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Southern DAILY

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Parkland, Florida, school district rejects funds to arm teachers

(Reuters) - The Florida school district that includes the high school where a gunman massacred 17 people has rejected its share of new state funding to be used for arming teachers, county officials said on Wednesday.

The Feb. 14 attack at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland ramped up a long-running U.S. debate on gun rights and sparked a youth movement led by survivors of the attack, many of whom have been critical of the idea of arming teachers. The Broward County School Board, which oversees Stoneman Douglas and other schools, said in a statement it had voted unanimously against accepting money from a \$67 million statewide program, signed into law last month by Governor Rick Scott as part of a package of gun-control and school safety measures. Board members want Scott, a Republican who earlier this week launched a run for the U.S. Senate, to allow them to allocate the money in other ways, such as providing additional funding for school resource officers (SROs) - trained law enforcement officers that are often already armed.

"For them to dictate to us that this money can only be spent to arm our employees is a travesty," school board member Robin Bartleman said in a phone interview on Wednesday.

"What I want to see happen is the legislature free up that money to districts so we can use it for mental health programs or to hire more SROs."

In addition to creating the fund to allow school staff to be trained and deputized to carry guns on the job, Scott signed measures that raised the state's minimum age to buy any firearm to 21 and imposed a three-day waiting period on gun purchases.

The \$67 million Aaron Feis Guardian Program,



FILE PHOTO: Students from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School attend a memorial following a school shooting incident in Parkland

named after a coach who was among those killed in the Parkland massacre, allows local sheriffs and school districts to opt out if they wish. Most classroom teachers are excluded from volunteering for the program, a compromise aimed at earning the support of the governor and many lawmakers who had initially opposed the idea. A 19-year-old man who had been kicked out of

Stoneman Douglas used a legally purchased AR-15 assault-style rifle in the February attack. An armed sheriff's deputy had been present at the school campus in suburban Fort Lauderdale when the third-deadliest school shooting by a single gunman in U.S. history began, but failed to enter the building where the shooting was occurring.

Trump signals strikes against Syria, lays into Assad backer Russia

WASHINGTON/BEIRUT (Reuters) - U.S. President Donald Trump warned Russia on Wednesday of imminent military action in Syria over a suspected poison gas attack, declaring that missiles "will be coming" and lambasting Moscow for standing by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

Trump was reacting to a warning from Russia that any U.S. missiles fired at Syria over the deadly assault on a rebel enclave near Damascus would be shot down and the launch sites targeted.

His comments raised the prospect of direct conflict over Syria for the first time between the two world powers backing opposing sides in the seven-year-old civil war, which has aggravated instability across the Middle East.

"Russia vows to shoot down any and all missiles fired at Syria. Get ready Russia, because they will be coming, nice and new and 'smart!'," Trump wrote on Twitter. "You shouldn't be partners with a Gas Killing Animal who kills his people and enjoys it!" Trump tweeted, referring to Moscow's

alliance with Assad.

In response, Russia's Foreign Ministry said: "Smart missiles should fly towards terrorists, not towards the lawful government".

Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said any U.S. missile salvo could be an attempt to destroy evidence of the reported gas attack in the town of Douma. Damascus and Moscow have denied any responsibility and say the incident is bogus.

Putin talks to Netanyahu, says respect Syria's sovereignty U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, striking a cautious tone after Trump's threat of missile strikes, said the United States was assessing intelligence about the suspected attack. Asked if he had seen enough evidence to blame Assad, Mattis said: "We're still working on this."

The U.S. military was ready to provide military options, if appropriate, he added. It was unclear if his remarks reflected unease about Trump's apparent move toward military action.

Two U.S. government sources told Reuters

the United States still did not have 100 percent solid evidence of what nerve agent was used in Syria and where it came from. However, there is some evidence it was sprayed from helicopters, they said. In Moscow, the head of a Russian parliamentary defense committee, Vladimir Shamanov, said Russia was in direct contact with the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff about the situation.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a British-based war monitor, said pro-government forces were emptying main airports and military air bases. The Syrian military has also been repositioning some air assets to avoid the fallout from possible missile strikes, U.S. officials told Reuters.

The Russian military said it had observed movements of U.S. Navy forces in the Gulf. Any U.S. strike would probably involve the navy, given the risk to aircraft from Russian and Syrian air defenses. A U.S. guided-missile destroyer, the USS Donald Cook, is in the Mediterranean. The Syrian foreign ministry accused the

United States, which has supported some rebel groups in Syria's conflict, of using "fabrications and lies" as an excuse to hit its territory.

