



Hometown girl excited about improving Azle

Community and marketing specialist to focus on business retention and redevelopment

BY DON MUNSCH
don@azlenews.net

Kristen Pegues has returned to her hometown of Azle to work in a newly created position at City Hall. Pegues started in November as the community and marketing specialist. A 2005 Azle High School graduate, she attended Texas Tech University, where she earned her degree in agricultural communications with an emphasis in marketing. After college, she worked for the United States Team Penning Association and National Cutting Horse Association, each located in Fort Worth. She worked in marketing in both places, putting in about 4½ years combined.

Possum Kingdom area and worked in some different jobs, including at the Lake Country Sun, a newspaper. After her time there, she decided to get involved in something different for marketing and found a job in economic development in Weatherford. She was the economic development coordinator for the city of Weatherford for about 5½ years.

"I loved it," she said about her job there. "That was the first time I had ever gotten into economic development and I didn't know what to expect. The job description, of course, didn't require any kind of extensive background in that field, but I did have marketing experience and that was one of the suggested

After her stint at those places, she moved to the

PLEASE SEE HOME | A2

Kristen Pegues said business retention will be important, and she is eager to meet business owners in town.

DON MUNSCH | AZLE NEWS

Reno woman frustrated over water line woes

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
madelyn@azlenews.net

After spending almost an hour explaining the issues with her water line, Jamie Cherry started crying. "It's emotional," she said. "You can't live your life constantly fixing the water lines." Cherry, her husband and their three children moved to their home in Reno about 2½ years ago. Since then, she and her husband have spent a lot of that time fixing their

water line when it breaks. Cherry said she has about 1,100 feet of water line that runs from her property to the meter on Harris Road, zigzagging a couple of times into her neighbors' properties. The water line, which she said is buried about a foot deep, breaks about every week - sometimes by as little as being run over by a trash or delivery truck. When the line breaks, Cherry and her husband have to dig up parts of the line until they find the leak.

Locating the leak can be a lengthy process. "We had a water leak for like three months, and when you're working this whole thing, you don't know where it's at," Cherry said. "You can't figure it out, so you just have to wait for it to show itself." She added that it's a "good thing my husband knows how to do this type of thing, or we really would have been screwed if we would have



PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMIE CHERRY

Jamie Cherry's water line is buried only about a foot deep. When the line breaks, Cherry and her husband have to dig up parts of the line until they find the leak.

PLEASE SEE WATER | A2



Kari Hoffman talks to the crowd at 404 Main in Azle after earning her black belt distinction. Other people were recognized at the ceremony for their belt promotions in jiu-jitsu.

DON MUNSCH | AZLE NEWS

Azle resident earns rare black belt in jiu-jitsu

BY DON MUNSCH
don@azlenews.net

Kari Hoffman started jiu-jitsu in 2015, and last week her involvement in that field of the martial arts paid off in a big way. Genesis Jiu-Jitsu Azle held its belt promotion ceremony on Jan. 2 at 404 Main in Azle where Hoffman, 43, of Azle, was awarded her black belt. Hoffman joins Karen Banes, who is the head coach and owner of Genesis Jiu-Jitsu, as having a black belt. "My children were doing jiu-jitsu and Karen kept encouraging me to try it, and I didn't want to," Hoffman said

after the ceremony, explaining her beginnings in the activity. "And my daughter competed in a tournament, and I was challenged by her effort and determination and I decided to challenge myself and try jiu-jitsu." Hoffman said female black belts are called unicorns because they're so rare. "I've been doing this for seven years, and this is the goal and it's amazing to achieve a goal that I've been looking to for seven years," she said. Banes said that when she received her black belt in 2017, there were fewer than 500 female Brazilian jiu-jit-

su black belts in North and South America. She said it is hard to keep track of the number but "it has easily doubled since then. The number of females are steadily increasing in the sport." She said she often wonders whether her students even realize how rare it is to have a female black belt. "Even Kari was surprised by the reaction she would receive from other females in the sport when she told them that she had a female professor," Banes said, noting a black belt in BJJ is called a professor. Hoffman said the challenge to earning the black belt

is work ethic, tenacity and consistency, and for older people, their age can slow them down because if they get injured they have to heal and recover. "It's hard because it takes consistent dedication," she said. "You have to keep coming to class, keep working, keep learning. Anyone can do it, but they have to be willing to show up every day." Banes said it has been "amazing to watch Kari develop as a BJJ athlete, but I am more impressed with the development of her confidence and leadership skills. It takes

PLEASE SEE BELT | A5

Happy New Year!

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Marketing Director



Kristen Pegues said she is excited about working on the comprehensive master plan for the city.

DON MUNSCHE | AZLE NEWS

HOME
FROM PAGE A1

major disciplines or area of study (desired). So I kind of just jumped in (and) learned very quickly that there was a whole lot more to it than marketing.”

In Weatherford, she was involved in marketing, business retention - which is what a big part of her job will be here - trade shows, chamber of commerce functions and business attraction. Azle and Weatherford have one difference: While Azle is landlocked, Weatherford isn't. A lot of what will happen here in Azle will be centered on redevelopment and “putting some bigger pieces in place,” Pegues said.

Pegues said she is excited about working on the comprehensive master plan for the city and help shape the direction that the council wants to go.

Part of why she wanted to come to Azle is that she has lived here for the last five years. Her parents still live here, in the house where Kristen grew up.

“Living in the town where you work in this field is very, very beneficial,” she said.

“I came to find that out in Weatherford. There were so many times that people would be talking about things that were going in the evening hours or the weekends, and I'm not there, I'm here. ... So I'm excited to be back home officially.”

She will start a new marketing program to develop the retail component around here.

“I know a lot of people are excited to see what's happening across from Walmart, as are we,” she said.

She said business retention will be important, and she is eager to meet business owners in town. She hopes to stimulate interest from businesses in the façade grant and gain traction there. She also wants to see what will happen with downtown, which will be addressed in the comp plan. Among her duties will be overseeing that social media are up to date.

Away from work, she likes to hike, attend church - she teaches a Bible study class at her church, North Side Baptist Church in Weatherford, on Wednesdays - and walk her dog, Cooper, a former resident of the Weatherford Animal Shelter and a Jack Russell Terrier mix.

WATER
FROM PAGE A1

had to pay somebody to come out to fix it.”

In the meantime, leaks have inflated Cherry's water bill. She estimated that her family has spent thousands of dollars on water usage since moving in, and she said last month that her bill was \$300. At one point, she asked the water department for a discounted bill because of a leak, but her request was denied, and she was told the

only help available is to be put on a payment plan.

Cherry said she is the sole provider of her family. Her husband stays home to take care of her daughter, who has epilepsy.

“I want what's best for my family, and I can't afford to fix three or four water breaks every week for three years on top of the water bill,” Cherry said.

To remedy this issue, Cherry wants the water meter moved to her property line instead of down the street.

“I shouldn't be responsible for water line that runs 1,100 feet through other people's yards before it even gets to my meter,” she said. “My meter is placed at the street, and then my water line runs from there all the way through all of those addresses in their yard where they plant their trees and bury their fences, (which) is what broke another one that was up in that trailer park.”

City Administrator Scott Passmore said the problem with moving the meter is that the street Cherry lives

on is a private road, not a city one.

“The problem she is having is she lives on a private road,” Passmore said. “City does not maintain it. The meters are at the road, and we can't run a water line down a road we don't maintain.”

Passmore said customers are responsible for water lines past the meter going back to their homes, so if Cherry wanted to bury her line deeper or straighten out the zigzags, that would be up to her.

Cherry could move out

of her home, but that's not what she wants. She moved from renting in Springtown to owning a home in Reno because she wanted to create a place of permanence for her children.

She eventually wants to install a well, but she said she can't afford that cost right now.

“People do live paycheck to paycheck, unfortunately, and I am one of those people,” Cherry said.

Without the option to move or drill a well, Cherry is imploring the city to help

her. She intends to plead her case at the next city council meeting.

“Help the people that have been here. Don't go out and try to bring new people in and build them up better where they look at us like we're the trash because I'm not,” she said. “I work very hard. I have a college education. My husband has a very extensive background at Lockheed. We're not bad people, and all we're asking for is just a little help.”



MADELYN EDWARDS | AZLE NEWS

Jamie Cherry stands on her property with the road leading to her water meter behind her. Her water line zigzags into her neighbors' properties and breaks often.



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I'm counting the days

Twenty two thousand, two hundred eighty-four.
 Fourteen thousand, fifty-three.
 Twelve thousand, six hundred fifty-five.
 Three thousand, three.
 One thousand, seventy-three.



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.discoveryouamazing.com.

Anyone want to guess what those numbers mean? Here's the first hint: they are significant to me.

Still nothing? Here's the second hint: they are numbers of days that I calculated on Tuesday, December 27, 2022.

Those who know me best may be able to guess the first one. Yep! It is the number of days since the day of my birth on December 24, 1961.

The second one is the number of days since my Sweetie became my Mrs. on July 6, 1984.

The third one is the number of days since I got a new name—Daddy—on May 5, 1988.

The fourth one is the number of days since I got another new name—Grandpa—on October 8, 2014.

Let me pause and bask in that one for a moment. (Thanks for your indulgence).

The last one is the number of days between the first confirmed case of Covid-19 in the United States of America and the day I tested positive for the first time (hopefully, the last time).

We had eleven people gath-

ered under our roof for a few days at Christmas and I was the first to test positive, so it has to be my fault. (We are up to 4 of the 11 at the time of this writing).

Fortunately none of us has experienced anything worse than symptoms of a cold. In fact, I wouldn't even have thought to test if my next-door neighbor hadn't texted to let me know that he tested positive the day after visiting our house to see our kids and grands while they were in town.

I can't blame it on him because I was already sick and isolating at that point.

I did all this calculating on Tuesday evening at 9:00 p.m. when I suddenly realized I had missed my Monday deadline for submitting my weekly post to the newspaper.

Oops!
 The beginning of a new year is a good time to count the days. Of course, that typically means looking ahead.

Psalm 90:12 says, "Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."

I'm not sure whether that means looking forward or backward, but I suspect there is a little of both.

Numbering our days is not nearly so much about counting the days as it is about making the days count.

As I look back over the 22,291 days (at the time of this writing) of my life, I think about what I have learned through both successes and failures, joys and sorrows, and everything in between.

As I look forward to the 363 days remaining in 2023, I think about the kind of person I want to be. Here's what I wrote in my journal this morning.

"More than anything else I want to love God and will in the grace of Jesus more deeply this year. I want to reflect the Kingdom in the way I love. I want to be the husband Sweetie needs and enjoy our journey together. I want to be the encouraging and supporting dad and grandpa that my kids and grands need. I want to be a good neighbor and friend. I want to contribute to the work of the Kingdom. I want to end seasons well and start new ones with joy and enthusiasm."

This is my desire for me and for you in this new year.

Be amazing today, my friend.

Property tax deadline coming soon for Parker County residents

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The deadline to avoid additional property tax penalty and interest in Parker County is at the end of this month.

Payments must be received or postmarked by Jan. 31 to avoid paying additional property tax penalty and interest, according to a Parker County Appraisal District news release.

Taxpayers can pay online at www.parkercad.org using an eCheck for free, using a

debit card for a \$2.95 flat processing fee or by credit card for a 2.15% processing fee, the release stated. These fees are charged by the processing company and are not charged or collected by Parker County Appraisal District.

