



## Family rebuilds, receives support after house fire



Back row from left: Wesley Goodwin, Michael Massey who is holding Michael Massey Jr., Tony Goodwin Sr., Heather Massey, Caylee Chote, Samantha Goodwin, Carley Chote. Front row from left: Donna Manning, Raelynne Massey. Photo by Jim Stevens

**BY MADELYN EDWARDS**  
madelyn@azlenews.net

Tony Goodwin Sr. and his family have been trying to recover after a fire burned down their house.

The family of 10 lived in a home north of Springtown, near Farm-to-Market Road 51 and County Road 3694, said Goodwin, who is a Springtown ISD school bus driver. The fire happened earlier

this month in the afternoon while some members of the family were welding on a back porch awning. A spark got loose and ended up on top

SEE FIRE, PAGE 7A.

## Candidates file for May 7 municipal election

**BY MADELYN EDWARDS**  
madelyn@azlenews.net

Candidate filing for local elections ended Feb. 18, and Springtown-area folks now have an idea who will be on the ballot in May.

Election Day for the municipal races is May 7.

On the Springtown City Council, candidates filed for Places 1, 3 and 5. Terms on the council are for two years. Incumbents Ted Martinez and Walter Roberson have filed to keep their seats in Places 1 and 3, respectively. Incumbent Bill White did not file for re-election for Place 5. Scott Richardson, who is currently the chairperson of the Springtown Planning and Zoning Commission, has filed for White's spot.

Because the Springtown City Council races are uncontested, the election is expected to be cancelled, City Secretary Denise Taylor said.

In Reno, candidates filed for Places 1, 3 and 5 on the city council. Term lengths are for two years. Incumbents Granville "Randy" Martin and Jeff Davis are running for re-election in Places 1 and 5, respectively. Council member Shelli Swift is also running for re-election, and Jason Holden is running against her in Place 3.

In Springtown ISD's school board election, candidates filed for Places 1, 2 and 3. Terms are for three years. Incumbents Rick Beall and Damon Liles filed for re-election for Places 1 and 2, respectively. Along with Liles, Chad Tedder also filed for Place 2. Former board member Jay Grubis filed for Place 3. Amy Walker, who is currently in Place 3 on the board, did not file for re-election.

For Walnut Creek Special Utility District, three seats on the board are available. The terms are for three years. Incumbents Mike Gilley and Frank Henderson have filed for re-election, as well as Beth Correll, who is currently filling an unexpired term left by Brian Sexton, who resigned from the board. Rene Esteves, Jim Cox, Jeff Carter and Candice Chandler also filed as candidates.

### KEY DATES

Early voting will take place from April 25 to May 3. The last day for voters to register is April 7. The last day to apply for a ballot by mail is April 26.

More information about registering to vote in Texas can be found online at [www.votetexas.gov/register/index.html](http://www.votetexas.gov/register/index.html).

## Raising rabbits: Local family talks about showing, breeding rabbits

**BY MADELYN EDWARDS**  
madelyn@azlenews.net

Local homeschool children Scarlett and Maverick Webb carried several rabbits into their living room and introduced them for an unofficial showing last week.

Maverick, 5, held the rabbits close to his body and face as he smiled for the camera. Scarlett, 13, set the rabbits on the grooming table and showed how the judges examine the rabbits at stock shows. She held and nuzzled some rabbits and said that one of the smaller ones likes to sit in her jacket pocket.

The kids competed in the Fort Worth Stock Show earlier this year. Both Scarlett and Maverick won multiple awards at the stock show, including Best of Breed in the Havana Specialty for Scarlett and Best Opposite in the Havana Specialty and youth weekend for Maverick.

Scarlett and her mom, Jessica Demele, were introduced to the world of rabbits and the Springtown 4-H Club through a friend at church. Scarlett started showing rabbits around age 4, and Maverick was "born into it," Demele said.

"We were already pretty invest-



SEE RABBITS, PAGE 14A. Jessica Demele holds one of her family's baby bunnies.

Photo by Madelyn Edwards

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# Springtown Middle School students talk about One-Act Play, theater

BY MADELYN EDWARDS  
madelyn@azlenews.net

The UIL One-Act Play competition is a defining event for Texas school theater programs, and Springtown Middle School is no stranger to getting in on the competition.

A team of 15 students, including the main cast, understudies and the crew members, produced the play "Foiled by an Innocent Maid" for the competition last month. They have been rehearsing since October. The melodrama includes a family devastated by loss, a love story between the titular maid and an errand boy, a villain who tries to steal the family fortune and a happy ending.

"Because (the play) was a melodrama, they had to be super overdramatic, and some of them are pretty in their shells so it kind of pushed them to do different things," choir and theater director Aubyn Wood said.

The kids seemed to like the play, especially the overdramatic and funny parts of it. Makyla Faries, who played the maid, said she enjoyed the teamwork aspect of the project.

"The main part that I liked about this was working with other people, and the relationship that we all had was nice," Makyla said. "We all learned how to work together."

Makai Siegrist, who played the villain, agreed

that it was like "working as a family" with everyone doing their part.

"We all had our separate roles, and we all our duties to do," Makai said. "We had to move props around and stuff, so we all had to coordinate."

The students, who earned third place in the competition, described challenges with their lines, scene transitions, facial expressions, blocking, setting up the stage and overheating in costume. However, the kids said they thought of mistakes as lessons or possible improvements.

"Sometimes mistakes are good and help improve a play or movie or TV show," said Scott Baker, who played the good guy in the play.

Overall, the students said they liked their performance.

"We did a good job," Makai said. "We could've done better, but we could've done worse."

Sarah Grazer, who played the grandma, said she feels like the performance was the best the group had done.

"I feel like actually being on the stage kind of pressured us (to) do it right this time," Sarah said.

The students also won awards for their individual performances.

Cadence Morris and Makyla received honorable mention All-Star Cast medals, while Scott, Makai and Sarah earned All-Star Cast medals.

Bianca Mikkelson won the technician award for

being an outstanding stage manager. As stage manager, Bianca gets costumes ready, helps actors learn lines and makes sure the props are in the right spot.

"I like getting to help everyone out," Bianca said.

Wood said her students really put in the effort on competition day. She said getting into character and creating a backstory for their characters is a lot of work and challenging for middle school students especially.

"I've seen them do this play a million times now at this point, and when they got on stage that day, it was like, woo, that was different," Wood said excitedly. "They really, really got into it and

got into character, and that's the hard part, especially in middle school, is trying to be somebody else in front of all these people."

Sarah said she originally wanted to play the maid, but she ended up enjoying the role of the grandmother.

"I was a little bummed at first, but then I really grew to like that role a lot," she said. "Whenever I would get on the stage, (it would be like) Sarah is gone, I'm Rachel now. I would really get into that role, so I was kind of surprised to see how much I put myself into the shoes of my character."

At Springtown schools, middle school is the first chance some kids have to

participate in theater, though some of the One-Act Play kids got a taste for the stage through dance shows and other programs. The theater program at Springtown Middle School was reinstated five years ago.

Wood said theater teaches teamwork to middle school students and it helps them with talking in front of people and problem solving when someone isn't there to fulfill their role.

Makyla said being in theater and putting together the play has helped her with her stage fright.

"After this, I don't have as bad stage fright," Makyla said. "I think it was in second grade, they did a talent

show, and I choked. I didn't say anything. I just sat there with a microphone, like shaking, for the entire time, and after that I was like, I don't know, I can't. After this, I think I can."

Bianca also said being in theater has made her more sociable.

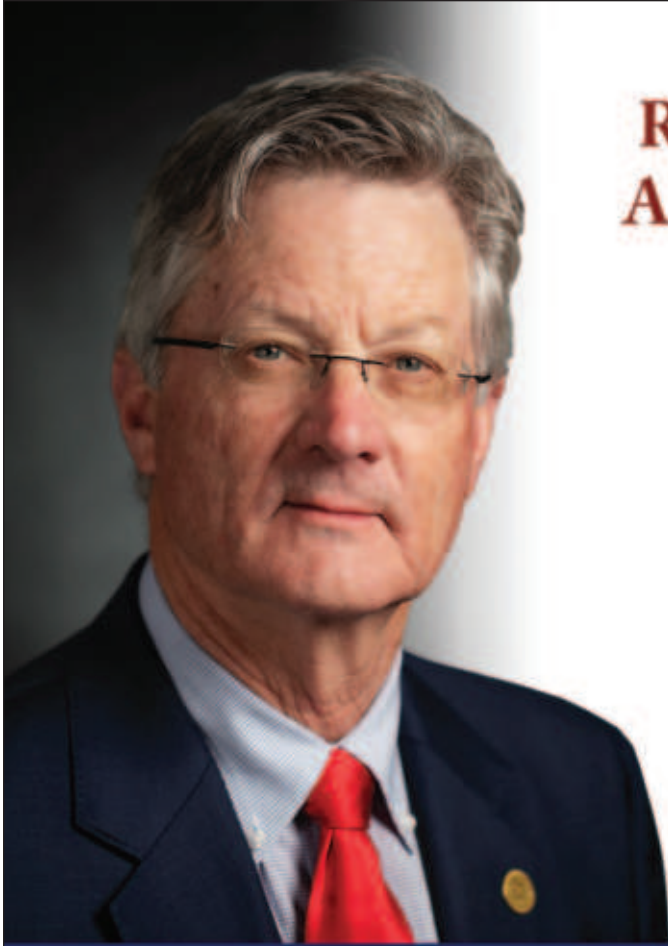
"I feel like theater helps you create a stronger bond with everyone and made you more comfortable with socializing," she said.

The students said they would recommend theater classes to other kids as an outlet for drama and energy. Scott said theater is even for boys who think they are too masculine for theater.

"It's for anyone," he said.



A team of 15 Springtown Middle School students, including the main cast, understudies and crew members, produced the play "Foiled by an Innocent Maid" for the UIL One Act Play competition last month. Courtesy of Aubyn Wood



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Dr. Glenn Rogers is a sixth generation Texan, rancher, and veterinarian. Glenn and his wife, Mandy, have four children and five grandchildren.

Republican Primary Election Day  
Tuesday, March 1



# Springtown teacher among Weatherford College honorees

## FROM STAFF REPORTS

Weatherford College honored 40 of the finest teachers from across the region at the annual Jack Harvey Academy of Exemplary Teachers celebration on Feb. 11 at the Doss Heritage and Culture Center in Weatherford.

Mary Francis from Springtown ISD, who teaches kindergarten at Reno Elementary School, was one of the honored teachers, according to a news release from WC.

Celebrating its 26th year, the Harvey Academy honors exemplary teachers in the memory of Professor Emeritus Jack Harvey, who taught at WC for 23 years and was considered among his peers as a “master teacher.”

