

Azle high school freshman wins Reserve Grand Champion

MARK MICHAELS
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The Fort Worth Stock Show is a staple in the culture of Fort Worth. It is one of the biggest and most prestigious livestock competitions in the nation, and every competitor comes with a champion's attitude, and high hopes of winning. This year the reserve grand champion for lambs was taken by 15-year-old Azle High School freshman, Landrie Lain, and her Welter lamb "Goose".

Landrie may be young, but she is a veteran livestock breeder. She has been raising animals for show since she was 8 years old and has put an animal up for competition every year since. Coming from a family of livestock breeders, Landrie has an amazing support group. Not only from her father and grandfather. "She has such a big heart for animals," said her father, Scott. "But it's a labor of love. Every single day she has to walk 'em, work 'em, and keep them healthy."

Landrie's friends show their support by showing up and cheering her on. Though

Landrie admits to taking their posters and signs, so they don't embarrass her too much.

Goose, a fine wool cross lamb, was one of more than 700 competitors vying for the championship. The livestock inspector will look for one of many details about an animal. But Landrie says that the main aspect the judges look for is good structure and muscle mass and density. Landrie raised Goose, along with three other sheep named "Maverick," "Snoop" and "Dre" from three months

PLEASE SEE **CHAMP** | A8



Azle High School student Landrie Lain earned Reserve Grand Champion with her market lamb at the 2023 Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo.

PHOTO COURTESY AZLE ISD



Raise Your Cups

The Azle Education Foundation hosted its annual Red Solo Cup BBQ Bash on Saturday, Jan. 28 at The Orchard Event Venue. Hundreds of attendees came together to support the foundation, which provides scholarships to students and grants to teachers and campuses to provide new and exciting learning opportunities for Azle ISD students. This year, the event raised more than \$90,000 through donations, sponsorships, and a live auction that included items such as a crawfish boil, front row seats to an Azle High School Theater production, and a reserved parking space at any Azle ISD campus. The AEF has provided almost \$1.2 million in program funding since 2010. "I love the way the Azle community comes together to have fun and support our students, teachers, and schools through the Foundation," said Meg Arnold, event organizer.

JIM STEVENS | AZLE NEWS

Hall gives annual report for APD

Number of crimes increased from last year

BY DON MUNSCH
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The number of crimes went up slightly in Azle from 2021 to 2022.

But the Azle City Council heard more than crime data when they saw the Azle Police Department's annual report at the council's Jan. 17 meeting.

Besides crime numbers, the APD's report examined everything from patrol to detectives to animal control, as animal control is part of the police department. APD Chief Ben Hall delivered the report to council.

APD recorded 489 crimes in 2022: homicide, two; rape, 11; robbery, five; assault, 163; burglary, 49; theft, 229; and auto theft, 30. The number of crimes - 489 - rose from 2021 (428) but had dropped from 403 in 2018 to 362 in 2019 and 317 in 2020.

Hall also offered department data, such as how APD has 33 full-time officers, one

part-time sworn officer, one reserve officer and 16 full-time civilian employees. The department had four volunteers who put in 1,600 volunteer hours.

"Our police department employees have gotten almost 5,000 hours of training over the last year," Hall said. "Some of that is specialized training, some of that is TCOLE required for licensing and (certification)."

Regarding Animal Control, that department responded to 929 calls in 2022. The department held 12 adoption events, including at Sting Fling and Christmas on Main Street. Animal Control adopted out more than 268 pets, returned 190 animals to owners and transferred 79 animals to shelters and rescue organizations.

"When you have the kind of success rate they do and you work as hard to adopt out, it

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Board receives rundown on accountability scores

AISD receives B overall grade

BY DON MUNSCH
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Azle schools fared well on the annual Texas Academic Performance Report, Azle ISD board members heard at their Jan. 23 meeting.

Overall, the district received a B, or an 85. The scores from the Texas Education Agency's accountability ratings.

"A lot of the information in this report you received in July when we got our STAAR scores back," said Amanda Wimpee, AISD director of curriculum and student services. "But once they post the information in this form, we're required to put (this information) in this form."

She said the district mark of B is what the district has received previously, but there was a slight drop in the numerical grade.

CAMPUS GRADES:

- Azle High School B (83)
- Azle Hornet Academy B (89)
- Forte Junior High B (83)
- Azle Junior High- A (90)

The school received distinctions for Academic Achievement in Science, Top 25% in Comparative Growth, Postsecondary Readiness and Top 25% Comparative Closing the Gaps.

- Hoover Elementary School B (86)

The school received distinctions for Top 25% Comparative Closing the Gaps, Academic Achievement in Mathematics,

Academic Achievement in Science and Top 25% in Comparative Academic Growth.

- Azle Elementary School C (77)
- Eagle Heights Elementary School A (93)

The school earned distinctions for Top 25% Comparative Closing the Gaps, Top 25% Comparative Growth Academic Achievement in English Language Arts/Reading, Academic Achievement in Mathematics and Postsecondary Readiness.

- Cross Timbers Elementary School B (86)

The school earned distinctions in Academic Achievement in Mathematics, Top 25% in Comparative Academic Growth and Top

25% Comparative Closing the Gaps.

- Silver Creek Elementary School B (88)

The school earned a distinction for Top 25% Comparative Closing the Gaps.

- Liberty Elementary School C (77)

- Walnut Creek Elementary School B (87)

The school earned a distinction for Top 25% Comparative Academic Growth.

Wimpee discussed scores for all tested subject matters for elementary through high school and gave the board a rundown of how Azle ISD scores compared with the Region 11 and state, for this past year and the previous academic year. The perfor-

mance levels are approaches, meets, and masters for scores. Her report included information on attendance and dropout rates from the 2020-21 school year. SAT averages, also from 2020-21, were shown, with the district average here (1029) a little higher than the region (1002) and state (1014) and the ACT here (20.6) is slightly higher than the state (20) and a little lower than the region (21.3).

Board members also saw demographic numbers, as 49.2% of Azle students are economically disadvantaged, as compared to 60.6 for the state. The percentage of at-risk students here is 41.6%, as compared to 53.5% in the state, and Title I student percentage here is 55.2% compared to 64.3% in the state.

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means that less animals will have to be put down," Hall said.

Hall's data stated that more than 95% of animals brought to the shelter were either adopted or returned to their families. Animal shelters with returns and adoptions reaching 90% and above are considered "no-kill" facilities.

In addition, the shelter received more than \$5,600 in direct donations and more than \$19,000 in donations to the medical fund.

Regarding patrol, in 2022, patrol officers answered 19,980 calls for service, made 5,794 traffic stops, assisted with 329 motorist and road hazards, conducted 1,643 foot-patrols and business checks, and answered 565 alarms, according to APD data. Their average response time was 5.26 minutes, and that number ranges across the board for all various kinds of calls, Hall said. Patrol officers investigated 601 traffic accidents, 110 hit-and-run accidents, 113 major accidents and 387 minor accidents.

"Lots of work going on," Hall said.

Detectives worked on two homicides in 2022, with one



Kathryn White holds a cat at Azle Animal Control while Azle Police Department officer David Beane looks up information on his computer in his car. APD Chief Ben Hall recently gave the annual report to the Azle City Council.



COURTESY PHOTO AZLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

person arrested two days after the incident - a shooting on State Highway 199 - and then an arrest on an auto-pedestrian hit-and-run occurred two months after the incident. Hall lauded the amount of dedicated police work it took to find the person who was arrested.

Also in 2022, detectives investigated four major ac-

cidents that involved detectives photographing and collecting evidence and data. APD detectives used the Sockkia Total Station to measure and map the scenes.

Overall, detectives worked on 1,400 cases and maintained an approximate 46% clearance rate on assigned cases.

APD has five school resource officers, including one sergeant, a corporal and three officers. In addition to providing security and mentoring to AISD students, the SRO team conducted investigations resulting in 23 arrests, made 12 mental health detentions, and investigated 12 assaults, 19 drug offenses and three

thefts.

The police department participated in a number of community projects, such as Angel Tree, Trunk or Treat, National Night Out, Coffee with a Cop and Sting Fling, among other events.

Hall said a community liaison/analyst has been hired and he hopes she can start at the beginning of February.

Some other data from the APD annual report:

- Azle Telecommunicators answered 32,012 telephone calls.
- Azle Telecommunicators answered 6,933 911 calls.
- Calls were dispatched within 2 minutes and 2 seconds.

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Reno council tables request to use RV as residence

Council gave no timeline for revisiting issue

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
madelyn@azlenews.net

Reno City Council indefinitely tabled a decision on a special use permit regarding a RV residence until the applicant can sort out heirship issues.

In August, an ordinance complaint was filed against the residents of a home on North Cardinal Street where Sarah Troutman resides. The city wanted Troutman to remove an RV from the property that serves as a residence. It is unclear who initiated the complaint.

Reno's ordinances state that "the use of a recreational vehicle for residential or commercial purposes is entirely prohibited within the city,"

and there are two exceptions to this rule. This ordinance was adopted in 2002.

Troutman said the RV serves as a home to members of her family who care for her and her husband when needed, and they help with chores around the house. Furthermore, those relatives have lived in the RV for six years.

"We asked for the SUP because my husband has health issues," she said. "If he has a problem, I need help with him. Not 15 minutes later, not 30 minutes later when someone can get here, but right then. He has a problem falling a lot."

There was never any option for the relatives to live inside Troutman's home because

she said the home is too small for that.

Both Troutman's home and RV are served by well water and a septic system, she said. The RV has electricity.

Troutman requested a special use permit to allow the RV and appeared before the Reno Planning and Zoning Commission in October.

The issue that gave pause to P&Z was that Troutman is not listed as the official owner of the property on North Cardinal Road. Instead, her in-laws, who are dead, are listed as the property's owners.

Troutman said her husband has lived on the property and has had full control over the property for the past 43 years. Her husband's great-

grandmother purchased the property in the 1930s, and it was eventually passed down to her husband's mother, who died about five years ago. The property's ownership was never transferred over.

"There's never been a question," Troutman said. "We pay the taxes."

P&Z tabled a decision and picked up discussion again in December when the members were able to get legal advice from one of the city's attorneys. Attorney Alan Wayland advised that the item be tabled until heirship of the property is officially established. Wayland also discouraged P&Z from granting a special use permit in this case.

On that advice, P&Z recommended the denial of the special use permit to the city council during its January

meeting.

On Jan. 23, the council decided to give Troutman as much time she needs to resolve the heirship issue and return to council to request the special use permit. This was decided in a 4-1 vote with Mayor Pro Tem Katie Tucker opposing.

Some council members argued that protection should be offered to Troutman while she resolves the heirship issue.

"As far as I'm concerned, these are the people that we're supposed to be working for," Deputy Pro Tem Hernando Herrera said. "These are the people that have been living here for 43 years, well before most of us moved here, and we've been gleefully taking her tax money. And so, she's entitled, in my opinion, to some form of

protection."

Later in the meeting when discussing code enforcement, Tucker said council's decision to indefinitely table Troutman's special use permit "destroyed" the city's code enforcement procedures.

"We extended it for their lifetime, which just destroyed our code enforcement compliance procedures," Tucker said.

Herrera and council member Shelli Swift argued that cases regarding code enforcement would be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

Troutman said she would pursue resolving the heirship issue, but she doesn't know how long that will take.

City Administrator Scott Passmore could not be reached to answer questions for this story by press time.

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Reno petition lawsuit to have district court hearing Feb. 1

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
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The lawsuit to put the disincorporation of Reno on the ballot is headed toward a court hearing.

On Feb. 1, parties in this case are expected to have a hearing in the 415th District Court regarding the plaintiffs' motion for summary judgement. A motion for summary judgment is defined by the American Bar Association's website as "(asking) the court for a judgment on the merits of the case before the trial. It is properly made where there is no dispute about the facts and only a question of law needs to be decided."

In this case, the plaintiffs are hopeful that the judge will review the evidence submitted and ensure that an election regarding the city's disincorporation is called for in May.

"We wanted it on the ballot," plaintiff Jennifer Vogle said. "It's not fair for them to take away our right to vote."

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

However, an election to allow Reno residents to vote on whether the city should disincorporate was not ordered.

Since then, petitioners Eric Hunter, Joy Jenkins and

Vogle filed a lawsuit against Mayor Sam White to order him to call for the election for disincorporation. The lawsuit claims that the reasons the city gave for invalidating signatures - which made the valid signatures drop below 400 - are illegitimate. The motion for summary judgement states that these reasons included:

- Residents moved from the city after signing the petition.
- The same person signed for all household members.
- Some signatures were illegible.
- Dates of birth on the petition weren't the same as the voter roll.
- Questionable signature did not match initials.

Plaintiffs Hunter and Vogle said they are confident that they provided enough evidence to validate the petition signatures. The evidence they provided includes statements from petitioners backing up their signatures and information on petitions under Texas Election Code Chapter 277 from the Texas Secretary of State's website.

In October, Reno City Council approved hiring a municipal law firm to represent the city in the legal case against White.

In response to the plaintiffs' lawsuit, White filed an answer in court to deny the allegations.

White's answer also states

that plaintiffs did not comply with the city's ordinance that requires complaints to be addressed and refused by the city council before filing a lawsuit. The ordinance states, "No suit of any nature whatsoever shall be instituted or maintained against the city unless the plaintiff therein shall aver and prove that previous to the filing of the original petition the plaintiff applied to the city council for redress, satisfaction, compensation, or relief, as the case may be, and that the same was by vote of the city council refused."

