

SHELLY CANNON Leaving behind a 'Legacy'

BY ASHLEY INGE Staff Writer

Legacy Church.

in Parker County for more than half a century and for the ones that are already gives back in many different here, if they are in need of ways to the community and meals, going through grief church.

Springtown Area Communi- what's needed there. With ty Connection (SACC) and the community, we deliver the Center of Hope, which groceries to the seniors and just recently established a that's my favorite thing. branch in Springtown.

spent dedicated to Legacy Church, where she serves as ber, Legacy Church starts a ministry leader and is in- its give-back program,

volved with the connection and care teams.

"Legacy connection team Shelly Cannon is making is for any new people that her mark in Springtown and come. You just want to welcome them and make them The 59-year-old has lived feel at home," she explained. "The care team is basically or anything like that, then Cannon is involved with we reach out to them and do They're so happy to even get But most of her time is to see anybody come visit."

Every year in Septem-



A SPECIAL REPORT



church do random acts of kindness for first responders or teachers throughout the month.

"It's different every year," Cannon said. "We try to come up with new ways that we can just love our city."

Cannon also uses her hobbies as a way to give back to the community - by decorating for Springtown Chamber of Commerce events and planting flower beds for her church.

"With our community growing so rapidly, the need and opportunity to volunteer will grow with it," she said.

Cannon said she wants to be remembered for "loving well."

"When you get older, you start thinking about those things, but it makes you really look at your life and think, 'What kind of impact am I even gonna leave here? What kind of legacy?" she said. "I definitely want to leave that legacy - that I loved well."

JENNIFER CONWAY Having a 'heart for kids'

BY ASHLEY INGE Staff Writer

Springtown native Jennifer Conway definitely has a soft spot in her heart for children — and it's evidenced by the amount of time and effort she puts into helping kids in the community.

children's minister

Hilltop Family Church in top Family Church. Springtown.

kids and want nothing but to Springtown Chamber of sus has for them."

Conway is largely follow-

"I have been the children's children every year dur-Program.

The 41-year-old is the late father, John Conway, Christmas, that's really it," at who was the founder of Hill- Jennifer said, when asked

what she loves the most She shows her love for about the Angel Tree Program. "It's very satisfying. leader for about 8-10 years," ing Christmas as she and I don't obviously do it for she said. "I have a heart for her mom, Cindy, run the myself. In fact, we don't tell people that we're over it. teach them the love that Je- Commerce's Angel Tree When I call people to set up for pickup times, I kind of "Knowing that kids are put it in a way that we don't ing in the footsteps of her gonna get something at actually put an individual

SEE **CONWAY**, PAGE 2A.





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TOOTIE HALL Volunteering is the new 'retired'

BY ASHLEY INGE Staff Writer

Reno resident and 77-yearold Tootie Hall is one of the most active and involved volunteers in the local community.

Hall — who has lived in Parker County for 55 years — is a member of six organizations.

"I've retired four times, it stick," she said, chuckling.

Hall has been a volunteer with CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocates) for five years.

"I go to court for kids that are in foster care," she explained. "These are kids that have been taken away from their parents due to either food. We've just got some neglect, drug use, abandonment or abuse."

She has been involved with the Springtown Education Foundation for about 15 years and has been a member of the Springtown ISD Board of Trustees for 14

years, including four years as president.

She serves as secretary on the Neighbors to Neighbors food pantry board and as an ambassador to the Springtown Chamber of Commerce.

Hall is also a member of the Springtown Church of Christ that now handles the monthly food truck.

"The fourth Tuesday but I just can't seem to make of the month is when that truck comes in," she said. "It serves 150 families and quite a few people. We deliver food to about 20 of the residents of the Spring Garden Apartments in Springtown. There's quite a few that are shut in, or they don't have transportation to go get great people that need a chance to help."

Hall said it is "rewarding to be involved in the community" and to see the trict and the growth."

Photo by Ashley Inge

"change in the school dis- in '83 we had about 1,100 night and enrollment right kids in school," she said. now is 3,914 and we haven't of free time, Hall takes care by Sandra Brown and John "When I got on the board "We had a meeting Monday even started school yet."

During her limited amount and enjoys reading books of her fifth-generation farm Grisham.







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IN THE NEWS | SPRINGTOWN Suspect sought in Parker County homicide

STAFF REPORTS

Parker County Sheriff's investigators are seeking the location of a man in connection with a homicide investigation.

Parker County Sheriff Russ Authier said concerned family members contacted the Sheriff's Office Aug. 7, shortly after 2 p.m., when they arrived at the residence to check on a relative, discovering a female deceased in the front yard.

Sheriff's deputies responded to the 6000-Block of Midway Road in Springtown and initiated an investigation.

The Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office ruled the female's cause and mangunshot wound to the chest following an autopsy. The victim's identity will not be released pending positive forensic identification by the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office.

The suspect has been identified as Clayton Ray Strong, crime was discovered. 73, of Parker County.

Sheriff's deputies recalls at the address involving the suspect.

The investigation led sheriff's investigators to south



ner of death as a homicide by A recent photo of suspect Clayton Ray Strong, currently sought by the Parker County Sheriff's department.

Texas, where they obtained sued for Strong charging video footage of the suspect him with murder by a Parker disposing of a weapon in a County magistrate Wednesdepartment store parking lot day. on the same day the that the

tigators flew to Eagle Pass to resource to locate him," sponded to prior domestic recover the firearm and am- said Sheriff Authier. "He munition which was aban- has ties to other states and doned by the suspect along may have fled Texas. He is with additional evidence.

"Strong's current location is unknown, but we Sheriff Authier said inves- are utilizing every available also believed to be driving An arrest warrant was is- a primer gray extended cab leading the investigation.



Clayton Strong is believed to be driving a primer gray extended cab 1996 Chevrolet pickup with a paper Photos courtesy of Parker County Sheriff's Office Texas buyer's tag.

1996 Chevrolet pickup with a paper Texas buyer's tag."

The suspect is described as tion of Strong is advised to roughly 6-feet tall, weighing approximately 200-pounds and having silver/white hair, 8845, or to Parker County tips submitted to Crime and a mustache. Strong is Crime Stoppers at (817) Stoppers are eligible for a known to wear glasses.

gation, Sheriff Authier re- countyheriff.net. quested the assistance of the

Sheriff Authier added anyone who knows the locacontact the Parker County Sheriff's Office at (817) 594-599-5555, or to tip411 by reward. Early on in the investi- logging onto www.parker-

> You may remain anony-Stoppers or submitting in-

formation to top411. Crime Stoppers will pay up to a \$1,000 reward for information leading to Strong's location and arrest. Only valid

"This case is under current investigation," said Sheriff Authier. "As the case pro-Texas Rangers which will be mous when calling Crime gresses, we will release further information."



New school resource officer ready to bond

Photo by Jessica McKinney

SISD welcomes new teachers, students

BY JESSICA MCKINNEY cation Foundation to help elementary campuses even

On Aug. 12, Springtown coming its new teachers.

nurses. positions and three new students. counseling positions to the staff count.

profession and were each dent Mike Kelley. provided a \$250 check from the Springtown Edu- mum capacity at the three

their new classrooms.

Independent School Dis- the only ones growing in terrific staff who's ready to trict celebrated the new Springtown. The student meet whatever challenges school year with a lun- population has grown by lie ahead, but we are gocheon at Oak Knoll wel- more than 400 students. In ing to need additional infall 2020, the district start- frastructure and physical The district hired 55 ed with 3,457 students. resources very soon if we new teachers, counselors, As of Tuesday afternoon, hope to have any chance administrators, the official enrollment at of being successful in the added nine new teaching Springtown ISD was 3,858 long-term.

our community has certainly more portable classrooms Seven of the new teach- increased rapidly in the last or new construction of ers at SISD are new to the 12 months," said Superinten- permanent buildings will

"We are very near maxi- town ISD."

azlereporter@azlenews.net support them in setting up after bringing in portable classrooms this summer. The staff numbers aren't We're fortunate to have a

"Whether those resourc-"The pace of the growth in es come in the form of be up to voters in Spring-

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

Springtown's newest school resource officer knows his way around local campuses. And the town. And most every other nook and cranny.

Police Officer Shane Brown grew up in Pojo Land and graduated from Springtown High in 2010. Afterward, he attended Weatherford College, gravitated to the police academy, graduated in 2019 and started his career with Springtown Police in September of that same year.

He had been working patrol for almost two years prior to being named resource officer to start the new school year.

SEE SRO, PAGE 3B.



Businesses continue to be impacted by construction

BY JESSICA McKINNEY azlereporter@azlenews.net

few years, and the local storefronts on Springtown business owners are feel- Square. ing it.

Construction projects constantly changing and that include a new Walnut the work being done on

Creek bridge and the re- Main Street, it became inconstruction of Main Street creasingly difficult to acbegan in October 2019. cess those businesses. The City of Springtown With traffic being diverthas been dealing with ed to Pojo Road, it meant challenges, our local busigrowing pains over the last fewer cars were passing the nesses have continued to

With the road closures

"However, despite these persevere and we have seen our business community, including on the Square,

SEE SQUARE, PAGE 9A.

