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JULY 2026

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Partner
Spotlight
**TRUE TITLE
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Woman to
Watch
**ADRIANA
ONTIVEROS**

A photograph of Michelle and Billy Haggerty in a rustic interior. Michelle is standing on the left, wearing a white lace dress and a white cardigan. Billy is sitting on the right, wearing a blue blazer and light-colored pants. They are in front of a stone wall with a large round mirror. A vase of flowers is in the foreground.

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Because of the Brave

July has always been a month that reminds me to pause and truly appreciate the freedoms we are blessed with in this country. It is easy to get caught up in our busy lives, our work, our families, and our daily routines, but this month gives us a reason to reflect on the cost of the freedom we enjoy.

Freedom is not something we should ever take for granted. It was fought for,



protected, and preserved by brave men and women who made sacrifices most of us will never fully understand. Because of them, we have the opportunity to build lives, chase dreams, raise families, speak freely, worship freely, and live in a country where freedom still matters.

This year, that meaning feels even more personal to me. I am now engaged to an Air Force veteran, and that has given me an even deeper respect for those who have served. When you love someone who has worn the uniform, you see service and sacrifice through a different lens. You understand that behind every veteran is a story of commitment, courage, discipline, and love for something greater than themselves.

As we celebrate Independence Day and the month of July, I hope we all take a moment to honor those who have fought for our freedom, those who continue to serve, and the families who stand beside them. May we never forget that freedom is a gift — and may we always be grateful for the people who helped make it possible.



With a thankful heart,
Stephanie Miller





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More Than a MEAL

BY JAYTON MILLER

How Meals on Wheels Odessa Delivers Dignity, Connection, and Hope

Every weekday across Odessa, there is a familiar knock on hundreds of doors.

For many residents, it may seem like a simple meal delivery. But for the seniors and homebound individuals who receive those visits, it represents something much more meaningful: connection, safety, independence, and the reassurance that someone cares.

For nearly five decades, Meals on Wheels Odessa has been quietly serving some of the community's most vulnerable neighbors. What began in 1977 as a small effort led by fifteen volunteers delivering meals to just twelve recipients has grown into an organization that serves more than a thousand individuals each year while remaining deeply rooted in its mission of helping people live with dignity in their own homes.

“Meals on Wheels of Odessa enables people to live with dignity by offering community support and sustenance through coordinated services and enabling older adults to live in their own homes safely and independently as long as they are able.”

Today, that mission is carried out through a combination of nutritious meals, volunteer support, wellness checks, community partnerships, and a commitment to ensuring that no senior feels forgotten.

A Mission That Has Grown With Odessa

When Meals on Wheels Odessa first opened its doors, meals were purchased



from a local cafeteria and delivered by volunteers representing churches across the community. The need was clear even then.

Nearly fifty years later, the need has only grown.

Today, close to 800 meals are delivered every weekday throughout Odessa. Thirty-two volunteers cover routes stretching across the city, helping seniors and homebound residents receive not only nutritious food but also regular human interaction and support.

In 2025 alone, Meals on Wheels Odessa served 1,096 unique individuals through its home-delivered meal program. Volunteers delivered more than 225,000 meals and nearly 23,000 loaves of bread. Through additional partnerships with Ector County Senior Centers, Rainbow House, and Family Pathways, the organization helped provide nearly 39,000 additional meals throughout the community.

Yet the organization's leaders emphasize that the numbers only tell part of the story.

Behind every meal is a personal visit. A conversation. A smile. A wellness check. A reminder that someone is paying attention.

For many clients, those daily interactions become one of the most meaningful parts of their day.

More Than Food

While meal delivery remains at the heart of the organization, Meals on Wheels Odessa has evolved into a comprehensive support system for seniors and homebound residents.

Through partnerships with organizations such as the West Texas Food Bank, the organization helps connect food-insecure clients with additional nutritional assistance through the Commodity Supplemental Food Program.

The Silver Pantry program, launched through support from the Junior

“Meals on Wheels of Odessa enables people to live with dignity by offering community support and sustenance through coordinated services and enabling older adults to live in their own homes safely and independently as long as they are able.”





League of Odessa and H-E-B, provides supplemental nutritional drinks and incontinence supplies to clients who need additional support.

Safety initiatives also play a critical role. Through a partnership with the Red Cross, Meals on Wheels Odessa hosts annual events that provide smoke alarms to clients' homes.

Volunteers frequently identify small home maintenance concerns during deliveries, allowing the organization to connect clients with resources that can help them remain safely in their homes.