Taxpayers can also pay by mail or in-person at the Parker County Appraisal District office located at 1108 Santa Fe Drive in Weatherford. However, people

wishing to pay in-person should be aware that the appraisal district office will be closed Jan. 16 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

For convenience, there is also a drive-through and an afterhours drop box located in the front vestibule and the drive-through of the building.

Additional tax statements and tax payment receipts can be obtained online at www.parkercad.org.

Filing period opens for council, mayor positions

Mayor and City Council places 3, 4 and 6 will be up for election

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Azle City Council will have four seats up for election in May, and one day next week is the first chance for people to file for one of the openings.

The mayor's seat and places 3, 4 and 6 will be up for election. Filing begins Jan. 18 and ends Feb. 17. Election day is May 6.

In addition to Alan

Brundrett holding the mayor's seat, Place 3 is occupied by Stacy Peek, while places 4 and 6 are held by Randa Goode (mayor pro tem) and Brian Conner, respectively.

"I am going to run for one last term to help guide the city through this current growth phase," Brundrett said in an email. "During that time I plan to 'train' a possible successor."

He did not elaborate on what he meant by training the possible successor and did not respond to a follow-up email.

Conner said he had not decided to run again, but said it was "likely." Goode said she plans to run again. Peek did not respond to an email seeking feedback on her decision to run again.

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If you or someone you know has back pain then this article is for you.

A common question we get is: Do I need to get an MRI or X-ray to determine what is wrong with my back?

The short answer is NO! Why do I say that?

Let's start with an x-ray which looks at the bones and how they are aligned. They do not look at the soft tissue which is frequently what is causing your pain. Now if you have had a major trauma (car accident, fall etc) then an x-ray would be useful to rule out some type of fracture. A good clinician who listens to your complaints and how the pain came to be can help guide you on whether an X-ray is necessary or not.

By Local Health Expert Dr. Robert Moss PT, ScD, OCS, FAOMPT

MRI's – are great, almost too great. There have been numerous scientific papers that have shown up to 80% of the population has a disc herniation or bulge yet they **DON'T HAVE ANY SYMPTOMS**.

What does that mean? It means it is quite likely that we are all walking around with some type of bulge or herniation in our disc but we don't have pain. Once we do start to have back pain we get an MRI and the specialist say "Ah ha" here it is, Mrs. Jones you have a herniation in your back...you need surgery. When in fact the herniation could have been present for numerous years.

As part of a routine check up we don't get MRIs on our lower back, only when we have pain. It would be most helpful if we had an MRI performed when we didn't have pain and then compare it to one when we did have pain. Then we could look at the two images and say with greater confidence "this has changed and could possibly be causing your pain".

So if I don't recommend initial imaging for your lower back, what do I recommend? Wait, begin treatment on your back and see how things go. Like I said earlier a good clinician can help determine if you need some imaging. There are certain signs and symptoms that would indicate imaging is needed and treatment should wait until certain things are ruled out.

For 99% of the people we see, imaging is not necessary and frequently delays getting in to see us so we can help you get your life back and do what you love.

If you are looking for guidance on your next step to finding relief from your lower back pain then call our office to request my **100% FREE Report Top 10 Burning Questions for Back Pain and Sciatica**. Or if you want the report right now, just scan the QR code and you can download it instantly.

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817-220-MOSS (6677) to request your free report which is perfect for those who are suffering with lower back pain and sciatica.

The author, Dr. Robert Moss PT, ScD is the owner of MOSS Rehabilitation Center in Springtown, TX. He is happy to help you with your back pain and sciatica problems either by phone or email.

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robert@springtownphysicaltherapy.com.

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Azle School Menu Jan 16 - 20, 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 No School **Tues** Apple Frudel, Strawberry Craisins **Weds** French toast, Apple
Thurs Mini Pancakes, Orange **Fri** mini waffles, Orange Craisins

LUNCH: Everyday - Variety of milk. Your choice of 1 entree & 1 fruit or juice
 Mon No School **Tues** Corn dogs, Chicken parmesan, Mixed Veggies, Applesauce **Weds** Breaded Chicken Sandwich, Grilled Cheese w/ Tomato Soup, Broccoli, Pears **Thurs** Tater Tot Casserole w/biscuit, Cheese Nachos, Pinto Beans, Apple **Fri** Pepperoni Pizza, Cheese Pizza, Chicken Fajita wrap w/ tortilla chips, Smile French Fries, Pineapple

GRADES 5TH - 8TH

BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Yogurt w/Granola
 Mon No School **Tues** French Toast Sticks, Craisins **Weds** Biscuits & Gravy, Apple
Thurs Breakfast on a Stick, Orange **Fri** Waffles, Pineapples

LUNCH: Everyday: Variety of milk. Your choice of 1 entree & 1 fruit or juice, rolls, crackers • Salad bar offered daily
 Mon No School **Tues** Corn dogs, Chicken parmesan, Mixed Veggies, Applesauce **Weds** Breaded Chicken Sandwich, Grilled Cheese w/ Tomato Soup, Broccoli, Pears **Thurs** Tater Tot Casserole w/biscuit, Cheese Nachos, Pinto Beans, Apple **Fri** Pepperoni Pizza, Cheese Pizza, Chicken Fajita wrap w/ tortilla chips, Smile French Fries, Pineapple

HIGH SCHOOL

BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Yogurt w/Granola
 Mon No School **Tues** French Toast Sticks, Craisins **Weds** Biscuit & Gravy, Apple
Thurs Breakfast on a Stick, Pineapples **Fri** Waffles, Orange

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 No School **Tues** Mini Corn Dogs, General Tso Chicken, Cheese Pizza, Hot Dogs, Nachos, Baked Beans, Lo Mein Noodles, Broccoli, French Fries, Refried Beans **Weds** Popcorn Chicken w/ Roll, Chicken Tacos, Pepperoni Pizza, Managers Choice, Kung Pao Chicken w/Noodles, Squash, Zucchini, French Fries, Green Beans **Thurs** Chicken & Waffles, Cheese Nachos, Cheese Pizza, Breaded Chicken Sandwich, Crispitos, Edamame, French Fries, Squash, Refried Beans **Fri** Managers Choice, Cheese Pizza, Cheeseburger, French Fries, Corn, Broccoli, Zucchini SPONSORED BY

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<p>USPS No. 546-920 321 West Main Street, Azle, Texas 817-270-3340 www.azlenews.net The AZLE NEWS is published every Wednesday at 321 West Main Street, Azle, Texas by Hyde Media, LLC Periodicals class postage paid at Azle, Texas, 76020. Postmaster: Send address changes to 321 West Main Street, Azle, Texas 76020</p>		

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Annual Subscription Rates:

In-County \$40.00 Parker, Wise and Tarrant counties	Senior Citizens \$36.50 60 and older	Out of County \$46.50 Outside of Parker, Wise and Tarrant counties
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Public schools and teachers are under attack

As I watched schools from my current and new districts (Albany, Aledo and Brock) at the UIL high school football state championships at AT&T Stadium, surrounded by 40,000 fans, parents, teachers, and students, one recurring sight truly inspired me – players taking a knee to pray.

Public schools and teachers are under attack more than ever. The 88th Legislative Session will be the most challenging in Texas history as some politicians seek to defund public schools, privatize education and make school board elections hyper-partisan. The hatred and vitriol seem to have no bounds.

Michael Quinn Sullivan, the publisher of Texas Scorecard, tweeted last January that



DISTRICT 60

By Glenn Rogers

Representative Glenn Rogers is a sixth generation Texas rancher, where his family has deep ranching roots in Palo Pinto County going back to the 1890s. He represents District 60 in the Texas House of Representatives.

public education is a “babysitting” service offered at the convenience of government employees.

“Public education in Texas is about employing otherwise unemployable adults, not educating kids,” he tweeted.

Jonathan Stickland who heads up the Defend Texas Liberty PAC tweeted recently, “If you love your kids, you will do everything possible to keep them out of government

(public) schools.”

The billionaire financiers of these groups, such as Tim Dunn and Faris Wilks, have long advocated for privatization of public schools. Former gubernatorial candidate Don Huffines recently referred to public schools as “underperforming woke schools.”

Recently, I listened to the Perrin FFA Ag Issues contest team as they prepared for the state contest. The

public speaking skills and poise exhibited by these FFA young people demonstrates the impact of a quality public education experience. I also attended events to support Palo Pinto County youth that show livestock. These young people represent a bright future for our local communities, state and nation. Leadership development and respect for others are core principles of FFA programs in public schools.

At the Capitol in November, I welcomed the award-winning Santo High School Marching band for a Capitol tour, and it was incredible to interact with these talented students. In December, while watching several high school playoff and state champi-

onship games, there was nothing “woke” about the competition, patriotism and community pride I witnessed. It was absolutely uplifting to watch the Brock Eagles and their opposing team come together in the middle of the field after the game for a moment of silence and prayer.

Then I watched the Aledo Bearcats win their 11th state championship. Coach Tim Buchanan and his staff, the Bearcat Regiment, Bearcat cheerleaders, Bearcats dance team, parents, fans and the great community of Aledo, all contributed! These are not “woke” public schools. Branding all public schools as “woke” or as “a babysitting service” with a broad brush is, quite frankly, a lie.

Politicians or pundits without a real message simply attack with venom and hate. Article 7, Section 1 of the Texas Constitution requires the Texas Legislature to maintain a system of free public schools for all Texans. My goal for the 88th Legislative Session, which starts Jan. 10, is to support and help improve our Texas public schools. “Pot shots” aimed at our public schools by politicians and political operatives to score points with their radical base are not productive and do not represent Texas ideals. Over 5 million Texas public school students, over 1,000 districts and 400,000 teachers and staff deserve better.

Azle ISD Community: Happy New Year

Azle ISD Community: Happy New Year. I hope you and your family had a joyful and memorable holiday season.

Reflecting upon 2022, I am reminded of how special it is to be a part of our amazing Azle ISD family of students, staff, parents and community. Azle ISD is a school district that cares about others and strives to help and assist those in need. The recent holiday season exemplified this with Azle ISD students, staff and parents helping others with various acts of kindness such as food drives, angel trees and much more. Azle ISD exhibits the Azle ISD Motto of “It Makes a Difference to This One,” and it is important we continue to maintain this culture as our community and school district continue to grow.

You will see evidence of



AZLE ISD

By Todd Smith, M.Ed., Superintendent of Schools - Azle ISD

Mr. Smith just completed his 28th school year in Azle ISD, with 13 years in campus administration and six years as a district administrator. In June 22, 2020 he was named Superintendent of Schools by the Azle ISD Board of Trustees. He is thankful for the passion and dedication exhibited by Azle ISD faculty and staff and is extremely proud of the work Azle ISD has accomplished and the impact they will continue to make in the lives of our students.

progress if you drive by any of the campuses under construction or renovation. Completed portions of the May 2021 bond projects include the renovations and additions at both Eagle Heights and Hoover Elementary schools. These projects look amazing, and the students and staff are excited and proud of the improvements. The remaining May 2021 bond projects include the addition and renovation to Liberty Elementary and

the new Hilltop Elementary. Additions and renovations to Azle High School from the November 2021 bond are underway as well. Azle High School renovations include a two-story science lab addition, a new kitchen, renovation and expansion of the cafeteria seating area, a new welding shop and classroom renovations.