The plaintiffs responded to this claim in an amended document by saying that they did comply with the city's ordinance because the petition to disincorporate was considered and rejected by the city council. The plaintiffs also claimed that they didn't have to follow this city ordinance because they sued the mayor, not the city.

Hunter said he is happy to have the hearing coming up but is also disappointed that the issue had to escalate to this point.

"It's just disappointing that we have to go through this because Sam (White) is doing everything that he can to suppress the citizens' right to vote on this," he said.

It is unclear how much time the judge will take after the hearing to make a decision on this case.

Azle School Menu February 6-10, 2023

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

PreK - 4th

BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Graham Crackers, Toast
Mon Chocolate Chip Mini French Toast, Birthday Cake Applesauce **Tues** Cinna Mini, Apple
Weds Mini Maple waffles, Orange Craisins **Thurs** Apple Frudal , Orange **Fri** Breakfast pizza, Banana

LUNCH: Everyday - Variety of milk. Your choice of 1 entree & 1 fruit or juice
Mon Chicken Tenders w/ Biscuit OR Cheeseburger, French Fries, Peaches **Tues** Chicken Tacos OR Sun butter, Sandwich, Mixed Veggies, Refried, Beans, Pears **Weds** Max Sticks w/ marinera OR Turkey, & Cheese Sandwich **Thurs** Spaghetti w/ meat sauce w/, breadstick OR Sloppy Joe **Fri** Pepperoni Pizza, Cheese Pizza OR, Fish Sticks w/ Roll, Smile French Fries

GRADES 5TH - 8TH

BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Yogurt w/Granola
Mon French Toast Sticks, Pineapple **Tues** Scrambled Eggs, Sausage & Toast, Apples **Weds** Glazed Donut, Mixed Fruit
Thurs Fruit Parfait, Oranges **Fri** Waffle & Sausage, Bananas

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 Cheeseburger, French Fries, Peaches **Tues** Chicken Tacos OR Sun butter Sandwich, Mixed Veggies, Refried, Beans, Pears **Weds** Max Sticks w/ marinera OR Turkey & Cheese Sandwich **Thurs** Spaghetti w/ meat sauce w/ breadstick OR Sloppy Joe **Fri** Pepperoni Pizza, Cheese Pizza OR Fish Sticks w/ Roll, Smile French Fries

HIGH SCHOOL

BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Yogurt w/Granola
Mon French Toast Sticks, Pineapples **Tues** Scramble Eggs, Sausage, & Toast, Applesauce
Weds Glazed Donuts, Mixed Fruit **Thurs** Fruit Parfait, Oranges **Fri** Waffle & Sausage, Bananas

LUNCH: • Everyday: 1% unflavored or non fat chocolate milk & juice offered daily at breakfast and lunch. Salad Bar • Fruit of the day subject to change due to deliveries and shortages. • Fruit, hot and cold veggies
Mon Grilled Cheese, South West Chicken Tornadoes, Orange Chicken, Chicken parmesan **Tues** Chicken Tenders, Crunchy Beef Tacos, Cheese OR Pepperoni Pizza, General TSO Chicken **Weds** Chicken Nuggets, Beef & Bean Burrito, Sweet n Sour Chicken, Turkey & Cheese Sandwich OR Cheese Pizzas, Spicy Chicken Sandwich **Thurs** Boneless Buffalo Chicken Wrap, Chicken Burrito, Pepperoni Pizza, Orange Chicken, BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich **Fri** Fish Sticks, Cheesy Chicken Nachos, General TSO Chicken, Max Sticks w/Marinera OR Turkey & Cheese Wrap

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Whose brilliant idea was this?

Hold on a dadgum minute! Sleet? Freezing rain? Icy roads? What's up with that? It was almost 80 degrees last week!

We are so spoiled in north central Texas.

We have about a half-dozen actual "winter" days for the entire winter. But the world shuts down and we freak out on those days.

I've spent a good part of this morning canceling some meetings and attempting to reschedule others.

And for the next couple of days, we'll hunker down and try to stay warm.

My friends in places that have actual winter laugh at



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.

us. And some of them actually live in Texas!

I remember our first January here in 1985. I was a student as Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and Mrs. Sweetie was teaching first grade at Walnut Creek Elementary School in Azle.

We got up one morning and saw the notice on TV

that school was canceled. Having moved here from the Amarillo area, we thought there must have been a blizzard overnight. Surely we'd be snowed in for days.

I looked out the window and saw a dusting of snow that was so pitiful that I could still see the grass in our yard.

Who cancels school for this? Apparently people who

know that it's crazy out there when people who don't deal with real winter have to drive on winter-ish roads.

Since then we've had a few real winter storms and, of course, we're all a little gun shy after Snowmageddon '21 when ERCOT became a household cuss word.

And since I have been in a position for a few years now to be the one who makes the call on whether or not things get canceled, I've gained a new appreciation for my fellow call-makers.

Sometimes we get it right. Sometimes we get it wrong. At no time is there unanimous agreement and

support.

One person thinks we're being silly if we cancel. Another thinks we're being reckless if we don't. And EVERYONE has an opinion.

Perhaps the fact that everyone has an opinion is part of the problem—not the fact that the opinion exists, but that we often feel compelled to share our opinions in a way that belittles those whose opinions differ from ours.

"Whose brilliant idea was this?" The unspoken—but obviously intended—message of that question is that neither the idea nor the person has approached anything remotely resembling brilliant.

I've discovered that most of us have no idea whatsoever about all the factors that went into a decision made by anyone but ourselves.

What might it be like if we conceded that we don't have all the information?

What might it be like if we asked real, legit questions out of curiosity and a desire to learn before we offered our opinions?

What if we were to use the momentary pause to consider what this decision makes possible?

I happen to think that might just be amazing.

Be amazing today, my friend.

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DON MUNSCH | AZLE NEWS

Rick White, right, receives recognition from Azle Mayor Alan Brundrett and the Azle City Council for his 30 years of service to the city. A proclamation was made for White, director of public services, at the Jan. 17 council meeting.

LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
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IN THE FAMILY COURT FOR THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT DOCKET NO. 2022-DR-10-1608 SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES VERSUS Rayia L. Brown, Travis Smalls, Joshua Forrestier, Joel Mackey II, Oscar Moultrie, Christine Bennett, and Mercedes Jefferson DEFENDANTS. IN THE INTERESTS OF: MINOR CHILDREN BORN 2020, 2012, 2015, and 2021 TO DEFENDANT: Joel Mackey II YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Complaint in this action filed with the Clerk of Court for Charleston County on June 3, 2022. Upon proof of interest, a copy of the Complaint will be delivered to you upon request from the Charleston County Clerk of Court, and you must serve a copy of your Answer to the Complaint on the Plaintiff, the South Carolina Department of Social Services, at the office of its Attorney, Daniel A. Beck, Legal Department of the Charleston County Department of Social Services, 3685 Rivers Avenue, Charleston, S.C. 29405-5714 within thirty (30) days of this publication, exclusive of the date of service. If you fail to answer within the time set forth above, the Plaintiff will proceed to seek relief from the Court. Daniel A. Beck, SC Bar #104335, 3685 Rivers Avenue, Charleston, S.C. 29405, (843) 953-9625.

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Separate sealed bids for the construction of 2022 SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS (Azle bid number 2023-004) will be received by the City of Azle, Texas until 3:00 PM on Thursday, February 23, 2023, at City Hall, 505 W. Main Street, Azle, Texas, 76020, and then at said location publicly opened and read aloud. This project includes the installation of approximately 1,685 linear feet of 6' wide concrete sidewalk, curb ramps, crosswalk striping, and other incidental items. The Contract Documents consisting of Advertisement of Bids, Information for Bidders, Bid Proposal, Bid Bond, Contract, Performance and Payment Bonds, Maintenance Bond, General Conditions, Notice of Award, Notice to Proceed, Plans, Specifications, and Addenda (if any) may be examined at the following location: JACOB & MARTIN, LLC 1508 Santa Fe Drive, Suite 203, Weatherford, Texas 76086 The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities and to reject any or all bids. Bids may be held by the Owner for a period not to exceed 60 days from the date of bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the qualifications of Bidders prior to awarding of the contract. Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS must be ordered online at www.jacobmartin.com. Orders for CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may include hard copies for pick up, mail out or digital download via www.jacobmartin.com. Upon verification of online payment, hard copies may be picked up at Jacob & Martin, LLC, located at 1508 Santa Fe Drive, Suite 203, Weatherford, TX 76086. Cost for hard copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS will be \$100.00 for 11x17 half size plans. Cost for digital download of CONTRACT DOCUMENTS will be \$0.00. Contractors must purchase a set of CONTRACT DOCUMENTS to be considered a registered plan holder eligible to bid the project. A certified check or bank draft, payable to the order of CITY OF AZLE, TEXAS, negotiable U.S. Governmental bonds (at par value) or a satisfactory Bid Bond executed by the Bidder and an acceptable surety in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total bid shall be submitted with each bid. City of Azle, Texas Alan Brundrett, Mayor January 25, 2023.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

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 8:00 AM 2/18/23 until 8:00 PM 3/1/23 online at www.storageauctions.com Property will be sold to highest bidder for 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. Rick Garner: household items, TV, electronics, toys, furniture, boxes, Logan Schluter: household items, furniture, appliances, boxes, Patrice Clifton: Household items, clothes, furniture, dishes, boxes, Courtney Smith: Washer & Dryer, furniture, toys, camping tent, Laminate Flooring.

NOTICE OF CLAIM AND PUBLIC SALE

Storage unit contents to be sold to satisfy landlord's lien. Seller reserves the right to withdraw property from the sale. Unit items to be sold to the highest bidder. Sale to be held ONLINE at <https://www.storageauctions.com/>. Location of Units for Public Sale: Longhorn State Storage Azle at 11700 Jacksboro Hwy, Fort Worth TX 76135. Auction to be held on Monday February 27th, 2023 beginning at 9:00 a.m. for the following tenants: Brian Ford & Judy Ford, Courtney Grimes, Natalie Stephens, Shirley Polston, Shannon Thomas

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

NORTH CAROLINA CHEROKEE COUNTY IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION FILE NO. 20-JT-48 IN RE: N.R.PARKS (DOB 10/27/2016) To: All Unknown Fathers TAKE NOTICE that a Petition pursuant to Article 11, Chapter 7B of the North Carolina General Statutes and, specifically pursuant to North Carolina General Statute §7B-1104, seeking relief against each of you has been filed in the above-captioned juvenile proceeding by the Cherokee County Department of Social Services. The nature of the relief being sought is the termination of your parental rights with regard to the juvenile in the above-captioned matter set forth in North Carolina General Statute §7B-1110. The juvenile was born on or about October 27, 2016 in Union County, Georgia. The Petition was filed on January 5, 2023. You are required to make defense to such pleadings no later than March 17, 2023 said date being 40 days from the first publication of this notice. Upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought in the aforementioned Petitions. If you do not file a written answer to the Petition by March 17, 2023 the Court may terminate your parental rights. The Court will conduct a hearing to determine whether one or more grounds alleged in the Petition for terminating your parental rights exist. If the Court finds that one or more grounds exist, the Court will proceed at that hearing or a later hearing to determine whether parental rights should be terminated. Notice of the date, time, and location of the hearing will be mailed to you be the Clerk of Superior Court after you file an answer or thirty (30) days from the date of service if you do not file an answer. You have the right to be represented by a lawyer in this case. If you want a lawyer and cannot afford one, the Court will appoint a lawyer for you. You may contact the Clerk of Superior Court immediately to ask for a Court-appointed lawyer. If you are represented by a lawyer appointed previously in an abuse, neglect, or dependency case, that lawyer will continue to represent you unless the Court orders otherwise. You are encouraged to contact the Clerk of Superior Court immediately to identify the lawyer who will be assigned to represent you. At the first hearing, the Court will determine whether you are qualified for a court-appointed lawyer. If you do not qualify, the lawyer now assigned to you will be released. This is a new case, and any lawyer appointed to represent you in another case will not represent you in this case unless the Court appoints that person again. You may contact the Clerk of Superior Court in writing at the following address: Clerk of Superior Court Cherokee County Courthouse 75 Peachtree St Murphy, NC 28906. You may contact the Clerk of Superior Court by telephone by calling the following number: 828-835-7740. You are entitled to attend any hearing affecting your parental rights. If you provide your address to the Clerk of Superior Court, the Clerk will mail you notice of date, time and location of any hearing conducted in the above-captioned matter. This the 1ST day of February, 2023. Andria M. Duncan Attorney for Cherokee County DSS 4800 US HWY 64 W Murphy, NC 28906. 828-837-7455 Ext. 1255.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held before the City Council of the City of Pelican Bay on February 14, 2023 (Tuesday) at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the City Hall, located at 1300 Pelican Circle, Pelican Bay, Texas to solicit comments from citizens and other interested parties concerning the renewal of City Ordinance No. 170 Curfew for Minors, as per Texas Local Government Code 370.002, that requires cities to review local curfew ordinances every three years to abolish, continue or modify the ordinance.

