



Ready, set, go!



Springtown Cub Scouts and their families watched and cheered from the sidelines at the annual Pinewood Derby on Saturday at the First United Methodist Church in Springtown.

Photo by Madelyn Edwards

Springtown Cub Scouts host annual Pinewood Derby

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
madelyn@azlenews.net

The air smelled like popcorn as kids and parents crouched around a sloped racetrack inside the Springtown First United Methodist Church to see whose miniature racecar was the fastest.

The annual Springtown Cub Scouts' Pinewood Derby on Saturday featured 58 race cars entered into the race by the scouts in Pack 303, their siblings and their parents. Many of the kids and some of the parents won awards for the fastest cars in each category. Special awards, decided by guest judge

Lou Bernardino, were given to cars for creativity, best paint job, simplest design, humor, most detailed, best craftsmanship and for racecars designed as something other than a car, among other awards.

"This is one of the largest events that we've had," Cubmaster Holly Lowe said. "All these kids are so

happy and cheering on their favorite cars, and it's a great event."

The scouts start with a block of wood, four tires and four nails, and they create their cars from that during the pack's build days, Lowe said.

As the cars sped down the track, the kids cheered for certain cars

or for the scout who made the car. The kids chanted "Pikachu" in unison as the car designed after the Pokémon character ran down the slope. The car designed to look like Forky from "Toy Story 4" also got the kids' attention.

SEE DERBY, PAGE 8A.

Local 7-year-old survives dog attack

Reno continues to discuss animal ordinance



Conner Landers and his mother Cassandra Ware

Courtesy of GoFundMe

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
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The dog attack of 7-year-old Conner Landers has brought in support for the child and his family and is part of the discussion as Reno works on an animal ordinance.

Conner, a student at Cross Timbers Elementary School in Azle, was walking home from the school bus stop on Jan. 21 near Knob Hill Road and Lynock Lane when he

SEE ATTACK, PAGE 5A.

Two people sent to hospital after separate wrecks



The driver of the Honda was transported by LifeCare ambulance to Texas Health Hospital Azle. Photo by Carla Noah Stutsman

BY CARLA NOAH STUTSMAN

Two separate accidents in the span of an hour Friday on State Highway 199 between Azle and Springtown sent two people to area hospitals.

The first crash occurred around

9:20 a.m. near the intersection of the highway and FM 2257 (Jay Bird Lane). Department of Public Safety Public Information Officer Sgt. Richard Hunter said the preliminary investigation shows a 2019 Kenworth tanker truck was stopped in the westbound lanes at

the traffic light. A 2012 Toyota Tacoma was traveling west when the driver, Ted M. Winkle, 55, of Brenham, was distracted by a mobile device. Winkle failed to control his speed and struck the rear of the

SEE WRECKS, PAGE 3A.

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Servolution Network presents at Springtown Area Chamber of Commerce luncheon

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
madelyn@azlenews.net

Springtown Area Chamber of Commerce members huddled into the crowded Springtown Event Venue on the Square for the monthly luncheon Thursday.

Servolution Network Executive Director Jason Malewiski spoke to the luncheon attendees about the work that Servolution does for those in need, such as providing food, household items and clothes. In addition, the network's Good Neighbors program provides home revitalization for veterans, widowed individuals and those who are disabled and economically disadvantaged.

Malewiski encouraged people to ask about opportunities to serve their communities.

"I think there's people so often that are ready to help others, but they are just never asked, never led to take that first step," he said.

With food still being a need in the Azle and Springtown communities, Servolution Network has blessing boxes installed in both cities, including at Alvin Ord's Sandwich Shop and Hilltop Family Church. The blessing boxes include food items that people in need may take.

Malewiski said the Good Neighbors program needs a retaining wall, lumber, security cameras and gates to secure donations. The Pay It Forward program needs washers, dryers, dressers, refrigerators and volunteers to pick up donations. The Fig Leaf Boutique for free clothes is in need of new socks and underwear and women's plus-size clothes.

Malewiski said 155 homes have been revitalized across the state, including 19 in Springtown. The revitalization program needs people to volunteer for it to function.

"There's so much need in our region," he said. "I have 25 - I think



Servolution Network Executive Director Jason Malewiski spoke to the Springtown Area Chamber of Commerce luncheon attendees about the work that Servolution does for those in need on Jan. 27.

Photo by Madelyn Edwards

right now - homeowners on my waiting list, waiting for people to jump in and help."

Good Neighbors partners with contractors to help fix roofs, foundations and siding. The three revitalization requests in Springtown are for ramps for two residents and features to make a home more accessible for a resident with multiple sclerosis, Malewiski said.

The Pay It Forward program that provides household items to those in need serves 40-50 people on average a month, including about 543 families in 2021, he said.

The Fig Leaf Boutique at Community Bible Fellowship in Azle served 1,901 families in 2021, Malewiski said.

More information is available online at servolutionnetwork.com, or by calling 833-493-7378.

FCCLA STUDENT HONORED

Springtown High School senior Erin Hall, who is a member of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, was recog-

nized as the chamber's January vocational student. Hall was also presented with the Henry Wayne Smith Vocational Scholarship from the chamber. Hall has competed and placed at regional, state and national competitions for FCCLA during her time in the program.

Hall plans to attend Texas Woman's University and study physical therapy.

"I would like to thank my parents for the continued support they have given me by getting the endless craft supplies I need for my projects, listening to my script over and over while I practice for competition and attending every competition to give me a 'let's go' and 'good job,'" Hall said during the luncheon.

FCCLA adviser Richelle McMillion said that Hall does well in FCCLA and thinks her competition project will land her in nationals in the summer.

"She's doing great, and I think she has the whole world ahead of her," McMillion said. "She's going to make a great impact in physical therapy."



Springtown Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Amy Walker introduces vocational student of the month Erin Hall at the monthly luncheon at the Springtown Event Venue on the Square on Jan. 27.



The Springtown Area Chamber of Commerce hosted its monthly luncheon, which was catered by Corn Fed Catering, at the Springtown Event Venue on the Square on Jan. 27.

