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THURSDAY, September 22, 2022 • \$1

Denise Taylor to resign as city secretary

BY MADELYN EDWARDS

madelyn@azlenews.net Denise Taylor will re-

sign from her position as Springtown's city secretary, effective Oct. 1.

The reasons for her departure are unclear.

In a special meeting last week, Springtown City Council voted to accept Taylor's resignation and allow the mayor to negotiate and sign a separation agreement.

The council was not unanimous on this deci-

sion. Council members Scott Richardson, Ted Martinez and Walter Roberson voted to accept her resignation while Mayor Pro Tem Richelle Pruitt and council member Michele Chandler Kelley voted against.

The city council voted

unanimously for Springtown Director of Administrative Services Christina Derr to serve as interim city secretary.

Taylor has served as city secretary since January 2019. She was also a city council member from 2007 to 2016, and then in 2016 she started working for the city as the finance manager.

During the special meeting, Taylor addressed the council about her resignation and referred to com-

SEE **TAYLOR**, PAGE 3A.



Denise Taylor

'Don't give up'

Christina Herron reviews her time as a Wild West Festival vendor

BY MADELYN EDWARDS madelyn@azlenews.net

■or local Pampered Chef salesperson Christina Herron, Springtown's Wild West Festival is a Super Bowl-

At least, that's how Herron said her husband describes the festival's importance to her. In her own words, she said she does "fairly well" at the Wild West Festival and often sees repeat customers.

Herron started working

with Pampered Chef - which offers a line of kitchen tools, food products and cookbooks - 12 years ago. She has participated as a vendor at the Wild West Festival for almost as long, about 10 or 11 years.

"I love to cook, and my mother is a retired corporate chef so maybe it runs in our blood," Herron said. "It was easy for me to get products either free or very cheap by signing up with Pampered

SEE **HERRON**, PAGE 2A.



Springtown resident Christina Herron started working with Pampered Chef, which offers a line of kitchen tools, food products, and cookbooks, about 12 years ago. She has participated as a vendor at the Wild West Festival for almost as long, just shy a year or two.

'Forgetting is not an option' | Four people taken to



Nine staff members represented Parker County Emergency Services District 1 in the Dallas 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb on Sept. 10. Pictured from left are Capt. Trey Doyle, Engineer Michael Kelly, Firefighter Matt Rick, Firefighter Brian Rutledge, Capt. Kris Spain, Battalion Chief Chris Balough, Engineer Dustin Rowe, Lt. John Ross Hendrix and Capt. Alex Collins.

Parker County ESD 1 members participate in stair climb

BY MADELYN EDWARDS madelyn@azlenews.net

Parker County Emergency Services District 1 Capt. Alex Collins climbed many flights of stairs in Dallas earlier this month in memory of a firefighter who died in the 9/11terrorist attack on the World

Trade Center.

Collins, who serves at Station 34 in Aledo, represented firefighter Douglas Miller during the climb, and at the end of the climb, he rang a bell and called out Miller's name. Collins said Miller was a father, just like himself.

"It hit pretty hard knowing that those little boys grew up without their dad," Collins said.

Collins climbed with a group of his ESD 1 peers, including Battalion Chief Chris Balough, who has par-

SEE CLIMB, PAGE 6A.

hospitals after wreck

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Four people were hospitalized after a two-vehicle crash Monday afternoon in Springtown.

Because of the age of the injured occupants, their identifying information was not released, according to a news release from the Springtown Police

The driver of their ve-

hicle - a Ford Explorer - was transported to an undisclosed hospital by ground ambulance. His condition is unknown at this time, the release stated. The three passengers were all transported to Fort Worth hospitals, one by air ambulance and two by ground ambulance, in critical condition, the release stated. As of Tuesday morning, one passenger remains in critical but stable condition in the intensive care unit of John Peter Smith

SEE **WRECK**, PAGE 8A.

Homecoming Queen



PHOTO BY JEFF PRINCE

Kourtlyn Graham earns homecoming queen crown with longtime friend Tyson Roglin by her side.



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Cemetery marker gets dedication



Bud Clark Cemetery is located southeast of South Mill Creek Road and Sabathney Road in Northeast Parker County.

Bud Clark Cemetery designated a historical Texas cemetery

BY DON MUNSCH

don@azlenews.net

A Texas historical marker dedication ceremony for an Azle area cemetery will be held in early October.

Acquiring the marker took a few years of work, said Rae Sellers and her mother-in-law Christine Sellers, who live in Azle. The marker dedication for the Bud Clark Cemetery is at 11 a.m. Oct. 8. The cemetery is located southeast of South Mill Creek Road and Sabathney Road in Northeast Parker County. Boy Scout Troop 243 will be there to help with the ceremony.

The marker was awarded by the Texas Historical Commission and the Parker County Historical Commission.

For Christine Sellers, the cemetery holds a personal attachment, as she said her grandmother used to have her work in the cemetery when she was a child. Bud Clark was Christine's grandmother's brother, and Christine's mother's parents and grandparents are buried there.

The cemetery exists within the private property but is owned and cared for by the Bud Clark Cemetery

Association, according to the history of the cemetery by Laurie Chance Smith.

Bud Clark Cemetery holds 50 graves, with the oldest marked grave belonging to John Steele (sometimes "Steel") who died in 1870. John Steele was the brother of Joseph Gillis Steele, who is also buried at the cemetery. Joseph Gillis Steele was among Parker County's earliest settlers and became a recently that the marker was prominent contributor to the received. The cemetery was county in its formative years, recorded as a Historic Texas the cemetery history stated.

James and Margaret Clark founded the cemetery but it was named after their son, J.T. "Bud" Clark, who also is buried at the cemetery. James and Margaret are buried there, too.

"He inherited the property from his parents and continued their tradition of burying family members and area residents there," the cemetery history stated. The most recent burial was in 1997.

James Clark, a Civil War veteran, and Margaret Clark and their family arrived in Parker County in the month following the Civil War, which ended in 1865. When they acquire the property, a primitive graveyard sat on the

property, and the Clark family adopted the burial ground for family members and local

"The Bud Clark Cemetery Association began in the 1980s and continues the Clark family tradition of caring for the cemetery," the history said.

Rae Sellers said the request for a marker occurred in 2017, but it wasn't until

"So, it took them over a year and a little bit to actually get the marker prepared, so we didn't receive the marker until the end of 2020 or the first of '21 - it may have been the first of '21" she said.

She added that because of COVID-19, the dedication had to be postponed, as she explained that when someone receives the marker, a ceremony follows. The pandemic created the delays and the ceremony is being held now.

Christine Sellers said the cemetery has always been well-maintained, and Rae said a pipe fence was placed around it so the cows could not enter the cemetery.



Christina Herron with some Pampered Chef products.

HERRON

FROM PAGE 1

Having a tent at the Wild West Festival allows Herron to connect with potential customers, especially since she has stopped doing inhome Pampered Chef parties since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Herron said she enjoys the festival because she gets to talk about the Pampered Chef products, and she gets to reunite with other vendors she normally doesn't see throughout the

Herron said people will approach her at the festival to talk about the recipes they've made or what they've used their products for, which can help with sales at the festival.

"A lot of times, those customers will sell products for me," Herron said. "It's neat to see them excited and passionate about it, and then seeing other people react to them.' To be a vendor at the Wild

West Festival, Herron sets up early in the morning, hours before the festival begins, and stays until the very end. "I'm one of the first to be

there, and I'm one of the last to leave," she said. Staying until the very end

of the event is actually part of Herron's sales strategy. She said in years past, her biggest sales usually come at the end of the festival.

Herron's advice to new vendors trying to promote their business at a festival would be to keep an open mind, not to feel discouraged and talk with vendors about what works for them. After all, these are the strategies Herron used after having a negative first-time experience at the Wild West Festival.

"My first time there was horrible," she said. "I hardly sold anything. And it was hot. It was miserable. I was in this corner kind of out of sight, out of mind. That's kind of like how I felt."

After that first year, Herron told her husband that she would try again, and she made some adjustments, like getting a credit card reader and securing a different location at the festival. While some years are better than others, Herron said things have gone well for her at the festival ever since.

"You just don't give up," she said





A revered figure bows out

Recently, Elizabeth the Second, Queen of Great Britain, Northern Ireland and all the other territories of the realm, passed away peacefully at the age of 96. She had ruled for an unprecedented

Never in my lifetime has there been another monarch on the throne. She was a constant. During the entirety of my life, the sun has risen in the east, set in the west, and Elizabeth was the queen. It seemed somehow fitting, and completely expected.

There are some of us "colonials" who find the monarchy to be archaic or an anachronism. Some might think of royalty as frivolity and a waste of time and resources, but it is clear the people of Great Britain do not feel that way. There are detractors and those who wish the monarchy



FROM MY FRONT PORCH

By Sam Houston

Sam Houston is a syndicated columnist and newspaper executive. He is also an author, actor, playwright and entertainment producer/promoter.

would become more modernized, but what I gather from the reaction of her subjects upon her death, Elizabeth was loved, respected and revered.

Even though our countries have been at war with each other twice, there is no nation on earth that Americans have a closer tie with than England. Through two world wars, and constant other conflicts and provocations, we have stood shoulder to shoulder. Our pasts are so intertwined and interwoven, I cannot help but feel remorse at the loss of the queen. She

displayed such dignity and charm, so much so it would be hard to dislike her.

The queen's death caused me to reflect. I have heard people say, "she never had to work a day in her life" and she "had all the money and things she could ever want." I will agree she did have wealth and privilege, and she was born into it. It was not something she worked for and earned. But please consider that once the job was placed in her hands, she committed her entire being and purpose to serving her subjects and maintaining

The queen is dead — long live the king!

those cultural standards that make Britain what it is. It was a relentless and never-ending responsibility.