Notice of Public Sale

Public boat sale to satisfy storage lien. Up for bids LEGALLY BELONGING TO: RYON REA TPWD OWNER SHIP: James & Angela Mordecai TX #4373DN 2005 20' PIO SER# P10GP701K405. LEGALLY BELONGING TO: DAVID LANDON TPWD OWNER SHIP: ALAN HAMMOND TX #5362HN 1972 30' MORGAN SER# B201903224258. LEGALLY BELONGING TO: MICHAEL SYKES TPWD OWNER SHIP: DAVID & DEBBIE BURNETT TX #868DD 1984 27' CENTURY SER# CEBRA145C484 The Sale Will Be Held on March 4, 2023. 1:00 PM, West Bay Marina, 6925 Liberty School Tap Rd. Azle, Tx 76020 (817)444-1622. Terms are cash/cashier's check at time of sale.

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Over 'it': Does it really matter what you call it now?

This past week I had the unfortunate experience of suffering a bout of illness, which I refer to as "the crud." I think this all started about three weeks ago when my granddaughter, Harper, came home from pre-school feeling bad. She suffered with a fever and other symptoms for about 10 days. Naturally, her constant companion, Lolli (my wife's grandmother's name), came down with a version of the same malady shortly thereafter. Off and on for four or five days, Lolli ran a temperature, was very listless and had no energy.

Being a good sensible person, I abandoned my marital bedroom for a few days and stayed in the guest room, hoping to avoid catching whatever germs were being



FROM MY FRONT PORCH

By Sam Houston

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

passed around the Houston domicile. Eventually Lolli improved though her energy level still seemed moderately low. I thought I had been prudent by taking solid prevention techniques to avoid becoming a victim of "what is going around," but sure enough last Wednesday came the onset of body aches, fever, light headedness and feeling poorly. I did not come to work on Thursday or Friday. While I attempted to do some work from home, I found my head so stuffy and

body so achy, the only thing I really wanted to do was sleep.

So how does one treat the crud? Seems like now days one needs an interpreter to know what over-the-counter medicine is best. There is nighttime cold medicine, nighttime flu and cold medicine, daytime flu and cold medicine, extra strength cold and flu and, my favorite, severe cold and flu. I find all this a little perplexing because as I was in the drug store looking for the proper medication, I thought, if I am

sick, why wouldn't I take the strongest medicine I can get? I mean, if I was getting ready to shoot a charging bear, I'd want as much firepower as I can handle, wouldn't I? I would much rather take a medicine that is going to blow away what is ailing me than take some lightweight concoction that still leaves you feeling under the weather. The only cold or flu that is not severe is the one you don't have!

Then of course there is the diagnosis. Though I have had COVID, taken the vaccination and the booster shots, I still took a test that thankfully turned out negative. My sweet 91-year-old friend Miss Jayne was very concerned about my health status and naturally the first question out of

her mouth was, what do you have? I responded rather directly, "I felt bad." It made little difference what the medical name was for my malady, the important thing was I felt rotten, and I wanted whatever had attacked and ravaged my body to disappear. Jayne was persistent, "Do you think it is the flu? Could it be COVID? Do you think it is just a cold or maybe the RSP they keep talking about on the news? I wonder where you got it?"

Now I love Miss Jayne and I know she is only concerned about my well-being, but for the love of God, knowing what made me sick and giving it a clinical name matters little to me. I want it to be gone. I don't care what label you give it. As to who or what gave it to me, it is sort of like

worrying about the mare running away after forgetting to shut the barn door.

Monday I was back at work as usual. I still don't feel 100%, but I am gaining on it. Seems like currently the world is a buffet of germs carrying COVID, RSP, the flu or something else sure to make you ill. I will be glad when summer comes and most of these darn hard to identify sicknesses are gone.

I hope you all are well and staying safe. Being sick is just no fun, no matter where you caught it or what you call it.

Thought for the day: I hate it when people say it could have been worse. It could have been a heck of a lot better, too!

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

AISD Grant Recipients awarded

PHOTO COURTESY AZLE ISD

The Azle Education Foundation awarded 22 Azle ISD employees the Bernice Finney Educator Graduate Studies Grant. Each employee will receive \$835 to help offset the cost of their graduate courses in education. Recipients include Derek Gordon, Stephanie Laudenheimer, Kendra Longbrake, Derek Foster, Tyler Harrison, Stephenie Smith, Kayleigh Wasser, Macy Witthaus, Elizabeth Slough, Leslie Williams, Leslie Rodriguez, Cindy Flynn, Macy Pruitt, Neil Corbett, Kristi Phillips, Brooke Ayala, Jennifer Dousay, Jennifer Pastre, Julie DiMartino, Greg Davis, Micah Stotler and Laura Barnard.



Spotlight on BUSINESS

FEBRUARY



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OBITUARIES

Cortlan Fowler 1966 - 2023

Cort was born to Tommy L. and Kathy G. Fowler April 17, 1966, and went to heaven at age 56, January 22, 2023, after losing his second battle with cancer.

Cort's Memorial Service will be held at 4 p.m., Monday, February 6, 2023 at the Meeting Place, Ash Creek Baptist Church, Azle, Texas.

As a boy, Cort was a Cub Scout, winning the coveted Soap Box Derby. He was a member of Ash Creek Baptist Church and participated in all the children and youth activities. His Senior Year in Azle High School, Cort sang solo in the Youth Choir and read the Bible through in one year, earning a certificate.

While in Azle High School, Cort was a member of the Marching Green Pride and played his bass trombone in the Azle Jazz Band, earning a music scholarship to Tarrant County College where he was a member of his Jazz Band as well.

In 1991, he met and married the love of his life, Kimberly Denise Sproles. Their marriage was blessed with two children, Lauren Khrysanthia Fowler and Cullin Turner Fowler.

Cort spent his adult years in security graduating from the Weatherford Police Academy. He worked for the Fort Worth Public Zoo and Trinity Meadows Race Track where he was recognized for saving one of the valuable race horses with colic. Cort recently retired after working 25 years at the Tarrant County Detention Bureau's various facilities. He was a Certified Security Control Specialist responsible for monitoring security gates and cameras.



Cort and Kim enjoyed going on family vacations and visiting state parks.

Often, Cort, his son, Cullin, and his father Tommy would spend the day together going to gun ranges. Cort used this time to requalify with his pistol and they all earned their License to Carry a handgun together.

Cort was a friend to all and will be greatly missed by his family and friends. Living family members left to grieve his passing include: his wife, Kimberly, daughters Lauren and Lily Fowler, son Cullin and Cyndi Fowler of Mineral Wells, parents Tommy and Kathy Fowler, Benny and Lynette Sproles, sisters-in-law Stacy Baker and Amy Sproles, numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Cort was preceded in death by his grandparents, sister-in-law Jennifer Sproles, and brother-in-law, Clinton Sproles.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you make a donation to Ash Creek Baptist Church Building Campaign or Azle Good NEWS, where both Cort and Kim were volunteers.

The Azle News, February 1, 2023 Edition

Jimmy Waits 1941 - 2023

Jimmy Ralph Waits went to be with his Lord & Savior Jesus Christ peacefully on January 25th, 2023, surrounded by his family.

Funeral services will be held at Azleland Memorial Park on Friday, February 3, 2023. Visitation is at 9 a.m. and a service will follow at 10a.m.

He was born in Fort Worth, Texas on February 7, 1941, and the only son of Ralph Wayne and Alta Augusta Waits. He graduated from Castleberry High school in 1959 and married the love of his life, Mary Evelyn Pemberton. They were married for 62 years.

He loved fishing, playing cards, board games, going on cruises and vacations and just hanging out with his family and friends. He taught us all how to laugh and have fun and enjoy life to the fullest. He was a great husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, and a friend to many.

Jimmy & Mary had three children, Jimmy Wayne Waits and wife Adina from Denton,



Texas; Jackie Waits and wife Alicia from Mansfield, Texas; and Renee Oran and husband Jason from Azle, Texas.

He had nine grandchildren, Garret Spears, Tyler Spears, Travis Spears, Cody Waits, Brad Trent, Kimberly Trent, Hannah Greene, Felicity Oran and Jason Oran. He also had seven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father, Ralph Wayne Waits, and mother, Alta Augusta Waits, and two sisters, Joe Ann Grant and Alta Faye Mahoney.

The Azle News, February 1, 2023 Edition

The value of a supportive community



HOPE MATTERS By David Shaffer

Dr. David Shaffer and his wife, Daniele, are Azle-area residents. David is director of Son Shine Ministries (equipfamilies.org) and chair of the Azle Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors (azlechamber.com). david@equipfamilies.org | 817-444-3777

The year was 1984. I had practiced the introduction at least 30 times. I had it memorized, and I delivered it flawlessly over and over again to the mirror. As a junior at Auburn University, I co-lead the conference committee for Campus Crusade for Christ (now called Cru). We had a three-evening event planned with Josh McDowell as our presenter and the Imperials as our musical guests.

As nearly 10,000 students filled the arena, the moment came for me to introduce Josh. I was never drawn to speak in front of others, but I was willing. I certainly had practiced enough for this moment. As I walked to the mic, nervousness slowed my steps. I eventually began, "Welcome to this special event. Our speaker is Josh McDowell. He is a popular author known worldwide, and ..."

At this early point in the opening comments, my mind went blank.

I had no notes to use to recover, so I pieced together one of the worst introductions Josh has probably ever had. At one point I glanced over to see him shaking his head.

I was humiliated and not comforted by my well-meaning co-leader when she whispered, "It wasn't that bad, David."

As I sat to listen to Josh's talk, I settled some. I apologized to him afterward, and he was more than kind to me, even challenging me to a racquetball game the next day.

The problem for me persisted, though, because I was supposed to introduce Josh each night. I called my co-leader, asking her to take over. She kindly refused and expressed her confidence in me, saying, "You worked the nerves out last night. It will now go much better." That sounded reassuring, but I certainly had more nerves

firing off than the night before, and I could only imagine it going worse.

I determined I would step to the mic once more. I reasoned with myself that, though my role was designed to be a helpful starter for the speaker, it was not why people were attending. I was maybe the only person focused on the introduction.

The second evening arrived, and I shared with my co-leader that my nerves had not calmed, and she prayed for me. Somehow, it grounded me, and the second and third evenings went wonderfully.

Life includes such scenarios where we fumble and are tempted with giving up and retreating. This is even true with relationships when they are tested, and fear disrupts our plans.

I am reminded of parents calming their fearful children at night. David Jeremiah relates this in his book "Hope: Living Fearlessly in a Scary World." He wrote, "How do you help a little child face her fear of the darkness? First you appeal to the mind. You turn on the light and show her there's nothing scary in the room. Then you help her attune her heart to what her mind has accepted. This is the process of faith, for all of us. We accept that God is in control, and on that basis, we shift our burdens to His perfect shoulders."

Life certainly has moments where we stumble with our tasks and relationships. Whether it is our fault or not, we might be tempted to stay down and not recover. Realizing that God is in control and reaching out to him is a life changer, and it is especially impactful when it is done in a supportive community (like Azle). God is as reliable today as he was in 1984. May he fill you with hope and confidence this year as you step up to your mic.

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Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage Off-Premise Permit (BQ) by Fro-Zone Limited Company, to be located at 128 Park Place, Azle, Texas, 76020. Officer of said corporation is David Gonzales, President and Owner.

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<p>THE ABBEY CHURCH Pastor: Paul Brownback 10400 Jacksboro Highway 817-238-1404 www.TheAbbeyChurch.com</p> <p>Morning Worship..... 10:30 AM Community Groups..... Various Times</p> <p>ASH CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Dr. G. Wesley Shotwell 300 South Stewart St. 817-444-3219 www.ashcreekbc.org</p> <p>Sunday School..... 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship-TMP 10:45 AM Traditional Worship 10:45 AM Evening Worship..... 6:00 PM Wednesday Youth Refuge..... 6:00 PM Wednesday Evening..... 6:15 PM</p> <p>AZLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ) Senior Minister, Ashley Dargai, Katie Medlin, Worship Minister 117 Church St. • 817-444-3527</p> <p>Sunday School..... 10:00 AM Morning Worship..... 11:00 AM</p> <p>AZLE FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD Rev. Joshua Lowrance 1020 S.E. Parkway, Azle 817-237-4903</p> <p>Sunday School..... 9:30 AM Morning Worship..... 10:30 AM Wednesday Evening..... 7:00 PM</p>	<p>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</p> <p>Sunday School..... 9:45 AM Morning Worship..... 11:00 AM Sunday Evening..... 6:00 PM Wednesday Evening..... 7:00 PM</p> <p>CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH 2233 Hwy 199 E. • Springtown 817-221-LIFE (5433)</p> <p>Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM Wednesday 7:00 PM</p> <p>CROSSROADS BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor - Jon Baker Corner FM 730S & FM 1886 817-755-0279 Transportation Available</p> <p>Worship Service..... 10:30 AM Wed. Prayer Service..... 7:00 PM</p> <p>THE EDGE CHURCH - AZLE 1313 S.E. Pkwy, Azle 817-237-4822 Missouri Synod</p> <p>"Love God - Serve Others - Share Jesus" Traditional Worship..... 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship..... 11:00 AM</p>	<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Pastors: Rev. Todd & Jenn Pick 200 Church St., Azle 817-444-3323</p> <p>Morn. Worship 8:30, 9:45 & 11 AM Sunday School..... 9:45 & 11 AM Youth (UMYF) 5:00 PM Sun & 6:30 PM Wed</p> <p>HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH 800 Highcrest Dr. - Azle 817-444-3063</p> <p>Saturday 5:00 PM Sunday 9:00 AM Sunday 11 AM (Spanish) Daily Mass (M, T, Th, F) 8:00 AM Wednesday Mass Religious ED 6:30 PM Confessions..... Sat 4 PM</p> <p>HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA 4795 E. Hwy 199 - Reno 817-221-HOPE Follow us on Facebook for streaming services</p> <p>Sunday School..... 9:00 AM Traditional Service 10:00 AM</p> <p>SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH 591 S. Reno Rd., Springtown, Texas 76082 Pastor - Bill Gay - 817-304-7443</p> <p>Coffee and Donuts 9:00 AM Sunday School..... 9:30 AM Morning Worship..... 10:30 AM Children's Church After Music Service Wed. Prayer Meeting..... 6:30 PM Wed. Bible Study..... 7:00 PM</p>	<p>LEGACY CHURCH Assembly of God Church Pastor: Gary D. Veazey Hwy. 199 & Jaybird Lane 817-221-2983</p> <p>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</p> <p>SILVER CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Rev. Sheila Fiorella - Pastor 2200 Church Rd., Azle 817-444-1382 www.silvercreekumc.org</p> <p>Sunday School 9:30 AM • Worship 10:30 AM</p> <p>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</p> <p>Sunday School..... 9:45 AM Morning Worship..... 10:50 AM Evening Worship..... 6:00 PM Wed. Prayer Service..... 7:00 PM</p>	<p>THE WORD@LAKESIDE CHURCH OF GOD 9396 FM 1886 Fort Worth, TX 76135 817-237-5500 thewordatlakeside.com</p> <p>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</p> <p>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 (6th-12th grades)..... 6:30 PM Awana Kids at the WORD 6:30 PM Life at the WORD Life Groups Various Times</p>
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Lawmakers push \$15K teacher raises; disaster declaration for Southeast Texas communities; Texas leads nation in job creation in 2022

