

**THIS WEEK**  
[www.midland.edu](http://www.midland.edu)  
 (432) 685-4500



Midland College offers 100+ degree and certificate programs, as well as a variety of Continuing Education programs. We also offer a Bachelor's degree in Organizational Management and provide on-campus access to 15 upper-level degrees offered by our seven University Center partners.

Registration and all other Student Services offices have moved to the Allison Fine Arts Building!

## ESL student enjoys success with new restaurant

### *MD Pizza Factory featured in recent issue of Texas Monthly!*

BY NANCY THORNE  
 Public Information Department

**M**att Tseng and his wife, Diana Wang, learned to make pizza from a friend when they arrived in the United States from Taipei, Taiwan in late 2006. They opened MD Pizza Factory (the M is for Matt, the D for Diana) in September of last year at 1805 Rankin Highway. Their restaurant is gaining quite a following and was included in "The 40 Best Small-Town Cafes" feature in the December 2008 issue of *Texas Monthly*: "Dough made from scratch every day results in a difference you can taste. There's plenty of variety, like a chicken teriyaki pizza with pineapple and MD's signature Great Wall sauce (far better than the usual Hawaiian-style version) and a barbecue pizza topped with smoked brisket, onions, and barbecue sauce, which is surprisingly good."

Not bad for an entrepreneur who spoke no English just two years ago.

The distinctive "Great Wall" sauce is from another Midland restaurant which serves delicious Chinese take-out, Great Wall, owned and operated by Diana's sister, Emily Wang. It was Emily who persuaded Matt and Diana to relocate to Midland and they are thrilled they made the move. "This is a beautiful place and people are so nice to each other ... people say 'hi' on the street and I don't even know them!" said Matt. He is enjoying the slower, kinder pace of Midland compared to the crowds and bustle of Taipei.

Matt began taking evening English as a Second Language (ESL) classes in January 2007, with Lynda Webb, Director of MC's Adult Basic Education program. Since then he has become an integral part of the program as student, mentor and semi-instructor to the ever-growing contingency of Chinese students taking MC's ESL classes. "Matt is a stellar student. He writes really well and just puts in hours and hours outside of class to learn the language," said Ms. Webb. "He has been a huge help with our large groups, serving as translator," she continued. Most of the Chinese students speak Mandarin Chinese, a language that has no common reference points with English whatsoever—as there are with other Latin-based languages—so a translator is critical.

"In our country, it's a beautiful dream to come to America ... to have a better life," said Diana. With their hard work, a successful restaurant, free language instruction in MC's ESL program, and lots of support from caring teachers like Lynda Webb, Matt and Diana are already living a better life.



Photos by Nancy Thorne



At top: Matt Tseng (standing at back) joins ABE Director Lynda Webb, seated at center, and other ESL students; At center: Matt and Lynda enjoy a moment at MD Pizza Factory; Matt and his wife Diana Wang prepare one of their distinctive pizzas

*At Midland College, it's never too late ...*

*to fulfill your dreams,  
 to better your chances,  
 to finish what you started,  
 to pursue higher education and  
 become who you always knew you could be.*

## MC offers Free ESL and GED classes!

Registration for MC's FREE English as a Second Language and Citizenship classes is scheduled for January 12, 13, 14 at 6:00 p.m. at MC's Cogdell Learning Center, 201 W. Florida.

**ESL classes will be held from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday**  
**Citizenship classes will be held from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m., Monday and Wednesday**  
**GED registration will take place every two weeks, starting in 2009!**

**Call (432) 685-6819 for scheduling.**

Again, all classes are free, but students must register first! For more information call (432) 684-5323. Or, visit our website at [www.midland.edu/abe](http://www.midland.edu/abe)



MC President Dr. Steve Thomas, Wells Fargo Vice President and Trust Officer Dona Bradley and MC Vice President of Institutional Advancement Dr. Eileen Piwetz

## Helen Greathouse Trust to fund equipment for new Helen L. Greathouse Children's Center

**A**t a dinner on December 10, MC received gifts from the Helen Greathouse Charitable Trust totaling \$132,000 to fund furniture and instructional equipment for the new Helen L. Greathouse Children's Center, which is scheduled to open early in 2009. The new Children's Center will allow Midland College to triple the number of children it currently cares for. Monies were also designated to continue funding of the Midland's Legacy Scholarships—available to all Midland County high school graduates—and the Students in Philanthropy Scholarships. These awards were presented by Dona Bradley, Vice President and Trust Officer of Wells Fargo Bank.

The Helen Greathouse Charitable Trust is administered by Wells Fargo Bank, along with numerous other trusts which benefit the college.

## Pinning honors Vocational and Associate Degree Nursing grads

Photo by Katherine Curry

**A** pinning ceremony was held on December 11 to celebrate the accomplishments of the 84 students who completed MC's Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) and Vocational Nursing programs. The ADN program is a two-year nursing program leading to the degree of Associate in Applied Science. This program—one of MC's most valuable programs for the community—celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2007. Since its inception, over 900 students have graduated from the program ready to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) for licensure as a registered nurse. The 12-month Vocational Nursing curriculum leads to a certificate.



MC's Associate Degree and Vocational Nursing graduates

## BRIEFLY

### Midland College re-opens tomorrow

Midland College was closed for the past two weeks in observance of the Christmas holiday. MC will re-open tomorrow at 8:00 a.m., Monday, December 29, and will be closed again on Thursday, January 1, in observance of New Year's Day. The college will re-open on Friday, January 2 at 8:00 a.m.

### Real Estate program begins January 26

The Workforce Continuing Education (WFCE) Department's Real Estate

program is approved by the Texas Real Estate Commission to meet the educational requirements necessary to sit for the real estate salesperson exam. The program includes the following courses: Real Estate Principles I & II, Law of Agency, Law of Contracts, Real Estate Marketing and Real Estate Math. The courses meet Monday - Thursday evenings from 6:00 - 9:45 p.m. The first course, Principles I, begins January 26. For more information, including course costs, please visit our website at [www.midland.edu/workforce](http://www.midland.edu/workforce) or call (432) 681-6330.

Midland College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award certificates and associate and baccalaureate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Midland College.

Midland College is an equal opportunity employer/educator.

This page is produced by Midland College.



Leave an enduring legacy to the Midland College Foundation

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