



The Springtown Epigraph

Daughter of police chief dies in accident

BY MARK WILSON
HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The daughter of Springtown Police Chief Cres Salazar died after an accident last week.

Evalina Celia Teresa Salazar — known to friends and family as Lina — was a 15-year-old girl who was a freshman at Tolar High School. She was pronounced dead Sunday after being injured in an off-road ATV accident that occurred Friday afternoon on private property near Tolar.

Lina was one of four girls, all age 15, who were ejected

from a 2005 Polaris Ranger ATV that was traveling down a dirt path on the property on Pear Orchard Road, according to Jamie Chapmon, Lina's mother. The location of the accident was just west of Glen Rose Highway (State Highway 144).

Lina suffered severe injuries after the ATV rolled over and landed on top of her, her mother said. The ATV was removed when first responders arrived, and CPR was performed for approximately 15 minutes. She was then transported by air ambulance to

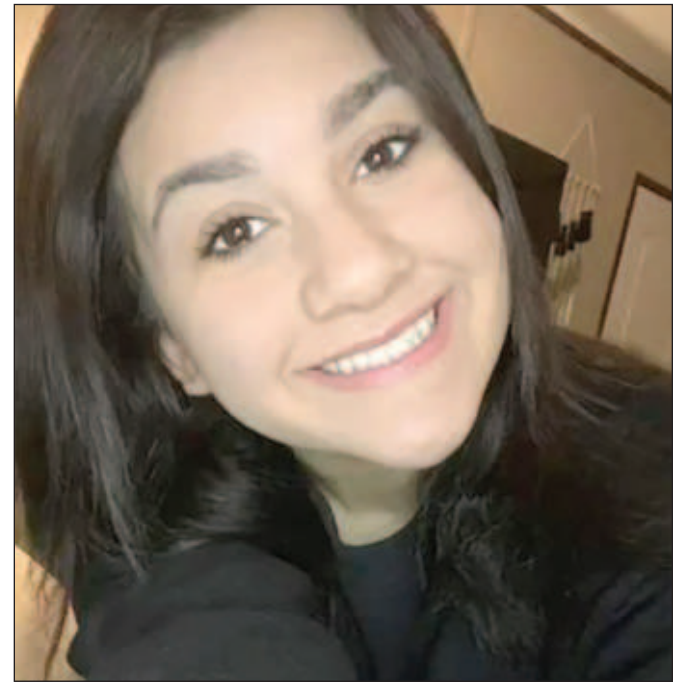
Harris Methodist Hospital in downtown Fort Worth. Among several tests performed, an MRI on Sunday showed that she had "no brain activity," according to her mother.

Chapmon said that they are in the process of donating organs and tissue from Lina, for others in need. On Tuesday night, because of the organ and tissue donation, Harris Methodist Hospital in downtown Fort Worth scheduled a flag ceremony that was followed by an honor walk, her mother said.

None of the other three

girls who had been ejected during the accident were severely injured, according to Chapmon. One suffered what was thought to have been a mild concussion. One had some arm and hand bruises and the other girl had relatively minor scrapes and bruises. Chapmon noted that the ATV had just gone over a hill, and the trail curved to the left where the rollover occurred.

Chapmon said that the death triggered what is now an ongoing investigation of the incident through the



Evalina "Lina" Salazar

Photo courtesy

SEE SALAZAR, PAGE 3A.

Centenarian birthdays



Family members joined employees of the Springtown Park Rehab and Care Center in Springtown Friday to celebrate the birthdays of centenarians Guy Sheppard, (left), 100, and Vivian Martin, (right), 101. The two residents shared birthday cake at the celebration.

Photo by Jim Stevens

Two constitutional amendments on May 7 ballot

BY JESSICA MCKINNEY
azlereporter@azlenews.net

PROPOSITION 1

The text of the first proposed amendment reads:

"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for the reduction of the amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for general elementary and secondary public school purposes on the resident homestead of a person who is elderly or disabled to reflect any statutory reduction from the preceding tax year in the maximum compressed rate of maintenance and operations taxes imposed for those purposes on a homestead."

What does that mean?

The Texas Constitution already places a ceiling on school property taxes for homeowners who are at least 65 years old or who are disabled. This means that certain property tax rates are frozen at the rate they were when the homeowner first qualified for the exemption unless they move out of the home or make improvements to the residence.

In 2019, a law was passed that reduced the property tax for many homeowners,

SEE BALLOT, PAGE 8A.

The Texas Legislature approved two joint resolutions that proposed two constitutional amendments of the Texas Constitution. Voters will be able to make the decision on whether these amendments pass or fail during the upcoming May 7 election.

The propositions received bipartisan support during two special sections in August and September of last year. If passed, the amendments will lower the property tax bills for many Texans.

Hop & Shop at Springtown Tabernacle on the Square



Adeline Hendricks, 7 months, wears bunny ears for her photo with the Easter Bunny on Saturday at Springtown's Hop & Shop.

Photos by Madelyn Edwards

MORE PHOTOS, PAGE 2A.



The cast and crew for Springtown High School's production of 'The Tin Woman' pose for a picture after advancing to regionals at the area contest.

Photo courtesy Springtown Theatre Facebook page

Changing hearts

SHS theater to perform 'The Tin Woman' at regional competition

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
madelyn@azlenews.net

their director are looking for redemption.

This year's UIL One-Act Play competition is about more than winning for Springtown High School theater students.

After the COVID-19 pandemic stymied their contest achievement over the past two years, the students and

"We advanced (from District to Bi-District) the year COVID happened, and so we were cut off from doing more," SHS senior Gentry Phillips said. "It's really nice to redeem ourselves now and go this far."

So far, SHS theater students have been successful

in the One-Act Play competition, in which Texas schools perform an 18- to 40-minute play to be judged and advance through levels of competition. Throughout March, the SHS One-Act team has advanced from District to Bi-District to Area. After the Area com-

SEE SHS THEATER, PAGE 5A.

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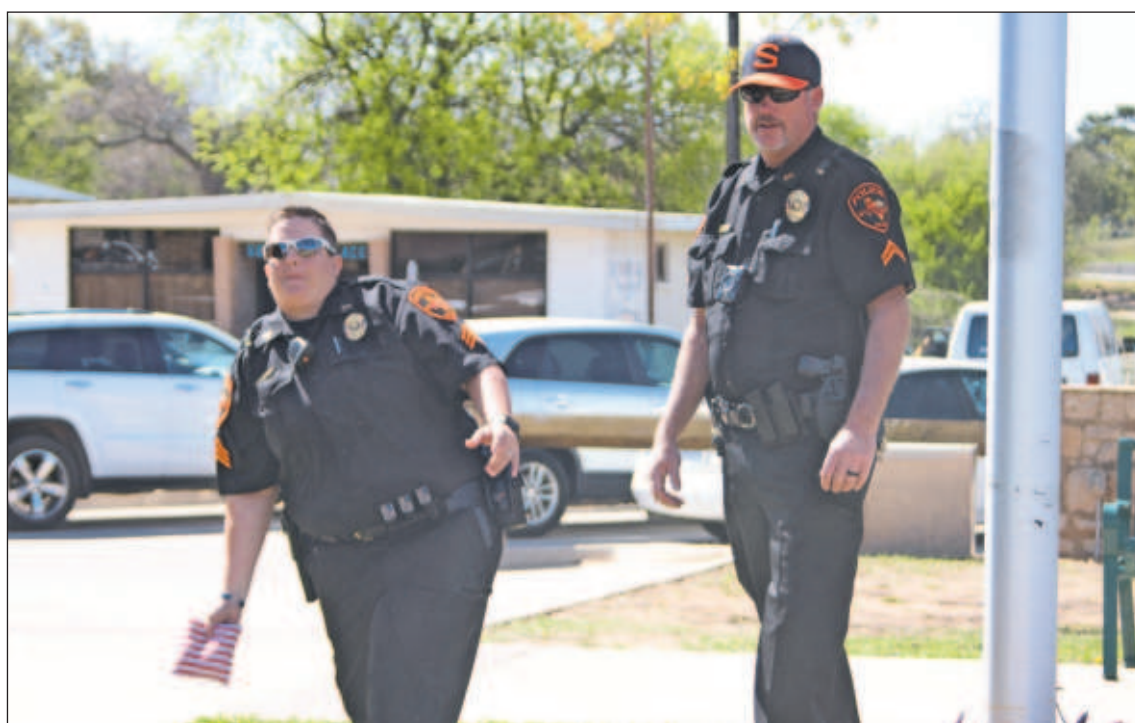
Cullen Trotter, 5, hugs the Easter Bunny, who was available for photos on Saturday at Springtown's Hop & Shop.



Bre Casey and Braylee Casey, 5, enjoyed snow cones – in the flavors pink bubblegum with blue coconut and pink bubblegum with watermelon – at the Springtown Hop & Shop on Saturday.



Arlene Jaegers lifts up Valerie Jaegers, 3, for a game of giant Connect Four at Springtown's Hop & Shop on Saturday.



Springtown Police Sgt. Katy Wacasey prepares to toss a beanbag during a game of cornhole with Cpl. Ken Hopkins on Saturday at Springtown's Hop & Shop. Photos by Madelyn Edwards

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Reno partners with Parker County to repair North Cardinal Road, Peden Road

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
madelyn@azlenews.net

The City of Reno has entered into an interlocal agreement with Parker County to repair Peden Road and North Cardinal Road.

Reno City Council approved this agreement at the March council meeting. The work will extend on Peden Road, which will be rebuilt and widened by two feet, from Farm-to-Market 730 to Cardinal Road. On Cardinal Road, road repairs will take place from Nelson Road by the cemetery to Miller Road.

The contract with the county is costing the city of Reno about \$62,000, City Administrator Scott Passmore said. Passmore also said that partnering with the county for the road repair is the cheaper option.

“We can only do a little bit for Reno because we have lots of roads that need to be done in Precinct 1, so we can do one little job every year for them, and that’s what we’ve been doing,” Parker County Precinct 1 Commissioner George Conley said.

The roads will be resurfaced with chip and seal

paving, which will need to be sealed about every two years, Passmore said during the city council’s March meeting.

Mayor Sam White said after the March meeting that the county would start on road repairs in about 60-90 days.

Conley said the work will start around May at the earliest, and the project is expected to take about four months to complete.

White said road renovations and repairs in Reno are projects that he has been looking forward to. He said

the city plans to prioritize the major thoroughfares with the most damage. Some of the roads being considered for repairs in the future are Tower Street and Kay Lane.

“We’re starting our road renovations,” White said. “I’ve been wanting to try to get going for the last nine months (to) get us on street repairs.”

Cardinal Road has been worn down by trucks and construction vehicles. The Epigraph reported in June 2020 that the city of Reno expressed concerns about Cardinal Road being worn

down when leaders discussed road repairs at a city council meeting. An ordinance to keep trucks of a certain weight off of Cardinal Road was also discussed.

However, potholes and road deconstruction on Cardinal Road have continued to be an issue. In October, resident Meredith Hull approached the city council about construction trucks driving on the one-lane bridge on North Cardinal Road.

“It’s these construction trucks that are causing the majority of our potholes,” Hull said in October. “When they

drive off the side of the road, there goes crumbling, (and) it’s gone. When you have a loaded cement truck – I don’t know how many tons that is when it’s loaded – but as (the truck driver) bounced across that bridge, gravel bounced up with him. There went another part of the road. What’s it going to take to keep them from coming through where it’s already posted that they’re not supposed to be coming across?”

Hull said at the March council meeting that she was in favor of the road repair project.

SALAZAR, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

Hood County District Attorney’s Office.

Lina’s body will be cremated, Chapmon said, and the time and location for a public memorial service will be announced at a later date.

This was Lina’s first year of school in Tolar, after moving from Springtown to a Hood County residence off Nix Road. She was an honor student at THS, was active in the Student Council and was a student athletic trainer. Lina’s stepfather is Ronnie Chapmon.

The city of Springtown released this statement regarding Lina Salazar:

“It is with great sadness that we confirm the death of Chief Cres Salazar’s daughter, Lina Salazar following an ATV accident last Friday.

“Lina’s family chose to honor her memory by donating her organs. Lina’s donation was celebrated by

a LifeGift flag ceremony and an Honor Walk Tuesday evening.

“The Springtown Police Department would like to express their gratitude to the other law enforcement agencies who attended the flag ceremony in support of Chief Salazar and his family. Officers from the Tarrant County Sheriff’s Office, Parker County Sheriff’s Office, Haltom City Police Department, Fort Worth Police Department, Mansfield Police Department, Grand Prairie Police Department, and Keller Police Department, North Richland Hills and Richland Hills Police Department were in attendance to honor Lina’s donation.”

“To see the outpouring of support from the law enforcement community was deeply moving for Chief Salazar and his entire family,” said Springtown police Lt. Jason Cobb. “Our

community is a family of its own and we all mourn this loss on a very personal level.”

“Hearts across our entire community are broken by the news of Lina’s death,” said City of Springtown City Administrator David Miller. “The loss of any child is an unimaginable tragedy, and to see the life of such a wonderful and dearly loved young woman cut short just compounds that. We continue to ask for prayers for Chief Salazar and his family as they grieve their tremendous loss.”

“My family and I were shocked to learn of this tragedy, but I could not be more appreciative of the outpouring of love and support that our community has shown for Chief Salazar’s family during this extraordinarily difficult time,” Mayor Greg Hood said.

PCAD: Some residents won’t receive appraised value notices

Property owners will soon receive their 2022 Notice of Appraised Value from the Parker County Appraisal District, but all property owners will not receive a notice this year, PCAD stated in a news release.

This year, PCAD mailed approximately 40,000 notices to property owners. The number of notices is much lower in comparison to last year when PCAD sent more than 76,000 notices during their reappraisal year. Unlike many appraisal districts in Texas who reappraise every year, PCAD only reappraises in odd-numbered years. The year 2022 is not a reappraisal year for PCAD. Therefore, any value differ-

ence for this year is likely due to new improvements made to the property or due to a homestead cap increase.

