these "procedures" occur). Surrounding businesses were closing doors again. But we prayed, and the cancer went away; they closed the doors. Thank you, Choose Life, Midland. Thank you, Lord.

There is a nice convention center coming up downtown, and more life now, no more death.

Recent news is that the cancer is trying to come back. Let's keep it away by being good stewards of life. It is our place.

Adrian Gonzalez
Andrews

MITCHELL
SCHNURMAN
The Dallas Morning News



Texas wants to kill local efforts to require paid sick time for all workers

Is paid sick time a right or a privilege?

That's the crux of a political fight taking shape in Dallas, Austin and San Antonio, and headed to the Texas Legislature next year.

Federal law doesn't require companies to provide paid time off for being sick, but 10 states have adopted such provisions since 2011, and over 80 percent of full-time workers have the benefit.

Still, many fall through the cracks, especially low-income and part-time workers. An estimated 300,000 in Dallas don't have paid sick time, and many cannot afford to stay home to recover or care for a sick child.

"It's often a choice between getting well or paying for the groceries," said Jose Garza, executive director of the Workers Defense Project, which is leading a coalition pushing the initiative.

On the most basic level, paid sick time is about strengthening the safety net. Without it, some of the most vulnerable residents suffer, chipping away at public health and the economy.

On another level, the issue is about local control and state preemption. The Texas attorney general argued that state law supersedes local ordinances on paid sick time, and he's fighting Austin's recently adopted plan and warning San Antonio not to follow that path.

In Dallas, business and political leaders often tout the importance of local control, from adding paid tollways to regulating payday lenders to embracing an anti-discrimination ordinance. Will they support this policy?

That's still to be determined, and it could become one test of how far the region will go to address problems faced by the working poor.

Worker advocates want to require all private employers to offer paid sick time — up to six days a year for small companies and up to eight days for those with over 15 employees. Thousands of people in Dallas have signed petitions to put the measure on the November ballot or encourage local elected officials to simply adopt the plan.

On Thursday, the Dallas city secretary was still checking signatures to see whether there were enough verified residents — 53,700 — to move forward with the process. She said an official count would be released soon.

Either way, the issue is not going away. In February, Austin approved a paid sick time ordinance slated to start later this year.

Several business groups filed suit and Attorney General Ken Paxton intervened, too. Others pledged to support a bill next year to prevent cities from enacting such local laws.

What are they scared of? "It puts a lot of burden on employers and limits their ability to hire," said Jeff Moseley, CEO of the Texas Association of Business.

Most companies handle the task routinely, especially if they're employing high-skilled workers.

In finance and real estate, 96 percent of employees have paid sick time, and in professional and technical services,

87 percent have it, according to data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The costs are relatively small for private sector employers: less than 1 percent of compensation went toward paid sick time in March 2018, the agency reported.

But some companies would have to deal with complications if workers spent time in Austin and the guaranteed benefit was greater there, Moseley said. Businesses that oppose local ordinances often cite the difficulty in meeting a patchwork of laws.

The business group opposed Austin's local rules on ride-sharing services, which had driven out Uber and Lyft, and Denton's limits on hydraulic fracturing, which unsettled the oil and gas industry. Ultimately, the Legislature overruled both.

To Moseley, mandating paid sick time fits the same pattern: "It's overreach," he said.

Beyond preemption, does the group support the spirit of extending paid sick time to all workers?

"We're OK with the spirit of the business community deciding how best to treat its employees," Moseley said. "Let the marketplace determine it."

The job market has strengthened significantly in the last five years, and the unemployment rate in Texas has dropped to the lowest level in decades. Not surprisingly, more U.S. workers are getting paid sick time.

From 2012 to 2017, the share of full-time workers getting the benefit rose 6 percentage points, to 81 percent, according to federal figures. The share of construction workers with paid sick time increased 11 percentage points, to just over half.

To Moseley, that's evidence that the market is working. To Garza of the Workers Defense Project, that proves how much remains to be done.

The economy is near full employment and hundreds of thousands of Dallas workers struggle to pay the bills. And they can't take off for illness.

"We don't have a crisis of jobs in Dallas," Garza said. "We have a crisis of good jobs."

In several states that adopted paid sick time, voters approved a statewide measure that included raising the minimum wage. In 2016, nearly 60 percent in both red-state Arizona and blue-state Washington backed the proposals.

Garza said a statewide initiative wasn't an option unless the Legislature teed up the measure, and he doesn't see that coming from the state's conservative leaders.

But citizens can petition local governments, and he's eager to see the paid sick time issue on the November ballot. Voters in Dallas and San Antonio could send a message and set the stage for the debate that's coming to the legislature.

"We need to have a conversation about what it means to work and have a good job in Texas," Garza said.

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SUMMERS TO BUREAU ABOUT AGENCE,
DIPLO



GUEST VIEW

Money talks — Tech veterinary medicine school is needed

Amarillo Globe-News

Texas A&M System Chancellor John Sharp is of the opinion that the state of Texas does not need a new veterinary medicine school.

Sharp more or less said this in a recent column he penned in Dallas Morning News.

Sharp described a proposed Texas Tech veterinary medicine school in Amarillo as "throwing tax dollars away on something that is not needed."

Hmm. Really? Follow the money.

If Sharp really thinks the Lone Star State does not need a new veterinary medicine school, why is Texas A&M pumping millions of dollars into veterinarian-related programs?

As the Texas Legislature takes up the issue of funding Tech's new veterinary medicine school next year, lawmakers need to consider this: Sharp himself wrote in the aforementioned column

that Texas A&M requested \$115 million for a veterinary education building in 2011, but the request did not make it through the legislature.

Sharp also pointed out Texas A&M's plan to "expand its veterinary efforts to four Texas A&M System universities, including West Texas A&M University in Canyon."

It has been reported in Lubbock Avalanche-Journal that Texas A&M plans to invest \$90 million in a vet program in Canyon.

This is a significant chunk of change for veterinarian-related programs that, according to Sharp and Texas A&M, are not needed.

See the disconnect here, if not the irony?

The fact of the matter is Texas does need a new veterinary medicine school, especially to meet the needs of those who make a living with large animals in rural areas — which means a good chunk of the Texas Panhandle and West

Texas. Sharp is playing politics — pure and simple. He is trying to protect what is more or less Texas A&M's monopoly on veterinary medicine schools in the state. In other words, Sharp is not looking at what is best for the state, but what is best for him and his institution.

Tech has moved ahead and addressed a need for a new veterinary medicine school in Texas, which has only one university-led veterinary medicine school. It happens to belong to Texas A&M.

Amarillo has already stepped to the plate by promising \$69 million to cover part of Tech's \$90 million goal for the school. And land for the school has been donated.

As usual, politics is at play here, and the political battle will be waged in the Texas Legislature.

Lawmakers need to do what is best for the state, not one individual institution. Lawmakers need to consider whether there is a need for a new veterinary medicine school in Texas, and we contend that there is. And Texas Tech has a plan to address this need.

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Making oil companies pay for climate change isn't the right move for science or the Constitution

By Donald J. Kochan
Los Angeles Times

The federal courts are not meant to provide a remedy for every ill of the world, including climate change. In such matters, we need to rely on the political branches to take charge.

That was the primary message out of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California when Judge William Alsup dismissed Oakland's and San Francisco's high-profile lawsuits against big oil companies.

The novel lawsuits attracted a great deal of attention in the spring, when Alsup ordered an unusual climate science tutorial for himself in the courtroom. In the end, the decisive issue wasn't science, however, but whether the federal common law of public nuisance could carry the cities' claims. He ruled that the cities couldn't retroactively pin the costs of climate change on BP, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Exxon Mobil and Royal Dutch Shell for their past lawful behavior (selling oil).

Disappointed environmental activists. But the court was right to focus on the principle that the elected branches of government, not the courts, are the proper channels for addressing climate change. In his well-reasoned opinion, Alsup refused to go along with the cities' regulation-by-litigation strategy.

In a key passage, the court explained, "This order fully accepts the vast scientific consensus"

ANALYSIS

regarding climate change and its harmful impacts, including sea-level rise. "But questions of how to appropriately balance these worldwide negatives against the worldwide positives of the energy itself, and of how to allocate the pluses and minuses among the nations of the world, demand the expertise of our environmental agencies, our diplomats, our executive, and at least the Senate."

The heated climate change debate too often devolves into polarized rhetoric, so Alsup's juxtaposition of these two ideas is important to consider. He is saying climate change is real and should be addressed — and the Constitution and prudence tell us whose job that is.

A belief in the proper institutional roles is not a disbelief in the science, or a denial of the urgency of the problem. Instead, this ruling says that federal common law should not be expanded by judicial decree simply to satiate a desire for blame or for a deep pocket. Asking judges to stay neutral and refrain from policymaking from the bench protects the interests of individuals of every political disposition.

This lawsuit and others still pending — which should similarly be dismissed — are likely counterproductive too, the court explained. "Nuisance suits in various United States judicial districts regarding conduct worldwide are far less likely to solve the problem and, indeed, could interfere with reaching

a worldwide consensus."

Especially troublesome to the court was this: The plaintiff cities wanted the court to declare as wrong the extraction and production of fossil fuels around the world over decades. But producing and selling oil and gas have always been considered lawful. It also would have been improper to apply U.S. law beyond our borders, which would risk interfering with sensitive political, diplomatic and foreign affairs issues connected to energy and environmental policy.

The U.S. Constitution creates separate lanes of powers. Courts must stay in their lane; deciding actual cases dealing only with things that were known as wrongs at the time of their commission. The rule of law frowns on retroactive liability, and the separation of powers forbids judges from making policy, especially by imposing new regulations on previously lawful activity. The order reflects fidelity to these fundamental tenets of our constitutional structure.

Constitutional institutions matter. We should guard them from being corrupted and demeaned. Alsup's order is a refreshing example against the erosion of the courts into political debating societies.

Donald J. Kochan is a law professor teaching environmental, natural resources and administrative law at Chapman University.

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Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Sunday, July 15, 2018 | Section C

Covering RockHounds a highlight in time as sports writer

I remember the first time I walked into the Midland RockHounds clubhouse in April of 2015.

Less than a year removed from my college graduation, the feeling was surreal. I had left the University of Texas at Austin with a bachelor's degree in journalism and a passionate dream to one day become a full-time major league baseball writer for a major publication.

I couldn't believe where I was in the moment. With my press pass around my neck, I looked around and saw some of the Oakland Athletics' top prospects at the time — Matt Olson, Chad Pinder, Ryon Healy — within a stone's throw of where I stood.

Following batting practice and fielding drills on a hot afternoon, the Midland players were just passing

WILL KORN
wkorn@mrt.com



the time by playing cards, joking around, watching TV or wolfing down their pre-game meal. "This is it," I nervously said to myself, still in some degree of shock that I even had this opportunity. "This is Double-A baseball. Just like these guys, I'm halfway to the majors!"

I was getting my first taste of life in a professional clubhouse and began interacting with players who I believed might cross paths with me

again in the future. After my pre-game interviews, I'd head up to the press box, set up my materials and eagerly wait for first pitch a couple of hours later.

Then, I got to spend the evening enjoying a Texas League baseball game under the calming West Texas sky.

Not many people in this world can say they get paid to watch and write about a game they love. I was one of the lucky ones and on that Opening Night of 2015, I kept thinking, "Boy, what a way to start my journey as a baseball writer."

Over the next three and a half years, I spent a fair part of each summer out at Security Bank Ballpark covering the RockHounds and savoring every

Please see KORN/2C



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

The RockHounds' Sean Murphy is congratulated by his South teammates after he knocked eight home runs to win the home run derby June 28 before the Texas League All-Star Game at Security Bank Ballpark.

Wimbledon champion



Ben Curtis/Associated Press

Angelique Kerber celebrates with the trophy after defeating Serena Williams in their women's singles final match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships on Saturday, in London.

Kerber tops Williams for 3rd Grand Slam title

By Howard Fendrich
Associated Press

LONDON — Angelique Kerber was not about to be overwhelmed by the setting or the stakes in this Wimbledon final. She knew exactly what to expect — and what to do — against Serena Williams.

Two years after losing to Williams with a title on the line at Centre Court, Kerber came through. So steady, so patient, so accurate throughout, she never really gave Williams much of a chance this time, putting together a 6-3, 6-3 victory Saturday for her first championship at the All England Club and third major overall.

"I think it's the experience. You have to go through all the things — the good things, the bad things — and then you need to learn," said Kerber, the first German to win Wimbledon since Steffi Graf in 1996.

"I know that against Serena, I have

to play my best tennis, especially in the important moments," said Kerber, who won the Australian Open and U.S. Open in 2016, but was the runner-up to Williams at Wimbledon that season, "especially in the important moments."

That's just what she did. "Angelique played really well," Williams said. "She played out of her mind."

Kerber made only five unforced errors the entire match, 19 fewer than Williams. Perhaps more impressive was this: She broke Williams in 4 of 9 service games.

In doing so, Kerber prevented Williams from claiming an eighth title at Wimbledon and 24th from all Grand Slam tournaments, which would have equaled Margaret Court's record. As things stand, Williams holds the mark for the half-century of professional tennis, one ahead of Kerber's idol, Graf. Williams gave birth only 101/2 months ago, then was treated for blood

clots. She wore special compression leggings as a precaution during Wimbledon, just the fourth tournament of her comeback.

After all the time away, Williams spoke about being impressed with herself for just reaching the final. She also wanted to win, of course.

"To all the moms out there, I was playing for you today — and I tried," said the 36-year-old American, her voice shaking during the trophy ceremony.

Kerber addressed Williams during the on-court interviews, saying: "You're such an inspiration for everybody, for all of us. I'm sure you will have your next Grand Slam title soon. I'm really, really sure."

The final started more than two hours late, because they had to wait for the end of Novak Djokovic's five-set victory over Rafael Nadal in a men's

Please see KERBER/5C

A youthful France faces veteran-laden Croatia for World Cup

By Graham Dunbar
Associated Press

MOSCOW — France is the established power with a young team full of speed and skill. Croatia has the veterans that have shown they can never be counted out.

The two sides will meet today in the World Cup final, with France going for its second title in its third final in 20 years. Croatia, a country that only gained independence in 1991, will be playing in its first.

"Tradition is there to be demolished," Croatia coach Zlatko Dalic said Saturday. "I'm not interested who is the opponent."

Most consider France to be the favorite for the match at the Luzhniki Stadium, just like two years ago when the country's national team faced Portugal in the European Championship final at home.

But perhaps feeling complacent after beating Germany in the semifinals, France flopped.

"I don't think it's going to happen again," said France captain Hugo Lloris, who has been stellar in goal during this year's tournament. "We are far from thinking on our side that we have already reached the goal."

Lloris was the goalkeeper in that 1-0 loss in Paris, facing a Portugal team that had reached the final after some extra-time victories.

Croatia has done the same this year, needing penalty kicks to beat Denmark and host Russia before defeating England in extra time in the semifinals.

France coach Didier Deschamps has made some changes to his team, however. Fourteen, to be exact, from the 23 players who made up the squad two years ago.

Another factor in France's favor is rest. The French had only two days of rest between the Euro 2016 semifinals and the final. This time, they have four full days to recover, one more than Croatia.

"A lot of things have changed," Lloris said. "Especially when it comes to recovery and preparation time."

Croatia has also played a lot more soccer in its six matches in Russia. With its last three matches going to extra time, the team has played a full 90 minutes more than France. There was also the added stress of two penalty shootouts.

That's all behind them.

"Now, there is no pressure," Dalic said through a translator. "Simply this is the

Please see WORLD CUP/6C



Martub Moleman/Associated Press

France's Przemyslaw Person practices Saturday during France's official training on the eve of the final match between France and Croatia at the 2018 World Cup in Moscow, Russia.

Bregman embracing All-Star attention

By Kristie Rieken
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Houston third baseman Alex Bregman is a first time All-Star, will appear in his first Home Run Derby next week and has tried his hand at modeling to help promote a new art, fashion and music



event during All-Star week called MLB Assembly.

The Astros' rising star is embracing all these new experiences and can't wait to soak up everything as the

festivities near.

"It's going to be sweet," Bregman said. "It's going to be fun definitely. I never would have dreamed about being in the derby and I especially never dreamed of being all over this fashion as well."

Bregman did the shoot for MLB Assembly in May and his images are featured as part of the first-time event at District Pier at the Wharf in Washington which began Friday and runs through Monday. It's highlighted by MLB-themed collaborations from fashion designers including Fear of God, Billionaire Boys Club, Public School and Mitchell & Ness and includes musical performances by artist

such as Wale, TJ Mizell and Blocboy JB.

Bregman loved stepping out of his comfort zone for the shoot and was happy with the way the pictures turned out.

"I've never done anything like that before, but it was fun to go be a fashion model for a day," he said. "It was different, but it was fun to be a part of and I enjoyed it."

The 24-year-old Bregman, who is in his third season in the majors, was eager to be involved with something that highlights major league baseball style after watching the growth and popularity of the fashion and style of NBA players over the last few years.

"It's cool to be able to connect with the fashion, art and music," Bregman said.

"I personally love the way the NBA's really connected to all that stuff. They have the cameras when everyone walks in and they're all trying to show off their best fashion, whether it's (Russell) Westbrook or (James) Harden or LeBron (James), I think it's really cool."

"There's a lot of young players in baseball and I know a lot of those players are into that stuff so it's pretty cool what MLB's trying to do," he continued.

Bregman says his style is constantly changing and that

Please see BREGMAN/3C

'HOUNDWATCH



SATURDAY'S SCORE
Corpus Christi 6, Midland 3
TODAY'S GAME
Midland at San Antonio
6:05 p.m.
INTERNET
www.mlb.com
RECORDS
Midland 9-15
San Antonio 11-10

Table with 5 columns: Saturday, Today, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. Rows for Corpus Christi and Midland scores.

DAILY RUNDOWN

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ON THE AIR

Area Football League Baltimore at Philadelphia, 5 p.m., CBSN
Golf
EPGA: Aberdeen Standard Investments Scottish Open, Final Round, 9 a.m., GOLF
PGA: John Deere Classic, Final Round, Noon, GOLF
PGA: John Deere Classic, Final Round, 2 p.m., CBS
American Century Championship, Final Round, 2 p.m., NBC
LPGA: Marathon Classic, Final Round, 2 p.m., GOLF
2018 Senior Players Championship, Final Round, 3 p.m., FS1
2018 Senior Players Championship, Final Round, 4 p.m., GOLF
Web.com: Utah Championship, Final Round, 6 p.m., GOLF
High School Basketball EYBL Championship Peach Jam Championship, 1 p.m., ESPN
Lacrosse
FIL World Lacrosse Championship: USA vs. Canada, 11 a.m., ESPN2
Major League Baseball Texas at Baltimore, Noon, FSNW
NY Yankees at Cleveland, Noon, TBS
Detroit at Houston, 1 p.m., ATTSW
SiriusXM All-Stars Future Game, 3 p.m., MLB
Men's Soccer
World Cup, Championship: France vs. Croatia, 10 a.m., FOX, TELE
MLS: Atlanta United FC vs. Seattle Sounders, 1 p.m., FOX, FXDEP
Ecuador Serie A Liga de Quilón vs. Deportivo Cuenca, 3 p.m., GoTV
MLS: Los Angeles FC vs.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES — Traded RHP Chance Seaman to Seattle (L). Recalled C Austin Wynne from Norfolk.
BOSTON RED SOX — Recalled LHP Bobby Poyner from Pawtucket (L). Recalled LHP Reddy Scott from Pawtucket.
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Recalled CCF Francisco Mejia from Columbus (L). Recalled RHP Shane Bieber to Columbus.
HOUSTON ASTROS — Activated RHP Grant Cole from the injured list. Recalled OF Jose Moncada from PCL.
MINNESOTA TWINS — Placed RHP Aaron Stepien on the 10-day DL, retroactive to July 11. Recalled RHP Francisco Lirio from Rochester (L).
ORLANDO FLA — Recalled RHP Ryan Suarez from Nashville (L). Selected the contract of RHP Santiago Casilla for assignment. Recalled RHP Ryan Cull to Nashville.
SEATTLE MARINERS — Selected the contract of RHP Matt Folds from Arkansas (L).

LOCAL SPORTS

SCRIVNER
COMMENTS TO
BETHANY COLLEGE
Midland High grad and former Midland College infielder Braden Scrivner announced on Twitter on Friday night that he has committed to play baseball at Bethany College, an NAIA program in Lindsborg, Kansas.
Scrivner played the last two seasons with the Chaparrals. This past season, Scrivner battled injuries and was limited to 23 games. He batted .217 with two home runs and 10 RBIs for an MC team that went 37-22 overall.
DRIVER FINISHES 2ND ALL AROUND COUNCIL
SHAWNEE, Okla. — Garden City's Jordan Driver finished second at the All Around Council during the 2018 International Finals Youth Rodeo that took place at the Heart of Oklahoma Exposition Center.
Driver finished with \$3,919.39 total in prize money, second to Cashen Turner, of Edmond, Oklahoma, who won \$4,207.44.
Driver finished third in pole bending with an average score of 59.875 for \$3,578.40, while she won \$340.99 in goat tying.

WNBA GLANCE

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Rows for Eastern Conference (Washington, Atlanta, Connecticut, Chicago, New York, Indiana) and Western Conference (Seattle, Phoenix, Los Angeles).

MLS GLANCE

Table with columns: Conference, Team, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Rows for Eastern Conference (Atlanta United FC, New York City FC, New York, Columbus, New England, Montreal, Philadelphia, Chicago, Orlando City, Seattle FC, DC United) and Western Conference (FC Dallas, Los Angeles FC, Sporting Kansas City, Real Salt Lake, Portland, LA Galaxy).

Midland teams split on Saturday at state tourney

From staff reports

ABILENE — Midland Little League teams went 1-1 after Saturday's action at the Texas West State Little League Tournament at Kirby Park.
The Mid City All Stars defeated Fort Worth University, 9-6, in the 8-10 year-old bracket, while the Northern All Stars fell 7-6 to San Antonio McAllister Park in the 9-11 year-old bracket.
Mid City scored four unanswered runs to defeat Fort Worth University. Each team scored five runs in the first inning before Fort Worth took the lead with a run in the second. Af-

ter a scoreless third, Mid City scored a run in the fourth and three more in the fifth.
Mid City moves on to face either East Brownsville or McAllister Park at 6 p.m. today in a state semifinal game.
McAllister, the two-time defending Texas West State 9-11 year-old champion, had a 2-1 lead against Northern after two innings before scoring four runs in the top of the third to take a 6-1 advantage.
Northern responded by scoring five unanswered runs over the next three innings to tie the game, before McAllister pushed across the game-winning run in the top of the sixth.

Northern collected nine hits, led by Cole Neatherlin and Crue Collie with two hits each.
Northern falls into the loser's bracket where it will face either Abilene Dixie or East Brownsville at 3:30 p.m. today in an elimination game.
Mid City's Intermediate team is already in the state title game after defeating Abilene Wylie (6-3) and Corpus Christi Oil Belt (13-2).
Mid City will face Abilene Wylie in a rematch at 9 a.m. today in the championship as Wylie survived out of the loser's bracket. Wylie will have to beat Mid City twice today to win the title.

KORN

From IC

minute of it. I got to know many of the players and managers who came and went through the A's minor league system — a few of whom are now making an impact on Oakland's or other major league rosters.
I never had the opportunity to cover any of the team's postseason games. But I was thrilled to be a part of history, as the RockHounds became the second TL team since 1926 to win four consecutive league titles (2014-17).
As I walked into the

press box for the final time Saturday, nearly four hours before what is likely the last RockHounds game I will cover, I took plenty of time to reflect on these memories — far too many to list in this space.
There was a time when writing about baseball — the players, their stories, the joys and heartbreaks of the game itself — was my life's mission. But as some of you might have seen on my Twitter account Saturday morning, that time has passed and I am about to embark on a new adventure outside of the journalism

industry.
Friday will be my last day at the Reporter-Telegram and with that, I bid farewell to the RockHounds and to Security Bank Ballpark.
It was more than a fun ride and it was an experience I will never forget — one that I will surely tell my children and grandchildren about one day.
To all of those involved with the RockHounds — the players, managers and front office staff over the years — thank you for making my time in the press box, clubhouse and

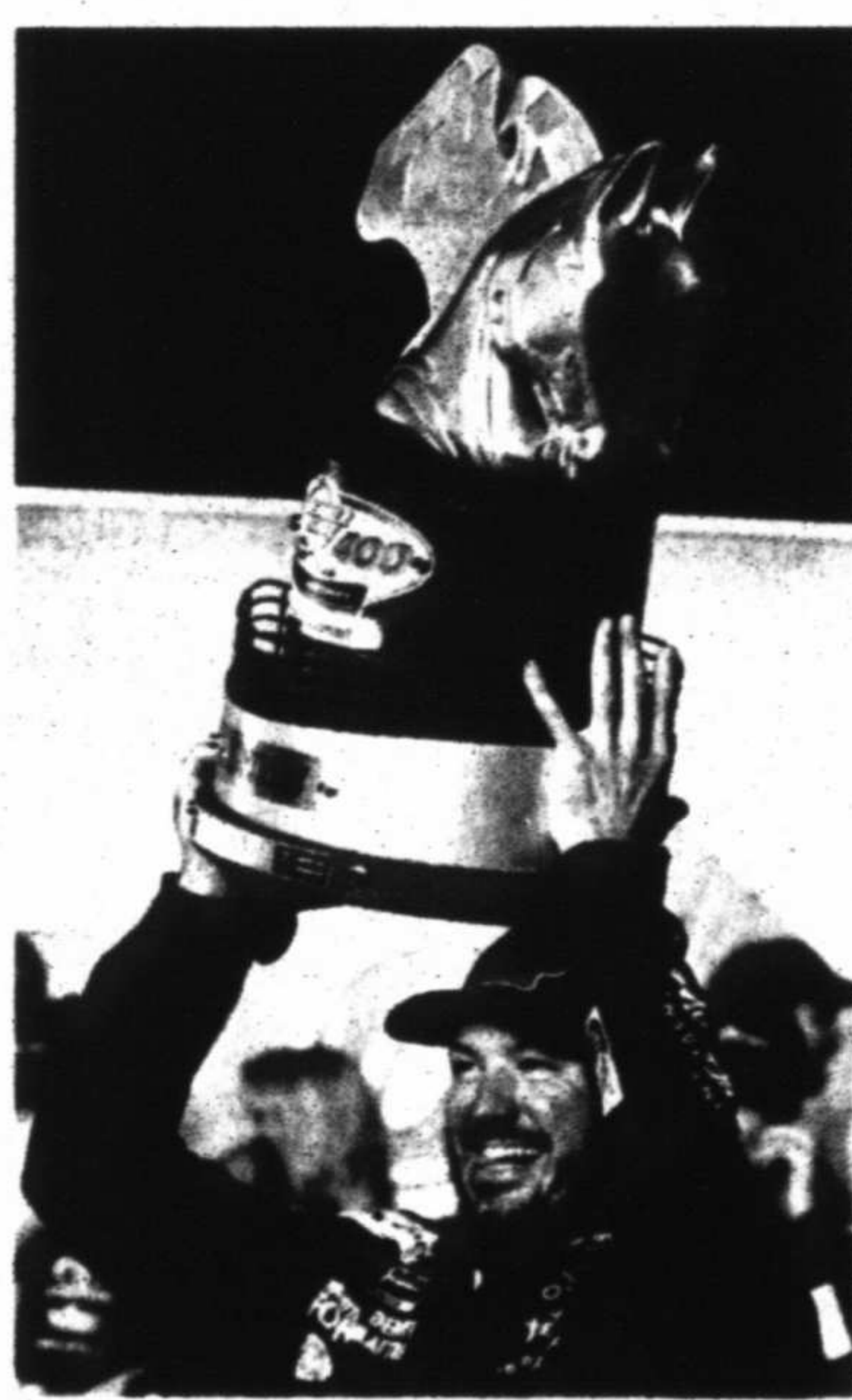
on the concourse memorable. My tenure covering this team was everything I wanted and imagined it would be.
As I will be staying in Midland for the foreseeable future, I fully expect to spend an occasional evening at the ballpark with the RockHounds as a fan, rather than as a reporter.
That's all I've got for now. As I prepare to file this final piece about the RockHounds, I can't wait for this game to get started.
Follow Will on Twitter @Will_MRT

Truex repeats as NASCAR Cup winner at Kentucky Speedway

By Gary B. Graves
Associated Press

SPARTA, Ky. — Martin Truex Jr. won the NASCAR Cup Series race at Kentucky Speedway, passing Brad Keselowski and then Kurt Busch late on the way to repeating as champion on Saturday night.
Truex's No. 78 Toyota Camry appeared even more dominant than last July as he led five times for 174 of 267 laps and swept the first two stages from the pole. The defending Cup champion was always in contention in the 400-mile race, even while trailing.
He proved it at key moments late, overtaking Keselowski on lap 201 and Busch 23 laps later to become Kentucky's first back-to-back winner, earning his fourth victory this season and 19th of his career.

good 14 laps later.
Truex's dominant run to victory last July provided an opening some hoped might expand membership in Kentucky Speedway's exclusive winner's club. He turned out keeping things the same by taking control when he wanted.
It was that way all night for Truex, who led 51 laps to win the first stage and led 118 after claiming the second. Even when he trailed, it wasn't by much as he stayed close enough to make a run.
Rounding out the top 10 were Kurt Busch, Erik Jones — who started second in a Toyota — Eric Almirola, Kyle Larson and Joey Logano. Larson ran in the top five for much of the night, an impressive performance considering he started from the back of the field as penalty for missing driver introductions.
Kurt Busch led three times for 45 laps, while Keselowski led twice for 38.



Martin Truex Jr. holds up the trophy after his victory Saturday in the NASCAR Cup Series auto race at Kentucky Speedway, Saturday.

Ryan Blaney and Keselowski were next in Fords, followed by Kyle Busch (Toyota) and Kevin Harvick (Ford).
Dominant as Truex was a year ago in leading 152 of 274 laps, Busch and Keselowski loomed as favorites after combining for five victories in the previous seven races. Keselowski's knack for winning this race in even-numbered years was especially compelling, and for a moment it looked like he might do it again with a bold rush off pit road to claim the lead entering the final segment.
Truex soon took care of that before Busch grabbed the lead on lap 210, a brief edge as the defending Cup champion took over for

UP NEXT
The series heads to Loudon, New Hampshire on July 22 for its lone New England stop. Denny Hamlin won last year's 301-mile race.
NASCAR Monster Energy Cup-Order Sheet
400 Results
Saturday
All-Star Sunday
Speedy
Sports, Inc.
Lap Length: 1.33 miles
(Start position in parentheses)
1 (1) Martin Truex Jr., Toyota, 267 laps, 60
2 (2) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 267, 55
3 (3) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 267, 34
4 (4) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 267, 33
5 (5) Erik Jones, Ford, 267, 28
6 (6) Kurt Busch, Ford, 267, 26
7 (7) Eric Almirola, Toyota, 267, 25
8 (8) Joey Logano, Ford, 267, 21
9 (9) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 267, 17
10 (10) Joey Logano, Ford, 267, 16
11 (11) Paul Menard, Ford, 267, 15

12 (12) Chris Elliott, Chevrolet, 267, 15
13 (13) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 267, 15
14 (14) Aric Almirola, Chevrolet, 267, 15
15 (15) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 267, 15
16 (16) Daniel Suarez, Toyota, 267, 15
17 (17) James McQuay, Chevrolet, 267, 15
18 (18) David Reagan, Ford, 267, 15
19 (19) Matt Kenseth, Ford, 267, 15
20 (20) William Byron, Chevrolet, 267, 17
21 (21) Ryan Newman, Chevrolet, 267, 16
22 (22) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 267, 15
23 (23) Chris Buescher, Chevrolet, 267, 14
24 (24) Michael McDowell, Ford, 267, 13
25 (25) Casey Mears, Chevrolet, 267, 12
26 (26) Robby Gordon, Ford, 267, 11
27 (27) Bubba Wallace, Chevrolet, 267, 10
28 (28) Chase Briscoe, Chevrolet, 267, 9
29 (29) Tyler Bowers, Chevrolet, 267, 8
30 (30) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 267, 7

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION
7/28 11:00-1:00 Microchip Clinic at Pet Wants Permian Basin
8/09 8:30-8:30 Microchip Clinic at Beer Garden's Yappy Hour
8/13 8:00 Enhanced Adoption Center Volunteer Orientation
\$70 Spay & Neuter Vouchers available for Midland County & City of Midland residents!
learn more & sign up at: midlandhumane.org
ENHANCED ADOPTION CENTER
Open for adoptions Mon-Sat 12-7, Sun 12-6
Adoption Fees (fully vetted & chipped):
Cats \$110, Dogs \$150
432.557.3405
Located within Midland's PetSmart Store
AD SPONSORED BY
BROWN'S PERMIAN ELECTRIC CO.

'HOUNDSREPORT

FROM STAFF REPORTS

HOOKS 6, ROCKHOUNDS 3 At Security Bank Ballpark

TOP HITTERS: Corpus Christi's Andy Pineda was 3-for-5 with a triple, two RBI and a run scored, while teammate Eduardo de Oleo was 1-for-4 with a two-run home run...

TOP PITCHERS: Hooks starter Ryan Hartman surrendered two runs (one earned) on six hits over 5 1/3 innings. He struck out seven and walked two...

HIGHLIGHTS: Brett Siddall gave the RockHounds a 1-0 lead in the first with a sacrifice fly to left field...

FL standings

Table showing Florida League standings for North Division and South Division, including teams like Tallahassee, Panama City, and Panama City Beach.

NOTES: Midland's Eli White extended his on-base streak to 13 games... Between a 2-1 loss Friday night and Saturday's loss, the RockHounds stranded 23 base runners...

TODAY'S PROBABLES:

Midland - RHP Brian Howard (0-1, 3.18); San Antonio - RHP Lake Bachar (1-4, 5.71)

HOOKS 6, ROCKHOUNDS 3

Box score for Hooks 6, RockHounds 3, showing pitching and batting stats for both teams.

Statistical summary table for the Hooks vs RockHounds game, including runs, hits, errors, and fielding percentages.

BREGMAN

From IC

the word to best describe it would be "chameleon," after the color-changing lizard. He likes that people are starting to take notice of his style and what he's doing off the field...

"I feel like I'm getting closer to becoming the player that I want to be for 20 years," he said.

He's focused on raising his on-base plus slugging percentages (OPS), which he feels is the best indicator of success for a hitter.

"OPS I think is the biggest step for hitters, you want to be in that .950 to 1,000 range and I think I'm .920 right now," he said.

Bregman hit .256 with four homers in and 10 RBIs to help Houston to

its first World Series title and become a darling of the playoffs in his first postseason appearance last year. He's followed that up with a great start to this season and has already set a career-high with 20 homers.

Manager A.J. Hinch has enjoyed watching the second overall pick in the 2015 draft mature and develop and is thrilled to have another young star to play alongside Carlos Correa, Jose Altuve and George Springer.

"I think (he's) realizing that he's equally as impactful as any of those names," Hinch said.

Hinch, who will manage the American League team in the All-Star game, is looking forward to being with Bregman on Tuesday night for his debut in the midsummer classic.

"It should surprise no one that he's going to fig-

ure out a way to be good," Hinch said. "He's going to figure out a way to figure out what he needs to do to be elite. He might have the most fun of anybody on the roster next Tuesday."

Bregman will be the first Astro to participate in the Home Run Derby since Lance Berkman did it for the fourth time in 2008 and just the fifth player in franchise history to be in it.

Bregman, who is listed at 6-foot and 180 pounds, certainly isn't a prototypical slugger, and admitted he was surprised when he got the invitation.

"Yeah, wouldn't you be if you were me," he asked with a laugh.

Hinch isn't sure how Bregman will fare in the derby, but his participation has raised the manager's expectations for his third baseman in the All-Star game.

"He better hit a homer if he's going to do it," Hinch said.

MLB ROUNDUP

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS

American League

ASTROS 9 TIGERS 1

HOUSTON — Gerrit Cole struck out eight in 5 2/3 strong innings, and Houston hit three home runs in a win over Detroit. Cole (10-2) allowed one run and three hits with four walks after being activated from the bereavement list prior to the game...

