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PRESIDENT CARTER, casts a fly on Crane Creek near Jackson, Wyo., Monday during a morning fishing trip. The president and first family are enjoying outdoor recreational activities in this scenic area. (AP Laserphoto)

Food prices down first time in year

By R. GREGORY NOKES

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government had the first good news for inflation-weary Americans in months today, reporting that consumer prices were held to an 0.5 percent increase in July as grocery prices declined for the first time in a year.

The July increase compared with price gains of 0.9 percent in each of the previous three months and was the smallest rise since a 0.4 percent gain last December.

The Labor Department attributed the improvement to an 0.4 percent decline in grocery prices, the first drop since July 1977, and an 0.6 percent drop in the price of clothing, particularly for women and girls.

While the price report was a welcome development for consumers, it also should give support to the troubled U.S. dollar on world money markets, where the currency's value has declined because of inflation and the nation's trade deficit.

However, in an adverse development for the dollar, the Commerce Department said the nation had a foreign trade deficit in July of nearly \$3 billion, the fourth largest on record. It said exports declined 3 percent to \$11.8 billion, while imports rose 8 percent to \$14.8 billion.

The figures were certain to be highly disappointing to the Carter administration, which had hoped for a continuation of the trend in recent months toward smaller monthly trade deficits.

The Commerce Department said there was a big increase in auto imports, which rose \$206 million during the month. There were also substantial increases in imports of sugar, coffee and fish, although imports of oil were down 4 percent from the previous month, continuing the recent decline in oil imports.

The Labor Department said its Consumer Price Index in July stood at 196.7 of the 1967 average of 100. This means that goods priced at \$100 11 years ago had increased in price to \$196.70 last month.

The July increase of 0.5 percent, if continued for an entire year, would result in a 12-month inflation of 6 percent. The annual rate of price inflation in the three previous months was 10.7 percent.

The total increase in consumer prices since January has been 5.4 percent, compared with an increase during all of last year of 6.9 percent. The Carter administration now hopes to hold inflation to an 8 percent increase during all of this year. It had set a 6.1 percent target at the start of this year.

The decline in grocery prices of 0.4 percent in July compared with average monthly increases of 1.6 percent during the first six months of the year.

The Labor Department said lower prices for meats were the chief reason for the decline. It said beef prices were down 2.2 percent following eight consecutive months of large increases and pork prices were down 4 percent. There were also lower prices for fresh vegetables, eggs and coffee.

While the situation improved for consumers who ate at home, there was a continued worsening in prices at restaurants, where charges rose 0.8 percent, about the same as in previous months.

The price of housing, including household services and furnishings, increased 0.8 percent in July.

Transportation costs rose by 0.7

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Mentone: to school in a Wink

MENTONE — To hear County Clerk Edna Dwees tell it, Loving County deserves better than to have its own school system consolidated with that of neighboring Wink in another county.

"We tried to keep our school, but we lost out," she said Monday, referring to an Aug. 12 consolidation election in which voters decided to merge the Loving County facility with that of Wink's by a 37-28 margin.

"We didn't even get to start school this year because of that vote," declared Mrs. Dwees. "A lot of people who voted in that election were from out of the county, yet they are regis-

tered here. Now our school system is consolidated with the Wink Independent School District."

She said the Loving County system featured no indebtedness and "lots of certificates of deposit."

The demise of this isolated county's school system is but another reminder that having the smallest population in the nation plus the highest income level doesn't necessarily spell happiness.

The U.S. Commerce Department revealed in a recent study that Loving County has 114 people "give or take two or three

folks who died," said Mrs. Dwees.

The Commerce Department study also revealed that the income level here was \$15,710 per person in 1976, said by some to be the highest in the United States.

Officials said a yardstick for understanding that kind of wealth is to keep in mind that the average income per person in Harris County in the same year was \$7,000.

"You have to take into consideration that Loving County has one or two millionaires as well as people with two jobs," said Mrs. Dwees.

She also said expenses are higher in the isolated county, too. "It's 20 to 30 miles to the nearest town such as Kermit or Pecos and it's 75 miles to Odessa."

Mentone has a service station open until 6 p.m., "but sometimes it's closed for days at a time," Mrs. Dwees noted.

"We've also got Keen's Cafe. Newt Keen always loans folks a loaf of bread or a head of lettuce. And he's famous for his hamburgers and steaks," said Mrs. Dwees.

She waxed poetic about Lov-

(Continued on Page 2A)

GOP commissioner abstains in budget vote

A lone protest was voiced Monday prior to the Midland County Commissioner's approval of a \$3.9 million budget.

Winfred Brown, the court's only Republican member abstained from ratifying a package that would hold the line on taxes, accused his colleagues of "partisan politics" in raising the salaries of two offices now held by Democrats.

The other court members claimed Brown's public attack was based solely on political motives.

A large part of a \$400,000 increase in the budget was due to a 10 percent across-the-board salary increase for county employees.

County Judge Blake Hansen said a significant increase in the county's revenue had offset the necessity for a tax increase this year despite the salary raises.

"The taxpayers of Midland County have a right to know that when it comes to playing politics with the taxpayers money, the Democrat County Commissioners can be very liberal," Brown said in a prepared statement shortly before a vote was taken on the 1978-79 budget.

"The items that I am referring to and that I am objecting to in the budget for 1979 are the salaries of the County Judge and the County Court at Law Judge."

Brown charged that former County Judge Barbara Culver (a Republican) had performed the duties of the two positions and that the court gave her only the percentage raises given to other elected county officials.

"While Judge Culver was becoming well known state-wide for work with juveniles, the commissioners court cut her salary for serving as Juvenile Court Judge from \$3,000 a year to \$1,800 a year," Brown said.

"This was done for political purposes and that is past history. The point that I am making is that the salary was cut and never restored to the \$3,000 level. Judge Barbara Culver is a woman and a Republican."

Culver and Brown attempted to create the county court-at-law position prior to the election filing deadline in February, but Democratic commissioners after the deadline created the court-at-law and "appointed their

Democrat friend to serve as judge of the new court," according to Brown.

The commissioner made a motion that the 1979 budget be amended to show that the county judge and the county court-at-law judge salaries be set for 1979 at the 1978 rate, plus the proposed 10 percent raise given to other elected officials. The motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Durwood Wright told Brown that the commissioners court "should not be used as a political sounding board."

"What you are saying is nothing more than sour grapes. You seem to be the most liberal member of the court. What you are saying is exactly what you're saying in the letter —

totally and politically motivated," Wright said.

