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WEDNESDAY, November 23, 2022 • \$1



Deer such as these can be found grazing on grass in neighborhoods in Azle. Lots of deer are ending up dead on the sides of roadways after been hit by vehicles. Deer are in the middle of their rutting season – mating period – right now.

Oh, deer

Deer rutting season leads to more dead deer on roads

BY MADELYN EDWARDS

madelyn@azlenews.net

ave you seen more dead deer on the side of the road? That's because it's deer rutting season.

The rutting season is when deer mate, and they tend to move around more during this time, said Jesse Oetgen, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department technical guidance biologist. The peak of rutting season is in mid-November.

"They're covering more territory than they do other times of the year," said Oetgen, who is based in Weatherford. "They're maybe not as cautious crossing the roads as they're paying more attention to other bucks or other does just as part of their rutting activity."

As a result, there is an up-

tick of deer on the side of roads after being hit by vehicles, Oetgen said.

Often, deer carcasses are left on the side of the road to be cleaned up by scavengers if the deer are not causing a roadway hazard, said Sgt. Richard Hunter, a spokesman for the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Oetgen said leaving the

SEE DEER, PAGE 4A.

Sports buildings need a boost

AISD athletic director: We need more space for our kids

BY DON MUNSCH

don@azlenews.net

The Azle school district had 2,200 students in 1966.

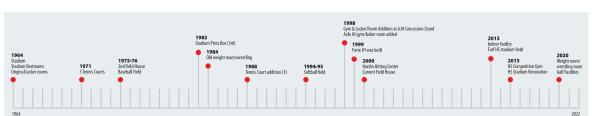
Now, the high school's enrollment nearly equals that mark - 2,109 students. AISD's current total enrollment stands at around 7,100.

Members of the AISD Long Range Facilities Planning Committee heard a number of figures at its monthly meeting, held Nov. 14 at Azle High School. The meeting allowed committee members a chance

to tour athletic buildings and gain insight on their usage and space. One of the figures committee members learned was that nearly half of the student body is composed of student athletes - 1,039. That number has grown by nearly 100 students in two years.

"As you can see, we're growing, guys," AISD Athletic Director Becky Spurlock told committee members, who assembled in the school library. "So when we come to you with

SEE **SPORTS**, PAGE 3A.





The AISD long range planning committee toured the existing athletic buildings, including the indoor facility at Azle High School.

Christmas on Main unveils Miracle theme for this year's event



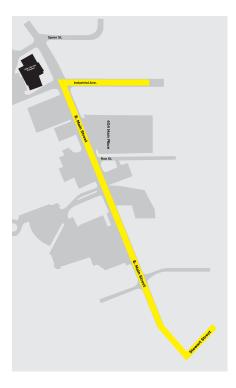
Azle ISD Transportation won 2021's Christmas on Main competition for Best Overall Entry.

BY DON MUNSCH

don@azlenews.net

Miracle on Main Street is the theme of this year's Azle Area Chamber of Commerce's Christmas on Main Street event, to be held Dec. 3.

The event includes a lighted parade that rolls down Main Street, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The parade begins at Church and Main Street and then turns right on Industrial and then ends at Industrial and Center. People are still entering to be in the parade, and "quite a few" parade entries show up the day of the event, said Chamber executive director Jennifer Herrington. Anyone wanting to enter may call the chamber at 817-444-1112 or access azlechristmasonmain.com.



SEE **CHRISTMAS**, PAGE 2A. This year's parade route.







HEALTH CARE & REHABILITATION 721 Dunaway Lane • Azle, TX 76020 • 817-444-2536



CHRISTMAS

FROM PAGE 1

A Christmas tree lighting ceremony – conducted at the Azle Historical Museum and at City Hall – will be 6:30 p.m., preceding the parade.

"It's kind of ringing in that Christmas holiday spirit," Herrington said about the festivities.

She said Christmas on Main aspires to be a festive day that gives back to the community and its children.

"The chamber staff could not do it without its members and volunteers, and we're excited for it," said Herrington, noting it is her and administrative assistant Julie Preston's first year to be at the chamber for Christmas on Main.

In addition, Christmas on Main will feature outdoor vendors from noon to 5 p.m., a car show from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and children's activities inside 404 Main Place from 2-5 p.m. The Community Christmas Celebration will be from 4-6:30 p.m.

Vendors wanting to participate may call the chamber or visit the website. Anyone selling food will have a different fee and those selling food must call the Tarrant County Health Department and get a temporary permit, Herrington said. All the regulations are at azlechristmasonmain.com.

The Lions Club operates the car show, and entrants must contact that organization. The car show will be behind City Hall in the parking lot.

Also, Main Street business owners may participate in a decorating contest to reflect the theme of Miracle on Main Street. Decorating must be finished by Nov. 28, and judging will be conducted the next two days following the deadline day. (Secret judges will evaluate the decorations.) Contest winners will be announced during the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Azle Historical Museum on Dec. 3, before the parade. Businesses are not required to fill out any paperwork to enter the contest, as a chamber news release said if a business on Main Street is decorated, it will be included in the judging process. Business owners may decorate their storefront, windows and yard.

Contest categories for the decorating contest are Best Overall, Most Christmas Spirit, Best Theme - "Miracle on Main Street," Most Creative and Best Lighted Display.

Anyone attending Christmas on Main can find parking at Central Park and nearby neighborhoods. The parking lot at Roe and Central will be accessible, and that is the grassy area behind the bus barn.

Also this year, for the first time, the chamber will hold a Christmas Tree Decorating Contest, to be held Dec. 1 at 404 Main Place. The first prize for the event will be a table at the annual awards banquet in February.

The contest is open to Azle Chamber members, and all supplies – trees, lights, ornaments, etc. – will be provided by the business entering the contest. All trees will be decorated at 404 Main Place and judging will take place Dec. 2 and the winner will be announced at Christmas on Main Street on Dec. 3. Trees will be auctioned, and proceeds will be donated to the Azle Christmas on Main Street bicycle giveaway 2023.

Tips for protecting pipes from freezing weather

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Texas Water Utilities is offering tips to help people protect their homes from freezing weather.

Water expands when it freezes, which puts pressure on pipes and can cause them to break. Texas Water Utilities recommends the following tips to prepare in case of a freeze.

· Open cabinets and keep the thermostat at a consistent temperature during the day and night.

• Leave the heat on when going away for vacation during cold weather.

· Insulate pipes and faucets in unheated areas and seal off openings in doors and air vents.

 \cdot Drain the swimming pool,

shut down the sprinkler system, turn off outside faucets and remove connected hoses.

· If a pipe freezes but hasn't burst, try to thaw it out with an electric heating pad, hairdryer or towel soaked with hot water. Apply heat by slowly moving the heat source toward the coldest spot on the pipes. Never concentrate heat in one area because cracking ice can shatter a line.

For more tips and information, visit SouthWest Water Company's website at swwc.com/h2ome/learning-center/ preparing-for-cold-weather/



HOTO BY CARLA NOAH STUTSMAN

Prepare your house for cold weather and save future frustration.

It's tree decorating time in Azle

FROM STAFF REPORTS

People interested in decorating the Optimist Club Christmas tree may join others at the tree in front of the Azle Historical Museum, 124 W. Main St., at 10 a.m. Nov. 26. The tree will be lit at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 3 at the Azle Area Chamber of Commerce's Christmas on Main event. The tree lighting - conducted in conjunction with a tree lighting at City Hall - precedes the parade on Main Street, ending Christmas on Main Street activities.

Christmas on Main Street has events running most of the day and features a number of other events besides the tree lighting and parade, such as a car show and vendors.



