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THURSDAY, February 16, 2023 • \$1

Goodbye, Shinola's — hello, Fireside

Fireside BBQ opens in place where Shinola's used to be

BY MADELYN EDWARDS madelyn@azlenews.net

When Harold Buffington started Buff's BBQ & Grill, he hoped the food truck would become a brick-and-mortar restaurant someday.

That day has come. Buffington and his wife Cassie opened Fireside BBQ & Grill last month, and they have since had their hands full with starting up the new restaurant.

"We have people lined up at the door before we open," Cassie Buffington said last month. "I opened it one day, and a customer goes, 'It's like feeding time at the zoo' because they all just came in at once. They're like waiting out there for us to open most days."

The Buffingtons are not new to the Springtown restaurant scene. They both



MADELYN EDWARDS | THE SPRINGTOWN EPIGRAPH

Cassie and Harold Buffington take time away from their busy restaurant to pose for a picture. The couple opened Fireside BBQ & Grill in January.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FIRESIDE BBQ & GRILL

One of the items on Fireside BBQ & Grill's menu is the Texas Trinity — 3 pounds of meat with two sides.

came from Howell's Western Cafe, which was started by Harold Buffington's family. The original plan was for Harold Buffington to take the reins at Howell's, but he said his parents weren't ready to retire so he turned his attention toward Fireside.

"I guess it's just in my

blood," he said. "I've always been around the restaurant

When Harold Buffington heard that the restaurant Shinola's would be closing, he got in touch with the building's owner to express interest in taking over the space. Before long, Fireside was

moved in, building repairs were made and the new restaurant opened on Jan. 9.

Shinola's — an eatery that was a Springtown staple in its own right — closed before Christmas. Days later, Cassie Buffington announced

PLEASE SEE FIRESIDE | A4

'I am Springtown'

Springtown City Council's first Black member reflects on Black History Month

BY MADELYN EDWARDS

madelyn@azlenews.net

Every month is Black History Month for Springtown City Council member Walter Roberson.

Not only does Roberson celebrate Black history, but he is also a part of history in

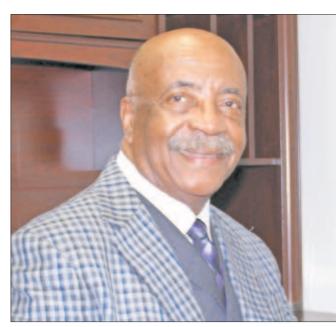
Springtown. As far as he knows, Roberson became the first Black member of the Springtown City Council when he was appointed in 2021. In 2022, he ran unopposed for his seat on the council.

"It's an awesome responsibility, and I say that because all eyes are on you, whether you know it or not," Roberson said. "I feel that I am Springtown. Wherever I go, whatever I do, I'm Springtown, that's Springtown City Council. And people notice, so I have to be at my best at all times because I can't get lost in the crowd."

Roberson said he didn't know that he was the first Black member when he was appointed.

"It really didn't bother

PLEASE SEE ROBERSON | A7



MADELYN EDWARDS | THE SPRINGTOWN EPIGRAPH

Springtown City Council member Walter Roberson doesn't only celebrate Black history - he's also a part of it. Roberson is the first Black member of the Springtown City Council.

"Our history is a history that's rich and a history that we can be proud of, in that of who we are and what we've had to endure to survive, to thrive and to become a part of an America that we have to make."

WALTER ROBERSON

Springtown City Council



MADELYN EDWARDS | THE SPRINGTOWN EPIGRAPH

School design firm Claycomb Associates, Architects education consultant Mike Rhodes, standing, answered questions at the Nov. 14 Springtown ISD facilities planning meeting at Goshen Creek Elementary School and led the group to narrow down its priorities. These facilities planning meetings led to the SISD school board calling for a May bond election.

SISD board calls for bond election

Bond package to include new middle school

BY MADELYN EDWARDS

madelyn@azlenews.net

The third time could be the charm for the approval of a Springtown ISD bond election.

The school district called for a bond election twice

in 2021 to add space to the intermediate school, middle school and high school and to build a new elementary school. However, voters struck down those proposals.

This time, SISD has a different plan in mind.

During a meeting on Feb. 13, the SISD school board unanimously approved calling for a bond election. In May, voters will have the opportunity to decide whether to approve fund-

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Reno disincorporation petition lawsuit may be headed toward trial

BY MADELYN EDWARDS

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A district court judge denied a motion for summary judgement in the case of the Reno disincorporation petition lawsuit.

However, some of the plaintiffs said this case is far from being over and are looking forward to a trial date.

A motion for summary judgment is defined by the American Bar Association's website as "(asking) the court for a judgment on the merits of the case before the trial. It is properly made where there is no dispute about the facts and only a question of law needs to be decided.'

The motion was considered by 415th District Court Judge Graham Quisenberry on Feb. 1, and the order to deny was signed on Feb. 7. Before then, the plaintiffs and defendant — Mayor Sam White — both filed court documents arguing for their respective sides of the case.

In August, Reno residents submitted a petition to dissolve the city. The petitioners claimed they had more than the 400 signatures required to trigger an election.

However, White did not order an election and claimed in his response to the summary judgement motion that the number of valid signatures of qualified voters was fewer than 400 when crossreferenced with the city's voter registration list.

Since then, petitioners Eric Hunter, Joy Jenkins and Jennifer Vogle filed a lawsuit against White to order him to call for the election for disincorporation. The plaintiffs' lawsuit claims that the reasons given for invalidating signatures are illegitimate. Hunter also said that some signees were wrongly labeled as not registered because they reside in a different Reno precinct.

The evidence in the plaintiffs' summary judgement motion included statements from petitioners backing up their signatures and information on petitions under Texas Election Code Chapter 277 from the Texas Secretary of State's website.

In his review of the signatures, White claims in his response to the summary judgement motion that he found instances of the following:

· Signees who did not appear on the voter registration list.

· Signees who were not registered to vote at the time of signing the petition.

· Signees who appeared to have signed for another person.

· A signee's signature that did not match the name of the person signing. · Signees whose voter reg-

istration was suspended or canceled. · Signees who had moved and were no longer qualified

voters in Reno by the time the petition was submitted. · Signees who requested that their signatures be removed from the petition.

· A signee who did not date the petition.

Signees whose dates of birth on the petition dif-

fered from the voter roll. · A signee who did not list their correct address on the petition.

During Monday's Reno City Council meeting, White said a law firm also reviewed the petition and counted fewer than 400 valid signatures.

"Had a summary judgment been accepted and the judge found there to be 400 valid signatures, as the mayor, I would have had this item placed on the ballot for voter consideration," White said during the meeting. "But seeing there are 3,100-plus citizens in Reno - 2,700-plus that did not sign a petition -I am obligated by the law to honor a requirement of 400 valid signatures which they did not provide."

White's response to the summary judgement motion claims that the plaintiffs should have done more to prove the validity of each signature, such as showing that each signature was witnessed and establishing voter registration of signees before the petition was filed.

The declaration of Parker County Elections Administrator Crickett Miller was also dismissed by White's response. Miller's office reviewed the signatures on the petition for voter registration and counted 423 valid signatures. However, White's response states that only the city's mayor has the required authority to validate trying to avoid doing. And it's signatures.

The plaintiffs' rebuttal claimed that Miller "is more familiar with signature validation requirements" than White.

White's response states this case needs a trial to resolve certain issues.

"Plaintiffs' motion for summary judgment should be denied because [1] plaintiffs failed to conclusively prove 400 valid signatures were submitted to the defendant to call the election and [2] there is conflicting evidence as to the number of valid signatures contained on the petition, creating a fact issue," White's response to summary judgement states. "The case should be set for trial to resolve these issues.

Hunter and Vogle said the move to request a trial is a delay tactic. Having a trial means this case won't be resolved until after the May election, and the disincorporation issue won't be able to appear on the ballot until the next mayoral election in 2025 unless the judge decides otherwise.

As of Feb. 14, a trial date has not been set publicly.

Both Hunter and Vogle claimed that not allowing the disincorporation issue on the ballot is suppressing the voices of Reno voters.

"I fully expected the mayor to do everything that he could to push this out past the deadline," Hunter said. "He's trying to avoid following the law. That's what he's

really sad. It kind of forces you to have to question what kind of government or leader do you have that fights so hard to keep people's vote off the ballot?'

White said it's up to the plaintiffs to order the trial and push the case to the next

"The ball is in (Hunter's) court if he wants to do a jury trial," White said. "We're not requesting a jury trial from the city because there's no point in that. The burden of proof is on him.'

Vogle remained adamant that the fight to put the disincorporation issue on the ballot will continue.

"We're not going to just give up," she said. "We know that we're doing the right thing, and we didn't come this far just to say, 'Oh, well. He got it pushed past the deadline, and it's not going to get put on this ballot,' but it's not going to go away.'

RESPONSE FROM THE COUNCIL

Reno City Council previously approved hiring a lawyer to represent the city in this lawsuit. Last month, White confirmed that the city has agreed to pay a total of \$7,500 for this law firm's

At Monday night's meeting, some council members made it known that they don't want the city to spend any more money on this case.

After meeting in closed session, council member Shelli

Swift said she doesn't want the city to spend any more money on this lawsuit and that residents should be able to vote on this issue.

"This is a lawsuit that we can prevent, and we've already spent a small fortune on it," Swift said during the meeting. "I'm done with it. I'm saying put it on the ballot."

Deputy Pro Tem Hernando Herrera agreed with Swift that no more money should be spent. Herrera said he didn't want to spend any money on legal expenses in the first place, and he feels that the council spent more money without being properly informed.

"I feel like we were kind of bamboozled in a way that we said, 'OK, let's just spend a little bit of money, and then come back and reevaluate.' That never happened," Herrera said during the meeting.

He continued, "We've gone ahead and agreed to a certain monetary amount, and the initial charges for that legally went two or three times that. When we made the second decision to spend \$7,000, we didn't have all the information that we needed to make that decision. If I'd known that we'd already gone over three or four times the additional \$2,500, I would have never agreed to \$7,000. And so, like Shelli, I'm done. As far as I'm concerned, we spent our last dime."

