

Reigning cats and dogs



Springtown animal control officer cares for strays, lost pets

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
madelyn@azlenews.net

After almost a month after its launch, animal control services in Springtown are in full swing.

At the helm of those services is Sage Lingo, Springtown's new animal control officer. She's the go-to person to handle intake services – in partnership with code compliance workers and police officers – and take care of the shelter animals.

But one thing that Lingo is not trying to do is take anyone's pet away from them. It's a common misconception, she said, that an animal control officer aims to take away pets from their owners.

"I don't want to keep people's pets. That is not my goal," Lingo said. "My goal is to make sure that they're cared for as they should be. Everyone has different versions of that, but as long as they have the basics – they're in a healthy, happy environment; they're well cared for – that's our goal."

Lingo's job entails picking up loose animals to protect them from harm as well as prevent them from harming humans or causing car wrecks. She also is focused on preventing the spread of diseases in animal

communities.

"There's also the safety concerns if there are animals running rampant, making sure everybody's vaccinated and preventing the spread of rabies and other diseases," Lingo said. "There's a fair amount that are contagious to people that not everyone knows about, and that's a real issue. My main goal is just to help make sure that people are educated."

Before starting her current position, Lingo was a veterinary technician who performed a wide variety of tasks, including surgeries and taking care of the boarded animals.

Lingo has wanted to work with animals since at least the first grade, she said.

"I've always had a drive to make sure they're well cared for. I've always gotten along with the majority of animals," Lingo said. "I like to spend time with the ones that are a little shy, not quite as outgoing, maybe they're a little scared and get to have them come out of their shell, make some progress as far as trusting people, doing a little bit of training."

As far as caring for animals, her work at Springtown's animal shelter is similar to what she did

SEE ANIMALS, PAGE 9A.

PHOTO BY MADELYN EDWARDS

Springtown's new animal control officer Sage Lingo has spent time socializing shelter cats and getting them ready to be adopted.

Springtown man dies in SH 199 crash

BY CARLA NOAH STUTSMAN
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A Springtown man was killed in a two-vehicle accident Oct. 19 in Azle.

Charles Wesley Markum III, 37, was transported from the scene of the accident in the 1300 block of Northwest Parkway (State Highway 199) to Texas Health Azle, where he was pronounced dead a short time later.

According to a report filed by Azle police, Markum was driving a blue 2016 Jeep Cherokee in the right-hand, westbound lane of

Northwest Parkway shortly before 8 a.m. when his vehicle collided with the rear of a 2001 Kenworth T880 tractor-trailer. The report says the tractor-trailer, driven by Salvatore Gonzalez Cervantes, 33, of Richland Hills, was preparing to turn right into a construction zone when the driver felt an impact from the rear.

Although the Cherokee's airbags deployed in the crash, the report said Markum was not wearing a seatbelt at the time of the crash.

Springtown's Dodd has lived a life of service



COURTESY PHOTO
Mike Dodd in Vietnam, 1967.

EDITOR'S NOTE: First of two stories recognizing area military veterans before the release of the special supplement on Nov 10.

BY CARLA NOAH STUTSMAN
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A lifelong Springtown resident from a multi-generational Springtown family, Mike Dodd is well-known around town.

Many know the 75-year-old retired in 2000 as a lieutenant with the Fort Worth Police Department after serving that city's residents for

SEE DODD, PAGE 3A.



Dr. Josh Richard

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BEST OF PARKER COUNTY Inside

SISD continues to discuss needs at fourth facilities planning meeting

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
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Shannon McCabe has two children in the Springtown ISD, is very involved in the schools – as a band parent and occasional substitute teacher – and wants others in the community to be educated on the district’s space needs.

“When you’re in the schools and you’re working in the schools, you see the needs,” she said. “You see how crammed these kids are in these rooms. You see how desperate these teachers are because they’re trying to control these massive classes of kids.”

McCabe, other parents and community members gathered at Springtown Middle School last week for another one of SISD’s facilities planning meetings. This is the fourth meeting of its kind this school year regarding space needs at SISD campuses.

Last year, the school board called for a bond election twice to be able to build additional classrooms and a new elementary school. Both times, the bond proposals failed to be passed by voters, and district leaders have had to deal with space needs in other ways, such as through restructuring rooms or by installing more portable buildings.

Space is tight at the middle school as well. All classrooms at the middle school have been assigned to a teacher during the school day, SISD Superintendent Mike Kelley said. The middle school would have benefited from the last bond election by gaining some classrooms and restrooms.

“The reality is this building is about as full as it can be,” Kelley said.

The meeting at the middle school last week included presentations from Steve Risser, of Gallagher Construction Services, and Joshua McLaughlin, managing director and director of Texas Public Finance at Bok Financial Securities. McLaughlin talked about and answered questions regarding public school finances and paying for bond debt,

while Risser covered the cost of construction.

Risser said after the meeting that he can tell that the people at the meeting were engaged and interested in their community’s future.

“You can really tell a lot of people here support the kids, and they want what’s in the best interest of the kids,” he said about the Springtown community.

The next chance for the board to call for a bond election is in February for a May election. The district is in the process of forming a planning committee to make recommendations regarding facilities to the school board. The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 14 at Goshen Creek Elementary School. Kelley expects to meet again in December at Springtown High School.

One attendee asked what a future bond project would cost and what it would include. The answer to those questions are up to the community, Kelley said.

“As you guys get a chance to see each of these campuses and what those needs are, identify those needs, and then we’ll talk about what might that cost,” he said.

Someone asked whether the SISD could get support for space needs from the city – to which Kelley said city taxes can’t be used to fund schools – or by fundraising. Kelley said some programs could be supported by fundraisers but fundraising for space, outside of utilizing private donors, isn’t a certain solution.

SISD Board President Rick Beall said the school district couldn’t collect impact fees or taxes to people moving into the area. However, growth can lessen the burden of taxes, he said.

“The more of these houses that come in, it lessens your share,” Beall said during the meeting. “They’re still coming in, but it’s also helping your tax rate in the long run because there’s more taxable value. If they build 30 more houses, it’s going to help lower that tax impact that’s already there.”

Kelley was asked what the plan is to address space needs if a future bond elec-



PHOTOS BY MADELYN EDWARDS

Parents and community members gathered at Springtown Middle School on Oct. 17 for another one of Springtown ISD’s facilities planning meetings. This is the fourth meeting of its kind regarding space needs at SISD campuses.

tion fails again. He said the district may need to cut certain programs in that case.

“We would have to have some really difficult discussions about what our most primary needs are and work backwards from there,” Kelley said. “We’d have to cut some programs to come up with additional money.”

PARENT FEEDBACK

To help teachers and students, McCabe said utilizing bond money is necessary even if that means increased taxes.

“It is a small price to pay for our future generations,” she said. “I think it’s a small price to pay for safety for future generations and a quality education for our future generations.”

While McCabe has attended multiple planning meetings, Jose Ramirez attended his first one last week at the middle school. Ramirez, who is also a parent of two SISD students, heard about the meeting on Facebook and decided it was too important to miss.

After the meeting, Ramirez said it’s up to parents to look at the options and make informed decisions moving

forward.

“I think there’s some concerned parents and concerned taxpayers. I think everybody has good intentions, and I think the focus is where it needs to be, which is what’s best for the kids,” he said about the planning meeting. “I think the hard part is what’s the best way forward because everything is getting more expensive. It’s not getting cheaper, and there’s going to be sacrifices made somewhere.”

Ramirez said he has heard from his children that space at their schools is tight, and bathrooms are crowded, and he would use their feedback in his consideration of a future bond proposal.

SISD parent Stephanie Mendoza said last week’s planning meeting was informative and allowed her to have a better understanding.

If another bond election was called, Mendoza didn’t hesitate to say that she’d support it.

“I believe that we do need to help, not just for my kids, but if my kids decide that they want to live here for the rest of their lives, for their kids,” she said.

What will it take for a bond



Steve Risser, of Gallagher Construction Services, talked about construction costs at Springtown ISD’s facilities planning meeting on Oct. 17 at Springtown Middle School.

election to pass?

“I think it’s honestly just more awareness and just be-

ing well informed into why these decisions are so important,” Mendoza said.



Joshua McLaughlin, managing director and director of Texas Public Finance at Bok Financial Securities, addressed members of the Springtown ISD community at the facilities planning meeting on Oct. 17 at Springtown Middle School.

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Reno City Council approves pump motors purchase

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
madelyn@azlenews.net

Reno City Council approved purchasing pump motors at a meeting last week.

Mayor Sam White said a temporary pump system has been in place because the original pump system wasn't big enough to adequately supply water to the area near Rocky Top, Scenic Woods Estates and North Cardinal. He also said water pressure needed to be improved.

"We're having to increase the size of the pumps," White said.

The cost of the new pump system was almost \$20,000

and is funded by grant funds, White said.

The temporary system with a diesel generator and rental pumps is costing \$30,000 per month, so the new permanent system will be more cost effective, White said.