Perhaps most importantly, every delivery doubles as a wellness check.

These visits allow volunteers to identify concerns before they become emergencies while providing social interaction that many clients might otherwise lack.

All of these services are provided free of charge.

Together, they create a safety net that helps seniors maintain independence, preserve dignity, and continue living in familiar surroundings for as long as possible.

Addressing Growing Community Needs

The challenges facing seniors today are significant.

Rising living costs, limited mobility, food insecurity, and social isolation can all impact quality of life and create barriers to independent living.

For many older adults, the ability to age in place depends on having reliable support systems available.

Meals on Wheels Odessa works to bridge those gaps every day.

The organization recognizes that while food is essential, human connection is equally important. Volunteers often become familiar faces that clients look forward to seeing. Those brief daily interactions can provide comfort,

encouragement, and a renewed sense of purpose.

The stories that resonate most with the organization are often the simplest ones.

Staff members regularly hear from family members who describe loved ones becoming excited about daily visits from volunteers. The anticipation of hearing a knock at the door and sharing a few moments of conversation can have a profound impact on emotional well-being.

It is a reminder that nourishment extends beyond what is served on a plate.

Powered by Partnerships

Meals on Wheels Odessa's ability to serve the community depends heavily on strong local partnerships.

Odessa Regional Medical Center plays a vital role by preparing meals fresh each day. Menus are developed by registered dietitians and designed to meet federal nutritional standards while providing clients with balanced, healthy meals.

Organizations such as the Junior League of Odessa and the West Texas Food Bank help expand services beyond meal delivery, ensuring clients have access to additional resources and nutritional support.

Corporate sponsors, local businesses, financial institutions, grocery partners, and community organizations continue to contribute time, funding, and volunteer support that allows the organization to grow.

These relationships demonstrate something unique about Odessa: a community that consistently rallies around its neighbors.

The Heartbeat of the Organization

Ask anyone involved with Meals on Wheels Odessa what makes the organization work, and the answer is simple.

The volunteers.

Every meal delivered begins with someone willing to donate their time.



Volunteers serve as drivers, wellness check partners, advocates, and friendly faces. Their daily interactions provide a level of personal connection that cannot be replicated.

Without them, the organization's mission would not be possible.

The need for volunteers remains constant, particularly on Mondays and Fridays.

Delivery routes typically take less than an hour and can often fit within a lunch break, making volunteer service accessible even for busy professionals.

With more than 160 seniors currently on the waiting list, each new volunteer helps Meals on Wheels Odessa expand its reach and serve additional members of the community.

Looking Toward the Future

As the senior population continues to grow, Meals on Wheels Odessa is focused on building a sustainable foundation for the future.

One of the organization's primary priorities is securing long-term funding through grants, donor relationships, and expanded community partnerships. Doing so will help ensure services remain available for generations to come.

At the same time, leaders are working to address growing demand while maintaining the quality and consistency that clients depend upon.

Their goal remains unchanged: ensuring that every eligible senior has access to nutritious meals, meaningful human connection, and the support necessary to remain independent at home.

How You Can Help

Community members interested in supporting Meals on Wheels Odessa have several opportunities to get involved.

Volunteer drivers are always needed to help deliver meals throughout the city. Individuals who prefer not to drive can assist with meal preparation and packing efforts.

Businesses and organizations can sponsor programs, organize volunteer teams, or contribute resources that directly support operations.

Financial donations help cover food costs, fuel expenses, and critical services that clients receive at no cost.

Supporters can also participate in the organization's annual Mudbugs fundraiser, one of Odessa's most anticipated community events. Featuring great food, fellowship, and the popular luxury bag giveaway, the event raises critical funding that helps sustain Meals on Wheels Odessa's mission throughout the year.

At its core, Meals on Wheels Odessa exists because people throughout the community continue choosing to show up for one another.

Every meal delivered represents more than nutrition. It represents dignity. It represents connection. And it reminds every recipient that they are valued, supported, and never alone.

For more information, volunteer opportunities, or ways to donate, visit mowo.org or follow Meals on Wheels Odessa on Facebook and Instagram. 📌



TRUE TITLE **PERMIAN**

**BUILDING
TRUST
THROUGH
EVERY
TRANSACTION**

BY JAYTON MILLER
PHOTOS BY THE STONES PHOTO + FILM



For many people, buying or selling a home represents more than paperwork and signatures. It is a milestone. A major life transition. A moment filled with excitement, anticipation, and often a fair amount of stress.

