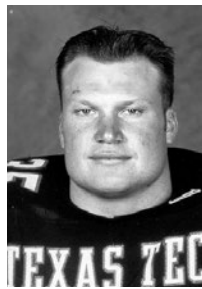


BUC-EE'S TRAVEL CENTER #66 IN AMARILLO will begin construction this month following the City of Amarillo issuing a \$30 million building permit. The travel center will be located at 9900 I-40 East by Airport Boulevard. The 75,000 square-foot location will include 120 fuel pumps. The location is expected to add 150 jobs to the area.

Last month, former White Deer and Pampa High School star **ZACH THOMAS** was inducted into the **PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME**. Thomas had an outstanding career at Texas Tech before being drafted by the Miami Dolphins in 1996. A five time All-Pro, he played 12 seasons with the Dolphins before finishing with one year in Dallas.



TANYA HOLLOWAY, HEMPHILL COUNTY AGRILIFE FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE agent, received a **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD** presented last month at the 2023 Texas Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals Conference. Holloway was one of three County Extension Agents statewide

selected for this award. Youth Leadership development is a passion Tanya Holloway has had for many years within the 4-H program, as well as the 16 years she spent in the classroom. She has had numerous District Food Show, Food Challenge, and Fashion Show District winners, and a few State winners through the years.



JEFF BARNHART has become the CEO at **AMARILLO MEDICAL SPECIALISTS**. Amarillo Medical Specialists is the fastest growing Internal Medicine group in the region. It now has the largest selection of adult primary care internal medicine physicians, kidney specialists, and diabetes/endocrinology

specialists available in the Amarillo area. Over the last few years Texas Monthly has named 12 of AMS doctors 'Texas Super Doctors' or 'Texas Rising Star,' the most of any Internal Medicine group in West Texas. Barnhart has been the CEO at Deaf Smith County Hospital District.



JOHN FORBIS is now the Executive Director of **AMARILLO CHILDREN'S HOME**. John has spent over 20 years working with youth as an educator, school administrator and ministry volunteer. After graduating from Texas A&M University, he taught in Lewisville, TX, then served as a school principal in Bryan, TX. In 2015, he and his wife, Alisha, moved their growing family to Amarillo. Mr. Forbis has served in leadership roles for Canyon ISD and most recently at BSA Health System. John and Alisha have also personally opened their home to foster and adoption.

PLAINS LAND BANK announced **BECCA BARRIENTOS** as Assistant Controller. Becca received her Bachelor of Business Administration and Master of Professional Accounting from West Texas A&M University and brings 7 years of accounting and finance experience in the financial services industry.



Becca Barrientos

Additionally, the company announced **KYLE HORSFORD** as Senior Loan Officer at the Amarillo office. Kyle received a Bachelor of Agriculture Business and Economics from West Texas A&M University and brings over 8 years of experience in the banking industry. Further, Plains Land Bank announced **MARYSSA SCOTT** as Executive Assistant. Maryssa brings over 8 years of experience in various administrative roles. Lastly, Plains Land Bank announced **STERLING SCOTT** as Loan Officer Associate. Sterling received his Bachelor of Animal Science from Texas Tech University and brings agriculture experience from his previous roles as county extension agent.



Kyle Horsford



Maryssa Scott



Sterling Scott

This page sponsored by:



CMMS CPAs & Advisors PLLC



An ATLAS Navigators, LLC Firm

Formerly Connor McMillon Mitchell & Shennum, PLLC



Gary Mitchell, CPA
CMMS CPAs & Advisors - Partner



CMMS CPAs & Advisors PLLC - Amarillo
801 S. Fillmore, Suite 600 Amarillo, TX 79101
806.373.6661



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT has appointed **JASON HERRING** as District Attorney of the 47th Judicial District in Potter County to fill the remainder of retired District Attorney Randall Sim's term set to expire December 31, 2024. Jason Herring has served as the First Assistant District Attorney for the

47th Judicial District since 2013. Following Randall Sims' retirement in June, Jason also took on the role of acting 47th District Attorney until the official appointment. Prior to serving as First Assistant District Attorney, Jason was an assistant district attorney from 2006 to 2013, and he also worked as an assistant county attorney at the Potter County Attorney's Office. He is a member of the State Bar of Texas, the Amarillo Area Bar Association, and the Texas District & County Attorneys Association. Additionally, he's involved in the Potter/Randall County Adult Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Executive Committee. Herring earned a Bachelor of Science in Political Science from the University of Houston and a Juris Doctor degree from the Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law.

NORTHWEST TEXAS HEALTHCARE SYSTEM announced that it has been verified as a **LEVEL II TRAUMA CENTER** by the American College of Surgeons. As a Level II Trauma Center the system continues to provide the highest level of care, as it has been for longer than than 30 years. More than 50,000 patients are treated at NWTHS annually from around the Texas Panhandle, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Kansas.



Dr. Collette Loftin

A \$250,000 gift from an Amarillo family will fund a professorship and three scholarship funds for West Texas A&M University. **JOHN AND NANCY KRITSER'S** gift has established the **KRITSER PROFESSOR IN NURSING**, held by **DR. COLLETTE LOFTIN** in the Department of Nursing in WT's College of Nursing and Health Sciences. The

gift also provides scholarships for students in nursing, in agriculture through the Paul Engler College of Agriculture and Natural Sciences, and in business through the Paul

and Virginia Engler College of Business. Loftin earned her Master's in nursing education from WT in 2006 and joined the nursing faculty in January 2007. She is interim head of the Department of Nursing and teaches classes in foundations and medication administration. Inaugural scholarship winners are **CALEB SILVEY**, a sophomore agribusiness major from Fritch; **CARLOS MANUEL RAMOS GARCIA**, a junior general business major from Amarillo; and **ZANE CHAVEZ**, a senior nursing major from Amarillo.

VALERO, a major refiner and employer with deep roots in the Texas Panhandle, has provided the lead gift of \$200,000 in a fundraising effort to build the **TEXAS PANHANDLE FIRST RESPONDERS MEMORIAL** in downtown Amarillo. The Memorial is a project of **FRIENDS OF AJ SWOPE** in partnership with regional first responder agencies. It will list names of dozens of Texas Panhandle law enforcement officers, firefighters and emergency medical technicians who have died in the line of duty over the past 141 years. The Memorial is planned for the northwest corner of South Polk Street and 11th Avenue south of the historic Bivins Home that houses the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce and Center City of Amarillo. Friends of AJ Swope is working toward a \$1.5 million fundraising goal and expects to start construction in 2024. Fundraising efforts for the Texas Panhandle First Responders Memorial are ongoing. More information and a secure payment portal for donations can be found at friendsofajswope.org.

EDUCATION CREDIT UNION FOUNDATION (ECU Foundation) announced a \$125,000 donation to the **DON HARRINGTON DISCOVERY CENTER (DHDC)** for their newest permanent exhibit, Discover Through Time. The ECU Foundation is the Treehouse Platform sponsor of the upper level of the exhibit. The space includes a playful "treehouse" reading nook, mezzanine classroom and observation deck that overlooks the west end of the Discovery Center. *AW*