At another council meeting on Monday, the council approved a bid to install electricity for the pump motors, which will replace the generator that has been used there.

The permanent pumps have to be ordered, and the mayor said he doesn't know when the new system will be in place.

Also at last week's meeting, council denied issuing a special use permit for

Charles Gappa to build a shed on his property, which is about 70 acres, at 624 S. Reno Road. At a Planning and Zoning meeting earlier this year, Gappa said the shed would be used for recreational purposes for his family, and electricity, air conditioning and a sewer system for restrooms will have to be installed.

White said the council did not approve the special use permit for the shed because it is smaller than what the ordinances require.

"He has a 320-foot shed that he's trying to use it as a dwelling, and our ordinances say it has to be over 900 square feet," White said.

DODD

FROM PAGE 1

more than 28 years.

But his life of service began not long after he graduated Springtown High School in 1965 when - knowing he'd soon be drafted to fight in Vietnam - he decided to enlist in the U.S. Marines.

When he arrived back home that day in 1966, his draft notice was in the mailbox.

ONLY THE GOOD STUFF

Like so many veterans, Dodd is hesitant to talk about the combat he experienced or any of the darker aspects of the Vietnam War.

"I'm still here, still kicking. So we'll just talk about the good stuff," he said.

A natural storyteller, Dodd spoke about the highlights of his two years in the Marines, grazing over the "bad stuff" - such as eating a popsicle laced with crushed glass, getting "blown up," and being shot twice in one day - and focusing instead on the "good stuff."

THE LUSH, TROPICAL ROAD TO VIETNAM

Shortly after his graduation from boot camp, while awaiting orders, Dodd and several people from his unit were just hanging around one day when the drill instructor came in and asked him pointedly, "Who do you know?"

Confused, Dodd stammered that he didn't know



COURTESY PHOTO
Mike Dodd in uniform, 1966.

anyone and asked the instructor why he would ask such a question. "Well, you're going to Hawaii," the instructor said.

He went happily and spent about nine months at Kaneohe Marine Corps Base on the opposite side of Oahu from Waikiki. He refers to the location as the Jurassic Park side of the island, remarking that the big gates where the animals went in and out in the movies are still there - he got to see them from a helicopter when

he visited Hawaii a few years ago.

While at Kaneohe, Dodd was sent to NCO (Non-Commissioned Officer) school, where he graduated second in his class and was subsequently promoted to the rank of corporal.

"They were really short of NCOs at the time, and one morning during roll call, they asked for volunteers to go to Vietnam. Well, a bunch of us idiots stuck our hands up in

SEE DODD, PAGE 9A.

Springtown overdose awareness group continues second annual holiday food drive

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
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Springtown overdose awareness group "We ARE our brothers keeper" is collecting food to hand out to needy local families ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday.

The deadline to donate food for the second annual Baskets of Love Thanksgiving Food Drive is Nov. 21. Donations - which can include hams, turkeys, pies, vegetables and potatoes - can be dropped off at The Nutrition Lodge, Springtown Floors and Springtown High School. Thanksgiving is Nov. 24.

"We ARE our brothers keeper" founder Jessica Castro said she's gotten a good response from the community so far. She has

received donations and people have contacted her to get more information about donating.

The group gave away about 25 meal baskets last year, and Castro expects that the need this year will be doubled.

"We're really hoping to get a lot of donations," she said.

Castro decided to continue the Baskets of Love for a second year after seeing how beneficial they were last year.

"I really, last year, was thinking that we just want to help a little bit, and it was such a need that we just decided this year we still need to help," she said.

This year, the food drive has the help of Springtown High School's Family,

Career and Community Leaders of America chapter. Castro said the FCCLA students did a project previously related to the overdose awareness group and are partnering with multiple "We ARE our brothers keeper" activities.

"They're pairing up with us to do the donations for the baskets. They're going to help with the next cleanup day that we have. A lot of different activities that we're doing the school is going to be a part of, so we're super excited for that," Castro said.

Those in need of holiday food can contact Castro about getting a basket. For more information about the food drive, call 817-629-6129.

The BIGGEST Mistake Low Back Pain Sufferers Make



By Local Health Expert Dr. Robert Moss PT, ScD, OCS, FAAOMPT

If you or someone you know has back pain then this article is for you.

This is something very close to my heart as I have suffered with lower back pain through the years. My Dad and brother have also suffered with lower back pain which became so bad they both underwent dangerous surgery to try and fix their problem.

They live in San Antonio (where I grew up) and I felt guilty that I was not able to help them, but hopefully my 23+ years of experience can help you.

Fortunately my dad did okay after his surgery. I can't say the same for my brother, but that is a story for another day.

Over the years I have discovered some things that are not taught in physical therapy school. One of the major awakenings is that as humans we have a tendency to procrastinate and not handle issues when they first come up, I am no different.

However when it comes to health issues this is definitely the wrong approach. When you start to experience back or leg pain (also called sciatica) most people tend to ignore the pain and pretend it will go away on their own.

This is what I call the **Biggest mistake**. By ignoring your pain you are potentially setting yourself up for larger and more costly problems in the long run. The faster you address the problem the greater chance of success which leads to your ability to return to normal life.

A **second mistake** I frequently see is that people with back pain try to alter their symptoms by taking dangerous medications, having injections or surgery. Don't get me wrong there is a time and place for injections and possibly surgery but not at the onset.

Most people don't exhaust all of their conservative care options before trying more risky options.

Even taking over the counter medications is a form of "altering" their pain.

It is one thing to take some tylenol or ibuprofen to reduce some pain and inflammation while getting to the root cause of the pain and doing something about it vs only taking medications. Just because the pain reduces doesn't mean the problem has been taken care of.

We frequently see people in the clinic who have had back pain for months, and were sent to see a pain management specialist who did a series of injections. Maybe they got some relief but it wasn't permanent. Then they wind up in our office to help.

This is backwards. Injections have the great chance of working when combined WITH physical therapy at the same time, not as an either or situation.

So what do the most successful people do when they have back pain? They address their problem.

I call it the 3 D's Principle to handle any problem in life - Don't Ignore it, Don't Mask It, Do Something About It.

If you feel you would really enjoy helping yourself find relief from that annoying, nagging lower back pain, get off the pain pills and avoid surgery then I have something for you.

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The author, Dr. Robert Moss PT, ScD is the owner of MOSS Rehabilitation Center in Springtown, TX. He is happy to help you with your back pain and sciatica problems either by phone 817-220-MOSS (6677) or email robert@springtownphysical



LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The City of Springtown, Texas, hereafter called the City, is requesting sealed written Proposals for furnishing all labor, materials, equipment, supervision, and incidentals for performing all Work required for the City of Springtown Building Inspection Services. A non-mandatory pre-proposal meeting is scheduled for November 4, 2022, 9:00 a.m. at the City of Springtown Municipal Annex Building, 200 North Main Street, Springtown, Texas 76082. Sealed Proposals will be received at the offices of the Director of Administrative Services/ Interim City Secretary, City of Springtown, 102 East Second Street, Springtown, TX 76082 until 2:00 p.m. on November 10, 2022. Any Proposals received after the closing time will not be accepted for consideration and will be returned unopened.

All Proposals must be clearly marked on the outside with the following: City of Springtown Building Inspection Services. Proposal documents may be obtained free of charge at the City of Springtown, 102 East Second Street, Springtown, TX 76082, by emailing Christina Derr, Director Administrative Services/Interim City Secretary, cderr@cityofspringtown.com. Questions regarding the Request for Proposal shall be directed to: Christina Derr, City of Springtown Director Administrative Services/Interim City Secretary, cderr@cityofspringtown.com. Questions regarding this Proposal must not be directed to other City of Springtown council, commission, committee, or staff members. Clarification requests will not be accepted by telephone. Questions pertaining to this Proposal must be received no later than seven (7) calendar days prior to the closing date.

There will be a Public Auction at 9am Friday, November 4th to satisfy monies owed on a 1996 Mariah boat, vin # MAB12719E696 with a matching trailer (no vin). Little Boat House 1457 E HWY 199, Springtown 76082.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On November 15, 2022, at 7 p.m. the City of Springtown City Council acting as the Zoning Board of Adjustments will hold a public hearing and consider a request for variance for the required rear yard setback for Lot 31, Block 1, Inheritance Estates, being an addition to the City of Springtown, Parker County, Texas also known as 309 Titus Drive, Springtown, Parker County, Texas. The meeting will take place in the Council Chambers and the Municipal Annex Building located at 200 North Main Street, Springtown, Texas 76082.

Notice Of Public Hearing

On November 10, 2022, at 6:30 p.m., the City of Springtown Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider a recommendation to the City Council on a request for a zoning change request for Lot 1R, Block 8, Tummins Addition, an addition to the City of Springtown, Parker County, Texas from SF-2 Single Family Residential 2 to MF Multifamily. On November 15, 2022, at 7 p.m., the City of Springtown City Council will hold a public hearing and consider the Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendation on the same. Both meetings will take place in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Annex Building located at 200 North Main Street, Springtown, Texas 76082.