"If we review the record further, I think there are other departments headed by Republicans who have increased their budgets in some cases nearly double, in some cases by as much as \$200,000 and \$400,000."

Wright said the commissioners had given District Attorney Vern Martin, a Republican, permission to seek a special prosecutor for an upcoming capital murder case in the event that he is unable to find a replacement for his investigator, who is leaving the county next month.

County Judge Hansen said later he thought Brown's statement was "not very truthful."

Conservation is where you find it

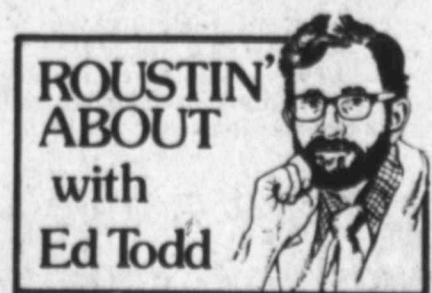
Russel Smith, the executive director of the Texas Solar Energy Society, is trying to stir up interest in practical applications of solar energy and in conserving dwindling fuel supplies.

He's particularly keen on the former; it's his livelihood.

And on the conservation account, Smith has made a quirky inroad: the single "I" in his given name, Russel.

"No use wasting letters," said Smith, who left his headquarters in Austin to present a workshop on solar-building technology in Midland Sept. 8 and 9. "Try to conserve in all things," said Smith.

Besides, Smith knows all too well that the continued supply of petrole-



um and traditional uses of fossil fuels will buy time for solar-applied energy and technology to mature and for solar systems to be economical to install and maintain.

At the workshop will be Loyd Willis,

an Andrews builder who lives the solar life; Ron Freeman, chairman of the air-conditioning and refrigeration program at the Texas State Technical Institute at Sweetwater; Ron Stephenson of Odessa, and Smith.

"The question that most people ask (about solar energy) is: 'Is it cost-effective?'" Smith said.

And his answer in these days of cheap money and inflation is, of course, a qualified "yes."

His friend and solar-pusher, Tim Rudd of Odessa, phrased the cost-effective response this way: "Some places, yes; some places, no." It

(Continued on Page 2A)

Midland's back-to-schoolers sloshing through night's mud, water for first day

Raincoats, galoshes and umbrellas came out of the closet today after a long and generally hot summer as approximately 15,325 students made their way to classes on the first day of school.

For the administrators of the Midland Independent School District, today is a test in several respects. The district is implementing a new breakfast program and the second year of a court-ordered busing program is under way.

Midland's public schools also face upgrading of a district-wide bilingual education program.

Schools Superintendent James H. Mailey was making the rounds to the various schools this morning to en-

sure that everything was running smoothly, according to his office.

Garland Chapman, assistant superintendent of administration, said that there were few problems as school buses unloaded students for the beginning of classes.

"The early reports indicate that we've had a pretty good opening. The school buses for the most part have been arriving on schedule," Chapman said.

"We've had a few students miss the bus. But we have back-up transportation available to pick up these students. There certainly haven't been any major problems here. Some of the students are fairly new to the schedule, it being the first day of

school."

Chapman said the district is projecting an enrollment of 15,325, but added that it will probably be several days before an actual count can be obtained.

He said the estimate indicates the district will experience another decrease in overall enrollment this year, a trend which has prevailed in the county in recent years. He said the enrollment figure at the end of last year was 15,466.

Meanwhile, cafeteria crews have been beefed up this year in order to prepare breakfasts for students; the breakfasts now are required under federal guidelines.



A DRY HOLE It isn't, as a water main at Indiana Avenue and Marienfeld Street comes a gusher after being punctured by a contractor's backhoe about 3 p.m. Monday. City employee Salvador Ramon isn't trying to stop the water with his hands; he's washing them free of mud. It took the city three hours to fix the leak, but at least one Midland outfit didn't mind. Dawson Geophysical Co., 203 S. Marienfeld St., received most of the spray from the 30-foot gusher — and from Monday night's Midland-area showers — on its roof...and on its increasingly green lawn. (Staff Photo)

WEATHER

Cloudy through Wednesday with a chance of showers and thunderstorms. High today near 80. Details on Page 2A.

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Ford vehicles may have transmission defect

WASHINGTON (AP) — As one federal agency warns millions of Ford owners their vehicles may have lethal transmission defects, another agency is removing sub-compact Ford Pintos from a federal motor pool until their gas tanks are rid of potential fire hazards.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration today issued a consumer advisory bulletin advising about 9 million owners of Ford cars and light trucks they should shut off their engines and make sure the gear selector is firmly in the park position before they leave their vehicles.

The agency said it is investigating complaints that Ford automatic transmissions on 1970 through 1978 models have slipped from park into reverse. It said it has reports of 777 accidents, 23 fatalities and 259 injuries allegedly caused by this problem.

The investigation could lead to a

recall, which would be the biggest in history.

"We are pursuing this investigation on a priority basis and plan to complete it in the near future," said agency administrator Joan Claybrook.

Meanwhile, the General Services Administration, the government's housekeeping agency, says it is removing the 300 Pintos from its 85,000-car interagency motor pool because of reports that gas tanks have caught fire in rear-end collisions. The GSA did not mention such incidents occurring in the government fleet.

While Ford already has announced a recall of 1.5 million Pintos and 30,000 Mercury Bobcats to correct the fuel tank problem, the NHTSA is studying possible recall of the 9 million Fords, manufactured between 1970 and 1978 to fix the faulty transmissions. It would be the largest recall in automotive history.

The Center for Automotive Safety,

a private monitoring organization affiliated with Ralph Nader, says 100 accidents and 12 deaths have been caused by the transmission failures in practically all Ford cars with 300-cubic-inch engines or larger and light trucks with engines of 350 cubic inches or more.

Ford has argued that the accidents might be caused largely by driver carelessness in putting the shift lever into park. The company says there are no flaws in the transmissions.

While the NHTSA's 10-month old study is expected to be completed next month, agency officials said consumers still should receive today's warning.

"We keep getting complaints," said Hal Parris, a spokesman for the NHTSA. "While the investigation is continuing, we want to alert people to the possibility that it (the transmission problem) can occur."

Parris had this advice for Ford owners whose vehicles were manufactured between 1970 and 1978 with C-6 or FMX automatic transmissions:

—Shut the engine off before leaving the vehicle.

—Make certain the gear selector is in the park position.

—If possible, turn the engine off before putting it in park.

—Use the emergency brake.

"There have been cases where just a slam of the door can move a car into reverse and start it running backward," Parris said.

