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# MIDLAND REPORTER-TELEGRAM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2014

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## CRADDICK FAMILY VALUES

## Free fall in oil prices underscores power shift

By Clifford Krauss  
N.Y. Times News Service

HOUSTON — Since the economically crippling oil embargo of 1973, every American president has pledged to seek and achieve "energy independence."

That elusive goal may finally have arrived, at least for the foreseeable future, with the failure of Saudi Arabia and its 11 oil cartel partners in the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to agree to a production cut that would put a brake on plummeting crude prices.

On Friday, the benchmark American price for crude oil continued the free fall that began Thursday to close at \$66.15, its lowest price in more than four years.

The inability or unwillingness of OPEC to act showed that the cartel is no longer the dominating producer whose decisions can determine global supplies and prices. Suddenly, the United States — which is poised to surpass Saudi Arabia as the world's top producer, possibly in a matter of months — is in that position, although the resiliency of that new command must still be tested.

Please see OPEC/3A

## Sheriff's patrol deputies to wear body cameras

By Tessa Duvall  
tduvall@mrt.com

The shooting death of a black teenager at the hands of a white police officer in Missouri has re-ignited several national dialogues, from the role of race in modern America to the militarization of police departments.

It also has renewed calls for law enforcement officers to wear body cameras while on the job.

In the wake of a St. Louis County grand jury's decision on Monday not to indict white police officer Darren Wilson in the Aug. 9 shooting death of Michael Brown, an unarmed, black 18-year-old Ferguson resident, Brown's parents have pushed for what supporters are calling the "Michael Brown Law," which would require state, county and city police officers nationwide to wear

Please see CAMERAS/2A



Ashley Landia/Houston Chronicle

Texas Railroad Commission Chairman Christi Craddick in her Austin office on Nov. 13.

## Christi Craddick emerging as asset for state GOP

By Michael Brick  
Houston Chronicle

AUSTIN — On midterm election night, under a steady drizzle, the Craddicks of Midland split up in front of the W Hotel. The valet lot was full.

The old man, Tom, once among the most powerful figures in Texas, waited

below the awning. His daughter went looking for a space to park. They were running late to a celebration.

Tom has been a state representative since the 1960s, when power still emanated from the small towns and the vast ranches and when he could count on both hands his fellow House Republicans. His six-year tenure as a legislative leader had been tumultuous, but

he had held onto his seat and his skills of persuasion. Securing a space in the lot, he notified his daughter, who soon returned in an SUV with license plates that said SO, for State Official.

"What's your name?" the valet asked. "Craddick," said Christi Leigh Craddick. She all but leapt from the car.

Please see CRADDICK/4A



### Weather

Sunny  
75/33  
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### Terry Williamson

Newcomers never tire of club membership.  
Page 1B



### Rye Druzin

Day trip: Alpine's art walk attracts crowds of visitors and artists.  
Page 2E

### Today in Oil Report

Investment banker lowers WTI assumptions. Page 1G

### Coming Monday

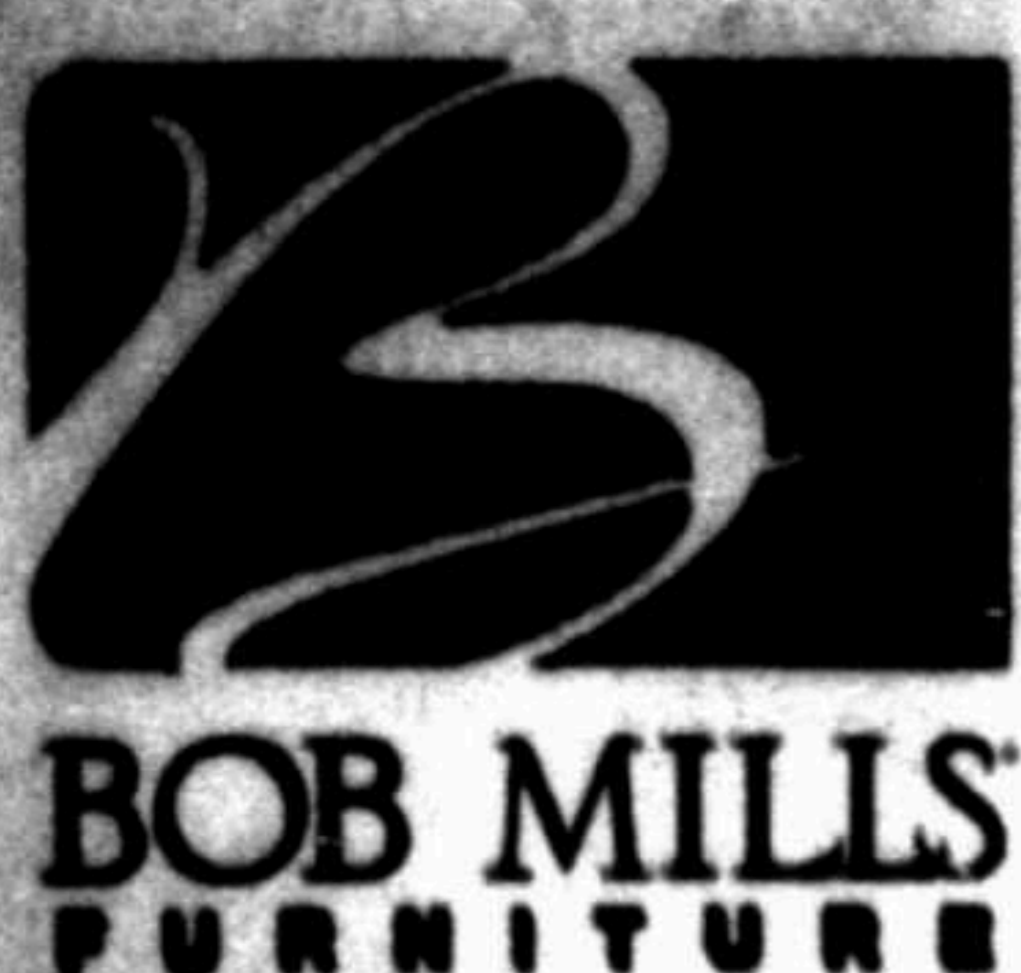
Sul Ross State University to honor local centenarian.

Vol. 86, No. 264  
Daily \$1, Sunday \$2



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**CAMERAS**  
From 1A

cameras. However, the Midland County Sheriff's Office began the process of obtaining and implementing body cameras in February — months before the shooting in Ferguson.

Sheriff Gary Painter said the department has purchased its cameras, which were ordered three or four months ago, and is currently awaiting the software that will allow the department to store the footage that is taken. Painter said he hopes to coordinate the body cameras with the patrol car cameras and store footage in the same system. The department has ordered the necessary software, but he's not sure when it will arrive.

"As soon as that comes in, we'll be issuing body cameras to the patrol officers," he said. "It all has to be specialized because you can run out of room extremely fast, so it has to be where you can compress it and categorize it, put it in a folder and be able to retrieve it based upon date and time, or however you want to categorize it."

"We don't have that ability right now."

Midland County's Commissioners' Court in January approved applying for a \$17,000 grant from the governor's office to provide the Midland Police Department with body cameras, according to a previous Reporter-Telegram report. District Attorney Teresa Clingman said at the time that cameras, worn on an officer's front pocket, can provide video and audio evidence captured during an incident. This video and audio can later be used for the benefit of the criminal justice system, she said.

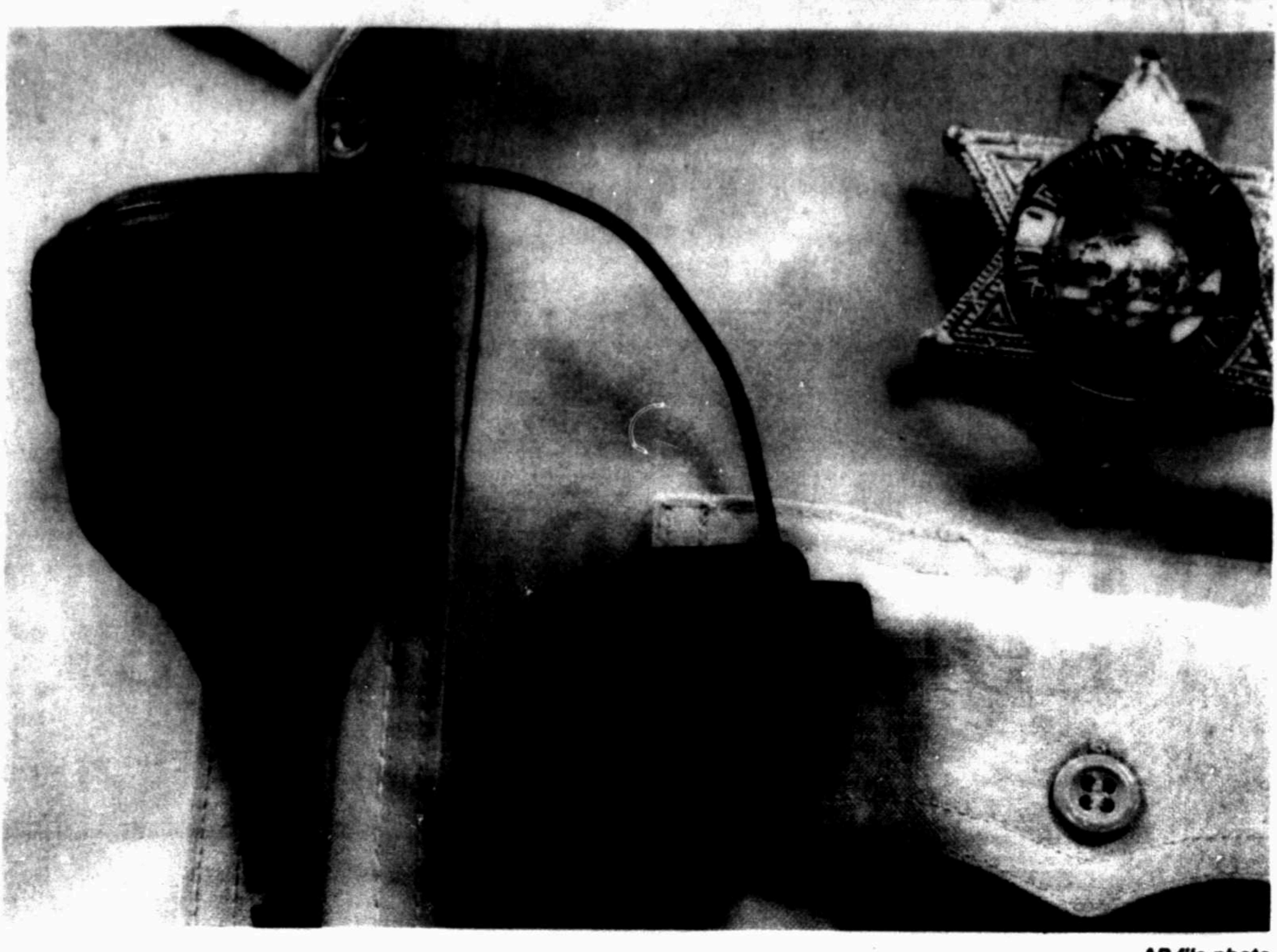
However, MPD turned down the cameras and commissioners approved making the Sheriff's Office the recipient instead.

MPD Chief Price Robinson told the Reporter-Telegram in February that multiple steps had to be completed if his department were to use body cameras, including in-depth research on the right camera and setting a policy.

"We were on a tight deadline for a project of this magnitude," he said. "Instead of rushing the cameras in, we chose not to participate at this time."

The Reporter-Telegram reported that Robinson did not rule out getting body cameras for MPD in the future. Robinson said giving officers greater physical space to record audio and video beyond the constraints of a dashboard camera as one of the benefits of body cameras.

Robinson was unavailable when called for comment on Tuesday afternoon because of the Thanksgiving holiday.



AP file photo

A body camera is displayed at a news conference at the Sheriff's Headquarters in Los Angeles on Sept. 22. The Midland County Sheriff's Office began the process of obtaining and implementing body cameras in February. Sheriff Gary Painter said the department has purchased its cameras, which were ordered three or four months ago, and is currently awaiting the software that will allow the department to store the footage that is taken.

Notice of formal grant approval from the governor's office came in March. Painter told the Reporter-Telegram then that he hoped to have the cameras distributed to deputies within two months, though the delay in technology has now pushed back implementation.

Painter said the department bought between 30 to 35 body cameras with the grant and some departmental money, which should be enough to cover all patrols.

"I think it would be an excellent tool for law enforcement to be able to use the information we gather as we see the individual and as the incident is recording," he said. "We can record that and be able to play that for the jury. I think we can get better convictions, people will be sentenced for more time. The jury can experience the sounds, the feeling, the emotion that's going on at the time."

Many deputies are looking forward to using the new technology, though others are "apprehensive," Painter said.

"It's something supervisors can use to go back and critique the officer on how he did something or did not do something," Painter said. "It is recorded and you can't get rid of it. It's something you have that can be beneficial, or it can be harmful, depending on how the jury sees it."

Painter said the "extremely unfortunate incident" in Ferguson hasn't impacted his thoughts on body cameras. The grand jury was privy to information that the news media and general public was not prior to the return of the

no true bill, he said. They heard claims and allegations of things that in some cases didn't actually happen, he said.

"I think a body camera could have probably handled most of the questions that came out," he said. "But, they, too, can create more questions. It's a give-and-take."

The rallying cry of "Hands up. Don't shoot!" emerged quickly among protesters after Brown's death, following reported eyewitness claims that Brown had his hands up in surrender at the time Wilson shot him. However, witness testimony presented to the grand jury and released Monday shows conflicting reports about whether Brown's hands were raised, and if so, how high. Testimony varies from hands toward the sky, to shoulder high, to at his side, according to an Associated Press analysis of the documents. Wilson's testimony also conflicts with some eyewitness testimony.

Photos of video depicting the incident itself, if they exist, have not been publicly disclosed, leaving the exact details of the event unknown, the AP reports.

Painter pointed out another major factor in the ability to use body camera footage in court: Officers have to remember to turn on the cameras.

"Sometimes in the heat of things you may not remember to turn it on," he said. "It doesn't automatically come on. The officer has to turn it on. There are

times things happen so fast you don't have time to turn anything on; you have to act or react."

Policy dictating the use of body cameras is being crafted at this time, though it has not yet been fine-tuned, he said. The goal is for deputies to use their cameras on every stop, turning the cameras on upon arriving at a scene or pulling over a motorist. Painter said he expects the department will go through an incident or two that will lead to further adjustment of the body camera policy.

The best way to see the usefulness of the cameras is to put them into practical applications, he said.

"I think that (finding body cameras helpful) can happen in any arrest and any incident you run into," Painter said. "I have made many arrests. Some of them are funny and some of them are serious, and some of them get downright scary at times."

"There are times when a body camera would be highly, highly useful."

A We the People petition created Aug. 13 on the White House's website supporting the Michael Brown Law received 154,747 signatures before closing. The petition said the law would be an effort to limit police misconduct such as brutality, profiling and abuse of power, and to ensure that all police are following procedure. Cameras would "remove all question from normally questionable police encounters," the petition reads. They will also "help to hold all parties

within a police investigation accountable for their actions."

In the White House's official response, Roy L. Austin Jr., deputy assistant to the president for the Office of Urban Affairs, Justice and Opportunity in the Domestic Policy Council, writes that President Barack Obama's administration has supported both body-worn and vehicular cameras and has researched best practices for implementation.

Austin cited a report from 2013 analyzing the benefits of cameras, including evidence that both officers and civilians acted in a more positive manner when they were aware of the camera and useful evidence from the interactions was often captured on video.

However, Austin also outlines unanswered questions that come with body cameras, such as the privacy implications, when cameras should be turned on, which officers should wear them and how long video data should be maintained. The cost of outfitting officers with cameras also can't be ignored, he said.

"We'll continue to work to support the use of video technology, review and evaluate law enforcement agencies that use it, and continue to engage in discussions about how this technology impacts policing, communities, and public safety," Austin wrote.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

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# OPEC

From 1A

"This is a historic turning point," said Daniel Yergin, an energy historian. "The defining force now in world oil today is the growth of U.S. production. The outcome of the OPEC meeting is a clear indication that the oil exporters now recognize that this is a new market."

For decades, the United States faced dwindling domestic production and rising demand, leading President George W. Bush to call on the country to get off its "addiction" to imported oil. But around eight years ago, a few small oil companies began experimenting to produce oil from hard shale rocks in North Dakota and Texas, using hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling techniques that proved effective in producing natural gas a few years before.

Domestic oil production has soared more 70 percent over the past six years, to roughly 9 million barrels a day. The country is still a net importer, but with production growing by more than 1 million barrels a day every year, it is importing less and less almost every month.

Imports from OPEC producers have been cut by more than a half in recent years, forcing increasing competition among Saudi Arabia and other exporting countries seeking to replace the American market with Chinese and other Asian markets. That has only produced more cracks in an organization in which competition between Saudi Arabia and Iran is already fierce.

That remarkable global turnaround has been a windfall for the United States, helping keep inflation in check, lower the trade deficit, strengthen the U.S. dollar and bring relief to consumers at the pump.

On Friday, Americans paid an average of \$2.79 a gallon for regular gasoline, according to the AAA motor club, nearly 50 cents less than a year ago.

For David Goldwyn, the State Department's coordinator for international energy affairs in the first Obama administration, OPEC's decision not to cut was "strategic."

"What we have now is a yearlong game of chicken," he said. "The Saudis are waiting to see how much U.S. production adjusts because of prices, and they are waiting to see how much pain the other major oil producers can take before they are willing to make meaningful cuts." Referring to the global oil benchmark, he added, "If Brent sinks below \$60, I think you will see OPEC hit the panic button pretty fast." That would mean an extraordinary OPEC meeting, and emergency cuts in production.

The Brent price has fallen more than a third since June and closed Friday at \$70.15 a barrel.

For OPEC producers like Venezuela and Iran, the tumbling price in oil has



AP file photo

In this Feb. 26, 2011, file photo, an employee works at a refinery inside the Brega oil complex, in Brega, eastern Libya. OPEC produces one-third of the world's oil and, in theory, at least, can affect global oil prices depending on how much oil it decides to sell. In reality, OPEC member countries have different, often conflicting priorities and don't adhere to the cartel's official targets for production.

produced economic hardship and potential political problems.

Venezuela and Algeria contend that OPEC needed to band together to cut production and raise prices. But Saudi Arabia has by far the most sway in OPEC, since the kingdom produces roughly one-third of OPEC output alone. It also has the financial muscle and spare capacity to lower or raise production whenever the Saudi royal family deems necessary.

Saudi Arabia resisted calls for lower production mainly because the countries that were most vociferous in calling for cuts would be the countries least able to actually cut their production because their cash-short governments are dependent on more, not less oil revenue.

And there was no guarantee that a cut in OPEC production would raise prices. Even if it did, that would only encourage more American output. So far, U.S. oil production has proved resilient no matter the price.

Even as prices slid in October, production in North Dakota's Bakken and Texas' Eagle Ford shale fields — the two primary promoters of the U.S. oil production boom — actually increased more than 3 percent over the month before.

That is because U.S. producers keep improving the efficiency and output of their wells with new technology, and because in the short run, lower prices can actually encourage companies to produce more to pay debts and dividends.

Energy experts caution that there is no guarantee that the United States will

permanently keep its new powerful edge on world markets. Eventually, low oil prices will drive down production in higher-cost fields, drive marginal companies that are deeply in debt out of business and encourage major companies to slow down their investment in new wells. Several companies have already shaved their 2015 exploration budgets.

And OPEC has been weakened before, only to stage a comeback. The cartel is still able to produce about a third of the global oil market.

After the oil price spikes of the 1970s, the United States and other industrialized countries raised their strategic reserves, put into effect conservation policies and incentivized oil production. New output from places like Alaska and the North Sea in the 1980s helped produce a glut,

sending oil prices plummeting. Saudi Arabia lobbied its OPEC partners for production quota cuts, and the kingdom cut its own

production. When other OPEC members failed to comply with the new quotas, prices collapsed in 1986, and Saudi Arabia

lost valuable markets for years to come.

OPEC has never completely regained the power it once had, but in the early 2000s, oil prices spiked again primarily because of the rapid growth in demand from China and other developing countries and increasing unrest in several oil-producing countries like Nigeria and Venezuela. With the oil market growing tighter, Saudi Arabia expanded its spare capacity and kept a lid on spiraling prices.

An equilibrium price of around \$100 a barrel kept producing and consuming countries reasonably happy. But now the production, combined with slowing economic activity in China and Europe, have broken the balance.

"OPEC still has power in that they can still cut production and raise price if they choose to do so," said Michael C. Lynch, president of Strategic Energy and Economic Research and sometimes an adviser to OPEC. But he added, "They don't have the same power they once did because so many of the members are in bad financial condition and so it's harder for them to cut production and lose revenues in the short term to raise prices."

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# TODAY IN MIDLAND

## Things to do

- Monday**  
 "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" special storytime, 4 p.m., Barnes and Noble Booksellers. barnesandnoble.com  
 Miracle on Tyler Street Christmas Village tree lighting, 301 S. Tyler St. 6 p.m. 682-8169  
**Wednesday**  
 Christmas at the Mansion preview party, 7-11 p.m., Museum of the Southwest. museumsw.org  
**Thursday**  
 Holiday Evening at MC, 5:30-7 p.m., Midland College. midland.edu  
 Fourth annual Holiday Celebration, 7:30 p.m., Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center. wagnernoel.com  
**Friday**  
 "The Polar Express" special storytime, 7 p.m., Barnes and Noble Booksellers. barnesandnoble.com

## Coming in December

- MOSC Sounds of the Season, Dec. 6 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center. wagnernoel.com
- City of Midland "Wild West Christmas Parade" and tree lighting, Dec. 13 at downtown Midland. midlandtexas.gov
- Midland Storytelling Festival, Dec. 11-13 at Midland Center. themidlandcenter.com
- "A Christmas Carol," Dec. 16 at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center. wagnernoel.com

## Meetings this week

- Planning and Zoning Commission**  
 3:30 p.m. Monday  
 City Council Chambers, Cit. Hall, 300 N. Lorraine Ave.
- Midland College special meeting**  
 4 p.m. Thursday  
 Gibson boardroom, Administration Building, Midland College campus

## Community calendar

Midland County Sheriff's Office and Midland County Sheriff's Association will be distributing National Child Identification Program fingerprint and DNA swab kits 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday and Dec. 13. The kits are free. For more information, call the Midland County Sheriff's Office, 688-4600

## Midland No. 1 in per capita income

A list of cities with the highest per capita income in 2013, according to a report from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

1. Midland
2. Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk, Connecticut
3. San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, California
4. San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, California
5. Naples-Immokalee-Marco Island, Florida
6. Barnstable Town, Massachusetts
7. Boston-Cambridge-Newton, Massachusetts-New Hampshire
8. Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, D.C.-Virginia-Maryland-West Virginia
9. New York-Newark-Jersey City, New York-New Jersey-Pennsylvania
10. Casper, Wyoming

## Know a member of the military coming home?

Military families can call 352-0785 or email Vickie Gomez (zemogv@cablenet.net) when they know their member of the military is flying into Midland International Airport so the Permian Basin Welcome Home Committee can be there to greet them.

## Honor those who served

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

- Show of Support (687-2167)
- Honor Our Troops (889-0177), Reel Thrax (528-6633)
- Centers for Children and Families (570-1084)
- Midland College Veterans Affairs Office (685-4511)
- Permian Basin Welcome Home Committee (366-3458)
- Soldiers of Today and Yesterday (631-3429)

## Lottery

- Pick 3 morning: 4-5-5  
 Pick 3 day: 4-5-0  
 Pick 3 evening: 9-5-4  
 Pick 3 night: 2-0-9  
 Daily 4 morning: 9-0-3-3  
 Daily 4 day: 4-2-1-1  
 Daily 4 evening: 3-4-3-0  
 Daily 4 night: 0-8-7-5  
 Cash Five: 2-8-22-25-28  
 Lotto Texas: 13-24-30-42-48 PB  
 27 Power Play 2  
 Powerball: 13-24-30-42-48 PB 27  
 Power Play 2  
 All or Nothing morning: 2-3-5-6-7-9-10-11-13-14-15-20  
 All or Nothing day: 1-2-4-5-6-8-13-14-15-18-20-22  
 All or Nothing evening: 6-7-9-10-11-13-14-17-20-21-22-24  
 All or Nothing night: 2-3-5-6-7-9-11-16-19-22-23-24

## Today in history

Today is Sunday, Nov. 30, the 334th day of 2014. There are 31 days left in the year.  
 On this date:  
 In 1954, Ann Elizabeth Hodges of Oak Grove, Alabama, was slightly injured when an 8 1/2-pound chunk of meteor crashed through the roof of her house, hit a radio cabinet, then hit her as she lay napping on a couch.  
 In 1982, the Michael Jackson album "Thriller" was released by Epic Records.  
 Ten years ago, "Jeopardy!" fans saw Ken Jennings end his 74-game winning streak as he lost to real estate agent Nancy Zerg.



LEFT: This undated family photo shows Christi Craddick, from left, Nadine, Tom and Tommy (Tom Jr.) Craddick. ABOVE: This undated photo shows a school-age Christi Craddick. Craddick is the chairman of the Texas Railroad Commission.

Courtesy photos

# CRADDICK

From 1A

raven hair trimmed above the shoulders, wearing a skirt and jacket with thick buttons and a triangular collar strikingly redolent of the pink suit made famous by Jacqueline Kennedy in the early 1960s, when Democratic ideas were nationally ascendant and Democratic machines still held clout in Texas. Hers, though, was sparkling red, the color of the faction on the rise in 2014.

For the Republican Party of Texas, Craddick is emerging as a singular asset, dedicated by her own account to "limited government, personal freedom, traditional family values and private enterprise."  
 As Railroad Commission chairman — the term she prefers over chairwoman or chair — she controls permits for the oil and gas industry, a primary source of the state's economic might. As a woman holding statewide office, she provides the only dose of diversity aside from the Hispanic lineage of newly elected land commissioner George P. Bush. Last spring, the state party appointed her to lead this year's campaign, dubbed Victory 2014.

Built on close ties to her father's political operation, her career has long drawn criticism. As she seeks to establish an independent identity, defining herself against the more strident fringes of the Republican Party, her admirers said she will lean on the values instilled during her childhood in West Texas.

Greeting her parents under the hotel awning, Craddick hurried along the wet sidewalk, slowing only to help her mother up a slick staircase.

At the top of the stairs, where speakers were blasting country music and people in all manner of red were drinking \$6 beers, she shook a few outstretched hands. The house lights flashed. Within minutes a supporter told her, "I think you're up."

Craddick pressed through the crowd. Her mother and father followed, holding hands. Backstage, she handed off her purse. The chairman of the Republican Party of Texas was preparing to introduce her. She seemed to have arrived at just the right time.

## DOESN'T ALWAYS TOE THE LINE

Every morning, in the lobby of the Railroad Commission, Christi Craddick passes a painting of wildfowl wandering a field of shortgrass and cactus with a pumpjack bobbing unobtrusively in the background. The landscape looks little like the modern industry she regulates.

Her job, which pays \$137,500 yearly, often involves explaining the task of the agency she leads. The Railroad Commission, despite its name, has not had any role in regulating the railroads for nearly a decade.

At a time of divisive politics, she presents herself as a keeper of an open

door and an open mind. On Twitter, she has been known to send critics her phone number. So far, her overtures have done little to dispel the image of an industry apologist.

"Her primary concern, as with most commissioners, is getting the permits written quickly so oil and gas companies can develop their resources," said Cyrus Reed, conservation director for the state chapter of the Sierra Club. "She's part of the system we have. We've chosen to regulate oil and gas with three elected officials, and those commissioners generally raise money from the oil and gas industry."

Craddick does not dispute the point. Of the \$200,000 in campaign contributions she reported in the first half of this year, a significant number of the big checks came from oil executives. "I like industry," she said. "They do a good job. I believe, in this state. They want us to regulate them."

For a politician operating at a time of conservative purity tests, though, she has taken some remarkable positions.

When the North Texas city of Denton voted to ban hydraulic fracturing, the petroleum extraction technique that has propped up the state economy for half a decade while raising bitterly contested concerns about pollution, health and safety, she joined her fellow commissioners in a statement expressing disappointment. But she alone issued a separate essay calling for a more cooperative dialogue.

"Let me be clear: The voice of the people of Denton should not be overruled," she wrote, even as the state's main oil and gas trade association filed court documents seeking to do just that.

For much of the year, as thousands of children entered the state from Latin America through Mexico, Gov. Rick Perry and his successor-elect, Greg Abbott, campaigned on promises to secure the border with troops, airplanes, boats, weapons and surveillance. One of Craddick's colleagues on the commission, David Porter, even expressed "grave concerns that some of these illegal aliens may in fact be terrorists."

Last month, in an essay published on the Opinion page of the Houston Chronicle, Craddick issued a rejoinder of sorts. Energy industry reforms underway in Mexico, she suggested, could set the stage for a less antagonistic era. She concluded, without naming names, "If we can move from a mindset of fear toward one of cooperation and collaboration, we will be well on our way to a mutually beneficial future."

## 'WE WON!'

By the end of election night, red, white and blue balloons would descend, a Texas flag backdrop would rise from the stage and guitar chords would cut the air. A singer hired to entertain, Pat Green, would call to the crowd: "Come on! We won!"

Christi Craddick would see none of it. She went home early, to a two-story stone house in the lakeside neighborhood of Tarrytown, where she spent the night checking on her daughter, who'd been home sick with a nanny, and watching more election returns.

For all her genuine conservatism, Craddick defines "traditional family values" in a manner progressive enough to include pursuing a high-profile career while raising a child alone by choice. At 44, she has never married.

## CHOSE LAW TO ESCAPE POLITICS

Her own childhood, in a modest ranch-style house in Midland, afforded few luxuries more precious than a hole in the fence to play with the neighbor children, despite her father's growing wealth. He was a loyal oil man, making a fortune on investments while listing his occupation as a sales representative for a drilling services company on West Texas Avenue. Christi rode her bike to school, accompanied her parents to St. Anne's Catholic Church and played soccer through junior high. At age 12, she attended her first state political convention.

Then, perhaps more than now, said Ernest Angelo, Christi's godfather and a next-door neighbor who served as mayor for eight years, the notion of West Texas values was "not entirely facetious. It's people that are patriotic, they're ambitious, they're entrepreneurial. They believe in character."

Guided by an aptitude test, Christi chose the University of Texas, where she enrolled in an honors program and joined a sorority. She moved uncertainly at first, giving up the notion of a medical degree because of the chemistry. At 22, she served as chief page at the Republican National Convention. She enrolled at the UT School of Law, she said in an expansive interview, "to get out of politics."

"I liked the legal world; I liked the way you learn to think," she said. "But 2,000 billable hours just wasn't what I wanted to do."

Instead, Craddick set out as a solo practitioner working from a home office. It was a career option available only to the kind of young lawyer whose father was chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. She lunched at the unpretentious Castle Hill Café, attended Longhorns games and ingratiated herself with the Texas Federation of Republican Women.

By 1997, just two years out of law school, Craddick was defending herself against complaints about conflicts of interest. Hired by a group promoting electric utility deregulation, she was initially assigned to lobby her father. Hired by an oil and gas trade association, she promoted pipeline legislation written in part by her father. Hired by the developer

Wayne Duddleston, she helped obtain state tax breaks through a bill partly written by her father for a hotel next to the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston.

Craddick said she never directly urged her father to vote one way or another. The Texas Ethics Commission has never censured her behavior.

Her lobbying ended in 2002, but not the way her critics expected. When the Republicans gained their first majority in the House since Reconstruction, Tom Craddick rose to speaker, promising to preside with an inclusive style.

Christi moved onto his political staff, for a salary that rose from about \$7,000 to \$12,000 a month, plus bonuses at Christmas. Her father's term lasted six years, ending in mayhem on the floor and charges of despotism. Registering once again as a lobbyist, she reported only one client, a Midland company called Scythian, which she billed less than \$25,000. She was out of a job.

## 'THAT'S HER WORLD'

On Inauguration Day 2011, the Craddicks of Midland gathered at their daughter's house. Tom Sr., still a state representative but no longer the speaker, went outside to take a call from an oil industry official. The Railroad Commission chairman was planning to resign. The caller wanted to know whether the job interested Tom. It did not, but when he went back inside with the news, it did interest his daughter.

That version of events — an unnamed oil industry official calls a senior lawmaker to handpick the next top oil industry regulator — comes directly from Christi Craddick. Viewed one way, the anecdote confirms every suspicion of the state's corrupt god-ol-boy network. Viewed another, the telling of it suggests a striking confidence in her personal and familial incorruptibility.

"That's her world: politics, oil, gas, business deals," said Bill Miller, a power broker who has worked closely with the family for decades. "She couldn't have picked a better training ground."

The seat in question ended up going via gubernatorial appointment to an investment banker. Undeterred, Craddick put her name on the ballot for a six-year elected term on the three-member commission.

In the primary, she ran against five other Republicans, including a long-time political ally of her father's. She carried a big notebook, asking people their opinions of oil and gas regulations. Along with an assistant and her parents, she handed out 10,000 fliers at the state party convention. She went to events featuring the right-wing firebrand Ted Cruz because he was drawing big crowds.

"I ended up being the tea party candidate in my race because I met with those people," she said, "but I

didn't tell them anything different than I told regular Republicans."

Driving north on Interstate 35 to a campaign event in 2011, she took a call from an adoption agency in Dallas, where her name had been on a waiting list for about nine months.

The agenda for the trip changed. Her resolve did not. Craddick brought home Catherine, spent some time bonding and found a nanny. When she returned to the campaign trail, she aimed to sleep at home every night. She traveled to 50 counties, plus weekly trips to Dallas and Houston. Often, she found the last flight out of Hobby or Love Field; occasionally friends volunteered private aircraft. She says Catherine, who turned 3 on Thanksgiving, has developed "strong opinions."

"Gee," says one of Craddick's closest friends, a business lobbyist named Lara Keel, "I wonder where she got that?"

## TAKING CENTER STAGE

Backstage at the election night party, the Craddicks of Midland heard the last country strains of Lyle Lovett and Tanya Tucker. Christi, who usually speaks impromptu, gathered her notes. The loudspeakers boomed with DJ Khaled rapping, "All I Do Is Win."

For months, Christi had been campaigning and raising money. Along the way, she met donors and voters across the party spectrum. Mass mailings listed her name on the stationery.

"Victory Chair is one of those jobs where if everything goes well, it can be very good for you," the party chairman, Steve Munisteri, said in an interview. "She's one of those rare individuals who can keep afoot among every faction of our party. She's exceptionally well-positioned."

The men she helped elect to the highest offices are in their 50s and 60s. At her age, she can afford to wait out a few terms. The minority party has taken notice. "They're right to put her forward," said Colin Strother, a Democratic political consultant. "Other than that, it's a bunch of old white guys."

As the loudspeakers shook, Munisteri took the stage. He waved his arms in triumph and declared victory in martial terms, using the words "crushed," "annihilated" and "completely wiped out."

"Our base turned out; their base did not. Who had the better ground game, right?" he crowed. "Tonight is a night that we owe a huge thank you, I owe a huge thank you, for a job that many times was thankless but tonight is not thankless, because I give you the woman who helped lead us to victory, our 2014 Victory state chairman, Commissioner Christi Craddick!"

Christi Leigh Craddick, of Austin, the champion of Victory 2014, took center stage in her bright red suit, smiling broadly, with her parents watching from the wings. The first word out of her mouth was "Wow."



AP file photo

This undated file photo released by the St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney's office on Nov. 24 shows Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson during his medical examination after he fatally shot Michael Brown, in Ferguson, Mo. The white police officer who killed Michael Brown has resigned from the Ferguson Police Department, nearly four months after the confrontation that fueled protests in the St. Louis suburb and across the U.S. Wilson has been on administrative leave since the Aug. 9 shooting. His resignation was announced Saturday by one of his attorneys, Neil Bruntrager. Bruntrager said the resignation is effective immediately.

## Ferguson officer who shot Michael Brown resigns

By Alan Scher Zagler  
Associated Press

FERGUSON, Mo. — The white police officer who killed Michael Brown has resigned from the Ferguson Police Department, his attorney said Saturday, nearly four months after the fatal confrontation with the black 18-year-old that fueled protests in the St. Louis suburb and across the nation.

Darren Wilson, 28, has been on administrative leave since the shooting on Aug. 9. His resignation was announced Saturday by one of his attorneys, Neil Bruntrager. The resignation is effective immediately, Bruntrager said.

The attorney for the Brown family, Benjamin Crump, did not immediately return phone and email messages from The Associated Press seeking comment.

A grand jury spent more than three months reviewing evidence in the case before declining in November to issue any charges against Wilson. He told jurors that he feared for his life when Brown hit him and reached for his gun.

The U.S. Justice Department is still conducting a civil rights investigation into the shooting and a separate probe of police department practices.

The news of Wilson's resignation didn't seem to appease a small group of protesters who stood outside of the Ferguson police department on Saturday night.

"I've been protesting out here since August," said Rick Campbell, who added that he didn't care that Wilson had resigned.

Several other protesters who were asked to comment shrugged their shoulders or expressed disinterest.

"We were not after Wilson's job," civil rights activist the Rev. Al Sharpton said in a statement to AP. "We were after Michael Brown's justice."

Ferguson Police Chief Tom Jackson didn't immediately return a message left on his cellphone seeking comment.

After the shooting, Wilson spent months in hiding and made no public statements. He broke his silence after the grand jury decision, telling ABC News that he could not have done anything differently in the encounter with Brown.

Wilson said he has a clean conscience because "I know I did my job right." Brown's shooting was the first time he fired his gun on the job, he said.

Asked whether the encounter would have unfolded the same way if Brown had been white, Wilson said yes.

Wilson began his career in nearby Jennings before moving to the Ferguson job a few years ago. He had no previous complaints against him and a good career record, according to Jackson, who called Wilson "an excellent police officer."

A few months before the shooting, Wilson had received a commendation for detaining a suspect in a drug case.

## Lesson: Police can better calm situations

Associated Press

SEATTLE — The grand jury that declined to indict Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson was focused on whether he might have acted in self-defense when he shot and killed unarmed, 18-year-old Michael Brown.

But the case raises another question: Could Wilson have avoided getting into a spot where he had to make that split-second, life-or-death decision?

Departments around the country have in recent years stepped up their training in "de-escalation" — the art of defusing a tense situation with a word or a gesture instead of being confrontational or reaching for a weapon.

Proponents, including the Justice Department, said the approach can improve trust and understanding between police and residents, curtail the unnecessary use of force and improve the safety of officers and civilians alike.

"We haven't taught officers to just walk away," said Cambridge, Massachusetts, Police Commissioner Robert Haas. "But if the only reason a person is acting up is because you're standing there, isn't that a viable approach?"

Haas and other law enforcement officials said they didn't want to second-guess Wilson's actions because they weren't in his shoes at the time of the Aug. 9 shooting.

But many said the case should accelerate a national discussion about police culture and the potential for broader training in de-escalation, which is considered especially important in dealing with people in mental health or drug-related crises.

In Missouri this month, a federal law enforcement team held training with St. Louis-area police, including top commanders from Ferguson, on how unintentional bias affects police work. That approach goes hand-in-hand with de-escalation.

"In every police encounter, the

officer and the civilian bring with them and see the world through their experiences. The more these views diverge, the more they immediately see the other as a threat," said Jenny Durkan, the former U.S. attorney in Seattle who led the effort to curb excessive uses of force by city police.

According to Wilson's grand jury testimony, Brown and a friend were walking down the middle of the street when he drove up and asked them to use the sidewalk. When they declined, he suggested it again. Brown responded by cursing at him, Wilson said. He backed up his vehicle to confront Brown, who was carrying stolen cigars.

Brown shoved the vehicle's door shut as Wilson tried to open it, and then attacked the officer through the door's open window, Wilson said. The officer began shooting, then got out of the car, chased Brown, and fired some more when Brown turned around.

"My job isn't to just sit and wait," Wilson told ABC News.

In its investigations of police agencies, the Justice Department has singled out poor de-escalation tactics.

In a July report on the Newark, New Jersey, department, the DOJ faulted a "pattern and practice of taking immediate offensive action" rather than acting within the bounds of the Constitution and displaying the "thick skin and patience" needed for the job.

In Seattle and in Albuquerque, New Mexico, the DOJ blasted police for too quickly using flashlights, batons or stun guns as weapons when force could have been avoided.

In Seattle in 2010, an officer killed a Native American woodcarver who had crossed the street while holding a small knife and a block of wood. The officer got out of his car, and when the carver — who turned out to be hard of hearing — didn't immediately drop the tool as ordered, he was shot.

Like Wilson, the officer wasn't charged criminally because of the

high bar for such prosecutions against police, but the case helped spur the federal civil rights investigation of the department. A consent decree overhauled the department's training, putting a premium on de-escalation and bias-free policing.

The DOJ has already launched a similar investigation in Ferguson.

In practice, de-escalation can take many forms, said Seattle police spokesman Sean Whitcomb. Sometimes it means that multiple officers respond rather than one, because the larger presence can make excitable subjects realize they're outnumbered.

But for an officer, it can also mean calmly introducing yourself, listening to what someone is saying and simply relating to the person. The use of body-worn cameras can also help, experts say, because both officers and civilians tend to behave better when they know they're being recorded.

"If we can use language and presence to get people to comply with lawful orders, we can consider that a win," Whitcomb said.

Still, reducing tension can be easier said than done. A 2012 report from the Police Executive Research Forum describes challenges in utilizing de-escalation techniques, saying a younger generation of officers accustomed to communicating through email and other electronic media may be less skilled at face-to-face encounters.

And some officers worry about giving away the upper hand.

A group of Seattle police officers sued over the department's new use-of-force policy. They said while they too want to prevent excessive uses of force, the policy is overly complicated and could endanger officers by requiring them to hesitate before using force. A federal judge dismissed the lawsuit, but the officers have appealed.

"Traditional police training reinforces that you must always display a very strong, assertive presence," said Sue Rahr, executive director of Washington state's police academy.

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Thursday, December 4, 2014

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 Midland College

Visits with Santa!  
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**Midland College**

<b>TODAY: Sunny</b>  High: 75 Low: 33	<b>MONDAY: Mostly sunny</b>  High: 44 Low: 28	<b>TUESDAY: Mostly sunny</b>  High: 59 Low: 44	<b>WEDNESDAY: Partly sunny</b>  High: 67 Low: 47	<b>THURSDAY: Partly sunny</b>  High: 67 Low: 49	<b>FRIDAY: Partly sunny</b>  High: 67 Low: 49
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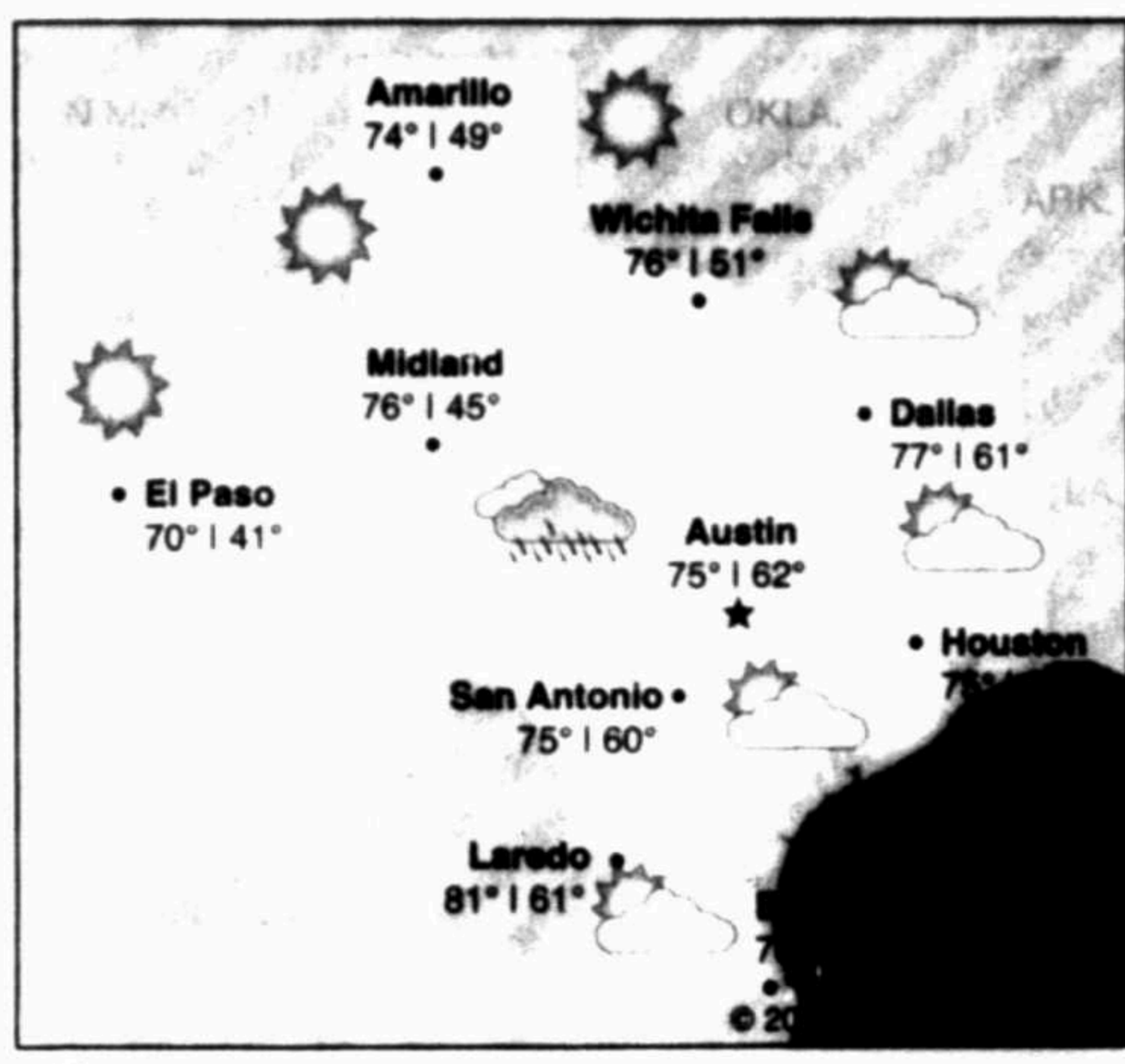
**Local forecast**

Expect sunny skies today with a high around 75 and southwest winds between 5 and 10 mph. Tonight's forecast calls for mostly clear conditions with a low around 33 and southwest winds between 5 and 10 mph becoming east after midnight.

Monday, look for mostly sunny skies with a high around 44 and northeast winds between 10 and 20 mph. Expect partly cloudy conditions at night, with a low around 28 and northeast winds between 5 and 10 mph becoming light and variable after midnight.

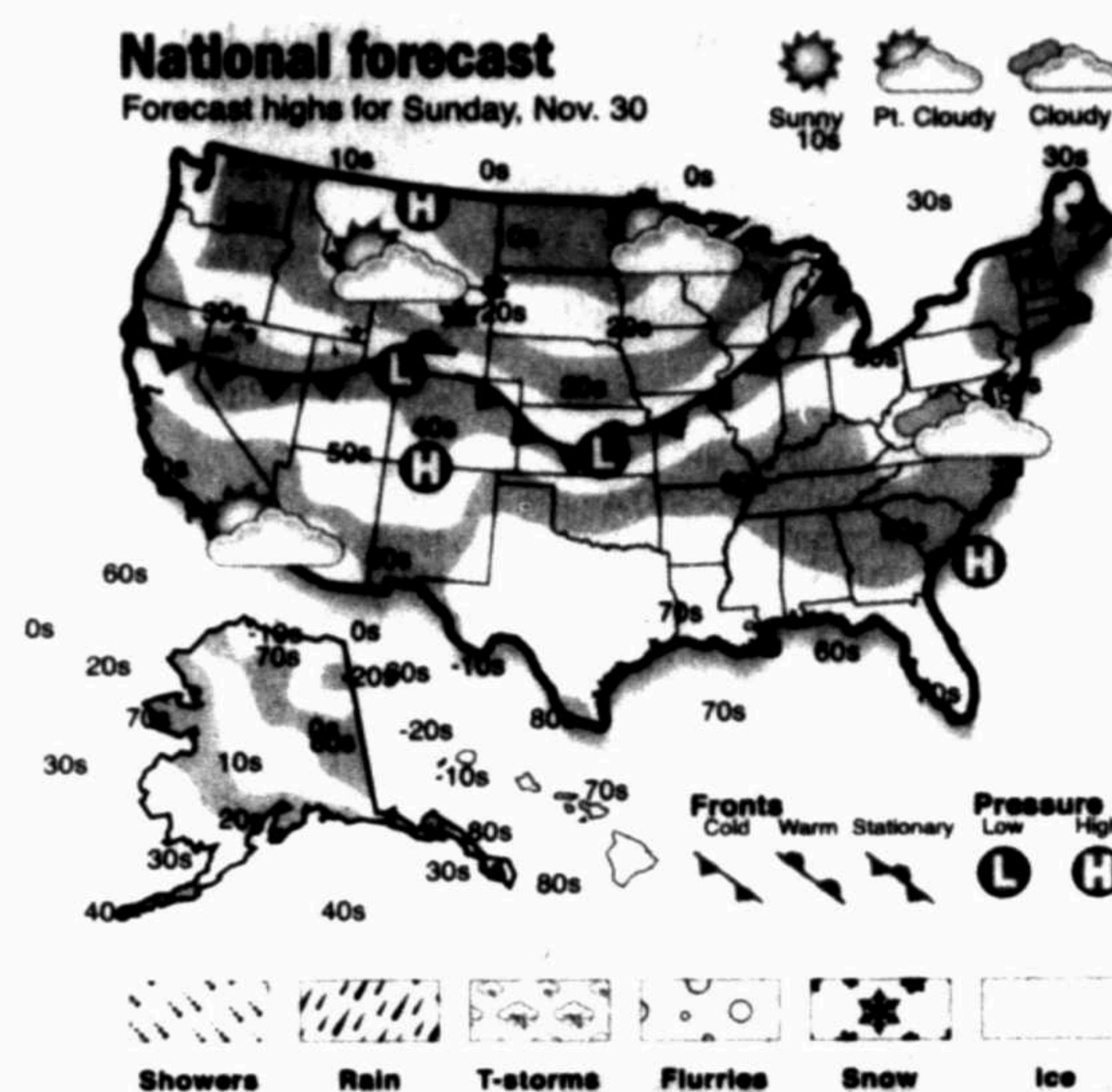
Tuesday, the forecast calls for mostly sunny skies during the day, mostly cloudy skies at night, with a high around 59 and a low around 44.

The high on Saturday reached 77, while the low dropped to 41. The record high for Nov. 29 is 78 set in 1946 and 1975. The record low is 11 set in 2001.



**National forecast**

Forecast highs for Sunday, Nov. 30



**Precipitation**

Friday	0.00 in.
Saturday	0.00 in.
Month total	1.02 in.
Year total	7.45 in.
Normal total (year to date)	13.98 in.

**Saturday's temperatures**

High	77
Low	41
Normal high	62
Normal low	34
Sunrise	7:30 a.m.
Sunset	5:44 p.m.


**Meteorologists: Cuomo's weather claims all wet**

*Associated Press*  
ALBANY, N.Y. — Gov. Andrew Cuomo wants New York to create the nation's best weather monitoring system, one more robust than even the National Weather Service and more capable of predicting events like the snowstorm that buried parts of the Buffalo area under 7 feet of snow. But although Cuomo's \$18.7 million initiative will help the state respond to events like floods or wildfires, it's unlikely to live up to his grander expectations, meteorologists said. To accurately predict lake-effect snowfall in western New York, the state would need weather satellites and a supercomputer to handle complicated weather modeling, plus monitoring stations in the

Midwest and Canada, said Christopher Vaccaro of the National Weather Service. "It will definitely help with short-term weather," Vaccaro said of Cuomo's idea. "But when you're forecasting three days in advance for lake-effect snow, it's not really going to be helpful." Cuomo picked a fight with the weather service following the storm in Buffalo, saying the federal agency failed to predict its intensity and timing. His comments prompted meteorologists Al Roker and Jim Cantore to defend the accuracy and precision of the weather service's forecasts. The day before the storm hit, the agency correctly predicted a "historic" storm that would bring feet of snow and localized snowfall rates of 3 to 5 inches per hour.

"Seems like (Cuomo's) folks didn't look" at the forecasts, Roker tweeted. Don Paul, chief meteorologist at WIVB-TV in Buffalo, wrote that "Cuomo's attempt to scapegoat the National Weather Service for an inaccurate forecast in advance is not only completely in error — the NWS did an outstanding job — but is a disservice to the public and to the hardworking staff of this federal agency." Cuomo later said he never meant to offend forecasters, adding that weather service meteorologists "perform the best they can with the information they have." He said he was just trying to highlight the value of the state's new weather service — which he said in January would be "the most advanced weather detection system in the nation."

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# Homeless woman's stun gun spurs 2nd Amendment case

By Denise Lavoie  
Associated Press

BOSTON — Jaime Caetano was beaten so badly by her ex-boyfriend that she ended up in the hospital. So when a friend offered her a stun gun to protect herself, she took it.

Caetano, who is homeless, never had to use it but now finds herself at the center of a contentious Second Amendment case headed to the highest court in Massachusetts.

The Supreme Judicial Court is being asked to decide whether a state law that prohibits private citizens from possessing stun guns infringes on their right to keep and bear arms. In an unusual twist, the court is also being asked to examine whether the Second Amendment right to defend yourself in your own home applies in the case of a homeless person.

Arguments before the court are scheduled Tuesday.

Police found Caetano's stun gun in her purse during a shoplifting investigation at a supermarket in 2011. She told police she needed it to defend herself against her violent ex-boyfriend, against whom she had obtained multiple restraining orders.

During her trial, Caetano, 32, testified that her ex-boyfriend repeatedly came to her workplace and threatened her. One night, she showed him the stun gun and he "got scared and left me alone," she said.

She was found guilty of violating the state law that bans private possession of stun guns, devices that deliver an electric shock when pressed against an attacker.

In her appeal, her lawyer, Benjamin Keehn, argues that a stun gun falls within the meaning of "arms" under the Second Amendment. Keehn wrote in a legal brief that the state's ban "cannot be squared with the fundamental right to keep and bear arms." He also argues that self-defense outside the home is part of the core right provided by the Second Amendment.

Massachusetts is among only five states that ban stun guns and Tasers for private citizens, said Eugene Volokh, a constitutional law professor at the University of

California, Los Angeles, who has written extensively about Second Amendment issues. The devices are used by law enforcement agencies around the country.

A ban in Michigan was overturned in 2012 after the state appeals court ruled that a total prohibition was unconstitutional under the Second Amendment and the Michigan Constitution.

Volokh said the Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms for self-defense "necessarily includes the right to do so outside one's home."

"Given that the Second Amendment secures a right aimed in large part at self-defense, we have to recognize that often people need to defend themselves in public," Volokh said. "So it's especially important that people have some useful device that would be effective in defending themselves outside the home."

Commonwealth Second Amendment, a Massachusetts-based group that filed a friend-of-the-court brief in the case, argued that stun guns are a "logical option" for people who do not want to use deadly force for self-defense.

"Let's face it, not everybody who has a need for self-defense would necessarily be comfortable carrying a firearm," said Brent Carlton, the group's president and co-founder.

Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan declined to comment on the case.

In a legal brief, prosecutors argue that the Second Amendment does not establish a constitutional right to own a stun gun and that two pivotal U.S. Supreme Court decisions that upheld the right to own a firearm for self-defense inside homes did not automatically grant that right outside the home.

"While homelessness is a serious problem all its own, the defendant has offered no authority to support the idea that a person without a home may carry a firearm wherever he or she may travel or otherwise exercise a Second Amendment right free from the limits that restrict that right for every other person otherwise situated," Assistant District Attorney Michael Kaneb wrote.

## NATION BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

### ALABAMA Ebola scare boosts business for company

BIRMINGHAM — The Ebola scare has subsided in the United States, at least temporarily, but an Alabama manufacturer is still trying to catch up with a glut of orders for gear to protect against the disease.

Located in north Alabama, the family-owned Kappler Inc. of Guntersville typically gets only a few orders annually for the type of suit needed by health workers who are in contact with Ebola patients.

That changed once the disease showed up in Texas. Kappler vice president of marketing Dennis Sanders said. Quickly, orders were flooding in for thousands of the company's Provent 10,000 coveralls.

"It happened, literally, overnight," he said. "We took orders in a couple of days that exceeded the orders we've had on that particular product in two or three years."

While the company has about 75,000 of the suits on back order, Sanders said, it has yet to need to add to its workforce of 150 employees or extend working hours.

"We'll probably be filling orders through April 2015," he said.

Other U.S. manufacturers also have reported seeing spikes in orders for protective gear, including surgical face mask manufacturer Kimberly-Clark. In China, Weifang Lakeland Safety Products has said it is doubling capacity to meet the demand for coveralls.

Kappler is the only company making protective suits entirely in the United States, Sanders said. Its product works because of a special method for sealing seams and APTRA, a plastic film that protects against blood and body fluids that could carry the Ebola virus, he said. Kappler sells its suits to distributors that, in turn, sell to hospitals and health agencies. The Provent 10,000 suit costs about \$25 retail.

While the company is now working through old orders, Sanders said he expects another round of new orders if Ebola again becomes a lead topic for news in the United States.

"Anytime there is an event in the world we get the inquiries about things

like, 'How long would it take for a 1 million orders?'" he said. "This time those calls turned in to orders."

The World Health Organization says more than 5,400 people have died in the current outbreak, mostly in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone in western Africa.

Ten people have been treated for Ebola in the United States, and one has died.

### DETROIT Federal panel to hear ex-mayor's appeal

A three-judge panel will hear former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick's appeal for a new trial.

Documents show oral arguments are scheduled for Jan. 13 before the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati.

Kilpatrick wants his corruption conviction overturned. He is serving a 28-year sentence at a federal prison after a jury last year convicted him of two dozen crimes, from tax evasion to bribery. He appealed, saying there was a conflict involving his attorneys, among other reasons.

Kilpatrick's co-defendant and friend Bobby Ferguson also will have his appeal heard by the court.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Andrew Goetz has said in a filing that Kilpatrick can't prove his defense lawyers had a conflict of interest. Goetz also said the court should affirm the 21-year sentence given to Ferguson, a contractor.

### OREGON Officials suspect poisoning in crow die-off

PORTLAND — Authorities say corn was in the stomachs of two dozen crows and it was likely tainted, causing their deaths in downtown Portland this week.

The Oregonian reported that the birds were likely poisoned intentionally, although tests on the corn are not yet complete.

Passers-by began calling authorities on Wednesday morning to report dead or dying crows flopping on the ground and suffering from seizures.

Portland Audubon Society conservation director Bob Sallinger said the flocks of hundreds or

thousands of crows draw attention downtown.

Sallinger said his suspicion is supported by the fact that corn is not usually found in an urban environment.

If a poisoning is confirmed, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will investigate.

### NEW YORK Fans go wild over 88-second 'Star Wars' teaser

A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away, a helmetless stormtrooper appeared in frame, panicked and sweaty in the middle of vast desert landscape, kicking off the first official look at "Star Wars: The Force Awakens."

After months of leaked images and idle speculation around director J.J. Abrams' film, Disney and Lucasfilm on Friday debuted an 88-second teaser trailer for the seventh entry into the blockbuster franchise online and in about 30 North American theaters.

The dark, energetic teaser, which has been watched nearly 3 million times on YouTube, blasts viewers with quick, disjointed images of classic and slightly altered "Star Wars" images, like TIE Fighters, X-Wings, droids and the Millennium Falcon.

Set to a new John Williams score, audiences get a peek at newcomers John Boyega (the storm trooper in question), Daisy Ridley, Oscar Isaac and a mysterious caped man in a frozen forest carrying a three-pronged lightsaber. Many assume the sinister, lumbering figure to be Adam Driver, who is rumored to be playing a villain in the highly secretive movie.

Andy Serkis is responsible for the haunting voiceover narration throughout the short spot, which previews a world 30 years after the events of "Return of the Jedi."

Despite some negative reaction, overall, fans were not disappointed, even with the sobering knowledge that the actual film doesn't hit theaters till Dec. 18, 2015.

"That 'Star Wars' trailer gave me the tingles," director Edgar Wright said on Twitter.

"Language and emojis fail to express what's in my heart at this moment," actress Anna Kendrick added emphatically.

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# TV seems to know what you want to see; algorithms at work

By Scott Collins  
Los Angeles Times

Your TV is inside your mind. It knows what you watch. More than that, it knows how you watch. When you pause a program, your TV is taking notes. When you rewind or fast-forward, the machine jots that down, too. But here's maybe the scariest part of all: Your TV knows what you want, maybe even before you do. This is where technology has led us. The algorithms that spit out online recommendations for television series, movies and more are taking artificial intelligence to a new level. Top providers such as Netflix, Hulu and Amazon — which tens of millions of Americans get either through set-top boxes such as Roku or via personal computers — employ large engineering teams dedicated to cracking the code of what users want and guiding them to it. Nothing less than the future of the entertainment business is at stake, as the industry continues its landmark shift from broad casting to time-shifting and niche programming. "You can use algorithms and user interfaces to get the right content to the right person ... as opposed to just throwing something to the airwaves with a hope and a prayer," said Todd Yellin, vice president of product innovation at Netflix, which has at least 60 staff members devoted to recommendations. Already, he added,

such research has proved that many of the categories that have guided the TV industry for decades — such as statistics about viewers' age and gender — are meaningless in terms of determining what people actually watch. Most recommendation systems are based on what's known as "collaborative filtering," a mathematical process that can sort large data sets into groups that share certain affinities or characteristics. That information can then be used to offer viewing advice — based not on what a friend or a critic might think, as in the past, but rather on what many other users with similar taste have chosen over many visits to a site. For example, if you watch "Downton Abbey" on Amazon, the recommendation service might suggest you try "Cranford," a series starring Judi Dench about life in a small British village during the Victorian era. That is because the algorithm has determined that many viewers who match your taste and viewing habits and have watched "Downton" often go on to watch and like "Cranford." It might sound simple. But computerized recommendations are an imperfect and still-developing area of research with a lot of flaws (more about those in a minute). And yet companies keep at it because of the potential payoff. "We are always looking at ways to improve and evolve our algorithms and recommendation engine," said Tian Lim, Hulu's chief

technology officer. Why the devotion? Netflix, which has more than 50 million subscribers worldwide, says about half of all its viewing comes from recommendations. At Hulu — which has more than 6 million subscribers for its paid Hulu Plus service — the figure is closer to 75 percent. Netflix takes the mission to improve recommendations so seriously that several years ago it held a contest with a \$1-million prize to whom-ever could best improve its system (a team of AT&T researchers won). Michael Ekstrand, a recommendations expert and computer-sciences professor at Texas State University, said that such systems may be far from perfect but that they are good enough to affect business already and getting better all the time. "They can result in a substantial lift in peoples' movie-watching [and] purchasing," he said. The ultimate goal is to get so good at predicting what customers want that, in the not-too-distant future, a TV show or movie calibrated precisely to that person's taste and habits will start playing whenever someone logs on to a site. Businesses have been trying to harness the power of predictive statistics for decades. Long before computers became commonplace, marketers were comparing hard copies of sales charts and statistical tables in a bid to forecast buying trends, Ekstrand said. Of course, if algorithms could reliably decipher and predict human preferences

all the time, every TV show would be a smash hit. But collaborative filtering has plenty of blind spots and glitches. One problem is what is known as the "gray sheep." That is a nonconformist whose taste is hard to compare with that of other people. Sometimes she likes what other "Downton Abbey" fans like. But sometimes she doesn't. She's impossible to pigeonhole. Algorithms have a difficult time accounting for such people. Another unsolved problem involves new users, about whom the computer simply doesn't have enough data about behavior to make any useful recommendations. Of course, the user can always answer a list of questions about what sort of TV shows or movies he likes. But that leads to an-

other problem, what might be called the self-reporting bias. People tend to report an idealized view of their own behavior, while what they actually do is another matter. "They may say, 'Yeah, I like these serious dramas,' but they go watch a bunch of comedies," Ekstrand said. "That stated preference might be aspirational. The user wants to be the kind of person who enjoys watching Scorsese movies." Netflix learned early on about the problem of self-reporting. But during the glory days of DVDs, the company had little data to go on besides a list of the titles the customers ordered and — assuming they actually bothered to offer their input — the star ratings they gave to movies or TV shows. The company didn't even know

whether customers had actually watched the DVDs they returned. That's all changed. "With streaming, obviously, we have a ton more data," Uribe said. "We know when you fast-forward, when you pause, whether you re-watch it, how much of it you watched and so on." That means, he said, more information for the algorithms, which are getting ever more precise at tailoring to each user. Companies that rely on algorithms believe that such recommendation systems are only in their infancy. In the future, users may indeed feel that the machine is reading their mind and knows exactly what they want to see.


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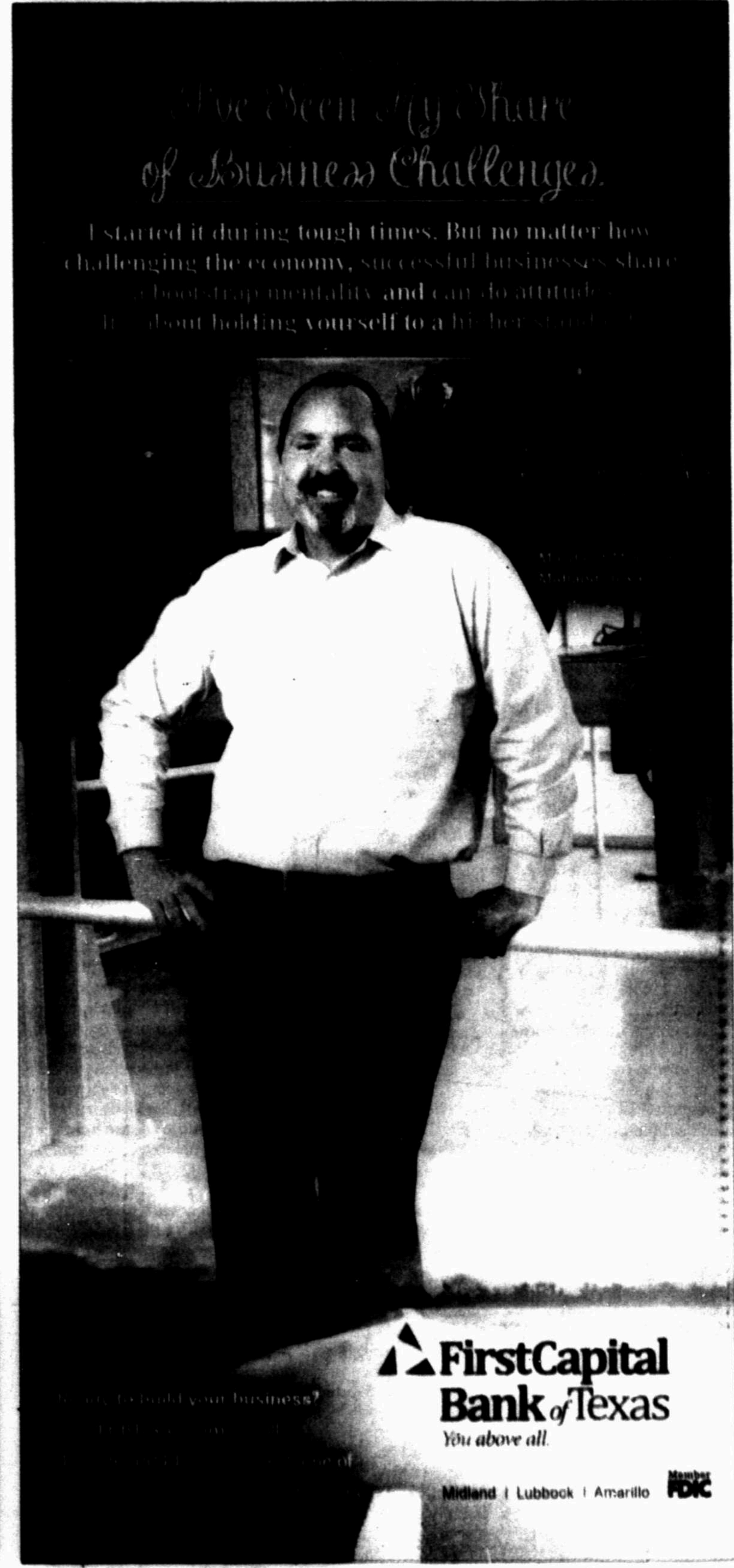
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## Due process is real victim in Cosby case

Comedian's online torching shows social media's destructive power

By now, most Americans probably have formed an opinion about what comedian Bill Cosby did or didn't do sexually to or with at least 16 women beginning in the 1960s.

According to several women who have accused him of sexual predations, Cosby's usual modus operandi was to drug women who were with him voluntarily and then force sexual acts upon them.

We know these things based mostly on the women's media interviews. Five revealed their identities and talked openly in The Washington Post's exhaustive story of the history and allegations.

Even so, these are accusations rather than confirmable facts as required in a true court of law. Otherwise, there's no real evidence — no tapes or letters. No rape kits or photographs. One woman did file charges against Cosby but that case was settled. Whatever consolation this settlement might have brought to the alleged victim, a settled case doesn't confirm guilt. Sometimes, especially concerning public figures, cases are settled just to end a nuisance.

In other words, we have formed our

**KATHLEEN PARKER**  
Washington Post  
Writers Group



opinions based on no established facts and no evidence and only on the memories of the women, most of whom say they were drugged at the time. Some of them have conceded that their recollections are foggy, which of course they would be after decades and under pharmaceutically induced circumstances, allegedly.

Use of the word "allegedly" intends no disrespect but is a requirement for journalists as opposed to people who chat online. Any charge is alleged until proved or determined true beyond a reasonable doubt by a jury of one's peers. This is how it's supposed to work, though it surely hasn't in Cosby's case — and probably won't, because of the statute of limitations.

This column is not a defense of Cosby but a reminder of our rule of law. We see in Ferguson, Missouri, what happens when respect for our legal process is lost: Arsonists and looters expressed their outrage that a grand jury didn't act as

they thought it should. Yet we hear people trying to defend these actions as somehow acceptable, or at least non-criminal, because of historical injustice.

Nonsense. Ferguson is what you get when mob rule overwhelms the rule of law, which was created as the defense of civilized people against the mob.

Not to conflate the two, the facts and circumstances are vastly different, but Cosby's online torching is nonetheless of similar gravity. He may as well walk out of town and tie himself to an anthill.

Did he do these things as alleged? With so many women speaking out, it seems likely that he did. His pattern of behavior toward women as related by others, not just his accusers, was not that of the guy we thought we knew. Indeed, indeed, we struggle to reconcile the disparity between the persona of Dr. Cliff Huxtable and the allegations against Cosby.

Nevertheless, what you or I think in the absence of a trial to present and defend against charges with evidence and testimony under oath is irrelevant. It is at least a mockery of justice that bodes not so well for a present-future when lives are destroyed on the basis of, dare I say, gossip.

Anyone can say anything about another on social media — even charge rape — and it's extremely hard to recover from the

effects. It isn't just Cosby's hide here; it's everyone's.

Many have lauded the power of social media in liberating people from the bonds of shamed silence. This technological development makes it possible for people who have felt too timid, afraid or disenfranchised to step forward. While this is certainly true and valuable to an extent, social media have enormous destructive power.

This intersection of freedom and responsibility has rarely been so vivid and presents new challenges to the personal moral code that undergirds our legal system.

For his part, Cosby has denied some claims and declined to comment on others, fueling skepticism about his innocence. He and his lawyers know that absent evidence, there's no profit in dignifying the charges. Hope hinges on the public's short attention span and bigger fires to put out.

Buried deep in our craws, meanwhile, lurking like a slimy Gollum, bug-eyed and deformed by envy and self-loathing, lies a second thought or three: Someday it could be thee or me.

Whatever the truth about Cosby, due process has been the victim of what Clarence Thomas once called a high-tech lynching.

### GUEST VIEW

## Data is lacking on impact of 'border surge'

El Paso Times

If someone proposed spending almost \$90 million to extend a pilot project for health care or education, Texas leaders would probably ask what the results have been so far to justify further expenditures. But that doesn't appear to be the case if the money is being spent on "border security."

Texas' top three elected officials — Gov. Rick Perry, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and House Speaker Joe Straus — announced last week that they would continue "Operation Strong Safety," the state's "border surge" ordered earlier this year when masses of Central American women and children came to Rio Grande Valley and immediately surrendered to federal border officers.

Texas has spent more than \$20 million so far to send National Guard, Department of Public Safety and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department forces to the South Texas border. The proposal outlined last week would commit an additional \$86.1 million in state revenue for the remainder of the fiscal year, which ends in August.

The exact purpose of the mission has always been a bit squishy, other than to reinforce a political viewpoint that the U.S.-Mexico border wasn't sufficiently defended by the Obama administration. The choice of language — that this was a "surge" of forces, much like that in Iraq and Afghanistan — created the horribly mistaken impression of the border region as a war zone.

So with several months of the "border surge" now under the state's belt, what have we gotten for spending more than \$20 million?

The governor's office won't say, instead directing reporters to the Department of Public Safety. DPS in turn provides a "dashboard" that is a collection of data that doesn't provide information on the effectiveness of the "surge."

The one bit of specific "surge" data tracks drug seizures since June 23, when the state operation began, in the targeted Rio Grande Valley area.

But when asked how those numbers compare with previous years, before the "surge," DPS can't provide data.

So at this point, Texans have no idea what they've gotten for the tens of millions spent on what increasingly looks like a politically motivated mission.

Perry, who almost certainly is running for president, said last week that "Texas has proven beyond any doubt that this border can be secured," even as his administration failed to provide any real data to show it had added anything to border security efforts.

The Legislative Budget Board must give its approval to this plan on Monday, but probing questions are unlikely.

The Legislature will be asked for border security funding when it convenes next year. Lawmakers owe it to taxpayers to carefully vet such proposals, and demand evidence of effectiveness.

That, too, is unlikely. And unfortunate for Texas taxpayers.

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## Obama undermines own argument

Some on the left believe the president is using executive action, public comments to decrease chances of immigration reform before he leaves office

**RUBEN NAVARRETTE**  
Washington Post Writers Group

A few years ago when President Obama was mucking up the immigration debate with his stall tactics, I said that he should do us all a favor and just stop talking about the subject.

Obama still talks about immigration. And now his recent executive action to give a temporary reprieve to individuals who are otherwise deportable — such as undocumented parents of U.S. citizens — has so inflamed the right wing that conservatives are talking in circles and contradicting their own views on executive power.

While his critics might not be making a very effective case, Obama nevertheless is undermining his own argument.

When hecklers demanded during a recent speech in Chicago that he stop deportations, the president insisted that he didn't deserve the criticism because he had just "changed" immigration law to address the problem.

"Now, you're absolutely right that there have been significant numbers of deportations," he told the crowd. "That's true. But what you are not paying attention to is the fact that I just took an action to change the law."

Unbelievable. I had been arguing with conservatives that Obama didn't "change" immigration law any more than a policeman who uses his discretion to not hand out a speeding ticket is changing traffic laws. This is common sense.

And now, it turns out, the first person I need to convince with my argument is Obama himself?

A number of legal experts have also come forward to claim that Obama has the Constitution on his side. In other words, Obama is right and he acted within his authority. Yet he doesn't even know it.

But there is more to this story than a poor choice of words. Obama tried to convince the protesters that his executive action would decrease deportations. That is overselling it. We don't know that deportations are going to go down. The administration promises not to deport parents for three years. So what? There are plenty of non-parents that Immigration and Customs Enforcement can still remove to reach its yearly quota of 400,000 deportations in order to keep government funding flowing.