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SHS performs in 'Wiley and the Hairy Man'

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Springtown High School Porcupine Players performed the children's play "Wiley and the Hairy Man" last week.

According to the Springtown Theatre Facebook page, the play by Suzan Zeder is about a young boy, his conjure-woman mother, his faithful best-friend dog and the Hairy Man who haunts Wiley's thoughts and dreams. The play is about Wiley learning to use his own creativity and wits to conquer the Hairy Man.

The Porcupine Players put on two showings of the play, one on Oct. 20 and the other Oct. 22.

The titular character Wiley was played by Nova Gould in both showings. Mama was played by Emily Adams on Thursday and Alexa Teague

on Saturday. On Thursday, the character Dog was played by Dom Tamaoki, and the Hairy Man was played by Aiden Perrotta. On Saturday, Dog was played by Carolina Williams, and the Hairy Man was played by Makai Seigrist.

The cast of critters included Allison Stott, Bianca Mikkelson, Bernard Bast, Blaze Bird, Cadence Morris, David Hancock, Jamie Hughes, Joey Rios, Lyn Lorasch, Malia Vincent-Wilson, Nick Takas, Presleigh Carr, Kiran Morrison, Saphira Drennan, Sarah Grazer, Scott Baker-Thompson, Spencer Hancock, Taylor Ryken, Virginia Washington and Rox Macal.

The production wouldn't have been the same without the efforts of the crew members behind the scenes. Taylor Ryken and Tara Farner

served as stage managers. The lighting crew included Bernard Bast, Kason Long, James West and Cody O'Neill. Jason Patterson provided original pre-show music. Others on the sound crew included Jacob Rojas, Elizabeth Stott and Hailey Hughes.

Emma Rodriguez, Aiden Perrotta, Bernard Bast, Kylee Kristensen and Tyler Russell worked on the set. The costume crew included Alexia Rios-Soto, Ellie Nichols, Lily Rogers and Ryder Summers. The props crew included Aiden Perrotta, Ellie Nichols, Brayden Hillier and Dom Tamaoki. The make-up crew included Alexia Rios-Soto, Lyn Lorasch, Lily Rogers and Faith Green.


"Wiley and the Hairy Man" was directed by SHS theater teacher Shandi Bowsher.




COURTESY PHOTOS
Nova Gould clutches a tree on the set of "Wiley and the Hairy Man," a play performed by the Springtown High School Porcupine Players on Oct. 20 and Oct. 22.



The Springtown High School Porcupine Players performed in the children's play "Wiley and the Hairy Man" on Oct. 20 and Oct. 22 in the SHS auditorium. The play was about a young boy who learns to use his own creativity and wits to conquer the Hairy Man who haunts his thoughts and dreams.



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SHS First Responders Club trains students for public safety careers, makes waves in competition

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
madelyn@azlenews.net

Springtown High School senior Samantha Morris is looking forward to this school year's First Responders Club competition.

Last year, she competed in report writing and advanced to state. Several of her fellow club members also advanced to state for the first time in the club's history.

"We're hopefully going to state this year," Morris said. "We have a gigantic group this time."

The club started up three years ago in the 2019-20 school year and provides students with hands-on training in first responder careers, such as police, fire services, emergency medical services and forensics. SHS teachers Larynn Bolyer and Terri Massey serve as advisers to the club.

Morris said she joined the club last year and had always wanted to be a part of it. Her career goal is to be a game warden or a national parks officer because she enjoys working with animals.

"I want to work in the outdoors and with animals, so I thought game warden would be my best bet," Morris said.

The students in the club have only had two opportunities to compete in three years because the COVID-19 pandemic halted competition in 2021. Students from

the club competed at regionals in the 2019-20 school year and didn't advance to state.

The students were able to bounce back strong last school year when 12 of the 13 students who competed at regionals advanced to state, Bolyer said.

"We were very proud of how they did," she said.

Bolyer attributed the success at competition to practice and hard work. The club has also hosted guest speakers who will help the students train for competition.

"I can train them one way, but someone else with Parker County or with Wise County may train them differently and that just gets them so much more prepared for the competitions," she said.

The competition categories mirror real activities that police officers, firefighters, forensic investigators and lawyers are tasked to do. The kids competed in the categories of felony traffic stop, traffic stop, building search, foot pursuit, law enforcement and fire agility, fire bunker gear, fingerprint lifting and analysis, job interview and report writing. The students can participate in two events per competition.

"Basically anything that fire(fighters) or an officer or even a lawyer would do, they have competitions for it," Morris said.

Training entails running

through different scenarios, such as traffic stops for those competing in policing, getting feedback from advisers and trainers, and practicing those scenarios further at home, Bolyer said.

The club has 32 members this year, Bolyer said. Most of the students are interested in law enforcement, with a few others competing in fire, legal services and forensics. The student-led club is a career and technology student organization and a co-curricular club, meaning it's an extension of curriculum that students can learn in first responder-related classes.

"We encourage all of our kids that are seriously looking into going into a career anywhere in public safety to be involved in it because it just gives them a leg up on any competition that they may have in the job force, which we know can be kind of steep," Bolyer said.

In addition to giving them the upper hand for public safety-related jobs, Bolyer said the club teaches students to have confidence and stay safe.

"It can give them confidence to help them get ready in any career, in anything they do. It can give them tips on how to be safe, just no matter where they are, (and) pay attention to their surroundings," she said. "It also gives them a competitive edge if they do go into law and public safety, foren-



COURTESY PHOTO
Last school year, 12 of the 13 students from the Springtown High School First Responders Club advanced to state after competing at regionals. Pictured above is the team that advanced to state. In the back row, from left, is Thomas Gillham, Seth Lavallee, Colby Noe, Mariah Price, Collin Walker, Skyler Tyree and Macey McKinney. In the front row, from left, is Samantha Morris, Sarah Smith, Molly Reed, Zachary Schlotter, Deja Hall and William Avery.

sics, whatever it is, because they're that much farther along than the next person, which also builds up their confidence in the application process. And then it'll make academy and being out on the street performing their duties easier because they already know how to do that kind of stuff."

HOW TO SUPPORT

The club is currently hosting a fundraiser to help pay for competition-related expenses and memberships to the Texas Public Safety Association, which facilitates

the competitions. Supporters can download the app Shop Raise at shopraise.com and use it to do regular shopping while a percentage of the money spent supports the club.

People in the community can also contact Bolyer or Massey about sponsoring a student in the competition or donating gear and equipment needed for the competition.

"We are required to supply all of the equipment that is required for the competition, which has to be industry standard," Bolyer said.

Some of the students in the club are interested in developing a competition SWAT team, but unfortunately, the club can't afford the equipment needed, she said.

"Community support and donations would be greatly, greatly appreciated," Bolyer said.

Bolyer encourages the community to reach out about the club and find out what it's all about. For more information or to donate, contact Bolyer at lbolyer@springtownisd.net or Massey at tmassey@springtownisd.net.

Spotlight on BUSINESS OCTOBER

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OBITUARIES

Mary Carter 1940 - 2022

Mary C. Carter, 82, loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend, passed away Friday, October 21, 2022.

Funeral Service is 12 p.m. Saturday, October 29, 2022 at Azle Church of Christ.

Visitation is 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, October 28, 2022 at White's Funeral Home in Azle, TX

Burial will be at Azleland Memorial Park Cemetery.

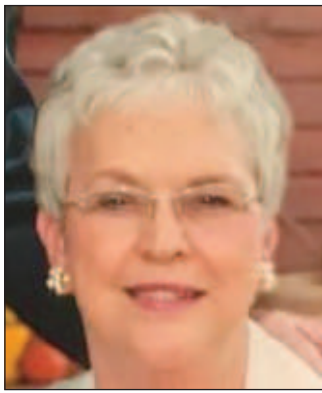
Mary was born July 23, 1940, in Olney, Texas to Stephen William Goodwin and Mary Marie (Brazelton) Goodwin. They moved to Elk City, Oklahoma, where Mary lived and attended school from 5th grade to her sophomore year. She was a stand-out basketball player, was in the band and made first chair clarinet. Mary sang in the school choir and participated in theater while there. She mentioned many times how she loved growing up in Elk City and had wonderful friends and memories.

Her family moved from Elk City to Perryton, Texas, where she met Tom Carter, who later became her husband, and again made wonderful friends and memories.

Her family moved to Amarillo, Texas, where she graduated from Amarillo High, and earned her nursing degree to become a Registered Nurse. She married Tom, had Kimberly Denise, her daughter, and Stephen Lee. Shortly after, they moved to Fort Worth and her third child, Samuel Thomas, was born.

Tom and Mary sold their home in Fort Worth and moved to Springtown, Texas, bought some land to raise their three children and call Springtown their home.

Mary wore many hats while with us. She was a beautiful



lady, always lighting up the atmosphere wherever she was. She was a wonderful Christian lady, a daughter, a friend, a magnificent wife to Tom, a phenomenal mother to Kim, Sam and Lee, and fantastic mother-in-law to Kym and Jim. She was a fabulous grandmother and so much more.