Imagine being the queen. For every day of your life your every move and your family's every move is documented and displayed for all to see, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Elizabeth gave up her privacy, freedom and I would assume, must have given up friendship. She had confidants and advisors, but friendship is based on equality. How could Elizabeth be true friends with anyone when she was the "gueen?" It was not a role she could simply remove when she took off her crown. She was always the queen, and she did a wonderful job of fulfilling the

world's expectation of what a queen should be.

I think this may be why Elizabeth loved her horses and her dogs the way she did. She was a world class horsewoman and was rarely seen far from the companionship of her corgis. They brought her comfort and companionship and fostered a relationship where she could be herself if only for a few fleeting moments.

Despite all the rigors of the position she held, the queen had a sense of humor and would frequently make comments that would demonstrate her wit and her ability to laugh at herself or a situation.

Her impeccable attire will long be remembered as a

standard of elegance and class. I loved her hats.

The world is a lesser place without Elizabeth II.

I was very impressed with the first speech made by King Charles, upon taking the throne. I am prayerful he maintains the grace, dignity and elegance of his mother. The world needs an icon like Queen Elizabeth to look up

Best wishes Charles, and God Save the King!

Thought for the day: When life seems hard, the courageous do not lie down and accept defeat: instead, they are all the more determined to struggle for a better future. — Queen Elizabeth, 2008

Christmas broadcast. Until next time.

TAYLOR

plaints made against her. "When I was made aware of a complaint against me, I was instructed not to speak to

anyone about it because that could be construed as retaliation. So, I didn't," she said. "(City Administrator David) Miller told me he would investigate further."

After waiting for a couple of weeks, Taylor said Mayor Greg Hood and Miller met with her, and she was told

she could lose her job. Taylor said she was then placed on administrative leave.

"I have never been able to address any of the complaints against me," Taylor said during the meeting. "I never intentionally hurt anybody's feelings. That's not my nature, but I was never given a chance to even try to make anything right." Derr said later in an email that the city did not wish to comment now on Taylor's departure.

During her service to the city, Taylor said her record has been "exemplary," adding that she has worked to the best of her ability and has always been told that she's doing a good job.

"This is one blight on an otherwise exemplary tenure," Taylor said during the meeting.

Taylor's sister, Paula Lunsford, spoke during the meeting and said Taylor cares about Springtown, has volunteered to promote the city and encouraged others to shop local first. Lunsford noted that Taylor was honored with the Spirit of Springtown award at the Springtown Area Chamber of Commerce banquet in March.

"There's no one more proud of their hometown than my sister," she said.

Lunsford said she doesn't understand why her sister wasn't given an opportunity to address the complaints.

"I do not understand how hurting someone's feelings is cause for 'resign or be fired' with no opportunity to make it right," she said.

In a phone call after the meeting, Taylor declined to talk about the details of her resignation. She said that she is proud of the work she's done for the city. She worked on city events and downtown advisory board events. She said she was the driving force behind starting the Christmas parade.

Taylor, who has lived in Springtown since 1968, said she initially ran for council to give back to the city and make decisions for the city's best interest. When she heard there was an opening at the city for finance manager, the timing was right.

"I was working for RadioShack Corporation, had

already gone through one bankruptcy, and I had told my treasurer, I said, 'I'm not doing another one,'" Taylor said. "And the call came up. And I interviewed for it on a Thursday after a council meeting and was offered the job and started two weeks later. The door opened, and I was smart enough to walk through.

Taylor said she hopes the next city secretary is someone who "loves Springtown as much as I do.'

"I don't think that's going to be possible, but that would be my hope," she said.



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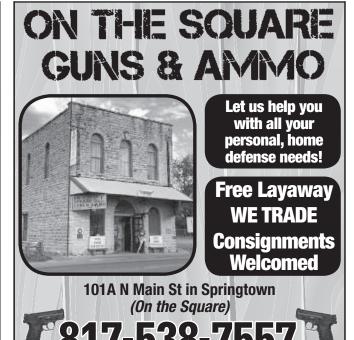
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City of Springtown to establish animal control service

BY MADELYN EDWARDS

madelyn@azlenews.net

The city of Springtown's animal shelter is expected to open Oct. 1.

To prepare for the opening, an animal control officer has been hired, and remodeling to the animal control building, which is located across the street from the police department on Martin Avenue, is underway, Springtown Director of Administrative Services Christina Derr said.

At the Springtown City Council meeting on Thursday, the council is expected to make decisions on

the animal control ordinance and the appointment of an Animal Shelter Advisory Board. Derr said the advisory board would consider and offer feedback on adoption.

The current process for animal control is for Springtown officers to take animals to the existing shelter facility and hold them there until Parker County officers can pick up the animals and take them to the shelter in Weatherford, Derr said. The city used to have animal control, but that hasn't been the case in years.

The remodeling to the facility includes fixing metal on some of the cages, repainting, sheetrock work, air conditioner replacement and roof work, Derr said.

"It hasn't been used as a permanent facility in some years, so there are some changes and upgrades that need to be made to it," she

Derr said the animal control officer is new to municipal work but has plenty of experience as a veterinary technician. For veterinary services, the city will likely contract with a local veterinarian.

The new animal control services were a prominent part of the city's budget for the new fiscal year that was

approved by city council last month. Part of the reason for adding animal control services was to avoid cost increases that the city was expected to incur next year.

Derr said the city's contract with Parker County Sheriff's Office was expected to increase from \$42,100 to about \$70,000. Also, the city of Weatherford would start charging the sheriff's office \$350 per animal brought to the Weatherford shelter from other incorporated cities, which was expected to be passed on to the city of Springtown and cost \$140,000 annually at the city's current call volume.

The total annual cost of Springtown's animal control service for the first year is expected to be \$137,470, which includes start-up costs, and \$95,170 after the first year. This includes costs for personnel, a vehicle, facility improvements, supplies, maintenance and medical care. By not continuing to contract with the sheriff's office and the Weatherford animal shelter, Springtown is expected to save $\$72,\overline{5}30$ in the first year and \$114,830 after the first

In addition to the cost savings, the city created its own

animal control service to provide a higher level of service to residents, Derr said.

"It provides a higher level of service where we have more oversight over the service," Derr said. "Right now, essentially, true animal control operates during business hours in Springtown, unless there's an emergency and then we call in the Parker County animal control officer. This will allow us to increase that level of service because it's locally controlled."

As Texas grows, TxDOT continues to meet resident needs

BY J. BRUCE BUGG JR. Opinion

To say that Texas continues to boom is an understatement.

Between 2010 and 2020, Texas added nearly four million people - roughly the entire population of Oklahoma. Even during the pandemic. people still kept coming to our state, and there are no signs of slowing down. Our current population of 29 million is projected to grow to 47 million by 2050, a 62% increase.

This rapid growth brings people, businesses, jobs and economic prosperity to our state, but with these opportunities it also brings challenges. More people and businesses mean more goods J. Bruce Bugg Jr. is chairman *of the Texas Transportation* Commission, which oversees the activities of the Texas Department of Transportation.

and services, and thus more demand on the transportation infrastructure that connects us all to each other. But I'm proud to say that these are challenges TxDOT and the Texas Transportation Commission have been meeting head on with great persistence.

After Gov. Greg Abbott was inaugurated in 2015, he made improving transportation throughout Texas a major priority. At our most recent meeting, the Texas **Transportation Commission** approved an unprecedented level of projected funding for the development and construction of more than 7,000 transportation projects, amounting to a \$117 billion investment in transportation statewide, including the approval of the \$85 billion, 10-year construction plan with the adoption of the 2023 Unified Transportation Program (UTP). These projects are dedicated to improving safety, addressing congestion and connectivity, and preserving roadways for Texas drivers.

This planned investment will have a tremendous and positive impact on the economy of Texas. According to the Texas A&M Transportation Institute, the \$8.5 billion of average annual investment programmed in the UTP over the next 10 years is expected

to yield an estimated \$15.5 billion per year in economic benefits, amounting to \$155 billion over the next ten years. These benefits are a result of increased labor income and business output, and the addition of 58,500 direct and indirect jobs.

Gov. Abbott directed me as chairman of TxDOT to "turn dirt" and Texans have shown that they overwhelmingly support "turning dirt" for new and better highways, roads and bridges. Texas voters passed legislation aimed at increasing road funding (Proposition 1 by 80% in 2014 and Proposition 7 by 83% in 2015) that now pays for about 40% of Texas' total transportation work. The people of Texas voted, we listened, and we have been

building the transportation system throughout Texas!

Because 67% of Texans live in five major metro areas -Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, and San Antonio in 2015, TxDOT focused on the Top 100 most congested roads in these Texas cities as part of our new Texas Clear Lanes program. Since 2015, this congestion relief program now has \$61.3 billion of non-tolled projects that are completed, under construction or planned. And rural Texas - home to 10% of our population, but 47% of the Texas land mass - has not been neglected. Rural transportation funding has increased from \$2.2 billion in 2014 to \$14 billion today, a historic increase of more than 500%.

The more than 12,500 women and men of TxDOT work tirelessly to build and maintain our more than 197,000 lane miles and more than 54.000 bridges in Texas. the most miles and bridges of any state in the U.S.

My mantra, since becoming chairman of the Texas **Transportation Commission** in September 2017, is "execute, execute, execute" and Texans can know that Governor Abbott and Texas transportation leaders have kept their eye on the ball. While global pandemic and supply chain issues created uncertainty worldwide, our transportation system has been and continues to be something we can all count on - today and in the future for our great state of Texas!

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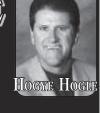
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DON MUNSCH

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BOOK REVIEW

Uncover some true tales of espionage and covert ops

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TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

Special to the Azle News

Imagine that you're being watched.

