



# Clarion

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MIDLAND COLLEGE  
FOUNDATION



Two generously endowed series have drawn more than **50,000** area residents to hear the finest speakers and to see talented performers at four free events each year.

## Davidson Distinguished Lecture Series

The Davidson Distinguished Lecture Series, endowed in 1996 by Steve Davidson, Susan Davidson McClenahan and the Davidson Family Charitable Foundation, brings nationally known speakers to MC twice a year. Historian Shelby Foote and actor Anna Deavere Smith have joined other speakers such as filmmaker Ken Burns, author David McCullough, political satirist Mark Russell and journalist Bill Moyers. These speakers are co-sponsored by Friends of the Series and the Midland College Foundation.

*Please see page 3*

## Phyllis and Bob Cowan Performing Arts Series

The Phyllis and Bob Cowan Performing Arts Series, which started in 1999, presents two of the finest available professional performing arts events each year. Past performers include pianist and Academy Award-winning composer Marvin Hamlisch, comedian Bob Newhart, the Flying Karamazov Brothers, Ballet Folklorico de Mexico de Amalia Hernandez, the Preservation Hall Jazz Band and the Moscow Boys Choir. These events are co-sponsored by Friends of the Series.

*Please see page 3*

### DISTINGUISHED DONOR RECEPTIONS —

A post-performance reception at the home of Julie Edwards honored Phyllis & Bob Cowan Performing Arts Series Performer Laurence Luckinbill, who performed *Teddy Tonight*



Edwards & Luckinbill



Brooks & Blonkvist

Sept. 23. A reception sponsored by Kevin Blonkvist, RBC Dain Rauscher, at the Racquet Club honored Davidson Distinguished Lecturer David Brooks, who spoke Oct. 12.

# Rave Reviews

Joan Baskin congratulates Bob Cowan after he was named "Outstanding Philanthropist."

For endowing, with his late wife Phyllis, the Phyllis and Bob Cowan Performing Arts Series, Bob Cowan was named "Outstanding Philanthropist" by the Permian Basin Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. He received the award at the group's annual National Philanthropy Day luncheon Nov. 18. The Series has brought free international performances to the Al G. Langford Chaparral Center — brightening lives and entertaining thousands of audience members. The Cowans' gift epitomizes the spirit of philanthropy. "A person causes good things to happen by deliberately choosing to make a gift," Cowan said in response to his being named "Outstanding Philanthropist."



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## Tejas Garden Club follows community tradition with tree for Dollye Neal Chapel

Members of the Tejas Garden Club, one of Midland's oldest garden clubs, planted a Desert Willow tree near the Dollye Neal Chapel. The tree is the club's gift to the Dollye Neal Chapel and to Midlander Dollye Neal Ballenger, who gave the money in 2002 to have the Chapel built on the Midland College campus. The tree was planted adjacent to the Chapel at a special meeting of Tejas Garden Club members on Sept. 16. The Chapel honors Mrs. Ballenger's parents, Jewel and Ike Neal; her aunt, Roxie Neal; and her uncle, A.D. Neal. Mrs. Ballenger's gift covered the entire cost of construction and operation of the Chapel. The Tejas Garden Club's gift is part of the continuing community support that has contributed to Midland College landscaping since the campus was completed in 1975. At that time, a committee raised funds to landscape the campus, and community support was overwhelming — with many citizens sending in checks for \$5 and \$10. Plaques around campus recognize the many individuals, clubs and businesses that contributed to campus landscaping.



Members of the Tejas Garden Club with the newly planted willow tree. Mrs. Ballenger is pictured far right.

## Club gives gift of lathes to Building Science



HELPING TO BUILD A PROGRAM (pictured from left) Midland College Dean of Technical Studies Curt Pervier stands with members of the Comanche Trails Woodturners Club — Ernest Showalter, Jim Davis, Don Farris and George Hancock — Midland College President Dr. David Daniel and Director of Continuing Education and Hispanic Serving Institutions Assisting Communities Grant Director Alfredo Chaparro.

A Midland group is giving a gift of equipment to benefit the Midland College Building Science Technology program. The Comanche Trails Woodturners Club is donating money to purchase lathes for a woodturning class, benefiting many craftsmen and hobbyists who enroll in the continuing education classes offered through the program. The lathes will eventually be used in the program's new home, being built just east of the college's Cogdell Learning Center, 201 W. Florida. The building, which is on track to be completed in November, will contain the program's construction equipment, woodworking and cabinet-making classes, offices, a library and fenced yard.