This year’s keynote speaker was Ryan Murphey, the 2017 Teacher of the Year from the Nashville School of Arts and a Grammy-nominated music producer, songwriter, guitarist and vocalist. He is also the son of singer-songwriter Michael Martin Murphey, who attended the event and sang an original song with his son at the conclusion of the program.

Murphey holds a bachelor’s degree in creative writing and a master’s degree in teaching and learning. He was raised learning music, but it was the influence of a high school teacher that transformed his relationship with literature and led him to a career in education.



Mary Francis

Photo courtesy of Reno Elementary Facebook page

## THE 2021-22 JACK HARVEY ACADEMY OF EXEMPLARY TEACHERS AWARDEES

- Aledo ISD – Amy Chumbley
- Alvord ISD – Jennifer Peek
- Azle ISD – Kallie Roy
- Birdville ISD – Isaac Bradley
- Bluff Dale ISD – Kylie Burch
- Bowie ISD – Addie Enlow
- Bridgeport ISD – Chad Berardi
- Brock ISD – Karla Taylor
- Burleson ISD – Courtney Lindsey
- Castleberry ISD – Parker Bowman
- Chico ISD – Diane St. John
- Crosstimbers Academy – Deborah Savage
- Decatur ISD – Michelle Foreman
- Elite Christian Academy – Sherri Bozer
- Garner ISD – Brittany Robertson
- Gordon ISD – Tonya Lantrip
- Grace Christian Academy – Marcell Ottenhausen
- Granbury ISD – Angie Leisure
- Jacksboro ISD – Craig Parson
- Joshua ISD – Daniel Breedlove
- Lakeside Baptist Academy – Sandra McMahon
- Lipan ISD – Amber Freeman
- Millsap ISD – Rachel Stull
- Mineral Wells ISD – Ana Dowling
- Muenster ISD – Stacy Hightower
- Palo Pinto ISD – Gayle Taylor
- Paradise ISD – Neil Waggoner
- Peaster ISD – Kristen Aleksick
- Perrin-Whitt CISD – Shellie Green
- Poolville ISD – Lori Cheslock
- Santo ISD – Jacki Jeter
- Springtown ISD – Mary Francis
- Stephenville ISD – Brian Salge
- Strawn ISD – Jessica Mallory
- Tolar ISD – Sue Merkle
- Trinity Christian Academy – Candice Gables
- Victory Christian Academy – Erien Lee
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## SPRINGTOWN SCHOOL MENU

Feb. 21 - March 4, 2022  
 PK through 12th Grade  
\*Menu is subject to change.

BREAKFAST PRICES	
EC-12th Grade	\$1.75
EC-12th Reduced	\$0.30
Adult	\$2.25
LUNCH PRICES	
PK-4th Grade	\$3.00
5th-8th Grade	\$3.25
High School	\$3.00
Reduced	\$0.40
Adult	\$4.25

Students may prepay for their meals.

**PK - 12th GRADE** **BREAKFAST: Everyday** - Various Juices & Cereals, Toast, Milk Variety, Fruit, Jelly Assortment, Buttermilk Biscuit, Variety of milk is offered every day for breakfast and lunch.

**Monday** Dutch Waffle, Toast, Variety of Cereal, Fruit, Juice **Tuesday** Sausage Biscuit, Toast, Variety of Cereal, Fruit, Juice **Wednesday** Scramble Eggs, Toast, Variety of Cereal, Fruit, Juice **Thursday** Breakfast Stick, Toast, Variety of Cereal, Fruit, Juice **Friday** Breakfast Sandwich, Toast, Variety of Cereal, Fruit, Juice

**PK - 8th GRADE** **Lunch: Everyday** - Choice of one meat, two vegetables, and one grain/bread with milk. Variety of milk is offered every day for breakfast and lunch.

**Monday** Chicken & Waffles, Fresh Broccoli, Glazed Carrots, Pear Cup **Tuesday** Tangerine Chicken, Rice, Broccoli, Fiesta Sticks, Pineapple **Wednesday** CK Fried Steak Sandwich, Potato Crunchy Fish, Green Beans, Roll, Fresh Baby Carrots **Thursday** Popcorn Chicken, Chili Style Beans, Cucumber & Tomato Cup, Blueberries, Roll **Friday** Cheese Pizza, Popcorn Chicken, Roll, Green Beans, Fresh Baby Carrots

**9th-12 GRADE** **Lunch: Everyday** - Choice of one meat, two vegetables, and one grain/bread with milk. Variety of milk is offered every day for breakfast and lunch.

**Monday** Cheeseburger, Hamburger, Sweet Tater Tots, Fresh Broccoli Florets, Blueberries, Apple **Tuesday** Tangerine Chicken, CK Fried Steak Sandwich, Rice, Green Beans, Roll, Cucumber & Tomato Cup, Orange Smiles, Strawberries **Wednesday** Regular or Spicy Chicken Tenders w/ Waffles, Potato Crunchy Fish, Garden Salad, Coleslaw, Roll, Glazed Baby Carrots, Banana **Thursday** Nachos (beef or chicken), Refried Beans, Corn, Pears, Apples Slices **Friday** Cheese Pizza, Fish Tacos, Tater Gems, Broccoli, Coleslaw, Roll

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- Evelyn Tinney

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# Springtown intermediate, elementary students win awards at District Academic UIL Meet

## FROM STAFF REPORTS

Students from Springtown's intermediate school and elementary schools brought home 77 individual awards and 11 team awards from last month's District Academic UIL Meet.

Springtown Elementary School was also the overall winner in the fourth grade category.

Springtown Intermediate School hosted the meet, which featured about 360 total participants. The meet included eight area schools, including Springtown's intermediate school and three elementary campuses as well as elementary schools from Mineral Wells, Granbury and Aledo.

"Students, sponsors, ad-

ministrators and parents are to be commended for the commitment required by academic competition," said Lisa Parker, State UIL Assistant Academic Director, in a news release.

UIL designs the contests to provide the foundation for skill and experience the students need, according to the press release.

"Participation in UIL activities is designed to enrich the individual's learning experience. All contests are created with curricular objectives in mind," Parker said.

Springtown ISD Academic UIL Director Andrea Hungerford thanked the participating schools and the SISD staff members who

organized the meet. Springtown's UIL directors are Wendy Kennedy at Springtown Intermediate School, Marsha Winfield at Springtown Elementary School, Marsha Adams at Goshen Creek Elementary School and Liz Wilson at Reno Elementary School.

"The camaraderie among the schools makes the event

truly an amazing experience for students," Hungerford said.

The following are the Springtown results from the meet for students at Springtown Intermediate School (SIS), Springtown Elementary School (SES), Goshen Creek Elementary School (GCES) and Reno Elementary School (RES):

## SECOND GRADE

### Creative writing

- 1st Aubryn Legan – GCES
- 4th Ava Morrow – GCES

### Storytelling

- 2nd Kennedy Patino – RES
- 3rd Braxton Bleeker – SES
- 4th Parker Stanley – RES
- 5th Nayomi Allen – GCES
- 6th Joclynn Hager – SES

### Chess

- 1st Bryce Young – SES
- 3rd Ezra Cisar – RES
- 5th Lincoln Thompson – SES
- 6th Hadynn Locke – RES

### Oral Reading

- 3rd Livi Seuell – GCES
- 4th Julia Guerrero – SES
- 5th Kynsleigh Riddell – SES
- 6th Emma Philpot – GC

### Music

- 1st Lilith Costa – SES
- 1st Weston O'Bannon – SES
- 3rd Alonna Reynolds – SES

### Spelling

- 4th Eli Sloniker – GCES
- 5th Nashton Cansom – SES
- 6th Roman Colon – GCES

### Music Team

- 1st SES

### Chess Team

- 2nd SES
- 3rd RES

## THIRD GRADE

### Storytelling

- 1st Hadley Scoggin – RES
- 4th Kason Cole – SES
- 6th Issabella Alvarado – GCES

### Chess

- 4th Aiden Mussulman – GCES
- 6th Izayah Zapata – RES

### Oral Reading

- 1st McCalle Bratcher – GCES
- 3rd Ella Taylor – SES
- 4th Carly Cooper – GCES
- 6th Elizabeth McKinney – GCES

### Music

- 2nd Isac Nunez – SES
- 3rd Braeden McGahey – SES
- 4th Cecilee Morgan – RES

## Spelling

- 1st Emma Hutton – RES
- 5th Abigail Allen – SES
- 6th Daniel Abbott – RES

## Ready Writing

- 5th Avery Hutton – RES

## Music Team

- 2nd SES

## Chess Team

- 3rd RES

## FOURTH GRADE

### Chess

- 3rd Quinlan Parnell – SES

### Oral Reading

- 1st Jace Pritchett – GCES
- 2nd Paisley Plumlee – GCES
- 3rd Lacie Shotwell – SES
- 5th Christian DeLaPortilla – GCES
- 6th Paisley Dildy – Reno

## Music

- 1st Ryder Legan – GCES
- 3rd Briten Weber – GCES
- 4th Nataleigh Eubank – RES
- 5th Madalyn Knight – SES
- 6th Temperance Leavell – SES

## Spelling

- 1st Kaden Eason – SES
- 4th Ethan Mullinix – SES
- 6th Addison Saupp – SES

## Ready Writing

- 1st Arianna Northcutt – RES
- 2nd Kinley Kitchen – SES
- 3rd Dalton Ahlers – SES
- 4th Addison Green – SES

## Art

- 1st Jocelyn Frame – SES
- 3rd Denver Cox – SES

## Number Sense

- 2nd Bentley Barnett – GCES
- 3rd Blade Adams – GCES
- 4th Brantley Sweeley – SES
- 5th Eli Davis – RES
- 6th Alexis Bontranger – SES

## Chess Team

- 3rd SES

## Music Team

- 1st SES
- 2nd GCES

## Art Team

- 1st SES

## FIFTH GRADE

### Chess

- 3rd Jason Grimes – SIS

### Oral Reading

- 1st Addison Weber – SIS

### Music

- 1st Claire Cash – SIS
- 4th Arianna Pena – SIS

### Ready Writing

- 3rd Emma Klemke – SIS
- 5th Lilah Mooneyham – SIS

### Art

- 5th Eilla DeLaRosa – SIS

### Number Sense

- 3rd Carlee Brumback – SIS

### Music Team

- 1st SIS

## SIXTH GRADE

### Chess

- 5th Logan Litzman – SIS

### Number Sense

- 3rd Braxton May – SIS

### Dictionary

- 2nd Tristan Gunter – SIS
- 4th Madi Musselman – SIS

### Social Studies

- 2nd Evelyn Herrera – SIS

### Calculator

- 1st Lincoln Coplen – SIS

### Science

- 3rd Kieran Redman – SIS

### Chess Team

- 3rd SIS



Pictured are Springtown Intermediate School UIL participants and winners. Students from Springtown's intermediate school and elementary schools brought home 77 individual awards and 11 team awards from last month's District Academic UIL Meet. Courtesy of Wendy Kennedy

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Photos courtesy Stephanie Taylor

# Grow at Clark Gardens

## Clark Gardens to showcase wellness, art, horticulture and farming activities at month-long event

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

Officials from Clark Gardens Botanical Park in Weatherford are excited to host a month-long celebration of wellness, art, horticulture and farming at its Grow at Clark Gardens event in March.

