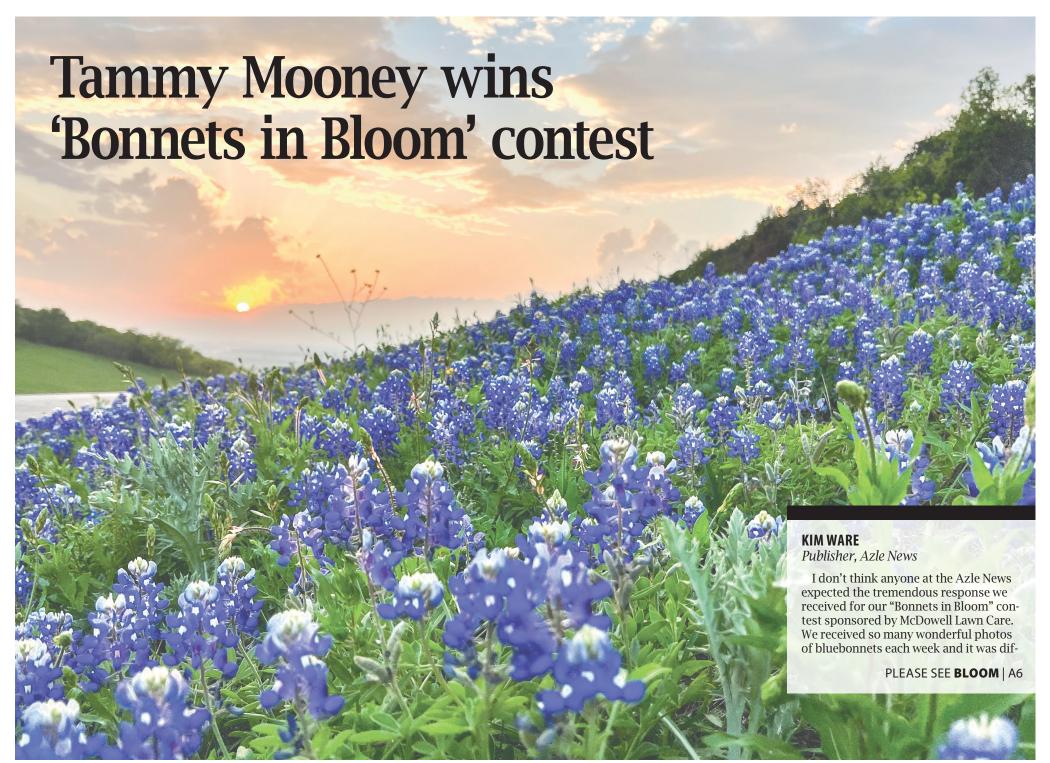


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WEDNESDAY, May 10, 2023 • **\$1**



COURTESY PHOTO BY TAMMY MOONEY

Congratulations to Tammy Mooney, grand-prize winner of the first 'Bonnets in Bloom' contest sponsored by McDowell Lawn Care.



 $\textbf{ZACH FREEMAN} \ | \ AZLE \ NEWS \\ \textbf{Marguerite (pictured) had the honor of cutting the first slice of cake } \\ \textbf{for the event.}$

Beads, bands and Bourbon Street

Legacy Oaks of Azle holds Miracle Moments for Marguerite Hudson

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@azlenews.net

On April 27, Legacy Oaks of Azle hosted a Miracle Moments celebration in honor of resident, Marguerite Hudson. Cake, brightly colored decorations, and live music performed by the AHS Jazz Band all meshed to give the event a real Mardi Gras feel. Guests were treated to punch, shrimp cocktails, and

PLEASE SEE **MIRACLE** | A2

'The Sting' news team prepares for the semester's last paper

Azle High School's newspaper is helping students discover world of journalism

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@azlenews.net

The next generation of reporters and news writers is being brought up at Azle High School. The Sting is an Azle High School newspaper published by teacher Neil Corbett's Printing and Imaging Technology CTE's class.

Starting in the 1950s, Azle High School news teams wrote and printed The Stinger, to document and inform their peers on the goings-on of Azle and high school life. The Stinger continued until 2012, when the paper was discontinued. Starting in 2017, Corbett began teaching journalism. In 2018, Corbett brought back



PLEASE SEE STING | A3



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Reno leadership upset Hector Bas Jr. wins mayoral seat over incumbent Sam White

MADELYN EDWARDS

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Reno will soon have a new mayor since Hector Bas Jr. won his race during the May 6 election.

According to unofficial results on Parker County's website, Bas won the election for Reno mayor over incumbent Sam White. Bas garnered 273 votes, more than 61% of the vote, while White collected 171 votes, more than 38% of the vote.

As someone new to the political scene, Bas said he felt shocked and ecstatic by the news of his victory. He praised the people who helped him campaign, thanked voters and current council members for their work, and congratulated those who won their races for Reno City Council.

"With 444 votes, (voters') voices have really been heard," Bas said.

Issues important to Bas's campaign were about keeping Reno rural, and transparent budgeting. Bas said it's

important for the public to know what the city's budget looks like and for council members to be clear on the budget so they can make educated decisions.

As for his goals, Bas hopes to initiate a financial audit and build a community where people help each other, especially those experiencing hardship.

"Instead of tearing people down, let's build them back up, and let's help our neighbors," he said. "I think that's how the city is going to be able to grow is being able to trust our city and being able to help our city out."

Aside from White, results were split for the other two city council incumbents running for re-election on May 6. Current Reno City Council Deputy Pro Tem Hernando Herrera won his race for Place 1 over Planning and Zoning Commission Pro-Tem Chairperson Jason Holden by 58 votes. Meanwhile, incumbent Council Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen "Katie" Tucker lost Place 4 to city council newcomer Jennifer Vogle by 62

Tod Siedell won the race for Reno City Council Place 2 over P&Z Chairperson Brian Schrader by 62 votes.

Vogle described the election results as a "win for every citizen that lives in Reno."

"I feel like we have an amazing team that is honest and wants to work hard



Hernando Herrera, Place 1 winner Tod Siedell, Place 2 winner

Hector Bas Jr., Reno's soon-to-be new mayor

the problems that Reno has had," she said referring to the other candidates who won their races. "I know it's going to be a big challenge, but we

goal for a "solid budget," Vogle said her main priority is fixing Reno's water infrastructure. She said she has been educating herself on this issue and hopes to

are all dedicated to it." In addition to sharing Bas's

have a water company evaluate Reno's infrastructure to move forward with fixes. "We're excited," Vogle said.

"We just want to do a good job and listen to everybody."

Prior to the election, Vogle was one of three plaintiffs who sued White for not putting the topic of Reno's disincorporation on the ballot, which resulted from a discrepancy between parties about how many valid signatures were on the disincorporation petition to trigger an election. This issue did not end up on the ballot on May 6, but if it comes up again in the future, Vogle said she will not stop residents from being able to vote on the matter.

Herrera and Siedell did not return the Epigraph's requests for comment by press time.





Jennifer Vogle, Place 4 winner

FROM PAGE A1

all-around good times at this Fat Tuesday-themed celebration, many dressed for the part in colorful masks and other Mardi Gras regalia. Born in New Orleans, Hudson at 80-years-old braved Hurricane Katrina while caring for her invalid husband, rebuilding after it devastated the region. "I realize that I never once felt really depressed," said Hudson. "We somehow just find the strength and that's the spirit of The Coast."

When her husband passed away later that year, Hudson moved to Azle to be close to her daughter. Hudson has had family in Azle since the 1980s and has had multiple grandchildren and recently a great-grandchild graduate

from Azle High School. She lived with her daughter until she relocated to Legacy Oaks four years ago. "I'm glad to be here at Legacy Oaks to meet all you wonderful people. That's what keeps me going." Marguerite's daughter and son-in-law were present and pictures from throughout Marguerite's life were on

display.

After the band finished and all announcements were made, Legacy Oaks played recordings from Marguerite's favorite artist, New Orleans jazz clarinetist Pete Fountain, along with other classic New Orleans tunes, like The Saints Go Marching In. "Every time I'd feel a little low, I'd put that CD on and I'd start dancing around," said Hudson. "It always lifted my spirits.

Marguerite told her fellow residents and LOOA staff, "I thank you for all being such good friends and for making me happy here."

Azle City councilmembers all retain seats following May 6 election

The only contested seat, District 6, was maintained by incumbent, Brian Conner.

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@azlenews.net

COURTESY PHOTO

Local elections for Azle City Council had unsurprising results following a mostly uncontested race. Mayor

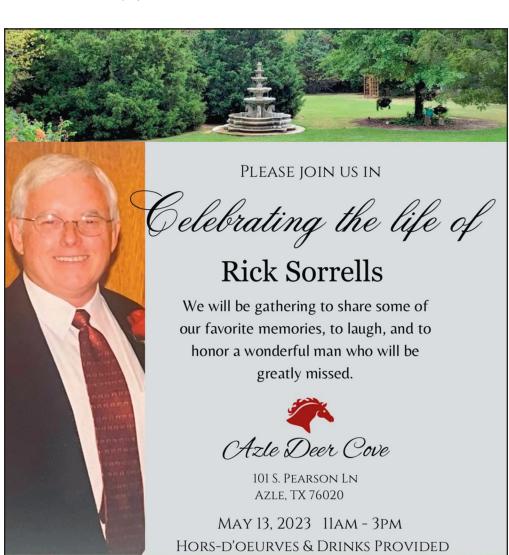
Brundrett, Councilmember Stacy Peek and Mayor Pro-Tem Randa Goode were all reelected while running unopposed. Councilmember Brian Conner was reelected after winning with about 83

percent of the vote against challenger, Caleb Castaneda. Conner received 191 out of the 262 votes cast in his race according to the unofficial



ZACH FREEMAN | AZLE NEWS

Azle Jazz Band students played their hearts out under the direction of Aaron Martin.