Swift's and Herrera's comments were followed by applause from the audience.

Blood drive scheduled March 1 at Church of Christ

BY MADELYN EDWARDS madelyn@azlenews.net

Springtown-area residents will have another chance to

donate blood on March 1. The Springtown Church of Christ is hosting a blood from 1-6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 1.

An email from Sonia Chiessa-Ortiz, Carter BloodCare administrative assistant II to the vice president of marketing and operations support, claims that the community blood supply has

decreased to "critical levels" after the recent winter storm.

"Carter BloodCare is encouraging residents to donate blood in March to help Texas patients," Chiessa-Ortiz said in the email. "Medical procedures for many patients are being delayed by two days or more until blood becomes available. When every second counts, donating blood makes a lifesaving difference for neighbors in need."

People may need transfusions because of vehicle wrecks, organ transplants, open-heart surgeries, cancer

treatments, difficulties during childbirth, anemia and age-related health issues.

"The need for blood is nonstop, but Texans can help by giving at Carter BloodCare's community blood drive," Chiessa-Ortiz said.

To sign up to give blood on March 1, visit https:// ww3.greatpartners.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/137289 online.

FILE PHOTO

Texans can help by giving at Carter BloodCare's community blood drive.



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Here's to those with pioneering spirit, both past and present

Disclaimer: For my readers in Azle, today's headline has no reference whatsoever to our across-the-lake rivals at Boswell High School. (Go,

Now that I've made sure not to offend my fellow Azle-ites, but have probably offended some of my other friends, let us continue ...

I can't remember what year it was, but I had been asked to speak at the annual gathering of a local cemetery association.

This still-in-use cemetery started when the local community was pretty much at the dream stage. The first people buried here were the pioneers who thought this neck of the woods might be a



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.

good place for a town, so they they were creating something planted themselves (perhaps an unfortunate use of words in the context of a cemetery) here and attempted to build a life.

They built homes and started businesses, churches, and schools.

They had a pioneering spirit and a vision of what could be.

They understood that there was no such thing as normal;

new.

As a part of my message that day, I suggested that we don't honor the pioneering spirit of our ancestors by trying to keep things from changing, doing things as we've always done them, or protecting the traditions passed down to us simply for the sake of tradition.

I'm sure that there were some there who did not agree back.

with me (but they invited me back a couple of years later, so I guess I wasn't too offensive).

Not every person who reads this will agree with me now either, but I think we are in a period of time where pioneers are needed more than

For the last three or four years, we have been in a time of the deepest turmoil and discontent that I have witnessed in my 61 years on this planet. I will not say that we are more divided than we have ever been in our country (620,000 who died in the Civil War might have a case), but I think one thing is clear:

"Normal" ain't coming

Memory is not vision.

The past can inform the present, but returning to the way things were is not an option.

The best thing we can bring forward from those who came before us is not what they did, but the visionary, pioneering spirit that gave them their inspiration.

The COVID pandemic was not a temporary interruption: the world has changed.

And the way forward is not in choosing sides and fighting each other. It's finding the commonalities we can build on and envisioning the future that could be if we are willing to live with some differences

and uncertainty. I recently read the words of friend.

Jesus in Mark 3:24-25 — "If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. If a house is divided against itself, that house can-

not stand." In these verses, Jesus was – at the same time — addressing an immediate accusation and stating an eternal

principle. When teammates become opponents, or when family becomes foes, destruction is at hand.

Pioneers understand they don't have the luxury of fighting over preferences. They need each other to survive and move toward the vision.

Here's to the pioneers! Be amazing today, my

Valentine's Day has come and gone...thank goodness!

This may come off as sort of a rant, but I do not like Valentine's Day.

Valentine's Day, which is celebrated annually on Feb. 14, originated as a Christian feast day honoring one or two early Christian martyrs named Saint Valentine. Through the years it has evolved into a significant cultural and commercial celebration of love and romance in many parts of the world. The U.S. Greeting card company has estimated approximately 190 million Valentine's Day cards are sent each Valentine's Day and the number rises to more than a



FROM MY FRONT PORCH

By Sam Houston

Sam Houston is a syndicated columnist and newspaper entertainment producer/promoter.

billion cards if the computation includes school-based activities, with teachers having the honor of receiving the most valentines. It is reported Americans spent \$21.8 billion on Valentine's Day in 2021 with the average amount spent being \$164.76.

So why do we celebrate

Valentine's Day? To show people we love or care about them? I know there is a lot of money being spent on marketing to tell people they need to spend their cash to show their love on this one specific day. So why is this day more important or "special" than all the others? I

have never figured that out.

Mind you, I am all for treating loved ones well and letting them know how you feel, but shouldn't it be done year-round? I hope I show my people I care about them every day. Only a fool needs a reminder from the calendar to do something nice to those he is close to. Love should be demonstrated every day, in every way. Seems like in Sunday school I learned of a famous leader of a major religion who focused his teaching on "love"; Loving one another and even loving your

Listen up guys. Valentine's

is over for the year. Instead of waiting 364 more days perhaps you should go and gas up your wife's car, so she doesn't have to. Maybe bring her a cup of coffee while she is watching the morning news. Or, heaven forbid, stop and tell her how much you appreciate her for how she takes care of you and how happy you are she loves you back.

If I have one fear in life, it is someone I care about will not know it. They deserve to know. They should rejoice in learning that another human being cares about them deeply. There is no better feeling

than knowing another human being cares enough to love you. Remember, it doesn't have to be your sweetheart, it can be a neighbor, a friend, a co-worker, or a family member. Simply tell them and show them you care.

Don't take your loved ones for granted, for life would be nothing without them. Just ask anyone who is alone or unloved.

Thought for the day: You don't love someone because they are perfect, you love them fully knowing all their imperfections.

Until next time I will keep riding the storm out!

ing \$120,780,000 for a new middle school, acquiring land, and renovations and additions to the restrooms at Springtown Intermediate

School. According to an SISD news release, the new middle school would house grades six through eight, and include capacity for 1,204 students, a amount to a total of 32 acres

and a track. The school board also approved allowing Superintendent Shane Strickland to negotiate and execute the purchase of land with Nancy Springfield Bayouth. The district hopes to acquire this land, which is about 16 acres, through the bond election. It would be an addition to the land that was intended for a new elementary school in the previous bond packages and would

Highway 199 and Williams-Ward Road.

After the meeting, Strickland said the extra land is necessary for this project "because a middle school would need more land to be able to build on than an elementary."

If this bond election is successful, ninth-grade students will be taught in the current middle school building, which would open up space at Springtown High School. Also, the intermediate school near the intersection of State would become an elemen-

tary school in this plan, and all elementary schools would house grades pre-kindergarten through fifth, according to the news release.

This plan was developed after the district held several meetings with parents and other members of the community to discuss the district's growth and how that growth has impacted facilities. Those meetings also included discussions about SISD's financial standing, existing school facilities, different scenarios for building

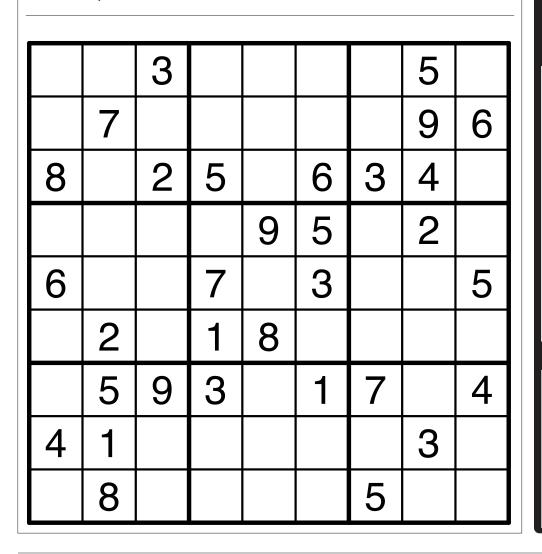
new facilities and/or renovating existing facilities and costs related to adding more space.

At one such meeting on Dec. 12, former Superintendent Mike Kelley explained that enrollment has grown by 661 students since 2012, and in the next nine years, SISD is projected to grow by about 1,300 students. Meanwhile, space for students — in classrooms as well as in cafeterias and restrooms — is running out.

"These meetings conclud-

ed that various conditions throughout the district pose security concerns, the challenge of aging buildings, and overcrowding," the SISD news release stated. "This process identified critical needs and helped prioritize areas deemed most important to be recommended to the Board of Trustees for consideration leading to this called bond election."

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PK through 12th Grade

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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 No school Tuesday Breakfast Stick, Blueberries Wednesday Scrambled Eggs, Apple Thursday Cinnamon Roll, Strawberry Applesauce Friday Strawberry Yogurt, Blueberry Muffin, Mandarin Oranges

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 No school Tuesday Tangerine Chicken, Rice, Garden Salad, Roll, Mandarin Oranges Wednesday Hamburger or Cheeseburger, Fish Sticks, French Fries, Roll, Cucumber & Tomato Cup, Blueberries Thursday Chicken Alfredo with a Twist, Crispy chicken Sandwich, Green Beans, Roll, Baby Carrots, Strawberry Applesauce Friday Cheese Pizza, Crunchy Fish Sticks, Roll, Fresh Broccoli, Mixed Veggies, Banana

5th - 12th 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.

Mon No school Tues Tangerine Chicken, General Tso's Chicken, Broccoli, Fried Rice, Roll, Cucumber & Tomato Cup, Mandarin Oranges, Apple Weds Reg or Spicy Chicken and Waffles, Catfish Po'Boy, Broccoli Salad, Tator Tots, Strawberries, Oranges Thurs Lasagna w/ Cheesy Breadstick, Crispy Chicken Sandwich, Glazed Carrots, Fresh Broccoli, Applesauce, Pear Fri Cheese Pizza, Crunchy Fish Sticks, roll, Baked Potato Basket, Mixed Veggies, Baked Beans, Celery & Carrot Cup, Banana, Pear

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CLAUDIA PEREZ RIVAS

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FIRESIDE

that Fireside BBO & Grill would open in the former Shinola's space on Martin Avenue, down the road from the Springtown Police Department.