Everybody wants to know your secrets. They want to know what you know, especially if it pertains to government operations. Keeping secrets, finding them out, espionage and spying have been in the news a lot lately, so maybe it's time to read about covert tactics, Bondian moves and the people who made them into art...

If you're into history and what-iffing, "Need to Know: World War II and the Rise of American Intelligence" by Nicholas Reynolds (\$29.99, Mariner Books) will gnaw at your imagination. What would the world have been like without American advances in spying on enemy communications, plans and campaigns?

You'll wonder about that, as you read about what this country didn't have, prior to Winston Churchill's influence and his insistence that American spies be recruited and taught, and codetalkers and codebreakers be asked to use their talents to thwart the Nazis and other enemies at war. Heroes and heroines are everywhere inside this book - so many that it's sometimes hard to keep track. Bonus: there are real espionage stories here, too - thrilling tales that are better than any spy novel you've ever read be-

cause they're all true.

Readers who can't know enough about World War II, and those who are intrigued by espionage will devour this big, comprehensive, widereaching book.

Here's another must-have for American history buffs: "Wise Gals: The Spies Who Built the CIA and Changed the Future of Espionage" by Nathalia Holt (\$28.00, Putnam).

Post-wartime, America knew that it could never be without operations like the ones we had during World War II. The world had changed and being ignorant of other countries' secrets was no longer an option. And so, as part of the efforts for national security during the Cold War, the country utilized the work of four women known to their colleagues as the "Wise Gals," for their smarts and their smart senses of humor.

Mary Hutchison worked with the Ukrainians to forge an alliance, almost right under Russian noses. Eloise Page worked to keep America safe by unmasking world-wide terror networks. Adelaide Hawkins worked to create a way for spies and agents to communicate with one another in secret. And Elizabeth Sudmeier was almost killed in the Middle East while she was collecting secrets on Russia.

But author Nathalia Holt doesn't just tell about the



Espionage and Spy Books by Nicholas Reynolds and Nathalia Holt. c.2022, Mariner Books / Putnam, \$28-\$29.99 512 pages / 400 pages

Cold War work of these four American heroines. The stories of these women are nicely rounded by the inclusion of their personal lives and loves, and by their frustrations as women in what was then, essentially, a man's world. This hidden four-way story is a nice addition to the shelves for feminists, readers of Cold War novels, and

anyone who relishes a good history book.

And if these two books don't fit what you're looking for in an authentic spy story, then be sure to ask your favorite bookseller or librarian. They will know exactly what you need to read, and they'll know exactly where to find those books - in plain sight or undercover.

Spotlight on **Business**



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For a little over a year, Buff's BBQ & Grill has been serving up Tex-Mex style barbecue mixed with small town café flair.

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"We like to blend in old country recipes with everything being made in house," says Harold Buffington, owner and chef at Buff's BBO & Grill.

Harold works together with his family, Shirley Fletcher, Patti Dunlap and Cassie Boyd. They're working hard to make sure you get the best barbecue around!

On the menu, you'll find all your barbecue favorites - brisket, pulled pork, smoked sausage, bologna and turkey breast, beans, baked potatoes, coleslaw, smoked mac and cheese and more.

You can get yourself a plate every Wednesday when Buff's sets up outside of Howell's Western Café. They can also be found at local events and festivals, and they're available to cater your special events as well.

Nothing says Texas wedding like the real deal barbecue, so make sure you check them out for your special day!

They are equipped to handle just about any circumstance, so if you're looking to have authentic Texas barbecue at your next event, give them a call at (817) 797-6055.

You can also reach out to them on Facebook Messenger or send them an email at BuffsBBQ@gmail.com.

For their complete menu and a schedule of their upcoming events, fairs and festivals, go to buffsbbq.com.



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Hispanic Texans likely largest demographic group

HISPANIC TEXANS LIKELY LARGEST DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP

The U.S. Census Bureau released its latest estimate, which indicates Hispanic residents in Texas make up more of the state's population than white residents. The new population figures from the American Community Survey indicate Hispanic Texans comprise 40.2% of the state's population last year, while non-Hispanic white Texans made up 39.4%, as reported in the Texas Tribune.

The estimates, from July 2021, are not considered official but reflect trends that demographers have been tracking for years. Hispanics accounted for nearly half of the state's population increase of 4 million residents since 2010. Census figures indicate almost half of Texas residents under the age of 18 are Hispanic.

The survey showed that Hispanic residents are more than twice as likely as white resident to live below the poverty line. The median income for a white household last year was \$81,235, compared to \$54,857 for a



CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park

Hispanic household.

MORE THAN 10,000 MIGRANTS BUSED ELSEWHERE

With Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis grabbing headlines by flying migrants from Texas to Martha's Vineyard, Gov. Greg Abbott's office announced that is has now bused more than 10,000 migrants to what he terms "sanctuary cities" such as Washington, D.C., New York and Chicago. Last week, at Abbott's behest, two buses of migrants from Texas were dropped off outside Vice President Kamala Harris' residence at the United States Naval Observatory in the nation's capital.

Abbott has long criticized the Biden administration's approach to migrants seeking asylum in the United States, and Texas has boosted border security funding

by \$4 billion. Biden last week said the administration has a process to deal with migrants at the border.

"Republicans are playing politics with human beings, using them as props. What they're doing is simply wrong," he said at a gala for the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, according to Politico.

DISASTER ASSISTANCE APPROVED AFTER NORTH TEXAS FLOODING

The U.S. Small Business Administration has approved Abbott's request for disaster assistance for seven North Texas counties affected by flooding last month. As much as 10 inches of rain fell in the Dallas area in late August, causing widespread damage to businesses and homes.

Counties included in the disaster declaration are

Dallas, Collin, Denton, Ellis, Kaufman, Rockwall, and Tarrant. Applicants can download applications and get further information at disaster loan assistance. sba. gov.

'Moderate' deer hunting season predicted

Biologists with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department are predicting a moderate season for deer hunters, with archery season kicking off on Oct. 1.

"Overall, 2022 year is expected to be good in terms of harvest numbers and opportunities, so don't let the chance to spend time afield with family, friends and fellow hunters pass you by," said Alan Cain with TPWD.

The statewide drought, while now largely in remission, has adversely affected natural forage for deer in late summer, especially in the central, south, and western parts of the state, according to Cain. Wildfires caused significant habitat loss, but those areas are quickly rejuvenating, especially with the recent rains.

"Where fires have occurred, there's been new grass and weed growth providing some much-needed nutrition and cover for deer," Cain said. "Although habitat conditions have improved immensely with recent rains, the timing was a bit late to have any meaningful influence on antler quality."

TABC BUSTS 131 RETAILERS FOR UNDERAGE ALCOHOL SALES

A statewide sting of alcohol retailers in college towns across Texas netted 131 retailers accused of selling alco hol to minors. The effort by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission coincided with the start of the college fall semester. Minor-aged volunteers under the supervision of undercover TABC agents attempted to buy alcohol from licensed retailers at 1,131 locations. They found a total of 131 violations, or 14% of the locations visited.

Businesses cited for selling booze to a minor could face civil fines and possible suspension of their liquor license. Individual employees would face misdemeanor charges as well.

POP-UP COVID-19 VACCINE LOCATIONS ANNOUNCED

While new cases of COVID-19 cases continue to wane, with 36,856 reported in Texas by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University in the past week, along with 144 deaths, parking lot pop-up vaccine sites are taking place at select Walmart locations across Texas until Sept. 25.

Updated booster vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna address the newer variants, according to officials with the Texas Department of State Health Services.

"Vaccination remains our most important tool in the fight against severe illness and death from COVID-19, said DSHS Commissioner Dr. John Hellerstedt. "And the new bivalent vaccines promise an even more effective and safe protection from Omicron variants, which continue to be the leading cause of COVID-19 illness in Texas and across the U.S."

DSHS reported 2,161 labconfirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations as of Sunday, down from the previous week.

FROM PAGE 1

ticipated in multiple Dallas Memorial 9/11 Stair Climbs over the years.

"For me, forgetting is not an option," Balough said. "It's something that's near and dear to my heart. I mean, to lose 343 firefighters in a single day, it's a pretty big deal, plus law enforcement

Balough said the ESD 1 crew got to Dallas around 6:30 a.m., and the program started at 8 a.m. The climb started at 8:47 a.m., about a minute after the North Tower was hit by Flight 11 during the attack 21 years ago.

The participants of the climb scaled the equivalent of 110 stories at the Fountain Place in Dallas. Balough described the climb as taxing but also rewarding as the participants try to put themselves in the positions of the firefighters during the 9/11 attack.

"I'll be 51 this year, so it's not as easy as it was when I started this 12 years ago," Balough said. "It's just one of those mentally challenging events."

Collins said the climb was

among one of the most physically demanding challenges he has done in his life, especially considering the heat during the climb. Firefighters usually complete the climb in their firefighting gear plus an air pack on their backs.

"You keep all of that heat inside," he said. "It was pretty moving knowing that what I was doing that day, those guys did the same thing, and not only were they having to do what I did, but they had to work once they got to the floor that they were going to. I got to go home. Yeah, it was pretty intense."

ESD 1 Capt. Kris Spain, who

also attended the event earlier this month, described his peers as determined to finish the climb.

"I think mainly all of us just had in our mind that we weren't going to quit," Spain said. "We were going to make sure to see it through and climb all 110 stories no mat-

Spain climbed for firefighter Michael Cawley, who was having breakfast with New York Fire Department Rescue 4 when the call came in about the attack in New York.

"He was just a guy that enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, just like

most firemen," Spain said. Balough climbs for the

same firefighter each year -Lt. Gregg Atlas, whose station arrived first on the scene. Balough related to Atlas because of similarities in age and family structure.