PHOTO BY JESSICA MCKINNEY

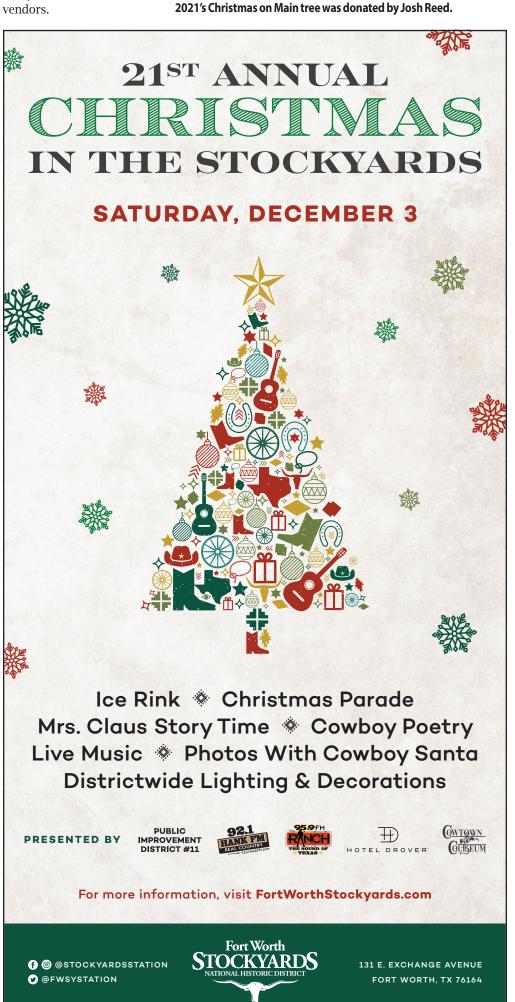
2021's Christmas on Main tree was donated by Josh Reed.



From all of

us at Azle

Dental Care



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SPORTS

FROM PAGE 1

facility needs, we're trying to show you that there are needs. It's not just we'd like to do this or we'd like to do that. We want to show you what the needs are.'

Current junior high athletic numbers - seventh and eighth grade students, culled from both schools - are 868.

With the numbers of athletes at the school and an enrollment that continues to climb, district officials have to scrutinize the current state of facilities and make longrange plans.

Spurlock presented data at the Nov. 14 meeting and then led a tour of the current athletic buildings. Some of the data involved when buildings were constructed. Hornet Stadium was built in 1964, for instance, while the current high school competition gym was built in 2015. The indoor facility, which is used for a variety of sports and activities, was added in 2013.

In her presentation about how the district can complete some projects without a bond, Spurlock said a new turf and track are needed at Hornet Stadium. The current track has seven lanes and needs an eighth lane to be fully equipped, and then it can be a track that can hold district and area track and field meets. She said the turf is still OK now from a safety point, but it eventually needs to be replaced.

AISD also needs to conduct some renovation work at the

small gym at Forte Junior High School and provide tennis court climate control storage. All of those items can be completed through the regular budget and maintenance.

For areas that can be addressed with construction that does not require a bond, at the tennis courts, an addition of four high school tennis courts, light replacement, matching wind screen and climate-controlled storage building can be completed. Also, the Azle Junior High School track can be resurfaced. The items potentially could be paid for by fund balance or the end-of-year balance.

And then for bond projects, she noted, the district should consider, among other projects, renovation of an old weight room area, locker room additions, installing artificial turf at softball and baseball fields, renovating Hornet Stadium and completing some additions at the two junior high schools. The district should also consider a natatorium, Spurlock said, as swimmers are currently using a swim facility for practice in Decatur and need a practice facility here.

All of these projects mentioned above in the three finding categories would be considered over a five-year plan.

Some projects, such as painting, are being performed during this school vear at athletic facilities. Some projects that have been completed in the district since 2017 have been the branding of the high school -



PHOTO BY DON MUNSCH

AISD Athletic Director Becky Spurlock spoke with members of the committee about the need for new turf at Hornet Stadium.

school spirit painting, which includes the Hornet logo, to make it "livelier," Spurlock said - and competition gym branding that includes painting Azle's name and logo. The district also has resurfaced the Forte Junior High School track, resurfaced existing tennis courts and resurfaced the high school and most junior high school gyms.

The overhaul of Hornet Stadium can't be conducted without a bond, Spurlock said. Areas of projected upgrade are seating increases, restrooms, concession stands, replacement of some seating and a new press box and new video board.

Spurlock said the upgrades are needs "because we have grown and our facilities, in some cases, are just old and they need to be updated. But the main thing is, we need more space for our kids."

After her presentation, Spurlock answered questions from committee members, one of whom wondered whether student athletes who play sports for Azle might have psychological effects because they are in cramped locker rooms, don't have a set place to practice or they see that the facilities around the district are better than Azle's.

Spurlock responded that Azle has "phenomenal kids" who come every day, regardless of whether they are in a crowded locker room, and give 110% and "I appreciate them for that." But she does realize that students walk into other schools and wonder why they can't have similar facilities.

At the presentation, Superintendent Todd Smith lauded what the district has been able to accomplish with some of its offerings, such as the weight room, and the golf facility.

The district should grow in the range of about 3% in the next several years, and for AISD, that equates to 200-250 more students, depending

on variables, Smith said. Real estate data show that many houses will be available soon with the neighborhoods being built, Smith said.

"We'll continue to see some growth and then kind of after those neighborhoods build out, maybe kind of see what's happening with the economy then," he said.

Smith announced there will be a public meeting to discuss attendance zones with the new elementary school, Hilltop, beginning classes next year. The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Nov. 30 at the Swarm conference room in Azle ISD's administration building.

Alliance to hold blood drive

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Azle Area Ministerial Alliance will hold a Carter BloodCare community blood drive from 3:30-6:30 p.m. Dec. 5 at FUMC Azle, 200 Church St

Residents are encouraged to give blood because donating blood helps local patients in urgent need of transfusions because of surgeries,

severe trauma, cancer treatments, organ transplants, difficulties during childbirth, and age-related health issues, Carter BloodCare stated in a news release.

"The need for blood is nonstop, even during the holidays. In fact, every two seconds, someone needs a lifesaving transfusion," the release stated.

And as special thanks for giving in December, each Carter BloodCare donor will receive a colorful fleece blanket, available while supplies last, the release stated.

To sign up, access https:// ww3.greatpartners.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/127876. For more information, call Colleen Horan at 817-412-5372.

Attention Men and Women over 65 years old...

Do You Want To Learn How To Stay Out Of Nursing Homes FOREVER? WITHOUT RISKING YOUR HEALTH, **SAFETY, OR INDEPENDENCE?**

By Balance Expert Dr. Robert Moss



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

Do you feel guilty that your spouse is forced to be with you all the time because of your dizziness/loss of balance?

Do you feel that your dizziness/loss of balance is always there no matter what you do?

Do you feel that you are handicapped by your dizziness/loss of balance? Does your spouse stay with you in the shower so that you do not fall? If you answer yes to any of these questions, **please read further...**

CDC Reports: Household Falls Are The Leading Cause of Injuries In Seniors

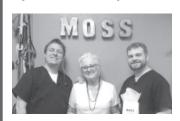
If you have ever seen the Life Alert commercials, then you will immediately have a picture in your mind of an elderly lady laying on the floor desperately trying to get up only to discover she is not able to. Whether she is just weak, has broken a hip or caused some other serious injury this image of helplessness is constantly on the mind of our elderly

Working with seniors over many years it has become apparent that the greatest common fear is the fear of falling and not being able to get back up. This is not unreasonable as 1/3 of all adults over 65 will fall this year and each fall is potentially life changing.

Falling should not be your lifestyle

Falls often lead to hospitalizations, serious injury or the need for assisted living of some sort. In the most severe cases a fall can lead to death. If the fall, injury, and hospitalization isn't bad enough, frequent falls lead to loss of independence, limits in your daily activities, and increase your reliance on friends and family members to complete basic everyday tasks.

With the right information and the right guidance many falls can be prevented, keeping you out of the hospital and Nursing Homes. Here is what one of my patients had to say:



When I came to Moss, I had trouble walking due to no balance. I was not able to get in and out of a car, I was not able to do my activities. After my therapy I am able to walk and continue with my shopping and light house work. I can do this all un-assisted thanks to my therapy. Evelyn Tinney

If you are embarrassed or reluctant to use a cane or walker because it makes you "look old" or if you feel like a burden to those around you because you need to hold on to someone when you walk or ask them to run your errands...

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www.springtownphysicaltherapy. com/balance-report and you can download it instantly.