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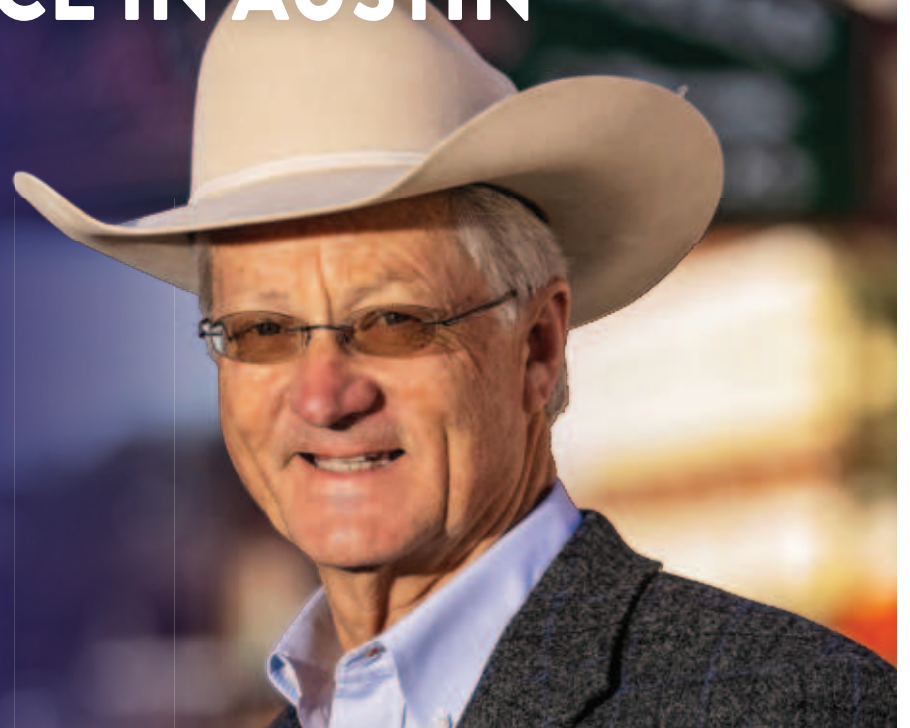
- ★ **Border Security:** helped increase funding by \$2.8 billion
- ★ **Retired Teachers:** authored the "13th check" and increased the state's contribution to the retired teacher insurance program
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Fishing in cold water

Making adjustments to your fishing patterns

Winter has arrived and we are seeing some of the lowest water temperatures to date. In other words we are in the dead of winter and fishing patterns need to be adjusted for this cold water. The good news for anglers is that this is prime time for catching big fish.

Different species prefer different water temperatures and of course, you will have to use this type information to help locate and catch fish. Black bass anglers may be more prone to fish on those warmer days or pick afternoons when the water has had a chance to warm some. This is good advice for most species this time of the year.

Not all species will wait for the warmest part of the day to feed. Their metabolism slows in the winter, but they still have to eat. There are many factors to influence the bite. Weather is a major one this time of the year. Water clarity and water flows can also influence fish feeding or moving. Don't forget about the moon phase. Picking a time to get on the water coincident with a peak feeding time can make a difference.

If it just so happens that the peak feeding time is coincident with the warmest part of the day this may be your flag to get out there. If there is a major weather



ON FISHING

By Michael Acosta

As a licensed professional fishing guide, Michael Acosta shows you how to find them. He has been a licensed guide since 1998. michael.acosta@att.net

event, the moon may not even play a role on when the fish will feed. If you are fishing a narrow river where the daylight has less impact, the moon phase may have less impact as well.

As always, you will probably have a morning bite and an evening bite. If I am to fish the early part of the day, I do not want to miss the early morning. Conversely, if I am to fish the latter half of the day, I will be looking for that late afternoon bite. I will also be aware of the potential peak or secondary peak feeding times for the day, which vary of course with the moon.

As I have mentioned more than once, locate the bait fish. With these colder water temperatures, you will find that the fish will be looking for slightly warmer waters. Typically on colder days this will be in deeper holes in a river or deeper places in the lake. Water temperatures will be slightly warmer toward the bottom in the dead of winter. Fish will "huddle" in these deeper places on the colder days.

As the sun comes up in

the morning, (if it does), the shallows will warm faster than the deeper pools and fish will move up. A warm spell for several days will have more and more bait and fish moving up.

Another interesting point that I have noticed is that on many occasions on the real cold mornings, the fish may be huddled in deep water close to a steep bank. They may be less prone to move out and find your presentation. Putting the bait on their nose may be the trick.

Another point that I have mentioned on many occasions concerning winter fishing is that you need to slow down your presentation. Slow the presentation to where you almost don't move it at all. This is typically called dead-sticking, and it is extremely effective. You will have to figure out what movement will draw a strike. As the water warms, you may have to impart a little more action on the bait.

Fishing is great in the winter if you can get out. Just make sure you dress for the occasion and play it safe. The cold water can kill if you happen to fall in.

The Longest Year Ever

"January was a long year but we made it y'all." So posted one of my friends on Facebook.

I hadn't thought about it that way until I realized that the trip I canceled several months ago because of the covid surge was actually only 3 weeks ago and I canceled it the day before!

Good grief! I also realized that we are coming up on the one-year anniversary of Snowmageddon in just a few more days.

That was only one year ago?

And even crazier than that is the realization that two years ago, Mrs. Sweetie and I were about to board a cruise ship. Yep, we celebrated Valentines Day in the Caribbean.

And one month later the world shut down.

Just over a month ago I completed my sixth decade of life. The 2020s already seems like the longest of all those decades.

But, we made it, y'all. With every challenge, every loss, every surprise, every disappointment, every delay ...

We made it, y'all. We didn't make it unscathed or unchanged.

But we made it, y'all. We're still here, still breathing, still living, still moving.

Can we just pause and celebrate that for a moment?

Take a deep breath. Slow your roll.



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.

Quiet your mind. We made it, y'all.

Now, it's important to remember that where we are is not our final destination. We've still got more ahead. Where we are right now is a layover on the trip. (Possibly an unscheduled one from our perspective, but a layover nonetheless).

Can we take a moment and be grateful that we made it here?

This morning, I read Psalm 31. The heading in one of my bibles says, "A Psalm of Complaint and Praise."

One of the things I really appreciate about the Psalms is their honesty. No punches pulled. No tiptoeing around God fearing what might happen with too much honesty. No hiding emotions.

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I'm strangely comforted by knowing that it's ok to talk this way to God.

In Psalm 31, we have wonderful affirmations of faith: "In You, LORD, I have taken refuge ... For You are my rock and my fortress ... For You are my strength ... But I trust in the LORD. I will rejoice and be glad in Your faithfulness ... But as for me, I trust in You,

LORD, I say, 'You are my God.' My times are in Your hand ... How great is Your goodness ... Blessed be the LORD, For He has shown His marvelous faithfulness to me in a besieged city ... If you were to just read those phrases it would make a great song to sing in church.

But interspersed with those phrases, he also says: "Let me never be put to shame ... rescue me ... I hate those who devote themselves to worthless idols ... You have seen my misery, You have known the troubles of my soul ... I am in distress; My eye is wasted away from grief, my should and body too. For my life is spent with sorrow and my years with sighing ... my body has wasted away ... I am forgotten like a dead person, out of mind; I am like a broken vessel ..."

Not so pretty. But — so far — we made it y'all.

I could say so much more, but let me finish with the final verse of the Psalm: "Be strong and let your heart take courage, All you who wait for the LORD."

Be amazing today, my friend.

FISHING REPORT

Brazos River striped bass action using 5-inch soft plastics are excellent near Kimball Bend. Limits of striped bass are common. Possum Kingdom striped bass and sand bass action near Costello Island continues to be good to excellent with an occasional fish to 14 pounds. Look for the birds. Lake Whitney crappie limits continue to be good to excellent in the river near the 174 bridge.

