



## PYHRR: MULTIFAMILY STEERING MARKET RECOVERY

(ABJ – 11/17/11)

The real estate experience and knowledge of Stephen Pyhrr, Ph.D. — senior managing director at the now publicly-traded Kennedy Wilson — is steeped in years of business, research and teaching.

Pyhrr — who oversees the south and southwestern regions for Kennedy Wilson — led the real estate program at the University of Texas at Austin for ten years. It's not uncommon for him to be greeted on the street or at a restaurant by an Austin real estate professional who has either done business with, or has been taught by Pyhrr at UT.

Pyhrr currently oversees the Kennedy Wilson regional portfolio and has been involved in a number of recent strategic transactions across the globe. Pyhrr recently helped execute a three-pronged, multi-billion dollar transaction with the Bank of Ireland. I recently had the chance to discuss that deal with Pyhrr, and a subject he knows well: the cycles of real estate.

To read more from this article, click [here](#).

## TWC LISTS THE HOTTEST JOBS IN AUSTIN

(ABJ – 11/2/11)

The Texas Workforce Commission scoured the job boards to compile the hottest jobs in Austin, or at least the most abundant. Almost half of the jobs listed are tech-related, proving that Austin remains a high-tech job hub.

Find out which jobs are the hottest in Austin by clicking [here](#).

## SCENETAP MOVES HEADQUARTERS TO AUSTIN

(ABJ – 11/16/11)

## REPORT: TEXAS PEAK EMPLOYMENT RESTORED BY 2012

(ABJ -- 11/15/11)

Texas could return to peak employment levels reached before the recession as soon as January 2012, according to a report from IHS Global Insight.

Texas may even surpass those levels, said Jim Diffley, IHS' chief regional economist. Diffley said there are two main reasons for Texas' success: the security of the oil and energy market and the lack of a housing recession.

"Oil and energy continues to be a factor (in job growth) and there was an earlier recovery in the high-tech sector in Austin and Dallas," Diffley said. "There is no doubt that [job growth] will continue to improve."

Other states expected to get back to pre-recession employment numbers between 2012 and 2013 include: Louisiana, Oklahoma, New York, Massachusetts, West Virginia and Vermont. The majority of states are not expected to return to pre-recession levels until 2014 or later.

## ABIA AMONG BEST AIRPORTS IN THE WORLD

(ABJ – 11/14/11)

Austin-Bergstrom International Airport has been ranked among the top airports in the world for customer service excellence.

ABIA is one of only 14 airports to be inducted into the first ever Director General's Roll of Excellence by the Airport Council International. To receive the recognition, an airport must have been listed among the top five in the ACI's Airport Service Quality survey of over 200 airports worldwide for five consecutive years. ABIA is ranked No. 3 on the latest list.

The ASQ Awards are among the industry's most prestigious accolades and the world's benchmark measure of airport excellence.

Austin's airport added a cell phone waiting area to replace the 30-minute complimentary parking in the garage and parking lot A earlier this month, the *Austin Business Journal* reported.

## 6 CENTRAL TEXAS COMMUNITIES AMONG SMARTEST IN U.S.

(ABJ – 11/16/11)

A startup company focused on the nightlife scene has relocated its headquarters from Chicago to Austin due to the active student population and startup scene.

SceneTap LLC, which offers a free mobile and web application, has moved 15 of its full-time employees to Austin and plans to hire up to 30 employees within the next year. Jobs will range from developers to marketing and sales positions. The company left a few employees in Chicago to maintain its presence there.

The application is meant to help people decide which bar to go to by providing real-time information on the bar scene, including bar specials and reviews.

Read more about this story [here](#).

## COVERT AUTO GROUP BUYS N. AUSTIN CAR LOT

(ABJ – 11/14/11)

A former auto dealership in North Austin has been purchased by Austin-based Covert Auto Group, officials announced Monday.

The purchase price was not disclosed.

The currently vacant lot is located on 14.11 acres at 8107 Research Blvd.

Plans call for the site to be converted into a new Buick and Chrysler dealership, according to Todd Wallace, SRS Real Estate senior vice president.

Wallace and Robert O'Farrell represented the unnamed seller in the transaction.

"It is exciting to see auto dealerships expanding again, especially after what the economy did to the car business in 2008," Wallace said.

Six Austin area communities are among the smartest places in the U.S., according to a recent analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data.

In the category of 10,450 populations between 1,000-to-9,999, Rollingwood and Lost Creek cracked the top 35 at No. 27 and No. 31, respectively. West Lake Hills was ranked 86th while Barton Creek was listed as No. 104. Chevy Chase Village was the leader of rankings of smaller places.

In terms of mid-sized communities with populations between 10,000 and 49,999, Lakeway ranked No. 175 out of 3,012. Stanford, Calif. took the top spot.

Among the 483 communities with populations between 50,000-to-99,999, Cedar Park was listed at No. 132. Bethesda, Md. was ranked the smartest community.

## REPORT: INCREASED RECYCLING WILL CREATE 1.5M JOBS

(ABJ – 11/15/11)

A new report shows that increasing recycling will create nearly 1.5 million jobs by 2030 and significantly reduce pollution.

The More Jobs, Less Pollution report was released Tuesday as part of a series of nationwide events, including in Austin, celebrating National Recycling Day.

While the vast majority of municipal solid waste nationwide can be readily recycled, re-used, or composted, only 33 percent is currently diverted from disposal, the report found. A large majority of waste is still sent to landfills and incinerators.

By implementing a bold national recycling and composting strategy of 75 percent waste diversion rate by 2030, the report shows that many local jobs can be created, resources like water can be saved, and environmental pollutants that harm human health can be reduced.

The full report is available [here](#).

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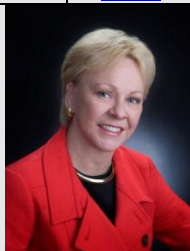
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