SCAN QR CODE WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE

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BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Graham Crackers, Toast Mon Chocolate Croissant Roll, Strawberry Craisins Tues Cini Mini, Apple Weds Cereal Bar, orange Thurs Apple Frudel, Strawberry Craisins Fri Mini Waffles, Bananas

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

Mon Chicken & Cheese Quesadilla, Sloppy Joe, Peas, Applesauce Tues Tater Tot Casserole w/biscuit, Chicken Nachos, Spanish Rice, Green Beans, Pears **Weds** Turkey & Cheese Sandwich, Chicken Spaghetti w/roll, Steamed Broccoli, Orange **Thurs** Mini Corndogs, Chicken armesan, Corn, Applesauce **Fri** Pepperoni Pizza, Cheese Pizza, Popcorn Chicken Salad, Mixed Veggies, Peaches

GRADES 5TH - 8TH

BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Yogurt w/Granola Mon French Toast Sticks, Applesauce Tues Breakfast Taco, Apple Weds Biscuit & Gravy, orange Thurs Breakfast on a Stick, Oranges Fri Waffles, Bananas

LUNCH: Everyday: Variety of milk. Your choice of 1 entree & 1 fruit or juice, rolls, crackers . Salad bar offered daily

ese Quesadilla, Sloppy Joe, Peas, Applesauce **Tues** Tater Tot Casserole w/biscuit, Chicken Nachos, Spanish Rice, Green leans, Pears **Weds** Turkey & Cheese Sandwich, Chicken Spaghetti w/roll, Steamed Broccoli, Orange **Thurs** Mini Corndogs, Chicken Parme san, Corn, Applesauce **Fri** Pepperoni Pizza, Cheese Pizza, Popcorn Chicken Salad, Mixed Veggies, Peaches

HIGH SCHOOL

BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Yogurt w/Granola

Mon French toast Sticks, Assorted Cereal, Pineapple Tues Breakfast Taco, Assorted Cereal, Oranges Weds Biscuit & Gravy, Assorted Cereal, Applesauce Thurs Breakfast on a Stick, Apples Fri Waffles, Applesauc

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 Steak Fingers w/ gravy, Sausage Link w/ mac n cheese Cheese Enchiladas, Bean Burrito, Orange Chicken w/fried rice, Cheese Pizza, Pep peroni Pizza , Cheeseburger/Burger, Crispito **Tues** Chicken Nuggets, Mini, Corndogs, Beef or Chicken, Nachos, General Tso's Chicken, w/ Io Mein, Chicken Alfredo,, Cheese Pizza , Boneless Chicken, Wings, Hot Dogs **Weds** Mac n Cheese, Fish, Sticks, Beef or Chicken Tacos,, Chicken Egg Rolls w/ fried Rice,, Meatball Sub, Pepperoni Pizza, Spicy Chicken Sandwich, Popcorn Chicken Thurs Popcorn chicken w/roll, breaded chicken sandwich quesadillas, taquitos, teriyaki chicken with lo mein noodles, max sticks w/marinara, cheese pizza, corn dog, chicken and waffles **Fri** Cheeseburger, Burger, Totchos w/ rice, Bean Burrito, Sweet n Sour Chicken w/ fried rice, Chicken Bacon Wrap, Nachos

Hey Parents!

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News

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SAM HOUSTON

Publisher KIM WARE

DON MUNSCH

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A day for everyone to give thanks, and to remember those days gone by

It is almost Thanksgiving Day. It will be my 66th Thanksgiving to celebrate and so the day conjures up a lot of memories. I imagine the same can be said for all you readers. Just the mention of the day and the brain starts to replay video of past

My remembrance focuses on being at my grandparents' little farmhouse. I would guess it was no bigger than 1,300 square feet and when four sets of aunts and uncles and seven grandchildren piled in, it was stuffed as tight as a Nathan's hot dog. Most often the weather outside was cold and forbidding, so we young ones were forced to stay inside. This led to a copious amount of scolding from our parents as the amount of noise we created rose to ever-increasing levels. Once one of the adults addressed our behavior, we would all simmer down for a short time, and then we would be back to making the same amount of racket we had created previously. Our folks were fighting a losing battle, and I think they all knew it.

The meals were always great, and everyone had their favorites. I still see my grandmother, mom, and three aunts all helping to cook in the tiny kitchen. Nothing will ever taste as good as those meals.

Once the meal was over, the family card game would start. The Houstons played 5-point Pitch and the competition was fierce. One of the proud-



FROM MY FRONT PORCH

By Sam Houston

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

est moments in my life was when I was finally old enough to play in the adult game. It was memorable to play with the aunts and uncles who, because of distance, I seldom got to spend time with, and to attempt to beat my grandfather and dad. Both had a way of being able to "snap" a card when they threw it on the table, and the sound still rings in my ears.

There was my first Thanksgiving alone, when I had graduated and moved off to my first job. I was hundreds of miles away from my family with no vacation time off from work and little money to be able to afford to travel. I stayed in my small apartment, made Thanksgiving chili and watched football all day. I was by myself, but I did not feel lonely or alone. I was proud I had set off to make my own trail, and the experience somehow seemed like another passage from youth to adult. Having Thanksgiving by myself let me know I was no longer a child.

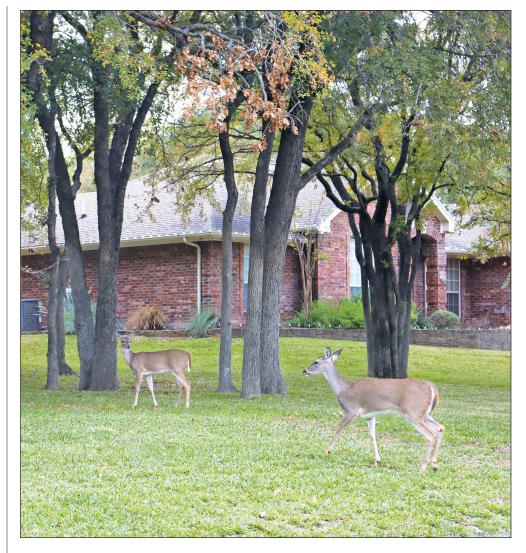
This year, our family will be together. There will be food to eat, stories to tell, and grandchildren to play with. We will be creating memories for the youngsters, and reliv-

ing memories for us "oldsters." I have taken the role of the patriarch of the family, the one my grandfather held for so many years. How did I come to be cast in that role? How did I become so ... so ... well ... old?

Through it all, I will be thinking of the ways I have been blessed over the past year, and how thankful I am. My health is good, my marriage is strong, my grandchildren are healthy, and I have the good fortune to work with wonderful people doing something that is meaningful to our community. I have my Miss Jayne to look after, fun friends to go through life with, and the sense to know how lucky I am.

I hope you all have a wonderful holiday. Stop and take a minute between bites of green bean casserole or pecan pie to acknowledge all the reasons you have to be thankful. When you do, I bet it will give you a warm feeling and a glow of contentment. It does not get much better than that.

Happy Thanksgiving! Thought for the day: There is something for everyone to be thankful about on Thanksgiving, even if it is just not being a turkey.



Hitting a deer can cause severe damage to a vehicle, and TX DPS recommends trying to avoid the animal if possible, without causing the car to lose control.

DEER

FROM PAGE 1

dead deer to be cleaned up by scavengers - mainly turkey vultures – is a natural process.

"Leaving them on side of the road is the way it would happen if the road wasn't there," he said.

If the deer carcass is a roadway hazard, it may be picked up and disposed of by local animal control, Hunter said.

Oetgen and Hunter confirmed that law enforcement, such as the local game warden, should be called if a deer is injured and needs to be dispatched.

Having an increase in dead deer on roadways is somewhat beneficial to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department workers because they can collect samples from the roadkill to be tested for chronic wasting disease, which is monitored statewide, Oetgen said.

Because of the increased movement of deer, motorists may encounter deer while driving. If hit, deer can cause severe damage to a vehicle, and drivers can incur injuries or die from this kind of crash, Hunter said.

"A driver should brake to slow the vehicle down and steer to try and avoid the animal, if possible, but should avoid jerking the wheel that could cause the vehicle to lose control," he said.

If a collision with a deer does occur and there is damage to the driver's vehicle, property or the driver is injured, Hunter said the crash should be reported to law enforcement. Texas DPS usually investigates crashes with wildlife where there is injury to a person or property damage.

"If there is not going to be an investigation by Texas DPS or other law enforcement, the driver will need to take photos and document the location, time and other information so that they can report the collision to their insurance company," Hunter

Oetgen pointed out that if a deer is killed on the road, it is against the law to keep any part of the deer.

Hunter advises drivers to avoid distractions while driving and be focused on traveling the road. They should also slow down at night and make sure their vehicle's headlights are functioning properly "to give the driver more light to see the roadway and more time to react to emergency situations."

"Always wear your seatbelt, every trip, every time," he said.