Worst of all, Obama's flub about "changing" the

law is feeding a theory that has sprouted up on the left. It suggests that the president — who I have repeatedly said doesn't really support immigration reform despite promises and rhetoric — is cynically using executive action, and his public comments, to decrease the chances we'll have real reform before he leaves office.

I didn't buy this theory at first. The president can't stop Congress from passing a bill any more than he can force it to pass one. What Obama did was legal, defensible and overdue. And besides, Republicans won't get very far with Hispanic voters — 89 percent of whom support the president's executive action, according to a new poll by Latino Decisions — by claiming petulantly that Obama's executive action got in the way of passing an immigration reform bill.

Still, as time goes on, I'm finding the theory more and more credible given that Obama's heavy-handed approach to enforcement has now been coupled with his ham-handed approach to executive action.

If these folks are right, and Obama is once again putting one over on immigration reform proponents, then the worst-case scenario for the president isn't impeachment or a lawsuit or the GOP shutting down the government — all of which Obama would likely welcome because of the political backlash against Republicans. The real nightmare scenario for the president is that a Republican-controlled Congress would get its act together and send him a bill that does something that Obama's supporters in organized labor don't want done — legalize the undocumented. It has long been clear that Obama is part of the "protectionist" wing of the Democratic Party that is intent on protecting Americans from having to compete with foreign workers. Given such a bill, the president would have to veto it.

And if that were to happen, all Americans would be forced to accept what some of us have always suspected — that Obama opposes immigration reform, and he'll do whatever he can to prevent it by word or deed.

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# Ratings are questionable when Waco is 3rd best city to visit

While you're dealing with your Thanksgiving leftovers, please allow me to serve up some I've been meaning to tell you about. All are loose ends and updates from previous columns.

Back during the summer we (I) all had a little fun with the fact that Texas Highways magazine rated Austin the state's 26th best place to visit while placing Abilene 18th. We now have additional data that can be used to question the rankings. San Antonio wound up as No. 1. Nothing wrong there. Denton came in second. OK, I guess.

The problem is the third-place finisher: Waco. I rest my case.

Also updateable is the status of the Texas Lottery's Fun 5's game (which, if my calculations are right, is 66.7 percent more fun than Fun Fun Fun Fest). I reported in September that the game aroused ire from players who were confused into thinking they were winners. The tickets, they claimed, are misleading. Are not, said Texas Lottery officials.

Nevertheless, those officials have shut down Fun 5's due to "feedback from some



**KEN HERMAN**  
Cox Newspapers

players expressing confusion regarding certain aspects of this popular game."

"Additionally," lottery officials said in announcing the decision, "a few opportunistic individuals appear to be exploiting some of them."

They were not named, but I'm guessing it includes the players who thought they won and the Houston lawyer representing some of them.

This next one will be understandable to everyone who's ever moved a house of worship from one city to another. After some delays, the kind anticipatable in ambitious projects, updated plans call for Brenham's historic B'nai Abraham Synagogue to be moved to Austin's Dell Jewish Community Campus in December,

perhaps around Chanukah.

Next next, I recently told you the city of Austin ruled that a small Buddha statue placed in Big Stacy Park by private citizens had to be removed. I also told you I was seeking the paperwork in which city lawyers recommended that action.

City officials, citing attorney-client privilege, don't want me or you to see that. They sought a state attorney general's decision on whether they have to. They won. We can't see it. Seems like we should be able to see what city attorneys tell city officials in situations like this.

FYI, undaunted by Buddha's eviction and eager to replace it with something equally spiritual, some Travis Heightsians, by way of an online neighborhood bulletin board, are urging folks to contribute a "special rock, from somewhere afar or near, that has special meaning to the individual." The rocks will form a cairn. Look it up. And we can all look forward to whether the city has a problem with cairns in public parks.

One person promised to provide "a beach rock that is worn smooth, all cares gone." Another offered to "bring one from

Saudi Arabia in December." Yet another raised this simultaneously practical and philosophical question: "Will someone else supervise the cairn building or it that too organized?"

Rock on, Travis Heights.

Onward. I've written a couple of recent columns about orphan signs, defined as familiar signs left over from long-gone businesses. That inspired input from Nanette Nau Overbeck, whose dad, Ladner Nau, was a co-founder of Nau's Pharmacy back in 1928.

Restored to its original glory, a Nau's sign that had hung at two locations now looks great on the patio of the house at the Overbecks' ranch east of town.

Last update: I'm pleased to announce that tours of the Austin American-Statesman building, suspended during some remodeling around here, have resumed. (Book a tour at community.statesman.com.) I'm on our team of official tour guides, though I'm not exactly sure what goes on in some parts of our remodeled facilities.

Y'all come see us, and we'll roam around and try to figure it out.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Gruber has 'insightful' view of Americans

Many people are irate over former White House advisor Jonathan Gruber's impertinent remarks about how the Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare, was passed due to the "stupidity of the American voters" (his actual quote). However, they are not giving him due credit for the insightful view he holds. They elected Obama in 2008 and re-elected him in 2012, didn't they? How smart was that?

Ironically, at this stage of the game, Gruber's best response could well be the simple retort, "I rest my case." For the record, I voted against Obama both times.

Drew Matthews

### 20 percent solar goal achievable

In reference to your Nov. 16 article "Solar poised to increase market share in Texas," solar power is actually growing fast enough here in Texas to make a goal of 20 percent solar by 2025 readily achievable.

"Star Power: the Growing Role of Solar Energy in Texas," a recent report by Environment Texas Research & Policy Center, shows that Texas' solar capacity has grown at an average rate of 84 percent from 2010-13. All our policy leaders need to do is keep their foot on the accelerator — pushing the envelope by setting a strong solar goal and then breaking down remaining barriers to go solar — in order to surpass our 20 percent solar goal.

This is a critical finding at a time when the EPA is finalizing the Clean Power Plan, which would require Texas to cut 39 percent of its power plant carbon pollution. By meeting a 20 percent solar goal, Texas would cut as much carbon pollution as 10 million cars emit in a year and get more than halfway to the benchmark set by the Clean Power Plan. I urge Gov.-elect Abbott to take solar power to the next level in Texas by setting a goal of 20 percent solar by 2025 — and the first step to getting there is for Austin's City Council to finalize a strong generation plan that would set updated goals for solar in Austin.

Anne Clark

Campaign organizer with Environment Texas

### It's puzzling why courthouse is being destroyed

It is puzzling why we would want to destroy a Midland historical landmark. The answer probably begins with a dollar sign. In the late 1940s, more than one 9- or 10-year-old boy sold copies of the Reporter-Telegram for 5 cents each in the vicinity of the county courthouse and U.S. Post Office building, which was located a short distance to the north. For a time, at least, part of the public library was located in the courthouse.

A billboard on that property had a Scripture verse from Psalm 122:1, which reads: "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord."

This may have had an impact on people other than 9-year-old newspaper boys.

Robert L. Williams

### Few animals are tested for rabies

In response to Robert Crites' letter regarding rabid foxes (Nov. 23), Midland County does not submit animals for rabies testing unless they have bitten someone. This is why there are so few reported cases of rabies.

If you encounter a suspected rabid fox, take care of it yourself. The sheriff's department will not kill a rabid animal because there is too much paperwork involved, nor will they submit the animal for testing. I speak from experience.

Steve Price

### Meetings give residents voice in planning process

Kudos to the city of Midland staff and the city-planning professionals who are working on the Tall City Tomorrow plan.

Three open meetings were recently held, and residents were invited to help forge a shared community vision. To me, this is the spirit of America, where each individual can participate, ask questions, voice their opinion and share in the governing process.

The sessions were well-planned. A written plan and timeline were handed out at all three sessions. At the No. 1 evening meeting, the plan was explained. The next day, exhibits and maps were displayed. Residents could read, write or discuss their comments with staff. One could spend 15 minutes or the full 1 1/2 hours. The third session consisted of a PowerPoint presentation explaining areas of the city to be analyzed for future needs such as transportation drilling, traffic, etc.

Those who missed any of these meetings lost their chance to express themselves, either positively or negatively. Midland is at a crucial step of development now, and those of you who plan to stay certainly should have a voice in that development.

But this study will take a year, so you can share in this planning process at www.midlandtexas.gov/tallcitytomorrow.

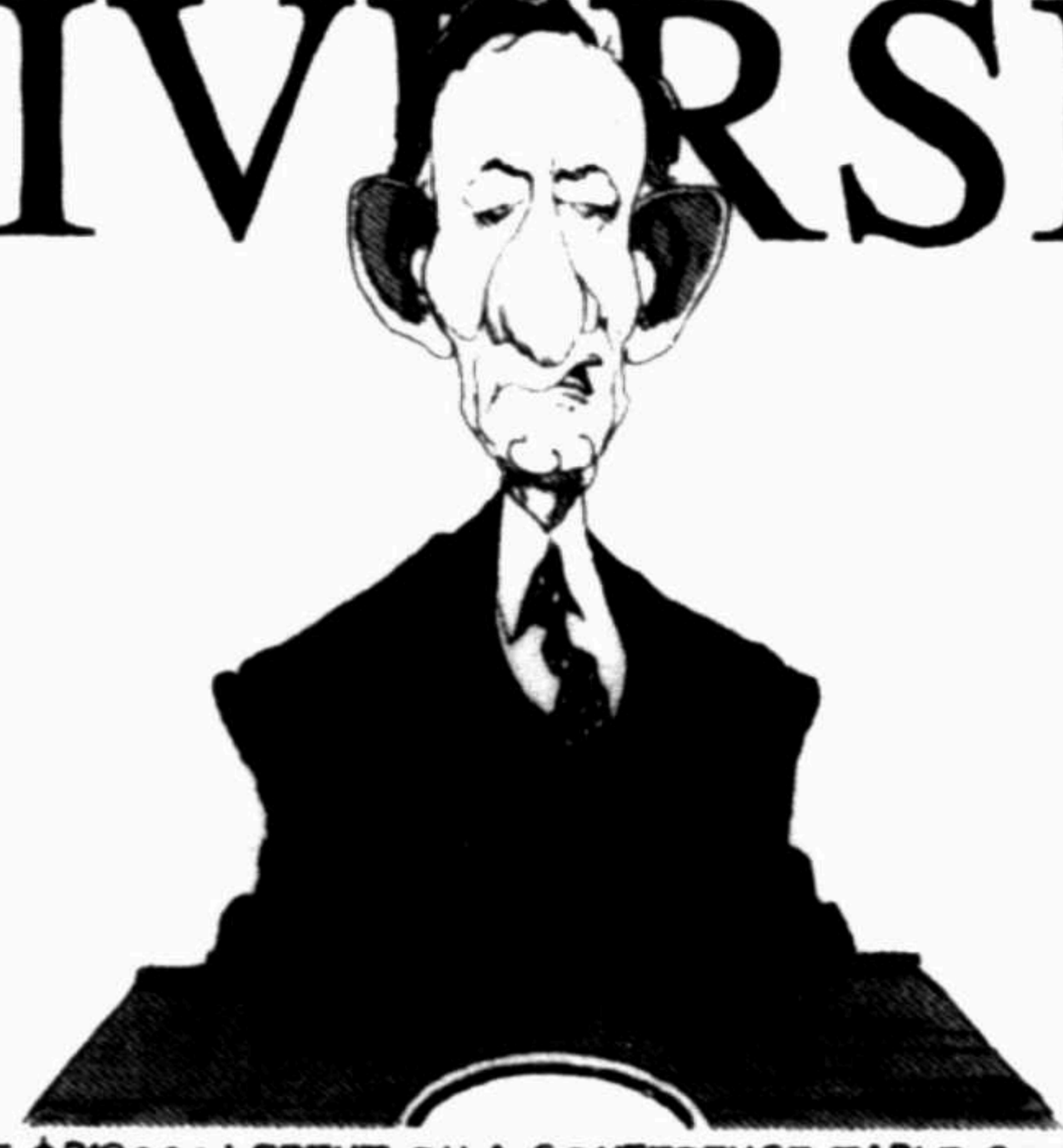
Further stakeholder meetings are planned beginning in January and ending in September.

Again, thank you, staff for giving us, the residents of Midland, the opportunity to participate in this planning process.

Pat Schneider

SHENEMAN THE STAR-LEADER

# KEAN UNIVERSITY



IT'S BEEN SUGGESTED THAT THE \$290001 SPENT ON A CONFERENCE TABLE COULD HAVE BEEN BETTER UTILIZED ON THINGS LIKE A FACILITY THAT DIRECTLY BENEFITS THE STUDENTS. CONSEQUENTLY, THE TABLE WILL NOW TEACH INTRO TO POLI. SCI.

## Executive order rewards illegal immigration

Like millions of other Americans, I appreciate the plight of billions of people throughout the world who would like nothing more than to find themselves in the United States, where they could enjoy a much higher standard of living and wonderful opportunities for advancement.

It certainly seems like a compassionate thing to offer them legal status in America and the opportunity to pursue their dreams. It should first be considered, however, that we have millions of people already mired in dire poverty in our inner cities, rural townships and places such as Appalachia who would certainly appreciate a helping hand before we extend one to foreigners. The same principle is seen when you board an airplane and hear the announcement, "In case of an emergency, oxygen masks will drop from the ceiling. Put yours on first, and then administer help to those around you." There are many around us already in need of help.

According to President Obama, only those 5 million or so illegals who have been in America for five years or more will benefit from his largesse. He indicates that they will not be eligible for health care and other benefits. Obviously, this fits right into the same category as his promise: "If you like your doctor,



**BEN CARSON**  
Creators Syndicate

you can keep your doctor."

Once illegals have legal status, it will be difficult to deny them any of the multitudinous entitlements that are freely distributed throughout our society. Also, we must remember that illegals who have been here for less than five years only have to claim that they have been here longer than that in order to collect goodies. In effect, instead of helping 5 million people, we probably will be aiding at least twice that many.

Even this would not be a problem if we had plenty of money. The sad fact is our national debt is approaching \$18 trillion. If you paid that back at a rate of \$1 billion per day, it would take nearly 50 years. Many powerful nations before us have met their fate through fiscal irresponsibility. What makes our leaders think we are immune from the destructive forces of a shaky financial foundation?

The founders of our nation feared that the time would arise when an

individual or group of individuals in our government would become intoxicated with their power and attempt to impose their will upon the entire society through dictatorial decrees rather than through the legal process established by our Constitution. For this reason, they established three separate but equal branches of government, dividing the powers. This ingenious method of power division worked beautifully until recently, but hopefully, we are about to experience a demonstration of how the separation of powers preserves the integrity of our system. It will require that the legislative and judicial branches of government manifest the necessary courage to stand up for the people they represent.

The American people should not be manipulated into believing that they are heartless simply because they want to preserve the rule of law in our nation and look after their own before they take in others. We also have to consider the millions of people who have immigrated here legally, as well as those who are in the queue. It is incredibly unfair to them to grant amnesty to those who have jumped ahead of them in line illegally. I hope our government officials will recall the words of the Pledge of Allegiance, with particular emphasis on the part that says: "with liberty and justice for all."

## Holidays can be cruelest time of the year

T.S. Eliot may have had it wrong: The cruelest months are November and December, when the holidays are upon us, not April. For those who are broken, the holidays are a special hell.

The bedridden, the incarcerated, the mourners, the maimed from accidents, disease or wars, the heart-broke endure the holidays in anguish, hurting even more than the permanent hurt that has become their lives.

You may find the broken in the corners at parties, sitting glumly at the table. But the real suffering is unseen: the real sufferers cannot make it to the table — or dare not for fear that the outing will cost them later. The brave face can mask the deepest hurt.

They are the permanently sick. Those who will be sick today, sick tomorrow and sick in the next holiday season as they were in the last.

There are people who suffer constant illness in all the myriad ways that a body can be afflicted or fail. No afflicted cohort is more deserving of understanding than another; none has a greater call for science to redouble its efforts for a cure than another.

But the effort to find cures is woefully skewed by the institutions of medicine, by the pharmaceutical companies and by those diseases that have celebrity champions, informing the public and the politics of research institutions.



**LLEWELLYN KING**  
Hearst Newspapers

I write and broadcast about one disease in particular: myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME), also called chronic fatigue syndrome. It is a disease largely orphaned by the medical community, which has no test for it — cannot say with assurance that a patient has it until months of debility validate that it is ME. In medical parlance, there are no biological markers. It is almost certainly a disease of the immune system, and there is no cure.

I think of it as a terrorist disease, which takes its patents hostage and confines them in an alternative world of muscle pain, headaches, diarrhea, dizziness, brain fog and almost permanent collapse. Some are adversely affected by light, others by sound.

One sufferer says that having ME is like being an engine without fuel: Your tank is empty, and you hurt in new and refined ways almost daily. Sufferers go through long periods of disability where they cannot function at all. "I thought I was already in my coffin," another told me.

The joys are few and sometimes

from little things, like a pet or nature observations. One sufferer, Elisabeth Tova Bailey, wrote a wonderful book, "The Sound of a Wild Snail Eating." It is about the habits of a snail in a terrarium next to her bed, during two years of sustained collapse.

This is a disease that steals lives, chains them up in dungeons of despair where loneliness and suffering reach "excruciating proportions," according to my colleague, Deborah Waroff, whose life was snatched by this disease 25 years ago. Together, Waroff and I established a YouTube channel on ME, mecfsalert.

The loved ones, and the caregivers — if there are any — are enslaved by this disease, seeing those they care about in a place where neither love nor medicine can reach them. Literally and figuratively, they must fluff the pillows once again and mouth the empty words — lies really — of encouragement that we all utter in the face of hopelessness.

Those who live on their own, often in poverty and sloth they cannot ameliorate for themselves, suffer what one woman told me was such sustained loneliness that she prayed nightly for death.

Christmas, Hanukah, Kwanzaa and New Year's Eve are on the way. Sadly, while the rest of us are suffused with joy, the permanently ill take stock and find their lives are terribly wanting and isolated on the holidays.

# Black Friday sales slip as discounts start earlier

N.Y. Times News Service

Even as more stores opened their doors on Thanksgiving, hoping for a jump start to the holiday season, an initial reading suggested that combined sales on Thanksgiving and Black Friday fell 0.5 percent from the same period last year.

ShopperTrak, a consumer analytics firm based in Chicago, warned that its estimates were preliminary, and that shifting spending patterns meant that holiday sales were now dispersed over a longer period. Retailers have been offering deep discounts well before their sales Friday, and many stores moved the start of those offers to Thursday evening.

Still, initial weak numbers from what is seen as a critical year-end shopping spree revives concerns among retailers that despite a brightening economic outlook and lower gas prices, consumers remain wary of spending.

"You can try to get the consumer to spend earlier. But that doesn't mean there's more money in their pockets," said Marshal Cohen, chief industry analyst at the NPD Group, a market research company.

Brick-and-mortar stores also face a shift as much of the holiday spending happens online. A separate survey by IBM showed that those sales jumped, as more people shopped on smartphones and tablets than ever before.

One positive sign, Cohen said, was that surveys indicated that many consumers appeared to be buying for themselves. That suggests that there is still ample gift-buying coming later in the year, he said.

He also said that retailers had become better at integrating their brick-and-mortar stores with their online operations.



James Durbin/Reporter-Telegram

Members of the Lee High School orchestra wrap packages on Black Friday for shoppers to raise money for their performance in Hawaii at Midland Park Mall on Friday.

offering the same deals on the web and in-store, for example, or giving customers the option of shopping online and pick-

ing up their purchases at a nearby store.

In the immediate term, retailers need to brace for a lull after Black Friday,

as exhausted consumers give shopping a rest, Cohen said. And he warned of thinning margins at retailers that discounted too heavily in a bid to bolster traffic.

"Some were offering 50 percent off the entire store," he said. "You can't make money that way."

The earlier start to Black Friday sales appeared to move consumers' shopping sprees forward. While traffic on Thanksgiving Day increased 27.3 percent, traffic on Friday fell 5.6 percent, according to ShopperTrak.

Bill Martin, the founder of ShopperTrak, suggested that the figures showed that consumers were simply waiting until

later in the season to do the bulk of their holiday shopping. Last year, he said, Black Friday weekend sales rose 1 percent from the previous year, though sales for the entire season ultimately logged a gain of 3.1 percent.

"There is a significant amount of energy left in the consumer," he said in a news release. And more big shopping days remain, he said. That includes the final Saturday before Christmas, typically the biggest shopping day of the year.

According to estimates released by IBM, which tracks sales at 800 retail sites in the United States, online sales on Thanksgiving Day increased 14.3 percent, while sales on

Black Friday were up 9.5 percent. Sales from mobile devices jumped over 25 percent on both days, the company said. People logging onto shopping sites from their smartphones or tablets accounted for over half of all online traffic on Thursday, and almost half of traffic on Friday, IBM said.

Just four years ago, less than 10 percent of the traffic came from mobile, said Jay Henderson, director of IBM Smarter Commerce.

"It's amazing just how pervasive mobile has become," Henderson said. "People are bringing their tablets to the dinner table as they finish up their pie," he said. "It's a new Thanksgiving tradition."

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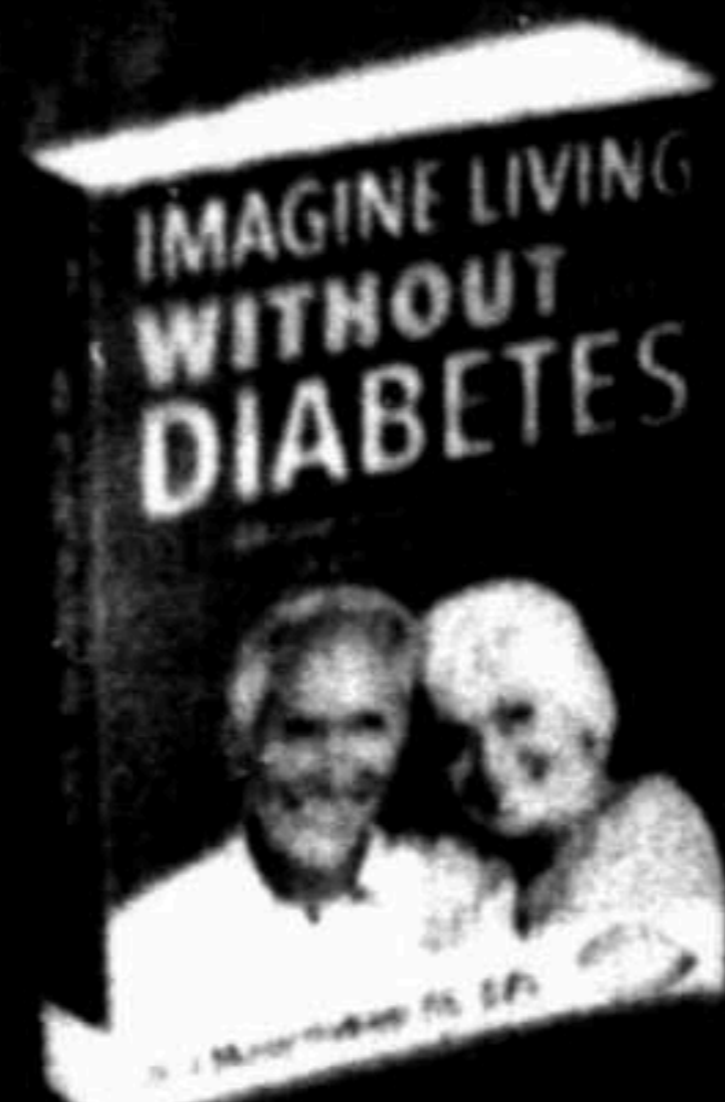
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By J R As

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## EX-UPS driver's pregnancy bias claim to be heard by high court

By Mark Sherman  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Peggy Young only has to look at her younger daughter to be reminded how long she has fought United Parcel Service over its treatment of pregnant employees, and why.

Young was pregnant with Triniti, who's now 7 years old, when UPS told Young that she could not have a temporary assignment to avoid lifting heavy packages, as her doctor had ordered.

"They told me basically to go home and come back when I was no longer pregnant," Young said in an interview with The Associated Press. "I couldn't believe it."

She sued the Atlanta-based package-delivery company for discriminating against pregnant women. She lost two rounds in lower courts, but the Supreme Court will hear her case Wednesday.

The 42-year-old Young, who lives in Lorton, Virginia, said her persistence is not only for herself. "I am fighting for my two daughters and I'm fighting for women who want to start a family and provide for the family at the same time," she said.

UPS spokeswoman Kara Gerhardt Ross said the law is on the company's side. "UPS did not intentionally discriminate," Ross said.

The outcome could have wide-ranging effects. Three-quarters of women entering the workforce today will become pregnant at least once while employed, and many will work throughout their pregnancies, employment discrimination expert Katherine Kimpel wrote in a court brief. Some will experience complications or physical effects that cause them to ask their employers for a change of duties or other modifications, Kimpel said.

Young's case hinges on the Pregnancy Discrimination Act, a law that Congress passed in 1978 specifically to include discrimination against pregnant women as a violation of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Congress acted after the Supreme Court, then composed entirely of men, said workplace rules that

excluded pregnant workers from disability benefits and insurance coverage did not amount to sex discrimination under the landmark civil rights law.

The question in Young's case is whether UPS violated the law through its policy of providing temporary light-duty work only to employees who had on-the-job injuries, were disabled under federal law or lost their federal driver certification. "If you were painting your house and fell off a ladder, or if you had a ski accident, that wouldn't qualify for restricted light duty. That's where pregnancy fell at that time. It was not covered in any state law except California's," Ross said.

UPS also notes in its court filings that the Postal Service, an independent agency that receives no tax dollars but is subject to congressional control, maintains an identical policy when it comes to pregnant workers. The Postal Service declined comment.

The Obama administration and 120 congressional Democrats are supporting Young. The reason for the work limitation is less important than the company's decision to distinguish between pregnant and nonpregnant workers with similar restrictions on the work they can do. Young and the administration told the court.

An unusual array of liberal, conservative, labor and women's interest groups also has lined up behind Young. The pregnancy discrimination law "protects the unborn child as well as the working mother who faces economic and other difficulties in bearing and raising the child," lawyer Carrie Severino wrote on behalf of anti-abortion organizations.

UPS employed Young as a part-time driver whose main job was to deliver overnight letters by 8:30 a.m. UPS requires people in those jobs to be able to lift packages as heavy as 70 pounds. Young said she rarely handled anything over 20 pounds and dealt almost exclusively with letters that sat on the passenger seat of her van.

In 2006, Young, then in

her mid-30s, took a leave of absence to undergo in vitro fertilization in her desire to have a third child. On the third try, she became pregnant.

Young wanted to return to work, and her doctor and a midwife wrote notes saying she should not lift packages heavier than 20 pounds.

But UPS told Young she could not continue in her job and did not qualify for a temporary assignment.

Unable to work, Young also lost her medical and pension benefits, although she was covered under husband's health insurance. "The benefits were good and benefits were hard to find with part-time jobs," she said.

Young eventually returned to UPS, but left in 2009, a year after she sued. She argued that because UPS made accommodations for nonpregnant employees with work restrictions, it should have done the same for her.

But lower courts dismissed the suit, agreeing that Young did not prove UPS discriminated against her because of her pregnancy.

The justices agreed in July to review the case. Since then, there have been two notable developments.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission updated guidance to employers to make clear that they should accommodate people in Young's situation.

UPS itself has changed its policy so that pregnant employees will be eligible for light-duty work. "UPS believed it was appropriate to update its workplace policies so that we can attract and retain the best workforce we can," Ross said.

The change does not affect Young, now a contractor for the federal Customs and Border Protection agency.

Looking back, Young said the situation was so upsetting because she felt she was able to work and considered herself pretty tough. Recalling the birth of her second child, Young said, "I was at work when I went into labor."

The case is Young v. UPS, 12-1226.

## Relationship between Obama and Pentagon grows uneasy

By Julie Pace and Robert Burns  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — On a trip to Afghanistan during President Barack Obama's first term, Defense Secretary Robert Gates was stunned to find a telephone line at the military's special operations headquarters that linked directly back to a top White House national security official.

"I had them tear it out while I was standing there," Gates said earlier this month as he recounted his discovery. "I told the commanders, 'If you get a call from the White House, you tell them to go to hell and call me.'"

To Gates, the phone in Kabul came to symbolize Obama's efforts to micro-manage the Pentagon and centralize decision-making in the White House. That criticism later would be echoed publicly and pointedly by Gates' successor, Leon Panetta.

The president's third Pentagon chief, Chuck Hagel, was picked partly because he was thought to be more deferential to Obama's close circle of White House advisers. But over time, Hagel also grew frustrated with what he saw as the West Wing's insularity. There have been similar gripes from other Cabinet officials, but the friction between the White House and the Pentagon has been particularly pronounced during Obama's six years in office. That dynamic already appears to be affecting the president's ability to find a replacement for Hagel, who resigned Monday under pressure from Obama.

Within hours, former Pentagon official Michele Flournoy called Obama to take herself out of consideration, even though she was widely seen as his top choice and would have been the first woman to hold the post.

Flournoy officially cited family concerns, but people close to her said she also had reservations about being restrained like Hagel and would perhaps wait to see if she could get the job if another Democrat — namely Hillary Rodham Clinton — won the presidency in 2016.

Obama's eventual nominee will join a national security team that is under intense criticism for its response to the rise of the Islamic State group in Syria and Iraq. The president has authorized airstrikes in both

countries and sent about 3,000 U.S. troops to train and assist Iraqi security forces.

He has resisted sending American troops into ground combat and has insisted the military campaign is not designed to oust Syrian President Bashar Assad, whose 3 1/2 year assault on civilians helped create the chaos that allowed the Islamic State to thrive.

The foreign policy landscape looks far different from what Obama envisioned when he ran for the White House and pledged to end the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Obama has been seen in the Pentagon as being overly suspicious of the military and its inclination to use force to address problems. To some in the Pentagon, the president's approach to the military seems particularly cool and detached when compared with that of his predecessor, Republican George W. Bush, who was more eager to embrace the military and accept its judgments.

Stephen Biddle, an occasional adviser to U.S. combat commanders, said the White House has fallen victim to "group think" and is distrustful of advice or perspectives that challenge its own.

"That's a bad policy development design," said Biddle, a political science professor at George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs.

Several White House, defense and other administration officials discussed the relationship between the president and the Pentagon on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to do so publicly.

On foreign policy decision-making, Obama relies in particular on national security adviser Susan Rice and chief of staff Denis McDonough. Secretary of State John Kerry has managed to carve out some areas of influence, particularly on Iranian nuclear negotiations. Some Pentagon officials say they have seen an increasingly close relationship between Obama and Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

But at the Pentagon, senior officials say there is growing frustration with a lack of policy direction and clarity from the White House that has hampered the military's ability to quickly respond to fast-moving events around the

world. Policy recommendations from the Pentagon are often discussed exhaustively in White House meetings that can bog down, delaying decisions and sometimes resulting in conclusions that remain vague.

Over the past year, officials said the Pentagon leadership was particularly baffled by the White House's slow deliberations on Russia's moves against Ukraine and the rise of Islamic State militants.

Earlier this fall, officials said, Hagel sent Rice a memo on Syria reflecting the views of military commanders who feel Obama's strategy lacks cohesion and has included too many one-off decisions, such as resupplying Kurdish forces fighting the militants in the Syrian town of Kobani. Hagel and military commanders were particularly concerned about a lack of clarity over Obama's position toward Assad.

On Ukraine, officials say Hagel pressed the White House to speed up the protracted debate over providing even nonlethal assistance to Ukrainian forces and to look for new options when the support the administration did provide proved ineffective in stopping Russian-backed rebels.

Obama's advisers deny Hagel was ousted because he challenged the president. They cast the former Republican senator as the wrong fit for a job in which he never appeared comfortable. The aides also defended the White House's lengthy internal deliberations, saying Obama's decision-making process reflects the complexity of the problems.

Hagel's ouster has spurred a flurry of suggestions from foreign policy experts for how Obama can repair his relationship with the Pentagon, from ousting his West Wing aides to re-vamping the White House's National Security Council, which has ballooned from a few dozen staffers in the 1970s to more than 400.

But Gates, the former Pentagon chief who voiced his frustrations during a forum this month at the Ronald Reagan presidential library in California, suggested the real issue rested with the president himself.

"When a president wants highly centralized control in the White House at the degree of micromanagement that I'm describing, that's not bureaucratic, that's political," he said.

This Dec. 7, 2011 file photo shows former U.S. Defense Undersecretary Michele Flournoy, preparing for a bilateral meeting in Beijing. Flournoy, a main contender to replace Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, has taken herself out of consideration for the Pentagon's top job, people familiar with the process said Tuesday.

AP file photo

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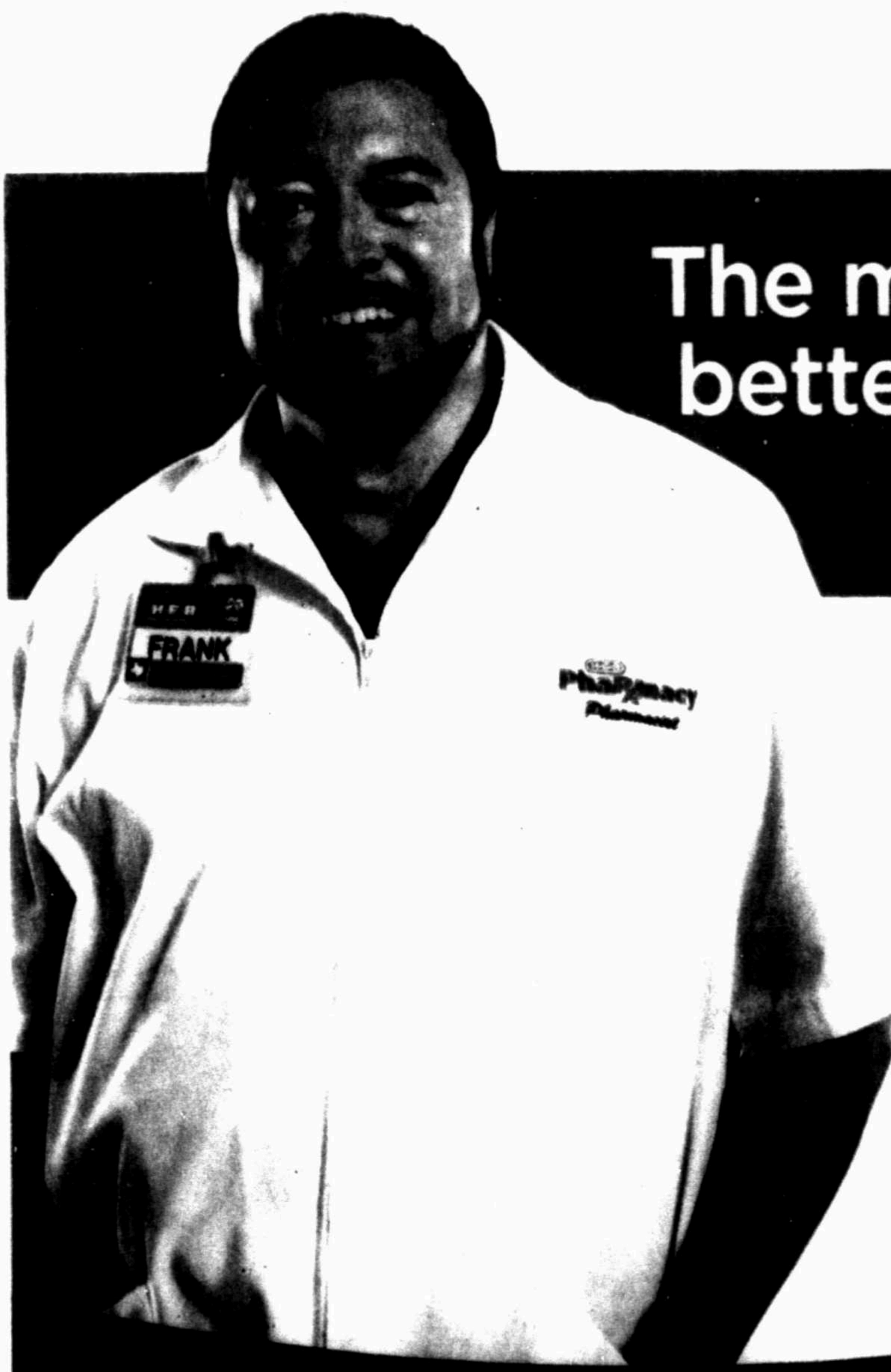
# Not all Medicare D prescription plans are equal.

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Above represents just 3 of 31 Medicare D prescription plans available in Texas. Cost will vary based on medications and choice of plan and plan options.



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Plan information is obtained from the Medicare plan issuer. [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) or 1-800-633-4222. Individuals with no subsidy will pay the full premium. Any amount (AP) shown is a state (state) or federal (federal) subsidy. For more information, visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) or call 1-800-633-4222. Medicare is a federal program. Medicare is a federal program. Medicare is a federal program.

H-E-B  
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# LOCAL & STATE

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Sunday, November 30, 2014 | Section B

## Departing airport director looks back at career Esterly to leave Midland for Valley International Airport in Harlingen

By Joseph Basco  
jbasco@mrt.com

Marv Esterly, the outgoing director of airports for the city of Midland, has left with him a legacy of jump-starting the spaceport, which led Midland International Airport to become Midland International Air and Space Port, and a legacy of improvements and record-breaking numbers.

Since 1987, Esterly has been part of the Midland airport, from the early 1980s downturn until the modern oil boom brought out more airline passengers, more demand for parking and need for more corporate hangars.

Looking back at the early years, Esterly

recalled there being a cattle fence around the perimeter of the airport, rather than a legitimate security fence. He said runways and ramps were in poor condition and that when it rained, there was more rain inside the airport terminal than outside.

In fiscal year 2014, airport boardings surpassed 500,000 people, parking revenue reached \$2.5 million and fuel sales reached \$7.2 million. During the same fiscal year, Esterly's leadership helped the airport secure a spaceport license from the Federal Aviation Administration, build a new 200-space covered parking lot and more corporate hangars, and rehabilitate Midland Airpark's runway and lighting. The spaceport license was unique because it is the first-ever license approved by the FAA for a spaceport that is also an airport.

"The spaceport is huge accomplishment," Esterly said. "It's the future of aviation; right now is the infancy of the next level of aviation."

Another of Esterly's accomplishments was the lease of airport land to oil companies in late 2013, bringing in more revenue for the airport and city.

Looking forward, Esterly is moving to Harlingen to work at Valley International Airport.

"You know, when you start outliving the runways, maybe it's time to look at other places and find something else to do," Esterly said. "But I'm excited to work down there and work for an airport commission where we can actually sit down and brainstorm on what the future of Valley International should look like and make it happen. Hopefully we'll be able to take some of the success that we've had here at Midland and duplicate it there in Harlingen."

John Love III, District 2 councilman and Midland Spaceport Development Corp. president, said Esterly was a tremendous asset to Midland.

District 4 Councilman and former airport board member J. Ross Lacy said Esterly was a fantastic guy, first and foremost.

"I wish him and his family all the best in their future endeavors, wherever life leads him," Lacy said. "He's a stand-up guy, someone I call a friend. He's got his military background as a Marine before becoming an air traffic controller, deputy director and then director of the airport. He ran a tight ship out there, and the amount of detail and attention he gave to every problem and situation was unbelievable."

As he closes out his Midland career, Esterly said he can't thank airport staff enough.

"The support they have given me the last 14 years was unbelievable," Esterly said. "They're hardworking people, and I could have never done what I have the last 14 years without them."



Esterly

## LET THE GAMES BEGIN



AP file photo

Elon Musk and Gov. Rick Perry speak together in September before the groundbreaking ceremony for a SpaceX launch facility that will be constructed near Boca Chica Beach on the southern tip of Texas.

## SpaceX and others, including XCOR, are in a race to monetize manned spaceflights

By Bobby Blanchard  
Texas Tribune

Someday capsules sent aloft from a New Mexico desert will whisk celebrity passengers on flights into suborbital space.

And someday rockets taking off from a sandy beach in Texas will carry colonists to Mars.

What is the point of space, after all, if it cannot be filled with grandiose dreams?

At least that is what city, county and Texas officials were betting on when they offered millions of dollars in incentives to lure SpaceX to Brownsville.

The space exploration company, founded by the billionaire investor Elon Musk, announced earlier this year that it would open a private orbital launch facility on Boca Chica Beach near Brownsville. The very first human who steps foot on Mars, Musk told a crowd on groundbreaking day, could be launched from the beach.

Musk and his Gulf Coast launchpad may be the state's answer to Richard



AP file photo

Please see RACE/3B

A sign indicating the future site of SpaceX launch site was placed outside of the tent where people gathered for the SpaceX groundbreaking ceremony at the Boca Chica Launch Site.

TERRY  
WILLIAMSON  
Real life columnist



## Newcomers never tire of club membership

I recently was asked to join Midland's Newcomers Club for lunch, and some of them wanted me to mention their club in one of my columns.

They even asked that I bring along the wife so they could determine for themselves if she really existed. The wife got a lot of attention, and it was determined that she was delightful and that I must exaggerate a lot in this space on Sundays.

Anyway, that's what the wife told them, and they bought that story hook, line and sinker. Newcomers are so gullible.

I didn't even know we had a Newcomers Club in Midland. But it made sense after I thought about it — the town is seeing a growth spurt of mammoth proportions.

But I found out that the Newcomers Club has been around for years and years. Some members have been part of the club for more than 15 years.

Now, don't get me wrong because I'm all for organizations that bring people together, but I'm still having a problem on what constitutes a newcomer.

Are you still a newcomer after living here a year? Or does it take five years or more to shake the newcomer tag? Evidently, the Newcomers Club isn't up to telling anyone that they no longer qualify for membership.

According to this club, there are no rules. You can be a newcomer until you grow tired of being in a Newcomers Club. From what I gathered, few ever grow tired.

One thing we did agree on was the fact that there are very few original Midlanders in town. Most of us are from some where else. In that regard, most of us are newcomers to the city.

I arrived in Midland in January 1972 when population was only around 50,000 or so. Three blocks north of my house were cotton fields. That's inside of Loop 250. Wadley Avenue was like the edge of town.

Loop 250 is now a NASCAR track for every vehicle known to man — cab trucks, convertibles, compacts and Cadillacs.

It was at this point that I had to inform the Newcomers Club that our traffic problems were being solely blamed on newcomers.

I openly told them that newcomers were being blamed for texting while driv-

Please see WILLIAMSON/3B



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# Obituaries



**Akimjobi Godfrey Akinpelu**

Akimjobi Godfrey Akinpelu, 36, of Midland passed away tragically after a fatal car accident on Monday, November 24, 2014. The family will receive friends on Monday, December 1, 2014 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, December 2, 2014, at 1:00 p.m. at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home Chapel, with Pastor O.J. Kuye and Pastor Gbamilola Omotayo officiating. Interment will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park.

Akinjobi was born on April 21, 1978 in Ibadan, Nigeria. He married the love of his life, Oluotoyin Bajowa on December 13, 2008. He held a Bachelor's degree from the University of Agriculture, Abeokuta and a Master's degree in Managerial Psychology from the University of Ibadan, both in Nigeria. He is a trained project manager and a member of various professional bodies among which are the Association of Financial Analysts of Nigeria and Institute of Safety Professionals of Nigeria.

He had 13 years of banking experience and was a Credit Risk & Monitoring Manager with Fidelity Bank, Nigeria before joining the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (Smith Unit) where he was a corrections officer until the time of his demise. Akinjobi was a people person who impacted each life that he touched.

He is survived by his wife, Oluotoyin Akinpelu; daughters, Adunoluwaa and Sharon Akinpelu; sister, Funmilayo Ayanwale; brother, Akintayo Akinpelu; and his mother, Mosunmiola Akinpelu.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory. Online condolences can be made at [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com).



**Caroline Cecelia Sommers Whetsel Stroope**

February 22, 1931 - November 14, 2014

Caroline Cecelia Sommers-Whetsel Stroope, 83, of Prosper, Texas passed away peacefully in her home on the night of November 14, 2014. She was attended by her family and loved ones. Caroline was born in Chillicothe, Ohio on February 22, 1931, to the late James L. and Julia K. Sommers.

She grew up in Chillicothe, Ohio where she met and married Robert "Bob" Whetsel, also of Chillicothe, Ohio. They moved to Texas shortly after marrying. Robert and Caroline made their home in the Dallas area suburbs. They had two children, Kathie Lynn and David Randall. They had 19 wonderful years together before Bob passed away.

Following the passing of Bob Whetsel she met Bobby Joe Stroope through a mutual friend. They married in Richardson, Texas. While married to Bobby Joe, she learned the various skills needed to work with him in their bee keeping business. They were married for 18 years until his passing.

Caroline loved dancing and attended the singles over 50 dance club where she met Bob Branch. Caroline and Bob had a very close and loving relationship for the last 14 years. Bob has been a

very important part of Caroline's life as they both loved to travel and they made several trips to various parts of the country. They both also loved going to the casinos and would often make a day trip to try their luck at the slot machines.

Caroline was a very loving mother and grandmother. She was very proud of the accomplishments of her two children, Kathie Gressett and her husband Doug, of Midland, Texas, and David "Randy" Whetsel and his wife Gina, of Prosper, Texas. Caroline was lovingly known as Mawmaw by her four grandchildren, Brian and Eric Gressett and Andrea and Courtney Whetsel whom she adored. She also has five great-grandchildren, Preston, Zoey, Braxtyn, Brooke Lynn and Kahler whom she loved dearly.

Caroline was preceded in death by her brothers, Richard and James Sommers; and her sister, Josephine Sommers Brigner.

She is survived by her daughter, Kathie, her son, David, sister, Elizabeth Shoemaker of Chillicothe, Ohio, her brother, Joseph Sommers of Colorado Springs, Colorado; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Arthritis Foundation, [www.arthritis.org](http://www.arthritis.org). Please leave family condolences at [www.AriaCremation.com](http://www.AriaCremation.com).



**Curtis (Cut) Eaden**

Curtis (Cut) Eaden, 70, of Midland, passed away Saturday, November 22, 2014.

Curtis (Cut) Eaden was born on August 18, 1944 to Mr. and Mrs. Welyon Eaden. He will be remembered as a loving father, brother, uncle, and grandfather.

Curtis worked at the Railroad Co. for five years, MISO for six years, and Johnny's BBQ for 30 plus years. He loved the outdoors, fishing, hunting and sports. He was a real cowboy at heart, he loved his boots, hats, and riding horses. His legacy will live on and each and every one of us will carry a piece of him in our hearts.

To cherish his memories he leaves two sons, Michael Eaden and James Eaden, of Midland, Texas; two daughters, Michelle Eaden of Arlington, Texas and Linda Craig of San Antonio, Texas; nine grandchildren, Tekeaus, Raven, Mikal, Braylon, Lakisha, Chance, Ceyonte Eaden, Montoe Craig, and Syerena Donmore; and two great grandchildren, Courtney and Karter Eaden.

Curtis also leave to cherish his memories his sisters, Thelma Eaden, Lillie Eaden Jackson, and Annett Eaden Richardson; brothers, Charles (Essie) Eaden, Willie R. (Beverly) Eaden, Roy Lee (Inez) Eaden, and Milo (Will) Eaden; one uncle, Bobby Spurling (Shirley); and a host of relatives and friends.

Preceding him in death is his parents, Mr. Welyon Eaden, Mrs. Rethlo Eaden, and Welyon Eaden, Jr.

Visitation will be Monday, December 1, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Funeral Home. Service for Mr. Eaden will also be Monday, December 1, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. at Lewallen-Garcia-Pipkin Chapel. Reverend Christopher Hagger will officiate.

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

**Lewallen Garcia Pipkin Funeral Home**  
2808 N. Big Spring - Midland, TX 79701-0422

Midland Reporter-Telegram  
MRT  
Questions about death notices or online Guest Books? Email: [obits@mrt.com](mailto:obits@mrt.com)



**Dorothy Vivian Vest**

Dorothy Vivian Vest of Smyer, Texas passed away November 28, 2014. She was born in Garden City, Texas on May 2, 1921 to Gilbert and Anna Brunson.

Dorothy moved to the Valley View community southeast of Midland. There, she married Preston Vest on August 21, 1937 in Midland. They were married 73 years.

She lived and worked in Midland and raised three sons. She was a member of Calvary Baptist Church. In 1955, the family moved to Smyer, Texas where the family farmed. She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Smyer for 59 years.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her husband, Preston, and her parents; two sisters, Susie Carol Mason and Shirley Bonnell Howel and one brother, Gilbert Curtis Brunson. She is survived by her three sons, Robert Byron Vest and wife, Annette of Midland; Donald Preston Vest and wife, Linda, of Smyer, Texas; and Gilbert Duane Vest and wife, Judy of Robstown; eight grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren; one sister, Darlene Hendricks and husband, Keith of Lubbock; and one brother Willis Brunson of Artesia, NM.

Visitation will be from 2:00 to 4:00, Sunday, November 30, 2014 at Resthaven Funeral Home in Lubbock. Funeral services will be at 10:00 AM, Monday, December 1, 2014 at First Baptist Church in Smyer. Burial will be at Resthaven Cemetery in Lubbock.



**Elizabeth Britton Allison**

Elizabeth Britton Allison passed away on Monday, November 24, 2014 after a brief but courageous battle with aggressive cervical cancer. She was born September 11, 1976.

Elizabeth is survived by her husband, William Allison, Jr., her 20-month-old daughter, Brooklyn, both of Midland, Texas; and stepdaughters, Renae and Raylene Allison of Long Beach, California.

She is also survived by her parents, Susan and Ronald Britton of Midland, Texas; her brother, Andrew Britton of Denver, Colorado; and her sister, Carolyn Britton Allen of Austin, Texas; along with numerous nephews, nieces, and other family. We all loved Elizabeth's independent spirit, dry wit, and the incredible love for her daughter and husband.

Baptized Elizabeth Ann Britton, she grew up in Midland, Texas, attending Midland High School and the Nick Bollettieri Tennis Academy in Bradenton, Florida, then college at the University of Arkansas, where she pledged and was initiated into Pi Beta Phi Sorority, a tradition held by all the other women in the last three generations of her family.

She lived much of her adult life in Southern California until the three of them recently moved to Midland following the birth of her daughter. She was an incredible mother in many ways. One of the most recent was watching her brag about her daughter to her doctor, medical team, and hospital staff at MD Anderson in Houston,

where she was receiving treatment and in the hospital during her illness. It has been such a blessing to all of us to hear how much her doctor and everyone on her medical team at MD Anderson loved Elizabeth; her fight, determination and humor.

There will be a viewing and the family will receive friends on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. at Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home, 3125 N Lamar Blvd, Austin, Texas, 78705. All are invited to a funeral service and celebration of Elizabeth's life at The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 3201 Windsor Road, Austin, Texas 78703 at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 3, 2014, with a reception to follow.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for any memorial contributions to be made to MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston in memory of Elizabeth.

For pictures and more details on the life of Elizabeth, please visit the obituaries at [www.wcfish.com](http://www.wcfish.com).

Arrangements by Weed-Corley-Fish Funeral Home - (512) 452-8811.



Mary Anne Kupp Mann, 80, of Midland passed away on November 27, 2014. Services will be held at St Nicholas Episcopal Church on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at 2 PM.

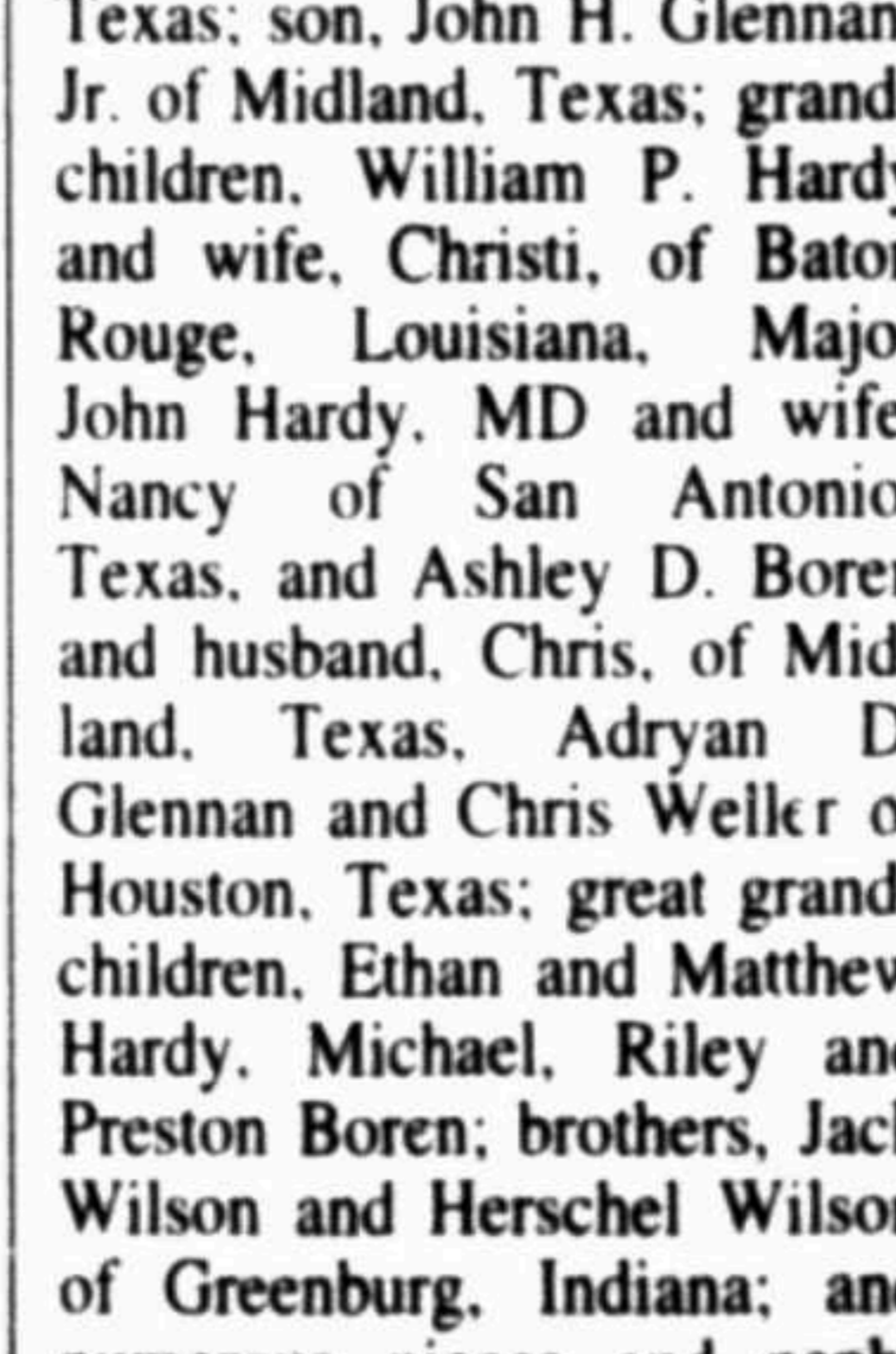
Mary was born on October 6, 1934 in Palmerton, Pennsylvania to John Hale, MD, and Mary Elizabeth Kupp. She grew up in Palmerton, graduating from Westtown Friends Academy. She attended the University of Vermont, and was selected to the Eastern United States Ski Team. She was an accomplished slalom racer. She met Thomas G. Mann in July 1954 and they were married on September 6, 1954. They lived in Texas most of their lives, Abilene, Tyler and Midland, and 9 years in Locust Valley, New York. She loved her family. Reading and traveling were two of her favorite hobbies. She volunteered for the Friends of the Library for more than 30 years.

Mary is preceded in death by her husband, Thomas Gray Mann; her parents, John and Mary Kupp.

She is survived by her three daughters, Karen Moore and husband, James; Kathleen Carney and husband, Jack; Mary Dean and husband, Glenn; seven grandchildren. Dr. Jonathan Burkes, William Burkes and wife, Sarah, Katie Myers and husband, Josh, John Thomas Carney, and his wife Amanda and Graham Carney; Christopher Dean, Patrick Dean and wife, Miranda; one great-granddaughter, Ruthie Myers; one sister, Elizabeth Kupp.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org), or St. Nicholas Episcopal Church, 4000 W Loop 250 N, Midland, Texas 79707.

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



Terry Charles Houston, 68, of Midland passed away on Tuesday, November 25, 2014. The family will be accepting guests from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 30, 2014 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held on Monday, December 1, 2014, at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home Chapel at 11:00 a.m., with Brother Bob Porterfield officiating. Interment will follow at Sunset Memorial Gardens.

Terry was born on November 23, 1946 in Artesia, New Mexico to Travis and Bernilda Houston. Terry graduated from Artesia High School in 1965. He married Sandy Hegwer in Gallup, New Mexico on March 6, 1967. In December 1981, Terry moved his family to Midland, Texas. Terry spent his entire career in the oilfield supply business where he made many lifelong friends. He loved riding his motorcycles and spending time in the mountains of New Mexico, working his land and feeding the deer which

the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. Online condolences may be made at [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com).



**Mary Anne Kupp Mann**

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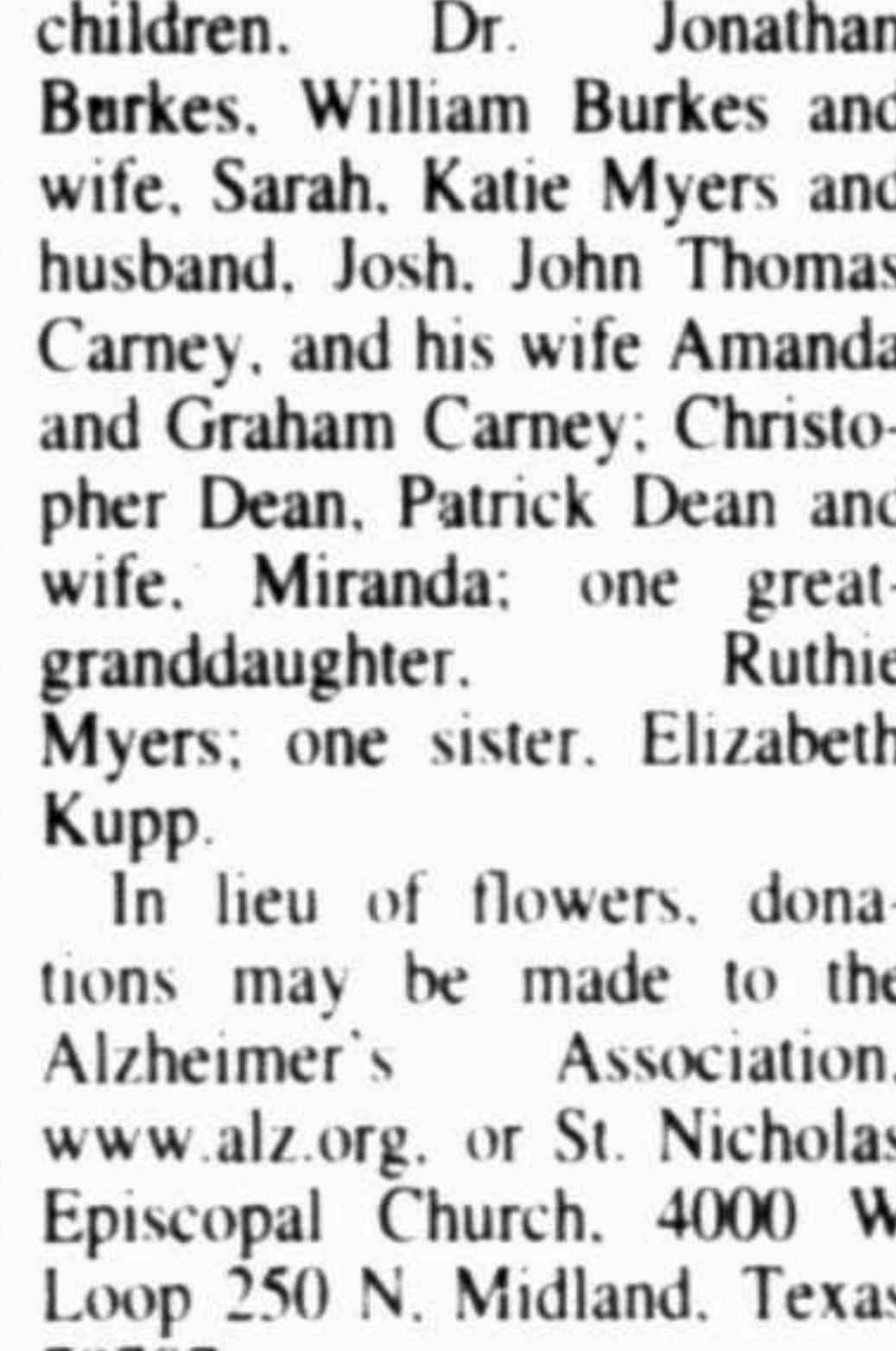
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Mary is preceded in death by her husband, Thomas Gray Mann; her parents, John and Mary Kupp.

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came to his property. He is survived by his loving wife of 47 years, Sandy Houston; son, David Houston, wife Debbie, and grandsons, Brooks and Hayden; brother, Paul Houston and nephews Brian and Bob Houston; and by several brothers and sisters-in-laws and their children who loved him dearly.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Travis and Bernilda; and his son, Eddie Houston.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Cancer Society. Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. Online condolences can be made at [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com).

Virginia Lee Pollard, a resident of Midland, Texas since 1958, and died November 27, 2014, following a brief illness. Born November 13, 1936, in Lubbock, Texas, she was the first born in a family of two girls born to Uriel Addison and Vannie Lee Randolph (both deceased). She grew up in in Montague County where she attended elementary school at Saint Jo, Nocona, and Bowie, Texas. In high school she was awarded the Texas State Homemakers Degree and became the National Song Leader of the Future Homemakers of America. She received her Bachelor of Arts at North Texas University in Denton, Texas in 1958. She was raised in Montague, Texas where her father was the horticulturist at the Texas A&M Experiment Station. Her exposure to his work at an early age developed in her a love for plants and gardening that lasted a lifetime. She married Rex Barton Pollard of Bowie, Texas in May of 1958. She accepted her first teaching job in Midland, Texas following graduation. She also received her Masters of Education at North Texas University in Denton, Texas in 1970. She became a committed lifelong teacher and spent her career instructing children. Mrs. Pollard taught Fine Arts in the Midland Independent School District for 30 years and in El Paso Independent School District for 5 years having taught in several elementary schools bringing the total to 35 years in the Texas Public Schools. She retired from teaching in 1993 to be with her husband and grandchildren.

Mrs. Pollard was honored to be listed as an educator in Who's Who in American Education and The Most Prominent Educators of Texas. While in El Paso she was voted Teacher of the Year at Crockett School. She served as a member of Christian Services in El Paso. In Midland she was awarded Life Membership in the Parent, Teachers Association in 1968. She held membership in professional teaching organizations such as Kappa Kappa Iota, Delta Kappa Gamma, Texas Music Educators Association, and Texas Art Educators Association kept her busy serving in many office functions. After retiring she was a member of the Midland and Texas Retired Teachers Association. She was active in church activities, teaching, singing with many groups, especially a Christian group called "People to People", and singing for many weddings and funerals in the community and surrounding areas. She was also known in the community for the elementary school music programs which she presented each year and also having her students participate in the Celebration of Arts each year. Mrs. Pollard will always be remembered by her students as she would say to them before giving instruction: "Put your hands under your sit-up-ops".

Mrs. Pollard is survived by her husband, Rex Barton Pollard, of Midland, Texas;

grandson, Pollard of one grand-cobb of brother-in-Austin, she is success, Sha Tammy Jeffrey Cnieces anews.

She is two sons and Kevin Midland, Lafonda rents Urldolph and dolph.

The p Darryle Clark, L Ritchie, Bucky M.

A visit from 5:00 on Monday 2014 at 11:00 December Funeral Tom Segal will Memorials "Streng her clothi joice in woman LORD, s (Proverbs Ellis F Funer Dignit



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grandson, Pollard of one grand-cobb of brother-in-Austin, she is success, Sha Tammy Jeffrey Cnieces anews.

She is two sons and Kevin Midland, Lafonda rents Urldolph and dolph.

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### Obituaries

grandson, Darryle Wayne Pollard of Lubbock, Texas; one granddaughter, Gina Lee Cobb of Joshua, Texas; brother-in-law, Jim Davis of Austin, Texas. In addition, she is survived by two nieces, Shannon Gatlin, and Tammy Egli; one nephew, Jeffrey Clark; and two great nieces and three great nephews.

She is preceded in death by two sons Rory Kym Pollard and Kevin Dale Pollard of Midland, Texas, her sister Lafonda Ann Davis, her parents Uriel Addison Randolph and Vannie Lee Randolph.

The pallbearers will be Darryle Pollard, Jeffrey Clark, Lloyd Barrow, Joe Ritchie, Craig Dunn, and Bucky Moore.

A visitation will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 1, 2014 at Ellis Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at Ellis Funeral Home Chapel, with Tom Segulja officiating. Burial will follow at Resthaven Memorial Park.

"Strength and honor are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come... a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised." (Proverbs 31:25, 30)

**Ellis Funeral Home**  
Funerals & Cremations  
Dignity 801 Andrews Hwy. (432) 683-7575



**Willie Lee Johnson**  
Willie Lee Johnson, 85 of Midland, Texas, died Wednesday, November 26, 2014 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home. The family will receive friends from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Monday, December 1, 2014. Services will be held at 10:00 am on

Tuesday, December 2, 2014, at New Hope Baptist Church, Midland, Texas.

Willie was born on April 7, 1929 in Waco, Texas. He moved to Midland, Texas June 7, 1951. He married Elizabeth Narcisse Darton. He worked at West Texas Equipment for 20 years, Rogers Ford for over 16 years, and Dr. Viola Colman from 1985-2004.

Willie was a loving husband, father, and faithful employee. He was sweet and could get along with anyone. He loved going to church when he was able to on his scooter. He enjoyed spending time with his family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife Elizabeth Johnson, son, Willie Van Johnson, brothers Jessie Johnson, Javance (Hookie) Johnson, and Levi Johnson, and sisters Ida Belle Gentry and Olamae Williams. Willie was the last survivor of all his brothers and sisters.

He is survived by his daughter, Barbara (Ann) Johnson and son Bobby (Bob) Johnson; grandchildren Jason and wife, Michelle, Jarmaine and wife, Irene, Anthony, Geneva, and Jearon and Toya; and seven great grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family would like donations to be made to Home Hospice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle and Welch Funeral Home of Midland. Condolences can be made at [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com).



**William Larson**  
William R. (Bill) Larson was born on December 20th, 1926 in Chicago, IL. He graduated from Daniel Boone High School, and joined the United States Navy, as his fa-

ther before him. He went on to college, first obtaining a BA from Augustana College and a MS from Iowa State. He received his Master's degree in Geology and worked in this field his entire career.

Bill moved from Ames, Iowa to the oilfields of West Texas in the 1950s with his wife, daughter and son. Bill and Barbara had three more children and devoted themselves to raising the five kids in Midland, Texas. Bill was Scout Master of the Boy Scout troop that his sons attended, along with other activities such as the Midland-Odessa Symphony Orchestra, Lions Club and Toastmasters. He was also a 32nd degree Mason and Shriner.

Bill retired in his mid-sixties and moved on to a career of giving. He was an honorary life-member of the Petroleum Museum. He volunteered his time with organizations such as the Friends of the Library, Petroleum Museum, Museum of the Southwest, and Marion Blakemore Planetarium. Bill was loved and will be dearly missed.

Bill is survived by his wife Barbara Larsen, daughter Lyn Yater and sons David Larsen, Greg Larsen, Kevin Larsen and wife Barbara, Roger Larsen and wife Cindy; five grandchildren; a dear sister, Mrs. Madelyn Miles and two nieces, all of Ft. Myers, FL; and three great grandchildren.

The family will hold private services.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial donations be made to the charity of your choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. Online condolences may be made at [www.npwelch.com](http://www.npwelch.com).

### Death Notices

**Nancy Kay Knight**  
Nancy Kay Knight, 63, died November 27, 2014 in Midland, Texas. Services will be held at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, December 3, 2014 at Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home & Crematory of Midland. Nancy is survived by her brothers, Lynn Knight, Gerald Knight, and Don Knight.

### RACE

From 1B

Branson and New Mexico's Spaceport America, where Virgin Galactic is working to open space travel for tourists.

Musk has upped the space-race ante, offering humankind a way to hedge its bet against extinction on Earth.

"The thing that's going to fundamentally affect humanity's future is, are we a multiplanet species or are we a single-planet species?" Musk said at his ground-breaking. "A single-planet species is much more vulnerable than a multi planet species, because if some calamity were to happen to one planet, it could destroy civilization, maybe bring an end to humanity."

News that SpaceX was coming to Brownsville was met with fanfare. Not only would SpaceX put the city on the global map for space exploration, said officials who used millions to woo the company, but it would also be a huge economic boon.

It is the kind of promise a city like Brownsville, where more than 30 percent of the population lives below the poverty level, sees as a game-changer.

"It's going to take us to a whole different level in the state of Texas," said Gilberto Salinas, the executive vice president of the Brownsville Economic Development Council. "SpaceX will be one of several companies that's going to make Texas the leader in the space industry, except now it's going to be in the commercial side. We're excited to be a part of that."

SpaceX is among a growing group of companies competing in a new kind of space race — an effort to monetize manned spaceflights. Several of the competitors have operations in Texas. While private companies are running the race, public dollars are often fueling it.

In addition to SpaceX, XCOR Aerospace plans to use Midland's airport to launch commercial spaceflights; Blue Origin, a company backed by the Amazon.com founder Jeff Bezos, has a launchpad in West Texas; and Firefly, a small satellite launch company recently announced the opening of an office in Cedar Park. Blue Origin is exploring cheaper options for human spaceflight, but few details of its work have been made public. A spokesperson for the company declined to comment.

Keith Graf, the director of the Texas Office of Aerospace, Aviation and Defense, said the state's wide-open skies and areas of low population are attracting companies that see profits in private spaceflight.

"One of the first private rockets ever launched was actually launched from Texas, Matagorda Bay, almost 30 years ago in 1982 — it's continuing on that legacy," Graf said.

Musk's vision for SpaceX is to make spaceflight more accessible, and ultimately to colonize Mars. It is a vision that many public officials in Texas have embraced, and that Musk considers essential.

But Musk is not in Brownsville because he wanted to go to Texas. He is there because state officials have been more than willing to roll out the red carpet for SpaceX and other space companies.

During the last legislative session in 2013, state lawmakers passed legislation to make launches from beaches possible. And more than \$40 million from the Texas Enterprise Fund has gone to aerospace corporate expansion, according to an August report from the governor's office.

There are, of course, no guarantees that all will end well. Critics point to New Mexico, where the government invested more than \$200 million in Spaceport America. Though it was pitched as a hub for space tourism for the rich and famous, Virgin Galactic has yet to launch a manned flight into space from the facility.

The recent fatal crash of a test vehicle in California has further slowed Virgin Galactic's plans.

Paul Gessing, president of the Rio Grande Foundation, a conservative research group in New Mexico, said no one knows when the private space industry will become viable.

"Someday it'll probably be viable, but what's that someday?" Gessing said. "Fifty, 100 years? You've got to talk about the time value of money, and whether taxpayers should be really footing the bill for this kind of thing."

Gessing said he did not think it wise for public money to be invested in the spaceward dreams of billionaires.

"I just don't see the market for this kind of facility out there, in terms of demand. In New Mexico's case, it was an extremely misguided decision," he said, adding that even more public money would be spent in the future on maintenance.

"That's kind of the rub for us, not just that they put all their eggs in one basket, but that they spent so much money."

Graf acknowledged that spaceflights were risky, but said the investments Texas had made were smart.

"The industry itself is risky, but so is getting on an airplane or driving to work every day," he said. "There are inherent risks. But we're placing our money wisely, and it is going into infrastructure to help grow the industry. And in Texas, primarily, it's the private industry that's making the capital investments."

When asked about the risks, both safety and financial, Salinas brushed them off, saying the SpaceX facility in Brownsville was different than the New Mexico site.

"That's why they call it rocket science — it's not easy to get spacecraft into outer space," Salinas said. "Do we have full faith in the project? Yes, because it's Elon Musk. When you are able to say this is a person that reminds us of what Steve Jobs, Bill Gates and, to a certain extent, what Henry Ford and Thomas Edison have done, then it's very easy to believe and see his vision."

### NATIONBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

#### NEW YORK

#### Pulitzer-winning poet laureate Mark Strand dies at 80

Mark Strand, whose spare, deceptively simple investigations of rootlessness, alienation and the ineffable strangeness of life made him one of America's most hauntingly meditative poets, died Saturday at his daughter's home in Brooklyn. He was 80.

His daughter, Jessica Strand, said the cause was liposarcoma, a rare cancer of the fat cells.

Strand, who was named poet laureate of the United States in 1990 and awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry in 1999 for his collection "Blizzard of One," made an early impression with short, often surreal lyric poems that imparted an unsettling sense of personal dislocation — what the poet and critic Richard Howard called "the working of the divided self."

His first poetry collection, "Sleeping With One Eye Open," published in 1964, set the tone.

"In a field/ I am the absence/ of field," the much-anthologized poem "Keeping Things Whole" begins. "This is/ always the case./ Wherever I am/ I am what is missing."

It goes on:  
When I walk  
I part the air  
and always  
the air moves in  
to fill the spaces  
where my body's been.

We all have reasons for roving.  
I move to keep things whole.  
Echoes of Wallace Stevens and Elizabeth Bishop could be heard in his compressed, highly specific language and wintry cast of mind, as could painters like Giorgio de Chirico, René Magritte and Edward Hopper, whose moody clarity and mysterious shadows dovetailed with Strand's own sensibility.

"He is not a religious poet on the face of it, but he fits into a long tradition of meditation and contemplation," said David Kirby, the author of "Mark Strand and the Poet's Place in Contemporary Culture" and a professor of English at Florida State University. "He makes you see how trivial the things of this world are, and how expansive the self is, once you unhook it from flat-screen TVs and iPhones." Reading Strand, he said, "We learn what a big party solitude is."

In 1980, Strand felt that he had reached an impasse and stopped writing poetry for several years. He wrote children's books, beginning with "The Planet of Lost Things" (1982), and short stories, 14 of them collected in "Mr. and Mrs. Baby" (1985). "I didn't like what I was writing," he told the magazine Ploughshares in 1995. "I didn't believe in my autobiographical poems."

Chafing at the restrictive vocabulary and tight boundaries he had imposed on himself, he began writing longer poems and packing more of the outside world into them.

#### WILLIAMSON

From 1B

Thought for the Week:  
"We're basically this very young species, only 200,000 years old. We're one of the newcomers, and we're going through the

same process that other species go through, which is, how do I keep myself alive while taking care of the place that's going to keep my offspring alive?" — Janine Benyus, American natural sciences writer.

ing, throwing trash on our streets and crossing several lanes of traffic without even a hint of a turn signal.

"It's all those blame newcomers in town," is a quote I often hear from those of us who have been around when the city limits still had cotton fields.

Not everyone uses the term "newcomers." Newcomers often are referred to as northerners, as in "Those blame northerners are a blight on our community."

You might also hear snowbirds, outsiders and squatters in reference to newcomers. However, I don't take to name calling because most of these comments come from people who are not original Midlanders to begin with.

But I did find it interesting that all these newcomers have a club right here in Midland to face the problems that newcomers share.

They just don't know when they aren't considered newcomers any more. Nobody has really made that determination, and that may be one of the burning issues facing this city.

And I want to know myself if I'm still a newcomer after living here 42 years.