Additional information on homestead caps, plus answers to most common questions can be found by visiting the “Protest Process” menu located on the left side of PCAD’s website at www.parkercad.org.

Also, PCAD officials said, the estimated taxes are no longer located on the Notice of Appraised Value. In the 86th Texas Legislative Session, Sec. 25.19 of the Texas Property Tax Code was changed to eliminate the estimated taxes from the Notice of Appraised Value. As a courtesy, PCAD still pro-

vides residents’ estimated taxes online.

Property owners have the right to protest actions concerning their property tax appraisals. For most, the deadline to file a protest for the 2022 Tax Year is May 16. Property owners can file their protest online, in person, or by mail to 1108 Santa Fe Drive Weatherford TX 76086. Mailed protests must have a postmark date on or before May 16. For convenience, there is also a drive-thru window and an afterhours drop box located at the front of the building.

PCAD is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and will be closed this Friday in observance of Good Friday.

To assist the family with their medical and related expenses, friends have set up an account for anyone to donate to any of the First National Bank locations in Tolar, Granbury, Pecan Plantation, Acton and Cleburne. The account is set up under the name, “Benefit Account for Lina Salazar.” Checks can be made to “Lina Salazar,” according to a Tolar First National Bank representative.

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Obituaries

Carlos Rodriguez, Sr., 1938-2022

Carlos "Rod" Rodriguez, Sr., 83, beloved husband, father, and grandfather, great-grandfather passed away on April 4, 2022 in Springtown.

Funeral service is at 10 a.m., Friday, April 15, 2022 at White's Funeral Home Chapel in Springtown. Visitation from 6 to 8 p.m., Thursday, April 14, 2022 at White's Funeral Home Chapel in Springtown. Interment: 11:30 a.m., Friday, April 15, 2022 in Springtown Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, you may donate to the American Cancer Society in memory of Carlos Rodriguez, Sr.

Carlos was born July 14, 1938 in Edinburg, Texas, son of Gerardo Rodriguez and Ramona Ayala. He served in the U.S. Air Force, Strategic Air Command, as a Special Weapons Specialist/Nuclear Bombs (1957-1963). He married the love of his life, Verlie Lorene Parker on November 10, 1960 in Miami, Florida and spent 58 happy years together raising their family.

His family was the light of his life. After military service, supported by his family, Carlos completed a distinguished 34 year Law Enforcement Career, including Police Officer, Deputy Sheriff, Federal Special Agent and Special Deputy U.S. Marshal. In retirement, Carlos loved building home related carpentry projects and engaged in computer-



ized research on World/U.S. history, geography and family genealogy.

Carlos was committed to God, family, country, and freemasonry. He was a Master Mason, Grand Lodge of Texas and a 32nd Degree Mason in the Scottish Rite, Valley of Fort Worth and Grand Chapter of Texas,

Order of the Eastern Star, Past Worthy Patron.

Carlos was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Verlie Lorene Rodriguez and grandson, Dakota Garret Rodriguez.

Survivors include his sons, Carlos Adrian Rodriguez and wife, Melissa; Gerardo Mario Rodriguez and wife, Julie Ann; granddaughters, Cheyenne Grace Rodriguez Uribe, Michala Adrian Rodriguez McRee and Savannah Lynn Rodriguez and great-grandson Carson Michael McRee; brother Daniel Rodriguez, Sr. and wife Vivian; sister Ida Camargo.

*The Springtown Epigraph
April 14, 2022 Edition*

Bonnie Lee Johnson 1933-2022

Bonnie Lee (Huddleston) Johnson was born April 8, 1933, in Christian County, Kentucky, to George and Alma (Pennington) Huddleston. She peacefully passed away on Thursday, April 7, 2022, in Azle, Texas.

Bonnie married the love of her life, Richard Glenn Johnson, on June 6, 1964. She worked at Loma Plastics for many years and was a longtime member of Hilltop Family Church in Springtown.

Bonnie was preceded in death by her parents; her husband of 57 years, Glenn Johnson; her sons, Charles Cottongame and Wesley Cottongame; daughter, Bonnie (Marie) Burcie; brothers, Garland Huddleston, Eural Huddleston and Roscoe Huddleston; and sisters,



Ethel Crick Paugh and Nelda Cottongame.

She is survived by sons, Marvin Cottongame and wife, Deborah, and Eric Johnson and wife, Stacy; daughter-in-law, Donna Cottongame; 10 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

*The Springtown Epigraph
April 14, 2022 Edition*

Unforgettable Moments



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.

There are some moments you never forget.

Sometimes you see the hand of God in the moment and sometimes you see it later.

I started singing with the Singing Men of North Central Texas in March 2009.

They had a mission trip planned in spring 2010. It would be their first trip to Ukraine.

I had too many irons in the fire to even consider the trip.

On March 20, 2010, a volcano erupted in Iceland and disrupted air travel in the Northern Hemisphere. SMONCT had to postpone the trip until October.

My friend John Bell, who had invited me into SMONCT, was president of the group that year and asked if I could participate in the October trip.

I told him I would pray about it, but God would have to show up big. Both kids were in college. Our daughter was graduating in December and getting married January 1. We had just borrowed \$100,000 to do a major renovation on our house for handicap accessibility.

I had no extra funds available to go on a trip to Ukraine.

John made a phone call to the pastor who was coordinator of the executive ministry team of Harvest Baptist Association (where I had been serving as executive director for almost two years).

He contacted the churches in HBA about helping me with the cost, and they came through with enough to pay for the trip.

As we stood on stages in cities across Ukraine and sang the good news of Jesus, the words to our songs were projected on big screens in

Russian so that the people would know what we were singing.

There is a Ukrainian language, but almost all Ukrainians—particularly in the eastern side of the country—speak Russian as well (that is an important fact, considering current events).

One of the songs we sang was Chris Tomlin's well-known song, "How Great is Our God."

We had learned the chorus in Russian and switched from English to Russian on the second chorus.

In one standing-room only venue after another, I will never forget the looks on their faces when they realized that they were hearing the same words that were being projected on the screen.

Amazing. Watching those faces brought tears to my eyes and a lump to my throat in every concert.

Every. Single. Time. Having now been to Ukraine four times on those music mission trips, my heart breaks over the current situation.

And I grieve the loss of more opportunities to be there (we were originally scheduled to return to Ukraine and Poland less than two weeks from now).

But, oh, how God moved and blessed!

And when I see images of Ukrainian Christians worshipping in the midst of war, I wonder how many of them number among the 30,000 people we saw make decisions to follow Jesus in 10 years of ministry there.

Truly, our God is amazing!

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SHS THEATER. CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

petition at the end of last month, the team now gears up for the Regional competition on April 20 in Lubbock.

This amount of success is not exactly common for the SHS theater program. Theater Director Rebecca Phillips said she thinks this is only the third time in 30-plus years that SHS has advanced to a Regional competition. However, the records are inconclusive, and she'd like to get verification with those who know the history of SHS's One-Act Play competitions.

Phillips said the pandemic disrupted the normal process of last year's competition by not having an audience to perform to and having to deal with changes to the regular warm-up procedures.

"We all struggled with the pandemic," she said.

This year, the play chosen to lead SHS into the heat of competition is "The Tin Woman" by Sean Grennan. The play is about a woman who receives a heart transplant and meets with the donor's family. Rebecca Phillips said she picked the play for the students to perform in tribute to a friend of hers' who had a heart transplant.

"It's a story of healing, and we are all healing," Rebecca Phillips said, holding back tears. "It's just an emotional story. Every single person in this company

has struggled with, at some point, some of the issues that we talk about."

Some of the seniors in the play described "The Tin Woman" as an emotional play about loss, grief and healing. The students have noticed how their performances have resonated with audience members who have approached them at shows.

Gentry Phillips, who plays the heart transplant recipient Joy, called the play "honest" for not sugarcoating tough issues.

"(With) what's going on in the world right now and what has happened previously, a lot of people are hurting, and I feel like the show is just a really cathartic way to heal and to talk about things that might be difficult, especially in a family setting," Gentry Phillips said.

ACTING IN CHARACTER

To get into the zone to perform his role, SHS senior Nolan Roark talked about thinking of people he has known who are like his character, who is the father of the person whose heart was used to save Gentry Phillips' character's life.

"I think about certain people who I've known in my life, certain figures that sort of resemble parts of Hank Borden, and I sort of combine them in my head and

combine some of the emotions that I've already felt throughout my short life here," Roark said. "I package all of the emotion I can fit and sort of try to turn it into someone who is bitter and just angry at the world for what has been done to them. Honestly, because of this last year that we've had, it's not too difficult."

Senior Layla Bryson, who plays the mother of the donor and partner to Roark's Hank, said she can relate to her character and described how she can get into character sometimes easily.

"I can step into her shoes the second I walk into the theater," Bryson said. "I'm suddenly Alice Borden. I have her emotions; I have her feelings. I feel her grief and her want for (her) family to be together."

Senior Michael Merrill has a more unique role than the rest of the cast since his character, Jack, is the deceased son whose heart saves Gentry Phillips' character Joy.

"Jack hasn't really moved on because his family hasn't moved on, and Joy hasn't decided to move on, to live her life," Merrill said.

In addition to learning about technique and skill, some of the students said they have learned more about themselves as well as processing pain and other

emotions.

"When you're up there performing your role and getting into character and stuff, you really learn how to channel your emotions, and it helps you to kind of practice that and allow you to sort of channel the emotions in the way that you want to channel them because some people have difficulty with that," Roark said.

The cast has been rehearsing "The Tin Woman" since January, but that doesn't mean that they are done perfecting the play. Gentry Phillips said they are working on heightening emotions and making their performances stand out.

Director Rebecca Phillips said the cast is "fine-tuning" the performances and digging deeper into the play's emotions.

"All of our critiques have been favorable, and this last round was 'just need more emotion,'" Rebecca Phillips said. "Now, we're working with sense memory, emotional recall, and we're pulling things from the past that are very similar to what these characters are going through so that we can tap into that emotion a little bit without setting off triggers and trauma."

APPRECIATING THE WINS

In addition to advancement, multiple cast members have received individual honors. Gentry Phillips, who has consistently won Best Performer throughout the competition, said it was her goal this year to win that honor.

"It makes me so happy to know that my work is being appreciated and my team's work is being appreciated," Gentry Phillips said.

Roark, who was named in the All-Star Cast twice, said while it's nice to receive awards, the objective for the production is to create a meaningful performance.

"My goal is not to get an award but to make the audience feel something," he said. "But, if I get an award, then I will accept it with grace."

Assistant Director Josh Sexton, who helps with the set designs, admired the dedication of the team and their drive to keep moving forward.

"They want to keep going. Normally at this point in the year, they're tired; they're done," Sexton said. "These guys want to go further. That dedication is huge."

Sexton said he's confident about the students' upcoming Regional contest.

"I think we're going to

put on a heck of a show, and hopefully the judges agree with that and move us forward," he said.

This competition is pitting SHS against some heavy-hitting schools that are known for their state appearances in One-Act Play, Rebecca Phillips said. Yet, she maintains faith in her students' abilities.

"The fact that they can take them, I feel confident," Rebecca Phillips said.

Rebecca Phillips expressed gratitude toward the Springtown administration for allowing the production more funds, which helped pay for the set design used in the play.

Since the cast has advanced to Regionals, Bryson said some of them have agreed to dye streaks of their hair red in celebration.

"The red thing is kind of like our theme of this show because it's kind of like a nod to people that work with heart transplants and heart donors," Bryson said. "We've made a couple of nods to that with our outfits, wearing black and red, having some characters with red scrubs on stage, and so that was just something fun we all came up with."

When asked when they planned to dye their hair red, the students laughed and exclaimed in unison: "After the show's done!"

Spotlight on BUSINESS

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Public hearing, board meeting set for UTGCD

Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District's public hearing and regular board meeting are set for 5 p.m. April 18 at the District office or via Zoom video-conference. In addition to their regular board meeting agenda, which begins at conclusion of public hearing, another item of interest includes the public hearing regarding application for the Operating Permit and Exception to Minimum Well Spacing Requirements for a Public Water Supply well in Parker County. The public is welcome and encouraged to remotely attend via online videoconference/teleconference. People can join the Zoom meeting at us02web.zoom.us/j/88188581990 1-346-248-7799 – US Meeting ID: 881 8858 1990

The mission of UTGCD, established in November 2007, is to develop rules to

provide protection to existing wells, prevent waste, promote conservation, and provide a framework that will allow availability and accessibility of groundwater for future generations. It also seeks to protect the quality of the groundwater in the recharge zone of the aquifer, ensure that the residents of Montague, Wise, Parker and Hood counties maintain local control over their groundwater, respect and protect the property rights of landowners in groundwater, and operate the district in a fair and equitable manner for all residents of the district, according to a news release form UTGCD.

For more information about UTGCD, including meeting dates and well registration forms, visit their website at www.uppertrinitygcd.com or call the District's office in Springtown, 817-523-5200.

