



Follow the Flag



Monday evening's fireworks display after a day of celebration. The Follow the Flag event attracted thousands of people to Azle's Central Park. Courtesy photo by Alan Brundrett | MORE PHOTOS PAGE 2A.

Residents address proposed housing subdivision with Reno council

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
madelyn@azlenews.net

Their words were clear. "You're bringing the city to my door, and I say, 'No,'" Matt Cook said. "No existing residents are saying they want smaller lots. Nobody says that. Quite the contrary," Pam Malhotra said. "I just don't think it makes total sense for the city economically or for the future to actually do this as proposed with the 2,500 homes," James Lopez said. These are the words of residents who packed Reno City Hall and addressed the council at a special meeting last week about a devel-

opment proposal. Eleven residents spoke at the meeting. Some of them just asked questions, but many took an opposing stance. Some of the residents' angst was because the development would go against Reno's city ordinance that mandates one acre per home. Ultimately, the council decided to give the proposal a further look but stick to the one-acre rule. Peloton Land Solutions principal and vice president Travis Clegg represented the developer MITX Ltd. and D.R. Horton as he gave a presentation to the council. The development would be on 728 acres between Reno Road and



Residents packed Reno City Hall and addressed the council at a special meeting on June 28 about a development proposal. Eleven residents spoke at the meeting. Photo by Madelyn Edwards

SEE RENO, PAGE 5A.

THE CLASS OF 2022'S FAVORITE TEACHERS

Erin Lance

EDITOR'S NOTE: This story is the fourth in a series about Springtown High School teachers deemed favorites by Class of 2022 graduates, according to the bios that students filled out for the Epigraph.

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
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To find her career, Springtown High School Spanish I-II teacher Erin Lance leaned into what she was good at. Lance said she wanted to be a teacher because she liked the idea of helping others, but she wasn't quite sure what she wanted to teach. In college, she combined her knowledge of the Spanish language with her desire to teach by tutoring fellow students, and from there, she decided to become a Spanish teacher. Lance grew up in the Richardson area and started learning Spanish in seventh grade. Knowing that she could use the language



Erin Lance

in everyday life, especially in Texas, motivated her learning. She praised her former Spanish teach-

ers for helping her learn. "I always had really good Spanish teachers when I was in middle school and then high school, and my professors in college were always really interactive," she said. "The spoken part of the language — I was lucky enough to have teachers and professors that really focused on that." As a teacher herself for 12 years, including six years in Springtown, Lance aims to make her class fun and engaging for students. Lance encourages students to speak the language in class during their activities so that they can become more confident with speaking Spanish outside the classroom. "I think that's the part that is the most nerve-racking when you're learning a language but also the part that you want the most," she said. "That's what everybody actu-

SEE LANCE, PAGE 6A.

Safety and security top priority at SISD

BY DON MUNSCH
don@azlenews.net

Safety of buildings emerged as the top issue among many residents during some public meetings held this summer break for residents of the Springtown ISD. Springtown ISD Superintendent Mike Kelley talked about the public meetings, which continue in July, during an interview with the Epigraph last week. Meetings were held Thursdays in June at the district administration building to seek feedback from the public about issues related to schools. No meeting was held this week. They continue next week, and topics also have included standardized tests (STAAR), enrollment growth and facility challenges. Based on feedback received so far, the district plans to hold content-specific meetings throughout

the month of July. A schedule for these opportunities for stakeholders to provide feedback will be published on the SISD's website and through social media channels this week, Kelley said. In an email, Kelley said that at the June 9 meeting, officials spent "quite a bit" of time looking at maps and identifying the new housing developments in SISD. Since that meeting, he said, at least two new developments have been added to the list. Officials also talked about school safety protocols and recent STAAR results. At the June 16 meeting, officials discussed safety and security for over an hour before discussing last year's bond programs and the growth in the district. A discussion about ways to possibly fund new construction projects includ-

SEE SISD, PAGE 4A.



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Follow the Flag



Katie and Darrin Parrish brought dog Noel, a Shepherd mix, with them to the Follow the Flag event Monday at Central Park.



The Follow the Flag event attracted thousands of people Monday to Azle. The event included a fireworks display.

Photos by Don Munsch



As a flag flaps in the breeze at right, Alex Dubrov plays a song for the Joshua Experience at the Follow the Flag event in Azle.



Grady Ivie of the Joshua Experience plays a song during the entertainment portion of the Follow the Flag event Monday at Central Park in Azle.