GARY VEAZEY Serving the community through Christ

BY ASHLEY INGE Staff Writer

Springtown resident Gary our church, we actually just Veazey has served as pastor for Legacy Church — one of been doing that for probably the largest churches in the 10 years now." community, currently serving 500 members.

Together, Veazey and other church members volun- and the back-to-school teer to help at various com- prayer rally. munity events.

he said. "We get a lot of volunteers from our church to show up that day, and For almost 25 years, instead of just promoting serve the community. We've

> For the last six years, Legacy Church has helped with the new teacher luncheon

This year, Veazey and "We're involved in the Legacy Church donated 80 Wild Wild West Festival," backpacks to the back-to-





school bash.

"We're just committed to being involved in the community," he said. "You ISD School Board. know, we try to be involved as much as we can and we our kind of ministry motto love others." teach our church to love our is, 'Love always wins' and community; that's what it's so that's what drives us every Christ has also influenced his bicycle and scuba diving. all about."

Commerce Board of Direc- ing people, serving people,

day is to love people. That is his family as all three of Veazey is a member of the essence of what makes life his children are involved in have a great community, and the Springtown Chamber of worth it," Veazey said. "Lov- ministry in some way.

"My wife, Shannon and I, fact that we serve others and pastor," he said.

"My son's a senior pastor, tors. This is his first year helping in different ways that and my two daughters, their serving on the Springtown we're able, that to me, is what husbands are on staff with us makes life worth living — the as associate and executive

> During his free time, Veazey's passion for Veazey enjoys hiking, riding Veazey added, "We just it's worth investing in."



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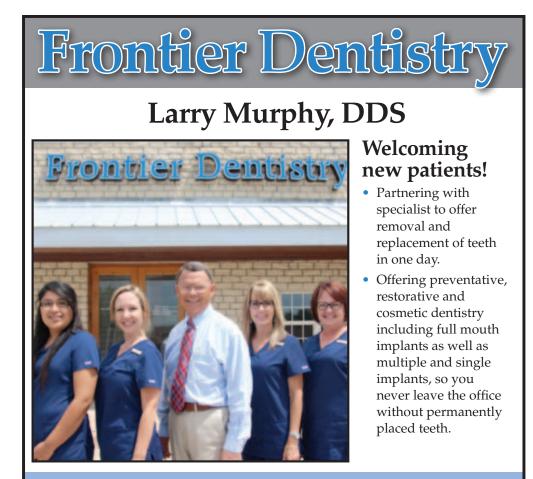
BY ASHLEY INGE Staff Writer

Agriculture has been originated in 1947. a big part in the life of 76-year-old Springtown been retired, but the Harms ships over the years. They

Melton took over his fam- and row crop farming. ily's dairy farm, which The Harms family raised

since her late husband beef and pork production, pigs to FFA and 4-H stu-

and showed their own stock The dairy farm has since and won several championnative Mary Harms ever were involved in dairy, also sold prize-winning



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dents.

"Several years ago, on the 50th year of the Parker County Livestock Show, we were one of three families that had been showing and participating for 50 years," Mary said. "We were very honored to be one of only three families in Parker County that can say they've been showing out there for 50 years."

To coincide with her farming roots, Mary also owned her own business at the Springtown Flower Shop for 33 years — and still volunteers to help out the new owner there on occasion.

"I enjoyed visiting with the customers that came in and making floral arrangements for their special occasion. That was very special to them, and it became very special to us because we wanted to be the very best that they wanted," she said.

rector for the Springtown In fact, several members dent and her nephew was Chamber of Commerce for of the Harms family have dairy superintendent. 37 years and was one of also been involved with the the founding members of PCLA. Mary's husband, tends First United Methodthe Springtown Wild Wild Melton, was a swine super- ist Church in Springtown West Festival.

of the Parker County Live- goat superintendent, her Mary has also been a di- stock Association (PCLA). son was beef superinten-

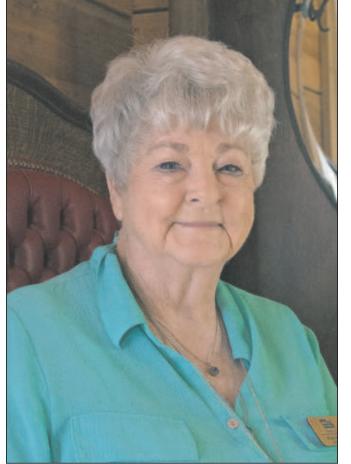
She is a current member years, her daughter was

In her free time, Mary atintendent there for several and collects pig figurines.

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KAREN NORSEWORTHY Helping the community grow



BY JESSICA McKINNEY azlereporter@azlenews.net

Norseworthy has been serv-Community Caring Center, a way for the organization Shoppe.

become my life," Norsewor- ment. thy said with a laugh.

Center has been a valuable a year at the resale shop," resource for the residents of she said. "Since The Porch For five years, Karen Azle by providing food and opened in May, we've alclothing to those in need. ready made \$44,000. It's just ing area residents at the The resale shop has been amazing." and now The Porch Resale to raise money for the food daily operation of the shop, pantry and it has grown including overseeing the "I started as a volunteer greatly over the years un- part-time staff and volunback in 2016 and now it's der Norseworthy's manage-

"Before COVID, we were

Photo by Jessica McKinney

The Community Caring making less than \$22,000

Norseworthy handles the

SEE NORSEWORTHY, PAGE 7A.

Epigraph

Eagle Crest Villa



The caring, hard-working staff of Eagle Crest Villa includes Administrator Heather Holman, Assistant Administrator Jo Passmore, and Licensed Vocational Nurse Terrylynn Tidwell. Eagle Crest Villa is located at 113 Denver Trail in Azle, across from Texas Health Resources hospital. For more information or to schedule a tour, call 817-444-3249, or visit eaglecrestvilla.com.



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Service gives Terri Bartlett 'purpose'

BY JESSICA McKINNEY azlereporter@azlenews.net

Many people find small ways to serve their community. For Terri Bartlett, it has become a way of life.

"I believe one of the greatest personal rewards any of us will ever have is through Bartlett.

For 20 years, Bartlett has been with the Good N.E.W.S. organization based in Azle, which serves the senior members of the Azle to help their community, and Springtown communities through home visits and quarterly care packages.

"I feel blessed to be a part of this worthwhile cause," she said. 'It has given me purpose and the opportunity to serve in the very community I live and have raised my children."

dren, grandchildren, sisters and many nieces and nephews have helped in some way at some point over the years. I guess you could say it's who we all are."

When she takes time to unwind, Bartlett can be found dividing her time between her family — "These service to others," said days it's my grandchildren that keep me on my toes" ----and books — "I am always in the middle of a new one at any given time."

> For anyone who wants Bartlett says, "We have such great organizations in this community. Find someplace to volunteer. Find one that fits your personality, your strengths and time frame, and start there. You will never be sorry."

What motivates her to keep going is this quote by Bartlett has made it a point John Wooden: "You can't to get her family involved live a perfect day until you who will never be able to re-"All you need to do is look really an unsung hero. He is around with that intention always willing to do whatev- and you'll be surprised at the er errand or heavy lifting the many opportunities you will



NORSEWORTHY, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

handles the eBay shop. All of the sales in-store and online help raise money Center.

"I'm paid for 20 hours a week, but I could spend 10 hours a day here working, easily. It's just become a big part of my life and I love it. I love my customers and I love knowing that this shop is feeding the community."

time into her work, Norse- nity has been a great reward worthy finds time for the that she hopes to enjoy for things she enjoys, mainly years to come.

teers who work there, and working in her garden and caring for her animals.

"I have chickens, a pig (the inspiration for The for the Community Caring Porch's logo), and a cat. It's rejuvenating for me to spend time outside, barefoot and hands in the dirt."

Norseworthy enjoys her work at the shop, helping her loyal customers many of whom she knows by name — find what they need each day. Seeing something she cares for While she invests a lot of grow and help the commu-

CONWAY, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

name to who runs the pro- manager for a little over 20 gram, just because I don't want that kind of recognition."

over four years ago.

Jennifer has been a bers." member of the Springtown elected president in June. As for her career, she tion food drive. has been a human resource

years.

"I love what I do because I get to help employees find The mother-and-daugh- ways to prepare themselves ter duo have helped run and their families for the the program since taking it future," she said. "And I enjoy anything with num-

During her free time, Chamber of Commerce Jennifer volunteers and Board of Directors since helps "any chance (she) 2014 and was recently can" with the Springtown Area Community Connec-



with the organization since do something for someone she has been a part of it.

"My husband, Ronnie, is pay you." such a great support and is senior needs. All of my chil- have to have a perfect day."



Terri Bartlett (left) accepted the 2018 Citizen of the Year award from 2017's winner, Jason Malewwiski.

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Getting in the groove



The Boot Scooters of Azle meet three days a week at 404 Main Place in Azle, and welcomes new members to come and scoot those boots. Photos by Jessica McKinney

BY JESSICA McKINNEY azlereporter@azlenews.net

"The back row is the 80s row," said 80-year-old Caro- members who were lyn White. "But we keep it there at the begingoing."