ORIOLES 1 RANGERS 9

BALTIMORE — A huge crowd, a well-pitched game and the appearance of a local legend provided the Baltimore Orioles with a rare feel-good moment during a very unenjoyable season. Rookie Yefry Ramirez and four relievers combined on a four-hitter, Jonathan Schoop drove in a run with a sixth-inning sacrifice fly and the Orioles beat the Texas Rangers 9-1 Saturday night in a matchup of last-place teams...

WHITE SOX 0

CHICAGO — Jorge Bonifacio homered for the first time since he was suspended for testing positive for a performance-enhancing substance, and Kansas City beat Chicago for just its second win in July. The 25-year-old Bonifacio broke into the majors last year, hitting 17 homers in 113 games for Kansas City. But he missed the first part of this season after a positive test for Boldenone, resulting in an 80-game suspension...

RAYS 16 TWINS 9

MINNEAPOLIS — Jake Bauers homered for the second straight game and drove in four runs, Carlos Gomez homered and had two RBIs, and Tampa Bay Rays scored 15 times in the final three innings to rally past Minnesota. C.J. Cron hit a two-run homer and Jesus Sucre, who entered in the sixth for injured catcher Wilson Ramos, drove

you're into it"

RED SOX 6 BLUE JAYS 2 (10 INNINGS)

BOSTON — Xander Bogaerts hit a game-ending grand slam with one out in the 10th inning, and J.D. Martinez hit his major league-leading 29th homer to carry the Boston Red Sox to a 6-2 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays on Saturday. Martinez increased his major league-leading RBI total to 80 with a solo shot and red-hot Mookie Betts extended his hitting streak to 12 games with three singles to raise his majors' best average to .362 for Boston...

ROYALS 5 INDIANS 4

CLEVELAND — When he got back to the dugout, Austin Romine was greeted with smiling faces and laughter. "Why does everyone have fun watching a catcher round the bases?" he said. Romine chuckled, too. New York's backup catcher came all the way around and scored when Cleveland committed two errors on his routine double in the seventh inning, and the New York Yankees edged the Cleveland Indians 5-4 on Saturday night in a game that had several strange plays...

YANKEES 5 INDIANS 4

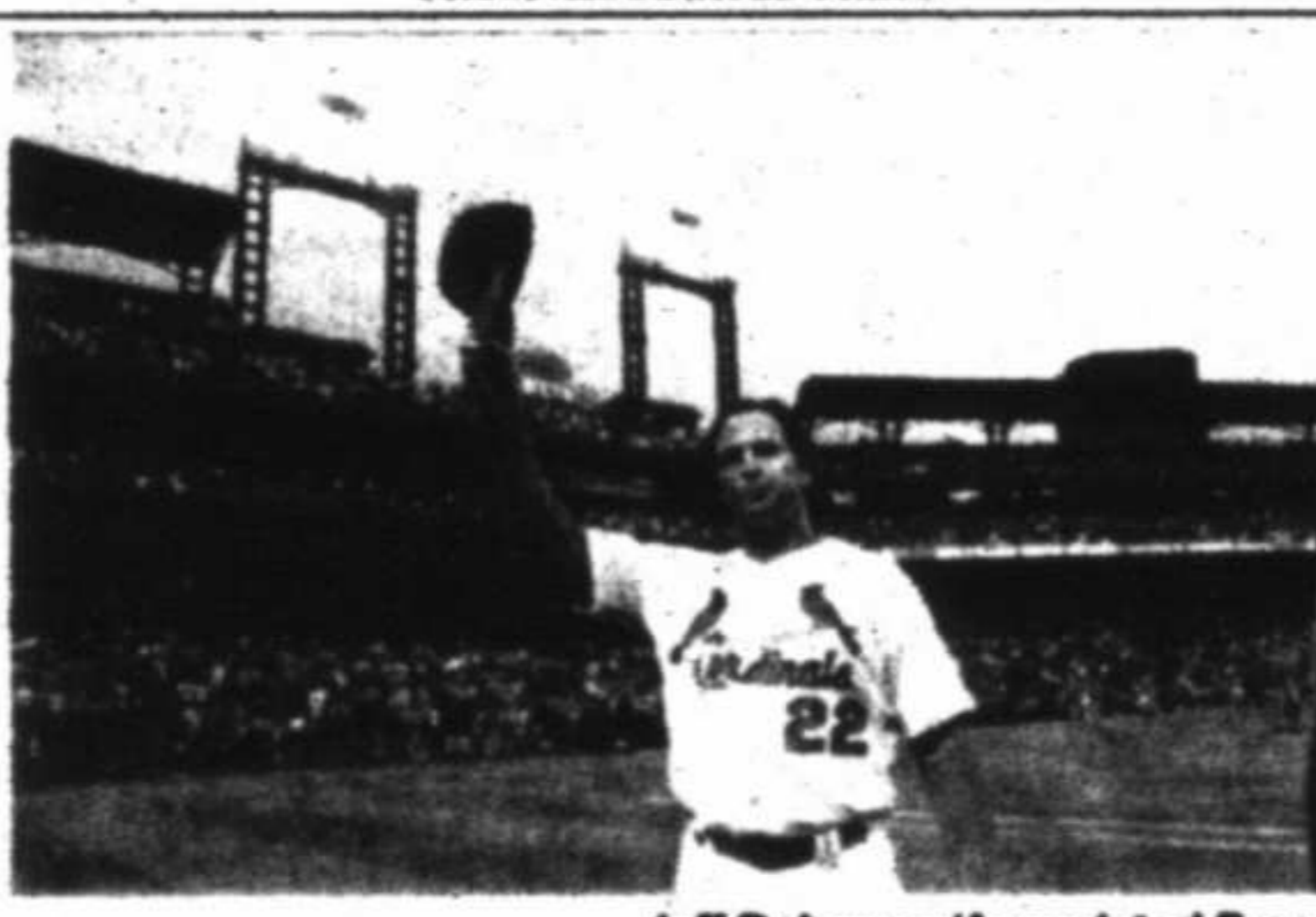
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Jeff Roberson/Associated Press

St. Louis Cardinals manager Mike Matheny tips his cap to the fans following the team's victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates in St. Louis on Oct. 2, 2016. The Cardinals have fired Matheny during his seventh season with the team hovering around .500. The Cardinals announced Matheny's firing after an 8-2 loss to the Cincinnati Reds on Saturday night a defeat that dropped St. Louis to 47-46 and seven games back of the NL Central-leading Chicago Cubs.

in two runs for Tampa Bay. The Rays posted season-highs in runs and hits (20) after entering the game 2-34 this season when trailing after six innings. Jamie Schultz (1-0) walked three batters in 2 2/3 hitless innings as Tampa Bay overcame a short start by Chris Archer. Zach Duke (3-3) gave up three runs and managed to retire just two batters in relief of Minnesota starter Jose Berrios. Eddie Rosario had three hits and two RBIs, but the Twins fell for the second time in nine games on their current homestand.

ST. LOUIS — Jose Peraza's best game at the plate turned out to be Mike Matheny's last in the Cardinals' dugout. Peraza had a career-best five hits, Scooter Gennett drove in two runs and the Reds waited out a pair of rain delays before beating St. Louis 8-2 on Saturday night.

The Cardinals fired Matheny, who was in his seventh year as manager, after the game. Peraza is hitting .14 for .33 (.424) on the Reds' eight-game road trip.

"I felt good," Peraza said. "I just swung the bat and something happened."

Following the two delays that totaled 2 hours, 43 minutes, Cincinnati trailed 2-0 after five innings before rallying for eight runs in its final four at-bats.

"This one just got away," Matheny said. "You've got a team that's swinging the bats very well over there and not letting you get away with many mistakes."

Gennett hit a 100 mph fastball off Jordan Hicks (3-2) to right field for a single to drive in Billy Hamilton with the bases loaded in the seventh inning to put the Reds ahead 3-2.

Peraza's 5-for-6 performance came after he had registered four hits on four previous occasions, most recently on April 27 at Minnesota. He tied the game at 2 in the seventh when Nolan Gonsky hit a chopper up the middle that bounced off Hicks' pitching hand to drive in Dilson Herrera.

MARLBOROUGH PHILLIES 2 MAAA — All-Star Aaron Nola gave up two runs in the first inning and Philadelphia never recovered, losing to Miami. The NL East-leading Phillies have scored only 24 runs in

PIRATES 2 BREWERS 1

PITTSBURGH — Starling Marte and Gregory Polanco hit back-to-back homers in the first inning, and that was enough to push Pittsburgh victory over the Milwaukee in the first game of a doubleheader. Marte sent an 0-1 pitch from Chase Anderson (6-7) over the center field wall to put the Pirates ahead 1-0. Polanco then drove Anderson's 3-2 offering over the wall in right for his 15th long ball.

Richard Rodriguez (2-2) got the win, retiring all four batters he faced in relief of starter Ivan Nova. Felipe Vazquez got the final three outs to earn his career-best 22nd save in 26 opportunities.

PIRATES 6 BREWERS 2

PITTSBURGH — Starling Marte and Gregory Polanco hit back-to-back home runs for the second time on the day, and Pittsburgh won the second game of a doubleheader over Milwaukee. With the Pirates leading 3-0 in the eighth, Marte hit his 13th homer over the left field wall before Polanco hit his 16th over the wall in right-center to make it 6-0.

Marte extended his hitting streak to 11 games with a ground-rule double in the sixth. In his second major league start, Clay Holmes (1-1) allowed no runs on four hits with six strikeouts and two walks for his first win.

Brent Suter (8-6) went five innings for Milwaukee, allowing one run on two hits with three strikeouts and one walk.

DIAMONDBACKS 3 BRAVES 0

ATLANTA — Zack Greinke added another road win to his strong first half by allowing only four hits in 7 2/3 innings, extending Atlanta's offensive slump, and Arizona shut out the Braves. Greinke (10-5), named to the NL All-Star team on Thursday as a replacement for Chicago's Jon Lester, has won five straight decisions. The 34-year-old right-hander has been especially strong away from home, winning five straight road starts since June 8.

Kelii Marte hit a sixth-inning homer for Arizona, who has won five straight decisions. The 34-year-old right-hander has been especially strong away from home, winning five straight road starts since June 8.

See Newcomb (8-5) allowed three runs on four hits and three walks in 5 2/3 innings. He has issued 12 walks in three starts this month.

METS 7 NATIONALS 4

NEW YORK — Zack Wheeler won for the first time since April 29, Michael Conforto homered and New York defeated Washington. Wilmer Flores, Jose Reyes and Kevin Plawecki each had two hits as the light-hitting Mets scored seven runs for the first time since June 24. New York came into the game last in the National League in batting average and was led with San Diego for the third-worst runs scored in the majors.

Wheeler (3-6) was brilliant for seven innings before being in the eighth in his longest outing since June 19, 2014. He struck out seven and allowed just one hit through the first five innings.

New York roughed up Austin Voth (0-1), who allowed six runs and struck out three in his major league debut.

Jeurys Familia pitched a perfect for his 17th save in 21 chances.

METS 7 NATIONALS 4

NEW YORK — Zack Wheeler won for the first time since April 29, Michael Conforto homered and New York defeated Washington. Wilmer Flores, Jose Reyes and Kevin Plawecki each had two hits as the light-hitting Mets scored seven runs for the first time since June 24. New York came into the game last in the National League in batting average and was led with San Diego for the third-worst runs scored in the majors.

Standings

Table showing American League and National League standings for various teams like Boston, New York, Chicago, etc.

Schedule

Table showing MLB game schedules for today and tomorrow, including matchups and times.

Today's scores

Table showing scores for various MLB games, including Yankees vs Indians, Rays vs Twins, etc.

Standings

Table showing National League and American League standings for teams like St. Louis, Pittsburgh, etc.

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Table showing MLB game schedules for today and tomorrow, including matchups and times.

Today's scores

Table showing scores for various MLB games, including Cardinals vs Pirates, Yankees vs Indians, etc.

British Open title shows Spieth can handle about anything

By Doug Ferguson
Associated Press

The scenes were nothing alike and wildly memorable.

Both started with a tee shot that sailed some 60 yards to the right during the final round of the British Open, and that's where the similarities end.

Seve Ballesteros didn't have to take a penalty drop from near the front tire of a black car in a parking lot at Royal Lytham & St. Annes. He had a two-shot lead, and once he dropped his ball away from the cars, he had a short iron onto the green. The great Spaniard went on to capture his first major championship in 1979, and he was jokingly referred to as the "Car Park Champion."

Jordan Spieth? He became the "Driving Range Champion" at Royal Birkdale, and it was no joke.

Spieth already had lost his three-shot lead in the final round last year when his drive on the 13th hole flew well to the right toward the dunes, hit a spectator in the head and wound up in a bush. Spieth had no shot, and really no place to drop that improved his chances. His best option was to go back to the tee and play his third shot.

But wait. "Is the range out of bounds?" Spieth asked. The rest was a blur, until he arrived home in Dallas with the claret jug and watched replays for the first time.

"I could help but turn on the final round, and actually fast-forward until the tee shot on 13. I didn't watch the first 12 holes," Spieth said. "For me, it went by pretty quickly because it was, 'OK, decision here, decision here, now I need to drop here.' But with the coverage, with the commercials, and



Pete Morrison/Associated Press

Jordan Spieth prepares to play a shot from the practice range to the 13th hole on July 23, 2017 during the final round of the British Open Golf Championship, at Royal Birkdale in Southport, England.

then they come back and it seems like we haven't even moved, it was like, 'Man, that really did take a long time.' That was kind of tough to watch."

The ending was remarkable.

Once it was determined the range was in play, Spieth hit 3-iron over the dunes toward a green he couldn't see, coming up just short. He pitched that delicately over a pot bunker and made the putt for a bogey.

And then it was pure Spieth after that.

He nearly holed his tee shot on the par-3 14th with a 6-iron for birdie. He made a 50-foot eagle putt on the 15th, a 30-foot birdie putt on the 16th, an 8-foot birdie putt on the 17th and just like that, he was three legs home to a career Grand Slam.

"After the 13th hole, everything went slower to me than what's on TV," he said. "So it's kind of this flip based on what I was watching and how I was feeling. For me, it was this whole regrouping and re-motivating and resetting a goal. And all that kind of took place pretty quickly in real time."

Spieth rarely makes it easy on himself.

Of his three majors, only his wire-to-wire, four-shot victory at the 2015 Masters lacked any real drama. His U.S. Open title that summer at Chambers Bay featured a signature, 25-foot birdie putt on the 16th, a three-putt double bogey on the 17th and help from Dustin Johnson, who three-putted from 12 feet for par on the final hole.

Spieth had a five-shot lead on the back nine at the 2016 Masters, made quadruple-bogey 7 with two shots into Rae's Creek, and never recovered. He couldn't put away the Travelers Championship last year until he was forced into a playoff, and then holed a bunker shot.

Still only 24 for another few weeks, Spieth is looking at the big picture of his career, the British Open is a big part of it.

"I've kind of had a career's worth of experience in four years, which is I think advantageous going forward, the way I look at it," he said. "Having a positive experience off of losing a lead and being able to regain it within a major championship Sunday is one that not many people have. I wasn't trying to do it. But I can certainly look back on

PRO GOLF SCORES

Aberdeen Asset Management Scottish Open		PGA Tour-John Deere Classic		PGA-Meridian Classic	
Saturday		Saturday		Saturday	
At Gullane GC		At TPC Deere Run		At Highland Meadows Golf Club	
Par: 67		Par: 72		Par: 72	
Jens Dantorp, Sweden	64-65-68-197	Michael Kim	63-64-127	Brooks M. Henderson	67-68-69-202
Ryan Fox, New Zealand	67-68-63-198	Dave Hearn	66-64-130	Angus Steel	73-65-66-203
Scott Hend, Australia	68-69-63-199	Chase Whittle	62-68-132	Richard L. Johnson	68-69-67-203
Matthew Fitzpatrick, England	68-66-64-199	Johnson Wagner	64-66-130	Brittany Lincicum	68-67-67-203
Manuel Sam, Germany	66-67-65-198	Brennon Burgeon	68-62-130	James Connon	68-69-68-204
Hoang Thi, Thailand	67-64-67-198	Francois Millman	68-65-127	Samuel Domagala	75-64-65-205
Rickie Fowler, United States	64-66-68-198	Matt Jones	68-63-131	a-Jarvis Kupcho	68-71-66-205
Russell Knox, Scotland	66-67-66-199	Robert Garrus	68-64-132	Katherine Perry	68-69-68-205
Adam Potts, Scotland	68-68-63-199	Sam Ryder	68-65-132	Chloe Koehn	68-67-68-205
Tyrell Hatton, England	65-64-70-199	Patric McLachlin	67-65-132	Christine Ingis	67-69-68-205
Justin Lagarias, Sweden	67-69-64-200	Harold Varner III	67-65-132	Christina Kim	67-69-68-205
Thomas Pieters, Belgium	68-68-64-200	John Kim	68-68-133	Chase Whittle	68-70-68-205
Dean Burmester, South Africa	68-67-65-200	Danny McCarthy	65-68-134	Manny Lee	68-70-68-205
Brandon Stone, South Africa	70-64-66-200	J.J. Henry	68-68-134	Ernie Talley	68-67-70-205
Justin Rose, England	67-68-67-200	Chase Whittle	68-67-133	Justin Thomas	68-68-68-205
Haas Irwin, South Africa	68-64-68-200	Jason Bohn	68-66-135	Manny Lee	68-70-68-205
Eddie Pepperell, England	67-63-70-200	Dominic Rozzi	70-65-135	Ernie Talley	68-67-70-205
Damen Farwell, South Africa	68-65-69-201	Jeff Labadie	64-71-135	Justin Thomas	68-68-68-205
Stephen Gallacher, Scotland	70-66-66-201	Patric McLachlin	64-71-135	Ernie Talley	68-68-68-205
Gavin Green, Malaysia	68-67-66-201	Patric McLachlin	64-71-135	Ernie Talley	68-68-68-205
Matthew Southgate, England	65-70-69-201	Patric McLachlin	64-71-135	Ernie Talley	68-68-68-205
Angel Cabrera, Argentina	69-65-67-201	Patric McLachlin	64-71-135	Ernie Talley	68-68-68-205
Carlos Fernandez-Castano, Spain	67-66-68-201	Patric McLachlin	64-71-135	Ernie Talley	68-68-68-205
Charley Hull, United States	67-65-69-201	Patric McLachlin	64-71-135	Ernie Talley	68-68-68-205
Luke List, United States	63-69-69-201	Patric McLachlin	64-71-135	Ernie Talley	68-68-68-205
Patrick Reed, United States	65-69-69-203	Patric McLachlin	64-71-135	Ernie Talley	68-68-68-205

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Nic Bothma/Pool via AP

Novak Djokovic returns a ball to Rafael Nadal during the men's singles semifinal match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships on Saturday, in London.

He's back: Djokovic tops Nadal to reach 5th Wimbledon final

By Howard Fendrich
Associated Press

LONDON — From the way Novak Djokovic repeatedly smacked his racket against his shoe after one miss, to the shouts directed at himself and his coach after others, it was clear how much he wanted to prove he's past the roughest patch of his career.

Djokovic sent the strongest signal yet he is back at the top of tennis by reaching his fifth Wimbledon final with a 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (9), 3-6, 10-8 victory over rival Rafael Nadal on Saturday in a match suspended overnight.

"It really could have gone either way," said Djokovic, who is bidding for a fourth championship at the All England Club and 13th Grand Slam title overall. "Basically until the last shot, I didn't know if I was going to win."

He'll face Kevin Anderson in Sunday's final. Anderson beat John Isner in a 6½-hour semifinal that ended at 26-24 fifth set Friday night, pushing back the start of Djokovic vs. Nadal.

The second semifinal then was halted when the third set ended just past 11 p.m., because of a neighborhood curfew. It had started with Centre Court's retractable roof closed and so concluded that way, too, even though there was no hint of rain.

It all made for an unusual schedule, with the start of the women's final — normally the stand-alone showcase on the fortnight's last Saturday — delayed until Nadal and Djokovic finished.

Djokovic hasn't won a major in more than two years, dealing with an injured right elbow that was so painful in 2017 he quit his quarterfinal at Wimbledon and sat out the rest of the season. He had surgery in February, but his results were still shaky.

Until now, that is. His defense and returning are as good as ever and made the difference in his 52nd career tour-level meeting with Nadal, more than any other two men have played.

"In my opinion, he deserved it," Nadal said. "I deserved it, too."

Undaunted by losing a lead and being forced to an extra set, Djokovic saved break points at 4-all and 7-all in the fifth, before breaking Nadal at love to end things.

"It's hard to pick the words," said Djokovic, who has won his past eight five-setters at Wimbledon. "I'm just going through things, flashbacks of the last 15 months, and everything I've been through to get here."

As intense as any athletes in any sport, these two didn't exactly slowly ramp things up when they returned to Centre Court about 14 hours after they'd departed. Having the roof shut meant every sound was amplified as it ricocheted off the dome — the thwack of ball off racket, the players' grunts, the spectators' applause.

This was high-decibel, high-stakes, high-quality tennis between two of the greats right from the get-go, beginning with an 18-point, six-deuce game that last 15 minutes and felt truly pivotal. It included a 23-stroke exchange and three others of at least 11. Nadal saved two break points and when he finally held, the owner 17 major championships, two at Wimbledon, punched the air and yelled

as if he'd won the match, not a solitary game. When Nadal broke in Saturday's second game, a dismayed Djokovic grabbed a spare ball and whacked it with his racket against the wall behind the baseline. Fortunately, he was at the end of the court farthest from the Royal Box, where the pair of visiting Duchesses, Kate and the newly married Meghan, sat in the front row.

There were other such displays of emotion from Djokovic, who is prone to yelling at himself or at his coach. He reacted by getting broken again to trail 5-3 in that set by raising his left shoe and violently pounding his racket against it — one, two, three, four times. Moments later, he got to love-40 before Nadal took five points in a row to serve out the set.

But it was Djokovic who tended to be better down the stretch in his 52nd career meeting against Nadal in a contest that seemed as if it should be worth a trophy.

Might very well have been. Not only is Anderson far less accomplished than either of these two — he owns zero Grand Slam titles — but he also is coming off a pair of strenuous five-setters, including his 13-11 win against eight-time Wimbledon champion Roger Federer in the quarterfinals.

There's no doubt Djokovic will be a big favorite, even if he did need to play nearly 2½ hours Saturday while Anderson was able to rest and relax and recover.

"It's been a roller-coaster ride for him the last couple rounds, but he had a day off, which means a lot," Djokovic said. "I wish I could have one."

Hall of Fame jockey Mike Smith returns to New Mexico

Associated Press

RUIDOSO, N.M. — Mike Smith became the 12th jockey in history and the only one from New Mexico to win the Triple Crown after flying across the finish line atop 3-year-old Justify in June to a roar of cheers at Belmont Park in New York.

Smith was born in Roswell but forged his love of horse racing while growing up in the farming community of Dexter. "Winning the Triple Crown with Justify was an amazing feeling," said Smith, who at 52 is the oldest jockey to ride the same horse to wins at the three largest races. "It was a team effort. It takes so much from so many people to accomplish what we did."

Justify's victory came just three years after another horse, American Pharoah, broke a 37-year drought of Triple Crown winners.

The El Paso Times reports that the excitement, commotion and joy haven't slowed for Smith. New Mexico Gov. Susana Martinez proclaimed July 8th as "Mike E. Smith Day," as the jockey returned to his home state for the first time since winning the Triple Crown. He spent the day signing autographs and raising money for the Permanently Disabled Jockey Fund at Ruidoso Downs Race Track & Casino.

Smith was inducted into the National Museum of Racing's Hall of Fame in 2003. He has two Kentucky Derby wins, two Preakness wins, three Belmont wins, and 26 victories in Breeders' Cup races.

He has won nearly 5,500 races and is a two-time Eclipse Award winner for outstanding jockey.

It was in New Mexico, with his uncle, trainer Thomas Vallejos, where Smith began his lifelong love affair with horses and racing.

"I trained the first horse he ever won on," said Vallejos, a Dexter resident. "We are very proud of Mike. He was a natural at being a jockey."

Smith began competing in match races when he was 11. At 16, he won his first race as a licensed jockey at the Downs at Santa Fe.

Smith didn't stay in New Mexico long after his racing career took off but he raced in Santa Fe and at Sunland Park. He galloped horses at Ruidoso Downs and regularly visited El Paso.

Smith said Vallejos was his earliest mentor.

"My uncle Thomas helped me a great deal, and I still remember my time as a young kid in New Mexico," Smith said. "I loved horses. I just wanted to learn so much. I wanted to be the best I could. I had hopes of being the best jockey I could be, but I knew it would take hard work and patience."

Smith, who now lives in Southern California, has blitzed across every major track in the United States and on some of the sport's best horses.

Racetracks like Santa Anita, Del Mar, Saratoga in New York, Belmont Park, and Oaklawn Park in Hot Springs are among his favorites. Ak-Sar-Ben in Omaha, Nebraska, that closed several years ago was one of his lesser-known favorites.

TOUR DE FRANCE RESULTS

Table with 3 columns: Stage, Winner, and Time/Gap. Includes details for Stage 1 (Dylan Groenewegen), Stage 2 (Peter Sagan), Stage 3 (John Degenkolb), Stage 4 (Alexander Kristoff), Stage 5 (Arnaud Démare), Stage 6 (Thomas Bouhain), Stage 7 (Nicola Arndt), Stage 8 (Mark Cavendish), Stage 9 (Vale Lampaert), Stage 10 (Andrés Pizarro), Stage 11 (Dimitri Claeys), Stage 12 (Timothy Dupont), Stage 13 (Soren Colbrelli), Stage 14 (Tyler Phoney), Stage 15 (Maximilian Schach), Stage 16 (Don Smith), Stage 17 (Gerard Thomas), Stage 18 (Vincenzo Nibali), Stage 19 (Chris Froome), Stage 20 (Massimiliano Ricci), Stage 21 (Nairo Quintana), Stage 22 (Troy van Garde), Stage 23 (Roman Barakat), Stage 24 (Chris Hogg), Stage 25 (Liam Leonard), Stage 26 (Liam Leonard), Stage 27 (Liam Leonard), Stage 28 (Liam Leonard), Stage 29 (Liam Leonard), Stage 30 (Liam Leonard).

KERBER

From 1C

semifinal that was suspended the night before. On Sunday, Djokovic will play Kevin Anderson, who won his semifinal against John Isner 26-24 in the fifth set Friday night.

Despite so much Grand Slam success, despite holding a 6-2 career edge against Kerber entering the day, Williams played tightly right from the outset.

After taking the opening two points, she made four miscues in a row to get broken. That was part of a run in which she dropped 8 of 9 points. Williams was mostly her own undoing, too: She was responsible for the final's initial six unforced errors. By the time the first set was over, the disparity was 14-3.

That's not going to work against an opponent of Kerber's quality. Trying to sneak a ball by Kerber is something akin to trying to put one past a brick wall. There are no holes.

bend real low, even putting a knee right on the grass to get a ball back.

And when she swung her racket, the measure was almost always true.

Kerber is much more than a defender. She has added a more aggressive element to her game in recent years and worked to improve her serve.

"I'm still sure that we haven't seen the best Angie," said her coach, Wim Fissette. "The defense is one of her qualities, but she also knows now that she's not going to win a Grand Slam with just defense, and that's, for me, very important."

Kerber was broken only once. And she delivered a pair of down-the-line forehand passing winners to grab the last break of Williams she'd need, for a 4-2 edge in the second set.

signify membership in the All England Club.

She affixed the badge to her white T-shirt and laughed as she proudly played with it at the start of her news conference.

"Winning here, it's forever," Kerber said. "Nobody can take the title away from me now."

Wimbledon Results Summary At The All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club (readings in parentheses)

- Men's Singles Final: Novak Djokovic (19, Serbia, def. Rafael Nadal (5, Spain, 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (9), 3-6, 10-8)
- Women's Singles Final: Angelique Kerber (17, Germany, def. Serena Williams (25, United States, 6-2, 6-3)
- Men's Doubles Final: Mike Bryan, United States and Jack Sock (7, United States, def. Michael Venus, New Zealand and Jason Flanagan (18, South Africa, 6-4, 6-7 (7), 6-4, 5-7, 7-6)
- Women's Doubles Final: Barbora Krejickova, Czech Republic and Lucy Kerslake, Great Britain, def. Heather Watson (19, United States) and Alison Riske (24, United States)
- Men's Quad Singles Final: Iga Swiatek, Poland, def. Lesley Kriemler, Switzerland, 6-4, 6-2)
- Women's Quad Singles Final: Heather Knight, Canada and Shelby Rogers (8, Czech Republic), def. Heather Watson (19, United States) and Alison Riske (24, United States), 6-4, 6-2)
- Men's Quad Doubles Final: Mike Bryan, United States and Jack Sock (7, United States), def. Michael Venus, New Zealand and Jason Flanagan (18, South Africa), 6-4, 6-7 (7), 6-4, 5-7, 7-6)
- Women's Quad Doubles Final: Iga Swiatek, Poland and Lesley Kriemler, Switzerland, def. Heather Watson (19, United States) and Alison Riske (24, United States), 6-4, 6-2)
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Alexander Zemlianichenko/Associated Press

France fans celebrate in Red Square on the eve of the final soccer match Croatia and France during the 2018 World Cup on Saturday in Moscow, Russia.

Reasons why France will win the World Cup

By John Leicester
Associated Press

MOSCOW — With a squad valued at over \$1 billion dollars that includes teenager Kylian Mbappe, a coach who won the World Cup as a player in 1998 and a day more than Croatia to rest and prepare for the final, France should win soccer's most coveted trophy for the second time.

After a labored opening 2-1 win over Australia, France coach Didier Deschamps changed to a more resilient, somewhat lopsided formation with Mbappe given freedom to roam and run at defenders from the right flank.

Midfielder Blaise Matuidi was restored to the starting lineup to patrol the left, teaming with N'Golo Kante in protecting the defense. Up front, striker Olivier Giroud uses his height and strength to harass defenders and win high balls. Behind him, forward Antoine Griezmann plays a more freewheeling attacking role, often running from deep.

With goalkeeper Hugo Lloris in excellent form behind the fast, astute central-defensive pairing of Raphael Varane and Samuel Umtiti, France is not only hard to score against but also packed with speed and flair to strike at goal with defense-shredding attacks.

It should all add up to Lloris lifting the gold trophy on Sunday at the Luzhniki Stadium in Moscow.

BITTER EXPERIENCE: Losing 1-0 to Portugal in the final of the European Championship on home soil two years ago was agonizing for Les Bleus and made them even more motivated to win now.

France had one day less than Portugal to recover from its semifinal victory in 2016. This time, France should be fresher than Croatia, having four full days to reset for the final after beating Belgium 1-0. Croatia got three full days after its 2-1 extra-time win over England.

"I know the taste of defeat in a final and it's not good at all," said France midfielder Paul Pogba, among seven players from the 2016 loss who should start against Croatia. "Very bitter."

MBAPPE'S SKILLS: Nicknamed "37" by teammates after a sprint supposedly clocked at 37 kph against Argentina, Mbappe burns past defenders with such ease that he can change a match on his own.

Expect France to unleash him early, as it did with its first touches of the ball against Belgium and Uruguay. Croatia defenders will be forced from the whistle into keeping close tabs on the 19-year-old forward, whose performances in Russia have been likened to

Pele. Without a goal since scoring twice against Argentina, Mbappe had several occasions against Belgium where he opted to pass instead of going for it himself, only to see his efforts squandered. Given his ambition and self-confidence, Mbappe may take matters into his own hands against Croatia. Like Zinedine Zidane, who scored twice in the 1998 final against Brazil wearing the No. 10 jersey now on Mbappe's shoulders, the kid wants to make history.

"He already knows where he wants to go and how. That impresses me. What he's doing is crazy, a World Cup at that age and scoring so many goals," Umtiti said. "He's going to do us a lot of good for a long, long time."

DOGGED DEFENSE: Umtiti, 24, and Varane, 25, only started six games together for France before the World Cup, but they now look like a well-oiled central defense pairing that could carry France for years.

With big-game experience as a Champions League winner with Real Madrid, Varane has increasingly become a team leader. Both are strong in the air, with Varane scoring a header against Uruguay and Umtiti heading in the winner against Belgium.

Varane, one of France's tallest players at 1.91 meters, uses his speed to close down spaces. Umtiti anticipates where attackers and the ball will go and gets there before them.

Only Argentina breached France's defense in open play. Australia, the only other team to score against Les Bleus, did so with a penalty. Lloris' saves denied Belgium and Uruguay.

YES, HE KANTE: Kante, France's smallest player at 1.68 meters (5-foot-6), runs, runs and runs. An absolute pest for opponents, he pops up everywhere, breaking up attacks and getting France moving forward again.

Although his teammates playfully tease him for being painfully shy, they say having Kante is like playing with an extra man. Getting at France's goal means getting past Kante first and — as Lionel Messi, Kevin de Bruyne and others discovered — that is tough.

DESCHAMPS: A natural born leader who captained teams before coaching them, the 49-year-old Deschamps has France pulling in the same direction.

His blend of young, inexperienced players (right back Benjamin Pavard; left back Lucas Hernandez) and seasoned veterans created a team with both spine and youthful exuberance.

Reasons why Croatia will win the World Cup

By Rob Harris
Associated Press

MOSCOW — For the players who pushed their bodies to the limit to reach the World Cup final, Croatia coach Zlatko Dalic has an apt motto.

"Who dares, wins" — a line popularized by special forces around the world.

The fighting spirit is engrained in a group of players whose psyche was forged growing up in a country ravaged by war as the former Yugoslavia broke up in the 1990s.

"It made us resilient," Luka Modric said Saturday, "but we have to look into the future."

A World Cup final against France on Sunday could be the defining moment for Croatia since the 1991-95 war for independence that claimed about 10,000 lives and ravaged the economy.

"Without courage and fortitude," Dalic said, "they wouldn't have reached this final."

And it's why Croatia can end its remarkable World Cup trip by collecting its first major soccer trophy.

COMEBACKS: The lesson of this World Cup is not to write off Croatia. The group stage was unusually smooth, with a 3-0 victory over Argentina the signature result. Then it became harder. In all three knockout games so far, Croatia fell behind but came through.

It's hard to suppress Mario Mandzukic, who forced the game against Denmark in the round of 16 to a penalty shootout. Host Russia was defeated in another shootout. It looked even tougher against England in the semifinals when a fifth-minute goal was conceded.

But what bodes well for the final is that Croatia was more composed on the ball and created more chances as the game against England went on. It was little wonder Mandzukic produced an extra-time winner.

ENERGY: Don't tell



Francisco Seco/Associated Press

Croatia's Dario Vido plays the ball during Croatia's official training session in the Luzhniki sport complex on the eve of the final match between Croatia and France at 2018 World Cup on Saturday in Moscow, Russia.

Croatia's players they are too tired for Sunday's game. They'll just use it as inspiration.

Modric rallied the players before the semifinals by claiming the English media was underestimating Croatia and told them: "Today we will see who will be tired."

In fact, even the reporter hired by FIFA to cover Croatia for the tournament wrote on the official website: "Exhausted players pose the biggest problem for the Croatia coach." Modric's mind games worked, stirring the players.

But how much energy do they have left in a final push against a France squad that was among the three youngest of the 32 finalists? Mandzukic and Modric are both 32. Ivan Rakitic is only two years younger but remains influential in the midfield.

While the average age of Croatia's squad is pushing 28, for France it's 26.

"All of my players tell me whether they are not 100 percent fit," Dalic said. "They will concede and tell me if they're not fit and they will miss the final. If they will be unable to give their all during the match I expect them to tell me."

M&Ms: Croatia wouldn't be in the final without the creativity of Modric and energetic attacking drive of Mandzukic, allied with Rakitic.

"If you took two or three

players out of that, they wouldn't be the same," said Andy Roxburgh, a former Scotland player and coach who became technical director at UEFA and the Asian confederation. "They are almost like gelling the whole thing together, pulling the strings."

The orchestrator is Modric with his vision and passing accuracy.

"He's got some good foils around him," Roxburgh said. "But he is the guy waving the baton and making it all function."

Mandzukic's power and determination to regain the ball epitomizes the team's spirit in its 4-2-3-1 formation.

"His qualities are beyond question. His character, his fight, his commitment," Modric said. "When you see him run himself into the ground, he really perks up his teammates."

PHYSICALITY: If Dejan Lovren continues to use a physical approach to block the path of opponents, he could pay the price against France.

Harry Kane's path to the penalty area was blocked at one point in the semifinals by being bundled over by Lovren. The 30-year-old defender has to remember the video assistant referees will be watching if he tries any rough treatment to impede 19-year-old France forward Kylian Mbappe.