Bryan Beamer, left, and brother Jason play volleyball at Central Park.

LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

Section 00 11 00

Advertisement and Invitation for Bids

The City of Springtown will receive bids for Springtown CDBG – Avenue D Reconstruction until 10:30 AM on Friday, July 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, July 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:

1. 1,300 LF of 6" PVC water main
2. 1,250 LF of 6" PVC sewer main
3. Permanent Pavement repair for utility installation

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 Monday, July 18th, 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 06/30/2022

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-O-1032

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SPRINGTOWN, TEXAS AMENDING SECTION 32 LANDSCAPING, CHAPTER 14 ZONING, CITY OF SPRINGTOWN CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS HEREOF; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Section 4. Any person, firm or corporation who violates, disobeys, omits, neglects, refuses, or fails to comply with, or who resists the enforcement of any provision of this ordinance shall be fined not more than Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) for each offense. Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as provided by law, and it is so ordained.

DULY PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Springtown, Texas, on this the 12th day of May 2022.

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-O-1035

AN ORDINANCE RENAMING A PORTION OF SOUTH BIRCH STREET, A PUBLIC ROAD IN THE CITY OF SPRINGTOWN TO "HOWELL'S WESTERN WAY"; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as required by law, and it is so ordained. PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 12th DAY OF MAY 2022.

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-O-1036

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SPRINGTOWN, TEXAS AMENDING SECTION 6, DEFINITIONS, SECTION 13 PERMITTED USES, AND SECTION 14 SUPPLEMENTAL USE REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 14 ZONING, CITY OF SPRINGTOWN CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS HEREOF; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Section 6. Any person, firm or corporation who violates, disobeys, omits, neglects, refuses, or fails to comply with, or who resists the enforcement of any provision of this ordinance shall be fined not more than Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) for each offense. Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as provided by law, and it is so ordained.

DULY PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Springtown, Texas, on this the 12th day of May 2022.

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Springtown City Council appoints P&Z members

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
madelyn@azlenews.net

The Springtown City Council appointed new and returning members to the Planning and Zoning Commission at its meeting in late June.

The commission includes six members and two alternates, and together, they make recommendations to the city council regarding zoning, plats and replats, among other tasks. Terms for some P&Z commissioners, which last for two years, expired on June 30. Some of the candidates were interviewed by the council in an early June meeting.

Kenneth Jensen, the former interim chairperson, was appointed to the role of chairperson at the council meeting on June 23. The council also appointed to the commission Sandra “Diane” Hester in Place 2, Jessica Castro in Place 4, Bobby Randolph in Place 5, LaVohn McGlothing as Al-

ternate 1 and Carlos Munoz as Alternate 2.

Kenneth Jensen is a retired Air Force fire chief, teacher and pastor, who also has knowledge of construction, according to his application for P&Z. He is also a member and Sunday school teacher at First Baptist Church in Springtown.

Hester is retired and has worked in retail, as a city employee, as a utility clerk, in finance, as an office manager, as a court clerk and is a former business owner. On her application, she said she worked with P&Z and other committees while she was an employee at another city, and she also helped to issue permits and inspections for incoming housing additions and businesses.

Castro co-founded “We ARE our brothers keeper,” which is an overdose awareness group in Springtown, and she is part owner of a septic cleaning company. She graduated from Springtown High School in 1995.

Randolph has worked for 38 years in county government in blueprints and stormwater, according to his application.

McGlothing has served on P&Z for several years and has worked as an election clerk and a volunteer at First Baptist Church in Springtown, according to his application.

Munoz works at GM Financial and has a background in information technology. He has experience in corporate projects and planning, according to his application.

P&Z REPORT

Also during the council meeting, Jensen gave the P&Z Commission’s annual report.

He said during June 2021 and May 2022, the P&Z considered 39 cases, a 35% increase from the previous year. The commission’s recommendations to city council included five replats, eight preliminary plats,

three zoning changes, three planned development zoning cases and two special use permits.

P&Z also approved five final plats, which is a total of about 59.9 acres of land subdivided into a total of 144 lots, Jensen said. He noted that development growth was taking place outside the city’s extraterritorial jurisdiction.

“Growth continues outside the city limits but is now taking place outside the ETJ,” Jensen said.

Another trend is the increase in commercial site plans. Before this past year, the commission hadn’t seen a commercial site plan in years.

“It had been more than five years since a single site plan was considered by the commission for recommendation to the city council. During this 12-month period, the commission reviewed four commercial site plans for recommendation,” he said.