Balough and Spain were proud and impressed that ESD 1 was well represented at the stair climb with nine participants. Spain said climbing with his ESD 1 peers builds the brotherhood between

'We have a pretty tight knit brotherhood at ESD 1," Spain said. "We all met up, we all did it, we all waited for each

other after we were done. Different guys finished it faster than others, and we all waited around and made sure we were all together after we were finished and let everybody know that we were proud of each other."

Balough, Spain and Collins all said they would like to climb again next year.

"We plan on just getting more and more guys, as many as we can and going and making a good turnout and honoring the fallen," Spain said.

"I'm going to keep doing it until I can't," Balough said.

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N. Trkla, CEO, President and Chairman; Thomas

W. Brown, Senior Managing Director, Ericka L.

"Application has been made with the Texas

BW Gas & Convenience Retail, LLC dba

Ayles, Treasurer and Kurt M. Zernich,

Secretary."

OBITUARIES

Jerry Max Moss 1952 - 2022

Jerry Max Moss, 70, passed away in the early morning of Sept. 17, 2022 at Harris Methodist, Fort Worth.

Memorial services will be held at a later date. For more information email Stephanie at steph.ann.sam@gmail.

Jerry loved working on cars, especially race cars. You could find him at Boyd Raceway every Friday night for many years. He was a very kind-hearted man who loved with everything he had. Jerry loved his family and his friends so very much. Jerry was a big animal lover. At one point he ended up with 9 dogs, so they had a place to call home. He will be terribly missed, and always thought

Jerry was preceded in death



by his father, Kenneth Moss, mother, Jeanette Moss, and daughter, Jennifer Moss.

He is survived by his daughters, Dorothy Moss and Stephanie Sinka; sister, Mary Moss; and five grandchildren.

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ON FISHING

Fall turnover has begun – get ready for lake changes

www.springtown-epigraph.net

Cooling surface temperatures in fall always signal the start of "turnover." Summer is not totally over so we may see turnover slow and then restart with the next cool front.

Many folks associate the fall turnover with an awful smell and poor fishing and to some extent, this is true. The fall turnover has the water and rotting debris on the bottom of the lake moving up and this is where the smell comes from. The poor fishing is typically due to fish moving. Some will move up and some will move deeper. With turnover, the thermocline disappears, and the entire water column can hold fish.

At times, the surface may develop a nasty "slime" coating. This slime may put a scum line on your boat. Make sure vou wipe vour boat down or wash it soon after you get off the lake otherwise it may be more difficult to clean later.

Lake turnover occurs on the waters as long as the surface water temperature is cooler than the water below it. When this occurs, the cooler and more oxygenated water at the surface is heavier (more dense) than the water below and it sinks. Conversely the warmer water below rises. This circulation can be enhanced by wind and weather. This mixing of the water



ON FISHING

By Michael Acosta

As a licensed professional fishing guide, Michael Acosta shows you how to find them. He has been a licensed guide

column eventually will have the entire water column on our relatively shallow lakes to have consistent temperatures and oxygen levels. With conditions favorable from top to bottom, the predators can be at most any depth.

In the summer, the fish hold at the thermocline level and above as this is where they can survive. The water below the thermocline is essentially uninhabitable. With the fall turnover as I mentioned above, the entire water column can be used by the fish once the mixing has occurred. Many folks like to say that the fish scatter during turnover and to some extent this is true. You might have to look a little harder to locate fish.

This initial turnover process is a great time of year for the lake, though it may frustrate a few anglers. The initial turnover process can occur over a short period of time and an angler's hot spots may change overnight. As with any season change, patterns change and the angler has to adapt. You will have to check

several depths and maybe several spots. You may use presentations that can cover a lot of water to help locate active fish. Many folks will troll to locate active fish.

Locating baitfish concentrations on flats or near structure is always a good idea. You find the food and you will find the predators.

Check your fishing log for locations where fish have been caught in previous years. Keep your senses alert while on the water as there can be many clues on the surface of the water as well. Birds can at times point you right to active fish as they will be returning in numbers to our lakes shortly. An occasional surfacing baitfish may indicate activity below. Work predicted feeding times when you can. It is also a good idea to work a variety of depths until you can develop a pattern.

Turnover on most of our area lakes in north Texas will occur around the same time; however, there will be some differences. Some of the shallower lakes may turn



PHOTO COURTESY MICHAEL ACOSTA

Fall turnover is associated with an awful smell and poor fishing. Because of the cooler surface temperature of the water, warmer water rises and colder water sinks, causing the lake water to circulate.

over first, larger deeper lakes may turn over last, and some small impoundments may not turn at all because wind constantly keeps the water circulating throughout the

Turnover is occurring now and will continue as long as the surface is cooling. The heat could even return and stop this turnover process for that will surely come.

a short while. The good news is that this is the precursor to the fall feeding frenzy, so you might as well figure those fish out for the good times

FISHING REPORT

Granbury water temperatures have fallen into the low 80s. Water levels are still down some. so be careful on the water. Granbury crappie limits are common on structure mid-lake from the Peninsula, the two bridges and Water's Edge to Indian Harbor. Some good crappie catches have also been reported near DeCordova as well. The best crappie action is good on small jigs and minnows fished in 15 to 20 feet of water. Keeper striped bass are reported as slow on live shad and downrigging jigs and crankbaits. Sand bass and small striped bass are in abundance and have been schooling early. Catfish (blues, channel and yellow) continue to be good on cut bait. Yellow cats are good on live bream. Largemouth bass numbers are good (mainly small fish with an occasional bigger fish to 7 pounds). Best action for largemouth bass is in the shallows early and late on soft plastics, spinners and crank baits.

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to teach children manner

One book of goop tales has verses about 52 children, two for each letter of the

alphabet. Each child's name describes

a fault.

Asleepnogo

Nevashair

Inkafinga

names?

Askalotte

Badinskool

these faults:

Well, this is

udder nonsense!

Teeza

Draw a line from each goop name to that child's fault.

would not

share things

didn't want

to go to bed

picked

on others

What faults are described by these

Standards Link: Vocabulary: Understand word meaning from context clues.

She would not brush her teeth

He liked to sing too loud.

She ate with her fingers.

Standards Link: Vocabulary: Create words from context clues.

He pinched his baby sister.

Make up names for children with

Gelett Burgess: The Nonsense Exp

Born January 30, 1866, Gelett Burgess is remembered as a nonsense expert. In fact, he may be one of your favorite authors, even though you have probably never heard of him.

He invented such great words as "blurb" and "goop."

Goop comes from the many tales he told of the boneless, ill-mannered and sort-of-human characters he named "goops."



The goops, they lick their fingers; The goops, they lick their knives. They spill their broth on the table cloth. Oh, they lead disgusting lives.

The Purple Cow

The most quoted poem of the 1890s was a little ditty by Gelett Burgess called "The Purple Cow."



But I can tell you anyhow,

Standards Link: Reading Compreh



STEP 1

Draw big, simple shapes for your cow's body with a pencil. Draw very lightly. A cow's body is a rectangle. Cows have short legs and a long tail. Draw ovals for the head and feet.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions

STEP 2 Still drawing with a pencil,

start adding details like eyes, hooves, udders, and horns. Remember to draw lightly with the pencil because you'll be erasing the pencil lines.

STEP 3 Draw over the pencil lines in ink. Make sure the ink is dry, then erase all the pencil lines. Color your cow and add spots,

patterns.

stripes, or wild & wacky

Extra Nonsense to-to-dot Select one page of the newspaper and find all of the letters that spell the word NONSENSE. Circle each letter. Draw a line from the 'N' to

the 'O' and so forth until you have connected all the letters. What kind of picture can you make from the design created by these dots and lines? Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow Comprehension: r multiple-step direc

COOP Puzzier Only two of these kooky cows are identical. How fast can you find them? Better get moooo-ving!

Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. **NONSENSE** How many of them can you find on this page? **PURPLE EXPERT** GMEREVENLE **GOOPS** TTEGBEURET **BLURB** SDROWRESLE ALPHABET **POEM** GBPOPSNEPB VERSES TREPXESWRA **BROTH** EODSSSOUUH NEVER ETUNSCLWPP WORDS **COW** THOORBKCIL

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

HNLDXNNAMA

Opposite Ads

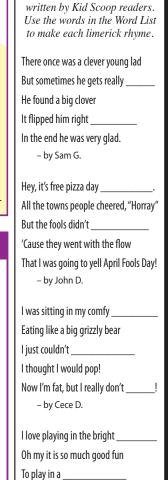
LOUD

Find an ad in the newspaper. Rewrite the ad so that it says just the opposite of

Standards Link: Writing: Write brief descriptive narratives.



What is a time you found yourself in a "sticky" or difficult situation? How did you solve your problem?



CARE SAD SUN **POOL OVER** COOL **KNOW TODAY** CHAIR STOP

It is so sad when the day is done.

But always stay ___

– by Audra P.

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word RHYME in each vertical and

horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.



When in doubt, refer to Rule #1.

If I were to ask you for your top rules for living, what would you say?

For example: Rule #1: Don't do stupid

Rule #2: When in doubt, refer to Rule #1.

I can't remember where I heard that, but it's not bad advice. However, that's not the rule I'm thinking about today. I'm thinking about the rule that is commonly known as the "Golden Rule."

The way I remember learning it is "Do unto others as you would have them do unto

I probably learned it in Sunday School or Kindergarten.

According to Wikipedia, the idea dates at least 551 BCE



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

(that's BC for those of us who grew up using BC/AD) and is found conceptually in almost all religions. It, in fact, appears in some form in almost every ethical tradition—even those who hold no belief in

Of course, for my perspective, I'm thinking of the words of Jesus in Matthew 7:12-"So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."

