Patriot Guard Riders look to still honor, respect veterans · Page 1B

Midland Reporter-Telegram

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Energy Tower at City Center could feature 59 floors and forever change Midland's signature skyline

Tower to spur revitalization

By Joseph Basco
jbasco@mrt.com

Midland's downtown, pending a sale between the city and county, might have a 59-floor high-rise in its future, easily the tallest in the Tall City.

If Energy Tower at City Center does come to fruition, it would be the seventh-tallest building in Texas by floor count, according to building data website Emporis. It is unknown at this time how tall the building would be by feet.

Energy Tower would feature five distinct sections from the top of the structure to underneath the surface: office, residential, hospitality, retail and parking, according to Mayor Wes Perry.

According to proposed design documents, much of the top of the building would be devoted to office space, below that would be a section for condominiums, and then the rest of the building to the ground level will be for a hotel and retail businesses such as a seven-screen movie theater and restaurants. Underneath the ground level would a five-level parking garage with 3,000 spaces.

Perry said Energy Tower could be a two-year process, which means it could be complete by the end of 2015 or the start of 2016.

The building is just one component of the planned City Center, an area of land that also includes Centennial Plaza, Midland Center and the Chamber of Commerce. The high-rise would take the place of the old Midland County Courthouse.

Perry said there are talks of a new civic center and City Hall for the City Center. The civic center would be a remodeling of Midland Center, but the Chamber of Commerce and Centennial Plaza would stay the same. There are no concepts for a new city hall yet, Perry said.

Perry said that people who think the Energy Tower signifies "the end" of the current boom are wrong. The economy is now based on technology instead of the price of oil itself, such as in the 1980s, but it's unrealistic to say that a "dark day" could never come, he said.

"Now, people are busy, they're working hard and doing OK financially," Perry said. "There's none of that craziness that was here (in the 1980s). We had a Rolls-Royce dealership, and we had Learjets parked out on the grass."

Perry said the Energy Tower at City Center could be valued between $300

Please see **TOWER**/4A

How might the Tall City grow taller?

County judge: City to pay County $2.22 million for Courthouse

Midland County Judge Mike Bradford said the deal that will help make Energy Tower at City Center a reality includes the city purchasing the old Midland County Courthouse from the county for $2.22 million.

On Monday, City Council will meet for 9 a.m. vote to purchase the old Midland County Courthouse from the county. Afterward, the council will vote again to enter into an agreement with Energy Related Properties, the developer. Energy Related Properties has been involved with Independence Plaza, Fasken Center and the WNB Tower, according to its website.

After the council approves both items, the Commissioners' Court will then meet at 10 a.m. and vote to sell the courthouse, depending on the offer they receive from the city,Bradford said.

For the county to sell the property to the city in the cleanest way possible, Bradford said it has to be sold for cash at the appraised market value. The old courthouse is appraised at $2.22 million, he said. Bradford said there were a number of statutes that allowed them to make different deals, but then factors such as who can occupy the building would change. He said one option could have been to sell the property but have the city as the sole occupier.

With the $2.22 million cash-only sale, this allows "flexibility," or the ability for the property to be used for multiple purposes, such as building the proposed Energy Tower.

Bradford said there could be provisions for the county to keep the historical aspects of the site, such as the plaques, the statue of liberty, the two cornerstones and trees.

Joseph Basco, jbasco@mrt.com

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■ Our View: New Energy Tower makes sense for Midland's future. **PAGE 10A**

Energy Tower at City Center by the numbers

59
Energy Tower's number of floors

6
The number of taller buildings in Texas

3,000
The number of parking spaces in the five-level underground parking garage

$150M to $200M
Combined value for downtown buildings in Midland today

$300M to $350M
Estimated value of the Energy Tower complex

Source: Mayor Wes Perry

Tallest buildings in Midland

Building	Floors	Year Built
Bank of America Building	24	1978
Wilco Building	22	1958
Independence Plaza	16	1984
Centennial Tower	15	1979
Pure Resources	15	1984
One Wall Plaza	15	1959
Permian Building	14	N/A
Fasken Center	14	1974
Others include:		
Western United Life Building	12	1948
Wall Tower West	12	1968
Summit Building	12	1981
Petroleum Building	12	1929
Empire Plaza Building	12	1982
Century Plaza Building	12	1978
Double Tree by Hilton	11	N/A
Midland County Courthouse	11	1983
Arco Building	11	1982

Source: www.emporis.com and skyscraperpage.com

Historical value of Courthouse questioned

■ Some saddened about the demolition of the Midland County Courthouse.

By Joseph Basco
jbasco@mrt.com

When T.O. Midkiff asked Mayor Wes Perry on Wednesday what would become of the old Midland County Courthouse, located at 200 W. Wall St., Perry said it was going to be torn down, much to the dismay of some in attendance at the Midland County Republican Women's meeting.

Pat McDaniel, the interim president of the Midland County Historical Society, was one such member in the audience. He said there were three emotions in that room that day: some did not care, some cared deeply and some were driven from an economic viewpoint.

"I cared deeply," McDaniel said. "It's said that people have chosen not to retain their heritage."

The Midland County Historical Society was close to owning the deed to the courthouse on Oct. 11, 2011, when the county commissioners made the offer to McDaniel at Commissioners' Court on the condition that it could raise enough money for a year's worth of operations.

Then, on April 9, 2012, McDaniel told the commissioners that the society would not accept the historical courthouse. He said money was not the issue, but

Please see **COURTHOUSE**/5A

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The big number · The United States spends 4.7 percent of its gross domestic product on defense. More on 12A.

Today in Local & State · State of mental health in the Permian Basin. Page 1B

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■ Midland College Davidson Distinguished Lecture Series presents Jane Goodall, April 4
■ 30th Annual Celebration of the Arts, April 5-7
■ Permian Basin Master Gardeners Annual Plant Sale, April 6
■ Silver Spur Gun and Blade Show, April 6-7
■ Jeff Dunham: Disorderly Conduct, April 11
■ Shalgune & Stiletto, April 11-13
■ Crudefest 2013, April 11-13
■ MOSC Masterworks IV, April 13
■ "Big Bad Voodoo Daddy" 20th Anniversary Tour, April 17
■ Bill Engvall Comedy Concert & Golf Classic, April 20

Water tracker

The following is the amount of water delivered to the city of Midland from the Colorado River Municipal Water District and the Paul Davis water fields.

March 8: 14,590,000 gallons
March 9: 14,576,000 gallons
March 10: 12,721,000 gallons
Monday's: 13,996,000 gallons
Tuesday's: 11,941,000 gallons
Wednesday's: 14,614,000 gallons
Thursday's total: 15,487,000 gallons

Total storage by CRMWD in their lakes, as of Friday, was 146,310 acre-feet. (1 acre-foot is approximately 325,800 gallons). Total storage last year at the same time was 102,637 acre-feet.

The average usage since Feb. 1 from CRMWD is 10,491,357 gallons.

New outdoor watering schedule

A new outdoor watering schedule that will allow residents and businesses in the city of Midland to water twice per week is in effect.

Even numbered addresses may water outdoors on Saturdays and Wednesdays from 6 p.m. until midnight.

Odd numbered addresses may water outdoors on Fridays and Tuesdays from 6 p.m. until midnight.

Source: City of Midland

Great American Cleanup on April 6

The Great American Cleanup/Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off — co-sponsored by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Keep America Beautiful (KAB) and Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB) and Keep Midland Beautiful -- is set for April 6 across Midland. Participating groups will clean up their designated area anytime during the week of April 1-6 and are asked to attend a celebration picnic at Hogan Park from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on April 6.

Groups not able to participate by April 6th are encouraged to do a litter cleanup before May 31 and still be counted as being part of the Cleanup/Trash-off.

The event is open to anyone interested in making Midlands' public spaces litter-free. Adopt-a-Highway groups are in charge of highway cleanup, while Keep Midland Beautiful volunteers focus on neighborhoods, city streets, parks, and vacant lots.

Keep Midland Beautiful educates and engages Midlanders in litter prevention, beautification and waste management. For more information visit www.keepmidlandbeautiful.org, join us on Facebook or call 687-7400.

Lane McDaniel tries out the feel of a bronc saddle as he talks with Garrett Smith, with the Odessa College rodeo team, recently as he and other Bynum School students particpate in Texas Independence Day activities.

See more coverage of the Bynum School event in Tuesday's Education section.

Tim Fischer
Reporter-Telegram

Support groups, club meetings this week

■ Survivors of sexual abuse; interactive Bible study to help deal with the consequences of sexual abuse meets Tuesdays. Child care available; House of Hope, 570 5935.

■ Bariatric Support Group, 11:30 a.m. third Wednesday, ACT Counseling Center, 2445 E. 11th St., Odessa; 272-4333.

■ Midland Chapter of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), 7 p.m. the first and third Tuesdays, First Presbyterian Church (Koinonoa Room); Judith Craig, 683-3648.

■ West Texas Amputee Support Group, 11 a.m. third Saturday, HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital; 550-4371.

■ Overeaters Anonymous; 7:30p.m. Tuesdays, noon Wednesdays and 4:30 p.m. Sundays; B&J Plaza, 206 N. Midkiff Road, Suite 1-D; 553-1031.

■ A confidential peer-to-peer support gathering for combat veterans, first, third and fifth Tuesdays at Midland College Cogdell Center, 201 Florida Ave.; Steve Cree, 770-7469.

■ Peer to Peer support group for veterans, active duty, guard, reserves and their families, 6 p.m. Tuesdays, Permian Basin Community Center, 401 E. Illinois Ave., Suite 403; Wil Hoggard, 213-5342, william.hoggard@wtcmhmr.org.

■ Midland Optimist Club, noon Tuesdays, Abuelo's, 4610 N. Garfield St.; 685-7486.

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

■ TOPS (Take off pounds sensibly) — 6:30 p.m. Thursdays at Midland Senior Center, Midkiff Road and Illinois Avenue. Weigh-in at 5:30 p.m. AND Tuesdays at Christian Church of Midland, 2608 Neely Ave. Weigh-in at 9:30 a.m. For more information, call 694-8643.

■ Midland Walkabout Volkssport Club, 5 p.m. third Sunday, First Presbyterian Church; 687-2588.

■ Oops Alley Clowns of West Texas; third Thursday; 520-3512.

■ American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 19, 6:30 p.m. third Tuesday, 501 Veterans Airpark Lane; 682-5511.

■ Sons of Confederate Veterans, Dunn-Holt-Midkiff Camp No. 1441, 7 p.m. third Tuesday, Fairmont Park Church of Christ Activities Annex; Tom Owens, tmowens44@juno.com or 697-6955.

■ Permian Basin Chess Club, 6 p.m. Thursdays at University of Texas of the Permian Basin student union; Steve Dudley, 556-1920; Brian Farrell, 288-7141; pbcc.50gigs.net; odessachess@cableone.net.

■ Classic Movie Club, 7 p.m., Tuesdays, Cigar Frog's, 216 N. Main St.; 687-1671.

■ Mustang Draw Woodcarvers Club meets 6:30-9 p.m. the third Monday of the month at Sibley Nature Center.

■ Tall City VFW Post 7208, 1303 E. Taylor, bingo games 7 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays.

Toastmasters Clubs

■ Slyker's Professional Toastmasters Club, 10 a.m. second and fourth Saturdays, Texas Tech University Health Science Building, Room 1C12 (west side), 800 W. Fourthth St., Odessa; 522-2716, marken1986-slykers1@yahoo.com, http://slykersprofessional-toastmastersclub.blogspot.com.

■ Pop-Up Toasters Toastmasters Club., 6:30 a.m. Tuesdays at First Presbyterian Church's Family Life Center — Room 228, 800 W. Texas Ave.; 432-242-2061 or popuptoasters@gmail.com.

■ Permian Toastmasters 1509, noon Fridays at Midland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, 208 S. Marienfeld; Celeste Perez, 682-2960 or celeste@midlandhcc.com.

Alcoholics Anonymous — hotline 580-7868.

■ Serenity Group, 8 p.m. daily, 3101 N. A St., Building C; 685-3100.

■ 710 Group, 7 a.m., noon and 8 p.m. Wednesdays, 710 Ohio Ave.; 682-8162.

■ Alpha Omega, 8 p.m Tuesdays and 11 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays, 311 S. Pecos St.

■ 12-Step Group of Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, 10 a.m. Saturdays; 206 N. Midkiff Road; 697-0272.

Narcotics Anonymous — hotline 582-2926.

■ Laundry Group, 8 p.m. daily and noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 104 N. Marshall St.

■ Xodus Group, 5:30 p.m. Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 7 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays and 8:30 p.m. Saturdays, 206 N. Midkiff Road.

■ CODA Group, 12-step program for relationships, 7 p.m. Thursdays, 206 N. Midkiff Road; 697-0272.

■ La Hacienda Alumni, support group for former patients, 7 p.m. Thursdays, 206 N. Midkiff Road; 697-0272.

Dance clubs

■ Tall City Cloggers, 6:30 p.m. Mondays at the M-Squarena Dance Hall, 2800 W. CR 130; Lynn Meyers, 528-0374.

■ Permian Basin Dance Club, 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, St. Stephen's Catholic Church; cost is $5 for members, $6 for non-members; 520-4343.

Seeking funding from the city?

The city of Midland is accepting applications from agencies that wish to seek funding in the city's budget for FY 2013-14. Each year, the city budgets funds for hotel/motel, city development and non-departmental activities. Nineteen agencies are currently receiving funding through this process.

The three categories for funding include:

■ Promotion of tourism and the hotel industry (i.e. Commemorative Air Force, Arts Council of Midland, Midland Convention and Visitors Bureau)

■ Promotion of growth and development (i.e. Midland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Midland College B.E.D.C.)

■ Agencies that are an extension of city services (i.e. Midland Teen Court and Permian Basin Community Centers of Midland)

Deadline to submit applications is March 27. Applications are available by calling Amy Turner, city secretary, at 685-7432.

Airport report for February

Enplanements (people boarding an airplane)
February 2013: 35,214
February 2012: 36,493
Percent difference: -3.5
Year to date: 194,413 (1.1 percent increase from 2011-12)
February 2011: 32,360
February 2010: 28,511
February 2009: 30,431

Total Passengers
February 2013: 70,224
February 2012: 71,693
Percent difference: -2.3
Year to date: 387,229 (1.3 percent increase from 2011-12)

Fuel Sales (in gallons)
February 2013: 522,137
February 2012: 567,050
Percent difference: -1.0
Year to date: 2,680,790 (3.8 percent decrease from 2011-12)
February 2011: 497,155
February 2010: 433,276
February 2009: 353,704

Parking Revenues
February 2013: $172,870
February 2012: $165,673
Percent difference: 4.3
Year to date: $921,.599 (5.0 percent increase from 2011-12)
February 2011: $141,002
February 2010: $126,394
February 2009: $135,173

Source: City of Midland

Basin PBS Campaign update

Basin PBS invites its membership, supporters and community members of West Texas to aid in reaching the $2.7 million dollar capital campaign goal by March 31.

The funds will go toward moving Basin PBS into a permanent home in the historic Ritz Theater in downtown Midland. Basin PBS is 85 percent of the way to its goal of $2.7 million.

Basin PBS has a number of opportunities available for anyone interested to give.

There are two ways to make a commitment to Basin PBS: Call 563-5728 or go to basinpbs.org/campaign.php for more information.

Blue Ribbon Run 5

Midland County Child Welfare Board is sponsoring its fifth-annual Blue Ribbon Run 5 — the Race to End Child Abuse as part of its mission to raise awareness about the problem of child abuse.

The race will take place April 13 at Midland College. It begins at Allison Fine Arts building parking lot. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. The 1KFun Run is at 8:30 a.m. and the 5K run/walk is at 9 a.m.

The registration fee for participants 15 and over is $20 before April 12 and $25 the day of the race. The fee includes a T-shirt. The event is free for those under 15 without a T-shirt and $10 with a T-shirt.

Register online at Permian Basin Running Club website with active.com. pbrunning-club.tripod.com/calendar

For more information, call Shelly Worrell at 553-9363 or Patricia Nelson at 631-2872.

Basin PBS Campaign

Home Hospice's annual Butterfly Release and Family Celebration is 2-4 p.m. April 20 Carrasco Room at the Scharbauer Student Center at Midland College. To have a butterfly released in memory of a loved one, call 570-0700. A $25 donation may be made to the Hospice House Foundation.

Celebrations also are planned for Andrews, April 21; Odessa, April 27; and Big Spring, April 28.

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Tribes plan for worst with looming budget cuts

Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. — When it comes to the automatic spending cuts that began taking effect this month, federal lawmakers spared programs that serve the nation's most vulnerable — such as food stamps, Medicare, Medicaid and veterans' assistance — from hard hits.

That wasn't the case with programs for American Indian reservations, where unemployment is far above the national average, women suffer disproportionately from sexual assaults, and school districts largely lack a tax base to make up for the cuts.

The federal Indian Health Service, which serves 2.1 million tribal members, said it would be forced to slash its number of patient visits by more than 800,000 per year. Tribal programs under the U.S. Department of Interior and the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs that fund human services, law enforcement, schools, economic development and natural resources stand to lose almost $130 million under the cuts, according to the National Congress of American Indians.

"We will see significant impacts almost immediately," Interior Secretary Ken Salazar told The Associated Press, referring to the BIA. "We will have to furlough some employees. It will mean that there's going to be a slowing down of the processing of applications, and so there will be an impact on the work that the BIA does on behalf of Indian Country."

The timing and magnitude of most of the cuts are uncertain as Congress looks for a way to keep the government operating beyond March 27 with no budget in place. In the meantime, tribes across the country are preparing for the worst.

Some are better-positioned than others.

In northwestern New Mexico's McKinley County, where about a third of the population lives below the federal poverty level, the Gallup-McKinley County School District is facing a $2 million hit. The cuts could result in job losses and more crowded classrooms. The district that draws mostly Navajo students from reservation land not subject to state property taxes relies heavily on federal funding to pay its teachers and provide textbooks to students.

AP file photo

This image provided by The Sicangu Eyapaha shows the common area at the new Rosebud Sioux Tribe Adult Correctional Facility, Wolakota Elkupi Oti, on the Rosebud Reservation near Rosebud, S.D., in January 2013. The opening and staffing may be in question because of budget cuts.

"To me, it seems very unfair that one of the poorest counties with one of highest Native enrollment in the country has to be impacted the most by sequestration," said district superintendent Ray Arsenault. "We are very poor, we're very rural, and it's going to hurt us much more."

The district faced enormous public pressure when it wanted to close schools on the Navajo Nation because of budget shortfalls, so it won't go that route under looming cuts, Arsenault said. Instead, he would look to reduce his 1,800 employees by 200 — mostly teachers — and add a handful of students to each classroom.

The Red Lake Band Of Chippewa Indians in northern Minnesota expects 22 jobs, mostly in law enforcement, will be lost immediately. Tribal Chairman Floyd Jourdain Jr. said police already operate at a level considered unsafe by the BIA. Deeper cuts forecast for later this year will increase job losses to 39, and "public safety operations at Red Lake will collapse," he said.

On the Rosebud Indian Reservation in south-central South Dakota, a new $25 million, 67,500-square foot jail that was to provide cultural and spiritual wellness programs for tribal members charged with crimes sits empty. The annual operating budget of $5 million would be reduced to around $840,000 because of the automatic budget cuts, said jail administrator Melissa Eagle Bear.

"I don't think this is intentional, but I do feel like it's the government's way of controlling things," she said. "They definitely have control, and we're going to keep going. ... I know Indian people. We tend to survive off what resources we have."

The National Indian Education Association said the cuts to federal impact aid will affect the operation of 710 schools that serve about 115,000 American Indian students. Those cuts would be immediate because the money is allocated in the same school year it is spent.

In Oklahoma, the Cherokee Nation said it is well-poised to handle cuts to its diabetes, housing rehabilitation, Head Start and health care programs. The tribe put a freeze on nonessential hires and halted most travel and training for tribal employees. The tribe's $600 million budget for services and programs comes largely from federal funds, but tribal businesses also post annual revenues in the same amount that have been used to fill in gaps, said Principal Chief Bill John Baker.

"What this really is going to boil down to mean is that there won't be any new purchases, new equipment, and probably we'll hold our programs but not be in a position to add new programs," Baker said. "Luckily, we're in pretty good shape."

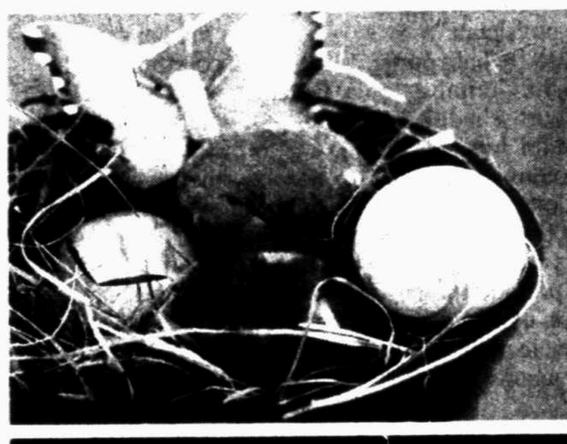
Baker and other tribal leaders have argued against the cuts, saying the federal government has a responsibility that dates back to the signing of treaties to protect American Indian people, their land and tribal sovereignty.

While food distribution, welfare programs and health care services that serve the needy are exempt from the cuts, similar services on reservations aren't, said Amber Ebarb, a budget and policy analyst for the National Congress of American Indians.

"Tribes have too little political clout, too small numbers for those same protections to be applied," she said.

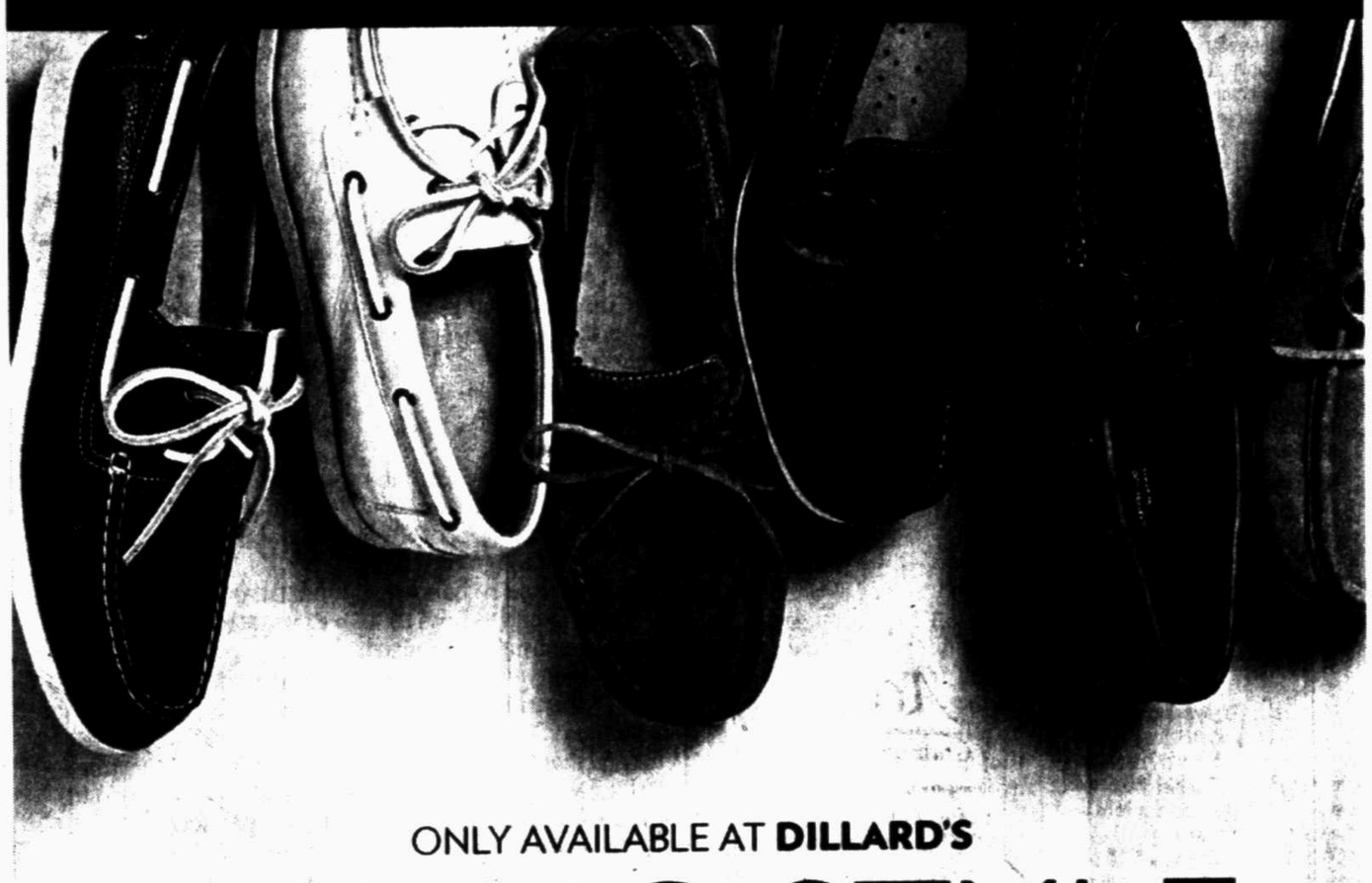
Democratic Rep. Raul Grijalva, of Arizona, said he doesn't believe Congress as a whole understands the potential impact to tribes and the duty that federal agencies have to meaningfully consult with them on major actions. He and Republican Rep. Don Young, of Alaska, are urging their colleagues to spare those populations from budget cuts, particularly when it comes to health care.

"It's not about creating a niche for American Indians. It's about addressing areas in which need is great," Grijalva said.



Join us for this FREE family event...
Easter EGG-Stravaganza
Saturday, March 30 • 10:30am–1:00pm
Easter Egg Hunts · Cotton Candy · Face Painting
Hot Dogs · Crafts · Bible Story
Popcorn · Jumpers · Door Prizes!
Presented by First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
at Hill Park Cuthbert and G Street

Dillard's



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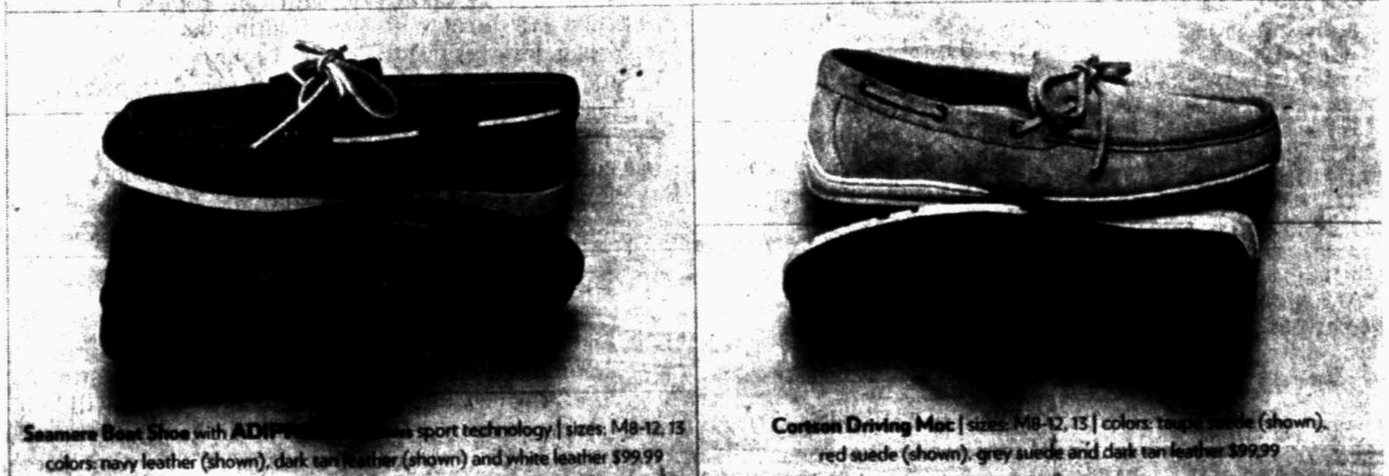
Seamere Boat Shoe with ADIPRENE by adidas and Cortson Driving Moc



Seamere Boat Shoe with ADIPRENE by adidas sport technology | sizes M8-12, 15 | colors: navy leather (shown), dark tan leather (shown) and white leather $99.99
Cortson Driving Moc | sizes M8-12, 15 | colors: black suede (shown), red suede (shown), grey suede and dark tan $99.99

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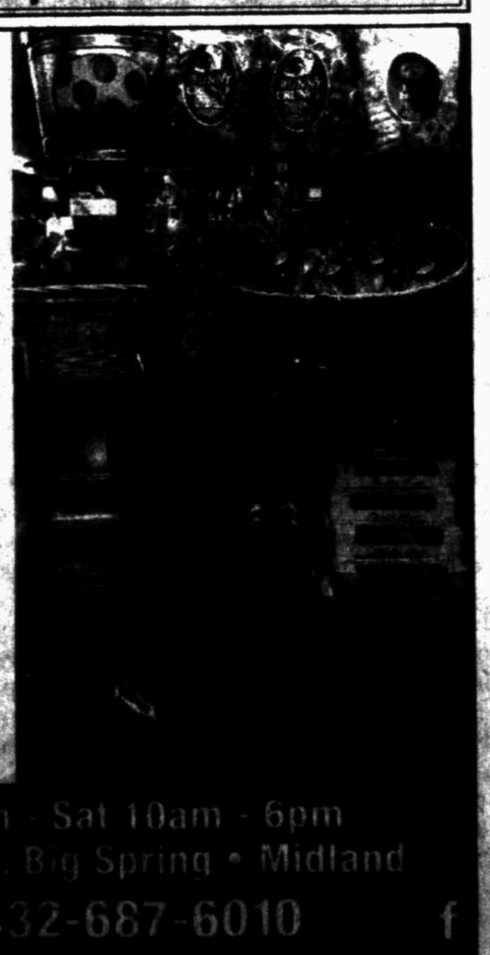
Clay Desta Center
presents
Midland/Odessa Symphony
Sack Lunch Concert
Thursday, March 21, 2013
featuring:
Permian String Quartet
Clay Desta Atrium
11:45 am.-12:45 p.m.
For More Information
Call 688-3000
Everyone Welcome!

Fill Your Easter Baskets with Candy and Treats from The Ivy Cottage



The Ivy Cottage
Mon - Sat 10am - 6pm
3101 N. Big Spring • Midland
432-687-6010

TODAY IN MIDLAND

Things to do

Today
The Mavericks, 7:30 p.m., Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market Road 1788. Tickets: $20-$50. Buy at the box office in person noon to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Online at www.wagnernoel.com.

Tuesday
Merle Haggard, 8 p.m., Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center.

Wednesday
Lenten Lunch Concert Series, noon, First Presbyterian Church, 600 W Texas Ave. Info: Free admission. Lunch is available for 30 minutes before and after each concert for $7.

Thursday
JBS Distinguished Lecture Series, 7 p.m., Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center. "Guns on Campus: Part of the National Debate on Gun Control" with John R. Lott Jr., Michael Sherrer and moderator Patrick Canty. Admission: Free. Open to the public.

Meetings schedule

City Council special meeting
9 a.m. Monday
City Hall council chambers
300 N. Loraine St.

Commissioners' Court — special meeting
10 a.m. Monday
Midland County Courthouse auxiliary courtroom
500 N. Loraine St.

Planning and Zoning
3:30 p.m. Monday
City Hall council chambers
300 N. Loraine St.

Airport Board
9 a.m. Tuesday
Third floor media room, Midland International Airport
9506 LaForce Blvd.

Midland College
4 p.m. Tuesday
Gibson boardroom, Administration Building
Midland College campus

MISD
5:30 p.m. Tuesday
First floor boardroom
615 W. Missouri Ave.

Online this week

■ New restaurant reports from the city's commercial kitchens are now available to be viewed on MyWestTexas.com/restaurants.

■ Check MyWestTexas.com throughout the week for baseball photo galleries involving Lee High, Midland High, Greenwood High, Midland College among others.

■ Voice your opinion at Facebook.com/TheReporterTelegram and vote in our daily polls at MyWestTexas.com.

■ The Reporter-Telegram will give away free tickets Friday in Big Spring to a Kenny Chesney show. Follow us at Facebook.com/TheReporterTelegram this week for more details.

Feedback

The Reporter–Telegram provides multiple avenues for your online participation in the conversation happening in our community.

■ **Story comments:** Once you finish the story, see what MyWestTexas readers are writing at the comments section.

■ **Facebook:** Check out our main page at facebook.com/TheReporter-Telegram.

■ **Twitter**: Follow us or send us a tweet via @mwtnews or @mwtsports

■ **MyOpenForum:** From local news to politics to the community scene, go to www.myopenforum.com and weigh in on the hot topic of the day.

Happy anniversary

Brian and Suzanne Sirgo, of Midland, will celebrate their 29th wedding anniversary today.

Today is St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day is celebrated on March 17, the saint's religious feast day and the anniversary of his death in the fifth century. The Irish have observed this day as a religious holiday for more than 1,000 years.

On St. Patrick's Day, which falls during the Christian season of Lent, Irish families would traditionally attend church in the morning and celebrate in the afternoon. Lenten prohibitions against the consumption of meat were waived and people would dance, drink and feast — on the traditional meal of Irish bacon and cabbage.

Source: History.com

Lottery

Pick 3 day: 0-5-4
Pick 3 night: 6-4-6
Daily 4 day: 1-1-2-2
Daily 4 night: 8-7-7-8
Cash Five: 15-17-18-24-27
Lotto Texas: 2-8-22-29-35-38
Powerball: 3-7-21-44-53 PB: 16
All or Nothing (morning): 1-4-6-7-10-13-14-15-17-18-21-22
All or Nothing (day): 1-4-5-8-9-10-12-15-16-19-21-22
All or Nothing (evening): 2-6-9-11-12-13-16-17-18-20-23-24
All or Nothing (night): 1-2-4-5-6-7-9-10-11-15-19-21

Today in history

Today is Sunday, March 17, the 76th day of 2013. There are 289 days left in the year. This is St. Patrick's Day.

On this date:

In A.D. 461 (or A.D. 493, depending on sources), St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, died in Saul.

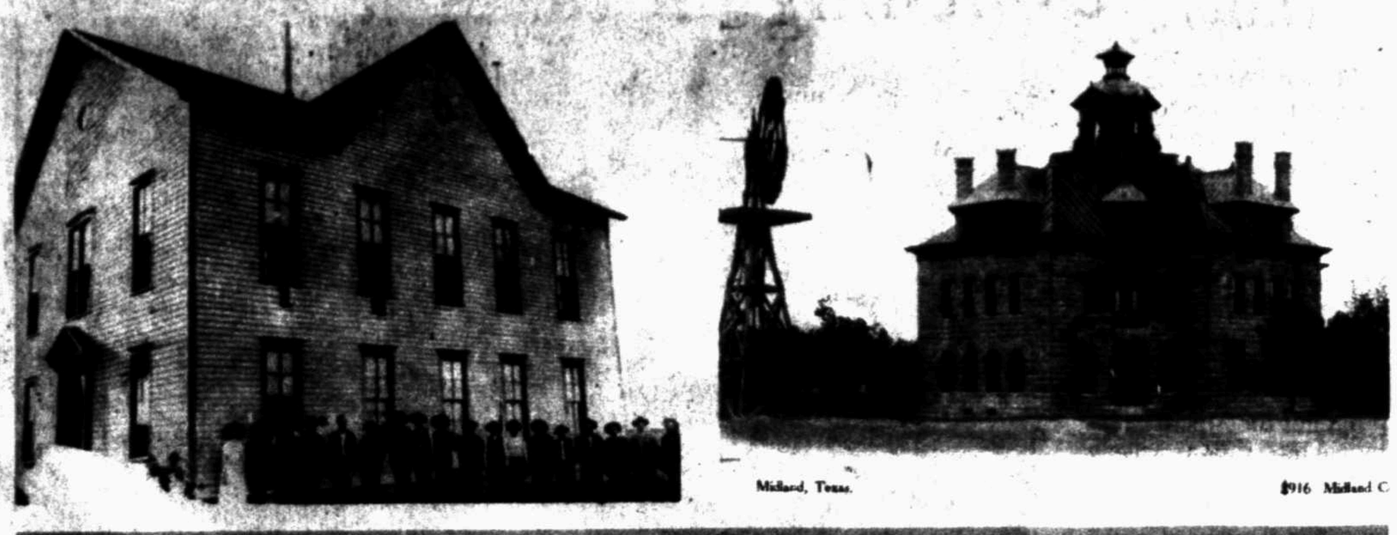
In 1762, New York's first St. Patrick's Day parade took place.

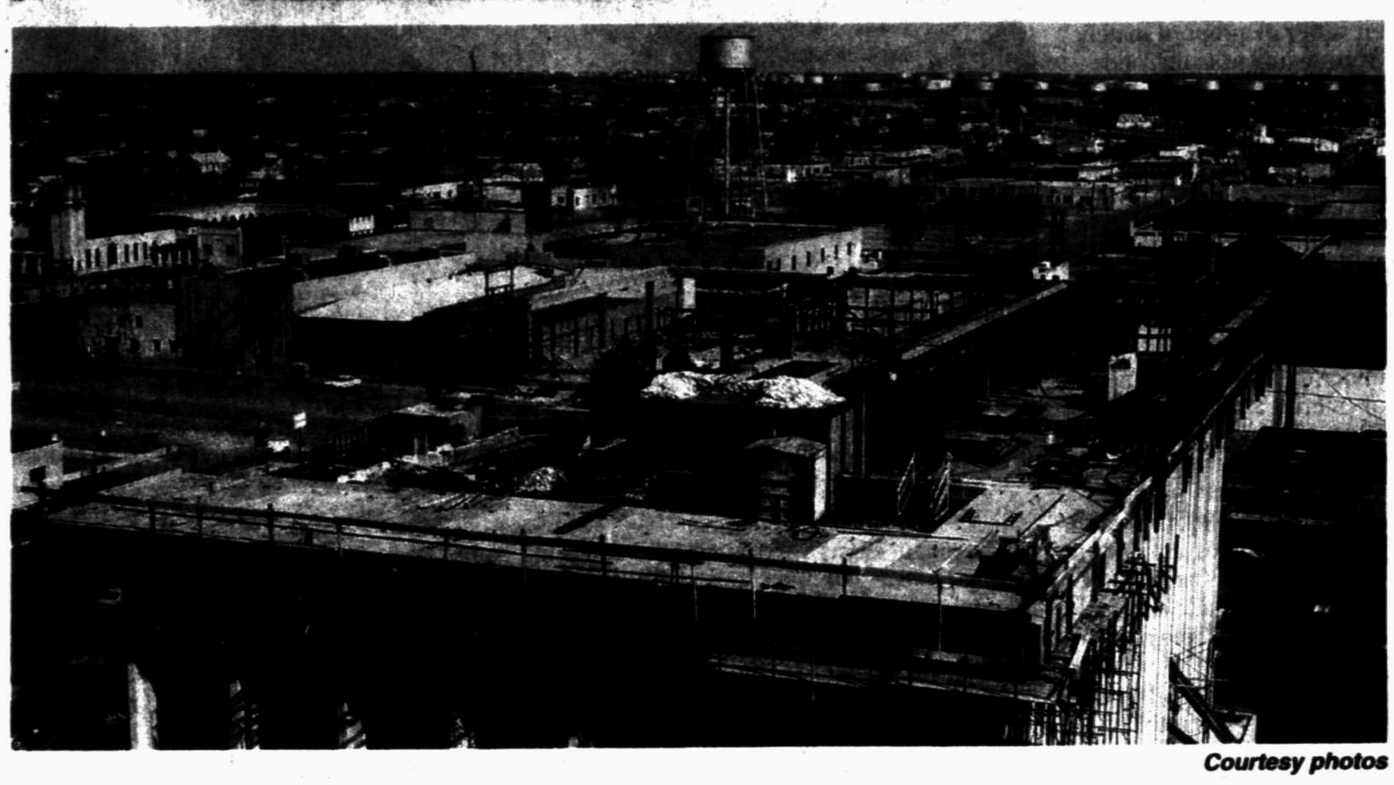
In 1950, scientists at the University of California at Berkeley announced they had created a new radioactive element, "californium."

Today's Birthdays: Actor Patrick Duffy is 64. Actor Gary Sinise is 68. Actor Rob Lowe is 49. Soccer player Mia Hamm is 41.

Evolution of Midland County's courthouses

By Judge John Hyde





Courtesy photos

The first courthouse, top left, the second courthouse, top right, and the renovation of the third courthouse, above, are pictured.

Oct. 12, 1908, began in Barstow like many other days as summer gave way grudgingly to autumn in West Texas.

The morning calm of that day was interrupted by gunfire as two men faced each other in front of the post office, one armed with a pistol; the other with a rifle. Within moments, one man, W.M. Cleghorn, lie dead on the dusty street and the other, Cecil Young, would be arrested and tried for murder. However, the trial would take place 89 miles away in the Midland County Courthouse.

The details of this murder trial comprise but one of the many memorable court cases and other historical events that happened in Midland's County Courthouse. The township of Midland began in May of 1881 when the T&P Railway survey was filed in Tom Green County by the Midland Town Company. Even then, the prospect of a separate county and courthouse location was envisioned because Block 55 of the plat for Midland was designated as the public square.

Vision became reality in February 1885 by special act of the Texas Legislature that specified an area of 900 square miles out of Tom Green County to be known as Midland County. By June, county officials were elected, and on Aug. 11, 1885, the minutes of the Midland County Commissioners' Court reflect that the Midland Town Company agreed to donate $3,000 to build a courthouse and jail on Block 55 in the town of Midland, provided that Midland was designated as the county seat. The warranty deed to Midland County specified that the land was to be used only for courthouse and jail purposes.

Midland's first courthouse

Initially, the Commissioners' Court decided that the courthouse and jail should be constructed of adobe. However, that notion soon was abandoned, and on Sept. 9, 1885, the firm of Hunter and Weller was awarded the bid to build a wood-frame courthouse for $2,934.65. Constructed on the same land dedicated as the public square, the Commissioners' Court on Nov. 11 authorized G. W. Guisinger "to give the courthouse the third coat of paint for the sum of 42 dollars."

That gabled-roof courthouse served Midland for 19 years. It was in that courthouse in 1890 that a jury of 12 Midlanders assessed the first death penalty in the county. And on those same courthouse grounds about a year later, the only public execution ever in Midland took place. It was in that courthouse on June 23, 1903, that permission was given to the Automatic Telephone Company of Midland to use streets and alleys "to erect poles and wires for a telephone exchange."

Also, inside that courthouse on Feb. 15, 1905, the application of A.H. Massey for a Confederate soldier's pension was confirmed. In that courthouse the Commissioners' Court canvassed the 1905 election to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquor in Precinct 1, an election resulting in favor of prohibition by a vote of 92 for and 58 against. Excepted from the prohibited sale of alcohol were "wines for sacramental purposes and alcoholic stimulants as medicine in cases of actual sickness under written prescription of a regular practicing physician."

It was also in that courthouse that the Commissioners' Court scheduled an election for June 14, 1905, to determine whether Midland County should issue $30,000 in bonds payable in 20 years at 4 percent interest to provide for the construction of a new courthouse. The election was 110 for and 15 against.

Midland's second courthouse

The second courthouse, constructed on the same land as the first one, was built by William Martin, of Comanche. His bid for construction was $26,000. The cornerstone was laid by Masonic Fraternity Lodge 623, of Midland, and the red sandstone courthouse was ready for occupancy in September 1906.

Inside this second courthouse, Midlanders would have discussed the great San Francisco earthquake, the events of World War I and the discovery by Howard Carter of the tomb of Tutankhamen.

Business inside the courthouse included the murder trial of Cecil Young, of Barstow. Although the death of W.M. Cleghorn happened in Ward County, efforts to seat an impartial jury failed in that county eight months later, so the case was moved to Midland. The indictment charged that Cecil Young "did unlawfully with malice aforethought, kill W. M. Cleghorn with a pistol."

The evidence at trial showed Young had been threatened previously by Cleghorn and was fearful of him. Young was on his way to the post office the morning of the shooting, and on approaching the building, he saw Cleghorn squatted down. As their eyes met, Cleghorn stood up, went to his horse and reached for his Winchester. Perceiving that action as a threat to his life, Young drew his pistol and fired, fatally wounding Cleghorn. On Sept. 18, 1909, inside the red sandstone courthouse, a Midland jury returned its verdict of not guilty by reason of self-defense.

Shortly after that trial, an election was held in Midland to determine whether the county should issue bonds for the construction of a new courthouse. The voters approved the issuance of bonds by a vote of 418 to 258. Plans for the new courthouse were drawn by the architectural firm of Voelcker & Dixon.

Contemplating the removal of the red sandstone courthouse, commissioners rejected demolition bids of $1,250 and of $975 as being too costly. Ultimately, the bid went to Ernest Woods who offered to wreck and remove the old building for $1 and to do so within 30 days.

That being done, the quarried stones were removed, some to the intersection of Colorado and Michigan avenues where two houses were built on the west side of Colorado using the old courthouse blocks. One of the houses is still there; the original stones have been painted yellow. Other reminders of the red courthouse can be seen around town — a warehouse on New York Street, a fence on Illinois Avenue and a 50-pound stone from that courthouse in the corner of the 238th District Court judge's chambers.

Midland's third courthouse

With the demolition of the second courthouse, the county commissioners contracted for the construction of Midland's third courthouse. Voelcker & Dixon's architectural plans for the Art Deco building were implemented by the contractor, J.O. Everett, of Dallas, at a cost of $211,580.

The third courthouse was a good example of 1930s architecture. Sculpted into the limestone blocks beneath the cornice, adjacent to fourth-story windows are American eagles staring out as if keeping a watchful eye on the handsome building.

During the use of the third courthouse, Midland County was designated by the Legislature as the 142nd Judicial District. Before that, Midland County was part of the 70th Judicial District out of Ector County. Among the decisions made inside the third courthouse by the Commissioners' Court was the purchase of a brand new county vehicle — a 1954 Studebaker Commander V8 four-door sedan with radio, heater, oil filter and automatic transmission. The price was $2,754.39.

There in 1954, the commissioners adopted a resolution calling on the governor, senators and representatives in Congress "to take steps to obtain relief from the drought that continues unabated." Inside the third courthouse, the district court heard arguments in cases represented by nationally acclaimed attorneys Percy Foreman and Louis Nizer. There, too, in 1954 the indictment of Harry Butcher for rape was tried.

The jury found him guilty and assessed his punishment as death in the electric chair. At the age of 29, Harry Butcher died in the electric chair in Huntsville, 13 months after being sentenced to death in the Midland courthouse. When the Texas Penal Code was rewritten in 1972, the death penalty could be sought only in specifically defined cases of murder.

The makeover of the third courthouse

On Jan. 11, 1971, the county commissioners approved a renovation of the 1930 building, converting the former fourth-floor jail into a district courtroom, library and district attorney offices. A new fifth floor was added for a jail to house as many as 103 people. The cost approved for renovation was $1.95 million.

One of the cases of high notoriety in the renovated courthouse was the State of Texas vs. Clarence Lackey, another change of venue trial. Lackey was charged with the brutal slaying of a 20-year-old Lubbock woman, and public feeling was so strong in Lubbock that the case was moved to San Angelo. In that trial a jury convicted the defendant and assessed the death penalty. Lackey's conviction was reversed on appeal and the case was retried, this time in Midland. In the 238th District courtroom in May 1983, a jury of 12 Midlanders found Lackey guilty and again assessed the death penalty. Lackey died by lethal injection in Huntsville in 1997.

Population growth in the Permian Basin and the increased filings of civil and criminal cases generated more business than could be heard in Midland courts in a timely manner.

Midland County grew from a single county court and one district court in 1955 to two additional county courts at law, five district courts and two associate judge courts. Space became an insoluble problem for litigants, jurors and courthouse personnel. So, in September 2010 all courts moved into the 11-story building at Main Street and Michigan Avenue.

The 1930 courthouse remains intact, concealed from view only by the exterior renovation in the 1970s. In 2007 the Texas Historical Commission came to Midland to examine the status of the 1930 structure. Architects got inside the renovation facade and found the exterior of the original building to be intact, the sculpted eagles hidden from view but undisturbed.

Although expensive to restore, the commission architects found the building to be restorable. The trials, the weddings and the events inside the former courthouse tell much of Midland's growth and character. The building now stands as an important symbol of the rich heritage Midlanders enjoy. Today, except for the fifth-floor jail, the old courthouse sits vacant, awaiting the wrecking ball or historical preservation.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation has said "when historic buildings are torn down or allowed to deteriorate, a part of our past disappears forever.

When that happens, we lose history that helps us know who we are." When the fifth-floor jail is vacated permanently in the near future, the Commissioners' Court will decide the fate of Midland's former courthouse.

Editor's note: This article ran previously during a series authored by the late judge.

TOWER

From 1A

million to $350 million. By contrast, he estimated downtown buildings have a combined value of between $150 million to $200 million.

"The revitalization of downtown is important because it starts to increase the tax base here," Perry said. "Building owners don't mind paying taxes because it's all based on income."

Perry said all downtown buildings are healthy when the tax value goes up, and Energy Tower would be that building to transfer the tax base from the residential owner to the commercial customer.

"Any new building will certainly bring more interest downtown," said Keith Dial, general manager of Doubletree by Hilton, a downtown hotel located across from Centennial Plaza.

Even though Energy Tower is proposed to have a hotel, Dial said there is "room for all of us" as long as the housing demand continues. Dial said the new oil industry technology, along with the high housing activity, should keep demand high for about the next three to five years.

"Residential use is a big part of downtown's growth," Dial said. "It will help downtown become more vibrant."

One person who works directly across from the soon-to-be-demolished courthouse said he was skeptical of using downtown space for residential use.

Brandon Greaves, a barista at The Ground Floor, a coffee shop on Wall Street, said there already is residential space in the downtown area that is not being sold or leased because of high price tags.

"They make them, but they won't make them affordable," Greaves said.

Greaves was also skeptical of the tower revitalizing downtown. He said parking is the problem, not the lack of restaurants or entertainment.

"There are things to do in downtown already," Greaves said. "There's just no parking."

But Greaves said the old courthouse site would now have a use after a period of inactivity. He said the tower could spur more business.

"Business has been OK," Greaves said. "As long as the new tower doesn't have a Starbucks, it'll stay OK."

Missile plan changes might provide opening for talks

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — By adding 14 interceptors to a missile defense system based in Alaska and California, the U.S. is abandoning a critical part of a European system strongly opposed by Russia. Yet the decision also could provide a potential opening for new arms control talks.

The Obama administration on Friday cited development problems and a lack of money in announcing the cancellation of the interceptors set to be deployed in Poland and possibly Romania early next decade.

Russian officials suspected that the interceptors were a counter to their missiles and had indicated that they would not consider further nuclear arms cuts unless their concerns were resolved.

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said the cancellation was part of an overall restructuring of missile defense plans aimed at stopping missiles from North Korea and Iran.

He made no reference to Russia's objections to the European plans, but said that other parts of program in Europe would move forward and that the U.S. commitment to missile defense in the region "remains ironclad."

The restructuring includes spending $1 billion to add the 14 new interceptors to the 26 that are in underground silos in Alaska.

The shift in U.S. missile defense plans in Europe is the second major change to the program since President Barack Obama has been in the White House. It could cause unease among some U.S. allies, including Poland and Romania, who see the system as a sign of U.S. engagement in the region and a counterweight to Russia.

Missile defense has been a contentious issue since President George W. Bush sought to base long-range interceptors in Central Europe to stop Iranian missiles from reaching the U.S. Russia believed the program was aimed at countering its own missiles and undermining its nuclear deterrent.

Obama reworked the Bush administration's plan soon after taking office in 2009. He canceled an earlier interceptor planned for Poland and radar in the Czech Republic, replacing the high-speed interceptors with slower ones that could stop Iran's medium-range missiles.

Under Obama's plan, the interceptors were to be upgraded gradually over four phases, culminating early next decade with those intended to protect both Europe and the United States.

Russia initially welcomed the changes to the Bush plan, and relations between the two powers improved.

That, in turn, paved the way for the New START treaty setting new limits on both countries' nuclear arsenals.

But Moscow has ramped up its criticism of Obama's revisions, which are backed by NATO, and claims the fourth and last planned upgrade of the interceptors would be able to stop its intercontinental missiles launched at the U.S. and undermine Russia's nuclear deterrent.

Whether or not it was intended to, the decision to cancel plans for the long-range interceptors will help the president's arms control goals.

A senior State Department official, speaking on condition of anonymity because of diplomatic sensitivities, said that Poland and Romania were informed of the decision ahead of the announcement, but that Russia was not.

"Canceling Phase 4 opens the door to another round of U.S.-Russian nuclear arms reductions," said Tom Collina, research director at the Arms Control Association. "We give up nothing since Phase 4 was not panning out anyway. This is a win-win for the United States."

COURTHOUSE

From 1A

rather the building was better suited for commercial use, as previously reported on April 9, 2012.

McDaniel told the Reporter-Telegram on Thursday that he does not fault the commissioners, who vote 10 a.m. Monday to sell the courthouse to the city, because they offered residents the opportunity to come up with viable uses for the building since its closure on Sept. 16, 2010.

"I'm disappointed the citizens didn't come forward in those two years with viable purposes," McDaniel said.

According to an article about the evolution of the Midland County Courthouses, written by the late Judge John Hyde and published on Aug. 7, 2011, the deed to "Block 55 of the Original Town Addition," given to the county by the Midland Town Company, stated that the land could be used only for courthouse and jail purposes.

In the case of Midland County v. the unknown assigns and stockholders of the Midland Town Company, the judge ruled on June 21, 2011, that the restrictions on the use of the property are invalid and were removed from the title.

County Judge Mike Bradford said the purpose of the lawsuit was to do a "quiet title," which means clearing up any reservations or questions that could come about from the dead.

If the county adheres to a statute that requires selling the courthouse property for its appraised value to the city with cash only, then it would allow the property to be used in flexible ways, such as the Energy Tower, Bradford said.

Regarding how the proposed Energy Tower at City Center entails demolishing the old courthouse, Bradford said Midland County, via a unanimous Commissioners' Court vote, is on record that they would not vote to tear the courthouse down for county purposes. Rather, it is the city's call to demolish it, he said.

"We exhausted every idea that we thought of that was given to us by citizens (and) by other communities, and there are no takers," Bradford said, "And that includes an offer the county made to the historical group, to Mr. McDaniel."

As for the historical designation of the old courthouse, Bradford said there are two kinds of historical provisions: one when the state declares a site as such and puts a medallion on it, the other lacks a medallion but is talked about as a historical site "in conversation," Bradford said the old courthouse is the latter.

When speaking to the Reporter-Telegram, Bradford seemed saddened that the courthouse was going to be demolished, looking outside his office window every so often to stare at the historical building.

"That's the building where I got my marriage license in," Bradford said as he gazed at the old courthouse.

Midkiff, who got Perry to publicly reveal the old courthouse's demise, said he believes Bradford wants to preserve the building.

Midkiff was not surprised when Perry answered his question on Wednesday, he said. He then went on to criticize modern buildings, claiming that they are made of synthetic material, rather than "pretty woodwork," or good material. He made a bold prediction, saying that the new building won't last forever.

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2013 Lenten Lunch Concert Series
February 27 – Ricky Rasura, Harp
March 6 – Trinity School of Midland, Intermediate School Choir, Kathy Pysh, Director and Jazz Band, Michael Santorelli, Director
March 20 – LuAnn Lane and Shari Santorelli, pianists on the newly refurbished Baldwin Concert Grand
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WEST TEXAS CANCER CENTER
HOW TEXANS FIGHT CANCER

ODD NEWS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

UTAH

City pulls name of new mayor from basket draw

HELPER — The new mayor of the Utah city of Helper got a little help from Lady Luck for his job.

Ed Chavez Jr. and Councilman Kirk Mascaro each received two votes from the council to fill the vacant position Thursday night. KSL reported that when it became clear the tie would not be broken, slips of paper bearing council members' votes were placed in a wicker basket.

City Attorney Gene Strate then drew Chavez's name from the basket, making him Helper's mayor.

Chavez is filling the rest of Dean Armstrong's term, which expires in January 2014. Armstrong resigned Feb. 23, one day after he was arrested for investigation of his third DUI.

Chavez retired from the Carbon County Sheriff's Office two weeks ago after 25 years on the job.

PHOENIX

Arizona-bound dog ends up on flight to Ireland

An English Springer Spaniel named Hendrix ended up taking a serious detour on his way from New Jersey to Phoenix this week.

He ended up in Ireland after being put on the wrong flight.

United Airlines spokeswoman Megan McCarthy said the 6-year-old dog was traveling in cargo Thursday when the mix-up happened. When the error was realized, she said the airline took immediate steps to get Hendrix back to his owner.

Phoenix television station KNXV reported that the first word owner Meredith Grant got about the mix-up was in a phone call from the airline before Hendrix's original flight was supposed to land in Phoenix.

Grant said she felt like someone punched her in the stomach after finding out her dog had been sent overseas.

Hendrix was returned, and the airline apologized and offered a full refund.

IOWA

Officer stops speedy SUV, helps deliver baby

IOWA CITY — An Iowa City police officer pulled over a speeding SUV — then helped the driver and his passenger deliver a baby.

When Officer Kevin Wolfe stopped the vehicle the evening of March 10, the driver jumped out and yelled, "Sir, we're delivering a baby right here, right now!"

Wolfe told Cedar Rapids TV station KCRG that by the time he reached the passenger door of the SUV, the baby's head and arms were already out. He assisted in the final stages of the delivery and wrapped the child in a blanket before escorting the family to a hospital.

HELSINKI

Aland islands brewery to make 'shipwreck beer'

Local authorities on the Aland Islands in the Baltic Sea say a local brewer will begin producing a beer inspired by bottles found in a 19th century shipwreck three years ago.

Five bottles of beer, along with 168 bottles of champagne, were pulled from a submerged schooner that experts believe sank in the 1840s.

Aland authorities said Finnish scientists studied the beer and devised a formula for a recreation that the local Stallhagen brewery will produce.

Stallhagen CEO Jan Wennstrom said in a statement Thursday that he hopes the vintage beer will help the company reach new markets.

Bike-and-beer tour brewing in Fort Collins

By David Young
The Coloradoan

FORT COLLINS, Colo. — It didn't take Bob Williams long to embark on his first bike-and-beer tour.

He was 15 and couldn't drive, so Williams and his friends convinced their parents to let them ride their bikes 300 miles through Wisconsin.

On that ride, they came across a cold, unopened can of beer on the side of the road, and thus began Williams' love of riding bikes and drinking beer.

A lot has changed over the years for Williams, 38, of Fort Collins, but one thing that remains the same: his affinity for capping off a long bicycle tour with a cold brew.

It is that love that has led Williams to launch last week Fort Collins' latest business venture called simply Beer & Bike Tours.

Unlike many bike tours, Beer & Bike Tours is more than just a brewery crawl connecting beer fans with drinks by riding bikes from one brewery to the next. Instead, his business is for avid cyclists who want to ride longer distances and incorporate a few breweries into the day's ride.

The aim is to bring cyclists interested in Colorado's views and brews to Fort Collins for a virtually all-inclusive trip. Beer & Bike Tours would pick up customers at Denver International Airport and provide bikes, helmets, lodging, food and connections for beer. Cyclists basically would need to bring their own cycling shorts and shoes, Williams said.

The new venture offers tours tailored to suit smaller groups of riders on any number of rides that Williams has designed. Tours range from the four-day Fort Collins trip called "Fun in the Fort" to a statewide trip following the USA Pro Cycling Challenge tour's route.

Associated Press

Bob Williams, of Fort Collins, has launched a new Beer & Bikes Tour company, in which bike touring is combined with the beer industry.

Other tours are Aspen Leaves, Boulder to Fort Collins, Tour de Colorado, Fort Collins to Winter Park and mountain bike trips.

Trips range in price from $75 to $3,500 and include a support and gear, or SAG, van that will follow riders.

Williams has ambitious plans for the business. His target demographic goal is to bring cyclists from around the nation and world to Fort Collins to showcase the rides, scenery and breweries. He also would like to expand the business overseas to Ireland, Germany and Japan with satellite offices.

"There are lots of roads to ride and lots of beers to drink," he said. "I would probably run out of time before I could do them all."

But that's not going to stop Williams from trying. He has spent the better part of his life riding his bikes to breweries and bars to check out new beers.

While Williams officially launched the new company in Fort Collins, it actually originated in Japan. Williams' wife is a middle-school teacher, which provided them the opportunity to move overseas.

They first moved to Berlin, where the beer and bike culture hooked Williams. Germany is home to some of the best breweries in the world, and Europeans rely heavily on bikes to get around. From Germany, the couple moved to Japan for four years, where the company started first as a club.

Williams said the best way to get to know the country was to ride his bike to a new bar each Thursday and try something new. The concept took root in Fort Collins, where Williams sees the most potential for growth.

"Basically, Fort Collins is fun and more people should be coming here and playing," said Williams who noted that people across the globe identify Fort Collins with beer.

While in a Patagonia store in Japan, Williams recalls seeing Kim Jordan, CEO and president of New Belgium, on a television one day representing New Belgium's global reach.

In June, Williams returned to Fort Collins and set about forming the business.

Williams is currently working with breweries around the state to see about getting the first flight of beers for free for his groups who can then tour the breweries.

Mike Hiatt, assistant brewer at CooperSmith's, has known Williams for five years and thinks the new business concept is a great fit for Fort Collins.

As a certified beer judge, Hiatt said he is prepared to guide Williams' riders through a tasting of his beers when they stop at CooperSmith's for a drink and some dinner.

"I'm kind of excited about bringing awareness of the bike culture to Fort Collins and sharing that with people who are not necessarily from the state or country to see the Front Range and breweries," he said.

The rental fleet of bikes arrives in April and Williams would like to start tours at that time.

Beyond Fort Collins, Williams has ambitious plans for the company. By summer of 2014, he would like to start opening satellite offices in England and Ireland based on the same model he is implementing in Fort Collins. For Ireland he might alter the concept from beer to "Whiskey and Wheels."

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Adult Choristers and Members of MOSC
Thursday, March 28th
6:30pm Maundy Thursday Liturgy
Friday, March 29th
6:30pm Good Friday Liturgy
Saturday, March 30th
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Could global warming change tornado season, too?

By Seth Borenstein
Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — With the planet heating up, many scientists seem fairly certain some weather elements like hurricanes and droughts will worsen. But tornadoes have them stumped.

These unpredictable, sometimes deadly storms plague the United States more than any other country. Here in tornado alley, Oklahoma City has been hit with at least 147 tornadoes since 1890.

But as the traditional tornado season nears, scientists have been pondering a simple question: Will there be more or fewer twisters as global warming increases?

There is no easy answer. Lately, tornado activity in America has been Jekyll-and-Hyde weird, and scientists are unsure if climate change has played a role in recent erratic patterns.

In 2011, the United States saw its second-deadliest tornado season in history: Nearly 1,700 tornadoes killed 553 people. The Joplin, Mo., twister was the deadliest in American history, killing 158 people and causing $2.8 billion in damage.

The following year, 2012, started even earlier and even busier. Through April there were twice as many tornadoes as normal. Then the twisters suddenly disappeared. Tornado activity from May to August of that year was the lowest in 60 years of record-keeping, said Harold Brooks, a top researcher at the National Weather Center in Norman, Okla.

AP file photo

A man carries a young girl who was rescued after a tornado hit Joplin, Mo., in May 2011. In 2011 the United States saw one of the busiest tornado seasons in generations: Nearly 1,700 tornadoes that killed 553 people.

Meanwhile, Canada saw an unusual number of tornadoes in 2012.

That year, the jet stream moved north and "essentially shut down" tornadoes in the American Midwest, said Greg Carbin, warning meteorologist at the federal storm center. A tremendous drought meant far fewer storms, which not only shut off the spigot on rain but on storm cells that spawned tornadoes.

For much of America, tornadoes are seasonal. Typically, there are more during spring, and the numbers dwindle in the worst heat of the summer. Last year "essentially was an extended period of summertime conditions over the U.S.," Carbin said. "The real question is: What is spring now? Is it February?"

"Summer may be happening earlier and may be muscling out what we consider a transition between summer and winter," he said.

The past two seasons aren't alone in illustrating extremes in tornado activity.

Tornado record-keepers tally things like the most and least tornadoes in a month. Records for that category have been set 24 times over the past 60 years. Ten of those records have been set in the past decade — six for the fewest tornadoes and four for the most, Brooks said. Also, the three earliest starts of tornado season and the four latest have all occurred since 1997, he said.

What does that mean?

"We've had a dramatic increase in the variability of tornado occurrence," Brooks said.

The jet stream, a major player in tornado formation, has been in a state of flux, varying wildly in recent years, said Pennsylvania State University climate scientist Michael Mann.

"It's hard to predict future tornado seasons when we don't understand current tornado seasons," Brooks said between sessions at the National Tornado Summit here earlier this week. "We're not sure what's going to happen with the tornado numbers."

A new study in the Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society looks at all sorts of extreme weather, how it is changing because of global warming and how things are predicted to change in the future. The study says tornadoes and the severe thunderstorms that spawn them are the hardest to predict.

Public opinion polls show Americans blame global warming for bad tornado outbreaks, but climate scientists say that's not quite right.

One reason scientists can't figure out how global warming might affect tornadoes is that twisters are usually small weather events that aren't easily simulated in large computer models. And records of tornadoes may not have been accurate over the years as twisters twirled unnoticed around unpopulated areas.

Given what's happening lately, Brooks believes there will be fewer days of tornadoes but more twisters on the days when they occur.

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DOES THE DEFICIT MATTER?

Parties change tune on deficit when they change power

By Kevin G. Hall
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — The debate this week over the federal budget is essentially a clash over when politicians think the budget deficit matters — and whether it really does matter.

Republicans kicked off the brouhaha with their proposal to eliminate the deficit and balance the budget in 10 years, something they called critical to the nation. Democrats countered that balancing the budget isn't and shouldn't be the top goal of the government. The parties' arguments reflect how much power they have in Washington as much as what they think of deficits.

Democrats control the White House. A decade ago, it was the Republicans.

In late 2002, Vice President Dick Cheney famously told then-Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill that "Ronald Reagan proved deficits don't matter." The comment was revealed in the Ron Suskind book about O'Neill's tenure, "The Price of Loyalty," and the context was the 2003 tax cuts that many analysts say cost the government at the very time it was increasing spending.

At the time, as deficits rose sharply under President George W. Bush, Democrats decried them as a threat to the economy.

"Economists have warned that huge deficits are a drag on the economy that will eventually force interest rates up. If we do not act to restore accountability, then mortgages, car loans, credit card debt and student loans will all cost more," House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi, of California, warned on Jan. 25, 2005.

Days later, the conservative magazine The Weekly Standard jumped in to defend deficits. "Deficits that Bush ran up in the years in which the country was teetering on the verge of a serious recession had the beneficial effect of righting the economy," the magazine noted on its website. "In that sense, deficits not only didn't matter, but were a force for economic good."

Sound familiar?

Today, the roles are reversed. President Barack Obama and congressional Democrats argue that deficits in the current environment are essentially a force for economic good and that it isn't really necessary to eliminate them.

"My goal is not to chase a balanced budget just for the sake of balance," Obama told ABC News in a recent interview. "My goal is how do we grow the economy, put people back to work, and if we do that we're gonna be bringing in more revenue."

Conversely, Republicans today argue that the deficit matters a great deal.

"The most important question isn't how we balance the budget — it's why," House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan, R-Wis., said in a Wall Street Journal column this week. "A balanced budget will help the economy. Smaller deficits will keep interest rates low, which will help small businesses to expand and hire."

Political rhetoric aside, the question remains whether deficits do or do not matter.

In fact, the United States has rarely had a balanced budget over the past 34 years. In 1969, after Washington had imposed an income tax surcharge to pay for the war in Vietnam, the federal government ran a slight surplus. It didn't happen again until 1998 under the Clinton administration, which thanks to a booming economy and the end of the Cold War paid down debt and reined in spending. It led to surpluses in 1999, 2000 and 2001.

This ended after tech stocks crashed and helped spark a brief recession. There were also the 2001 terrorist attacks, and spending across all levels of government surged, along with the hotly debated tax cuts in 2001 and 2003.

The history of deficits is instructive. The deepest deficits when measured as a percentage of the total economy happened during World War II, peaking at more than 30 percent in 1943. The government slashed postwar deficits but balanced the budget just three times in the 1950s, twice in the 1960s, and not again until 1998.

Yet the U.S. economy thrived through much of that.

"Over that period of time, debt as a burden on the U.S. economy declined, not because we were balancing the budget but because the economy was growing faster than the debt did," said Joe Minarik, research director for the Center for Economic Development, an independent pro-business think tank.

Minarik, a former chief economist in the Office of Management and Budget during the Clinton years, thinks that deficits are too high now but that they can be brought down gradually to allow a subpar economy to recover. He does not view them as an immediate threat on their own.

Before Obama's deficits, the biggest deficits as a percentage of the whole economy belonged to Ronald Reagan. In 1983, the deficit exceeded 6 percent of the broader economy.

Reagan's high-water mark wasn't repeated until 2009 amid the financial crisis and the Great Recession, when spending climbed, tax revenues declined and the deficit amounted to 10 percent of the broader, sinking economy. The number is expected to get back under Reagan's 6 percent level this year.

The architect of the Reagan recovery was former chief economic adviser Murray Weidenbaum. He advocated policies back then that sound almost identical to what Obama proposes today.

"I had the self-appointed task of moving the spotlight from the commitment to balance the budget to 'you can't do it right away,' and 'phase it in.' As an economist, the idea of whether you balance the budget or not does not have any substantive significance," Weidenbaum said in a telephone interview from St. Louis, where he teaches at Washington University. "My concern was getting the deficit under control, and getting the deficit moving in the right direction. We did succeed in moving the question."

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Alicia Wright, BSN, RN, CCM

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Joel Medalle, BSN, RN, CCRN
Denise Ross, BSN, RN, CCRN
Debbie Smith, BSN, RN, CCRN
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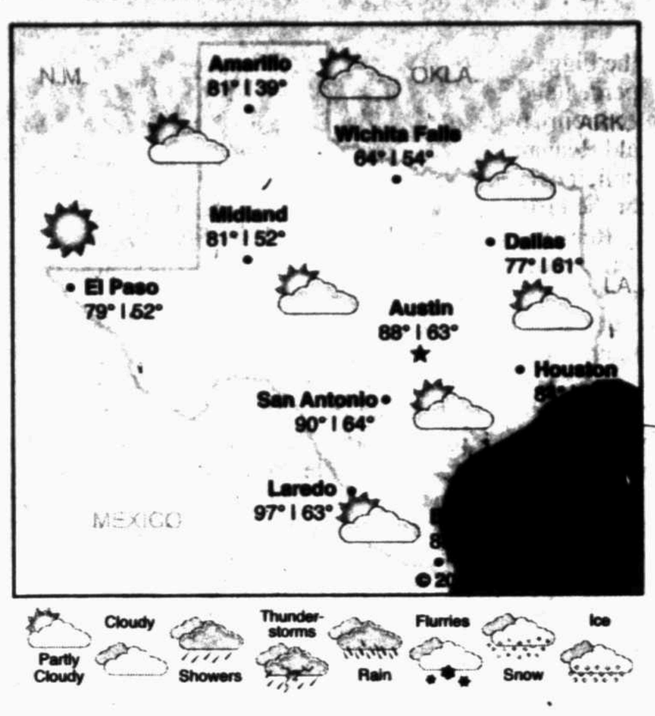
MONDAY: Sunny High: 79 Low: 46

TUESDAY: Sunny High: 79 Low: 48



Local forecast

Expect mostly sunny skies today with a high around 85 and north winds between 5 and 10 mph becoming west in the afternoon.

Tonight's forecast calls for mostly clear conditions with a low around 54 and southwest winds around 15 mph.

Monday, look for sunny skies with a high around 76 and northwest winds around 10 mph becoming east in the afternoon. Expect partly cloudy conditions at night, with a low around 46 and east winds between 5 and 10 mph.

Tuesday, the forecast calls for mostly sunny skies during the day, mostly cloudy skies at night, with a high around 79 and a low around 48. The high on Saturday reached 91, while the low dropped to 51. The record high for March 16 is 91 set in 2013.

The record low is 23 set in 1947.

National forecast

Chilly weather will continue today in the Northeast and the Great Lakes, with flurries in northern New England during the morning. Rain will fall for much of the day across Missouri and the southern Ohio Valley, with some wet snow mixed in on the northern edge of the rain. Throughout the day, the rain will move east, perhaps reaching Washington and Baltimore by day's end.

Farther south, it will be another warm day along the Gulf Coast, with temperatures surging past 90 degrees in much of South Texas. Meanwhile, cooler air will move into the Red River Valley. A developing storm system will move into the western Dakotas by the afternoon, spreading snow across Montana and North Dakota. Afternoon showers are expected to develop farther south and west, with thunderstorms across western Nebraska.

Precipitation

Friday	0.00 in.
Saturday	0.00 in.
Month total	trace
Year total	1.53 in.
Normal total (year to date)	1.57 in.

Saturday's temperatures

High	91
Low	51
Normal high	70
Normal low	41
Sunrise	7:56 a.m.
Sunset	7:58 p.m.

Early wildfire chars up to 1,000 acres in Colo.

Associated Press

FORT COLLINS, Colo. — The wildfire season that Coloradans have been nervously awaiting arrived in a wind-whipped frenzy in the foothills near Fort Collins.

The year's first major along the populous Front Range was spotted late Friday morning and raced across 750 to 1,000 acres by Friday night.

More than 50 homes were threatened, and authorities issued hundreds of evacuation orders.

The fire was 5 percent contained, and crews were hoping for calmer weather Saturday. Firefighters saved two homes and the visitors' center at Lory State Park from flames, authorities said. They said no homes had been destroyed.

The fire was burning west of Horsetooth Reservoir, near the scene of a large wildfire last summer that burned 259 homes and killed one person. The cause was under investigation. Firefighters controlled a second, smaller fire nearby earlier Friday.

The Larimer County Sheriff's Department said 860 phone lines got automated calls ordering evacuations ahead of the larger fire, but some addresses have multiple lines and other numbers were cellphones, so the exact number of homes in the evacuation area was not known. Residents of a neighborhood north of the fire were allowed to go home Friday night.

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Jeb Bush is as contradictory as immigration system

■ Ultimately can we trust the Republican not to be as dysfunctional as our political system?

ESTHER CEPEDA

Washington Post Writers Group

After reading former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush's book "Immigration Wars: Forging an American Solution," it's very hard to imagine how any moderate, willing-to-compromise person could find much fault with this ode to the many benefits of earnest, hardworking, U.S.-loving immigrants.

Naysayers have already declared the tone of the book too harsh, but then again, they're probably the same people who harrumphed in self-recognition when Bush and his co-author, Clint Bolick, described the far-left fringes of the debate as those who wouldn't be satisfied until the borders were simply opened.

This book actually claims a middle ground both by celebrating the positives that immigrants bring to our economy and national fabric, and by being clear-eyed about the undeniable fact that some illegal immigrants take up precious safety-net resources and others commit crimes.

And you can't say Bush doesn't wholeheartedly love immigrants — he's married to one from Mexico. So when he harps on the fact that our immigration laws aren't set up to meet our country's pressing economic challenges, you have to understand that he's not dissing immigrants or their families. He's just telling it like it is.

The only thing Bush really disdains is the current immigration system itself, which he says is driven by a preference for broadly defined family reunification that encourages endless "chain immigration." Bush describes the system as cumbersome, complex, opaque, sometimes capricious, incoherent, self-contradictory and downright bureaucratic. Who could possibly disagree with that?

But here's the part of the book that has sent so many into a tizzy:

"Once (adult) immigrants ... plead guilty (to having committed the crime of illegal entry) and pay the applicable fines or perform community service, they will become eligible to start the process to earn permanent legal residency. Such earned residency should entail paying taxes, learning English and committing no substantial crimes.

"Permanent residency in this context, however, should not lead to citizenship. It is absolutely vital to the integrity of our immigration system that actions have consequences — in this case, that those who violated the laws can remain but cannot obtain the cherished fruits of citizenship.

"To do otherwise would signal once again that people who circumvent the system can still obtain the full benefits of American citizenship. It must be a basic prerequisite for citizenship to respect the rule of law. But those who entered illegally, despite compelling reasons to do so in many instances, did so knowing that they were violating the law of the land. A grant of citizenship is an undeserving reward for conduct that we cannot afford to encourage. However, illegal immigrants who do wish to become citizens should have the choice of returning to their native countries and applying through normal immigration processes that (under this blueprint) would be much more open than before."

My problem is not Bush's statement of core beliefs — it sounds like a perfectly reasonable compromise to me — or the immediate, emotional opposition to it. It's been Bush's response to the subsequent controversy.

Former fans rushed to remark that this was a sudden, radical change from his past statements, and they've noted that as recently as January, Bush and his "Immigration Wars" co-author had an op-ed published in The Wall Street Journal favoring a path to citizenship in upcoming reform proposals.

Bush responded to heated criticism about a right-leaning change of heart by suggesting that the book, written long before the Republican Party had its post-2012 election immigration evolution, was out of date. He then went on Sunday talk shows to specify that he's open to a path toward citizenship only if an immigration bill could prevent creating even more incentives for immigrants to enter the country and live here unlawfully.

That's a tall order, and the kind of nuance that gets lost in headlines.

The net result is that while Bush used to be considered a moderate Republican and thoughtful proponent of immigration reform, many are now unsure whether he really is, as his co-author Bolick wrote, "willing to speak his mind regardless of political consequences."

It's sadly unclear what Bush will actually stand up for and it's hard to have much confidence that he won't fall into the trap of bending his immigration beliefs to the dysfunction of our political system and "the political correctness of our times."

As it is, he's already become as self-contradictory as our present immigration system.

OUR VIEW

New energy tower makes sense for Midland's future

It's already been proven that the proposed energy tower project to replace the old county courthouse downtown will draw a difference of opinion on just about every front. But we should keep our perspective focused on the best interests of Midland and the downtown area as we debate this subject.

From what we already know, we support the effort to bring a high-rise tower to the downtown area. We know that this project is not without risk, but the advantages far outweigh the disadvantages.

City and county officials will meet Monday to vote on selling the old Midland County Courthouse land to the city. The property is planned for a multi-purpose high-rise tower. The council could then enter into an agreement with the developer, Energy Related Properties, to build a skyscraper that will include a hotel, office, retail, residential and entertainment spaces.

This is an emotional issue for many residents. Many want to keep the old courthouse as a reminder of our past and a standing legacy to our history. We understand that feeling, but much work has been done to find a suitable role for the courthouse and no one has found a way that makes economic sense or for practical use.

Now, we have a project that makes sense for the future of Midland's downtown area. For years, people have been looking, almost in desperation, for a project that could revitalize downtown or at least bring a different life to downtown, and this could be the project that help makes it all work.

Ever since talking about downtown revitalization, we have asked whether residential properties can work downtown. Well, we now have a project that can help us answer that question.

This is also the time to take that leap to the next level in regards to our downtown revitalization efforts. This paper has reported that downtown valuations dropped to below $100 million in 2001. In 2010, the Reporter-Telegram reported value of real property surpassed $170 million. We believe those values are higher now, and projects and recent downtown building purchases make us feel certain the health of downtown is as good as it's ever been, opening up the opportunity to do something dramatic for our downtown area.

Our city has changed unlike any time before. Population is increasing, oil companies are building new headquarters that show their commitment to our area, and events like the easy school bond passage in November make us believe we could be headed toward a golden era for Midland.

We certainly will miss the courthouse, and all it stood for. In today's edition, we re-published a piece by the late Judge John Hyde about the history of our county courthouse. But this is a new Midland, and we see this new energy tower as a symbol of Midland moving forward. We appreciate a different sort of wildcatting spirit, but this time, instead of those looking to capture oil from the earth, we have developers wanting to capture space from our West Texas sky. We understand the project could result in one of the tallest buildings in the state.

Yes, there are questions that will come about when the euphoria of the project settles. Is the public sector's commitment to this project greater than we are led to believe? What will projects like this do for the already-crowded streets going to and from downtown?

We promise to hold our leaders accountable, but for today, we are excited about the Tall City getting even taller.

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Republicans stuck in Cruz control

■ The junior senator from Texas has no problems speaking up and acting like he's in charge (sadly for Republicans).

DANA MILBANK

Washington Post Writers Group

The nation has moved on, but Ted Cruz has pulled his fellow Republicans in Washington right back into 2010.

Three years ago next week, the Affordable Care Act — Obamacare — became law. Last year, the Supreme Court upheld the legislation in an opinion written by the conservative chief justice, John Roberts.

Republicans campaigned for repeal in 2012, but President Obama was re-elected, and Democrats gained seats in the Senate and the House, and won the popular vote. Since the election, Republican governors have begun to embrace the law.

Here in Washington, though, it is as if tea party activists are still marching on the Capitol. On Wednesday, Senate Republicans supported legislation proposed by the freshman Cruz to defund Obamacare — the 35th attempt, give or take, to abolish the program.

This one failed, like all the others.

Doing the same thing again and again and expecting a different result, it has been said, defines insanity. But among Senate Republicans, the lunatics are running the asylum. A few of the most junior members, with support from conservative activists, are calling the shots, while the caucus' nominal leaders, intimidated by the newcomers' power, have become followers.

Last week it was the 13-hour filibuster of the incoming CIA director led by first-term Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., which Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, of Kentucky, under public pressure from conservatives, eventually endorsed on the Senate floor. This time it was the quixotic repeal effort by Cruz, who has been on the job for all of two months; McConnell made an unscheduled appearance on the Senate floor to associate himself with the doomed effort.

Cruz, the 42-year-old junior senator from Texas, was rallying his fellow Republicans in support of the dubious principle that implementing Obamacare means imminent economic ruin. The Republican said in a conference call Tuesday that the law would "push us into another recession," according to The Dallas Morning News. Cruz was only slightly less categorical on Wednesday morning. "At a minimum, in my judgment, Obamacare should not be funded," he said on the Senate floor, because "implementing it right now could well force us into a recession."

"At a minimum." That's the same phrase Cruz used last month to imply that Chuck Hagel, now defense secretary, was on foreign payrolls. "It is at a minimum relevant to know if that $200,000 that he deposited in his bank account came directly from Saudi Arabia, came directly from North Korea," Cruz said, without evidence.

At a minimum, Cruz is making Republican leadership look weak. Seniority has been tossed aside as McConnell and the No. 2 GOP leader, John Cornyn of Texas, follow the cues of the junior senators from their home states, Paul and Cruz.

Cruz's amendment garnered 45 Republican votes, while many senators spoke in support. Oklahoma's Jim Inhofe, the ranking Republican on the Armed Services Committee, made an unannounced appearance at Cruz's news conference to praise the young lawmaker: "I really applaud Senator Cruz."

That's some treatment of a man who was making what he called his "first official speech" on the Senate floor. His only other speech was during Paul's filibuster, when Cruz read passages from Ronald Reagan, William Shakespeare and William Barret Travis' letter from the Alamo. "As they say in the beer commercial, it don't get no better than that," Cruz said.

Except that it did. Cruz got all Senate Republicans to support his amendment, which he justified on the flimsy rationale that Obamacare (much of which is yet to be implemented) is responsible for the economy's slow growth — ignoring the housing collapse, the financial crisis and the deepest recession in generations.

The young Texan had managed to pull Senate Republicans even further to the right than their counterparts in the House, who opted not to seek a repeal of Obamacare in the legislation they just passed to fund the federal government. And House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan's budget would repeal the health care law but keep $1 trillion in tax increases associated with the program.

Cruz said Ryan's budget "doesn't go far enough." And he suggested that House Republicans force a showdown with Obama to see if he's "willing to try to shut the government down in order to insist that Obamacare be fully funded."

Republicans will disregard Cruz's advice at their peril. He may have only 60 days of seniority, but, at a time when power is measured in loudness, he's already in charge.

From the Left | Doonesbury

From the Right | Mallard Fillmore

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Midland officials need to get priorities in order

Well, here we go again. Midland Reporter-Telegram headlines March 7, "Replacing City Hall — cost estimated $30M-$40M," discussed at the "council retreat." I do believe that our city officials have gotten their priorities upside down again.

Midland Fire Department personnel are driving 30-year-old fire trucks and ambulances that are constantly having to be repaired.

I witnessed a fire truck going down the street and the door flying open, and they were not even driving fast.

Ambulances responding to an emergency situation are breaking down on the way. I have personal knowledge of one such situation.

A man was riding his horse with a couple of his friends when he suddenly slumped over in the saddle with a heart attack. His friends noticed something was wrong and called 911 for an ambulance. This man was lucky — his two friends were paramedics. They gave him CPR for more than 30 minutes while waiting for the ambulance. The first ambulance broke down on the way, and another ambulance was dispatched. He lived, thanks to them.

Recently, a fire truck at H-E-B had to be jumped off by an ambulance. In the meantime, there aren't any mechanics to work on the 30-year-old fire trucks or the severely overworked ambulance fleet. On any given day, half of these are older reserve vehicles because life-saving emergency vehicles are just not a priority for the city of Midland.

And, to top it all off, city employees — except for firefighters and police officers — were given a raise. Have doubts? Check public records.

Juanita Baldwin

Congress isn't broken — it's the Republican Party

Congress isn't the problem; the GOP is the problem. Voters who are finding fault with American democratic institutions right now need to begin their diagnosis by looking at the Republican Party.

I do think there's something broken, and it isn't the system. It's the GOP. The problem isn't that they're very conservative. Even a party with policy preferences to the right of Rand Paul could, in theory, manage to bargain with even a very liberal Democratic Party. The problem, rather, is that the GOP's incentives are skewed. Rather than caring about policy, they appear to care more about symbolism, such as a balanced budget amendment, than about actual policy. Rather than caring about cutting the best deal they can get, they appear to care more about proving their loyalty to the cause (they refused to deal on health care even though so doing might have gotten them more of what they wanted). This requires them to oppose Democratic presidents regardless of what it means in substantive gains or losses.

The result is that Republicans wind up following the lead of hucksters and talk show hosts, even when it leads them to strange places. And that, not anything inherent in Congress even in polarized times, winds up yielding a dysfunctional legislative process. After all, despite the usual bruises and bumps, Congress proved able to legislate reasonably effectively during the four years of Democratic control, and particularly under unified government in 2009-2010. It's only now, and during the years of unified Republican control, that we are seeing longtime observers complain about a broken Congress or the worst Congress ever. Congress is not broken, it's the Republican Party.

Sen. Ted Cruz attacked Vietnam War heroes and veterans during the Senate confirmation hearing last month after he was in office less than three weeks. I'm not mad at Sen. Cruz because I realize he was born in Canada and they opposed the U.S. in the Vietnam War.

Glenn Beck this week said, "I am through with the GOP." Just keep voting for the Republicans and watch things run smoother.

Earl Kinsley

Patriots will not allow country to be destroyed

Well, Mr. President, you won the presidency by preaching the mantra of "hope and change" right out of Karl Marx's "Communist Manifesto." You said you wanted to "fundamentally change America," and to your credit, you have made extraordinary progress doing just that by nationalizing health care and continuing to spend America into bankruptcy through crony-capitalism. Of course, you could not have succeeded without Communist support within both the Republican and Democratic parties.

Well, I have news for you, Mr. President, and for the communists in Washington, D.C. You people are not strong enough to destroy America without a fight to the death from throughout the American heartland.

For decades, communists have been like a bunch of busy beavers steadily chipping away at the tree of liberty. As a result, Americans have less than half of the original freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution.

In order for you to destroy this country, Mr. President, patriots of the Constitution will have to move over. And despite what you may believe, we plan to stand in defense of our country.

My advice for you, Mr. President, and for all of the Republican and Democrat communists in Washington, D.C., is to cease and desist because it will be over our dead bodies before we allow our country to be fundamentally destroyed.

In the words of Theodore Roosevelt, "Patriotism means to stand by the country. It does not mean to stand by the president or any other public official."

Dennis Pomroy

Too many animals are being abandoned in Midland

Just before Christmas, a beautiful orange and white tabby showed up at my house. At first I thought he was a neighborhood cat out for an afternoon adventure. But he came back day after day, and he was losing weight. The nights were cold, and he was out in them.

Finally, I set a dish of cat food on the patio for him. He was very hungry — and very talkative. He seemed to have quite a tale to tell. He was so friendly and sociable that I felt sure he once had an owner who took good care of him.

He didn't go away, and weeks went by. I began calling him Bailey, to have a way to talk to him and about him. I am in a wheelchair, and I have two elderly indoor cats named Kate and Maggie. As much as I would like to keep Bailey, Kate and Maggie are violently opposed to the idea of sharing their space with a young male.

When Midland was bracing for a particularly bitter night, my neighbors and friends pitched in and built a little house for Bailey on my patio.

Later, a friend took Bailey to Kate's and Maggie's veterinarian, and we learned that he is a 1-year-old neutered male and doesn't have an identification chip. We took Bailey's picture and made flyers that we posted throughout the neighborhood, hoping Bailey's owner would call.

No one has responded. I called all three no-kill shelters in Midland, but they are full. I asked one of the shelters how frequently they find homes for adult cats. They said they hadn't placed a cat in the past three years.

I'm worried about Bailey. It's dangerous for him to live on the streets. I've placed an ad in MRT's pets column, and I hope someone nice responds.

Bailey's situation highlights a problem in Midland that needs to be addressed. Too many helpless innocent animals are abandoned to fend for themselves.

Linda Draper

SPEAKING OUT

Residents need to know the debt local government carries

■ Midlanders should support legislation that "requires that more information be included on every bond measure presented for voter approval."

ERNEST ANGELO JR.
Former Midland mayor

It's not easy to keep secrets, but folks in small towns and big cities all across Texas probably have no idea how much debt their local government is carrying. And, more importantly, they have no idea what that debt is costing their families.

As voters, we continue to approve bond package after bond package because we understand the benefits to the community and to our children — though we are not told the actual cost.

Well, here's the bottom line: Local governments in Texas have more than doubled their debt load in the past decade. That's more than $7,500 in debt for every man, woman and child in the state.

While the Texas economic model is the envy of the nation, that can quickly change as this local debt burden grows out of control.

As a four-term mayor of Midland, I was fortunate to see our community experience record growth and an increase in city services while taxes remained at the lowest rate among Texas' 25 largest cities. It is that careful balance of accountability and service to the public that makes Texas work.

You and me and every hardworking taxpayer in the Lone Star State deserve to know how much debt we are being asked to take on by our local government, by our school district and by every special-purpose taxing district in our small town or big city. That is why I support the efforts of state Sen. Tommy Williams and state Rep. Jim Pitts, who are working on legislation to give power back to the people, to make sure there are no secrets about public debt.

Their transparency legislation would require that more information be included on every bond measure presented for voter approval, such as how much total debt the taxing entity is currently carrying and the cost of interest each year. Limits would also be placed on certificates of obligation, a way governments can issue debt without voter approval.

Sen. Williams and Rep. Pitts are following the trail blazed by Texas Comptroller Susan Combs, who has led transparency and accountability efforts at the state level, opening state spending to unprecedented taxpayer scrutiny. Combs believes people need to know what their government is doing and how it spends their money and has come up with innovative solutions to put vital information about government spending and debt in front of the public.

Combs recently outlined these and other transparency recommendations in her series of reports titled "Texas, It's Your Money." Each report found at www.texasitsyourmoney.org focuses on the different forms of debt Texans are asked to take on, and provides suggestions on how local governments can provide more information to taxpayers on these obligations.

Few among us are elected to serve in public office. With their vote, Texans are placing their confidence in us to act on their behalf. But this trust is based on an informed consent. And while Texas is leading the nation in accountability and transparency, we need to do more.

When I was the mayor of Midland, I understood it was my job to tell voters about their money. I urge Texas taxpayers to let their state legislators know they support Senate Bill 14 and House Bill 14, to put the power of information in the hands of the taxpayers. There should be no more secrets when it comes to adding to our debt.

Ernest Angelo Jr. served four terms as mayor of Midland, retiring in 1980. He has served on the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission. He has also served as chairman of the Texas Public Safety Commission and state director of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers.

Bond debt as of Aug. 31, 2012

Entity	Principal	Interest	Total Payments
City of Midland	$139,200,000	$64,901,268	$204,101,268
Midland College	$45,106,052	$16,169,054	$61,275,106
Midland County	$27,805,000	$11,707,416	$39,512,416
Midland Hospital District	$121,258,000	$76,176,830	$197,434,830
Midland ISD	$108,686,730	$57,574,240	$166,259,970

Source: Texas Bond Review Board (http://www.brb.state.tx.us/)
Note: Figures represent principal, interest and total payments as of Aug. 31, 2012. Those numbers in many cases will have decreased due to payments that have been paid.

Texas GOP trumpets its record in electing minorities

■ It certainly doesn't mean that Republicans are the favorite of black or Hispanic voters, but the facts are the facts.

KEN HERMAN
Cox Newspapers

There's nothing Texas Republicans enjoy doing more than reminding Texas Democrats that the state GOP has put more blacks and Hispanics into statewide office than the Democrats have.

This chaps Democrats just like the fact that it was a Republican president (the first one) who abolished slavery and it was many Democrats (Southern ones) who fought civil rights legislation.

