



# THORNBERRY: FOR KIRKPATRICK ACT

## THORNBERRY VOTES FOR WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION ACT

Representative Mac Thornberry (R-Clarendon) voted in favor of the Dr. Chris Kirkpatrick Whistleblower Protection Act of 2017 today.

According to a roll call from the U.S. House of Representatives, Thornberry voted in favor of the act this morning, as part of a unanimous consent of the present members of the House. Thirteen members of the House were counted as "not voting."

The bill was introduced by Senators Ron Johnson (R-Wisconsin) and Kelly Ayotte (R-New Hampshire). Johnson and Ayotte's bill was named for Dr. Chris Kirkpatrick, a psychologist at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Tomah, Wisconsin, who "was fired after he questioned the over-medication of veterans being treated at the facility," according to Johnson's office. On the day of Kirkpatrick's firing, he committed suicide.

The bill, if passed, would create enhanced protections and expedite investigations of instances in which probationary federal employees are fired for blowing the whistle on wrongdoing within their agencies. The bill would also enact some reforms on whistleblower protections and would establish new measures on medical records in the VA office.

For a full text of the bill, visit [www.congress.gov](http://www.congress.gov).



## Pioneer Still Seeking Nominees for Pioneer of the Year Awards

The Amarillo Pioneer is continuing to seek nominees for the 2017 Pioneer of the Year Awards.

Pioneer staff is accepting nominations for the Amarillo Pioneer of the Year awards until the end of October. Awards will be given to local businesses selected by our readers as the top location in each category. Readers will also choose a person as "Pioneer of the Year" for the year 2017.

In addition, readers have the opportunity to nominate deserving members of the Amarillo community for the Amarillo Pioneer Hall of Fame. The Amarillo Pioneer editorial board will select the inductees into the hall of fame, based upon the nominations from our readers.

"We hope that our readers will join us in selecting the persons and places most deserving of these awards," Thomas Warren III, Pioneer editor-in-chief, said. "Our community is full of talented persons and businesses and we want to do our part in recognizing the achievements in our community."

Once all nominations have been tallied, voting for the final winners will begin on November 6th. Nominees will be accepted until October 31st.

To vote, follow this link:  
<https://goo.gl/forms/aMVVAEsEWo4wjfc23>



**Professional Search, Inc., Int'l.**

*Pandra B. McCartt*

Executive Recruiting

"30 Years of Proven Success"

**806-359-0335**

2414-2 Lakeview Drive  
Amarillo, Texas 79109

[prosearch@suddenlinkmail.com](mailto:prosearch@suddenlinkmail.com)

### WEATHER

TODAY: SUNNY

85/59

TOMORROW: SUNNY

86/63

SATURDAY: CLOUDY

82/40

### Raef's Hardwood Flooring, L.L.C.



REPAIR • INSTALL  
SAND • FINISHING

Residential - Commercial  
From Entry Ways to Gymnasiums

**Jeff Raef - Owner**  
**Amarillo, TX**  
**(806) 681-7010**

## APD Investigating Tuesday Robbery

The Amarillo Police Department is investigating a robbery that took place on Tuesday morning.

According to APD, officers responded to the call of a robbery in the 4600 block of South Virginia Street. Three victims reported that they had been inside of an apartment when they heard a knock at the door. When the victims opened the door, several people entered the apartment and held the victims at gunpoint while they rummaged through the location.

APD reports that the suspects hit the victims several times with the guns, causing minor injuries.

The suspects took multiple items from the victims and left. No suspect descriptions have been given and no arrests have been made in the case.

Anyone with information on the incident is asked to contact the Amarillo Police Department or Amarillo Crime Stoppers at 374-4400.



## Tickets to Go On Sale for King Hill's World Premiere Ballet "Lone Star Legends and Love Stories"

Tickets will soon go on sale for a world premiere show from the Lone Star Ballet.

On October 30th, tickets will go on sale for King Hill's "Lone Star Legends and Love Stories." The ballet will be getting its world premiere at the Globe-News Center for Performing Arts.