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Reno P&Z denies special use permit for townhomes

MADELYN EDWARDS

madelyn@azlenews.net

Reno Planning and Zoning Commission sent a plan for townhomes back to the drawing board after last week's meeting.

Don Sneed of DSCI, Inc. addressed the commission during its May 1 meeting and asked for a special use permit so he could install rental townhomes on a few acres at 4609 E. State Highway 199.

Instead of approving or tabling Sneed's request, P&Z Secretary Kevin Vandenberg

Applicant asked to seek rezoning property instead

suggested that Sneed needed to seek a zoning change. Vandenberg said the area in question is zoned as single family, and Sneed should request changing it to multifamily zoning.

"My concerns are the property is zoned currently as SF-1, and our current zoning ordinances don't allow for a special use for an SF-1 property to have townhomes," Vandenberg said during the meeting. "You're

going to take a property just like any other home that's in our city, and we're going to possibly allow you to build townhomes. It sets a horrible precedent in my opinion. So, somebody could go into Scenic Wood and buy three acres and build tract homes, basically. And so, I don't think that the special use is

the right way to go." The rest of the P&Z agreed and unanimously voted for denial of Sneed's special use permit request.

Vandenberg and other officials at the meeting made it clear that they weren't denying Sneed's project, only the special use permit request.

"Sorry for the delay, but again, we're trying to dot the I's, cross the T's, make certain that you're legal and make certain we're legal," P&Z Chairperson Brian Schrader said to Sneed after the commission voted to deny the special use permit. "Thank

you very much for your appearance tonight and setting us straight."

Sneed agreed to the idea of rezoning the property, and he said his timeline was open for that process to occur.

"I think everything went well," he said after the meeting.

Sneed's original plan was to build 16 one-story townhomes on three acres, as well as a cul-de-sac road. The homes would use a septic system and are expected to be supplied with water from the city.

However, this plan could change with multi-family zoning.

"To make it a townhouse, you got separate walls between them, but if they go multifamily, we won't have to do that," Sneed said. "The multifamily is going to be depending on the water department, whether they want me to put one meter in, whether they want me to put two meters, each house have a meter. That's something that we'll be able to work out with Reno and see what fits their needs better."

guidance. "I've been told by a couple teachers that they've been creating assignments based around reading the newspaper," said Corbett "Getting to hear that is really cool. It's really nice to see our hard work is going into this and it is being appreciated."

In 2021, Sting writers Tori Patton, Angel Brown, Emporess Whitfield, and Maryann Matt received an honorable mention from Quill and Scroll, an honor society for high school journalists, for their pandemic coverage series on mental health. Patton has since gone on to study journalism at UNT. Another Sting alumnus, Pierce Loeffelholz, is studying broadcast journalism at Oklahoma University while producing a show for ESPN+, according to Corbett.

Along with the four yearly physical copies of The Sting, students often write new stories for their website https:// azlesting.com/. "It takes us

a bit longer than (The Azle News) because I only see (the students) for 50 minutes a day," said Corbett. "For the print edition, we work on stories that are maybe less time sensitive or we try and look as far into the future as we can. Whereas the digital version we can do what's happening right now as quickly

as we can." The Sting's editors-inchief are seniors, Emporess Whitfield and Arianna Pardue. Whitfield and Pardue both started as freshmen in Corbett's journalism class, but back then neither could have imagined ending up in the position they now hold. "I took journalism as a pre-req for yearbook," said Pardue. "I really wanted to do yearbook, and I just kind of fell in love with (journalism)."

Pardue was initially discouraged from writing due to her dyslexia, but with support from Corbett and her classmates, she was able to find an unexpected passion for The Sting.

"It's so different from writing an essay in English or something, that to me it comes really easily," said Pardue. "It's just interesting to see how it all comes together and for me that's why I like it. I like the process and everything... The variety, you're not doing one thing always, there's so many things you can do. You don't get

bored." Whitfield was similarly hesitant about joining the newspaper at first but has since completely shifted her view on news media. "As a freshman getting into journalism, I didn't even know what I was getting into," said Whitfield. 'I watched the news, I read the news, but I didn't really process it. Now as a senior, as one of the editors-in-chief, I can say that I really developed a passion for writing and for news and now really care about it in a way that I never did before. When I do go read a news story, I analyze it, I'm checking for edits, I'm doing things that I never would have done as a freshman or even cared about."

Corbett himself has learned almost as much from his students as they have learned from him. "When I started

teaching it, I didn't really know much about journalism," said Corbett. "I taught myself over the summer before I started teaching it and so that first year, I was learning so much along with the students."

Pardue and Whitfield both credit Corbett for their growth and success while writing for The Sting. "[Mr. Corbett] is the best teacher that I've ever had. He has impacted my learning and education more than anyone has. I am so grateful for him and glad that I decided to take his class. He was the one who helped me join the newspaper. I was not considering joining a newspaper after journalism. I thought that I wasn't a good enough writer and I thought that it wasn't

to join and now it is the best thing that I've done in my high school career and I'm going to take it with me when I graduate." Arianna agreed, "(Corbett) is there for you on a-whole-nother level. He puts so much effort in... It's just a really great environment and one key aspect is because of

him." The two also credit their classmates for creating a positive, familial environment. "My favorite thing about The Sting is the family type community we have together," said Whitfield. "If someone's having a bad day. they're there for you," added Pardue. Whitfield and Pardue both agree that being able to inform their peers about current events has been extremely rewarding and has allowed for me, but he encouraged me them to get out of their comfort zones and expand their confidence and skillsets.

Pardue hopes to pursue an anthropology-journalism double-major and hopes to get on the writing staff at Oklahoma State University. Whitfield is in pre-med and hopes to use the skills she's developed at The Sting to possibly try her hand at medical writing in the future.

(The newspaper class) is the highlight of my day, every dav." said Corbett. "(His students) become so passionate, just seeing them grow over the years and become better writers... Every student that I have over multiple years, I love getting to see them grow and change... I love that, that's why I do this job."

The next and final edition of The Sting for this semester is set for publication on May 12.

MAY 10, 2023

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Solution to last week's puzzle

MAY 3, 2023

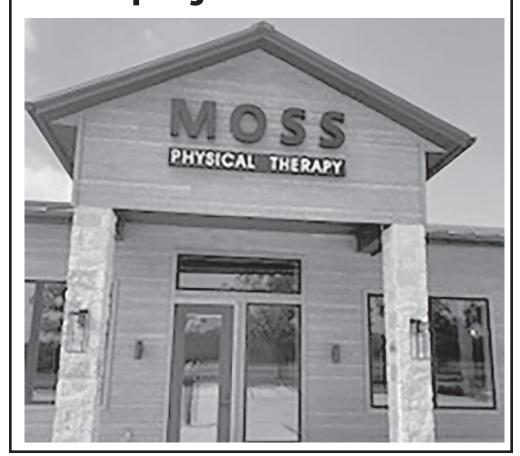
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MADELYN EDWARDS | AZLE NEWS

Eric Huntley stands outside the RV donated to him and his family by the Servolution Network. Huntley's home in Poolville was destroyed by a tornado in March.

Servolution, Poolville community aids family affected by tornado

MADELYN EDWARDS

madelyn@azlenews.net

After receiving a notification about a tornado, Eric Huntley only had a few more seconds before a wall in his single-wide mobile home exploded.

Huntley, his two teenagers and his wife were at home in Poolville when the tornado struck. The tornado picked up their home and destroyed it. The kids' beds flipped over on top of them, but they were mostly uninjured. Huntley said he was thrown in the air and hit by an unknown object. His wife ended up under the floor and was luckily saved from being crushed.

"Light disappeared," Huntley said. "It was pretty horrifying."

The tornado occurred in March, but the effects of the storm are still affecting the family. Huntley and his wife are still recovering from their injuries, and his son is nervous anytime he sees a raincloud in the sky.

And that's not to mention that the tornado took away the family's home and possessions.

"We've lost pretty much everything," Huntley said. Fortunately, they have received support. Neighbors and others in the area came to the family's aid after the tornado was over, the Poolville community and school district supplied them with food and clothes, and Servolution Network donated an RV to the family.

Getting the RV was a serendipitous happening. Huntley was eating at the Azle Café, where he said he was given a gift card for food and treated kindly. By sharing his story at the café, wheels started turning to get his family the RV.

Servolution Network **Executive Director Jason** Malewiski said Servolution

received a call from an anony- to donate the RV back to the mous individual wanting to donate an RV. After finding out that the RV would be a good fit for Huntley's family, Danny Malone, an elder at The Church at Azle, picked up the RV, and volunteers from Texas Workforce Solutions and Adult & Teen Challenge of Texas cleaned it.

"In one day, it went from unlivable to livable," Malewiski said.

Huntley said he appreciates being able to receive the RV, which is being used as temporary housing for his family. Once they find a more permanent home, Huntley hopes

church so it can be given to another person or family who

needs it. The fact that people came together to help the Huntley family speaks to the community that Servolution Network

serves, Malewiski said. Anytime Servolution is trying to help a person or family in need, people in the area respond with aid, he said.

"We live in the best community around," Malewiski said. "Time and time again, this community steps up, even where we think it's impossible. God helps connect the dots and do things that leave

us in awe."

Because of the tattoos on his arms and head, Huntley said he's seen "the bad side of a lot of people." He was touched by the kindness of the community and their efforts to aid him and his family.

"I see a lot of negative in this world, and I have for quite a long time," Huntley said. "But when this happened, I was very impressed with seeing how well everybody was helping out."

To donate money to the Huntley family, visit gofundme.com/f/PoolvilleTornado online.