"We are not surprised by such a thoughtless escalation by a regime like the United States regime, which sponsored terrorism in Syria and still does," the state news agency SANA cited a ministry official as saying.

After the Douma attack, the insurgent group dug in there, Jaish al-Islam, finally agreed to withdraw. That sealed a huge victory for Assad, crushing a long rebellion in the eastern Ghouta region near the capital Damascus. In London, British Prime Minister Theresa May said all the indications pointed to Syrian government responsibility for the attack and such "a shocking and barbaric act" could not go unchallenged.

"We're rapidly reaching an understanding of what happened on the ground," she told reporters. "We'll be working with our closest allies to consider how we can ensure that those responsible are held to account."

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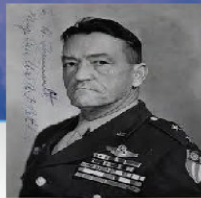
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U.S. saw record natural gas production in 2017

By Katherine Blunt

U.S. natural gas production reached record levels last year, according to the U.S. Department of Energy, an increase that substantially boosted exports even as Texas, the largest gas-producing state, lost some of its momentum.

Gross withdrawals reached 90.9 billion cubic feet per day in 2017, the agency's highest volume on record. Marketed natural gas production, which does not include gas vented, flared, used for re-pressuring or removed during processing, also reached record levels. Louisiana's gross withdrawals increased from 4.8 billion cubic feet per day to 5.8 billion cubic feet per day, marking the largest annual gain of any state. And the

Appalachian region, which includes the Marcellus and Utica shale fields in Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania, also saw substantial volume growth.

Texas, however, saw production volume decline from 22.2 billion cubic feet per day in 2016 to 21.7 billion cubic feet per day last year. But the state remained the nation's top producer, outpacing Pennsylvania's production by about 7 billion cubic feet per day.

Nationally, gross withdrawals increased for five consecutive months starting in July and reached a record monthly high of 96.7 billion cubic feet per day in December, the Energy Department reported. Marketed natural gas production set an annual record at 78.9 billion cubic feet per day.

Natural gas exports increased 36 percent amid the surge in production, making the nation a net natural gas exporter for the first time in nearly 60 years.



OPEC political crises threaten to double its million-barrel Cut

The deal OPEC struck in 2016 to clear a global glut by halting a significant chunk of oil production took almost a year of bargaining and brinkmanship. By year-end, the group may have lost the same amount of crude unintentionally.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries is already cutting daily production by much more than its pledged 1.2 million barrels. Venezuela's economic crisis is battering its oil industry and pushing output to the lowest level in decades, with a further decline likely. If U.S. President Donald Trump also reimposes sanctions on Iran, the cartel's unplanned losses could swell to double the targeted cut. That would pose a dilemma for Saudi Arabia and Russia, the leaders of the cuts agreement. Should they let the oil market get even tighter, but run the risk that higher prices hurt demand or spur an even bigger wave of American shale-oil? Or should they fill the gap by increasing production, but in the process unravel their historic agreement prematurely?

"When we think about the year end, it's Iran in combination with Venezuela," said Helima Croft, head of commodity strategy at RBC Capital Markets LLC in New York. "We could have a snap-back in U.S. sanctions on Iran. In Venezuela, it's a slow bleed -- the losses just keep adding up."

Saudi Arabia and Russia, for years oil-market rivals, assembled a coalition of 24 OPEC nations and non-members to eliminate the surplus created by the U.S. shale boom. The accord has exceeded expectations. Excess inventories will be gone in two to three months, according to the International Energy Agency, and Brent crude prices are above \$70 a barrel, the highest in three years.

The collapse of Venezuela's oil industry has aided the wider group's efforts. The nation's daily production of 1.5 million barrels is 560,000 barrels lower than October 2016 -- the starting point specified in the cuts agreement. That's more than five

times its pledged reduction.

The Latin American country's economic crisis shows no sign of abating and output may slump to 1.1 million barrels a day by the end of the year, according to consultant Rapidan Energy Group in Washington. The decline will be even steeper if the U.S. follows through on threats to impose new sanctions after elections scheduled for May, Rapidan said.

The loss of that much Venezuelan crude would tighten oil markets significantly more than OPEC and its allies intended. The growing tensions between the U.S. and Iran could make the supply deficit even more severe. Next month, President Trump will review America's commitment to an international agreement that restricted Iran's nuclear activities in exchange for relief from sanctions. He has been fiercely critical of the accord and recently fired top officials who were supportive of the deal, replacing them with more hostile figures.

