

WEDNESDAY, November 2, 2022 • \$1

# Family by blood, soldiers at heart

## Vietnam veteran follows family's footsteps into battle

BY ASHLEY INGE  
Staff Writer

Freddie Williams was only 18 years old when he felt the call to enlist in the Army — a decision that was largely influenced by his family.

Williams' father, two uncles and older brother all served in the military, leaving Williams with a tough, yet noble path to follow.

His father and uncles all served in World War II, but in different branches. One of Williams' uncles also experienced a traumatic encounter when he was held captive in a German prison camp for approximately 13 months.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This is the second of two stories spotlighting area veterans in preparation of the special Veterans Day supplement to be released Nov. 9 in the News.

After his older brother Dwayne enlisted in the Army in 1965, Williams talked his cousin into enlisting with him a week later on a "buddy plan" — an Army program that guaranteed Williams and his cousin would attend basic combat and advance individual training together and then be assigned to the same first duty station after graduation.

"I just felt like it was something I needed to go do," said Williams, who resides in

Briar. "That's what my dad and our uncles did and so, we wanted to do our part."

Williams was deployed to fight in Vietnam where he served as an LRRP — pronounced "lurp" — short for long-range reconnaissance patrol, a team in which soldiers patrolled deep in enemy-held territory.

"We pulled ambushes and tried to take prisoners and went out in six-man teams,

SEE VETERAN, PAGE 14A.



COURTESY PHOTO  
Freddie Williams with his patrol in Vietnam.



PHOTO BY DON MUNSCH  
Azle ISD Superintendent Todd Smith speaks to members of the Long Range Facilities Planning Committee at a wood shop Oct. 24 at Azle High School.

## Committee hears presentation, tours high school CTE, fine arts wings

BY DON MUNSCH  
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Azle ISD voters could be seventh months or even as long as a year away from deciding on a new school bond, but what seems certain is that a bond will be forthcoming next year.

The school district's Long Range Facilities Planning Committee will make a recommendation for the Azle ISD school board to decide on calling a bond. For now, LRFPC members are studying needs around the district,

including attending public meetings to see needs at the campus level.

On Oct. 24, committee members met at Azle High School, where they heard about that school's current needs and toured the school's Career and Technical Education and fine arts departments. AHS Principal Nate Driver, CTE Director Suzanne Murr and district fine arts coordinator Aaron Martin spoke to the committee, with Murr and Martin giving tours of the CTE and fine arts facilities, respectively.

The fine arts department consists of the band hall, theater classroom and choir room.

The art rooms also belong to the fine arts department, and they are being renovated as part of the construction at the building. AISD voters rejected a proposition in the last bond issue, held in November 2021, that would have, in part, expanded and renovated fine arts facilities.

Driver told committee members that campus safety is the top priority at AHS, and the school is getting up to date on all of its drills. A lock-

down drill was held on Oct. 24, Driver said, and the "staff, the subs (and) the kids did an amazing, amazing job. So, we're super pleased with that and how well the kids and the adults handled that drill in the building." Also in his discussion, Driver touched on other topics, such as what learning priorities and tactics are desired in the classrooms.

Murr said AHS possesses a positive environment and that she sees a difference this year, explaining in part that

SEE BOND, PAGE 15A.

## District LRFPC members share their views

BY DON MUNSCH  
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Members of the Azle ISD Long Range Facilities Planning Committee are forming opinions about what a new school bond should look like in the future in the school district.

Several members of the Long Range Planning Committee were randomly selected and contacted by email by the News to share their views about a new bond. The News received a couple of responses. Both local residents and district staffers belong to the committee.

Committee member Tony Haas said he would like the district to take a long-term approach for future facility needs.

"Because of expected growth, we are going to be out of capacity at our intermediate schools around 2026, the high school level around 2028 and junior high level around 2030," Haas said in an email. "Does that mean new classrooms at existing campuses or adding new campuses? It's probably the latter. On top of that, we have a few aging campus buildings and facilities. The district has done a great job modifying, remodeling and repurposing our older facilities. Thank goodness, our past district leaders built great, long-lasting buildings."

However, at some point,

Haas said, AISD will need to replace them with buildings that are more efficient, safer and better able to serve AISD student and staff communities.

"I don't think that necessarily needs to happen in the next 5 to 10 years, but it's definitely going to be needed in the next 10 to 20 years," he said.

Haas added that of more immediate concern, "because Azle has awesome, well-rounded students, we have a large percentage of students that participate in extracurricular opportunities, whether that's fine arts, athletics, student government and even competitive academics. In certain cases, we have just outgrown our facilities to adequately support these programs, and our expected growth is going to put even more stress on current facilities."

"Obviously, it would be difficult to upgrade everything at once in light of our upcoming campus requirements," he said.

He hopes that the process over the next few months will help the district determine the best, smartest way to incrementally address these needs while financially planning for the future classroom capacity required in the next 10-plus years.

Committee member Gretchen Clark said al-

SEE VIEWS, PAGE 3A.



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COURTESY PHOTO  
**Reno City Council approved promoting Reno Elementary School resource officer Ray Cannon from a part-time officer to a full-time officer at a meeting on Oct. 24.**

# Reno Elementary SRO promoted to full-time

BY MADELYN EDWARDS  
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Reno Elementary School parents, staff and students will be seeing school resource officer Ray Cannon a lot more often.

Reno City Council approved promoting Cannon from a part-time officer to a full-time officer at a meeting last week.

This change amounted to a decrease in cost for the city. Part-time officers are paid \$34,944 annually. To bring Cannon to full-time status, Springtown ISD is expected to pay \$28,000 annually, and the city will pay \$23,350.92 for the school resource officer, which is \$11,593.08 less than what the city was paying him as a part-timer. In all, Cannon's salary after the promotion is \$51,350.92, including \$7,670.92 in benefits.

"In the past events of what's been going on with schools, it would be a black eye to the city of Reno if something - God forbid - were to happen over there, and we're not aware of what's going on with city hall being across the street and the police department being across the street," Reno Police Chief Scott Elsnor said during the council meeting.

Reno Deputy Chief Nathan Stringer said during the meeting that Cannon is expected to spend all his time at the school, unless he is called away to help out with a critical incident. Stringer said Cannon's job will focus on keeping the school safe and

community outreach through educational programming.

Cannon, a 25-year law enforcement veteran, spoke during the meeting and described his job duties as making sure the school building is secure, monitoring traffic during drop-off and pick-up times and leading presentations about stranger danger, using 911 and internet safety. He has also been trained to handle active shooter situations.

"My concern is simply to provide a safe atmosphere for our kids and to get them used to dealing with police officers, understanding who we are, and I've had the opportunity to go and speak to several of them, speak to several classes," Cannon said. "I high-five the kids, and I'm kicking around with them. I'm also helping them out with some of the special needs kids and some of the disciplinary issues that come up and some of the kids that have behavioral issues. About the last 10 years, I've been a mental health police officer, so I'm trained specifically to deal with those types of situations."

Cannon's presence at Reno Elementary School has been evidently appreciated. Elsnor said Cannon has "built a really good rapport" with the Reno Elementary School principal, and SISD dubbed Cannon a VIP - Very Important Porcupine - on Facebook last week.

"He has stepped up and met whatever the needs of the students and staff are

each day," stated the SISD Facebook post. "From drop off, lunch duty, dismissal, to things such as meeting with groups of students for enrichment, he is already such an asset to Springtown ISD and Reno Elementary School."

The council's Deputy Pro-Tem Hernando Herrera said during the meeting that Cannon's full-time presence at Reno Elementary School is needed.

"You're already making a difference. I mean, I see you at PTA, the principal's comments on your presence there," Herrera said. "My granddaughter goes to school at Reno Elementary, so I'm going to have to admit I'm a bit biased."

After the meeting, Mayor Sam White said the city's partnership with SISD to have Cannon as the school resource officer was a good move.

"He's good with kids. He's good with people," White said. "I think it's the best move for Reno's safety for our kids that we pitched in with the school district."

Reno resident Brenda Spradlin, who sometimes works as a substitute teacher at Reno Elementary, also spoke about Cannon's service with high praise.

"I've seen this officer interacting with the kids, especially the boys, talking some sense into them," Spradlin said. "I'm very grateful to have him at the school when I'm there. He's a real value."

# 41st annual Azle Lake Run Nov. 12

## STAFF REPORTS

The Azle Area Ministerial Alliance's 41st annual Lake Run is Saturday, Nov. 12 at Ash Creek Park, 605 Southeast Pkwy.

The race starts and ends at the park, behind the Azle Senior Center. Pre-registration is open until 10 p.m. Nov. 11. Entry fees for the half marathon are \$70; \$40 for the 10k; \$30 for the 5k; and \$25 for the fun run.

Race day registration opens at 6:45 a.m. Registration fees on the day

of the race will be \$85 for the half marathon, \$45 for the 10k, \$40 for the 5k and \$30 for the fun run.

The race will open at 7:30 a.m. with the half marathon. Next will be the 10k with an 8 a.m. start time, followed by the 5k at 8:15 a.m. A one-mile fun run will start at 8:17 a.m.

This is a pet-friendly race, so four-legged runners are welcome.

There will be cash prizes for male and female first, second and third-place fin-

ishers in the half marathon. First place will receive \$250; second place \$150; and third place \$100.

Finisher medals will be awarded for the half marathon, 10k and 5k races. The awards presentation will begin at approximately 9:15 a.m.

The money raised by the yearly race benefits Community Caring Center, Eagle Mountain Pregnancy Help Center and the Marching Green Pride.



PHOTO BY JESSICA MCKINNEY  
**Runners from all over came out to run in the 40th annual Azle Lake Run.**

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# District to pursue new security system

BY DON MUNSCHE  
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Azle ISD board members gave their blessing for a purchase of a new security system that will help staffers through the wearing of a device to immediately alert leaders on campus in case of an emergency.

The district will contract with Centegix for the acquisition of the CrisisAlert device and system that allows individuals to send a signal through a click that can reduce incident response time. The device is wearable and easy to use, and it requires no wifi or cell service and offers room level location accuracy. Classrooms would be equipped with strobe lights and auditory cues would be integrated into the intercom system. Instructions for staffers would be displayed on computer and mobile devices.

The badge offers two types of alerts – one for staff alerts and one for a campus-wide alert (lockdown). The staff alerts would be centered on such matters as medical emergencies, fights between students and other events on campus. When a lockdown occurs, everyone on campus will know, and instructions are given to teachers and staffers on what they should do, such as locking the door and turning off lights.

At the Oct 17 board meeting, Heather Connelly, regional vice president at

Centegix, talked to the board about her company's product. Before she spoke, Azle Police Department Chief Darren Brockway said safety and security are always fluid in their dynamic, that police are always looking for something that will enhance current safety practices and protocols.

"We came across a product that we were all interested in," he said. "There was a presentation done (here) earlier in the month, and what I like about this is it's accurate, but it's the simplicity of it. In an emergency, you need simplicity, and I think it checks all those boxes."

Connelly conducted a presentation in the district a few weeks ago to discuss CrisisAlert, and it's a program that is used in about 30 states and has been implemented in 10 school districts in Texas. Connelly showed slides that illustrated in detail the program's components. The first part of the program examined some findings in a report from the state House of Representatives that showed shortcomings from a security and safety perspective regarding the Uvalde shooting, including how not all teachers received timely notice of the lockdown at Robb Elementary. Connelly said her company's product tries to prevent the shooting incident in Uvalde from happening again.

"What can we do to get

communication out to our teachers, students and staff in a timely matter to save more lives? So, that's why we're here tonight," she said.