LAWMAKERS PUSH \$15K TEACHER RAISES

A group of House Democrats is proposing a \$15,000 raise for the state's teachers and a 25% raise for other state employees by using some of the state's record budget surplus. State Rep. James Talarico, D-Austin, announced the bill last week and was joined by Democratic legislators and teachers, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

"This moment demands bold action, and that's what our state is known for," Talarico said. "House Bill 1548 would be the biggest teacher pay raise in Texas history. In Texas, we go big or we go home. Let's go big on teacher pay."

While the proposal may not gain traction in the GOP-controlled House, it could spur debate as the state faces a growing exodus of public-school teachers. The Dallas Morning News, which analyzed teacher salaries across the state, reported that major suburban and urban districts pay educators the most, while rural school districts and charter schools pay the least.

The highest average teach-



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@texaspres.com.

er salary is in the Houston region at \$62,589, while the lowest average teacher salary was in the Abilene region, according to the Texas Education Agency. The state operates 20 educational regions.

DISASTER DECLARATION FOR SOUTHEAST TEXAS COMMUNITIES

Gov. Gregg Abbott last week issued a disaster declaration for Harris and Orange counties after at least one tornado touched down in Pasadena, Deer Park and neighboring Southeast Texas communities. The Texas Division of Emergency Management has requested federal assistance in making preliminary damage assessments.

The Houston Chronicle reported no injuries despite the considerable damage in the area.

Abbott urged Texans with

damage to their homes or businesses to complete a self-reporting damage survey at damage.tdem.texas.gov. Damage should also be reported separately to insurance agencies.

TEXAS LEADS NATION IN JOB CREATION IN 2022

A December employment release from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates Texas led the nation in job creation with 650,100 non-farm jobs added last year - a 5% rate, the fastest in the nation. Coming in second with 621,400 new nonfarm jobs was California.

"Texas works when Texans work, and in this legislative session, we will continue expanding opportunity and ensuring Texas remains the best state to live, work, build a business, and raise a family," Abbott said.

The state's unemployment rate stood at 3.9% in

December, slightly higher than the national average of 3.5%. Total Texas employment reached a new high of 13.705 million at year's end.

HEAT-RELATED DEATHS REACH TWO-DECADE HIGH

Heat-related deaths in Texas reached a new high last year, according to a Texas Tribune analysis of state data since 1999. The state's second-hottest summer and the worst drought since 2011 combined to increase risk of heat exhaustion and heatstroke. At least 268 in the state were killed by heat, with a large portion of those being migrants who died after crossing the border, the Tribune reported.

The analysis showed six of the top 10 counties for heat deaths since 1999 are on or near the Texas-Mexico border, with Webb County having the highest number at 325. Migrant experts and local officials along the border say the number reported is almost certainly a "dramatic undercount."

LOCAL PARKS GRANTS TOTAL \$9.8 MILLION

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission approved more than \$9.8 million in local parks grants

last week "to help create and enhance outdoor recreational opportunities." The grants are allocated to local governments on a 50/50 basis. Once a park is funded, it must remain in existence in perpetuity, be properly maintained and open to the public.

Grants went to 20 cities of varying sizes for nature trails, native gardens, playgrounds, splash pads, dog parks and sports fields.

A full list of grants can be found on the tpwd.texas.gov website.

BILLS PUSH FOR ACCOUNTABILITY AFTER UVALDE SHOOTING

The state senator whose district includes Uvalde has filed four bills related to the mass shooting at Robb Elementary last May. Sen. Roland Gutierrez, D-San Antonio, filed bills to "reduce gun violence, increase support for school shooting victims and survivors, and push for accountability for the flawed law enforcement response to the mass shooting," the Statesman reported.

Several families of the Uvalde school shooting victims joined Gutierrez for the announcement last week. One bill would create a school violence victims' compensa-

tion fund. Another would eliminate qualified immunity protection for police officers. The law enforcement response to the shooting has been widely criticized.

Another bill would raise the minimum age to purchase military-style rifles.

"When will it be enough bloodshed? Are you waiting for it to happen to you or your family before you stop to think about your gross negligence?" said Velma Lisa Duran, the older sister of Irma Garcia, one of the two teachers killed in Uvalde, the Statesman reported.

COVID-19 CASES DIP SLIGHTLY

The number of new cases of COVID-19 in Texas during the past week dropped slightly to 23,530, with 194 deaths reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients reported by the Texas Department of State Health Services was 2,513, down about 300 from the previous week. Only reported cases are tallied, and people who test positive with a home test kit likely are never reported.

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Hilltop topping off ceremony



COURTESY PHOTO AZLE ISD

Attending the topping off ceremony at Hilltop Elementary School in Azle on Jan. 23 were Bill Lane, Amanda House, Kristi Phillips, Amy Rollmann, Todd Smith, Ray Lea, Alisa Johnson, Stephanie McNutt, Amy Yelle and Sarah Bennett. The school is set to open this fall. A topping off ceremony recognizes when a final beam is placed on a structure that is under construction.



PHOTO COURTESY AZLE ISD

Landrie Lain with her Reserve Grand Champion banner.

CHAMP

FROM PAGE A1

old. "It can be pretty nerve racking" says Landrie "Definitely when the top 5 come around." The way the competition pays out is there is one winner, and a runner up. What is called the "Reserve Champion". "It's extremely tough" said Landrie's father Scott "You either make it or you reserve". No matter what the contestants place, every animal that shows up will never see home again. Every animal presented goes off to an auction after. The winners are sent to the Sale of Champions that is held a week later where the animals are auctioned off to the highest bidder. This can be a hard moment for young breeders who say goodbye to the animals they raised. Landrie describes the experience as a "bittersweet feeling". Landrie says even though the competition and the results are always tough, she intends to continue raising champion lambs for competition until she graduates high school. She wants to use the money from her winnings to pay for her college tuition, setting her sights on TCU, or Texas A&M, where she intends to study Animal Science.

The Ranch Christian Cowboy Church



PHOTO COURTESY AZLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Azle Area Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting for The Ranch Christian Cowboy Church on January 26, 2023. Greg and Deborah Slankard have led the church for the past three years. The Ranch invites you to 'come as you are'.

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The Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas is accepting proposals for construction of 10 new homes in the Vega Land Subdivision

Deadline: Feb. 28, 2023 by 3 p.m.

Specifications: Purchasing@ktttribe.org or 830-773-2105

All proposals and scope of work will need to include materials, equipment, and labor for 10 new wood frame homes. Proposals must be received in a sealed envelope labeled: CONSTRUCTION OF 10 NEW HOMES IN THE VEGA LAND SUBDIVISION. A performance and payment bond will be required for this project. All proposals should be sent/delivered to: PURCHASING DEPARTMENT, Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas, Government Building, 2212 Rosita Valley Rd., Eagle Pass, Texas 78852

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Azle's Red Cup Solo Bash a big success



"I love the way the Azle community comes together to have fun and support our students, teachers, and schools through the Foundation."

MEG ARNOLD
Event Organizer

JIM STEVENS | AZLE NEWS
The annual Red Solo Cup fundraiser saw a large crowd come out on Jan. 28 to raise money for Azle Education Foundation's mission to support teachers and students through a variety of teaching tools and learning opportunities.

THE AZLE EDUCATION FOUNDATION

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Characters work out life issues on 'Porch'

BY DON MUNSCH
writer@azlenews.net

The setting of "The Front Porch" never strays from — no spoiler alert here — the front porch of the home of Charlie and Abby Foster. Life changes are seen through their lives, including parenthood, as they stand around or sit in the porch area. But some local theatergoers will likely be familiar with the story, as it debuted here at Popcorn Players in Azle in 2006. The play will begin its two-week run beginning Feb. 3 at the theater, located at 1012 SE Parkway. Director and writer Scott Nurmela, who also stars as the main character Charlie as he grows further into adulthood, said the play was born out of his desire to want to write. This show was his third effort in writing a play. With the anniversary of Azle

Arts this year, theater officials decided to perform three favorite plays and three new shows. "It was interesting — it was new for me to do," Nurmela said about writing. "I knew that this was something that (God) wanted me to do. It's not a Christian play, but it's a play written by a Christian." The story, a comedy-drama, centers on how Charlie buys a house in the middle part of the last century. "They meant to sell it and move on with their lives, but they end up spending their whole lives here in this house," Nurmela said. The story tracks the lives of Charlie and Abby over the decades, and the play was originally written so there could be three different people in the main roles as the characters age. Here, two characters play Charlie and Abby. Joshua Holden plays



James Kelly, Sarah Lee, Emily Ball and Joshua Holden perform a scene from "The Front Porch" during a rehearsal last week. The play kicks off a two-weekend run Friday at Popcorn Players in Azle.



Madison Keeley, playing Hannah, hugs Joshua Holden, who plays her dad Charlie, during a scene from "The Front Porch."

Charlie and Emily Ball plays Abby in the first two-thirds of the play, with Nurmela taking over the Charlie in the last one-third while Carol Braden portrays the older Abby in the final portion. In the beginning stages, they befriend their neighbors, who are already parents. Charlie and Abby are on the brink of having a family. On or around the front porch of the house, characters discuss their hopes and dreams along with engaging in conventional activities, such as a father and daughter tossing a baseball to each other (or trying to). Characters occasionally pray or talk to God, and on one occasion, characters share some neighborhood gossip. The setting is Anytown USA, and Nurmela took some inspiration out of his life

and put it in the play. He describes the story as an "emotional roller coaster." "Just when you think it's funny, it's sad; just when you think it's sad, it's funny," he said. Holden said Charlie is an "honest working man, someone who provides and puts his family first and the feelings of his wife first." The challenge with the show comes with a playing a younger version of the character also played by Nurmela, as Holden tries to imitate his accent and copy his speech patterns. "This show definitely has a lot of its hilarious moments, but it definitely hits you in some familiar places," he said. "It goes over grief, having ill family members and having a child. I think it has a little bit of something that everybody can relate to,

whether it be the funny characters — 'I have an uncle just like Ronald' — or it could be just the situations." Ball said her character is "very godly woman," someone she sees as "very sweet, innocent, very excited about life." She watched recordings of "The Front Porch" and has always loved this play and said it's her all-time favorite play — even compared to shows she has seen on Broadway. She thinks the play will prompt a number of emotions, from tears to comedy. "I think they can expect to find someone that they know in the show," she said. **CAST FOR "THE FRONT PORCH":** Milly Tidwell: Hannah Nurmela Young Ronald: James Kelly Young Charlie: Joshua

Holden Jr. Young Abby: Emily Ball Young Lilly: Sarah Lee Agitha: Rozanne Gann Young Hannah: Madison Keeley Dr. Adams: Jerry Hall Older Hannah: Jeana Henry Older Charlie: Scott Nurmela Older Abby: Carol Braden Older Ronald: Steve Sandfort Older Lilly: Gwen Gibbons Tommy: Jonathan Wright Richard: Dylan Raybourn Ida May: Cynthia Hall "The Front Porch" will be performed starting at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 3-4 and Feb. 11 and at 2:30 p.m. Feb. 5 and 12. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for military, seniors and students. Seats are \$10 for the Sunday matinee. For more information, access www.azlearts.org.

Cold snap in Texas



Temperatures plummeted below 26 degrees on Monday morning, Jan. 30. Road conditions deteriorated, as a wintry mix of sleet, freezing rain, small hail, and snow blew in. Azle ISD closed its doors Monday and Tuesday due to hazardous driving conditions. The district has not indicated whether they will be closed on Wednesday.