WRECKS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

Kenworth. Winkle suffered undisclosed injuries and was transported to a Fort Worth area hospital by a LifeCare ambulance. The driver of the Kenworth, 47-year-old Ariel D. Wordlaw of Arlington, was not injured. The second crash happened at about 10:12 a.m. in the 5300 block of SH 199 near FM 1542 (South Reno Road). Hunter said a 2009 Honda Civic exited a business parking lot and attempted a right turn onto SH 199. A 2005 Toyota 4Runner driven by Erich D. Potts, 32, of Springtown, was eastbound on SH 199 in the outside lane and struck the Honda as the Honda turned in front of it. The driver of the Honda, 29-year-old Jasmine Johnson of Boyd, was transported by LifeCare ambulance to Texas Health Hospital Azle. A 33-year-old passenger in the Honda and Potts were not injured.

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Neighbors address concerns about new subdivision

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
madelyn@azlenews.net

Neighbors to the in-development subdivision near J.E. Woody Road voiced their concerns about the housing plans at last week's Springtown City Council meeting.

Three people spoke during open forum regarding the upcoming subdivision development near J.E. Woody Road and South Birch Street. In December, the council approved the development agreement, land annexation, zoning and the preliminary plat for the 110-lot subdivision.

The final plat for the development was approved last week by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

The new development is expected to have 108 single-family residences on almost 22 acres, and nearby residents expressed concern about the subdivision's impact on roads, the economy and schools. The neighbors said they didn't receive notification about the subdivision's process through the City Council.

"When you put 108 or 110 homes - however many it's going to be - that's going to be problems because eventually it's not going to be the people that you want to be living next door in the long run. I guarantee it," said Pam Wagner, who lives on J.E. Woody Road, at



The intersection of J.E. Woody Road and South Birch Street in Springtown.

Courtesy Google Maps

the meeting. "No one wants to stop progress. We believe in the town growing and doing better and everything you can, but that's a little excessive."

City Administrator David Miller said at the meeting he would try to set up a neighborhood meeting with the developer for residents so they could discuss the plan and concerns. There is no guarantee that the developer would agree to the meeting or that the developer would change the plans, Miller said.

"This would be an opportunity for y'all to have your dialogue with him to address some of those concerns that

come along with building, in general; dust control, trash control, drainage, runoff, all of those types of things," he said.

Miller also said that the council would not be able to backtrack on the zoning for the subdivision, though the developer could request new zoning.

As far as notification, Springtown Director of Administrative Services Christina Derr said people who live within 200 feet of the property in question and are on the municipal tax roll - meaning they own property within the city's corporate limits - are notified of city

meetings. Notification is also posted inside the newspaper, and the city posts agendas 72 hours in advance.

Derr said there are no properties that would receive notification under these terms because all the surrounding properties were in the city's extraterritorial jurisdiction, which is outside the corporate limits.

Toward the end of the council meeting, Miller said city officials would meet with the Texas Department of Transportation about adding a signal light at J.E. Woody Road and Farm-to-Market Road 51, among other topics.

Making friends



DEAR FRANKIE

By Geneva Woodruff

Frankie is a rescue dog and an emotional support animal for Geneva Woodruff. Woodruff is a retired educator.

Dear Frankie,

I'm a newcomer to the dog park and don't know any dogs there. I'm shy and don't have much experience making new friends.

At our last house, it wasn't an issue. Bruce, the dog next door, and I met when we were puppies. From the start, we got along great and became best friends.

Do you know of any strategies shy dogs use to make friends? When I asked my mom, she said, "Just go over to a dog that looks friendly and gesture that you want to play."

Just thinking about doing that makes me want to throw up.

Thanks for reading my letter.

Dear Sue,

You need to take a slower approach than your mom suggested. She's probably an extrovert. They think nothing of talking to strangers. Extroverts have difficulty understanding the terror new people can render for a shy dog like

yourself.

Before you do anything, why don't you think about the qualities you liked in Bruce and how the two of you played together? Then look around the park and see if any of the dogs remind you of Bruce and play the same way he did. Cautiously, you could approach this dog and see if they notice you and you to

play. Another strategy you might try is to find a dog you like and sit by its owner. Knowing dog owners, the person will probably talk to you and give you a pet.

When they call their dog to leave, be sure to smile and wag your tail when the dog sees you sitting by its owners. There's a good chance the owner will encourage their dog to play with you.

If you do this for a few days, you might make a friend. If not, try another dog and its owner.

Eventually, you will find a dog who will be thrilled to be your friend.

Best, Frankie

Just Thinking

Please allow me to share a couple of thoughts with you, both concerning some of the shortages of products that we are facing today.

The first one is not my original idea, as I heard it on the radio earlier this week, so I stole it, but here it is: It is highly unlikely that there are any American-made products stuck on ships that are waiting in line for port unloading.

Think about it.

My second thought for the day is because of delivery and production issues many items are not available to us, and we feel helpless because we can't do anything about it. Personally we can't make the computer chips that are missing from new cars, we can't make our own gasoline



AG 101

By Jack DeShazo

Jack DeShazo has decades of experience in the agriculture field.

(unless it is ethanol based), we can't produce metal pans/skillets for cooking, we can't make the plastic storage bags that our "leftovers" are stored in, etc., etc.

But we can do something about the thinning or empty shelves at the grocery store: Plant a garden, find someone in the community who feeds out livestock for processing and consumption, find a neighbor with a pecan tree in their backyard who is letting the pecans go to waste on the ground, plant some patio tomatoes, buy locally grown

vegetables and/or fruit from a farmer's market and preserve them by freezing, canning or dehydrating.

If you don't know how to do the preservation process, then learn. If you don't have a tiller to till up a garden spot, check your neighborhood for someone who does and do a little trading to get the job done or you can plant in raised beds. You get the idea. This thing could get worse before it gets better.

We have become dependent on others for so many things, but we are not near-

ly as helpless as we might think. Go back to the stories and teachings of our ancestors who lived through "The Great Depression." They were survivors and we also are survivors, when we have to be.

Basically, we Americans are a pretty independent lot; if your ancestors came to America 20 years ago, 50 years ago, 125 years ago or even 400 years ago, most of them were leaving a bad situation to try to find a better one here. For most it wasn't easy, it was most likely a challenge, but we are here which means they survived.

We can't just stand around saying "well, I don't know how to do that" - get with the program and do something about it. At least learn

and practice how to produce some of your own food, if it does get more serious than just thinning shelves at the grocery store you will be better prepared, instead of trying to play catch-up.

To many of you "The Great Depression" is ancient history, but not to me, I'm older than a lot of you, my parents were older when I was born and they were survivors of "The Great Depression," so I heard their firsthand stories of survival. Because of the stories during my growing up years about their survival experiences, it seemed like it happened just yesterday, and they weren't just stories - it was real and it was tough.

There is no guarantee that this could not happen

again. Don't let yourself be surprised. Use the Boy Scout motto "Be Prepared." At least be able to provide some portion of food for you and your family. And, if God sees fit for our nation/world to not have to go through something such as this, then you will have learned something new, which should make you feel good (learning something new should always make you feel good) and you will also be better prepared just in case.