Jesus was not the first to verbalize the concept but it takes on a different level of gravitas coming from Jesus. Not only that, He framed it in a way that gave the con-

cept it's prominence by sug-

gesting that it summarized

the ethical teachings of the

Jewish Scriptures. My favorite translation of this verse is the New American Standard Bible, which says, "In everything, therefore, treat people the

same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets.'

Not just DO for others what you would want them to DO. but TREAT others they way you want to be TREATED.

This was actually part of the content of my sermon yesterday at the First Baptist Church of Newark, Texas where I'm currently serving as interim pastor.

During a long walk today, I continued to reflect on those words and pondered how our culture would be impacted if we all made that our top rule for living.

If I'm going to treat people the way I want to be treated, I have to start with clarifying how I want to be treated. I also have to think of ideas

that have the possibility of reciprocity.

For example, I can't expect to always get my way and I can't expect that everyone will agree with me. Neither of those can be reciprocated.

Here's my short list: I want to be SEEN and VALUED. That doesn't mean that everyone agrees with me. It means that I'm not overlooked, marginalized, or treated as if my life does not matter. It also means that I DON'T want to be LABELED. I want my opinions, my ideas, my beliefs, and my habits to be evaluated on their own merit rather than lumped together into categories that will be embraced by some and rejected by others simple because of the way the categories are labeled.

I want to be FORGIVEN and TRUSTED. I've broken the "stupid stuff" rule. I don't want to be defined by my failures. That doesn't mean that I won't have to earn back trust that I've broken. It means that I want to be given the chance.

I deliberately chose categories that do not require a faith perspective because as a person of faith—I need to have a consistent ethical standard for the way I treat every person.

I this is how I want to be treated, how could I treat any-

one in a lesser manner? When in doubt, refer to Rule #1.

Be amazing today, my friend.

Springtown Lions Club providing books to kids every month

BY MADELYN EDWARDS

madelyn@azlenews.net

Springtown Lions Club has partnered with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to give free books to young children in the Springtown ISD area.

The Lions Club received a \$2,500 Lions Foundation Grant and applied it to the book program that supplies books to kids who are ages 0-5 every month. The club was also able to raise \$3,500 to cover the cost of the

"The grant helps to extend our coverage of children and abled us to accept more children," said Lauren Wright, who is the secretary on the Lions Club executive board.

As of last week, 147 children are covered by the program, according to the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library website. Wright said this number fluctuates because of kids aging out of the program, and at one point, the number of kids in the program was up to 175.

Books started going out to kids at the beginning of the year, and the program really took off this summer after the club pushed messaging about the program to daycares and pre-kindergarten families, Wright said.

SISD Superintendent Mike Kelley said he appreciates that the school district was added to the list of areas with access to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. Kelley said reading to children at an early age is very important.

"Teaching a child how to read is important, but

reading to a child is also extremely important," he said. "Reading aloud to a child not only provides 'bonding' time, it also broadens a child's vocabulary and strengthens their brain's ability to process imagery, comprehension and word meaning. The Springtown Lions Club's decision to invest in this program was wonderful news, and certainly represents an investment in our entire community's future.'

The Lions Club is continuing to raise money for this program to keep it going for Springtown-area children, and the plan is to have some fundraising events throughout the next year. The club also hopes to partner with businesses and organizations to help cover the cost. Wright said the long-term goal is to expand the program to cover all of Parker County. At the rate of more than \$4 per book, Wright said covering the whole county would cost about \$8,500 per month.

To register for the program or learn more about Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, visit https://imaginationlibrary.com/.

To donate to the Springtown Lions Club, email secretary@springtownlionsclub.org.

Hospital, a second passenger has been treated and released from Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Fort Worth and a third passenger remains hospitalized at Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Fort Worth with non-life-threatening injuries. The driver of the other vehicle, a Dodge Ram 1500, along with his three passengers were all treated at the scene for minor injuries and released.

At 4:15 p.m. Monday, Springtown police officers responded to reports of a

major accident in the 900 block of Williams-Ward Road. The preliminary investigation revealed that a Ford Explorer driven by a 17-yearold male and occupied by three passengers was traveling northbound on Williams-Ward Road at a high rate of speed when the vehicle, after losing control while navigating a curve in the roadway, crossed the into oncoming traffic and struck the Dodge Ram 1500 that was traveling southbound on Williams-Ward Road.

After the collision, the Ford Explorer left the roadway and ejected two of the passengers before overturning and ejecting a third passenger and then came to rest

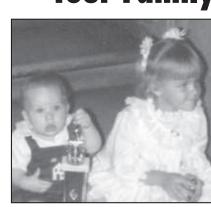
on its roof. The preliminary investigation with evidence at the scene showed the Explorer was traveling faster than the posted speed limit and that none of the Ford Explorer's occupants were wearing safety belts.

Also responding to the scene of the accident were multiple units from Parker County Emergency Services District 1, Lifecare EMS and Parker County Sheriff's deputies. The accident remains under investigation. Anyone with information about the accident is requested to contact Cpl. K. Hopkins at 817-220-0828 or by email at khopkins@springtownpd.



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Sept 26 - Sept 30, 2022 PK through 12th Grade

Breakfast Prices **EC-12th Reduced** Adult LUNCH PRICES PK-4th Grade. 5th-8th Grade. \$3.00 High School Reduced.

*Menus are subject to change

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

Monday Dutch Waffles, Strawberries Tuesday Breakfast Stick, Blueberries Wednesday Scramble Eggs, Apple Thursday Cinnamon Roll, Strawberry Applesauce Friday Strawberry & Vanilla Yogurt, Blueberry Muffin, Toast

K - 4th Lunch

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

Monday Salisbury Steak, Crispy Chicken Tenders, Roll, Mashed Potatoes Tuesday Spaghetti w/ meat Sauce, Green Beans, Cheesy Breadstick, Fresh Baby Carrots, Pineapple Cup Wednesday Cheeseburger or Hamburger, French Fries, Cucumber & Tomato Cup, Blueberries Thursday Tostada, Refried Beans, Corn, Applesauce Friday Cheese Pizza, Corn Dogs, Mixed Vegetables, Fresh Broccoli, Banana

5th - 12th Lunch

Monday General Tso's Chicken, Tangerine Chicken, Yogurt Protein Box, Broccoli, Fresh Carrots, Cucumber & Tomato Cup, Fried Rice Tuesday Pasta Bar (Meat Sauce or Grilled Chicken) Chicken Parm Bowl, Crispy Chicken Salad, Cheesy Breadstick Wednesday CatFish Po'Boy, CK Fried Steak Sandwich, Chicken Salad Sandwich Box, Tator Tots, Broccoli Salad Thursday Beef or Chicken Nachos, Refried Beans, Corn Friday Cheese Pizza, Hot Dog, Baked Potato, Baked Beans, Green Beans, Celery & Carrot Cup

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LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF KATHERINE C. CRANE, DECEASED: Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Katherine C. Crane, Deceased, were issued to Eileen A. Crane on the 14th day of September, 2022, in Cause No. 22P373, County Court of Parker County, Texas, which is still pending, and that Eileen A. Crane now holds such letters. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims should be billed to Eileen A. Crane, Executor, at the Law Office of Wendi E. Andino, PLLC, 1005 Fort Worth Highway, Weatherford, Texas 76086, care of Wendi E. Andino, Attorney. Dated this 14th day of September, 2022.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF GEORGE A. CRANE, JR., DECEASED: Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of George A. Crane, Jr., Deceased, were issued to Eileen A. Crane on the 14th day of September, 2022, in Cause No. 22P372, County Court of Parker County, Texas, which is still pending, and that Eileen A. Crane now holds such letters. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims should be billed to Eileen A. Crane, Executor, at the Law Office of Wendi E. Andino, PLLC, 1005 Fort Worth Highway, Weatherford, Texas 76086, care of Wendi E. Andino, Attorney. Dated this 14th day of September, 2022.

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Wild West Fest 2022





The Parker County Sheriff's Posse participated in the Wild West Festival parade Sept. 17 in Springtown. Below, Parker County Young Marines participated in the parade along with the Elvis impersonators, who specialize in doing stunts on their minibikes.



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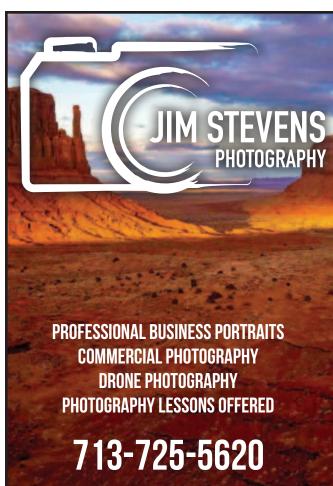
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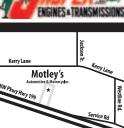
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Wild West Fest 2022







PHOTOS BY JIM STEVENS.

The Wild West Festival features the Heroes of the Old West historical reenactment. In the upper right, Marshal Wyatt Earp fires off his weapon. In the upper left are the actors in the reenactment. In the bottom picture is an engine from Parker County ESD I.