Connelly said the CrisisAlert system was developed after the Parkland, Florida, high school shooting in 2018. The Parkland shooting had similarities to the Uvalde shooting in that the response time was slow and police didn't enter the building fast enough, Connelly said. Seventeen people were killed in the Parkland shooting, while 21 people perished in the Uvalde massacre.

Centegix wanted to create something that could help response time, and that could help communication among staffers in a crisis situation, when there was a problem on campus and help was needed. Wi-Fi and cell service are not perfect in every school building, so that was part of the inspiration to invent a product to alert someone and summon help. Plus, the CrisisAlert product does not require an app, and it can help find an individual in a room, not just the room itself. The CrisisAlert system integrates with a local 911 dispatch centers and police will know from the dispatcher on how to proceed into the building and which room to enter.

The product can be used every day and not just for a crisis situation. It can be used outside the school building itself for outdoor

features, such as the football field, playgrounds and parking lots.

No hard wiring is needed for this product – strobe lights are attached to ceilings with magnets – and Centegix installs, monitors and maintains all hardware. The company also replaces any defective equipment during the lifetime of the contract; software watches the equipment and can alert the campus if something happens and needs replacement.

Data collection on safety also is facilitated through this product, and can include, for instance, trends on campus, such as fights. Substitute teachers will be given badges for their classrooms when they enter the campus.

Brockway likes the CrisisAlert system because the badge is with someone at all times, classrooms can contact the office, the system is easy to use and it corresponds with the district's standard response protocol. Azle Superintendent Todd Smith said this system will not replace any existing protocols, that this system merely goes with what the district uses now.

Matt Adams, assistant superintendent of finance and operations, said the system would be purchased in a three-year contract. The system would be brought back to this month's meeting for board approval. Per campus cost would be \$8,000 per year and pre-K center and the ad-



COURTESY PHOTO

The Centegix CrisisAlert badge can be worn around the neck. No hard wiring is needed.

ministration building would be \$4,000. Once approved, the system could be installed in six to eight weeks, Adams

said. There would be upfront and installation costs. The total amount would be roughly \$84,000 a year, he said.

## VIEWS

FROM PAGE 1

though there were propositions in the last two bond elections that didn't pass at the ballot box, she thinks it's important to remember the "big wins" for some of the district campuses, particularly in the elementary grade levels.

"Both cycles consisted of passing props to alleviate overcrowding and prepare for continued growth at our elementary campuses," she said. "While there were a

handful of items passed at the upper grade levels, many needs remain and continue to compound, particularly when considering the projected trajectory of growth within the district's footprint. Azle Junior High is a concern to me. It's aging, difficult to navigate with multiple levels and outdoor corridors, and the very things that make it difficult to navigate also make it challenging to secure."

She said a "hot take" that came up frequently in both of the bond election cycles was "build a new high school."

"I'm not there yet on this

idea, mostly because the demographic data that's been presented to the committee thus far hasn't supported the need for a second high school in the 10-years projections," she said. "As a parent and a taxpayer, it's important to me that these asks make sense and represent the thoughtful use of funds. I'm personally just not there yet on the idea of a brand-new high school, though there are definitely some additional improvements, expansions and updates to make at AHS. Though the November 2021 bond provided for some of

the most critical expansion at the high school, there are many needs that still remain."

Clark said she has been involved in this process for about two years and has seen different iterations of this planning committee process.

"The district's approach this year has been very comfortable and thoughtful," she said. "With the meetings rotating to different campuses each month, we've had the opportunity to tour campuses and hear directly from some of the leaders and faculty at those campuses

about their experience and perspective related to the learning environment. This feedback has been particularly impactful to me, as these are the people in the trenches every day, doing the work in these spaces. It's meaningful to hear how the community can best support the important work of our district's educators."

Clark also said she has never been one to shy away from changing her mind, "particularly in the face of new, compelling evidence or information."

"What's most important

to me as a member of this committee is to get it right for our community," she said. "I've enjoyed the diversity of thought and dialogue from the newer members of the committee. It seems like we've particularly ramped up the inclusion of parents with younger kids, which has been an important voice that needed to be amplified. Overall, the pace of the process feels right, the participation feels right, and I think we're setting the groundwork to glean important perspective as we continue to explore the growing needs of the district."

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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** French Toast, Strawberry Craisins **Tues** Apple Frudel, Oranges **Weds** Sausage Biscuit, Apple  
**Thurs** Breakfast on a Stick, Orange Craisins **Fri** Mini Maple Waffles, Banana

**LUNCH: Everyday - Variety of milk. Your choice of 1 entree & 1 fruit or juice**  
**Mon** Beefy Mac w/ roll, Chicken Caesar Salad w/roll, Steamed Carrots, Apple **Tues** Turkey & Cheese Sandwich, Beefy Nachos, Spanish Rice, Green Beans, Pears **Weds** Sweet n Sour Diced Chicken w/ Spanish Rice, Beef, Bean Cheese Burritos, Broccoli **Thurs** Chili Cheese Dog, Beef & Cheese Quesadilla, Baked Beans, Applesauce **Fri** Cheese Pizza, Hamburger Pizza, Curly French Fries, Peaches

**GRADES 5TH - 8TH**

**BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Yogurt w/Granola**  
**Mon** Breakfast Pizza, Peaches **Tues** Sausage Biscuit, Oranges **Weds** Cinnamon Roll, Apple  
**Thurs** Yogurt Parfait, Applesauce **Fri** Pancake & Sausage, Banana

**LUNCH: Everyday: Variety of milk. Your choice of 1 entree & 1 fruit or juice, rolls, crackers • Salad bar offered daily**  
**Mon** Beefy Mac w/ roll, Chicken Caesar Salad w/roll, Steamed Carrots, Apple **Tues** Turkey & Cheese Sandwich, Beefy Nachos, Spanish Rice, Green Beans, Pears **Weds** Sweet n Sour Diced Chicken w/ Spanish Rice, Beef, Bean Cheese Burritos, Broccoli **Thurs** Chili Cheese Dog, Beef & Cheese Quesadilla, Baked Beans, Applesauce **Fri** Cheese Pizza, Hamburger Pizza, Curly French Fries, Peaches

**HIGH SCHOOL**

**BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Yogurt w/Granola**  
**Mon** Breakfast Pizza, Peaches **Tues** Sausage Biscuit, Apple **Weds** Cinnamon Roll, Orange  
**Thurs** Yogurt Parfait, Banana **Fri** Pancake & Sausage, Applesauce

**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**  
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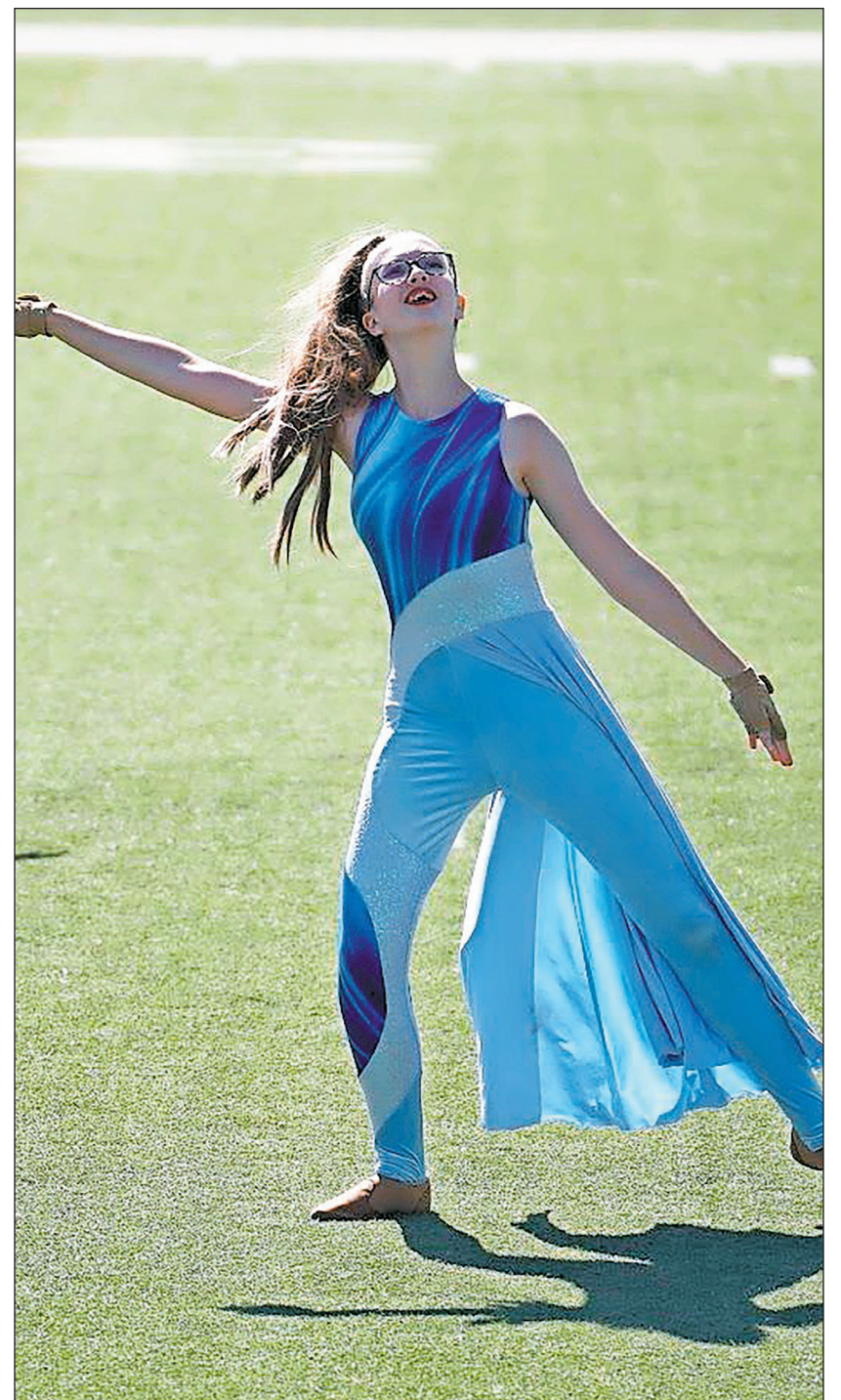
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# Congratulations to Azle's Marching Green Pride!

COURTESY PHOTOS  
 The Azle High School Marching Green Pride will play at the Bands of America San Antonio Super-Regional Friday and Saturday at the Alamodome. More than 80 other schools will be at the event.



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# Behind the Mask

“Who are you? Who, who, who, who? I really want to know.”

There are at least three possible responses to that quote. I remember the 1978 recording by The Who.

I recognize the theme song from CSI (2000-2015) or the reboot CSI: Vegas (2021).

I don't know what this guy is talking about.

Ok, maybe there's a fourth: I can't figure out your Halloween costume.

As I write this post, Mrs. Sweetie and I are preparing for our annual Halloween tradition of turning off all the lights in the front part of the house so we can hide out in the back and pretend we're not home.



## 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](http://www.discoveryouramazing.com).

It's not that we have any objections to Halloween. We've just never really had trick or treaters in our neighborhood and I don't need all the leftover candy that we would have if I got some on the outside chance someone might stray in our direction.

And we're on-the-go enough that a quiet evening at home has great appeal.

On this particular day (and for the past few since Halloween tends to be a "sea-

son" rather than a day), many folks wear masks and/or costumes to hide their true identity and pretend for a day to be someone besides who they really are.

In other words, to do something for a few days for fun that many of us do all the time.

Maybe not so much the costume and mask part, but the hiding the truth about who we are part.

I think there are varied rea-

sons why we may "mask up" sometimes.

It could be that we are insecure. We think that if people really know who we really are they won't like us or approve of us. Or we think their expectations of us are above our capacity to deliver.