OK, I'll step off of my soap box. DeShazo's "go get 'em pep talk no. 36" is complete. The next time we meet we'll get back on the subject of native plants, their advantages and disadvantages. I promise.

'til next time.

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Springtown council strikes down duplex rezoning request

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
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Springtown residents spoke out against a property owner's request to change the zoning on their property from single family to duplex, and the city council voted to deny the request.

The council considered the zoning change at last week's meeting. The property, owned by James Jacobson, is west of South Springbranch Trail and south of Hilltop Drive. Jacobson

wrote on the application that the purpose of the request was "to build a duplex for rental purposes."

During the public forum, three residents – one of whom spoke in person while the rest provided written comments – opposed the zoning change. The opposition stemmed from the belief that a duplex would result in lower property values for other homes in the neighborhood, and duplex residents wouldn't care for their property the same way

that a single-family resident would.

"Single (families) seem to care more for their (property) much more," neighboring resident Patricia Hale said in a written statement.

Neighboring resident Ken Baker said the change could allow for more duplexes and apartments, though the change was only in consideration of one lot. He said there are too many rental home neighborhoods in Springtown, and he didn't want his neighborhood dy-

amic to change.

"Duplexes are rental homes. Renters are not owners, and they will not have the same level of care and investment through ownership that we all have," Baker said during the meeting. "We are permanent residents. Renters are not. They're transient."

In a written statement, neighboring resident Brandon Jordan expressed concerns about the traffic from the duplex because of the narrowness of Springbranch

Trail and Hilltop Drive.

Jacobson was not at the council meeting last week.

The council unanimously denied the zoning request without discussion.

Springtown Administrative Services Director Christina Derr said she understands the concern that a duplex might not have been fitting among all single-family homes, though there are duplexes around the corner.

As far as code enforcement complaints, Derr said tickets are issued to the

owner of a property, not the renter, and property owners are more likely to resolve the issues.

Rental properties provide housing for people of a variety of socio-economic backgrounds, such as new teachers getting their first contracts and builders who only need to stay in an area for a limited amount of time, Derr said. Planning requires a balance of a variety of homes, she said.

ATTACK, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

was attacked by a dog. Conner survived with the help of a neighbor who was able to get the boy away from the dog and inside the fence.

Conner was taken to Cook Children's Medical Center where he had a major surgery to stop the bleeding and repair his wounds, his mother Cassandra Ware said. Conner was released from the hospital after 24 hours.

Ware said Conner has more than 2,000 stitches in his face alone, as well as stitches on the back of his head, on his neck, down both of his arms and his shoulders. The mother expects her son will need more surgeries in the future to remedy the nerve damage in his cheek and a rip on his eyelid.

The Parker County Sheriff's Office is investigating the incident. Public Information Officer Deputy Danie

Huffman said the neighbor had to hit the dog with a stick to rescue Conner. The dog, a brown and black brindle, boxer-pit bull mix breed, has been euthanized, Huffman said.

Ware said she was "extremely grateful" for the neighbor, identified in an NBC DFW article as Lorena Parker, who rescued Conner from the dog.

"The surgeon told her that if she would have been one to two minutes later, he would have been gone," Ware said. "It was a very close call."

Conner's mother also said, "I'm so happy that he's alive, and I can still see him try to smile. He's working on it. He's getting a lot better."

Ware also said Conner will need physical therapy for his arms as well.

"We're working on him now with trying to hold utensils again, but it's like he went back to being a toddler to the way he holds it now because it's like his muscles need to get used to it again because of the fact that the muscles in his forearms were ripped through," she said. "As far as we know, there's no nerve damage in his arms at all, which is a very good thing."

For now, Conner is "terrified" of dogs that aren't his, Ware said.

"He went to go play with the kid next door, and the (neighbor's) dog met him at the door," she said. "Connor freaked out. His heart started racing, and he was crying."

A GoFundMe page has been set up for Ware and Conner to raise money "to replace Conner's coat and backpack AND for grocer-

ies, gas, and bills, including cosmetic surgery bills," according to the fundraising website. As of Wednesday afternoon, more than \$13,605 has been raised. A fence is also scheduled to be installed this week so Conner can play outside without encountering the dogs.

"I'm extremely thankful and grateful and blessed that everybody is stepping up and helping out," Ware said.

To donate, visit www.gofundme.com/f/CassieandConor. An account called the Conner Lander's Benefit Account at PlainsCapital Bank in Weatherford has been set up by Parker County animal control officers to offset medical bills.

MUNICIPAL ACTION

In light of Conner's attack and other similar issues, the Reno Planning and Zoning

Commission is working on an animal ordinance to address dangerous dogs specifically.

"What's been brought to our attention is there are packs of dogs running around because we've not had any way to address it and deal with it," P&Z Chairperson Christopher Reeves said following a workshop meeting last week. "So, we are going to start moving forward on that."

Reno Police Deputy Chief Nathan Stringer said he would assist in writing an animal ordinance. Stringer said the issue in Reno isn't usually dogs owned by people but wild dogs.

"There are packs of dogs, which is an issue for any city," Stringer said.

Stringer's plan is to see what the current animal ordinance covers and possibly

make additions for certain needs. The commission will review Stringer's draft, make adjustments and submit it for city council's approval.

Mayor Sam White said one of the employees in the streets and water department is training to be the city's animal control officer, who will be certified in March. An animal control department will be established thereafter.

"Reno had nothing, and that's kind of where we're at," White said. "So, we've got to look at what the best option for Reno is."

The goal of the ordinance is to maintain public safety, Stringer said. There have been incidents of dogs biting people, chasing people and attacking other animals, he said.

Spotlight on

BUSINESS

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Jennifer Stephens is an accountant with more than 30 years of experience in the ac-

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Obituaries

Pancho Quintero

1931- 2022

Pancho Celerino Quintero passed away on Jan. 25, 2022.

Visitation will be Friday, Feb. 4, 2022 at Azleland Cemetery from 4 to 8 p.m.

Pancho was born the son of Agatha and Ramon Quintero in a family of 15 boys and one girl. His wife Nina Quintero passed away on Nov. 19, 2021. They were married 63 years and they still called each other sweethearts. Pancho was a good man, loved life and always had a solution for everything.

Pancho was preceded in death by his sons, Rodrick Quintero, Derrick Quintero and Brian Quintero.

He is survived by one daughter Shelly Yvonne Quintero of Springtown, and one son Reno Celerino Quintero Jr., grandchildren,



Chico, Rodger, Ryan, Rob-inKay, Joey, Savana, Ricky, Rocky, Haleigh, Chelsa, Jacob, Kent and Brian Jr.; step-children Sabrina, Chris, Amber Jones, and great-grandchildren, Keith and Kimmie Quintero; Jacob, Hanna, Eli, Brian, Mia, Lorenzo, Izick, Russell, and Joseph.