Each week of March, Clark Gardens will highlight nature-based activities while encouraging healthy lifestyles through a variety of classes and demonstrations.

“We are thrilled to host an event designed to enrich the lives of our local residents and tourists through a variety of fun, hands-on activities all month long,” Clark Gardens Assistant Director Ansley McEntire said in a news release. “We hope Grow at Clark Gardens will become deeply rooted in our community.”

Wellness Week will be held from March 1 through March 11 and will feature activities like yoga, relaxing creativity practices and healthy cooking.

Art Week will be March 12-18 and will give participants a hands-on art experience through crafts like photography, painting and needlework. The art exhibit, Dream in Bloom, will also be on display from March 1 through June 5.

Horticulture Week will be from March 19-25 will sharpen attendees’ gardening skills through classes that will provide tips on planting for pollinators, native plants, cutting gardens and enriching soils.

Backyard Farming Week will take place March 26-31 and will feature local farming expert secrets to vegetable gardens, aquaponics, rain collection, composting and other practices.

“We’re excited to partner with experts in our community that will share information about enhancing your life through wellness, horticulture, farming and art,” Director of Clark Gardens Carol Clark Montgomery said. “We truly believe you

will grow at Clark Gardens by integrating the practices.”

General admission is \$5 for children 4-12 years old, \$7 for seniors 65 years and older, and \$9 for adults.

Patrons can receive free entry to any day of the Grow at Clark Gardens festival by becoming a member of the gardens at [www.clarkgardens.org/support.html](http://www.clarkgardens.org/support.html).

People may become a member of Clark Gardens Botanical Park and receive free admission into the gardens year-round as well as free entry any day of the Grow at Clark Gardens festival. Some fees may apply to specific activities.

Clark Gardens appreciates the help of the Mineral Wells Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau for awarding a grant to make the event possible.

For more information about Grow at Clark Gardens, visit [www.clarkgardens.org/happenings/grow-at-clark-gardens.html](http://www.clarkgardens.org/happenings/grow-at-clark-gardens.html).



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# Obituaries

## Carmella Santiago 1941-2022

Carmella Faye Santiago, 80, crossed over to Heaven peacefully, guided by Our Father, Sunday, Feb. 13, 2022 in Springtown.

Celebration of Life is at 12:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 26, 2022 Alexander's Midway Funeral Home, 3607 East Highway 199, Springtown.

In lieu of flowers please donate to Alzheimer's Association.

She was born Aug. 19, 1941 in Wilmington, Delaware. Carmella loved walking, being with people, having family dinners, volunteering and being a part of her church. She was greatly loved and will be deeply missed by many. We as a family would like to give thanks to all of the people that have helped in her care in Delaware and Texas and safe move.

She was a faithful wife, married to her first love, Hipolito Santiago for 52 years before his passing in 2012.

She was preceded in



death by her father, Dominick Schivello; mother, Elma (Lewis) Schivello; and brother, Donald Schivello.

She is survived by and was a loving mother to Anthony and Helene Santiago, Steven Santiago, Chris and Yvonne Smith; devoted Mom Mom to Michelle Ganzman, Kristen Pelle, Anthony Santiago, Sean Santiago, Jonathon Smith, Hannah Snyder, Benjamin Santiago, Sarah Wells, Noel Santiago and 11 great grandchildren.

The Springtown Epigraph  
Feb. 24, 2022 Edition

## Frances Anderson 1957-2022

Frances Ann Anderson, 64, passed away peacefully Friday morning, Feb. 18, 2022 with her brother by her side.

Service was at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022 in Biggers Funeral Chapel. Burial is at a later date in Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery.

She was born Aug. 15, 1957, in Ft. Smith, Arkansas to the late Georgia Winter and Thomas Scott.

She was an avid Star Wars and Star Trek fan. She was a very generous and caring person. She loved everyone and loved animals of any size and kind.

Fran was preceded in death by her father, Thomas Burford Scott; her mother, Georgia Bernice Winter; stepfather, Klaus Winter; her grandparents; her aunt, Pearl Meier, and her dear friend and roommate Corrie from her home in Willow Park.

She is survived by her



brothers, Jack Scott (Susie) of Azle, Kirk Scott (Mary) of Ranger; daughters, Angie Morrisette (Shaun) from England, Heather Morrisette (Jason) of Granbury, and Teresa Hollerich (Tony) of Saginaw. She has three granddaughters, Sarah and Samantha Taylor and Aubrey Hollerich; nieces, Monica Scott, Melanie Brown-Caldwell, Kayla Scott, and Rebecca Schwonke; eight great-nieces and nephews.

The Springtown Epigraph  
Feb. 24, 2022 Edition

## Colleena Nichols 1956-2022

Colleena Nichols, 65, was called home, Saturday night, Feb. 12, 2022.

She passed, peacefully in her sleep.

A memorial service will be held at 4 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 26, 2022 at Alexander's Midway, Springtown.

Colleena was born Sept. 23, 1956 in Piggott, Arkansas to Anita Dixon and Colin Phillips. She was preceded in death by her father; grandparents, George and Wilma Dixon; brother, David Morron; son, Mathew Nichols and grandson, Austin Graham.

Colleena enjoyed reading, spending time with her family, and her little dog princess. She was loved and will be missed.

She is survived by her mother, Anita Springer; sisters, Jerri Dougherty and



Evelyn Phillips; brother, Melton Dimock; children, Christina Graham and husband Joshua, Kelli Ditzler and husband Mathew, Joshua Nichols and wife Temi, David McMurrian and Kristopher Nichols; grandchildren, Devon, Maddison, Jackson, Kaylee, Colby, Michael, Logan, Neila, Layla, and Nathan.

The Springtown Epigraph  
Feb. 24, 2022 Edition

## Joseph Berlin 1953-2022

Joseph (Joe) Berlin, 69, of Springtown, passed away on Feb. 18, 2022.

A visitation will be held Saturday, March 5, 2022, from 2 to 4 p.m. at White's Funeral Home in Springtown.

Joe will be laid to rest with a private service for family only at DFW National Cemetery.

Joe was born Jan. 10, 1953 in Monroe City, Missouri to Clyde Edward Berlin and Gladys Lee Miller Berlin. Joe attended Monroe City schools and served his country in the U.S. Marine Corp.

He married Christy Lacy on Sept. 10, 1984. Together they had three children, Joe, Melisa and Paige. Joe retired from the BNSF Railway May 5, 2009 after 35 years. Joe and Christy loved to travel together and enjoyed trips with their children and grandchildren. He loved his family, friends and life. Joe also enjoyed hunting.

Joe was preceded in death by his parents, Clyde and Gladys Berlin; broth-



ers, Floyd, Harold, Herman, John Berlin and his sister, Sheila Berlin.

He leaves behind his loving wife of 37 years, Christy Lacy Berlin; son Joe and wife Kim Berlin; daughters, Melisa and husband Alex Lawrence and Paige and husband Tracy Slate; brother, Wes and wife Dorothy Berlin, and sister Carol Piatt; grandchildren; Blake Sanders, Shaylee Slate, Taylor, Emily and Jackson Berlin, and Alex Lawrence, Jr.; mother-in-law; Nancy Lacy and numerous nieces, nephews, family and friends.

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Feb. 24, 2022 Edition

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**FIRE**, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

of the roof. The family tried to extinguish the spark, but it ended up in the side of the wall and spread to the ceiling.

“We got out with just the clothes on our back,” Goodwin said. “Everything else was burned to the ground. Everything we owned, and clothes-wise, everything was gone.”

The family members living in the home were Goodwin, his wife, their 14-year-old son, Goodwin’s mother-in-law, his daughter and her husband, and Goodwin’s four grandchildren. Most of the children were at school, except for a 2-year-old, when the fire happened.

“The youngest grandson is 2 years old. He’s trying to understand why they’re tearing our house down with a bulldozer,” Goodwin said. “He’s trying to figure out, ‘Why are they tearing our house down, Paw Paw?’”

No one was injured in the fire, but the family did lose a Chihuahua and a ball python snake. Goodwin pointed out that the ashes in an urn and a picture of one his sons who died previously, as well as some Bibles, were spared from the fire.

“Just to know that that was saved, his ashes were saved, all we can say was, ‘Thank you, Father. Thank you, Lord,’ because he saved that for us,” Goodwin said.

The family has moved into RVs on their property while the home is being re-

built. Goodwin said the RV rentals are good for a year, and he hopes that the rebuild will be done in that time.

**SPRINGTOWN SUPPORT**

Goodwin praised the Springtown community for donating clothes and shoes to his family.

“The Springtown community, they stepped up. We are already set up and OK on clothes, shoes,” he said. “Springtown just jumped into action and got us whatever we need, as far as clothes, just right away.”

Specifically, people within Springtown ISD have helped the Goodwin family. Goodwin’s co-worker, Anna Smith, created a Facebook post asking for people to donate clothes and household items. Items are also being collected for the Goodwin family among the Springtown ISD community, and the local business CornFed Catering donated food to the family.

Smith, who has helped collect donations, said donations of linens, dishes and other household items that the family will need in the RVs would be appreciated.

“You would hope that if you ever faced a situation like that, someone would help you, too,” Smith said. “You just see someone that just lost everything. You kind of feel helpless in a way. There’s really nothing you can say to make it bet-

ter. There’s really nothing you can do to make it better. All you can really do is pray and try to help the best way you know how. That’s pretty much what I tried to do.”

Goodwin said that Springtown ISD superintendent Mike Kelley has checked on him, and student services director Micheal Chavez has allowed Goodwin time off work to deal with the fallout from the fire.

“I feel like I’m supposed to be there to drive my bus and get my kids back for school,” Goodwin said. “And (Chavez) says no, you do what you need to do. We’ve got this.”

Goodwin is going on his sixth year as a bus driver for Springtown ISD, and he specifically drives kids at Springtown Intermediate School, Springtown Middle School and Springtown High School.

The family has also received monetary donations as well as some furniture. However, Goodwin said he has all he needs – his family.

“My family is alive. We have frozen ... food in our bellies,” he said. “God has already taken care of us. And so, when someone asks me what I need, I don’t know what to say because I have everything I need.”

The family is accepting donations on Venmo at “Goodwin Tony” or @ Goodwin-Tony.

