

## Spurs games affect diners' choices

Big fans of the Silver and Black want to be near TVs

By Taylor Tompkins  
STAFF WRITER

Wait staff milled around, hovering near the television, keeping an eye on the handful of tables with people seated at La Tuna Bar and Grill.

At the same time about a

mile away, Taco Haven saw fans — donning Spurs gear and waving black and silver banners — cheering around the televisions spaced throughout the establishment.

La Tuna is just one restaurant that slows down during Spurs playoff games.

Many locations, unless they're sports bars, sell chicken wings or advertise that they'll have the Spurs on TV and beer specials, see a dip in clientele while the NBA championship is underway, according to Jimmy Hasslocher, president of the San Antonio Res-

taurant Association.

"Usually when the games are played here, it's slow for everybody in town," Hasslocher said.

La Tuna reduces the number of servers scheduled to work on championship game nights because they're not as busy as they normally would be, said Anna Dortman, one of the owners.

With one TV in the bar, La Tuna does turn on the game and has a few fans who come to watch.

"We love our Spurs and we would love for people to come watch them with us," Dortman said.

Jim's Restaurants, which has been remodeling some of its locations, is installing tele-

*Dining continues on B3*

## Filings to foreclose lowest in 12 years

By Valentino Lucio  
STAFF WRITER

The number of Bexar County properties headed to the foreclosure auction next month has hit its lowest mark in about a dozen years.

For July, 469 properties are listed for foreclosure, a 29.4 percent drop from the same month last year, according to data from RexReport.com, which tracks the foreclosure market.

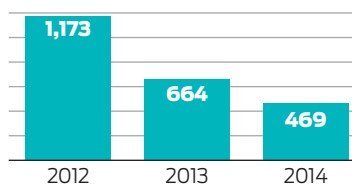
The number of distressed properties headed to the auction block is the lowest since September 2002.

*Foreclosure postings continues on B2*

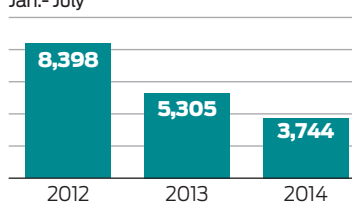
### Foreclosure postings

Bexar County foreclosure filings have fallen for 20 consecutive months, on a year-over-year basis.

#### July postings



#### Total postings



Source: RexReport.com

San Antonio Express-News



Jacquelyn Martin / Associated Press

Tracey Anderson restocks X-Box sets on the opening day of a new Walmart in Washington, D.C., in December.

## Walmart faces daunting new challenges

American shopping habits change

By Anne D'Innocenzio  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The world's largest retailer faces new challenges at a time when low prices and one-stop shopping can be a few clicks away on a tablet computer or mobile phone.

Walmart Stores Inc. built its reputation on everyday low

prices and convenient supercenters that allow customers to do all their shopping in one place.

But revenue at established Walmart stores in the United States, which accounts for 60 percent of the company's total sales, has declined for five consecutive quarters.

Meanwhile, the number of

customers has fallen six quarters in a row.

Like many other retail chains that cater to working-class Americans, Walmart is a victim of an uneven economic recovery that has benefited well-heeled shoppers more than those in the lower-income brackets.

Moreover, shoppers no longer are willing to spend hours in supercenters. They're turning to online competitors

such as Amazon.com, dollar stores and pharmacies.

Walmart's biggest issues:

### Cash-strapped shoppers

In an interview, Bill Simon, CEO and president of Walmart's U.S. stores division, says the top concerns among its shoppers are lack of jobs and increasing gas prices.

Walmart's customers also still are struggling with a 2

*Walmart continues on B3*

## Group going to Cuba with an eye on future

As trade missions go, the one planned by the San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for June 22-26 will be short and tiny.

Only six people will travel — four board members and two staffers. No immediate business deals are likely to be struck. But the delegation could come back with some mighty valuable information.