As we reported last month, the new ballet by local arts authority King Hill is a tribute to the women who pioneered Texas and the panhandle. Characters included in Hill's ballet will include: Cynthia Ann Parker, Molly Goodnight, Frenchy McCormick, Susanna Dickinson and Emily West.

Vicki McLean, artistic director for the Lone Star Ballet, said that the show is a love story between people and a love story about the state.

"We all know what loving Texas is all about," Vicki McLean said, "This is a love story between people but also with the amazing state we live in."

Tickets for the February 9th debut will be available through the Amarillo Civic Center's official box office, panhandletickets.com.



## Albrecht Says Amarillo "Far From" Qualifying for Amazon Project

In a new article released this week, Amarillo Economic Development Corporation president Barry Albrecht detailed why he believes Amarillo is "far from" qualifying to host a new headquarters for Amazon, Inc.

Earlier this year, Amazon, Inc. announced that it would be seeking a location for a second headquarters. The economic deal is projected to cost upwards of \$5 billion and is expected to employ up to 50,000 workers. Albrecht said this week that while he feels Amarillo is "far from" qualifying for the project, the AEDC staff ran numbers to see what would hinder Amarillo from achieving such a project.

Albrecht wrote that the company is seeking a location in a metropolitan area of at least 1,000,000 people. Other cities have also developed strategies such as offering gifts to Amazon, installing Amazon boxes and placing ads in national newspapers.

In writing his article, Albrecht said that while Amarillo will "likely not" be the home for the new Amazon headquarters, the event has given Amarillo the "ideal opportunity" economic stability.

From Albrecht's article, it is unclear whether the Amarillo Economic Development Corporation plans to court the Amazon project. Other cities vying for the project include: Austin, Texas, Birmingham, Alabama, Boston, Massachusetts, Dallas, Texas, Denver, Colorado, Gary, Indiana, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Stonecrest, Georgia and Tuscon, Arizona.

Ceder & Associates, LLC

For all your campaign needs:

- Advising clients on how to run a successful campaign
- Building a grassroots organization
- Debate preparation
- Polling Services
- Live Call Center
- Mailers



214-937-3787  
aaron@cederandassociates.com  
www.cederandassociates.com

## QUOTE of the DAY

*"You can't go through life obsessing about what might have been."*

**-Hugh Jackman**

Quote by brainyquote.com



**Jerri Glover, Realtor® and Auctioneer**  
Real Estate License #683461, TX Auctioneer License #17817

806-881-6810 (Cell)

jerri@jerriglover.com

jerri@usalandandranch.com

www.jerriglover.com

www.usalandandranch.com

*Building Dreams, Solving Problems*

## WT Earns Business Affordability Ranking

*"The West Texas A&M University business program has been recognized for quality and affordable online programs by multiple outlets, according to the latest rankings released for 2018.*

*Online University ranks the West Texas A&M University M.B.A. program marketing concentration No. 1 in the nation as an online graduate marketing degree with respect to affordability and value. Online University ranks the online Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.) program in marketing No. 5 in the nation for affordability and value as an online option for an undergraduate degree in marketing. Online University also ranks the online Master of Science in finance and economics (M.S.F.E.) program No. 5 in the nation for affordability and value as an online option for a graduate degree in finance.*

*The 2018 rankings by Guide to Online Schools ranks the online B.B.A. programs in marketing and management at No. 3 and No. 12 with respect to best value undergraduate degrees by discipline. Discover Business places the West Texas A&M University M.B.A. program tied at No. 3 in the nation in its 2018 Best Value Accredited Online M.B.A. program Guide. Best Business Schools.org ranks the WTAMU Online M.B.A. program No. 35 in the nation and No. 4 in the Southwest with respect to curriculum, faculty research, faculty qualifications and reputation, trailing only Arizona State University, University of Texas at Dallas and the University of Arizona in the region*