From the beginning, Cassie Buffington felt like working at Fireside was meant to be. She found a large number 13 — her lucky number — hanging on the wall on the patio. Then, Harold's lucky number, 77, was written on the walkin wall.

"I kept seeing '13' places, and I was like, 'That's going to be my lucky number one day. It's going to mean something big for me," Cassie Buffington said.

The décor inside Fireside is similar to what it looked like when Shinola's was open. The Buffingtons don't have any major plans for the interior design of Fireside, other than adding a few personal touches.

"I'd like to mount and put up my original menu off the trailer from our first day," Harold Buffington said. "It's butcher paper, and it's got everything marked out and the date on it. I'd like to put that up somewhere."

The Buffingtons opened Fireside quickly because they had rehired most of the former Shinola's employees and wanted to get them back to work as soon as possible. Cassie Buffington said she and her father worked almost around the clock to get the new restaurant ready to

Harold and Cassie Buffington praised their new employees' hard work in getting Fireside up and running.

"They're workers. They don't slack off or anything like that," Cassie Buffington said. "It's been nice."

One of those former Shinola's employees is Courtney Vaughan. She has worked in restaurants for 20 years and spent almost 13 years at Shinola's. Vaughan came to Shinola's after attending a baby shower in Springtown, and she decided to ask for a job application.

"I asked for an application, and then I bothered them until they called me back. I kept calling and I kept calling and came up here and asked about the status of my application," Vaughan said.

Now, Vaughan is a recognizable face in Springtown and beyond, she said, because of her work at Shinola's. She has even become close with some of her customers and said they have brought or made gifts for her daughter. Vaughan said her relationship with the customers was what separated Shinola's from a corporate chain restaurant.

Since starting back at Fireside BBQ & Grill, Vaughan said the work environment has been positive.

"Everybody here has been happy, energetic, upbeat. The vibes have been great," she said. "All of us have been just happy to come to work, and the customers are noticing that already."

One of the challenges of opening Fireside BBQ & Grill has been managing long lines and the amount of time customers are waiting for their food.

"The cooks are adjusting to a new menu. The servers are adjusting to a new menu," Harold Buffington said. "They're not used to the ways that I want stuff made. And people just don't realize that when they come in."

Vaughan said she has learned to warn her customers about long wait times and food outages while trying to be as accommodating as possible.

"I tell the customers this: I'm like I know that you all saw the parking lot when you all got in here. I don't know if you have seen it online. I don't know if you're aware that we're all new here. The place is new. We're still trying to learn stuff. We're (doing) trial by error on what to order, on what not to order, on what to make, what not to make, what to make this amount of. You just got to bear with us," Vaughan said. "And every time I tell customers that, they're 100% OK."

FAREWELL, SHINOLA'S

Since opening, Cassie Buffington said she has enjoyed getting to know one of Shinola's former owners, Robin George, who opened the restaurant with her late husband, Tommy Frantom, in 2008. George sold Shinola's in 2018 but stayed on to work at the restaurant for a time after that.

"I told Robin I hope I do the Shinola's building proud just because it was such a big



MADELYN EDWARDS | THE SPRINGTOWN EPIGRAPH

Courtney Vaughan stands by a table at Fireside BBQ & Grill where she waits tables. Vaughan also used to work at the restaurant Shinola's that closed in December and made way for Fireside.

deal for a long time," Cassie Buffington said.

Shinola's started with George and Frantom needing a new place for a restaurant. They had opened the Hot Skillet restaurant in Alvord but knew it would cost double to renew their lease. So, they looked for a new place and found their soon-to-be location in Springtown.

"We would have been the fourth restaurant in three years in that building," George said. "(The building's owner) said she had just finished praying that the Lord would send them somebody that would be successful there, and the phone rang and it was my husband."

The name Shinola's was inspired by Frantom's time in the Marine Corps, George said. The name comes from a saving and a brand of shoe polish used by Marines. The restaurant was known for its chicken-fried steak, strawberry salad and homemade pies.

George described Shinola's as a "very inviting and warm family place." She and her late husband bonded with the customers, and she said the employees were like family.

notion that the staff members of Shinola's were family, especially Frantom who would dote on her daughter. Vaughan recalled a time when she had a panic attack at work that caused her to go to the hospital, and Frantom

stayed by her side. "He came to the hospital and was like in the waiting room with me, holding my hands with me, went back to the room with me and telling the hospital attendants, 'She's one of my employees. I'm going back there with her until her family gets here," she said. "He was with me the entire time at the hospital, like a dad, like my dad would be. That's how caring

George said running restaurants was her late husband's

passion.

"He loved watching the plates go out. He loved creating new ideas. We had a buffet on Sundays. He came up with new ideas for the buffet every Sunday," George said. "Whenever we would get certificates or praises from anyone, he attributed all the success to our employees."

So far. George has been impressed with Fireside BBQ & Grill and thinks the new restaurant will be successful. Her advice to the Buffingtons is to be dedicated to their employees, work on legitimate complaints and to not take every bad review to heart.

"Cassie and Harold seemed like they're going to be hands-on owners, just like Tommy and I were," she said. "When you're in a small town

like that, you need to be there not just to be sure that your business is operating right, but to show your customers and your employees that you're willing to work as hard as the employees do."

Like Howell's and Shinola's, Harold and Cassie Buffington want Fireside BBQ & Grill to be involved in the community. Harold recalled his mother and grandmother contributing to community organizations, and likewise, he would like to participate in activities with the schools, the Lion's Club, the city and the chamber of commerce.

"This is my hometown, and I love it," Harold Buffington said. "I want to be involved as much as I possibly can."

Vaughan seconded the **Small Business**

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Abbott issues disaster declaration, seeks fed help; religious freedom bills draw bipartisan support; plan to ban TikTok on state-owned devices released

ABBOTT ISSUES DISASTER DECLARATION, **SEEKS FED HELP**

Gov. Greg Abbot has issued a disaster declaration for Texas counties affected by the early February ice storm and is seeking a federal declaration as well for areas in Southeast Texas affected by rare January tornadoes. The ice storm caused considerable damage to property and power outages in the affected areas. The declaration for ice-storm damaged counties includes Denton, Hays, Henderson, Milam, Smith, Travis and Williamson counties.

"Through this disaster declaration, we will be able to provide additional assistance to Texans and communities who have experienced property damage and localized power outages from this ice storm," Abbott said.

The ice storm brought tree limbs snapping and crashing onto power lines. More than 170,000 Austin households were without power for several days, with some going more than 10 days without power.



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.

Abbott also requested a presidential disaster declaration for counties in Southeast Texas hit by tornadoes and severe storms in late January. That request includes Harris, Jefferson, Liberty and Orange counties. If that request is granted, residents and businesses in those counties would have access to federal loans and grants.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM BILLS DRAW BIPARTISAN SUPPORT

Three bills have been filed in the Texas House aimed at improving Texans ability to practice their religions. The Austin American-Statesman reported that state Rep. Salman Bhojani, D-Euless, filed the bills to expand the state's list of optional holidays to include more religious holy days; prevent standardized tests being

given on those days; and ensure that religious leaders of all faiths can legally perform marriages.

Bhojani, one of the state's first Muslim legislators, was joined at a news conference by Republican state Rep. Jacey Jetton, R-Richmond, who is Christian, and fellow Muslim state Rep. Suleman Lalani. D- Sugar Land.

"As legislators, it is our duty to ensure that Texas is the religious freedom state, where we can practice our faith with pride, where we can pray in a church, synagogue, mosque, temple, jamatkhana or gurdwara, where we can love God by any name," Bhojani said.

PLAN TO BAN TIKTOK ON STATE-OWNED DEVICES RELEASED

Abbott last week also an-

nounced a security plan to ban the use of the popular video app TikTok as well as other software on all stateissued devices, as well as personal devices used to conduct state business. Abbott contends the Chinese-owned company can harvest data from TikTok user's devices and poses a security risk to Texas.

After Abbott issued the initial order in December, The University of Texas at Austin hanned TikTok on all its Wi-Fi networks. The latest security plan also includes other lesser-known apps, such as WeChat. A number of hardware manufacturers are also prohibited from being used by state agencies and employees.

TikTok, which is known for its short videos, is owned by the Chinese company ByteDance and has more than ticipated breakup of La Niña 86 million users in the United States.

A WET JANUARY FOR PARTS OF THE STATE

January brought above-average rainfall for large swaths of East Texas while the rest of the state had below-average

precipitation, hydrologist Mark Wentzel wrote in the Texas Water Development Board's monthly report. Drought conditions expanded by five percentage points to include 54% of the state, while statewide storage in water supply reservoirs is at 72.5% of capacity, down about 10 percentage points from what is normal this time of vear.

Drought conditions have been all but eliminated in the eastern portion of Texas, while much of the state is in moderate to severe drought conditions. The worst drought conditions now are in a circle of counties around Bexar County.

Wentzel predicted that except for northeast Texas. much of the state will see expanded drought conditions.

"However, with the anconditions later this year, there is some hope that the rest of Texas may see at least some easing of drought conditions as early as May," he wrote.

FINAL ROUND OF EMERGENCY SNAP BENEFITS

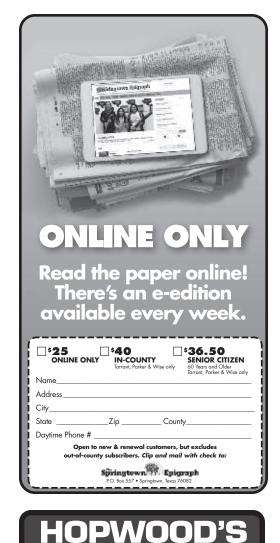
This month brings the final allocation of emergency food benefits provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and distributed to eligible households by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. The extra minimum of \$95 per household began during the start of the COVID-19.