AW1-11
Prescribed by Secretary of State
Sections 4.004, 83.010, 85.004, 85.007, Texas Election Code
9/2009

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE ELECTION (AVISO DE ELECCIÓN ADMINISTRADORES FIDUCIARIOS)

To the registered voters of Springtown, Texas:
(A los votantes registrados de Springtown, Texas:)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., on, May 7, 2022 for voting in a school trustee election to elect three trustees for a full three-year term, one each in Place 1, Place 2 and Place 3. *(Se hace saber que las casillas electorales situados abajo se abrirán de las 8:00 am a 5:00 pm, el 7 de mayo de 2022, para votar en una elección fiduciario escolar para elegir a tres fiduciario para un periodo completo de tres años, uno en cada lugar(es) 1, 2, y 3).*

LOCATION(S) OF POLLING PLACES (LOCALIZACIÓN(S) LUGARES DE VOTACIÓN)

Springtown Senior Center, Community Room, 1070 N. Main Street, Springtown, Texas 76082
(Centro de Mayores de Springtown, Salón Comunitario, 1070 North Main Street, Springtown, Texas)

Parker County Courthouse Annex, Annex Kitchen 1112 Santa Fe Drive, Weatherford, Texas
Anexo del Palacio de Justicia del Condado de Parker, Cocina Annex 1112 Santa Fe Drive, Weatherford, Texas

Additional Election Day voting locations (see attachment)
[Lugares adicionales de votación el día de la elección (vea archivo adjunto)]

7:00 am - 7:00 pm ELECTION DAY SITES

Election Day sites for voting by personal appearance for the GENERAL/SPECIAL ELECTION to be held on May 7, 2022 as conducted by Parker County, Texas are as follows:

7:00AM-7:00PM

Sitios del día de las elecciones

Los lugares del Día de las Elecciones para votar en persona para la ELECCION GENERAL/ESPECIAL que se llevara a cabo el 7 de MAYO de 2022 segun lo realizado por el Condado de Parker, Texas son los siguientes:

Silver Creek United Methodist Church	2200 Church Rd, Azle 76020	Fellowship Hall 100/105
Azle City Hall	505 W Main St, Azle 76020	Community Room 110/111
Reno City Hall	195 W Reno Rd, Azle 76020	Community Center 115
Springtown Senior Center	1070 N Main St, Springtown 76082	Community Room 120
Harburger Hill Community Center	701 Narrow St., Weatherford 76086	Large Room 200/250
Poolville Methodist Church	230 North Church, Poolville 76487	Fellowship Hall 210
Peaster ISD Rock Gym	8512 FM RD 920, Peaster 76088	Back Room of Gym 215
Adell Whitt Fire Department	4312 N FM RD 52, Whitt 76490	Training Room 220
Bethesda United Methodist Church	6657 FM RD 113 N, Weatherford 76088	Johnson Room 225
Hudson Oaks City Hall	210 Hudson Oaks Dr, Hudson Oaks 76087	Council Chambers 260/265
Santa Fe Drive Baptist Church	1502 Santa Fe Dr, Weatherford 76086	Family Life Center 310/315
Weatherford College	225 College Park Dr, Weatherford 76086	Work Force WC
Millsap Community Center	102 Fannin St, Millsap 76066	Community Room 320
Harmony Baptist Church	242 Harmony Rd, Weatherford 76087	Gym 325
Parker County PCT Barn # 3	1111 FM RD 1189, Brock 76087	Break Room 335
Greenwood Fire Department	1418 Greenwood Cut-Off Rd, Weatherford 76087	Training Room 350
Morningstar Amenity Center	128 Heather Wind Ln, Aledo 76008	Main Room 400
First Baptist Willow Park	601 Ranch House Rd, Willow Park 76087	Welcome Center 410/415
City of Aledo Community Center	104 Robinson Ct, Aledo 76008	Main Room 430
Aledo ISD Admin Building	1008 Bailey Ranch Rd, Aledo 76008	Louden Room 435
Town of Annetta	450 Thunder Head Ln, Aledo 76008	Main Building
Central Community Fire Station # 1	4100 Old Agnes Rd, Weatherford 76088	Main Room
Central Community Fire Station # 2	3641 N FM RD 51, Weatherford 76088	Main Room

ALL REGISTERED VOTERS MAY VOTE AT ANY OF THESE LOCATIONS

TODOS LOS VOTANTES REGISTRADOS PUEDEN VOTAR EN CUALQUIERA DE ESTOS LUGARES

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at: Springtown Senior Center, Community Room, 1070 N. Main Street, Springtown, Texas and Parker County Courthouse Annex, 1112 Santa Fe Drive, Weatherford, Texas between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. beginning on April 25, 2022 and ending on May 3, 2022, with extended early voting hours beginning on May 2, 2022, and on May 3, 2022, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

La votación temprana en persona se llevará a cabo todos los días de la semana en: Centro de Mayores de Springtown, Salón Comunitario, 1070 N. Main Street, Springtown, Texas y Anexo del Palacio de Justicia del Condado de Parker, 1112 Santa Fe Drive, Weatherford, Texas entre las 8:00 a.m. y las 5:00 p.m. a partir del 25 de abril, 2022 y terminando el 3 de mayo de 2022, con horarios de votación extendidos el 2 y 3 de mayo de 2022, de 7:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.m.

Additional Early Voting locations (see attachment)
[Adicionales lugares de votación temprana (vea archivo adjunto)]

EARLY VOTING SITES AND HOURS

Early Voting sites and hours for voting by personal appearance for the GENERAL ELECTION to be held on May 7, 2022 as conducted by Parker County, Texas are as follows:

Main Voting Site

Parker County Courthouse Annex
1112 Santa Fe Dr Weatherford, 76086
Annex Kitchen

Branch Voting Sites

Springtown Senior Center Community Room 1070 N Main St Springtown, Texas 76082	Peaster ISD Old Rock Gym Back Room 8512 FM 920 Peaster, Texas 76088	Aledo ISD Admin Building Louden Room 1008 Bailey Ranch Rd Aledo, Texas 76008
Hudson Oaks City Hall Council Chambers 210 Hudson Oaks Dr. Hudson Oaks, TX	Azle City Hall Community Room 505 W Main St Azle, Texas 76020	PCT 3 County Barn Break Room 1111 FM RD 1189 Brock, 76087
Millsap Community Center Community Room 102 Fannin Rd. Millsap, 76066	Poolville ISD Technology Building Main Room 16025 FM RD 920 Poolville 76487	

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Epigraph brings home several awards

The Springtown Epigraph took home several awards from the North and East Texas Press Association and West Texas Press Association contests this past weekend. Winners were announced Saturday in Hamilton during a conference for both associations.

From the North and East Texas Press Association, the Epigraph won first place for sports writing and a first for news writing. From the West Texas Press Association, the paper won first place awards in sports, newswriting and photography. The Epigraph won third place in sweepstakes, features and special section and an honorable mention in general excellence.

“We appreciate the Epigraph staff for being recognized for its work in informing our community,” said Springtown Epigraph editor Don Munsch. “We look forward to continuing to serve this community and tell its stories.”

The Springtown Epigraph won several awards for work entered into 2021 contests in the North and East Texas Press Association and West Texas Press Association, with winners announced last week in Hamilton during an annual convention of the press associations. Shown holding awards here are Don Munsch, editor of the Epigraph, and Epigraph staff writer Madelyn Edwards and sportswriter Jeff Prince.

Photo by Jennifer Harrison

County Judge Deen addresses Optimist Club about future transportation needs

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
madelyn@azlenews.net

Parker County Judge Pat Deen talked with the Springtown Optimist Club last week about the future of transportation in the county.

During the meeting on April 5 at Howell’s Western Café, Deen talked about the growth in Springtown and said it will be important for the city and surrounding area to get ahead of the growth to avoid future traffic issues.

“On the Regional Transportation Council, one of the keys is to get ahead of the curve, unlike what happened in Weatherford, which got very much behind the curve,” he said. “If any of you go into Weatherford and you get on (Interstate) 20 and you’re going east or westbound on that, it is the most devastating thing. It should’ve been widened 10 years ago, and it has not been.”

Deen said the growth in Springtown is only the beginning. He said not only do existing roads need to be fixed, but there will need to be a strategic plan to deal

with future transportation issues. He mentioned that widening FM 51 is a priority as well as State Highway 199 after it turns into a two-lane road.

“The goal is to disperse this traffic,” he said. “We’re the third fastest growing region in the nation, and that involves Springtown. It’s a good problem to have. We have a thriving economy. People are moving here; your property values are going up. Although it’s a strain on your taxes, you would rather it be that than going the other way.”

Deen said county officials will revisit the strategic plan this year and focus on the growth areas and patterns. He said some of the focus will need to be on finding alternative routes to solve transportation issues. One of those alternate routes could be to Wise County from Tarrant and Parker counties, which would affect Springtown.

“We’ve got to have that route because of the traffic that’s growing out in this area and in Wise County as well,” Deen said.

SITIOS Y HORARIOS DE VOTACION ANTICIPADA

Los lugares para la votación anticipada y el horario para la votación en persona para la ELECCION GENERAL que se llevara a cabo el 7 de Mayo de 2022, según lo llevara a cabo el condado de Parker, Texas, son los siguientes:

Sitio principal de votacion

Parker County Courthouse Annex
1112 Santa Fe Dr, Weatherford, 76086
Annex Kitchen

Sitios de votacion de sucursales

Springtown Senior Center
Community Room
1070 N Main St
Springtown, Texas 76082

Hudson Oaks City Hall
Council Chambers
210 Hudson Oaks Dr.
Hudson Oaks, TX

Millsap Community Center
Community Room
102 Fannin Rd.
Millsap, 76066

Peaster ISD Old Rock Gym
Back Room
8512 FM 920
Peaster, Texas 76088

Azle City Hall
Community Room
505 W Main St
Azle, Texas 76020

Poolville ISD Technology Building
Main Room
16025 FM RD 920
Poolville 76487

Aledo ISD Admin Building
Louden Room
1008 Bailey Ranch Rd
Aledo, Texas 76008

PCT 3 County Barn
Break Room
1111 FM RD 1189
Brock, 76087

Regular Early Voting Hours and Days

Monday April 25, 2022	8:00AM-5:00PM	Saturday April 30, 2022	CLOSED
Tuesday April 26, 2022	8:00AM-5:00PM	Sunday May 1, 2022	CLOSED
Wednesday April 27, 2022	8:00AM-5:00PM	Monday May 2, 2022	7:00AM-7:00PM
Thursday April 28, 2022	8:00AM-5:00PM	Tuesday May 3, 2022	7:00AM-7:00PM
Friday April 29, 2022	8:00AM-5:00PM		

Horas y dias regulares de votacion anticipada

Lunes 25 de Abril de 2022	8:00AM-5:00PM	Sabado 30 de Abril de 2022	CLOSED
Martes 26 de Abril de 2022	8:00AM-5:00PM	Domingo 1 de Mayo de 2022	CLOSED
Miercoles 27 de Abril de 2022	8:00AM-5:00PM	Lunes 2 de Mayo de 2022	7:00AM-7:00PM
Jueves 28 de Abril de 2022	8:00AM-5:00PM	Martes 3 de Mayo de 2022	7:00AM-7:00PM
Viernes 29 de Abril de 2022	8:00AM-5:00PM		

Las solicitudes de boletas por correo deben ser recibidas por el Secretario de Votacion Anticipada **No mas tarde que** el cierre del dia habil el Martes 26 de Abril de 2022. Las solicitudes de bolete electoral por correo se enviarian por correo a

Early Voting Clerk
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Weatherford 76086

email: gina.osborn@parkercountytx.com Fax (817) 598-6183
Website: www.parkercountytx.com

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Jenise “Crickett” Miller
(Name of Early Voting Clerk)
(Nombre del Empleado de la Votación Temprana)

1112 Santa Fe Drive
(Address)
(Dirección)
Weatherford, Texas 76086
(City) (Ciudad) (Zip Code) (Código Postal)

elections@parkercountytx.com
(email address) (dirección de correo electrónico)

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on: April 26, 2022
(Aplicaciones para boletas por correo se deberán de recibir no más tardar al cierre del negocio el: 26 de abril 2022)

Issued this the 24th day of January, 2022. (Publicado el 24 de enero de 2022)

Rick Beall

Signature of Presiding Officer (Firma del Oficial que Preside)
Rick Beall, Board President (Presidenta del Consejo Administrativo)

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Springtown ISD prepares for Teacher Incentive Allotment system

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
madelyn@azlenews.net

Springtown ISD is in the process of developing a local designation system to recognize teachers through the Teacher Incentive Allotment.

The Teacher Incentive Allotment was established by House Bill 3, which was passed by the Texas Legislature in 2019. According to the Teacher Incentive Allotment's website, the allotment was created "to provide a realistic pathway for top teachers to earn six-figure salaries and to help attract and retain highly effective teachers at traditionally hard-to-staff schools."

The amount of funding districts can receive depends on the level of designation that teachers receive, and districts in high-need and rural districts are expected to receive more money, according to an article on the Texas Association of School Boards' website. As of March, over 4,000 public teachers in the state have been designated by the system, and Texas school districts have received about \$43 million in allotments.

Through the Teacher Incentive Allotment, teachers in SISD could receive \$3,812 to \$25,042 from state funds based on this year's projections, said Wesley Thomas, SISD Assessment and Accountability director.

The TASB article said districts are required to spend at least 90% of the funding allocation on teacher compensation, and the rest of the funds can go toward implementing a local designation system or supporting teachers who are seeking designation.

The three levels of teacher recognition are "recognized," "exemplary" and "master." Teachers can be recognized through a local teacher designation system or through National Board certification. According to the TIA website, any number of teachers who meet a district's designation criteria and eligibility requirements can seek designation under a local system. There isn't a cap on the number of designations that a district can issue.

SISD is developing a local designation system that will include a teacher observation and student growth component, Thomas said. The district's initial system application is due by April 15, and the results are expected to be returned by Aug. 15, Thomas said. If the application is successful, SISD will start capturing data for the 2022-23 year with designated teachers receiving funds by August 2024.

SISD Superintendent Mike Kelley said the district's goal is start small in terms of how many content areas will be a part of the

new program. Growing the number of content areas depends on gathering more resources to use for data collection that are acceptable to the state.

In the immediate future, Kelley said teachers will likely not be asked to do more work for the program, unlike the administration, which will have to work on data collection and calibrating evaluations of teachers' lessons that are consistent districtwide.

There is a concern among some educators — such as Catherine Robert, University of Texas at Arlington assistant professor of educational leadership and policy studies, who was quoted in the TASB article — that the inequitable distribution of the allotment may cause internal disputes at school districts and competition among teachers.

Kelley said the concern about issues of competition could be felt statewide, but he does not foresee that being a problem among Springtown teachers.

"Teachers are good people," he said. "It's a noble profession. I think teachers will always want what's best for all of the students in a building, and not just the ones who call their classroom home. I think that we'll continue to see collaboration and cooperation."

BALLOT, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

but this did not include those over 65 or disabled homeowners because their tax rate was already frozen.

Proposition 1 will allow those elderly and disabled homeowners to receive that reduced tax rate, freezing their property tax at that new lower rate passed in 2019.