Azle have been line dancing has ever done." around town since 2007, and they are looking for some started in 2007 with new members to join them just five members, for some fun, fitness, and including Elam and fellowship.

"We were so glad to get Arnold, Lerah Hackback after having to shut ney, and Ione Duffey. down because of COVID," said Erma Lockhart. "And at the senior centhis is the best place for line ter but when there dancing. We got a fun group, wasn't space, someabout 25 dancers a day. We times we'd dance in just love it."

Lockhart said that the garage, churches, group meets three days a closets. Anywhere, week — Monday, Wednesday, and Friday — from 9 Place in Azle.

The group consists mainly of women ranging in age honkytonk dance floor.

"We dance to every-

Straight to Pitbull," said Pat Elam, one of the Original 5, ning. "This group is The Boot Scooters of the best thing Azle

thing from George

The group was Lockhart, Carolyn

"We would dance the hallways, Erma's really," said Elam.

What they all love ercising.

from early 30s to late 80s. the brain," said Lockhart. steps as you go. The group moves through "Your brain has to work The first class is free to each step of the line dance to remember all the steps. try, and members pay \$10 a in unison with an ease that There used to be a doctor month to help pay the venue you'd expect to find on a who would send his patients fees. to dance with us."

The Boot Scooters would



Janice Clayborn showing off her moves.

a.m. to noon at 404 Main most is that it's exercise love to get some new memwithout realizing you're ex- bers in. Don't think you need to be a professional dancer "It works out the legs and to join. They'll teach you the

REFIT with Debbie and Becky

Fitness for every body



Debbie Stewart and Becky Kilgore are certified REFIT instructors.

BY JESSICA McKINNEY azlereporter@azlenews.net

look for a REFIT tribe.

60s, are certified REFIT 2016 at the age of 59." instructors at The GEM in Springtown, and they have faithful aerobics class at- and knowing Christ." shown that dance fitness is tendee, wasn't sure that REfor everybody and every FIT was for her at first. body. They were introduced to the fitness program in Kilgore said. "The music Saturday REFIT classes their late 50s and have in- was different, and I was at The GEM led by Stewcorporated it into their life older, and I didn't believe I art and Kilgore. Members ever since.

"I attended my first RE-

GEM in Springtown. Af- the routines and began lovter that first REFIT class, I ing the music. On March 16, Have you found your knew that I wanted to bring 2018, I was 59 years old and tribe? If not, you should REFIT into our community at The GEM. REFIT just REFIT instructor." Debbie Stewart and FIT. I became a certified

"I was 58 years old," would fit in.

FIT class in April 2016 in ward and didn't catch on like members can come and Saginaw," said Stewart. I thought I would. I went back dance for just \$5 a class. "I was teaching a choreo- a few weeks later and decid-

graphed dance class at The ed to keep going. I learned getting my certification as a

Photo by Jessica McKinney

The music at REFIT class Becky Kilgore, both in their REFIT instructor in June is a mix of upbeat hits that promote "faith and trust and Kilgore, who had been a hope and encouragement

There are newbies and long-time attendees of all ages in the Thursday and of the gym can take all the "The first time, I felt awk- classes they want, and non-





Even if they don't remember



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.

member what I did?

What if they don't remember me?

What if I need a weekend to get over my weekend? My tired is tired.

finished up a weekend of it was quite the end-of-sum-Grandpa and Sweetie camp mer shindig. (And, yes, the with our favorite granddaughters. Some people plan these things in advance. We started thinking about it about two hours before it started!

minute because of a sick vice for a long-time family mama, but regardless of the circumstances, we had a six hour car ride, followed by three days of camping fun, through her tears her memofollowed by a six hour car ries of her Paw Paw, I wonride.

experience, but at ages 3 big weekend.

What if they don't re- and 6 their recovery time is a lot faster than ours.

We really did have a blast, but there was no "down time" except overnight. Swimming, crafting, grilling, s'mores-ing, read-Mrs. Sweetie and I just ing, snuggling, laughingsix-year-old wanted Grandpa to explain the meaning of "shindig").

We got them delivered back to their parents yesterday and our day today Truth be told, it was last began with a funeral serfriend.

As one of his adult grandchildren shared beautifully dered if my little ones will The girls had that same have any memory of this

memories of my grandparents, but none of the vivid memories are from when I specific fun times but they was as young as my grand- remember that I was fun to children are now.

It hit me that chances are win. good that this weekend, as well as our family vacation my words of wisdom but a little over a month ago, will not linger in detail in and safe they felt when they their memories when they are older.

It also occurred to me that if something were to happen to me in the near future, their memories of times a legacy. with Grandpa will fade as well.

questions today.

Whether it's my grandchildren or anyone else whose life mine has intersected significantly (at least in MY mind), I wonder sometimes if anything I ber what I did, I will rememhave done will be remem- ber that I did what I could. bered.

this: it is not nearly so important that they remember the things I have done as it friend.

I have such wonderful is that they remember the kind of person I was.

If they don't remember be around, I consider that a

If they don't remember they remember how loved were with me, I consider that a treasure.

If they want to treat people they way they saw me treat people, I consider that

And if the way I lived my life as a follower of Jesus Those realizations are who lived with a sense of what prompted my first two amazement at the grace and mercy of God helps them discover their own amazing journey with Jesus, I consider that my ultimate contribution to their lives.

Even if they don't remem-

And that is my prayer And then I remember for every person who reads these words.

Be amazing today, my

SQUARE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3A.

this construction project," said Christina Derr, administrative specialist.

What has the city been doing to help the businesses facing these challenges?

Board was created to help promote the downtown businesses, and they sponsored two events to help shop local — Wassail Waddle in November and The Hop & Shop in April.

Both events brought people to the businesses on the Square where they could take advantage of special promotions.

The city has also worked with TxDOT and the contractor on the project to help address any concerns impeding progress.

Wayfinding signs have our community."

grow despite the impact of been set up to help direct traffic into the Square from SH 199 and FM 51, as well as signs for individual businesses while construction is going on.

The next event coming A Downtown Advisory up is Wild West Fest on Sept. 18, which brings hundreds of visitors to the area every year.

"Our local businesses draw more people out to contribute greatly to our community in many ways," said Derr. "It is imperative that our community returns that support by patronizing our local businesses and supporting them through not only the challenges they have faced from the TxDOT project but those brought about by the ongoing pandemic.

"The investment our resthat businesses have and idents make in local busifind ways to make sure that nesses by shopping local road closures had the least is one way they will see a impact possible without return on as our local businesses continue to support



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Owner, Clint Moore and the staff at Maddie Lou's.

Maddie Lou's On the historical Square in Springtown

relaxed, family-friendly atmosphere? You need to check out Maddie Lou's!

Located on the historical square in Springtown, Texas, Maddie Lou's offers a great menu with options sure to tempt every appetite.

Clint Moore took ownership of Maddie Lou's in February and the changes they've made have gotten a lot of notice from local patrons. More than one review has said Maddie Lou's is a place for "great food and a great place to hang out."

Maddie Lou's has become a place where families and friends can gather, enjoy great food and listen to live music performed by local artists.

The staff is friendly and ready to serve the great customers that stop by for lunch and dinner, or just to sit back and enjoy

Looking for great local dining with a a drink while they listen to the evening's performers.

Maddie Lou's is open for lunch and dinner. You can hear live music Wednesday through Sunday, with karaoke and open mic night on Thursday. Don't forget to stop in for Whiskey Wednesday!

Stop in at Maddie Lou's and try one of their daily lunch and dinner specials, plus drink specials. They are open seven days a week, Sunday - Thursday 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday 11 a.m. to 12 a.m., and Saturday 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.

Maddie Lou's is located at 104 South Main Street on the square in Springtown, next door to AV Ranch Fine Western Wear.

Follow their Facebook page <u>https://</u> www.facebook.com/MadLou96/ to find out about upcoming performances.



★ Karaoke Thurs 7 рм - 10 рм

Sun -Thurs 11 AM - 11 PM Fri 11 AM - Midnight, Sat 11 AM - 1 PM





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	Design, graphicsJennifer Harrison

Letters to the Editor policy

Letters to the editor are welcomed, but are printed on a space-available basis and may be edited for space or style requirements. Letters must be signed and include an address and the writer's phone number. Anonymous letters will not be published. Letters should be brief (300 words or less), typewritten or emailed. Letters endorsing political candidates, third-party letters, and letters that have appeared in other newspapers will not be published. Writers are limited to two letters monthly. The deadline for letters to the editor is 5 p.m. Monday.

> Mail letters to: Springtown Epigraph, P.O. Box 557, Springtown, TX 76082 Email letters to: editor@azlenews.net

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Romance delivers on a 'Happily-Ever-After' promise

the side. Urgh.

Behind your ankle, your foot sticks out a half an inch, too, and you simply must face it: the sandals you lust after, the last pair marked Cinderella's sister, you can't cut off your toes. Maybe, as in the new novel "If The one that secretly included Shoe Fits" by Julie Murphy, you should just cool your heels awhile.

Taking care of preschool triplets is a great summer job.