In the current climate of finger-pointing, posturing, mistrust, and whataboutism, those may be legitimate insecurities.

It could be that we are ashamed. We've all done some dumb stuff. We've all messed up and, in some ways, we ARE messed up.

And since we have a tendency to define people by what they did when they were at their worst, we figure that we bet-

ter hide behind something so that OUR worst won't see the light of day.

There could be other reasons, but I don't want to spend the entire post on all the possibilities.

Here's what I want us all to understand: the masks we wear can become a heavy burden when we are constantly adjusting our persona to try to fit with the expectations of the moment.

This morning I read these words: "Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did." (1 John 2:6).

As a person of faith, I want people to see things in me that look like the faith I proclaim. If I'm not careful, that

will result in more masks and more insecurity because I fall so short of looking like Jesus.

But here's the kicker—that verse doesn't say I should look like Jesus. It says I should live like Jesus did.

Jesus was perfect in every way. He never messed up. That's beyond me. I can't imitate that.

But THE WAY he lived was CONSISTENTLY and INTENTIONALLY. He didn't try to impress anyone. People were drawn to Him by the way that He loved them as He told them the unvarnished truth.

THAT I can do if I only will. And that would be amazing.

Be amazing today, my friend.



## ELECTION DAY NOVEMBER 8

### Tarrant and Parker County Voting Locations

Election Day, Nov. 8  
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

#### AZLE:

Azle ISD Instructional Support Center,  
483 Sandy Beach Road, Suite C

The Edge Church of Azle  
(Good Shepherd Lutheran Church),  
Room 1, 1313 Southeast Parkway

#### LAKESIDE:

Lakeside Church of God,  
Fellowship Hall/Gym,  
9396 Confederate Park Road

#### PELICAN BAY:

Pelican Bay City Hall,  
Council Chambers, 1300 Pelican Circle

#### PARKER COUNTY:

Silver Creek United Methodist Church,  
2200 Church Road, Azle  
Fellowship Hall

Azle City Hall,  
505 W. Main St, Azle  
Community Room

Reno City Hall,  
195 W. Reno Rd, Azle  
Council Room



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**ELECTION DAY NOV. 8**

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# Azle's homeless assistance program

*Program offers stability for many families that struggle with homelessness*

BY DON MUNSCH  
don@azlenews.net

Many life challenges can affect a child's education.

Homelessness is but one of the factors.

Azle ISD offers a program to help children and families coping with shelter issues.

Jamie Westbrook, Azle ISD Social Worker/McKinney-Vento and Foster Care Liaison, heads a program to help families.

Homeless children are defined, for education purposes, as people who live in a homeless shelter, doubled-up with family or friends or living in a motel or in an unsecured place, such as a car. The majority of AISD families affected by homelessness are in the doubled-up situation in which they move in, for example, with a grandmother temporarily or a friend.

"Each school district has to have a liaison for McKinney-Vento, which is the homeless program, and foster care liaison, so I carry both of those titles, as well," Westbrook said.

She describes her job as wearing three different hats. For the social worker component, she helps find resources for families.

"Oftentimes, I'll get calls if a family needs some financial assistance with rent or utilities, so I help find resources that they can apply for or

receive that assistance," she said.

Sometimes a school counselor will call and advise that a student is off of a medication and a family needs assistance with that, Westbrook said, which can be a financial issue or helping someone apply for Medicaid or reapplying.

"I keep up a list on our district website of all kinds of resources, so all the shelters, domestic violence resources, all the food pantries and blessing boxes in our area," she said. "So, a school social worker is helping connects families with resources."

Concerning McKinney-Vento, it is a federal law that states if a family loses housing, then that child has a right to stay in their school of origin. Domestic violence could trigger a parent leaving or a house fire that forces a family to a motel or to another family's shelter. Eviction or loss of a job can affect someone's shelter status.

"If they'll let us know that, we can provide services to be able to keep the student enrolled in school here, so that they don't have to change schools," Westbrook said, adding that transportation can be provided.

Westbrook keeps a list of apartments in town, including subsidized apartments, and realtors who have low-

cost rental units, and needy people can apply for those domiciles. Texas Workforce Commission has beefed up its services in trying to help individuals and families with work skills in a program called Work Solutions program.

"The goal is to keep them here at least enrolled in Azle and if they have to relocate to Boyd or Springtown, well, we can work with those school districts to do the transportation," she said.

Westbrook has served a little over 130 students this year, and the district can direct people to resources that will at least aid them temporarily. Unaccompanied homeless young people have benefits available for them as far as financial resources to help with college expenses.

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act was reauthorized in 2015 but requirements for a McKinney-Vento liaison for school districts existed before then.

Families find out about district resources through school registrars, who ask parents about why they are moving or are newly enrolling. In these questions, registrars can learn about a family's situation. The district also informs the community through word of mouth or "every opportunity now that I have to tell people about it,"

## If your family lives in any of the following situations:



Homeless Shelter



Doubled-up with other people



Car, park, empty building, bus or train station



Motel or campground

## Your eligible children have the right to:

- Receive a free, appropriate public education.
- Enroll in school immediately, even if lacking documents normally required for enrollment.
- Enroll in school and attend classes while the school gathers needed documents.
- Enroll in the local school, or continue attending their school of origin if that is your preference.
- Receive transportation to and from the school of origin, if requested.
- Receive educational services comparable to those provided to other students, according to your children's needs.

## If you believe...

your children may be eligible, contact the local liaison listed below to find out what services and supports may be available. There also may be supports available for your preschool-age children.

## If the school district believes...

that the school you selected is not in the best interest of your children, the district must provide you with a written explanation of its position and inform you of your right to appeal its decision.

COURTESY AISD

For more information call Jamie Westbrook at 817-444-7412.

Westbrook said.

Keeping stability for families will always be the aim in helping people during a crisis.

"That's the whole crux of that federal law - let's don't disrupt it even more," Westbrook said. "Because we know statistically, the more

transitional changes for a student, the more difficult for, one, them to stay in school and then (two) to be successful," she said.

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Be Well Primary Care has been serving the area for two years, and recently welcomed Dr. Joshua Richard to the staff in July.

Dr. Richard is a Sports Medicine and Family Medicine-trained physician. He has trained at UT Southwestern in Dallas and is finishing his fellowship training at Texas Tech University Health Center in Lubbock. He is a proud lifelong resident of DFW.

Although the clinic only sees patients 16 and older for primary care, Dr. Richard can see children 12 and older for sports medicine treatment, including concussion man-

agement and other sports-related injuries.

Working alongside Dr. Richard is Eric Bash, Physician Assistant. Bash served in the U.S. Air Force as a surgical technologist and earned his degree in Physician Assistant Studies from Bethel University in Tennessee before returning to Texas.

The entire team at the clinic will work together to find a complete balance to your health, relieve pain, and help you get back to feeling like your best self.

Be Well Primary Care is located at 721 Southeast Pkwy. in Azle, next to White's Funeral Home. A ribbon cutting will be held Nov. 10 at 5 p.m.

They are open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and they close for lunch from noon to 1 p.m.

Be Well Primary Care accepts most commercial insurance plans, including Medicare.

For more information about services or to set up an appointment, call 817-270-3627, or visit their website at www.bewellprimarycare.com.

Dr. Josh Richard      Eric Bash, PA

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# Reno City Council retains law firm to represent the city in disincorporation petition lawsuit

BY MADELYN EDWARDS  
madelyn@azlenews.net

Reno City Council approved hiring a municipal law firm to represent the city in a legal case against Mayor Sam White related to the Reno disincorporation petition.

At last week's meeting, the council members deliberated in closed session for about an hour before coming out to make their decision. In a 4-1 vote, the council approved retaining Messer, Fort and McDonald, PLLC. The opposing vote was cast by council member Jeff Davis, who participated in the meeting via Zoom.

The cost of these legal services was capped at \$2,500.

Reno residents Eric Hunter, Joy Jenkins and Jennifer Vogle filed a lawsuit against White to order him to call for the election for disincorporation. The plaintiffs claim that they submitted a petition with the correct number of required signatures needed to trigger an election, but the mayor did not order an election.

After a review of the signatures, "the City of Reno review 'invalidated' enough signatures that the number of valid ones dropped below the requisite 400 number," the lawsuit states. The reasons the city gave for invalidating signatures were that residents had moved from the city after signing the petition, the same person signed for all household members, and some signatures were illegible.

The lawsuit claims that those reasons are not valid to reject a voter's signature.

"The defendant had no business attempting to 'go behind' any of the challenged signatures," the lawsuit states. "Instead, Defendant's duty was to order an election under Ch. 62, Tex. Local Gov't. Code, on the question of abolition of the corporate existence of the City of Reno."

Since this matter is still legally pending, White declined to comment other than to say that legal advice is being sought.

The lawsuit claims that the Parker County Elections Office verified 423 signatures. County Election Administrator Crickett Miller said an individual asked the elections office to review the petition for Reno registered voters, but her office did not validate the veracity of the signatures and was not given criteria to follow.

Miller confirmed that the city — not the county — oversees validating the signatures.

"In all actuality, the county doesn't have anything to do with it. It's the city," she said.

### OPPOSING VIEWS

Some petitioners — including Jenkins and Vogle, who are plaintiffs in the lawsuit — spoke at the council meeting on Oct. 24 in favor of calling for an election on the disincorporation matter. They claimed that signatures were falsely rejected because the city and mayor are trying to avoid an election.

"Their voices have been suppressed only because the city was looking for enough voters to reject so they would fall below the 400-mark,

giving the city an excuse to keep the issue off the ballot," Jenkins said during the meeting.

Reno resident Diane Blair said residents should be given a chance to vote on the disincorporation issue, no matter what city officials think of the issue.

"We're not giving any opportunity for people to oppose or accept this, which doesn't make any sense," Blair said.

Offering an opposing viewpoint, Reno resident Brian Schrader argued that the city and council acted with good faith and transparency.

"If you have questions to the validity of the rejection of signatures, why not work with the council on these reasons rather than bringing a petty and frivolous lawsuit and then complaining at what it might cost the city?" Schrader said.

After the council adjourned into closed session, Hunter — who is also a plaintiff on the lawsuit — claims he had asked White to discuss the validity of the signatures but was turned down.

"I asked the mayor to sit down with me and look at the Secretary of State's website and what they say about invalid signatures, which ones are invalid, which ones are not. At that time, we didn't have any legal representation, but they're trying to use the excuse, 'Well, since you're represented, I can't talk with you,'" Hunter said. "I just want to talk to you citizen to mayor and discuss this and ask you to have an open mind about it."

Some speakers also argued



FILE PHOTO  
Mayor of Reno Sam White

that it would be unfair to use taxpayer dollars to fund White's legal fees.

"Why not just avoid paying for an attorney with taxpayer money by just following the law and put the petition to disincorporate on the ballot?" Vogle said during the meeting. "Why should the taxpayers pay for the legal fees for Sam White when all this could be avoided by simply putting it on the ballot? Why should we have the citizens pay to take away our right to vote on an item that 499 citizens want to be heard on?"

Ladonna Miller argued that the city and council should support White because he was acting in his role as mayor and therefore, the city is associated to the lawsuit.

"I believe a strain will be placed on the city's and the city council's reputation, credibility and culpability if it is decided not to support an elected city official who was performing their civic responsibilities," she said at the council meeting.

# OBITUARIES

## Janet Pappas 1936 - 2022



Janet Pappas was a caring wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister, and friend. She went home to be with the Lord on Wednesday, October 26, 2022 at the age of 85 after a courageous battle with cancer.

A visitation will be held on Tuesday, November 1 from 4 - 7 p.m. at Biggers Funeral Home, located at 6100 Azle Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas, 76135.