PROPOSITION 2

The text of the second proposed amendment reads:

"The constitutional amendment increasing the amount of the residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxes for public school purposes from \$25,000 to \$40,000."

What does that mean?

Today, homeowners can reduce the market value of their primary residence by \$25,000 when they calculate their yearly school property taxes.

This amendment will increase that amount up to \$40,000, potentially lowering a homeowner's property tax bill.

How will school districts make up for that lost revenue?

The State of Texas will take on the shortfall that would come from passing these two amendments.

If my tax rate is reduced, why is my property tax bill still high?

Cities and school districts vote each year on how to set their ad valorem (property tax) rates. Sometimes they can reduce the tax rate but their revenue stays the same (or more) because property values are higher or because they are seeing more growth (new homes).

Property values are determined by county tax assessors and an increase in demand has played a part in higher values, meaning a higher tax bill for many even when rates are kept the same or reduced.

Source: League of Women Voters of Texas www.lwvtexas.org/

LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

Advertisement and Invitation for Bids

The City of Springtown will receive bids for Springtown CDBG - Avenue D Reconstruction until 10:30 AM on Friday, April 22nd, 2022 at Springtown City Hall, 102 E 2nd St, Springtown, TX 76082. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 10:35 AM on Friday, April 22nd, 2022 at Springtown City Hall, 102 E 2nd St, Springtown, TX 76082. Bids are invited for several items and approximate quantities of work are as follows:

- 4,500 SY of 6" Concrete Pavement
- 1,300 LF of 6" PVC water main
- 1,250 LF of 6" PVC sewer main
- 250 LF of various size RCP storm sewer

Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications are on file at the office of the engineer, Pacheco Koch, 4060 Bryant Irvin Rd, Fort Worth, TX 76109. Copies of the Bid/Contract Documents may be obtained free of charge by the prospective bidders at www.civcastusa.com under the following project name - "Springtown CDBG - Avenue D Reconstruction". Additionally, bid documents may be obtained free of charge from Pacheco Koch at 4060 Bryant Irvin Rd, Fort Worth, TX 76109. A bid bond in the amount of 5 percent of the bid issued by an acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid. A certified check or bank draft payable to the City of Springtown or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond. Attention is called to the fact that not less than, the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon and Related Acts) wage rate, as issued by the Texas Department of Agriculture Office of Rural Affairs and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual identity, gender identity, or national origin. The lobbying certification must be submitted with the bid packet to be considered complete and responsive. All contractors/subcontractors that are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project. Deadline for questions is 10:30 AM on Tuesday, April 19th, 2022. The City of Springtown reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding. Bids may be held by the City of Springtown for a period not to exceed 60 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidder's qualifications prior to the contract award. The City of Springtown is an equal opportunity employer.

City of Springtown, Greg Hood, Mayor, 03-29-22

NOTICE OF CLAIM AND PUBLIC SALE

Property to be sold to satisfy landlord's lien. Seller reserves the right to withdraw property from the sale. Unit items to be sold to the highest bidder. Sale to be held ONLINE at <https://www.storage-treasures.com/>. Location of Units for Public Sale: Longhorn State Storage Springtown at 1905 E Hwy 199 Springtown, TX 76082. Auction to be held on Friday May 6th, 2022 beginning at 8:00 a.m. for the following tenants: Fosters Electrical Services, Joe Perez, Billy Green, Reed Sepulvado, Vanessa Bryson, and Tomas Peres at Longhorn State Storage Springtown.

Kid Scoop

Find Kid Scoop on Facebook

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THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

The Bunny Buddies are Back!

Buzz and Beeper Bunny are back with all kinds of Easter fun!

If the activities on this page seem hard, find some bunny to help you. If it looks easy, help some bunny younger than you!

NATIONAL EGG-QUIRER

NEWS FROM THE HENHOUSE TO YOUR HOUSE!

HEN HATCHES HUGE SURPRISE

COOPERVILLE - Last night, things really started hopping for Henrietta Hen. The young mother of 152 is with excitement over the unusual in her nest last night.

"I was just dozing off, around when one of my eggs began to shake," Henrietta recalls. "Now I know why I didn't hear the tapping and sounds the sweet beaks of my chicks usually make as they crack out of their shells."

When Henrietta's egg finally opened, a smiling

hopped out. "I nearly flew the coop!" Mrs. Hen said.

Although she is a bit "chicken" when it comes to all of the media, Henrietta's story will soon be made into a book and a movie.

"I guess I'll enjoy the fame while it lasts," Henrietta says. "However, I don't like to put all of my in one basket."

Bunny Loses Basket

Mr. E.B. Rabbit has an Easter Basket all ready to deliver. But he can't remember where he put it. Take your pencil and show him the way through the maze to the basket. Don't retrace your route or cross any lines.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written instructions.

Bonnet Bizarre

Only two of these bonnets are exactly alike. Can you find them?

Draw a line to where each of these missing words belongs in the article.

BUNNY **MIDNIGHT**
JUMPING **ATTENTION**
CHIPPING **HATCHING**
EGGS

Silly Scramble

The secret code to crack Beeper's riddle is hidden in the egg rows.

is the letter A. The egg to the right of it is B. The next is C, and so on.

The alphabet follows in order from left to right, top to bottom. Each egg stands for one letter of the alphabet.

What kind of Stories do bunnies Like best?

Extra! Extra! Facts vs. Opinions

Look through the newspaper for advertisements with an Easter theme. Circle the facts in yellow. Circle the opinions in green.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Distinguish between fact and opinion in expository text.

How many chocolate bunnies can you find on this page in one minute? How many can a friend find? Who found more?

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Egg Patterns

Buzz Bunny has decorated his eggs with number patterns. Help Beeper figure out where to put each of the numbers left in the basket. Draw a line to where each egg belongs.

3	6	9	15
48	12	6	3
5	10	40	80
25	20	10	5

Standards Link: Math/Probability: Recognize patterns.

Double Double Word Search

DECORATED BUDDIES OPINIONS HATCHING MOVIE MEDIA BONNET BASKET BEAKS COOP CRACK CHICKEN FACTS SHELLS EGGS

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

D	N	E	K	C	I	H	C	B	G
T	E	N	N	O	B	S	O	U	N
N	N	C	Y	M	E	B	O	U	I
S	S	N	O	I	N	I	P	O	H
K	D	V	D	R	K	C	A	R	C
A	I	D	E	B	A	S	K	E	T
E	U	G	F	A	C	T	S	D	A
B	G	I	E	A	I	D	E	M	H
S	L	L	E	H	S	S	O	D	K

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Reporter Game

With a partner, read a newspaper article. One of you must choose to be a person in the article and the other should be the reporter. Decide what questions were asked to get the relevant information and then role-play the interview.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Ask clarifying questions about essential textual elements, restate facts and details, clarify and organize ideas.

Write On!

Easter Bunny Spotted

The Easter Bunny has been spotted, and you are the reporter covering the story.

Say What?

Some phrases people use don't mean exactly what they say. For example the saying, "It's raining cats and dogs," doesn't mean that cats and dogs are falling from the sky. It is a phrase people use to say it is raining hard.

These kinds of phrases are called idioms.

The Egg-quirer page has several idioms. Find the idiom that goes with each meaning below:

1. Meaning: I was really surprised!
Idiom: _____

2. Meaning: To be afraid.
Idiom: _____

3. Meaning: Not to depend on one thing.
Idiom: _____

4. Meaning: Things are getting busy.
Idiom: _____

ANSWERS:
1. I nearly flew the coop!
2. she is a bit "chicken"
3. don't put your eggs in one basket
4. things really started hopping

Standards Link: Vocabulary: Apply knowledge of idioms to determine the meaning of phrases.

What a Character!

Humor is ...

... laughing with people, not at them.



DEVOTIONAL PAGE



This devotional and directory is made possible by these businesses who encourage all of us to attend worship services.

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AzleNews.net

The Springtown Epigraph
Springtown-Epigraph.net

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817-400-0612

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1 Block N. FM 2048 in Keeter
817-433-8220

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1020 S.E. Pkwy, Azle
817-237-4903

FELLOWSHIP OF LAKE WORTH
4024 Dakota Trail, Lake Worth
817-237-9433

NEW BEGINNINGS CHURCH
810 Goshen Rd, Springtown
817-523-4462

LEGACY CHURCH
Hwy. 199 W. at FM 2257, Azle
817-221-2983 / 817-221-5760

VICTORY CHRISTIAN CENTER
737 Boyd Rd., Azle
817-444-LOVE

BAPTIST ASH CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
300 South Stewart, Azle
817-444-3219

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350 Agnes N., Springtown
817-523-7271

BETHEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST
408 S. Ash St., Springtown
817-220-4238

AZLE AVENUE BAPTIST
2901 Azle Ave., Fort Worth
817-626-5556

BRIAR FIRST BAPTIST
West of FM 730 N. at sign, Briar
817-444-3484

CALVARY HEIGHTS BAPTIST
1 block off Hwy. 199, east of David's Patio, Springtown, 817-221-2241

CENTRAL BAPTIST
4290 Old Agnes Road
817-594-5918

CHURCH ON THE HILL
836 NW Parkway, Azle
817-444-3752

CHRISTWAY BAPTIST
7673 West Hwy. 199, Agnes
817-220-9133 or 817-220-3581

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8780 Eagle Mtn. Circle, Azle
817-237-4135

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF AZLE
1017 Boyd Road
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FIRST BAPTIST CASTLE HILLS
401 Beverly Rd., Azle
817-797-4706

FIRST BAPTIST LAKE WORTH
700 Charbonneau Tr., west side of Effie Morris Elementary
817-237-2624

FIRST BAPTIST LAKESIDE
8801 Jacksboro Hwy., Lakeside
817-237-8113

FIRST BAPTIST BRIAR
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1 block N. of FM 2123, Cottondale
940-433-5539

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FM 920 in Peaster
817-596-8805

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1 block W. of FM 920, Poolville
817-594-3916

FIRST BAPTIST SPRINGTOWN
5th & Main Street, Springtown
817-523-7011

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST
801 Friendship Rd., 9½ miles S. of Springtown off Hwy. 51 S.
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FUNDAMENTAL BAPTIST
5th & Main in Springtown
817-523-5477

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GRACE BAPTIST
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GRACE POINTE CHURCH
4110 E. Hwy. 199, Springtown
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817-564-3946

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Nueva Jerusalem
6640 Midway Rd., Springtown
817-694-0444

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3229 Shawnee Trail, Lake Worth
817-237-8441

LAKE WORTH BAPTIST
4445 Hodgkins, Lake Worth
817-237-4163

METROPOLITAN BAPTIST
6051 Azle Ave., Fort Worth
817-237-2201

NEW HOPE BAPTIST
782 New Hope Rd., Reno area
817-221-2184

NORTHWEST BAPTIST
5500 Boat Club Rd., Lake Worth
817-237-6063 or 817-270-8476

SILVER CREEK BAPTIST
730 S. & Veal Station Rd., Azle
817-444-2325

MIDWAY CHURCH OF CHRIST
6400 Midway Rd.
817-221-2107

NEWSOME MOUND ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST
1460 Newsome Mound Rd.
817-677-3290

NORTHWEST CHURCH OF CHRIST
6059 Azle Ave., Fort Worth
817-237-1205

POOLVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST
West of FM 920 in Poolville
817-594-4182

SOUTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST
130 W. Bradshaw Lane, Springtown
817-221-2799

SPRINGTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST
Just west of Hwy. 51 North
817-523-4419

TRI-COUNTY CHURCH OF CHRIST
525 Hwy. 199 W., Springtown
817-980-8156

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4800 East Hwy. 199, Suite 7
Springtown, 817-677-3208

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817-596-7476

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5910 Black Oak Lane, River Oaks
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4795 Hwy. 199, Reno
817-221-HOPE

METHODIST BOYD UNITED METHODIST
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940-433-3334

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200 Church St., Azle
817-444-3323

LIGHTHOUSE FELLOWSHIP
7200 Robertson Rd., Fort Worth
817-237-2758

SILVER CREEK UNITED METHODIST
2200 Church Rd., Azle
817-444-1382

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
Hwy. 51 N & 3rd Street, Springtown
817-523-7874

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Springtown baseball boys stand tall for future high schoolers



Max Mooneyham is excited to step onto the big field.

Photo by Jeff Prince

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

Three young boys stood near the Springtown Porcupines dugout about an hour before Tuesday's baseball game and talked about how excited they were.

"We get to go out on the big field!" said Max Mooneyham, 6.

All three boys wore orange and white uniforms that marked them as proud Porcupines in the Springtown Lions Club baseball league.

Tuesday was Lions Club Day at Porcupine Stadium, and area youngsters jumped at the chance to run onto a high school baseball diamond in front of a packed crowd and meet the older varsity players. Springtown played Bridgeport Tuesday.

"It is very much a family atmosphere out here," said Max's dad, Trice Mooneyham.

Max's mom, Jessica Mooneyham, said her kids benefit from getting a taste of what's to come if they

stick with sports.

"Our kids can look and see that this is their future that they get to play," she said.

Max's older sister, Lilah, 12, was at the softball field, meeting her high school heroes.

"It's just cool to come support the town and our high school players," Jessica Mooneyham said. "We are going to stay for the games and cheer them on."

After meeting the older players, Max beamed. He and his teammates were al-

lowed to run to the outfield and stand for the national anthem.

"It was awesome," Max said.

Todd Smith, a junior on the Porcupines baseball team, takes his position as a role model seriously. He led his nephew's Lions Club team on the field.

"It feels great," Smith said. "I grew up in Lions Club. I now have my nephew, Kingston Smith, in Lions Club. It's just good to represent them and give

them a good environment to be up here one day."

IMPRESSING THE KIDS

The Lions Club kids were already impressed with the older boys, but the Porcupines solidified their impact once the game began.

Cristian Hernandez smacked a triple to score two runs in the first inning with no outs, setting up a rally. The Pines batted around the order and scored six runs. Smith was part of that

big inning, drawing a walk to get on base.

The Pines added two more runs in the second inning with help from Seth Lopez RBI triple.