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Clock ticking on moving bills; poll: raise minimum age for gun purchases

CLOCK TICKING ON MOVING

The clock is ticking on getting bills out of the House and to the Texas Senate, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick warned last week in a story in the Austin American-Statesman. Patrick presides over the Senate and is worried many bills that have made it out of House committees but have not gone before the full chamber will not be considered before the session ends.

"I previously expressed concern the House was far behind in the passage of bills and a train wreck was coming," Patrick tweeted. At that time, more than 1,100 bills had made it out of committee but still had not been set on the House calendar. All bills must meet a May 11 deadline for a second reading to be further considered for final passage.

House Speaker Dade Phelan did not comment on Patrick's concern but has put that chamber on a six-day work schedule for the rest of the session.

POLL: RAISE MINIMUM AGE FOR GUN PURCHASES

A new poll released by the Texas Politics Project at the University of Texas at Austin indicates three-fourths of Texans polled said they support raising the minimum age



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 gborders@texaspress.com.

to purchase a firearm from 18 to 21, the Texas Standard reported.

"That included 91% of

Democrats and 64% of Republicans," Joshua Blank, director of research, said. "This is a consistent finding, to be quite honest. We've asked this question before. We've asked similar questions. So, there's an appetite in some ways for stricter gun laws in Texas. It's just not something that is politically palatable in the process that we have."

Attempts by some Democratic legislators to push a similar measure in this legislative session have not gained traction and appear unlikely to pass.

PUC CHAIR WARNS OF POSSIBLE SUMMER OUTAGES

The chairman of the Public Utility Commission warned last week that the state's main power grid is at risk if wind turbines don't produce enough power when needed, the Texas Tribune reported. Peter Lake reiterated that more on-demand power sources, such as power plants fueled by natural gas or batteries, need to be built to increase the electric grid's reliability.

"The Texas grid faces a new reality," Lake said last week. "Data shows for the first time that the peak demand for electricity this summer will exceed the amount we can generate from on-demand, dispatchable power, so we will be relying on renewables to keep the lights on."

Pablo Vegas, CEO of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, said at the news conference that wind and solar energy production results have increased considerably more than plants powered by coal or gas.

"So as a result, we are expecting to have to rely more on renewables during peak conditions than we ever have before," Vegas said.

Supporters of renewable energy scoffed at the view that the grid's reliability rests on renewable energy alone.

Luke Metzger, director of Environment Texas, said in a statement that renewable energy's growth in Texas "should be heralded and welcomed — not blamed, contrary to evidence, for grid problems."

The PUC is proposing the use of performance credits, funded by an estimated 2% increase in customer electric bills. The funds would go to companies that operate ondemand power sources in hopes of incentivizing them to build more power plants or keep existing plants operating longer, the Tribune reported.

ALLRED TO CHALLENGE CRUZ FOR SENATE SEAT

A three-term Dallas-area congressman is seeking the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senate in hopes of facing off against incumbent Republican Sen. Ted Cruz next year. The Dallas Morning News reported last week that U.S. Rep. Colin Allred, D-Dallas, is seeking the nomination. He released a video blasting Cruz for hiding in a supply closet during the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol, and for leaving Texas weeks later for a Cancun vacation during the statewide electricity crisis caused by Winter Storm Uri.

"That's Ted for you. All hat, no cattle," Allred says in the

Cruz, whose campaign called Allred a "far-left radical," beat Democratic rival Beto O' Rourke by fewer than 3 percentage points in 2018.

MAY IS MOTORCYCLE **AWARENESS MONTH**

Thousands of Texas motorcyclists are seriously injured or killed in crashes every year, the Texas Department of Transportation reports. In 2022, 562 motorcycle riders were killed, an 8% increase over the previous year.

"People on motorcycles are more vulnerable on our roadways," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "It's important for drivers to pay extra attention and look out for motorcycles — especially at intersections, when turning in front of oncoming traffic and while changing lanes. We all want to get home safe.'

During May, which is Motorcycle Awareness Month, drivers are urged to observe these safety precautions:

Stay alert. Even a momentary distraction, such as answering a phone call or changing the radio station, can have deadly consequences.

Pay special attention at intersections. That is where one-third of motorcycle fatalities occur.

Take extra care when making left turns. Always assume motorcycles are closer than

they appear. Stay back and maintain a

safe following distance. Slow down and observe posted speed limits.

SIX NEW STATE PARKS ON THE HORIZON

Texans will have the opportunity to enjoy six new state parks in the next 12 to 15 years, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department announced recently. As TPWD celebrates 100 years of state parks, it is planning the development of a half dozen new places to camp, hike, fish or just enjoy nature.

New parks in the works include Palo Pinto Mountains State Park near Fort Worth: the Dan A. Hughes Unit of the Devils River State Natural Area near Del Rio; Albert and Bessie Kronkosky State Natural Area near Boerne; Powderhorn State Park near Port Lavaca; Chinati Mountains State Natural Area near Presidio; and Davis Hill State Natural Area near Houston.

Spotlight on BUSINESS





3-Ws Smoke Shack

Come see what everyone's raving about!

Your new favorite BBQ place is right ebrating its two-year anniversary! down the road!

3-Ws Smoke Shack is family owned and operated. Chef Rick Wojcik graduated from the Culinary Institute of America. His wife Toby Wojcik and son Ryan Wojcik, along with staff D'Ann, Jason, Montana, Bobby and Logan complete the 3-Ws team.

"We work hard to serve quality food and customer service," said Toby.

"We are a local family that cares deeply for our surrounding communities, friends and family."

3-Ws Smoke Shack has built a reputation around their smoked meats and BBQ. They offer a variety of crave-worthy sides, including potato salad, green beans, baked beans, creamy corn, waffle fries and onion

Daily specials include Brisket Melts, taco plates, and Brisket Mac n' Cheese. And you don't want to miss their Smoked Chicken Salad too! Turn your BBQ into a topping for one of their big salads and stuffed potatoes.

3-Ws offers a kids and senior menu with

lower prices and smaller portions, too! This month, 3-Ws Smoke Shack is cel"Come celebrate our anniversary month

with us!" This year, they were excited to open up an indoor dining room with enough space

for 50 people to sit and enjoy their meal. Have a big event coming up? 3-Ws offers catering for large parties, weddings, business meetings and more. Toby handlews all catering and event management, so she'll get you taken care of!

Come see what all the rave is about at this local favorite BBQ spot just down Hwy. 199.

3-Ws Smoke Shack is located at 2810 E. Highway 199, east of Springtown, a little over a half-mile past Old Plantation Meats as you're heading toward Azle - next to Affordable RV Rental and Storage.

They're open Monday through Thursday 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Don't forget to grab your loyalty card — get a punch for every \$10 you spend. When you get 10 punches, you receive \$10 off your next order.

Military, veterans, first responders and senior citizens receive 15% off.





Bill Rosser



Azle, TX 76020

OBITUARIES

Jane Crawford 1945-2023

Jane Vick Crawford, devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and sister passed away suddenly from a stroke Friday, April 28, 2023.

Memorial service was held at the Springtown First United Methodist Church at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday May 3, 2023.

Jane was born in 1945 to the late Harold and Mildred Wilkerson Vick.

Mrs. Crawford came from a family of teachers and taught math for 30 years in Azle and EMS ISD. She had the heart of a true servant, always wanting to serve where she was needed.

Jane and her husband Art were married for 56 years. They were blessed with two children, Joe Crawford (Kerri) and Vicky Trichel (Gerry). She has four grandchildren, Jake Crawford (Myranda), Grant, Garrison, and Gage Trichel and a great-grandson, James Crawford.



She is survived by her husband, Art Crawford; children, Joe Crawford and Vicky Trichel; four grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and sister, Linda Brown (Ronnie) and her family.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the First United Methodist Church of Springtown or an education charity of your choice.

> The Azle News, May 10, 2023 Edition

Quilter's Guild of Parker County to meet next week

STAFF REPORTS

The Quilter's Guild of Parker County will meet in person and via Zoom on Thursday, May 18 for its monthly meeting.

This month Sally Brown will be presenting her program, "Every Quilt Has a Story." Brown has been quilting since she was a small child. She especially loves the fine art of hand applique and has won multiple awards, which include six Best of Show ribbons. Come and see many of Brown's quilts in person.

The meeting will take place at Lakeshore Drive Baptist Church, located at 200 S. Lakeshore Drive in Hudson Oaks. It will start at 6:45 p.m., but attendees are encouraged to come earlier to socialize. Visitors are welcome in-person and online. To join online, email your name and telephone number to qgpc2000@gmail.

To learn more about the guild, visit the website quiltersguildofparkercounty. org or find the guild on Facebook.



Recently Sally Brown's Baltimore Album quilt (above) received the most prestigious award of Masterpiece Quilt from the National Association of Certified Quilt Judges.

BLOOM

FROM PAGE A1

ficult to decide on the winning photo. It was discussed among us at the office, and after a lot of back and forth, it was finally agreed that Tammy Mooney's entry of the beautiful field of bluebonnets with the sunset in

the background was the one. I think this photo captures the feeling of sitting on your back porch enjoying a spring

sunset, don't you agree?

Join us in congratulating Tammy on her outstanding photo. Tammy, stop in and see us to pick up your \$100 Grand Prize.

To each of our weekly winners and all those who submitted their photos throughout the contest, I encourage you to visit azlenews.net to look through the entire gallery of entries. They're fantastic!

You can't help but smile with Texas pride when you look through all of those beautiful snapshots of our state flower.

A special thank you to

McDowell Lawn Care for helping us make this contest happen.

