## Long-lost relative turns up after thousands of years







69°



D

Welcome to the site! Login or Signup below.

Login | Signup

Place Ad

Subscribe

**Business** 

Entertainment

Reader Services Social

Auto

**Shopping** 

Classifieds

**Homes** 

FuelFix

**Business Directory** 

Midland Reporter-Telegram

Healthy Living

Home ▶ Business ▶ Top Stories

Press Releases

# **TOP STORIES**

Commentary: Decision on Keystone XL is no cure for climate change

Is Your Plate Too Full?

Better sleep can improve athletic performance

Palliative care team deals with end-of-life issues -- Goal is to relieve suffering, improve quality of

**Health Briefs for** Nov.11

**USGS: Quake hits** SW of Monahans

Google Maps offers offline option when Internet is spotty

Editorial: MISD doesn't need to fire football coaches

Appeals court delivers setback to Obama's immigration

Rusk to present 16th Veterans Day program at ĆAF

Lower SAT scores don't tell whole tale of education in

## TOP SPORTS

JC GOLF: Chaps continue to roll, win OC Fall Invitational

HS BASKETBALL: Tuesday's area roundup

JC WOMENS BASKETBALL:

# Inflow of information will guide industry's future - Agencies studying everything from earthquakes to water

Comments Story

Print 📙 Font Size: 🖃 📭

Posted: Sunday, October 18, 2015 7:30 am | Updated: 11:03 am, Mon Oct 19, 2015.

By Mella McEwen mmcewen@mrt.com | @ 0 comments



Teamwork helps MC roll past Cisco College

HADORN: Bulldogs play well-rounded game in must-win scenario

PRIVATE SCHOOL REPORT: Mustangs ready for playoffs after tough district slate

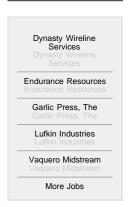
HS FOOTBALL: Final area standings

HS VOLLEYBALL: MHS' Wood, Foreman earn 3-6A superlatives

Youth sports briefs for Tuesday

HS FOOTBALL: King stepping down as OHS head coach

#### TOP JOBS



Information will be key to how the energy industry operates in the future.

That was the essential message the three panelists at the Industry Issues panel offered their audience Thursday at the Permian Basin Petroleum Association's annual meeting.

Information about clusters of earthquakes will be key to how the Railroad Commission issues saltwater disposal well permits, said Craig Pearson, the agency's seismologist.

"We don't know about earthquake activity in Texas before the 1880s when newspapers began printing stories. Some have drawn the conclusion that Texas has never had earthquakes, and that's simply not true. Texas has had and will continue to have earthquakes," he said.

The rise in numbers of quakes seems to be centered around high volume disposal wells, he said, with researchers finding those wells located near faults that extended into the overlying Ellenburger formation.

The Permian Basin has seen little activity in the Ellenburger formation because it has been blessed with the San Andres formation, as well, he said. But he said that problems with shifting faults are starting to be seen in the San Andres.

While he stressed that much more needs to be learned about what causes faults to shift, Pearson said the commission has enacted rules that he believes are working.

Companies seeking permits for saltwater wells must review a 100-mile radius around the proposed wellbore, and if the U.S. Geological Survey database indicates a fault, the company must provide more data. About 40 such applications have been reviewed and about 75 percent have been approved, Pearson said.

Data about seismic events is just part of the information the Bureau of Economic Geology at the University Texas wants to gather, said Michael Young, associate director.

He said the bureau will lead the TexNet Seismic Monitoring Program, which will have 38 permanent seismometers and 36 portable seismometers around the state.

The bureau also has launched the West Texas Resource Initiative. It is designed to examine the area's tight shale oil reserves, why the Permian Basin has been rejuvenated and offer an unbiased look at how much is available to be produced.

The bureau's hydrologist is working with operators to determine how much water they need for hydraulic fracturing and how much flowback of fracturing fluids and produced water can be expected — all in an effort to reduce the use of fresh water and promote the use of brackish and produced water.

"We hope these studies will improve long-term planning for operators and help determine long-term water needs, how much water use will be needed by the oil and gas industry and evaluate flowback and produced water" for its reuse or recycling into a useable water source, Young said.

Making information more easily available online is one goal of New Mexico's Oil Conservation Division, said David Catanach, director.

He said his agency will be rolling out a GIS module on OCD Online that initially will offer a layer linked to OCD Online and offer information on land ownership and spacing units.

The agency has also formed an Industry Advisory Group comprised of eight members from the New Mexico Oil & Gas Association, Independent Petroleum Association of New Mexico and the PBPA. The goal is to discuss issues of interest to both the associations and the agency.

A revised financial assurance rule will allow operators to post a blanket bond to cover a number of temporarily abandoned wells instead of having to post bonds for individual wells.

New Mexico is also launching a new Energy Policy & Implementation Plan that will focus on state and private jobs, access to federal lands, collaboration with federal agencies, streamlining regulations, infrastructure needs, education and energy-water nexus.

Another goal is to reduce flaring by requiring gas capture plans as part of the drilling permit

process and phasing in target goals.

"I assure you we will contact the industry before making any significant changes," Catanach said.

© 2015 MRT.com. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.

Discuss Print □

Posted in Top stories, Top stories on Sunday, October 18, 2015 7:30 am. Updated: 11:03 am.

#### **More From This Site**

- Struggling Key Energy exits international markets
- Midland man arrested after alleged indecent exposure
- LEROY: Some HS football fans in Permian Basin need a reality check
- Editorial: MISD doesn't need to fire football coaches
- Sheriff's office is losing its APCs -- Painter: 'I don't understad reasoning behind' recall

#### From Around The Web

- Celebs you didn't know passed away: #17 is Shocking (Your Daily Dish)
- 15 Hilariously Horrible Local Landmarks Across The U.S. (TheWebs.Best)
- Fish That You Should Probably Stop Eating (Health Answers.com)
- Is This Tiny Stock the Next Big Thing? (Venture Capital News)
- What Is Jet Lag? Circadian Rhythm Explains Cause & Cure (AARP)

Recommended by **Outbrain** 

Screen Name or	Email		
Password			
			Forgot?
Login			
an account? Create one	now.		

# POWER YOUR STYLE | BUY NOW

News

Top Stories Local News State and National

Crime Reports

Sports

Top Stories High School Football HS Football Standings

Business

Oil & Gas FYI Healthy Living Business Directory **€** Entertain

Movies Horoscopes Games Comics Life

Top Stories Religion & Faith Weddings & Celebrations Other Stuff

Blogs Video Classifieds Homes

Obituaries Sports Guidelines TV Times Editorial & Opinion MyWestTexas Mywesttexas Rss Football Contact us Search MRT.com Midland Reporter-Telegram Search in: Phone number: (432) 682-5311 AII Business News Opinion Photo Galleries Address: 201 E Illinois Ave Sports Entertainment Midland, TX 79701

© 2015 Hearst Newspapers, II LLC. Powered by Blox CMS from TownNews.com.

Lifestyle Guidelines

Lifestyle Forms

Cars

Find Midland Jobs

Home Delivery

Privacy Policy Terms of use