



Repairs to shut off Springtown water service

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Water in the city of Springtown will be shut off at midnight June 25 for a major water line repair, with a boil water notice to follow after work is completed, which is expected by 6 a.m.

Crews will begin the work late evening June 24 at the intersection of 5th Street and Avenue D.

After water service resumes, a boil water notice will be in effect pending laboratory results. Once the notice is lifted, an announcement will be made via Facebook, the city's website www.cityof-springtown.com, and the city of Springtown Connect CTY phone call service.

The interruption and boil water notice will only affect city of Springtown water customers, not customers of any other water provider.

"We appreciate the patience and understanding of our residents and customers during this event, and crews will work diligently to ensure water service is restored as quickly as possible," said Christina Derr, administrations specialist.

For more information, call (817) 220-4834.

COVID jabs just got easier to get

BY SUSAN McFARLAND
spreporter@azlenews.net

Getting a COVID-19 vaccine just got even easier in Parker County: It's free, and an appointment is not necessary.

Parker County Hospital District has plenty of vaccines available to anyone wanting one, according to Emergency Management Coordinator Sean Hughes, who gave a COVID-19 update to county commissioners June 14.

"We encourage everyone to get vaccinated," Hughes said. "It's free. There's no wait. It's a very good time to get one."

There were 160 people who tested positive for the virus between May 18 and June 17. The total number of positive cases in the county is now at 12,683, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services.

The county reports that 89,403 people have received a vaccination in Parker County. That number does not reflect people who may gotten their shots elsewhere.

Hughes said the hospital district has Pfizer vaccines available.

Appointments are not required for the first dose. One is required for the second shot, which will be made when getting the first dose.

County officials are also working with a contractor to vaccinate the jail population with the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, which just requires one dose.

The Parker County Hospital District walk-in clinic is located at 712 E. Anderson in Weatherford. Clinic hours are Monday through Saturday from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and from 1 to 4:45 p.m. For more information, call 817-458-3254 or go to www.pch-dtx.org.

Animals rescued from home covered in their own feces, urine



One of the dogs rescued by authorities from a home on Newsom Mound Road.

Photo courtesy Parker County Sheriff's Office

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Seven dogs and cats covered in their own feces and urine were rescued from an abandoned home that reeked so bad animal control officers had to don protective gear.

Parker County Sheriff's Office animal control officers and sheriff's deputies removed the animals from the home on the 1700 block of Newsom Mound Road after neighbors called in to complain.

"Our personnel was unable to enter the home and retrieve the animals due to the toxic ammonia odor," Parker County Sheriff Russ Authier said. "Our animal control officers required protective clothing and SCBA (breathing apparatus) gear in order to enter the home."

Left without food or water, the animals were discovered June 15 in sad shape.

Conditions in the home were so bad deputies and animal control officers had to run out of the house



Animals left in an abandoned home with no air-conditioning, no food or water, and urine and feces everywhere.

Photo courtesy Parker County Sheriff's Office

SEE ANIMALS, PAGE 3A.

Calling all amateur radio buffs

BY JESSICA McKINNEY
azlereporter@azlenews.net

Tri-County Amateur Radio Club – call sign WC5C – is hosting its annual field day at the Azle Fire Department starting at 1 p.m. on June 26 through 1 p.m. June 27.

Amateur radio operators and those with interest in amateur radio are invited to come out or call in.

"In today's electronic do-it-yourself environment, ham radio remains one of the best ways for people to learn about electronics, physics, meteorology, and numerous other scientific disciplines," said Bob Inderbitzen (N4IR), spokesperson for the American

Radio Relay League (ARRL). "(It) is a huge asset to any community during disasters or emergencies if the standard communication infrastructure goes down."

The field day event is put on by ham radio operators across North America "to showcase the science and skill of amateur radio."

Amateur or ham radio is a reliable method of communication that can operate under any condition from almost any location, creating an independent communications network.

"Ham radio functions completely independent of the internet or cell phone infrastructure, can

SEE AMATEUR RADIO, PAGE 3A.



Mike Burns (call sign KE5NCS) is an active ham radio enthusiast.

Photo courtesy of Tri-County Amateur Radio Club

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Amy Walker being sworn in as SISD trustee.

Photo courtesy Tootie Hall

Walker back on Springtown school board

BY SUSAN McFARLAND
sptreporter@azlenews.net

Amy Walker, a long-term school board member who resigned in November, took the oath of office again June 14 during a Springtown Independent School District special meeting.

Walker was appointed to fill Place 3, a vacancy created by the resignation of Board Vice President Jay Grubis.

When a trustee resigns, their post is filled by some-

one appointed by the board until the next regular board election, which in this case will be May 2022. The board also has the option to order a special election to fill the vacancy.

Grubis resigned because his daughter put in an application to teach in the district.

The Texas Education Code prohibits schools of a certain size from hiring an immediate family member, so Grubis tendered his resignation. He can run for the position in the future,

as long as six months have passed after the family member was hired by the district.

Grubis served on the board for eight years, including stints as secretary and vice president. He was first elected in 2013, and again in 2016. In 2019, Grubis did not have a challenger for his spot.

Walker served for 15 years as a trustee, 11 years as board president, one year as vice president and three as secretary.

Phil King visits Springtown Optimist Club



Texas State Rep. Phil King, House District 61, updated club members about current legislature during the club's June 22 meeting. King, an attorney from Weatherford, has been a Republican member of the Texas House of Representatives since 1999. District 61 encompasses Parker and Wise counties. King is pictured with Denise Taylor, Optimist Club president.

Photo by Susan McFarland

SMS student selected for Lone Star Leadership Academy



Abigail Kennedy, a Springtown Middle School student, at the Texas State Capitol.

Photo courtesy Education in Action

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Abigail Kennedy, a student at Springtown Middle School, got to spend a part of her summer in Austin and San Antonio to participate in the summer 2021 Lone Star Leadership Academy camp. She was selected based on her outstanding academic success, demonstrated leadership ability, involvement in school and community activities, and a nomination from her teacher, Trudy Wells.

Abigail's Texas State Representative and Senator were notified of her accomplishment. During the camp, she visited the Austin offices of her state legislators. She joined a delegation of outstanding students from across the state to develop leadership skills while learning about the great state of

Texas and its leaders.