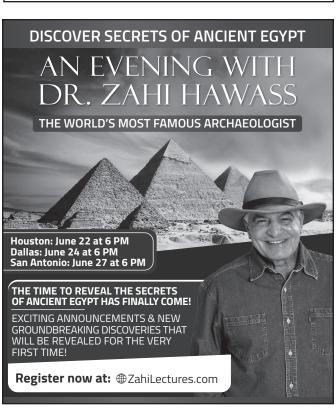
We are looking forward to another bluebonnet season and all of the wonderful entries that we will receive for our Second Annual Bonnets in Bloom Contest!

To place an obituary Call 817-270-3340 or email us at: info@azlenews.net









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NELSON CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

Annual Business Meeting & Lunch Sunday, May 21at 11:00 a.m.

Please bring a covered dish for a potluck style lunch. Ice and tea will be provided.

Location:

Nelson Cemetery 1351 Nelson Rd., Azle TX 76020 Come and Join Us!!!

For further information, call Debbie at 817-228-4200 email: d.vesti1@gmail.com

If unable to attend, you may send donations to: Nelson Cemetery Assoc. Debbie Vesti, Secretary/Treasurer 4736 Washburn Ave. Fort Worth, TX 76107

... ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH **LEGACY CHURCH**

10400 Jacksboro Highway 817-238-1404 www.TheAbbeyChurch.com Morning Worship......10:30 AM Community GroupsVarious Times **ASH CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH** Pastor: Dr. G. Wesley Shotwell 300 South Stewart St. **817-444-3219** www.ashcreekbc.org Sunday School......9:30 AM Contemporary Worship-TMP 10:45 AM Traditional Worship10:45 AM Evening Worship6:00 PM Wednesday Youth Refuge......6:00 PM **AZLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

THE ABBEY CHURCH

Pastor: Paul Brownback

Wednesday Evening......6:15 PM (Disciples of Christ) Senior Minister, Ashley Dargai, Katie Medlin, Worship Minister 117 Church St. • 817-444-3527 Morning Worship.......11:00 AM Wed. Prayer Service......7:00 PM **AZLE FIRST ASSEMBLY of GOD**

Rev. Joshua Lowrance 1020 S.E. Parkway, Azle 817-237-4903

COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Pastor - Alton Davis 817-521-4510 1405 Reynolds Rd., Azle **817-444-7117** Directions: 730 N. to 1542 .5 mi. right on Cardinal, left on Reynolds

Sunday School......9:45 AM Morning Worship......11:00 AM Sunday Evening6:00 PM Wednesday Evening......7:00 PM **CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH**

2233 Hwy 199 E. • Springtown 817-221-LIFE (5433) Sunday Worship Service10:00 AM Wednesday7:00 PM **CROSSROADS BAPTIST CHURCH**

Pastor - Jon Baker Corner FM 730S & FM 1886 817-755-0279 Transportation Available

THE EDGE CHURCH - AZLE 1313 S.E. Pkwy, Azle **817-237-4822** Missouri Synod Sunday School.......9:30 AM "Love God - Serve Others - Share Jesus"

Pastors: Rev. Todd & Jenn Pick 200 Church St., Azle 817-444-3323

Morn. Worship8:30, 9:45 & 11 AM Sunday School......9:45 & 11 AM Youth (UMYF)5:00 PM Sun & 6:30 PM Wed **HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH**

800 Highcrest Dr. - Azle **817-444-3063** Saturday......5:00 PM Sunday11 AM (Spanish) Daily Mass (M, T, Th, F)8:00 AM Wednesday Mass Religious ED 6:30 PM Confessions Sat 4 PM

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA 4795 E. Hwy 199 - Reno 817-221-HOPE Follow us on Facebook for streaming

services Sunday School......9:00 AM Traditional Service10:00 AM **SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH** 591 S. Reno Rd, , Springtown, Texas 76082

Pastor - Bill Gay - 817-304-7443 Coffee and Donuts9:00 AM Sunday School......9:30 AM Children's Church After Music Service

Assembly of God Church

Pastor: Gary D. Veazey Hwy. 199 & Jaybird Lane 817-221-2983 Morning Worship......9:15 & 11:00 AM Kidz Zone......9:15 & 11:00 AM Weds Evening Legacy Group Legacy Youth, Kids All Services......7:00 PM

THE RANCH CHRISTIAN COWBOY CHURCH Pastor: Greg Slankard 7955 Reed Rd., Azle **682-327-7082** www.TheRanchCCC.org Sunday School 9:30 AM • Worship 10:00 AM

Weds 7:00 pm • Thurs Potluck 6:30 pm **SILVER CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Rev. Sheila Fiorella - Pastor 2200 Church Rd., Azle 817-444-1382 www.silvercreekumc.org Sunday School 9:30 AM • Worship 10:30 AM **SILVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH**

Pastor: Jay Ditty Minister of Music: David Musick Corner FM 730 S. & Veal Station Rd. Church 817-444-2325

www.silvercreekbc.org

THE WORD@LAKESIDE CHURCH OF GOD 9396 FM 1886 Fort Worth, TX 76135 817-237-5500

thewordatlakeside.com **Pastors**: Brandon and Kelly Bohannon

Worship Pastor: Christen Moody Family Life and Young Adult Pastors: Jodie and Mark James, Kids Pastor: Katie Pearson, **Student Pastors**: Taylor and Sheridan Tomlin, Creative Directors: Logan and Carrie Edwards, **Connections Coordinators**: Preston and Ashley Larrew

Equip Sunday School at the WORD 9:30 AM Empower Worship at the WORD 10:45 AM Kids at the WORD...... 10:45 AM PreK at the WORD...... 10:45 AM Emanate at the WORD (Special Needs Ministry) 10:45 AM Nursery at the WORD 10:45 AM Young Adults at the WORD 6:00 PM Wednesdays Adult Bible Class......7:00 PM The WORD Students

A church alive is worth the drive! For more information or rates on listing your church, call Jessica at 817-270-3340

What Happens After Graduation is What Really Counts

We are getting precariously close to the start of graduation season. Just another couple of weeks and our high school seniors will walk across the stage, receive their diploma, and move on to the next chapter of their lives. It is an exciting time for family and friends and sometimes a little overwhelming for graduates.

So many questions are directed at the graduates as to their "plans" for the future and it would seem the expectations of the world are laid at their doorstep. "Where are you going to school? What do you want to become? "These are questions we elders repeatedly throw into conversations with young people. After the first 100 or so inquiries, I can imagine some graduates might wish they should wear a sign around their neck



FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Sam Houston is a syndicated columnist and newspaper executive. He is also an author, actor, playwright and entertainment producer/promoter. sam@hcnews.com

declaring their intentions, to avoid yet another recitation.

Of course, the questions are asked with good intentions and genuine concern about the student, but why is there so much focus on a "plan"? Is it because society compels graduates to have a plan? Do we place pressure on graduates and imply they must know how they want to spend the rest of their life? Why is there such a rush to decide? Is some of the concept of "the plan" to benefit parents, so they can tell their friends and family their child's lofty goals and receive affirmation they have done a good job as a parent?

I had ideas of what I wanted to do with my life when I graduated high school but thank goodness, I had a degree of self-awareness and on occasion, took the road less traveled. Instead of only doing what I knew would please my parents or fulfill the expectations of my inner circle of family and friends, I gave myself the gift of exploring the world around me and trying to find the place that was the best fit. Now nearly 50

years later, I still frequently take the road less traveled and will go to my grave happy I have done so.

But my choices are not the best choice for everyone. I do admire people who, for example, decide they want to be a veterinarian in the third grade. They study furiously through high school and college to make the grade, enter vet school to get their advanced education, and then spend the next 40 to 50 years doing the task they have been trained in. Their lives must be uncomplicated because of their dedication to one purpose, and one goal. If such a person feels fulfilled and satisfied with their life choice, more power to them.

Alternatively, I have witnessed many people in life who spent years of time and a fortune in dollars to "be-

come" something, and once they achieved their goal, did not really enjoy where they landed. Young people can become enamored with a vision or fantasy of their future, and when the reality of life comes to pass, they can find the dream did not fulfill them as they expected.

Life only happens once. We will all make at least a few poor "life choices" during our time on earth, but decisions about careers are one of the major decisions in all of life — right up there with whom to marry and whether to have children. It is best to have eyes wide open and be as certain as possible on how to spend those precious hours that make up our lives.

Graduates, have a plan, but keep your options open. Look around and see if the vision of life you have imagined

is truly the one you want to have. Every occupation has its rewards and its drawbacks. There will be challenges in every job, and you alone must determine if the challenges of a specific career are something you wish to face. Life is long. You will grow and learn as you gain experience. Do not be afraid to reconsider or change from your original "plan." Alternatively, don't be afraid to stick to a plan if it is what you truly wish for yourself. The grass is not always greener.

Azle News **A7**

Thought for the day: "You can't connect the dots looking forward: you can only connect them looking backward. You must trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future." — Steve Jobs.

Until next time...I will keep ridin' the storm out.

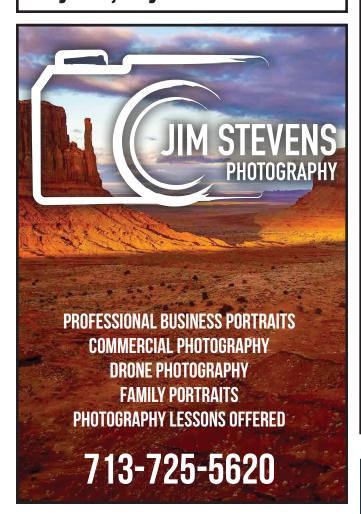
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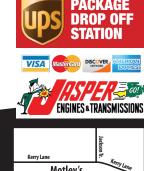
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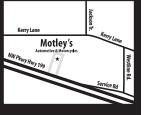
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Let's talk!