In the third inning, William Gleason hit a two-run home run over the scoreboard in left field.

Final score: Springtown 11, Bridgeport 0.

The big night was made even sweeter since the Pines had lost their two previ-

SEE **BASEBALL**, PAGE 11A.

Springtown softball feeling good about season



Promise Crews is a leader on the Porcupine pitching staff.

Photo by Jeff Prince

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

Hard-hitting catcher Cheyanne Atchley had been in a "slump" for a couple of weeks, although her batting average remained in the .400s during that time.

She felt better after Springtown faced district foe Castleberry on April 8. In the first inning, Atchley

hit a three-run homer to give Springtown a 3-0 lead. It was her fifth dinger of the year. Later that same inning, she returned to the plate with two outs and the bases load-

ed, and hit a double to make the score 8-0.

A couple of innings later, Atchley added a single to go 3-for-3 at the plate with six RBIs.

Springtown won 15-0 in four innings.

"I was in a bit of a slump, so it's pretty exciting that I got to get back in the swing of things," Atchley said. "I had been striking out quite a few times, and it gets my confidence down. So, I really had to get my head out of things and focus on what I need to work on."

Head coach Scott Mann

was glad to see Atchley swinging with confidence again.

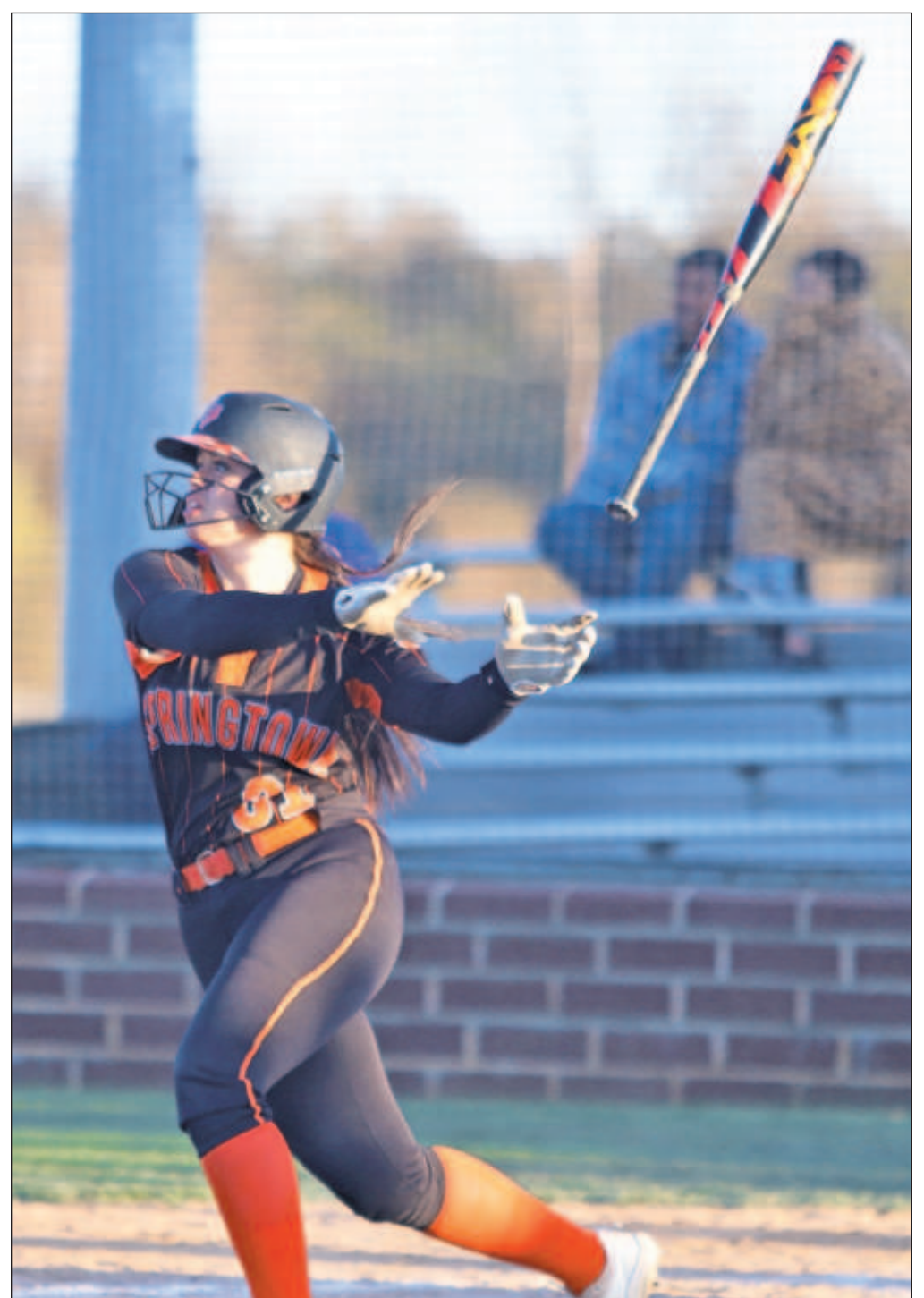
"She is seeing the ball off the pitcher's hand really well right now," he said. "Hopefully we keep that going."

ANOTHER DISTRICT WIN

On Tuesday, the hits kept coming.

The Porcupines logged 13 hits during their district battle with Bridgeport but had trouble scoring. The girls pushed just three runs across

SEE **SOFTBALL**, PAGE 11A.



Cheyenne Atchley could be wielding a powerful bat for the Porcupines for years to come.

Photo by Jeff Prince

Springtown rodeo team hangs on to sixth place



BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

Springtown's rodeo team had a less productive weekend than usual, with only two members earning points at the North Texas High School Rodeo Association event in Saginaw.

Still, Springtown scored 182 points and held on to sixth place with two rodeos remaining in the regular season. More than 80 teams compete in the rodeo association.

Camdon Alvarez finished in fourth place in steer wrestling to earn 98 points, and Delaney Harris won fifth place in goat tying for 84 points.

Springtown, at 3,920 points, is 280 points ahead of seventh-place Krum.

Camdon Alvarez earned 98 points for Springtown in the steer wrestling event.

Photo by Jo H Photography

BASEBALL, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10A.

ous games to Castleberry in heartbreaking fashion, including a game that went into extra innings.

"I am proud of the way our kids responded after last week's games," said head coach Josh Ward. "We knew this was a big game for us and that we needed to get it going back in the right direction."

Pitcher Marco Barrera was strong on the mound, giving up two hits while striking out seven.

Hernandez finished with a double and triple and two RBIs. Scout Richards, Matt Lockard and Brayden Fox notched RBIs, as well.

"It was great to see all the Lions Club players in attendance tonight," Ward said. "We really enjoyed having all of them out there with us before the game. To have that many young players out there all wearing smiles on their faces and being out there with the varsity was fun to see."

The future of baseball in Springtown appears bright, the coach said.

"There are great things happening around baseball in this town, from the high

school level all the way down to the youth," he said. "It has been nice to see it grow into where it is now

these past few years. I hope that we can keep this excitement going and that it will translate into great success

for all levels."

Springtown (12-7) plays at 7:30 p.m. on April 19 at Argyle (19-2-1).



Marco Barrera takes the mound to start the game against Bridgeport on Tuesday.

Photos by Jeff Prince



William Gleason high-fives the Lions Club kids before the game.

SOFTBALL, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10A.

the plate, but they were enough for a victory.

And what a thrilling win it was.

Springtown led 1-0 after five innings but gave up a run in the top of the sixth. With the score tied 1-1, Madison Terrell hit her first homer of the season to re-take the lead 2-1.

In the top of the seventh, Bridgeport hit a couple of bloopers and loaded the bases, but the Pines clamped down, giving up just one run that tied the game.

In the bottom of the seventh, Atchley and Noelle Fernandez singled to get on base, and Angelina Ray bunted to move them to second and third bases. Lauren Brandt hit a shot to right field to score the winning run.

Final score: Springtown 3, Bridgeport 2.

Atchley was 3-for-4 at the plate. So was Fernandez.

Angelina Ray hit two singles, and several other girls connected for base hits, including Ava Fernandez, Katrina Ray and Karley Haynes.

The Porcupines are in fourth place in District 7-4A, three games ahead of fifth-place Bridgeport.

Springtown can clinch a playoff spot with one more victory. Three games remain on the schedule.

"I'm really proud of our girls," said head coach Scott Mann. "The past two games, we've hit the ball extremely well. We played some defense when we had to."

His pitchers have tossed more walks than he would like, but they have been throwing strikeouts, as well. Fernandez threw 13 strikeouts in a recent game. Against Bridgeport, she pitched all seven innings, giving up just three hits and one earned run while striking out 12 batters and walking two.

"We have kind of made the turn a little bit," Mann said. "We are starting to play pretty good right now going into the most crucial time of the year."

SENIOR THOUGHTS

A player who has shown strong defensive skills this year is senior Summer Conway.

She was 4 when she slid her first softball glove on her hand, and she has been playing and loving the sport ever since. She expressed "mixed emotions" about approach-

ing the end of her career.

"I'm sad that it's over but excited for the future," she said.

Conway plans to study business at Texas A&M. She won't be playing softball but will take with her some valuable lessons she learned from the sport, such as respect and discipline.

Before heading to college, however, she wants to put an exclamation point on her softball career by doing well in the playoffs.

"We are going to make it," she said. "We are going to do good."

Last season, the Lady Pines were bi-district champs but lost in the area round.

BIG STICK ATCHLEY

One of the team's most powerful pops comes from the bat of Atchley, a sophomore. She could be leading Springtown back to the playoffs for years to come. Having a sure-handed catcher who can hit .500 as a sophomore is a boon to the roster.

The people on that roster have become close-knit this season.

"Everything is going really good," Atchley said. "Last year, we weren't that bonded



Teammates Madison Terrell, center, and Noelle Fernandez, right, wait at home plate to congratulate Cheyanne Atchley after her three-run homer against Castleberry.

Photos by Jeff Prince

as a team. This year, we've come closer. We've taken the time to get closer. We have had team dinners. We have become better friends over the last few weeks, and I think that the year is going to be really good for us."

Friendships among teammates creates unity that can improve performances on the field, she said.

"When you are not friends

outside of the field, that breaks the bond between everybody, and that doesn't make people want to work for their team," she said. "That makes people want to work for themselves."

Atchley hopes to continue playing softball after high school.

"I'd love to play in college," she said. "That's my passion."

Springtown (13-10-3) plays at Bridgeport (10-15-1) at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in another district clash. Afterward, two games remain in the regular season, both against Argyle, the district's undefeated first-place team. The Pines need one more victory to clinch a playoff spot and hope to win on Thursday in Bridgeport.



CLASSIFIED

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KARL KLEMENT Body Shop Painter Helper Assists Body Shop painters and performs other duties as needed throughout the Body Shop. Must be responsible and dependable with a valid driver's license. Monday-Friday work week. Body Shop Technician Commission. Must have experience. Body Shop Porter Performs duties throughout the Body Shop. Must be responsible, dependable and have a valid TXDL. Monday to Friday work week. Parts Drivers Must have valid TXDL with acceptable driving record. Overtime available and room for advancement. Monday-Friday work week. Service Advisor Seeking to hire an Experienced Service Advisor. Must be committed to customer satisfaction and be honest and dependable. Monday through Friday. No weekends!

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Huge Yard Sale 11617 Little Leaf Ct. W, Fort Worth. Friday-Saturday 9am-2pm.

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MAINSTREAM group homes are hiring for FT/PT direct care staff. Weekday 3:30pm-8:30am shifts as well as 24-hour weekend shifts. Work 2 days a week, get paid to sleep, and have a full-time job! Paid training, benefits, bonuses, and OT opportunities. Start \$9.00/hr with quick advancement possible. Call 817-270-2747, Monday-Friday, 9am-3pm.

Eagle is currently hiring Environmental Technicians / Driller Helpers in our Springtown and Fort Worth, Texas locations. Eagle is an environmental services company. We perform activities, such as, underground tank removals, demolition, soil excavation, environmental drilling, industrial maintenance, transportation, waste management and site restoration activities. Candidates must pass physical and drug screening. Full time employees receive benefits, including vacation, health, vision, dental insurance & 401K. Currently, we are offering an employee fuel supplement program to help offset increased fuel costs. Most work is local and employees are home nightly. However, there are opportunities for light travel to assist our other office and clients located throughout Texas and bordering states.

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WISE OUTDOOR SOLUTIONS. Fall Clean ups, Underbrush Removal, Tree Trimming, Stump Removal, Animal Burials, Tractor Work. 940-399-1677.

039 Help Wanted

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

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

The City of Reno is hiring Water/ Street Personal. Applicants must have valid DL, drug testing is mandatory. No calls, applicants must apply in person only at the City of Reno, 195 W. Reno Rd.

Eagle Remediation is currently hiring Class A&B CDL Drivers. 5-6 day work week with rotating Saturday schedule. Eagle performs activities such as underground tank removals, demolition, soil excavation, site restoration and waste management. Must pass physical, drug screening and background check. Full time Employees receive benefits, including vacation, health, vision, dental insurance & 401K. Please call 214-884-2096 to set up an interview. Located at 3131 E. Hwy 199, Springtown, TX 76082

Light labor to include yard care, painting, animal care, etc. Weatherford area. \$11/hr cash during training; Raise to \$12/hr cash after training. 1BR house might be available on trade-out. An ideal position for senior citizen. 940-595-1439, leave message.

Help wanted, experienced house painter, great pay. Call 817-304-9979.

Full time maintenance man needed. Must be organized, have basic maintenance skills, a valid drivers license and trasportation. Salary and living quarters included. 817-444-3760.

