



Tech great John Roberson comes back to Lubbock after 12 years

SPORTS, 1B

LUBBOCK AVALANCHE-JOURNAL

MONDAY, JULY 17, 2023 | LUBBOCKONLINE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Here's the Diehl



Kate Diehl prepares to serve the Salmon Rangoons on Thursday at Midnight Shift. PHOTOS BY ANNIE RICE/AVALANCHE-JOURNAL

Kate Diehl becomes Midnight Shift's executive chef

Alana Edgin Lubbock Avalanche-Journal | USA TODAY NETWORK

Fans of the former Craffhouse Gastropub may find familiar flavors at Lubbock's Midnight Shift, thanks to the Cotton Court restaurant's new executive chef. • Kate Diehl, former co-owner of the Craffhouse Gastropub and the Home Café, is back in the culinary scene after taking the executive chef position at Midnight Shift, 1610 Broadway St.

She plans to freshen up the restaurant with a rotating seasonal menu. The rotation could begin on the 17th of every third month, switching out one or two items. By the 22nd of the third month, guests will have a several new options to enjoy.

"I don't like to do the same thing, and that's why we'll have the rotating menu," Diehl said. "I like to come up with new things all the time."

Another new item she'll add will be pizzas. There will be a five-cheese blend pizza and a hot honey sausage pizza at first, each using in-house Pomodoro sauce.

"I love cheese pizza," Diehl said. "We have a pizza oven at home, and once a week, I'll say we're making pizza. My main thing is that I want a rustic crust, and here, our pizza will be a Neapolitan style."

See CHEF, Page 2A



Kate Diehl is back in the Lubbock culinary scene as the new executive chef at Midnight Shift.

"I graduated culinary school two years after high school, became a sous chef, and ever since then, this is what I like to do. I do a lot of fusion cooking, mixing and matching things I know will go well together."

Executive Chef Kate Diehl, Midnight Shift

Cornyn, Cruz file resolution on Tech centennial

Mateo Rosiles

Lubbock Avalanche-Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

United States Senators John Cornyn and Ted Cruz have introduced a U.S. Senate Resolution to help commemorate the centennial anniversary of Texas Tech University.

The resolution highlights several milestones the university has recently reached:

- Receiving the Very High Research Activity designation from the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education

- Being recognized as both a Veteran-Friendly Institution and an honoree on the "Best for Vets: Employers" list by the Military Times

- Earning a Hispanic-Serving Institution designation from the U.S. Department of Education

On top of these accomplishments, the university also has received 23 Fulbright Scholar Awards, 8 National Science Foundation Career Awards and 7 National Endowment for the Humanities grants in the past three years.

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West Texas congressmen celebrate NDAA passing House

Alex Driggers

Lubbock Avalanche-Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

The National Defense Authorization Act, a sweeping, must-pass bill that authorizes spending and sets policy priorities for the Department of Defense, passed out of the U.S. House of Representatives 219-210 Friday. The typically bipartisan bill received little Democrat support after Republican Party leadership conceded to the hardline-GOP House Freedom Caucus on a number of contentious amendments.

Members of the House Freedom Caucus, some of the most conservative lawmakers in the chamber, pressured Speaker Kevin McCarthy to hold

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Woman killed in north Lubbock crash early Sunday

Alex Driggers
Lubbock Avalanche-Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

A 58-year-old woman is dead after an overnight crash along Interstate 27, police announced Sunday.

Rosalinda Ramos died from injuries sustained when her SUV struck a utility pole early Sunday morning at North I-27 and Lubbock Business Park Boulevard. The Lubbock Police Department said officers responded to the 3000 block of North I-27 at 2:22 a.m. Sunday where

they found the crashed SUV. Police said an initial investigation indicates Ramos was driving north on the I-27 access road when the vehicle struck the east curb in the intersection and left the roadway. It continued north in the ditch before

hitting the pole. Ramos was taken by ambulance to University Medical Center where she was later pronounced dead, police said. The accident is under investigation by the LPD Major Crash Investigation Unit.

Chef

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Chef Kate Diehl's culinary journey began with SpaghettiOs and peas

Diehl's mother did not like to cook, and when she did, it was a quick mix of things.

"When she would cook for us, it would be like a can of SpaghettiOs and a can of peas mixed together," Diehl said. "So I would just start making things, then experimenting."

After one semester at Texas Tech, Diehl's family encouraged her to do something she'd been doing for more than a decade: cook. Her brother recom-

mended culinary school, "and that was it."

"At the time, I had already started working in kitchens, but it was like Burger King," Diehl said.

"I graduated culinary school two years after high school, became a sous chef, and ever since then, this is what I like to do. I do a lot of fusion cooking, mixing and matching things I know will go well together."

Her culinary journey took her to the San Antonio Valencia Hotel, where she met her husband. Eventually, they returned to Lubbock and opened their first restaurant, the Home Café at 3131 34th St.

In 2012, the couple changed the café to the Crafthouse Gastropub. The restaurant with delicious fine dining flair

saw success before closing in 2022.