Holiday Christmas Market **LOOKING FOR VENDORS December 1, 2022** 10 am - 4 pm **Contact Amanda Scott or** Jacy Poe at Legacy Oaks 817-406-3259

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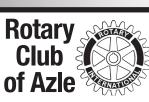
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Azle Lion's Club

Meets 2nd TUESDAY 6:30 PM 412 Commerce, Azle e-clubhouse.org/sites/azle_tk/ Jamie Westbrook - president 817-550-7625





www.emphc.org Mon 12-6 PM Thurs 12-6 PM SE HABLA ESPAÑOL

Pastor found his calling in his teen years

BY DON MUNSCH

don@azlenews.net

Young people can set their sights on a career at a young age and then change their minds once they leave high school and enter college or the work force.

Josh Lowrance always wanted to be in ministry, saying he felt the call at age 13 at the Church of God campgrounds in Weatherford.

"I was there for a youth camp," said Lowrance, new lead pastor at Azle First Assembly of God. "I grew up Church of God, and my dad was a Church of God minister. ... I felt the call to the ministry at that time and from that time forward, I always knew I was going to be in the ministry."

In ninth grade, he was in his speech class, and in the students' first speech, they had to explain what they wanted to do careerwise when they graduated high school. His classmates mentioned careers in law enforcement, engineering, law and medicine.

"I wrote my speech about how I wanted to be a preacher," he said. "Even to this day, I'll have people that I graduated school with who were in that speech class with me message me and (say), 'I think you were the only one who actually did what they wrote about doing."

Lowrance, 36, began as pastor at Azle First Assembly of God in early November. He replaces Tim Stevens, who left the church as lead pastor in May to take a lead pastor position at a church in Waco.

From New Boston, which is about 20 miles west of

Texarkana, Lowrance completed his undergraduate and graduate work at Liberty University. He holds a bachelor of science degree in history and a master of divinity in biblical studies.

The Azle church is his second pastorate. Prior to being a pastor, he was in youth ministry for 13 years. Before coming to Azle, he was a youth pastor at an Assembly of God church in Bossier City, Louisiana. His first church to pastor was a First Assembly of God in Clarendon, a small town in the Texas Panhandle. He was there prior to going to Bossier City.

Through prayer, he said, he thought God was beginning to direct him to pastoring a church again during his stint in Bossier City. He thinks his time in Clarendon helped him learn to teach people "how to be a church or how to be the church." While every church needs a pastor, the pastor isn't the church by himself, and it's not his job to do everything, Lowrance said.

"One of the things I was able to do Clarendon was to teach people how to take ownership in their own church," he said. "I believe in the priesthood of the believer, meaning that every person has been called to do the work for the ministry regardless of whether or not they're in vocational ministry. They've been called to do the work of the ministry, and just being able to teach them how to do that is something I'm hoping to bring here, too."

He said he is "very excited" to be at Azle First Assembly of God and wants to learn about the commu-



PHOTO BY DON MUNSCI

Josh Lowrance recently began as lead pastor of Azle First Assembly of God. He comes to the church after being a youth pastor in Louisiana, although he has been a pastor of a church before, in Clarendon, located in the Panhandle.

nity and get to know people in Azle. He said the people at Azle First have been "very loving" and "very open." He said there are congregants here who want to see the church grow and be a part of the community.

He said his preaching style is expository in which he will go verse by verse through scripture preaching, and he describes his leadership style as delegative and collaborative.

"I like everybody to be a part of the work," he said, noting he doesn't want to be the type of person who has the mindset that if he wants something done right, he has to do it himself. He embraces the notion of participation is better than perfection and that someone completing a task efficiently is better than him doing everything by himself.

Service times at the church are Sunday morning at 10:30, but the church doesn't have a

Wednesday night service at the moment but it is something Lowrance would like to reimplement in the future, probably after the holidays. Lowrance and wife, Hollie, will be married for 13 years in December. They have three children: Hannah, 11; Harmony, 8; and Titus, 2.



Eagle Mountain Pregnancy Help Center

The Azle Area Chamber of Commerce and Ambassadors hosted a ribbon cutting/re-grand opening for Eagle Mountain Pregnancy Help Center on Nov. 15, 2022. Portia Jackson, executive director of the Center, and the Board welcomed many in the community to celebrate the building renovation reveal. Their team is ready to assist Azle and surrounding communities.



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Saturday, December 3rd • Noon - 5:00 PM

The Optimist Club, Azle Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Azle News invite you, your friends and family to join us for a wonderful community Christmas celebration.

2022 theme: "Miracle on Main Street"

Azle Christmas on Main Vendor Show W. Main Street • 12 - 5 PM

Vendor booths will be open for holiday shopping. Help us support local businesses this season.

Children's Christmas Event at 404 404 W. Main Street • 2 - 5 PM

Brought to you by the Azle Optimist Club, the Azle News, and the Azle Area Chamber of Commerce this event will include activities for the children of Azle. Register for bike giveaways, pick up a cookie kit to decorate with family at home, and get a chance to see Santa. There will also be ornaments, candy canes, coloring books, and reindeer food to take home.

Simultaneous City Christmas Tree Lightings at 6:30 PM Azle Historical Museum • 124 W. Main Street Azle City Hall • 505 W. Main Street

Join the Mayor of Azle and other community leaders for the lighting of the City Christmas Tree at the Azle Historical Museum.

Join other officials for the City Hall Tree Lighting.

Main Street Business Decorating Categories:

Most Christmas Spirit • Best Theme "Miracle on Main Street" Most Creative • Best Light Display • Best Overall

Winners will be announced at the Azle Historical Museum at 6:15 pm.

Silent auction for decorated Christmas trees provided by Chamber members inside 404 Main Place. Proceeds benefiting 2023 bike giveaway.

UTGCD announces new annual rainwater harvesting grant program



Pictured is the rainwater harvesting system used in Parker County. Maintained systems significantly reduce groundwater usage, utility costs, erosion and weathering of vegetative surfaces.

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District recently announced a new annual rainwater harvesting grant program for Parker, Wise, Montague and Hood counties.

UTGCD encourages organizations within the district area to consider the addition of rainwater harvesting systems to structures and organizational buildings. Maintained systems significantly reduce groundwater usage, utility costs, erosion and weathering of vegetative surfaces. Rainwater harvesting efforts are supported by the state, and exemplary systems are recognized each year via the Texas Water Development

There is no cost to apply to the program, and multiple systems may be granted within an application year. Up to 100% of funding is available to grantees with multiple cost sharing options available as well.

UTGCD will accept applications through Feb. 28. To access application documents, video guides and resources on rainwater harvesting, visit uppertrinitygcd.com and navigate to the grant resource hub via the "News" tab.

Organizations and entities that are eligible for the grant include cities, counties, independent school districts, municipal utility districts, special utility districts, emergency service districts, volunteer fire departments, non-profit

organizations, other entities that provide public service consistent with the purposes of or that otherwise benefit UTGCD and other private entities to which the public has access. Interested parties can contact UTGCD to verify their eligibility.

Administratively complete applications will be graded via a numerical scoring rubric, available to applicants as part of program transparency. Applicants will be able to track the status of their application via the district website.

For questions regarding the application process, application materials and status updates, contact Jill Garcia at 817-523-5200 or jill@uppertrinitygcd.com.



Pictured is the rainwater harvesting system used at the Wise County Fairgrounds.

Spotlight on BUSINESS



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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.

If your vehicle spent a lot of time on the road then it's important to make sure it gets the routine maintenance it needs to avoid any unwelcome surprises.

The folks at Motley have been in the area for 21 years and bring a wealth of knowledge and experience.

Mike Motley says, "If it's got wheels and tires and nuts and bolts, we can fix it."

Brake checks and repairs, oil changes, radiators, timing belts and chains, sensors, front end work, shocks, struts, head gaskets,

motor swaps and window motors are just a few of the long list of services they perform. 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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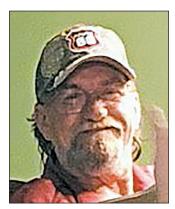
Jerry McBeath-Watson 1952 - 2022

Ierry Deene McBeath-Watson, 70, passed away unexpectedly, while on the road, November 8, 2022 in Montague County.