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[www.helpinghandsmidland.com](http://www.helpinghandsmidland.com)

We recently received a large donation from a Midland couple. Included with the check was this letter. While they asked to remain anonymous, we felt the letter was so moving, and so magnificently well-written, that we felt a need to share it with you:

*Please accept this donation to purchase Christmas gifts for those families who are in need this year. The Lord has blessed us both abundantly with unconditional love from not only Him, but from our late parents, our children, and our grandchildren. We are so grateful!*

*As we begin to purchase Christmas gifts for our family, we are mindful of those who are facing financial challenges this Christmas and pray that they will be able to experience the joy of seeing the faces of their children and grandchildren light up on Christmas morning.*

*Thank you to all the volunteers at Helping Hands who give so lovingly of their time to help those in our community. We pray the Lord's richest blessing upon each of you*

*In accordance with Matthew 6:1-4, please do not use our name on any public list of donors. Should you place this contribution on a list of donors, please use "With Gratitude to Jesus Christ" instead of our name.*

*Joyfully Given in His Name,  
(Anonymous)*

We pray that all of us, this holiday season, embrace the spirit of love and gratitude that is so beautifully expressed in this letter. May God bless this family abundantly, however, from the sounds of this letter we believe He already has!

# Salvadoran woman wanted for gang slayings deported

Associated Press

DALLAS — Federal authorities in Dallas have deported 25-year-old woman to her native El Salvador, where she faces charges alleging that she participated in gang-related slayings there, federal officials said.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials flew Margarita Del Carmen Orellana Rivas to El Salvador this week. She was wanted there on suspicion of ag-

gravated murder charges and had warrants accusing her of solicitation or conspiracy in other slayings, according to an ICE statement.

Agency officials described Orellana Rivas as an associate of the violent Salvadoran street gang MS-13.

"By removing criminal aliens to their countries of origin, ICE also removes the threat they pose to public safety in local U.S. Communities," said Simona L. Flores, field office director of the ICE

Enforcement and Removal Operations in Dallas.

"At the same time, these removals ensure that aliens who commit crimes abroad do not use the United States as a safe haven from justice in their home countries," Flores said.

Orellana Rivas was detained shortly after entering Texas on Aug. 15 at Hidalgo from Mexico, where U.S. Border Patrol agents determined she was a gang member with an outstanding warrant.

She helped MS-13 members with the deaths of at least three people, including a woman who was lured with her baby to a meeting, then was beaten and strangled to death after serving as a witness in a case against fellow gang members, according to the ICE statement. Her baby was not harmed, the ICE statement said.

On Oct. 21, a federal immigration judge in Dallas ordered Rivas' deportation, and Orellana Rivas waived her right to appeal the decision.

## Crime Stoppers fugitive

TARREN WATSON

DOB: 9-29-1982

Height and weight: 5 feet, 9 inches; 165 pounds

Charge: Possession of controlled substance over 1 gram/under 4 grams in a drug-free zone (methamphetamine); violation of bond



- Wanted as of 11-28-2014
- Warrant #F2130499
- \$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.

## STATEBRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

### SAN ANTONIO Mexican Mafia suspect arrested; 3 bodies recovered

A suspected Mexican Mafia lieutenant faces a racketeering-related charge after telling officers where to find the bodies of three fellow gang members.

Prosecutors in San Antonio said 36-year-old Ruben Reyes was arrested Wednesday and charged with using and discharging a firearm during a violent crime.

Mark Anthony Bernal, Carlos Chapa and Johnny Solis turned up missing in January. Prosecutors allege Reyes shot the trio over mishandling \$60,000 and poor decisions about Mexican Mafia operations.

Reyes was shot Nov. 9 by attackers, who then fled. Prosecutors said Reyes

on Nov. 14 contacted San Antonio police about gang activity, including where to find the bodies. The remains were unearthed Nov. 19 in Pearsall.

### WEIR

### Man arrested for double slaying

A man wanted for the fatal shooting of two people and wounding three others on Thanksgiving night has been arrested.

Williamson County Sheriff's spokesman Fred Thomas said 24-year-old Jose Hernandez Benitez was arrested Friday in Caldwell County, about 50 miles from the shooting scene in Weir.

Benitez is being held in the Williamson County Jail on murder charges for the slayings of Yazmin Corona and Omar Ruiz.

## FELONY ARRESTS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

**Abdoulaye Dia**, 43, of Midland was charged Friday with burglary of a habitation.

**Jose A. Gallegos Jr.**, 22, of Midland was charged Friday with obstruction or retaliation.

**Ruben Martinez**, 34, of Jal, New Mexico, was charged Friday with driving while intoxicated three or more times and possession of a controlled substance less than 1 gram.

Source: Midland County Sheriff's Office

What's happening in Midland this weekend? Find out by reading

### WEEKENDER

Look for it inside Thursday's edition of the Reporter-Telegram

*When Christmas hurts...*

## A BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE Thursday, December 4th at 7:00pm

An Ecumenical Service for all those who find Christmas a difficult time.

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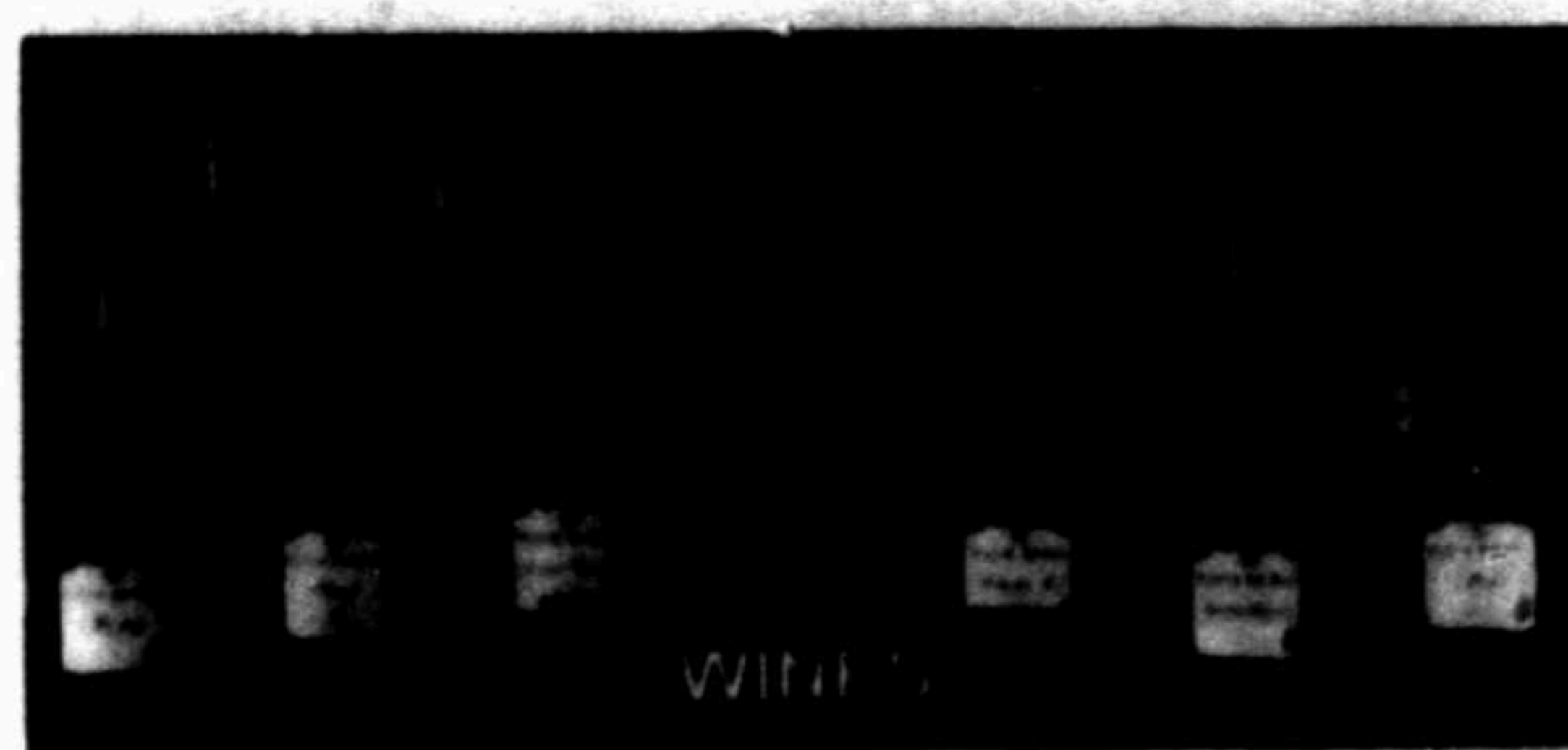
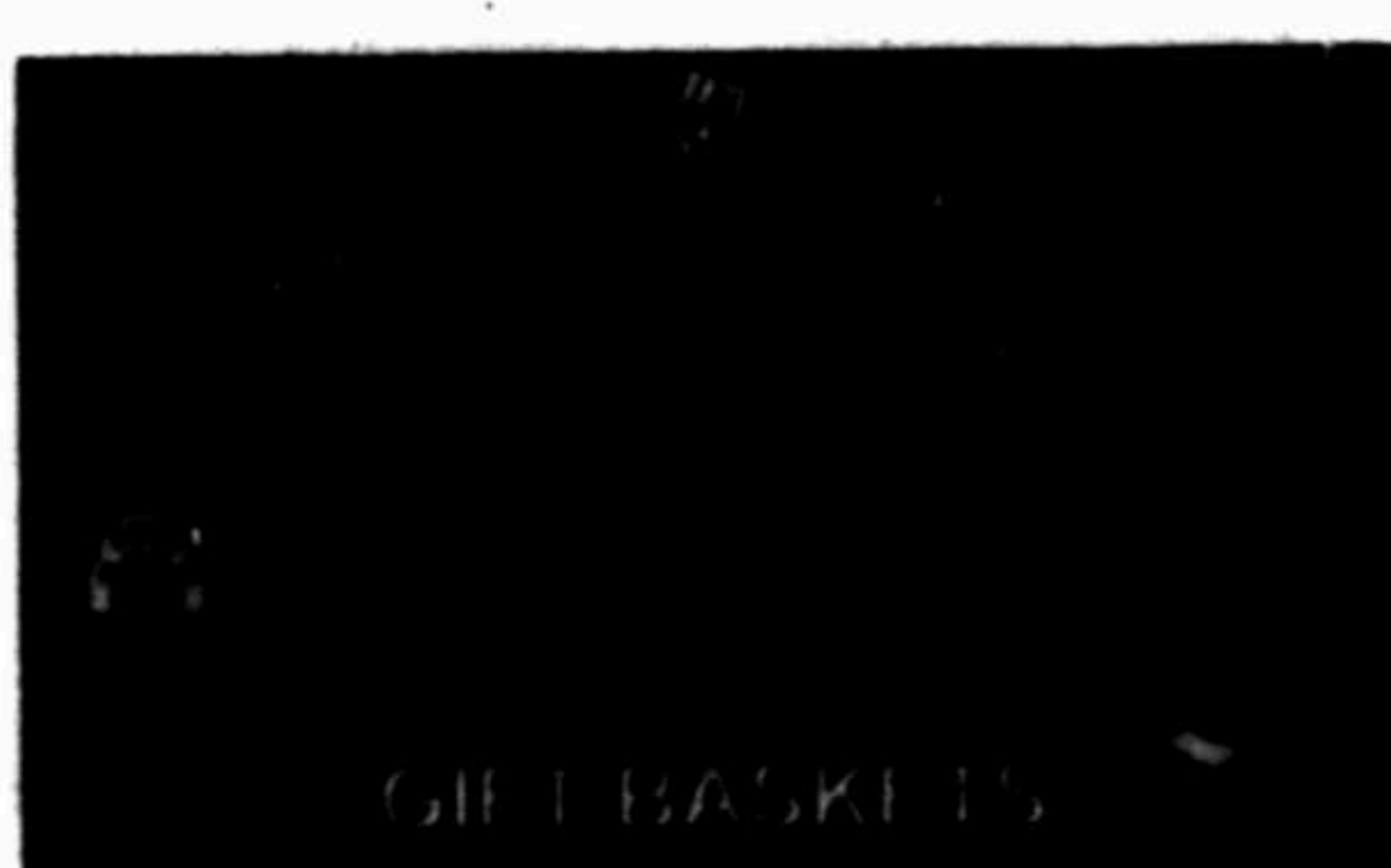
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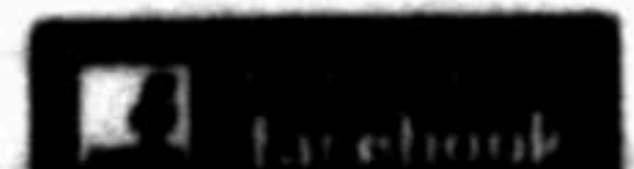
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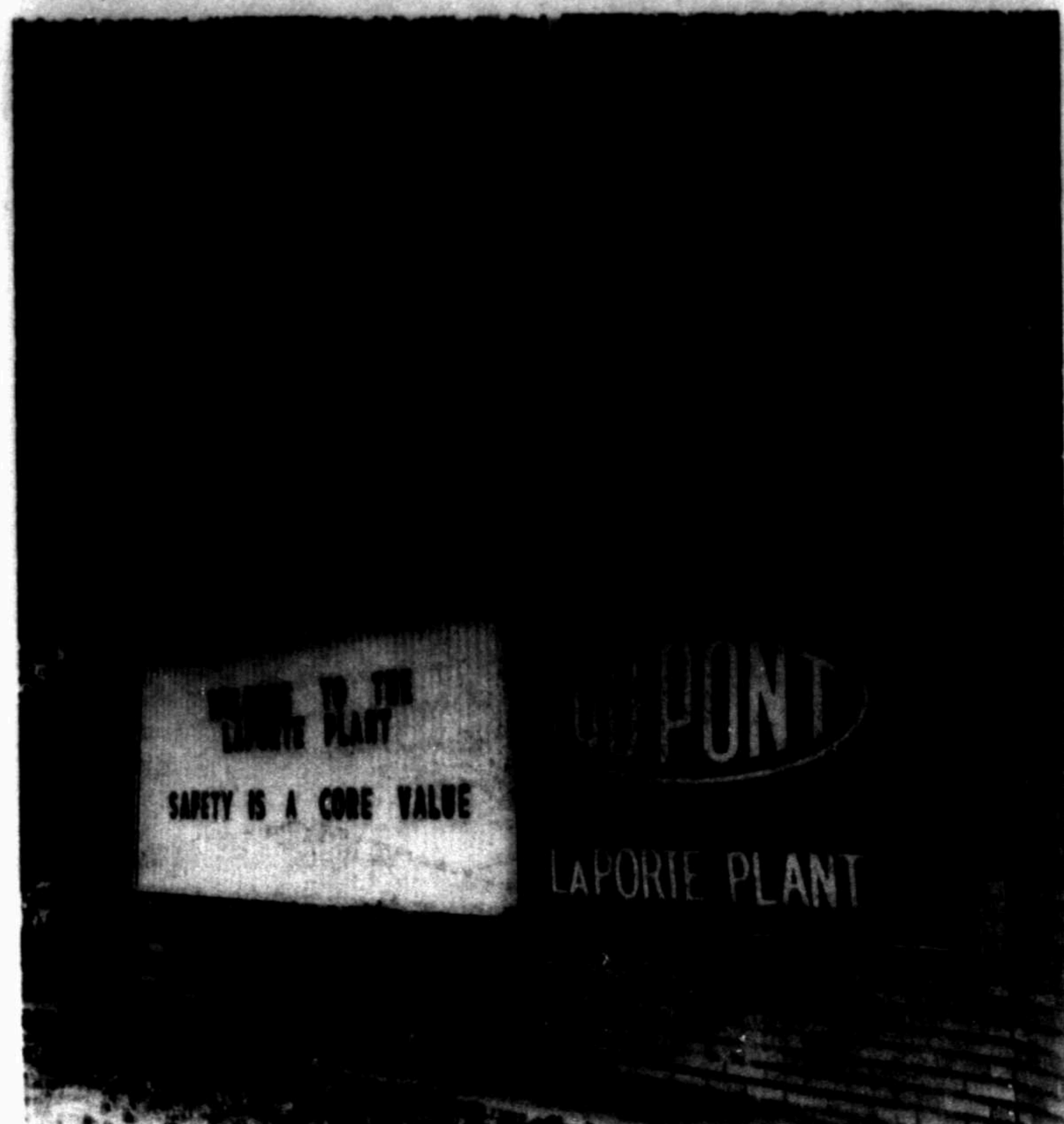
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AP file photo

This undated image shows signage at the DuPont Facility in La Porte. Four workers were killed and one was injured Nov. 15 during a hazardous chemical leak at the suburban Houston plant, company officials said

# 23,000 pounds of toxic chemical led to 4 deaths

Associated Press

LA PORTE — Chemical manufacturer DuPont has reported that about 23,000 pounds of a flammable toxic chemical escaped in the building where four of its workers died two weeks ago at a Houston-area plant.

DuPont disclosed in a news release the quantity of the methyl mercaptan that led to the deaths Nov. 15, but the Houston Chronicle reported Saturday that the company declined to release a more detailed report of its findings that were delivered to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

The commission was closed on Friday, and a spokesman did not immediately respond to a request for comment Saturday. Medical examiners said the foul-

smelling chemical, used in production of pesticides, caused the asphyxiation deaths of the four workers.

Officials have said a faulty valve may be responsible for the fatal chemical release at the DuPont plant along the Houston Ship Channel in La Porte. The U.S. Chemical Safety Board is continuing its investigation.

Killed were Crystle Rae Wise, 53; Wade Baker, 60; Gilbert Tisnado, 48, and brother Robert Tisnado, 39.

The pesticide plant had dozens of minor or moderate state environmental violations, according to state records.

The incident is the worst loss of life in an industrial accident at the world's biggest petrochemical complex since 2005, when a refinery explosion killed 15 workers in Texas City.

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John Rivenburgh checks healthy plants on a trellis as he walks through his Bending Branch vineyard and wine producing plant near Comfort on Nov. 20. The facility has experienced only mild effects from herbicides used in nearby farming operations. *Houston Chronicle*

## Fight to control weeds threatens grape crops

By Bill Lambrecht  
*Houston Chronicle*

COMFORT — When the grape leaves started to shrivel, Bending Branch Winery recognized the problem: Herbicides had drifted into the vineyards from a neighboring farm.

The farmer agreed to switch to a safer, more expensive weed-killer if the Comfort winery paid the difference. Bending Branch, an organic winery, paid its neighbor \$300 to use an herbicide that was less toxic and less prone to drifting off the farm.

It won't be that easy for many growers of grapes and other specialty crops, as farmers return to potent herbicides paired with new genetically engineered crops in their eternal war against invasive weeds.

In Texas, the nation's leading cotton producer, growers welcome the arrival of more weapons to fight the invasion of the cotton-strangling weed Palmer amaranth, better known as pigweed.

But the prospect of heavy-duty chemicals drifting from cotton fields has spawned fears in the state's burgeoning wine industry.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency this month approved the first expanded use of a strong weed killer, Dow Agrosciences' 2,4-D for corn and soybeans, as the newest weapon against the herbicide-resistant "super-weeds" that have invaded more than 60 million acres of croplands across the country. Next in line for consideration is expanded use of the weed-killer dicamba, paired with Monsanto's newly engineered cotton seeds, expected to be on the market as early as next year. Also in the pipeline is Dow's 2,4-D for cotton.

Grape-growers are mobilizing for a fight they intend to wage locally: At least 20 Texas counties imposed restrictions in the past on the use of dicamba and 2,4-D.

"There is tremendous angst in the grape-growing industry at the potential damage from these compounds. It is extremely disquieting," said Bobby Cox, a wine consultant from Lubbock.

Monty Dixon, president-elect of the Texas Wine and Grape Growers Association, once had 14,000 vines of Riesling grapes in West Texas but said he was forced to quit growing grapes when drift from 2,4-D sprayed on wheat fields damaged his plants season after season.

"It's not just the clusters of grapes you see hanging that are harmed. It's next year's cluster and the cluster the year after that. You get a dose, it mutates the vines!" said Dixon, who

operates the Bar Z Winery near Canyon. "They used to laugh at you in Texas when you grew grapes. Now, people see this as a serious industry. With a bigger tent, you have a louder voice."

The government's willingness to allow heavy application of decades-old herbicides reflects a failure across agriculture sectors to reckon with Mother Nature amid the ease of chemical farming with genetically modified crops.

Big agribusiness companies are engineering new crop varieties in the wake of failure of the ubiquitous herbicide glyphosate — known to many as the Monsanto brand Roundup. Less toxic than many farm chemicals, Roundup has been overused and is no longer effective in controlling many weeds.

"The herbicide worked so well, even though a number of folks thought this was eventually going to happen," said Peter Dotray, a weed scientist at Texas Tech University. "This year, the problem is as bad as I've ever seen it."

### 'A scary situation'

Herbicide tolerance — the most common tool in plant engineering — enables farmers to apply herbicides to kill weeds but do no harm to crops genetically altered to withstand the chemical bath.

Despite many objections by growers of specialty crops, the EPA on Oct. 15 approved Dow's 2,4-D herbicide Enlist Duo — so named because it also tolerates glyphosate — for use in a half-dozen Midwestern states. Aware of dangers to surroundings, EPA imposed restrictions including a buffer zone and

an advisory against spraying in wind over 15 mph.

Federal agencies are moving to expand 2,4-D use in other states and approve more genetically engineered seeds that tolerate stronger herbicides.

On Oct. 10, the Agriculture Department closed its public comment period for new Monsanto cotton and soybean seeds engineered to tolerate dicamba. Dicamba is an herbicide with a reputation for being drift-prone partly because of its volatility — a tendency to evaporate and move from fields.

The federal agency already has recommended approval of the Monsanto products. The Missouri-based biotech leader says its XtendFlex engineered cotton seeds that tolerate dicamba and two more weed killers will be available next year. Dow's 2,4-D cotton is expected in 2016.

Buried in the appendices of a 946-page Monsanto environmental report last year is a forecast that under its plan, some 5.2 million pounds of dicamba eventually would be applied on half of the cotton acreage in America, a 14-fold increase in use of the potent herbicide.

Many Texas cotton growers are eager to plant the new Monsanto seeds. Glyphosate-resistant pigweed showed up elsewhere in the cotton belt earlier but has recently struck Texas with a vengeance.

Pigweed is a robust invader that can shoot to a height of 10 feet and clog machinery while sapping soil nutrients and precious water. Each weed can produce a half-million seeds that spread in the winds.

Until three years ago in Texas, regular applications

of glyphosate stemmed the invasion. But the weed has grown increasingly immune to Roundup and other brands with glyphosate as the active ingredient.

Steve Chapman, who farms 2,400 acres of cotton near Lorenzo, observed that "guys probably did some things wrong that allowed this resistance to come early." Now, Chapman says, it's a constant fight against pigweed with stalks four inches in diameter that must be dug out or chopped down.

"It's getting into our bottom line pretty good," he said.

### Dealing with drift

The dry conditions and fast-draining red soils in the High Plains have proved suitable for grapes, as well as cotton. Affordable land for vineyards and a surge of interest in wine in populated areas of Texas fueled rapid growth over the past decade, says Tim Dodd, director of the Texas Wine Marketing Research Institute and a professor at Texas Tech.

By Dodd's count, fewer than 50 wineries operated in Texas a dozen or so years ago. Now, Texas boasts 275 wineries, concentrated most heavily in the Hill Country, North Texas and along the Gulf Coast.

Dodd said a consultant's study underway is expected to calculate the economic impact of Texas wine and grapes at nearly

\$2 billion annually.

Andy Timmons grows his wine grapes alongside 2,000 acres of cotton near Lubbock. His cotton is genetically engineered — like 90 percent of the cotton grown in the United States — and Timmons says he doesn't understand the anti-GMO sentiments he hears about.

Nonetheless, he worries about the arrival of dicamba. He told the Agriculture Department that the government needs to impose traceability requirements so that it will be publicly known when and where growers spray dicamba.

"I know I can't stop it. What I'm saying is, just give me a way to know who is spraying it around," he said.

### No 'silver bullet'

The Save Our Crops Coalition, an organization made up of vegetable growers and marketers from across the Midwest, reported successful negotiations with Dow Agrosciences aimed at limiting damage to non-target plants.

Dow agreed that the new EPA-drawn 2,4-D label would address spray drift. The company also said it would include terms in its sales agreements requiring growers to keep records of where the herbicide is applied.

Steve Smith, who heads the coalition, says discussions with Monsanto went nowhere.

"They are not willing to do one thing that Dow voluntarily did to take away some of the risks," said Smith, agriculture director at Indiana-based Red Gold Inc., the nation's largest privately held tomato supplier.

A Monsanto spokesman said his company consulted with "a wide variety of voices" before proceeding with its dicamba plan.

"There are a number of folks in the sensitive crop industry who are justifiably concerned about previous versions of these technologies," said the spokesman, John Combest.

Those concerns prompted Monsanto to devise a different dicamba formula and recommend that cotton growers spray dicamba in wind no stronger than 10 mph, Combest said.

Peter Dotray, the Texas Tech weed scientist, said the wine industry and specialty crop growers have valid concerns. But he believes growers will be careful and calls Monsanto's dicamba seeds a "game-changer" in the fight against weeds.

Dotray says he sees Texas cotton growers alternating herbicides and attacking weeds by hand — which tells him that they've gotten the message.

"If we don't learn from past mistakes, if we don't become more diversified in weed control, it may be five years this time rather than 20 before resistance shows up," he said.

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A 23-year-old man was held in custody after being arrested on a cash-in-transit report.

Hipolit detained a man from a local business to declare more than \$100,000 in cash.

A Customs and Border Protection agent was arrested after a search of a man's car.

While a man was carrying a gun, he was arrested for a crime.

A court case was held on a man's behalf.

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A 23-year-old man was arrested.

Thanks to a woman's report, a man was arrested for a crime.

A man was arrested for a crime.

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# STATE BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

## BROWNSVILLE Man held for not reporting \$259,000 at border

A 23-year-old Brownsville man is in federal custody after he tried to illegally take \$259,000 in cash into Mexico.

Hipolito Garcia Jr. was detained at the Brownsville-Matamoros International Bridge for failing to declare he was carrying more than \$10,000 out of the country.

A Customs and Border Protection dog alerted agents to the hidden cash. Authorities told The Brownsville Herald that Garcia's 2007 Volkswagen Jetta had been fitted with an "aftermarket compartment in the dashboard."

While it's not illegal to carry that amount of cash out of the U.S., it is a federal crime to fail to declare it. Federal documents show Garcia gave a "negative declaration" when asked if he was carrying more than \$10,000.

A court hearing for Garcia is set for Tuesday. He's held on \$50,000 bond.

## WESLACO Woman, 23, arrested for death of her child, 2

A 23-year-old Rio Grande Valley woman has been arrested for the death of her 2-year-old child on Thanksgiving morning.

Hidalgo County authorities said Karen Lucio of Donna faces a charge of injury to a child, a third-degree felony, after investigators summoned to Knapp Medical Center in Weslaco determined her child had several visible injuries.

Sheriff's spokesman J.P. Rodriguez told The Monitor newspaper of McAllen that additional charges are expected.

A justice of the peace pronounced the child dead and has ordered an autopsy.

## HUNTSVILLE Texas to execute man who lawyers say is delusional

No one disputes that Scott Panetti — heavily armed, head shaved and wearing camouflage — shot and killed his in-laws at their Texas Hill Country home, showering his estranged wife and 3-year-old daughter in blood.

Panetti himself acknowledged during his 1995 capital murder trial that he had killed Joe and Amanda Alvarado. Dressed as a cowboy, he acted as his own attorney, believing only an insane person could prove an insanity defense.

Jurors convicted him and sentenced him to death, and he is scheduled to die on Wednesday.

Panetti's attorneys are seeking to get him off death row or, in the very least, to get his execution date postponed so that he can undergo further psychological testing to determine if he's competent to be put to death. They believe his case raises questions about the legality of executing the mentally ill — an issue the U.S. Supreme Court has previously considered.

"From our perspective, this has been like a slow-moving train wreck since 1995," said Kathryn Kase, one of his lawyers.

A diagnosed paranoid schizophrenic, Panetti had been hospitalized for mental illness more than a dozen times in the decade leading up to the September 1992 killings of the Alvarados.

A 2007 Supreme Court review of Panetti's case tweaked the criteria for executing those with severe mental disorders by requiring inmates to not only know that they are being punished, but to also have a "rational understanding" of their punishment. Providing little guidance other than requiring a "fair hearing" for presentation of psychiatric evidence to consider insanity claims, the justices returned Panetti's case to lower federal courts, which ultimately found him competent.

# Scarred vet blends severity of story with humor

By Ronald W. Erdrich  
Abilene Reporter-News

COLORADO CITY — To put people at ease, Shilo Harris pulls his ears off.

It's a small joke; a bit of humor to break the ice and allow those he meets the chance to see past the scars.

Harris, 40, is a former Army soldier who was injured when his Humvee was struck by an improvised explosive device — how the military refers to homemade bombs — near Yusufiyah, Iraq, on February 19, 2007. The blast killed three men in the vehicle, all friends, and Harris received burns over much of his body.

He details the events leading up to the attack and his recovery in a book he wrote with Robin Overby Cox, "Steel Will: My Journey through Hell to Become the Man I was Meant to Be." Over the past month Harris has shared his story across the Big Country.

The ears are purely cosmetic. Harris lost 60 percent of his hearing on one side and 40 percent on the other. The latex lobes attach magnetically to small posts embedded above holes where his ears used to be.

It's a little startling to see him casually yank one off and hand it to someone. "They're good wind blocks," he quipped. "If my ears get cold, I just put them in my pocket."

A Texas native, he spent part of his childhood in Coleman. His mother, Teresa Bentley, still lives there.

Harris spoke recently to students at Colorado High School in a program sponsored by a number of civic organizations, local businesses and private citizens. Students from Loraine, Colorado City and Westbrook attended, along with veterans from those communities.

"Like many other veterans these days, I joined after 9/11/2001," Harris said.

He felt it was his duty to serve his community and nation after the terrorist attack.

"We lost almost 4,000 lives in a matter of hours," Harris said.

Military service isn't required to serve your country, he said, but doing so elevates people and brings serious responsibilities.

"It is the greatest honor there is, because when you sign your name on that line, you're saying I'm willing to die for what I believe in," he told the audience.



Abilene Reporter-News/AP

On Nov. 19, Shilo Harris holds up the bunny ears hand gesture behind Abby Ballard, a senior at Colorado High School, during a group photo in Colorado City. Harris, 40, is a former Army soldier who was injured when his Humvee was struck by an improvised explosive device near Yusufiyah, Iraq, on Feb. 19, 2007. The blast killed three men in the vehicle, all friends, and Harris received burns over much of his body.

This was not lost on sophomore Kayla Browne. That afternoon, Harris visited her English class; the students were reading his book as group assignment. Her brother Austin had just finished Army boot camp.

"If we were to have a war, I don't want anything to happen to him. Just knowing it's possible, it kind of hurts me," she said.

Browne's voice began to choke up. Seeing Harris and recalling photographs, war movies and combat video, she couldn't stop herself from seeing her big brother in the same light.

"Because anything is possible, and it's just not a good thought," she said, tears beginning to fall from her cheeks. "I put his face on theirs, and I can't think of anything positive about it, because I just don't want anything to happen to him. (Harris') story is really inspiring because if Austin were to get injured, he has someone to look up to."

He didn't mean to be a motivational speaker. Harris said he sort of walked into it.

"I was lost in the hospital one day. I was pretty medicated at the time. I walked in a door, and I was literally on stage," he recalled.

A group of men were sitting there. Whether they were doctors or chaplains, Harris didn't know.

"They said, 'Hey, you're our guest speaker today.' I'm looking around, and I'm like, 'Uh, I guess I can be,'" he said. "I was kind

"I don't see the scars. I see the person that I am and the person that I'm meant to be."

Shilo Harris, Army veteran and speaker

of joking, but they pulled up a chair and said, 'Have a seat.'"

It's a must for Harris to balance the heaviness of his story with humor. Joking with visitors keeps the ice cracking, heading off any discomfort felt by his skin grafts or the remains of the seven fingers left on his hands. When posing for group photos, he's the first to make a funny face or throw the bunny-ears hand sign behind whoever's nearest.

He's long since made peace with seeing in the mirror a face different from the one he grew up with. "I don't see the scars," he said. "I see the person that I am and the person that I'm meant to be."

There is a purpose in these programs. It reaches beyond patriotism, recognizing veterans of even

selling books. It lingers on a harrowing statistic he quoted throughout his visit, a national suicide rate of 22 veterans per day. But the purpose extends even beyond that.

Harris' message at its core boils down to one thing: Everyone has the strength to be more than they are. It takes faith and it takes courage, and it demands companionship. No one is alone, nor should they think they are.

He has his wife, Kathreyn, and their five children to lean on. There have been hard times, to be sure. But with just a little faith, somehow the sun always manages to pierce dark clouds.

"This recovery has been full of blessings. If you had asked me in 2007 if I would be here like this, I would have told you that

you were crazy," he said during the assembly. "It took little changes in my life, little achievable goals, each and every day, to have a greater outcome."

It's where the name of the book comes from and it's a lesson anyone can learn.

"I had to have the will to get up and do it each and every day," he said.

He wants the book to be a resource for veterans. When he and Cox began writing it he was clear from the start that being Christian doesn't equate with weakness.

"I'm not Opie, and this ain't The Andy Griffith Show. I'm Shilo Harris. I was raised hard. I served my country. I ate a lot of dirt, and I had a heck of a recovery," he said.

"I take the stand that you can be a badass and be a Christian, all at the same time."

Distributed by The Associated Press



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# SPORTS

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Sunday, November 30, 2014 | Section C

## Watt and Texans host Mettenberger and Titans

By Kristie Rieken  
Associated Press

HOUSTON — J.J. Watt hit rookie Zach Mettenberger on the field and scolded him off it in Houston's first game against Tennessee this season.

Watt was miffed that the Titans quarterback posted selfies on social media in the week leading up to his first NFL start, including one hour before the game. He mocked him after a sack by posing for a fake selfie as a celebration.

After Houston's win Watt said he wanted to let the rookie know that this was the NFL and not high school when asked about the gesture.

So would Mettenberger consider mimicking Watt's mock selfie after a touchdown pass when the teams meet

### The game

#### TENNESSEE AT HOUSTON

When: Noon today  
Location: NRG Stadium, Houston  
TV: CBS  
Radio: KCRS (550 AM)

again today?

"Absolutely not, because I'm going to have to play that guy next year, so I don't want to really just get him going for him to think about that all offseason," Mettenberger said. "I'm just going to go out there and play football."

Watt said he doesn't care if Mettenberger posts another selfie before today game. As for if he thinks he got in the rookie's head with that

celebration and the ensuing comments, he wasn't sure.

"I don't know," Watt said. "Maybe, maybe not. But my goal is to get in people's head with my play. That's the No. 1 way to get inside somebody's head ... when you have success, you get to have a little bit of fun along the way. That's kind of the way it works in this league."

Mettenberger hasn't posted a selfie since and has only sent three tweets since Watt called him out. So, did he stop because of Watt's comments?

"I was just addicted to it, I guess; put myself in a rehab program," Mettenberger joked. "So now that I've quit I feel like I'm a much better person."

Mettenberger threw for 299 yards

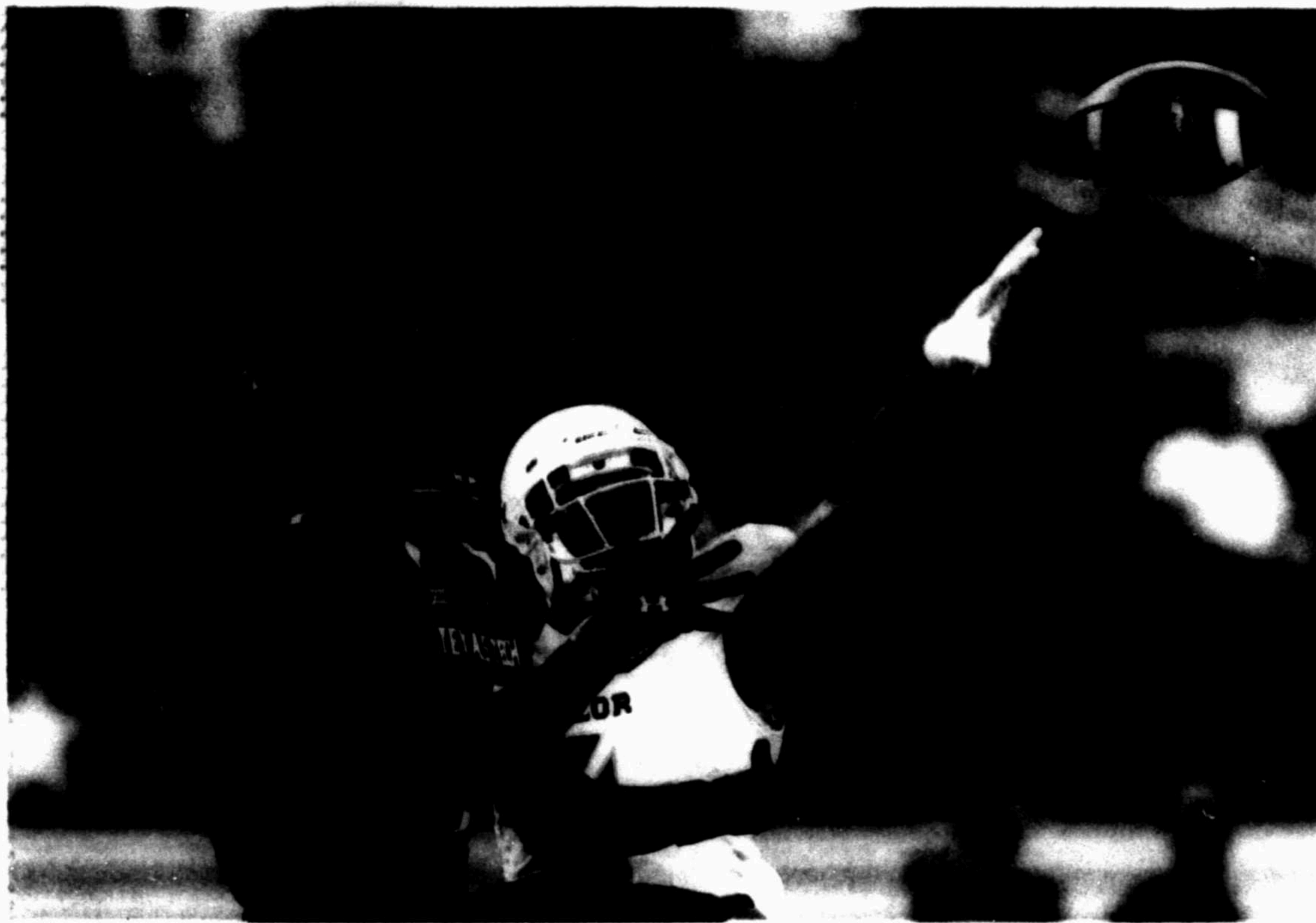
Please see **TEXANS/4C**



Smiley N. Pool/Houston Chronicle

Houston defensive end J.J. Watt (99) applies pressure to Tennessee quarterback Zach Mettenberger (7) during an Oct. 26 game at LP Field in Nashville.

## Tech puts scare in Baylor



Tim Sharp/AP

Texas Tech wide receiver Bradley Marquez, left, an Odessa High grad, waits for the ball as Baylor cornerback Xavien Howard, right, defends during Saturday's game in Arlington, Baylor.

## Red Raiders show some fight in loss to No. 5 Bears

ARLINGTON — When Baylor took a commanding 42-17 lead over Texas Tech midway through the third quarter, many assumed that the Bears were just going to roll past the Red Raiders and make the splash they needed to move up in the College Football Playoff rankings.

After all, this was a Texas Tech team that had struggled all season long in the second half of games.

This was a Texas Tech team that once again found a way to shoot itself in the foot with turnovers and penalties, much like it did in the first half when it saw opportunities slip by their fingers.

But after Baylor quarterback Bryce Petty was knocked out of the game by a helmet-to-helmet hit, the Bears' offense wasn't the same, and the Red Raider skill players started to make plays in one-on-one coverage.

OSCAR  
LEROY  
oleroy@mrt.com



It turned out to be the shootout this game was built up to be and Baylor held on to a 48-46 victory in front of 54,179 fans at AT&T Stadium.

Tech (4-8, 2-7 in Big 12) had an opportunity to tie the game with a two-point conversion with 1:42 remaining in the game, but Patrick Mahomes was sacked when he couldn't find an open receiver.

"We had the look we wanted, we didn't get a good release," Tech coach Kliff Kingsbury said. "Their defensive back (Collin Brenc) did a great job of forcing

our guy outside, and Pat ran around. (It's a) learning experience. At that point, you just got to throw it up, see if we can make a play. (You) can't take a sack there."

The Bears (10-1, 7-1) got the win but couldn't come up with the style points it needed to possibly move up the rankings.

The Red Raiders put up a good fight and played like a team that had absolutely nothing to lose.

"We went out there and played a great game," Tech junior receiver Jakeem Grant said. "We should have been playing that way the whole season."

Once again, this game turned into a game of what-ifs for the Red Raiders.

What if they had not fumbled the ball three times in Baylor territory?

What if they would have converted on both of their two-point conversion tries in the second half?

Please see **TECH/6C**

## Basin grads make impact Saturday

By Oscar LeRoy  
oleroy@mrt.com

ARLINGTON — In what may be a rare occurrence for quite some time, three players from the Permian Basin were in Saturday's Texas Tech-Baylor game at AT&T Stadium and made an impact.

Midland High grad and Baylor senior receiver Antwan Goodley had two catches for 25 yards and one TD, to go with one rush for 3 yards.

Lee grad and Tech redshirt freshman Talor Nunez got some snaps on the defensive line thanks to depleted depth in the unit and had one quarterback pressure on Seth Russell.

Odessa High grad and Tech senior receiver Marquez finished his collegiate career on a high note with six catches for 130 yards and three touchdowns.

"I said it all year, he's why you get in the profession, to coach a guy like that," said Tech coach Kliff Kingsbury about Marquez. "To give up baseball this summer so he can come back and lead that young group of wide receivers with his work ethic says a lot. We'll miss him."

Marquez said it was an emotional ending to his time in Lubbock.

"I have invested a lot of blood sweat and tears into this program, and they have been nothing but great to me," he said. "Every day I will be a Red Raider and represent this university the best way possible. I just want to thank everybody for that."

**BAYLOR CLOSE TO RARE ACCOMPLISHMENT:** With the win, Baylor took one step closer to defending their Big 12 championship next week against Kansas State.

"Not everybody gets a chance to do that," said Baylor junior defensive end Shawn Oakman. "We do have the



Goodley



Nunez



Marquez

Please see **BASIN/6C**

## Chandler leads Mavericks over 76ers

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — After setting a franchise record for losses to start the season, the 76ers continued to focus on long-term goals.

Tyson Chandler had 20 points and 13 rebounds to help the Dallas Mavericks beat Philadelphia 110-103 on Saturday night, sending the 76ers to a 16th straight loss to start the season.

Michael Carter-Williams had a triple-double with 18 points, 16 assists and 10 rebounds for the 76ers, who eclipsed the 1972-73 club that began 0-15 on the way to setting an 82-game NBA record for fewest victories at 9-73. Philadelphia became the fifth team in league history to open with at least 16 straight losses, joining the 1994-95 Clippers (0-16), 1998-99 Clippers (0-17), 1988-89 Heat (0-17) and the 2009-10 Nets (0-18).

"I'm fine and I don't want those guys worrying about any record," Philadelphia coach Brett Brown said. "We just have to keep our group together and move them along. I have

Mavericks ..... 110  
76ers ..... 103

### Inside

See the NBA Standings and Saturday's boxes.

Page 3C

so much respect for that group because their spirit has not been broken."

Philadelphia, with a roster of draft picks and young, undrafted players, is sacrificing victories to build for the future. Of the 12 players Brown played versus Dallas, only Luc Mbah a Moute has more than two years of NBA experience.

"We're heartbroken we haven't won," Brown said. "But down deep I feel like I know something that's going on that I like. I think they will be rewarded for the work they're putting in. I hope it's sooner than later to validate their efforts."

The 76ers will try again for its first win on Monday when they host the

defending champion Spurs. If they lose to San Antonio, Philadelphia could equal the NBA record for losses to begin a season on Wednesday at Minnesota and could potentially set an NBA record on Friday at home versus Oklahoma City.

Monta Ellis added 18 points for Dallas (13-5), which played without struggling star Dirk Nowitzki to win its third straight. Coach Rick Carlisle gave Nowitzki the night off to rest. He was 4 for 27 from 3-point range in his last four games.

"It's a team you feel like you're not supposed to lose to, no offense to them," Chandler said.

K.J. McDaniels had 21 points and 13 rebounds for Philadelphia.

"I'm proud of my team for just fighting," McDaniels said.

The Mavericks handed Philadelphia its worst loss of the season, a 53-point rout on Nov. 13. The 76ers had more turnovers (28) than field goals (23) in that 123-70 defeat. It was much closer on Saturday, but the result was the same.



Matt Slocum/AP

Dallas' J.J. Barea (5) goes up for a shot against Philadelphia's Brandon Davies (0), K.J. McDaniels (14) and Nerlens Noel (4) during Saturday's game in Philadelphia.

DAILY RUNDOWN

ON THE AIR

TODAY WHAT'S ON TV MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Texas at Connecticut, 11 a.m., ESPN2
Army at Duke, 11 a.m., ESPN
Orlando Classic: Championship, Kansas vs. Michigan St Noon, ESPN

9:55 a.m., beIN2
English Premier: Everton at Tottenham, 10 a.m., NBCSN
Bundesliga: Borussia Dortmund at Eintracht Frankfurt, 10:30 a.m., GoTV

TRANSACTIONS

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
MINNESOTA TIMBERWOLVES - Signed...

Minnesota at Texas, AHL
MINNESOTA WILD - Signed Marco Scuderi to a five-year contract extension

CFL PLAYOFFS

Sunday, Nov 16
Division Semifinals
East Division
West Division

East Division
Houston at Minnesota, 4
West Division
Seattle at Denver, 4

FIGHT SCHEDULE

Dec 4
At De Walle, Las Vegas, 7:30 p.m.
At Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, 10 p.m.

Dec 19
At TBA, Argentina - Juan Carlos Rivera vs. Rodrigo Gonzalez
Dec 20
At Little Creek Casino Resort, Shelton, Wash.

GLANTZ-CULVER LINE

Table with columns: FAVORITE, OPEN, NFL Today, UNDERDOG

Table with columns: UNDERDOG, UNDERDOG

SKI REPORT

New Mexico
Angel Fire - Plan to Open 12/12
Aspen - Plan to Open 12/13

23% open 224 acres, 5 of 8 lifts, sm Mon-Fri
9a-4p Sat/Sun 8:30a-4p

Sunday Morning Line



LEN HAYWARD

This and that as a little history was made at Grande on Saturday:
The College Football Playoff committee will have its work cut out for it this week.

coach Kliff Kingsbury to build on for the spring and next year.
It's been a rough year in Lubbock for Kingsbury, but considering the youth that was playing at the end of the year, it does bode well for the future.

dian Football League's Grey Cup is on today on ESPN2.
I've been watching CFL games off-and-on for more than 30 years and they are always fun to watch.

GIRLSHS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

ABILENE WYLIE 63 LEE 58
ABILENE - Lee's Bri'Ann Washington scored 22 points while Daja Stanford chipped in 19, but it was not enough as Abilene Wylie took a 63-58 victory against the Lady Rebels on Saturday in a non-district game.

14 in the final quarter to clinch the victory.
Kyra Lewis added 10 points and nine rebounds in the loss for Lee.

MIDLAND HIGH 55 LUBBOCK CORONADO 39
LUBBOCK - The Lady Bulldogs used a big second half to pull away from former district rival Lubbock Coronado and take a 55-39 victory on Saturday at Lubbock Estacado High School on the final day of the Thanksgiving Classic.

three 3-pointers.
Midland High will take on Class 4A No. 2 Abilene Wylie at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the MHS gymnasium in a non-district contest.

JCBASKETBALL

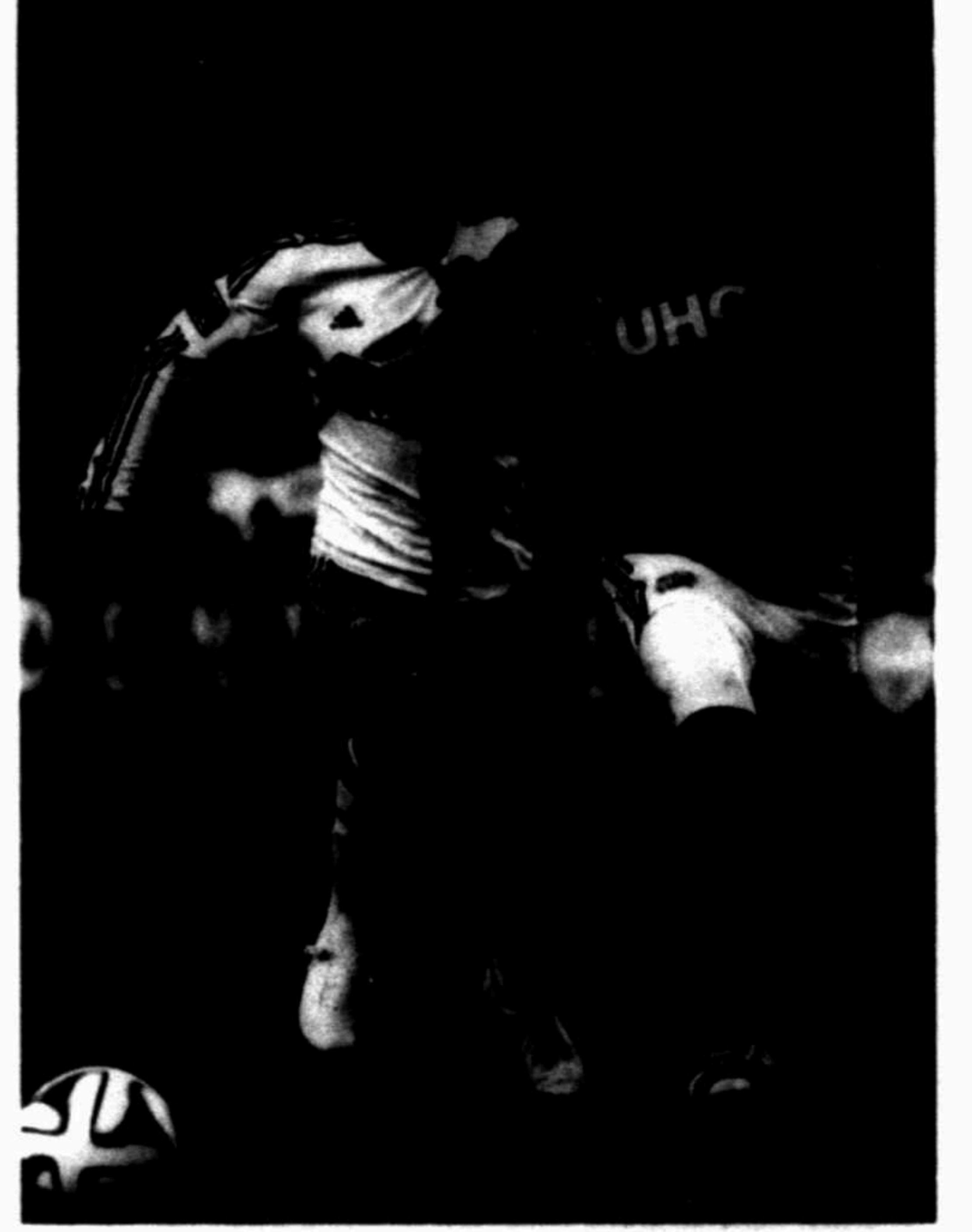
at the end of the first half, but the Lady Wranglers outscored MC, 26-22, in the final 20 minutes to clinch the victory.
Wainatia Wright and Sierra Dixon led Midland College with 12 points each, and Mary Savoy had seven points and 10 rebounds in the loss.

Athletic Conference play at 5:45 p.m. Wednesday against Howard College in Big Spring.
Midland College (8-5) will begin Western Junior College

Shaquica Johnson 4-11 3-4 11, Erin Willis 7-13 0-0 15, Zavier Landry 0-7 6-8 6, Briana Carr 1-7 0-0 3, Alyssa Criswell 2-4 1-2 5, Chyanne Deaton 3-5 0-0 9, Mikela Anzo 0-1 0-0 0, Chyanne Coatsman 1-4 0-2 2, Jeffersonne Holley 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 20-58 12-18 57

Revolution advance to MLS Cup with 2-2 draw vs NY

By Jimmy Golen Associated Press
FOXBOROUGH, Mass. - Jay Heaps is taking the New England Revolution back to the MLS Cup - this time as the head coach - still looking for his first win.
Charlie Davies scored twice to give the Revolution a 2-2 draw with the New York Red Bulls on Saturday and a 4-3 victory in the two-game, aggregate goals Eastern Conference finals. New England will play in the MLS Cup on Dec. 7 against the winner of the Western finals between the Los Angeles Galaxy and the Seattle Sounders.



Elise Amendola/AP

Mike Petke said. "I'm honored to have played with him, coached him and been with him every day in practice. Whatever he decides to do, he'll be successful."
Heaps played for the Revolution from 2001-11 and helped the team reach the MLS Cup four times, in '02 and again from 2005-07.
Each time they lost. Heaps took over as head coach in 2012 after back-to-back years missing the playoffs. After one more rebuilding year, he had them back in the post-season last year and now back in the championship game.
"We wanted to build something championship-worthy," Heaps said, "to get back to where the club was in '05-07."
Davies scored in the 41st minute to tie it, and then again in the 70th. Henry had a chance to give the Red Bulls the series in the 89th minute but his shot from outside the box was blocked by Revolution goalkeeper Bobby Shuttleworth.
The Galaxy won the first game of the Western Conference finals 2-1, with the second game in Seattle tonight.

MLS PLAYOFF GLANCE

Table with columns: Eastern Conference, Western Conference, Eastern Conference Semifinals, Western Conference Semifinals, Eastern Conference Finals, Western Conference Finals

Midland Reporter-Telegram logo and text: Delivering the news every day.



Josh Donaldson says Toronto has elements to win

By Ian Harrison
Associated Press

TORONTO — Josh Donaldson has good memories of playing in Toronto. The former Midland RockHound made his major league debut there in 2010, striking out as a pinch-hitter. The following day he smacked a game-winning, two-run homer for his first career hit.
More memories are on the way. Next season, Toronto is his big league home.
The Blue Jays acquired Donaldson from the Oakland Athletics on Friday night for infielder Brett Lawrie, left-hander Sean Nolin, right-hander Kendall Graveman and minor league shortstop Franklin Barreto.
“Toronto is a great place, a great city,” the All-Star third baseman said during a conference call Saturday morning. “Every time I’ve been there it’s been very beau-

ful.”
Now, Donaldson will try to see what he can do about the ballpark. The Blue Jays went 83-79 last season and finished out of the playoffs for a 21st straight year, the longest active drought in baseball.
“Definitely think the elements are there to win,” he said.
Donaldson is the second major acquisition of the winter for the Blue Jays, who signed catcher Russell Martin to a five-year, \$82 million deal on Nov. 18.
Donaldson said he’s excited by what he and Martin might bring to a lineup that already boasts shortstop Jose Reyes in the leadoff spot and slugers Jose Bautista and Edwin Encarnacion in the heart of the order.
“You start looking at the capability of this lineup and the potential that it brings,” Donaldson

said. “I’m going to venture to say there’s probably not going to be another lineup as potent as this in major league baseball.”
The 28-year-old Donaldson is sure-handed at third base. He hit .255 with 29 home runs and 98 RBI in 158 games last season. In four seasons, all with Oakland, he has a .268 average with 63 home runs and 228 RBIs in 405 games.
He expects his power numbers to rise in hitter-friendly Toronto, saying he figures he lost at least 14 home runs last season to Oakland’s spacious outfield.
Before he was called up to the A’s in April, 2010, Donaldson was participating in a fantasy baseball league with several minor league teammates at Triple-A Sacramento.
“I remember I had about three or four Blue

Jays in my lineup and then I was catching (against them) the next day,” Donaldson recalled. “I was like ‘This can’t happen anymore.’”
Donaldson was at home in Alabama on Friday night when he found out he’d become a Blue Jay himself.
“I was up in my man cave playing some old school Mortal Kombat and watching The Golf Channel at the same time,” Donaldson said. “I looked down and my phone just started exploding. I decided to check it out. The first text I see is ‘Blue Jays?’ I was like ‘Yeah, I just got traded.’”
Less than 24 hours later, Donaldson said he was “still a little shocked” by the deal, but also finding new things to look forward to.
“Somebody on Twitter had put me in one of those Toronto Blue Jays uniforms, the all whites,” he said. “I tell you what, those uniforms are pretty sexy.”



Donaldson

TEXANS

From 1C
and two touchdowns last time against Houston, but also had an interception and was sacked twice.
Watt said he thinks Mettenberger has improved since they last saw him and expects that improvement to continue this week.
Some things to know about the Titans-Texans game:
BACK IN THE SADDLE: Houston quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick will start today with Ryan Mallett out for the season with a chest injury. The veteran started the first nine games for Houston before being benched in favor of Mallett, who went 1-1. Fitzpatrick said it isn’t anything new to be thrust into the starting lineup at a moment’s notice. He started the last nine games for the Titans last year after Jake Locker was injured.
SECOND TIME AROUND: This will be the first time Mettenberger has played a team for the second time. He threw for the most yards by a rookie in franchise history last week with 345, topping a mark that stood since Nov. 25, 1960, when this team was the Houston Oilers in the AFL. That’s also the highest single-game passing total for a rookie quarterback this season. Dan Pastorini (eight in 1971) and Vince Young (13 in 2006) are the only rookie quarterbacks to start more games than Mettenberger for this franchise.

CLOWNEY’S SET-

BACK: Top overall pick Jadeveon Clowney suffered a setback this week on his surgically repaired right knee and is unlikely to play today. Houston’s outside linebacker has already missed seven games because of the injury. He was in for about 50 plays last Sunday in his most extensive action since the injury, but experienced swelling in his knee after the game and hasn’t practiced all week.
SHUFFLED TITANS: The Titans’ offensive line could look very different today with potentially three new starters. Left tackle Taylor Lewan is recovering from a sprained left ankle and right tackle Michael Oher was in a walking boot protecting a sore toe on his left foot. They put center Brian Schwenke on injured reserve Tuesday.
So veteran Chris Spencer is replacing Schwenke. Byron Stingily could be making his first start this season at left tackle, with veteran Will Svetkey set to play if Oher winds up missing a game for the first time in his six-year career. Coach Ken Whisenhunt says the Titans have a plan for shuffling if they run into further injuries.

FOSTER SHOULD RETURN: Houston running back Arian Foster practiced this week and should play after missing the last two games with a groin injury. Foster is third in the AFC with 822 yards rushing.
RODGERS-CROMARTY (back hamstring); Andrew Rolle (not injury related); G. Geoff Schwartz (knee); JACUARS QUESTIONABLE: LB Jeremiah Rogers (ankle); LB LaRoy Reynolds (neck); PROBABLE: QB Blake Bortles (left wrist); DE Antonio Brannan (groin); DE Chris Clemens (knee); S Josh Evans (elbow); CB Demetrius McCray (ankle); WR Cecil Shorts II (illness); CINCINNATI BENGALS AT TAMPA BAY BUCCANERS — BENIGALS OUT: LB Vonte Davis (knee); DE Marcus Hunt (ankle); QUESTIONABLE: LB Nico Johnson (illness); PROBABLE: DE Robert Mathis (toe); S George Iyeka (groin); WR Greg Little (illness); G Mike Pickett (knee); BUCCANERS QUESTIONABLE: LB Lavonte David (hamstring); C Evan Dietrich-Smith (knee); DT Clinton McDonald (hamstring); TE Brandon Myers (calf); TE Austin Seeler-Jenkins (back); TE Luke Stocker (concussion); S Major Wright (shoulder); PROBABLE: DE DaQuan Bowen (knee); S Dashon Goldson (illness); RB Charles Sims (ankle); OAKLAND RAIDERS AT ST. LOUIS RAMS — RAIDERS OUT: S Jonathan Dowling (back); RB Latavius Murray (shoulder); CB Carlos Rogers (knee); CB Nkeha Thorpe (hand); QUESTIONABLE: G Gabe Jackson (knee); PROBABLE: S Larry Asante (shoulder); CB T.J. Carrie (ankle); TE Brian Leonard (concussion); RAMS DOUBTFUL: CB Marcus Robinson (ankle); QUESTIONABLE: DT Alex Carrington (thigh); S Lamarque Joiner (groin); PROBABLE: WR Kenny Britt (back); TE Jared Cook (back); CB E.J. Harris (knee); TE Cory Hanley (thigh); DE Will Harrington (toe); G Darin Joseph (not injury related); LB James Laurinats (ankle); LB Alex Ogden (illness); DE Robert Quisenberry (not injury related); DE Eugene Sims (not injury related); C Scott Wells (not injury related); NEW ORLEANS SAINTS AT PITTSBURGH STEELERS — SAINTS OUT: LB Kyle Knox (hand); RB Jhon Robinson (forearm); PROBABLE: C Jonathan Gooden (toe); G Ben Brubaker (knee); RB Keenan Lewis (knee); LB Curtis Lofton (ankle); RB Pierre Thomas (toe); STEELERS OUT: CB Cortez Allen (thumb); NT Steve McClendon (shoulder); QUESTIONABLE: TE Marcus Gilbert (ankle); LB Ryan Shazier (ankle); PROBABLE: WR Martavis Bryant (illness); DE Brett Kiesel (not injury related); TE Heath Miller (not injury related); S Troy Polamalu (not injury related); CB Ike Taylor (forearm); S Shamarko Thomas (hamstring); CAROLINA PANTHERS AT MINNESOTA VIKINGS — PANTHERS DOUBTFUL: DT Star Lotulelei (knee); G Armin Statok (knee); QUESTIONABLE: DE Charles Johnson (illness); PROBABLE: CB Deme Barnes (ankle); WR Philly Brown (illness); RB Mike Tolbert (knee); VIKINGS DOUBTFUL: RB Jerick McKinnon (knee); QUESTIONABLE: DT Shamif Floyd (knee); TE Chase Ford (hamstring); PROBABLE: RB Matt Asante (concussion); LB Anthony Barr (knee); T Mike Harris (ankle); WR Greg Jennings (toe); T Matt Kalil (knee); WR Cordarrelle Patterson (knee); TE Kyle Rudolph (adductor); S Harrison Smith (shoulder); WR Jarvis Wright (hamstring); ARIZONA CARDINALS AT ATLANTA FALCONS — CARDINALS OUT: LB Kenny Demens (hamstring); DT Ed Stinson (knee); QUESTIONABLE: WR Larry Fitzgerald (knee); PROBABLE: LB Lorenzo Alexander (knee); LB Marcus Benard (shoulder); WR John Brown (teeth); RB Andre Ellington (toe); QB Drew Stanton (ankle); FALCONS OUT: CB Robert Alford (wrist); QUESTIONABLE: DT Paul Solai (not injury related); WR Roddy White (ankle); PROBABLE: WR Harry Douglas (toe); S William Moore (shoulder); T Jonathan Scott (hamstring); NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS AT GREEN BAY PACKERS — PATRIOTS QUESTIONABLE: C Danny Andriano (concussion); G Dan Connolly (ankle); DT Dominique Easley (knee); T Cameron Fleming (ankle); T Deondre Jones (hip); WR Brandon LaFell (shoulder); RB Shane Vereen (ankle); LB Chris White (ankle); PROBABLE: QB Tom Brady (ankle); RB Marco Cannon (hip); WR Julian Edelman (thigh); PACKERS QUESTIONABLE: CB Jarron Byrd (groin); LB Nick Perry (shoulder); PROBABLE: WR Davante Adams (heel); TE Brandon Bostick (hip); G T.J. Lang (ankle); G Josh Sitton (toe); DENVER BRONCOS AT KANSAS CITY CHIEFS — BRONCOS OUT: RB Montee Ball (groin); RB Ronnie Hillman (toe); CB Kayvon Webster (shoulder); QUESTIONABLE: S Quanton Carter (ankle); CB Aqib Talib (hamstring); TE Julius Thomas (ankle); PROBABLE: S David Branson (finger); TE Virgil Green (back); LB Brandon Marshall (concussion); DE Quentin Smith (ankle); RB Aaron Thompson (knee); CHIEFS OUT: WR Junior Hemingway (concussion); QUESTIONABLE: CB Chris Owens (knee); abdomen; DT Kevin Vickerson (ankle); LB Kenny Demens (hamstring); P. Dustin Colquitt (right knee); TE Anthony Fasano (knee); CB Jamell Fleming (hamstring); LB Tamba Hali (knee); CB Sean Smith (groin); T Donald Stephenson (shoulder); MAMI DOLPHINS AT NEW YORK JETS — DOLPHINS OUT: LB Jonathan Freenk (concussion); CB James Taylor (shoulder); PJP T. Chris Jenkinson (leg); LB Marcell Dareus (concussion); G Nate Garner (illness); LIMITED: G Danny Collins (back); T Jaiwan James (knee); WR Mike Wallace (chest); FULL: WR Richard Harrison (groin); RB Lamar Miller (knee); DT Jared Odrick (knee); CB Lowell Rose (shoulder); C Samson Satele (toe); JETS: DNP: TE Josh Amaral (concussion); CB Michael Vick (right wrist); LIMITED: DE Muhammed Wilkerson (toe); RB Reggie Bush (toe); RB Dwayne Allen (ankle); RB Brandon Tate (ankle); LB Antwan Barnes (knee); G Willie Colon (knee); WR Eric Decker (toe); DE Lager Douzable (ankle); LB David Harris (shoulder); RB Chris Ivory (shoulder); S Jaquwan Jarrett (calf); RB Chris Johnson (knee); C Nick Mangold (shoulder); RB Bilal Powell (illness);

NFL STANDINGS AND INJURY REPORT

Table with columns: Conference, Team, W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA. Includes AFC, NFC, and National Conference standings.

Continuation of injury report text from previous block, mentioning various players and teams like the Steelers and Colts.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL SCORES & SCHEDULE

Table with columns: Men, SATURDAY'S SCORES, SOUTHWEST, SOUTH, FAR WEST, EAST, MIDWEST, TOURNAMENT.

Table with columns: Women, SATURDAY'S SCORES, SOUTHWEST, SOUTH, FAR WEST, EAST, TOURNAMENT.

Tanguay's 3 points lead Avalanche over Stars

Associated Press
DENVER — Alex Tanguay had a goal and two assists, Matt Duchene and Gabriel Landeskog had a goal and an assist each, and the Colorado Avalanche beat the Dallas Stars 4-2 on Saturday night.
Jarome Iginla and Daniel Briere also scored for the Avalanche, who won for the fifth time in seven games. Defenseman Tyson Barrie tied a career high with three assists.
The game was tied 2-2 before the Avalanche scored three times within 5:45, spanning the second and third periods.

NHL STANDINGS

Table with columns: Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division, Central Division, Western Conference.

GOLF SCORES

Table with columns: Emirates Australian Open Scores, Saturday, At The Australian Golf Club, Sydney.

Continuation of injury report text from previous block, mentioning players like the Colts and Texans.

# No. 2 Alabama surges past No. 15 Auburn in Iron Bowl

By John Zenor  
Associated Press

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Amari Cooper tied his own school record with 224 yards receiving and caught three touchdowns in No. 2 Alabama's 55-44 comeback victory over No. 15 Auburn on Saturday night in the highest-scoring Iron Bowl.

Quarterback Blake Sims and the Crimson Tide (11-1, 7-1 Southeastern Conference) turned to the Heisman Trophy contender for touchdown strikes of 39 and 75 yards in the third quarter.

Alabama had already clinched a spot in the SEC championship game against No. 17 Missouri, and the top team in the College Football Playoff rankings scored 28 consecutive points heading

No. 2 Crimson Tide ..... 55  
No. 15 Tigers ..... 44

into the final seconds.

Auburn (8-4, 4-4) surged ahead 36-27 before losing its third straight SEC game in a season that once also carried playoff hopes.

Sims passed for 312 yards and four touchdowns but was thrown three interceptions. Auburn's Nick Marshall had 456 yards passing, 206 to Sammie Coates.

Alabama's trip to Atlanta was sealed about 30 minutes before kickoff when Mississippi knocked off No. 4 Mississippi State, 31-17.

The playoff positioning came into question after a slow start, but the Tide offense succeeded where the defense failed.

The rivalry that produced last season's most memorable play — Auburn's 109-yard return of a missed field goal on the final play — this time turned into a shootout. It showcased Sims-to-Cooper and Marshall-to-Coates with plenty of runs as well.

Auburn gained 630 yards against the SEC's top defense. Lane Kiffin's Alabama offense racked up 539 yards. The previous high score in the Iron Bowl came in 1969, a 49-26 Auburn victory. This one trounced that total.

Cooper, who had 13 catches, gained 141 yards in the third quarter alone. Coates scored on touchdowns of 34 and 68 yards on five catches for Auburn. Teammate D'haquille Williams, who had missed the past two games with a knee injury, gained 121 yards on seven catches.



Brynn Anderson/AP

Alabama players celebrate in the closing seconds of the Iron Bowl against Auburn on Saturday in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Alabama came away with a 55-44 win.

## TOP 25 ROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

### NO. 1 FLORIDA STATE 24

**FLORIDA 19**  
TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Davin Cook ran for a career-high 144 yards and No. 1 Florida State survived Jameis Winston's struggles to beat Florida 24-19 on Saturday night in Will Muschamp's final game as the Gators' coach.

The defending national champion Seminoles have won 28 games in a row, and completed consecutive undefeated regular seasons for the first time in school history. Florida State is the 16th team to accomplish the feat since 1950.

The Seminoles (12-0, No. 3 CFP) will face Georgia Tech in the Atlantic Coast Conference championship game Dec. 6.

Winston threw a career-high four interceptions, including three in the first quarter. He finished 12 of 24 for 125 yards and two touchdowns. Tight end Nick O'Leary had two second-quarter touchdown catches to give Florida State a 21-9 lead.

The Gators (6-5) jumped out to a 9-0 lead, but the offense struggled. Treon Harris threw for 169 yards with a touchdown and two interceptions. Florida's Austin Harder missed two second-half field goals that would have given the Gators the lead.

### NO. 3 OREGON 47

**OREGON STATE 19**  
CORVALLIS, Ore. — Marcus Mariota threw for 367 yards and four touchdowns and ran for 39 yards and two more scores to lead Oregon past Oregon State in the 118th Civil War game.

Oregon (11-1, 8-1 Pac-12, No. 2 CFP) will face Arizona in the Pac-12 championship game Friday at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, California.

Freshman Royce Freeman ran for 135 yards and also caught one of Mariota's touchdown passes. Fellow freshman Charles Nelson caught two passes — both touchdowns — for 56 yards, and Byron Marshall had six catches for 131 yards and a score.

It was Oregon's seventh straight win overall and seventh in the series against the rival Beavers (5-7, 2-7), who lost six of their last seven games and failed to become bowl eligible.

### NO. 18 MISSISSIPPI 31

**NO. 4 MISSISSIPPI ST. 17**  
OXFORD, Miss. — Jaylen Walton had a 91-yard touchdown run and running back Jordan Wilkins threw a 31-yard scoring pass to lead Mississippi past Mississippi State in the Egg Bowl.

Bo Wallace threw for 296 yards despite completing just 13 of 30 passes.

### HOW THE TOP 25 FARED

No. 1 Florida State (12-0) beat Florida 24-19. Next vs. No. 16 Georgia Tech. ACC championship. Saturday.

No. 2 Alabama (11-1) beat No. 15 Auburn 55-44. Next vs. No. 17 Missouri. SEC championship. Saturday.

No. 3 Oregon (11-1) beat Oregon State 47-19. Next vs. No. 12 Arizona. Pac-12 championship. Friday.

No. 4 Mississippi State (10-2) lost to No. 18 Mississippi 31-17. Next: TBA.

No. 5 Baylor (10-1) beat Texas Tech 48-46 at Arlington. Next vs. No. 11 Kansas State. Saturday.

No. 6 TCU (10-1) beat Texas 48-10. Thursday. Next vs. Iowa State. Saturday, Dec. 6.

No. 7 Ohio State (11-1) beat Michigan 42-28. Next vs. No. 14 Wisconsin. Big Ten championship. Saturday.

No. 8 Georgia (9-3) lost to No. 16 Georgia Tech 30-24 OT. Next: TBA.

No. 9 UCLA (9-3) lost to Stanford 31-10. Next: TBA.

No. 10 Michigan State (10-2) beat Penn State 34-10. Next: TBA.

No. 11 Kansas State (9-2) beat Kansas 51-13. Next vs. No. 5 Baylor. Saturday.

No. 12 Arizona (10-2) beat No. 13 Arizona State 42-35. Next vs. No. 3 Oregon. Pac-12 championship. Friday.

No. 13 Arizona State (9-3) lost to No. 12 Arizona 42-35. Next: TBA.

No. 14 Wisconsin (10-2) beat No. 22 Minnesota 34-24. Next vs. No. 7 Ohio State. Big Ten championship. Saturday.

No. 15 Auburn (8-4) lost to No. 2 Alabama 55-44. Next: TBA.

No. 16 Georgia Tech (10-2) beat No. 8 Georgia 30-24 OT. Next vs. No. 1 Florida State. ACC championship. Saturday.

No. 17 Missouri (10-2) beat Arkansas 21-14. Next vs. No. 2 Alabama. SEC championship. Saturday.

No. 18 Mississippi (9-3) beat No. 4 Mississippi State 31-17. Next: TBA.

No. 19 Marshall (11-1) lost to Western Kentucky 67-46. OT. Next vs. Louisiana Tech. Conference USA championship. Saturday, Dec. 6.

No. 20 Oklahoma (9-3) did not play. Next vs. Oklahoma State. Saturday, Dec. 6.

No. 21 Colorado State (10-2) lost to Air Force 27-24. Next: TBA.

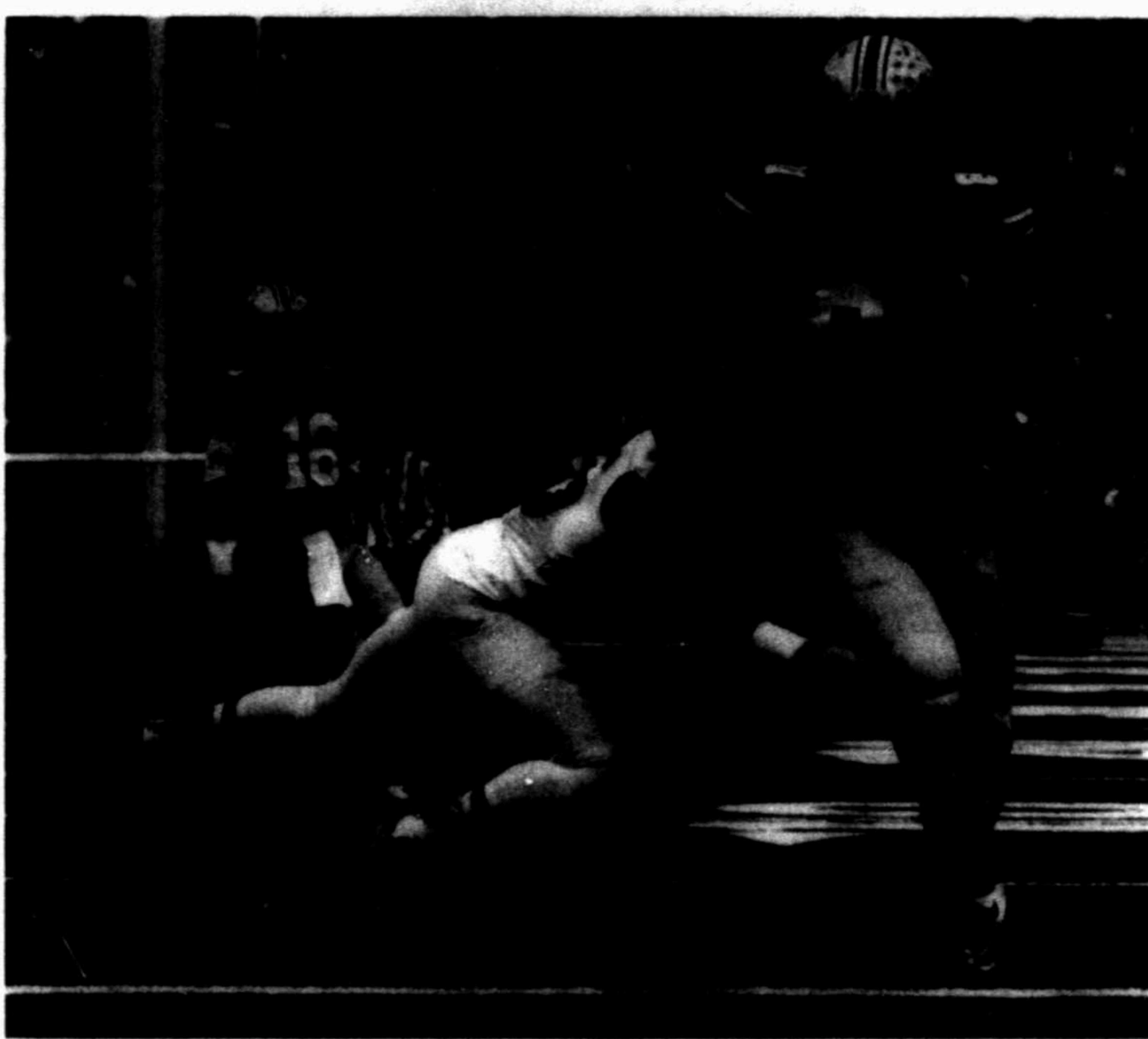
No. 22 Minnesota (8-4) lost to No. 14 Wisconsin 34-24. Next: TBA.