The GSA urged other federal agencies to follow its lead in removing Pintos from their fleets. The government began using Pintos after the Arab oil embargo in 1973.

It was not immediately known how many Pintos were in the overall government fleet of 400,000 vehicles, which includes the interagency pool.



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Four killed in Rhodesian clash with guerrillas

SALISBURY, Rhodesia (AP) — Four persons, including a policeman and a black nationalist guerrilla sought in a nationwide manhunt, were killed in gunbattles in Salisbury's black townships during the night, police reported.

The two others killed were a black man and a black woman. It was the fourth major clash in the past five weeks between police and guerrillas in black townships located within eight miles of the center of this capital.

A police spokesman said the slain guerrilla was the "sole remaining member" of a six-man group loyal to Joshua Nkomo's Zambia-based insurgent forces who have been operating in Salisbury and the southern cities of Gwelo and Bulawayo for the past month.

The guerrilla, who was not identified, opened fire on a police patrol car in Salisbury's Glen Norah township at 7.20 pm. Monday night, killing the 23-year-old white police officer who was driving, the spokesman said.

Police returned fire and in "the ensuing action" a black civilian was fatally wounded. The guerrilla escaped and 30 minutes later held up cashiers at a township beerhall, police said.

Traced to a house in the adjoining Highfield Township, the guerrilla attempted to escape with a

Case cleared by arrest

Carl Jackson Castleberry, 67, of Seymour was in custody in the Midland County Jail late Monday afternoon on charges of theft over \$200 in a case dating back to 1975, said officers.

Captain George Thompson of the Midland County Sheriff's Office said the county grand jury set bond for Castleberry at \$3,500 in 1975.

Howard Chapman on Feb. 16, 1975, told county authorities he left a 1 1/2 ton 1973 truck loaded with \$15,000 in wheelhead equipment at the McClatchy Brothers Trucking Contractors, Inc., firm on West Industrial Avenue.

Chapman reportedly told deputies he left the truck in care of Castleberry at the business. Deputies said they were told Castleberry was last seen Feb. 16, 1975, in Odessa in the same truck.

"That was the last time Castleberry was seen until Aug. 24, 1978," Thompson said Monday.

Thompson said Castleberry was apprehended by the Burlington County Sheriff's Office in Colorado and brought back to Midland.

Thompson, aided by other deputies, worked closely with the Texas Rangers and the Texas Motor Vehicle Theft Service in pursuing the case.

The truck and the wheelhead equipment have not been recovered, said Thompson.

black man and a woman, police said. "Police opened fire killing the terrorist and the black woman and injured the black male," the spokesman said.

Police said the guerrilla was among two groups totalling 16 who crossed from Zambia in June on an assassination and sabotage mission to the capital. According to military intelligence, the groups' mission included killing the three moderate black leaders joined with white Prime Minister Ian Smith in the six-month-old transition administration.

'Activists' to stage rally

LEXINGTON, Miss. (AP) — Civil rights activists have announced plans for a major rally here Saturday to protest alleged "intimidation and illegal arrests" by Lexington police.

Meanwhile, in Baldwin, about 150 miles northeast of Lexington, a police dispatcher who revealed he was a member of the Ku Klux Klan was suspended Monday.

The predominantly black United League of Mississippi, a statewide activist group that is coordinating protest campaigns in several towns, called Monday for the march and demonstration in this town of 2,700 people.

Odessa man charged

in woman's death

ODESSA — A 33-year-old Odessa man, charged in the early Sunday murder of a 41-year-old Odessa woman, was in satisfactory condition

Monday in the intensive care unit of Medical Center Hospital here with a gunshot wound in the chest.

Columbus Weymon Morris has been charged in connection with the shooting death of Eula Faye Davis, police said. Officers said the woman was shot twice, in the neck and left shoulder, with a .357-caliber pistol.

Police said Morris was shot one time in the chest with a .22-caliber pistol.

The shootings happened shortly before 2:54 a.m. Sunday in the 300 block of South Tom Green, according to reports.

Peace Justice Harold Sligar pronounced the woman dead at the scene and withheld an inquest ruling pending results of an autopsy.



Sandi Miller, the current Miss Texas who is preparing for the upcoming Miss America contest, lifts weights to keep in shape. The 20-year-old intends to compete for Miss America by being natural. (AP Laserphoto)

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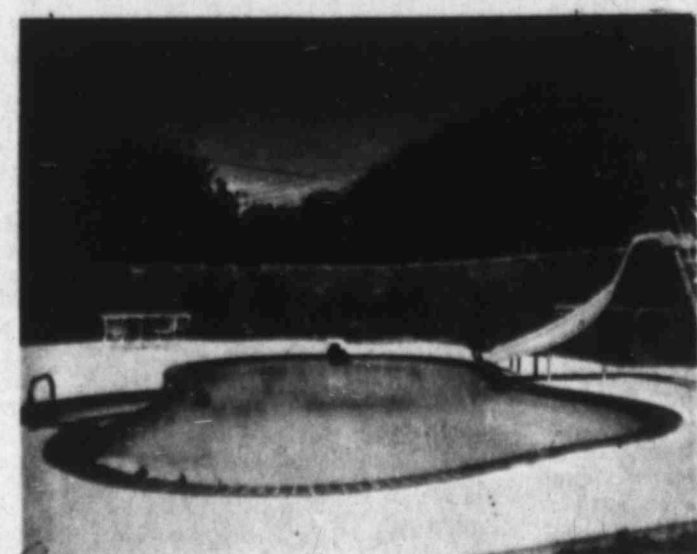
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DEATHS

Ricky Denison

LUBBOCK — Services for Ricky Lynn Denison, 20, of Lubbock, brother of Tracy Haggman of Lamesa, were held Sunday in the First Church of the Nazarene here with the Rev. Buford Batton officiating.

Burial was in Resthaven Memorial Park directed by Resthaven-Singleton-Wilson Funeral Home. Denison died Saturday at his residence.

Opal Richardson

LAMESA — Services for Opal D. Richardson, 57, of Burnett and formerly of Lamesa and O'Donnell, will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday in Branon Funeral Home with the Rev. J.P. Jones, a Lamesa Baptist minister,

officiating. Burial will be in Lamesa Memorial Park. Mrs. Richardson died Monday in Burnett following a lengthy illness. She was born in O'Donnell. She was married to Curtis A. Richardson on April 23, 1948.

Mrs. E. Hooper

NEW ORLEANS — Services for Mrs. Edward Hooper, 68, mother of Edward W. Hooper of Midland, will be Wednesday morning in Jacob-Schoen Funeral Home here with burial to follow in a New Orleans cemetery. Mrs. Hooper died Monday morning in a New Orleans hospital following a lengthy illness.