There's a 70 percent likelihood that Trump will abandon the pact and



reintroduce sanctions on oil sales, said Mike Wittner, head of oil market research at Societe Generale SA. That would curb Iran's exports by about 500,000 barrels a day, he estimates. Under the terms of the 2016 OPEC deal, Iran didn't have to reduce production because it was still recovering from the last round of international sanctions. So a half-million-barrel drop in its output, combined with the loss of 900,000 barrels a day of

Venezuelan crude beyond its pledged reduction, would double the group's intended cut.

The situation in both countries is highly uncertain and the direst predictions may not be fulfilled. America's European allies are keen to preserve the accord with Iran, which could mean the impact of renewed U.S. restrictions on oil sales would be limited, said Olivier Jakob at consultants Petromatrix GmbH in Zug, Switzerland. Venezue-

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Editor's Choice Pictures



The official poster for the 71st Cannes Film Festival is released in Paris by the Festival de Cannes organisation



A combination picture shows Palestinian demonstrators during a protest at the Israel-Gaza border in the southern Gaza Strip



Logistics Specialist Seaman Alison Wise mans the rails aboard the U.S. Navy aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman in Norfolk



U.S. Navy sailors take in all lines aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Arleigh Burke in Norfolk



Jia Guide, China's ambassador to Peru, speaks during an interview with Reuters at the Chinese embassy in Lima



Facebook CEO Zuckerberg testifies before House Energy and Commerce Committee hearing on Capitol Hill in Washingto



A model presents a creation by Kazakhstan's designer Dinara Satzhan during Kazakhstan Fashion Week at National Academical Theater of Opera and Ballet in Almaty



Teachers rally outside the state Capitol for the second day of a teacher walkout to demand higher pay and more funding for education in Oklahoma City



Ebonie Sophus’ striking “Oscar de la Ruffles” design, winner of the Audience Choice Award.

HOUSTON (March 29, 2018) – The MFAH has once again teamed up with Houston Community College’s award-winning fashion program for the annual Fashion Fusion event! A competition that culminates in a live runway show and judging at the Museum, Fashion Fusion encourages students and alumni to create garments centered around the art on view in an MFAH exhibition.

Who: Welcoming guests was Dr. Caroline Goesser, chair of the MFAH’s Department of Learning and Interpretation, and Suzanne Brimmer, chair of Consumer Arts and Sciences at HCC; Vi Hua and Andrea Bonner of HCC’s Design and Merchandising Program (Bonner was not able to attend); Nicholas Champroux, a HCC Design and Merchandising professor who mentored the Fashion Fusion contestants; and discerning fashion disciples including the MFAH’s Chris Goins and HCC’s Alex Chapman as emcees; Angela Parrish; Marc Nguyen; Tatiana Massey; benefactor Alex Martinez; gallerist Barbara Davis with upcoming designer William Baldwin (an HCC graduate); handbag designer Debra Linse; and the show’s creative director and producer Tamara Klosz Bonar.

For the fourth annual Fashion Fusion, The Glamour and Romance of Oscar de la Renta inspired the students’ stunning gowns, which were organized into the same four categories as the exhibition. These groupings reflect themes that run throughout the renowned designer’s decades-long career: The East, Gardens, Icons, and Spain.

Project Runway Comes To MFAH --
College Designers Get A Taste Of The Big Time With A Fierce Show

HCC Students Win Big At MFAH Fashion Show

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

Out of the 24 garments that made it to the catwalk, a panel of judges selected two winners in each of the four categories—one current student and one alum. The audience voted for a favorite garment, too! Here are this year’s winning Fashion Fusion designs:



Houston Community College fashion design students and alumni walked away with free courses, fabric and sewing supplies and other prizes after competing in the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston Oscar de la Renta inspired “Fashion Fusion” show.

The fashion show featured garments created by student designers in HCC’s award-winning fashion program. Each design was judged on construction, creativity, stage presence and its “wow” factor. Top honors went to current students Jing Cao, Inge Duran, Shanda Phillips and Ebonie Sophus, who received the Audience Choice Award for her crimson ruffled design, appropriately named “Oscar de la Ruffles.” Each of the winners was awarded one studio and one art history course from the MFAH’s Glassell School of Art. In the alumni group, Erica Medrano, David Valdez, Teresa Rangel and Maria Hammond received fabric and sewing supplies from the Martinez-Arpin Foundation. Additional prizes for all of the winners included Tootsies gift cards, tickets to the MFAH’s current “Peacock in the Desert:

The Royal Art of Jodhpur, India” exhibit, tickets to an upcoming MFAH Mixed Media Party and other items.

The runway show was held as a follow-up to the recent blockbuster Oscar de la Renta exhibit at MFAH. Judges included Fady Armonious from Tootsies, Sameera Faridi Design Studio Creative Director Sameera Faridi, and PaperCity Art Editor Catherine Anson.