The Texas GOP recently brought up the facts about Texas minorities in statewide office in a response to the latest attempt by Texas Dems to end their statewide election losing streak dating back to 1994. The effort is called Battleground Texas and the Democrats' goal is to turn Texas blue by 2016. They might have a better chance of turning the UT Tower maroon.

Steve Munisteri, the former boxing manager who's now the Texas GOP chairman, meted out some sage advice for the non-Texas Dems who moved here to run Battleground Texas. Among my favorites: "Don't sit cross-legged while wearing spurs" and a reminder about pre-consumption dehusking of tamales.

But I'm sure the last one on the list is the one that most sticks in the craws of Democrats, whose party is the traditional home of a solid majority of the state's black and Hispanic voters:

"Texas Republicans have elected more minorities to statewide office in the past 19 years than Democrats did after controlling the state for over 100 years. The list includes Al Gonzales, David Medina, Eva Guzman, Wallace Jefferson and Dale Wainwright to the Texas Supreme Court; Elsa Alcala to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals; Victor Carrillo and Michael Williams to the Texas Railroad Commission. And, Texas' first U.S. senator of Hispanic descent, Ted Cruz."

(For some reason, the list left out Tony Garza, who became the first Hispanic Republican elected to Texas statewide office when he won a Railroad Commission seat in 1998.)

It's true that some of the folks on the list initially got their statewide jobs through gubernatorial appointments to fill vacancies (and Carrillo was voted out of office in a GOP primary), but facts are facts and the GOP is right on this one.

Here's the complete list of Hispanic or black Democrats elected to statewide positions in Texas: Raul Gonzalez, Texas Supreme Court, first elected in 1984; Morris Overstreet, Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, first elected in 1990; and Dan Morales, attorney general, first elected in 1990. Gonzalez, like some of the GOP minorities who won statewide races, initially was a gubernatorial appointee. Morales, after leaving office, did time in federal prison.

Overstreet's 1990 victory made him the first black elected to Texas statewide office. He did so by beating a black incumbent, Louis Sturns, who had been appointed by Gov. Bill Clements to fill a vacancy. Sturns, now a Tarrant County state district judge, is the judge in the court of inquiry involving former Williamson County District Attorney Ken Anderson's role in the improper murder conviction of Michael Morton.

(The late Lena Guerrero, an Austin Democrat, was appointed to the Texas Railroad Commission by Gov. Ann Richards in 1991 but was ousted by voters in 1992 after she acknowledged she had lied about having a college degree).

The GOP record in electing minorities to statewide office in Texas cannot be discussed without mentioning the challenge some Hispanics have faced in GOP primaries. Railroad Commissioner Carrillo lost in the 2010 primary to relative unknown David Porter. In 2002, Supreme Court Justice Xavier Rodriguez, who'd been appointed by Gov. Rick Perry, was defeated in the primary by Stephen Smith, an unknown who spent almost nothing on his race.

The primary losses by Carrillo and Rodriguez to relative unknowns with non-Hispanic names have been fuel for the notion that Texas Republicans, in down-ballot races that attract lesser attention, are not prone to back Hispanics. That's something they're working on as the state's Hispanic population continues its march toward becoming a majority.

Associated Press

U.S. soldiers follow a friendly soccer match between a team of Afghan players and U.S soldiers in the military section of the airport in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Saturday.

DEFENDING AMERICA

What will the US military's role be in coming years?

By Matthew Schofield
McClatchy Newspapers

Pirates prowl the high seas. Terrorists flex their muscles in Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia. China gets stronger. Russia grows increasingly inscrutable, and Iran and North Korea remain unpredictable.

Trying to find footing in this shifting landscape of international power plays and intrigues is the American military, which right now appears more focused on how to adjust to mandatory budget cuts because the White House and Congress were unable to reach a deal to stop them.

Perhaps lost in the debate is the bigger question: What role might American power play in the coming years?

Lost, but hardly forgotten. Around the capital, away from the political squabbles, defense experts are focusing on the tasks of U.S. forces in the near future.

"We're at an inflection point," said Stuart Johnson, a defense expert with the RAND Corp., a nonprofit, nonpartisan think tank. "Our territory, or allies' territory, is not threatened."

The next Quadrennial Defense Review, which sets military priorities every four years, is due a year from now, though Pentagon officials note that the current fiscal crisis has forced a delay. The 2010 review dealt with closing out the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and helping smaller nations handle local and regional issues without as much American assistance.

On all points, several defense experts declared: mission progressing but not yet accomplished.

Here's why: The war in Iraq is over, and the war in Afghanistan is wrapping up. When international efforts in 2011 in Libya helped oust the late dictator, Moammar Gadhafi, and quashed a terrorist-led rebellion in Mali this year, the French led and the U.S. played a supporting role. American-trained forces from Chad were an important piece of the operation.

In fact, the next four years will see the smallest commitment of U.S. forces overseas in more than a decade. Troops will remain in Afghanistan after 2014, and while the number has yet to be determined, it will be significantly below the 68,000 now there.

But global threats have not vanished, and in the current world, a powerful military must also be a nimble military. Lt. Col. James Gregory, a Pentagon policy spokesman, said that security policy continues to require what is often called a two-war strategy.

"Our nation has important interest in multiple regions, and our forces must be capable of deterring and defeating aggression by an adversary in one region even when our forces are committed to a large-scale operation elsewhere," he wrote in an email.

America's role and its interests still require that it maintain a substantial military force. But even in the Pentagon, leaders note that cuts in defense spending are needed. Their concerns about recent reductions have been more about the way in which they were imposed, without proper planning, and without considering their impact on forces or overall strategy.

American military spending still dwarfs that of any other nation, accounting for almost half of all global defense dollars and equaling the combined total spent by the next 13 to 19 nations, depending on the formula.

The United States spends 4.7 percent of its gross domestic product, the value of all the goods and services produced, on defense. The French spend 2.2 percent; the Germans, 1.3 percent. Even the Chinese spend only 2 percent of their GDP on defense. That means that for every dollar made in the United States, almost a nickel supports the military, while in China it's the equivalent of 2 cents.

"How much is enough?" said Jacob Stokes, a defense expert at the centrist Center for a New American Security. "In an ideal world, you manage your risk down to zero, but that's at enormous cost."

Meanwhile, the strain of health care and pensions on the military's budget is taking a greater toll.

"In the last 10 years, defense health care costs are up 83 percent and personnel costs are up 40 percent," Stokes said. "These costs are eating us alive."

Michael O'Hanlon, a defense expert at the center-left Brookings Institution, said a leaner military could be as effective, as long as it innovates. He said the military could save billions of dollars, for example, by rotating crews on and off ships patrolling in vital zones, thereby reducing the overall number of ships needed to patrol a region.

More savings could result by cutting the fleet of the controversial — and expensive — experimental F-35 fighter jet in half, to about 1,200 planes.

"These sorts of changes could preserve the core elements of U.S. defense policy," O'Hanlon said. "It's not time to rethink everything. But there's a ton of money to save."

Johnson of RAND said that instead of focusing on more expensive new-generation technology for new weapons, why not use the best existing technologies? The F-35 is projected to cost about $130 million a jet, vs. the F-16, perhaps the world's most successful fighter, which costs less than $20 million a jet. Simply focusing on upgrades of the F-16 instead of building the new jet could save hundreds of billions.

Even as the United States focuses on maintaining military might, Johnson said building up the strengths of allies and partners to help deal with traditional problems should be an element of a long-term security.

"We're really good at high-end, intel-intensive warfare," Johnson said. "We struggle at response to instability."

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Tech in Galaxy S 4 doesn't come together

By Peter Svensson
Associated Press

Jason DeCrow/AP

The new Samsung Galaxy S 4 is presented during the Samsung Unpacked event Thursday in New York.

NEW YORK — The Galaxy S 4, Samsung's latest and greatest, has a cute feature we'll probably see in a lot of phones soon: You can shoot both yourself and your surroundings at the same time, using the front- and back-mounted cameras. It's a bit like having a two-camera film crew follow you around.

But other than that, it's hard to point to anything that will set the world on fire in the new phone, revealed Thursday at an event in New York. The S 4 has what you'd expect from a new smartphone: a bigger screen and a faster processor. It may prove to be unfortunate that it didn't stop there when it presented the successor to its hit Galaxy S III. The phone has a grab-bag of features that don't come together as a pleasing whole.

The phone will go on sale sometime between late April and the end of June, from Verizon Wireless, AT&T, Sprint Nextel, T-Mobile USA, US Cellular and Cricket, Samsung says. If history is any guide, even smaller phone companies will get it, if not right away. The phone companies will set the prices; expect this phone to start at $200 with a two-year contract.

Samsung provided reporters with some hands-on time with pre-production units, which revealed the S 4 to be, in terms of hardware, a solid successor to the III. The screen is slightly larger, at 5 inches on the diagonal compared to 4.8 inches for the III and 4 inches for the iPhone 5. It sports a resolution of 1920 by 1080 pixels, as much as you'd find on a high-definition TV set. This should mean that the resolution chase is over in the smartphone area: The eyes just can't discern any more pixels on these small screens. Competing top-line Android phones already have the same resolution, so Samsung isn't breaking new ground here.

The bigger screen is crammed into a chassis that's actually a hair narrower and thinner than the S III's. This is quite a feat. Samsung shrank the frame surrounding the screen to make room. Shrinking other internal components allowed it to make the battery 20 percent larger than III's, but Samsung isn't saying whether that translates into longer battery life — the added battery power could be eaten up by software and hardware changes.

The body is still dominated by softly molded plastic, and the S 4 doesn't really advance the aesthetics of its predecessor the way competitors Apple, Sony and HTC have done with their latest phones. Apple and HTC, in particular, have put a lot of sweat into machining metal into jewel-like enclosures; Samsung doesn't seem to care all that much about looks.

Samsung does care about trying to push the envelope on what the phone does, but it may have poked through the envelope, tearing a hole or two in it. It's probably not a disaster, because most of its features can be turned off, but first-time users could be confused.

For one thing, Samsung is taking the whole "touch screen" thing further by now sensing when the user's finger is hovering over the screen. In other words, you don't even need to touch the phone to make it react. Hovering over a thumbnail of a picture in the Gallery will reveal a bigger thumbnail, and hovering over one email in a list will show a preview of its first lines.

The idea is similar to the "mouse hover" feature on a PC, which sometimes reveals things before the mouse is clicked. Implementing it on a smartphone is trickier, though. On the PC, you have to use the mouse, so you'll discover the hover functions in the normal course of use. But since the feature is new in a smartphone and there's normally no reason to have your finger hovering over the screen, users are likely to discover this feature by chance. That wouldn't be so bad if all applications responded to hovering in a consistent manner, but very few applications react to it all. On the S 4, the "Email" app will show previews, but the "Gmail" app won't. The built-in "Gallery" app will show picture previews, but other photo apps won't. I suspect users will get tired of trying to hover with their fingers and give up on the whole thing.

The S 4 presents an interesting contrast to the BlackBerry Z10, which is coming out in a few weeks. Research In Motion Ltd. jettisoned the old BlackBerry software and rebuilt it from the ground up. The phone's hardware isn't as impressive as Samsung's, but the software is easy to use, and it's based on a strong idea: taking the pain out of communicating across email, text messaging and social networks. The S 4, unfortunately, doesn't have the same clarity of purpose.

Bennack looks at Hearst, backward and forward

Editor's note: The Reporter-Telegram is a Hearst Corp. newspaper.

By David McCumber
Hearst Newspapers

WASHINGTON — As today's media landscape changes at speeds measured in megabits per second, it's critical to be able to see around corners. To do that, it helps to have navigated and directed more than half a century of change.

Frank A. Bennack Jr., now in his second tenure as CEO of the Hearst Corp., has done just that.

Thursday, at a screening of the documentary film Citizen Hearst, about the company's 125-year history, Bennack spoke with journalist and news anchor Judy Woodruff about his newspaper roots and his enthusiasm for the television, cable, internet and magazine aspects of the media scene in general and Hearst in particular.

It was a particularly apt day for the discussion. A few hours before, Bennack had presided at a ceremony marking the installation of a brand-new press at Hearst's Albany (N.Y.) Times Union — a huge commitment to print in an era when many assume the print medium's obituary will soon be published online.

It wasn't the only multimillion-dollar print bet Bennack has placed recently. Hearst in 2011 spent nearly $900 million buying more than 100 magazine titles from the French publisher Lagardere, making Hearst one of the largest magazine publishers in the world.

"Both of our print businesses (newspapers and magazines) are solidly profitable," Bennack said Thursday. "At least so far, traditional media does not go away" as other platforms are developed, he said.

That doesn't mean Bennack, who started in his same selling advertising at the San Antonio Light and in 17 years became that newspaper's editor and publisher, has not embraced electronic media.

"We were not represented well" in the area when Bennack first took the reins at Hearst, he said. Since then, Hearst has gone from three television stations to 29 and has taken a leading role in cable, partnering with Disney in such brands as ESPN, A&E, History and Lifetime.

"The internet still has not eclipsed" television as "the most important change of our lifetime," Bennack said, but under his direction the company has been aggressive in developing its online businesses as well.

He characterized modern electronic media habits quite simply: While "appointment" TV viewing has declined because of "the huge number of choices people have," he said, "We will access the largest, highest fidelity screen that we are near. When we're on the go, we'll access the smaller screen, and that will be with us as long as the eye can see."

Whatever the platform, Bennack said, it comes down to content and innovation. He is proud of saying that Hearst runs like a "126-year-old startup."

"It's a simple equation," he said. "Surround yourself with smart young people who are engaged with today's world. They educate you about that and you educate them" about how to operate a company. He said the company's culture of innovation started with William Randolph Hearst.

It has certainly continued over the past half-century as Bennack has kept looking around corners and diversifying. He pointed out Thursday that the company was "several times larger at 125 years old than it was at 100."

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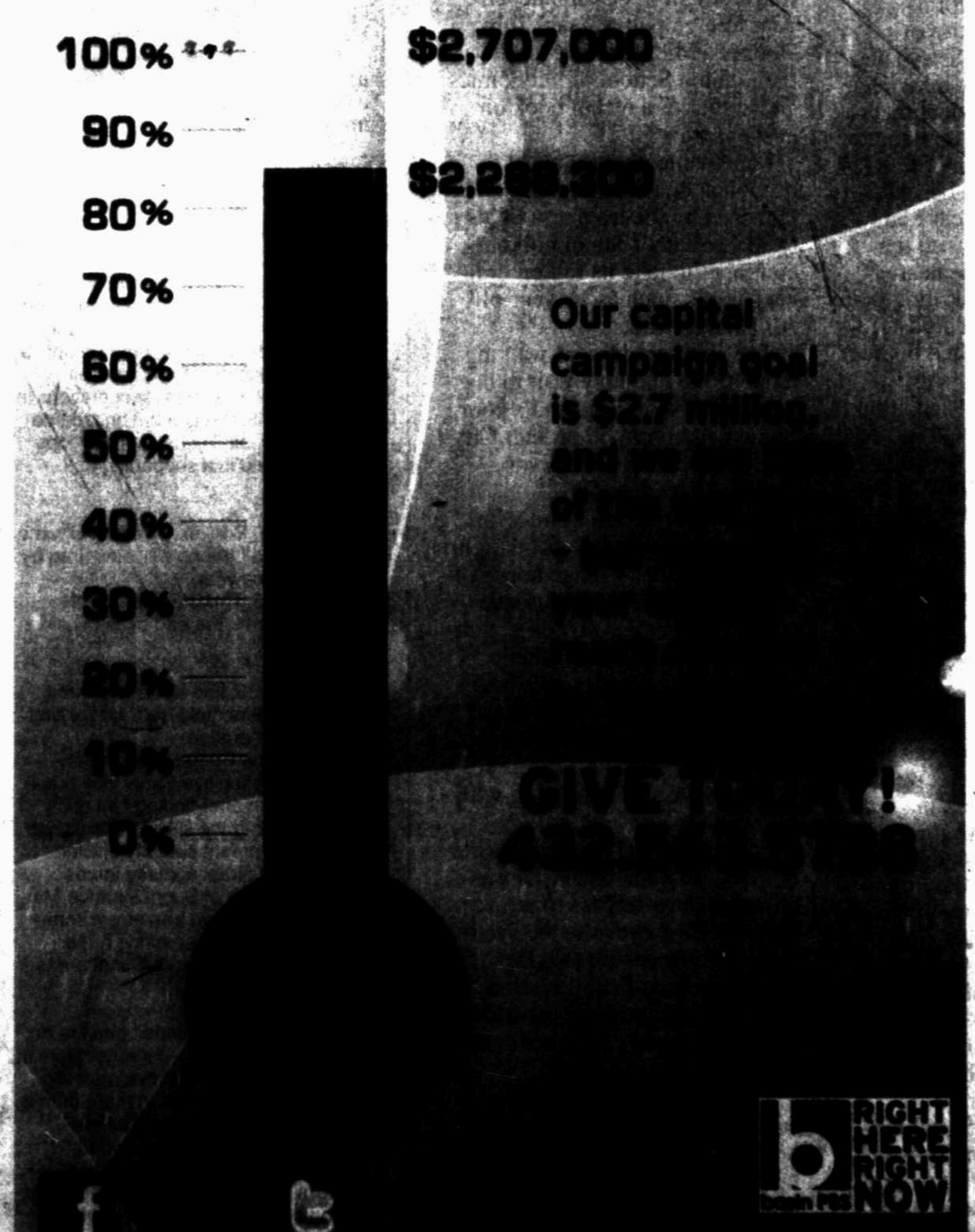

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Shams Karim, 7, cuddles with her grandmother March 9 in Baghdad. It's been more than six years since a bomb ripped away her eyes, killed her mother and left the little girl blind for life. Throughout Iraq there are tens of thousands of outbursts of crying and screaming, but they cannot give her back her sight — or her future. Throughout Iraq there are tens of thousands more like her, victims whose lives are forever scarred by the violence of war. Their wounds — and those of tens of thousands of U.S. and other foreign service-men — may never entirely heal.

Associated Press

SCARS OF WAR

10 years on, Iraq still grapples with war's legacy

By Adam Schreck
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — It's been more than six years since a bomb ripped away the eyes from Shams Karim, killed her mother and left the little girl, now 7, blind and disfigured for life. Psychiatric drugs help control her outbursts of crying and screaming.

Throughout Iraq there are tens of thousands of victims like her whose lives are forever scarred by the violence of war. Their wounds — and those of tens of thousands of U.S. and other foreign service members — may never entirely heal.

In Baghdad, life goes on much as it has since the Ottoman sultan ruled these parts. Porters force loaded carts through narrow bazaars as amateur breeders' beloved pigeons swoop overhead. The calls to prayer from turquoise-domed mosques provide a rhythm to the day.

Yet the legacy of a war that began a decade ago remains very much a part of life here too. Bullet holes still pockmark buildings, and towers wrecked by American missiles and tank shells have not fully been rebuilt. Iraqi soldiers in body armor corral cars into road-clogging checkpoints, their fingers close to the trigger, ever wary of the next attack. At 1 a.m., a curfew shuts down the capital's streets, many still lined with blast walls.

It's hard nowadays to find anybody in much of the country who hasn't lost a friend or relative to the bloodletting that followed the U.S.-led invasion. Shams' mother is buried among the densely packed graves in Najaf, where an ancient cemetery is at least 40 percent larger than it was before the war. Each new bombing sends more coffin-topped cars south to the hot, dusty city of the dead.

The Bush administration had hoped the war that began with airstrikes before dawn on March 20, 2003 — still the previous evening back in the States — would quickly rid Iraq of purported weapons of mass destruction, go after extremists and replace a brutal dictatorship with the foundations of a pro-Western democracy in the heart of the Middle East.

Ten years on, Iraq's long-term stability and the strength of its democracy remain open questions. The country is unquestionably freer and more democratic than it was before the "shock and awe" airstrikes began. But instead of a solidly pro-U.S. regime, the Iraqis have a government that is arguably closer to Tehran than to Washington and that struggles to exert full control over the country itself.

Bloody attacks launched by terrorists who thrived in the post-invasion chaos are painfully still frequent —albeit less so than a few years back — and sectarian and ethnic rivalries are again tearing at the fabric of national unity. The top-heavy government is largely paralyzed by graft, chronic political crisis and what critics fear is a new dictatorship in the making. The civil war in neighboring Syria risks sowing further discord in Iraq.

By the time the U.S. military pulled out of Iraq in December 2011, nearly 4,500 Americans and more than 100,000 Iraqis had lost their lives. No active WMDs were ever found. The war cost American taxpayers hundreds of billions of dollars and diverted resources from Afghanistan, where the Taliban and al-Qaida regrouped after their pummeling in the 2001 invasion.

In Iraq, the Americans and their allies left behind a broken, deeply traumatized country — a land no longer at war but without peace. The toppling of Saddam Hussein's regime destroyed not only dictatorship but also the mechanism of law and order, enabling the rise of al-Qaida and the unleashing of sectarian, ethnic and class hatreds long suppressed by a reign of fear.

The invasion transferred power overnight to oppressed Shiites and Kurds but left many Sunni Arabs alienated. It established a system of sectarian-based politics that undermined national unity.

And it helped trigger a vicious insurgency that ruined countless lives without regard for religion or ethnicity.

It's easy to forget about the war's hardships inside the Haji Zebala juice shop on the capital's historic Rasheed Street, where they're still serving up fresh-pressed grape juice like they have for generations — though fear of bombings means customers are no longer willing to wait in line for 15 minutes as they did before the invasion.

Black-and-white pictures of old Baghdad cover the walls, transporting visitors to a time before Iraq became a byword for death and destruction.

Diaa al-Mandalawi, who works at the juice shop, remembers being surprised at just how quickly American helicopters came to be hovering over his city.

"We thought things would get better because the Americans promised us a lot," he said.

But the years of bloodshed that followed the heady days after Baghdad fell have taken a toll, he continued, and it is taking too long for his country to get back on its feet. "It's like building a house, but the process is too slow."

On the bright side, campaign posters once again line Iraqi streets, heralding a new round of voting coming up. In many places they hang alongside banners adorned with the image of revered Shiite saint Imam Hussein — a public display of faith rare during Saddam's rule.

Iraqi citizens today are unafraid to criticize their elected leaders in public — with some even going so far as to wish Saddam still ruled — and guests on TV talk shows boldly rail against corruption and other wrongdoing by their elected leaders.

There are other signs of progress too.

Fresh investment in the oil sector has pushed Iraq into the No. 2 producer spot in OPEC, boosting the economy. New businesses are opening up, like a popular Baghdad shopping mall and swanky hotels in the capital, southern Shiite pilgrimage centers and the northern Kurdish city of Irbil.

At the newly opened Aroma restaurant in Baghdad, waiters take orders for spaghetti and pizza on iPads. Dalia Ayad, a college student eating there with friends, said the new businesses are a sign that Iraq is moving forward.

"There is a change going on in the country," she said. "But it's not moving fast enough."

That is partly because Iraq remains a sharply divided society

Majority Shiites tend to see more reason for hope than Sunnis do.

"Now people can hold protests against the government and criticize government officials," said Haider Ali Hassan, a government employee in the southern city of Basra. "There are a lot of shortcomings and problems ... but it is still better than Saddam's time."

Saddam's Sunni-dominated government ruthlessly suppressed dissent, especially from the Shiite and Kurdish communities where opposition to his rule was more widespread.

The U.S.-led invasion upset the Sunnis' privileged position since Shiites and Kurds were more willing to support the new order.

"The United States destroyed the last remaining good things in Iraq. The current situation is definitely not any better than under Saddam," said Muhanad Majid, a Sunni coffee shop owner and father of two in the northern city of Mosul.

The American decision to disband the Iraqi military and bar many senior members of the newly outlawed Baath from public-sector jobs suddenly left many Iraqis without work. The ways the policies were implemented added to the resentment of Sunnis, who were the bedrock of the military officer corps and held many senior posts in Saddam's regime.

That anger is now reflected in mass anti-government rallies each Friday in western Anbar province, the birthplace of the Iraqi insurgency, and other primarily Sunni areas.

The demonstrations present a potent and surprisingly persistent challenge to Baghdad, which must also contend with the ethnic Kurds' increasing efforts to assert their autonomy.

"We thought the Americans and the United Nations would bring us a democratic system that would provide the country with security, reconstruction and prosperity. But it turned out the only change was to transfer power from Sunnis to Shiites," Ahmed Abu Risha, a prominent Sunni sheik who once helped Americans battle al-Qaida, complained during a recent interview. "Of course it's a disappointment."

Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's political rivals accuse him of using his office to sideline and intimidate political opponents. Many Arab Sunnis and Kurds believe he is consolidating power to benefit members of his Shiite sect at their expense.

He remains directly in charge of the powerful Interior Ministry, giving him control over state security forces. They and the country's military have been unable to thwart frequent mass-casualty attacks that continue to plague the country. On Thursday, attackers unleashed a carefully planned assault with car bombs and a team of gunmen on the Justice Ministry in the heart of downtown Baghdad, killing more than 20 people as hundreds of others crouched terrified in their offices.

Al-Maliki, who has held power since 2006, dismisses his critics as out to create divisions and provoke sectarian strife.

In a recent interview, the prime minister said he believes the country is moving in the right direction, though he acknowledged that the shift away from a centralized system to a more federal political structure will take time.

And he thinks Iraq's ties with America are improving despite concerns about his perceived closeness to U.S. foe Iran.

"It's natural to have ups and down in the relationship," he said. "We believe in the importance and the necessity of having relations with America, and we feel that the Americans are content with the results of their sacrifices and efforts in Iraq."

The last American combat troops rolled out of Iraq and into Kuwait in December 2011.

More than 130 U.S. military personnel remain mainly to provide training and facilitate arms sales — as is the case in many countries — but they are an arm of the American Embassy, a sprawling fortress the size of Vatican City. Along with other embassies and Iraqi government offices, it is tucked inside the relative safety of Baghdad's heavily fortified Green Zone, which remains a no-go zone for most Iraqis.

Signs of American influence can be found. Rap has gained a following among Iraqi youth, with young MCs spinning tales of hardship in bilingual rhyme. The ubiquitous police and army soldiers — some with Oakley-style sunglasses popular with American GI's — cruise the country's roads in all-American Humvees and modified Ford pickups.

But the American military withdrawal has significantly shifted Washington's clout in Baghdad's halls of power.

In his final report to Congress this month, the U.S. Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction, Stuart Bowen, came to the conclusion that the $60 billion the U.S. spent on rebuilding in Iraq produced too few results. The war itself cost American taxpayers hundreds of billions more.

Former U.S. Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta told Bowen's team that Washington's inability to secure an American military presence after 2011 deprived the U.S. of important leverage.

Al-Maliki and his political allies are increasingly forging ties with neighboring Shiite powerhouse Iran, particularly in Iraq's conservative south, which hundreds of thousands of Iranian pilgrims visit each year.

That closeness, unthinkable under Saddam, is worrying for Washington. American officials are furious, for example, that Iraq may have allowed Iranian planes carrying weapons to Syria to transit its airspace — a charge al-Maliki denies.

"Iraq is increasingly aligning itself with Iran in a way that is going to make it difficult for Iraq to claim it has an independent foreign policy," said Toby Dodge, a Middle East expert at the London School of Economics and author of a recent book on postwar Iraq.

Meanwhile, the drumbeat of violent attacks primarily launched by the Iraqi arm of al-Qaida and other Sunni militants continues to take its toll on ordinary Iraqis, such as 13-year-old Ali Hassan Wali.

The sixth-grader was walking home from a holiday visit to his uncle's house in Baghdad's poor Shiite neighborhood of Sadr City in October when a car bomb detonated nearby.

The blast peppered him with shrapnel and sheared off his right foot, ending his teenage hopes of becoming a professional soccer player. He now gets by on crutches while awaiting a prosthetic.

"I hope my country gets better. I think it will after we get rid of all the terrorists who make the explosions," he said.

Others are still struggling with old wounds.

Shams, the girl blinded in a car bombing in 2006 when she was an infant, now refuses to wear the prosthetic eyes she received during treatment abroad. Her father, Husham Fadhil Karim, sometimes finds her uncontrollably banging her head against the door.

"She has no future," the father said during a recent visit to his home in Baghdad's Dora neighborhood. "If we had real security, things like this would never happen."

KEY DATES IN IRAQ OVER THE PAST DECADE

Associated Press

Key dates in Iraq since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion:

2003

- March 20: U.S. forces attack Baghdad with missiles and bombs in a failed attempt to kill Saddam Hussein. U.S. and allied ground troops roll into Baghdad.
- April 9: American troops storm Baghdad and the statue of Saddam is toppled in Firdous Square, the symbolic collapse of his regime.
- May 1: President George W. Bush declares an end to major combat operations.
- July 22: Saddam's sons Oday and Qusay are killed by gunfire in Mosul.
- Sep. 3: U.S. announces an Iraqi administration largely made up of Iraqi exiles who opposed Saddam.
- Dec. 13: Saddam is captured in an underground hideout near Tikrit.

2004

- March 2: Multiple explosions rock Baghdad and Karbala at the climax of a Shiite festival, killing nearly 200 people in the deadliest attack so far.
- March 31: Four Blackwater security contractors are ambushed and killed in Fallujah, setting off the first battle for the insurgent-dominated city west of Baghdad.
- April 18: U.S. announces an investigation into abuses against detainees at the Abu Ghraib prison as gruesome photos emerge showing Iraqi prisoners humiliated.
- May 17: The head of the Iraqi Governing Council, Ezzedine Salim, is killed in suicide attack near the entrance to the Green Zone.
- May 19: U.S. jets mistakenly bomb a wedding party in western Iraq, killing 42 people, including women and children.
- June 28: The U.S. transfers sovereignty to the Iraqis but retains most real power. The civilian head of the occupation authority, L. Paul Bremer, leaves the country.
- July 1: Trial of Saddam, with the ousted leader appearing at his first hearing.
- Nov. 7: U.S. soldiers and Marines launch the biggest attack of the war to date to seize the insurgent stronghold of Fallujah.

2005

- Jan. 26: A helicopter crashes in western Iraq, killing 31 Americans.
- Jan. 30: Iraqis select a new parliament in the first elections since the fall of Saddam. Shiite and Kurdish parties take an overwhelming majority after Sunnis largely boycott.
- Aug. 28: An Iraqi commission submits a draft constitution to parliament.
- Aug. 31: Rumors of a suicide bomber panics Shiite marchers in a religious procession at a Baghdad bridge and nearly 1,000 people reportedly die in the stampede.
- Oct. 15: Iraqis approve the new constitution in a referendum.

2006

- Feb. 22: Sunni militants bomb the Shiite Golden Dome shrine in Samarra, triggering a wave of sectarian violence that brings Iraq to the brink of civil war.
- June 7: The leader of al-Qaida in Iraq, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, is killed in a U.S. airstrike northeast of Baghdad.
- June 17: U.S. troops launch a battle to take control of the western city of Ramadi in a bloody conflict that persists for more than a year.
- Dec. 30: Saddam is executed by hanging.

2007

- Jan. 10: President Bush orders 30,000 reinforcements to Iraq in an effort to stem the sectarian war and stabilize Baghdad.
- Feb. 27: Shiite militias besiege British bases in Basra, ultimately prompting most British forces to leave the country.
- Aug. 14: A series of bombings directed against the Yazidi religious community in the north kills nearly 800 people.

2008

- Jan. 8: U.S. and Iraqi forces launch operations in Baghdad to secure the capital.
- Feb. 21: Turkey launches an offensive in northern Iraq against Kurdish rebels from the PKK.
- Nov. 27: The Iraqi parliament approves an agreement with the U.S. calling for the departure of all U.S. troops by the end of 2011.

2009

- May 27: The last British combat troops leave Iraq.

2010

- March 7: Iraqi parliamentary election fails to give power to a single bloc, leading to months of political negotiations and infighting that drag on until a power-sharing deal in November.
- Aug. 18: U.S. combat operations in Iraq end as its last combat brigade departs for Kuwait. Thousands of troops remain behind in a supporting role.

2011

- Oct. 21: President Barack Obama announces all troops will leave Iraq by the end of the year.
- Dec. 15: The U.S. military officially declares the end of its mission.

2012

- March 25: Iraq hosts a summit of Arab leaders, held here for the first time in a generation.
- Sep. 9: A Baghdad court sentences Iraq's fugitive Sunni vice president to death after finding him guilty of masterminding the killings of a lawyer and a government security official.
- Dec. 20: Iraqi security forces storm the office of Sunni Finance Minister Rafie al-Issawi and arrest some of his bodyguards, sparking huge protests in the country's Sunni areas.

2013

- Jan. 25: Iraqi troops open fire on stone-throwing Sunni demonstrators in Ramadi, killing at least five protesters — the first violence in more than a month of anti-government rallies.
- March 4: At least 48 Syrian soldiers who had sought refuge in western Iraq are ambushed and killed, raising concerns that Iraq might be drawn into Syria's civil war.

AP file photo

Akram Hashim, 25, picnics with his wife and daughter Sept. 9, 2012, at the riverbank in Basra, Iraq's second-largest city, 340 miles southeast of Baghdad. "A stable government job to help my family is what is needed," says Anbar, a Shiite who lives with his wife and daughter in his parents' home with six other relatives. "It is very hard to get a good job."

NEXT GENERATION

Born in war and poverty, youth don't abandon Iraq

By Lara Jakes
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — The 21-year-old college student in Baghdad lost her father during the Iraq War to gunmen from a rival Muslim sect. Now she dreams of an Iraq where all people can "enjoy stable life and security."

The young bus driver from a former al-Qaida stronghold had to drop out of school to help support his family. He struggles to make ends meet but longs to resume his education.

The teenager from the northern Kurdish region works in his father's barber shop when he's not in class. He looks forward to making a lot of money in Iraq — but only if the government can capitalize on its oil trade and foreign investments.

As part of Iraq's growing youth population — which accounts for about 60 percent of the nation's people — all three say they are impatient at best about where their country is headed. The U.S.-led invasion of March 20, 2003, promised better lives for Iraqis after three decades of war, dictatorship and sanctions. Ten years later, the county is mired in widespread instability and political corruption.

Nevertheless, interviews and discussions across the country with more than a dozen Iraqi teenagers and young adults reveal a resiliency and refusal to abandon hope. Deadly violence is common, jobs are scarce and education is a luxury, but they say they are unwilling to give up on Iraq. Moreover, a government survey shows that 80 percent of young Iraqis don't want to move to another country.

"I want my country to be better, and I want my people to enjoy stable life and security, and for Iraq to be like a Western country," said Shahad Abdul-Amir Abbas, whose father was killed in 2005 in the widespread sectarian fighting that brought Iraq to the brink of civil war.

Abbas, a Shiite who attends college in Baghdad, wants to find a good-paying job and to marry but thinks "my personal ambitions will not come true unless my country gets rid of all the security, political and economic problems."

An estimated 18 million people of Iraq's population of 30 million are younger than 25, according to data provided by the CIA and the United Nations. By comparison, Americans of that same age group make up about one-third of the U.S. population. Contraceptives are limited in Iraq, and an estimated 20 percent of girls ages 15 to 19 are married, according to the U.N.

The fate of Iraq's youth is a top concern for the U.N. envoy in Baghdad, especially as there are few — if any — obvious successors to the nation's aging political leaders. As the upcoming generation looks to the future, the decisions they make today — pursuing education, finding jobs, whether or whom to marry, and even to stay or leave the country — will help determine whether and how quickly Iraq is able to achieve peace and prosperity.

A 2009 study by the Iraqi Ministry of Youth and Sport reveals a decidedly traditional worldview among the nation's young people. The survey of 6,492 households across Iraq, focusing in large part on 15,087 people ages 10 to 30, concluded that 60 percent of the country's youth are generally optimistic about the future, especially teenage girls. The study was the first of its kind in Iraq, according to the U.N.

However, the study also found that nearly 40 percent refuse to talk to people deemed different than them. Slightly more than half — 52 percent — do not have friends from different religions or sects. And more than 90 percent believe women must have the approval of their husbands or families before they are allowed to work outside the home.

The survey has not been updated since 2009. It is currently being used to develop a national youth strategy, Iraqi government officials said.

U.N. envoy Martin Kobler said teenage and young Iraqi adults generally remain isolated from other religious sects. But a group of several dozen Iraqi youths he recently took on a series of field trips to different mosques and shrines indicated a curiosity and willingness to learn.

"They asked all kinds of questions — they just do not know about the other denominations," Kobler said in an interview Thursday. "And on one occasion, they interrupted the sheik, saying they don't want to hear about sectarian attitudes. They said, 'We want to hear about jobs and about our future in Iraq — not sectarianism.'"

"The young people who have tolerance today will be adults with tolerance tomorrow," Kobler said. "But young people with limited views and sectarianism today will have those views tomorrow. It's very important that this country stays together. Everything that works to separate the country along sectarian lines is not conducive to an atmosphere where everybody is an Iraqi."

Abdul-Wadoud Fawzi, a 25-year-old Sunni, struggles to be optimistic. He is a native of Fallujah, the former al-Qaida stronghold in Iraq's west that has been a recent hotspot of anti-government protests. Each weekday morning, Fawzi drives a minibus of students to Anbar University in the city of Ramadi, about 45 minutes away. He had to drop out of school to help support his family, earning $300 a month as a driver.

"Studying might provide me with a better life and future," he said. "My hopes are similar to the hopes of all Iraqis — to live a peaceful and dignified life away from violence and war miseries. The country is getting worse, as long as justice is absent in Iraq, and it will not get better until we get rid of the unjust government."

The ministry study says nearly all youth — 92 percent — receive some formal schooling but that there's a high drop-out rate. In 2009, the study estimated that fewer than half of Iraqis between the ages of 15 and 24 were still in school, with more males than females enrolled.

Government officials have tried to help young people mostly by creating sports clubs, offering computer training and opening fine arts centers. The Youth and Sport ministry has an annual $840 million budget but no authority to create jobs.

Unemployment remains high among young Iraqis. Only 46 percent of people aged 25 to 30 had jobs in 2009, the government study showed. That's compared to 81 percent of working Americans of the same age last year, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Some of the best jobs in Iraq are with the government, where a midlevel worker makes about $600 a month. Those jobs aren't easy to get.

In the southern port city of Basra, Akram Hashim, 25, is earning pocket change at a photography store even though he's been trained in computer science. He says he does not have the political connections necessary to be given public work.

"A stable government job to help my family is what is needed," said Hashim, a Shiite who lives with his wife and daughter in his parents' home with six other relatives. "It is very hard to get a good job."

How does he see his country's future? "It could get worse," he said gloomily.

Basra is surrounded by some of the world's most lucrative oil fields, which are being mined for foreign investors. Yet Hashim's desire for a government job reflects a deep-seated reluctance among many Iraqis to wean themselves off reliable employment. Kobler said that is rooted in part by security fears: If the violence continues, fewer foreign investors will come to Iraq and jobs could dry up.

A notable exception is in the self-rule Kurdish region in Iraq's north. The region is generally more stable and financially well-off than the rest of Iraq, largely because it was not under Saddam Hussein's control in 2003 and was spared the violence, military and political chaos in the years after the U.S.-led occupation.

Alan Fatih Kareem, 18, a Kurdish high school student who works in his father's barber shop in the regional capital of Irbil, says new foreign investment and influences have given him a taste of the West and, generally, should bode well for Iraq's future.

"Iraq and Kurdistan are making remarkable progress in terms of development, construction and mixing with foreigners," Kareem said. "I'm looking forward. I don't know what will happen in the future, but I'm sure Iraq will change for the better."

The youth study shows that more than half of young adults own cellphones, which were nonexistent in Iraq 10 years ago. It also found that more than four out of five young Iraqis have no desire to leave their homeland, despite its many problems.

But Iraq's leaders cannot afford to let security threats and bleak economic opportunities go unchecked, Kobler said. "My impression is (Iraqi youth) want to stay," he said. "But if framework conditions are as they are, then they will want to leave."

In the holy Shiite city of Najaf, Intithar Hussein has put faith in her up-and-coming generation. She is a satellite television reporter in a country where, according to the study, only a 52 percent majority of young men believe women should work. She does not care.

"The important thing is to have the smile of victory on your face when you achieve what you work hard to do," said Hussein, 22. "The size of corruption and destruction is big, but the well-doing hands of Iraqis who are working to draw a shining future are many."

Too much money spent in Iraq for too few results

By Lara Jakes
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Ten years and $60 billion in American taxpayer funds later, Iraq is still so unstable and broken that even its leaders question whether U.S. efforts to rebuild the war-torn nation were worth the cost.

In his final report to Congress, Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction Stuart Bowen's conclusion was all too clear: Since the invasion a decade ago this month, the U.S. has spent too much money in Iraq for too few results.

The reconstruction effort "grew to a size much larger than was ever anticipated," Bowen told The Associated Press in a preview of his last audit of U.S. funds spent in Iraq, to be released Wednesday. "Not enough was accomplished for the size of the funds expended."

In interviews with Bowen, Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki said the U.S. funding "could have brought great change in Iraq" but fell short too often. "There was mis-spending of money," said al-Maliki, a Shiite Muslim whose sect makes up about 60 percent of Iraq's population.

Iraqi Parliament Speaker Osama al-Nujaifi, the country's top Sunni Muslim official, told auditors that the rebuilding efforts "had unfavorable outcomes in general."

"You think if you throw money at a problem, you can fix it," Kurdish government official Qubad Talabani, son of Iraqi president Jalal Talabani, told auditors. "It was just not strategic thinking."

The abysmal Iraq results forecast what could happen in Afghanistan, where U.S. taxpayers have so far spent $90 billion in reconstruction projects during a 12-year military campaign that, for the most part, ends in 2014.

Sen. Bob Corker, top Republican on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, on Wednesday called the report's findings "appalling" but also said its lessons will be helpful for future U.S. reconstruction projects — especially the billions of dollars yet to be spent in Afghanistan. He called for a thorough review of State Department and U.S. foreign aid programs to make sure the money is spent wisely.

"We owe this not only to the American taxpayers, but also to the men and women — civilian and uniformed — that we send into dangerous and challenging environments to secure the area and implement U.S. programs," Corker, R-Tenn., said in a statement.

Shortly after the March 2003 invasion, Congress set up a $2.4 billion fund to help ease the sting of war for Iraqis. It aimed to rebuild Iraq's water and electricity systems; provide food, health care and governance for its people; and take care of those who were forced from their homes in the fighting. Fewer than six months later, President George W. Bush asked for $20 billion more to further stabilize Iraq and help turn it into an ally that could gain economic independence and reap global investments.

To date, the U.S. has spent more than $60 billion in reconstruction grants to help Iraq get back on its feet after the country that has been broken by more than two decades of war, sanctions and dictatorship. That works out to about $15 million a day.

And yet Iraq's government is rife with corruption and infighting. Baghdad's streets are still cowed by near-daily deadly bombings. A quarter of the country's 31 million population lives in poverty, and few have reliable electricity and clean water.

Overall, including all military and diplomatic costs and other aid, the U.S. has spent at least $767 billion since the American-led invasion, according to the Congressional Budget Office. National Priorities Project, a U.S. research group that analyzes federal data, estimated the cost at $811 billion, noting that some funds are still being spent on ongoing projects.

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'Smart' LED bulbs controlled by iPhones

By Peter Svensson
Associated Press

■ REVIEW

NEW YORK — LED bulbs seem to be the future of home lighting: They save electricity, they're durable and they don't contain mercury like compact fluorescents. But having them produce white light like any old light bulb is like using a computer as a doorstop.

That's because each LED, or light-emitting diode, is a small chip, the product of the same sort of manufacturing process that spawned the digital revolution. The chips are backed up by more electronics in the stem of the bulb. These bulbs are smart, or at least they can be if we make them that way.

Philips, the world's largest maker of LED lighting, does make them that way. The company has produced the first kit of LED bulbs whose color and brightness can be wirelessly controlled from your iPhone. I tested the Philips bulbs and, in descending order of "smarts," I tried out some GreenWave Reality bulbs whose brightness can be controlled by an app. I also looked at a cheap off-brand color-changing bulb that comes with a remote control.

Why would you want to control your light bulbs from your phone? I haven't really found a good answer yet. On their own, these bulbs aren't a big deal. Few people will pony up $200 for the Philips kit with three smart bulbs. But these products are still interesting because they point the way to the future of lighting. Remember: The first Apple computer was a niche product, too — and look where that went.

Each Philips bulb produces light equivalent to a 50-watt incandescent bulb. Additional bulbs cost $59 each. That compares with slightly brighter, non-smart, white-light Philips LED bulbs that cost $25 each.

The Hue bulbs cost more, Philips says, because there are five unique and expensive lime-green LEDs in each bulb, balanced by four red-orange ones and two blue ones. Together, these LEDs produce a range of colors, including a nice span of "whites," from warm to cold.

In the future, the price difference between color-mixing LEDs and regular ones will shrink, and perhaps vanish. Adding color and wireless controls to bulbs will cost very little, so we might as well get used to it.

In fact, I found a cheaper alternative to the Hue: an $18 bulb of the TorchStar brand. Amazon.com sells a bunch of similar ones under different names. This bulb doesn't talk to your phone. Instead, it comes with a small remote that lets you pick from 16 colors. Unfortunately, the "white" color is a nasty bluish shade, reminiscent of a bad fluorescent tube. It's also a lot dimmer than the Hue.

On the plus side, the TorchStar produces more vivid, saturated colors than the Hue. To produce a good white, the Hue sacrificed the ability to produce really deep colors.

I also found the remote on the TorchStar pretty friendly. Do I really want to whip out my iPhone or iPad and fire up the Hue app every time I want to adjust the lighting? In fact, I was tempted to attach the remote to the wall like a light switch — there's something to be said for those old wall switches.

Once you have it up, the free Hue app is entertaining. One of the ways you can change colors is to pick a photo, then point to the hues you want the lights to replicate. The app sends your commands to your Wi-Fi router. The router, in turn, tells the Hue base station (a small box included in the $200 kit) attached to it to send signals to the bulbs using a different wireless technology, known as Zigbee. Philips says the signal can reach nearly 100 feet. But it can travel even farther if you have your bulbs strung out, because each bulb will relay the signal to others that can't "hear" the base station directly. So these bulbs are "smart" enough to talk to each other.

The "smarts" doesn't go all that far, though.

You can set a timer that's supposed to fade the light down slowly — a nice touch if you're trying to get a kid to sleep — but it didn't work for me. The light just cut out at the designated time, with no fade.

The base station is capable of connecting to the Internet, so you can control your lights away from the home. Some wags have created apps that turn the bulbs into disco lights that change color in response to music they pick up from your phone's microphone.

But this is just the beginning of what an Internet-connected light should be able to do. In theory, you could key a light to the changing colors of daylight, or to warn you if there's likely to be rain today by changing to a green shade. The Hue doesn't do any of that, yet. Changing the color is a manual process, even though it's mediated by a smartphone.

I tried a third "smart" lighting kit, from GreenWave Reality. This one contains two bulbs, a remote and a wireless base station. The bulbs can be dimmed from an iPhone app, but won't change color. It's nice to have the remote as a backup to the app, but the overall usefulness of the kit was low.

GreenWave Reality, the startup behind it, wants to sell it through utility companies, for about $200. I can understand utilities wanting to push LEDs, but dimming just isn't very effective in saving energy. The big power savings, about 80 percent, comes from switching from incandescent to LED or compact-fluorescent bulbs. Cutting the power use of an LED in half by dimming only yields savings of another 6 percent or so. Besides, the GreenWave bulbs flicker when turned down.

The Hue, TorchStar and GreenWave bulbs co-existed in our house for a few months. What happened? Well, after initially fooling around with them, we forgot about controlling the Hue and GreenWave bulbs and just left them on full-blast white-light mode. We just didn't have enough reason to keep fiddling with them. My kids had a lot of fun with the TorchStar bulb and its remote in the beginning, but it's now mostly shining a calming purple as the night light in my daughter's room. The Hue bulbs could have fulfilled that role nicely too, except for one thing: if you turn them off with the wall switch, they're back in white-light mode the next time you turn them on. They don't "remember" their color.

The underlying problem was that these "smart" lights forced us to do quite a bit of thinking and controlling. They relied on us for much of the "smarts," and we just couldn't be bothered.

Maybe, one day, we can get lights that will do what we want without being told, like dimming the lights when the mood is right. You do the thinking, bulbs, and let us be dumb.

'Lego City' builds fun for Wii U

By Derrick Lang
Associated Press

■ REVIEW

Over the past eight years, those cute little Lego people — minifigs, as they're known — have virtually traveled to Middle-earth, Hogwarts, Gotham City and a galaxy far, far away in video games developed by TT Games. The minifigs are finally coming home in their latest adventure, an open-world action game created exclusively for Nintendo's Wii U.

"Lego City Undercover" forgoes the wizardry and intergalactic wonder of big-budget franchises for something much more simple: a good old-fashioned police romp set in sprawling Lego City, a diverse metropolis where cars are made out of colorful plastic bricks and residents have interchangeable heads.

As undercover officer Chase McCain, players must seamlessly switch between multiple disguises with different abilities to hunt down Lego City lawbreakers. For example, when dressed as a farmer, McCain can water plants that blossom into vines that can be climbed. If he's imitating a burglar, his crowbar can crack open doors. There's even an astronaut suit.

The game's zany writing and voice acting alternate between corny and hilarious. ("I'll come back and give you my insurance details later!" McCain yells after smashing into other cars.) While youngsters might enjoy "Lego City" the most, there's plenty here for adults who grew up with "Grand Theft Auto," including send-ups of "Goodfellas" and "The Shawshank Redemption."

McCain can get behind the wheel of more than 100 vehicles: cars, trucks, boats and helicopters. He can also ride horses, pigs and, at one point, a dinosaur. Outside of the story missions that take McCain inside such Lego City locales as the museum and prison, there are enough side pursuits for even the most obsessive gamers, from capturing aliens to painting bricks.

There are also lots and lots of bricks to pick up.

Just like the "Lego" games that have come before "Lego City," there are millions of studs spread across the world that can be traded in for customizable characters and vehicles. "Lego City" adds superbricks to the mix. These collectibles can be cashed in to craft superbuilds like helipads and stunt ramps.

"Lego City" employs the touch screen of the Wii U GamePad as a police scanner and communicator. It's mostly used to pinpoint locations on the interactive map, but it can also do stuff like spot bad guys through walls, listen in on conversations and snap photos of crimes. It's a neat touch but ultimately feels gimmicky and not integral to the overall experience.

The game's biggest flaw is its mind-numbingly long loading screens that feature nothing more than a spinning police badge and some funky wah-chickah-wah-wah background music. It was a block-headed decision not to extend the game's charms with some title cards, images or anything — ANYTHING! — other than just a rotating graphic.

Despite that annoyance and a complete lack of any multiplayer mode, there's still a load of fun to be had with "Lego City." It's a must-own for Wii U owners and Lego fans. The developers at TT Games have created a fantastical toy world that proves there's really no place like home. Three stars out of four.

Online:
http://legocityu.nintendo.com/

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Midland

What is the state of mental health in the basin?

Experts say there are not enough health care professionals to treat needy patients

By Tyler White
twhite@mrt.com

"One in four adults and one in five children have a diagnosable mental disorder."
Larry Carroll, executive director of Permian Basin Community Centers

"There is sometimes a three- to six-month wait time to see a psychiatrist. Clients are being referred to Lubbock, San Angelo or other cities because the limited number of doctors in the area take only certain insurance or do not treat children. Children often wait six to seven months just to get a diagnosis and medication."
Kristi Edwards, clinical director of Centers for Children and Families

"Midland-Odessa, with a population greater than 200,000, has one psychiatric facility. San Angelo, with a population of less than 100,000, has two. The area doesn't have an inpatient center for juveniles." (Private practice "bursting at the seams;" patient count is 650.)
Dr. Roy Mathew, of Permian Basin Community Centers

As Midland and Odessa go through an unprecedented population boom, many critical issues are being addressed. Mental health care, however, doesn't appear to be one of them.

Dr. Roy Mathew, with Permian Basin Community Centers, said that because of the growth, many psychiatrists deny service to new clients.

"We are so pressured; we just cannot cope," Mathew said. "I don't want to take people I can't provide (quality service to). I don't think I'd be doing justice to my patients."

He treats a majority of his patients for depression and anxiety. Others visit him for addiction or other psychiatric issues, Mathew said. Some clients, though, must travel to El Paso, Dallas or Lubbock for dependency treatment.

"We don't have enough doctors. Sometimes I am moved by the stories," Mathew said. "(Patients are) grasping at straws, and there's nowhere to go to."

Dr. Shanthi Thangam, a psychiatrist, calls the demand for behavioral care "overwhelming." Thangam and other psychiatrists work long hours to fulfill their established clients' needs and often don't have time for new clients. Having additional psychiatrists would

Please see **HEALTH/4B**

HAM FEST CONVENTION

TOP: Members of the Big Spring Amateur Radio Club W5AW Repeater, from left, Marvin Gross, call sign KE5EUR, and Barney Edens, call sign K5BHE, stand with their club's "Em-comm" emergency communication radio during the Midland Amateur Radio Club Ham Fest Convention on Saturday at Horseshoe Arena. The radio is a custom-built unit designed to maintain communications in an emergency situation and is capable of operating on its own batteries for more than one week with an operating range of more than 50 miles. **ABOVE LEFT:** Radios are displayed at a swap meet during the Convention. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Electrical components are displayed at the swap meet.

Photos by James Durbin | Reporter-Telegram

Patriot Guard Riders look to still honor, respect vets

By Audrie Palmer
apalmer@mrt.com

For the past six years, people who wanted to honor and support veterans and active servicemen and servicewomen have joined the Patriot Guard Riders at the airport for the flagline.

Greeting a troop or veteran who has returned home to West Texas is one of the joys members of the PGR express when thanking those serving in the military.

Participating in the flagline or following a police escort to help lead the veteran home are a couple of the ways the more than 600 PGR members get out in the community to pay their respects.

"We give of our time and our hearts to the military and veterans. Without them, this wouldn't be a free country," said Teresa Galloway, PGR deputy state captain.

All items used — gas, water and ice — are paid for by volunteers or with donations.

This month, though, the organization learned that because of a new city ordinance, they will have to pay a $300 fee and obtain a $2 million insurance policy in order to block intersections and have rides to remember the fallen.

"It's un-American," Ride to Remember founder Bill McNeill said.

Galloway said she's talked to an agency and that the organization won't be insured through them. What's confusing to some members is that each of the motorcycle riders carry their own individual insurance and coverage — some up to $100,000 liability — but the organization as a whole needs a $2 million policy to hold events.

Galloway said that she's learned that in the state of Texas, no one can sue a 501(c)3 organization, so the new policy doesn't make sense to her.

The updated special events city ordinance was put into effect on March 1 after it was passed by the Midland City Council on Jan. 22.

The new permit application states that those wishing to conduct a parade, race festival — anything that blocks a public street, alley or intersection — must pay a $300 fine and carry a $2 million liability insurance policy.

Please see **RIDERS/2B**

Serving jail time is preferable to filing income tax return

TERRY WILLIAMSON
Real life columnist

My dear dad used to tell me that life was too short to deal with hatred, and for the most part, I've heeded that advice.

But I hate March — when the wind and sand blows in West Texas. Weeds take over your yard. It still feels like winter even though the sap is rising in the trees and in all the kids. Allergies act up, kids get restless, you have to start working in the yard, and worst of all — the tax man cometh.

I do my income taxes every March. I spend months dreading the task. I worry if I've kept all the receipts I should have. Let's be honest: Doing your taxes is a pain in the neck.

Oh, I know a lot of you pass off this chore to some tax accountant. My kind of people call those kinds of people rich people. In fact, I'm good friends with several tax accountants, and they are near rich because of people who can afford to skip the agony of doing their own taxes.

Well, for better or worse, I have to do my own taxes. All you really have to do is plug in a tax program like "Flubo Tax" into your computer and follow the questions.

That sounds simple enough, but if you don't know the lingo, you're wading in muddy waters.

For instance, the program might ask if you've had any "passive activity losses" last year. I know all about passive activity, but for the life of me, I can't figure out how passive activity can be counted any way but through gain.

It's also disturbing when you get through the income part and you see this big red number, signifying how much you owe in taxes. The program calmly declares not to panic because "now we will work on your deductions which can significantly lower your tax."

We start with medical deductions. I've got it covered with doctors' receipts, eye, dental, prescriptions, therapy sessions, etc. Then we move to charitable donations, property tax you paid, business expenses and a myriad of other allowable deductions.

You spend hours doing this. The wife scurries from one file cabinet to the other trying to find long-forgotten tax receipts like jewels bobbing in an ocean. One year

Please see **WILLIAMSON/3B**

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Angela Marie Jungman

Angela Marie Jungman, beloved daughter of Maxine McGlothlin died Feburary 27, 2013 of heart problems. She was born April 5, 1967 to J.W. and Maxine Jungman in Midland, TX.

Angie is survived by two sisters, Ramona Qualls & Rebecca Brockington of Midland, TX. Two brothers David Jungman of Midland & Leonard Jungman of San Angelo, TX. One step-sister, Katherine McGlothlin of York, South Carolina & one step-brother, William McGlothlin of Lakeside, CA.

She graduated from Lee High School, Midland, TX & The University of Texas. She worked in Midland for James Tom CPA.

August, 1999 she moved to Encinitas, CA to live with her mother and step father, Maxine and Houston McGlothlin.

Angie worked as general manager of Brian Tracy International in Salona Beach. Angie was currently working as executive accountant for Milton Baking Co. in Carlsbad, CA.

Funeral services will be Saturday March 30, 2013 @ 1 pm @ Resthaven Memorial Park grave site 4616 N. Big Spring St., Midland, TX.

E. C. Locklear

E. C. Locklear of Fort Davis and Del Rio, formerly of Kermit, Texas passed away peacefully at the age of 87 on March 2, 2013, in Williamsburg, CO. He was assisted in his brief battle with cancer by the caring nurses and staff of Sange de Christo Hospice and Palliative Care. His wife Hazel, daughter Susan, granddaughter Donita and great-granddaughter Cheynne were with him when he passed, together with the thoughts and prayers of all of his family and numerous friends.

E. C. was born to Dewey and Sarah (Garner) Locklear in El Dorado, Arkansas on April 4, 1925. He was raised and attended school in Arp, Texas, where he met his future wife, Hazel Nina Hune at the age of 9. They were childhood sweethearts and married June 2, 1943 prior to his WWII induction in the U.S. Army on August 6, 1943.

A member of the Greatest Generation, E. C. served in the European-African Middle Eastern Theater during WWII, in the Pacific Theater with the 24th Infantry Division in Occupied Japan and the Korean Conflict. During his stint in Occupied Japan, E. C. played football for the U.S. Army's 24th Division Special Units Kokura Bull Dogs and was named All Star Tackle. Shortly after his return from Japan, E. C. was recalled to active duty in Korea. After Korea, he returned home to Arp, Texas.

E. C. decided he wanted to pursue a career in law enforcement. He was accepted into the Texas Department of Public Safety Academy graduating from the 22nd (Oct. 11th-Dec. 17th, 1954) Texas Highway Patrol Training School on December 17, 1954. He was assigned to his chosen duty station at Kemit, Texas and in late December, 1954, he reported there for duty. Hazel and their two daughters joined him in Kemit early in January of 1955. During the 50's and 60's, he served with the Texas Highway Patrol in Winkler and Loving Counties patrolling an area of roughly 500 miles of state and county roads. He was often the only highway patrolman stationed in Kermit, Texas. In addition to his daily duties, Patrolman Locklear decided to get his scuba certification in order to assist in Search and Rescue following a drowning that required divers brought in from other parts of the State. His last duty station was Fort Stockton, Texas. Texas Highway Patrolman Locklear was an easily recognizable and well known figure in his uniform, Stetson, sunglasses, .357 magnum, along with his ever present cigar. Patrolman Locklear was a true professional who lived to serve and protect. He had a reputation of being tough but fair.

After leaving the DPS, E. C. ran for Winkler County Judge and was easily elected to office. He served two terms, for a total of eight years. E. C. worked diligently at his civic duty to make his home, county and country a better place for all.

In 1979, "Judge," as he was known to friends and colleagues, relocated to Del Rio, Texas. He was an independent businessman operating Fisherman's Headquarters for several years. Fisherman's was the official weigh station for the bass tournaments, and "Judge" Locklear made many friends among the guides as well as local and out-of-area fishermen.

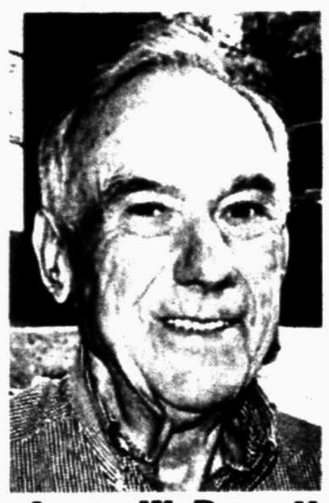
Following his retirement, E. C. and Hazel shared their time between their Del Rio home and their property located in the Davis Mountain Resort near Fort Davis, Texas. Always interested in due process and the betterment of his community, E. C. served as a member of the Board of Directors of the DMROA. The happiest years of his life were spent in the Davis Mountains, where he enjoyed peace, quiet and the fellowship in the attendance of their church.

E. C. is survived by his wife of 69 years, Hazel (Hune) Locklear; two daughters: Nina and son-in-law Leon Earles of Odessa, Texas and Susan Meek of Del Rio, Texas; three grandchildren: granddaughter Donita and husband Thomas Bowden of Williamsburg, Colorado; grandsons Brian Earles and wife Kameron of Royse City, Texas and Patrick Earles and wife Caroline of Midland, Texas; and two great-grandchildren: Cheyenne Jordan of Williamsburg, Colorado and Annaka Earles of Royse City, Texas.

All Veterans Funeral Home in Colorado Springs was entrusted with E. C.'s wish to be cremated. No services will be held but a memorial celebration of his life is planned for June 2, 2013 at the Davis Mountain Community Church in the Davis Mountain Resort. This date would have been E. C. and Hazel's 70th Wedding Anniversary. The memorial will conclude with the scattering of ashes in E. C.'s beloved mountains.

Memorial contributions in his memory may be made to the Wounded Warriors Project or similar organizations that support our troops, or the cancer foundation of your choice.

Condolences may be offered at allveterans.com or www.legacy.com/obituaries/mywesttexas/



James W. Barrett

James W. Barrett, born in Delta, CO. on Feb. 25, 1933, passed away on March 7, 2013, in Boise, ID, with his beloved wife Carol of almost 60 years at his side.

At about age 45 Jim realized that he, along with all of us, are sinners and need a savior as "we are all dead in our sins" (Eph. 2:1). He clearly heard the gospel message Christ died for our sins (Romans 5:8), and believed that in his heart and accepted the free gift of salvation from hell to heaven (Ephesians 2:8&9). Little by little he grew in faith and knowledge of God's word. He also realized that the Bible tells us as born again believers that His purpose for us on earth is to share our faith with others. Having a heart to reach those who do not know Christ with the Word of God he and Carol were involved in mission ministries at their local church and around the world. He served as an elder at his church and mentored men who sought his advice and spiritual guidance. Jim was truly a "mighty man of valor, a warrior, and one prudent in speech" (I Sam. 16:18). The Lord indeed guided him with his words and actions.

Jim suffered pain every day of the past seven years; he is now in the presence of his Savior Jesus Christ. Jim "fought the good fight, finished the course, and kept the faith" (II Tim. 4:7). He never complained and few realized how ill he truly was. He most assuredly was someone who believed the Bible not only intellectually, but also with a full heart (Deut. 6:5).

Jim would most likely have wanted to leave you with this challenge as you read about his life today: "Do you know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? Please don't put off this decision, for eternity is forever, and you either will spend it with Christ or in utter darkness."

Jim served his country in the Army for several years and after an honorable discharge, he became a J.C. Penny Company manager and later did direct sales for the Enesco Corporation covering 4 states with Carol always travelling with him. He has dedicated his body to medical research to help further the treatment for the chronic diseases he endured.

Survivors include Jim's loving wife; three children; six grandchildren; and three brothers.

A memorial service is scheduled on Friday, March 22, 2013, at 11:00 a.m. at Ustick Baptist Church, 14301 W. McMillan Rd., Boise, ID 83713; 938-2121. Instead of flowers, please send donations to Bible Study Fellowship, 19001 Huebner Road, San Antonio, TX 78258. On the memo line please include: Bible Study Fellowship Memorial fund in memory of James Barrett.

Opal Lucille Morris

Opal Lucille Morris went to her heavenly home on Thursday, March 14, 2013. She was born in Corsicana TX on October 29, 1922 to Lewis and Estelle Pyle. She attended high school in Union Grove. She lived her life in Abilene, Midland and Post TX. She retired from Texas Instruments.

She was preceded in death by her husband, JH (Sweety) Morris; brother, Lester Pyle; sisters, Jo Ellen Alexander and Ruby Evert.

She is survived by daughter, Phyllis Dorinda Brooks; son Terry Allen Morris; brother, Lloyd Pyle; sisters, Odessa Hughes and Jewell Foster; 11 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren, 19 great-great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial service will be held at 4:00, Sunday, March 17 at American Heritage Chapel. The family will receive visitors at 2715 WCR 116 in Midland. Graveside service will be held at 4:00 on Monday, March 18 at Sipe Springs Cemetery near Rising Star.

Arrangements are entrusted to American Heritage Cemetery and Funeral Home at West Texas Memorial Park in Midland. Condolences may be posted at www.thehealingstartshere.com.

American Heritage
CEMETERY & FUNERAL HOME
AT WEST TEXAS MEMORIAL PARK
The Healing Starts Here

Graham Ann Chaney

Graham Ann Chaney, infant daughter of Caleb and Morgan Chaney was still born Thursday, March 14, 2013 at Midland Memorial Hospital in Midland, Texas.

The family held a private graveside service Saturday, March 16, 2013 at Andrews North Cemetery's Babyland.

Graham is survived by her Mom and Dad, Caleb and Morgan Chaney of Andrews; Brother Van Chaney of Andrews; grandparents; Tonya Ballard of Andrews; Shana and Tommy Chaney of Artesia, NM; great-grandparents, Jimmy and Nancy Morgan of Andrews; Jerry and Beverly Wilbanks of Artesia, NM; aunts Erin Hinson and her husband Steve of Wichita Falls, Texas and Regan Norman of Artesia, NM.

McNett FUNERAL HOME (915) 524-3001
P.O. BOX 164 · 700 NORTH MAIN · ANDREWS, TEXAS 79714

Death Notices

Adela Dominguez

Adela Dominguez, 66, of Big Spring, died March 15, 2013, at her residence. Funeral services at 2:00 PM, Monday, March 18, 2013 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Rosewood Chapel.

Vigil service 7:00 PM, Sunday, March 17, 2013, at the Nalley Pickle & Welch Rosewood Chapel.

Survivors: Daughters, Monica Martinez, Dr. Cecilia Sophia Dominguez, Patsy Garza, Becky Dominguez all of Big Spring; sons, Manuel Dominguez, Jr. and P.J. Dominguez both of Big Spring; six brothers; six sisters; seven grandchildren; and three great grandchildren.

Arrangements directed by Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Big Spring.

Edwin "Ed" Fenner

Edwin H. (Ed) Fenner of Midland passed away on March 16, 2013. Services are pending with Ellis Funeral Home.

Rhonda Leslie Ritz

A memorial service for Rhonda Leslie Ritz will be held at 3:00 pm on Wednesday, March 20, 2013 at Manor Park in the Helen Greathouse Room with Paul Moore and Bill Billet officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland

She is survived by their four sons Russell, Aaron, Keith, and Scott all of Austin, Texas. Her mother Nancy Shaw Ritz resides in Midland as well as her brother Reis Ritz and his wife Paula.

Riders

From 1B

Funeral processions are exempt, Midland City Manager Courtney Sharp said Friday.

The previous ordinance was about a paragraph long instead of the new eight-page document and hadn't been updated since 1953. After the Show of Support parade crash that killed four veterans on Nov. 15, the City Council took the opportunity to review and update the ordinance.

Asked how this new mandate would hinder non-profits that might sponsor 5K races in the area, Sharp said that since the new permit took place, the city has had two organizations apply to hold race events and has met the requirements and the $2 million policy.

Sharp said it's not the intent of the city staff to stop the efforts of organizations, such as the Patriot Guard Riders, by implementing this new rule.

"We just want to make sure they are safe," he said.

With the upcoming 14th annual Ride to Remember motorcycle ride, McNeill said that the ride is not a parade but done out of respect to honor those who have fallen and given their lives.

Three years ago, the event consisted of 998 bikers traveling through Midland to Andrews. During the 13 years holding the event, there's only been one fatal accident and the crash occurred outside Midland city limits.

"The rides have already been paid," McNeill said indicating that people who gave their lives paid the ultimate sacrifice. "To even suggest that we have to pay the city to ride through their stinking (expletive) city is not right."

Thousands each year line the streets to pay their respects. Without the new insurance needed, the ride could possibly not be held this Memorial Day.

"They're not there to see floats. They're there to remember," McNeill said.

When he returned home from serving in Vietnam, McNeill said he was in the airport in San Francisco when he was called an "(expletive) baby killer" by a passer-by.

Because of that moment, he said he won't allow another American troop to be treated the same way.

People involved in the Patriot Guard said they participate not because they themselves are veterans, but because they want show their support for those fighting for freedom.

"We're doing it to show service and to honor those who paid the highest price an American citizen can pay," PGR member Mark Cooper said.

Last year, after the Nov. 15 crash, the PGR collected $48,000 in donations that was used to purchase 24 $2,000 Visa gift cards for the Show of Support families affected by the event.

Even though they've been met with demands that seem too high for non-profits just looking to show honor and respect, the Patriot Guard Riders said they will continue to recognize veterans and active service men and women.

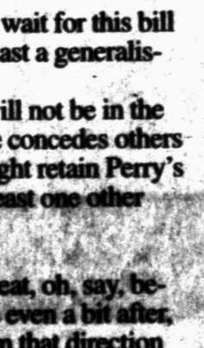
While the organization can't help lead an escort with the police and Midland County Sheriff's Office deputies without the permit request, Galloway said they will continue to welcome home troops and veterans at the airport with a flagline.

"We are here to show honor and respect for the veterans. Without them, there wouldn't be such a thing as the Patriot Guard," she said.

To contact the PGR about a military serviceman or woman returning home, contact richard.rwg@gmail.com or call 638-4475.

Generalissimo Perry? It's nothing new

■ Anyone want the governor to " call up a draft for an 'emergency militia?'" Me neither.



O. RICARDO PIMENTEL
San Antonio Express-News

We might want to add "the title conscriptor-in-chief" to the governor's title.

House Bill 1927 would entrust the governor with the ability to call up a draft for an "emergency militia." These, it turns out, are not new powers.

This bill is intended to bring the Texas adjutant general's office up to date, a so-called cleanup bill. The statute was last modified in 2007 in one version — and 1987, from another source. This is likely boilerplate that has been around for a bit.

An emailer feared these were vast, new — and scary — powers for our governor. No, scary powers he has had for some time, apparently.

State Rep. José Menendez, D-San Antonio, is the chairman of the House Defense and Veterans' Affairs Committee. His name is on the bill, but it was a "carry-over," handed to him this way — he said — by the former chairman, Democratic Rep. Joe Pickett, of El Paso. And it hasn't been heard in committee.

The current adjutant general is Maj. Gen. John F. Nichols, reappointed by Gov. Rick Perry to the post in February. The governor's news release on that reappointment says, "The adjutant general is commander of the Texas Military Forces, and subordinate only to the governor in matters pertaining to the Texas Army National Guard, Texas Air National Guard and Texas State Guard."

So, in reality, we don't need to wait for this bill to pass before we can confer at least a generalissimo title on the governor.

Menendez said the language will not be in the bill if his name is on it, though he concedes others may introduce legislation that might retain Perry's conscriptor-in-chief powers. At least one other such bill exists.

But why?

Invasion might have been a threat, oh, say, between 1836 and 1846 and maybe even a bit after, but there is no military threat from that direction today — anti-immigration folks, please don't go there. And where, by the way, was this emergency militia to thwart insurrection in 1861-65?

In any case, I thought defending our borders was more a regular, active-duty Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard kind of thing. You know, National Guard, much less "emergency militia," called up only in a pinch.

In an emergency, the governor would get names for this Texas draft from a "county emergency board," comprising comprised of the county judge, sheriff and tax-assessor-collector.

Pssst. Judge Wolff. I've done my time.

The governor might call up this emergency militia "in case of war, insurrection, or invasion, prevention of invasion, suppression of riot, tumult, or breach of peace, or to aid civil officers to execute law or serve process."

Maybe this is a relic of when we didn't have a 23,000-member National Guard, plus professional police forces and maybe enough U.S. cavalry to go around. But if Congress declares war, wouldn't the president be doing the conscripting? We can't have two drafts at the same time. Presumably, federal law would apply.

These powers, by the way, are invested in a governor who said this in answer to a question about secession in 2009: "When we came in the union in 1845, one of the issues was that we would be able to leave if we decided to do that. .... There is absolutely no reason to dissolve it (the union). But if Washington continues to thumb their nose at the American people, you know, who knows what may come out of that?"

So, do we need this draft in case of invasion from us?

Fortunately, the governor has said he is against the secession being petitioned for by thousands of Texans after President Barack Obama's re-election.

The governor might want to keep the militia in the barracks for this one, though. Is it really insurrection if you have to sign a petition?

But Menendez is on to something. I don't know where this language comes from, but I've got an idea where the Legislature can send it.

Get ready for the weekend by reading
PULSE
Thursdays in the Reporter-Telegram

Despite politics, ATF makes some gun show arrests

By Guillermo Contreras and Dan Freedman
Hearst Newspapers

SAN ANTONIO — ATF agents here knew Harmon Chester Strunk Jr. as a "gun show groupie" who bought hundreds of guns at bargain prices from elderly people and sold them for a handsome profit.

His favorite sales outlets were newspaper classified ads and ubiquitous gun shows, where private sellers displaying tables full of weaponry bump up against federally licensed dealers to feed the Lone Star state's seemingly insatiable appetite for guns.

Agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives tracked Strunk's buying and selling and found out he wasn't particular about his customers.

Federal law prohibits sales to convicted criminals, but agents learned that youthful gang members — "gang-bangers" — actually sought Strunk out.

Agents sent in a convicted felon to buy from Strunk as part of an undercover sting. They arrested Strunk soon thereafter on charges of selling a weapon to a felon and selling without a license.

Appearing before U.S. District Judge Orlando Garcia in February, where he received a 10-year-sentence, Strunk, 59, an Army veteran, insisted he did nothing illegal and claimed "the law is too broad."

In the aftermath of the Newtown, Conn., massacre, the focus on gun shows mostly concerns the effort by gun-control advocates to close the "gun show loophole" — the fact that unlike sales by federally licensed dealers, private transactions at shows and elsewhere do not require background checks. Last week, the Senate Judiciary Committee on a party-line vote approved a universal background check measure by Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y.

But what stands out about the Strunk case is not the background check issue, but rather that the ATF — the gun lobby's perennial whipping boy — pursued it at all, given the political firestorm that erupted on Capitol Hill over previous gun show investigations.

ATF got its knuckles rapped by a Republican-dominated House Judiciary subcommittee in 2006 when a gun show promoter, two gun sellers and a private investigator hired by the National Rifle Association accused agents of unduly harassing patrons at gun shows in Richmond, Va.

Lawmakers and witnesses said agents intimidated patrons, targeted women and minorities as "straw purchasers" — who illegally buy guns on behalf of others — and were overzealous in checking gun buyers' addresses for possible ATF paperwork violations.

Michael Bouchard, then ATF assistant director in charge of field operations, acknowledged that some of the agents' investigative techniques at eight gun shows in Richmond in 2004 and 2005 were not "consistent with ATF's best practices."

But he insisted the investigations were justified by the fact that more than 400 guns sold at Richmond gun shows between 2002 and 2005 were connected to criminal activity. The gun-show operations "reduced violent crime and made the streets of Virginia and America safer," Bouchard told lawmakers.

A 2007 Justice Department Inspector General's report exonerated ATF and concluded that the agency's 202 gun show-related operations nationwide over the previous three years were based on "intelligence from a variety of sources indicating that illegal activity was occurring or was about to occur at a specific gun show."

The 202 investigations represented 3.3 percent of the estimated 6,000 gun shows held during this period, the IG report concluded. The report found that 11 of the operations were conducted by ATF's Houston division, which also has field offices in San Antonio, Beaumont and Laredo. Several of those were in the Rio Grande Valley, targeting gun show purchases intended for Mexican drug cartels across the border.

The operations netted ATF Houston division agents 17 convictions and 196 weapon seizures between 2004 and 2006, the report concluded.

Six gun show operations were conducted by the San Francisco division. The New York and Boston divisions, which cover all of New York and New England, did none.

ATF issued a "reminder" to agents on gun show etiquette early in 2006, but agents still had a green light to investigate suspects involved in gun shows.

Even so, a subtle message ricocheted through ATF to avoid gun show-related probes of non-specific illegal activity, according to two former agents.

"It was never formalized, but any time one of your peers is dragged before Congress, and there's an inspector general report, you get the feeling that it would just hurt your career," said David Chipman, who retired last year after 25 years in ATF and now serves as a consultant for Mayors Against Illegal Guns. "The lesson is there's no big reward if it goes well compared to the downside risk."

Although the vast majority of gun shows attract ordinary firearms enthusiasts who enjoy exchanges with those who share a common interest, they also are junctures for guns that end up in criminal hands. Thirty percent of guns involved in federal firearms trafficking investigations are connected to gun shows, according to ATF data cited in a 2009 Mayors Against Illegal Guns report.

An ATF spokeswoman said the agency pursues all leads, even those that point to gun shows. "We always try to stay ahead of trafficking schemes while respecting the individual rights of citizens to bear arms," said the spokeswoman, Ginger Colbrun.

ATF now requires all its field offices to man informational booths at two or more gun shows a year, Colbrun said. The aim is to educate licensed firearms dealers, private sellers and patrons on federal gun statutes and licensing requirements, she said.

Among other things, agents stress the legal distinction between licensed sellers, who are "engaged in the business" of selling firearms for profit, and private sellers who engage in "occasional sales" from a "personal collection" or as a "hobby." A private individual — someone like Strunk — who derives a substantial portion of their income through gun sales without a license is subject to prosecution.

In San Antonio since 2008, only two gun show-related ATF investigations have resulted in prosecutions.

In addition to Strunk, agents arrested Celerino "Cele" Castillo III, of Pharr, in 2008 for using a straw purchaser he met at a gun show in San Antonio to buy firearms that he resold.

Castillo, 63, a decorated Vietnam veteran and former Edinburg police officer, worked for 12 years in the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Of 32 guns he obtained and resold, 23 were FN Five-seveN pistols known in Mexico as "matapolicias" or "cop killers," because they can fire armor-piercing ammo. Prosecutors alleged Castillo provided them to others who smuggled the weapons to Mexico's cartels.

In an interview, Castillo disputed most of the accusations.

"I made a major mistake, and I have great remorse for this," Castillo said. "I did it to supplement my income, and ... I am paying the price for it."

He said he simply followed the practice of other sellers at gun shows he attended. "I honestly did not know I was breaking the law," Castillo said.

He served 37 months in federal prison.

Crisanto Perez Jr., ATF assistant special agent in charge in San Antonio, acknowledged there are few prosecutions of people involved in gun show activity like Strunk and Castillo.

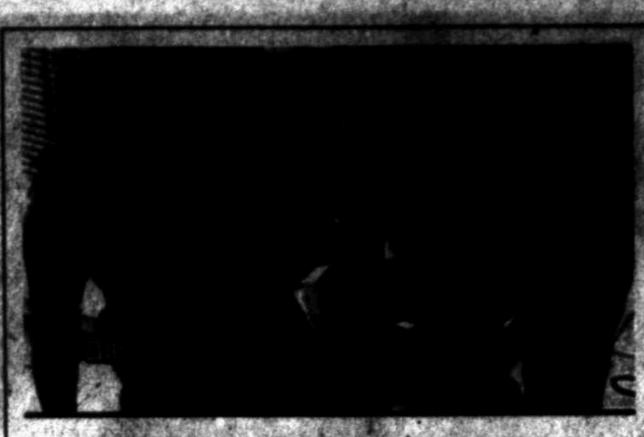
But he said the limited number of agents requires his agency to use its resources wisely.

Perez said agents warn people believed to be engaged in the business of selling guns that they must have a license, and those who continue to do so end up being investigated further.

"If we see them selling to a prohibited person, we have to take action," Perez said. "When we go after someone, we don't just look at whether they're selling them, but are they selling them to gang members, felons, the cartels."

Perez noted that agents in his field office do not spend their time hanging around gun shows and questioning everyone who comes out.

"That is not our mandate, to infringe on the rights of law-abiding citizens," Perez said.



Crime of the week

Midland Crime Stoppers and the Midland County Sheriff's Office need your help solving a theft.

On Feb. 28, a young Hispanic female entered the Kohl's Department Store located at 3200 N. Loop 250 West. The female selected several pieces of clothing, perfume and a silver purse. She then entered the store's dressing room where she remained for about 30 minutes. She exited with nothing more than the purse she entered the store with. Loss prevention officers contacted the female as she left the store because she had concealed the silver purse and clothing inside her purse without paying for the items. The female then became combative. The employee was able to take possession of her purse and went back inside to call police. The female followed and fought with the employee until she retrieved her purse and then ran out to the parking lot where she entered a red Ford Mustang with paper plates and fled the scene.

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:** Download free app TIP SUBMIT
- **Facebook:** Click 'Submit A Tip' on left side of our Facebook page

Crime Stoppers fugitive

DESERAE ARREDONDO

DOB: 06-21-1988
Height and weight: 5 feet 1 inch, 180 pounds
Charge: Possession of a controlled substance PG2 under 1 gram - violation bond

- Warrant #F3130016
- $250 Reward to the first person who calls Midland Crime Stoppers this week with information that leads to this fugitive's arrest.
- Call 694-TIPS or 1-800-7-LOCKUP, online at midlandcrimestoppers.com or text TIP247 plus your message to 274637
- As always you will remain anonymous
- NEVER attempt to apprehend this subject yourself. Subject may be armed or dangerous.

FELONY ARRESTS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Daniel Arciga, 30, of Midland, was arrested Friday on charges of material witness and bench warrant.

Jon T. Arnold, 27, of Midland, was arrested Friday on a charge of theft.

Steven A. Bautista, 22, of Midland, was arrested Friday on a charge of violation of probation.

Collin B. Cassels, 20, of Midland, was arrested Friday on a charge of possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram.

Alfredo S. Covos Jr., 25, of Odessa, was arrested Friday on a charge of distribution of marijuana.

Casey D. Crane, 20, of Midland, was arrested Friday on a charge of possession of a controlled substance between 4 grams and 400 grams.

Clayton R. Glick, 22, of Midland, was arrested Friday on a third or more charge of driving while intoxicated.

Franklin L. Ray, 28, of Midland, was arrested Friday on a charge of bench warrant.

Ramiro Rodriguez, 19, of Midland, was arrested Friday on a charge of tampering or fabricating physical evidence.

Lisa L. Villa, 47, of Midland, was arrested Friday on a charge of fraudulent possession of a controlled substance prescription.

Source: Midland County Sheriff's Office

WILLIAMSON

From 1B

she painstakingly kept all our sales tax receipts and spent an hour adding them up only to find out the standard deduction allowed was more than all the receipts she had kept for a full year.

It's also heartbreaking when you spend six days going over tax deductions only to find out that it lowers your tax liability by a meager $28. Some years you are told you don't have enough deductions to meet the standard deduction. I don't think it's standard if it costs me money.

Even with all this pain and disappointment, I've come to the conclusion that you can't do your income tax return without a second party.

I would never find anything if it weren't for the wife helping out. In fact, I probably would never do my income tax if it were not for the wife. It wouldn't be worth it. Jail would be preferable.

How did we ever get to this point? It's a question worth asking. How did we ever allow our government to place us in a situation where a college graduate can't figure out how much he owes Uncle Sam?

Shouldn't the government be telling us how much we owe? That's the way we do it with property taxes. We pay it and go on about our business.

Filling out your income tax return shouldn't take you weeks; it should take you no more than 15 to 30 minutes.

Frankly, I'm fed up with doing my income taxes. There are still a couple of weeks to go before a new beginning in April when I can actually regain my passive activity from the couch with some TV baseball games. Oh, now I know where the losses come from.

Thought for the Week: "Today it takes more brains and effort to make out the income tax form than it does to make the income."

— Alfred E. Neuman.

Socorro official, officer accused of theft

Associated Press

EL PASO — A Socorro city official and a police officer have been indicted on state felony theft charges.

The El Paso Times reported that Socorro City Council member Jesus "Jesse" Gandara Jr. and police Sgt. Refugio Orta were indicted Thursday.

The indictment accuses Gandara and Orta of stealing property worth between $1,500 and $20,000 and misapplying fiduciary property worth more than $1,500 between June 2011 and January 2012.

El Paso County sheriff's Deputy Stephen Juarez said Orta surrendered Friday and was released Saturday after posting $10,000 bond.

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Because we feel it is important that you know how and where your donations to Helping Hands are spent, here is what has been done since our last report:

Electricity	12 families	$ 3,734.92
Gas	1 family	$ 87.35
Water	2 families	$ 267.91
Rent	20 families	$18,251.00
Transportation	1 family	$ 459.00
Electrical Repairs	1 family	$ 1,751.52
Medical	1 family	$ 305.28
TOTAL		$24,856.98

Two minutes. That's all it took. Two minutes to turn a particularly frustrating week completely around. My name is Michele and I am a volunteer caseworker at Helping Hands. While I am certain that God has called me to be a vessel through which He can help His people, it can be difficult at times. This week has been filled with broken computers, problematic cases, and a mountain of paperwork. Helping people who are in such dire straits can sometimes be emotionally, spiritually, and physically exhausting. It made me wonder if I really was hearing God correctly. When He told me to "go help the poor and discouraged," could He have meant to say "go lay on the beach in Hawaii" instead?

That day, in walked a man who I recognized. We had helped him a couple months earlier. His hours at work had been cut so much that he couldn't pay his bills. Although he had a job interview later that day, he knew it would take several weeks before he would get his first paycheck. We helped him with his rent and food. Usually we don't see clients again unless they are in need of more assistance. So when this man walked in, I could only assume he would be asking for our help once more. He, however, came with a different purpose. He wanted to tell us about his new job where he was able to work eighty hours in one week's time. The man was so excited to be earning enough money to pay his bills. He just wanted to let us know how well things had worked out and to thank us for helping him when he really needed it.

As he turned to walk away, I thought, "Two minutes....that's all it took to lift my spirits!" We don't' often hear the "after the fact" stories, but they sure do energize us to continue to do this work God has called us to do. May I encourage you to take two minutes to tell someone in your life "thank you!" Your words may be just the thing to lift them up out of discouragement. Don't ever discount the power of a simple "thank you." With that being said, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that has given of their time, money, or prayers to assist us at Helping Hands. Everything you do, no matter how small you think it may be, matters greatly in God's kingdom.

You are appreciated. God bless.

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Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

Dr. Roy Mathew, psychiatrist and Larry Carroll, executive director for Permian Basin Community Centers.

HEALTH

From 1B

reduce the struggles private practices are experiencing, she said.

Postings on the Reporter-Telegram's Facebook page illustrate client struggles.

John Miller reported he called to make an appointment in mid-February with the Odessa office of Dr. Shailesh "Bobby" Jain, but there weren't any openings until March. Other people wrote that they are having trouble finding doctors who take Medicare.

Jain said competitive salaries and greater incentives are needed to attract doctors to the area.

Centers for Children and Families often refers a clients who need psychiatric care. Counseling referrals generally result in treatment within two weeks, but counseling and medication referrals can lead to three- to four-month waits for treatment in Midland, said Kristi Edwards, clinical director. This affects treatment for children who are having trouble in school, she said.

"It makes our job harder for kids; by the time they get into counseling, they've already been struggling," Edwards said.

Larry Carroll, executive director of Permian Basin Community Centers, said he is concerned about mental health insurance coverage and hopes to see Texans with low income benefit from the Affordable Care Act's Medicaid expansion, despite Gov. Rick Perry's disapproval. The act's changes could harvest large benefits, but people won't know the extent until 2014, he said.

Mental health education

Carroll said he believes the key in helping the community is mental health promotion. The PBCC has a 24-hour crisis hotline and a team that responds to calls, he said.

Center officials also work in local jails and regional prison facilities to provide psychiatric evaluations and medications to jail and penitentiary inmates with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and major depression. The office sees about 100 inmates a year, he said.

In order to spread awareness, PBCC periodically offers a mental health first aid class, which teaches people how to recognize mental illness in friends and family members. He said many people don't really understand mental illness and "are ill-equipped to seek help" for themselves or others.

The director of Student Development and Counseling for MISD said the district is working to better identify mentally ill students to properly refer treatment options. But with West Texas' "inadequate" mental health care, more referrals lead to longer wait times for treatment, Ron Moss said.

Moss said he believes the community could change the health care framework by insisting that changes be made.

Inpatient care

Mental health classes

Permian Basin Community Centers to offer mental health first aid classes on April 11-12, June 14, June 28, Aug. 6 and Aug. 9. For more information, call 570-3300.

Now that BCA Permian Basin has closed, Midland-Odessa is without an inpatient center for juveniles.

Carroll said recruiting mental health specialists for children and severe mental illnesses was one of BCA's biggest struggles.

"It's hard to attract psychiatrists and other mental health practitioners to this area," he said.

Eve Gamboa, director of marketing at The Behavioral Health Center of Permian Basin — formerly Allegiance Specialty Hospital — said the move into the former BCA Permian Basin building resulted in more beds for adults and seniors. While the facility does not offer juvenile inpatient care, staff can provide referrals and resources.

When the 64-bed Behavioral Health Center is at capacity, other people must travel to Lubbock or San Angelo for inpatient care, Carroll said.

A city the size of Midland "should be able to have at least two psychiatric facilities here," Mathew said. And the area needs at least one juvenile inpatient clinic, according to Moss.

The need to travel out of town adversely affects homicidal and suicidal juveniles and the law enforcement officers who transport them, he said.

Children with Asperger's syndrome and autism also might need inpatient care if they have violent outbursts, Jain said.

Midland Memorial's role

Russell Meyers, Midland Memorial Hospital's CEO and president, said mental health services are not part of the hospital's mission. MMH has contracts with local centers but the hospital does not provide mental health care, he said.

But Edwards said MMH needs to direct resources toward mental health care because of the lack of an inpatient facility for minors.

Mathew agrees, and said the hospital should try to attract more mental health specialists, which should not be difficult because of the economic boom and low unemployment.

"It's a decent city where you can bring up your children," Mathew said. "I'm sure more and more people will come here."

Meyers believes that more comprehensive behavioral health care is needed, especially for adolescents. Hospital officials have informally discussed the need, but solutions are far in the future, he said.

"The community has not been adequately served," he said.

Casino lobby dials back legislative agenda

Associated Press

AUSTIN — A group promoting legislation to legalize casino gambling is dialing back its ambitions for this session of the Texas Legislature.

Let Texans Decide had cast its lot with efforts for full-blown legalization of casino gambling in Texas. Now, the group led by former state Sen. John Montford is pressing only for allowing slot machines at horse and dog tracks, an objective the group promoted in the 2011 Legislature.

"This was the position we originally took. I do believe that this is a reasonable approach," Montford told the Austin American-Statesman for an article in Saturday's edition.

Any expansion of gambling in Texas would require approval by two-thirds of the Texas House and Senate, as well as a majority of the state's voters.

A brightening budgetary picture for the state has sapped the incentive for expanding gambling to increase state revenue, leaving advocates of expanded gambling to focus on existing legislation to allow video lottery terminals at racetracks. Proposals also would allow games of chance on certain American Indian lands.

Support has been growing among Texas House Republicans for allowing residents to vote on allowing slot machines at tracks, Montford said. A measure to allow slots at tracks has been assigned to the Texas Senate Finance Committee.

And if pending court appeals force the state to find more money for public education, a special session of the Legislature may be needed. Then casinos are "more optimistic for serious consideration," John Pitts, a lobbyist for several large casino interests, told the American-Statesman.

The traditional forces of opposition are waiting. Rob Kohler, consultant and lobbyist for the Christian Life Commission of Texas Baptists, said an amended objective won't help the Montford group expand gambling. Indeed, "it doesn't improve the chances of any piece of legislation passing," Kohler said.

www.mywestTexas.com

3rd school district admits to cheating

Associated Press

EL PASO — A third El Paso-area school district has acknowledged wrongdoing in a scandal over cheating to meet federal accountability measures, the El Paso Times reported Saturday.

An internal investigation and an outside audit of the San Elizario Independent School District revealed that several students' credits were manipulated and students were reclassified inappropriately into different grade levels.

District Superintendent Sylvia Hopp told the newspaper that the district has taken steps to correct the wrongdoing by past administrators so the students can have their appropriate number of earned credits.

