

DOMESTIC MILLS ARE ITCHING TO RAISE PRICES

Domestic mill lead times are very short right now and they're itching to raise prices.

I've read several comments recently that domestic mills believe service centers' (distributor) inventory levels are very low. They believe distributors will be coming back to them very soon and they'll be able to fill their order books.

As soon as that happens, they'll immediately go into *price increase* mode. Once they get the price moving higher, they'll likely incrementally increase it as high as they can.

If you are interested in locking in some prices right now, it's a very good time to do this.

We're keeping our ear to the ground so we can react accordingly. Be aware that as soon as the domestic mills start raising prices, all foreign mills will follow suit.

Once that cycle starts the distributors will have no choice but to raise prices also.

THE ECONOMY IS STILL STRONG

A very strong jobs numbers was reported at the beginning of January. Much higher than anyone had expected.

This is good for the economy. In addition, wages are increasing. Low unemployment, consistently good job numbers and higher wages all point to strong consumer spending.

That's what drives the train, the consumer.

OIL HAS COME BACK UP

Oil prices have come back up off their lows. We all saw gas prices at the pumps lower, but that's reversed course higher now that oil has come back up.

Higher oil in our market is always good. If we pay a little more at the pump, that's ok!

A strong oil market will give Houston a strong local economy and that's good for everyone in this area.

Adam Osborn
President
Ace Steel Supply



Houston BBQ

by Kara Osborn



If you are in Texas, EVERYBODY thinks they know where the best place to eat BBQ is located. Well, I've looked up a few here in Houston for you to go try out.... and there's more than you think. It would be fun to try them all.

Corkscrew BBQ: This is a small place up in Spring, TX up close to the new Hwy 99. It's a small trailer with a pit that has lines wrapped around the block on some days. They offer just meat, sandwiches, plates, tacos, salads and loaded potatoes. Come early! Typical sold out time is 3 to 4:30PM Tuesday – Saturday.

Pinkertons Barbecue: Now I have personally been to this place! Super yummy beef ribs! But like the Corkscrew, you have to get there early to get this bad boy. It's a small brick and mortar building with rustic decor located on Airline Dr. in the Heights. They pride themselves with using nothing but certified Angus Beef, Compart Duroc Pork and all natural chicken. All desserts are family recipes and made from scratch.

Gatlins BBQ: I've been here too (lol). They are a family owned business that used to be in a tiny house located on W. 24th St. in Shady Acres, but now they built a more modern, and larger, restaurant on Ella. Same pit master cooking! Try their slow smoked brisket, pulled pork, turkey and baby backs, but get there before 3, to have your choice of which one you want, because they sell out fast!

Burns Original BBQ: This place is in Acres Home. Head up 45N, past Loop 610, drive into an unassuming neighborhood, until you come across a jammed parking lot on De Priest St. This place is known for its beef spare ribs, brisket, sausage and fall off the bone pork ribs. Once again, get there early, they will close when they run out.

Killen's Barbecue: Located in Pearland, Killen's is well-known. Their philosophy is based on trying to retain the heart and soul of old school BBQ cook offs. They are known for their beef brisket, beef ribs, sausage and bread pudding, and unfortunately, lines that wrap around their parking lot on any given day, but well worth the wait.

So, if you get hungry for some carnivorous delights, try some of these local joints... they won't disappoint!

HAPPY NEW YEAR

from

CHANCES DOG RESCUE AND RELOCATION

As we move into 2019, here are just a few of the more than 900 rescue dogs who are thrilled to be celebrating the holidays with their families, thanks to you and Chances Dog Rescue and Relocation.

Deepest gratitude and warmest wishes to you, our generous donors, tireless volunteers, amazing partners, and supporters.

Your belief in and support of our mission makes this possible.

Warmly,
Tiffany Menard & Chances Dog Rescue and Relocation

www.chancesrescue.org
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January 2019 Metal Prices

Drilling Activity

- ➡ **Stainless sheet: Prices are Flat.**
Stainless is flat.
- ➡ **Galvanized sheet: Prices are Flat.**
Prices are generally flat.
- ➡ **Galvanized 60" wide Domestic Stenciled: Prices are Flat.** Domestic galvanized dipped slightly, but I expect mills to raise prices slightly next month.
- ➡ **Hot Rolled: Prices are Flat.** Prices are generally flat.



Drilling Activity decreased from last month's newsletter.

US Rig Count. *AMM and Baker Hughes Data*

*report date

Jan 2019 Newsletter	1050	Jan 18
Dec 2018 Newsletter	1075	Dec 7
Nov 2018 Newsletter	1067	Nov 2
Oct 2018 Newsletter	1052	Oct 5
Sept 2018 Newsletter	1044	Aug 31
Aug 2018 Newsletter	1040	Aug 3
July 2018 Newsletter	1052	July 6

"If you can win complete mastery over self, you will easily master all else. To triumph over self is the perfect victory."

-Thomas À Kempis



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