Each design was judged on construction, creativity, and “wow” factor, not to mention the all important “stage presence.” The panel of judges included Tootsies’ Fady Armanious; Sameera Faridi, creative director at Sameera Faridi Design Studio and designer at Poshak Fashion & Style; and PaperCity’s arts editor Catherine D. Anson.

The much-heralded winners breathed a sigh of relief when they heard their names announced: Jing Cao, Inge Duran, Shanda Phillips, and Ebonie Sophus, who received the Audience Choice Award for her bold crimson ruffled gown, cleverly named “Oscar de la Ruffles.” These winners, who are all current HCC students, were awarded with one studio and one art history course from the museum’s Glassell School of Art. Additionally, top honors among the alumni group went to Erica Medrano, David Valdez, Teresa Rangel and Maria Hammond who all received fabric and sewing supplies from Martinez-Arpin Foundation.



Each winning designer took home a swell swag bag whose contents included a Tootsies gift card, two tickets to the current “Peacock in the Desert: The Royal Art of Jodhpur, India” exhibit, two tickets to an upcoming MFAH Mixed Media party, and more, including certificates to hotspots like Tease Color, Style Bar, Azur West, and Lucille’s, as well as an Oscar de la Renta floral tote.

Photo “Peek” At The Event



About HCC
Houston Community College (HCC) is composed of 15 Centers of Excellence and numerous satellite centers that serve the diverse communities in the Greater Houston area by preparing individuals to live and work in an increasingly international and technological society. HCC is one of the country’s largest singly-accredited, open-admission, community colleges offering associate degrees, certificates, workforce training, and lifelong learning opportunities. To learn more, visit www.hccs.edu.

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People wait in line for an emergency food pantry. (Photo/Getty Images)

President Donald Trump is making a big push to expand work requirements in the nation's social safety net, calling on his administration to propose tougher rules for America's most vulnerable population to benefit from welfare programs.

Trump quietly signed the Reducing Poverty in America by Promoting Opportunity and Economic Mobility executive order privately Tuesday, ordering secretaries across the government to review their welfare programs — from food stamps to Medicaid to housing programs — and propose new regulations, like work requirements.

The executive order calls on federal agencies to enforce current work requirements, propose additional, stronger requirements, and find savings (in other words, make cuts), and to give states more flexibility to run welfare programs.



“Since its inception, the welfare system has grown into a large bureaucracy that might be susceptible to measuring success by how many people are enrolled in a program rather than by how many have moved from poverty into financial independence,” the executive order reads.

The order calls on the Treasury, Agriculture, Commerce, Labor, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Transportation, and Education departments to use the next 90 days to submit a report with their recommended policies to the White House.

The order doesn't yet set any new policy, but it does reflect a hardline conservative view of the nation's entitlement system — one that welfare experts say relies on faulty arguments and could cut off the nation's neediest from lifesaving safety net programs.

Trump's executive order implies tougher requirements for safety net programs

The text of the executive order calls for a review of all welfare programs across agencies, something a senior White House

The President And His Cabinet Propose Stronger Work Requirements For Welfare Across The Board

Trump Wants To Slash Welfare With Stricter Work Requirements

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

official calls a push for a “coordinated” effort across federal and state agencies to reform the welfare system.



But the result could be recommendations that propose drastic changes to programs like Medicaid, which offers health care for low-income individuals; food stamps; and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), which gives poor families financial aid. The administration is also looking at housing programs, the White House official said.

Agencies are ordered to follow nine “Principles of Economic Mobility” to guide their proposed policy changes, including adding work requirements, giving states more flexibility — usually in the form of block grants — consolidating duplicative programs, and encouraging involvement from the private sector.

Put together, this order outlines much of the conservative welfare agenda, which has long promoted cutting welfare programs, either through pushing people off the federal rolls with harsher work requirements or block-granting funding to the states, giving them more purview over how to allocate money to welfare programs.



Trump has long called for tougher requirements to receive welfare benefits but hasn't been specific on what policies he would like to see and which programs he'd like to target. His order is now calling on his administration to iron out the specifics.

The White House is citing faulty evidence that work requirements work

Trump signed a welfare executive order on April 10. Mark Wilson/Getty Images

White House adviser Andrew Bremberg told reporters that Trump's executive order is meant to “highlight the success” of President Bill Clinton's 1996 reforms to TANF. Those reforms added work requirements to TANF and fundamentally adjusted how the program's funding worked, giving money to states in a lump sum and allowing the states to allocate their funding as they saw fit. In the early years, Clinton's TANF reforms were extremely popular.