She loved singing, playing the piano, water skiing, snow skiing and creating beautiful art. She was a registered nurse; she was a leader in the field of nursing. She led Bible classes, played and coached her favorite sport, basketball. She was great at everything she did. Some would call her a natural - a true renaissance woman.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents, Steve and Mary Goodwin; brother, Tim Goodwin and his wife, Sue Goodwin; and her beloved aunt, Opal Gaston.

Survivors include husband of 62 years, Tom Carter; daughter, Kim Spoon and husband, Jim; sons, Sam Carter and wife, Kym; and Lee Carter; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren; brothers, Bob Gaines and his wife Gayle, and Charles Gaines and his wife Renae.

The Springtown Epigraph, Oct. 27, 2022 Edition

Eula Faye Speck 1928 - 2022

Eula Faye (Bradshaw) Speck passed away October 23, 2022.

Funeral is at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 1, 2022 at Greenwood Funeral Home in Fort Worth.

She lived in Springtown for over 50 years, with family roots under the Bradshaw name. She lived her life working as a meat wrapper at Safeway until retirement and caring for her family, husband Troy E. Speck (d. 2003) and children Dickie Speck, Kenneth Speck (d. 2014), Gary Speck, Fayrene (Speck) Johns, and Leland Speck. She was an avid gardener and enjoyed baking cakes. She was married to Troy for over 55 years, until his passing in 2003.

Eula Faye was devoted to our Lord and a long-time member at Springtown First Baptist Church. She lived her



94 years to the fullest and will forever remain in our hearts.

She is survived by her loving friends and family, including her three sons, daughter, eight grandchildren, and 14 great grandchildren.

The Springtown Epigraph, Oct. 27, 2022 Edition

Udell Starr 1948 - 2022

Udell Starr, originally from Springtown, Texas, passed away on October 11, 2022 in Dallas, Texas.

A private Observation of Life will be held at future date after cremation.

May the Lord show him mercy.

The Springtown Epigraph, Oct. 27, 2022 Edition



Preparation for Cooler Weather

"Wrinkles should merely indicate where smiles have been." Mark Twain

All right, the hot summertime and early fall temperatures are dropping and we received some rain earlier this week.

This is the weather that most of us have been waiting for.

But before we move on into fall, let's take a look at where we've been during the past year. We've just completed at least a year of very little precipitation and endured several days of above 100-degree temperatures. The warm season grasses used for hay production are just about finished growing. And if you made more than one cutting of hay your timing was good, a lot of folks were happy to get just one cutting.

My dad used to tell me when you see the roadways being cut and baled it is a dry year. Well, this must have been a dry year because there was a lot of that going on, I watched a short stretch of highway 287 where they cut and rolled five rolls of mostly Johnsongrass and probably a few dirty diapers and drink cans, but most of it minus the highway trash will feed good this winter.

If you have noticed many of the rolls of hay that have been sitting alongside hay patches for two or three years are beginning to disappear, livestock feeders and livestock themselves aren't nearly so picky when the hay production is limited. Now, I don't mean to bring you down, but just because the temperatures are cooler and it has rained a little doesn't mean the drought is over.



AG 101

By Jack DeShazo

Jack DeShazo has decades of experience in the agriculture field.

The drought of the 1950s lasted seven years, the Dust Bowl dry weather lasted for more than a decade and more recent dry spells lasted at least a couple of years. One rainy Monday does not break a drought. It takes a while to get into a drought and normally it takes a while to come out of it. Another consequence of the dry weather has been the selloff of livestock because of the lack of grass and hay that definitely affects supply & demand which in turn affects prices. The cattle raisers who have the land and grass and can afford to hold onto heifers and young cows should be in good shape when the rain begins again and the cattle raisers start building their cattle numbers back up. So what do we do now? Well, the agriculturalist ever an optimist starts planning for next year, after all the one just beyond the Eastern horizon is bound to be better. So, let's get ready, don't let this valuable time between growing seasons slip past.

This is the perfect time to be taking soil samples and sending them in to be analyzed. If you are going to produce pasture plants for grazing and/or baling, vegetables from the garden, fruit from the orchard, landscape your yards with lush green grass and ornamentals or go the water saving xeriscaping route by using native and

drought tolerant plants; you still want your soil to perform to its best ability.

You do this by having your soil tested for nutrients that are present in your soil and ones that are lacking. And then after receiving the soil test results adjust your ever important soil nutrient levels through custom blended fertilizers. If you are not clear on how to interpret the tests talk to your local high school agricultural science teacher or the county AgriLife agent. They should be able to offer plenty of useful information for you.

Please remember that just throwing down fertilizer that was on sale at the local discount store is like going to the doctor and without any examination taking a handful of pills twice a day until whether they solve your problem. No doctor would do that and you shouldn't treat your soils in the same manner.

This is also the perfect time of year to be making plans for next year's crops/plants. In addition to building or repairing barns/sheds and building or repairing fences. Remember that just because the weather is cooler your livestock's water requirements do not change keep a good source of clean, unfrozen water available to your livestock. Plants also have water requirements during the cool season, just because those plants don't

have leaves on them doesn't mean that there isn't a live plant there that continues to need water. Also keep in mind that livestock are being stressed with the cold weather, a lot of their energy is used trying to keep warm and that energy must be replenished or supplemented through good feeding management.

Also be aware that female animals nursing young will have even greater nutritional requirements. If you are not sure of the nutrient ingredients of feeds, hay and/or pasture have them analyzed. You can be doing more damage than good by not feeding the correct amounts and qualities of feedstuffs. And finally check the label/tag of any tub or sack feed supplements for ruminants, because if they contain urea (non-protein nitrogen/NPN) the livestock MUST have a good, plentiful source of energy in the form of hay or pasture. Otherwise, you may not be happy with the results. Hopefully I have provided some useful information here about winter-time feeding/fertilizing of livestock type animals and plants. If you don't know then ask someone who has proven to be successful in the agricultural field. It's easy - no one can be an expert in all endeavors, so swallow your pride and ask someone who is experienced in a positive way with agriculture. Most people that I know are more than willing to share information with anyone to help them be more successful.

'til next time!

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SHS senior's Eagle Scout project provides place for discarded flags



PHOTO BY DON MUNSCH

Hunter Morgan passed the Eagle Board of Review and earned the rank of Eagle Scout for his work on the flag receptacle box.

BY DON MUNSCH
don@azlenews.net

A Springtown High School senior was honored at the Azle City Council's Oct. 18 meeting, when he revealed his Eagle Scout project that was donated to the city.

Hunter Morgan, 17, who belongs to Boy Scout Troop 147 based in Azle and sponsored by VFW 2137, is pursuing his Eagle Scout rank. Boy Scouts who chase the Eagle Scout designation must perform some kind of community project. Morgan created a flag receptacle box to enable people to bring their worn, tattered flags and place them in the box. Troop 147 members will periodically retrieve and properly dispose of the flags, according to council memo.

Azle Mayor Alan Brundrett told attendees about the prestige of the Eagle Scout status, explaining it's one of the highest awards one can receive in Scouting.

"There's not that many people who actually achieve that honor anymore, and it's a lot of work that goes with it," Brundrett said. "You'll

see all his merit badges that (Hunter) has. So that's many weeks of summer camps and weekend camping and a lot of hard work. Some of them are fun merit badges, and some are more school-type merit badges that actually have homework and projects they have to do."

Brundrett then explained how being an Eagle Scout can help an individual Boy Scout for the rest of their life. Scouts can put the ranking on their resumes and it can aid them if they join the military. People can enter the service with a higher rank if they are an Eagle Scout. Part of the requirement is completing a community service project. The Boy Scout must plan and design it and raise funds and donations for the project.

"There's a lot of work that goes into the Eagle Scout projects, and there's a lot of different ones," the mayor said, describing how Morgan came up with a creative project.

Morgan said his box is made out of scrap metal and it was professionally painted and wrapped. Officials have

to decide where to place the box at City Hall, attendees heard.

"It was much more than we anticipated it to be," Brundrett said about the receptacle box. "We were pleasantly surprised. (It's) one of the nicest Eagle Scout projects I've seen."

Morgan was given a worn flag from City Hall to place inside the box. Council member Rouel Rothenberger said the box was one of the better projects he has seen.

After graduating from high school, Morgan plans to attend trade school but has not decided on a career path, said Troop 147 Assistant Scoutmaster Julie Geho. He takes welding at SHS. He has 36 Merit Badges and is a BSA-certified lifeguard. He also is a black belt in Goshen Karate and Taekwondo.

On Oct. 20, Morgan passed the Eagle Board of Review and earned the rank of Eagle Scout. His paperwork now goes to the Longhorn Council and then the BSA national office for approval, Geho said.

Aunt Sister

Family names can be a little quirky. (Maybe because families can be quirky?) My father-in-law used to confuse people by telling them about the lady who was once his sister-in-law but became his niece.



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.

For a hilariously ridiculous song about strange family relations, do a search on YouTube for "I'm My Own Grandpa" sung by Ray Stevens.

