

BUSINESS PRICES RISING

AAA reporter that the average gas price in Midland is up 97 cents since Jan. 1.

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NEWS

HELPING OTHERS

The United Family donated 24,496 rolls of toilet paper to the West Texas Food Bank.

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SPORTS

HALL OF HONOR

Former Lee great Parchman, who led team to 3 straight titles, to be enshrined Saturday.

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Officials oppose nuclear waste storage

Andrews commissioners will sign resolution Tuesday opposing the high-level storage

By **Caitlin Randle**
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ANDREWS — After hearing from Andrews County residents in packed meetings Thursday and on July 6, commissioners voted unanimously to sign a resolution stating their opposition to the storage of high-level nuclear

waste in the county. Dozens of residents spoke during the two meetings, with many expressing anger that Waste Control Specialists, which currently operates a low-level waste site, has gone back on a promise that they would never seek to store high-level waste in Andrews County.

WCS, in partnership with Interim Storage Partners, filed an application in 2016 to store high-level nuclear waste in Andrews County for 40 years before the waste would be moved to a permanent repository. That application is currently under review by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Andrews County Judge Charlie Falcon noted before a vote was taken that a resolution from the Commissioners' Court would not

necessarily affect the NRC's decision.

"If a resolution in opposition gets signed, that is not a guarantee from the United States government," he said. "We would join (Gov. Greg Abbott, who is opposed to it. We would join August Pfluger, our U.S. representative, who has made comments that he is opposed to it ... we as a court were the last to take a stance."

Commissioner Kerry Pack of Precinct 1 made the motion to

pass the resolution, saying that most of the comments he's received from constituents have been opposing high-level waste storage.

Other commissioners echoed Pack's statement that most residents have said they oppose the project. Commissioner Jereane Anderregg of Precinct 3 said the court was feeling pressured to pass the resolution, and said she felt they needed to support the

Storage continues on A4

BIZ BUZZ

Annual

1959-1963 and also served on the Presbyterian Children's Home board. Additionally, he served on the Board of Trustees of Seminole ISD.

one will be greatly missed by all. The family received guests from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Thursday, July 15, 2021 at

www.myersandsmith.com
All Obituaries must be submitted by 1:00 P.M. prior to next publication day.

facility they aren't allowed to be. Dog cabins are separated by size and dogs are only allowed to play with dogs of their size in dedicated play areas.

The facility also has outdoor and indoor play areas. Play areas are outfitted with small obstacles and toys. The outdoor areas are shaded and secured with a high wall and mesh fencing. The dogs will use self-cleaning turf which flushes out urine throughout the day. Play areas have a hose and sanitation station to ensure dogs are playing in a clean and safe environment. The facility will be outfitted with a generator so if there is a power outage or bad weather the building will continue to be powered.

Day camp rates start at \$25 for a half-day and go up to \$70 for a full day for three dogs. Dog boarding rates are \$60 for a standard cabin and go up to \$125 for three dogs during the remodel.

STORAGE

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wishes of their constituents.

"I think WCS has been an amazing partner for this county, but I've got to represent my constituents," Anderegg said.

WCS' current Andrews

site opened in 2012 for the storage of Class A, B and C low-level radioactive waste.

The NRC released a draft Environmental Impact Statement in May of 2020 regarding the application to open a high-level waste site. In that report, NRC staff recommended approval of the WCS applica-

tion, stating that the impact of constructing and operating a waste site at the proposed location was found to be minimal.

A final environmental impact statement and a safety evaluation report were expected to be published in May of 2021 but were delayed because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The decision on whether to grant WCS a license would follow the release of those reports.

Falcon said the Andrews County attorney would write the resolution opposing high-level waste storage and it would be signed during the Commissioners' Court meeting next Tuesday.

ARTS

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bar, silent auction, first dibs on more than 60 artist booths and artist conversations. Tickets are \$80 for one or \$75 each for two or more tickets. To purchase a sponsorship or tickets visit acmidland.org/celebration-of-the-arts/.

The exhibit hall opens on Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free, and COA will feature more than 60 artist booths. The celebration will feature artists from the local region and more than 10 states who are visiting for the festival. Booth offerings include fine painting, photography, ceramics, printmaking, watercolor, mixed me-

Need to Know Schedule

Friday 7 to 10 p.m. ticketed premier party.

Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday noon to 5 p.m.

Artists' artwork can be bought and all the proceeds go toward the individual artist.

Food trucks will be

available Saturday and Sunday along Texas Ave.

Upcoming events

Midland AF: End of Summer Luau, 6 p.m. Aug. 6, Arts Council of Midland.

Fall Pathways, TBA, Sculpture Garden.

Volunteer Awards and Grants for 2022, TBA.

Yoga in the Garden, to be scheduled in the fall.

able for that."

Art experiences on the weekend include Glasshopper's glass blowing demonstration, The Studio art activity station, artist demonstrations by Kayla Barker, Mark Schultz and more, artist lectures with Q-&A sessions by Maggie Walker, Richard Acosta and Tabata Ayup, Harlan the Balloon Man, face painting with Miss Sara, University of Texas Permian Basin Pops-n-Prints and interactive dance sessions. Also, Ellen Noel Art Museum will have art activities and story time (Saturday only)

Celebration of the Arts is the biggest fundraiser for the Arts Council of Midland. Last year, the Arts Council distributed \$200,000 in funding.

dia, jewelry, fine wood carving, textiles, bronze sculptures and abstract work.

The food truck court on Texas Avenue on Saturday and Sunday includes Pachuco Mobile Food Co. (Saturday only), Texas Tap Co. (with two Tall City Brewing Co. beers on tap), Crystal's Crepes and Cof-

fee, HTeaO, Blue Smoke Pit Crafted BBQ, Keat's Sweets, Halo Peno's, Down South Seafood, Frank's BBQ and Ollie's Bakery.

"This year, we have over 20 arts nonprofits that will be in the lobby promoting themselves and selling tickets to events," he said. "We have never had more than 10 or so organizations avail-