Belgium finishes 3rd at World Cup

By James Elingworth
Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia — For Belgium and England, the third-place match at the World Cup was more like a dress rehearsal for future finals.

At least they hope. The Belgians earned their best World Cup finish by beating England 2-0 on Saturday in a match both saw as the start of a push for the European Championship title in 2020 or the World Cup in 2022.

"With this winning mentality you can win trophies," said Eden Hazard, who scored Belgium's second goal. "In two years, in four years, we will be better. We have young players. They are very good also in the team. They push all of us."

Thomas Meunier and Hazard both scored at St. Petersburg Stadium in a match between the two semifinal losers.

France and Croatia will play in the final on Sunday at the Luzhniki Stadium in Moscow. The French beat Belgium on Tuesday in the semifinals, while the Croats defeated England on

Wednesday.

England matched its best World Cup result — fourth in 1990 — since winning the tournament for the only time in 1966.

"Today shows there's room for improvement. We're not the finished article. We're still learning. We're still getting better," England striker Harry Kane said. "We don't want to wait another 20-odd years to get into another major semifinal."

Both Belgium and England were playing for the seventh time in 26 days, but the Belgians entered the match with an extra day of rest.

Both teams were unbeaten in the group stage, and France has trailed for only nine minutes in the entire tournament.

Argentina's 2-1 lead in the second half of a round-of-16 game was wiped out by defender Benjamin Pavard's long-range shot. Kylian Mbappe then exploded for two quick goals in the 4-3 victory.

Croatia's 3-0 win over Argentina was a standout performance in the group stage. The team also never trailed in wins over Nigeria and Iceland.

It's been different in the knockout rounds. Croatia conceded the opening goal in each game before rallying to advance.

BACK TO MESSI: Both teams have played one game at the Luzhniki Stadium so far.

Croatia beat England 2-1 at the venue on Wednesday, while France's 0-0 draw with Denmark in its final group game ended with Russian fans booing the tournament's only scoreless draw.

The past two World Cup finals were 0-0 after 90 minutes, and both were settled by a single goal in the second half of extra time.

BACK HOME: "Win or lose," Dalic said, "there will be a seismic event in Croatia."

World Cup

From IC

greatest moment in the life of all of us. We have come here to enjoy the final."

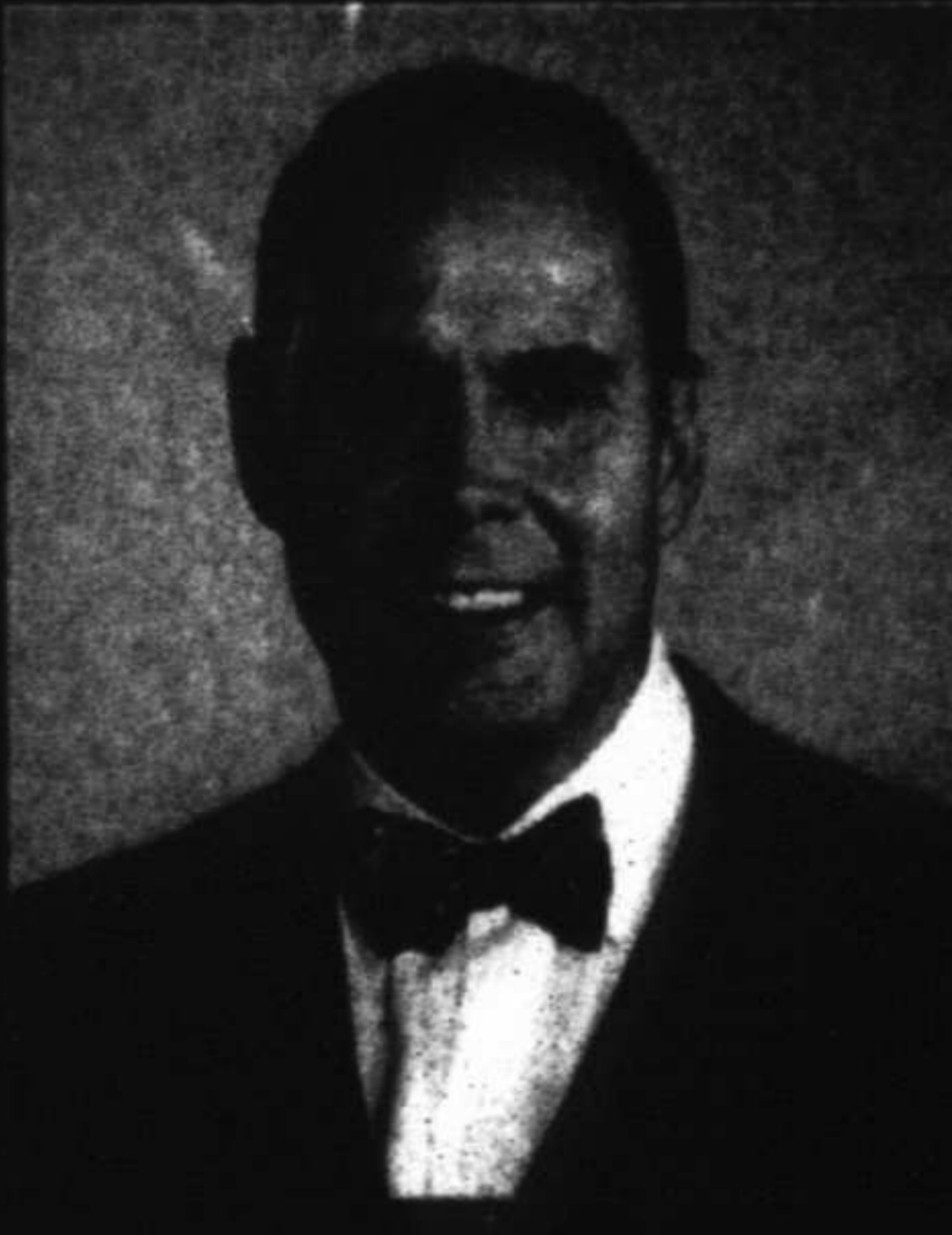
FIRST WIN

Croatia has not beaten France in five games since being accepted as a FIFA member federation in 1992.

The first match was the most momentous — a 2-1 win for France in the 1998 World Cup semifinals at Stade de France outside Paris.

A group game at Euro 2004 ended in a 2-2 draw, and their latest game was a 0-0 draw in March 2011 in Paris.

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GET THE JOB | ACING THE INTERVIEW

Interview Tips & Mistakes

Your resume was impressive enough to push you to the interview phase for a possible new position. Now it's up to you to perform in person. No pressure.

Actually, pressure is a very real part of the job interview. It's how you channel that pressure that will determine your chances of landing the job.

One great way of overcoming stress in the interview is through preparation. Before sitting down with a hiring manager, here's how you should prepare:

- Research your prospective company. If you're applying for a marketing position, knowing which recent campaigns a company has launched can position you well for the question, "What do you know about our company and what we're trying to achieve here?"

- Write down interview questions you may be asked. You can find some general ones through simple online searches. Practice answering them, and then practice answering them again.

Practice in front of the mirror, in front of family members and in front of a video camera. Watch yourself and incorporate any feedback from your audience members to strengthen your execution.



CRITICAL MISTAKES

According to a Harris Interactive poll, hiring man-

agers and recruiters identified answering a call or text as one of the most critical job interview mistakes a candidate can make. To avoid this gaffe, consider leaving your phone in the car.

Another common mistake made by interviewees is appearing uninterested and

failing to make eye contact. Look your interviewer in the eye and sell yourself. If you don't, no one else will.

DISPARAGING YOUR OLD BOSS

Nothing says "pot-stirrer"

like someone going on and on about the incompetence of a prior boss. This can leave your interviewer feeling uneasy about trusting you to make positive relationships with new bosses.

Even if you're feeling a little less than thrilled with former employers, it is important to

keep your feelings suppressed in a job interview setting.

Doing so will make you appear professional and mature, as opposed to bitter and problematic — two characteristics that no employer wants in their employees.

Let Your Achievements Shine

Your resume is a like a complex jigsaw puzzle. If any pieces are missing, you will sell yourself short on showcasing the complete picture of you.

The most important aspect of your resume can be the key achievements that have defined your career up to this point. These bites of information are what make you different from others applying for the same positions because no one will have achieved exactly what you have.

You can let companies know that you understand the importance of results by strategically including them both within your key summary and within your job descriptions.

FRONT-LOADED ACHIEVEMENTS

One of the most effective resume-writing tactics is to list your achievements in a front-loaded fashion. What does this mean?

Here is an example that shows the difference between a standard and front-loaded achievement:

Standard: Developed new paperless system to improve company savings by \$4,000 per year

Front-Loaded: Catalyzed \$4,000 in annual savings via development and implementation of innovative paperless system

The actual achievement comes first and is followed by the steps you took to get there.



ALL ABOUT THE NUMBERS

For certain industries, numbers tell the story of your success. Leaving them off your resume can hurt your

chances of being hired. Sales professionals make their career on the numbers: Achieving X dollars in territory growth or establishing relationships with a new account that captured X dollars in new revenue.

Recruiters and hiring managers in the sales and marketing industries are trained to spot these achievements on a resume, so include them in your job descriptions. To give your document an effective balance, list your

main tasks for each job description in paragraph form (three to four sentences) and your achievements in bullets. This will help reviewers differentiate between the two for a seamless analysis of what you bring to the table.

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ACCOUNTING/ FINANCE

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ARTS/ ENT PUBLISHING

WANTED: A team-oriented, deadline-conscious copy editor/designer. You're a good fit if you're creative, willing to work nights, weekends and holidays, have at least one year of layout or copy editing experience, are InDesign proficient, can learn quickly, aren't afraid to ask questions, have an eye for detail, have a firm grasp of punctuation, grammar and AP style, and have a strong commitment to visual journalism. About us: The Midland Reporter-Telegram has a universal copy desk that handles the daily paper as well as products from other Hearst newspapers in the region.
About the job: This is an entry-level position that offers paid vacation, a 401(k) and other benefits. Experience in design is necessary, experience with sports is a plus. Recent college graduates are encouraged to apply. This would be a good job for someone looking to perfect their copy editing/design skills.
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Beautifully updated 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath home located minutes from the mall, HEB & Market Street! This home offers the best of both worlds - low maintenance in the front and a large grassed yard in the back big enough for a pool or playscape. The floor plan is centered around a large courtyard so there are plenty of windows and natural light in every room. When entering the home, you are greeted with a large great room with beautiful wood floors, wood burning fireplace and built-in bookshelves. The updated kitchen offers double ovens, gas cooktop, breakfast bar, two pantries and access to the courtyard for grilling. The oversized guest bedrooms have walk-in closets, new plank flooring and a lovely updated jack-n-jill bath. The large master suite has new plank flooring, dual sinks, separate tub & shower, separate water closet and wonderful walk-in master closet. 2670 sqft. offered at \$389,000.

Additional updates in the last four years: roof, appliances, water heaters, paint, flooring, light & plumbing fixtures, RO & softener, solar tubes and window coverings. Schools for this area include Emerson Elementary, Goddard Hr. High, and Midland High. For a private showing, call Cindy Kellough (432) 556-4044 or Christina McMillan, Broker Associate (432)556-4155.

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Cynthia Kellough
Call: 432-556-4044
Office: 432-556-1111

Christina McMillan
Call: 432-556-4155
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FEATURED PROPERTIES



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Gorgeous 4 br, 3.5 Ba, 4 car gar (insulated oversized doors) on 3.52 Acres. Open floor plan w travertine floors, gorgeous kitchen w/ stainless app & granite countertops. Master suite with jacuzzi tub, huge closet and gun safe, tornado room, exercise room, heated and cooled storage room in garage, 2 water wells, 30 amp rv hookup, mature landscaping, covered patio, pergola with hot tub4136 Sq ft **\$759,000**

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500 6th St., Stanton, Tx.
\$274,000
4 Bedrooms/2 Baths
Shown by Patti Wallace

OPEN: 2:00-3:30 P.M.
3005 Moss
\$389,000
3 Bedrooms/2.5 Baths
Shown by Christina McMillan

OPEN: 3:00-4:00 P.M.
1610 Winfield Rd.
\$715,000
4 Bedrooms/2.5 Baths
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Legal and Public Notices

JOINT NOTICE OF SALE

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF MIDLAND

BY VIRTUE OF ORDERS OF SALE DATED the 20th day of June, 2018, and issued pursuant to judgment decrees of the District Court of Midland County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date in the hereinafter numbered and styled causes, and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff of said Court, I have on the 20th day of June, 2018, seized, levied upon, and will on the first Tuesday in August, 2018, being the 7th day of August, 2018, at the Courtroom door of said County, in the City of Midland, at 10:00 AM on said day, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all of the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit as and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, as provided for by the Texas Property Tax Code.

All of the following properties being located in Midland County, Texas and each property being more particularly described on an instrument recorded in the Volume and Page reference (V____, P____) or document number of the Deed Records, Midland County, Texas. The approximate property addresses reflected herein are the addresses on the tax records and may or may not be completely accurate.

PROP #	CAUSE #	TITLE	PROP DESCRIPTION, ADDRESS, ACCT #
1	TX14487	Midland Central Appraisal District v Arturo Benza In the 441 st District Court	Lot 26 Block 3, Edwards Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 1483, Page 719, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 403 Mississippi Avenue, Midland, Texas 79701-3571, Account #R17585
2	TX14506	Midland Central Appraisal District v Leonard Mayhew In the 142 nd District Court	The West 41.7 Feet of Lot 5 and the East 18.6 Feet of Lot 6, Block 44, Greenwood Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 309, Page 317 and Document No. 2017-5471, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 2002 East California, Midland, Texas 79701-7678, Account #R23827
3	TX14515	Midland Central Appraisal District v Dee Woodard In the 385 th District Court	Being the Middle 50 feet of the Northeast quarter, Block 74, Original Townsite Addition, to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 73, Page 295, and Volume 670, Page 583 of the Deed Records, and Probate #P9052 and #P9053, Midland County, Texas); 102 S. Jefferson Street, Account #R35442
4	TX14541	Midland Central Appraisal District v Robert Rodriguez In the 441 st District Court	Lot 12, Block 7, Loma Linda Addition, to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 517, Page 569, Midland County, Texas); 312 Hickory Avenue, Account #R28070
5	TX14581	Midland Central Appraisal District v Imogene Gildea In the 238 th District Court	Lot 6, Block 10, Loma Linda Replat, City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 484, Page 842 and Volume 2416, Page 780, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 305 Hickory Drive, Midland, Texas 79705-7901, Account #R28921
6	TX14596	Midland Central Appraisal District v Ladene Loefler In the 238 th District Court	Lot 12, Block 42, Permian Estates Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 232, Page 456 and Volume 2722, Page 780, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 307 Spraberry Drive, Midland, Texas 79703-6435, Account #R37844
7	TX14634	Midland Central Appraisal District v Matthew Webb In the 238 th District Court	Lot 10 and the South one-half of Lot 11, Block 25, Moody Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 1494, Page 414, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 108 North Lamesa Road, Midland, Texas, Account #R32547
8	TX14809	Midland Central Appraisal District v Felix Pando, III In the 441 st District Court	5.980 Acres, more or less, of the Southwest quarter of Section 8, Block 39, T-2-S, T & P RR Company Survey, Midland County, Texas (Volume 1701, Page 700, Deed Records and Probate #P18258, Midland County, Texas); 3414 S County Road 1720, Midland, Texas, Account #R5077
9	TX14939	Midland Central Appraisal District v Francisco R. Gonzalez In the 385 th District Court	The East 48 1/2 feet of Lots 16, 17 and 18, Block 156, Southern Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 851, Page 339, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 107 W Pennsylvania Avenue, Midland, Texas, Account #R45814
10	TX14978	Midland Central Appraisal District v Larry Franklin, III In the 238 th District Court	The East 33 feet of Lot 6 and the West 33 feet of Lot 5, Block 2, Regal of Barboursville 1st Section, an Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Document #F000-13740, Official Public Records, Midland County, Texas); 108 East Shandon Avenue, Midland, Texas 79705-5629, Account #R10061
11	TX15050	Midland Central Appraisal District v Stephanie Kay Nutter In the 441 st District Court	a Manufactured Home Only, Label #TEK0530425, Serial #V400067, located in Midland County, Texas, Account #R62264
12	TX15080	Midland Central Appraisal District v Bobby Green, Jr. In the 238 th District Court	Lot 1, Block 23, Greenwood Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 548, Page 453, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 500 South Norton Street, Midland, Texas 79701-1715, Account #R23543
13	TX15130	Midland Central Appraisal District v Sid Lennox In the 441 st District Court	East 5 feet of Lot 23 and all of Lot 24, Block 14, Kellene Heights Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Being a part of that in Volume 980, Page 247 and Volume 2307, Page 587, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); Account #R27605
14	TX15130	Midland Central Appraisal District v Sid Lennox In the 441 st District Court	1.00 Acres, more or less, being the Southwest quarter, Section 16, Block 39, T-2-S, T & P RR Company Survey, Midland County, Texas (Volume 677, Page 181 and Volume 2307, Page 587, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); Account #R5863
15	TX15137	Midland Central Appraisal District v Eliza J. Fibronoy In the 142 nd District Court	Lot 8, Block 1, Eastover Addition, Second Extension, City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 91, Page 625 of the Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 1867 Willys Avenue, Account #R17330
16	TX15137	Midland Central Appraisal District v Eliza J. Fibronoy In the 142 nd District Court	Lot 7, Block 1, Eastover Addition, Second Extension, City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 91, Page 625 of the Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); Willys Avenue, Account #R17329
17	TX15187	Midland Central Appraisal District v Billy Sutton In the 238 th District Court	Lot 1 and the West 22.9 Feet of Lot 2, Block 5, Emerson Heights Addition, Section One to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 826, Page 306, Deed Records, and Document #2016-29011, Official Public Records, Midland County, Texas); 2526 Missa Avenue, Midland, Texas 79705-4225, Account #R17817
18	TX15194	Midland Central Appraisal District v Manuel L. Garcia In the 441 st District Court	2.5 Acres, more or less, out of Section 10, Block 39, T-2-S, T & P RR Company Survey, Midland County, Texas (Volume 1122, Page 321, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 2712 South County Road 1192, Midland County, Texas, Account #R5280
19	TX15202	Midland Central Appraisal District v Ricky Reyes In the 441 st District Court	Lot 2, Block 3, Casa Loma Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Document #2014-20304, Official Public Records, Midland County, Texas); 4716 Comanche Drive, Midland, Texas 79703-6815, Account #R13024
20	TX15202	Midland Central Appraisal District v Ricky Reyes In the 441 st District Court	Lot 3, Block 3, Casa Loma Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 2718, Page 575, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 4714 Comanche Drive, Midland County, Texas, Account #R13025
21	TX15212	Midland Central Appraisal District v Mark A. Ostensby In the 385 th District Court	Lot 8 and Lot 7, .saw and except the West 5 feet of Lot 7, Block 126, West End Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 1516, Page 263 of the Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 1700 W Frost St, Account #R52573
22	TX15230	Midland Central Appraisal District v Brian Luciano Munoz In the 238 th District Court	Lot 10, Block 5, Permian Estates Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 2516, Page 918, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 3485 Roosevelt Avenue, Midland, Texas 79703-0715, Account #R37860
23	TX15239	Midland Central Appraisal District v Gonzalo Almaguer In the 142 nd District Court	Lot 9 and 10, Block 3, Evans Acres Addition, Midland County, Texas (Volume 2190, Page 413, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); East County Road 133, Midland, Texas 79706-7077, Account #R105284
24	TX15241	Midland Central Appraisal District v Tommy Yorkman In the 238 th District Court	Lot 6, Block 2, Westwood Village Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 2378, Page 701, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 1108 East Parker Avenue, Midland, Texas 79701-2900, Account #R53770
25	TX15241	Midland Central Appraisal District v Tommy Yorkman In the 238 th District Court	Lot 8, Block 62A, East Midland Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Document #2011-18097, Official Public Records, Midland County, Texas); 1108 East Golf Course Road, Midland, Texas 79701-3146, Account #R17201
26	TX15251	Midland Central Appraisal District v Jesse Morales In the 142 nd District Court	Lot 11, Block 8, East Midland Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Document #2015-9409, Official Public Records, Midland County, Texas); 1509 East Walnut Lane, Midland, Texas 79701-3146, Account #R16893
27	TX15280	Midland Central Appraisal District v Maria Antonia Vasquez In the 385 th District Court	Lot 2, Block 190, Southern Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Document #2014-19521, Official Public Records, Midland County, Texas); 1002 South Fort Worth Street, Midland, Texas 79701-7275, Account #R48234
28	TX15286	Midland Central Appraisal District v Jose Terrazas In the 385 th District Court	Lot 24, Block 3, Sun Garden Village Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 1877, Page 384, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 1123 East Pecan Avenue, Midland, Texas 79701-0510, Account #R48950
29	TX15286	Midland Central Appraisal District v Oscar Rangel In the 238 th District Court	Two Acres, more or less, out of the Northwest quarter of Section 23, Block 39, T-2-S, T & P RR Co Survey, Midland County, Texas (Document #2010-21805, Official Public Records, Midland County, Texas); 3300 East County Road 153, Midland County, Texas, Account #R207316
30	TX15271	Midland Central Appraisal District v Dorene Hopps In the 441 st District Court	Lot 17, Block 4, Parlane Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 2907, Page 334, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 2701 Franklin Avenue, Midland, Texas 79701-2016, Account #R26328
31	TX15274	Midland Central Appraisal District v Patsy Rosanna Magallanes In the 441 st District Court	Lot 24, Block 4, Truland Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Document #2015-27438, Official Public Records, Midland County, Texas); 1807 East Golf Course Road, Midland, Texas 79701-0510, Account #R48156
32	TX15281	Midland Central Appraisal District v Teresa De Jesus Martinez In the 142 nd District Court	Lot 72, Block 78, Permian Estates Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 1308, Page 57 and Volume 2082, Page 607, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 1103 Willy Drive, Midland, Texas 79703-7028, Account #R38787
33	TX15286	Midland Central Appraisal District v Sylvia H. Reynolds In the 441 st District Court	West half of the South half of Lot 1, Block 101, Southern Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Document #2011-20040, Official Public Records, Midland County, Texas); 803 S Pecos St, Midland, Texas, Account #R48952
34	TX15316	Midland Central Appraisal District v Justino Sandoval Garcia In the 142 nd District Court	Lot 13, Block 3, Truland Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Document #2010-11295 of the Deed Records, and District Court Cause #R480900, Midland County, Texas); 1703 English Drive, Account #R49169
35	TX15316	Midland Central Appraisal District v Justino Sandoval Garcia In the 142 nd District Court	Lot 12, Block 3, Truland Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Document #2010-10105 of the Deed Records, and District Court Cause #R480900, Midland County, Texas); 1705 English Drive, Account #R49168
36	TX15317	Midland Central Appraisal District v Mary R. Fuller In the 238 th District Court	Lot 8, Block 180, Southern Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 301, Page 148 of the Deed Records and Probate #P8801, Midland County, Texas); 809 South Main Street, Account #R48079
37	TX15320	Midland Central Appraisal District v Leonard Garcia In the 238 th District Court	Lot 4, Block 80, Permian Estates Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 2788, Page 837 of the Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 3011 Thompson Drive, Account #R32754
38	TX15347	Midland Central Appraisal District v Eric Mata In the 385 th District Court	1.479 Acres, more or less, out of the Northwest quarter of Section 15, Block 39, T-1-S, T & P RR Co Survey, Midland County, Texas (Volume 2957, Page 660, Deed Records, SAVE AND EXCEPT Document #2010-12758, Official Public Records, Midland County, Texas); 3010 South County Road 1195, Midland County, Texas, Account #R205516
39	TX15372	Midland Central Appraisal District v Jessica Lynn Harroquin In the 385 th District Court	Lot 1, Block 2, Southern Flats Subdivision, Midland County, Texas (Document #2016-4209, Official Public Records, Midland County, Texas); 1709 East County Road 136, Midland County, Texas, Account #R48230
40	TX15382	Midland Central Appraisal District v S.A. Porters In the 441 st District Court	Lot 12, Block 4, Lanes Industrial 14th Filing Subdivision, Midland County, Texas (Document #2012-6919 Official Public Records and Cabinet H, Slide 252, Plat Records, Midland County, Texas); Fleather Road, Midland County, Texas, Account #R211826
41	TX15382	Midland Central Appraisal District v S.A. Porters In the 441 st District Court	Lot 10, Block 6, Lanes Industrial 14th Filing Subdivision, Midland County, Texas (Document #2012-6919 Official Public Records and Cabinet H, Slide 182, Plat Records, Midland County, Texas); West Interstate 20, Midland County, Texas, Account #R211827
42	TX15395	Midland Central Appraisal District v William R. Brown In the 142 nd District Court	Lot 28, Block 9, Fairgrounds Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 1050, Page 382, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 915 San Andres Drive, Midland, Texas, Account #R19279
43	TX15412	Midland Central Appraisal District v Wesson Services, L.L.C. In the 142 nd District Court	2.87 Acres out of Tract One, City View Subdivision, Midland County, Texas (Document #2010-0857, Official Public Records, Midland County, Texas); 2312 Cloverdale Road, Midland County, Texas, Account #R13462
44	TX15412	Midland Central Appraisal District v Wesson Services, L.L.C. In the 142 nd District Court	Lot 21 and the South one-half of Lot 22, Block 3, Edwards Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 3077, Page 609, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 911 North Fort Worth Street, Midland, Texas 79701-0563, Account #R17591
45	TX15434	Midland Central Appraisal District v Teresa Villa In the 441 st District Court	Lot 10, Block 3, Highway Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 1922, Page 635, Deed Records and District Court Cause No. R2-48768, Midland County, Texas); 1409 E Oak Avenue, Midland, Texas, Account #R28059
46	TX15445	Midland Central Appraisal District v Thelma Elm Olson In the 441 st District Court	Lot 1, Block 57, Permian Estates Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 1773, Page 480, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 703 Reddy Dr, Midland, Texas 79703-7043, Account #R26645
47	TX15484	Midland Central Appraisal District v Porfirio Cuatrecasas In the 238 th District Court	Lot 4, Block 6, Delfinado Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Document #2011-10959, Official Public Records, Midland County, Texas); 703 Harmony Drive, Midland, Texas 79703-0882, Account #R19499
48	TX15479	Midland Central Appraisal District v Kay Stephenson Phillips In the 441 st District Court	Lot 1 and the East 2 Feet of Lot 2, Block 6, Igberor Lea Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 684, Page 731, and Volume 740, Page 323, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 3280 Durant Drive, Midland, Texas 79705-6916, Account #R27799
49	TX15482	Midland Central Appraisal District v Lucre G. Rogers In the 441 st District Court	The West one-half of Lot 20, Block 8, Parlane Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 1039, Page 799 and Volume 1102, Page 485 SAVE AND EXCEPT Volume 1188, Page 147, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 2817 Roosevelt Avenue, Midland, Texas, Account #R26416
50	TX15491	Midland Central Appraisal District v Barbara Ann Adwood In the 142 nd District Court	The East 45 Feet of Lot 6 and the West 41 Feet of Lot 7, Block 9, Lily Heights Addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas (Volume 487, Page 437, Deed Records, Midland County, Texas); 3404 Bedford Avenue, Midland, Texas 79703-9198, Account #R28279

This sale will be conducted to satisfy the judgment(s) for delinquent property taxes and accrued penalties and interests due on the properties described herein, and for all costs of court and sale.

I do hereby verify that true and correct copies of the foregoing Joint Notice of Sale have been delivered by United States Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, and by regular mail, to each of the Defendants named in each of the numbered and styled causes.

DATED the 20th day of June, 2018, at Midland, Texas

GARY FORTNER
Sheriff, Midland County, Texas

By: _____
HEIDI ECKHORN, Limited
Midland County Sheriff's Office

You may contact Heidi Eckhorn in Midland at (432) 682-4891 regarding this Notice.

The Bottom Line
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Legal and Public Notices

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals addressed to the Honorable Mayor and City Council of Midland, Texas, will be received at the office of the City Secretary, City Hall, Midland, Texas until 2:00pm CST, Thursday August 2, 2018 for furnishing all necessary materials, machinery, equipment, superintendence, and labor for constructing certain improvements at Midland International Air & Space Port, Midland, Texas. These improvements are contained in the specifications entitled, "Midland International Air & Space Port, Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Vehicles," dated June 2018.

Immediately following the closing time for receipt of bids, proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened.

Principal items of work are set forth in specific detail in the proposal section of these specifications, however, work items may be generally described as: Provide two (2) new Class 4, 1500 gallon, Airport Rescue and Fire Fighting Vehicles.

A bid proposal guaranty is to accompany the bid, thereby guaranteeing the good faith of the bidder and that bidder will enter into the written contract. The guaranty is to amount to 5 percent of the total bid and must be in the form of cash or certified check, issued by a bank satisfactory to the City of Midland, or a bid bond.

This project is an AIP Project. The Bidder must supply all the information required by the proposal form.

This project is subject to Foreign Trade Restrictions, Federal Debarment and Suspension, and other requirements stated in the Instructions to Bidders and other sections of the project specifications and contract documents.

Buy American Provision Proposed contract is subject to the Buy American Provision. Details of such requirement are contained in the Specifications.

Requirements of 49 CFR Part 26, Regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation, apply to this contract. It is the policy of MAF to practice nondiscrimination based on race, color, sex, or national origin in award or performance of this contract. All firms qualifying under this solicitation are encouraged to submit bids/proposals. Award of this contract will be conditioned upon satisfactory requirements of this bid specification. These requirements apply to all bidders/offers, including those who qualify as a DBE.

Information for bidders, proposal forms, and specifications are on file in the offices of Director of Airports, Midland International Air & Space Port, Midland, Texas and Parkhill, Smith & Cooper Inc., (PSC) Consulting Engineers, 1700 West Wall Street, Suite 100, Midland, Texas 79701. 432.697.1447.

Paper copies of the specifications may be secured at the PSC office, 1700 West Wall Street, Suite 100, Midland, Texas 79701. at \$25.00 for a set of specifications. The cost for the specifications is **NON-REFUNDABLE**. Download documents (PDF file extension format) can be obtained from the PSC Info Exchange web site after registering as a bid document holder with the office issuing paper copies. No cost or deposit required for this option.

CITY OF MIDLAND, TEXAS
 Amy M. Turner
 City Secretary

Legal and Public Notices

CV54348

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO. CV54348

TO ANY SHERIFF OR ANY CONSTABLE WITH THE STATE OF TEXAS:
 YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to cause to be published once each week for four consecutive weeks in a newspaper in Midland County, Texas, the accompanying citation, of which the herein below following is a true copy:

TO: The Unknown Heirs at Law of Laura Ochoa, Deceased.

Defendants, **GREETINGS:**
 YOU AND EACH OF YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Honorable 385th District Court of Midland County, described below, at the Courthouse being located at 500 N. Lorraine St., Suite Number 801, in the city of Midland, Midland County, Texas, by filing a written answer with the Clerk of the Court at or before 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days from the date of issuance of this citation, the same being filed in said court, on the docket of said court and styled:

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
 Plaintiff,
 v.
 Sergio Ochoa, and the Unknown Heirs at Law of Laura Ochoa, Deceased.
 Defendants.

Case No. CV54348
 Court: 385th Judicial District Court, Midland County, Texas
 Pleading: Plaintiff's Original Petition
 Date of Filing: March 26, 2018

Nature of Suit: Suit involving land described as follows: LOT FOUR (4), BLOCK SEVEN (7), MIDKIFF PLAZA ADDITION, AN ADDITION TO THE CITY OF MIDLAND, MIDLAND COUNTY, TEXAS ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF OF RECORD IN CABINET C, PAGE 24, PLAT RECORDS, MIDLAND COUNTY, TEXAS.

Plaintiff requests that upon final hearing, that Defendants be cited to appear and answer, and, the Court enter judgment granting: a declaration that all of Decedent's heirs-at-law have been made parties to this suit and are vested with all of Decedent's right, title, and interest in the property; a declaration that Plaintiff's statutory lien against the Property be enforced by a foreclosure, that through foreclosure the Defendants be divested, and that Plaintiff be vested with all of Decedent's and Defendant's right, title, and interest to the Property; or a declaration that vendor's lien held by the Mortgagee upon the Property gives the Mortgagee superior title to that of the Defendants, that Defendants be divested through foreclosure of the vendor's lien by non-judicial sale, and that upon such sale Mortgagee be vested with all of Decedent's and Defendant's right, title, and interest to the Property; and attorney fees and costs of suit; and all other relief, in law and in equity, to which Plaintiff may be entitled.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any Judgment or Decree which will be binding upon you.

The Officer executing this citation shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of the law, and the mandates thereof, and make due return as the law directs. ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, at Midland, Midland County, Texas.

Date: 6-26-18
ALEX ARCHULETA
 DISTRICT CLERK
 SUITE 300
 500 N LORRAINE STREET
 MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701

By: Courtney N. Gamel, Deputy

NOTICE
 You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issues this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days after you were served this citation and the above pleading, a default judgment may be taken against you.
 El Teri Jones
 14081 Dallas Parkway, Suite 425
 Dallas, Texas 75244
 Plaintiff's Attorney

Fax Your Ad
682-6999

Legal and Public Notices

Public Notice
Proposal #2018-022

Midland College District is accepting competitive sealed proposals for a marketing/advertising service. Proposal packets may be picked up Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., in the Purchasing Office, located at 3600 N Garfield, Midland, Texas. Proposals will be accepted until 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 31, 2018 in the Purchasing Office, at which time they will be opened and vendor names read into record. For proposal packet information contact Barbara Fennel, Director of Purchasing, (432)686-4250 or bfennel@midland.edu. A final determination may be made at a future board meeting. The College reserves the right to accept or reject any and or all bids submitted.

Legal and Public Notices

Public Notice
Proposal #2018-020

Midland College District is accepting competitive sealed proposals for custodial services. The term of this contract will be October 1, 2018 through August 31, 2020. A pre-proposal conference will be held at 3:00 p.m., Monday, July 23, 2018 in the Gibson Board Room #108, located at 3600 North Garfield, Midland, Texas. Proposals will be accepted until 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 7, 2018, at which time they will be opened and the vendor names read into record in the Pevhouse Administration Conference Room #108, located at 3600 North Garfield, Midland, Texas. A final determination will be made at a future board meeting. Midland College reserves the right to reject any and all Request for Proposals and waive any and all formalities and conditions.

Legal and Public Notices

Public Notice
Proposal #2018-001

Midland College District is accepting competitive sealed proposals for a charter bus service as needed throughout the year. Term for this service will be September 1, 2018 through August 31, 2019. Proposal packets may be picked up Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., in the Purchasing Office, located at 3600 N Garfield, Midland, Texas. Proposals will be accepted until 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 31, 2018 in the Purchasing Office, at which time they will be opened and vendor names read into record. For proposal packet information contact Barbara Fennel, Director of Purchasing, (432)686-4250 or bfennel@midland.edu. A final determination may be made at a future board meeting. The College reserves the right to accept or reject any and or all bids submitted.

Legal and Public Notices

Request For Bids
 Lee Lewis Construction, Inc., as construction manager, will be receiving bids for the Wall Independent School District Drainage Remediation & Covered Walkways.

Bids are due by July 26, 2018 on or before 3:00 PM local time.

Pre-Proposal Conference: 2:30 PM on July 19, 2018 local time at the office of the Wall ISD District Office, 8065 Loop 570, Wall, TX 79657.