She visited significant sites in the Austin/San Antonio area including the LBJ Library and Museum, the Alamo, Texas State Cemetery, her state legislators' offices at the Texas State Capitol, Supreme Court of Texas, the Witte Museum, and The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment.

Other activities planned during her visit included a bat watching tour on the Lone Star Riverboat, Natural Bridge Caverns tour, working with a team to decode an escape room, and learning about the culture, history, and architecture of San Antonio on a River Walk Boat Tour.

Education in Action, a non-profit organization, hosts Lone Star Leadership Academy camps to empower young people to be informed

and active leaders in their communities. Outstanding Texas students are invited to participate in Lone Star Leadership Academy camps in Dallas/Fort Worth, Austin/San Antonio, and Houston/Galveston. Participants must be in the 4th-8th grade, maintain an 85 or higher average, demonstrate leadership ability, be involved in community or school activities, and receive an educator recommendation.

Educators are invited to nominate their outstanding 4th-8th grade students for Lone Star Leadership Academy camps online at www.educationinaction.org/nominate. For more information call 817-562-4957 or visit www.educationinaction.org or www.facebook.com/educationinaction.





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ANIMALS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

ceiling in the house were caved-in, insulation was exposed and holes in the floors could be seen, according to Authier.

The odor was so overwhelming the stench permeated the neighborhood.

The sheriff said a carbon monoxide detector showed dangerous levels inside the house. With the windows closed and no air conditioning, the temperature inside of the house was 103 degrees, he said.

With their fur shedding, the animals were afflicted with skin maladies and were taken to North Texas Veterinary Hospital.

"They are responding to medical treatment and medications and appear to be on the mend," said Danie Huffman, PCSO public information officer.

Texas Veterinary Hospital said via a Facebook post the

animals will remain in the custody of animal control until there is a court date and determination.

"(An animal) that's adoptable will be adopted through the shelter or through approved rescues. Please check with the Weatherford/Parker County Animal Shelter for updates," the post read.

Sheriff's investigators said no one lived inside the house, which was being rented to a woman in Fort Worth. Neighbors said the house has been vacant for months.

Authier said the investigation is ongoing.

"We would like to thank LaJunta firefighters for providing oxygen to sheriff's staff," Authier said. "We hope these animals make a full recovery. No pet should be exposed to this level of neglect or deplorable living conditions."

Penny named to Upper Iowa University dean's list

Hogan Penny, a graphic design major from Paradise, has been named to Upper Iowa University's 2021 spring dean's list. To be honored, a student must have earned a minimum 3.5 grade point average for the semester and be enrolled as a full-time student.

Upper Iowa University, founded in 1857, is a private, nonprofit university providing undergraduate and graduate degree programs to

about 4,500 students nationally and internationally at its Fayette, Iowa, campus, 21 U.S. locations, as well as a location in Hong Kong.

With a focus on developing leaders and lifelong learners, UIU provides dual enrollment programs for high school students as well as continuing education and professional development opportunities for learners of any age. For more information, visit www.uiu.edu.

Williams graduates from Endicott

Kristin Williams, of Springtown, earned a Master of Education, Athletic Administration degree from Endicott College, the first college in the U.S. to require internships of its students.

The 81st annual commencement exercises were held May 22. Endicott's undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students par-

ticipated in the ceremony at Hempstead Stadium on the Endicott campus in Beverly, Massachusetts.

The commencement speaker was Dana Bash, CNN's chief political correspondent and co-achor of State of the Union with Jake Tapper and Dana Bash, who provided a virtual address.

AMATEUR RADIO, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.



Mayor Alan Brundrett declared the week of June 21-27 Amateur Radio Week in Azle, recognizing that the Tri-County Amateur Radio Club has "demonstrated their value in public assistance by providing radio communications for local parades, bike-a-thons, walk-a-thons, fairs and other charitable public events and also serve as weather spotters in the Skywarn program of the National Weather Service."

interface with laptops or smartphones, and can be set up almost anywhere in minutes," Inderbitzen said.

There are over 750,000 licensed "hams" in the United States. The Tri-County Amateur Radio Club, which covers the areas north and west of Fort Worth in Tarrant, Parker and Wise counties, has more than 100 members.

"There are typically 20-30 members who attend monthly meetings," said Thomas Kisner, call sign KN6Q, lifetime member of WC5C.

The club appeals to people of all ages. "The youngest member is 12 years old, and the oldest active member I know is 80 years old," Kisner said.

Mayor Alan Brundrett

declared the week of June 21-27 Amateur Radio Week in Azle, recognizing that the Tri-County Amateur Radio Club has "demonstrated their value in public assistance by providing radio communications for local parades, bike-a-thons, walk-a-thons, fairs and other charitable public events and also serve as weather spotters in the Skywarn

program of the National Weather Service."

Anyone may become a licensed amateur radio operator. For more information about Field Day or amateur radio, contact Wayne Morris at 817-565-8948 or email ac5v@txvette.com. You can also check out www.arri.org/what-is-ham-radio to learn more.

Ribbon Cutting for CENTURY 21 Judge Fite Company



The Springtown Area Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting June 3 for the CENTURY 21 Judge Fite Company, located at 407 Old Springtown Road, Suite 116. Hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. They can be reached at 817-220-6462. CENTURY 21 Judge Fite has served the real estate needs of the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex for more than 80 years. The company has grown from one office with eight associates to more than 25 offices and more than 800 associates.

Photo courtesy Springtown Area Chamber of Commerce

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INSIDE HUNTING

Pass to hunt ducks give duo something to toot about

While trying to escape the 100-degree heat of a mid-day archery antelope hunt in Southeastern Colorado, my brother and I decided to check our email in hopes of seeing that we drew for a public hunting opportunity in Texas.

After our phones downloaded the long-awaited email from Texas Parks and Wildlife, we were pleased to see the status of our application for a waterfowl hunt at Richland Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA). We were selected for the final weekend of duck season. Our joy — we were jumping up and down — nearly scared every antelope within a 5-mile radius.

Fast forward to Friday afternoon before the season ended at Richland Creek WMA, my brother, college roommate, and I awaited to be assigned our compartment for the weekend's hunt. Throwing on our waders, we proceeded to scout out where we would attempt to coax some birds that had traveled thousands of miles to the Trinity River.

After scouting out an opening in the flooded timber that showed excellent coverage in vegetation, we set out to our hotel.