**Fear of the unknown: You said it was going to cost how much?**

Repairs. They are a part of life. If you own just about anything, there is going to be a time when it breaks down and needs to be replaced or repaired.

A generation or two ago, products were made to last a “lifetime,” but then came the idea of “built-in obsolescence.” Roughly translated, that means the manufacturer has figured out how to make a product that is so cheap and inexpensive, they know it will break down — and instead of paying for a repair, you will simply run out and buy a new one. The manufacturer never intended the item to be something that could be fixed. The only thing they were interested in was you becoming a repeat customer.

Of course, there are some items we do not casually throw away and replace. When your car engine goes out or the transmission stops working, it is a completely different story. In that case the owner is left in that precarious position of knowing they must take the vehicle in for repairs.

Oh my! Few moments in life compare with the anxiety and fear of the unknown like taking your car to the shop. The vehicle owner knows the vehicle needs to be repaired, and even accepts the idea the repair may be expensive. The angst comes from being out of control and completely at the disposal of the mechanic.



**MY FRONT PORCH**

By Sam Houston

Sam Houston is a newspaper executive, a columnist, author, actor and entertainment promoter.

Will he do a good job? Will he try and rip me off? Do I truly need all the repairs he is suggesting? Of course, the biggest angst is “how much is all this going to cost?”

If a man has a flat tire in the middle of the Mohave desert, and a fella drives up and mentions he has a spare he is willing to sell, the price is not really an issue. At that point, I am agreeing to just about anything simply to get myself out of the predicament. But when my engine blows, I might talk to different mechanics and get an idea of what is wrong and what it is going to cost to fix my mechanical problem. But we all know good and well, until the job is completed and the bill is placed in our hand, we usually have no idea of what we are in for.

Just this past week, the Hood County News sent off an electric motor, which drives our printing press, to be repaired. The motor had broken down long before the newspaper changed hands and had been sitting in storage for a couple of years waiting for attention. I determined we needed to have it rebuilt, so when the motor currently installed on the press went bad, we would have a spare and

could seamlessly replace the bad motor with the good one.

Certainly a good business plan, but the decision forced me to enter the uncertainty of knowing what the repair would cost. This motor had been down for so long, no one was sure exactly what was wrong with it. Moreover, I had no experience with large commercial electric engines. I know it needed the repair to be done, but at what cost? Was I going to blow my repair and maintenance budget for the year on a single repair in January?

When I looked at my inbox yesterday, I saw an email from the service people. My breathing became shallow, and my heartbeat sped up, as my cursor moved to open the email. I shut my eyes, and I counted to 10, fearing what the repair estimate would be. Woohoo! Far less than I ever imagined! I had pictured a number that would include a comma — but my budget was safe, the repair could be made, and my angst was gone.

Fear of the unknown is a terrible thing.

Thought for the day: Your bills don’t take the day off.

Until next time.

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Tim Kay and Mel Lopez are life-long Azle residents and graduates of Azle schools. Annie Sovereign-Diffie was raised in Fort Worth, and although she’s not originally from here, she got here as soon as she could! Tim, Mel and Annie are all members of the National Association of REALTORS. Along with owner and broker Sam Berube, the team brings a high level of passion and service to each and every client.

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Kay and Sovereign-Diffie are helping serve local heroes in our community through a program called Homes for Heroes.

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# Scholarship opportunities

## Weatherford College opens its online scholarship application for the 2022-23 school year

**FROM STAFF REPORTS**  
Weatherford College has opened its online scholarship application for the 2022-23 academic year, and students are encouraged to apply, according to a news release from the college.

Funded by gifts to the WC Foundation, the college awarded more than \$370,000 in scholarship funds last year, and the foundation is prepared to offer even more to students who take the time to apply for the

Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 semesters. The priority application deadline is March 25, and the final deadline is June 1. The foundation and the Financial Aid Office use a user-friendly online application

system in which students apply once per year. Then the system matches students with scholarships that fit them according to various criteria. Students are evaluated based on several factors including academic

standing, extracurricular activities/community service and work ethic. Most students complete the application within 30 minutes. Students must have applied to the WC and received

a college ID number and email address prior to applying for scholarships. To get started, go to [wc.edu](http://wc.edu) and click on "Paying for WC" and then "Scholarship Opportunities."

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# Early voting ends Friday, wildfire activity increasing, COVID-19 cases dropping, but deaths up



## 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.

### EARLY VOTING ENDS FRIDAY

Early voting for the March 1 primary ends Friday. Initial reports indicate turnout has been low, as is traditional in midterm primary elections, with less than a fourth of registered voters going to the polls most years.

Voters will pick nominees for Texas' governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, land commissioner, agriculture commissioner, comptroller and railroad commissioner, as well as legislative and county races.

Texas Secretary of State John. B. Scott's office provides a website that allows voters to see who is on the ballots in all races at vote.texas.gov. Texas law allows registered voters to participate in either party primary, but not both. In addition, a voter in the Republican primary cannot participate in any runoffs in Democratic races, and vice-versa. However, in the November

general election, voters are free to choose candidates from both parties.

### WILDFIRE ACTIVITY INCREASES WEST OF I-35

Blustery winds and freeze-dried vegetation are increasing the number of wildfires reported west of Interstate 35 and into South Texas, according to the Texas A&M Forest Service.

"Wildfire activity has increased across the state and is driven by underlying drought and above-normal grass production from last year's growing season," said Wes Moorehead, Texas A&M Forest Service fire chief. "We have increased the number of personnel, equipment and aircraft in state to assist with response as we're concerned about large areas of the state."

Since Feb. 14, local and state firefighters have responded to 91 wildfires that burned 7,312 acres.

Nine out of 10 wildfires in the state are caused by humans, according to TFS, which has fully staffed task forces and fire-suppression equipment staged in Victoria, Kingsville, Childress, Amarillo, Lubbock, San Angelo, Burkburnett, Fredericksburg, Smithville, McGregor, San Angelo and Mineral Wells.

### NUMBER OF IMPRISONED TEXANS STAYS STEADY

After a drop last year when some inmates were released due to COVID-19 concerns, the state's prison population has stayed steady, according to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. As of January, 118,733 adults were in Texas prisons, up about 1,000 from a year ago.

The state's total operating capacity is 129,681 beds, according to TDCJ.

### MORE THAN \$112 MILLION IN CANCER PREVENTION GRANTS

The Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas announced 74 new

cancer research and prevention grants totaling more than \$112 million.

"The grants awarded today illustrate the broad spectrum of CPRIT's impact in the fight against cancer," said Wayne Roberts, CPRIT's chief executive officer. "From recruitment awards bringing topflight researchers to Texas, continued investment in cancer prevention and screening programs across the state and supporting cancer-fighting innovation in early-stage companies, Texas just took another major step forward in becoming a national leader in conquering cancer."

The projects approved include 65 academic research grant awards, seven prevention awards, and two product development research awards, which were granted to 16 institutions and companies across the state. The awards are designed to expand access to clinical trials, incubate innovative cancer research, support the state's emerging biotechnology industry, provide needed cancer screenings for underserved Texans and recruit outstanding cancer researchers to Texas, according to

the news release.

### UTSA, BAYLOR GAIN TIER ONE ACADEMIC RANKING

The University of Texas at San Antonio and Baylor University have earned the national research ranking of Carnegie Tier One, joining nine other Texas universities that have been recognized for academic excellence at doctoral universities with "very high research activity."

In addition, Prairie View A&M University, Sam Houston State University, Tarleton State University and The University of Texas at Tyler have earned Tier Two research rankings for "high research activity."

"The Lone Star State is truly brimming with promise," Gov. Greg Abbott said. "The 22 Texas universities now ranked among the best in the nation as Carnegie Tier One and Tier Two research universities are a reflection of the breadth and depth of academic excellence at our institutions of higher education as they open the doors to opportunity for all Texas students."

The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of

Higher Education was developed in 1970. It is based on an institution's annual research expenditures and other factors.

### COVID-19 CASES STILL DROPPING, BUT DEATHS UP

The number of new cases of COVID-19 cases in the past week again dropped dramatically to 65,521, down 40% from the previous weeks and 85% from the record high set the week of Jan. 17. However, the number of new deaths in Texas increased to 1,588, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. The Texas Department of State Health Services reported 5,681 COVID-19 hospitalizations in the state, down 30% from the previous week.

Since the pandemic began, there have been 6.575 million confirmed COVID-19 cases in Texas with 83,648 deaths reported, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center. Meanwhile, the number of Texans who are fully vaccinated has slowly trickled upward to 17.16 million, with 6.18 million receiving a booster dose.

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BOOK REVIEW

# A bit of circus, romance, tormented characters

BY TERRI

SCHLICHENMEYER

You want what he got. It's only fair, right? Things should be equal, and you both know it. Unilateralism, tit for tat, totally equitability, and no favoritism, that'll all keep the Green-Eyed Monster at bay. Jealousy is no fun but you want what he got, and in the new novel "Circus of Wonders" by Elizabeth Macneal, you'll have it – or else.

Jasper Brown always got his deepest desires.

Whether it was a microscope when he was a boy, war as a young man, a new name, women, monsters, a Circus of Wonders, or his brother's complete fealty, it was his for the asking. And that included the woman Toby had seen in the dirty little coastal village. The woman that, with the proper costume and a name to match the celestial birthmarks on her body, would get Jasper the invitation to London, and a performance for the Queen.

The first time Toby saw her, she had dived from a cliff into the ocean and he thought she was dead. He'd never seen a creature more captivating than the woman with speckles all up and down her body and her face; she confused him

and he knew he wouldn't speak of her to Jasper. If Toby dared tell his brother about the girl, the magic of her would disappear.

She knew what the villagers thought about her. Even her own father said Nell was a monster, that it was her fault the sea had risen and ruined the crop of flowers a season or two ago. They all thought it, though she might consider some of the townspeople as friends and she had her beloved brother to lean on.

She wondered what he'd said when he learned that their father had sold Nell to the showman named Jasper. And why didn't he look for Nell, locked away in a carriage smelling of manure and sweat? Could she ever find her way back home?

Would she even want to, after she'd learned to love the art of the performance?

Don't expect a lot of abracadabra inside "Circus of Wonders." It's not there, not in plot nor setting and it's missing in each tormented character. Instead, there's an irresistible authenticity in this book, a bit of circus history, romance, constant damp, and a dark, troubled soul. Come to this novel for that, and stay.