Location:
 Lee Lewis Construction, Inc.
 7810 Orlando Ave
 Lubbock, Texas 79423
 Phone: 806-797-8400
 Fax: 806-797-8492
 Email bids to: lubbockestimating@leewis.com

Bid packages will be available at the following locations:
 AGC Plan Room / Dodge Plan Room - Lubbock, Texas
 Lee Lewis Construction - Lubbock, Texas

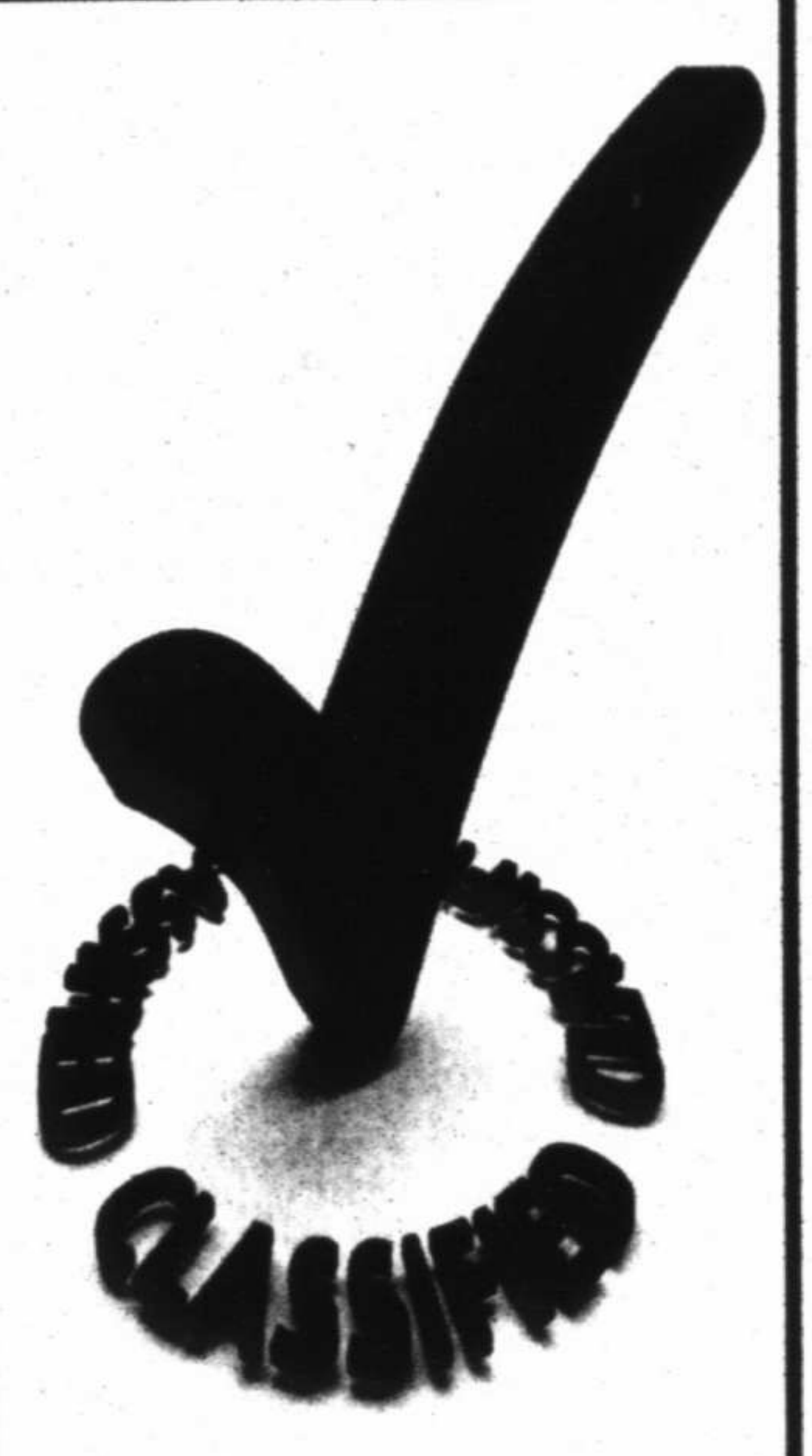
Lee Lewis Construction specifically invites Small Business Concerns and Women Owned Business Concerns and Small Business Concerns Owned/Controlled By Socially And Economically Disadvantaged Individuals to bid this project.



Online Only Public Auction
Bank Ordered Sale
(2) 2014 & (2) 2015
Case 580 Super N Backhoe Loaders
Bidding Closes: Wednesday July 18th
@ 10:00A.M. CST
Inspection Tuesday July 17th 10:00 - 2:00
Assets Located in:
210 E 67th St, Odessa, TX 79762
www.hamilton-grp.com
860-552-4609

**VERY LATE MODEL RENTAL
EQUIPMENT AUCTION**

WED. JULY 18 @ 11:30 AM, DALLAS, TX World, TX
58888 Welch Field Rd., Fort Worth, TX 76129
 2014 Case 58888, 2014 Case 58889, 2014 Case 58890, 2014 Case 58891, 2014 Case 58892, 2014 Case 58893, 2014 Case 58894, 2014 Case 58895, 2014 Case 58896, 2014 Case 58897, 2014 Case 58898, 2014 Case 58899, 2014 Case 58900, 2014 Case 58901, 2014 Case 58902, 2014 Case 58903, 2014 Case 58904, 2014 Case 58905, 2014 Case 58906, 2014 Case 58907, 2014 Case 58908, 2014 Case 58909, 2014 Case 58910, 2014 Case 58911, 2014 Case 58912, 2014 Case 58913, 2014 Case 58914, 2014 Case 58915, 2014 Case 58916, 2014 Case 58917, 2014 Case 58918, 2014 Case 58919, 2014 Case 58920, 2014 Case 58921, 2014 Case 58922, 2014 Case 58923, 2014 Case 58924, 2014 Case 58925, 2014 Case 58926, 2014 Case 58927, 2014 Case 58928, 2014 Case 58929, 2014 Case 58930, 2014 Case 58931, 2014 Case 58932, 2014 Case 58933, 2014 Case 58934, 2014 Case 58935, 2014 Case 58936, 2014 Case 58937, 2014 Case 58938, 2014 Case 58939, 2014 Case 58940, 2014 Case 58941, 2014 Case 58942, 2014 Case 58943, 2014 Case 58944, 2014 Case 58945, 2014 Case 58946, 2014 Case 58947, 2014 Case 58948, 2014 Case 58949, 2014 Case 58950, 2014 Case 58951, 2014 Case 58952, 2014 Case 58953, 2014 Case 58954, 2014 Case 58955, 2014 Case 58956, 2014 Case 58957, 2014 Case 58958, 2014 Case 58959, 2014 Case 58960, 2014 Case 58961, 2014 Case 58962, 2014 Case 58963, 2014 Case 58964, 2014 Case 58965, 2014 Case 58966, 2014 Case 58967, 2014 Case 58968, 2014 Case 58969, 2014 Case 58970, 2014 Case 58971, 2014 Case 58972, 2014 Case 58973, 2014 Case 58974, 2014 Case 58975, 2014 Case 58976, 2014 Case 58977, 2014 Case 58978, 2014 Case 58979, 2014 Case 58980, 2014 Case 58981, 2014 Case 58982, 2014 Case 58983, 2014 Case 58984, 2014 Case 58985, 2014 Case 58986, 2014 Case 58987, 2014 Case 58988, 2014 Case 58989, 2014 Case 58990, 2014 Case 58991, 2014 Case 58992, 2014 Case 58993, 2014 Case 58994, 2014 Case 58995, 2014 Case 58996, 2014 Case 58997, 2014 Case 58998, 2014 Case 58999, 2014 Case 59000.
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PEAK COMPLETIONS



A leading oil and gas completion technology provider, Peak Completions Technologies, Inc., helps to offer in-house engineering, manufacturing and dedicated service to operators all around the globe.

Formed in 2003, Peak Completions focuses on their guiding principles of innovation, quality and experience when working to provide

customers with completion tools that includes openhole and cemented multistage systems, composite plugs, actuation balls and production packers. The company also offers other products including liner hangers, liner top packers, running tools, a wide range of service tools and much more.

The company is currently looking for CNC Machinists, Machine Operators and Shop Hands to join their team in Midland. Applicants for the positions of CNC

Machinists and Machine Operators need to have experience in the field. There are also openings for experienced Shop Hands to assemble and re-dress packers and other downhole tools at the Midland facility. Shop Hand applicants need to have a mechanical aptitude, a good work ethic and attention to detail.

All of these positions are full-time with overtime as required and pay is based on experience. Peak offers their employees modern equipment, an excellent benefits

package and competitive pay in a drug-free workplace.

Interested applicants can apply in person between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays at the Midland location at 7710 W. Hwy. 80 or submit a resume to careers@peakcompletions.com. For more information about Peak Completions Technologies, Inc., contact their Midland office at (432) 684-4155 or visit their website at www.peakcompletions.com.

SUPER MERCADO



A family-owned store offering a convenient one-stop shop for everything you need, Super Mercado is a top grocery store destination for shoppers and their families in Midland.

The locally-based store has everything from the everyday essentials

to specialty items from around the world as well as a friendly staff that is in place to help you find everything needed on the shelves as well as providing helpful information regarding all of the products carried in the store.

Because Super Mercado is locally-owned and based, money spent at the store helps support the local economy, creates local

jobs, nurtures the local community and much more.

Super Mercado is currently looking for a certified pharmacy technician to work in their pharmacy. The applicant needs to be certified by the Texas State Board of Pharmacy. Bilingual skills are considered a plus and the salary for the position depends on experience. Benefits for the position include

medical benefits, paid holidays and more.

Those interested in the position can bring their resume to the store location at 2208 N. Big Spring St., in Midland or call Eric or Sokkan at (432) 682-9501. The store is open every day from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. For more information about Super Mercado, visit www.supermercadomidland.com.

HILLIARD OFFICE SOLUTIONS



Back in 2005, a simple idea of opening a business was put forth. Wanting to combine a strong customer service element in addition to providing quality equipment and services at competitive prices, everything was in place for Hilliard Office Solutions to get things off the ground.

Now, 13 years later, Hilliard Office Solutions is still going strong and continuing to grow thanks in part to their focus on integrity, respect and teamwork in being a business providing high quality products and services to people and businesses. The focus on customer service has gone a long way in helping the business

take off as it serves customers across Texas and into Oklahoma.

Hilliard Office Solutions offers an array of products and services ranging from office equipment, printing and IT services, Electronic Content Management and Customer Communication Management solutions, shipping and mailing equipment, ink and toner products, and much more.

Currently Hilliard Office Solutions is looking for a Systems Administrator to work out of their Midland location. The Systems Administrator would work on designing, implementing, troubleshooting, analyzing and maintaining the IT infrastructure for the company's customer

environments that includes several areas such as network connectivity and utilization, Windows server administration, performance tuning, backup and restore, as well as other duties.

Responsibilities for the job includes creating and maintaining comprehensive documentation relating to server and network topology, equipment and configurations; creating project plans, designing and implementing solutions; Level 2 and Level 3 support for problems identified with systems and network and acting as an escalation for Level 1 and Level 2 managed services support technicians; participating in after-hours upgrades, troubleshooting and/or on-call availability

as needed; assisting with monthly reports and recommendations for Managed Services Clients; and much more.

Five to seven years of prior IT experience is required. Prior experience working for a service provider is considered a plus. Experience is preferred in several areas such as working with Windows Desktop XP-10, Windows Server 2003-2012, VMware, SBS Server, Storage Technologies, and having Microsoft certifications and MCSA, VCP and CCNA certifications.

For more information about Hilliard Office Solutions, visit the company's website at www.hilliardos.com, or contact them at (432) 617-4677 or (866) 976-2679.

TOP EMPLOYERS



PRODUCTION LIFT SYSTEMS, INC.



MULTIPLE CAREERS, ONE RESUME?

By Bill Thompson

Part of thriving career is change, and it's not uncommon for you to have multiple careers, but the key to implementing a successful job search begins with how you present your skills to the employer's needs.

Having a broad background in various industries can be an advantage, giving you more depth in experience and skills. The risk with having three or more distinct and separate careers listed on one resume is the unexpected confusion an employer could develop when reviewing your interests. The value that you bring to the employer can get lost in the number of industries.

One effective way to begin your search is to first determine what field of interest you want to pursue and then focus highlighting your skills and accomplishments in that area. One of the biggest trends in moving your career forward is your ability to frame your achievements into stories.

Multiple careers can be used to your advantage if you show a theme of certain skills throughout your resume. Using a theme helps to reinforce your core competencies or skills that an employer is needing. Instead of the hiring decision maker focusing on numerous careers, they now see how you developed skills that are reusable to solving their problems.

Targeting your resume to the industry might be another helpful technique rather than sending one generic resume with no focus. Look at your resume as a tool that's always changing; you are likely to need multiple resumes. An effective way to target your resume is to use a good summary statement and utilizing key words that relate to the position you are seeking.

The key is generating interest from the employer by demonstrating you are competent in the industry you are seeking. Don't make the mistake of listing job duties rather than the time to spell out what you did to help the company succeed and the results -- tell a story with results.

It is much easier for the employer to group your skill set that applies to the position rather than giving a "jack of all trades" perception. Think in terms of combining transferable skills, those skills that cross over industries.

Job candidates often have multiple resumes to use in their search to help the employer quickly identify the skill set and how their backgrounds relate to the position. Having multiple careers is an accomplishment rather than unexplained mayhem.

With each career move, think of the experience gained and how this makes you stand out from other candidates. Your multiple industry experiences give you a broader understanding of how business operates and demonstrates your adaptability to change.

Have multiple careers helped your job search? What did you do to use them to your advantage?



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ACTIVE LISTINGS

OPEN TODAY 1:30-2:30 PM

4201 E COUNTY RD 55 - \$325,000
 SHOWN BY AMANDA GUNTER 432-413-7330

5307 AlysHEBA LANE
 \$4,500,000

604 SOLOMON LANE
 \$2,950,000

6112 DUNBARTON OAKS BLVD.
 \$2,500,000

3602 CARDINAL LANE
 \$1,675,000

4921 RUSTIC TRAIL
 \$1,300,000

905 COUNTRY CLUB DR.
 \$875,000

2510 COLONIAL OAKS CT.
 \$875,000

7200 E COUNTY RD 113
 \$850,000

218 WINDRIDGE CIRCLE
 \$795,000

11601 W COUNTY RD 58
 \$875,000

3913 TUMBLEWEED TRAIL
 \$665,000

3511 TRINITY MEADOWS DR.
 \$635,000

5310 OAK VALLEY DR.
 \$500,000

3604 CARDINAL LANE
 \$600,000

4415 CHERRYWOOD DR.
 \$490,000

10402 E COUNTY RD 105
 \$425,000

4206 CRESTRIDGE DR.
 \$395,000

5006 MAGELLAN ST.
 \$390,000

4404 LANHAM ST.
 \$300,000

1505 ALCOVE CT.
 \$275,000

2001 N GARFIELD ST.
 \$225,000

**THINKING ABOUT BUILDING YOUR DREAM HOME?
 DELAURA CAN HELP WITH THAT PROCESS TOO! CALL TODAY!**

UNDER CONTRACT LISTINGS

SALE PENDING
 5620 DREXEL CT.
 \$900,000

SALE PENDING
 6700 W COUNTY RD 44
 \$775,000

SALE PENDING
 3201 SEABOARD AVE.
 \$700,000

SALE PENDING
 3100 SHELL AVE.
 \$499,000

SALE PENDING
 6104 FRIED DR.
 \$305,000

SALE PENDING
 3700 OAKMONT DR.
 \$345,000

SALE PENDING
 3824 ROMA ST.
 \$300,000

SALE PENDING
 2312 W DENGAR AVE.
 \$300,000

SALE PENDING
 9123 KING RICHARDS ROW
 \$330,000

SALE PENDING
 1400 W PINE AVE.
 \$300,000

SALE PENDING
 4600 FALCON PL.
 \$270,000

SALE PENDING
 700 SINCLAIR AVE.
 \$250,000

SALE PENDING
 5406 E CO RD 130
 \$160,000

SOLD LISTINGS

*****SOLD*****
 5713 HILLCREST PL.
 \$790,000

*****SOLD*****
 6516 GLADIOLA
 \$880,000

*****SOLD*****
 6004 HIGHLAND BLVD.
 \$540,000

*****SOLD*****
 4801 SHADY OAK CT.
 \$600,000

*****SOLD*****
 3406 FELDSPAR LANE
 \$600,000

*****SOLD*****
 905 PINE CT.
 \$415,000

*****SOLD*****
 405 PINEWOOD CT.
 \$360,000

*****SOLD*****
 2000 PRINCETON AVE.
 \$300,000

*****SOLD*****
 1001 W. NICHOLAN AVE.
 \$200,000

*****SOLD*****
 4300 BOULDER DR.
 \$200,000

*****SOLD*****
 2401 TERRACE AVE.
 \$200,000

*****SOLD*****
 2200 BRUNSON AVE.
 \$160,000

Miscellaneous 4 Sale

FREON R12 WANTED
 Certified buyer pays CASH
 for cylinders & cans.
 (312) 291-9169. refrigerantfinders.com

Legal and Public Notices

Legal & Public Notices
 NOTIFICATION is hereby given that The First National Bank of Stanton, 119 N. St. Peter, Stanton, Texas 79782 has filed an application with the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency on July 13, 2018, for permission to change the location of its Midland Branch from 200 N. Loraine Street, Suite 1200, Midland, Texas 79701 to 400 N. Big Spring Street, Midland, Texas 79701. Any person wishing to comment on this application may file comments in writing with the OCC, Director for District Licensing, Southern District, 500 North Akard Street, Suite 1600, Dallas, Texas 75201 within 30 days of the date of this publication. The public portions of the application are available for inspection during regular business hours at the Southern District Licensing Office.

Legal and Public Notices

Notice on Sale of Personal Property to satisfy a landlords lien for CASH ONLY. Sale date is August 9, 2018
 Aztec Storage Center
 500 S Midland DR
 Midland TX 79703
 Time 10:00 am
 #125 & 133 Nancy Turner
 #151 Erika Hinojos
 Aztec Storage Center
 1131 E 52nd Street
 Odessa TX 79761
 Time 11:00 am
 #0-52 Petronilo Minarez
 #0-75 Sherry Telford
 #0-90 Samantha Galindo
HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Estate Sales

THE ANTIQUES BARN ESTATE SALES SERVICES
RUSTY & VICKI RATLIFF
 ESTATE SALE
 983 SEVERN
 RANKIN, TEXAS 79778
 Fri - Sat - 9AM - 4PM Sun 1PM - 4PM
 View photos and details at EstateSales.net

General Announcement

Cause No. P19845
 In The Matter Of § In The County Court
 The Estate Of §
 Eula Mae Pertile, Deceased § Midland County, Texas
PUBLISHED NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Eula Mae Pertile, Deceased, were issued on July 10, 2018 in Cause Number P19845, pending in the County Court of Midland County, Texas to Beverly Agomuo, Independent Executor.
 The address of record for Beverly Agomuo is 9306 Rosehaven Drive, Houston, Texas 77051.
 All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present their claims within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 DATED on this 10th day of July, 2018
 Beverly Agomuo, Independent Executor

Auctions



Between Benjamin & Guthrie, TX

1,000± ACRE TURN-KEY GAME RANCH
Live Auction: July 26 • 10 AM

Auction Location: Guthrie CSD Activity Center, 1618 US 83, Guthrie, TX 79236

INCLUDED IN WINNING BID
 300+ ACRES HIGH FENCED • 100+ MI. EXOTIC & NATIVE GAME SPECIES • FULLY FURNISHED 5000 SQ. FT. BUNK HOUSE • SKI LIFT • SWIMMING POOL • BARBEQUE PIT • MORE!

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The Bottom Line

76 percent of adults have read a daily newspaper in the past five days.

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General Announcement

Thank You Jesus! Mark Berryhill.com Ministering for Christ Teach the Lord's Word 1-4

Lost and Found

FOUND DOG on 6-17
 4 months. 432-218-7229
\$500 REWARD 2 year old female. 50 lbs, brown short hair mix breed. Look similar to Lab/ Hound cross. 432-683-3001 or 432-770-1559

Autos For Sale-Lease
 2010 Honda CR-V, sun-roof, am/fm/cd player, mileage 136,400, one owner, good condition, clean \$9,500 obo. Call 903-456-1714
FOR SALE
 2006 Toyota Camry LE 198,000 miles, very dependable, 1 previous owner, great on gas, and well taken care of. Call 432-413-5061 for more information.

Passenger Cars

Garage-Estate-Yard Sale
 79706
 2719 WCR 114 (corner of WCR 114 & SCR 1205) Friday, Saturday & Sunday 8am-7pm. Huge yard sale!

Yard, Garage, Sales

Merchandise
 Miscellaneous 4 Sale
 TWO 10' x 10' dog kennels with gates \$150 each or \$250 for both. 432-770-1091

Real Estate Rental-Sale

Roommates
 ROOMMATE WANTED 4 bed house utilities included. Have \$650 or \$850 private entrance. W/ pool call Jeannie 801-764-8105

Passenger Cars

ESSENCE OF LUXURY, 2015 S 550 Mercedes with all the options. Dark blue color. Less than 25,000 miles. Condition like new. 4304 Lanham St. Midland, TX. 79705. Call 575-937-4242
 Hyundai Sonata 2005 \$500.00 needs transmission 432-770-6473

Exotic Cars

CHEVROLET CORVETTE 505 HP, 2008 C8, 206, 20K miles. Black, 6 speed standard, garage kept plus extras. \$34,750. 432-638-3378

Pickup Trucks

2001 DODGE 1/2 Ton extended cab pickup \$2,000 call 432-556-9907

Residential Rentals

VERY AFFORDABLE RENT: 1 and 2 bedrooms, call 432-687-4514

Condo/Thome Rent Furn

EXECUTIVE ACCOMMODATIONS, Available Aug 1, 2018. 2 bedroom All inclusive, fully furnished, wide screen tv, internet, power, water, cooling, heating steep number bed, Jacuzzi tub, no water system, dishes, linen, Direct TV. \$2000.00/mo. 1500.00 deposit month to month. 432-352-4509

House Rent Furn

FREE CREDIT APPLICATIONS being taken for 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath, washer & dryer connections. Refrigerator & range. \$1,750 month \$1,200 deposit. Excellent neighborhood. 432-699-4420 or 432-553-8397

Room for Rent

ROOM FOR RENT in a clean, quiet and great community next to Midland & Bluebird. Asking \$750 monthly. Shared bathroom, pool, garage is available for \$50 more. Call (432) 618-8623. Looking for single working person.

Residential Sales

HOUSE FOR SALE in Pecos, Texas, 2137 Texas Street. Interested persons call 972-848-8433.

Vacation Resort

FOR SALE
 Inks Lake, Home and large shaded waterfront lot on main body Facing Inks Lake State Park. Constant Level Great swim area, perfect for small children. Dock with 122 Mountain View Circle, Burnet 78611. Details Lakelake.com. 985.000 512-798-6873

Roommates

BACK ON the market! 30 acres, 4 bedroom 2 bath ranch house at Lake Whitney. \$369,500 MLS # 13872933. 432-556-0547



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Let us keep you cool in the summer and warm in the winter. Schmitt Exteriors can perform many exterior services to keep your home looking updated and beautiful, let us make your house a home by using our 14 years of experience and excellent customer service. Call us to schedule an appointment at your convenience!! We offer free estimates to every client.

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- > Window and door, to replace your outdated features
- > Carpet and patio, to enhance your outdoor space
- > Siding and overhang, to repair your damaged exterior

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EDDIE'S LAWN SERVICE
Cut and Trim Yards, Trees and Bushes.
Clean up yards & rake leaves.
Free Estimates Call 432-638-5559

Complete Landscaping
Lawn Maintenance, shrubs, trees, sprinkler design, installation, maintenance
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APPLIANCE REPAIR
REPAIR SERVICES and Parts for Refrigerators, Freezers, Stoves, Washers & Dryers.
Free Service Call with Repair. Free Removal. Full Warranty. Very Affordable Prices.
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DOUBLE TT PAINTING
Interior and Exterior Texture, tape & bed Low Prices. Work guaranteed. References Available.
432-288-7849 or 352-4633

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Home Cleaning

Miriam's 24/7 Cleaning Services Residential & Commercial 10 yrs Experience. Free Estimates. References. Call or Text 432-234-0418.

Computer Services

COMPUTER PROBLEMS? I CAN HELP.
I'll tell you how, in plain English. Virus Removal, Repairs, Data Recovery, Networking, Custom Designs. Fast, Affordable, Professional. Emergency Service Available. Call (432) 631-7202

FLAWLESS PAINT & HANDYMAN SERVICE Specializing in painting, drywall, drywall repair and textures, epoxy floor finish, tile and popcorn acoustic removal. Workmanship satisfaction guarantee. 10% low enforcement & veterans discount. Call for your free estimate. 432-528-2865

NEED PAINTING call Tony. Texture painting interior/exterior. Over 25 years experience. Reasonable rates. Call 432-222-4033

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HOUSE CLEANING 432-260-2731

HOUSEKEEPING 16 years experience. Free estimates. Call Cecy at 432-250-2356

Home Repairs

ADVANCED BRICK DOCTOR, brick & mortar repair. All types of new construction specializing in block and brick fence. Steve Riskey, 432-853-2858

CONCRETE OVERLAY SOLUTIONS. Crack repair, resurfacing, stamp overlay, and new welcome. By Marry Ribera. Call 432-967-3710 mRiberaConstruction.com Video: https://youtu.be/BLUKSdQDg

ELLIS & Sons Plumbing & Air Conditioning Sales & Service Service all brands. 683-2679 TALCB005482

24 HR Handyman any type of roofing, repair or replace. 432-978-9990

24 HR Handyman. For any type of job, big or small. Repair or rebuild. 432-978-9990.

CRIC Interior and Exterior Painting Re-modeling, fencing & fabrication. Clayton R. Cross. 432-770-8895. 1st ESTIMATE FREE.

DEK PAINTING interior exterior painting repairs, wood work, all kinds of texture. Free estimates. Call Kevin at 432-235-3626

PAINTING, SHEET rock, repairs, fans, electrical, plumbing, tile-floor & bath. Per-man Maintenance 432-697-5417

Finding the Right Realtor and Establishing Communication

Getting to know your Realtor is not only a pleasant experience but a benefit for a home buyer. As you get to know the Realtor, the Realtor is getting to know you better. The better the Realtor knows you, the better they can serve you and truly fill your needs. As you visit and tour homes for sale, the comments you make about your family and their interest and hobbies, the better idea the Realtor will have about your preferences in style, the areas in which you need more room, the neighborhood you like, and what will work for you all.

When comments surface about collections, family parties and celebrations, sports lovers, music lovers, frequent out-of-town visitors, car tinkering, gardening, wood working, etc., the in-tune Realtor will pick up on and feel out your family's every day life style and zero in on the homes that emphasize those amenities that will enhance it. That is not to say that you need a Realtor who will give the

third degree right off the bat and leave you feeling vulnerable and exposed. We are talking a friendly, interested, and mutually benefiting give and take between you and the Realtor after you have outlined the basic fundamental needs you are wanting. Call you Realtor and get to know the person who can help you find the best match of home and family possible. Of course, you have to find one with the personality plus!



The Bottom Line

As household income, education levels and job responsibility increases, so does readership.

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3202 Rea - \$354,900
Tons of space in this four bedroom 3.5 bath home! Three living areas!!



4013 Roma Odessa Tx - \$305,000
Four bedroom two bath DR Horton home. Conveniently located to Hwy 191. Three car garage.



Hubbard Creek!
Beautiful four bedroom home on the water.



1913 wcr 130
1.4 ACRES



612 Ruby - \$129,900
Four bedroom two bath. Large back yard.



2407 Maxwell - \$294,900
POOL! Three bedroom two bath with two living area!

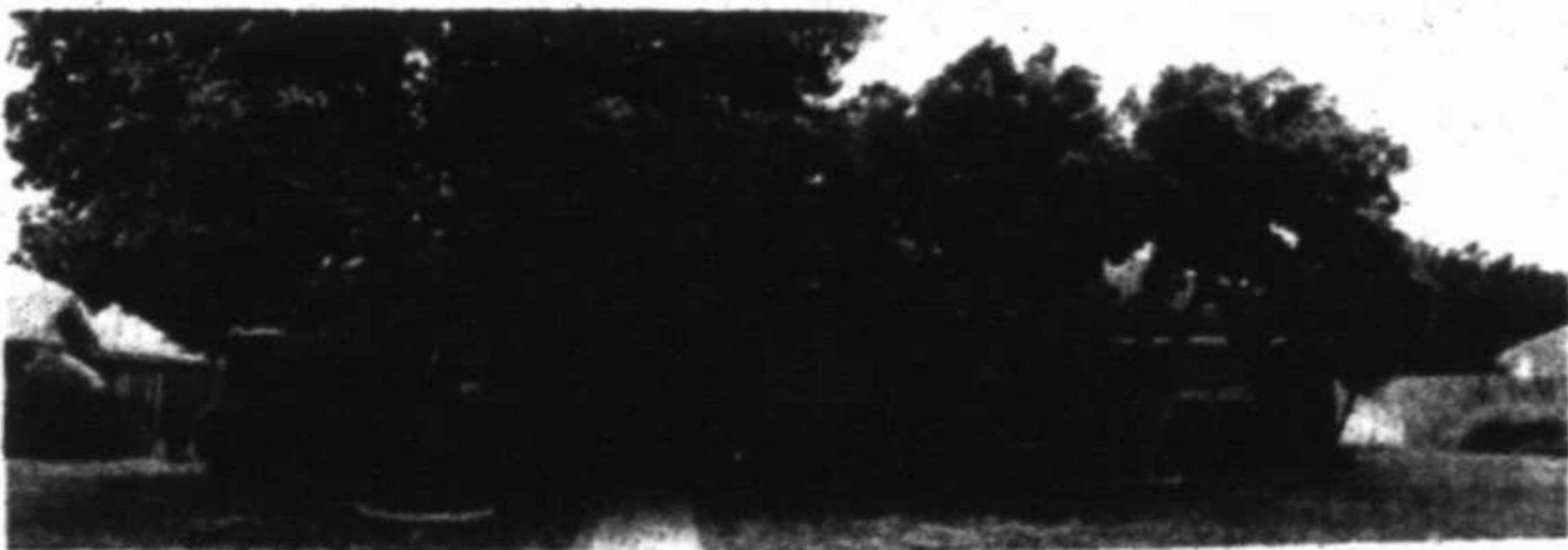


Please give Josie Alvarez a call for information on any of these listings!
296-1395



218 Windridge Circle - \$795,000

MLS# R50016318A. Outstanding home in desired neighborhood! 4 Bedrooms 3 full bath 2 half bath with 4 living areas! Tons of closet space with built ins throughout! Spacious formal living areas open to formal dining & kitchen! Stainless appliances, stunning granite counters! Fantastic sequestered master suite offers double vanities & closets, jetted tub & beautiful walk in shower! Gameroom includes built in desk & wet bar area!



4415 Cherrywood Dr. - \$490,000

MLS# R50016185A. Remarkable 4 bedroom/3 bath with soaring ceilings! Spectacular heated aranda pool & spa with gorgeous water fall! Stunning hardwood flooring through out plus granite countertops! Huge front living & dining area would make a great place to entertain guests! Inviting master suite offer natural light through skylight, double sinks in vanity with amazing wrap around closet! Spacious bedrooms & closet space!



5608 Magellan St. - \$380,000

MLS# R50014758A. Spectacular 4 bedroom 3.5 Bath 2 living area in adobe meadows! Beautiful wood like tile flooring throughout, large island in kitchen with granite countertops! Cozy living area with gas log fireplace overlooking backyard! Huge sequestered master offers his/her vanities, separate walk in shower & soaking tub! Spacious closet! 2Nd living area & 3 spacious bedrooms upstairs! Tons of closet space! Hoa park & pool!

"Whether you are selling the home where your memories are made or buying the home of your dreams... I look forward to helping you with any of your real estate needs."

Call DeLaura Gammage 288-3880



SUNDAY OPEN HOUSES

OPEN 1:30-2:30
5217 Green Tree Blvd. - \$375,000
3BR/2BA
Listed by Stephanie Rogers

OPEN 1:30-2:30
4201 E. County Rd. 65 - \$325,000
3BR/2BA
Listed by DeLaura Gammage
Shown by Amanda Genter

OPEN 1:30-2:30
2807 Frontier Dr. - \$342,000
3BR/2BA + OFFICE
Listed by Lauren Threlkoff

OPEN 1:30-2:30
5805 Pedernales - \$300,000
4BR/2BA/3CB
Listed by Ashley Di John
Shown by Renee Evans

OPEN 2:00-3:00
2407 Maxwell - \$294,900
3BR/2BA
Listed by Josie Alvarez

OPEN 2:00-4:00
3711 Northfield - \$940,000
5BR/5BA
Listed & Shown by Sandy J. Hanson

OPEN 3:00-4:00
4800 Green Tree Blvd. - \$880,000
5BR/3.5BA
Listed by Stephanie Rogers

OPEN 3:00-4:00
3204 Shell - \$884,000
4BR
Listed by Leah Walker
Shown by Renee Evans

Come Join Us
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HOMEWISER

Real Estate Tips and Advice



Reach Millennial Buyers

By JOE SZYBROWSKI | Green Shoot Media

Millennials are people born between 1980 and 2000, and according to the National Association of Realtors, they are a dominant force in the housing market.

In fact, a 2016 study by the group showed they comprise the largest segment of today's buying market.

To impress this young group of buyers, convenience, technology and modern design are

key. Knowing the audience to whom you are selling will make the sale much easier.

A HOME OFFICE

According to the United States Census, more than 13 million Americans work from home, and that number will likely rise in the coming years. A home featuring a dedicated space for professionalism will outshine homes without.

Even if your spare room is currently set up as a bedroom, your Realtor might choose to portray it as an office during an open house or other showings.

SMART HOME

Today's technology offers some exciting innovations in

how people live in their homes. To stand out in a market with many options, consider installing some of these "smart products" before putting your home on the market:

- **Smart light bulbs:** Creating a network of light bulbs that are controlled by mobile apps on smart devices can be appealing to a generation who grew up as technology boomed.

- **Smart thermostats:** The convenience of controlling your heating and air units has been rising in popularity. Innovative thermostats that operate with an app make this achievable. Some models will even learn a user's behavior and program itself.

MODERN KITCHEN AND BATH

Remodeling these rooms before your home goes on the market can provide great advantages. Experts say most millennials are on limited budgets, and these rooms generally cost the most to renovate.

Offering these rooms as move-in-ready and appealing to a younger audience will motivate buyers.

Of course, since the kitchen and bathrooms are considered the most expensive for renovations, you need to be honest with your budget, as well. Gather quotes from licensed contractors to learn how much it would cost you.

It also can be a good idea to

share your plan with your Realtor to find out how much of an impact these renovations would actually have in your local market.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

There has been a surge in buying "green" homes. Millennials are generally concerned with the environment and want to show it with their living space.

Consider updating to Energy Star appliances or even contacting an energy provider about going solar. Solar technology will pay for itself over several years. This is another expensive investment that you won't see the benefits from when you sell your home.

REAL ESTATE 101




What Do Millennial Buyers Want?

After a 2016 survey of home shoppers, Realtor.com predicted that more than half of homes bought in 2017 would be bought by first-time buyers — most of whom would be millennials. Seventy-eight percent of buyers 25-34 were expected to be first-time buyers. Thirty-nine percent of millennials were expected to be in the market for a single-family home, with 34 percent shopping for townhomes.


HOMEWISER GLOSSARY

Origination services: Any service involved in the creation of a mortgage loan, including but not limited to the taking of the loan application, loan processing, and the underwriting and funding of loan, and the processing and administrative services required to perform these functions.

