# Vetro& Business NorthTexas Food Bank

#### The Dallas Morning News

Section B

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CORONAVIRUS

# Doctor in ivermectin suit suspended

Houston hospital bars specialist for spreading misinformation on drug

> By MAGGIE PROSSER Staff Writer maggie.prosser@dallasnews.com

The doctor at the center of a lawsuit against a Fort Worth hospital over ivermectin treatment has been suspended by a Houston hospital where she was on staff.

Dr. Mary Talley Bowden – a private practice ear, nose and throat specialist - was temporarily suspended Friday for spreading false information about COVID-19. She had been granted provisional privileges to practice at Houston Methodist Hospital, the Houston Chronicle reported.

The hospital said in a written

statement that Bowden was posting harmful personal and political opinions about the coronavirus and the vaccines that "[did] not reflect reliable medical evidence." Houston Methodist cited "unprofessional behavior" as a reason for the suspension, as reported by the Chronicle.

The news of her removal came the same day an appeal was filed in a legal battle over whether Bowden can ad-

minister ivermectin, a drug used to treat parasitic worms, to a COVID-19 patient in a Fort Worth hospital.

Jason Jones, a Tarrant County sheriff's deputy, was hospitalized Sept. 28 with the virus at Texas Health Huguley Hospital and then placed on a ventilator in a medically induced coma Oct. 7, according to court documents.

His wife, Erin Jones, is suing the

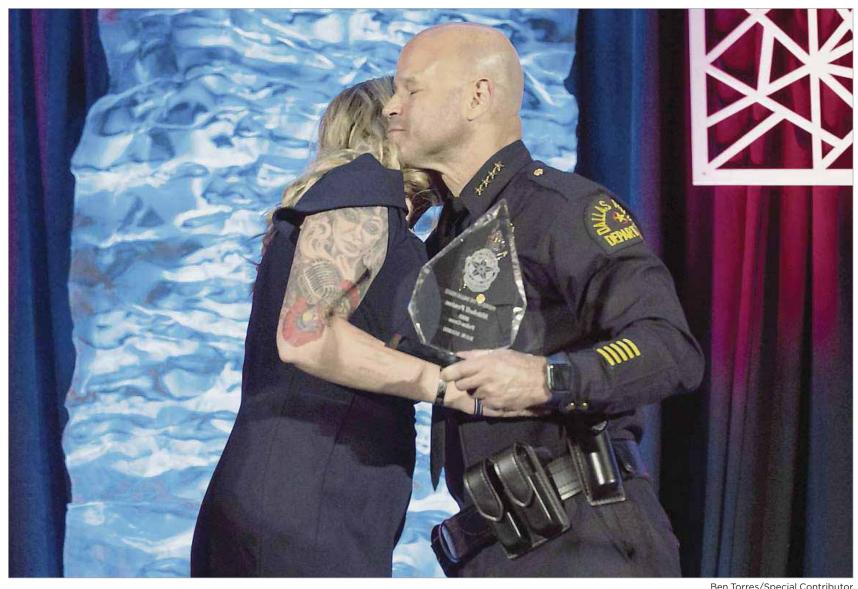
hospital to allow Bowden – who she connected with online - to administer ivermectin to him.

Bowden testified in the lawsuit that she has given hundreds of CO-VID-19 patients the drug, which is not approved by health regulators for treating coronavirus.

Bowden said she wrote a prescrip-

See **DOCTOR** Page 9B

## Local heroes honored



**IRVING** Police chief retiring

City says Spivey worked to strengthen community relations

#### **By SARAH BAHARI** Special Contributor

Irving Police Chief Jeff Spivey will retire early next year. Spivey, who was appointed chief in 2017, joined the department in 1988 as a police officer and served in numerous roles, including patrol and criminal investigation.

> chief, As Spivey worked to strengthen police relations with Irving's diverse communities. Last year he announced

that the de-

JEFF **SPIVEY** 

partment had fulfilled a pledge - the One Mind Campaign, launched by the International Association of Chiefs of Police - to improve how it responds to people with mental illness.