COVID-19 CASES SHOW DECLINE

The number of new cases of COVID-19 reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University in Texas in the past week dropped to 25,229, with 189 deaths reported. The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations in the state dipped slightly to 1,952, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services. The number of actual cases is likely higher, since people who test positive using a home kit generally are not reported in the case count.

Spotlight on BUSINESS







Since being established in 1989, the Fort Worth Cats organization has produced more than 900 collegiate and professional baseball players, including multiple alumni currently playing in Major League Baseball. Come be a part of a family that will set your child up for success not only in baseball, but in life.

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The Fort Worth Cats is one of the most prestigious and elite baseball clubs in the state of Texas. Established in 1989, the Cats have pro-

duced over 900 collegiate and professional baseball players who are still playing in the MLB today, including players like Max Muncy, Hunter Pence, Yovani Gallardo and Zach Britton.

The Fort Worth Cats NTX is headed up by General Manager Coach Spencer Elliot. Coach Elliot is a combat veteran and collegiate athlete and has 15 years of experience. He earned his bachelor's degree in kinesiology from TCU and has a masters in strength and conditioning.

The club has been in the Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD area outside of Azle for almost three years.

The Fort Worth Cats offer year-round training and development that's top of its class. With their 6,000 square foot indoor facilities, training equipment and professional coaches, these athletes excel past their competitors. The club offers college exposure and recruitment, as well as the opportunity to play overseas.

Right now, the Cats are looking for athletes 6 to 14 years old who want to receive top-notch training from experienced athletes close to home. Tryouts are held throughout the year at their facility located at 9881 N. Saginaw Blvd, Ste. 400, in Fort Worth. Members have 24-hour access to the facility. Special appointments for tryouts or private lessons are available for non-members.

If you are seeking employment opportunities, they are always interviewing former college players and professional players for coaching positions. High level playing is preferred but not required.

For more information, visit www.Fort-WorthCats.org.



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OBITUARIES

E.R. Evans 1936-2023

Elza Ree "E.R." Evans, 86, of Azle passed away peacefully on Thursday, February 9,2023 in Fort Worth.

Visitation is 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, February 15, 2023 in White's Azle Chapel.

Services are 2 p.m. Thursday, February 16, 2023 in White's Azle Chapel. Burial in Springtown Cemetery.

E.R. was born in Hartman, Arkansas on December 10, 1936 to Virgle Lee and Martha Rebecca Burnett Evans. He graduated from Hartman High School and served his country with the Army National Guard.

E.R. lived his life to the fullest from building and racing race cars in his early years to working on aircraft until he retired.

E.R. is preceded in death by his wife, Allie Evans; his parents; in-laws, Elisha Owen and Allie Odessa Mann: and



eight brothers and sisters. E.R. is survived by his

daughters, Teresa and Patricia Evans; grandchildren, Jason Downes and Brandie Boyle and husband, John; great-grandchildren, Jacob, Kaylee, Kinsley, Jaiden, Timber and Saige;several nieces, nephews, other family and friends.

The Springtown Epigraph,

Dan Pomeroy

Dan Pomeroy, 71, beloved by his family and friends, passed away February 7, 2023, in Granbury.

Funeral Service was held Tuesday, February 14, 2023, at White's Funeral Home Chapel in Springtown, Texas.

Interment was Tuesday, February 14, 2023, in the Springtown Cemetery following service.

Dan was born September 16, 1951 to Barney Pomeroy and Ima Sue Hardee in Fort Worth, Texas. Dan grew up in Springtown, moved to Stinnett, Texas in 1989, married Jeannie Hodges and lived there.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Jeannie Hodges; his granddaughter, Melody Melanson; and brother, Larry Pomeroy.

Dan is survived by son, Chip Pomeroy and wife Jordon; daughter, Melissa February 16, 2023 Edition Meryhew and husband David;



granddaughter, Madison Melanson; grandsons, Brady Pomeroy, Ryan Pomeroy, Logan Pomeroy; niece, Angie Hodges; sister, Cheryl Houston; four brothers; aunt, Becky Pomeroy Stensland; and numerous nieces and nephews.

> The Springtown Epigraph, February 16, 2023 Edition

Andrea Bollman

1947-2023

Andrea Jane "Janie" (Pierce) Bollman, 76, passed away Sunday, February 12, 2023 at her home in Springtown.

Funeral Service is 10 a.m., Friday, February 17, 2023, White's Funeral Home, Springtown.

Visitation is 6-8 p.m., Thursday, February 16, 2023, White's Funeral Home, Springtown.

Interment is at Springtown Cemetery

Jane was born January 6, 1947, in Wichita Falls, daughter of Milton and Lotus (Duke) Pierce.

Jane had a very dry, but witty, sense of humor and always had an ear to listen to others. She had a love for birds, and she enjoyed bird watching. She also had an inherent love for music and enjoyed dancing as well. She enjoyed gardening and working outside and in true Texas fashion, she also loved NASCAR, barbecue and riding her Craftsman lawnmower in her bathing suit, with her pistol. While she had many interests in life, her first love



was her family. Her family was the light of her life and brought her so much joy.

She is preceded in death by her parents and her beloved dog, Tess.

Survivors include her children Joe Bollman, Denise Harrison (Todd), Bobby Bollman (Dee Dee); nine grandchildren; five greatgrandchildren; and a host of extended family members and friends.

> The Springtown Epigraph, February 16, 2023 Edition



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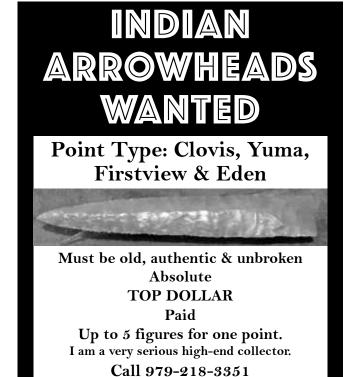
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Parker County homestead exemption deadline coming April 30

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Now is the time to file for a homestead exemption with the Parker County Appraisal District.

The homestead exemption reduces the amount of property taxes a homeowner must pay each year by removing part of the home's

value from taxation. It also limits the amount that the appraised value can increase to 10% annually. This is commonly referred to as a "homestead cap." The homestead cap doesn't kick into effect until the second full year that a homeowner has qualified for a homestead

exemption.

Although homeowners can only claim one property as a homestead, a new law in 2022 allowed property owners to claim a pro-rated general residence homestead exemption on a property that becomes their principal residence at any point in the

year. Previously, property owners could only claim this exemption if they owned and lived in the home as of Jan. 1.

It's free to file for a homestead exemption. In order to qualify, provide the appraisal district with a copy of your Texas driver's license or Texas ID card with a picture ID and a completed application. The address on the license or ID card must match the physical address of the residence for which you are applying. The application is located at www. parkercad.org.

Generally, the completed application and required doc-

umentation are due no later than April 30 of the tax year for which you are applying.

Completed applications may be hand delivered or mailed to Parker County Appraisal District at 1108 Santa Fe Drive in Weatherford.

ROBERSON FROM PAGE A1

me at all. I felt honored being asked to be on the city council," Roberson said.
"My race never crossed my mind. I guess other people thought about it more than me because of Springtown, because we've been here since '94 and oftentimes I get asked, 'How many Black people are in Springtown?' and there's not a whole lot.

So, it doesn't bother me."
When asked if he was interested in being on the council

prior to his appointment, Roberson responded with a blunt, "No," before breaking into laughter.

"I had been on planning and zoning (commission) for years, and being on city council was the farthest thing from my mind," he said.

In the end, Roberson's spirituality led him to joining the council.

"My daily prayer is always ask the Lord to use me," he said. "How I thought He was going to use me is totally different from what came into my life. I'm thinking some other form of ministry that's associated church-wise and so on. But I'm praying, 'Use me,' and here is a door that's open for that to happen."

Instead of leaving council as soon as his appointment was over, Roberson filed for re-election so he could broaden his horizons and learn more about Springtown. His "pipe dreams" for Springtown is for the city to have a state-of-the-art library and for the Springtown Legends Museum to be more prominent.

Roberson isn't the only council member to have made history with their service. Council member Ted Martinez is the council's first and only Hispanic member to serve.

Roberson said the council's diversity shows that the governmental body is "open and receptive to individuals that plan on making a difference." He also said the city council is representative of the Springtown community.

"I think our backgrounds are as varied as can be. I think (there's) diversity in who we are. I think there is a difference in our points of view, but not to the point where there's conflict or infighting or anything like that," Roberson said. "Nobody tries to put anybody down, to say lesser.

Everybody's input is valued." Roberson also indicated that he doesn't believe in di-

versity for diversity's sake.
"I just don't believe in being a figurehead just for the sake of being there. Either you have something to contribute, or you shouldn't be a part of that," he said.
"If there are other African Americans or Blacks that have something to bring to city council and that's what

to them. I say go for it. But don't just go for it for the sake of having to say, 'I'm on the city council.'" The national recognition

of Black History Month in

they want to do, hats off

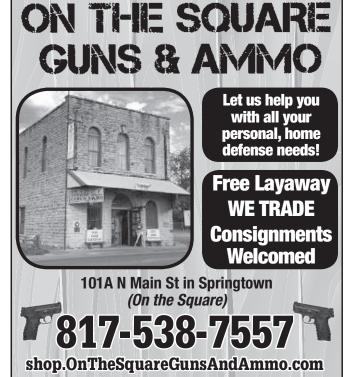
February allows the topic to be enhanced and focused on by people who might not pay it any mind otherwise, Roberson said. He also believes that Black history should be celebrated all the time, and Black historical figures should be included in school history lessons.

"Our history is a history that's rich and a history that we can be proud of, in that of who we are and what we've had to endure to survive, to thrive and to become a part of an America that we have to make," Roberson said.



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SMS theater students participate in One-Act Play contest

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Springtown Middle School theater students earned third place in the UIL One Act Play competition on Feb. 4.