JIM STEVENS PHOTOGRAPHY

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Azle wrestling teams pin hopes on district tourney



JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS

Eileen Pisenakornkit, a freshman on varsity, winds up on the bottom in this melee.

JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

Hornet wrestlers attended weigh-in, made their weights, and were relaxing on the

padded floor inside the mat room at Azle High School.

Two hours remained before the dual meet Jan. 25 between Azle and Burleson Centennial. Wrestlers from

the boys and girls teams were scattered around the room, most of them sitting with their backs against a wall, eating snacks. Some stretched. One or two napped.

Sophomore Landin Evans reclined on his side, eating watermelon pieces from a plastic bowl using his fingers. His bottle of Gatorade was almost empty.

Watermelon and Gatorade boost Evans' energy after weigh-ins and increase his stamina during matches.

"It will refuel me," he said. "If I don't, I'll be super shaky

or just not energized. I try to get the right foods after weigh-ins. Watermelon has a lot of water in it and fills you

PLEASE SEE **HOPES** | B4

Grand gesture

Azle Christian's Camden Logan scores 1,000th career point

JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

Scoring his 1,000th career point on the varsity basketball team at Azle Christian prompted Camden Logan to react as he often does after doing something remarkable.

He smiled and continued about his business.

"He took it in stride," head coach Ryan Rollins said. "Didn't act any different really. Basic Camden style."

The Crusaders were on the road playing Elevate Prep. Logan's basket that put him over the 1,000 mark was an exciting one. The three-pointer beat the buzzer to end the first half.

"It was very important because it gave us momentum going into half," Rollins said.

Logan is the first player coached by Rollins to score 1,000.

"You don't see it very often," the coach said.

Logan, a senior, has been a four-year varsity player.

"The growth I have seen as a player and a person in the two years I have been here has been amazing," Rollins said. "I know you don't get these kinds of players or kids very often, so I enjoy coaching and just watching him. He is just an amazing kid."

Logan leads by example and sets a light tone when needed.

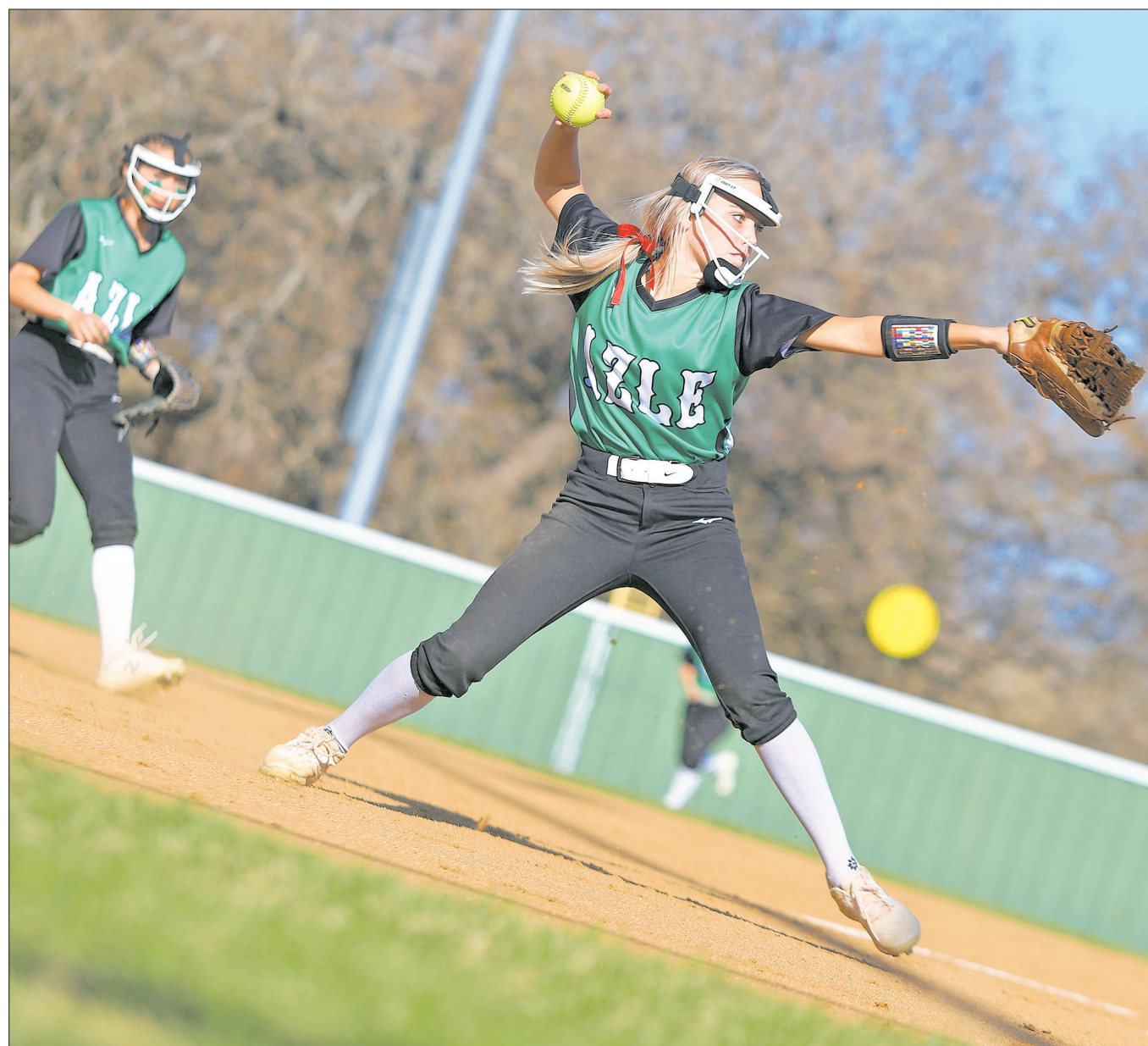
"He's always happy and loves his teammates, and they love him," the coach said.

Logan competes at the Class 1A private school but would be just as successful at a large school, the coach said.

"He gets double teamed every game and still averages 24 points," he said.

A college will "get them a good player in Camden Logan" one day soon, Rollins said.

And when that happens, Logan will most likely flash a smile and go about his business.



JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS

Casey Morrison earned all-district honorable mention as a Lady Hornet pitcher in 2022.

Azle softball girls seek return to playoffs

JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

Tryouts have been held. Rosters established. Goals set. Practices underway.

Azle softball is back in action, and senior Casey Morrison couldn't be happier. On Jan. 20, she and teammates ran, threw and fielded balls on a chilly day, winding down the first week of practices.

"Normally on your first week of practice, it's a little bumpy, but this week we've been doing really good," she said. "It's going to be a good season."

Morrison played varsity as a junior

last year. Now, she is one of just two seniors on the team. Many of the other varsity players are juniors who made the team as sophomores. Everyone expects to be more experienced in 2023.

"We had a really young team last year," Morrison said.

The team made the playoffs but lost in the first round. Things won't be any easier this season. District 5-5A was reconfigured, and the Hornets appear to be facing stiffer competition.

"It's a little bit tougher this year, but I still think we're going to pull through," Morrison said. "We are going to do better this year, but we did good last year, too. It's going to be an exciting year."



JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS

Casey Morrison relaxes for a moment during a recent softball practice.



JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS

Camden Logan broke the 1,000-point mark on a three-point shot to beat the buzzer at halftime against Elevate Prep.

SPORTS Roundup

JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

AZLE HIGH BOYS BASKETBALL

The Hornets were itching for payback against Justin Northwest, a district rival that beat them 55-50 when the two teams met for the first time this season, on Jan. 3.

Once again, the Hornets played with passion and came close to victory but fell just short, 41-39. The loss dropped Azle's district record to 3-5 and put the Hornets in fifth place — but still in contention for a playoff spot.

The loss came on the heels of a big victory for Azle, which beat Wichita Falls Rider 66-59 on Jan. 23. Gavin Dean led in scoring with 26, followed by Sawyer Dotson (16), Jackson Davis (8), Gunner Crow (6), Jayden Rollins and Colin Haas (4 apiece), and Josh Montelongo (2).

Azle is scheduled to play at 7 p.m. Friday at Aledo in another district dustup.

AZLE HIGH BASKETBALL GIRLS

The Lady Hornets continue to battle injuries while playing hard-nosed basketball.

On Jan. 20, Azle lost its third straight district game despite a strong performance. Azle took on Granbury, fought hard for four quarters, and came up short, 56-50.

Among the injured Lady Hornets is senior point guard and team leader Karlee Locke, although her sister, Kendall Locke, continues to propel the team forward. Kendall Locke scored 11 points

against Granbury. Brittany Cato led the Lady Hornets in scoring with 16 points. Cheryl Grubbs led in rebounds with 8.

Azle plays at 6:15 p.m. Jan. 27 at Northwest in another district clash. The Lady Hornets are fighting for a playoff spot and return for a home game Jan. 31 against Saginaw.

AZLE HIGH SWIMMING

Azle swimmers are preparing to compete in the upcoming regional meet. Swimmers in six individual events and four relay teams qualified to compete at the regional meet Feb. 3-4 at Mansfield.

Swimmers who advanced to regionals include Phoebe Mosley, Steven Manley, Kalen McCullough, Gianna Schroeder, Hailey Fox, Karla Rodriguez, Brooke Nowakowski, Kaylee Willey, Haven Brown, Trystin Ellis, Isaiah Shelton, Joshua Weideman, Isaiah Nunn, Joshua Carmona, Emory Hann and Laci Clark.

AZLE HIGH GIRLS POWERLIFTING

The Lady Hornet powerlifters won plenty of hardware and set personal records at their meet with Brock on Jan. 25.

"The most exciting part is there is a good mix of upper and lower classmen," said head coach Tanner Street. "I'm excited to see how the rest of the year pans out."

AZLE HIGH BOYS POWERLIFTING

The Azle boys lifted with such power at a recent meet in Saginaw, they won the championship, and two Hornets won the best lifter

honors.

Best Lifter 114-181 Pounds went to Denim Fields. Best Lifter 198-Super Heavy Weight was Case Moore.

AZLE JUNIOR HIGH GIRLS BASKETBALL

On Jan. 26, the eighth grade A Team girls faced off against a tough, physical Chisholm team that "tested our limits," Azle head coach Misty Merck said.

Final score: Azle 32, Chisholm 25.

Despite Chisholm running a zone, Khloe Warner was able to drive to the basket for 15 points. Bella Tipton dominated the boards and scored 6 points, followed by Taylor Merrill and Rachel Harder with 4 apiece, Gracie Lou Hennessy with 2, and Ellie Yelle with 1.

The win was important toward helping with Azle's seeding in the A Team tournament.

"Congratulations, team," Merck said. "Proud of the effort every game."

The seventh grade A Team played an exciting brand of basketball against Chisholm Middle School.

"It took everyone on the team to make this win happen," head coach Neosha Beach said. "Girls played very hard. Everyone did their job." She liked how her girls began looking downcourt and passing the ball around, looking for the open person to score.

"Our team came together, helping each other on defense," Beach said. "We played as a team."

Final score: Azle 33, Chisholm 21.

Scorers for Azle included Yurehime Villagomez (12



JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS

Sawyer Dotson and the Azle Hornets battle the Bearcats in Aledo on Friday.

points), Rylie Brekel (7), and Ella Booten, Angel Sifuentes, Makannah Landon, Finley Hard, Carly Mobley, Madison Holleman, and Lydia Leonard with 2 points apiece.

On Feb. 1, Azle will play Forte in the final regular season game.

FORTE JUNIOR HIGH GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Lady Hornets seventh grade Green Team started slowly against Irma Marsh in the first half on Jan. 26. In the second half, Shayla Soto and Paige Harvey stepped up and

showed excellent teamwork to bring the win home. Kelly Gomez and Zaela Goodman also helped by putting points on the board.

Final score: Forte 28, Irma Marsh 19.

The seventh grade White Team also beat Irma Marsh after a near-flawless defensive effort. The Irma Marsh girls were scrappy, but the Lady Hornets kept their composure and held the opposition scoreless in the second half while drawing only 4 team fouls to Irma's 17.

Forte's Jonlyn Meissner and Patience Seals led all scorers with 6 points each. Bella Dewveall, Belle Edwards, Sarai Silva and Kimree Johnston also contributed with points on the board. Ryan Hance was a hustle machine, dominating in the paint on defense. Ximena Acosta had four big rebounds, and Charlee Ingram nabbed five steals.

Final score: Fore 26, Irma Marsh 9.

The eighth grade Green Team was also a force to contend with, beating Irma Marsh 25-13. The Lady Hornets clicked as a team and applied pressure all over the court, logging 15 steals. Destoney Roper made her first 3-point shot and scored 9 points on the night. Brianna Ramirez had 5 points and 5 steals. Audrey Hood put 6 points on the board and grabbed 6 rebounds. Chole Jackson had a last-second buzzer beater and a total of 4 points.

The eighth grade White Team came up short against Irma Marsh, losing 11-6. Hayden Jones led the team with six baskets.



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Kendall Locke plows through Northwest to lead the Lady Hornets in scoring and rebounds.



Sarae Perez and Melanie Harder jockey for position with a Granbury player.