But over the past decade, poverty experts have reached a consensus that TANF no longer works, because states stopped using the money for the safety net programs. “TANF is not an effective program,” James Ziliak, director of the University of Kentucky's Center for Poverty Research, told Vox last year — it's served fewer and fewer families over the years.

This is a common misunderstanding of the longstanding effects of the 1996 welfare reform effort — and one that conservatives continue to push when proposing cuts to entitlement programs.



A misunderstanding of '90s welfare reform is not the only faulty evidence the White House used when promoting the order signed on Tuesday. In a fact sheet sent to reporters, the White House cites the effec-

tiveness of food stamp work requirements implemented in Kansas and Maine — the case studies often used to promote work requirements.

“Studies conducted after reforms in Maine and Kansas show that individuals who left welfare and went back to work saw their incomes increase, more than doubling on average; this increase more than offset the welfare benefits they lost. Welfare enrollment also dropped by 75 to 90 percent,” the White House said.

But a decrease in welfare enrollment isn't an indication of much other than the federal government spending less money.

And a Center on Budget and Policy Priorities audit of the reports on Maine and Kansas found that when actually taking into account the loss of SNAP benefits after being cut off, the difference in income before and after reinstating the work requirements is much less stark than what the White House cited. The total resources (including earnings and SNAP benefits) available to SNAP participants who were cut off was 3 percent lower a year after the cutoff.

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

In other words, there is no clear indication that reimposing the three-month time limit reduced poverty levels. While CBPP did find some increase in wages, the slight differences aren't necessarily because of the policy changes.

The CBPP notes that the economy was getting better in 2014 — the same time those work requirements were put into place. These safety net programs are the last resort for millions of Americans

Republicans have long demanded reforms to the American welfare system, decrying bloated federal handout programs that they claim disincentivize Americans from working. They argue that additional work requirements would encourage more people to get out of the cycle of poverty.

While poverty and welfare experts will point out there's always room for reforms, the statistics paint a very different picture of how some of these conservative reforms actually play out.

For example, food stamp recipients are mostly children and elderly or disabled people. The number of able-bodied adults without dependents is slim, and not nearly enough to make up the numbers in savings that the projections for this proposal indicate. Waste and fraud in the program are also relatively inconsequential.

There is strong evidence that SNAP reduces food insecurity and improves health outcomes, especially among children, who make up the majority of SNAP beneficiaries. But the evidence from randomized studies of work requirements shows that they have little or no effect on poverty — and leave many people who aren't induced to work without a safety net.



“It's a false narrative,” Ziliak told me last year of a conservative proposal to cut food stamps. “The evidence shows that the program actually works. Not all programs work. But SNAP actually is one of those that does what it is supposed to be doing.”

As is, SNAP and TANF, which provide services like child care or income assistance, already have work requirements for able-bodied adults without dependents. Those requirements are often waived when the economy is doing poorly and reinstated when the job market is more stable, which is what Maine and Kansas did.

Already conservative lawmakers — like Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH) have proposed harsher requirements at the federal level, like tightening the window individuals have to find a job from three months to one month, increasing the number of hours they have to work per month from 80 hours to 100, and extending the requirements to able-bodied adults with dependents.

It's not clear what the Trump administration plans to propose, but they said reforms to SNAP and Medicaid are front and center. (Courtesy <https://www.vox.com/>)

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去大庆欣赏百湖风光



大庆的湖，也因分布于城中而更加靓丽。于是，“湖在城中、城在绿中”成了美丽大庆最真实的写照。抓住夏日的尾巴，漫步湖边，聆听岸上歌声悠扬，眺望水中小舟轻荡；或迎着湿润的微风，观赏飞鸟翱翔的自由。

东风湖

关于东风湖名称的来历，有一种说法是，半个世纪以前，大庆萨尔图区中林街偏南的地带曾是一片牧场，在这片牧场落脚并生活的人们都以放牧为生，这里有一个名叫“东风”的牛场。据传，到这里放牧的牛群，第一天就巧遇东风刮起，于是，他们就给这个新建的牛场起名为“东风牛场”。听父亲那一辈的老会战讲，“松基3井”喜喷工业油流之后，于1960年初在松辽盆地打响了惊天地、泣鬼神的石油大会战，随后，沉寂的松辽平原上走来了30000多名复转军人和一批批头戴铝盔的石油人。其中有一支石油队伍进入了东风牛场，他们在这里建起了简陋的房屋，并沿用“东风牛场”名称中的“东风”二字，将此地更名为“东风村”。随着大庆城市的发展和文化的繁荣，人们把嵌在大庆“城市森林”西部的“东风泡”改称为“东风湖”。另一种说法是，东风湖（原名东风泡）曾是一个容纳大庆晓雪啤酒厂工业废水的排污泡，经过2006年~2009年大庆市政府和油田大企业的综合治理，使之变成了环境优美、水体清澈、生物多样、野趣横生、绿树成荫、自然和谐的城市湿地公园。