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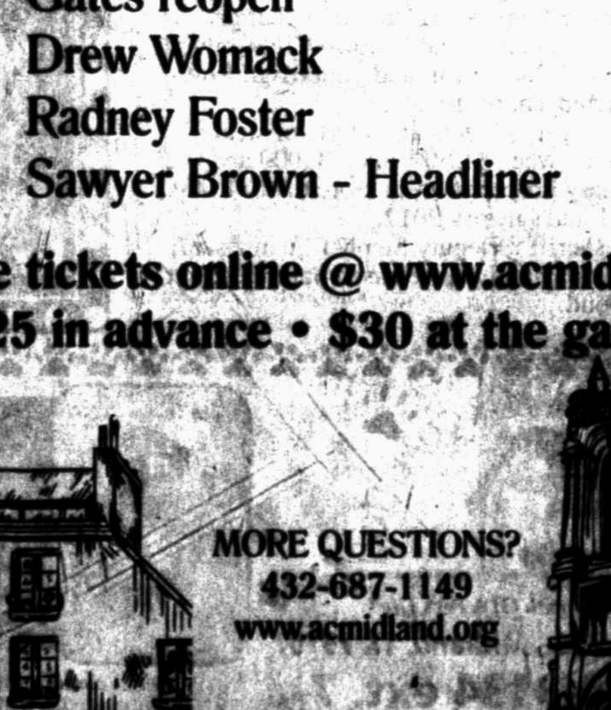

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Join us to hear the Oklahoma City success story. As Midland moves into the future, education will continue to be a critical factor in our economic and workforce efforts.

The discussion will be moderated by Dr. Steve Thomas, President of Midland College and Chairman of the Midland Chamber's Board of Directors.

March 27, 2013

Doors open at 11 a.m.

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STATEBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

JACKSONVILLE

4 dead in 3-vehicle crash in East Texas

Four people were killed when the car in which they were riding slammed into another vehicle and a semi-truck while on the wrong side of an East Texas highway.

The crash happened Saturday morning on U.S. 79, a little over 5 miles east of Jacksonville. Cherokee County Constable Eddie Lee said the vehicle with the four people in it was on the wrong side of the road when it sideswiped a sport utility vehicle and slammed head-on into the truck.

No other injuries were reported. No identities have been released. Trooper Jean Dark, of the Texas Department of Public Safety, said it's not yet clear why the car was on the wrong side of the two-lane highway.

HOUSTON

Couple accused of conspiracy to send money to Iran

A federal grand jury has accused a South Texas physician and his lawyer wife of conspiring to commit health care fraud and illegally sending more than a $1 million of proceeds to Iran.

The panel returned a four-count indictment Thursday against Dr. Kossein Lahiji, a McAllen urologist, and wife Najmen Vahid Lahiji. They're accused of violating U.S. sanctions against Iran by investing about $1.1 million in Iranian rental properties.

The indictment alleges funds came from a scheme in which they submitted fraudulent claims to various insurance programs, including Medicare and Medicaid.

If convicted, they face up to 10 years in prison on the health care fraud counts and 20 years in prison for conspiracy to violate Iranian sanctions.

LUBBOCK

High pressure system brings record heat

The West Texas cities of Dalhart, Amarillo and Lubbock posted record high temperatures for the Ides of March, forecasters said Saturday.

Friday's temperature in Lubbock reached 88 degrees, breaking the March 15, 1966, record of 86 degrees, National Weather Service meteorologist Charles Aldrich said.

Meanwhile, thermometers peaked at 85 degrees in Amarillo, which was 1 degree hotter than last year's record, and 84 degrees in Dalhart, which topped last year's record high of 81 degrees.

Just less than three weeks ago, parts of West Texas were digging out from record snowfalls from a blizzard that blanketed the region.

"That's springtime in the Panhandle," NWS meteorologist Lance Goehring in Amarillo said about the weather swings. "That's usually the way it is."

Although the snow in late February brought badly needed moisture, the region is still mired in drought and West Texas still has pockets of exceptional drought, the most severe classification bestowed by the U.S. Drought Monitor.

The forecast for the rest of March calls for an increased chance of below normal rainfall west of a line from Victoria to Wichita Falls.

It's too early to say whether Texas is in for another bad drought year, forecasters say. Texas' driest year ever was 2011, when a La Nina pattern kept rains away while triple-digit temperatures baked the land and windy conditions sucked whatever moisture remained in the soil.

SAN ANTONIO

Air Force trainer convicted of raping ex-trainee

An Air Force trainer at a San Antonio base has been found guilty at court-martial of raping a former trainee.

The San Antonio Express-News reports the trial of Staff Sgt. Eddy Soto at Lackland Air Force Base segued directly into the sentencing phase Saturday. He could get up to life imprisonment without parole.

Soto previously pleaded guilty to five counts, including having sex with a female trainee and the wife of a male trainee.

Lack of rain may end reign of monarch

By Erin Mulvaney
Houston Chronicle

Drought conditions in Texas and elsewhere have contributed to a major decrease in the number of monarch butterflies whose unique migration pattern spans North America.

The area of forest occupied by the butterflies in their winter refuge 60 miles from Mexico City dropped 59 percent this year, the lowest level since comparable record keeping began 20 years ago, according to a survey by Mexico's National Commission of Natural Protected Areas that was disclosed this week at a news conference in Mexico.

"The severe drought in Texas and much of the Southwest continues to wreak havoc with the number of monarchs," acknowledged Craig Wilson, a Texas A&M university researcher with the Center for Mathematics and Science Education.

Also contributing to the decline in the state's official insect have been wildfires in Texas and the loss of milkweed habitat, which is key to the insects' survival, according to Wilson and others.

"Temperatures above 95 can be lethal for larvae, and eggs dry out in hot, arid conditions, causing a drastic decrease in hatch rate," said Omar Vidal, director general of WWF-Mexico, which is involved in the commission.

'Spring sets the stage'

Chip Taylor, a University of Kansas professor and founder of Monarch Watch, said Texas is the most important state for monarch conservation. Monarchs' migration takes them north through Texas in the spring and south as they return to Mexico in the fall.

"The spring sets the stage for everything that happens the rest of the year," Taylor said. "We have to maintain the habitats in Texas."

MRT file photo

Thousands of monarch butterflies stop for a rest in a pecan tree in south Midland in this 2009 file photo.

Taylor said many factors have contributed to the decline in monarch populations. He said many died prematurely because of drought and extreme heat. When Texas suffered a seven-month drought in 2011 with only 4 inches of rain, the reproductive success of the monarch population dwindled.

But maintaining monarch populations is important to maintain the biodiversity of our ecosystem, Taylor said.

"Monarchs aren't out there alone," Taylor said. "We are talking about a species that share a habitat with virtually all the open area. ... We have to take better care of our resources because those resources take care of us."

Dry conditions and changing farming practices, such as an increased use of pesticides, have contributed to a drop in the growth of the milkweed plant, the monarch's main food, Wilson said. Texas' wildfires in recent years also hampered the growth of the plant, he said. Fewer milkweed plants along the way impede the monarch's journey to and from its breeding ground in Mexico.

"It is important to have a national priority of planting milkweed to assure there will be monarchs in the future," Wilson said.

One of a kind

Nancy Greig, director of the Cockrell Butterfly Center at the Houston Museum of Natural Science, said monarchs are the only butterfly to make a round-trip migration, which spans three countries.

"The migration phenomena, which is so incredible, could go away," Greig said.

In 1995, then-state Rep. Arlene Wohlgemuth, R-Burleson, introduced a resolution requested by students in her district to make the monarch the state insect.

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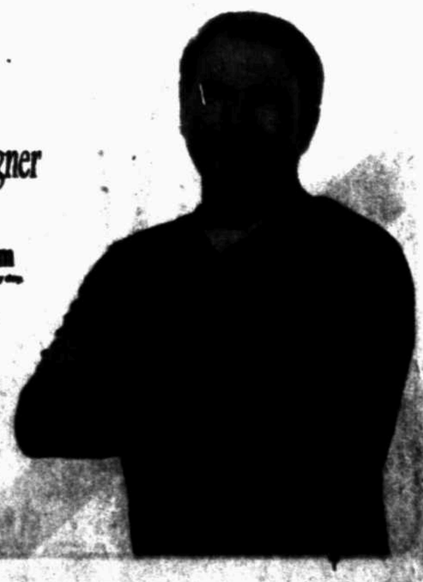

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Jack Plunkett/AP

Natalie Maines performs with Ben Harper Wednesday during the SXSW Music Festival in Austin. Maines doesn t know if the Dixie Chicks will ever write new music again. But a decade since her putdown of then-President George W. Bush altered the fate and fortunes of the Grammy-winning band that Maines now calls tainted, she tells The Associated Press she likes being a housewife and is still somewhat surprised to play to empty seats.

Green Day's Armstrong upbeat in lively SXSW show

By Paul J. Weber
Associated Press

AUSTIN — Green Day isn't talking about the recent rocky past, but they're playing like the old days.

An upbeat Billie Joe Armstrong whipped the Grammy-winning punk trio through an ear-splitting two-hour show Friday night at the South by Southwest Music Festival, returning to the stage for only the second time since Armstrong emerged from a rehab stint that caused the band to postpone an arena tour.

The 41-year-old Armstrong made no mention of his problems with substance abuse while playfully bantering with a nearly sold-out crowd at Moody Theater and ripping through a 25-song marathon. The energetic set mixed new rockers from the "Uno!" "Dos!" "Tre!" trilogy the band rolled out last winter and old favorites like "Longview" and "American Idiot."

"This ain't no (expletive) cafe!" Armstrong told the crowd right out of the gate. "Get crazy!"

Armstrong's good spirits were a sharp contrast to his profane meltdown at the iHeartRadio Music Festival in Las Vegas in September, when he complained the band's time was being cut short and smashed his guitar. Two days later, Green Day announced Armstrong was headed to treatment for substance abuse.

His cheery chatting with the audience at the showcase SXSW gig did include one moment when, while apparently encountering a hiccup with his microphone, Armstrong quipped, "I wasn't even on drugs," while laughing.

Green Day is among the marquee acts at SXSW this year along with Justin Timberlake, Dave Grohl and the Yeah Yeah Yeahs. The weeklong festival turned out the lights Saturday when Prince played an intimate finale for just a few hundred guests at a small Austin club.

Dixie Chicks' Natalie Maines moves on as solo artist

By Paul J. Weber
Associated Press

AUSTIN — Natalie Maines is starting out nervous on stage; almost 10 years to the day that the Dixie Chicks spitfire slammed then-President George W. Bush and forever changed the fate and fortunes of the country superstars.

On this night, she barely speaks between songs.

Her hair slicks up in a punkish pompadour. She looks slimmer than when the Dixie Chicks began a hiatus in 2007 that may never end. The crowd at the South by Southwest music festival to hear Maines perform her solo debut "Mother" for only the second time is a healthy size, but it is also far from a packed house.

"We missed you, Natalie!" one fan hollers.

Maines smiles but doesn't banter back.

"I ask myself, 'Why is that? What are you doing, girl?'" Maines told The Associated Press the next morning at a downtown Austin hotel. "I think right now I have so much to remember. This is the most guitar I've ever had to play."

Now 38 and a solo artist for the first time in her career, Maines is candid about the past and guarded about the future. Ask whether the Dixie Chicks will ever record new music again, she curls in her chair with tense energy and declines to predict.

"I think I thought time would heal and that I would come around. But just like the song says, I'm still waiting," said Maines, pulling a lyric from the band's defiant 2006 smash single "Not Ready to Make Nice."

Fellow Chicks Emily Erwin and Martie Maguire don't needle her to reunite in the studio, Maines said, but she acknowledges that choosing the solo project "Mother" as her first album since 2006 may not have been their first choice. "I'm pretty sure they would rather I be making a Dixie Chicks record, but they would never say that, thank God," Maines said.

Now rehash her takedown of then-President Bush in 2003 and — well, on second thought, don't bother.

Maines does that herself.

"Good thing I'm not a told ya so kind of person or I might point out that 10 years ago today I said GWB was full of bull and I was right," she tweeted on March 10, three days before her first South by Southwest performance.

When the Texas-born Maines told a London crowd at the start of the Iraq invasion she was ashamed to be from the same state as Bush, the Dixie Chicks became pariahs of the country music industry that vaulted them to stardom. Radio stations blackballed the Dixie Chicks from playlists, and legions of fans turned their backs.

The Dixie Chicks stayed firm during the backlash and released "Taking the Long Way" in 2006 that won five Grammys and was a best-seller despite being largely ignored by country radio. Maines now refers to the group as "tainted" but is still open to performing live with the Dixie Chicks, and two shows are scheduled in Canada this summer.

Those concerts will be a different sound than "Mother." The album is Maines putting her take on covers that span from Pink Floyd (the album title borrows from "The Wall"), Eddie Vedder's "Without You" and Jeff Buckley's "Lover, You Should've Come Over."

Guitar virtuoso Ben Harper produced the album and performed with Maines at SXSW for a lively show that skewed far more on the side of rock and Americana than the bluegrass and country combination of the Dixie Chicks. Maines first played at the 2,700-seat Moody Theater that is the home studio for Austin City Limits — a big and tough venue to fill at SXSW, given the 2,200 other artists all vying for attention.

Maines doesn't expect to win back fans that Dixie Chicks lost and isn't sure who will embrace her different sound now.

"I like what the three of us had together," Maines said of the Dixie Chicks. "I did what was required. It felt like my job. I felt like a businesswoman in the industry I was in. I feel like I accepted that and waved that country flag but always felt like I was holding on to who I was, and we were still considered rebellious in the Top 40 country market. But it was news to me that people thought I was something I wasn't.

"The cat just feels out of the bag now," Maines said. "I'm not sure I can go back to that."

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Vernon Bryant/Dallas Morning News

Lauren Scruggs works out with her physical therapist, Sheri Walters, at Athletes Performance in Frisco on Jan. 10. Scruggs walked into a plane propeller in December 2011 and lost her left eye and lower arm.

Maimed by accident, vulnerability opens Plano woman's eyes

By Sarah Mervosh
The Dallas Morning News

FRISCO — She reveals her vulnerabilities for all to see.

The jagged scar that runs down her left cheek. The eye that lags a beat behind the other. The shrunken end of her "little arm."

Lauren Scruggs bares all of this in the middle of a bustling Frisco gym. She lies on a table, visible to everyone, during scar tissue massages at physical therapy. Her trainer's fingers work their way along the scars — the same path a plane propeller took when it sliced off her left hand and eye more than a year ago.

That horrific accident garnered national attention, forcing the Plano native into the public eye. Everywhere, people latched onto Scruggs' story. Some used her resilience as motivation to push through their own trials. Last year, the 24-year-old shared her experience in a book, Still "LoLo," titled for her nickname.

As inspiring as Scruggs has been to her fans, her greatest impact has been on a woman who was initially skeptical. Her physical therapist, Sheri Walters, didn't expect to hit it off with Scruggs, but over the past year, the two women have formed a special connection. And through devastating challenges, their relationship has sustained them.

"We've become like sisters," Scruggs told The Dallas Morning News.

In suffering, we have a choice: Shut down and hole up, or open ourselves to the possibilities of life again. Scruggs has discovered a deepened joy since her accident because she's found the strength to let herself be vulnerable — a strength she nurtures in physical therapy sessions, where Walters examines Scruggs' deepest insecurities and massages them away.

On Dec. 3, 2011, a pilot Scruggs knew through a family friend took her up in a single-engine plane to look at Christmas lights. After they landed, Scruggs stepped through the small aircraft's only door and onto the tarmac. She never saw the propeller, whirring so fast that it was invisible against the dark and drizzly night.

When the blades struck Scruggs, just one-sixteenth of an inch of metal touched her. That's all it took to unleash a bloody chaos, slicing her skull, eye, cheek, shoulder and arm. She lost her left eye and hand, but didn't suffer the brain damage that doctors initially feared.

While she spent nearly a month in Parkland Memorial Hospital, news crews camped outside her parents' home. To protect her privacy, nurses resorted to calling her by a code name, "Sky." After she was discharged, paparazzi followed her from rehab and Whole Foods. "Dancing with the Stars" wanted her as a contestant, but she declined — she was still on 12 pain pills a day.

With the attention came some mean-spirited comments and shoddy reporting. Scruggs — a fashion journalist who is tan and petite with long hair and striking green eyes — was incorrectly identified as a model. Some concluded that only a "dumb blonde" could walk into a moving airplane propeller. Some speculated, falsely, that she was drunk at the time of the accident.

But others heard Scruggs' story and found inspiration. Strangers often approached her — cancer patients, mothers of sick or injured children, fellow amputees.

Stacy Kirkwood, a Lewisville nurse whose 8-year-old son was in the hospital with kidney problems at the time of the propeller accident, said the Scruggs family helped her stay strong.

"I hung on their incredible faith," said Kirkwood, who attended Scruggs' book signing this winter. "I needed to model their response or I just felt like I was circling the drain."

For Scruggs, the inspiration has been reciprocal.

"I didn't ever realize how much pain and suffering was going on in the world, in America, in my backyard," she said. "This is way bigger than myself."

Meanwhile, a mutual friend had approached Walters and asked her to take on Scruggs as a client. Walters hesitated. She had been battling health problems of her own. She barely had the will to get out of bed on some mornings.

But something inside told her to say yes.

At a physical therapy session, Scruggs wears pink boxing gloves and attacks the thick, handheld punching pad that Walters holds. In the flurry of pink, it's hard to tell which punches come from a real fist formed with fleshy fingers, and which come from a mechanical prosthesis.

As Scruggs doles out roundhouse kicks, Walters eggs her on. "Keep going, Shirley," the name of Scruggs' grandmother. "You're wanting to quit. Don't stop. Don't stop, Grandma."

Between sets, Scruggs kicks like a cheerleader and spins like a dancer with mock seriousness. Walters stands nearby with her dirty-blond hair pulled back into a low ponytail, accentuating a fair, doe-eyed face that is dusted with freckles. When Scruggs' bangs fall into her face, Walters slips her hand under Scruggs' powder blue Lacoste hat and tucks them away.

They're an unlikely pair: Scruggs is a breezy woman who hugs strangers, speaks freely about her faith in God and paints her nails in alternating shades of pink for Valentine's Day. Walters is more reserved, prefers empirical evidence to emotion and wears track suits to work.

With all their differences, Walters hadn't expected to get along with Scruggs. She'd bought into the idea that Scruggs was the empty-headed pretty face portrayed in the media. But over many meetings at Athletes Performance gym in Frisco, Walters realized she'd been wrong.

Now, the women are close friends. They gossip about "The Bachelor." They laugh when Scruggs' artificial arm flies off during a workout. They bicker when Scruggs arrives to an appointment just in time, which Walters considers late.

"I just think of myself as an older, much wiser sister," Walters, 33, jokes as she flicks Scruggs with a resistance band.

Walters has helped Scruggs regain the ability to drive, chop vegetables and blow-dry her hair. She's encouraged Scruggs to defy expectations, pushing her to do 12 pull-ups and 43 push-ups. She's taught Scruggs to diminish the visibility of her facial scar by applying Scarguard, a liquid that resembles clear nail polish. It's a technique Walters knows firsthand after surgery left her with a scar that runs down her right cheek.

"She's saved my life this year," Scruggs said.

During physical therapy, Scruggs takes off her prosthetic arm. She lies on a massage table and allows Walters to rub the end of her arm in front of the entire gym. It is intimate, tender work. And when Walters leans over Scruggs to examine her, hovering face to face, the scars on their cheeks align.

It was Walters who persuaded Scruggs to confront her biggest fear and allow the world to see what's left of her arm.

Scruggs, in a lime green sleeveless shirt, ventured onto the Katy Trail on a warm Saturday morning last April. She ran three miles with Walters at her side.

Scruggs had worried that the sight of her little arm would freak others out. But no one stared — at least not in a bad way. "It was very freeing," she said.

Walters has refused to let fear define her patient's life. And Scruggs credits her physical therapist for much of her recovery.

"She has challenged me to walk outside of my comfort zone," Scruggs said. "The friendship I have built with her is one of the reasons I say that I would never reverse this accident."

After that run along the Katy Trail, Scruggs went to Luke's Locker in Plano to get a pair of shorts. She still had on the sleeveless green shirt when paparazzi snuck up on her, catching her at her most exposed.

Walters worried that the encounter would set her friend back. Instead, Scruggs used it as another opportunity to work through her fears.

As Walters helped Scruggs overcome her insecurities, she slowly found herself opening up in return.

"There's a light to her," Walters said. "That light just kind of welcomes people in."

Walters grew up poor on a ranch in Wapanucka, Okla., a town of about 430 people. As a young girl, she watched her father use an artificial leg in place of the limb he'd lost in a car accident as a teenager. After becoming the first in her family to graduate from college, she became a physical therapist, and her job became her life.

Then, in 2008, Walters was diagnosed with a serious form of melanoma. The scar on her right cheek is the result of an operation to remove the cancer. But the malignancy only slowed her down temporarily; by early 2012, she'd slipped back into a workaholic lifestyle.

As she grappled with her diagnosis and pondered her mortality, Walters found herself wanting more out of life. She searched for a purpose.

When she met Scruggs, she found one.

Her experiences — growing up with a father who was an amputee, the melanoma, the scar on her face — suddenly made sense.

"There was a purpose for those things in my life: To be able to take what I learned and help someone else."

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INSIDE: Kansas won the Big 12 Tournament. Page 7C

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mywesttexas.com/sports | Sunday, March 17, 2013 | Section C

MC coach Jones likes national tourney's new format

By Oscar LeRoy
oleroy@mrt.com

The way Midland College women's basketball coach Ron Jones sees it, there will be no added pressure playing in the new format of the NJCAA Women's Basketball National Tournament this week.

Jones

Thanks to the new expanded 24-team format of the tournament, if a team loses outside of getting into the semifinal round, it has to pack its bags and go home. In the old 16-team format, while a loss would prevent a team from playing for a national championship it could still have a shot at playing for a placement until it was eliminated with two losses.

Coming Monday

See a preview of Midland College's game against Volunteer State.

Jones, whose 26-7 Lady Chaparrals start national tournament play at 2 p.m. Monday with a game against Volunteer State (23-4) in Salina, Kan., is loving this new format in part because that is what he's been proposing for several years.

"If you lose this time of year, you don't like playing another game any ways," said Jones, whose team is making its sixth national tournament appearance. "If you can't win a championship, I don't think any coach or player really want to play that other game. The only consolation game is if you get to the final four and lose then you've got a third-place game. That's a little different because you're playing for a top four finish in the country."

While the tournament still takes the 16 regional champions from around the country, four teams are automatic zone qualifiers from four different regions. Those zone qualifiers rotate every four years from region to region. Also, now there are four at-large selections made by an NJCAA selection committee.

"It's not like the (other tournaments) weren't a true championship, but if you add four at-large teams those are teams that have proven

Please see TOURNEY/5C

Brad Tollefson/Special to the MRT

Midland College forward Achiri Ade tries to tip the ball away from Weatherford College forward Itiana Taylor during the Lady Chaparrals' game against the Lady Coyotes on March 9 at Rip Griffin Center in Lubbock.

Dawgs cuff Coronado

Mata wins pitchers duel, leads MHS past Mustangs

Bulldogs	3
Mustangs	0

By Jordan Mason
jmason@mrt.com

With the pressure mounting with each scoreless inning played by the two baseball heavyweights, Midland High pitcher Alex Mata just kept getting better Saturday at Zachery Field.

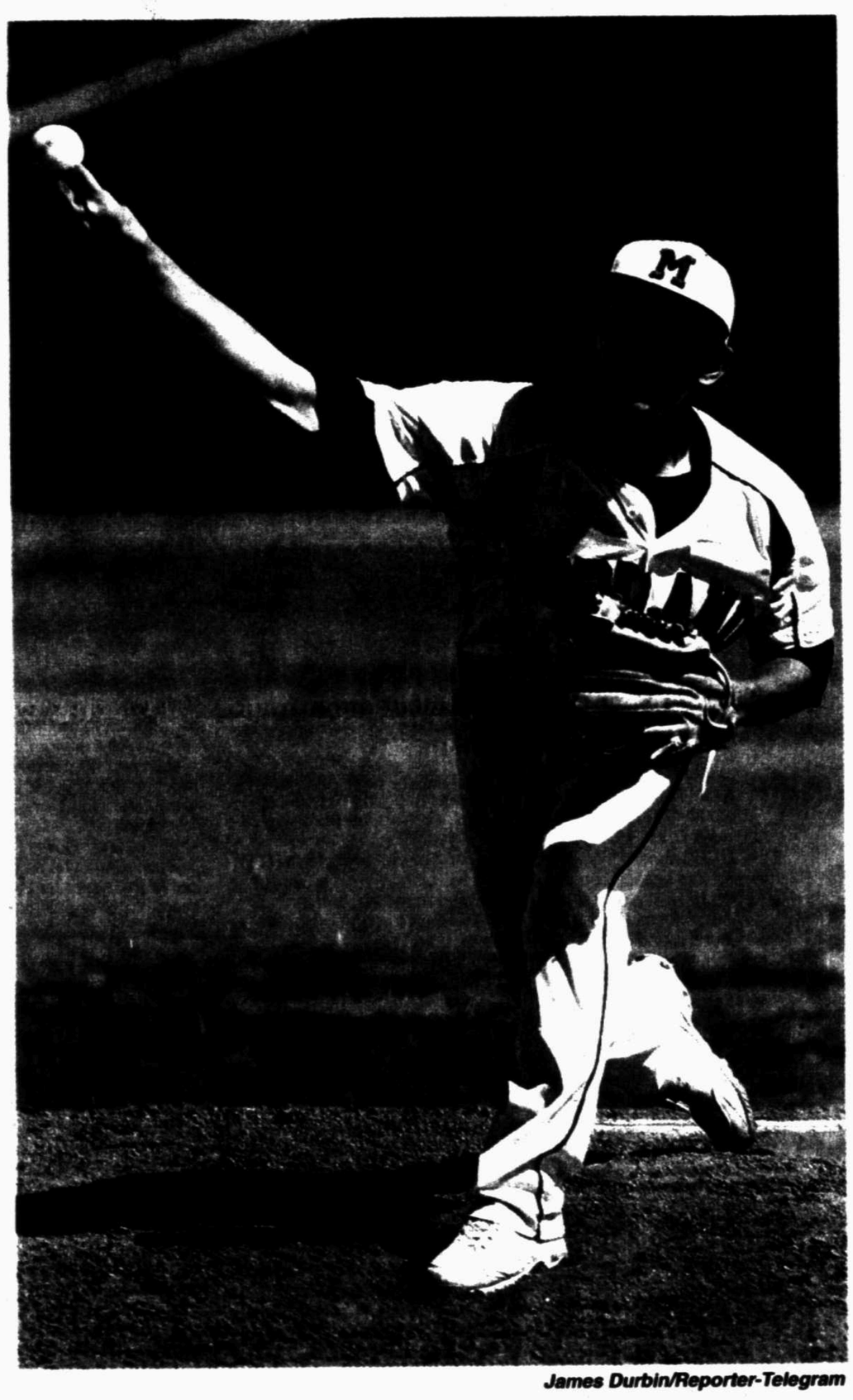
And just as they promised, his teammates finally gave him the run support he needed on a two-run single by Lance White in the sixth, helping Mata wrap up a complete-game one-hitter in a 3-0 win against Lubbock Coronado.

A leadoff single by Coronado catcher Greg Hewitt in the third was all Mata allowed in seven innings as he rebounded from a slow start to strike out six despite five walks and a hit by pitch in the win, which kept the Bulldogs perfect in league play.

"'Just be that guy (that you've been all season). I'm not looking for anybody else,'" MHS coach Barry Russell said he told Mata. "He regrouped, and that's maturity — that's about the only way I can put that. He grinded that one out."

The turning point for Mata, and perhaps Midland High (16-5, 5-0 in District 2-5A), came after a leadoff walk to start the fourth, when Mata scooped up a routine grounder by Coronado right fielder Chace Sarchet and casually turned

Please see MHS/4C


James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Midland High's Alex Mata pitches against Lubbock Coronado on Saturday at Zachery Field. Mata pitched a complete-game one-hitter in the Bulldogs' win.

Lee clinches playoff spot, MHS still with work to do

By Len Hayward
lhayward@mrt.com

The chase for the playoffs in District 2-5A boys soccer cleared up a little on a dramatic Saturday that saw MHS come back to win, Lee hold on for a victory and Odessa High continue its late-season run.

The Bulldogs needed a late goal from Stephen Reid to beat Amarillo Tascosa, 4-3, and Lee held on for a 3-2 victory against Abilene Cooper at Shotwell Stadium.

Reid

Meanwhile, the biggest dramatics may have been at Ratliff Stadium in Odessa as Odessa High beat rival and newly crowned District 2-5A champion Odessa Permian, 1-0.

Hicks

What all those results mean is that Lee is in the playoffs because it holds a tiebreaker over fifth-place San Angelo Central, and that next week will be big for Midland High, Odessa High and the Bobcats, which are fighting for the final two spots.

"We've still got two more to go," Midland High coach Warren Cottle said. "Both of those games are going to be significant and we've got to keep on trucking."

Lee's victory moved it to 7-1-6 in district play with 27 points and

Please see PLAYOFF/4C

Inside

The Lady Bulldogs came out on top while the Lady Rebels fought to a tie.

Page 4C

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Midland High's Pini Abila swings at a pitch against Abilene Cooper on Saturday at Audrey Gill Sports Complex.

Lady Dawgs' bats blast Abilene Cooper

Lady Bulldogs	13
Lady Cougars	0 (5)

By Jonathan Hull
jhull@mrt.com

The bats are working for the Midland High softball team right now, and it's a major reason why the Lady Bulldogs are currently on a four-game winning streak.

The Lady Dawgs had their biggest output of District 2-5A play in a 13-0 run-rule victory against Abilene Cooper on Saturday at Audrey Gill Sports Complex.

Midland High (19-5, 5-2 in 2-5A) picked up 16 hits, including four triples, to score their 13 runs in just four innings. Nine of the 10 batters who went up to the plate either recorded a hit or scored a run in what was the most dominant showing of the Lady Dawgs' season.

"We had a little let up toward the end of the ball game, but other than that we're real proud of them," MHS coach Shawnda Vines said of the win. "We put runs on the board in every inning and that's something we've really been talking about, being more consistent throughout the ball game. I thought we found that consistency more than we have in our last few games."

The 13-run output comes two days after the Lady Dawgs scored 12 runs on 12 hits in a win against Central on Thursday. In this four-game win streak, Midland High has scored a total of 36 runs.

"We're just a lot more confident right now," MHS senior second baseman Taylor Vines said. "That loss to Permian (on March 5) really woke us up."

Midland High wasted very little time jumping on the Lady Cougars

Please see LADY DAWGS/4C

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Page 2

Sunday Morning Line

LEN HAYWARD
lhayward@mrt.com

This and that as we got an early taste of summer on Saturday:

■ Now that the two busiest sports weekends in Midland are done, I've had a chance to sit back and think about where sports tourism is in this community. And frankly, it doesn't look good.

Tournaments are struggling to bring in teams because of lack of hotel space, and also the cost of staying in those hotels has become an issue. Plus, that goes along with long waits at short-staffed restaurants.

What that means is the national softball tournaments that came to town periodically, thanks in large part to Freddie Ezell's tireless work, are not coming back for the foreseeable future. Heck, I don't think the state tournaments that brought in lots of familes from around West Texas may be able to come back as large as they once were.

The regional soccer tournament that so many in the soccer community worked hard to bring here five years ago, could also go away. And this year's tourney will be the test on whether it comes back after this year.

With only two West Texas Class 5A districts, there is a distinct possibility that at least 6 of the 8 teams competing could be from the Metroplex. Imagine the howl when teams are not only traveling 300-plus miles, but also paying prime rates for hotels.

Trust me, I heard some coaches talking about the rates during the past couple of weeks, and it's going to be hard for them to convince their administrations to come back in the future.

Sports tourism is a casualty of the boom, and one thing that will take a while to bring back.

■ My inbox had a couple of interesting emails this week about connections to Midland that have had success on the basketball court recently.

Former Midland High girls basketball coach John Loftin sent me an email that former Midlander Alexis Jones was named the MVP of the ACC Tournament last week. Jones, who graduated from Irving MacArthur, is a freshman at Duke and has apparently made an impression already on Tobacco Road. Jones' father, David, who was paralyzed in an accident in 2007 was a big reason Midland was successful in basketball for a number of years. His presence has been missed in the development of young talent around here.

Also, Fort Bend Travis coach Craig Brownson led his team to the Class 5A title last week. Brownson is an early 1990s graduate of MHS, and he was coaching in that game a few days after his mother passed way.

And, Triple-A Academy, the team that won the Class A Division I boys title, has a Midland connection also with its coach. The team's coach is Tray Washington, who has a tight connection to Midland. Washington's father, Earnest, was a 1964 grad of Carver Junior/Senior High School, and Tray was in town last month for the funeral of his uncle, a long time teacher at Odessa Permian.

And one more congrats to Lee grad Malcolm Miller for winning the Southwestern Athletic Conference Newcomer of the Year Award this year. Miller is a junior at Southern University.

■ On the roster this year for the Midland College golf team is Sean Nee. At first glance, Nee looks like your normal college golfer, he's around 6-foot-4, hits the ball a mile and was his high school's top player for four years.

But there's a catch, Nee is 24 years old. Nee, a native of Atlantic City, N.J., spent the last six years doing everything from construction to being a valet. He admitted after high school he probably wasn't ready for college, but now he's soaking up the chance to play golf regularly.

And along with living his dream, he's also had to endure his family's home on the Jersey Shore being damanged by Hurricane Sandy last fall. He was able to go back at Christmas Break to do some work on it, but said it's going to take a while as they wait on word about new regulations.

Nee is right now in a fight for the Chaps' fifth spot, but for Nee he's getting to play golf everyday and chase his dream, but playing golf everyday and going to school is probably better than sitting on a roof on a hot day.

■ And finally, it's Bristol today for the Sprint Cup Series and apparently the fans don't like side-by-side racing, but one-lane racing with lots of wrecks. Really?

Follow Len on Twitter: @Len_Hayward_MRT

On the air

What's on tv

AUTO RACING
NHRA, Gatornationals (same-day tape), 6 p.m., ESPN2
NASCAR, Sprint Cup, Food City 500, 11:30 a.m., Fox

BASEBALL
Georgia at Texas A&M, Noon, Fox Sports Southwest
Kansas at TCU, 1 p.m., Fox Sports Southwest Plus

COLLEGE BASEBALL
World Baseball Classic, semifinal, teams

COLLEGE SOFTBALL
East Carolina at UAB, 11 a.m., Fox Sports Southwest Plus

GOLF
European PGA Tour, Avantha Masters, final round (same-day tape), 8 a.m., TGC
PGA Tour, Tampa Bay Classic, final round, Noon, TGC
PGA Tour, Tampa Bay Classic, final round, 2 p.m., NBC
LPGA, Founders Cup, final round, 2 p.m., TGC
Champions Tour, Toshiba Classic, final round (same-day tape), 6:30 p.m., TGC

MLB
Preseason, Chicago Cubs vs. Texas Rangers, 3 p.m., Fox Sports Southwest
Preseason, Chicago Cubs vs. Oakland, at Phoenix, 3 p.m., WGN

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Southeastern Conference, championship, Florida vs. Ole Miss, Noon, ABC
Atlantic 10 Conference, championship, teams Saint Louis vs. VCU, CBS
Atlantic Coast Conference, championship, North Carolina vs. Miami (Fla.), Noon, ESPN
Big Ten Conference, championship, Ohio State vs. Indiana, 2:30 p.m., CBS
NCAA Division I tournament, Selection Show, 5 p.m., CBS

NBA
New York at L.A. Clippers, 2:30 p.m., ABC
Oklahoma City at Dallas, 6:30 p.m., Fox Sports Southwest

NHL
Boston at Pittsburgh, 11:30 a.m., NBC
Buffalo at Washington, 6:30 p.m., NBC Sports Network

SOCCER
MLS, Houston at Dallas, Noon, ESPN2

TENNIS
ATP World Tour/WTA, BNP Paribas Open, men's and women's championships, 2 p.m., ESPN2

Central's Sawyer shuts down Rebels

From staff reports

Bobcats 8
Rebels 1

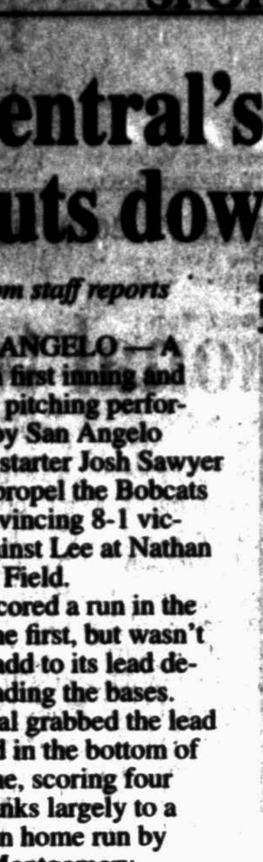
SAN ANGELO — A four-run first inning and a stellar pitching performance by San Angelo Central starter Josh Sawyer helped propel the Bobcats to a convincing 8-1 victory against Lee at Nathan Donsky Field.

Lee scored a run in the top of the first, but wasn't able to add to its lead despite loading the bases.

Central grabbed the lead for good in the bottom of the frame, scoring four runs thanks largely to a three-run home run by Reese Montgomery.

Sawyer took it from there, allowing just one hit by the Rebels in the game and retiring 18 straight batters at one point in the game.

The win left Central (16-6, 3-1 in District 2-5A) tied for second in the district and left Lee (7-12, 2-3) tied for sixth after its second consecutive loss.



	District		Overall	
Team	W	L	W	L
Lubbock High	5	0	19	2
San Angelo Central	3	1	16	6
Amarillo Tascosa	3	1	15	10
Lubbock Coronado	3	2	13	5
Odessa High	2	2	12	8
Odessa Permian	2	3	9	13
Lee	2	3	7	12
Abilene Cooper	1	4	6	13
Abilene High	0	4	5	10

Saturday's Scores
Midland High 3, Lubbock Coronado 0; San Angelo Central 8, Lee 1; Odessa Permian 3, Odessa High 2; Amarillo Tascosa 4, Abilene Cooper 1.

Tuesday's Games
Midland High at Abilene Cooper; Odessa High at Amarillo Tascosa; Lubbock Coronado at Odessa Permian; San Angelo Central at Abilene High. All games at 4:30 p.m.

The Rebels will have six days off before returning to action against Lubbock Coronado on Friday.

SAN ANGELO CENTRAL 8, LEE 1

Lee	100	000	0	–0	1	1
Central	412	100	x	–8	10	1

Clay Marburger, Coleman Watts (4) and Hunter Coleman. Josh Sawyer and Chris Baker. W — Sawyer. L — Marburger. 2B — Central: Nick Barron. HR — Central: Reese Montgomery.

Records: Lee 7-12, 2-3 in District 2-5A; Central 16-6, 3-1

Next: Lee at Lubbock Coronado, 4:30 p.m. Friday, March 22; Central at Abilene High, 4:30 p.m. Tuesday

Hardaway, Sheppard help Lee to victory

From staff reports

Lady Rebels 4
Lady Eagles 0

ABILENE — Emily Hardaway pitched a five-hit shutout and Ciara Sheppard drove in three runs as the Lee softball team picked up a 4-0 victory on the road against Abilene High in Distirct 2-5A play Saturday.

Hardaway

Sheppard

Hardaway managed to spread five hits and a walk over seven innings of work, while striking out six batters. She also overcame three Lady Rebels (20-3, 5-1 in 2-5A) fielding errors in pitching the shutout.

Sheppard picked up her first RBI in the top of the first, singling to right and scoring leadoff hitter Kylee Olivas. An RBI single by sophomore first baseman Rosie Marquez in the third brought in Adri Berzoza and Lee went up 2-0.

Sheppard capped her strong day at the plate in the top of the seventh, blasting a two-run homer to left field, giving Lee some insurance and a 4-0 lead. Sheppard then made a key play in the field in the bottom of the inning, ensuring Abilene High wouldn't even threaten to score.

	District		Overall	
Team	W	L	W	L
Lubbock Coronado	5	0	21	3
Lee	5	1	20	4
Midland High	5	2	19	5
Odessa Permian	4	3	19	6
Odessa High	3	3	12	10
Abilene Cooper	2	4	12	8
San Angelo Central	2	4	8	14
Abilene High	1	5	12	12
Amarillo Tascosa	0	6	9	14

Saturday's Scores
Midland High 13, Abilene Cooper 0; Lubbock Lee 4 Abilene High 0; Odessa High 17, Amarillo Tascosa 3; Lubbock Coronado 6, Odessa Permian 5; San Angelo Central is idle.

Tuesday's Games
Lubbock Coronado at Lee, 4:30 p.m.; Abilene High at Abilene Cooper, 4:30 p.m.; Odessa High at San Angelo Central, 4:30 p.m. Odessa Permian is idle.

Abilene High (8-6, 2-4) actually led off the bottom of the seventh with a single by Christa Garcia. But next batter Victoria Bryant grounded sharply to Sheppard at short. Sheppard stepped on second for one out and threw to Marquez at first for the double play. Katerina Sauceda popped out to Lee's Dee Gaona at second to end the game.

LEE 4, ABILENE HIGH 0

Lee	101	000	2	–4	11	3
Abilene High	000	000	0	–0	5	1

Emily Hardaway and Destiney Reyes. Samantha Rodriguez, Victoria Bryant (6) and Lauren Williams. W — Hardaway. L — Rodriguez. HR — Lee: Ciara Sheppard. RBI — Lee: Sheppard 3, Rosie Marquez.

Records: Lee 20-3, 5-1 in 2-5A; Abilene High 13-8, 2-4

Next: Lubbock Coronado at Lee, 4:30 p.m. Tuesday; Abilene High at Abilene Cooper, 4:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Opportunistic MCS run-rules Arlington Pantego

From staff reports

Mustangs 14
Panthers 2

FORT WORTH — Midland Christian took advantage of nine errors by Arlington Pantego in a 14-2 victory Saturday in TAPPS 1-4A play.

The Mustangs were particularly opportunistic in the sixth inning when Pantego committed five errors, leading to 11 unearned runs for MCS in the inning.

"It was a couple bad throws, a couple good bunts and a couple timely hits," MCS coach Mike Munguia said of the sixth inning. "They just kind of unraveled."

Midland Christian was led at the plate by Garrett Clark, who was 1 for 2 with a walk, a triple, two RBI and three runs scored. Colton Chalker also scored three times with one RBI.

Nolan Shattell, meanwhile, shut down Pantego at the plate, allowing two runs — one earned — on five hits and a walk, while striking out 11 in six innings.

Midland Christian (13-9, 1-1 in TAPPS 1-4A) next travels to play Lubbock Christian in a non-district game at 5 p.m. Tuesday.

MIDLAND CHRISTIAN 14 ARLINGTON PANTEGO 2, 6 INNINGS

MCS	00120(11)	–14	5	0
Pantego	010	010	–2	5	9

Nolan Shattel and Bailey Blain. Kern, Gilly (5), Cochran (6). Todd (6) and Smith. W — Shattel. L — Kern. 2B — MCS: Christian Whigham, Morgan Munguia; AP: Phillips, Shorter, Thorpe. 3B — MCS: Garrett Clark.

Records: MCS 13-9, 1-1 in TAPPS 1-4A; Pantego 1-1 in district

Next: Midland Christian at Lubbock Christian, 5 p.m. Tuesday

COLLEGEBASEBALL

FROM STAFF AND REPORTS

TEXAS 2
TEXAS TECH 1

AUSTIN — Texas Tech dropped game two of its three-game series with Texas on Saturday as a ninth-inning, walk-off double gave the Longhorns a 2-1 victory in front of a season-high 6,842 fans in attendance at UFCU Disch-Falk Field.

The Red Raiders (13-8, 1-1 Big 12) scored its only run in the third inning while the Longhorns (12-6, 1-1 Big 12) improved to 12-3 at home this season.

Texas Tech freshman Johnathon Tripp (0-1) took the loss, allowing the game-winning run in the ninth inning on a walk and then a double by catcher Jacob Felts, which allowed Madison Carter to score from first base.

UT reliever Corey Knebel (2-1) earned the win as he struck out both batters he faced in the ninth inning with the bases loaded.

TEXAS A&M 2
GEORGIA 1

COLLEGE STATION — With a season-high 6,112 fans in attendance, junior outfielder Krey Bratsen recorded his second walk-off RBI of the week, giving Texas A&M a 2-1 win against Georgia in an extra-innings affair on Olsen Field at Blue Bell Park on Saturday afternoon.

With the score knotted at 1-1 in the bottom of the 10th inning, Jace Statum served as catalyst for the game-winning rally, drawing a six-pitch walk to start the frame and moving to second on a sacrifice bunt by Mikey Reynolds. Bratsen provided the endgame by punching a 1-2 offering into shallow right centerfield to drive in Statum.

RICE 9
HARVARD 2

HOUSTON — The Rice baseball team batted around for five runs in the bottom of the first inning and finished the day with double-digit hits as the Owls claimed a 9-2 victory against visiting Harvard in the second of a three-game weekend series Saturday afternoon.

Michael Aquino and Connor Teykl shared the game lead with three hits and combined for three RBI and two runs scored. Ford Stainback, Christian Stringer and Keenan Cook all contributed two hits each.

TULANE 2
UTSA 1

NEW ORLEANS, La. — Tulane scored two runs in the second inning on Saturday and the pitching combination of Alex Byo and Ian Gibaut made it stand, as the Green Wave evened this weekend's series with UTSA with a 2-1 victory in front of 1,858 fans at Turchin Stadium. The setback ended the Roadrunners' winning streak at four games.

UTSA (13-6) was limited to seven hits (six singles) and its lone run came in the seventh.

TEXAS STATE 5
TEXAS A&M-CORPUS CHRISTI 3

SAN MARCOS — Texas State bounced back Saturday with a 5-3 victory against Texas A&M-Corpus Christi.

Scott Grist started and went 6 2/3 innings. He gave up eight hits, two runs and two walks, but struck out three. Grist and the Bobcat defense held TAMUCC without a hit from the middle of the second inning until the sixth, a span of 11 batters.

MCNEESE STATE 10
UT-ARLINGTON 5

ARLINGTON — UT Arlington fell to McNeese State 10-5 in Game 2 of the three-game series at Clay Gould Ballpark on Saturday. The loss moved the Mavericks to 9-9 on the season.

LOUISIANA TECH 7
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN 3

RUSTON, La. — Louisiana Tech scored seven unanswered runs and got eight strong innings from Trevor Peterson as the Bulldogs evened the series with Stephen F. Austin on Saturday at J.C. Love Field.

UTPBROUNDUP

FROM STAFF REPORTS

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL ELIMINATED FROM NATIONAL TOURNEY

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. — The UTPB women's basketball team saw its season come to an end Saturday with a 78-68 loss to Colorado Mesa University in the second round of the NCAA Division II Women's National Tournament.

UTPB was led by Taniqua Ards' 20 points, while Teisha King, who sat out most of the first half with foul trouble, added 18 points. Briannah Matthews chipped in a double-double with 12 poitns and 12 rebounds.

Colorado Mesa built a 36-27 lead by halftime and the Falcons were never able to significantly close the gap. CMU was led by Kelsey Sigl and Katrina Selsor who each scored 17 with Sharay Selsor adding 14.

SOFTBALL TAKES 3-2 VICTORY FROM TAMIU

ODESSA — Lee grad Desiree Valero was impressive in pitching 6 1/3 innings in a 3-2 victory for the UTPB softball team against Heartland Conference foe Texas A&M International.

Valero (4-9) allowed two earned runs on six hits, a walk and two hit batters, while recording three strikeouts. She was relieved with one out in the sixth as Janessa Martinez came on to get the final two outs, earning her first save of the year.

Amber Gutierrez led UTPB at the plate, hitting a two-run homer in the second inning. Chelsea Morgan singled to score Kati Walker in the fifth inning for what turned out to be the game-winning run.

UTPB hosts a non-conference doubleheader against Abilene Christian at 2 p.m. Tuesday.

UTPB SCORES LATE TO TOP OPSU

GOODWELL, Okla. — Ryne Head and Andrews grad Ozzie Bueno scored a pair of unearned runs in the top of the ninth inning, allowing the UTPB baseball team to pull out a 10-8 victory against Heartland Conference opponent Oklahoma Panhandle State on Saturday. The win also leaves OPSU (0-23, 0-20 in conference) still searching for its first win of the season.

Jordyn Van Atta led the Falcons with a 2 for 6 showing that included a double, home run and four RBI. Tyler Forney was also 2 for 6 with two doubles and three RBI.

UTPB plays a non-conference game on the road against Lubbock Christian University at 5 p.m. Tuesday.

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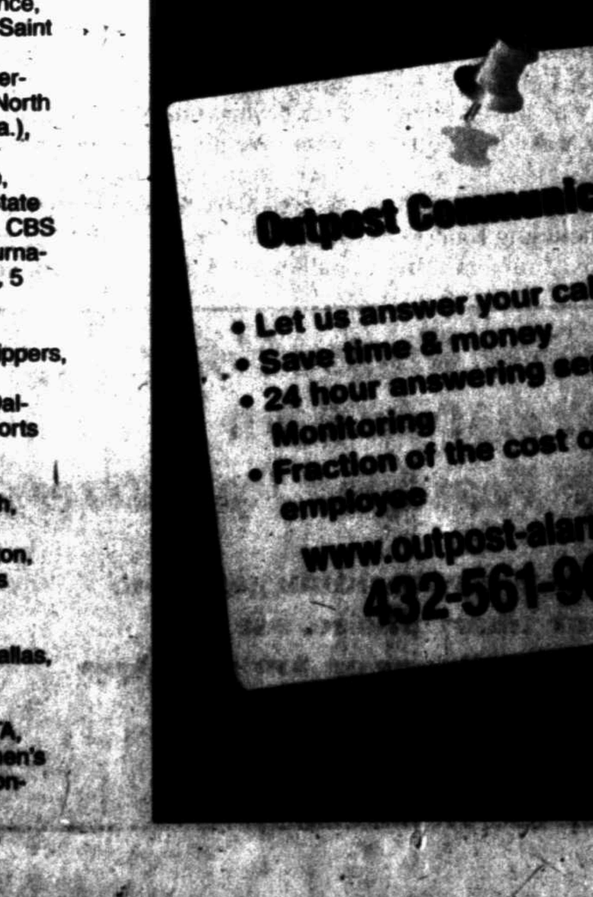

SPORTS SCOREBOARD

Spring Training

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	4	1	.800	
Boston	4	1	.800	
Detroit	4	1	.800	
Tampa Bay	4	1	.800	
Toronto	4	1	.800	
Chicago	3	1	.750	1/2
Cleveland	3	1	.750	1/2
Texas	3	1	.750	1/2
Arizona	2	2	.500	2
Colorado	2	2	.500	2
Houston	2	2	.500	2
Miami	2	2	.500	2
N.Y. Mets	2	2	.500	2
Oakland	2	2	.500	2
Philadelphia	2	2	.500	2
Pittsburgh	2	2	.500	2
San Diego	2	2	.500	2
San Francisco	2	2	.500	2
St. Louis	2	2	.500	2
Washington	2	2	.500	2
Atlanta	1	3	.250	3
Los Angeles	1	3	.250	3
Kansas City	0	4	.000	4
N.Y. Yankees	0	4	.000	4
Chicago	0	4	.000	4
Cincinnati	0	4	.000	4
Minnesota	0	4	.000	4
Seattle	0	4	.000	4

	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	4	1	.800	
Toronto	4	1	.800	
Baltimore	4	1	.800	
Boston	3	1	.750	1/2
Detroit	3	1	.750	1/2
Chicago	3	1	.750	1/2
Cleveland	3	1	.750	1/2
Texas	3	1	.750	1/2
Arizona	2	2	.500	2
Colorado	2	2	.500	2
Houston	2	2	.500	2
Miami	2	2	.500	2
N.Y. Mets	2	2	.500	2
Oakland	2	2	.500	2
Philadelphia	2	2	.500	2
Pittsburgh	2	2	.500	2
San Diego	2	2	.500	2
San Francisco	2	2	.500	2
St. Louis	2	2	.500	2
Washington	2	2	.500	2
Atlanta	1	3	.250	3
Los Angeles	1	3	.250	3
Kansas City	0	4	.000	4
N.Y. Yankees	0	4	.000	4
Chicago	0	4	.000	4
Cincinnati	0	4	.000	4
Minnesota	0	4	.000	4
Seattle	0	4	.000	4

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	4	1	.800	
Boston	4	1	.800	
Detroit	4	1	.800	
Tampa Bay	4	1	.800	
Toronto	4	1	.800	
Chicago	3	1	.750	1/2
Cleveland	3	1	.750	1/2
Texas	3	1	.750	1/2
Arizona	2	2	.500	2
Colorado	2	2	.500	2
Houston	2	2	.500	2
Miami	2	2	.500	2
N.Y. Mets	2	2	.500	2
Oakland	2	2	.500	2
Philadelphia	2	2	.500	2
Pittsburgh	2	2	.500	2
San Diego	2	2	.500	2
San Francisco	2	2	.500	2
St. Louis	2	2	.500	2
Washington	2	2	.500	2
Atlanta	1	3	.250	3
Los Angeles	1	3	.250	3
Kansas City	0	4	.000	4
N.Y. Yankees	0	4	.000	4
Chicago	0	4	.000	4
Cincinnati	0	4	.000	4
Minnesota	0	4	.000	4
Seattle	0	4	.000	4

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	4	1	.800	
Boston	4	1	.800	
Detroit	4	1	.800	
Tampa Bay	4	1	.800	
Toronto	4	1	.800	
Chicago	3	1	.750	1/2
Cleveland	3	1	.750	1/2
Texas	3	1	.750	1/2
Arizona	2	2	.500	2
Colorado	2	2	.500	2
Houston	2	2	.500	2
Miami	2	2	.500	2
N.Y. Mets	2	2	.500	2
Oakland	2	2	.500	2
Philadelphia	2	2	.500	2
Pittsburgh	2	2	.500	2
San Diego	2	2	.500	2
San Francisco	2	2	.500	2
St. Louis	2	2	.500	2
Washington	2	2	.500	2
Atlanta	1	3	.250	3
Los Angeles	1	3	.250	3
Kansas City	0	4	.000	4
N.Y. Yankees	0	4	.000	4
Chicago	0	4	.000	4
Cincinnati	0	4	.000	4
Minnesota	0	4	.000	4
Seattle	0	4	.000	4

NHL

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Pittsburgh	29	21	6	2	44	102	73
Boston	29	19	7	3	41	94	63
Montreal	29	18	8	3	39	85	63
Ottawa	29	15	9	5	35	81	77
Toronto	29	14	8	7	35	81	73
Buffalo	29	14	9	6	34	77	71
Tampa Bay	29	14	9	6	34	77	71
Florida	29	7	16	6	20	70	100
Carolina	27	16	11	1	33	82	76
Tampa Bay	28	15	11	2	32	76	74
Washington	27	11	11	5	27	73	82
Florida	29	7	16	6	20	70	100

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago	28	20	3	5	45	95	60
St. Louis	28	16	9	3	35	83	73
Detroit	28	13	10	5	31	73	73
Columbus	29	11	12	6	28	64	76
Nashville	28	11	11	6	28	65	74

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Minnesota	27	15	10	2	32	74	69
Vancouver	28	13	7	8	32	75	72
Calgary	28	11	11	4	26	75	87
Edmonton	27	10	11	6	26	68	79
Colorado	27	10	13	4	24	64	84

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Anaheim	27	20	3	4	44	90	56
Los Angeles	26	14	10	2	30	76	69
Phoenix	26	13	11	4	30	77	76
San Jose	26	12	8	6	30	82	72
Dallas	27	12	12	3	27	69	81

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Saturday's Scores
Winnipeg 5, Toronto 4, SO
Columbus 1, Phoenix 0, SO
Boston 4, Washington 1
Pittsburgh 3, N.Y. Rangers 0
Ottawa 4, Buffalo 3, OT
Minnesota 6, Colorado 4
Montreal 2, New Jersey 1
Tampa Bay 4, Carolina 1
N.Y. Islanders 4, Florida 3
St. Louis 2, Anaheim 1, OT
Chicago 8, Dallas 1
Detroit at Vancouver, late
San Jose at Los Angeles, late

Today's Games
Boston at Pittsburgh, 11:30 a.m.
Winnipeg at Ottawa, 4 p.m.
Buffalo at Washington, 5 p.m.
Nashville at Edmonton, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY'S SUMMARIES
BLACKHAWKS 8, STARS 1

Chicago	3	3	2	– 8
Dallas	0	0	1	– 1

First Period—1, Chicago, Toews 12 (Leddy, Saad), 9:05. 2, Chicago, Toews 13 (Saad, Keith), 10:40. 3, Chicago, Leddy 3 (Stalberg, Bickell), 17:54.
Second Period—4, Chicago, Oduya 2 (Stalberg, Bickell), 8:01. 5, Chicago, Hossa 12 (Kane, Seabrook), 12:18. 6, Chicago, Hossa 13 (Toews, Kane), 19:09 (pp).
Third Period—7, Chicago, Keith 2 (Bickell, Stalberg), 2:06. 8, Dallas, Daley 2 (Ja.Benn, Whitney), 6:30 (pp). 9, Chicago, Kane 15 (Bolland, Leddy), 9:39 (pp).
Shots on Goal—Chicago 11-9-14—34. Dallas 3-5-11—19.
Goalies—Chicago, Crawford. Dallas, Lehtonen, Bachman A—18,584 (18,532). T—2:27.

PENGUINS 3, RANGERS 0

N.Y. Rangers	0	0	0	– 0
Pittsburgh	1	0	2	– 3

First Period—1, Pittsburgh, Malkin 25 (Letang, Kunitz), 2:41 (pp). 2, Pittsburgh, Neal 11 (Bennett, Letang), 14:12. 3, Boston, Krejci 7 (Lucic, Horton), 17:15.
Second Period—3, Pittsburgh, Johnson 2, 1:24. 4, Boston, Peverelli 1 (Horton, Eriksson), 9:02.
Third Period—5, Boston, Peverley 4 (Lucic, Krejci), 2:41 (pp).
Shots on Goal—Washington 8-14-11-33. Boston 12-15-11—38.
Goalies—Washington, Neuvirth. Boston, Khudobin. A—17,565 (17,565). T—2:33.

SENATORS 4, SABRES 3, OT

Ottawa	1	2	0	1 – 4
Buffalo	1	1	1	0 – 3

First Period—1, Buffalo, Weber 1 (Leino, Ott), 0:52. 2, Buffalo, Stafford 3 (Gerbe, Leopold), 15:16.
Second Period—3, Ottawa, Wideman 4 (Gonchar, Turris), 4:03. 4, Ottawa, Phillips 4, 10:14. 5, Ottawa, Turris 6 (Lalambedre, Wideman), 18:57.
Third Period—6, Buffalo, Stafford 4 (Ehrhoff, Hecht), 12:06.
Overtime—7, Ottawa, Turris 7 (Wideman, Gonchar), 3:54 (pp).
Shots on Goal—Ottawa 10-15-6-3—34. Buffalo 10-9-13-4—36.
Goalies—Ottawa, Bishop. Buffalo, Miller. A—19,070 (19,070). T—2:36.

WILD 6, AVALANCHE 4

Minnesota	4	1	1	– 6
Colorado	1	2	1	– 4

First Period—1, Minnesota, Suter 2 (Spurgeon, Parise), 4:16 (pp). 2, Minnesota, Setoguchi 8 (Cullen, Stoner), 6:00. 3, Minnesota, Cullen/Pack 3 (Heatley, Suter), 9:04. 4, Colorado, J.Mitchell 9 (Paluskaj), 14:11. 5, Minnesota, Brodziak 4 (Heatley, Setoguchi), 17:18.
Second Period—6, Colorado, Paintsil/Holzer 12 (Duchene, Landeskog), 2:45. 7, Colorado, Landeskog 4 (Duchene, O'Reilly), 10:23. 8, Minnesota, Bouchard 3, 12:02.
Third Period—9, Minnesota, Setoguchi 9 (Bouchard, Falk), 10:22. 10, Colorado, Kobasew 3 (McLeod, Zanon), 18:07.
Shots on Goal—Minnesota 14-9-5—28. Colorado 8-13-11—32.
Goalies—Minnesota, Backstrom. Colorado, Giguere, Varlamov A—17,708 (18,007). T—2:30.

LIGHTNING 4, HURRICANES 1

Carolina	0	0	1	– 1
Tampa Bay	1	2	1	– 4

First Period—1, Tampa Bay, Johnson 1 (Killorn, Conacher), 10:54.
Second Period—2, Tampa Bay, Palat 1 (Sala, Johnson), 6:35. 3, Tampa Bay, Thompson 6 (Coombes, Palat), 12:51.
Third Period—4, Tampa Bay, Purcell 5 (St. Louis, Hedman), 3:54. 5, Carolina, E.Staal 13 (Semin), 6:21.
Shots on Goal—Carolina 8-10-4—22. Tampa Bay 10-8-8—26.
Goalies—Carolina, Peters. Tampa Bay, Garon. A—19,204 (19,204). T—2:21.

BLUE JACKETS 1, COYOTES 0, SO

Phoenix	0	0	0	0 – 0
Columbus	0	0	0	1 – 1

Columbus won shootout 2-0
First Period—None.
Second Period—None.
Third Period—None.
Overtime—None.

Winter Sports

World Cup Cross-Country Skiing
Saturday
At Oslo, Norway
Men
50K, free style

1. Alexander Legkov, Russia, 2 hours, 7 minutes, 34.1 seconds.
2. Maxim Vylegzhanin, Russia, 1:2 seconds.
3. Ilya Chernousov, Russia, 1:9.
4. Petter Northug, Norway, 2:3.
5. Roland Claes, Italy, 2:8.
6. Petter Northug, Norway, 42.0.
7. Maxim Vylegzhanin, Russia, 42.8.
8. Daniel Richardsson, Sweden, 42.9.
9. Tord Asle Gjerdalen, Norway, 48.1.
10. Sjur Roethe, Norway, 1:21.0.
11. Anders Soedergren, Sweden, 1:21.4.
12. Giorgio Di Centa, Italy, 1:36.2.
13. Konstantin Glavatskiy, Russia, 1:38.5.
14. Michail Semenov, Belarus, 2:04.9.
15. Dmitriy Japarov, Russia, 2:12.0.

World Cup Standings
(After 27 of 31 events)

1. Alexander Legkov, Russia, 1,233.
2. Petter Northug, Norway, 1,221.
3. Dario Cologna, Switzerland, 1,218.
4. Alexey Poltoranin, Russia, 951.
5. Maxim Vylegzhanin, Russia, 817.
6. Ola Vigen Hattestad, Norway, 789.
7. Emil Jonsson, Sweden, 621.
8. Marcus Hellner, Sweden, 581.
9. Martin Johnsrud Sundby, Norway, 469.
10. Lukas Bauer, Czech Republic, 465.

Biathlon World Cup Results
Saturday
At Khanty-Mansiyisk, Russia
(missed targets in parentheses)
Pursuit

1. Gabriela Soukalova, Czech Republic, 30 minutes, 58.6 seconds (2).
2. Olga Vilukhina, Russia, 7.0 seconds behind (3).
3. Tora Berger, Norway, 14.8 (2).
4. Marie Dorin Habert, France, 21.8 (1).
5. Mariann Gossner, Germany, 23.4 (3).
6. Laura Dahlmeier, Germany, 31.3 (1).
7. Andrea Henkel, Germany, 34.7 (3).
8. Kaisa Makarainen, Finland, 41.7 (3).
9. Anais Bescond, France, 42.3 (2).
10. Vita Semerenko, Ukraine, 1:04.5 (3).

Final World Cup Pursuit Standings
(After 8 of 8 events)

1. Tora Berger, Norway, 417 points.
2. Andrea Henkel, Germany, 279.
3. Marie Dorin Habert, France, 277.
4. Olena Pidhrushna, Ukraine, 265.
5. Kaisa Makarainen, Finland, 255.
6. Darya Domracheva, Belarus, 251.

World Cup Overall Standings
(After 25 of 26 events)

1. Tora Berger, Norway, 1,233 points.
2. Darya Domracheva, Belarus, 906.
3. Andrea Henkel, Germany, 832.
4. Marie Dorin Habert, France, 804.
5. Kaisa Makarainen, Finland, 800.
6. Annastasiya Kuzmina, Slovakia, 760.
7. Gabriela Soukalova, Czech Republic, 740.
8. Olena Pidhrushna, Ukraine, 740.
9. Miriam Gossner, Germany, 694.
10. Olga Zaitseva, Russia, 699.

World Cup Freestyle Skiing Results
Saturday
At Are, Sweden
Ski cross
Men
Final

1. Alex Fiva, Switzerland.
2. Victor Oehling Norberg, Sweden.
3. Jean Frederic Chapuis, France.
4. Joe Swensson, United States.

Small Final

5. Filip Flisar, Slovenia.
6. Simon Stickl, Germany.
7. Christian Millhusen, Norway.
8. Christopher Delbosco, Canada.

World Cup Standings
(After 11 of 13 events)

1. Alex Fiva, Switzerland, 575.
2. Armin Niederer, Germany, 434.
3. Victor Oehling Norberg, Sweden, 388.
4. Brady Leman, Canada, 333.
5. Tomas Kraus, Czech Republic, 322.
6. Filip Flisar, Slovenia, 276.
7. Jean Frederic Chapuis, France, 243.
8. John Teller, United States, 227.
9. Jouni Pellinen, Finland, 216.
10. Daniel Bohnacker, Germany, 207.

Women
Final

1. Anna Woerner, Germany.
2. Marielle Berger Sabbatel, France.
3. Karolina Riemen, Poland.
4. Heidi Zacher, Germany.

Small Final

5. Marielle Thompson, Canada.
6. Katrin Mueller, Switzerland.
7. Georgia Simmerling, Canada.
8. Marie Hoese Gjelsen, Norway.

World Cup standings
(After 11 of 13 events)

1. Fanny Smith, Switzerland, 475.
2. Ophelie David, France, 442.
3. Kelsey Serwa, Canada, 401.
4. Marielle Berger Sabbatel, France, 378.
5. Marte Hoese Gjelsen, Norway, 312.
6. Katrin Mueller, Switzerland, 284.
7. Anna Woerner, Germany, 258.
8. Andrea Limbacher, Austria, 258.
9. Katrin Orter, Austria, 255.
10. Anna Holmlund, Sweden, 245.
(tie) Georgia Simmerling, Canada, 245.

Snowboard World Cup Slope Results
Saturday
At Spindleruv Mlyn, Czech Republic
Men
Slope Style

1. Torstein Horgmo, Norway, 95.00 points.
2. Staale Sandbech, Norway, 92.75.
3. Sven Thorgren, Sweden, 90.00.
4. Sebastien Toutant, Canada, 86.75.
5. Sage Kotsenburg, United States, 84.50.
6. Eric Beauchemin, United States, 82.00.
7. Cameron Bennett, Australia, 73.75.
8. Gjermund Braaten, Norway, 72.75.
9. Mathias Weissenbacher, Austria, 66.25.
10. Jenne Ward, Canada, 47.25.
11. Roope Tonteri, Finland, 40.75.
12. Nuki Kadono, Japan, 25.50.

World Cup Slope Style Standings
After 2 of 12 events)

1. Torstein Horgmo, Norway, 1,220 points.
2. Roope Tonteri, Finland, 1,040.
3. Staale Sandbech, Norway, 1,000.
(tie) Charles Guldemond, United States, 1,000.
5. Sven Thorgren, Sweden, 960.

Transcripts

[illegible]

AUTO RACING

NASCAR

Nationwide-Jeff Foxworthy's Grit Chips 300 Results
Saturday
At Bristol Motor Speedway
Bristol, Tenn.
Lap length: .533 miles
(Start position in parentheses)

1. (13) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 300 laps, 144.1 miles, 0 points, $51,450.
2. (12) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 300, 111.2, 42, $48,834.
3. (1) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 300, 102.3, 41, $28,800.
4. (3) Sam Hornish Jr., Ford, 300, 105.9, 40, $32,416.
5. (7) Kevin Harvick, Chevrolet, 300, 120.4, 0, $25,575.
6. (4) Regan Smith, Chevrolet, 300, 112, 38, $21,900.
7. (11) Chris Buescher, Ford, 300, 90.6, 37, $21,325.
8. (1) Justin Allgaier, Chevrolet, 300, 111.6, 37, $31,461.
9. (16) Parker Kligerman, Toyota, 300, 85.4, 35, $27,941.
10. (8) Brian Scott, Chevrolet, 300, 96.5, 34, $26,866.
11. (2) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 300, 92.1, 33, $27,291.
12. (10) Trevor Bayne, Ford, 300, 90.8, 33, $27,191.
13. (9) Mike Bliss, Toyota, 300, 83.2, 31, $27,091.
14. (15) Alex Bowman, Toyota, 300, 83.3, 30, $27,041.
15. (6) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 299, 113.1, 0, $20,850.
16. (18) Travis Pastrana, Ford, 299, 73.7, 28, $27,541.
17. (24) John Wes Townley, Toyota, 299, 64.1, 0, $20,200.
18. (17) Reed Sorenson, Ford, 299, 73.2, 26, $26,816.
19. (26) Josh Wise, Chevrolet, 298, 64.6, 25, $26,716.
20. (29) Scott Riggs, Ford, 298, 59.4, 0, $27,341.
21. (24) Eric McClure, Toyota, 296, 53.2, 23, $26,591.
22. (28) Brad Sweet, Chevrolet, 296, 53.6, 22, $26,541.
23. (33) Mike Wallace, Chevrolet, 296, 53.7, 21, $26,491.
24. (20) Joe Nemechek, Toyota, 293, 60.4, 20, $26,441.
25. (39) Blake Koch, Toyota, 292, 40.8, 19, $26,866.
26. (31) Dexter Stacey, Ford, 292, 43.4, 18, $19,650.
27. (37) Robert Richardson Jr., Chevrolet, 291, 37.9, 17, $26,266.
28. (36) Mike Harmon, Chevrolet, 285, 35.2, 16, $26,191.
29. (38) Brad Teague, Toyota, 271, 34.1, 15, $26,141.
30. (35) Jason White, Toyota, accident, 261, 44.7, 14, $25,891.
31. (25) Hal Martin, Toyota, accident, 158, 56, 13, $25,366.
32. (30) Jeffrey Earnhardt, Ford, accident, 157, 51.8, 12, $25,251.
33. (22) Jeremy Clements, Chevrolet, accident, 122, 62.4, 11, $25,136.
34. (19) Nelson Piquet Jr., Chevrolet, accident, 104, 60.2, 10, $25,101.
35. (32) Jamie Dick, Chevrolet, accident, 102, 38, 9, $18,405.
36. (5) Elliott Sadler, Toyota, engine, 85, 57.5, 8, $24,691.
37. (28) Jeff Green, Toyota, vibration, 38, 29.7, 7, $16,990.
38. (21) J.J. Yeley, Chevrolet, vibration, 7, 34.2, 0, $16,931.
39. (23) Chase Miller, Chevrolet, ignition, 7, 30.3, 5, $16,800.
40. (40) Michael McDowell, Toyota, handling, 2, 29.2, 0, $16,805.

Race Statistics
Average Speed of Race Winner: 81.872 mph.
Time of Race: 1 hour, 57 minutes, 11 seconds.
Margin of Victory: 0.023 seconds.
Caution Flags: 6 for 54 laps.
Lead Changes: 5 among 5 drivers.
Lap Leaders: J.Allgaier 1-62; T.Bayne 63-75; K.Busch 76-167; B.Keselowski 168-193; K.Harvick 194-236; K.Busch 237-300.
Leaders Summary (Driver, Times Led, Laps Led): K.Busch, 2 times for 158 laps; J.Allgaier, 1 time for 62 laps; K.Harvick, 1 time for 43 laps; B.Keselowski, 1 time for 26 laps; T.Bayne, 1 time for 13 laps.
Laps Led in 10 Points: 1 S.Hornish Jr., 167; J.Allgaier, 145; 3. B.Scott, 142; 4. R.Smith, 141; 5. B.Vickers, 137; 6. A.Dillon, 133; 7. T.Bayne, 128; 8. A.Bowman, 120; 9. K.Larson, 118; 10. E.Sadler, 116.

NASCAR Driver Rating Formula
A maximum of 150 points can be attained in a race.
The formula combines the following categories: Wins, Finishes, Top-15 Finishes, Average Running Position While on Lead Lap, Average Speed Under Green, Fastest Lap, Led Most Laps, Lead-Lap Finish.

Formula 1

Australian Grand Prix Lineup
After Saturday qualifying:
race Sunday
At Albert Park
Melbourne, Australia
Lap length: 3.295 miles
Third Session

1. Sebastian Vettel, Germany, Red Bull, 1 minute, 27.407 seconds.
2. Mark Webber, Australia, Red Bull, 1:27.827.
3. Lewis Hamilton, England, Mercedes, 1:28.087.
4. Felipe Massa, Brazil, Ferrari, 1:28.460.
5. Fernando Alonso, Spain, Ferrari, 1:28.495.
6. Nico Rosberg, Germany, Mercedes, 1:28.523.
7. Kimi Raikkonen, Finland, Lotus, 1:28.738.
8. Romain Grosjean, France, Lotus, 1:29.013.
9. Paul di Resta, Scotland, Force India, 1:29.035.
10. Jenson Button, England, McLaren, 1:30.357.

Eliminated after second session
11. Nico Hulkenberg, Germany, Sauber, 1:38.087.
12. Adrian Sutil, Germany, Force India, 1:38.134.
13. Jean-Eric Vergne, France, Toro Rosso, 1:38.778.
14. Daniel Riccardo, Australia, Toro Rosso, 1:39.042.
15. Sergio Perez, Mexico, McLaren, 1:39.900.
16. Valtteri Bottas, Finland, Williams, 1:40.280.

Eliminated after first session
17. Pastor Maldonado, Venezuela, Williams, 1:47.614.
18. Esteban Gutierrez, Mexico, Sauber, 1:47.776.
19. Jules Bianchi, France, Marussia, 1:48.147.
20. Max Chilton, England, Marussia, 1:48.908.
21. Giedo van der Garde, Netherlands, Caterham, 1:49.519.
22. Charles Pic, France, Caterham, 1:50.626.

NHRA

NHRA Pairings
Saturday
At Auto-Plus Raceway
Gainesville, Fla.
Top Fuel

1. Doug Kalitta, 3.779 seconds, 326.32 mph vs. 16. Leah Pruett, 3.906, 307.16; 2. Antron Brown, 3.787, 324.20 vs. 15. Larry Dixon, 3.885, 318.24; 3. Shawn Langdon, 3.802, 324.59 vs. 14. Sidnei Frigo, 3.877, 314.75; 4. Clay Millican, 3.812, 323.27 vs. 13. Brittany Force, 3.867, 322.18; 5. Tony Schumacher, 3.819, 323.89 vs. 12. Khalid alBalooshi, 3.862, 322.34; 6. Spencer Massey, 3.821, 322.73 vs. 11. David Grubnic, 3.848, 319.45; 7. Morgan Lucas, 3.832, 320.28 vs. 10. Steve Torrence, 3.842, 319.75; 8. Brandon Bernstein, 3.837, 320.74 vs. 9. Bob Vandergriff, 3.839, 321.73.
Did Not Qualify: 17. T.J. Zizzo, 3.909, 309.27; 18. Terry Mcmillen, 4.002, 272.78; 19 Ike Reese, 4.139, 283.07; 20. Stig Newgaard, 5.080, 175.05; 21. Tim Cullinan, 5.181, 308.78; 22. Chris Karamesines, 6.778, 286.07; 23. Pat Dakin, 6.960, 92.47.

Funny Car
1 Cruz Pedregon, Toyota Camry, 4.047, 305.49 vs. 16. Paul Lee, Dodge Charger, 4.461, 258.37; 2. Johnny Gray, Charger, 4.071 313.22 vs. 15. Jeff Arend, Charger, 4.369 262.68; 3. Matt Hagan, Charger, 4.084, 308.99 vs. 14. Bob Tasca III, Ford Mustang, 4.204, 302.35; 4. John Force, Mustang, 4.089, 312.06 vs. 13. Courtney Force, Mustang, 4.132, 309.98; 5. Del Worsham, Camry, 4.105, 309.98 vs. 12. Tim Wilkerson, Mustang, 4.131, 304.67; 6. Ron Capps, Charger, 4.115, 304.94 vs.11. Jack Beckman, Charger, 4.122, 302.55; 7. Blake Alexander, Chevy Monte Carlo, 4.115, 304.60 vs. 10. Alexis DeJoria, Camry, 4.121, 306.53; 8. Robert Hight, Mustang, 4.117, 308.21 vs. 9. Tony Pedregon, Camry, 4.120, 290.57.
Did Not Qualify: 17. Dale Creasy Jr., 5.318, 191.95; 18. Chad Head, 5.637, 182.75.

Pro Stock
1. Mike Edwards, Chevy Camaro, 6.473, 214.31 vs. 16. Warren Johnson, Pontiac GXP, 6.589, 211.10; 2. Allen Johnson, Dodge Avenger, 6.481, 213.70 vs. 15. Matt Hartford, Avenger, 6.566, 211.69; 3. Jason Line, Camaro, 6.483, 213.40 vs. 14. Rodger Brogdon, Camaro, 6.549, 211.59; 4. Jeg Coughlin, Avenger, 6.487, 213.40 vs. 13. Greg Stanfield, Avenger, 6.522, 211.73; 5. Greg Anderson, Camaro, 6.493, 213.00 vs. 12. Kurt Johnson, GXP, 6.535, 211.59; 6. V Gaines, Avenger, 6.506, 213.47 vs. 11. Rickie Jones, GXP, 6.530, 212.33; 7. Erica Enders-Stevens, Camaro, 6.505, 213.54 vs. 10. Shane Gray, Camaro, 6.518, 211.93; 8. Vincent Nobile, Camaro, 6.513, 212.86 vs. 9. Chris McGaha, Avenger, 6.515, 212.59.
Did Not Qualify: 17. JR Carr, 6.583, 206.56; 18. Frank Rocco, 6.591, 210.28; 19. Larry Morgan, 6.594, 211.59; 20. Mark Martino, 6.598, 211.26; 21. John Gaydosh Jr, 6.629, 207.47.

Pro Stock Motorcycle
1. Matt Smith, Buell, 6.804, 197.28 vs. 16. Chip Ellis, Buell, 6.910, 192.06; 2. Hector Arana Jr, Buell, 6.805, 197.36 vs. 15. Michael Phillips, Suzuki, 6.910, 195.48; 3. Hector Arana, Buell, 6.805, 198.62 vs. 14. Jim Underdahl, Buell, 6.906, 195.31; 4. Steve Johnson, Suzuki, 6.825, 197.08 vs. 13. LE Tonglet, Suzuki, 6.903, 194.66; 5. Andrew Hines, Harley-Davidson, 6.826, 194.77 vs. 12. Adam Arana, Buell, 6.900, 195.08; 6. John Hall, Buell, 6.840, 195.51 vs. 11. Shawn Gann, Buell, 6.899, 195.42; 7. Mike Berry, Buell, 6.844, 195.42 vs. 10. Eddie Krawiec, Harley-Davidson, 6.882, 194.04; 8. Scotty Pollacheck, Buell, 6.855, 192.30 vs. 9. Michael Ray, Buell, 6.868, 195.08.
Did Not Qualify: 17. Angie Smith, 6.918, 193.15; 18. Katie Sullivan, 6.919, 192.11; 19. Joe DeSantis, 7.002, 191.21; 20. James Surber, 7.008, 192.06; 21. Freddie Camarena, 7.047, 191.57; 22. Redell Harris, 7.178, 187.81.

FISHING REPORT

WEST
ALAN HENRY: Water lightly stained; 52-61 degrees; 10.69' low. Black bass are slow but can be found on spinnerbaits, jigs and drop shot rigs. Crappie are fair to good on live minnows. Catfish are fair on nightcrawlers and prepared bait.
ARROWHEAD: Water off color; 52-59 degrees; 12.51' low. Black bass are slow to fair on spinnerbaits and Texas rigs. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair to good on slabs. Catfish are fair on nightcrawlers.
COLORADO CITY: 17.3' low. No report available.
FORT PHANTOM HILL: Water clear; 50-58 degrees; 11.47' low. Black bass are fair on chatterbaits and Texas rigs. Crappie are fair on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair to good on slabs. Catfish are fair to good on cut bait.
HUBBARD CREEK: Water off color; 53-62 degrees; 21.07' low. Black bass are fair on medium running shad pattern crankbaits, Texas rigs and jigs. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs. Catfish are fair on nightcrawlers and cut bait.
NASWORTHY: No report available.
OAK CREEK: Water stained; 52-61 degrees; 18.09' low. Black bass are fair on spinnerbaits, Texas rigs and jigs. Crappie are good on jigs and live minnows over crappie pipes. Catfish are good on chartreuse (use Worm-Gitz) nightcrawlers and prepared bait.
O.H. IVIE: Water stained; 54-62 degrees; 35.91' low. Black bass are fair on chatterbaits, jigs, Rat-L-Traps and Texas rigs. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair on drop shot rigs. Rainbow trout are good on Rainbow Rattler Tails. Catfish are fair on nightcrawlers and prepared bait.
POSSUM KINGDOM: Water fairly clear; 53-62 degrees; 10.02' low. Black bass are fair on medium running crankbaits, drop shot rigs and Texas rigs. Crappie are fair to good on minnows and jigs. White bass are fair to good on slabs. Striped bass are fair on live shad. Catfish are fair on prepared bait and nightcrawlers.
SPENCE: 63.72' low. No report available.
STAMFORD: 8.74' low. No report available.
SWEETWATER: Water murky; 52-61 degrees; 19.04' low. Black bass are fair on spinnerbaits and Texas rigs. Crappie are fair on live minnows. Catfish are fair on prepared bait and chartreuse (use Worm-Gitz) nightcrawlers.
WHITE RIVER: Water stained; 53-62 degrees; 30.35' low. No report available.

PANHANDLE
GREENBELT: Water stained; 53-61 degrees; 43.34' low. No report available.
MACKENZIE: Water stained; 54-61 degrees; 92.8' low. No report available.
MEREDITH: 99.51' low. No report available.
PALO DURO: 53.11' low. No report available.

SOUTH
AMISTAD: Water clear; 60-64 degrees; 51.13' low. Black bass are very good on jerkbaits, soft plastics, crankbaits, spinnerbaits, swimbaits, and jigs. Striped bass are good on slabs, deep running crankbaits, and jigging spoons. White bass are good on slabs, deep running crankbaits, and jigging spoons. Crappie are good on live minnows on Zara Spook Jr. in the trees. Catfish are fair on chicken, shrimp, and nightcrawlers over baited holes. Yellow catfish are fair on trotlines baited with live perch at night. Bowfishing is fair for the Mexican carp. Anglers license of fishing the Mexico lake should fishing or not.

PGA

Tampa Bay Score
Saturday
At Innisbrook Resort and Golf Club,
Copperhead Course
Palm Harbor, Fla.
Purse: $5.5 million
Yardage: 7,340; Par: 71
Third Round

Kevin Stadler	70-69-65	– 204
Justin Leonard	71-69-67	– 207
George Coetz

Ken Zoller/Special to the MRT

Midland High's Madison Scribner tries to go through two Amarillo Tascosa defenders during Saturday's game at Grande Communications Stadium.

Scribner scores 4 goals in MHS win

From staff reports

Madison Scribner scored four goals, and Sara Torres and Megan Martin each added one as the Midland High girls soccer team clinched a spot in the playoffs with a dominating 6-0 victory against Amarillo Tascosa on Saturday.

The victory marked the third time the Lady Bulldogs put up six goals, but more importantly, Midland High earned the fourth and final playoff spot.

The Lady Bulldogs improved to 8-3-3 with 27 points in District 2-5A and remained in fourth. Midland High is two points behind third place Odessa Permian, who earned a point after a 1-1 tie with rival Odessa High on Saturday. Amarillo Tascosa fell to 2-15-4 overall and 0-12-3 with three points in league play.

Lady Bulldogs..6
Lady Rebels.....0

Plus, Midland High was without its head coach Ryan Dunlevy, who was serving a Midland ISD imposed one-game suspension for his red card last week against Odessa High.

"They talked to me about how they had a big talk in the locker room and they needed to step up and be the team they know they can be without their coach," said MHS assistant coach Meagan Lasley, who was filling in for Dunlevy on Saturday. "There was a lot of pressure but they came out and they dominated."

Scribner scored goals in the 8th and 15th minutes, and then added two more within a minute of each other late in the second half. Vanessa Salazar, Madison Morrow, Hope Barnett and Selena Campos-Mancha all had assists on those goals.

Sara Torres scored in the 9th minute, and then Megan Martin scored off an assist from Morrow in the 64th minute.

Midland High will take on Abilene Cooper on Tuesday, and if it can get some help could move into the third spot in the standings.

Stark's goal earns Lady Rebels tie

From staff reports

ABILENE — Candace Stark's goal in the 62nd minute gave the Lee girls soccer team its second consecutive tie as the Lady Rebels played to a 3-3 draw against Abilene Cooper on Saturday.

Lee (4-14-2 overall, 3-9-2, 11 points in District 2-5A) opened a 2-1 lead in the first half as Erin Cumbest and Deo'nna Calhoun each scored goals. Cumbest's goal came in the 22nd minute off an assist from Nia Garcia, and then Calhoun finished a helper from Jesslyn Penick.

Stark

But the Lady Cougars (8-9-3, 3-9-2, 11 points) battled back to tie the game early in the second half and then took the lead a few minutes later.

Lady Rebels.....3
Lady Cougars.....3

Stark, though, scored unassisted to tie the game.

"We played really well," Lee coach Brian Pollard said. "We possessed the ball, and we played in their half 75-80 percent of the time. We gave up two really dumb fouls right around the edge of the 18-yard box, and that's how they scored two of their three goals."

Lee will take on Odessa Permian at 5 p.m. Tuesday.

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Midland High's Stefani Baeza pitches against Abilene Cooper on Saturday at Audrey Gill Sports Complex.

PLAYOFF

From 1C

is still in second. Meanwhile, Midland High's first win since March 2 on Saturday kept them in the third spot with 26 points and an 8-4-2 record.

Odessa High, meanwhile, is now sitting at 24 points with the victory in the fourth spot, three points ahead of San Angelo Central, who was off Saturday.

Of the three teams fighting for the final two spots, the Bronchos only have one game remaining, which meant that Saturday's win was huge for their playoff prospects.

But Midland High's victory was probably as big.

The Bulldogs will take on Abilene Cooper and rival Lee next week, and both games will be at Grande Communications Stadium. Although the Bulldogs are not in yet, Saturday's come-from-behind victory helped solidify their position in the standings.

"I felt like the intensity definitely stepped up near the end because we wanted that win," Midland High senior Stephen Reid said after his game-winning goal on Saturday against Amarillo Tascosa. "It just fell into place."

Lee, meanwhile, won't have to go into next week still needing a playoff spot as they take on Permian and rival Midland High, and Rebels coach Scott Hicks said another tie wasn't an option on Saturday.

"We told them this one is big and we need to win it," Hicks said. "Getting points out of those last two games is going to be tough."

Follow Len on Twitter: @Len_Hayward_MRT

MIDLAND HIGH 4
AMARILLO TASCOSA 3

Stephen Reid's goal in the 78th minute gave the Bulldogs a much-needed victory on Saturday at Grande Communications Stadium.

Reid's goal, which came off an assist by Ethan Baltier, gave MHS the lead for the first time in the game as they battled back from deficits three different times to tie it.

Reid, meanwhile, was out of the game until late in the second half because of a bruised shin but returned to score the game winner.

"It was killing me to be off the field," Reid said. "I wanted to get in."

Tascosa held three one goal leads in the game, but goals by Nico Francino (37th minute), Homero Vasquez (39th minute) and Bart Conner (55th minute) tied the game for the Bulldogs.

Baltier had two assists, and Reese Barden and Will Downing also had helpers.

"The character of this team is to just keep to going on and on and keep fighting," Midland High coach Warren Cottle said. "Three different times we could've tanked it in, but this team's character is such that they don't stop fighting."

Midland High improved to 8-4-2 in district play and 11-5-4 overall.

LEE 3
ABILENE COOPER 2

ABILENE — Three different players scored for the Rebels in a close victory against the Cougars at Shotwell Stadium that helped Lee clinch a playoff spot.

Cesar Gonzales, Darius Strambler and Leo Barba all tallied goals as Barba's goal in the 60th minute proved the game winner.

The Cougars converted two penalty kicks in the final five minutes to make the game close. But for Lee (7-1-6, 27 points in District 2-5A), it was the key win it needed heading into a tough final week of the season.

Lee coach Scott Hicks said that the Rebels' conditioning made a difference on a hot day.

"We practiced from two to four this week, which is exactly the time we were going to play and after looking at the weather I knew it was going to be hot," Hicks said. "The first 25 minutes of the second half, we weren't tired and they were. It really cost them."

Lee (10-4-8 overall) will take on district champ Odessa Permian at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Ratliff Stadium.

Boys District 2-5A Standings

	District W	District L	District T	District Pts.	Overall W	Overall L	Overall T
x-y-Odessa Permian	11	1	2	35	13	5	3
x-Lee	7	1	6	27	10	4	8
Midland High	8	4	2	26	11	5	4
Odessa High	7	5	3	24	12	6	4
San Angelo Central	6	5	3	21	10	6	4
Abilene Cooper	5	8	1	16	6	10	3
Abilene High	3	7	4	13	8	10	7
Amarillo Tascosa	2	9	4	10	7	12	4
Lubbock Coronado	1	10	3	6	4	16	3

Note: 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie
x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched district title

Saturday's Scores

Midland High 4, Amarillo Tascosa 3; Lee 3, Abilene Cooper 2; Abilene High 1, Lubbock Coronado 1; Odessa High 1, Odessa Permian 0; San Angelo Central was idle

Tuesday's Games

Abilene Cooper at Midland High, 7:30 p.m.; Lee at Odessa Permian; San Angelo Central at Abilene High; Odessa High at Lubbock Coronado; Amarillo Tascosa is idle. All games at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted

Girls District 2-5A Standings

	District W	District L	District T	District Pts.	Overall W	Overall L	Overall T
x-San Angelo Central	12	0	2	38	16	5	2
x-Odessa High	10	1	4	34	14	2	5
x-Odessa Permian	9	3	2	29	15	5	2
Midland High	8	3	3	27	8	7	6
Abilene High	6	7	1	19	12	9	2
Abilene Cooper	3	9	2	11	6	9	5
Lee	3	9	2	11	4	14	2
Lubbock Coronado	3	10	1	10	5	15	1
Amarillo Tascosa	0	12	3	3	2	15	4

Note: 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie
x-clinched playoff spot

Saturday's Scores

Midland High 6, Amarillo Tascosa 0; Lee 3, Abilene Cooper 2; Abilene High 2, Lubbock Coronado 1; Odessa Permian 1, Odessa High 1; San Angelo Central was idle

Tuesday's Games

Abilene Cooper at Midland High, 5:30 p.m.; Lee at Odessa Permian; San Angelo Central at Abilene High; Odessa High at Lubbock Coronado; Amarillo Tascosa is idle. All games at 5 p.m. unless otherwise noted

LADY DAWGS

From 1C

(12-12, 1-5), batting around in the first inning for a 5-0 lead. The rally started when Vines hit a one-out triple to left field, and continued when next batter Sydney Betcher brought her in with a single.

Later in the inning, pitcher Stefani Baeza hit an RBI single to score first baseman Lexi Lopez. Catcher Courtney Warren tripled to right, bringing in Pini Abila and Baeza for a 4-0 lead. Sophomore third baseman Shelby Neatherlin capped the rally with a single to left, scoring Warren.

The Lady Dawgs picked up where they left off in the second, adding four more runs to the scoreboard. Brooke Ryan led off the frame with a triple to right center and scored on a base hit by Vines. After stealing second base, Vines came in on a double to right by Betcher, and Lopez capped the rally with a triple to left center, scoring Betcher for a 9-0 advantage.

Vines hit a sacrifice fly in the third, bringing in Brittany Baggett for a 10-0 lead. MHS had three more cross in the fourth with Warren, Ryan and Vines each hitting RBI singles in the frame.

Meanwhile, Baeza and Ryan, who relieved Baeza in the fifth inning, held the Cooper bats at bay, allowing two hits and three baserunners. It was an impressive way for Midland High to cap an eight-day span during which the Lady Dawgs finished 4-1.

"They bounced back well (from back-to-back losses to start district play)," coach Vines said. "We started off shaky, and we still have a lot to overcome because of that shaky start in district play. Our kids are taking it one game at a time, which is all we can ask them to do, and we're starting to get that run production."

Follow Jonathan on Twitter: @Hull_MRT

MIDLAND HIGH 13
ABILENE COOPER 0, 5 INNINGS

Cooper	000	00	—0	2	1
Midland High	541	3x	—13	16	1

Logan Usery, Keely Gillett (2) and Kenze Black; Stefani Baeza, Brooke Ryan (5) and Courtney Warren. W — Baeza. L — Usery. 2B — MHS: Sydney Betcher. 3B — MHS: Ryan, Taylor Vines, Lexi Lopez, Warren. RBI — MHS: Vines 3, Warren 3, Betcher 2, Pini Abila, Ryan, Lopez, Baeza; Shelby Neatherlin. SB — MHS: Vines. SF — MHS: Vines, Abila.