Author Elizabeth Macneal keeps you guessing: many bad things can hap-

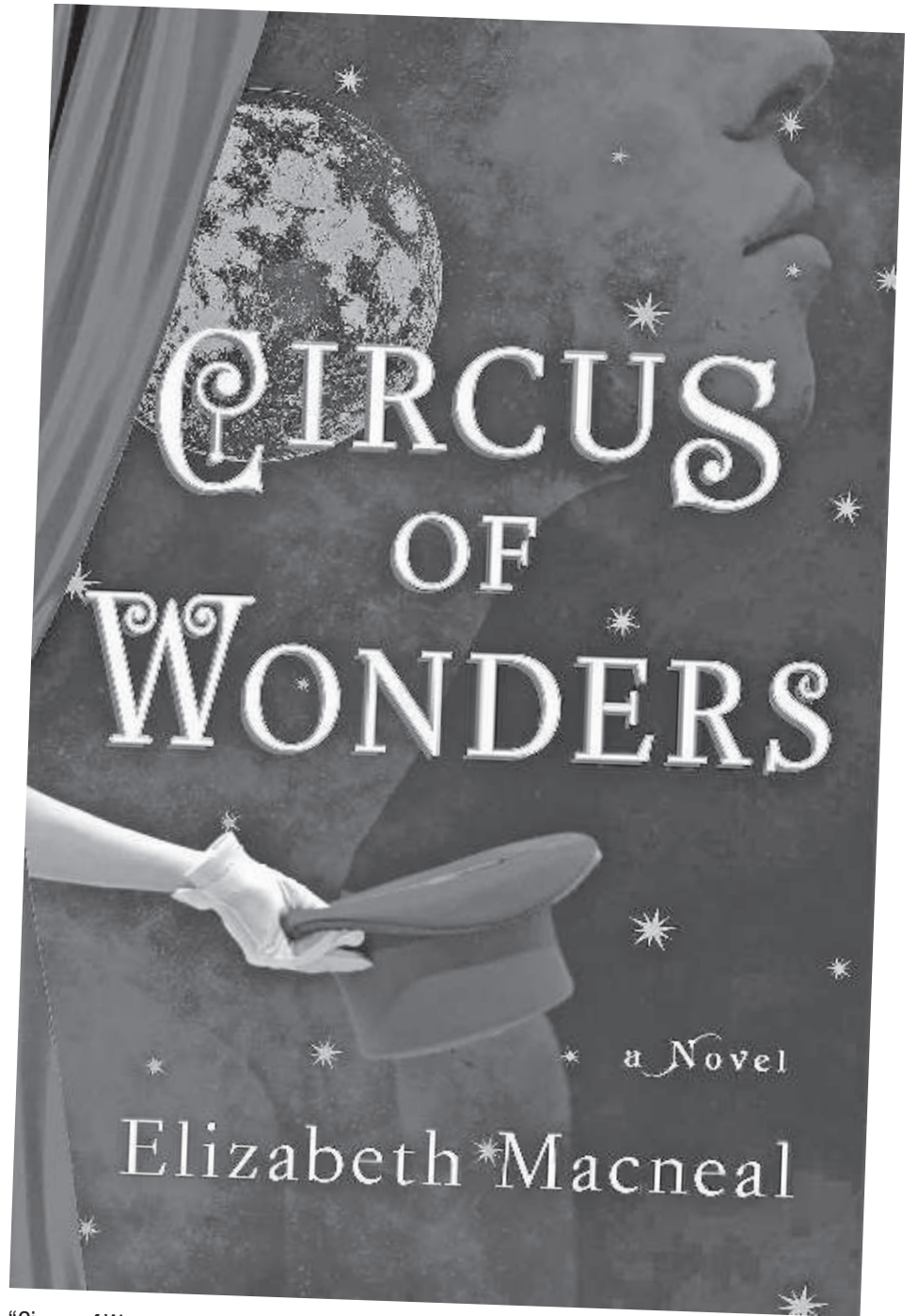
pen to her characters, but references to fairy tales hold hope that goodness might prevail. Still, multiple obsessions let you know that Happily Ever After is highly unlikely; add a bearded bird-caller, a blind albino child, a booming ringmaster who leans into insanity, mix it with a steampunk vibe, and you've got a tale that clinks and hisses and soars toward an ending that's like a spear to your heart.

Fans of the three rings will enjoy this book, but readers who are captivated by shaded Victoriana will be happiest with it. If that's you, then get "Circus of Wonders." You want what it's got.



Elizabeth Macneal

Photo by Mat Smith



"Circus of Wonders: A Novel" by Elizabeth Macneal c.2022, Emily Bestler Books, Atria \$27.99 368 pages

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# Happy TWOSDAY!

“This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity! You don’t want to miss it! It will never happen again in your lifetime!”

Have you ever heard that kind of advertisement?

As I’m typing this on Presidents Day, I’m thinking of sales on Presidents Day, Labor Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Black Friday, Cyber Monday ... Incredible deals that you will never see again. Until the next time.

There’s something about a limited time, limited availability opportunity that marketers use to trigger action on the part of potential customers.

Our FOMO (Fear of Missing Out) kicks in with



## 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](http://www.discoveryouramazing.com).

that special call to action.

There is a day coming tomorrow (it will have passed by the time some of you read this, but stay with me) that is seriously, literally, most assuredly, without exaggeration a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

February 22, 2022 can be written as 2/22/22. The last time a date could be written that was January 11, 1911. I suppose it’s possible that someone was around on that date 111 years ago, but it would be extremely rare.

I suppose it is also possible that someone will still be here 100 years from now on February 22, 2122, but that will again be extremely rare.

For most people, it is truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Now if we’re talking about all the digits being the same (1/11/1111 or 2/22/2222) that is a once-in-a-millennia experience. No chance for anyone to see two of those.

If we want to get completely ridiculous with this

(assuming we haven’t already crossed that threshold), we can have an even more precise once-in-a-lifetime experience at 2:22 a.m. on 2/22/22.

If we use the 12-hour clock, we get another one at 2:22 p.m. How many in a lifetime now?

Two (2). And all this in happening on Tuesday, so let’s just go with a pronunciation of Twosday.

Now just to completely cross over into ridiculous land, wouldn’t it be cool if a baby were born at either of those 2:22s tomorrow on Twosday 2/22/22?

That child would be really special. Just like every other child.

Because, if we’re really being honest, Twosday 2/22/22 is no more special than any other day.

It’s an interesting momentary distraction, but what truly makes tomorrow special is the same thing that makes any other day special — what we choose to do with it.

There are 365 special days each year (one extra every leap year) on which babies are born, couples are married, milestones are reached, projects are launched, first homes are purchased, and memories are made.

Those 365 days are also difficult because loved ones die, marriages end, jobs are lost, hearts are broken and projects fail.

This is the nature of life — laughter and tears, joy and sorrow, health and sickness, success and failure.

And many of those are no more within our control than the calendar is.

But what is within our control is what we choose to do with those days and the experiences they contain.

Early this morning, I read Psalm 52:8-9: “I will always trust in God’s unfailing love. I will praise you forever, O God, for what you have done. I will trust in your good name in the presence of your faithful people.”

That’s a choice we can make every day.

Be amazing today, my friend.

# Never ask a barber if you need a haircut

When folks think about quarter horses, the first thing that may come to mind is a backyard family pet or some old trail horse they used to ride around the state park or on the family farm. At the other end of the spectrum are those horse enthusiasts who are engaged in the upper echelons of the quarter horse world where the competition is intense, the cost of the horses is extraordinary, and the prize money can be amazing. Make no mistake about the high end of the horse business: it is big business.

Generally, the owners of show horses have significant wealth, and they generously spend those assets in their horse program so they might win one of the major events. Participation is driven by prize money but certainly a significant portion is also driven by ego. When egos with big bank balances run amuck, huge money can be expended very quickly and lavishly.

People who are professionals in the industry make money in training fees, selling tack, trailers and horses. Many are only too glad when a “newbie” with a lot of cash to spend enters the industry. When word gets around at a horse show a financially strong “newbie”



## MY FRONT PORCH

By Sam Houston

Sam Houston is a newspaper executive, a columnist, author, actor and entertainment promoter.

is looking to get into the game, they are nearly attacked by people trying to sell them a horse or a ranch.

A few years ago, a woman named Tina showed up at the Futurity in Fort Worth. She was from Florida and was new to the cutting horse industry. She was slender, pretty, and had an outgoing personality. She dressed well and gave every appearance of someone who was well-bred and educated. She wanted to know more about quarter horses and to learn how she might be able “fit in” and participate at a high level.

It wasn’t long until Tina was besieged by horse traders and those wanting to make a quick buck. She was easily persuaded, paying above market price for her first horse and putting it in cutting horse training. She was approached by a trader who told her he had just the horse trailer she would need. While the six-figure price tag was expensive, the trailer had an attached living quarters and Tina was

advised she would be more comfortable when she was at the horse shows if she had a place to go and rest between events.

The trader said the trailer was a real bargain and exactly what she needed. Tina wrote the sizeable check without a single bat of an eye. Shortly after that, others approached her offering tack, more horses, and even some broodmares. Of course, Tina soon needed a ranch so she would have a place to put all the animals she was acquiring, and several real estate agents who specialized in performance horse ranches were only too happy to assist her.

Before long, the woman had spent millions of dollars on her newfound hobby with the money always paid by check. Traders and trainers loved her. She was fun to be around and would pull out her checkbook and buy just about any “bargain” presented to her. People were making money and they were loving it.

One day, Tina seemed

to drop off the face of the earth. She simply stopped showing up at her barn and at the horse shows. She did not answer her phone, and some horsemen who genuinely liked the attractive woman from Florida could not even reach her by phone.

The sudden disappearance was quite the topic at the next horse show. What had happened to Tina? In short order, folks started getting calls from the FBI. The agent wanted to know if they knew the lady from Florida and if they had sold her anything. They wanted to know how much money had changed hands and where the assets they had

sold were located. Just a few days later, the feds began seizing horses, trailers, and everything else that could be tied to Tina including the ranch she had bought.

The industry soon learned Tina was in jail. The checks she had written had always cleared, but unfortunately, she had embezzled money from her employer and that is how she was able to afford to buy so much. Her boss eventually noticed the deficiency, called the police and the investigation began.

A number of horse people were forced to return the sales proceeds from items they had sold to Tina. Unfortunately for some, the

money they “earned” had already been spent and they had to borrow money or sell assets to get cash in hand to turn over to the police. Tina ended up being sentenced to a long term in federal prison.

A whole lot of folks thought Tina was the fattest calf that had come to town, and they were going to carve steaks. Turns out they were the ones that were taken.

Never ask a barber if you need a haircut...

Thought for the day: The best way to double your money is to fold it over and put it in your own pocket. Until next time.

## LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

On March 10, 2022, the City of Springtown City Council acting as the Zoning Board of Adjustments will hold a public hearing and consider a request for variance for the required number of parking spaces for Part of Lots 1-4, Block 14, Courts Addition, being an addition to the City of Springtown, Parker County, Texas also known as 401 Old Springtown Road, Springtown, Parker County, Texas. The meeting will take place in the Council Chambers and the Municipal Annex Building located at 200 North Main Street, Springtown, Texas 76082.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of MONA LEE WILLIAMS, Deceased, were issued on February 16th, 2022, in Cause No. 21P523 pending in the County Court of Parker County, Texas to: Joan Tanner

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

c/o: Joan Tanner 1513 S. Main St. Weatherford 7608

DATED the 18th day of February, 2022

Attorney for Joan Tanner State Bar No.: 00792338 918 S. Main St. Weatherford, TX 76086

Telephone: (817) 341-0088

Facsimile: (817) 341-0090

E-mail: [micheleaudet@sbcglobal](mailto:micheleaudet@sbcglobal)

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of HARVEY BILLY NETTLETON, Deceased, were issued on February 16TH, 2022, in Cause No. 21P432 pending in the County Court of Parker County to: Lori Ann Nettleton.

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

c/o: Lori Ann Nettleton 2301 Alston Ave. Ft. Worth, Texas 76110

DATED the 18th day of February, 2022

Attorney for Lori Ann Nettleton State Bar No.: 00792338

3600 Hulen St. B-4

Fort Worth, Texas 76107 Telephone: (817) 292-2000

Facsimile: (817) 294-3770

E-mail: [micheleaudet@sbcglobal](mailto:micheleaudet@sbcglobal)

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Estate of David Brett Thigpen, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of David Brett Thigpen, Deceased, were issued to Annette Marie Thigpen on January 12, 2022, in Cause No. 21P456, in the County Court of Parker County, Texas, which is still pending, and that Annette Marie Thigpen now holds such letters. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims should be billed to Annette Marie Thigpen, Executor, at the Ruelas Law Firm, PLLC, attention Jennifer S. Ruelas, Attorney at Law, 1020 Fort Worth Hwy. Ste. 500, Weatherford, Texas 76086.

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**ON FISHING**

# Yes, you can catch hybrid striped bass in cold water

Can you catch hybrid striped bass in cold water? It is the belief among many that hybrid striped bass can be difficult to catch during the winter months. There are times that are better than others, but if you can pattern the fish they can be caught most any time of the year.

The most active temperature range for a hybrid striped bass is usually in water between 60 and 75 degrees. This is a rule of thumb. The hybrid striped bass is a manmade cross between a striped bass and a white bass. Hybrids can be active in the middle 40s in the winter and in the 90-plus degree water in the summer. In fact, most folks including myself like to consider the hybrid striped bass as a species to be sought after in the heat of summer. The hybrid will feed more actively than its full-blooded cousin the striped bass in summer, as the white bass that is bred into them allows this species to tolerate the heat better.

It is true at water temperatures below 50 degrees the fish will be more lethargic. The baitfish are more lethargic and are easy prey for the predators. The hybrid striped bass, and striped bass for that matter, are generally opportunistic feeders, especially the bigger, older fish. If other



**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

fish are feeding, the bigger hybrids will generally be below them waiting on an easy meal to float down to them. As the temperature warms toward spring they will get more apt to chase bait. When they start feeding actively, it is a blast any time of the year. Wintertime fishing is my favorite, as artificial presentations will outperform live bait most every day. A slow presentation is generally preferred to mimic slow, lethargic baitfish or to mimic a dying baitfish. Move it too fast and you may not get a bite. Soft plastics of many different types can catch these fish. Zoom flukes, Bass Assassins, and Sassy Shads on a jig head are effective.

So where can you catch hybrid striped bass? There are some in Lake Granbury that were transported downstream from Lake Graham and some I am told are escapees from the hatchery below Possum Kingdom Lake. Relatively close to Granbury is Benbrook, Lake Proctor, Lake Bridgeport, Graham and Lake Lewisville that are all stocked with hybrid striped

bass. More Texas waters are stocked with hybrids as they can tolerate the Texas heat better than the full-blooded striped bass. The Brazos, the Colorado, and the Red River are all generally stocked with full blooded striped bass. There are a couple of lakes that have both species stocked, like Lake Tawakoni.

Some say the fight of a lethargic winter fish is not as good as other times of the year. They may be a little more lethargic at first, but once hooked it is a different matter. Even though they can be stronger later in the year, they still uphold their "frankenfish" reputation. You are in for a fight.

The hybrid is also excellent table fare for those of you who enjoy eating fish. Winter fish are extremely obese and healthy which means thick, firm fillets. The temperatures are starting to rise and these fish will be seeking warming water as the baitfish will be doing the same. Be aware of changing patterns as spring approaches. This is an exciting time of the year for the angler.



Winter fish may be a little lethargic at first, but will put up a fight once you've got them hooked.

Photo courtesy Acosta's Guide Service

## FISHING REPORT

On other reservoirs, Lake Whitney striped bass and crappie are excellent in the river near Kimball Bend. Whitney largemouth to over 12 pounds are possible near major creek entrances. Possum Kingdom Lake sand bass and large striped bass are good near Costello Island on jigs and live shad. Largemouth bass are good on PK to 10 pounds plus on soft plastics worked near structure in the backs of major creeks.

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**RABBITS**, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

ed by the time he came around,” Demele said. Maverick said it felt good to win at the stock show, while Scarlett said it felt “rewarding especially knowing that we bred these rabbits.”

“They were homegrown ones, which makes it even more satisfying than winning that award with something you just bought,” Demele said.

and has been more successful in producing show quality rabbits in recent years, Demele said.

“We pick who we breed together. We don’t just breed any rabbit to any rabbit,” she said, describing the strategy. “We do try to be choosy. So, if one is lacking in its head, we try to make sure we match it up with somebody who’s got an awesome head.”

show quality depends on the breed, Scarlett said.

“Some breeds you want them to have long hair, a very soft coat, small heads, small ears, where others you want them to have huge ears, kind of more rough hair feeling,” she said.

Getting a rabbit ready for a show includes grooming and getting the rabbits acclimated to the loud noises that are present at stock shows, Scarlett said. She said she

plays music in the barn to help the rabbits get adjusted to the show environment.

“There are times where rabbits will get extremely stressed out and die,” Scarlett said solemnly.

She also said rabbits can get so scared at shows when someone pokes them from outside the cage that they hurt themselves.

Demele said one of Maverick’s rabbits once got so stressed out at a show and started biting.

“Now, she’s antisocial,” Demele said, laughing.

The kids also compete in showmanship when it’s available, which is when the competitors act as judges and showcase their own rabbits. Scarlett said she likes competing in showmanship and being able to show off her skills with her rabbit. The showmanship competition also shows the bond between the rabbit and competitor.

“If your rabbit is over here jumping, squirming, trying to get away from you, scratching you, obviously that judge is going to know you haven’t worked with that rabbit,” she said. Scarlett implied that the opposite is true for rabbits that are calm and loving with the competitor.

Maverick said “it feels good” to watch the stock show judges examine his rabbits, while Scarlett said it’s interesting how different judges determine the competitions.

“One of mine and Scarlett’s favorite games is to look at all the rabbits that ours are going up against and just by looking, try to place (the rabbits) and see



Maverick Webb, 5, holds a rabbit close to his face as he smiles for the camera.



Scarlett Webb, 13, nuzzles one of the rabbits. She has been showing rabbits at livestock shows since she was 4 years old.

Photos by Madelyn Edwards

how close we get to judge,” Demele said.

Demele added, “One of my favorite comments from (Scarlett’s) 4-H leader that she always makes sure to tell the kids is, every time you go to a show, you’re paying for that judge’s opinion that day at that moment, because that same judge could look at those same rabbits the next day and place them differently.”

Demele said she especially likes watching Scarlett teach younger children about rabbits at the Fort Worth Stock Show because

she gets to “see her pass on something after watching others pass it on to her and knowing that she’s potentially helping teach and guide the next group of kids that are going to be coming up and showing rabbits up there.”

Raising rabbits has taught her kids how to be responsible, Demele said, and she has enjoyed learning how to care for rabbits alongside her kids.

“I wouldn’t change it for the world,” she said. “I love getting to do it with them and watch them.”

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**SIBLING RIVALRY** The Springtown baseball boys divided themselves into two teams for the annual inter-squad scrimmage on Feb. 18. Photo by Jeff Prince

## Springtown's annual inter-squad baseball scrimmage pits brother against brother

BY JEFF PRINCE  
jeff@azlenews.net

Caleb Martinez was waiting his turn to bat during the annual inter-squad baseball scrimmage on Feb. 18 and spent the down time chattering to his teammates in the

dugout.

"I'm not striking out," he said. "I'm not striking out."

Martinez, a sophomore, was about to face younger brother, freshman Keegan Martinez, who was pitching.

"And if he hits me, I'm charging the mound," Caleb

Martinez joked.

Caleb hit the ball but was thrown out at first base, although several teammates said the first baseman pulled his foot off the base before catching the ball.

"I knew I wasn't going to strike out," the sophomore

said. "I wasn't going to let him do that. I thought I was safe, but he got back on the bag, and I was out."

He hoped to face his brother again sooner than later. Until then, he was happy to be back on the baseball diamond after a long winter.

"This could be a better season than last, and last year we had a pretty decent run," Caleb said. "We've got a good group of guys that have bonded together really well."

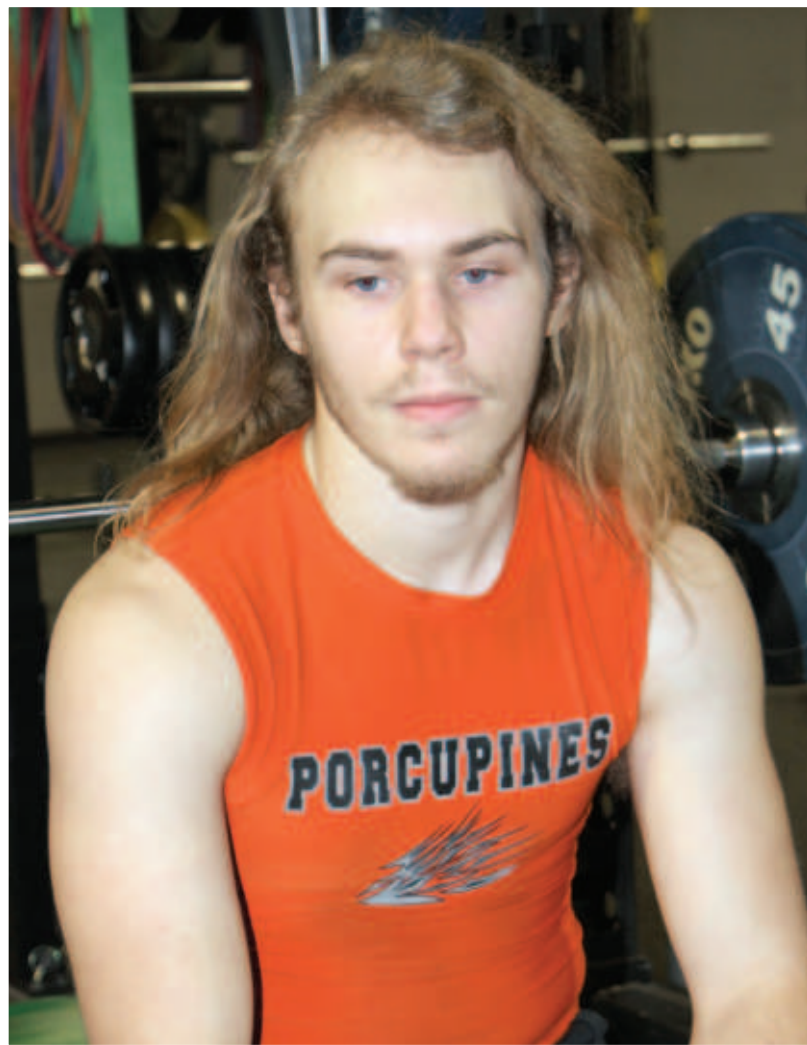
**FATHERS IN ARMS**

Despite the afternoon chill, about 30 parents or more had gathered at the ballpark to watch the fun.