## Helen L. Greathouse Children's Center receives Community Partner Award

This fall, the Midland College Helen L. Greathouse Children's Center received the Community Partner Award given by the Permian Basin Workforce Development

Board. The purpose of the award was to recognize a public/private company that has demonstrated commitment and interest by supporting the goals and mission of the Workforce Board. The award was given on Oct. 13 for outstanding commitment and dedication to making a positive difference in the community. The award was presented to Rita Stotts, Midland College Program Director of Child Development. Also present were Dr. Becky Hammack, Dean of Health Sciences, and Dr. Deana Savage, Associate Vice President of Instruction, Technical Studies. Members of the Board praised the Greathouse Children's Center's recent accreditation award from the National Association for the Education of Young Children and for the Center's commitment to high quality child care in the community. The Center serves Midland College as a teaching laboratory for students as well as a day care center. The Children's Center was named in 1995 to honor the generosity of Helen L. Greathouse and her many contributions to Midland College.



## 2005 Event in the Davidson Distinguished Lecture Series

### Richard Leakey

**Paleoanthropologist - Conservationist - Activist**  
**"Why Our Origins Matter"**

**Tuesday, April 12, 2005**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Al G. Langford Chaparral Center**

Past Davidson Distinguished Lecturers  
 (March 1997 to October 2004):

- David Brooks • Sandra Day O'Connor
- Dr. Michael Berenbaum
- Lee Cullum • Alvah Simon
- Dr. Neil de Grasse Tyson
- Anna Deavere Smith • Richard Rodriguez
- Ken Burns • Shelby Foote
- Dr. Kevin Ryan • Bill Moyers
- James Burke • Mark Russell
- Prudence Mackintosh
- Lynn Ashby • David McCullough

Richard Leakey, named one of *TIME*'s 100 Greatest Minds of the Century, winner of the Humane Society's Joseph Wood Krutch Medal and the subject of a profile on *60 Minutes*, is a man of principle and purpose who has made international headlines for more than 30 years.

Leakey has served his native Kenya as a senior government official, opposition political activist, conservationist, administrator, museum director, scientific researcher, author and farmer.

The son of the famous Drs. Louis B. and Mary Leakey, he is also the world's best-known paleoanthropologist, credited with some of the most significant fossil discoveries of the 20th century.

Leakey, who recently joined Stony Brook University as a visiting professor of anthropology, has now turned his focus to conservation and the environment and raising awareness of major ecosystem crises.

He is organizing an annual environmental forum at Stony Brook University that will gather the world's top scientists and government officials to discuss initiatives that include climate change, biodiversity, inequities of wealth, AIDS and sustainable development. Leakey also is working to develop a \$500 million endowment for wildlife preservation for the National Parks of East Africa.

Leakey is the author of over 100 articles and books, including *Origins*, *The Sixth Extinction*, *The Origin of Humankind* and his latest book, the memoir *Wildlife Wars: My Fight to Save Africa's Natural Treasures*. He also has presented several TV programs, including the five-part *Making of Mankind* and NBC's *Earthwatch*.

# 2005 Events

The greatest hits of the '50s and '60s are all on the menu at *Smokey Joe's Cafe*, a rockin' party of a show — featuring songs such as *Jail House Rock*, *Stand By Me*, *Yakety Yak*, *Hound Dog* and more. These songs are the creations of legendary songwriters Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller — the Rodgers and Hammerstein of rock 'n' roll. *Smokey Joe's Cafe* harnesses the power of this music in a raucous night of musical theater that broke records on Broadway and had audiences and critics singing and dancing.

In an idealized '50s setting, the classic themes of love won, lost and imagined blend with hilarious set pieces and slice-of-life emotions. *Smokey Joe's Cafe* songs were made popular by artists such as Elvis, The Coasters, The Drifters, Ben E. King and Peggy Lee. Featuring nearly 40 of these songs, *Smokey Joe's Cafe* is compelling musical theatre.

"Smokey Joe's Cafe is about the music that defines America. With energy and humor, the show gives audiences as much fun as they'll ever experience in a theater," said Michael McFadden, co-founder and artistic producer of Phoenix Productions. "It is the most high-spirited show ever created and we look forward to bringing it back to stages across the U.S."

## 2005 Events in the Phyllis & Bob Cowan Performing Arts Series

### Smokey Joe's Cafe

**A musical review of the music of Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller**  
**Tuesday, May 17, 2005**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Al G. Langford Chaparral Center**

Past performers for the Phyllis and Bob Cowan Performing Arts Series  
 (September 2000 to September 2004)

- Laurence Luckinbill in *Teddy Tonight*
- Preservation Hall Jazz Band
- Moscow Boys Choir
- Eroica Trio • Ballet Folklorico de Mexico de Amalia Hernandez
- The Flying Karamazov Brothers
- Bob Newhart • Andre Watts
- Marvin Hamlisch

### The Academy of St. Martin in the Fields Chamber Ensemble

**October 21, 2005**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Al G. Langford Chaparral Center**

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*Please see page 5*

**MC Board of Trustees honors George & Gladys Abell for 30 years of giving to MC**



MC Board of Trustees honored George and Gladys Abell and the Abell-Hanger Foundation at the Sept. 21 board meeting with a resolution for 30 years of giving to Midland College. MC President Dr. David Daniel (left) presents the resolution to Abell-Hanger Foundation President Clarence Scharbauer III and Foundation Executive Director David Smith as MC Board President Neil Florer looks on.