Recently there have been questions about the development of our academic calendar. A lot of hard work

and planning goes into developing the calendar. We have a District Leadership Team (DLT), which includes teacher representatives from all campuses, administrator representatives, a parent representative, a community representative, and a board member representative.

The Texas Education Agency requires students to have 75,600 instructional minutes within the academic calendar. This does not include required teacher staff development or teacher workdays. The DLT develops

calendar options based on feedback from each department and campus and an employee survey. The driving factors traditionally include the start date, end date and the first semester ending prior to Christmas break, which is important to our secondary campuses. Other considerations include holidays, staff development days, teacher workdays, grading periods and mandated state testing windows. The process is very challenging to meet all requests while following TEA requirements. Committee

meetings narrow down the calendar options and the DLT presents two options for Azle ISD employees to vote on. The winning calendar is then presented to the Azle ISD Board of Trustees for approval.

As we kick off 2023, this marks the halfway point of the school year, and I look forward to seeing all of the great things the second semester brings for Azle ISD.

We Are Azle!
Todd Smith
Superintendent of Schools - Azle ISD

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NOTICE OF DEADLINE TO FILE APPLICATIONS FOR PLACE ON THE BALLOT (AVISO DE FECHA LIMITE PARA PRESENTAR SOLICITUDES PARA UN LUGAR EN LA BOLETA)

Notice is hereby given that applications for a place on the City of Sanctuary Regular Election ballot for May 6, 2023 may be filed during the following time (Se da aviso por la presente que las solicitudes para un lugar en la boleta de la Eleccion Regular de City of Sanctuary se pueden presentar durante el siguiente horario):

Mayor Pro Tem
Alderman Place 3 – Open Seat
Alderman Place 5

Filing Dates (Fechas y Horario para Entregar Solicitudes):
Start Date: January 18, 2023
End Date: February 17, 2023, 5 p.m.

Those wishing to place their names on the ballot must contact the City Secretary at 817-221-6016 for a Candidates Application. The first day to file for a place on the ballot is **January 18, 2023** and the last day to file for a place on the ballot is **February 17, 2023, 5 p.m.** Address to mail applications for a place on the ballot (Direccion a domed enviar las solicitudes para un lugar an la bolenta en caso de presentar por corer):

City of Sanctuary, P. O. Box 125, Azle, TX 76098-0125

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BELT
FROM PAGE A1

a lot of dedication and perseverance to obtain a black belt. It took a little encouraging and nudging her to start training with her children, who had already been with me a year and a half, but once she made up her mind she was all in. She is one of the most disciplined and consistent women I know."

Hoffman is a mother of four children. A lot of times, she said, "you feel like all you

can do is cook and clean and do all the mom things. And so doing jiu-jitsu, I was able to see how much I could accomplish. I've won three world championships through my age group."

She said she has learned confidence and hard work through jiu-jitsu and is proud of her black belt.

"It's amazing," she said.

Hoffman said one benefit from jiu-jitsu is the friendships that are formed.

"There's something about suffering together that makes you grow closer to people,"



Kari Hoffman

DON MUNSCH | AZLE NEWS



DON MUNSCH | AZLE NEWS

Kari Hoffman receives her black belt from Karen Banes at the promotion ceremony last week at 404 Main.

she said.

She met her husband through jiu-jitsu.

"The first time we met, we rolled together and he gave me a black eye," she said about husband John Hoffman. She is the mother of Job, Faith, Noah and Hope.

Banes said there have been a few key ingredients that have led to her personal suc-

cess in growing Genesis Jiu Jitsu Azle, explaining she grew up in the Springtown community and has lived in Azle for 19 years.

"I am a former school teacher and specialize in child development," she said. "I had the privilege to mentor Kari as an instructor by having her as my lead assistant for six years before making

her a lead instructor in our children's program. She is a very detailed oriented person and does a great job of incorporating her own strengths into her coaching style."

Banes has earned six world titles and holds the belt for female black belt featherweight in the Submission Hunter Pro promotion. Hoffman has three world

titles, is a multi-time pans champion and held the No. 1 ranking at purple and brown belt, Banes said.

"Although I am slowing down and enjoying my role as more of a facilitator, Kari is still going strong," Banes said. "I look forward to coaching her and seeing what she accomplishes at black belt. More success to come."

Spotlight on
BUSINESS **JANUARY**

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For anyone in the Azle area that needs help solving a problem or keeping up with maintenance on their vehicle, Motley Automotive is here to help.

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Motley Automotive will also run a diagnostic troubleshooting procedure to discover what any pesky "check engine" light or other dashboard warning means for your

car. They'll also update your car's internal computer if needed, which can help your vehicle run much more smoothly.

If you're in need of help, Motley will pick up your vehicle, repair or maintain it, and bring it to your home or office. Customers can also drop their cars off and pick them up.

Motley offers more than just automotive maintenance and repair for their customers. The company is also an authorized UPS Shipping Outlet. They sell packing materials, boxes, bubble wrap and peanuts, and will take drop-offs, such as a return from a company that has a prepaid label or a package with a label you print off from your computer.

Motley Automotive is located at 1304 Northwest Parkway, west of Azle. They're open from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Give them a call at 817-444-8529 or 817-444-1566. You can also check out their website at motleyautomotive.com.

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Evan O'Connor 2007 - 2022

It is with great sadness that we announce the unexpected passing of our beautiful son, Evan Patrick O'Connor, 15. He gained his angel wings at Cooks Children's Hospital in Fort Worth, Texas on Thursday, December 29, 2022, surrounded by his family.



Family greeted friends from 4 until 7 p.m. on Friday, January 6, 2023, at Murdoch Funeral Home & Cremation Service in Central City, Iowa, with a 3:30 p.m. vigil service at the funeral home. A funeral mass was held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, January 7, 2023, at St. Stephens Catholic Church in Central City, Iowa. Burial will follow at Mt. Clark Cemetery in Central City.

Evan was born in Hanford, California, the son of Sean and Melissa (Poole) O'Connor, on April 7, 2007. He started school in the Lemoore School district and was presently attending 10th grade at Azle High School.

Evan was our special angel, everyone who met him knew how special he was, and he always left you thinking of his big smile, beautiful blue eyes, and his heart of gold. Evan loved Thomas the Train, building Legos, and watching his iPad. He also loved the outdoors, camping, fishing or just exploring. Evan loved to watch YouTube videos and go to Texas Rangers games with his family.

Even though Evan's time on this earth with us was short, he left lasting impressions on everyone who crossed his path. He will be deeply missed.

He was preceded in death

by his grandpa, Dennis O'Connor; and Papop, Donnie Anderson.

Evan is survived and lovingly remembered by his parents, Sean and Melissa (Poole) O'Connor of Azle; sister, Katelynn O'Connor; grandparents, Shelby and Lisa Poole of Hanford, California, Dennis and Jean Amdahl of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Angel Anderson of Azle; aunts and uncles, Lindsey and Todd Jordan of Lemoore, California, Tanya and Tim O'Connor of Melbourne, Florida, and Ryan Poole of Rancho Santa Maria; cousins, Brooke and Ava Jordan, Michaela and Kyran O'Connor, and Paislee Poole; and many extended family members.

We would like to thank the staff at Cook's Children's Hospital that took such good care of our beloved Evan.

Please share a memory of Evan at www.murdoch-funeralhome.com under obituaries.

*The Azle News,
January 11, 2023 Edition*

Gary Easley 1955 - 2023

Gary Lee Easley, 67, died of heart complications on January 6, 2023. Funeral arrangements have not yet been decided.

*The Azle News,
January 11, 2023 Edition*

Residents can get tax help through AARP program

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Volunteers with the AARP Foundation's Tax-Aide program can help area residents with their 2022 income tax returns by offering assistance at local libraries, according to a release from AARP.

The volunteers are trained and tested in current tax law using IRS material to assist in filing basic income tax returns such as a form 1040 with schedules A, B, D, EIC, M, R, SE, and limited Schedules C and E. Appointments are available at the following locations:

Azle Library, 333 W. Main St., Azle, 76020 - Call 817-444-7216 or go online to <https://tinyurl.com/2p9ez3d6>. The hours will be 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesdays, 1-6:30 p.m. Thursdays and noon-4 p.m. on Fridays.

Weatherford Library, 1014 Charles St., Weatherford, 76086 - Call 817-6931-3176 or go online to <https://tinyurl.com/2bh86r7w>. The hours will be 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays; noon - 4:30 on Fridays and Saturdays.

Decatur Library, 1700 Hwy 51 South, Decatur, - Call 940-393-0290 or go online to <https://tinyurl.com/2p8jzjb6>. The hours will be 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. on Mondays.

The program provides free tax help for area resident



MCC | AZLE NEWS

Volunteers with the AARP Foundation's Tax-Aide program are trained and tested in current tax law using IRS material to assist in filing basic income tax returns.

taxpayers with special attention to those age 60 and older. However, you don't have to be a member of AARP or over age 60. Taxpayers with complex returns are advised to seek paid tax assistance.

People who are interested in seeking help from the AARP Tax-Aide volunteers should bring the following items with them when they come in:

- Copy of last year's income tax return;
- W-2 forms from each

- employer;
- Unemployment compensation forms;
- SSA-1099 form if they were paid Social Security benefits;
- All 1099 forms (1099-INT, 1099-DIV, 1099-B, etc.) showing interest and/or Dividends and documentation showing original purchase price of assets sold;
- 1099-misc showing any miscellaneous income;
- 1099-R form if they received a pension or annuity;

- All forms indicating federal income tax paid;
- Dependent care provider information (name, employer ID number or social security number and address);
- Health care documents such as form 1095-A, 1095-B or 1095-C.
- A list of expenses and charitable donations if itemizing deductions; and
- Social Security cards or other official documentation for themselves and for their dependents.

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Azle News

... ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY

<p>THE ABBEY CHURCH Pastor: Paul Brownback 10400 Jacksboro Highway 817-238-1404 www.TheAbbeyChurch.com 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 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 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 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 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) 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 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 "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 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 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 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 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 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 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 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 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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What to expect in legislative session; Ag agency: Climate change threatens food supply

WHAT TO EXPECT IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The 2023 Texas legislative session opened Jan. 10, with property taxes, gun control and the power grid expected to be among the top issues on the agenda.

The Texas Standard talked to political journalists Niki Griswold of the Austin American-Statesman and James Barragan of the Texas Tribune to see what might be upcoming.

Griswold predicts the "so-called culture war issue" could take center stage, with a number of bills already filed regarding the rights of transgender children and their parents, as well as battles over what books should be made available to children in the classroom and libraries.

Barragan said the state's predicted \$27 billion surplus will attract a number of factions wanting a piece of that action. Gov. Greg Abbott has called for about half the surplus to be spent on property tax relief, while House Speaker Dade Phelan is pushing for more spending on infrastructure.

Griswold pointed out that Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick wields considerable power in the Legislature and is keenly interested in more fixes to the state's electric grid.

The regular session will last



CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. gborders@texaspress.com.

140 days, as set by the state constitution.

AG AGENCY: CLIMATE CHANGE THREATENS FOOD SUPPLY

A new report released last week by the Texas Department of Agriculture concluded climate change is a potential threat to the state's food supply and could produce food insecurity. The report comes after a historic drought decimated crops and forced ranchers to sell the highest number of livestock in more than a decade.

The Texas Tribune reported the food access study, published by TDA and the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, noted that "climate instability is strongly associated with water quality, soil degradation, droughts, fires, floods and other environmental disasters."