Ben Torres/Special Contributor

allas police Chief Eddie García hugged Noel Penton as she received the Police Cross in memory of her husband, Officer Mitchell Penton, who died while on duty, during the 40th annual Friends of the Dallas Police Awards Banquet on Monday evening at the Hyatt Regency hotel in downtown Dallas. The Police Cross is awarded to an employee for devotion and performance of duty to the extent of giving their own life in heroic sacrifice. García and Mayor Eric Johnson, along with other elected officials and community leaders, honored 259 outstanding police officers and nonsworn employees at the event.

#### **DELTA-8**

### Hemp, CBD firms reflect on uncertain future

Despite recent injunction, confusion remains over legality of substance

#### By BRANDI ADDISON and FRANCESCA D'ANNUNZIO Special Contributors

Local hemp and CBD businesses are cautiously optimistic after a Travis County judge granted an injunction Nov. 8 temporarily legalizing delta-8 products across Texas again.

Many Texans believed the products have been legal since they ramped up in popularity in 2019, but public documents show the Department of State Health Services added it to the controlled substance schedule in January. The majority of consumers and sellers were unaware until the state health department published a clarification on its website in mid-October.

Several business owners scrambled for answers as they worried about potential jail time for possession and sale, while others stressed out about its impact on their business.

"The department of health had clearly violated due process," Chris Fagan, owner of Bee Hippy hemp dispensary, said of the legal battle. "They don't have legal right to go and declare something a controlled substance if it's already removed and no longer counted as a controlled substance."

Delta-8 is a less potent alternative to the delta-9 product known as marijuana or cannabis.

Industry leaders have said consumers often use the product for pain management and mental health treatment, but they can also use it to create a "high" with psychoactive effects similar to those of delta-9 products. Texas

in-

officials say that Schedule I controlled substances, which is how delta-8 was previously listed, have "no safe, accepted medical use."

Despite the new notice, Fagan didn't change business operations because he knew "the law is not changed until the law does change" through the formal process. But he did celebrate the legal win for other business owners.

"It's real positive," Fagan said of the injunction. "It's gone down the way I

See FUTURE Page 2B

Spivey was a candidate for Dallas police chief in 2020.

Assistant Chief Darren Steele will serve as interim police chief upon Spivey's retirement at the end of January, the city said on its website.

Spivey plans to work for a national nonprofit in public safety training and development, according to the city.

On the department's website, Spivey said policing is one of the noblest professions.

"A police officer has an opportunity to make a life-changing impact on a person or people they come into contact with on a daily basis," he said. "This requires the police officer to always be prepared for any circumstance which may present itself, and to respond to the circumstance in such a way as to bring credibility, respect, trust and honor to every man and woman who wears the uniform and swears an oath to protect and serve."

#### **BUSINESS**

#### Universities team up

The UT Southwestern Medical Center and the University of Texas at Dallas broke ground Monday on a \$120 million biomedical engineering research facility. 3B

Also: Castle Hills, one of North Texas' most successful community developments, is now a part of Lewisville, 78

#### INSIDE

Business	3-5, 7B
Classified	6B
Obituaries	11B
Weather	12B

#### ELECTIONS '22 | LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

### State Rep. Beckley launching campaign

2-term Carrollton Dem seeks to challenge incumbent Patrick

By PHILIP JANKOWSKI Austin Bureau philip.iankowski@dallasnews.com

Two-term North Texas state Rep. Michelle Beckley will launch her Democratic campaign for lieutenant governor Tuesday in a bid to chal-



MICHELLE BECKLEY with The Dal-

las Morning News, said she will seek to frame Patrick and his "extremism" agenda as a politician

more beholden to his powerful donors than to his own convictions

But before she can face Patrick, Beckley must first clear a field of Democrats. She joins Houston accountant and businessman Mike Collier and former ABC political commentator Matthew Dowd in the race for the Democratic nomination.

Winning will be a challenge

as Collier is years ahead in establishing connections with Democrats across the state while Dowd benefits from the recognition from his appearances on national TV and as an adviser for former President George W. Bush.

However, recent polling shows that a majority of Texas Democrats have not made up their mind about who they will vote for in the primary.

That, in part, led Beckley to enter the race.

"The field is wide open," she said. "That is the reality of the situation."

Beckley, 51, said she believes she can claim that real estate of undecided Democrats by focusing on her electability and record. Of the three, she is the only one

See **BECKLEY** Page 10B

funded cumbent in Republican Dan Patrick. Beckley, in

an interview