*"The various rankings of the business program at West Texas A&M University are based on a commitment of achieving continuous improvement and innovation put forth by our faculty, staff, administration and students," Dr. Jonathan Shaffer, director of Graduate Business Programs and Pickens Professor of Management, said. "We appreciate and are encouraged by the recognition."*

*To learn more about the graduate business programs at West Texas A&M University, contact Dr. LaVelle Mills at [lmills@wtamu.edu](mailto:lmills@wtamu.edu) or 806-651-3866 or Dr. Jonathan Shaffer at [jshaffer@wtamu.edu](mailto:jshaffer@wtamu.edu), 806-651-2489. To learn more about the undergraduate business programs, contact Dr. Amjad Abdullat at [abdullat@wtamu.edu](mailto:abdullat@wtamu.edu) or 806-651-2443 or Michelle Vinyard at [lvinyard@wtamu.edu](mailto:lvinyard@wtamu.edu) or 806-651-2444."*

**-West Texas A&M University**



### LILE ART GALLERY

Exclusive Home of Cadillite Jewelry

#### Bob "Crocodile" Lile

Route 66 Gifts & Jewelry

806-664-3089  
[crocodilelile@live.com](mailto:crocodilelile@live.com)  
[www.lileartgallery.com](http://www.lileartgallery.com)

2719 SW 6th Avenue  
Amarillo, Texas 79106  
Fine Art



INTERSTATE BILLBOARDS SINCE 1979

## BURKETT

### OUTDOOR ADVERTISING

RANDY BURKETT  
PRESIDENT

P.O. BOX 50372  
AMARILLO, TEXAS 79159  
[randy@burkettoutdoor.com](mailto:randy@burkettoutdoor.com)

OFFICE 806/358-9226  
FAX 806/358-9270  
MOBILE 806/206-6163

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

### DAN FERGUSON ROOFING

Dan Ferguson  
806-206-5925

25 yrs local experience  
free estimates  
comp-hot-metal-wood-all types of roofing  
local client references  
Dan Ferguson Roofing on Facebook  
RESIDENTIAL and COMMERCIAL  
LICENSED-INSURED-BONDED



Jon Moffett  
Realtor®

Cell: (806) 676-0522



## WORD of the DAY

### Netiquette

*the rules of etiquette that apply when communicating over computer networks, especially the internet.*

Definition by dictionary.com



Beyond Clean  
of Texas

No Chemicals, Just Clean

USDA Approved Organic  
Odor Removal  
(806) 676-0522

[beyondcleanama@gmail.com](mailto:beyondcleanama@gmail.com)  
[www.beyondcleantx.com](http://www.beyondcleantx.com)

## Straus Forms Business Climate Board

Joe Straus, the speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, has announced the creation of a new committee that is set to examine the business climate in Texas.

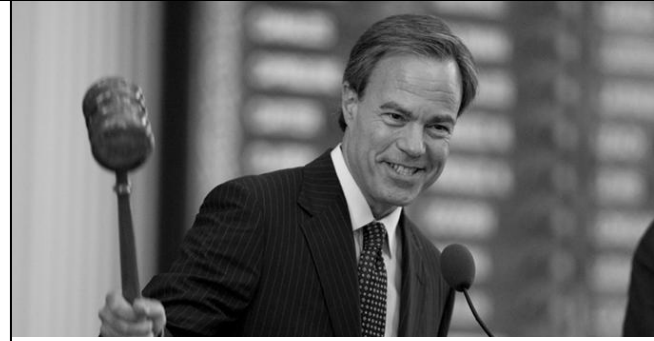
On Thursday, Speaker Straus announced the formation House Select Committee on Economic Competitiveness. According to information from Straus' office, the committee will examine issues such as "workforce readiness, infrastructure and state and local economic development tools."

Straus' committee will feature Representative Byron Cook (R-Corsicana) as the chair. Representative Senfronia Thompson (D-Houston) will serve as vice chair. Members also serving on the committee include: Representatives Angie Chen Button (R-Richardson), Sarah Davis (R-West University Place), Charlie Geren (R-Fort Worth), Joe Moody (D-El Paso) and Rene Oliveira (D-Brownsville).