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TEACHING WITH LOVE

Azle soccer teams play hard, salute favorite educators

JEFF PRINCE
Jeff@azlenews.net

The start of district matches for Azle soccer boys and girls provided back-to-back games filled with excitement, drama and poignancy.

On Jan. 27, Azle faced Granbury to kick off the District 5-5A regular season. The girls played first, and they lit up the scoreboard first.

Midway through the first half, Rebecca Marx made an incredible penalty kick that sailed 30 yards past a slew of defenders to burrow into the net for a goal. Azle held

its 1-0 lead until late in the second half, when Granbury scored two goals in rapid succession.

With three minutes remaining on the clock, head coach Hannah Smith encouraged her girls to keep playing hard, and they did but couldn't close the gap.

Final score: Granbury 2, Azle 1.

The boys team was set to play next. First, however, players on the girls and boys teams celebrated Teacher Night. One by one, each Hornet and Lady Hornet walked onto the field escorting teachers they chose as

their favorites.

Johannes Heid, a junior, was hampered by a sprained ankle and unable to play soccer against Granbury. Still, he hobbled onto the field with a soft cast on his leg to stand alongside assistant football coach Jason Vines.

Heid served as field goal kicker for the Hornet football team, and Vines was his specialty coach.

"I picked Coach Vines because he helped me so much during the football season," Heid said. "He supported me the whole time."

Heid kicked a 47-yard field goal in a game and cred-



Eva Solorzano escorts Brenda Marlett on Teacher Night.

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Soccer goalkeeper Dylan Dorris hopes to hold all teams scoreless.

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ited Vines with believing in him and giving him the opportunity.

"He showed me that he trusted me to do it," Heid said. "The whole sideline was going crazy."

Vines learned he'd been picked as Heid's favorite teacher after receiving notification from soccer coach Diego Oliveros.

"It was a really cool moment," Vines said.

The coach became close with Heid, who had a powerful leg but was new to football.

"He'd never played before," Vines said. "He learned really quick. He is a hard worker. He was easy to coach because he is a really good kid."

Heid can also kick a football a "very long way," Vines said.

The coach was humbled by the recognition.

"He is a really good athlete, and he's an even better person," Vines said. "He has al-

ways got a smile on his face, always helping people, and he is a really good teammate. He is all those things and more."

Lady Hornet Eva Solorzano selected her financial math teacher Brenda Marlett as her favorite. Solorzano attended the class during her first year at high school and admired Marlett's classroom style.

"She has been such a positive influence," the junior said. "I had her freshman year, but even after all these years, she's still my favorite teacher. She is such a good person, and she's so funny. She really instilled this passion for math. That's saying something because I hate math, but I love her."

Did Solorzano really develop a passion for math?

"Not really," she said, laughing. "I'm just saying that because she is here, but I love her so much."

Marlett laughed. "She is just a great kid," the

teacher said. "I like that she likes me, because I love her."

After the ceremony, the fans in the stands were treated to another hard-fought game. The Hornets fought the Pirates to a draw with the help of strong defense from the back line and stingy goalkeeping by Dylan Dorris, including stopping a penalty kick in a shootout.

The game ended 0-0.

Afterward, head coach Diego Oliveros expressed pride in his team's effort.

"We didn't get the result we wanted, but the team showed plenty of great offensive moments and was solid in the back," he said. "A tie gives us a point and something to build on for the next games."

Heid is looking forward to healing his ankle and returning with his teammates to the pitch.

"We will do really good this season," he said. "We have a very good team."

HOPES

FROM PAGE B1

with electrolytes. Gatorade has a lot of electrolytes, too.”
 Evans loses several pounds each week leading up to weigh-ins.
 He wrestles at 126 pounds, but his normal weight is about 130.
 One other thing. He is tough as nails.
 On Jan. 20-21, the Hornets wrestled against the best teams in the state at the Texas High School Wrestling Coaches Association State Dual Championships. Evans was one of just three Hornets who won all five of his matches.
 One of the other wrestlers who accomplished the undefeated feat was Evan’s older brother, senior Dominick Evans, who won a state title in Oregon as a sophomore.
 Landin Evans began wrestling at a young age, and his advanced skills helped

him land a varsity spot as a freshman in 2022. He earned second place at district and fifth at regionals and narrowly missed competing at the state meet. Only the top four regional finalists in each weight class qualified to wrestle at the state meet. Evans attended the tournament as an alternate but didn’t wrestle since the four athletes ahead of him all made weight.
 “This year, I want to make it to state and get on the podium,” he said.
 The season began slowly for Evans, who lost a couple of matches in early January. The losses spurred him to practice harder.
 “I’ve gotten a lot better and improved since then,” he said. “I haven’t lost in a little bit, so I hope to keep that going.”
 Two hours later, he wrestled his Burleson Centennial opponent and won with ease. The dual with Centennial served as the final tourna-


ment of the regular season. Azle won big, giving the Hornets a boost of confidence.
 The Hornets finished with 66 points compared to Centennial’s 18. The fun occurred on Senior Night, and all the seniors who wrestled won their matches.
 Head coach Tyler Harrison described the tourney as a “good night for the good guys” and thanked the parents of seniors for “raising leaders and great kids.”
 On Feb. 2-3, Azle will host the district championship at the Hornet gym. Wrestling is set to start at 2 p.m. Feb. 2 and at 10 a.m. Feb. 3.
 On Feb. 10-11, Azle wrestlers will travel to West Texas A&M University in Canyon for the regional tourney.
 Then, on Feb. 17-18, wrestlers who qualified at regionals for the Class 5A state meet will head to Berry Center in Cypress to determine the top grapplers in Texas.

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Right: Landin Evans raises his arm in victory.
 Below: Landin Evans puts his Centennial opponent on the ground.
 Below right: Annabelle Davis wins again, like she has numerous times this season.





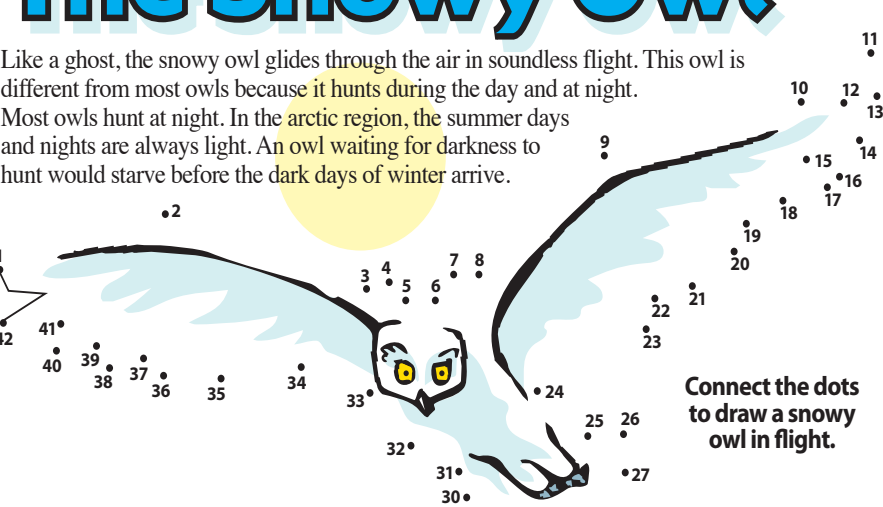
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The Snowy Owl

Like a ghost, the snowy owl glides through the air in soundless flight. This owl is different from most owls because it hunts during the day and at night. Most owls hunt at night. In the arctic region, the summer days and nights are always light. An owl waiting for darkness to hunt would starve before the dark days of winter arrive.



Connect the dots to draw a snowy owl in flight.

How big is a snowy owl?

The snowy owl is one of the largest owls, with a height of about 27 inches (69 cm) and a wingspan of up to 60 inches (152 cm). Wingspan is the measurement from wing tip to wing tip, when the wings are fully stretched.

Microwave oven	25 inches (63.5 cm)
Teacher's desk	40 inches (102 cm)
House cat	25 inches (63.5 cm)
Baseball bat	33 inches (84 cm)
Tennis Racket	27 inches (69 cm)
Small car (width)	67 inches (170 cm)

How many of the things in this chart could fit into a snowy owl's wingspan?

Measure 60 inches (152 cm) on the floor. Now lie down with your arms outstretched along the line. Measure your outstretched arms. How do you compare?

Standards Link: Measurement: Students compare the length of objects by using direct comparison of standard units.

Why White?

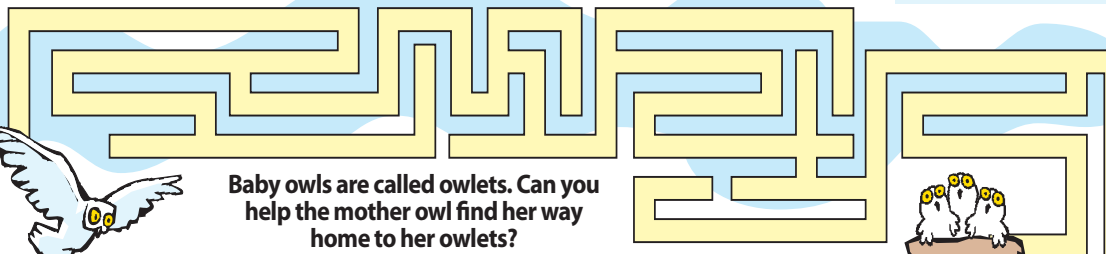
Many animals can blend into their environment. This is called camouflage. There are few trees on the tundra, so the snowy owl's white plumage blends with the snowy world of the northern arctic.

In the spring, when the snowy owl makes a nest, the snow has started to melt and the brown earth shows through patches of white snow. The female snowy owl's soft white feathers are streaked with brown so she cannot be seen as she nests on the ground.

Here are three other animals that blend into their habitats, or homes. Can you unscramble their names?

POLEDAR
REDE
EGIRT


Standards Link: Life Science: Animals have external features that help them thrive in the different environments they inhabit.



Baby owls are called owlets. Can you help the mother owl find her way home to her owlets?

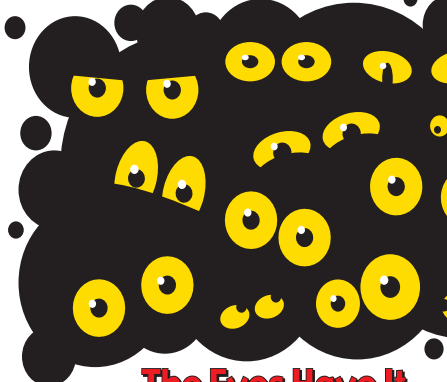
Owl Eyes

All owls have excellent sight so that they can spot creatures like mice that run fast along the ground. Owls' eyes are not the same as human eyes. We move our eyes in their sockets to see from side to side. The owl must turn his head to see in different directions. Owls also have a third eyelid, which protects the eye.



It is a milky white eyelid that comes up from the bottom of the eye. Its purpose is to clean and refresh the owl's eyes. This third eyelid is called a **nictitating membrane**.

Standards Link: Life Science: Adaptations in physical structures improve an animal's chance for survival.



Extra! Extra!

Count the Eyes

Look through the newspaper and count the number of eyes that you find. How many are human eyes? How many are the eyes of other animals?

Standards Link: Number Sense: Count and name a number of objects.

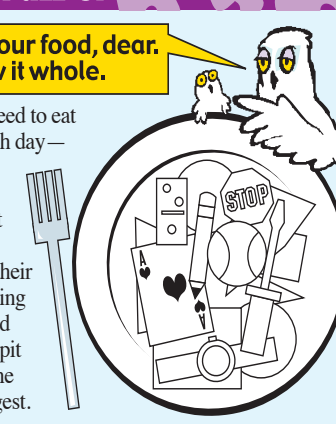
The Eyes Have It

The snowy owl has round, yellow eyes. Can you find the pair of eyes that match?

Standard Links: Visual Discrimination: Students compare and sort common objects.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Don't chew your food, dear. Swallow it whole.



The snowy owls need to eat a huge amount each day—enough to equal their own body weight. They don't chew their food—they just swallow their prey whole, including fur, claws, teeth and bones. Then they spit out a pellet of all the parts they can't digest.

What silly things can you find on this owl's dinner plate?

Standards Link: Life Science: Animals need food for survival and have physical structures to help them survive.

Double Double Word Search


Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

SNOWY	Y L O W G P S A B P
OWL	M E M T O W R O D M
WINGSPAN	E T H G I S N E L E
MEMBRANE	G T O B L E N D Y M
DIGEST	A N A P S G N I W B
BONES	M U P O S B L G O R
COUNT	U O C H E W R E N A
TUNDRA	L C T S O H G S S N
SPOT	P C A R D N U T W E
SIGHT	
CHEW	
PREY	
BLEND	
GHOST	
PLUMAGE	

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


Kid Scoop FIT & FUN

Try these exercises to have fun and exercise the owl way!




Fly like an owl.

Stretch your arms wide apart and swoop around outdoors.



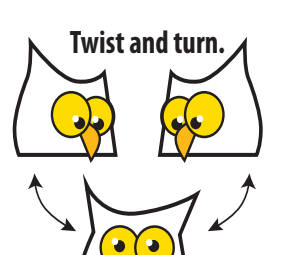
Perch like an owl.

Squat down like you are sitting on a tree branch watching for mice on the ground. Fold your arms into wings with your thumbs in your armpits. How long can you stay in this position?



Hop like an owl.