No. 23 Clemson (9-3) beat South Carolina 35-17. Next: TBA.

No. 24 Louisville (9-3) beat Kentucky 44-40. Next: TBA.

No. 25 Boise State (9-2) vs. Utah State. Late Next: TBA.

**MAJOR SCORES**  
**SOUTHWEST**  
Arkansas St. 68, New Mexico St. 35  
Baylor 46, Texas Tech 46  
Sam Houston St. 21, SE Louisiana 17  
UTEP 24, Middle Tennessee 21  
UTSA 34, North Texas 27  
**MIDWEST**  
Illinois 47, Northwestern 33



Jay LaPrete/AP

Ohio State tight end Nick Vannett, right, scores a touchdown past Michigan defensive back Dymonte Thomas during the first quarter in Columbus, Ohio.

Ole Miss (9-3, 5-3 Southeastern Conference) led 7-3 at halftime before its offense got going in the second half. It's the 10th time in 11 seasons the home team has won the Egg Bowl.

### NO. 7 OHIO STATE 42

**MICHIGAN 28**  
COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ezekiel Elliott scored untouched on a 44-yard run on fourth-and-1 with 4:58 left to help Ohio State, without injured star quarterback J.T. Barrett, beat Michigan.

With no postseason, the only thing left to be decided for Michigan (5-7, 3-5 Big Ten) is the future of coach Brady Hoke. Interim athletic director Jim Hackett will make the call on whether the coach stays or goes.

### NO. 10 MICHIGAN STATE 34

**PENN STATE 10**  
STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — R.J. Shelton returned the opening kickoff 90 yards for a touchdown and Jeremy Langford ran for 118 yards and two scores in Michigan State's victory over Penn State.

The Spartans (10-2, 7-1 Big Ten, CFP No. 10) won their third straight game and hit the double-digit win mark for the fourth time in the last five seasons under coach

Mark Dantonio. The Spartans have four of their six 10-plus win seasons in school history under Dantonio.

### NO. 14 WISCONSIN 34

**NO. 22 MINNESOTA 24**  
MADISON, Wis. — Melvin Gordon ran for 151 yards and accounted for two scores, and Wisconsin overcame a two-touchdown deficit to beat Minnesota and earn a spot in the Big Ten championship game.

Joel Steue threw for 215 yards, including 160 to receiver Alex Erickson. Steve's 17-yard touchdown pass to Robert Wheelwright with 4:41 left gave the Badgers (10-2, 7-1, CFP No. 14) a 10-point lead.

### NO. 16 GEORGIA TECH 30

**NO. 8 GEORGIA 24, OT**  
ATHENS, Ga. — Harrison Butker kicked a career-long 53-yard field goal on the final play of regulation, and D.J. White picked off a pass in overtime to preserve Georgia Tech's victory over Georgia.

Georgia Tech (10-2, CFP No. 16) trailed 24-21 after Hutson Mason threw a 3-yard touchdown pass to Malcolm Mitchell on fourth down with 18 seconds left. But the Yellow Jackets wound up with good field position after a squib kick-off. Justin Thomas scrambled

21 yards into field goal range, and Butker's kick barely cleared the crossbar.

### NO. 23 CLEMSON 35

**SOUTH CAROLINA 17**  
CLEMSON, S.C. — Artavis Scott had two long touchdown catches. Wayne Gallman ran for 191 yards and Clemson ended a five-game losing streak to rival South Carolina.

The Tigers (9-3) hadn't beaten the Gamecocks (6-6) since 2008, an unprecedented run of failure that overshadowed their 32-8 record the past three seasons. This time, Clemson showed off a perked up offense bolstered by the return of freshman starter DeShaun Watson at quarterback

### NO. 24 LOUISVILLE 44

**KENTUCKY 40**  
LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Brandon Radcliff ran 4 yards for a touchdown with 2:47 remaining and safety Gerod Holliman had an NCAA record-tying 14th interception with 35 seconds left, helping Louisville beat Kentucky.

No lead was safe in a back-and-forth game between rivals that got physical before kickoff. Louisville coach Bobby Petrino grabbed the jacket of Wildcats assistant Daniel Berezowitz during one pregame scuffle.

### CHAMPIONSHIP

Jan. 10  
At FC Denard Stadium  
Frisco

Semifinal winners Noon

### NCAA Division II Football Playoff

First Round  
Saturday, Nov. 22

West Chester 46, Slippery Rock 20  
Virginia State 28, LU Post 17  
Angelo State 42, Michigan Tech 41  
West Georgia 20, Tuslagre 17  
Valdosta State 33, North Alabama 31  
Minnesota-Duluth 48, Ouachita Baptist 45  
TBA

Second Round  
Saturday, Nov. 29

Concord (W Va.) 51, West Chester 36  
Bloomburg 35, Virginia State 14  
Valdosta State 23, Lenor-Rhyne 21  
Ohio Dominican 46, Ferris State 33  
West Georgia 37, Delta State 27  
Minnesota-Duluth 48, Ouachita Baptist 45  
Minnesota State (Mankato) 24, Pittsburg State 21  
OT  
Colorado State-Pueblo 52, Angelo State 14

Quarterfinals  
Saturday, Dec. 6

Concord (W Va.) (112-0) vs. Bloomburg (11-1), TBA  
Valdosta State (10-2) vs. West Georgia (11-2), TBA  
Colorado State-Pueblo (11-1) vs. Ohio Dominican (11-1), TBA  
Minnesota State (Mankato) (12-0) vs. Minnesota-Duluth (13-0), TBA Semifinals  
Saturday, Dec. 13

Concord (W Va.) (112-0) vs. Bloomburg winner vs. Minnesota State (Mankato)-Minnesota-Duluth winner, TBA  
Valdosta State-West Georgia winner vs. Colorado State-Pueblo-Ohio Dominican winner, TBA Championship  
Saturday, Dec. 20  
At Sporting Park  
Kansas City, Kan.

Semifinal winners, 4 p.m.

### NCAA Division III Football Playoff

First Round  
Saturday, Nov. 22

Webach 33, Franklin 14  
Widener 36, Muhlenberg 35

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL SATURDAY

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

### PLAYOFF SPECULATION

Things got much easier for the College Football Playoff committee on Saturday thanks to Mississippi State's loss and ending the speculation of a second Southeastern Conference team getting into the playoff.

It still could happen, but at least for one week, the eastern media won't have their heads explode.

Either way, Ohio State, Baylor and TCU all have a chance to solidify that fourth spot with wins this week, and can hope for a Florida State or Oregon loss to give them a better chance of getting in.

With one week left until the four are announced, here's a look at who we think has the best shot to get in.

### WHO'S IN?

**Alabama:** The Crimson Tide almost lost their spot on Saturday night, but a comeback against rival Auburn in the Iron Bowl helped to solidify their position. Now all Alabama has to do is avoid the major upset to Missouri in the SEC Championship.

**Florida State:** The Seminoles just keep winning. What more does the committee want from them.

**Oregon:** The Ducks had no trouble with rival Oregon State in Corvallis, and now wait to see what their seed might be after a wacky Saturday night.

**The 4th team:** See below in the words of every television news network on election night, "It's too close to call."

**OUTSIDE LOOKING IN**  
**Baylor or TCU:** The Horned Frogs and Bears both won this week, but who knows how the committee will view those wins since Ohio State won as well. It's going to be a nail-biting time for both teams on Dec. 7.

**Ohio State:** The Buckeyes had a big second half to beat rival Michigan but lost quarterback and Wichita Falls native J.T. Barrett. That could make it tough to beat Wisconsin in the Big 10 title game.

**Arizona:** The Wildcats won against the rival Sun Devils and may still be a factor in the playoff chase, if Baylor, TCU or Ohio State lose. They are a long shot, but strange things have happened in college football this season.

### STARS

**Cody Kessler, USC:** passed for 372 yards and six TDs in a 49-14 victory over Notre Dame.

**Jordan Howard, UAB:** set a school record with 262 yards rushing on 35 carries in a 45-24 win over Southern Miss.

**Patrick Mahomes, Texas Tech:** set a Big 12 freshman record with 598 yards passing threw for six TDs in a 48-46 loss to No. 5.

**Donnel Pumphrey, San Diego State:** rushed for 267 yards and three TDs to lead the Aztecs over San Jose State 38-7.

### SEMINOLES SURVIVE

Top-ranked Florida State was again far from perfect. And still ended up with another flawless record.

Seemingly playing with fire game after game, the Seminoles rallied for a 24-19 victory over rival Florida in Will Muschamp's final game as the Gators' coach.

James Winston played like a turnover machine before leading the defending national champions to their 28th straight victory and consecutive undefeated regular seasons for the first time in school history.

Florida State is the 16th team to accomplish the feat since 1950.

Cook ran for a career-high 144 yards for the Seminoles. They will face Georgia Tech in the Atlantic Coast Conference championship game Dec. 6.

### BUCKEYES WIN, LOSE BARRETT

For Ohio State, the thrill of beating rival Michigan was tempered by an injury to star quarterback J.T. Barrett.

Ezekiel Elliott scored untouched on a 44-yard run on fourth-and-1 with 4:58 left to help Ohio State, which lost Barrett early in the fourth quarter to an ankle injury, beat the Wolverines 42-28 on Saturday.

With no postseason, the only thing left to be decided for Michigan is the future of coach Brady Hoke. Interim AD Jim Hackett will make the call on whether the coach stays or goes.

Barrett threw for one TD and ran for two before his right leg crumpled underneath him when he was tackled on a run. Coach Urban Meyer said he's out for the season.

### EGG BOWL

The unlikely duo of Jaylen Walton and Jordan Wilkins led Mississippi to a resounding Egg Bowl upset.

Walton had a 91-yard touchdown run and Wilkins, a running back, threw a 31-yard touchdown pass to lead No. 18 Ole Miss over No. 4 Mississippi State 31-17 on Saturday.

The loss by Mississippi State means Alabama clinched the SEC Western Division. Dak Prescott threw for 282 yards and a touchdown.

It's the first time both teams came into the Egg Bowl ranked since 1999.

The loss is a severe blow to Mississippi State's hope of advancing to the inaugural College Football Playoff.

### NUMBERS

12—Bowl-eligible teams in the SEC, a conference record.

14—Interceptions by Louisville's Gerod Holliman, tying an NCAA record.

43—Years since Memphis won a conference title before clinching at least a share of the American Athletic Conference.

222—Career catches by Kansas State's Tyler Lockett, breaking the school record held by his father, Kevin.

### BLUEGRASS BRAWL

Pregame tensions between players from No. 24 Louisville and rival Kentucky evolved into a shoving match involving Cardinals coach Bobby Petrino, who was seen grabbing the jacket of Wildcats assistant Daniel Berezowitz in one scuffle.

Several confrontations preceded kickoff, the biggest of which occurred near midfield and cleared both benches. Coaches and officials jumped in to break up groups of players pushing and shoving each other, and the Kentucky Kernel newspaper tweeted a photo of Petrino grabbing Berezowitz, Kentucky's director of football recruiting operations, and appearing to yell at him.



Tim Sharp/AP

Texas Tech wide receiver and Odessa High grad Bradley Marquez (4) congratulates Baylor head coach Art Briles following their game Saturday in Arlington.

## TECH

From 1C

What if they had not been penalized for 125 yards on 11 fouls?

What if kicker Ryan Bustin had not missed a 50-yard field goal at tempt right before the half instead of hitting the right uprights?

Those are all questions the Red Raiders will be asking themselves in what will only be a long offseason.

"I've been happy with the effort ever since we got knocked out of bowl eligibility," Kingsbury said. "We talked about character, playing hard and playing for the seniors. I felt the effort was there. We're just not very disciplined. That's the biggest thing I take away from this whole year, and that's on me. So I got to get that straightened out this offseason."

The Red Raiders will take some positives into the offseason, and that includes the play of Mahomes.

Mahomes had one of the best games ever played by a collegiate player in this monstrosity of a stadium as he finished with 598 yards passing and six touchdowns, both stadium records and Big 12 freshman records.

He was also key in the comeback effort with four touchdown passes in the 23-6 spurt — the last of which was a 40-yard pass to Bradley Marquez, who made the catch with a defender draped over him.

"He battled," said Kingsbury about Mahomes. "We knew we had some opportunities one on one with their corners. He kept

## Big 12 standings

Conference	All Games
W L PF RA	W L PF RA
Baylor	7 1 370 226 10 1 540 203
TCU	7 1 373 220 10 1 507 241
Kansas St.	7 1 276 159 9 2 403 223
Oklahoma	5 3 296 226 8 3 432 259
West Virginia	5 4 281 244 7 5 398 314
Texas	5 4 209 211 6 6 271 279
Oklahoma St.	3 5 177 276 5 6 291 349
Texas Tech	2 7 206 385 4 8 360 495
Kansas	1 8 153 320 3 9 214 396
Iowa St.	0 8 204 330 2 9 275 411

Thursday's Score  
TCU 48, Texas 10

Saturday's Scores  
West Virginia 37, Iowa State 24  
Baylor 48, Texas Tech 46  
Kansas State 51, Kansas 13  
Saturday, Dec. 6  
Iowa State at TCU, 11 a.m.  
Oklahoma State at Oklahoma, 2:30 p.m.  
Kansas State at Baylor, 6:45 p.m.

stepping up and took some shots, but kept getting back up. And the receivers made great plays, o-line blocked for him. But for a young kid to come in and keep battling, he's gotten better and better. I'm so excited to watch him develop in the future."

The future just may hold Mahomes as the starting quarterback of the Red Raiders. He will certainly have competition in the spring as stud recruit Jarrett Stidham will come in with a big arm and about as much mobility as Mahomes. And while there may be some people who may think otherwise, Davis Webb had his version of a sophomore slump after showing great things last season.

The quarterback situation as well as trying to patch up the defense, are just a few of the things the Red Raiders need to address after a season of what is

"I'm a strong believer that everything happens for a reason," said Tech senior receiver and Odessa High grad Bradley Marquez. "It just wasn't our year."



Tim Sharp/AP

Baylor running back Johnny Jefferson falls into the end zone for a touchdown as Texas Tech linebacker Sam Eguavoen (13) tries to stop him during Saturday's game in Arlington.

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NO 5 BAYLOR 48, TEXAS TECH 46

Baylor 7 21 17 3-48

Texas Tech 0 17 10 19-46

First Quarter

Bay: Lunsford 8 run, Callahan kick 2-44

Second Quarter

Bay: Grant 17 pass from Mahomes, Bustin kick 6-44

Bay: Jefferson 4 run, Callahan kick 11-50

Bay: FG Bustin 40 8-21

Bay: Lunsford 28 pass from Petty, Callahan kick 9-58

Bay: Marquez 5 pass from Mahomes, Bustin kick 11-38

Bay: Lunsford 3 run, Callahan kick 4-10

Bay: Goodey 9 pass from Petty, Callahan kick 9-32

Bay: Norwood 27 pass from Russell, Callahan kick 6-44

Bay: FG Bustin 25 3-44

Bay: FG Callahan 38 2-18

Bay: Lauderdale 48 pass from Mahomes, Bustin kick 11-38

Fourth Quarter

Bay: Marquez 41 pass from Mahomes, Bustin kick 11-38

Bay: Washington 49 pass from Mahomes, pass failed 8-13

Bay: FG Callahan 36 3-44

Bay: Marquez 41 pass from Mahomes, run failed 4-54

Bay: TT

First Downs

Rushes yards

Passing

Comp. Att. Int.

Return yards

Punts Avg.

Fumbles-Lost

Penalties-Yards

Time of Possession

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Baylor: Lunsford 24-158, Jefferson 10-47, Russell 7-29, Chafe 3-17, Petty 1-5, Goodey 1-3, Team 2-minus 4; Texas Tech: Washington 15-65, Mahomes 9-27, Grant 1-6, Q White 1-5

PASSING—Baylor: Petty 18-25-0-210, Russell 8-11-0-82, Texas Tech: Mahomes 30-56-1-598, Symons 1-1-0-11

RECEIVING—Baylor: Coleman 6-57, Cannon 6-39, Norwood 5-63, Fuller 2-50, Lee 2-26, Goodey 2-25, Lunsford 2-15, Chafe 1-17, Texas Tech: Marquez 6-130, Washington 6-107, Grant 1-55, Lauderdale 4-85, Sadler 3-45, Carter 2-47, Ke Williams 2-18, P. Davis 1-13, Baker 1-3, Stockton 1-4

## Clemson's Morris: Spoken to SMU about coaching job

By Ralph D. Russo  
Associated Press

Clemson coach Chad Morris says he has spoken with SMU representatives about its head coaching job, but no deal has been reached.

Morris is a Texas native who attended Texas A&M and was a longtime high school coach in the Lone Star state before making the jump to college.

He was asked about media reports that he is expected to become the new coach at SMU after Clemson beat South Carolina on Saturday.

"I've spoken with them, yes. Haven't agreed to anything," Morris said.

SMU athletic director Rick Hart said in a text to the AP the school is still working through the hiring process and has no agreement with anyone.

## BIG12/TEXAS ROUNDUP

FROM WIRE REPORTS

### Big 12

#### WEST VIRGINIA 37 IOWA ST 24

AMES, Iowa — Backup quarterback Skyler Howard threw three TD passes, Rushel Shell ran for 146 yards and West Virginia beat Iowa State 37-24 Saturday to snap a three-game losing streak.

Howard was 21 of 40 for 285 yards in his first career start in place of Clint Trickett, who missed the game with a concussion.

Mario Alford added two TD catches for West Virginia (7-5, 5-4 Big 12), which finished above .500 in the Big 12 for the first time.

The Mountaineers (7-5, 5-4) erased an early 14-point deficit by closing the game on a 30-3 run. They went up 34-24 with 9:10 left on a 15-yard TD catch by Daikiel Shorts.

Sam Richardson threw for 275 yards and two TDs for Iowa State (2-9, 0-8), which lost its fifth straight.

### Texas

#### UTEP 24 MIDDLE TENNESSEE 21

EL PASO — Aaron Jones ran for 147 yards and a touchdown and had a 72-yard receiving touchdown and UTEP intercepted two passes in the final 90 seconds to preserve the Miners' 24-21 in over Middle Tennessee on Saturday night.

Middle Tennessee had a first-and-goal from the 7 when Jameel Erving picked off Austin Grammer. The Blue Raiders used their timeouts and forced a punt but Wesley Miller picked off an A.J. Erdelyi Hail Mary pass on the final play of the game.

After Jones took a Jameell Showers pass 72 yards to give the Miners (7-5, 5-3 Conference USA) a 10-7 lead early in the second quarter the lead changed hands five times. Showers had the game-winning score on a 5-yard run with 6:19 left. Grammer rushed for 106 yards and a touchdown for the Blue Raiders (6-6, 5-3) and Shane Tucker had 101 yards and two scores.

#### SAM HOUSTON STATE 21 SE LOUISIANA 17

HUNTSVILLE — Sam Houston State's Michael Wade blocked a field goal attempt in the fourth quarter — leading to the go-ahead touchdown — and the Bearkats beat SE Louisiana 21-17 Saturday, advancing in the FCS Playoffs to face Jacksonville State in the second round on Dec. 6.

Wade blocked Ryan Adams' 46-yard attempt and the Bearkats drove 65 yards for Donavon Williams' second TD of the day, a 5-yard scamper.

Williams had just 34 yards on 14 carries, but scored twice. Jalen Overstreet rushed for 63 yards and a touchdown.

SE Louisiana led 17-14 with 11:11 left on Bryan Bennett's 2-yard TD run. Bennett rushed for two touchdowns and was 17 of 48 for 181 yards passing. Sam Houston furnished the opening kickoff, leading to Adams' 25-yard field goal. In the third, the Lions' Devante Scott muffed a punt inside the 5 and two plays later Williams plunged in from the 1 for a short-lived 14-10 lead.

#### TEXAS STATE 54 GEORGIA STATE 31

ATLANTA — Tyler Jones accounted for four touchdowns and Texas State jumped out to a 24-point halftime lead to beat Georgia State 54-31 on Saturday.

The Bobcats (7-5, 5-3 Sun Belt) scored 24 points in the second quarter and added another 13 to take a 40-10 lead at the end of the third. Jones had touchdowns of 13 and 15 yards on the ground, and threw for 9- and 14-yard scores.

Georgia State's Nick Arbuckle threw three of his touchdown passes in the fourth quarter and at one point cut the deficit to 47-31. With 40 seconds to go, Texas State's David Mims intercepted Arbuckle's pass and ran it back 60 yards for a pick-6.

Robert Lowe had 146-yards rushing and C.J. Best had 120-yards receiving for the Bobcats.

Arbuckle finished with 356-yards passing, four touchdowns, and two interceptions for the Panthers (1-11, 0-8).

#### LOUISIANA TECH 76 RICE 31

RUSTON, La. — Cody Sokol threw four touchdown passes, Kenneth Dixon rushed for 137 yards with three scores and Louisiana Tech clinched the Conference USA West Division title with a 76-31 victory over Rice on Saturday.

Louisiana Tech (8-4, 7-1) turned a tight contest into a rout in the second half, reeling off 41 straight points. Dixon and Jarred Craft each scored on long runs and Sokol threw a pair of scores to Trent Taylor. The Bulldogs also recovered two fumbles for touchdowns, including one of their own as Carlos Henderson recovered Dixon's fumble in the end zone.

Sokol threw for 387 yards, including touchdown passes to Henderson and Paul Turner in the first quarter. Driphus Jackson had 337-yards passing with four touchdowns for Rice (7-5, 5-3). He threw two of his three interceptions in the decisive third quarter.

The Bulldogs will face Marshall in the conference championship on Dec. 6.

#### UTSA 34 NORTH TEXAS 27

SAN ANTONIO — Brandon Armstrong ran 21 yards for a go-ahead touchdown with 4:18 remaining and UTSA edged past North Texas 34-27 in the season finale for both teams on Saturday.

The Mean Green tied up the score at 27 with 12:12 left to play when Andrew McNulty ran in for a TD, and the two-point conversion was good. After UTSA forced North Texas to go three-and-out, Armstrong's scoring run put the Roadrunners in front.

North Texas opted to punt on its next drive, but forced a three-and-out. Zac Whitfield fumbled on the punt return and Marcellus Mack recovered it for UTSA to seal the win.

Tucker Carter threw for 277 yards and two touchdowns, and picked up another on the ground for the Roadrunners (4-8, 3-5 Conference USA).

McNulty threw for 287 yards and one touchdown, and Jeffrey Wilson added 105-yards rushing for North Texas (4-8, 2-6).

#### NCAA DIVISION II CSU-PUEBLO 52 ANGELO STATE 14

PUEBLO, Colorado — No. 23 Angelo State had its best season since 1994 come to an end in the second round of the NCAA Division II playoffs in a 52-14 loss to No. 8 Colorado State-Pueblo at the Neta & Eddie DeRose ThunderBowl on Saturday.

The Rams (9-3) were limited to 327 yards of total offense and were held to its lowest points output of the season. CSU-Pueblo (11-1) gained 425 yards of total offense and forced four turnovers. The Thunderwolves returned a fumble for a touchdown and scored on a 90-yard punt return.

Angelo State quarterback Kyle Washington completed a career high 30-of-51 passes for 225 yards and two touchdowns. The junior quarterback was intercepted twice and sacked four times.

## BASIN

From 1C

opportunity to make our dreams a reality."

**PETTY LEAVES GAMES:** Baylor senior quarterback Bryce Petty suffered a mild concussion in the third quarter when he took a helmet-to-helmet hit from Tech linebacker Sam Eguavoen and did

not return. Eguavoen was flagged for a personal foul.

Petty was 18-of-25 passing for 210 yards, two touchdowns and no interceptions. In place of Petty was sophomore Seth Russell, who was 8 of 17 for 82 yards and one TD.

"We had to dial back a few things," Baylor coach Art Briles said. "Seth is

extremely talented, but do we want to set him back there and let him go through some progressions that he does in practice in a game of this magnitude where we need to make first downs? It's a fine line to walk to how aggressive that we felt like we could be with him."

**SHATTERING RE-**

**CORDS:** In addition to the collegiate passing and touchdown records set by Tech quarterback Patrick Mahomes also set a record for his 625 yards of total offense.

The three fumbles lost by the Red Raiders tied a stadium record for most in an FBS game.

## Jake Waters leads No. 11 K-State past Kansas

By Dave Skretta  
Associated Press

No. 11 Wildcats ..... 51  
Jayhawks ..... 13

MANHATTAN, Kan. — Kansas State gave itself a few minutes in the locker room Saturday to celebrate.

The players celebrated a victory over rival Kansas, and a senior class that helped to restore the program to national prominence. They celebrated a magnificent performance by quarterback Jake Waters and a record-setting career by wide receiver Tyler Lockett.

Then, they all turned their thoughts to what lays ahead.

The No. 11 Wildcats' 51-13 romp over the Jayhawks set up a showdown at fifth-ranked Baylor next weekend. The winner will earn no worse than a tie for the Big 12 title, and could take the

championship outright depending on what happens between TCU and Iowa State.

"We have a chance to win a championship now," said Waters, who threw for 294 yards and four touchdowns in just three quarters against the Jayhawks. "That gives me chills."

Kansas State (9-2, No. 12 CFP), locked in a three-way tie with the Horned Frogs and Bears at 7-1 in the conference, also has a bit of payback on its mind. The Wildcats were unbeaten when they went to Baylor two years ago and lost in lopsided fashion. If they would've won, then beaten Texas the following week, they likely would have played for the national title.

"That's always on our mind," Lockett said. "Baylor ruined our plans."

Lockett turned in a masterful game on Senior Night, catching nine passes for 119 yards and two touchdowns Saturday. Along the way, he passed his father Kevin Lockett for the school record in career catches (222) and matched his mark with 26 touchdown grabs.

Curry Sexton added nine catches for 141 yards and a score, and Waters and Charles Jones each had touchdown runs as the Wildcats beat the Jayhawks (3-9, 1-8) for the sixth straight time.

"I don't think any of this has set in," Sexton said. "It's special."

Michael Cummings threw for 139 yards and two scores for the Jayhawks, but he was also picked off twice — once on a tipped pass, once on a ball kicked into the air by his intended target.

Kansas now heads into an uncertain offseason.

After Charlie Weis was fired four games into the season, defensive coordinator Clint Bowen did an admirable job steadying the program. The Jayhawks knocked off Iowa State and nearly upset the Horned Frogs, making him a popular candidate in the locker room.

Still, Kansas athletic director Sheahon Zenger has given no timetable for hiring a full-time coach, and he is expected to cast a wide net now that the season is over.

"We wanted to set an identity and to create a foundation to lead Kansas football forward," Bowen said. "I believe we had a good start on that."

Bowen could have certainly helped his cause with a competitive performance against Kansas State. Instead, the Wildcats had raced to a 14-0 lead before the Jayhawks could even blink.



Charlie Helberg/AP

West Virginia running back Wendell Smallwood runs from Iowa State defensive back Kamari Syrie, right, Saturday in Ames, Iowa.

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The Texas Facilities Commission seeks a lease of approx. 4,367 sq. ft. of office space in Midland, TX for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). Proposal deadline is December 23, 2014. For details contact Evelyn Esquivel at (512) 463-6494 or go to [http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us/bid\\_show.cfm?bidid=114664](http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us/bid_show.cfm?bidid=114664).

**LEGAL NOTICE**

Sealed Bid(s) will be received until 11:00 A.M., December 10, 2014 to be opened at 11:00 A.M., in the Office of the Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas for the following Bid(s):

Bid No. 8750-15

For: Sale of Scrap Metal

If the Contract is awarded, it will be awarded to either the lowest responsible bidder, or to the bidder who provides goods or services at the best value for the City of Midland. In determining the best value for the City of Midland, the City of Midland may consider the criteria enumerated in Section 252.043 of the Texas Local Government Code. Information for Bidders, Proposal Forms, Specifications and General conditions for bidding may be obtained from the office of the Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas.

Purchasing Division  
City of Midland, Texas

**LEGAL NOTICE**

Sealed Bid(s) will be received until 11:00 A.M., December 10, 2014 to be opened at 11:00 A.M., in the Office of the City Secretary, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas for the following Bid(s):

Bid No. 8740-15

For: Motor Graders

If the Contract is awarded, it will be awarded to either the lowest responsible bidder, or to the bidder who provides goods or services at the best value for the City of Midland. In determining the best value for the City of Midland, the City of Midland may consider the criteria enumerated in Section 252.043 of the Texas Local Government Code. Information for Bidders, Proposal Forms, Specifications and General conditions for bidding may be obtained from the office of the Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas.

Purchasing Division  
City of Midland, Texas

**LEGAL NOTICE**

Sealed Bid(s) will be received until 11:00 A.M., December 3, 2014 to be opened at 11:00 A.M., in the Office of the City Secretary, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas for the following Bid(s):

Bid No. 8740-15

For: Motor Graders

If the Contract is awarded, it will be awarded to either the lowest responsible bidder, or to the bidder who provides goods or services at the best value for the City of Midland. In determining the best value for the City of Midland, the City of Midland may consider the criteria enumerated in Section 252.043 of the Texas Local Government Code. Information for Bidders, Proposal Forms, Specifications and General conditions for bidding may be obtained from the office of the Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas.

Purchasing Division  
City of Midland, Texas

**Request For Bids**

Lee Lewis Construction, Inc., as construction manager, will be receiving bids for The Petroleum Museum Building Interior/Exhibit & MEP Renovations, Midland, Texas.

A Pre-Bid meeting, December 8, 2014 at 2:00 PM at the Museum, 1500 W Interstate 20, Midland, TX

Bids are due by 3:00 PM, December 18, 2014.

Location:  
Lee Lewis Construction, Inc.  
7810 Orlando Ave  
Lubbock, Texas 79423  
Phone: 806-797-8400  
Fax: 806-797-8492

Bid packages will be available at the following locations:  
AGC Plan Room / Dodge Plan Room - Lubbock, Texas  
Lee Lewis Construction - Lubbock, Texas

Lee Lewis Construction specifically invites Small Business Concerns and Women Owned Business Concerns and Small Business Concerns Owned/Controlled By Socially And Economically Disadvantaged Individuals to bid this project.

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR BID**

Midland County Hospital District is accepting bids for

**ONE AUTOMATED BLOOD BANK TESTING INSTRUMENT**

for Midland Memorial Hospital

Specifications may be secured at the Purchasing Office of Midland Memorial Hospital on or after **Monday, Nov. 24, 2014**

All proposals must be received in the Department of Materials Management of Midland Memorial Hospital by **12:00 Noon on Thursday, Dec 11, 2014.**

All proposals must be sealed and labeled "RFP # 1146 - 112314."

Under no circumstances will faxed or emailed proposals from bidders be accepted.

All proposals must be price protected for a period of **twelve (12) months.**

All proposals will remain confidential until after an award has been made. Vendors will then be allowed to review the proposals in the purchasing office according to the policy/procedure of Midland Memorial Hospital. Midland County Hospital District reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive formalities.

Proposals shall be addressed to:  
Rachel Hanna Jones  
Director of Materials Management  
Midland County Hospital District  
Midland Memorial Hospital  
400 Rosalind Redfern  
Grover Pkwy  
Midland, Texas 79701

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See how this ad caught your eye with its effective use of a border as a frame? Ask your Rep. about framing your ad today!

**432-682-6222** or fax to **432-682-6999**

**General Announcements**

**BETTER READ**  
Mark Berryhill.com  
Ministering for Christ

**Lost & Found**

**FOUND MARCH 2014**  
small shih tzu with locking issue. Call 432-559-3131.

**NEW TODAY!**

**LOST 2 black cats** last seen in vicinity of Neely & Midland Drive. One has black & white collar. Reward 432-694-0498.

**Legal & Public Notices**

**LEGAL NOTICE**

Sealed Bid(s) will be received until 11:00 A.M., December 10, 2014 to be opened at 11:00 A.M., in the Office of the City Secretary, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas for the following Bid(s):

Bid No. 8684-15

For: Annual Agreement for Pave Utility Cuts

If the Contract is awarded, it will be awarded to either the lowest responsible bidder, or to the bidder who provides goods or services at the best value for the City of Midland. In determining the best value for the City of Midland, the City of Midland may consider the criteria enumerated in Section 252.043 of the Texas Local Government Code. Information for Bidders, Proposal Forms, Specifications and General conditions for bidding may be obtained from the office of the Purchasing Agent, City Hall, 300 N. Loraine, Midland, Texas.

Purchasing Division  
City of Midland, Texas

**Auctions**

**Blackmon Auctions - B&B Gas Well**  
THURS & FRI, DEC 4 & 5 - SEILING & STIGLER, OK

**TRAILERS, FRACS, TRUCKS**  
(30) Dragon/Eagle 130 Tankers  
(50) Dragon 500bbl Frac Tanks  
(50) Pete, WS & Mack Trucks  
Pump Trucks, Winch Trucks,  
Belly Dumps, Dropdecks, Tank  
Movers, Flatbeds, Lowboys, More

**EQUIPMENT & MORE**  
Cat D6R & Cat D6M Dozers,  
Cat 140H, Forklifts, Kobelco  
Excavators, Skid Steers,  
Mechanics & Welders Trucks,  
Pickups, Truck Parts, Tanks,  
Shop, Pipe, MORE

Locations: Details at [www.blackmonauctions.com](http://www.blackmonauctions.com)

**Legal & Public Notices**

**Public Notice**

The Permian Basin Economic Development District will hold an annual meeting, December 10, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. at the Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission located at 2910 LaForce Blvd, Midland, TX. Agenda items include Texas Tech University, presentation of Permian Basin Oil and Gas Industry Economic impact study and update of the Permian Basin EDD Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2014-2019. Auxiliary aides available upon request. Contact Virginia Belew, (432) 563-1061 with questions.

**Legal & Public Notices**

**Notice**

The City of Midland has prepared the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2014 program year. The CAPER describes the progress towards addressing needs identified in the City's Consolidated Plan for Community Development and Housing funds.

The CAPER may be examined at the following locations:

City Secretary's Office - Room 330 City Hall, 300 N. Loraine  
Midland County Public Library - 301 W. Missouri  
Casa de Amigos - 1101 E. Garden Lane  
SE Community Senior Center - 1803 E. Indiana  
Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center - 2300 Butternut

A summary of the CAPER may be viewed at [www.midlandtexas.gov](http://www.midlandtexas.gov). Please direct any written comments to Community Development Office, PO Box 1152, Midland, Texas 79702 by December 15, 2014. The final report will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development by December 30, 2014 and will be available at the City Secretary's Office.

**FAIR HOUSING is the Law.** To report housing discrimination, call 1-800-669-9777 or visit the web at [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov)

**LEGAL NOTICE**

This Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off game will close on December 5, 2014. You have until June 3, 2015 to redeem any ticket for this game #1592 Fun 5s (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.77. This Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off game will close on December 12, 2014. You have until June 10, 2015 to redeem any ticket for this game #1451 Bonus Word Crossword (\$3) overall odds are 1 in 3.44. This Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off game will close on January 1, 2015. You have until June 30, 2015 to redeem any ticket for this game #1546 Bingo Multi-Prize (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.54. These Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off games will close on January 2, 2015. You have until July 1, 2015 to redeem any tickets for these games #1527 \$100,000 Cashword-O-Rama (\$5) overall odds are 1 in 3.58 and #1531 20X Ca\$h (\$20) overall odds are 1 in 3.05. These Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off games will close on January 21, 2015. You have until July 20, 2015 to redeem any tickets for these games #1581 Two Can Doubler (\$1) overall odds are 1 in 4.56, #1552 Platinum Payout (\$10) overall odds are 1 in 3.20, #1567 Ultimate Crossword (\$10) overall odds are 1 in 3.04, #1354 \$500 Million Frenzy (\$20) overall odds are 1 in 2.77. The odds listed here are the overall odds of winning any prize in a game, including break-even prizes. Lottery retailers are authorized to redeem prizes of up to and including \$599. Prizes of \$600 or more must be claimed in person at a Lottery Claim Center or by mail, with a completed Texas Lottery claim form; however, annual prizes or prizes over \$2,500,000 must be claimed in person at the Commission Headquarters in Austin. Call Customer Service at 1-800-37LOTTO or visit the Lottery Web site at [lottery.org](http://lottery.org) for more information and location of nearest Claim Center. The Texas Lottery is not responsible for lost or stolen tickets, or for tickets lost in the mail. Tickets, transactions, players, and winners are subject to and players and winners agree to abide by all applicable laws, Commission rules, regulations, policies, directives, instructions, conditions, procedures, and final decisions of the Executive Director. A Scratch-Off game may continue to be sold even when all the top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 years of age or older to purchase a Texas Lottery ticket. **PLAY RESPONSIBLY.** The Texas Lottery supports Texas education. © 2014 Texas Lottery Commission. All rights reserved.

**Business Center**

**Business Opportunity**

**LUCRATIVE CONSTRUCTION** company for sale, Health issues force sale. Equipment, trailers, tools. One-ton 2013 Dodge Dually. 830-459-5922

**Autos For Sale or Lease**

**Passenger Cars**

**FORD 2003 Taurus** light gray, low mileage, rebuilt transmission installed. Must see! Asking \$5,000. Comes with warranty. 432-349-0041

**Antique & Vintage**

**CHEVY 1952 1/2 Ton** partially restored. Original 6cyl engine. Serious inquiries only. Call 432-682-5983

**Pickup Trucks**

**FORD 2011 F150 Lari** at Black & tan with black leather interior. 92K miles. Fully loaded. \$37,000 firm. Call 432-413-5040

**FORD 2011 F150 Lari** at 5.0L leather heated/cooled seats, power-folding mirrors, remote start, backup camera, keyless entry. 142K miles. \$21,000. OBO. 432-230-3092

**FORD 2011 F150 Lari** at Black & tan with black leather interior. 92K miles. Fully loaded. \$37,000 firm. Call 432-413-5040

**Vans & Minivans**

**PLYMOUTH 1988 Voyager** 4cyl, new paint, new tires, new interior, only 50k original miles. \$3000. Call 432-770-7982

**LEGAL NOTICE**

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**Passenger Cars**

**FORD 2005 Mustang GT Premium black convertible.** Fully loaded including navigation. Very low miles. Excellent condition. \$17,000. OBO. Call 432-634-4292

**LINCOLN TOWNCAR** 2006 White with gray leather. Signature series. 50K miles. Immaculate condition. \$9,750. OBO. 432-230-6675

**MERCEDES 2013 Benz GLK 350,** 25K miles, black w/cream leather interior. One owner. Loaded. Navigation, panoramic sunroof. \$37,200 firm. Call 432-413-5040

**SPECIAL OFFER!** Chevy 1974 Impala 4dr, runs good. \$4200. OBO. 432-704-1141

**SPECIAL OFFER!** OLDSMOBILE 1982 Delta 350CID, 4 dr, runs good. \$4200. OBO. Call 432-704-1141

**TOYOTA 2007 Corolla CE,** 155K hwy miles. All power, tinted windows, runs great. \$1500. OBO. 432-488-8936

**WANTED!**

Will buy wrecked & unwanted cars, trucks & RVs. FREE pick-up. 432-685-4078

**Exotic Cars**

**2012 FORD Mustang Boss 302,** 14K miles. \$36,000. 432-335-3026

**PORSCHE 2008 Cayman,** Tiptronic, ruby red metallic. Full leather. Boise. 45k miles. perfect. Full maintenance records. \$28K. No test drives. Call 432-978-4087

**RVs**

**BEAUTIFUL HITCHHIKER Premier 5th Wheel,** 36 new Michelin tires, two ACs, three slides, never smoked in, always stored inside, better than new with over \$12,000 in new luxury upgrades. 432-664-9009

**CROSSROADS 2014 Sunset Trail 32R,** generous rear living room with fireplace, filled to the brim with luxury and great gadgets. Outdoor kitchen w/ fridge, 3 slide outs, 2 electric awnings. Non-smoking, mint condition. \$33,000. Will email pics. Call 432-661-7363

**MONTE CARLO 2013 40ft 2 slide outs,** 2 air's, awning, washer, dryer, microwave, no smokers or pets. \$27,000. OBO. Odessa. Call 701-213-9811

**Watercraft**

**1983 Alumaweld Boat,** 48' x 16' long w/ aluminum covered bow. 1987 Evinrude 40HP motor (replaced parts, new gas tank, runs great!). Hiler steering. 1984 Skipper B trailer (new tires). Minn Kota 585 trolling motor. \$4,200. OBO. Excellent condition! 634-4067

**CHAMPION 1999 203 225 HP Yamaha,** stored indoors. \$18,500. 432-631-9868

**4WD & SUV**

**2013 EXPEDITION XLT 4x2,** 16K miles, like new. \$31.5K (432) 853-4647 or steve@cforsour.com

**BMW 2003 X5,** black with tan interior in good condition. \$10,500. OBO. For more information call 432-770-1068

**GMC 2006 YUKON 240K miles,** \$6500. Call 432-250-0675

**INFINITY 2006 QX56 SUV,** extra clean, in side and out, garaged, runs like new. 1 owner. 97,000 miles. pearl color. beautiful vehicle. Reduced price. \$17,400. Firm. Call 432-425-8963

**JEEP 1995 Wrangler red body,** black hard top. 70k miles. 4cyl. 5spd manual. \$6000. Call 432-528-6333

**LINCOLN 2007 MKX only 44k miles.** New tires, always garaged, excellent condition. \$16,500. 432-262-0514

**LINCOLN 2009 Black Navigator 4x4,** 54K miles. Well maintained by non-smoker. All power, including running boards, third row seats, sunroof, liftgate. Sirius and Bluetooth connectivity. Extended limited warranty until 5/21/15 or 100K miles. New Michelin tires. Excellent condition. \$23,900. 684-4407 or 260-0010

**REDUCED PRICE!** Chevrolet 2004 Suburban LT, sunroof, DVD, 115k miles. New Transmission. Asking \$8,500. 432-413-5024

**Motorcycles**

**HARLEY DAVIDSON 2013 Dyna Street Bob,** 8,500 miles, windshield, saddlebags, custom paint. Excellent condition. & 2 helmets. \$8,500. firm. Call 432-352-7470

**RVs**

**2005 DUTCHMAN 26' Travel Trailer,** \$10.5K. OBO. Call 254-717-2470. Ask for Mike or Mona.

**Find it fast in the Midland Reporter-Telegram**

**Marty's Marketplace**

...leading you to the best bargains in the Permian Basin

**Miscellaneous for Sale**

**ACROSONIC PIANO NEEDS TUNING!** has one broken key. Asking \$400. Skeeter fishing boat and trailer \$3000. Call 432-695-4904

**FIREWOOD FOR sale** \$85 per truck load. Call 432-296-9040

**OAK PECAN mesquite** pinon. 432-209-0416. 325-762-4262

**MICROWAVE** OVER the range. 29" wide, 15" deep, 15.5" high. Refrigerator, 28.5" wide, 29" deep, 62" high. Stove, 29" wide, 25" deep, 36" high. Best offer. 432-889-0011

**FREE STUFF**

**FREE WOODEN PALLET!**

Midland Reporter-Telegram (on dock side)

**Home Items**

**NEW - NEVER USED** Kirby vacuum cleaner. Paid over \$2,000, asking \$1,000. Call 432-683-3135

**Free Stuff**

**FREE WOODEN PALLET!**

Midland Reporter-Telegram (on dock side)

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**CHAMPION 1999 203 225 HP Yamaha,** stored indoors. \$18,500. 432-631-9868

**RVs**

**2003 JAYCO 3610 5th wheel,** Legacy RV, very good condition. \$19,650. 9840

**GULF STREAM 2000 Prairie Schooner** for sale at a great price of \$12,250 in good condition. Three slide outs and a 6500 Coleman generator along with a fifty gallon propane tank included. The RV includes a queen and twin bed along with dishes. All inquiries please call or text Paul at 254-784-0313. The RV is located in Midland at an RV park already set up.

**YOU DON'T WANT THEM RESPONDING TO YOUR TEXT.**

**RECREATIONAL VEHICLES**

**2003 JAYCO 3610 5th wheel,** Legacy RV, very good condition. \$19,650. 9840

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**SUDOKU**

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

**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](http://www.sudoku.org.uk)

**SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE**

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

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Paul St. Hilaire, Executive Director 432-685-1112

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Fax: 432-687-0904

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Dinner: Mon-Fri 5:00-10:15  
Saturday: 5:00-10:30  
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Cell 432-557-8841

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Owner

**FLORIST**



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**REAL ESTATE**



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**RESTAURANT**



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True, Authentic Italian Cuisine, Best Veal In Town!

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Great Selection of Wines

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(MONDAY-SATURDAY)

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Fax: 432-296-5834

[www.earlyhealth.com](http://www.earlyhealth.com)  
[info@earlyhealth.com](mailto:info@earlyhealth.com)

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By PATRICIA RIVERA  
CTW Features

How many degrees of separation between you and a mover and shaker in your industry?

If you're networking correctly, you can count on a person of influence and power to open doors for you, says Judy Robinett, a business thought leader from Salt Lake City, Utah.

"Strategic relationships are about finding and connecting with key individuals and planning how you will add value to those relationships as carefully and completely as you create a plan for your career," she says. Because then when you need help, you can anticipate direct assistance.

But building a network goes far beyond exchanging business cards or connecting with thousands of people on LinkedIn.

In her book, "How to Be a Power Connector: The 5+50+100 Rule for Turning Your Business Network Into Profits" (McGraw-Hill, 2014), Robinett focuses on nurturing fewer relationships — specifically, 150 people.

In her 5+50+100 Rule, Robinett recommends:

- Connecting daily to the five people closest to you either by phone or email. These are personal relationships and people you have in mind on a regular basis anyway.
- Connecting weekly to 50 key people who represent significant value to your life and career. Send an article, an introduction, a resource, an opportunity or anything that shows that you have them in mind and understand their goals.
- Connecting monthly to 100 vital contacts via emails to groups, for example, to share info about new resources, industry news, opportunities or new connections.

Robinett breaks the process of developing power connections into four phases.

In Phase One, you analyze your current network, determine whom to add to your 5+50+100 power circles and create a plan to reach out to new relationships.

In Phase Two, you plan your first contact with new individuals by preparing a share, a value-add and an ask.

"If you want people to reach out to you and include you in their network, they'll do so faster if you have something to offer — and if you give it before you ask for something in return," she says.

But in this phase you must put into practice the Three Golden Questions and ask: "How can I help you?" "What ideas do you have for me?" "Who else do you know that I should talk to?"

In Phase Three, you start to build the relationships. Integrate new people into your network with three steps: respond immediately to their first outreach; determine if each person is a good fit for your network, your values and your goals; and develop a follow-up schedule for adding value to the people in your power circles.

In Phase Four, you are in a position to start connecting people within your network. Robinett suggests sketching a map. Though the activity requires time and dedication, you're investing in building an environment of generosity and mutual support.

"You'll find that you can ask almost anything from your network, and you'll get the exact resource you need on the first try," Robinett notes.

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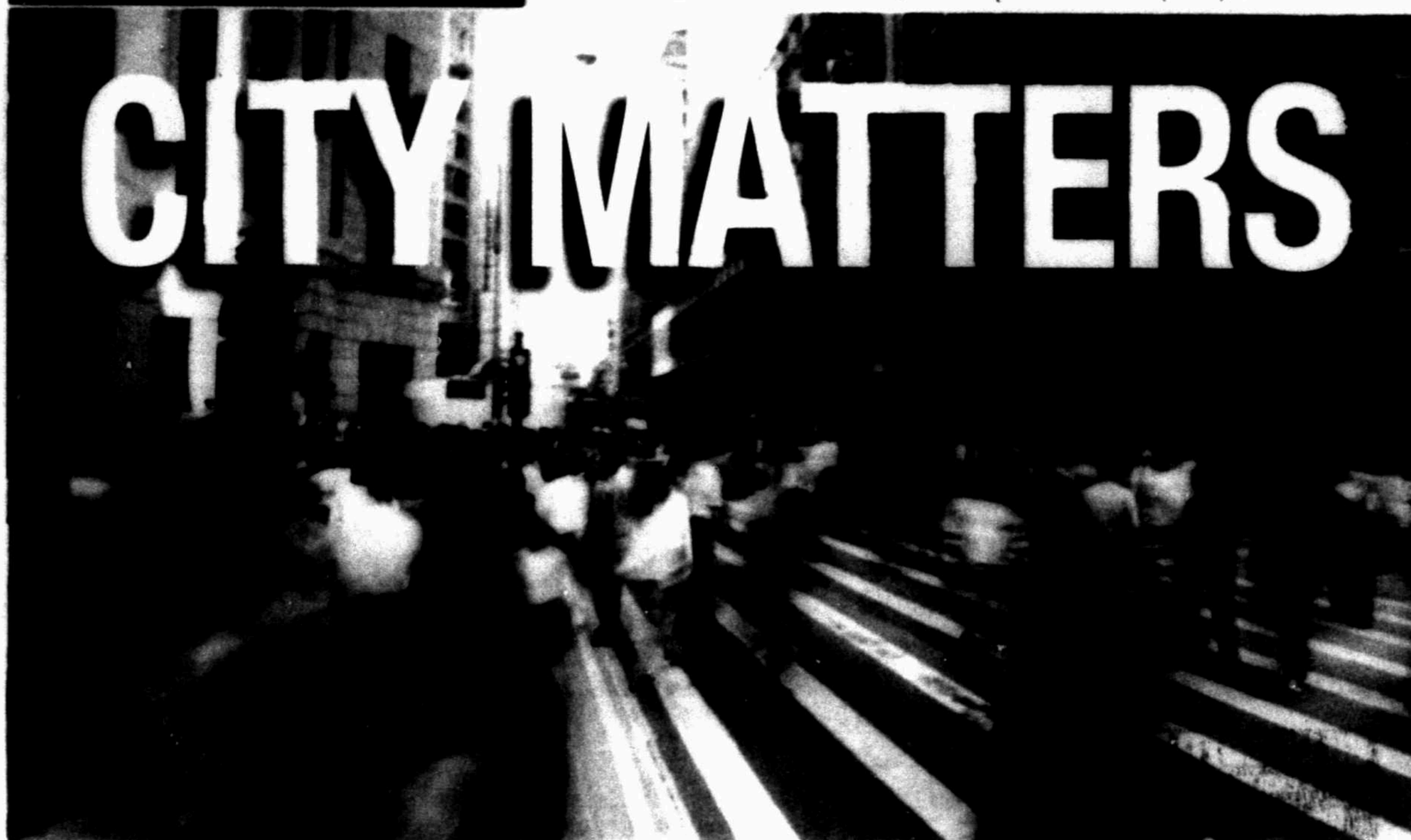
# JOB WEEK



Percent of Americans who say they plan to celebrate Thanksgiving with co-workers either in or outside of the office.

SOURCE: CareerBuilder.com  
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## CITY MATTERS

FOR YOUNG COLLEGE GRADS LOOKING FOR JOBS, IT PAYS TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT CITY — LITERALLY

By CHRIS GELBACH  
CTW Features

As young people consider where to live and work, more economists are pointing to the growing importance of city choice for long-term earning potential and career prospects. According to Enrico Moretti, a professor of economics at Berkeley and the author of "The New Geography of Jobs" (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2012), this consideration is especially important for recent college graduates seeking their first job.

"Irrespective of where you are at 40 or 50, being in the right city at 20 has large economic returns," Moretti says. These favorable cities are ones with clusters of jobs in innovative fields like science, engineering, entertainment, industrial design, marketing and finance. They're notable for the high proportion of college graduates in their workforces and for their wealth of innovative employers.

Moretti's book cites areas such as the San Francisco-San Jose region, Austin, Raleigh-Durham, Boston-Cambridge, Seattle, San Diego, New York City and Washington, D.C. among these hubs. In these cities, both high-skilled and low-

skilled workers benefit from significantly higher average incomes.

These cities often also have a higher cost of living. But Stanford economist Rebecca Diamond argues in a 2013 working paper that the benefits of having access to desirable local amenities in these environments outweighs the negative effects of high housing costs for college grads. In a 2014 paper published by the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research, she notes that increasing a city's share of college graduates increases the quality and variety of the local retail market and even leads to lower property crime rates and lower pollution levels. These dynamics are also creating what Diamond calls a "gentrification effect" as some cities attract more high-skilled workers and lower-skilled workers get pushed out to more affordable areas with fewer desirable features.

According to a study by leading economists at The Equality of Opportunity Project, the average overall rate of upward mobility nationwide has changed little over the past 20 years. But a view of individual cities reveals tremendous disparities in opportunities for social mobility based on location.

For instance, the study found that in the innovation hub of San Jose, Calif., a child growing up with parents in the bottom fifth of the nation's income distribution has a 12.9 percent chance of moving up into the top fifth in income. In contrast, a child from a bottom-fifth family who grows up in Memphis, Tenn., has just a 2.8 percent chance of attaining a top-fifth income.

According to Moretti, the cities with the highest social mobility correlate significantly with his top cities for highly educated workers and innovative employers. "They're not totally aligned, but they do tend to correlate," Moretti says. "That's another reason why these cities are a good proposition, especially if you're young. Because they provide a good opportunity to move up."

Some experts have long predicted that trends like telecommuting could lessen the importance of place for American workers. But one analysis of data from the 2012 American Community Survey found that just 2.6 percent of U.S. employees work primarily from home.

"Telecommuting is a very niche phenomenon, and at this point people have been doing it for 20

years," Moretti says. "If anything, the importance of the city has increased over those 20 years, not declined."

A few other growing trends may further exacerbate the importance for workers of choosing the right city. One is the growth of freelance and contract work. A 2014 survey from Freelancers Union and Elance-oDesk found that 34 percent of the U.S. workforce now works as freelancers. Should this trend gain further momentum, it will likewise increase the importance for skilled workers of choosing a market with more opportunities.

Another factor driving the importance of city choice is the continuing growth in dual-income professional couples. As Moretti notes in his book, "74 percent of college-educated wives were in the workforce as of 2010. Booming high-skill job markets hold a great pull for power couples because they offer both partners a better opportunity to find appropriate employment. They also give highly educated singles a better shot of landing an equally educated mate

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## DRAWING LINES ON OVERTIME

Commute. Work. Sleep. Commute. Repeat. That's how the workweek feels to many full-time employees.

Though 40 hours is the weekly standard delineating full from part-time, the reality is that full-time now averages many more hours, according to a Gallup annual Work and Education Survey of both salaried and hourly full-time workers.

Gallup finds that full-time employees paid hourly average 44 hours of work per week, while salaried workers log 49 hours — up from a weekly average of 47 hours in 2007.

The long grind may hold a sweetener for hourly workers: a bigger paycheck due to overtime pay. Salaried workers earning more than \$455 weekly, or who work for firms not covered by federal overtime laws, can work unlimited hours without more pay, says Paula Brantner. Brantner is the executive director of Workplace Fairness, a nonprofit organization founded to assist individuals in understanding their rights in the workplace. More information

about federal and state overtime rules can be found at their website, WorkplaceFairness.org.

Outdated laws mean some workers can put in "50 or 60 hours a week or more, making barely enough to keep a family out of poverty, and not receive a dime of overtime pay," said a White House official in March, 2014. In conjunction, the president directed the U.S. Labor Department to revise the overtime rule.

A Labor Department spokesperson says the revision to the rule

has not been released yet. When it is, there will be a period of public comment before a final rule. This process has no prescribed timeframe.

If the revision is viewed as a new interpretation of current regulation, it does not have to be approved by Congress, says Brantner. If it is a new law, it does. "Political battles could ensue," she says, noting that existing rules could hold for an extended period of time.

The \$455 threshold, set in 2004, is outdated, says Brantner. The purpose of this rule is to prevent low-paying jobs being classified as salary without overtime benefits.

— Marilyn Kennedy Melia  
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Ability to work independently as well as be team member  
Self-starter & Punctual  
Must have good computer skills: Microsoft office 2007  
Physical ability to lift 70 pounds  
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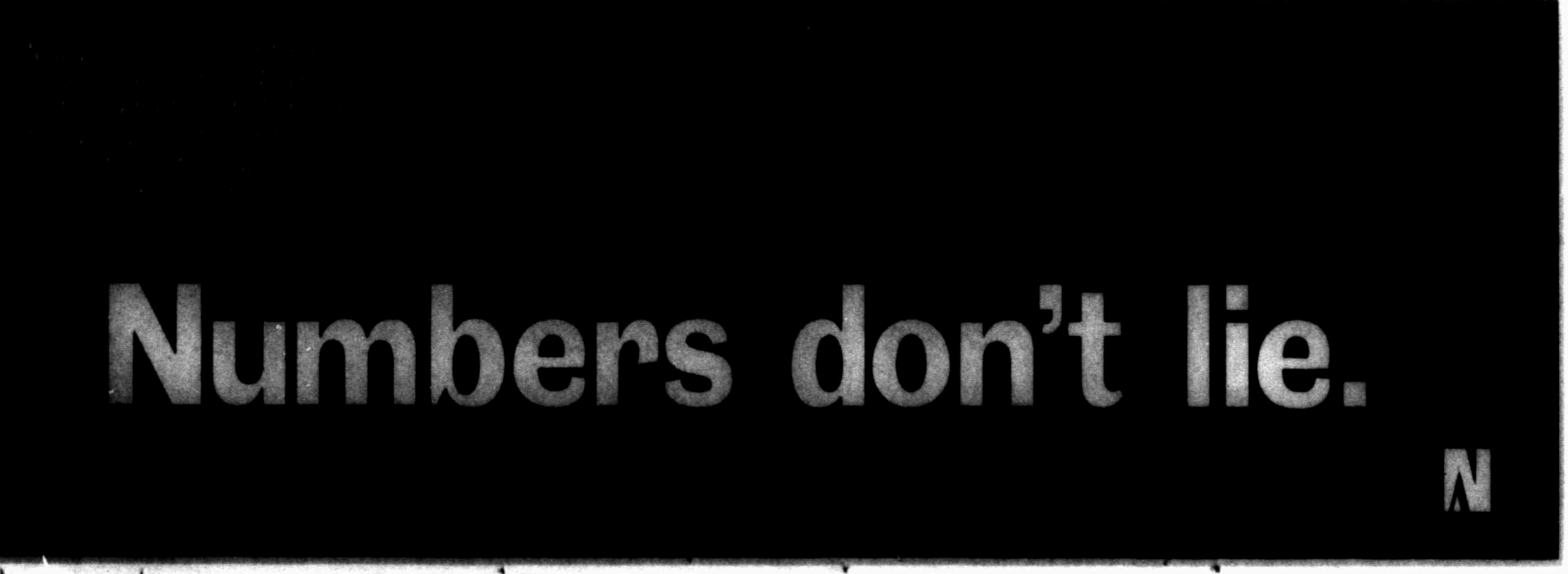
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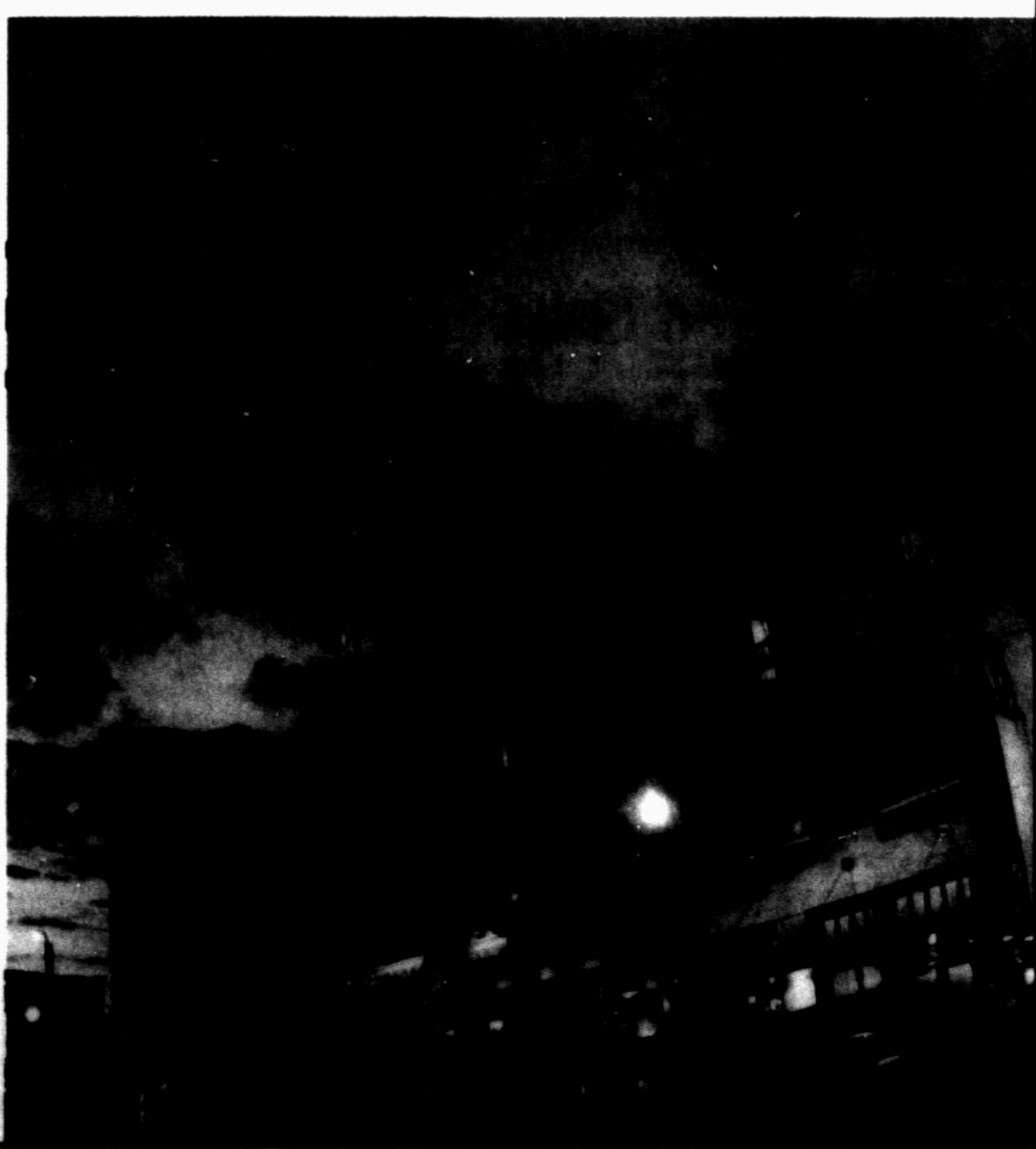
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## Selling Your Home During the Holidays

You may think you should take your home off the market during the holidays because there are fewer buyers out there. Well, the buyers out there during holiday periods are very serious about making a home purchase.

During any lull in the market, the less serious buyers drop out. Those that must find a home keep looking. Often relocating families don't have a choice in the timing of their move. Other buyers may have planned to purchase sooner, but had to wait till their previous home was sold. Now they need a home and have the ability to purchase. Because most homeowners are under the false impression that their home won't sell during the holidays, you have the added advantage of less competition for those most serious buyers.

While you are shopping, working at your job, volunteering, taking care of your family and ensuring a happy holiday for all of you, your Realtor® is marketing your home, arranging showings and doing everything to bring in your buyer. The holidays can be a wonderful selling period.



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## 4 Ways to Storm-Proof Your Home

With big storms can come big damage to your home. Whether you're expecting heavy rains or a full-on hurricane, it's important to make sure your home is weather ready. Below are four tips for keeping your home safe during a storm.

**Bring in all outdoor structures.** When lawn furniture or other outdoor debris gets blown away during a storm, they become dangerous and can harm your property by flying into a car or through a window. From carports to outdoor furniture, dismantle and bring in any items or structures that could become dislodged during high winds.

**Board the windows.** If a hurricane or tropical storm is forecasted, it may be in your best interest to board windows to avoid shattered glass and other damage.

**Fill cracks.** Before a storm hits, walk the perimeter of your house, checking for cracks in the foundation, which can lead to flooding. If you see any cracks or openings, look into getting them repaired before the weather goes bad.

**Check the trees.** One major cause of home damage during storms is falling tree branches. Before a storm, walk your property and look for any unhealthy looking or dead tree limbs that could fall onto your residence or car. Remove the branches yourself or call your local arborist for help.

In addition to preparing your home, it's important to have an optimal survival kit on hand. This includes food, water and other necessities.

For more information on storm preparedness, visit [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov).



This story was submitted by  
**Norma Pine, Broker Owner**  
**Chris Beckett, Broker Owner**  
Pine & Beckett, REALTORS  
www.pineandbeckett.com

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

### Four tips for selling your home during the holidays

You may have heard that the holiday season is slow time for the real estate business, but that's not necessarily true. Serious homebuyers don't take a vacation from their home search, so if your house is still on the market you'll need to stay diligent about selling it now like any other time of the year. Here are four do's and don'ts for selling your home during the holidays.

#### Do make plans with your REALTOR®

Are you going on a week-long vacation this month? Are you on-laws and their beloved pets dropping by for a few days? Or will you be hosting a huge holiday party that will make your home harder to show for a day or two? Your REALTOR® needs to know. Make sure you talk to them about when your house will be unavailable for a showing or when they might need to coordinate an appointment with a house sitter. And don't forget about your visitors. They need to know that your house is still actively for sale, so make sure to tell them if you'll expect extra help keeping your home tidy or their cooperation in leaving the house if someone wants to drop by for a look.

#### Do decorate, within reason

There's no reason to avoid putting up a Christmas tree or displaying your family's holiday memorabilia. However, make sure to keep holiday decorations to a minimum. As with any other staging you do throughout the year, you want potential buyers to picture themselves celebrating their holiday season in the home—not being

in it. Excessive, elaborate holiday village displays can be distracting to serious homebuyers on the market. So remember, don't overdo it when you decorate your home in the case.

#### Don't get discouraged

There may be fewer showing appointments as people's holidays begin to fill with seasonal activities, but remember, someone visiting your home is likely genuinely interested in it. Your home will also stand out more with less competition, compete with in the MIA's County, fewer homes on the market with serious buyers and that sets you up for a successful sale. The holidays can be a joyous time, especially when you're able to sell your property by being a smart seller this season.

To look up all the open houses in the Permian Basin area, visit our website at [www.pbhor.org](http://www.pbhor.org)



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president@pbhor.org  
2014 President of the  
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<b>5507 W County Rd. 44</b> - One of a kind 4 bed 2 bath 2 car garage with 13 acres and 450 sq ft in Sunday Ranch Estates. Perfect game room, 2 tables, pool, hot tub, and more! \$1,300,000	<b>5507 San Clemente Dr.</b> - Fabulous 4 bed 2 bath new construction home in the Paces by Joe Morgan Homes! Plantation shutters and granite throughout! \$415,000	<b>4902 Pacific Trail</b> - Lives 4 bed 2 bath 2 car garage home in Green Tree North. Laminated wood floors in the living and bedrooms. \$400,000	<b>5200 Greenhouse Dr. - NEW!</b> Spectacular 4 bed 2 bath home in Greenhouse! Gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, granite island & walk-in pantry. \$395,000
<b>4916 Island Dr.</b> - Elegant 4 bed 2 bath 2 car garage home in the Paces by Joe Morgan Homes! Plantation shutters and granite throughout! \$395,000	<b>5102 Teakwood Trace</b> - Absolutely fabulous 4 bed 2 bath 2 car garage home with sweeping view of the golf course in Green Tree! Sleaming hardwood floors and tile flooring. Updated gourmet kitchen with stainless appliances and granite countertops! Plantation shutters and bamboo ceilings. \$399,900	<b>5200 Greenhouse Dr. - NEW!</b> Spectacular 4 bed 2 bath home in Greenhouse! Gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, granite island & walk-in pantry. \$395,000	<b>1303 Pueblo Dr.</b> - Terrific 4 bed 2 bath home with 3 living areas, miles of tile and hick part! Sequestered master bedroom! \$325,000
<b>5024 Shadowlark Pl.</b> - Absolutely stunning 4 bed 2 bath living, granite island, stainless steel appliances, updated kitchen, walk-in pantry, and more! \$375,000	<b>1411 Pacific Ave.</b> - Absolutely fabulous 4 bed 2 bath home with recent wood ceramic tile flooring! High ceilings! \$324,900	<b>3000 Trinity Dr. - NEW!</b> Fabulous 4 bed 2 bath 2 car garage home in the Paces by Joe Morgan Homes! Granite kitchen with granite island and walk-in pantry. \$325,000	
<b>4000 ECR 61 - NEW!</b> Spectacular 3 bed 2 bath living, granite island, stainless steel appliances, updated kitchen, walk-in pantry, and more! \$275,000		<b>5521 County Rd. 504 - LAKE BROWNWOOD</b> - Spectacular 2011 Braemarwood lake custom 4 bed 2 bath home in 17 acres! \$275,000	
<b>5520 Ashwood Ct.</b> - One-owner 4 bed 2 bath 2 car garage home on a quiet cul-de-sac on a huge 35 acre lot! Overstuffed master bedroom has dual closets, 2 closets, separate shower and tub! Great light everywhere! Large kitchen with 2 gas cooktops and huge pantry. \$269,000		<b>3004 Rose-000253A</b> - Spectacular new maintenance OH Horton 3 bed 2 bath home has spacious bedrooms plus a bonus room! Light and bright kitchen has granite countertops, stainless appliances, and abundant cabinet! Living area boasts beautiful hardwood floor! Covered back patio! \$209,000	

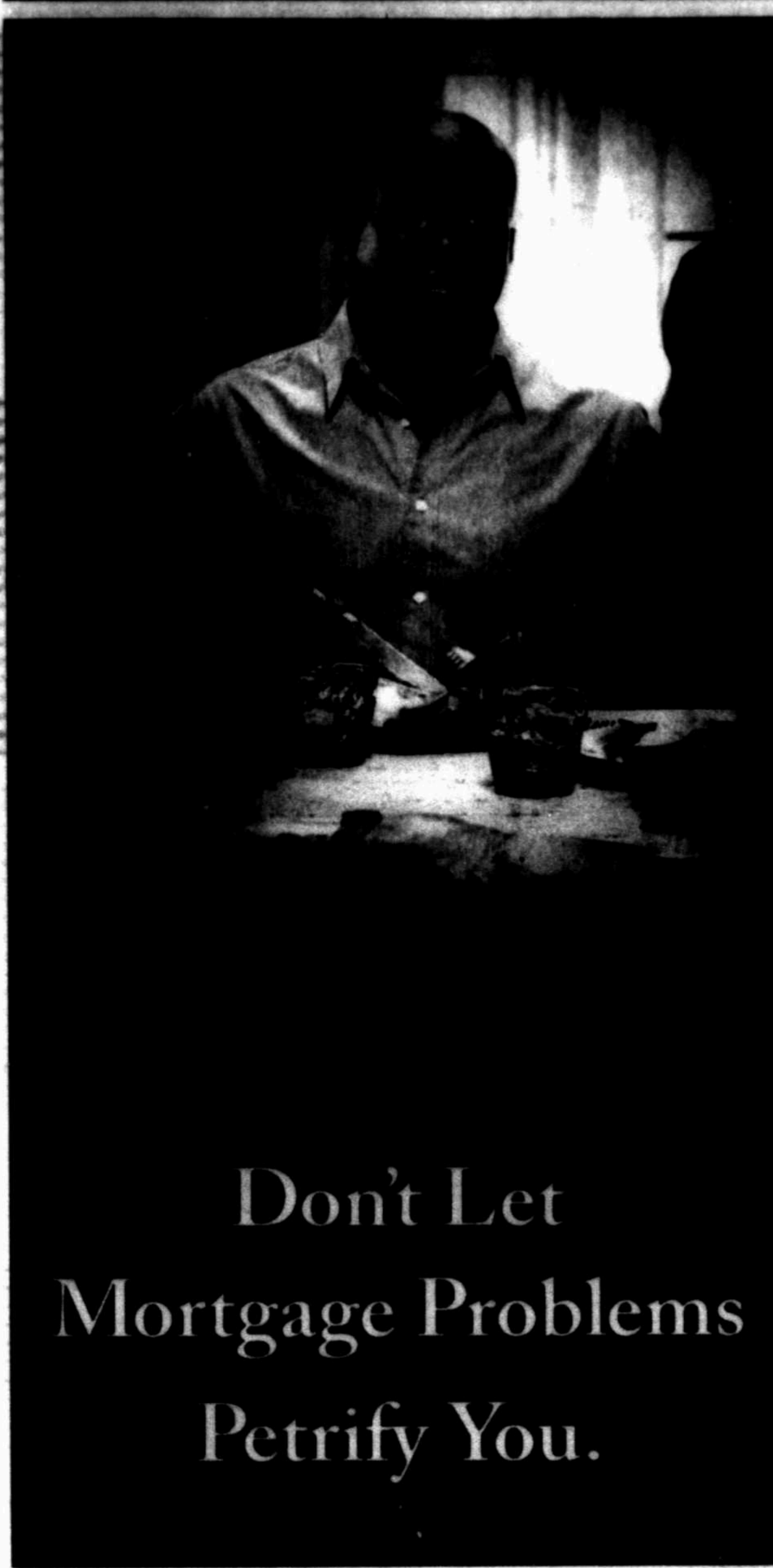
### 1, 2 & 3 BEDROOMS

<b>3817 Mockingbird #104</b> - Spacious 2 bed 2 bath home with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, and walk-in pantry! \$275,000	<b>3219 Timber Wall Lane</b> - Beautiful 3 bed 2 bath home in a quiet cul-de-sac! One owner and well-maintained! \$274,900
<b>5410 Milwood Ct.</b> - Spacious 3 bed 2 bath home with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, and walk-in pantry! \$275,000	<b>3221 Timber Wall Lane</b> - Built in Midland's newest subdivisions, Timber Wolf Estates! Roads will be paved by developer! 25 LOTS! \$274,900
<b>2918 E FM 1212 ST/AANTON</b> - Spacious 3 bed 2 bath home with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, and walk-in pantry! \$269,000	<b>1998 Timber Wall Lane</b> - Built in Midland's newest subdivisions, Timber Wolf Estates! Roads will be paved by developer! 25 LOTS! \$269,000
<b>3200 Card Dr.</b> - Spacious 3 bed 2 bath home with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, and walk-in pantry! \$249,000	<b>Collier Estates</b> - Build in Gardendale's newest subdivision, Collier Estates! Approximately 75 acre lot! \$25,000 per lot! 16 LOTS! \$25,000
<b>1604 Sheri Ave.</b> - Spacious 3 bed 2 bath home with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, and walk-in pantry! \$224,900	
<b>314 S. Bethwood Drive</b> - Spacious 3 bed 2 bath home with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, and walk-in pantry! \$205,000	
<b>3605 SCR 1100</b> - Must see new home! 3 bed 2 bath home with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, and walk-in pantry! \$204,900	
<b>2615 W Golf Course Rd.</b> - Spacious 3 bed 2 bath home with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, and walk-in pantry! \$194,900	
<b>4710 Timber Lane</b> - Beautiful 3 bed 2 bath home in a quiet cul-de-sac! One owner and well-maintained! \$194,900	
<b>3219 Baltic Ave.</b> - Spectacular 3 bed 2 bath home with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, and walk-in pantry! \$194,900	
<b>3116 W Spruce</b> - Spacious 3 bed 2 bath home with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, and walk-in pantry! \$194,900	
<b>1229 E Pine</b> - Beautiful 3 bed 2 bath home with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, and walk-in pantry! \$175,000	
<b>1202 E Pennsylvania Ave.</b> - Fabulous 3 bed 2 bath home with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, and walk-in pantry! \$175,000	
<b>3411 W Olive</b> - Charming 3 bed 2 bath home with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, and walk-in pantry! \$164,900	
<b>1921 E Oak Ave.</b> - Charming 2 bed 2 bath home boasts spectacular updated top to bottom! Updated kitchen! \$125,000	

### COMMERCIAL, LAND AND LOTS

<b>4187 W County Rd. 1247</b> - RV Park with clubhouse and 2 cabana! 26 RV spots rent for \$575 a month! 2 cabana rent for a \$1000 a month! Clubhouse has kitchen, laundry facilities, and entertainment area! Entire park has RD system! Great investment! \$2,300,000
<b>1513 Mockingbird Ln.</b> - 2 tracts of land at NE corner of Pine Field next to Saddle Club Estates! Total land 3.224 acres! Cider block farm with 12 middle states! 35 top ground! Hay barn, round pen, and apartment for workers! Faces Sunday Field! All offers welcome! \$800,000
<b>1830 W County Rd. 140</b> - 6.8 ac for residential purposes only! Mobile home allowed with underpinning! Water well 15 GPM, no pump! \$102,000
<b>2221 Timber Wall Lane</b> - Built in Midland's newest subdivisions, Timber Wolf Estates! Roads will be paved by developer! 25 LOTS! \$74,900
<b>1975 Timber Wall Lane</b> - Built in Midland's newest subdivisions, Timber Wolf Estates! Roads will be paved by developer! 25 LOTS! \$74,900
<b>1998 Timber Wall Lane</b> - Built in Midland's newest subdivisions, Timber Wolf Estates! Roads will be paved by developer! 25 LOTS! \$74,900
<b>Collier Estates</b> - Build in Gardendale's newest subdivision, Collier Estates! Approximately 75 acre lot! \$25,000 per lot! 16 LOTS! \$25,000

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BEAUTIFUL 2BD, 1ba duplex, ready now 4806-A Harvard Ave \$1550 rent. \$900 dep See ad on Craig's List for more details and contact information. Property is vacant. Go look in windows.