The report was submitted to the Legislature on Dec. 31 and points to other factors that make it harder for Texans to access and afford food, such as wages not keeping up with inflation and

lack of access to food in rural areas.

"The important takeaway here is that there are significant gaps that need to be addressed between what researchers calculate to be a living wage in Texas, the wages that Texans are actually receiving, and many of the poverty thresholds that determine eligibility for assistance programs," the report says.

ABBOTT CALLS FOR ACTION ON ANKLE MONITOR VIOLATIONS

Abbott last week sent a letter to legislative leaders calling for legislation to create criminal penalties for parolees who cut off their ankle monitors.

That action comes in the wake of an October incident in which parolee Nestor Hernandez was charged with pulling a handgun and killing two hospital employees while visiting his girlfriend and their newborn child at Methodist Hospital in Dallas. He was shot by a Methodist Hospital police officer but

survived and is now being held without bond on capital murder charges.

A few weeks later another parolee, Zeric Jackson, was accused of fatally shooting a man at his former girlfriend's Dallas apartment.

"It is clear that the ankle monitors, a condition of their parole, were not effective in deterring or otherwise preventing these individuals from going on to commit violent crimes, resulting in three innocent lives being lost," Abbott wrote.

Currently, there are no criminal penalties for a parolee cutting off an ankle monitor.

BEWARE OF ONLINE PHONE SCAMS

The Texas Department of Insurance is urging Texans, especially older adults, to beware of both phone and online scams. In 2021, more than 6,700 Texans over age 60 reported losing more than \$159 million to fraudsters, TDI reports.

Some common scams: · A caller offers to fix a non-existent computer problem or to renew a software or security subscription that does not actually exist.

· A caller purports to be a grandchild calling from another country and needing hundreds of dollars quickly.

· A call or email that says

you have won a sweepstakes or lottery but requires you to pay thousands of dollars in bogus fees in order to claim the larger prize.

· Someone adopts a fake identity to gain affection and confidence, in hopes of eventually building a relationship that enable the scammer to steal money.

More information is available on the TDI website: tdi.texas.gov.

EMERGENCY SNAP BENEFITS AGAIN EXTENDED

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has again provided the state with more than \$344.1 million in emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program food benefits for the month of January, benefitting about 1.6 million Texas households

The funds are distributed by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. Each SNAP household will receive at least \$95 in emergency allotments in addition to its regular allotment.

Since April 2020, the federal government has provided more than \$9.3 billion in benefits to Texans through SNAP.

"We know these benefits will help families start 2023 with healthy and nutritious foods," said Texas HHS Access and Eligibility

Services Deputy Executive Commissioner Wayne Salter.

RRC unveils interactive map of orphaned wells

Using federal infrastructure funding, the Texas Railroad Commission has launched an interactive map of orphan wells that have been plugged or are scheduled to be plugged.

The RRC received a \$25 million initial grant in 2022 from the U.S. Department of the Interior as part of the federal infrastructure act. So far, 128 orphan wells have been plugged, with plans to plug about 800 more abandoned wells by the end of the fiscal year.

Another \$318 million in federal funding may be available to plug orphaned wells, according to the RRC. You can view the interactive map at <https://tinyurl.com/38tjm4wy>.

COVID-19 CASES RISE IN PAST WEEK

The number of new COVID-19 cases in the past week in Texas rose to 39,019, with 131 deaths reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients hospitalized in the state also rose to 3,445, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services.

CONSTRUCTION

Advertisement and Invitation for Bids

The City of Reno will receive bids for the project "Chloramine Conversion and Booster Pump Addition" until 10:00 AM on January 26, 2023 at 195 W. Reno Road, Azle Texas 76020-6001. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 10:00 AM on Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 195 W. Reno Road, Azle Texas 76020-6001. Bids are invited for several items and quantities of work as follows.

Bid items:

1. Mobilization
2. Supply and Installation of LAS Systems at Water Plants 1-7
3. Installation of two (2) 250-gal Booster Pumps at Water Plant 1
4. Provide and install electrical equipment including, but not limited to, electrical service equipment and structure, panelboards, controls, conduit, wire, and all ancillary devices as shown on construction drawings, complete in place.

Alternative items:

1. Supply and Installation of 3,000-gal Hydropneumatic Pressure Tanks at Water Plants 1-7

Bid/Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications are on file at Cobb, Fendley & Associates, Inc., One Ridgmar Center, 6500 West Freeway, Suite 300, Fort Worth, Texas 76116.

A bid bond in the amount of 5 percent of the bid issued by an acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid [for those contracts that exceed \$100,000]. A certified check or bank draft payable to the City of Reno or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond.

Attention is called to the fact that not less than, the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon and Related Acts) wage rate, as issued by the Texas Department of Agriculture Office of Rural Affairs and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual identity, gender identity, or national origin.

The City of Reno reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding.

Bids may be held by the City of Reno for a period not to exceed 60 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of

reviewing the bids and investigating the bidder's qualifications prior to the contract award.

City of Reno Scott Passmore, City Administrator, 1/11/23 & 1/18/23

All contractors/subcontractors who's System for Award Management (SAM.gov) registration is not active or that are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project. The City of Reno is an equal opportunity employer.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality



NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION FOR SMALL MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4) RENEWAL

General Permit Authorization No. TXRo40355

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION. Town of Lakeside, 9830 Confederate Park Road, Lakeside, Texas 76108, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) under Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Small MS4 General Permit No. TXRo40000 for a renewal of authorization number TXRo40355 to discharge stormwater to surface water in the state from the Town of Lakeside MS4. The notice of intent (NOI) and stormwater management program (SWMP) were received by the TCEQ on July 23, 2019.

The MS4 area is located within the Town of Lakeside limits that is located within the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Urbanized Area in Tarrant County, Texas. The discharge from the MS4 will eventually reach Lake Worth in Segment No. 0807 of the Trinity River Basin.

A copy of the NOI, SWMP, general permit, and general permit fact sheet are available for viewing and copying at Town of Lakeside - Town Hall, 9830 Confederate Park Road, Lakeside, Texas 76108. The SWMP can also be viewed online at the Town of Lakeside's website at www.lakesidetexas.us. Substantial changes to the MS4's SWMP during the permit term will be posted on the same website.

The TCEQ Executive Director has completed the technical review of the application and SWMP. The SWMP, if approved, would establish additional terms and conditions, not included in the general permit, under which the MS4 must operate. The Executive Director has made the preliminary decision that the SWMP meets all statutory and regulatory requirements and made a preliminary decision to approve the small MS4's authorization under the TPDES Small (Phase II) MS4 General Permit No. TXRo40000.

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit written or oral comments or to ask questions about the application. The TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing. If significant interest exists, the Executive Director will direct the applicant to publish a notice of the public meeting and hold the public meeting. The applicant must publish notice of a public meeting at least 30 days prior to the meeting in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the MS4 is located. If the MS4 is located in more than one county, the applicant must publish notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county containing the largest residential population.

All written public comments and public meeting requests must be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, TCEQ, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087 or electronically at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment> within 30 days of the date of newspaper publication of this notice.

After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a response to all relevant material, or significant public comments. The response to comments will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application.

MAILING LIST. If you submit public comments, a request for a public meeting, or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address above.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE. For details about the status of the application, visit the Commissioners' Integrated Database at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid>. Search the database using the permit number for this application, which is provided at the top of this notice.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION. Any personal contact information you provide to the TCEQ will become part of the agency's records; this includes your name, phone number, email address, and physical address. For more information about this application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, toll free, at 1-800-687-4040 or visit their website at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep>. Si desea información en español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from Town of Lakeside at the address stated above or by calling Mr. Norman Craven at 817-237-1234.

Issuance Date: December 15, 2022

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SENIOR
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ONLINE
\$25 FOR ONE YEAR

817-270-3340
www.azlenews.net

Hold the phone: What's the number?

Seems like everyone has a mobile phone these days. Mobile devices have become so popular it is becoming rare for people to have a land line in their house.

Mobile phones are convenient, effective, and because of their processing capabilities, can keep all of us connected to the internet no matter where we are. It allows us to keep in touch with family or friends and certainly makes it easier to transact business. Of course, to some degree, it does eliminate the ability to "disappear" and not accept calls. Even on vacation, Sunday afternoon, or late at night, people can find you.

Mobile phones are quite a change from back in the day when landlines were few are



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.

far between. Years ago, the dialer would have had to go through the operator to be connected to the party they were calling. Lots of younger folks may not realize, but at one time phone numbers also had letters, which indicated the "exchange" — a fancy way of saying the station where the operator was located. My phone number at my childhood home was WY3-2493. Later, when we moved to another part of town, the

number was EV5-6282. Eventually the system improved, and direct dialing became available. How many of you ever experienced a "party line?" A "party line" meant that two to four families shared the same line. It was common in rural areas because of the expense of running cable. My grandparents were on a party line and their "ring" was two longs and a short. Can you imagine the world of today operating

with multiple people sharing the same phone line? What a mess that would be! Not sure teenagers would ever get over it.

This week, two new employees started at the newspaper. As I checked them in and asked for their emergency contact information, they both pulled out their phone to acquire the phone number of the contact person they wanted to use. Neither knew from memory the phone number they needed because like all of us, they rely on the phone numbers being stored in their contacts portion of their mobile device.

It got me to thinking, whose phone number do I know by memory? I call my Miss Jayne at least once every day, and I have no idea what her phone

number is. Same for my wife. I never dial the number; I use speed dial and the next thing I know I am connected. If I got hit by a truck and was lying on the side of the road and was asked for a phone number by emergency personnel, I would draw nothing but blanks.

Wait, I do know the newspaper phone number by heart because I find myself giving it out to those who need to reach the paper. Other than the newspaper, there is not a single active number I can recall, other than my own. I do recall my long since passed grandmother's phone number because my mother drilled it into my head in case I was ever lost. GL7-3820. I wonder what mothers teach their children nowadays.

I am sure there will be further technological developments that will change how we communicate. Technological evolution will make our lives easier, more efficient, and will also lead to change. Change is always part of life, whether it be in our phones, our transportation, fashion or music. With each change, a little bit of history and a lot of old habits go by the wayside. Maybe that is a good thing, that is unless you are hurt on the side of the road and you cannot tell the EMT whom to call!

Thought for the day: People are prisoners of their phone, which I guess is why they are called "cell phones."

Until next time, I will be riding the storm out.

Council approves new associate judge

Judge Matthew Hudman, son of Judge Doug Hudman, approved as second associate municipal judge

BY DON MUNSCHE
don@azlenews.net

The Azle City Council at its Jan. 3 meeting approved an associate municipal judge to assist Judge Doug Hudman in performing judicial duties for the Municipal Court.

Matthew Hudman was approved as second associate municipal judge. He is the son of Doug Hudman.

Judge Lynne Frank serves as the associate municipal judge and performs those duties. However, the city

stated in the agenda, Judge Doug Hudman's schedule for the foreseeable future "may be challenging" and Judge Frank's private practice may limit her availability to the Municipal Court. Therefore, Judge Hudman requested council consider naming a second associate municipal judge.

Matthew Hudman was first appointed associate municipal judge for Azle in September 2008, said Susie Hiles, assistant to the City Manager for the city of Azle. He served until his resig-

nation in 2016 and moved to Houston. Judge Doug Hudman served without an associate judge until Lynne Frank was appointed associate judge in August 2018. Matthew Hudman moved back to the area this past year.