A funeral service will take place on Wednesday, November 2, 2022 at 11 a.m. in Biggers Funeral Chapel.

She will be buried at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in Janet's name to the Caleb's Cousins ministry at First Baptist Lakeside, located at 8801 Jacksboro Highway #4339, Fort Worth, TX, 76135

She was born in Marlin, Texas on December 9, 1936. She married Tony Pappas on August 7, 1954. She and Tony recently celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary.

They lived in Azle, Texas for 38 years where Janet served as a massage therapist at Azle Therapy for 30 of those years, taking care of many in the community who were hurting or ill.

Janet loved people, her

family, and her church. She never met a stranger and truly loved helping and serving others. She faithfully attended First Baptist Church of Lakeside for many years. Her passion there was volunteering on the Caleb's Cousins Committee, which brought her great joy and many friendships.

Janet was preceded in death by her son, Carl Pappas, and two sisters.

She is survived by her husband, Tony; sister, Rena Mae Raney; daughter, Debbie Pappas Crawford; two grandchildren, Chad Crawford (Leslie) and Clint Crawford (Whitney); five great-grandchildren, Harper, Addison, Keller, Cooper, and Hunter; and one great grandchild on the way, Henry.

The Azle News,  
Nov. 2, 2022 Edition

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<p><b>THE ABBEY CHURCH</b> Pastor: Paul Brownback 10400 Jacksboro Highway 817-238-1404 www.TheAbbeyChurch.com Morning Worship.....10:30 AM Community Groups.....Various Times</p> <p><b>ASH CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH</b> 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><b>AZLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b> (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><b>AZLE FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD</b> 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><b>COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH</b> 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><b>CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH</b> 2233 Hwy 199 E. • Springtown 817-221-LIFE (5433) Sunday Worship Service.....10:00 AM Wednesday.....7:00 PM</p> <p><b>CROSSROADS BAPTIST CHURCH</b> Pastor - Jon Baker Corner FM 730S &amp; FM 1886 817-755-0279 Transportation Available Worship Service.....10:30 AM Wed. Prayer Service.....7:00 PM</p> <p><b>THE EDGE CHURCH - AZLE</b> 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><b>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> Pastors: Rev. Todd &amp; Jenn Pick 200 Church St., Azle 817-444-3323 Morn. Worship.....8:30, 9:45 &amp; 11 AM Sunday School.....9:45 &amp; 11 AM Youth (UMYF).....5:00 PM Sun &amp; 6:30 PM Wed</p> <p><b>HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> 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><b>HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA</b> 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><b>SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH</b> 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><b>LEGACY CHURCH</b> Assembly of God Church Pastor: Gary D. Veazey Hwy. 199 &amp; Jaybird Lane 817-221-2983 Morning Worship.....9:15 &amp; 11:00 AM Kids Zone.....9:15 &amp; 11:00 AM Wed. Evening Legacy Group Legacy Youth, Kids All Services.....7:00 PM</p> <p><b>SILVER CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> 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><b>SILVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH</b> Pastor: Jay Ditty Minister of Music: David Musick Corner FM 730 S. &amp; 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><b>THE WORD@LAKESIDE CHURCH OF GOD</b> 9396 FM 1886 Fort Worth, TX 76135 817-237-5500 thewordatlakeside.com Pastors: Brandon and Kelly Bohannon Worship Pastor: Christen Moody Family Life and Young Adult Pastors: Jodie and Mark James, Kids Pastor: Katie Pearson, Student Pastors: Taylor and Sheridan Tomlin, Creative Directors: Logan and Carrie Edwards, Connections Coordinators: Preston and Ashley Larrew Equip Sunday School at the WORD.....9:30 AM Empower Worship at the WORD.....10:45 AM Kids at the WORD.....10:45 AM PreK at the WORD.....10:45 AM Emanate at the WORD (Special Needs Ministry).....10:45 AM Nursery at the WORD.....10:45 AM Young Adults at the WORD.....6:00 PM Wednesdays Adult Bible Class.....7:00 PM The WORD Students (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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# ON FISHING

## When is usually the 'best time' to catch bigger hybrid stripers?

I was questioned recently on when is the best time to catch a big hybrid striper. Well, there are definitely times that are better than others, but a big fish can be caught any time of the year.

I struggle with these types of questions as any generality made can be refuted. I do know based on my experience on the water when I have been more likely to catch big fish, namely stripers and hybrids. Big largemouth bass are more typically caught in the winter, and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Share-a-Lunker program is set up for this interval. This interval lasts many months, but many of the big fish are caught in the first few months of the year.

Striped bass and their cousins in the hybrid striped bass have some differences and similarities. The biggest difference is the fact that the hybrid striped bass is more tolerant of the Texas heat. First, let's cover the striped bass and then follow that with the



### 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 since 1998. michael.acosta@att.net

hybrid striped bass.

Striped bass in freshwater in Texas do not generally grow to the massive sizes (50 to 60 pounds) like they do on the East Coast and in Arkansas. According to biologists, the heat is more stressful to the larger fish and it is difficult for them to get really big. Twenty pound fish can usually be found but these are few and far between. The really big fish in Texas have historically been caught in the tailraces below dams where relatively cool oxygenated water can be found year-round. These tailraces typically have plenty of food available for the stripers to feed on. Spring-fed holes where water temperatures are cooler can also hold big

fish in the summer as well.

In my opinion, your best chance to net a big striper is in the winter. Of course the fall and the spring produce big fish as well, but in my experience more numbers of bigger stripers come after the first freeze in the upper tributaries or creeks feeding most impoundments. Typically, this pattern starts around the first week in December plus or minus a few weeks depending on the weather.

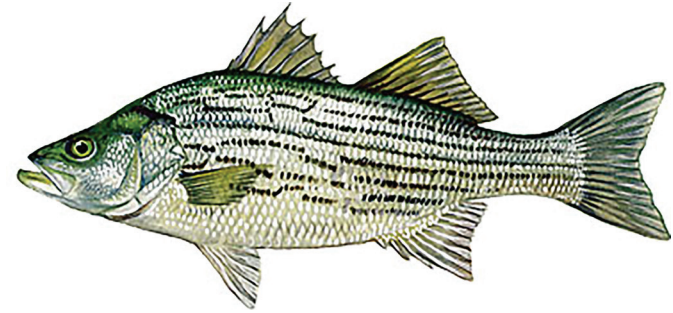
The water in the upper ends of the reservoir is typically shallower and tends to warm quicker than the main lake in the winter, which eventually congregates the baitfish (the baitfish move to the warmer water). With the baitfish congregated, the predators are usually not far behind. I have noticed as well that the bigger fish tend to travel more. The smaller fish will generally stay in the main reservoir. I am sure this is not always true, but I believe this fall migration has to do something with the spawning urge at certain water temperatures.

Striped bass prefer the cooler water and will gorge themselves. These winter fish



PHOTO COURTESY MICHAEL ACOSTA

Striped bass in Texas are less tolerant of the heat than their relatives, the hybrid striped bass. In the summer they tend to be thinner and smaller, but in the winter they are extremely healthy and will weigh more.



Hybrid striped bass are a cross of white and striped bass species.

are extremely healthy and obese and will weigh more. The big females will also have developing egg sacks. Conversely in the dead of winter the fish are much thinner due to the stress of the warmer water.

Fall and spring are also great times to catch big stripers. These fish will push baitfish up in the shallows. These fish are definitely more active and this shallow water/top water action is an exciting time. In the dead of winter, the baitfish are more lethargic and you have to slow down your presentation to get those big sows to bite.

Though I fish year-round, winter fishing is by far my most favorite time. The fish are more apt to hit artificial baits and the action is really good.

Big hybrid stripers are also

catchable in the winter on artificials. However, my experience over the years tells me that this species generally prefers to feed during the warmer part of the day more so than the full-blooded striper. I am sure on those really cold days all species approve of warming temperatures. One thing for sure is that the hybrid striper species are just as healthy and obese as their full-blooded cousins in the colder water.

The big difference to hybrid striper fishing that I alluded to earlier is the fact that big hybrids can be caught in the dead of summer. When the full-blooded striped bass is stressed due to the heat and the action is slower on area lakes, the hybrid striped action can be tremendous.

Hybrids can be stressed by the heat as well, but not like

the striper. In fact, some of my biggest hybrids have been caught in the middle of the summer. The trick to catching big hybrids in the summer is to locate deep main lake humps and points. These big boys will be positioned throughout the summer in these same locations. When they do start to feed, a large gizzard shad (8 to 10 inches) will be easily wolfed down.

Stripers and hybrids are great fighting fish. They get relatively big and are a blast to catch. Hybrids don't get quite as big as a striper, but the white bass part of their makeup make them the hardest fighting fish in freshwater for their size. The hybrid striper is a cross between a striped bass and a white bass, which is the reason why they can handle the Texas heat better.

## FISHING REPORT

Granbury water temperatures are near the 70-degree mark. Best action continues to be crappie on jigs and minnows fish near structure. Small striped bass and white bass are slow to fair mid-lake. Look for any surface action. Catfish action is picking up with the lowering temperatures with some big blues being caught up to 20 pounds. Black bass fishing is good in numbers on soft plastics with an occasional bigger fish to 7 pounds. Look for topwater action early. Keeper-sized striped bass are slow to fair on live shad in town and on the lower ends near Blue Water Shores.

Comanche Creek, which just reopened, continues to be on fire for Tilapia, Largemouth bass and catfish. Limits of channel catfish are good on prepared and cut baits. Largemouth bass are being caught on most every type bait, and it is possible to catch 50-plus fish a day. Tilapia are abundant and many are catching them using cast nets.

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Pat and Curtis Elam will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on Sunday, November 13 by inviting friends and family to a reception at GracePointe Church (formerly Midway Baptist Church) from 2 to 5 pm. No presents please, just your presence would be appreciated. Hosted by their daughters Krystal Kruckner and Cheryl O'pry.  
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# The inevitable changing of the guard will soon be upon us

One thing certain in life is change being constant. No matter how well-managed and organized you believe your life to be, no matter how well things are going, no matter the positives that are taking place, some event will happen to create change.

Humans seem predisposed to be afraid of change. Frequently upon learning of the circumstances that cause the change, they react negatively. They fear the uncertainty of what is to come and fret over how the change will alter events in their life. It causes people to toss and turn in their bed, eat only a portion of their meal, and become grumpy or distant. Sometimes change can be like



## 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.

a giant elephant resting on your shoulders, weighing a person down.

In the two years the new ownership has operated the Hood County News, we have undergone a massive amount of change. We have gone from what was an 8- or 10-page newspaper to a 16-to-24-page publication. We have added staff, expanded our operation to include three additional newspapers, and increased the volume of our

outside printing jobs. Some of the changes have been difficult on the staff. They have been forced to move outside their comfort zone, change from the ways they have done things for years, and to adapt to new technology and processes. It has been a challenge for all of us, but we have made it through. But now, even more new challenges await us.

Over the next 60 days, three of our very best em-

ployees will be retiring from our organization. With those retirements, 75 years of newspaper experience will walk out the door. These are people I have worked with closely since my first day at the paper. Without question, they have strived to pass on their knowledge to me and to others. They have been committed "newspaper" people for a large portion of their adult life.

While I celebrate their retirement as they move on to the next stage in their lives, I am deeply saddened to lose my co-workers and friends. Words will never be able to express the respect and admiration I have for them, nor the love I have in my heart.

They will be missed. They have made my life experience so much richer and better.

The change will bring new staff, new ideas, and we will continue to evolve as a newspaper group. It is my intent to continue to expand our coverage, and to be a bigger, better, more informative newspaper than ever before. We want to be your "source" for news in Hood County and in all the locations where we have a newspaper. We want to evolve, adapt and remain meaningful in an ever-changing world.