Chris Fox cheered on his son, Brayden Fox, a sophomore who pitched to start

SEE **BASEBALL**, PAGE 2B.

## Orion Gray lifts weights, people, spirits



Orion Gray won two of his first three powerlifting meets this season.

Photo by Jeff Prince

BY JEFF PRINCE  
jeff@azlenews.net

Orion Gray's first year on the Springtown powerlifting team feels familiar. The junior has been lifting heavy objects for as long as he can remember.

He grew up on a farm raising

cattle, and his list of chores could be summarized in one sentence: Whatever needs to be done, do it.

That would include "throwing 50-pound bags of feed around" and stacking 90-pound bales of hay, he said.

SEE **GRAY**, PAGE 4B.

## Springtown soccer boys to celebrate Senior Night at Friday game

BY JEFF PRINCE  
jeff@azlenews.net

Seniors make up more than a third of the Springtown Porcupines boys soccer team, and the upperclassmen will be celebrated at the Feb. 25 home game against Ranchview.

On Feb. 18, two of those seniors stood near the end zone watching as the Lady Porcupines played a soccer game at Pojo Stadium. Jonathan Sanchez and Manny Castillo have been enjoying their final season in black and orange.

"It has been very fun," Sanchez said. "We've had bad games and good games. We've come a long way from where we started."

The Porcupines started the season with a resounding 6-0 loss to Polytechnic. The Pines won their next two games, lost a couple, won a couple more and have see-sawed for much of the year.

"I'm feeling really good," Sanchez said. "When we came into the season, it was a little rough, but we've made lots of progress. We have come together really good as a team."

Castillo wore a light jacket, which struggled to protect him from temperatures dipping near freezing.

"I am a little cold," he said with understatement, considering his teeth were chattering.

He figured to warm up once the boys began playing.

SEE **SOCCER**, PAGE 3B.

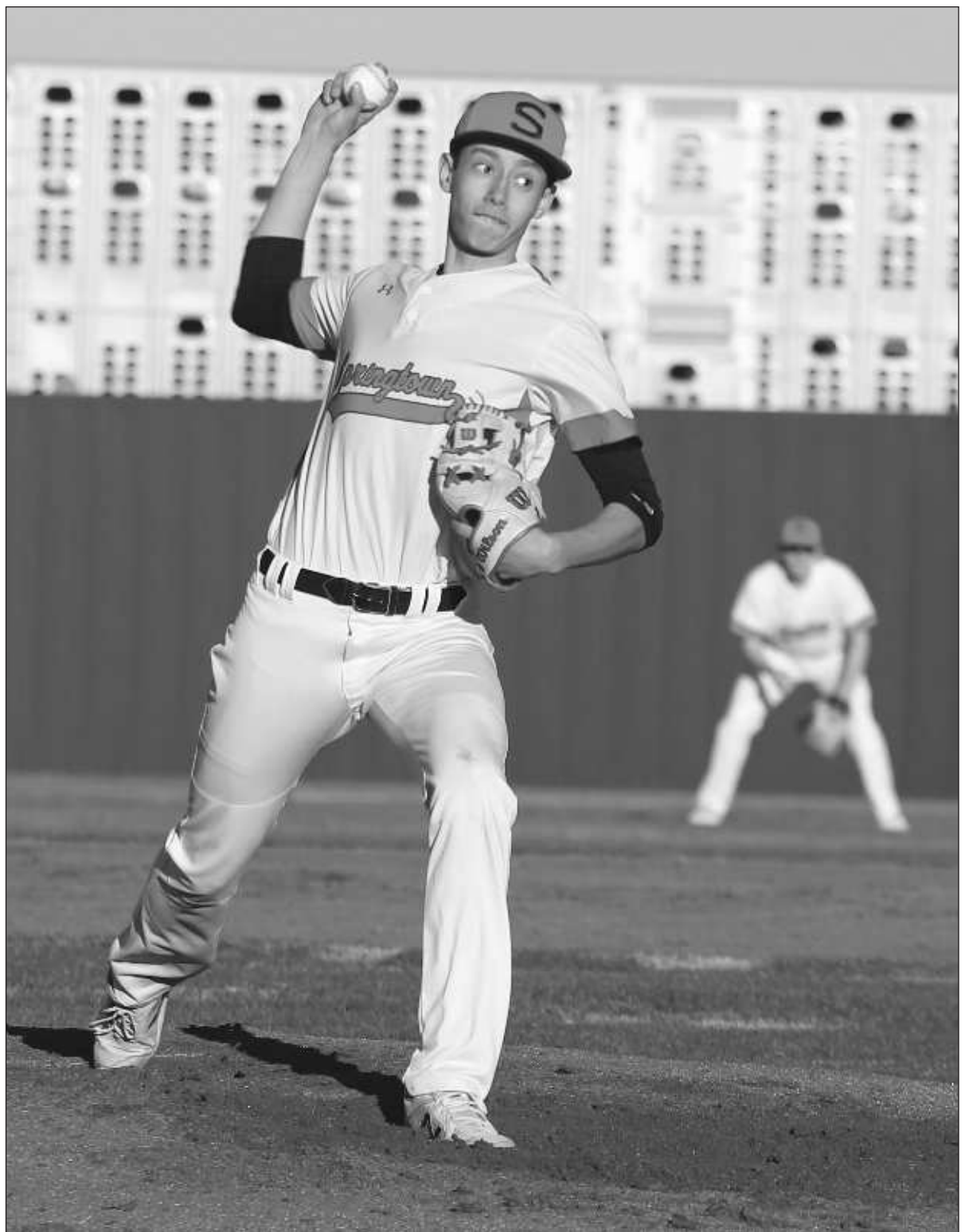


Jonathan Sanchez hopes to parlay his high school soccer performances into a college scholarship. Photo by Jeff Prince

BASEBALL, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B.



Cristian Hernandez runs the bases for the team in brown jerseys.



Marco Barrera pitches for the team in white jerseys.

Photos by Jeff Prince

the game and then moved to shortstop.

“He’s doing good,” the proud dad said. “All the boys, as soon as they get the confidence, they will jell as a team. They will all come together. It’s going to be a good season.”

Five solid athletes have completed basketball season and joined the baseball team, so the prospects keep improving. Aiden Vickers, William Gleason, Brayden Adams, Marco Barrera and Aaron Tidwell provide talent at multiple positions.

“It’s nice to have them all out here now,” Fox said. “We lost a few seniors last year, and we got some kids coming up. I think they’ll look good.”

Scott Walker was watching his son, Blake Walker, play outfield. Last year, his son played catcher on junior varsity but plans to make varsity this year. He was nervous before the game.

“He doesn’t want to make mistakes, but that happens in baseball,” his dad said.

As he was speaking, Blake

Walker strode to the plate. He had knocked a single on his first at-bat and hoped to smash another.

Sure enough, a familiar high-pitched ping – that sound of an aluminum bat hitting a cowhide ball – resonated across the baseball diamond. Blake Walker hit a ball from home plate all the way to the outfield wall for a double.

**ANNUAL SCRIMMAGE A BLAST**

The inter-squad scrimmage originated several years ago after a game was canceled at the last minute. The coaches couldn’t find a replacement team, so they arranged an inter-squad scrimmage, and it’s become tradition.

The scrimmage combined players from JV and varsity. Two seniors served as captains and drafted their teams from the pool of players. Everyone wore old game uniforms to give the scrimmage a little extra pizzazz.

“A lot of guys get a lot at-bats and throw a lot of pitches,” said head coach Josh Ward. “We move guys around and see how they compete against each other. It’s good to see. These older varsity guys have done a good job of helping these younger guys along the way and leading them and encouraging them.”

This team roster includes a mixture of old and young, including numerous players from last season’s 23-win season.

“We expect to build on that experience to contend for a playoff spot once again this season,” the coach said.

Texas High School Baseball, a magazine that covers Texas teams, predicted Springtown to finish second in District 7-4A behind Argyle, a team expected to compete for a state title.

“If we play to our potential, then we should be able to finish in the top two or three of district,” Ward said.

Last season, Springtown tied for second with Deca-

tur and went on to win in the first round of the playoffs for only the second time in school history.

“This year we have high expectations to not only repeat that, but to play even further into the playoffs,” Ward said. “We’ve got a lot of guys that that are pretty versatile and can play a lot of different positions, which makes for a lot of competition to find the best guys that we think are going to help us get the job done. That’s something that hadn’t always been the case.”

**PLAYERS TO WATCH**

The coach likes his plethora of talent, including a handful of kids who can turn a season into one to remember.

Senior pitcher Cristian Hernandez has been a four-year varsity starter and team leader.

“We are expecting a big season out of him,” the coach said. “Along with being our top pitcher, he will hit in the three-hole of our

lineup, where he should be able to drive in a lot of runs for us.”

Hernandez plays third base or catcher when he isn’t tossing the pill.

Matt Lockard, the football team’s MVP workhorse, returns to the baseball team as second-team All-State outfielder.

“His speed allows him to do great things on the field, and he is a threat to steal bases anytime he is on,” Ward said.

Lockard stole 28 bases last season. He is recovering from a leg surgery but is expected to join the baseball team by the start of district competition.

Another top returner is senior William Gleason. Last year’s first team All-District second baseman will return to the position he has held for the past two years.

“He also proved to be a good run producer for us last year, and we are expecting another good year out of him, hitting in the middle of the order,” Ward said.

Senior Aiden Vickers returns as first team All-District first baseman.

“Aiden has just kept getting better and better each season,” the coach said. “He has been a good first baseman for us the past two seasons and has really good speed, which makes him a threat to steal some bases.”