George Norris

COLEMAN — Services for George Jefferson Norris, 73, of Waxahachie, father of Harold Norris and Mrs. Bob Singleton, both of Midland, will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday in Stevens Funeral Home here. Burial will be in Talpa Cemetery in Talpa.

Lou Edgmon

LAMESA — Services for Lou Hancock Edgmon, 93, a longtime Dawson County resident, were held Sunday in the North Ridge United Methodist Church here with the Rev. W.O. Rucker, pastor, officiating. Burial was in Hancock Cemetery directed by Branon Funeral Home.

Another dog law passed

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — An ordinance similar to one passed in New York that would force dog owners to clean up their dogs' droppings, is on its way to becoming law in San Francisco.

Prison system allowing more paroles approved

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A new prisoner review system that could increase the number of inmates on parole has been approved by the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles.

The three-member board and the six commissioners appointed to help deal with its caseload held a "work session" Monday on details of the new review system.

In most cases, panels consisting of two commissioners working at the prisons and one Austin-based board member will decide whether to parole an inmate.

"The three of us can't carry the load," chairman George Killinger said of the board. "We are working ourselves to death. . . I talked to the governor, and they agreed we should try it (the new panel system)."

He added, however, "I think there will be more turndowns by the governor's office."

This apparently was a reference to the fact that commissioners have tended to be more willing to grant parole than the board members.

Board members will have exclusive power in death penalty clemency cases and those involving sentences of 45 years or more.

"We've got public accountability, you know. We can't let it go to hell,"

explained board member Clyde Whiteside. For the past year or more, parole decisions have been made by panels consisting of a single commissioner and two board members.

Commissioners often were voted down, 2-1, by the board members and complained both publicly and privately. Commissioner Paul Mansmann once testified 40 percent of the paroles he recommended were voted down by the two board members who reviewed them.

"This thing about a fight between and board and the commissioners has been overplayed," Whiteside told reporters.

He said that the commissioners had "been unhappy for a while that so many of their decisions have been turned down by the board."

But sometimes commissioners have not given enough information to support their parole recommendations, leaving the board majority no alternative but to vote "no," Whiteside said.

Now the commissioners will hold the majority on most cases. The governor has the final say on paroles but cannot grant a parole unless the board recommends it. Gov. Dolph Briscoe has been turning down about 15 percent of the paroles recommended by the board.

The Midland Reporter-Telegram ADVERTISING CLOSING TIMES for the LABOR DAY Holiday Period Will Be RETAIL ADVERTISING FOR PUBLICATION: Saturday, Sept. 2 Sunday, Sept. 3 Monday, Sept. 4 Tuesday, Sept. 5 Wednesday, Sept. 6 CLOSING TIME: WED., Aug. 30, 4:00 p.m. THURS., Aug. 31, 11:30 a.m. THURS., Aug. 31, 4:00 p.m. THURS., Aug. 31, 4:00 p.m. FRI., Sept. 1, 11:30 a.m. IN EFFECT THIS WEEK ONLY FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL 682-5311 CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT WILL BE OPEN MONDAY, SEPT. 4 8 a.m. - 11 a.m. During these hours, classified advertising may be placed, corrected or cancelled. 682-6222 The Midland Reporter-Telegram

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Insurance probe closed 'unanswered questions'

By LEE JONES

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — C. Daniel Hurlbut told the House General In-

vestigating Committee there were some "unanswered questions" as it closed its probe of his charges against Gulf Atlantic Life Insurance Co. and

the State Insurance Board. So committee chairman DeWitt Hale, D-Corpus Christi, threw the questions at Gulf Atlantic's former

president.

The committee finished its probe of Hurlbut's allegations Monday and returns today to an examination of Great Commonwealth Life Insurance Co.'s former difficulties with a holding company.

Hurlbut said one of his unanswered questions was why Bill Barnes, then president of Gulf Atlantic, called a San Antonio steel executive to discuss an insurance board investigation.

Barnes said the man he called in San Antonio — unnamed in public testimony — had a number of contacts in Austin.

"I thought he might have heard something over the grapevine if we were in a position to be put on the spot or persecuted," Barnes said. He said the man was unable to provide any information and was not called again or asked for any help.

Hurlbut and his partner, A.C. Hovater lost their agents' licenses in 1976 for selling unapproved group health insurance policies in the name of Nation-Wide Health Insurance Trust, which was placed in receivership in early 1975.

Hurlbut has maintained Gulf Atlantic agreed to underwrite the group policies and set him and Hovater up in Houston to sell them. Among those buying the policies was the Pasadena Independent School District.

The insurance board conducted two investigations into Gulf Atlantic's alleged involvement and exonerated the company.

Barnes denied under oath Monday that Gulf Atlantic ever gave Hurlbut and Hovater a go-ahead to market group health insurance. He said experienced agents such as Hurlbut and Hovater knew they could not sell in-

surance in a company's name without a written contract. Hurlbut maintained the insurance department was guilty of favoritism toward Gulf Atlantic.

He said the other unanswered question was the extent of former insurance commissioner Joe Hawkins' involvement with Gulf before becoming commissioner.

Barnes said, "none whatever." He said he contacted Hawkins, then a Dallas actuary, after learning of the Nation-Wide operation of Hurlbut and Hovater.

"I was concerned about what would happen to the (health insurance) groups and wondered if there was anybody in the state that would take over the groups.... I don't recall even receiving a reply from Mr. Hawkins," he said.

Residents needn't be told twice it's time to evacuate

CAMERON, La. (AP) — No one has to tell the residents of Cameron Parish twice to leave their homes when a storm blows out of the Gulf. They know the way out by heart, they've done it so many times before.

And no one seems to mind when the storm they left for doesn't amount to much.

"It's like paying insurance," said Civil Defense Director Hayes Picou early today as he prepared to let residents of the low-lying parish go home after Tropical Storm Debra passed without much damage.

"It's the price you pay for living in the greatest place on earth. We live on the coast and we know we have to run once or twice a year. It's worth it."

More than 6,500 residents of the parish ran this time, most to motels and private homes on higher ground. But several hundred went to high schools in Lake Charles in adjoining Calcasieu Parish.

About 200 people were in the most crowded of the shelters, Lake Charles High School, and the mood was a festive one, considering what was lurking out-

side. There was little visible anxiety.

Some, like Lee LeBlanc of Sweetlake, were survivors of Audrey, the killer hurricane which wiped out 430 people in the middle of the night in 1957.