北二十里泡（龙凤湿地）

北二十里泡，又称大庆龙凤湿地自然保护区，座落于大庆市龙凤区境内东南，是黑龙江省唯一一处位于城区中的湿地，距离大庆石化1km左右，距离市中心仅8km左右。地理坐标为东经125°07'-125°15'，北纬46°28'-46°32'，总面积5050.39公顷。风湿地自然保护区地处中纬度地带，属温带大陆性季风气候区，四季明显，温差较大。年平均气温4.5℃，极端最高气温39.8℃，极端最低气温-39.2℃。年均4月中下旬解冻开泡，11月上旬结冰，无霜期149天，结冰期176天。年平均降水量为435mm。保护区内地势低洼平坦，泡沼相间，自然坡降小于千分之一。土壤由草甸土和沼泽土组成，其中沼泽土是其主要的土壤类型，分布面积约占自然保护区总面积的80%左右。

陈家大院泡

陈家大院泡是一个位于黑龙江大庆市的湖泊，面积约为1.34平方千米，陈家大院泡原来的名字叫北大泡子。传说早年有一陈姓人家，从外地迁至此处，因为

陈家人口众多，在此地又有些影响，久而久之，人们就把这里称为陈家大院，而靠近陈家大院的北大泡子也逐渐被人们叫成了陈家大院泡。60年以后陆续在这里开发油田，油井与湖泊，和谐共处，相映成趣，是陈家大院泡有别于大庆其他湖泊的最显著的特征之一，由于长期往湖里注入热水，冬季热气腾腾，日出之时，常有摄影人驻足拍摄，是大庆摄影人理想的摄影基地。

滨州湖

位于大庆城北，原是大庆的水源湖，这个美丽的湖泊曾经滋养了东城区几十万人，大庆东移北扩战略实施后，几个小区环绕其外，市民们每晚环湖散步，感受着生活的惬意，也承受着大自然的恩惠，但不知哪位开发商，不知哪位领导，出于不知什么样的动机，竟然将滨州湖实施了填湖造地工程，在这个保护大自然，建设大美湿地的大环境下，这样做无疑是给大庆抹黑，给地球造成破坏，使人痛心！请拿开你们的魔掌，让大自然得到该有的宁静。

滨州湖除了修栈桥，还要做绿化，做景观。从沿湖城处，向湖中建岛。共建仁岛，用栈桥连接。最里面的岛，规模较大，上有花草树木、凉亭、座椅。从湖滨教师花园处，要架设栈桥，设置一处大型休闲广场。而在湖岸西侧，同样要栽花种草，景观绿化。未来，这里，就是大庆的“太阳岛”。

万宝湖

万宝湖因万宝园区而得名，万宝园区与大庆市政府、时代广场、世纪大道相邻。闲时走在宽阔的大街上，看到园区里的大街小巷都是美丽的高楼大厦，街口花园休闲广场布满街道，万宝湖水源清澈丰满，美丽的黎明河像一条长长的白龙围绕园区流过，这里真是楼美水足的好地方。

想知道为什么叫万宝？万宝又是怎么来的原来万宝是一个人名，那是105年前有一个姓赵的名万宝的人到这里开荒种地，几年后，这里的人渐渐的增加了，已经有980户，达三千多人，自然形成了三个屯，人们习惯把这三个屯子叫万宝屯，所以万宝的名字留传到至今。

后来万宝湖的名字逐渐被人们赋予了其他的含义：万宝湖，顾名思义，就是有很多宝贝的湖，其实她身价不菲的原因不仅是在于得天独厚的地理位置，还有一个关于龙的故事。长期以来，龙在国人的心目中，一直是王者的化身，权力的象征。正所谓山不在高，有仙则名；湖不在深，有龙则灵。传说早年间天上

有一条青龙与人间女子产生爱情，因玉帝阻挠，将青龙锁在天庭，青龙被缚于天柱之上，它眼见着心爱的人却不能陪伴身边，禁不住伤心落泪，青龙的眼泪飘落人间，积聚成湖，就形成了今天我们所见到的孪生姊妹湖，分别为三永湖和万宝湖。