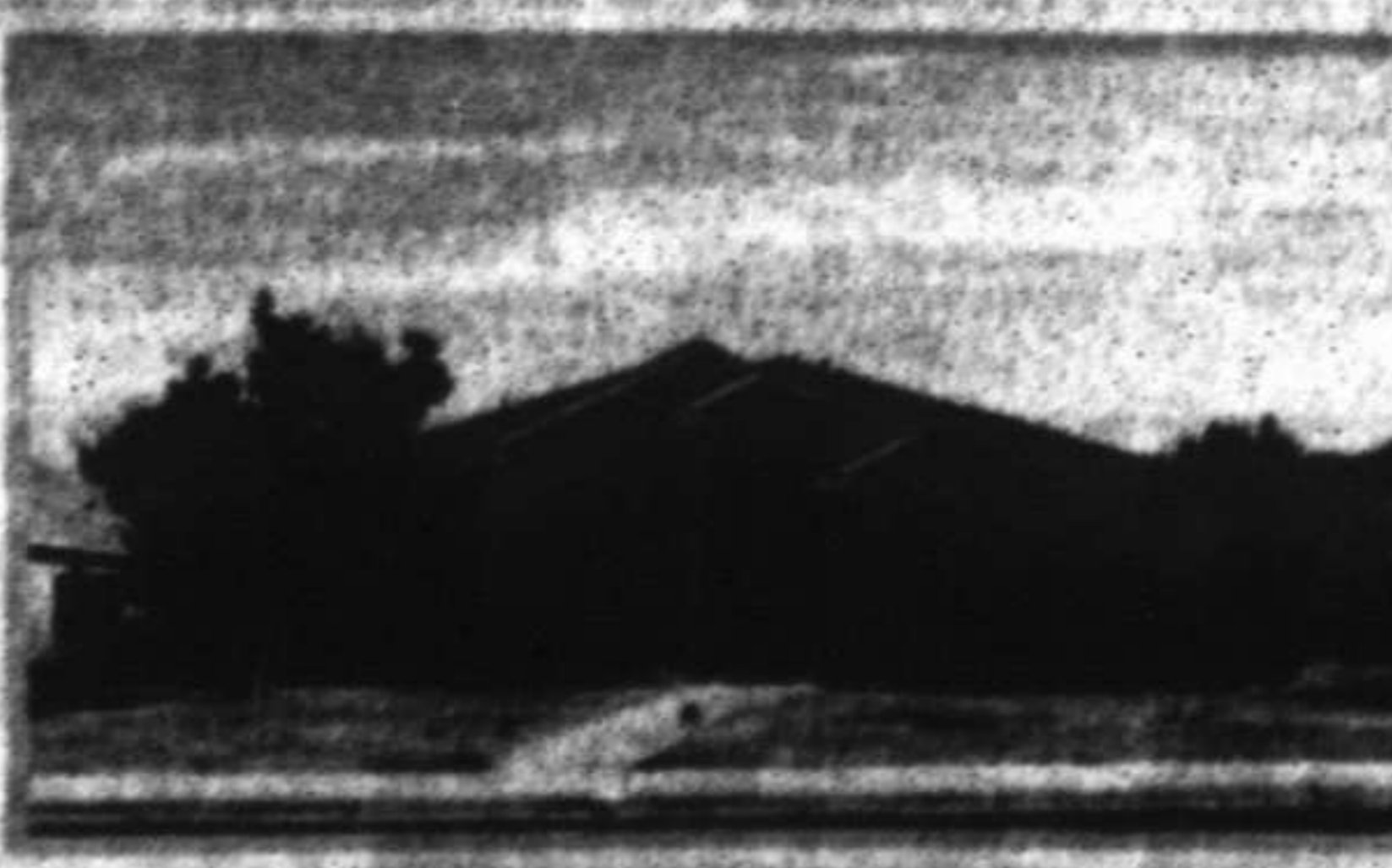
SOURCE: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau



DeLaura Gammage
Owner/REALTOR®
432.286.3860



2016 2017
2016 2017



5310 OAK VALLEY DR. - \$500,000

SPACIOUS 3 BED 2.5 BATH GREATVIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT!
Open floor concept! Stunning living area offers wood burning fireplace, ceiling treatment & spectacular view of backyard! Huge kitchen with island dining, office space, island & tons of cabinet space! Hardwood, full bath & utility room off kitchen! Great backyard! Master bath includes soaking tub, walk in closet & fantastic walk through closet!



687-6500

www.LegacyRealEstate.com

NEW CONSTRUCTION IN MIDLAND

Table listing new construction properties with columns for address, agent, and price.

FOUR OR MORE BEDROOMS IN MIDLAND

Table listing properties with four or more bedrooms, including addresses, agents, and prices.

THREE BEDROOMS IN MIDLAND

Table listing properties with three bedrooms, including addresses, agents, and prices.

ONE/TWO BEDROOMS IN MIDLAND

Table listing properties with one or two bedrooms, including addresses, agents, and prices.

HOMES IN MIDLAND COUNTY

Table listing properties in Midland County, including addresses, agents, and prices.

HOMES OUTSIDE OF MIDLAND COUNTY

Table listing properties outside of Midland County, including addresses, agents, and prices.

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL

Table listing commercial and industrial properties, including addresses, agents, and prices.

LAND AND LOTS

Table listing land and lot properties, including addresses, agents, and prices.

TOWNHOMES-PATIO HOMES

Table listing townhomes and patio homes, including addresses, agents, and prices.

FOR LEASE

Table listing properties available for lease, including addresses and agents.



Voted Midland's Favorite Real Estate Agency

CULTURE

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Sunday, July 15, 2018 | Section E



COUNTERCLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Pickwick Players' 'The Pickwick Papers' (left); 'The Pickwick Papers' (center); 'The Pickwick Papers' (right). Photos by James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram. Pickwick Players' 'The Pickwick Papers' (left); 'The Pickwick Papers' (center); 'The Pickwick Papers' (right). Photos by James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram. Pickwick Players' 'The Pickwick Papers' (left); 'The Pickwick Papers' (center); 'The Pickwick Papers' (right). Photos by James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

For 50 years, education and art come together at Pickwicks

By Bill Williams

The Pickwick Players' production of "The Pickwick Papers" is a testament to the organization's commitment to education and art. The show, directed by Charles Webb, and "The Pickwick Papers" is a testament to the organization's commitment to education and art. The show, directed by Charles Webb, and "The Pickwick Papers" is a testament to the organization's commitment to education and art. The show, directed by Charles Webb, and "The Pickwick Papers" is a testament to the organization's commitment to education and art.

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'To sir and ma'am, with love'
More than theater is learned during time with the Pickwicks

By Abby Anderson

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WILLIAMS

ANDERSON



NAMES & FACES

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Sunday, July 15, 2018 | Page 2E

OUT&ABOUT

by Julie Donnelly



BEACH BALL BLAST

Paige Sumner, from left, Betty Starnes and Kendra Cowden

SHRIMP BOIL IS FEATURE OF BEACH BALL BLAST

"Celebrate Baja Style" was the theme for Hillcrest School's Beach Ball Blast at Kessler Hall. This year's fundraiser marked a special occasion: The school is celebrating 25 years of providing a specialized education for students with learning differences.

Dick Jordan and Matt Ogee prepared a shrimp boil on-site, and the band 3OG provided the evening's entertainment.

The event included a silent auction of more than 70 items, including Black Star boots, Ray-Ban sunglasses, an Odyssey putter, use of a suite at a Dallas Cowboys game and a stay at a condo in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Raffle tickets were also sold for a chance to win an outdoor patio set, or 25 John Hart pieces.

Kimberly and Scott Sheffield were Beach Ball Blast's presenting sponsors.



BEACH BALL BLAST

Jan O'Neill, Betty Starnes, Kimberley Sheffield and Scott Sheffield



BEACH BALL BLAST

Kimberlee King, from left, Denise Strickland, Dee Williamson and Randal Strickland



CRISTIANI REOPENING

Gail Spence, from left, Shanna Spence and Jared Spence



BEACH BALL BLAST

Austin and Taylor Wallace, from left, Matt Guisinger, Steven Hofer, Andrew and Jessica Rensimer, Michelle Hofer and Alex Guisinger



BEACH BALL BLAST

Denise and Chris McKinney, from left, Stacy and Sean McDaniel and Blake and Megan Davis

To have an event included in "Out and About" contact Julie Donnelly at mrtjulie@outlook.com



CRISTIANI REOPENING

Roger Freidline, from left, Alice Freidline, Carlene Cristiani and David Cristiani



CRISTIANI REOPENING

Jerry Green, from left, Christine Green and Mathew Blair



CRISTIANI REOPENING

Gaye Glasscock, from left, Gary Glasscock and Jay Reynolds



CRISTIANI REOPENING

David Kleinbeck, from left, Vannah Kleinbeck, Diane Allison and Freddy Allison

CRISTIANI JEWELERS REOPENS WITH ROLEX EXHIBITION

Cristiani's Jewelers recently held its grand reopening with a cocktail reception that featured the "Daytona Exhibition" of Rolex watches.

Guests enjoyed an interactive design screen that was set up in the shape of Rolex watch links. Champagne and a variety of wine complemented the catered buffet of beef tenderloin, shrimp, jalapeno-bacon-wrapped chicken and grill cheese bites set atop a small glass of tomato soup.

HOBBY LOBBY

FIND A LOCATION NEAR YOU OR SHOP ONLINE AT HOBBYLOBBY.COM

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HOME DECOR 50% OFF



- Adhesive Vinyl Wall Art
Ceramic Decor
Clocks
Lamps & Lampshades

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Decorative Crosses
Decorative Spheres

- Men's Resin & Ceramic Decor
Polyresin & Pottery Decor
Candles, LED Candles, Fragrance Warmers, Potpourri & Diffusers

Fall items are not included in Home Decor sale.

FALL FLORAL 40% OFF



Arrangements, bushes, wreaths, garlands, swags, stems, picks and ribbon

FALL HOME & PARTY DECOR AND CRAFTS 40% OFF



Does not include fall fabrics or candy

FLORAL 50% OFF

- Potted Trees & Plants
Stem Naturals
Floral Stems
Flowering & Greenery Bushes

FURNITURE ALWAYS 30% OFF



THE MARKED PRICE*

YARN & NEEDLE ART

- All Artists' Floss & Threads
Premium Poly Foam, No-Foam & Smart Foam
Packaged Quilt Battings & Pillow Forms
Poly-Fil 100% Polyester Fiberfill

FRAMES 50% OFF
Categories Listed
Ready-Made Open Frames
Picture Frames
Shadow Boxes, Display Cases & Pig Cases
Art Prints & Posters

CRAFTS 30% OFF
Categories Listed
T-Shirts
Unfinished Craft Wood
Krylon's Spray Paint

PAPER CRAFTS 50% OFF
Most Categories Listed
Scrapbook Papers
The Paperie Shopper
Rubber Stamps & Sets
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ART SUPPLIES 40% OFF
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All Pens, Pencils & Marker Sets
Super Value Pack Canvas

JEWELRY MAKING 50% OFF
Categories Listed
Jewelry Kits and Bead Boxes
Seed Bead Co., Inc. Beads
Poly Bead

ALL FABRIC 30% OFF
Categories Listed
Home Decor & Apparel
Sew-It-Up Sewing Kits

CUSTOM FRAMES 50% OFF
Always 50% off the marked price*
Applies to frame only. See store for details.
We Guarantee Our Prices Are Lower Than Our Competitors' Larger Discounts!

PRICES GOOD IN STORES
SATURDAY, JULY 14 - SUNDAY, JULY 15, 2018
SOME ADVERTISED ITEMS NOT AVAILABLE IN SOME STORES. SALES SUBJECT TO SUPPLY IN STOCK. SELECTION AND QUANTITIES VARY BY STORE. AD DOES NOT APPLY TO PRE-REDUCED ITEMS.

HOBBY LOBBY
40% OFF
The price for the 40% off sale is only valid on items that are on sale. This offer is not valid on items that are already on sale. This offer is not valid on items that are marked "Your Price".

*Discounts provided every day; marked prices reflect general U.S. market value for similar products. *No coupons or other discounts may be applied to "Your Price" items.



Kamradt-Hickey

Maggie Kay Kamradt and Paul Michael Hickey were united in marriage at 6:30 in the evening on June 16, 2018 at Robert Carr Chapel on the campus of Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Curt Kamradt of Midland, Texas and the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Huckabee of Midland, Texas and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kamradt of Clovis, New Mexico.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Barry Hickey of Arlington, Texas and the grandson of Wanda Hickey of Marble Falls, Texas.

Given in marriage by her parents and escorted by her father, the bride wore Blush by Hayley Paige, an ivory Marrakesh beaded bridal ball gown, scalloped sweetheart neckline and spaghetti strap detail, cascading tulle skirt with thin horsehair trim.

Joey Hickey of Orlando, Florida, brother of the groom, served as Best Man. Groomsmen were Spencer Head of Fort Worth, Texas, Austin Clark of Midlothian, Texas, Shane Thammawat of Frisco, Texas, childhood friend, Donnie Reagan of Arlington, Texas, childhood friend, Chris Weber of Fort Worth, Texas, childhood friend, and Dr. James Allen of Macon, Georgia.

The bride graduated from Midland Christian School and Texas Christian University. She is employed with PhysAssist Scribes in Fort Worth as a Human Resource Manager.

The groom graduated from Seguin High School in Arlington and Texas Christian University. He is a candidate for graduation in May of 2019 in Nursing from The University of Texas at Arlington.

After honeymooning at Jade Mountain in St. Lucia, the couple resides in Fort Worth, Texas. (Photo by Matt & Julie Weddings)



Courtesy photos

Shy fox squirrel can be found all around Texas

MICHAEL PRICE
Wild About Texas



Sometimes, an animal can be so common that even the most detail-oriented naturalist will overlook them. A case in point is a highly visible rodent that makes the trees of Texas its home.

Fox squirrels (*Sciurus niger*) dwell within suitable habitats of almost the entire state, except for the 11 counties west of the Pecos River. They are the larger of the two species of "arboreal" squirrels that occur in Texas.

As the common name implies, the coloration of this species superficially resembles that of a gray fox. The body is two-toned, with the upper half being grayish or brownish with black peppering, while the lower half of the body is more of a cinnamon or rusty coloration.

Being a member of the arboreal squirrel family means that this rodent is almost always observed in association with forested areas with a mixture of different species of trees, particularly oak and other nut-producing trees.

Fox squirrels are diurnal (active during the day), with much of their activity limited by temperature. During the summer months, they are active in the mornings and evenings, while during the spring and fall they can be observed readily throughout the day.

temperatures.

Their closely related cousins, the ground squirrels, tend to be shyer, but fox squirrels are also wary, often running to the other side of a nearby tree to avoid detection from perceived predators.

Fox squirrels tend to live solitary lives for much of the year, although during mating and birthing seasons they will often congregate in areas of suitable nest sites. Breeding occurs annually, and generally takes place during two different times of the year.

This species of arboreal squirrel is quite common throughout its range in Texas, and it plays an important role in the fur trade. With men using fruit- and seed-producing trees for landscape and food purposes, the range and population densities of this rodent has actually increased in the past several decades, showing its adaptability to living near human habitations.

Wine's 'bouquet' reveals its quality

Dear Heloise: What do people mean when they speak of a wine's "bouquet." — Lillian B., Pine Bluff, Ark. Lillian, about 80 percent of our sense of taste is based on our sense of smell. The aroma — or the bouquet, as it's called — of the wine tells you a lot about its quality.

HINTS FROM HELOISE



GRILLED VEGETABLES

Dear Heloise: About two weeks ago, I had some grilled veggies at a friend's home and loved them. I'd like to try it, but don't know how long they should be cooked, or which vegetables I should grill.

- Bell peppers: Cut into quarters, remove the seeds and grill, with the skin side down, 12 to 15 minutes over the heat.
- Corn on the cob: Soak the corn in the husks in cold water for 30 minutes. Peel back the husks, but do not remove. Do remove the corn silk. Pull the husks back over the cobs and cook about 15 minutes.
- Mushrooms: Cut the stems level with the caps. Brush with olive oil, both sides, and cook until tender, about 2 minutes.
- Potatoes: Baking or new potatoes are best for the grill. Slice between 1/4 and 1/2 inch thick. Place the slices on foil squares, and dot with butter or drops of olive oil. Sprinkle with salt and pepper and herbs such as chives, parsley and rosemary. Wrap in foil and cook on the grill until tender. — Heloise

BOOTLEGGER BEANS

Dear Heloise: Just the thought of your recipe for bootlegger beans makes my mouth water. I lost that recipe in our last move to a new house. Would you please reprint it for me? — Nora Y., Troy, Mich. Nora, I've always loved this recipe, so here it is:

- 3 strips bacon
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 (15-ounce) can of pork and beans in tomato sauce
- 1 tablespoon packed brown sugar
- 2 to 3 tablespoons ketchup

Fry the bacon in a medium pan over medium-high heat until almost crisp. Add the onion and continue frying until the onion starts to brown. Pour off almost all of the grease and add the remaining ingredients. Stir to mix well, cover and simmer until heated through. — Heloise

SMART SHOPPER

Dear Heloise: A word to the wise: Don't buy convenience foods. Why? They usually are high in fat, sugar and salt. Often, they're overpackaged, so you'll be adding to our landfill problems.

CHAMPAGNE

Dear Heloise: What is a magnum and a jeroboom of champagne? — Dale G., Decatur, Ill. Dale, a magnum is 2 quarts, which usually fills 10 glasses. A jeroboom of champagne is 4 quarts, which fills about 20 glasses. — Heloise

Love is best present for grandson with Down syndrome

DEAR ABBY: We have three grandchildren and are due to make our annual visit. Two of the children are easy to plan for, and we have good relationships with them. The third is a 12-year-old boy with Down syndrome, and we struggle with how to deal with him — what to do and what to buy him. Any ideas? — UNSURE IN THE SOUTH

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.

DEAR UNSURE: The most important thing you can bring with you on your visit is a heart filled with love, and the determination that your grandson will know you love him. Spending one-on-one time together would make him feel special.

activities you can share should be easy questions for them to answer. I have printed a wonderful poem on this subject in my column before. It was written by Edna Massimilla, and I think it is timely. Edna is 102 now and still as energetic and "with it" as ever. Read on: **Heaven's Very Special Child**

Please see ABBY/6E

BRIDGE

PERMIAN BRIDGE CLUB

JULY 2 Linda Buzan-Betty Moore, Belle Harris-Ann Parish, Greg Keys-Linda Scarpelli, Marilyn Higgins-Paula Baggett, Linda McDonald-Jody McLane, Sandy Hill-Debbie Conner

JULY 3 Ann Servatius-Tommie Strack, Bonnie Hubbard-Ricki Perry, Buzan-Parish, Patti Hubbard-Kay Arrell, David Hudson-Keys

JULY 5 Dorothy Brenneman-Baggett, Sonya Hopkins-Parish, Georgia Temple-Higgins, Nancy Ward-Gloria Jackson, Dorothy

Baird-Sarana Savage, John Seymour-Dianne Anderson K.C. Evans-Arrell, Mike Robinson-Marilyn Matthews, Heard-Strack, Ayra Cirilo-Cordell Hammon, Phyllis Maxwell-Douglas Brown, Ann Brooks-Mary Tift Overall: Evans-Arrell, Baggett-Brenneman, Robinson-Matthews, Parish-Hopkins, Heard-Strack, Higgins-Temple, Ward-Jackson, Baird-Savage, Seymour-Anderson, Cirilo-Hammon, Maxwell-Brown, Brooks-Tift

JULY 8 Deborah Brookins-Matthews, Evans-Arrell, Flo Curry-Shirley Davenport, Lonnie Yee-Ward

With Bob Jones

Esther bids a slam

Neither vulnerable, North deals

Hand diagram showing cards for North and South. North: ♠AJ10, ♥Q, ♦AJ653, ♣432. South: ♠9864, ♥872, ♦42, ♣KJ95. South also has ♠Q7532, ♥A54, ♦Q107, ♣A.

The bidding: NORTH SOUTH WEST EAST 10 20 20 Pass 40 Pass 40 All pass

Opening lead: Spade of ♠

Esther was delighted to have Fred as her partner once again at the local duplicate. Fred had been urging her to be more aggressive in her slam bidding, and Esther had promised to try. She wasn't sure what to do when Fred bid four spades.

It was so long since she had bid a slam that she forgot about Blackwood. She just took a deep breath and jumped right to six. "That was exciting," she thought.

Esther won the opening heart lead with her ace and was torn between drawing trumps or ruffing her heart losers. Something had often happened when she didn't draw trumps right away, so she started by leading a spade to dummy's 10. The 4-0 split was nerve-wracking, but Esther led a club to her ace and ran the queen

of diamonds. Finances were her specialty.

The queen held the trick, as Esther expected, but East hesitated before ducking his king. Esther noticed this, for some reason, and decided that East was trying to be clever.

She led a diamond to the ace hoping the king would fall. When it didn't, Esther decided that she'd better start ruffing something and hope for the best. She ruffed a club in her hand and a heart on the board, followed by another club ruff before ruffing her last heart with dummy's last trump.

She ruffed another club in her hand and when she looked at her last three cards, two of them were high trumps. She drew her cards on the table with joy, claiming her slam.



Courtesy photos



FROM TOP:
 "The Indian
 Captive,"
 1978; "West
 Side Story,"
 1998; "Seven
 Brides for Sev-
 en Brothers,"
 2008; "Win-
 nie the Pooh,"
 1988;

ANDERSON

From 1E

absolutely life-changing program." -
 Olivia Drake, Class of 2008

"I hope that every student who feels they do not quite 'fit in' sees a play, or picks up an instrument, or puts on some tights, and a flame of passion ignites... [i]n that way, MCT's education programs go above and beyond in service of the Midland community." -
 Tyler Rhoads, Class of 2011

"The most important part of my Pickwick career occurred not on stage or even backstage, but during my time spent as a Theatre School instructor. It's a rare thing to be able to give back to a program that you spend your entire childhood being a part of... The heart of the education program has never been about training actors and actresses, though it does that beautifully, but about developing kids into confident and fearless individuals who can face any challenge they encounter." -
 Hattie Miller, Class of 2015

"Bill and Judith were such positive mentors in my life pushing me to be my best and urging me to try new things. (I still hate dance calls, but Judith taught me that if I smile enough no one will look at my feet.)" -
 Shelly Irvin Traverse, Class of 2004

"Bill and Judith gave me the perspective that no matter what I did on stage, I had to be the one to believe in its authenticity first. Little did I know at the time; they were really telling me that half the battle is believing in yourself. It will remain a reference point for the rest of my life - both on and off stage." -
 Kyle Sheldon, Class of 2005

"My time at MCT was very important on many levels... Working closely with so many different people (ages 5-85) and ideas was, upon reflection, a fascinating way to learn about life, humans, and myself." -
 Logan Pitts, Class of 2013

"One beautiful aspect about the Pickwick Players is that, through necessity, we must engage with each other in order to create art; by doing so, we learn how to speak to each other, problem solve, and embrace our differences for a common goal. Of course, at the time, we thought we were just making memories." -
 Liz Livingston, Class of 2010

WILLIAMS

From 1E

in our educational programs at MCT. One common statement I have heard over the years from students is that when they entered the door at MCT they saw people like themselves. They no longer felt like outsiders. They felt as if they found a second home.

I, too, feel as if I found a home when I came here 20 years ago. A large part of my life and history has been this wonderful program and every student who I've had the privilege of teaching and directing. It has truly been a blessing. I sincerely hope that every Pickwick Player who has been a member of the group over the past 50 years will always have beautiful memories of their time here at Midland Community Theatre.

Here's to another 50!

Sun Parasol mandevillas celebrate 15 years of tropical color

Fifteen years ago, the Sun Parasol mandevilla made its debut in the country, and those of us who were present knew this tropical climber was here to stay. What we didn't know was that this series giving a tropical magic to the garden would one day feature 21 varieties. We could not have imagined a red-and-white-striped selection, such as Stars and Stripes; a soft orange such as the Sun Parasol Apricot or a Giant Red Emperor with the ability to climb 10 to 15 feet and produce flowers 3 to 5 inches wide.

Every time we thought they couldn't do it, the breeders from Suntory did -- including creating varieties that produced so many flowers that the only way you could count them would be by pulling them off one at a time. Even that would be considered a laborious task.

Sun Parasols mandevillas are found in three major groups: the Pretty Group, Giant Group and Original Group. Then there is the Designer Group, with currently one selection, Designer White, and two individual colors, Sun Parasol Apricot and Sun Parasol Garden Crimson. All are simply dazzling and worth every penny for your garden dollar.

At the Coastal Georgia



Peter A. Hogg/San Antonio Express-News

Mandevilla

NORMAN WINTER

Tribune News Service

Botanical Gardens, we used Pretty Pink trained on bamboo poles. They gave a

cloud-like bouquet of pink towering above pentas, irises and Diamond Frost euphorbia. At Jekyll Island, Georgia, a top tourist destination, they were in large mixed containers and mesmerized visitors with the abundance of flowers.

Last year when I saw Sun Parasol Apricot at a shopping center in Co-

lumbus, Georgia, I was stunned by its color and could not take my eyes off the creative combination that featured it with blue scaevola, a complementary partnership that before had been impossible. Sun Parasol Red Emperor in the Giant Group made its debut in 2014 with huge 3- to 5-inch deep red flowers

produced all summer on a plant that is supercharged.

As with most plants I write about, these Sun Parasol mandevilla hybrids need well-drained soil to survive. This is one of the reasons that these containers and baskets are so healthy and picturesque. If we prepare our landscape soil to make it organic-

rich, we can duplicate the results in the containers.

For best blooming, you will want your mandevilla to receive at least six to eight hours of sunlight a day. Since it is such a vigorous vine and flower-producer, it needs small doses of fertilizer every two to three weeks.

In containers or baskets that get watered every day, fertilization is mandatory. Frequently, dilute applications of a water-soluble fertilizer such as a 20-20-20 to keep the plants at peak performance. Be sure to maintain moisture during the hot, dry times of the summer. A prolonged period without water may prove fatal to the plant.

The Sun Parasol mandevilla is the perfect plant to get you started growing vertically in the garden. Sure, you can grow it on the street-side mailbox, but why not also grow it up on a Victorian tower, a lamp post, a lattice trellis or the classic white picket fence? Can you just imagine the look of a Saba or St. Bart's Caribbean Cottage?

We have a lot of hot growing season to go, and if your landscape could use some pizzazz from tropical color, then get to the garden center quickly for the Sun Parasol mandevilla.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

Cicadas wait as long as 17 years to make their noise



We are familiar with the sounds of summer that feature a symphony of bird calls, the trilling of crickets and the drone of bees. Perhaps the one that most reminds us of the season is the incessant buzzing of the cicada. Of the order Hemiptera, these true bugs are closely related to leafhoppers, froghoppers and spittle bugs.

The life cycle of the cicada begins with the female laying eggs in plant stems where the emerging nymph lives on the plant xylem, or fluid. Soon they drop to the ground and burrow into the soil, feeding on roots using a beak called a rostrum. Some species remain as nymphs for 13 years, and some species for 17 years.

The majority of the species we see and hear emerge annually are the longer-life cicadas. As they emerge in 17-year cycles, botanists have placed them in brood numbers. Brood VII is hatching in the Great Lakes region of New York this year.

The buzzing sound is made

CARL WHITE

Permian Basin Master Gardeners

only by the male cicada, using an organ along their sides called a tymbal. The flexing of the tymbal in and out produces the clicking sound they make most of the month they are alive.

Emerging cicadas will crawl up a plant stem or tree trunk where the exoskeleton is shed, and the adults go about doing their intended task for the week to a month of their life. Then the egg cycle begins again.

Easily caught by hand, these are harmless bugs; some are quite colorful, and all are quite noisy. Just remember: Have some patience with these guys. If you're annoyed by the constant buzzing, know that the bug has been waiting 17 years for his moment.

Eggs, half-and-half help make fluffy strawberry shortcake

By America's Test Kitchen

The heart of any great strawberry shortcake is the topping of lightly sugared, juicy, ruby-red strawberries. Our Strawberry Topping was perfect here; it had clean, pronounced berry flavor and a thick, chunky texture that didn't slip off our tender biscuits. For

fluffy, not dense, biscuits, we called on our food processor for streamlined, foolproof mixing. While eggs are not traditional in biscuits, we added a single egg to give our biscuits a lighter, more tender texture. A bit of half-and-half contributed richness, while a modest amount of sugar yielded slightly sweet, dessert-friendly biscuits.

STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKES

Servings: 8
Start to finish: 1 1/2 hours

Shortcakes:
■ 2 cups (10 ounces) all-purpose flour
■ 5 tablespoons (2 1/4 ounces) sugar
■ 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
■ 1/2 teaspoon salt
■ 8 tablespoons unsalted butter, cut into 1/2-inch pieces and chilled
■ 2/3 cup half-and-half
■ 1 large egg plus 1 large white
Whipped Cream:
■ 1 cup heavy cream, chilled
■ 1 tablespoon sugar
■ 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
■ Pinch salt
Strawberry Topping:
Makes about 4 1/2 cups
■ 2 1/2 pounds strawberries, hulled (8 cups)
■ 6 tablespoons sugar

For the shortcakes: Adjust oven rack to lower-middle position and heat oven to 425 F. Pulse flour, 3 tablespoons sugar, baking powder, and salt in food processor until combined, about 5 pulses. Scatter butter pieces over top and pulse until mixture resembles coarse cornmeal, about 15 pulses; transfer to large bowl.

In separate bowl, whisk half-and-half and whole egg together. Add half-and-half mixture to flour mixture and stir with rubber spatula until large clumps form. Turn mixture onto lightly floured counter and knead lightly until dough comes together. Using your fingertips, pat dough into 3- by 3-inch rock shape about 1 inch thick. Cut out 8 biscuits using floured 2 3/4-inch biscuit cutter. Pat

remaining dough into 1-inch-thick pieces and cut out 2 more biscuits. Place biscuits on parchment paper-lined baking sheet, spaced 1 inch apart. (Raw biscuits can be refrigerated for up to 2 hours before baking.)

Brush top of biscuits with lightly beaten egg white and sprinkle with remaining 2 tablespoons sugar. Bake biscuits until golden brown, 12 to 14 minutes, rotating sheet halfway through baking. Let biscuits cool on sheet for at least 10 minutes. (Baked biscuits can be stored at room temperature for up to 1 day.)

For strawberry topping: Crush 3 cups strawberries with potato masher in bowl. Slice remaining strawberries and, along with sugar, stir into crushed strawberries. Let sit at room temperature until sugar has dissolved and strawberries are juicy, at least 30 minutes or up to 2 hours. Serve immediately.

For the whipped cream: Using stand mixer fitted with whisk, whip all ingredients on medium-low speed until foamy, about 1 minute. Increase speed to high and whip until soft peaks form, 1 to 3 minutes.

Split each biscuit in half and place bottom on individual serving plates. Spoon portion of topping over each bottom, then top with dollop of whipped cream. Cap with biscuit tops and serve immediately.

Nutrition information per serving: 446 calories; 232 calories from fat; 26 g fat (16 g saturated; 1 g trans fat); 106 mg cholesterol; 402 mg sodium; 49 g carbohydrate; 2 g fiber; 23 g sugar; 6 g protein.

Use the grill to roast a prime rib for flavor and texture

By America's Test Kitchen

If you're going to grill a prime rib, the last thing you want is an overcooked, gray ring surrounding the rosy interior. We decided to forgo searing the flat cut sides, which meant the roast spent less time over high heat.

The reduced amount of searing time was enough to create a browned crust, but not enough to start overcooking the meat. The other problem we encountered was persistent flare-ups from the fat that dripped down through the grate. To minimize this, we had the butcher trim the fat to a mere 1/8-inch thickness.

Using a grill to roast a prime rib gave us the advantage of being able to create both flavor and texture contrast between

the exterior and interior. A garlic-rosemary paste, brushed on after browning, gave the crunchy crust extra flavor. Wood chips, though a nontraditional addition, gave the outer 1/2 inch of the roast a subtly smoky flavor, further heightening the contrast between layers.

First-cut beef rib roast is also known as prime rib, loin end, or small end. If your butcher doesn't trim excess fat from the roast and remove the bones (which you need for this recipe). If all you have is a boneless roast, see our tip at right for making a false bone. If you'd like to use wood chunks instead of wood chips when using a charcoal grill, substitute 2 medium wood chunks, soaked in water for 1 hour, for the wood chip packet.

GRILL-ROASTED PRIME RIB

Servings: 6-8
Start to finish: 6 1/2 hours

■ 1 (7-pound) first-cut beef standing rib roast (3 or 4 bones), meat removed from bones, bones reserved, exterior fat trimmed to 1/8 inch
■ 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
■ Kosher salt and pepper
■ 2 cups wood chips
■ 1 (16 by 12-inch) disposable aluminum roasting pan (if using charcoal)

Cutting the meat off the bone with a sharp knife:

If your butcher doesn't remove the bones from the prime rib for you, here's how you can do it yourself: Holding meaty lobe in one hand and sharp boning or chef's knife in your other hand, run knife down length of fat bone, following contours as closely as possible, to separate it from meat.

Flip roast so meat portion faces you. Holding bones back with your hand, cut meat from remaining ribs. Once meat is removed, proceed with seasoning and basting as directed in recipe.

Pat roast dry with paper towels, rub with oil and season with pepper. Spread 1/4 cup salt on rimmed baking sheet and press roast into salt to coat evenly on all sides. Place meat back on ribs so bones fit snugly where they were cut; tie meat to bones with 2 lengths of kitchen twine. Refrigerate roast, uncovered, for 1 hour, then let sit at room temperature for 2 hours.

Just before grilling, cook wood chips in water for 15 minutes, then drain. Using large pieces of heavy-duty aluminum foil, wrap soaked chips in foil packet and cut several vent holes in top.

For a charcoal grill: Open bottom vent halfway and place charcoal pan on 1 side of grill. Light large

chimney starter two-thirds filled with charcoal briquettes (4 quarts). When top coals are partially covered with ash, pour evenly over other half of grill (opposite disposable pan). Set cooking grate in place, cover, and open lid vent halfway. Heat grill until hot, about 5 minutes.

For a gas grill: Turn all burners to high, cover, and heat grill until hot, about 15 minutes. Turn primary burner to medium and turn off other burner(s). (Adjust primary burner as needed to maintain grill temperature of about 325 F.)

Clean and oil cooking grate. Place roast on hotter side of grill and cook (covered if using gas) until well-browned on all sides, 10 to 15 minutes, turning as needed. (If flare-ups occur, move roast to cooler side of grill until flames die down.)

Transfer roast to second rimmed baking sheet. If using charcoal, remove cooking grate and place wood chip packet on pile of coals; set cooking grate in place. If using gas, place wood chip packet directly on primary burner. Place roast on cooler side of grill, bone side down, with tips of bones pointed away from fire. Cover (position lid vent over meat if using charcoal) and cook until meat registers 115 F to 120 F (for rare) or 120 F to 125 F (for medium-rare), 2 to 2 1/2 hours.

Transfer roast to carving board, tent loosely with aluminum foil, and let rest for 20 minutes. Remove twine and bones, slice meat into 1/2-inch-thick slices, and serve.

Nutrition information per serving: 619 calories; 276 calories from fat; 31 g fat (11 g saturated; 2 g trans fat); 243 mg cholesterol; 415 mg sodium; 0 g carbohydrate; 0 g fiber; 0 g sugar; 56 g protein.



David J. van Amburg/America's Test Kitchen via AP

This updated photo provided by America's Test Kitchen in June shows a grill-roasted prime rib in Brookline, Mass.

Abby

From 4E

A meeting was held so far from Earth. It was the time for another birth. The Angels said to the Lord above -- "This special child will need much love. For progress may be very slow. Accomplishment may never show. This special child will need much care. From the people way down there. This child may not talk, run or play. And thoughts may seem so far away. In many ways will not try to adapt. Known as 'disabled'

and 'handicapped.' Please be careful where this one is sent. We want this child to be so content. O please, Lord, find the parents who Will do a very special job for You. They will not realize right away The leading role that they have to play. But with this child sent from above Comes stronger faith, and richer love. Soon they'll know the privilege given In caring for their gift from Heaven. Their precious child, so meek and mild In Heaven's very special child."

There's a little bit of everything in Education

Look for it in Tuesday's edition of the Reporter-Telegram

Midland Habitat for Humanity ReSTORE. Call for donation pick-up. Come shop our store. Open to the public. Tues.-Sat. 8:30-4:30. 305 E. Texas 432-682-9606

MARC Empowering Lives. Offering opportunities for children and adults with disabilities. 2701 North A Street Midland, TX 432.695.9901

TRUSTED VALUED ESSENTIAL Lifelong Learning. basin pbs. 432-561-5728 www.BasinPBS.org

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Midland Texas. Mentoring children for a better Midland. 432-687-0195

CASA. 1611 W Texas Ave. Midland, TX 79701 (432) 683-1114

Centers for children & families. Providing counseling for those in need, for children and adults, regardless of level of income. 3701 Andrews Highway Midland, Texas 79703 432.570.1004 www.centers.org

SUNDAY MORNING JULY 15, 2018

Table with columns for channel, time, and program name. Includes programs like 'The Youth House', 'The Youth House', 'The Youth House', etc.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON JULY 15, 2018

Table with columns for channel, time, and program name. Includes programs like 'The Youth House', 'The Youth House', 'The Youth House', etc.

SUNDAY PRIME TIME JULY 15, 2018

Table with columns for channel, time, and program name. Includes programs like 'The Youth House', 'The Youth House', 'The Youth House', etc.