Council had a light agenda for its first meeting of the year. In other business, council approved a resignation notice from Jeffrey Waldock, who serves as Place 7 of the Parks and Recreation Board.

LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that the following will be sold to the highest bidder with bidding to take place at lockerfox.com on Thursday the 19th day of January, 2023 at 11:00 AM to satisfy a landlords lien, pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code. Payment to seller via credit/debit card and pickup at the facility. Self-Storage unit contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold. 10 Federal Self Storage, 2920 Avenue F, Arlington, TX, 76011 Lila Manyweather. Ann Clem. Giselle Roussell. Dawn Ridgeway. Bette Barber. Oscar Cervantes. Michael MCKINSEY. Barbara Rowell. Andrea Young. Jessie Foots. Cecilia Baker. Kaiya McKinney. Jah'angela Fortson. Fields Lyons

Notice of Public Sale

Self storage auction on January 21st, 2023 at 10am, Sandy beach self storage 1109 Liberty School Rd Azle, Texas Michael Hopp unit number 135, Wade Jenkins unit number 171, Brandon Stein unit number 54, Josh Welch unit number 32, Patricia Hoskins unit number 34, Judith Eller unit 110, Dennis Tichavsky unit number 92, Household, Misc items.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

A-Z STORAGE 817-237-7972

A-Z STORAGE wishing to avail themselves of the provisions of Texas Revised Civil Statutes Article 523b and Texas Property Code, Ch. 59, Self-Service Storage Facility Liens Article 44, hereby gives Notice of Sale under said act to wit: On Sat., February 4, 2023, at A-Z Storage, 5824 Azle Ave., Lake Worth, TX, between the hours of 10AM - 12NOON of that day, A-Z Storage will conduct a sale to the highest bidder for the contents of units:

30 rented by Jean Carlos consisting of misc.,

34 rented by Carla Rodriguez consisting of auto parts, misc., and

92 rented by Kenny Hawkins and/or Karen McMorris consisting of misc.,

At A-Z Storage, 5824 Azle Ave. at NW Loop 820, Lake Worth, TX. 817-237-7972 This sale is being held to satisfy a landlord's lien. The Public is invited to attend. Dated this 4th day of January, 2023. Void if lien satisfied in full before date of sale. Mailing address only: A-Z STORAGE, PO BOX 136369, FORT WORTH TX 76136.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

To satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale to be held at Azle Southeast Storage, 1004 Southeast Parkway, Azle, TX at 10:30am 1-27-2023 Property to be sold to the highest bidder for CASH. Property includes contents of the following tenants Chris Goff: Household Items Jeremy Martinez: Household Items Nazareth Zeytounian: Household items.

BIG deals

yesway.com/rewards

Limit 30 gal. on fuel reward redemption. One vehicle per transaction.

rewards

allsups.com/rewards

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BUY 2
MTN DEW
ENERGY OR
ROCKSTAR

STACK & SAVE
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BUY 2
ELECTROLIT
21oz.

STACK & SAVE
5¢ /GAL

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ALLSUP'S MILK
Gallon - All Varieties

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MEMBER PRICING **2 for \$3.50**

NON-MEMBER PRICING **2 for \$4**

Single item regular price.

LIMITED TIME OFFER
Apple Empanada, try with a delicious cup of hot coffee or bottle of cold milk for the perfect snack

BUY A CHIMI & SNICKERS
Regular Size

STACK & SAVE
10¢ /GAL

Applicable on Beef & Chicken Chimi

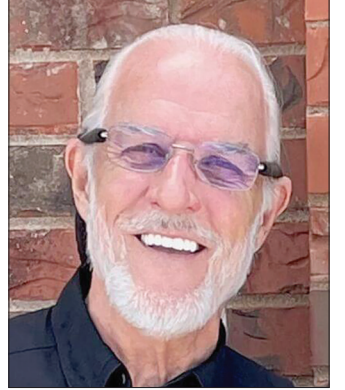
YESWAY HISPANIC SNACKS MIX & MATCH
4-7.5oz

2 for \$7

Single item regular price.

Quilter's Guild of Parker County to meet this month

Speaker Randy Cole: "First 50 years in the Sewing Machine Business."



Randy Cole COURTESY PHOTO

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Quilter's Guild of Parker County will meet in-person and via Zoom on Thursday, Jan. 19.

The program this month will be speaker Randy Cole talking about his "First 50 years in the Sewing Machine Business."

If you need repairs in a hurry and at your convenience, then meet Cole and his Sew mobile. For more than 50 years, Cole has serviced the Greater North Texas area, driving a mobile sewing machine service shop, stocked with parts and service items for household and industrial sewing machines. Join the meeting to hear about Cole's experience providing a unique service to the area sewing community.

The meeting will be at Lakeshore Drive Baptist Church, located at 200 S. Lakeshore Drive in Hudson Oaks. The meeting will begin at 6:45 p.m., but attendees are encouraged to come earlier to socialize. Visitors are welcome in-person and online.

If you wish to join online, email your name and telephone number to qgpc2000@gmail.com.

To learn more about the guild, visit its website quiltersguildofparkercounty.org or find the guild's Facebook page.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TADEAŚ BEDNARZ, CC BY-SA 4.0 VIA WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

The Quilter's Guild of Parker County will meet on Jan. 19 to hear speaker Randy Cole talk about his "First 50 years in the Sewing Machine Business."

AZLE'S



People's Choice AWARDS BALLOT

The Azle Area Chamber of Commerce would like your vote for the following Nominees...
ONLY CHECK ONE IN EACH CATEGORY

Favorite Azle ISD Employee

- Stephen Smith - AHS Teacher, Baseball Coach
- Lori Eagleton - Literary Specialist
- Teresa Bagwell - Walnut Creek Intervention Counselor
- Hollee Reed - Crisis Counselor

Favorite Baker

- Crave
- Maw-Maw's Treats
- Brookshire's
- Slice Dessert Bar

Favorite Non-Profit Organization

- Azle Area Ministerial Alliance
- Azle Optimist Club
- Servolution
- Future Hope & Healing Center

Favorite Roofer

- March Roofing
- Lighthouse Residential Roofing
- RS Roofing
- Reimagined Remodeling & Roofing

Favorite Boutique

- Crush
- Southern Honey Giftique
- Angels & Arrowheads

Favorite City of Azle Employee

- Jason Castro - Azle Police Department
- Jimmy Duvall - City of Azle Public Works Street/Stormwater Division
- Clinton Kierych - Azle Fire Department
- Jessie Williams - Azle Animal Control Officer

Entries must be on original newspaper ballots, no machine copies will be counted.

Return ballot to the Azle Area Chamber by February 1, 2023

Winners will be announced at the 61st Annual Awards Banquet on February 16, 2023

404 W. Main St., Ste 102, Azle • 817-444-1112



PHOTO COURTESY BRITTANY STARKEY

Fire burns home, other structures in Azle

BY DON MUNSCH
don@azlenews.net

No injuries occurred after a fire burned a home and other structures in a late-December fire in Azle. One building was a house and another structure was an RV, said Parker County ESD1 Fire Chief Stephen Watson. In addition to ESD1, Azle, Lake Worth and Briar-Reno responded to the scene. Parker County ESD1 got the call around 4:45 a.m. and responded to the scene in the

400 block of Harter Lane on Dec. 28 and found a manufactured home well involved in fire, along with an outside fire involving other trailers and outbuildings, and some of the structures were damaged, Watson said. He said it was initially reported someone was trapped inside the home, but firefighters fought their way in and searched the home but did not locate anyone. Responders later determined the individual had made it out but had not yet

been accounted for upon arrival of the initial responding crew. The cause of the fire is under investigation by the Parker County Fire Marshal's office. Several residents were displaced by the fire, and assistance from Red Cross has been offered. An account has been set up for the residents at <https://gofund.me/0ad41a83>. The News was unable to reach the family for comment.

News from Azle City Hall

We welcome your comments or suggestions on information you would like to see reported on this page, please call Azle City Hall, 817-444-2541, or email Susie Hiles at shiles@cityofazle.org. Until next month.....

CROSS TIMBERS GOLF COURSE VALENTINE GOLF LESSONS

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Valentine Price: \$325

LOVE THEM
Four 45 Minute Private Couples Sessions
Two 45 Minute On-Course Golf Lessons
Everyday Price: \$1000
Valentine Price: \$600

For more information, contact PGA Instructor David Studebaker at Cross Timbers Pro Shop 817-444-4940 or email at dstudebaker@pga.com.



Texas Coalition for Animal Protection Low Cost Vaccine Clinics

LOCATION: Old Azle Library, 609 SE Parkway, Azle TX (Not at the Azle Animal Shelter)

No appointment necessary for vaccinations which will be given from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on these dates for 2023. First come, first serve basis.

March 4 June 10 Sept. 9 December 9

Vaccines & Testing

Cats
Rabies \$5
FeLV \$10
FHCPC \$10
FeLV/FIV Test \$20

Dogs
Rabies \$5
DAPPv \$10
Bordetella \$10
Lepto \$10
Lyme \$15
Canine Influenza \$20 (H3N8/H3N2)
Heartworm Test \$20

Wellness Services

General Dewormer (Strongid-T) \$5
Tapeworm Dewormer (Droncit) \$15
TriHeart Plus (6 month supply) \$30-\$40
Trifexis (6 month supply) \$115
Flea/Tick Preventative (1 month) \$12
Flea/Tick Preventative (3 month) \$30
Bravecto 12 week Flea/Tick Control \$50
Home Again Microchip \$30
*Nail Trim \$15

*Pets must have a current rabies vaccination given at least 7 days before receiving a nail trim. Proof is required.

- We accept Visa, Mastercard, Discover and Cash
- Dogs must be on a leash or in a carrier
- Cats must be in a hard-sided carrier
- Heartworm prevention can only be prescribed after the pet receives a negative heartworm test administered by TCAP.

TCAP exists to end animal overpopulation and to improve community animal welfare by providing low-cost preventative services throughout North Texas. For additional information, please visit www.texasforthem.org or call 940-566-5551

City Street Sweeping begins January 16



Waste Partners will sweep curb and gutter streets in Azle the week of Monday, January 16. We ask residents to help by removing from the street; vehicles, basketball backboards and trash cans. Moving your car off the street on sweep day is very important. Leaving a car parked on the street means that an area of almost 3 car lengths will be left unswept.

Leaf Collection

Just a reminder - CWD will collect no more than 10 bags of leaves on your second collection day. Any amount of bagged leaves over 10 will be collected on your next week's second collection day. If you have questions, please call CWD at 972-392-9300 option 2.

Please keep in mind that burning of leaves is not permitted in the City of Azle. Also, all outdoor burning is required to meet strict State of Texas burning rules and have a permit issued by the Fire Marshal's Office (Texas Administrative Code §111.201 and City of Azle Ordinance 5.05.001 <https://ecode360.com/39132090>) Contact the Fire Marshal by calling 817-444-7051.

Azle Memorial Library News and Free Events

333 W Main St, Azle, TX 76020

817-752-2682 - www.azlelibrary.org - [facebook.com/azlelibrary](https://www.facebook.com/azlelibrary)

AARP Free Tax-Aide

AARP Tax-Aide service will be on hand beginning in February at the Azle Memorial Library to offer free tax preparation to adults of any age. Appointments are required. Call the library at 817-752-2682 beginning January 16 to book an appointment.