Records: Cooper 12-12, 1-5 in 2-5A; Midland High 1-2-5, 5-2

Next: Abilene High at Abilene Cooper, 4:30 p.m. Tuesday; Amarillo Tascosa at Midland High, 4:30 p.m. Friday

MHS

From 1C

for what looked like it may turn into a double play. Except Mata sailed the throw wide right to no one in particular, allowing the runners to safely reach first and third.

Mata followed by walking the bases loaded, only to strike out the next two batters to end the inning, causing the crowd to erupt and drawing a spirited fist pump from Mata.

"After that error, I figured that they're hitting a lot of popups and ground balls, I didn't have to do it all by myself, I've got a really good defense that would back me up," Mata said. "So, from then on my plan was to just let them hit the ball and let my defense do the work."

That defense was on display early in the game, turning inning-ending double plays in the second and third, including a highlight-reel play by Jimmy Essman in the third. Essman reached low to snag a line drive and dove back to first in time to turn the double play and end the inning.

"What a big-time play," Russell said.

After his error, Mata was a different player on the mound, getting five of his six strikeouts and walking just two along with a hit by pitch.

"He came up and was throwing the slider and we weren't patient enough to stay off of it," Coronado coach Gary Hix said. "We chased a lot of bad pitches in situations where we had runners in scoring position, and that hurt us.

"They cashed in on their opportunities and we weren't able to do that."

James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Midland High's Lance White slides into home to score against Lubbock Coronado on Saturday at Zachery Field.

With Russell urging his team to get a run in the sixth, promising that Mata would end the game if it didn't come down to a decisive bottom seventh, Midland High took advantage of one of the few mistakes by Coronado starter Clayton Lozano and the Mustang defense.

After Lozano hit Essman with one out, senior Connor Beck lined a single to left before a fielding error allowed he and pinch runner Jason Raughton to reach second and third, respectively.

The next batter, White, made the Mustangs pay, punching a two-run single into right that proved to be the winning runs of the game.

"It was awesome because I knew Alex, once he got his run support, it was a closed door," White said.

After junior Austen Wade added a run on a sacrifice fly, Mata did just that, striking out leadoff hitter Josh Narvaiz to punctuate the hard-fought win.

Hix said he was disappointed his team wasn't able to capitalize on its chances in the game but noted that there's a reason the Bulldogs are the only 2-5A team without a loss in league play.

"When you look across there and you see that team over there," Hix said, "I think they are the best team in the district playing right now."

And while the Bulldogs were certainly happy for the win, Mata said they were far from done, with another three-game week awaiting them.

"I told the kids, 'No rest for the weary,' we'll just keep going," Russell said. "If we can get through these two weeks and not just fall apart we're going to be in really good shape down the stretch."

Follow Jordan on Twitter: @JordanMasonMRT

MIDLAND HIGH 3, LUBBOCK CORONADO 0

Coronado	000	000	0	—0	1	2
MHS	000	003	x	—3	6	2

Clayton Lozano and Greg Hewitt; Alex Mata and Ryan Whittenberg. W — Mata. L — Lozano. 2B — MHS: J.M. Hillman. RBI — MHS: Lance White (2), Austen Wade.

Records: Coronado 13-8, 2-2 in District 2-5A; MHS 16-5, 5-0

Next: Coronado at Odessa Permian, 4:30 p.m.

Topeka drops Jacks

From staff reports

ODESSA — The Topeka RoadRunners scored three goals in the second period, putting the Odessa Jackalopes in a hole they couldn't quite dig out of in a 4-3 victory at Ector County Coliseum on Saturday.

With the score tied 2-2 late in the second period, Topeka's Tyler Poulsen scored a pair of goals in less than a three-minute span. The Jacks managed to get a goal from Stephen Inman with 5:06 left in the match, but couldn't get the equalizer.

The loss was the 14th straight for Odessa (6-45-3, 15 points), which returns to action at 7:05 p.m. Tuesday, playing host to the Corpus Christi IceRays at Ector County Coliseum.

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MIDLAND - ODESSA

Tourney

From 1C

themselves this year but didn't get out of regionals," Jones said. "I think those four at-larges add a lot of quality to the tournament. In the years that the power regions have a zone qualifier, like we did this year, it adds another quality team. Virtually every year you can get two teams out of our region that can go up there and compete very well."

This season Region V had the automatic qualifier and thanks to Midland College and Weatherford College making the championship game both the Lady Chaps and Lady Coyotes are in the national tournament. And because MC defeated Weatherford in the regional title game, MC got a slightly higher seed at nationals at 13. Weatherford got the 16th seed and will play 17th seed Northeast (Neb.) Community College at 10 a.m. Monday, the opening game of the tourney.

While it would have been ideal for the Lady Chaps to get an even higher seed, Jones said it doesn't really matter at this point of the season.

"I don't think there's any team we can't play with and I think most of the teams that are there feel the same way," Jones said. "It should be exciting to have that opportunity to see what we can do. There are no easy games at this time of year. We just have to play them and see if we can come out on top."

Even though the Lady Chaps had already sewn up a bid to nationals, that regional title game still meant a lot to the team.

"I think it's a good opportunity for the team that doesn't win (regionals) that they have a chance to come back and redeem themselves," said sophomore forward Achiri Ade. "But going into that championship game, we knew we were still going (to nationals) but our focus was to still win regionals."

And with the way they defeated three ranked teams to win regionals, the Lady Chaps believe they are playing well at the right time and are confident they can succeed in any format.

"Winning regionals gave us a lot of confidence after getting the big win over South Plains (83-67) add then beating Weatherford (79-74), which was a good team," said MC sophomore guard Darnetta Jackson. "We're going to approach nationals the same way we did at regionals and just go play hard."

Follow Oscar on Twitter: @OLeRoy_MRT

NJCAA Tournament Schedule

2013 NJCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
Championship Schedule
at Wheatland Coliseum, Dalton, Ga.

Friday

Game 1: (16) Westchester College (24-5) vs. (17) Northeast (Neb) CC (28-6), 10 a.m.
Game 2: (9) Glen Junior College (30-3) vs. Keiser (Fla.) (24-5), noon.
Game 3: (13) Midland College (26-7) vs. (20) Volunteer State (Tenn.) (28-8), 2 p.m.
Game 4: (5) North Idaho (28-4) vs. (21) Walters State (N.C.) (30-3), 4:30 p.m.
Game 5: (12) Connors College (Ala.) (28-5) vs. (16) Redlands (Colo.) CC (27-8), 6:00 p.m.
Game 6: (4) Gulf Coast (Fla.) Junior College (25-6) vs. (23) Southeastern Illinois (25-5), 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Game 7: (14) Western Nebraska (20-14) vs. (19) ASA College (N.Y) (24-3), 10 a.m.
Game 8: (11) Northwest Florida State (24-4) vs. (22) Iowa-Iowa Wes.) CC (19-9), noon

Second round

Tuesday

Game 9: (1) Trinity Valley CC (32-1) vs. Game 1 winner, 2 p.m.
Game 10: (8) Darton State (Ga.) College (30-3) vs. Game 2 winner, 4:30 p.m.
Game 11: (4) Gulf Coast State (Fla.) (27-4) vs. Game 3 winner, 6:30 p.m.
Game 12: (5) Shelton State (Ala.) (32-0) vs. Game 4 winner, 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Game 13: (2) Central Arizona (29-1) vs. Game 5 winner, 1 p.m.
Game 14: (7) College of Southern Idaho vs. Game 6 winner, 3 p.m.
Game 15: (3) Hutchinson (Kan.) CC vs. Game 7 winner, 5 p.m.
Game 16: (6) Walters State (Tenn.) CC (29-1) vs. Game 8 winner, 7 p.m.
Game 17: Game 9 winner vs. Game 10 winner, 1 p.m.
Game 18: Game 11 winner vs. Game 12 winner, 3 p.m.
Game 19: Game 13 winner vs. Game 14 winner, 5 p.m.
Game 20: Game 15 winner vs. Game 16 winner, 7 p.m.

Quarterfinals

Friday

Game 21: Game 17 winner vs. Game 18 winner, 6 p.m.
Game 22: Game 19 winner vs. Game 20 winner, 8 p.m.

Saturday

Game 23: Third place game, Game 21 loser vs. Game 22 loser, 3 p.m.
Game 24: Championship, Game 21 winner vs. Game 22 winner, 7 p.m.

2013 NJCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT, Championship Schedule
at Hutchinson Sports Arena, Hutchinson, Kan.

First round

Sunday

Game 1: (16) North Platte (Neb.) CC (29-5) vs. (17) Illinois Area College (Ala.) (27-7), 10 a.m.
Game 2: (9) Northwest Florida State (29-3) vs. (24) UCC Batesville (15-17), noon
Game 3: (13) Howard College (25-5) vs. (20) East Rockingham (25-7), 2 p.m.
Game 4: (12) Hagerstown (Md.) CC (29-4) vs. (21) Lee College (24-10), 4:30 p.m.
Game 5: (15) Wayne College (23-4) vs. (18) Shelton State (Ala.) (25-8), 6:30 p.m.
Game 6: (10) Coffeyville (Kan.) CC (31-2) vs. (23) Walters State (Tenn.) (17-10), 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Game 7: (14) Motlow State (Tenn.) (25-8) vs. (19) Connors State (Okla.) (24-8), 10 a.m.
Game 8: (11) Iowa Western (31-2) vs. Game 1 winner, 2 p.m.
Game 9: (6) Sun Mountain (27-4) vs. Game 2 winner, 4:30 p.m.
Game 10: (4) Hutchinson (Kan.) CC (31-2) vs. Game 3 winner, 6:30 p.m.
Game 11: (5) Westchester (Ill.) (31-2) vs. Game 4 winner, 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Game 12: (2) Spartanburg (S.C.) (29-4) vs. Game 5 winner, noon
Game 13: (7) East Georgia (30-4) vs. Game 6 winner, 2 p.m.
Game 14: (3) Central Florida (29-3) vs. Game 7 winner, 4 p.m.
Game 15: (6) Central Arizona (29-4) vs. Game 8 winner, 6 p.m.

Quarterfinals

Thursday

Game 17: Game 9 winner vs. Game 10 winner, noon
Game 18: Game 11 winner vs. Game 12 winner, 2 p.m.
Game 19: Game 13 winner vs. Game 14 winner, 4 p.m.
Game 20: Game 15 winner vs. Game 16 winner, 6 p.m.

Saturday

Friday

Game 21: Game 17 winner vs. Game 18 winner, 6 p.m.
Game 22: Game 19 winner vs. Game 20 winner, 8 p.m.

Saturday

Game 23: Third place game, Game 21 loser vs. Game 22 loser, 5 p.m.
Game 24: Championship, Game 21 winner vs. Game 22 winner, 7 p.m.

Samardzija pitched 2-hit ball for Cubs vs. Rangers

Associated Press

Cubs	5
Rangers	1

LAS VEGAS — The hard work is paying off for Jeff Samardzija.

Samardzija scattered three hits over five scoreless innings for the Chicago Cubs in a 5-1 victory over a Texas Rangers split squad Saturday.

Samardzija (2-0) struck out three and walked one.

"It's exciting," he said. "I worked real hard in the offseason and I want to keep the positive momentum going. The onus is off my shoulders because of all the days of the season, only one day kicks it all off," he said about being the opening day starter. "It's nice because (I) don't have to go out and wow them for a job. I'm progressing and getting better, which is nice. Everything has to be in check and under control. I'm enjoying the step-by-step process in the spring."

After allowing a lead-off single to Elvis Andrus in the first, Samardzija retired the next eight Rangers in a row.

"Unfortunately, I spent a fair amount of time here in Triple-A," he said. "I know the mound and I know the locker room; it's always a live, rowdy atmosphere. It's a good (place) to get the feel of the season."

The Cubs were unable to capitalize on Nate Schierholtz's double that led off the second, but they took a 1-0 lead after Steve Clevenger opened the third with a double and Darwin Barney hit a one-out RBI single.

The Cubs increased their lead to 2-0 on Starlin Castro's sacrifice fly later in the third.

Scott Hairston opened the fourth with a homer to left that gave the Cubs a 3-0 lead.

The Cubs increased their lead to 5-0 in the fifth on RBI singles by Dioner Navarro and Brian Bogusevic.

The Rangers narrowed the Cubs' lead to 5-1 in the sixth when Craig Gentry opened with a triple and scored on Mitch Moreland's RBI groundout.

Strasburg strikes out 8, but Astros top Nats

Associated Press

Astros	4
Nationals	2

VIERA, Fla. — Stephen Strasburg moved one step closer to being ready for his opening day start by striking out eight Houston Astros Saturday night.

The 24-year-old right-hander threw a spring training-high 93 pitches in 5 1-3 innings of a 4-2 loss to the Houston Astros.

The overpowering command is there: At one point, Strasburg struck out five batters in a row — that streak was broken up by former teammate Rick Ankiel's solo homer in the fourth inning.

Now, he just needs to get his pitch-count up a bit.

"When you get to this point and you start to get to closer to 100 pitches, you're like, 'All right, let's get the season going.'" Strasburg said. "But that's not the case. I've still got a couple of weeks. I'm just going to keep working and keep grinding."

Strasburg did make one significant improvement from his last start, adjusting his spot on the rubber when he pitched from out of the stretch. He struggled with that in his last outing against the Atlanta Braves on March 11.

Dominicans beat Puerto Rico in WBC

By Steven Wine
Associated Press

Dominican Republic	2
Puerto Rico	0

MIAMI — As a reward for their latest victory, the Dominicans get a World Baseball Classic rematch against the team that eliminated them in 2009.

Wandy Rodriguez pitched six innings, and three relievers completed a three-hitter to help the unbeaten Dominican Republic top Puerto Rico 2-0 Saturday.

Both teams had already qualified for the semifinals in San Francisco, and the game merely determined seedings. Puerto Rico plays two-time defending champion Japan on Sunday night, and the Dominicans face the Netherlands on Monday night, with the winners advancing to the championship game Tuesday.

The Dominicans were eliminated from the 2009 WBC when they lost twice to the Netherlands in a stunning first-round upset.

"We're not thinking of the past; we're thinking of the present," Dominican manager Tony Pena said. "They're going to be tough. We're going to be tough also."

Puerto Rico will face Japan for the first time.

"They're the two-time champions of the WBC for a reason," Puerto Rican manager Edwin Rodriguez said. "They know how to play the game, and they put a lot of emphasis on the little things. We'll have to play an almost perfect game."

The Caribbean carnival that provided a soundtrack all week reached a crescendo on the final day in Miami, with the steady beat of drums and the bleat of air horns from a crowd of 25,846.

"This was like the World Series," said Dominican second baseman Robinson Cano, who was selected the most valuable player for the second round in a row. "It was a great atmosphere."

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

All activities will be held at Midland Country Club unless noted

SUNDAY- April 7, 2013
Volunteer Orientation.....1:00 pm

MONDAY – April 8, 2013
OPEN QUALIFYING
* CONTESTANT PRACTICE DAY AT MIDLAND COUNTRY CLUB

TUESDAY – April 9, 2013
* CONTESTANT PRACTICE DAY AT MIDLAND COUNTRY CLUB
* PRO-AM TEAM GIFTS and PAIRINGS PARTY at MCC, shopping from 4:00 pm-8:00pm IN Wine Room and Patio area,
* PRO –AM PAIRING PARTY (MORNING AND AFTER NOON TEAMS) 7:00 pm AT MIDLAND COUNTRY CLUB, Back Patio Area
All Nationwide players and a guest are invited to attend

WEDNESDAY – April 10, 2013
* PRO-AM TEAM GIFTS at MCC in Wine Room 7:00am-2:00pm
* WESTERN NATIONAL BANK GOLF CLASSIC MORNING PRO-AM SHOTGUN START 8:00 am
* WESTERN NATIONAL BANK GOLF CLASSIC AFTER NOON PRO-AM SHOTGUN START 1:30 pm
* AWARDS PRESENTATION AND PARTY IN THE Back Patio Area FOLLOWING END OF PLAY
All Nationwide players and a guest are invited to attend

THURSDAY – April 11, 2013
*OPENING ROUND OF THE WESTERN NATIONAL BANK GOLF CLASSIC
* FREE SMALL BUSINESS SEMINAR

FRIDAY – April 12, 2013
* SECOND ROUND OF THE WESTERN NATIONAL BANK GOLF CLASSIC (FIELD CUT.... LOW SCORING PLAYERS AND TIES AFTER FRIDAY'S ROUND)

SATURDAY – April 13, 2013
*THRID ROUND OF THE WESTERN NATIONAL BANK GOLF CLASSIC

SUNDAY – April 14, 2013
* FINAL ROUND OF THE WESTERN NATION BANK GOLF CLASSIC
* TROPHY PRESENTATION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING PLAY

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Vettel takes pole for F1 Australian GP

By Chris Lines
Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Reigning Formula One world champion Sebastian Vettel claimed the pole position for the season-opening Australian Grand Prix on Sunday in a unusual qualifying session held on race day.

Vettel qualified in a time of 1 minute, 27.407 seconds around the Albert Park circuit, and was joined in an all-Red Bull front row by teammate Mark Webber, who was 0.4 seconds back.

Lewis Hamilton qualified third in his first race for Mercedes, ahead of the Ferrari pair Felipe Massa and Fernando Alonso.

The second and third sessions of qualifying were rescheduled for Sunday after a series of rain delays and the onset of darkness prevented them from being held Saturday.

Sunday's sessions were held on a track damp from morning rain. In the second session, intermediate tires were used — except for McLaren's Sergio Perez, who took an unsuccessful gamble on slicks — but the drying conditions meant the flying laps in final qualifying were all on the softer slick tires.

Vettel claimed the 37th pole of his career, and his third in four years at Albert Park.

"It definitely wasn't easy in those conditions," Vettel said. "On the dries (tires) I got in the groove and the car felt in balance."

Under the F1 rules, the top 10 drivers must start with the tires they finished qualifying on, meaning early pit stops will be required as the super-soft slicks are unlikely to last more than a handful of laps.

"It could be a couple of laps or a couple of laps more," Vettel said.

Mercedes' Nico Rosberg — who topped the time sheets in the first and second qualifying sessions — qualified in sixth, ahead of the Lotus pair Kimi Raikkonen and Romain Grosjean, followed by Paul di Resta of Force India and McLaren's Jenson Button.

Qualifying on Sunday is unusual but not unprecedented, with the grids for both the 2004 and 2010 Japanese Grands Prix decided on race day due to bad weather on Saturday.

Busch holds off Larson at Bristol's finish line

By Jenna Fryer
Associated Press

BRISTOL, Tenn. — Kyle Larson's first chance to get a big win in NASCAR ended with him claiming a controversial win.

With a shot at grabbing his first Nationwide Series win Saturday, he wasn't going to make that same mistake again.

Especially not against Kyle Busch.

Larson stalked Busch over the closing laps around Bristol Motor Speedway waiting to make a move. It came as they closed in on the finish line, and Larson made a last-gasp push on the high side that fell just short as Busch held on for his second win of the season.

But in chasing the win the right way, the 20-year-old Larson cleaned up some of the criticism that had followed him from Daytona last month after spinning C.E. Falk III on the final lap of the "Battle at the Beach" late model race.

"You certainly want to try to win races the right way," Busch said. "He played it smart today. That was good on his end. I think a lot of people have been looking at him to try to see if he's going to be to a wrecker or a checker. Today he didn't get the checkers, but that's how you get them. You drive into the corner, or drive into the back of me, I'm going to be here for a while and if he keeps coming up through the ranks, he's not going to have fun dealing with me every week.

"But right now? I'm going to race him as hard as he raced me, but just as clean as he raced me because he didn't put a fender on me all day."

Larson had his win over Falk in the back of his head during the closing laps at Bristol as he looked for a place to try to grab the win. Although he has received high praise from Jeff Gordon, Tony Stewart and Kasey Kahne as NASCAR's next big star, his move in the "Battle of the Beach" caused many top Sprint Cup drivers to openly criticize Larson.

"I was pretty aggressive at the "Battle of the Beach" and I didn't want to have anything like that happen again and have more people look at me," Larson said. "I don't race that way and didn't want to move (Busch). I wanted to outrace him. I'd gain a little more respect that way, and it made for a better finish, I think."

Indeed it did, as both drivers closed in on lapped cars as they neared the finish line. Busch chose the low line and Larson went high, then tried to squeeze his way past Busch. Larson's car bounced off of both the wall and Busch's car, but he was nipped at the finish line by Busch by .023 seconds.

"He's got a lot of talent," Busch said. "Obviously, he's already made a name for himself and he's got a lot going for him. I'm 27 and I feel like I'm getting old. Every time I looked in the rear view mirror he caught me, so I stopped looking. I didn't want to know where he was at."

It was Busch's fifth career Nationwide victory at Bristol, tying him with Kevin Harvick for the most in the series. Busch has a series-record 53 wins, and two in the last four weeks after going winless last season.

Brian Vickers was third and was followed by Nationwide Series points leader Sam Hornish Jr. and Harvick.

David Crigger/The Bristol Herald-Courier

Kyle Busch celebrates his win in Saturday's NASCAR Nationwide Series race in Bristol, Tenn.

Doug Kalitta leads Top Fuel qualifying

Associated Press

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Doug Kalitta qualified first in the NHRA Gatornationals on Saturday with a run of 3.779 seconds at a top speed of 326.32 mph.

Kalitta moved around defending series champion Antron Brown on his final qualifying attempt at Auto-Plus Raceway. Kalitta will face rookie Leah Pruett in the first round of the eliminations Sunday.

Brown, who briefly held the top spot at 3.787 at 324.20, will open against three-time series champion Larry Dixon in the opening round.

Cruz Pedregon topped the Funny Car field, Mike Edwards led the Pro Stock competition, and Matt Smith was the fastest in the Pro Stock Motorcycle season opener.

In Funny Car, Pedregon raced to his 51st No. 1 with his Friday run of 4.047 at 296.05. Edwards claimed his third consecutive No. 1 position of the season and 44th of his career with his record time of 6.473 at 214.31. In Pro Stock Motorcycle, Smith earned his 18th No. 1 with his Friday run of 6.804 at 197.28.

NBAROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

SPURS 110 CAVALIERS 113

SAN ANTONIO — Tim Duncan had 30 points and 12 rebounds, Kawhi Leonard added 24 points and 13 boards, and San Antonio beat Cleveland.

Manu Ginobili added 14 points and 10 assists, Nando De Colo had 11 points and Tiago Splitter had 10 for San Antonio (51-16), which is 1 1/2 games ahead of Oklahoma City in the Western Conference.

76ERS 98 PACERS 91

PHILADELPHIA — Spencer Hawes had 18 points and career highs with 16 rebounds and seven blocked shots to lead the Philadelphia 76ers to a 98-91 victory over the Indiana Pacers on Saturday night.

Jrue Holiday added 27 points and 12 assists to help the Sixers win for only the third time in 15 games. While the Sixers are one of the worst road teams in the league, they are 19-17 at home.

CELTICS 105 BOBCATS 88

BOSTON — Paul Pierce had 14 points, eight assists and six rebounds before sitting out the fourth quarter, and Boston won its 11th straight at home.

Avery Bradley scored 13 and Courtney Lee had 12 points and five assists as the Celtics beat the Bobcats for the first time in three meetings this season. Two of the Bobcats' NBA-low 14 wins came against the Celtics, including a 100-74 blowout in Charlotte on Tuesday.

WIZARDS 127 SUNS 105

WASHINGTON — Martell Webster scored a career-high 34 points and became Washington's first 30-point scorer this season.

John Wall added 17 points and 11 assists as Washington won its fourth straight at home and third straight overall while setting its season high in scoring.

GOLFROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

PGA

TAMPA BAY CHAMPIONSHIP: At Palm Harbor, Fla., Kevin Streelman figured a good round Saturday would at least get him in the mix at the Tampa Bay Championship.

It wound up giving him a share of the lead.

Adam Scott and K.J. Choi led a surprising retreat at Innisbrook, allowing for a wild game of musical chairs at the top of the leaderboard with nothing remotely close to being settled going into the final round. Sixteen players were separated by only three shots.

Streelman finished his 6-under 65 nearly three hours before the last group walked off the 18th green. Justin Leonard ran off four birdies in a five-hole stretch around the turn and had the lead to himself before a bogey from the bunker on the 15th. He had a 67. George Coetzee bounced back from his lone bogey with a birdie on the rowdy 17th hole, where Hooters waitresses serve wings in the grandstands. That gave him a 68.

LPGA

LPGA FOUNDERS CUP: At Phoenix, Ai Miyazato regained control in the LPGA Founders Cup, ending up with a bigger cushion than she expected after Stacy Lewis was penalized two strokes after the round.

Making three birdies in a four-hole stretch on the back nine and saving par with a 12-foot putt on the finishing hole, Miyazato shot her second straight 5-under 67 after opening with a tournament-record 64. At 19-under 197, the diminutive Japanese star had a four-stroke lead over Stacy Lewis and Jee Young Lee.

Champions

TOSHIBA CLASSIC: At Newport Beach, Calif., David Frost maintained a one-stroke lead over Fred Couples in the Champions Tour's Toshiba Classic, eagling the final hole for a 5-under 66.

After opening with a 63, Frost had a 13-under 129 total. The South African made an 18-foot putt for the eagle on the par-5 18th, while Couples two-putted from 35 feet for birdie and a 66 of his own.

PGA European/Asian

AVANTHA MASTERS: At Greater Noida, India, South Africa's Thomas Aiken shot a 10-under 62 to take a three-stroke lead after the third round of the Avantha Masters. Aiken was 18 under at Greg Norman-designed Jaypee Greens in the event sanctioned by the European and Asian tours.

OneAsia

THAILAND OPEN: At Bangkok, Thailand, Brazil's Lucas Lee shot a 7-under 65 to take a one-shot lead in the Thailand Open. Lee had an 19-under 197 total at Thana City. China's Mu Hu (64) and defending champion Chris Wood of England (65) were tied for second in the event sanctioned by the Japanese and OneAsia tours.

NHLROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

BLACKHAWKS 8 STARS 1

DALLAS — Jonathan Toews and Marian Hossa each scored twice in leading Chicago to a rout of Dallas.

Nick Leddy and Patrick Kane each had a goal and two assists, eight Blackhawks scored two or more points, and Chicago boosted its road record to 12-1-2 with a dominant win on the second stop of a four-game trip.

PENGUINS 3 RANGERS 0

PITTSBURGH — Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 23 shots to break a tie for Pittsburgh's career shutout record with 23, and the Penguins beat the New York Rangers 3-0 on Saturday for their eighth straight victory.

Beau Bennett, Pascal Dupuis and Tyler Kennedy scored, and Dustin Jeffrey added two assists as the Penguins continued to dominate the reeling Rangers. Pittsburgh has won seven consecutive meetings with New York, which lost for the fourth time in its last five games.

BRUINS 4 CAPITALS 1

BOSTON — Nathan Horton had a goal and two assists, Milan Lucic set up Boston's first two scores on hustle plays behind the net and the Bruins beat Washington.

David Krejci added a goal and two assists, Rich Peverley had a power-play goal and Andrew Ference scored his first of the season on the eve of his 34th birthday.

SENATORS 4 SABRES 3, OT

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Kyle Turris scored his second goal 3:54 into overtime to lift Ottawa over Buffalo.

Patrick Wiercioch had a goal and assist, and Chris Phillips also scored for Ottawa, which won for only the second time in eight games (2-2-4). Turris added an assist, and Ben Bishop made 31 saves.

LM Otero/AP

Chicago Blackhawks left wing Viktor Stalberg (25) and Dallas Stars defenseman Brenden Dillon skate for the puck during the second period Saturday in Dallas.

WILD 6 AVALANCHE 4

DENVER — Devin Setoguchi scored twice and added the 100th assist of his NHL career to help Minnesota hold off slumping Colorado.

Ryan Suter started a four-goal scoring spree in the first period and the Wild went on to win for the fourth time in five games. Cal Clutterbuck, Kyle Brodziak and Pierre-Marc Bouchard added goals for Minnesota, coming off a 5-3 home victory over Colorado on Thursday night.

ISLANDERS 4 PANTHERS 3

SUNRISE, Fla. — Casey Cizikas broke a third-period tie, and the New York Islanders held on to beat Florida after blowing a three-goal lead in the final frame.

Kyle Okposo, Radek Martinek and Brad Boyes also scored, and Evgeni Nabokov stopped 27 shots for the Islanders (13-12-3), who are 5-1-1 in March. New York also jumped ahead of the rival New York Rangers into ninth place in the Eastern Conference.

CANADIENS 2 DEVILS 1

NEWARK, N.J. — Big defenseman Jarred Tinordi, in his NHL debut, set up Tomas Plekanec's tiebreaking goal at 6:49 of the third period, and Montreal extended its winning streak to five games with a victory over New Jersey.

Colby Armstrong also scored for Montreal, and Carey Price made 32 saves. The Canadiens moved into a tie with Pittsburgh for the most points in the Eastern Conference.

LIGHTNING 4 HURRICANES 1

TAMPA, Fla. — Tyler Johnson and Ondrej Palat both scored their first NHL goals, and Tampa Bay beat Carolina.

Nate Thompson and Teddy Purcell also scored for the Lightning, who stopped a five-game losing streak at home. Tampa Bay is 3-8 in its last 11 games.

BLUE JACKETS 1 COYOTES 0

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Sergei Bobrovsky made 39 saves in regulation and overtime, then two more in the shootout to finish with his second NHL shutout — both coming in the last week — to lift surging Columbus over Phoenix.

Columbus, which played its fourth straight shootout game, extended its franchise-record point streak to 10 games (6-0-4).

BLUES 2 DUCKS 1, OT

ST. LOUIS — Chris Stewart scored 45 seconds into overtime and rookie Jake Allen made 27 saves, helping St. Louis end Anaheim's five-game winning streak.

Stewart, who assisted on the Blues' other goal by Kris Russell, has seven goals and seven assists in his last seven games, including two-goal outings the previous two games. He took the lone shot of the extra period, taking Jonas Hiller with a forehand in front and then finding plenty of space with a backhander for his 14th goal of the season.

JETS 5 MAPLE LEAFS 4, SO

TORONTO — Zach Bogosian scored in the 10th round of the shootout to lift Winnipeg over Toronto, which lost its fifth straight.

Bogosian beat Jonas Gustavsson, who replaced starter Ben Scrivens to start the third period, for Winnipeg's second goal of the shootout after Blake Wheeler scored to open it.

MLSROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

IMPACT 2 TORONTO FC 1

MONTREAL — Patrice Bernier and Marco Di Vaio scored first-half goals and the Montreal Impact beat Toronto FC 2-1 on Saturday to improve to 3-0.

The Impact, who opened with wins in Seattle and Portland to match their total road victories last year, became the first Major League Soccer team to win three games this season.

Bernier scored 34 minutes in after Toronto's Ashtone Morgan fouled Andres Romero in the penalty area. Bernier, Montreal's MVP last season, hesitated on his penalty kick and sent Reds goalkeeper Joe Bendik diving to his right before putting the ball into an open right side. Di Vaio made it 2-0 just before the half. Davy Arnaud sent a ball forward for Di Vaio, who scooted around Bendik to score.

Robert Earnshaw scored on a penalty kick in the 68th minute for Toronto (1-2-0).

TIMBERS 1 SOUNDERS FC 1, TIE

SEATTLE — Rodney Wallace came open in the penalty box and headed in the tying goal at the beginning of second-half stoppage time, and Portland came out of Seattle with the draw.

Eddie Johnson tapped in a perfectly placed cross from Steve Zakuani in the 13th minute and Seattle (0-1-1) held the lead until Wallace scored right at the end of the 90 minutes as stoppage time was beginning. Seattle failed to clear the ball from danger and Andrew Jean-Baptiste's centering pass found Wallace completely uncovered.

RAPIDS 1 REAL SALT LAKE 1, TIE

SANDY, Utah — Alvaro Saborio scored late in the second half to help Real Salt Lake rally for the tie with Colorado Rapids in the first leg of the Rocky Mountain Cup rivalry series.

Nelson Rubio finished late first-half goal for the Rapids (0-2-1).

D.C. UNITED 0 RED BULLS 0, TIE

HARRISON, N.J. — Bill Hamid made eight saves for D.C. United (1-1-1), including a diving save on Brandon Barklage's shot off a corner kick in stoppage time, which came close to crossing the goal line.

New York, in its first season under coach Mike Petke, is 0-1-2 after allowing late goals at Portland and San Jose. New York outshot D.C. United 23-4, with Thierry Henry putting five of 10 attempts on goal.

EARTHQUAKES 1 CREW 1, TIE

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Justin Morrow scored in the 74th minute to pull San Jose even with Columbus.

Morrow scored for the first time since May 2, firing a rising strike from 18 yards that landed in the upper right corner. Unmarked at the left of the box, he scored off a pass from Ramiro Corrales.

UNION 1 REVOLUTION 0

CHESTER, Pa. — Jack McInerney scored in the 76th minute for Philadelphia against New England in cold conditions.

McInerney also scored the winning goal in the Union's last game, a 2-1 victory Sunday at Colorado.

FIRE 0 SPORTING KC 0, TIE

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — Chicago managed to earn its first point in three games this year despite remaining scoreless, tying Sporting Kansas City.

Chicago (0-2-1) looked poised to break its scoring drought when Dan Paladini got free in front of Sporting's goal in the 60th minute but Graham Zusi was there to preserve his first shutout of the year. Sporting (1-1-1) went perfect less on 20 shots in its home opener.

No dispute: Kansas whips Kansas State for Big 12 title

By Dave Skretta
Associated Press

Jayhawks	70
Wildcats	54

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — One by one, Kansas players headed to the top step of the ladder to cut down the nets, with Jeff Withey carefully nipping at a piece of nylon and then waving it to the roar of the fans.

There was no way the Jayhawks were going to share this celebration.

No way they were going to share this title.

Withey had 17 points and nine rebounds Saturday night, and the seventh-ranked Jayhawks used their trademark suffocating defense to beat No. 11 Kansas State 70-54 and win the their ninth Big 12 tournament championship — not to mention the tiebreaker over their regular-season co-champs.

"I felt like this game had to be played," said the Jayhawks' Elijah Johnson, smiling. "I think we fed into it, and I think they did, too, and at the end of the day, it was a championship game, and I felt it had to be played for this to be decided."

There should be no argument any longer over the best in the Big 12.

The Jayhawks (29-5), who may have locked up a No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament with the victory, beat Kansas State for the third time this season. They've also won their last 11 meetings in conference tournaments, and 39 of the 42 games played since the inception of the Big 12.

"I think how this season played out this year, I think it means a lot," Kansas guard Travis Releford said. "And our fans, they have a lot of bragging rights now that this game is over."

Rodney McGruder scored 18 points despite a poor first half, and Angel Rodriguez had 10 for the Wildcats (27-7), who still have not won a conference tournament in more than 30 years.

"I just wanted this victory very badly," McGruder said quietly. "We worked so hard, worked so hard to get here, just to let it slip."

The interest in Round 3, the first meeting between the schools in a league tournament title game since 1980 — back in the days of the old Big Eight — resulted in a record crowd of 19,256.

The ticket was so hot that Eric and Faith DeVault, who were married Saturday morning in a suburban of Kansas City, were given a pair as a gift and turned out for the game still dressed in their tuxedo and wedding dress — though Faith ditched her heels for a pair of flats.

They were treated to a first half that would've made Bill Snyder and Charlie Weis proud.

Two of the best defensive teams in the country, Kansas and Kansas State made more blocks and tackles than layups and jump shots over the first 20 minutes. Both teams committed nine turnovers, and the Wildcats had just three assists while going 6 of 27 from the field.

"It was a low-scoring game," Rodriguez said, "because both teams were playing good defense."

Kansas State actually struck first, pulling ahead 11-8 on a 3-pointer by Martavious Irving with 11:44 remaining in the half. But the Jayhawks buckled down on defense and the Wildcats didn't make another field goal until Rodriguez rattled in a deep 3 with 1:25 left on the clock.

Meanwhile, Johnson and Naadir Tharpe each hit 3-pointers during a 14-2 run by the Jayhawks, and a bucket by Kevin Young in the closing seconds made it 24-16 at the break.

Orlin Wagner/AP

Kansas guard Travis Releford (24) celebrates following their 70-54 win over Kansas State in Big 12 tournament championship game Saturday in Kansas City, Mo.

TOURNEY TITLE GAME ROUNDUP

SWAC
SOUTHERN U. 45
PRAIRIE VIEW 44

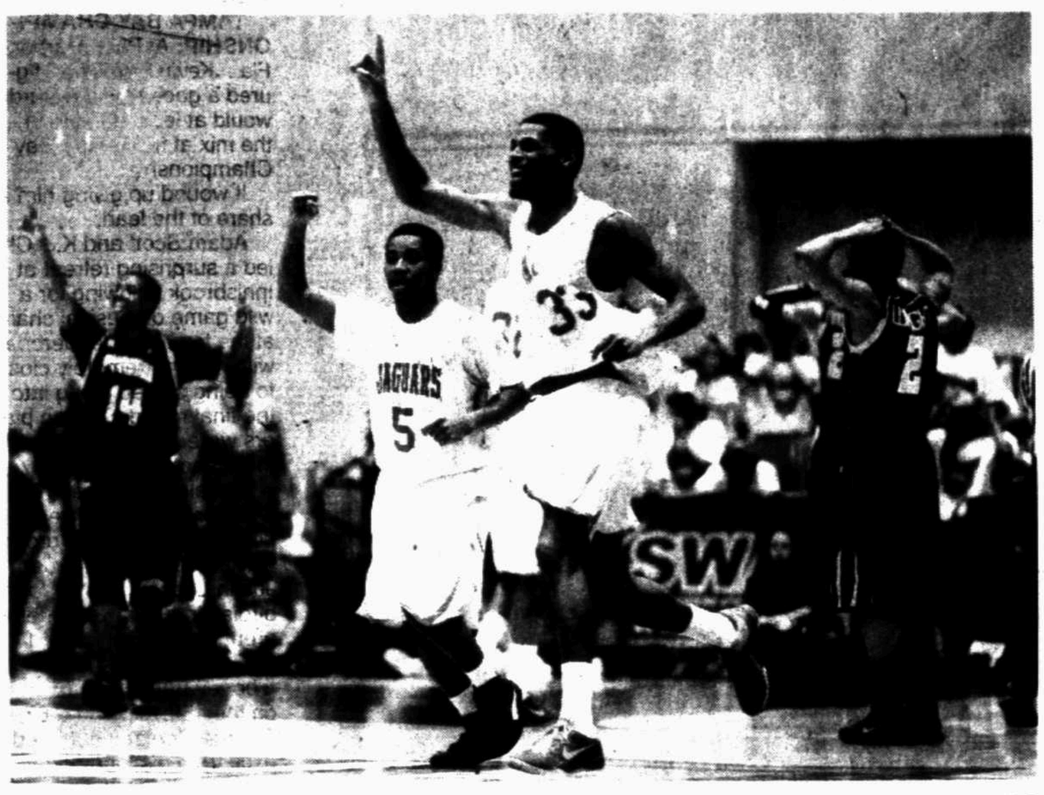
GARLAND — Derick Beltran had 13 points with a late steal and breakaway layup, and Southern University got its first NCAA tournament berth since 2006 with a 45-44 victory over Prairie View in the Southwestern Athletic Conference tournament championship game Saturday.

Beltran's play with 1:41 left made it 45-38. The Jaguars (23-9) held on despite some late turnovers.

Jules Montgomery's putback for Prairie View came before before Southern's Jameel Grace stepped out of bounds. Carl Blair then hit a floating hook shot before another backcourt turnover led to Montrael Scott's floater to get the Panthers (15-19) within a point with 42 seconds left.

Grace missed a 3-pointer as the shot clock ran out, and Jourdan DeMuynck got the rebound and drove the length of the court.

DeMuynck was out of control when the ball came loose near the basket. He was on the floor along with Beltran when the game ended.



Tony Gutierrez/AP

Southern's Jameel Grace (5) and Lee grad Malcolm Miller (33) celebrate as they run off the court after beating Prairie View A&M, 45-44, in the championship game of Southwestern Athletic Conference Tournament on Saturday in Garland. Prairie View's Carl Blair (14) and Ronald Wright (2) react after the loss.

SOUTHLAND
NORTHWESTERN STATE 68,
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN 66

KATY — Shamir Davis scored 19 points, DeQuan Hicks added 13 points and made the last-second steal that clinched Northwestern State's 68-66 win over Stephen F. Austin in the Southland Conference championship game on Saturday night.

The Demons (23-8) earned their first automatic NCAA tournament berth since 2006 and the third overall. Davis was named the tournament's most valuable player.

Desmond Haymon scored 23 points and Taylor Smith had 16 points and 14 rebounds for Stephen F. Austin (27-4).

The Demons were the nation's highest scoring team in the regular season (82.4 points per game) and Stephen F. Austin boasted the nation's top scoring defense (50.2 points per game). Fittingly, the game came down to the final seconds.

GREAT WEST
CHICAGO STATE 75
HOUSTON BAPTIST 60

CHICAGO — Jeremy Robinson scored 17 points and Chicago State won its first conference championship as a Division I program, defeating Houston Baptist 75-60 Saturday in the finale of the Great West Conference tournament.

Nate Duhon added 15 points and six steals for the third-seeded Cougars (11-21), and Matt Ross and Clarke Rosenberg each scored 10 points.

Fourth-seeded Houston Baptist (14-17), which lost by double digits three times to Chicago State this season, got 17 points from Art Bernardi, 16 from Marcel Smith and 11 from Rob Lewis.

The Cougars took control early, leading by as many as 21 points in the first half and taking a 44-25 lead into the break. The Huskies never got closer than 15 points in the second half.

There is no automatic NCAA tournament berth for the winner of the Great West Conference. Four of its five members are joining new conferences next season.

BIG EAST
NO. 4 LOUISVILLE 78
NO. 19 SYRACUSE 61

NEW YORK — Peyton Siva had 11 points and eight assists to lead No. 4 Louisville to a 78-61 victory over No. 19 Syracuse on Saturday night, giving the Cardinals their second straight Big East tournament title.

The Cardinals got their third title by overcoming a 16-point deficit in the second half — almost double the previous record in a championship game — and they kept pouring it on once they got the lead, going ahead by as many as 18 points.

Second-seeded Louisville (29-5) — along with Georgetown and Marquette the tri-champions of the regular season — won its 10th straight game with its defense, forcing Syracuse into 20 turnovers and keeping the Orange off balance during the 24-3 run that turned the 16-point deficit into a 56-48 lead with 8:51 to play.

Montrezl Harrell led Louisville with 20 points.

C.J. Fair had 21 points for the Orange.

CONFERENCE USA
NO. 20 MEMPHIS 91
SOUTHERN MISS 79, 2OT

TULSA, Okla. — Chris Crawford scored 23 points, including the go-ahead 3-pointer in double overtime, and No. 20 Memphis beat Southern Miss 91-79 on Saturday to win its seventh Conference USA tournament title in the past eight years.

Crawford, the league's Sixth Man of the Year, connected on a 3-pointer from the left wing to put the top-seeded Tigers (30-4) up 78-76 with 2:44 remaining. He also had a jumper and a pair of free throws in a 9-0 run by Memphis soon after that finally put the game away.

Daveon Boardingham scored 19 points and Jonathan Mills had 15 points and 17 rebounds for second-seeded Southern Miss (25-9), which nearly clinched an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament. Instead, the Golden Eagles must hope to get their second straight at-large bid on Sunday.

MOUNTAIN WEST
NO. 15 NEW MEXICO 63
UNLV 56

LAS VEGAS — Tony Snell scored 13 straight points for New Mexico during a second-half run as the No. 15 Lobos pulled away late Saturday to beat UNLV 63-56 and add the Mountain West tournament title to their regular season crown.

Snell carried New Mexico (29-5) down the stretch, making three 3-pointers and adding a pair of field goals as the Lobos took over in the last 8 minutes of the game to win the conference title and the rubber game of the series between the two teams this season.

MID-AMERICAN
AKRON 65
OHIO 46

CLEVELAND — Demetrius Treadwell scored 13 points and top-seeded Akron, its season nearly wrecked by a player suspension, beat Ohio 65-46 on Saturday night to win the Mid-American Conference championship and the league's automatic spot in the NCAA tournament.

One week ago, the Zips (26-6) were in danger of seeing a special season crash when point guard Alex Abreu was arrested on drug trafficking charges. But Akron's players rallied around coach Keith Dambrot and the Zips, playing in their seventh straight MAC title game, are back in the NCAA brackets for the third time in five years.

AMERICA EAST
ALBANY 53
VERMONT 49

BURLINGTON, Vt. — Mike Black scored 14 points and Albany came back from an early deficit to beat Vermont 53-49 in the America East championship game on Saturday and earn its third trip to the NCAA tournament.

Luke Devlin added 12 points on 6-for-6 shooting as the Great Danes (24-10) ended an eight-game losing streak to the Catamounts (21-11). Jacob Iati hit a pair of 3-point shots in the final three minutes to seal the win.

MEAC
NORTH CAROLINA A&T 57
MORGAN ST. 54

NORFOLK, Va. — Adrian Powell scored 14 points, including two critical free throws with 23.4 seconds to play, and then blocked a potential tying 3-pointer in the final seconds Saturday as North Carolina A&T beat Morgan State 57-54 to win its first Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference tournament title since 1995.

Lamont Middleton added 13 points, all in the second half, as the seventh-seeded Aggies (19-16) came through with a clutch performance one day after clinching their first winning season in 15 years.

Associated Press

TOP 25 ROUNDUP

Men

NO. 10 OHIO STATE 61
NO. 8 MICHIGAN STATE 58

CHICAGO — Aaron Craft came on strong in the second half to finish with 20 points and lead Ohio State to the Big Ten tournament final.

Craft keyed a seven-point spurt midway through the second half that stretched the lead to eight at 55-47, and the Buckeyes (25-7) came away with the win after Michigan State (25-8) pulled within one. The victory avenged a loss in last year's championship game.

NO. 9 MIAMI 61
N.C. STATE 71

GREENSBORO, N.C. — Durand Scott scored a career-high 32 points to help Miami earn its first trip to the ACC championship game.

Shane Larkin added 23 for the top-seeded Hurricanes (26-6), who led the entire way and by 19 points late in the first half. Miami shot 46 percent behind Scott, a senior guard who went 12 for 18 from the field and 5 for 8 from 3-point range.

NO. 13 FLORIDA 61
ALABAMA 51

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Kenny Boynton scored 11 straight points during a 15-0 second-half run as Florida rallied from 10 points down to advance to the SEC tournament title game.

The top-seeded Gators (26-6) will face Mississippi . Alabama (21-12), the tournament's No. 4 seed, will spend Sunday waiting to learn its fate from the NCAA tournament selection committee.

NO. 16 SAINT LOUIS 67
BUTLER 56

NEW YORK — Dwayne Evans nearly set a career high in points for the second straight game, and Saint Louis' defense locked down Butler in the second half to advance to its first Atlantic 10 title game.

Evans had 24 points and 11 rebounds a day after going for 25 and nine in the quarterfinals against Charlotte.

NO. 25 VCU 71
UMASS 62

NEW YORK — Troy Daniels made six 3-pointers to score 20 points, and VCU advanced to the Atlantic 10 tournament title game in its first season in the conference.

The Rams will face top-seeded Saint Louis on Sunday in a matchup of the league's top two teams during the regular season. The Billikens won 76-62 at home in their one meeting Feb. 19.

Women

NO. 15 DELAWARE 75
HOFSTRA 54.

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. — Elena Delle Donne had 21 points and 13 rebounds, and No. 15 Delaware breezed past Hofstra 75-54 Saturday to earn a third straight berth in the Colonial Athletic Association title game.

The Blue Hens (29-3) will bring a 24-game winning streak into a matchup Sunday against either James Madison or Drexel. The last time Delaware lost a conference game was in the 2011 CAA championship, against JMU.

Associated Press

SATURDAY'S SCORES

Men

Top 25

1. Gonzaga (30-2) did not play. Next: NCAA tournament
2. Duke (27-5) did not play. Next: TBD
3. Indiana (27-6) lost to No. 22 Wisconsin 68-56. Next: vs. TBD
4. Louisville (29-5) beat No. 19 Syracuse 78-61. Next: NCAA tournament
5. Georgetown (25-6) did not play. Next: TBD
6. Michigan (26-7) did not play. Next: TBD
7. Kansas (29-5) beat No. 11 Kansas State 70-54. Next: NCAA tournament
8. Michigan State (25-8) lost to No. 10 Ohio State 61-58. Next: TBD
9. Miami (26-6) beat N.C. State 81-71. Next: vs. North Carolina. Sunday
10. Ohio State (25-7) beat No. 8 Michigan State 61-58. Next: vs. No. 22 Wisconsin. Sunday
11. Kansas State (27-7) lost to No. 7 Kansas 70-54. Next: TBD
12. Marquette (23-8) did not play. Next: TBD
13. Florida (26-6) beat Alabama 61-51. Next: vs. Mississippi. Sunday
14. Oklahoma State (24-8) did not play. Next: TBD
15. New Mexico (29-5) beat UNLV 63-56. Next: NCAA tournament
16. Saint Louis (26-6) beat Butler 67-56. Next: vs. No. 25 VCU. Sunday
17. Pittsburgh (24-8) did not play. Next: TBD
18. Arizona (25-7) did not play. Next: TBD
19. Syracuse (26-9) lost to No. 4 Louisville 78-61. Next: TBD
20. Memphis (30-4) beat Southern Mississippi 91-79, 2OT. Next: NCAA tournament
21. UCLA (25-8) vs. Oregon. Next: TBD
22. Wisconsin (23-10) beat No. 3 Indiana 68-56. Next: vs. No. 10 Ohio State. Sunday
23. Creighton (27-7) did not play. Next: NCAA tournament
24. Notre Dame (25-9) did not play. Next: TBD
25. VCU (26-7) beat UMass 71-62. Next: vs. No. 16 Saint Louis. Sunday

TOURNAMENT

America East Conference Championship
Albany (NY) 53, Vermont 49
Atlantic 10 Conference Semifinals
Saint Louis 67, Butler 56
VCU 71, UMass 62
Atlantic Coast Conference Semifinals
Miami 81, NC State 71
North Carolina 79, Maryland 76
Big 12 Conference Championship
Kansas 70, Kansas St. 54
Big East Championship
Louisville 78, Syracuse 61
Big Sky Conference Championship
Montana 67, Weber St. 64
Big Ten Conference Semifinals
Ohio St. 61, Michigan St. 58
Wisconsin 68, Indiana 56
Big West Conference Championship
Pacific 64, UC Irvine 55
Conference USA Championship
Memphis 91, Southern Miss. 79, 2OT
Mid-American Conference Championship
Akron 65, Ohio 46
Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Championship
NC A&T 57, Morgan St. 54
Mountain West Conference Championship
New Mexico 63, UNLV 56
Southeastern Conference Semifinals
Florida 61, Alabama 51
Mississippi 64, Vanderbilt 52
Southland Conference Semifinals
Northwestern St. 68, Stephen F. Austin 66
Southwestern Athletic Conference Championship
Southern U. 45, Prairie View 44

NCAA Automatic Bids

Akron, Mid-American Conference
Albany (NY), America East Conference
Belmont, Ohio Valley Conference
Bucknell, Patriot League
Creighton, Missouri Valley Conference
Davidson, Southern Conference
Florida Gulf Coast, Atlantic Sun Conference
Gonzaga, West Coast Conference
Harvard, Ivy League
Iona, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference
James Madison, Colonial Athletic Association
Kansas, Big 12 Conference
Liberty, Big South Conference
LIU Brooklyn, Northeast Conference
Louisville, Big East Conference
Memphis, Conference USA
Montana, Big Sky Conference
New Mexico, Mountain West Conference
N.C. A&T, Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference
Northwestern State, Southland Conference
Pacific, Big West Conference
South Dakota State, Summit League
Southern U., Southwestern Athletic Conference
Valparaiso, Horizon League
Western Kentucky, Sun Belt Conference

NCAA Men's Div. II Basketball Tournament

First Round
East Region
At Manchester, N.H.
Assumption 73, Southern New Hampshire 65
Bridgeport 77, St. Anselm 66
Franklin Pierce 90, Bloomfield 78
New Haven 73, Dominican (NY) 66
South Central Region
At Denver
Fort Lewis 95, Adams State 73
St. Mary's (Texas) 75, Cameron 57
Metro State 76, Tarleton 65
Newman vs. Midwestern State, late
Central Region
At Mankato, Minn.
Augustana (SD) 79, Upper Iowa 65
Winona State 70, Northeastern State 57
Minnesota State (Mankato) 81, Arkansas Tech 65
Harding 75, Central Missouri 71
Atlantic Region
At West Liberty, W.Va.
Indiana (Pa.) 76, East Stroudsburg 68
Slippery Rock 69, Winston-Salem 67
West Liberty 114, Bowie State 82
Fairmont State 91, Livingstone 73
South Region
At Lakeland, Fla., Ala.
Benedict 68, Eckerd 65
Alabama-Huntsville 60, Christian Brothers 58
Florida Southern 94, North Alabama 80
St. Leo 59, Rollins 53
Midwest Region
At Springfield, Mo.
Bellarmine 67, Indianapolis 61
Southern Indiana 79, Wayne State (Mich.) 70
Drury 89, Findlay 77
Michigan Tech 86, Wisconsin-Parkside 75
Southeast Region
At Allendale, S.C.
Barton 81, Montevallo 75
Lincoln Memorial 82, UNC Pembroke 80
S.C. Aiken 94, Belmont Abbey 76
Wingate 65, Limestone 60

NCAA Division III Men's Basketball Glance

Third Round

Amherst 93, Randolph-Macon 76
Middlebury 73, Ithaca 72
Cabrini 70, Wooster 63
Williams 84, Virginia Wesleyan 75
St. Mary's (Md.) 84, Morrisville State 66
North Central (Ill.) 83, Illinois Wesleyan 73
St. Thomas (Minn.) 63, Calvin 62
Mary Hardin-Baylor 71, Whitworth 63

Women

Top 25

1. Baylor (32-1) did not play. Next: NCAA tournament.
2. Notre Dame (31-1) did not play. Next: NCAA tournament
3. UConn (29-4) did not play. Next: TBA
4. Stanford (31-2) did not play. Next: NCAA tournament
5. Duke (30-2) did not play. Next: NCAA tournament
6. California (28-3) did not play. Next: TBA
7. Kentucky (27-5) did not play. Next: TBA
8. Penn State (25-5) did not play. Next: TBA
9. Texas A&M (24-9) did not play. Next: NCAA tournament.
10. Tennessee (24-7) did not play. Next: TBA
11. UCLA (25-7) did not play. Next: TBA
12. Maryland (24-7) did not play. Next: TBA
13. North Carolina (28-6) did not play. Next: TBA
14. Georgia (25-6) did not play. Next: TBA
15. Delaware (29-3) beat Hofstra 75-54. Next: vs. Drexel. Sunday.
16. Louisville (24-8) did not play. Next: TBA
17. South Carolina (24-7) did not play. Next: TBA
18. Dayton (27-2) did not play. Next: TBA
19. Colorado (25-6) did not play. Next: TBA
20. Green Bay (28-2) did not play. Next: vs. Loyola of Chicago. Sunday
21. Purdue (24-8) did not play. Next: NCAA tournament
22. Syracuse (24-7) did not play. Next: TBA
23. Iowa State (23-8) did not play. Next: TBA
24. Nebraska (23-8) did not play. Next: TBA
25. Florida State (22-9) did not play. Next: TBA

TOURNAMENT

America East Conference Championship
Albany (NY) 61, Hartford 52 Atlantic 10
Conference Championship
Saint Joseph's 47, Fordham 46 Big Sky
Conference Championship
Montana 56, N. Colorado 43
Big West Conference Championship
Cal Poly 63, Pacific 49
Colonial Athletic Association Semifinals
Delaware 75, Hofstra 54
Drexel 50, James Madison 34
Conference USA Championship
Tulsa 75, UCF 66
Mid-American Conference Championship
Cent. Michigan 86, Akron 68
Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Championship
Hampton 59, Howard 38
Missouri Valley Conference Semifinals
Illinois St. 64, Creighton 61, OT
Wichita St. 75, N. Iowa 71, OT
Mountain West Conference Semifinals
Fresno St. 76, San Diego St. 70
Patriot League Championship
Navy 72, Holy Cross 53
Southland Conference Championship
Oral Roberts 72, Sam Houston St. 66
Southwestern Athletic Conference Championship
Prairie View 100, MVSU 87, 4OT
Western Athletic Conference Championship
Idaho 67, Seattle 64

NCAA Automatic Bids

Albany (N.Y.), America East Conference
Baylor, Big 12 Conference
Cal Poly, Big West Conference
Central Michigan, Mid-American Conference
Chattanooga, Southern Conference
Duke, Atlantic Coast Conference
Fresno State, Mountain West Conference
Gonzaga, West Coast Conference
Hampton, Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference
Idaho, Western Athletic Conference
Liberty, Big South Conference
Marist, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference
Middle Tennessee State, Sun Belt Conference
Montana, Big Sky Conference
Navy, Patriot League
Notre Dame, Big East Conference
Oral Roberts, Southland Conference
Princeton, Ivy League
Prairie View, Southwestern Athletic Conference
Purdue, Big Ten Conference
Saint Joseph's, Atlantic 10 Conference
South Dakota State, Summit League
Stanford, Pacific-12 Conference
Stetson, Atlantic Sun Conference
Texas A&M, Southeastern Conference
Tulsa, Conference USA
UT Martin, Ohio Valley Conference

NCAA Women's Div. II Basketball Tournament

Glance
Saturday, March 16
West Region
At Bellingham, Wash.
Grand Canyon 68, UC San Diego 57
Simon Fraser 68, NW Nazarene 57
CS Monterey Bay 66, CSU-Chico 64
Western Washington 70, Academy of Art 50
Second Round
Saturday, March 16
Central Region
At Topeka, Kan.
Augustana (SD) 68, SW Oklahoma 64
Emporia St. 69, Minnesota St. (Mankato) 67
Southeast Region
At Morrow, Ga.
Limestone 67, Pfeiffer 52
Clayton St. 83, SC-Aiken 66
East Region
At Waltham, Mass.
Dowling 57, Stonehill 45
Bentley 85, Holy Family 56
South Central Region
At Grand Junction, Colo.
Colorado Mesa 78, Texas-Permian Basin 69
Midwestern St. 66, Metro State 52
South Region
At Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
Delta St. 81, Alabama-Huntsville 58
Nova Southeastern 73, Lynn 57
Atlantic Region
At Erie, Pa.
California (Pa.) 81, Glenville St. 79
Gannon 64, Indiana (Pa.) 46
Midwest Region
At Ashland, Ohio
Ashland 67, Michigan Tech 54
Wayne (Mich.) 70, Wis.-Parkside 60

NCAA Women's Division III Basketball Glance

Championship
DePauw 69, Wis.-Whitewater 51
Third Place
Williams 57, Amherst 53

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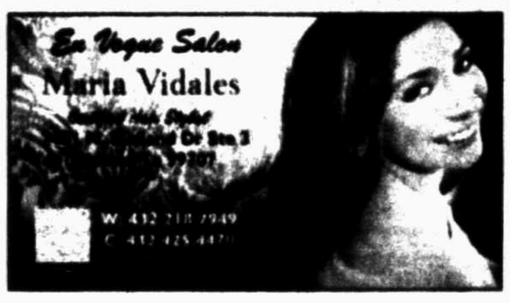
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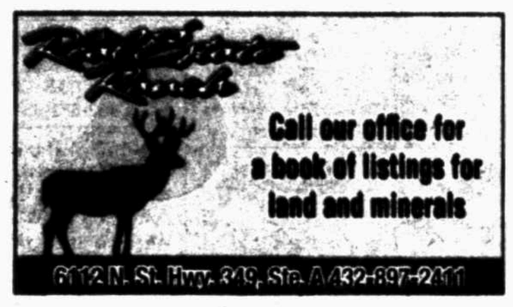
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Miscellaneous

1- AAA Appliance 1 hour free pickup. Call 556-0104 / 528-3046.

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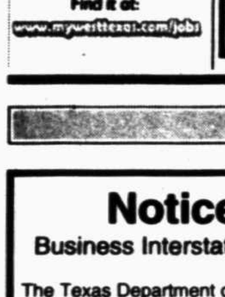
SAMSUNG UNA65ES7100 46in 3D LED TV, Will, 4 pairs of glasses, QWERTY remote. Like new $800 Cash Only. Call 432-967-8131.

FREE WOODEN PALLETS!
Midland Reporter-Telegram (on dock side)



BEAUTIFUL HAND Carved Mahogany Furniture. King 4-poster bed with sleep number mattress - $1600. Marble topped large entertainment console, $500. Chippendale style antique desk- $1200. 2-Tall glass display cabinets. $800 each. Call for pictures or appointment 432-349-1641

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BEAUTIFUL SOLID oak wall unit, center $350., beautiful full queen black head board/footboard/slats $150., sofa/ large overstuffed chair w/ ottoman $350., computer desk/ hutch, book shelf, & small file cabinet $150 Serious inquiries only 432-557-3490

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BEER FRIDGE with tap $300, student desk with hutch $25, bookcase $10, black fabric wing chair $75. Call for images 432-664-4356.

Auction used equipment, make best offer. Sell ends March 30th. Need to pay & pickup by March 30th. Luca Pizza in Midland Park Mall. Viewing 8am-10am. Blodgett pizza oven, Hobart Stainless Mixer model #800, 80 quart size bowl, Delfield pizza work table, model #18868, Ice-O-Matic ice machine, Southbend gas range, Arctic Temp walk-in cooler 8 X 8, 3 compartment sinks; stainless steel, hand sink & drop-in cooler. Call 432-697-7961

If You Have Items You Are Giving Away For FREE, Place Ad Here On Us! CALL 432-682-6222 TODAY!

Garage Sales

2 ADJACENT plots in Resthaven Cemetery - Garden Mediation, $4,000 for both. Call 432-553-3332.

4 LARGE aluminum ladders, workshop shelving, 15 bags 80# Mortar mix. 682-7468 or 631-0726

4 SPACES together at Resthaven - Garden of Hope. Lot 118 - Sp. 1 & 2, Lot 119 - Sp. 1 & 2. Valued at $2395 ea. Make reasonable offer. Possibly divide. Call 432-528-2169

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Burial plot for sale Resthaven Memorial Park located in the Garden of Love $2,395. 817-460-1167

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NEON BEER signs & lighted Beer signs for sale. Also will purchase damaged neon signs. 432-269-5758.

RESTHAVEN CEMETERY plots. 4 in the Garden of Prayer. $2,000 below current price. 432-682-5851, or 432-352-2356

TONS OF Coke a Cola antiques , fountain, boxes, lots of signs and bottles and glasses. call for appt. 432-553-1820

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PERMIAN BASIN Gun Show - Ector County Coliseum, Odessa TX, Building G. Saturday & Sunday, 16th & 17th, 9am-5pm. Guns, knives, reloading supplies, pistol grips, coins, jewelry, and complete line of ammunition. Sponsored by: John and Shirley Pokorny

STAR-TRAC stationary exercise bicycle with fan, 1 year old, $1500 OBO. Please call 432-556-1045.

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PERMIAN BASIN Gun Show - Ector County Coliseum, Odessa TX, Building G.
Saturday & Sunday, March 16th 9am-5pm March 17th, 9am-5pm.
Guns, knives, reloading supplies, pistol grips, coins, jewelry, and complete line of ammunition.
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1980 WILSON WELL SERVICING UNIT
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Pets

Animals & Pets

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DEAR TED, You have a 2005 3 h.r Bloomer Horse Trailer for sale, & we have talked about it 2 times. Pls send an email to mikeelliot357@hotmail.com. I have been trying for 5 days. THANK YOU

GERMAN SHEPHERD 1 year old male. Neutered, needs loving home. Not good with children. Please call 432-570-7073.

LAB PUPPIES AKC & started dogs. Hips/ eyes guaranteed. Training available. Pooles Labs. www.pooleslabs.com. Call (806) 633-4364.

PYRADOR (LAB/PYRENEES) Puppies for sale $200. See puppies at http://brookspuppies2013.shutterfly.com/ or 432-638-4885 TEXT ONLY

Fax Your Ad 682-6999

Pets

SWEET FEMALE French Bulldog!! Our 3-month-old baby girl is looking for a loving family to go home with! She is current on all of her shots and doing well with crate training. Serious inquiries ONLY please! $1,500 432.260.0269

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Legal & Public Notices

Notice of Open House Meeting

Business Interstate 20 service road railroad crossover, Midland County

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) will conduct an open house and public meeting to present a proposal to close a railroad crossover that connects Business Interstate 20 with a service road in Midland County. The crossover is located approximately one-half of a mile (0.5 miles) east of East Loop 250 and approximately one-third of a mile (0.33) west of the Business Interstate 20 intersection with Interstate 20. The Union Pacific Railroad mile post marker is referred to as Milepost 546 73 Toyah Subdivision, Midland, Midland County, Texas.

The open house will be held as follows:

Thursday, March 28, 2013 at the Midland County AgriLife Extension Office, 2445 E. Highway 80, Midland, Texas, 79706 from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

The open house will allow for questions from the public and viewing of project exhibits. A formal presentation will begin at 6:00 p.m. followed by an opportunity for public comment. Maps and other drawings showing the proposed location and design will be displayed. Information regarding this project is on file and available for viewing at the TxDOT Odessa District Office, 3901 E. Highway 80, Odessa, Texas 79761.

All interested persons are invited to attend the open house and public meeting. Persons interested in attending who have special communication or accommodation needs are encouraged to contact Odessa District public information officer Gene Powell at (432) 770-0065 at least two working days prior to the hearing. TxDOT offices are open Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., excluding state holidays. Because the public meeting will be conducted in English, any requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs should be made at least two working days prior to the public meeting. TxDOT will make every reasonable effort to accommodate these needs.

Verbal and written comments from the public regarding this project will be accepted. Comments may be presented at the meeting or in writing after the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the Director of Operations, TxDOT Odessa District Office, 3901 E. Highway 80, Odessa, Texas 79761, or emailed to gene.powell@txdot.gov. Written comments must be received by April 15, 2013.

Legal & Public Notices

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Zoning Board of Adjustment of the City of Midland, Texas, will hold a public hearing at 3:00 P.M., Thursday, **March 28, 2013**, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, to consider **VARIANCES** to the City Code concerning height limitations requirement in close proximity to Midland International Airport on the following properties:

Case ZBA 13-038: T&P RR Co Survey, A-801, Sec 40, Midland Co., TX (ST 4006 Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-039: T&P RR Co Survey, A-801, Sec 40, Midland Co., TX (ST 4009 Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-040: T&P RR Co Survey, A-801, Sec 40, Midland Co., TX (ST 4011 Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-041: T&P RR Co Survey, A-260, Sec 41, Midland Co., TX (ST 4104 Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-042: T&P RR Co Survey, A-260, Sec 41, Midland Co., TX (ST 4105 Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-043: T&P RR Co Survey, A-260, Sec 41, Midland Co., TX (ST 4112 Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-044: T&P RR Co Survey, A-260, Sec 41, Midland Co., TX (ST 4113 Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-045: T&P RR Co Survey, A-800, Sec 44, Midland Co., TX (ST 4402H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-046: T&P RR Co Survey, A-800, Sec 44, Midland Co., TX (ST 4403H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-047: T&P RR Co Survey, A-49, Sec 5, Midland Co., TX (ST 4404H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-048: T&P RR Co Survey, A-262, Sec 45, Midland Co., TX (ST 4501H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-049: T&P RR Co Survey, A-262, Sec 45, Midland Co., TX (ST 4503 Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-050: T&P RR Co Survey, A-262, Sec 45, Midland Co., TX (ST 4502H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-051: T&P RR Co Survey, A-262, Sec 45, Midland Co., TX (ST 4503H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-052: T&P RR Co Survey, A-262, Sec 45, Midland Co., TX (ST 4504H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-053: T&P RR Co Survey, A-262, Sec 45, Midland Co., TX (ST 4505H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-054: T&P RR Co Survey, A-262, Sec 45, Midland Co., TX (ST 4506 Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-055: T&P RR Co Survey, A-262, Sec 45, Midland Co., TX (ST 4508B Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-056: T&P RR Co Survey, A-800, Sec 44, Midland Co., TX (ST S 501H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-057: T&P RR Co Survey, A-800, Sec 44, Midland Co., TX (ST S 502H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-058: T&P RR Co Survey, A-800, Sec 44, Midland Co., TX (ST S 503H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-059: T&P RR Co Survey, A-49, Sec 5, Midland Co., TX (ST S 504H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-060: T&P RR Co Survey, A-49, Sec 5, Midland Co., TX (ST S 505H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-061: T&P RR Co Survey, A-50, Sec 7, Midland Co., TX (ST W 701H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-062: T&P RR Co Survey, A-50, Sec 7, Midland Co., TX (ST W 702H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-063: T&P RR Co Survey, A-50, Sec 7, Midland Co., TX (ST W 705H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-064: T&P RR Co Survey, A-50, Sec 7, Midland Co., TX (ST W 706H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-065: T&P RR Co Survey, A-902, Sec 42, Midland Co., TX (ST W 4304H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-066: T&P RR Co Survey, A-902, Sec 42, Midland Co., TX (ST W 4305H Oil Well)

Case ZBA 13-067: T&P RR Co Survey, A-902, Sec 42, Midland Co., TX (ST W 4306H Oil Well)

VARIANCES: To the City Code concerning the height limitations for temporary Oil Well Drilling Equipment.

If any further information is desired, please feel free to contact the Building Official at (432) 685-7235.

/s/
Steve Thorpe
Building Official
City of Midland

Note: The building facility is accessible to disabled persons. A wheelchair ramp is located at the southeast entrance to City Hall. A parking space designated for use by disabled persons is available near the entrance. Persons with disabilities or persons needing special accommodations or hearing impaired persons who need to have an interpreter should request service through the Administrative Services Department of the City of Midland, prior to the scheduled meeting by contacting the Human Resources Department of the City of Midland, at (432) 685-7235. If communications assistance is needed, please contact the City Secretary's office at (432) 685-7237 or 685-7300 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

General Announcements

General Announcements

An online auction of Midland College surplus property will be held by Rene Bates Auctioneers, Inc. The auction will begin on Monday, March 11, 2013 and close on Thursday, March 21, 2013. Items will be available for viewing and bidding on the auctioneer's website: http://www.renebates.com. The College will be auctioning Veterinary Technology equipment such training models, a Kodak Direct View digital film processor and a York Chiller. For additional information contact Barbara Fennell, Purchasing Agent (432)686-4250 or bfennell@midland.edu. The College reserves the right to accept or reject any and or all auction bids. For a complete list of instructions, or to participate in the online auction go to http://www.renebates.com

General Announcements

General Announcements

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Auction
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OKLAHOMA CITY, OK
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FOUND CAT 1 year old orange and white tabby name bailey looking for a good home. Call Linda 432-699-5919

FOUND FEMALE Pit Bull mix, black/white found near Big Spring. 432-352-7405

FOUND FEMALE Pomeranian well taken care of, found 03/09/13 Missouri @ Elm. 432-687-5857

Meetings

Masonic Lodges

Communications 1600 W. Wall 432-853-1273 Stated Meetings Acacia Lodge #1414 1st & 3rd Tues @ 7:30pm. Midland Lodge #623 2nd & 4th Thurs. 7:30pm Centennial Lodge #1448 1st & 3rd Sat. 8:30am Did you know Harry Houdini was a Master Mason?

Lost & Found

" S Q U I R T " POMERANIAN/ SHEPARD mix. Lost in between Bentwood and Thomason Dr. Please call 262-6748

REWARD LOST FEMALE.Cockapoo, beige, pink collar. Vicinity of "A" Street & Scarbauer. 806-281-4032.

Business Opportunity

Booth rentals available for hair salon. Call 432-889-3432

Business Opportunity

CREW WITH machinery looking for work in oil field or private clients. Experience: Site construction, grinder, mulcher, heavy duty mowing, installation/maintenance of pipelines, power lines, cathodic protection, water storage, water cleaning (reuse), spill clean-up, tank cleaning. Will fund and build workforce housing and/or Executive accommodations. Contact Michael Durden 678-429-4284

Personals

Looking for dependable person interested in cabinet building. No experience necessary. Call Allan at 432-349-2547 for interview

Autos For Sale or Lease

Passenger Cars

BMW 2004 530, garaged, 110k miles, leather, good condition, $14,000 Call 432-684-6406.

BMW 2007 750LI 48,000 miles Very Clean Call 432-770-6288

BMW 633, 1982 153K, 5 speed. $3,000 o.b.o Please call 432-260-8473

CADILLAC 2009 CTS-V. Less than 9k miles. $44,000. Serious inquiries only. Call 432-520-2992.

Passenger Cars

CHRYSLER 2007 300C, 5.7 Hemi, We finance. B&B Auto Sales 432-683-6222

FORD 2003 Thunderbird 007, Limited edition #69 out of #700, power soft top & hard top, leather, 53k miles, $25,000 OBO. Call 432-978-7946

FORD 2006 Mustang GT V8 auto. We finance. B&B Auto Sales 432-683-6222

HONDA 2005 Civic, 94k miles, 2 door. We finance. B&B Auto Sales 432-683-6222.

LINCOLN 2011 MKS (4D Sedan). REDUCED. Power sunroof, Navigation- system, THX stereo system, transferable Certified Pre-Owned warranty. In excellent condition with 29K miles. $24,800. 432-684-4407 or 432-260-0010

MAZDA 2011, CX-7, Auto, 20K miles, silver, leather seats, very good condition. $19,000. Midland, call or text (432)853-0998

Mercedes 1981 Blue 380 SEL Beautiful Classic 54,000 Miles Excellent Condition Well Maintained Highly Coveted Hard Top Sporty 2 Door Model From Provertbial Estate of a "Little old Lady" $12,000 Firm 432-770-8616.

Fax Your Classified Ad In Today! 682-6999

Lost & Found

$1000 CASH REWARD! ROCKY WAS lost out in Greenwood on Saturday the 16th of Feburary. He is a male liver and white Springer Spaniel. Please call Allen- 806-292-1850 if you spot him.

Lost & Found

FOUND AN ITEM?
If you are trying to return an item to its rightful owner, let us help you. Call 432-682-6222 For Your Classifieds Ad!

Legal & Public Notices

MCCAMEY COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT (MCHD) is issuing a Request For Qualifications for the following Professional services: Geotechnical Study, Materials Testing and Technical Inspections, Commissioning and Environmental Site Assessment for the purpose of gathering critical information for a future on site construction project. The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) is # 2013 - 0.001 and is available by contacting Jaime Ramirez, CEO at jramirez@mchdtx.net. All responses must be sealed and submitted no later than Friday, March 22, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. to the MCHD in care of Jaime Ramirez, CEO, 2500 Hwy 305 South, P.O. Box 1200, McCamey, Texas 79752. The MCHD Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and/or all responses and waive all formalities in the solicitation process.

Legal & Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSAL
Mayer Rousselot Agriculture Education Training Center

Angelo State University
Member, Texas Tech University System
San Angelo, Texas
Project No. 11-033

Information can be obtained by accessing the
Electronic State Business Daily
http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us
Agency Requisition No. 11-033
Agency Code 737
NIGP Class Item No. 909-26

For additional information contact the Angelo State University Director & Project Manager, Clayton Smith. Contact via phone (325) 942-2380, Fax (325) 942-2359 or e-mail: Clayton.Smith@angelo.edu

ANGELO STATE UNIVERSITY, MEMBER, TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND ENCOURAGES ALL HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES TO PARTICIPATE

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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

3/17/13

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

4	3	7	9	2	8	5	6	1
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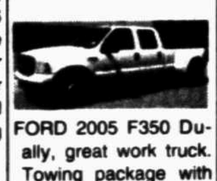

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JOB WEEK

Number of millions of unemployed persons in the United States.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics

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LINK IN TO WIN

By PATRICIA RIVERA
CTW Features

If you have not actively used LinkedIn to find a new job, career coaches say you must jump on board.

LinkedIn is the most popular destination for recruiters when they need to fill a job, says Dan Sherman, LinkedIn expert and author of "Maximum Success With LinkedIn." (McGraw-Hill 2013)

"They're as thick in LinkedIn as flies on honey. Not only are they looking for you, but you can also reach out to them," adds the Tampa trainer.

Unlike job boards, Sherman says LinkedIn offers a host of other benefits that include brand building, networking, immediacy and access to a global marketplace.

LinkedIn also requires greater participation – by connecting, networking and sharing – than a job board. Thus it calls for more time and attention.

Sherman says consider developing a routine for your use of LinkedIn so that you are able to engage with other on an ongoing basis.

"You want to mindshare and to stay visible rather than to promote yourself," Sherman says.

Steve Frederick, a Chicago career coach and presenter of LinkedIn webinars, recommends building up to 500 contacts to make it worth your time. Use groups to connect with more people.

TELL YOUR STORY

Frederick says he has seen too many job seekers spend countless hours polishing their resume. "But they spent almost no time at all on their LinkedIn profile."

While your resume focuses on your past, your LinkedIn profile allows you to tell your story, your way.

Tips for giving the best impression:

- Use a professional picture.
- Make sure your headline talks about what you do and not who you are.
- Show your industry track record in your summary. "Add some personally to this section, such as your philosophy on life or some personal thoughts," he says.

USE KEYWORDS

Use keywords – the phrases you want others to use to find you – strategically and gracefully, Sherman says. Don't insert them haphazardly in a profile. You want to use relevant keywords in your headline, your job title, your summary and your specialties.

Use keywords such as industry, location, company names (if that's allowed) and even names of people. You can use keywords wisely in searching for your perfect job. Sherman suggests, for instance, that if you want to be found for IT training, you write: "I provide the most comprehensive and affordable IT training in the state of Nevada"

Like with your current job, you should also be thoughtful in selecting keywords for past jobs.

OTHER LINKEDIN TOOLS

Sherman suggests these other tips:

- Use the premium OpenLink service to contact people to whom you're not connected.
- Seek recommendations. This is vital to your LinkedIn success. Pursue quality recommendations from C-level executives, former bosses, satisfied clients and well-known colleagues.
- Plug into LinkedIn Today to keep track of industry news or sign up for email summary notifications of daily news.

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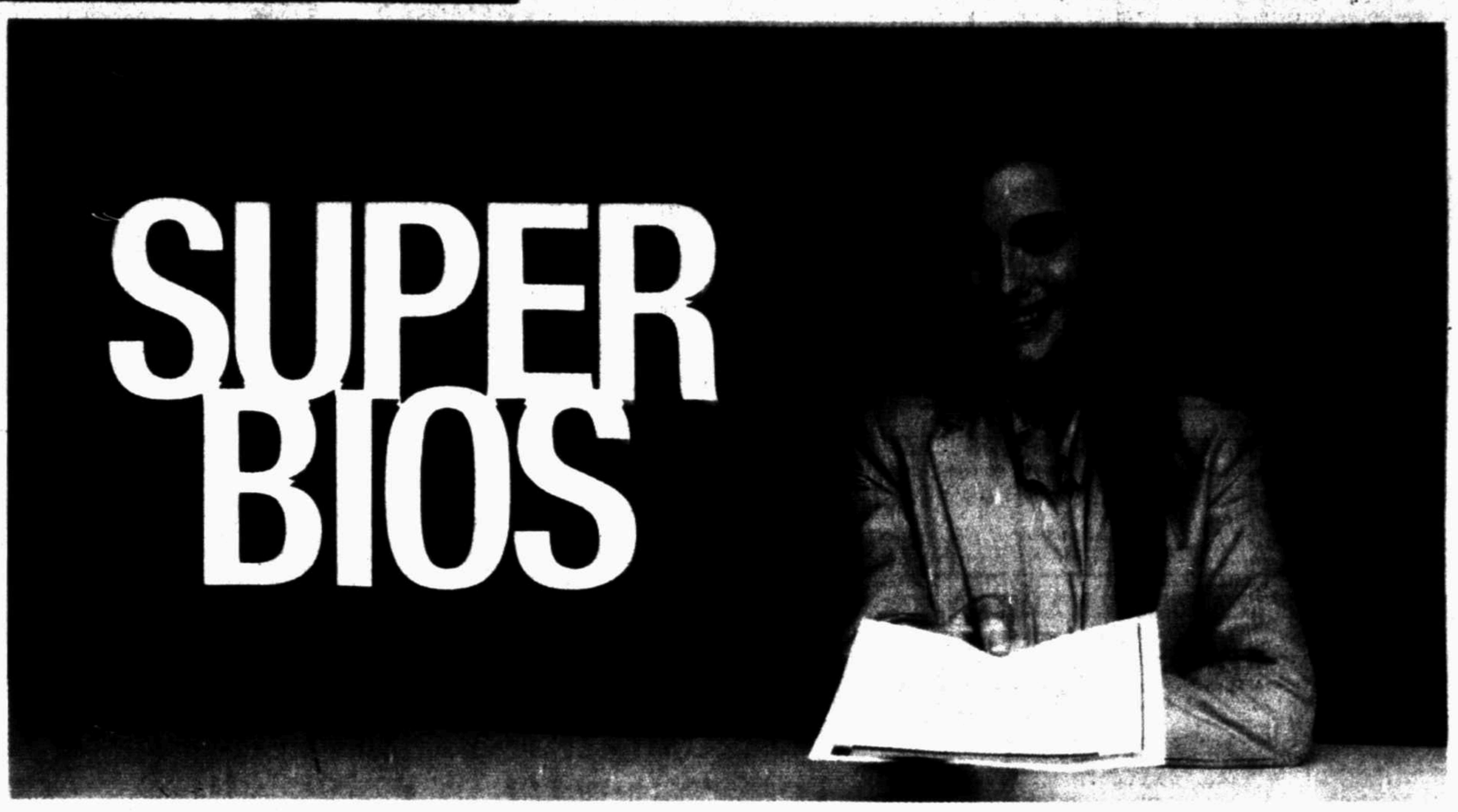

HOW TO SPICE UP A PROFILE AND FINALLY GET NOTICED.

By DAWN KLINGENSMITH
CTW Features

Imagine if Batman had a LinkedIn profile. It would be impossible for him to have a boring bio. He has established a brilliant personal brand as the Caped Crusader, the Dark Knight and the World's Greatest Detective, and a formidable list of accomplishments despite lacking a superpower.

While no one in business is as awesome as Batman, there's no shortage of superstars whose boring bios diminish their marketability. They may have saved six companies from bankruptcy, raised $10 million for a nonprofit agency or developed the product that a decade from now will drive Apple out of business, yet their bio won't stand out from all the rest. That's because professional bios tend to follow the same dull format: title and employer, expertise and experience, previous employment, education and training and maybe some personal tidbits.

Instead of taking that predictable route, "Wow readers from the start by highlighting something really fantastic and then work your way down, inverted-pyramid style," suggests Endrea Kosven, founder and CEO of the Los Angeles-based marketing firm EDK & Company.

Picture an upside-down pyramid, with the widest part at the top representing the most substantial information – something that makes people take notice – and the tapering lower part representing other relevant material in order of diminishing importance.

One way to approach bio writing is to list your skills and experience, as you would for a résumé, and then acknowledge that it's possible that someone else, or several people, possess the same skills and background. So the challenge, Kosven says, is to determine what you have done with your skills and experience that sets you apart.

In other words, what have you accomplished?

Once you start considering your accomplishments, you may be able to distill them down to something akin to a superpower – or, at any rate, a special ability that sets you apart – and you can lead with that.

Maybe it's a sharp eye for how businesses get bogged down in inefficiencies, and how you consistently reduce their operating costs by 30 to 50 percent.

"Start with stunning results in specific terms," says Nancy Juetten, whose "Get Known to Get Paid" mentoring program addresses the importance of business bios.

As a whole, in succinct story form, an effective bio tells others "who we are and who we serve and what we do," she says.

To that end, "One of the most important elements is a headline," which, on LinkedIn, comes up right alongside your name, Juetten says. "The headline helps busy people understand more quickly what you're about."

A simple descriptor or job title is sufficient, such as "customer service specialist" or "Boston-based certified financial planner."

"Content over cute is better, because you have to consider SEO," or search engine optimization – how easily people can find you when searching the web, she says.

Clever, unconventional job titles are common in certain industries and "fun for personal branding," says Juetten, "but it makes you hard to find." People are likelier to type in "social media strategist" vs. "social media rock star."

Keeping a goal in mind when writing the bio will help keep it focused and concise. What do you want to be known for? Make sure everything in the bio supports that goal, Juetten advises.

Interview yourself. How did you get where you are? What are you known for professionally? What do co-workers or clients say about you? What are you praised for in performance reviews? What problems do others come to you for solutions? What have you done for past employers? What aspect of your work is most satisfying?

"Be crystal clear about results," Juetten says. "No one's looking for a bundle of credentials. They're looking for someone who makes things happen."

You can include some personal information to spice things up and set yourself apart. On her website's "about" page, Juetten quotes the Fairy Godmother from Cinderella; mentions her cockapoo, Champ; and reveals she's just under 6 feet tall in her bare feet. (That's almost as tall as Batman, who's pegged at 6 feet 2 in the DC Comics Encyclopedia.)

Avoid words like world-renowned (if you truly were, you wouldn't need to say so) and award-winning (just list any awards that are sure to impress), and don't start every sentence with "I."

Don't just write your bio and forget it. Update it as necessary to reflect current accomplishments, Juetten says.

When a bio is accompanied by a photo, the image should be appropriate for the platform and audience. For LinkedIn, use a professional headshot and dress as you would for an interview, Kosven says. Twitter photos can be more casual and reflective of your personality.

HANDY WORK

It's not just a phone; it's a way to hold your life in your palm.

And, more and more smart phone users are organizing the details of their work life alongside their personal texts, photos and calendars.

A recent study by Ventana Research, a firm that analyzes business and technology trends, finds that 40 percent of firms have "extended human resources to mobile devices."

"This means letting managers and employees access HR systems via mobile phones or tablet devices," explains Stephan Millard, Ventana human capital management expert.

"So as an example," he explains, "hourly employees could use their iPhone to access their working schedule and make time-off requests directly from [their phone]."

"Another example is having employees take learning courses directly from their mobile phone," Millard adds.

For about the last three years, apps have been developed to take workplace communications to smart phones, Millard says, and the trend will "only get stronger."

Workers who investigate whether their firm's app offerings "should improve their work experience," he claims

For jobseekers, it's important to know that the human resource or hiring manager could be viewing your cover letter and resume on their phone, rather than a larger computer screen.

"The best resumes and cover letters are always concise, so I wouldn't have a separate, mobile resume," advises Caroline Ceniza-Levine, a career expert at SixFigureStart.com.

Still, she notes: "Mobile viewing of resumes allows the reader to jump online as needed. So, if you can put hyperlinks into your resume and cover letter, that is a subtle and elegant way of providing additional information.

"For example, you might link the relevant company website to each of your employer names. This way, if the recruiter hasn't heard of the company and wants to quickly look them up, they can just click."

– Marilyn Kennedy Melia

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- Environmental, Health & Safety Corporate Manager (Durango, CO)
- Executive Vice President of Operations (Durango, CO or Tulsa, OK)

To review qualifications and to apply for a position, please visit website at www.aaef.com/jobs.asp. Closing date: 5:00pm on 3/25/13.

CLASS A CDL

Milford Pipe & Supply,

NOW HIRING EXPERIENCED OPERATORS, TRENCHER, BACKHOE, EXCAVATOR, DOZER, BLADE.

CLASS A CDL WILL RECIEVE A 1000.00 SIGN ON BONUS
3-5 YEARS VERIFIABLE EXPERIENCE, PREFERABLY FLATBED
90% LOCAL HAULING
CLEAN DRIVING RECORD

MUST APPLY IN PERSON, AT MILFORD PIPE & SUPPLY,7607 N. INDUSTRIAL, MIDLAND, TX

ENERGY & UTILITIES

Manager Stickline Operations

Local company seeking a manager for all aspects of stickline operations. Minimum five years experience. Managerial skills essential for a staff of 15-20. Must be computer proficient and able to interact with all levels of personnel internally and with customers. Please send resume and salary requirements to M-21 Midland Reporter-Telegram 201 E. Illinois Midland, TX 79701

RIG MECHANIC Hobbs, NM

Must have own tools and a min. of a Class B CDL. Possess knowledge of: Oilfield industry equipment, Troubleshooting pulling units and light vehicles, maintenance and repairs of pulling units and light vehicles. Should be familiar with hydraulic systems repairs/maintenance. Competitive Salary & Benefits Major Medical/Dental/Vision/401K. Call: **1.877.210.JOBS (5627)** Email Resume: gregory.fritts@nabors.com
Fax Resume: 575.392.3100
"We aren't the rest, we hire the best!" EOE/M/F/V/D **NABORS**

Sales

Experienced oilfield sales person needed to make rig calls. Must have current contacts with oil companies. Paid vacation & insurance. Salary DOE. Fax resume and oilfield contacts to: 337-504-5437

HEALTHCARE

Terrace West Nursing & Rehabilitation
2800 Midland Drive • Midland, TX 79707
Phone: 432-697-1108 • Fax: 432-689-0486

We offer an excellent salary and benefits are available. If you are a person dedicated to providing quality care, please apply in person or email resume.

Nursing Professionals

- **Licensed Vocational Nurse PRN**
- **Certified Nurse Aides**
- **Certified Medication Aide**
- **Housekeeping/Laundry**

Email resume to: **ADM.TerraceWest@daybreakventure.com**

www.daybreakventure.com
EOE

Are you looking for a great place to work with great pay?

Rockwood Manor is hiring for the following full-time positions:

LVN
CNA

Contact Wanda City, Director of Nurses
2000 N Main
Midland
432-686-1898

MARC

Creating choices for people with disabilities...

Case Manager

- Bachelor's degree preferred but not required
- Must be able to manage multiple tasks
- Must be able to work well with people with developmental disabilities

Behavior Therapist

- Bachelor's degree in a related field preferred
- Experience in working with children diagnosed on the autism spectrum preferred
- Team player
- Flexible schedule

Apply in person or send resume to **devans@marcinc-tx.org**
2701 North A Street, Midland, TX 79705

Certified Dental Assistant

Certified Dental Assistant needed for growing practice. Please email resume to **info@smilemidland.com** or fax to **432 520-0720**.

CERTIFIED NURSE AIDE

Mission Adult Day Care FT
CNA WANTED. Day shift. No weekends. Must be willing to transport clients. Bi-lingual preferred. Call **432-522-1221** for more information.

Clinic Nurse LVN- Addiction Treatment Center

Midland/Odessa
Monday-Friday 5:15am-12:15pm weekdays & 6am to 9:30am on Saturdays. Travel required between Midland & Odessa clinics. Assessments, TBs, dispense meds. Paid holidays, CEU days & personal days. Fax: **800-671-8364.**

Data Entry Clerk

Advanced Home Health
Data Entry position with home health experience and bilingual a plus. Excellent benefits and working environment. Call 432-520-1505 or fax resume 432-520-1504.

Direct Support Staff

MARC has immediate openings for Direct Support Staff. Duties include supporting children and adults who have developmental disabilities in all areas of their lives. Apply in person at 2701 North A Street, or completing application on website (www.marcinc-tx.org) and emailing to Deanna Evans at devans@marcinc-tx.org. Walk-in interviews available.

PREMIER PHYSICIANS

Premier Physicians currently has openings in the following offices:

Urgent Care – Walk In Clinic
Experienced Physician's Assistant or Nurse Practitioner needed for busy urgent care.

Premier Physicians offers a competitive package including paid vacation and sick time, health insurance, 401(k) plan.

Please send qualified resumes to:
Premier Physicians
Attn: Arita Routh
P.O. Box 5291
Midland, TX 79704 or by fax to 432.682.2284

HEALTHCARE

LPC/LCDC/License Counselor

Midland/Odessa Addiction Treatment Center PT
Monday-Friday 6:00am-10:30am
Treatment planning/Case management. Personal days/CEU days. Paid holidays. Fax resume to 800-671-8364.

LVN or MA

LVN or MA needed for busy Physician's Office. Great Benefit Package. Please fax resumes to 682-2284 or mail to Premier Physicians, Attn: Arita Routh, PO Box 5291, Midland, Texas 79704. No phone calls please.
PO# BEL-7003

Medical Technologist

Mitchell County Hospital FT
Mitchell County Hospital District, Colorado City, TX needs Medical Technologist to perform lab technical procedures, collects specimens from patients, operates & repairs lab instruments. 40 hrs/wk, BS Med Tech w/ AMT or equivalent cert. Send resume to: HR Dept. or Lab Manager, 997 West I20, Colorado City, TX 79512.

Ophthalmology Technician

FT ophthalmology technician position available in a busy ophthalmology practice. Experience preferred but will be willing to train the right candidate. This position requires a self-motivated individual with willingness to multi-task. Fax resume to 432-694-7414 or email to dringram@quiknt.com

Providers/Caregivers & CNA's

St. Joseph's Home Health Inc. FT
St. Joseph's Home Health Inc is currently hiring English and Spanish speaking Providers/Caregivers & CNA's in Midland, TX. Please call: 432-684-5858.

Registered Nurse

RN wanted with at least 1 year experience. Must be good with elderly & disabled adults. Day shift, no weekends. Part-time to Full-time hours available. Call 432-522-1221 for more information.