No representatives from the Texas Panhandle area are set to serve on Straus' committee.

Straus announced the formation of the committee today, saying, "The world is watching, from CEOs to the best and brightest workers. They need to see that Texas welcomes them and is determined to stay at the front of the pack when it comes to economic development."

The new committee will report its findings by December 12th of this year.



**LEN  
WALKER**  
TRIAL LAWYER

**Experience is  
Everything**

**www.LenWalkerLaw.com**  
**(806) 553-5456**



**Shelby Tavern**

Independent LuLaRoe Fashion Consultant

email: [LuLaRoeShelbyTavern@gmail.com](mailto:LuLaRoeShelbyTavern@gmail.com)

phone: (806) 223-3237

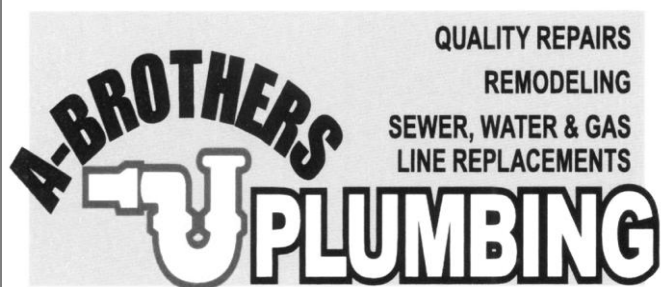
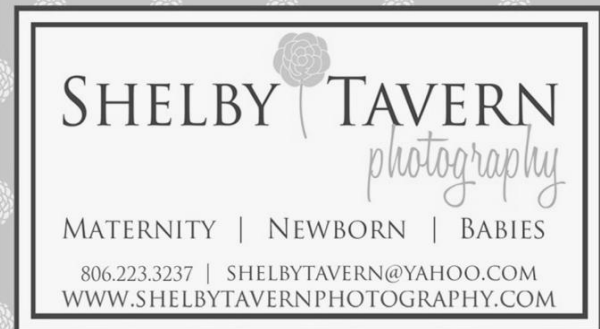
facebook: [LuLaRoe Shelby Tavern](https://www.facebook.com/LuLaRoeShelbyTavern)

facebook shop: [Shelby's LuLaRoe Online Shop](https://www.facebook.com/shops/LuLaRoeShelbyTavern)

**Got a tip  
for a  
story?**

*Email us and let us  
hear it!*

[amarillopioneer@gmail.com](mailto:amarillopioneer@gmail.com)



OWNER & OPERATOR  
**EDDIE WILLBURN**  
**(806) 655-4919**

BONDED & INSURED  
MASTER LICENSE M-18428  
**(806) 322-LEAK**

**THE  
AMARILLO  
PIONEER IS  
FREE!**

Email us to get your daily  
online paper!



**CATERING AVAILABLE**

Tim & Vicki Youngblood 620 SW 16th  
Phone: 842-9411 Amarillo, Texas  
Tim's Cell: 674-4647 [youngbloodscfe@gmail.com](mailto:youngbloodscfe@gmail.com)



@AmaPioneer  
The Amarillo Pioneer



Join our Facebook group too!  
"The Amarillo Pioneer Discussion Group"

**Please Note: The opinions expressed in all "Viewpoints"  
and columns do not necessarily represent the beliefs of  
The Amarillo Pioneer or its staff.**

For questions and comments:  
[amarillopioneer@gmail.com](mailto:amarillopioneer@gmail.com)

Photo Credits:  
Pg1: Washington Post  
Pg2: ODMP  
Pg3:  
Pg4: Texas Tribune

The  
Amarillo  
Pioneer

Editor-In-Chief:  
C. Thomas Warren, III

Publisher:  
Tom Warren, II

**Advertising is  
available!**

Please email  
[amarillopioneer@gmail.com](mailto:amarillopioneer@gmail.com)  
for more

The Amarillo Pioneer, all rights reserved.  
None of this publication may be used in part, or its entirety, without written  
permission from the Editor.