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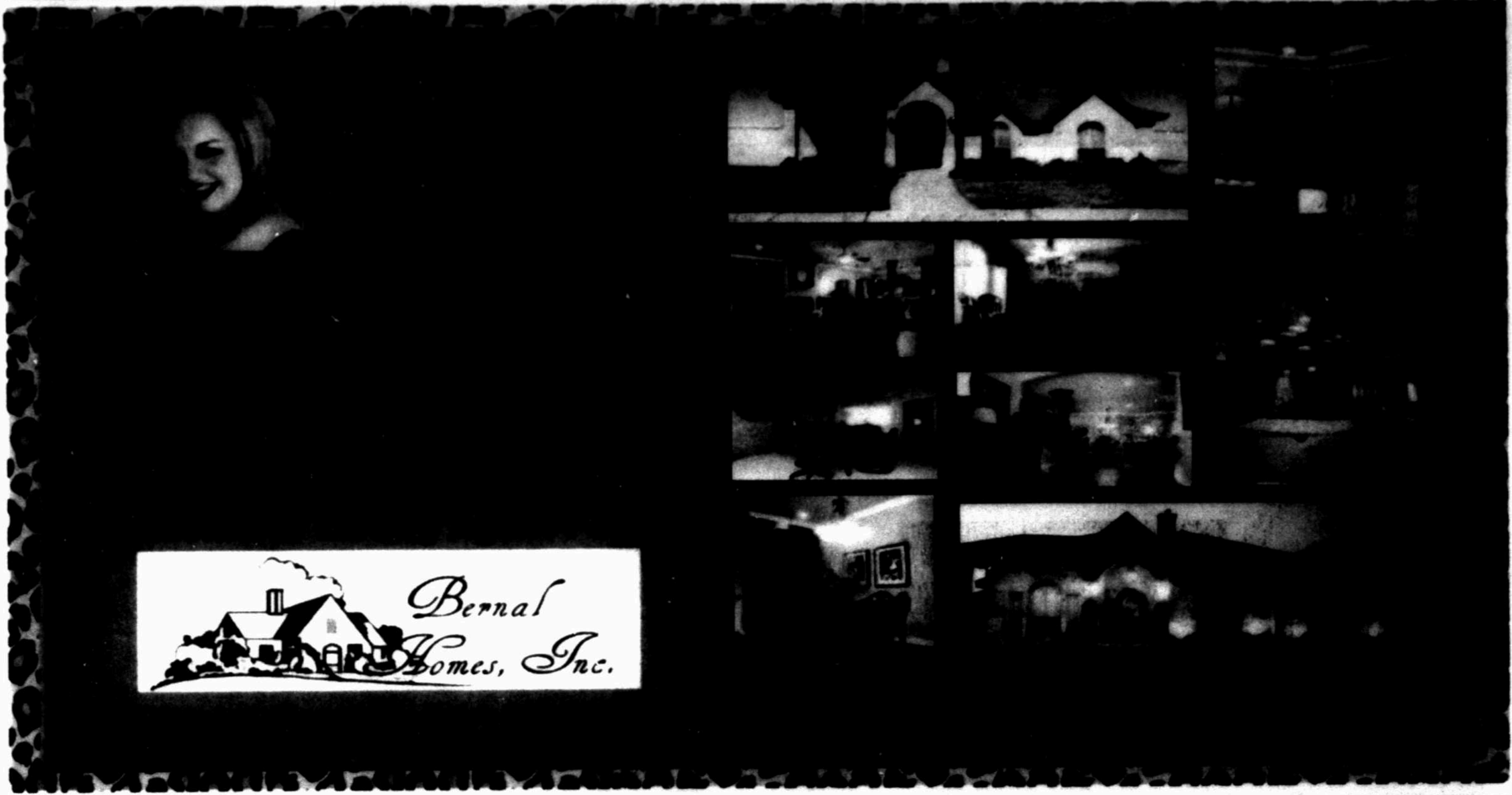
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 <b>1500 Douglas Ave. - \$595,000</b>	 <b>18 Saddle Club Dr. - \$850,000</b>	 <b>2003 Winfield Rd. - \$999,000</b>	 <b>3305 Stanolind - \$298,000</b>

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Move-in ready <b>\$230,000</b></p> <p>2 Oak Lawn Park - 2 bedrooms/2 baths low maintenance townhouse in Oaklawn Park <b>\$230,000</b></p> <p>3014 Shell Ave - 3 bedrooms/2 bath home in Wedgewood Park <b>\$155,000</b></p> <p>3205 W. Wesley Ave - Full remodeled 3 bedroom 2 bath 2 car garage duplex <b>\$2,400/MONTH</b></p> <p><b>ONE BEDROOM</b></p> <p>608 Liddon #54 - Low maintenance condo <b>W.C. \$83,000</b></p> <p><b>TWO BEDROOMS</b></p> <p>4700 Dentwood - Large duplex with tall ceilings, tile flooring, storm windows, nicely landscaped and located in desirable neighborhood. Ready for quick occupancy <b>\$350,000</b></p> <p>2 Oak Lawn Park - 2 bdrm/2 bth. Low Maintenance townhouse in Oaklawn Park <b>\$230,000</b></p> <p><b>THREE BEDROOMS</b></p> <p>1600 Douglas Ave - beautiful home w/pool <b>\$695,000</b></p> <p>6200 FM 307 - This must see unique 3bdrm/2 1/2 bath lake like home is perfect for entertaining indoors and out! <b>W.C. \$650,000</b></p> <p>1600 N. I St. - Wonderful 3 bdrm/2 1/2 bath home in Prime location! Great outdoor entertaining space and inground pool <b>\$399,000</b></p> <p>7118 E. Ca. Rd. 111-Wonderful M.R. Larry custom build 3 bdrm/2 1/2 bath home on 1.38 acres located in the new Chaney Ranch Addition! <b>\$390,000</b></p> <p>4918 Kingsboro Ct. - Spacious and charming 3 bedroom, grand kitchen and pretty updating <b>\$304,000</b></p> <p>4700 Dentwood - Large duplex with tall ceilings, tile flooring, storm windows, nicely landscaped and located in desirable neighborhood. Ready for quick occupancy <b>\$350,000</b></p> <p>4 Oak Lawn Park - Nicely updated townhouse in Oaklawn Park <b>\$300,000</b></p> <p>3305 Stanolind - Quiet cul-de-sac, beautiful with a sunroom <b>\$298,000</b></p> <p>3005 Rosewood Ave - Totally remodeled 4 bedroom/3 bath home! Move-in ready! <b>W.C. \$294,000</b></p> <p>2002 Lockwood Ave - Upscale townhouse in Lone Oak with 3 bedrooms, 3 private baths and a powder room. 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Public dock for residents only <b>\$240,000</b></p> <p>4500 Cleaveland Ct. - Updated 3 bedrooms/2 bath home located on a quiet pretty cul-de-sac with mature trees <b>W.C. \$224,000</b></p> <p>1802 Shell - Old Midland, nice neighborhood for growing family <b>W.C. \$200,000</b></p> <p>6000 FM 307 - Custom built in Greenwood, 3 bedroom/2 bath, 2 living areas, formal dining, fireplace 2 car garage on 2.340 acres <b>W.C. \$190,000</b></p> <p>2100 Marston Ct. - Fresh paint, new wood floors and new fence. Move-in ready! <b>W.C. \$180,000</b></p> <p>4600 Conley Ave - 3 bdrm/2 bath home in ODESSA <b>\$175,000</b></p> <p>3014 Shell Ave - 3 bedrooms/2 bath home in Wedgewood Park <b>\$155,000</b></p> <p><b>FOUR BEDROOMS</b></p> <p>2003 Winfield - "Heart of Warwick" Gorgeous landscaping, great amenities <b>\$999,000</b></p> <p>18 Saddle Club Dr. - 4 bed/3 1/2 ba, detached game room and workshop <b>\$850,000</b></p> <p>3000 Fairwood Ct. - Updated in Mockingbird Heights, 2 story, granite and full guest house! <b>W.C. \$649,500</b></p> <p>1207 Silverstone - Woodland Park, almost new! Open plan and beautiful! <b>W.C. \$629,000</b></p> <p>5201 Oak Valley Dr. - Custom owner 4 bdrm/3 1/2 bath home in beautiful Greathouse subdivision <b>\$495,000</b></p> <p>13201 E. Ca. Rd. 129 - 4 bedroom/3 bath home in new subdivision in Greenwood - The Meadows. 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Contemporary style great guest house, beautiful grounds, horse lovers dream includes an indoor arena! <b>\$1,950,000</b></p> <p>6706 West Wind Ct. - Elegant family friendly 5/6 bedroom, 5.5 bath, 4 1/2 living areas, 5 car garage parking pad, gorgeous poolspa, hot pond, plus family yard on #6 Tee Box Green Tree North <b>\$995,000</b></p> <p>605 Country Club - Beautiful in Old Midland! Contemporary style, gorgeous outdoor area and pool! <b>\$795,000</b></p> <p>2500 Calloway Dr. - Beautiful spacious Granddram Gem <b>W.C. \$640,000</b></p> <p>2002 Lockwood Ave - Well maintained 5 bdrm/4 1/2 bath in great block in Old Midland with spacious rooms, lovely yard and good plan <b>\$395,000</b></p>	<p><b>NEW CONSTRUCTION</b></p> <p>Chaney Ranch - Call Holly Cohen to build your dream home. Greenwood subdivision w/waterage <b>\$39-3900</b></p> <p><b>FOR LEASE</b></p> <p>3205 W. Wesley Ave. - Full remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, duplex <b>\$2,400/MONTH</b></p> <p>1304 W. Texas - Approximately 2975 sq ft of Medical office space, conveniently located between the Hospital and Downtown. For lease <b>Call Bill Scott 682-1111</b></p> <p><b>LOTS, LAND AND ACREAGE</b></p> <p>3003 Racquet Club Dr. - Only lot in Racquet Club! <b>\$1,000,000</b></p> <p>Chaney Ranch - Call Holly Cohen to build your dream home <b>\$69-3000</b></p> <p>S. Ca. Rd. 1120 - Could be a great location for cattle and livestock, truck yard, pipe yard, etc. on 160 acres in Greenwood <b>\$2,400,000</b></p> <p>S. Ca. Rd. 1040 - Perfect area for subdivision development - 325.8 acres in Greenwood <b>\$2,200,000</b></p> <p>1-20 West Hurley &amp; Loop 330 in West Odessa - 116.26 acres, terrific frontage. Call Bill Scott or Brandee Noil 682-1111 <b>\$2,200,000</b></p> <p>1100 E. Ca. Rd. 100 - 56.39 acres with a 4,500 sq ft equine barn, mobile home can stay for \$50,000. Perfect for all needs. Business or pipe yard. Call Bill Scott or Brandee Noil 682-1111 <b>\$991,120</b></p> <p>5700 E. Ca. Rd. 60 - 27.94 sq. ft. wide-lot parcel <b>\$500,000</b></p> <p>84 Linnell Park - San Angelo lot &amp; boat house, Lake Nasworthy <b>\$170,000</b></p> <p>7913 W. Ca. Rd. 92 - Water well <b>\$100,000</b></p> <p>6213 Dunbar Oaks Blvd. - 97 acre lot in Mockingbird Oaks <b>\$140,000</b></p> <p>11010 W. County Rd. 50 1/2 W. - 6 acre in a great residential neighborhood <b>\$114,000</b></p> <p>E. Ca. Rd. 129 - Four 1 acre lots in new subdivision in Greenwood - The Meadows <b>\$65,000</b></p> <p>Lot 14 W. County Rd. 152 - Unlimited potential whether you are looking for a homestead or commercial site <b>\$35,000</b></p> <p><b>COMMERCIAL INVESTMENT PROPERTY</b></p> <p>1304 W. Texas - Approximately 2975 sq ft of Medical office space, conveniently located between the Hospital and Downtown. For lease <b>Call Bill Scott 682-1111</b></p> <p>3000 S. Ca. Rd. 1270 - 2.330 acres with a 10,792 of industrial warehouse/distribution center. Fenced, gated and secured facility located conveniently just south of Midland International Airport. Grade level access and dock high loading. Call Bill Scott or Brandee Noil 682-1111 <b>\$600,000</b></p> <p>5000 Beach of N. Midland - 2.04+ acres for development, great for office complex. Call Bill Scott <b>\$175,000</b></p> <p>8 Cotton Field Rd. - Zoned Industrial Park <b>\$100,000</b></p> <p>12000 Wood I-30 - For Lease, 4,000 sq. ft., light or medium duty manufacturing or as warehouse space. Call Bill or Brandee @ 682-1111 <b>W.C. \$1,000/month</b></p> <p><b>OUT OF TOWN PROPERTIES</b></p> <p>3025 Country Club, San Angelo - Fabulous! Lake front home, Southwestern Style <b>\$600,000</b></p> <p>51 Ward St. - Fabulous Lake Henry get-away. This 3 bdrm/2 bath home is located within HOA gated community in Oak Canyon Estates. Public dock for residents only <b>\$240,000</b></p> <p>4000 Conley Ave. - 3 bdrm/2 bath home in Odessa <b>\$160,000</b></p>
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10303 E. Co. Rd. 92 Midland, TX Cheaper than rent! Mobile home only. Well maintained with new flooring throughout. All appliances are in great shape. Located in a quiet area with lots of trees and a large lot. Call Bobby McCourt 432-967-0652

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## QUESTIONS

### FINANCIAL MATH

#### QUESTION:

Can you help a borrower could pay \$880,000 making \$20,000 in monthly payments and using the same amount for the size of a mortgage with a mortgage at a 4.2 percent interest rate over the life of a 30-year mortgage. The interest savings would be \$18,758.208 when compared to a \$800,000 mortgage at 4.2 percent about \$42 per month. \$18,758.208 divided by 450 = \$41.687158. Is the borrower saving \$41.687 per month?

#### ANSWER:

If you have an annual return of 4.2 percent on \$20,000 you get \$840 per year. Using an amortization calculator you can see that a \$800,000 loan over 30 years at 4.2 percent has a total potential interest cost of \$228,138. The monthly payment for principal and interest is \$1,467.05. A \$200,000 loan - \$500,000 less \$800,000 - has a lifetime interest cost of \$12,050 at a 4.2 percent. The monthly payment for principal and interest is \$1,869.25. The difference between the two amounts is \$97.80 per month or \$1,173.60 per year. As it happens \$1,173.60 per month is what you could pay to borrow \$20,000 over 30 years at a 4.2 percent.

In practice, there are several points to consider. Freddie Mac says the typical 30-year mortgage is refinanced every seven years. For this reason, the savings are likely to be a significant issue for most borrowers than lifetime potential interest savings.

Instead of the \$20,000 mortgage balance, the borrower does not earn \$840 per year in interest or dividends. The \$880 is a savings, and we do not have savings.

With a fixed rate loan the monthly payment for principal and interest is the same for the life of the loan. What changes is the composition of the payment. Each month you pay a little less interest and a little more principal until the amount paid off your principal balance is being converted into real estate equity, and hopefully the equity in your home will go up over time as home prices increase and loan balances are paid down.

Fourth, with ARMs the situation is different because interest rates and monthly payments can rise and fall. We have no way to predict how monthly costs might change - other than to say that future interest rate changes are capped to fit within whatever limits have been established by the ARM loan contract.

Fifth, with retirement funds getting a little return today, some borrowers might be better off using the money to hold down mortgage expenses. Which borrowers? As the original column said, it may be neither easy nor desirable to get retirement money before looking at homes find out if you have the right to withdraw funds from your account. Is there a limit on the amount you can withdraw? How long does it take to get the money? How will your withdrawal be treated for tax purposes? Will you have to pay a penalty? For specifics regarding these and other questions speak with your account adviser and a tax professional.

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By ERIK J. MARTIN

CTW Features

It's impossible to plan for the unexpected. But as a homeowner the closest you can get is to purchase adequate homeowner's insurance that covers your property in the event of an injury, fire, theft or other disaster.

While mortgage lenders typically require borrowers to maintain sufficient hazard insurance coverage on their properties, homeowners often can get complacent with their longstanding policies in place and don't investigate the potential for savings they may be eligible for, experts say.

Without asking questions and shopping around, how can we really know if we have secured the most comprehensive coverage at the absolute rock bottom price? asks Frank N. Darras, founding partner at DarrasLaw in Ontario, California, who recommends inquiring about discounts with your current carrier and comparing plans offered by competing insurers. Other ways to possibly earn a discount, according to Darras, include:

- Living close to a fire station or fire hydrant
- Recently replacing or upgrading your electrical system, plumbing, or roofing
- Installing deadbolt locks on all exterior doors and motion-detector security lights around the property's perimeter
- Clearing away overgrown foliage from your property line and trimming trees
- Being retired and/or present at home more often to reduce the risk of burglary and vandalism.

Mark Carrasquillo, account executive with F.G. Bowman Co., an independent insurance agency in New York City, says several factors can result in lower premiums and a better value, without sacrificing important coverage.

Bundling policies (for home, auto, and/or life insurance) with the same company usually triggers a discount, says Carrasquillo. "Securing the services of a central station burglar/fire alarm monitoring system can yield savings, too, as can taking the highest deductible option you can afford."

Improving your credit history is another way to potentially decrease premiums. Research from insuranceQuotes.com revealed that consumers who have a fair (median) or poor credit score may pay, respectively, 29 percent and 91 per-

cent more for homeowner's insurance than someone with excellent credit. Additionally, try not to file any damage claims unless absolutely necessary, as that also can lead to premium increases.

As a general rule, experts suggest consulting with your insurance agent at least once a year to review your policy and check for every discount you may qualify for.

When it comes to ensuring that you're insuring at the right coverage levels, go for the highest limits of protection you can afford, says Darras. That means choosing guaranteed replacement cost over actual cash value. The former reimburses you for the actual cost of the damaged or stolen property if you were to replace it brand new; the latter is equivalent to the replacement cost minus any depreciation based on age, wear and tear.

"When you buy homeowner's insurance, don't insure it for what you paid for the property. Don't insure it for the amount of your current mortgage. Insure it for what it would cost to rebuild right now," says Bob Freitag, president of AmeriClaims, a public adjusters

company in Indian Trail, North Carolina. "Even a small fire or storm can cause significant structural damage to a home. Make sure your policy limit is sufficient to rebuild your house from the ground up. Call a couple of builders and get estimates on rebuilding costs."

In addition, Carrasquillo says to take the maximum liability coverage available - usually \$500,000. "Choosing only \$300,000 might save you very little, like \$40," he says.

Be aware that antiques, artwork, collections, rare items, business property, detached buildings, pools and fences may have to be insured separately to be fully covered.

"Ask your agent if these items are covered in your main policy contract," Freitag says. "If they aren't, you can request additional coverage for them in a separate listing, called an endorsement or rider."

Lastly, opting for separate optional earthquake and/or flood insurance - where it isn't required but in areas where your home may be at risk - is another smart decision.

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## FINANCES

### SHOPPERS HOLDING BACK ON HOLIDAY SPENDING

After a spending uptick in 2013, more Americans are budgeting this holiday season

Americans are getting back to budget basics this holiday season. Seventy-two percent of

Americans say they're setting a budget this shopping season, up from 65 percent in 2013, according to the latest American Express Spending & Saving Tracker.

The increase in consumer budgeting may lead to a decrease in consumer spending this year. The average American consumer plans to spend \$842 on holiday shopping this year, according to the American Express survey. That's significantly

down from \$1,260 in 2013 and right near 2012 spending (\$848).

Black Friday remains the most popular day to holiday shop, though just 48 percent of shoppers said they planned to shop Black Friday this year, down from 52 percent in 2013. Cyber Monday may see an even bigger drop, with just 46 percent of shoppers planning to make purchases that day, down from 55 percent last year.

Gift cards remain the most popular gift choice, according to

the American Express survey, at 55 percent (down from 61 percent in 2013).

According to a recent Bankrate.com report, more than half (59 percent) of gift cards now are offered electronically. And considering that 40 percent of 18- to 29-year-olds have lost a physical gift card, according to the report, the rise of e-gift cards may be good news for younger consumers who rely more on more on their devices. Most - 84 percent - of Americans have received a gift card and nearly three-fourths (72 percent) have given one as a gift, according to the Bankrate report.

"There are a lot of reasons

why electronic gift cards appeal to customers," Jeanine Skowronski, Bankrate.com's credit card analyst, said of the report. "For starters, they're a quick fix for anyone who needs a gift on the fly. Second, unlike their plastic counterparts, they don't take up excess real estate in your wallet. And, though it may seem counterintuitive, a digital gift card can be easily personalized."

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**3916 MONTY DRIVE**  
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# Sunday Featured Homes!



**4521 CORSARI CT. - \$950,000**  
**CUSTOM MR LARY HOME**  
**ON COVETED STREET!**

Attention to detail at every turn! Wood floors! Formal dining! Formal living! Walls of windows! Cozy den! Gourmet kitchen w/island & breakfast bar! Office area! Seq master! Gorgeous bath w/ heated floors, huge shower & fab tub! Designer closet! Seq in-law plan! Huge bedrooms! Amazing closets! Studio w/barn door & storage! 3Cg+golf cart-could be 4th! Incredible patio w/course views!

**3802 ST. ANDREWS CT. - \$799,000**  
**FANTASTIC HOME IN TRINITY**  
**WITH ALL THE BELLS & WHISTLES!**

Fabulous updates thru-out! Formal living! Den w/fireplace! Formal dining! Updated kitchen w/ breakfast nook! Master suite w/sitting area & incredible bath! In-law suite downstairs! 3 Bedrooms & 2 baths upstairs plus gameroom! Recently refurbished pool in wonderful backyard! High privacy fence! 4 Car garage plus office in between! Tons of parking! Awesome!



**7013 RIDGEBORO - \$565,000**  
**INCREDIBLE PROPERTY!**

2 Story elegance! Updated & tons of living space! Formal living! Formal dining! Gourmet kitchen w/ granite & stainless appliances, island, pantry & breakfast bar that opens onto the breakfast nook w/ large windows & den w/fireplace & built-ins! Spacious master suite is downstairs & offers great bath w/updated shower, separate tub, dual sinks & nice closet! 3 Bd/2 bath up plus gameroom! 3Cg!

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# HOMESTYLE

SIMPLE SOLUTIONS FOR EVERYDAY LIVING

Sunday, November 30, 2014

## Feed the Stylish Beast

How American's love affair with pets is influencing home design and décor

By Kelly Lee Christ, CTW Features

Without a doubt, Americans love their furry friends like family. Pet ownership has hit an all-time high and homeowners are taking more steps to remodel with their pets needs in mind. Pet-friendly remodeling has gone far beyond the basic doggy door to include features like dog washing stations and custom kitty litter cabinets.

So what exactly should people consider when designing for pets?

"We talk about multi-generational living a lot," says David Schmitke of Neil Kelly, a Portland, Ore.-based remodeling company. More often these days, pets are part of the equation. "Now we have multi-species living," Schmitke says.

Designing with pets needs in mind creates happier pets who are less likely to dig and chew and have separation anxiety, saving your furniture, your carpet, your walls, he says.

Pet-friendly design choices benefit everybody in the household,

resulting in a house that's going to last longer," says Nancy Chwiecko, author of "There's a Dog in the House: A Practical Guide to Creating Today's Dog-Friendly Home" (Design Dog Press, 2010).

Flooring is an important consideration for homeowners.

Chwiecko likes hard surface materials such as wood, ceramic or concrete. "They are great because they are durable and easy to maintain," Randi Reed, a designer at Neil Kelly, often uses an imported linoleum-like product called Marmoleum, which is biodegradable.

Hardwood floors are durable, Chwiecko says, but can show scratches and wear, especially if they are stained a dark color or have a glossy finish.

To keep dogs from slipping on hard floors, Chwiecko recommends putting a washable rug on top of them and taking special care around stairs.

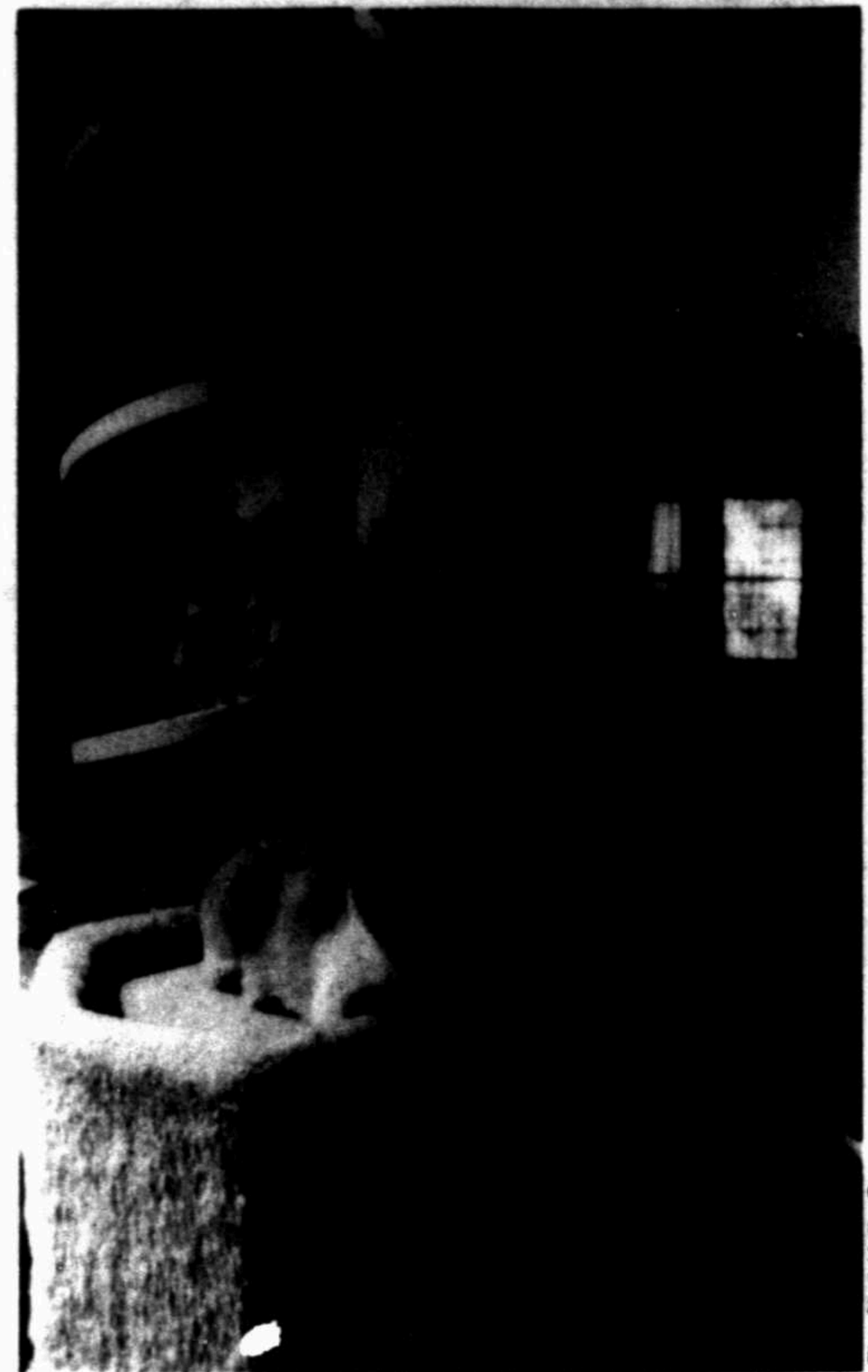
One feature that is making life easier for humans as well as their furry friends is the dog washing station. In regions like the Pacific Northwest, where

"most of the year you're coming back in the door with muddy paws," Schmitke says it pays to set up a system that's ergonomically easy on the washer's back.

Reed has designed several dog washing stations using stainless steel shower pans with stainless steel walls and a handheld shower. When not in use for pets, "you can also use it for muddy boots and potting," she says. Reed's designs have been so popular that one client went out and purchased a dog after seeing a photo of her work.

"[The clients] didn't have a dog at the time, but they have since bought a dog and now have their own dog washing station."

The ideal setup "depends on the size of the human and the



The Neil Kelly Co.

**Furniture for cats:** A customized catwalk enables felines to maintain their health and avoid boredom.

cat's head."

Peter Cohen, co-owner of a custom home building company, Trillium Enterprises, in Santa Barbara, Calif., did just that, crafting an elaborate network of catwalks for his 18 cats.

Cohen began adding catwalks a few at a time during lulls in his contracting business. "I built them for the cats and me," he says. "I like to think about how it will look for the humans and how it will function for the cats."

His clients are now requesting some of the features he has perfected in his own home, such as a kitty litter closet that's accessible by cat door. Cohen takes his one step further, installing a bath fan that runs 24-7 and vents outside, eliminating odors.

As Schmitke says, "It's important that our pets eat, sleep and live as comfortably as we would. It sounds a little strange at first, but if you make it easier for your pet to do their basic functions, you're making it easier for yourself."

© CTW Features



The Neil Kelly Co.

**When they return from a walk:** A stainless washing station, left, and a washable rug, below, in front of the door help maintain a clean house.



The Neil Kelly Co.

## Tips for Color Cowards

By Kelly Lee Christ, CTW Features

Inviting fresher, jazzier colors into your home doesn't have to be an intimidating task. Reflect on your fashion tastes, suggests Davis Remington, design consultant for the furniture Web site Furniture.com.

Many people know what colors look good on them. Those same colors can be incorporated into your personal space, because they are familiar, flattering and comforting.

Remington offers tips for making good color choices when it comes time to refresh a room.

- Inventory major features in the room that you can't or don't care to change: the color of woodwork, the brick in the hearth, carpeting, custom draperies. Decorate with and around these facts of life.

- Start at the floor and work your way up. Select a rug or floor covering first. Key off the colors in your rug to choose wall colors and accents.

- Devise your own color palette. Good room designs incorporate at least five colors: two main colors, one supporting color (often a neutral or wood tone) and two accent colors.

- Create a flow. Choose

harmonious color palettes for rooms connected by an open archway or large doorway. The goal is to create a color link between the two spaces and avoid a jarring transition from one room to the next.

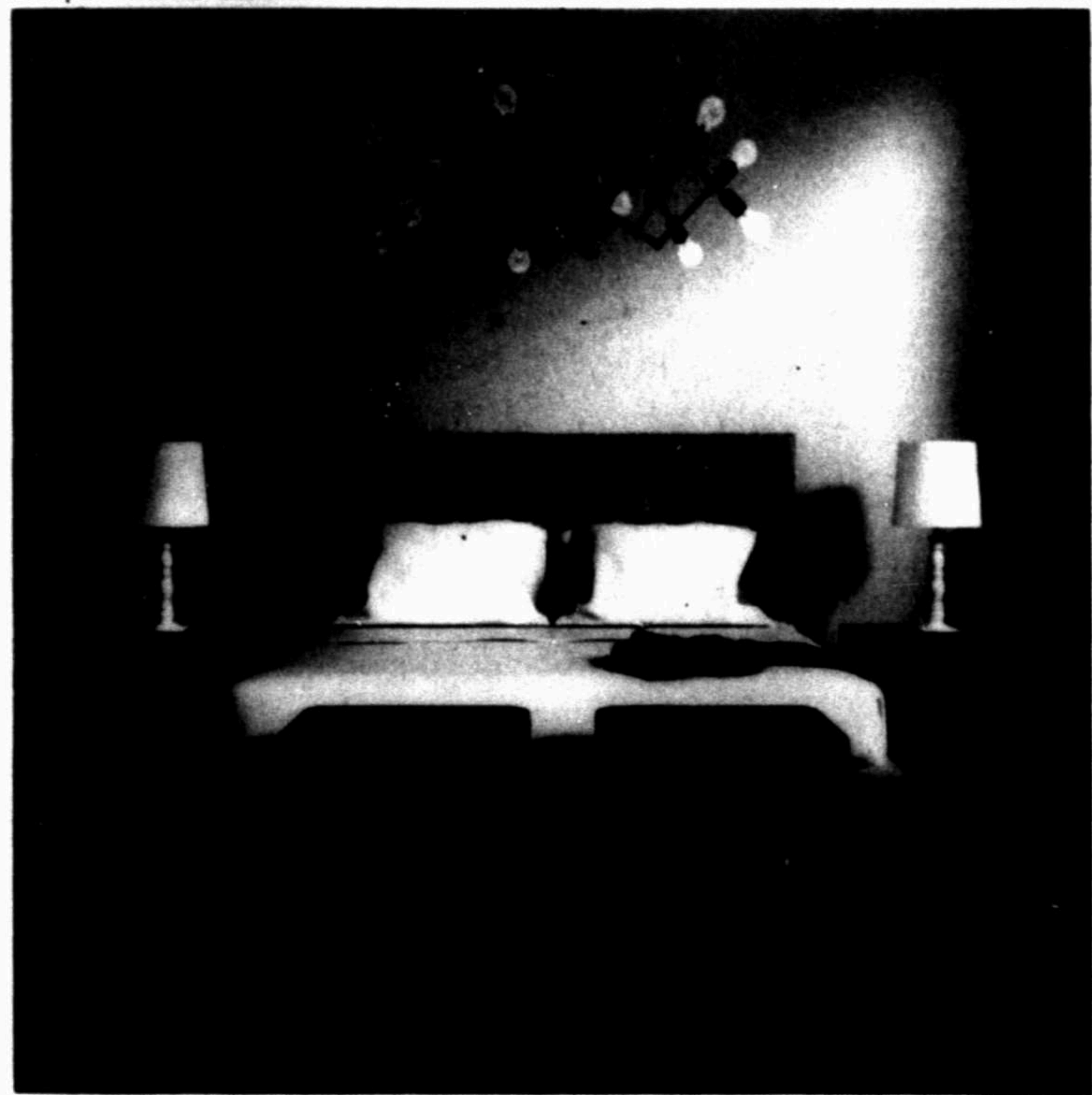
- Use patterns sparingly. Beginners should limit themselves to one multi-color pattern per room. If the rug carries a pattern, avoid "competition" by keeping window treatments, upholstery and accents simple.

- Resist the temptation to over-indulge. Too much of the same color in a room can be a mistake, even if it's a favorite color. Maintain a good balance of main colors and accent colors around the room.

- Use light to its best advantage. Generate an elegant, room-wide glow by using gold- or peach-hued light bulbs in table lamps.

- Embrace change. Be bravest with accent colors — they are relatively easy to change. Follow your instincts and don't be discouraged if you're not happy with your choice. It takes time to get comfortable making decisions about color.

"No rules are written in stone," says Remington. "Take your time and enjoy the experience. Your color confidence



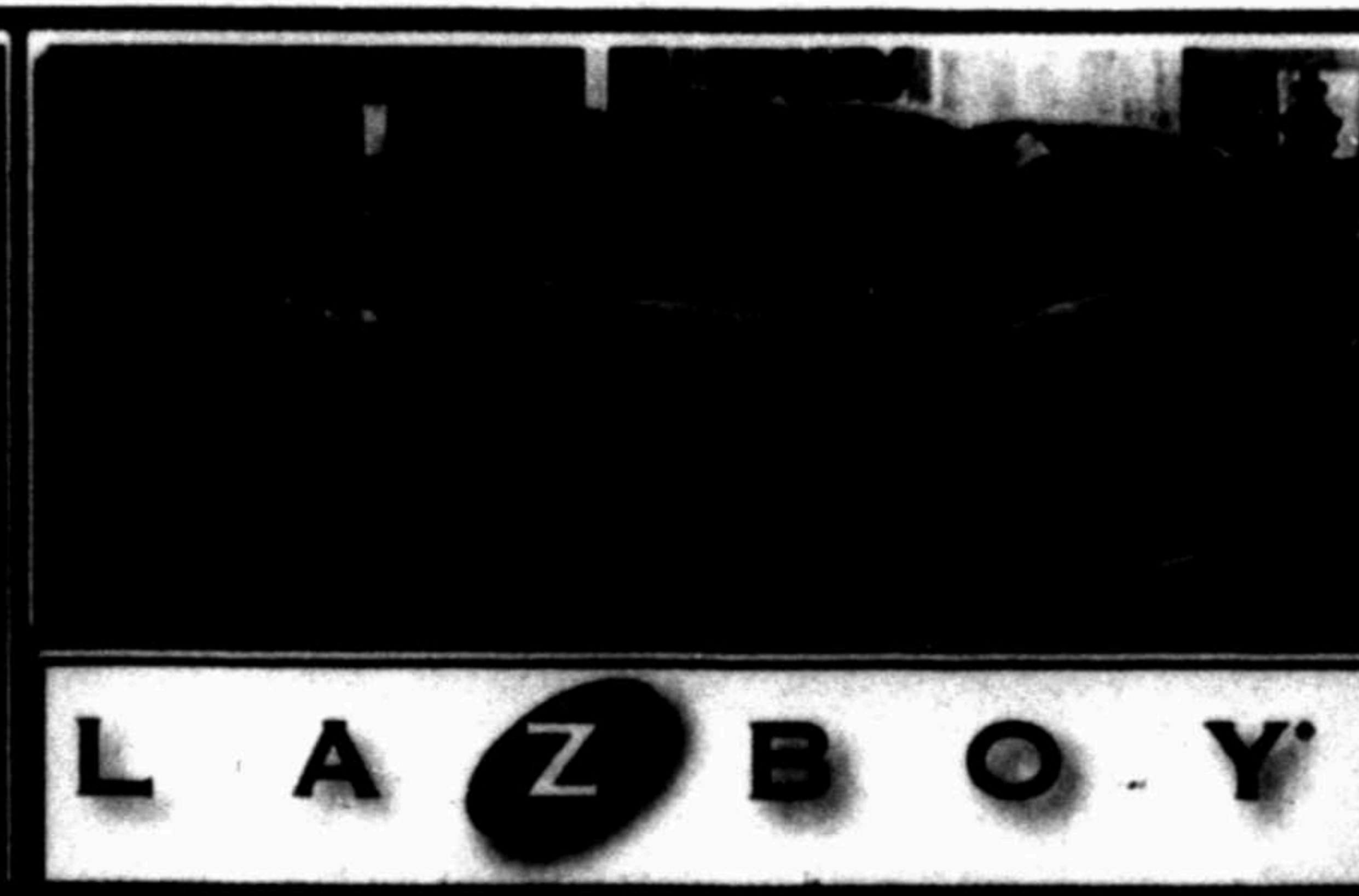
**Winning ways with color:** A good design incorporates at least five colors, balancing two main colors and three supporting hues throughout a room.

will grow with each project.

"Before long, you'll have created a stylish, inviting home, and your friends

will start asking you for color advice."

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1103 SCR 1110	-4/3.5 on 40+ acres	MLS #100342	\$639,900	
10310 SCR 1210	-1.21 Acres w/hanger	UNDER CONTRACT	MLS #98671	\$625,000
2001 Evans Ln	-4/3/3 car	UNDER CONTRACT	MLS #101333	\$485,000
2305 Metz Pl	-4/3/2 car on cul-de-sac	UNDER CONTRACT	MLS #100051	\$356,000
306 ECR 140	-1.76 Acres	UNDER CONTRACT	MLS #98742	\$329,900
2509 Stanolind Ave.	-3/3/2 car	UNDER CONTRACT	MLS #101612	\$288,500
3312 Haynes Ave.	-Low Maintenance, 3/2 5/2 car	UNDER CONTRACT	MLS #100575	\$284,900
606 Nolan Ryan Dr.	-3/2/2-car	UNDER CONTRACT	MLS #101759	\$279,900
2204 North H		UNDER CONTRACT	MLS #101430	\$259,900
1004 North A St.	-3/2	UNDER CONTRACT	MLS #101008	NEW PRICE \$229,000
3002 Moss Ave.		UNDER CONTRACT	MLS #100972	\$203,500
4507 Mathis St.		UNDER CONTRACT	MLS #101863	\$172,500
6714 FM 715	-22 Acres	MLS #96888	\$444,000	
Sundridge Ranch Estate -New Homesites (Only 4 Lots)		3+ acre lots	\$135,000	
000 ECR 130	-6.796 Acres	MLS #98687	\$115,500	

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**Mark Payne Homes**

**5902 Rio Grande**  
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This gorgeous home in Heritage Oaks includes 4 bedrooms, 2 baths and a spacious living room. Kitchen features custom built cabinetry, granite countertops and a gas cooktop. This home is a must see!

**811 Trinidad**  
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You don't want to miss this gorgeous home in Woodland Park. It includes 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, a formal dining and large game room. Great patio perfect for entertaining! You will love this home!

**Mark Payne Homes Available Homes**

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6013 Frio- 3 Bed, 2 Bath, 2 Car Garage	U/C
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6000 Wichita- 4 Bed, 3 Bath, Formal Dining, Game Room, 3 Car Garage	\$431,500
6006 Wichita- 4 Bed, 3 Bath, Study, Game Room, 3 Car Garage	\$404,500
6011 Oak Creek- 4 Bed, 3 Bath, Game Room, 3 Car Garage	\$379,500
904 Trinidad- 4 Bed, 3 Bath, Formal Dining, 3 Car Garage	\$429,500
1208 Silverton- 4 Bed, 3 Bath, Study, Game Room, 3 Car Garage	U/C

For More Information call Jamie Pruitt 432-520-0000

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<p><b>6814 W. CO RD. 50 - \$1,250,000</b>  <b>EXQUISITE ESTATE!</b>                  Centers doors! Formal living/dining! Gourmet kitchen w/granite &amp; faux painted cabinetry! Huge dining w/beamed ceiling! 5th master w/fireplace, sitting area, great bath! Office/study! Wood deck w/gorgeous views! Stunning pool, hot tub, pool bath, fireplace, huge playground! Plus over 5000 sq ft in outbuildings: barn, 4 stalls, 50x25, 2 tract rooms, 60x60 shop, 50x25 awning! 10 Beautiful acres!</p>	<p><b>4521 CORSARI CT. - \$950,000</b>  <b>CUSTOM MR LARRY HOME ON COVERED STREET!</b>                  Attention to detail at every turn! Wood floors! Formal dining! Formal living! Walk-in wardrobe! 2nd den! Gourmet kitchen w/island &amp; breakfast bar! Office area! Sq master! Gorgeous bath w/heated floors, huge shower &amp; jacuzzi! Designer closet! Sq in-law plan! Huge bedrooms! Amazing closets! Study w/floor to ceiling! 3 Car garage! 4th+ could be 4th+ incredible park w/courtyard view!</p>	<p><b>3802 ST. ANDREWS CT. - \$799,000</b>  <b>FANTASTIC HOME IN TRINITY WITH ALL THE BELLS &amp; WHISTLES!</b>                  Fabulous updates throughout! Formal living! Den w/fireplace! Formal dining! Kitchen w/island &amp; breakfast bar! Master suite w/sitting area &amp; incredible bath! In-law suite downstairs! 3rd den! 4th den! 5th den! 6th den! 7th den! 8th den! 9th den! 10th den! 11th den! 12th den! 13th den! 14th den! 15th den! 16th den! 17th den! 18th den! 19th den! 20th den! 21st den! 22nd den! 23rd den! 24th den! 25th den! 26th den! 27th den! 28th den! 29th den! 30th den! 31st den! 32nd den! 33rd den! 34th den! 35th den! 36th den! 37th den! 38th den! 39th den! 40th den! 41st den! 42nd den! 43rd den! 44th den! 45th den! 46th den! 47th den! 48th den! 49th den! 50th den! 51st den! 52nd den! 53rd den! 54th den! 55th den! 56th den! 57th den! 58th den! 59th den! 60th den! 61st den! 62nd den! 63rd den! 64th den! 65th den! 66th den! 67th den! 68th den! 69th den! 70th den! 71st den! 72nd den! 73rd den! 74th den! 75th den! 76th den! 77th den! 78th den! 79th den! 80th den! 81st den! 82nd den! 83rd den! 84th den! 85th den! 86th den! 87th den! 88th den! 89th den! 90th den! 91st den! 92nd den! 93rd den! 94th den! 95th den! 96th den! 97th den! 98th den! 99th den! 100th den!</p>
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<p><b>7013 RIDGEBORO - \$565,000</b>  <b>INCREDIBLE PROPERTY!</b>                  2 story w/updates! Updated &amp; tons of living space! Formal living! Formal dining! Gourmet kitchen w/granite &amp; stainless appliances, island, pantry &amp; breakfast bar that opens onto the breakfast room w/large windows &amp; den w/fireplace &amp; built-in! Spacious master suite w/dressing &amp; offers great bath w/updated shower, separate tub, dual vanities &amp; nice closet! 3 Bed! bath up plus gourmet! 3 Car!</p>	<p><b>1913 GLADEWOOD - \$550,000</b>  <b>GRASSLAND WEST W/GORGEOUS POOL!</b>                  Formal dining! Large formal family room! Den w/open to large kitchen w/island, granite, tons of cabinetry &amp; counter space plus pantry! Sq master suite w/large bath &amp; closet! Spacious bedrooms! Nice utility rm! 2 Car garage attached - beautiful pool! Roomy bedrooms w/jack&amp;jill bath! Recent carpet &amp; wood flooring! Awesome utility rm! High ceilings! Circle drive! 4 Car garage!</p>	<p><b>2104 N. I ST. - \$538,500</b>  <b>UNBELIEVABLE SPACE IN THIS CLASSIC HOME! POOL!</b>                  Formal dining! Formal living w/wide views of pool! Cozy den w/fireplace is open to the kitchen/breakfast bar! Glass sunroom! 2 Rooms bedrooms w/half bath downstairs! Master bedroom w/private bath &amp; great closet on mid-level! 2 Good bedrooms &amp; half bath on upper level! Soooooooo much storage in this one! Pool w/diving board &amp; slide! Hot tub room outside! Fabulous location!</p>	<p><b>5609 ECR 120 - \$475,000</b>  <b>GREAT HOME IN GREENWOOD ON 4+ ACRES W/ POOL!</b>                  3 large bedrooms with their own bathrooms! Bath for guests! Open floor plan! Huge living area w/fireplace! Fabulous kitchen great for entertaining! Outside offers nearly 5 acres, inviting pool, fire pit area and covered patio! Circle drive! 2 Car garage!</p>
<p><b>1807 ECR 128 - \$360,000</b>  <b>WOW! WONDERFUL COUNTRY PROPERTY WORKSHOP!</b>                  One owner immaculately maintained home w/tons to offer! Living area w/high ceilings, fireplace, skylights offers room for formal dining! Kitchen w/granite oak cabinetry &amp; breakfast bar! Sunroom is a perfect den or office! Spacious master w/private bath &amp; nice closet! Covered patio! Large workshop w/half bath, tons of storage upstairs &amp; 2 garage doors! 2 Cpl-3 car detached garage w/ry space! Pens! Gates! Fab!</p>	<p><b>18708 ECR 109 - \$350,000</b>  <b>GREENWOOD SCHOOLS! WONDERFUL WORKSHOP!</b>                  Gameroom! Man-cave/workshop! This one has something for everyone! Large living w/fireplace is open to the dining area &amp; kitchen! Breakfast bar! Pantry! Sq master suite w/large bath &amp; closet! Spacious bedrooms! Nice utility rm! 2 Car garage attached - parking in workshop! Carport too! Covered patios! Huge yard plus storage space behind fence! Gray water system for yard! Nice!</p>	<p><b>4700 ECR 140 - \$325,000</b>  <b>ONE OWNER CUSTOM HOME OF 4 ACRES OF QUIET COUNTRY LIVING!</b>                  Living room w/fireplace &amp; beamed vaulted ceiling! Kitchen w/breakfast nook! Sequestered master suite w/private bath offers 2 closets, dual vanities &amp; w/ shower &amp; tub! 4th bedroom w/converted garage &amp; could be office/playroom/home gym! Bedrooms are spacious w/great closets! Fenced backyard! 3 Car workshop has huge storage closet! Horse barn!</p>	<p><b>2804 ADONIA ST. - \$295,000</b>  <b>EXQUISITE NEW CONSTRUCTION BY MASTER BUILDERS!</b>                  Open concept w/living room &amp; fireplace! Gorgeous kitchen w/island, granite, stainless steel &amp; tons of cabinets! Formal living space too! Sequestered master suite w/private bath w/gain ceilings, wonderful bathroom w/tile &amp; tile vanities, w/half bath, upgrade shower &amp; two huge closets! Covered patio! Spacious bedrooms w/nice closets! 2 Car!</p>
<p><b>901 CHEYENNE ST. - \$290,000</b>  <b>WONDERFUL NEW CONSTRUCTION IN A GRAND NEW SUBDIVISION!</b>                  Gorgeous home loaded with updates! Formal dining area! Large living room w/high ceilings! Fireplace! Gourmet kitchen with tons of cabinetry &amp; granite countertop, pantry &amp; big island/breakfast bar! Spacious sequestered master suite w/beautiful bath offers jacked bath, 2 vanities &amp; 2 closets! Covered patio! 2 Car garage!</p>	<p><b>887 CHEYENNE DR. - \$272,500</b>  <b>WONDERFUL NEW CONSTRUCTION BY TRUDY HUNT!</b>                  Updates thru-out! Granite countertops! Beautiful cabinetry! Carpet &amp; the flooring! Fireplace in living w/high ceilings! Open kitchen w/breakfast bar &amp; dining area! Sequestered master suite w/ry ceiling &amp; beautiful bathroom offers dual vanities, large shower, jetted tub &amp; great closet! Spacious bedrooms w/ry closet! Covered patio! 2 Car garage!</p>	<p><b>3607 JORDAN AVE. - \$250,000</b>  <b>UPDATED &amp; DARING!</b>                  Cozy home w/fireplace! Kitchen w/recent appliances, granite countertops &amp; painted cabinetry! Formal dining-breakfast nook &amp; bar! Large bonus room has 2 parts w/pocket doors perfect for study/craft room! Utility rm-hall bath! Sq master w/private bath &amp; updated expanded shower! Tons of storage! Roomy bedrooms! Open patio! Nice yard! Mature trees! Contract fell apart! The day before closing!</p>	<p><b>2817 SHANDON AVE. - \$245,000</b>  <b>WONDERFUL HOME W/HUGE OAK TREES!</b>                  Large formal living/dining area! Den w/satellite tv &amp; fireplace! Kitchen w/abundant storage has breakfast bar! Breakfast nook w/half windows! Large utility room w/half bath! Master suite offers 2 closets plus bath w/tub/shower cabinet! Half bath has extra large walk-in shower! Rooms bedrooms! Large storage closet! Covered patio! Nice yard! Block fence! Fenced area! Nice!</p>

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Table listing new construction properties with columns for address, price, and agent information.

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Table listing properties with four or more bedrooms, including addresses and prices.

THREE BEDROOMS IN MIDLAND

Table listing properties with three bedrooms, including addresses and prices.

TWO TO THREE BEDROOMS IN MIDLAND

Table listing properties with two to three bedrooms, including addresses and prices.

HOUSES IN MIDLAND COUNTY

Table listing various houses in Midland County with addresses and prices.

HOUSES OUTSIDE OF MIDLAND COUNTY

Table listing houses located outside of Midland County.

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL

Table listing commercial and industrial properties.

LANDS AND LOTS

Table listing various lands and lots for sale.

FARMS AND RANCHES

Table listing farms and ranches available for sale.

Real estate agent directory featuring portraits and contact information for numerous agents.

"Your Midland's Favorite Real Estate Agency" with contact information and social media links.

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# CULTURE

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Sunday, November 30, 2014 | Section E



Reporter-Telegram staff writer Rye Druzin writes about his first road trip to Alpine. Read about his experience with the parade, the weather and the art, and check out more of his photos on Page 2E.

## El Paso artist's sculptures work in layers of fabric and meaning

**S**oft sculpture. It sounds like an oxymoron, because sculptures are three-dimensional works that we usually think of as being composed of hard materials like metal, stone and clay. Soft sculpture seems like it would be flimsy and unsubstantial. Seeing soft sculpture in pictures or online it is very difficult to get a sense of the material and the overall effect. Looking at soft sculpture in person gives a much better sense of the artist's intent and skill.

The soft and hard sculptures by artist Margarita Cabrera are on view at the Museum of the Southwest until the end of December. The works on display span a variety of projects she has undertaken over a decade. Visitors walking into the gallery will first see a soft sculpture bicycle, made of vinyl and fabric, sewn together by both machine and hand, with some threads left uncut. Other soft sculptures include a cluster of cacti, a backpack with various items in it, and a life-size baby grand piano. There are hard sculptures made of ceramic — tools including a hammer, pickax saw and shovel, covered in ceramic flowers and birds.

I hope these objects and their arrangement in the gallery can be enjoyed on a surface level, with brightly colored sculptures made in unusual materials showcasing the technical skill of the

**WENDY EARLE**

Museum of the Southwest



artist. In both fabric and clay sculptures viewers can see a lot of the seams of the work, with threads left uncut and lines not perfectly painted. Taking a deeper look at these works, Cabrera's intention is to have these seams serve as a reminder of the labor involved in the manufacturing of the artwork, always showing the human hand. It is especially striking to look at the piano and be aware of the work involved to make each component of the instrument and have it stand upright.

On another level, the objects Cabrera renders have a special meaning in the lives of immigrants between the United States and Mexico. Cabrera was born in Monterrey, Mexico, and has lived and worked for most of her adult life in El Paso. She often works directly with immigrant communities to craft many soft sculptures, each one having specific meaning for the

Please see **EARLE/2E**

## 5 QUESTIONS

With Carl Beery Moore | actor, director

Carl Beery Moore has been a constant in Midland's theater scene, appearing on stage and directing productions for Midland Community Theatre and MRRRP Productions. He's currently playing narrator Jean Sheppard in MCT's "A Christmas Story: The Musical." The show runs through Dec. 21 and tickets are available at [mctmidland.org](http://mctmidland.org).

**MRT:** What's your proudest achievement as a performer/teacher?

**Moore:** So different are these that I have to answer both. As a performer, I'll have to say the character Antonio Salieri in the MCT production of "Amadeus." Up to that point, I had accomplished much as an actor, however this role frightened me. It was huge and quite difficult because Salieri moves in and out of the many periods of his life. However, as the god, I was very proud of that creation. As a director, I must say the MCT's first amateur production of this show here at MCT. It was a huge success. It was blessed with a great cast and production team and their efforts kept me inspired and excited.

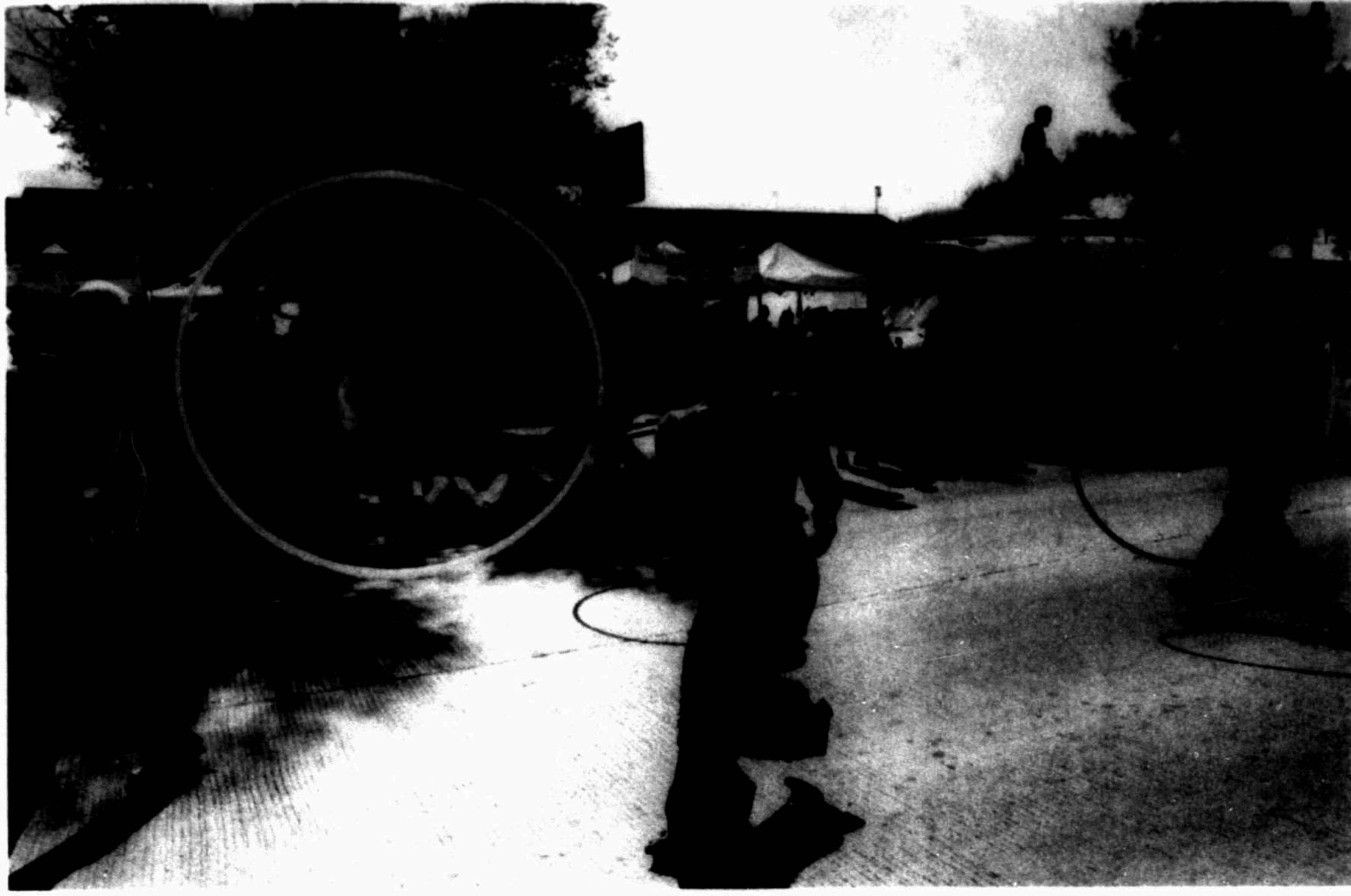
As a teacher, I'm somewhat of a long story. In the 1980s I was teaching in Colorado City. There was a rebellious, challenged young man, Michael, who, though he had few friends, was well-attended the school dances. In his incredibly shy soul there lived

Please see **MOORE 3E**

### What's inside

• How to deal with the stress of holiday decorations  
• How to deal with the stress of holiday stress

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## PARADE OF FLAGS

Local high school students, on cover, march down Holland Avenue Nov. 22 during Alpine's Parade of Flags. TOP: A woman twirls a hula hoop in Alpine's Parade of Flags. ABOVE: Cow Dog, a food truck that serves custom hot dogs, was parked next to coffee shop Plaine. RIGHT: Men sit in the back of a truck during the parade. BELOW and BOTTOM RIGHT: Children carry homemade flags in the parade. BOTTOM LEFT: Local woodworker Willis LeJeune talks about his work.

Rye Druzin/Reporter-Telegram



**RYE DRUZIN**  
staff writer

## Day trip: Alpine's Art Walk attracts crowds of visitors, artists

**A**LPINE — My trip to Alpine last weekend for Art Walk was filled with excitement. I had never been that far outside of Midland since I had arrived in August, and I had heard nothing but good things about the town.

But my trip started with a feeling of foreboding. On my way out on Interstate 20, traffic ground to a halt as a thunderstorm dumped sheets of rain and sleet on motorists, prompting emergency lights to be turned on and some cars to pull off the road. I pushed through, and within 15 minutes had pulled out of the storm and back into big-sky country.

The drive to Alpine was thankfully uneventful, the ribbons of road flanked by golden grass cutting a path through miles of mesquite bushes and desert. Approaching the city I was taken aback by the grandeur of Sul Ross State University, the big red-brick buildings perched on the hillside overlooking Alpine. This was more than a sleepy little town; it's a place with vitality and life that I thought would be lacking so far from the major population centers.

Lining Holland Avenue, Alpine's main street, were purple signs declaring the weekend-long Art Walk. Food carts were setting up off the intersection of Fifth and Holland and some artists were greeting passersby from their small sidewalk stands.

I headed down Holland, taking in the sights as the sun beat down. I ended up at the corner of North Third Street and Holland at Plaine, a little hipster coffee shop where the outdoor seating was full of young families, and a hot dog food truck called Cow Dog.

Plaine and the adjacent Tumbleweed Laundry were set up in an old gas station and auto shop, reusing an old space in a new and interesting way. As I sipped my coffee, an older man with thinning white hair jokingly asked another man holding a baby, "Waddya got there?" The younger man answered, "Baby girl No. 4."

I finished my coffee and crossed the street, walking back toward the center of town. Some of the buildings are vacant, their empty windows and sagging walls reflecting their dilapidation. But the town felt alive as more and more people gathered on the sidewalks flanking the main drag, waiting for the parade to begin. Children grabbed paper bags in which to collect candy, as adults joked and asked where their bags were.

It was hot as the sun unveiled itself from behind the clouds as the parade came through. Hundreds of kids walked down the road waving flags, while an old Model A Ford meandered down, honking "ahooga, ahooga" at the crowd. One truck broke down, and groups of people from the crowd helped the truck down the road, pushing it a couple of hundred feet until it stopped and another group would get behind it.

After the parade ended, I meandered a bit, talking to people in the shops; some were from the area and others were from as far as New Mexico, San Antonio and Austin.

The quality of the art work was impressive.

I stumbled into a salon that had been converted into an art studio. The owner's daughter was displaying her work for the first time. Eva Calderon (who is the 14th person in her family with the first name Eva) was born in Mexico but raised in the Alpine area. She now lives in Austin and works at a pizza shop, doing art on the side. Calderon said she decided to do her first show in Alpine because it felt right to her, and it was nice to see her showing off not just to random strangers like myself, but to friends who passed by the store.

It began to rain and I chastised myself for leaving my jacket in the car. Clutching my camera I bolted down two storefronts, ending up at the art cooperative Catch-Light Art Gallery where I found Willis LeJeune sitting in the middle of the room, chipping away at a piece of wood with a chisel. LeJeune, who has been making wood art for several decades, said that while many artists look at a piece of wood and see an image or an animal, all he saw was wood. His goal is to shape a piece of art that is unique, and such freedom shows in the polished pieces of wood that he had. We chatted a bit about his work, and as I said good-bye, I looked out at the downpour that was flooding Alpine's streets. I guess I had brought the weather with me.

## EARLE

From 1E

person who worked with Cabrera to make it. The cluster of cacti are the best example of this, coming from a project at the Box 13 Artspace in Houston. In

the artist's own words, "the community workshop will produce numerous sculptural replicas of desert plants that are indigenous to the Southwestern United States, the most frequently traveled route of immigra-

tion into the U.S. Sewn together out of border patrol uniforms, and planted in traditional Mexican terracotta pots, these sculptural plants render the role of border patrol officers as the protagonists in the Ameri-

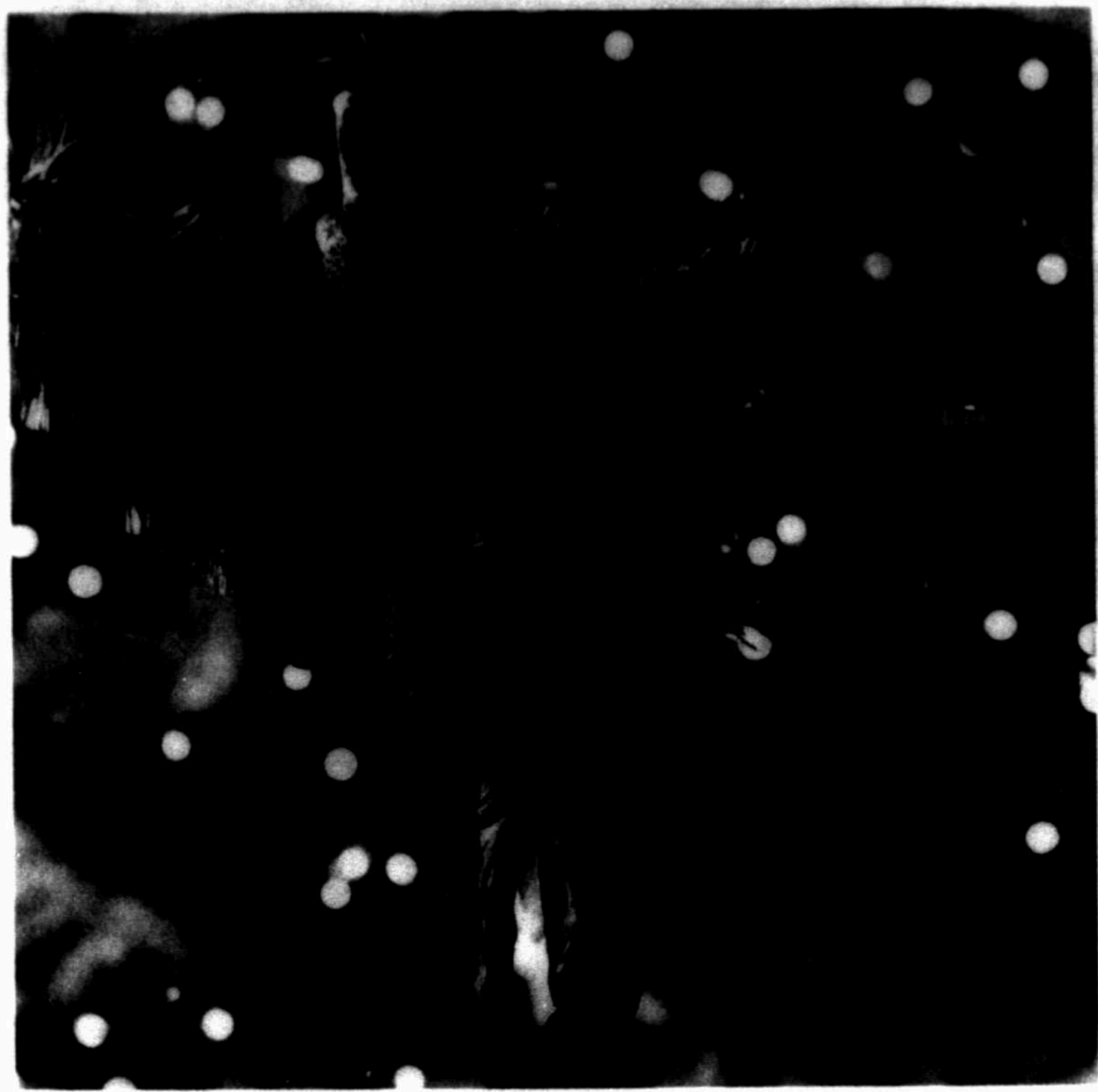
can-landscape." By choosing such specific materials and transforming them into these iconic border region plants, the works are loaded with meaning and layers. Other objects like the bicycle and backpack

are modeled on specific tools used in immigrant crossings. There are many layers involved in this exhibition, and because the Museum of the Southwest is offering free admission throughout the month of

December we hope to have many repeat visitors dive into Cabrera's work.

Wendy Earle is curator of collections and exhibitions at the Museum of the Southwest.

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Pier 1 Imports/AP

A peacock ornament clip, above left, and a peacock sequin ornamental ball, above right, bring in the holiday colors with a touch of global exoticism. Blue, green and turquoise continue to find favor with many home decorators for the holidays. For those who love to decorate, there's no time like the holidays for adding some fun, festive touches to our living spaces.

## Holiday decor trends range from vintage to city chic

By Kim Cook  
Associated Press

For those who love to decorate, there's no time like the holidays for adding fun, festive touches to our living spaces. This year, there's something for many tastes and styles.

A look at the trends you'll see at stores:

### Christmas past

The 1920s inspire a lot of holiday decor, with West Elm offering glittery Art Deco letter ornaments in silver and midnight blue. Elegant, gold, blown-glass animals fit the vibe.

At Pier 1, you'll find beaded tree swags, as well as ornaments encrusted with sequins or glass mosaics. Beaded metallic pillars, champagne glasses and bottles, and chevron-patterned pendants add Jazz Age style.

Throw pillows and signs printed with a vintage-style chalkboard Christmas greeting hold charm at Pottery Barn, where the design is also available in a door mat. Here too, a decorative collection of old-fashioned

village homes, churches and schoolhouses evokes turn-of-the-century German ornaments similarly made of cardboard and silver glitter. Purchases from the collection support shelters nationwide through the Give a Little Hope organization.

For a more midcentury look, consider Crate & Barrel's teardrop ornaments in a sexy, red matte glass. If you're into making some of your own midcentury modern Christmas decorations, check out the DIY Network's website for suggestions including stockings and ornaments.

### Snow glow

LED lighting is now in just about anything, including holiday decorations. Ikea's Strala collection includes a garland of pierced gold balls fitted with LEDs, and a bright red tree mat has built-in LEDs.

Frontgate's Meteor light set twinkles, showers, shimmers and glows at the touch of a button.

Clusters of string lights look gorgeous under glass cloches; Restoration Hardware offers both in various sizes. And snow globes that send up a flurry of uplit flakes with the push of

a button are a twist on the traditional.

Also at the retailer: spare, birch-wrapped branches wrapped in warm LEDs, in various sizes for tabletop or entryway floor.

### City sparkle

"This year I'm seeing deep, rich hues," said designer Taniya Nayak. "Think sapphire, deep emerald and sexy violet. The real wow factor rolls in with the metallic touches. There is a cool juxtaposition that happens when you mix the sophisticated richness of jewel tones and the medley of copper patina and copper shine."

Pier 1's peacock-inspired tree skirt anchors a collection of vibrant ornaments in faceted glass, sequins or feathers.

There are accent pillows on the market this year decorated with glitter, bugle beads, sequins or metallic embroidery thread. Look for snowflake or tree motifs, or seasonal words like "Noel" and "Joy." One or two on an entryway bench greet guests with panache; Target and HomeGoods have nicely priced options.

Z Gallerie has the glamorous Folly collection

of white and gold pearl wreaths, table trees and garlands, as well as crystal flower spheres and ornaments in trendy turquoise.

Stylized foxes and owls in white or gold acrylic add a soft, metallic accent to the tree or tablecape.

Pottery Barn's chinchilla, fox or bear faux-fur tree skirts add a touch of luxe. Dress the tree with midcentury-style copper and brass trims for a cool and current vibe.

### Camp Christmas

The rustic, cabin-y look that took off last year has held strong. Woodland creatures populate the ornament collections at Land of Nod, while, in a twist, hedgehogs and raccoons are photoprinted on little stuffed ornaments at Target.

At West Elm, Boston designer Mimi Kirchner's felt foxes, deer, raccoons and bears sport jaunty scarves and plaid coats.

Ikea's Vinter collection features Swedish patterns on cushion covers and guest towels. At Pottery Barn, an advent calendar with farmhouse charm is created out of small, galvanized buckets mounted on

a pine frame.

Artists Petra Borner and Fiona Howard have designed ornaments for Crate & Barrel evoking European folk art designs. Here too, clever tree collars made of glossy red or galvanized metal to resemble vintage tubs.

### For entertaining

Nayak loves "any mixture of glam and rustic," including "a winter-white backdrop with reclaimed wood and a bit of polished chrome."

Crate & Barrel's got a selection of laser-cut, crocheted and curled paper snowflakes in creamy hues of champagne, bronze and white, add a few glittery, beaded ornaments in silver and muted grays.

Sandy Chlewich has a new collection of mats and runners rendered in gold, silver, gunmetal and brass, in a chic geometric Pebble pattern.

At Target, Nate Berkus' Ascot Star dessert plates and trays feature a classic foulard pattern in smart black and white that would work for get-togethers straight into New Year's Eve.

For Hanukkah, Jonathan Adler offers a blue,

Lucite cube menorah, as well as an array of mod, ceramic-animal menorahs. At Williams-Sonoma, a collection of porcelain plates and serveware in cream with a graphic print of ancient temple menorahs would add style to a holiday buffet.

Sara Peterson, editor-in-chief of HGTV Magazine, likes colorful decor beyond the traditional red and green. "Felt pom-pom garlands are always a party hit, and not just for Christmas trees," she said. "String them on stair railings and around mirrors, and drape them from your curtain rods."

Think beyond the living room, Peterson said.

"Add a little decorating twist here and there throughout your house," she said. "It's fun to do something beyond just setting the table. In guest bathrooms, use a whiteboard marker to write a fun holiday message on the mirror, and put down a holiday-themed bath mat. In the kitchen, plant mini cypress trees in colorful glazed pots, and swap out regular dish towels for festive tea towels."

## Latest in lights showcases new technology, better efficiency

By Sarah Wolfe  
Associated Press

Clark Griswold would be proud.

Thanks to advances in lighting technology, suburban dads (and moms) across the country have a lot to choose from when it comes to creative ways to deck their halls for the holidays this year.

Forget about white incandescent lights and animatronic reindeer.

Think lasers. Think smartphones. And hundreds, if not millions, of color choices.

### RGB lights

Single light bulbs that hold three LEDs — red, green and blue — are the secret behind a new category of holiday lights that offer up to 16 million color combinations.