A private memorial will be planned. Please contact the family for more information. Jerry was born April 2,

1952 in Weatherford to William McBeath and "Babe" Nellie May (Brawley) Watson. He never met a stranger. He was an over the road truck driver for 15 years and prior to that he was a building maintenance supervisor for a high-rise condominium complex. Jerry enjoyed traveling and spending time near the ocean in Port Aransas and Florida. He was a computer buff and loved spending time with family. He was a loving brother and uncle and friend to all who knew him.

His parents preceded him



in death along with his son, Lewis Watson.

Jerry is survived by his sisters, Cynthia Watson and her husband Arly, Carla Rippin, and Sarah Bishop and husband Shane; numerous nieces, nephews and extended family and friends.

> The Azle News, Aug. 24, 2022 Edition

Billie Beaver 1933 - 2022

Billie Fred Beaver, loving husband and father of three children, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Sunday, November 6, 2022, at the age of 89.

A graveside memorial service will be held on Saturday, December 3, 2022 at Ash Creek Cemetery in Azle, Texas beginning at 2 p.m. Memorials may be sent to First Baptist Church of Azle.

Graveside memorial service will be held on Saturday, December 3, 2022 at Ash Creek Cemetery beginning at 2 p.m.

Bill was born on June 9, 1933 in Morehead, Kansas to Fred and Ona Mae Beaver. He married Marcella Massey on June 9, 1958. They had three children, Sharon, Bradley and Sandra.

Bill served 23 years in the US Air Force at several different bases, including Andrews Air Force Base in suburban Washington, DC, where he was a mechanic for Air Force One

Following his military retirement, he worked 17 years as a technical writer for F-16 fighter planes at General Dynamics/Lockheed. He was a longtime member at First Baptist Church of Azle, ac-

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tively involved in the growth of the church and numerous mission trips around the country. He was a member of Gideon's International.

Bill was preceded in death by his father and mother; his wife Marcella; his son, Bradley; and his daughter, Sandra Brand.

He is survived by his oldest daughter, Sharon Carey and husband, Bob; his grandchildren, Brittany (Carey) Lewis and husband, Riley; Robby Beaver; Hannah Carey; Ashley (Beaver) Gonzalez and husband Tony; AJ Carey and wife, Deann; Jonathan Brand and Mathew Brand; and his great-grandchildren, Raylan Lewis and Amelia Lewis.

> The Azle News, Aug. 24, 2022 Edition

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Arthur Frommer,

Travel Editor

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Joyce Storms 1931 - 2022

Joyce Storms, age 91 of Fort Worth, Texas, formerly from Azle, passed peacefully on November 7, 2022.

A memorial will be held on December 10 at 10 a.m. at Azle & Lake Worth Funeral Home in Azleland Memorial Park, 850 N. Cardinal Road, Azle, Texas 76020 with a private family burial in Azleland.

Joyce is preceded in death by her husband, James Ralph Storms; two brothers; and a sister.

She is survived by her daughter Vicki Felty (Louis) of Fort Worth and son, David Storms (Jan) of Senoia, Georgia; brother David Legacy of Vermont; granddaughters Tiffany Miller and Kristin Felty of Fort Worth; grandson Ryan Storms (Bethany); and greatgranddaughter Eliana Grace



Storms.

She was a volunteer for Good N.E.W.S program for many years.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Good N.E.W.S., 412 Commerce St., Azle, Texas, 76020.

> The Azle News, Aug. 24, 2022 Edition

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www.TheAbbeyChurch.com Morning Worship......10:30 AM

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www.asncreekbc.org		
Sunday School	9:30	A۱
Contemporary Worship-TMP	10:45	A۱
Traditional Worship	10:45	A۱
Evening Worship	6:00	P۱
Wednesday Youth Refuge	6:00	P۱
Wednesday Evening	6:15	P۱
AZLE CHRISTIAN CHURCI	1	

(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

> **AZLE FIRST ASSEMBLY of GOD** Rev. Joshua Lowrance

1020 S.E. Parkway, Azle **817-237-4903** Morning Worship.......10:30 AM Traditional Worship9:30 AM

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

Morning Worship......11:00 AM

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

> > **CROSSROADS BAPTIST CHURCH**

Pastor - Jon Baker Corner FM 730S & FM 1886 817-755-0279 Transportation Available Worship Service......10:30 AM

Wed. Prayer Service.....7:00 PM THE EDGE CHURCH - AZLE

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200 Church St., Azle 817-444-3323 Morn. Worship8:30, 9:45 & 11 $_{\mbox{\scriptsize AM}}$ Sunday School......9:45 & 11 AM Youth (UMYF)5:00 PM Sun & 6:30 PM Wed

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

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services Sunday School......9:00 AM Traditional Service10:00 AM

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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

SILVER CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

SILVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor: Jay Ditty Minister of Music: David Musick Corner FM 730 S. & Veal Station Rd.

Church 817-444-2325 www.silvercreekbc.org

Sunday School9:45 AM The WORD Students

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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

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

ON FISHING

Rigging a fishing boat

I was asked the other day about what it takes to rig a fishing boat. A well-equipped boat may help you locate fish, but it doesn't necessarily mean you'll be able to catch more fish. Today's article will discuss how I would rig my boat. You can spend a lot of money on the latest technology and you can also get rigged sufficiently with some good equipment at a fairly reasonable cost. Nothing is cheap these days, as you all

I started striped bass/catfish/bass/crappie fishing many years ago out of a little old 15-foot 73 model Star-Craft Tri-hull with a walkthrough windshield. This old tri-hull caught a lot of fish once I put a few accessories on it. The good thing about striped bass/catfish/crappie fishing is that it does not re-



ON FISHING

By Michael Acosta

As a licensed professional fishing guide, Michael Acosta shows you how to find them. He has been a licensed guide

ally take a whole lot to rig it out, but there are a few items I would recommend.

The most important item on a fishing boat in my opinion is the electronics. You can spend multiple thousands to rig the boat with huge screens and multiple transducers to see below to the sides and actually see the fish e.g. Live Scope). They are nice to have and can help, but a good fish finder that can see below and to the sides with a GPS can be had for less than \$600 or so. The GPS is not required but having it will allow you to save your spots and

help you navigate which is critical especially with a low lake. The quality and sensitivity these days are excellent, and Garmin or Lowrance have some great choices.

The next item I cannot live without is a trolling motor. It is optional, but a good manually trolling motor will do the trick. It costs more to get the GPS-controlled trolling motor, but I highly recommend one as it can hold you without using an anchor and almost is like having a deck hand helping on the boat. I have one on both of my boats and I count on that feature.



Acosta's current rig is a 2016 2420 GTS Blazer Bay boat, powered by a 250hp Mercury XS motor. It has a Lowrance 9HD GEN 3 GPS - Courtesy LED Lighting - Minn Kota 112 Ipolit - 8' Power Pole and accessories. It is very roomy and it has plenty of storage space.

There are several manufacturers like Minn Kota and Motorguide that many use. The electronic manufacturers like Lowrance for instance, make a trolling motor with built in transducers to work wireless with their electronics. This option is costly, but I may consider this option in the future. Any of these trolling motors will allow you to cover water quietly and efficiently. A trolling motor will allow you to fish downlines, work ledges/humps/banks, control your drift, troll and will also offer some stealth.

Most every bass boat out there has a trolling motor. Choose a trolling motor with sufficient thrust for your boat. It will be worth the money in the long run to get the larger motor. If you're ever on the lake in the wind, you'll know why. I also rec-

ommend a good saltwater rated trolling motor in our brackish lakes (Granbury has a high salt content).

If you are going to fish several poles with live bait as most striped bass/catfish/crappie fishermen do, you will more than likely need some good rod holders. Losing fishing equipment in the lake is no fun. There are several types of rod holders available on the market today. Some are plastic and others are made of metal. I would recommend using good stainless steel solidly mounted rod holders. There are many different brands that are good. I personally use Driftmaster Rod holders made by Black River Tool. I personally have never lost a rod in one of these holders. You can also easily remove your pole from the holder

when a fish has it bent over in half.

Those are the main items that one would need to rig a boat for striped bass/catfish/crappie fishing. There are other accessories like live wells (many boats have these already), baitwells, radios, etc. The simple rig with a good fish finder, and a trolling motor, will work for most any kind of fishing on our area lakes. A livewell may be desired for black bass fishing, but a good ice chest/fish box is all you need for the other species (assuming of course you bring those crappie, striped bass and/or catfish home to eat).