Over the next few weeks, I am certain my column will reflect specific words of congratulations to the retirees, and I will undoubtedly wax

poetic of their skills and talents. They deserve that public acknowledgement. In the meantime, the remaining staff will be working and attempting to fill the very large shoes that will soon be empty. But we are not afraid, nor do we fret. This is but another change in the never-ending changes that occur in life. Opportunity, growth, refinement and improvement are on the horizon. My staff is ready to run ahead. The future is an exciting place. No fear lives here.

Thought for the day: There really are two lives we live. The first life and then the second life when we realize we only have one life.

Until next time.

# Determined to love well

This past Saturday would have been my father's 85th birthday. Lew Shaffer passed on to be with the Lord on July 10, 2018. He survived a massive stroke at the age of 49, and the impact of the stroke stayed with him the rest of his days.

Many in our community got to know my dad, but most only knew him post-stroke. Prior to his stroke, my father was a retired Air Force officer who traveled most weekends with my mother, Sandy, and Ted and Barbara Platt to present Christian Home Seminars. My parents and the Platts co-founded Son Shine Ministries in 1977.

My dad's speaking style



## HOPE MATTERS

By David Shaffer

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

was refreshing and reliably hilarious. Family gatherings around holidays were always a blast, as new, creative games would be hatched by my dad and his likewise inventive brothers. Laughter in our family was ever present and often uncontrolled.

The stroke that changed his life took place on Sept. 20, 1987, in Sandston, Virginia.

After 40 days in a Virginia

hospital, he was transferred to a rehabilitation center in Dallas, where he remained for six months. Defying the odds, he eventually made the move back to their home in the Azle community he so loved.

His speaking, walking and thinking were significantly impacted, with the right side of his body being mostly immobile. Despite the radical change, his faith and will to

get better thrived. He rarely missed a rehab session, and he fought to improve. He, of course, had many rough days, but the support team around him, led by my mother, encouraged him. He would bounce back every time. His strength wavered, but hope was never extinguished as he relied on Jesus.

Eventually, my father's perspective simplified life to his most salient mission. He determined to love well. If you knew him, it means you have been hugged by him. He made no distinction whom he would love regardless of politics, race, gender, age, appearance, religion, history, etc. In a nation that is regu-

larly divided, this example continues to inspire me. My mother faithfully served alongside him, and my two brothers and our families remained close.

Every day, he wrote letters to people to lift up Jesus and to tell them he loved them.

My dad and I, of course, did not see everything the same way. When I became director of Son Shine Ministries in 2002, I made a lot of changes. I know some of these were hard for him, but he always supported me. Having him in your corner would bolster you as life's tempests hit. Toward the end of his life, he found it hard to form the sentences he wanted to tell

me. He often just settled on, "You're great, David! I love you!" What a blessing!

When he passed on to be with the Lord, our family knew it was time. He had fought hard to live life to its fullest, and he lived meaningfully for 31 years after a devastating stroke. Though it felt like a pillar had been removed from my framework, I was happy for him to be in God's presence. What a great reunion hug awaits us from him one day.

The positive impact made in this life outlives us. I am grateful for the many special people in this community whose examples still resonate long after their passing.

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BOOK REVIEW

# For a good ghostly read, pick up these scary books - if you dare!

**TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER**

The leaves are crunchy beneath your feet.

There's a chill in the air, too, and darkness creeps into the day earlier and earlier. It's the perfect time to get terrified, isn't it? These three books will do it to you...

Let's start with something for everybody over 8 in your haunted house: "Tales to Keep You Up at Night" by Dan Pობlocki (Penguin Workshop, \$17.99). In it, young Amelia's grandma has disappeared and it's natural that Amelia would look for her, right? But Grandma's not in the attic. What is there is a book, one that sure looks like a library book, but the library says it's not. Nope, it's a book of stories and as Amelia begins to read them, they start to look a lot like real-life, making her wonder exactly what's merely the story and what's not.

This book is written in chapters that are the perfect length for reading aloud every evening. Start a tradition: turn off the lights, fire up a spooky candle, but do it well before bedtime.

Are all ghosts made alike? No, as you'll see in "A Haunted History of Invisible Women: True Stories of America's Ghosts" by Leanna Renee Hieber and Andrea James (Citadel Press, \$16.95). The ghosts among us are as different as the stories of their lives before death, say the authors, and their haunting methods are equally unique.

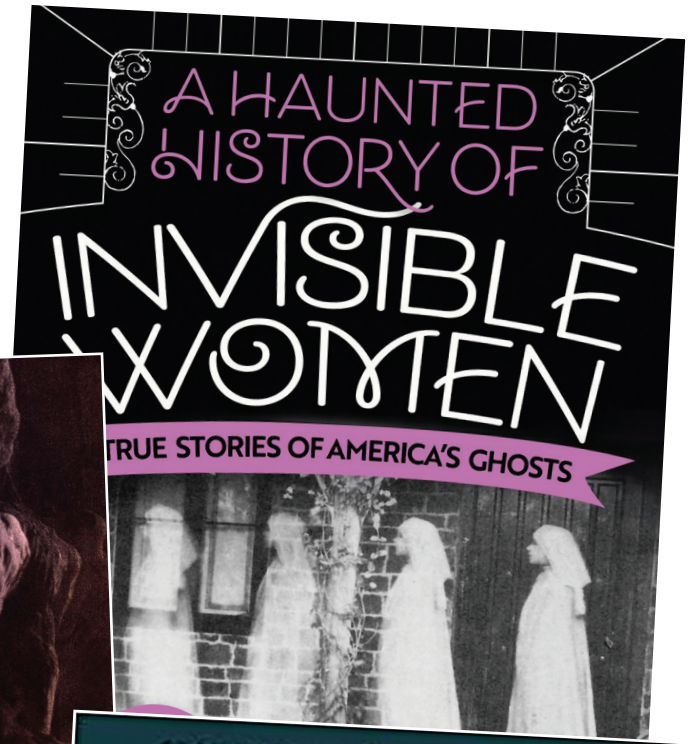
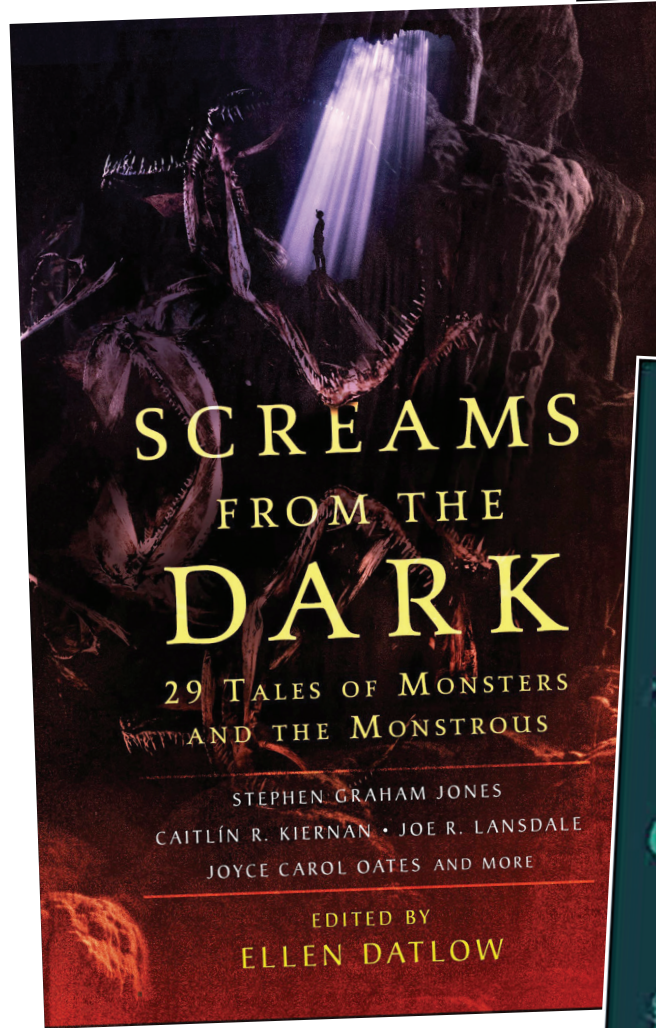
This book traces the histo-

ry of female ghosts, famous, not-famous and infamous. You'll read about the ghost of Mary Surrat, who was implicated in the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. Learn about the woman who haunted Joan Rivers' apartment. Read about ghosts who haunt cemeteries, ghostly groups, and female spectres who will never let anyone forget how they died. Bonus: there's hidden history in these stories, making them even more interesting.

And finally, if a good session with bad monsters is more to your liking, then find "Screams From the Dark: 29 Tales of Monsters and the Monstrous," edited by Ellen Datlow (Nightfire, \$29.99).

Sure, you've read plenty of tales about vampires, werewolves, demons, and yeah, they might make an appearance or two inside this book. You're prepared for them. But what about the other things that make you jump and yelp? What about monsters that don't look one bit like your stereotypical monsters? Yikes.

This is the kind of book that you don't have to read from cover to cover. You can pick and choose your chills, ignore some and read others twice, laugh at this one, lay wide awake all night after reading that one. For the most part, though, this anthology of stories by various authors will scare the socks off you, and make you want to sleep with a teddy bear close and a light on.



Still not scared enough? Haunt your favorite library or bookstore. The people there are experts on scary stuff, monsters, ghosts and things that make you scream. Ask for their help in finding the best boo-k, and don't leaf without it.

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# Reno Fall Festival 2022



PHOTOS BY MADELYN EDWARDS  
Abigail Guerrero, 8, dressed up as a witch for Reno's fall festival on Saturday at Reno Elementary School.



Local kids dressed up in costume for the Reno Fall Festival Saturday at Reno Elementary School. From left is 10-year-old Kannon Terrell as Freddy Krueger, 7-year-old Jackson Ellis as a ninja, 8-year-old Emma Ellis as a witch, 8-year-old Kimberlyn Jensen as Chrissy from the show "Stranger Things," and 9-year-old Ezra Cisar as himself.



Dressed as a police officer, 9-year-old Angelice Hunt rides on horseback Saturday at Reno Elementary School.



Edison Reed, 3, showed off his tractor costume while on the hayride at the Reno Fall Festival on Saturday.

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# Early voting ends Friday, election is Tuesday, Nov. 8; DPS director says he won't resign; Texas students lag in math

## EARLY VOTING ENDS FRIDAY; ELECTION IS TUESDAY, NOV. 8

Early voting for the general election ends on Friday, Nov. 4, with the closely watched governor's race pitting incumbent Gov. Greg Abbott against challenger Beto O'Rourke headlining the ballot. A number of other statewide races are on the ballot, including lieutenant governor, attorney general, land commissioner, agriculture commissioner and comptroller.

Voters can find polling places in their county by visiting [VoteTexas.gov](http://VoteTexas.gov). Those voting early can visit any location in the county in which they're registered. However, those who choose to vote on Election Day must go to the specific precinct in which they live.

## DPS DIRECTOR SAYS HE WON'T RESIGN

Texas Department of Public Safety Director Steve McCraw is fending off calls for his resignation in light of his department's handling of the mass shooting at Robb Elementary in Uvalde last May, in which 19 students and two teachers died. However, McCraw said "every responding officer needs to be accountable for their actions," according to the Austin American-Statesman. The Texas Rangers, an arm of the DPS, reportedly are investigating several troopers among the 90 who were on the scene. DPS Sgt. Juan Maldonado was fired recently for his role in the shooting response.

As the Statesman report-



## 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](mailto:gborders@texaspress.com).

ed, officers from multiple law enforcement agencies delayed confronting the gunman for 77 minutes even as those trapped inside called for help.