LeBlanc lived in the city of Cameron then and watched out his back door as two people drowned.

"That was enough to always make you leave when there is a storm," LeBlanc said. "People who have gone through it once and are willing to go through it again without evacuating are ignorant persons."

"Audrey was enough to make me leave Cameron 100 times," Clarence Dyson of Cameron was another veteran of Audrey who wound up in the shelter Monday night as Debra approached. He was accompanied by twin 13-year-old daughters, although his son chose to stay behind.

"I don't consider it an inconvenience," he said of his time away from home.

His daughters agreed, with one calling their brother "crazy" for staying behind near a rising river.

Civil Defense Director Picou says that communication is so much better now than in 1957, it is unlikely a tragedy like that could happen again. He is just hopeful that last year won't repeat itself either, when two hurricanes forced a pair of evacuations in the same week.

"That was a record," he says. "I hope it doesn't happen again — I haven't slept in three days."

Tropical Storm Debra begins losing force

By The Associated Press

Tropical Storm Debra was downgraded to a tropical depression before dawn today as it moved deeper into Louisiana and headed for Arkansas.

Meanwhile, the Cameron Parish Sheriff's office more than 6,500 residents of the coastal parish in southwest Louisiana who had evacuated their homes in the face of the storm were told they could return home at 5 a.m. CDT. There had not been any evacuations in Texas.

Sheriff's Deputy Russell Nunez said high waters from swollen tides and heavy rains had receded, clearing the way for evacuees to return. Debra, which spawned sever-

al tornadoes as it moved inland near the Louisiana-Texas border late Monday, began dissipating as it headed north at about 12 miles an hour.

Louisiana state police said most of the heavy rains ended by Monday night, and there were only scattered reports of minor wind damage and some street flooding as Debra pushed northward.

The National Weather Service said at 5 a.m., the center of Debra was about 50 miles southwest of Monroe, La., with the highest sustained winds estimated at 35 miles an hour off the Louisiana coast.

Gale warnings were discontinued from Port Arthur, Texas, to Grand Isle, La.

'Foreign' cardinals key to election

By HILMI TOROS

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Non-Italian cardinals played a key role in the surprise election of Pope John Paul I, a prelate of pastoral experience instead of a veteran of the Vatican Curia.

Numbering 84 of the 111 men who voted in the conclave last weekend, the non-Italians could have ended the four-century hold Italians have had on the papacy. But they accepted, and some reportedly suggested, that another Italian should succeed Pope Paul VI.

ANSA, the Italian news agency, said although the "foreign" cardinals agreed to another Italian, they stipulated that he come from a diocese and be rich in pastoral experience rather than be a veteran of the Curia, the central church bureaucracy, like

Pope Paul, or the Vatican diplomatic corps.

This eliminated such front-runners as Cardinals Sebastiano Baggio, Sergio Pignedoli and Pericle Felici and opened the way to the election of Albino Luciani, the 65-year-old cardinal-patriarch of Venice and a man with more than 30 years of pastoral experience.

Cardinal Johannes Willebrands of the Netherlands told reporters the conclave sought "a good bishop, a pastor, who knows pastoral problems from his own experience."

Corriere della Sera, Italy's biggest newspaper, said the foreign cardinals found Luciani "full of positive notes: a man of God, poor, humble but intelligent, with good theological culture, intransigent on matters of doctrine and discipline but also ready to listen and enter into dialogue." ANSA, reporting "indiscretions"

from the secret conclave, said the choice boiled down to Luciani and Cardinal Corrado Ursi, the archbishop of Naples.

After two inconclusive votes Saturday morning, the agency's account continued, Belgian Cardinal Leo Suenens and French Cardinal Fran-

cois Marty led a swing to Luciani. His cause also was helped by the fact that he once expressed willingness to vote for a cardinal from the Third World, Brazilian Aloisio Lorscheider.

Luciani was elected on the third ballot with between 90 and 100 votes, ANSA said. He needed only 75.

Manhole covers keep disappearing

MILWAUKEE (AP) — A manhole cover theft ring?

That's what a Milwaukee official said could be involved in the disappearance of \$13,000 worth of 150-pound manhole covers, 174-pound sewer grates and related items from the city.

Glen R. Anderson, superintendent of the Bureau of Street and Sewer Maintenance, said the items most likely were sold for scrap.

Mayor Henry Maier questioned Monday a request for \$13,000 to replace the missing items during a review of the bureau's more than \$8 million 1979 budget proposal. Maier delayed a decision on whether to include the \$13,000. Anderson said the

problem became evident last year and seemed to have slackened off recently. Police were asked to investigate but so far have made no report on the matter.

Anderson told a reporter later that no precise number was available, but about "a couple of hundred" of the items had been taken. Sewer grates cost \$50 and manhole covers about \$40, he said.

"I think maybe they are being shipped to another state or something," he added.

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Nicaraguan army officers arrested as strike continues

By JUAN MALTES

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — More than 100 army men were reported under arrest today for plotting to oust President Anastasio Somoza as a general strike spread and fighting was reported outside Managua.

A highly placed source in the national guard, Nicaragua's 7,500-man army, said 12 officers and 85 soldiers were arrested, but another source put the total at more than 100 and said they included two colonels.

Meanwhile, the Senate today was to take up a bill passed by the lower house, the Chamber of Deputies, that would authorize Somoza to leave the country. But government sources said it did not mean he was planning to flee and a spokesman for Somoza said he had no plans to resign.

Such legislative authorization for presidential travel abroad is custom-

ary in Latin America and the sources said Somoza keeps his in force all the time and was just renewing it.

Informants said radio messages about a coup were broadcast openly Sunday on the military network.

Members of the guard, the bulwark of the Somoza family's 41 years in power and its vast economic holdings, were reported furious that the president met the demands of 25 guerrillas who seized the National Palace and hundreds of hostages a week ago.

The guerrillas of the Sandinista National Liberation Front killed eight guardsmen in their assault. After a two-day siege, Somoza freed 59 imprisoned Sandinistas and gave them and the 25

holding the palace safe conduct to Panama and \$500,000.

A national guard commander confirmed the plot to overthrow Somoza and said "elements of the army and civilians" had been arrested. It said four officers were appointed "to determine responsibility in the case."

Somoza's New York public relations adviser, Norman Wolfson, said at a news conference in Managua that the president told him the coup was planned by "some fairly conservative officers who were fearful he would resign."

"Rather than have him resign and someone else take over the country, they were going to take it over themselves," said Wolfson.