The Salvation Army. DOING THE MOST GOOD. The Salvation Army 300 S Baird St. Midland, TX 79701 432-683-3614

SENIOR LINK MIDLAND. Older Adults & Baby Boomers Volunteer here to meet your needs. Call Today 432-689-6693 Seniorlinkmidland.org

MIDLAND NEED TO READ ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM. info@midlandneedtoread.org 432-682-9693 1709 W. Wall St. Midland, Texas 79701

Casa de Amigos HELPING PEOPLE HELP THEMSELVES. 1101 E. Garden Ln., Midland, TX 79701 432-682-9701 casadeamigosmidland.org

MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION. "Change the Path of a Pet's Life" 4206 W. Loop 250 - Midland, TX 79707 (Inside PetSmart) 432-520-3134 ext. 7 www.midlandhumane.org LIKE us on Facebook

The Uptown Midland BPW has a rich history of leadership and community involvement. We invite you to learn more about us, and to consider joining us! Uptown Midland Business & Professional Women MidlandBPW.com



CALENDAR

COMPILED BY STAFF REPORTS AND THE
ARTS COUNCIL OF MIDLAND | ACMIDLAND.ORG

JULY 15-21

TODAY

The 35th annual Family Fiesta with live music, washer tournament, food, games and more. Noon-11 p.m. at San Miguel Arcangel Catholic Church, 1100 Camp St.

Summer Sunday Lawn Concert: Marfa Lake Social Club. The theme is Pet Night. 7:30 p.m. at Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. Free. museumsw.org.

MONDAY

"Curious George: Let's Get Curious!" is based on the familiar characters in H.A. and Margret Rey's stories and inspired by the animated PBS television series. The exhibit introduces young children into the world of Curious George with interactive math, science and engineering-based adventures. Free 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Saturday through Sept. 9 at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2511 W. Loop 250 N.

July Camp Write-In for teens. 4:30 p.m. at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N.

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

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.

Midland Community Band's weekly meeting and rehearsal at Midland College Fine Arts Building Band Hall. 7-9 p.m. New members welcome and some instruments are available for use at the college. Contact 553-0632 for more information.

TUESDAY

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

Brown Bag Lunch and Film Series: "Petroleum Refining in Nontechnical Language." 11:30 a.m. at Petroleum Museum, 1500 Interstate 20 W. Free.

"Civilizations" screening by Basin PBS. 6-8 p.m. at Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. Free. basinpbs.org.

Urban Sketching workshop shows how to paint and draw on the go. 6-8 p.m. at Palette Club of Midland, 907 W. Wadley Ave. \$85. paletteclubmidland.com.

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

Permian Basin Dance Club with live country music, 7:30 p.m. at Midland Downtown Lions Club, 200 Plaza St. \$6. For more information, call 638-3707.

WEDNESDAY

Story Time, 9:30 a.m. for ages up to 2 years; 10:30 a.m. for ages 2-6 at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2511 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.

Ukulele Club teaches youth ages 10-15 basic chords and songs to prepare for a group performance at the library's end-of-summer pool party. A limited number of instruments will be provided but participants are welcome to bring their own. 3-4 p.m. Wednesdays through Aug. 1 at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2511 W. Loop 250 N.

Philosophy Series Yoga with Kendra Pennington. The series will feature discussion and yoga sequence. 6 p.m. Wednesdays through July 25 at Dharma Art, 2-34 W. Cuthbert Ave. \$35. Mydharmaart.com.

Wine Review: Pinot Noir. This wine series reviews wine list offerings with bites that complement the flavor. 6:30 p.m. at Bean and Grape, 5211 W. Wadley Ave. \$40.

THURSDAY

Movie Matinee. 12:30 p.m. at Midland Senior Center, 3303 W. Illinois Ave. Free.

Laura Bush Literacy Program Reading Event will feature the book "The Newbies" with copies given to each child in attendance. Space is limited so reservations are encouraged. 4:30 p.m. at the George W. Bush Childhood Home, 1412 W. Ohio Ave. Free. bushchildhoodhome.org.

Weather Safety Class with Mark Strobin from the National Weather Service will cover tornadoes, flooding and other dangerous weather. 5:30 p.m. at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2503 W. Loop 250 N. Free.

West Texas Dance Club with live country music, 7:30-10 p.m. at 208 W. VFW Way in Odessa. 697-0281 or 631-6125.

Eric Johnson: An Evening of Acoustic Guitar and Piano. 8 p.m. in the Rea-Greathouse Hall, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. \$49.50. wagnernoel.com.

FRIDAY

Summer Nutrition Classes: Eat Your Water Fridays. This session includes a discussion of the amount of water in fruits and vegetables. Participants will learn how to make beverages and fruit bars. 1 p.m. at West Texas Food Bank, 1601 Westcliff Drive. Free. wtxfoodbank.org.

Flashback Fridays invites children ages 8-12 to learn about music from past decades along with a dance and art project. 4-5 p.m. at Midland County Public Library Centennial branch, 2511 W. Loop 250 N.

St. Ann's Parish Pool Party. Minors must be accompanied by an adult. 7-9 p.m. at Doug Russell Aquatic Center, 900 N. Midland Drive.

"On the Town" by the Pickwick Players. 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Runs through July 22 at Midland Community Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave. \$28. mctmidland.org.

The 70th Season of Summer Mummies: "Diabolical Deeds on the Diamond or Wait - Was that a Squirrel in the Infield?" 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays through Sept. 1 at the Yucca Theatre, 208 N. Colorado St. \$12-\$25. MCTmidland.org.

Hot Summer Nights: Mariachi Armonia. The 25th season of the concert series features local talent with food trucks, children's activities and more. 8 p.m. at Noel Heritage Plaza, 321 W. Fifth St., Odessa. In the event of inclement weather, shows will be moved to Deaderick Auditorium at Odessa College. Free. downtownodessatx.com.

Movie in the Park: "Star Wars: The Last Jedi." 8:45 p.m. (dusk) at C.J. Kelly Park, 5500 League Drive. Free. midlandtexas.gov.

Sally's Project: Voices of Pride with Asia O'Hara from "RuPaul's Drag Race." The fundraiser for Out in West Texas will feature an evening of coming-out stories followed by a performance by O'Hara. 9 p.m. at The Recovery Room, 2802 N. County Road West, Odessa. \$15-\$25.

SATURDAY

Midland Downtown Farmers Market celebrates its 11th season. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Through Oct. 27 at Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. midlanddowntownfarmersmarket.com.

Cinema Under the Stars: "Back to the Future." Noon at the Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. Free. wagnernoel.com.

Cinema Under the Stars: "Back to the Future Part II." 3:30 p.m. at the Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. Free. wagnernoel.com.

Cinema Under the Stars: "Back to the Future Part III." 7 p.m. at the Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. Free. wagnernoel.com.



Rich Lopez/Reporter-Telegram

Glamour highlights Ellen Noel Art Museum's "Celebrate Texas: Art and Fashion" exhibition with a display of works by Texas fashion designers from 1910 to present. The collection features pieces worn by former Gov. Ann Richards, former first lady Laura Bush as well as designs by Texans who competed on "Project Runway." The exhibition is on display through Sept. 2.

ON DISPLAY

COMPILED BY STAFF REPORTS AND THE ARTS
COUNCIL OF MIDLAND | ACMIDLAND.ORG

JULY 15-21

NEW: Artist of the Quarter featuring works by Lindy Cook Severns of Fort Davis. Hours are 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays at Sibley Nature Center, 1307 E. Wadley Ave. sibleynaturecenter.org.

"Time Expositions: Picturing Isleta Pueblo in the 19th Century." With more than 80 images and objects that detail life on the Isleta Pueblo Reservation, this exhibition reveals the changes experienced by Native Americans of the American Southwest after the arrival of railroads in 1881. Works by photographers Edward Curtis, A.C. Vroman, Karl Moon, Carlos Viera are among those featured in the exhibition. Through Aug. 5. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Tuesday through Saturday, and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. At the Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. museumsw.org.

"In the Box: Exploring Shape and Texture." Visitors can explore selections from the permanent collection in this hands-on exhibition. Objects from each work of art are hidden inside boxes. Families must work together to guess what the object is by making a connection between the texture and shape they feel in the box and what they see in the work of art. Through Aug. 18. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Tuesday through Saturday, and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. At the Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. museumsw.org.

"Celebrate Texas" features Texas artists with a variety of mediums including fashion, painting, sculpture and more. Through Aug. 26. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays (open to 8 p.m. Thursdays), 2-5 p.m. Sundays. At the Ellen Noel Art Museum, 4909 E. University Blvd., Odessa. Free. noelartmuseum.org.

Visions 2018: "Places and Things." This exhibit features works by Midland artist Maggie Walker-Nelson. On display through Sept. 9, at Arts Council of Midland, 1506 W. Illinois Ave. acmidland.org.

Local artists show. Black Hen Gallery. Hours are 8 a.m.-2 p.m. and 5-8 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays. Inside Dharma Art, 2034 Cuthbert Ave. mydharmaart.com.

Blakemore Planetarium at the Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Dome shows Tuesdays-Saturdays. Closed Sunday and Monday. museumsw.org.

George Bush Childhood Home. Tours and gift shop hours are 2-5 p.m. Sundays and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturdays. Admission charged. 1412 W. Ohio Ave. 685-1112.

Midland Army Airfield Museum. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturdays. 9600 Wright Drive. Free admission. highskywing.org.

Midland County Historical Society's Z. Taylor Brown-Sara Dorey Medalion Home, oldest restored home in Midland. Open by appointment. 213 N. Weatherford St. 682-5447.

Options Gallery, Odessa College, 201 W. University Blvd. Monday-Thursday 7:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Friday 7:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday 2-5 p.m. Free. 335-6640. odessa.edu.

Permian Basin Petroleum Museum, 1500 Interstate 20 West. Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday 2-5 p.m. 683-4403. pbpetro.org.

Scarborough-Linsbury House, 802 S. Main St. Call for appointment. Available for rental for weddings and special occasions. 685-7368. midlandtexas.gov.

OIL REPORT

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Sunday, July 15, 2018 | Section F

REFINING ON A SMALL SCALE



Photo Courtesy MMEX Resources

MMEX Resources, which is developing its Pecos Refinery project outside of Fort Stockton at the site shown here, has announced plans to build a Receipt Storage Dispatch facility as part of its initial stage of development. The facility will be built on a track parallel to its planned Crude Distillation Unit.

MMEX plans Receipt Storage Dispatch facility at Pecos Refinery

■ New part of Phase 1 of project aims to help address takeaway constraints

By Mella McEwen
mmcewen@mrt.com

As MMEX Resources has persisted

in its efforts to build a refinery in Pecos County, the company has been nothing if not flexible and creative in its quest.

The company had proposed a 50,000-barrel-a-day refinery. MMEX decided that the first phase of its refinery development would be a 10,000-barrel-a-day crude distillation unit. Now, the

project has grown into a 100,000-barrel-a-day refinery.

The company plans to split that first phase into two parts: Phase 1(a) is the Receipt Storage Dispatch, which will receive crude oil by truck, store it and then ship it to Texas Gulf Coast markets by rail; Phase 1(b) is the crude distillation unit.

"Baby steps," said Jack Hanks, MMEX president and chief executive officer, during a visit to Midland last week.

He said the lack of takeaway capacity by pipeline that is roiling Permian Basin producers offered MMEX an opportunity to acquire crude at a discount, store it and then move it by rail to the Gulf Coast.

"We're fortunate to have the railroad transverse our property," he said of the spur of the Texas Pacific railroad situated near the refinery site that can move product into western Mexico or east to be offloaded onto a Burlington Northern train headed east to the Gulf Coast. It can be

built rather quickly and could be in operation in the first quarter of 2019, he said. The storage tanks are already permitted. Projected crude volumes would be around 400,000 barrels per month.

"If drilling continues as it is, there will be a lot of oil to get to market," Hanks said. "This could last well beyond 2020-2021."

This first phase will also serve as the pre-build to the rail trackage, crude storage tanks and rail-truck loading and unloading equipment that will be needed for Phase 1(b), the crude distillation unit, Hanks said.

The unit, already permitted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, will provide high-sulfur diesel for drilling operations in the Permian Basin as well as Naptha for blending in crude or refining operations and ATB/Residual for

Please see REFINERY/2F

Small-scale refinery projects prompt debate over viability

By Mella McEwen
mmcewen@mrt.com

U.S. crude oil production continues to rise — the Energy Information Administration forecasts production could rise to 11.8 million barrels a day next year, putting it past Russia and Saudi Arabia to become the world's largest oil producer.

Yet the agency's June report on refining shows capacity virtually unchanged at 18.6 million barrels a day at the end of 2017. At the same time, crude refiners processed a record 17.8 million barrels a day in the week ending June 22. And while expansion of existing refineries is on the drawing board, there is very little, if any, talk of new large refinery projects.

Enter a group of smaller players planning smaller-scale projects — one in North Dakota and three in Texas, among them MMEX Resources' Pecos Refinery outside of Fort Stockton.

"I count MMEX as one of the 'small' guys," Sandy Fielden, director, oil and products research with Morningstar, told the Reporter-Telegram by email.

He issued a report last week looking at the economic viability of these smaller projects compared to the large-scale refineries.

He sees these "niche" refineries as being attractive to startup investors and offering opportunities to those he calls nimble operators to take margin from the larger

refiners.

"However, the advantages of flexibility in crude processing and refined product blending in fast-changing markets appear to favor larger operators over small ones in the long run," he said.

Fielden sees risks in these smaller projects' reliance on beneficial crude feedstock costs, especially since Permian Basin crude costs will not remain at their current bargain-basement levels for more than a year or so, until new takeaway capacity comes online. He also seeks risks in the Texas projects' plans to sell into the Mexican market.

MMEX is preparing to construct a 10,000 barrel-a-day crude distillation unit to provide diesel to Permian Basin drillers. This model "has a good chance of success while drilling continues," Fielden said. "However, we all know that it's a cyclical business — so what happens when there's a downturn?"

Jack Hanks, MMEX president and chief executive officer, said the company will not just sell high-sulfur diesel to Permian Basin drillers, but will also send residuals and naptha to the Gulf Coast.

"Sure, there is a risk with the diesel," he said. "If the rig count drops significantly, we'd have to restructure our contracts."

And, in fact, we're seeing announcements that pipelines are being redirected to bring

Please see VIABILITY/2F

Industry pioneers team with WellWorx to produce new pump-off controller

By Mella McEwen
mmcewen@mrt.com

Pioneering oilfield technology designers Sam Gibbs and Ken Nolen are teaming up with WellWorx Energy to complete development of their latest technology, GreenShot, co-founded by the two longtime partners.

"I am happy that WellWorx has acquired GreenShot," Gibbs told the Reporter-Telegram in an email. "GreenShot was a labor of love for Ken and I. Age and infirmity kept us from carrying it into the commercial stage. In the hands of WellWorx, it will become a better and more attractive product for industry. I wish WellWorx much success."

"We've got expertise and application experts with 100 plus years of



WELLWORX

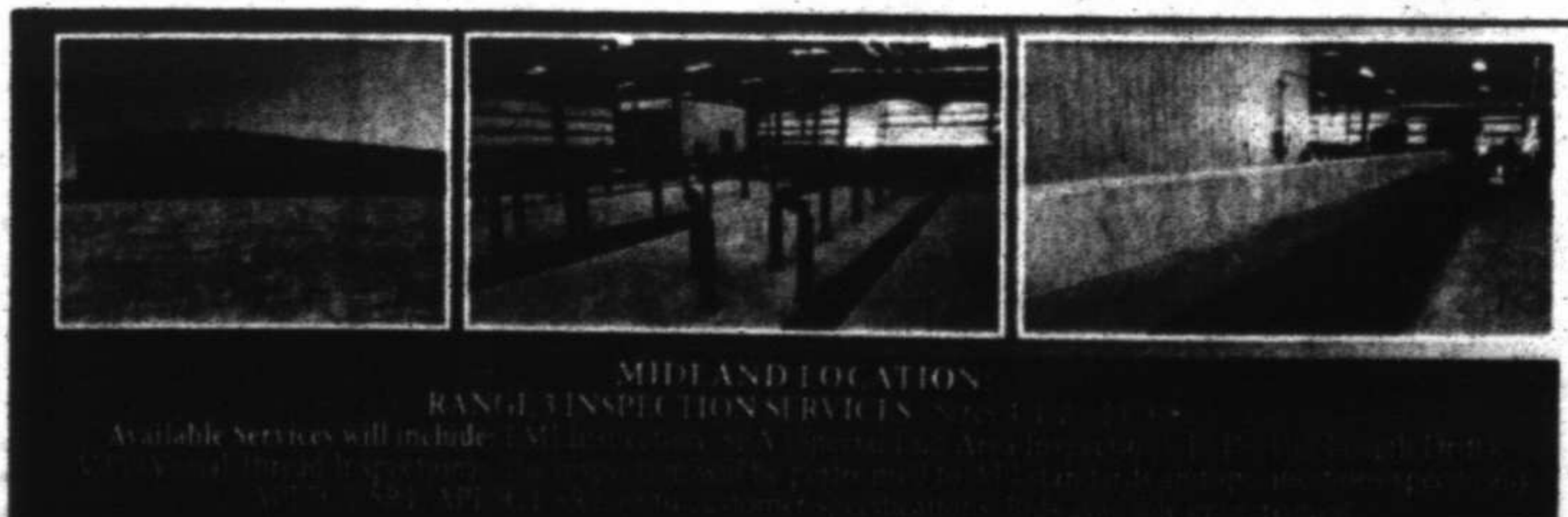
experience at our disposal and I am very pleased with this opportunity," Matt Raglin, founder and chief executive officer of WellWorx Energy, told the Reporter-Telegram in an email. "Ken Nolen

and Sam Gibbs are true pioneers in the Artificial Lift world. The GreenShot technology they invented is cutting edge and WellWorx is proud to add it to our

Please see TEAM/2F

PRECISION
PIPE RENTALS

Tubing Sizes - 1", 1 1/4", 1 3/4", 2 1/16", 2 3/8", 2 7/8", 3 1/2"
Drill Pipe, Pipe Racks, Hoisting Tools, Blowout Preventers
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Pump-In Subs, Crossover Subs, Borel & Slips, Slabbing Guides & Drills
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Petroleum Professional Development Center

All classes will be held at the Midland College PPDC building, 221 N. Main St. To register, go to the Midland College PPDC's New Website: <https://mccc.midland.edu>

Petroleum Geology for Non Geologists
Instructor: Paul Faust
Start Date: July 16-19, 2018
Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cost: \$1835; Out of State \$1860

IHSMarkit: Enerdaq Brower Training
Instructor: Keith Ina
Start Date: July 26, 2018 - Thursday - 9 a.m. to Noon
Cost: Complimentary - Register directly with IHS Markit

Introduction to Oil Company Financial Analysis
Instructor: Dr. Patrick Fitzgerald
Start Date: July 30, 2018
Monday - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cost: \$350; Out of State: \$375

Land Personnel and the Effective Use of Due Diligence in the Acquisition and Divestiture of Oil and Gas Properties
Instructor: Dr. Patrick Fitzgerald
Start Date: July 31 - August 1, 2018 - Tuesday - Wednesday - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cost: \$450; Out of State \$475

Petra Fundamentals
Instructor: Greg Hinterlong
Start Date: August 1 - 2, 2018 - Wednesday - Thursday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: \$625; Out of State \$650

On-Line Division Order Certificate Program: Module 5 of 6: Oil & Gas Law
Instructor: Alyce Hoge
Start Date: August 2, 2018; End Date: August 30, 2018; Registration Deadline: 11:59 p.m., August 1, 2018
Cost: \$612.50; Out of State, \$637.50 - the required text is the NADQA Study Guide, which is \$75 (one-time charge). Students need to join NADQA for \$75 to download the "no cost" manual only available to members.

On-Line Land Management Certificate Program: Module 5 of 6: Legally Enforceable Oil & Gas Contracts
Instructor: Alyce Hoge
Start Date: August 2, 2018; End Date: August 30, 2018; Registration Deadline: 11:59 p.m., August 1, 2018
Cost: \$612.50; Out of State, \$637.50

Sucker Rod Pumps: From Basics to Troubleshooting Sand and Gas Interference
Instructor: Rodney Sands
Start Date: August 2, 2018
Thursday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: \$150; Out of State \$175

Well Control Drilling/Workover (WellSharp)
Instructor: Larry Chapman
Start Date: August 6-10, 2018 - Monday - Friday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: \$1200; Out of State \$1225

PetroSkills: Corrosion Management in Production/Processing Operations - PF-22
Instructor: Dr. Carlos Palacios
Start Date: August 6-10, 2018 - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: \$4190 - Register directly with PetroSkills

Well Service and Pressure Control
Instructor: Mike Cure
Start Date: August 8, 2018 - Wednesday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: \$375; Out of State \$400

Optimizing Oilfield Systems Using Spreadsheet Models
Instructor: Peter L. Galsky, Jr., Ph.D., P.E.
Start Date: August 9, 2018 - Thursday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: \$350; Out of State \$375

New Course: Gas LIR and Optimization in Unconventional - Primer through Intermediate Application Concepts
Instructor: Rajan Chokshi, Ph.D.
Start Date: August 14-16, 2018 - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: \$1500; \$1525 Out of State (Lunch included)

SQL
Instructor: Mark Edgar
Start Date: August 16th - Thursday - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cost: \$375; Out of State \$400

Advanced SQL
Instructor: Mark Edgar
Start Date: August 17th - Friday - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cost: \$450; Out of State \$475

PetroSkills: Piping Systems - Mechanical Designs and Specifications - 615-41
Instructor: Gerald Guzman
Start Date: August 20-24, 2018 - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: \$4290 - Register directly with PetroSkills

IHSMarkit: Kingdom Geological Interpretation
Instructor: Glen Penfield
Start Date: August 20-21,

2018 - Monday - Tuesday - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cost: \$1400 - Register directly with IHS Markit

IHSMarkit: Kingdom Seismic Interpretation
Instructor: Glen Penfield
Start Date: August 22-24, 2018 - Wednesday - Friday - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cost: \$2100 - Register directly with IHS Markit

Fundamentals of Well Log Interpretation
Instructor: Dr. George Asquith
Start Date: August 22-24th - Wednesday - Friday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: \$775; Out of State \$800

Professional Technical Sales
Instructor: Paul Hughes
Start Date: August 24, 2018 - Friday - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cost: \$250; Out of State: \$275

LMKR: New Course: PRIZM-Petrophysics Essentials
Register directly with LMRK: cvtien@lmkr.com
Instructor: Carlos Yanez
Start Date: August 28 - 29, 2018 - Tuesday - Wednesday - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cost: \$1,500

On-Line Division Order Certificate Program: Module 6 of 6: Oil & Gas Contracts
Instructor: Alyce Hoge
Start Date: September 5, 2018; End Date: September 28, 2018; Registration Deadline: 11:59 p.m., September 4, 2018
Cost: \$612.50; Out of State, \$637.50 - the required text is the NADQA Study Guide, which is \$75 (one-time charge). Students need to join NADQA for \$75 to download the "no cost" manual only available to members.

On-Line Land Management Certificate Program: Module 6 of 6: Federal Laws that Impact the Oil & Gas Industry
Instructor: Alyce Hoge
Start Date: September 5, 2018; End Date: September 28, 2018; Registration Deadline: 11:59 p.m., September 4, 2018
Cost: \$612.50; Out of State, \$637.50

IHSMarkit: IHS Harmony Forecast
Instructor: James Ewert
Start Date: September 5, 2018 - Wednesday - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cost: \$800 - Register directly with IHS Markit

IHSMarkit: IHS Harmony Reservoir Unconventional
Instructor: James Ewert
Start Date: September 6, 2018 - Thursday - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cost: \$800 - Register directly with IHS Markit

PetroSkills: Advanced Hydraulic Fracturing - AHF
Instructor: Alfred Jennings
Start Date: September 10-14, 2018 - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: \$4390 - Register directly with PetroSkills

Oilfield Terminology
Instructor: Tommy Lent
Start Date: September 11-12, 2018 - Tuesday - Wednesday - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cost: \$430; Out of State: \$455

Basic Oilfield Operations
Instructor: Albert Garza
Start Date: September 18-19, 2018 - Tuesday - Wednesday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: \$475; Out of State: \$500

Managing Sucker Rod LIR Well Failures
Instructor: Albert Garza
Start Date: September 20, 2018 - Thursday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: \$350; Out of State: \$375

New Course: LMKR: Geological 3D Modeling with Gverse Geomodeling
Register directly with LMKR: cvtien@lmkr.com
Instructor: John French
Start Date: September 24, 2018 - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cost: \$750

Introduction to Log Interpretation and Quality
Instructor: Gary Batcheller
Start Date: September 24-26, 2018 - Monday - Wednesday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: \$1095; Out of State \$1120

PHDWIn
Instructor: Collis Houston
Start Date: September 25-26, 2018 - Tuesday - Wednesday - 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Cost: \$625; Out of State: \$650

LMKR: New Course: Cleaning Up an Existing Project
Register directly with LMKR: cvtien@lmkr.com
Start Date: September 27, 2018 - Thursday - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cost: \$900

Introduction to Well Completion Design
Instructor: Gary Batcheller
Start Date: September 27-28, 2018 - Thursday - Friday - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: \$695; Out of State \$720

REFINERY

From IF

blending. The unit is expected to be operation in the third quarter of 2019.

At the same time the first phase is under construction, Hanks expects to begin the permitting process for the refinery, a process he estimated will take 15 to 18 months.

He said the permitting process will begin in either the fourth quarter of this year or early next year, with completion anticipated in 2021.

While Hanks has been creative in carving the project into pieces to ease its development, he's also being creative in how the unit and refinery are powered.

"I like the thought of powering a refinery with renewable energy," Hanks said.

MMEX Solar Resources LLC has been formed to develop the refinery's solar power.

"We've got a lot of land," he said, noting that the company already owns 126 acres at the site and is buying the adjacent section, comprised of 390 acres. It takes four acres to build out one megawatt of solar power, and Hanks estimates the distillation unit will need two megawatts, and the refinery will need about 45 megawatts.

"We'd buy that off the grid anyway," he said.

Hanks is also looking at leasing additional acreage to develop an additional 75 to 100 megawatts of solar power with plans to sell the remaining power back into the grid to be used elsewhere in the Permian Basin or other Texas cities seeking to satisfy their mandate for renewable energy. Also spurring the decision was the announcement by LCRA-AEP of a planned new double-circuit 345-kilovolt electric transmission line in Pecos County.



Photo courtesy Titan Production Equipment

Workers at Titan Production Equipment facility work on oil and gas production equipment at the company's production facility in Columbus, west of Houston.

VIABILITY

From IB

diesel into the Permian basin. (But there's also a big demand for high-sulfur fuel in Mexico.)

Fielden questioned whether MMEX's goal of selling refined products from its 100,000-barrel-a-day refinery into Mexico will be successful.

He said Mexico's president-elect is calling for the construction of at least one new refinery with the goal of ending Mexico's reliance on U.S. refined products.

"Even if Mexico continues to import U.S. products, will MMEX be able to compete with Gulf Coast

refiners delivering into northern Mexico, many of whom also have infrastructure assets and retail outlets?" he said.

Hanks said he and the rest of MMEX's senior management continue to believe western Mexico will be a great market for the refinery's output.

"Our view is, even with the new president saying Mexico won't import any more crude or refined products, that's unrealistic given where Mexico is in its refinery capacity," he said.

The country's existing refineries would need to be upgraded and expanded, and any new refineries

would take time to build, Hanks said.

"The beauty of where we are by the railroad is we can go east to Houston, Galveston or Corpus Christi. Or we can go west on the Texas Pacific all the way to Topolobampo," a major port on Mexico's west coast that could send MMEX's output to South America or even other markets in Asia or Europe.

Hanks said he hopes the United States, Mexico and Canada can settle their trade issues "and there will be free trade back and forth. I believe the U.S., Mexico and Canada are very strong trading partners." "Western Texas is looking forward to bilateral trade," he said.

TEAM

From IF

current list of offerings. It is my belief that one day every artificially lifted well will have a GreenShot and we're excited to put it to good use here in the Permian Basin."

Russell Messer, well-monitoring and optimization manager with WellWorx, told the Reporter-Telegram by email the system presently is not commercially available as the company wraps up research-and-development efforts and prepares to move to mass production.

"Our goal at this time is to introduce GreenShot to the market by January 1, 2019," he said.

He said that once the system is engineered for mass-quantity production, it will be manufactured in Midland.

Gibbs and Nolen revolutionized the industry 48 years ago with the SAM Pump-off controller. Pairing the GreenShot with the SAM Pump-off controller, variable frequency drives and SCADA systems is designed to accurately shoot multiple fluid levels each day on each well using only the well's produced gas. The data produced by the systems can enable artificial lift technicians, production engineers and optimization teams to understand if they are effectively pumping down the well. They can then find malfunctions sooner and take remedial action sooner, minimizing production delays.

"GreenShot has taken automated fluid level technology to new heights, especially in calculating accurate pump intake pres-

ures and casing gas rates," Nolen said in an email.

"To date, all fluid level-finding devices are portable and inaccurate," Messer said. "Ken Nolen and Dr. Sam Gibbs laid a great foundation for the first automated and accurate fluid level device capable of shooting multiple fluid levels on each well daily. This fluid level data can then be trended historically via the internet. This eliminates the single, per-well fluid level reports the industry is used to

seeing, in some cases, on a monthly basis at best."

WellWorx Energy will not only undertake the engineering and manufacturing of the GreenShot system, but the company also will offer well-monitoring services, as well as training for optimization, design and best practices. Messer said the company completed its last training session on June 20 but will hold its next Rod Pumping Best Practices Course in mid-September in Midland.

"We will continue to hold quarterly rod pump training courses in Midland as well as other areas throughout the world," Messer said. "In addition, we offer customized in-house training to fit operators' needs."

He said the courses benefit — but aren't limited to — lease operators and pumpers, well technicians, artificial lift technicians, production technicians, production engineers, field superintendents and field foremen.

Culligan.

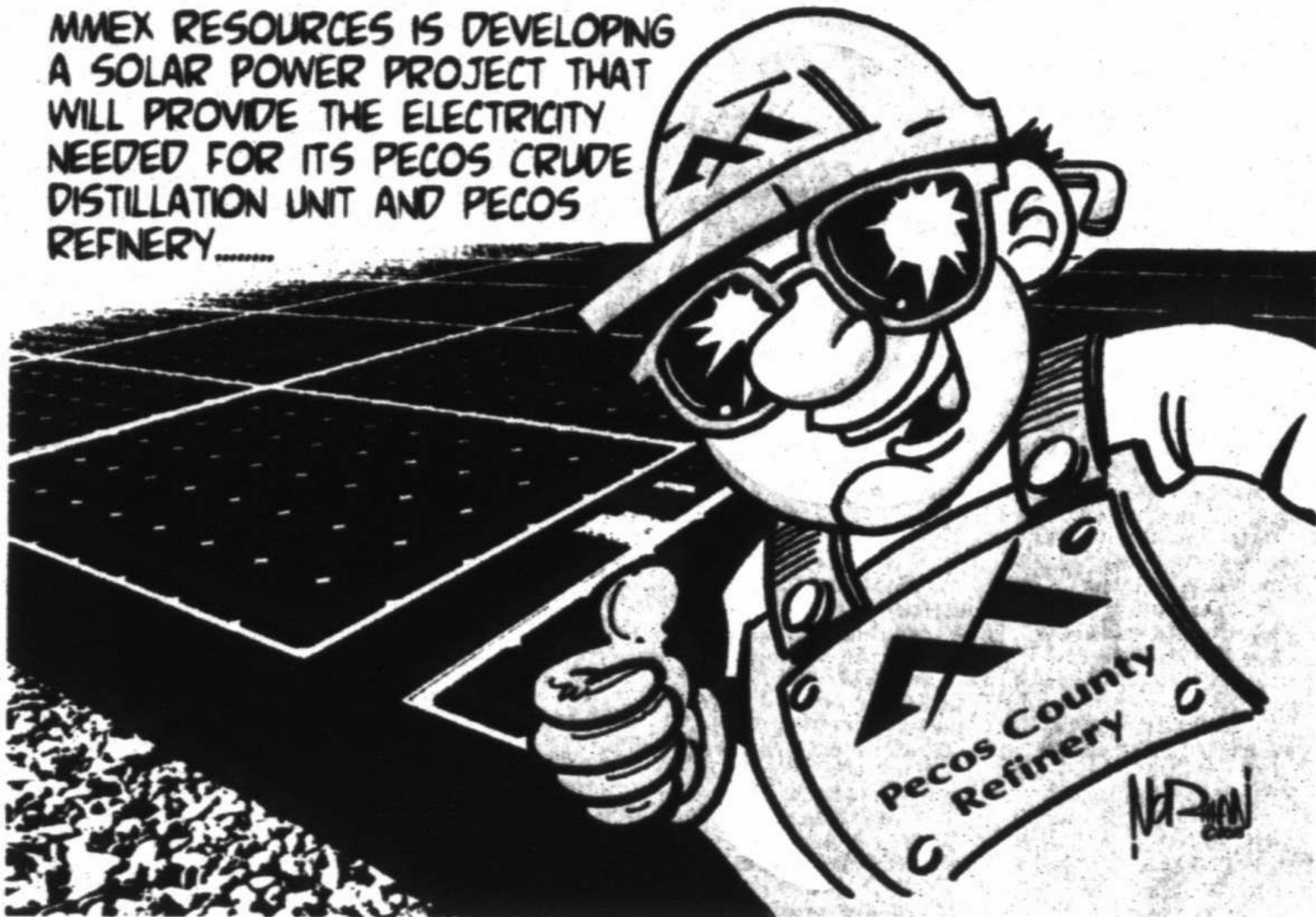
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MMEX RESOURCES IS DEVELOPING A SOLAR POWER PROJECT THAT WILL PROVIDE THE ELECTRICITY NEEDED FOR ITS PECOS CRUDE DISTILLATION UNIT AND PECOS REFINERY.....



