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Isolated showers

Ozone Alert

H 100
L 82

Metro, back page

METRO

Price grand jury to hear witnesses

Witnesses have been summoned to downtown Dallas on Tuesday and Wednesday to testify before a federal grand jury investigating the dealings of Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price. **1B**

SPORTSDAY

Nolan Ryan is hospitalized

Rangers president and CEO Nolan Ryan was hospitalized in Houston after experiencing what is believed to be a recurrence of a heart condition for which he has previously been treated. **3C**

Also: The rest of the West has sunk, so the Rangers and Angels are racing for the division title. **1C**

Progress made in NFL talks

Lawyers say they are making progress on a deal to resolve the NFL lockout. More talks are scheduled today. **1C**

WORLD

Another U.K. police official resigns

Britain's phone hacking scandal brought down another high-profile figure as John Yates, assistant commissioner of the Metropolitan Police in London, resigned. **10A**

Also: News Corp. execs spent years trying to cover up News of the World's hacking. **10A**

Petraeus hands over command

Gen. David Petraeus handed over command of the Afghan war to Marine Gen. John Allen, who will oversee the start of the U.S. withdrawal. **10A**

BUSINESS

With no offers, Borders to close

Borders, which employs about 10,700 people, said Monday it would liquidate after failing to receive any offers to save the bookstore chain. **1D**

ARTS & LIFE

Rock climbing offers workout for all types

Thanks to its mix of climbing, strength workouts and running, rock climbing offers workouts for nearly all body types. **1E**

Deals in DFW
Brought to you by The Dallas Morning News

65% off laser body sculpting!

See the ad on page 2A or go to dealsindfw.com

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WESTLAKE

Star attraction



Tom Fox/Staff Photographer

Top left: An SUV enters the GlenWyck Farms gated community. **Top right: The Solana business park** is home to a number of prominent businesses. **Center: Gavin Verloop, 9, (left) and brother Sven, 7, of Keller** explore the Solana campus. **Bottom left: Joe's Pizza, also at Solana, draws a brisk lunch crowd.** **Bottom right: Marshall Branch Creek** flows through the Circle T Ranch in Westlake.

Tiny, tranquil town draws the rich and famous

By **ERIC AASEN**
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WESTLAKE — Forget Highland Park or University Park. Forget Southlake. When it comes to having money or fame in North Texas, Westlake is the new place to be.

Drive around the sun-drenched, rolling hills of this ritzy enclave and you almost feel as if you've been trans-

ported to Italy or the south of France. BMWs and Mercedes glide down small, winding roads and disappear into gated neighborhoods. Homes topped with clay-tile roofs glisten under skies dotted with puffy clouds. On patches of ranchland, cattle rest under trees.

Over the past several years, this tiny community situated mainly in northeast Tarrant County has become

a magnet for the rich and famous. The list of boldfaced names has included the Jonas brothers, the family rock band; professional athletes including Rangers outfielder Josh Hamilton; and business leaders, such as the CEO of Burlington Northern Santa Fe, Matthew Rose.

Now Glenn Beck, the former Fox News Channel star, is joining the town's

See **TRANQUIL** Page 12A



Staff graphic



Louis DeLuca/Staff Photographer

Glenn Beck, the former Fox News Channel star, will reportedly be occupying this home (above right). It was originally listed at \$5.4 million and offered for lease at \$20,000 a month, according to a Dallas real estate blogger.

"It's a lifestyle. It's the best of all worlds. What's nice about living here is the freedom. ... We have a country atmosphere out here. It's quiet and peaceful."

Brandt Jobe, pro golfer and Westlake resident

ELECTIONS '12

Can Perry rise to challenge of presidential fundraising?

GOP donors gather in Austin to assess governor's chances

By **WAYNE SLATER**
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AUSTIN — When about two dozen national Republican donors gather here Tuesday to discuss Rick Perry's political future, they'll have one thing on the agenda: Can he raise enough money to run for president?

It could cost \$100 million to win the GOP nomination. And while Perry has a deep financial base in Texas, he would need a network of well-heeled contributors across the country capable of tapping big money in a short time — not just their own, but their friends' and colleagues', too.

"He's positioned very well for that because he's going to be seen as the most credible conservative in the race — the most credible person to speak to the evangelicals and the



MATTHEW DOWD

George W. Bush's re-election campaign.

Perry has raised millions in his decades as a state candidate, but he's never had to do

See **DONORS** Page 2A

NORTH DALLAS

LBJ neighbors aim to revitalize corridor

Aging Valley View mall due for demolition as part of long-term plan

By **MARIA HALKIAS**
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It's no secret that North Dallas' LBJ Freeway corridor has fallen on hard times.

The freeway, also known as Interstate 635, is undergoing five years of road construction to double-deck a stretch and add six toll lanes. That will create a window in which the area

can either deteriorate further or be transformed to compete with northern suburbs for corporate relocations and other development.

About 20 North Dallas landowners, developers, retailers, city officials, architects and real estate brokers have been meeting in recent months to come up with a master plan.

That plan includes demolishing 38-year-old Valley View Center, which has been for sale for some time.

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DEBT SHOWDOWN

GOP on dual track

House leaders shrug off Obama's veto threat but continue negotiating

FROM WIRE REPORTS

WASHINGTON — Courting confrontation and compromise alike, House Republicans shrugged off President Barack Obama's threat to veto legislation to cut federal spending by trillions of dollars on Monday while simultaneously negotiating with him over more modest steps to avert a potential government default.