"A conversation is a dialogue, not a monologue. That's why there are so few good conversations: Due to scarcity, two intelligent talkers seldom meet." - Truman

"To get real diversity of thought, you need to find the people who genuinely hold different views and invite them into the conversation." -Adam Grant

"A man's character may be learned from the adjectives which he habitually uses in conversation." - Mark Twain

"A person isn't who they are during the last conversation you had with them - they're who they've been throughout your whole relationship." - Rainer Maria Rilke

"A single conversation across the table with a wise man is better than ten years mere study of books." - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

"Silence is one of the great arts of conversation." -Marcus Tullius Cicero

If there's one thing that could change the divisive climate of our current culture, it might very well be a commitment to—and exercise of healthy conversation.

What we tend to have more often is a preponderance of words, information, and opinion, but very little actual, beneficial learning.

Could it possibly be that we have never been taught the art of healthy conversation?

Yes, I said ART. A conversation is not formulaic, though the compo-



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.

nents are real. That's the way art works.

A portrait painter uses real media—paints, canvas, brushes-but must creatively blend, adjust, select, and view from different angles and with different lighting to achieve the desired visual outcome.

True artistry is not displayed through paint-by-numbers.

A symphony composer uses real notes—A, C#, E created by sound frequencies and uses real measures like quarter notes and dotted sixteenths—but must arrange them into unique patterns with unique instrumentations to create the desired auditory outcome.

An artful conversationalist uses real components words, emotions, silence, listening, empathy, opinion, respect, intellect, body language-but must constantly adjust in the moment to achieve the desired outcome of mutual understanding.

Over the next few weeks, I'm going to be writing about the art of taking WITH—not simply TO, AT, or OVER another person. This will

include conversations that happen online and IRL (in real life—doesn't that make me sound like I'm up to date on the current lingo? Of course, if one uses the term "lingo" that person might not be so up to date).

Because I am an opinion columnist and not an investigative journalist, that means that I'm going to be writing about what I believe to be true and beneficial based on my personal experiences (which includes dismal failures), observations, and study over 61 years of attempted communication.

Here's a good starting place by means of introduction: I know a lot. That's just the

But the amount I know is infinitesimal compared to what there is to know. That means I need to approach this with humility, understanding that I have much to learn and many from whom I can learn.

Wouldn't that be an amazing approach to begin each conversation?

See you next week. Be amazing today, my friend.

National Nurse's Week set for May 6 through 12

National Nurse's and National Hospital's Week held to honor healthcare staff

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@azlenews.net

National Nurse's week began on May 6 and will conclude May 12, on Florence Nightingale's birthday. National Nurse's Week began in 1982 after President Ronald Reagan issued a proclamation designating May 6 as National Recognition Day for Nurses.

"Nurses play a vital role in educating people in how to avoid illness and promote good health," The proclamation states. "Nurses are essential to every health care setting—in hospitals, nursing homes, ambulatory care centers, and patients' homes...The nurses of this country deserve our gratitude for their personal and professional contributions to the improved health of American citizens."

The community of Azle is lucky to have the fine nursing staff of Texas Health

Harris Methodist Hospital and other institutions to care for our sick, young, elderly and injured. For Texas Health staff, being there to help is a reward on its own.

"We choose to be nurses because we want to make a difference," Trauma, Stroke and Chest Pain Coordinator, Kristi Ramon said. "We don't just provide life-saving measures and medications; but also, education, a hug or just an attentive ear to listen."

Ramon describes the most rewarding part of being a nurse as, "knowing that you were able to make a difference, for someone, if even for a moment."

Acknowledging nursing staff for the critical work they do can make a world of difference in their day. "Provide us the same grace that we exhibit when caring for you or your loved one on your worst day," Ramon said. "Several years ago, here at Texas Health Azle. I

received a Naval letter of appreciation while working in the Emergency Department. That 'Bravo Zulu' still hangs in my office."

"Florence Nightingale once said, 'Were there none who were discontented with what they have, the world would never reach anything better.' We should continue to be unhappy with the world around us, for that is how we continue to make it better. We will not improve this world and our lives without working to improve every aspect of ourselves... I am always proud of the exemplary teamwork that goes on here at Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Azle," Ramon added.

Texas Health staff were present at Music in the Park on May 5 to spread awareness and provide information to the community. They will return to Music in the Park on June 2 and June 30.

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Azle Junior High students find live military ordnance

Earth Day clean-up event leads to surprise discovery of WWII-era artillery on campus

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@azlenews.net

On Earth Day, a group of Azle Junior High School students discovered a piece of old military ordnance while cleaning in the grass near the stadium parking lot. The object was heavily rusted and was possibly a World War II-era artillery shell, according to school officials.

The junior high was placed on "Secure" status department could arrive and tary outpost to hosting the identify the object. Parents were notified that day by Principal Brian Roberts through email.

The Fort Worth Fire Department confirmed that the ordnance was a live round and had it disposed of at the Fort Worth Fire Department bomb range.

Officials stated that this is not uncommon for the

until the police and the fire area. From starting as a mili-"Flying Triangle," Carswell Air Force Base (now Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth) and Lockheed Martin, D-FW has an extensive history of military bases and activity.

If you suspect you've discovered munitions or other suspicious materials, call 911 and do not handle the

Azle School Menu BREAKFAST:

PreK-4th Grade, 7-12th Grade \$1.55 5-6th Grade FREE 2nd Meal \$2.00 Visitors/Employees \$2.75 LUNCH: PreK-4th Grade \$2.55 5-6th Grade \$2.75 7-12th Grade \$2.55 2nd Meal \$3.20 Visitors & Employees \$3.75



BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Graham Crackers, Toast Mon Mini Choc. Chip French Toast, apples **Tues** Banana Muffin w/Cheese Stick, oranges **Weds** Mini Pancakes, apples **Thurs** Lucky Charms Cereal w/ Graham Cracker, Oranges **Fri** Breakfast Pizza, apples

LUNCH: Everyday - Variety of milk. Your choice of 1 entree & 1 fruit or juice

Mon Chicken Tenders w/ Biscuit OR Pancake w/ Sausage Patties, Hash brown Tues Orange Chicken Asian Rice w/ Roll OR Frito Chili Pie **Weds** Turkey & Cheese Sandwich OR Corndog, Pinto Beans, Pineapples, Oranges **Thurs** Grilled Cheese OR Chicken Nuggets w/ roll Mashed Potatoes w/ gravy Fri Pepperoni Pizza OR Max sticks w/ marinera, tater tots

GRADES 5TH - 8TH

BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Yogurt w/Granola Mon Breakfast on a stick, Pears Tues Sausage Biscuit w/ Jelly, Pineapple Weds Biscuits & Gravy, Apples Thurs Cinnamon Roll, Peaches Fri Breakfast Pizza, Apples

LUNCH: Everyday: Variety of milk. Your choice of 1 entree & 1 fruit or juice, rolls, crackers . Salad bar offered daily Mon Chicken Tenders w/ Biscuit OR Pancake w/ Sausage Patties, Hash brown Tues Orange Chicken Asian Rice w/ Roll

OR Frito Chili Pie Weds Turkey & Cheese Sandwich OR Corndog, Pinto Beans Thurs Grilled Cheese OR Chicken Nuggets w/ roll Mashed Potatoes w/ gravy, Green beans Fri Pepperoni Pizza OR Max sticks w/ marinera, tater tots, mixed fruit

HIGH SCHOOL

BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Yogurt w/Granola Mon Breakfast on a stick, Pears Tues Sausage Biscuit w/ Jelly, Pineapple Weds Cinnamon Roll, Peaches Thurs Biscuits & Gravy, Apples Fri Breakfast Pizza, Ap

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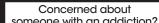


Final students of the month recognized at Rotary meeting for school year

Parents and Rotary Club members gathered to recognize and reward five Azle High School students for outstanding achievements across the board.



Pictured from left, are Rotary Club President and Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Matt Adams, Trevor Deel, Diana Collazo Garcia, Pella LeFever, Drew Dorris, Cameryn Hoskins and Principal Nate Driver.





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director@azlema.com

for additional information

Optimist Club of Azle



FRIDAY at 6:45 AM Moe's Country Kitchen 316 W. Main, Azle

Azle Area CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Rotary Club

of Azle

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Jamie Westbook - president

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Troop 243

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Notice is hereby given that the following will be sold to the highest bidder with bidding to take place at lockerfox.com on Friday the 26th day of May, 2023 at 11:00 AM to satisfy a landlords lien, pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code. Payment to seller via credit/ debit card and pickup at the facility. Self-Storage unit contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold. 10 Federal Self Storage, 2920 Avenue F, Arlington, TX, 76011 Amy Guerra. Kristina Davis. Kate Blakeman. Samantha Ditata. Samantha Ditata. Valeria Padilla. Kim Ridges. Sabrina Ramirez. Maximino DeJesus. Bria Goodman. Daniel Deleon. Giselle Roussell. Michael Langbartels. Joni Willis. Akinyemi Adegbayi. Akinyemi Adegbayi. Dawn Ridgeway. Traci James. Waleed Wilks. Barbara Rowell. Annabel Torres. Chastity Smith. Patrick Milam. Shawniece Arkansas. Carole Sturm. Shantricya Webb.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, ASH CREEK SELF STORAGE which is located at 117 Locust St, Azle, Texas 76020 will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be held from 10:00 AM 5/27/23 until 10:00 AM 6/7/23 online at www. storageauctions.com Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash or debit/credit. A cash deposit for removal and cleanup may be temporarily required. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property in each space may be sold item-by-item, in batches, or by the space. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the following tenants, with brief description of contents in each space. Herman Hotz -Power tools, toys, fishing stuff, tool cabinet, air tank, dryer, golf clubs. Dow Evans - Clothes, furniture, heater, lawn chairs, household items, appliances. Steve Bramwell - Appliances kitchenware, TV, surround sound, printer, dolly, boots. Rachel E McGee - Shelving, art paint and canvases, clothes, sewing mannequin. Patrice Clifton - Household items, bags of clothes, furniture, dishes, crafts, yard décor. Chris Langhorn - Shoes, household items, Milwaukee cordless radio, fishing rods, tools, boxes. Shelly Fertado - Legos, toys, dryer, home décor, books, toy box.