Sheriff’s office SCU nets two arrests

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Two Springtown people were arrested in June by Parker County Sheriff’s Special Crimes Unit investigators after a months-long investigation into trafficking methamphetamine.

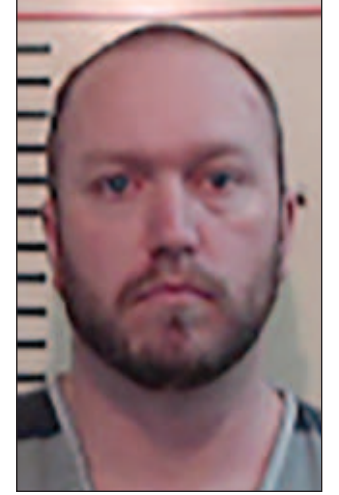
Sheriff Russ Authier said an anonymous tip sparked the investigation involving the couple, according to a PCSO release.

During the investigation, SCU members identified Trent Hunter Whitten, 31, and Josie Lorraine Hadden, 21, as being involved in the illegal narcotics distribution operation.

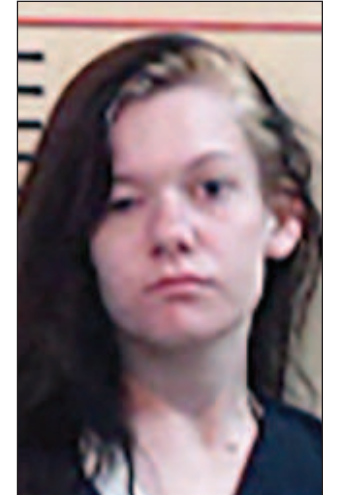
As a result of the investigation, SCU members arrested Whitten on charges of delivery of a controlled substance penalty group 1 and unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon. He was also arrested on two outstanding warrants for possession of a controlled substance and is currently being held without bond on a parole violation warrant.

Hadden was also charged with delivery of a controlled substance penalty group 1. She has bonded out, according to jail records. Both she and Whitten were booked in on June 9.

During the investiga-



Trent Hunter Whitten



Josie Lorraine Hadden

tion, SCU members seized just under one pound (424 grams) of methamphetamine, a loaded .9mm pistol, a 2010 truck and over \$9,000 in U.S. currency.

Springtown’s Battle of the Badges coming in late July

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The city of Springtown and Carter BloodCare are slated to host the third annual Battle of the Badges Blood Drive in Springtown at the end of July.

Residents can donate blood from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 29 and at 9 a.m. to noon July 30 at the Municipal Annex Building at 200 N. Main St. The blood drives will take place aboard the Carter BloodCare bus.

Blood donors will cast a vote for either Springtown

Police Department or Parker County Emergency Services District 1 to determine this year’s winner. The agencies are tied with each having won one of the first two events.

Appointments for donation on July 29 can be made here: https://ww3.greatpartners.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/129517

Appointments for donation on July 30 can be made here: https://ww3.greatpartners.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/129518



Randy Lee donates blood at the 2020 Battle of the Badges Blood Drive. File Photo

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RENO, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

Jackson Trail, north of State Highway 199 and south of Walnut Creek. The number of single-family homes would have been about 2,500 ranging from 2,000 to 4,000 square feet. Lots would vary from 5,500 to 10,000 square feet. The larger lots would cost between \$200,000 and \$500,000.

Clegg said the city of Reno currently receives about \$94,000 per year in tax revenue from the property. That number would jump to about \$4.1 million per year if the land were developed and built out in the way Clegg described.

"That goes a long way towards the fire department, the police department, the city to fix leaks in water systems," Clegg said.

If the development would build homes on one-acre lots, there would be about 440 homes, and the development would generate about \$861,000 in yearly tax revenue, Clegg said. He told the council that having one-acre lots isn't an option for the developer.

Some residents questioned why the council would host a discussion about going against one of the city's ordinances and why the ordinance is in place if it won't be followed.

"If the argument is, 'I can get around your ordinance by increasing the tax base,' why even have the ordi-

nance?" resident Bart Rue asked.

At the beginning of the meeting, Mayor Sam White said that the special meeting was happening to dispel rumors and give residents the facts about the proposed development. White rejected the idea that he and the city administrator were "showing this down the citizens' throats."

"I feel it's necessary to remind each of you that our job is to bring this to the people and the council via city council meetings, and that is exactly what we have done," he said. "There are pros and cons to any project of this magnitude. I believe it's important for us to get the facts and to make educated decisions rather than continue with the erroneous information and the negative rumor mill."