DIVERSIONS

THURSDAY, September 22, 2022

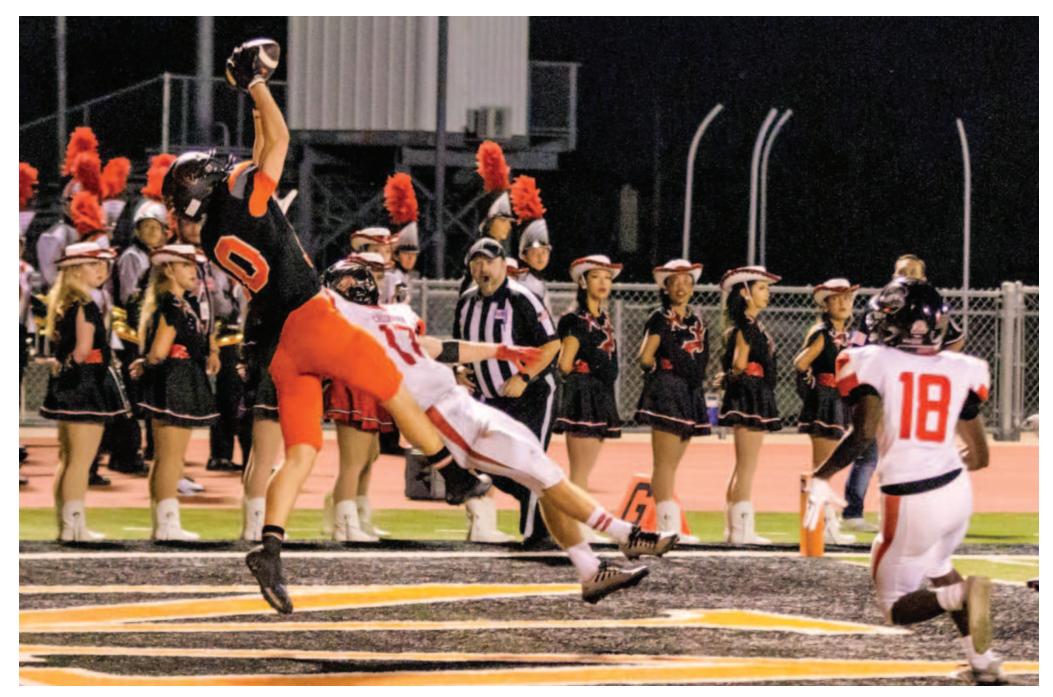


PHOTO BY STEVEN MARTER Brayden Fox goes high for a TD catch.

Porcupines please homecoming crowd by mugging Mustangs

BY JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

A pick-six is one of the most exciting plays in football. The term pick-six is football lingo for when a defensive player intercepts a pass and runs it for a touchdown.

At the homecoming game on Sept. 16, Springtown's pick-six on Creekview's first

play from scrimmage gave the Porcupines a 6-0 lead with just nine seconds gone from the clock. The hometown crowd that packed Porcupine Stadium went wild after seeing defensive back Drake Doggett nab the first pass of the game and race for

Creekview's second offensive possession didn't go

much better. Springtown's defense held tough and hit hard. Twice, Creekview trainers ventured onto the field to tend to hurt players. After three downs, the Mustangs

Creekview, however, was no homecoming patsy ripe for a mugging. The Mustangs are a 5A school with big players who compete with ferocity, and the Porcupines had to fight for every yard and every

With nine minutes remaining in the first half, Springtown quarterback Hudson Hulett broke a tackle and rambled half the length of the field to the 3-yard line. On the next play, he darted into the end zone to give Springtown a two-TD lead.

With 3 seconds remaining in the half, Hulett threw a long, beautiful pass to Brayden Fox, who made a difficult catch in the end zone to give the orange and black an 18-0 lead at halftime.

Neither team found the end zone in the third quarter, while an offensive explosion occurred in the fourth, with Springtown posting 21 and

Creekview scoring 14. Final score: Springtown 39, Creekview 14.

QUEEN FOR A YEAR

The halftime festivities offered their own moments of excitement. The homecoming court couples made their way to midfield one at a time dur-

SEE FOOTBALL, PAGE 4B.

SADDLE UP

Springtown rodeo team rides into new season



PHOTO BY JO H PHOTOGRAPHY

BY JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

Cows are grunting, goats scrambling and horses high kicking at the North Texas High School Rodeo Association Arena in Saginaw as Springtown's team embarks on another long ride through a fun-filled season.

About 90 teams compete in the NTHSRA.

At the season opener on Sept. 17-18, Springtown's Delaney Harris won second place in goat tying. In the same event, Kendall Gallaher and Makayla Ballard finished 20th and 25th, respectively.

In barrel racing, Kaylee Buchanan finished 21st, London Smith was 28th and Faith Styles was 55th.

Smith finished 13th in poles, and Styles finished 21st.

Landon Pitts took eighth place in team roping.

Greenhorns make up almost half of this season's rodeo team in Springtown. They will learn how to rope and ride as they go.

"I'm looking forward to watching this team grow as a team and as individual competitors within their respective events," said sponsor

Staci Harris. Springtown's team in-

cludes 17 members, "which is a great leap from last year," she said.

Last year's roster had fewer names and was diminished further by injuries and departures during the season.

Not everyone on Springtown's team will be inexperienced. The team boasts several accomplished rodeo veterans, including Stephanie Heil, Parker Koterba, Addyson Norris, London Smith and others.

Harris anticipates some learning pains along the

"As far as how I think the team will do compared to last season, it will definitely be tough competition as we have many freshmen who are new to rodeo and are continuing to learn their events," she said.

Last year's team was small in number but strong in talent, finishing in the Top 10 among schools. Several members qualified to compete at the finals.

This year's team remains something of a question mark since members have been practicing on their own during the offseason. The top performers will begin to establish themselves soon at the weekly rodeos.

PHOTO BY JEFF PRINCE Brinklee Dauenhauer goes high for a kill shot.

Springtown volleyball back home after weeks of road games

BY JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

Almost a month had passed since the Springtown volleyball team had played a home game, and the girls didn't make it easy for themselves with their return.

On Sept. 16, the Porcupines faced Aubrey, a top 10 team in the state with a roster that includes senior Sydney Garrison, who is on the American Volleyball Coaches Association All-America national watch list.

The home crowd was large and loud for the Lady Pines, but the girls began sluggishly in the first game and

found themselves behind 6-0 before head coach Leighann Strickland called a timeout to talk to her players in a group circle.

The team continued to struggle and fell behind 15-2 before staging a rally. Still, the game ended with Springtown on the short end of a 25-13 score.

The Porcupines rebounded in the second game and took a 10-7 lead before the battle turned into a back-and-forth affair. Eventually, Aubrey won 26-24 and took the third game 25-21.

"I knew going into our game with Aubrey that they were going to be very good," said Leighann Strickland, Springtown's head coach. "Our offense struggled putting the ball away and finding an open area on the court. Too many of our errors created an early gap in points and it was hard to come back from the deficit."

Brinklee Dauenhauer led the team in kills shots and digs. Kylie Druxman, Sterlyn Smith and Brooklyn Quintanilla also reached double digits in digs. Druxman provides all the team's assists.

Springtown will play its district opener at 5 p.m. Friday on the road against Krum.



Brooklyn Quintanilla, far right, is ready to log another dig.



SPRINGTOWN

Game Faces

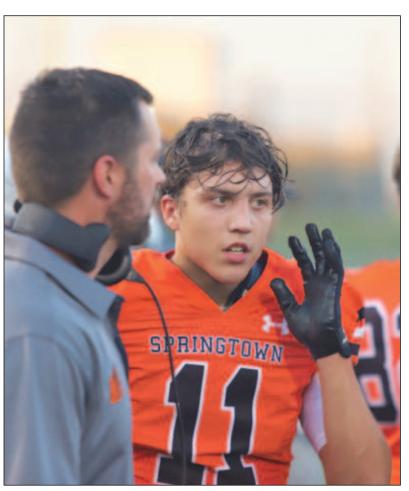
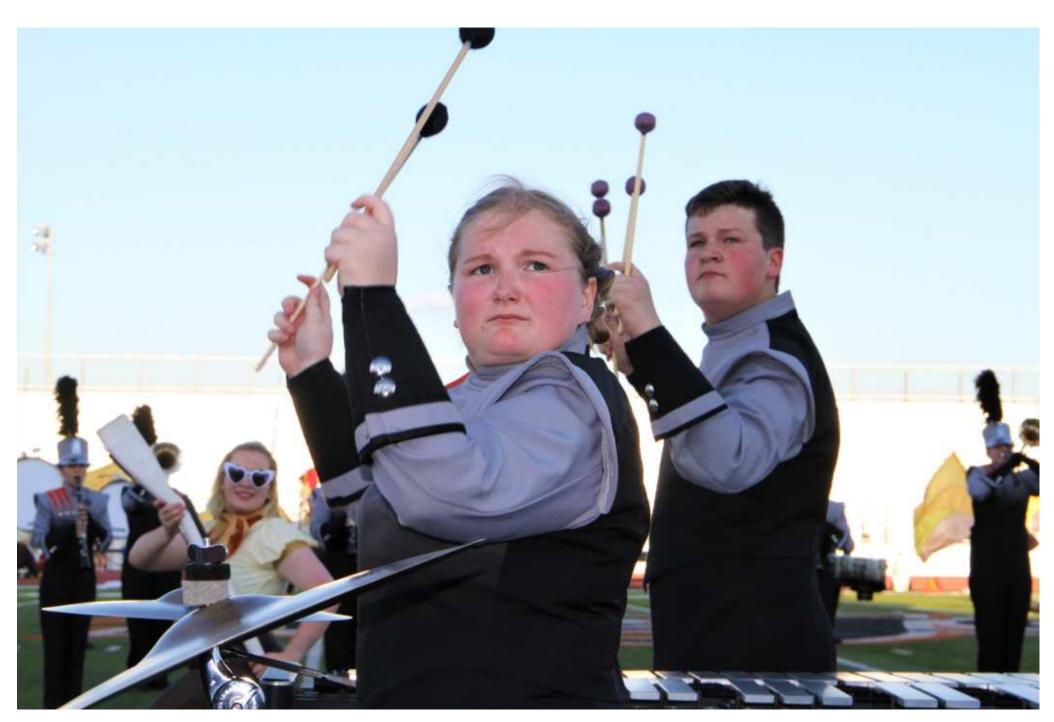






PHOTO BY JEFF PRINCE



From left, Heather Bailey and Caleb Morris play marimba and vibraphone, respectively, at the homecoming football game.