Another versatile player is senior Seth Lopez, who can log time in the infield and outfield and can pitch. He has signed to play at Ottawa University in Kansas after his high school career.

“We are expecting a good year out of him driving in runs and being a solid defensive player,” Ward said.

The Porcupines will rely on team speed to apply pressure on opposing defenses.

“We like to be aggressive on the bases by stealing or taking an extra base on hits, whatever we can do to try to force the other team to make mistakes,” Ward said. “I feel we have a solid team and should be able to build on last year’s success.”

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# Springtown powerlifting girls pumped up for regionals

BY JEFF PRINCE  
jeff@azlenews.net

The strong girls of Springtown appear ready to hoist hardware at the upcoming regionals competition.

On Feb. 16, the girls powerlifting team competed at the Weatherford Last Chance Qualifier tournament and scored 71 points to win the team championship. Eight out of 13 Porcupine lifters won first-place medals, and three of them placed second.

Brianna Graham lifted 820 pounds to win best lifter in the light division, and Angela Pando lifted 1,035 to win best lifter in the heavy division.

This year's regional qualifiers include Myra Castro, Angela Chavez, Macy Chavez, Caitlyn Coleman, Reagan Fortner, Savannah Gomez, Brianna Graham, Jessica Montgomery, Angela Pando, Abigail Rodgers, Sarah Self, Lilly Siegel, Britney Tyree, Skyler Tyree, Kylie Wear and Courtney Williams.

Five of Springtown's lifters – Castro, Chavez, Graham, Pando and Rogers – are state-ranked atop their weight classes, and several other team members are ranked in the top 5.

"We are just taking it one meet at a time and trying to get stronger every meet," the coach said.



The girls powerlifting team has been making Springtown proud at recent meets.

Courtesy photo

## CHAMPIONSHIP HABIT

The week before the Weatherford meet, the Springtown girls competed at the S&S Invitational in Stephenville and faced some of the best powerlifting teams in the region, including Aubrey and

Gainesville.

"It was probably the biggest meet we have been to all year with over 180 lifters," said head coach Missy Castro.

Two of Springtown's lifters were missing in action – one was com-

peting at a cheerleading contest in Orlando, and the other was out sick.

"It made the team race closer than I would like," Castro said.

Close, yes, but the cigar still went to Springtown. The girls won

the team championship with 49 points – one point higher than Aubrey's 48. Myra Castro won best overall lifter in the light division with 810 pounds total.

The regional meet is set for 1 p.m. March 2 at Gainesville.

## SOCCER, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B.

"When you start running more, and you just keep doing more stuff, you get rid of it," he said. "No problem."

Castillo doesn't start the game typically, so he would be battling the cold on the bench until he got into the game.

"I haven't played that much," he said. "My stats are not great. But when I get on the field, I try my best. I try to pressure the defense. I try to do what I can do. Try to get the ball. Try to score. Try to play with my team."

Both boys began playing soccer in high school and credit the sport with helping them keep organized.

"Soccer has gotten me a schedule," Castillo said. "I go to school. I go to work. I have soccer. I'm able to bring all these things together and work it out with time management."

Playing soccer with teammates makes Sanchez happy.

"Everybody putting in effort," he said. "Everybody being happy after a win. I'm proud of being on this team, being able to play with all these good players. They are an amazing group, and I'm just glad to be here with them."

Springtown (5-7-1) plays at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 25 at home against Ranchview (5-11-1) and will celebrate Senior Night.



Manny Castillo, left, and Jonathan Sanchez are two of the eight upperclassmen on the Springtown soccer team who will celebrate Senior Night on Feb. 25.

Photo by Jeff Prince

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GRAY, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B.

Years of farm work combined with playing football and wrestling have made Gray a natural at powerlifting. At his first meet of the season, he won second place in the 148-pound weight class. At his second meet, he won first place.

On Feb. 10, he was competing at his third meet and expecting to squat more than 330 pounds, bench press about 200 and deadlift 230 or so.

"I get a little better every day," he said. "Take every day as a challenge. Work every day."

His long blond hair made him stand out among the powerlifters, although that Samson-like mane isn't the key to his strength.

"I've had long hair before, and then I'll buzz it off," he said.

His power comes from his devoted, hard-working grandparents who raised

him, he said.

He didn't grow up with his parents because of "a lot of issues," he said. "They were young and dumb, just to say the least. So, my grandparents took care of me."

**ROLLING WITH PUNCHES**

During conversations, Gray is serious, reserved and grounded.

His grandfather, Sherwood "Woody" Gray, died five years ago, so it's just Gray and his grandma, Barbara, holding down the farm now.

"My dad still lives around here," Gray said. "He still helps us. I see him a lot. Not so much for my mother. But people do what they do."

Life's disappointments have toughened the boy.

"I've seen more of the real world than some," Gray said. "I've grown to where I



The Springtown powerlifting team won 11 medals at the Azle meet.

Courtesy Photo



Back row from left, stepmom Jessica Gray, dad Scott Gray and girlfriend Alexis Cooper show up to cheer on Orion Gray with help from grandmother Barbara Gray.

Photo by Jeff Prince

don't get beaten down easy. I'll fight to try and keep going and do my best every chance I get. I have something to fight for - my family. I'm wanting them to see me do good things when I came from a not so great of a situation."

His dad, stepmom, grandma and girlfriend attended the meet and are his "biggest supporters," he said.

A person would have to look far and wide to find a grandma prouder than Barbara Gray.

"I lost my husband five years ago, and (Orion) has stepped right up," she said. "I have 33 acres with cows and everything. He is out feeding them in the snow. He is just fantastic. I've not had a minute of trouble out of him. I've raised him since he was little bitty. He's just been a great kid. He does good in school. A-B honor roll all the way."

Barbara and Sherwood bought two acres near Springtown about 35 years ago and expanded the property to 33 acres. The farm is home to cattle, chickens, dogs and cats.

"He feeds them and goes out and checks on them," Barbara said. "He does all of the outside stuff."

Barbara has difficulty walking, much less working

the farm. Without her grandson's help, the farm would be sold.

"That's the first thing he does when he gets home from school and practice," she said. He's got practice all the time. But the first thing he does is go out and take care of stuff outside, then he takes care of himself."

She recalled how daylight savings time shortened the days and forced Gray to consider quitting powerlifting.

"It was getting dark so early, he told the coaches he wasn't having time to take care of the cows when he got home," she said.

The coaches offered to let him out of practice half an hour early.

"They work with him," she said.

No wonder. The coaches see the same qualities in the teenager that anyone else does after talking to him briefly.

"In the last month, I've had two of his coaches text me or email me saying what a pleasure it has been working with him and what an amazing kid he is," she said. "They're not telling me anything I don't know."

When the results of the Azle meet were tallied, Orion Gray had made his grandma proud yet again.

He won first place.

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**HORSE SALE**  
 March 4, 2022  
 Tack Sale Begins at 6:00 PM  
 Horses Follow  
 Stephenville Cattle Co.  
 Highway 281 North • Stephenville, TX  
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*Convenient Location*

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 Serving Springtown, Azle, Boyd, Weatherford Area  
 M#15899  
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 Near Hospital  
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 519 W. Main St. • Azle

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**084 Mobile Homes for Rent**

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# Classifieds

**088 Rent Unfurnished**

## Cross Companies Residential Properties

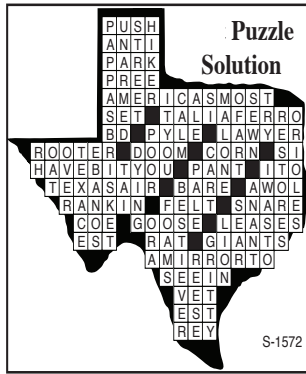
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Puzzle Solution

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 817-220-7217  
 or EMAIL:  
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### ACROSS

- 1 football exercise: \_\_\_\_\_ups
- 5 GOP is \_\_\_\_\_ big government
- 6 Iowa \_\_\_\_\_, TX
- 7 former Cowboy TE Billy Joe Du \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 Tex Ritter title: "\_\_\_\_\_ Beloved Cowboy"
- 17 TXism: "it ain't \_\_\_\_\_ in cement"
- 18 TX politician Samuel \_\_\_\_\_ Rayburn
- 21 Darin of TX-filmed "State Fair" (init.)
- 22 Gomer \_\_\_\_\_
- 23 TXism: "run it by a \_\_\_\_\_" (finalize)
- 24 TXism for "hog" \_\_\_\_\_ tragic fate
- 30 TXism: "rough as a \_\_\_\_\_ cob"
- 31 "yes," south of the border
- 32 TXism: "if it was a snake it would \_\_\_\_\_"
- 34 gasp for breath
- 35 OJ's judge
- 36 1st plane passenger service: \_\_\_\_\_ Transport \_\_\_\_\_ back riding
- 37 \_\_\_\_\_ back riding
- 38 unadvised absence from Fort Hood
- 39 Upton County seat
- 40 cowboy hat material
- 41 trap or drum
- 42 this George was in 1979 "Kramer" film with TX JoBeth Williams
- 43 TXism: "loose as a \_\_\_\_\_"
- 45 TXism: "worth his weight in oil \_\_\_\_\_"
- 46 ending for "great" in reference to Texas
- 47 TXism: "smart as a bunkhouse \_\_\_\_\_"
- 48 Cowboys NY foe
- 49 TXism: "has to sneak up on \_\_\_\_\_ fix her hair" (homely)
- 51 TXism: "he shoots \_\_\_\_\_ eye bullets" (good shot)
- 52 horse doc
- 53 work time zone for the border
- 54 TX George Strait's "Marina Del \_\_\_\_\_"

## TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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13 this Dorothy was in film "Two Guys From Texas"

14 San Antonio Museum \_\_\_\_\_

15 TX Nokona baseball gloves are hand-\_\_\_\_\_

16 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ your hand at it"

19 makes new again in 1993, TX Ranger Palmeiro joined the Baltimore \_\_\_\_\_

22 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ as a church mouse"

24 "Giant" Rock (init.)

25 horse morsel

26 TXism: "don't cry \_\_\_\_\_ spilt milk"

27 TX golf hat and visor corp.

28 Los \_\_\_\_\_, TX

29 expiring

30 TXism: "got the \_\_\_\_\_ before the horse"

33 an Asian language

34 Eastwood western: "\_\_\_\_\_ Rider" (1985)

35 TXism: "couldn't be happier unless \_\_\_\_\_ strike oil in my backyard"

37 TXism: "\_\_\_\_\_ laid eyes on"

38 picnic pest (2 wds.)

40 beer heads

41 to brand the hide

44 TXism: "don't give a hoot \_\_\_\_\_ holler"

45 mascot for Ozona, Dublin, or Livingston

48 TXism for "tough"

50 former Lubbock Air Force Base

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