The Springtown Epigraph Feb. 3, 2022 Edition

Ramona Fox

1956- 2022

Ramona "Jackie" Jacqueline Fox, 65, passed away Jan. 30, 2022 in Fort Worth.

Memorial service is at 2 p.m., Monday, Feb. 7, 2022, White's Chapel in Springtown.

Jackie was born Dec. 22, 1956, in Fort Worth, Texas to Larkin Evans and Ramona Taylor Evans.

She graduated from Azle High in 1975, married Carl at Azle Methodist Church 1979, and raised her family in Springtown. She loved Nascar and enjoyed having friends and family visit her home. She loved riding around on her four-wheeler Tweety and taking the kids for rides around the property.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Larkin and Ramona Evans.



Survivors include her husband, Carl Fox of Springtown, daughter, Stacy Fox of Springtown and brother, Lance Evans of Azle and many wonderful nieces and nephews.

She was loved and will be remembered by all relatives and friends who knew her.

The Springtown Epigraph Feb. 3, 2022 Edition

Dee Ann Ripple

1943- 2022

Dee Ann Ripple, 78, passed away, Sunday, Jan. 30, 2022. She was born Nov. 27, 1943 in Fort Worth to Frank and Mattie Ripple. They both preceded her in death along with her sister, Wanda Pennington, son, Billy Ripple and grandson, Rocky Pippin.

Graveside is at 1 p.m Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2022 at Mount Olivet, Fort Worth. Visitation from 6-8 p.m., Monday at Alexander's Midway, Springtown.

Dee Ann, loved westerns, country music and camping. She was an independent, hardworking lady. She leaves behind her son, Ricky Pippin and wife, Kimberly; brother, Frank Ripple and



wife, Helen; grandchildren, Racey Pippin, Brian Pippin, Courtney Ripple and Billy Ripple Jr.; and close family, Jody, Bobby, James, Tammy and Christy Ripple.

The Springtown Epigraph Feb. 3, 2022 Edition

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ON TRAVEL

Experience spirit of aloha, visit Hawai'i

When many people think of a domestic vacation—one that doesn't venture beyond the United States—they often think in terms of the continental 48 states, and sometimes Alaska. Because it is about 2,400 miles southwest of California, Hawai'i does not immediately come to mind, even though it is our 50th state.

Hawai'i is a chain of about 100 islands stretching approximately 1,500 miles from Hawai'i Island to Midway. Only eight of these are considered populated; and, only six of these are generally open to visitors: Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, Lana'i, O'ahu, and Kaua'i. Each island has its own unique features, but all express the Aloha spirit.

As a vacation destination, Hawai'i offers the natural beauty of lush tropical forests, broad dry plains, towering mountains and volcanoes, multi-colored sand beaches, deep blue seas, and a pleasant climate with little change in temperatures, no matter the time of year.

This year, the islands have expanded a one aspect of Hawaiian culture called Malama Hawai'i. This means to live in a manner to take care of Hawai'i—care for the land, the sea, each other, and ourselves.

BY LEW WOODARD
lew@newvistatravel.com

Lew Woodard is a travel advisor with New Vista Travel.
www.newvistatravel.com
817-270-8357

Hawaiian culture is tightly integrated into the natural environment. Many hotels have special offers that can include a free night's stay to anyone staying an extra day to volunteer with Hawaiian organizations to help the environment or otherwise preserve Hawaiian culture.

Vacation excursions cover a broad range of mostly outdoor activities—surfing, fishing, hiking, ATV trips, zip lines, golf, visiting historical sites, cultural festivals, helicopter tours, and just lying on the beach. There are eight national parks among the islands, including the USS Arizona Memorial in Pearl Harbor and Hawaiian Volcanoes National Park. Regardless of your fitness level, there is no shortage of things to do or new places to explore.

For example, all of the Hawaiian Islands are used by Hollywood studios for filming locations such as those seen in Jurassic Park, Raiders of the Lost Ark, The Descendants, King Kong,

and Blue Hawai'i. Visitors can explore the islands with tours that feature the sites used in these and other films and television productions. One waterfall on Kaua'i (Manawaiopuna Falls) is so recognized from the Jurassic Park film that it has become known as Jurassic Falls. The public can only reach this site by helicopter.

From the beginning of the pandemic, the state of Hawai'i has been very strict with its COVID-19 protocols. The islands were virtually closed to visitors most of the first year of the pandemic. Those restrictions have eased in recent months, particularly with inter-island travel, but the rules can change at any time, as has been the case with the omicron variant. Always check the public health requirements well before paying for any plans to travel.

Hawai'i is not as close as the Caribbean islands, but it is a much different tropical experience. Flights from the west coast are about five hours; there are non-stop flights from Texas that take about eight hours. A Hawaiian vacation may also cost a bit more, but it is worth every penny and should be one of your future vacation destinations. Aloha!

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DERBY, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

“You can really see some imagination come out in these cars,” Lowe said. “It really shows what the kids are into nowadays.”

The derby allows the scouts to bond with their peers and show support for other racers, Lowe said.

“They’re not cheering for their own cars; they’re picking other cars,” she said. “It’s a great chance for these kids to encourage their scout mates.”

The Pinewood Derby is a time-honored tradition, not just by Springtown scouts but for the Cub Scouts organization. The first derby took place in 1953 in Manhattan Beach, California, according to the Bryan on Scouting blog.

The event in Springtown has grown from last year when the derby yielded about 40 cars in the

race, Lowe said. The cubmaster attributed this growth to the work the pack has done to be present in the community.

“We are continuously growing and putting ourselves out in the community and trying to recruit as much as possible, making our presence known so that others, if they have any interest in the Cub Scouts program, they see what it’s about and see how much fun these kids are having and what they’re learning and taking away from it,” Lowe said.

Lowe thanked the Springtown First United Methodist Church for allowing the scouts to use the space for the derby.

“Without being able to use this facility and the help from the members here at the church, a lot of this wouldn’t be possible,” she said.



The Cub Scouts start with a block of wood, four tires and four nails, and they create their derby cars from that at the pack’s build days. Photo by Madelyn Edwards



The Springtown Cub Scouts in Pack 303 hosted their annual Pinewood Derby on Saturday at the Springtown First United Methodist Church.



Photos by Madelyn Edwards

Jackie Robinson

BREAKING THE COLOR BARRIER

Baseball Hall of Famer, **Jackie Robinson** probably changed baseball more than any other player—not by skill alone, but by who he was as a person.

Biographical information on today’s page verified by the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum: baseballhall.org

Kid Scoop Puzzler

A Timeline of Ending Segregation

In 1947, Jackie Robinson was ahead of his time when it came to ending segregation in Major League Baseball. Use the code to find out the order in which the following were integrated.

CODE	0 = ▼	5 = ★
	1 = +	6 = ✖
	2 = ÷	7 = ↯
	3 = *	8 = ■
	4 = ♥	9 = ▲

Standards Link: History: Students know that a timeline records significant events in chronological order.

Kid Scoop Together: Numbers Game

In baseball, the batting average is defined as the ratio of hits to at bats.