三永湖

三永湖，位于大庆市龙凤区，南临万峰路，北临世纪大道，东临龙永路与唐人中心、华溪龙城、东城领袖相望，西临万宝路与万宝小区相邻。在原三永村（该村现已取消建制，并入主城区）内，三永湖西北角是瀚城名苑小区，东北角是瀚城星苑小区，在三永湖上有长1980米的栈桥将湖的北岸和东岸相连，使市民可以轻松在湖心信步徜徉。而中心区有3个高33米、宽20米，寓意“永康、永乐、永福”的“中国结”，更是让人眼前一亮。三永湖最早叫三永泡，在2000年才改名为三永湖，她是自然形成的湖泊，呈筐箩型。资料显示，三永湖水位143.949米，水面面积4080亩，库容为371.1万立方米。关于这个湖泊是何时形成的，已无从考证。

红旗湖

红旗泡水库坐落在大庆市市区东侧卧里屯境内，位于嫩江平原中部，界于安达市和大庆市之间，是通过北部引嫩工程，引蓄嫩江水，以供应大庆石油化工业用水为主，兼顾灌溉、养鱼等综合利用的平原水库。因靠近安达市红旗奶牛场，又是碟形凹地，而取名“红旗泡水库”。始建于1972年，库区面积35平方公里，库容1亿1600万立方米，是大庆的重要水源地，日供水32万吨，湖中有40多种鱼类，20多种珍禽栖生繁衍，本世纪初被国家评为全国水利风景区，是旅游休闲的好地方。

明湖

大庆明湖水上乐园，原名叫做王连科泡。那是1921年，开荒户王连科建立王连科屯（现红旗村），位于其北二里地的泡子就取名为王连科泡。它位于大庆市让胡路区，东邻让胡路经济开发区，西与大庆油田乐园隔路相望。

明湖在大庆的百湖之中不算大，甚至可以用“小巧”来形容。但正因为她的“小巧”，才体现出她的秀气。白天的明湖湖畔，放眼望去，一排排欧式建筑鳞次栉比，红色的屋顶、粉色的墙壁、白色的线条，绿色的玻璃，古典雅韵与现代张扬的气息融为一体，把明湖装点得分外妖娆。夜晚，华灯初上，月挂梢头，这个时候的明湖夜色更加“撩人”——彩灯照得绿树和草坪如

翡翠般流光溢彩，南国的椰树和五彩缤纷的彩灯，似火树银花开在空中，乳白色的喷池和霓虹灯交织在一起，更让人留连忘返。曾经有很多游人都称她“大庆小香港”。明湖水上乐园是游戏的天堂。她的主体包括明湖、湖心岛和湖畔公园三部分，其中明湖水面占地210公顷，湖中有电瓶车、激光水战船、观光艇、快艇、摩托艇等，供游客游玩。

黑鱼湖

黑鱼湖是黑龙江省大庆市萨尔图区北部的一个湖泊，原名黑鱼泡，以盛产黑鱼而得名，位于大庆市萨尔图区、林甸县和安达市交界处。临近大庆萨尔图机场。大庆市区没有天然河流，属于平原闭流区。不过，在大庆的版图上，有名的、没名的大小泡泽湖泊却星罗棋布。因此被称作“绿色油化之都，天然百湖之城”。黑鱼湖原名黑鱼泡，以盛产黑鱼而得名，位于黑龙江省大庆市东北侧，距主城区20余公里，与大庆市林甸县和安达市交界。临近大庆萨尔图飞机场。大庆市区没有天然河流，属于平原闭流区。不过，在大庆的版图上，有名的、没名的大小泡泽湖泊却星罗棋布。因此被称作“绿色油化之都，天然百湖之城”。

乘风湖

乘风湖原名“周瞎泡”，位于黑龙江省大庆市让胡路区铁人大道银浪段东侧，它北临乘风小区、乘风十小区，南临测井小区。现在的乘风湖，水绿、草绿、树绿，人们时常喜欢到乘风湖漫步观景。

乘风湖生态园占地面积为310公顷，其中湖水面积197公顷，湖心岛面积7.1公顷，陆地面积120公顷，草坪面积4.1万平方米，花草面积3万平方米。绿化率达到了90%以上。

环湖绿地，有110公顷，高的，是乔木；矮的，是灌木、绿篱；地下“趴”着的，是花花草草。翠绿、青绿、墨绿、淡绿……你能想到的“绿”，这儿都能找到。现在，岸边正是热闹的时候，各色小花，开得正艳。湖里也不寂寞，新投放的600万尾鱼苗，游得正欢。整个园区分成湖心岛、南岸、北岸、西岸4大板块，建有广场3个、码头3个、湖心绿岛1处。西岸，是生态园主入口，广场的名字叫“和韵”，主打雕塑名为“飘逸”，是3只振翅高飞的水鸟。出了广场，向左，也就二三十米，是生肖享泰台，中间有一假山，12个石刻卡通生肖环坐周围。设计人员还在这里安放4张棋牌桌。南岸，紧靠测井楼区，居民抬脚就到。广场的名字叫“乐民”，主打雕塑是“乘风破浪”，状如船帆。