The City of Reno is hiring a part time City Secretary. No Calls-Applicants must apply in person only @ The City of Reno at 195 W. Reno Rd. Azle 76020

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Dirt & Concrete Work Driveways • House Slabs • Garages • Add-ons Small Land Clean-ups • Gravel Driveways Kiley Chesney, Owner Springtown, TX • Mobile 817-846-6645

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MCNEELY'S DEMOLITION & CLEAN UP SERVICE We Create Vacancy

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Don't dig it! Grind it! 1 or 100 - We can do it. \$85 minimum within 5 mi. 817-237-5592

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SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY NOW HIRING Activity/Marketing Director

Full-time, Mon-Fri 8 AM - 5 PM. Some weekends required. Pay based on experience. Company benefits: PTO, Medical, Dental and Life Insurance. Must be a self-starter, fun, energetic and a team-player. Please apply in person 113 Denver Trl. Azle.

Eagle Crest VILLA

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10p-6a shift. New pay scale. Great company benefits. Apply in person at 113 Denver Trail, Azle

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Help wanted continued on next page...

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Deadline:
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Classifieds

039 Help Wanted

**Correctional Officers • Assistant Foodservice Manager
 Academic Instructors • Assistant Maintenance Supervisor -
 Plumber • Lieutenant • Classification Officer - Intake • Vocational
 Instructor • Recruiting Sergeant • Commissary Worker**

New Correctional Officer Pay is \$15.00 per hour.

PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR JOB QUALIFICATIONS.
 Must have HS Diploma or equivalent, be able to pass a drug screen, have a clean
 background and valid driver's license to be considered for a Correctional Officer. EOE

**Apply online at www.mtctrains.com or call
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LINDSEY STATE JAIL

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JENN'S DETAILED CLEANING SERVICE. Extremely Detailed, Very Organized, Great References, Supply Own Cleaning Supplies, Professional, Friendly. Call for Free Estimate. Jennifer Sanders 817-565-7930.

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 Serving Azle
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We go the extra mile to ensure you get more for your \$.
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Our Business is Metal Buildings - And We're Good!

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 Fax 817-237-0904
 Mark Cozart Jeremy Cozart
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Now Hiring for Facilities Assistant II
 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday Starts @ \$15.25
 3:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Monday - Friday Starts @ \$15.90

The Facilities Assistant II is accountable for maintaining a clean warehouse in an air-conditioned environment and ensuring cardboard and packing materials are appropriately recycled. Position may assist senior support staff with routine maintenance functions. These positions are located at the distribution center located at Beech Street and Mescham Blvd.

Benefits include Medical, Dental, Vision, Life Insurance, STD/LTD, 401k, Vacation, PTO, Education Assistance, Employee Assistance Program, Holidays, and On-Site Gym!

Apply Today! Check out www.tti.com/careers for specifics.

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 Laundry • And More!

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JOY HANSON
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070 Septic Tanks

SPRINGTOWN Septic Service
682-715-7168

Residential & Commercial
 Email: Springtownseptic@gmail.com

039 Come Be a Part of TTI

Now Hiring Janitorial Assistants
 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Monday - Friday
 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Monday - Friday
 Starting wage is \$14.00 per hour with a pay increase at 90 and 360 Days!

Located at our corporate facility, these positions are accountable for providing janitorial type services such as cleaning and restocking supplies in bathrooms, breakrooms, conference rooms, and kitchen areas.

Benefits include Medical, Dental, Vision, Life Insurance, STD/LTD, 401k, Vacation, PTO, Education Assistance, Employee Assistance Program, and Holidays!

Apply Today! Check out www.tti.com/careers for specifics.

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We'll be here after the storm.

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817-220-0008
www.SolidSS.com **Open to the Public**

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Now Hiring For Full-Time Warehouse

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 3:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Monday - Friday

Located at our corporate facility, these positions are accountable for providing warehouse services such as receiving, picking, packing, and shipping. These positions are located at the distribution center located at Beech Street and Mescham Blvd.

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www.weld-done.net

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Now Hiring Class B-CDL Mixer Drivers

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- No Job Too Small

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Home Improvement Special \$100 Off

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Will pay top dollar for grazing and hay leases. Call 940-389-1936.

2 Black Steers, natural grass and grain fed. \$1,200 and \$1,000, 817-220-5302 leave message.

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Convenient Location
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 Call today and ask about our \$29.95 3-MONTH SPECIAL!
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POJO RV PARK
 302 Allison Road Springtown, TX 76082
817-925-3673
 30x60 RV Spaces \$380/mo.
 Includes electricity, water, sewer & trash
 NEAR POJO STADIUM

Mobile Home/RV Lots
 continued on next page...

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

Deadline:
 4:30 PM Monday

Classifieds

086 Mobile Home/RV Lots

Hidden Meadow
MOBILE HOME COMMUNITY

Brand New Secluded Community • 3 miles from Springtown

- Brand new Single Wide Home available • No application fee
- For immediate move-in (Extra Large Lots)
- Why rent when you can rent to own? • No credit check

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD tollfree at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

088 Rent Unfurnished

FOR RENT

1 Bdrm Springtown FOR RENT

Water • Furnished NO PETS

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TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK

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TexSCAN Week of April 10-16, 2022

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AUCTION

Farm Estate Auction - Thurs., April 21, starts at 9:21 a.m., 4495 W. 610, Chouteau, OK 74337. On-Site & Online Bidding: Buggies, Tractors, Trailers of All Kinds, Camper, Wagons, Hay Balers, Hay Mowers, Hay Rakes, Plows, Discs, Planters, Manure Spreader, Grinder Mixers, Pasture Drag, Brush Hog, Garden Tiller, Boats, Pecan Shaker, Cattle Chute and much more. 918-630-0495 For photos & info visit chuppsauction.com.

EVENTS

New Braunfels Area Car Club Swap Meet & Sunday Car Show - April 22, 23 & 24, 2022, Comal County Fairgrounds, 801 E. Common Street, New Braunfels. www.newbraunfelsareacarclub.com. Face Masks Encouraged.

GENERATORS

GENERAC Standby Generators provide backup power during utility power outages, so your home and family stay safe and comfortable. Prepare now. Free 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value)! Request a free quote today! Call for additional terms and conditions. 855-704-8579.

ROOFING

ATTENTION HOME-OWNERS - Upgrade your home with a new METAL ROOF ONLY \$4995* COMPLETELY INSTALLED. Professional installation. Factory warranty. CALL 800-664-4856 LIMITED TIME OFFER. * 1500 sq ft roof.

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088 Rent Unfurnished

Hidden Meadow
MOBILE HOME COMMUNITY

3 bed/2 bath single wide water/sewer paid

\$2000 min down
 \$1170/mo plus lot rent

- Extra Large Lots
- Country Setting
- Free application

6501 W. Hwy 199, Springtown
 817-846-5997

3-2 Duplex for Rent in Springtown. \$1,200/mo. \$600 deposit, no pets. Available 817-980-3066.

3-2 DW on 1 acre in Springtown for \$1300mo, \$1300dep, no pets. 817-980-3066

2-1-1 Triplex with privacy fenced backyard. Freshly painted. Very clean. Private drive for triplex. Perfect for seniors, close to all shopping. 1 small pet allowed with \$200 pet dep. Pet rent \$20mo. \$1,150mo and \$1,150dep. Credit/background required. Proof of income and references required. Non smoker. TEXT 817-372-8626, DO NOT CALL, TEXT ONLY.

1833 Pelican Dr
 2-2-1 \$1,495 MO. \$1,000 DEP. Gene Thompson & Associates 817-246-4646 gtatx.com

AZLE OAKS APARTMENT

700 JARVIS • AZLE
 817-444-1712

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Accepting Applications

Rent based on income

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This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Puzzle Solution

S-1580

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ACROSS

- 1 TXism: "___ of bones" (skinny)
- 44 before 7-11's Slurpee
- 5 former Fort Worth mayor Willard
- 6 healing plant
- 7 TXism: "ain't got a ___" (puzzled)
- 8 Texas singer of "Six Pack to Go"(2 wds.)
- 17 TXism: "at the ___ of my rope"
- 18 TX-based 1936 film: "___ Ride"
- 21 Texas actress, Darnell (init.)
- 22 TXism: "squeaks like a rusty ___"
- 23 tax due April 18
- 24 Jacksonville hosts "___ Fest"
- 29 TX Phyllis Coates was this Lane on TV "Superman" in 1952
- 30 this TX Gent wrote "North Dallas Forty"
- 31 TX Willis line: "Ah ___ take it away Leon"
- 32 this company has shows for kids: "___ Network"
- 34 TXism: "___ grip like a snappin' turtle"
- 35 not a Texas fish
- 36 dismounts a horse
- 37 TXism: "you ___ teach an old dog new tricks"
- 38 residence hall at UNT or UT, e.g.
- 39 Swisher County seat
- 40 this TX Steve sang "Copperhead Road"
- 42 ex-Cowboy Noonan

DOWN

- 1 TX-born Ann Harding 1936 film: "Biography of ___"
- 2 TXism: "___ chain" (spouse)
- 3 TXism: "green ___ the gills"
- 4 Texas Governor's Mansion is ___ Revival style
- 9 TX Sam Bass was a ___ robber
- 10 TXism: "___ the spot" (satisfying)
- 11 TX Benson film: "___ to Billy Joe"
- 12 TX Kristofferson's "Why ___ Lord?"
- 13 Padre Island was named after one ___
- 14 ___ Rosa, TX
- 15 TXism: "went to the well ___ too often"
- 16 TX convenience store: "Stop ___"
- 19 "Hook ___" I
- 20 TX George H. slip: "___ lips, no new taxes"
- 22 TXism: "what's good for the ___ good for the gander"
- 24 TX choreographer Tune (init.)
- 25 TX Roy Orbison hit: "___ Pretty Woman"
- 26 TX singer: ___ Loaf honky tonk (2 wds.)
- 27 TXism: "___ of (many) garment maker"
- 28 "a ___ of (many) window glass"
- 33 TXism: "lower ___ a snake's belly"
- 34 in Hale County on I-27 (2 wds.)
- 35 TX George H. was VP during the Iran-___ affair
- 37 fountain treat: ice ___
- 38 challenges ___
- 41 TX George Strait 1989 hit: "___ in the Hole"
- 42 "picture show" candy
- 45 short cuts
- 48 John Steinbeck's last wife, a Texas native

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Springtown Epigraph Special Section • Thursday, April 14, 2022

The Birthing Tomb

BY DAVID BENNETT

Preaching Minister for the Springtown Church of Christ

“What’s happening over in the cemetery?”

“I’m not sure.”

“That lady said one of the tombs just gave birth!”

If a woman gives birth in a manger, everyone stops to look. If a tomb gives birth in a cemetery, everyone stands in awe.

Christmas watches Jesus’

birth from the womb. Easter sees the birth from the tomb. Angels announce the womb event. Angels roll the stone away and quietly declare the tomb event.

Jesus is birthed in many ways. He is the “only begotten Son of God” (John 3:16-18). He is the miraculously conceived firstborn son of Mary. He is also “the firstborn of the dead” (cf. Colossians 1:18; Revelation 1:5).

The tomb is not a funeral

event only. Yes, Jesus died on the cross. Yes, Joseph laid him in his own tomb. Yes, the women were coming to finish the burial early on the first day of the week.

The tomb is also a birthing event. For three days, Jesus remained in the belly of the earth. Before time, God prepared his resurrection (cf. Ephesians 1:3), his birthing from the tomb, his becoming the firstborn of the dead. He comes out of the tomb never

to die again. He comes out in victory to share his life with every believer.

The cross is God’s power over sin. The birthing tomb is the power of resurrection over death. Christians rejoice with the message of hope. We revel in the fact that one of us refused to stay in the tomb. One became the firstborn of the dead.

Baptism becomes one’s personal birthing tomb. One enters death through sin. One

enters life anew by being born again. Here is Paul’s teaching in Romans 6:4. “Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.” (NASB) Entering the birthing tomb of baptism brings Jesus’ empty tomb into the present and energizes the new birth.

It is strange to think of a

tomb as giving birth. A sinless man dies and is buried. His lack of sin allows the tomb, no, forces the tomb to let him go (cf. Acts 2:24). Death had no power over the One that submitted perfectly to the will of God. Easter promises that death has no power over the one who believes in the risen One.

“Happy Birthday Jesus!” sounds amazingly appropriate at the mouth of the empty tomb!

The origins of Easter Sunday



STORY AND PHOTOS COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Easter takes place on a different Sunday each year. In western Christianity, Easter follows the Gregorian calendar and is thus considered a “movable feast” that is always celebrated between March 22 and April 25. Eastern Orthodox Christianity adheres to the Julian calendar, so Easter will fall on a Sunday between April 4 and May 8 each year. In 2022, the western Christian Easter celebration occurs on April 17 and the Eastern Orthodox Easter is observed on April 24.

Easter is the most important celebration on the Christian liturgical calendar. While commemorations of Jesus Christ’s resurrection likely occurred earlier, the earliest recorded observance of an Easter celebration was in the second century, according to Britannica.

Initial Easter celebrations weren’t known as “Easter,” which is a word that was borrowed from Pagan spring celebrations of Eostre, the goddess of spring and fertility. It only became associated with Christian usage later on - long after Biblical scripture was written. In fact, the word

“Easter” only appears in one Bible, the King James Version. But it is likely the word was used as a translation of pascha, or Passover, and not what has come to be known as Christian Easter.