As for me, I've had an "Aunt Sister" my whole life. I'm sure our family is not the only family ever to have such an arrangement, but I've never personally met anyone else.

On April 22, 1935 identical twin girls were born to Pete and Jewel Pollard. Those twins, Shirlene and Geralene grew up calling each other "Sister." In their youth, they often dressed alike. So between their identical looks, identical dress, and calling each other "Sister" instead of their given names, they could mess with people if they wanted to.

My siblings and I call Shirlene "Aunt Sister." (Those of you who are really astute have deduced that Geralene is my mom).

Shirlene's kids call my mom "Aunt Sister."

You can imagine the confusion that any non-family members have experienced on the rare occasions that we've all been together.

Mom and Aunt Sister have been best friends since the womb and have remained so for their 87 years on planet earth. They've laughed and cried together in person and on the phone through all of life's experiences—kids, grandkids, illnesses, weddings, divorces, deaths of parents, deaths of husbands.

They've been the constant in each other's lives for over 87 years.

They've also had a running competition for years. Mom told me that the first question Aunt Sister asks when they talk on the phone is, "How much do you weigh?"

When Mom went with us on a cruise to Norway in May of this year, she told me that she might have to wait until she lost her "cruise weight" before their next phone call. She really doesn't care how much she weighs as long as it is at least one pound less than Aunt Sister!

Just over two weeks ago, on October 8, they spent their last 11 hours together as Mom sat by Aunt Sister's bed and held her hand as she won the race to heaven.

This coming Saturday, our family will gather and celebrate Aunt Sister's life. I'll preach. My brother and I will sing. We'll share some stories and laugh and cry.

And we'll still be quirky.

Part of the amazing journey that God has for each of us is that we each have our own unique story (quirkiness included). Your story may not include an "Aunt Sister" or a set of identical twins, but there's something in your story that makes it unlike anyone else's.

One way of being amazing is to find God in your story—both in your past and in your present. This morning I read 2 Peter 1:12—"Therefore, I will always remind you about these things—even though you already know them and are standing firm in the truth you have been taught."

That's one of the reasons I write a "Be Amazing" post every week. You probably haven't learned anything from me about life that you didn't already know.

I just don't want you ever to forget to be amazing, my friend.

SPRINGTOWN SCHOOL MENU

Oct 31 - Nov 4, 2022
PK through 12th Grade

*Menus are subject to change.

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

Students may prepay for their meals.

PK - 12th 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 Mini Pancakes, Variety of Cereal **Tuesday** Chicken Biscuit, Pineapple Cup **Wednesday** EggStravaganza, Blueberries **Thursday** Breakfast Pizza, Apple Slices **Friday** Banana Muffin, Strawberries

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 Popcorn Chicken, Steak Fingers, Mashed Potatoes, Roll **Tuesday** Open Face Chicken Pot Pie, Ck Fried Steak Sandwich, Baby Carrots, Green Beans **Wednesday** Chicken and Waffles, Tator, Tots, Cucumber & Tomato Cup, Blueberries **Thursday** Beef Tamales, Hot Dog, Black Beans, Fiesta Sticks, Apple Slices **Friday** Pepperoni Pizza, Crispy Chicken Sandwich, Glazed Carrots, Fresh Broccoli, Banana, Craisins

5th - 12th Lunch

Monday EggStravaganza, Sausage or Chicken Patty, Biscuit, Hashbrown, Cucumber & Tomato Cup, Fresh Baby Carrots **Tuesday** Chicken Alfredo with a Twist, Salisbury Steak, Fresh Broccoli, Roll **Wednesday** Pulled Pork Sandwich, Grilled Chicken Sandwich, Tator, Tots, Coleslaw **Thursday** Enchilada Bake, Corn Dogs, Ranchero Beans, Spanish Rice, Roll, Garden Salad **Friday** Pepperoni Pizza, Spicy Chicken Sandwich, Baked Potato Basket, Baked Beans, Banana, Strawberry Applesauce

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ANIMALS

FROM PAGE 1

as a veterinary technician, except her animal patients show up at random locations across the city.

"I have a high standard of care for those that are in my custody," Lingo said. "I make sure that everything is as clean as it can be. Sometimes it's a little challenging with feral cats especially, but everybody gets clean food, water. I maintain a high level of cleanliness standards for runs to help prevent disease. Everything I would do at a hospital or boarding setting, I try to maintain that for even a shelter. They deserve equal care."

Springtown Administrative Services Director Christina Derr praised Lingo's work so far, especially because she started a position that was previously nonexistent in the city. The city used to operate its own shelter, but that hasn't been the case in years. Before launching animal con-

trol services on Oct. 1, the city partnered with Parker County animal control for those services.

"To start that kind of program, essentially from scratch, is not a small task, and she's had a very limited time to get that up and running," Derr said. "Essentially, she's trying to get all of that put together while operating the shelter because day one, hey, those animals, they started coming in. She's done an exceptional job at what we've needed her to do."

Derr described Lingo as an outside-the-box thinker who looks for resolutions that are fair for animals and their owners.

Lingo said she's excited to be a part of something new in Springtown.

"I enjoy being a part of creating this and making it something the city can be proud of and something the residents can be proud of," she said.

CAT CONTROL

One of the challenges of the job is dealing with the large feral cat population, Lingo said.

Because she's in town, Lingo has been able to respond quicker to stray animal calls than Parker County animal control did, Derr said. Therefore, she has located and brought in more feral cats to the shelter.

"One day, we went from having like one cat to having six or seven cats," Derr said.

Lingo said the local feral cat population may be bigger than residents know, and she has been trying to prevent the spread of diseases within the feral cat community.

"They can reproduce in mass quantities very quickly as often as every 63 days," Lingo said. "That's a lot of cats."

Caring for feral cats can be more challenging because they sometimes need to be sedated to receive medical care, Derr said. There are also more restrictions to adopting feral cats, who



PHOTO BY MADELYN EDWARDS
Springtown's new animal control officer Sage Lingo smiles inside the animal shelter, which is across from the police station on Martin Avenue. She's the go-to person to handle intake services - in partnership with code compliance workers and police officers - and take care of the shelter animals.

sometimes can only be taken home as barn cats.

However, Derr said Lingo is working on socializing some of the younger feral cats, and some of the shelter cats are getting close to being adoptable.

"We're very excited about that," Derr said.

Overall, Lingo's favorite part of her new job is getting to know people in the Springtown community, and

she hopes that she can be someone who the community relies on to take care of the animals and people.

And of course, Lingo has enjoyed caring for the animals.

"I like to go in and love on the ones that allow me to love on them and trying to socialize some of the kittens that we have," she said. "We have a couple that were not fond of human touch at first,

and they've come a long way, and now they're a playful rowdy bunch of kittens. And we have an adult cat in the shelter; she has everyone wrapped around her little finger, and it happened within two days. Everyone wants to feed her snacks."

For more information about animal control, visit the City of Springtown Animal Control page on Facebook.

DODD

FROM PAGE 3A

the air," Dodd laughed. "They tried to talk us out of it for a few days. Even the colonel told me I could spend my entire enlistment in Hawaii and never leave. But we went."

Their safe arrival at the big, old building meant they were now members of Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, 1st Marines Division, or the "111."

THE PURPLE HEARTS

Hanging on the wall in Mike Dodd's office at his home in Springtown are the citations for two Purple Hearts. The first was awarded on Feb. 2, 1968, during the Battle of Hue (pronounced "Whay") at the beginning of the Tet Offensive. The second came just six weeks later on March 15, 1968, as the Tet Offensive continued to rage in Vietnam.

Near the end of January 1968, Dodd and his unit of seven other men were sent to the city of Hue on the banks of the Huong ("Perfume") River to guard a refueling depot being built by Navy Seabees. The assignment was considered a reward because an agreement between the North and South Vietnamese that Hue - the historic imperial capitol of ancient Annam, which is what Vietnam was called during the Tang dynasty until 866 A.D. - would be a neutral zone with no fighting. Dodd and his men would be safe while they were there.

Dodd's unit set up in a floored tent near the huge fuel storage tank. Two barges were moved to one side of the depot, and the men could see across the Huong River from their vantage point.

Two patrol boats with the call sign "Pistol Pete" came by shortly after they arrived to ask what supplies were needed, and they returned with ammunition; Claymore

mines; C-4; a case of large, flash-frozen Christmas grapefruits; and a very large bottle of whiskey.

That first night, the unit heard shooting in the distance, but didn't think much of it. When a Navy man and three additional Marines arrived the next day, they learned the shooting was likely a celebration of Tet, the Lunar New Year. Still, they decided to move out of the tent, which now had bullet holes in it.

Dodd and the Navy man decided to inspect the tank and discovered it was almost entirely full of fuel. Dodd felt they should leave two valves (or caps) open in case the tank was ignited by gunfire. He thought that would make an ensuing explosion go upward rather than outward; the Navy man agreed it was a fine idea.