Known as RGB lights, they can be dialed up or down in a variety of ways via a smartphone app. And because their color range is so varied, they can be kept up year-round and used for any number of holidays — Halloween, the Fourth of July,

Easter, you name it.

Lumenplay offers the most colors by far at more than 16 million. The exotic lighting system doesn't come cheap (\$79.99 for a starter pack) and is only available in 10-foot strands. But you can string as many as 500 lights together on one controller, which comes with the starter pack.

GE also offers RGB lighting technology with its new iTwinkle light sets and pre-lit Christmas trees, while Texas-based decorating firm Christmas Decor is offering the lights as an option for holiday customers this year.

### 'Smart' lights

All the talk of RGB technology leads right into the next holiday lighting trend this year — "smart" lights or lighting systems controlled by your smartphone.

Both the Lumenplay and iTwinkle systems are operated via apps available for Apple and Android phones. With just a swipe of your screen, you can dim or brighten outdoor lights, set them to music or choose new colors and patterns.

With iTwinkle, you can even

record a greeting to play, like "Happy Holidays" or "Merry Christmas," spokeswoman Amanda Hayes said.

Most of these apps have a range of up to 150 feet, meaning you can control the action from across the yard or while plopped on your couch watching "It's A Wonderful Life" (or the Griswolds in "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation") for the 10th time.

"No longer do you have to venture outside to plug in your lights," said Sarah Koniec with California-based Technical Consumer Products.

TCP recently unveiled a smart home lighting system known as Connected by TCP, which links to a home's Wi-Fi or mobile network and is controlled via smartphone, computer or a special remote.

### Projected laser lights

Using small spotlights, this technology projects thousands of tiny pinpoints of red, green or blue and green lights onto your home or any other hard surface. California-based BlissLights of-



Lights.com/AP

LED lights are an energy-efficient way to deck your halls for the holidays. LED technology has been around for years, but used to be too expensive for many homeowners to consider. Now, LEDs are overtaking incandescent lights as the holiday lighting of choice for homeowners looking to save on their electricity bills.

ters them for \$179 or \$199 each, depending on whether the lights are in motion.

To a passerby, "at first glance, they look like traditional holiday rope lights, but actually they float freely across the house's exterior, plants and more to create a display that neighbors will think took hours to design and hang," BlissLights spokeswoman Natalia Barclay said.

There are no cords or wires involved with the laser lights, said Niell Burks of Atlanta-based Pinnacle Lighting Group.

"For people who live in the northern part of the country, it's extremely helpful when you have to take them down and it's zero degrees outside," he said. "Instead of taking a string of lights down in January, just unplug the

fixture and put it in a box and you're done."

### Battery-powered lights

This technology has been around a while but was mostly limited to smaller, incandescent light strands that you'd put in a window box or small porch display.

Now they come in LED strands up to 30 feet long with batteries that are much more powerful and longer-lasting. Many feature auto-timers and buttons that control blinking and other patterns.

At online retailer Lights.com, you can connect up to six strands of battery-powered lights for a total of 600 LED lights on one battery pack, spokeswoman Aimee Majoros said.

## MOORE

From 1E

a dancer, and at some point at the event, he would start to move to the inspiring music and everyone would just stop, awestruck, as he gradually possessed the dance floor. When he was done, the students cheered him on, but he would simply smile and slip into the darkness. I was doing a play called, "Voices from the High School," in which one nonspeaking character danced as a girl told his story of being bullied for loving dancing. I

asked Michael to play the part and he agreed. I had private rehearsals with him, knowing his shyness, and tried in vain to get him to do the ballet-like dance steps I needed him to do. Time after time, he tried, really tried, but he failed. I was completely frustrated. If he could do those moves on the dance floor, why couldn't he do these? I had almost decided that casting him was a mistake. If the student body saw him being clumsy, this one-trick-pony might become crippled. However, Michael showed up

at the first dress rehearsal and I decided to let him try. When the music started, Michael began to move — doing the ballet styled moves I had tried to get him to do — but embellished beautifully with his unique style. The entire cast and I were stunned, as was every member of every audience. Michael was able to teach himself once he was left to his own devices. Why is that such proud achievement for me? Because this shy, mentally challenged young man taught me my most important lesson

as an educator. Education has it wrong. "Special" students are not learning-disabled. Educators are teaching-disabled. The problem lies with us, with our limited ability to reach those who do not fit the prescribed mold. He profoundly changed my teaching career.

**MRT:** What is your best quality?

**Moore:** My open-mindedness. I just love everyone.

**MRT:** Describe an ideal meal.

**Moore:** It isn't about specific foods. I love to eat — everything. The ideal meal is deliciously prepared and eaten with warm, happy people who are in the moment of the meal. Yumming through each mouthful and elaborate story is key. (Yumming is a new word, folks, don't bother looking it up.)

**MRT:** Your not-so-secret indulgence.

**Moore:** Tuesday night poker at Nine-and-a-half Dan's Texas Hold'em with good friends is hard to beat.

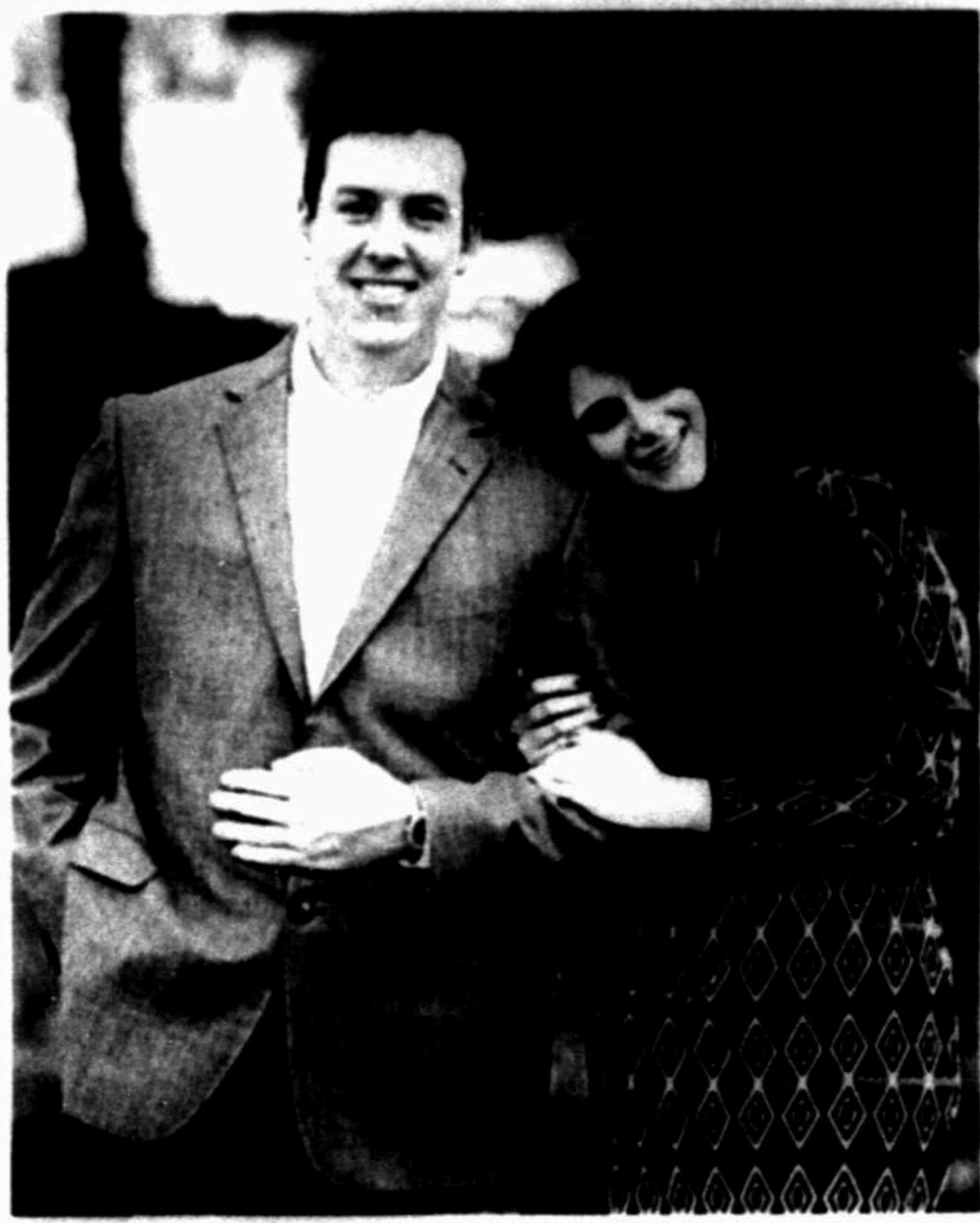
**MRT:** What's in your car/home music player right now?

**Moore:** Right now, Pandora's Michael Buble station. It changes all the time, but you asked for "right now."

**MRT:** This holiday season, I wish for

**Moore:** The strength to manage my way through our current national climate of self-focusing. I don't expect it to change. I just don't want it to change me... except to make my patience stronger.

## ENGAGEMENTS



**Bigelow - Baccus**

Louisa Patane Bigelow of Midland is pleased to announce the engagement of Melissa Ashley Bigelow and David Elijah Baccus.

The wedding will be held at First United Methodist Church of Midland on February 21, 2015.

## Teen gifts: ideas for hard-to-buy-for big kids

By Lisa A. Flam  
Associated Press

They are finicky and fickle, and might be updating their wish lists as often as their Instagram accounts. Do you have any idea what to buy the teenagers on your holiday shopping list this year? "It's a challenge because they move quickly and their desires change quickly," said Gregg Andrews, Nordstrom's fashion creative director. "You have to have the newest, hottest thing. They're bringing in so much information, so what they want changes constantly."

The best bets, according to the experts: electronics — notably the smartphone, along with phone accessories; video game systems and games; fashion accessories; activewear (the "athleisure" trend); and items that let teens express themselves. Don't forget the standbys of cash and gift cards.

"The No. 1 thing is the cellphone — it's not even close," Marshal Cohen, chief industry analyst at market research firm NPD Group, says of what teenagers want.

Gift-givers can then build on what the child already has. "If I got you a new phone during the year or last year, I'm going to look to accessorize it this year," Cohen said.

### No shame in gift cards

Aileen Avery, author of "Gift Rap: The History and Art of Gift Giving," advises steering clear of clothing, makeup and handbags. "Those are very personal style things that the teen should pick out themselves, especially if it's a girl," she said. Her advice for a no-fail

gift: cash, gift cards or electronics.

"If you don't want to spend the big bucks on the iPad or a cellphone, then you can buy things like accessories and little gifts and match them to gift cards," she said — for example, cool earbuds with an iTunes gift card.

Or wrap up a gadget like a Darth Vader flash drive or purse-size cellphone charger/flashlight.

Don't be embarrassed to give a gift card, experts say, because teenagers don't find them impersonal the way adults might. Just be sure you know where they want to shop.

"Teens would rather have one big, giant gift card than a whole bunch of little gift cards," Cohen said. "They don't want a variety. They want to make a splash in one store."

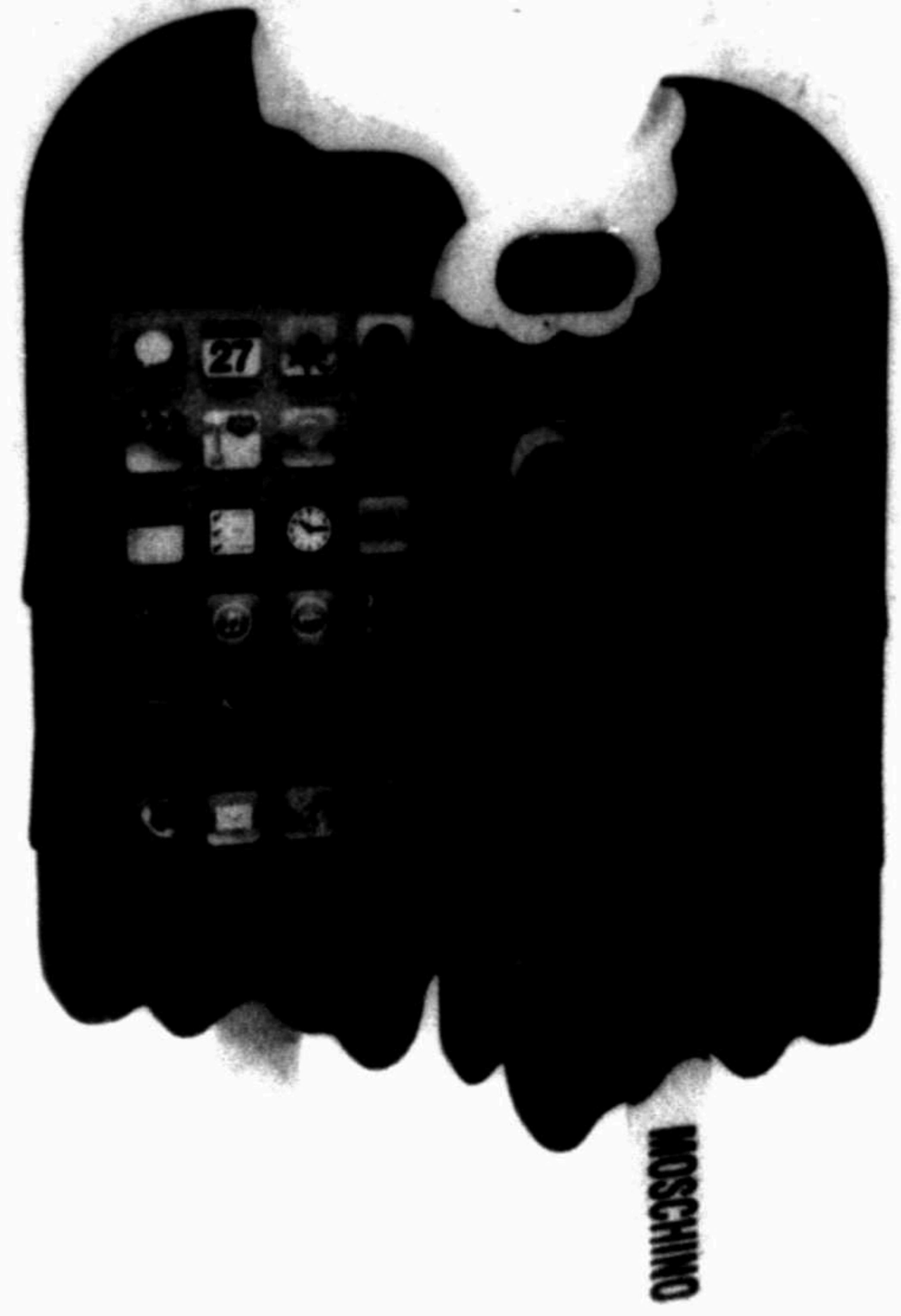
For inspiration, check out recipients' social networks to find out about their hobbies, what music they love or what team they cheer for. Avery said. If you spot a restaurant they enjoy, grab a gift card so they can dine out with friends. Or see what kind of video games they play.

Cash, said Avery, is the gift of "first resort": "Cash is better than gift cards because that's immediate. That's, 'go wherever, do whatever you want.'"

Idealistic teenagers will feel good receiving a gift from a retailer that donates to a charitable cause they are passionate about. "This generation is more socially conscious that way and wants to make a difference," Avery said.

### Unique and personal

Good gifts for teenagers are ones that are new, different and let them show who they are, said Andrews, at Nordstrom. "They want things that are unique, that express



Nordstrom/AP

This photo provided by Nordstrom shows a Moschino "Ice Cream" 3D iPhone 5 case. For smartphone cases, Moschino has creative models turned out to resemble fast food french fries and a melting ice cream bar; other brands feature floral, ethnic or animal prints.

their individuality and that they're the first to have," he said.

His recommendations: Smartphone cases. Moschino has creative models turned out to resemble fast-food french fries and a melting ice cream bar; other brands feature floral, ethnic or animal prints.

"When they all throw their cellphones down on the table, it's who has the coolest case," Andrews said.

He also suggests other tech accessories: earbuds, alone or built into earmuffs or headbands, or headphones offered with interchangeable "cans" for different looks.

"Headphones are a crazy thing now, and they're not just about the sound. They're also about the look and the accessory-like quality of them," Andrews said.

If you're looking for a wearable gift, consider the Converse sneaker, avail-

able in various colors and in styles from Missoni, the knitwear company known for zigzag patterns. For boys, consider a hat — a slouchy beanie or an old-school ski hat emblazoned with a team logo and topped off with a pom-pom.

As for activewear, there's the jogger pant for boys and girls. The relaxed fit makes it easier for gift-givers to get the size right. Same goes for a quilted vest or trendy backpack, Andrews said.

At Gifts.com, editorial curator Gwen Paja recommends a refurbished, vintage Polaroid instant camera as a nostalgic counterpoint to the latest technology. She also suggests necklaces in the shape of a state, and "experience" gifts, like flying in a jet pack.

## Elf on the Shelf gets new reindeer buddy

By Helena Oliviero  
Cox Newspapers

ATLANTA — It all started with a sly little elf keeping an eye on things.

Once the family goes to bed, the elf flies back to the North Pole to make a daily report to Santa.

"The Elf on the Shelf" — based in Atlanta and rooted in a family tradition going back to the 1970s — has sold a whopping 7 million books (and elves) since its 2005 release.

Some think the elf is overly commercial and creepy with his ever-present stare, while others adore the cute, grinning guy and have happily made the elf part of their annual holiday traditions — with children jumping out of bed in the morning eager to go find out where the little fella is hiding.

Love it or hate it, get ready to cheer or groan. Elf on the Shelf now has a pet, and yes, of course, it's a reindeer.

Chanda Bell, her sister Christa Pitts, and their mother, Carol Aebersold, turned their Powder Springs, Georgia, family ritual into an Elf on the Shelf empire. With clothing and goggles (for the elves) and a birthday countdown (for the child), it was just a matter of time before this family of products expanded to include a furry friend. It's called "Elf Pets: A Reindeer Tradition." It includes a storybook and reindeer (each reindeer wears a heart charm necklace) and retails for \$19.95.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution recently interviewed Bell, author of "Elf Pets: A Reindeer Tradition."

Q: How would you sum up the "Elf Pets: A Reindeer Tradition"?

A: (It's) a family tradition in a box that comes with a real reindeer from the North Pole and a Christmas book. The real purpose of "Elf Pets: A Reindeer Tradition" is to help Santa's sleigh fly on Christmas Eve and how kids can be part of it. It's really about building up the Christmas spirit so Santa can fly.

Q: Why not just keep it at Elf on the Shelf? Isn't there the danger this might be overdoing it or taking away from the Elf on the Shelf?

A: Both traditions stand alone and they are different, separate things. The elf is going to report back to Santa and interact with your family. The reindeer's job is to build up the Christmas spirit, which is made up of faith, hope and love.

Q: You have a son who is 13 and a daughter who is 8. What does your son, who is older, think of the Elf on the Shelf, and what does he think of the reindeer pet?

A: He is full of Christmas magic. He thinks it's so cool that his mom works for Santa. Last night, we were talking before he went to sleep and he said, "Mom, Kendyl was lovin' on the heart of the reindeer and she swore the heart was getting bigger." He loves being a part of it for his sister.

Q: Does the reindeer stuffed animal stay with the child all year or does it only come out over the holidays?

A: Every family will make it their own tradition, and having said that, our reindeer will go back home on Christmas Eve. Everything about Christmas comes to an end. Our reindeer will come back on Thanksgiving.

## Holiday cards: To share or not to share

By Anne Wallace Allen  
Associated Press

For many people, the rules for posting personal news on Facebook, Pinterest and other social media are clear: Put a Good Face on Everything.

But that rule doesn't always extend to holiday cards. There, along with the smiling pictures and upbeat updates, you also might learn about the year's marital debacles, bad diagnoses or heartbreaking fertility problems.

Refreshing honesty or too much information?

The tell-all holiday card or letter has been around for a few years now, said Diane Gottsman, a Texas-based etiquette expert. She believes that a holiday card is supposed to be a warm greeting; if you want to update people on the harsh realities of your life, have that conversation in person.

"The holiday card should warm hearts, with some small note," said

Gottsman. "Droning on about your divorce and how your ex-husband did you wrong? The card is not the venue for this kind of news."

LisaMarie Luccioni, a professor of communications at the University of Cincinnati, said people have grown skeptical, however, of the crafted, idealized versions of life they see on Facebook. The holiday card can serve as a reality check, she said.

"I actually appreciate the candor and honesty of people in these types of cards," said Luccioni. "I'm a professor of 25 years and I appreciate when a student gives me honesty."

Despite the availability of electronic greeting cards, many people still send paper holiday cards, sometimes including page-long "newsletters" summarizing the year. The greeting card industry says Americans buy 6.5 billion cards each year, for annual sales of between \$7 billion and \$8 billion. Christmas is by far the most popular seasonal event for cards, according to the Greeting Card Association.

For many people, it seems, paper cards or newsletters connect on a more personal level than an e-card, said Margaret Page, an etiquette coach in Vancouver, British Columbia.

She thinks that senders of holiday cards might say too much because they're not connecting closely enough the rest of the year.

"Social media is not really being connected," Page said. "People are desperate to make real connections, and are using Christmas cards, birthday cards, to share information with others that they wouldn't have a decade ago — or even five years ago."

A lawyer in Boise, Idaho, who asked not to be named, decided to share the reasons behind her divorce in a Christmas letter two years ago.

"I just thought, you know, I'm going to be honest with our friends and family, and just put it out there," she said. "I also didn't want to repeat the story 100 times, and that's kind of where I was at."

## Pet holiday gift ideas include sweaters, cameras, treats

By Sue Manning  
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Pet owners looking to launch the next Internet sensation or just longing for a new view of their dog's dashing and digging won't have to shop for long to find the perfect holiday gift. Wrap up a dog harness that holds GoPro's durable cameras and watch Frisbee fetch, lazy lap naps and every memory in between come alive.

The Fetch dog harness fits over Fido's chest or back and holds the small, waterproof camera known for attaching to helmets, surfboards, cars and wrists to film rugged adventures. Sony, Garmin and Kurgo also make camera mounts for dogs.

The device is among a legion of gifts that retailers have rounded up for pet wish lists this year. Narrowing it down is tough, but the harness tops the more unique options and creates lasting footage.

The most pet-friendly camera in the GoPro Inc. line is the Hero4, which allows people to decide what the dog records and control all the functions with a



GoPro/AP

A dog wearing two GoPro cameras — one on his back and one on his chest — held on by what is known as a Fetch dog harness, digs into sand. GoPro Inc.'s Fetch dog harness fits over your dog's chest or back and holds the small, waterproof camera known for attaching to helmets, surfboards, cars and wrists to film rugged adventures. Sony, Garmin and Kurgo also make camera mounts for dogs.

touch screen, company spokeswoman Kelly Baker said. The camera sells for \$399, and the mount costs \$59.

The chest harness captures bone-chewing and digging, while the back mount films running and jumping, Baker said. They adjust to fit dogs weighing 15 to 120 pounds.

The canine camera view has proved popular. A video went viral of an eager Labrador strapped with a camera sprinting through trees and across rocks to an Italian beach, where it leaps into the ocean.

John Duffield of Santa Monica, California, loves the footage he got from the GoPro

he mounted on his two dogs. He got enough shots to make a short video shortly before his chow-Labrador-Akita mix, Lupa, died.

But Duffield didn't strap the camera to his Chihuahua, Pup, three months ago when he and his wife brought their newborn daughter home from the hospital.

"Pup is like a member of the family, too," Duffield said. "He belonged in this picture because he was welcoming home part of his family."

Those looking for pet gifts besides the traditional treats, new bowls and beds can give something unexpected such as:

### Ugly sweaters

They are the rage this year, so PetSmart Inc. will hawk ugly sweaters for cats and dogs from Bret Michaels' Pets Rock line (\$15.99), said Shelly Albrecht, spokeswoman for the national retailer. Swath pets in sweaters stitched with gingerbread men and Christmas trees and they could win worst-dressed at those seasonal ugly sweater parties popular with people.

PetSmart also is selling leg warmers online and in stores from Top Paw and Luv-A-Pet.

### "Star Wars" gear

Dogs will "use the force" with Petco's line of "Star Wars" toys and clothing. Dress up dogs like Princess Leia with a headband sporting her signature bun hairstyle. The Death Star won't menace when it comes as a treat dispenser (\$7.49) or tug-of-war toy (\$5.99).

Plush squeaker toys feature favorite characters — R2-D2, Chewbacca and Darth Vader — for less than \$10. And don't forget the cats — the Millennium Falcon flies at the end of a teaser toy string for less than \$5.

### Devices for older dogs

Make it easier for your senior dog to get around safely with equipment from Solvit Pet Products (www.solvitproducts.com). Help them avoid injury in the car with a Department of Transportation-tested safety harness (\$30) and ease their way out of the vehicle with a ramp for those who can no longer jump (\$159).

Keep them close on a bike ride with a bicycle trailer or stroller (\$399) or with a wicker basket (\$89).

# Easy entertaining: Pork tenderloin three ways

By Allison Ladman  
Associated Press

The holidays are stressful enough, never mind if you feel the need to reinvent your dinner repertoire every time someone new pops over. But at the same time, December is going to be an awful long month if you resort to making the same dish over and over again. So we figured there had to be a delicious middle ground.

And there was. Our idea was simple — pick a cut of meat that is easy to have on hand, simple to prepare for both small groups and crowds, and yet versatile enough to pair with multiple flavors.

Our choice? Pork tenderloin. Though delicious and tender, it also is neutral enough to pair wonderfully with numerous ingredients.

## HOLIDAY ROASTED PORK TENDERLOIN

Start to finish: 45 minutes  
Servings: 8

**Two 1-pound pork tenderloins**  
Olive oil  
Kosher salt and ground black pepper  
Heat the oven to 400 F.  
Brush or rub olive oil over the surface of each pork tenderloin. Sprinkle each on all sides with salt and pepper. Place the tenderloins in a small roasting pan and roast for 30 minutes, or until the center of the tenderloins reaches 145 F. Slice and serve topped with one of the variations below.

**Butternut Squash Pesto**  
In a food processor, pulse 2 cups of peeled and cubed butternut squash until the pieces are very finely diced. Stir 1/4 cup olive oil into the squash, then spread the mixture on a foil-lined rimmed baking sheet. Bake at 400 F for 12 to 15 minutes, or until tender, but not mushy. Lift the foil off the pan and place the squash in the freezer to chill for 10 minutes. Once chilled, in a medium bowl stir together the squash, 2 tablespoons lime juice, 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro, 1/4 cup chopped fresh basil, 1/4 cup grated manchego cheese, and salt and black pepper, to taste. Spoon over the pork and top with toasted almonds.

**Garlic Potato Purée**  
In a small saucepan over medium heat, combine 1 cup half-and-half with 3 garlic cloves and 2 bay leaves. Cover and simmer for 15 minutes. Meanwhile, in a covered medium saucepan fitted with a steamer basket and filled with 1 inch of water, steam 2 pounds of peeled and cubed russet potatoes for 15 minutes, or until very tender. Pass the potatoes through a food mill or ricer and into a large bowl. Remove the bay leaves from the half-and-half and discard. In a blender, puree the half-and-half with the garlic until completely smooth. Gradually whisk the half-and-half into the potatoes, allowing it to be absorbed before adding more. Whisk in 8 tablespoons butter, then season with salt and black pepper. Sprinkle with chopped fresh thyme, then serve alongside the pork tenderloin.

**Cranberry Cider Glaze**  
In a small saucepan over medium-high, combine 2 cups apple cider with 1 cup fresh cranberries. Bring to a simmer and cook, uncovered, until thickened and reduced to 1 cup. Season lightly with salt and pepper. Meanwhile, in an oiled skillet over medium-high heat, cook several slices of prosciutto until crisp. When the pork tenderloin is cooked, serve covered with the glaze and garnished with shards of crisped prosciutto.

# Tater Tots appeal to hipsters, home cooks

By Michelle Locke  
Associated Press

Tater Tots have come a long way from your school lunch tray.

The comfort (and kid) food staple, which celebrates its 60th anniversary this year, has been making it big on the bar scene, showing up as a crispy snack recently everywhere from neighborhood holes-in-the-wall to upscale craft bars. Meanwhile, home cooks and haute chefs alike have been inspired to come up with their own tweaks on the Tot.

Barbecue bacon wrapped Tots. Breakfast burrito Tots. Pizza Tots. Tochos — think nachos only with Tots instead of tortilla chips — and the rather meta Tots-topped baked potatoes.

It's not really surprising that so many people are inspired to become Tater creators, said Julie Crist, whose own love of the spud nuggets prompted her to open The Tot Cart, which has taken such inventions as chicken Tot pie and pulled pork Tots to the streets of the Philadelphia region.

"You can really do anything with a potato. It's like a blank canvas," she points out.

Tater Tots began humbly enough as a way to use up left over potato slivers from frozen french fries, which then were a main product of the Ore-Ida company. The Tots selling point was that they were crisp on the outside, fluffy on the inside,

*"I wanted to come up with a snack that everyone would just love. It's something about the texture, the saltiness. It's when you bite into something and there's that crunch."*

Jesse Schenker, chef at The Gander in Manhattan

qualities that still appeal. At Daddy-O, a whiskey bar in New York City, owner Phillip Casaceli has been serving fried Tater Tots for about 15 years. It was one of the first menu items when the place opened in the summer of 1999. "We were a late-night crowd. The Tater Tots just worked really well with that demographic."

You can get Tater Tots kicked up with cheese and jalapenos at Daddy-O, but the straight-up Tots are also popular. "What most people are looking for is that iconic kind of Tater Tot that brings them back to their youth," said Casaceli, waxing philosophical.

Today, Casaceli estimates Daddy-O goes through 150 to 200 pounds of Tater Tots a week and he's seen the trend spread to other bars in the city. They also are on the menu at uber-hip PDT (please don't tell).

But Tater Tots aren't just big in the Big Apple. Type "Tater Tot happy hour" into Google and you'll get results from all over the country. You can find Tots served straight up with sea salt on the side, blanketed with cheese and other sauces, or taken uptown with garlic and truffles.

In Philadelphia, Crist finds her best-seller are Tots tossed in Old Bay seasoning and served with

a homemade sauce of something called drunk cheese.

While many use the classic Ore-Ida Tot, some are serving house-made versions, like the brisket tots at The Gander in Manhattan. Chef Jesse Schenker starts with brisket, adds herbs, caramelized onions, apples and mozzarella, cuts the mixture into circles and rolls them in potato flakes. The finished tots are served with an aerated mustard sauce made of creme fraiche and Dijon alongside cylinders of pickled apple.

"I wanted to come up with a snack that everyone would just love," said Schenker.

He understands the lure of the classic Ore-Ida product, too. "It's something about the texture, the saltiness. It's when you bite into something and there's that crunch."

These days Ore-Ida's Tater Tots are made from dedicated potatoes — not slivers from french fry cutting — but not much has changed about the process except for some technology upgrades, said Fed Arreola, vice president of marketing for Ore-Ida. The company sells about 86 million pounds of Tater Tots each year and officials are, naturally, happy to see Tots popping up on menus and Pinterest pages.

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## HINTS FROM HELOISE

King Features Syndicate

### Food faux pas: Readers confess to kitchen mishaps

**D**ear Readers: Wow and double wow! It seems like a lot of you have had some pretty funny "mistakes and mishaps" in the kitchen. I had no idea so many of you would fess up to some pretty silly food foul-ups! Here are just a few:

■ Ilona, via email, said: "In my first month of marriage, I used a recipe calling for a clove of garlic. I thought it meant the whole head. Boy, did my kitchen reek of garlic for hours after!"

■ Maria C., via email, said: "I grew up with three brothers. When learning to cook, I made my first cake from scratch and left out any leavening. The cake turned out flat and rubbery. My family still laughs about how my brothers had a great time using it as a flying disc in the backyard!"

■ Marie W., via email, said: "My mother baked the best cherry pie on Earth, so I wanted to impress my father with mine. I cooked a cherry pie. The problem was, I used canned cherries with the pits still in them. My father ate it, declaring that it was the best he had ever eaten, while spitting seeds along the way. I will always adore him for that!" — Heloise

**How long?**  
Dear Heloise: Pumpkin pie is a traditional holiday dessert in our home. How long will it keep on the table? — Kelly D. in Kentucky

Pumpkin pie is always on the menu during holidays (here in Texas, it's pecan pie). It should be refrigerated within a two-hour window of time. The same guideline goes for most food that sits out. — Heloise

**Plastic helper**  
Dear Heloise: My husband came up with this hint: Save the little plastic "tables" that often come inside pizza-delivery boxes. They work great when poked into a frosted cake, pan of bars or meringue-topped pie. They keep the plastic wrap or aluminum foil cover from touching the food. — Cherie M., via email

**Malt vinegar**  
Dear Heloise: I enjoy eating fish and chips, and I love the malt vinegar sprinkled on the fish. I put some on the "chips" or fries by accident, and I loved the taste. To make ordinary french fries tastier, sprinkle with malt vinegar. — Ally T. in New York

What a great hint, and I often do the very same. I do love vinegar on salads and veggies, and tasty red-wine vinegar with

Send a great hint to Heloise, P.O. Box 795000, San Antonio, TX 78279-5000; Fax: 210-HELOISE; Email: Heloise(at)Heloise.com.

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# Holiday season often includes added stress

**A**s the holidays approach, our stress level can increase. Our time is occupied with multiple obligations, our budget is stretched beyond its limits and we are invited to more functions than will fit on our calendar. Holiday blues and losses can also add to stress. Here are some tips to cope with holiday stress.

### PLAN AHEAD, PACE YOURSELF AND ASK FOR HELP

Take time to plan ahead, organize and prioritize your holiday activities. Include 15 to 20 minutes daily of relaxation time in your schedule. Prepare as much as possible ahead of time for parties or dinners you are hosting. Delegate duties for holiday preparations.

### TAKE TIME OUT FOR HEALTHY HABITS

Make time for exercise. Be mindful of what you eat and portion sizes. Get plenty of rest. Limit the number of holiday activities. Spend relaxation time reading, listening to your favorite music, taking a

nap or a walk, or doing something else you enjoy. When your limit of holiday activities has been reached but you are being asked to do more, decline graciously and without feeling guilty knowing you are taking good care of yourself.

### STICK TO A BUDGET

Don't stress over gift-giving. Most people enjoy receiving a handmade gift or card. Involve your children in coming up with ideas for gifts and in making them. You will be creating memories while also making something the recipient will treasure. If making gifts is not something you enjoy or have time for, a gift card can allow the recipient to pick out what they want. When shopping for specific gifts, make a list and check out ads before going shopping

Talk with extended family members about having a gift exchange to cut down on expenses or, in lieu of gifts, suggest that everyone give an act of service for a community organization or their church.

### HOLIDAY TRADITIONS

Parents often feel stressed thinking how to keep kids busy during the upcoming school holidays. Holiday traditions such as decorating, cooking, attending holiday parades, caroling, gift-wrapping and volunteering time in service projects can be fun and keep kids active. This is a time when you make memories as a family and with friends, and these projects tend to bring families and friends closer. Have a family meeting to decide what your family will do this year and how to celebrate those

### ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR FEELINGS

For some, the holiday season time is a time filled with sadness, loneliness or depression. The loss of a loved one can change our experience of the holidays. Acknowledge your feelings and allow yourself to make choices in how you will celebrate the holidays. Give yourself permission to celebrate differently this year; however, try to make the holidays as joyful as possible for children and other family members. If you are experiencing the holiday blues, surround yourself with family and friends and other social support groups and if needed, reach out to get counseling.

Now is the time to think ahead to lower your stress this holiday season and keep your focus on the joy of the season.

*Elizabeth Buchanan is a licensed professional counselor who has been with Centers for Children and Families since 2006.*

## ELIZABETH BUCHANAN

Centers for Children and Families



# Recovering addict copes without family support

**D**EAR ABBY: I am a former drama queen and addict now enjoying long-term sobriety, or trying to. What's missing in my life is my family. Since returning from rehab, I have been "going it alone" — and I'm not sure why.

## DEAR ABBY

Universal Press Syndicate



My kids are the only grandchildren in the family. I work and go to school. I am pleasant. There have been some rough spots I have had to deal with, and when I have needed to, I have called my mom or sister, but they don't call me or visit. They have expressed no love for me through all of this. When I call, I feel like I'm intruding.

Aren't I entitled to their love and caring? I feel abandoned. It's hard doing things on my own. My family lives close by, so distance isn't the issue. What am I missing?

I want my kids and me to have a family, but when I try to reach out, I end up hurt by their lack of interest. Should I just get on with my life? I have been going through this for years. — MOVING ON IN FLORIDA

**DEAR MOVING ON:** It's possible that the "drama" and turmoil you put your family through while in the throes of your addiction is the reason your mother and sister avoid you. They may be reluctant to take a chance again.

Because they have made it plain that they aren't interested in a closer relationship with you and your children, you should absolutely get on with your life. Sobriety isn't easy to attain, and you have every right to enjoy yours to the fullest.

It would be healthier for you to stop courting rejection and create a caring family for yourself and your children. Many people do this for a variety of reasons. It's not unusual for people in recovery to socialize with

others like themselves. Start there, because it would be better for all of you to spend your time with people who welcome and appreciate you.

**DEAR ABBY:** My fiancé, "Bryan," is a mama's boy. There's nothing wrong with loving your parents and being close to them, but his family takes it to the extreme. Bryan must see them multiple times a week, call and text them all the time, and they still don't get enough. Then they usually call wanting something or needing our help.

Bryan and I have worked hard to get where we are, and we can't always be at their beck and call. His sister says I have "changed him" because he doesn't come around as often anymore. I'm 21 and Bryan is 24. I don't think he realizes that growing up means leaving the nest and detaching from the family a bit. I understand closeness, but if I'm going to be his wife, I'm scared I won't come first. What happens if we have a child who needs him, but Bryan has to bail his mama out of something? — GETTING WORRIED IN GEORGIA

**DEAR GETTING WORRIED:** Do not wait until you have a child to find out that the two of you will never agree on this. Find out now. Sometimes the most important conversations are the most difficult to engage in. You and Bryan need to have a serious talk about how you feel about his relationship with his parents and sister, because unless you come to a mutual understanding, it will become a source of constant irritation.

# Holiday picture books keep kids entertained

Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — Looking to keep the kids entertained during long holiday car rides or dinners? Tell all your gift-buying elves to wrap up a book.

Among this year's Christmas selections:

### BOARD BOOKS

**"Maisy's Christmas Tree," by Lucy Cousins:** Maisy the mouse and pals Cyril and Tallulah prepare for the holiday, from trimming the tree to singing carols. One side of the book is cut out in the shape of a tree, something little ones might appreciate. Ages 2-5.

**"Dinosaur vs. Santa," by Bob Shea:** A smiley little dino wears a bright orange snowsuit, makes gifts for his parents and sneaks downstairs on Christmas Eve only to scurry back to bed due to someone in red ho, ho, ho-ing in the dark. Ages 3-5.

### CAT LOVERS

**"Pete the Cat Saves Christmas,"**

created and illustrated by James Dean, story by Eric Litwin: In this retelling of "The Night Before Christmas," the can-do kitty is called upon to deliver gifts when Santa falls ill. The feline's "minibus flew, just like in a movie" and "Pete the Cat cried, 'This is totally groovy!'" Ages 4-8.

**"Here Comes Santa Cat," by Deborah Underwood, pictures by Claudia Rueda:** There are jet pack mishaps and dead fish gifts for children as a wily but mute cat holding placards on sticks to communicate impersonates Santa Claus to ensure he gets a gift after a particularly naughty year. Ages 3-5.

### SNOWY BOOKS

**"Blizzard," by John Rocco:** based on Rocco's childhood experience during the blizzard of 1978, when 40 inches of snow fell on his Rhode Island town. From the first flake right before recess to delivering groceries via sled on day six and the arrival of

snowplows. Ages 3-5.

**"The Animals' Santa," by Jan Brett:** Meticulously drawn forest creatures await the arrival of this special Santa. The animals recall gifts of Christmases past. G.P. Putnam's Sons, ages 3-5.

### CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

**"CC Claus: A Baseball Christmas Story," by CC Sabathia, written with Ray Negron, pictures by Laura Seeley:** Star Yankees pitcher CC Sabathia enlists the help of George Steinbrenner and baseball stars of yore to help two boys in need of balls and gloves for Christmas after their letter to Santa lands in Sabathia's fan mail. Ages 5-up.

**"Star Bright: A Christmas story," by Alison McGhee and Peter H. Reynolds:** The newest angel, a girl in a pilot's cap and goggles, tries to come up with a gift for baby Jesus. She hurtles down to Earth and becomes the star that lights up the night sky. Ages 4-8.

## Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

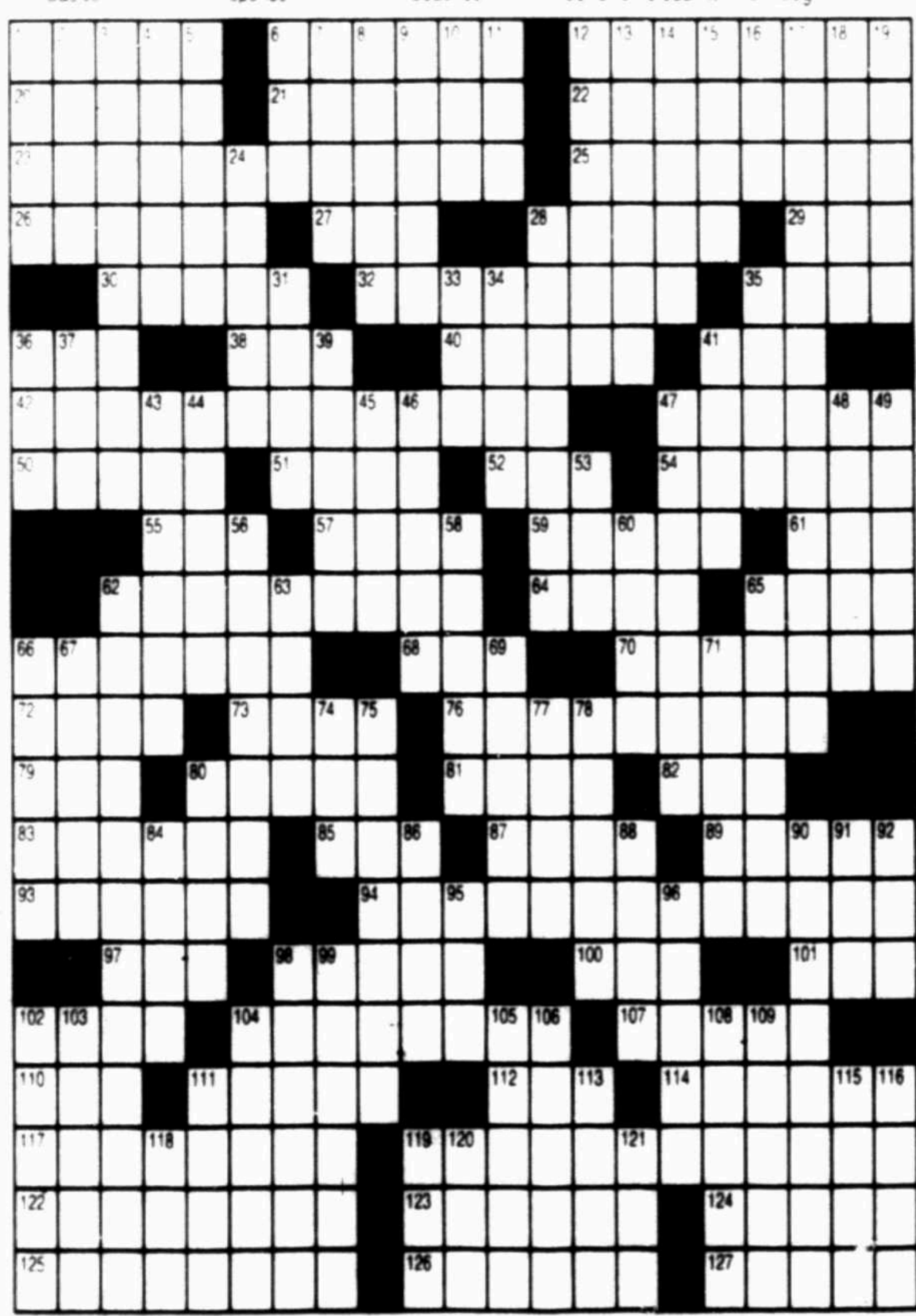
### RESUMES BY MICHELE KANE

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### Both vulnerable. Fast deals.

**NORTH**  
K Q 7 5 3  
A 9 8 6 2  
5 2  
6

**WEST**  
J 9 6 4  
K Q 5  
7 4  
A K Q J

**EAST**  
10 8  
10  
A Q J 10 9 6 3  
9 7 2

**SOUTH**  
A 2  
K Q 7 4 3  
K 8  
10 8 5 4 3

The bidding:  
EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH  
3 Pass 4 Pass  
Pass Pass  
\*Both majors.

Opening lead: Ace of ♠

## GOREN BRIDGE

With Bob Jones

### Imagination

West might have bid three no-trump at his first turn. That contract would have needed only a successful diamond finesse, but would not have succeeded today. Still, should the four-heart contract make for his opponents, he would much rather have had that result.

West's cautious pass encouraged North to make his aggressive four-diamond bid — he was expecting South to have a bit more than what he actually held.

West shifted to a diamond at trick two, East winning with his ace and continuing with the queen. South took his king and paused to con-

sider how to play the trump suit. Should the trumps split 2-2, this would be an easy one, so South took some time thinking about possible 3-1 breaks and what could be done about them. Due to the preempt, West was much more likely than East to hold three trumps. The only way declarer could handle a 3-1 split would be to find East with the singleton 10. Accordingly, he led the jack of trumps from his hand and was rewarded when this fetched the 10 from East. West could cover or not cover, as he pleased, but the contract belonged to South. Well done!

## JACQUELINE BIGAN'S STARS

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** for Sunday, Nov. 30, 2014.

This year you often enjoy your private time even more, as it seems to energize you. You have an unusually spontaneous yet fun personality.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19)  
★★★★ You might feel rather out of it despite everything you try to do. Instead of fighting this feeling, you could decide to give in to it and just relax. Tonight: Say little, listen a lot.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20)  
★★★★ Zero in on your priorities, which could be as simple as meeting friends for a late brunch. It is time to take a break. Tonight: Not to be found!

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20)  
★★★★ You'll want to stay on top of a personal matter regardless of how uncomfortable it might be. Tonight: Continue whatever you are doing.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22)  
★★★★ Make calls to those you rarely get to see. You will enjoy hearing about their holiday. Tonight: Squeeze every fun moment out of this weekend.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★ You'll want to try a different approach. You could hear some news that causes you some stress, but not for long. Tonight: Don't take a child's words to heart.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)  
★★★★ Others love commanding the moment, and you are kind enough to allow that to happen. Tonight: Make the first move.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★ You might want to become involved in some kind of physical activity. Join friends for a fun outing. Tonight: Out and about.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)  
★★★★ Your imagination is likely to delight a loved one. Tonight: Admit that you are tired, and make it an early night.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★ You might want to call this a lazy day and sleep in. A friend might drop by unexpectedly. Tonight: Act as if there is no tomorrow.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)  
★★★★ Return calls and touch base with someone you haven't spoken to in a while. Tonight: Call it an early night.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)  
★★★ Keep a close eye on your spending. You'll want to enjoy the holiday and also be able to go out. Tonight: Meet several friends out for dinner.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20)  
★★★★ You will feel in the spirit of the moment. Use the afternoon for some holiday shopping. Tonight: Your treat.

**BORN TODAY**  
Former U.K. Prime Minister Winston Churchill (1874), author Mark Twain (1835), actor Ben Stiller (1965).

### ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE

A	C	T	U	P	A	L	D	E	N	S	S	Q	U	A	D	C	A	R
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	S	E	L	L	S	B	E	R	C	E	U	S	A	M	E	R		
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scopes sport



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Word search puzzle with letters arranged in a grid.

Advertisement for a restaurant featuring 'Wonderful People, Food and Service!' and 'Authentic Italian Cuisine.'

Advertisement for 'AMERICAN' featuring 'Outdoor Kitchens, BBQs and Patios' and 'Get Your Grill On!'

Advertisement with phone number 432-682-1634 and 800-451-2496.

Advertisement for 'Flowerland' with phone number 432-520-3134 ext. 7.

Advertisement for 'MIDLAND HUMANE COALITION' with phone number 432-520-3134 ext. 7.

Advertisement for 'Helping Hands Midland' with phone number 520-8900.

Advertisement for 'Big Brothers Big Sisters of Midland Texas' with phone number 432-687-0195.

Advertisement for 'Get Framed' with phone number 432-682-6222.

SUNDAY MORNING NOVEMBER 30, 2014. TV schedule grid for Sunday morning with channels and program titles.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON NOVEMBER 30, 2014. TV schedule grid for Sunday afternoon with channels and program titles.

SUNDAY PRIME TIME NOVEMBER 30, 2014. TV schedule grid for Sunday prime time with channels and program titles.

Advertisement for 'biOTE WEST TEXAS WELLNESS CLINIC' with phone number (432)582-0300.

Advertisement for 'The Best Burgers In The Basin' with phone number 432-687-5696.

Advertisement for 'Storewide Clearance 25%-50% OFF Entire Store' with phone number 699-6803.

Advertisement for 'Midland Habitat for Humanity' with phone number 432-682-9606.

Advertisement for 'CASA' with phone number (432) 683-1114.

Advertisement for 'Casa de Amigos' with phone number (432) 682-9701.

Advertisement for 'American Red Cross' with phone number 432.563.2267.



# CHRISTMAS AT THE MANSION



The Museum of the Southwest is preparing for its annual Christmas at the Mansion holiday display. Decorations around the campus were inspired by the theme "A Black Forest Christmas." Throughout December the museum will offer open houses, and a full calendar of events including Christmas teas, a mother-daughter brunch, Christmas luncheons, a gingerbread house workshop, ReinBeer IV and the Ugly Christmas Sweater Run. For more information, go to [museumsww.org](http://museumsww.org).

Photos by James Durbin | Reporter-Telegram

# CALENDAR

Compiled from staff reports and from the Arts Council of Midland | [acmidland.org](http://acmidland.org)

## SUNDAY

Discover the Dinosaurs, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. at the Horseshoe. [midlandhorseshoe.com](http://midlandhorseshoe.com)

'Tis Christmas Holiday Craft Show, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Ector County Coliseum. [ectorcountycoliseum.org](http://ectorcountycoliseum.org)

## MONDAY

How the Grinch Stole Christmas special story time, 4 p.m. Barnes and Noble Booksellers. [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com)

Tall City Cloggers dances, every Monday at M-Squarena. Call Lynn Myers at 697-6416 or [danzntool@grandecom.net](mailto:danzntool@grandecom.net)

## TUESDAY

Midland Community

Band's weekly meeting, 7-9 p.m. at Midland College Fine Arts Building Band Hall. New members always welcome. Call Walter McClure at 260-7136.

Marfa Public Radio's "Nature Notes," 8:35 a.m. and 4:45 p.m. every Tuesday-Thursday KXWT-Midland/Odessa-91.3 FM.

Palette Club's painting time, 9 a.m.-noon. Meeting and demo scheduled on second Tuesday of the month. 664-3197.

Permian Basin Dance Club with live country-western band, 7:30-10 p.m. at St. Stephen's Catholic Church ballroom, 4601 Neely Ave. 520-4343.

## WEDNESDAY

Story time for ages 3-5.

10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Ellen Noel Art Museum. [noelartmuseum.org](http://noelartmuseum.org)

Christmas at the Mansion preview party, 7-11 p.m. at Museum of the Southwest. [museumsww.org](http://museumsww.org)

## THURSDAY

Open house, 5-8 p.m. at Artizen Outlet. [artizenoutlet.com](http://artizenoutlet.com)

Holiday Evening at MC, 5:30-7 p.m. at Midland College. [midland.edu](http://midland.edu)

West Texas Dance Club, 7:30-10 p.m. at 301 E. 61st St. in Odessa. 697-0281.

## FRIDAY

"The Polar Express" special story time, 7 p.m. at Barnes and Noble Booksellers. [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com)

Warrant and L.A. Guns, 8 p.m. at La Hacienda. [haciendamidland.com](http://haciendamidland.com)

H-E-B Feast of Sharing, 4-8 p.m. at Ector County Coliseum. [ectorcountycoliseum.org](http://ectorcountycoliseum.org)

Kaffezeit (Coffee Time) at Christmas at the Mansion, 3-4:30 p.m. at Museum of the Southwest. [museumsww.org](http://museumsww.org)

A Night at the Northpole, 6-10 p.m. at Midland Center. [themidlandcenter.com](http://themidlandcenter.com)

Bruce Robison & Kelly Willis' Holiday Shindig, 7 p.m. at the Yucca Theatre. [talltownes.com](http://talltownes.com)

"The Polar Express" film screening, 7:30 p.m. at Ector Theatre. [ectortheatre.com](http://ectortheatre.com)

"Little Women: The Musical," through Dec. 14 at Permian Playhouse in Odessa. [permianplayhouse.com](http://permianplayhouse.com)

"A Christmas Story," through Dec. 21 at Midland Community Theatre. [mctmidland.org](http://mctmidland.org)

## SATURDAY

"Santa is Coming to Texas" story time, 10:30 a.m. at Barnes and Noble Booksellers. [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com)

Educator Holiday Shopping Day, 9 a.m. at Barnes and Noble Booksellers. [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com)

Mother-Daughter Brunch at Christmas at the Mansion, 10 a.m.-noon at

Museum of the Southwest. [museumsww.org](http://museumsww.org)

Open house at Christmas at the Mansion, 1-3 p.m. at Museum of the Southwest. [museumsww.org](http://museumsww.org)

Gingerbread House Workshop at Christmas at the Mansion, 1-3 p.m. at Museum of the Southwest. [museumsww.org](http://museumsww.org)

Open house, 5-8 p.m. at Artizen Outlet. [artizenoutlet.com](http://artizenoutlet.com)

Mysteries at the Museum: An Evening of Science Experiments, 6 p.m. at the Petroleum Museum. [petroleummuseum.org](http://petroleummuseum.org)

MOSC Sounds of the Season, 7:30 p.m. at Wagner Noel Performing Arts Center. [wagnernoel.com](http://wagnernoel.com)

## ON DISPLAY



Margarita Cabrera @ Museum of the Southwest

ArtQuest Studios. Reserved Studio Time \$35 per month. 700 Andrews Highway. [heronartconnection@sbcglobal.net](http://heronartconnection@sbcglobal.net), 553-0420. [www.artquesttx.com](http://www.artquesttx.com)

Blakemore Planetarium's permanent exhibits are open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Closed Sunday and Monday. Sky shows throughout the week. 1705 W. Missouri Ave. 683-2882.

The Ellen Noel Art Museum's "Spirit of the Mask" through Jan. 12, 2015 and "Keys of the Renaissance" through Jan. 4, 2015. Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 2-5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is

free. [www.noelartmuseum.org](http://www.noelartmuseum.org), 550-9696.

Fredda Turner Durham Children's Museum's exhibit "Framed: Step Into Art" through Feb. 1. Permanent exhibits include "My Town," "Beach Babies" and "Touch of Sound." Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 2-5 p.m., Admission charged. 1412 W. Ohio Ave., 685-1112

George Bush Childhood Home's tours and gift shop hours are 2-5 p.m. Sundays and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturdays. Admission charged. 1412 W. Ohio Ave., 685-1112

Haley Library and History



Studio time, gallery @ ArtQuest Studios

Center's hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Free. 1805 W. Indiana Ave. 682-5785

Kamiposi Gallery, 510 S. Big Spring St. 230-0256. [facebook.com/kamiposi](http://facebook.com/kamiposi)

Midland Arts Association presents the artwork of Debbie Hedrick in the Community National Bank Lobby, 401 W. Texas Ave., during November.

Midland County Historical Museum's exhibit honoring World War II veterans in cooperation with the Texas Historical Commission's three-year program. Permanent exhibits: Native American artifacts; early

Midland photos and relics; replica of Midland Man discovery; early obituary files available for research. 301 W. Missouri Ave. 2-5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Free. 682-2931 or 688-8947.

Midland County Historical Society's Z. Taylor Brown-Sara Dorsey Medallion Home, oldest restored home in Midland. Open by appointment. 213 N. Weatherford St., 682-5447.

Museum of the Southwest's exhibits "Winslow Homer and the American Pictorial Press" exhibit through today. Margarita Cabrera exhibit through Dec. 30. Christmas at the



Winslow Homer @ Museum of the Southwest

Mansion through Jan. 4. [museumsww.org](http://museumsww.org). Permanent exhibits: Taos Master: Taos Society of Artists collection. MSW Sculpture Park has 14 sculptures on display. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 2-5 p.m. Sunday. \$5 adults, \$3 children. 1705 W. Missouri Ave., 683-2882.

Nancy Fyle Cardozier Gallery, UTPB. Free and open to the public. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 2-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Options Gallery, Odessa College, 201 W. University Blvd. Free. 335-6640.

Permian Basin Petroleum

Museum, Library and Hall of Fame is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 2-5 p.m. Sunday, 1500 Interstate 20 West, 683-4403.

Scarborough-Linebery House is open by appointment and available for rental for weddings and other special occasions. 802 S. Main St. 685-7368.

Arts Council of Midland maintains a calendar of all submitted arts-related activities. To submit events see use form from [www.acmidland.org](http://www.acmidland.org).

# BASIN BUSINESS

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Sunday, November 30, 2014 | Section F

## EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

# Chamber chair: Workforce issues abound



Tim Fischer/Reporter-Telegram

## Laura Roman opens up about business in Midland

By Rye Druzin  
rdruzin@mrt.com

Soon after her appointment as chair of Midland's Chamber of Commerce, the Reporter-Telegram sat down with Laura Roman to talk about business, the future of Midland and her hopes for her tenure. Originally from Louisville, Kentucky, Roman's family settled in Midland when Roman was in fourth grade.

Roman attended Baylor University and then worked in Houston until 2002, when she returned to Midland. Since returning, Roman has worked as a CPA and has also engaged with the Midland Development Corp., serving six years on its board, two as chair. She has served as a board member of the Midland Chamber of Commerce since 2011 and succeeds Jay Edwards in the chairmanship.

**MRT:** What will you bring to the table as chair of the Chamber of Commerce?

**Roman:** This is where I want to retire. I want to make sure that there is enough longevity in this economy to last me through retirement and then some because I love this community. I don't want to move. I don't want to have to pack things up and find some (other) place else to be a part of the community. I want to stay here.

**MRT:** When you look at the Chamber of Commerce and you talk about development, what are the teeth of the chamber?

**Roman:** Having 1,300 members come together and be able to have a voice legislatively saying we represent the business community and this is what business wants to see (its powerful). The business community is saying you have got to make education a priority, and we need more resources out here, or we need to change the way standardized testing is done so that our kids, when they're graduating, are workforce ready and they have got the skills ready. We (the business community) want that skilled, knowledgeable workforce. But we also have kids who will say that the day they get that diploma, the next day they are going to be a part of the labor force. They need to be in the best position possible to be the best

Laura Roman, incoming chamber board chairman, speaks Sept. 4 at the Chamber of Commerce annual meeting.

Please see **ROMAN/3F**

## Younger workers need to be better prepared to take over labor force

The aging of the workforce is a demographic fact. The oldest members of the baby boom generation (people born between 1946 and 1964) have begun to reach retirement age, and the effects are being picked up in overall measures of the economy. Young workers are an increasingly important component of the labor force, even as they face difficulties finding desirable jobs.

The most recent data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that between 2008 and 2012, the distribution of hours worked clearly shifted toward younger age groups. In 2008, baby boomers worked almost 41 percent of total hours, with 42 percent worked by Generation X (persons born between 1965 and 1982) and less than 13 percent by Generation Y (those born between 1983 and 2001). In 2012, the baby boomer share of hours worked had fallen to 35 percent, with Generation X at less than 41 percent and Generation Y up to nearly 21 percent. That's a fairly big swing considering it happened over just four years, and the trend will continue.

While stereotypes tend to oversimplify, there are measurable differences in the prevailing attitudes of workers of different ages. The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Fed) recently released results of a survey of young workers ("In the Shadow of the Great Recession: Experiences and Perspectives of Young Workers"). In this study of Americans age 18 to 30, questions centered on work-related topics such as educational attainment, job satisfaction, and expectations. This age group is approximately equal to the older members of Generation Y (also called the Millennials) who are already working age.

One of the issues revealed in the survey results is that young people need more information about the job market and how to educate themselves to find good jobs. Only 42 percent of respondents who were working had a job closely related to their field of study. About 1 in 4 indicated they received no information about career planning while in high school. Without adequate information, it is impossible to make an informed decision regarding higher education, contributing to mismatches between

degrees/training and employer needs, under employment, difficulty repaying student loans, and other problems. Although it is promising that young workers are responding to the need for higher education, it is crucial that they have enough information to make good decisions. It is a basic tenet of economics that markets need reliable information to function efficiently.

Some 28 percent of survey respondents said they are overqualified for their current jobs, indicative of a trend toward more-educated candidates pushing out less-educated persons for positions which really may not rely on skills learned in college. In addition, 23 percent of respondents reported that the financial benefits of their education do not outweigh the costs. Even so, those without adequate education are more likely to be unemployed. Of the unemployed respondents, 83 percent have not completed a postsecondary degree. Lower levels of education were linked to less optimism about job futures, and financial considerations remain a significant barrier to seeking additional education.

Part of the problem is clearly that younger workers have been entering the job market during a recession and sluggish recovery. The U.S. workforce is still experiencing fallout from the Great Recession, with little wage growth and lingering unemployment. Young workers have been among the most hard-hit groups, with many either unable to find work or underemployed. While it is disturbing that so many of the young people surveyed have not yet found jobs which fully use their talents and training, the Fed's survey nonetheless reflected some positive developments (such as 66 percent of respondents were somewhat or very satisfied with

## THE ECONOMIST

By M. Ray Perrysman



Please see **ECONOMIST/3F**

## Finding a retirement haven to suit you

By Ann Carrns

New York Times News Service

More than 10 years ago, Barbara Zierter and her husband retired to a small town in California's scenic "gold country," in the Sierra Nevada foothills.

"It's beautiful here," said Zierter, 73, explaining the attraction of the area east of San Francisco. They also were on a tight budget and reasoned that a small town would be cheaper.

But as time has passed, they have decided the area isn't an ideal fit. For one thing, the library is open only part time. "I'm a reader," she said. "So it's frustrating." And a bad experience with a hospital has led her to seek treatment for health concerns in San Francisco, a two- to three-hour drive.

Perhaps most dispiriting to Zierter, a liberal who closely follows politics, is that the population's views tend to be much more conservative than her own. Particularly irksome is one resident who often puts up large signs critical of Barack Obama. "The latest said, 'President Ebola,'" she said.

"I didn't do my research," she conceded. The couple is now contemplating relocating to Sacramento.

As Zierter learned, shopping for a retirement community should ideally involve more than a perusal of real estate circulars, a check of local tax rates and a glance at the average temperature. When choosing a place to live for two decades or more, retirees also should consider whether a community reflects their values, and if the place can

truly meet their needs for health care, as well as social and cultural activities as they grow older.

Much research, including a recent report from AARP, suggests that most people over age 50 would prefer to stay put as they age. But sometimes, particularly for those who have spent their working lives in expensive urban areas, the need to live on a fixed income pushes retirees to seek locales that are more affordable. Others simply relish a change of pace.

Thinking through what they want, and then taking time to research communities that seem to be a good fit, can help retirees avoid disappointment and potentially costly financial mistakes. Jane Bryant Quinn, a personal finance journalist, advises: "If you're going to move, start years in advance," she said.

Catherine Frank, director of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of North Carolina at Asheville, urges retirees to visit a prospective community and live there as they would expect to, on a daily basis. Pay attention to how you will shop, how you will get around, how you will occupy your time, she said, and be specific with your requirements. "Do you have heart problems, so you need good cardiac care?" Frank said. "Can you live a healthy lifestyle there by going walking or biking?"

One obvious approach is to subscribe to the local newspaper or peruse it online. Catherine Moore, 65, who is retiring in Temple, New Hampshire, early next year after a career at an

Please see **HAVEN/3F**

Ask the Fool

Job Descriptions

Q What do a company's CEO and COO actually do? — H.K., Ann Arbor, Michigan

A In general, the chief executive officer (CEO) of a corporation is responsible for seeing that the strategy of the board of directors is carried out. The chief operating officer (COO), often the same person as the company president, is responsible for executing the strategy.

The CEO typically focuses on overall strategy, communicating with the media, employees, shareholders and customers. He or she will spend time networking or negotiating with other companies' executives, meeting with upper management and financial partners, and trying to get the public and investors interested in the company and confident about its future.

The COO/president manages the day-to-day operations, dealing with consultants, customers and employees in sales, marketing, finance and more. The COO and the CEO will work with the CFO (chief financial officer) to make sure the company is financially healthy.

Q Does a low stock price mean a company is small? — C.B., Maryville, Tennessee

A Not at all. You have to factor in its number of shares to get an idea of a company's size. If the Remote Control Corp. (ticker: CLICK) has a stock price of \$10, for example, and 1 billion shares outstanding, its market price ("market capitalization," or "market cap," as they say on Wall Street) is \$10 billion. (Size might also be measured by other factors, such as revenue.)

For some real-life examples, look at Campbell Soup, Delta Air Lines and U.S. Bancorp. All were recently trading for around \$44 per share, but their market caps were, respectively, \$14 billion, \$37 billion and \$78 billion. Meanwhile, the Boston Beer Co., with a market cap below \$3 billion, had a share price near \$262.

Got a question for the Fool? Send it in via Write to Us.



# The Motley Fool

To Educate, Amuse & Enrich

Fool's School

### What's Your Number?

How much do you need to accumulate to fund your retirement? Many suggest a million dollars, but depending on your circumstances, you might get by on less.

Imagine you're about to retire and you have a \$1 million nest egg. In order to make it last, you should conservatively plan to withdraw about 4 percent of it per year in retirement to live on (increasing future withdrawals for inflation). Four percent of \$1,000,000 is about \$40,000, or roughly \$3,333 per month. Will that be enough?

If you expect your retirement to feature mostly reading, playing bridge, gardening and volunteering, you might do just fine with that \$40,000 or less. But if you want to finally see the world and do a lot of traveling to visit grandchildren (with bags full of gifts), \$40,000 may not be enough.

All is not lost, though. You'll likely collect Social Security benefits (and possibly a pension) in

retirement, too. And there are many things you can do right now to position yourself for a sweeter future:

• **Save and invest more.** A common rule of thumb is to sock away 10 percent of your income. But 15 percent or more, if you can swing it, will be more powerful, especially if you're starting late. You can boost your nest egg considerably by working a few more years, too.

• **Invest more effectively.** Much of the money you won't need for five or 10 years will probably grow fastest in the stock market, which you can access via a simple, inexpensive index fund such as the Vanguard S&P 500 Index. As you approach retirement, add more bonds to the mix.

• **Take advantage of 401(k) accounts and IRAs.** Money that grows in a Roth IRA can eventually be withdrawn tax-free, if you follow the rules. That can save you thousands of dollars.

For clear and concise retirement guidance, along with model portfolios and mutual fund recommendations, take advantage of a free trial of our "Rule Your Retirement" newsletter at [ruleyourretirement.com](http://ruleyourretirement.com).

My Dumbest Investment

### Annuity Surprises

In 1998 I had \$50,000 from the sale of property. I asked a financial adviser for a good mutual fund, and instead I ended up invested in what I later realized was a variable annuity. It paid me several hundred per month, which I believe was deducted from my principal. I think I was scammed. — E.S., Walnut Creek, California

**The Fool Responds:** Variable annuities are legal, but they're poor investments for many of us. (Their salespeople, who typically collect nice sales commissions, will disagree, of course.) They have some merits, but in general, their guaranteed benefits come at a high cost. They're also so complicated that they can be hard to understand and evaluate. Index annuities are another not-so-great investment, often with steep fees, steep commissions and steep surrender charges. Also complex, they limit your upside considerably, too.

Do consider immediate annuities ("longevity insurance"), though, which can work well in some retirement plans. For a big chunk of money, you essentially buy guaranteed income for the rest of your life. Read up on annuities to see if they make sense for you.

Do you have an embarrassing lesson learned the hard way? Boil it down to 100 words (or less) and send it to The Motley Fool c/o My Dumbest Investment. Got one that worked? Submit to My Smartest Investment. If we print yours, you'll win a Fool's cap!

The Motley Fool Take

### Plastic Profits

There are few things better for a portfolio than stock in healthy, growing, dividend-paying companies that you might hang on to for years, if not decades. Consider, for example, American Express (NYSE: AXP).

It operates a closed-loop network, meaning it collects revenue from customers, who pay interest and fees on their credit cards, and from merchants, who fork over a fee whenever customers use their cards.

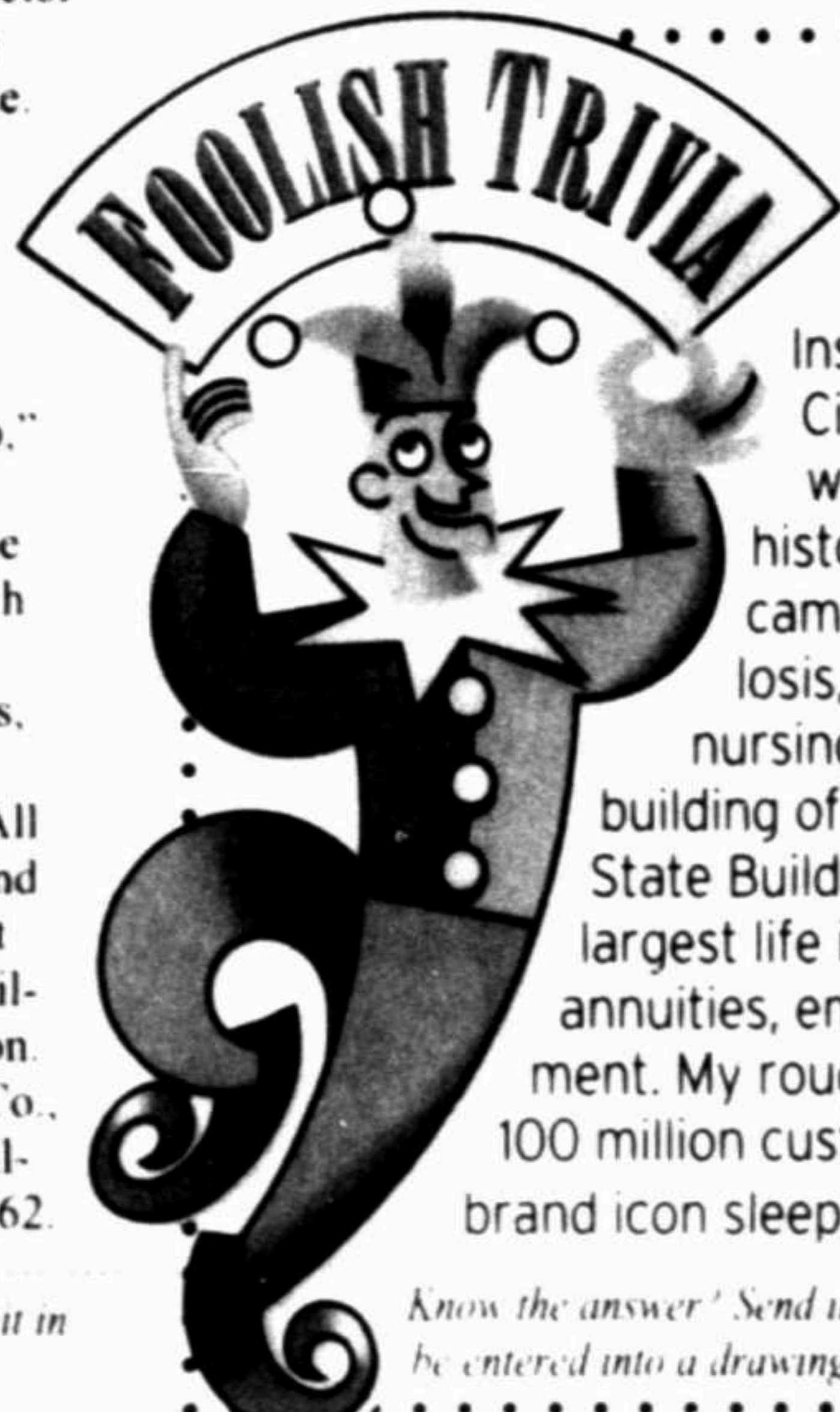
American Express has the largest integrated global payments platform and has created a "moat" that can protect it even when the payment landscape evolves. This should propel it to success in years, decades and, yes, even centuries to come. Superinvestor Warren Buffett seems to agree, as his company owns more than 14 percent of American Express.

American Express offers investors a dividend that recently yielded 1.1 percent. The company has also been rewarding shareholders by buying back shares aggressively (and essentially retiring them), leaving each existing share with a bigger piece of the pie.

While consumers may not be using physical credit cards 100 years from now, there's a good chance that they'll still be using American Express in one way or another. Indeed, the company is already part of the new Apple Pay system. (The Motley Fool recommends American Express, MasterCard and Visa, and owns shares of MasterCard and Visa.)

### Name That Company

I trace my roots back to 1863's National Union Life and Limb Insurance Co., which aimed to insure Civil War sailors and soldiers against wartime-related disabilities. My history features vigorous public health campaigns, such as against tuberculosis, and for decades I offered free nursing care to millions. I helped fund the building of Rockefeller Center and the Empire State Building. Today I'm one of the world's largest life insurance companies, also offering annuities, employee benefits and asset management. My roughly 65,000 employees serve about 100 million customers in more than 50 nations. My brand icon sleeps on a doghouse. Who am I?



Know the answer? Send it to us with Foolish Trivia on the top and you'll be entered into a drawing for a nifty prize!

### LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA ANSWER

Founded in 1986 and based in St. Louis, I'm North America's largest pharmacy benefit management company, managing 1.4 billion prescriptions — about one out of every three in the U.S. I serve tens of millions of patients, through employers, health plans, unions and government health programs. My services include network-pharmacy claims processing, home delivery, specialty benefit management, benefit-design consultation, drug-utilization review, formulary management, and medical and drug data analysis services. I have more than 30,000 employees and I rake in more than \$100 billion annually. In 2012, I bought my biggest rival, Medco Health Solutions, for \$29 billion. Who am I? (Answer: Express Scripts Holding Co.)

Write to Us! Send questions for Ask the Fool, Dumbest (or Smartest) Investments (up to 100 words), and your Trivia entries to Fool@fool.com or via regular mail c/o this newspaper, attn: The Motley Fool. Sorry, we can't provide individual financial advice.

## ROMAN

From IF

workforce that we have. So education is very important to us.

**MRT:** How do you envision Midland's diversity becoming more reflected as far as representation in the business community?

**Roman:** I want the Chamber of Commerce's membership base to represent Midland. We still have three different chambers. We're all part of the same business community. And while I think it's important that people have a chamber that represents who they are, I think we're stronger when we say that we're all part of Midland business. I think that we should work more together or our chambers should have some sort of dual membership so that we still represent those areas of business. I think we're better reflected if we know what's going on in our entire business community and we represent all of those businesses.

**MRT:** What do you believe are the strongest parts of the Midland business community and what do you believe needs improvement?

**Roman:** The business climate in Midland is extremely sophisticated. There are business transactions from a financing standpoint and from an investment standpoint that are farming business capital and investment all over the country. The amount of money that is being transacted in this area and the sophistication of it is right in line with what you'd see in New York, Dallas, Houston, San Francisco, the major financial hubs.

Our greatest weakness is finding and keeping a skilled workforce out here. As strong as the businesses are out here, we all need more people, and we need people who will not only stay within our individual companies... but people that will stay in Midland. So you look at things like quality of place, you look at the cost of housing out here, you look at even our national branding image and making sure that people think of us as more than just being out in the middle of the desert with nothing to do and no water. We need to change that perception to make this place competitive

when people are looking at where to live.