Snelling Medical Staffing

• MA • CNA • RN - PRN • Dental Hygienist - PRN
Apply in person or online: www.snelling.com/odessa
* 432-699-4799 * 800-296-7106
EEOC Employer

West Texas Centers

Promoting Behavioral & Developmental Health

West Texas Centers has an opening for a **Mental Health Counselor**. This position will be responsible for providing a combination of both intake eligibility assessments and counseling duties. Duties of the position will require routine interactions with individuals with mental illness and their families to complete eligibility assessments on new and returning clients. This position will be responsible for completing diagnostic assessments and making level of care recommendations. This position will also be responsible for providing Cognitive Behavioral Therapy to an individual, group, or family, depending on assignment. Must be licensed by the State of Texas as an LPC, LCSW, LMFT. Travel required within service area. Position will be based out of Big Spring. Employee will participate on Cris Consult Rotation by phone, providing support to Crisis Duty Staff& authorizing options for interventions. Must have a valid Texas driver's license and a driving record that is acceptable for insurability through the Center's insurance carrier. $22.58 hr ($1806.46 biweekly $46,968.00 annually).

Applications available at www.wtcmhmr.org or
by calling JOBLINE 800-687-2769 EOE

HOSPITALITY & TRAVEL

All Positions

Hampon Inn FT
5011 N. Loop 250
Midland, TX 79707
Now hiring all positons. Flexible schedule, great pay, hotel discounts & advancement opportunities. Apply within or email cody.overturff@platinumhotel.com

Breakfast Host/Front Desk/Housekeeping

Holiday Inn Express FT
Now hiring Full-time Front Desk, Breakfast Host & Housekeeping. Professional appearance required. Will train the right person. Serious inquiries only. Previous applicants need not apply. Apply in person only. No phone calls. Competitive pay.

LAW ENFORCEMENT & SECURITY

MIDLAND JUDICIAL DISTRICT
COMMUNITY SUPERVISION AND CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT
(Adult Probation for Midland County)
JOB VACANCIES:
COMMUNITY SUPERVISION OFFICER (HIGH RISK CASELOAD)
SALARY $3,000 PER MONTH
DRUG TREATMENT FACILITY RESIDENTIAL MONITOR
SALARY $2,140 PER MONTH

Community Supervision Officer (High Risk Caseload)
A High Risk Adult Probation Officer supervises and performs GPS/electronic monitoring installation and surveillance of high risk adults placed on Community Supervision. Conducts assessments and supervision planning, and refers offenders to community resources. Conducts field visits to probationer's homes and job site, documents casework, prepares notifications for court and testifies in court. Minimum Bachelor's degree required. For more information **(432)688-4104**.

Residential Monitor
Supervises daily activities of adult male probationers in court ordered drug/alcohol treatment center. Minimum GED or H.S. Diploma. For more information **(432)688-4174**.

Both positions require a favorable background check. Applications, salary information, and a complete job description may be obtained from the Midland CSCD M-F 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. 200 N. Main, Midland, Texas 79701.

MANAGEMENT & EXECUTIVE

Business Office Manager

Basin Healthcare Center has an immediate opportunity for a Business Office Manager to lead the daily front and back office functions of this hospital. Successful candidates will have previous experience in hospital billing, coding, and a minimum of three years supervising others. Interested applicants should forward their resume and cover letter confidentially to recruitment@nuetera.com

Fleet Manager

Fleet Manager needed. Must have DOT experience. Send resume to: iwantasafetyjob@yahoo.com

OTHER JOBS

Our new state-of-the-art dealerships NOW OPEN and we are growing fast and need your help. This is your chance to get in on the ground floor.

Toyota of Midland

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

- *Service Technicians*
- *Service Advisors*
- *Lube Auto Tech*
- *Parts Counter Person*
- *Sales - New & Used*
- *Shop Foreman*

We provide all our team members with a great benefits package: Medical & dental insurance programs - 401K - Paid vacations. Ongoing training & mentoring - A great work environment.Appreciation for your hard work - Opportunity for Advancement. Pay based on experience. Your hard work and motivation can take you to new heights of success. Join Toyota of Midland, a growing local auto dealership TODAY!

apply in person 800 North Loop 250 West

2 LEASING AGENTS

1 Full-time Leasing Agent needed. We offer Benefits & Bonuses for FT. 1 Part time Leasing Agent. Mail resume to M-40 c/o Midland Reporter-Telegram 201 E. Illinois Midland, TX, 79701.

All Positions

Fast growing Texas based company opening a new location in Midland. If you love working with jewelry, you will love this job! Now hiring all positions. Full-time, Part-time, store Manager. Very competitive compensation, great hours, no later than 6pm & no Sundays. Willing to train the right individuals. Email: midlandtexjobs@yahoo.com or call 972-346-8855.

westtexas monster

McCOY'S BUILDING SUPPLY

WANTED:

2 Commercial Sales / Outside Sales Representatives

McCoy's Building Supply is seeking 2 Commercial Sales/Outside Sales Representative to serve contractors and homebuilders in your area! The qualified candidates will be detail-oriented, highly organized, have a high level of knowledge regarding lumber, building materials & maintenance products and have the skills required to sell these products in the field.

Must have at least 1-3 years related experience, or equivalent education and experience. Some travel required. Must be at least 23 years of age and meet McCoy's driving requirements.

McCoy's Building Supply is a successful family-owned lumber and building supply retail chain with 83 retail stores located throughout Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Mississippi and Arkansas. If you are interested in pursuing an opportunity in this fast-paced, hard-working, retail building supply environment, **apply online to either Job Posting - Midland: #12-0065 or Odessa: #12-1091 at: www.mccoys.com**

Please No Calls to the Store

Drug, Background, and Motor Vehicle Driver screens REQUIRED

EOE, AAP, D, F, VA

(COMPETITIVE WAGES)

Available Positions

New MICROTEL Inn & Suites By Wyndham Odessa is now accepting applications for the following positions • Front Desk Clerks • Audit • Housekeepers • Breakfast Host. Apply in person at 4300 E. 50th St., Odessa, Tx. 79762

Avis Lube

Now hiring Cashiers, Car Care, Greeters and Lube Techs. Apply online at www.thekentcompanies.com or at any Midland location

Delivery Person

Local Designer/Furniture store needs a delivery person. Must have good driving record and pass a medical health card exam. Days are Monday through Friday, mainly local deliveries but some out of town deliveries. Call 432-699-3065

Detailers

UNISEAL FT

Looking for experienced detailers at local Midland & Odessa dealerships. Can make up to $15 to $18 an hour. Please call 832-499-9574.

Housekeeper

Villa Chateau Apartments PT

Part time Temporary Housekeeper needed. Drug Screen/Background check done. Apply in person at Villa Chateau Apts 1603 N. Midkiff rd. Midland, TX 79701 No phone call please.

1staffing

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS

- General Labors
- Pipe Inspector
- Make Ready Person
- Meat Processors
- Hot Sauce Packaging Person
- Part Time Delivery Driver /Shophand with valid Drivers License & must be able to lift 70 pounds
- Warehouse w/Flexibility
- Part Time Janitorial
- Home Theater Installer.
- Shophands
- CDL Driver Class A or B No Endorsements
- CDL Drivers with Air Brakes Endorsement
- General Laborers in Big Spring, Texas

Apply in person at:
4400 N. Big Spring St., Ste. C 26,
Midland, TX. 79705
432-550-4059.
www.staffitusa.com

Lumber Yard and Shop

Builders & Homeowners Supply FT

Builders & Homeowners now hiring for openings in lumber yard and door shop. Apply at 1701 West Industrial. Midland, TX

Maids and Janitors

Confidential PT

Part-time Janitorial positions available. Work M-F 5:30pm-8:30pm, no weekends. Good way to make extra money. Apply at: 1307 North Big Spring. 8:30am-5:30pm.

Manager

COM Aquatics PT

Manager Needed. Seasonal Position, March - August. Competitive Salary. Looking for a strong leader who is organized, motivated, and flexible during summer months. Great position for teachers/former leaders/retired police or fireman. Fill out application at COM Aquatics, 3003 North A Street, Midland, TX.

Midland/Odessa Job Fair

USIC Daytime, full-time Locate Technician positions available!

*Must have outdoor work experience
*HS Diploma or GED
*Ability to work OT and weekends
*Valid license, clean driving record and background check required

We provide: •100% paid training
•$15.50 an hour
•Company vehicle and equipment provided
•Medical, Dental, Vision and Life Insurance

Join us at one of our upcoming job fairs:
Wednesday, March, 20, 2013 10:00am- 3:00pm
Midland Workforce Solutions
3510 N. A Street, Bldg. A Midland, TX 78705
and
Thursday, March 21, 2013 9:00am-Noon
Workforce Solutions Permian Basin
2626 JBS Parkway, Building D Odessa, TX 79761
Apply today at www.usicinc.com EEO/AA

Oilfield Inspectors

Progressive Pump Cavity Division

Progressive Cavity Pumps, Inc.
Midland, TX 79701

Quinn is offering a career opportunity in our Progressive Pump Cavity Division. We are looking for someone that is willing to share their knowledge in this field such as experience with VFD's. Salary DOE. Quinn offers a great benefit package including paid vacation time and 401K. If you are interested in this position please stop by 3611 East Hwy 158 Midland and fill out an application. Or send resume to P.O. Box 672 Midland, TX. 79702. 432-682-5645

Sneling Staffing Services

Hiring

• Clerical Admin. • General Workers • Mechanical • Shop Hands
Apply in person or online: www.sneling.com/careers
• 806-2799 • 800-299-7106
EEOC Employer

Sprinkler RepairHelp

Kut-Rite Tree & Lawn now hiring Sprinkler Repair help. Must have experience in Sprinkler Repair & Installation. Please call 432-561-8802 or 432-638-6163

Teachers and Cafeteria Manager

New Horizons Child Development Center is now hiring for **Teachers** & **Cafeteria Manager**. Call Tracye or Lisa **432-684-7040**.

General

NEWSPAPER STREET CORNER SALES

Midland Reporter-Telegram

Selling Newspapers On The Street Corners
(avg. income $50.00 - $100.00/day)

MUST BE AT LEAST 14 YEARS OLD
SUNDAYS ONLY
IF INTERESTED CALL
TOMMY 967-2267

"Two hours every morning paid off a $2,000 credit card debt."
Want to pay down your credit cards??
Do you have a reliable Car with insurance and a phone??
Become a Midland Reporter-Telegram carrier.
Contact:
Tony 687-9002

ValetWaste

DOORSTEP COLLECTION EXPERTS

Steady Part Time Contract Work

National Company Servicing the Apartment Home Industry
Immediate Openings for Service Technicians in Midland, TX

For more information	Independent Contractor
Call 432-897-1726	Earn $700-$1100+ per month
Or 817-586-6212	1 to 3 hours a night (Sun-Thurs)
Email: mgalvan@valetwaste.com	Open Bed Pickup Truck Req.

WAREHOUSE/DELIVERY

ELLIS SALES COMPANY FT
6103 WEST INDUSTRIAL
MIDLAND, TX

Oilfield Warehouse is looking to fill one new position. No experience required - will train. Monday-Friday 40 hours, 10 paid holidays, 2 weeks paid vacation, 100% paid employee health insurance, bonus plan, 401k retirement plan, company vehicle after probation, good working environment, top pay, clean driving record a must. Apply in person.

Worship Media Assistant

Part-time position at First United Methodist Church of Midland that will be required to work on Sundays. Must be proficient in Adobe Photoshop or Illustrator, Mac and PC, PowerPoint, Internet searching and applications, and Final Cut. Must have video production experience and be able to troubleshoot video and audio issues. Please send resume to jobs@fumcmidland.com.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Community Director Needed!

Weidner Apartment Homes FT

Excellent Career Opportunity!
We are seeking an energetic and driven individual who will be responsible for all aspects of efficient operations of an apartment community. Qualifications include 2+ years of apartment management experience, excellent verbal and written communication skills, knowledge of Yardis is a plus. We offer competitive salaries, excellent benefits and a generous apartment discount! Please apply online at www.weidnercareers.com or fax your resume to 877-399-9012.

RESTAURANT & FOOD SERVICE

All Positions

Firehouse Subs FT
Midland, TX 79701

All Positions at Firehouse Subs FT and PT in Midland, TX 79701. Firehouse Subs is now hiring for our new West Tx. training restaurant at 2900 West Loop 250 North (across Loop 250 from Best Buy). Positions include ($9.00-$12.00) for Cashiers, Catering Asst., Slicers and ($12.00-$14.00) for Crew Leaders. Apply in person 9am-3pm Mon-Sat or call 806-786-9031 for appointment.

Cooks

Cattle Baron FT

Cattle Baron Restaurant now hiring experienced cooks. Starting wage $11.00 - $15.00 per hour depending on experience. Please apply daily 2:00 pm – 5:30 pm 418 Wadley Ave., Midland, TX No phone calls please!! EOE

COOKS, SERVERS & BUSSERS

Sedona Grill , 2101 W. Wadley
COOKS earn up to $15/ hr DOE. Please apply in person

Dinning Staff

Midland's Premier Country Club FT/PT

Is looking for dinning staff/servers. We offer competitive wages, benefit packages, and 401K. Please apply in person 6101 N. HWY 349, Midland TX 79705.

All Positions

Jasons Deli FT/PT

A healthy growing company seeking enthusiastic, hardworking, self motivated people for the following positions: Delivery Drivers, Line Cook, & Cashiers. Sign on Bonus, Competitive Pay, Room for Advancement & Benefits Available. Starting pay $10-12 per hour depending on experience. Please apply at: 4610 N. Garfield, Midland, TX (next Men's Warehouse)

DOMINO'S PIZZA NOW HIRING!

•**Drivers:** Make cash everyday, Great part time & full time shifts, Starting wage of $7.50 an hour (no split tip/wage here) plus delivery reimbursement, plus tips. •**CSRs:** Great part time & full time shifts. Starting wage of $8.25 an hour. Bright & Friendly people only! •**Shift Leaders:** Great part time & full time shifts, Starting wage of $9 an hour, Flexible Schedules. Apply at any **Domino's Pizza** Midland or Odessa or send resume: **cassie@clearwire.net**. Senior citizens & stay at home moms always welcome. EOE

Food & Beverage Manager

Midland Country Club FT

Is looking for a Food and Beverage Manager. We hire attitude and personality over experience. Position is full-time. In addition to competitive wages we offer paid medical and 401k. Please apply in person: Midland Country Club, 6101 N. Hwy 349, Midland, TX 79705.

Manager & Assistant Manager

Smiling Moose Deli

Now hiring managers and assistant mangers with competive pay, hourly or salary. Please come by the store 3322 N Loop 250, Ste 300 or you can download applications at smilingmoosedeli.com. 432-697-3354

Mulitple Positions

The Garlic Press FT
Midland, TX 79705

The Garlic Press is hiring for Multiple Positions. Apply in person at Oakridge Square, Wadley and Garfield, between 11am and 2pm or 5:30 and 7pm.

RUSTIC CAFE

Located in Gardendale!

Hiring for
• Cooks • Prep Cooks
Competitive wages, full benefits and weekly gas card provided.
Apply Now at 2408 N Big Spring St.

Swensen's Now Hiring Cooks and Kitchen Help!

Excellent working environment-Swensen's now adding COOKS & KITCHEN HELP to our Team. Come join a group that fosters membership, not just employment. Excellent pay. Will train. Apply at Loop 250 & "A" Street or call 432-967-6823 & speak with someone immediately

RETAIL JOBS

Sales

Fresh food store is taking applications for an energetic and friendly full-time sales person. Knowledge of supplements, herbs, and healthy diet a plus, but will consider someone eager to learn. Shifts will include evenings, and most Saturdays. Five day work week. Apply in person Monday through Friday only, 8am to 5pm at Natural Foods Market, 2311 W. Wadley.

westtexas Reporter-Telegram monster

ACCOUNT REPRESENTATIVE
Insurance experience preferred or strong administrative skills. 432-684-5059 or email resume to gal@preferredpersonnel.com
PREFERRED PERSONNEL, INC.

Are You Laid Off?
Unemployed?
Tired of Dead-end Job?
Hard Workers NEEDED
Overnight Travel Required
Contact (866) 326-4309 or joinusnow@pltnm.com

Commercial Territory Manager
A to Z Tire & Battery Inc FT/PT
Must have commercial tire experience. Send resumes to aandreu@atoztire.com or fax to 806-350-7861.

Inside Sales
Armstrong McCall Beauty Supplies FT/PT
Leader in Professional Beauty product has inside sales position PT/FT Mon-Fri 8:30-5:30 Able to lift 50lbs , fill orders, stock and customer service. Knowledge of Beauty Industry helpful. Pay BOE in Beauty Industry Call 432-520-0080

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

The Midland Reporter-Telegram Advertising Department is looking for an Outside Sales Representative.
The ideal candidate will have a proven track record of personal sales successes, preferably in a newspaper/media environment. Some knowledge of the advertising industry would be helpful, but not required.

Duties for this position will include, but are not limited to selling advertising in all print publications of the Midland Reporter-Telegram and all online products, including mywesttexas.com.

The right individual will enjoy an excellent compensation and full benefits package. If you are the one we are looking for, please send current resume to:

We're Raising the Bar!

Desirable Qualifications & Skills:
- Ability to work in a fast-paced, deadline oriented environment
- Excellent customer service and time management skills
- Highly organized with the ability to work independently with minimal supervision
- Detail-oriented with good communication, spelling and math skills

Midland Reporter-Telegram

Jeri Houston, Advertising Sales Manager
Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Avenue, Midland, TX 79701
or email to: jhouston@mrt.com
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

Sales Rep
Hoerbiger Service Odessa is looking for a experienced sales rep to sell components & repairs for compressors while developing new business within the Odessa area. Must have 3+ years w/i the Compressor Industry. Extensive travel req. Contact Pat Cunningham for more info at 432-561-5300 or email resume to hsna_jobs@hoerbiger.com or fax to 432-561-5305.

SCIENCE & RESEARCH

Geoscientist
Immediate opening for a qualified applicant with 3 to 5 years experience and degree (Bachelor / Masters) in Environmental Science, Chemistry, Biology, Geology, or related discipline. Strong communication, computer and writing skills required. EOE. Please send resume to: Larson & Associates, Inc., P.O. Box 50685, Midland, TX 79710-0685 ATT: Human Resources Manager. Or email patty@laenvironmental.com

SKILLED LABOR

Certified Crane Operators & Riggers
Fieldco Crane & Rigging – Midland, TX. NCCCO certification preferred. Operators must be certified to operate Linkbelt LS-218 (110 Ton) or LS-138 (80 Ton). Qualified applicants can fax resume to **432-687-1557** or email to **HR@fieldcoenergy.com** EOE – Drug-Free Workplace

Electrical Apprentice/Helper
Crockett Electric FT
Midland, TX 79702
Electrical Apprentice or Helper needed. Must be able to travel. Call 432-570-9757 or send resume to: rdcrockett@yahoo.com

Exelon Generation

Quail Run Generation Station
Odessa, Texas
Maintenance Mechanics # 1000977
Exelon Website – www.exeloncorp.com/careers

Exelon Power's diverse generating portfolio enables the company to be competitive in the deregulated power market during the intermediate seasons and peak demand periods.

Locations in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Texas and Massachusetts

Responsibilities
We are seeking an Maintenance Technician for our Quail run Plant, located in Odessa, Texas.
The Technician operates, performs regular preventive maintenance, troubleshoots, tests, and makes rounds taking regular readings on all power plant equipment and systems to maximize asset value. Ensures compliance with all applicable Federal and State regulations and plant procedures. Valuable non-core level skills may be in the area of administrative, mechanical, instrumentation and control, and/or electrical maintenance skills. Responsibilities include but are not limited to:
- Participate in operator training and continuing training.
- Manage preventive maintenance tasks and records preventive maintenance activities.
- Train and develop other employees in performing preventive maintenance and routine equipment service activities. Practice situational leadership, safety, and environmental stewardship.
- Lead equipment or system problem identification and recommend solutions.
- Develop operating procedures for plant equipment to ensure consistent and safe operation.
- Ensure that appropriate safety procedures are followed.
- Perform other duties as directed.

Qualifications
-Control room operating experience preferred
- Successful completion of the EEI Tech test.
- Strong aptitude in math, mechanical/electrical ability and production control.
- Hands on experience with all aspects of power plant operations and maintenance including mechanical maintenance, instrument and electrical systems, and a working knowledge of power cycles is a plus.
- Ability to work in a high performance work system and work rotating 12 hour shifts and overtime with minimum supervision.
- Excellent communication and team skills and a working knowledge of Excel and PC based applications.
- High School graduate.
- The ability to climb stairs and ladders.

Pay,Benefits, & Work Schedule
Exelon employees have access to one of the industry's most competitive benefit packages. Designed to offer choice and flexibility, the program allows you to customize a benefit package that is just right for you.

Exelon EEO & Employ Elig

- **Field Service Technicians**
- **Swabbing/Wireline Helpers**

Production Lift Systems, Inc., is seeking applicants for the above listed positions. Previous oil field experience is preferred. We offer competitive salaries and benefits, challenging work, and an opportunity to be part of an aggressive team that is growing in the oil and gas industry.
Please submit resumes to: Production Lift Systems, Inc.

PLSI
Production Lift Systems, Inc. • P.O. Box 9423
Midland, TX 79708 • (432) 699-1200 • 800-594-3887

ESI
ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS AND INSTRUMENTATION INC

Huge opportunity for the right individual!

- **Journeyman Electrician**
- **Experienced Lineman**

Comprehensive Benefit Plans Available:
Full Benefits including Vision Plan, Life Insurance,
Paid Vacation, Sick and Holiday Pay. Salary DOE. EOE

Ph. (432) 563-0020
Email resumes to:
esi-midcon@elect-systems.com
or fax to (432) 563-0029
www.elect-systems.com

Lead Maintenance
Confidential FT
Now hiring **Lead Maintenance**. Must be HVAC Certified. Contact 432-697-6039 or email summerhill@suddenlinkmail.com.

Maintenance Helper
Hunter's Ridge Apartments FT
4201 Andrews Hwy.
Midland, TX 79701
APARTMENT MAINTENANCE HELPERS Seeking Maintenance Help for 3 Apartment Complex's in Midland & Odessa. Must have valid DL. On the job training provided. Apply in person to Hunter's Ridge, Midland

Service Technician
A major coffee company seeks full-time Service Technician in the Midland/Odessa area to install and maintain commercial coffee and tea equipment. Food/coffee related experience preferred, but not required. Must be dependable, self-motivated, and have clean driving record. Send resumes to Human Resources, P.O. Box 3758, San Angelo, Texas 76902 or FAX (800) 248-8537

SURVEYING
Experienced Crew Chief, Draftsman, SIT and Rodman (will train). Positions available at **Watson Professional Group Inc.** Email resume to **pwatson@wpg-us.com** or mail **P.O. Box 11186 , Midland, TX 79702**.

JW POWERLINE

● WANTED EXPERIENCED VOLUMETRIC MIXER OPERATORS/ DRIVERS
(Certification as well as CDL- A license required)

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REAL ESTATE

Percentage of Americans who believe homeownership is an important part of the "American Dream."

Source: Prudential Real Estate Outlook Survey, interviews with 5,000 Americans by EdelmanBerland, Jan. 2013
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ANSWER:

If you sell the condo, there are marketing and closing costs that will reduce the net cash you receive. Instead, consider these two alternatives.

First, if the cash flow from the condo is strong, you have a written lease and you want to keep the property, then consider a refinance instead of a sale to raise cash.

A lender today might allow a 75 percent loan-to-value ratio with a cash-out refinance, meaning that if the investment property is worth $300,000, a qualified borrower might be able to get a $225,000 mortgage. To hedge against inflation, you want a fixed-rate loan to effectively lock in today's low interest levels.

The money gained is then available to buy an additional property, the cash flow from the condo continues and there are no marketing costs or capital gains taxes from the transaction – because nothing was sold. Speak with lenders for details.

Second, if you really want to sell the condo, then consider a Section 1031 tax-deferred exchange. In this situation, you sell one investment property and use the funds to purchase replacement investment property. Although such transactions are sometimes described as "tax free," in reality the capital gains tax on the sale is postponed.

According to the Internal Revenue Service, "Both properties must be held for use in a trade or business or for investment. Property used primarily for personal use, like a primary residence or a second home or vacation home, does not qualify for like-kind exchange treatment."

You'll want an experienced broker, attorney and tax professional to help with exchange transactions. You'll also need a "qualified intermediary" to hold cash from the sale during the transaction process.

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Email peter@ctwfeatures.com. Due to volume, not all questions may be answered.

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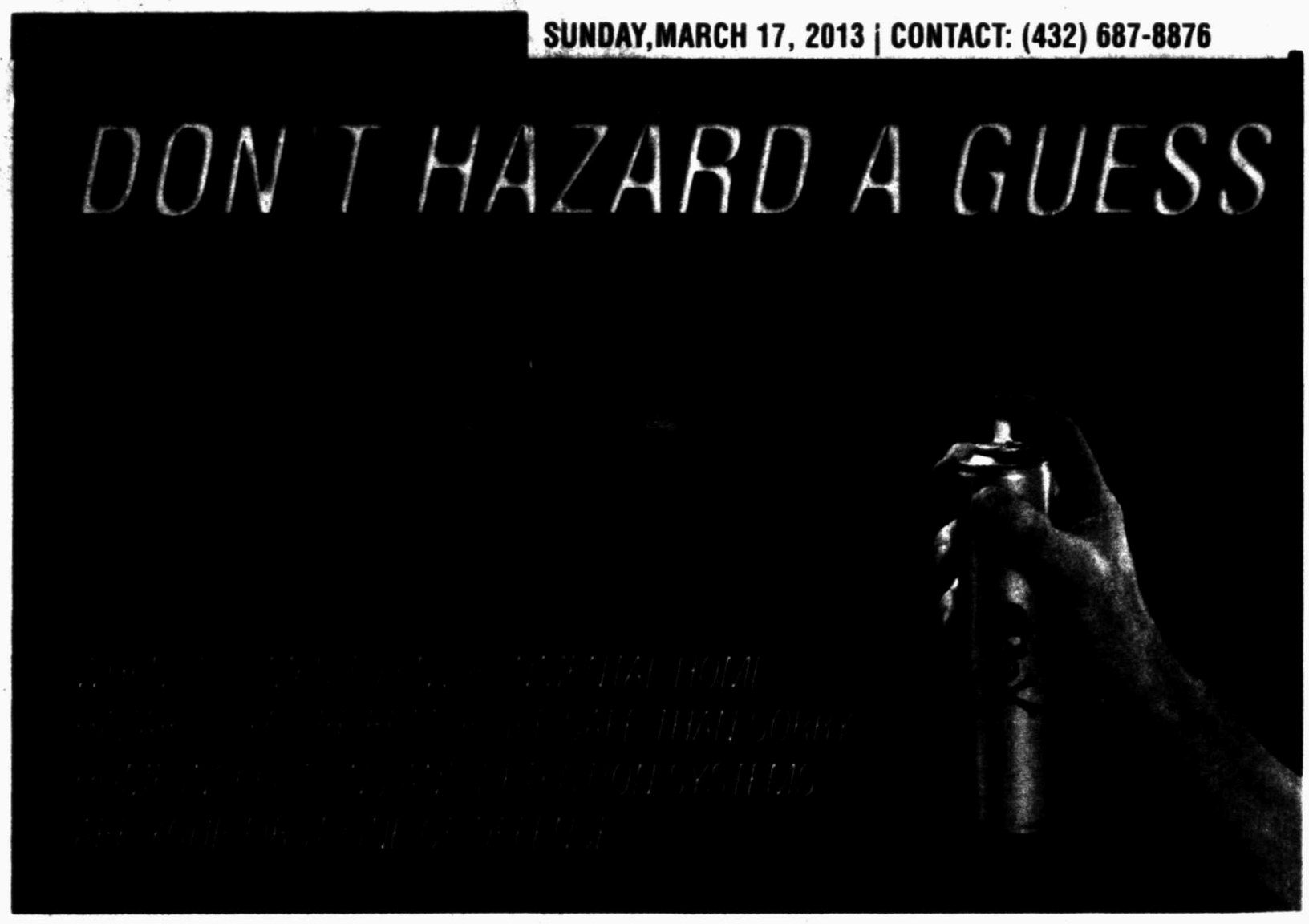

By MELISSA KANDEL
CTW Features

Sometimes the biggest threats are what you can't see – and that's especially true inside the home.

"Hands down, lead-based paint, radon and carbon monoxide are the top three [environmental home] hazards," says Rebecca Morley, executive director for the National Center for Healthy Housing. "These threats are odorless and invisible to the naked eye."

Because they're hard to detect, homebuyers should request inspections and documentation on threats like radon or lead-based paint, especially when considering older homes.

For those who already own and occupy older homes, testing can save lives. According to the most recent consumer research survey from the National Center for Healthy Housing, just 34 percent of homeowners have installed a carbon monoxide alarm in their homes, and only 10 percent have tested for radon, while 1 in 10 have tested for lead-based paint if their home was built before 1978.

While environmental hazards are often invisible, the health effects on home occupants are very real. Experts say that concerned homeowners should hire a qualified home inspector who can identify these environmental risks. And, as Morley advises, all home hazards should be treated with equal importance. She says, "If you're going to be addressing one health and safety problem, hit them all at once and do them soon."

RADON

Radon is an odorless, colorless, tasteless gas – it's also radioactive, and is estimated to cause more than 20,000 lung cancer deaths per year, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Luckily, high radon levels are not an overly expensive problem to fix. To test for radon, short-term, do-it-yourself test kits cost $10 to $20, while longer term measures range from $50 to $150. The EPA website says that radon reduction systems are very effective and not too costly.

Additionally, EPA is making significant progress on its June 2011 Federal Radon Action Plan. Notably, the plan aims to reduce the risk of radon in homes across the U.S. by adding a requirement of mandated radon inspections for any properties that receive Federal Housing Administration mortgages.

CARBON MONOXIDE

Carbon monoxide is another "invisible" gas that is toxic to humans. Concentrated levels of carbon monoxide can deprive the human body of oxygen, according to the EPA, which can result in a slew of health problems ranging from fatigue and chest pain to brain damage and death.

Much like radon poisoning, carbon monoxide poisoning is avoidable. Carbon monoxide detectors are priced at around $40. Appliances that use or produce gas or exhaust (ovens, cars, furnaces, etc.) should be properly maintained and ventilated to prevent dangerous carbon monoxide levels.

LEAD-BASED PAINT

"Lead poisoning is still a major concern in housing built before 1978," says Leo Trasande, associate professor of pediatrics and environmental medicine and health policy at New York University School of Medicine.

That's why sellers must disclose any knowledge of lead-based paint when selling homes built before that period. For sellers, testing for lead-based paint costs about $300 to $400 for an average-sized single-family home.

Lead is a neurotoxicant, which can have an especially strong effect on children, says Allen Rathey, president of the Healthy Housing Institute. "In older homes, lead paint was commonly applied, and paint chips and dust can be very harmful to the mental and other development of kids."

As Trasande explains, "children are uniquely vulnerable because they breathe in more air pound for pound and their developmental organ systems are more vulnerable ...They also have more years to live in which they can suffer the health consequences."

Federal requirements are by no means all-encompassing when it comes to home environmental hazards. Morley explains, "Housing is private property unless the federal government subsidizes or owns it. Otherwise, they don't have much of a policy lever, so it would fall on local code or state law."

Regardless, experts agree that testing and awareness are the best defense against these "invisible" hazards. Check with your local EPA for more information, and ask your real estate professionals if you consider buying a home.

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MAINTENANCE

RETURNING THE INVESTMENT

Real estate is typically a person's biggest investment. So why not invest some time in repair and maintenance?

According to a recent survey conducted by HomeAdvisor, online home repair and improvement resource, more than half of U.S. homeowners (53 percent) do not perform annual maintenance on their homes.

Additionally, 77 percent of bill-paying U.S. homeowners are at least somewhat concerned about their high energy bills.

That's a bad combination, because annual maintenance and repairs "have a direct reflection on your utility bill," says Amy Matthews, licensed general contractor and television host for DIY Network. "I encourage people to understand and be familiar with their home's mechanical systems. Especially for first-time homebuyers, it can be intimidating."

Only 18 percent of homeowners said they were "very confident" in understanding their home's annual maintenance needs, the survey shows.

Homebuyer should account for maintenance and utility bills in their budgets: "Ask the real estate agent to get you information on the cost of operations for the house," Matthews recommends.

To ensure there's money saved up for unexpected costs or repairs, "look at what you're paying per month and put away 10 percent of all your utility bills," says Matthews, who also serves as HomeAdvisor's home improvement expert. You can also do some research to find out the cost of a basic service call for major appliances, then try to keep that money in a rainy day fund.

As for important maintenance tasks, she recommends that homeowners get their roofs checked seasonally and after inclement weather. Also, remember to change furnace filters, clean the gutters, check smoke alarm batteries and install weather stripping. Otherwise, "[Homeowners] are setting themselves up for potentially spending a load of money for repairs and breakdowns," she says.

She also recommends scheduling these tasks on a calendar so people don't forget when they were performed last: "Nowadays, most everyone has smartphones. You have a calendar for everything else in your life, why not put maintenance on a calendar?" — *Bettina Chang*

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Deborah Pierce
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You may accept, counter, or reject the counter offer. The seller will give you a prescribed amount of time to respond. Accept the counter offer and you agree to buy the home on the new terms. Be careful about countering too often. More than two counters usually results in exasperation by the seller and failure.

Pruitt

Jeaneen Pruitt,
Broker/Associate,
Pine & Beckett Realtors.

Homebuyers Optimistic about the Future

Prospective homebuyers are putting family first when it comes to decisions about their next move. According to a recent survey from national home builder PulteGroup, Inc., whether it's planning for more kids or accommodating relatives of all ages, the challenges present in today's economy are no match for family priorities.

The PulteGroup Home Index surveys are conducted quarterly to garner a better understanding of homeownership trends among consumers. The 2012 survey results revealed a variety of trends, highlighting consumer confidence in the economy and housing market:

- 61 percent of still-working baby boomers plan to retire in less than 10 years and aren't delaying retirement plans. 73 percent say they are financially prepared to retire in 10 years or less.
- 61 percent of renters plan to buy a home within the next two years.
- Top reasons renters have increased their interest in buying a home: They like being able to call themselves homeowners (49 percent) and they view it as a good financial investment (44 percent).
- Renters are buying homes with more space for family/kids (36 percent) while current homeowners ages 18 – 34 want a larger home for their growing families (68 percent).

The surveys also show the importance of family across all generations, and some significant changes in family dynamics that often influence their next new home plans:

- Twice as many households in the future expect to eventually share their home with their adult children or aging parents. 31 percent anticipate at least one adult child moving back home; and 32 percent anticipate an aging parent living with them.
- 84 percent of homeowners plan for their next home to be the same size or larger.
- About 62 percent of baby boomers want their home in retirement to be within the same state they currently live. This represents a 20 percent increase compared with two years prior.
- 32 percent of baby boomers want to live within 20 miles of their children/grandchildren upon retirement.

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Beckett & Pine

This story was submitted by
Norma Pine, Broker/Owner
Chris Beckett, Broker/Owner
Pine & Beckett, REALTORS
www.pineandbeckett.com

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

What's the most important feature when buying a home?

Do you know the most important item a homebuyer must consider when looking for a home? You should. If you're purchasing a house, the most important item is the one that tops your priority list. For many people, that may be a price range or neighborhood or number of bedrooms – perhaps some combination of the three. Someone else may list a backyard that can accommodate a few dozen turtles and a rabbit hutch as their number-one must-have feature before they will consider any other criteria. The point is, you must decide what aspects of a home are most important to you. Once you prioritize your requirements, you can determine if that one-car garage is a deal-killer for an otherwise perfect home.

Pay attention to the not-so-little things

You have a lot to consider when buying a home. Not only must you find a property you like, but you must deal with financing, negotiations, inspections, an appraisal, title insurance, a survey – the list is lengthy. With so much information competing for your attention, you might easily overlook details of a home that could significantly affect your future enjoyment of it. Here are a few to keep in mind:

Schools – According to the 2013 Profile of Homebuyers by the National Association of Realtors, quality of school district was a factor for 33% of all homebuyers. That number goes up to almost 40% for married couples and people who bought in a suburban neighborhood.

Traffic – If you want to live in a quiet neighborhood where you can work from home in peace, walk the dog, or ride bikes with your kids, you may not want to live on a street with heavy traffic patterns. Sometimes, a road can be fairly quiet during most of the day, only to fill with cars during commute times. The best way to know for sure is to visit the property at different times of day and on weekdays and weekends.

Landscaping – Is gardening your thing? If so, make sure you consider that when viewing a property. If you prefer to limit your time maintaining a yard, consider what will be required to keep the current landscape healthy or to replace it with lower-maintenance options.

Future growth – Any new roads or developments in the area can change your living experience significantly. Better to find out before you buy a home if the plans for the neighborhood fit in to your view of how you want to live.

Ability to expand – If you're buying with the thought of adding a second-story to the house sometime in the future, building a home office in the back yard, or installing an in-ground pool, find out if the property itself can accommodate what you have in mind and that zoning or homeowners-association rules don't prohibit your plans, either.

Don't go overboard

While you want to ponder these types of factors, you can also take the process too far. If you overanalyze every last detail and try to satisfy every conceivable item that comes to mind, you'll never buy a home. Again, that's where listing your priorities serves you well. If the lowest item on your housing wish list is the desire to possibly build a pool 10 or 12 years down the road, perhaps you shouldn't strike an otherwise good property from your list of consideration. Also, bear in mind that no property – not even a new home – will be perfect. A qualified home inspector will likely find any major defects, giving you time to make an informed decision about whether to continue with the purchase, renegotiate the deal, or terminate the contract. But the home you buy may also contain a few quirks – some that you uncover before you purchase it, others that may become evident only after you move in. Maybe the dishwasher makes a strange noise or the bathroom door opens in a way that bumps the mirror. Have realistic expectations so minor problems won't get in the way of you enjoying your new home.

Your REALTOR® can help you find properties that meet your requirements and discuss the pros and cons of each one. With your priorities clearly defined, you are sure to end up in a home that makes you happy.

McCourt

Bobby McCourt
president@pbbor.org
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The Bottom Line

As household income, education levels and job responsibility increases, so does readership.

Source: Northwestern Research, 2005

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This Home has 5 RV Hookups Available

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Oil & Gas Leases

LASATER WHITETAIL LODGE
High-fenced 1339-acre hunting ranch NW of Eldorado in beautiful Schleicher County, Texas. Water. Minerals. Turnkey sale of successful hunting operation. Furnished and equipped. Call for showing.
Just bring your rifle and suitcase.
LAURENCE LASATER, BROKER/OWNER

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High-fenced 1296-acre ranch 10 miles NW of Eldorado in beautiful Schleicher County, Texas. Lodge, barn with apartment, valuable minerals. Might divide. Possible owner financing.

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Homes for Sale

List for Less! Home of the 4% Listing. Call for details.

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Broker/Owner
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www.mypermianbasinrealestate.com

SUNDAY FEATURED HOME

2408 Stetz Place
$389,000
4-3-5-2 new from the bricks in. Spacious rooms, abundant storage, beautiful hardwood and tile flooring. 2 living areas. Amazing renovation

FEATURED LISTINGS

4012 Glenwood 4/3/3, custom built homes by Joe Fusner, coming soon	TBD
4008 Glenwood 5/4 5/3 Stunning new construction by Joe Fusner. Estimated completion May 2013	$799,500
2408 Stetz Pl. 4/3 5/2 new from the bricks in. Spacious rooms, abundant storage, beautiful hardwood and tile flooring. 2 living areas. Amazing renovation	$389,000
26 Pecan Ct, Odessa, TX 4/2 5/4 Sparkling pool with hot tub, completely remodeled kitchen, large bedrooms, huge master, 3 living areas, 2 dining areas. Ample storage	UC - $325,000
4001 Hillshaw 4/3/2 Oasis 1 roof put on March 2012, air purification system in HVAC, new gas range, microwave and vent cared for	SOLD - $275,000
1002 S. Marienfeld St. One of the first homes in Midland. Fantastic architecture, detail throughout, on over 2 acres. Zoned C-3 All buildings included	$325,000
2600 B A St. Beautifully remodeled home will thrill you. Completely remodeled kitchen with gorgeous granite, cabinets by Rose Cabinets. Don't want too long!	$210,000
2304 Sheridan 3/2/2 w/ Farmer Rice updates, sparkling pool	SOLD - $179,000
600 Sunset Dr. Beautifully updated throughout. 2 or 3/2.5/1 with too many details to mention	UC - $179,000
3106 Stacey 3/2/2 recently updated bath room	UC - $142,000
2714 Kessler 4/2.5 with 2 living areas, abundant storage, over 2,000 square feet	$139,900
4610 W Illinois 2/1 with house room that could be a fourth bedroom. Fresh paint, recent carpet, central air 2011	SOLD - $119,000
12111 E Maple Ave 3/2 Only available through March 31st	$114,000
1301 E 50th Odessa 3/2/1 with storage building, large lot & wonderful family room with free standing fireplace	UC - $102,000
2110 Hanley Odessa 3/2 or addition could be used as a fourth bedroom. 1 car garage	$100,000
5305 Wooville Pl 3/2/2 on over 1/2 acre. Country living close to town	$97,500
3709 Monty 3 or 4/1/1 carport. Spacious kitchen, oads of storage, inside utility. Move in ready. Only available through March 31st	$94,500

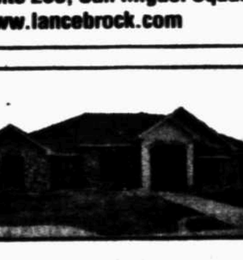
FOR LEASE

1002 S Marienfeld Land and shop only, for lease. Price to be determined based on usage
Call for custom building opportunities in Mockingbird Heights!!! Only 1 lot left!
We offer competitive property management rates. Call for complete details.

Stacy Wilson Realtor 432-230-3246 www.mywilsonhomes.com | Eva Montgomery Realtor 432-520-3005 | Melissa Jones Realtor 432-770-1007 | Michele Mowery Realtor 432-520-6537 | Cody Wolfe Realtor 432-270-2002 | Marcus Barber Realtor 325-207-1007

Trust us to put you in your place

Residential Sales



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Cell: 432.528.6750

Mockingbird Heights!
6001 CLAREWOOD - $499,000
New Construction!! Three bedroom, two and 1/2 baths!! High end finishes and still time to pick out carpet!! Coffered ceiling in living and dramatic fireplace, sequestered master with fantastic master bath.

Wadley Heights!
2407 APPERSON - $299,900
"Key Remodel in Midland Hills". Four bedrooms, three full baths, [illegible] Al-Mar flooring, hardwood, tiles, paver control [illegible] of appliances, new [illegible] and [illegible] Call to schedule a showing today.

UNDER CONTRACT

Hyde Park!
[illegible] - $[illegible]
Three bedrooms, two baths, [illegible] Al-Mar flooring, [illegible] Call to schedule a showing today.

• 2209 Walker Court: three bedrooms, two baths, [illegible] UC - $147,000
• 4710 Bradley: two bedrooms, two baths [illegible] $77,000

COMMERCIAL
[illegible] Call [illegible]

Estelle Alonzo Cell: 432-262-2006

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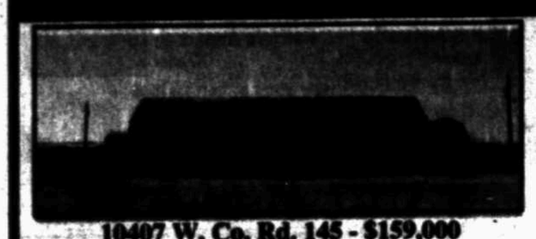
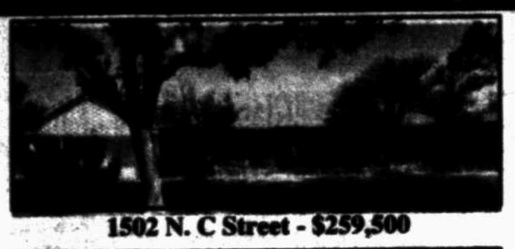
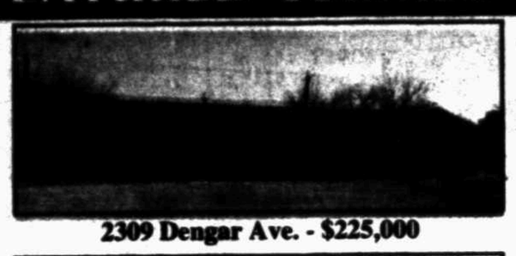
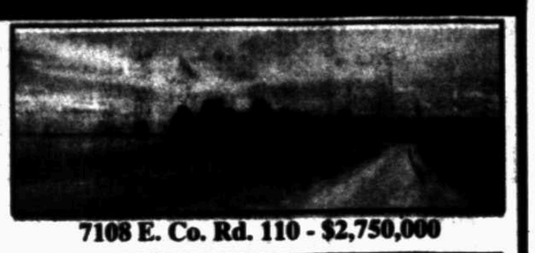
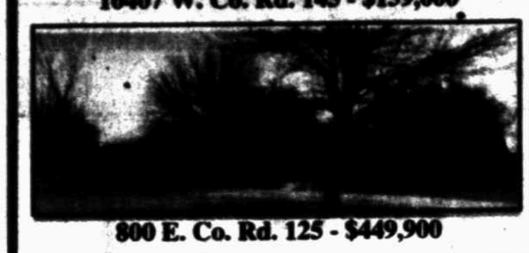
Open Houses/Featured Homes

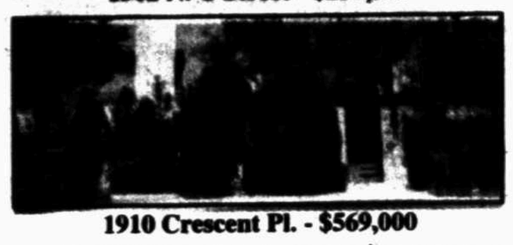

10407 W. Co. Rd. 145 - $159,000

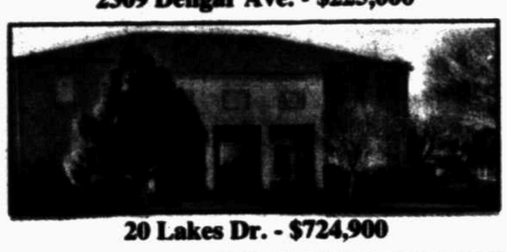

1502 N. C Street - $259,500

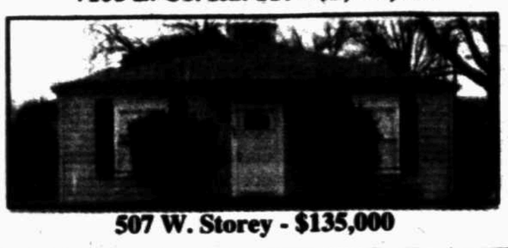

2309 Dengar Ave. - $225,000


7108 E. Co. Rd. 110 - $2,750,000


800 E. Co. Rd. 125 - $449,900


1910 Crescent Pl. - $569,000


20 Lakes Dr. - $724,900


507 W. Storey - $135,000

www.REMidland.com to view all MLS Listings

New and Reduced Listings

1910 Crescent Pl.-Fantastic townhome! High ceilings and open living spaces $569,000
1260 Community Lane-3-2 1/2-3LA, fab. Old Midland remodeled limestone, wood & tile flooring, versatile floor plan. Wow! Inground spa, storage galore $549,900
800 E. Co. Rd. 125-Premier property - home with 3bdrm/2 full baths and 2 half baths. Beautifully updated. RV barn and huge workshop $449,900
3205 Maxwell Dr.-5br/4.5 bath $355,000
1502 N. C St.-4/3/2, Old Midland home w/updated baths and new carpet $259,500
10009 E. Co. Rd. 107-Rare 4 bedroom home in Greenwood. Large bedrooms, great closets and sequestered master w/tray ceilings. Perfect family home $189,900
10407 W. Co. Rd. 145-Beautiful double wide on 1.0 acres. 4BR, 2BA, formal dining or 3BR w/study. 12x24 lofted barn/workshop & 12x16 lofted storage $159,000
507 W. Storey-Charming 2BR, 2BA. 2 living area, granite, 1 car garage and storage $135,000
2904 Roosevelt Ave $96,000

Two Bedrooms

2508 W. Dengar-2BR/2BA/2 living, motivated seller! In Fannin area ..... U/C...$199,000
507 W. Storey Ave.-Charming 2BR, 2BA. 2 living area w/hardwoods, granite. 1 car garage and storage $135,000
2904 Roosevelt Ave $96,000

Three Bedrooms

7108 E. Co. Rd. 110-3/2.5/3 on 155.29 Acres, totally irrigated, perfect for development! ABUNDANT WATER!!! $2,750,000
1002 N. L St.-Fantastic 3 bedroom, 2 full and 2 half bath home in Warwick $699,000
1910 Crescent Pl.-Fantastic townhome! High ceilings and open living spaces $569,000
1260 Community Lane-3-2 1/2-3LA, fab. Old Midland remodeled limestone, wood & tile flooring, versatile floor plan. WOW! Inground spa, storage galore $549,900
800 E. Co. Rd. 125-Premier property - home with 3bdrm/2 full baths and 2 half baths. Beautifully updated. RV barn and huge workshop $449,900
5700 Dunbarton Oaks Blvd.-Custom home w/expansive greatroom, fabulous kitchen, large breakfast bar, and spacious owners suite, much more $342,500
3322 Haynes-Nicely updated with a new yard in back with covered patio! $250,000
2508 Harvard Ave.-3/2/2, 2 living areas, 2 dining areas, lovely old Midland home just yards away from Cowden Park $249,900
4511 St. Andrews Dr.-Wonderful 3bdr/2bath in Fairmont Park ..... U/C...$215,000

Three Bedrooms

2302 Ninety Ave.-3/2, 2 living, 2 dining, updated and move in ready. Hurry - won't last long $210,000
2604 Rainbow Circle-3BR/2BA/2 garage, many great updates @ ..... SOLD...$196,500
2900 Co. Rd. 1192-Recently built 3br/2bth brick home includes shop, corral, stalls, plus another acre without improvements All pipe fenced ..... SOLD...$180,000
2601 Sands-Room to roam, bright & open plan with 2 car garage ..... SOLD...$150,000
4402 Harlowe Dr.-Clean 3 bdrm/1 bath home in Wilshire Park. Move-in ready ..... U/C...$109,900

Four Bedrooms

20 Lakes Drive-Architecturally designed 4/3/3. A must see property - awesome! $724,900
6707 W. Co. Rd. 41-Gorgeous 4 bdrm/3.5 bath home w/open floor plan, rock fireplace, fabulous granite kitchen plus so much more ..... U/C...$549,900
1005 Castleford-Great family plan, updated everywhere, move-in ready! ..... U/C...$539,000
2105 Wellington Ct.-Light & bright w/loads of windows. So much new in the last year and a half. You don't want to miss this one! ..... U/C...$359,000
4616 Cherrywood Dr.-Brianwood 4BR, 2.1 2BA, 2LA, 3 car garage, hardwoods, granite, formal dining ..... U/C...$325,000
5501 LaJolla Cove-Fabulous 4BR, 2BA, 3 garage, sec. master, walls of windows, immaculate ..... U/C IN ONE DAY!...$279,900
1500 N. C St.-4/3/2, Old Midland home w/updated baths and new carpet $259,500
10009 E. Co. Rd. 107-Rare 4 bedroom home in Greenwood. Large bedrooms, great closets and sequestered master w/tray ceilings. Perfect family home $189,900
10407 W. Co. Rd. 145-Beautiful double wide on 1.0 acres. 4BR, 2BA, formal dining or 3BR w/study. 12x24 lofted barn/workshop & 12x16 lofted storage $159,000

Five or More Bedrooms

4937 Rustic Trail-Must see 5-5-4 golf course property in Green Tree North. Stunning! $950,000
3200 Palo Verde Glen-Gorgeous custom one-owner Woodruff on 2 acres. 5BR, 4BA (flexibe floorplan) you decide. Too many amenities! Call ..... U/C...$775,000
3400 Bluebird Ln.-Great plan, squeaky clean, all you want in a country property. Close to town ..... U/C...$695,000
6002 Island Circle-Wonderful, 5-4-3 on the water - gorgeous views $982,500
6200 Oriole Ct.-Beautiful in the Oaks! Great versatile plan w/pool. Great views of the golf course, much more $625,000
3205 Maxwell Dr.-Tons of space, versatile plan, new roof, great kitchen, game room, more! $355,000

Town Homes and Patio Homes

1910 Crescent Pl.-Fantastic townhome! High ceilings and open living spaces $569,000
3322 Haynes-Patio home with yard in back $250,000

New Construction

6707 W. Co. Rd. 41-Gorgeous 4 bdrm/3.5 bath home w/open floor plan, rock fireplace, fabulous granite kitchen plus so much more ..... U/C...$549,900

Lots, Land and Acreage

7108 E. Co. Rd. 110-3/2.5/3 on 155.29 Acres, totally irrigated, perfect for development! ABUNDANT WATER!!! $2,750,000
E. I-20-660+ acres just East of Midland on interstate 20. Call Bill Scott for details ..... U/C...$1,200,000
2293 Hwy. 137, Stanton, Tx.-10 acres, numerous bay/storage buildings as well as many offices, asphalt paved parking/drives 25,414 sq. ft. bldg. area $1,000,000
Loop 250 & I-20-approx. 20 acres, call Bill Scott ..... U/C...$650,000
Mockingbird Oaks-1 Acre lots each $131,500

Commercial Investment Property

805 W. Wadley-For Lease-Free standing office building with approx. 4,054 sq. ft. ..... LEASED
1304 W. Texas-For Lease-Office building with approximately 2,976 sq. ft. ..... LEASED...Call Bill Scott for Details
8000 W. I-20 East-8.69 acres in Lesco Industrial Park, city utilities, calicho and perimeter fencing in place. SE corner of I-20 & Faudree Road. Call Bill Scott ..... U/C...$800,000
703 N. Hancock-Fabulous Medical office building in Odessa near ORMC & MCH. Approx. 4,999 sq. ft., with surgical procedure room & 4 exam rooms. Call Bill Scott $775,000
5500 Block of Wadley-Wonderful location in North Midland, zoned for retail. Across from Lowes. Vacant lot with approx. 53,663 sq. ft. Call Bill Scott ..... SOLD...$545,000
5000 Block of N. Midkiff-2.04 - acres for development, great for office complex. Call Bill Scott $575,000
701-703 W. Indiana-Office building w/ 4 separate suites, 10,000 sq. ft., great downtown location, partial sale possible. Call Bill Scott ..... SOLD...$325,000
2913 W. Industrial-Approx. 8,458 sq. ft. industrial/warehouse building on .788 acres. Terrific location, w/2 offices & access to Carter St. Call Bill Scott ..... SOLD...$310,000
Andrews Hwy.-2.0 acre tract of land just East of Loop 250, zoned retail. Call Bill Scott $125,000

Out of Town Properties

2293 Hwy. 137, Stanton, Tx.-10 acres, numerous bay/storage buildings as well as many offices, asphalt paved parking/drives 25,414 sq. ft. bldg. area $1,000,000

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See our listings at:
www.midlandkellerwilliams.com
Midland's fastest growing real estate office!

KELLER WILLIAMS® REALTY

New Listings

1 La Paz Circle.....*Call Bill Lanier 682-1144*.....$1,300,000
*6500 sq ft - 5 bd/4 1/2 bath w/exquisite view of the pond in LaPaz Circle. 3 fireplaces, 5 car garage, and entertainment room w/bar!
5704 Rio Grande Ave.....*Call Kay Sutton 416-0289*.....$242,000
*1856 sq ft - 3 bd/2 bath w/open living, kitchen & dining area. Living room has tall ceilings and stone fireplace.
1007 N. H St......*Call Kay Sutton 416-0289*.....$215,000
*1656 sq ft - 3 bd/2 bths with restored flagstone floors, updated kitchen and double sided fireplace. Large storage room.
1006 Tarleton.....*Call Bill Lanier 682-1144*.....$200,000
*2144 sq ft - 3 bedroom/2 bath with huge backyard! Wood burning brick fireplace, built-ins & opens to kitchen and sunroom!

4+ Bedrooms

6507 Los Conchos Lane.....*Call Kay Sutton 416-0289*.....$643,750
*3414 sq ft - 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, 4 car garage
2511 Colonial Dr......*Call Kay Sutton 416-0289*.....$650,000
*4000 sq ft - 4 bed/4.5 bath/4 car garage. New Mike Jackson home under construction. Updated energy package.
4710 Tottenham Corner.....*Call Leane Heller 349-3063*.....U/C...$595,000
*4220 sq ft - Fabulous 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath home on 2.5 acres in the city limits!
2204 S. Co. Rd. 1084.....*Call Kay Sutton 416-0289*.....U/C...$421,500
*3070 sq ft - 4 bd/2bth/1 1/2bth, fabulous country home w/pool, 4 car garage!
8012 E. Co. Rd. 90.....*Call Cameron Williams 570-4298*.....$349,900
*2356 sq ft - country property in Greenwood school district. 5 acres w/new barn
5101 Mathis St......*Call Nathan Reeves 631-0057*.....U/C...$349,000
*2817 sq ft - Awesome 4bd/2 1/2bths, granite countertops throughout, huge master & plenty of parking!
2309 Golf Course Rd......*Call Kandi Bagwell 352-4134*.....REDUCED...$319,000
*2876 sq ft - 5 bedroom, 3 bath Old Midland charmer. Spectacular, one-of-a-kind dream home w/all the bells & whistles.
5007 W. Canterbury Dr......*Call Mary Lynn Parsley 413-4240*.....U/C...$290,000
*2572 sq ft - well maintained 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home. Lots of updates. Beautiful backyard!
2629 Statz Dr......*Call Kay Sutton 416-0289*.....U/C...$247,500
*2405 sq ft - 4 bed/3 bath. Great neighborhood, pool, storage & covered patio. Granite counters in kitchen, large bedrooms and vaulted tile.
4405 Stonegate.....*Call Bill Lanier/Raquel Cohrs Dixon 638-4321*.....REDUCED...$234,900
*2406 sq ft - Beautiful 4 bed/2 bath home with marble & wood floors!
1805 Upland St......*Call Rachell Buck 352-0050*.....U/C...$219,000
*2408 sq ft - 5 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, spacious home w/lots of updates.
3521 Seaboard Ave......*Call Cameron Williams 570-4298*.....U/C...$189,900
*2279 sq ft - Great 4 bed, 2 bath home with shop!
5007 S. Co. Rd. 1138.....*Call Bill Lanier/Dale Lookabaugh 553-0766*.....U/C...$175,000
*1696 sq ft - 4 bedrooms, 2 bath home which sits on 1 acre.
115 Seaboard Dr......*Call Dale Lookabaugh 553-0766*.....$165,000
*1384 sq ft - Fabulous updated 4 bed/2 bath close to schools. Spacious backyard!
310 Thoroughfare Dr......*Call Ann Flatt 686-4074*.....U/C...$144,900
*1809 sq ft, Cozy 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 living area home!
1602 S. Baird St......*Call Lanier Heller 349-3063*.....$99,500
*1229 sq ft - 4 bedroom, 1 bath, hardwood floors, 2 car carport, and large storage shed/workshop.

3 Bedrooms

5200 Ellen Joyce Way.....*Call Bill Lanier/Dale Lookabaugh 553-0766*.....$306,000
*2270 sq ft. New construction! 3 bed/2 bath/2 car garage. Lance Friday home!
5200 Ellen Joyce Way.....*Call Bill Lanier/Dale Lookabaugh 553-0766*.....$300,000
*2077 sq ft - New construction, Lance Friday Home! 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage w/low maintenance yard, storage room & glass doors that open to a patio!!
417 Lafayette.....*Call Bill Lanier/Dale Lookabaugh 553-0766*.....$299,500
*2298 sq ft - 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath attached townhome under construction in Barkman Square.
4801 Polo Parkway.....*Call Kay Sutton 416-0289*.....U/C...$279,900
*2091 sq ft - Updated kitchen! Spa like master bathroom w/fireplace.
5111 Ashbrook Place.....*Call Bill Lanier/Raquel Cohrs Dixon 638-4321*.....U/C...$279,900
*2385 sq ft - Fabulous 2 story w/2 master bedrooms in Bubble Club South!
5000 Quince Lane.....*Call Bill Lanier/Raquel Cohrs Dixon 638-4321*.....REDUCED...$274,900
*2000 sq ft - Stunning 3 bed/2 bath home w/very low maintenance yard in Rock Point!
5400 N. Co. Rd. 1066.....*Call Cameron Williams 570-4298*.....$269,900
*1368 sq ft - 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Great expansion property in Midland county with 13 acres!
4000 N. Co. Rd. 1066.....*Call Nathan Reeves 631-0057*.....$199,900
*2212 sq ft - Great country property on 4.538 acres! 3 bed/2 bath, 2 living rooms, sunroom & office!
5400 Blue Heron Ave......*Call Kandi Bagwell 352-4134*.....U/C...$219,000
*1818 sq ft - Great 3 bed/2 bath Keller home this one!

SUNDAY OPEN HOUSE

OPEN TODAY 1:00-3:00
5704 Rio Grande Ave.
$242,000
Shown by Cherith Hamilton

3 Bedrooms

2304 Appaloosa Dr......*Call Kay Sutton 416-0289*.....$182,500
*1850 sq ft - 3 bed/2 bath home located on a cul-de-sac, great open kitchen & living areas. Large bedrooms and built-in book shelves in living room.
2923 Chisum Ave in Odessa.....*Call Cameron Williams 570-4298*.....$179,900
*2139 sq ft, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, beautifully remodeled mid-century home.
3002 Whitlite Way.....*Call Bill Lanier/Dale Lookabaugh 553-0766*.....U/C...$179,500
*1763 sq ft, Charming 3 bed, 2 bath home with screened-in porch and some updating!
2500 Stacey Ave......*Call Cameron Williams 570-4298*.....U/C...$175,000
*2145 sq ft, Great 3 bed/2 bath home with tons of recent updates!
3404 Rosemont Ave......*Call Mike Clarkson 352-2852*.....U/C...$152,000
*1709 sq ft - Nicely updated 3 bedroom, 2 bath home located on corner lot.
4029 Monty Dr......*Call Bill Lanier/Dale Lookabaugh 553-0766*.....U/C...$124,900
*1332 sq ft - Spruced up 3 bed/1 bath home! Tile floors thru-out. Worth seeing!
602 N. 10th St., Lamesa.....*Call Lanier Heller 349-3063*.....REDUCED...$95,000
*1585 sq ft - Lovely updated 3 bed/2 bath home. Granite in kitchen, gorgeous hardwood floors & updated bath.
1005 N. Lamesa Rd......*Call Lanier Heller 349-3063*.....REDUCED...$89,000
*960 sq ft - 3 beds/1.5 baths, large backyard.
5036 Rockwell Ave in Odessa.....*Call Kay Sutton 416-0289*.....$79,500
*1242 sq ft, 3 bed/2 bath, Great home to redo, lots of space, convenient to school.
3704 Gaston.....*Call Bill Lanier/Dale Lookabaugh 553-0766*.....$75,000
*908 sq ft - 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, tile flooring throughout & huge backyard.

2 Bedrooms

2020 Hogan Ave......*Call Bill Lanier/Raquel Cohrs Dixon 638-4321*.....U/C...$235,000
*2220 sq ft - Fabulous 2 bed/2 bath move-in ready condo! Remodeled kitchen!
410 Lafayette.....*Call Bill Lanier/Dale Lookabaugh 553-0766*.....U/C...$200,000
*1001 sq ft - 2 bedroom, 2 bath low maintenance one story townhome under construction.
2300 Rockwell Ave.....*Call Bill Lanier/Dale Lookabaugh 553-0766*.....U/C...$169,000
*1992 sq ft - Charming 2 bed/2 bath with original hardwood floors. Large garaveroom - that attaches to the 1 bed/1 bath guesthouse!
1214 S. Baird St......*Call Ann Flatt 686-4074*.....$60,000
*1021 sq ft - this 2 bedroom, 1 bath has lots of potential!

Odessa & Surrounding Areas

2004 E. San Antonio St., Wichita Tx......*Call Cameron Williams 570-4298*.....$400,000
*3161 sq ft - Vacation rental experience with a free standing 2 bedroom, 1 bath house.
84 Bass Canyon on Lake Allan Henry.....*Call Taylor Looney 699-6482*.....$275,000
*1992 sq ft, 3 BR, 2 Bath. This isn't your typical lake house! Enjoy the view by the outdoor fireplace under the covered patio!

Odessa & Surrounding Areas

12025 W. April in Odessa.....*Call Lillian Hinojosa 349-7905*.....U/C...$132,000
*1650 sq ft - 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, carport and workshop.
1299 W. Conestoga, Odessa.....*Call Cameron Williams 570-4298*.....$129,900
*1288 sq ft - 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Double wide mobile home with open floor plan on 3 acres.
1002 N. Bridle Path, Odessa.....*Call Christopher Williams 570-4298*.....$119,900
*2000 sq ft, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Beautiful double wide that has been added too and made a home on 2 lots.
1000 N. Bridle Path, Odessa.....*Call Cameron Williams 570-4298*.....$79,000
*1248 sq ft - 2 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, beautifully relocorated mobile home.

Lease Property

3310 0113 Golden Blvd.-RENTAL.....*Call Cameron Williams 570-4298*.....$3,000/Month
*1047 sq ft - 2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, beautifully remodeled corporate rental. Completely furnished and all bills paid.

Land & Lots

000 Hwy 173 EBR Bandera, TX.....*Call Cameron Williams 570-4298*.....$1,250,000
*202 acres - Own a piece of the Hill Country!!! Just a few miles outside of Bandera, TX!
46 & 48 Beatle Vista Dr. - Jonesboro, TX.....*Call Cameron Williams 570-4298*.....$600,000
*5.218 acres of Lake Property. Located on Lake Alan Henry.
0 Hwy. 380 & Tejas.....*Call Bill Lanier 349-1144*.....$110,000
*315 Acres - Office/Residential.
1100 Westlite.....*Call Bill Lanier 349-1144*.....$85,000
*0.5 Acres - Office/Residential.
1101 Westlite.....*Call Bill Lanier 349-1144*.....$80,000
*0.645 Acres - Office/Residential.
1102 Westlite.....*Call Bill Lanier 349-1144*.....$75,000
*0.8 Acres - Office/Residential.
1103 Westlite.....*Call Bill Lanier 349-1144*.....$75,000
*2.008 acres of land.
0 Cedar Flat.....*Call Ann Flatt 686-4074*.....$75,000
*5.600 acres/office.
5000 Bella Vista.....*Call Lee Wood 557-1454*.....U/C...$60,000
*Vacant lot in new Subdivision in Green Tree North!
300 S. Wentworth.....*Call Vicki Barton 528-4717*.....$50,000
*10 acre corner lot, perfectly suitable for a multi-level storage facility.
Country Rd. 2001, Stanton.....*Call Bill Lanier 699-2000*.....$40,000
*2.77 acres in Martin County. No deed restrictions.

Keith Antilley

204 East 52nd Street
Odessa, TX 79762

432-889-2173
judith0930@gmail.com

Antilley Rentals

500 Overton

4 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 1 Living Area, Central Heat and Refrigerated Air, Fenced Yard, Washer/Dryer Connections, New Paint, Carpet, Tile.

3706 E. Everglade

3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 1 Living Area, Central Heat and Refrigerated Air, Fenced Yard, Washer/Dryer Connections.

3711 McKnight

3 Bedroom, 1 Bath, 1 Living Area, Central Heat and Refrigerated Air, Washer/Dryer Connections, New Paint, Carpet, Tile.

2403 Beechwood

3 Bedroom, 1 Bath, 1 Living Area, Central Heat and Refrigerated Air, Washer/Dryer Connections, 1 Car Garage, Fenced Yard.

Homes will be furnished with appliances and furniture. Also cleaning and yard services will be provided. There will be a $600 cap on utilities. Six months or one year lease available.

They must contact Judi Hernandez at 432-889-2173

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0 W Bellaire Dr Odessa TX - 1.04 Acre Lot	Call Melonna Campbell 432-694-0722
001 N Lamesa Rd Midland – 0.161 Acre lot	Call Leo Salcido 432-557-4487
007 N Lamesa Rd Midland – 0.161 Acre lot	Call Leo Salcido 432-557-4487
0 County Rd 2240 Stanton – 6 Acres	Call Warren Ivey 432-235-7032
1297 Goldenrod Gardendale – 6-1 Acre Lots	Call Brandi Geron 432-238-2402
1714 Morgan Way Midland – 0.163 Acre Lot	Call Melonna Campbell 432-694-0722
0 N County Rd 1105 Midland – 1 Acre Lot	Call Betty Terrell 432-230-1025

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Leo Salcido REALTOR® 432-557-4487
Vickie Wallis REALTOR® 432-816-7341

Lanny Young, ASR REALTOR® 432-279-0427 | Brandi Geron REALTOR® 432-238-2402 | Sonya Luna REALTOR® 432-934-8358 | Amanda Sparks REALTOR® 432-369-0098 | Lindsay Barton REALTOR® 432-212-2272 | Bobby McCourt REALTOR® 432-967-0852 | R. Scott Kesner Texas & New Mexico Broker 915-588-2188

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4+ BEDROOMS

3300 Glasgow Dr. - Immaculate 4 bed/3.5 bath home in Pecan Acres sits on 2.5 fenced acres! Stunning features include walls of bright windows, w/plantation shutters, miles of tile, dramatic barrel ceiling, & soaring stacked ceilings! ..... SOLD – $668,000

2711 Dunks. -Horse lover's dream on 5 acres! Gorgeous 4 bed/2.5 bath home features soaring beamed ceilings, walls of windows, w/fabulous courtyard views from 4 rooms, planked ceiling, and huge limestone fireplace! ..... SOLD – $600,000

4013 Daybreak Ct. - Fabulous 4 bed/3.5 bath home in Mockingbird Heights boasts spectacular updates throughout! The gourmet kitchen features granite countertops, like "new" stainless appliances, gas range, and refinished cabinets! ..... U/C – $525,000

1111 Brookwridge Dr. -NEW!-Spectacular 4 bed/3 bath home in Woodland has 4 spacious rooms, 2 living areas, and 2 dining areas! The gourmet kitchen features granite countertops, large island, and stainless appliances! Huge master suite has dual vanities, jetted tub, separate shower, and huge closet! $496,000

4313 Deerawong Ct. -Spectacular 4 bed/3 full/2 half bath home sits on a corner lot in Green Tree North! Spanish tile and granite counter tops throughout! Formal dining/listings tributful hardwood floors! Open gourmet kitchen w/gas range and breakfast bar! Dazzling pool, fabulous covered patio and lovely cabana perfect for entertaining! $479,000

5011 Highland Blvd. -Absolutely lovely 5 bedroom/3.5 bath home sits in Grandstand Estates and can be easily used as a 4 bedroom w/huge game room! The gourmet kitchen features granite countertops, dramatic skylight, island, and ample storage! ..... SOLD – $475,000

4+ BEDROOMS

5014 N County Rd. 77-Elegant & dramatic architectural design in this 4 bedroom/3bath home on 2.047 acres in Entrada Estates! Soaring ceilings, 8 ft. interior doors, beautiful granite, gleaming scraped wood & tile floors throughout! Gorgeous gourmet kitchen opens to the light & bright breakfast dining and den! $486,000

4024 Rosewood Dr. -Fabulous 4 bed/3.5 bath home in Briarwood! Recent updates including granite countertops, stainless appliances, tile, paint, and carpet! ..... U/C – $385,000

4005 Spring Meadow Ln. -New construction! 4 bedroom/3 bath home in Meadow Park! ..... U/C – $349,900

2403 Culpepper Dr. -Absolutely stunning 4 bed/3 bath home sits on a quiet tree lined cul-de-sac w/in walking distance to schools and parks! ..... SOLD – $347,500

1605 Cumberland Rd. -NEW!-Great 4 bed/3 bath home in Pete Park Estates! Low maintenance w/fantastic floor plan! Walls of windows, wood shutters, built-ins and crown molding throughout! ..... U/C In 1 Day! – $326,000

3706 Rebridge -Spacious 4 bed/3 bath home on a quiet cul-de-sac! Large living w/gas fireplace that opens to the updated kitchen and formal dining w/high ceilings! ..... SOLD – $275,000

3401 Black Lane-Wonderful 4 bed/2 bath home in the heart of Midland with easy access to shopping and restaurants! Lovely kitchen features a breakfast bar, pantry, and opens to the den and breakfast dining! ..... SOLD – $219,900

1001 Bloomfield Ave. -Spacious 4 bedroom/3 bath home sits on a corner lot close to downtown! Lovely kitchen features stainless appliances, abundant cabinetry, and opens to the den! Den features beamed ceilings and a towering brick fireplace! ..... SOLD – $180,000

1, 2 & 3 BEDROOMS

4501 Shady Oak-Huge 3 bed/3 full bath/2 half bath home on the golf course in Green Tree! Huge downstairs master suite features a fireplace, oversized tub and separate shower! Cameroon upstairs! All bedrooms have private baths! Many updates in home w/great potential! Kitchen is light and bright and has stainless appliances! $329,900

2010 Hale Pl. -NEW!-Spectacular updates in this elegant 3 bed/3 bath home in Emerson Elementary district! Complete remodel including recent hand-scraped hardwood floors, tile, and bedroom carpet! ..... U/C In 4 Days! – $310,000

2300 Linden Way -Nicely updated 3 bed/2 bath home sits near a park and Bush Elementary! Great open floor plan! Soaring vaulted ceilings, walls of windows, and towering brick fireplace! ..... SOLD – $180,000

1, 2 & 3 BEDROOMS

2410 Appaloosa Dr. -Move in ready 3 bed/2 bath home! Lovely kitchen features stainless appliances, breakfast bar, and granite countertops! ..... SOLD – $194,900

3001 Golf Ave. -Charming 3 bed/2 bath home sits on a corner lot w/in walking distance to schools! Open floor plan! Plenty of storage w/floor to ceiling cabinets! Spacious light & bright den w/brick fireplace! ..... SOLD – $164,500

2010 Meadow-Spectacular 3 bed/2 bath low maintenance townhome sits on a quiet tree lined street! Cute! Cute! Cute! Soaring ceilings, many French doors, and tile in walkways! ..... U/C – $150,000

5102 Thomason-Spacious 3 bedroom/1.5 bath sits within easy access to the loop! This home features 2 living areas, one with a fireplace! 2 car garage and workshop! ..... SOLD – $130,000

1312 W Cross Wind- NEW!-Spacious 3 bed/2.5 home on 2.5 acres! Living area w/high ceiling and exposed beams open to large kitchen! ..... U/C – $135,000

4710 Harwood- NEW!-Cute! Cute! Cute! This attached 2 bed/1 bath townhome has oversized bedrooms and nice size closets! Cozy kitchen w/breakfast bar and dining area! Master bedroom has a walk-in closet! Large backyard w/storage and 2 car parking pad! $125,000

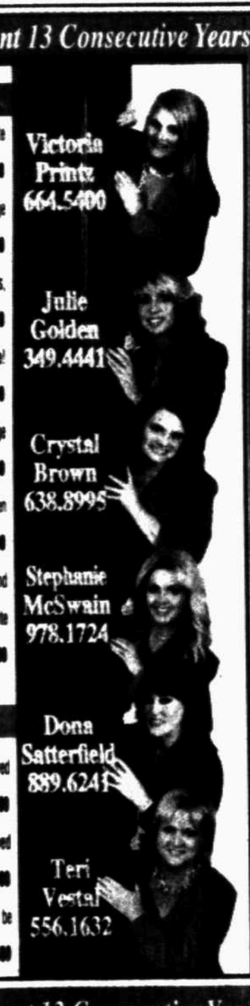
421 W. Dorwood-Cozy 3 bedroom/2 bath home sits in a great neighborhood and is within walking distance to shopping centers and restaurants! The charming kitchen features a gas stove! Tons of tile. 2 living areas, separate utility, and sequestered master suite complete this lovely home! $80,000

LAND AND LOTS

2221 Timber Wolf Lane-Build in Midland's newest subdivisions, Timber Wolf Estates! Huge 5 acres in Martin County! Roads will be paved by developer! 25 LOTS! $75,000

1975 Timber Wolf Lane-Build in Midland's newest subdivisions, Timber Wolf Estates! Huge 4.8 acres in Martin County! Roads will be paved by developer! 25 LOTS! $72,000

1980 Timber Wolf Lane-Build in Midland's newest subdivisions, Timber Wolf Estates! Huge 4.3 acres in Martin County! Roads will be paved by developer! 25 LOTS! $64,000



Victoria Printz 664.5400
Julie Golden 349.4441
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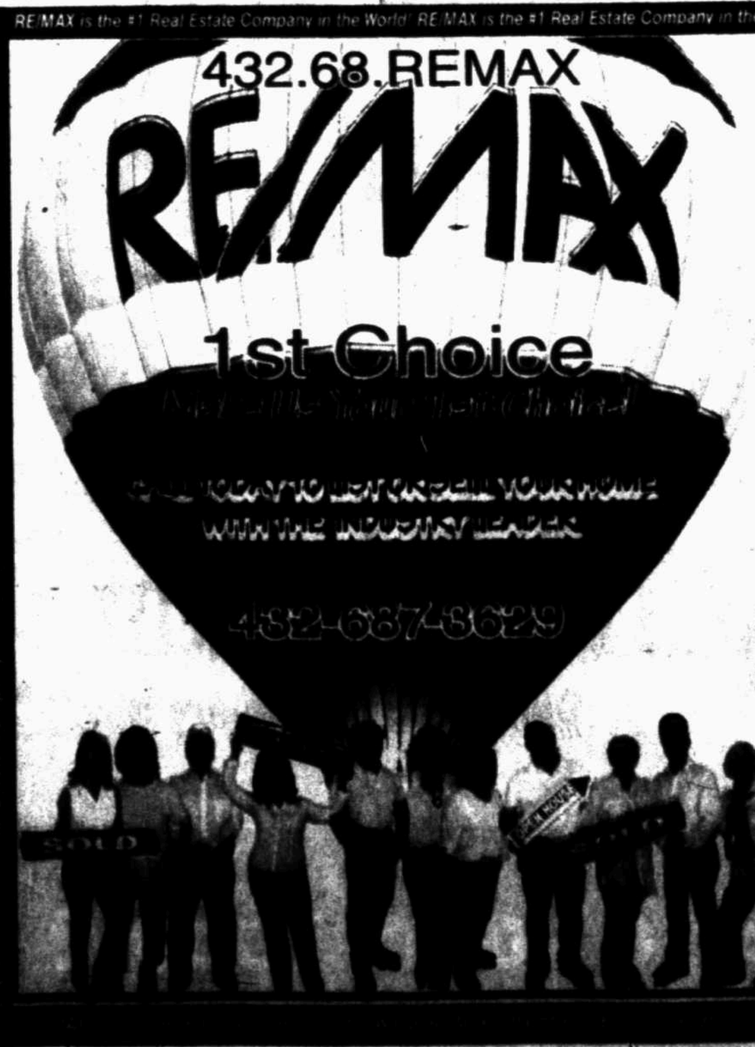

NEW LISTING
1300 E. CH 80
GREENWOOD
4/2, 2 liv., 8.8AC, 2400sf
$199,900

NEW LISTING
2705 E. CH 1114
GREENWOOD
4/2/2, 3AC
$329,900

NEW LISTING
2807 ANN DRIVE
4BR/3BA
$385,000

REDUCED
1112 HICKORY
New Construction
$99,000

REDUCED
3505 EASTON
3BR/2BA
$169,900

NEW LISTING
1601 N. GARFIELD
5BR/3BA, Pool
$300,000

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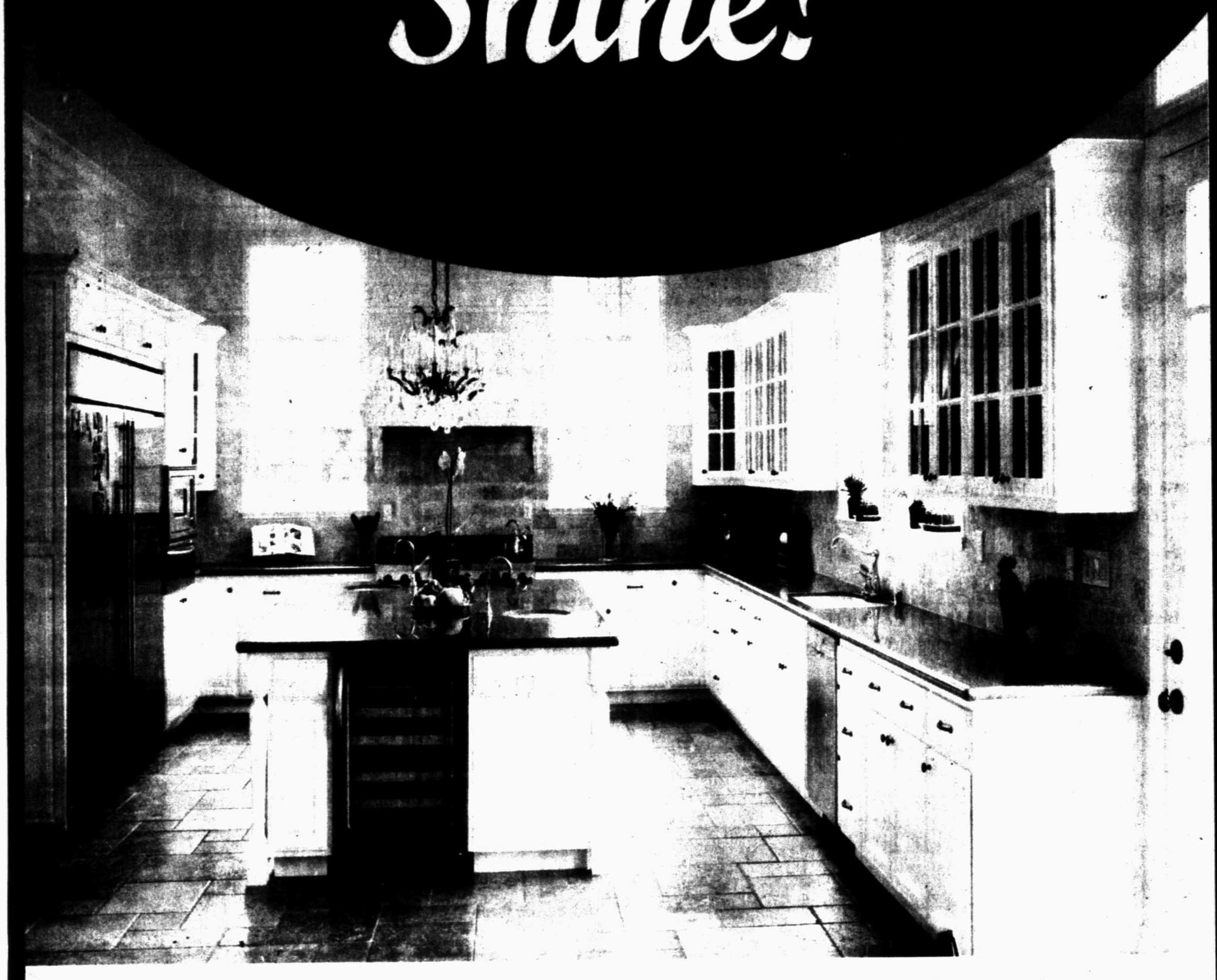
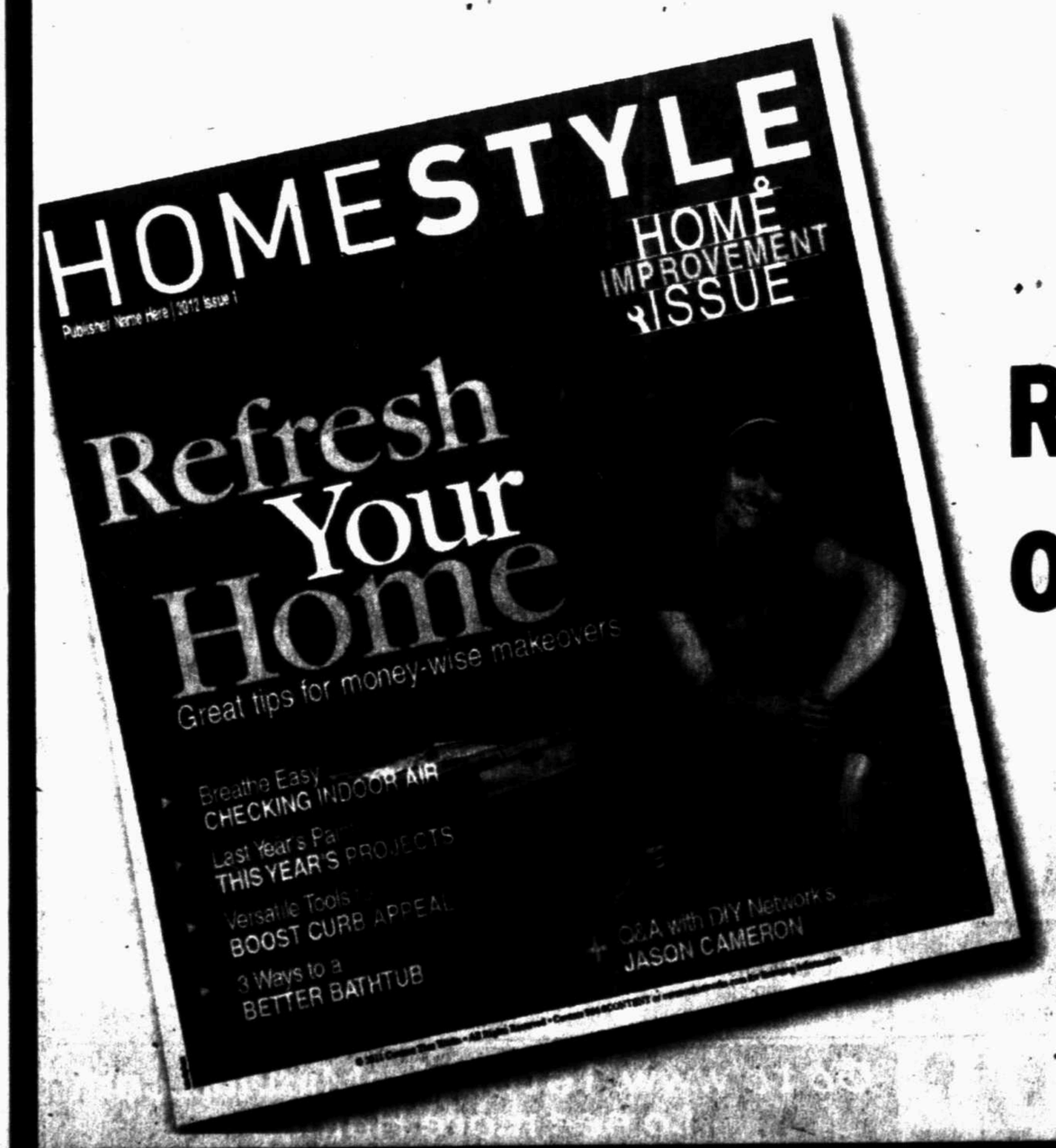


With great tips from our Homestyle edition.

COMING: SUNDAY, APRIL 21st

Deadline: Wednesday, April 10th



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40 Acre Horse farm, 13400 W. 57th St. Odessa	$825,000	688-8200
412 Affirmed Lane	$879,500	934-4631
400 Fort Worth St.-New Construction	$275,000	688-8200
9002 County Rd 1310 Odessa, Tx	$274,900	688-8200
79 Acres Ranch Estates	$265,000	352-0927
2701 32nd St., Lubbock	$149,000	934-4631
1202 Wallis Ave., Santa Anna	$145,000	688-8200
2526 Santa Cruz Odessa	$131,900	688-8200
3059 Hellsgate Loop #4, Strawn, Tx	$97,500	934-1554
1329 Zeneta Ave Odessa, Tx	$92,500	599-4496
3000 Golder, Odessa	$72,500	599-4496
1000 Elizabeth, Rankin	$49,900	688-8200
N. Hicks	$22,000	688-8200
75 Acres...4700 Troubaugh	$226,440	688-8200
6.09 Acres...4600 Troubaugh	$182,700	688-8200
3.4 Acre Tract...County Rd. 1154	$50,000	688-8200

COMMERCIAL LISTINGS

6112 Big Spring St.	$2,395,000	688-8200
3602 N. County Rd. 1150	$2,100,000	688-8200
39.25 Acres...6714 Hwy. 80	$1,570,000	688-8200
1600 W. 15th St.-Office, shop on 5 acres	$800,000	688-8200
2420 Illinois	$650,000	352-0927
2907 W. Industrial Ave.	$410,000	688-8200
11 Acre Lot on Hwy. 158	$347,360	688-8200

2-5.5 Acre Lots on Hwy. 158	$173,680	688-8200
4-7.26 Acre Tracts...W. Co. Rd. 130	$90,750	688-8200
6-20 Acre Tracts	$8,000 per acre	688-8200
1-30 Acre Tract	$8,000 per acre	688-8200

COMMERCIAL LISTINGS

2907 Industrial Ave. Office/Shop...4200 sq. ft.	$3,500	
2909 Industrial Ave. Office/Yard...1500 sq. ft., 1.9 Acres	$2,500	

FARMS AND RANCHES

1,599.9 Acres...Crockett County, House, shop	$1,899,000	688-8200
86.853 Acres...w/3 homes in Menard County, River Property	$995,000	325-277-5018
49.49 Acres...Coleman County River Ranch	$500,000	688-8200
1047 Acres...Reeves County	$397,860	352-0927
200 Acres...Hersey Ranch. Irian, Tx	$395,000	352-0927
232 Acres...Sutton County	$365,400	688-8200
324.19 Acres...Martin County	$350,000	688-8200
640 Acres...Pecos County	$256,000	688-8200
160 Acres...Martin County	$192,000	688-8200
166 Acres...Crockett County	$131,140	688-8200
148 Acres...Ranch Rd. Crockett County	$133,900	688-8200
138 Acres...Pecos County	$95,910	688-8200
30.38 Acres...Coleman County-2BR	$85,000	688-8200

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SOLD
3213 FAIRFIELD LANE
New Construction. 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 3 car garage.

SOLD
3204 PATRICK
$275,000
Impressive 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 3 car garage in Mayfield Place subdivision.

3109 FAIRFIELD LANE
CALL FOR DETAILS
New Construction. 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 3 car garage.

2503 REGENCY OAKS
CALL FOR DETAILS
New Construction...Impressive 5 bedroom, 3 bath, 3 car garage.

SOLD
2202 WYDEWOOD DR.
$200,000
An ADORABLE 3 Bedroom, 3 Bath, 2 car garage home in a great neighborhood.

SOLD
5008 DUNBARTON OAKS BLVD.
NEW CONSTRUCTION
4 bedroom, 3 bath, 3 car garage.

The Bottom Line

As household income, education levels and job responsibility increases, so does readership.

Source: Scarborough Research, 2005

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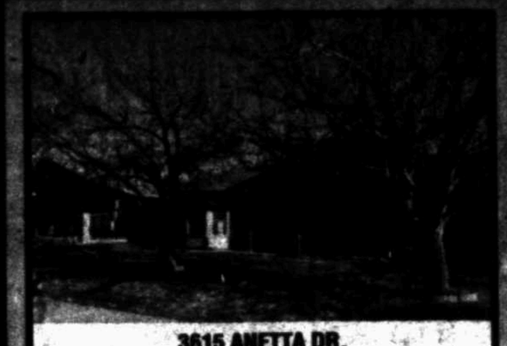
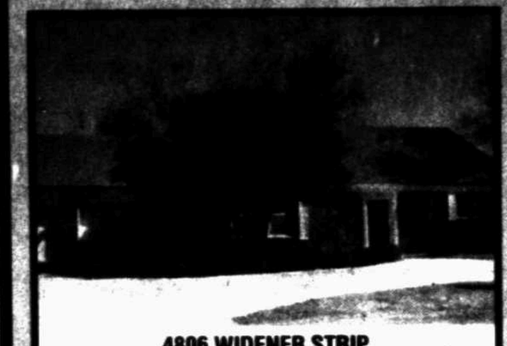
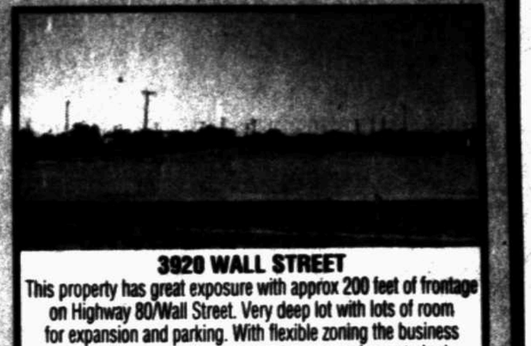


3615 ANETTA DR.
3 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths, Easy Livin! Establish roots on this friendly street and relax a little! **$150,000**. Call Jim.

4702 CROCKETT AVE.
3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 living areas. Covered patio & storage shed. **$135,000**. Call Elvia.

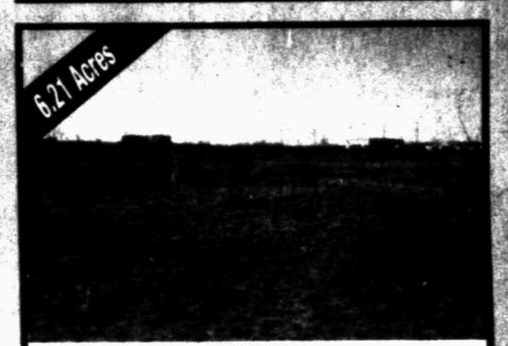


4806 WIDENER STRIP
3 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths, 2 living areas. 2 car garage in Green Hill Terrace. **$325,000**. Call Kerri.