Middle schoolers Logan Baker and Olivia McCabe were honored in the All-Star Cast, and Skye Saldana was named in the Honorable Mention All-Star Cast. Halo Claxton won the recognition of Best Crew Member.

Pictured in the back row, from left, are Diogomateo Avila, Rebecca Taylor, Trinity Babcock, Skye Saldana, Cade Leiss and Dusty Frazier. In the middle row is Kelsey Culver, Amiah Keyworth, Logan Baker, Halo Claxton and Jamar Clayborne. In the front row is Aleigh Aquino, Olivia McCabe, Lindsay Grace Longhofer and JoyAnna Wood. Alexia Vega is not pictured.

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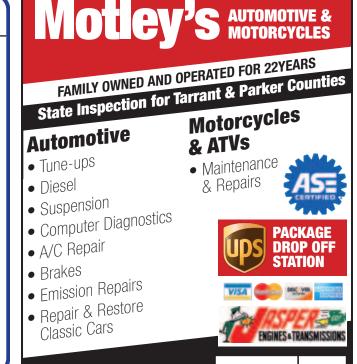
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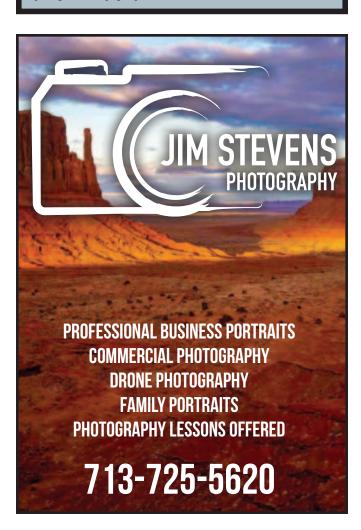
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THURSDAY. February 16, 2023



JEFF PRINCE | SPRINGTOWN EPIGRAPH

Springtown powerlifting boys show strength in Azle

JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

Springtown powerlifters traveled to Azle to compete against Fort Worth Brewer and the Hornets at a boys meet on Feb. 9.

Eli Hansen is training hard to win a medal at state.

Good thing the Porcupines took a bus rather than a commercial airplane. The Pines would have spent forever getting all their medals through metal detectors for the flight back home. Eleven Springtown lifters finished in the top three in their weight classes, and several others placed fourth or fifth

Winning first place in their weight classes were D'Aishune Elan and Jeremy Morrow.

Second place medals went to Parker Bening, Robert Lewis, Eli Hansen, and Ridge Westendorf.

London Downes, Nathan Johnson, Beau Leach, Hayden Nichols and James Snyder earned third place in their weight divisions.

Finishing in fourth place were Carson Ashley, Cambryn Holbrooks, Breyden Kearby and Brady McDonald, and earning fifth place were Traeshune Elam, Alex Rivera and Trent Wade.

MORROW EYES TOMORROW

Jeremy Morrow is ranked among the top three powerlifters in the region, and he wants to dominate his competition at the state tournament in March.

"This is by far my best year," said the senior, who won the Outstanding Lifter award at a recent competition. "It's been fun."

Lifting weights during the football season helped keep him strong for powerlifting, and he is adding more

strength as the days go by. "I'm just working hard to try to get my numbers up," he said.

BIG MAC IS GOLDEN

Brady McDonald is in his third year of powerlifting at Springtown, and each year he has added more than 200 pounds to his totals.

At meets, the lifters pump iron in three events — squat, dead lift and bench press — and win or lose based on their total amount lifted.

McDonald is closing in on

1,300 pounds as a junior and expects to reach 1,500 in his senior year. He is qualified for regionals currently.

"I did not make it to region-

als last year," he said. "I only had 1,125 pounds." Not only has he improved his own totals, McDonald sees teammates making large

strides.
"This year is crazy," he said. "This is the strongest

PLEASE SEE **POWER** | B2

Springtown powerlifting girls dominate meet

JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

On Feb. 9, the Springtown girls won the championship at the S&S Consolidated ISD powerlifting meet, indicating the team is on track for another standout season.

"This was by far the biggest meet we have competed at all season," said head coach Missy Castro.

Springtown went muscle to muscle with 224 lifters on 30 teams and came out on top with 63 points – and doubled the number of points from the next-best team in the final standings.

Second-place Denison earned 31 points, and thirdplace Bells finished with 19.

Springtown's Brianna Graham won best lifter in the light division with 835 pounds, and teammate Angela Chavez won best lifter in the heavy division with 1,235 pounds.

Chavez set a new school record in the squat with her 530-pound lift, and her total is the highest ever lifted by a Lady Porcupine at a meet.

Here are the final results from the S&S Consolidated ISD meet:

First-place medals were earned by Angela Chavez (259 weight class) who lifted 1,235 total pounds; Brianna Graham (114 class) at 835 pounds; Skyler Tyree (132 class) at 785 pounds; Abigail Rodgers (198 class) at 1,045 pounds; and Anaie Rodriguez season." (148 class) at 960 pounds. The te

Second-place medals went to A'shianya Elam (198 class) at 885 pounds; Reaghan Fortner (259 class) at 1,070 pounds; Jessica Montgomery (132 class) with 780 pounds, and Kylie Wear (148 class) at 910 pounds.

Zoey Adams (114 class) totaled 630 pounds, and Macy Chavez (132 class) totaled 775 for third place.

Abigail Stoner (148 class) earned fourth place by totaling 800 pounds.

Marie Cook (148 class) nabbed fifth place with an 800-pound total.

Sarah Self (105 class) earned seventh place with 510 pounds.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The powerlifting girls team won a state title in 2021 and came close to winning back-to-back championships. The Lady Porcupines finished as state runners up in 2022, missing the title by just five points.

Castro can't wait to watch

her team try again in 2023.

"Last year we came so close to winning our program's second state title," she said. "I believe the girls are more driven than ever this year. Our team leaders have been extremely dedicated and setting a great example for the younger lifters. I am excited to see their hard work pay off deeper into the

cascon "

The team is packed with experienced lifters and upperclassmen. Seven of 12 varsity lifters are seniors, and the rest are juniors and sophomores.

"This season we are blessed to have a lot of depth within the program," Castro said.

About 40 girls tried out for the team.

"Girls are fighting for a spot on the varsity team every week," Castro said. "I love the competitive spirit this group of girls has."

The athletes benefit in myriad ways by participating in a sport that rewards strength and hard work, she said.

and hard work, she said.

"Powerlifting is like a second family to this group of girls," Castro said. "They love and respect each other. It's a great environment for me and them to be a part of. They support each other when they fail and celebrate even harder when they succeed. It really is a blessing to be a part of something this special."

Last year, 13 Lady Pines qualified to compete at state, and only four were seniors. Castro hopes to qualify the same amount this season.

Graham is a two-time state champion, and Chavez and Rodgers are returning state champs.

"I am excited to see what

they accomplish this sea-

son," Castro said.



JEFF PRINCE | SPRINGTOWN EPIGRAPH

Kylie Wear and Lady Porcupine powerlifters hope to reclaim the state title.

Lady Porcupines end basketball playoff run

JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

The Lady Porcupines were mostly young and inexperienced this season and struggled with injuries, but the girls showed talent and determination by qualifying for the playoffs.

Years had passed since the Lady Pines last qualified for the postseason.

Springtown played a bidistrict title game on Feb. 13 against a tough Sanger squad that was ranked No. 11 in the state.

Final score: Sanger 81,

Head coach Kyle Sivadon

Springtown 17.

Head coach Kyle Sivadon characterized the season as a "historically great year" for the Lady Porcupines.

At the end of the regular season, the Lady Porcupines slammed the brakes on a three-game losing streak by hammering Fort Worth Castleberry 67-24 in the final game.

Springtown entered the bi-district playoffs as the fourth seed behind Decatur, Bridgeport and undefeated Krum. The Pines hadn't made a postseason appearance since 2016.



JEFF PRINCE | SPRINGTOWN EPIGRAPH



The future is looking up for Brooklyn Quintanilla and the Lady Porcupines, who qualified for the basketball playoffs for the first time since



POWER FROM PAGE B1

we've been in the past five years is what Coach (Brian) Hulett told us recently. Strongest and fastest."

He credits new powerlifting coach A.J. Gutierrez and other coaches for pushing the powerlifters to become their best.

HANSEN ON DECK

Eli Hansen is among the few seniors on the team, and he takes his role as a leader seriously.

"We try to set an example" by working hard, he said. "It's really fun. We've got a lot of young guys who are just starting in powerlifting."

Hansen was new himself in 2022. He practiced with the team as a sophomore and could bench press just 135 pounds. As a junior, he boosted his bench press to 225 pounds. He accomplished the feat by training regularly and eating eggs, red meat, peanut butter and other proteins.

The senior is intent on channeling all that protein into muscle and qualifying for the state meet. He came up short last year by about 150 pounds.

"I think I can close the gap," he said. "I'm looking forward to doing that."

Last year, his highest total was about 1,300 pounds — a 300-pound bench press, 550-pound squat and 455 deadlift.

He is totaling about 1,450 this year.

"My deadlift shot up," he said. "I just got a personal best on deadlift, and I'm about to start training harder on that. Squat also went up about 80 pounds."

He competes in the 220-pound weight class and will have to continue increasing his totals to nab hardware at the state meet.

"They are big dudes," he

If he were a betting man, how much would he bet on himself to win the state championship?

"Probably my whole bank account," he said.

Then, he reconsidered his statement. He doesn't have much money in his bank account and would want to bet more

"I'd go into debt for it," he said, laughing.



Jeremy Morrow

Brady McDonald likes the direction the powerlifting team is heading.

Springtown rodeo rides consistency to points

JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

Springtown High School doesn't win first place at many rodeos, but the team members show up each week, do their best to place, earn points and keep themselves positioned in the top 10.

"I tell the kids, you don't have to go out to win, just be consistent each week and make improvements," said team sponsor Staci Harris.

The Feb. 10-11 rodeo serves as an example. Delaney Harris was the top pointsearner for the Porcupines, taking second place in walkup goats and fourth in rideup goats to earn a combined 112 points.