McCraw said the Rangers' investigation will be complete by year's end.

## REPORT CARD: TEXAS STUDENTS LAG IN MATH

Like students across the country, students in Texas are struggling to recover from learning losses stemming from the pandemic, particularly in math, the Nation's Report Card indicates. Officially called the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), the test is administered in reading and math for a sample of students in 4th and 8th grade roughly every two years, according to the Texas Education Agency.

The bright side appears to be that students in Texas showed more progress than most in their academic recovery, TEA reported. Reading scores for Texas students are not statistically different than in 2019, the last time the test was administered — and before the pandemic struck. However, math scores are significantly lower than they were in 2019.

"Results from the 2022 Nation's Report Card highlight the hard work of Texas teachers and students. While we are largely recovering from the effects of the pandemic in reading, much work remains in math," said Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath.

## STATEWIDE VETERANS' HIRING EVENT

Texas veterans, service members and their spouses are invited to participate in this year's Hiring Red, White & You! statewide hiring event, which began Nov. 1 and runs through Nov. 18 with in-person and virtual events across the state.

Hosted by the Texas Workforce Commission, along with workforce development boards and other agencies, the hiring fair connects veterans, transitioning service members and spouses with Texas employers seeking their skills and experience. The state is home to more than 1.7 million veterans and current military members.

Employers who hire veterans could be eligible for a tax credit of up to \$9,600. The event in the past 10 years has worked with more than 20,000 employers, connected

more than 144,000 job seekers to job opportunities, and helped facilitate 3,198 same-day hires.

The events are free. Job seekers can find more details at [twc.texas.gov/hiring-red-white-you](http://twc.texas.gov/hiring-red-white-you).

## AGRICULTURE STILL SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC DRIVER

While the state's large cities are experiencing considerable population growth, agriculture continues to be a big part of the Texas economy. Farming and ranching operations can be found in every part of the state — citrus crops in the Rio Grande Valley, cotton in the High Plains, rice paddies in the Coastal Plains, cattle ranches in West Texas and timber in East Texas.

The state comptroller's office reported nearly \$25 billion in cash receipts in 2021 from the Texas agricultural industry, the fourth-highest among all states

— trailing only California, Iowa and Nebraska. The U.S. Department of Agriculture reports the state has 247,000 farms (ranches are considered a type of farm), more than double the next two states, Missouri and Iowa.

Cattle represent the state's top ag commodity, with 40.4% of the cash receipts generated. The top three commodities are cattle, dairy and poultry, according to USDA.

## DRY WEATHER TEMPER DEER SEASON EXPECTATIONS

Dry weather throughout much of the state as deer season approaches is tempering expectations for the general white-tailed deer season, which begins Saturday, Nov. 5.

"A number of hunters and landowners report seeing lots of deer, especially younger deer," said Alan Cain of the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department. "Part of that is a result of good fawn crops

the last couple of years, so there's more bucks in those younger age classes relative to bucks in that four- to six-year-old range. As we move into November and closer to the rut, those older bucks should increase movement activities in search of does, hopefully presenting an opportunity for a lucky hunter."

Drought impacts on deer habitats have adversely affected antler quality, Cain added.

## COVID-19 CASES STAY STEADY

The number of new COVID-19 cases reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University in Texas during the past week stayed steady at 11,667, with 81 new deaths reported. The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations in Texas, as reported by the Texas Department of State Health Services, was essentially unchanged at 1,042.

## TARRANT COUNTY

# Hiring Red White and You!

Globe Life Field, 734 Stadium Dr, Arlington, TX 76011

November 10, 2022 • 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

<https://workforcesolutions.net/event/11th-annual-hiring-red-white-you-job-fair/>

## CONSTRUCTION

### Advertisement and Invitation for Bids

The City of Reno will receive bids for the project "Miller Road Water Line" until 10:00 AM on November 10, 2022 at 195 W. Reno Road, Azle Texas 76020-6001. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 10:00 AM on Thursday, November 10, 2022 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 6" PVC Water Line
3. Supply and Installation of all Service Lines, Gate Valves and Driveways

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, 10/24/2022

All contractors/subcontractors whose 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.

## 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 November 10, 2022 at 195 W. Reno Road, Azle Texas 76020-6001. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 10:00 AM on Thursday, November 10, 2022 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. Supply and 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.

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# VETERAN

FROM PAGE 1A

so we were kind of hung out there to dry except for if we got in big trouble, we'd call in the Air Force for an air strike and occasionally, artillery," he said.

As part of the six-man team, Williams and his men were in charge of carrying many different types of explosive devices and ammo. Different kinds of grenades like claymore, smoke, and phosphorus along with regular hand grenades were part of their mobile arsenal.

"We carried an extra canteen cover and carried it full of grenades," Williams said. "You never know how long you're going to have to stand and fight. The weight, we were probably carrying 70 to 75 pounds of stuff on our backs at all times."

He said his six-man team would get dropped in the middle of the jungle to search for the enemy. He explained that the jungle in Vietnam was extremely thick.

"You can stand five feet away from somebody, and they could walk by and you would never see them," he said. "Close to 50% of the time you'd make contact with the enemy, and if you did, if they knew where you were, you couldn't stay out there with only six men. It was dangerous, and so they would come pick us up. One occasion we couldn't find an LZ (landing zone) that was big enough for helicopters to sit down in and they pulled us out on ropes, dangling 110 feet in the air and they flew us back to basecamp."

Williams said his troop was considered "elite," doing tasks that most of the troops didn't have to do.

"I think it was considered the most dangerous job in Vietnam," he said.

In fact, a memory that stands out to Williams the most was when he thought he was going to die.

"We had been sent out to a field that had been defoliated with Agent Orange, and they also had hit it with the B-52 strike," he explained. "They

sent our team out because they wanted to us to go see what they hit. (The enemy) was still there and we run up into the middle of them. They outnumbered us. We were trying to escape and evade and we had gone so far, we jumped over into a bomb crater, and we called for an airstrike. I happened to be the assistant team leader at that time, so I sent a claymore grenade up behind us to try to help us escape when we decided to leave.

"When the bomber came around behind us, he let that napalm (a weaponized mixture of chemicals designed to create a highly flammable and gelatinous liquid) go and I swear I thought it was coming in right in that bomb crater. I was looking straight down its nose. My heart skipped a beat, but it looked like it was going to be short and after it got down closer and closer, then you could tell that it was going to go over. He made a really good shot. It did go over right where you needed it to. Napalm is unforgiving. If it

splashes in front of you, it's going to cover you up and they tell you that it will burn all the oxygen out of the air and it's gonna kill you."

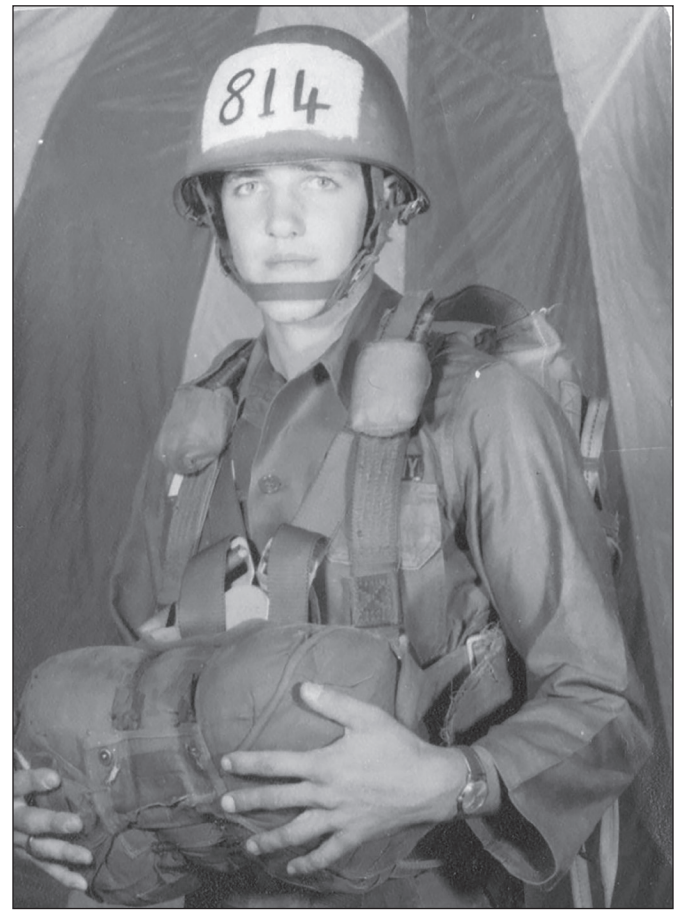
He said he and his team didn't really sleep out in the jungle; they just rested.

"When you worried about somebody sneaking up on ya, you didn't sleep well," Williams explained.

During the times that it rained, the team used a rubberized sheet as a blanket.

"It didn't make a lot of noise, but you couldn't put it over your face," he said. "With the rain drops hitting it, you wouldn't hear the enemy coming in, so you could put it down below your chin and get a little warm from covering your chest, but that was it. It was an exciting time, believe me."

Williams spent a total of three years in the military before heading to work in the fire department at Sheppard Air Force Base near Wichita Falls. He later transferred to Carswell Air Force Base, located northwest of Fort Worth and then the Naval Air Station



COURTESY PHOTO Williams enlisted in the Army with his cousin in 1965.



COURTESY PHOTO Williams' six man team would get dropped in the middle of the jungle to search for the enemy. His job was considered one of the most dangerous jobs in Vietnam.



COURTESY PHOTO There were no bathing facilities in the jungle, so soldiers like Williams had to take a shower in the rain.



COURTESY PHOTO Williams at the veteran memorial in Lamb County.

Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth before retiring in 1997.

Now, at 75, Williams lives in Briar with his wife of 52 years, Karen. Together, they have two children: Kristie Smith, who works as a third-grade teacher at Springtown Elementary School, and their late son, Shane. They have seven grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Karen and Freddie enjoy watching television together, especially with Freddie's most recent purchase.

"We just bought an 85-inch TV. I figured if I'm gonna spend most of my time here, I might as well have a good TV," Freddie said, chuckling.

When asked what he misses the most about the Army, he simply replied, "Vietnam."

"Not that, you know, I want to go around and kill people

all of the time or anything," he said, hastily. "Just, you don't have to put up with all of the stateside stuff. Over there, you were walking around and during monsoon season, it would rain days and days without stopping and we were walking around in the mud. We didn't have to worry about spit shining our boots or breaking starch (making clothes smooth and crisp). Course, with the exception of being dangerous, it was just much better duty over there I would say."

Freddie said he also misses the camaraderie he had with his six-man team.

He added, "I really like all the guys that I served with and especially the ones in Vietnam because we were a small unit, and you got really close to some of them."

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## AZLE AREA CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

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e-clubhouse.org/sites/azle\_tk/  
Jamie Westbrook - president  
**817-550-7625**

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See [www.azlema.com](http://www.azlema.com) or email [director@azlema.com](mailto: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](http://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**

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Rocky Gralla - Secretary  
Clint Hall - Treasurer

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Fort Worth TX 76135  
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**SE HABLA ESPAÑOL**

# BOND

FROM PAGE 1

students wear ID badges and “trust me, that’s been a battle and it is not a battle now.”

She gave a rundown of programs in the CTE program, which feature 13 career clusters. They span everything from architecture and construction to health science to transportation, distribution and logistics. Within those 13 clusters are 29 fields of study, and Murr said those fields attempt to offer an industry-based certification in as many areas as possible.

“Last year, at Azle High School, we had 841 IBCs that

were passed by Azle High School students,” she said, noting the numerous kinds of certifications that can be earned. Forty-four teachers instruct at least half-time CTE. Some of those teachers are coaches, and they teach half-time CTE.