Hope this helps on rigging a boat for fishing. Don't forget the safety items required by law such as life jackets, oar, fire extinguisher, throw cushion, etc.

FISHING REPORT

Granbury water temperatures have fallen to the low 60s with the recent cold snap. Striped bass fishing has turned on some on the lower ends on live bait and jigs. Crappie fishing continues to be good to excellent on jigs and small minnows. Largemouth bass in numbers has been fair to good on soft plastics fished near creek entrances and main lake points. Catfish action has also picked up on the upper ends on shallow flats. Look for bird action to point you to active fish.

Comanche Creek Reservoir reports continue to be excellent for channel catfish, tilapia and largemouth bass. Largemouth bass are good on most any presentation and you will get catfish hitting your bass presentations. Limits of catfish are common on cut and prepared baits. Tilapia can be caught on worms fished under a cork, though many anglers are catching these tasty invasive species with cast nets.

Lake Whitney striped bass limits continue to be common on the main lake and upstream of the Katy Bridge. Look for the birds.

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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 15th day of December, 2022 at 11:00am 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, James Carheel, Michael Dubreuil, Jazmine Fry, Ashley Rico, Andre Washington, Cameron C. Fountain, Jesse Graham, Darla Autry, Oscar Velasquez Saucedo.

Request for Invitation to Bid

Notice is hereby given that the City of Azle, Texas, will receive sealed Bids at Azle City Hall, 505 W Main St, Azle, TX, until 10:00am local time on Thursday, December 15th, 2022 for our Street Rehabilitation Program #2023-003. Bids will be opened and read aloud publicly following the close of the Bid period.

Bidders may receive a copy of the invitation to Bid from the City's website at www. cityofazle.org. For additional information, please contact Joanna Ash/Purchasing Agent at 817.444.7003 or by email at jash@cityofazle.org.

Request for Invitation to Bid

Notice is hereby given that the City of Azle, Texas, will receive sealed Bids at Azle City Hall, 505 W Main St, Azle, TX, until 12:00pm local time on Thursday, December 15th, 2022 for our Animal Control Transport Unit #2023-002. Bids will be opened and read aloud publicly following the close of the Bid period.

Bidders may receive a copy of the invitation to Bid from the City's website at www. cityofazle.org. For additional information, please contact Joanna Ash/Purchasing Agent at 817.444.7003 or by email at jash@cityofazle.org.



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Two new Azle police officers sworn in



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PHOTO BY DON MUNSCH

Azle Mayor Pro Tem Randa Goode conducts the swearing-in ceremony for Azle Police Department Officer Kevin Nguyen.

BY DON MUNSCH

don@azlenews.net

Two new Azle Police Department officers were sworn in and had their badge pinning ceremony at the Nov. 15 Azle City Council meeting.

Both officers - David Beane III and Kevin Nguyen - joined the department in the last month.

APD Chief Ben Hall explained the significance of the pinning ceremony.

"The badge is a symbol of our office, it's a symbol of our community's trust in us," he said. "And it's a symbol of our commitment to our oath. I ask officers at every badge pinning to be reminded that every time we pin this badge on that we're honoring officers who have started and come before us and we're honoring officers who will replace us in the future. It's our obligation to never tarnish this badge."

Officer Beane is from Mesquite and graduated from high school in 1998. He received his Basic Peace Officer certification from Tarrant County College Law Enforcement Academy and received his Basic Peace Officer Certification upon graduation on May 18, 2015, according to information from APD.

In 2016, he started his



PHOTO BY DON MUNSCH

David Beane receives his badge-pinning from wife Katie Ann at the Azle City Council meeting on Nov. 15.

career with the Haltom City Police Department and worked briefly for Azle PD in 2020-2021. Officer Beane returned to Azle PD on Oct. 24, 2022. He lives in Benbrook with his wife Katie Ann and their two rescue labs. He enjoys working in the yard and spending time with his wife and his twin children. Officer Nguyen was born in Garden Grove, California, and graduated from high school in 2014. He was a sergeant with the U.S. Marine Corps and served five years.

He moved to Texas to be closer to Teresa, his significant other. He attended the Tarrant County College Law Enforcement Academy and received his Basic Peace
Officer Certification upon
graduation on May 25, 2022.
Officer Nguyen started with
APD on Oct. 31, 2022. Officer
Nguyen has one sister, and
he enjoys lifting weights and
bowling. He loves spending
time with his dogs and enjoys finding new places to eat
with his girlfriend Teresa.

Thank you. That is all.



BE AMAZING

By Gerry Lewis

Azle resident Dr. Gerry Lewis guides explorers to discover their AMAZING. He is an author, musician, and speaker, and a coach-sultant for individuals, churches, and organizations. More at www.discoveryouramazing.com.

TY!

That's not a shortened nickname for my friend Tyler.

If communicate by text message, you have likely either sent or received "ty" as a message. (Because actually typing the complete two words "thank you" is incredibly time consuming and labor intensive).

Because I'm "one of those people" (you know who we are), I've created a keyboard shortcut that works on all my devices so that when I type "ty" it automatically corrects to "Thank you!"

corrects to "Thank you!"

If you send me a "ty" I'll
know what you mean, but I'll
silently judge you as much
as if you send "k" instead of
"ok."

I'm real judgy like that. We have a holiday coming up here in the good ol' US of A that is the most abbreviated of all the biggies, so Happy T-giving, ya'll! Let's eat!

The older I get the more I want to linger over the "Thanks" part of Thanksgiving.

Make no mistake, I enjoy the food, family, and football. I'm looking forward to being together with our kids, grands, and extended family for the feast.

And I have no intention of making everyone wait while I wax eloquent over all our blessings.

I just want to spend a little extra time—personally—of unhurried reflection and gratitude in a time when we have constant reminders of the challenges that exist in the world.

There is so much brokenness and division that it is easy to become discouraged, cynical, or angry.

I don't really know what the world was like for Johnson Oatman in 1897. I know that he was 41 years old, had been in partnership with his father in the mercantile business, and was a part time preacher.

part time preacher.

And I know that he wrote

AZLE

RECUES .

these words:

"When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed,

When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,

Count your many blessings, name them one by one, And it will surprise you

what the Lord hath done. Count your blessings, name them one by one; Count your blessings, see

what God hath done; Count your blessings, name them one by one;

Count your many blessings, see what God hath done."

I grew up singing that song

and I know that I have, on many occasions, had my perspective changed by intentionally reflecting in specific and unhuried gratitude.

Could it be that our attitudes and perspectives on life are largely determined by where we choose to focus? (That may or may not have been a rhetorical question).

The Thanksgiving season gives us an opportunity to shift our focus. A day or two off from work may give us time for that unhurried reflection.

I hope so.

But what about the rest of the time? I've done something for

years with my family. I'll call it the "That is all" message. It's a quick text pause in a

moment in the middle of an ordinary day that says something like, "I love you. I'm proud of you. That is all."

No response is required and everyone can get back to their day in progress. But I can't write it without meaning it. It just doesn't happen. So maybe there are times

when we don't have the time to sit and count our blessings one by one, but we have time to recognize that God is with us even in the messy middle of life.

And we can breathe a simple prayer: Thank you. That is all.

Be amazing today, my friend.

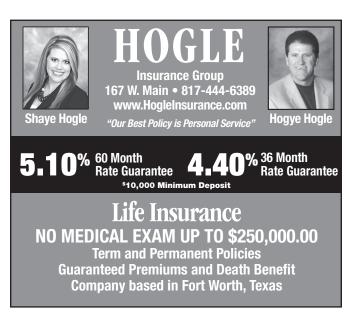
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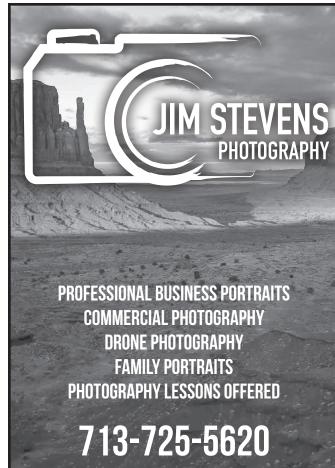
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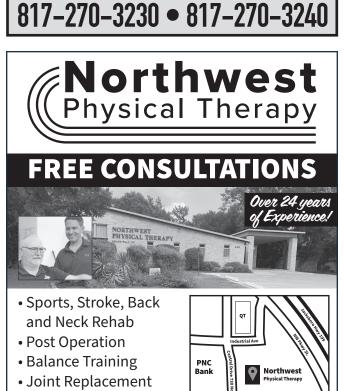
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Help people stay warm this winter

BY MADELYN EDWARDS

madelyn@azlenews.net

Angels Care Home Health in Weatherford will hold its first-ever cold weather clothing drive to help people stay warm during the winter.