Then the Navy man, looking through binoculars, said "Look! The South Vietnamese are coming." Dodd grabbed the binoculars and immediately recognized the pith helmets worn by the North Vietnamese Army.

"That night, things got real interesting. Things were happening everywhere. One of my guys was shot through his hand during three days of lots of shooting. There were 13 of us in total, and the entire North Vietnamese Army," Dodd explained. "They wanted the Citadel, and there were thousands of them. You'd hear a 'ping!' and a bullet would bounce off that tank. Sometime about 1:30 or 2 a.m., a guy runs up with an RPG and shot it right near the top of the tank. It blew straight up, but the force of the blast got all of us."

"I look around and all my guys were in the water - I told them to get back up on land with me, and I was able to get hold of Pistol Pete, who said they were coming to get us. We got on the farthest barge where they picked us up," Dodd continued. "Those fi-

berglass boats were all shot up, and the commander's neck was full of fiberglass shards - he could barely talk. But those two Navy patrol boats unloaded on the North Vietnamese. Then they called in two Phantom jets. We watched them coming down the river and they finished what the Navy boats started.

"They took us out to an island and that's when they figured out some of us were injured in the fuel tank blast," Dodd said. "I had shrapnel in my eye and my arm, so they sent me to the hospital to have it removed. Then they put a green bandage on me and shipped me back out."

Dodd's second Purple Heart was a little more hard-earned. It's also harder for him to talk about.

On March 15, 1968, his unit went in to help another unit that had been ambushed, leaving everyone in the unit either dead or injured. As Dodd crept through the brush looking for the enemy, he locked eyes with a Marine he'd been stationed with in Hawaii who was fondly called "Kahuna." "I motioned for him not to come toward me, but he did, and was instantly shot in both knees. I threw everything down and started toward him. My plan was to drag him out by his flak jacket, but I was shot in the thigh before I could get to him," Dodd said.

A Marine machine gunner named Barecky from another unit picked up Dodd's machine gun and helmet. A medical corpsman, Doc Malone, cut through the back of Dodd's pants to look at the gunshot and said, "You're lucky - it's only about this big," showing Dodd a circle with his fingers about the size of a quarter. Dodd was bandaged up and given a shot of morphine.

But Dodd soon noticed blood continuing to pour out the front of his trousers.

"Doc, something's not right."

So Doc Malone cut through the front of Dodd's pants. The wound on the front of his leg was the size of a grapefruit. Another bandage, another shot of morphine.

"I'm not sure that second shot of morphine was a good idea because I went back up the hill, trying to figure out where that sniper was," Dodd said. "I was standing behind some banana trees when I saw him. I turned to tell Barecky I thought I could see the sniper and BAM! The sniper shot me just about through the same place as the first shot."

When Barecky came to pick him up, Dodd told him, "I quit - they're trying to kill us."

Later that night, after both had undergone surgery, Dodd saw Kahuna again, with casts on both legs. The

colonel came to see them both, placed Purple Heart medals on their pillows and took pictures. Dodd never got a copy.

THE LONG ROAD HOME
Both Dodd and Kahuna were taken by helicopter to Phu Bai Combat Base for surgery. After medical treatment, he eventually landed in Corpus Christi, where he stayed three months.

Then on June 16, some military officials discovered his enlistment had expired two days earlier, and he was promptly discharged from the Marines - backdated to June 14, 1968.

THOUGHTS 50 YEARS LATER

"I'm happy," Dodd says simply, as his devoted wife Cathy reminds him it's time to refill the medication in a PICC line that delivers antibiotics to his heart 24/7.

"Like I said, I'm still kicking. Not one man in my unit was ever killed. And I learned a lot," he says.

Having endured some 30 surgeries in recent years, Dodd is currently improving at home after a particularly bad run of medical problems this summer. But his faith, optimism and sense of humor remain intact.

However, Dodd doesn't think his experience is worthy of a story. Instead, he believes a better story would be about the nurses - not just those who served in Vietnam or even in the World Wars, but all nurses, everywhere. After all the time he's spent in hospitals since 1968, Dodd says he's only ever had one bad nurse.

"She was just having a bad day," the retired police lieutenant and Marine veteran says, smiling.

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PHOTOS BY MADELYN EDWARDS

Residents and staff at Springtown Park Rehabilitation and Care Center celebrated "Back to the Future" Day on Oct. 21 by listening to music from the 1950s, drinking root beer floats and getting an up-close look at a DeLorean.

Back to the Future Day



Hannah Miller, certified nursing assistant at Springtown Park Rehabilitation and Care Center, takes a picture of Steven Santiago inside a DeLorean. Residents and staff at Springtown Park Rehabilitation and Care Center celebrated "Back to the Future" Day on Oct. 21.

Hannah Miller, certified nursing assistant at Springtown Park Rehabilitation and Care Center, holds Einstein the dog while taking a seat in Mic Murphy's, right, DeLorean on Oct. 21 for "Back to the Future" Day.

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Kid Scoop Together

Start Your Own Campaign

Don't
Forget to
Vote!

Can't vote? Start a "Don't Forget to Vote" Campaign! Here's how:

1. Cut out the "Don't Forget to Vote" badge on this page and wear it proudly!
2. On Election Day, ask every person you see who is over 18 if he or she has voted yet. Ask your teacher, your parents, the school secretary, and clerks at stores. *Ask them all!*

Who can vote?

In order to vote, you must qualify three ways:

1. You must be at least 18 years old.
2. You must be a citizen of the United States.
3. You must be registered (signed up) to vote in the state where you live.

Standards Links: Social Science: Students understand the role of citizens including how to participate in civic life.

Campaign Trails

Decide whether each of these people can vote. Then follow each path in the maze to find out if you are right.

Standards Link: Social Science: Students understand the ways in which citizens participate in the American political system.

Clara Smith

- is a U.S. citizen
- is 79 years old
- retired 10 years ago
- has not registered to vote

Tom Jackson

- is an Air Force pilot based in Germany
- is 22 years old
- is a U.S. citizen
- has registered to vote

Paul Chernoff

- turns 18 on Nov. 1, 2022
- is a U.S. citizen
- does not have a job
- has registered to vote

Clara can't vote because she didn't register when she moved. Tom can vote even though he is in Germany. How? He can vote by mail!

Throw Your Hat into the Ring

Unscramble each election word on the hats. Then look for an article in the newspaper that uses one of these terms. Read the article and then use your own words to explain what you think the word means.

GAMNAPIC

TOEV

TECLEION

TARPY

FATPOLRM

TENOCIVNON

LOPL

LACTIPOOL

Standards Link: Spelling: Letter order, sequencing. Vocabulary development.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Red, White and Blue Words

With a friend, see how many words you can make with the letters that spell **red, white and blue!** Write each word in a star. Can you fill them all?

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

CAMPAIGN	Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?
TRAILS	
CITIZEN	D N E Z I T I C O N
FORGET	T O T R U E V A S S
RING	P I L O T G O M K T
VOTE	F T F O R R T P R A
ELECTION	H C G O I O E A E R
START	T E E N L F I I L T
CLERKS	A L G T I L T G C O
FOLLOW	P E V N S O O N T E
BADGE	E G D A B V O W E E
PILOT	
PATH	
FIND	

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Read Between the Lines

People often use both **fact** and **opinion** to persuade others about their way of thinking. Look at a letter to the editor. Underline the facts in red and the opinions in blue. Does the writer use more fact or opinion?

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Write On!

VOTE Poster

Look through the newspaper for words and pictures that show why it is important to vote. Make a Don't Forget to Vote Poster and find a place in town to put it up!

How to Be a Good Leader

Complete this activity at home this evening with a parent or another learning buddy.

1. People elected to government offices must be good leaders. With a learning buddy, find 10 words in today's newspaper that describe a good leader.
2. Write the 10 words here in alphabetical order:
3. Discuss some leaders you or your learning buddy respect. On the lines below, each of you write some reasons why you think this person is a good leader.

Your reasons:

Your learning buddy's reasons:

Porcupines vs. Bulldogs

FRIDAY

Springtown vs. Burkburnett at Porcupine Stadium

PAGE 2B



PHOTO BY STEVEN MARTER

Quarterback Hudson Hulett throws a pass with the help of solid blocking up front.

Springtown resident rides retro hairdo to contest success



COURTESY PHOTO

The ginger hue and well-shaped coif helped propel a Springtown man to a mullet title.

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

The hair gods weren't overly kind to Josh Lindsey, who describes his natural coif as "jacked up" and growing "every which way."

"My hair is not the prettiest of hair," said the Springtown resident, acknowledging an abundance of cowlicks and a ginger-brownish hue.

He wore a mullet - close-cropped hair on top and sides and long in back - when he was a kid. After he turned 30 a few years ago, Lindsey began sprouting out his mullet again.

"If you've grown up in the country lifestyle, it's a kind of a popular haircut," he said.

In 2001, the David Spade movie "Joe Dirt" celebrated the titular character's mullet as an emblem of pride among

rural dwellers, but the hairdo had been part of pop culture previously. One of the most famous mullets belonged to David Bowie, whose orange 'do was a vital part of his Ziggy Stardust persona in the early 1970s. Other rockers such as Paul and Linda McCartney and Joan Jett sported similar hairdos.