MID-WEEK WTI AVERAGE PRICES

Posted	\$69.45	Shell Trading	\$67.00
Energy Transfer Partners*	\$66.75	Nymex futures	\$73.02*
Flint Hills Resources*	\$66.75	*Net price without transportation charge	
Phillips 66	\$67.00		
Plains*	\$66.75	Note: Posted prices as of July 11	

WILDCATS

Courtesy DrillingInfo

Texas RRCD 8

Ward County

Four Corners Petroleum II LLC
G.W. O'Brien et al #2012
Wildcat-Directional, 5941 fsl, 2195 fsl, Sec 19, Blk F, Abat. 5, G&M&S&A, 1.04 ne Wickert, TD 11500, API #42-475-37612 Permit issued 7/6

New Mexico

Eddy County

EOG Resources Inc. Tardigrade #1
Wildcat, Sec 10 T18S R25E, 235S & 239W, 5 mi SW Artesia, Rot 6815 Yesso, API #30-015-44997

Lee County

Chisholm Energy Operating LLC
Minis 1 Fed Com 3 BS #4

Wildcat, Sec 1 T21S R32E, 150N & 1300W, 7 mi SE Half-way, Rot 19208 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44847

Chisholm Energy Operating LLC
Minis 1 Fed Com 3 BS #5
Wildcat, Sec 1 T21S R32E, 150N & 1420W, 7 mi SE Half-way, Rot 18752 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44848

Chisholm Energy Operating LLC
Minis 1 Fed Com 2 BS #8
Wildcat, Sec 1 T21S R32E, 150N & 1360W, 7 mi SE Half-way, Rot 18486 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44849

Chisholm Energy Operating LLC
Minis 1 Fed Com 2 BS #9
Wildcat, Sec 1 T21S R32E, 330S & 1780W, 7 mi SE Half-way, Rot 17892 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44850

Chisholm Energy Operating LLC
Minis 1 Fed Com 2 BS #10
Wildcat, Sec 1 T21S R32E, 150N & 1458W, 7 mi SE Half-way, Rot 18135 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44851

Chisholm Energy Operating LLC
Minis 1 Fed Com 2 BS #11
Wildcat, Sec 1 T21S R32E, 150N & 1338E, 7 mi SE Half-way, Rot 18112 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44857

Chisholm Energy Operating LLC
Minis 1 Fed Com 3 BS #4
Wildcat, Sec 1 T21S R32E, 150N & 1278E, 7 mi SE Half-way, Rot 18843 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44856

Chisholm Energy Operating LLC
Minis 1 Fed Com WCA #12
Wildcat, Sec 1 T21S R32E, 150N & 1240W, 7 mi SE

Halfway, Rot 19200 Wolfcamp, API #30-025-44852

Chisholm Energy Operating LLC
Minis 1 Fed Com WCA #14
Wildcat, Sec 1 T21S R32E, 150N & 2640W, 7 mi SE Half-way, Rot 18694 Wolfcamp, API #30-025-44854

Chisholm Energy Operating LLC
Minis 1 Fed Com WCA #15
Wildcat, Sec 1 T21S R32E, 150N & 2558E, 7 mi SE Half-way, Rot 19322 Wolfcamp, API #30-025-44855

Chisholm Energy Operating LLC
Minis 1 Fed Com WCA #16
Wildcat, Sec 1 T21S R32E, 150N & 1218E, 7 mi SE Half-way, Rot 19375 Wolfcamp, API #30-025-44853

COMPLETIONS

Courtesy DrillingInfo

Texas RRCD 8

Andrews County

Ring Energy Inc.
Fides #1H
Block A-34 (San Andres)
Horizontal, 990 fsl, 500 fsl, Sec 25, Blk A-36, Abat. 1931, PSL, 10 nw Andrews, TD 4657 TVD, 10130 MD, Comp 6/17/2018, producing from 5125-9985, fracture stimulated, pump 613 BO, 263 MCF, 1889 BW, 33.3 Oil Gravity, API #42-003-47734

Loving County

Anadarko E&P Onshore LLC
Atomic 55-1-7 Unit #1H
Phantom (Wolfcamp)
Horizontal, 2240 fsl, 2609 fsl, Sec 7, Blk 55, T-1, Abat. 95, T&P RR, 21.9 nw Mentone, TD 11306 TVD, 19264 MD, Comp 6/8/2018, producing from 11645-19102, treated with acid and fracture stimulated, flow 13275 MCF on 3284 inch choke, FTP 2906, API #42-301-33318

New Mexico

Eddy County

Lime Rock Resources II-A LP

Hawk 9 A Federal #22
Red Lake, Sec 9 T18S R27E, 985N & 985E, EL 3525 GL, TD 4734, PBTD 4665, Spud 3-12-18, Comp 4-13-18, production is through treated perfs: 3120-3430, 3500-3765, 3898-4228, 4323-4525. Treat: 6000 gals 15% HCl & frac w/120039# 100 mesh & 98929# 30/50 sd in slick wr. IP: 4-25-18 Pump 24 hrs 100 BO, 1832 BW, 60 MCF, GOR 800. Cag: 8.5/8 @ 353 w/350 ax, 5 1/2 @ 4723 w/900 ax, 2 7/8 @ 3439, API #30-015-43785

Devon Energy Production Co. LP

Colton Draw Unit #291
Paduca, Sec 25 T24S R31E, 230S & 1845E, BHL: 290N & 1125E, EL 3514 GL, TD 10807, PBTD 15384, Spud 6-12-17, Comp 1-19-18, production is through treated perfs: 10703-15338. Treat: 17,514 gals acid, 6,975,200# prop. IP: 2-4-18 Flow 24 hrs 1189 BO, 1512 BW, 1753 MCF, TP 1229, CP 258, GOR 1499. Cag: 13 3/8 @ 772 w/775 ax, 9 5/8 @ 4337 w/1510 ax, 5 1/2 @ 10877 w/1760 ax, 5 1/2 @ 15488, 2 7/8 @ 10374, API #30-015-44106

Devon Energy Production Co. LP

Blue Krait 23 Federal #1
North Red Hills, Sec 23 T24S R33E, 200S & 610W, BHL: Sec 14 335N & 300W, EL 3551.3 GL, TD 19302, PBTD 19,210, Spud 7-8-17, Comp 4-8-18, production is through treated perfs: 9448-9399, 9915-19,156. Treat: 56,004 gals acid, 15,212,500# proppant. IP: 4-22-18 Pump 24 hrs 1488 BO, 1773 BW, 2036 MCF, Cag: 13 3/8 @ 1396 w/1075 ax, 9 5/8 @ 5255 w/1655 ax, 5 1/2 @ 19295 w/2600 ax, 2 7/8 @ 9048, API #30-025-43011

Devon Energy Production Co. LP

510E, EL 3760 GL, TD 15966 MD, 11466 TVD, PBTD 11840 MD, Spud 12-14-17, Comp 2-9-18, production is through treated perfs: 11715-15840. Treat: Frac w/474 bbls HCL, 90,185 bbls SW w/3,987,913# 100 mesh, 2,204,072# 20/40 sd. IP: 2-27-18 Flow 24 hrs 150 BO, 633 BW, 226 MCF, 1464# Ch, TP 1050, GOR 1520, Gly 42.8, Cag: 13 3/8 @ 1934 w/1186 ax, 9 5/8 @ 5947 w/855 ax, 5 1/2 @ 15966 w/1938 ax, 2 7/8 @ 11537, API #30-025-43110

Devon Energy Production Co. LP
Rio Blanco 4 33 Fed Com #1
Grama Ridge, Sec 4 T23S R34E, 2630N & 300W, BHL: Sec 33 T22S R34E 279N & 298W, EL 3414.9 GL, TD 16,025, PBTD 15,932, Spud 12-16-17, Comp 3-29-18, production is through treated perfs: 8808-8749 MD, 9290-15,896. Treat: Frac w/49,560 bbls acid, 9,304,157# prop. IP: 4-21-18 Pump 24 hrs 737 BO, 25 BW, 822 MCF, Cag: 16 @ 2310 w/2670 ax, 11 7/8 @ 3436 w/1245 ax, 8 5/8 @ 5166 w/1366 ax, 5 1/2 @ 16022 w/1525 ax, 2 7/8 @ 8254, API #30-025-43244

Devon Energy Production Co. LP
Rio Blanco 4 33 Fed Com #2
Grama Ridge, Sec 4 T23S R34E, 2630N & 300W, BHL: Sec 33 T22S R34E 280N & 300W, EL 3415.9 GL, TD 17,201, PBTD 17,107, Spud 11-8-17, Comp 3-28-18, production is through treated perfs: 9899-9887 MD, 10150-17,071. Treat: Frac w/40,824 bbls acid, 11,477,963# prop. IP: 4-21-18 Pump 24 hrs 1592 BO, 23 BW, 1774 MCF, Cag: 20 @ 1976 w/859 ax, 13 3/8 @ 3472 w/2645 ax, 9 5/8 @ 5162 w/2110 ax, 5 1/2 @ 17191 w/2220 ax, API #30-025-43245

Devon Energy Production Co. LP
Blue Krait 23 Federal #1
North Red Hills, Sec 23 T24S R33E, 200S & 610W, BHL: Sec 14 335N & 300W, EL 3551.3 GL, TD 19302, PBTD 19,210, Spud 7-8-17, Comp 4-8-18, production is through treated perfs: 9448-9399, 9915-19,156. Treat: 56,004 gals acid, 15,212,500# proppant. IP: 4-22-18 Pump 24 hrs 1488 BO, 1773 BW, 2036 MCF, Cag: 13 3/8 @ 1396 w/1075 ax, 9 5/8 @ 5255 w/1655 ax, 5 1/2 @ 19295 w/2600 ax, 2 7/8 @ 9048, API #30-025-43011

Devon Energy Production Co. LP

Lee South 25 Federal Com WCA #12
Wildcat, Sec 25 T20S R34E, 330S & 340E, BHL: 330N &

Please see Page 4F

DEVELOPMENT WELLS

Courtesy DrillingInfo

Texas RRCD 7C

Reagan County

Bold Operating LLC
WTG 5-233 #1BU
Spraberry (Trend Area)
Horizontal, 445 fsl, 799 fsl, Sec 222, Blk 1, Abat. 436, T&P RR, 7.3 e Big Lake, TD 6970, API #42-363-41322 permit issued 7/3

Bold Operating LLC
WTG 5-233A #2BU
Spraberry (Trend Area)
Horizontal, 445 fsl, 774 fsl, Sec 222, Blk 1, Abat. 436, T&P RR, 7.3 e Big Lake, TD 6970, API #42-363-41329 permit issued 7/3

Pioneer Natural Resources USA Inc.
Watkins-Burkitt 1204E #5H
Spraberry (Trend Area)-Horizontal, 2201 fsl, 980 fsl, Sec 1204, Abat. 23, GC&SF RR, 15.8 nw Big Lake, TD 10250, API #42-363-40284 Permit issued 7/6

Pioneer Natural Resources USA Inc.
Watkins-Burkitt 1204F #6H
Spraberry (Trend Area)-Horizontal, 2201 fsl, 1025 fsl, Sec 1204, Abat. 23, GC&SF RR, 15.8 nw Big Lake, TD 10250, API #42-363-40285 Permit issued 7/6

Pioneer Natural Resources USA Inc.
Watkins-Burkitt 1204G #7H
Spraberry (Trend Area)-Horizontal, 2201 fsl, 1070 fsl, Sec 1204, Abat. 23, GC&SF RR, 15.8 nw Big Lake, TD 10250, API #42-363-40286 Permit issued 7/6

Sable Permian Resources Land LLC
Cope 82-83 #01HS
Ln (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal, 1544 fsl, 1394 fsl, Sec 82, Blk 2, Abat. 371, T&P RR, 23.8 ne Big Lake, TD 9000, API #42-363-40337 Permit issued 7/3

Sable Permian Resources Land LLC
Cope 82-83 #02HA
Ln (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal, 1464 fsl, 1396 fsl, Sec 82, Blk 2, Abat. 371, T&P RR, 23.8 ne Big Lake, TD 9000, API #42-363-40334 Permit issued 7/3

Sable Permian Resources Land LLC
Cope 82-83 #04HT
Ln (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal, 1484 fsl, 1396 fsl, Sec 82, Blk 2, Abat. 371, T&P RR, 23.8 ne Big Lake, TD 9000, API #42-363-40332 Permit issued 7/3

Sable Permian Resources Land LLC
Cope 82-83 #05HC
Ln (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal, 1444 fsl, 1387 fsl, Sec 82, Blk 2, Abat. 371, T&P RR, 23.8 ne Big Lake, TD 9000, API #42-363-40333 Permit issued 7/3

Sable Permian Resources Land LLC
Cope 82-83 #06HS
Ln (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal, 1524 fsl, 1384 fsl, Sec 82, Blk 2, Abat. 371, T&P RR, 23.8 ne Big Lake, TD 9000, API #42-363-40336 Permit issued 7/3

Sable Permian Resources Land LLC
Cope 82-83 #09HT
Ln (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal, 1504 fsl, 1385 fsl, Sec 82, Blk 2, Abat. 371, T&P RR, 23.8 ne Big Lake, TD 9000, API #42-363-40335 Permit issued 7/3

Sable Permian Resources Land LLC
Cope 82-83 #10HC
Ln (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal, 2322 fsl, 2458 fsl, Sec 82, Blk 2, Abat. 371, T&P RR, 23.8 ne Big Lake, TD 9000, API #42-363-40338 Permit issued 7/3

Sable Permian Resources Land LLC
Cope 82-83 #12HA
Ln (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal, 2336 fsl, 2495 fsl, Sec 82, Blk 2, Abat. 371, T&P RR, 23.8 ne Big Lake, TD 9000, API #42-363-40340 Permit issued 7/3

Sable Permian Resources Land LLC
Cope 82-83 #14HT
Ln (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal, 2343 fsl, 2514 fsl, Sec 82, Blk 2, Abat. 371, T&P RR, 23.8 ne Big Lake, TD 9000, API #42-363-40341 Permit issued 7/3

Sable Permian Resources Land LLC
Cope 82-83 #15HC
Ln (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal, 2351 fsl, 2533 fsl, Sec 82, Blk 2, Abat. 371, T&P RR, 23.8 ne Big Lake, TD 9000, API #42-363-40342 Permit issued 7/3

Sable Permian Resources Land LLC
Cope 82-83 #16HS
Ln (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal, 2358 fsl, 2551 fsl, Sec 82, Blk 2, Abat. 371, T&P RR, 23.8 ne Big Lake, TD 9000, API #42-363-40343 Permit issued 7/3

Sable Permian Resources Land LLC
Cope 82-83 #11HS
Ln (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal, 2329 fsl, 2477 fsl, Sec 82, Blk 2, Abat. 371, T&P RR, 23.8 ne Big Lake, TD 9000, API #42-

383-40339 Permit issued 7/3

Sable Permian Resources Land LLC
Cope 82-83 #17HA
Ln (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal, 2385 fsl, 2570 fsl, Sec 82, Blk 2, Abat. 371, T&P RR, 23.8 ne Big Lake, TD 9000, API #42-363-40344 Permit issued 7/5

SEM Operating Company LLC
University 9C #1212WB
Ln (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal, 10169 fsl, 5532 fsl, Sec 12, Blk 9, Abat. 182U, ULS, 14 nw Big Lake, TD 10000, API #42-363-40312 Permit issued 7/2

Upton County

COG Operating LLC
Emma Lou Unit #9431BH
Spraberry (Trend Area)
Horizontal, 250 fsl, 706 fsl, Sec 93, Blk D, Abat. 57, CC&S&R&G, 18.6 nw Rankin, TD 10500, API #42-461-40917 Permit issued 7/2

COG Operating LLC
Emma Lou Unit #9423LH
Spraberry (Trend Area)
Horizontal, 250 fsl, 681 fsl, Sec 93, Blk D, Abat. 57, CC&S&R&G, 18.6 nw Rankin, TD 10500, API #42-461-40921 Permit issued 7/3

Endeavor Energy Resources LP
Kenneth Sherrod 42-43 Unit 2 #251
Spraberry (Trend Area)
Horizontal, 2234 fsl, 1878 fsl, Sec 42, Blk 37, T-5-S, Abat. 638, T&P RR, 2.6 ne Midddle, TD 11000, API #42-461-40925 Permit issued 7/5

Texas RRCD 8

Andrews County

Tensard Petroleum LP
Jasper B #2H
Dampsey Creek (San Andres)-Horizontal, 1580 fsl, 2330 fsl, Sec 7, Blk A-31, Abat. 444, PSL, 24 nw Andrews, TD 13225, API #42-003-47843 Permit issued 7/3

Glasscock County

RSP Permian LLC
Calverley 22-27 #701H
Spraberry (Trend Area)-Horizontal, 500 fsl, 1894.1 fsl, Sec 15, Blk 5B, Abat. 422, T&P RR, 14 ne Garden City, TD 12500, API #42-173-37954 Permit issued 7/5

RSP Permian LLC
Calverley 22-27 #702H

Please see Page 4F



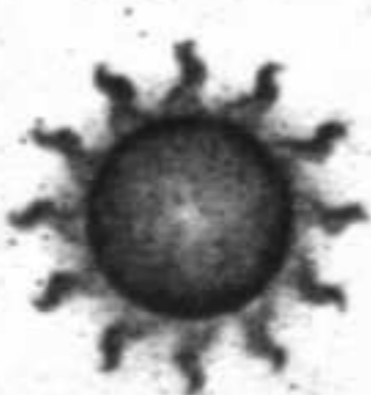
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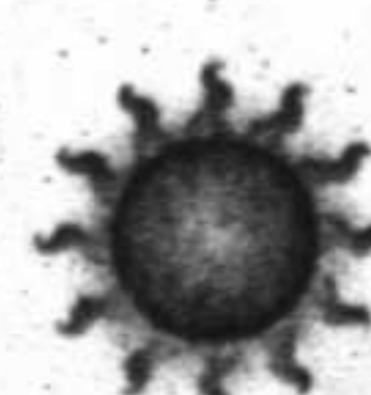
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Cochran	Hudspeth W	Pecos S	Chaves SE
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Crane	Jeff Davis W	Real	DeBaca E
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Calhoun W	Kinney	Sterling	Guadalupe W
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Spraberry (Trend Area)-Horizontal; 500 fsl, 1894.1 fsl, Sec 15, Blk 36, Abst. 422, T&P RR, 13.9 ne Garden City, TD 12000, API #42-173-37925 Permit issued 7/5

RSP Permian LLC Calverley 22-27 #703H Spraberry (Trend Area)-Horizontal; 500 fsl, 1854.1 fsl, Sec 15, Blk 36, Abst. 422, T&P RR, 13.9 ne Garden City, TD 12000, API #42-173-37926 Permit issued 7/5

Howard County

Citation Oil & Gas Corp. S.T. Eason #29 Howard Glasscock (Consolidated)-Directional; 759 fsl, 989 fsl, Sec 18, Blk 32, T-2-S, Abst. 1490, T&P RR, 3.1 sw Forsan; TD 2700, API #42-227-39683 Permit issued 7/3

Citation Oil & Gas Corp. S.T. Eason #24 Howard Glasscock (Consolidated); 1147 fsl, 677 fsl, Sec 16, Blk 32, T-2-S, Abst. 1490, T&P RR, 3.1 sw Forsan; TD 2700, API #42-227-39680 Permit issued 7/3

SM Energy Company Ray Kinsella #1341WA Spraberry (Trend Area)-Horizontal; 320 fsl, 636 fsl, Sec 23, Blk 31, T-2-N, Abst. 187, T&P RR, 13.8 ne Big Spring, TD 10000, API #42-227-39684 Permit issued 7/5

Loving County

BTA Oil Producers LLC Rifle 21801 #2H Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal; 2257 fml, 560 fml, Sec 90, Blk 33, Abst. 387, H&TC RR, 5 nw Mentone, TD 11200, API #42-301-34079 Permit issued 7/5

BTA Oil Producers LLC Rifle 21801 #3H Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal; 2257 fml, 590 fml, Sec 90, Blk 33, Abst. 387, H&TC RR, 5 nw Mentone, TD 11500, API #42-301-34093 Permit issued 7/5

EOG Resources Inc. Link VJ Ranch 26-23 A #1H Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal; 503 fsl, 785 fml, Sec 26, Blk 55, T-2, Abst. 828, T&P RR, 10.8 nw Mentone, TD 14000, API #42-301-34086 Permit issued 7/3

EOG Resources Inc. Link VJ Ranch 26-23 B #2H Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal; 470 fsl, 792 fml, Sec 26, Blk 55, T-2, Abst. 828, T&P RR, 10.8 nw Mentone, TD 14000, API #42-301-34087 Permit issued 7/3

EOG Resources Inc. Link VJ Ranch 26-23 C #3H Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal; 200 fsl, 2640 fml, Sec 26, Blk 55, T-2, Abst. 828, T&P RR, 10.8 nw Mentone, TD 14000, API #42-301-34088 Permit issued 7/3

EOG Resources Inc. Link VJ Ranch 26-23 D #4H Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal; 200 fsl, 2673 fml, Sec 26, Blk 55, T-2, Abst. 828, T&P RR, 10.8 nw Mentone, TD 14000, API #42-301-34089 Permit issued 7/3

EOG Resources Inc. Link VJ Ranch 26-23 E #5H Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal; 200 fsl, 2648 fml, Sec 26, Blk 55, T-2, Abst. 828, T&P RR, 10.8 nw Mentone, TD 14000, API #42-301-34090 Permit issued 7/3

EOG Resources Inc. Link VJ Ranch 26-23 F #6H Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal; 200 fsl, 942 fml, Sec 26, Blk 55, T-2, Abst. 828, T&P RR, 10.8 nw Mentone, TD 14000, API #42-301-34091 Permit issued 7/3

EOG Resources Inc. Link VJ Ranch 26-23 G #7H Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal; 200 fsl, 909 fml, Sec 26, Blk 55, T-2, Abst. 828, T&P RR, 10.8 nw Mentone, TD 14000, API #42-301-34092 Permit issued 7/6

Martin County

Endeavor Energy Resources LP LO Free #38 #2 Spraberry (Trend Area); 380 fsl, 380 fsl, Sec 38, Blk 36, T-1-N, Abst. 662, T&P RR, 4.51 nw Stanton; TD 11100, API #42-317-41573 Permit issued 7/6

Hunt Oil Company Scharbauer #1056HA Spraberry (Trend Area)-Horizontal; 2246 fml, 480 fml, Sec 325, Abst. 424, La Salle CSL, 18.24 nw Stanton; TD 9570, API #42-317-41570 Permit issued 7/3

Hunt Oil Company Scharbauer #1056HB Spraberry (Trend Area)-Horizontal; 2246 fml, 450 fml, Sec 325, Abst. 424, La Salle CSL, 18.24 nw Stanton; TD 9700, API #42-317-41569 Permit issued 7/3

Hunt Oil Company Scharbauer #1009HM Spraberry (Trend Area)-Horizontal; 2247 fml, 540 fml, Sec 325, Abst. 424, La Salle CSL, 18.24 nw Stanton; TD 8450, API #42-317-41572 Permit issued 7/3

Hunt Oil Company Scharbauer #2009HL Spraberry (Trend Area)-Horizontal; 2247 fml, 510 fml, Sec 325, Abst. 424, La Salle CSL,

18.24 nw Stanton; TD 9260, API #42-317-41571 Permit issued 7/3

Midland County

COG Operating LLC Marion V. Bengo Estate A11 #2405LH Parks (Consolidated)-Horizontal; 2487 fml, 2183 fml, Sec 9, Blk 40, T-3-S, Abst. 277, T&P RR, 12.6 sw Midland; TD 12000, API #42-329-42655 Permit issued 7/5

Permian Deep Rock Oil Co. LLC Charger A #H125SS Spraberry (Trend Area)-Horizontal; 748 fml, 108 fml, Sec 3, Blk 39, Abst. 181, T&P RR, 2.1 se Midland; TD 9800, API #42-329-42657 Permit issued 7/3

Permian Deep Rock Oil Co. LLC Charger A #H125WA Spraberry (Trend Area)-Horizontal; 718 fml, 108 fml, Sec 3, Blk 39, T-2-S, Abst. 181, T&P RR, 2.1 sw Midland; TD 9700, API #42-329-42656

Permian Deep Rock Oil Co. LLC

Charger A #H125WA Spraberry (Trend Area)-Horizontal; 718 fml, 108 fml, Sec 3, Blk 39, T-2-S, Abst. 181, T&P RR, 2.1 sw Midland; TD 9700, API #42-329-42656

Please see Page 5F

From 3F

Blue Krait 23 Fed #5 North Red Hills; Sec 23 T24S R33E, 200S & 710W, BHL; Sec 14 280N & 1190W, EL 3551.5 GL, TD 19,410, PBTD 19,312, Spud 7-12-17, Comp 4-7-18; production is through treated perfs: 9701-19,256. Treat: Frac w/56,682 gals acid, 15,060,500# proppant. IP: 4-20-18 Pump 24 hrs 1590 BO, 2369 BW, 2091 MCF, Csg. 13 3/8 @ 1332 w/1075 sx, 9 5/8 @ 5250 w/1635 sx, 5 1/2 @ 19,400 w/2570 sx, 2 7/8 @ 9130, API #30-025-43012

EOG Resources Inc. Hawk 26 Federal #705 Wildcat; Sec 26 T24S R33E, 500S & 2464E, BHL; Sec 35 235S & 2553W, EL 3516 GL, TD 17171 MD, 12539 TVD, PBTD 17604 MD, 12539 TVD; Spud 12-12-17, Comp 3-16-18; production is through treated perfs: 12900-17604. Treat: Frac w/12,485,800# proppant, 167,548 bbls load fluid. IP: 3-19-18 Flow 24 hrs 2409 BO, 4499 BW, 4421 MCF, GOR 1835, Csg. 42, Csg. 13 3/8 @ 1317 w/1135 sx, 9 5/8 @ 5116 w/1284 sx, 7 5/8 @ 21170 w/570

sx, 5 1/2 @ 17700 w/616 sx, API #30-025-42398

Mewbourne Oil Co. El Mar 21 WOCN Fed Com #2 Wildcat; Sec 21 T26S R33E, 185N & 2480W, BHL; 340S & 2262W, EL 3271 GL, TD 16980 MD, 12347 TVD, PBTD 16945 MD, 12347 TVD; Spud 12-10-17, Comp 4-18-18; production is through treated perfs: 12578-16940. Treat: 11,040,372 gals slickwater, carrying 9,907,340# white 100 mesh sd & 570,120# 40/70 white sd. IP: 4-21-18 Flow 24 hrs 349 BO, 1437 BW, 1437 MCF, 2064" Ch, CP 1900, GOR 2739, Gty 45.7, Csg. 13 3/8 @ 900 w/750 sx, 9 5/8 @ 4815 w/1100 sx, 7 @ 12543 w/1200 sx, 4 1/2 @ 11719-16940 w/ 300 sx, API #30-025-42929

Mewbourne Oil Co. El Mar 21 WODM Fed Com #2 Wildcat; Sec 21 T26S R33E, 200N & 720W, BHL; 336S & 1104W, EL 3271 GL, TD 17025 MD, 12357 TVD, PBTD 16975 MD, 12357 TVD; Spud 10-13-17, Comp 4-18-18; production is through treated

perfs: 12467-16975. Treat: 11,297,372 gals slickwater carrying 10,809,320# white sd & 262,740# 40/70 white sd. IP: 4-21-18 Flow 24 hrs 377 BO, 2312 BW, 1004 MCF, CP 2600, GOR 2665, Gty 45.7, Csg. 13 3/8 @ 934 w/800 sx, 9 5/8 @ 4825 w/1000 sx, 7 @ 12460 w/775 sx, 4 1/2 @ 11822-16970 w/350 sx, API #30-025-42935

Mewbourne Oil Co. El Mar 21 W1CN Fed Com #3 Wildcat; Sec 21 T26S R33E, 190N & 1905W, BHL; 342S & 1746W, EL 3271 GL, TD 17,065 MD, 12,458, PBTD 17031, 12458 TVD; Spud 11-13-17, Comp 4-20-18; production is through treated perfs: 12577-17025. Treat: 11,117,780 gals slickwater carrying 9,444,680# 100 mesh sd & 155,320# 40/70 white sd. IP: 4-22-18 Flow 24 hrs 454 BO, 1401 BW, 846 MCF, 2264" Ch, CP 2700, GOR 1863, Gty 45.7, Csg. 13 3/8 @ 942 w/775 sx, 9 5/8 @ 4848 w/1100 sx, 7 @ 12550 w/1050 sx, 4 1/2 @ 11783-17025 w/300 sx, API #30-025-43072

Barlow 34 Federal Com #701 Sanders Tank; Sec 34 T26S R33E, 300S & 621W, BHL; Sec 27 121S & 425W, EL 3261 GL, TD 15837 MD, 12363 TVD, PBTD 15778 MD, 12363 TVD; Spud 11-26-17, Comp 3-22-18; production is through treated perfs: 12680-15778. Treat: Frac w/7,928,520# proppant, 101,309 bbls load fluid. IP: 4-4-18 Flow 24 hrs 1314 BO, 3405 BW, 2443 MCF, 42 Ch, CP 1183, GOR 1859, Gty 41, Csg. 13 3/8 @ 909 w/810 sx, 9 5/8 @ 4862 w/1385 sx, 7 5/8 @ 11714 w/660 sx, 5 1/2 @ 15795 w/450 sx, API #30-025-44154

Marathon Oil Permian LLC Cave Lion 5 Federal BC #1 Wildcat; Sec 5 T26S R35E, 185S & 330W, BHL; 332N & 315W, EL 3271 GL, TD 17054 MD, 12408 TVD; Spud 12-10-17, Comp 2-20-18; production is through treated perfs: 12478-16970. Treat: 11,251,313 40/70 100 mesh. IP: 2-20-18 Flow 24 hrs 1869 BO, 11948 BW, 301 MCF, 54 Ch, CP 1370, GOR 161, Csg. 13 3/8 @ 1110 w/928 sx, 9 5/8 @ 5423 w/1649 sx, 7 @ 11835 w/1035 sx, 4 1/2 @ 11568-17050 w/555 sx, API #30-025-44087

around the oil patch PAID CONTENT

To appear in *Around the Oil Patch* call Paul Wiseman at 697-7468 or your Oil Report account executive at 682-5311.

Plunger lift substantially increases net income in mature Permian wells

As wells mature, many Permian Basin operators assume that they have to put up with the costs and operating challenges associated with these wells. Flowing wells often accumulate fluids in the bottom of the wellbore as flow rates decline below the critical rate. When this happens, liquid loading starts holding back production unless dealt with by installing artificial lift. Many times operators try to deal with liquids in flowing wells by swabbing them out manually or by dropping surfactants down the tubing or casing in order to lighten the gradient of the fluid column. Sometimes they shut the well in to build up enough pressure to blow the liquids to the surface (known as intermitting). All these methods are costly, time-consuming and, in the case of intermitting, can permanently reduce the flow rate of the well. As for rod pumping, this method may have been appropriate in a well's early stages but, as rates and profits decrease, the well may do much better switching to plunger lift.

For more than 29 years, Production Lift Companies' Mike Swihart has repeatedly seen plunger lift installations boost production of oil and gas wells, while reducing lifting costs by as much as 90 percent. The reduction in overhead alone is worth giving plunger lift serious consideration in mature wells. Here are examples of Permian Basin flowing and rod-pumped wells that greatly benefited from plunger lift.

Flowing Well 1: This well, in Crane Co., had some erratic production and had to have paraffin cut every two weeks. After installation of the plunger lift system, production improved from 12 BBL/D to 18 BBL/D and the need for paraffin cutting was eliminated. Net operating income increased by \$191,625 on an annualized basis.

Flowing Well 2: This Midland Co. well, was being "intermitted" by shutting in and opening it every few days. Plunger lift automated the process and doubled the average daily production, from 4 BBL/D to 8 BBL/D increasing net operating income \$116,800 on an annualized basis.

Plunger Lift Results

WELL #	START	END	START	END	EXPENSE	PAYOUT	Increase % Mo Net Income (MOI)
	AVG OIL (BBL/D)	OIL (BBL/D)	AVG GAS (MCFD)	GAS (MCFD)			
Flowing Wells							
WELL #1	12	18	125	200	\$8,770	21	\$191,625
WELL #2	4	8	90	130	\$8,675	33	\$116,800
WELL #3	2	5	70	145	\$14,900	46	\$136,965
Rod Pumped Wells							
WELL #1	2	4	10	22	\$14,880	132	\$52,880
WELL #2	6	8	51	65	\$18,475	109	\$63,830
WELL #3	15	20	100	120	\$17,890	67	\$125,150
Plunger Lift Wells							
WELL #1	7	10	45	65	\$5,000	27	\$76,650
WELL #2	40	45	200	220	\$3,790	12	\$113,150
WELL #3	22	26	270	280	\$2,300	9	\$94,900
Totals:					\$92,970		\$971,650

Note: Economics based on \$3/MCF and \$50/BBL & \$1,000/Mo Avg. Rod Pump Expense

This chart shows examples of wells seeing a tenfold rate of return with plunger lift.

Red Pumped Well 1: This was a multi-zone vertical well in Reagan Co. The well had rod part issues due to a deviated wellbore. After replacing the rod pump with plunger lift, average daily oil production doubled from 2 BBL/D to 4 BBL/D. Expenses associated with rod parts and pulling units were eliminated and net operating income increased \$52,880 on an annualized basis.

Red Pumped Well 2: Another multi zone vertical well, this one in Sterling Co., had sufficient gas and pressure to run a plunger lift system. After installation, daily average production increased from 6 BBL/D to 8 BBL/D. Net operating income increased by \$63,830 on an annualized basis.

Plunger lift is such a low cost alternative compared to other lift methods, it would be a shame not to try it in any well where there is sufficient down-hole gas and pressure. If you have questions about the cost savings or application of plunger lift, or would like to have some additional training call Production Lift today.

Contact Production Lift Companies at 432-699-1200 or 800-594-3887 or www.productionlift.com.