EXCITING MORNINGS

The following two mornings were exciting — birds whizzing overhead, lull moments that made us question why we woke up at 4 a.m. —

WILLIAM BURKHEAD
wburkhead@quailforever.org

William Burkhead recently moved to Granbury and is a wildlife biologist for a conservation organization called Quail Forever. He works with Texas Parks and Wildlife promoting a program that increases public hunting land by leasing privately-owned properties.

and everything in between. My college roommate Luke Alfaro was the first on the board, as a lone green wing teal landed about 10 feet away from him at shooting light.

The weekend continued with the three of us constantly working birds and creating an appetite for some jalapeno duck poppers or spiced rum-marinated duck fajitas. At the end of the weekend, with blind bags full of empty shotshells, we went our separate ways.

The final weekend of duck season a memory, all that was left was for us to reminisce about all the fun we had.

The opportunity we were given by the state department is on a long list of hunting opportunities that are offered through the Annual Public Hunting Program.

The highlights of the APH program are the state-owned WMAs. The WMAs comprise nearly 750,000 acres of professionally managed habitat for game and non-game species, where wildlife biologist and wildlife technicians work throughout the year to maintain and en-

hance habitat that benefits native species.

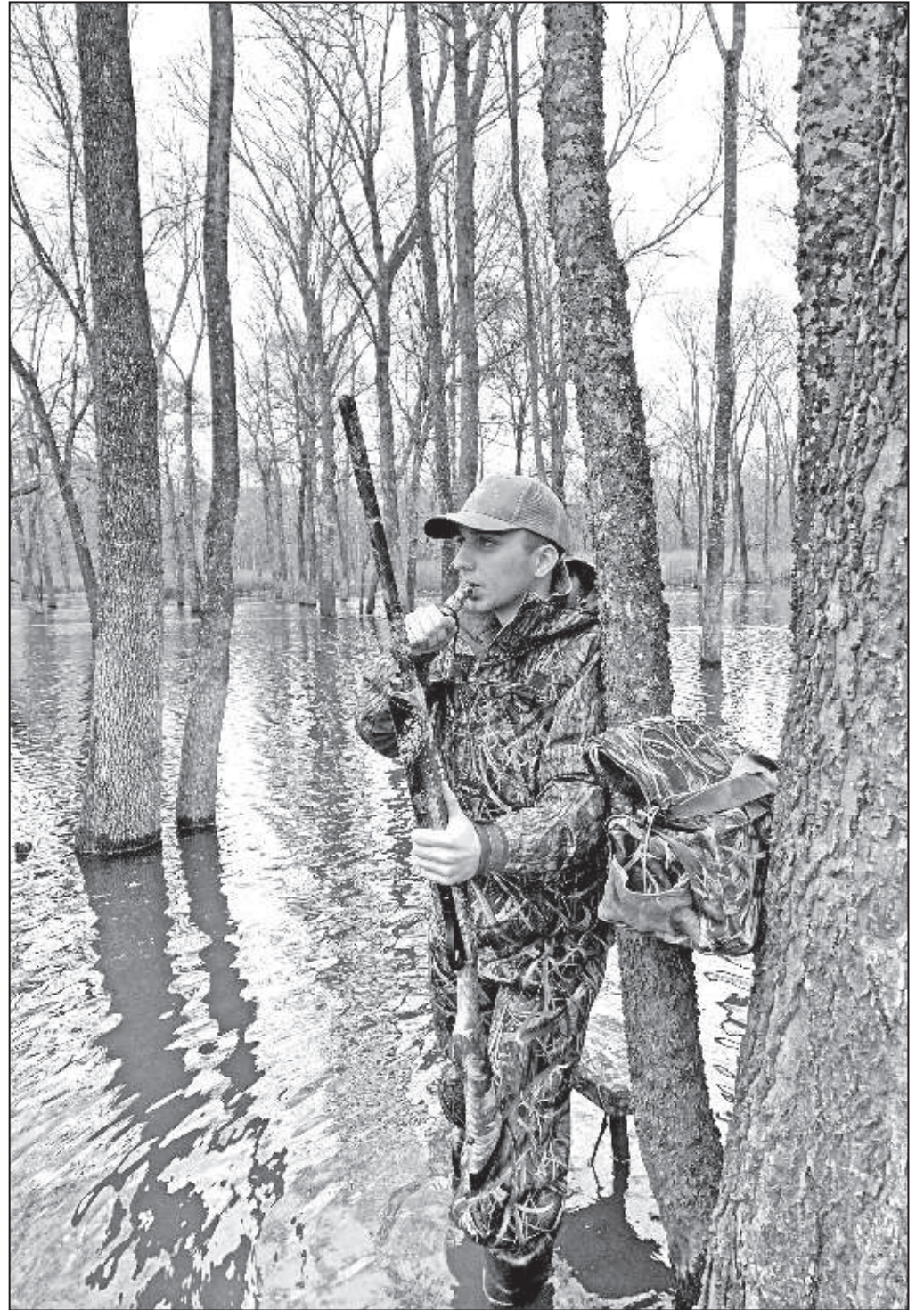
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Each WMA is unique to the ecoregion that it resides in; WMAs on the coast offer exquisite waterfowl hunting, whereas WMAs in the hill country provide outstanding white-tailed deer hunting.

Richland Creek boasts a superb moist soil management strategy as well as bottomland hardwood stands that offer outstanding duck and deer hunting opportunities. State WMAs offer outdoor opportunities across the board. Activities such as hiking, fishing and biking are available at various WMAs.

Hunters can experience these hunting opportunities each season by draw or walk-in (depending on the WMA). Typical application cost is \$3 per entry for a specified type of hunt, while the E-Postcard (electronic) hunts are free and available to Annual Public Hunting Permit (APH) holders.

The catalog for all hunts can be found at TPWD's website under public hunting (<https://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/hunt/public/>). Applications will open in the coming summer months. The APH program allows for numerous hunting opportunities throughout the state to be experienced and enjoyed, with WMAs improving public hunting land and hunting experiences.



CALLING IN: Luke Alfaro calling in a trio of mallards into the decoy spread. Photo Courtesy William Burkhead

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Heat wave prompts conservation call, border wall plan unveiled

HEAT WAVE PROMPTS CONSERVATION CALL

The Electric Reliability Council of Texas urged Texans to cut back on power usage last week when an unusually large number of power plants shut down for unexpected repairs as temperatures soared. ERCOT officials announced Friday that Texans could resume normal levels of electricity use, however.