On a plane from New York to L.A., Cindy Woods tried to tell herself that. It would be nice to see her little half-siblings. She missed her stepsisters and her stepmother, too, but it was hard to leave New York because all her dreams were there. At least they were, back when the world was hers for the taking; once she graduated from college with no job in sight, though, her hopes for a career in shoe design were dashed.

Caring for the triplets would at least be some sort of distraction, although not as good as the handsome distraction on the flight. That distraction flirted shamelessly with Cindy, and he admitted to having a thing for reality romance shows. Both of these surprised her: overweight her whole life, she wasn't used to the "Prince Charming" type flirting with her. And since her step-

ducer of one of those shows, normally have on-camera, and since Cindy knew alllll but being a contestant could about them, well, she figured put her shoe designs in front everybody saw through the of a national audience. It silliness.

down, are too small. Unlike show needed a boost and a with a designer. It might lead bold idea began to take place to a great career. once Cindy arrived in L.A., her as contestant.

fast enough, until she shoehorned-in that, your thought a minute.

JULIE MURPHY

TO BE NOVEL

"If the Shoe Fits: A Meant to Be Novel"

c.2021, Hyperion \$26.99 / \$33.99

by Julie Murphy

Canada 304 pages

Your little toe hangs off mother, Erica, was the pro- that Before Midnight would why you need "If the Shoe est between meeting and want in a romance. might lead to a move back Alas, the ratings of Erica's to New York City, and a job

It might lead to love.

From here until Labor Day, your schedule is She couldn't say "NO" packed. Last-minute this, brain doesn't have much She wasn't the kind of girl room for reading, which is

Fits."

that loses a reader's inter- all, but it's exactly what you just right.

true love. Author Julie Mur-

Be aware that there's The easy thing to know phy ensures that you won't a touch of minor profanabout it is this: you already have to worry that the hero ity here but it's realistically know how it ends. You do. and heroine will lose their used and nothing you can't Like any good fairy tale, respective paths to bliss be- handle, so go ahead. Imthere's a Happily-Ever- cause this isn't that kind of merse yourself in a little es-After that's promised and book. Predictability is key capism with a kiss. For you, delivered, but not in a way here, characters, setting, and "If the Shoe Fits" is sized







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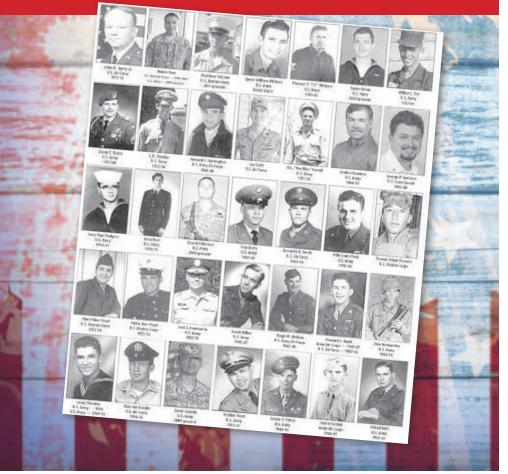


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We're running a special section in November to honor our local veterans.

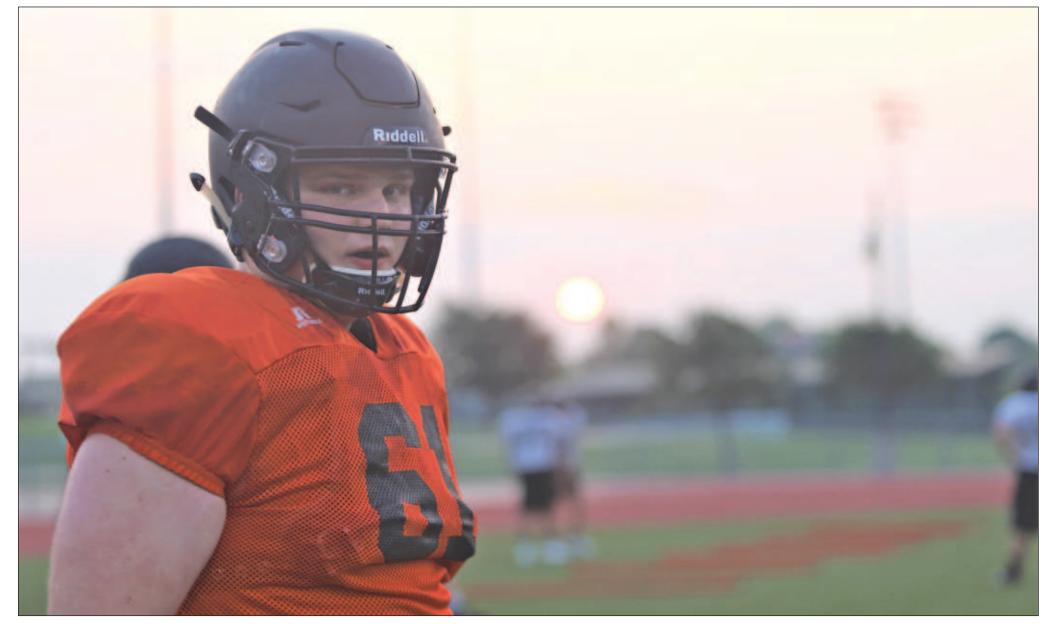
Please email your photo in uniform to johnna @azlenews.net.

Include: Name of veteran, branch of service, years served.



www.Springtown-Epigraph.net **1B**

Pojo pining for season to start



C.J. Morgan and his teammates are up with the sun these days.

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

line coach pierced the morn- Dynasties. ing air with words designed

ings, which rates UIL teams, major issue." included Springtown in a re- Lose a starter, especially Springtown's offensive cent Top 10 list of Five-Year someone who starts both

Staying in that kind of begins. Lose two or three

Division I ball. Fizz Rank- but health is going to be a

ways, and the roster juggling



Photos by Jeff Prince

from Point A – the 30-yardline – to Point B – the end the same intensity as game zone. A blocking drill awaited them.

Hurry!"

ing broke into a run.

Everywhere else on the field, coaches with other units - receivers, linebackers, secondary – delivered the same h-word command. "Hurry!"

Springtown players should ery minute of every practice the wrath of a coach.

Practices begin before sunup. Sleepyheads best re- the ball are reliable. The reset their body clocks fast. serves have much to prove. Rising with the roosters is best. The Porcupines have

to motivate players to get company means approaching the practice field with sticky quickly. days.

"Hurry up! Get over here! back in football shape," said practices during summer Head Coach Brian Hulett, vacations, but players lift Those who had been walk- standing on the artificial turf under the stadium's bright lights, watching his players hustle and compete for starting positions. "We've got to make practice more difficult, get our kids ready."

Springtown's isn't invincible. The season onto a blocking pad after a The unified message is still young, but this year's recent practice, stretching couldn't have been clearer. team is emerging from the his back and catching his starting gate a "little shaky," feel a sense of urgency at ev- Hulett said. The team roster – about 30 players deep – is and act accordingly or face fewer in number than in previous years.

the price of being among the way to go," Hulett said. "We're thin. We've got some established themselves as a positions that we're inexpeperennial powerhouse in 4A rienced at. We can get there,

starters to injuries, things get

Keeping players fit yearround helps reduce injuries. "We've got to get the kids UIL rules prohibit padded weights and run to stay in shape.

> Wearing pads and helmets for the first time in months said senior Cody Brackeen, swagger a left guard. He collapsed breath before heading to the locker room. Every garment he wore was soaked through with sweat.

"It's rough," he said. "At Starters on both sides of least it's been cool out here. We get coached hard. We are doing a lot of condition-"We've got a real long ing and getting back in the swing of things."

Brackeen and his team-

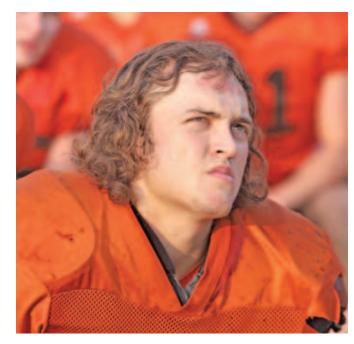
SEE PINES, PAGE 2B. The Porcupines pound on one another until games begin.



Springtown High School Showstoppers Car Wash

AutoZone supported the Springtown High School Showstoppers by allowing them access to the parking lot to have four car washes throughout the summer. The Showstoppers washed the community's cars, vans, motorcycles, and even the Parker County Fire Truck. They also had a visit from the Batmobile. They accepted donations only, which will go towards their competition season. The Springtown High School Showstoppers compete each year both locally and Photo courtesy SHS Showstoppers at a national competition.

PINES, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B.



The intensity in Dawson Jones' eyes reveals the spirit of a middle linebacker.

mates feel like they missed Hulett is a sophomore with a an opportunity at grabbing practiced technique and the a state title in 2020. They ended up falling in the state elder Hulett was a former quarterfinals after winning star quarterback himself in three playoff games.

This will be Brackeen's last shot to grab the gold.

"I'm excited," he said.

The team isn't clicking quite yet, but "we're on the way to being good," he said.

Players change from year to year. Hulett's approach stays the same. Hard work. Discipline. Bring your best County and creates exciteto the field.

"Each team will create its own identity," the coach said. "We are not changing what we do. We're teaching and coaching the same on defense. things we always have."