NOTICE OF VARIANCE HEARING

A notice is hereby given that a public hearing before the Board of Adjustment of the City of Pelican Bay, Texas on May 23, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., at City Hall, 1300 Pelican Circle, Pelican Bay, Texas. The Board of Adjustment shall hear the application of David B. Sloane on Variance Request No. 2023-01-BOA for a variance from 6.4 of Section 6 and Section 27.2 Area Regulations For Accessory Buildings or Structures in Residential and Apartment Districts of the City of Pelican Bay Zoning Ordinance No. 180. Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this public meeting and who may need auxiliary aid or services are requested to contact the City Secretary at City hall 48 hours in advance, at 817-444-1234, and reasonable accommodations will be made for assistance.

THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION

CAUSE NO. 18PI23 IN THE ESTATE OF RICHARD CRAIG HARPLE, DECEASED. TO ALL UNKNOWN OR MISSING HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF RICHARD CRAIG HARPLE, DECEASED. Claire Edith Harple, in the above-numbered and entitled estate, filed an Application for Subsequent Proceeding for a Judicial Determination of Heirship and for Independent Administration and Letters of Administration Pursuant to Section 401.003 of the Texas Estates Code on 04/21/2023, In the Estate of Richard Craig Harple, Deceased, requesting that the Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of Richard Craig Harple, Deceased, and their respective shares and interest in such estate, and appointing Claire Edith Harple to serve as the Independent Administrator of said estate and Determined Heirship. The court may act on said application at any call of the docket on or after 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the first Monday next after the expiration of 10 days from the date of publication of this citation, at the Parker County Court, One Courthouse Square, Weatherford, TX 76086 in Parker County, Texas. All persons interested in this case are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court by filing a written contest or answer to said Application before the above stated time and date should you desire to do so. To ensure its consideration, you or your attorney must file any contest, objection, intervention, or response in writing with the County Clerk of Parker County, Texas on or before the above noted date and time. Given under my hand and the seal of said Court of Parker County, Texas at the office of the Parker County Clerk, on this 24th day of April, 2023. LILA DEAKLE County Clerk, Parker County Texas by Sharon Hall, Deputy Clerk. Applicant's Attorney: W. Faye Murphree 337 W Main Street Azle TX 76020.

23P103

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of EVELYN SPINDLE TINNEY, DECEASED, were issued on April 12, 2023, in Cause No. 23Pl 03, pending in the County Court of Parker County, Texas, to: CYNTHIA TINNEY ADMIRE. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o: W. Faye Murphree Attorney at Law. 337 W. Main Street Azle, TX 76020 DATED the 4 day of May, 2023. W. Faye Murphree, Attorney for Cynthia Tinney Admire State Bar No.: 00792710. 337 W. Main Street, Azle, TX 76020, Telephone: (817) 270-0030; Facsimile: (817) 270-0085 fmlaw@earthlink.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Zoning Board of Adjustment for the City of Azle will conduct a public hearing on Thursday, May 25, 2023, to consider a variance request to Section 11.3 Development Regulations, Setback Requirements of the City of Azle Zoning Ordinance for the property located at 537 Cresthaven Court, and also known as Lot 404, Castle Hills Estates, an addition to the City of Azle, Tarrant County, Texas. The purpose of the variance is to allow for the construction of a new single-family residence to encroach the minimum twenty-five-foot (25') front yard setback. The meeting will begin at 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers located at 505 W. Main, Azle, Texas.

Mayor Brundrett and Azle City Council honors Azle services with proclamation

Brundrett presented written thanks to Azle police, EMS, public works and other city employees at city council meeting

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@azlenews.net

On Tuesday, May 2 Mayor Alan Brundrett and the Azle City Council made several proclamations honoring the people who keep the City of Azle safe and running. The room was packed from endto-end with officers, EMS members, city employees and others.

"Everybody here, to me is equally important because without any section of the people that are here the city wouldn't operate as it does," Mayor Brundrett said. "From our police to our library to our animal control, you might not be seen every day, the city only runs because you guys are doing your jobs, so I just want to thank everybody

Public service workers, police officers, public works employees and EMS workers were all addressed by Brundrett and presented with a written proclamation honoring them. Brundrett had written statements to read and showed his gratitude for these workers with remarks.

"You guys are really the unsung heroes of the city," Brundrett said of public works employees. "You guys get down in the ditches and the pipes and under in the street machines to clean them out in the five-degree weather... We just really thank you guys for what you do. You don't really get the recognition you deserve. Again, thank you guys for what you do."

Brundrett told EMS workers, "You get to see the worst of us too... I'm sure you can't even count how many birthdays, anniversaries, school plays or recitals you've missed to do your job and we appreciate that. That's one big aspect a lot of people don't think about. All the things in life you've missed

to be able to take care of others. We genuinely thank you for that.

Listed below are the four groups being recognized for each week of May.

- · Public Service Recognition Week: May 7-13
- · Peace Officer Memorial Day - May 15 and National
- Police Week: May 15-21 · National Public Works Week: May 21-27
- · Emergency Medical Services Week: May 21-27



Mayor Brundrett with Azle Police

ZACH FREEMAN | AZLE NEWS

WEDNESDAY, May 10, 2023



Mayor Brundrett with Azle EMS



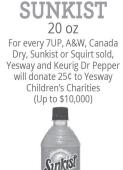
Mayor Brundrett with Azle public works employees













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National Day of Prayer in Azle

JIM STEVENS | AZLE NEWS

On Thursday, May 4, The Azle Area Ministerial Alliance hosted a National Day of Prayer luncheon. Community members and leaders came together at the event to celebrate a day when people are "asked to turn to God in prayer and meditation."



Anniversary Celebration of Victory Christian Center Serving the Tri-County Area for 60 Years!

Expecting A Holy Spirit Manifestation! Revelation of God's Word! Helping People Live A Life of Victory!

Jim & Elaine Hartin - 45th Anniversary as Pastors at Victory Christian Center



This is your season for Harvest!

Expect Signs and Wonders - Acts 4:31

737 Boyd Rd. P.O. Box 684, Azle, Texas, 76098 vccazle.org



1st place: Community National Bank & Trust - Steve Anderson, Wade Julian, Tim Hengstler, and Scott

18th Annual **AACOC Golf Tournament**

Participants in the 18th Annual Azle Area Chamber golf tournament had a great time despite high than normal temperatures for the event on May 5, 2023. Community National Bank & Trust came in first, White's Funeral Home came in second, and APEX Land Surveying came in third. Azle Area Chamber of Commerce says "We want to say a HUGE thank you to all of our sponsors for making this day a phenomenal success!"



2nd place: White's Funeral Home - Bob White, Bernie Killman, Zack Bellinger, Sean Landers

the State of Texas:



3rd place: APEX Land Surveying - Chris Wynn, Justin Bolles, Michael Boone, and Coleman Campbell







DIVERSIONS



Hornets flatten South Hills to earn bi-district baseball title



JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS

JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS

Cole Webb slides into home plate with the winning run.

Austin May pitches effective relief to beat South Hills for a bi-district title. **JEFF PRINCE** jeff@azlenews.net

On May 5, the second game of the bi-district championship series was tied 2-2 in extra innings when Billy Spratt walked to the plate.

Spratt, catcher for the Azle Hornets, is a powerful hitter. Smart and wily, too. He looked at the mound at the Fort Worth South Hills pitcher, a reliever, who had just entered the game and was facing his first batter.

Spratt anticipated a fastball on the outside.

And there it was. "The first pitch was right

there," he said. "I swung. It went down the line perfectly Spratt's RBI double along

the third-base line scored

and the bi-district title for the Hornets. Spratt couldn't have been the hero without Webb's hus-

Cole Webb and won the game

tle on the previous play. Webb had batted prior to Spratt and hit a dribbler down the first base line. Instead of hanging his head or becoming angry at the weak contact, Webb sprinted

down the first bast line like

an antelope outrunning a leopard. Webb dove headfirst for the bag and beat the tag by a millisecond.

That put Spratt in position to knock in Webb to win the game. Spratt didn't dwell on the situation as he took his turn at the plate.

"If I put any more pressure on myself, it'll just lead to failure, so I think of it as just another pitch," he said.

Winning the bi-district title "feels great, especially after last year and getting bumped in the first round," Spratt said. "We get to live another week. This is my senior year, and I want to make this season last as long as I can."

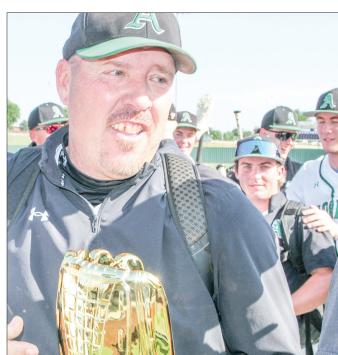
The game was played on a muggy, hot day, and Spratt was drenched in sweat. Drenched, period. Teammates had showered him with their water bottles and affection after his hit scored Webb. The sweat and water felt nice on his face after a brutal two-hours on the field, mostly crouched down behind home plate.