**MRT:** The word "hesitation" has been used when talking about the current boom. How is the business community and the Chamber of Commerce looking at this boom, and what makes this time different?

**Roman:** Right now we're very blessed with the economy that we have, and we hope we're being diligent stewards of that blessing. We hope that and we know that we're resilient so we'll weather it through the prosperity or if something happens and things don't continue to prosper for us. Having said that, in most of our projections we're listening to the experts who are telling us that things are different. They're telling us that global demand has changed things, that technology has changed things. We're looking at investments that companies are putting in not only in the ground in this area but by building their offices and the capital that they're putting in to show that they're looking for permanent homes in this area.

**MRT:** How do you see

the Chamber of Commerce engaging in the process of downtown development?

**Roman:** We're seeing with the (Wall Street) Lofts that people do want to live downtown. ... I think people needed to see people live here first before somebody would invest in something like a grocery store.

As far as the buildings that are vacant downtown, personally that's probably one of my biggest frustrations.

They (the city) have the courthouse... but the other buildings downtown are owned by people. And this is a pretty conservative town. When you talk about, yes, somebody owns something and they're not doing something with it, none of us like to look at it or to think of it sitting there empty and there's so much potential for what could go there.

But what is the offset of that? When I was on the MDC board, we tried to

acquire properties, and we would make fair market value offers, and people could choose to accept them or not. So what's the alternative if they choose not to and they choose not to do something with it?

It's frustrating because we get blamed; those that are on the downtown revitalization side of things get blamed for things that are not within our control or within the appetite of the community.

**MRT:** What initiatives do you want to take as the chair of the Chamber of Commerce to encourage a stronger role for women and to bring more women into the business community?

**Roman:** It's showing people that you can have it all. That you can be successful in business, that you can be successful in your married life, in your life as a parent and have involvement in your community. It's hard sometimes. I've tried to show and I've tried to demonstrate in my

life that I need a work life. I need a family life, but I also have this huge need to be involved in my community.

**MRT:** Where do you see Midland being in a year?

**Roman:** Regardless of how spread out this city gets, regardless of how many people come here, if we lose that (sense of giving back), then we've lost a huge part of what makes Midland home for so many of us and what makes Midland truly unique and different and better.

I hope that a year to five years from now that it becomes feasible for a family, a middle-income family, to move to Midland and have a good life here, because I think right now a huge part of this population is struggling. I hope that the market is able to adjust so that those people can be here. It's not just so that we can fill jobs, it's so that people can have a better way to take care of themselves and their family.

## 4 changes that may stem from overhaul tax

Associated Press

Many workers will soon find that their health insurance costs more and covers less next year and that employers have taken a sharper interest in their well-being.

Here are four approaches companies may be implementing to reduce costs and limit its possible tax bill come 2018.

### 1. Raise costs for workers

In a survey of more than 300 large employers by Aon Hewitt, 33 percent expected to raise out-of-pocket costs for their employees next year.

That means people may have to pay a larger deductible before most of their coverage kicks in, or a bigger bill replaces that tidy \$20 co-payment at the doctor's office. It could also mean workers will pay a higher co-insurance, or the percentage of the bill leftover after the deductible is met.

Such adjustments can lower the premium or price of coverage for the employer, and they also can push employees to shop around for a better deal on care, which can further drive down costs.

### 2. Encourage healthy behavior

More companies are dangling incentives,

such as cash or penalties that can include higher premiums, to motivate employees to get screenings that measure things like their blood pressure or to fill out a health-risk questionnaire. These so-called wellness programs, which can evolve to include health coaches and gym memberships, won't cut costs next year, but employers think they can make a big difference in the long run.

### 3. Look at dependent coverage

Your spouse will no longer be covered if he or she has an affordable insurance option from another employer.

More companies are considering surcharges for spousal coverage or reducing the amount they pay to cover adult dependents.

### 4. Adjust prescription benefits

Prescription drug coverage may provide fewer medication choices or a narrower network of pharmacies.

For instance, it may become more common for a plan to offer a choice of two options instead of three for a particular prescription. Such restrictions give drug plans leverage to negotiate better prices and consequently, lower costs.

## BANANAGRAMS!

Add an O to each of the seven-letter words below, and then rearrange the letters in each word to form a new eight-letter word.

LEVEL

A B R A D E S

C H A L K E D

L E A C H E S

E N A C T O R

Yesterday's Answer: DEVIANT, MIDYEAR, COFOUND

# Cash-flow bind can't be fixed in one month

**DEAR DAVE:** My husband and I are following your plan, and we're trying to reconcile our on-paper budget with what's going on in our bank account. Most of our bills are due the first half of the month, but we receive most of our income during the second half of the month. Can you help us figure out what to do? — Kathy

**DEAR KATHY:** If you're actually making a budget and sticking to it, what you're describing is a cash flow bind. You are in charge of your budget until it's on paper. Once it's on paper, it has to accurately represent reality. In your reality, that means a cash flow strain on the first checks and extra money on the second checks.

You won't be able to fix this in just one month, but there is a long-term solution. Move some of the money from your second checks into the first half of the next month. By doing this, you'll start running from the 15th to the 15th instead of from the first to the first. It will help you stay ahead and avoid getting pinched.

The second part of this equation is that you are in charge of your budget. The budget does not become the boss of you until you get it done. When everything is written and agreed

## ASK DAVE

Dave Ramsey, financial expert



on by you and your husband, that's when the budget becomes the boss. You can't come home with a new shirt or a new purse and hope it fits into the plan. The budget has to be the plumb line by which you build your finances straight and true!

**DEAR DAVE:** My husband and I both work two jobs. Together we make about \$53,000 a year, and we're trying to get out of debt. We have \$35,000 in debt, and most of that is on our truck. I'd like to go back to school and become an ultrasound technician, so we'll have more money. Do you think this is a good idea? — Sarah

**DEAR SARAH:** Getting more education is always a good idea. For starters, I'd begin doing some research to find out what ultrasound technicians in your area are earning. Then, look into the cost of training at

a nearby school. But I would only recommend starting school after you guys have done some work and cleaned up your finances. You've got a bunch of debt hanging over your heads, and the truck you mentioned is a big part of the problem.

Sell the truck and move down to something very inexpensive to drive for a little while. Then tear into the remainder of the debt and get it paid off as fast as you can. After that, save up a bunch of money so you can go to school debt-free.

I know that may seem like a long time before you can start school, but chances are you can get this done in less than two years. And trust me, going to school debt-free will feel a whole lot better than having another bunch of payments buzzing around your heads for years to come!

*Dave Ramsey is America's trusted voice on money and business. He has authored five New York Times best-selling books. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 8 million listeners each week on more than 500 radio stations. Follow Dave on Twitter at @DaveRamsey and on the web at daveramsey.com.*

## BUILDING PERMITS

Building permits Nov. 17-Nov. 21		
1203 Overshine Lane	New Residence	\$173,970
1201 Overshine Lane	New Residence	\$200,970
1121 Overshine Lane	New Residence	\$173,970
1205 Overshine Lane	New Residence	\$200,970
1117 Overshine Lane	New Residence	\$173,970
1119 Overshine Lane	New Residence	\$162,810
6013 Llano	New Residence	\$210,330
2104 Todd Drive	Residential Addition	\$50,000
1273 E. Pine Ave.	New Residence	\$155,790
2810 W. Loop 259 N.	Commercial Alteration	\$600,000
1320 N. Fairgrounds Road	Commercial-Attached	\$3,700
1506 W. Front St.	Commercial Addition	\$15,000
6401 Holiday Hill Road	New Commercial	\$1,900,000
6601 Cactus Trail	Residential-Attached	\$36,000
4200 W. Illinois Ave.	Commercial Alteration	\$6,700
3500 N. A St.	Sign	\$22,000
3500 N. A St.	Sign	\$22,000
5006 Portico Way	New Commercial	\$1,000,000
3106 W. Cuthbert St.	New Commercial	\$40,000
302 S. Lee St.	New Residence	\$126,090
304 S. Lee St.	New Residence	\$126,090
4500 W. Illinois Ave.	Commercial Alteration	\$3,000
1001 Andrews Highway	Commercial Addition	\$5,400
1304 N. Loop 250 W.	Sign	\$1,500
4300 W. Interstate 20 Sign	\$200,000	
4305 N. Garfield St.	Commercial Alteration	\$70,000
1216 Lynn Ave.	Residential Alteration	\$8,500

Source: City of Midland

## DOJ sues Oregon publishing group over alleged scam

Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. — The state Department of Justice has filed a lawsuit against two Oregon-based publishing groups alleging they ran a subscription scam targeting the elderly.

The lawsuit, filed Tuesday in Madison, alleges Liberty Publishers Service and Orbital Publishing Group, both based in Medford, sent invoices to nursing home residents and older people warning them to renew their periodical subscriptions and charging them far more than the actual cost.

For example, the groups offered a year's subscription to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel for \$499.

An actual year's subscription to that newspaper costs \$182, according to the lawsuit. The groups also offered a year's subscription to the Milwaukee Business Journal for \$189; the actual cost is \$102.

The groups touted their prices as reduced rates and led consumers to believe their subscriptions were close to expiring when in reality they weren't.

"Defendants ... engaged in a practice of issuing fraudulent invoices for both existent and non-existent publications, designed to confuse consumers into believing they are paying for an ongoing subscription with a newspaper or periodical," the lawsuit said.

## ECONOMIST

From IF

their jobs over the past five years). There is also good news on other labor-market fronts, including evidence that salaries for young women are about equal to those for men, and women tend to be more likely to pursue higher education.

The loss of millions of experienced workers will be felt in the decades to come, and shortages in various occupations are projected to arise. There will be opportunities for workers prepared to fill the breach. However, today's young workers are challenged by entering the workforce at a time when good jobs are few and far between. As the Fed study noted, an alarming number of high school and college students receive no information on career planning. Far too many have taken on debt to obtain

degrees poorly suited to well-paying work and are struggling with the resulting financial burden.

There is little doubt that virtually all young people could benefit from more and better data to assist them in the higher education decision process. Helping individuals is also essential to the overall economy. The baby boom generation will continue to downshift into fewer work hours, and how prepared young workers are to take over will directly affect future productivity and prosperity.

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

# Battling the hidden costs of 401(k) plans

By John F. Wasik

New York Times News Service

Like millions of retirees who assumed their companies had taken care of them, Ronald Tussey never thought that his retirement plan might be flawed. He trusted his company so much he kept his money in his 401(k) long after he left.

Having worked as an engineer for 37 years, ultimately at ABB Inc., where he retired 11 years ago, Tussey said he never paid much attention to the fees in his retirement plan and "assumed the company was looking out for my best interests."

But after seeing a television program on the negative impact that 401(k) expenses can have on retirement savings, he hired a lawyer, who filed a class-action lawsuit in 2006 against ABB and plan administrators.

Tussey's suit became a landmark case that highlighted the sometimes excessive expenses in 401(k) plans. The suit remains largely unresolved, while Tussey has become an archetype of an inexperienced litigant caught up in a legal battle far more complex than he ever expected.

"I had no idea about litigation," Tussey says. "It was unbelievable."

Like many employees, Tussey, now 70, was told that his retirement plan was "free," even though middlemen were deducting expenses from his savings.

In many retirement plans, a significant amount of future retirees' funds are devoured by fees. According to a 2012 study published by the progressive think tank Demos, high 401(k) fees can drain \$155,000 from an average household over a lifetime. Higher-earning households can lose even more — up to \$278,000.

Growing employee resistance, resulting from a greater awareness of plan costs, has resulted in more than 30 lawsuits against 401(k) plans and

employers since 2006. Seventeen have been dismissed, but these suits are time-consuming, complex and difficult to litigate. The oldest 401(k) suits, like Tussey's, have been winding through courtrooms for the last half decade.

Despite a federal requirement that plan fees be disclosed and numerous reports on 401(k) plan flaws, few employees question how much they are being charged, much less take their employers to court. As Tussey learned, time spent on legal proceedings is clearly not on a par with time spent traveling the world, working in the community or taking up a new hobby.

After more than six years of litigation, a federal court in Missouri ruled in March 2012 that ABB and its record keeper, Fidelity Investments, violated fiduciary duties to the plan and participants and were liable for \$37 million.

ABB appealed part of the case, but the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit in St. Louis this year upheld the Federal District Court judgment that \$13.4 million be awarded to participants.

A \$1.7 million district court judgment against Fidelity was reversed by the higher court.

Nothing, to date, has been paid to ABB 401(k) plan participants. Lawyers representing the employees want the Supreme Court to review the case.

In the meantime, though, there are lessons here for current and future retirees.

At the heart of the suits are a raft of obscure fees and services that few employees will be able to discern. Unless employers absorb all of the expenses, you must pay the bills for plan record-keeping, administration and fund management.

Most fund expenses not covered by employers are deducted from plan assets — the money pooled for

your retirement — and show up in an "expense ratio," which is expressed as an annual percentage of what you have invested. If your plan charges 1 percent on \$100,000 invested, you are paying \$1,000 annually in fees.

How much is too much for 401(k) expenses? It depends on the size and complexity of the plan. The Department of Labor's fee disclosure requirement, which went into effect about two years ago, will tell you how much is being deducted from your savings, but it won't tell you if that amount is too much.

In the somewhat opaque world of 401(k) expenses, a large plan may be the best deal, but smaller plans can still offer lower expenses if employers shop around. Often only an audit by an independent fiduciary who knows how to compare similar plans can determine whether you are being overcharged.

Jerome J. Schlichter, a St. Louis lawyer who represented Tussey and plaintiffs in other 401(k) suits, said there were some common elements in plans that could indicate lofty expenses and conflicts.

Even though no extra service may be provided, record keepers may reap higher compensation just because total assets increase from year to year. This number can be hard to find and even tougher to examine. Is your plan's record-keeping fee fair? You may need an independent consultant — someone with no financial interest in the plan, funds or middlemen — to properly vet this number.

Also look at revenue sharing. This is an often complex arrangement where a fund manager "shares" some of the fees it receives from fund expenses with other service providers, such as brokers. This practice, though declining, is particularly insidious since it provides little or no value to employees. It is derisively referred to as a "kickback" by 401(k) critics.

## HAVEN

From IF

outdoor equipment retailer, went further than that. Before choosing the place, she read the minutes from its town meeting, a uniquely New England form of government, to find out what sort of issues the local population was facing and how it handled them — "a capsule view of what people value and how they compromise or agree to disagree," she wrote in an email.

Town meeting notes can often be found online, she said, and can give insight into whether the community is likely to offer friends and neighbors who help one another. "I don't have to agree with my neighbor's political views to know that he will be over with his chain saw to clear my drive after an ice storm," she said.

Buck Bragg, 67, a former corporate insurance lawyer, recalls being "intoxicated" at the idea of moving after he retired. He and his wife, Nancy, a former college educator, had initially relocated to Alaska after he graduated from law school but ended up moving to live in Bloomington, Illinois, for his career. They enjoyed raising their children there, he said, but welcomed the chance to go elsewhere. After attending a seminar on retirement planning in Asheville, he realized that the city had much of what they were seeking, including scenic beauty, a low crime rate and senior-friendly activities, like book clubs.

He and his wife had thought they would build a home in a development that offered golf. But after moving to Asheville in 2010, they found they liked doing different things, like yoga. They opted instead to rent downtown, which offers a vibrant restaurant and art scene as well as proximity to mountains for hiking. Bragg advises renting a home for at least six months initially, to see how easy it is to meet people and chat with local residents who are familiar with neighborhood specifics. "You need to know what they know," he said.

The Milken Institute, a nonprofit research firm that studies aging, among other subjects, ranks communities based on attributes that it determined were desir-

able for older Americans. The "Best Cities for Successful Aging" initiative is meant to spur communities to adapt to aging populations.

The list, which was updated Tuesday, includes many cities and towns — like Madison, Wisconsin, and Iowa City, Iowa — that aren't necessarily thought of as traditional retirement destinations. Its top locations offer strong economies with employment options, since many people of retirement age want to work at least part time; opportunities for learning and cultural engagement; access to quality health care; and good transportation.

The report developed an index using 78 criteria, based on publicly available data, to rank more than 350 communities. It does include data on the weather and golf courses but goes further. For instance, a town's "wellness" rank factors in the number of fast-food restaurants per capita and rates of diabetes, as well as the percentage of hospitals offering geriatric services. Its "community engagement" rank reflects the number of libraries and YMCAs, as well as the level of senior volunteerism.

College towns appear often on the Milken list, which comes as no surprise to Marilyn and Richard Frey, who settled in Oxford, Mississippi — not on the list but home to the University of Mississippi.

The Freys, in their 70s, spent much of their lives as teachers, then had second careers working as managers for the La Quinta hotel chain. While working in El Paso, they bought land for a home in the mountains of New Mexico, but then worried that the location might be too remote as they aged. "We began to rethink the whole thing," Marilyn Frey said.

They settled on new criteria: affordability, airport proximity for international travel and access to arts and entertainment options. Richard Frey retired first and took charge of the couple's relocation effort. He attended a conference hosted by the state of Mississippi, and he returned home with a stack of packets about various communities. "I put them in three piles: yes, no, and maybe," he recalled.

Richard Frey then rented a car and drove across the state, visiting 10 prom-

ising locations. "I drove the neighborhoods," he said. "I visited supermarkets."

A spring trip to Mississippi with his wife led them to focus on Oxford: "I remember the daffodils," she said. They moved there in early 2002. They like that the downtown square has three bookstores that host talks by visiting authors. They attend theater productions and can take classes and attend sporting events at Ole Miss.

Jerry Swerling, a public relations professor at the University of Southern California's Annenberg School in Los Angeles, is using an approach somewhat similar to the Freys', with a heavier emphasis on initial Internet research. He and his wife, Karen, a professional costume designer, love their home and the climate in California, but they want a place on the East Coast with a lower cost of living when they retire next year. They aim to sell their current home and buy a less expensive one.

They have used traditional starting points, like magazine lists of "best retirement places," as well as ideas from friends. "If a place crops up on multiple lists, I'll look at it," he said. Their goal: a lively, urban area with access to Amtrak, so they can travel by train to visit Washington, New York and New England. "We need a place with cinema, museums," he said.

Ideally, they would like a neighborhood where they can walk a block or two for a drink or a meal. He uses the real estate website Zillow, which allows users to track listings in specific neighborhoods; a mapping function lets users see, say, the number of nearby restaurants and cafes. "To me, cafes are a symbol of civilization," he said. He also checks a crime mapping site, [raidsonline.com](http://raidsonline.com), to gauge a neighborhood's safety.

One catch, he said, is health care. Many retirement rankings measure the number of doctors per capita, but that's not helpful if the doctors aren't in your particular insurance plan. (Individual plans offered under the Affordable Care Act, in particular, might have very narrow doctor networks.) Swerling, 67, is eligible for Medicare but his wife won't be yet, so they expect they

will have to find an interim health plan for her.

They have narrowed their list to a handful of communities on the mid-Atlantic seaboard, including Richmond, Virginia, which they like for its rich history. They are planning a driving trip in December and will stay a night or two in several locations.

Deeper reconnaissance is now a priority for Zierden, the California retiree. She has subscribed to Sacramento Magazine, partly to learn about goings-on in the city, where she and her husband, John Dahlen, hope to move. And she plans to spend time at local breakfast haunts, "eavesdropping" on conversations. "If everyone's talking about death panels," she said, referring to a term that conservatives use to argue against the Affordable Care Act, she will probably look elsewhere. She doesn't mind opposing viewpoints, she said. But, "You want to find a comfort level."

One quick way to get a general feel for an area's politics comes via the American Communities Project at American University's School of Public Affairs. The project has created an online map that places all United States counties into 15 categories, based on past election results and other factors. You can hover your cursor over the county where you are considering moving, to see if you might find like-minded locals.

Categories include, for instance, "Urban Suburbs," wealthy, mostly white areas close to big cities that voted heavily for President Barack Obama in 2012. "Evangelical Hubs" are largely white, with lower incomes; these areas are quite conservative and voted overwhelmingly for the Republican candidate, Mitt Romney.

Antoine Yoshinaka, an assistant professor of government at American University, said that if you really wanted to get more specific, you could find information about voting patterns at the precinct level by contacting the elections division of the secretary of state for your state.

But he cautioned that even that approach would not guarantee that your neighbor would share your views: "There's no one perfect measure."



# The University of Texas of the Permian Basin

www.utpb.edu

## Barriga has Falcons flying high to start 2014

UTPB women's basketball is off to a fast 3-0 start this season with a lot of its success thanks to senior Valerie Barriga.

Barriga, the 2013-14 Heartland Conference Newcomer of the Year, has started out the season as one of the best players in the conference. The forward leads all players in the Heartland with 22.3 points per game and has been the best rebounder on the team through three games, averaging 7.0 rebounds a night.

"She's been the best player on the floor each game we've played," UTPB head coach Jerome Willis said. "She is playing mature and scoring the ball for us while rebounding and playing pretty good defense. Valerie wants the moment, she wants the ball and she's making plays."

She was named the first Heartland Conference Player of the Week, helping the Falcons to a 77-73 upset of preseason #1 West Texas A&M in the team's first game of the season. Barriga was unstoppable the entire night, scoring a game-high 28 points on 7-14 shooting from the field with a 12-14 night at the free throw line. She added a team-high five rebounds and a game-high five assists against a single turnover.

"She has led us on both ends of the floor and also off the floor," Willis added. "We put the ball in her hands late to make plays and get us over the hump. Right now she's the best teammate she can be."

Barriga came back with her first double-double of the season four days later, scoring 26 points with 11 rebounds as UTPB earned a 64-56 win on the road at Angelo State.

She was one of four Falcons to score in double-figures in the team's home-opener, recording a team-best 13 points as UTPB rallied from trailing by 14 in the first half to defeat New Mexico Highlands 76-55.

Getting to the free-throw line has been big for Barriga this year. She is 33-40 at the line through three games, with just under half of her points this far coming at the foul line.



Photo by UTPB Athletics

4th Annual  
**Holiday Celebration at the Wagner Noël**  
 Thursday, December 4, 2014  
 7:30 PM  
 Featuring the music program of  
 The University of Texas of the Permian Basin  
 Special Guests  
 The Varsity Choirs of  
 Andrews HS and Permian HS  
 \*Ticket Required - Tickets Available at Wagner Noël Box Office Only

### Upcoming Events at UTPB

**Mariachi Concert**  
 7-8 pm, December 1  
 Rea-Greathouse Recital Hall  
 Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center

**Holiday Celebration at the Wagner Noël**  
 7:30-9:30 pm, December 4, Main Hall

**Freshman/Sophomore Juried Exhibition Reception and Awards Ceremony**  
 7-9 pm  
 December 5

**Fall 2014 Commencement**  
 Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center  
 Ceremonies at 10 am and 2 p  
 December 13

**Winter Break**  
 University closed  
 December 23, 2014 - January 1, 2015

## #GIVINGTUESDAY™

DECEMBER 2

We have a day of giving thanks and two days for getting deals. So what's #GivingTuesday? It's a day dedicated to giving back.

UTPB supporters, join us on December 2 to celebrate generosity.  
 GIVE your gift of any size.  
 GIVE to the program of your choice.

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## UPCOMING EVENT

THE BRIGHTEST STAR IN THE WEST TEXAS SKY

**Christmas CAROL**

**WAGNER NOËL**  
 PERFORMING ARTS CENTER  
 THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS OF THE PERMIAN BASIN

**Christmas Carol**  
 December 16 at 7:30 pm  
 Tickets On Sale Now  
 \$24 - \$44  
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 1-800-514-3849

# OIL REPORT

Midland Reporter-Telegram | mrt.com | Sunday, November 30, 2014 | Section G



AP file photo

## WILL OIL PRICES STAY FLAT? Investment banking firm lowers WTI assumptions

By Mella McEwen  
mmcewen@mrt.com

Following the 32 percent plunge in crude prices from a peak of \$107 in June to about \$74 a barrel, analysts are rethinking their price projections.

Updating its investment theses, Eli Kantor, managing director, E&P with Canaccord Genuity, an investment banking firm, has lowered his price assumptions for West Texas Intermediate for 2015, 2016 and long-term. Those price assumptions have been lowered from \$96, \$92 and \$92 respectively to a flat \$75 a barrel.

"We are also publishing breakeven oil economics for the major U.S. oil plays.

Our breakeven U.S. economic analysis points toward a marginal supply cost close to \$60 a barrel," Kantor said. He said shale oil plays in the Delaware Basin and Eagle Ford are particularly positioned to withstand lower prices, with breakeven prices below \$60 a barrel.

"The question is, what will the rest of the world do, and most importantly, what will OPEC do, since they supply a third of the world's oil," Kantor said. He noted that OPEC members need oil prices at \$80 or more to meet their internal budgetary needs.

Even if members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries cut their production anywhere from 500,000 to 1

million barrels a day to send prices back above \$80 a barrel, questions remain, he said.

One question is whether or not the countries would stick to the production cuts.

Second, even if there is a production cut, "in six months to a year, we could see domestic supply growth offset OPEC's reduction," he said.

The company follows 10 large and small-to-mid-size operators: Callon Petroleum, Cimarex Energy, Concho Resources, Diamondback Energy, Energen Corp., Laredo Petroleum, Matador Resources, Pioneer Natural Resources, Ring Energy and Synergy Resources. Of the 10, Kantor

said Callon and Diamondback are investment banking clients.

Kantor said current price levels shouldn't significantly affect activity levels. The market has already factored the lower prices into their expectations, he said.

"Most of the companies we cover say if prices remain between \$70 and \$80, they will defer acceleration. At these prices, activity will be maintained instead of accelerated were prices at \$90," he said.

Most producers can make money at \$60 a barrel, but balance sheet constraints could be come an issue, Kantor said. If prices fall below \$70, some activity would be halted, he said.

## New tech creates unexpected opportunities for oil recovery

By Mella McEwen  
mmcewen@mrt.com

More than 30 years ago, operators were seeking a new oil recovery method more effective than the waterflooding that was bringing additional crude to the surface.

Operators turned to carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) as a tertiary recovery method and now an additional 190,000 barrels a day comes from enhanced oil recovery projects. But today's rapid technological advances are impacting enhanced oil recovery in unexpected ways.

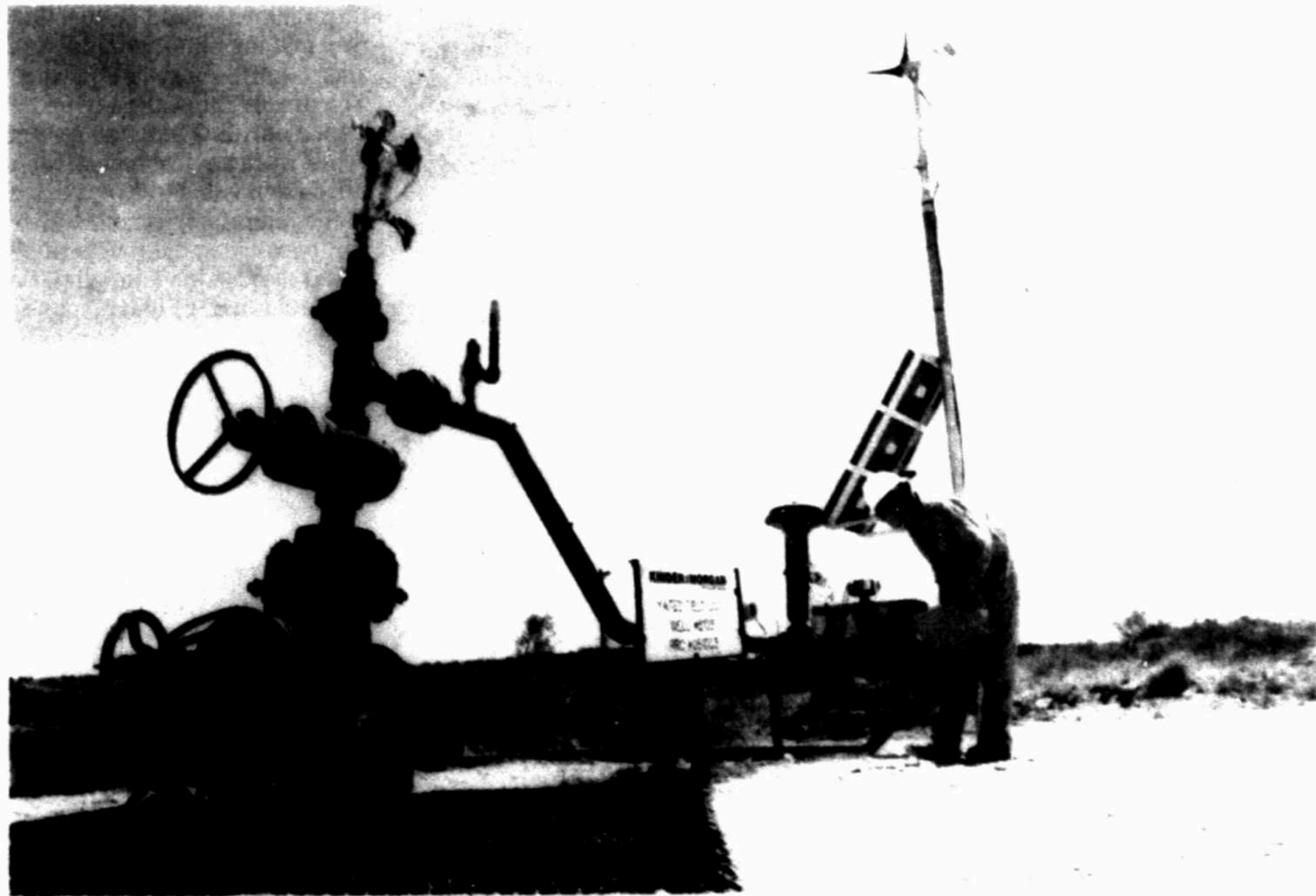
An example is the rise of unconventional shale plays, said Steve Melzer, chairman of the annual CO<sub>2</sub> Conference, which will hold its 20th session at Midland Center Dec. 9-12.

As part of the conference, a daylong workshop on "Produced Water Management for CO<sub>2</sub> EOR and the Unconventional Plays" will be Dec. 10 from 8:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

"I think there's potential synergy to EOR and unconventional plays," said Melzer, chairman of the annual conference. He noted that EOR operations result in a consistent source of produced water and a fixed infrastructure. Unconventional shale plays also result in produced water, but is less consistent.

He praised the fact Permian Basin operators are "getting smart about recycling and reprocessing water" needed for drilling and hydraulic fracturing. There are methods, with almost no waste resulting, to reprocess and recycle produced or flowback water into water for drilling or fracturing, into fresh water or even into 10 pound brine used for well control. "We'll provide supply and demand on both sides," he said.

Melzer said that some states are hesitating to grant de-facto water disposal permits, seeking to incentivize recycling instead. Pennsylvania is a good example, he said.



Houston Chronicle file photo

Jose Balderas, Kinder Morgan operations manager for the Yates field, checks one of the CO<sub>2</sub> injection well heads that uses solar and wind energy to power the well head in 2011 in Iran.

Please see TECH/2G

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## TECH

From IG

Conference topics will include water handling challenges, regulatory issues and case histories, including two field-tested demonstration projects, including one in Pennsylvania.

The Permian Basin's work in developing technology continues to attract international interest. Melzer estimates at least 30 international visitors coming from Colombia, Japan and the United Kingdom will attend the conference.

"They want to come where it's done," he said.

The conference gets underway Dec. 9 with the 12th annual EOR Carbon Management Workshop from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

"As it turns out, carbon capture has latched onto the need to sell CO<sub>2</sub> to someone who needs to buy it," said Melzer. The keynote luncheon speaker, Michelle Fosse chief energy economist and program manager at the Bureau of Economic Geology's Center for Energy Economics Jackson School of Geosciences, will discuss trends in hydrocarbon commodity development.

Among the guest speakers will be Eric Redman, president of Summit Power Group LLC, which is planning a coal-fired power plant at Penwell that would capture the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and sell them for use in EOR projects. Other topics will cover residual oil zone, including viewing San Andres formation ROZ cores.

A concurrent session on CO<sub>2</sub> well control will get underway at 11 a.m. and feature a keynote address by Philip D. Nizialek, partner, Carver, Darden, Koretzky, Tessier, Finn, Blossman & Arcaux LLC, discussing insurance coverage issues for tertiary recovery operators.

Also planned is a field trip to the Wasson area to tour a CO<sub>2</sub> recycling and flood operation, with a brief visit to the Denver City pipeline hub. It is sold out.

The actual CO<sub>2</sub> conference opens Dec. 11 with what Melzer described as the "ever popular" case histories on projects from Canada to Montana to northeastern Oklahoma. Discussions will also cover CO<sub>2</sub> supplies and infrastructure. A panel discussion will feature new entrants into CO<sub>2</sub>, among them representatives from Breitburn Energy Partners, Legacy Reserves, Windy Cove Energy and Memorial Production Partners.

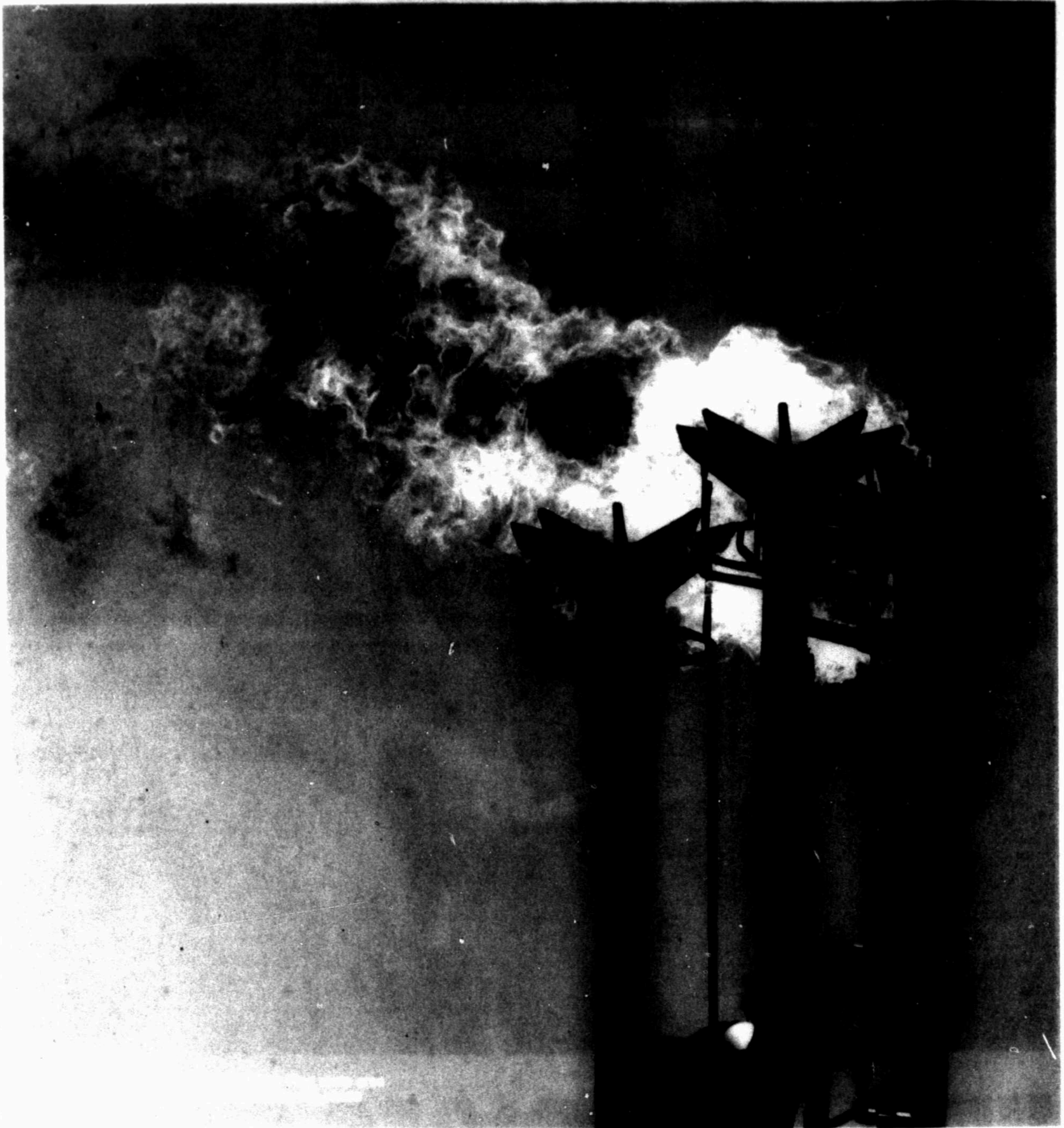
Julio Friedmann, deputy assistant secretary for Clean Coal, Office of Fossil Energy at the U.S. Department of Energy, will give the luncheon address, "The Age of Deployment." Melzer said the topic will cover carbon capture, utilization and storage efforts both nationally and worldwide.

The conference will conclude Dec. 12 with a half-day session of case histories followed by a light lunch.

There will be receptions at Midland Center on Dec. 9 and 10 and a reception Dec. 11 at the Petroleum Museum. Melzer said the Convention and Visitors Bureau has arranged transportation from Midland Center to the museum and back that evening.

### CO<sub>2</sub> Conference

**When:** Dec. 9-12  
**Where:** Midland Center  
**More information:** Online at [www.co2conference.net](http://www.co2conference.net)



## Timeline slips for some oil and gas regulations

By Jennifer A. Dlouhy  
*Houston Chronicle*

WASHINGTON — From offshore drilling to methane emissions, the Obama administration is delaying some planned rules that will affect the oil and gas industry, while announcing new measures on the horizon.

The update came courtesy of the Fall 2014 "Unified Agenda," which is a rough outline of the rules federal agencies are drafting and their plans for putting those new regulations in place.

Some of the timelines are ambitious, and it is common to see the dates for action, published in twice yearly editions of the Unified Agenda, slide over time. Still, it is the best federal government overview of what's on tap.

Here's an overview of what's coming and when.

### Venting and flaring

The Bureau of Land Management is weighing how and whether to tackle the venting and flaring of natural gas from wells on public land. The BLM's goal is not environmental, instead, the bureau is focused on ensuring the government collects royalties from gas that is burned or simply vented into the atmosphere from wells on federal land. The end result is expected to be new rules that dissuade or outright limit the practice.

Previously, the BLM said it was aiming to release a "notice of proposed rule making" further outlining its plans in December. Now, the target date is April, with final action a year later.

### Foreign payment disclosure

The Securities and Exchange Commission, an independent agency, has been working to develop mandates forcing petroleum and mining companies to reveal how much they're paying the governments of nations where they extract resources. The first attempt, required to be issued within 270 days after the Dodd-Frank financial law was enacted in 2010, was tossed out by a federal judge in mid 2013.

The agency is delaying its plans to issue a "notice of proposed rule making" on the requirement from March to October next year. Oxfam America, which has already sued the agency over the delays, said the latest postponement means the United States is lagging behind other countries "moving quickly ahead" to impose their own disclosure requirements.

"These rules are more important than ever, as new oil, gas and mineral development quickly expands in places like Burma, Kenya, Cambodia and in the Gulf of Mexico — meaning millions of dollars in payments will be shrouded in secrecy," said Isabel Mulilla, a senior policy adviser with the group.

### Royalties for oil and gas from public land

The share of oil and gas revenue that energy companies send the federal government when they harvest the fossil fuels on federal land could go up, under rules planned by the Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management. The agency said it plans to ask the public in December whether the royalty for new, federal competitive oil and gas leases "should be revised in order to better ensure a fair return to the public."

### Arctic standards

The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement could issue a notice of proposed rule making about possible standards for oil and gas drilling in Arctic waters later this year. The document is already under review at the Office of Management and Budget, which has heard from environmentalists who insist strong rules are needed to lower the risk of oil spills in the remote region and boost the industry's ability to clean them up. Oil companies have asked the Obama administration for flexibility on the amount of emergency equipment they have on hand and the freedom to use chemical dispersants to tackle spills.

### Blowout preventers

After the 2010 Deepwater Horizon disaster spotlighted shortcomings in the blowout preventers meant to safeguard offshore wells, Interior Department regulators began drafting new rules meant to boost the reliability of those emergency devices.

The mandates are still on the horizon. According to the Unified Agenda, the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement is slated to issue a notice of proposed rule making in February, with final action by July. That

timeline seems especially optimistic, as the safety bureau has expanded the scope of the planned rule to address not just blowout preventers but also well control. According to the administration, "the proposed rule will address well design, well control, safe drilling margins, casing, cementing, real-time monitoring and subsea containment."

### Hydraulic fracturing

The Bureau of Land Management is close to imposing a suite of new standards governing hydraulic fracturing on public lands. States have historically played the chief role regulating hydraulic fracturing, the post-drilling process of pumping sand, water and chemicals into wells to pull oil and gas from dense underground rock formations. The BLM rule, now in an interagency review process, is aimed at boosting the integrity of wells to ensure oil, gas and other fluids are contained within them, ensuring recovered water and other fluids are safely stored and forcing disclosure of the chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing on public lands.

According to the Unified Agenda, which says a final rule is expected out this year, "this rule is necessary to provide useful information to the public and to assure that hydraulic fracturing is conducted in a way that adequately protects the environment."

### Methane regulation

The Environmental Protection Agency is expected to announce its plans for capping methane emissions from the oil and gas sector by the end of fall — or Dec. 21. But the first tangible outcome of that decision could be in May, when the agency is slated to issue a notice of proposed rule making tied to petitions asking the EPA to revisit a 2012 requirement for the use of "green completions" equipment to pare emissions from natural gas wells.

Environmentalists have asked the agency to expand that requirement to oil wells and to consider new rules for leaking equipment and during liquids unloading, when water and other materials are removed from wells. According to the Unified Agenda, the notice of proposed rule making is expected in May, with a final rule in June 2016.

## Petroleum Professional Development Center

To register, go to the Midland College PPDC's Website: [www.midland.edu/ppdc](http://www.midland.edu/ppdc)

### PPDC courses

**Well Control Drilling/Workover (WellCAP)**  
Instructor: Larry Chapman  
December 1-4, Mon-Wed, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Thu, 8 a.m.-Noon  
\$900; Out of State, \$925  
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

**Module 3: On-Line Land Management Certificate Program**  
LEASE: Oil and Gas Lease Interpretation, Negotiation and Interest Calculations  
December 1-29, 2014.; Registration Deadline: Noon, December 1st  
Returning students-\$599; Out of State, \$624; New students  
\$649; Out of State, \$674-Includes \$50 manual (AAPL Land Reference Guide) If you plan to register for additional modules, the \$50 materials fee is a one-time charge

**PetroSkills: Primary Cementing**  
Instructor: John Jennings  
December 1-4, Mon-Thu, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
\$3,590; contact [www.petroskills.com](http://www.petroskills.com) or call (800) 821-5933. Fee is paid directly to PetroSkills  
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

**PetroSkills: Unconventional Resources Completion & Stimulation**  
Instructor: Larry Britt  
December 8-12, Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
\$4,000; contact [www.petroskills.com](http://www.petroskills.com) or call (800) 821-5933. Fee is paid directly to PetroSkills  
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

**Log Analysis of Shaly Sandstones**  
Instructor: Dr. George Asquith  
December 8, Mon, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
\$425; Out of State, \$450  
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

**Quick Guide to Carbonate Well Log Analysis with Flow Chart, Case Studies and Problems**  
Instructor: Dr. George Asquith  
December 9, Tue, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
\$425; Out of State, \$450  
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

**Oilfield Manager (OFM)-Introduction**  
Instructor: Celia Payne  
December 9-10, Tue-Wed, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.  
\$870; Out of State, \$895  
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

**Log Analysis of Hydrocarbon-Bearing Shales**  
Instructor: Dr. George Asquith  
December 10, Wed, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
\$475; Out of State, \$500  
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

**Module 4: On-Line Land Management Certificate Program**

**OIL & GAS LAW: Oil and Gas Law and Its Impact on Land Practices**  
January 6, 2015; Registration Deadline: Noon, January 6th  
Returning students-\$599; Out of State, \$624; New students  
\$649; Out of State, \$674-Includes \$50 manual (AAPL Land Reference Guide) If you plan to register for additional modules, the \$50 materials fee is a one-time charge

**Oilfield Terminology**  
Instructor: Tommy Lent  
January 21-22, Wed-Thu, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
\$430; Out of State, \$455  
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

**PETRA (Fundamentals)**  
Instructor: Greg Hinterlong  
November 4-5, Tue-Wed, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
\$625; Out of State, \$650  
Midland College PPDC Building, 105 W. Illinois

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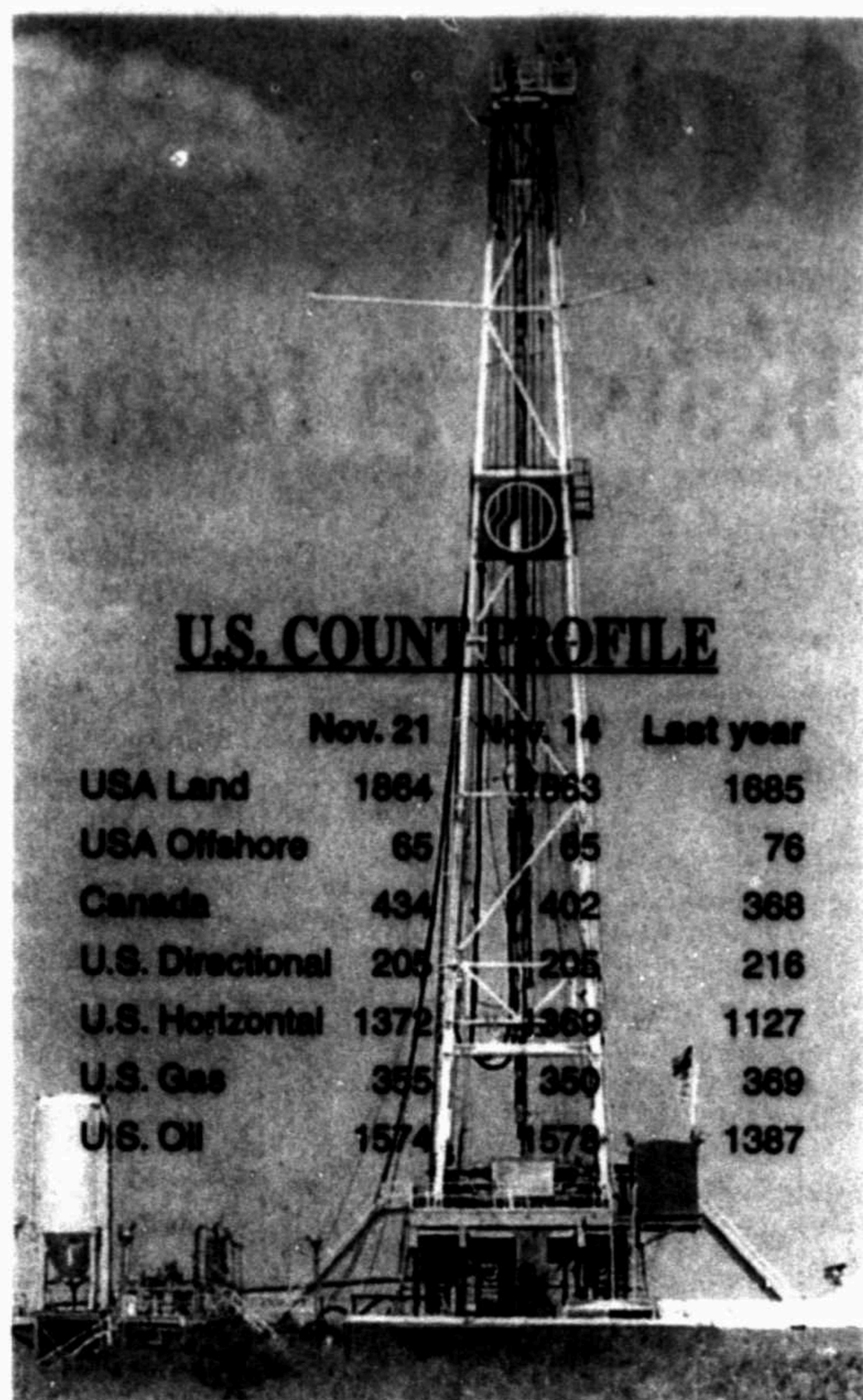
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**CO2 CONVENTION TO BE HELD AT THE MIDLAND CENTER DECEMBER 8 - 12**



**PERMIAN BASIN RIG COUNTS**

Texas		Ector		Floyd	
		10		0	
		Glasscock	43	Games	11
DIST. #7C		Howard	20	Garza	3
Coke	0	Hudspeth	0	Haile	0
Concho	0	Jeff Davis	0	Hockley	1
Crockett	7	Loving	25	Kent	1
Irion	15	Martin	52	King	1
Kimble	0	Midland	39	Lamb	0
McCulloch	0	Mitchell	1	Lubbock	0
Menard	0	Pecos	6	Lynn	0
Reagan	33	Presidio	0	Motley	0
Runnels	0	Reeves	64	Scurry	5
Schleicher	0	Sterling	1	Terry	1
Sutton	0	Ward	18	Yoakum	5
Terrell	2	Winkler	9		
Tom Green	0				
Upton	40				
		DIST. #8A		TEXAS TOTAL	466
DIST. #8		Bailey	0	<b>New Mexico</b>	
Andrews	27	Borden	3	Chaves	1
Brewster	0	Cochran	0	Eddy	42
Crane	8	Cottle	0	Lea	46
Culberson	11	Crosby	1	Roosevelt	1
		Dawson	3		
		Dickens	0	NEW MEXICO TOTAL	87

**C&J Energy ordered to delay merger with Nabors unit**

By Collin Eaton  
Houston Chronicle

"We don't expect anyone else to emerge as a potential suitor."

Praveen Narra, Raymond James analyst

HOUSTON — A Delaware state judge has called time out in C&J Energy Service's \$2.86 billion merger with Nabors Industries' hydraulic fracturing business, creating a short window for outside buyers to make a bid for a player in the U.S. oil patch's biggest services business.

C&J Energy said the judge ordered a 30-day suspension of the deal and required the company's board to shop around in order to get the best price possible, a central issue in a shareholder lawsuit that was filed to stop the deal. The Houston oil-field equipment company said it disagrees with the decision and will immediately appeal to the Delaware Supreme Court.

It said it doesn't agree "that under the circumstances of this transaction the board was obligated to solicit proposals to acquire the company before executing the merger agreement." C&J Energy CEO Josh Comstock said in a written statement He said the company remains focused on closing the deal as soon as possible.

The cash and stock transaction, announced in late June, would link up two oil field equipment firms that provide pressure pumping services to U.S. shale-oil companies, a highly fractured market that's expected to see more consolidation as Halliburton and Baker Hughes work to merge their businesses.

Analysts say the company could approach Schlumberger or Weatherford, both of which may be looking to expand as Halliburton and Baker Hughes attempt a \$35 billion tie-up, but it probably won't get a better price from either as oil prices have fallen dramatically since the June merger announcement.

"We don't expect anyone else to emerge as a potential suitor," said Praveen Narra, an analyst with Raymond James. Narra

said any competing offer isn't likely to beat the original price tag because the cost to build hydraulic fracturing equipment would probably be less than the cost to buy the company.

"We've seen most of the consolidation happen in more distressed situations, and on the smaller side," Narra said.

The judge's order would probably do no more than turn up the required "no" from the big oil field service companies, said Marc Bianchi, an analyst with Cowen & Co.

"It's more of a formality," Bianchi said. He said he would be surprised if the big four oil field service companies — Schlumberger, Halliburton, Baker Hughes and Weatherford — would be interested at that price, because oil prices have sunk to around \$75 a barrel. "The valuation would be different now."

Houston-based oil field service company C&J Energy's stock-market value was \$1.03 billion on Monday. Rig contractor Nabors, which is based in Bermuda but has main offices in Houston, was worth \$4.75 billion. Combined, the two would have 10,000 employees in the United States and Canada.

The deal entailed C&J Energy's payment of \$937 million in cash and 62.5 million shares for Nabors' fracturing business. Technically, C&J Energy is the buyer in the deal, but Nabors would own 53 percent of the business.

The new business, which would be called C&J Energy Services Ltd., would have 1.1 million hydraulic fracturing horsepower, 1,500 trucks and more than 680 work-over rigs.

**MID-WEEK WTI AVERAGE PRICES**

Posted	\$71.94
Flint Hills	\$70.50
Resources*	
Phillips 66	\$70.71
Plains*	\$70.50
Shell Trading	\$70.70
Sun*	\$70.50
Nymex futures	\$75.49*
Net price without transportation charge	
Note: Posted prices as of Nov. 25, 2014	

**SPOT NATURAL GAS PRICE PROFILE**

Current natural gas prices (price per MMBtu)

	First of the month price	Closing price 11/25/14	Same period one year ago
Nymex future price	\$3.728	\$4.282	\$3.730
Composite Field Prices For Waha Hub	\$3.390	\$4.045	\$3.705
Composite Field Prices For Rocky Mountains	\$3.569	\$4.160	\$3.668
Composite Field Prices For Permian Basin	\$3.393	\$4.145	\$3.698
Composite Field Prices For San Juan Basin	\$3.410	\$4.115	\$3.680
Composite Field Prices For Midcontinent	\$3.435	\$4.080	\$3.625
Composite Field Prices For Gulf Coast	\$3.673	\$3.972	\$3.732

**Q&A: Oil eventually will lose its place as leading auto fuel**

By Collin Eaton  
Houston Chronicle

One day, crude oil will lose its grip on cars and trains and ships, but with costs to produce alternative energy still high, a change that big will likely take many decades. How long is anyone's guess, says one man with a head start on most prognosticators.

Henrik Madsen, the CEO of Norway's international shipping and oilfield equipment classifier DNV GL, says the commercial automobile market is the last bastion of crude oil, after its disappearance from power plants and heating fuels in the second half of the 20th century. Its days in vehicles and vessels are numbered.

Searing cold liquefied natural gas — don't spill it: it's minus-261 degrees — and compressed natural gas are elbowing their way into crude's territory, powering some large trucks and locomotives, and finding prime real estate aboard big tankers as international demand for gas surges.

LNG's advance in vehicles is likely good news for those counting on the earth's resources in coming decades, Madsen says. Oil, he added, is too precious to burn in a combustion engine and should be reserved as a feedstock for ingredients to make high-end products including clothing, plastics, coatings and pharmaceuticals.

The emergence of alternative energy sources in transportation isn't great news for oil-producing nations like Saudi Arabia whose economies are linked to crude-pumping wells, he said.

DVN GL has an office and oil and gas operations in Katy. Madsen, recently in Houston, spoke with the Chronicle about the pivot to LNG and compressed natural gas fuels in trucking, and the early signs that point to a future of lower oil consumption. Edited excerpts follow:

**HC:** You describe the "energy trilemma" as the balance between protecting the environment while retaining affordable energy costs and ensuring we have enough energy. Where is that effort today?

**Madsen:** I think everybody agrees we need many energy sources in the future. We need oil, gas, coal, wind, solar, geothermal. One of the things we're focused on is how we use the different forms of energy. We think there will be a transformation in that oil will lose its position in transportation. On the trucking side in the U.S., that transformation is happening fast, because the price of LNG is 10, 20 percent of the price of diesel. You've seen some train companies consider using gas instead of diesel, you've seen it in the oil field service sector, where they're using gas to drill

for shale oil.

**HC:** Expand on what's driving this.

**Madsen:** In terms of emissions, you will reduce local pollution a lot. But primarily it is because gas is much cheaper. From a technical point of view, this major change would not be impossible, say over a 20- to 30-year period. But at the same time, it will be as the cost of transportation fuels goes up, so how slow the transformation will be is anybody's guess.

**HC:** Do you envision less oil exploration in the future?

**Madsen:** That may be 30 or 40 years from now. I think consumption will be lower then. But people don't talk much about that. They're talking about how we're at peak oil and how we can find more oil and so on, instead of looking at what it's used for. I personally think it would be nice to reserve oil for high-value products.

**HC:** What are the safety concerns related to using LNG as a transportation fuel?

**Madsen:** It's very cold, so if you spill it on a ship, the steel will crack. LNG can burn but it doesn't explode, so LNG is remarkably safe. They've been transporting LNG around the world in tankers for 40 years and there have not been any fatalities.

**HC:** Are renewable energy sources growing fast

enough?

**Madsen:** Many people talk the growth down, but at least in Europe there's still a high growth in renewables, and there's also high growth in the U.S. I think the International Energy Agency constantly underestimates the growth.

If you look at solar now, prices are coming down much faster than we thought, and it's actually competitive for local production. Onshore wind costs are coming down and we're trying to drive offshore wind costs down.

**HC:** Is wind held back

by its reliance on subsidies?

**Madsen:** They don't need subsidies. The more they talk about subsidies, the more everybody thinks they'll need subsidies forever and that it's not a long-term solution, which is actually wrong.

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# around the oil patch

PAID CONTENT

To appear in *Around the Oil Patch* call Paul Wiseman at 697-7468 or your Oil Report account executive at 687-9004.

## Victaulic HDPE pipe joining system beats heat fusing

**When installing HDPE pipe,** the top priorities are to do it in a timely manner and to get secure connections. The Victaulic plain end HDPE pipe joining system excels at both.

Victaulic saves tremendous amounts of time with its process, which entails only three steps, as opposed to the eight steps involved in traditional heat fusing methods. With Victaulic, you: order pipe; deliver pipe to the job site; and mechanically join the pipe — no pipe end preparation is needed.

Traditional heat fusing involves these seven steps: Order pipe; deliver to job site; procure equipment for heat fusion and pull-through; position pipe in fusing machine; prepare and heat the pipe; cool the pipe; pull pipe through the machine. Not only does Victaulic save you all those time-consuming steps, it eliminates the cost of buying or renting the heat fusion equipment.

Instead, the Victaulic system involves a series of mechanical couplings, flange adapters, HDPE-to-metal transition couplings, outlets and fittings. Products are designed to mechanically (and quickly) join HDPE pipe conforming to ASTM D-2447, D-3000, D-3035 or F-714 (at ambient temperatures) in thicknesses of SDR 32.5 to 7.3 (depending on size and pipe material). Victaulic HDPE couplings and fittings have integral rows of teeth that grip the HDPE pipe, eliminating the need for heat fusion or special adapters.

The Victaulic method has been used successfully for over 80 years, combining the advantages of fast installation, design integrity and reliable operation.

Disassembly is just as fast as assembly, facilitating rapid pipe rotation and redeployment time.

This system also permits more accurate estimates, and it assures on-time modification and future retrofit. Maintenance and operation are easier, and its unique mechanical features permit a wide variety of applications for most HDPE piping systems.

Certain Victaulic products are rated for FM approved KWH, Drisco Series 1000 and Plexco blue/red stripe HDPE pipe, SDR 11 and 9. Your Victaulic representative can give you more details.

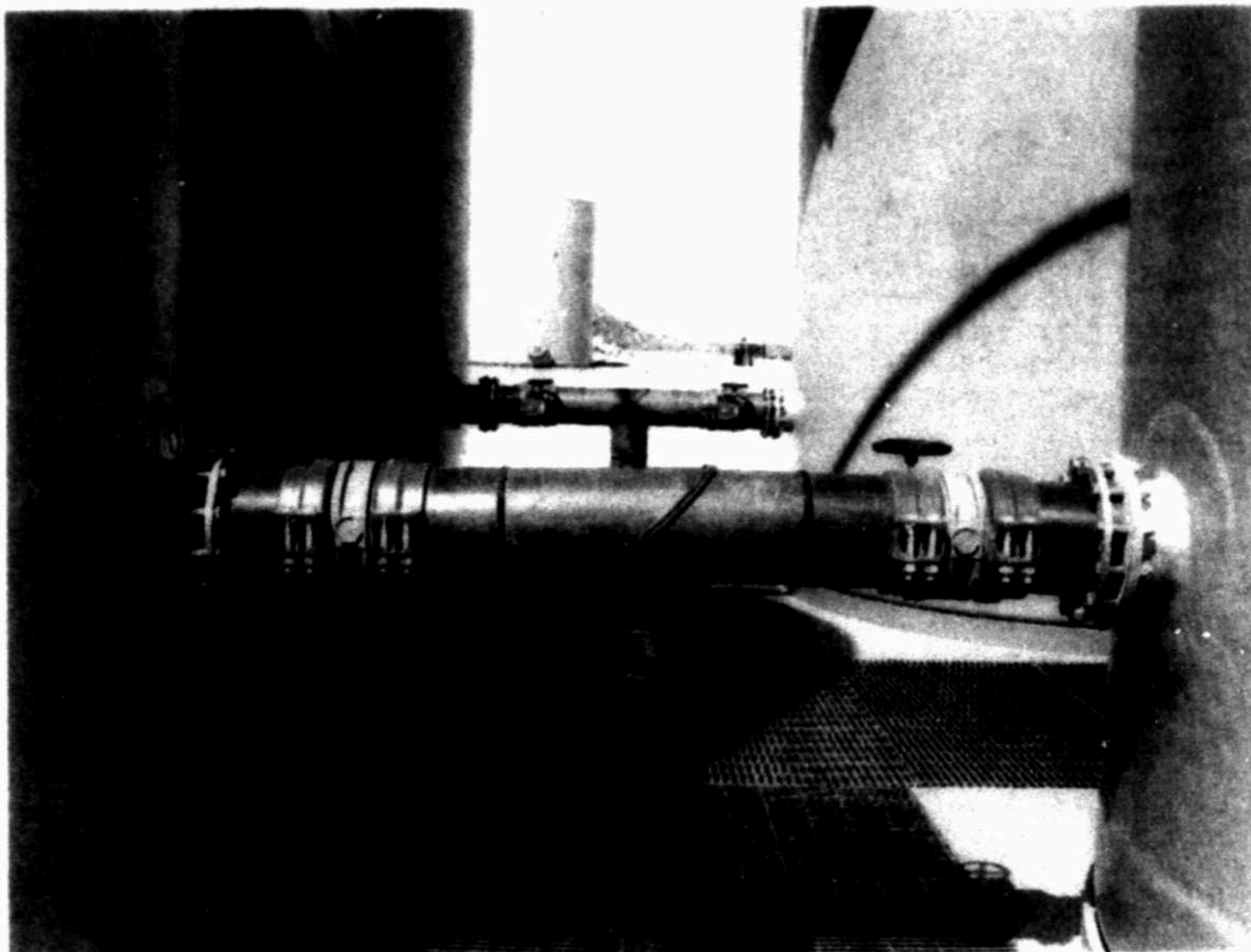
The process is so simple. First, you align the marked pipe ends, slide on the pressure-responsive gasket and place both sections of the coupling over the pipe ends.

Next, you simply match the tongue-and-recess mating system for proper alignment, then tighten the track bolts. There is no threading, grooving or fusing involved.

That's it! Sharp gripping teeth in each half of the housing hold the pipe securely so there's no slipping or leaking. Couples are laboratory and field tested to verify that their working pressure exceeds that of the pipe itself.

You can count on Victaulic couplings. They're solidly made with a durable ductile iron body, ready for the harshest service conditions, due also to the standard-feature dipped enamel finish. For particularly aggressive environments, special coatings are also available. Integral gripping teeth provide a direct connection to the pipe.

The elastomer gasket's



The Victaulic plain end HDPE joining system joins pipe quickly and securely.

triple-seal design provides a leak free seal for a wide variety of uses. The Grade "E" gasket is ideal for water services. A Grade "T" gasket suited for petroleum services or air with oil vapors is also available.

As vital as all these aspects are, it is just as important for the bolts and nuts to hold everything together through all conditions. To that end, Victaulic's bolts are zinc plated as a standard supply. Stainless steel nuts are available as an option, to protect against external corrosion in aggressive environments. The four-bolt assembly that is part of most Victaulic HDPE products speeds installation, as opposed to heat fusion butt welding or the multiple bolts required for flanged connections. These bolts have a minimum tensile strength of 110,000

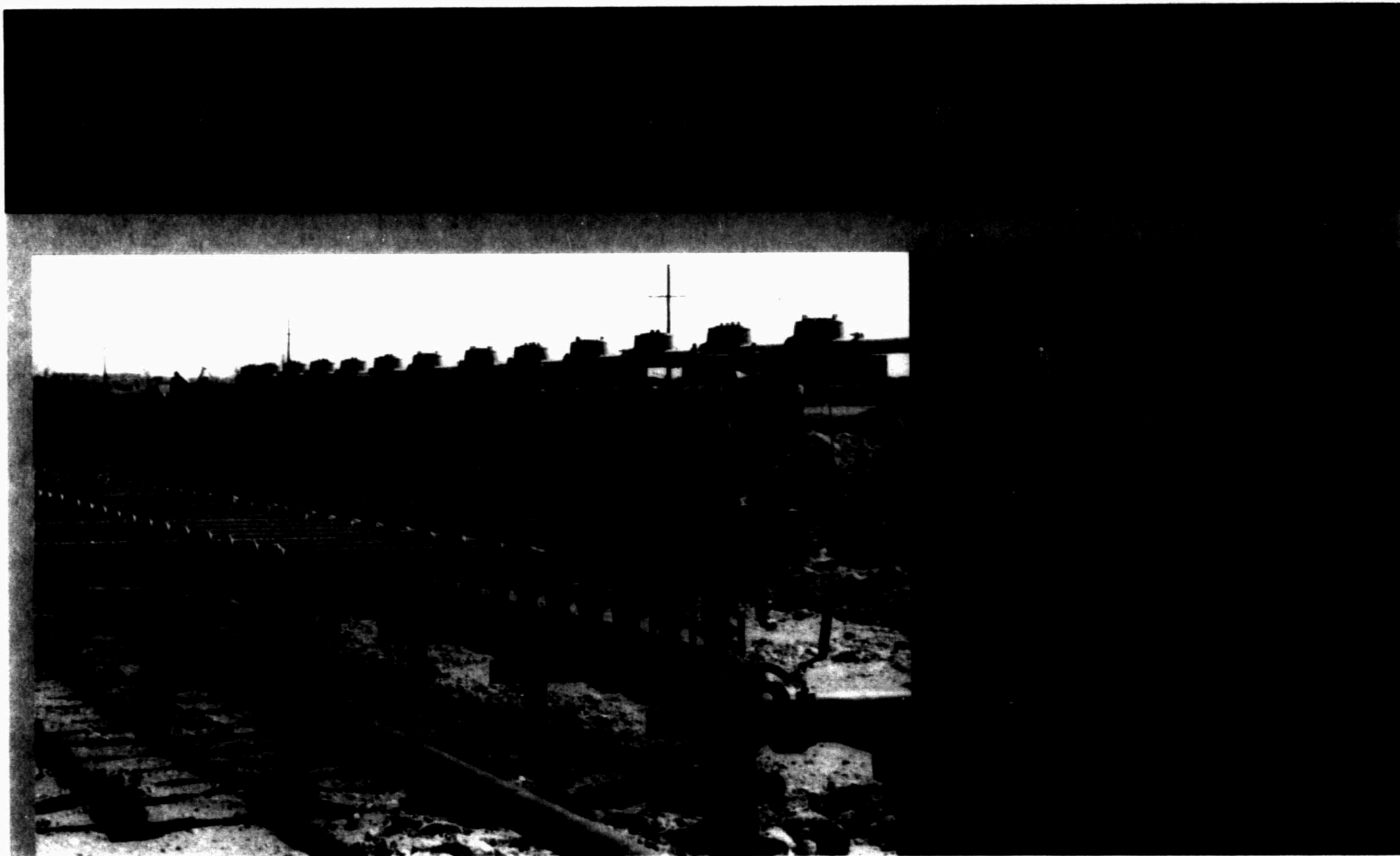
psi.

The Victaulic HDPE pipe joining system is readily available in the Permian Basin, and has been since the 1950s. Support and training are as close as your phone, for quick service.

Call Victaulic at 432-332-1480 to learn more. The web address is [www.victaulic.com](http://www.victaulic.com)



Victaulic couplings are solidly made with a durable ductile iron body, ready to withstand the harshest conditions. Call Victaulic at 432-332-1480 to learn how Victaulic systems can save you time and money.



**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**

# Report: LNG exports could increase production and price of gas

By Robert Grattan  
Houston Chronicle

HOUSTON — Liquefied natural gas exports could mean more gas production, more economic growth and an increase in consumer prices, according to a government analysis. The report, released at the end of October and rehashed Wednesday in a subsequent analysis, is intended to serve as a yardstick to help evaluate applications to export LNG from the

United States. Those permits require the export project to be in the public interest.

The analysis presented several different scenarios where the U.S. exported LNG, ranging from exporting a cumulative 30.6 trillion cubic feet by 2040 to a high of 101.6 trillion cubic feet of LNG exports.

In a summary, the report concluded that increasing LNG exports of natural gas would lead to higher domestic natural gas prices. The increase could be between 4 percent and 12 per-

cent for the price producers receive depending on how much gas is exported. The prices that residential customers would pay are expected to see less of an increase at between 2 percent and 5 percent.

The boost to prices and added demand from exports would also incentivize additional production of the gas. The analysis suggested that between 61 percent to 84 percent of the increase in natural gas demand from LNG exports would be satisfied by additional production.

# around the oil patch

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## When you need water storage done right, on time and on budget, call Big D



Want to make sure all your frac water goes where it's supposed to? Call Big D. They can install double layered lining with leak detectors so you don't lose this precious commodity to leaks. Call Gary Moore at 432-813-2110 to learn more.

Storing the amounts of water required for a frac job is no small task. Keeping that water available until it is needed is a major requirement.

Big D fully understands the oilfield's concern about water conservation. They build frac pits with double liners and a leak detection system that some producers are putting produced water in. The experts at Big D will help the customer pick the lining thickness that best fits their needs. Double linings

and geo textile give extra security from the endless sharp objects common to this area and—should one of those still manage to puncture the lining—a leak detection system can help determine if there is a leak before you lose all your water. If a temporary frac pit is needed, Big D sells portable water impoundment tanks that hold up to 40,000 barrels.

Big D installs 4, 8, 10 and 12 inch load lines for both types of water storage.

They also rent submersible pumps of 5, 7.5, 10, 15 and 20 hp. They can help you customize the pump size to fit your water well or water supply volume.

Fully aware of the need to conserve water, Big D also offers lay-flat hose. Lay-flat pipe has two-to-three times the working pressure of aluminum pipe. By offering lay-flat hose, Big D is helping producers quickly get high-volume transfer capacity where it is needed. This product requires only eight connec-

tions per mile instead of the 176 for irrigation pipe which allows for quicker layout and retrieval times by up to 90 percent. Because the system is

leak proof and chemical resistant, producers can use it to transfer produced water and chemical-laden water that cannot be pumped through aluminum pipes because those irrigation pipes can leak these dangerous fluids onto the ground.

You won't have to worry about safety with Big D. Company management feels it is important for Big D employees and the people they work with to return home safely to their families. That is in everyone's best interest. Company safety policies

and procedures are in compliance with those of the strictest and safest producers around.

Big D is part of the ISNetworld database, through which producers can verify the company's safety record. Big D holds weekly safety meetings as well as location-specific meetings before starting a new job.

Big D is located at 4501 E. Highway 80 in Midland. Call Gary Moore at 432-813-2110 or find Big D on the web at [www.bigdco.com](http://www.bigdco.com)

## Zero to 62 in 10 hours

Gentlemen and ladies, before you start your engines and drill another well for which the pay zones and the water zones are not fully established, you will want to consider the benefits of having Cardinal Surveys run a TRAC-III Annulus Production log on your producing wells. It could pay huge dividends, as it did for one company recently.

One well for this particular operator was producing 352 barrels of water per day (BWP) and zero oil. None. Nada. Zip. All it was doing was costing the operator a lot to dispose of that water.

When Cardinal Surveys ran a TRAC-III log on the well, they discovered the cause to be a casing leak. Those ten logging hours showed the operator where to repair the leak. When the repair was completed, the production changed to 62 BOPD and just 96 BWP. So, in effect, the well went from zero to 62 barrels per day of production, paying for the logging many times over and rescuing the well from complete failure.

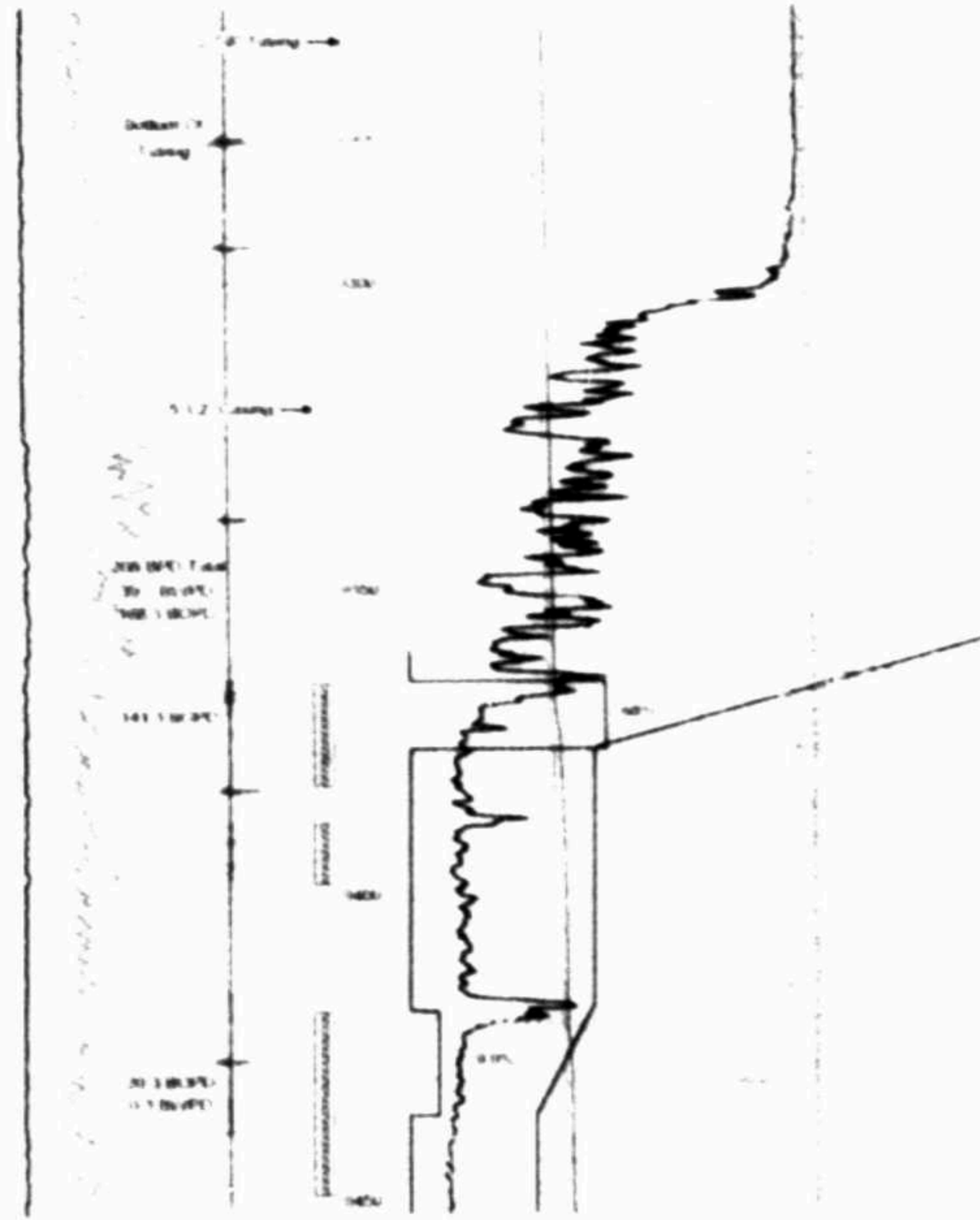
Another operator had a well whose production was calculated at 250 BOPD, 10 BWP and 8MCF of

natural gas per day. Cardinal's TRAC-III log on the well found the downhole calculated rate was 298 BOPD—278 of which was from a leaking collar located over 200' deeper than the completed zone. The wells' CIBP was also leaking, accounting for the 20 BOPD difference. The initial completed zones were producing the natural gas and very little oil.