**Accountants Society contributes to MC scholarship fund**



THE PETROLEUM ACCOUNTANTS SOCIETY OF THE PERMIAN BASIN made a \$2,000 donation to the Midland College Scholarship Fund at their Nov. 16 luncheon. Accepting the gift was Dr. Eileen Pivetz (second from left), Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Executive Director of the Midland College Foundation. Presenting the gift was Margie Barlow, Society President; Linda Felts of the University of Texas of the Permian Basin; and Society Board Member Teresa Nunley.



**Scientist speaks on global warming**

More than 300 community members and Midland College students attended a presentation by **University of Georgia Geologist Dr. David Dallmeyer** (middle) Nov. 17. He spoke on the topic "**Global Warming: Fact or Fiction?**" MC Board of Trustees member **Will Green** (left) and his wife, **Marianne** (right), sponsored a dessert reception in McCormick Gallery following the speech for members of MC's "**Friends of the Series,**" other distinguished donors, and attendees.

**CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

**Fox Science Building progresses**

The two-story **Fox Science Building** is rising on the northeast part of campus. The building is named in honor of donor Molly Parsley's parents, **Leona A. and John G. Fox**. Groundbreaking ceremonies were held in May 2004, and the building is expected to be completed by June 2005.



**Building Science gets home near Cogdell Learning Center**



Construction on a new home for the **Building Science Technology Program** (architect's rendering of the finished building pictured left) is underway and expected to be completed Spring 2005. The construction is funded through a Hispanic Serving Institutions Assisting Communities grant.



## Midland College Foundation Donors August 19 to November 18, 2004

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Please see page 6

## In Memory of . . .

### Harriet Herd

Long-time civic leader and Midland College supporter **Harriet Herd** died Oct. 6 in Midland. Mrs. Herd, with her husband, Harvey, was a generous supporter of Midland College. The Herd's giving to Midland College began with a gift to fund construction in 1974, and they have given to every MC fund-raising campaign. Their most recent gift to MC was in August. The **Harriet and Harvey Herd Faculty Lounge** at Midland College was named in the couple's honor during the Chaparral Circle Endowment Fund campaign. Harvey Herd, who survives his wife, was a charter member of the Midland College Foundation Board — serving from 1974-1981. He also served as Foundation Board President.



### John Simmons Levitt

**John Simmons Levitt**, who, with his sister, Carol Levitt Schwartz of Washington, D.C., sponsors Midland College's **Hilda Simmons Levitt Poetry Contest**, passed away Aug. 18. The contest honors Johnny and Carol's late mother, Hilda Simmons Levitt. Carol will continue the contest, which was begun by their father, Stanley Levitt. Johnny will be sorely missed by his family and many friends.



### Isabel Rea

Former Midlander **Isabel Rea**, who endowed the Rea Music Scholarship at Midland College in 2002 with her husband, Bryce, died in Vienna, Virginia Aug. 27. The scholarship covers tuition, fees, books and campus room and board for a maximum of \$2,500 per semester for music majors. The scholarship award is based on a recommendation of the student's former teachers, and the student must audition for the MC music faculty.

## Family establishes scholarship to honor legacy of longtime law enforcement officer

The family of **Clayton McKinney**, retired Chief Deputy for the Midland County Sheriff's Office who died Aug. 21, established the **Clayton McKinney Law Enforcement Scholarship Fund** to help students who seek a career in law enforcement.



McKinney was a pilot and game warden for the Texas Parks and Wildlife in Van Horn. He worked as Chief Deputy for the Midland County Sheriff's Office until he retired in 2002. He was a member of the Sheriff's Association of Texas, the Former Texas Ranger Association, an inductee in the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and a member of the Fort Hancock Masonic Lodge.

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Please see page 6



Midland College Foundation Donors August 19 to November 18, 2004

Continued from page 5

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For information on gift opportunities, contact

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or by e-mail at  
[epiwetz@midland.edu](mailto:epiwetz@midland.edu).

**YOUR GIFT — YOUR ENDURING LEGACY!**

Estate planning makes a great difference in the amount of money you pass on to loved ones and other beneficiaries, such as Midland College. Each year, **friends of the college** create legacies for themselves and their families through bequests to the Midland College Foundation.

With careful planning, charitable deductions can create tax savings

for the family estate. Tax-deductible donations can be made in the form of cash, stocks, real estate, excess retirement funds, life insurance, and other assets. As others have done, the **Midland College Foundation** may be named as a beneficiary in your will. To discuss your preferences, feel free to call **Dr. Eileen Piwetz, Executive Director of the Midland College Foundation, at (432) 685-4526.**