Residents at the meeting brought forth concerns of how the growth would affect Reno's infrastructure, such as city emergency and law enforcement services, water, schools and roads.

"This month we're having problems watering our yards because the wells are all running dry," Rue said while making a point that the water well infrastructure couldn't support an influx of new neighbors.

Clegg suggested that the city of Reno and the developer could set up a public

improvement district, which would sell bonds to pay for infrastructure, like water and sewer lines as well as roads and amenities. The bonds would be paid off by the assessments levied to properties inside the district boundaries, Clegg said. These districts are managed by cities and wouldn't raise the tax rate, he said.

Some residents said Jackson Trail, specifically, is too small to support the growth, and the traffic from Cross Timbers Elementary often congests the roadway. The development planned to rely on Jackson Trail as one of the roadways to access the development.

"I live at a very important part of Jackson Trail. I live right at the corner, this unique spot, the spot that everybody has to pull over or they're going to hit the other car or somebody walking their dog," resident Cortney Gumbleton said. "I am the mother of a high school student - a sophomore going to be a junior at Azle High School. We have the bus get in there and pick him up. It stops everybody from going through traffic. It's just not feasible."

COUNCIL'S DECISION

The Reno City Council adjourned into executive session for about half an hour before returning with



Peloton Land Solutions principal and vice president Travis Clegg represented the developer MITX, Ltd. and D.R. Horton as he gave a presentation to the Reno City Council on June 28. Photo by Madelyn Edwards

a decision. In a 3-1 vote, council tasked the developers, builders and landowners with finding solutions to the residents' concerns and form an option that complies with the one-acre per home ordinance. Council member Granville "Randy" Martin III abstained from the vote. Councilmember Jeff Davis was absent.

After the meeting, Clegg wasn't confident that the developer would move forward with one-acre lots but said keeping the conversa-

tion going is a good thing.

Diane Blair, who spoke during the meeting, questioned afterward why the conversation about the development was still ongoing when the proposed subdivision went against the city's ordinance. She was concerned that breaking one rule would allow other rules to be broken.

"Why even have an agenda to talk about it if it's a rule? So, if we're going to break that rule, let's just break them all," Blair said.

"What stops us from breaking all the other rules?"

Ted Lyon, who spoke against the proposal of lots smaller than one acre, said he approved of council's decision to continue talking about options.

"There's still economic and development opportunities for one-acre lots," Lyon said after the meeting. "We don't want to be mass developed like other towns around us. If we can make Reno unique, then it will benefit us in the long run."

Spotlight on BUSINESS

JULY

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Obituaries

Jack Ray Morris 1958-2022

Jack Ray Morris, 64, of Azle passed away on Tuesday, June 28 at home.

Funeral arrangements are pending.

Jack was born in Fort Worth to E.A. and Peggy Morris. Jack was a long-time resident of Azle and was a manager for Taco Bell and later Whataburger.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Barbara Morris of Azle; daughter Laurie Mishio and husband Josh; son Justin Morris and wife Ashton; daughter Kristen Morris; brothers Charles and Harry Morris;



sister Joyce Martin; six grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

The Springtown Epigraph
July 7, 2022 Edition

Springtown ISD releases information about free and reduced meals for 2022-23 school year

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Springtown ISD will begin distributing letters starting July 27 to the households of the children in the district about eligibility benefits for providing free and reduced-price meals for children and any actions households need to take to apply for these benefits.

Applications also are available at the Child Nutrition Office, 212 Avenue D, at 817-220-2460 or available online at www.springtownisd.net as of July 18.

The following criteria will be used to determine a child's eligibility for free or reduced-price meal benefits:

Household income that is at or below the income eligibility levels:

- Household receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

- Child's status as a foster child, homeless, runaway, migrant, or displaced by a declared disaster.

Child's enrollment in Head Start or Even Start

For those households that qualify for free or reduced-price meals based on income, an adult in the household must fill out free and reduced-price meal application and return it to the Child Nutrition Office, which has a mailing address of 301 E. 5th St. Those individuals filling out the application will need to provide:

- Names of all household members;
- Amount, frequency and source of current income for each household member;
- Last four digits of the Social Security number of the adult household member who signs the application or, if the adult does not have a social security number, check the box for "No Social

Security number"; and

- Signature of an adult household member attesting that the information provided is correct.