What other potential new market than Cuba could open someday so close to Texas with a population of more than 11 million people?

Under the five-decade-old

U.S. trade embargo, the only products U.S. companies can sell to Cuba now are agricultural and medical. The chamber delegation intends to learn about the opportunities and demand in those sectors, plus the technicalities of how to make sales.

The chamber delegation also hopes to develop contacts so that when the U.S. trade embargo ends and U.S. companies can join the rest of the world in conducting commerce with the island nation, San Antonio firms can respond quickly.

The chamber is limited to



DAVID HENDRICKS  
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sending only a few board members and staffers by the rare license it received for the trade mission from the U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control.

"It's a controlled license. Few people get these," chamber CEO and President Ramiro Ca-

*Hendricks continues on B3*

## Union Pacific stalls fiber-optic project

By Patrick Danner  
STAFF WRITER

Atlanta-based FiberLight Inc. is more than half way towards its goal of installing 8,000 miles of fiber-optic cable throughout Texas.

But the \$300 million project, intended in part to increase cellphone and Internet access to rural areas of the state, ran into a roadblock last week.

Retired Bexar County District Court Judge Martha Tanner issued a temporary injunction barring FiberLight from

installing cable under or over Union Pacific Railroad Co. tracks anywhere in Texas without the railroad's approval.

Union Pacific sought the court order, alleging FiberLight was trespassing on railroad property in "the dark of night" to perform work without permission.

FiberLight's "secret operations" could cause damage to equipment, resulting in a derailment or the failure of safety warning devices, the railroad stated in a court filing.

*Railroad continues on B6*

### THE SHORT VIEW

#### Iraqi insurgents spook oil markets

The loss of Iraqi oil exports could send crude prices soaring and dampen economic growth as consumers and investors recoil, a fear that rippled through global oil markets for two days as Sunni insurgents advanced on Bagdad. Oil prices can climb when foreign conflicts erupt and stymie crude production or exports far away, costing the United States more at the port and at the pump even as oil producers blaze through North American shale rock. And while the rise in prices may be a positive for oil companies extracting crude from the Eagle Ford Shale and the Bakken Shale, it will hold global business back, said analyst Fadel Gheit.

#### Market closings



**Dow Jones**  
16,775.74  
(+41.55)



**Nasdaq**  
4,310.65  
(+13.02)



**S&P 500**  
1,936.16  
(+6.05)



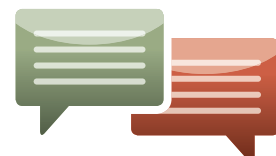
**10-year bond yield**  
2.60 (N/C)

The average price for a gallon of regular gas in San Antonio was \$3.379 Friday, unchanged from Thursday. The average U.S. price was \$3.649, AAA says.

**Breached:** P.F. Chang's confirmed Friday that data from credit and debit cards used at its restaurants was stolen. The company learned about the security breach on Tuesday from the U.S. Secret Service and began investigating the breach with the agency and a team of forensics experts. While it knows that customers were exposed, it doesn't know how many, when it happened, or which restaurants were affected. **Lacking:** LinkedIn Corp. said it has more work to do in creating a diverse workforce, increasing the spotlight on the composition of technology companies. The professional social-networking service today released data showing that 61 percent of its more than 5,400 employees are male, while 91 percent of U.S.

employees are white or Asian. **Travel deal:** Priceline agreed Friday to buy OpenTable for \$2.6 billion in cash, moving the online travel booking site into the business of restaurant reservations. Under the terms of the deal, Priceline will pay \$103 a share through a tender offer for OpenTable's shares. The offer represents a 46 percent premium to Thursday's closing price. **Another:** General Motors Co., in trying to resolve a recall of 2.59 million older cars related to loose ignition switches, found that it also needs to fix the key design on more than 500,000 late model Chevrolet Camaros. The driver's knee can bump the key and cause the ignition to move out of the "run" position leading the car to lose power, GM said in a statement today.