By the 1980s, the country

SEE MULLET, PAGE 2B.



PHOTO BY JO H PHOTOGRAPHY

Delaney Harris carries the American flag into the arena.

Springtown vying to crack into top 10 rodeo teams

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

Colton Phillips earned second place in bull riding at the North Texas High School Rodeo Association event Oct. 21-23 in Saginaw.

His 63 points helped push Springtown to No. 13 in the team standings out of about 90 teams that participate in the rodeo association.

"It's definitely impressive that we are ranked 13th," said team sponsor Staci Harris. "I'm proud of all the

kids for their hard work."

This year's team includes many young and inexperienced members, and Harris and other sponsors and supporters have been helping them learn the ropes, literally.

"I feel confident that each week will show improvement," Harris said. "There will be good weeks and bad, but they have to roll with it and learn where to make improvements."

Other Springtown members who impressed at the

rodeo include:

Kallie Gray (17), Makayla Ballard (19), Delaney Harris (42), Shaye Winford (43), and Kendall Gallaher (45) in walkup goats.

In rideup goats, Delaney Harris earned sixth place, followed by Shaye Winford in tenth place.

In barrels, Kaylee Buchanan finished 19th, followed by Gray (50) and Gallaher (54).

London Smith was 16th in

SEE RODEO, PAGE 3B.



PHOTO BY STEVEN MARTER

Robert Lewis, just a freshman, makes a big-time tackle against Decatur.

Springtown football to face Burkburnett in district clash at home

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

On Friday, the Springtown Porcupines will have an opportunity to strengthen their position heading toward the playoffs.

Currently, the Pines (1-1 in district competition) are holding down third place in District 4-4A standings behind first-place Decatur and second-place Wichita Falls.

On Oct. 21, Springtown missed a chance at knocking off the district leader. Decatur defeated the Porcupines 47-6 to remain undefeated at 3-0.

The game wasn't as lopsided as the score indicated. Tied 6-6 with three minutes remaining in the first half, Springtown's defense dug in to stop Decatur from scoring before the half ended. Instead, the Eagles scored twice. Then, they received the ball to begin the second half and scored again.

The Porcupines didn't recover.

"All of our kids are playing well at times but not for long enough periods as a whole," the coach said. "Yair Hernandez, Drake Doggett, Darren Sweely and Hudson Hulett all played at a pretty

good level the whole game."

Springtown is a game ahead of Burkburnett and Mineral Wells in the standings. Beating Burkburnett with one district game remaining would lock down a third-seed playoff spot.

Beating the Bulldogs won't be easy despite the team's 0-2 district record. Overall, Burkburnett is 5-3 and has beaten three solid teams this season in Iowa Park, Vernon and Alvarado. In the Alvarado game, played on Sept. 30, Burkburnett won 45-43 after three overtimes.

How does Hulett feel about his team facing the Bulldogs this Friday?

"Same as I have felt for every one," he said. "Will we be able to put together a four-quarter quality performance? Our kids are awesome daily in practice in both attitude and effort. We have to do it when the coaches are on the sidelines and the lights are on."

The contest is the final home game of the regular season, and Hulett encouraged fans to "come and watch these guys one last time and reward them for all of the time, work and sweat they have put in."



PHOTO BY STEVEN MARTER

Springtown tight end Kelby Castro breaks a tackle.



COURTESY PHOTO

Josh Lindsey shows off his prize-winning mullet.

MULLET

FROM PAGE 1B

crowd, led by Billy Ray Cyrus, adopted the cut. Alan Jackson and Blake Shelton were among the other famous mullet-topped crooners.

By the 2000s, the trend had pretty much died out even among the country music crowd until a new batch of hirsute singers led by Morgan Wallen began bringing back the hairstyle a few years ago.

"The whole '80s thing is back in style," Lindsey said.

By 2022, four years of wearing a mullet had given Lindsey a trademark of sorts, and a friend sent him a link this summer about the USA Mullet Championships.

Two years ago, an entrepreneur in Michigan created the championships as a promotional tool for his menswear store and received coverage on ESPN2. This year, semi-final championships were held nationwide with contests in five

cities, including Lewisville.

On Sept. 23, Lindsey won the Lewisville contest, which put him among the top 25 mullets in the United States and allowed him to compete in the finals. The voting was held online in early October. Lindsey, who rarely dabbles in social media, didn't have the online support needed to push him to the top of the heap to win the national title.

Still, he earned \$500 and a pair of sunglasses as a finalist.

Lindsey, a facilities maintenance worker, shared credit with wife Lauren Lindsey and hair stylist Nikki Farrell of Salon 76082 in Springtown.

"I think I'm going to keep it this way," Josh Lindsey said of his prize-winning mullet. "I kind of like it. My wife actually likes it. I'm kind of surprised she does."

Farrell consulted with Lauren Lindsey during the making of her hubby's mullet.

"He is in the professional world and can't be too messy looking, so we had to figure out

how to tame (the mullet) and keep it nice and professional looking but at the same time how he envisioned it," Farrell said. "He walks me through what he likes. I give him suggestions. We collaborated over the last six months and got him in a winning position."

She described the mullet as two haircuts merged into one. The key to a great mullet is making the close-cropped sides and top blend with the long hair in back.

"We gave him layers to add more dimension to it," she said.

Lindsey entered the contest "for fun" and is considering making another run at the title in 2023. The champ earns \$2,500, five times more than Lindsey earned as a finalist.

So, what did Lindsey do with his \$500 prize money?

Cowboy boots. "I'd been wanting some new boots," he said. "Once I got \$500, I said, 'Hey, I'll buy me some new boots, finally.'"



PHOTO BY JEFF PRINCE

The Sound of Springtown will compete at the area marching contest on Saturday in Liberty Hill.

Sound of Springtown ready for area contest

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

The Sound of Springtown marching band will travel to Liberty Hill High School Saturday to compete at the UIL Area D 4A marching contest.

Band members will depart at 5:30 a.m. and compete at

12:15 p.m. in the preliminaries. At 6:30 p.m., the band will learn whether it advances to the finals and what time will perform.

The finals competition will be held that same evening from 8 to 10:45. The top five bands selected in the finals will advance to the state marching contest,

Nov. 7-9 at the Alamodome in San Antonio. The Sound of Springtown qualified for area by earning top scores at the regional contest on Oct. 15.

Drum majors this year are Kate Mitchell, Benjamin Cannon and Mackenzie Paseka.

Last year, Springtown did

as well as any other band in the school's history by nailing its two performances at the Class 4A state marching contest and earning ninth place.

Earning a Top 10 slot is difficult, but Springtown won ninth place in 2016 and 2018 after finishing 10th in 2012.



PHOTO BY JEFF PRINCE

Caleb Morris is ready to compete at the area marching contest on Saturday in Liberty Hill.



RODEO

FROM PAGE 1B

poles, and Faith Styles was 19th.

Phillips earned points for the first time on bulls, and Harris and the team are "really excited and hopeful that the momentum will continue in the next few weeks," she said. "Consistency is key when it comes to earning points. You don't have to go out there every week and win. Just go out and do your best and try to earn some points."

PHOTO BY JO H PHOTOGRAPHY

Springtown's Colton Phillips rides a rank bull to second place at the North Texas High School Rodeo Association event on Oct. 21-23.

Football Contest WEEK 10

Congratulations to Wes Robinson for correctly guessing the most football scores from this week's contest. His 10 correct guesses earned him first place and \$20. Three contestants guessed nine games correctly. The tiebreaker game between Lamar and Arlington high schools generated 38 points. Blondie Robinson was closest with her guess of 60 points, and she won second place and \$10. Jessica Horton predicted 62 points, which earned her third place and \$5.



PHOTO BY JEFF PRINCE

The team's three seniors - Kelsey Beaman Brinklee Dauenhauer and Kylie Druxman - smile on Senior Night.

Springtown volleyball eager for playoff run

BY JEFF PRINCE
jefff@azlenews.net

The Lady Porcupines have played dominant volleyball this season and are heading into the playoffs as the No. 2 seed in District 8-4A behind Decatur.

Ah, Decatur.

The Porcupines had a chance to defeat the Lady Eagles when the two teams met on Oct. 21. Springtown was riding high after sweeping four teams in consecutive games between Oct. 7 and Oct. 18. All four of those teams were district rivals, and the Porcupines had locked down second place when they traveled to face the undefeated Eagles.

Springtown lost the first match, won the second, and lost the third. With the game on the line, Springtown fought hard but fell 25-23.

Brinklee Dauenhauer led the team in kills and digs. Kylie Druxman contrib-

uted 35 assists. Stoli Cox slammed 14 kill shots and made 13 digs. Sterlyn Smith contributed 14 digs.

The loss stung but didn't derail.

On Oct. 25, Springtown returned to the court to sweep Castleberry 25-10, 25-11, 25-17.