Springtown ISD is working with local agencies to identify all children who are categorically and program eligible. Springtown ISD will notify the households of these children that they do not need to complete an application. Any household that does not receive a letter and thinks it should have should contact Kimberly Nash, child nutrition director, or Laura Champagne, child nutrition secretary, at 817-220-2460. Any household that wishes to decline benefits should contact Nash.

Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility. Applications

may also be verified by the school officials at any time during the school year.

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, Champagne will review applications and determine eligibility. Households or guardians dissatisfied with the Reviewing Official's eligibility determination may wish to discuss the decision with the Reviewing Official on an informal basis. Households wishing to make a formal appeal for a hearing on the decision may make a request either orally or in writing to Shane Strickland, assistant superintendent, at 817-220-1700.

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the attached current income eligibility guidelines.

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Pinnacle Bank, Crockett National Bank sign an agreement

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Pinnacle Bank has acquired Crockett National Bank of San Antonio, officials from the banks announced last week.

Todd Huckabee, CEO of Crockett National Bank, and Sid Dinsdale, chairman of Pinnacle Bancorp, announced the signing of an agreement for Pinnacle Bank to acquire Crockett National Bank of San Antonio. Crockett National Bank has a total asset size of \$630 million with five branches in Central and Southwest Texas including San Antonio, San Angelo,

Ozona and College Station, according to a news release from Pinnacle Bank. In addition, they have two loan production offices located in San Antonio and New Braunfels.

Crockett National Bank will become part of Pinnacle Bank's 22-branch network in Texas.

"The people, hospitality and charm of the great state of Texas make it a wonderful place to do business," Dinsdale said in the release. "We appreciate this opportunity to welcome Crockett National Bank to the Pinnacle Bank family

and expand our footprint in the state."

Retaining the experienced staff of Crockett National Bank was a key component of this decision, the release stated. All locations gained through the acquisition will continue operation under the Pinnacle Bank community banking philosophy of local management and local control. At closing, Huckabee will become a regional president of Pinnacle Bank.

"Pinnacle Bank's commitment to community and customer service aligns closely with the founda-

tions that our banking philosophy has always been based on," Huckabee said. "We are happy to enter this partnership and continue service to our local area."

The transaction is anticipated to close the second half of 2022, pending regulatory approval. Financial details of the transaction were not disclosed.

Founded in 1938, Pinnacle Bancorp is a family-owned \$17.7 billion financial holding company operating 161 community banks in eight states, including 22 across Texas. For more information, visit pinnbanktx.com.

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LANCE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

ally wants to be able to do is to speak."

This past school year, each student at SHS was assigned a Chromebook, and Lance said being able to access classroom technology as students returned to school in person has made learning more engaging for her students. Lance liked having the option to have interactive activities in class or assign independent work on the Chromebooks.

Lance's favorite part of her job is interacting with her students. The previous school years that involved virtual learning because of the COVID-19 pandemic were harder for her, and she liked seeing all her students face-to-face this past school year.

"I love being in the classroom. I'm so thankful that we're all back together," Lance said.

As SISD students all went back to school in person in the 2021-22 school year, Lance lauded SHS staff and students for the way they transitioned back to face-to-face learning.

"We as a staff really came together well and had good expectations, and I think the students rose; they rise to our expectations," she said.

"They do such a great job. They're so resilient."

Most of Lance's students are underclassmen, and sometimes her former students will visit her classroom as upperclassmen to say hello or ask for help with their advanced Spanish class assignments. Being a teacher that some of the Class of 2022 graduates singled out as their favorite was humbling, she said.

"You work hard hoping that you're making a difference, but sometimes you don't always get that feedback, especially when I teach mostly freshmen and sophomores," she said. "To know that they still remembered me is just very sweet, and it definitely gives me more motivation to keep going and keep doing the best job that I can."

Lance's hope for the SHS Class of 2022 graduates is that they find out what they are passionate about.

"Especially this group of seniors, man, they're talented," she said. "They were so smart, so talented, and I know that whatever they do, they'll excel. But I just feel like they'll do so much good when they can find what they're truly passionate about."