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Permit issued 7/3

Permian Deep Rock Oil Co. LLC
Charger A #H130LS
Spraberry (Trend Area)-
Horizontal; 658 fswl, 108 fsef,
Sec 3, Blk 39, Abst. 181, T&P
RR, 2.1 sw Midland; TD 9300;
API #42-329-42659 Permit
issued 7/3

Permian Deep Rock Oil Co. LLC
Charger A #H130MS
Spraberry (Trend Area)-
Horizontal; 688 fswl, 108 fsef,
Sec 3, Blk 39, Abst. 181, T&P
RR, 2.1 sw Midland; TD 8500;
API #42-329-42660 Permit
issued 7/3

Permian Deep Rock Oil Co. LLC
Charger A #H130WB
Spraberry (Trend Area)-
Horizontal; 628 fswl, 108 fsef,
Sec 3, Blk 39, Abst. 181, T&P
RR, 2.1 sw Midland; TD 9900;
API #42-329-42658 Permit
issued 7/3

Permian Deep Rock Oil Co. LLC
Charger A #H135SS
Spraberry (Trend Area)-
Horizontal; 358 fswl, 108 fsef,
Sec 3, Blk 39, Abst. 181, T&P
RR, 2.1 sw Midland; TD 8800;
API #42-329-42665 Permit
issued 7/5

Permian Deep Rock Oil Co. LLC
Charger A #H135WA
Spraberry (Trend Area)-
Horizontal; 328 fswl, 108 fsef,
Sec 3, Blk 39, Abst. 181, T&P
RR, 2.1 sw Midland; TD 9700;
API #42-329-42664 Permit
issued 7/5

Permian Deep Rock Oil Co. LLC
Charger A #H140LS
Spraberry (Trend Area)-
Horizontal; 268 fswl, 109 fsef,
Sec 3, Blk 39, Abst. 181, T&P
RR, 2.1 sw Midland; TD 9300;
API #42-329-42662 Permit
issued 7/5

Permian Deep Rock Oil Co. LLC
Charger A #H140MS
Spraberry (Trend Area)-
Horizontal; 298 fswl, 109 fsef,
Sec 3, Blk 39, Abst. 181, T&P
RR, 2.1 sw Midland; TD 8500;
API #42-329-42663 Permit
issued 7/5

Permian Deep Rock Oil Co. LLC
Charger A #H140WB
Spraberry (Trend Area)-
Horizontal; 238 fswl, 109 fsef,
Sec 3, Blk 39, Abst. 181, T&P
RR, 2.1 sw Midland; TD 9900;
API #42-329-42661 Permit
issued 7/5

issued 7/5

Pioneer Natural Resources
USA Inc.
Cunningham 37A #1H
Spraberry (Trend Area)-
Horizontal; 1191 fsl, 600 fnl,
Sec 37, Blk 38, T-3-S, Abst.
105, T&P RR, 16.5 se Midland;
TD 10330; API #42-329-42482
Permit issued 7/6

XTO Energy Inc.
LHS Ranch Allocation 4505
#4505BH
Spraberry (Trend Area) R 40
EXC-Horizontal; 2364 fsl, 699
fsl, Sec 40, Blk 38, T-4-S, Abst.
880, T&P RR, 24 se Midland;
TD 10000; API #42-329-42586
Permit issued 7/2

XTO Energy Inc.
LHS Ranch Allocation 4516
#4516AH
Spraberry (Trend Area) R 40
EXC-Horizontal; 2314 fsl, 700
fsl, Sec 40, Blk 38, T-4-S, Abst.
880, T&P RR, 24 se Midland;
TD 10000; API #42-329-42587
Permit issued 7/2

XTO Energy Inc.
LHS Ranch Allocation 4517
#4517AH
Spraberry (Trend Area) R 40
EXC-Horizontal; 1512 fsl, 519
fsl, Sec 40, Blk 38, T-4-S, Abst.
880, T&P RR, 24 se Midland;
TD 10000; API #42-329-42589
Permit issued 7/2

XTO Energy Inc.
LHS Ranch Allocation 4517
#4507BH
Spraberry (Trend Area) R 40
EXC-Horizontal; 958 fsl, 516
fsl, Sec 40, Blk 38, T-4-S, Abst.
880, T&P RR, 24 se Midland;
TD 10000; API #42-329-42598
Permit issued 7/3

XTO Energy Inc.
LHS Ranch Allocation 4518
#4518AH
Spraberry (Trend Area) R 40
EXC-Horizontal; 908 fsl, 516
fsl, Sec 40, Blk 38, T-4-S, Abst.
880, T&P RR, 24 se Midland;
TD 10000; API #42-329-42599
Permit issued 7/3

XTO Energy Inc.
LHS Ranch Allocation 4518
#4508BH
Spraberry (Trend Area) R 40
EXC-Horizontal; 795 fsl, 1218
fsl, Sec 40, Blk 38, T-4-S, Abst.
880, T&P RR, 24 se Midland;
TD 10000; API #42-329-42600
Permit issued 7/3

Pecos County

P-Core Exploration & Production II LLC
State Cougar #1HA
Hoefs T-K (Wolfcamp)-Hor-
zontal; 200 fsl, 474 fsl, Sec
19, Blk 51, T-10-S, Abst. 8042,
T&P RR, 30.3 w Fort Stockton;
TD 12000; API #42-371-39775
Permit issued 7/6

Rosehill Operating Com-
pany LLC
Sisters 17 #A001
Wolfbone (Trend Area)-
Horizontal; 397 fsl, 280 fsl,
Sec 17, Blk 143, Abst. 3559,
T&STL RR, 7 se Cayanosa;
TD 9560; API #42-371-39772
Permit issued 7/3

Reeves County

Anadarko E&P Onshore
LLC
Bowfin State 57-1-48 Unit
#2H
Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Hor-
zontal; 550 fsl, 1950 fwl, Sec
48, Blk 57, Abst. 4241, T&P
RR, 4.18 nw Oria; TD 11500;
API #42-389-37327 Permit
issued 7/3

Apache Corporation
Aspen State #401BH
Phantom (Wolfcamp)-
Horizontal; 352 fsl, 1521 fsl,
Sec 39, Blk 58, Abst. 164, T&P
RR, 14.2 w Toyah; TD 16000;
API #42-389-37328 Permit
issued 7/3

Apache Corporation
Aspen State #402CH
Phantom (Wolfcamp)-
Horizontal; 353 fsl, 1551 fsl,
Sec 39, Blk 58, Abst. 164, T&P
RR, 14.2 w Toyah; TD 16000;
API #42-389-37329 Permit
issued 7/3

Apache Corporation
Aspen State #201AH
Alpine High (Consolidated)-
Horizontal; 353 fsl, 1491 fsl,
Sec 39, Blk 58, T-6-S, Abst.
164, T&P RR, 14.2 w Toyah;
TD 16000; API #42-389-37330
Permit issued 7/6

Carrizo (Permian) LLC
Zeman-State Alloc G 4042
#43H
Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Hor-
zontal; 4366 fswl, 273 fsl, Sec
40, Blk 4, Abst. 2014, H&GN
RR, 3.1 nw Pecos; TD 11000;
API #42-389-37323 Permit
issued 7/6

EOG Resources Inc.
State Tulp Unit #1H
Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Hor-
zontal; 226 fsl, 698 fsl, Sec
22, Blk 56, Abst. 4435, PSL,
28.5 nw Pecos; TD 14000; API
#42-389-37331 Permit issued
7/3

EOG Resources Inc.
State Tulp Unit #2H
Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Hor-
zontal; 226 fsl, 731 fsl, Sec
22, Blk 56, Abst. 4435, PSL,
28.5 nw Pecos; TD 14000; API
#42-389-37332 Permit issued
7/3

Jetta Permian LP
Huntington State 72 27-31
#1H
Ford West (Wolfcamp)-Hor-

zontal; 210 fsl, 330 fsl, Sec 27,
Blk 72, Abst. 3142, PSL, 3.36
ne Toyah; TD 10000; API #42-
389-37318 Permit issued 7/2

Rosetta Resources Operat-
ing LP
Calamity Jane West #2834H
Phantom (Wolfcamp)-
Horizontal; 452 fswl, 1410 fswl,
Sec 28, Blk C-6, Abst. 4896,
PSL, 10 se Pecos; TD 13000;
API #42-389-37324 Permit
issued 7/5

Rosetta Resources Operat-
ing LP
Calamity Jane West #2811H
Phantom (Wolfcamp)-
Horizontal; 452 fswl, 1380 fswl,
Sec 28, Blk C-6, Abst. 4896,
PSL, 10 se Pecos; TD 13000;
API #42-389-37325 Permit
issued 7/5

Ward County

Cimarex Energy Co.
Drainage 34-136 #5H
Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Hor-
zontal; 200 fswl, 1230 fswl, Sec
136, Blk 34, Abst. 1272, H&TC
RR, 7.4 ne Barstow; TD 15000;
API #42-475-37601 Permit
issued 7/2

Energen Resources Cor-
poration
Enforcer 34 113-112 A
#605H
Phantom (Wolfcamp)-
Horizontal; 1080 fswl, 2012
fswl, Sec 113, Blk 34, Abst.
234, H&TC RR, 7.5 sw Pyote;
TD 14500; API #42-475-37606
Permit issued 7/3

Energen Resources Cor-
poration
Enforcer 34 113-112 B
#706H
Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Hor-
zontal; 1030 fswl, 2012
fswl, Sec 113, Blk 34, Abst.
234, H&TC RR, 7.5 sw Pyote;
TD 14500; API #42-475-37604
Permit issued 7/3

Energen Resources Cor-
poration
Enforcer 34 113-112 C
#606H
Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Hor-
zontal; 980 fswl, 2012 fswl, Sec
113, Blk 34, Abst. 234, H&TC
RR, 7.5 sw Pyote; TD 14500;
API #42-475-37605 Permit
issued 7/3

Energen Resources Cor-
poration
Unforgiven 34 113-114 A
#605H
Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Hor-
zontal; 2012 fswl, 750 fswl, Sec
113, Blk 34, Abst. 234, H&TC
RR, 7.2 sw Pyote; TD 14500;
API #42-475-37609 Permit
issued 7/3

Energen Resources Cor-
poration
Unforgiven 34 113-114 B
#706H
Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Hor-
zontal; 700 fswl, 2012 fswl, Sec
113, Blk 34, Abst. 234, H&TC
RR, 7.2 sw Pyote; TD 14500;
API #42-475-37607 Permit
issued 7/3

Energen Resources Cor-
poration
Unforgiven 34 113-114 C
#606H
Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Hor-
zontal; 650 fswl, 2012 fswl, Sec
113, Blk 34, Abst. 234, H&TC
RR, 7.2 sw Pyote; TD 14500;
API #42-475-37608 Permit
issued 7/3

Halcon Operating Co. Inc.
Talluride #6203H
Phantom (Wolfcamp)-
Horizontal; 176 fswl, 1086

Please see Page 6F

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From 5F

fswl, Sec 62, Blk F, Abst. 30, G&MMB&A, 3.5 ne Pyote, TD 12500, API #42-475-37603 Permit issued 7/5

Winkler County

Mewbourne Oil Company University B20 2/11 #W101B0
Phantom (Wolfcamp)-Horizontal, 330 fml, 1634 fwl, Sec 2, Blk 20, Abst. 8U, ULS, 9 nw Wink, TD 12500, API #42-495-34191 Permit issued 7/6

Texas RRCD 8A

Borden County

Surge Operating LLC Basilisk Unit A 13-12 #2AH Spraberry (Trend Area)-Horizontal, 129 fml, 1029 fwl, Sec 13, Blk 33, T-3-N, Abst. 349, T&P RR, 1.6 nw Vealmoor, TD 10000, API #42-033-32479 Permit issued 7/2

Cochran County

Silver Creek Oil & Gas LLC Johnny Ringo #2H Cochran (San Andres)-Horizontal, 500 fml, 1390 fwl, Sec 136, Abst. 109, Armstrong CSL, 10.99 sw Morton, TD 6000, API #42-079-33396 Permit issued 7/3

Garza County

Cholla Petroleum Inc. Giles #30 Arlene (Glorieta), 1850 fml, 700 fwl, Sec 85, Blk 5, Abst. 45, GH&H RR, 8.5 e Post, TD 4999, API #42-169-34280 Permit issued 7/2

Hockley County

Occidental Permian Ltd. Inca #1H Loveland (Wichita-Albany)-Horizontal, 817 fml, 1322 fwl, Sec 733, Abst. 227, A. Taylor, 1.2 ne Loveland, TD 10000, API #42-219-37444 Permit issued 7/5

Yoakum County

Wishbone Texas Operating Co. LLC Malador 646 B #2H Platang (San Andres)-Horizontal, 473 fml, 405 fwl, Sec 599, Blk D, Abst. 525, J.H. Gibson, 11.6 sw Plains, TD 9000, API #42-501-37019 Permit issued 7/2

Wishbone Texas Operating Co. LLC Smokey 399 A #1H Sable (San Andres)-Horizontal, 190 fml, 330 fwl, Sec 399, Blk D, Abst. 334, J.H. Gibson, 9.52 nw Plains, TD 9000, API #42-501-37020 Permit issued 7/5

New Mexico

Eddy County

Ascent Energy LLC Hokie Fee #501 Cass Draw, Sec 21 T22S R27E, 1807'N & 463'E, 1 1/2 mi SE Carlsbad, Rot 12067 Bone Spring, API #30-015-45013

Ascent Energy LLC Hokie Fee #502 Cass Draw, Sec 21 T22S R27E, 1852'N & 463'E, 1 1/2 mi SE Carlsbad, Rot 12076 Bone Spring, API #30-015-45014

Ascent Energy LLC Hokie Fee #601 Cass Draw, Sec 21 T22S R27E, 1807'N & 463'E, 1 1/2 mi SE Carlsbad, Rot 14684 Bone Spring, API #30-015-45015

Courtesy DrillingInfo

Ascent Energy LLC Hokie Fee #602 Cass Draw, Sec 21 T22S R27E, 1852'N & 463'E, 1 1/2 mi SE Carlsbad, Rot 14702 Bone Spring, API #30-015-45016

Tap Rock Operating LLC Piny The Elder 23S27E0605 #201 Purple Sage, Sec 4 T23S R27E, 870'N & 330'W, 1 mi SW Otis, Rot 18500 Wolfcamp, API #30-015-44998

Mewbourne Oil Co. Stinger 6 WOAD Fee #1 Purple Sage, Sec 6 T23S R27E, 780'N & 240'E, 6 mi S Otis, Rot 13380 Wolfcamp, API #30-015-44994

Mewbourne Oil Co. Stinger 6 WOAD Fee #2 Purple Sage, Sec 6 T23S R27E, 810'N & 240'E, 6 mi S Otis, Rot 13380 Wolfcamp, API #30-015-44995

Mewbourne Oil Co. Stinger 6 WOAD Fee #3 Purple Sage, Sec 6 T23S R27E, 2210'N & 240'E, 6 mi S Otis, Rot 13380 Wolfcamp, API #30-015-44996

Marathon Oil Permian LLC Maximus Fee 23 28 6 WXY #12 Purple Sage, Sec 6 T23S R29E, 1034'N & 559'E, 3 mi SE Otis, Rot 14077 Wolfcamp, API #30-015-45007

Marathon Oil Permian LLC Maximus Fee 23 28 6 TB #14 South Culebra Bluff, Sec 6 T23S R29E, 974'N & 560'E, 3 mi SE Otis, Rot 13877 Bone Spring, API #30-015-45008

Marathon Oil Permian LLC Maximus Fee 23 28 6 WA #15 Purple Sage, Sec 6 T23S R29E, 1004'N & 560'E, 3 mi SE Otis, Rot 14205 Wolfcamp, API #30-015-45009

Marathon Oil Permian LLC Maximus Fee 23 28 6 WXY #18 Purple Sage, Sec 6 T23S R28E, 944'N & 561'E, 3 mi SE Otis, Rot 14065 Wolfcamp, API #30-015-45010

Lea County

Apache Corp. Orion Knight Federal #201 Grama Ridge, Sec 4 T22S R34E, 150'S & 1025'W, 14 mi SW Oil Center, Rot 15172 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44859

Apache Corp. Orion Knight Federal #202 Grama Ridge, Sec 4 T22S R34E, 150'S & 2315'W, 14 mi SW Oil Center, Rot 15104 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44860

Cimarex Energy Co. West Grama Ridge 8 5 Fed #3 West Grama Ridge, Sec 8 T22S R34E, 457'S & 590'W, 15 mi SW Oil Center, Rot 19901 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44840

Cimarex Energy Co. West Grama Ridge 8 5 Fed #4 West Grama Ridge, Sec 8 T22S R34E, 457'S & 610'W, 15 mi SW Oil Center, Rot 20294 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44841

Cimarex Energy Co. West Grama Ridge 8 5 Fed #5 West Grama Ridge, Sec 8 T22S R34E, 457'S & 630'W, 15 mi SW Oil Center, Rot 21542 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44842

Cimarex Energy Co. West Grama Ridge 8 5 Fed #6 West Grama Ridge, Sec 8 T22S R34E, 397'S & 670'W, 15 mi SW Oil Center, Rot 21641 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44843

Cimarex Energy Co. West Grama Ridge 8 5 Fed #7 West Grama Ridge, Sec 8 T22S R34E, 397'S & 690'W, 15 mi SW Oil Center, Rot 21844 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44846

Cimarex Energy Co. West Grama Ridge 8 5 Fed #9 West Grama Ridge, Sec 8 T22S R34E, 397'S & 710'W, 15 mi SW Oil Center, Rot 21843 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44844

Cimarex Energy Co. West Grama Ridge 8 5 Fed #10 West Grama Ridge, Sec 8 T22S R34E, 397'S & 730'W, 15 mi SW Oil Center, Rot 21799 Wolfcamp, API #30-025-44845

EOG Resources Inc. Funky Munks 8 Fed #601 North Antelope Ridge, Sec 8 T23S R35E, 2410'S & 330'W, 6 mi NE Ochoa, Rot 18751 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44837

EOG Resources Inc. Funky Munks 8 Fed #602 North Antelope Ridge, Sec 8 T23S R35E, 230'S & 994'W, 6 mi NE Ochoa, Rot 18751 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44838

COG Operating LLC Dominator 25 Fed com #304 Red Hills, Sec 25 T25S R33E, 310'S & 1980'E, 7 1/2 mi SW Ochoa, Rot 15076 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44858

EOG Resources Inc. Osprey 10 #301 East Red Hills, Sec 10 T25S R34E, 208'S & 14'W, 3 mi SW Ochoa, Rot 17796 Bone Spring, API #30-025-44839

EOG Resources Inc. Ortanna 20 Fed #709 Sanders Tank, Sec 20 T26S R33E, 658'S & 1374'E, 14 mi SW Ochoa, Rot 17149 Wolfcamp, API #30-025-44835

EOG Resources Inc. Ortanna 20 Fed #711 Sanders Tank, Sec 20 T26S R33E, 667'S & 1403'E, 14 mi SW Ochoa, Rot 17142 Wolfcamp, API #30-025-44836

EOG Resources Inc. Peachtree 24 Fed #702 Sanders Tank, Sec 24 T26S R33E, 190'S & 767'E, 12 mi SW Ochoa, Rot 22758 Wolfcamp, API #30-025-44832

EOG Resources Inc. Peachtree 24 Fed #703 Sanders Tank, Sec 24 T26S R33E, 190'S & 1732'E, 12 mi SW Ochoa, Rot 22746 Wolfcamp, API #30-025-44833

EOG Resources Inc. Peachtree 24 Fed #704 Sanders Tank, Sec 24 T26S R33E, 190'S & 1767'E, 12 mi SW Ochoa, Rot 22723 Wolfcamp, API #30-025-44834



Steve Gonzales/Houston Chronicle

Noble Energy pump fracturing activities take place June 26, 2017, in Pecos

Pipeline constraints could open M&A opportunities in Permian

By Mella McEwen

mmcewen@rt.com

A recently released report by DrillingInfo, an energy software-as-a-service and data analytics company, forecasts a significant upswing in upstream oil and gas mergers and acquisitions in the second half of the year.

In the Permian Basin, pipeline capacity restraints that are keeping crude production from reaching market could be a factor in that increase.

"We are watching the players in the Permian closely, and we expect the market will differentiate between the players with firm commitments on pipelines and those that do not," said Brian Lidsky, DrillingInfo senior director. "I wouldn't be surprised to see opportunities to merge between players due to whether a company has firm commitment or not."

The DrillingInfo report tallies as much as \$50 billion in non-core assets to be put on the market by exploration and production companies.

What Lidsky called a logjam in the market is expected to move quickly. He attributed the logjam to three factors:

■ Uncertainty regarding how strongly OPEC and non-OPEC countries participating in the recent production cuts would react to increased global oil supplies.

■ The industry realization that Permian Basin growth would temporarily flatten because of pipeline bottlenecks.

■ The impact of Wall Street and private equity investors demanding cash flow growth over volume growth.

"That sharpened the focus of E&P executives on execution and drilling versus acquisitions," he said in a phone interview. Those three factors lined up in the second quarter to put a temporary brake on M&A activity, which fell to \$8.7 billion in activity from \$21.1 billion in the first quarter and an average of \$17.1 billion in activity each quarter since 2014.

"The executives of the E&P companies got the message" of cash flow growth, Lidsky said. "They have retrenched to the best of their portfolios, oftentimes with a single-basin focus."

That retrenchment, combined with Wall Street's unwillingness to fund more acquisitions, is why the report indicates

significant growth in activity in the second half of the year.

"It translates into E&P companies selling noncore assets, largely for cash to fund drilling program in their core areas," Lidsky said.

The once-white-hot Permian Basin, which saw just \$801 million in deals in the second quarter, will be part of that activity. For perspective, from the second quarter of 2015 to the second quarter of 2018, the Permian chalked up \$71.1 billion in deals, comprising 35 percent of the \$200 billion in upstream U.S. transactions, Lidsky said.

But he said other resource plays will see activity as well. "The biggest being the Eagle Ford and, on the natural gas side, the Haynesville and Fayetteville," he said.

"We do think this amount of assets on the market can be handled," he said. "Globally, the U.S. onshore resource and conventional plays do have very good economics in the current price environment. We do expect these assets to be attractive from an economic perspective and from a geopolitical perspective."

Potential buyers will run the gamut from the majors to private capital, not only in the U.S. but from Asia, Europe and the Middle East, Lidsky said.

"Qatar is looking to deploy \$20 billion in capital into U.S. onshore plays," he said. "Out of Asia, some Asian companies from countries dependent on LNG as a fuel source will seek to make a greater presence, particularly for U.S. natural gas plays."

An example of the assets DrillingInfo expects to hit the market in the second half of the year is BHP's U.S. shale business, which it is selling in order to pursue its global deepwater activity. BHP's Permian, Eagle Ford, Haynesville and Fayetteville assets have drawn attention from the majors and large private-equity firms, with Shell, BP and Chevron among the rumored bidders. BP is said to be the frontrunner with an offer in excess of \$10 billion, which does not surprise Lidsky.

"BP is recovering from the Macondo incident (the massive Gulf of Mexico spill in 2010) and is looking to make a stronger presence in U.S. onshore plays," he said. While he said BHP's preference is to sell the assets in one piece, given that some assets are crude oil and some are natural gas, they could be sold in parcels fitting those profiles.

ENERGY BRIEFS

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

ES Xplore executive to talk at SIPES meeting

Members of the Midland chapter, Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists, will meet 11:15 a.m. Wednesday in the upstairs ballroom at Midland Country Club.

Patrick Reese, geoscience and business development manager, ES Xplore, will speak on "Application of Electrostatic Technology for Direct Hydrocarbon Detection in Conventional Reservoirs — A Case History."

There is no charge for members; tickets are \$20 for guests.

SAN ANTONIO

Group 42 buys Texas Oilfield Fabrication & Pipeline

Group 42 has added Texas Oilfield Fabrication & Pipeline to its family of companies. The purchase by U.S. subsidiary Well Flow Oilfield Services Holdings adds pipeline and fabrication services to Group 42, expanding its footprint substantially in the U.S.

Group 42 is an energy-focused holding company based in San Antonio. Its subsidiaries include Well Flow International, whose specialty

chemicals and services support enterprise class producers in the Arabian Gulf, North Sea and West Africa, as well as North America.

Group 42's purchase of TOFF is part of its long-term strategic plan and provides a platform to expand domestic operations to customers in North America. TOFF will continue to operate under its name with the same 245 employees.

Terms of the sale were not disclosed.

KANSAS

Companies announce Iron Horse Pipeline open season

LEAWOOD — Tallgrass Energy LP and Silver Creek Midstream LLC announce a binding open season soliciting additional shipper commitments for Niobrara (API 34 — 42) crude oil transportation service on the Iron Horse Pipeline. The system is designed to add additional grades of crude oil as necessary.

Iron Horse, which has secured a 10-year producer-supported committed transportation contract for 15,000 barrels per day, is under construction and is expected to start commercial operations by Feb. 1, with an initial capacity of about 100,000 barrels per

day that is expandable to about 200,000 barrels per day.

Iron Horse is a joint venture between Tallgrass and Silver Creek to transport crude oil from the growing Powder River Basin to the Guernsey, Wyoming, oil hub. The approximately 80-mile, 16-inch pipeline will consist of 40 miles of new-build and 40 miles of gas-to-oil conversion pipe. At Guernsey, shippers will have access to the Tallgrass Pony Express Pipeline and other pipelines accessible through Tallgrass Terminals' Guernsey Terminal, which is under construction and expected to start commercial operations in the fourth quarter of 2018.

The approximately 250-mile Silver Creek Gathering System is also under construction, and the company has secured multiple long-term commitments for crude oil gathering and transportation services. The system's 16-inch trunkline is expected to have an initial capacity of about 100,000 barrels per day and is expandable up to 200,000 barrels per day and will connect to the Iron Horse Pipeline at Silver Creek's Midway Terminal in Converse County. The Silver Creek Gathering System is expected to be in service by Feb. 1.

The Iron Horse open season runs through Aug. 17.

ENERGY ROUNDUP

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

ConocoPhillips boosts share repurchasing by another \$1 billion

Houston oil and gas producer ConocoPhillips said Thursday it is upping its share repurchasing program by another \$1 billion to bet on its own stock and satisfy shareholders.

The independent exploration and production company has focused on fulfilling the desires of Wall Street for much of the past two years with programs to increase dividend payouts to investors and to reduce corporate debt.

The new moves will expand its 2018 share repurchasing program from \$2 billion to \$3 billion after already completing a \$3 billion in share buybacks from 2016 through 2017. The ConocoPhillips board also authorized up to \$9 billion in additional repurchasing for the future.

ConocoPhillips Chairman and Chief Executive Ryan Lance said the company also achieved \$2.1 billion in debt reduction during the second quarter of this year, completing its \$15 billion debt reduction goal well ahead of its 2019 target.

"We believe the expansion and extension of our repurchase program should be viewed as a clear signal that we are committed to delivering on our strategic priorities and that we still see upside potential for our shares," Lance said in the announcement. "We have now achieved our debt target well ahead of plan, so

we intend to use strong cash flows from the business to increase our return of capital to shareholders, while maintaining capital discipline."

The effort is part of an overall goal of focusing on shareholder value instead of growing oil and gas production and acquisitions just for the sake of growth. Still, the company is showing measured growth in its production outputs while continuing to expand in areas like northern Alaska and the Austin Chalk shale in southern Texas and Louisiana.

New study shows who has top wells in West Texas

New data collected by a Canadian energy research group shows which oil and gas explorers in West Texas have the most prolific wells.

The data from RS Energy Group shows that wells completed by Houston-based EOG Resources in West Texas' Permian Basin oil field had the highest average initial production at 2,051 barrels of oil a day.

Other companies in the top five include the Pioneer Natural Resources of Irving, Occidental Petroleum of Houston, the Denver company SM Energy and the oil major Chevron Corp.

Ryan Luther, a senior associate with the Permian Basin team at RS Energy Group, said the firm used state data on a well's initial production rates for the first 24 hours after it was completed.

Please see Page 8F



The University of Texas of the Permian Basin

www.utpb.edu

UTPB Falcon Football Season Tickets Available Now

Kickoff of the 2018 UT Permian Basin football season is just around the corner and now is your chance to purchase season tickets. After signing a highly-regarded recruiting class and the completion of a thrilling Orange & Black Spring game, the Athletics Department is now preparing for an exciting and successful football season!

Since the beginning of last football season, several changes have taken place which will help our program compete at a higher level –

- Approval to start on the new \$35 million Human Performance Center
- Launched a new fundraising mechanism to generate additional scholarship money
- Completed a new ticket program and layout at Ratliff Stadium
- An intensive football season ticket drive in July

This season the Falcons will play a challenging five-game home schedule. After two games on the road to open 2018, the Falcons will host Midwestern State on Sept. 15. Western New Mexico then visits on Sept. 29. Homecoming will be against Humboldt State on Oct. 13, followed by a trip to Midland to take on Angelo State Oct. 20. The final home contest is Nov. 3 against the defending National Champions, Texas A&M Commerce.

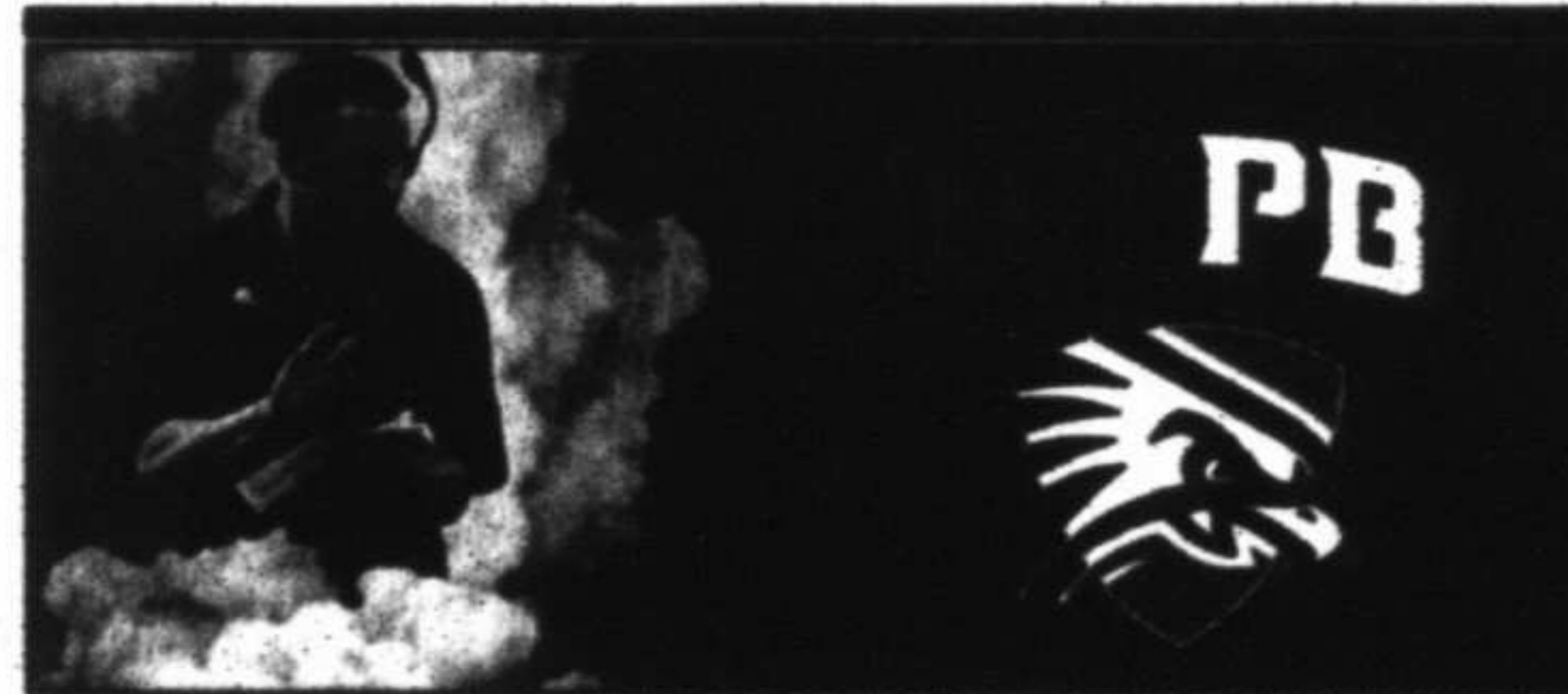
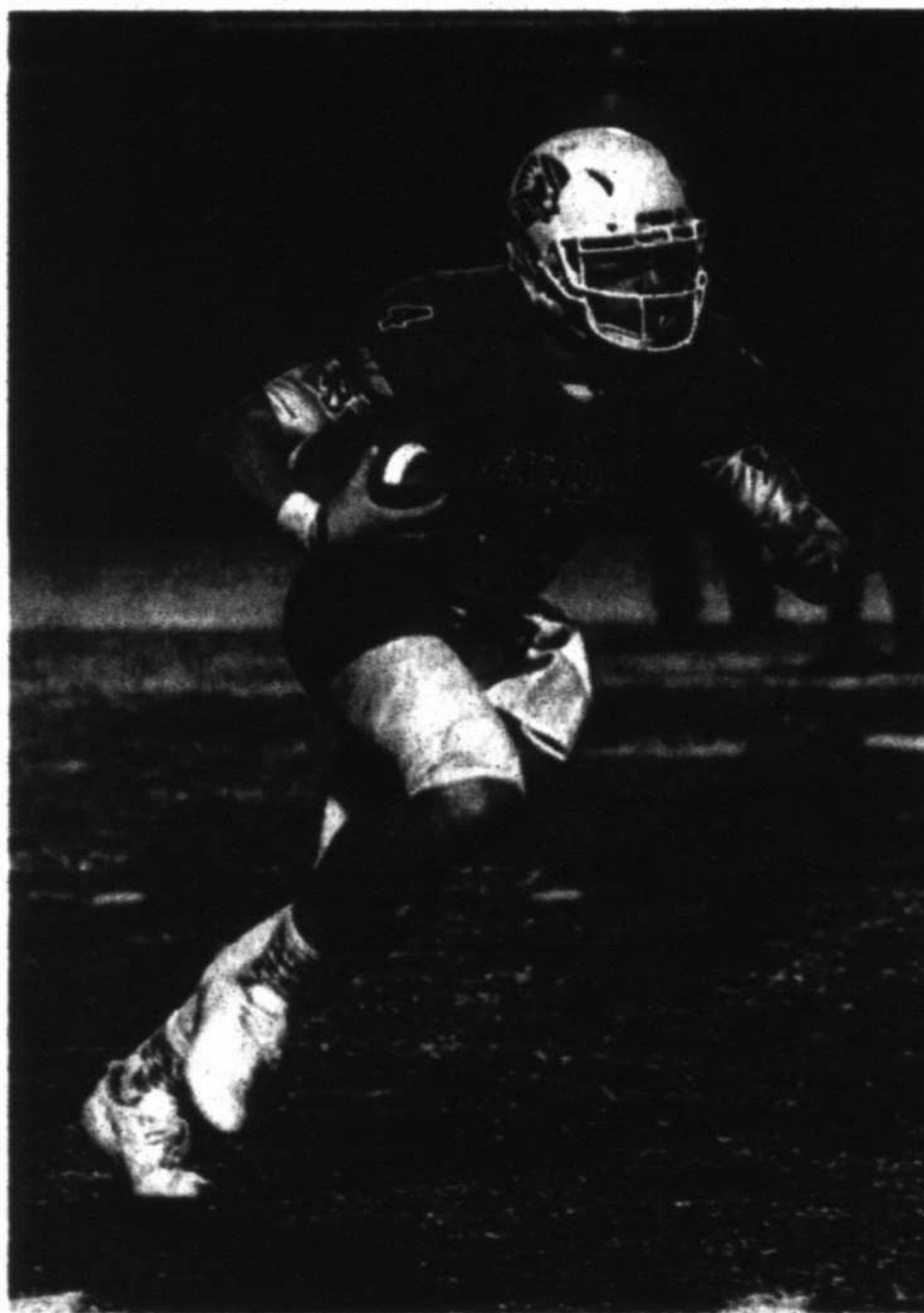
The season ticket sales process is now underway and seats will be at a premium. This season Family ticket packages, Group ticket packages and Corporate ticket packages will be offered for all home games.

Come be a part of our huge pre-game tailgating party with plenty of food, music and good times. It's a great time to visit with friends and neighbors, and then to cheer the Orange and Black to victory. Take the worry out of finding the perfect tailgating spot by reserving your space for the entire 2018 season. Spaces are limited so reserve your by calling the UTPB Athletics office.

For information about season tickets, tailgating and reserved parking, visit the website at www.utpbfalcons.com or call the UT Permian Basin Athletics office at 432.552.2675.

"We are excited about the upcoming football season and look forward to strong community support for Falcon Athletics."

—Scott Farmer
Falcon Athletic Director



Falcon Football Camps continue

The UT Permian Basin Football Program will be holding youth camps over the rest of the summer in locations around Texas.

Two camps for grades 9-12 are scheduled for July 20 in Houston and July

21 in San Antonio. Prices for these three camps are \$30 in advance and \$35 on the day of.

For more information on 2018 UTPB Football Summer Camps, visit www.utpbfootballcamps.com.

Kinder College Summer Camp scheduled for Midland

Parents, sign your kids up for the Midland Kinder College Summer Camp. The Odessa camp was a big hit and now, it's coming to Midland! This FREE week-long kindergarten preparation camp is designed for kids entering kindergarten this fall. Session begins July 23-27 at the Goodwill Missionary Baptist Church, 1001 S. Main, Midland, TX. 8AM - Noon. 60 spots available: first come, first serve.

Your child(ren) will learn basic writing and math fundamentals, listening and problem solving skills, develop an excitement about learning, and to ensure they are ready for their first day of school. Students with perfect attendance will earn a backpack full of school supplies. Perfect attendance is required to earn the school supplies. UT Permian Basin and community partners give back to the community.

A very special thank you to The Center for Early Childhood Development - UTPB and the Abell-Hanger Foundation for their continued funding and support of programs like this.

For information, call (432) 552-4164.



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ENERGYROUNDUP

FROM STAFF & WIRE REPORTS

From 6F

The report also noted Oklahoma City-based Devon Energy's recent well results from the Delaware Basin, where one well had an initial production rate of more than 10,000 barrels of oil. Luther said the results are some of the best in the history of the Delaware, which is a part of the Permian Basin.

The data runs from January 2018 through May. Luther said there is a lag in the data that is reported to the state by oil and gas operators, and that some well results may not be included because of a lack of up-to-date reporting by the companies.

Oryx Midstream launches open season for Delaware Basin crude gathering system

Oryx Delaware Oil Gathering NM LLC, Oryx Delaware Oil Gathering TX LLC, Oryx Western Delaware Oil Gathering LLC and Oryx Delaware Oil Transport LLC, subsidiaries of Midland-based Oryx Midstream Services II LLC, have

launched a joint binding open season to secure volume commitments and/or acreage dedications to support the previously-announced regional crude oil gathering and trunk line transportation systems, which will serve Delaware Basin in Texas and New Mexico.

The binding open season is scheduled to conclude at 5 p.m. August 9.

Based on customer demand, Oryx has expanded the scope of the original project to include additional capacity and a larger footprint across the Delaware Basin.

The new system is expected to consist of approximately 400 miles of new gathering and transportation pipeline, with approximately 650,000 barrels per day of throughput capacity and more than 1.5 million barrels of storage capacity. The new gathering and transportation system will span the Delaware Basin and is expected to provide services to Lea and Eddy counties in New Mexico and Loving, Reeves, Ward, Winkler and Culbertson counties in Texas.

Construction on the new system has begun and the regional transportation pipeline, which will connect Oryx's Carlsbad station to the Crane and Midland market hubs, is expected to be fully

commissioned during the fourth quarter of this year. The full system is expected to be complete in the second quarter of 2019. Upon completion, and when combined with Oryx Midstream Service, LLC's assets — operated by Oryx Southern Delaware Oil Gathering and Transport LLC — Oryx's total Delaware Basin system capacity will exceed 850,000 barrels per day.

Baytown steel plant denied steel tariff exemption

The Trump administration denied a steel pipe manufacturer in Baytown a temporary exemption on steel tariffs, but the company has vowed to continue the fight in an effort to reduce the cost of importing pipe from its parent in Turkey.

Borusan Mannesmann Pipe US learned last week that its application had been denied amid objections from some of its competitors. The company filed for a two-year exemption last month and sent postcards to President Donald Trump, Gov. Greg Abbott and other high-level officials explaining that company faced substantially higher import costs as a

result of the steel tariffs.

Trump in March imposed a 25 percent import tax on steel and a 10 percent import tax on aluminum on most countries and extended them in June to Mexico, Canada and the European Union.

Joel Johnson, Borusan Mannesmann's U.S. CEO, said his company had already faced higher import costs as a result of the tariffs and could see annual shipment payments increase by as much as \$35 million if the measures remained in place. In exchange for a temporary exemption, he told the administration that his company would invest \$75 million in a second Baytown facility that would allow it to cease imports from Turkey.

Johnson said his company would again file for an exemption and rebut the objections of his competitors. This week, he said, he received a call from the office of Sen. Ted Cruz, who he contacted after filing for the exemption. "We lost the battle, but not the war," Johnson said.

Borusan Mannesmann has seen business surge amid the rush to build new pipelines and chemicals facilities throughout the state. It employs about 300 workers, up from about 100 two years ago.

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