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**BUSINESS**

# Roku's boss streams his views of the future

By Michael Liedtke  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO — If Netflix CEO Reed Hastings is the star of the Internet video-streaming phenomenon, then Roku CEO Anthony Wood is the best supporting actor.

While Hastings gets marquee billing for building an Internet video service with 48 million worldwide subscribers, Wood has quietly worked behind the scenes making Roku streaming devices that make it easier and more enjoyable to watch Netflix's vast library of movies and TV shows.

Roku, based in Saratoga, California, appears to be doing so well that the privately held company is viewed as a prime candidate to go public during the next year.

Since its first streaming box debuted six years, Roku has sold more than 8 million devices used for streaming Internet video to the TV. Roku offers about 1,500 streaming channels, including Netflix rivals such as Hulu and Amazon Prime.

Roku's early success prompted Apple Inc. to start treating its own video-streaming player as something more than a "hobby," as its late CEO Steve Jobs once dismissively described the device.

About 20 million Apple TV streaming devices have been sold, according to current CEO Tim Cook, and the business generates more than \$1 billion in annual revenue.

Wood shared his views on the convergence of Internet video and television in a recent interview. The conversation has been edited for clarity.

**Q:** Where is TV head-



Marcio Jose Sanchez / Associated Press

**Anthony Wood shows his company's colors at Roku's headquarters in Saratoga, Calif. While Netflix CEO Reed Hastings gets marquee billing for building an Internet video service, Wood has worked quietly to make it easier to watch Netflix's vast library.**

ed?

**A:** To me, it's pretty clear that all TV is going to be streamed. It's either going to be streamed to a smart TV, a gaming console or a streaming player. That's the way people are going to watch TV. Things like DVD players are going to go away. Cable boxes are obviously going away, too. DVRs are just a stepping stone technology. When everything is on demand, you won't have to record anything anymore so that's going to disappear.

**Q:** Do you still have a DVR in your house?

**A:** No, I got rid of my DVR when it broke. That was probably five years ago. It was a ReplayTV. We watch all our TV on demand anyway.

**Q:** How big do you think cord cutting will become?

**A:** The coolest thing about streaming is that it gives customers lots of choices. If someone just wants to watch movies on Netflix, they have that option now. There has been an explosion in the types

of content you can get through streaming. If they want to have the best cable experience ever, including HBO Go and ESPN Watch, then they get cable service, too.

Where it will end up? I am not sure. I do believe people are watching more TV than ever and they have options. You don't just have to watch what's on your DVR. The majority of our customers do have a pay-TV (cable or satellite) subscription, but a pretty good chunk

doesn't. More than 60 percent have pay-TV. About 35 percent don't and they mostly just stream video.

**Q:** Are you worried about the competition from Apple, Amazon and Google?

**A:** Every time one of those companies come out with an announcement, our sales have gotten better. Anything that gets people excited about streaming, we're for. Our sales are growing stronger than ever.

**Q:** You once predicted

the DVR would be dead by 2020. Do you still feel that way?

**A:** That sounds right. I don't think many people will be using DVRs six years from now. . . . It's just a much better world when you don't have to worry about recording shows. DVRs are noisy, and they break, too.

Game On will return next Saturday.

## RAILROAD

From page B1

The spat is not about safety but money, FiberLight countered. Union Pacific wants to charge "exorbitant fees" — in some cases \$10,000 per railroad crossing — to install cable over or under tracks that cross public rights-of-way the railroad doesn't own, said Ron Kormos, FiberLight's president of Texas operations. The fees include administrative charges, costs to station flagmen at crossings, and crossing fees.

"When you cross a railroad, would you want the railroad to stop and charge you a tax?" Kormos said. "That's the same thing they're doing to us."