Winter Reading for ALL Ages:

Readers of ALL ages are invited to pick up a FREE bingo card from Azle Memorial Library starting January 11 and complete any five squares on the card to receive a prize! Turn in completed bingo cards to AML on or before February 11 by 3:45 PM in order to receive your prize.

Storytime:

Storytime is back at the Azle Memorial Library beginning January 11! We will offer Toddler Storytime designed for ages 1 & 2 and Preschool Storytime designed for ages 3-5. Toddler Storytime will be offered each Wednesday and Thursday at 10:15 AM and Preschool Storytime will be offered each Wednesday and Thursday at 11:15 AM.

Monday Movies Return:

"Last Monday Matinee" is returning in 2023! This monthly program features a new release movie for adults to enjoy on the big screen in the Community Room. Movies begin at 2 PM on the last Monday of each month. Free popcorn provided. No children, please.

- January 30: *Elvis* (PG-13)
- February 27: *Where the Crawdads Sing* (PG-13)

REMINDER - Outside return drops and access to your online account are available 24/7.

Scan for more information on what's happening in the City of Azle or visit us at www.cityofazle.org



Concerned about someone with an addiction?

Al-Anon Family Groups
Help & Hope for families & friends of alcoholics

Meetings Mon & Fri 6:30 PM
229 S. Stewart St. (left door) Azle
www.al-anon.org
azlesanctuaryafg@gmail.com

Azle Area CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

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Harris Methodist Hospital AZLE

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412 Commerce St.

Rotary Club of Azle

MEETS AT NOON THURSDAY

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(across from Azle Post Office)

The Finish Line

Addiction wants to destroy you & everyone around you.

With Jesus there is Victory over addiction.

GET BACK IN THE RACE!

Meetings held every Friday from 7:30PM-9:30PM at The Church at Azle
1801 S. Stewart • Azle • 817-401-8513
www.ourfinishline.com

Faced with a DRINKING Problem?
Perhaps Alcoholics Anonymous can HELP.

Daily meetings at Noon & 6:30 pm
Sunday at 3 pm

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817-332-3533

Azle Lion's Club

Meets 2nd TUESDAY 6:30 PM

412 Commerce, Azle
e-clubhouse.org/sites/azle_tk
Jamie Westbook - president
817-550-7625

AZLE AREA MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE
UNITED IN CHRIST

Christian Leaders partnering together with one voice to impact our culture for Christ. We celebrate unity amidst diversity as we pastor our community.

Luncheon meetings
11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. 2nd Tues of each month; location varies.
See www.azlema.com or email director@azlema.com for additional information.

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Azle Boy Scout Troop 243

Meets Mondays 7 PM
Azle First Assembly of God
1020 Southeast Parkway
troop243azle.org

Optimist Club of Azle

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

Azle Lodge No. 601

Floor School or Work
7:30 PM THURSDAY NIGHT

Wayne Wood - Worshipful Master
Rocky Gralla - Secretary
Clint Hall - Treasurer

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Azle ISD giving back to the community during the holiday season

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Azle Elementary Student Council members (pictured) sang Christmas carols and played games with Azle Manor Residents before the Christmas break. Their visit was one of many ways students in Azle ISD gave back to the community during the holiday season.

AT AZLE HIGH SCHOOL:

Interact students worked with Castle Hills Mission doing monthly food distributions and helping with the

Mission's Angel Tree.

- PALS students worked with the Lions Club Angel Tree. They coordinated 50 Angels to be adopted and will pass them out to the families.

- FFA students collected food donations for their annual "The Gift of Food" Drive benefitting the Community Caring Center. They volunteered every Thursday for the last 18 months to help with food distribution.

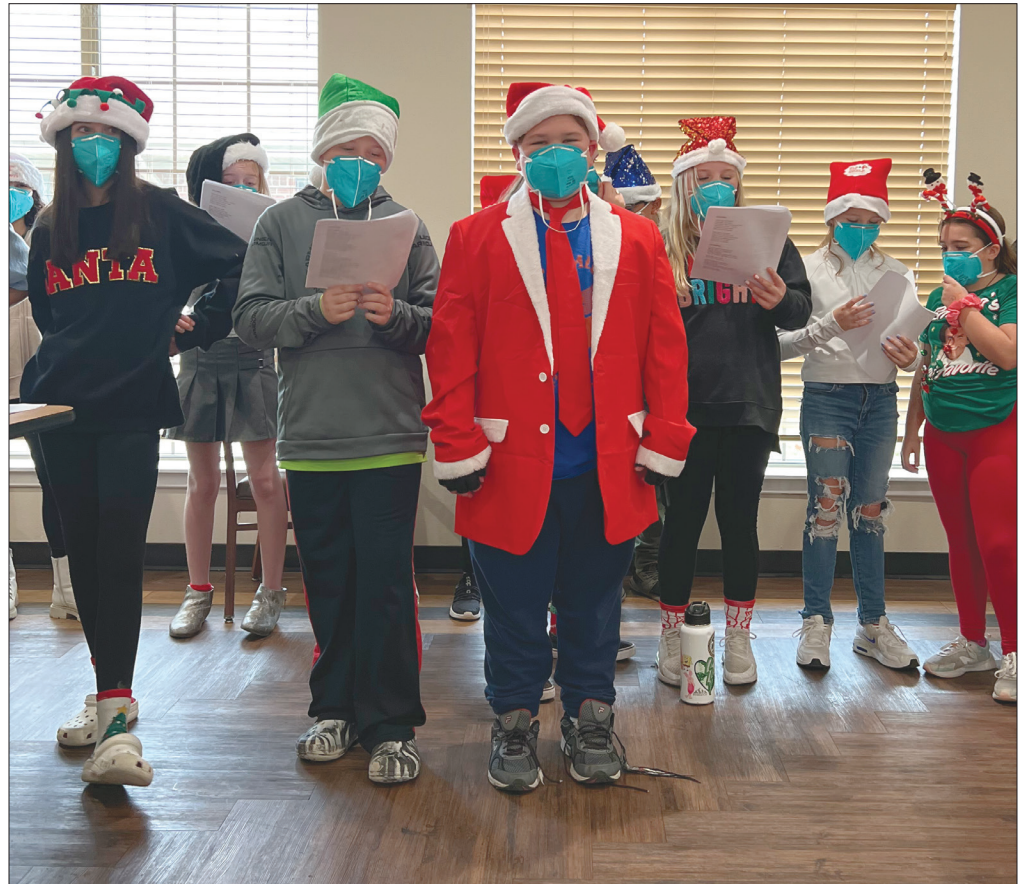
- Student Council worked on the 12 Days of Christmas during the month of

December for teacher appreciation and to show support to all the AHS teachers and staff for all their hard work.

- Azle Boys Basketball performed a toy drive for six Azle Community Kids.

- Azle Volleyball players conducted Angel Tree effort and shopped for their Angels.

- Elsewhere, students at other schools participated in Angel Tree and canned food drive projects, the latter of which benefited the Community Caring Center.



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brannelson@yahoo.com
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Azle News



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JIM STEVENS PHOTOGRAPHY

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Fri 11-10 • Sat 11-9:30
MON CLOSED



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Tues-Sat 4 - 8 PM



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817-406-4800

Azle Youth Sports Football All-Star Weekend

Azle hosted the Metroplex Youth Sports All Star Football in December. Four all star football players were selected per grade, per town to play in somewhat of a "pro bowl" type set-up. Even through the pouring rain, the boys and girls took the turf and represented Azle Youth Sports proudly, guided by dedicated coaches.

PHOTOS COURTESY AZLE YOUTH SPORTS



Despite the weather, the third grade team is taking the game seriously.



Third grade All-Stars who competed were Dylan Baisden, Kamden Wyble, Easton Johnson and Phoenix Clowers.



Coach Justin Basiden coaching up the third grade football players from all over who came together to compete.



Third grade All-Star cheerleaders Payton Reusch, Ava Gaston, Skylah Sommer, Parker Jeter, Aubrey Clubb and McKenna Baisden.



Coach Justin Baisden shows Jaylan Menchaca how it's done.



Braxton Cates plans to become a surgeon once he hangs up his wrestling helmet.

Azle senior Braxton Cates eyeing life after wrestling

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

Football was his first love, and Braxton Cates wanted to perform at a top level when he entered Azle High School four years ago. A coach advised him to join the wrestling team to work on his strength and endurance, which would make him a better football player. "Then, I got better at wrestling," Cates said. "So, I just stuck with wrestling and didn't do football." Cates quit football his sophomore year and focused fulltime on wrestling.

Football requires coordinated teamwork between numerous athletes on the field at one time. Wrestling is a one-on-one battle to see who comes out on top. Cates prefers the mano a mano approach. "I don't have to depend on a team to win," he said. "If I mess up, I can only blame myself for losing." The individual nature of the sport, combined with an expectation for peak conditioning, "made me a better person overall," he said. Cates has enjoyed wrestling but hasn't performed so well that he wants to continue after high school. He plans

to attend Oklahoma State University and study pre-med biology. Then, he will go to medical school. He plans to become a brain or heart surgeon. "I won't be wrestling - I'm just going for the academics," he said. "I want to help people that are in need and help them have a better life." Cates doesn't have any surgeons in his family to mimic, but his grandfather is an architect who built a house for a doctor once. Cates met the doctor and became interested in becoming a surgeon. He realizes his dream will

PLEASE SEE **CATES** | B2



JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS

From left, Azle assistant coach Randon Knoll and Braxton Cates take a break from the recent Hornets Nest Invitational wrestling tournament.

600 wins

Azle basketball coach earns 600 wins in career spanning four decades

BY JEFF PRINCE
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Winning 600 basketball games as a head coach was nice, but having the win happen during the recent Fort Worth Castleberry tournament was sweeter still. The Azle Lady Hornets, and AHS head coach Mitzi Marquart is far more interested in her girls having success than in her own personal honors. She knew she had been honing in on 600

victories as a head coach, but she wasn't sure how close and hadn't thought about it much. "My staff and everyone surprised me with it when we actually hit the 600," Marquart said, recalling how her coaches and players celebrated with her after winning their second game at the tournament on Dec. 30. The following day, the Lady Hornets took home the Championship trophy.

PLEASE SEE **600** | B2



JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS

Mitzi Marquart has been guiding the Lady Hornets in basketball for 13 of her 39 years as a coach and notched her 600th career win in December.

Azle basketball boys regain hot hand

BY JEFF PRINCE
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The Azle Hornets had lost a heartbreaker to district foe Northwest moments earlier, and head coach James Crafton was thinking about how to get his team winning again.

"There are a lot of games to play," he said. "We will get right and be OK."

On Jan. 3, Azle fell to Northwest in part because muscle man Jackson Davis ran into foul trouble and languished on the sidelines. His absence allowed the Texans to snag extra rebounds.

"We knew coming in they were athletic, big and physical and that we were going to have to play really strong on the boards," Craft said. "They really hurt us rebounding. They got a lot of second-chance points off rebounds."

Northwest won the game, 55-50.

"Our guys still battled to the end," the coach said. "I was proud of our effort."

The loss dropped the Hornets to 0-2 in district competition after they had banged out a dozen victories in non-district. Craft said he would push his team to develop a tougher mindset during practices and to focus more on minor details.

"We are 0-2, not because we aren't a very good team but because of the little things," he said. "Once we are consistent with the little things — talking, blocking out, winning 50/50 balls — the sky is the limit for this team. The way to beat teams that are bigger or more athletic is to win the little things

within the game."