The Republican bill demands deep spending reductions and congressional approval of a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution in exchange for raising the nation's debt limit. But Obama will veto it if it reaches his desk, the White House said, asserting the legislation would "lead to severe cuts in Medi-

See **CLASHES** Page 13A

VIEWPOINTS: GOP has turned a winning hand into a losing one. **Ross Douhat, 15A**

TEXAS EDUCATION

Almost 60% booted from class

Analysis doesn't back up zero-tolerance policies in middle and high schools

By **CHRISTY HOPPE**
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AUSTIN — The days of being sent to the principal or getting a note home have given way to a disciplinary system in which almost 60 percent of middle and high school students are suspended or expelled at some point, a comprehensive review of Texas students shows.

The new study by the Council of State Governments alarms state leaders, who question whether so many teens should be swept into the disciplinary system, whether for hours or days.

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VIEWPOINTS: Senators want leaders to act. **15A**



G.J. McCarthy/Staff Photographer

Homes in Westlake cluster around the Vaquero golf course, one of the amenities that draw affluent homeowners to the town of fewer than 1,000 residents.

Tranquil town draws well-to-do

Continued from Page 1A

exclusive ranks — in a home originally listed at \$5.4 million and offered for lease at \$20,000 a month, according to Candy Evans, a Dallas real estate blogger.

In January, *Forbes* named the town of 1,000 the most affluent neighborhood in the country, with a median household income of \$250,000. The average home value is \$1.2 million.

What is it about this town that's attracting those with money, power and fame?

"It's a lifestyle," said Brandt Jobe, a pro golfer who lives in Westlake's Vaquero, known for its celebrated golf course. "It's the best of all worlds. What's nice about living here is the freedom. ... We have a country atmosphere out here. It's quiet and peaceful."

Many cite the community's proximity to Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport. And pro athletes and other celebrities move to Westlake partly because of the gated homes and other security measures, which are necessary for famous people who travel frequently, Jobe said.

"In this day and age, unfortunately, for your kids' security, that's what's nice," he said. "It gives you peace of mind."

Former Rangers executive Chuck Greenberg, who still lives in Westlake, said the recent publicity for the area comes with the territory.

"Success and popularity breeds more success and popularity," Greenberg said, "and the more who move to this area, the more likely others are to be attracted as well."

Westlake has the "USDA stamp of approval for celebrities," said Randy White, who sells homes in Westlake and is owner of a Southlake-based real estate firm.

"If a celebrity sees a celebrity live there, it's going to raise their eyebrows," he said. "They're going to think: 'If it meets their scrutiny, it's something I need to look into.'"

Residents give celebrities their space, said Trish Biddle, an artist who lives in Westlake.

"Local people in our town welcome them with open arms and allow them privacy, even when we see them around town," Biddle said.

Publicity surrounding a high-profile move into Westlake tends to die down after a few weeks, said Laura Wheat, the town's mayor.

"And then those individuals, lucky for them, are able to just lead normal lives within our community," she said.

Westlake is also home to more ordinary residents, including retirees, doctors, lawyers and business leaders, many with young families.

Homebuyers are attracted by the town's location, between Dallas and Fort Worth, White said. The schools are excellent. There's virtually no crime, he said.

"You feel like you're remote but you're in the middle of everything," White said. "That's very hard to achieve."

The green, rolling hills and old oak trees remind Biddle of Tuscany.

"As an artist, I like the serenity and the people here, as well as the celebrity," said Biddle, whose paintings have been used by actress Eva Longoria for her fundraisers. Biddle has also been invited to create art for the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show and the Kentucky Derby.

"Some of my inspiration definitely comes from the lifestyle of the women here," Biddle said. "They travel a lot ... but they also are raising their families."

The Biddles moved to Westlake primarily for Westlake Academy, a charter school run by the town. The school sits on top of a hill, offering a sweeping view of Westlake.

Residents are active in school and city affairs, said Biddle's husband, Bryan, an infrastructure architect. Town Council meetings are packed with residents.

"Everybody's engaged," he said. "There's a potential for a bigger im-

pact with a small town."

Westlake has come a long way since the 1840s, when it was settled by a small group of families.

Recently, the town has attracted more residents — and corporate offices, including Fidelity Investments, Chrysler Financial Services and Deloitte.

But the recession has hit even Westlake. Sales tax revenue has been stagnant, forcing the Town Council last year to adopt Westlake's first-ever city property tax. At 16 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation, it's one of the lowest around.

Some asking prices for homes have been reduced.

But one brand-new beauty, on the 16th fairway at Vaquero, seems recession-proof. It's for sale for \$9 million. It has 15,000 square feet, with five bedrooms, eight bathrooms, a five-car garage and a second kitchen for catering.

A listing for a \$3.4 million home promises that you'll "feel the essence of Italy" with its Murano glass chandeliers and Mediterranean mosaics.

Many of the listings promote Westlake's seclusion, which Wheat, the mayor, found appealing when she moved there in 2005 from Highland Park. She says she loved her time in the Park Cities but was looking to raise her children in a different place.

In Westlake, she has more "room to breathe" and sees longhorns, bison, hawks and coyotes.

"I honestly did not realize I did not see the sunset and did not see the sunrise until we moved out here," Wheat said. "I'm floored by that. I just pinch myself that we found this."



Louis DeLuca/Staff Photographer

The town has become a magnet for the rich and famous, including Burlington Northern Santa Fe CEO Matthew Rose.



Louis DeLuca/Staff Photographer

Texas Rangers outfielder Josh Hamilton is another well-known resident. The town has the "USDA stamp of approval for celebrities," said Randy White, who sells homes in there.



Louis DeLuca/Staff Photographer

The Jonas Brothers moved to Westlake when they were soaring as teenage pop idols a few years ago. Their mother, Denise, owns this home, according to county records.



Louis DeLuca/Staff Photographer

Former Rangers executive Chuck Greenberg, who lives in this Westlake home, says the publicity for the area comes with the territory.