A batting average is a measure of a player’s ability to hit. A batting average over .300 is considered to be good, and an average over .400 a nearly unachievable goal. (The last player to hit that mark, with enough at bats to qualify for the batting championship, was Ted Williams of the Boston Red Sox, who hit .406 in 1941.)

Jackie Robinson’s career batting average of .311 is still one of the top 100 of all time.

The baseball statistics in the newspaper provide a fun way to practice math skills. Use the following to get yourself started.

How do you say a batting average?

- Always say as a three-digit whole number.
- Say the first digit as a single whole number.
- Combine the second and third digits to form a two-digit number. For example: .274 = two seventy-four .309 = three oh-nine .075 = oh seventy-five

How do you express the following as a batting average?

- Batting averages are always three digits.
- If you have a two digit number place a zero on the end: .25 becomes .250
- If you have only one digit, place two zeros on the end: .3 becomes .300
- If you have more than three digits look at the fourth digit to determine if you should round the third digit up or keep it the same: .3019 becomes .301
- 2348 becomes .235

How do you calculate a batting average?

- Batting Average (BA) = Hits (H) divided by At Bats (AB) or BA = H/AB.
- If you have a fraction: 1/5 that’s the same as saying 1 for 5 or 1 hit for 5 at bats.
- To determine the batting average 1/5 divide the numerator by the denominator to create a decimal. Then say the answer as .200.
- 3 for 8 or 3/8 = .375
- 1 for 4 or 1/4 = .250

How do you calculate a player’s batting average over two games?

- Add the hits from both games together and then add at bats from both games together, next divide the sum of the hits by the sum of the at bats.
- 1 for 4; 3 for 5, first add up the hits 1 + 3 = 4, next add up the at bats 4 + 5 = 9, then divide the sum of the hits 4 by the sum of the at bats 9 or four for nine or 4/9 = .444.
- 0 for 2; 3 for 7 = 3 for 9 or 3/9 = .333
- 2 for 3; 1 for 4 = 3 for 7 or 3/7 = .429

Standards Link: Number Sense: Understand the relationship between fractions and percent; calculate problems using division; read decimals and percents; round numbers to the nearest 1,000.

A Rough Beginning

Jack “Jackie” Roosevelt Robinson was born in rural Georgia in 1919. He was the grandson of slaves. His _____ were sharecroppers, whose lives were not much better than those of his grandparents.

When Jackie was one year old, his father left the family, leaving his mother to _____ five children alone. His mother took the family and her _____ for a better life to Pasadena, Calif., where her brother lived. But things weren’t always good there either.

Jackie could only go to the _____ pool one day a week. He had to sit in a special _____ at the movie theater. Their white neighbors cursed the Robinsons and even threw rocks at them. Why? Because of the _____ of their skin.

In Jackie Robinson’s life, he _____ many people who were _____ against blacks. They felt that black people should not have the same _____ as white people.

The baseball knocked some words out of this story. Find where each word belongs.

ENCOUNTERED	PREJUDICED	HOPES
SECTION	PUBLIC	FREEDOMS
RAISE	COLOR	PARENTS

Standards Link: Civics: Know instances in which political conflict in the U.S. has been divisive and reasons for this division [e.g., civil rights struggles].

Sports: A Path to Change

When Jackie started school he found something he was very good at—sports. He liked to play hard. He liked to win. He found out that by winning in sports he got respect from the white children. He liked this feeling and vowed he would always work hard to gain respect.

Sports Star

By the time he was in high school, Jackie led the football, basketball, baseball and track teams. In 1938, when he was a student at Pasadena Junior College, Jackie led his college teammates to victory in a track meet and a baseball game held 40 miles apart on the same day!

Help Jackie get to the baseball game from the track meet.

Breaking Baseball’s Color Barrier

After college, Jackie went into the Army. When he got out he signed on with a baseball team in the Negro Leagues. At that time, black players were not allowed in the all-white Major Leagues.

Then, on October 23, 1945 Branch Rickey, the general manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers, asked Jackie Robinson to play for the Dodgers beginning in 1947. He said it would be difficult to be the first man to end segregation in Major League Baseball.

Standards Link: Civics: Know that civil rights efforts strive to reduce discrepancies between ideals and the reality of American public life.

Sports Star

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Help Jackie get to the baseball game from the track meet.

Extra! Extra!

Helping Others

What made Jackie Robinson great is not only what he accomplished for himself, but what he made possible for other people. Search the newspaper to identify individuals who are working to make life better for other people. Name the individuals and then summarize their actions and the possible benefits to others.

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write summaries of text.

A Rough Beginning

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Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write summaries of text.

Write On!

Leadership

What are the qualities of a good leader? Who do you know that is a good leader? Why do you think of that person?

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write responses to text.



Winter Hat Trick

Alee Stiles and the Springtown soccer girls begin district competition on Feb. 7.

Photo by Jeff Prince

Springtown soccer girls find wins through chemistry

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

District competition for soccer begins Feb. 7, and a young squad of Lady Porcupines is proving its mettle is mighty.

“We do have stuff we can

always work on, but the girls have been working to improve, and we’ve been touching on a lot of things,” said head coach Katherine Kummerfeld, known to her players as Coach K. “They are a coachable group of girls.”

The team lost seven senior

starters to graduation last year.

This season, the teams has a “fair amount of freshmen and sophomores, and a solid group of juniors,” the coach said.

Most of the girls have been playing for years.

“I would say this is prob-

ably my best team so far, overall, since I’ve been here,” Kummerfeld said.

She is in her sixth year as head coach at Springtown, and the program has grown steadily during that time. Three years ago, the coaches created a junior varsity team to give younger players

more game experience.

“The (roster) numbers are big, which has helped the program,” she said.

NONDISTRICT SUCCESS

The Lady Pines were back to the right stuff on Friday, beating Bridgeport 5-1 for

their third consecutive victory. On Jan. 21, the Pines had beaten Hirschi 1-0 and knocked off Carter-Riverside 6-0 three days later.

A stiff wind blowing in from the north at the Carter-Riverside game dropped wind-chill

SEE WINTER, PAGE 2A.



Camdon Alvarez chute dogged a scholarship at the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo. Courtesy photo

Springtown’s Camdon Alvarez wins \$2,000 rodeo scholarship

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

Camdon Alvarez won the chute dogging event and a \$2,000 scholarship on Saturday at the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo.

Five of Springtown’s rodeo athletes qualified to participate at the rodeo by finishing in the top 10 of their events at the halfway point of the season.

“They did excellent,” said James Heil, team sponsor.

In addition to Alvarez, other participants included Cade Walker, Jet Braswell, Parker Koterba and Matthew Delacruz.

Walker earned second place in steer wrestling.

Springtown soccer boys scorch Burkburnett



Josue Anaya knocked in the winning goal against Burkburnett on Tuesday.

Photo by Jeff Prince

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

Springtown’s soccer team ended the nondistrict portion of its schedule with a high kick.