Colton Phillips earned sixth place in bull riding for the Porcupines.

Shaye Winford placed 20th in walk-up goats, followed by Naeveh Gambrell 23), Kallie Gray (26) and Makayla Ballard (27). Winford was 11th in ride-up goats.

In barrels, Kaylee Buchanan placed 18th, followed by Gray (35), Faith Styles (42), Addyson Norris (47), Winford (48), Brylee Bailey (51) and London Smith (65).

In poles, Stephanie Heil earned 20th place, Norris was 21st, Styles was 28th and Smith was 36th.



Colton Phillips and the Springtown rodeo team is holding ninth place in the team standings so far out of 75 teams.



Dallin Fabrizius stands tallest in his Springtown jacket after the regional meet ends.

Springtown wrestler Dallin Fabrizius earns regional championship

JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

Four wrestlers from Springtown qualified to compete at the UIL Region 1-5A meet on Feb. 10-11 in

One of them — Dallin Fabrizius — won the regional championship in his division and earned a ticket to the state tournament. He wrestles against big guys in the 285-pound class.

Region 1 is among the state's most competitive, and Fabrizius manhandled his opponents.

SHS teammates Grant

Butler, Aubrey Mueller and Joseph Newman won't accompany Fabrizius to the state meet but impressed their coaches by scrapping hard at the regional event.

Fabrizius will compete at the state meet on Friday and Saturday at Berry Center in Cypress.

Springtown basketball boys prepare for playoffs



Kelby Castro and the Springtown Porcupines are playoff bound.

JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

The Springtown Porcupines lost the final game of the boys basketball regular season to Decatur, 59-38, but qualified for the bi-district playoffs after another strong season.

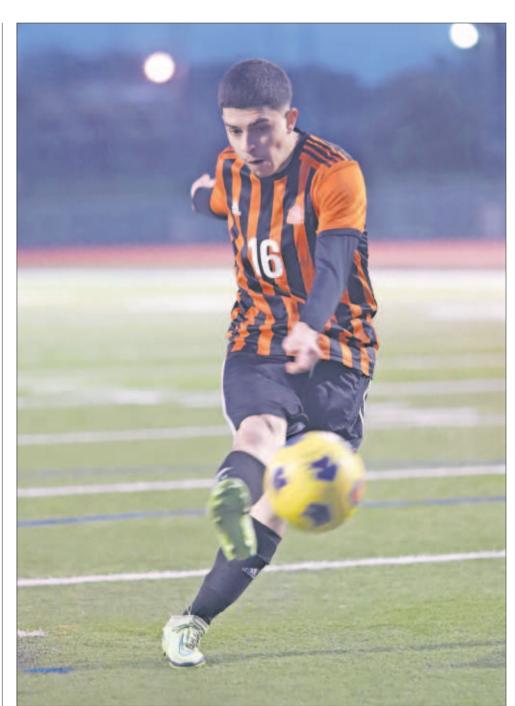
On Feb. 10, in the secondto-last regular-season game, the Porcupines took on talented district foe Lake Worth and lost in overtime, 62-59. Springtown and Lake Worth finished the regular season

JEFF PRINCE / SPRINGTOWN EPIGRAPH

tied for third place with 6-4 records.

Decatur finished 7-3, in second place. Krum, the District 8-4A leader, took the title

with a 9-1 finish. Playoff information will be available soon.



JEFF PRINCE | SPRINGTOWN EPIGRAPH

Ricardo Arias and the Springtown Porcupines will fly at the Eagles in Decatur on Friday.

Springtown soccer boys to take on Decatur

JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

The Porcupines will travel to Decatur on Friday to challenge another district foe and try to kick their way into the playoff picture.

The Porcupines lost their district opener on Feb. 7

to Collegiate Academy, fell in their second clash to undefeated Fort Worth Castleberry, and battled Lake Worth in a close game that got away on Feb. 14. The Bullfrogs came out on top 2-1, dropping Springtown's

district record to 0-3. Seven games remain in

the regular season, and Springtown can insert itself into the postseason picture with a win.

Decatur is 1-2 and beatable, although the Eagles will enjoy homefield advantage when Springtown faces them starting at 7:15 p.m. Friday.



Laura Garcia and Diane Perez high five each other after beating Lake Worth on Valentine's Day.

JEFF PRINCE | SPRINGTOWN EPIGRAPH

Lady Porcupines win again

JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

Springtown's Lady Porcupines gave the Lady Bullfrogs the kiss of death on Valentine's Day.

Springtown was enjoying a three-game win streak when Feb. 14 rolled around, pitting the soccer girls against Lake Worth in a district dustup.

The win streak lives on. The

Porcupines shut down Lake Worth all night with tight defense to earn another shutout victory, 5-0.

Aubrey Mueller scored two of Springtown's five goals.

"I couldn't have done it without my teammates," she said afterward.

Beginning district competition on Feb. 7 with a 7-0 win over Collegiate Academy put the Lady Porcupines in

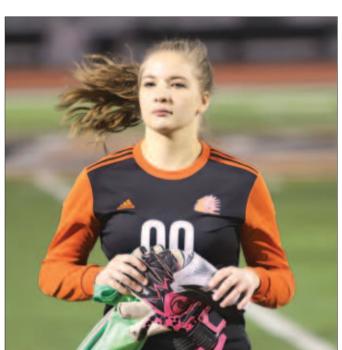
a confident state of mind, said head coach Katherine Kummerfeld.

"They played the best soccer they ever played that game," she said. "Everybody realized, 'Oh, we're good this year.' That spurred on the next game against Castleberry.'

On Feb. 10, the Lady Pines took on a talented Castleberry team and walked away with another shutout victory, 5-0.

Springtown is scheduled to play at 5:30 p.m. Friday on the road against Decatur.

Goalkeeper Allison Kimball hasn't let a ball sneak past her at the net since district competition began.





THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE



Amanda was born in Los Angeles in 1998. Her love of poetry began when she was in the third grade.

Amanda was encouraged to read her poems out loud. This was a challenge for Amanda. She had a *speech impediment*, which means she had trouble saying certain letters, especially the letter **r**. For Amanda, poetry was a way to express her feelings and practice pronouncing words that were difficult for her.

And so we lift our gazes, not to what stands between us, but what stands before us.

We close the divide because we know to put our future first, we must first put our differences aside.

We lay down our arms so we can reach out our arms to one another.

We seek harm to none and harmony for all. — From *The Hill We Climb* by Amanda Gorman

HSDLCIJSUTWEVNTSGTYOBM DUASJIVCRWLIMTXHROFUBTJ WMOIRGDTSNWPHOECNTS

Amanda Gorman's Timeline How old was Amanda Gorman in each of these years? Write the answer on each line. 14 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 **2020** 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028 2029

Amanda Gorman born in Los Angeles.

AGE:

Amanda becomes the Youth Poet Laureate of Los Angeles.

n Ancient Greece,

were the best in their fields

athletes and people who

re given a crown made of laurel

hich comes from the word laurel,

ecognize people of achievement

in many fields. They don't wear

rowns of laurel leaves, but they

do get the special title.

Today, we use the word *laureate*

AGE:

Amanda Gorman

became the National Youth Poet Laureate of the United States. Amanda Gorman reads her poem, The Hill We Climb, at the inauguration of President Biden.

AGE:

Poetry at the Super Bowl?

Bowl. But Gorman wrote and read aloud a poem

=3 =6

Normally, just pop stars perform at the Super

at Super Bowl LV. Use the code to find out

which year this happened.

AMANDA

DREAM ELECTION EXPRESS FUTURE GAZE GREECE

HILL

NATION POETRY READ TIMELINE TITLE

Elections for President are held every four years. Will there be a Presidential election the year she turns 35? If not, what year can she run for President?

From *The Hill We Climb* by Amanda Gorman

Amanda for President? Amanda has said she wants to be

President of the United States as soon as she is old enough. She has to be 35 to run for president. In what year will she be 35? Add this to the timeline.

Somehow we've weathered and witnessed a nation that isn't broken,

can dream of becoming president, only to find herself reciting for one.

but simply unfinished. We, the successors of a country and a time where a skinny Black girl descended from slaves and raised by a single mother

Conquering Fears Many people are afraid of



entering competitions and performing in front of people — even Amanda Gorman. She advises people to just go for it and don't hold vourself back. even if you are nervous or afraid.

How many differences can you find between these two pictures?



Local Laureates

Look through the newspaper and find five people you think should be called laureates. Write down each name. After the name, write what you think they should be called. Examples:

a mayor laureate a teacher laureate a construction laureate a parent laureate

Scoop Puzzler **Amanda's Writing Tip**

Circle every other letter to discover one of the keys to Amanda's amazing creativity.

(AVM) C(A) FNBDLAKAULNWRACY CHJEIWLRGIQTDEVSL.

Double

Find the words in the puzzle.

How many of them can you find on this page? S P O D R E A M H E NTREADBTIX OIADNAMALP ITFYOUTHLR TLTIMELINE LAUREATE

CETAERUALS EYRTEOPAXS LNATIONXWR ECEERGAZEE BMEKERUTUF YOUTH

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

LESSON LIBRARY

Adjective Search

Look through the newspaper for three adjectives that describe Amanda Gorman. Use these adjectives to write a sentence or two about her.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Identify parts of speech.



My Favorite Poet

Who is your favorite poet, and why?

Kid Scoop Together

Look through the newspaper for a topic that you would like Work with a family member to write a cinquain.

What's a cinquain?

A cinquain is a five-line poem that doesn't rhyme, which follows this formula:

Line 1: Subject – one word

Line 2: Description of subject

in three words Line 3: Something more about

the subject Line 4: Opinion about the

Line 5: One word related to the subject

Example:

Brilliant poet, famous Cares about the world She is the best **Inspires**

Give it a try!