3929 WALL STREET
This property has great exposure with approx 200 feet of frontage on Highway 80/Wall Street. Very deep lot with lots of room for expansion and parking. With flexible zoning the business opportunities are endless, boat sales, auto sales, auto body repair, mobile home sales, secondhand goods, greenhouse, funiture repair, gasoline station, wholesale office, carwash, restaurant, etc. LR3 zoning. **$250,000**. Call Kerri.

11816 W COUNTY RD 58 1/2
12.39 Acres in a very nice neighborhood with mature trees. Seller will be willing to split this acreage into smaller sections. Location is great and is not far from amenities and has a great country feel. **$280,000**. Call Debbie.



LOOP 250
This property is currently zoned retail however city will consider other proposals. No industrial. 6.21 acres. Call Debbie.

DON BYERLY 699-4127

CINDY COLLEY 413-8494

KERRI PAYNE 553-7443

DEBORAH GILLUM 553-0056

CAROL FULFER 528-1632 699-0008

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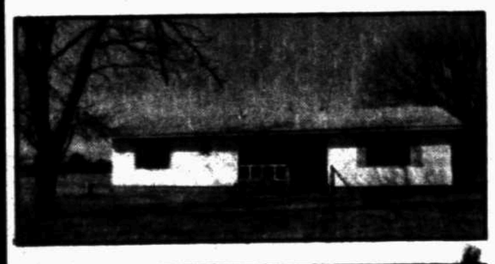
FEATURED HOME

5305 SHERWOOD DR.
$325,000
Beautiful well cared for home. Great neighborhood, four bedrooms with three bathrooms. Open floor plan with brick fireplace, recessed lights, high ceilings, kitchen island and skylights. Master bathroom offers double sinks, jetted tub and wonderful closet with built-ins.
Back yard hot tub remains with property.
Lots to offer in this wonderful home.

FEATURED LISTINGS



1301 TODD DR.
$269,900
The best of both worlds - nice, quiet country living in town! Large 4 bedroom home with 3 full baths, 2,716 sq. ft. All of the rooms are large. Addition was added in 1995. Nothing lacking outdoors - above ground pool, old barn & horse pen, storage building, open patio area, front & back orch and GREAT 30x40 workshop with all the bells & whistles.

1010 N. LORAINE ST.
$107,900
Adorable cottage 3 bedroom, 2 bath, nice open kitchen to dining area, lots of cabinet space with island, recent updates include HVAC. Roof and some double pane windows. Circle driveway and nice sized storage shed in backyard.

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2 BEDROOM
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4+ BEDROOMS

Airport Estate South Gate/Empire Inc Built!! 5 Bedroom, 3.5 Bath, 4 Living Areas + Study, 3 Fireplaces, Over 6,000sqft with an Outdoor Kitchen & 3 Pools! Call Elaine or David Pine for Private Showing! ..... **New Listing! $985,000**
2504 Teakwood Circle-4 Bedroom + Study, 3.5 Bath, 3 Car Garage. Almost 5,000sqft on 2 ACRES! Gorgeous Inground Pool w/Hot tub & waterfall! Barn/Workshop! Call Horrete for more details! ..... **New Listing! $985,000**
2101 Innswood-5 Bedroom, 3 Bath, 4 Car Garage. Brand-NEW McPherson Construction in the New Phase of Grassland-West. INCREDIBLE FINISHES! Still Time To Select Colors!!! ..... **Sale Pending! $952,000**
6413 Glenwood-4 Bedroom, 3 Bath. NEW Almand Construction in Grassland West! 8' iron Door, Plantation Shutters, Granite. Still Time to Make Selections!!! Est Completion September ..... **Now Construction! $910,000**
6513 Glenwood-4 Bedroom, 3 Bath in the NEW Phase of Grasslands West! Almand Construction! Stunning High Ceilings, Handscraped WOOD Floors, Shutters Throughout, Media Room or 5th Bedroom! ..... **Sold! $902,000**
6017 Glenwood-4 Bedroom, 3 Bath, 3 Car Garage. Spectacular NEW Almand Construction in the NEW Phase of Grasslands West! Granite, Stainless, Plantation Shutters, Crown Molding, Hardwood Flooring!!! Ready to Move In! ..... **Sale Pending! $850,000**
1506 Seabourg-4 Bedroom, 3 Bath in OLD Midland! Updated Kitchen w/Granite, 2 Living + Bonus Room, just under 3,000sqft! Oversized Corner Lot ..... *****Under Contract in 3-Days! $840,000**
4021 Hilltop-4 Bedroom, 3 Bath, 2 Living Areas, 3 Car Garage. Under Repair w/ Brentwood! Gourmet Kitchen with Granite, Plantation Shutters, 2 Gorgeous Patios!!! ..... **New Listing! $819,000**
5005 Sterling-5 Bedroom, 3.5 Bath, 2 Living, + Fabulous Florida Room or Park, Room!!! Loaded w/Tile, Plantation Shutters, Transom Windows, Soaring Ceilings! An Absolute Gem in Grassland Estates!!! ..... **Sale Pending! $450,000**
5008 Sundance Pl-4 Bedroom, 3 Bath. Stunning Custom Home! Impeccably Clean & Decorator Touches, Huge Open Plan, Sequestered Master, Quiet Cul-de-sac! ..... **Sold! $410,000**
3110 Bristol-4 Bedroom, 3.5 Bath, 2 Living Areas in Mid May! Terrace! Charming 2 Story Home, Hardwood Floors, Shutters, Circle Drive, Water Well!!! ..... **New Price! $384,000**
1216 S Co Rd 1120-4 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 3 Car Garage, 3,500+sqft! In Coveted Greenwood on 1.94 ACRES +Guest septic, water well, 1/8GPM, Storage All Over! ..... **New Price! $367,000**
2601 Fenwick-4 or 5 Bedroom, 3 Bath, 2 Story Home! Large Corner Lot! Completely Updated, Flooring, Paint, Kitchen, Baths, Appliances. Tons of Storage & Closets! Upstairs Deck! To Much to Mention!!! ..... **New Price! $349,000**
1600 College-4 Bedroom, 3 Bath, 3 Living, 2 Dining, 2,754sqft! Stunning 2 Story Home in Museum District w/an Income Producing Guesthouse! Remodeled Kitchen, Water Well, Storm Cellar! ..... **Sale Pending! $335,000**
1807 Shell-4 Bedroom, 3 Bath. Wonderful REDO! Great floor plan, loads of storage, MASSIVE Sep. Master Bedroom, updated paint & baths, Very Well Mar ianed! ..... **New Price! $240,500**
1301 E Gulf Course-4 Bedroom, 4 Bath. Complete Overhaul Here! Need TONS of Room? NEW Flooring, kitchen, baths, paint, fixtures, heat & a/c!!! HUGE House for the $$$ 2,800 sqft ..... **Sale Pending! $135,000**

2 & 3 BEDROOMS

2001 E FM 1379-2 Bedroom, 1.5 Bath Custom Built Retreat on 54.54 ACRES!!! Gated Entry w/paved drive, AMAZING half acre pond, Gourmet kitchen w/wine fridge. All top of the line high end finishes here!!! 4 water wells! Call Sabrina for more details! ..... **New Listing! $830,000**
34 Lafayette-3 Bedroom 2.5 Bath, 2 Living, 2 Dining, 2 Story Townhome! Absolutely FANTASTIC New Designs! Seriously Stylish!!! ..... **New Price! $389,000**
35 Lafayette-3 Bedroom 3.5 Bath, 2 Story Townhome! 2 Masters Downstairs, Gourmet Kitchen, Stainless, Granite, Glass Tile Backsplash, HIGH END FINISHES!!! ..... **Sale Pending! $329,000**
5000 Los Alamitos-3 or 4 Bedroom 2.5 Bath 2 Living Areas, Location! Location! Saddle Club South! Beautiful Curb Appeal, New Outside A/C Unit, Huge Master, Lots of Storage! ..... **New Price! $298,000**
3103 Baybridge-3 Bedroom 2 Bath. Gorgeous Gourmet Kitchen! Spacious Open Floor Plan! Huge Sequestered Master, Plantation Shutters Throughout! ..... *****Under Contract in 48 Hours! $275,000**
4506 Falcon-3 Bedroom 2 Bath 2 Living Areas on Northgate!!! Recreated School District. Greathouse. Abell Lee! Great Floor Plan. Granite in Kitchen & Master Bath! Miles of Tile! This One Won't Last!!! ..... *****Under Contract in 10 DAYS!!! $210,000**
4506 Fairbanks-3 Bedroom, 2 Bath in Fairmont Park!!! Gorgeous! Stained Concrete Floors, Huge Living Area w/High Ceilings, Open Kitchen, Large Master Suite! This One Won't Last! ..... **Sale Pending! $205,000**
2608 Spartan-3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 2 Living in Fannin District! Doll House Ready to Sell!!! Great curb appeal, functional & charming floor plan, entirely located! ..... **New Listing! $180,000**
2108 W Missouri-3 Bedroom, 2 Bath in Historic Museum District LEADED W/Charm! New Windows, Stainless Appliances, Updated Master Bath ..... **Open Today! ...Sun Price! $170,000**
1508 N. C Street-3 Bedroom, 2 Bath 2 Car Garage. Freshly Painted, HUGE Front Living Area, Kitchen is Loaded w/cabinets, Great Back Yard, Lots Maintenance in the front! ..... **Sale Pending! $174,500**
2104 W Missouri Ave-3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 2 Living! CHARMING Cape Cod Cottage !! Hardwood Floors, Stainless Appliances, Breakfast Bar, Giant Laundry Room, 2 Car Rear Entry Garage! ..... **Sale Pending! $172,000**
302 Kessler-3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 2 Living, New Flooring Throughout, Completely Remodeled Kitchen, Fresh Paint & Crown Moulding Throughout! New Sewer Line & A/C Condenser! ..... **New Listing! $160,000**
207 E Spruce-3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, Like NEW Home! This One is Just Adorable! Bronze Fixtures, Loaded w/Tile, Sequestered Master, HUGE Backyard! ..... **Sale Pending! $149,500**
1207 Douglas, Odessa-3 Bedroom, 2 Bath. Perfect Starter Home! Recent Flooring, Hardwood, Carpet & Tile! Amazing Theater Room! Room many updates to list!!! ..... **New Listing! $147,000**
4713 Shadybrook Dr-3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 2 Living Areas, 2 Car Garage. New Paint & Carpet, Recent Appliances & Countertops! Also For Lease $2,000/Month! ..... **Sold! $139,000**
511 S Carver-2 Bedroom 1 Bath, LOTS OF NEW!!! Interior & Exterior Paint, Flooring, Vanity, Stove, Doors, Blinds, & So Much More! ..... **Sale Pending! $65,000**

COMMERCIAL/LOTS/ACREAGE

1901 N. Big Spring-2 Lots. High Traffic, Highly Profitable Business Opportunity! Call Chris for more info ..... **New Price! $995,000**
2903 Wall St-7.67 ACRES with Buildings & Warehouses! Perfect for trucks, car lot, oil company, retail store ..... **New Listing! $975,000**
2001 E FM 1379-2 Bedroom, 1.5 Bath Custom Built Retreat on 54.54 ACRES!!! Gated Entry w/paved drive, AMAZING half acre pond, Gourmet kitchen w/wine fridge. All top of the line high end finishes here!!! 4 water wells! Call Sabrina for more details! ..... **Land! $830,000**
520 N CR W, Odessa-Phenomenal investment Opportunity, Here! ENTIRE block of land, Church & Warehouses Included! ..... **New Listing! $685,000**
Billy Hurd Rd, Odessa-Fabulous Pool Side in Eastridge Office Park! Anchor Location! Call Chris for more details! ..... **New Listing! $500,000**
1111 W Wall-Fantastic Opportunity To Own Your Own Business!!! Loads of Space, High Traffic Location! Zoned D! Call Chris for Details ..... **New Listing! $399,900**
2001 FM 1379-Beautiful 37.27 acres with two cabins, Restricted to one built homes only, but no minimum sq ft. Well game, amazing new endless possibilities. Additional land and home available ..... **Land! $298,120**
7718 Trenton-One of the Last Available Lots in Saddle Club Ranch Estates!!! No HOA! Build Your Dream Home on 1.95 ACRES! ..... **Sale Pending! $99,000**
Scharbauer Dr-Investor Opportunity! 4 Lots Sold in package. 1201-1207 Scharbauer Dr. Owner will not subdivide. Ready to Build! May require flood insurance ..... **Lots! $65,000**
911 S. Main-Great Opportunity! Lot is currently fenced, Zoned L-R-3. Owner will finance w $10,000 down (8.0%, NO CREDIT CHECK! ..... **Lot! $49,000**
Turtle Dove Ln, Possum Kingdom-Great Lake Property, in a Private Gated Community! Amenities include 3,000 sqft Clubhouse, over looking lake w infinity pool! Call Blanca for more details!!! ..... **New Price! $32,000**
E CR 60-15.(+/-) Available! 2 ACRES Each. Houses Allowed. No Mineral Rights. Mobile & Modular Homes Allowed! Call Ron for more details. ..... **Lots! $17,500/each**

LOOKING IN AUSTIN AREA?

4508 Ann-4 Bedroom, 2.5 Ba, in ground pool! Bank foreclosure in SW Austin right off S Mopac ..... **Sale Pending! $274,900**
121 Serene Hollow-3 Bedroom, 2 Bath in Buda! Relocation listing in pristine condition! Bonus Study! ..... **Sale Pending! $181,650**
130 Deer Lane-3 Bedroom, 2 Bath in gated Meadowlakes with access to lake LBJ! ..... **New Price! $160,900**
151 Stone Creek-3 Bedroom, 2 Ba! Chase foreclosure in Buda with super easy access to I-35!! Stone Ranch Style ..... **Sale Pending! $144,900**
6507 Cedera Cove-4 Bd, 2.5 Ba, 3 living, 1 AWNIE MAE listing with fresh new beige paint & clean carpets. Call de Sac in S Austin ..... **Sale Pending! $144,900**
8604 Winter Haven-3 Bedroom, 2.5 Ba Bank foreclosure! SE Austin 4B home in master planned community ..... **Sold! $108,900**
5629 Victory Gallop-3 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath, 2 car! This is a FANNIE MAE property, over 2600 sqft on ..... **Sale Pending! $104,900**
404 Emerald Way-Fabulous Corner lot in Horseshoe Bay West! Ready to Build On! Call 512-299-4340 ..... **New Price! $29,900**

Norma Pine Broker/Owner 349-3440 | Chris Beckett Broker/Owner 349-7000 | Ginger Trevino Co-Owner/Lic. Assistant 686-7000 | Ron Crow Realtor Associate 349-6148 | Blanca Salgado Realtor Associate 238-0177 | J. David Pine Realtor Associate 689-3307 | Sabrina Roden Realtor Associate 312-5081
Miranda Sigler Realtor Associate 770-2512 | Jeanneen Pruitt Broker Associate 557-9212 | Lillian Reynolds Realtor Associate 210-9682 | Amber Pruitt Realtor Associate 288-4486 | Myra McKinley Realtor Associate 889-4294 | Ashley Proctor Realtor Associate 553-8277 | Kendra Meadows Realtor Associate 413-5668

The Jeaneen Pruitt Team
683-1001

SUNDAY FEATURED HOME

10801 E. COUNTY ROAD 104
$199,900
Spacious 3 bedroom/2 bath home on .50 Acre lot! Living area w/brick fireplace & beamed ceiling. Big den (could be used as 4th bedroom) sequestered master w/walk-in closet! Open kitchen & breakfast w/lovely hardwood floors. Lots of storage, recent roof, large yard w/mature trees & open patio. Within walking distance to schools.,

GREEN TREE PROPERTIES

5300 Southshore Lane-fabulous 4 bedrooms/3 bath home in green tree! Gourmet kitchen w/granite, island, stone back splash & stainless appliances. Great den has built-ins, brick fireplace & lots of windows! Formal living & dining areas w/so much natural light. Spacious utility room w/walk-in pantry, seq. Master suite w/2 vanities, sep tub/shower & walk-thru closet! Lovely covered patio overlooks lush landscaping ..... **SOLD!...$380,000**

GREENWOOD PROPERTIES

2102 County Road 1005-NEW-Lovely davis resale in greenwood on 416 Acre lot. Spacious living w/fan paint & crown molding opens to kitchen w/custom cabinets, tumbled stone backsplash & island. Sequestered master, walk in closets & dual sinks, upgraded solar board house wrap, over sized garage, double return a/c & decked attic ..... **SOLD...$210,000**

4+ BEDROOMS

6013 Los Conchos Lane-Spectacular country estate on nearly 1 acre! 5 Bed/5 ba/5 gar formal dining, grand living area + den. Hand textured walls, gourmet kitchen boasts stainless appliances (6 burner gas (! & ice maker) seq. Master suite w/barrel ceiling, jetted tub, sep shower (dual shower heads) soaring ceilings & walls of windows overlook huge patio w/outdoor fireplace & kitchen. Energy star home w/foam insulation ..... **SOLD...$800,000**
6113 Glenwood-NEW-Fabulous 4 bed/4 full bath/2 half bath/2 liv/2 din/4 gar w/dazzling pool w/retractable cover. Gourmet kitchen w/gorgeous granite, stainless appliances (includes ice maker!) Spacious master suite w/jetted tub. Wrap around closet w/tons of built-ins. All bedrooms w/private baths! Wonderful theatre room w/3 rows of stadium seating! All equipment stays! $3k chandelier stays! Study w/hardwood floors ..... **SOLD...$675,000**
5106 Hilltop-NEW-Absolutely stunning 5 bed/4 bath/3 living/2 dining home w/amazing theatre room! Spacious living areas, hardwood floors + designer paint, soaring ceilings, stacked crown mouldings, walls of windows, plantation shutters, stone fireplace and miles of fabulous tile! Gourmet kitchen w/granite+stainless appliances, breakfast bar, pantry and large stand w/sink! Spectacular seq. Master suite w/office and separate closets! Landscaped yard w/outdoor kitchen ..... **SOLD...$500,000**
Odessa, Tx. 4 Blais Circle-NEW-Gorgeous custom home in ponderosa estates on 1.21 Acres! 4 Bed/2.5 Bath/2 oversized garage + 40x40 shop! Formal living & formal dining w/lovely hardwood floors & stacked crown molding. Spaces den w/stone fireplace. Open kitchen w/custom cabinets, skylight, granite, gas cook top, stone backsplash & travertine. 3rd. Living (upstairs) study w/french doors. Seq. Master suite w/private sitting area ..... **SOLD...$500,000**
5106 Oak Valley-Immaculate custom home w/gorgeous features thru-out. Large living w/stone columns, stone fireplace, miles of tile & crown molding. Gourmet kitchen w/large island gas cooktop, stainless appl. Stone backsplash & breakfast bar. 3 Covered patios. Great backyard+separate side yard! Seq. Master suite w/jetted tub, sep shower w/dual heads. 2 vanities & wrap around closet. Big bedrooms w/walk-in closets ..... **SOLD...$390,000**
5309 Greathouse-New construction in greathouse! Boasts 4 bed/3 bath/1 living/2 dining & 3 car garage. 4th bed is larger (14 x 17) can be a 2nd living area/media room! Spacious living has brick fireplace, soaring ceiling & crown molding. Gourmet kitchen opens to island & offers granite, island, stone backsplash, skylight, & stainless appliances! Sep. Master suite w/sep tub/shower & wrap around closet ..... **SOLD...$385,000**
5007 Grassland-NEW-Lovely one owner 4 bed/2.5 Bath in grassland estates. Formal dining, breakfast area, formal living, spacious den w/fireplace, open kitchen has lots of cabinets & double ovens. Sequestered master w/jetted tub, dual sinks & separate shower. Covered patio perfect for entertaining, oversized 3 car garage (oversized) + workshop area. Large backyard w/mature trees ..... **SOLD...$329,900**
1005 Windmill-Amazing 4 bed, 3 bath, 2 car garage home. 4 bed, 3 bath, 2 car, 1 living are, 2 dining areas, gas logs, in living area ..... **SOLD...$279,900**

2 & 3 BEDROOMS

3120 County Rd. C2408- Stanton, TX -NEW-Lovely country estate on 4 acres! Very private location. 3 Bed/2 bath/2 living & 2 garage. Large living & dining w/picture window, recent paint & crown molding. Spacious den w/stone fireplace, small office, open kitchen w/stainless dishwasher. Recent tile, windows & blown insulation in attic. 40 X 60 shop, 2 water wells, fenced backyard w/storage & patio **$275,000**
3200 Teakwood Place-NEW-Wonderful low maintenance home on quiet cul-de-sac. One owner 2 bedroom 2 bath/2 garage. Open kitchen w breakfast bar & lots of cabinets. Breakfast area overlooks covered patio and side yard. Spacious living area has lovely brick fireplace. Sequestered master w dual sinks, jetted tub & large walk-in closet. Rear entry garage has lots of storage ..... **SOLD...$250,000**
10801 E. County Rd 104-NEW-Spacious 3 bedroom/2 bath home on .50 Acre lot! Living area w/brick fireplace & beamed ceiling. Big den (could be used as 4th bedroom) sequestered master w walk-in closet! Open kitchen & breakfast w lovely hardwood floors. Lots of storage, recent roof, large yard w/mature trees & open patio. Within walking distance to schools **$199,900**
4610 Hunter-NEW-Lovely 3bed/2 bath/2 garage w lots of updates! Large living w beamed ceiling, slate fireplace & hardwood floors. Open kitchen w/neutral paint. Spacious master w dual sinks & walk-in closet. Updated condensing unit, roof 2009. Large backyard w/auto sprinkler in front yard, storage building & dog run ..... **SOLD...$180,000**
3700 W. Louisiana-NEW-Nice 3 bedroom/2 bath/2 garage on corner lot. Updated kitchen w granite look counter tops painted cabinets, features 6 burner gas cooktop & backsplash. Open living w corner brick fireplace & laminate wood flooring. Sequestered master w dual closets, large walk in shower, room 2 arch blinds, gas line replaced 08, roof 2009 ..... **SOLD...$160,000**
2734 Eisenhower-Odessa-3 bedroom 1 bath home with lots of potential! This property would be perfect for an investor or handyman, very open floor plan, wood laminate flooring, recent flooring, large backyard **$79,900**

Pine & BECKETT REALTORS 686-7000

LAND

191 Tammy Dr-Odessa. Prime location. 10 acres cleared. 1 Water well, per seller well produces 26 gpm + electricity. 30 Trees on drip system. Recorded restrictions as follows: no hazardous materials dumped on the ground, no lot subdivided, no dumping, front setback 100 ft ..... **SOLD...$10,000 ea.**
0000 Tammy Dr.-Odessa. Prime location! 10 Acres of raw land zoned commercial. This is unimproved property. Recorded restrictions as follows: no hazardous materials dumped on the ground, no lot subdivided, no dumping, front setback 100 ft ..... **SOLD...$10,000 ea.**

NEW CONSTRUCTION

Houston Chalmers HOMES

5808 Dunbarton Oaks
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $363,800

The Real Estate Company
Keeping It Real
MLS

FEATURED HOMES

6509 Mosswood Drive
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $468,500

"All change is not growth, as all movement is not forward."
~ Ellen Glasgow

NEW CONSTRUCTION

Crystal Homes
Custom Homes & Fine Cabinetry

6401 Los Conchos Lane
4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, game room, 4 car garage
Photo is representative of finished work by Crystal Homes

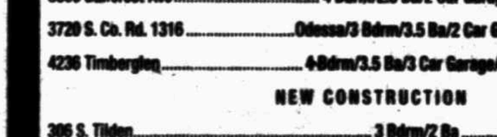
ASHINGDON HOMES

2503 Legacy Oaks
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $479,500

Saenz Signature Homes

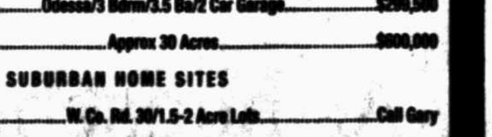
3204 Fairfield
4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $349,900

Walter Pate's TEXAS CLASSIC HOMES
432.853.5782 www.TexasClassicHomes.net



5303 Wimberley Spring Court
4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $379,900

Carrasco Homes



2908 Regency Oaks
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $469,500

RESIDENTIAL LISTINGS/HOME SITES/ACREAGE

RESIDENTIAL

2210 Merrily Dr	Big Spring/4 Bdrm/1.5 Ba ..... U/C
7244 Barksdale	Odessa/3 Bdrm/2 Ba/2 Car Garage/Townhouse ..... U/C
3803 Suncrest Ave	4 Bdrm/2.5 Ba/2 Car Garage ..... U/C
3729 S. Co. Rd. 1316	Odessa/3 Bdrm/3.5 Ba/2 Car Garage ..... U/C
4236 Timberglen	4-Bdrm/3.5 Ba/3 Car Garage/Pool ..... U/C

NEW CONSTRUCTION

309 S. Tilden	3 Bdrm/2 Ba ..... U/C
1209 E. Holden	Carrasco Homes/3 Bdrm/2 Ba/1 Car Garage ..... U/C
1204 E. Holden	Carrasco Homes/3 Bdrm/2 Ba/1 Car Garage ..... U/C
1211 E. Holden	Carrasco Homes/3 Bdrm/2 Ba/2 Car Garage ..... U/C
1213 E. Holden	Carrasco Homes/3 Bdrm/2 Ba/2 Car Garage ..... U/C
409 Springwood Ct	Justice Inhoff Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage ..... SOLD
5303 Wimberley Spring Ct	Texas Classic Homes/4 Bdrm/3.5 Ba/3 Car Garage ..... SOLD
5303 Wimberley Spring	Signature Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage ..... SOLD
3101 Patrick Pl	Hanson Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage ..... U/C
3204 Fairfield	Saenz Signature Homes/4 Bdrm/2.5 Ba/3 Car Garage ..... U/C
5808 Dunbarton Oaks	Houston Chalmers Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage ..... SOLD
6501 Mosswood	Glenwood Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage ..... SOLD
6509 Mosswood	Glenwood Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage $468,500
2908 Regency Oaks	Carrasco Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage ..... U/C
6505 Mosswood	Glenwood Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage $470,000
2503 Legacy Oaks	Ashington Homes/4 Bdrm/3 Ba/3 Car Garage $479,500

SUBURBAN/ACREAGE

Lone Rose Estates	Carrasco Homes/New Home ..... Call Gary
5011 E. Co. Rd. 57	Greenwood/6.79 Acres $100,000
4007 E. Co. Rd. 160	3 Bdrm/2 Ba/Mobile Home/6.2 Acres $120,000
10076 N. Pecan Ave	Gardendale/3 Bdrm/2 Ba/4.49 Acres $174,900
3720 S. Co. Rd. 1310	Odessa/3 Bdrm/3.5 Ba/2 Car Garage $290,000
FM 1213	Approx 30 Acres $800,000

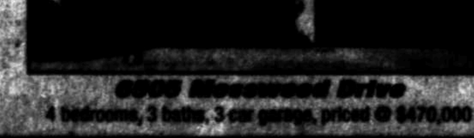
SUBURBAN HOME SITES

Lone Rose Estates	W. Co. Rd. 30/1.5-2 Acre Lots ..... Call Gary
6400 Mockingbird Lane	Los Conchos Estates/0.694 Acres ..... U/C
3005 Tanglewood Trail	2.5 Acres/Horse Barn $125,000

LAKE SIDE PROPERTY

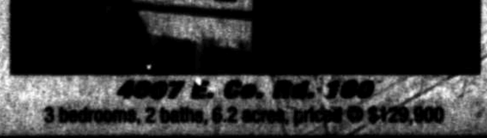
421 Co. Rd. 911	Lake Brownwood/2 Bdrm/2 Ba $300,000

FEATURED HOMES

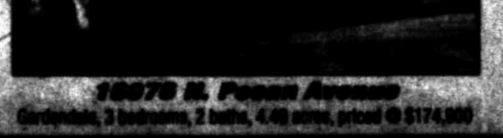


6509 Mosswood Drive
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $468,500

2503 Legacy Oaks
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 car garage, priced @ $479,500



4007 E. Co. Rd. 160
3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 6.2 acres, priced @ $120,000



10076 N. Pecan Avenue
Gardendale, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 4.49 acres, priced @ $174,900

Toll Free 1-800-318-9289 4400 N. Big Spring Street, Ste. C-30

MIDLAND
687-6500
4100 N. Big Spring, Suite 100
Midland, Texas 79705

ODESSA
550-6200

"Voted Midland's Favorite Real Estate Agency!" Midland Reporter-Telegram's 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 & 2012 Reader's Choice poll

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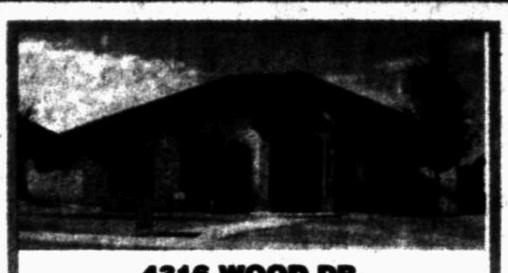
FEATURED HOMES & NEW LISTINGS

5513 SUNDANCE COURT
$279,900
MLS #93719, Laura Lyons Sales 618-1818

1900 S. CO. RD. 1133
$625,000
MLS #93656, Martha Manulik 618-5049



4316 WOOD DR.
$694,900
MLS #93618, Karen Foster 559-4086

2013 COMMUNITY LANE
$245,000
MLS #93721, Brooks Smith 528-2980

1811 N. GARFIELD ST. - $174,900
MLS #93664, Larry Hatfield 349-4788

526 E. CO. RD. 136 - $275,000
MLS #93737, Clemmie Sorge 553-9136

10301 S. CO. RD. 1138 - $174,900
MLS #93740, Mark Philliber 222-5071

Ask the Expert

Good resale on your home starts with taking care of it while you live there! Regular maintenance on a home can be painstaking. If you'll keep a record of what you do, and when you do it, the task of home maintenance won't seem so daunting, and you'll know ahead of time when there are things that will require your attention! Potential buyers appreciate record-keeping when it comes to maintenance of the home they're considering buying....that shows that the homeowner takes pride in their property and regular maintenance is key in alleviating potential problems down the road!

The Permian Basin historically experiences many windy days during the spring season and even the best sealed homes will see fine layers of dust on a windy day! Regular changing of the filter in your HVAC unit is pertinent! Replacing the filter every 3 months is suggested, but with our windy season coming up, consider checking your filter more frequently as a dirty filter will unnecessarily burden your air-conditioning system!

Maria Mallory, ABR, ASR, Realtor Associate
432-352-4021
maria@reicyrealestate.com
"Old- Fashioned Service in a Fast-Paced World!"

May you always have work
for your hands to do.
May your pockets hold
always hold a coin or two.
May the sun shine bright on
your windowpane.
May the rainbow be certain
to follow each rain.
May the hand of a friend
always be near you.
And may God fill your heart
with gladness to cheer you.

~Irish Blessing

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

HOMESTYLE

SIMPLE SOLUTIONS FOR EVERYDAY LIVING

Sunday, March 17, 2013

Gone Pro

Famous designers share decorating tips from their personal vacation homes

Pay homage: In Alexandra Angle's Nova Scotia home, the seat cushions "reflect" the colors you see out the window (above).

Be our guest: Guest rooms are especially important in vacation homes. Alexandra Angle provides sumptuous robes and slippers.

By DAWN KLINGENSMITH
CTW Features

It's not just wealth, taste and insider knowledge that distinguish the vacation homes of renowned interior designers from the rest. Whereas most people's vacation homes offer an escape from work, for decorators they provide just the opposite – an opportunity to bring work home in a meaningful way, with room for experimentation.

The results appear in "Designers Abroad: Inside the Vacation Homes of Top Decorators" (The Monacelli Press, 2013), a new coffee table book by Michele Keith featuring 22 vacation homes around the globe.

The book brings out shared characteristics that can serve as hallmarks to others who own vacation homes or wish to create a vacation home vibe in their everyday abodes. Three such hallmarks, according to Keith, are low-maintenance materials and furnishings; areas and features designed specifically for entertaining; and design elements that reflect the native character of the host country.

Though Keith finds the homes otherwise "all so different," other commonalities include natural and reclaimed materials, large windows with views, provisions for privacy and solitude when needed, outdoor living areas, sumptuous guestrooms and climate-specific features like shaded clerestories (high windows) and in-floor radiant heat.

For husband-and-wife design team Courtney and Robert Novogratz, who bought a second home in Brazil, easy maintenance is a key concern because they have seven children and a beach nearby. Washable denim slipcovers and polished cement floors "make for easy housekeeping," Keith says.

In her second home in Spain, New York-based designer Fawn Galli, a mother of two, opts for cowhide rugs because they can be swept easily.

Less time cleaning means more time relaxing with family and friends. "Everyone wants low maintenance in a vacation home," Keith says.

Speaking of entertaining, it's no wonder that guest comfort and casual gathering areas are high on the list of priorities as well. Many designers create entertainment areas that bring together the indoors and outdoors.

Ample seating arranged into "conversation areas," daybeds for napping and extra robes and slippers are just a few of the amenities intended to make guests feel not at home but far away from their everyday responsibilities and concerns.

Passing along advice from a decorator featured in her previous book, "Designers Here and There: Inside the City and Country Homes of America's Top Decorators" (The Monacelli Press, 2010), Keith says hosts should "test out" guestrooms for convenience and comfort by spending the night in them.

"Is the light the right distance from the bed? Do you have a clock and extra blankets? A water pitcher and glasses?" she asks. "Guests don't like to ask for special treatment, so you want to make sure of these things beforehand."

New York-based designer Michael La Rocca goes further in his second home in Sri Lanka, making the guest bathroom identical to the master bath, each with a glass-tiled, sunken bathtub; a sculptural waterspout streaming into it; and a mahogany vanity with double sinks.

Interestingly, more than one vacation home has a kitchen that can be closed off to contain messes and restore a sense of calm — a contrast to the popular open floor plans in many primary residences.

A tendency to incorporate elements native to the host country and reflective of its culture and landscape was the third hallmark Keith notes.

Though it contains a "global roundup of furnishings," the vacation home of Alexandra Angle stands out as an ode to its host country, Nova Scotia, as well as an ideal retreat because of its color palette. Angle tells Keith she was inspired by the surrounding landscape's "moody blues and grays, delicious greens and lavenders" — colors that correspond so seamlessly with the interior that Keith says the window seat cushions "act somewhat like reflecting pools."

But just as important, Angle says, the colors are "completely different hues than those we have at home in Los Angeles."

Perhaps when the painstaking details all come together, it's just such a contrast that characterizes a vacation home.

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Your Name in Lights

Neon lights and marquee signs carry a hint of nostalgia and grandeur that's easy to bring into home design

By DAN RAFTER | CTW Features

Tom Rinaldi noticed that the neon signs advertising diners, video stores and bars throughout New York City were disappearing. So Rinaldi, a New York resident and writer, grabbed his camera and started snapping shots.

Rinaldi isn't the only one missing neon-lit streets – for many, the signs symbolize hope and the American entrepreneurial spirit, he says, which is an inspiration for business owners whether they live in a big city or small rural town. His new book, "New York Neon" (W.W. Norton, 2012) uses these photos to tell the history of neon lights.

"To me, [neon signs] are the poster children for little quirky storefronts that are out of the mainstream, for Old World things," Rinaldi says. "These signs are often associated with small, independent businesses."

Photos of vintage neon signs or actual neon lights are popular as décor items for those who miss these bright, buzzing lights. Rinaldi says, "Mom-and-pop shops are having a harder time surviving. These signs remind me of a time when you saw them on every block."

Neon doesn't have a lock on nostalgia, though – homeowners inspired by the bright lights of big cities can bring the marquees home. Myrtle Beach, S.C.-based Vintage Marquee Lights sells marquee-style letters, numbers, symbols and custom-made signs. Dotted with incandescent bulbs, these signs mimic the bright marquee lights popular in such tourist destinations as Las Vegas and Times Square in New York City.

"As cheesy as it may sound, people want to see their name in lights," Green says. "Our best sellers are initials [of the buyer]."

The lit signage also adds excitement to otherwise dull interiors. Green says, "When you drive into Vegas and you see all those lights, the excitement starts bubbling up. The lights are synonymous with that, and people want that feeling in their homes."

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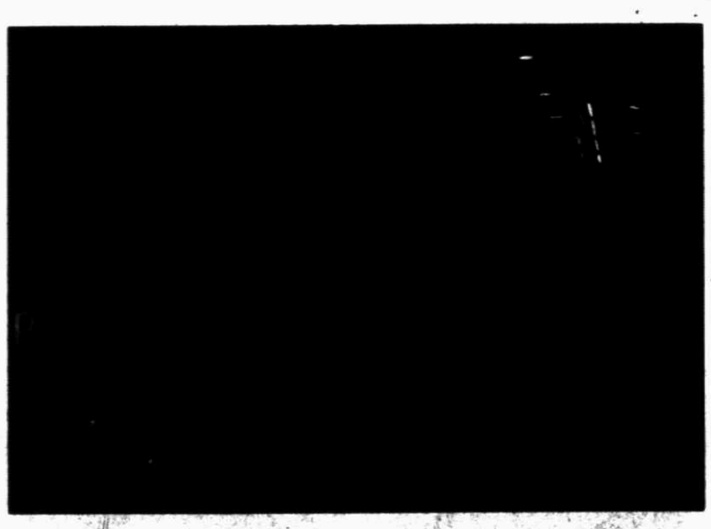

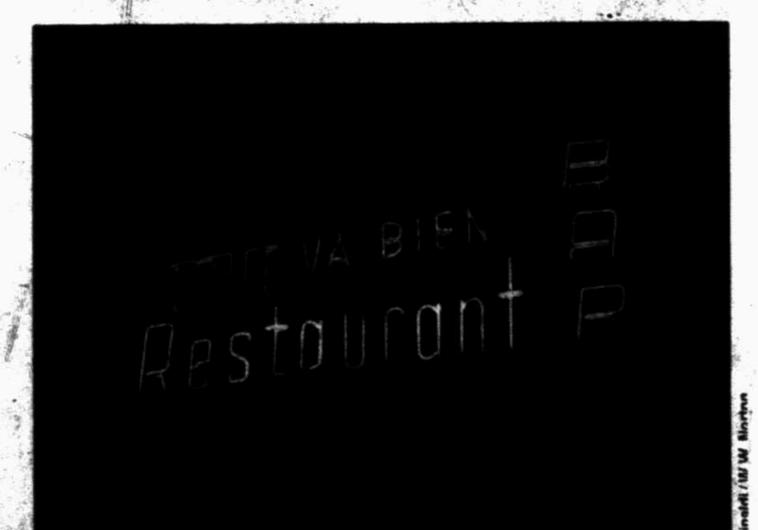

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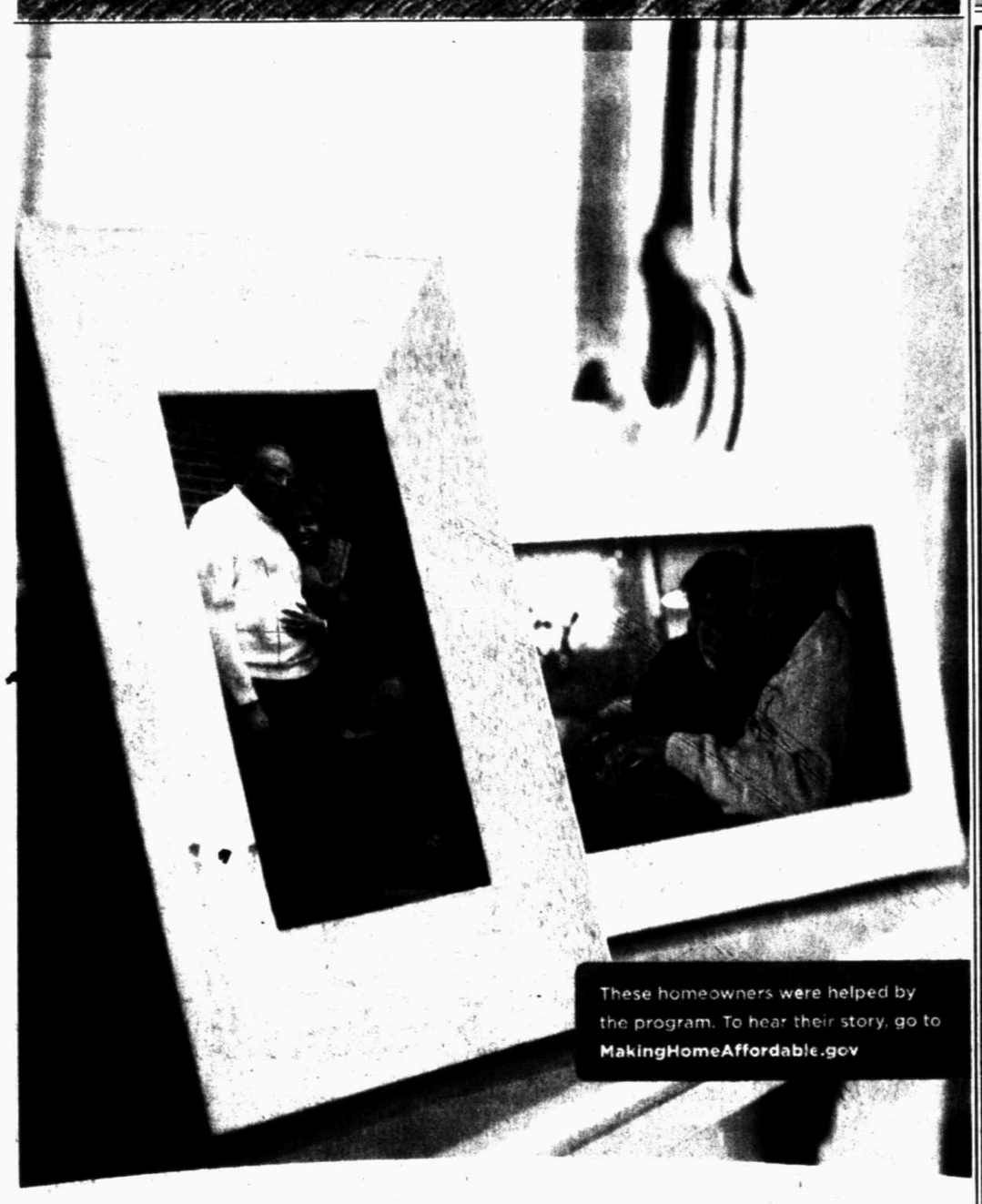

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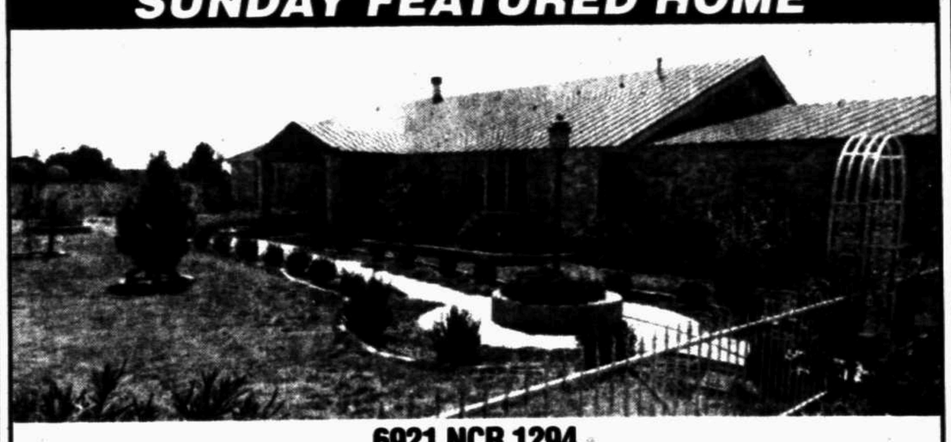

6921 NCR 1294
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3007 Meadowbrook	UNDER CONTRACT/OPT.	MLS #93619	$259,900
4313 Harvard	UNDER CONTRACT/OPT.	MLS #93616	$155,000
1307 Godfrey		MLS# 93599	$194,900
5711 S. Hwy 349	UNDER CONTRACT	MLS# 93566	$149,000
2901 Rebel Dr	UNDER CONTRACT	MLS# 93361	$233,400
2100 W. Wadley Unit# J-63	UNDER CONTRACT	MLS# 93019	$145,000
2406 W. Golf Course	UNDER CONTRACT/OPT.	MLS# 92881	$184,900
313 Willowood	UNDER CONTRACT	MLS# 92507	NEW PRICE $135,900
717 Ruby Dr.		MLS# 92658	$79,900
2108 Evans Ln.	SOLD	MLS# 92846	$381,000
4622 Erie Dr.		MLS# 92750	NEW PRICE $143,500
3921 E. Golf Course-(New Construction)	SOLD	MLS# 92731	$296,444
600 Liddon #68	SOLD	MLS# 92560	NEW PRICE $65,000
811 W. Storey-with pool and guest house	UNDER CONTRACT	MLS #92265	NEW PRICE $349,950
6921 North Co. Rd 1294-4.93 acres		MLS #91681	$330,000
2648 East FM 1212, Stanton-12 acres		MLS #91639	$229,900
6801 SCR 1210-on 70 acres w/ private gun range, pool & cantina		MLS #91271	$920,000
9300 S. CO. Rd 1210 **(Seller to consider selling house and 60 Ac.)**		MLS #90895	$1,399,000
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1011 PUEBLO ST...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #93388 ... SALE PENDING
1710 PUEBLO...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #92738 ... SALE PENDING
1909 JACKSON...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #92739 ... SALE PENDING
1910 JACKSON...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #92740 ... SALE PENDING

GOMEZ CONSTRUCTION
925 EDWARDS ST...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #93261 ... $99,000

JC CHAVEZ CONSTRUCTION
1201 E. COWDEN...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #92011 ... SOLD
1103 E. ESTES...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #92012 ... SALE PENDING

WBG CUSTOM HOMES, LLC
11901 FM 307...Clemmie Sorge 618-5019 ... MLS #92151 ... SALE PENDING

JC CONSTRUCTION
502 W. ESTES AVE...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #92559 ... $189,900
500 W. ESTES AVE...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #93321 ... $154,000

ELITE HOMES
412 CHARISMATIC DR...Stephanie Rogers 978-9757 ... MLS #93068 ... $995,000

PERMIAN BASIN COVENANT HOMES
2100 S. CO. RD. 1087...Clemmie Sorge 618-5019 ... MLS #93081 ... $402,000

CAROUSEL CONSTRUCTION
2113 EVANS LANE...Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ... MLS #93429 ... $337,900

DOZIER CUSTOM HOMES
4316 WOOD DR...Karen Foster 559-4086 ... MLS #93618 ... $804,000

MIDLAND'S FABULOUS FOUR OR MORE BEDROOMS

4411 CARDINAL...Brian Sales 618-1818 ... MLS #93141 ... SALE PENDING
4005 TODD DR...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #92010 ... $1,400,000
6014 W. CO. RD. 50...DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ... MLS #93096 ... $1,300,000
412 CHARISMATIC DR...Stephanie Rogers 978-9757 ... MLS #93068 ... $995,500
6001 S. CO. RD. 1210...Sandy Hanson 638-3819 ... MLS #91271 ... $920,000
4316 WOOD DR...Kaizer Foster 559-4086 ... MLS #93618 ... $804,900
1900 S. CO. RD. 1133...Martha Manulik 618-5049 ... MLS #93656 ... SALE PENDING
2100 S. CO. RD. 1118...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #93476 ... $824,900
5316 SHADY BEND CT...Melissa Williams 349-2812 ... MLS #93641 ... $444,000
2102 S. CO. RD. 1128...Sam McCrary 634-8370 ... MLS #92196 ... SALE PENDING
4500 CHAPARRAL RD,BIG SPRING...Brian Sales 618-1818 ... MLS #90854 ... SALE PENDING
2100 S. CO. RD. 1087...Clemmie Sorge 618-5019 ... MLS #93081 ... $402,000
5000 RIDGEMONT...Larry Hatfield 349-4788 ... MLS #93312 ... SALE PENDING
2011 COUNTRY CLUB DR...Laura Lyons Sales 618-1818 ... MLS #93227 ... SALE PENDING
11901 FM 307...Clemmie Sorge 618-5019 ... MLS #92151 ... SALE PENDING
4011 DUNKIRK...Laura Lyons Sales 618-1818 ... MLS #92235 ... $365,000
4013 WOODHOLLOW DR...Lisa Jansa 661-3389 ... MLS #93244 ... SOLD
2815 FRONTIER DR...Martha Manulik 557-8744 ... MLS #93168 ... SOLD
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7112 FM 307, GREENWOOD...Lisa Jansa 661-3389 ... MLS #93278 ... SALE PENDING
4002 CRISTA LANE...DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ... MLS #93218 ... SALE PENDING
3109 SEABOARD AVE...Leah Watkins 599-2187 ... MLS #93237 ... SALE PENDING
1710 PUEBLO...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #92738 ... SALE PENDING
1706 WARD...Laura Sales 618-1818 ... MLS #93196 ... SOLD
5106 BRIGHTON PL...DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ... MLS #93425 ... SALE PENDING
2310 CULPEPER DR...Larry Hatfield 349-4788 ... MLS #93135 ... SALE PENDING
3921 E. GOLF COURSE RD...Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ... MLS #92731 ... SALE PENDING
2405 DARTMOUTH DR...DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ... mLS #93358 ... SALE PENDING
2500 AUBURN PL...Stacy Gonzalez 413-7061 ... MLS #93603 ... SALE PENDING
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5513 SUNDANCE CT...Laura Lyons Sales 618-1318 ... MLS #93719 ... $279,900
2502 W. SHANDON AVE...DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ... MLS #93315 ... SALE PENDING
1013 PUEBLO ST...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #93390 ... SALE PENDING
1011 PUEBLO ST...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #93388 ... SALE PENDING
2300 CO. RD. 2051, STANTON...Lavonne Johnson 770-3883 ... MLS #91080 ... $270,000
3007 MEADOWBROOK DR...Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ... MLS #93619 ... SALE PENDING
10005 E. CO. RD. 108...DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ... MLS #93613 ... SALE PENDING
5702 CHAMPIONS DR...Jennifer Martin 349-2632 ... MLS #93403 ... SALE PENDING
2401 BELLECHASSE CT...Laura Sales 618-1818 ... MLS #93572 ... SALE PENDING
14281 LARIAT TRAIL, GARDENDALE...Susan Palmer 978-7816 ... MLS #93598 ... $245,000
3045 FREDNA...Jennifer Martin 349-2632 ... MLS #93184 ... $245,000
11911 W. CO. RD. 96...Mark Philliber 222-5071 ... MLS #91125 ... SALE PENDING
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609 E. 54TH ST., ODESSA...Brian Sales 618-1818 ... MLS #88105 ... SALE PENDING
313 W. WILLOWOOD DR...Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ... MLS #92507 ... SALE PENDING
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900 CITATION DR...Jane Wolf 684-6040 ... MLS #92918 ... SALE PENDING
6670 SANDHILLS DR., GARDENDALE...Perkins Brasher 349-3421 ... MLS #92943 ... SALE PENDING
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4021 TRINITY CT...Pam Messer 349-3075 ... MLS #92359 ... SALE PENDING
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525 E. CO. RD. 136...Clemmie Sorge 553-9136 ... MLS #93737 ... $275,000
4505 STILLMEADOW...Lydia Scudder 853-2200 ... MLS #93509 ... $274,900
5506 RIO GRANDE...Kim Merrill 664-4702 ... MLS #93583 ... SALE PENDING
4309 CRESTGATE AVE...Jane Wolf 684-6040 ... MLS #90881 ... $269,900
4502 MOCKINGBIRD LANE...Jennifer Martin 349-2632 ... MLS #93384 ... $265,000
3533 LONDKE AVE...Kay Bivens 934-5995 ... MLS #92481 ... SALE PENDING
4108 IRVIN DR...DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ... MLS #93506 ... $250,000
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4305 NELSON...DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ... MLS #92610 ... SALE PENDING
219 PLAZA...J.P. McCrary 634-7525 ... MLS #93289 ... SALE PENDING
4508 DENGAR AVE...DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ... MLS #92678 ... SALE PENDING
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4622 ERIE DR...Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ... MLS #92750 ... SALE PENDING
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4312 PARKDALE DR...Deborah Boler 934-3881 ... MLS #93650 ... $138,000
803 SPRUCE AVE...Melissa Williams 349-2812 ... MLS #91025 ... SALE PENDING
2814 MARIANA...Lavonne Johnson 770-3883 ... MLS #92504 ... SALE PENDING
2104 HOLLOWAY AVE...Ruth Young 682-7884 ... MLS #93226 ... $135,000
4710 CUTHBERT AVE...DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ... MLS #93649 ... SALE PENDING
4306 PARKDALE DR...Pam Messer 349-3075 ... MLS #93043 ... SALE PENDING
2026 CR 2801, STANTON...Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ... MLS #90491 ... SOLD
4322 BROOKDALE DR...Ruth Young 352-0996 ... MLS #93517 ... $124,900
405 W. COWDEN AVE...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #93454 ... $120,000
507 5TH ST., STANTON...Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ... MLS #93526 ... $120,000
4203 PLEASANT DR...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #92907 ... SALE PENDING
410 N. FORT WORTH...Gloria Valdez Farmer 563-2732 ... MLS #91785 ... $119,900
905 NE 4TH ST., ANDREWS...Amy Fore 664-4704 ... MLS #93311 ... $105,000
1825 LYNDALE DR., ODESSA...Lisa Jansa 661-3389 ... MLS #92186 ... SALE PENDING
3702 CEDAR SPRING...Josie Alvarez 618-5013 ... MLS #92290 ... SALE PENDING
304 E. ESTES AVE...Josie Alvarez 618-5013 ... MLS #92370 ... SALE PENDING
3618 FM 715...DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ... MLS #93505 ... SALE PENDING
1103 E. ESTES...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #92012 ... SALE PENDING
934 N. DALLAS...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #92225 ... SALE PENDING
1014 LORAINE...Jennifer Martin 349-2632 ... MLS #92714 ... $87,500
3808 ROOSEVELT DR...Danny Norwood 618-5012 ... MLS #92261 ... $87,500
2705 BAGLEY, ODESSA...Lydia Scudder 853-2200 ... MLS #91031 ... $80,000
3239 DREXEL, BIG SPRING...Danny Norwood 618-5012 ... MLS #91794 ... $64,100
807 MAIN ST., LAMESA...Danny Norwood 618-5012 ... MLS #90679 ... $62,000
401 ST. JOSEPH, STANTON...Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ... MLS #79043 ... $45,000
205 TERRELL ST...Michelle Lesikar 230-3633 ... MLS #93027 ... SALE PENDING

MIDLAND'S BEST 2 BEDROOM & 1 BEDROOM HOMES!

4900 & 4902 ANDREWS HWY...Ruth Young 352-0996 ... MLS #90145/90146 ... $425,000
1200 W. CO. RD. 150...Clemmie Sorge 553-9136 ... MLS #91908 ... $260,900
1307 GODFREY ST...Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ... MLS #93599 ... $194,900
1103 W. MISSOURI...Danny Norwood 618-5012 ... MLS #91815 ... $170,000
5711 S. HWY. 349...Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ... MLS #93566 ... SALE PENDING
1413 N. KELLY AVE., ODESSA...Lydia Scudder 853-2200 ... MLS #93665 ... $125,000
2100 WADLEY AVE., MJ63...Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ... MLS #93019 ... SALE PENDING
2601 DELANO...Angie McKay 599-0272 ... MLS #92970 ... SALE PENDING
925 EDWARDS ST...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #93261 ... $99,000
104 CLUB DR...DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ... MLS #91648 ... SALE PENDING
602 RUBY...Caleb Matott 349-3330 ... MLS #93217 ... $92,500
717 RUBY DR...Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ... MLS #92856 ... $79,900
5109 S. CO. RD. 1184...Pam Messer 349-3075 ... MLS #91960 ... $65,000
4700 BOULDER AVE...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #92229 ... SALE PENDING

MIDLAND'S LARGEST SELECTION OF COUNTRY PROPERTY

6014 W. CO. RD. 50...DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ... MLS #93098 ... $1,300,000
6001 S. CO. RD. 1210...Sandy Hanson 638-3819 ... MLS #91271 ... $920,000
1900 S. CO. RD. 1133...Martha Manulik 618-5049 ... MLS #93656 ... $825,000
2109 S. CO. RD. 1118...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #93476 ... $824,900
2102 S. CO. RD. 1128...Sam McCrary 634-8370 ... MLS #92196 ... SALE PENDING
2100 S. CO. RD. 1087...Clemmie Sorge 618-5019 ... MLS #93081 ... $402,000
11901 FM 307...Clemmie Sorge 618-5019 ... MLS #92151 ... SALE PENDING
10607 E. CO. RD. 105, GREENWOOD...Michelle Lesikar 230-3633 ... MLS #93524 ... $369,900
7112 FM 307, GREENWOOD...Lisa Jansa 661-3389 ... MLS #93278 ... SALE PENDING
6921 N. CO. RD. 1294...Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ... MLS #91681 ... $330,000
2369 CO. RD. 2051, STANTON...Lavonne Johnson 770-3883 ... MLS #91080 ... $270,000
1200 W. CO. RD. 150...Clemmie Sorge 553-9136 ... MLS #91908 ... $260,900
10005 E. CO. RD. 108...DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ... MLS #93613 ... SALE PENDING
14281 LARIAT TRAIL, GARDENDALE...Susan Palmer 978-7816 ... MLS #93598 ... $245,000
4000 COYOTE TRAIL...Larry Hatfield 349-4788 ... MLS #93179 ... SALE PENDING
11911 W. CO. RD. 96...Mark Philliber 222-5071 ... MLS #91125 ... SALE PENDING
2640 E. FM 1212, STANTON, TX...Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ... MLS #91639 ... $229,900
1000 W. APRIL ST., ODESSA...Caleb Matott 349-3330 ... MLS #91399 ... SALE PENDING
2700 CO. RD. 1050, GREENWOOD...Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ... MLS #93471 ... $220,000
3101 S. CO. RD. 1218...Mona Lopez 967-8602 ... MLS #93322 ... $220,000
10904 E. CO. RD. 107, GREENWOOD...Lisa Jansa 661-3389 ... MLS #92800 ... SALE PENDING
6001 A S. CO. RD. 1205...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #92996 ... SALE PENDING
10301 S. CO. RD. 1138...Mark Philliber 222-5071 ... MLS #93740 ... $174,900
10807 E. CO. RD. 105...Tracy Farrow 413-4412 ... MLS #92927 ... $172,000
301 E. CO. RD. 137...Martha Manulik 618-5049 ... MLS #93565 ... $158,500
5711 S. HWY. 349...Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ... MLS #93566 ... SALE PENDING
3401 S. CO. RD. 1070...Mark Philliber 222-5071 ... MLS #93288 ... SALE PENDING
5013 E. CO. RD. 50...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #93243 ... SALE PENDING
1002 E. CO. RD. 150...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #91840 ... SALE PENDING
SUNRIDGE RANCH ESTATES...Caleb Matott 349-3330 ... 4 Lots Left...3.5 Acre Lots/$135,000
3618 FM 715...DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ... MLS #93505 ... SALE PENDING
SUNRIDGE RANCH ESTATES...Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ... 3+ Acre Lots/Lots $95,000/EA
5109 S. CO. RD. 1184...Pam Messer 349-3075 ... MLS #91960 ... $65,000

OUT OF TOWN, ANDREWS & ODESSA LISTINGS

1651 DOVE DRIVE, ODESSA...Brian Sales 618-1818 ... MLS #87118 ... $549,900
4500 CHAPARRAL RD,BIG SPRING...Brian Sales 618-1818 ... MLS #90854 ... SALE PENDING
10607 E. CO. RD. 105, GREENWOOD...Michelle Lesikar 230-3633 ... MLS #93524 ... $369,900
13 LONG CHAMP, ODESSA...Janice Murrell 349-7242 ... MLS #93581 ... SALE PENDING
6670 SANDHILLS DR., GARDENDALE...Perkins Brasher 349-3421 ... MLS #92943 ... SALE PENDING
7112 FM 307, GREENWOOD...Lisa Jansa 661-3389 ... MLS #93278 ... SALE PENDING
2369 CO. RD. 2051, STANTON...Lavonne Johnson 770-3883 ... MLS #91080 ... $270,000
14281 LARIAT TRAIL, GARDENDALE...Susan Palmer 978-7816 ... MLS #93598 ... $245,000
4613 VALLEYBROOK LANE, ODESSA...Amy Fore 664-4704 ... MLS #93230 ... $235,000
2640 E. FM 1212, STANTON, TX...Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ... MLS #91639 ... $229,900
10904 E. CO. RD. 107, GREENWOOD...Lisa Jansa 661-3389 ... MLS #92800 ... SALE PENDING
302 9TH ST., IRAAN...Pam Messer 349-3075 ... MLS #92308 ... $179,000
711 ST. FRANCIS, STANTON...Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ... MLS #93473 ... $175,000
207 DAVIS RD, BIG SPRING...Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ... MLS #92879 ... $169,500
5011 BUFFALO AVE., ODESSA...Angie McKay 599-0272 ... MLS #87929 ... SALE PENDING
2102 ALLENDALE RD., BIG SPRING...Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ... MLS #92792 ... $154,900
609 E. 54TH ST., ODESSA...Brian Sales 618-1818 ... MLS #88105 ... SALE PENDING
906 10TH ST., ANDREWS...Cynthia Blocker 266-1448 ... MLS #93175 ... $139,500
1413 N. KELLY AVE., ODESSA...Lydia Scudder 853-2200 ... MLS #93665 ... $125,000
507 5TH ST., STANTON...Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ... MLS #93526 ... $120,000
905 NE 4TH ST., ANDREWS...Amy Fore 664-4704 ... MLS #93311 ... $105,000
2026 CR 2801, STANTON...Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ... MLS #90491 ... SOLD
1825 LYNDALE DR., ODESSA...Lisa Jansa 661-3389 ... MLS #92186 ... SALE PENDING
105 E. 21ST., CRANE...Danny Norwood 618-5012 ... MLS #85747 ... $90,000
1007 JOHNSON AVE., BIG SPRING...Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ... MLS #88348 ... $82,000
2705 BAGLEY, ODESSA...Lydia Scudder 853-2200 ... MLS #91031 ... $80,000
3239 DREXEL, BIG SPRING...Danny Norwood 618-5012 ... MLS #91794 ... $64,100
807 MAIN ST., LAMESA...Danny Norwood 618-5012 ... MLS #90679 ... $62,000
401 ST. JOSEPH, STANTON...Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ... MLS #79043 ... $45,000

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL

2800 ILLINOIS AVE...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #93478 ... $5,500,000
2501 S. CO. RD. 1180...Clemmie Sorge 553-9136 ... MLS #90763 & 90782 ... 138.7 Acres/$2,774,000
2700 RANKIN HWY...Amy Barnett 349-3421 ... MLS #88603 ... $2,000,000
600 N. WEATHERFORD ST...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #93661 ... $1,500,000
901 GALLEGO, ALPINE...Perkins Brasher 349-3421 ... MLS #92405 ... 1.95 Acres/$890,000
11911 CO. RD. 125...Ashley St. John 352-6254 ... MLS #92547 ... $850,000
8200 W. CO. RD. 116...Caleb Matott 349-3330 ... 6.7 Acres/$800,000
3105 BANKHEAD HWY...Larry Hatfield 349-4788 ... MLS #91818 ... $795,000
720 MULBERRY, ODESSA...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #93219 ... 2 Acres/$600,000
2112 E. I-20 SERVICE RD...Clemmie Sorge 618-5019 ... MLS #92155 ... 7.04 Acres/$550,000
1205 W. INDUSTRIAL...Larry Hatfield 349-4788 ... MLS #92449 ... $305,000
4506 E. HWY. 158, GARDENDALE...Deborah Boler 934-3881 ... MLS #91610 ... $375,000
412 MIDLAND DR...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #89013 ... $350,000
4010 S. HIGHWAY 349...Caleb Matott 349-3330 ... MLS #92898 4.2 Acres/$300,000
6301 N. CO. RD. 1150...Lisa Jansa 661-3389 ... MLS #90635 ... $290,000
3407 S. HWY. 349...Caleb Matott 349-3330 ... MLS #90196...4.4 Acres/$275,000
4301 W. ILLINOIS...Caleb Matott 349-3330 ... MLS #93229 ... SALE PENDING
1502 TEXAS AVE...DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ... MLS #92967 ... SOLD
1000 N. CO. RD. W., ODESSA, TX...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #83958 ... $180,000
816 MAIN ST., RANKIN...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #92107 ... $165,000
2514 W. KANSAS...Larry Hatfield 349-4788 ... MLS #93617 ... $145,000
W. HWY. 00...Caleb Matott 349-3330 ... 4.3 Acres/$129,000
1200 E. CO. RD. 120...Pam Messer 349-3075 ... MLS #90527 ... $129,000
310 ST. PETER, STANTON...Michelle Kidd 894-1253 ... MLS #89966 ... $110,000
600 E. BROADWAY, ANDREWS...Cynthia Blocker 266-1448 ... MLS #79313 ... $100,000
301 NW AVE. B, ANDREWS...Cynthia Blocker 266-1448 ... MLS #86457 ... $97,500
1001 S. LAMESA...Angie McKay 599-0272 ... MLS #90326 ... SALE PENDING
1001 N. LAMESA RD...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #92526 ... $47,000

LANDS AND LOTS

7000 W. CO. RD. 116...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #92031 ... SALE PENDING
2501 S. CO. RD. 1180...Clemmie Sorge 553-9136 ... MLS #90763 & 90782 ... 138.7 Acres/$2,774,000
E. CO. RD. 130...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #90125 ... 141.400 Acres/$2,476,000
E. CO. RD. 130...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #90439 ... 80 Acres/$1,400,000
901 GALLEGO, ALPINE...Perkins Brasher 349-3421 ... MLS #92405 ... 1.95 Acres/$890,000
CO. RD. 90...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #88932 ... $850,000
2000 S. CO. RD. 1110...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #91487 ... 90 Acres/$802,500
00 N. CO. RD. 1100...Brian Sales 618-1818 ... MLS #92095 ... SALE PENDING
FM 1788...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #90063 ... $801,000
2300 GOODNIGHT LANE...DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ... MLS #93576 & 571 Acres/$700,000
720 MULBERRY, ODESSA...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #93219 ... 2 Acres/$600,000
2112 I-20 SERVICE RD...Clemmie Sorge 618-5019 ... MLS #92155 ... 7.04 Acres/$550,000
[illegible] ... Ruth Young 682-7884 ... [illegible] Acres/$425,000
1000 CO. RD. 1120...Brooks Smith 618-5035 ... MLS #90827 ... $365,200
ASH PARK ROAD...Amy Brasher Barnett 349-3421 ... MLS #90176 ... $325,000
CO. RD. 1130...Clemmie Sorge 618-5019 ... MLS #90518 ... 29.1 Acres/$320,100
6301 N. CO. RD. 1150...Lisa Jansa 661-3389 ... MLS #90635 ... $290,000
3407 S HWY 349...Caleb Matott 349-3330 ... MLS #90196 ... $275,000
I-20...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #90868 ... $271,700
HIGHWAY 191...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #87988 ... $250,000
CO. RD. 1100...Lisa Jansa 661-3389 ... MLS #92180...10 Acres/$240,000
1000 W. APRIL ST., ODESSA...Caleb Matott 349-3330 ... MLS #91399 ... SALE PENDING
CO. RD. 2300...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #90227 ... $170,000
ANN PARKS ROAD...Amy Brasher Barnett 352-4714 ... MLS #92776...4.19 Acres/$160,000
HIGHWAY 191 LANE...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #92377...2 Acres/$140,000
7300 W. CO. RD. 40...Lisa Jansa 661-3389 ... MLS #92979 ... SALE PENDING
SUNRIDGE RANCH ESTATES...Caleb Matott 349-3330 ... 2 Lots Left...3.5 Acre Lots/$135,000
W. CO. RD. 100...DeLaura Gammage 288-3880 ... MLS #93150...8.30 Acres/$110,000
2020 LOOP 250...Ashley St. John 352-6254 ... MLS #90585...2.20 Acres/$90,000
SUNRIDGE RANCH ESTATES...Sandy Hanson 638-3819 ... 3+ Acre Lots/$95,000
LINE STREET, ODESSA...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #86730...9.26 Acres/$81,000
13000 E. CO. RD. 110...Ashley St. John 352-6254 ... MLS #92879...6 Acres/$70,000
N. FM 1788...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #92050...2 Acres/$70,000
10210 E. CO. RD. 110E...Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #90114 ... $60,000
1001 N. LAMESA RD...Josie Rendon 889-8394 ... MLS #92526 ... $47,000
W. CO. RD. 00...Caleb Matott 349-3330 ... MLS #93450 ... SALE PENDING
FREELAND ADDITION...Sandy J. Hanson 638-3819 ... 1+ Acre Lots/$35,000/EA ACRE
CO. RD. 110...Mark Philliber 222-5071 ... MLS #93331, 1 Acre Lots/$21,000
S. TYLER...Danny Norwood 618-5012 ... MLS #92810 ... SALE PENDING

FARMS AND RANCHES

[illegible] COUNTY...Caleb Matott 349-3330 ... SALE PENDING
[illegible] COUNTY...Caleb Matott 349-3330 ... [illegible]
[illegible] COUNTY...Caleb Matott 349-3330 ... [illegible]
[illegible] ... Brooks Smith 528-2980 ... MLS #91271
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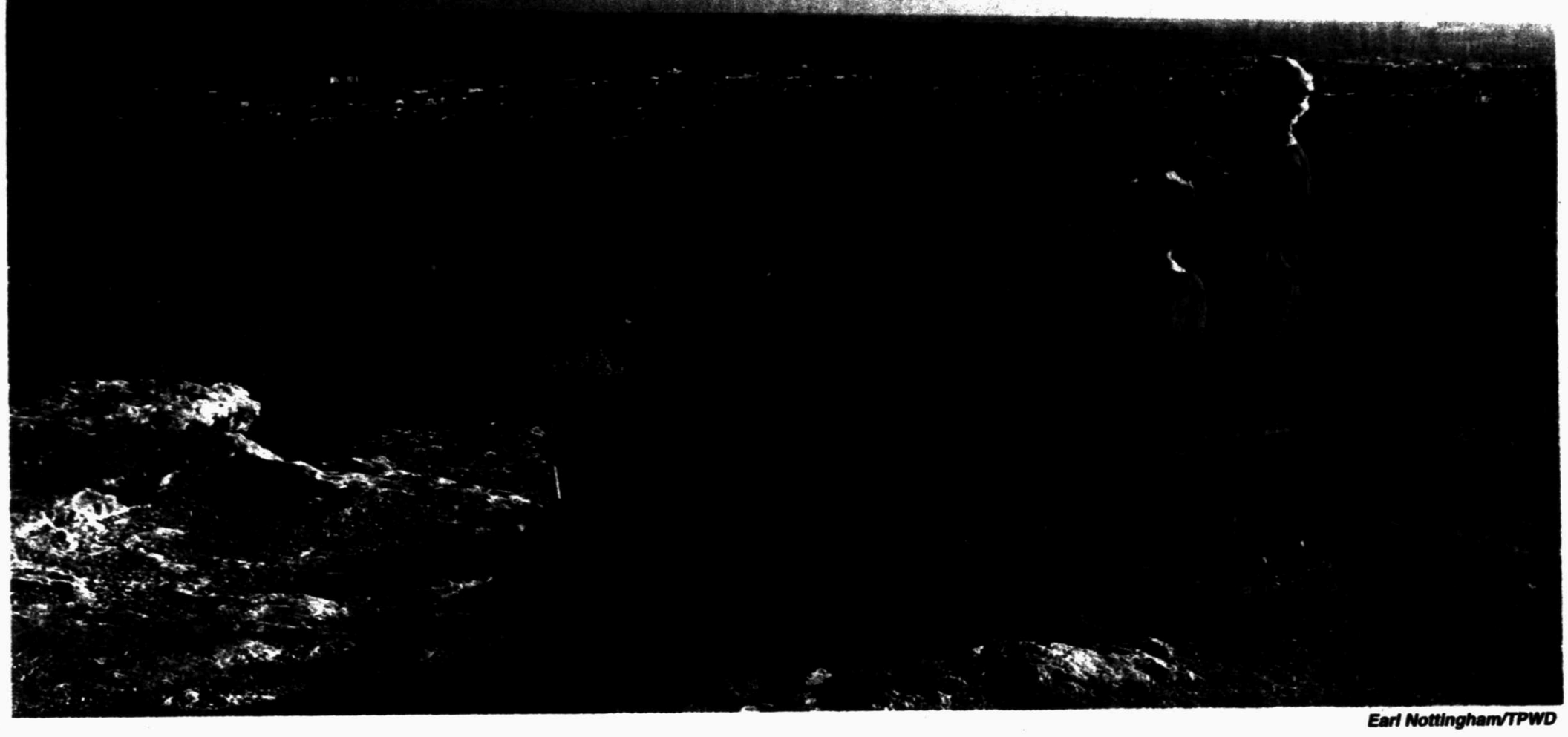
[illegible] ... Brooks Sm

WEST TEXAS *Living*

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mywesttexas.com | Sunday, March 17, 2013 | Section E

GET



Earl Nottingham/TPWD

Midlanders hike at trails, parks around West Texas

Editor's note: This is the third in a four-part series, "Get Active," that will focus on different outdoor activities in Midland and West Texas.

By Audrie Palmer
apalmer@mrt.com

While it may not seem there is much hiking to do in Midland, it's only a few hours drive to some mountainous regions and parks. And Midlanders take advantage of it. Judge Robert Junell with the federal court has hiked Guadalupe Peak, the highest peak in Texas, 119 times. Two years ago, he was awarded a plaque and recognition after he was the first person to finish the 100th summit on the peak.

When he moved to Midland from San Angelo in 2003 and took office over the Western District of Texas, he had never been to the Guadalupe Mountains or the national park.

One day while working in Pecos, his docket was clear and he decided to go visit the park and climb the peak. He enjoyed it so much, he's continued to make the trip. From his home in Midland, it's a three-hour drive to the park with only five stoplights (four in Midland and one in Kermit) along the route.

Each summer, he takes a new class of interns from the court on hikes and to summit the mountain. Their accomplishments are displayed on a "Wall of Pain" in his office.

The trail is 4.2 miles to the top and begins at the base at 5,780 feet and ends at around 8,780 feet.

Junell says he's always been an outdoorsman, having played football and baseball in college and spending time in the U.S. Army. He says visiting the regional state and national parks — whether it's Guadalupe, Monahans or Big Bend — gives West Texans a chance to leave the worries of their job and office behind.

"Don't expect Disney World. This is outdoors at its very best," he said.

Nearby McKittrick Canyon at Guadalupe also provides a less strenuous hike with relatively flat terrain, he added.

This year, the Texas Parks and Wildlife department will celebrate its 50th anniversary of overseeing the state parks in Texas.

While there's only a handful of state parks in the West Texas region compared to the rest of the state, each park is unique as to what it offers visitors.

The Monahans Sandhills State Park offers sand dunes and the chance to go sand surfing. The Balmorea State Park has a natural spring in which to swim. The Indian Lodge State Park offers access to historic Fort Davis, and nearby attractions like the Davis Observatory also are available to visitors.

For Midlanders not looking to drive the three hours to Guadalupe, Big Spring State Park also offers trails and hikes for anyone wanting to get outside.

Park manager Ron Alton said the majority of visitors at the park are locals from West Texas who are seeking some form of exercise, whether it's in the heat of the summer or the cold of the winter.

"We have a die hard group of people that come here year round," he said.

Many of those visitors are from the Midland and Odessa areas, he added, because the hills at the park can't be found elsewhere.

Boy Scout troops looking to climb the Guadalupe Mountains also utilize the park to practice, train and challenge themselves.

There is a 1/3-mile nature trail and a 2.3-mile paved circuit road and loop around the park for runners and walkers.

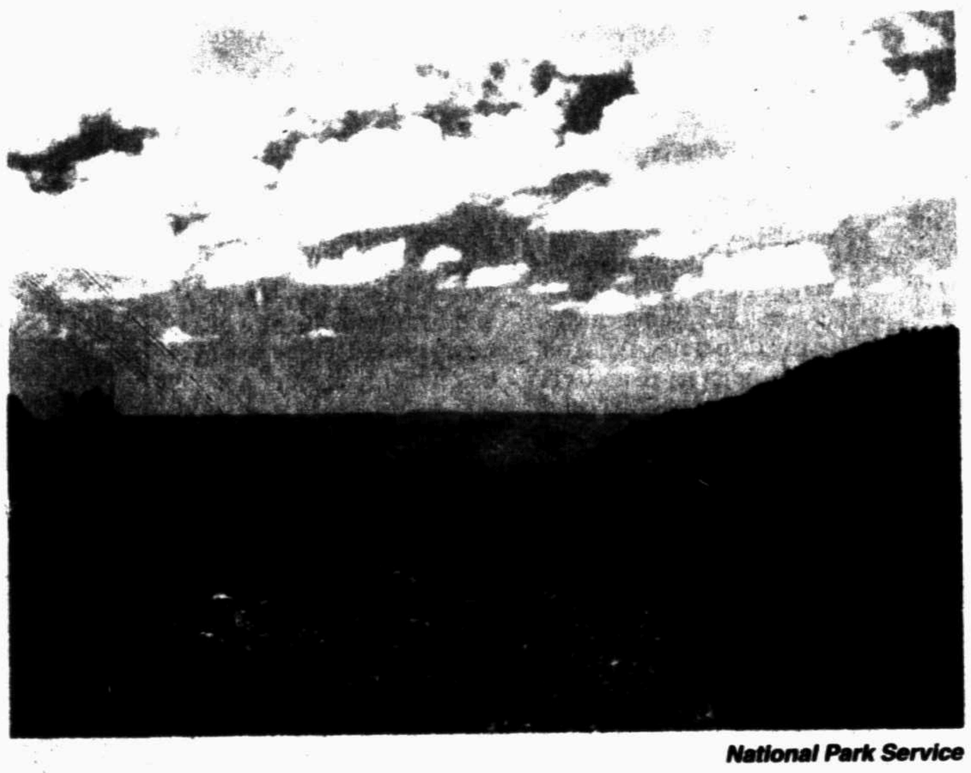
The park also offers a view that other parks in the area might not provide, with scenery looking off of the 200-foot limestone bluff.

The healthy populations of wildlife also add to visitors' enjoyment of the park.

Alton said there is a number of gray foxes at the park as well as road runners and horned lizards, which are unique to the area because of the harvester ants their diets are comprised of.

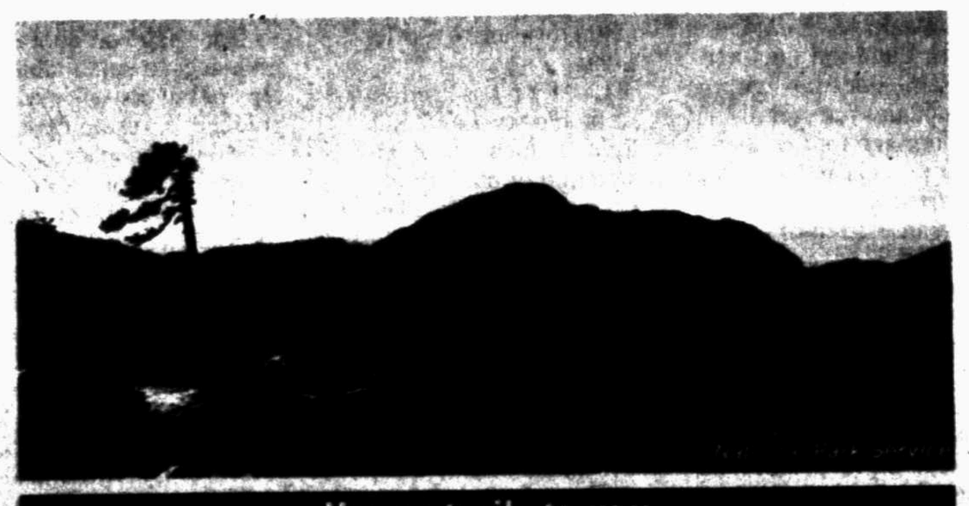
"Whether you're hiking, walking or running, it's fun to see something you might not see if running around in town," he said.

Rob McCorkle/TPWD



National Park Service

One of Big Bend Ranch State Park's prominent geological features, at top, Las Cuevas Amarillas, or the yellow caves, are visible from the main ranch road. CENTER: The bird's eye-view from Scenic Mountain draws many visitors to Big Spring State Park. ABOVE: A grove of cottonwoods surround a desert spring at Big Bend Ranch State Park near Presidio. LEFT and BELOW: Guadalupe Mountains at the Guadalupe Mountain National Park.



Happy trails to you

Park trails offered at Guadalupe Mountains National Park:

- Manzanita Spring: easy; 0.4 miles round-trip
- Smith Spring: moderate; 2.3 miles round-trip
- McKittrick Canyon: moderate; 4.8 miles round-trip to Pratt Cabin; 6.8 miles round-trip to the Grotto
- Guadalupe Peak: strenuous; 8.4 miles round-trip; 3,000-foot elevation gain
- The Bowl: strenuous; 9.3 miles round-trip

Photos courtesy of Science Spectrum Museum and Omni Theater

Lubbock science museum hosts butterfly exhibit, film

From staff reports

Visitors to Lubbock's Science Spectrum Museum and Omni Theater this spring will have an opportunity to be surrounded by butterflies at the theater's Butterflies Alive exhibit. Hundreds of butterflies and moths raised by butterfly farmers are contained within a 3,000-square-foot enclosed garden called the Flight House that includes trees, plants and insect-themed topiaries.

In the Pupae Emergence House, visitors can watch butterflies and moths emerge from their chrysalis before being released into the Flight House.

In the Omni Theater, the film "Flight of the Butterflies" tells the story of the Monarch butterflies' migration from Mexico to Canada, and the later generation's migration from Canada to Mexico and back to the United States.

Butterflies Alive and "Flight of the Butterflies" will continue through June 12. Visitors should expect crowds during peak weekend times and admission will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Groups of 20 or more should consider making reservations. Strollers are not allowed inside the Flight House.

Tickets for the Flight House only are $6 for adults and $5 for children ages 3-12 and seniors 60 and older. Tickets for the Omni film only are $8 for adults, and $6.50 for children and seniors. Tickets for the Flight House with the film or a museum visit are $13.50 for adults and $10.50 for children and seniors. Tickets for the Flight House, film and museum visit are $18.50 for adults and $14.50 for children and seniors. Group rate discounts are available.

For more information, call 806-745-2525 or visit www.sciencespectrum.org.

Furniture of an outdoor living room designed by Brian Patrick Flynn for Hayneedle.com is arranged around an outdoor chandelier.

Daniel J. Collopy/AP

Variety of lighting options help with outdoor entertaining

By Melissa Rayworth
Associated Press

Many Americans have embraced outdoor decorating, filling their yards with fluffy sofas, gleaming end tables and even outdoor rugs.

But what happens when the sun goes down?

Chris Lambton, landscape designer and host of HGTV's "Going Yard," advises his clients to give as much thought to the lighting of their outdoor space as they do to the furnishings.

Forget yesterday's glaring porch light, he said. You can now choose from a wide range of much subtler lighting options. Many are inexpensive and stylish enough to quickly turn a basic patio into a chic entertaining space.

Here Lambton and two other outdoor decorating experts — Los Angeles-based designers Jeff Andrews and Brian Patrick Flynn — offer advice on the newest, most attractive and safest options for outdoor lighting.

Indulge your outdoor style

Many indoor furniture designs and fabrics are now available as outdoor items, Lambton said, and the same goes for lighting. Companies are creating outdoor versions of their most popular indoor lamps and fixtures.

Flynn is a fan of outdoor chandeliers on patios or decks that are covered: "They're an excellent way to make any humdrum outdoor space feel like an actual room."

But, he said, choose wisely: "To get them right, you've got to take scale and proportion into consideration. Install one that's too small, and it will look like an afterthought. Install one that's too big or hangs too low, and it will completely overwhelm the space."

Flynn also recommends using floor lamps and table lamps designed for outdoor use. Prices vary widely (from more than $1,000 to less than $100), so he suggests hunting online for deals and the perfect style.

Another option: Create your own outdoor fixture. Many electricians can rewire your favorite indoor lighting to be safely used outside, Lambton said. "Search for whatever fixture you like," he said, "then put an outdoor conduit in and attach it to a switch."

Go vintage

"Vintage is always a key to good lighting," Andrews said, "indoors and outdoors."

"Recently I got these really cool, inexpensive Moroccan lanterns" with a vintage look. Rather than simply displaying them on a table, he hung them from outdoor branches: "I had them wired for outside and hid the wires in the trees," he said.

When the vintage lanterns glow from the tree branches at night, it gives the yard a "romantic and kind of European feel."

Forget the flood light

Rather than one or two bright porch lights, all three designers suggest using a variety of softer lights.

Lambton has used faux stone blocks with LED lights hidden inside, alongside traditional lighting. Flynn has done the same with illuminated planters.

"Sneaking in ambient light in unexpected ways is something I love to do," Flynn said. "In Los Angeles, I turned the middle of a family's Los Feliz backyard into a full-fledged family room, comfy sectional sofa and all. To bring light to the space, I used modern, plastic planters that light up. They have cords on the back of them, and connect to exterior outlets. Once turned on, a light bulb inside the transparent plastic illuminates and the entire area glows softly. This is so genius because it requires no electrician whatsoever."

Even simpler options: thin strips of lights that can be attached along the underside of deck railings, or strands of lights in the shape of everything from simple bulbs to stars, hearts or jalapeno peppers strung overhead.

No matter which style of light you choose, Andrews said, add dimmers to your outdoor light switches. "Everything in the world," he said, "needs to be on a dimmer."

Go beyond your deck or patio

Don't forget to light the far reaches of your yard, Lambton said. It will make your property feel bigger and banish the feeling of being enveloped by darkness when you entertain outside.

It costs little to place a few small, solar-powered lights at the bases of trees and shrubs. He also suggests attaching a few to tree branches. "And I love to uplight ornamental grasses," Lambton said. "It adds nice depth to the yard."

Don't forget the fire

Fire pits of all sizes — from huge outdoor fireplaces to small tabletop containers — provide golden, flickering light for your outdoor space.

Display a collection of pillar candles in varying sizes (battery-powered or real), either clustered on their own or tucked inside large, glass lanterns to "add a bit of sparkle" to your yard, Andrews said.

Or create an outdoor chandelier with candles: "I tend to try my hand at rustic do-it-yourself ideas," Flynn said. "In my own outdoor dining room, I suspended a candelabra made from reclaimed pine planks, rope, mason jars and tea lights above the dining table. When my family comes over for pizza night, it creates the perfect ambience."

Spring turkey season is about to open in Texas

By Mike Leggett
Cox Newspapers

AUSTIN — I rose up on tiptoes — as if that would help project the sound — and I laid out the sweetest set of yelps in my repertoire.

I didn't hear the reply, but my brother did, from just over the little hill to our left, and he quickly hissed at me to call again. I complied. This time the response was swift and urgent, and I heard it too.

We could tell from the sound that the gobbler was coming fast, and we barely had time to top the slight rise and slam down against a couple of trees before the mature bird came gliding up the hill, gobbling and strutting and doing his best jungle man routine in a patch of brilliant morning sunshine.

I called a couple of times just to give my brother the full show as that bird gobbled and strutted in that weird kind of robot dance turkeys do. And the tom stayed right out in the sun to show his colors to best effect.

My brother, when I gave him the nod, slammed the bird with a load of 6s, and we picked up our first turkey of the day.

That was about 10 years ago, but it's a familiar scene, one that will be played out in one form or another more than 10,000 times this spring, as hunters sample the spring turkey wares of Texas Rio Grande and eastern wild birds.

Unfortunately, spring turkey hunting seems to be dying a slow, tortured death in Texas.

Maybe it's drought. Maybe people are just tired from a deer season that now lasts nearly five months. Maybe we still haven't gotten through to people that spring turkey hunting is the most interactive, most fun, most exciting hunting our state has to offer. Whatever the reason, though, we're in a 20-year decline.

"For the 2011 spring season we had 41,554 hunters," said Jason Hardin, upland game bird specialist for Texas Parks and Wildlife. "That spring, hunters harvested 12,033 birds. (In) 2009, (we) had a harvest of 20,555 and 2010 had a harvest of 15,871."

Those are not big numbers for the state with the largest single turkey population in the country and Rio Grande turkeys that could number in the millions. But Texas came late to the spring turkey hunting world and the highest interest came in the years closest to the beginning of that season.

"The highest harvest was in 1993 with 33,477," Hardin said. "The average harvest since the survey began is 23,860. The 10-year average is 23,020. The last three years have been the toughest."

Texas has a liberal four-turkey annual limit, though only one of those can be an eastern wild turkey. Rio Grande turkeys can be hunted in the fall and spring and easterns in spring only. Rio Grande turkeys are amazingly widespread in Texas, basically covering all of the state west of I-35 with a few birds occurring east of that line. They live in the deserts along the Rio Grande and up on the High Plains north of Amarillo.

Rio Grandes live long lives most of the time, which means they can get away with a year of bad hatches because of weather, even two years in areas with a large concentration of birds. Water is important to their nesting success, which means 2013 could go either way. But hunting success is determined by the turkey hatch two and three years before the season.

"For folks hunting Rios in the Hill Country, Cross Timbers and South Texas, I would say they should expect to see a good number of jakes and 3-year-old gobblers," Hardin said. "The Jake mobs could have an impact on those older gobblers when it comes to calling. The Trans Pecos and southeast Panhandle area apparently missed a lot of the late winter and early spring rains received in much of the rest of the state and did not get a hatch. Those areas of the state will consist of mostly 3-year-old birds."

Spring turkey season opened Saturday in the South Zone and opens March 30 in the North Zone. Eastern turkey seasons runs April 15-May 14.

National survey finds attitude shift among working moms

By Jennifer C. Kerr
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Working mothers increasingly want full-time jobs, and tough economic times might be a big reason, according to a national survey.

In the Pew Research Center study released Thursday, researchers saw a big spike in the share of working mothers who said they'd prefer to work full time; 37 percent said that was their ideal, up from 21 percent in 2007.

The poll comes amid a national debate on women in the workplace ignited by top Facebook executive Sheryl Sandberg, who writes in a new book about the need for women to be more professionally aggressive.

In "Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will to Lead," Sandberg argues that women have not made true progress in the workplace over the past decade and that they need to raise their hands more and "lean in" if they want to land more senior positions in corporate America.

The shift toward full-time work in the Pew poll, however, coincides with the recession and may have less to do with career ambitions than with financial realities.

"Women aren't necessarily evolving toward some belief or comfort level with work," said study co-author Kim Parker, an associate director at the center. "They are also reacting to outside forces and in this case, it is the economy."

Among women who said their financial situations aren't sufficient to meet basic expenses, about half said working full time was best for them. Of the women who said they live comfortably, only 31 percent said full time was their best situation.

Melody Armstrong, 34, of Hampton, N.H., works full time and says she wouldn't have it any other way.

"It works better for my family, and for our finances," Armstrong said in an interview. "It helps pay the bills and we can enjoy the lifestyle we have. We need to have two incomes."

Armstrong and her husband have six children between them, a blended family with one child off to college and a baby at home. She works for Double Black Imaging, a Colorado-based company that sells medical monitors. Armstrong says her company gives her the flexibility she needs to work her sales position from home.

"I do some work early in the morning or after dinner," Armstrong said, and can adjust around her children's school and sports schedules.

Mothers' attitudes — both for those who work outside the home and those who don't — have changed significantly. Among women with children under 18 years old, the proportion of those who say they would prefer to work full time has increased from 20 percent in 2007 to 32 percent last year.

When all adults were asked about working moms, however, just 16 percent said the best situation for a young child is to have a mother working full time. Slightly more than 40 percent said part time was ideal, and one-third said staying home was best for kids.

Guiomar Ochoa, 38, of Chevy Chase, Md., has two young children and works full time. She says she'd rather work part time but it's just not an option for her family.

"We just can't afford to not have two full-time incomes," Ochoa said. "We wouldn't be able to do it otherwise."

Ochoa, an international specialist with the National Endowment for the Arts, said she's doing her best to juggle her career and caring for her children.

"I've done a really good job of wearing my mom hat when I get home and putting everything aside as far as work goes and focusing on them," said Ochoa.

Most moms in the poll expressed confidence as parents. Nearly three-quarters of mothers with children under 18 said they were doing an excellent or very good job raising their children.

Husband is jealous of wife's working relationship

FAMILY MATTERS

Jim May, Ph.D., is director of the Family Wellness Center

DEAR FAMILY: My husband looked through my emails for my office account and found out I had been emailing a guy from the office in another city. When he confronted me with all the emails printed out there were a lot of them. Now he wants to look at my business cell to see if we've been talking there, too. We have but it has mostly been on business or a few personal things about our families. We have worked together on several projects the last two years and I have to communicate with him virtually every day. Just to please my husband, I did ask accounting if I could see my cell bills and they said it was basically impossible because there are so many company cells. When I told my husband he hit the roof and threatened to go to my office and demand to see the records. He's been jealous of some of the men I've worked with in the past, but he would usually get over it after a few months. Not this time, the more I refuse to do anything the more demanding and threatening he is.