On Tuesday, sophomore Josue Anaya punched in a goal in the first half that stood for the rest of the game. The Porcupines knocked off Burkburnett 1-0 in front of a supportive

and vocal home crowd.

The victory sets up next week’s district opener at Carrollton Ranchview.

“I feel great,” head coach

SEE SOCCER, PAGE 2A.

Off in a blur

Springtown Porcupines cheer squad headed to Florida



The Springtown Porcupines cheer squad will zoom off to Orlando, Fla., to compete at the national contest this weekend. On Jan. 14, the cheerleaders finished in the top 20 among the high schools competing at the state contest in Fort Worth

Photo by Jeff Prince

WINTER, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B.



The Lady Porcupines celebrate a 6-0 victory over Carter-Riverside.

temperatures to near-freezing at Porcupine Stadium. The Pines led 2-0 at halftime and scored four more goals in the second half.

The six-point margin of victory was the highest in Kummerfeld's coaching career. Senior Aubrey Mueller accomplished a hat trick – scoring three goals in a game – for the first time in her career.

"That was awesome," the coach told her team afterward.

Their mutual support was impressive, she said.

"I appreciate that you are always cheering each other on," she told her players.

Good chemistry can be crucial to a team's success, Kummerfeld said.

Throughout the Carter-Riverside game, the girls on the bench cheered and hollered encouragement to teammates while wrapping themselves in blankets and trying to keep their teeth from chattering.

"Even if they don't play a whole lot, they're celebrating the team and the girls who get in the game," the coach said. "Every little thing on the field, they celebrate. That is awesome, and I think that's why they're doing so well."

The starters, including team leader Mueller, appreciate the camaraderie.

"We work really well together," Mueller said. "We

move the ball up and down the field pretty well."

BIG KICK

The Pines led 5-0 with 30 seconds left in the game against Carter-Riverside and had possession of the ball near their own goal. Rather than run out the clock, the Porcupines began passing the ball, trying to cover the length of the field and score a final goal in half a minute.

The Carter-Riverside girls were just as determined to stop them. One of them tripped a Porcupine near the 25-yard line with five seconds remaining. Mueller took a toss-in, lined up a long shot from an extreme angle near the sideline and booted the ball with all her might with two seconds left on the clock.

"My teammate had just gotten fouled over there, and I wanted to get my last third goal so I could get that hat trick," Mueller said.

A strong wind was blowing in her face, making the kick seem impossible. Once the ball left Mueller's foot, it sailed high and far, heading toward the goalie but curving left and into the net.

"I was looking at (the goalkeeper), and I was thinking, 'OK, I just got to turn my hips a little bit and get that curve on it,'" Mueller said.

She had never scored more

than two goals in a game before then.

Her coach wasn't surprised by the big kick. Mueller runs cross country and has worked with diligence to build strength in her legs, Kummerfeld said.

"It makes sense she gets herself a hat trick," she said. "That was awesome."

Even more awesome was seeing the team find the net six times by relying on plays and skills they had learned in practice.

"We've been working really hard specifically for the plays they did in the game, like crossing it to each other ... and shooting at corners of the goal," Kummerfeld said. "They did it today. They've been working hard in practice, and they actually put it to work in the game."

Mueller expects more of the same success once district begins.

"We're doing great this season," the senior said. "I love it. I love the entire team. We have room for improvement, but we're doing amazing things this season. I feel like we are going to make it to the playoffs."

The Lady Porcupines (6-4) play a final nondistrict game at 4:30 p.m. Feb. 4 at Benbrook (9-1-1) before beginning district competition on Feb. 7 at Ranchview (5-4) in Irving.



Aubrey Mueller's right leg packs a powerful punch.

Photo by Jeff Prince

Springtown basketball girls learning from losses



The Springtown Porcupines are developing close-knit relationships with one another while powering through their difficulty in finding the win column.

Photo by Jeff Prince

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azenews.net

Springtown's Lady Porcupines

have struggled on the scoreboard this season but are learning lessons that could lead to an exciting 2023. The freshmen and sophomores

that make up most of the roster continues to improve with the leadership of teammates Caydence Parker, the lone senior, and Brin-

klee Dauenhauer, the junior spark plug who energizes the team.

On Tuesday, the Springtown girls lost their seventh game in a

row, falling to Bridgeport 81-25.

Springtown (6-25) plays at 6:15 p.m. Feb. 4 at home against Krum (23-11).

SOCCER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B.

Brian Maloney said after the game. "I love it because this is momentum going into district."

The momentum swing is especially welcome after the Porcupines stumbled against Aledo on Jan. 28, falling 7-0 to the larger 5A team.

Even that trouncing had a sunny side. The Hornets were down 6-0 at halftime and fought back, learned from their mistakes and limited the Bearcats to a single goal in the second half.

"We got beat pretty bad by them, but the work we put in to bounce back again, showing our resilience, character and team effort and correcting all the things we needed to correct, that makes me happy and confident going into district," he said.

The coach hasn't set specific team goals for this season, his first at Springtown. His marching order is broad.

"I told them at the beginning, we don't really have any team goals, just high expectations for everyone," he said. "If we can meet the expectations that we have of playing hard, working for each other and becoming good men in the process, then I'm happy with that."

Springtown (4-5) plays at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 7 at Ranchview (5-8-1).

Team Champions at Wylie Invitational



The Springtown girls won the powerlifting team championship at Wylie on Saturday.

Courtesy photo



Springtown basketball boys crave Krum at home

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

The first time Springtown and Krum squared off against one another this season, the Porcupines prevailed 61-57.

That was in Krum's backyard on Jan. 11.

On Friday, Krum comes calling again, this time at the Springtown gym.

The Porcupines are fresh off

a disappointing 51-46 loss to Bridgeport on Feb. 1. When these two teams met for the first time on Jan. 7, Springtown won 49-38.

Springtown can improve its position in the standings by defeating Krum, which has a two-game lead over the Porcupines currently. Three games remain in the regular season.

Springtown (10-5) plays at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 4 at home against Krum (12-13).