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6..... Asphalt Paving	29..... Fencing	51..... Motorcycles	74..... Tractor Service
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8..... Autos, Trucks	31..... Free For Sale	53..... Musical Instruments	76..... Vacuum Cleaners
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16..... Equipment Repair	39 Home Improvement	61..... Personal	84..... Mobile Homes for Rent
17..... Carpet Service	40 House Leveling	62..... Plumbing	85..... Mobile Homes for Sale
18..... Catering	41 House Cleaning	63..... Public Notice	86..... Mobile Home/RV Lots for Sale
19..... Cement Work	42..... Hunting	64..... Photography	87..... Rent Furnished
20..... Demolition	43..... Janitorial Service	65..... Printing	88..... Rent Unfurnished
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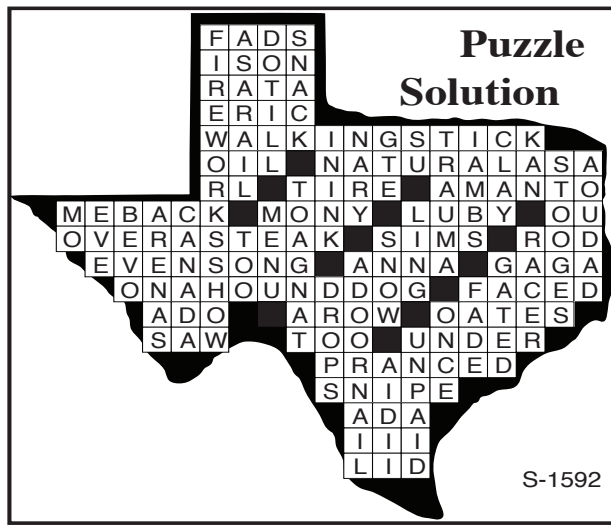
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S-1592

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ACROSS

- 1 hula hoops and mullets, e.g.
- 5 TX George Jones' "The Race ___"
- 6 "___-tat" (knocking or gunfire)
- 7 TX Jamie Foxx's first name at birth
- 8 TXism: "Devil's ___" (praying mantis)
- 17 "Texas Tea"
- 18 TXism: "___ ___ duck in water"
- 21 4-term Dallas mayor: ___ Thornton
- 22 truck rubber
- 23 TXism: "he's ___ walk the river with"
- 24 TX Bob Wills' "Take ___ to Tulsa"
- 29 Laredo had a large anti-___ smelter
- 30 this Bob started a chain of Texas cafeterias
- 31 big Texas-___ game
- 32 TXism: "like two dogs fighting ___" (vicious)
- 34 QB Blake for IFL Frisco Fighters and reel
- 35 Anglican church service at sunset
- 37 in Coleman County on U.S. 283
- 38 TXism: "would ___ maggot" (putrid)
- 39 TXism: "thick as ticks ___"
- 41 two-___ (fake)
- 42 "without further ___"

- 43 TXism: "get your ducks in ___" (get organized)
- 44 this Warren starred with TX Dennis Quaid in 1983 film "Tough Enough"
- 45 "The Texas Chain ___ Massacre" (1972)
- 46 former Cowboy DE Ed "___ Tall" Jones
- 47 a birdie is one ___ par
- 48 walked ostentatiously
- 50 "___ hunt" (prank)

- 51 county prosecutor who wasn't elected (abbr.)
- 52 TX Willie's "Farm Aid ___" was in Lincoln, Nebraska
- 53 jar top