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Carter will carry pitch to farmers, businessmen

By TOM RAUM WASHINGTON (AP) — With Congress in recess, President Carter and his top aides will carry their pitch for natural gas deregulation to businessmen, farmers and other interest groups, according to administration sources.

Wednesday with top U.S. banking officials to try to win their support for the measure. That session, administration sources said, would be followed by a meeting with representatives of industries that are among the biggest users of natural gas: glass, textile and paper manufacturing.

Pipeline sale making money like flowing oil

MOSES LAKE, Wash. (AP) — Like oil through a pipeline, the money flowed — averaging more than \$1 million an hour — as Alaska pipeline builders held a two-day, gone-out-of-business auction.

were right up where he wanted them even though the machines were veterans of rugged Alaska winters. A typical buyer, E.A. "Jim" Hendricks, paid \$30,000 for a grader and figures he beat some 30 other bidders.

HNG stakes Ward test; well finals

HNG Oil Co. of Midland 1-113 Texfel is to be drilled as a project in Ward County, 6.5 miles southwest of Pyote. The project, scheduled for a 6,800-foot bottom, is 1,787 feet from southeast and 467 feet from southwest lines of section 113, block 34, H&TC survey.

Executive says bill's chances 'slim,' 'none'

The Washington Post WASHINGTON — A senior aide to President Carter said Monday in Jackson, Wyo., that the president cannot now count sufficient votes in Congress to pass the natural gas price decontrol bill that he considers the crucial element in his energy package.

without Long on this issue, a White House lobbyist said Monday night, "There's always a first time." The fate of the gas bill has been complicated by a dispute over nuclear breeder reactors that is still not resolved.

Re-entry scheduled

Shell Oil Co. will re-enter its No. 2-B Forristal for upper Wolfcamp tests in Crockett County, 1/2 mile north of the Tippet (upper Wolfcamp) field.

DRILLING REPORT

ANDREWS COUNTY Gola Petroleum No. 1 Long, 4,620 feet, preparing to fracture treat perforations 4,725 to 4,735 feet. ... KENT COUNTY John L. Cox No. 1 Deborah, drilling 2,855 feet.

OPEC U.S. investments show drop last year

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Commerce Department said Monday that foreign direct investment in the United States increased 11 percent last year, although investment by oil-exporting nations declined.

Dawson, Sterling gain locations for wildcats

South Ranch Oil Co., Inc., No. 1 Rollow has been staked as a 12,400-foot wildcat in Dawson County, eight miles southwest of Lamesa. Location is 660 feet from north and west lines of labor 8, league 276, Glascock County School Land survey.

STERLING OILER Dorchester Exploration, Inc., No. 1-4 Lena Foster (formerly Lena R. Foster) has been completed in the Parochial Bade (Cisico) pool of Sterling County.

Rig moving to new site

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y.—Texaco Inc. and its five partners in the project that found the first hydrocarbons in the Baltimore Canyon off the Atlantic Coast, have completed preliminary testing in the discovery and are moving the rig to a new site.

Peru tests to resume

HOUSTON (AP) — The general manager of Peru's state oil company says he expects several U.S. firms to resume explorations in his country.

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Midland and area servicemen make news

Several Midland-area servicemen have been in the news recently. They include:

Navy Seaman Recruit Stanley L. Gregory, son of Dillon A. Gregory of Lamesa, has completed recruit training at the Naval Training Center, San Diego.

David A. Frymire, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold D. Frymire of Goldsmith, was commissioned a second lieutenant and awarded a bachelor of science degree during graduation ceremonies at the U.S. Air Force Academy on May 31.

Lieutenant Frymire, who majored in mechanical engineering, was selected for pilot training at Laughlin AFB, Tex.

Airman First Class Darla R. Johnson, granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur M. Johnson of Lamesa, participated in "Dawn Patrol '78", a North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) exercise involving the air, land, naval amphibious forces of six nations.

Airman Johnson is an administrative specialist at Upper Heyford RAF station, England, with the 20th Tactical Fighter Wing.

Sergeant Domingo R. Pena, whose wife, Mary lives in Stanton, recently was assigned as a tank turret repairman with the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Tex.

Airman Margarita Parra, sister of Virginia Bravo, who resides at Stanton, has been selected for training at Sheppard AFB, Tex., in the transportation field.

Chief Warrant Officer William L. Pryor, son of Mrs. Ollie M. Pryor of Big Spring, recently was presented the Army Commendation Medal at Fort Bliss, Tex.

Pryor earned the award during his last assignment with the 68th Transportation Company in Germany.

Airman First Class Henry H. Bettis III, son of Mrs. Jannie C. Bettis of 1607 South 13th, Temple, Tex., has graduated at Keesler AFB, Miss., from the U.S. Air Force technical course for electronic computer systems repairman.

U.S. Air Force Master Sergeant James E. Flowers, whose wife, Gether, is the daughter of Mrs. W.D. Sheen of Lamesa, has arrived for duty at Barksdale AFB, La.

Sergeant Flowers, a fuels superintendent with a unit of the Strategic Air Command, previously served at Andersen AFB, Guam.

Staff Sergeant David R. Faust, whose wife, Patsy, is the daughter of G.I. Madison of Stanton, has been named Outstanding Noncommissioned Officer of the

Month in his unit at Altus AFB, Okla.

The sergeant is assigned to the 443rd Supply Squadron, a part of the Military Airlift Command.

Navy Torpedoman's Mate Seaman Apprentice James L. Holliday, son of Mr. and Mrs. H.B. Holliday of Andrews, has completed the Basic Enlisted Course at the Naval Submarine School, Groton, Conn.

Cadet Larry D. Iglehart, son of Mrs. Alberta M. Tate, Midland, is receiving practical work in military leadership at the Army ROTC advanced camp at Fort Riley, Kan.

Private David K. Blackshear, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bobby J. Blackshear of Big Spring, recently was assigned to the 377th Field Artillery in Herzogenaurach, Germany.

When you're right, you're right; and pope's cousin is right

DETROIT (AP) — Silvio Luciani, who had been telling friends for two years that his cousin would be the next pope, is going to see it happen Sunday when Albino Cardinal Luciani becomes Pope John Paul.

Silvio got the official word Monday that Rep. David Bonior, D-Mich., and the Detroit Free Press had arranged passports, airline tickets and hotel reservations in Rome.

"Hey, I am glad to go," said the 78-year-old resident of a mobile home park in Marysville, just south of Port Huron, Mich. "I haven't seen my cousin for a few years. He will be surprised to see me. He'll remember me, though."