ERCOT came under fire after widespread outages during the winter storm in mid-February, resulting in the CEO being forced out and much of the board replaced.

Saturday marked the official first day of summer.

BORDER WALL CONSTRUCTION PLAN UNVEILED

Gov. Gregg Abbott last week announced several key facets of his plan for the state to build a wall on its border with Mexico. Abbott and other state leaders signed a letter during a



STATE CAPITOL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

press conference, allowing the transfer of \$250 million to begin construction and to hire a program manager and contractors. The program manager will hire contractors and subcontractors needed to build the wall and will identify available state land, as well as private land whose owners are willing to volunteer space for the wall.

Meanwhile, Land Commissioner George P. Bush announced approximately 591,595 acres of state-owned land will receive emergency authorization to be used to build part of the wall. Texas and Mexico share 1,254 miles of common border, according to the Texas Department of Transportation.

The governor is also seeking donations for building a wall via www.borderwall.gov. State lawmakers allocated \$1 billion for border security in the recently passed budget, but Democratic officials have pointed out most of that money goes to the Texas Department of Public Safety.

ABBOTT APPOINTS COBOS TO PUC

Abbott last week appointed Lori Cobos to the PUC. She fills a term scheduled to expire on Sept. 1, although she could be reappointed. Senate confirmation is not required since the Legislature is not in session. The PUC will have a full complement of commissioners

for the first time since February.

"I am proud to appoint Lori Cobos to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, and I know that she will draw upon her wealth of experience and knowledge to faithfully serve the people of Texas," Abbott said.

Cobos has served in several senior-level posts at the PUC and ERCOT, including as chief executive and public counsel for the Office of Public Utility Counsel. As a commissioner, she will draw a salary of \$201,000 annually.

FOREST SERVICE FIREFIGHTERS SENT TO AID OTHER STATES

Texas A&M Forest Service has sent 25 firefighters, including two engine crews, to wildfires in Colorado, Alaska, Arizona, New Mexico and Florida.

"Texas state resources are supporting wildfire suppression efforts in multiple roles, including firefighters, engine support, prevention team members, aviation operations and support roles,"

TFS said in a press release.

The release said TFS remains dedicated to protecting the state's natural resources from wildfire while assisting other states, a common practice.

Across Texas, the potential for wildfires remains low due to the copious amounts of rain this spring. For current conditions, visit the Texas Potential Outlook site: <https://tinyurl.com/3j84srd7>

VACCINE RATE CONTINUES TO SLOW

The number of Texans who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 has hit 11.4 million, about 39% of the state's population, according to Texas Department of State Health Services.

Across the United States, 45% of the population is fully vaccinated. Texas ranks in the lower tier of states in percentage of population that is fully vaccinated. However, the number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas dropped considerably from the previous week, with 8,414 reported by the

Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University, along with 186 deaths. Hospitalizations dropped slightly, with 1,564 lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients in Texas hospitals, according to DSHS.

STAAR TESTS SHOW DROP IN MATH RESULTS

Results from the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness, which measures students' knowledge of several subjects, shows a sharp drop in math scores, the Texas Standard reported last week. The new scores came after a school year unlike no other, with many students taking classes online at home because of the pandemic.

Only 42% of high school students who took the primary high school math test were considered to be "at grade level," down from 66% last year. This year's STAAR results don't include all students, since some did not return to school in-person to take the exam.

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Springtown Taco Time Mexican Grill No. 1 has been serving inside the Kwik Stop at 432 West Hwy. 199 for more than 11 years.

Taco Time Mexican Grill No. 2 is located at 529 North Main Street and has been open for almost 10 years.

Both locations offer a menu of Tex-Mex favorites that entice any appetite, and draw in regular customers for breakfast, lunch and dinner each day.

"Customer appreciation is guaranteed," they say. "Try our food once; you'll be coming back again and again."

Their unbeatable prices aren't the only thing that draws in their patrons day after day. Customers are also attracted to Taco Time Mexican Grill's great food quality and hygienic atmosphere and clean restrooms.

Kwik Stop has opened two new locations, one in Bridgeport at 1206 Hovey Street, and the second one at 213 E. Rock Island Ave. in Boyd.

It's the best and fastest food in town!

All Taco Time Mexican Grills are open every day. Stop in from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

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Obituaries

Chester White

1951- 2021

Chester Albert "Chuck" White Jr. passed away June 16, 2021.

Chuck was born February 15, 1951 in San Antonio, son of Chester Albert and Ruby Dean (Eilenberger) White. Visitation was 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, June 22, 2021, at White's Azle Chapel Rosary was 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 22, 2021, White's Azle Chapel

Mass of Christian Burial: was 10 a.m. Wednesday, June 23, 2021 at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Interment: Ash Creek Cemetery.

Chuck proudly served and retired from the United States Army. After his retirement from the Army, he worked for many years for Nokia and Charter as an electrical engineer. Chuck was an avid golfer, loved baseball, and motorcycles. In his younger days, he



loved watersports and he loved to build and fix things. He is preceded in death by his father, Chester Albert White Sr.

Left to treasure his memory is his wife, Rita; son, Jonathan White; daughter, Sarah White; mother, Ruby White; four grandchildren; and two brothers, Samuel White and Charlie White, Sr.

The Springtown Epigraph June 24, 2021 Edition

Terrance Albracht

1949- 2021

Terrance "Terry" Wayne Albracht, 71, of Springtown, Texas passed away suddenly at the home he loved on Sunday, June 13, 2021.

A memorial celebrating his life will be held at 1 p.m., Friday, June 25, 2021 at Galbreath-Pickard Funeral Chapel, 913 N. Elm Street, in Weatherford.

Visitation with the family begins at noon prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers, donations would be appreciate to cancer related charities.

He was born November 15, 1949, to Jerry and Pauline "Polly" Albracht in Herford, Texas.

Terry was preceded in death by his parents, brother-in-law John Broome, and nephew Jordan Broome.

Terry, owner of Albracht Insurance Agency LLP, began his insurance career in the early 1970's gravitating to equine insurance in 1985. A horse owner himself, he began competing in roping and cutting horses.

In the past 30 years, he was also the proud owner of several racehorses, mares, foals, and stallion shares. He looked forward to going to the horse sales and races - anything to do with the



horses that he loved.

Terry had a big smile and an even bigger heart. He was a man who always tried to do right by people. His handshake was a promise and his word was his bond. Terry will be sorely missed by all who knew and loved him.