On Jan. 6, the Hornets welcomed an opportunity to battle another district foe and nail down a much-needed victory.

Bingo.

Azle had fallen behind by halftime, but dominated in the third quarter and came out on top 62-58 in a crucial game against Saginaw on the road. Azle's district record improved to 1-2, and the Hornets proved they are ready to stake a claim in the playoff race.

Davis' strong presence was rock-steady under the net, and Gavin Dean lent his own brand of toughness to the affair. He is one of the smallest Hornets but dribbled headfirst through bigger opponents at full speed while charging for layups and rebounds. He scored 30 points at Saginaw and 23 against Northwest, impressing more than just his Azle teammates.

Coaches from McMurry University in Abilene attended the game and offered Dean a spot on their team afterward. Dean plans to play college ball after he graduates high school but hasn't decided where he will attend.

Other scorers for Azle against Northwest included Sawyer Dotson (12), Gunner Crow, Jayden Rollins and Jackson Davis with four points apiece, and Josh Montelongo (3).

Against Saginaw, Sawyer Dotson (15), Jayden Rollins (9), Jackson Davis (6), and Colin Haas (2) saw balls sail through the net.

Azle plays next at 8 p.m. Friday at Brewer.



JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS
Gunner Crow, along with Jayden Rollins and Jackson Davis, brought in four points apiece.



Cheryl Grubbs outmaneuvers a taller opponent to snag a rebound.

JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS

Azle Lady Hornets eager for action again after loss to Northwest

BY JEFF PRINCE
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A district loss to Northwest on Jan. 3 saddened the girls basketball squad, but the Azle Lady Hornets aren't ones to wallow in pity.

They came back three days later to whack Saginaw 41-32, push their district record to 3-1 and maintain a share of first place.

That loss to Northwest, though, was a tough one.

The score was tied at 26 in the third quarter when Azle's Faith Summers stole the basketball from a Northwest player who was attempting to make a layup.

Summers dribbled the length of the court and passed to a teammate who tried to make a layup but the shot was blocked. The back-and-forth battle with full-court presses and intense defensive play provided a constant sense of intensity as the Lady Hornets clashed with the Texans on Jan. 3.

Two of District 5-5A's toughest teams kept the score razor close for four quarters.

The Lady Hornets managed to reclaim the lead 28-26 with three seconds remaining in the third quarter, but Northwest made a desperation three-point "ail Mary" shot that beat the buzzer by a millisecond to take back the lead heading into the fourth quarter.

The Lady Hornets played aggressively but were outscored 12-9 in the final period to fall 41-37.

The first district loss of the season dropped the Lady

Hornets to 2-1 and tied for first place.

Afterward, Cheryl Grubbs was sweaty and tired but feeling good after a strong effort. She and her Lady Hornet teammates are small in stature and have become accustomed to battling bigger-bodied girls.

Grubbs, a junior, plays center at 5 feet 7 inches. None of her teammates come anywhere close to 6 feet tall.

Grubbs can't stand chin to chin with most opponents, but she goes toe to toe with them during every game and earns her share of loose balls and points.

She and her teammates rely on strength and resiliency, particularly when rebounding.

"I just get in front and try to push back," she said. "We work really good together as a team."

Against Northwest, the Hornets seemed out of sorts at times, missing shots they normally make. The team will need to "learn from our mistakes and put this game behind us," Grubbs said.

Head coach Mitzi Marquart had hoped to beat the district rival but expressed pride in her team's effort. Grubbs is playing at the varsity level for the first time.

"All of our kids have worked hard to improve this year," Marquart said. "It was a little bit of an adjustment for some of those that had not played at this level before. The game is a lot faster and a lot more physical. They are making that adjustment well."

Azle's small size requires smart game strategy and plenty of gumption from the girls.

"Everybody has taller players than us, but we're pretty scrappy," Marquart said. "We try to use our strengths to take advantage of some of that."

Azle had come close to beating Northwest, going 3-0, remaining undefeated and sitting alone in first place. Coming close to victory provided consolation, and the coach looked forward to the future.

"This one, we struggled, but we need to put this behind us and go back to work tomorrow and get ready for the next one," she said. "There are going to be a lot more games to be played. We need to learn from it and move on."

Grubbs is ready to face Northwest again.

"We will be ready to play them next time at their own place," she said.

Azle and Northwest meet again Jan. 27.

Earlier in the week, Azle competed at a tournament at Fort Worth Castleberry High School and won the championship. Twin sisters Kallee and Kendall Locke earned Co-MVP honors, and Vielka Gonzalez was named to the All-Tournament Team.

On Friday, Azle will travel to Brewer to play the Lady Bears.

Azle Christian basketball boys keep wins coming

BY JEFF PRINCE
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The Azle Christian Crusaders found a way to come out on top during two difficult nonconference games, fine-tuning their chops for a series of upcoming district clashes.

On Jan. 3, Azle Christian played a home game against Weatherford Express and prevailed, 57-55.

"Weatherford played us tough with good size," said head coach Ryan Rollins.

Weatherford's starting lineup included two players who stood at least 6-foot, 5-inches tall, and both proved tough to defend. The Crusaders led for most of the game, but Weatherford hit a 3-pointer with 10 seconds left to tie the game at 55.

Rather than call a time out, Azle Christian continued to play, and Camden Logan scored with two seconds remaining on the clock to win the game.

Logan, a 6-foot, 4-inch senior, scored 30 points, grabbed 16 rebounds,

recorded five steals and blocked three shots for what Ryan described as a "monster game."

Drew Skartvedt scored 13 points, and Jake Skartvedt logged 7.

On Jan. 6, the boys hit the road to play Baird High School. They started out slowly.

"We had a terrible first half, only scoring 14 points and getting way behind," Rollins said.

Azle Christian switched to a pressure defense in the second half and came back and won 45-41.

Logan had 14 points, followed by Jake Skartvedt (11) and A.J. Rollins (10).

Noah Rollins and Andy Wisniewski have returned to the lineup after rehabilitating from football injuries and have beefed up the Crusaders defense.

"We are starting to hit our stride," Rollins said.

Azle Christian will play its next district game at 6:15 p.m. Friday at Stonegate Christian in Irving.



Camden Logan played a "monster game" against Weatherford Express.

JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS

Shootout shout-out for Azle swimmers



FROM STAFF REPORTS

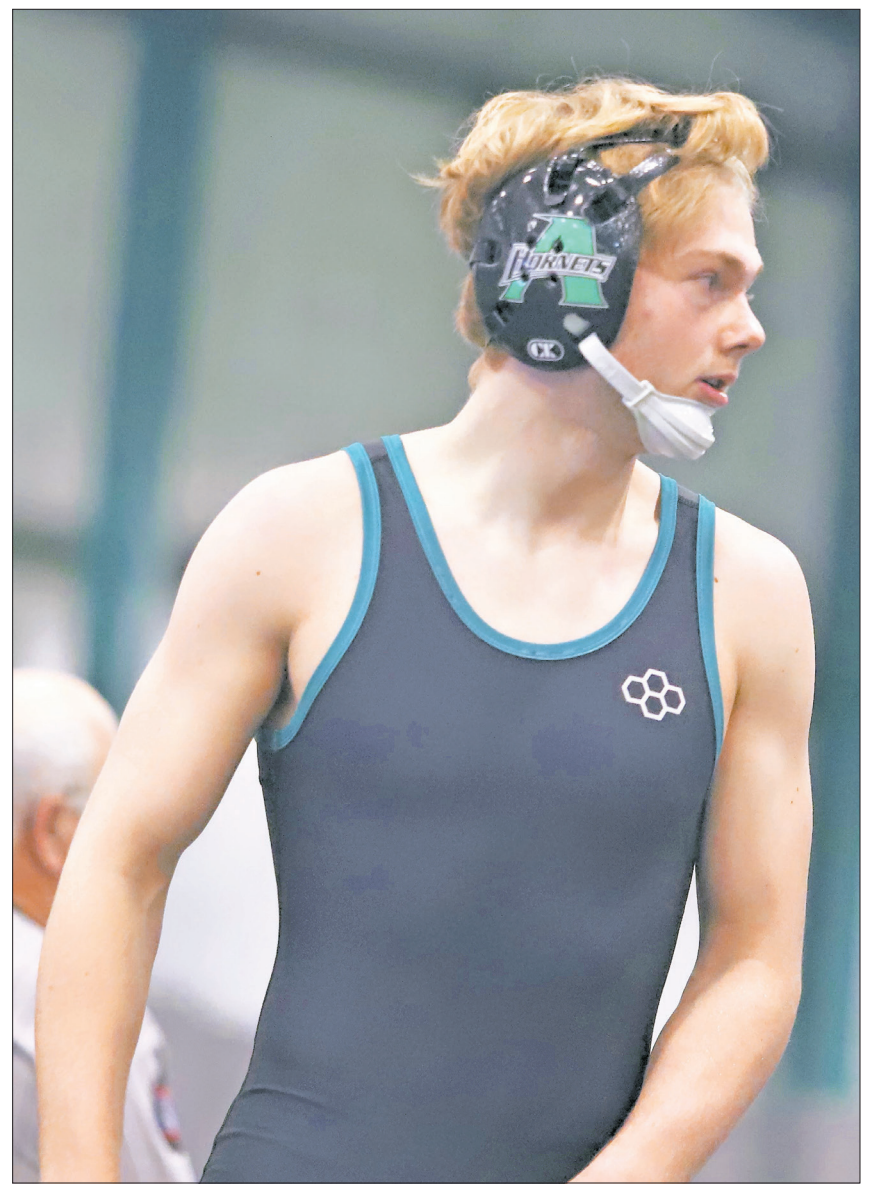
From left, Steven Manley, head coach Amy Estes and Phoebe Mosley celebrate the Azle swim team's success Jan. 4 at the Western Hills Cowtown Shootout. The format requires contestants to swim a lot in a short amount of time, and several career best times were established by Azle swimmers. The shootout required five rounds of 50-yard freestyle, with the top 16 qualifying down to eight, then four, then a swim-off between the top two.

In the girls pentathlon, Phoebe Mosley placed won first place and Brooke Nowakowski was second.

Four boys qualified in their event, and Steven Manley took first place with a career-best time.

"All of our swimmers showed out, and the meet was a great tune-up for district on Jan. 20," Estes said.

"Proud of everyone who swam the pentathlon events and gave it their all."



Braxton Cates takes a breather.

JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS

CATES

FROM PAGE B1

involve many years of higher education. It will also require leaving Azle and moving to a new state.

"I'm ready for it," he said. "I'll have to do things on my own. I won't have my parents to help me. That will help me do better in life."

He admits to feeling jitters about his next phase.

"It's a pretty big world," he said.

"I've heard it's pretty scary, but once I get going and get to doing it, I think I'll do pretty good if I just stick on the

right path."

He will miss Azle even though he sees his hometown evolving before his eyes. In a way, he is glad to leave while the city remains cozy.

"It's growing," he said. "I'm glad that when I graduate, it will still be a small town. I bet in about four years it's going to be a big town. I wouldn't like that. I like how it's small and everybody knows everybody."

"I will miss my friends, my coaches and my teachers," he continued. "I will miss the town, but I will come back here and there to visit and hope everything goes good and great with my life."