Springtown marching band members tackle unusual instruments

BY JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

The homecoming game - or any football game at Porcupine Stadium wouldn't be the same without the Sound of Springtown marching band providing a

musical spectacle. And the music wouldn't

sound the same without Caleb Morris. Heather Bailey and other drum line members pounding away on their large and heavy instruments.

Morris plays the vibraphone, a percussion instrument similar to a piano but with tuned metal bars for keys. A vibraphonist strikes the bars with rubber mallets.

"I love the vibraphone," he said. "It's one of the most beautiful instruments in band. You get some pretty elegant sounds out of it. They're like magical sounds. It just sounds great."

Morris is in his third year as a band member. He started on vibraphone, switched to another instrument for a

year, then returned to playing vibraphone this year.

"I realized the vibraphone was a significant instrument," Morris said.

Bailey is positioned just in front of Morris in the percussion section's front ensemble. She plays marimba, which resembles a vibraphone but is made with tuned wooden bars rather than metal and doesn't include a sustain pedal.

She has played marimba for two years. Striking the wooden bars with mallets isn't easy, but she appreciates the challenge.

"There is absolutely no rebound, so I have to use a lot of wrist," she said. "It's a lot

of work."

She isn't afraid of hard work.

"It makes me focus on

something," she said. And she enjoys spending time at practice and at performances.

"I love band," she said. "It's kind of like a family."



The Lady Porcupines dominated the 4A girls division at the Paschal Invitational.

Cross-Country team prevails at **Paschal Invitational**

FROM STAFF REPORTS

On Sept. 17, Springtown Lady Porcupines earned the team championship at the Paschal Invitational crosscountry meet held at Athletic Performance Ranch.

Springtown had seven individual medalists in addition to the team victory.

For the boys, Wesley Payne finished in fourth place, Peyton Weckar in 12th and Alexander Tice in 16th. For the Lady Pines, Aubrey

Mueller placed second, followed by Mackenzie Flaugher in fifth, Shayne Greenwood in 10th and London Smith in 14th.

Football Contest

WEEK 5

This week's contest confounded more than a few readers, who had difficulty finding Game No. 7 hidden in the ads. One reader pored over the ads with a magnifying glass and still couldn't find the game. The game was listed, but it was printed in dark letters on top of a dark background and became invisible almost. Therefore, Game 7 between Burkburnett and Bowie will be omitted from the tally.

This week's winner and the only contestant to pick nine games correctly was Manning Marsh, who wins \$20.

Four contestants picked eight games correctly, so the tiebreaker game between the Dallas Cowboys and Cincinnati Bengals was used to determine the winner. The Cowboys game generated 37 points. Brett Horton picked 36 points for the tiebreaker, and Margaret Swanzy picked 38. Both missed the tiebreaker score by just one point, so Horton and Swanzy will split the \$10 (second place) and \$5 (third place) prizes and earn \$7.50 apiece.



PHOTOS BY JEFF PRINCE

A large and vocal crowd filled the student section in a packed Porcupine Stadium.

FOOTBALL

FROM PAGE 1B

ing halftime introductions. Afterward, the homecoming queen was announced.

Kourtlyn Graham, wearing a bright pink dress she bought at Windsor, was crowned queen. Accompanying her was Tyson Roglin, who wore a dark suit with a hot pink tie to match his date's dress. Graham and Roglin have been friends since elementary school.

Graham expressed surprised to hear her name announced over the stadium loudspeakers.

"I didn't expect it, but I'm really grateful for it and so thankful for everybody that voted for me," she said.

Graham has lived in Springtown since first grade. She doesn't know why her peers voted for her as queen, but said she tries to treat people with respect and kindness.

"I'm nice to people and not

hateful," she said.

Standing on the sidelines with her bejeweled crown sparkling under the bright stadium lights, Graham said her only plans at the moment were to watch the remainder of the game and maybe grab a bite to eat

afterward.

What would she do with her crown?

"I don't know," she said. "Keep it somewhere safe." What will she do with her

dress?
"I guess keep it," she said.
"It's a memory."

MISSING MASCOT

Kaitlyn Baker's homecoming didn't turn out as expected.

Not long ago, she envisioned attending the SHS Homecoming game while wearing an orange-and-black full-length Velcro costume resembling a porcupine. The senior was selected as team mascot earlier in the year.

In July, she made her first appearance as POJO at a Springtown Lions Club cheer camp for young girls. The kids' faces brightened immediately upon seeing the odd-looking critter.

"It was fun," she said. "I enjoyed seeing the little kids get really excited."

The costume is a furry suit that includes a separate head piece, gloves and feet. They weren't uncomfortable, although wearing the suit did become hot.

Just like football can be unpredictable, so can the life of a mascot. In August, Baker tore her meniscus while practicing gymnastics.



Hudson Hulett comes just short of scoring on this play, but the quarterback ran the ball for a touchdown on the next to give Springtown a 12-0 lead over Creekview in the first quarter.

Doctors performed surgery on Sept. 8, and she must remain in her brace for several more weeks. By the time she will have rehabilitated her knee, the season might be over.

"The mascot entails getting in the Porcupine uniform and going around being exciting and being hyped and surprising the little kids and putting a smile on their faces," she said.

Hard to do on a bad knee. Instead of riling up the hometown crowd in a Porcupine costume, Baker sat in a wheelchair on the sidelines with the cheerleaders and yelled through a megaphone during homecoming.

"I'm happy to be here," she

So were other Springtown fans after cheering the

Porcupines to victory, seeing Graham crowned as queen and watching Baker invigorate the crowd despite a bum leg.

Springtown (2-2) plays at 7 p.m. Friday at Glen Rose (3-1).



Brayden Fox is treated for an ankle injury on the sidelines.



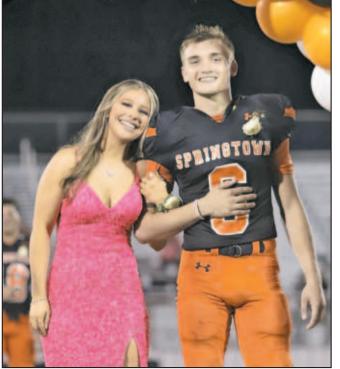
Kaitlyn Baker overcomes a knee injury to keep cheering.

Springtown 2022 Homecoming Court

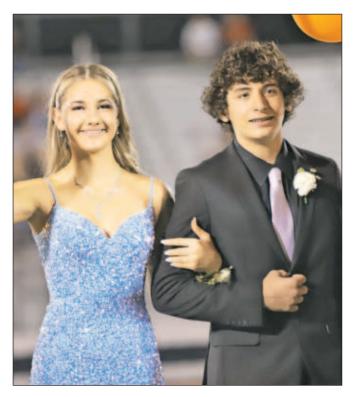
PHOTOS BY JEFF PRINCE

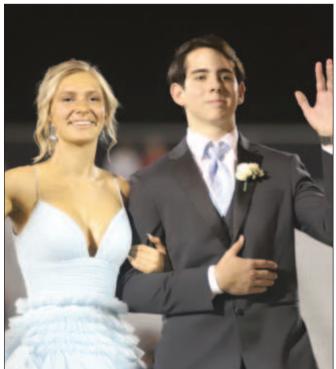
Homecoming court couples acknowledge the crowd from midfield during the halftime ceremonies. Top row: freshmen Emily Plumlee and Parker Kirk, seniors Macy Chavez and Speck Behlé and seniors Lauren Brandt and Tye Goree. Middle row: sophomores Kelbie Druxman and Logan Dostie, seniors Madison Meeks (runner-up) and Clark Coplen and juniors Paige Winstead and Alex Rivera. Bottom row: seniors Jada Liles and Logan Heaton, seniors Reaghan Fortner and Aaron Bowen and seniors Madison Evans and Dean Smith. Not pictured: seniors Madison Martin and Dalton Sparks.







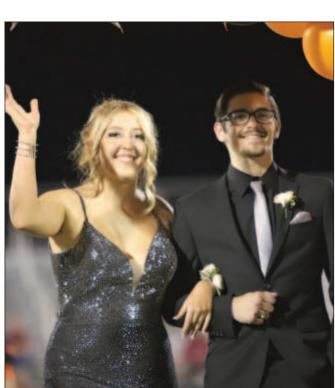












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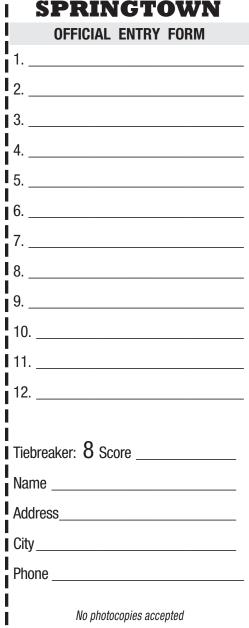
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There are 12 games listed in advertisements on this page. To enter, pick the winner and write the name of that team in the appropriate blank on the official entry form.

Deliver the form to Highland Furniture on the north side of the Square by 6 PM Friday.

Entries will be tabulated weekly and the results published in that week's issue of the Springtown Epigraph. Winners may pick up their checks at the office after Thursday. The first place winner each week will receive \$20, the second place winner \$10 and the third place winner \$5. The tiebreaker will be used to determine placings. In case of a tie, the money will be divided equally. To pick the tiebreaker, predict the total number of points in the selected game and enter in the appropriate space on the official entry form. All entries become the property of the Springtown Epigraph. Please write clearly and be sure to enter your pick in the correct blank. Second tiebreaker decided by whoever picks Azle and Springtown games correctly.