SENIOR NIGHT FUN

The Castleberry game was the regular season finale, and Springtown celebrated Senior Night for the team's three upperclassmen - Kelsey Beaman, Brinklee Dauenhauer and Kylie Druxman.

An arched bouquet of orange, black and white balloons was placed on the hardwood court, and each player walked through the bouquet with her family by her side.

Druxman was first, and her entourage included parents Cassandra and Chad Tedder. (Also in the mix was sister

Railey Druxman, who graduated from Springtown last year and is playing volleyball at Park University Gilbert.)

Kylie Druxman, who wants to be child and family social worker, plans to attend college in the fall but hasn't decided which one yet. She will miss her volleyball teammates most, she said.

"You girls have been the best support system," she said. "I can talk to you about anything. I love you all and will miss y'all so much."

The school record for season assists belongs to Druxman now, who shattered the old record of 969 and continues to add to her total that has topped 1,000 for the season with games remaining still.

Druxman thanked her parents for driving her practice so many early mornings.

"You have definitely been my rock through all of high school and before," she said. "I wouldn't have made it

through without the two of you. I am extremely thankful for what you have done for me from volleyball to my every day life. I love y'all."

Next to walk on to the court was Dauenhauer, accompanied by parents Chantal and Rickey Dauenhauer.

The kill-shot queen for Springtown plans to continue playing volleyball at Southern Arkansas University and major in accounting. Dauenhauer thanked her folks for "supporting me in every decision I've made, cheering me on and pushing me to be the best I can be. Thank you for taking me to all my late night volleyball practices and weekend and out-of-state tournaments. Without y'all, I would not be the person or player I am today."

Dauenhauer crushed the school career record in digs and also owns the career record in aces with 190 and

counting.

Next to receive a warm applause from the large crowd was Beaman accompanied by parents Jessica and Bodie Beaman.

Kelsey Beaman, who also plays basketball, is undecided on which college to attend but plans to earn a degree in nursing.

She thanked her parents for their love and support.

"As I've gotten older, you've always been there to offer encouragement, advice and good wishes. It has helped mold me into the athlete and student I am today. Thank you for always being a positive force in my life and teaching me that having a good attitude is crucial for success."

She told her mom, "Your love and tender heart have shaped my leadership skills for the better. Thank you for always encouraging me even when I was upset after making an error."

For her dad, she said, "thank you for always restoring my confidence and letting me know that you believe in me."

She concluded by thanking them both for "all of the sacrifices you have made, the money you have spent, the time you have given up and the hugs you have given me after games."

Coach Leighann Strickland congratulated the girls for their outstanding high school careers.

"You have worked so hard for everything you have achieved," she told them. "Remember the good times we shared, the successes we have had, and the friendships made along the way. Whatever it is you choose to do, I hope that you have learned to push when it may seem impossible, fight for things that are most important to you, and always - always - make good choices."

Springtown cross country racer Wesley Payne headed to state



COURTESY PHOTO

The Springtown boys cross-country team competed at regionals, and Wesley Payne qualified to race at the state finals.

BY JEFF PRINCE
jefff@azlenews.net

Springtown cross-country runner Wesley Payne has qualified to race at the state finals on Nov. 4-5 at Old Settler's Park in Round Rock.

On Oct. 22, Payne and the Porcupine boys cross-country team competed at the regional meet in Lubbock. Payne was the only Springtown runner to qualify for state after shaving three seconds off his personal

record.

Other runners who set personal records at regionals were Hugo Martinez, Peyton Wecker and Parker Bening.

The girls cross-country team didn't qualify for regionals, so the season is

over for everyone except for Payne.

To qualify for state, a runner must be a member of one of the top 4 teams at regionals or finish among the remaining top 10 racers. Payne was the eighth fin-

isher among those individual racers.

"We had a really great season on the boys side," said head coach Raul Guerrero. "We were district champions and finished in the top 10 as a team at regionals. We

also had four runners set regional meet, which is a tough course to do that on."

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• **2022** •

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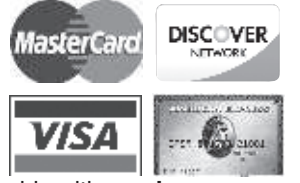
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ACROSS

- start a Dallas Stars game: "___-off"
- TXism: "get your ducks in ___"
- Texas-based 1973 film: "The Thief Who ___ to Dinner"
- TXism: "busy as ___ tender on payday"
- loud noise
- stop sign shape
- "___ and every one"
- TX B.J. country hit: "New Looks ___"
- TXism: "bone ___" (study)
- Texans like it iced
- Cowboys not making the playoffs, e.g.
- Aggie reaction when A&M wins title, e.g.
- ___ Pepper
- missing portion of a manuscript
- loyal dog: "___ best friend"
- former Mavericks point guard, Harper
- Amarillo's "___ & Rodeo"
- western film: "horse ___"
- Ann Richards was ___ the 45th governor of Texas
- TXism: "he ain't ___ spring chicken" (old)
- TX ZZ Top album: "___ Hombres"

DOWN

- not a common description for a politician
- "glam," for short
- word meaning the same as another word (abbr.)
- dir. from Crockett to Linden
- 2nd play in "A Texas Trilogy": "___ Hampton Laverly Oberlander"
- TXism: "store bought molars"
- "can you ___ secret?"
- singer Boone who attended UNT in Denton
- TX Mary Kay ___
- Texas actor Tommy ___ Jones
- in Jackson County on U.S. 59
- TX Buddy Holly hit: "Rave ___" (1958)
- TXism: "it's ___ worth didley squat"
- TXism: "___ hawed" (stalled)
- this Francis starred with TX Ginger in 1935 film "Romance in Manhattan"
- TXism: "___ the bottom of a well"
- Cowboys first coach (init.)
- found in Texas: Trans-Pecos ___ snake
- 4,840 square yards
- "he's got ___ ear" (bad at music)
- state employment org. before TWC
- "they ___ sidewalks at 9:00 p.m." (small town)
- TX Ella ___ Morse sang "Cow-Cow Boogie"
- Mount Everest country
- poke fun at

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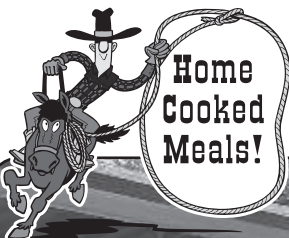
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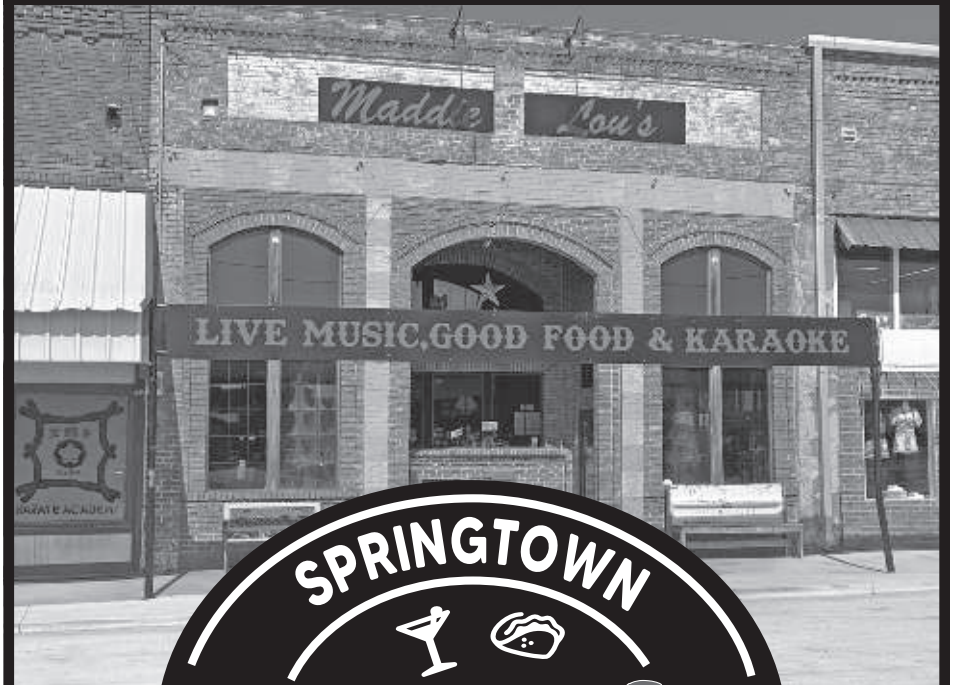
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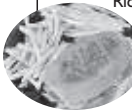




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Plate Menu ALL PLATES COME WITH A 24 oz. DRINK

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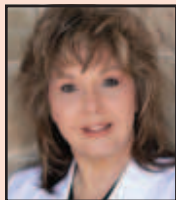


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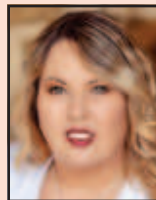
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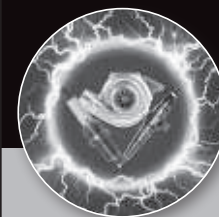
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