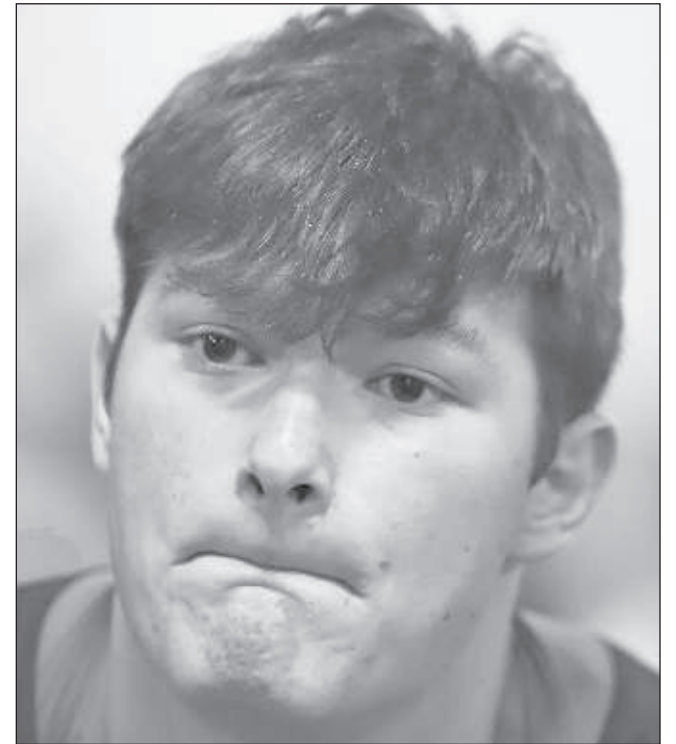
Jake Chaires listens as head coach Nathan Purvis talks to players during a game break. Photo by Jeff Prince

SPRINGTOWN

Game Faces



Ethan Jackson



Aaron Bowen



James Snyder



Caiden Haidusek



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2021 Home in Azle. 3BR, 2BA, 2-Car Carport with attached 10x20 Storage. \$1,600/mo. \$1,600 deposit, Credit/Background Check, No Pets. Available March 1st. 817-980-3066.

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Deadline:
 4:30 PM Monday

Classifieds

088 Rent Unfurnished

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 For Qualified Applicants**

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TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

1 eagle's talon

5 TXism: "dark as a ___ of black cats"

6 on highway 199, NW of Fort Worth

7 TXism: "mighty fine"

8 Adam and ___

9 in Nueces County on U.S. 77

15 ___ Rose, TX

16 to be useful, this is done "blind" (2 wds.)

19 with "The," a 1992 album by TX Clint Black (2 wds.)

21 bad-tempered woman old U.S. Army and confederate fort in Jones County: "___ Hill"

27 former fast American sports car: SSC Ultimate ___

28 this Gary was Astro hitting coach (2004-06)

29 birds of prey nests

30 "Enchanted Rock State ___ Area"

32 TX Spacek was this Lynn in "Coal Miner's Daughter" (init.)

33 Texas Motor Speedway, e.g.

36 cotton pest: ___ weevil

37 to be sick

38 kind of butterfly

39 TXism for false teeth (back when they were mail-ordered)

41 TX Tech and Cowboy kicker, Elliott

42 TXism: "I can dance ___ tune" (agree)

45 shallowest great lake

46 Cut ___ Shoot, TX

47 Joe ___ Grandee was the first official state artist of Texas

48 TXism: "blister ___" (handle)

49 fans, e.g.

52 "___ del Rey" (ungrammatical version)

DOWN

1 TXism: "tax wrangler"

2 this TX Smith was a gossip columnist

3 TXism: "it's ___ but the shouting" (ended)

4 Saturday & Sunday television news personality (2 wds.)

8 this Jack was in "Big Bad John" with TX Jimmy Dean

9 first Texas railroad: "Buffalo ___,"

10 TXism: "his bark ___ worse than his bite"

11 ___ Jo, TX

12 TXism: "___ and no foam" (respected man)

13 Lake ___ Pines

14 jaunty

15 TX Gene Tierney film: "The ___ Mrs. Muir"

16 sharp taste

17 "___ cement" (hard, inflexible)

18 ribbed diagonal fabrics

20 TXism: "___ as a two-day-old kitten"

22 "___" Ferguson was 26th TX governor

23 His and ___ towels

24 male sheep (2 wds.)

25 this Peltz was in 2010 film "The Last Airbender" starring TX Noah Ringer

26 TXism: "scary as a ___ the driver's seat"

28 this TX Storm was "Margie" on TV

31 Dublin Texas ___ Beer

34 he married TX-born Dale Evans (init.)

35 TXism: "___ your age" (be mature)

37 TXism: "strong as battery ___"

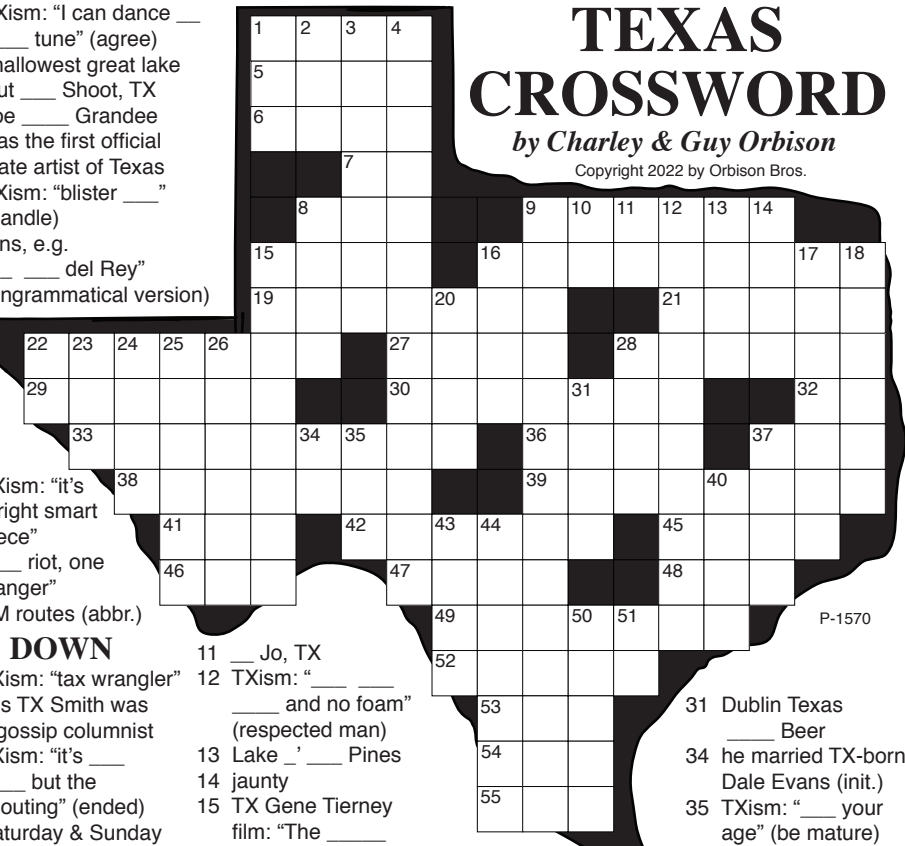
40 big coffee makers

43 a water hose, e.g.

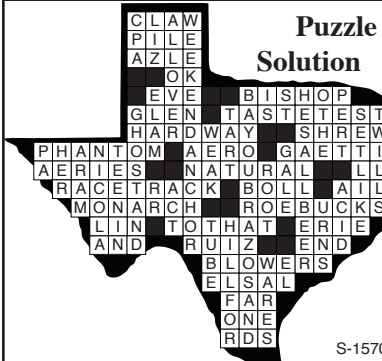
44 TXism: "no ___ a stepper" (can be done)

50 merchandise

51 Tex-Mex restaurant chain started in Dallas: "___ Fenix"



Puzzle Solution



TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK

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TexSCAN Week of Jan. 30-Feb. 5, 2022

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