I'm trying to calm him down but he wants to see those records. There wasn't and isn't anything between me and the (other employee) but if my husband keeps up this jealous stuff I'm just about ready to talk to an attorney. It's almost like the more I try to avoid the subject the more angry and obsessed he becomes. This is ridiculous but I'm not going to let his craziness mess up my career, I've worked too hard to get where I am. Besides, I make more money than my husband does already and I think that is another burr under his blanket. Do you have any suggestions about how I might turn this off? — FED UP

DEAR FED: I would first encourage you both to go to marriage counseling together as soon as possible. If he won't go, please go by yourself. You have to try and establish a safe place where he can address his issues along with possible feasible and acceptable solutions. Because he read all of your emails I gather that while he found them objectionable, he did not find anything in them to suggest an affair. While his demand to see your cell records may or may not be helpful to him, they are not available. Of course another issue with cell records is they only show frequency and length of calls, not content. I am assuming he is taking the fact that you say you cannot get them from the company as meaning you have something to hide.

This situation is best addressed in a therapeutic setting as there are too many unknowns. For example, does he have a jealousy problem (of you and perhaps your success) or does he have a reasonable basis (in his view) for concern? Office relationships can be most problematic in that if a spouse is concerned, how can you prove otherwise? Often one must continue to work with the employee in question, much to the chagrin of the spouse. Trust usually can only be established by "matching actions with words." That is to say, doing what you say you will do and not doing what you say you will not do. The necessary data collection to validate this simple rule has proven to be a real challenge in the work place. For example, how can your husband get hard facts about interactions with the other person since your workday often requires such interaction?

I am sorry I am not able to give you more specific suggestions, but you and your husband need a forum to safely and openly discuss this situation. Do seek help before it is too late and too much has been said or done.

Ex-wife's son is painful reminder of man's unhappy past

DEAR ABBY

Universal Press Syndicate

DEAR ABBY: I was divorced when my son was 9. He's now 24. My ex-wife married the man she had been having an affair with and they have a 12-year-old son. I am also remarried and in a good place in my life.

For the past two years, my son has brought his half brother to our beach house for a weekend of fun. We honored this request and enjoy time with our son, but it is difficult having his half brother in my home. It brings up emotions I thought I had put behind me years ago.

I do not want these visits to continue, and I need to communicate this. I'd like to have an adult conversation with my son to explain the situation. How much do I tell him about my emotional reasons without being negative about his mom?

I also don't think he should have to carry the news to my ex or disappoint a 12-year-old. Should I send a simple note to her and explain that we will no longer host her son? — NEEDS THE RIGHT WORDS

DEAR NEEDS: By all means write your ex. Explain that entertaining her son brings up emotions you would rather not have to relive. It's not the boy's fault that he's the flesh-and-blood symbol of his mother's infidelity, but you don't have to have him there if you don't want to.

If you would like to have a man-to-man talk with your son, go ahead and do it. He's an adult. Tell him pretty much the same thing — that having the boy over is painful for you and, therefore, you prefer the beach house visits stop. You are entitled to your feelings, and your son is old enough to appreciate them.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a widow, as are many of my friends these days. Widowhood is difficult. If you're not prepared, it can be horrible. That's why I'd like to urge women to learn to take care of themselves because the odds are they will be alone sooner or later after the age of 50. Some suggestions:

1. If you haven't already, learn to drive.
2. Learn to pump gas and how to check your tires and the fluids in your car.
3. Learn to use a few basic tools and do home repairs.
4. Pay attention to financial matters such as balancing a checkbook.
5. Know where your records are, what's in them and what information you will need for taxes.
6. Buy a shredder and shred unnecessary papers.
7. Make friends with other women. If you don't, life gets lonely.
8. Be courageous and do what you need to do to be happy.
9. Start to simplify your home. It will free your mind from clutter and, if necessary, allow you to move to smaller quarters.
10. Let your children lead their lives, lead your own and present a cheerful face to the world! — KATHLEEN IN DULUTH, MINN.

DEAR KATHLEEN: Those are excellent suggestions, to which I would add how important it is to consult a CPA and a lawyer if your spouse hasn't already shown you what you need to know.

A HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY TO MY IRISH READERS:

May you always have
A sunbeam to warm you
Good luck to charm you
And a sheltering angel,
so nothing can harm you
Laughter to cheer you
Faithful friends near you
And whenever you pray,
heaven to hear you.

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20th annual

BUNNY BREAKFAST

Midland Park Mall Food Court
7:00 to 10:00 a.m.
Saturday, March 23, 2013

Easter Bunny
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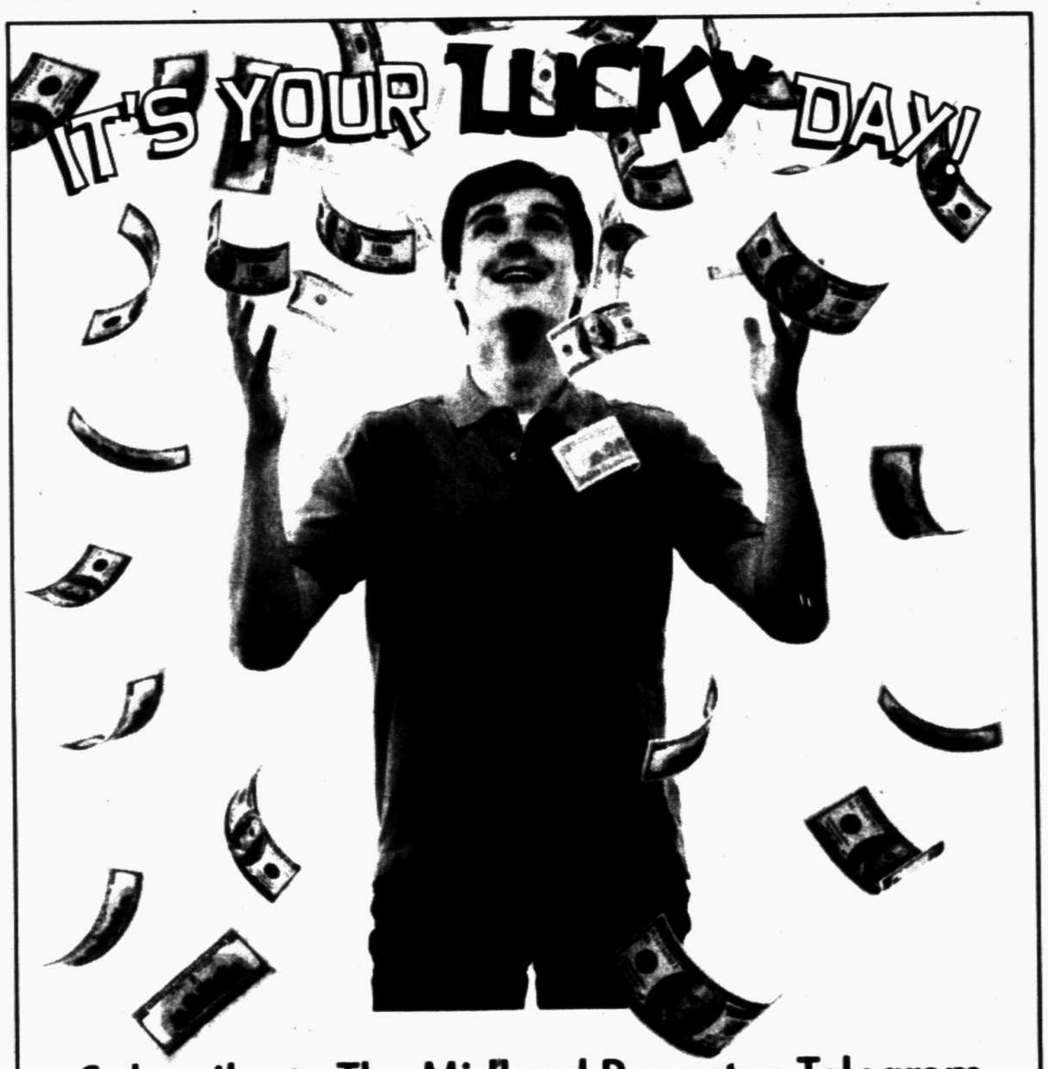

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ENGAGEMENTS

Lewis - Mejia

Don and Jeannie Lewis of Midland are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Katie Lynn to Travis Keith Mejia, son of Stephanie and Kevin Staggs of Cedar Hill, Texas and Charlie Mejia of Kansas City, Missouri. The bride elect is the granddaughter of Dorothy Grizzard and the late James Grizzard of Big Spring, Texas. The groom's grandparents are Kay and David Browning and Travis and Carol Harris.

Katie is a 2008 graduate of Lee High and will receive a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education in May of this year from the University of Texas-Arlington. Travis is a 2010 graduate from Midlothian High School and will receive a Bachelor's degree in Broadcast Management in May, 2014.

Katie and Travis will wed on Saturday, July 13, 2013 in Kaufman, Texas. The couple will reside in Arlington, Texas.

ANNIVERSARIES

Crow 60th Wedding Anniversary

Chester and Pat Crow celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Feb. 16, 2013 with a family weekend and a catered lunch at the Cowden Clubhouse at Manor Park. The weekend was hosted by their children Jim (Lauri) Crow of McCrory, Arkansas, Carla Crow of Fort Worth, and Cindy (Mike) McNeely and Sandy (Pat) Kneer of Midland. They have ten grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

The Crows were married February 28, 1953, in Danville, Ark. She is the former Patsy Rowland. Chester is a retired electrical engineer for Amoco Pipeline and served in the Air Force during World War II. Pat is a homemaker. They lived in Fort Worth for 39 years and currently reside in Midland.

Ochoa 50th Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Ochoa Sr. of Midland celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary by attending a mass at St. Ann's Catholic Church and a special dinner hosted by their children; Vicky, Oscar Jr. married to Marianne and Eric, married to Sylvia in addition to two granddaughters, Brianna and Olivia.

Mr. and Mrs. Ochoa were married March 29, 1963 at Our Lady of Cuadalupe Catholic Church in Midland, Texas. Mr. Ochoa is the son of the late Simon and Maria Ochoa. Mrs. Ochoa is the daughter of the late Nicholas and Jesusita Sanchez.

The Ochoas enjoy spending time with family, camping and will celebrate their anniversary by traveling to Laughlin, NV for a little relaxation and gambling!

HOW TO SUBMIT

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email: Marilyn Harrison, texachem@clearwire.net
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■ Recipes for inclusion in Joan Huff's Food Etc. column:
email: mbuck@mrt.com
mail: Midland Reporter-Telegram, 201 E. Illinois Ave. Midland, 79701; attention: Food Etc.
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■ Suggestions for restaurant reviews, story ideas or photos for West Texas Living:
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■ Items for inclusion in Pulse or Arts and Entertainment:
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■ Items for inclusion in The Week Ahead in Religion:
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A model wears pointy shoes, far left, as the Rachel Zoe Fall 2013 collection is modeled in February during Fashion Week in New York. LEFT: A model wears pointy shoes as the Michael Kors Spring 2013 collection is modeled in September during Fashion Week in New York.

AP photos

Step into spring spirit in pointy-toe shoes

By Lisa A. Flam
Associated Press

If you are looking to take a fashionable step into spring, let your shoes lead the way.

Sleek, sophisticated and ladylike, the pointy-toe shoe is coming back strong, pushing several seasons' worth of chunky platforms toward the back of the closet.

The narrowed point, part of the retro-feminine trend drawing on the 1960s, has trickled down from the designer world to the mainstream market, said Gregg Andrews, fashion creative director at Nordstrom, and will be a silhouette to wear to look well-dressed and on-trend for spring.

"It looks so fresh," he said. "It feels right with everything that's going on in fashion."

The classic, versatile style, last a must-have in the "Sex and the City" era, is enjoying an updated return to the spotlight in a burst of colors and with decorations such as pretty bows and tougher-looking studs.

"When you think of the pointed-toe shoe, you think of Audrey Hepburn and Jacqueline Kennedy," Andrews said. "You think of those very famous fashion icons from the 1960s, but then you tweak it and you make it very 21st century."

Decades ago, women stepped out in black or white patent leather, he said. "Now we're seeing it in a whole myriad of colors and seeing everything from nude all the way into bright highlighter colors, and of course, black is still there," he said.

If you are a newcomer to the silhouette, stylist and shoe fanatic Stacy London believes there is no better place to start than the classic pointy-toe stiletto.

"It's the basic shoe for any woman's wardrobe," said London, who says that a line-lengthening pointy toe punctuates at least one-quarter of her shoe collection, now approaching 500 pairs.

"There's nothing it can't go with, and it does literally add a little bit of height and class to any outfit," she said. "It makes you look taller, longer, leaner and more graceful."

At Narciso Rodriguez's New York Fashion Week show last month, pointy-toe heels, including ankle-strap and bootie versions, walked the runway. To him, the style is sexy, sensual and no-nonsense. Of all of the shoe silhouettes he has designed, the pointed toe is the most flattering on a woman's foot, he said.

"It's great when you want to look sleek and pulled together," Rodriguez said.

He added: "There is something about it that naturally looks correct."

The shoes that Rodriguez has turned out for the last several seasons also have single soles, which are more delicate that the thicker ones popular with platforms. He was inspired not by Jackie O but by looks worn by 1990s' style stars Carolyn Bessette Kennedy, for whom he crafted her wedding look, and Kate Moss.

"Now it's really become more the thing that you will see on everyone's runways," he said. "It's great to see it again. It looks so smart."

One of the best attributes of the shoe, which can also be fashioned with a kitten, mid-height or flat heel, is that you can wear it with just about anything. Michelle Obama worked in several medium-heel pointy-toe pumps plus a pair of sharp-point boots in her inaugural wardrobe this year.

London favors a higher stiletto paired with cropped pants or midi skirt, and said the shoes also work well with a pantsuit, a full or pencil skirt, a sheath dress and even the boyfriend jean. For a trendy outfit, dress up a look of skinny jeans, T-shirt and lightweight leather jacket with a pair of pointed stilettos, Andrews suggested. "The whole idea of juxtaposing the feminine with the more tough is a huge trend," he said.

A casual look could combine a pair of feminine shorts with a pointy toe flat, Andrews said, or add a mid-height heel to careerwear or an embellished stiletto beneath a cocktail dress. "It's a great shoe because its silhouette is so clean and neutral, you can really do a lot with it," he said.

Rodriguez sees the versatility as well.

"I like it with pants, and I think it can look quite chic if you're wearing something that's quite relaxed," he said. "You can wear it with something that's quite body-con. It works in pretty much any situation."

Just as the shoes can befit both first ladies and fashionistas (or first lady fashionistas), they can also be naughty or nice.

"I don't think that it's just a proper-girl look," Rodriguez said. "It can be an extremely sexy look depending on the shoe."

Subtle bondage references are found in shoes topped with ankle straps, London said. "If you want powerful and a little bit more dom than fem, go for a shackle," she said.

While "anyone and everyone" can slip into the style, said London, there still are things to consider: A skinny heel, for example, can make heavy calves or ankles look heavier, so women might want to consider a wedge or stacked heel instead. Also, an elongated toe box can look "a little witchy" on shorter women, she said, urging wearers to "keep the point in proportion with your height."

And don't fall for the misconception that a pointed toe will be uncomfortable. According to Andrews, the width of a shoe at the foot's widest part remains the same as in shoes without the narrowed toe.

The pointy toe will make everything in your closet look new again, Andrews said, and perhaps even give your psyche a boost.

"A pointed-toe shoe is unquestionably a sign of good taste," he said, "And that makes a woman feel empowered."

'Girls' costume designer advises on lingerie

By Samantha Critchell
AP Fashion Writer

NEW YORK — The four lead characters on HBO's "Girls" wear bras and underwear, and so do real women.

These are the few consistent items in the wardrobe of the 20-somethings that costume designer Jenn Rogien creates for the show, which follows a group of young women (Lena Dunham, Allison Williams, Jemima Kirke and Zosia Mamet) in what is touted as the next-gen "Sex and the City."

The characters seem to spend a lot of time with the audience seeing their undergarments. Some of them wear them correctly and use the foundation pieces to their very best advantage, said Rogien, and some just don't get them at all, which is how it is with almost any group of women.

Rogien has signed on as the style and fit expert for American Eagle's Aerie brand, which specializes in lingerie and loungewear.

As women start eyeing tank tops and sheer fabrics for summer, she shares some of her tips:

■ If your bra strap is showing, make sure it's intentional — and that you're wearing it somewhere it's OK to show. A colorful bra strap can be flirty when it peeks from under a tank top at a beach restaurant, but it could be inappropriate if worn at a business meeting.

"There is a long history of wearing innerwear as outerwear, and there is something to be said for the beautiful lingerie out there," she said. "We, as women, are being bolder in our choices, allowing it to be part of our personality and a fun part of our closet, but I only want lingerie to show when I want it to show."

Be particularly wary at work, she adds.

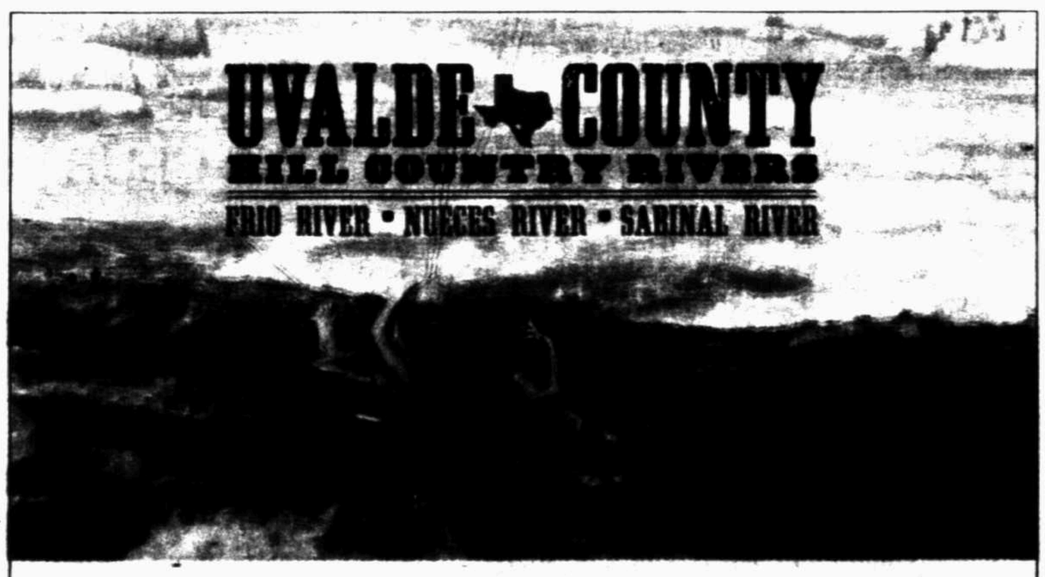
■ Foundation garments should be smoothing and slimming. They shouldn't create any additional bumps, dimples or bulges. If they do, they're the wrong size.

■ A bra that rides up higher is probably too big, and one that digs in is too small. Changing the cup size isn't the right adjustment; you need to change the band size.

■ If you want to wear a sheer shirt, pick a neutral color so the lingerie "disappears." Black is bold and sexy; a bright color is playful. Stay away from a color that's too light or muted, though, because it's not enough of a commitment and might leave people wondering if you meant to show off your lingerie or not.

■ Panty lines are a choice. Seamless technology has made it so there shouldn't be any visible lines from your underwear. The other choice is a thong. A shaping panty should follow the line of the garment going on top of it.

■ Cup types for bras, such as pushup, plunge or padded, should have different effects. The same goes for underwear, whether it's briefs, boy shorts or thongs.



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Irish Coffee

Perk up St. Pat's Day with perfect Irish coffee

By Michelle Locke
Associated Press

Coffee, Irish whiskey and cream.

Taken separately they're a tasty trio. But combine them just the right way and in just the right proportions and they get even better, transforming into a drink that can perk up the grayest day.

We're talking Irish coffee, of course, a drink that's especially popular around St. Patrick's Day, but good any time you want to add some zing to your caffeine.

The secret, said Larry Silva, general manager of the Buena Vista Cafe in San Francisco — which serves up 2,000 Irish coffees a day — is how you put the drink together.

At the Buena Vista — the original source of the drink in the U.S. — Irish coffee starts with a stemmed, 6-ounce glass that's been preheated with hot water. And both of those elements are critical. A bigger or smaller glass would throw off the coffee-booze balance. A cold glass results in a tepid cocktail. There was a bit of a hitch a few years back when Libbey Glass stopped making the type the Buena Vista uses. Silva had to scramble to find another source but, happily, Libbey has since reinstated the product.

For a touch of sweetness, the Buena Vista recipe adds two cubes of sugar, though other recipes call for brown sugar. The cream, meanwhile, should be fresh and just slightly whipped — nothing from an aerosol can.

As for the whiskey, the Buena Vista is currently using Tullamore Dew. In general, what you are seeking is a smooth whiskey that won't fight with the other flavors, said Silva. This isn't the time to pull out that peaty Scotch. But don't be afraid to use something good.

"Using a premium spirit elevates any cocktail," said John Concannon, a California vintner who has teamed with Ireland's Cooley Distillery to develop Concannon Irish Whiskey, which also makes a good Irish coffee.

The whiskey, made and aged in Ireland, is matured in bourbon barrels, then finished off with some time in wine barrels that have been used to age Concannon Vineyard's flagship petite sirah wine. "Because of the unique barrel finishing in the distilling process, Concannon has a complexity and character all its own, making for a one-of-a-kind Irish coffee experience," Concannon said via email.

Though it seems likely that people have been introducing a drop or two of whiskey into coffee for a while, the drink as a cocktail was popularized in Ireland at the Foynes port, precursor to Shannon Airport, in the 1940s when chef Joe Sheridan decided to pep up some coffee with Irish whiskey to cheer chilly travelers. The drink was much appreciated and one of the passengers is said to have asked, "Was that Brazilian coffee?" Sheridan jokingly answered, "No, that was Irish Coffee," and a tradition was born.

San Francisco newspaperman Stanton Delaplane tried the coffee while flying from Shannon Airport in 1952 and on his return got together with Jack Koeppler, then-owner of the Buena Vista, to recreate the drink. The trickiest part was getting the cream to float on top, something that was solved by whipping the cream just a bit, then pouring it carefully over the back of a spoon into the cup.

St. Patrick's Day has a special resonance for Concannon since his great-grandfather and winery founder, James Concannon, was born on March 17 in the Aran islands off the coast of Ireland. The winery, based in the Livermore Valley region east of San Francisco, will be celebrating this year with traditional, live Irish music and a toast (with wine) to their founder.

And they'll be busy at the Buena Vista, too. Last year, thirsty revelers sucked down 3,640 Irish coffees.

Take that, green beer.

Looking to brew a little Irish cheer yourself this St. Patrick's Day? Try this classic recipe, or the chocolate-laced variation.

Irish Coffee

Start to finish: 5 minutes
Servings: 1

Depending on which version of the "original" Irish coffee you subscribe to, it is sweetened with either 2 sugar cubes or 1 teaspoon brown sugar. For a rich and chocolaty take on Irish coffee, stir 2 tablespoons of milk chocolate bits into the coffee at the same time as the sugar. Once the chocolate bits have melted, proceed with the recipe.

Boiling water
Hot coffee
2 sugar cubes or 1 teaspoon brown sugar
1 1/2 ounces Irish whiskey
1/4 cup heavy or whipping cream, lightly beaten (but still pourable)

Fill a large coffee cup with boiling water to preheat it. Let it stand for about 1 minute, then empty the glass.

Fill the glass three-quarters full with hot coffee. Add the sugar, then stir until dissolved. Stir in the whiskey.

Top the coffee-whiskey blend with the lightly whipped cream. To do this, hold an overturned spoon over the coffee, then slowly pour the cream over it. The goal is for the cream to float on top of the coffee; do not mix it in. Part of the Irish coffee experience is drinking the hot coffee through a layer of cool cream.

(Recipe adapted from The Buena Vista Cafe, San Francisco)

Delicate, lemony cookie sets mood for Easter

By Elizabeth Karmel
Associated Press

For most people, Easter means it's time for chocolate bunnies and colored eggs. And while those things are fine, for me this season is about all things lemon.

I usually make lemon bars that are tart and refreshing, more lemon than egg. But this year I decided to riff on one of my favorite cookies, the Mexican wedding cookie, also known as the Russian tea cake, pecan butterballs, snowballs and many other names. Regardless of what you call them, these much-loved powdered sugar-coated cookies tend to be made mostly around the Christmas holidays.

But the delicious simplicity of these treats begs for a burst of lemon, and by adding a healthy dose of lemon zest, these nutty shortbread-like cookies become a "lemon wedding cookie." The zest adds a delicate lemon flavor that I find is a perfect balance to the richness of the butter and the pecans.

If you want an even bigger burst of lemon, you can add a 1/2 teaspoon of lemon extract to the dough and 1 teaspoon of unsweetened lemon-aid mix to the powdered sugar used to coat the cookies. You also can add a drop or two of yellow food coloring to make the cookies yellow and more in keeping with Easter colors. If you make them small and oval instead of round, they even look a little like miniature eggs.

The recipe also is easy to adapt to other nuts, and other flavors, even chocolate (adding about 3 tablespoons of cocoa powder to the dough and substituting orange zest for the lemon). The cookie dough is so easy to make that you could whip up several variations for Easter brunch, or make it even easier on yourself and serve ham sandwiches and these cookies and call it an Easter tea.

Lemon Wedding Cookies

Start to finish: 1 hour
Makes 3 1/2 dozen cookies

1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, softened
1 1/2 cups powdered sugar, sifted, divided
1/4 teaspoon fine-grain salt
Zest of 1 very large or 2 small lemons
1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
1 drop yellow food coloring (optional)
1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour

1 cup lightly toasted pecans, finely chopped in a food processor or nut chopper

In a large bowl, use an electric mixer to beat the butter until light and fluffy. Add 1/2 cup of the powdered sugar, then beat well. Add the salt, lemon zest and vanilla and beat until creamy. Add the food coloring, if using. A little at a time, beat in the flour just until mixed.

Add the nuts, using a silicone spatula to stir them in. Place the dough in a small bowl or a plastic bag and chill for 30 to 60 minutes, or place in the freezer for about 15 minutes. At this stage, the dough also can be frozen for up to 1 month.

Meanwhile, heat the oven to 375 F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Place the remaining 1 cup of powdered sugar in a medium bowl.

Once the dough has chilled, divide it into 1/2-inch balls. Arrange the balls on the prepared baking sheet, leaving 1 inch between them. Bake on the center rack for 10 to 12 minutes, or until the cookies are set on top and lightly golden on the bottom.

Let the cookies cool for 2 to 3 minutes on the cookie sheet. A few at a time, place the cookies in the bowl of powdered sugar and toss gently to coat well. Transfer the coated cookies to a rack to cool completely. Once cool, repeat the coating process with the bowl of powdered sugar. Store in an airtight container.

Nutrition information per cookie: 90 calories; 60 calories from fat (67 percent of total calories); 6 g fat (3 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 10 mg cholesterol; 8 g carbohydrate; 0 g fiber; 4 g sugar; 1 g protein; 15 mg sodium.

Robin Kingham

Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America volunteer

Fundraiser seeks ideas from donors

Robin Kingham is a former Reporter-Telegram employee who raises money for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America through the Team Challenge program. For more information or to make a donation text DONATE to 37332. All donations are 100 percent tax deductible.

I need help. I'm in a fundraiser rut. I've been fundraising for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America consistently since March 2011 and I'm looking for fresh ways to inspire people to donate. So tell me, what would inspire you to donate your hard-earned cash? Email me at robin@robinkingham.com and tell me what would inspire you to donate if you haven't already or what did inspire you to donate if you have done so in the past. It doesn't have to be a donation to the CCFA, it can be any cause. Are you moved by patient stories, my own struggles, knowing someone who is affected? Tell me.

Right now I have raised 50 percent of my fundraising goal and about 55 percent of the amount I have pledged to raise for the Team Challenge event in June. I have held fundraisers in Midland and here in Louisiana. I have sold candy, made posts on Facebook, sent letters and emails, held contests, raffles and Superbowl squares. I've made presentations and I've even made donations to myself. Now it's your turn. Tell me what's next. My goal is $5,000 and I've committed to $4,500. I bumped it up to $5,000 because I think about it in increments of sending a child to Camp Oasis. It takes about $2,500 to send one child with IBD to camp, so my fundraising goal will always be in $2,500 increments.

If you are feeling inspired to give, then do so at the Midland Take Steps event in April. Find and like it on Facebook at Midland Take Steps. You can get the link to sign up for the event, find out what businesses are already making a difference, join a team or just make a donation. Find out who in Midland is volunteering and offer your services. For more information, contact event coordinator Jackie Peterson at jpeterson@ccfa.org and tell her Robin sent you. I know she would love to have more volunteers and fundraisers/walkers join the Take Steps family. I always welcome donations and I am truly grateful for every penny made to support my personal fundraising efforts. If you want to donate through me, visit www.robinkingham.com and click on the little blue running man. That will take you to my fundraising web page. Leave me a note in the comments when you donate to tell me what inspired you.

Hints from Heloise

King Features Syndicate

Measuring cups for wet, dry ingredients designed for accuracy

Dear Heloise: Is there a difference between liquid and dry measuring cups? I know there are cups made for wet ingredients and ones for dry ingredients, but does it really matter which one I use? — Linda W. in Indiana

A cup is a cup by liquid or dry volume. A liquid measuring cup typically is glass or plastic so you can see through it, and the measurements are written on the side. It has a spout with a handle on the side for pouring. A 1- or 2-cup probably is the most-used cup in American homes. I have three: two 2-cup ones and one 1-cup one, and two sets of dry measuring cups.

Dry measuring cups may be made of plastic or metal and have a flat top. These usually come in sets starting with 1/4 cup, 1/3 cup and up to 1 cup. Most are attached by a ring. They are designed for you to fill with dry ingredients and then use a knife or spatula to level it off.

However, it may matter which one you use, particularly when baking. Most baking uses measurements that are precise, and it is difficult to measure dry ingredients accurately in a liquid 1- or 2-cup measuring cup. — Heloise

Sliced butter

Dear Heloise: I am a butter lover. Knowing when to take the butter out of the refrigerator so it will be spreadable is something I have never been able to master. Softening it in the microwave doesn't work for me, either.

I use my cheese slicer for my butter. This slicer is the planer or server type, not the wire type. It will slide across the top of the stick of butter and produce long, thin sections that melt quickly and evenly for my toast, pancakes and waffles. I use what is left over for cooking. — Susan R. in Virginia

No mess

Dear Heloise: I always have green olives in my refrigerator. I use my melon baller, which has a small hole in the center, to get the olives out of the jar. I can do this without contaminating the brine. I also am able to drain the brine because of the small hole, leaving me with just the olives, and no messy liquid everywhere. — Diane J., via email

Oil coating

Dear Heloise: When I make bread recipes calling for 3 tablespoons of honey or molasses, I find it exasperating to wait for the first tablespoon to drain so I can add the next. If the recipe also calls for oil, I add the oil first, then measure the sweetener using the now-oil-coated spoon. It pours out in a flash. — Mary D. in Virginia

Add oatmeal

Dear Heloise: I read your hints often, and I have something to share with your readers. I use oatmeal instead of breadcrumbs when I make meatloaf or salmon patties. It works well, you don't even taste the oatmeal, and it's healthy. — E.S. in Louisiana

Experts offer tips for digital de-clutter

By Jennifer Forker
Associated Press

Ask friends how many emails they have sitting in their inbox or how many photos are saved to their laptop, and don't be surprised if the numbers tally in the thousands.

Some of us have a difficult time knowing how to organize all of this digital information, from emails and documents to uploaded photos and downloaded songs. We hoard because we can: Today's computer memory can handle it, and our email providers offer seemingly infinite storage space.

Take Peggy Stempson, associate pastor at Pierre First United Methodist Church in Pierre, S.D., who hangs onto at least 4,000 emails, many of them part of long conversations with friends going back five years or more.

"They spark memories, and connect me with people and help me contact them," said Stempson, 30. "It's kind of like a diary."

All of this digital detritus is not a problem unless it interferes with your life, work or happiness, according to Tim Kasser, a psychology professor at Knox College, in Galesburg, Ill.

"If this acquisition of 'e' stuff ends up leading to a lifestyle that forces you to have less time for your family, or less time to draw or play music or run around in a park, or less time to be involved in your community, then I would say that to me is a problem," said Kasser. "I can see how that happens with electronic stuff."

Thank goodness there are experts to help extend spring cleaning to the digital realm.

Start the de-cluttering process slowly, advises Danielle Claro, editor-at-large at "Real Simple" magazine.

"If you're intimidated by it, you need someone to hold your hand — either a friend or a teenager," she said, noting she'd probably enlist her own teen.

Allison Carter of Atlanta gets paid to help people find their way through the digital morass. She helps clients streamline emails, organize finances, manage documents and photos, and back it all up.

"The digital world, it's about finding things, making your life more efficient, enjoying things, rather than having them only live in the darkness of your hard drive," said Carter, whose business is called Digital Life Organizing.

Controlling the email torrent is often the most daunting challenge, she said.

"I like my active to-do's and ongoing projects to be in my inbox until I've tackled them," said Carter, but that's all that should be there.

For important emails, she recommends setting up action reminders, and recommends Google's free online calendar. Others include Zoho Calendar and the Cozi Family Organizer, which also are free.

Gmail users can retrieve unread emails by typing "is:unread" into the search field, then delete ignored emails in large chunks. That's a favorite Claro tip.

"It was a great, great feeling. It was like doing a juice fast or something," she said.

Carter likes the app Remember the Milk for managing tasks online. Manage your family's activities via Cozi. Or link everything — email, calendars, reminders and more — with a system that pulls all of your work and home life activities into one online site, such as at IQTELL.

"That's the wave that's coming next," said Carter. "You're going to have a place to have it all in one spot."

And that one spot? Well, it's not on your computer. Rather, it's on a remote public server — what's referred to as "the cloud."

Two free, cloud-based sites that may help unclog your inbox and desktop are Springpad and Evernote, said Carter. Users can store notes, recipes, photos, newspaper articles — even snapshots of web pages.

"Bookmarks are outdated," said Carter.

Keep track of important documents at File This, and receive notifications of bills and automatically pay them — reducing emails, she said.

Shawn Whyte, an information technology consultant in Helena, Mont., recently moved thousands of documents, songs, books and photos from six old computers and personal laptops to a newer one with monster memory (2 TB, or terabytes).

Her favorite tip? If you're a Google gmail user, view and manage your emails through Microsoft Outlook. If you have other email accounts, they all can be viewed via Outlook. It's a time-saver, said Whyte.

"You can sort and move 200 emails at once," she said. "I sorted and deleted 5,000 emails in three hours."

Google it, said Whyte, to find out how to configure an Outlook gmail account. An alternative is Mozilla's Thunderbird.

Some photo-saving tips: Get a program, such as Snapfish, Shutterfly, Google's Picasa or others, to edit, store and share your photos, said Carter. Use Linea to organize your images fast. Use the app Lost Photos to dig up images forgotten in long-ago emails.

"Don't get hung up on being perfect or being orderly," said Carter. "They don't even have to be in time order to enjoy them. It's fun to have them mixed up: You can see how people change."

Finally, said Carter, you have to back up your computer to protect all those emails, photos and documents from suddenly disappearing. She likes CrashPlan, Carbonite and Mozy, which are online, cloud-storing, backup services.

"Having things in the cloud is really going to change things in the next generation," said Carter. "Older folks, we're not used to it. We're leery of it."

Your information in the cloud can be encrypted, said Whyte, and only you can see it.

"It's good to be concerned about privacy, but not so much that it hinders you," she said. "There are reputable companies out there that are good at this."

If your busy life has room for only one digital change, let it be protecting your data.

"Keep your data safe and back it up," said Whyte.

Electronic spring cleaning tips

For a positive attitude:
■ Set up action reminders.
■ To delete, sort multiple emails at once with Gmail "advanced" search.
■ Use Microsoft Outlook to manage multiple email accounts.

For a busy schedule:
■ Use free online calendars such as Zoho Calendar and Cozi Family Organizer.
■ Link calendars, emails and more to one online site such as IQTELL.

For storage space:
■ Use cloud-based sites such as Springpad and Evernote to store photos, documents, notes and links.
■ For photos, use programs such as Snapfish, Shutterfly or Google's Picasa to store and share.
■ The app Lost Photos will retrieve images from emails and Linea will organize photos quickly.

For security
■ Back up emails, photos and documents with online cloud-based services such as CrashPlan, Carbonite and Mozy.
■ Confidential information can be encrypted for secure storage on the cloud.

Can't wait for barbecue season? Clean the grill first

By Amy Lorentzen
Associated Press

Kevin Chavez, authorized technician of The BBQ Cleaner, professionally cleans a gas grill for a client in Mesa, Ariz.

The BBQ Cleaner/AP

Nick Escalante enjoys grilling his family's meals a couple of times a week year-round, but doesn't like cleaning the greasy mess that comes with it.

So he uses a professional grill cleaner.

"I really am not a fan of cooking food for my family on a grill that has leftover food from previous uses all over it," said Escalante, 47, of Mesa, Ariz. "They come and do the dirty work for us."

Proper grill maintenance can make cooking safer and extend the life of your barbecue.

Celia Kuperszmid Lehrman, deputy home editor for Consumer Reports, said homeowners can do the job on their own.

"There is not some huge skill set here that the average person can't handle," she said.

Many quality grills sell for between $200 and $300. Doing your best to clean the appliance and then replacing it may be more cost-effective than paying for professional upkeep, she said.

Whether you do it yourself or hire an expert, there is some regular upkeep required for your barbecue. That includes scraping grates before and after you cook, washing flavorizer bars occasionally, and emptying grease traps.

Gas grillers should regularly check their propane tank and replace if it has corrosion or dents, and inspect and replace cracked or brittle hoses, Kuperszmid Lehrman advises. Most grill parts, cleansers and tools can be purchased inexpensively at home stores.

Check the manual to ensure you don't use anything that could void your barbecue's warranty.

Jeffrey Krentzman, founder and owner of The BBQ Cleaner in Hackensack, N.J., recommends a professional grill cleaning at the start and end of barbecuing season, or more if you grill year-round. Professional grill cleaners take the barbecue apart; steam, spray or soak the pieces; and use special tools to scrub in spots the average homeowner may not easily reach. Many use food-safe and environmentally friendly products designed for grills.

Professional cleaners also advertise their services as making barbecues healthier by removing potentially cancer-causing substances from the grill. Those substances are produced when foods are cooked at high heat, and especially when meats are charred. The Department of Agriculture advises preventing flares when barbecuing for added food safety. You can do that by trimming fat, precooking to release fatty juices and keeping the barbecue free of greasy buildup.

Besides not handling spilled or splattered grease from your barbecue and nearby flooring, Krentzman says one of the biggest bonuses when hiring a professional is that you don't have to mess with propane.

"We are dealing with the gas, so there's not that risk," he said.

That was one of the selling points for Escalante, who says he tried cleaning and fixing a problem with the grill himself before calling a professional.

"I thought I could save money and do it myself, but there was a little bit more to it than I expected," he said. "I didn't want it to blow up on me."

Escalante adds that he likes the barbecue he has and wants to keep it as long as possible.

"I'm used to it," he said. "I know how it works, and it works well."

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The University of Texas of the Permian Basin

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Individual Awards, NCAA Tournament Bid Cap Regular Season

Ryan Haage
Communication and Special Projects

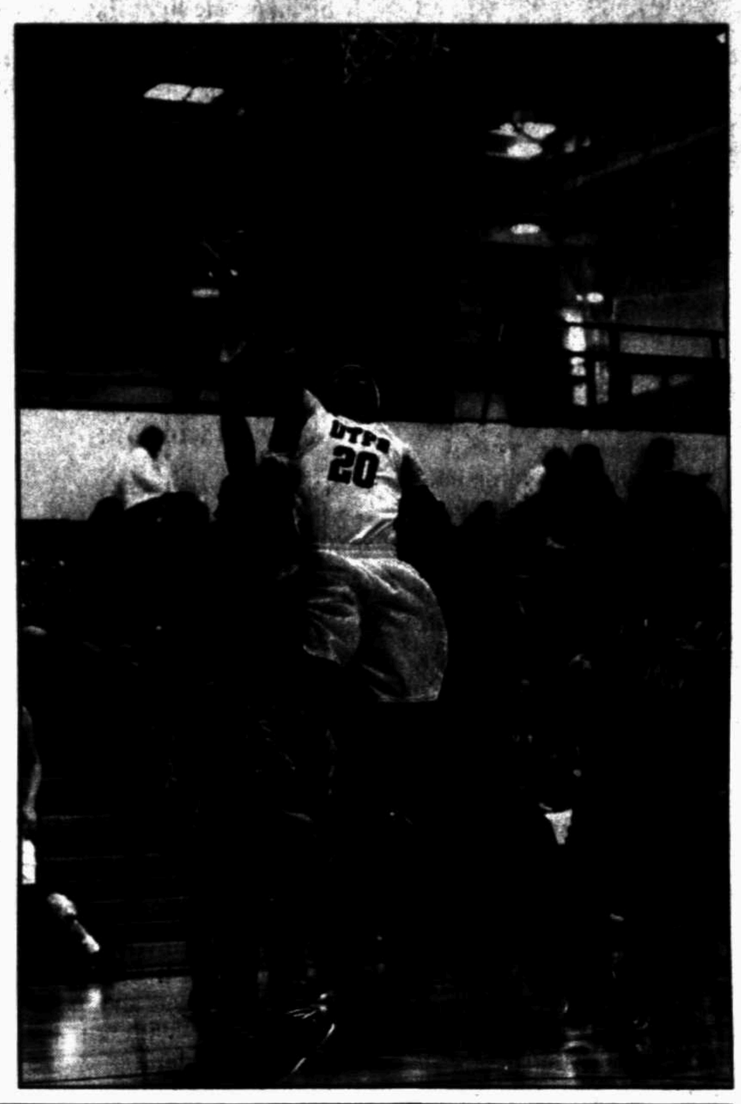
The University of Texas of the Permian Basin women's basketball team placed two players on the All-Heartland Conference first team, had a third named honorable mention and picked up conference Coach of the Year hardware on its way to winning its first Heartland regular season championship and earning an at-large NCAA Tournament selection and first round game against Abilene Christian.

Teisha King, a two-time Honorable Mention selection, led the Heartland Conference and ranked 6th in the nation with 19.7 points per game. She scored 40 points in the Falcons 82-79 overtime victory against #21Tarleton State, an effort that ended the season as the ninth highest point total in a game in the nation. A jack-of-all-trades, she ranked 15th in the conference in rebounding (5.3 per game), eighth in field goal percentage (46.3 percent), second in assists (4.3 per game), ninth in free throw percentage (73.3 percent) and fourth in the Heartland with 2.2 steals per game. She was named Heartland Player of the Week six times this season and earned the honor the first three weeks of UTPB's season. King scored over 20 points in 10 of the team's 25 games and had at least six assists in five of the last seven games.

Taniqua Ards receives her second Heartland Conference recognition after being named to the league's second team last season. She ended the season second on UTPB and fourth in the conference in scoring, averaging 15.3 points per game. She ranked third on the team with 6.3 rebounds per game, good for 13th overall in the conference and was one of the most balanced shooters in the conference, ranking 6th with a field goal percentage of 49 percent and a free throw percentage of 70.7 to rank 12th in the Heartland. She was named Player of the Week Feb. 25 after averaging 21.5 points in a pair of wins against St. Edward's and McMurry.

Brianna Matthews has been named to the Heartland Conference honorable mention team after averaging 8.8 points per game to go with 6.6 rebounds per game on the season. She led all shooters in the conference this season with a 58.3 shooting percentage from the field. Matthews scored a season-high 23 points in the Falcons first meeting of the year against Oklahoma Christian and grabbed a season-best 12 rebounds in both games against OCU this season.

Head coach Jerome Willis helped lead UTPB to its first Heartland Conference regular season championship after being named head coach in early September. Under his guidance, the Falcons had the conference's best scoring defense and third highest scoring offense in 2012-13. The team was unbeaten in its last 11 regular season conference games and ended the regular season a perfect 11-0 at home.



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Today's casual decor meets 'Downton Abbey' style

By Amy Lorentzen
Associated Press

"Intrigued by the drama and inspired by the sophistication of British aristocrats in "Downton Abbey," some fans are plotting to bring the series' style into their own homes, from gilded finishes to opulent upholstery to portrait paintings.

"We've gone so casual in the last decade in terms of home decor. I think there is a desire to be a little more formal, or a little more glamorous," said Kristie Barnett, an interior design blogger in Nashville, Tenn. "That doesn't mean it can't be family-friendly."

"Downton Abbey," in production for its fourth season, features the noble Crawley family "upstairs" and its servants "downstairs" in a sprawling country estate. The characters are struggling to bring the estate and their traditional sensibilities into the 1920s, a time of social and political ferment.

Ornate drawing rooms, flowing boudoirs, vibrant gardens and crisp, clean servants' quarters make the gorgeous backdrop for the PBS Masterpiece melodrama.

So how do you bring some of that aristocratic look into a comfortable modern home?

Gilded for glamour

One of the simplest ways to achieve the "upstairs" look of "Downton Abbey" is to apply gold metallic paint for a gilded finish on wood furniture, picture frames, mirror edges and other decorative items, including bookends and lamp stands.

In her living room, Barnett, who blogs at TheDecorologist.com, used gold paint to make a barley-twist coffee table appear worthy of nobility. Golden candlesticks and a crystal doorknob atop piles of books finish the look.

"Gilt was all the rage during the British Edwardian Age," said Barnett. "And it's all the rage in my house."

Furniture with flourish

Richly upholstered settees, footstools, chaise lounges and Bergere chairs can add a touch of bygone beauty, but you should allow plenty of space for more livable pieces such as a traditional sofa. If you can't afford new furniture, consider adding silk or damask throw pillows.

Tapestries and oriental rugs can be affordable and add the feel of affluence. Check out Etsy.com for "Downton Abbey"-style fabrics and textiles.

Lovely lighting

Another easy way to achieve the upstairs style, while keeping things practical and comfortable, is to hang an ornate light fixture or chandelier.

Affordable plaster or resin installations placed around light fixtures can be another eye-catching element.

Or you can use candlelight, which will bounce off mirrors, glass and crystal, creating the sort of warm glow that makes the Crawleys' multi-course dinners look so enticing.

Wonderful windows and walls

The return to detail and decoration includes opulent upholstery, drapes and wall coverings, said Maxwell Gillingham-Ryan, founder of ApartmentTherapy.com.

"People seem to be ready for more and more luxe materials and dramatic finishes," he said. "Even wallpaper, which was trending modern, is back to classic floral patterns and English traditionalism, but often with a bit of a twist."

Painted walls are darker, with a gloss finish, experts say. You can create the upper-crust feel with bold jewel tones, including emerald and sapphire.

Also in the traditional "Downton Abbey" palette, said Mary Lawlor, manager of color marketing for Kelly-Moore Paints, are refreshing pastels and creams. One of the mansion's expansive drawing rooms, for example, features a pale green wallpaper further softened with richly upholstered furniture in a mix of rose and classic ivory.

The British nobility takes its heritage seriously, and there are painted portraits and landscapes throughout the show's castle. If you're at a rummage sale or consignment shop, pick up similar art and create a small grouping on one wall. You don't have to be descended from these somber-looking subjects to bring their sophistication home.

Lure of the library

While many elements of "Downton Abbey" style have a feminine appeal, there's no mistaking the bold, masculine feel of Lord Grantham's library. Add jewel-toned leather furniture or leather throw pillows to your reading areas for a twist to the muted espresso brown that has been popular in recent years.

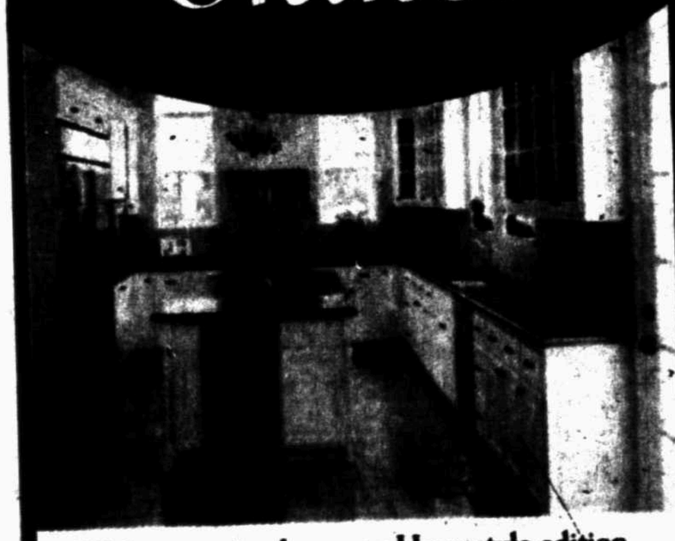
Consider turning a little-used dining room into a study, using the table as a hearty desk fit for the lords and ladies of your home.

"People are wanting to do something different in their dining rooms, so a lot of dining rooms are being filled with bookcases," Barnett said. She advises painting bookcases the same shade as walls, but in a gloss or lacquer finish.

Melanie G Photography/AP

This August 29, publicity photo provided by The Decorologist shows Downton Abbey-inspired decor in home of Kristie Barnett. Intrigued by the drama and inspired by the sophisticated lifestyle of British aristocracy, many "Downton Abbey" fans are plotting to bring the PBS series' style into their homes.

Let Your Home Shine!



With great tips from our Homestyle edition.

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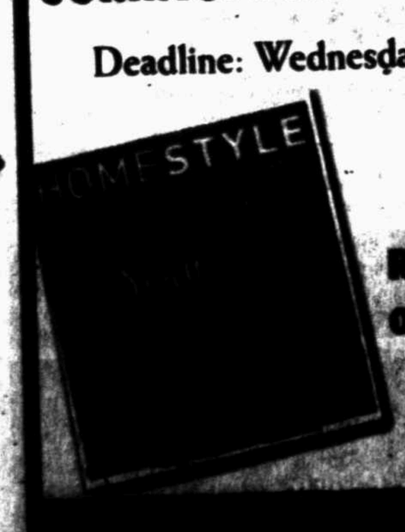

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Midland Reporter-Telegram

Hoppin' Easter Challenge

Are you up for an egg-citing time? Then our Hoppin' Easter Challenge is for you.

Prize: $50 Gift Card For Each Age Group

It's simple to enter. Just color the picture, fill out the entry form and submit both to the newspaper by 5 p.m., Monday, March 25th. Submissions will be divided into 3 age groups: 4-7 — 7-9 — 10-12. A panel of judges will select a winner from each group based on neatness and creativity.

Winners will be announced in the Midland Reporter-Telegram March 31st. Contest is open to residents of the Midland Reporter-Telegram circulation area. Not eligible to enter are employees of the Midland Reporter-Telegram and their immediate families.

Hoppin' Easter Challenge

Child's Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Age: _____

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BASIN BUSINESS

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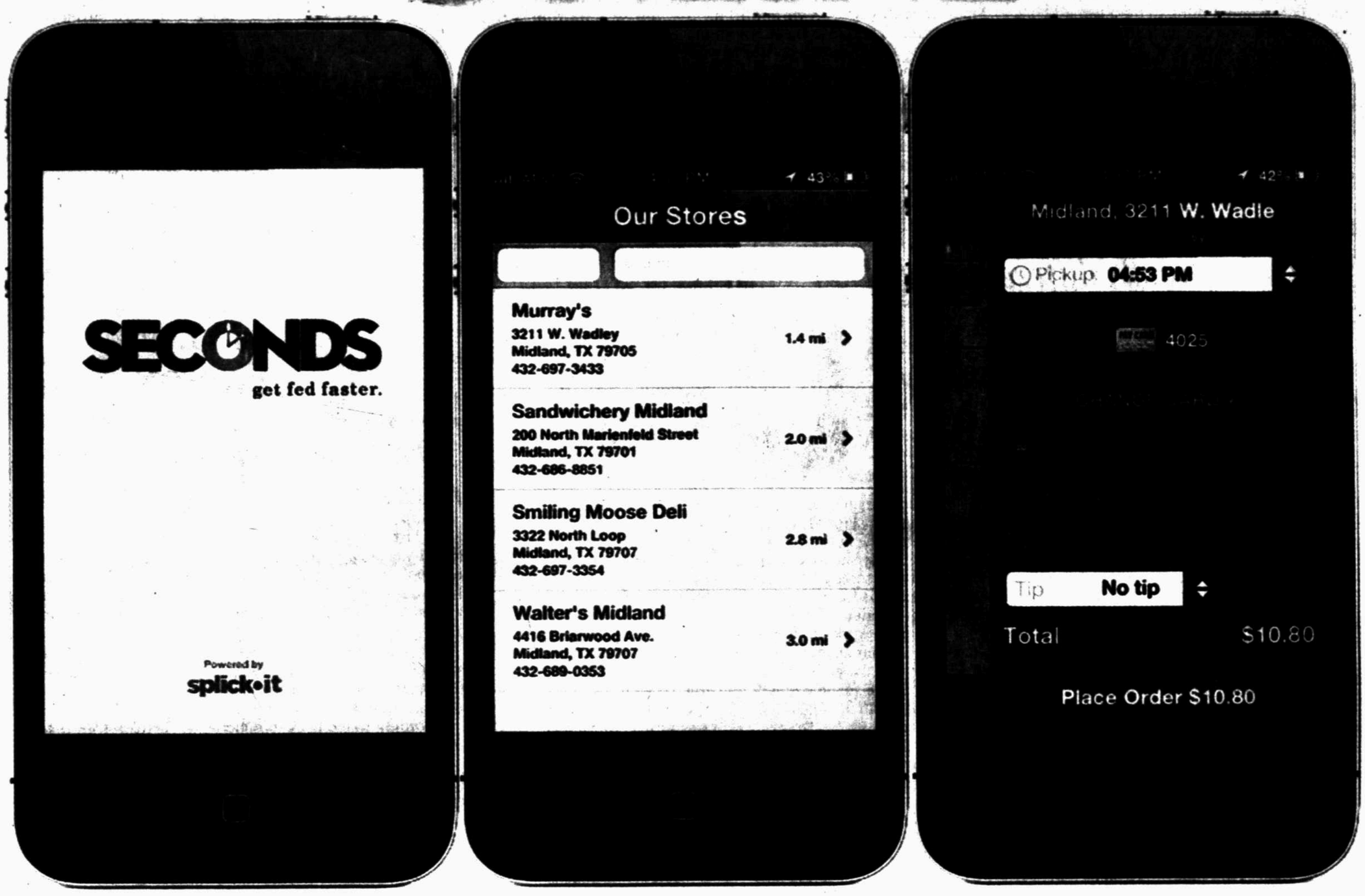
ORDERING ONLINE



NAMES IN THE NEWS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

UTPB seminar discusses hiring

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin's Small Business Development Center will host a seminar on "Hiring and Managing Employees" on Tuesday.

The seminar will be at the UTPB Midland Campus, 1400 N. Farm-To-Market Road 1788 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. It will be free and includes lunch.

Speakers will be Lesley Donnell and SuJo McKee with Robert Half Financing and Accounting. Robert Half is sponsoring the seminar along with the SBDC.

Reservations can be made by calling 570-5285.

Austin engineer earns professional license

AUBURN HILLS, Mi — Patti Engineering, Inc., which works in control system integration, announces that Steven Palmgren, director of Patti Engineering's Austin branch, has earned his professional engineer (P.E.) license in from the Texas Board of Professional Engineers. Palmgren is Patti Engineering's third engineer to earn the professional engineer's license.

In addition to his duties as director of the Texas branch, Palmgren actively leads the development of hardware and software designs for major client projects. Palmgren has been with Patti Engineering since 2001 and has more than 17 years of control systems experience from plant floor and assembly automation; to developing auto-drilling technology; to specializing in assessing and manipulating databases.

Go Seconds app gives restaurant patrons easy to-go ordering

By Audrie Palmer
apalmer@mrt.com

Go to any restaurant in Midland, especially during the lunch hour, and you'll be waiting in line for awhile.

That's what a local marketing firm noticed when they decided they wanted to design an app that might be able to simplify the process for those eating out as well as help speed things up for kitchen staff.

"We noticed really the need for some way to get in and out of restaurants quicker. If you've gone out to eat, you've noticed places are super busy during the lunch rush and we saw a necessity in bringing in something useful," said John Hendricks, co-founder of the Go Seconds app.

Individuals are able to download the free app through the iTunes store or the Google Play store for Android users.

Hendricks said once users have downloaded the app to their smartphones or tablets, they can then create an account and click on restaurants to display the menus.

Users then go through different headings and can customize their items before putting them in a shopping cart and checking out and paying for the meal. Once the order is paid for on the app, the restaurant receives it and sends a confirmation e-mail along with a map of the restaurant's location and approximate time the order will be ready for pick up.

"From the business standpoint, it gives the restaurants the ability to implement an online menu, where mom and pop restaurants usually don't have one. Our business structure is to help small businesses reach an audience that's mobile," Hendricks said.

The app went live March 8, with four local restaurants — Murray's, Smiling Moose, The Sandwichery and Walter's — and additional businesses in both Midland and Odessa were working to get listed on the app as well.

One local business that's listed on the app, Hendricks said, sees the application as an opportunity improve on their customer service with their patrons. Instead of having someone on the telephone at the restaurant constantly for two hours during the lunch rush taking phone orders, that employee instead can be out serving guests in the restaurant.

He expects to have at least 10 restaurants listed on 'Go Seconds' by this week. The company is also working with several pizza restaurants and local favorites like the King and I to be added to the app.

Through social media sites like Facebook and Twitter, Hendricks said those with the Permian Basin Marketing Group, which designed the Go Seconds app, are trying to market the app and let customers know it's available.

Users don't pay to use the app; restaurants either pay a monthly fee or a "per transaction" fee to access the application.

The marketing firm is also working with the West Texas Food Bank to give users the option of rounding up their order total and have the remaining balance given to the non-profit. For example, if a meal costs $9.50, customers can opt to round up the cost to pay an even $10, and the leftover 50 cents will be given to the organization.

WTFB director of public policy and communications Paige Phelps said that the organization is excited about how innovative the program is and believes that it's a perfect fit for their charity.

"It's hungry people feeding hungry people," she said.

The food bank serves 19 counties in the Permian Basin, from Midland and Odessa down to the Big Bend area. Every dollar that is given to the agency, Phelps said, can provide four meals to those in need and by customers rounding up their bill totals and donating the leftover change to the organization, she believes it will make a large impact over time.

"Every little bit adds up and it's just going to help us with our purchasing power," she said.

This year, Phelps said the food bank estimates that it will feed at least 75,000 individuals in West Texas, which is enough to fill the stadium at Texas Tech University at least 1.25 times.

Hendricks said the food bank will be the company's ongoing charity partner, and he hopes Midlanders will start to use the Go Seconds app to make the ordering process easier for them and those working in the restaurant industry.

"It's one of the things we wanted to focus on. We wanted people to know that we did have helping others in mind," Hendricks said.

Owner prepares to give Cuthbert Plaza a new look

A new look is coming to Cuthbert Plaza at 3111 W. Cuthbert Ave.

Portions of the shopping center, home to Hastings, Jumping Party and Dollar General, will receive a new facade that will incorporate a desert-type look with stucco. The Hastings store will keep its current look.

Construction is expected to begin soon and is expected to take four to five months.

The building, originally the Gibsons department store, was purchased by a Phoenix resident last year.

Midland native Guy Callicoatte has returned to his hometown and opened Guy's Electric and Air.

Having spent 30 years in the business, he and his wife returned to Midland from Aspermont to be near children and grandchildren.

Guy's Electric and Air offers electric installation and repair and heating and air conditioning and repair. Callicoatte is also licensed for propane, enabling him to service propane lines. He services almost any brand and does both residential and commercial work.

Located at 3800 S. County Road 1178, the business can be reached at 553-5014.

Operating under new ownership and a new name are the two Loop 250 storage locations at 2504 N. Loop 250 West and at 3111 Caldera Blvd. The two self-storage locations are now known as Cubesmart Self Storage of Midland.

The two sites were sold to new owners, who have contracted with CubeSmart to oversee management.

The 2504 N. Loop 250 West location offers units from 5 feet by 5 feet up to 10 feet by 30 feet while the 3111 Caldera Blvd. location offers units ranging from 5 feet by 10 feet up to 10 feet by 30 feet.

Office and service hours at both sites are 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Gate hours are 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

The Loop 250 location can be reached at 694-1111. Existing customers can reach the Caldera location at 218-9770. New customers can call 877-279-0721.

Wayne, Pa.-based CubeSmart is a self-administered and self-managed real estate company that owns, operates, acquires and develops self-storage facilities throughout the United States. At the end of 2012, the company owned 381 facilities.

Ways to motivate parents to succeed financially

DAVE RAMSEY

Dear Dave,
My parents are close to retirement and very heavily leveraged. Do you have any advice on how I can help motivate them to succeed financially?
Jack

Dear Jack,

I appreciate your concern for your mom and dad, but I'm not sure you can motivate anyone to do something. Sometimes people don't have motivation because they've lost hope. In turn, it's that sense of hopelessness that keeps them from moving forward. I think in these situations the best you can do is to show them hope. And one of the best ways to do that is to share your own story. You can also examine the numbers with them to show that the light at the end of the tunnel isn't always an oncoming train.

I do this a lot with callers on my radio show. After we look at the pieces of the puzzle together, I might show them how they can pay off $50,000 of debt in a year's time. Most of these people aren't bankrupt; they're just plain scared. So there's a lot of power in that little word "hope."

Sit down with your parents and let them know how much you love them and want them to enjoy their retirement. See if you can find out how much income they have versus the amount of debt they've piled up, then begin to formulate a step-by-step plan. Show them how they can begin to get traction and free up their money by living on a budget and getting out of debt. You can even offer to be their counselor or accountability partner.

You want them to be safe and secure in their retirement, and they deserve some dignity after working hard all their lives. So, in my mind, hope is the best thing you can offer. Motivation is a different story. That has to come from within. You can't really motivate the unmotivated.

-Dave

Dear Dave,
What do you think about rent-to-own housing? I'm not sure we're financially ready to buy yet, but we don't like giving money to landlords. Is rent-to-own a wise compromise?
Mike

Dear Mike,

I wouldn't recommend getting mixed up in a rent-to-own situation. I don't think it's a wise compromise, and it's also the kind of deal that works out well for the landlord, not the buyer.

If you're not financially ready to purchase a house, then you need to get your life in order before you take on a major commitment like becoming a homeowner. Get your debts paid off, get an emergency fund of three to six months of expenses in place, and save up for a down payment of 20 percent. I know it'll take some time and it might be difficult, but that's what I'd recommend.

Buying a home when you're broke, or trying to trick the system with a rent-to-own deal, usually doesn't work. I spent a lot of time in the real estate business, and I still own several properties. I don't do these deals because statistically the majority of people who rent to own never end up owning the property.

Take my advice and go slow, Mike. When you buy a home, you want it to be a blessing, not a burden!

-Dave

Economy vastly different since Dow's last record highs

RAY PERRYMAN

The Dow Jones Industrial Average recently reached an all-time high, finally surpassing October 2007's 14,164. True, this is a "nominal" record level, meaning that if you adjust for inflation over the past few years, we are still below the prior peak. Even so, it's cause for celebration, conversation or even consternation depending on your perspective and portfolio.

The interim between "then" and "now" has been anything but smooth, both for the economy and for equity markets. In 2007, unemployment stood at 4.7 percent and GDP had been expanding for years. The housing market was strong, with prices rising and new construction continuing. However, within months, the financial crisis and ensuing global economic downturn slammed the Dow down, and by March 2009, it had fallen to 6,547.

The economy's return to growth was assisted by unprecedented actions by the Federal Reserve Bank, which injected trillions into the system through a series of "quantitative easing" programs. The federal government also joined in, with a huge stimulus package. Even so, the recovery has been frustratingly slow, and ongoing shenanigans such as December's near miss on the fiscal cliff have threatened to stop progress entirely.

The bottom line is that the 2012 economy is rather different from that of 2007, and the specter of the recent downturn remains fairly vivid. Now, 7.9 percent of the workforce is unemployed (with millions more Americans so discouraged they have totally stopped looking and are no longer counted). The economy has been growing, but sluggishly. And while the housing market is finally showing signs of life, some markets remain loaded with excess inventories that will take time to work off. Similar situations are being faced around the globe, many with greater challenges than here in the United States.

It is within this context that the companies that comprise equity markets are functioning. Since 2007 and the subsequent fall, some companies have recovered all of the value they lost and then some, but others are still down significantly. This uneven performance stems from a variety of factors. In some cases, corporate leadership shifted focus in directions that have enhanced growth and profitability; others were wrong about strategy and are now paying the price in the form of lower sales and profits (and, hence, stock prices). Other firms are still dealing with fallout from global conditions and have not yet trended back upward.

It is noteworthy that it is only the Dow that has surpassed its prior high level. Driven by relatively few stocks (30, to be precise), stellar (or abysmal) performance by any one company can have a marked effect on the index. An analyst with Standard & Poor's estimated that about 12 percent of the rise can be attributed to just one stock: I.B.M., which made a good move toward a software focus. Another interesting note is that if Apple had been in the Dow, it would be significantly lower given the slide in that one company's stock price.

Please see **PERRYMAN**/3F

TYLER PATTON

Dietary supplements could cause more harm than benefit, BBB warns

The last time I cruised by the vitamin aisle in the drug store, I was overwhelmed by the number of choices. There are supplements to help you lose weight, improve digestion, clear your skin, build muscle, improve energy and fight aging. Whatever you want to do, there's some "miracle" supplement to help you do it.

However, Better Business Bureau is reminding consumers that supplements are not regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and urges consumers to be extra cautious before testing out a new product.

According to the FDA, product manufacturers "do not need to register their products with FDA or get FDA approval before producing or selling dietary supplements." The FDA is responsible for taking action against any unsafe supplement after it reaches the market, but is not responsible for regulating or testing the products before they reach store shelves.

In 2012, BBB received more than 2,000 complaints nationally against various vitamin and food supplement retailers and manufacturers. Many of those complaints allege dissatisfaction with customer service and issues with billing. Some complaints also allege consumers had adverse reactions to supplements or felt misled by product claims.

Before adding a supplement into your daily routine, BBB advises you:

Please see **BBB**/3F

MARKET WATCH

Many investors not quite ready to celebrate record Dow

Bhupen Agawal is Managing Director - Branch Manager of Wells Fargo Advisors' Midland office.
Amit Agrawal is an Associate Vice President - Investment Officer with offices in Midland and Austin.

Turn on any financial television or radio station and the topic of the day, all day, is the Dow Jones Industrial Average hitting record highs. The old peak occurred in October 2007, just before the financial crisis gripped the globe. Officially, in media-land, the celebration is on.

But sadly, many investors are not quite ready to break out their party hats just yet. They have too much cash alternatives on the sidelines and have missed a good portion of the 130 percent rally off the March 2009 equity market lows. The values of their portfolios have not yet climbed back to pre-crisis levels. They are dramatically under-invested in stocks and many are, in our view, over-invested in bonds. While we do not look for interest rates to move substantially higher in the near term, in the coming years we believe stocks have the potential to outperform bonds by a meaningful amount. And cash alternatives? Well, cash alternatives are expensive assets to hold when deposit rates are virtually non-existent and inflation is near 2 percent. Cash and cash alternative-heavy investors are losing buying power to inflation with each passing day.

The oldest Baby Boomers are retiring and are fearful they will outlive their money. They are also fearful of the stock market after suffering through two brutal bear markets since the turn of the century. In each of these episodes, the S&P 500 Index lost more than half its value before hitting a final bottom. The prospects of enduring another bear market of a similar magnitude when you are in or near retirement is not a pleasant thought for most of these older Boomers. Long gone are the days of 5 percent yields on CDs.

The Federal Reserve, in an effort to revive the economy and pump up the value of residential real estate as well as the stock market, has pushed interest rates to near 0 percent while injecting trillions of dollars of liquidity into the financial system. One desired result is called the "wealth effect." Consumers who see the values of their homes and stock portfolios rise feel wealthier and are more willing to open their wallets and do a little discretionary spending. We are not talking about buying items they need for everyday living like toothpaste and laundry detergent, but going out and purchasing items they desire like new furniture, vacations and cars. After all, the American economy is built on the concept of consumption.

So far, the Fed's strategy seems to be working. Housing prices are recovering and the stock market is in rally mode. The Fed is unlikely to change this strategy any time soon. The economy is slowly improving, as is the labor market.

Please see **MARKET**/3F

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LEVEL

Each of the four-letter groups below may be extended on both the right and the left to form an eight-letter word. Use the tiles directly above each group to fill in the blanks.

E H I M N O T
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A D D E L N O
_ _ G E A R _ _

A D E R S S T
_ _ W I N E _ _

Yesterday's Answer: HANKIE, PEANUT, MISHAP, KEYPAD

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BUILDING PERMITS

Building Permits March 4-8

2900 W. Loop 250 N	Sign	$6,500
1105 N. Terrell Street	Residence-Detached	$3,245
3212 Fairfield Lane	New Residence	$201,200
3206 Fairfield Lane	New Residence	$209,840
1115 Andrews Hwy	Sign	$350
3915 W. Wall Street	Sign	$1,500
3915 W. Wall Street	Sign	$1,500
3915 W. Wall Street	Sign	$1,500
3915 W. Wall Street	Sign	$1,500
3109 Baybridge Court	Fence	$2,500
4229 Baybrook Place	Residential Alteration	$16,000
5804 Davlin Place	Swimming Pool	$32,000
2121 Blackwood Drive	Swimming Pool	$34,000
1310 W. New Jersey	MH-Single Lot	$3,000
1401 N. Fairgrounds	New Commercial	$3,360,000
3608 Gaston Drive	Residential Addition	$52,000
1201 Silverton Drive	New Residence	$263,000
1804 Magnolia Avenue	Residential Addition	$1,000
4113 Mockingbird Lane	New Residence	$79,068
4508 Hilltop Drive	Swimming Pool	$57,741
4400 N. Midland Drive	Commercial Alteration	$10,000
4400 N. Midland Drive	Commercial Alteration	$10,000
402 S. Tyler Street	Residential Addition	$5,000
2012 Mosswood Drive	New Residence	$255,000
2001 Mosswood Drive	New Residence	$266,000
2508 Regency Oaks Ct	Residence-Detached	$3,000
6417 Mosswood Drive	Residence-Detached	$6,000
2408 Stanolind Avenue	Residential Alteration	$47,500
3111 W. Cuthbert Ave	Commercial Alteration	$775,000
714 Loma Vista	MH-Single Lot	$53,000
4408 Coyote Trail	Residential Addition	$18,000
6008 Medina Drive	New Residence	$162,880
4511 W. Loop 250 N	Commercial Alteration	$40,000
1409 Lanham Street	Residential Addition	$95,000
4616 Briarwood Ave	Sign	$25,000
4616 Briarwood Ave	Sign	$25,000
414 E. Dengar Avenue	Residential Alteration	$12,500
3101 N. Midland Drive	Commercial Alteration	$2,100
511 W. Hicks Avenue	Residence-Detached	$10,000
211 Holly Drive	Residential Addition	$750
2206 E. California Ave	Residence-Detached	$2,000
902 N. Terrell Street	MH-Single Lot	$58,000
904 N. Terrell Street	MH-Single Lot	$58,000
3523 Thomas Avenue	Residential Addition	$1,500

Source: City of Midland

PERRYMAN

From 2F

The broader market measure represented by the S&P 500 index, which includes (as the name implies) 500 corporations, hasn't yet topped its prior high (also in October 2007). It is close, though, within a percentage point or two as we go to press. The technology-intensive NASDAQ is at a 12-year high, but is still 35 percent below its record high of 5,048 set in March 2000 before the dot.com bust of the early 2000s. Years (or even decades) may pass before the NASDAQ reaches that level again.

The fact that the market has passed this milestone now is particularly interesting given the turmoil in Washington, DC, with sequestration kicking in and a debt ceiling debate looming, and the less-than-ideal condition of the economy. In hindsight, we know that 2007 was a time of overinflated financials and a massive housing bubble. And now? Looking through the day's headlines reveals highly respected pundits with opinions all over the map: room to go much higher, destined for a fall, stocks overpriced, stocks underpriced.

For those potential investors who are lamenting the fact that they missed the recent upswing, the difficulty lies in now determining whether/when to get in to avoid buying high (and losing later when selling low). Individuals with swelling portfolios may be wondering when to sell so as to preserve profits. Good questions.

Predicting the future of the stock market is virtually impossible (at least over the short term). While underlying economic conditions are a huge aspect of price levels, there are other factors at work. It's certainly a good sign that equities have been able to recover and the milestone is worthy of note. However, unresolved issues such as deficit/debt concerns are muting the impact of the market's achievement.

MARKET

From 2F

Consumer confidence is on the rise. Consumer spending and business capital investment is moving ahead at a reasonable pace. As we look out over a three-year horizon, we continue to see modest economic growth, no recession and a rising stock market. We see opportunity in the stock market over this time frame. Current valuations are not stretched. While we do not think the stock market is going to move straight up from here, investors putting at least some sideline cash and cash alternatives to work now will likely have a reason to celebrate in coming years.

Past Performance is no guarantee of future results. This article was produced on March 6, 2013 by Scott Wren, Wells Fargo Advisors senior equity strategist, and provided courtesy of Bhupen Agrawal, managing director - branch manager of Wells Fargo Advisors' Midland office, at 684-7335. Additional information is available upon request. The material contained herein has been prepared from sources and data we believe to be reliable, but we make no guarantee as to its accuracy or completeness. The material is published solely for informational purposes and is not an offer to buy or sell or solicitation of an offer to buy or sell any security or investment product. Opinions and estimates are as of a certain date and subject to change without notice. You should be aware that investments can fluctuate in price, value and/or income, and you may get back less than you invested. Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC, member SIPC, is a registered broker-dealer and a separate non-bank affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company.

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BBB

From 2F

■ Consult your doctor or healthcare provider. Certain supplements and ingredients can be potentially dangerous when mixed with medications or if someone is pregnant, nursing or has a pre-existing health condition. Always consult with your doctor first.

■ Research the supplement. The Food and Drug Administration is a great resource for researching supplements and their ingredients. You can also go to bbb.org to check out the BBB Business Review of any retailer or manufacturer that makes the supplement you're interested in purchasing. Additional information on product claims, the safety and effectives of the product, as well as any reports of adverse effects can be acquired directly from the product manufacturer or distributor.

■ Be cautious of too-good-to-be-true claims. If a product is touting exaggerated claims or instant fixes, this is a red flag. If it sounds too good to be true, then it probably is.

■ Be extra diligent when searching products on the Web. When searching for information about supplements online, use respected websites such as those run by the government, university research or reputable medical databases rather than just doing a quick search through a search engine.

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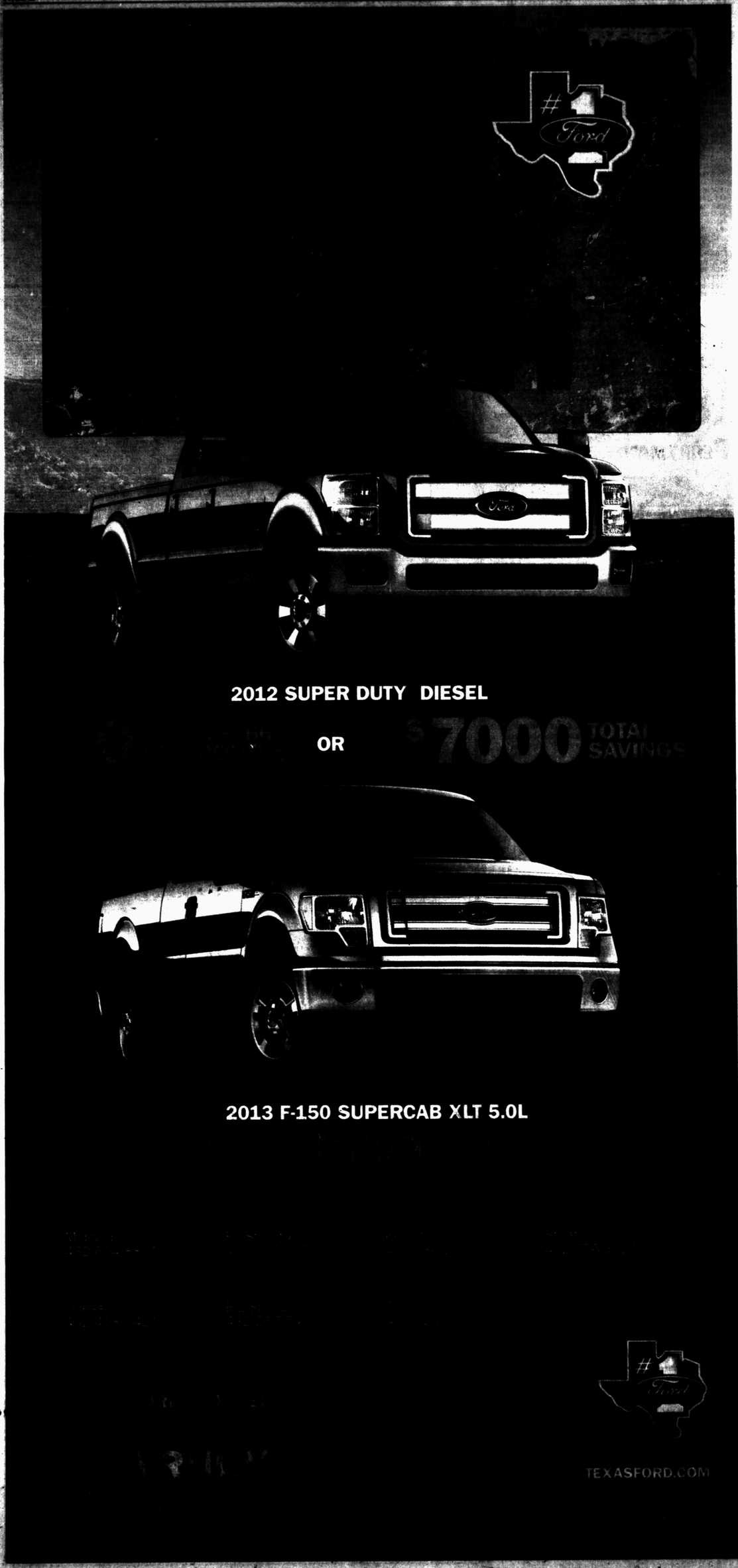
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OIL REPORT

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mywesttexas.com | Sunday, March 17, 2013 | Section G

investment

DCP Midstream pipeline to serve Permian Basin by mid-2013

■ Sand Hills Pipeline part of $1 billion investment in infrastructure.

By Mella McEwen
mmcewen@mrt.com

Midstream companies are scrambling to expand their infrastructure in the Permian Basin to keep up with the surge in production from unconventional resource plays like the Wolfberry, Bone Spring and Avalon Shale.

DCP Midstream LLC alone is spending $1 billion on projects, including the new Sand Hills Pipeline, a natural gas liquids pipeline that will carry natural gas liquids from the Permian Basin and Eagle Ford Shale to the Gulf Coast, including the fractionation complex at Mont Belvieu. The Eagle Ford leg of the pipeline came online late last year and the Permian Basin portion will begin coming online this summer, reports Greg Smith, newly named president of the midcontinent and Permian business units.

Also coming online this summer, Smith said, is DCP's new Rawhide Plant, a 75 million cubic feet per day natural gas processing plant under construction in Glasscock County. The plant and associated low-pressure gathering system will service Wolfberry producers. DCP is also expanding its high-pressure gathering system, linking its Goldsmith/Fullerton super system with the Triad super system.

Both projects, Smith said, continue on schedule.

Extracting the natural gas liquids to make the gas pipeline-ready is a necessary service, Smith said, and the liquids are the feedstock for the petrochemical and other industries.

Referring to tight takeaway capacity, Smith said DCP's projects, along with others announced by midstream companies means "takeaway is taking care of itself."

His company, he said, continues to look for opportunities to expand, including additional plants in West Texas and Southeast New Mexico, especially in light of what he called robust production levels. More

Please see **MIDSTREAM**/3G

Chevron plans active 2013, targets unconventional resource plays

■ Company 'very thankful' it kept presence in Permian Basin.

By Mella McEwen
mmcewen@mrt.com

Through its past incarnations and through companies it has acquired, Chevron's history with the Permian Basin goes back nearly 90 years and well over 5 billion barrels of oil produced. And, like other oil and gas companies, it is enjoying the revival of the domestic oil and gas industry, particularly in the Permian Basin.

"We're very busy," said Alan Kleier, Chevron's vice president, Mid-Continent Business Unit. He said the company will either drill or participate in more than 400 wells in 2013, 300 of them in the Midland Basin, 100 in the Delaware Basin.

Not only will the 400 wells be company operated, Kleier said Chevron will be working with local partners in joint ventures. Already, he noted, the company has worked with Concho Resources, Devon Energy and similar operators.

Horizontal wells will be drilled in the Delaware Basin and in the horizontal Wolfcamp, while wells in the Midland Basin will primarily be vertical, though Kleier said horizontal drilling in the Midland Basin may be "the next play."

He explained, "wherever there are stacked plays, there is tremendous opportunity. The Midland Basin has not been as fully exploited as the Central Basin Platform."

Chevron also has a "nice acreage position" in the Cline Shale that is emerging east of Midland and Kleier said the company has participated in some early wells with local operators.

Currently operating 20 rigs, he said that could grow to 30 rigs. "We'll ramp up as we have the people to ensure we work with Chevron's focus on safety," he said.

The unconventional resource plays like the Wolfberry and the Wolfbone have brought a new resurgence to the Permian Basin, Kleier said, noting that the region had produced 1.7 million barrels of oil a day at its peak in 1973. "I think this will take us past that," he said. "I've seen projections we'll exceed 2 million barrels of oil equivalent. Here we are, 90, 100 years after oil was discovered and we're hitting a second peak."

Unconventional resources, he noted, "were always awaiting a technological breakthrough

Please see **CHEVRON**/3G

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48 BOPD (Avg. Sep-Dec, 2012
1,920 Acres Leasehold in the San Andres, Glorieta & Clearfork
78.5% -75.17% WI, 57.4% -60.32% NRI
12 Active Producers, 2 Injectors, 1 SWD
Upside Potential: Infill Drilling, Recompletions, Drill Deepenings

Midland College

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Special Event

Permian Basic O&G Industry Water Use Symposium
April 9, Tue, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Pre-registered: $175; at the door: $225; $25 added to the class fee for out-of-state
Midland College Main Campus - Carrasco Room, 3600 N. Garfield, Midland

Courses

Ethics Luncheon for Engineers and Geoscientists: "Henry's Daughters"
Facilitator: Hoxie Smith
March 21, Thu, Noon - 1 p.m.
$50; Out of State, $75
Buffet lunch is provided with the class fee (Served from 11:30 - 12:00 pm)
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

Well Control Drilling/Workover (WellCAP)
Instructor: Larry Chapman
March 25-28, Mon-Wed, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Thu, 8 a.m. - Noon
$800; Out of State, $825
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

An Introduction to Coiled Tubing
Instructor: Jeff Harris
March 28, Thu, 3:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
$280; Out of State, $305
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

On-Line Petroleum Land Management Certificate Program
Module 6 - Federal Laws that Impact the Oil & Gas Industry
Instructor: Alyce Hoge
Start Date: April 1, 2013; End Date: April 30, 2013
$599; (purchased book for previous modules)
$649; New Registrants, includes $50 manual (AAPL Land Reference Guide)
If you plan to register for additional modules,
the $50 materials fee is a one-time charge

Oilfield Terminology
Instructor: J. T. (Tommy) Lent, Jr.
April 2-3, Tue-Wed, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
$430; Out of State, $455
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

Confessions of a Frac Engineer: 100 field studies prove our frac jobs are not optimized
Instructor: Mike Vincent
April 4, Thu, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
$575; Out of State, $600
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

SPEE Workshop: Basics of Petroleum Producing Property Evaluation
Speakers: Marshall Watson, Russell Hall, Robert Green, Karl Gulick, Neil Minocha
April 8-9, Mon-Tue, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
$800; Out of State, $825
Blankenship Lecture Hall, 3200 W. Cuthbert Avenue
Register on the PPDC Website once it is posted

Petroleum Land Management
Instructor: Alyce Hoge
April 9-10, Tue-Wed, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
$649; Out of State, $675 (includes $50 materials fee)
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

Petroleum Land Management
Instructor: Alyce Hoge
April 9-10, Tue-Wed, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
$649; Out of State, $675 (includes $50 materials fee)
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

Well Service and Pressure Control
Instructor: Mike Cure
April 11, Thu, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
$280; Out of State, $305
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

Waterflooding: Performance Predictions and Surveillance
Instructor: Dr. William M. Cobb
April 15-19, Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
$3,195; Out of State, $3,220
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

Oilfield Manager (OFM) - Introduction
Instructor: Celia Payne
April 16-17, Tue-Wed, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
$870; Out of State, $895
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

NORM (Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials) Surveyor
Instructor: Geri Blanchard
April 17, Wed, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
$400; Out of State, $425
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

PetroSkills: Casing and Cementing
Instructor: Dr. Subhash Shah
April 22-26, Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
$3,635; contact www.petroskills.com or call (800) 821-5933. Fee is paid directly to PetroSkills
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

Petroleum Geology for Non-Geologists
Instructor: Paul H. Pause
April 22-25, Mon-Thu, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
$1,295; Out of State, $1,320
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

Understanding and Negotiating the Oil and Gas Lease
Instructor: Dr. Patrick Fitzgerald
April 25-26, Thu-Fri, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
$540; Out of State, $570
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

Equity firm buys majority stake in Sierra Engineering and Sierra Petroleum Services

By Paul Wiseman
Special to the Oil Report

As petroleum liquids flow out of the Permian Basin, private equity capital continues to flow in. As part of that flow, New York based Corinthian Capital Group, LLC recently purchased a majority stake in Midland's Sierra Engineering and its related firm, Sierra Petroleum Services. The transaction was completed in late 2012.

According to websites for both Sierra firms, "Sierra Engineering is a wellbore-construction project management firm that has been in operation since November 1988. Sierra specializes in drilling-completion engineering, fracture treatment design and execution, and workover design."

Sierra began looking for investors a little over a year ago, according to C. Kenneth Clay, Corinthian's senior managing director. The Midland firm engaged a Houston investment bank to issue a "teaser," or a summary of Sierra's proposal. "We thought it was interesting," said Clay, "because we were interested in the space (oil sector)."

Though Corinthian Capital is located in New York, Clay's roots are in Texas, having grown up around Galveston and Houston. And while the oil sector is of great interest to the firm, it is only one area of investment. Clay noted that Corinthian invests in a variety of industries, mostly manufacturing, service and distribution companies.

Interestingly, even in non-petroleum sectors, half of Corinthian's investments are in Texas because of its business friendly climate, according to Clay.

Corinthian liked Sierra in particular because it fit their investment profile. "You have an entrepreneurial business that has grown and fit our size parameters in an industry that we like. You've got some capable owner-operators that will continue on with the business that continue to own a significant entrepreneurial stake in the business."

That Sierra had diversified already was a plus, and further growth is part of the plan, whether organically or by purchase, although that is not a must. "We always like to go into an investment happy with the initial company and structure because life is uncertain," Clay explained. One never knows if growth by purchasing an add-on company will happen. He noted that some private equity firms do buy into a company feeling that adding onto it is necessary to make the transaction work, but that Corinthian Capital does not usually work that way. Sierra already had a long history of growth, so Clay is hopeful this infusion of cash will allow that to continue on an ever greater scale, although add-ons are possible.

Corinthian is interested in the oil sector among its investments because, as Clay pointed out, petroleum products are still the staple fuel around the world, and are likely to be so for decades. So even if there is a downturn, say to an oil price of $80 or even $60 per barrel, their investment would be safe because production is still viable at those prices. "We are not market timers," he said, indicating that they would not fire-sale the company should prices go south.

As to the future, Clay said that a typical investment time frame is around five years before an equity company would sell and take its profit, and that they would be looking at "six, seven, eight years" to hold this one. He is concerned but not worried about the effect environmental issues might have on the ability to continue production, and the trickle-down effect that might have on profitability, noting that "people usually get these things worked out."

Another player in the transaction was ORIX Mezzanine and Private Equity Investments (OMPE), which provided Corinthian with "growth capital as well as liquidity for the shareholders," according to Jeff Sangalis, managing director of the entity.

Dallas-based OMPE is a business unit of ORIX USA, which has approximately $6 billion in assets and manages another $20-25 billion. The company's one shareholder, as Sangalis described it, is ORIX Japan, which is traded on the NYSE.

"We see some really exciting growth opportunities for the business. They're one of the largest in their area and we see expansion capabilities, both internally…as well as expanding into other markets."

Like Corinthian, Sangalis sees OMPE expanding its footprint in the oil and gas space particularly, like Corinthian, in the service sector rather than in E&P. This is a natural for him in particular, having spent the past 25 years in Houston and Dallas, he pointed out.

"We are not oil and gas experts," he said, adding, "But when there are things I don't know, I know who to call, so I can find out pretty quickly."

While investing significantly in Texas because of their own location, OMPE is also looking into other oil producing areas such as North Dakota's Bakken Shale. Even those investments often come through contacts related to Texas properties.

When buying into a business, Sangalis said PE firms must evaluate the individual company, as to whether its growth may be sustainable, but it also looks into the industry as a whole. Most firms now educate themselves regarding the space into which they are buying, to lessen their risk.

"The private equity industry has matured greatly in the last few years — they've got a lot more discipline in the way they operate, in the way they do their due diligence," he noted. "So I think there's less likelihood of missing some major mark."

As reported previously, a PE firm generally wants 51 percent of a company, but they are willing for the service company to make the most of the day-to-day decisions. That holds true, said Sangalis, as long as fiscal goals are met. If they are not, the PE firm may become "very involved."

Between that possibility and the knowledge that the PE firm is likely to sell their interest within less than 10 years, any service company looking at acquiring private equity should have all the facts when making their decision.

Paul Wiseman can be reached at fittoprint@sbcglobal.net.

Welder takes back welds when pusher refuses to pay

ARMANDO ARENIVAS

Hello! Hope your kelly is high! I'm going to call today's story, "Welder."

This Ain't No Bull!

There were three crews on location rigging up. The rig was coming together better than usual. The company that was moving the rig had a lot of seasoned hands. While being moved, some of the welds on the rig had come apart. This is a common occurrence when the rig is being moved.

The tool-pusher was thumbing through his card file to find a welder to weld the rig back together. He called his regular welder, who told the pusher he was too sick to come out. The welder said he had a friend who could come out and get them out of a bind. The friend was not cheap, but he was good and could get them going, but it would cost them.

The pusher couldn't find anyone else, so he gave the welder a call. The welder told the pusher his rates, but said he was good and would stand behind his work. The rates were high, but with no one else available the pusher told him to come on out.

When the welder got to the site, the pusher lined him out on what he wanted welded. The welder started cutting and welding, getting the rig put back together. He patched a hole in the pits, fixed a few hand rails and repaired a flow line that had broken in half. Then he welded the conductor pipe and also welded a collar in the bottom of the cellar, about waist high, for a fill-up line.

The welder had finished the repairs and the rig was starting to drill. The welder made out his invoice ticket and took it the pusher's trailer. The pusher looked at the ticket, refused to sign it and threw it on the floor at the welder's feet.

The welder reminded the pusher that rates were discussed before he ever came out. The pusher very rudely told the welder to get the hell out of his trailer house! The welder picked up the ticket, walked out of the trailer and SLAMMED the door (shook the whole trailer).

The welder jumped in his truck and took off. As he drove down the leased road, the more he thought about it, the madder he got. He hit on the brakes and turned around. He headed back to the rig wide open with a trail of dust following him.

Back at the rig, he backed his truck up to the flow line and started unrolling the hoses on his torch. He grabbed a ladder out of the back of his truck and set it up next to the flow line.

Already knowing what the deal was, the driller came down laughing and asked the welder what he was doing. The welder said, "If he won't sign my ticket, I'm taking back my welds." Then he started cutting the flow line in half.

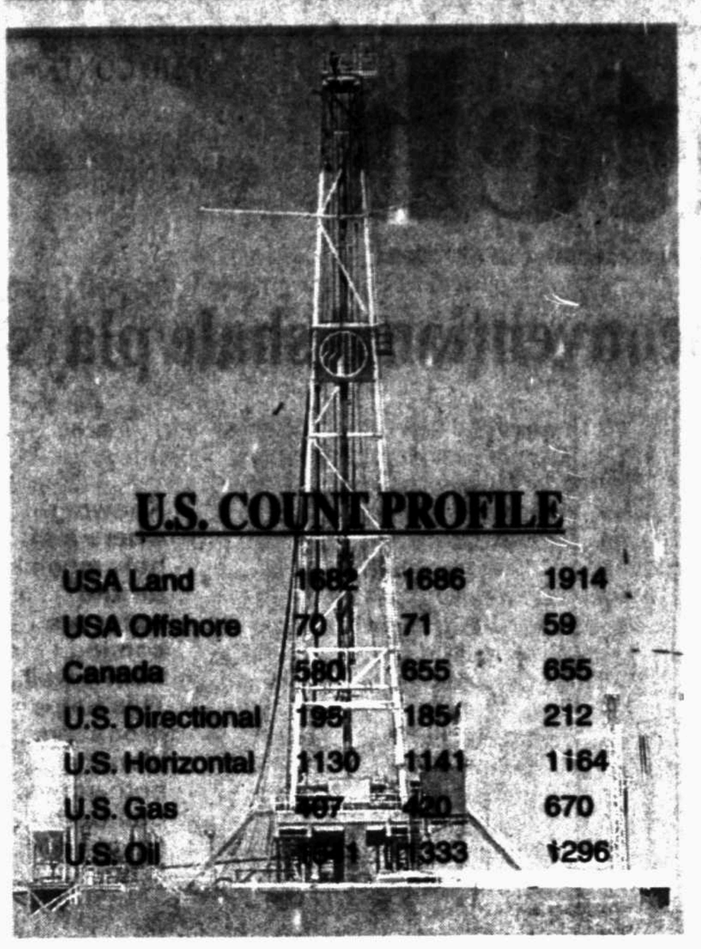
The driller had one of his hands go to the trailer and let the pusher know what was going on. The pusher came right out, but the welder already had the operation shut back down. The pusher told the welder that if he would put the flow line back together, he would sign the ticket.