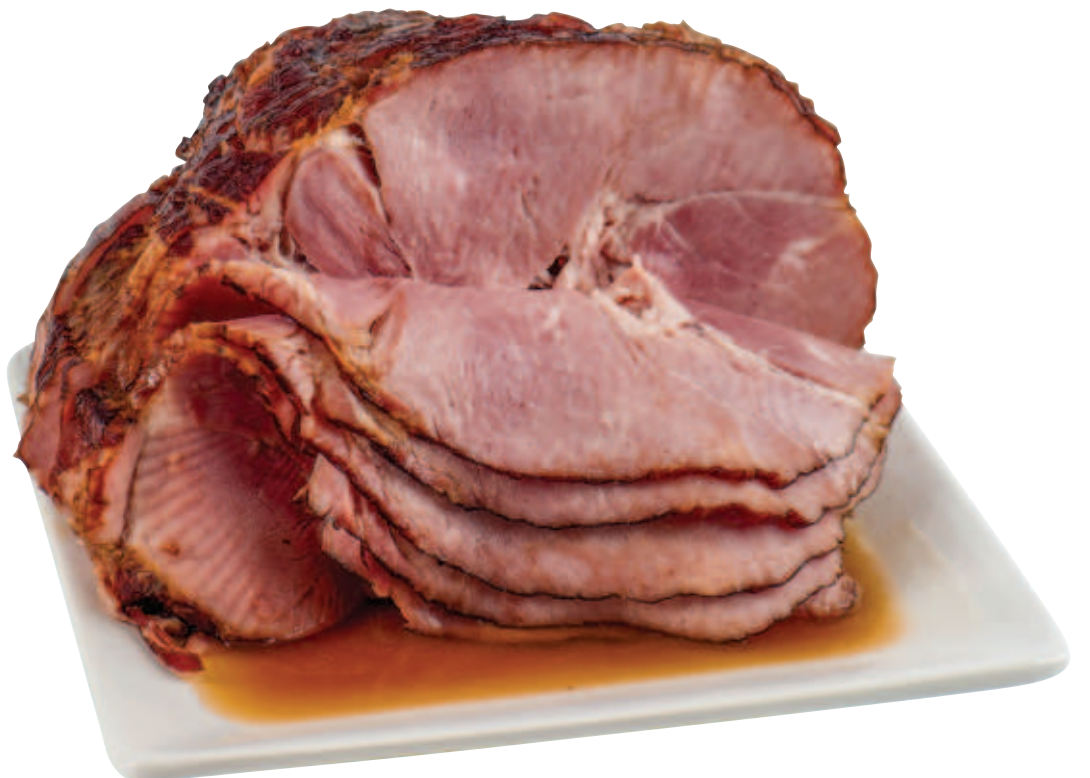
The earliest Easter celebrations were a version of Passover. According to leading sabbath scholar Professor Samuele Bacchiocchi, Christians universally kept Passover on the Biblical date of Nisan until 135 A.D. Early commemorations focused on the crucifixion, and the pain and suffering of Jesus. Bacchiocchi says that eventually the resurrection emerged as the dominant reason for the celebration that would be known as Easter, and also as the main message of weekly Christian Sunday masses. By the fourth century, the Easter Vigil and celebration were well-established and a symbol of joyful anticipation of the resurrection.

Easter is now celebrated annually by faithful Christians. While Easter is not mentioned in the Bible, scripture depictions helped shape the holiday that would become an integral component of the Christian faith.

Ham perfect for holiday entertaining

Ham is a popular entree for an Easter dinner. It can be perfectly smoky and salty, but also sweet when it is cooked with a delicious glaze.

This recipe for “Brandied Baked Ham with Mustard Butter” from Denise Gee’s “Southern Appetizers: 60 Delectables for Gracious Get-Togethers” (Chronicle Books) pairs the fruity overtones of brandy with the tang of mustard to form an ideal blend of flavors. Serve the ham on its own, or nestle slices between buttermilk biscuits for a brunch or lunchtime treat.



STORY AND PHOTOS COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Brandied Baked Ham with Mustard Butter

SERVES 16 TO 20

BRANDIED BAKED HAM

- 1½ cups packed dark brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons grainy mustard
- 1 5-pound bone-in half ham, fully cooked
- 1½ teaspoons whole cloves

MUSTARD BUTTER

- 2 cups butter, softened
- ¼ cup grated sweet onion
- ¼ cup Dijon or Creole mustard

HAM

In a small saucepan, stir to combine the brown sugar, brandy, and mustard. Bring the mixture to a boil over medium-high heat and, stirring constantly, cook until the glaze is thick and syrupy, about 3 minutes. (Watch carefully, holding a tight-fitting lid; if the brandy ignites, quickly cover the saucepan to tamp out the flame before removing the lid. Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to two days. Reheat just before serving.)

Preheat the oven to **325 F°**. Line a shallow roasting pan with heavy-duty aluminum foil and place a wire rack on top.

Score the fat on top of the ham by making diagonal cuts in a diamond pattern. Insert the cloves into the intersections of each diamond. Place the ham on the rack in the prepared pan. Insert a meat thermometer, making sure it doesn’t touch the bone.

Bake the ham for about one hour, or until the thermometer registers 125 F.

Remove the ham and brush on the brandy glaze. Return the ham to the oven and cook for 20 to 30 minutes more, or until the meat thermometer registers 135 F. Let it stand for 15 minutes. (The meat temperature will rise to 140 F.)

MUSTARD BUTTER

In a medium bowl, stir to combine the butter, sweet onion and mustard. Scrape it into a serving bowl. Cut the ham into thin slices and arrange them on a platter. Serve accompanied with the bowl of mustard butter.

What if Easter never happened?

It was still dark on Sunday morning when they left their homes. The neighborhood was eerily quiet as they met on the street and walked, without conversation, to the cemetery on the edge of town.



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.

Others who were more influential should have joined them, but they were nowhere to be seen. Perhaps from fear, disappointment, or sheer exhaustion they remained in their beds, remembering the words He spoke.

But He said so many things. Were any of His words true?

So on this bleak Sunday morning, the women made their way to the tomb—a

cave dug into the side of a hill—where a wealthy benefactor had placed His body after His execution.

The scuttlebutt going around was that He said He'd be back.

Back.

From death.

Unbelievable.

Yet, here they were hoping against hope.

The rumor of His return—

His resurrection from the dead—had made its way to the halls of power so the tomb was guarded by intimidating soldiers who would chase away any of His followers who might be tempted to perpetuate the myth by stealing His body and claiming He was back.

So as the sun rose they waited in the shadows.

Watching and waiting.

Waiting and watching. Until the sun was high and their dreams melted.

Dejected, they returned to their homes realizing that once again a charismatic-but-deluded rabbi had failed to come through with His promises.

And within a few weeks, the followers of this movement—and the movement itself—faded into oblivion and were never heard from again.

There are no churches.

There are no “Christians.”

There are no Easter egg hunts.

There are no people anywhere named “Jesus.” And names like “Mary” or “Jo-

seph” or “Gabriel” or “Paul” or “Peter” are rare.

There are no Bibles.

No one thinks of a cross as jewelry or decor.

There is no Christmas.

There are no nativity scenes.

There are no Christmas carols.

There are few hospitals, children’s homes, or institutions of higher learning.

These are just a few answers to the question I posed in today’s headline: “What if Easter never happened?”

BUT ...

1 Corinthians 15:14-20 says: “If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith.

More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead.”

Easter happened. And it changes everything. Praise be to God!

Cheerful dessert brings smiles to Easter celebrations



STORY AND PHOTOS COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Lemon Poppy Seed Pound Cake

YIELD: 16 SERVINGS

- 1½ cups all-purpose flour
- 1½ cups granulated sugar
- 2 tablespoons lemon zest
- 2 tablespoons poppy seeds
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¾ cup (1½ sticks) butter, softened (do not substitute margarine)
- 4 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 4 eggs
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Powdered sugar (optional)

1. Preheat oven to **325 F°**. Spray Stoneware Fluted Pan (or any bundt cake pan) with non-stick cooking spray. Combine flour, granulated sugar, lemon zest, poppy seeds, baking powder, and salt in a 2-quart mixing bowl; mix well. In a 4-quart mixing bowl, beat butter and cream cheese on high speed of hand-held electric mixer 1 minute. Add flour mixture; beat on low speed 1 minute or until blended (mixture will form a stiff paste).
2. In a small bowl, whisk eggs, milk and vanilla just until blended. Add egg mixture to cream cheese mixture in four additions, beating 2 minutes after each addition. (Do not under-mix.)
3. Pour batter into pan. Bake 55 to 60 minutes or until a cake tester inserted near the center comes out clean. Cool cake in pan 10 minutes. Loosen cake from sides of pan; carefully invert onto a cooling rack, keeping pan over cake. Cool completely.
4. Place cake on serving platter. Sprinkle with powdered sugar or prepare a glaze, if desired.



Did you know?

Easter eggs are decorated in many hues before they’re ultimately hidden for youngsters to find. While pastel-colored eggs are the norm, one color has particular religious significance for those who want to go a bit bolder with their egg displays. It is tradition among Orthodox Christians to exchange red eggs. According to History.com, red eggs are associated with Mary Magdalene and her role in Christianity. After the Ascension of Christ, Mary Magdalene went to the Roman emperor and greeted him with “Christ is Risen.” He then stated, “Christ has not risen no more than that egg is red (pointing to an egg on his table).” After making the statement, the egg turned blood red. Mary Magdalene then began preaching Christianity to him, and the red egg has come to symbolize the blood of Christ redeeming the world.

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The Reality of Easter

My maternal grandmother lived out her faith, loving God and others beautifully. Toward the very end of her long life, Grandma Minser welcomed my family as we gathered around her bedside. We expressed our love for her, and she reciprocated. At one point, she earnestly asked me, "David, when I die, will I know what to do?" I was not sure what she meant, and she could tell, so she continued: "Will someone guide me when I get to heaven?" Once I realized what she was asking, I was overwhelmed by the certainty of her faith. She was convinced there would be life after death. I answered her



HOPE MATTERS

By David Shaffer

Dr. David Shaffer and his wife, Daniele, are Azle-area residents. David is director of Son Shine Ministries (equipfamilies.org) and chair of the Azle Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors (azlechamber.com). david@equipfamilies.org | 817-444-3777

precious question with, "Yes, Grandma. You will be shown whatever you need to know." She smiled and within minutes passed on to be with the Lord.

How can a person have faith like my grandmother? The message of Easter is an ideal place to start.

The Apostle Paul, in an early Christian confession, shared the heart of what is

referred to as the Gospel with the church in Corinth. In 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 (NIV), he wrote, "For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures...."

No wonder the Gospel is considered Good News.

The sharing of this Good News was the highest priority ("first importance"), and it happened exactly as it had been foretold ("according to the Scriptures"). Christ died for an important purpose ("for our sins").

The Bible tells us that our sins separate us from God and the ultimate penalty for our sins is death, eternal separation from God (Romans 6:23). The Good News is that Christ's death paid the price for our sins. At Christmas, we celebrate the birth of Jesus, God the Son taking on flesh (we call this the Incarnation). Born of a virgin, Jesus lived a life without sin and willingly gave up his life

as a substitute for us. That's how much we are loved. We recognize Good Friday as the traditional day on which Jesus was crucified, died and was buried.

What happened next changed everything!

On the third day (what we celebrate as Easter), God bodily resurrected Jesus from the dead! This clearly showed God's power over life and death and that Christ's substitutionary death on our behalf was accepted. Before ascending into heaven 40 days after his resurrection, Jesus appeared to many people, including Mary Magdalene, the disciples and even more

than 500 people at one point (John 20:14-29; 1 Corinthians 15:5-8).

God loves us, and he longs for each of us to recognize the reality of Easter – that Jesus died in our place and that God raised him from the dead. In a simple prayer, I encourage you to join the Apostle Paul and Christians throughout the ages by recognizing the truth of Easter and, if you have not already, accepting Jesus as your Savior.

We can face each day with confidence that our future is assured, and, like my grandmother, we will eventually pass on to be in the presence of God for an incredible eternal life.

Explaining the meaning of Easter to children

Explaining Easter to children can be a delicate matter, especially for very young children who may not fully understand the tenets of the Christian faith. Although Easter ends with Jesus Christ emerging from his tomb, prior to this glorious miracle there are subjects of betrayal, suffering and death. These religious messages can confound when commingled with the imagery of bunnies delivering chocolates, chicks

and pastel-hued eggs. How do well-meaning parents relay the message of Easter without scaring or confusing children?

TEMPER THE MESSAGE TO THE AUDIENCE

A child's age bears consideration when gauging just how much to share about Easter. Between Palm Sunday, when Jesus triumphantly entered Jerusalem, to Easter Sunday's Resurrection, the

story of Easter features torture and death - which are topics not easily digested by anyone, especially children. Even the core symbol of the Christian faith - the crucifix - is shocking.

For the youngest children, the extent of the torture and betrayal can be muted. For example, parents may say that Jesus was bullied and made fun of and that people didn't believe him when he spoke. Parents can note that even some of the closest friends to Jesus had their doubts. This may be easier for kids to digest because it's something they

may relate to.

Children may not understand the death on the cross; it's even challenging for adults to wrap their minds around that visual. It briefly can be mentioned that he was placed on a cross, as was customary during that era, but forgo the finer details.

FOCUS ON THE RESURRECTION

Parents will not want to talk about death without ending on the high note of Jesus' Resurrection. Remind children that Christ's death was temporary and that He now always will be with adults

and children. Read passages from scripture that exemplify the Good News and the happy components of the Easter celebration.

EXPLAIN SECULAR IMAGES

Young children may be more focused on the commercial images of Easter rather than the religious ones. Parents may want to gear symbolism toward the religious explanations and focus their traditions thusly. Baking hot cross buns can be fun and showcase the crucifix. Explain how eggs are representative of Jesus

Christ's new life when coloring them is another way to cut through mixed messages.

READ BOOKS

Some authors already have taken the challenge out of explaining Easter to children. Visit a religious bookseller, the church or a book store to find Easter stories geared to children.

Parents can decide how to explain Easter to their children. Many moms and dads have found that focusing on the joyful aspects of Christ's resurrection story is a simple, enjoyable way to explain Easter.

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That's love!

BY TIM D. STEVENS

Lead Pastor,
Azle First Assembly

ROMANS 5:6-8 NIV

6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

The Love of God is available at just the right time, now.

Christ came to help us because we couldn't help ourselves.

That's love!

ROMANS 5:9-11 NIV

9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! 10 For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! 11 Not only is this so, but we also boast

in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

God made a way for us to come into relationship with Him and know Him before we even made a conscious decision to follow Him. That's love!

JOHN 3:16-17 NIV

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Jesus did not come to condemn you. He came to save you and to ensure that you experience eternal life with Him.

That's real love!

1 JOHN 3:1 NIV

3 See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

God the Father made a way for us to be brought into right relationship with Himself through Jesus Christ His Son.

That is truly his love lavished upon us!

How do we know what love is?