“And of those 44 teachers, 29 of them are here at the high school,” Murr said. The rest teach at the junior high school level.

CTE classes are spread out all over the building. Murr told committee members that drone soccer and eSports are coming soon. Both activities have been proposed to the education foundation. The district will start eSports as a club at Azle Junior High

School and then see what happens from there, Murr said, and she expects the activity to become popular.

Additionally, Murr in her presentation said 3,299 seats are being taken in CTE classes at the high school, and some of those numbers are duplicate, meaning students are taking more than one class. The junior high school has 1,356 seats, and some of those students are taking more than one class.

Azle Superintendent Todd Smith said the district does generate a lot of revenue from the CTE program, and that money goes right back into the CTE program.

“There’s a lot of school districts that do not do that,

(but) we put it all right back into our CTE programs,” he said. “That helps pay for these certifications. A lot of school districts are charging these students for the certifications.”

He said teachers ensure students are ready to take the certification tests.

Martin discussed the fine arts department’s programs and discussed how many students participate in its programs, and he also discussed students’ competitions and activities. When the committee members toured the band hall, they learned it has a 13-foot ceiling. Martin said the cubic footage is an issue in that room, as the ceiling needs to be 10 feet higher.

“When we put our full band in there - 178 kids - I’m wearing earplugs every time, and I encourage my students, too, also, because there’s so much sound,” he said. “So, we don’t put them all there too often because it’s not good for our

ears.”

Martin discussed other features in the band hall, including the practice rooms, where the “sound quality is a little bit rough.” The practice rooms are not soundproof. Plus, he said, there are not many practice rooms - seven in all. Two are currently being used as storage because there’s a lot of equipment and it can’t be left out when not in use.

The choir room lacks storage room and practice space, and the theater wing does not have room for teaching certain aspects of theater, such as stage lighting and sound production, Smith said.

Martin also discussed Forte Junior High School’s band hall, which also has problems with its practice rooms’ soundproofing. The band hall is a bit undersized, but the school will divide into three bands and they will fit in there with three classes, Martin said. Azle Junior High

School also has some of the same challenges with its band hall, such as with size.

Smith told the committee he did not want to rush the process of determining when to call the bond, that he wants the committee to be comfortable about they pose in bond. A bond election could be called in May or November of next year.

After the tour, committee member John Olmsted said with all the growth, some expansion will have to happen. He and a committee toured the high school band hall three years ago, and he said it doesn’t make sense to continue to patchwork everything.

“Obviously, the middle schools’ (situation) is going to the topic of conversation,” he said. “It’s got to be with the growth and with the bond.”

The next meeting is Nov. 14 at AHS, where athletics will be the center of discussion and committee members will tour facilities.



PHOTOS BY DON MUNSCHE

Azle High School senior Adam Ruelas plays his trumpet in a practice room at the school’s band hall. The practice rooms are not sound-proof.



Committee members stopped in the auto shop at Azle High School during their tour. Below left, AISD fine arts coordinator Aaron Martin gives a tour of the choir room at the high school, while right, Azle Superintendent Todd Smith makes a point during the committee’s discussion in the school library.



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# Azle's Trunk or Treat

PHOTOS BY JIM STEVENS

Area children turned out in force for the Trunk or Treat Oct. 29 at the Azle Memorial Library parking lot.



Jeff and Donna Summers of Fort Worth dressed as Mr. and Mrs. Potato Head at Azle's Trunk or Treat on Oct. 29 in the parking lot of Azle Memorial Library.



Abigail and Nathan Lennox of Azle attended Trunk or Treat with Iris, 6 months, along with Arabelle, 3, and Estella, 4.



Azle firefighters handed out candy.

**good news**  *Each One, Give One*

What you consider a household necessity, your senior neighbors consider a luxury. Below is a list of items most needed by the seniors in our community:

**Items Needed:**


- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
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- Dish Soap
- Tissues (Kleenex)
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- Paper Towels

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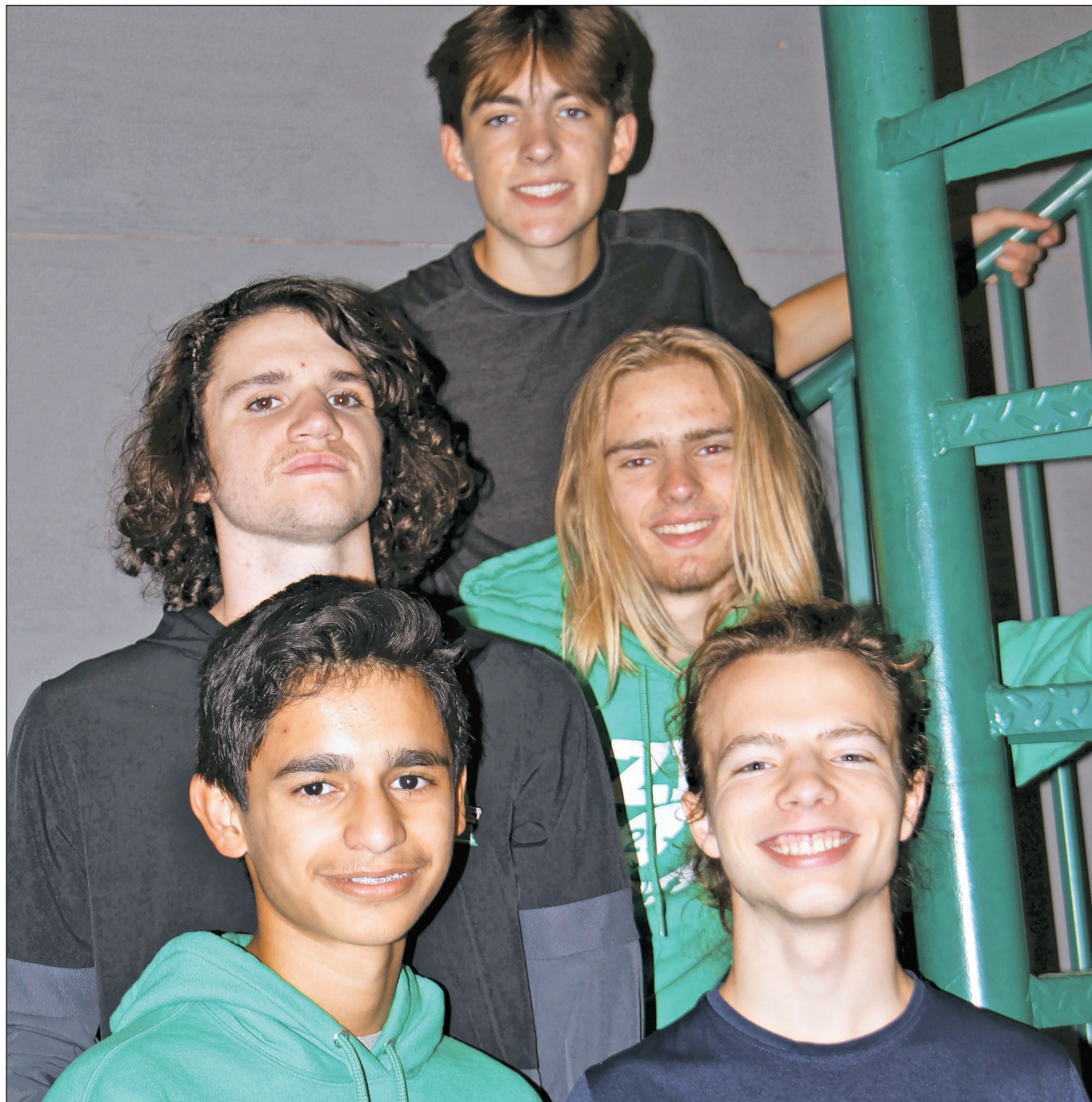
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## Going to state

### Barak Geary to represent Azle at state cross-country race again

BY JEFF PRINCE  
jeff@azlenews.net

A chilly rain fell from the dark morning sky an hour before sunup, killing Barak Geary's plan to run around the track at Hornet Stadium. Geary is Azle's only cross-country runner to qualify for the UIL state championship Nov. 4-5, and he has a limited time left to train. Undaunted, he and his Azle cross-country teammates decided to dodge the rain and train inside the nearby indoor facility.

Practices begin at 6:30 a.m. and include warming up, running and stretching for well over an hour. Practices are held

SEE **GEARY**, PAGE 3B.

PHOTO BY JEFF PRINCE

Clockwise from bottom left, Juan Rios, Ryner Boenisch, Parker Huffaker, Austin Gatewood and Barak Geary take a breather during a recent practice.

# SPORTS Roundup

BY JEFF PRINCE  
jeff@azlenews.net

### AZLE HORNETS TO PLAY CENTENNIAL ON ROAD IN FINAL GAME

The Azle Hornets are on the road this Friday for their final game of the season after beating South Hills 73-6 at last Friday's soggy and lightning-delayed final home game.

A steady rain began falling early on the morning of Oct. 28 and continued throughout the day and into game time. Then the lightning started.

"The players and coaches handled the delays as professionals," said Azle head coach Devon Dorris. "They did not let the distractions and multiple stops and starts

affect their play."

Quarterback Jay Jones tied a school record for five TD passes in just the first half of play, and many of the Hornets enjoyed big days on the field. The game would be the last time the seniors would play at Hornet Stadium before heading off to colleges or jobs.

"It was good to see all our players contribute to the win," the coach said. "Games like this, the coaches and players get so much joy watching the guys that don't get to play much go out there and compete."

Azle will take on Centennial in Friday's season-ender. The Spartans are in second place with a 6-1 record in District 3-5A competition.

Azle is in sixth place with a

3-4 district record and has no shot at the playoffs, but the team is approaching the final week with pride and spirit, Dorris said.

"Our kids have been amazing all year," he said. "They have showed up to practice every day and enjoy practice. They have never complained and just put in the work. It's not always like that when you go into the last game knowing you don't have a chance of making the playoffs, but I know the character of these boys and they will compete to get better and go out on a winning note."

Azle plays at 7 p.m. Friday at Centennial in Burleson.

### AZLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL FOOTBALL

On a rainy Oct. 28, the Crusaders faced the undefeated district leader in District 2-1A six-man TAPPS football - big bad Prestonwood - and trounced them 64-18.

Rain had been falling all day and night, but it was lightning that delayed the game from 7:30 p.m. to 8. Then, not long after the game started, another bolt of lightning lit up the sky, and the game was delayed yet again.

Eventually, the action resumed, and the Crusaders dominated. The running game propelled Azle Christian to victory, with Camden Logan leading the way with 223 yards and five touchdowns. A.J. Rollins ran for 104 yards and three TDs. Rollins added a 60-yard TD catch and more than 100 yards in kicking return yardage.

Drew Skartvedt led the team in tackles with 12, followed by Levi Morrow (8), Rollins (6) and Logan (5). Rollins and Logan added an interception apiece.

Azle Christian plays the final game of the regular season at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 4 against the North Texas Spartans at the Crusader home field.

## Lady Hornets begin their playoff run



PHOTO BY JEFF PRINCE

From left, Kendall Locke watches as twin sister Karlee Locke jumps high for a kill shot. The Locke sisters and the Lady Hornet volleyball team began their playoff run on Nov. 1, as the Azle News was going to press. Watch for details in the next edition.



PHOTO BY JEFF PRINCE

Cassidy Barber earned first team All-District honors.

SEE **ROUNDUP**, PAGE 3B.

# Azle's Green Pride marching off to super-regional contest

BY JEFF PRINCE  
jeff@azlenews.net

The Marching Green Pride of Azle High School is preparing to show off its skills at what is arguably considered the most competitive marching contest in the country.

Azle will pit its presentation against more than 80 other schools at the Bands of America San Antonio Super-Regional on Nov. 4-5 at the Alamodome.

