

The Bad Kind of Money

Dear Editor:

The pandering quote "SemGroup and the Kivisto's were strong community supporters" seems to be appearing less and less in related news stories. I suppose as more of the dirty laundry airs, the glaring fact is they gave to the community alright - with stolen money. Wouldn't we all like to be philanthropists with other people's money? Wining and dining, getting the best seats in town, free meals, hugs from strangers, and slaps on the back wherever we appeared is heady stuff.

Gracing the little people with our presence would be such an ego trip. But most of us would never consider such antics as pleasant. And if we did, we'd go to jail for the rest of our lives, be forced to give up everything we own, ever owned, or hoped to own, lose our children, and the list goes on.

Billions of dollars have evaporated. That doesn't count the lost wages of the employees who no longer have jobs. Stockowners, many of them local, will never recoup their losses. Exactly what amount did SemGroup and the Kivisto's give to the community? Nothing.

-Tammie Dooley