

QUARTERLY ISSUES

OCTOBER 2023

- 1. It's time to register your team for the 11th annual 'Toys For Kids' golf tourney: (OCT 1, 2023, 8:30am)** The unique event, presented by Members Trust of the Southwest Credit Union, pairs golfing with giving and is just what you need to get into the holiday spirit. The event begins at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 11, at Legends Country Club in Stephenville. Here are the details: The cost to enter the 4-person scramble is \$20 and a \$25 new, unwrapped toy (per person). The registration deadline is Friday, Nov. 10.
- 2. The Chamber's annual Safe Trick 'R Treat is happening Oct. 30 at Stephenville City Park: (OCT 9, 2023, 8:30am)** The Stephenville Chamber of Commerce's annual Safe Trick 'R Treat is taking place at a new location this year: City Park. Kids are invited to dress up and visit treat stations set up by local businesses and non-profit organizations from 4-7 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 30. There will also be a FUN ZONE featuring games and activities for children and a costume contest for various age groups. Prizes will be awarded for funniest, cutest, scariest, most creative and best homemade costume.
- 3. Register now for Stephenville Lions Club's Spooktacular half marathon, 10K, 5K and 1-mile fun run: (OCT 12, 2023, 8:30am)** Registration is now underway for runners and walkers to take part in the Stephenville Lions Club's annual Spooktacular half marathon, 5K, 10K and one-mile fun run. The event will take place on Saturday, Oct. 28, at Stephenville City Park pavilion with the Halloween half marathon, 10K and 5K beginning at 8 a.m. and the fun run starting at 8:30. Lions Club member Gerrit Schouten told Beneath the Surface News that proceeds will go directly back into the community by funding scholarships, eye exams and glasses and a day-camp for special needs children.
- 4. Survivor of domestic violence finds peace, healing with help from Cross Timbers Family Services: (OCT 23, 2023, 8:30am)** Jennifer was like most of us: a typical 7-year-old playing with her best friend at the park. A normal teenager with normal drama and her high school sweetheart. A hardworking wife with a hardworking husband, building a family in small town Stephenville, Texas. But when her husband began turning to alcohol and other substances for his strength, Jennifer's story quickly turned from typical to unbearable. The organization provides crisis services, emergency shelter, counseling internship programs, medical aid and 24-hour emergency.
- 5. Nominate your favorite local firefighter for November's Hometown Hero award: (OCT 24, 2023, 8:30am)** Do you know a firefighter whose dedication to the profession is worthy of public recognition? If so, now's your chance to nominate them for November's Hometown Hero award sponsored by Leslie Walker Farmers Insurance Agency. You can email nominations to carlene.lwalker@farmersagency.com or mail them to Farmers Insurance, Attn: Erath County Heroes, 155 N Graham #102, Stephenville TX 76401.

NOVEMBER 2023

- 1. Tarleton breaks ground on \$7 million Research and Economic Development Building: (NOV 1, 2023, 8:30am)** Tarleton State University broke ground Wednesday for a Research and Economic Development Building that will create an innovation ecosystem to accelerate sponsored research and strengthen regional partnerships. Tarleton will share the \$7 million facility, at U.S. Highway 281 and East Lingleville Road, with Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Service.
- 2. Daylight Saving Time coming to end; get ready to ‘fall’ back one hour: (NOV 2, 2023, 8:30am)** You could use an extra hour of sleep couldn't you? Sure you could! And you will get it this weekend when Daylight Saving Time comes to an end at 2 a.m. on Sunday. For Texans, that means setting those clocks back one hour before climbing into bed on Saturday night.
- 3. SPD, Erath County Sheriff's Office, DEA arrest 14; uncover drug trafficking organization: (NOV 3, 2023, 8:30am)** Fourteen suspects are in custody following an operation led by special agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration, officers with the Stephenville Police Department and deputies with the Erath County Sheriff's Office. The suspects were arrested on conspiracy and drug trafficking charges outlined in a criminal indictment filed Oct. 2. The suspects were arrested Oct. 11 and made their initial appearance before U.S. Magistrate Judge Jeffery L. Cureton the following day. If convicted, the suspects face 5 to 40 years in prison and a \$5 million fine.
- 4. Stephenville Dance Center collaborates for production of The Nutcracker: (NOV 13, 2023, 8:30am)** If you've been dreaming of Sugar Plum fairies, you're in luck. Several dancers from Stephenville Dance Center have auditioned for the professional production of The Nutcracker by Ballet Frontier. The performances will be held at the Granbury Opera House Nov. 24-26 (that's the weekend after Thanksgiving). Stephenville Dance Center is also gearing up for its annual Holiday Showcase Dec. 9-10 at Stephenville High School's auditorium. Both performances are at 3 p.m.
- 5. Longtime Stephenville fireman named November's Hometown Hero: (NOV 15, 2023, 8:30am)** Chris Elston, a firefighter and division chief of operations with the Stephenville Fire Department, has a new title to be proud of: Hometown Hero. Chris was nominated for the November award and chosen by a panel of judges. He has worked for SFD for nine years and has enjoyed a career in fire and EMS for 20. Chris grew up in Morgan Mill and graduated from Stephenville High School in 2004. The monthly Hometown Hero award is a program sponsored by Farmers Insurance agent Leslie Walker.

DECEMBER 2023

- 6. The Mystery of the Christmas Star now playing at the Tarleton Planetarium: (DEC 4, 2023, 8:30am)** The Tarleton State University Planetarium's most popular holiday show, "The Mystery of the Christmas Star," is open now

through Dec. 22. The show investigates possible dates for the birth of Christ and examines recorded sightings of significant astronomical events at the time.

7. **Registered sex offender shot in face; suspect id'd after he went to home of another sex offender: (DEC 4, 2023, 8:30am)** A man has been arrested in connection with the shooting of a registered sex offender living with his mother in the 300 block of Morgan Mill Road in Erath County. Captain Jeremy Lanier with the Stephenville Police Department said the shooting took place about 9:45 p.m. Sunday.
8. **Ho, ho, ho! Bring the kids for photos, popcorn and fun with the Tanglewood Santas: (DEC 11, 2023, 8:30am)** The Tanglewood neighborhood in Stephenville is alive with the spirit of Christmas with a new tradition now in its third year. The Tanglewood Santas will be back from 5:30-8 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 16, and Sunday, Dec. 17, at the corner of Tanglewood Circle and Tanglewood Trail. For more information, visit the Tanglewood Santas on Facebook.
9. **Heavy rain in Friday's forecast forces Tarleton to reschedule graduation ceremonies.: (DEC 12, 2023, 8:30am)** The Tarleton State University commencement ceremonies scheduled for Friday, Dec. 15, have been rescheduled for Saturday, Dec. 16 at Memorial Stadium in Stephenville due to anticipated inclement weather, including heavy rainfall and low temperatures. For more information and links to watch via live video stream, visit the Tarleton homepage at www.tarleton.edu/graduation.

Former Bluff Dale youth pastor goes on trial for online solicitation of a minor: (DEC 13, 2023, 8:30am) More than three years after a former youth minister at Bluff Dale Baptist Church was arrested for online solicitation of a minor, the trial of Ryan Ivy began Tuesday in the 266th Judicial District Court in Stephenville. In opening statements to jurors, Erath County Assistant District Attorney Jett Smith said Ivy began communicating with the then 13-year-old girl in July 2020. Testimony is expected to resume on Wednesday morning