After drilling five wells, all five were logged, locating the non-productive zones. By not completing the non-productive zones as the operator added new wells, they were able to save hundreds of thousands of dollars on the new infield drilling.

How does it work? 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.



Locating pay zones and water zones helps operators maximize each well, and Cardinal Surveys' TRAC-III Annulus Production Logging does just that. Call Cardinal at (432) 580-8061.

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.

Whether it's zero to 62 or another increase, TRAC-

III Annulus Production Logging helps you locate pay zones and water zones so you can make the most of each well, whatever amount that is. Call Cardinal Surveys today to learn more.

Cardinal Surveys can be reached at (432) 580-8061. Their web address is [www.cardinalsurveys.com](http://www.cardinalsurveys.com).

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## ENERGY BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

### NEW HAMPSHIRE Pipeline could go through state

LOWELL, Mass. — The company seeking to build a pipeline that would bring high-pressure natural gas into Massachusetts is considering a possible alternative route for the pipeline that would bring it through southern New Hampshire.

Richard Wheatley, a spokesman for Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, confirmed to the Lowell Sun Monday that the New Hampshire alternative is emerging as a "preferred alternative route for a portion of the main line."

Wheatley says any changes the company decides to make would be included in a filing with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission next month.

The route would still begin in western Massachusetts but take a turn north and travel through 80 miles of existing southern New Hampshire power line routes before turning south again and ending in Dracut.

The proposed pipeline has faced opposition in many Massachusetts communities.

### KENTUCKY Judge rejects coal firm's settlement with state

LOUISVILLE — A judge has rejected a settlement between the state of Kentucky and a coal mining company over water quality monitoring violations from several years ago.

Frasere Creek Mining was accused of falsifying reports on water discharges from its eastern Kentucky mining operations. Such reports are required by state law. In December 2010, state officials reached a \$310,000 proposed settlement with the company, but environmental groups argued that the fines were not high enough for what they said were thousands of water quality violations.

Franklin County Circuit Judge Phillip Shepherd later allowed the groups to intervene in the case and sent the case to mediation, but four attempts to get the parties to an agreement failed.

On Monday, Shepherd rejected the proposed settlement, called a consent decree, and returned the matter to the state Energy and Environment Cabinet.

The environmental groups filed a new motion in federal court earlier this month against Frasure Creek, alleging the company had resumed filing false reports in 2013 and the first half of this year. In both the old cases and the new allegations, the groups said Frasure Creek copied data from previous reports on to new ones, instead of doing the proper water quality monitoring.



Houston Chronicle file photo

## Phillips 66 Partners teams up to move Bakken crude

By Rhiannon Meyers  
Houston Chronicle

Phillips 66 Partners will partner with a midstream company to develop a pipeline and rail terminal to move more crude out of the Bakken Shale in North Dakota.

The master limited partnership formed by the Houston-based refining, pipeline and chemicals company announced plans to form joint ventures with Paradigm Energy Partners, a midstream company based in Irving that gathers

and transports oil and gas in the Bakken Shale in North Dakota and Eagle Ford Shale in South Texas.

The joint ventures will support the construction of the two previously announced projects aimed at providing long-term and cheaper options to transport crude from a region that produces 1.2 million barrels of oil per day.

The 76-mile Sacagawea Pipeline is expected to transport oil pumped from McKenzie County in the heart of the Bakken to rail and pipeline destinations in Mountrail County in North Dakota. Paradigm

will build the pipeline and Phillips 66 will operate it. Together, the companies will hold an 88 percent stake in the project and split the costs of construction.

The Sacagawea pipeline will connect to a 710-acre rail terminal in Palermo, which is expected to provide access to the East and West coasts through the BNSF railway. Designs call for the Palermo Rail Terminal to have an initial capacity of 100,000 barrels per day, with the flexibility to expand to 200,000 barrels per day. The two companies will share con-

struction costs and Phillips 66 will own and operate the terminal.

Under the terms of the rail joint venture, Phillips 66 will own a 50 to 70 percent interest while Paradigm's stake will be subject to reaching certain milestones.

Both the pipeline and terminal are expected to begin operations in the first quarter of 2016.

Phillips 66 has been heavily investing in rail cars and other infrastructure in the Bakken region to easily carry cheap domestic crude to refineries along the coast.

## Hungary looks to develop natural gas production

By Monika Scislowka  
Associated Press

WARSAW — Hungary is looking to start extracting unconventional forms of natural gas in a bid to help Europe become less dependent on Russian energy imports, a government official said Wednesday.

Hungary's unconventional gas deposits are estimated at some 1,500 billion cubic meters — enough to supply all of Europe for three years — but they are deep and hard to access.

Unconventional gas includes tight gas and shale gas. Both are difficult to extract because the gas is trapped in rocks, requiring deeper and more complex wells and technology.

Attila Nyikos, deputy head for international affairs at Hungary's Energy Authority, told The Associated Press that Hungary wants to be among the few European countries embracing extraction of this type of unconventional gas.

"If European unconventional gas stays down, European (energy) freedom will be buried next to it,"

Nyikos said, speaking on the sidelines of a shale gas conference.

Much of Central and Eastern Europe relies on Russian gas and is seeking new sources to limit that dependence because Moscow has been often using the fossil fuel for political purposes. Poland is the continent's leader in exploration for shale gas, with some 67 wells drilled, but more data is needed to show if it is commercially viable. Shale gas is also pursued in Britain and in Romania, while politically troubled Ukraine is waiting for foreign investors.

But most European states are reluctant to pursue tight and shale gas amid concerns that the extraction methods hurt the environment. Hungary, which depends on Russia for some 80 percent of its gas needs, has about 100 research wells for unconventional gas, seven of them by the Canadian company Falcon TXM, including one with small-scale commercial production.

At the conference, experts and industry professionals disagreed on whether Europe may see a shale gas boom.

## Tanker dispute lingers as oil policy negotiations begin

By Rhiannon Meyers  
Houston Chronicle

As Iraq irons out some of its oil policy differences at home with the Kurdistan Regional Government, the two remain locked in a dispute in U.S. courts over a tanker of crude that arrived nearly four months ago off Galveston's coast carrying cargo Iraq claims was stolen.

In court filings late last week, Kurdistan's attorneys argued that U.S. courts shouldn't wade into the fight because the conflict is rooted in Iraq and has no direct effect on the United States.

Deciding the case would require a judge to interpret the Iraqi constitution and that's well beyond the scope of what U.S. courts typically do, Kurdistan's attorneys said in court filings.

Responding to Iraq's pleas last week to keep the matter in the U.S. judicial system, Kurdistan again said its disagreement with Baghdad over oil exports should be resolved in Iraq, where the crude was pumped from the ground.

Iraq claims Kurdistan stole 1 million barrels of oil and smuggled the cargo out of the country

through a pipeline to a Turkish port that bypasses the state oil company, which claims the right to broker all deals for Iraqi crude. A tanker carrying the oil arrived off Galveston's coast in late July and has remained anchored there since as Erbil and Baghdad bicker in court over who owns the cargo.

A federal judge initially granted permission to seize the oil on Iraq's behalf, but U.S. District Judge Gray Miller later dismissed that order, arguing that the U.S. lacked authority to hear the case. But he left the matter open for further litigation, allowing Iraq to amend its complaint.

In the weeks since, attorneys representing Iraq's oil ministry and the Kurdistan Regional Government have trotted out the same arguments. Iraq says U.S. courts should weigh in because the Kurdistan Regional Government refuses to appear before the Iraqi Federal Supreme Court, where a case is pending.

Kurdistan's attorneys say that because the dispute involves two sovereign foreign governments, any U.S. involvement should happen through the political branches, not the judiciary.

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## ENERGY BRIEFS

FROM WIRE REPORTS

### HOUSTON

#### Navitas to build Eagle Ford gathering line, processing plant

Navitas Midstream Partners LLC has announced it will construct a gathering and processing system in the northern Eagle Ford Shale.

The project will be the first that the private company, based in The Woodlands, will undertake after receiving \$500 million in capital from New York private equity firm Warburg Pincus in June. The company did not disclose the capital to be spent, but said that the cost will be less than \$500 million.

The new line and processing plant, dubbed the La Bahia system, will consist of a 20-inch gathering line that will deliver natural gas from Brazos County to a new processing plant in Grimes County. When completed in mid-2015, the cryogenic processing plant will have a capacity of about 120 million cubic feet per day. Cryogenic processing plants separate natural gas liquids and natural gas.

The company also announced a long-term, fee-based agreement with an investment-grade independent producer in the northern Eagle Ford. Navitas declined to name the producer.

Navitas was founded in 2013 by executives of Copano Energy after Copano was sold to Kinder Morgan for \$3.9 billion. When the company was sold, it controlled 6,900 miles of pipelines and nine processing plants.

The La Bahia deal is one of the first steps toward building another long-term pipeline company, said James Wade, chief commercial officer and one of three founders at Navitas. He added that the company expected to weather falling crude prices.

"One reason we went with Warburg Pincus was its long-term focus, which will allow us to weather these commodity cycles," he said.

### ALASKA

#### Hilcorp acquires LNG plant that supplies Fairbanks

ANCHORAGE — Hilcorp Corp. is getting into the liquefied natural gas plant business in Alaska.

The energy company has agreed to buy the Point MacKenzie LNG plant, which supplies LNG to Fairbanks Natural Gas, the Alaska Journal of Commerce reported.

The plant is operated by Titan Alaska LNG, a wholly owned subsidiary of Fairbanks Natural Gas.

Terms were not announced. The Regulatory Commission of Alaska must approve the deal.

The sale sprung from discussions between Hilcorp and Fairbanks Natural Gas about how the Fairbanks utility could secure a long-term gas supply, said Fairbanks Natural Gas CEO Dan Britton, who is also president of Titan.

Hilcorp, based in Texas, holds a contract to supply the plant with gas through 2018.

The plant would be Hilcorp's first foray into LNG, said spokeswoman Lori Nelson.

"The Titan plant basically represents an opportunity for us to expand within the state to Fairbanks, where less expensive energy is certainly something they are looking for and we have the opportunity to provide," Nelson said.

The plant will be operated by Hilcorp's subsidiary, Harvest Alaska.

Hilcorp has the resources and the will to expand LNG processing, Britton said.

The companies also agreed to a 10-year LNG supply agreement for up to the equivalent of 950 million cubic feet of gas annually. That amount covers the utility's current customer demands, Britton said.

The plant has a peak production capacity of just more than 1 billion cubic feet per year.



AP file photo

On July 26, 2011, Austin Mitchell walks away from an oil derrick outside of Williston, N.D. Lower oil prices, while good for the broader U.S. economy, are a threat to what has been a surprising and dramatic surge in oil production in the U.S., and to drilling communities that have come to depend on oil money.

## Low oil prices send chills through oil patch

By Josh Wood and Jonathan Fahey

Associated Press

WILLISTON, N.D. — Marcus Jundt moved to Williston from Minnesota almost four years ago and has opened four restaurants there since. Food isn't propelling his business, though. It's oil.

"Everything I've done in Williston is a derivative of oil," he said.

That oil has averaged \$96 a barrel over the past four years, fueling more drilling, more hiring, and bigger appetites in North Dakota, Texas, Oklahoma and elsewhere. Now oil has hit a rough patch, plunging to \$79 from \$107 in June on fears of a global glut. Many expect these lower prices are to stick around for a while.

Lower oil prices, while good for the broader U.S. economy, are a threat to what has been a surprising and dramatic surge in oil production in the U.S., and to drilling communities that have come to depend on oil money.

"If the price gets low enough and stays there long enough I'm sure it will affect the number of people and the amount of money that will be spent in the greater community — and I have exposure to that," Jundt said.

U.S. oil production has gone up by 3.5 million barrels per day, or 70 percent, since 2008. High prices fueled the boom, providing oil companies the profits and investor cash to buy up land, pay for drilling rigs, and develop new technology. Places like Williston, a once-sleepy farming town, thrived with increased economic activity, well-paying jobs and rising tax revenue.

Prices would have to fall lower, and stay low for a while, to turn the U.S. oil boom into a bust. Wells that are already producing won't be shut off and enormous projects with long-time horizons will still be built. Many drillers have funded next year's drilling plans by selling oil in the futures market.

Still, a \$20 drop in the price of oil means \$170 million less in revenue every day for the U.S. oil industry.

Investors are less willing to take on the risk of funding new expansion without hopes for a big reward and oil companies big and small are left with less money to go and drill the next well.

BP, Chevron and Shell told investors last week they would reduce spending on new development because of lower prices.

Mike McDonald, co-owner of Triad Energy, which usually operates 1 or 2 rigs in Oklahoma, said that low prices have stung and now he's not planning to get another rig going after current projects are complete.

Drilling in fields that aren't very prolific will stop because it won't be profitable. For example, drillers in North Dakota's Burke County need \$81 a barrel on average to break even, according to the Department of Mineral Resources, while the price is just \$28 in McKenzie County, the state's top oil producing county.

North Dakota Department of Mineral Resources director Lynn Helms said companies are looking to cut costs on such things as electricity generation and water disposal. He said the average operating cost of a well has risen 36 percent in the past year to \$15,000 a month, mirroring an industry-wide struggle with higher costs.

The analysis firm IHS calculates in a report released Monday that the income that oil and gas companies made on the capital they spent has fallen by half since 2000, even as oil prices increased. "The recent price drop in global crude prices will only add to these financial challenges," said IHS' Daniel Pratt.

For now, boomtowns like Williston are still going strong. Hotels are full, restaurants like Jundt's are packed with tired rough-necks and roads are choked with hulking oil field trucks.

But when drillers cut costs, communities will eventually feel it. "I haven't noticed anything yet," said Bert Anderson, mayor of Crosby, a small town just south of the Canadian border where oil is particularly expensive to produce. But if oil stays at current prices, "eventually it will have an impact," he said.

Helms said that the state's next two-year budget may have to be revised because the preliminary budget forecast was based on \$90 a barrel.

On Wall Street, there is considerable disagreement about the duration of lower prices and the potential industry impact. But there's broad agreement that at least the rate of growth in the U.S. will slow.

Goldman Sachs analysts wrote last week that OPEC countries are unlikely to curtail production to nudge prices higher — which means U.S. drillers will have to do so instead.

Bernstein Research's

Bob Brackett estimates one-third of U.S. shale oil production is "uneconomic" at \$80 per barrel. As a result, he said, producers in the U.S. and elsewhere will cut back and the price will quickly recover.

Thomas Driscoll of Barclays believes economics are "robust" in most of the U.S. shale regions at prices between \$75 and \$80 a barrel. While he expects the rate of U.S. production growth to slow, he doesn't think production would stop increasing unless long-term oil prices fall to a range of \$65 to \$75 per barrel.

That's certainly where it would hurt for Nelson Wood. His family's ties to oil stretch back to 1938, when his mother started

in the business after an oil discovery kicked off a boom in Illinois.

Since 2001, Wood has grown his company from five to 30 employees, and now has 200 small wells in Illinois. These wells, known as "stripper wells" produce just a few barrels of oil per day. By comparison, a new well in North Dakota might produce 500 barrels per day and a big offshore oil platform might produce 200,000 barrels per day.

For now, Wood has suspended hiring and reduced plans for new wells next year to four from 10. He said his company, Wood Energy of Mount Vernon, Illinois, is still profitable overall at \$80 a barrel, but things are starting to get

tight. "\$70 starts to get in a place that we don't want to be," he said.

Some say a small slowdown could have some upside. Local governments in drilling regions are straining to keep up with demand for new services and infrastructure to deal with population increases and the new economic activity. It might even help drillers who have had trouble finding enough workers and equipment.

"A little bit of a slowdown to give everyone a chance to take their breath isn't all a bad thing," said Ben Sheppard of the Permian Basin Association in Midland. "The industry has been white hot for so long."



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# Ohio utility chief: Energy savings hard to measure

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ohio's top utility regulator provided sparse details on Monday to a new legislative panel studying the economic impact of state renewable energy mandates that have been paused for two years.

Tom Johnson, chairman of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, told the Energy Mandates Study Committee that much of what they hoped to learn was protected for proprietary or other legal reasons.

The committee was created earlier this year as part of legislation that paused state alternative-energy mandates in a compromise struck by Gov. John Kasich and proponents of repealing them altogether.

State Sen. Troy Balderson, a Zanesville Republican and committee co-chair, said the panel may be meeting during the lame duck session, but it does not intend to wrap up its work by year's end. He said lawmakers are focused on gathering

*"The goal of this committee is to get some answers. It's not to repeal anything."*

Troy Balderson, Ohio state senator

information.

"The goal of this committee is to get some answers. It's not to repeal anything," he said.

Co-chair state Rep. Peter Stautberg, a Cincinnati Republican, anticipated another hearing or two may be held in December.

Johnson, a former state lawmaker and budget director, provided brief testimony in a presentation that many observers — including legislators and lobbyists — had expected to be rich with detail. He opted to address only how much has been paid by Ohio utilities to the third-party administrators that help meet energy efficiency and education targets, and then gave information on only two companies.

Johnson said the chair asked him to stick to the single issue, though that matter seemed to be in dispute.

He reported that Akron-based FirstEnergy has paid \$5.5 million to third-party administrators in the past five years, reducing energy use by 507 million kilowatt-hours. Columbus-based American Electric Power paid about \$845,000 over to deliver an annual savings of 328 million kilowatt-hours of power.

The Public Utilities Commission calculated FirstEnergy's costs at 1.1 cents per kilowatt-hour, and AEP's at a quarter of a cent per kilowatt-hour.

Johnson said details for other Ohio-based utilities weren't available, and he

couldn't immediately provide additional information requested by lawmakers on how the figures related to overall costs of the program nor how the savings is divided up among power companies, third-party groups and consumers.

A kilowatt-hour of power in Ohio costs between 8 cents and 10 cents to produce, on average.

Lawmakers peppered Johnson with requests for more detail on the impacts the energy mandates have had on jobs and utilities' bottom lines — which opponents anticipate will show negative consequences.

Johnson said much of the information they seek is protected, but he would do what he could and return another day.

The Ohio Environmental Council's Jack Shaner, whose organization backs the mandates, said he was heartened that lawmakers requested further information on jobs and energy efficiency impacts of the mandates — "because we win on those issues," he said.

## Analysis: Oil-by-rail terminal would be largest

Associated Press

VANCOUVER, Wash. — A proposed oil terminal in Vancouver, Washington, would handle more crude transported by rail than any single facility in the U.S. when running at full capacity, according to an analysis by The Columbian newspaper.

Vancouver Energy, a joint venture by Tesoro Corp. and Savage Cos., would handle an average of 360,000 barrels of oil per day, or up to four trains daily.

"On paper, it's the biggest facility of that type," said Sandy Fielden, director of energy analytics for Texas-based consultant RBN Energy. "As far as I'm aware, there's not an existing terminal that handles that type of capacity."

Dozens of facilities nationwide handle oil transported on rail cars. Other facilities may process more oil or have more storage capacity, but the proposed Vancouver project appears to surpass others in terms of the volume of oil arriving or leaving strictly by rail. The Columbian reported.

Opponents have raised concerns about the risk of oil spills, derailments and other dangers.

Two to three loaded oil trains per day already rolled through Clark County on the way to existing West Coast facilities. About 17 million barrels of crude moved through Washington by rail last year, according to a state report released last month. By 2015, the amount could rise to more than 68 million barrels.

The Vancouver Energy project is proposed as a trans-loading terminal that would transfer crude from trains to marine vessels on the Columbia River. It will be a commercial-scale facility capable of serving several customers. Tesoro spokeswoman Jennifer Minx told the newspaper in an email.

Constructing one large facility instead of several smaller terminals allows emergency response equipment to be concentrated in the "unlikely" case of an accident, Minx said.

The state Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council is reviewing the project.

Tesoro and Savage Cos. have said they don't expect to move 360,000 barrels per day from the start. It will likely receive one to two trains daily at first and then build out to full capacity.

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R28E;  
EL 35E;  
PBDT  
3-25-1  
produ  
perfs:  
5-12-1  
BO, 12  
Csg: 8  
sx, 5 1  
sx, 2 7  
API #3

Occi  
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Eey  
Arte  
R28E;  
BHL: 7  
EL 36E;  
PBDT  
14, Co  
duction  
3898-5  
Pump  
BW, 6  
@ 405  
@ 520  
@ 394  
41231

COG  
Giss  
Locc  
R30E;  
BHL: 2  
EL 36E;  
MD, 44  
8750 M  
Comp  
tion is  
perfs: 4  
Acz w  
acid, F  
gals ge  
wtr frac  
wtr, 2.7  
brown,  
CRC, 4  
mesh.  
24 hrs  
BW, 35  
1479, 0  
3/8 @  
5/8 @  
1/2 @  
2 7/8 @  
015-41

Oxy  
Seve  
eral #2  
North  
Sec 17  
330/N  
303/S  
3518 G  
2013 T  
Spud 1  
3-21-14  
through  
6608, 1  
24 hrs  
10 MCF  
716 w/  
6716 w/  
@ 178  
41061

Oxy  
Seve  
eral #3  
North  
Sec 17  
330/N  
313/S  
3527 G  
6792 T  
Spud 2  
4-4-14;  
through  
6688, 1  
24 hrs  
95 MCF  
675 w/  
6792 w/  
@ 182  
41062

Oxy  
Osag  
North  
Sec 18  
330/S  
306/N  
3563 G  
2498 T  
MD, 24  
3-23-14  
product  
treated  
6755, T  
15% H  
15# line  
gals 15  
gals 15  
14 Pum  
785 BW  
1736, G  
@ 725  
@ 694  
7/8 @ 1  
015-41

Devot  
tion Co.  
Apac  
#19

## COMPLETIONS

## New Mexico

## Eddy County

Oxy USA WTP LP  
Artesia Yeso Federal  
Unit #17  
Artesia; Sec 21 T17S  
R28E; 350/N & 2120/W;  
EL 3593 GL, TD 4913,  
PBTD 4870; Spud  
3-25-14, Comp 4-24-14;  
production is through  
perfs: 3894-4756. IP:  
5-12-14 Pump 24 hrs 13  
BO, 1252 BW, 46 MCF.  
Csg: 8 5/8 @ 405 w/200  
sx, 5 1/2 @ 4913 w/860  
sx, 2 7/8 @ 3846;  
API #30-015-41331

Occidental Permian  
Ltd.  
Eeyore 34 State #2  
Artesia; Sec 34 T17S  
R28E; 941/N & 1080/E  
BHL: 786/N & 857/E;  
EL 3675 GL, TD 5200,  
PBTD 5137; Spud 2-9-  
14, Comp 3-19-14; pro-  
duction is through perfs:  
3898-5079. IP: 6-8-14  
Pump 24 hrs 63 BO, 424  
BW, 64 MCF. Csg: 8 5/8  
@ 405 w/480 sx, 5 1/2  
@ 5200 w/900 sx, 2 7/8  
@ 3945; API #30-015-  
41231

COG Operating LLC  
Gissler Federal #40  
Loco Hills; Sec 5 T17S  
R30E; 2310/S & 330/W.  
BHL: 2314/S & 371/E;  
EL 3698 GL, TD 8642  
MD, 4483 TVD, PBTD  
8750 MD; Spud 3-12-14,  
Comp 5-23-14; produc-  
tion is through treated  
perfs: 4696-8726. Treat:  
Acdz w/35,819 gals 15%  
acid. Frac w/1,217,234  
gals gel, 222,761 gals  
wtr frac, 179,333 treated  
wtr, 2,709,746# 20/40  
brown, 480,221# 16/30  
CRC, 45,805# 100  
mesh. IP: 5-27-14 Pump  
24 hrs 240 BO, 1424  
BW, 355 MCF, GOR  
1479, Gty 37.9. Csg: 13  
3/8 @ 450 w/250 sx, 9  
5/8 @ 1222 w/500 sx, 5  
1/2 @ 8842 w/1500 sx,  
2 7/8 @ 4041; API #30-  
015-41225

Oxy USA Inc.  
Seven Rivers 17 Fed-  
eral #2  
North Seven Rivers;  
Sec 17 T20S R25E;  
330/N & 2160/W. BHL:  
303/S & 2030/W; EL  
3518 GL, TD 6716 MD,  
2013 TVD, PBTD 6628;  
Spud 1-23-14, Comp  
3-21-14; production is  
through perfs: 2983-  
6608. IP: 4-12-14 Pump  
24 hrs 51 BO, 496 BW,  
10 MCF. Csg: 8 5/8 @  
716 w/340 sx, 5 1/2 @  
6716 w/1040 sx, 2 7/8  
@ 1786; API #30-015-  
41061

Oxy USA Inc.  
Seven Rivers 17 Fed-  
eral #3  
North Seven Rivers;  
Sec 17 T20S R25E;  
330/N & 940/W. BHL:  
313/S & 781/W; EL  
3527 GL, TD 2536 MD,  
6792 TVD, PBTD 6696;  
Spud 2-15-14, Comp  
4-4-14; production is  
through perfs: 3063-  
6688. IP: 5-1-14 Pump  
24 hrs 64 BO, 331 BW,  
95 MCF. Csg: 8 5/8 @  
675 w/340 sx, 5 1/2 @  
6792 w/1040 sx, 2 7/8  
@ 1828; API #30-015-  
41062

Oxy USA Inc.  
Osage 18 Federal #1  
North Seven Rivers;  
Sec 18 T20S R25E;  
330/S & 660/E. BHL:  
306/N & 359/E; EL  
3563 GL, TD 6940 MD,  
2498 TVD, PBTD 6871  
MD, 2498 TVD; Spud  
3-23-14, Comp 5-8-14;  
production is through  
treated perfs: 2914-  
6755. Treat: 29,913 gals  
15% HCL, 65,186 gals  
15# linear fluid, 668,402  
gals 15# BXL, 168,812  
gals 15# BX. IP: 5-25-  
14 Pump 24 hrs 72 BO,  
785 BW, 125 MCF, GOR  
1736, Gty 39. Csg: 8 5/8  
@ 725 w/550 sx, 5 1/2  
@ 6940 w/1040 sx, 2  
7/8 @ 1817; API #30-  
015-41060

Devon Energy Produc-  
tion Co. LP  
Apache 25 Federal  
#19

Los Medanos; Sec  
25 T22S R30E; 1030/N  
& 330/E. BHL: 665/N &  
330/W; EL 3372 GL, TD  
16038 MD, 10940 TVD,  
PBTD 15989; Spud 10-  
26-13, Comp 2-20-14;  
production is through  
treated perfs: 11470-  
15972. Treat: 48,012  
gals 15% HCL acid,  
934,158# 100 mesh,  
949,357# 40/70 white  
sd, 310,131# 40/70 SLC.  
IP: 3-8-14 Pump 24 hrs  
740 BO, 765 BW, 1508  
MCF, GOR 2037.8. Csg:  
13 3/8 @ 553 w/655 sx,  
9 5/8 @ 3906 w/1125  
sx, 7 @ 11034 w/1060  
sx, 4 1/2 @ 10356-  
16038 w/615 sx, 2 7/8  
@ 10159; API #30-015-  
40828

COG Operating LLC  
JR's Horz Federal  
Com #3  
South Corral Canyon;  
Sec 10 T26S R29E;  
480/N & 1980/E. BHL:  
331/S & 2014/E; EL  
3990 GL, TD 13003,  
PBTD 12950; Spud  
4-25-14, Comp 6-12-14;  
production is through  
treated perfs: 8888-  
12910. Treat: Acdz  
w/89464 gals 7.5%,  
Frac w/6275738# sd &  
5135046 gals fluid. IP:  
6-18-14 Flow 24 hrs  
401 BO, 2493 BW, 750  
MCF, 26/64" Ch, CP  
1150. Csg: 13 3/8 @  
450 w/480 sx, 9 5/8 @  
3065 w/1050 sx, 5 1/2  
@ 13003 w/2550 sx; API  
#30-015-37842

## Lea County

Oxy USA Inc.  
Corbin South Federal  
Com #2  
South Corbin; Sec 9  
T18S R33E; 1900/S &  
800/W; EL 3926.9 GL,  
TD 12014, PBTD 11927;  
Spud 1-2-14, Comp 4-1-  
14; production is through  
treated perfs: 10055-  
11646. Treat: 97,710  
gals wtr Frac g-R,

15,618 gals Delta Frac  
140-R, 7450 gals 15%  
HCL. IP: 4-15-14 Pump  
24 hrs 27 BO, 136 BW,  
0 MCF, Gty 40. Csg: 11  
1/2 @ 1523 w/1130 sx,  
8 5/8 @ 2966 w/620 sx,  
5 1/2 @ 12014 w/1270  
sx, 2 7/8 @ 11305; API  
#30-025-41424

Chevron USA Inc.  
Vacuum GB/SA Unit  
#113  
Vacuum : Sec  
1 T18S R34E; 670/S &  
175/E; EL 3985 GL, TD  
5130, PBTD 5119; Spud  
11-28-13, Comp 12-20-  
13; production is through  
treated perfs: 4440-  
4714. Treat: Acdz w/96  
bbls 15% acid, Frac  
w/70681 gals chemical.  
IP: 3-1-14 Pump 24 hrs  
98 BO, 989 BW, 129  
MCF, GOR 1320. Csg:  
11 1/2 @ 1526 w/835  
sx, 8 5/8 @ 3210 w/595  
sx, 5 1/2 @ 5119 w/880  
sx, 2 7/8 @ 4400; API  
#30-025-41369

Chevron USA Inc.  
Central Vacuum Unit  
#218  
Vacuum; Sec 6 T18S  
R35E; 942/S & 1015/W;  
EL 3983 GL, TD 5120,  
PBTD 5100; Spud 10-  
24-13, Comp 11-7-13;  
production is through  
treated perfs: 4466-  
4765. Treat: Frac w/2938

bbls 16/30. IP: 11-21-13  
Pump 24 hrs 64 BO, 709  
BW, 0 MCF Csg: 11 1/2  
@ 1523 w/1035 sx, 8  
5/8 @ 3203 w/59 sx, 5  
1/2 @ 5107 w/1150 sx,  
2 7/8 @ 4142; API #30-  
025-41345

Chevron USA Inc.  
State AN #14  
Vacuum : Sec  
7 T18S R35E; 540/N  
& 390/E; EL 3949 GL,  
TD 6499, PBTD 6492;  
Spud 2-9-14, Comp  
2-28-14; production is  
through treated perfs:  
5746-6064. Treat: Acdz  
w/3500 gals HCL acid.  
IP: 3-14-14 Pump 24  
hrs 96 BO, 253 BW, 58  
MCF, GOR 602. Csg: 8  
5/8 @ 1516 w/820 sx, 5  
1/2 @ 6494 w/1985 sx,  
2 7/8 @ 6132; API #30-  
025-41295

Chevron USA Inc.  
State AN #15  
Vacuum; Sec 7 T18S  
R35E; 1670/N & 1650/E;  
EL 3970 GL, TD 6501,  
PBTD 6497; Spud  
2-22-14, Comp 3-13-14;  
production is through  
treated perfs: 5922-  
6001, 6066-6208. Treat:  
Acdz w/4500 gals 15%  
HCL. IP: 5-2-14 Pump  
24 hrs 12 BO, 35 BW, 13  
MCF, GOR 1140. Csg: 8  
5/8 @ 1536 w/800 sx, 5  
1/2 @ 6497 w/1300 sx,

2 7/8 @ 6258; API #30-  
025-41296

Apache Corp.  
North Monument G/  
SA Unit #393  
Eunice Monument; Sec  
30 T19S R37E; 1330/S &  
1330/E; EL 3615 GR, TD  
4030, PBTD 4030; Spud  
5-28-13, Comp 7-12-13;  
production is through  
treated perfs: 3639-3901.  
Treat: 6572 gals 15%  
HCL. IP: 9-3-13 Pump  
24 hrs 13 BO, 293 BW, 5  
MCF, GOR 385, Gty 33.  
Csg: 8 5/8 @ 1287 w/460  
sx, 5 1/2 @ 4030 w/790  
sx, 2 7/8 @ 3925; API  
#30-025-41046

Caza Operating LLC  
Gramma 27 State #1  
NE Grama Ridge; Sec  
27 T21S R34E; 330/S &  
1980/E, BHL: 355/N &  
2289/E; EL 3682 GL, TD  
15,496, PBTD 15,399;  
Spud 3-20-14, Comp  
5-20-14; production is  
through treated perfs:  
15372-11351. Treat:  
1369 bbls 15% HCL  
NEFE acid, 329,900#  
30/50 Carbo-Prop +  
2,936,320# 20/40 Pro

Lite ceramic. IP: 5-27-  
14 Flow 24 hrs 830 BO,  
586 BW, 4630 MCF,  
24/64" Ch, CP 2390,  
GOR 5578/1, Gty 47.7.  
Csg: 13 3/8 @ 1797  
w/1540 sx, 9 5/8 @  
5446 w/1685 sx, 7 @  
11444 w/1005 sx, 4 1/2  
@ 10400-15492 w/260  
sx; API #30-025-41361

Energen Resources  
Corp.  
Cox 35 Federal #2  
Triste Draw; Sec 35  
T23S R32E; 200/S &  
2240/E. BHL: 197/N &  
2275/E; EL 3630 GL,  
TD 15461 MD, 10927  
TVD, PBTD 15481  
MD, 10927 TVD; Spud  
1-11-14, Comp 3-2-14;  
production is through  
treated perfs: 11433-  
15365. Treat: 4,00,400#  
sd, 86,162 bbls fluid.  
IP: 3-14-14 Flow 24 hrs  
886 BO, 1258 BW, 1481  
MCF, 24/64" Ch, TP  
1200, GOR 1710, Gty  
41. Csg: 13 3/8 @ 1270  
w/1000 sx, 9 5/8 @  
4849 w/2000 sx, 5 1/2  
@ 15447 w/3315 sx, 2  
7/8 @ 10252; API #30-  
025-41521

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## Producing field

Combination interest (WI/ORRI/RI)

Operated working interest (WI)

Non-operated working interest (Non-Op)

Royalty (RI)

Overriding Royalty (ORRI)

Non-producing minerals

Non-producing leasehold interest

January 1 through October 31, 2014

## EnergyNet's Permian Basin / East Texas / North Louisiana representatives



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Director of Business Development

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Cell: (972) 898-5358  
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Serving this area for EnergyNet since 2004!



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## Recent Permian Basin transactions

## Stacked Pay Development Potential

Operations in 640 Gross/Net HBP Leasehold Acres plus 2 Producing Wells - Glasscock County, Texas  
**Sold for \$15,600,000**

## Fuhrman-Mascho Field

Producing Term Mineral/Royalty Interest - San Andres Production - Andrews County, Texas  
**Sold for \$7,750,000**

## Stacked Pay Development Potential

480 Gross/Net Leasehold Acres plus Operations w/100% GWI in the White Deep #1 - Martin County, Texas  
**Sold for \$7,500,000**

## Royalties in Numerous Legacy Texas Fields

**Sold for \$10,200,000**

## Johnson Field

100% GWI w/Operations, RI - Ector County, Texas  
**Sold for \$13,600,000**

## Munger Nix Unit

Producing MI/RI - 80+ Wells - Andrews County, Texas  
**Sold for \$6,100,000**

## North Foster Field

(Operations, Non-Op WI, RI and HBP Leasehold) - Ector County, Texas  
**Sold for \$17,600,000**

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## DEVELOPMENTAL WELLS

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## Texas RRCD 7C

## Crockett County

ANADARKO E&P ONSHORE LLC, OZONA (CLEAR FORK) (O) (RECOMP) Well# 6 CLEGG 83, 1700 FSL 660 FEL, SEC 83 BLK Q 2, TC SUR., A-3412 7500', 29 SW OZONA API# 42-105-38649

EOG RESOURCES, INC., LIN (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1401H UNIVERSITY 38 OR, 485 FSL 760 FWL, SEC 7 BLK 38, UL SUR., 7000', 26 NE OZONA API# 42-105-42064

FORELAND OPER., LLC, LIN (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1H GUNSLINGER 18, 2180 FEL 1980 FSL, SEC 18 BLK Q, EL&RR/T BJORKMAN SUR., A-4764 9600', 31 NW OZONA API# 42-105-42061

## Irion County

COG OPERATING, LLC, SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 503 SUGG, 467 FNL 2173 FWL, SEC 5 BLK 6, H&TC SUR., A-314 7300', 13 NW MERTZON API# 42-235-35862

DEVON ENERGY PROD. CO., LP, LIN (WOLFCAMP) (O/G) DRILL Well# 31 ORELLANA A, 100 FSL 1256 FEL, SEC 1146, LP HINDE SUR., A-800 9000', 19 SW MERTZON API# 42-235-35871

EXCO/HGI JV ASSETS, LLC, LONESOME REEF (WC) (O/G) (RECOMP) Well# 12 SUGG 5A, 3000 FSL 467 FWL, SEC 5 BLK 27, H&TC SUR., A-179 7860', 19 NW MERTZON API# 42-235-34479

EXCO/HGI JV ASSETS, LLC, LONESOME REEF (WC) (O/G) (RECOMP) Well# 6 SUGG 1910, 2464 FSL 1500 FWL, SEC 1910, C WISEMANN SUR., A-661 7886', 19 NW MERTZON API# 42-235-34598

## Reagan County

APACHE CORPORATION, SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1424HM SRH NORTH, 200 FNL 940 FEL, SEC 14 BLK A, RW MCGREW SUR., A-366 8400', 18 NW BIG LAKE API# 42-383-38811

APACHE CORPORATION, SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1421HC SRH NORTH, 200 FNL 1125 FEL, SEC 14 BLK A, RW MCGREW SUR., A-366 9600', 18 NW BIG LAKE API# 42-383-38805

APACHE CORPORATION, SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ)

Well# 1427HC SRH NORTH, 200 FNL 885 FEL, SEC 14 BLK A, RW MCGREW SUR., A-366 9700', 19 NW BIG LAKE API# 42-383-38818

APACHE CORPORATION, SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1426HU SRH NORTH, 260 FNL 700 FEL, SEC 14 BLK A, RW MCGREW SUR., A-366 8100', 19 NW BIG LAKE API# 42-383-38817

LAREDO PETROLEUM, INC., JAILHOUSE (FSLMN) (O) DRILL Well# 146E MIZE B, 2080 FNL 660 FWL, SEC 146 BLK 2, T&P/WR BARTON SUR., A-11 12000', 31 NE BIG LAKE API# 42-383-38989

## Runnels County

THE WINDOW OPER. CO., BYERS (GARDNER) (O/G) DRILL Well# 1 WRIGHT N, 1209 FNL 2097 FEL, SEC 155, ET SUR., A-163 5000', 6 E BALLINGER API# 42-399-35438

## Upton County

ATHLON HOLDINGS LP, SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 10H DAVIDSON 37C (ALLOD), 2330 FNL 990 FWL, SEC 37 BLK 40 T4S, T&P SUR., A-1356 9775', 24 S MIDLAND API# 42-461-39407

SUMMIT PETROLEUM LLC, SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 903 CRISTA, 467 FNL 1980 FSL, SEC 109 BLK D, CCSD&RGNG SUR., A-65 10400', 17 NW RANKIN API# 42-461-39538

SUMMIT PETROLEUM LLC, SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 915 CRISTA, 467 FNL 467 FSL, SEC 109 BLK D, CCSD&RGNG SUR., A-65 10400', 17 NW RANKIN API# 42-461-39539

SUMMIT PETROLEUM LLC, S KING MTN (ATOKA) (O) DRILL Well# 2615 AU-RORA, 230 FSL 983 FWL, SEC 26 BLK Y, TC/I MURCHISON SUR., A-586 11200', 9 NW RANKIN API# 42-461-39521

## Texas RRCD 8

## Andrews County

CHEVRON MIDCONTINENT, LP, PARKER (GB-SA) (O) (RECOMP) Well# 1 PARKER A, 1980 FSL 1980 FEL, SEC 19 BLK A44, PSL/ JE PARKER SUR., A-2055 5150', 4 S ANDREWS API# 42-003-07723

SANDRIDGE E&P, LLC, FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) DRILL (DIREC) Well# 13

UNIVERSITY 13-45, 1620 FNL 2347 FEL, SEC 45 BLK 13, UL SUR., A-U437 5200', 11 NW ANDREWS API# 42-003-46461

SANDRIDGE E&P, LLC, FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) DRILL Well# 26 UNIVERSITY 13-39, 990 FSL 1650 FWL, SEC 39 BLK 13, UL SUR., A-U431 5200', 9 NW ANDREWS API# 42-003-46465

SANDRIDGE E&P, LLC, FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) DRILL Well# 7 UNIVERSITY 13-34, 2310 FSL 2310 FWL, SEC 34 BLK 13, UL SUR., A-U426 5200', 10 NW ANDREWS API# 42-003-46467

SANDRIDGE E&P, LLC, FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) DRILL Well# 9 UNIVERSITY 13-34, 991 FNL 988 FEL, SEC 34 BLK 13, UL SUR., A-U426 5200', 9 NW ANDREWS API# 42-003-46468

SANDRIDGE E&P, LLC, FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) DRILL Well# 14 UNIVERSITY 13-34, 330 FSL 2310 FEL, SEC 34 BLK 13, UL SUR., A-U426 5200', 9 NW ANDREWS API# 42-003-46462

SANDRIDGE E&P, LLC, FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) DRILL Well# 17 UNIVERSITY 13-39, 2310 FSL 330 FEL, SEC 39 BLK 13, UL SUR., A-U431 5200', 9 NW ANDREWS API# 42-003-46463

SANDRIDGE E&P, LLC, FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) DRILL Well# 8 UNIVERSITY 13-39, 765 FNL 2310 FEL, SEC 39 BLK 13, UL SUR., A-U431 5200', 9 NW ANDREWS API# 42-003-46464

SANDRIDGE E&P, LLC, FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) DRILL Well# 8 UNIVERSITY 13-34, 1650 FSL 2310 FEL, SEC 34 BLK 13, UL SUR., A-U426 5200', 9 NW ANDREWS API# 42-003-46466

SANDRIDGE E&P, LLC, FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) DRILL Well# 11 UNIVERSITY 13-34, 990 FSL 990 FWL, SEC 34 BLK 13, UL SUR., A-U426 5200', 10 NW ANDREWS API# 42-003-46469

SANDRIDGE E&P, LLC, FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) DRILL Well# 29 UNIVERSITY 13-34, 1490 FSL 990 FEL, SEC 34 BLK 13, UL SUR. 5200', 9 NW ANDREWS API#

SANDRIDGE E&P, LLC, FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) DRILL Well# 29 UNIVERSITY 13-34, 1490 FSL 990 FEL, SEC 34 BLK 13, UL SUR. 5200', 9 NW ANDREWS API#

42-003-46350

SANDRIDGE E&P, LLC, FUHRMAN-MASCHO (O) DRILL Well# 6 UNIVERSITY 13-39, 765 FNL, 325 FWL, SEC 39 BLK 13, UL SUR., A-U431 5200', 9 NW ANDREWS API# 42-003-46364

SHERIDAN PRODUCTION CO., LLC, FULLERTON (O) DRILL Well# 21 UNIVERSITY 9, 1357 FSL 1483 FEL, SEC 19 BLK 13, UL SUR., A-U411 9000', 15 NW ANDREWS API# 42-003-46323

STEPHENS & JOHNSON OPER., CO., FULLERTON (O) DRILL (DIREC) Well# 6 UNIVERSITY C, 1420 FSL 285 FWL, SEC 10 BLK 10, UL SUR., A-U294 7500', 13 NW ANDREWS API# 42-003-46471

STEPHENS & JOHNSON OPER., CO., FULLERTON (O/G) DRILL Well# 6 UNIVERSITY 15 B, 1042 FNL 1290 FEL, SEC 15 BLK 13, UL SUR. 7500', 14 NW ANDREWS API# 42-003-46472

TEXLAND PETROLEUM, LP, DEEP ROCK (GLORIETA) (O) DRILL Well# 1 MINION, 777 FSL 2069 FEL, SEC 11 BLK A46, SA NEAL/AR KING SUR., A-1962 6200', 6 W ANDREWS API# 42-003-46359

W & T OFFSHORE, INC., BIZCO (MISS) (O) DRILL Well# 5 UNIVERSITY 7-19, 470 FWL 2170 FNL, SEC 19 BLK 7, UL SUR., A-U200 12500', 19 E ANDREWS API# 42-003-46266

## Crane County

APACHE CORPORATION, MCELROY (O) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 3701BH NORTH MCELROY UNIT, 350 FNL 660 FWL, SEC 37 BLK 30, UL SUR., A-U37 3800', 6 NE CRANE API# 42-103-36388

BURLINGTON RES O&G CO.-MIDLAND, SD HILLS (SAN ANGELO U) (O) (RECOMP) Well# 812 WN WADDELL ET AL, 2640 FNL 1334 FWL, SEC 19 BLK B26, PSL/WN WADDELL & CO SUR., A-1266 3900', 19 NW CRANE API# 42-103-02259

BURLINGTON RES O&G CO.-MIDLAND, SD HILLS (SAN ANGELO U) (O) (RECOMP) Well# 1981 WN WADDELL ET AL, 1225 FNL 50 FEL, SEC 30 BLK B26, PSL/ WN WADDELL & CO SUR., A-1273 4850', 18 NW CRANE API# 42-103-35572

## Culberson County

COG OPERATING, LLC, W FORD (WOLFCAMP) (RE-ENTER) (INJ) Well# 11SW DR STATE

CENTRAL, 50 FNL 1640 FEL, SEC 11 BLK 61 T1S, T&P SUR., A-2919 13200', 49 NW PECOS API# 42-109-32211

## Ector County

FASKEN OIL AND RANCH, LTD., W LOWE (STRAWN) (O) DRILL Well# 3312 FEE BL, 1150 FSL 467 FEL, SEC 33 BLK 41 T1N, G&MMB&A SUR., A-11 12000', 1 NE GARDENDALE API# 42-135-43084

OXY USA WTP LP, N COWDEN (O) (RECOMP) Well# 404 RHODES COWDEN UNIT, 1978 FNL 645 FWL, SEC 24 BLK 43 T1S, T&P/ CW CROWLEY SUR., A-544 5000', 7 N ODESSA API# 42-135-07952

OXY USA WTP LP, N COWDEN (O) (RECOMP) Well# 315 RHODES COWDEN UNIT, 2036 FSL 124 FEL, SEC 23 BLK 43 T1S, T&P SUR., A-188 5000', 7 N ODESSA API# 42-135-36178

SHERIDAN PRODUCTION CO., LLC, GOIDSMITH (O) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 27H PARKER MINERALS 4, 5 FSL 370 FWL, SEC 4 BLK 44 T2S, T&P/F VEST SUR., A-825 7000', 8 NW PENWELL API# 42-135-43109

SHERIDAN PRODUCTION CO., LLC, GOIDSMITH (O) (RECOMP) Well# 22 PARKER MINERALS 11, 840 FEL 1500 FSL, SEC 11 BLK 45 T2S, T&P SUR., A-386 6200', 11 SW GOIDSMITH API# 42-135-39782

## Glasscock County

ATHLON HOLDINGS LP, HILL RANCH (MISS) (O/G) DRILL Well# 2 BRUNSON 5, 467 FSL 467 FWL, SEC 5 BLK 35 T3S, T&P SUR., A-314 10600', 13 NW GARDEN CITY API# 42-173-36653

DRACO ENERGY, INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 3 DEBUS, 660 FNL 2129 FWL, SEC 8 BLK 33 T5S, T&P/ WJ JOLLY SUR., A-1015 10600', 8 SE GARDEN CITY API# 42-173-36649

HUNT OIL COMPANY, FRYSACK FARMS (DEV) (O) DRILL Well# 3 JW DRIVER, 478 FEL 1379 FSL, SEC 30 BLK 36 T4S, T&P/ J WYSONG SUR., A-1087 11500', 17 SW GARDEN CITY API# 42-173-36633

LAREDO PETROLEUM, INC., JAILHOUSE (FSLMN) (O) DRILL Well# 5 LACY CREEK 34, 660 FSL 660 FWL, SEC 34 BLK 33 T5S, T&P/ LE CRUTCHER SUR., A-960 12000', 13 SE GARDEN CITY API#

42-173-36522

## Howard County

ATHLON HOLDINGS LP, STA (ATOKA) (O) DRILL Well# 2 WARD 18, 2330 FSL 1088 FEL, SEC 18 BLK 33 T1N, T&P/ GL BROWN SUR., A-1248 9800', 4 N BIG SPRING API# 42-227-38021

ATHLON HOLDINGS LP, HILL RANCH (MISS) (O/G) DRILL Well# 2 CONNER 15, 973 FSL 1088 FEL, SEC 15 BLK 32 T1N, T&P SUR., SUR., A-135 9660', 6 N BIG SPRING API# 42-227-38040

ATHLON HOLDINGS LP, HILL RANCH (MISS) (O/G) DRILL Well# 3 GUITAR 14, 1150 FNL 1760 FWL, SEC 14 BLK A, BAUER & COCKRELL SUR., A-563 10300', 8 NW BIG SPRING API# 42-227-38036

ATHLON HOLDINGS LP, HILL RANCH (MISS) (O/G) DRILL Well# 1 NEWTON 5, 1088 FSL 1088 FEL, SEC 5 BLK 32 T1N, T&P SUR., A-130 9920', 7 N BIG SPRING API# 42-227-38037

CROWNQUEST OPERATING, LLC, ROSE PETAL (LO MISS) (O) DRILL Well# 2 DAWSON 6, 475 FWL 475 FSL, SEC 6 BLK 33 T1N, T&P/JT DAWSON SUR., A-1619 12000', 6 S KNOTT API# 42-227-38035

ENDEAVOR ENERGY RES. LP, SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 4 QUINN 40, 660 FNL 960 FEL, SEC 40 BLK 34 T1S, T&P/JT QUINN SUR., A-1178 12000', 6 SW ELBOW API# 42-227-38061

QUANTUM RES. MGMNT, LLC, N COAHOMA (FUSSEL) (O) DRILL Well# 4 HN READ D, 2077 FNL 1980 FEL, SEC 16 BLK 30 T1N, T&P/ L COFFEE SUR., A-1030 10000', 6 NE COAHOMA API# 42-227-38033

## Loving County

ENERGEN RESOURCES CORP., TWO GEORGES (B.S.) (O) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1H DUGGA BOY 53-40, 250 FNL 10 FWL, SEC 40 BLK 53 T2, T&P/WD JOHNSON SUR., A-1081 11500', 7 NE MENTONE API# 42-301-32231

SILVER HILL ENERGY PRTRNS LLC, DIMMITT (DELAWARE) (O/G) DRILL Well# 3 RUDD DRAW 26-18, 790 FWL 500 FNL, SEC 18 BLK C26, PSL/L DRIVER SUR., A-1038 9000', 13 NE MENTONE API# 42-301-32242

## Martin

BREITENBERG ATING L FLATS (N DRILL W N, 475 F SEC 36 T&P/DY SUR., A-3 NE LE 42-317-3

BREITENBERG ERATING DAR FL (O) DRILL SAWYER FNL 475 36 BLK DY JAC A-757 1 LENOR 317-395

BREITENBERG ERATING DAR FL (O) DRILL TAS 37, 1850 FE BLK 37 SUR., A 7 NW S 42-317-

BURLINGAME RO., IN (TREND) (O/G) D KUHLM 2173 F BLK 36 NUNN 11500' TON A 39628

ENDRE ERGY PAGE DRILL 11, 217 FSL, S 36 T1S A-200 STANT 317-39

HIBBERD SOUR SPRAB (TREND) (HORZ) DORO 150 FM GARZ SCHO SUR., 11 W T 42-317-

OXY SPRAB (TREND) DRILL 416A 1320 SEC 4 G&M A-402 MIDLA 317-3

PIO RAL INC., (TREND) Well# 27, 19 FSL, T3N, 1095 TON 3962

QE COM BER (O/G) UNIV 659 F SEC SUR AND 317-

RE ERG (O) D MAB 1320 MEA LEA A-10

## DEVELOPMENTAL WELLS

## Martin County

BREITBURN OPERATING L.P., CEDAR FLATS (MISS) (O) DRILL Well# 2 JONES N, 475 FWL 760 FNL, SEC 36 BLK 36 T2N, T&P/DY JACKSON SUR., A-757 12000', 3 NE LENORAH API# 42-317-39511

BREITBURN OPERATING L.P., CEDAR FLATS (MISS) (O) DRILL Well# 2 SAWYER S, 1980 FNL 475 FWL, SEC 36 BLK 36 T2N, T&P/DY JACKSON SUR., A-757 12000', 3 NE LENORAH API# 42-317-39512

BREITBURN OPERATING L.P., CEDAR FLATS (MISS) (O) DRILL Well# 6 TAS 37, 475 FNL 1850 FEL, SEC 37 BLK 37 T1N, T&P SUR., A-230 12000', 7 NW STANTON API# 42-317-39457

BURLESON PETRO., INC., SPRA (TREND) R 40 EXC (O/G) DRILL Well# 1 KUHLMAN, 2173 FNL 2173 FWL, SEC 24 BLK 36 T2N, T&P/H NUNN SUR., A-789 11500', 7 NE STANTON API# 42-317-39628

ENDEAVOR ENERGY RES. LP, PAUL PAGE (ATOKA) (O/G) DRILL Well# 2 HALL 11, 2173 FWL 2178 FSL, SEC 11 BLK 36 T1S, T&P SUR., A-200 12000', 1 NW STANTON API# 42-317-39613

HIBERNIA RESOURCES, LLC, SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 6H DOROTHY FAYE K, 150 FNL 1210 FWL, GARZA COUNTY SCHOOL LAND SUR., A-998 10100', 11 W TARZAN API# 42-317-39572

OXY USA, INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 416AH MABEE 139, 1320 FSL 1332 FWL, SEC 4 BLK 39 T1N, G&MMB&A SUR., A-402 12500', 14 N MIDLAND API# 42-317-39460

PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 5 ABRAXAS 27, 1980 FWL 660 FSL, SEC 27 BLK 35 T3N, T&P SUR., A-97 10950', 23 N STANTON API# 42-317-39627

QEP ENERGY COMPANY, SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 5 UNIVERSITY 7-17, 659 FNL 658 FWL, SEC 17 BLK 7, UL SUR. 12500', 15 NW ANDREWS API# 42-317-39570

RELIANCE ENERGY, INC., MABEE (O) DRILL Well# 1701 MABEE P, 1320 FEL 1320 FNL, PAR-MER CSL LABOR 17 LEAGUE 318 SUR., A-1006 6000', 33 NW

STANTON API# 42-317-39580

W & T OFFSHORE, INC., BIZCO (MISS) (O) DRILL Well# 2 LEMBERGER, 470 FNL 550 FWL, SEC 258, BRISCOE CSL/TRACT 88 SUR., A-597 12500', 28 NE ANDREWS API# 42-317-39533

## Midland County

APACHE CORPORATION, SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 94 JUNE TIPPETT, 1980 FNL 1980 FEL, SEC 13 BLK 41 T4S, T&P SUR., A-397 12300', 14 E ODESSA API# 42-329-39350

CHEVRON U.S.A., INC., PARKS (CONS) (O/G) DRILL Well# 3414M SCHARBAUER C, 1600 FNL 330 FWL, SEC 34 BLK 40 T2S, T&P/J BOSHER SUR., A-1018 12000', 10 SW MIDLAND API# 42-329-39456

MIDLAND - CHEVRON U.S.A., INC. (713) 372-0344, API# 42-329-39455, PARKS (CONS) (O/G) DRILL (37) Well# 3403M SCHARBAUER C, 1941 FSL 330 FWL, SEC 34 BLK 40 T2S, T&P/J BOSHER SUR., A-1018 12000', 10 SW MIDLAND

CROWNQUEST OPERATING, LLC, ROSE PETAL (LO MISS) (O) DRILL Well# 1 HAVERCROST 14, 2150 FNL 575 FEL, SEC 14 BLK 39 T3S, T&P/ES WALCOTT SUR., A-844 12000', 14 SW SPRABERRY API# 42-329-39457

PIONEER NATURAL RES. USA, INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) DRILL (INJ) Well# 3D ET O'DANIEL, 746 FEL 2099 FSL, SEC 3, S WRIGHT SUR., A-1011 4200', 16 SE MIDLAND API# 42-329-39460

## Mitchell County

ENERGEN RESOURCES CORP., WESTBROOK (U CLRFRK) (O) (RE-ENTER) Well# 622 WESTBROOK SOUTHEAST UNIT, 500 FSL 1250 FWL, SEC 28 BLK 28 T1N, T&P/EC MORRISON SUR., A-1541 2700', 3 NW WESTBROOK API# 42-335-31820

PURVIS OPER. CO., PURVIS RANCH (WLFEMP) (O) DRILL Well# 5 RED ANGUS 48, 1556 FNL 660 FWL, SEC 48 BLK 29 T1S, T&P/EL SMITH SUR., A-1560 5900', 10 SW WESTBROOK API# 42-335-35899

## Pecos County

SHERIDAN PRODUCTION CO., LLC, TOMLAW (CLR FRK) (O) DRILL Well# 8 SHEARER A, 1744 FNL 620 FSEL, SEC 135 BLK 10, H&GN SUR., A-536 3800', 25 NE FORT STOCKTON API# 42-371-

39202

## Reeves County

BHP BILLITON PET (TXLA OP) CO., PHANTOM (WOLF-CAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1H FRASER 57-T1-39, 330 FWL 305 FSL, SEC 39 BLK 57 T1, T&P SUR., A-614 14000', 6 NW ORLA API# 42-389-34366

BHP BILLITON PET (TXLA OP) CO., CHAPMAN DEEP (MRRW) (G) DRILL Well# 1 STATE CALDWELL 57-T2-26, 1320 FEL, 2575 FSL, SEC 26 BLK 57 T2, T&P/JU DEVANEY SUR., A-2061 20000', 2 SW ORLA API# 42-389-34347

CAMBRIAN MANAGEMENT, LTD., SULLIVAN (DELAWARE) DRILL (INJ) Well# 2 MESCALERO 43, 377 FSL 2290 FWL, SEC 43 BLK 57 T1S, T&P SUR., A-616 6250', 7 NW ORLA API# 42-389-34361

CIMAREX ENERGY CO., AYLESWORTH DRILL (INJ) Well# 1 HARDSCRABBLE 57-34 WD, 467 FNL 467 FWL, SEC 34 BLK 57, PSL/CF BARNETT SUR., A-1908 5900', 23 W PECOS API# 42-389-34335

CIMAREX ENERGY CO., KEN REGAN (DELAWARE) DRILL (INJ) Well# 1 GREENHORN 1-35 WD, 5380 FSWL 660 FNWL, SEC 35 BLK 1, H&GN SUR., A-359 6000', 10 W MENTONE API# 42-389-34340

MESQUITE SWD INC., MATTHEWS (CANYON) (O) DRILL Well# 1 RAGING RABBIT, 1320 FSL 660 FWL, SEC 10 BLK 57 T2, T&P/JD MCADAMS SUR., A-2359 6300', 4 NW ORLA API# 42-389-34328

PATRIOT RES., INC., SPRABERRY (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 3H GIRAFFE UNIT 18, 500 FWL 2140 FNL, SEC 18 BLK C1, PSL/JF LLOYD SUR., A-1240 13000', 23 SE PECOS API# 42-389-34308

ROSETTA RES. OPER. LP, WOLF-BONE (TREND) (O/G) DRILL Well# 1 COLE YOUNGER STATE 30, 1820 FSL 467 FWL, SEC 30 BLK 5, H&GN/NM LANCASTER SUR., A-4785 13000', 5 S PECOS API# 42-389-34336

ROSETTA RES. OPER. LP, WOLF-BONE (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 4H ANNIE OAKLEY 23, 467 FEL 265 FSL, SEC 23 BLK 5, H&GN SUR., A-432 13000', 4 SE PECOS API# 42-389-34352

ROSETTA RES. OPER. LP, WOLF-BONE (TREND) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1H CLAY ALLISON

5, 210 FNL 500 FWL, SEC 5 BLK C7, PSL/JE CAROLINE SUR., A-1187 13000', 8 SE PECOS API# 42-389-34323

## Sterling County

DEVON ENERGY PROD. CO., LP, S GARDEN CITY (WLF-CMP) (O/G) (HORZ) (RCMP) Well# 4H STROMAN RANCH, 654 FNL 2004 FEL, SEC 4 BLK 14, SP/MRS H KELLIS SUR., A-1107 9000', 7 NW STERLING CITY API# 42-431-33339

## Ward County

ANADARKO E&P ONSHORE LLC, PHANTOM (WOLF-CAMP) (O) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 5H COVINGTON 34-224, 330 FNL 2600 FSEL, SEC 224 BLK 34, H&TC/B HIGGINS SUR., A-867 14000', 11 NE PECOS API# 42-475-36752

OXY USA, INC., COLLIE (DELAWARE) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1H BRAMAN MINERALS, 4815 FNL 1344 FSEL, SEC 45 BLK 33, H&TC SUR., A-16710500', 3 NE PECOS API# 42-475-36745

SHERIDAN PRODUCTION CO., LLC, CAPRITO (DEL MIDDLE) (O/G) DRILL Well# 7 UNIVERSITY 17-18, 1320 FNL 1320 FWL, SEC 18 BLK 17, UL SUR., A-U57 7200', 3 NW PYOTE API# 42-475-36754

SHERIDAN PRODUCTION CO., LLC, CAPRITO (DEL MIDDLE) (O/G) DRILL Well# 18 UNIVERSITY 17-17, 1320 FSL 1320 FWL, SEC 17 BLK 17, UL SUR., A-U56 7200', 3 NW PYOTE API# 42-475-36753

## Winkler County

ENDEAVOR ENERGY RES. LP, PHANTOM (WOLF-CAMP) (O/G) DRILL (HORZ) Well# 1H PAUL 24, 475 FEL 260 FNL, SEC 24 BLK 28, PSL/RA COLLINS SUR., A-1376 12000', 11 NW WINK API# 42-495-33570

GP II ENERGY, INC., S WINK (BONE SPRINGS) (RE-ENTER) (INJ) Well# 3W GP MITCHELL A, 660 FEL 660 FNWL, SEC 38 BLK 28, PSL/JD HUDSON SUR., A-1064 6700', 15 W KERMIT API# 42-495-20262

## Texas RRCD 8A

## Cochran County

SILVER CREEK O&G LLC, LEVEL-LAND DRILL (INJ) Well# 1 WILD BILL SWD, 1361 FSL 603 FEL, SEC 99, BREWSTER CSL SUR., A-83 7400', 6 NW WHITEFACE API# 42-079-33317

## Dawson County

PERRY PROD. CO., INC., N ACKERLY (CANYON) (O) DRILL (DIREC) Well# 1A PERRY 47, 510 FWL 1500 FSL, SEC 47 BLK 34 T4N, T&P SUR., A-63 12000', 3 N ACKERLY API# 42-115-33672

RAW O&G, INC., W ADCOCK (SPRABERRY) (O) DRILL Well# 2 THE OTHER BROTHER, 1212 FWL 2173 FNL, SEC 9, G SUR., A-219 12000', 10 NE LAMESA API# 42-115-33673

## Gaines County

COBALT OPER., LLC, GLASCO (ELLEN) (O) DRILL Well# 6 MARIA, 1037 FSEL 878 FNL, SEC 29 BLK A19, PSL/JP COLLINS SUR., A-2095 13800', 22 SE SEMINOLE API# 42-165-38112

McCLURE OIL CO. INC., WESCOTT (SAN ANDRES) (O) (RE-ENTER) Well# 3R WATERS 22, 1980 FSL 1980 FWL, SEC 22 BLK C43, PSL/J GREENWOOD SUR., A-752 5900', 6 SE SEMINOLE API# 42-165-32085

OCCIDENTAL PERMIAN LTD., WASSON (O/G) DRILL Well# 8450 DENVER UNIT, 1040 FSL 1016 FEL, SEC 53 BLK AX, PSL/B ANDERSON SUR., A-998 5800', 4 S DENVER CITY API# 42-165-38079

XTO ENERGY INC., RUSSELL (CLEARFORK) (O) DRILL Well# 540 RUSSELL CLEARFORK UNIT, 2619 FSL 1966 FWL, SEC 457 BLK G, CCSD&RGNG SUR., A-38 8100', 8 SW DENVER CITY API# 42-165-38110

XTO ENERGY INC., RUSSELL (CLEARFORK) (O) DRILL Well# 533 RUSSELL CLEARFORK UNIT, 1378 FNL 1972 FEL, SEC 457 BLK G, CCSD&RGNG SUR., A-38 8100', 7 SW DENVER CITY API# 42-165-38109

## Garza County

REATA ENERGY INC., O'DONNELL (ELLEN) (O) DRILL Well# 1 DAVID 304, 1182 FNL 1956 FWL, SEC 304 BLK 31, HE&WT/JJ DODSON SUR., A-1072 9400', 8 SE DRAW API# 42-169-34175

## King County

HUNT OIL COMPANY, ANNE TANDY (STRAWN) (O/G) DRILL Well# Y 78AR SB BURNETT ESTATE, 1352 FWL 1040 FSEL, SEC 11 BLK X, RM THOMSON SUR., A-649 6000', 17 SE GUTHRIE API# 42-269-32922

## Scurry County

APACHE CORPORATION, SHARON RIDGE (CLRFRK) (O) DRILL Well# 25 VAN NORMAN, 991 FNL

1534 FWL, SEC 131 BLK 97, H&TC/JH HENDERSON SUR., A-2013 3600', 12 SW SNYDER API# 42-415-35037

UNITEX OIL & GAS LLC, SHARON RIDGE (O) DRILL Well# 600F ELLIS-GRAY UNIT, 1335 FWL 1987 FNL, SEC 193 BLK 3, H&GN SUR., A-79 2000', 3 SW DUNN API# 42-415-35086

UNITEX OIL & GAS LLC, SHARON RIDGE (O) DRILL Well# 1210 ELLIS-GRAY UNIT, 337 FWL 9699 FNL, SEC 1 BLK 1, JP SMITH SUR., A-456 2000', 4 SW DUNN API# 42-415-35084

UNITEX OIL & GAS LLC, SHARON RIDGE (O) DRILL Well# 1211 ELLIS-GRAY UNIT, 165 FEL 10368 FNL, SEC 1 BLK 1, JP SMITH SUR., A-456 2000', 4 SW DUNN API# 42-415-35083

UNITEX OIL & GAS LLC, SHARON RIDGE (O) DRILL Well# 1213 ELLIS-GRAY UNIT, 807 FWL 9553 FNL, SEC 1 BLK 1, JP SMITH SUR., A-456 2000', 4 SW DUNN API# 42-415-35085

UNITEX OIL & GAS LLC, SHARON RIDGE (O) DRILL Well# 100F ELLIS-GRAY UNIT, 1283 FEL 2667 FNL, SEC 1 BLK 1, JP SMITH SUR., A-456 2000', 4 SW DUNN API# 42-415-35087

UNITEX OIL & GAS LLC, SHARON RIDGE (O) DRILL Well# 1212 ELLIS-GRAY UNIT, 165 FEL 9708 FNL, SEC 1 BLK 1, JP SMITH SUR., A-456 2000', 4 SW DUNN API# 42-415-35082

UNITEX OIL & GAS LLC, SHARON RIDGE (O) DRILL Well# 128 ELLIS-GRAY UNIT, 644 FWL 2327 FNL, SEC 1 BLK 1, JP SMITH SUR., A-456 2000', 4 SW DUNN API# 42-415-35080

UNITEX OIL & GAS LLC, SHARON RIDGE (O) DRILL Well# 122 ELLIS-GRAY UNIT, 772 FEL 3776 FNL, SEC 1 BLK 1, JP SMITH SUR., A-456 2000', 4 SW DUNN API# 42-415-35078

UNITEX OIL & GAS LLC, SHARON RIDGE (O) DRILL Well# 1122 ELLIS-GRAY UNIT, 1183 FWL 833 FNL, SEC 1 BLK 1, JP SMITH SUR., A-456 2000', 4 SW DUNN API# 42-415-35081

UNITEX OIL & GAS LLC, SHARON RIDGE (O) DRILL Well# 1121 ELLIS-GRAY UNIT, 1011 FWL 6741 FNL, SEC 1 BLK 1, JP SMITH SUR., A-456 2000', 4 SW DUNN API# 42-

## DEVELOPMENTAL WELLS

415-35079

UNITEX OIL & GAS LLC, SHARON RIDGE (O) DRILL Well# 501F ELLIS-GRAY UNIT, 1188 FEL 1991 FNL, SEC 193 BLK 3, H&GN SUR., A-79 2000', 3 SW DUNN API# 42-415-35077

WEST INLAND ENERGY, INC., TONTO (O) (RECOMP) Well# 2351 HAMLETT, 600 FNL 1700 FEL, SEC 235 BLK 2, H&TC SUR., A-348 2200', 9 NE SNYDER API# 42-415-34339

## Terry County

MEMORIAL PRODUCTION OPER. LLC, KINGDOM (ABO REEF) (O) DRILL Well# 703 NORTH-WEST TERRY (ABO) UNIT, 2629 FNL 110 FEL, SEC 10 BLK D14, C&M/RF DAUGHTRY SUR., A-1671 8300', 9 SW SUNDOWN API# 42-445-32392

## Yoakum County

OCCIDENTAL PERMIAN LTD., WASSON (O) DRILL (DIREC) Well# 4 BENNETT RANCH UNIT, 1774 FNL 1712 FWL, SEC 631 BLK D, JH GIBSON/ PH MASON SUR., A-553 5800', 10 NE DENVER CITY API# 42-501-36436

## New Mexico

## Eddy County

COG Operating LLC Newcastle 6 Fed Com PDK #7 Loco Hills; Sec 1 T17S R29E; 1030/S & 10/E; 4 mi NW Loco Hills; Rot 9203 Glorieta Yeso; API #30-015-42506

Burnett Oil Co. Inc. Stevens A #20 Cedar Lake; Sec 13 T17S R30E; 2390/S & 2380/W; 1/5 mi NE Loco Hills; Rot 6100 Glorieta Yeso; API #30-015-42498

COG Operating LLC CTA State Com #3 Santo Nino; Sec 32 T18S R30E; 430/N & 480/W; 8 mi SW Loco Hills; Rot 12494 Bone Spring; API #30-015-42494

COG Operating LLC State Com #4 Santo Nino; Sec 32 T18S R30E; 2310/N & 337/W; 8 mi SW Loco Hills; Rot 12667 Bone Spring; API #30-015-42495

COG Operating LLC Noose Federal Com #10 North Seven Rivers; Sec 35 T19S R25E; 170/S & 2550/E; 5 mi SW Lakewood; Rot 7550 Glorieta Yeso; API #30-015-42500

Mack Energy Corp. Marley Fee #1 Cass Draw; Sec 34 T22S R27E; 1510/S & 1510/W; 1/2 mi W Otis; Rot 9300 Bone Spring; API #30-015-42499

Devon Energy Production Co. LP Cotton Draw #171 Cotton Draw; Sec 1 T25S R31E; 200/S & 2480/W; 20 mi SE Malaga; Rot 13026 Brushy Canyon, API #30-015-42503

BOPCO LP Poker Lake Unit CVX JV BS #30 Paduca; Sec 3 T25S R31E; 330/N & 1940/W; 18 mi SE Malaga; Rot 20028 Bone Spring; API #30-015-41496

Devon Energy Production Co. LP Cotton Draw 14 Federal #3 Paduca; Sec 14 T25S R31E; 330/N & 1200/E; 20 mi SE Malaga; Rot 14816 Bone Spring; API #30-015-42504

Devon Energy Production Co. LP Cotton Draw 14 Federal #4 Paduca; Sec 14 T25S R31E; 330/N & 1150/E; 20 mi SE Malaga; Rot 14847 Bone Spring; API #30-015-42505

## Lea County

Texland Petroleum-Hobbs LLC MOC 2 State #1 Lovington; Sec 2 T17S R36E; 2308/N & 502/W; 4.5 mi SE Lovington; Rot 8650 Abo; API #30-025-41952

Texland Petroleum-Hobbs LLC FS 3 State #1 Lovington; Sec 3 T17S R36E; 2026/S & 2010/E; 4.5 mi S Lovington; Rot 8650 Abo; API #30-025-41953

Texland Petroleum-Hobbs LLC OPL 3 State #2 Lovington; Sec 3 T17S R36E; 1650/S & 990/W; 4.5 mi S Lovington; Rot 8650 Abo; API #30-025-41954

Texland Petroleum-Hobbs LLC OPL 3 State #3 Lovington; Sec 3 T17S R36E; 2150/N & 505/E; 4.5 mi S Lovington; Rot 8650 Abo; API #30-025-41955

Texland Petroleum-Hobbs LLC OPL 4 State #2 Lovington; Sec 4 T17S R36E; 330/S & 1650/E; 4.5 mi SW Lovington; Rot 8650 Abo; API #30-025-41956

Texland Petroleum-Hobbs LLC XTO 9 State #1 Lovington; Sec 9 T17S R36E; 150/N & 2310/E; 5.5 mi S Lovington; Rot 8650 Abo; API #30-025-41960

Cimarex Energy Co. Cordoniz 28 Fed Com #5 South Quail Ridge; Sec 28 T19S R34E; 350/S & 2220/E; 12 mi NE Halfway; Rot 15203 Bone Spring; API #30-025-41963

Cimarex Energy Co. Cordoniz 28 Fed Com #6 South Quail Ridge; Sec 28 T19S R34E; 330/S & 1980/W; 12 mi NE Halfway; Rot 15217 Bone Spring; API #30-025-41964

Cimarex Energy Co. Cordoniz 28 Fed Com #7 South Quail Ridge; Sec 33 T19S R34E; 60/N & 660/W; 11 mi NE Halfway; Rot 15609 Bone Spring; API #30-025-41965

BC Operating Inc. Abe State #2 Lovington; Sec 32 T21S R33E; 240/N & 1980/E; 11 mi SE Halfway; Rot 16850 Abo; API #30-025-41951

Cimarex Energy Co. Urraca Fed Com #20 Diamondtail; Sec 11 T23S R32E; 330/N & 440/W; 15 mi NW Ochoa; Rot 14111 Bone Spring; API #30-025-41968

Cimarex Energy Co. James 19 Federal #24 South Sand Dunes; Sec 19 T23S R32E; 130/N & 660/E; 17 mi NW Ochoa; Rot 15363 Bone Spring; API #30-025-41966

Cimarex Energy Co. James 19 Federal #29 South Sand Dunes; Sec 19 T23S R32E; 330/N & 2310/E; 17 mi NW Ochoa; Rot 13814 Bone Spring; API #30-

025-41967

Devon Energy Production Co. LP Coachwhip 26 Fed #1 Triple X; Sec 26 T23S R33E; 215/S & 1500/E; 8 mi NW Ochoa; Rot 15731 Bone Spring; API #30-025-41961

Devon Energy Production Co. LP Coachwhip 26 Fed #1 Triple X; Sec 26 T23S R33E; 215/S & 1550/E; 8 mi NW Ochoa; Rot 15791 Bone Spring; API #30-025-41962

Murchison Oil & Gas Inc. Brinninstool 4 St #4 Triple X; Sec 4 T24S R33E; 175/S & 1050/W; 8.5 mi NW Ochoa; Rot 15500 Bone Spring; API #30-025-41959

COG Producing LLC Macho Nacho State Com #5 West Triple X; Sec 7 T24S R33E; 190/S & 430/E; 10 mi NW Ochoa; Rot 13976 Bone Spring; API #30-025-41958

Chevron USA Inc. Prodigal Sun 17 24 34 #1 North Red Hills; Sec 17 T24S R34E; 330/N & 1660/E; 3 mi NW Ochoa; Rot 15275 Bone Spring; API #30-025-41957

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