For Heather Simmons of True Title Permian, helping people navigate those moments with confidence and care has become the foundation of her career. With 12 years of industry experience Simmons has built a reputation centered on trust, communication, and creating meaningful relationships. While title and escrow work often happens behind the scenes, Simmons understands the impact that a smooth process can have on everyone involved.

Her approach goes beyond simply getting transactions

to the closing table. It is about creating an experience where clients and Realtor partners feel supported every step of the way.

A Career Built Through Growth

Simmons’ path into escrow was not a direct one. Before entering her current role, she spent two and a half years as a mortgage loan originator, giving her valuable perspective into another side of the home-buying process. That experience helped shape her understanding of how important communication and guidance are for clients navigating major decisions.

Over the years, she says the people around her have had a lasting impact on who she has become professionally. “The people and experiences throughout my career



Jordan Culp, Escrow Assistant

have played a significant role in shaping who I am professionally,” Simmons says. “Strong mentors, supportive teammates, and trusted industry partners have taught me the value of communication,

accountability, and relationship building.”

Along with mentorship came challenges and opportunities that pushed her outside of her comfort zone. Those experiences strengthened



Heather Simmons, Escrow Officer

her confidence and taught her how to adapt while maintaining a steady focus on service and integrity.

Relationships First

In an industry where timelines are tight and expectations are high, Simmons believes relationships remain at the center of everything. What separates her from others in the industry is not a single process or strategy, but the consistency she brings to every interaction.

“What separates me from my peers is my commitment to building genuine relationships and delivering an exceptional experience,” she explains. She approaches every transaction with a solutions-oriented mindset and believes strong outcomes are built through trust, responsiveness, and reliability.

“I lead with consistency, communication, and a solutions-oriented mindset,” Simmons says. “I take pride in being dependable, adaptable, and willing to go the extra mile to ensure clients and partners feel supported, valued, and confident throughout the process.”

For Realtor partners, Simmons wants to be someone they can confidently place in front of their clients. “I want Realtors to know that I am someone they can trust to represent their clients with professionalism, urgency, and care,” she says.

Defining Success Beyond Results

While success in real estate is often measured by numbers, transactions, or production,

Simmons views it through a different lens.

For her, success is rooted in impact. “I define success as making a meaningful impact while continuing to grow both personally and professionally,” she says. “Success is not only measured by achievements or results, but by the relationships built, trust earned, challenges overcome, and the ability to consistently show up with integrity and purpose.” That perspective also explains what she finds most rewarding about her work.

Helping clients through significant life moments and serving as a trusted resource during important decisions gives deeper meaning to the work she does every day.

“What I find most fulfilling in my work is helping people through significant moments in their lives and being a trusted resource during important decisions,” Simmons explains. Knowing that her work can create clarity and confidence for others is what continues to motivate her.

Family, Memories, and What Matters Most

Outside of work, Simmons’ world revolves around family. She values creating meaningful memories and spending quality time with the people closest to her. One tradition that holds a special place in her heart is weekend card nights with her grandparents, a routine she says she never takes for granted.

She also loves cheering on her young son as he



Kaitlyn Veach, Receptionist

gives everything he has on the ice hockey rink. Watching him compete and grow brings a tremendous amount of joy and pride. At the center of both her personal and professional life is a desire to be fully present for the people she loves most.

Her goal is simple but deeply meaningful: to become the best partner and mother she can be while building a life rooted in love, support, and purpose.

A Life Built on Gratitude

When Simmons reflects on what she is most grateful for, she immediately points to the people and experiences that have shaped her journey.

She values those who have supported her, challenged her, and encouraged her to

grow beyond where she once believed she could go. “I am grateful for opportunities to grow, learn, and step outside of my comfort zone,” she says. Her favorite quote reflects much of the mindset that has guided her throughout her career and life: “Never let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game.”

For Heather Simmons, success is not simply about reaching the finish line. It is about showing up consistently, serving others well, and building relationships that last long after the closing documents are signed.

Because at the end of the day, the most meaningful transactions are not measured only by homes sold, but by the trust built along the way. ➡

Adriana

Ontiveros

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Serving with Heart, Leading with Faith, Transforming Lives

BY BETH MCCABE
PHOTOS BY THE
STONES PHOTO + FILM

“I do my best to help each client.
I take it personally and make sure I’m always doing my job and always doing my best for them.”

Family. Faith. Focus. For Adriana Ontiveros, those words are her foundation. In a business that moves fast, Adriana stands firm in who she is. She doesn’t chase trends. She doesn’t cut corners. She doesn’t forget why she started.