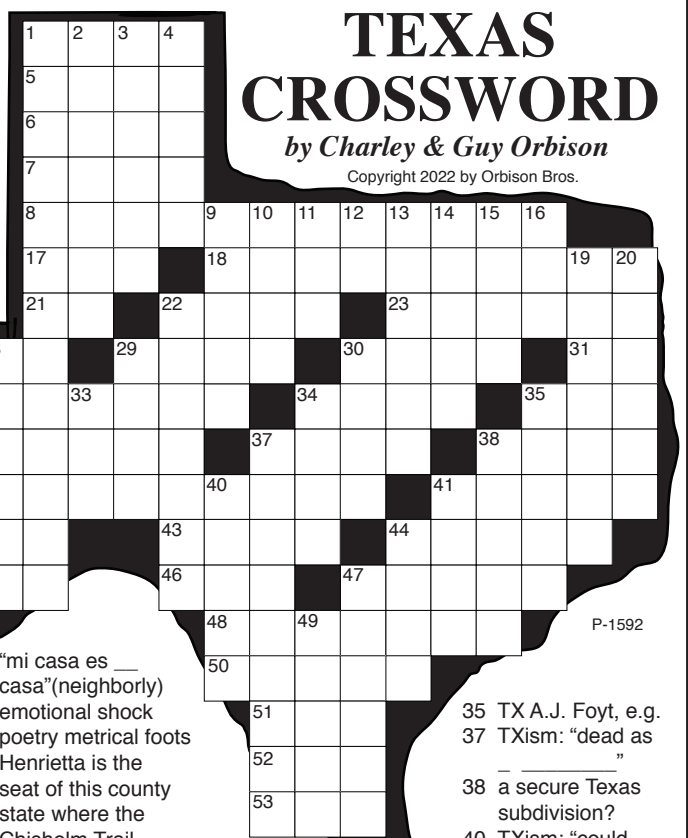
DOWN

- 1 crowd pleaser all over Texas on July 4 (2 wds.)
- 2 TXism: "skinny ___"
- 3 TXism: "it'll ___ something better comes along"
- 4 between meals treat
- 9 TXism: "you can write it ___" (certain)
- 10 "___ a scratch" (unharmed)
- 11 it's now Verizon
- 12 "mi casa es ___ casa" (neighborly)
- 13 emotional shock
- 14 poetry metrical foots
- 15 Henrietta is the seat of this county
- 16 state where the Chisholm Trail ended (abbr.)
- 19 "The Three ___"
- 20 Barbary sheep
- 22 "shoo" is a word said ___
- 24 "Mighty ___" does not flow in Texas
- 25 New Year's ___
- 26 UT-Austin mascot
- 27 AT&T Center and Toyota Center

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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P-1592

- 35 TX A.J. Foyt, e.g.
- 37 TXism: "dead as ___"
- 38 a secure Texas subdivision?
- 40 TXism: "could count the ___" (light rain)
- 41 TX Buddy Holly's "Not ___ Away"
- 44 TXism: "went to the well ___ too often"
- 47 volunteer worker
- 49 TX Willie's "Farm ___" was in Manor, Texas

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Wrestling summer camp pins Springtown kids to mat

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

Whistles, yells, laughter, shouts of encouragement and lots of wrestling made the gymnasium at Springtown Middle School come alive for three days during summer break.

Springtown's summer wrestling camp drew more than two dozen kids during June 27-29.

"It went really well," said wrestling coach Sawyer Cooper after the final day of camp. "We had a really good turnout this year, more than last year. It's grown every year that we've been here. I'm really proud of the kids. We had a lot of them come back to keep learning, keep getting more time on the mat."

Several current and former wrestlers from the varsity team helped teach the kids at camp. Leading the way was Noah Duvall, who earned fourth place at the UIL state wrestling meet in 2019. Cooper was proud to see Duvall and the others volunteer to help.

"It's a testament to the kids that they bought into what I'm trying to build, and they love wrestling," Cooper said. "They care about it.

They want to see the future, and they want to be around to help and be on the mat. It really makes me feel good."

FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING

Serry Holcomb was among a handful of parents sitting along the gymnasium walls and watching the wrestlers. She had brought her 8-year-old son, Remington Omi, to his first wrestling camp.

"He never really knew that there was wrestling," she said. "They were advertising this camp, and I talked to him about it. He thought he would really enjoy it, so we signed up. He's good at it."

Omi is big for his age, and he seemed to be a natural on the mat.

"He feels strong," Holcomb said. "He's always been the biggest kid in his class, and he's a very handy boy."

During the final day of wrestling camp, Omi was paired with sparring partner Hank Bell, who was two years older. Omi held his own against his larger opponent.

"As good as he is doing in class, I have plans to see him

do wrestling in the future," Holcomb said. "We would have never thought that he would be good at wrestling until we came to this camp and tried it out. It's really awesome that Springtown is introducing these sports so soon to their age."

Omi plays football, basketball and soccer.

"It's really cool to see him excel in wrestling, as well," his mom said.

FOUR TIMES THE FUN

Andrea Duvall was watching four of her kids participate in the camp, some as teachers, some as participants. The oldest, Noah Duvall, taught the camp alongside younger brother Jeremiah Duvall, a junior who wrestles on the Porcupine team.

Lillian Duvall is a freshman about to begin high school and intent on making the varsity team during her first year of eligibility.

Josiah Duvall, the youngest, is a seventh grader but an old pro at wrestling. He grew up with older brothers who loved tussling on the mat.

"It's great," Andrea Duvall said of the camp. "They are going over basics and



Amme Bolling prepares to wrestle with Lillian Duvall at summer camp.



From left, Sawyer Cooper watches as Remington Omi is slammed to the mat by Hank Bell.



From left, Koby Miller tries to take down Josiah Duvall.

really putting in technique, getting them to make sure to do it properly. Technique is very important, so it's nice that they keep going over them and really getting them down."

Her kids like wrestling for many reasons, particularly because it involves teammates but focuses more on the individual performance.