In response to community needs, the Warming Hearts for Angels Drive calls for donations of new blankets, hats, scarves, gloves and socks.

The drive won't just impact Angels Care Home Health patients but other local people in need as well, said Mandy Bryant, Angels

Care administrator. While Angels Care nurses identify patients who could benefit from the drive, people in the community are welcome to point out people they know who are in need of the donated items.

"(They) don't have to be a patient," Bryant said. "We want to serve the community."

Angels Care Home Health in Weatherford serves 17 North Texas counties, including Parker County.

Bryant said Angels Care staff has noticed that some

Home health agency calls for donations

patients - the majority of whom are older adults struggle to access basic necessities. This drive aims to show people in need that their community is thinking of them, she said.

"We're here as a community to help build each other up," she said.

Bryant said she hopes the drive's impact is to bring out kindness in people and

good stewardship of their communities.

So far. Bryant said the drive has received a good response since beginning Nov. 1, and people have called to request that their neighbors be put on the list to benefit from the drive.

The deadline to donate is Dec. 16. Donations can be dropped off at the Springtown Area Chamber

of Commerce at 112 S. Main St. in Springtown, the Azle Area Chamber of Commerce at 404 W. Main St. in Azle or at the Servolution Network's Dream Center at 11698 Farm-to-Market Road 730 South in Azle.

Donations can also be taken to Angels Care Home Health in Weatherford at 1508 Santa Fe Drive. People who need help turning in

their donations can call the Weatherford office at 817-807-0224.

"We're going to try to make it as easy and seamless for them as possible," Bryant said. "People are busy: I know that so we want to make sure that it's convenient and easy for them to donate so we can get those out there to the people in need."

AZLE ISD is A-OK with ACS

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Azle Hornets football team missed the playoffs and isn't playing games at Hornet Stadium currently.

The Crusaders football team at Azle Christian School, a private institution near Stewart Street and FM 730. is scheduled to travel to Trent on Friday to play for a regional championship in the TAPPS six-man league.

On Nov. 14, Clayton Sanders, the coach of the Crusaders, posted a statement on social media praising Azle ISD for extending a gracious hand of help. The Crusaders were preparing to travel to Gorilla Stadium for a title game on Nov. 18. The field at Gorilla Stadium is made of artificial turf, and the Crusaders have played on grass only this season.

"Our football team hasn't played on artificial turf all season," Sanders said. "Azle ISD superintendent Todd Smith, athletic director Becky Spurlock and

head football coach Devon Dorris have graciously offered us an opportunity this week to practice on their turf football field to better prepare our players for the game."

Sanders and his team were touched by the offer.

'This is an act of kindness and community support that should not go unnoticed," Sanders said. "Azle ISD is a public school, and Azle Christian School is a private school. They could have easily made an excuse and said no. Most public schools would have, as they see private schools as competition. Not Azle ISD. Not the leadership from within. They chose grace over greed."

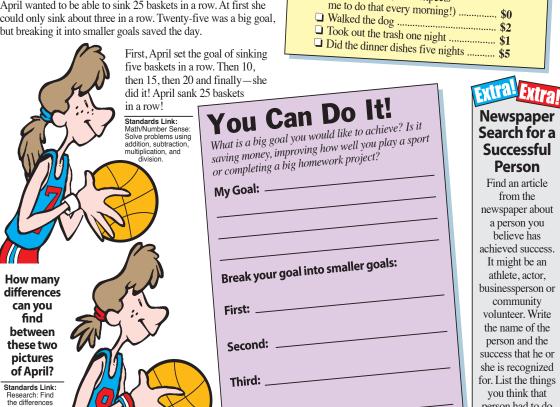
Sanders characterized Smith, Spurlock and Dorris as a "class act."

"I can't tell you how much this act of generosity and support means to myself and our football team," Sanders

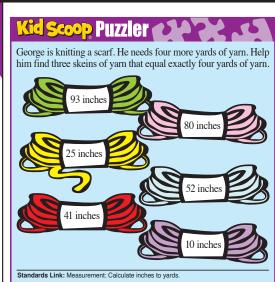


Practicing at Hornet Stadium on artificial turf will help the Azle Christian Crusaders prepare for a regional title game on Nov. 17.





Fourth:



Word Search

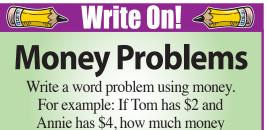
Find the words in the puzzle. BASKETBALL How many of them can you **VOLUNTEER** find on this page? **GOAL** CSEEVEIHCA **PROJECT** HTPROJECTS **MONEY** TRASH ESMALLERUT **CHECK** CIAOUTNCFG ACHIEVE KYARNNCARL **SMALLER** LLABTEKSAB **SUCCEED** EVASERYOCG RENT OALDETGOSS YARN **SCARF** AVESROTCAF **FACTORS** Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns **SAVE**

Rent or own?

person had to do

to succeed. Standards Link: Civics: Identify examples of civic responsibility. Look in the classifieds. Make a bar graph showing the number of houses for sale and the number of places for rent. Which group is larger? What factors might be responsible? Can you find articles to support your opinions?

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do they have altogether?

Read the headline and look at any photos that accompany the article. With your learning buddy, discuss what you think the article will be about. Make a list of information you both expect to find in the article: **PART 2:** Now read the article together. Which of your predictions were accurate? Which were not? List five facts you learned from the Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word GOALS in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you 0

G

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PHOTOS BY JEFF PRINCE

Kendall Locke was named to the All-Tournament Team on Nov. 12 at Eaton.

Azle basketball girls enjoying hot start

BY JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

The Lady Hornets have come roaring out of their hive.

On Nov. 6, Azle began its basketball season. Ten days later, the girls had a 6-1 record.

The quick start was welcome relief after injuries beset last year's team and ruined a shot at the playoffs. Four seniors have returned for their final season, and

they are being counted on to lead the push to the post-season. The Locke sisters - Karlee and Kendall - fuel the Hornets at shooting guard, and Brittany Cato and Harleigh Phillips provide fine tuning at forward.

"We got some leadership back from last year, and it has been a good start for us so far," said head coach Mitzi Marquart.

The Lady Hornets won their season opener against Sanger by a slim margin – 43-41.

Next, the Lady Hornets beat Weatherford before going 3-1 at a tournament at Eaton, where Kendall Locke was named to the All-Tournament

"Right now, we're taking it game by game," Marquart said. "We're still trying to get in sync because we just now put everybody together."

It's hard to complain about 6-1, but Marquart expects the team to continue improving

SEE **GIRLS**, PAGE 2A.



Cheryl Grubbs, a junior, goes for a layup against Joshua on Nov. 15. She scored four points to help Azle win 51-33



This special season gives us time to reflect on all of life's blessings that make each year better than the last. At Pinnacle Bank, we have so much to be thankful for. Most of all, the relationships we've built with our customers and our community. Thank you for allowing us to be your banking partner.

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Azle wrestlers place second in Arlington tourney

BY JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

Azle's boys wrestling team earned second place Nov. 12 in the Arlington ISD Invite, a tournament that featured two dozen teams from across North Texas.

It was the first tourney of the season, and a positive sign that Hornet wrestlers are ready for action.

Billy Spratt earned first place in the 215-pound class.

Winning second-place medals were Wyatt Hicks and Chase Yancey. Thirdplace medals went to Oliver Lorenz, Braxon Cates and Elias Ramirez.

On the junior varsity squad, and Camron Latham and Christian Legan each earned first place in their weight classes. Kayden Bigelow won third place.

The wrestling team began in-season practices in October. The season runs through February.

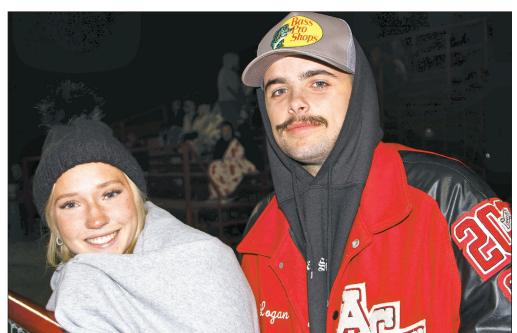
An early highlight of the season occurred Nov. 6, when 175-pounder Dom Evans wrestled at the Red River Rivalry and was pitted against Oklahoma's top-ranked wrestler in that weight class, Talon McCollum.