1 JOHN 4:10 NIV

10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

1 JOHN 3:16A NIV

16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.

How did God show His love among us?

1 JOHN 4:9 NIV

9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

How does Jesus' Love give us hope?

1 PETER 1:3 NIV

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

That is love!

Receive his Love for you. Make a decision to follow Jesus today.

Deviled Eggs

Something to do with your dyed Easter eggs after the egg hunt. Easter eggs should always be gathered within 15 minutes after hiding them and then refrigerated if you intend to turn them into deviled eggs.



- 6 eggs
- ¼ cup mayonnaise
- 1 teaspoon white vinegar
- 1 teaspoon yellow mustard
- ½ teaspoon salt
- Black pepper
- Smoked Paprika

Crack egg shells and carefully peel under cool running water. Gently dry with paper towels. Slice the eggs in half lengthwise, removing yolks to a medium bowl, and placing the whites on a serving platter. Mash the yolks into a fine crumble using a fork. Add mayonnaise, vinegar, mustard, salt, and pepper, and mix well.

Evenly disperse heaping teaspoons of the yolk mixture into the egg whites. Sprinkle with paprika.

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'Because He lives'

BY GARY VEAZY

Lead Pastor for Legacy Church

In 1971 Bill and Gloria Gaither released one of the most popular songs of all time titled "Because He Lives." Out of the over 800 songs produced by the Gaithers, this one song has impacted more Christians and churches worldwide than any other song. What makes a song like this so powerful? It's the story behind the song. Listen to the circumstances which led to the writing of this timeless classic in Gloria's own words.

"I am a wife and a mother. It was in the middle of the upheaval in the 1960s that we were expecting our third baby. The drug culture was in full swing, existential thought had obviously saturated every area of our American thought, the cities were seething with racial tension, and the God-is-dead pronouncement had giggered its way all through our educational system.

"On the personal front, Bill and I were going through one of the most difficult times in our lives. Bill had been discouraged and physically exhausted

by a bout with mononucleosis, and in that weakened condition, had little reserve to fight the psychological battle brought on by some external family problems. Someone whom we had cared about a great deal had hurled some accusations at us and at the Fellowship of Believers and at the whole idea of the existence of God.

"It was on New Year's Eve that I sat alone in the darkness and quiet of our living room, thinking about the world and our country and Bill's discouragement and the family problems - and about our baby yet unborn. Who in their right mind would bring a child into a world like this? I thought. The world is so evil. Influences beyond our control are so strong. What will happen to this child? I can't quite explain what happened at that moment, but suddenly I felt released from it all. The panic that had begun to build inside was gently dispelled by a reassuring presence that engulfed my life and drew my attention.

"Gradually, the fear left, and the joy began to return. I knew I could have that baby and face the future with op-

timism and trust. It was the Resurrection affirming itself in our lives once again. It was LIFE conquering death in the regularity of my day."

Great songs, like great sermons, flow out of a place of deep struggle and personal experience. God never wastes our struggles. He is never caught off guard by our questions or concerns. He simply uses them as avenues of growing our faith and revealing His glory. Out of Bill and Gloria's season of struggle came these timeless words.

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,

Because He lives, all fear is gone;

Because I know He holds the future,

And life is worth the living,

Just because He lives!

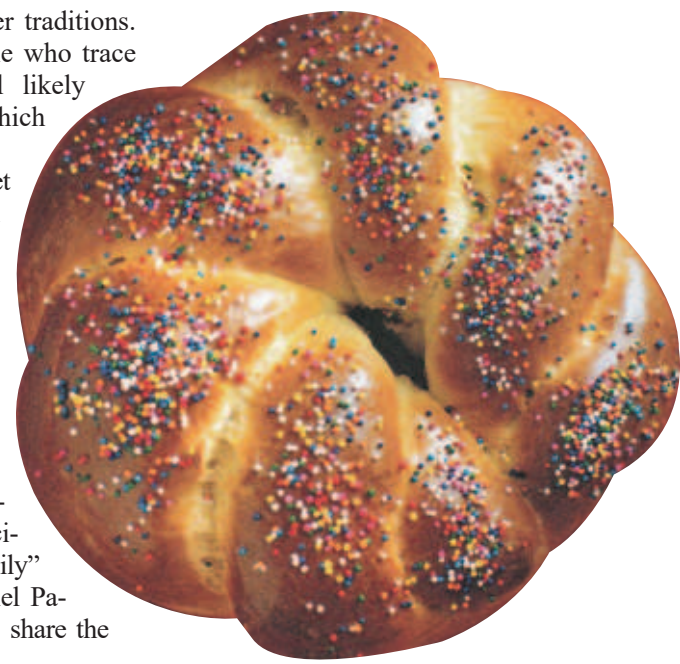
In this season of personal and national uncertainty, may these words bring hope and comfort to all. No matter what you are facing the fact that HE IS RISEN changes everything. As Easter approaches, let the reality of the Resurrection change your perspective. In so doing how would your song go? BECAUSE HE LIVES!

Happy Easter!

Enjoy traditional Easter bread

Families share many Easter traditions. Easter in a home with people who trace their ancestry to Italy will likely feature "Pane di Pasqua," which translates to "Easter Bread."

Easter Bread is a ring of sweet bread that can be adorned with candy sprinkles. Some people nestle colorful hardboiled eggs within the twisted dough as well. Traditionally, Pane di Pasqua is made on Good Friday to help break the Lenten fast for Easter. The following recipe for "Pane di Pasqua" from "Feast of the Seven Fishes: A Brooklyn Italian's Recipes Celebrating Food & Family" (Powerhouse Books) by Daniel Paterna makes enough dough to share the bread with friends and family.



Pane di Pasqua

YIELDS 7 TO 8 LOAVES

DOUGH

- 5 packages of dry yeast (11¼ teaspoons proof yeast in a 4-cup container)
- 5 pounds unbleached all-purpose flour (approximately 17 cups)
- 1 additional pound flour for adding to dough if needed, cleaning hands, and dusting boards and pans
- 3½ cups sugar
- Pinch of salt
- 1 pound salted butter, softened, plus a bit more for coating rising dough
- 24 medium to large eggs, beaten
- 2 tablespoons anisette extract

DECORATING

- 6 ounces rainbow-colored nonpareil
- 3 egg yolks
- 3 tablespoons water

Combine the flour, sugar and salt in a 16-quart pot. Add the butter and mix by hand, squeezing and merging butter with the flour mixture. Add proofed yeast to the flour mixture; continue mixing ingredients. Slowly stir in all the beaten eggs and anisette using a

fork. Continue to mix until ingredients are combined and loose until dough begins to form.

Knead the dough with floured hands for approximately 45 minutes, or until it becomes smooth and elastic. Add flour to the dough if needed, or to scrape the dough off your hands and the bottom of the pot.

Once the dough is fully kneaded, leave it in the pot, lightly spread some butter over the top to keep it moist, and cover with a cloth. Leave at room temperature to rise for eight hours or overnight. The dough is ready when it rises about five times its size.

When the dough has fully risen, punch it down, turn it out onto a floured surface, and form it into a ball. Cut the dough into seven or eight smaller dough balls using a sharp knife. Then cut each ball in half. Roll each half into strands approximately 16-inches long. To form a loaf, lay the strands side by side and cross them over at one end, offset by 3 inches.

Continue crossing one strand over the other while working the braid into a circle. The tie off can be challenging. Join the circle by tucking one end under

the other, pinch the dough firmly together to seal, maintaining the twist and thickness of the loaf. Repeat with the remaining dough.

Butter and flour one 9-inch baking pan for each loaf. Place the braided loaves in individual pans and set aside, covered in a warm, draft-free place to rise for another hour until the dough rises about 30 percent more.

At this point, preheat the oven to **250° F**.

When the dough has risen, place the pans into the oven for about 10 minutes, then raise the temperature to 325 F. Bake until the bread is a dark golden brown and makes a hollow sound when lightly tapped on the bottom.

Prepare the egg wash for decorating. In a small bowl, beat the three egg yolks with three tablespoons of water and set aside.

When the breads are fully baked, remove them from the oven and pan using oven mitts, then decorate immediately. Brush the egg wash onto the hot surface of each loaf and sprinkle with the colored confetti. Set the loaves to cool the racks. Slice a wedge and spread with butter.

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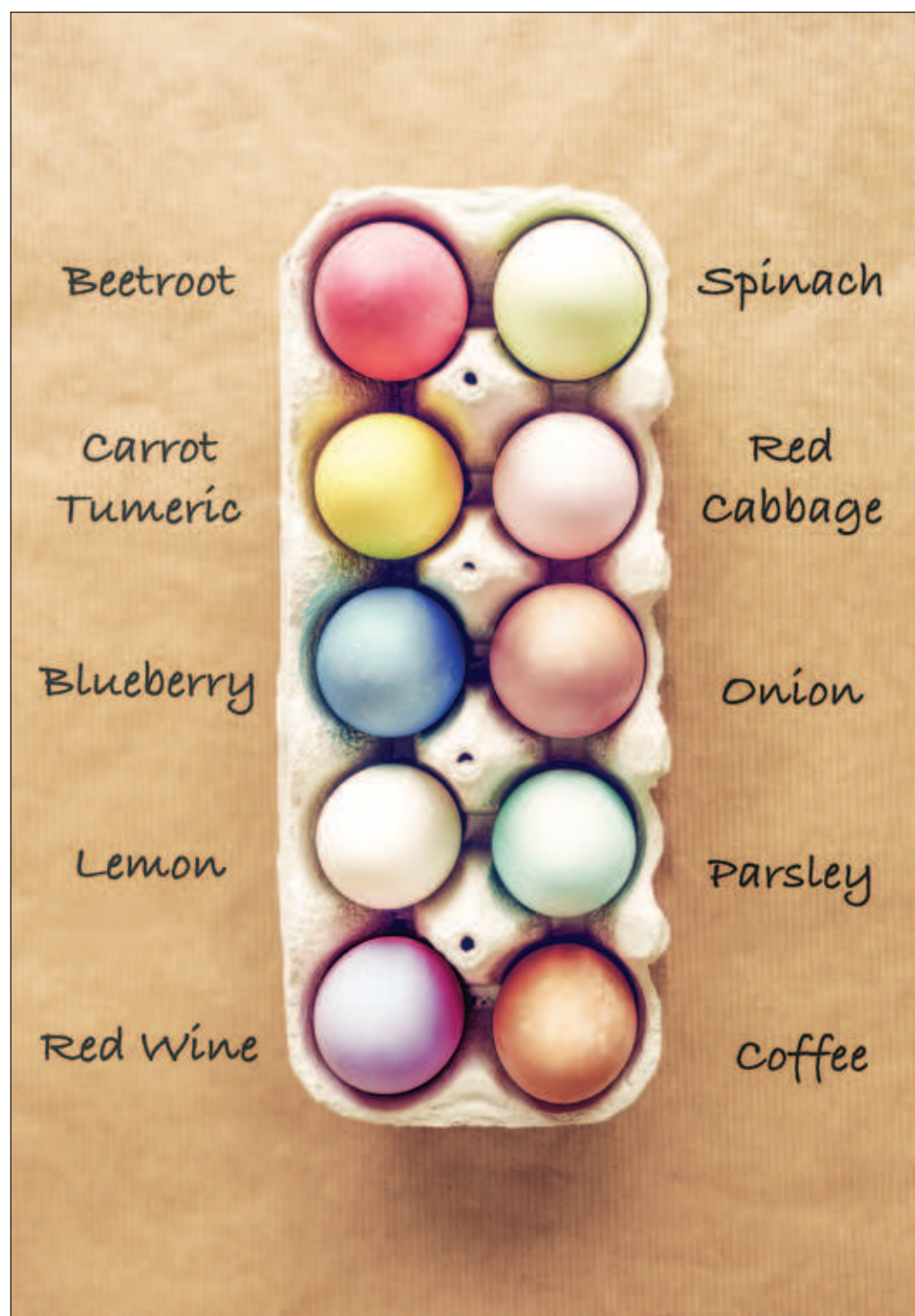
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Dye eggs with all-natural ingredients



Avoid artificial dyes this year and color your eggs with natural ingredients, like beets, cabbage and turmeric.

Coloring Easter eggs is a time-honored tradition passed down from generation to generation. Easter eggs symbolize rebirth, which fits in well with both religious and seasonal celebrations.

While there are many kits on the market that enable people to easily color eggs, there also are plenty of all-natural foodstuffs, like fruits, vegetables, herbs, and spices, that can get the job done just as effectively. For those who plan to eat the eggs afterward, natural dyes may be preferable to dyes from kits.

Below are a few tried and true methods for producing brilliantly hued eggs with items from the kitchen, courtesy of The Spruce and Martha Stewart.

BEAUTIFUL BLUES

Give chicken eggs a beautiful robin egg shade with red cabbage. Simply shred one cup of red cabbage into a pot. Bring the cabbage and roughly 4 cups water and 1 tablespoon salt to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 15 minutes. Let the broth cool. Strain out the cabbage and stir in 2 tablespoons of distilled white vinegar. Let the eggs sit in the dye for the desired duration to achieve light to dark blue eggs.

PERKY PINKS

Use beets to create pink and red eggs. Take 1 or 2 beets and roughly chop them. Combine with 4 cups water



Yellow eggs can be dyed with a common household spice and some tasty carrots.



The secret ingredient to beautiful blue eggs is shredded red cabbage.

and 1 tablespoon of salt in a saucepan. Bring it to a boil, then reduce and simmer for 30 minutes. Strain the mixture and allow to cool. Add 2 tablespoons of vinegar. Use the solution for red and pink eggs.

HAPPY YELLOWS

Cast a sunny glow on eggs with a common household spice and some tasty carrots. Turmeric is touted for its

anti-inflammatory benefits, but it also makes a great dye. Bring 1 tablespoon of turmeric, 3 to 4 sliced carrots, 1 tablespoon salt, and 4 cups of water to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 15 minutes. Let cool, strain and stir in 2 tablespoons distilled white vinegar. Use the dye for a lovely yellow shade.

Turn to all natural items for safe and easily dyed Easter eggs.

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