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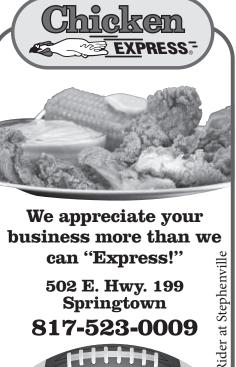
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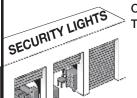


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940-433-5539 FIRST BAPTIST PEASTER FM 920 in Peaster

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or Sale	55 Miscellaneous
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Tired of always replacing your roof? Call us for a metal roof quote.

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817-523-4137 Here Before The Storm, Here Long After.

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Insurance Claims, Licensed Local Business 34 Yrs

ECE CONSTRUCTION LLC cell 817-615-7164 | office 817-831-2600

068 Storage

INNERSPACE STORAGE. Hwy 199, Springtown. Now renting all unit sizes, 24-hour access. 682-

Advertising Works!



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Springtown Epigraph 817-220-7217

owner Rodney Vick 817-220-3044 fax 817-523-7639 cell 817-253-1614

Construction **Metal Building**

- Specialist
- Weld Ups/ Bolt Ups
- Pipe Fencing
- Concrete
- Horse Barns
- All Types Fencing Metal Roofs

Compare Pricing NO JOB TOO SMALL

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40x50 building For Rent, 3 miles west of Springtown. 817-713-7495.

RV's for Rent

Nice 1BR RV in adult RV park. Great for older person on limited income. Starts at \$550/mo. All Bills Paid. Heritage RV Park 817-444-3760.

084 Mobile Homes for Rent

Pelican Bay: 1524 Partridge, 1-1, stove/fridge, central heat, window unit, \$585/mo. \$400 deposit. Owner/Broker 817-988-

Nice 2-2 SW, quiet area, Azle ISD, fenced yard. Qualified Tenants Wanted. 817-228-2414.

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Beautiful RV Spots available in nice, quiet area near Eagle Mountain Lake. \$400/mo. plus electric. Call for more information 817-228-2414.



- Fabrication Supplies Metal Buildings
- Steel Components
- Welding Supplies Concrete Supplies

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Contracting

- Deer Blinds • Deer Feeders

Pipe Fencing

8894 W Hwy 199 • Springtown 817-220-0008 Open to www.SolidSS.com the Public

> **086 Mobile Home/RV Lots** POJO RV PARK

302 Allison Road Springtown, TX 76082 817-925-3673

30x60 RV Spaces Available

One small inside pet allowed

NEAR POJO STADIUM

Rent Unfurnished 3-2 Duplex for Rent in Springtown. \$1,200/mo. \$600

deposit, no pets. 817-980-3066.

2BR 2BA in Springtown. \$950/ mo \$950 security. 817-220-4095. 1833 PELICAN DR. N.

2-2-1 \$1,295 MO. \$1,000 DEP. 1920 PELICAN DR. N. 3-2-1 \$1,595.MO \$1,000 DEP. Gene Thompson & Associates 817-246-4646 gtatx.com

AZLE OAKS APARTMENT 700 JARVIS • AZLE 817-444-1712

& 2 Bedroom Unfurnished

Accepting Applications Rent based on income 800-735-2989 **5**

Continued next page...

Deadline: 1:00 PM FRIDAY

Classifieds

TEXAS

CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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088

Rent Unfurnished

Cross Companies Residential Properties

Family-owned, family-run



Stewart Bend Duplex Homes: 2 & 3 bedroom units available at \$1,225 & \$1,325. Quiet, clean, non-smoking. CALL 817-401-1796.

Silver Creek RV Park: Designed for local long-term stays. Best common building in Azle, secluded and quiet, city water/sewer. \$475 with \$75 electricity allotment; ABP in winter. CALL or TEXT 682-499-8616 or email scrvoffice@gmail.com.

Barton Cottages Tiny Home Community:

COMING SUMMER 2022! Email BartonCottages@gmail.com

GENE THOMPSON & ASSOCIATES HOMES and MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT 817-246-4646

SELL IT IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

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- 44 military assistant 45 "plumb crazy"
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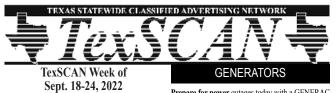
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hoot holler"

walk"

24 homemade liquor

- 28 U.S. still has on Cuban cigars 31 has a debt 34 TXism: " as the bottom of a well"
- 35 cowboy bolo 37 Shreveport LPTV 40 "One ____, one Ranger" 23 TXism: "don't give a
 - 42 TX George Strait hit: " _ Come to Expect It From You'
 - 43 TXism: "his recall overhaul
 - 49 type of Apache 50 Ranger announcer, Nadel (init.)



ACREAGE Own your piece of Texas TODAY! Prices starting at \$650/acre. Trans Pecos region. Also the Hill Country (Edwards, Menard, Coke, Val Verde Counties - free ranging exotics), South Texas (Duval County - whitetail, hogs). Large acreage or small. 30 year fixed rate owner financing, only 5% down.

Call toll free or email for individual prices and terms. www.ranchenterprisesltd.com, 800-876-9720. **MEDICAL**

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Old Signs Wanted - Cash paid for porcelain, neon and tin signs. Also buying neon clocks, old slot machines and jukeboxes. Any condition. Call Mark

FREON WANTED: Certified buyer looking to buy R11, R12, and R500 and more. Call Joe at 312-625-5322

Need Extra Cash - I Buy RVs & Mobile Homes -Travel Trailers, 5th Wheels, Goosenecks, Bumper Pulls. In Any Area, Any Condition - Old/New, Dirty or Clean! I PAY CA\$H. No Title - No Problem, we can apply for one. We go anywhere in Texas. ANR Enterprises, 956-466-7001

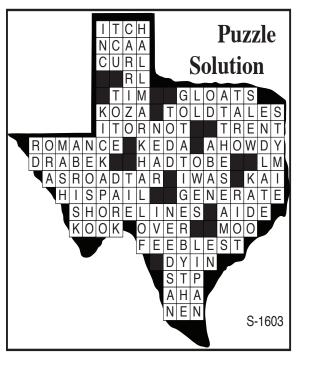
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A great way to raise extra money!

Call today for more info.

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Springtown Epigraph

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817-237-2028

Cozart metal

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Welding

079

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Parts Drivers/ Warehouse Associates

Must have valid TXDL with acceptable driving record. Overtime available and room for advancement. Monday-Friday work week.

Lube Tech

Experience a plus, but willing to train the right candidates. Must have a valid TXDL with acceptable driving record. Must be responsible and dependable. Monday-Friday work week.

Wholesale Sales Associate

Sign-on Bonus

Looking for fulltime wholesale sales associates. Experience is a PLUS! Ford Certified preferred but NOT REQUIRED. Apply in person @ 605 N Business 287 Ste 102, Decatur, TX 76234.

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Sign-on Bonus

Experience highly preferred, but will train the right candidate. Must have excellent customer service skills and ability to work well in a process driven environment.



No Positions Available at This Time

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(Hershey Ice Cream Distributor)

No Positions Available at This Time

Karl Klement Properties, Inc.

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Ideal candidate will possess an administrative background as well as strong customer service skills; however willing to train the right candidate. Must be dependable, proficient in MS Word and Excel, multi-tasker, and able to thrive in a fast paced environment.

Facilities Manager

Must be customer service oriented, have a clean driving record and be able to pass pre-employment screening. Experience a plus, but will train the right person!

For consideration of all positions apply in person: 605 N. Business 287, Suite 102, Decatur, Texas OR CALL Human Resources Dept: Jodi Pettis, Alyssa Jacobs, or Lynn Mallwitz @ 940-627-6362

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Hiring Route Drivers for Our Growing Company! **\$1,000.00 Hiring Bonus**

Seeking Route Drivers that are hardworking, enthusiastic, with a strong motivation for success! Interpersonal and customer service skills are strongly recommended. Must have a valid TX DL with an acceptable driving record

Join our team at Klement Distribution, Inc. delivering Hershey's Ice Cream! Not only will you be putting smiles on people's faces, you will earn a great income for yourself!

As a Route Driver you will unload, stock and rotate products, collect and deposit client payments and move on to your next stop, always ensuring that our customers are satisfied!

We offer:

· Competitive salary · Paid training, vacation and holidays

· Promote from within advancement opportunities! • Monday through Friday work-week; NO WEEKENDS!

Real ingredients, real ice cream, real smiles! Apply Now!

Contact Alyssa Jacobs at 940-627-6362 or submit resume to Alyssa.Jacobs@klementford.com



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040



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- Rock
- Granite Tile
- Siding
- Painting
- Insulation • Kitchen/ **Bath**
- Seamless **Gutters**
- Powerwashing
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Call Devin at 817-629-9608

062



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40 Years Experience

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- Tile & Laminate Floors
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- Cabinets & Countertops No Job Too Small

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- Trucks And Trailers
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Plumbing

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Pipe Fencing

8894 W Hwy 199 • Springtown 817-220-0008 Open to www.SolidSS.com the Public

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302 Allison Road Springtown, TX 76082 817-925-3673

30x60 RV Spaces Available

One small inside pet allowed

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& 2 Bedroom Unfurnished

Accepting Applications Rent based on income 800-735-2989 **5**

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088

Rent Unfurnished

Cross Companies Residential Properties

Family-owned, family-run



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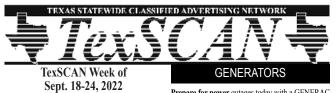
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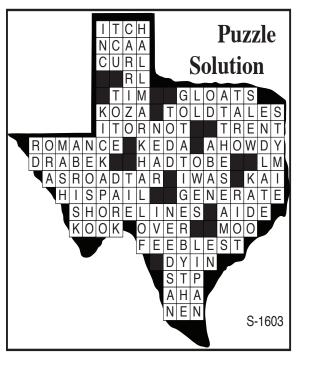
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A great way to raise extra money!

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