Brendan Hall had been a big part of Springtown's identity. Last year, Hulett told anyone who would listen that Hall was the best punter/kicker combo in the nation. For four years, the kid was near flawless on extra points and field goals and almost always forced touchbacks on kickoffs. His exploits earned him a trip to and black.

Hall's presence, though, for the spot this season. Another missing face belongs to Camden Chesney, the big, strapping quarterback who threw for more than 70 touchdowns in three any defense in 4A District seasons. Several players, including Cristian Hernandez, more. Last year's successes who quarterbacked the JV team last season, are in the Texas means new glories are running to replace Chesney. The kid making a convinc-

smarts of a coach's kid. The high school.

The player most likely to serve as the heart of the team is the multi-talented Matt Lockard. The threeyear starter will play several offensive skill positions and return kickoffs and punts. He was last year's Utility Player of the Year in Parker ment whenever he puts turf under his cleats. Last year, he caught 42 passes and scored 10 touchdowns on offense and made 97 tackles

Brackeen at guard and Brodee Trejo at tight end will anchor the O-line and lead the younger guys.

On defense, the warrior who made the most tackles last year returns at middle linebacker. Dawson Jones isn't among the biggest linebackers in the conference, but his engine runs high, and he finds the ball.

"He sees things really well SMU this year, and his leg and is strong for his size and will be missed by the orange fast in a football setting," Hulett said.

Cornerback Josef Yosten remains. His game-changing blanketed opposing receivkicks created an excitement ers last year and has beabout the position. A half- come bigger and stronger dozen kids are competing since then. He could enjoy a breakout year.



Logan Murrell is competing for the quarterback position.



Drake Doggett wipes away sweat during practice.



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The defense limited opponents to a little more than the fewest points allowed by 4. That doesn't matter anyare old glories. August in within reach.

The Porcupines open their ing case to nab the job is season at 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. the tall fellow with the fa- 28 at home against Glen miliar last name. Hudson Rose.



A broadcast museum worth hearing about



The Texas Broadcast Museum recently acquired one of the ESPN sports center mobile units, known as "327." It's perhaps the last surviving example. Photo courtesv Texas Broadcast Museum

BY TUMBLEWEED SMITH ular item in the museum is

When some cub scouts toured Chuck Conrad's oldest fully restored televiradio station in Kilgore, sion mobile news unit any-Chuck showed them some where. I know of a couple equipment that dated back of others that are roughly to the days when tele- the same age but they are phones were rare.

One youngster asked a question: "If they didn't lar old shows. have phones, how did they get on the internet?" Chuck realized that these kids needed to learn about the early days of broadcasting and how it works that was used on the Lawtoday. Soon after that visit rence Welk Show. It's kind by the cub scouts, Chuck of ironic that the first Chamof Broadcasting and Communications.

news set," says Chuck. "We have a working radio has 17,000 square feet and record or play a tape cartridge if you like. There's a lot of interactive things and ever had a negative com- of Hitler's territories and you long time ago. Once an old our equipment works."

equipment. Before he by it. The usual comment Voice of America you stood "I'm actually in a place branched out into broad- is 'I didn't know it was this a real good chance of getting where I know how to run casting fulltime he had big.' More than once I've shot. You were supposed to some of this stuff." A lot of

a TV news bus. "As far as I know it is the

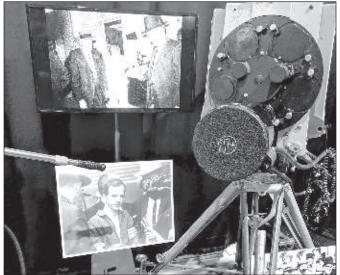
not restored."

TV sets play some popu-

"We have Howdy Doody on one of them. Johnny Carson is on another. We've got Dick Clark's American Bandstand and the camera Welk show was from Kilgore. It's really weird how a lot "We have a working TV of this stuff intertwines."

The museum building studio so you can cue up a visitors are impressed with find fascinating is a World second building with 8,000 what's in it.

"I don't think we've ment about it. Everybody Chuck knows about is pretty well blown away of picking up the BBC or museum. He told Chuck, a huge sound equipment heard visitors tell me 'you buy one of these special ra- broadcasters who are famil-



The GE Black and White Image Orthicon Camera, otherwise known opened The Texas Museum pagne Lady on the Lawrence as the Lee Harvey Oswald camera. The camera has spent a year at the Sixth Floor Museum in Dallas for a special exhibit and at the Newseum in Washington D.C. for the 50th anniversary of John F. Kennedy's assassination.

War II Hitler radio.

"If you were living in one Some equipment is from a had a radio that was capable broadcaster went to see the

One item that history buffs donating equipment so a square feet has opened.

SROS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3A.

"I look forward to a great year as the new SRO," Brown said.

roam the school halls one tor not long ago. While a reday, but not yet. His son, placement is being sought, Oliver, is 5, and his daugh- Sgt. Jamie Oliver, who suter, Aubrey, is 2.

"My kids are my world," in as needed. he said.

school district began con- classes, Oliver said. tracting with the city to more than 15 years ago.

time basis. SROs work for students. the city year-round but are days a year, Kelley said.

Several years ago, a secand provide "more frequent principals and teachers," campuses," Kelley said.

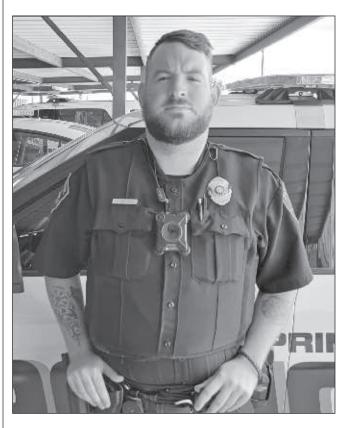
Josh Long, the most recent officer to fill that role, left the police department His own children will to work in the private secpervises the SROs, will fill

The officers protect the Most parents feel the kids while also talking to same about their kids, them, advising them and which is one reason the encouraging them to attend

Typical SRO duties inprovide school resource of- clude investigating criminal ficers. Superintendent Mike acts that occur on school Kelley can't recall exactly property, coordinating the when the first SRO was Crime Stoppers Program contracted but said it was and serving as a liaison between school officials and Under the contractual police, juvenile officials, arrangement, the City of probation officers and other Springtown employs an agencies. The officers give SRO, and the school district presentations in the classcompensates the city for the room and look for early officer's services on a part- signs of deviant behavior in

Forming relationships assigned to schools for 172 is crucial, and Brown is a good fit, Oliver said.

"He graduated from ond resource officer was Springtown, so he knows added to increase visibility the schools and some of the service on our younger the detective said. "He will do well."



SHS alumnus SRO Shawn Brown has been assigned to Spring-

public address systems for going to like this but I had Hitler's radio stations." large gatherings. One pop- a really good time.""

company that provided know I didn't think I was dios that would only pick up iar with the old consoles and Broadcasters are always to reminisce.

turntables go to the museum

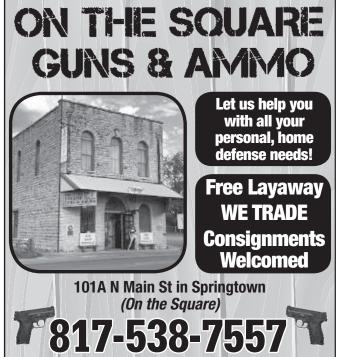
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Hituaries

Joan Dale Scott 1938-2021

Joan Dale Scott was born March 7, 1938, and passed away on July 27, 2021.

Funeral services were held August 14 at 1 p.m. at Hilltop Family Church, Springtown, Texas.

She was preceded in death by her father James Lawrence Scott; mother Harriet Bell Dale; brother James Lawrence Scott Jr.; sister Shirley Soldo.

Surviving children are Walter Scott Eaves Jr., Caroline Dale Talley, husband Randal M Talley, and Randall Stewart Eaves; grandchildren, McKenzie D. Mc-Carty, Sarah L. Johnson, Jesse M. McCarty, Randall M. Talley Jr., Candice Eaves, Laurin Eaves and Sarah Eaves; great-grandchildren, Christopher W. McElmoyl,



Taylor R. McElmoyl, Gabrielle R. McElmoyl, Parker B McCarty,

Katie A. Johnson, Landrie the country. J. Talley, Kooper W. Johnson, Jaxson C McCarty, Wyatt R Talley, Stella R Mc-Carty, Naomi Barzaga and Jonah Barzaga. Forever in quent military moves. Our Hearts.

> *The Springtown Epigraph* Aug. 19, 2021 Edition



Merrie K. Schafer, age 61, passed away on August 10, 2021 after a valiant battle with CIDP.

Services will be held at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1010 Timberoaks Dr, Azle, Texas on Saturday, August 21, 2021 at 10 a.m.