When Albino Luciani, patriarch of Venice, was elected pope last Saturday, his Michigan cousin first said he would be unable to travel to Rome alone because of his age.

Luciani said he had a passport but none of his four children had the necessary documents to make the trip.

Bonior's office intervened and got the appropriate papers for Luciani's daughter, Dolly Nutt of Marysville, and a son, Richard, of Palos Verdes Estates, Calif.

Arrangements were made to fly Mrs. Nutt's passport application and photo to Washington and back to Detroit.

They will stay at a hotel a block from the Vatican and will meet old-world relatives they have known only through letters.

"This morning when I was getting nowhere, I was telling myself it almost wasn't worth it," said Mrs. Nutt. "But for my father, it will be one of the greatest days of his life."

Charge carries heavy penalty

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. (AP) — A young western Kentucky woman could be sent to prison for 10 to 20 years if she is found guilty on charges she performed an illegal abortion on herself with a knitting needle.

Testimony begins today in the trial of Marla Elaine Pitchford, 22, whose case is believed to be one of the first in the nation where a woman, without involvement from doctors, has been charged with aborting herself.

Commonwealth's Attorney Morris Lowe said he would call seven witnesses in the state's effort to prove that Miss Pitchford violated an abortion law passed by the 1974 General Assembly.

The jury of eight men and six women, including two alternates, was chosen Monday in Warren Circuit Court and was sequestered overnight.

Each of 40 prospective jurors was questioned about his or her beliefs regarding abortion and possible affiliation with pro- or anti-abortion groups.

Circuit Judge J. David Francis agreed to the individual questioning, a practice he described as virtually unprecedented in his court, on a motion filed at a pre-trial hearing last Thursday by defense attorney Flora Stuart, a county public defender.

The pale, red-haired defendant, a native of nearby Scottsville, Ky., sat quietly through the proceedings Monday, whispering at times to her attorneys and to her mother, seated at her side.

Kelly Thompson Jr., another public defender representing Miss Pitchford, said he and Miss Stuart would argue a defense of temporary insanity and that psychiatric experts would be among the 15 to 20 defense witnesses.

Miss Pitchford, a former psychology major at Western Kentucky University here, was indicted by a grand jury June 14 on charges of manslaughter and

performing an illegal abortion five days earlier, when she was allegedly 20 to 24 weeks pregnant. Francis dismissed the manslaughter charge at an Aug. 16 pre-trial hearing on grounds that a fetus is not legally a person.

Rent bill killed by Calif. senate

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — A bill backed by Gov. Edmund Brown Jr. that would have forced most owners of rental property to roll back rents to May levels and give tenants 80 percent of their Proposition 13 tax savings has been killed by the state Senate.

The Senate defeated the measure on a vote of 21-12.

It was the second time in less than a week the Senate had killed a rent relief measure. A milder bill by Democratic Sen. Paul Carpenter of Cypress was rejected last Wednesday.

The author of the Brown-backed bill, Assemblyman Tom Bates of Oakland, a Democrat, blamed the defeat on opposition from real estate interests and low voter turnout by renters. He predicted it would spur local rent control efforts.

"It means people will have to do it themselves," Bates said. "They cannot count on the Legislature."

Bates' bill would have required landlords, with some exceptions, to roll back rents in January to what they were on May 31, 1978. In addition, landlords would have had to cut rents by 80 percent of their first-year Proposition 13 property tax savings.

They could have raised rents again in February, but would have had to tell tenants the reason for the hike plus any rent increase in the next five years.

The bill did not restrict reasons, or amounts, rent could be raised.

A tenant who questioned the truthfulness of the reason for a rent hike could withhold the rent increase. The landlord could then sue in small claims court and win by demonstrating the disclosure was accurate.

Landlords who had not raised rents from December 1977 to January 1978 would not have to cut rents. The bill would also not cover owners of rental agricultural land.

Syrian forces disarm troops

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Syrian peacekeeping forces disarmed Christian militiamen in northern and eastern Lebanon today as Syrian President Hafez Assad warned Israel against intervention on behalf of the Christians.

The three-day operation brought one-third of the 800-square-mile Christian hinterland north of Beirut under Syrian military control, commingles from the peacekeeping command said.

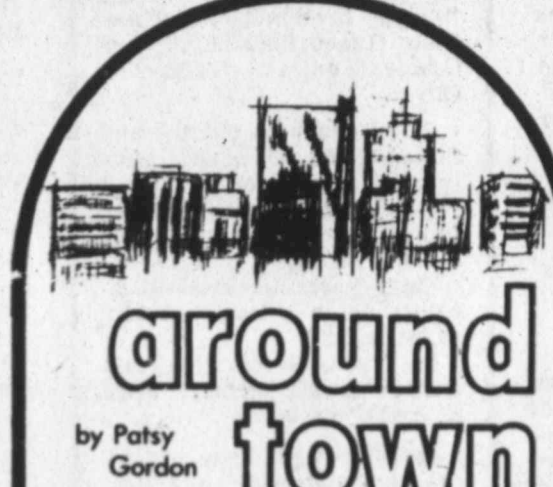
Moving by helicopter, Syrian troops carried out the operation behind a shield of tanks that sealed off the eastern approaches to the shrinking Christian enclave.

A Lebanese police spokesman said a total of 35 Christian militiamen and civilians were killed and 65 militiamen were taken prisoner in three days of fighting. Two Syrians were killed and four were wounded, he said.

The Christians, with their backs to the Mediterranean, were reported preparing a formal declaration of guerrilla warfare against the Syrians, who intervened in the Lebanese civil war to prevent their defeat by the leftist Lebanese Moslems and their Palestinian allies and then turned against them when the Christians refused to submit to Syrian control.

Council to meet

Midland City Council will meet at 10 a.m. Thursday for a special executive session. The panel will meet in the council chambers at City Hall to discuss possible acquisition of land.



What Is.....

around town

by Patsy Gordon

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Around Town

Next Sunday, Aug. 20, signals the debut of a new local column for Reporter-Telegram readers, one designed to keep up with the comings, goings and the doings of Midland's active people.

As a people column, that's exactly what "Around Town" will be about.

And it will be broad enough to include news of men and women, as well as the younger set and college students, their honors and activities, house-guests and visitors to the Tail City, trips — virtually anything that Midlanders are doing or plan to do, but which normally would not be expanded into a news story.

"Around Town" will appear daily on the first page of the Lifestyle Section and items now are being solicited by that department.