Terry is survived by his beloved wife Shelley; son, Spencer and wife Chana; and his pride and joy grandchildren, Parker, William, Emma, and Eleanor. He is also survived by sisters, Kay Bell (husband Roy) and Gwen Broome, and brother, Richard (wife Linda); many nieces, nephews, and large extended family; his employees, and friends too numerous to count.

The Springtown Epigraph June 24, 2021 Edition

Rheta Hughes

1934- 2021

On May 29, 2021, Rheta Hughes, loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother, passed peacefully from this earth at the age of 86 in Springtown.

Services were held Saturday, June 5, 2021, at First Baptist Church of Cottondale.

Interment was Saturday, June 5, 2021, at the Phillips Cemetery in Travis.

Rheta was born June 15, 1934 in Lott, Texas to Bettie Maud Joiner McAlpine and Preston McAlpine. Rheta lived a full life. She worked a short time as a beautician, but was better known for her work as a proud homemaker. She loved sewing, gardening, traveling, family, farming and the life she got to live on their family farm.

Rheta was a devout Christian with a servant's heart who loved her church community.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Clifton Hughes; son, David Hughes; brother, Verdell McAlpine; sisters, Beatrice Taylor, Merdell Triggs, and Ruth



Solomon.

Rheta is survived by her son, Doug Hughes of Springtown; granddaughters, Stacy Hughes of Mineral Wells, Ashley Hughes of Springtown, and Halle Hughes of Springtown; great granddaughter, Tavyn Mayes of Mineral Wells; sister, Frances Westerman of Lott; cousin, Lois Vinson (EC Vinson) of Houston; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

She was loved dearly and will be missed by all who knew her.

The Springtown Epigraph June 24, 2021 Edition

Charles Tanner

1938- 2021

Charles Allen Tanner was born July 28, 1938 and went home to be with the Lord June 10, 2021.

Memorial service is at 10 a.m. Monday, June 28, 2021 at First Baptist Church of Azle.

Charles loved God, his family, friends, horses and dogs. He enjoyed team penning, team roping and wood working.

In later years when his health would not permit many activities, he enjoyed tinkering in his shop and leathercrafts. Most of all, he enjoyed spending time with his family.

Charles was preceded in death by his mother, Lila Napper; stepfather, Bennie Napper; and sister, Emma Tanner Newton.



Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Joann Tanner; sons, Todd Tanner and wife, Rachel and Ty Tanner and wife, Khristina; grandchildren, Sarah, Emily, Erin and Jake Tanner; and sister, Mona Williams.

The Springtown Epigraph June 24, 2021 Edition

Debra Taliaferro

1954- 2021

Debra Kay Hexemer Taliaferro, 67, went home to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, Tuesday, April 13, 2021 in Fort Worth.

Memorial service is at 11 a.m., Saturday, July 3, 2021 at First United Methodist Springtown.

Debra was born January 15, 1954 in Fort Worth to Jerry Clinton Hexemer and Troy Louise (Short) Hexemer.

Debra was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Kenneth H. Florence Hexemer.

Debra was an active member of Southside Church of Christ, where she was involved in their outreach program.

She loved to cook and care for her four grandchildren, Magnus, Presley, Aubrey and Adaline. Sharing time with them was her passion.



Left to cherish fond memories are her sons, Sam Taliaferro, Alex Taliaferro and his wife Daniella; sisters, Pahla Hexemer Webb, Jeri Lyn Pillsbury; 60 nieces and nephews, and a myriad of friends who loved her dearly.

The Springtown Epigraph June 24, 2021 Edition

Bernard Beauvais

1934- 2021

Bernard F. Beauvais, 87, passed away on June 20, 2021.

Bernard was born January 26, 1934 in Worcester, MA, son of Bernard F. and Gladys (Defalco) Beauvais.

Bernard served his country as a member of the U.S. Navy. He married the love of his life, Lorraine Marszalkowski, on January 26, 1957. They would go on to spend over 50 happy years

together.

He was preceded in death by his wife and parents.

Survivors include his daughter, Michele LaBeck (David); son, Alan Beauvais (Bonita); grandchildren, Heather Beauvais, Danny LaBeck, Tiffany McNeese, Tonya McNeese, Catherine Demilio, James Mindard, Johnathon Demilio; and 11 great grandchildren.