Line 1:

Line 2:

Line 3: Line 4:

Line 5:

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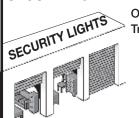




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(All ads must be paid in advance unless you have previously established credit)

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE: 1:00 PM FRIDAY

Most ads require payment in advance, but we do accept VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER OR AMERICAN EXPRESS by phone.

Garden/Mowing Service





Help Wanted

Reach more than 8,000 households with combo advertising in the Azle News and the Springtown Epigraph.

Nobody does it better!

039

Asphalt Paving

BYRUM CONSTRUCTION Asphalt Paving •Driveways •Parking Lots •Asphalt Repairs & Sealcoating •Asphalt Millings •Gravel

PLACE AN AD IN THE CLASSIFIEDS TODAY! 817-270-3340

Bruce Byrum 817-690-2429

009

Auto Repair Service

COMPETITIVE PRICING TRANSMISSION • BRAKES • A/C

ENGINE SERVICE • WRITTEN ESTIMATES

FREE TOW & FREE DIAGNOSTIC 201 E. Hwy. 199, Springtown **682-615-7250 LOCALLY & FAMILY OWNED!**

Carpet Service

817-766-3852

032 For Sale



Radial Saw pulled from storage. One owner. Used for crafts. Need to sell. Make an offer. 817-999-6736

035



817-221-2201 • 817-246-5943

817-800-6059 CELL

Insured for your protection



Eagle Crest

NOW HIRING Full Time Personal **Care Attendant**

6a-2p, 2-10p and 10p-6a shift. New Pay Scale, Health, Dental, Visior and Life Insurance, 401k and PTO. Come by and apply in person: 113 Denver Trail Azle.

Accepting all credit cards

Alexander Carpet Care INSURED 817-914-2822 CARPET CLEANING

Cement Work 019

Allen Chesney Concrete All Types of Concrete Work Residential - Commercial Foundations, driveways, sand, gravel, demolition,

haul-off, retaining walls 817-271-4541 Concrete Services, Patios, Driveways, Sidewalks, Retaining Walls, Foundations, Stone Walls.

Free Estimates. 817-371-8597. Kiley Chesney Construction Dirt & Concrete Work 🚑 🚑 Driveways • House Slabs • Garages • Add-ons Small Land Clean-ups • Gravel Driveways

Kiley Chesney, Owner

Springtown, TX • Mobile **817-846-6645**

020 Demolition

MCNEELY'S DEMOLITION & CLEAN UP SERVICE

We Create Vacancy

- Tear Down
- Barns Removal Houses
- Haul Off Bobcat
- Mobile Homes Dirt/Gravel
- Garages
- Spreading

FREE ESTIMATES 817-996-7887

Service

253 Eagles Way, Springtown

024 Electrician

BULLDAWG ELECTRIC CO. All types of electrical services and MH hook-ups. Free Estimates. 817-675-4921 www.bulldawgelectric.com. TECL#25253.

SELL IT IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

024

E-Conn Electric

Service. Remodel. New Construction Insured/BBB Accredited

817-615-7164

Customer Satisfaction is our Goal! C/C ACCEPTED TECL20470

026 **Excavating**

REED EXCAVATING • SITE PREPARATION
• LOT CLEARING • GRAVEL ROADS
• PARKING LOTS • DEMOLITION LEVELING FINAL GRADE • STOCK TANKS I AND FROSION

Dump Truck Hauling **817-919-3696**

029 Fencing

BOBBY'S FENCE. All types, Free Estimates, Over 26 years experience. 817-444-3213.

KILEY CHESNEY CONSTRUCTION All Types Fences - Tractor Work 817-846-6645

LEON'S FENCING Cedar • Iron • Pipe **Barbed Wire** 817-371-8597

Firewood

LEON'S TREE SERVICE. Split Oak and Pecan wood. Pickup or delivery. 817-371-8597.

For Sale



2017 Yamaha drive 2 golf cart, 48 volt. Silver, Has 2 covers, \$4500.00. Call 817-798-0483.

Advertising Works!

034 Garage & Estate Sales

Friday-Saturday, 8am-4pm. 321

Glenhaven, Azle. A little bit of

Saturday only, 18th 8am-3pm.

035 Garden/Mowing Service

Mowing, edging, flower beds,

fertilizer, tree trimming, residential

or business. Weekly or bi-weekly.

IRRIGATION

REPAIR

Residential/Commercial

License# LI007825

\$85 Service Call

OUTDOOR SCENE

682-553-1560

LEON'S TREE SERVICE

Expert take downs

Stump Grinding

Residential/Commerical

icensed & Insured • Free Estimates

817-371-8597

STUMP GRINDING

Don't dig it! Grind it!

1 or 100 - We can do it.

\$85 minimum within 5 mi.

817-237-5592

320 Woodard Ln, Azle. King bedroom set, matching office

Huge Garage Sale

Estate/Garage Sale

furniture, misc items.

McDowell Lawn Service

817-437-9100

everything.

Electrician

037

SPRIGGING

5 COUNTIES: Jack, Wise, Tarrant, Parker, Montague **COASTAL OR**

TIFTON *52 years Experience*

940-229-1045 or 940-229-1046

Help Wanted 039

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

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

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

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

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

LUBE TECH

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

BODY SHOP PORTER Performs duties throughout the Body Shop. Must be responsible, dependable and

have a valid TXDL. Monday to Friday work week.

Performs custodial tasks throughout the building. Position can be full-time or

part-time PORTER/MAKE-READY ASSOCIATE

Duties include, but are not limited to cleaning vehicles, running errands, test driving vehicles, receiving, arranging and maintaining the appearance of vehicles and ensuring the orderliness of the lot. Monday through Friday; No weekends!

Our Team offers impeccable service to the people we serve. Our employees, our customers, and our community are our most valuable assets. As a Junior Estimator, you will learn and participate in developing a proper repair plan for each vehicle; prepare estimates in accordance with Insurance Partners and Company guidelines; maintain and execute timely schedules before, during, and after repair completion; and communicate timely and efficiently with Customers,

Partners, and Vendors. Candidates must have excellent communication & customer service skills with a positive and friendly attitude. Basic computer proficiency with the ability to learn new technology, repair and service procedures.



Service Technicians

HIRING BONUS available for all skill levels! Seeking ALL LEVEL of Service Technicians; Lube Tech's to Master! Be part of our GROWING TEAM and advance within our Service Department as we offer a Competitive Salary with a full line of Benefits, including 401K. Mon-Fri, 5-day work week with paid vacation, training & holidays! Up To \$5,000 Hiring Bonus for Skilled Technicians!

KLEMENT DISTRIBUTION, INC. (Hershey Ice Cream Distributor)

Route Driver

No CDL required, but must have valid TXDL with acceptable driving record. Monday through Friday with Flexible time-off schedules, often 3-day weekends during summer months. Fun work environment! Promote from within advancement opportunities. ***\$1,000.00 SIGN ON BONUS***

Karl Klement Properties, Inc.

No Positions Available at this Time

For consideration of all positions apply in person: 605 N. Business 287, Suite 102, Decatur, Texas **OR CALL Human Resources Dept: Jodi Pettis or Lara Lancaster**

@ 940-627-6362 | hr.info@klementford.com

All full-time positions offer growth opportunities & a full benefits package including Medical, Dental, Vision, Life, 401(k) & more. EEOC Klement Distribution, Inc.

LINDSEY STATE JAIL CURRENT OPENINGS

Correctional Officers • Assistant Foodservice Manager Education Counselor • Academic Instructor Human Resource Supervisor Assistant Maintenance Supervisor - Electrician

PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR JOB QUALIFICATIONS. A New Correctional Officer Pay Increase will be as follows - Starting pay will be \$18.00 dollars per hour. After Six months' there will be a pay increase to \$19.00 per hour and at one year there will be another pay increase to \$20.00 per hour. Must have HS Diploma or equivalent, be able to pass a drug screen, have a clean background, and valid driver's license to be considered for a Correctional Officer.

Apply online at www.mtctrains.com or call 940-567-2272 and ask for the HR Department. Management & Training Corporation is an Equal Opportunity Employer: Minority/Female/Veteran/Disabled

Advertising Works!

817-270-3340 - AZLE

Deadline: 1:00 PM FRIDAY

079

Classifieds

817-220-7217 - Springtown 039 Help Wanted

Come Be a Part of TTI tti

ASSEMBLY JOB FAIR

Wednesday Feb 22, 2023 • 12 pm - 4 pm

Complete Application online before attending the Job Fair at: www.ttl.com/careers or scan this QR code to see all available positions



Looking to fill multiple 2nd shift/assembly positions that pay \$14.65/hour.

Shift hours 3:30 pm - 12 am with frequent overtime

Great benefits including: • 401k • Medical • Dental • Vision • Employee Assistance Program • Educational Assistance • Direct Deposit • Vacation • PTO • Paid Holidays • Up to 3 Floating Holidays per Calendar Year • Company Paid Life Insurance, Short & Long-Term Disability, and Parental Leave

TTI, INC. 3737 Meacham Blvd, Ft. Worth, TX 76137

• Background/Drug Test Required • HS Diploma or GED Required

TTI is an Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/PV/D | TTI Inc - The Specialist in Electronic Component Distribution

SOLID STEEL SOLUTIONS

- Metal Buildings
- Steel Components
- Welding Supplies
- Concrete Supplies
- Pipe Fencing

• Fabrication Supplies

• Deer Blinds

• Deer Feeders

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

PLACE AN AD IN THE CLASSIFIEDS TODAY! 817-270-3340

Roofing

Commercial &

Metal Roofing

Metal Buildings

Contracting

Roofing

Carports

• All General

Residential

Rent Furnished

1 bedroom house in Springtown also 1 bedroom house in the country. \$800 water included, secluded. 940-229-1045, 940-229-1046

Rent Unfurnished

1-1 Duplex, no pets, no smoking. \$600/mo, no utilities included. 817-296-6169.

1532 CORAL CUT OFF 3-1-1 \$1,195 MO. \$800 DEP. 1920 PELICAN DR. N. 3-2-1 \$1,495.MO \$1,000 DEP. 1916 PELICAN DR. N. 3-1-1 \$1,295.MO \$1,000 DEP. Gene Thompson & Associates 817-246-4646 gtatx.com



extra money through the Classifieds to help with that move.