Midland residents with brief news to submit will find it easy to do. Just dial 682-5311, the newspaper's regular number, anytime between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and ask for Lifestyle. Or mail or bring your items to the Lifestyle Department.

Let us have your news. And be watching for "Around Town," The R-T's newest local interest column, beginning next Sunday.

WEATHER

...tod... through... "

How often have you thought to yourself: "If I were editor, I'd do this and I'd do that?"

NOW YOU CAN! YOU are the contributing editor of "around town!"

So get your "ITEM" copy together! and get it to

The Midland Reporter-Telegram

then read "around town" for all those LOCAL items every day

LEGAL NOTICES

SHERIFF'S SALE
 THE STATE OF TEXAS
 COUNTY OF MIDLAND
 WHEREAS, on the 5th day of June, 1978, in Cause No. 25,528, in the District Court of Midland County, Texas, wherein Midland Independent School District, City of Midland, Texas, the State of Texas and the County of Midland, Texas were Plaintiffs and the Guarantors, Intervenor and Interveners, and recovered judgment against Est. of Jessie Wallace by the Sheriff of Midland County, Texas, Sadie Gillipie for taxes penalty, interest, and cost against the herein-after described property;

WHEREAS, on the 15th day of August, 1978, by virtue of said judgment and the inclusion thereof the Clerk of the above mentioned District Court of said county did cause to be issued an Order of Sale commanding me as Sheriff of said county to seize, levy upon, and sell in the manner and form as required by law, the herein-after described property;

WHEREAS, by virtue of said judgment and said Order of Sale and the mandates thereof, I did on the 15th day of August, 1978, seize and levy upon the property of the defendant the following described property, situated in Midland County, Texas, to-wit:

Lot 1, Block 21, Haley Hts. Addition an addition to the City of Midland, Midland County, Texas, as shown by deed from Julia, J.A. & J.F. Haley recorded in Vol. 55, Page 611 of the Deeds of Midland County, Texas, as dated: 7-24-38.

And I will, on the first Tuesday in the month of September 1978, at 2:00 p.m. at the south entrance to the Midland County Courthouse, the highest registered bidder for cash; provided, however, that none of said property shall be sold to the owner of said property directly or indirectly or to anyone having an interest therein or to any party other than a tenant unit which is a party to this suit for less than the amount of the adjudged value of said property or the aggregate amount of judgments against said property in said suit, whichever is lower, subject also to the rights of the defendant to redeem same in the time and manner provided by law and subject also to the right of the defendant to have said property divided and sold in less divisions than the whole.

Said sale is to be made by me to satisfy the judgment rendered in the above styled and numbered cause, together with interest, penalties, and cost of suit; and the proceeds of said sale are to be applied to the satisfaction thereof, and the remainder, if any, to be applied as the law directs.

DATED at Midland, Texas, this 15th day of August, 1978.
 Dallas Smith,
 Sheriff, Midland County, Texas
 By W. T. Mitchell
 Deputy
 (August 15, 22, 29, 1978)

ORDINANCE NO. 5263

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING PARKING ALONG PORTIONS OF WADLEY ROAD, GARFIELD STREET, MIDLAND DRIVE, CUTHBERT AVENUE, OHIO AVENUE, SCHARBAND DRIVE, LAMESA ROAD, LOUISIANA AVENUE, MINOOLA STREET, ILLINOIS AVENUE, STREET, CARVER STREET, SOUTH STREET, ORCHARD LANE, ADAMS STREET, FLORIDA AVENUE AND COURSE ROAD AS SHOWN IN SECTION ONE, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING APPLICABLE MARKINGS AND SIGNS, CONTAINING A CUMULATIVE CLAUSE, AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND ORDERING PUBLICATION.

1-3-1: GENERAL PENALTY. Whenever in this Code or in any ordinance of the City an act is prohibited or is made or declared to be unlawful or an offense or a misdemeanor, or wherever in such Code or ordinance the doing of any act is required or the failure to do any act is declared to be unlawful, where no specific penalty is provided therefor, the violation of any such provision of this Code or any ordinance shall be punished by a fine of not exceeding two hundred dollars (\$200); provided, however, that if the minimum or maximum penalty provided by this Code for any such offense is less or greater than the maximum penalty provided for the same or similar offense under the Laws of the State, then the minimum or maximum penalty for violation as provided by State Statute shall be minimum or maximum penalty under this Code.

Each day any violation of this Code or of any ordinance shall continue shall constitute a separate offense. Any person who shall aid, abet or assist in the violation of any provision of this Code or any other ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished as provided in the preceding paragraph.

In any prosecution for the violation of any provision of this Code, it shall not be necessary for the complainant to negative or for the State to prove any exception contained in this Code concerning any prohibited act; provided, however, that any such exception made therein may be urged as a defense by the person charged by such complaint.

CITY OF MIDLAND
 J. W. McCullough
 City Secretary
 (August 29, 1978)

ORDINANCE NO. 5264

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SUBSECTION (A) OF SECTION ONE, "PERMITS AND SPECIFICATIONS" OF TITLE XI, "PUBLIC WORKS AND PROPERTY" OF THE CITY CODE OF MIDLAND, TEXAS, SO AS TO AUTHORIZE THE CONSTRUCTION OF SIDEWALKS FROM CERTAIN MATERIALS OTHER THAN CONCRETE AND ASPHALTIC CONCRETE, CONTAINING A CUMULATIVE CLAUSE, AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND ORDERING PUBLICATION.

1-3-1: GENERAL PENALTY. Whenever in this Code or in any ordinance of the City an act is prohibited or is made or declared to be unlawful or an offense or a misdemeanor, or wherever in such Code or ordinance the doing of any act is required or the failure to do any act is declared to be unlawful, where no specific penalty is provided therefor, the violation of any such provision of this Code or any ordinance shall be punished by a fine of not exceeding two hundred dollars (\$200); provided, however, that if the minimum or maximum penalty provided by this Code for any such offense is less or greater than the maximum penalty provided for the same or similar offense under the Laws of the State, then the minimum or maximum penalty for violation as provided by State Statute shall be minimum or maximum penalty under this Code.

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CITY OF MIDLAND
 J. W. McCullough
 City Secretary
 (August 29, 1978)

PERSONAL, To Mary:

I will not pay for the newspaper unless you subscribe for home delivery to SAVE 40%. Call The Reporter-Telegram "Circulation," 682-5311. Your ever-loving first.

PERSONAL, To Skinny:

I called The Reporter-Telegram to start home delivery, and I'll pay for it! I'm saving not only 40%, but dollars more with all those coupons every week. Gratefully, Mary.