“I take each day, day by day and focus on my family, children, and my faith,” she says. That clarity has shaped her rise in real estate.

She entered the industry in 2021, right after COVID, during a time when uncertainty ruled the market. With four children at home and a leap of faith in front of her, she made the decision to pivot careers and go all in. “I went in headfirst and haven’t looked back.”

And that bold step? It paid off. Today, Adriana is known for her honesty, her steady communication, and the way she treats every transaction like it matters, because to her, it does.

“I do my best to help each client. I take it personally and make sure I’m always doing my job and always doing my best for them.” Now she is opening doors for families, for futures, and for possibilities.

She didn’t get here alone. “I would like to give special thanks to my amazing brokers, Melody Villasana and Demi Franco, who have helped me tremendously throughout this wonderful real estate journey.”

West Texas Roots

Originally from Pecos, Texas, about an hour west of Odessa, Adriana’s roots run deep in West Texas. After

graduating, life brought her to Odessa, where she met her husband, Jacob. They’ve built their life there for more than 20 years.

Their introduction to real estate actually began long before licenses were involved. “Our interest started in 2012,” Adriana shares. Jacob had always been fascinated by investing. “Every time we got in the car, there were real estate podcasts playing,” she laughs. What began as his passion slowly became a shared vision. That same year, they purchased their first investment property.

Jacob eventually earned his license in 2020 to better navigate the investment side. Adriana followed in 2021. Once she stepped fully into the business, he stepped back to focus on his full-time career. “He likes the investment aspect. I love the people part of it.” And that difference? It works.

Before real estate, Adriana spent 11 years as a bookkeeper, commuting back and forth while balancing motherhood. When her oldest daughter started school in Odessa, the long drives became more than inconvenient. They became limiting.

“If something was needed at school, it was hard to drive back here,” she points out. Real estate offered something



priceless: presence. She wanted to be present for her children. Today, her four children — ages 17, 14, 10, and 9 — are the center of her world. Two girls. Two boys. Full schedules. Full hearts.

“They take up most of my time. If I’m not showing houses, I’m out with them,” she smiles. That balance fuels her drive. “I want to show my children that anything is possible, especially if you work hard.”

Switching careers with four young kids wasn’t easy. It was scary. But Adriana believes faith and work ethic are powerful forces. “We are devout Catholics. Any decision is always grounded in God first.” Faith shapes how they parent, how they serve, and how Adriana approaches her clients.

When asked what sets her apart, she doesn’t hesitate. “I like to be very honest with my clients. I speak plainly and explain the process.” She believes education eliminates fear. She believes clarity builds trust. And she believes every client deserves transparency. She says, “No matter who you work with, the process is simple. It’s about feeling comfortable with the person you’re working with.”

Her approach is straightforward: treat everyone the way she would want her own family treated. And while she loves helping first-time buyers step into homeownership, she admits something else lights her up — the tough deals. “I really like the harder transactions. I kind of view them as puzzles to solve.”

But it’s the human stories that stay with her. There was a single mom who worked tirelessly to purchase a home for her young son. Watching her cross that finish line was emotional. “It was touching for me to see her get into a home,” she says.

Looking ahead, Adriana isn’t slowing down. Her goals are ambitious. She wants to help as many families as possible and continue building momentum. Six to eight million in sales is a benchmark she’s aiming toward. Becoming a mega producer is part of the long-term vision.

She’s also investing in herself, currently working toward her broker’s license. The 900-hour requirement is nearly complete, and she hopes to wrap it up by fall, stepping into 2026 with an even stronger professional foundation.

When she’s not working or cheering from the sidelines at her children’s activities, she loves to travel. Warm beaches. Exploring new cities. The family’s goal is to visit every state in the country and eventually cross the ocean to explore Europe.

Through it all, Adriana remains grounded. She takes it day by day, focusing on her faith, family, and real estate business.

She works hard. She serves wholeheartedly. And in doing so, she’s building more than a business. She’s building a legacy her children can watch and believe in. 🏡



“No matter who you work with, the process is simple.

It’s about feeling comfortable with the person you’re working with.”

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Michelle & Billy HAGGERTY

BY BETH MCCABE • PHOTOS BY THE STONES PHOTO + FILM

Some couples work out together, share a hobby together, or just binge Netflix together. Michelle and Billy help buyers and sellers accomplish their goals in real estate together, negotiate contracts together, and host open houses together. They love to travel and enjoy golfing, biking, and spending time with their family and grandchildren. When not working or spending time with family, they are very community driven. They have both served on several non-profit organizations such as Big Brothers, Big Sisters, American Cancer Society, Soup Kitchen, Junior League of Midland, and Midland Teen Court, to name a few.