The mad welder said it was too late; he was taking his welds back. He continued cutting and when he removed the patch he had repaired on the pits, all the fluid ran out onto the ground.

The welder then rolled his hoses up on the truck, jumped in and took off. He waved at the pusher as he went by!

Permian Basin hand of the week is Michael Ozuna from Odessa. He works for Iron Horse Tools, LLC. Keep up the good work, Michael. Talk at you next week.

'Mondo' Arenivas can be reached at mondomantic1@leaco.net



Artificial lift pioneer honored by R&D Council

By Mella McEwen
mmcewen@mrt.com

Technological advances have paved the way for the Permian Basin and the U.S. to significantly increase oil and natural gas production.

However, the industry often takes time to recognize those who helped advance oil patch technology. Earlier this month the Artificial Lift R&D Council honored Dr. Sam Gibbs with the Artificial Lift Award for Exemplary Service and Contribution for 2012.

"It's amazing how the decline in production in Texas and the U.S. has been reversed by horizontal drilling and massive frac jobs," observed Gibbs during the award luncheon. "With all the new shales, it will be an exciting time for people in the oil and gas industry and the nation's economy."

He added, "it's gratifying to see people take a few of my ideas, combine them with a few of their own and make strides in cutting lifting costs and reducing failures and downtime."

Receiving the honor, he said, "is unexpected; nonetheless it's a great thing to happen to a country boy from East Texas." Especially, he noted, because the organization is an international group whose job is to share technology involving artificial lift all over the world.

Born and raised in Lufkin, Gibbs studied mechanical engineering at Texas A&M, graduating in 1954. He was hired by Shell but was drafted into the U.S. Army. After his military service, he returned to Shell and was assigned to Midland as unit engineer. He received a master's degree in mathematics from Texas A&M in 1960 and was hired by Shell Development as a production engineering researcher stationed in Houston. That is where he developed wave equation diagnostic and design methods for rod-pumped wells that are used worldwide today. In 1968 he received a doctorate from Rice University and became head of drilling research. He later became division engineer, stationed in New Orleans, before leaving to enter private business.

Gibbs returned to Midland where he and Ken Nolen formed Nabla, which offered well site diagnostic analyses under license from Shell using truck-borne mini-computers. The company's services expanded to include design and diagnosis of hydraulic and submersive pump systems and technical training. The company's software was marketed via minicomputers and GE timeshare. During its last 20 years in business, Nabla built equipment for the oil fields, from digital dynamometers to pump off controls and fluid level instruments. Gibbs and Nolen sold the company to Lufkin Industries in 1997.

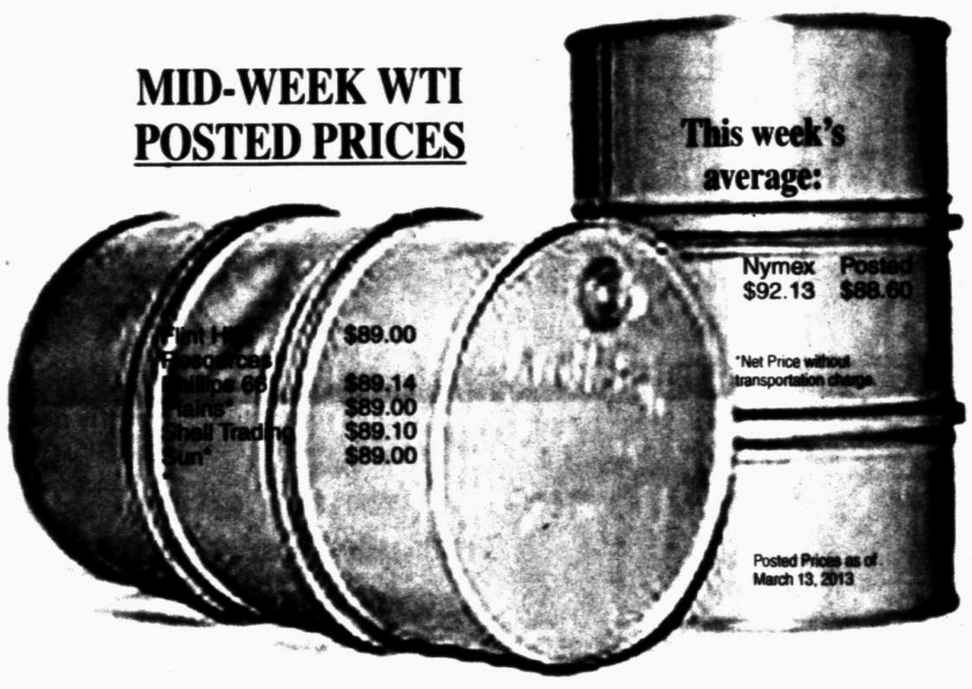
"I'm an applied mathematician and I enjoy anything math and oil fields," he said. "Rod pumping is a fertile field for applied mathematicians to work in — it involves math, physics, engineering and computers."

Though he is retired, he and Nolen have some projects in the works. He published a book on rod pumping last year and "I might be involved in teaching some schools," he said. The duo also received two new patents.

"I'm 80 years old but I'm reasonably healthy," he said. "It's fun to keep going."

Among his other honors are being named to the Permian Basin Section, Society of Petroleum Engineers Hall of Fame and the Petroleum Hall of Fame at the Petroleum Museum.

MID-WEEK WTI POSTED PRICES



PERMIAN BASIN

TEXAS

DIST. #7C

Coke	1
Concho	0
Crockett	11
Irion	15
Kimble	0
McCullough	0
Menard	0
Reagan	20
Runnels	4
Schleicher	0
Sutton	0
Terrell	0
Tom Green	1
Upton	26

DIST. #6

Andrews	23
Brewster	0
Crane	9
Culberson	5
Ector	25
Glasscock	30
Howard	19
Hudspeth	0
Jeff Davis	0
Loving	17
Martin	35
Midland	27
Mitchell	3
Pecos	9
Presidio	0
Reeves	38
Sterling	3
Ward	25
Winkler	5

DIST. #8A

Bailey	0
Borden	4
Cochran	0
Cottle	0
Crosby	3
Dawson	7
Dickens	1
Floyd	0
Gaines	7
Garza	0
Hale	0
Hockley	2
Kent	3
King	1
Lamb	0
Lubbock	1
Lynn	3
Motley	0
Scurry	4
Terry	2
Yoakum	4
TEXAS TOTAL	393

NEW MEXICO

Chaves	0
Eddy	50
Lea	16
Roosevelt	0
N.M. TOTAL	66

WILDCATS

Texas RRCD 7C

Schleicher County

BSP OPERATING, LLC WILDCAT (O/G) DRILL Well# 1 SCHAFER, 467 FEL 7484 FNL, SEC 2, CONCHO CSL SUR., A-45 7300', 5 NW ELDORADO

Texas RRCD 8

Howard County

SHENANDOAH PETROLEUM CORP. WILDCAT (O) DRILL Well# 4 GOLDEN BEND 34, 1290 FNL 1500 FWL, SEC 34 BLK 32 T3N, T&P/ WH THOMAS SUR., A-1360 10000', 19 NW COAHOMA

Texas RRCD 8A

Borden County

RED WILLOW PROD., LLC. WILDCAT (O/G) DRILL Well# 1 RUDD 38, 708 FSL 2023 FWL, SEC 38 BLK 31 T5N, T&P/ JN PRINCE SUR., A-1611 8300', 2 SW GAIL

Dickens County

SCHALK OIL COMPANY, INC. WILDCAT (O/G) DRILL Well# 1 DRIGGERS, 1901 FSL 400 FWL, SEC 156 BLK 1, H&GN/PE HAGINS SUR., A-1178 4800', 11 SE SPUR

Kent County

PATTON EXPLORATION, INC. WILDCAT (O) DRILLWell# 2 BEGGS, 1362 FSL 2393 FEL, SEC 2 BLK H, HT&B/ GA PURSLEY SUR., A-1295 4300', 8 NW JAYTON

New Mexico

Eddy County

Yates Petroleum Corp.
Sober BEZ Federal #2
Wildcat; Sec 35 T20S R29E; 200/S & 660/E; 12.5 mi NE Carlsbad; Rot 15494 Bone Spring; API #30-015-40943

BOPCO LP
Big Sinks 15 24 30 USA #1
Wildcat; Sec 15 T24S R30E; 450/S & 770/E; 12 mi E Malaga; Rot 12777 Bone Spring; API #30-015-40936

MIDSTREAM

From 1G

capacity could be added to accommodate increased production in the Avalon-Bone Spring, Wolfberry and Wolfcamp areas.

"It looks like drilling activity will be here awhile," Smith said.

The Sand Hills Pipeline will be a common-carrier pipeline system extending 720 miles from West Texas through South Texas to the Gulf Coast and comprised of 20-inch pipe. Initial capacity will be 200,000 barrels a day, expanding to 350,000 barrels per day with interconnects and pumping stations strategically located along its route.

DCP currently operates 17 gas processing plants in the Permian Basin with processing capacity of 1.3 billion cubic feet per day, recently adding 150 million cubic feet per day of processing capacity through the expansion and restart of existing facilities. The company produces more than 135,000 barrels per day of natural gas liquids. DCP has 10 million acres under dedication.

CHEVRON

From 1G

— the Woodford, the Wolfcamp, the Bakken in North Dakota. The first key technology was horizontal drilling, which let us contact larger sections of the shales. Multistage fractures was the second key. There's more to learn, but clearly we've opened a rebirth of these assets in the Permian Basin."

Chevron, he added, is thankful it remained active in the Permian Basin, a move that prepared it to take advantage of the opportunities now being presented. Even during the downturn, he noted, Chevron had conventional resources or "legacy" assets like the McElroy, Jo Mill and Mabee Units. These legacy assets, he said, were long-term assets that indicated the company planned to be in the area a long time.

Royal Dutch Shell recently returned to the Permian Basin when it took over assets it purchased last fall from Chesapeake Energy. Chevron also acquired assets from Chesapeake at the same time. Kleier said the company already had a robust portfolio but the assets purchased from Chesapeake dovetailed nicely with what it already had and offered future growth opportunities.

"We're bullish on the Permian Basin," he said. "We're glad to be here."

Tulsa firm makes major West Texas acquisition

■ $50 million acquisition adds to Capstone Natural Resources' growth.

From Staff Reports

TULSA — Capstone Natural Resources Partners, L.P. announced the $50 million acquisition of oil properties in West Texas. The properties, in Andrews and Gaines Counties, will significantly expand Capstone's operations as it seeks to grow operations in the Central Basin Platform.

The $50 million acquisition of producing assets and associated acreage is from a private seller. The Capstone team identified the potential of the properties, contacted the seller and completed the transaction through direct, proprietary negotiations. The transaction is being primarily financed with growth equity from Lime Rock Partners as part of its $100 million commitment to Capstone.

Phil Terry, Capstone chief executive officer, noted, "We believe that the newly acquired properties complement our existing asset base perfectly, adding production, cash flow and low-risk drilling opportunities. The acquisition also provides Capstone with greater scale to assist us in our continuing plan to create value in every part of our strategy: high-density drilling, operational optimization, new acreage leasing and property acquisitions."

Capstone is an exploration and production company focused on the Central Basin Platform of West Texas and Southeast New Mexico. Formed in early 2012, the senior leadership of Capstone brought to the company's strategy a wealth of experience pursuing a similar model as senior officers of Arena Resources Inc., a publicly traded company that was sold to SandRidge Energy for $1.6 billion in 2010. In addition to Terry, former CEO of Arena, Capstone is led by David Ricks, president and chief operating officer and former vice president of operations at Arena. Terry and Ricks oversee a Tulsa-based team that includes Pat McConn, vice president, geology, Tom Wahl, vice president, land, Kim Nichols, accounting manager, and Mike Willis, general counsel.

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PAID CONTENT

around the oil patch

To appear in *Around the Oil Patch* call Paul Wiseman at 697-7468 or your Oil Report account executive at 687-9004.

Cardinal Surveys does unconventional logs for unconventional shale plays

Horizontal drilling, hydraulic fracturing, exciting new plays in the unconventional shales—it's all great if you know exactly where your play zones and water zones are. Cardinal Surveys' TRAC-III Annulus Production Logging can help you see what zones are producing what in beam-pumped wells, and make adjustments that can improve production and reduce water.

Because the TRAC-III production logging tool has an OD of just 7/8" it fits perfectly between the tubing and the annulus in wells with 5-1/2 inch casing and 2-7/8 inch tubing or even 4 1/2 inch casing and 2-3/8 inch tubing. This allows for real-time logging during production, eliminating the need to shut a well down to run the log.

Quantity and volumetric logs allow producers to closely identify production zones to identify the sources of water and of oil.

Once the log is run, Cardinal's team of experienced analysts goes to work uncovering the well's secrets. Cardinal president Steve McLaughlin explains that the more information his team gets about the well's history, the more accurately they can interpret the logs.

TRAC-III logging is not only useful in new wells, it can help with workovers of depleted wells. Reliable data allows accurate and precise design of remedial workover procedures. This leads to more efficient and cost-effective well recompletions, and, in some cases, results in workover designs that would otherwise be impossible. Knowledge gained from the production log may also lead to different completion techniques for future wells. *In one recent case study, an operator reduced the number of completion stages after TRAC-III logs proved them unnecessary, saving significant costs.*

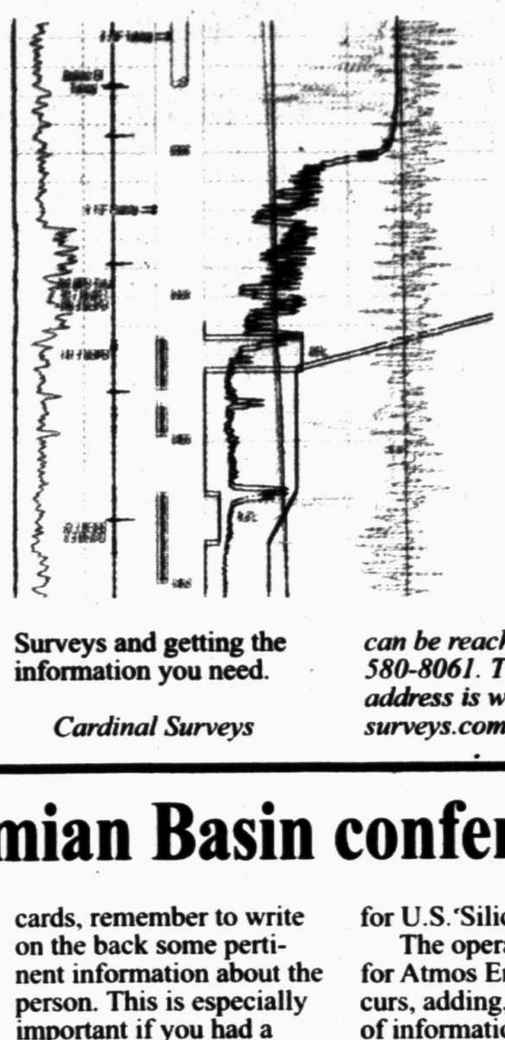
Cardinal Surveys has been successfully logging wells since the 1960s. Many other formations benefit equally from real-time production logging. In fact, case studies prove well performance can be radically improved after workover, including elimination of water and significant increases in hydrocarbon production.

Digital signal processing, digital links to downhole tools, real-time recording and display—all these and more advancements have continued to keep Cardinal Surveys at the forefront of the downhole information business.

Find out what is actually contributing to production, reduce water flow, establish a baseline for a new well—all these uses and more allow TRAC-III logging from Cardinal Surveys to pay for itself over and over during the life of your wells.

Eliminate the guesswork by calling Cardinal Surveys and getting the information you need.

Cardinal Surveys can be reached at (432) 580-8061. Their website address is www.cardinalsurveys.com.



Knowing where and how much oil and water are coming from a well. This helps producers identify both zones. Call Cardinal at 580-8061.

Networking opportunities abound at DUG Permian Basin conference

Top-notch presentations and vendor booths certainly anchor this year's DUG *Permian Basin* conference, but the bonuses are the huge networking opportunities it provides. This year's conference, to be held April2-4 at the Ft. Worth Convention Center, promises to be the best one ever in this area.

Last year's conference saw attendance top 3,000 people from 35 states and 13 countries. Over half (54 percent) represented service companies, and another 26 percent were oil and gas operators—all looking for new business opportunities. The rest involved banking/finance, consulting, engineering and other interests, representing even more business opportunities.

Where else can you connect with such a rich collection of wisdom, experience and opportunities focused on unconventional resource development?

Conference host Hart Energy has arranged a plethora of opportunities for attendees to network, starting with the opening reception on Tuesday night, April 2. There will also be five networking opportunities on Wednesday and another one on Thursday, April 4, at 10 a.m.

At the DUG conference, the exhibitors' booths remain open during all conference sessions. If there is a session that doesn't meets your needs, you can roam the exhibit hall and interact with vendors or other associates to find technology or partnering opportunities you might otherwise miss. And this year you have even more room to pursue new conections, as the event has expanded its space in the convention center to accommodate more attendees and exhibitors.

Attendees from previous years attest to the ease of meeting new people. "A great opportunity to catch up on the latest technology and network with the client base," stated a vice president, technical sales and marketing, for Newpark Drilling Fluids. A managing partner with Venado Oil & Gas remarked, "The DUG Conferences put faces to the names behind the press releases and offer a few jewels of knowledge not in those news stories."

To take the most advantage of these networking opportunities make sure you bring plenty of business cards. A box of 500 might not be too many. When you receive others' cards, remember to write on the back some pertinent information about the person. This is especially important if you had a personal connection — you both went to the same school, hail from the same hometown, worked for the same company or in the same field, or even if you have children attending the same college.

From networking to presentations, the knowledge available is vast, say past attendees.

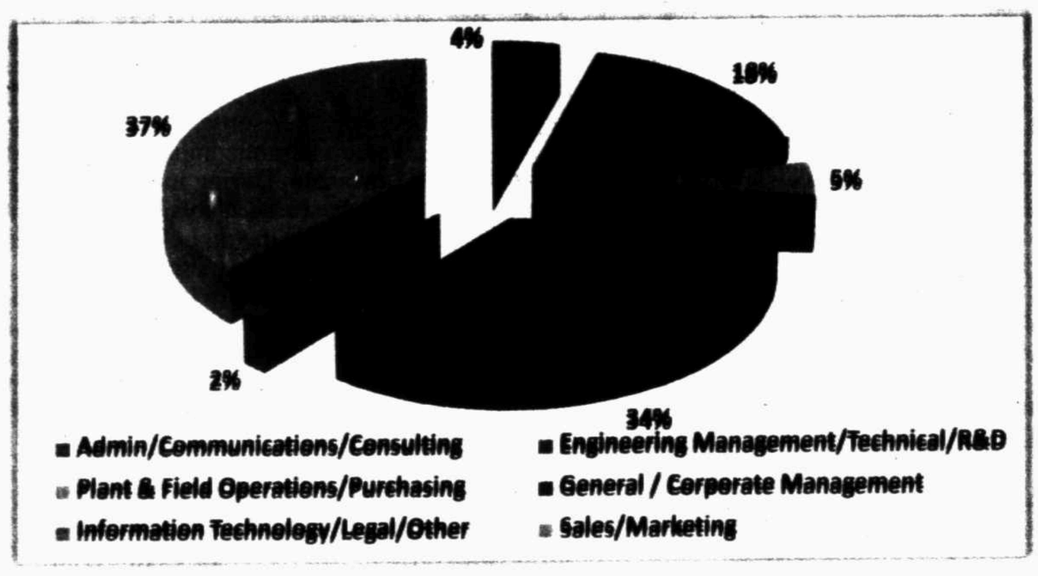
"The presentations were top-notch and useful in tracking current technology and trends. In addition, we were able to make an industry contact that will be most beneficial to us in helping better serve the industry," says the technical director of oil & gas, for U.S. Silica.

The operations manager for Atmos Energy concurs, adding, "The amount of information available at a DUG conference is invaluable to anyone in the natural gas industry."

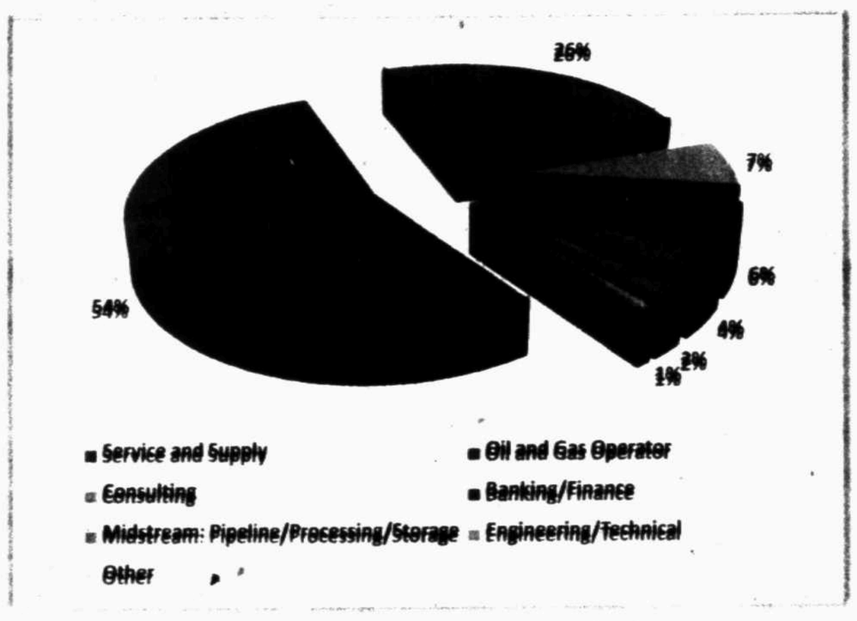
This year's DUG conference, April 2-4, at the Ft. Worth Convention Center, delivers more than industry-leading speakers and an ever-increasing exhibit floor. It's also the best networking opportunity around. Register now, as this conference only comes around once a year.

Go to www.dugpermian.com *to learn more about the conference, to register and to learn about lodging availabilities.*

Attendees by Job Function - 2012



Attendees by Company Type - 2012



Who attends a DUG conference? These graphs show them by company type and job type. Make your reservations now in order to take advantage of the networking and learning opportunities at this year's conference.

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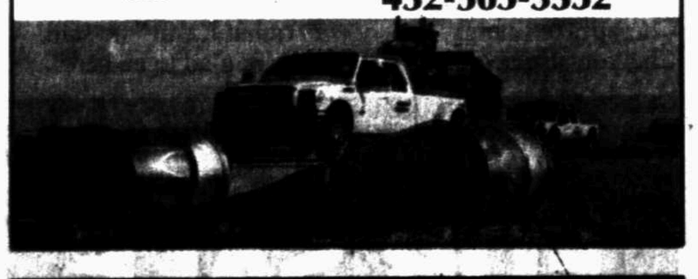

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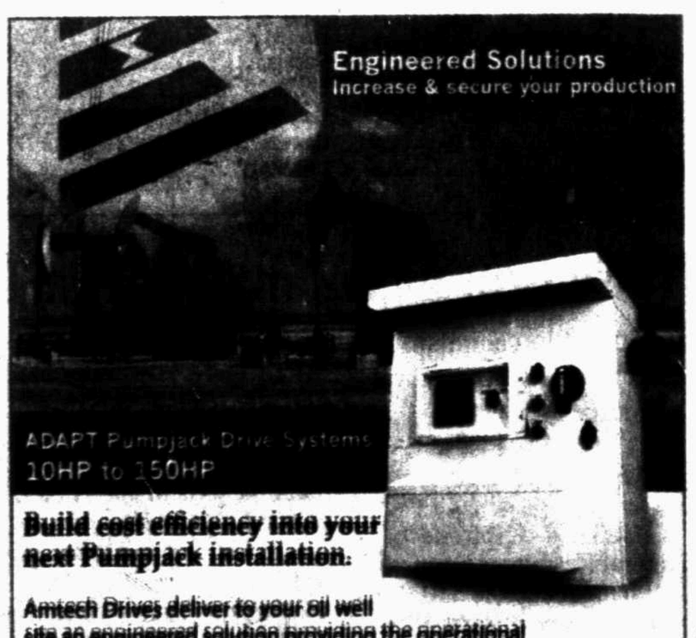

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PAID CONTENT

around the oil patch

To appear in *Around the Oil Patch* call Paul Wiseman at 697-7468, your Oil Report account executive at 687-9004.

The Victaulic roll grooving system speeds preparation for pipe joining

Joining pipe by traditional methods—welding, threading or flanging—all are challenging methods for rapidly joining pipe. In the field, where pipe must be moved regularly, these problems multiply—especially the time lost factor.

The Victaulic pipe joining system solves all those problems and more, saving time and money.

One problem with typical threading is that the threading process removes a substantial amount of the thickness of the pipe, reducing the wall at the joint. The process is also messy, leaving piles of cuttings to be cleaned up—and it requires copious amounts of messy cutting oils.

Roll grooving is the method of choice for preparing pipe made of standard or light wall carbon steel, stainless steel, aluminum, PVC, copper and other materials. With more and more companies coating pipe to extend its life in harsh oilfield conditions, it is important to note that the Victaulic system works very well with coated pipe.

When time is of the essence, remember that roll grooving reduces pipe preparation time from minutes down to a few seconds. Roll grooving is much cleaner since it does not involve cutting oils or pipe shavings. It cold-forms the groove, so it does not generate any heat, as would be the case with welding the pipe ends.

With the Victaulic system's roll grooving tools, preparation time for joining pipe is reduced to just seconds.

Call Victaulic today to learn how their coupling system can save you valuable time in installation and in moving pipe: 432-332-1489

Victaulic makes available not only the couplings, but the tools needed to prepare the pipe to joint with those couplings. The system's distinguishing feature is the groove made where the pipe and fitting engage to form a self-restraining joint. The position, depth and cross-section of this groove combine with the coupling housing in an optimal strength-to-weight relationship. The result is a permanent connection capable of withstanding thrust loads up to the maximum rated pressure.

Victaulic roll grooving tools are all designed to rotate the pipe or orbit the pipe as a male grooving roll is impressed into the pipe. The support roll, in addition to driving the pipe or tool, is the female die inside the pipe. As stated, this process removes no metal—the groove is cold-formed into the pipe wall.

All Victaulic cut groovers are designed to be driven around a stationary pipe to machine away material, providing a groove. The design of the tool assures a groove that is concentric with the pipe's O. D., even if the pipe is out-of-round. Cut grooving is basically designed for standard weight or heavier wall thicknesses of pipe. A square cut groove is used for steel and other metallic IPS pipe. This provides maximum coupling or gripping efficiency and the fullest pipe movement capabilities.

Victaulic offers a variety of pipe preparation tools for the most common pipe sizes—2-6 inch OD. Additionally there are plenty of options for any size pipe from ¾" to 60" OD. In addition to couplings, Victaulic supplies valves and fittings for oil field piping systems.

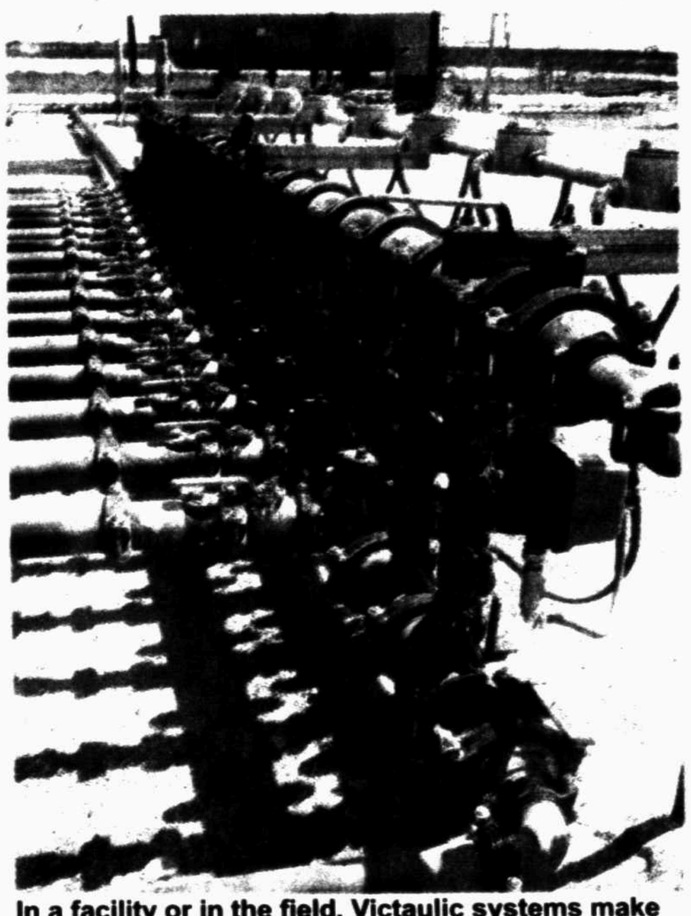
Victaulic products are suitable for production flow lines and headers, tank batteries and secondary recovery, drilling, collection tanks and refinery plant piping, among other applications. They are also suitable for pipes transporting wet or dry media through many types of pipe.

The Victaulic system is a tried and true approach to speed, security and safety in pipe connections. Developed in 1925, many systems installed in those early days are still in use today, almost 90 years later.

Victaulic is not new to the area, either, having maintained an office in Odessa since the 1960s. You will find a large number of pleased, longtime customers throughout the area.

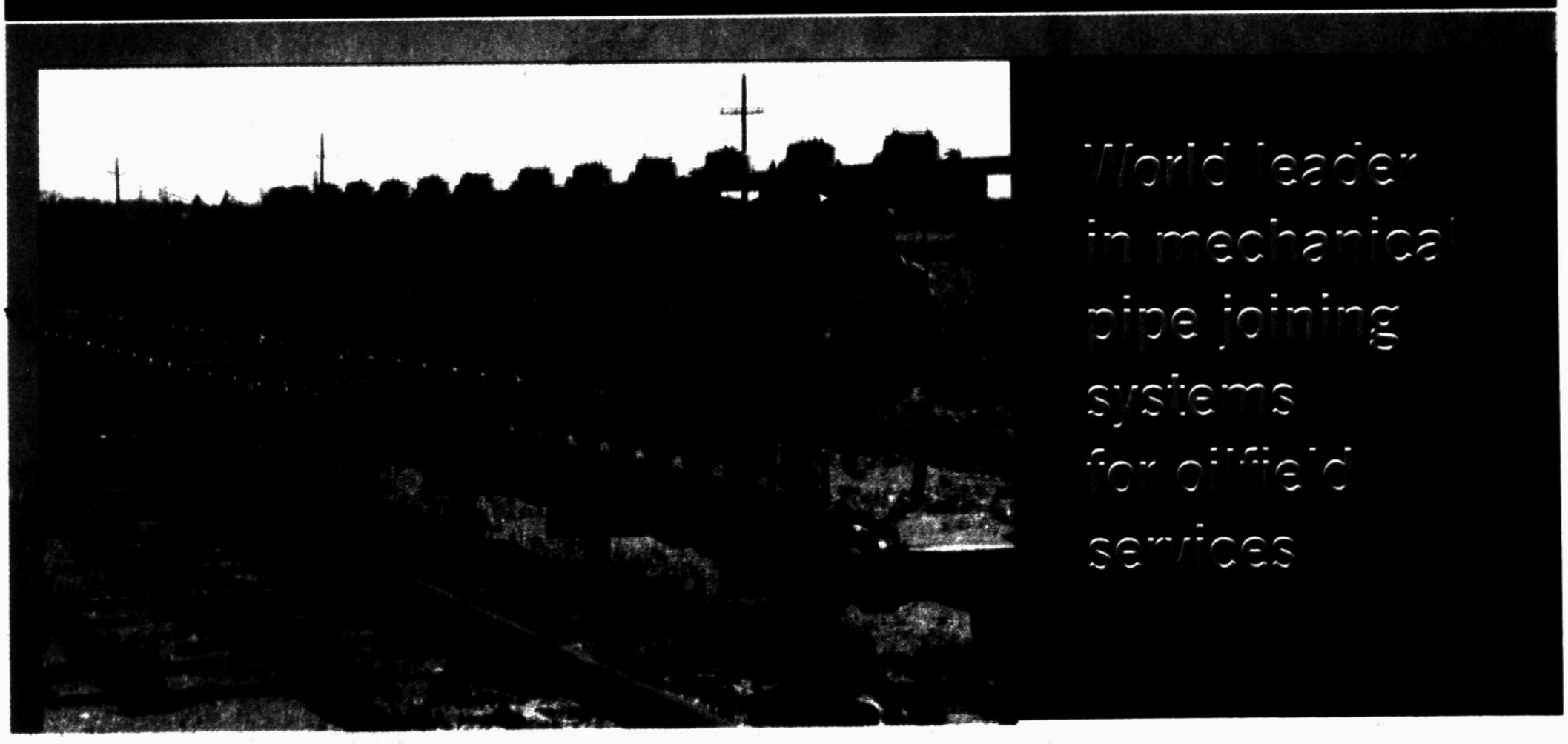
Talk to Victaulic this week and learn how you can speed the assembly of your pipes.

Call Victaulic at 432-332-1489 to learn more.



In a facility or in the field, Victaulic systems make fast, secure joints without heat and without compromising the thickness of the pipe wall.

VICTAULIC • PIPING • SYSTEMS • SOLUTIONS



Grooved piping is the fastest, most economical and reliable method for joining upstream oil systems.

Designed for pressures up to 2500 psi the Victaulic line of couplings, valves, fittings and accessories is a complete single source system.

Call today to find out how Victaulic can help you on your next piping project.

Victaulic

DEVELOPMENT WELLS

From 7G

CARL E. GUNGOLL EXPL., LLC WASSON (O/G) DRILL Well# 1 HIGG RANCH 66, 1600 FSL 330 FEL, SEC 66 BLK AX, PSL/CA MILLER SUR., A-2379 5400', 6 SW DENVER CITY

CARL E. GUNGOLL EXPL., LLC WASSON (O/G) DRILL Well# 6 HIGG RANCH 456, 660 FSL 1980 FEL, SEC 456 BLK G, CCSD&RGNG/ BJ CO-CHRAIN SUR., A-826 5400', 7 SW DENVER CITY

OCCIDENTAL PERMIAN LTD. WASSON 72 (O) DRILL (DIREC) Well# 5514 GAINES WASSON CLEARFORK UNIT, 371 FNL 1119 FWL, SEC 50 BLK AX, PSL/B ANDERSON SUR., A-995 8200', 1 SE DENVER CITY

OCCIDENTAL PERMIAN LTD. WASSON 72 (O) DRILL (DIREC) Well# 6525 GAINES WASSON CLEARFORK UNIT, 1484 FNL 980 FWL, SEC 50 BLK AX, PSL/B ANDERSON SUR., A-995 8100', 1 SW DENVER CITY

OXY USA, INC. NOLLEY (WOLFCAMP) (O) DRILL Well# 7 NORMAN A, 1580 FSL 2269 FEL, SEC 8 BLK C45, PSL/JL EIDSON SUR., A-722 10000', 14 S SEMINOLE

TEXLAND PETROLEUM, LP S BOYDELL(CLRFRK LO) DRILL (INJ) Well# 3 MONUMENT DRAW, 2616 FWL 1160 FSL, SEC 23 BLK A27, PSL/ HL CALLOWAY SUR., A-372 7200', 20 SW SEMINOLE

Garza County

SHARP IMAGE ENERGY, INC. STORIE (STRAWN) (O) DRILL Well# 1 CLOSE CITY 1419, 2173 FNL 2796 FEL, SEC 1419, EL&RR SUR., A-302 9800', 10 W POST

THREE R OIL CO. H&L (GLORIETA) (O) DRILL Well# 7 POST-MONTGOMERY D, 2272 FNL 2540 FWL, SEC 9 BLK 4, K AYCOCK SUR., A-484 4000', 8 NE POST

THREE R OIL CO. H&L (GLORIETA) (O) DRILL Well# 13 POST-MONTGOMERY, 330 FNL 1338 FEL, SEC 94 BLK 5, GH&H SUR., A-982 4000', 7 NE POST

Hockley County

CANAN MOWREY OPER., LLC ACE OF SPADES(STRAWN) (O) DRILL Well# 2 SPADE A, 3689 FSL 5288 FEL, SEC 16, HOWARD CSL SUR., A-13 12000', 2 SW SMYER

King County

HUNT OIL COMPANY ANNE TANDY (STRAWN) (O) DRILL Well# N 91 SB BURNETT ESTATE, 83 FSWL 356 FSEL, SEC 9 BLK X, RM THOMSON SUR., A-647 6000', 17 SE GUTHRIE

HUNT OIL COMPANY ANNE TANDY (STRAWN) (O/G) DRILL Well# N 15R SB BURNETT ESTATE, 884 FSWL 1837 FSEL, SEC 9 BLK X, RM THOMSON SUR., A-647 6000', 17 SE GUTHRIE

HUNT OIL COMPANY ANNE TANDY (STRAWN) DRILL (INJ) Well# N 44R SB BURNETT ESTATE, 184 FSL 307 FWL, SEC 14 BLK X, RM THOMSON SUR., A-652 6000', 17 SE GUTHRIE

HUNT OIL COMPANY ANNE TANDY (STRAWN) (O) DRILL Well# N 10R FB BURNETT ESTATE, 766 FSWL 859 FSEL, SEC 9 BLK X, RM THOMSON SUR., A-647 6000', 17 SE GUTHRIE

HUNT OIL COMPANY ANNE TANDY (STRAWN) (O) DRILL Well# Y 24AR SB BURNETT ESTATE, 664 FSEL 1475 FNEL, SEC 11 BLK X, RM THOMSON SUR., A-649 6000', 17 SE GUTHRIE

HUNT OIL COMPANY ANNE TANDY (STRAWN) DRILL (INJ) Well# N 11R SB BURNETT ESTATE, 700 FSEL 2092 FSWL, SEC 9 BLK X, RM THOMSON SUR., A-647 6000', 17 SE GUTHRIE

MEDDERS OIL CO., INC. BALT (TANNEHILL) (O) DRILL Well# 4 PITCHFORK III, 7218 FWL 3580 FSL, SEC 1, SOMERVELL CSL SUR., A-284 4100', 11 SW GUTHRIE

SALIDA EXPL., LLC BACON 107 (TANNEHILL) (O) DRILL Well# 8 TRUMAN AND TOMMY BACON, 917 FSL 1105 FEL, SEC 107 BLK F, H&TC SUR., A-131 3900', 13 S GUTHRIE

Scurry County

OCCIDENTAL PERMIAN LTD. COGDELL (AREA) (O) DRILL (DIREC) Well# 6424 COGDELL CANYON REEF UNIT, 1021 FSL 1354 FEL, SEC 614 BLK 97, H&TC SUR., A-2271 8000', 13 N SNYDER

OCCIDENTAL PERMIAN LTD. COGDELL (AREA) (O) DRILL (DIREC) Well# 6423 COGDELL CANYON REEF UNIT, 2369 FNL 1091 FEL, SEC 614 BLK 97, H&TC/ C COPPINGER SUR., A-2271 8000', 14 N SNYDER

OCCIDENTAL PERMIAN LTD. COGDELL (AREA) (O) DRILL (36)(37)(DIREC) Well# 6425 COGDELL CANYON REEF UNIT, 199 FSL 1292 FEL, SEC 614 BLK 97, H&TC/ C COPPINGER SUR., A-2271 8000', 13 N SNYDER

Terry County

STANOLIND OPERATING LLC KINGDOM (ABO REEF) DRILL (INJ) Well# 7WI HC GRACEY, 150 FWL 980 FNL, SEC 11 BLK D14, C&M SUR., A-75 8200', 9 SW SUNDOWN

STANOLIND OPERATING LLC KINGDOM (ABO REEF) (O) DRILL Well# 6 HC GRACEY, 660 FWL 1305 FNL, SEC 11 BLK D14, C&M SUR., A-75 8200', 9 SW SUNDOWN

TRAIL MOUNTAIN, INC. CY-JACK (LWCC) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 4H LOCKETT, 380 FEL 330 FSL, SEC 22 BLK E, EL&RR/N BELL SUR., A-411 10700', 9 N BROWNFIELD.

Yoakum County

OCCIDENTAL PERMIAN LTD. WASSON 72 (O) DRILL (DIREC) Well# 5513 GAINES WASSON CLEARFORK UNIT, 187 FSL 4640 FEL, SEC 37 BLK AX, PSL/JM POWELL SUR., A-1788 8200', 3/4 SE DENVER CITY

New Mexico

Chaves County

Celero Energy II LP
Rock Queen Unit #504
Caprock-Re-Entry of Great Western Drlg Co, Rock Queen Unit 24 #14, P&A, Old TD 3068; Sec 24 T13S R31E; 660/S & 1980/W; 15 mi SW Caprock; Rot 3100 Queen; API #30-005-00840

Mack Energy Corp.
Calgary Federal #1
Round Tank; Sec 19 T15S R29E; 330/S & 330/W; 14 mi NW Loco Hills; Rot 6658 San Andres; API #30-005-64159

Mack Energy Corp.
Calgary Federal #2
Round Tank; Sec 19 T15S R29E; 1650/S & 330/W; 14 mi NW Loco Hills; Rot 6690 San Andres; API #30-005-64160

Eddy County

COG Operating LLC
McIntyre DK Federal #22
Loco Hills; Sec 17 T17S R30E; 1065/S & 1175/E; 1 1/2 mi NE Loco Hills; Rot 4800 Glo/ Yeso; API #30-015-40900

Apache Corp.
NFE Federal #37
Cedar Lake; Sec 7 T17S R31E; 702/N & 1000/E; 4 1/2 mi NE Loco Hills; Rot 10671 Glo/Yeso; API #30-015-40901

Apache Corp.
NFE Federal #38
Cedar Lake; Sec 7 T17S R31E; 637/N & 1000/E; 4 1/2 mi NE Loco Hills; Rot 11146 Glo/Yeso; API #30-015-40902

Apache Corp.
NFE Federal #39
Cedar Lake; Sec 7 T17S R31E; 572/N & 1000/E; 4 1/2 mi NE Loco Hills; Rot 11436 Glo/Yeso; API #30-015-40903

Apache Corp.
Raven Federal #13
Cedar Lake; Sec 7 T17S R31E; 1405/S & 432/E; 4 1/2 mi NE Loco Hills; Rot 9339 Glo/ Yeso; API #30-015-40910

Apache Corp.
Raven Federal #14
Cedar Lake; Sec 7 T17S R31E; 1470/S & 432/E; 4 1/2 mi NE Loco Hills; Rot 9487 Glo/ Yeso; API #30-015-40911

Apache Corp.
Raven Federal #15
Cedar Lake; Sec 7 T17S R31E; 1535/S & 432/E; 4 1/2 mi NE Loco Hills; Rot 10091 Glo/Yeso; API #30-015-40912

Apache Corp.
Raven Federal #16
Cedar Lake; Sec 7 T17S R31E; 727/N & 1000/E; 4 1/2 mi NE Loco Hills; Rot 8394 Glo/ Yeso; API #30-015-40913

Apache Corp.
Raven Federal #17
Cedar Lake; Sec 7 T17S R31E; 662/N & 1000/E; 4 1/2 mi NE Loco Hills; Rot 8910 Glo/ Yeso; API #30-015-40914

Apache Corp.
Raven Federal #18
Cedar Lake; Sec 7 T17S R31E; 597/N & 1000/E; 4 1/2 mi NE Loco Hills; Rot 9310 Glo/ Yeso; API #30-015-40915

Apache Corp.
Raven Federal #19
Cedar Lake; Sec 7 T17S R31E; 485/S & 180/E; 4 1/2 mi NE Loco Hills; Rot 10293 Glo/ Yeso; API #30-015-40916

Apache Corp.
Raven Federal #20
Cedar Lake; Sec 7 T17S R31E; 420/S & 180/E; 4 1/2 mi NE Loco Hills; Rot 9704 Glo/ Yeso; API #30-015-40917

Apache Corp.
Raven Federal #21
Cedar Lake; Sec 7 T17S R31E; 330/S & 180/E; 4 1/2 mi NE Loco Hills; Rot 9180 Glo/ Yeso; API #30-015-40918

Lime Rock Resources II-A LP
Kaiser B 18 B #13
Red Lake; Sec 18 T18S R27E; 1080/N & 1650/E; 7 mi SE Artesia; Rot 4450 Glo/Yeso; API #30-015-40904

COG Operating LLC
Birdseye 32 State #3
Gatuna Canyon; Sec 32 T19S R31E; 420/S & 1675/W; 10 mi NW Halfway; Rot 13327 Bone Spring; API #30-015-40891

Oxy USA Inc.
Lost Tank 35 State SWD #1
SWD; Sec 35 T21S R31E; 1753/S & 1875/E; 8 mi SW Halfway; Rot 4815 Delaware; API #30-015-40890

COG Operating LLC
Cadillac 15 State #1
West Empire; Sec 15 T17S R29E; 2460/N & 1965/W; 5 mi NW Loco Hills; Rot 7009 Glo/ Yeso; API #30-015-40923

COG Operating LLC
Cadillac 15 State #2
West Empire; Sec 15 T17S R29E; 2460/N & 2310/W; 5 mi NW Loco Hills; Rot 6990 Glo/ Yeso; API #30-015-40924

COG Operating LLC
Stonewall 9 Fee #1
Atoka; Sec 9 T19S R26E; 300/S & 330/W; 3 mi NW Lakewood; Rot 7600 Glo/Yeso; API #30-015-40925

COG Operating LLC
Custer 16 State Com #2
Atoka; Sec 16 T19S R26E; 150/S & 1650/W; 2 mi NW Lakewood; Rot 7450 Glo/Yeso; API #30-015-40926

Oxy USA WTP LP
Government AB Fed.#13
Old Millman Ranch; Sec 10 T20S R28E; 2080/N & 660/E; 10.5 mi NE Carlsbad; Rot 6700 Bone Spring; API #30-015-40920

Chevron USA Inc.
Remuda Basin 24 23 29 St #1
Nash Draw; Sec 24 T23S R29E; 150/N & 825/E; 9 mi NE Loving; Rot 12,165 Delaware; API #30-015-40905

Mewbourne Oil Co.
Wyatt Draw 24 25 IH #1
North Seven Rivers; Sec 24 T19S R25E; 2100/S & 870/E; 3 1/2 mi NW Lakewood; Rot 7014 Glo/Yeso; API #30-015-40909

Legend Natural Gas III LP
Full Choke Com #1
Willow Lake; Sec 32 T24S R28E; 330/S & 380/W; 4 mi SW Malaga; Rot 12300 Bone Spring; API #30-015-40906

Legend Natural Gas III LP
Full Choke Com #3
Willow Lake; Sec 32 T24S R28E; 216/S & 654/E; 4 mi SW Malaga; Rot 12300 Bone Spring; API #30-015-40907

Mewbourne Oil Corp.
Bradley 30 Fed #4
Santo Nino; Sec 30 T18S R30E; 330/N & 110/W; 7 mi SW Loco Hills; Rot 12679 Bone Spring; API #30-015-40934

Mack Energy Corp.
Razorback Federal #5
Tamano; Sec 3 T18S R31E; 1650/N & 330/W; 7 mi SW Maljamar; Rot 5500 San Andres; API #30-015-40928

COG Operating LLC
Salada Vista 36 State #4
Gatuna Canyon; Sec 31 T19S R31E; 1980/S & 180/W; 10.5 mi NW Halfway; Rot 13717 Bone Spring; API #30-015-40933

Mack Energy Corp.
Mammoth Fee #1
Cass Draw; Sec 3 T23S R27E; 2310/S & 2310/E; 1/2 mi S Otis; Rot 10600 Bone Spring; API #30-015-40930

BOPCO LP
Poker Lake Unit #367
Undes; Sec 34 T24S R30E; 601/N & 1953/W; 12 mi SE Malaga; Rot 12854 Brushy Canyon; API #30-015-40927

COG Operating LLC
Mescal 22 Federal #3
SW Willow Lake; Sec 22 T25S R29E; 380/N & 190/E; 9 mi SE Malaga; Rot 12334 Bone Spring; API #30-015-40929

Oxy USA WTP LP
Piglet 21 Federal #10
Artesia; Sec 21 T17S R28E; 1673/N & 990/W; 12.5 mi SE Artesia; Rot 5300 Glo/Yeso; API #30-015-40948

Oxy USA WTP LP
Tigger 9 State #6
East Empire; Sec 9 T17S R29E; 1920/S & 2445/W; 6 mi NW Loco Hills; Rot 5300 Glo/ Yeso; API #30-015-40937

Oxy USA WTP LP
Tigger 9 State #7
East Empire; Sec 9 T17S R29E; 2253/S & 1706/E; 6 mi NW Loco Hills; Rot 5300 Glo/ Yeso; API #30-015-40938

Oxy USA WTP LP
Tigger 9 State #8
East Empire; Sec 9 T17S R29E; 2260/S & 925/E; 6 mi NW Loco Hills; Rot 5300 Glo/ Yeso; API #30-015-40939

Oxy USA WTP LP
Tigger 9 State #9
East Empire; Sec 9 T17S R29E; 420/S & 620/E; 6 mi NW Loco Hills; Rot 5300 Glo/Yeso; API #30-015-40940

Oxy USA WTP LP
Tigger 9 State #10
East Empire; Sec 9 T17S R29E; 940/S & 1726/E; 6 mi NW Loco Hills; Rot 5300 Glo/ Yeso; API #30-015-40941

Burnett Oil Co. Inc.
Jackson B #53
Cedar Lake; Sec 1 T17S R30E; 440/S & 740/W; 4 mi NE Loco Hills; Rot 6114 Glo/Yeso; API #30-015-40942

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THE ARTS

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mywesttexas.com | Sunday, March 17, 2013 | Section H

PLAYING WITH FIRE

Artist torches glass into imaginary botanicals

By Georgia Temple
Entertainment Editor

Kathleen Elliot's passion for glass began with accepting the invitation of a friend.

"For about six years I worked in the semiconductor industry and had a friend, Michael Green, who had done scientific glassblowing," Elliot said in an article for Glass Alliance of Northern California. "He loved glass and tried to share it with anybody and everybody.

"Finally I went over. He put me behind a torch and taught me some of the basics. After a couple of visits to his garage, we decided to try making some beads. Bead making was just becoming popular in the U.S. Unfortunately Michael had been battling leukemia and soon after, he lost the fight.

"I remember Michael often. He would be thrilled that one of his friends actually took up his passion for glass and ran with it."

Through the lessons with her friend, Elliot, whose glasswork is on display at the Ellen Noel Art Museum through May 12, developed a love for glass. Next stop — she bought a bead-making kit and had her husband install it in a corner of the family room.

"I didn't know anything about gases, torches, hoses, connecting all those, and I was a bit afraid of it," Elliot said.

She took her first glassblowing workshop in 1996, studied art at De Anza College, and attended the Pilchuck Glass School for three summers. There she studied with leading glass artists Laura Donefer, Robert Mickelsen and Shane Fero.

In 2003, she began making botanical sculptures, drawing upon plant forms she observed in nature. Four years later, she began an ongoing series of imaginary botanicals, which use natural forms, but invent new species, including human/plant hybrids.

It is this work that is on display at the Odessa museum.

"Imaginary botanicals are sculptures made of flameworked glass," Elliot said in her artist statement. "Leaves, fruit,

Please see **GLASS**/3H

IN THE LIMELIGHT

By Graham Dixon, Ph.D.

THE MOODY BLUES

The time will come when all those '60s bands that transformed popular culture will fall silent. Eventually, as The Moody Blues reminded us constantly in its exciting, mesmerizing concert last weekend, the years catch up with everyone. Even, as one of the band's most well-known songs puts it, "singers in a rock 'n' roll band." What a tragic moment that will be — for those who sprang out of that most creative decade put their younger colleagues of more recent years to shame.

The Wagner Noël auditorium was an ideal setting for The Moody Blues, especially its state-of-the-art lighting and projection system that allowed the band to transport its audience into a psychedelic world that was intoxicating. The laser show was often spectacular, backed up by video that ranged from 2001: a Space Odyssey-like vertigo to poignant photographs and film of the band in its younger days.

"I Know You're Out There Somewhere" featured stills from the '60s — shows when the band was on the same playbill as The Kinks and the Beatles, when, as drummer Graeme Edge put it, "our hair was brown, our teeth were white" and a v-sign with the fingers meant "peace." According to Edge, "Our hair is now white, our teeth are brown" and a v-sign means "Viagra." Well, their hair is indeed white — great manes of the stuff that somehow speak of artistic virility rather than impotence, but the self-deprecating commentary on the passage of time was well put.

Unlike the many bands that attempt to ignore time, The Moody Blues embraces it. In the great "Nights in White Satin" the slightly distant but fascinating Justin Hayward evoked the overwhelming feeling of new romantic love, mixed with the intellectual and spiritual realization that we can never reach the perfection that we seem to glimpse fleetingly. Those lines "I love you, yes I love you, ohhhh how I love you, you, you" were spine tingling. Somehow the pain of wisdom

Please see **LIMELIGHT**/3H

THE ARTS CALENDAR OF EVENTS
A project of Arts Council of Midland
P.O. Box 3494, Midland, Texas 79702
687-1149
FAX: 432-687-1600
info@acmidland.org

Arts Council of Midland: Midland's non-profit arts council and umbrella organization for performing and visual arts organizations, 401 W. Texas Ave., Suite 508, 687-1149. The Arts Council of Midland's mission is enriching lives with the arts through community-wide advocacy, education, outreach and promotion and the annual Celebration of the Arts, scheduled this year for the first weekend in April at Midland Center and Centennial Plaza.

SUNDAY

Ellen Noel Art Museum: Exhibits: "Nature in Bloom: floral Paintings from Local Collection" through April 28. "Playing with Fire: Contemporary Glassworks by Kathleen Elliot" through May 12. Hours 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday. For more information call 432-550-9696 or visit the web site at www.noelartmuseum.

George W. Bush Childhood Home: HISTORIC HOME: Tour unique landmark home to two presidents, two governors and a first lady. Listed on the National Register of Historic Sites and restored to the 1950s period when the Bush family lived in the home. Gift shop features 1950s toys, books, clothing and patriotic items. 1412 West Ohio Ave., 685-1112. Tours and gift shop hours are 2-5 p.m. Sundays and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturdays. Admission charged.

Fredda Turner Durham Children's Museum: From Houdini to Hugo: The Art of Brian Selznick, on view through April. Permanent exhibits include "My Town," "Beach Babies", and "Touch of Sound." Regular museum hours are Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday 2-5 p.m., 1705 West Missouri Ave., 683-2882. Admission charged.

Museum of the Southwest: Museum of the Southwest: EXHIBIT: Bill Keen "Moving On" Contemporary Artist Series 2013, Here and Now Gallery through March 24. EXHIBIT: Taos Master: Taos Society of Artists collection on view all year, EXHIBIT: "Miniature book." EXHIBIT: "Lone Star Printmakers." EXHIBIT: The Sculpture Park has 14 sculptures on display. Pick up a walking guide with descriptions of all sculptures. 1705 West Missouri Ave., 683-2882. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday 2-5 p.m. Donations welcome.

Permian Basin Petroleum Museum, Library and Hall of Fame: Museum hours 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 2 to 5 p. m. Sunday, 1500 Interstate 20 West, 683-4403.

MONDAY

Haley Library and History Center: 1805 West Indiana Ave. 682-5785. Regular hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Free.

Midland Arts Association: Features Beth Barton at the Community National Bank through the month of March. Downtown CNB located at 401 W. Texas Ave.

Midland College Gallery: "Out of Bounds" featuring work by David Herbold, Hector Hernandez, Jieun Beth Kim, Molly Wicks in collaboration with Midland College students. Now through March 29. Allison Fine Arts Building. Gallery hours: Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 10 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p. m.

Midland Community Symphonic Band: Weekly meeting. New members always welcome. 7-9 p.m. at Midland College Fine Arts Building Band Hall. For more information call Walter McClure at 432-260-7136.

Midland County Historical Museum: EXHIBIT: Exhibit honoring World War II veterans in cooperation with the Texas Historical Commission's three-year program. Permanent exhibits: Native American artifacts; early Midland photos and relics; replica of Midland Man discovery; early obituary files available for research, 301 West Missouri Ave. Open 2-5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Call 682-2931 or 688-8947. Free.

Midland County Historical Society: HISTORIC HOME: Z. Taylor Brown-Sara Dorsey Medallion Home, oldest restored home in Midland, 213 North Weatherford St., 682-5447. Open by appointment.

Odessa College LRC: 201 West University Blvd. Call 432-335-6640 for Options Gallery schedule. Free.

The Palette Club: Artwork of Fan Mowles on display in the lobby of the downtown location of Chase Bank, 2301 W. Missouri Ave., through March. Call Susan May to exhibit your work, 634-1795.

Scarborough-Lineberry House: HISTORIC HOME: 802 South Main St., 685-7368. Open by appointment and available for rental for weddings and other special occasions.

Tall City Cloggers: Dances every Monday at M-Squarena. Information about clogging can be obtained by contacting Lynn Myers, 697-6416 or danznfool@grandecom.net

TUESDAY

Blakemore Planetarium: Permanent exhibits are open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Closed Sunday and Monday. Sky shows 4:15 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 7:15 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Friday and 1:15 p.m. and 3:45 p.m. Saturday. Admission charged. 1705 West Missouri Ave.

Midland County Public Library: Exhibit: "Benjamin Franklin in Search of a Better World" with six sections of colorful, freestanding photo-panels. Through April 1. Downtown Library at 301 W. Missouri Ave. Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. - 8 p.m., Friday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. For more information call 432-688-4343.

Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center: Presents: "Merle Haggard" at 7 p.m. For tickets call 1-800-514-3849 or www.wagnernoel.com.

White-Pool House Museum: National Register of Historical Places, Texas Historical Landmark Texas Archaeological Landmark. Museum hours 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 112 East Murphy St., Odessa, 432-333-4072. Free.

WEDNESDAY

First Presbyterian Church: 2013 Lenten Lunch Concert Series: "LuAnn Lane and Sharl Santorelli, pianists on the newly refurbished Baldwin Concert Grand. Half-hour concerts at noon on Wednesday, with lunch available 30 minutes before and after for $7. 800 W. Texas Ave. For more information, call 684-7821 or www.fpcmid.org

Parker House Ranching Museum: Permanent collection of Tom Lea and his work, also featuring area local history exhibits. Museum hours are 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, 1118 Maple Ave., Odessa, 432-335-9918. Free.

THURSDAY

George W. Bush Childhood Home: HISTORIC HOME: Third Thursday Reading Program for children of all ages in the Visitor Center. Featured book is "Chicks versus Bunnies." Copies of the book will be given to children in attendance. 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Call for reservations as space is limited. 1412 West Ohio Ave., 685-1112

FRIDAY

Midland Community Theatre: "Shrek The Musical" at 8 p.m. Co-produced by: Wagner & Brown, Ltd. Davis Theatre I. For ticket information call the box office at 570-4111. And: "Boeing-Boeing," 8 p.m. at the Midland Community Theatre, 2000 W Wadley-Mabee Theatre II: Tickets at 432-570-4111 (Recommended for 12 and up).

SATURDAY

Ellen Noel Art Museum: "Random Acts of Art: Mixed Media Flowers" for adults on March 23 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Western Texas College Art Instructor Garza will teach techniques to create a fun and unusual mixed media flower painting. All supplies and materials will be provided. For more information call 432-550-9696 or visit the web site at www.noelartmuseum.

Midland Community Theatre: "Shrek The Musical" at 8 p.m. Co-produced by: Wagner & Brown, Ltd. Davis Theatre I. For ticket information call the box office at 570-4111. And: "Boeing-Boeing," 8 p.m. at the Midland Community Theatre, 2000 W Wadley Ave.-Mabee Theatre II: Tickets at 432-570-4111 (Recommended for 12 and up).

Arts Council of Midland maintains a calendar of all known arts-related activities. To avoid conflicts with other organizations, please call 687-1149, P.O. Box 3494, Midland, TX 79702; or email info@acmidland.org.

Today's Crossword Puzzle brought to you by Quiroz Custom Home Builders

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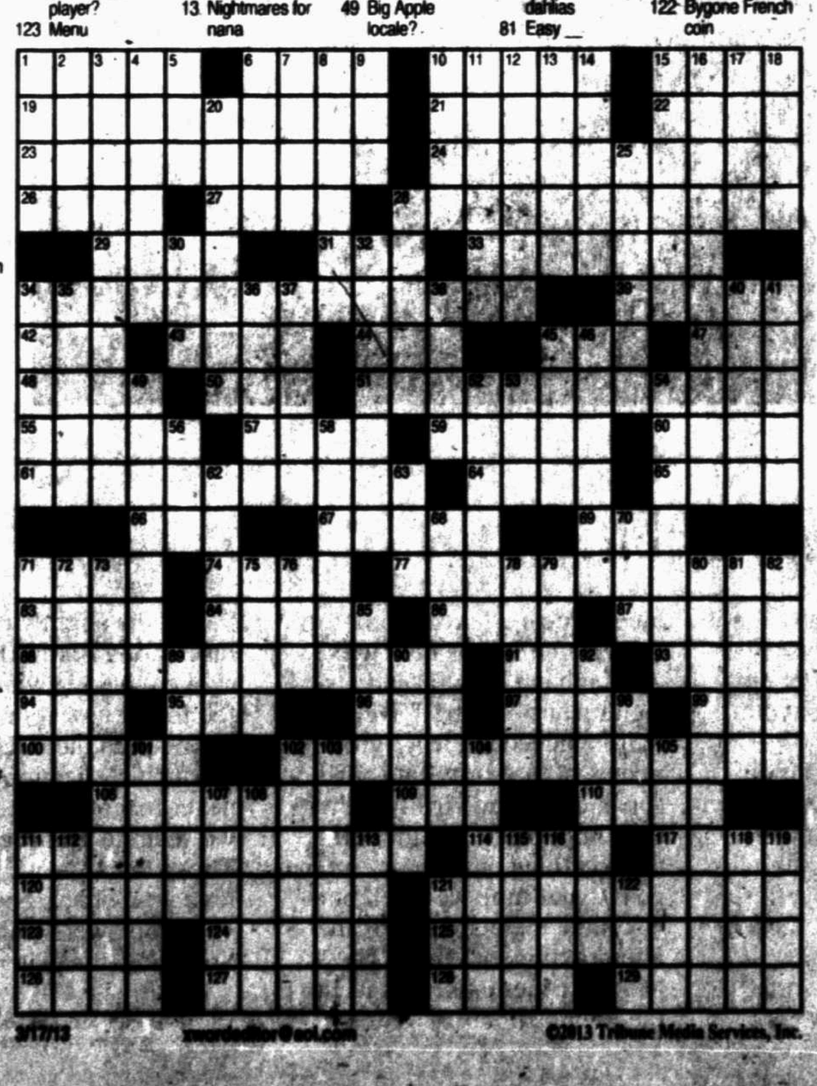
Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

"DISORDERLY CONDUCT" By ALAN ARBESFELD

ACROSS
1 1994 Nobel Peace Prize sharer
6 Campfire rod
10 Biblical king of Israel and a captain
15 Small matter?
19 Coral reefs, e.g.
21 Amazon tributary
22 Roof pointer
23 Avoid caviar?
24 Sheets for jotting
26 Camp sight
27 Sign
28 House a duck?
29 Stella ... cookie brand meaning "star of gold"
31 "__ tree falls ..."
33 Cigarette ad phrase
34 Back beachgoers?
39 2000 title role for Renée
42 HMS component
43 Marx observation
44 Tiny
45 Düsseldorf direction
47 See 82-Down
48 Saharan
50 NBA scoreboard item
51 Strongly desire daredevils?
55 Weirdo
57 What an applauding audience may want
59 Academy founder
60 Word on a dollar
61 Respond to a face-licking?
64 Over
65 Thor's father
66 Python in "The Jungle Book"
67 Guessing
69 Routine
71 For fear that
74 Golfer Jay
77 Work for nothing?
83 Iona competitor
84 Title role for Michael and Jude
86 Whole bunch
87 V-formation flyer
88 Tiger lung
91 "__ Ski" convention site?

DOWN
1 Leftovers
2 Feel pain
3 Parental settings
4 Falls short of being acceptable
5 News initials since 1851
6 Part of a goblet
7 Parent to Philippe
8 "Leave that to me"
9 "The Was'e Land" monogram
10 Looped handle
11 Give a hard time at the comedy club
12 "Deal!"
13 Nightmares for nana
14 Campus group
15 2009 James Cameron epic
16 Save for later playing
17 Most fit to serve
18 Jazz keyboardist Saunders
20 Grow dramatically
25 Dress designation
28 Baseball Hall of Famer Paul or Lloyd
30 Like basic courses: Abbr.
32 "The Burning Bed" star
34 Hovel
35 Country singer Clark
36 Casino request
37 __ Downs
38 Tide table term
40 Nita of silents
41 __ a sour note
45 "Beetle Bailey" dog
46 Patronize
49 Big Apple locale?
52 Big name in pickles
53 Put away
54 Coverings for tiny toes
56 Educ. fundraiser
58 Georgia neighbor
62 Comedy club sounds
63 Fancy marble
68 Grateful Dead's Phil Lesh, e.g.
70 Use MC or Amex
71 Roy Rogers' prop
72 "The Magic Kingdom" novelist Stanley
73 Lethargic
75 "Potent Potables for $200, __"
76 Back on board
78 Parking lot "runner, perhaps
79 Head of Hollywood
80 Tulips and dahlias
81 Easy __
82 With 47-Across, 2008 campaign slogan
85 Sesame Street giggler
89 Brief online updates
90 Uneven
92 Long Island university
98 Shifty
101 Storage units
102 Red shade
103 Arm raiser on the street, often
104 Magazine awards
105 Stamen part
107 "If __ Hammer"
108 Get the mist off
111 Knucklehead
112 "Garfield" pooch
113 British tax
115 To be, to Brigitte
116 20 holders, briefly
118 Rights gp.
119 They're worn on moguls
121 "Law & Order: __"
122 Bygone French coin



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GOREN BRIDGE

With Omar Sharif and Tannah Hirsch

Too many trumps

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 6
♥ A K 9 8 5
♦ 10 8 6 5
♣ Q 7 6

WEST
♠ Q 10 7 3
♥ J
♦ 9 4
♣ K 10 5 4 3 2

EAST
♠ 9 5 4
♥ Q 10 6 4 3
♦ K J 7 3 2
♣ Void

SOUTH
♠ A K J 8 2
♥ 7 2
♦ A Q
♣ A J 9 8

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Dbl	4♣	Pass
5♣	Dbl	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening lead: Two of ♣

Here's another deal from an ACBL North American Team Championship. For some reason North, who contracted for three notrump, developed cold feet when West made a speculative double. That got declarer into hot water, but excellent technique landed the doubled game.

Facing a partner who makes a jump shift, it would seem that redouble by North would have been better than four clubs. Expecting four-card support, South continued to game and West felt on firmer grounds when he could double five clubs.

South won the opening lead in hand with the eight as East discarded a diamond. Unflustered by the 6-0 trump split, declarer went about her business. She led a heart to the ace, cashed the ace and king of spades and ruffed a spade. A diamond to the queen held, the ace of diamonds was cashed (a key play) and another spade was ruffed with the board's last trump.

Eight tricks had been played, all won by declarer, and the lead was in dummy. West was down to five trumps while declarer held A J 9 of trumps and two plain-suit cards. Declarer could lead any card from dummy and play a plain suit from hand.

West was forced to ruff and lead a club into declarer's tenace. Declarer won with the nine and exited with the remaining plain-suit card. Again, West had to ruff and lead a trump into South's tenace, and declarer lost only two trump tricks!

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Sunday, March 17, 2013:
This year you work on fine-tuning your communication skills. You will note a tendency to have misunderstandings with others. Use the chaos surrounding plans to learn better interpersonal skills. Count on **GEMINI** to spill the beans.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) ★★★★ Confusion surrounds communication. Do not stand on ceremony. Tonight: Go with the moment.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) ★★★★ You have a tendency to go overboard. Perhaps you simply need to have some fun. Tonight: You must, they treat ... the cycle continues.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) ★★★★ Listen to news with an open mind. A friend makes it clear that your presence is desired at his or her get-together. Tonight: All smiles.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ★★ You could decide at the last minute to downplay what is happening and stay close to home. Tonight: Vanish if you want.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★★ You might be invited to go to a St. Patrick's Day party or two. Know that you will have a good time. Tonight: Forget tomorrow; live today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★ Tension begins to build within your immediate circle. Follow through on what you think is right. Tonight: A loved one is unusually reactive.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★ Reach out to someone at a distance. You have put this person on the back burner long enough. Tonight: Read between the lines.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★ Stay level-headed, as others might not be. Don't allow others' laziness to affect how you feel. You could reverse directions if you want, but that is your call to make. Tonight: Follow a loved one's lead.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★ Take your cues from your significant other or whomever you are with. There is a lot of room for misunderstandings to happen — you don't need to add to it. Tonight: Play "follow the leader."

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★ You could be surprised at everything that is heading your way. Toss yourself into a project. For some of you, this might look like doing your taxes. Tonight: Be Irish.

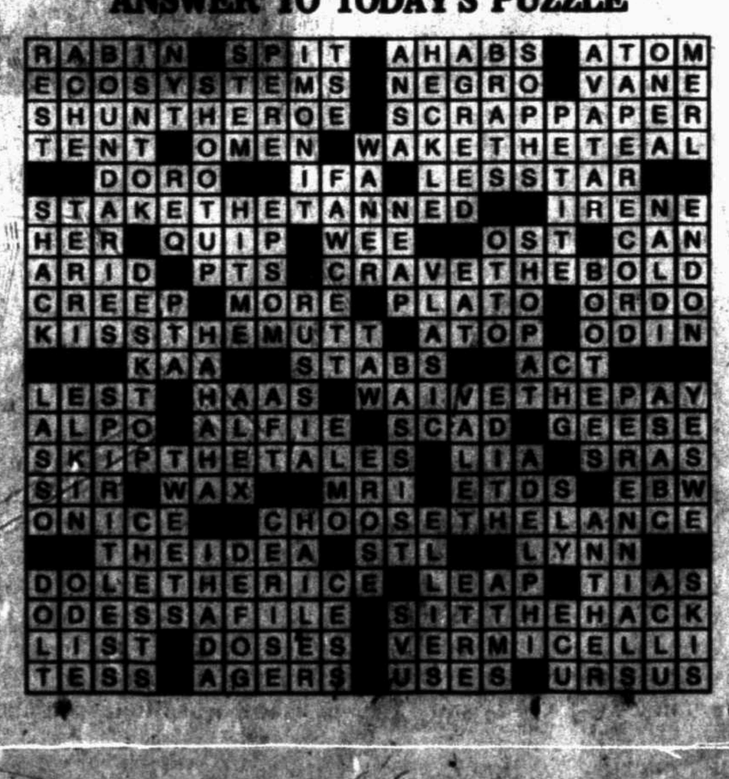
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★ You are so playful that few can believe your energetic mood. You don't often reveal yourself to this extent. Be careful with a loved one. Tonight: Try some Irish charm.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★★ Stay anchored, even if the St. Patrick's Day party is at your house. If you let go of your traditional way of thinking, you could really enjoy the moment. Tonight: To the wee hours.

***

BORN TODAY
Actor Rob Lowe (1964), actor Kurt Russell (1951), musician Paul Kantner (1941)

ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE



Mavericks to perform today at the Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center

Led by singer-songwriter Raul Malo of Miami, the Mavericks formed in Florida in the late 1980s. Malo, whose Cuban heritage also informs the band's musical mix of country and rock 'n' roll, had played in several different bands in high school, as did bassist Robert Reynolds of Kansas City, Mo. Between 1991 and 2003 the band recorded six studio albums, in addition to charting 14 singles on the Billboard country charts. The band's highest-peaking American single was 1996's "All You Ever Do Is Bring Me Down," a collaboration with accordionist Flaco Jiménez.

The Mavericks received a Grammy for Best Country Performance by a Duo or Group with Vocal and won Country Music Awards for Best Vocal Group in 1995-96 and Academy of Country Music Awards in 1994 and 1995 for Best Group, disbanded shortly after a greatest hits album in 1999 and announced plans to reunite in 2011.

In 2012, The Mavericks performed at the Yucca Theatre for Celebration of the Arts.

Today's concert begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets range in price from $20 to $50.

GLASS

From 1H

seed pods and flowers are reimagined in new varieties of organic life. Natural forms appear in unexpected colors and in fantastic, new combinations. Through this process, the vocabulary of observed botany becomes a vehicle for personal expression."

The sculptures are made by flameworking, treating glass directly with the flame of a torch, said Elliot. "This technique allows me to create three-dimensional forms, add color and texture, and then assemble complex structures."

The exhibition, "Playing with Fire: Contemporary Glasswork by Kathleen Elliot," presents imaginary botanicals made of exquisitely formed flameworked glass, said Doylene Land, curator and deputy director of the museum. "They capture the essence of leaves, flowers, fruit and vines, while reimagining nature in personally expressive works."

All the details

"PLAYING WITH FIRE: CONTEMPORARY GLASSWORK BY KATHLEEN ELLIOT"

When: Now through May 12

Where: Ellen Noel Art Museum, 4909 E. University Blvd., Odessa

Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday

Admission: Free.

Upcoming special events at the museum: Random Acts of Art

Info: Adults only, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Saturday. Space limited. Advance enrollment required. Cost is $35.

Flower Market: April 6. Preview Party April 5. Cost $35. First chance to purchase flowers and other plants. Also, special talk by Mark Knox.

For more information on either special event, go to www.noelartmuseum.org or call 550-9696. Reservations required for both.

LIMELIGHT

From 1H

fits a man in his mid-60s more than it did the young genius barely out of his teens that Hayward was when the song was written in 1967.

The Moody Blues used to feature virtually full orchestras in its shows, as befitted one of the first bands to follow the Beatles in the use within pop music of instruments normally associated with the classical repertoire. The band now has a more svelte lineup with four session musicians who play a dizzying array of instruments. For example, flautist Norda Mullen also plays the guitar, while both keyboardists also double on a variety of wind instruments, including saxophone.

One of the most striking features of the show came from second drummer Gordon Marshall, whose drums had a visceral power stemming from an apparently unconventional technique. Occasionally his octopus-like movements reminded me of Keith Moon.

The contrast between John Lodge and Justin Hayward is compelling. Lodge exudes a brash, expressive rock star persona much of the time, thrusting his bass guitar into the air with a coy abandon. Yet he also solos in the haunting, gentle "Isn't Life Strange?" Hayward brings a mysterious, calm presence to the stage, but turns to his Marshall amp in several songs and becomes the personification of the lead guitarist.

After the final encore the three original members of The Moody Blues — officially Hayward is the only one who was in the first band named that, but Edge and Lodge have been there for more than 40 years — stood and acknowledged the standing ovation. They slowly moved off stage, as if reluctant to leave behind the sights and sounds of adoration. The audience also carried on raucously — even when the stage was empty — aware that this might be the last time they see the band.

Given the energy and obvious health of The Moody Blues, I doubt that this actually was the last time, so we should celebrate musicians like these while we can — people who can actually play their instruments, sing without digital enhancement and who show that rock'n'roll, despite numerous reports to the contrary, is alive and well.

Graham Dixon, Ph.D.
www.grahamanthony-photography.com
www.inthelimelighton-line.com

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WEEK AHEAD

Arts & Entertainment opportunities for March 17-23

TODAY

Concert

LUBBOCK — A special spring break price for lower bowl seats to Bon Jovi's Because We Can Tour performance today at United Spirit Arena are $50.

Tickets, if still available, may be purchased online at Select-a-Seat of Lubbock, by phone at 806-770-2000 or toll free 1-800-735-1288.

The concert begins at 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY

Exhibit

The exhibit "Benjamin Franklin in Search of a Better World" is on display now through April 1 at the Midland County Public Library, 301 W. Missouri Ave.

The exhibit featlures six sections of colorful, freestanding photo-panels. Hours are Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information call 688-4343.

TUESDAY

Concert

Merle Haggard performs Tuesday at the Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market 1788.

Curtain is at 8 p.m. The concert is sold out.

THURSDAY

Reading program

The Third Thursday Reading Program for Children of all ages in the Visitor Center at the George W. Bush Childhood Home, 1412 W. Ohio Ave., is set for Thursday.

The featured book is "Symbols of the USA." Copies will be given to children in attendance. Call 685-1112 for reservations as space is limited.

FRIDAY

Musical

Closing perofrmances of "Shrek, the Musical" are at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday. The show is the opening production of Midland Community Theatre's 2013 season.

Individual tickets are $24 for adults, $18 for seniors 65 and older and 18 years old and younger. They may be purchased by calling 570-4111, Monday through Friday between 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Comedy

"Boeing, Boeing" is on stage at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday at Cole Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave.

"Boeing, Boeing" is a classic farce written by French playwright Marc Camoletti. The English language adaptation, translated by Beverley Cross, was first staged in London at the Apollo Theatre in 1962 and transferred to the Duchess Theatre in 1965, running for a total of seven years. In 2008, the revised Broadway edition of the farce received the Tony Award for Best Revival of a Play.

For tickets to the Midland Community Theatre production, call the box office, 570-4111.

During the run of "Boeing, Boeing" works by Midland artist Clara Johnson are in the gallery.

"My paintings express a part of me that can't be seen in any other way," Johnson said in her artist's statement. "Through art I've found a secret language. A way to say what words cannot. A new voice."

Johnson is moving to Dallas.

SATURDAY

Event

The Midland Northside Lions Club Bunny Breakfast is set for 7 to 10 a.m. Saturday at Midland Park Mall in the Food Court.

Tickets are $6.

UPCOMING

Auditions

Auditions for Midland Community Theatre's "Wedding Secrets" are set for 6:30 p.m. March 24 and 25 at Cole Theatre, 2000 W. Wadley Ave.

Audition packets are available for check out at the MCT business office from 1 to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Call 682-2544, ext. 103, for more information.

Art show

Midland Arts Association's 35th Annual Spring Juried Art Exhibition is set for March 28-April 28 at the Museum of the Southwest, 1705 W. Missouri Ave. The opening reception and awards ceremony will be March 28.

Michael R. Grauer, curator of art at the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, Canyon, is the juror.

Concert

BIG SPRING —The Music of Abba is being presented March 30 at the Big Spring Municipal Auditorium. Curtain is at 8 p.m.

For the production, the Big Spring Symphony Orchestra will be joined by Jeans 'n' Classics.

Lecture

Midland College Davidson Distinguished Lecture Series is set for 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. April 4 at Midland College Al G. Langford Chaparral Center.

Jane Goodall, environmentalist and chimpanzee researcher, will speak on "Gombe and Beyond: The Next 50 Years."

Admission is free.

Arts event

The 30th Annual Celebration of the Arts is set for April 5- 7 at Midland Center and Centennial Plaza.

In the past, this annual event has been held in May. For more information or to volunteer, call the Arts Council of Midland, 687-1149.

Comic opera

Texas Tech's production of "Iolanthe" will be presented at the Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center April 6. Curtain is at 7:30 p.m.

The performance is sponsored by the Midland Opera Theater. An opera lecture is planned at 6:45 p.m.

"Iolanthe" is a comic opera with music by Arthur Sullivan and libretto by W.S. Gilbert. It is one of the Savoy operas and is the seventh collaboration of the 14 between Gilbert and Sullivan.

Concert

In the Mood brings its high energy act to the Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center, 1310 N. Farm-to-Market 1788, for two performance April 10.

Showtimes are 2 and 7:30 p.m.

In the Mood celebrates America's Greatest Generation through the music of Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Artie Shaw, Benny Goodman, Harry James, Erskine Hawkins, The Andrews Sisters, Frank Sinatra and other idols of the 1940s. The show's music arrangements, costumes and choreography are as authentic as possible.

This brassy, upbeat 1940s musical revue features a company of 19 on stage: The 13-piece String of Pearls Big Band Orchestra and the In The Mood Singers and Dancers, including some high-flying swing dancers.

Tickets, priced at $25, $35, $55 and $65, are available in person at the box office, Monday through Friday, from noon to 5 p.m.

Tickets, with an additional convenience charge, are also available online at www.wagner-noel.com or call E-Tix at 800-514-3849 9 a.m. through 8 p.m.

Comedy

ODESSA — Jeff Dunham's Disorderly Conduct tour comes to Ector County Coliseum, 4210 Andrews Hwy., April 11.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The show begins at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are $41.50 plus convenience fee. To purchase tickets call 1-888-695-0888.

Midland Community Theatre
Wedding Secrets
AUDITIONS
Sunday, March 24th and
Monday, March 25th
at 6:30 p.m. 2000 W. Wadley Ave.
Auditions will consist of reading only. Audition packets are available for check out at the MCT business office (Tuesday - Friday from 1 pm to 5 pm.)
For more information call (432) 682-2544 ext. 103
www.metmidland.org

the CONSTANT

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QUICKTAKES

Reviews of recent CDs

BON JOVI
"What About Now"

Why does Bon Jovi crank out an unending string of relentlessly upbeat, unavoidably catchy songs in the style that made the Jersey boys famous 30 years ago and kept them there 'til now?

Because they can.

The band's 12th album, "What About Now," fairly bursts with the encouraging self-help anthems that have long defined the Bon Jovi sound and style, from the early days of Tommy and Gina "Livin' on a Prayer" to keeping the faith and realizing "It's My Life."

One listen to "Because We Can" and its chorus will be burned into your brain forever. It's one of many Bon Jovi odes to faithfulness, trust, perseverance and a belief that no matter how bad things get, it'll be OK.

Wayne Parry/AP

ERIC CLAPTON
"Old Sock"

Imagine a jam session at Eric Clapton's house. He's not likely to trot out "Layla" for the 3,478th time. Instead, he and pals with names like Paul McCartney, Chaka Khan and Steve Winwood would probably deep dive into a tasty bag of cover tunes that inspires and delights them.

Such is the cozy feel one gets listening to "Old Sock," Slowhand's 21st studio album and his first on his own Bushbranch record label. Recording primarily with three other musicians, Clapton gives the Gershwin Brothers' "Our Love Is Here to Stay" a sultry, bluesy feel, while Winwood's Hammond B3 Organ-dominated "Still Got the Blues" takes the Gary Moore classic into roller skate rink territory — and delightfully so.

Clapton's guitar wizardry is understated but elegant here, especially on the lilting "Angel" and the muscular "Gotta Get Over," one of the intimate set's two originals.

This "Old Sock" wears well.

Melinda Newman/AP

DAVID BOWIE
"The Next Day"

Bowie retreated after suffering a heart attack in 2004, leaving many of his fans to wonder if he had retired. He recorded secretly in New York the past couple of years, announced the imminent release of "The Next Day" on his 66th birthday in January, and has said nothing about its contents publicly.

Absence has clearly made the heart fonder, judging by the pre-release raves for his first new music in 10 years. Simmer down. This does not auger a return to Bowie's 1970s glory days, although "The Next Day" is certainly more focused than his string of forgettable work in the late 1980s and 1990s.

The balance is more solid than spectacular. While a welcome return for those who know him, "The Next Day" isn't likely to get more than a shrug from a new generation of fans.

David Bauder/AP

Brad Barket/AP

This Sept. 18, 2011, publicity photo provided by RCA Records/PictureGroup shows the making of the Sony Music video with Elle Varner featuring J.Cole in the Williamsburg section of New York. When Varner made her debut to the music world with her first music video, she did so in a hand-me-down. "The jacket I'm wearing in the "Only Wanna Give It to You" (music video) was $4 at Good Will, " she said of the bright orange blazer that got attention on urban blogs when the video was released in 2011.

$20 in my pocket: Celebs also hit the thrift shops

By Mesfin Fekadu
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Macklemore & Ryan Lewis aren't the only ones poppin' tags at thrift shops.

In light of the hip-hop duo's multiplatinum, No. 1 smash "Thrift Shop," musicians including Debbie Harry, Miguel and OneRepublic's Ryan Tedder discuss their adventures buying used clothes, even after their careers took off.

INTERNATIONAL SINGER — AND THRIFT SHOPPER

While on his latest international tour, Los Angeles-born Miguel was happy to meet his fans with different accents. He was also hype about his fans' thrift shops.

"I tried to do it while we were on tour in Europe. I did a little bit in Stockholm, Sweden, a little bit in London," recalled Miguel, who was sporting his favorite rag — a red one from a thrift store — in his back pocket.

The pint-sized R&B singer is known for his smooth sound and chic style. His look is mostly clean — fitted blazers and tight jeans are his forte. He's also an accessories guy.

The Grammy winner said he prefers clothes from thrift shops because "it's like clothes with character."

THE THRIFT QUEEN

When Elle Varner made her debut to the music world with her first music video, she did so in a hand-me-down.

"The jacket I'm wearing in the 'Only Wanna Give It to You' (music video) was $4 at Good Will," she said of the bright orange blazer that got attention on urban blogs when the video was released in 2011.

"It's hot — and wasn't everyone wearing colored blazers after that?" she asked happily, giving herself credit for helping to push the trend.

Grammy-nominated Varner, a rising R&B singer who counts first lady Michelle Obama as a fan, says she loves to thrift shop. She even called herself "a thrift queen."

Her favorite spot for "thrifting" in New York is Beacon's Closet. In Los Angeles, the singer "used to love Jet Rag, but it's so crazy now on Sunday mornings."

TEENAGE T-SHIRT SWAG

How old are Ryan Tedder's favorite T-shirts? Super old.

The 33-year-old OneRepublic singer and songwriter says his favorite shirts are the ones he bought when was a teenager — and they're from thrift shops.

"I've thrift shopped since I was 13 and half of my wardrobe to this day are still the same shirts I had when I was 17, 18," he said, looking down to see if he was wearing one of his classics under his leather jacket.

He wasn't.

But for the producer behind hits for Beyonce and Adele, thrift shops aren't just about clothes. They serve as gift shops, too.

"Me and my best friend back in Colorado, as a joke every year we'd go to the DAV, Disabled American Veterans, thrift shop and pick out the nastiest trophy and that would be the Christmas present we'd give each other," he recalled, smiling. "The African American Junior League Bowlers Association — stuff like that."

YOU CAN'T JOCK HER STYLE

You can't deny the uniqueness of Janelle Monae: Her sound is a mixture of rock, funk and R&B beats; her songs sound space-like and are inspired by things like Muhammad Ali's fists and Walt Disney; and she rocks a pompadour.

But her onstage ensemble is a familiar one: the tuxedo. But that's not always the case.

Monae says she's an avid thrift shopper, namedropping stores like Rag-O-Rama and Poor Little Rich Girl as favorites in her Atlanta hometown.

But when she's not working, she loves to rock used clothes simply because others can't jock her style.

"I like one-of-a-kind pieces," the singer said. "I don't like everybody walking around in stuff that I have on."

HARD TIMES FOR A ROCK STAR

Debbie Harry loves to search for unique items at thrift shops, but sometimes the Blondie frontwoman had to do it because times were hard.

"At various times in my life (it has) been really necessarily to shop like that," she said in an interview.

Harry, 67, said she also hit up thrift shops to fuel her creativity when deciding what to wear to an event or photo shoot. Her favorite used item? A silver 1960s Betsey Johnson jumpsuit.

"Let's face it, when you don't have a lot of money and have to dress cool, it's the best way to go," she said.

The singer says she loves thrift shops in Florida and that as a kid her bargain shopping annoyed her father.

"My dad was horrified when I was in high school and I would come home with something from Salvation Army," she said. "He was terrified that I would be bringing a large population of bugs."

She also enjoys thrift shopping because it's somewhat of an adrenaline rush.

"In a way it's a sense of adventure too because you're not walking in and seeing a rack of clothing," she said. "You have to go in and hunt and it can be very entertaining."

Coming Tuesday

Justin Timberlake 'The 20/20 Experience'

Clutch 'Earth Rocker'

Kacey Musgraves 'Same Trailer Different Park'

Anthrax 'Anthems'

Alice Smith 'She'

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MIDLAND/ODESSA/ BIG SPRING/ANDREWS

MARCH

17 The Texas Treetop Flyers @ Riley's
17 21st Century Goliath @ Blue Max
17 WB Quartet, Matt Rios, Ann Russell, Richard Jaquez, Pieces of Padlock @ Music City mall
18, Forever Came Calling, Old Wounds, Vices @ Pine Box
19 Merle Haggard @ Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center
19 City in the Sea, To Each His Own @ Pine Box
20 Serianna, This Romantic Tragedy @ Pine Box
20 The Texas KGB @ Escape Lounge
21 William Clark Green @ Rockin Rodeo
22 Casey James @ Graham Central Station
22 Mike Leonard, Dan Ferguson, Benito Ramos @ Music City Mall
22 Big Casino @ Redneck's
22 Midnight River Choir, Jeremiah Houston Band @ Lone Star Bar
22 Desert Wind @ The Detour
22-23 3 Lit Pigz @ Your Place
22-23 Electric Gypsies @ The Bar
23 Push Water Band @ Redneck's
23 BugGirl, Speedzer @ Blue Max
23 Dix Hat Band @ Lone Star Bar
23 Mike Leonard, Ty Miller, Ann Russell @ Music City Mall
24 Tom, Jean and Jerry trio, Mildred Rubio, Dan Ferguson, Ty Elliott, Kaleb S. @ Music City Mall
24 Warren Barfield @ New Life Chapel
25 Master, Sacrificial Slaughter, Flethammer @ Pine Box
27 Pullman Standard @ Riley's
28 Granger Smith @ Rockin Rodeo
29 The Assassinators, Broken Jaw Philosophy @ Blue Max
29 Ell Young Band @ Graham Central Station
29 Mustang Sally @ Graham Central Station
29 Forgotten Road Band @ Detour
29 Mildred Rubio, Jino Jordon, Benito Ramos @ Music City Mall
29-30 Gary Nix & West Texas @ Escape Lounge
29-30 The Unswept T's @ Your Place
29-30 The Electric Cowboys @ The Bar
29 Jesse Jennings @ Redneck's
29 Greg Meibo @ The Detour
30 Uncle Lucius @ Lone Star Bar
30 All Stars, Mullins, Ty Miller, Walton Lyte Burlett @ Music City Mall
30 Seth Savage @ Redneck's

APRIL

3 Winchester, Eamertus, Death Rites 666, Nightmare Canvas @ Pine Box
4 Jeremy Steding @ Rockin Rodeo
5 Sons of Bill @ Lone Star Bar
5-6 Tiffany and the Lump @ Your Place
6 Fab 5 @ Ector Theatre
7 Michael Graves @ Blue Max
8 Joe Buck, Viva La Vox @ Blue Max
9 Twiztid @ Far West Events Center
9 Crowned by Fire @ Pine Box
9-10 Gary Nix & West Texas @ Escape Lounge
10 In the Mood @ Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center
11 Stoney Larue @ Rockin Rodeo
11-13 Jason Boland & The Stragglers, Kevin Fowler, Roger Creager, Cory Morrow, Rocklass Kelly, Kyle Park, Bart Crow, Cody Canada & The Departed, No Justice, Mark McKinney, Rich O'Toole, Blue Edmondson, Cody Johnson, Jonathan Tyler & The Northern Lights, Six Market Blvd, Charis Corn, The Dawn Guests, Dirty River Boys, Daryl Dodd, Larry Joe Taylor, Brandon Jenkins, Mike McClure, Phil Hamilton, Dave Perez, Chris Brazeal Band, Lemorah @ Crudefest
13 Midland-Odessa Symphony Orchestra: Masterworks IV @ Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center
14 Rain: Experience The Beatles @ Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center

LUBBOCK

MARCH

17 Bon Jovi @ United Spirit Arena
17 Pierce The Veil , Memphis May Fire, Letlive, Issues @ Cactus Courtyard
22 Shinedown, Three Days Grace, P.O.D. @ Lone Star Amphitheatre

APRIL

11 Dirtyphonics, Le Castle Vania, Nord Rage @ Lone Star Event Center

NEW MEXICO

APRIL

20 The Texas Tenors @ Spencer Theater in Alto
26 Lorrie Morgan, Pam Tillis @ Inn of the Mountain Gods

DALLAS-FORT WORTH AREA

MARCH

17 Alicia Keys, Miguel @ Verizon Theatre
19 Eric Clapton, The Wallflowers @ American Airlines Center
21 Maroon 5, Neon Trees, Owl City @ American Airlines Center
21 Yes @ Verizon Theatre