"My feet are burning," he said. "I'm definitely going to

PLEASE SEE BASEBALL | B2



JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS



Azle rodeo sending large posse to finals

JEFF PRINCE

ieff@azlenews.net

The Azle High School rodeo team qualified a remarkable number of members — 14 — to compete in the North Texas finals, and several of them qualified in multiple events.

Last year, nine qualified for the finals.

QUALIFYING IN MULTIPLE EVENTS THIS YEAR WERE:

- · Lindsey-Kay Reichert, senior, barrels, poles.
- · Hevenli Scribner, sophomore, barrels, walkup goats,
- · Laurel Allred, junior, barrels, goat tying, walkup goats, poles.
- · Sean Bunero, junior, calf roping, ribbon roping.

QUALIFYING IN A SINGLE EVENT WERE:

- · Nickolas McElhannon, junior, bareback.
- · Kylan Hankins, senior,
- · Wyatt Allison, junior, chute dogging. · River Cassell, junior, chute
- dogging. · Caitlyn Colley, junior,
- walkup goats.
- · Skyler Moore, junior, walkup goats.
- · Molly Rodda, junior, walkup goats.
- · Kasen Scarlato, junior,

team roping heading and heeling.

· Jesus Leyva, sophomore, team roping heading and

In the finals, the qualifers fight for the top spots where they can earn various bounty. The top six finishers in each event receive belt buckles, and the winner takes home a saddle and money.

Several of Azle's competitors are ranked among the best in the area. In barrel racing, Azle has three riders in the top 10. Reichert is the NTHSRA's top-ranked rider, Scribner is ranked no. 3, and Allred is seventh.

Allred is ranked fifth in rideup and walkup goat tying. Scribner and Colley made the top 10 in walkup goats, as well.

McElhannon is the fifthranked bareback rider, and Hankins is ranked sixth in bull riding.

Azle has two highly ranked chute doggers, including Allison (third) and Cassell (seventh).

Allred, Scribner, and Reichert were all top 10 finishers in poles.

The finals will be held at 8 p.m. on May 19 and at noon on May 20 at the North Texas High School Rodeo Association Arena in Saginaw.



PHOTO COURTESY JO H PHOTOGRAPHY

Wyatt Allison is one of 14 Azle rodeo team members who qualified for the finals.

Azle Christian diamond dwellers nab all-district nods, superlative awards

JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

Winning 22 games and displaying solid pitching and defense this season earned eight Azle Christian baseball players all-district recognition in TAPPS Division 5 District 1.

"It's pretty amazing," said head coach Ryan Rollins. "The boys decided last year that they were going to work hard and put ACS baseball on the map. For us to be the smallest school (in District 1) and have the most kids make it, really feels good."

Andy Wishiewski, a junior, was named first-team all-district and District 1 Defensive Player of the Year.

Noah Rollins, a senior. earned first team all-district and Utility Player of the Year.

Wisniewski earned his award by playing stout defense in the middle infield positions.

"He made numerous amazing plays and always made the routine play," Rollins said. "He has a very strong arm also. Andy is a junior and can play at the collegiate level if he chooses."

Noah Rollins went 5-0 as a pitcher and played first and third base as well as catcher. He batted higher than .500 and logged 40 RBI.

Other players receiving first-team all-district recognition were senior Camden



Azle Christian players earned all-district attention after the team went 22-3-2 this season.

COURTESY PHOTO

Logan, junior A.J. Rollins, and bi-district championship besophomore Kelton Schott.

Freshman Jakob Rollins and sophomore Levi Morrow earned second-team all-district status, and sophomore Jaxson Logan earned honorable mention.

The Azle Christian Crusaders won a district and

fore falling in the area round of the playoffs.

Three of the eight players who earned all-district were named Rollins.

"Having three sons on the team this year has been a lot of fun, especially since we had such a great year," the

coach said. "It's not always easy for them playing for me as I can be hard on them, but they give me their all. They love baseball. Noah graduating will be sad for me as he's such a quiet, hard worker who sets the tone. As a dad I am very proud of them for making all-district, but as a

coach, I am very proud of all the boys. They gave me their all the entire year and bought in to what this crazy coach brought in."

Rollins is "super excited" for what the future holds for ACS baseball.

"I honestly see a TAPPS state championship in our near future," he said.

He thanked assistant coach Michael Goodrich who has "given me so much help and brings a different look that the boys really respond to,' Rollins said. "God has blessed us as a team and has blessed my family to be able to come coach here at ACS."

Azle softball ends season as bi-district champs

JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

The Lady Hornets fell to Argyle during the area championship playoff series to end their season. On May 4-5, Azle chal-

lenged the Argyle Eagles at Eaton High School in a bestof-three series to see who would move on to the regional quarterfinals.

The Lady Hornets lost 6-0 in the first game. They needed to win the second to avoid being swept. Instead, fielding errors plagued Azle, and the girls couldn't overcome a 12run fourth inning by Argyle. Azle lost 18-3 by the run rule.

Azle's season began slowly amid a flurry of questions about whether they would make the playoffs. The Hornets lost 12 of their first 13 games but blossomed during the district portion of the schedule. They

earned their first bi-district title since 2019 after sweeping Arlington Heights in two games during the first round of the playoffs on April 27-28.

"The beginning of the year didn't start off as we wanted, but the girls did a great job overcoming adversity," said head coach Macy Pruit. "Our girls fought so hard to change and improve, and it showed in the end of the season."

Pruit expressed pride in the team's work ethic.

"They pushed and never gave up no matter how difficult the season got," she said. "Getting third in district and winning the bi-district round was a great accomplishment for the girls and proved how great they really are. Falling short against Argyle was not how we saw our season ending, but it gave us something to work for next year."



JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS

Shaylea Cassell and the Azle softball team gave their fans plenty of exciting games this year.



JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS

Are you ready for some football? Azle Hornet gridiron action will be back before you know it..

PIGSKIN PLANNING

Azle High School season football tickets to go on sale

JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

Season tickets for the 2023 Azle High School football season will be available for purchase soon.

Renewal for current season ticket holders is scheduled to be May 22 to

Seat location exchange for current season ticket holders is June 5-6.

Season tickets will be available for the public to purchase from June 8-July

Current season ticket holders can watch for an email from Brushfire to learn more about how to renew their

AZLE HORNETS 2023 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

- Aug. 11 vs. Weatherford
- · Aug. 17 at Lake Dallas · Aug. 25 at Frisco Reedy
- Sept. 1 vs Grapevine
- Sept. 8 at Denton Ryan
- · Sept. 15 vs. Aledo • Sept. 22 at Fort Worth Brewer
- · Sept. 29 vs. Justin Northwest •Oct. 6 Idle
- Oct. 13 at Saginaw
- Oct. 20 vs. The Colony
- •Oct. 26 at Fort Worth South Hills
- Nov. 3 vs. Burleson Centennial

sleep good tonight."

The game featured numerous heroics. In the bottom of the seventh inning, the Hornets were down 2-0 and three outs away from defeat.

The first batter up at that moment was Luke Olmsted, who drew a walk. Ryland Liptow was up next and reached base when he was hit by a pitch. Noah Lehr drove in an RBI to make the score 2-1, and Tyler Akers smashed a double for another RBI to tie the game 2-2 and send it into extra innings.

In the top of the eighth, Azle reliever Austin May threw a mix of pitches to keep the Scorpions off balance. The Hornet defense scooped up or caught whatever balls came their way, and the game remained tied heading into the bottom of the eighth.

The momentum swung fully toward the Hornets after Webb beat out his dribbler and the Scorpions replaced their pitcher prior to Spratt's clutch hit.

After the game, Azle head coach Stephen Smith called May over and huddled with him briefly. When asked what the coach had told him, May

said, "He was saying I did my job, I did great, I brought the energy, and that's what we needed."

May entered the game late with Azle down two runs. The high-pressure situation didn't derail him.

"I zoned everything out," May said. "I wasn't going to let them hit anything. I made sure I was going to blow stuff right by them and win this game.'

His vision became reality.

"It feels amazing," he said. Declan Dahl pitched 5-2/3 innings and allowed 6 hits to keep Azle in position to win. May picked up the victory by throwing 2-1/3 scoreless innings in relief, allowing just 2 hits.

The day before, on May 4 in the series opener, Azle had beaten South Hills 11-0. Most of the Hornets have

bleached their hair blond for the postseason. "It's a tradition here at Azle

High School," Olmsted said. "It's a special thing for us to do in the playoffs.'

When asked what kind of concoction he had put into his brown hair to make it almost white, Olmsted said he didn't know. Somebody had done it for him. Had he done it himself, Olmsted's coif "probably wouldn't have turned out very good," he said.

The first game of the series began with Azle as the visitors and batting first. Akers led off the inning with a single and stole second base. Grant Tune and Spratt drew walks to load the bases. Then, the Hornets began blasting

singles and scored 3 runs. Azle's defense was disciplined, keeping South Hills from scoring or building momentum.

The Hornets were equally adept on offense, punching in 2 more runs in the second inning, 4 in the fourth, and 2 in the fifth to win 11-0 by the mercy rule.