Merrie was born April, 1960 in Monmouth, Illinois to Gary and Judith Willman the third of seven children. As the daughter of a USAF officer, she moved all over

At the age of 21, she married Kevin Schafer who had enlisted in the Air Force and continued her life of fre-

children and lived in four different States. Most of that time was spent at different Air Force Bases up and down California. Merrie was an excellent homemaker with a knack for organization and she used those skills service was inside the Temto live a life of service.

worked for Acme Steel Fab-

Over the years she was a Den Mother for Cub Scouts, Girl Scout Leader, school crossing guard, Census taker, and poll worker during

called her retirement, she Gary Lee (Sherry), Marty decided to slow down by giving more service. She volunteered as a driver for Horváth), and many nieces Azle Good N.E.W.S., providing rides for seniors so they could maintain a more



independent lifestyle.

When her eyesight became worse, she switched to helping with the donation side of that organization.

She also gave countless hours of service to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Over her Merrie and Kevin had six lifetime, she served as a leader for her Ward Relief Society and Nursery. She taught in Relief Society, Primary, Sunday School, early morning seminary, and served as Girl's Camp Director. Her most cherished ple as an ordinance worker. In her younger years, she Her unwavering faith in our Savior Jesus Christ and His atoning sacrifice was at strove to live her life by fol-

Merrie is survived by her husband of 41 years, Kevin; six children: Lex (Carolyn), Aleyna (Jon Mathias), Morgan, Pete, Merrin (Brock Shaw), Azrielle (Andrew Butler); thirteen grandchildren; her parents, Gary and After settling back in Judith Willman; six siblings: Sherrie (Gary Bulechek), (Lucy), Bud (Janice), Lisa Berente, and Suzy (Robi and nephews.

> The Springtown Epigraph Aug. 19, 2021 Edition

Margie Bayless 1967-2021

Margie Ann Bayless, 54, went to her heavenly home on August 11, 2021. She passed away after a short battle with covid.

A memorial will be held August 24, at 11am, at Willow Park Baptist Church, with Pastor Clark Bosher officiating.

Margie was born in Fort Worth, and spent the first half of her life in Azle, graduating Azle High School in 1984. She married Terry Bayless in 1994, and they just celebrated their 27th anniversary.

Margie loved traveling with her husband, spending time with their children, canoeing, and spending time with her animals. She dearly loved being a member of Willow Park Baptist Church. Her sweet and caring soul will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Judith Utley; niece Misty Dixon;



and nephew Alex Bayless.

Survivors include her husband, Terry Bayless of Springtown; daughter, Charlotte Nichols and husband Jason, of Dickson Tennessee; son, Jacob Bayless and fiance' Casey Pardue of Briar; brother, Leon Mc-Gee and wife Leslie, of Fort Worth; brother-in-law Ricky Bayless of Milsap; nephew, Ryan Bayless; nieces, Jennifer Buckley and Stephanie Williams; and father, J. S. McGee.

> The Springtown Epigraph Aug. 19, 2021 Edition

Leeoma Elliott 1953-2021

Leeoma Jean "Jeannie" Lawless Elliott, 67, went home to be with the Lord, Friday, August 13, 2021 at home.

Memorial is at 11 a.m. Friday, August 20, 2021 at Alexander's Midway, Springtown. She was born September 22, 1953 in Fort Worth to Charles Hugh and Imogene Josephine (Russell) Lawless. They both were there to welcome her home along with her brothers, Clifford and ries are her husband, John El-Weldon Lawless.



Left to cherish fond memoliott; son, Dickey Cundiff and

Elizabeth Hard 1964-2021

Elizabeth Hard, 57, passed away at home July 29, 2021. Memorial service was held Sunday, August 15, 2021 at Azle Deer Cove.

Elizabeth was born March 10, 1964 in Dallas Texas to her parents William McHam and Angela McHam.

She graduated from L.D. Bell High School in 1982. She was a successful real estate professional for 35 plus years.

by her father and brother Michael McHam.

ver Pettis; daughter, Krista and wife Michelle. Dignum and husband Andrew; son, Blake Hard; son,



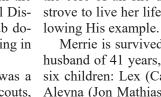
Mark Hard and wife Heath-She was preceded in death er; grandchildren; Alyssa, Colby, Olivia, and Addison Schmitt' Addison and Aiden She is survived by her Dignum; Alan and Finley companion of 10 years Oli- Hard; brother Tracy McHam

> The Springtown Epigraph Aug. 19, 2021 Edition

ricators as a clerical worker and more recently, with the the core of all she did. She Mojave Unified School District as a Classified Sub doing office work and filling in as a librarian.

elections.

Texas in 2016 in what she



Thomas Tabor 1946-2021

Thomas Tabor died Saturday June 6, 2021, after a 10 year battle with cancer.

Memorial service will be Saturday, August 28 from 2-4 p.m. at Deer Cove Event Center, 101 S. Pearson in Azle.

Thomas was born September 27, 1946 and was a proud Vietnam veteran.

He is survived by his wife, Susan Tabor; three step-children and six grandchildren.



The Springtown Epigraph Aug. 19, 2021 Edition

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Worth and attended Trimble Lawless and wife, Carol; and Tech. She worked in health grandsons, Devon and Chriscare as a caregiver. Jeannie topher. love to craft, bake cakes and travel.

Jeannie grew up in Fort wife, Carol; brother, Preston

The Springtown Epigraph Aug. 19, 2021 Edition



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Traditional Worship	10:45 ам
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Evening Worship Wednesday Youth Refuge Wednesday Evening	6:00 рм
Wednesday Evening	6:15 рм

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Legacy Youth, Legacy Kids	
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www.silvercreekumc.org

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www.silvercreekbc.org

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outh (UMYF) 5:00 рм Sun & 6:30 рм Wed		

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Wednesday7:00 pm

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

ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE **CATHOLIC CHURCH**

5953 Bowman Roberts RD 817-624-2184 Daily Mass - Mon-Fri 8 AM Reconciliation Sat. 2:45 or by appt Weekend MassesSat. 4:00 PM Spanish 12:30 PM V

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 Sunday School 10:00 AM Morning Worship..... 11:00 AM

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

SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH

591 S. Reno Rd,	
Springtown, Texas 760	082
Pastor - Bill Gay - 817-304	4-7443
Coffee and Donuts	9:00 ам
Sunday School	9:30 ам
Morning Worship 10:30 ам	
Children's Church After Musi	c Service
Wed. Prayer Meeting	6:30 рм
Wed. Bible Study	7:00 рм

A church alive is worth the drive! For more information or rates on listing your church, call Johnna at 817-270-3340

FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
Pastor - Alton Davis 817-521-451
1405 Reynolds Rd., Azle 817-444-71

Volunteers needed for football games

ing for volunteers to assist levball. on game days during the football season. Volunteers unteering should email the can help by working a game club at football@springclock, announcing games, townlionsclub.org shooting video, selling merchandise in the concession stands or any number of duties.

Help is needed most on Saturdays when home games are being played from about 9 a.m. to six at night.

The Springtown Lions Club, 1228 Old Cottondale Road, was established more than 25 years ago to link volunteers with humanitarian needs and to encourage peace and understanding. The group's youth sports league includes football, baseball, basketball, cheer-

The Lions Club is look- leading, softball and vol-

Anyone interested in vol-



The Springtown Lions Club was created more than 25 years ago to help out with humanitarian needs, including assisting in local youth sports.



Grant of \$90,000 will help save and improve pet lives in North Texas

Texas Coalition for Anitoday a \$90,000 grant investlifesaving work for animals in North Texas.

leading change for pets na- in which no pet is unnectionally by making communities and pet families clos-Since their founding in 1999 nizations with \$300 million national tools, Petco Love invested to date in adoption Lost, which empowers all and other lifesaving efforts. animal lovers to drive life-And they've helped find loving homes for more than 6.5 side us." million pets in partnership 4,000 organizations nationwide.

Springtown Epigraph

109 East First Street

P.O. Box 557

Springtown,

Texas 76082

817-220-7217

Fax: 817- 523-4457

The Springtown

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rint and is

welfare as part of our com-Petco Love is a nonprofit mitment to creating a future funding. saving change right along-

thanks to an investment cially out of reach."

Published weekly at 109 First Street, Springtown, Texas by Hyde

Media, LLC. Periodicals class postage paid at Springtown, Texas

76082. Postmaster: Send address changes to P.O. Box 557

USPS No. 964-220

Annual subscription rates: \$36.00 in Parker, Wise, Tarrant counties

(\$32.50 65 and older); \$42.50 elsewhere within and outside Texas.

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Springtown, Texas 76082

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Springtown Epigraph

Call 817-220-7217 and keep up with the

news that impacts your life every day!

"Today Petco Love in- from Petco Love. TCAP mal Protection announced vests in Texas Coalition for plans to be able to perform Animal Protection and hun- more than 3,000 spays and ment from the newly named dreds of other organizations neuters across the organiza-Petco Love to support their across the nation working to tion's eight North Texas loimprove animal health and cations, all at no cost to the pet owner as a result of this

"We are so thankful for essarily euthanized," said Petco Love's investment Susanne Kogut, President in our lifesaving work," er, stronger, and healthier. of Petco Love. "Our local said Stacey Schumacher, investments are only one TCAP Executive Direcas the Petco Foundation, component. This year, we tor. "Adoption alone won't they've empowered orga- also launched the first of our solve the pet overpopulation problem in Texas, we must spay and neuter our pets to against the deadly rabies vireduce the number of un- rus at a low-cost or for free. wanted litters that end up in local shelters. This fund- about TCAP, visit www. TCAP will provide free ing will allow us to reach pet texasforthem.org. To learn with Petco and more than spays and neuters for cats owners for whom our low- more about Petco Love, visacross North Texas this fall cost program is still finan- it petcolove.org.