The Springtown Epigraph June 24, 2021 Edition

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<p>ASH CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Dr. G. Wesley Shotwell 300 South Stewart St. 817-444-3219 www.ashcreekbc.org</p> <p>Sunday School..... 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship-TMP 10:45 AM Traditional Worship 10:45 AM Evening Worship 6:00 PM Wednesday Youth Refuge..... 6:00 PM Wednesday Evening..... 6:15 PM</p> <p>LEGACY CHURCH Assembly of God Church Pastor: Gary D. Veazey Hwy. 199 & Jaybird Lane 817-221-2983 Morning Worship..... 9:15 & 11:00 AM Kidz Zone..... 9:15 & 11:00 AM Wednesday Evening Legacy Group Legacy Youth, Legacy Kids All Services..... 7:00 PM</p> <p>THE ABBEY CHURCH Pastor: Paul Brownback 10400 Jacksboro Highway 817-238-1404 www.TheAbbeyChurch.com Morning Worship..... 10:30 AM Community Groups Various Times</p>	<p>SILVER CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Dr. Vaughn Baker - Pastor 2200 Church Rd., Azle 817-444-1382</p> <p>Sunday School..... 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Sunday Youth..... 10:00 AM</p> <p>SILVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Jay Ditty Minister of Music: David Musick Corner FM 730 S. & Veal Station Rd. Church 817-444-2325 www.silvercreekbc.org</p> <p>Sunday School..... 9:45 AM Morning Worship..... 10:50 AM Evening Worship 6:00 PM Wed. Prayer Service..... 7:00 PM</p> <p>CROSSROADS BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor - Jon Baker Corner FM 730S & FM 1886 817-755-0279 Transportation Available Worship Service..... 10:30 AM Wed. Prayer Service..... 7:00 PM</p>	<p>COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH Pastor - Alton Davis 817-521-4510 1405 Reynolds Rd., Azle 817-444-7117 Directions: 730 N. to 1542 .5 mi. right on Cardinal, left on Reynolds</p> <p>Sunday School..... 9:45 AM Morning Worship..... 11:00 AM Sunday Evening..... 6:00 PM Wednesday Evening..... 7:00 PM</p> <p>HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH 800 Highcrest Dr. - Azle 817-444-3063</p> <p>Saturday 5:00 PM Sunday 9:00 AM Sunday 11 AM (Spanish) Daily Mass (M, T, Th, F) 8:00 AM Wednesday 6:30 PM Confessions..... Sat 4 PM Wed 5:30 PM</p>	<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Pastor: Dr. Richard Reed 200 Church St., Azle 817-444-3323</p> <p>Morn. Worship 8:30, 9:45 & 11 AM Sunday School 9:45 & 11 AM Youth (UMYF) 5:00 PM Sunday & 6:30 PM Wednesday</p> <p>CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH 2233 Hwy 199 E. • Springtown 817-221-LIFE (5433)</p> <p>Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM Wednesday 7:00 PM</p> <p>THE EDGE CHURCH - AZLE 1313 S.E. Pkwy, Azle 817-237-4822 Missouri Synod "Love God - Serve Others - Share Jesus" Sunday School/Bible Study 9:00 AM Light Breakfast 10:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM</p>	<p>AZLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ) Senior Minister, Rev. Dr. Alan Lobaugh Ashley Dargai, Minister of Practical Theology; Katie Medlin, Minister of Family Life 117 Church St. • 817-444-3527</p> <p>Sunday School..... 10:00 AM Morning Worship..... 11:00 AM</p> <p>HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA 4795 E. Hwy 199 - Reno 817-221-HOPE Follow us on Facebook for streaming services Sunday School..... 9:00 AM Traditional Service 10:00 AM</p> <p>SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH 591 S. Reno Rd, Springtown, Texas 76082 Pastor - Bill Gay - 817-304-7443 Coffee and Donuts 9:00 AM Sunday School..... 9:30 AM Morning Worship..... 10:30 AM Children's Church After Music Service Wed. Prayer Meeting..... 6:30 PM Wed. Bible Study..... 7:00 PM</p>
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Congrats Springtown 4-H for a fantastic showing at the 2021 Parker County Youth Livestock Show!

From pies and crops to rabbits and lambs, Springtown 4-H members did a fine job showing June 5-12 at the Parker County Sheriff's Posse Rodeo Grounds & Event Center in Weatherford, with six making the sale and participating in the auction.



Bella Feliciano
Reserve Champion Breeding Rabbit



Shelby Hampe - Overall Champion Showman for having high point overall in showmanships



Emma Hauprich
Champion Jr Pie



Emma Hauprich (2nd from right)- Reserve Champion Medium Wool Ewe and 1st Place Jr Breeding Sheep Showmanship



Shelby Hampe - 1st Place Jr. Breeding Rabbit Showmanship

PHOTOS COURTESY SPRINGTOWN 4-H

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The merchants on this page support our youth in all their activities. Support them by shopping at home - every chance you get.

Food, fun and fireworks at Follow the Flag



Fireworks lit up the night sky at the 2020 Follow the Flag event at Azle Central Park. File Photo

The Azle Ministerial Alliance is excited to once again be hosting the annual Follow the Flag event on July 4 at Azle Central Park. Festivities will begin at 7 p.m. and wrap up at 10 p.m. after the Fireworks Extravaganza.

This year, there will be free food, refreshments and entertainment at this fami-

ly-friendly event. "Our food area will have tea, water, misting tent, coffee, hot dogs, walking tacos, snow cones, cotton candy and big dill pickles," said Pastor Tim Stevens. "We will also have live music and we will be honored to have our own Mayor Alan Brundrett giving a proclamation and welcom-

ing everyone to this year's Follow the Flag event. We will end the night with a great fireworks show put to music." Everyone is invited out to enjoy the festivities and watch as the night sky is lit up with a great fireworks display over the Azle Memorial Library.

For. All.

Last Saturday would have been his 48th birthday. Born the day after my mom and stepdad's second wedding anniversary, he was named Walter (my maternal grandfather's first name) Wayne (my stepdad's middle name) and he showed up two months ahead of his due date.



BE AMAZING
By Gerry Lewis

Azle resident Dr. Gerry Lewis guides explorers to discover their AMAZING. He is an author, musician, and speaker, and a coach-sultant for individuals, churches, and organizations. More at www.discoveryouramazing.com.

Premature babies at that stage and weight more often than not do well and develop normally now, but that was not the case almost a half-century ago. Though our family prayed for a miracle, we really were really not ever given much hope.

And though his death within two weeks of his birth was a source of deep grief, it was presented as a blessing that he would not have all the inevitable struggles that everyone told us he would have.

I was eleven years old that summer of 1973. I was never in the room with him. I never touched him. I only looked through the hospital nursery window at his tiny form in the incubator.

But he was my little brother and I still miss him every year.

One of his nurses was a precious African American lady who poured everything she had into his brief sojourn with us. She told our family that he was "her baby" because he was born on Juneteenth (June 19).

That's all I knew of Ju-

neteenth for a long time. It was something that black people talked about and it was about as relevant to me as the Ides of March.

But I had already been reciting for years the Pledge of Allegiance—"one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all"—and celebrating July 4th. I knew I lived in the United States of America—the "land of the free and the home of the brave."

What I did not understand at that time was how anyone could not feel the same sense of patriotism and pride that I had been taught was my birthright as an American.

I had no frame of reference to understand that "liberty and justice for all" sounded hollow in the ears of some of my fellow Americans.

Now, before anyone makes any assumptions about me (and where I'm

going with the next 200 or so words), let me state unequivocally that I am still a proud American. I still stand at attention with my hand over my heart to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and sing the National Anthem.

But I've learned over my 59 years that the words of the Pledge and the Anthem are not statements of reality, but of aspiration.

"Liberty and justice for all" is not something we celebrate as if it is a foregone conclusion.

It is a calling. And though my calling as an American and my calling as a follower of Jesus are not equivalent, they do carry one compelling similarity—the call to both BE and DO.

Before I can ask anyone else to join me or take up my cause, I must BE the kind of American and the kind of Jesus-follower that I am inviting others to be.

And I must DO the things that demonstrate what kind of American and Jesus-follower that I am.

Part of discovering our Amazing is the moment of clarity when we recognize that our journey to Amazing is both aspirational and invitational.

As long as I can be happy with liberty and justice for some (those who agree with me), my words ring hollow.