徜徉在龙陵 龙江的小田坝

我是一个土生土长的龙江人，我一直为此骄傲着。

陶渊明用“夹岸数百步，中无杂树，芳草鲜美，落英缤纷”形容桃花源的美；王维用“大漠孤烟直，长河落日圆”形容边陲大漠的美；我找不到一个贴切的词来形容龙江的美，亦或者，所有的能想到的能说出来的词语都无法形容龙江的美。龙江的美，美在心里。

龙江美，稻田美是其中首屈一指的。

时值八月，正是龙江水稻长得正绿的季节。放眼望去，绿茫茫的一大片，充满生的力量。如果在某个天朗气清的清晨，你突发奇想，决定到田里去逛逛，那么你一定能够感受到青草的味道，见到一颗颗垂垂欲滴的露珠，陶醉在远处缭绕在群山间的云雾中，遇到一个再一个背着背篓或者挑着篮子到田里割牛草的伯伯婶婶，如果有幸，还能见到路边刚刚舒展开来的牵牛花……

当然，如果你是在夕阳快落山的时候去的，又能感受到不一样的美。漫步在田埂上，夕阳的余晖落在水稻上，看着圈里的水牛安静地吃草，听着田里的鱼儿嬉戏耍闹，如果你细心观察，你会发现路边的牵牛花都收起自己的小衣裳，准备歇息了……

田坝里还有一个珍宝：

草药。有人用“一屁股坐下去全部是草药”形容云南的草药之多。我想，在龙江，大抵也是这样的。龙江的田坝里生长着太多太多我不知名的草药。这个暑假，我漫游在田坝间，开始采摘草药，百花舌草、野橄榄、酸木瓜草……这些草药在地里田间随处可见，而且用处极大，我采摘了不少储存起来。

十月的稻田一片金灿灿的黄，洋溢着丰收的喜悦。去年的10月，我的几个大学同学听我说龙江的稻田鱼便心动不已，我们相约来了龙江。

金黄的稻田眩晕了他们的心，来自大城市的他们未曾见过这样的美景，唏嘘不已。那两天，一有空闲他们便到田里去，拍照、闲逛，和路边的野花，和圈里的水牛，和金色的水稻留下一张张时光的合影。返程的时候，他们仍然意犹未尽。他们说，明年一定还要再来。

龙江美，我偏爱稻田的美。也许是因为家的下面就是一大片稻田，我看着水稻从撒秧、出牙、栽秧到生长发绿发黄收割的过程；也许是因为蓝天白云稻田构成的景色太美这么多年来一直眩晕着我的心……

如果你来龙江，一定要到龙江的小田坝里逛逛，或许你未曾领略的美。



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本報記者秦鴻鈞攝

中美之韵丝路春好综艺晚会集锦回顾



由张丝华演唱《前门情思大碗茶》，歌舞舞蹈：周洁晓慧舞蹈学校



晚会顾问嘉宾著名心脏科医师，丰建伟基金会主席丰建伟医生致辞



晚会顾问嘉宾美南传媒集团董事长李蔚华先生致辞



特邀嘉宾千百顺女声独唱《很任性》《听著情歌流眼泪》组曲

4月8日由休斯顿心之韵歌唱艺术团、美南山东同乡会主办以及休斯顿各大社团协办的中美之韵丝路春好综艺晚会完美落幕。各界嘉宾齐聚一堂。同时美国国会议员Al Green的亚裔代表谭秋晴女士等应邀出席并发表贺词，并向组委会颁发贺状。活动形式新的创举和活动内容的全新拓展，成功助推中美文化交流。中国驻休斯顿总领事馆李强民总领事特别发来贺信表示此文艺活动丰富了华人社区的文化活动，促进了团结和谐华人社区建设，相信将为休斯顿的华人华侨和各界朋友展现壹场精彩纷呈的文化盛宴。

本报记者吴凯俊报道



由程明芳演出的戏曲表演：传统京剧《天女散花》



J&H Dance School带来的双人舞蹈表演



特邀嘉宾郭怀瑾古琴大师带来的演奏—《流水》配搭著太极表演



清泉小组合带来的台湾名曲《三月里的小雨》和《梦田》