“We both are always pulling in the same direction,” says Billy. That belief has become the foundation of both their marriage and their business.

Michelle’s love for real estate started long before she ever held a license. Growing up in Dallas, Texas, she watched her mother build a successful career as a real estate broker and quickly fell in love with the industry herself. “I’ve always wanted to be a REALTOR®,” Michelle says.

Right out of college, she jumped into real estate with Century 21 and worked in Oklahoma for 5 years in a highly competitive market. Life had a few unexpected turns and Michelle moved to Midland. After moving to Midland, Texas, Michelle shifted gears professionally and spent 16 years working for a broadcasting company that operated five radio stations, where she built her career in the sales and promotions departments

before advancing to General Manager. That experience strengthened her leadership, marketing, communication, and client relationship skills, all of which she brings to her real estate business today. Knowing she wanted to open her own business one day led her to open and create Posh Pony Boutique in Midland. She spent 11 years as a stylist and owner, all while incorporating an online store as well as shipping all over the US and Canada.

Meanwhile, Billy was building an impressive career of his own. A veteran who began his medical career as an anesthesia provider in the Air Force, Billy has worked in anesthesia for more than 40 years and has spent over three decades serving patients at Texas Surgical Center and Midland Memorial Hospital.

Eventually, Michelle found herself coming full circle. “I

told my husband, ‘I’m going to reinstate my real estate license and catch up on continuing education. I want you to get your real estate license as well so we can both work in the business,’” she recalls. “I thought it would be perfect for us to do it together.” Turns out, she was right.

Today, the Haggertys have been working in real estate together for 24 collective years combined throughout the Midland/Odessa and Horseshoe Bay area, building a reputation not only for results, but for relationships. They combine their strengths and give clients the advantage of having two experienced professionals working on their behalf.

“Two REALTORS® for the price of one,” Michelle says with a smile. And while that line may make people laugh, there is truth behind it.

Michelle describes herself as a strong negotiator and the people person of the duo. She loves the relationships, the conversations, and helping clients navigate emotional moments during major life transitions. Billy, on the other hand, brings an analytical and detail-oriented approach to every transaction.

“*there is nothing more satisfying*”
than seeing someone’s smiling face at the closing table. From contract to close, we take pride in doing everything ourselves.”

“Because of my anesthesia background, you can’t be a decimal point off,” Billy explains. “I’m more technical.” That attention to detail becomes especially valuable during the process of the contract and finalizing all the details.

“Our strongest point in real estate is being strong negotiators,” Michelle says. “Whether you’re working for the seller and trying to get them top dollar or helping buyers get the best deal possible, negotiation is everything.”

The Haggertys are deeply hands-on throughout the entire process. In fact, they attend most appointments together and personally host many of their own open houses.

That teamwork extends far beyond business. “He’s the yin to my yang,” Michelle says with a smile.

From balancing schedules to supporting one another’s careers, they have learned how to divide responsibilities

while still operating as one unit. Michelle jokes that Billy still relies on her help with texting, calls, and emails, while she leans on him for technical details and contracts.

Their shared work ethic has helped them remain top producers in a competitive market, but success for the Haggertys is about more than sales numbers.

For Billy, one of the best parts of the business is the people. “Everyone has a story,” he says. “Some people are trying to get here. Some people are trying to move somewhere else. We love helping them accomplish their goals.”

Over the years, many clients have turned into lifelong friends. “There is nothing more satisfying than seeing someone’s smiling face at the closing table,” Michelle says. “From contract to close, we take pride in doing everything ourselves.”

Family + Fun

Outside of work, family remains at the center of everything they do.

With a house full of grandchildren and a packed family calendar, the Haggertys work hard to protect quality time together. “We make sure family time is there, for sure.”

Committed to the Community

The couple also stays heavily involved in the

community, serving on boards and supporting local nonprofits and organizations, including the Permian Basin Board of REALTORS® and Green Tree Country Club. “We stay active,” Michelle says.

Ask them what advice they would give others, and their answers reflect the values they have built their lives around. “Integrity and honesty are the top priority,” Michelle says. For Billy, growth never stops. “Keep pushing forward,” he says. “Life will tell you if you’re not moving in the right direction.”

After decades together, countless clients served, and careers that continue to evolve, Michelle and Billy are still doing exactly what they love, together. And honestly? That may be their greatest success story of all. 🏡



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