600

FROM PAGE B1

Marquart has coached for 39 years - 36 as head coach. She has spent the past 13 years guiding the Lady Hornets in basketball and had coached at numerous schools around the

Metroplex and Texas before settling here.

"The thing that comes to my mind is super great memories of that time period, those games, players, coaching staff, all the people involved - parents, the school administration," she said. "There are so many people involved through all

these years."

She hails from Oklahoma but moved to Texas to play ball at West Texas A&M University and stayed in the state afterward. She coached at Cleburne High School for 10 years before moving to Azle.

"I've been really fortunate that I've coached some re-

ally good athletes and had great coaching staffs," she said. "It's been a great ride."

This year's team is competing for a district championship. They have added 18 wins to Marquart's total already this season.

"For this group, I just want to get as many (wins) as we can and work our way into

those playoffs," she said.

Azle ISD athletic director Becky Spurlock put the coach's victories in perspective, comparing it to a player earning 1,000 career points in high school.

"Not a lot of coaches in their careers reach 600 wins, and the fact that Mitzi has put together that type of

resume is just an outstanding thing for her and the Azle Hornets," Spurlock said. "Coaches coach a lot of games, but there are certain milestones; 600 is an incredible milestone. It means they have been a very diligent coach throughout their program."

SPORTS Roundup

BY JEFF PRINCE
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AZLE HIGH BOYS SOCCER

Azle boys soccer tied a game and won a game during recent tournaments on the road. On Jan. 5, the Hornets tied Keller Central 1-1. The next day, Azle beat Marshall 5-0.

Azle will play Springtown at 9 a.m. Thursday at Pojo Stadium.

AZLE HIGH GIRLS SOCCER

The Lady Hornets won three soccer games in three days to kick off their season in grand fashion. The girls participated in a tournament at Alvarado High School and were flawless.

On Jan. 5, Azle axed Alvarado 2-0. On Jan. 6, the Lady Hornets nixed North Side 2-1. On Jan. 7, Azle dumbfounded Dumas 4-0.

Next up, Azle will try to kapt Keller at 9:30 a.m. Friday in another road tournament at Brewer High School.

FORTE JUNIOR HIGH GIRLS BASKETBALL

The seventh grade Green Team needed time to find its groove after the holidays, but the girls were clicking by the second half. On Jan. 5, Kaylee Creacy and Kelly Gomez played well on offense and defense and showing leadership for the Lady Hornets.

Highland won, 27-12. The seventh grade White Team was victorious, beating Highland 26-11. McKynlee Walden led the Hornets with 8 points. Jonlyn Meissner and Danna Lopez contributed 6 points each, and Belle Edwards, Charlee Ingram and Sarai Silva put points on the board. The 7th grade

White Team is coming together and performing at a high level, said girls athletic coordinator Jason Jones.

The eighth grade Green Team showed poise despite coming up short against the Highland Lady Hawks 26-8. Aurdy Hood led the team in points and rebounds. Rylee Russell, Naytalia Davis and Sherilyn Dacy racked up the rebounds for the Lady Hornets.

The eighth grade White Team also came up short against Highland, 24-6. Parker Neely made the most attempts and Valencia Saenz made both of her free throw shots at the end of the game. Nadia Vidal and Hayden Jones helped put points on the board as well.

AZLE JUNIOR HIGH GIRLS BASKETBALL

The eighth grade Lady

Hornets A Team participated in a basketball tournament at Mineral Wells, where they lost to Aledo and beat Lake Worth and Millsap to take the consolation prize. Carly Mobley stood out for her athletic performances against Lake Worth and Millsap.

"Great job, girls," said head coach Neosha Beach.

On Jan. 5, the seventh grade A Team girls played Mineral Wells and came out on top 22-20. The Hornets were down by at least 10 points for most of the game and came back to win in the fourth quarter. Angel Sifuentes led Azle in scoring with 10 points. Rylie Brekel scored 6, and Makennah Landon, Yurehime Villagomez and Lydia Leonard scored 2 apiece.

"Great game," said head coach Neosha Beach. "Not giving up paid off."



Emmanuel Ruiz and the Azle Hornets will play a soccer match at Springtown this week.



Jacy Williams earned third place at the Texas Outlaw tournament.

JEFF PRINCE | AZLE NEWS

Azle girls clinch hardware at wrestling tournament

BY JEFF PRINCE
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Two of Azle's wrestlers won first-place trophies at the Texas Outlaw tournament, and another finished in third place.

Pella LeFever, the reigning UIL state champion, won first place in the 152-pound

division, and Annabelle Davis earned first place at 145 pounds. Jacy Williams took third place at 100 pounds.

The Lady Hornets are set to compete Jan. 12-14 at the annual Lady Horns Classic wrestling tournament at Caprock High School in Amarillo.

The extended-stay event will pit Azle's wrestlers against some of the region's best athletes. The team will depart Azle on Thursday and return Saturday evening.

The team is just weeks away from district, regional and state competitions.

Kid Scoop THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

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Free Fun!

Do you hear people around you worrying about money? You can help by finding ways to have fun without spending any money. There are lots of FREE things you can do each and every day! Try some of the fun activities on this page—some might be more fun than playing with expensive toys and games!

Make a Sock Puppet!

Turn a sock into a puppet. Sew on buttons for eyes. Use markers to make a mouth. Thread string or yarn through the sock to make hair.

Have your puppet read one of your favorite books aloud!

Grow a Little Garden

Next time you eat a carrot, cut off the top and use it to start a plant. Use several carrot tops and you can start a garden.

- Cut the carrot tops off so they are about one inch long. It works best if there is a little bit of growth at the end of the carrot.
- Eat the rest of the carrots!
- Plant the carrot tops in a container filled with dirt. Be sure a little of each orange top peeks above the dirt. Keep the soil moist, but not soggy. Be sure your container has a hole for drainage. Place the container by a sunny window.
- Watch your carrot plants grow! When you plant carrots this way, your plants won't make new carrots. But they will have pretty leaves to decorate your home.

Number the pictures in order.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Make Your Own Dominoes

Start by taking a walk around your neighborhood. Collect 28 flat light gray stones that are about the same size. Use a black marker or paint to draw dots and lines so that the stones look like the set of dominoes at right.

Put on some music and DANCE, DANCE, DANCE!

Look carefully: Can you find the two identical dancers?

Go to the Library

Imagine a room with all kinds of free books that you can take home! That's a library! Visit your local library and check out fun books to read. Ask the librarian to help you find books that interest you.

Reading Riddle

Gabriella loves nothing more than listening to the rain at night as it patters against the window panes. She has never read this book. And she will never finish it. Use the code to find out why!

	E		S		
2	11	7	14	15	10
			E		
9	14	2	4	6	11
			13	13	14
	S			7	14
6	10		14		17

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Ben, Bobbie and Brendan can't remember who will play which base today. Use the coach's clue to help them out. Draw a line from each player to the base they will play.

COACH'S CLUE:
The third baseman's number is twice the first baseman's number plus 2.

Standards Link: Mathematical Reasoning: Use strategies in the problem-solving process.

Double Double Word Search

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

R	Y	K	H	C	N	I	D	S	L
N	N	T	B	N	U	F	O	W	K
P	N	R	O	X	D	G	N	A	P
U	Z	A	R	G	K	O	R	A	
P	S	P	R	Y	R	D	M	T	
P	Q	L	I	B	R	A	R	Y	T
E	C	N	A	D	Y	G	C	V	E
T	P	P	B	O	O	K	S	Z	R
V	Q	M	O	N	E	Y	S	O	S
E	F	R	E	E	F	R	E	A	D

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

Kid Scoop FIT & FUN

Nature Walk Bingo

Go for a nature walk with some friends. Each of you select one of the bingo cards below. When you see one of the things shown on the card, cross out that space. The first person to black out their card wins!

Standards Links: Physical Education: Understand the benefits associated with participation in physical activities.

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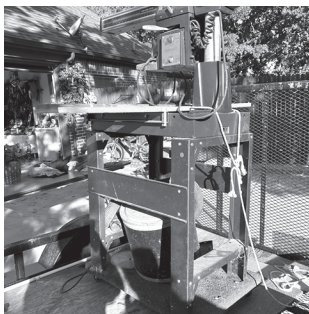
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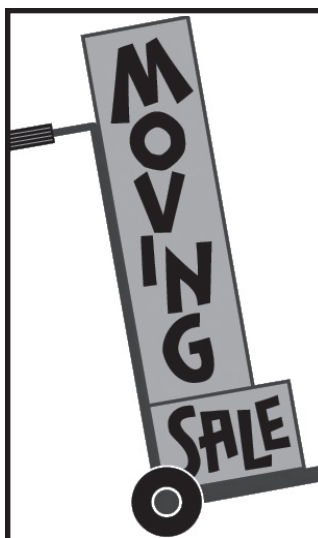
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ACROSS

- this Lawrence moved Exxon headquarters to Texas
- Billy Ray Cyrus hit: "Breaky Heart"
- TXism: "you can write ___ ink" (positive)
- "Acton State Historical ___"
- Adam's mate
- this Zapruder filmed JFK assassination
- sprinter Lendore who ran for ACU and A&M
- TX Mahomes won S. ___ Belt in 2020
- Junction High class antique autos
- Amarillo's "___ State Fair & Rodeo"
- "___ way" (sick or unhappy)
- Texas-based 1943 film: "___ Cowboys"
- this Davis was a Planger pitcher from 1999 to 2003 (init.)
- bean or pea, e.g.
- De ____, TX
- an undocumented one might cross Rio Grande into Texas
- TXism: "weak as a two-___"
- aquarium fish
- TXism: "___ the towel" (give up)
- TX Strait's "You Look ___ Good in Love"
- "dip" sidekick
- TXism: "lends a hand"
- Stafford High mascot
- ___ Olde Shoppe
- "sun" in Mexico
- TXism: "she could charm ___ out of a tree"
- TXism: "dull as week-___ pop"
- "loosy ___"
- Colt .45, e.g.
- "long time ___"
- Texas is 29 times bigger than this NE state (abbr.)

DOWN

- TXism: "___ on concrete" (city boy)
- energetic
- name of 3 Texas towns including one in Titus County (2 wds.)
- TX Phil who was all-around cowboy in 1971 & 1972
- state where Jerry & Jimmy played college ball (abbr.)
- wife of a baron (but not a cattle baron)
- "Flower Gardens Banks," 100 miles off Galveston
- Texas is ___ state
- a cowboy always has ___ with him
- heat relief (abbr.)
- "The Katy" back in the day: "___ Railway"
- TXism: "he couldn't drive a ___ a snowbank" (inept)
- have pizza delivered home (2 wds.)
- abducts someone
- birth state of TX Goodnight (abbr.)
- Beatty of 1990 film "Big Bad John" with TX Jimmy Dean
- 59-across to a mobster (2 wds.)
- TXism: "___ half a mind to" (inclined)
- Waggoner heiress
- TXism: "if ___ been a snake, it would have bit you"
- intox. offense in TX
- TXism: "swap spit"
- Texas school policy: "___ Play"
- TXism: "he couldn't ___ for a nightmare" (poor)
- Samuel developed ___ code
- old Texas mission: "San Francisco ___ Tejas"
- modern pastime: "surfing the ___"
- work hard
- TXism: "swap spit"
- Texas school policy: "___ Play"
- work hard
- young male (2 wds.)
- "get ___ of it"
- TX-born Joshua who co-wrote "South Pacific"
- uncooked bread

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