TCAP is a nonprofit organization who works to end pet overpopulation and promote community animal welfare across North Texas. Since 2002, TCAP has provided more than 576,000 low-cost and free spays and neuters to pets in need. It each of these animals were to have a little over three litters each, that equates to more than 1.7 million litters prevented. During that same time, TCAP has vaccinated more than 1.1 million pets

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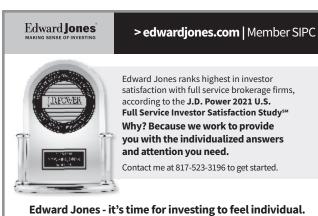
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Carolyn Rocha, CFP[®], AAMS[®] **Financial Advisor** 825 E. Hwy. 199, Suite 101 Springtown 817-523-3196

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LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of DARYL LESLIE CRAM, Deceased, were issued on August 11, 2021, in Cause No. 21P262, pending in the County Court of Parker County, Texas to: TYREL RAE CRAM.

The address of the Resident Agent to accept service of process is in Parker County, Texas, and the name of the Resident Agent and the post office address are:

Sorava Joslin Attorney at

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

3.0%

A tax rate of \$0.498575 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of CITY OF SPRINGTOWN.

P.O. Box 1267, Weatherford, Texas 76086	
a claims against this Estate which is currently being administ	tered ar

All persons having are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED this 11th day of August, 2021. SORAYA JOSLIN, PC By:/S/Soraya Joslin Soraya Joslin State Bar No.: 00792408

P.O. Box 1267, Weatherford, Texas 76086 Telephone: 817-386-8500; Facsimile: 817-599-7005

ATTORNEY FOR THE ESTATE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of SANDRA DUANNE ASHLEY, Deceased, were issued on August 11, 2021, in Cause No. 21P272, pending in the County Court of Parker County, Texas to: BENJAMIN CARL LUCAS.

The address of the Resident Agent to accept service of process is in Parker County, Texas, and the name of the Resident Agent and the post office address are:

Soraya Joslin, Attorney at Law

P.O. Box 1267, Weatherford, Texas 76086

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED this 11th day of August, 2021.

SORAYA JOSLIN, PC

By:/S/Soraya Joslin

Soraya Joslin

State Bar No.: 00792408

P.O. Box 1267, Weatherford, Texas 76086

Telephone: 817-386-8500; Facsimile: 817-599-7005

ATTORNEY FOR THE ESTATE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of DWAYNE NEAL VARNER, Deceased, were issued on August 11, 2021, in Cause No. 21P165, pending in the County Court of Parker County, Texas to: PATRICIA KELLY.

The address of the Resident Agent to accept service of process is in Parker County, Texas, and the name of the Resident Agent and the post office address are:

Soraya Joslin, Attorney at Law

P.O. Box 1267, Weatherford, Texas 76086

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED this 11th day of August, 2021. SORAYA JOSLIN, PC By:/S/Soraya Joslin Sorava Joslin State Bar No.: 00792408 P.O. Box 1267, Weatherford, Texas 76086 Telephone: 817-386-8500; Facsimile: 817-599-7005 ATTORNEY FOR THE ESTATE

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PROPOSED TAX RATE

NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE

VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE

\$0.498575 per \$100 \$0.489099 per \$100 \$0.516728 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2021 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for CITY OF SPRINGTOWN from the same properties in both the 2020 tax year and the 2021 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that CITY OF SPRINGTOWN may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that CITY OF SPRINGTOWN is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2021 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON August 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. AT Court Annex Building 200 N. Main St., Springtown TX 76082.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, the CITY OF SPRINGTOWN is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the Springtown City Council of CITY OF SPRINGTOWN at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

Property tax amount = (tax rate) x (taxable value of your property) / 100

FOR the proposal: Ted Martinez, Walter Roberson, Bill White, Michele Chandler Kelley, **Richelle Pruitt**

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: Greg Hood, Mayor (votes only in case of a tie)

ABSENT: None

The 86th Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state. The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by the City of Springtown last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by CITY OF SPRINGTOWN this year.

	2020	2021	Change	
Total Tax Rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.565686	\$0.498575	Decrease of \$-0.067111 or -11.86%	
Average Homestead Taxable Value	\$145,676	\$167,423	Increase of \$21,747, or 14.93%	
Tax on average homestead	\$824.07	\$834.73	Increase of \$10.66, or 1.29%	
Total tax levy on all properties	\$1,251,801	\$1,377,258	Increase of \$125,457, or 10.02%	

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for CITY OF SPRINGTOWN at 817-596-0077 or parkercad@parkercad.org, or visit www. parkercountytruthintax.com for more information.

Abbott sued over mask-mandate ban

A growing number of school districts, counties and cities have defied Gov. Greg Abbott's executive order banning mask mandates, as COVID-19 cases continue to spike due to the delta variant and a low rate of vaccination among Texans.

As KUT.org reported, officials in Dallas and Bexar counties won a first round in court in requiring masks in public schools and most government buildings. School districts in Austin, Houston, Dallas and San Antonio, among others, are requiring students, teachers and staff to wear masks.

Abbott and Attorney General Ken Paxton are appealing the initial district court decisions and have vowed to sue any government official who defies the governor's order.

HOSPITALIZATIONS, **COVID-19 CASES CONTINUE TO RISE**

Meanwhile, the number of new cases of COVID-19, overwhelmingly among unvaccinated Texans, continues to rise with 98,383 reported in the past week along with 628 deaths, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. Hospitalizations are approaching the peak levels of mid-January, with 11,381 lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services, up 27% from the week before.

As students return to classrooms across the state, the



number of children in Texas Austin American-Statesman. hospitalized with COVID-19 is at one of its highest levels since the pandemic began. In the 19-county region around Dallas and Fort Worth, there were no staffed pediatric beds available late last week, according to KUT.org.

DSHS reports 13.055 million Texans are full vaccinated, about 44.7% of the total population.

DEMOCRATIC LAWMAKERS STILL **ABSENT; ARRESTS** ORDERED

The Texas Senate last week passed Senate Bill 1, which would establish new restrictions on voting, despite a 15hour filibuster by state Sen. Carol Alvarado, D-Houston. Meanwhile, Democratic lawmakers in the House continued to break quorum to stave off a House vote on the measure, despite arrest warrants issued by House Speaker Dade Phelan, R-Beaumont.

The Texas Supreme Court on Thursday temporarily blocked district court orders that would have allowed more than 40 House Democrats to avoid civil arrest warrants. The Democrats were expected to issue a response to the high court's ruling this week, according to the

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. gborders@texaspress.com.

Texas Democrats have denied Republicans a quorum since the closing days of the regular legislative session. The Legislature is now in its second special session, with Democrats decamping to Washington, D.C. to push for a federal voting rights bill. Some lawmakers have since returned to Texas but continue to stay away

EARLY AUGUST RAINFALL ABOVE NORMAL FOR HALF **OF STATE**

from the state Capitol.

Just 1% of the state is suffering drought conditions, primarily in the Big Bend area, a small piece of Northeast Texas near the Oklahoma border and the northwest tip of the Panhandle. That's the latest report from Dr. Mark Wentzel, a hydrologist with the Texas Water Development Board.

Three months ago, 45% of the state's area was in drought, while a third of the state suffered from drought conditions a year ago.

SEIZED ALLIGATOR **SNAPPING TURTLES RETURNED TO** NATURE

A multi-agency effort has led to the release of 21 adult and six juvenile snapping turtles back into East Texas, after being seized in an illegal traffic attempt. A 2017 investigation by game wardens with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department into the poaching of the turtles led to the arrest of three men, two of whom received prison time in December of that year.

Alligator snapping turtles are among the largest freshwater turtles in the world and can grow to weigh more than 200 pounds with a lifespan of more than 100 years. The turtles are designated as threatened with statewide extinction under Texas law.

The turtles were taken to the Natchitoches National Fish Hatchery after the seizure and released recently under a joint effort with TPWD, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Stephen F. Austin State University and others. The turtles are a popular food item in Louisiana, which limits catches to one per day.