These words are the key: "For. All."

Be amazing today, my friend.

Agriculture and the Environment 2.0

Last week I mentioned that the weather pattern El Nino was "discovered" in the 1980s by scientists and meteorologists and for a while all of the unexpected weather occurrences were blamed on it.

Obviously, El Nino and its younger sister La Nina have always been around which most of the experts were aware of, they just hadn't honed in on it and named it.

Anyway, my reason for bringing this topic back up is to share with you a western, "Cowpokes" type cartoon of that time. So here it is; an older rancher and his wife are sitting at their kitchen table, he has been reading the newspaper which has an El Nino title showing. They obviously have been discussing the news and of course the weather. The rancher looks at his wife as asks "Ma, do you remember when el Nino was just the weather?" At the time, and even now I think the idea expressed in



AG 101
By Jack DeShazo

Jack DeShazo has decades of experience in the agriculture field.

the cartoon was so fitting, something that had always been around was now newly discovered and suddenly the blame for all of the weather action. How ridiculous but how typical of humans.

Some of you may remember in an earlier edition I mentioned that many teachers, including myself, when teaching an important principle that students would more than likely see again on a test would repeat the information multiple times. So, here are a few repeats

and your warning about important information.

Number one, Agriculturalists are a very small minority of the U.S.A. population, approximately 2%, not nearly enough to sway votes on political issues that influence Agriculture and in turn all citizens of our state, nation and world. This is one of many reasons for the 98% of non-agriculturalists to be aware of and understand the essential importance of and the workings of Agriculture.

Number two, greenhouse gases are real and can be a genuine threat to the health of our planet. Number 3, many of us have not been good caretakers of the planet that the Good Lord has allowed us to use. And, the repeat of important fact number 4, the five sources of greenhouse gas production/pollution and their percentages produced are: Transportation 29 %, Electricity Generation 25%, Industry 23%. Commercial & Residential 13% and Agriculture 10%.

Many of y'all who are familiar with the use of statistics and numbers for facts and references know that you have to be careful, if you search deep enough you can make numbers show just about anything that you are trying to prove. Considering that fact I try to be very careful with my references to numbers. The latest records available show as a whole when compared between 2018 and 2019 total greenhouse gas production decreased 1.7%. This is good or at least a good start!

Individually transportation increased, electricity generation decreased, industry increased, commercial & residential stayed consistent and Agriculture decreased. Let's look at the 2019 breakdown of only the ten percent of Agricultural greenhouse gas emissions. Soil management including commercial fertilizer application and soil tillage accounted for 54.8%, enteric fermentation gases produced and given off by the digestive process of live-

stock 28.4%, manure management 13%, rice cultivation 2.4%, urea fertilization .8%, liming of acidic soils .4%, and burning of Agricultural field residues .1%.

Agriculture is the one sector that has the ability to transform from a net emitter of carbon dioxide to the sequester of the same. This can be done by tying up carbon greenhouse gas in the soil, plants and plant residue. Things such as modifying land use, increasing forestry where appropriate, and composting.

We all know from elementary school and jr. high science that green growing plants use carbon dioxide. Most everyone has an opinion on the use of ethanol as a source of fuel which has both negatives and positives, but does definitely have an effect on greenhouse gases. As a wind up this week's column; please allow me to straighten out a couple of things that some media and many unknowing people have wrong and in turn pass

along to other unknowing folks.

The results of most livestock enteric fermentation is not flatulation (passing gas), the actual results of this fermentation is eructation (belching). Yes, this does account for 28.4% of Agricultural greenhouse gas emissions, but before complaining about this we might need to decide how much we need and desire the products provided by livestock.

While thinking about complaining we might also want to consider the fact that human digestive tracts do the same thing and there doesn't seem to be much of a concern about that greenhouse gas.

As a summary on greenhouse gases let me say this; we as common, everyday citizens have work to do in many areas and we as Agriculturalists, no matter how small the Agricultural enterprise, have work to do !!!!

'til next week.



The Springtown Epigraph



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Lady Porcupines take the court, summer camp series continues



Over 20 future Springtown Lady Porcupines attended the girls summer basketball camp from June 16-18 to learn basketball techniques and skills from Springtown High School coaches.

Available to 2nd through 9th grades, the camp was held from 2-4 p.m. in the SHS Gym.

The campers complete a series of drills in which they practiced shots, including lay ups and free throws, and learned how to drive to the

basket with control.

Near the end of the 2-hour session, campers had the opportunity to play against one another in a series of mock games.

The girls basketball camp marks the end of summer camps in June. There are more SISD summer camps prepared for July. Football camp starts on July 13 and ends July 15 and is open to 2nd through 6th grades.

Volleyball camp will be held on July 26-28 and has

two sessions — 3rd through 5th grades from 8:30-10 a.m. and 6th through 9th grades from 10:30 a.m.-noon.

The final scheduled SISD athletic summer camp in the series is elite volleyball and will be held July 29-31. The elite volleyball camp is open to 9th through 12th grades from 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

For more information on SISD athletic summer camps, visit the athletics page on www.springtown-isd.net or call 817-220-3040.

Photos by Susan McFarland



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ACROSS
1 in Tarrant County on highway 199
5 you spit out a watermelon
6 "Battleship Texas State Historic
7 -gallon hat
8 addition result
9 TXism: "critter corral"
12 TXism: "smoke" (expose)
17 sleeping noisily
19 1962 western: "Young Texas"
21 lizards found in the Rio Grande Valley
22 country where former Maverick Roy Tarpley played
23 where women get beautified (2 wds.)
28 nine Astros or eleven Cowboys
29 TXism: "as the bottom of a well"
30 spit
31 TX's "Naval Station side" was closed in 2010
35 football headgear
36 TX Larry McMurtry wrote "In A"
37 Essays on "Texas" (1968)
42 "P" of POW
44 TXism: "new to parts"
46 TXism: "dumb as"
48 UT and A&M started with land
49 TX George W. to late George H.W.
50 TX Dell's 1st smartphone
51 TXism: "if it ain't true, there cow in Texas"
52 internet trade org.
53 British boys
54 TXism: "he's his boots burned up before he smelled the smoke"
56 floral delivery serv.
57 agreement to pay (abbr.)
58 duffers use out golf balls
DOWN
1 this happened to JFK in Texas on Nov. 22, 1963
2 "New Braunfels Herald-"
3 "don't" of your sight" (keep them close)
4 newspaper: "Echo"
9 this TX-born Garrison won tennis gold in 1988
10 TXism: "she has to sneak up"
11 this TX Smith won pole vault gold in 1948 (init.)
12 TXism: "active as an suckin' dog"
13 Jefferson, TX puts on "The Diamond Bessie" every May
14 Crowell's 6-man team class (2 wds.)
15 computer operator
16 clock: tick-
18 TX-born actress Meredith Mac
20 Santa, TX
23 TX Mary Kay
24 motor oil viscosity number
25 "Texas, Our Texas! hail the mighty State!"
37 this Paul wrote a song for TX Holly
38 regenerates
39 TXism: "lend" (assist)
40 AC openings
41 TXism: "bien" (good)
43 TX Buddy Holly's "It's Easy"
45 Mexican "is"
47 this fits through a stirrup (2 wds.)
48 efrontery
55 powerless fire-cracker (2 wds.)
26 TXism: "a dish rag"
27 eat too much, e.g.
32 TXism: "hill for a stepper"
33 2nd gov. init.
34 this Gray played J.R.'s wife on "Dallas" (init.)
36 "neither" sidekick

TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
Copyright 2015 by Orbison Bros.
37 this Paul wrote a song for TX Holly
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36 "neither" sidekick

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PELICAN BAY: 1516 CORAL CUT OFF, 2-1, \$925/mo. \$600 deposit. Gene Thompson & Associates, 817-246-4646. gtatx.com.
2-1 house, just refurbished, shaded yard, close to shopping, restaurants and Hwy 199, \$1,200/mo. 817-444-3636.

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082 RV's for Rent
Nice 1BR RV in adult RV park. Great for older person on limited income. Starts at \$550/mo. All Bills Paid. Heritage RV Park 817-444-3760.

40 ft. Travel Trailer for Rent. \$600/mo. \$200 deposit, All Bills Paid, except propane. Single or couple. 682-239-0760.

083 Houses for Sale
FOR SALE BY OWNER: 304 Pearson Lane, Azle area. 2-2-2 brick home on 3 lots, fenced backyard. Asking \$225,000. Shown by appointment 940-393-6376 or 940-389-3713.

084 Mobile Homes for Rent
Pelican Bay: 1941 Gale Drive, 2-2, CH/A, stove only, \$795/mo. \$400 deposit. Owner/Broker 817-988-9954.

New large 2BR homes starting at \$925/mo. with lawn & trash service. 730 N & Peden Road area, no pets, non smoking. Text 817-504-2746.

PELICAN BAY: 1409 SHERI LANE, 2-1, \$725/mo. \$400 deposit. Gene Thompson & Associates, 817-246-4646. gtatx.com.

817-270-3340 - AZLE
817-220-7217 - SPRINGTOWN

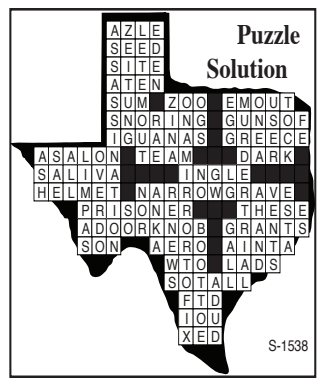
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AUCTION
Guadalupe County/Sheriff's Annual Surplus Auction, Sat., June 26, 10 a.m., 2605 N. Guadalupe St., Seguin, TX. 10%-12% B.P. View: Fri., June 25, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and sale day 8-10 a.m. Bid live online or on-site. (2) Caterpillar steel wheel rollers, pickups, cars, TVs, bikes, tools and much more. See website: www.siskauction.com, TXSH7425, John Sisk Auctioneers, Inc., 361-456-7771.

EVENT
Wylie - Bluegrass on Ballard, Sat. June 26. Music 1-9 p.m.; Arts & Crafts 10 a.m.-9 p.m. (WylieTexas.gov); Classic Car Show 4-9 p.m. (pre-register for car show at DiscoverWylie.com). Event will be held in Historic Downtown Wylie on Ballard Avenue. More information at DiscoverWylie.com.

REAL ESTATE
Kerrville, TX - Grand Opening Land Sale, Sat. & Sun., June 26 & 27. 3 to 10 Acre Homesites. Live and work from home! Nicely wooded homesites, low cost of living, panoramic 30-mile Hill Country views, gated entrance w/underground electric & internet, situated on the Texas Wine Trail, within 10 min. of shopping/restaurants in Kerrville "Official Capital of Texas Hill Country." 866-999-6616, ext. 41, LomaVistaRanchTX.com.

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Fatherhood

Welcome to not knowing the right thing to do

If you told me yesterday that a Kevin Hart movie would've hit me right in the feels and made me shed a few tears, I wouldn't have believed it.

"Fatherhood" is not the typical role you picture for this comedian, but Hart certainly takes it and runs with it.

Director Paul Weitz ("About a Boy") co-wrote this film with Dana Stevens ("City of Angels"). The story is based on the book "Two Kisses for Maddy: A Memoir of Loss and Love," which is an account of Matt Logelin's own life after losing his wife and finding himself a single parent from day one.

THE PLOT

Matt (Hart) and Liz Logelin are thrilled to welcome their new daughter into the world. But that joy turns to sorrow in an instant when Liz suffers a pulmonary embolism shortly after Maddy's birth.

Suddenly, Matt is a single parent, struggling to keep himself together in the face of self-doubt, as well as the doubt of his family and friends. Can he be the parent his daughter needs as she gets older? Or will he need to take his mother-in-law up on her offer to move back home?

WHAT WORKED

I was shocked to find that



Kevin Hart, who is known more for his comedic roles than more somber ones, did so well. Within the first few minutes, I was tearing up because I 100% felt his grief as if it were my own.

Lil Rel Howery, who plays the "weird" friends, feel out of place in this movie. They are there to bring some comedic elements but they come off very awkward here.

when you want something funny and heartwarming. Watching the relationship of father and daughter play out as Maddy gets older and they try to navigate the world together is well worth dealing with the cringe-worthy friends in this movie.

WHAT DIDN'T WORK

Anthony Carrington and

SUMMING IT UP

This is a great movie

Fatherhood

2021
PG-13
1 hour 49 minutes
Starring: Kevin Hart, Alfre Woodard, DeWanda Wise, Melody Hurd





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