"It's kind of an independent thing," she said. "You hold yourself accountable. If you screw up, it's you that you let down."

Wrestling teaches responsibility and self-confidence while also paving a path to

the future, she said. "There is a lot of potential if you're good at it to get a scholarship," Duvall said. "It's not only physical, but it's also mental."

Lillian Duvall has never competed at an official wrestling meet but has been scrapping with her brothers for as long as she can remember. All that fighting has worked wonders for her skill and stamina. The coaches noted her dominance on the mat and praised her efforts.

"I love wrestling," she said. "It's a lot of fun."

She plans to make varsity

as a freshman by relying on all the tips she has received from her brothers.

"Wrestling has been in my family pretty much my whole life," she said. "Even though I haven't gone to competition, it's always been there."

Younger brother Josiah Duvall will be coming up right behind her.

"It was very fun," Josiah said of camp. "I got to make new friends and have fun wrestling, which I enjoy doing. My oldest brother, Noah Duvall, taught me most of the stuff I know."



About two dozen kids participated in wrestling summer camp.



SPRINGTOWN Game Faces

Collin Walker, left, and Aidan Stephens, right, on marching bass drums.



Hayley Knight on marching bass drum.



Kylee Northrup on marimba.

Photos by Jeff Prince

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

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Kid Scoop Puzzler

What does a walrus eat?

Walrus find and eat shellfish like clams from the sea floor. They also enjoy sea cucumbers and mussels. Adults will sometimes hunt fish. How many clams do you see here?

Kid Scoop Together

Draw a Walrus

Follow the steps to learn how to draw a walrus.

-
-
-
-
-
-

I AM THE Walrus

Read and learn all about walrus on today's Kid Scoop page. Then share what you learn with a friend or family member.

Massive Marine Animal

Massive means really big. Marine animal means an animal that lives in or near the ocean. A walrus is both of those things—a massive marine animal.

A walrus lives both on land and in the water in cold northern areas. They have tusks, whiskers, and flippers.

Brilliant Blubber

Beneath their skin are thick layers of fat called blubber which keeps a walrus warm and protected from the cold. They can withstand temperatures as low as -31°F (-35°C)!

Where do walrus live?

Walrus live in the Arctic. Is that true?

THEY

U T F Z E P

M J W F J O

U I F B S D U J D

How big are they?

about the size of an adult human.

6 to 10 feet long and weigh 4,000

An adult walrus can grow to be

pounds. A newborn calf is 130 pounds.

Mighty Mustaches

Walrus have mustaches made of super-sensitive whiskers. They use these to find food at the bottom of the ocean. Walrus have between 400 and 700 whiskers, which can grow to 12 inches long.

TRUE OR FALSE: Both male and female walrus have mustaches. Circle every third letter to find out!

B C T J S R L Y U D G E

Deep Sleep

Fill in the missing words!

When far from _____ or land, walrus have special pouches on their throats that they can _____ with air like pillows! Once their pouches are full of air, walrus can _____ with their heads on the surface of the water and their bodies hanging _____.

Walrus live in _____ herds that can have thousands of members. They pile up on the _____ to keep _____ and sleep in the sunshine.

WARM SLEEP ICE DOWN FILL SHORE

Tremendous Tusks

Wow! Here are some wild statements about walrus tusks. Are they true? Each one that adds up to an even number is true!

Walrus have long, large tusks that are actually teeth. These can be over 90cm long! That's nearly 3 feet!

TRUE FALSE

13 + 13 + 6 =

Both male and female walrus grow long tusks, which help them live the Arctic life.

TRUE FALSE

9 + 4 + 3 =

Walrus use their tusks like poles, digging them into sand, snow and ice to help them pull their enormous bodies out of the ocean!

TRUE FALSE

8 + 15 + 9 =

Tusks help the walrus chop through ice from under the water to create breathing holes so they can catch a breath while swimming and hunting.

TRUE FALSE

7 + 2 + 6 + 9 =

Double Double Word Search

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

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

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Fractions in Order

Find five numbers in the newspaper that are written as fractions. Clip out each one and glue them onto a piece of paper in order from smallest to largest. Rewrite each fraction using words.

Standards Link: Math: Compare fractions; write fractions as words.

Write On!

Ocean Sounds

Find five to ten words to describe the sounds of ocean waves. Write a paragraph using these adjectives.

Hold this page up to a mirror to discover another walrus fact!

11 21 29 19 16 29 21 19 16 29 11

.bl0 2169 04 tuods