PEDESTRIAN, BICY-CLIST DEATHS CON-TINUE TO CLIMB

declined in 2020, Texas saw a steep rise in the number of portation, 731 people died starts with paying attention



Dr. Christopher Schalk, assistant professor of forest wildlife management at SFA, prepares to release one of the turtles back into its native habitat. Courtesy

crashes totaled 82, up from TxDOT. 68 deaths the previous year. While traffic casualties the past five years, according to TxDOT.

people killed while walk- the wheel, on foot or riding ing or biking on the state's a bicycle, we're reminding roadways. According to the all Texans that they need to Texas Department of Trans- be safe and smart, and that 2000.

in pedestrian-related crash- to driving and obeying trafes last year, up 9% from fic laws," said Marc Wil-2019. Bicyclists killed in liams, executive director of

The agency's "Be Safe. Overall, the number of pe- Drive Smart" campaign feadestrian and bicyclist deaths tures safety reminders on has been steadily increasing television, billboards, gas pumps, buses and social media. They are components of "Whether you're behind #EndTheStreakTX, which encourages driver safety. The last death-free day on Texas roadways was Nov. 7,





201 E. Hwy. 199, Springtown









at Flatrock Rd, Azle 817-313-1793 LIGHTHOUSE CHURCH 6409 FM 730 S., Azle 817-444-4311 817-444-3547 **NEW LIGHTED WAY** 817-444-1577 PRECIOUS FAITH **TEMPLE CHURCH**



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Thursday, August 19, 2021 • Springtown Epigraph

817-270-3340 - Azle - classified@azlenews.net CLASSIFIED 817-220-7217 - Springtown - shirley@springtown-epigraph.net

Ad Classifications

1 Air Condition/Heating	24 Electrician	46 Looking to Buy	69 Sand/Gravel		
2 Antiques	25 Equipment &	47 Lost & Found	70Septic Tanks		
3 Appliances	Tool Rental	48 Maintenance/Repairs	71 Sewing/Alterations		
4 Appliance Repair	26 Excavating	49 Masonry/Stonework	72 Sewer Service		
5Arts/Crafts	27 Exterminating	50 Mobile Home Service	73TV/Radio		
6 Asphalt Paving	28 Farm Equipment	51 Motorcycles	74 Tractor Service		
7Auctions	29Fencing	52Movers	75Upholstery		
8Autos, Trucks	30 Firewood	53Musical Instruments	76 Vacuum Cleaners		
		54Music Lessons			
10Backhoe Service	32 For Sale	55Miscellaneous	78Well Drilling		
11 Boats, Motors	33Furniture	56 Party Planning/Events	79Welding		
		57 Pets/Livestock			
13 Business	Estate Sales	58Piano Service	81Business &		
Opportunity	35 Garden/Mowing Svc	59Pool Service	Commercial Property		
14 Campers/Trailers	36 Hauling	60Professional	82RV's for Rent		
15Carports/Patios	37Hay	Services	83 Houses for Sale		
16Equipment Repair	38Health/Fitness	61 Personal	84Mobile Homes		
		62Plumbing			
		63Public Notice			
		64 Photography			
		65Printing			
21 Child Care	43Hunting	66Roofing	87 Rent Furnished		
22 Cosmetics	44Janitorial Service	67 Recycling	88 Rent Unfurnished		
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034 Garage & Estate Sales

Massive Christmas in August Sale! Everything but the Tree! Come Buy. NEEDFUL THINGS RESALE SHOP, 2810 E. Hwy 199, Springtown. Open Tues-Sat, 10:30A-4P. 817-525-3923.

HUGE HUGE HUGE Yard Sale benefiting Project Graduation 2023. 900 Rosebud Drive, Azle. Neighborhood behind Burger King. Friday 8/20, 8am-6pm; Saturday 8/21, 7am-4pm. Furniture, outdoor items, things for men, women, children, baby. Electronics, household items kitchen, clothing, So many items Come check it out!

Multi Family Garage Sale Friday and Saturday, 8/20 & 8/21 from 8A-4P. 7008 Christopher Drive, Weatherford 76085. (199 to Newsom Mound Road to Sabathney Road to Bryon Drive to Christopher Drive). lools, furniture, clothes, toys. household and tons of misc



035

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Help Wanted

Concrete removal company based in Azle needs a Full-time Tool Truck Driver, Start Now, Call 817-919-0597; 214-435-2342.

Adult male needs Attendant Care Worker, CPR and DL required. Serious inquiries only. Go to azlecareworker.com for more information, 682-429-9067 text or leave message.

Springtown ISD is accepting applications for Bus Drivers and Monitors. Training available Contact the Transportation Dept. 817-220-1418.

Concrete removal company based in Azle needs General Laborers immediately. Start Now. Call 817-919-0597; 214-435-2342.

Local Pool Company is hiring a Pool Technician/Helper. Pav is



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SHOP SALE. Misc. Tools & Equipment For Sale. Mon-Fri, 10A-2P. Call 817-475-3188 or 817-217-2599.

For Sale Upholstery Machine: 255RB1 Consew Walking Foot Sewing Machine, \$800/OBO. 682-229-8528.

Huge Yard Sale! Friday and Saturday, 9A-3P, 323 Sandy Oaks Road, Springtown.

Multi Family Garage Sale Saturday only, 10A-Close, 470 Schooner Drive, Azle (Oak Harbor Estates). Kitchen items, tools, dishes, glassware, furniture, plus more.

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035 Garden/Mowing Service

Need your lawn mowed, trimmed or cleaned up? Need your trees trimmed or cut? Any job big or small give Scooter a call. Free Estimates. 817-766-3834.

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039 Help Wanted

or 940-229-1046

Shop Laborers Needed. Post tension company in Keller now hiring. Full-time paid vacations and holidays. Starting pay \$14 per hour 40-60 hours a week. Call Randy at 817-825-6828. \$200 sign on bonus after 90 days.

Job Opportunity! Assistant to Director of Construction. Must be minimum of 25 years of age with a clean driving record,

computer/tablet/smart phone proficient, good communication and organizational skills, willingness to take on challenges with a can do attitude. Jobs are predominantly located in DFW (vehicle will be provided). Call 940-433-2639 or email shyla@ greenworldincusa.com.

MAINSTREAM (group home for adults with developmental disabilities) is hiring part-time Direct Contact Staff for 17-hour weekday shifts (2nd & 3rd shifts) or 24-hour weekend shifts. Paid training, starting pay is \$7.75 hourly. Good potential for fulltime employment. Call 817-270-2747, Monday-Friday, 9A-3P.

Local Builder/Developer looking for experienced Help. Must have a valid driver's license. Knowing how to operate machinery, being mechanically inclined and have carpentry skills are a plus. Send resumes to: tommymileshomes@yahoo.com.

Concrete removal company needs Full-time Class A-CDL Driver. Local - No Long Hauls. 817-919-0597; 214-435-2342.

Azle ISD is accepting applications for an evening Custodian. Experience helpful. Apply online at azleisd.net. Click employment, employment opportunities, maintenance/ operations/transporation.

depending on experience and skills. Call 817-613-8253.

Looking for mature people to work with small animals. Must have reliable transportation. Call for more information 817-926-3300.

Maintenance Man needed Fulltime, Monday-Friday, experience required. Apply in person, 1300 Village Garden Drive, Azle 76020.

Hiring LPG Transport Driver for Springtown area as well as other areas. Sign On Bonus, Retention Bonus. Bishop Energy, a division of Enderby Gas, Inc. is hiring Transport Drivers. Must have Class A-CDL Hazmat/Tanker License. Clean driving record, ability to pass background, CDL physical and drug screen. To apply, contact Steve LaSalle 940-665-3560 or stop by our Bishop Energy office located at 436 Enderby Street, Springtown, Texas. 817-523-6068.

Public Works -Utility Tech I

The City of Springtown is accepting job applications for the position of Utility Tech I in the Public Works Dept; Starting salary \$13.18/hr. 7:30-4:30 Mon-Fri. Must be 18 years of age, a valid Texas DL required. High School Diploma/GED req. Vac/Hol/Ben. Open until filled. Applications and job description are available on our website at www.cityofspringtown.com or at City Hall 102 E Second St, Springtown, TX 76082 E.O.E.

Caretaker for dog kennels. Requires weekend work. Some light labor and yard care. Salary and possible cottage available. 940-682-1246.

Grounds Maintenance Person needed in Springtown, Texas. Starting hourly rate is \$12.00. Contact Maria to schedule an interview at 817-349-3064

Auto Techs and Transmission R&R. Top Pay for Top Skills. Call 817-220-1059 or come by 201 E. Hwy 199, Springtown. Rainwater Transmission & Auto Repair.

WANTED Property Maintenance Labor/Person Gene Thompson & Associates 817-246-4646

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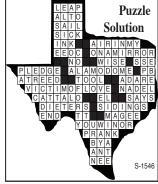
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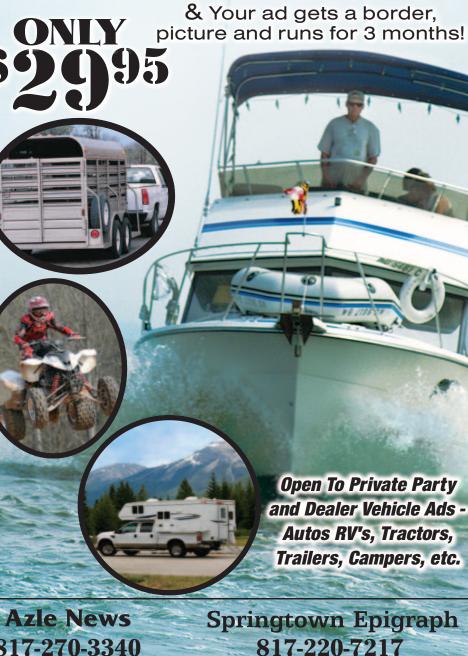
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