Start in the perch position. Then hop to the right, hop to the left, hop forward, hop backward.



Twist and turn.

While sitting in the perched position, turn your head as far to the right as you can. Then turn your head as far left as possible.


Standards Link: Physical Education: Understand the health benefits of physical activity and exercise.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY


Create Camouflage

Choose a picture in the newspaper. Cut out a circle of white paper that fits over one-third of the picture. Color the white circle to match the picture underneath. This is camouflage.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple multiple-step directions.



Write On!



Animal Report

Write a paragraph reporting on your favorite animal. Include at least three facts about this animal.

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Advertise Your Business With Us and maximize your visibility! Contact us about advertising solutions. 817-270-3340 817-220-7217

CLASSIFIED 817-270-3340 - Azle - 817-220-7217 - Springtown -

kimmy@azlenews.net

Ad Classifications

1... Air Condition/Heating	24..... Electrician	46..... Looking to Buy	69..... Sand/Gravel
2..... Antiques	25..... Equipment & Tool Rental	47..... Lost & Found	70..... Septic Tanks
3..... Appliances	26..... Excavating	48..... Maintenance/Repairs	71..... Sewing/Alterations
4..... Appliance Repair	27..... Exterminating	49..... Masonry/Stonework	72..... Sewer Service
5..... Arts/Crafts	28..... Farm Equipment	50..... Mobile Home Service	73..... TV/Radio
6..... Asphalt Paving	29..... Fencing	51..... Motorcycles	74..... Tractor Service
7..... Auctions	30..... Firewood	52..... Movers	75..... Upholstery
8..... Autos, Trucks	31..... Free For Sale	53..... Musical Instruments	76..... Vacuum Cleaners
9..... Auto Repair Service	32..... Furniture	54..... Music Lessons	77..... Wanted
10..... Backhoe Service	33..... Garage & Estate Sales	55..... Miscellaneous	78..... Well Drilling
11..... Boats, Motors	34..... Garden/Mowing Svc	56 Party Planning/Events	79..... Welding
12..... Bookkeeping	35..... Hauling	57..... Pets/Livestock	80..... Lots/Acreage
13..... Business Opportunity	36..... Hay	58..... Piano Service	81..... Business & Commercial Property
14..... Campers/Trailers	37..... Health/Fitness	59..... Pool Service	82..... RV's for Rent
15..... Carports/Patios	38..... Help Wanted	60..... Professional Services	83..... Houses for Sale
16..... Equipment Repair	39..... Home Improvement	61..... Personal	84..... Mobile Homes for Rent
17..... Carpet Service	40..... House Leveling	62..... Plumbing	85..... Mobile Homes for Sale
18..... Catering	41..... House Cleaning	63..... Public Notice	86..... Mobile Home/RV Lots
19..... Cement Work	42..... Hunting	64..... Photography	87..... Rent Furnished
20..... Demolition	43..... Janitorial Service	65..... Printing	88..... Rent Unfurnished
21..... Child Care	44..... Job Wanted	66..... Roofing	89..... Wanted to Rent
22..... Cosmetics		67..... Recycling	
23..... Computers/Services		68..... Storage	

RATES

16 Words or Less:
Combo (Azle & Springtown)
Only \$10.00 per week!

Over 16 words, add 20 cents per word
Extras such as Bold, Center & Border are available for a small fee

Classified boxed display ads also available for \$9.00 per column inch

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

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE: 1:00 PM FRIDAY

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



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

Nobody does it better!

006 Asphalt Paving
BYRUM CONSTRUCTION
Asphalt Paving
• Driveways • Parking Lots
• Asphalt Repairs & Sealcoating
• Asphalt Millings • Gravel
Bruce Byrum
Azle, Texas 817-690-2429

Rescue your Ballerina from the Shelter and give her a Furever Home

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

037 Hay
SPRIGGING
5 COUNTIES:
Jack, Wise, Tarrant, Parker, Montague
COASTAL OR TIFTON
52 years Experience
940-229-1045
or 940-229-1046

039 Help Wanted
LINDSEY STATE JAIL CURRENT OPENINGS
Correctional Officers • Assistant Foodservice Manager
Education Counselor • Academic Instructor
Human Resource Supervisor
Assistant Maintenance Supervisor - Electrician
PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR JOB QUALIFICATIONS.
A New Correctional Officer Pay Increase will be as follows - Starting pay will be \$18.00 dollars per hour. After Six months' there will be a pay increase to \$19.00 per hour and at one year there will be another pay increase to \$20.00 per hour. Must have HS Diploma or equivalent, be able to pass a drug screen, have a clean background, and valid driver's license to be considered for a Correctional Officer.
Apply online at www.mtctrains.com or call 940-567-2272 and ask for the HR Department.
Management & Training Corporation is an Equal Opportunity Employer: Minority/Female/Veteran/Disabled

009 Auto Repair Service
Rainwater's
Transmission & Auto Repair
COMPETITIVE PRICING
TRANSMISSION • BRAKES • A/C
ENGINE SERVICE • WRITTEN ESTIMATES
FREE TOW & FREE DIAGNOSTIC
201 E. Hwy. 199, Springtown
LOCALLY & FAMILY OWNED!
Accepting all credit cards
882-615-7250
817-766-3852

034 Garage & Estate Sales
Estate Sale
12258 Trails End, Azle. Indoors, Saturday & Sunday February 4th & 5th.

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

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

KARL KLEMENT
LUBE TECH
Experience a plus, but willing to train the right person. Must have valid TXDL with acceptable driving record. Must be responsible and dependable. Monday thru Friday work week
BODY SHOP PORTER
Performs duties throughout the Body Shop. Must be responsible, dependable and have a valid TXDL. Monday to Friday work week.
CUSTODIAN
Performs custodial tasks throughout the building. Position can be full-time or part-time
PORTER/MAKE-READY ASSOCIATE
Duties include, but are not limited to cleaning vehicles, running errands, test driving vehicles, receiving, arranging and maintaining the appearance of vehicles and ensuring the orderliness of the lot. Monday through Friday; No weekends!
JUNIOR BODY SHOP ESTIMATOR TRAINEE
Our Team offers impeccable service to the people we serve. Our employees, our customers, and our community are our most valuable assets. As a Junior Estimator, you will learn and participate in developing a proper repair plan for each vehicle; prepare estimates in accordance with Insurance Partners and Company guidelines; maintain and execute timely schedules before, during, and after repair completion; and communicate timely and efficiently with Customers, Partners, and Vendors.
Candidates must have excellent communication & customer service skills with a positive and friendly attitude. Basic computer proficiency with the ability to learn new technology, repair and service procedures.

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

KLEMENT DISTRIBUTION, INC.
(Hershey Ice Cream Distributor)
Route Driver
No CDL required, but must have valid TXDL with acceptable driving record. Monday through Friday with Flexible time-off schedules, often 3-day weekends during summer months. Fun work environment! Promote from within advancement opportunities.
\$1,000.00 SIGN ON BONUS

Karl Klement Properties, Inc.
No Positions Available at this Time
For consideration of all positions apply in person:
605 N. Business 287, Suite 102, Decatur, Texas
OR CALL Human Resources Dept:
Jodi Pettis or Lara Lancaster
@ 940-627-6362 | hr.info@klementford.com
All full-time positions offer growth opportunities & a full benefits package including Medical, Dental, Vision, Life, 401(k) & more. EEOC Klement Distribution, Inc.

017 Carpet Service
Alexander Carpet Care
INSURED
817-914-2822
CARPET CLEANING

024 Electrician
E-Conn Electric
Service, Remodel, New Construction
Insured/BBB Accredited
817-615-7164
Customer Satisfaction is our Goal!
C/J ACCEPTED TECL20470

019 Cement Work
Allen Chesney Concrete
All Types of Concrete Work
Residential - Commercial
Foundations, driveways, sand, gravel, demolition, haul-off, retaining walls
817-271-4541

026 Excavating
REED EXCAVATING
• SITE PREPARATION • GRAVEL ROADS
• LOT CLEARING • PARKING LOTS
• LEVELING • DEMOLITION
• FINAL GRADE • STOCK TANKS
• LAND EROSION
Dump Truck Hauling 817-919-3696

035 Garden/Mowing Service
McDowell Lawn Service
Mowing, edging, flower beds, fertilizer, tree trimming, residential or business. Weekly or bi-weekly.
817-437-9100

Kiley Chesney Construction
Dirt & Concrete Work
Driveways • House Slabs • Garages • Add-ons
Small Land Clean-ups • Gravel Driveways
Kiley Chesney, Owner
Springtown, TX • Mobile 817-846-6645

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

LEON'S TREE SERVICE
Expert take downs
Stump Grinding
Residential/Commercial
Licensed & Insured • Free Estimates
817-371-8597

020 Demolition
MCNEELY'S DEMOLITION & CLEAN UP SERVICE
We Create Vacancy
• Tear Down • Barns
• Removal • Houses
• Haul Off • Bobcat
• Mobile Service
Homes • Dirt/Gravel
• Garages Spreading
FREE ESTIMATES
817-996-7887
253 Eagles Way, Springtown

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

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

IRRIGATION REPAIR
Residential/Commercial
License# LI007825
\$85 Service Call
OUTDOOR SCENE
682-553-1560

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

STUMP GRINDING
Don't dig it! Grind it!
1 or 100 - We can do it.
\$85 minimum within 5 mi.
817-237-5592

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

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

Advertising Works!

Chad's Tree Service
Trimming • Removals • Stump Grinding
Systemic Feeding • Brush Chipping • Cable Bracing
817-221-2201 • 817-246-5943
817-800-6059 CELL
Insured for your protection
FREE ESTIMATES

Find that Perfect Vehicle for you and your buddy in the Classifieds.
OR
You can Sell your Auto in the same section.
Call 817-270-3340 for more info on our
3-Month Special Only \$29.95

SELL IT IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

817-270-3340 - AZLE
817-220-7217 - SPRINGTOWN

Deadline:
 1:00 PM FRIDAY

Classifieds

040 Home Improvement
BILL ROSSER PAINTING & REMODELING. Big Savings: \$100 off any job of \$1,000 or more. Painting, Carpentry, Porch Covers, Decks. FREE ESTIMATES. Call 817-304-9974; 866-374-3559.
 PYRAMID REMODELING. PAINTING: Interior, Exterior, Tape & Bed, Texture, Popcorn Ceilings. FREE ESTIMATES. 817-944-7658.
BOBBY MCWILLIAMS PAINTING 817-821-6377. Interior/Exterior Painting Residential & New Homes. 50 years experience.

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

057 Pets/Livestock
 Will pay top dollar for grazing and hay leases. Call 940-389-1936.

HORSE SALE
February 3, 2023
 Tack Sale Begins at 6:00 PM
 Horses Follow
 Stephenville Cattle Co.
 Highway 281 North • Stephenville, TX
 Troy 254-967-1950 • Barn 254-968-4844

066 Roofing
Miles Roofing
 • Insurance Claim Specialists;
 • Free Estimates
817-797-3420

068 Storage
 INNERSPACE STORAGE. Hwy 199, Springtown. Now renting all unit sizes, 24-hour access. 682-842-1414.

STORAGE SPECIAL
 10X10 \$60/MONTH-NO DEPOSIT
 1350 LIBERTY SCHOOL RD, AZLE
 5X10 \$45/MONTH \$20/DEPOSIT
817-246-4646

079 Welding

SOLID STEEL SOLUTIONS
 • Metal Buildings • Fabrication Supplies
 • Steel Components • Pipe Fencing
 • Welding Supplies • Deer Blinds
 • Concrete Supplies • Deer Feeders
8894 W Hwy 199 • Springtown
817-220-0008
www.SolidSS.com **Open to the Public**



Don't Break The Poor Little Piggy!
 Find the money you need in our Classified Section today!
 16 words for \$10

Kevin's Handyman Services
 40 Years Experience

 • Carpentry
 • Drywall & Painting
 • Tile & Laminate Floors
 • Doors & Windows
 • Decks & Stairs
 • Cabinets & Countertops
 • No Job Too Small
 Springtown and Surrounding Areas
231-445-1221

062 Plumbing
GRAHAM PLUMBING CO.

 Commercial-Residential
 Serving Springtown,
 Azle, Boyd,
 Weatherford Area
 M#15899
817-220-2469
 grahamplumbingco.com

Ash Creek Storage
 Convenient Location
 Corner of Main St. & Locust • Azle
817-444-3292

088 Rent Unfurnished
AZLE OAKS APARTMENT
 700 JARVIS • AZLE
 817-444-1712
1 & 2 Bedroom Unfurnished
 Accepting Applications
 Rent based on income
 TDD: 800-735-2989
 This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

069 Sand/Gravel
 HALL'S SAND, DIRT & GRAVEL
 Quality Family Business Since 1938
 CALL Cliff Hall
(817) 221-2681
 We go the extra mile to ensure you get more for your \$.
 On House Pads, Driveways, Lot Clearing & Tractor Work, Etc.