The combined fees could easily exceed more than \$1 million for locations where Union Pacific rail lines intersect with public rights-of-way in Texas, he added.

Union Pacific spokeswoman Elizabeth Hutchison said the fees vary on a case-by-case basis, so she couldn't provide any figures.

"These are busy, live rail lines, so we just want to work in advance to make sure that all of that work is proceeding in a safe manner for everyone involved," she said.

The state's Public Utility Commission granted FiberLight a Services Provider Certificate of Authority, which lets the company install its facilities in public rights-of-way.

"They are allowed equal access on public rights-of-way," PUC spokesman Terry Hadley said of FiberLight. Asked about the fees charged FiberLight to install cable under or over Union Pacific's tracks on public rights-of-way, he said that wasn't the PUC's jurisdiction.

A Texas Department

**"These are busy, live rail lines, so we just want to work in advance to make sure that all of that work is proceeding in a safe manner for everyone involved."**

Elizabeth Hutchison, Union Pacific spokeswoman

of Transportation spokeswoman didn't respond to emailed questions about utility installations on public rights-of-way.

FiberLight, thus far, reports it has installed about 5,500 route miles of cable in the state, connected more than 600 cell towers, and added data centers in various locales that will be connected with the company's high-speed network operating in San Antonio, Houston, Austin and Dallas.

Last month, Union Pacific obtained a temporary restraining order against FiberLight in Brazos County. That came after the railroad said FiberLight contractors tunneled underneath tracks "in the middle of the night" without Union Pacific's consent. Four days later, a court in Robertson County, which is next to Brazos, also issued a TRO against FiberLight.

"I think Union Pacific should be commended for the way that they've jealously protected and defended their rights-of-way in the interest of providing safe railroad transportation," said E. Elliott Mitchell, an Austin eminent-domain lawyer who's not involved in the litigation.

The temporary injunction Union Pacific obtained in Bexar County puts a big crimp in FiberLight's project because the order covers the entire state. It immediately stopped construction plans at 16 Union Pacific crossings where it was intending to do

work, though none is in San Antonio.

One of the crossings is near Pleasanton Road and Loop 1604 in Thelma in Bexar County.

FiberLight is still engineering additional portions of its project, but it estimates there are almost 200 additional Union Pacific crossings in the state that it might have to access, a spokeswoman said. It's already completed work at about 100 Union Pacific crossings.

Some of installations go over crossings via wire-line attachments, while at others FiberLight bores under the tracks.

FiberLight will pay railroads an administrative fee to cover their costs associated with reviewing the company's plans and permits, "but never an amount that exceeds \$500," it wrote in an email.

"We do not pay 'licensing fees' where our network crosses RR facilities that reside in the public right of way," FiberLight added. It will pay licensing fees where the railroad facilities reside on private property, though.

FiberLight argued against the temporary injunction but failed to get it lifted.

The temporary injunction could be costly for FiberLight. It estimates in a worse-case scenario it could face a \$5 million penalty from Verizon, one of its customers, for delays in completing work.

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#1413, IRIDIUM SILVER, 10K MILES		#1337, SCUBA BLUE, 2K MILES
#13 MERCEDES C250 SPORT	\$30,995	#10 PORSCHE CAYENNE GTS
#1414, BLACK, 25K MILES		#1397, METEOR GRAY METAL, 26K MILES
#13 MERCEDES C250 SPORT	\$31,995	#11 BMW M3
#1417, POLAR WHITE, 10K MILES		#E1387, ZDR COUPE, JEREZ BLACK METALLIC, 20K MILES
#12 MERCEDES C250 SPORT	\$31,995	#13 BMW X5
#1424, BLUE, 14K MILES		#1420, BLACK SAPPHIRE METALLIC, 13K MILES
#12 MERCEDES C250 SPORT	\$31,995	#09 MASERATI GRANTURISMO
#1425, BLACK, 19K MILES		#1337, SCUBA BLUE, 2K MILES
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