"Together, we were able to just create what we wanted, change the menus, and make it something that we wanted to do, not someone else's vision," Diehl said. "When I got hired here by the team, they said, 'We want you to do what you were doing. We want you to have your freedom and change the menu.' So I said yes."

Diehl and her staff at Midnight Shift are in the process of working out new menu items and training, so she asks for customers to be patient.

People can check out the Midnight Shift for breakfast from 7-10 a.m., lunch from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., and dinner from 5-9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday. On Friday and Saturday, dinner continues until 10 p.m.



Kate Diehl wears a meat clever necklace at Midnight Shift, as seen on Thursday. ANNIE RICE/AVALANCHE-JOURNAL

Centennial

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The resolution goes on to recognize the university for producing quality alumni who have gone on to serve as governors of Texas and Colorado, in Congress and the state legislature, and as titans and trailblazers in various industries.

With the many accomplishments

achieved in its first century, the Senate extends its best wishes for those who have been associated with the institution, the resolution states.

"Since the founding of the University 100 years ago, Texas Tech University has provided generations of Texans with a strong foundation for achievement, and in so doing, the University has contributed significantly to the prosperity and vitality of the Lone Star State and the Nation," the resolution reads.

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U.S. Senate Resolution to help commemorate the centennial anniversary of Texas Tech University

NDAA

Continued from Page 1A

last-minute floor votes on a number of amendments ranging from targeting the Pentagon's abortion policy to reeling back climate change initiatives, risking alienating Democrats and more moderate Republicans and endangering the bill's final passage.

Nonetheless, Republicans were able to push the bill through, and West Texas lawmakers both in and out of the Freedom Caucus presented a united front in praising the bill's passage.

"The defense bill provides our troops with the resources they need to be safe and successful; saves billions of taxpayer dollars by cutting woke and wasteful spending; and refocuses America's military from extreme ideology to enhanced lethality and readiness with an emphasis on deterring and defeating China," U.S. Rep. Jodey Arrington, R-Lubbock, said in a statement Friday.

Among what conservative house members say are the most important provisions in the bill is a clawback of the Biden DOD's abortion policy allowing reimbursement for servicemembers who travel to another state for an abortion. Other amendments limit DOD funding for transgender health care and target the Defense Department's diversity, equity and inclusion efforts.

U.S. Rep. Ronny Jackson, R-Amarillo, is a member of the Freedom Caucus and authored the abortion amendment. The amendment was popular among GOP members, with more than 70 co-sponsors and broad praise from conservatives.

"I couldn't be prouder that the Jackson-Roy amendment to stop the Department of Defense's illegal abortion policy was included in this year's NDAA," Jackson, whose district also includes Wichita Falls, said in a statement Friday. "The days of the radical left ignoring the law and pushing their destructive social agenda in the military are done. I absolutely will not waiver in my defense of the rule of law, thereby

ensuring that taxpayer money intended for our military is not used to kill innocent babies."

The anti-abortion provisions are likely to be a major point of contention for the Democrat-controlled Senate as they work to negotiate with the Republican-majority House and pass their own version of the bill.

Less controversial is a provision to give servicemembers and federal workers a 5.2% pay raise, a proposal backed by President Joe Biden and supported by Republicans.

"It's time for our military to refocus on lethality, and this bill sets our country on the right course. I am proud to de-



Rep. Scott Perry, R-Pa., right, chair of the House Freedom Caucus, shakes hands with Rep. Ronny Jackson, R-Texas, after a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington Friday. PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP



Arrington



Pfluger

liver the largest troop pay raise in decades," U.S. Rep. August Pfluger, R-San Angelo, said in a statement. Pfluger's district also includes Midland-Odessa and Killeen, adjacent to Fort Cavazos.

Arrington, Jackson and Pfluger all touted their contributions to the bill supporting their local military installations. Arrington, who represents Abilene and Dyess Air Force Base, celebrated a provision prohibiting the retirement of B-1 bombers until B-21s are mission-capable.

"I am proud we were able to fully fund

Dyess Air Force Base, B-1 weapon modernization, and several of my initiatives including a critical safeguard against B-1 retirements until the B-21 bombers are fully operational," Arrington said.

Jackson's office said "countless provisions were included in the bill that will ensure substantial benefits for Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls, the Pantex Plant in Amarillo and the thriving defense-focused workforce within Texas' Thirteenth Congressional District," while Pfluger said he was proud of a \$40 million investment in Fort Cavazos.

USA TODAY's Ken Tran contributed to this report.

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Postal information

The Lubbock Avalanche-Journal, USPS# 321-560, is published 6 days per week excluding Saturday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving (observed), Christmas Day (observed) and New Year's Day (observed) by Gannett Media Corp, 710 Ave. J, Lubbock, TX 79401. Periodicals postage paid at Lubbock, TX and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Please send address changes to Lubbock Avalanche-Journal, P.O. Box 491, Lubbock, TX 79408.