Evans was behind on points in the first period but fought his way to a takedown in the final 10 seconds to tie the score. Six seconds later, he pinned McCollum and won the match.



From left, Billy Spratt, shown wrestling in January, won his first match of the season at the Arlington ISD Invite on Nov. 12.

Azle Christian alum returns to cheer on Crusaders



JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

Logan Malewiski's senior year at Azle Christian School in 2021 didn't turn out like he had hoped.

The all-around athlete was expected to excel at football, baseball and basketball and perhaps earn a football scholarship as a kicker.

Instead, he injured his knee and spent most of the year hobbled on crutches and braces. All his years of school sports had culminated to his senior year, and then, just as he was expected to dominate in all of them, he was done.

Kiley Meadors and Logan Malewiski cheer the Crusaders to victory.

Life moves on, and so did Malewiski.

He has spent a year rehabilitating his knee, and he is able to run and shoot baskets again, although he isn't playing organized sports anymore. He is a freshman at the University of North Texas studying kinesiology and plans to help other people who have suffered injuries.

"The leg has been fine and hasn't stopped me from doing anything," Malewiski said recently while watching Azle Christian, his alma mater, play a football game.

About two months ago, the knee "started coming back to

normal but still has the little stuff here and there" to contend with, he said.

Malewiski lives in a dormitory at UNT. He returns home to Azle most weekends to visit family and watch his old football team play. On a recent visit, he brought along Kiley Meadors, a UNT cheerleader he has become friends with.

"This is the second (ACS) game I've been to," she said. "I came from a 3A school where they didn't have a sixman team. It's a lot different."

She described six-man as "fun to watch."

Azle Christian flagrunners keep tradition alive



From left, Cadence Wynn, Jacelynn Hammond and Abigail Young brave the cold to fire up the crowd at Azle Christian's football field.

BY JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

The temperature had dipped close to freezing, the wind blew with fervor, and a sprinkle kept everything glistening with moisture at the Nov. 11 football game at Azle Christian School.

Three flag runners -Cadence Wynn, Jacelynn Hammond and Abigail Young - stood in the end zone just before game time, each holding a flag and shivering while waiting for the game to begin. Running across a wet, muddy field while holding a long

heavy pole with a large flag attached isn't easy work, but it's a job all three girls enjoy. Young is a founding mem-

ber of the flagrunners. "It's something that is really important to me," she said. "I love football, and I love this team. It's a support thing. I

just love this whole season." Young enrolled at Azle Christian four years ago as an eighth grader. On the first day she visited the campus,

she asked about flagrunners. "I asked if the school had anything like Rowdies, where we could wear overalls and run flags for the football

team," Young recalled. "They said, 'No, we haven't had anything like that."

Young asked if the school had any flags.

A school official dug up some flags, and Young went to work.

"That night was their homecoming, so I went to the game, and I ran a flag," she said. "Then, when I came to school a week later, we started the team and got it up, and we had one other person that joined. Ever since then, we've had more and more people

come." This season, interest in the Rowdies program has grown to such a degree, the school established a junior varsity squad.

"We've never had a JV team before, so it's really cool," Young said.

Wynn had forgotten to wear gloves, and her hands were red and cold as she held onto her flagpole. Still, there was no place else she'd rather

"It's cool and really fun," she said. "You get a workout. I'd recommend it."

None of the girls had worn enough layers to keep themselves warm, but they perse-

vered. Hammond's teeth were

"It is definitely interest-

ing compared to the warm

games," she said. "The only

other cold game we had, it

was raining, so we didn't run

the flags. This is like our first

cold game of the year. We'll

It went well. The flagrun-

ners didn't succumb to hy-

team walloped Heritage

pete for a regional title.

Christian 77-28 to win an

pothermia, and the football

area title and qualify to com-

see how it goes."

chattering.

Seniors led the way against Joshua. Kendall Locke crushed seven of eight shots and went twofor-three on free throws for 16 points. Karlee Locke led in rebounds and added

Phillips scored eight points, and Cato added four.

The four girls combined to score 35 of the team's 51 points and log most of its rebounds and assists.

Hornets gymnasium.

GIRLS FROM PAGE 1B

as the season progresses. At Eaton, the Hornets played two games on the first day, and the players' lack of conditioning showed.

"We were not quite in the shape we need to be and kind of ran out of gas on that second game," the coach said. "That put us in the second bracket."

The Hornets won the second bracket - the equivalent of fifth place.

On Nov. 15, Azle played its home opener in front of an excited crowd and roasted Joshua 51-33. The Hornets struggled at times in the first half but dominated in the second.

seven points on offense.

Azle plays Chisholm Trail at 6:15 p.m. Dec. 6 in the

www.Springtown-Epigraph.net

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- 22 TXism: "fits like
- 23 seat of McMullen County

Don't

Break

The

Poor

Little

Piggy!

Find the

money

you

need in

our

Classified

Section

today!

16 words for \$10

- 29 TXism: "happy as with two tails"
- 30 state has an official herd of bred Texas Longhorns
- "All of __" (1978) 32 TXism: "sweating like
- lawyer" (finalize) -Busch
- Houston 37 "weighs

- **ACROSS**
- 1 TX John Wesley Hardin was killed in
- 6 Asian River catfish
- 8 works a job (3 wds.) the tail on
- in Boerne
- ugly __ ape'
- 31 TX Willie recorded
- water'
- 35 TXism: "run it ___
- has a brewery in
- (heavy)
- show: "Star

- 42 Chris __Doux sang
- in 44-across 44 the Lone Star State
- 45 Santa ___, TX
- the Hereford Brand
- 24 COVID caused us
- often

- 34 Fort Hood is a U.S. post in Texas

- 38 TX Roddenberry's

- 39 great Aggie RB who also played for the Chicago Bears briefly (2 wds.) 41 TXism: "big crop of locks"
 - "Cadillac Ranch"
- 43 a person who was raised
- 46 "Deaf" Smith's job in the Texas revolution
- 47 UT Center that was re-
- placed by the Moody Center 48 suppleness 50 "out of
- (unwell or irritable) 51 boat paddle 52 president born in Denison, TX (init.)
 - _ you later" **DOWN** 15 Perry's creator _

star" (badge)

12 TX actor Rip (init.)

1 "busy as a bartend-

10 TXism: " _

- 18 TX Pride hit: " Rather Love You 2 former Cowboy star safety, Waters 19 this architect
- designed the state 3 Stanton's county capitol (3 wds.) 4 TXism: "wipe the 20 TXism: " slate clean" an egg-sucking dog" 9 western "

13 Winnsboro's

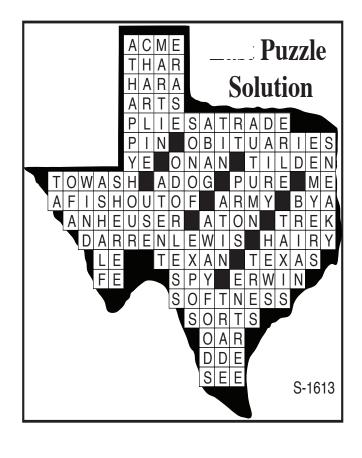
Trails

Stanley Gardner

- 22 fragrance-free Belle Starr" (1953) 24 when repeated, a bones" (skinny) British "adios"
 - and "Walker, Texas Ranger 25 TXism: "at the drop 29 camping shelter _ hat" (impulsive) (2 wds.)
- **TEXAS** CROSSWORD by Charley & Guy Orbison Copyright 2022 by Orbison Bros Festival" in October 30 paid athletes 14 Texas is 3rd largest 33 "got no ___ for it" state in U.S. 34 TXism: "got_
 - 35 Dennehy of "The Big Year" with TX Owen Wilson 37 former McAllen 26 TXism: "three company: "Right sheets to the 27 TXism: "worthless
 - 38 DFW transports a hair cut" 40 large exhibitions 28 actress Wilson who 41 chops wood was on "Dallas
 - 44 "three" in Mexico 47 chicken fried

ear" (tone deaf)

steak, e.g. 49 swap



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