16 words for only \$10

Azle News

817-270-3340 ජ Springtown Epigraph 817-220-7217 Hometown Papers!

040 Home Improvement

BILL ROSSER PAINTING & REMODELING. Big Savings: \$100 off any job of \$1,000 or more. Painting, Carpentry, Porch Covers, Decks. FREE ESTIMATES. Call **817-304-9974**; 866-374-3559.

PYRAMID REMODELING. PAINTING: Interior, Exterior, Tape & Bed, Texture, Popcorn Ceilings. FREE ESTIMATES. 817-944-7658

BOBBY MCWILLIAMS PAINTING 817-821-6377.

Interior/Exterior Painting Residential & New Homes. 50 years experience.



Kevin's Handyman Services

40 Years Experience

- Carpentry
- Drywall & Painting
- Tile & Laminate Floors
- Doors & Windows
- Decks & Stairs

Carpentry

Cement

Granite

Painting

Siding

• Rock

• Tile

- Cabinets & Countertops
- No Job Too Small

Springtown and **Surrounding Areas**

231-445-1221

066

U.S. Army Retired-but not tired! Careful moving-Cheap. Call Big Jim @ 817-237-5151.

Pets/Livestock

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

062 **Plumbing**

GRAHAM PLUMBING CO.



Commercial-Residential Serving Springtown, Azle, Boyd, **Weatherford Area** M#15899

817-220-2469 grahamplumbingco.com

940-233-2862

Advertising Works!

WINTER

SPECIAL

20% OFF

with

this ad!

EXPERIENCED ROOFING SPECIALIST

& CONSTRUCTION

817-523-4137

Here Before The Storm, Here Long After.

417 N. MAIN ST · SPRINGTOWN

FREE ROOF INSPECTIONS

Insurance Claims, Licensed Local Business 34 Yrs

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

069

Storage

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

STORAGE SPECIAL 10X10 \$60/MONTH-NO DEPOSIT 1350 LIBERTY SCHOOL RD, AZLE 5X10 \$45/MONTH \$20/DEPOSIT

817-246-4646

Quality Family Business Since 1938

Cliff Hall

Sand/Gravel

079

owner Rodney Vick 817-220-3044 fax 817-523-7639

Welding

cell 817-253-1614 Construction R&E



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

Compare Pricing NO JOB TOO SMALL

081 Business/Commercial

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

082 **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: 1941 Gale Dr. 2-2

central heat & air, stove only. \$795/mo \$400/dep, owner/ broker 817-988-9954

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**

Springtown Epigraph!

Gateway Apartments

313 Gateway · Azle · 817-444-0882 TDD 800-760-1997

Energy Efficient · Central Heat/Air Off Street Parking · Water Paid Fully Equipped Laundry

ONE & TWO BEDROOMS

Rent Based On Income For Qualified Applicants

62 years of age or older, handicap/disabled, regardless of age This institution is an equal



opportunity provider and employer



GENE THOMPSON & ASSOCIATES HOMES and MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT

817-246-4646

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

& 2 Bedroom Unfurnished Accepting Applications

Rent based on income

TDD: 800-735-2989

Wanted to Rent Single woman looking for a room to rent in Fort Worth, \$600-\$800.

No smoking.



Need to sell your ATV?

Call today and ask

about our \$29.95

Be a Proud Member of Your Community, Support Your Hometown Businesses!

049 Masonry/Stonework



Motorcycles

817-308-6512

email alvarogsilva@verizon.net



2001 American Iron Horse Ranger. 113 cubic inch S&S Engine. Lots of extras. \$10,000. Negotiable. Call Leslie 682-552-9711.

066

Devin's Handyman Service

Insulation

Kitchen/

Bath

Gutters

Powerwashing

Call Devin at 817-629-9608

Roof &

Decks

Roofing **ROOFING & METAL BUILDINGS** 817-304-4224

Tired of always replacing your roof? Call us for a metal roof quote.

We'll be here after the storm.

Miles Roofing

• Insurance Claim *Specialists;*

• Free Estimates 817-797-3420 079 Welding

(817) 221-2681

We go the extra mile to ensure

you get more for your \$.

On House Pads, Driveways,

Lot Clearing & Tractor Work, Etc.

Our Business is Metal Buildings - And We're Good! DESIGN FABRICATION ERECTION

BUILDING SYSTEMS Fabrication and erection of quality metal buildings at reasonable prices any size - any design

office 817-237-2282 Mark Cozart Jeremy Cozart

817-237-2028

817-233-6668

Metal Building Erectors • Pre-enginered Weld-up • Barns/Shops

1220 E. Hwy. 199 • Springtown 817-220-2150 www.weld-done.net

Arenas/Hangars

Fencing

Azle News!

38 TX Willie film:

"Honeysuckle

39 an account to pay

for property

' Wild"

I knew then

County on U.S. 82

11 gun assn. (abbr.)

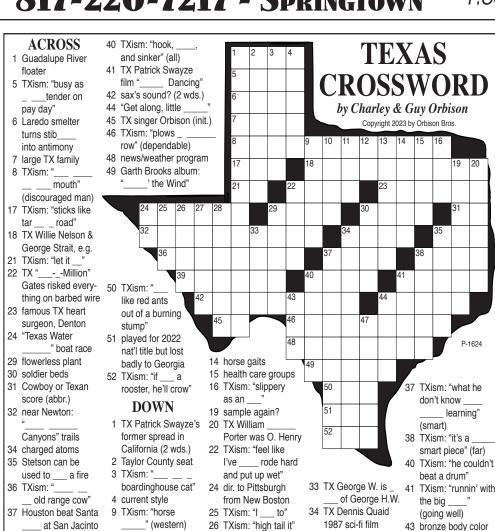
12

taxes and insurance 13 in Montague

817-270-3340 - AZLE 817-220-7217 - Springtown

Deadline: 1:00 PM FRIDAY

Classifieds



27 track sprint (2 wds.)

28 bitter resentment

30 holder of TX Blue

Bell scoops

29 defects

35 TXism: "would

Texas

trade all the

mineral rights in

(highly desired)

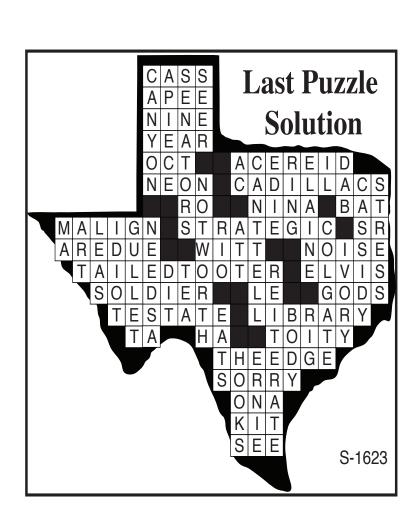
44 this Malouf wrote

Texas"

in a gland

"Cattle Kings of

47 small saclike cavity



Improvement Specialist Find one in the Classifieds! **Azle News**

817-270-3340 Springtown Epigraph 817-220-7217

Need To Fill

The Piggy

Bank?

Put Your Ad in

Our Classified

Section Today!

Azle News

817-270-3340

321 W. Main St.

Azle

Springtown

Epigraph

817-220-7217

109 East First St. **Springtown**

Need to find a Home Real Estate Deadline Monday by 12:00 PM 817-270-3340 **NATIONAL HOME**

BUYERS LLC

Sell or lease your house in 7 days to stop foreclosure. We look at all, any condition.

901-417-9423 WWW.NHBFORECLOSURE.COM



TexSCAN Week of Feb. 12-18, 2023

ACREAGE

AFFORDABLE LAND. We have some of the best in Texas. Hill Country - Edwards, McCulloch, Schleicher, Coke, Val Verde counties, free ranging exotics. South Texas - Kinney, Duval, Live Oak counties - whitetail, hogs. Trans Pecos, Terrell, Val Verde - whitetail, javelina, quail. 30 year fixed rate financing, 5% down. www.ranchenterprisesltd.com, 800-876-9720.

ADOPTION

California couple promises newborn warm, loving home. Secure future, devoted grandparents, educationa opportunities. Generous living expenses paid. Katrina and Rob 714-729-3014 or attorney 310-663-3467.

ARROWHEADS

INDIAN ARROWHEADS WANTED. Point Type: Clovis, Yuma, Firstview & Eden. Must be old, authentic & unbroken. Absolute top dollar paid - up to 5 figures for one point. I am a very serious high-end collector.

EMPLOYMENT

OLG Seeks Dynamic Leader! Established in 1996, in Port Lavaca. Texas. Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic School, with a current enrollment of 105 students, in Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procegrades PK-8, is actively seeking a dynamic principal dures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount leader for the 2023-2024 school term. OLG is fully plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental accredited. For more details and requirements, visit: Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-901-0467 www.victoriadiocese.org/employment-opportunities.

LOG HOMES

Log Homes - Pay only the balance owed. Just Released American Log Homes is assisting estate & account settlement on houses. Log Home kits selling for balance owed, free delivery. Model #101 Carolina, bal. \$17,000; Model #203 Georgia, bal. \$19,950; Model #305 Biloxi, bal. \$14,500; Model #403 Augusta, bal. \$16,500. View plans at www.americanloghomesandcabins.com 704-368-4528

GENERATORS

Prepare for power outages today with a GENERAC home standby generator. \$0 Money Down + Low Monthly Payment Ontions Request a FREE Quote Call now before the next power outage: 1-855-704-8579. **REAL ESTATE**

East Texas Land Sale. Timber AG Exempt. 10 to 25

acres starting \$89,900. Financing available. No time frame for construction. Preconstruction pricing. Call Text David 512-596-9662

MEDICAL

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 866-747-9983.

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual

Texas Press Statewide Classified Network 221 Participating Texas Newspapers • Regional Ads Start At \$250 • Email ads@texaspress.com

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