079 Welding
WDC
 WELD-DONE CONSTRUCTION LTD.
Metal Building Erectors
 • Pre-engineered Weld-up
 • Barns/Shops
 • Arenas/Hangars
 • Fencing
 1220 E. Hwy. 199 • Springtown
817-220-2150
 www.weld-done.net

GENE THOMPSON & ASSOCIATES HOMES and MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT
 gtax.com
817-246-4646

Devin's Handyman Service
 • Carpentry • Insulation
 • Cement • Kitchen/Bath
 • Rock • Roof & Gutters
 • Tile • Powerwashing
 • Painting • Decks
 • Siding
 WINTER SPECIAL 20% OFF with this ad!
Call Devin at 817-629-9608

079 Welding
 Our Business is Metal Buildings - And We're Good!
 DESIGN FABRICATION ERECTION
Cozart METAL BUILDING SYSTEMS
 Fabrication and erection of quality metal buildings at reasonable prices, any size - any design
 Office **817-237-2282**
 Fax 817-237-0904
 Mark Cozart Jeremy Cozart
 817-233-6668 817-237-2028

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

082 RV's for Rent
 Nice 1BR RV in adult RV park. Great for older person on limited income. Starts at \$550/mo. All Bills Paid. Heritage RV Park 817-444-3760.

084 Mobile Homes for Rent
 Pelican Bay: 1941 Gale Dr. 2-2 central heat & air, stove only. \$795/mo \$400/dep, owner/broker 817-988-9954.

086 Mobile Home/RV Lots
POJO RV PARK
 302 Allison Road Springtown, TX 76082
817-925-3673
30x60 RV Spaces Available
 One small inside pet allowed
 NEAR POJO STADIUM

MOVING SALE
 Raise some extra money through the Classifieds to help with that move.
16 words for only \$10
 Azle News 817-270-3340 & Springtown Epigraph 817-220-7217
 Hometown Papers!

046 Looking to Buy
LOCAL BUYER JIMMY DAN
 • Used/Damaged Campers
 • Motorhomes
 • Farm Equipment
 • Trucks And Trailers
 • Horse Trailers
 • Boats
 • Golf Carts
 • Propane Tanks
 • Fork Lifts
 • Heavy Equipment
 • ATVs • Misc.
817-629-7531

062 Plumbing
LANDERS Plumbing Co.
940-233-2862
 M-10078

066 Roofing
AT HOME ROOFING & METAL BUILDINGS
817-304-4224
 Tired of always replacing your roof? Call us for a metal roof quote.
 We'll be here after the storm.

owner Rodney Vick
 817-220-3044
 fax 817-523-7639
 cell 817-253-1614
R & E Construction
 Metal Building Specialist
 • Weld Ups/ Bolt Ups
 • Pipe Fencing
 • Concrete
 • Horse Barns
 • All Types Fencing
 • Metal Roofs
 Compare Pricing
 NO JOB TOO SMALL

049 Masonry/Stonework
 AZLE, TX
Silva Masonry, L.L.C.
CONCRETE
 COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL
 Landscape Designs, Outdoor Kitchens
 Patios, Retaining Walls, Mailboxes
 All Types Stone & Brick Work Free
 New Construction • Remodels Estimates
817-308-6512
 email alvarogsilva@verizon.net

051 Motorcycles

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

DIAMOND ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION

 Commercial & Residential
 • Roofing
 • Metal Roofing
 • Carports
 • Metal Buildings
 • All General Contracting
417 N. MAIN ST • SPRINGTOWN
817-523-4137
 Here Before The Storm, Here Long After.

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

088 Rent Unfurnished
 3-2 Duplex for Rent in Springtown. \$1,200/mo. \$600 deposit, no pets. 817-980-3066.

1904 CORAL RD
 2-1-1 \$1,195 MO. \$1,000 DEP.
 1532 CORAL CUT OFF
 3-1-1 \$1,195 MO. \$800 DEP.
 1920 PELICAN DR. N.
 3-2-1 \$1,495.MO \$1,000 DEP.
 Gene Thompson & Associates
 817-246-4646 gtax.com

GARAGE SALE
 16 words for only \$10.
 A great way to raise extra money! Call today for more info.
 Azle News 817-270-3340
 Springtown Epigraph
 817-220-7217

3 Month Special

 Private Party & Dealer Vehicle Ads
 Autos, RV's, Tractors, Campers, Motorcycles, Trailers, etc.
 and your ad gets the pertinent info, a picture, a border and runs in the Azle News and Springtown Epigraph Classifieds for 3 months!
Want To Sell Your Boat, Auto, Trailer, Motorcycle, RV Or Other Vehicle?
 Call for more info. Azle News 817-270-3340
 Springtown Epigraph 817-220-7217

EXPERIENCED ROOFING SPECIALIST
 FREE ROOF INSPECTIONS
 Insurance Claims, Licensed Local Business 34 Yrs
ECE CONSTRUCTION LLC
 cell 817-615-7164 | office 817-831-2600

Advertising Works!

817-270-3340 - AZLE
817-220-7217 - SPRINGTOWN

Deadline:
 1:00 PM FRIDAY

Classifieds

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
 Copyright 2023 by Orbison Bros.

ACROSS

1 TXism: "___ pill to swallow"

5 Valley medicinal plant

6 TX Welchel of "Facts of Life"

7 Harris of Texas-based "Alamo Bay" network of "Austin City Limits"

9 this magazine has called Luby's "the best little hash house in Texas"

15 Brenham's ___ Bell ice cream

16 inlet just north of the Yellow Sea (2 wds.)

18 Texas pests (2 wds.)

20 Robert Lee is the seat of this county

21 TX Jerry "Count Jackson" ___ of "Boogie Kings"

26 TXism: "commits matrimony"

27 Texas recipes blog: "___ to Bake"

29 this Davis was 14th governor of Texas

30 window shelters

32 Andrews is named for this Texas Revolution hero (init.)

33 TXism: "loose ___"

36 TXism: "takes a big ___ to rope him" (obese)

37 Gov. Richards

38 Davy advice: "Be sure you're right, ___ ahead"

39 said of Rudolph's nose (2 wds.)

41 sleep in? (2 wds.)

44 in Red River County on U.S. 82

45 TXism: "he could strut sitting down" (big ___)

46 this Diane was "Lorena" in "Lonesome Dove"

47 cowboy's bath night (abbr.)

48 Jewish language

DOWN

1 TX singer Ketchum

2 boxer Muhammad

3 in Falls County on U.S. 77

4 TXism: "he was around when the ___ sick" (old)

8 "Metro ___" (DFW)

9 Texas state stone: wood

10 TXism: "got knocked down a peg ___ two"

11 this Texan was NBC "Tarzan" (init.)

12 wall protection behind stove or countertop

13 fancy word for "black" for Pete's ___

14 uncompleted span: "nowhere"

16 was a Palestine FM

17 one who desires

19 Boerne had the "Kid ___ Fiber Fair"

21 TX A.J. Foyt won at ___ Mans in 1967

22 "in the year of our Lord" (abbr.)

23 country entertainment org.

24 TXism: "___ up some grub" (prepare a meal)

25 TXism: "ugly as a wart ___"

27 excited

28 first Cowboy QB: "___" Don

31 used car offer: "We tote the ___"

34 TXism: "___-horse town" (small town)

35 TX Smith who won gold in vault with bamboo pole (init.)

37 TXism: "does ___ dog stink?" (yes)

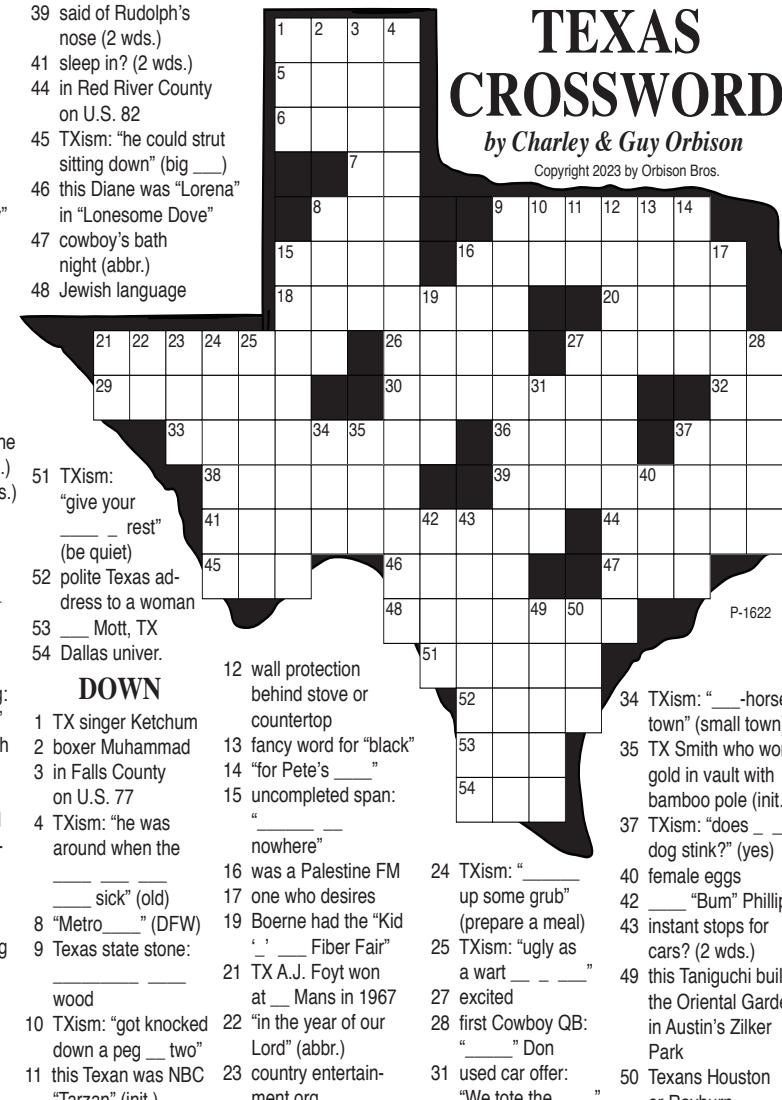
40 female eggs

42 "___ Bum" Phillips

43 instant stops for cars? (2 wds.)

49 this Taniguchi built the Oriental Garden in Austin's Zilker Park

50 Texans Houston or Rayburn




Need to sell your ATV?
 Call today and ask about our **\$29.95 3-MONTH SPECIAL!**

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

REAL ESTATE
 Real Estate Deadline Monday by 12:00 PM
817-270-3340

NATIONAL HOME BUYERS LLC
 Sell or lease your house in 7 days to stop foreclosure. We look at all, any condition.
901-417-9423
 www.NHBFORECLOSURE.COM

Have a house for sale?
 Advertise it in the classifieds!

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK

TexSCAN

TexSCAN Week of
 Jan. 29-Feb. 4, 2023

ACREAGE

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

EMPLOYMENT

Like working with kids? HANK Inc seeks foster parents for Community Foster Homes caring for 6 kids. Home and vehicle provided in beautiful community of Medina County, Texas, 512-791-9410.

The Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas is accepting proposals for construction of 10 new homes in the Vega Land Subdivision, Deadline: Feb. 28, 2023, by 3 p.m. Specifications: Purchasing@ktttribe.org or 830-773-2105.

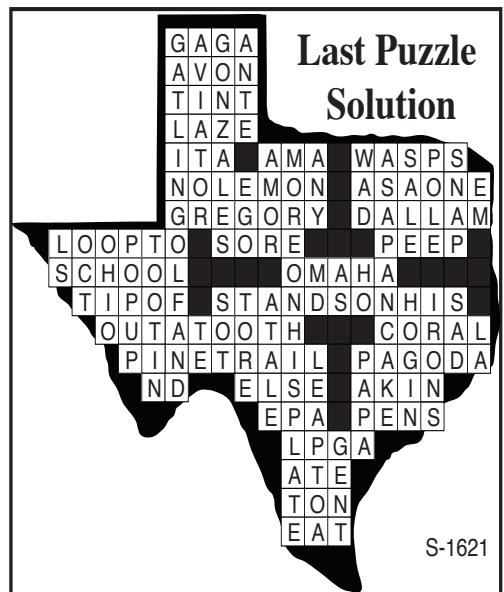
GENERATORS

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

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

NOTICE: While most advertisers are reputable, we cannot guarantee products or services advertised. We urge readers to use caution and when in doubt, contact the Texas Attorney General at 800-621-0508 or the Federal Trade Commission at 877-FTC-HELP. The FTC web site is www.ftc.gov/bizop.

Last Puzzle Solution



S-1621

GARAGE SALE

16 words for only \$10

A great way to raise extra money!
 Call today for more info.
 Azle News
 817-270-3340
 Springtown Epigraph
 817-220-7217



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

Need a Vacation? Raise some extra cash in the classifieds!
16 words for only \$10. The beach is calling...

Enjoy a Texas day with your Hometown Newspaper!

1 YEAR SUBSCRIPTION OFFERS

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

County _____ Daytime ph. _____

Clip and mail with check to:

Azle News
 321 W. Main Street • Azle, Texas 76020
 Or for Azle News online subscription, visit our website:
www.AzleNews.net

The Springtown Epigraph
 P.O.Box 557 • Springtown, Texas 76082
 Or for Springtown Epigraph online subscription, visit our website:
www.Springtown-Epigraph.net

1 Year Subscription
 Check one:

\$40.00 IN-COUNTY
 Tarrant, Parker & Wise only

\$46.50 OUT-OF-COUNTY
 Texas and elsewhere

\$36.50 SENIOR CITIZEN
 60 years and older
 Tarrant, Parker & Wise only

\$25.00 ONLINE ONLY
 Anywhere in the world