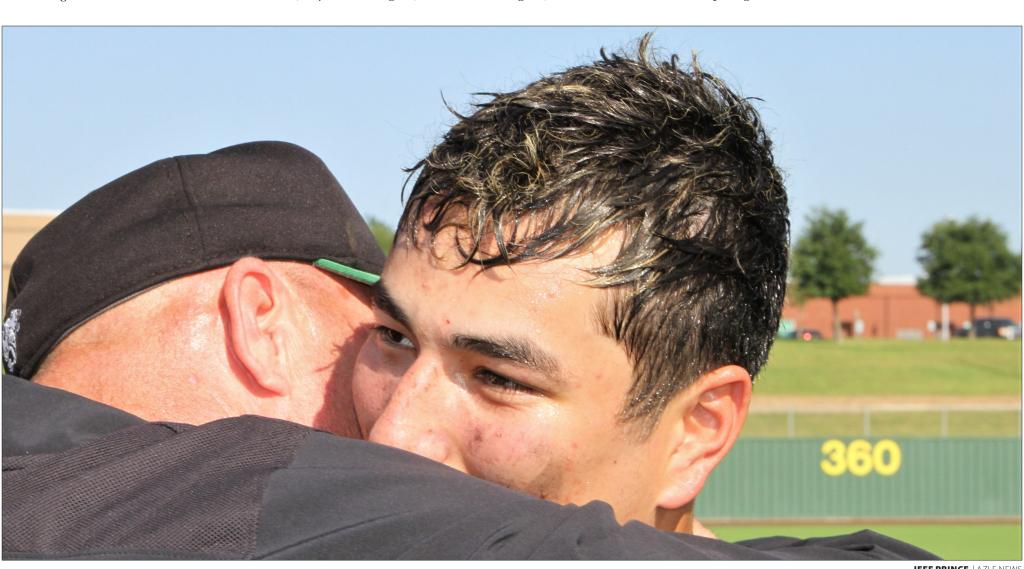
Jackson Davis pitched a complete-game no-hitter with 8 strikeouts.

Olmsted and his teammates are ready to try to win an area championship next.

"We are all feeling positive," he said. "The energy is good. We just need to keep it going."

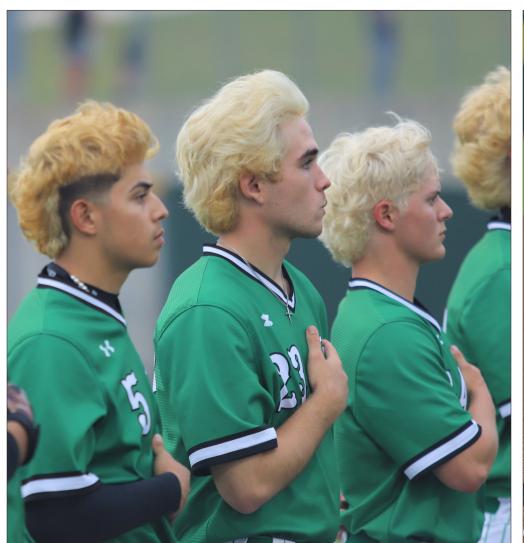
Azle, 24-8 overall, is preparing for the area playoff round against the Birdville Hawks, a team that finished as the

fourth seed in District 7-5A. The two teams will play at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 11, and Friday, May 12, at Chisholm Trail High School. A third game, if needed, will be played at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 13, at Chisholm Trail.

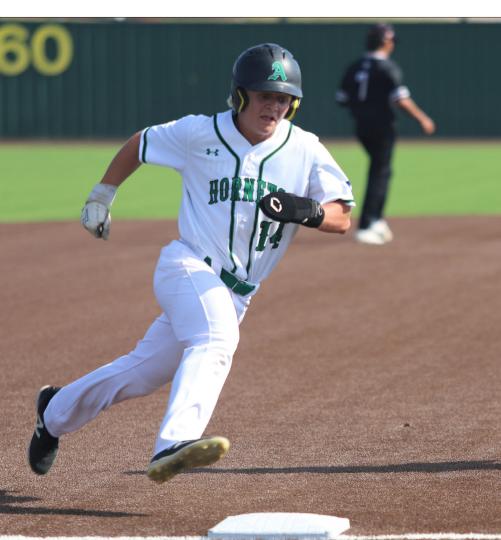


JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS

Head coach Stephen Smith gives Billy Spratt a hug after beating South Hills 3-2 in extra innings.



JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS



JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS

From left, Ivan Perez, Garrin Graves, and Luke Olmsted stand for the national anthem with bleached hair Luke Olmsted rounds third base on the way to home plate.

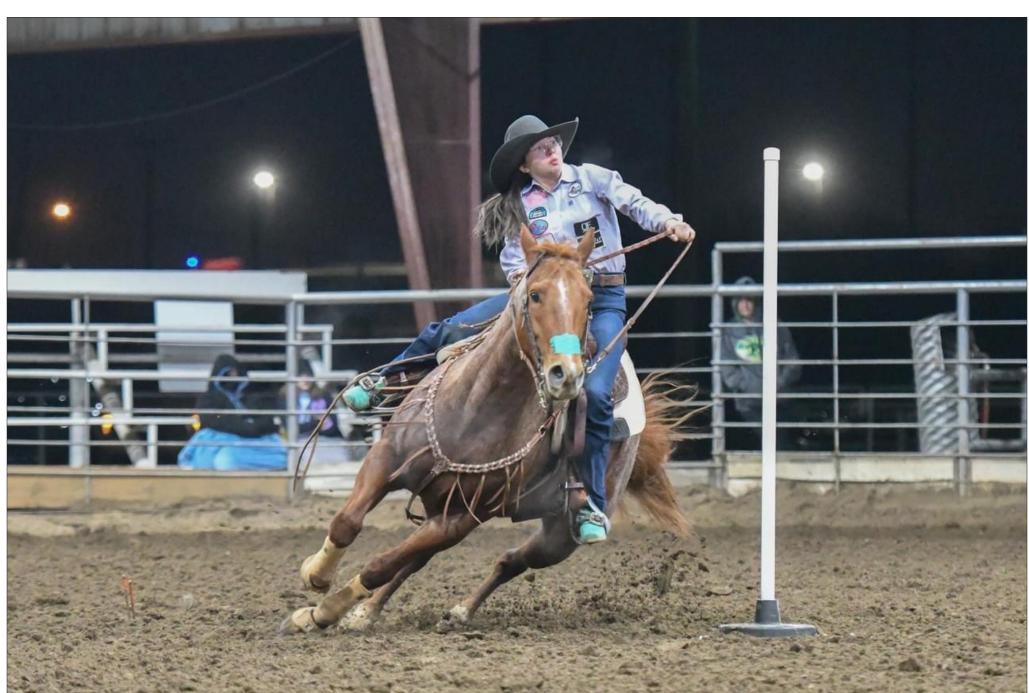
shining in the sun.

Congratulations Azle Rodeo!



Congratulations to the Azle High School rodeo team for qualifying a large number of athletes for the finals. This year, 14 of the AHS competitors earned a chance to compete for a belt buckle, saddle, and money at the finals, May 19-20 at the NTHSRA Arena in Saginaw.

PHOTO COURTESY JO H PHOTOGRAPHY



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817-980-8156 **CHURCH OF GOD ABUNDANT LIFE** CHURCH of GOD 4800 East Hwy. 199, Suite 7

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1 Air Condition/Heating 2	24. Electrici 25. Equipment Tool Ren 6 26. Excavati 27. Exterminati 28. Farm Equipme 29. Fenci 30. Firewo 31. Fr 32. For Sa 33. Furnitu 34. Garage Estate Sal 35. 35. Garden/Mowing S 36. Haulin 37. H 38. Health/Fitne
8Autos, Trucks	30 Firewoo
9 Auto Repair Service	31Fr
10Backhoe Service	32 For Sa
11 Boats, Motors	
17 Carpet Service	39Help Want
18Catering	40 Home Improveme
19 Cement Work	41House Levelin
20Demolition	42 House Cleaning
21 Child Care	43Huntii
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an	46 Looking to Buy	(
&	47 Lost & Found	1
tal	48 Maintenance/Repairs	
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ng	50 Mobile Home Service	1
nt	51 Motorcycles	
ng	52Movers	
od	53Musical Instruments	
ee	54Music Lessons	
le	55 Miscellaneous	1
re	56 Party Planning/Events	
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es	58Piano Service	
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ay	Services	1
SS	61 Personal	1
ed	62Plumbing	
nt	63Public Notice	1
ng	64Photography	
ng	65Printing	
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ce	67 Recycling	
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,	69 Sand/Gravel
ł	70Septic Tanks
3	71 Sewing/Alterations
(72Sewer Service
9	73TV/Radio
8	74 Tractor Service
3	75Upholstery
8	76 Vacuum Cleaners
3	77Wanted
8	78Well Drilling
8	79Welding
(80Lots/Acreage
9	81Business &
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I	82RV's for Rent
s	83 Houses for Sale
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3	for Rent
9	85Mobile Homes
/	for Sale
,	86 Mobile Home/RV Lots
j	87Rent Furnished
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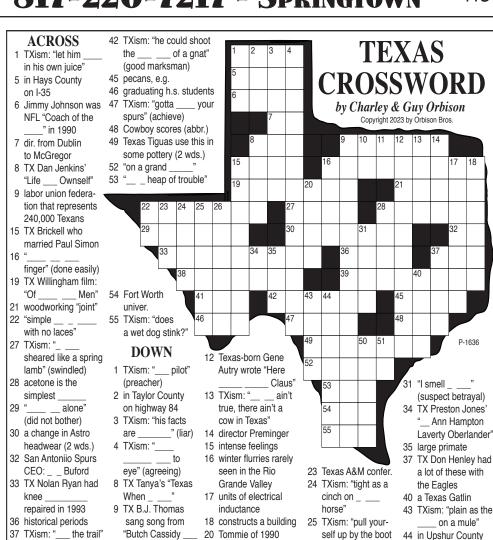
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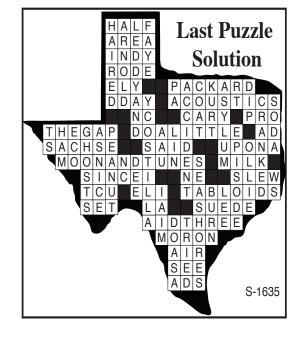
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