"I am pleased with our improvement this season and excited to see how we do in the San Antonio show," said band director Aaron Martin.

On Oct. 22, Azle placed sixth at the UIL Area 5A F marching contest in Birdville. The Hornets were just one point out of fifth place and two points out of fourth.

This year isn't a state-advancing year for 5A schools,



PHOTO BY JEFF PRINCE

Azle's marching band, shown practicing earlier this year, will compete in what is considered the most competitive marching contest in the country on Nov. 4-5 in San Antonio.

so there was no opportunity to qualify.

"Our Area performances were both really good runs," Martin said. "We as directors have asked a lot of our

students, and they have responded with a level of effort that is incredible."

Martin expressed pride in the kids and welcomed the community support and

volunteers.

"Azle is such a special community, and these students have represented it as professionals and have so much to be proud of," he said.

# Football Contest

## WEEK 11

Wes Robinson is the top gun in this week's football contest after picking the winners of nine of 11 games. He wins first place and \$20. Two contestants picked the winners of eight of nine games, but Amy Collins was closest to the tiebreaker score with 48 points and wins second place and \$10. Kinny Pack takes third place and \$5. Congratulations to the winners.

# Azle vs. Burleson Centennial



## AZLE HORNET VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE 2022

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	SCORE
8/26	Frisco Reedy	HOME	69-27 L
9/01	Grapevine	at GRAPEVINE	58-14 L
9/09	Denton Ryan	Home	63-14 L
9/16	Aledo	at ALEDO	55-20 L
9/23	Brewer	HOME	54-0 W
9/30	Northwest	at NORTHWEST	58-7 L
10/07	OPEN	OPEN	
10/14	Saginaw	HOME	28-21 W
10/21	The Colony	at THE COLONY	58-34 L
10/28	South Hills	HOME	73-6 W
11/05	Burl Centennial	at BURL CENTENNIAL	

# Players Of The Week

OFFENSIVE

DEFENSIVE

SPECIAL TEAMS



Jay Jones



Bryce Trumbich



Elias Ramirez

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www.SmileGreat.com





# Congratulations Barak Geary!

PHOTOS BY DON MUNSCH  
 Azle High School senior Barak Geary runs through the tough terrain at Central Park in White Settlement during two recent meets, including the district meet on Oct. 14 (top left and bottom). He advances to the state cross country meet this week in Round Rock.



<p><b>Ace of Azle</b>        505 N. Stewart, Azle • 817-270-5600</p>	<p><b>Haley Carter</b>  <b>State Farm Insurance</b>        408 Boyd Ct., Azle • 817-444-1100</p>	<p><b>Pinnacle Bank</b>        316 N.W. Parkway, Azle • 817-444-2504</p>
<p><b>Azle Dental Care</b>        Brooke Porter, D.D.S.        912 Boyd Road, Azle • 817-444-1763</p>	<p><b>JBI Electrical Systems, Inc.</b>        5631 Stratum, Fort Worth • 817-589-1545</p>	<p><b>Margaret Cantu</b>  <b>Salon Galleria</b>        601 W. Main St., Azle • 817-691-2147</p>
<p><b>Azle Manor</b>        721 Dunaway Lane, Azle • 817-444-2536</p>	<p><b>Joe McCreary, D.D.S.</b>        209 Roe Street, Azle • 817-444-3209</p>	<p><b>Rural Gas Supply</b>        140 W. Main St., Azle • 817-444-4613</p>
<p><b>Azle News</b>        321 W. Main St., Azle • 817-270-3340</p>	<p><b>Joe Rider Propane</b>        7808 Jacksboro Hwy.        Ft Worth • 817-237-3325</p>	<p><b>Sutton Printing</b>        119 Industrial Ave., Azle • 817-444-2222</p>
<p><b>Comet Cleaners</b>        113 Speer, Azle • 817-444-4920</p>	<p><b>Ladybug Quilt Fabric</b>        519 N. Stewart St., Azle • 817-455-8983</p>	<p><b>The National Bank of Texas</b>        405 Commerce St., Azle • 817-444-4235</p>

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# FOOTBALL CONTEST

## • 2022 •

**1st PLACE \$20** **2nd PLACE \$10** **3rd PLACE \$5**

Winners can pick up their checks at the Azle News office after Thursday.

### • OFFICIAL RULES •

There are 11 games listed in advertisements on this page. To enter, pick the winner and write the name of that team in the appropriate blank on the official entry form.

Mail or deliver the form to: Azle News at 321 W. Main St., Azle, Texas 76020, by **1:00 PM FRIDAY**.

(Limit one entry per person).

Entries will be tabulated weekly and the results published in that week's issue of the Azle News. The first place winner each week will receive \$20, the second place winner \$10 and the third place winner \$5. The tie breaker will be used to determine placings. In case of a tie, the money will be divided equally.

To pick the tie breaker, predict the total number of points in the selected game and enter in the appropriate space on the official entry form. All entries become the property of the Azle News. Please write clearly and be sure to enter your pick in the correct blank. Second tiebreaker decided by whoever picks Azle and Springtown games correctly.

### AZLE OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Deadline for entries 1 p.m. Friday!

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. \_\_\_\_\_  
 6. \_\_\_\_\_  
 7. \_\_\_\_\_  
 8. \_\_\_\_\_  
 9. \_\_\_\_\_  
 10. \_\_\_\_\_  
 11. \_\_\_\_\_

Tie Breaker: 10 Score \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_


No photocopies please!

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 912 Boyd Road • 817-444-1763  
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1. Boswell at Chisholm Trail

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 thetrinityhomegroup.com  
 344 NW Parkway, Azle TX 76020

10. Los Angeles Rams at Tampa Bay Buccaneers



3. Brewer at Aledo

**MrJims.Pizza**  
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**1 LARGE 2 TOPPING SPECIALTY PIZZA \$13.99**

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**TACO TIME MEXICAN GRILL**

4. Azle at Centennial

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**Super Burrito \$4.49**  
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**Azle News**

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 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_

11. Seattle Seahawks at Arizona Cardinals

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**IN-COUNTY** **OUT-OF-COUNTY**  
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**\$36.50**  **\$25.00**  
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6. Texas Tech at TCU

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**CRABTREE**

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 Saturday by appointment only.

8. Baylor at Oklahoma

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# Hooray Azle volleyball!

PHOTOS BY JEFF PRINCE

The Lady Hornets fought their way into the playoffs this year after winning 23 games in the regular season. The girls fought hard all season long, especially at the net, blocking balls and playing spirited defense. From top left, Karlee Locke jumps high for a block, Elizabeth Lund helps Locke guard the net, and Kendall Locke and Brittany Cato defend on the front line.



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Support them by shopping at home – every chance you get.







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# Classifieds

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 Accepting Applications  
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 Corner of Main St. & Locust • Azle  
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 5X10 \$45/MONTH \$20/DEPOSIT  
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 Azle News  
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Continued next page...

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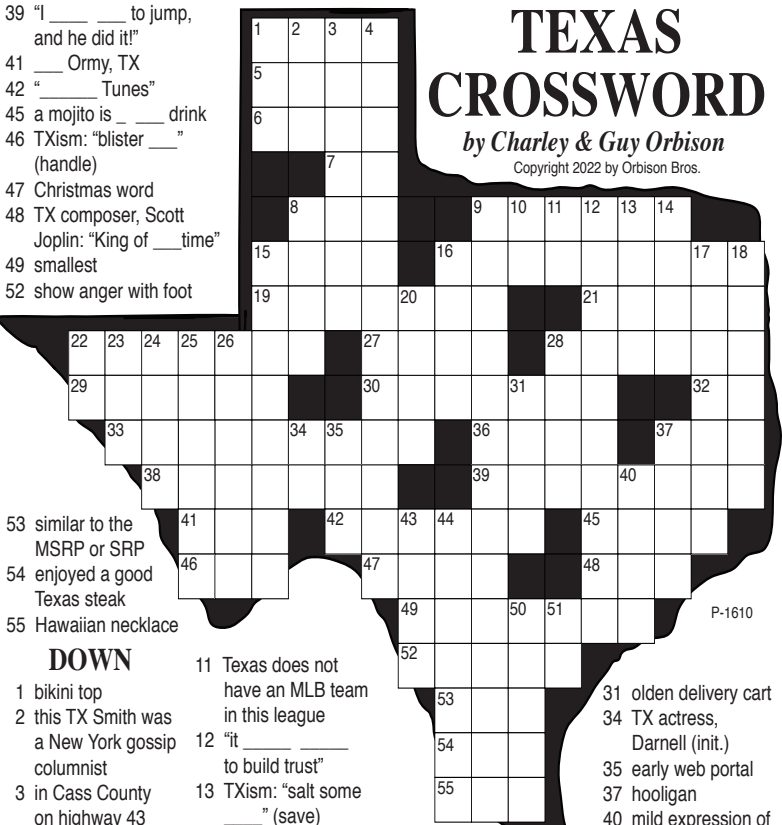
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**16 words for \$10**

## TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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**ACROSS**

1 TXism: "let the cat out of the bag"  
 5 religious ceremony  
 6 "Gateway to Eagle Mountain Lake"  
 7 TXism: "can't hunt with \_\_\_ empty gun"  
 8 dir. to Levelland from Ozona  
 9 TXism: "he uses barbed wire for \_\_\_ floss" (tough)  
 15 TXism: "suits \_\_\_ a fare-thee-well"  
 16 in 2014, Texan J.J. Watt got the "Bart"  
 19 TXism: "skinny"  
 21 TX Featherston of all 5 "Paranormal Activity" films  
 22 educate a pet? (2 wds.)  
 27 El Paso FM station  
 28 "she \_\_\_ car" (did vandalism)  
 29 piece of ground for growing vegetables  
 30 compounds with iodine elements  
 32 \_\_\_ Campo, TX  
 33 TX Audie Murphy autobiography: "\_\_\_ Back"  
 36 TX Swayze was "\_\_\_ Main" in "North and South"  
 37 Washington-on-\_\_\_-Brazos, TX  
 38 TXism: "if he \_\_\_ he wouldn't wag his own tail" (lazy)

**DOWN**

1 bikini top  
 2 this TX Smith was a New York gossip columnist  
 3 in Cass County on highway 43  
 4 "Eyes of Texas" tune: "I've \_\_\_ the Railroad"  
 8 bird casa  
 9 Juan de Onate named El Paso area: "El Paso"  
 10 Texas restaurant \_\_\_ Chico

39 "I \_\_\_ to jump, and he did it!"  
 41 \_\_\_ Ormy, TX  
 42 "\_\_\_ Tunes"  
 45 a mojito is \_\_\_ drink  
 46 TXism: "blister \_\_\_" (handle)  
 47 Christmas word  
 48 TX composer, Scott Joplin: "King of \_\_\_ time"  
 49 smallest  
 52 show anger with foot

11 Texas does not have an MLB team in this league  
 12 "it \_\_\_ to build trust"  
 13 TXism: "salt some \_\_\_" (save)  
 14 TXism: "a day \_\_\_ and a dollar short"  
 15 Texas City's "College of the \_\_\_"  
 16 "Lady \_\_\_" Johnson  
 17 1932 western: "\_\_\_ Cowboy"  
 18 "\_\_\_ out" (start the poker game)  
 20 TXism: "they're two peas in \_\_\_" (alike)

31 olden delivery cart  
 34 TX actress, Darnell (init.)  
 35 early web portal  
 37 hooligan  
 40 mild expression of annoyance  
 43 said after making a minor mistake  
 44 unaligned  
 50 this architect designed Dallas City Hall (3 wds.)  
 51 TX Gary Lee Clark Jr. was in 2022 film about this rock "King" (init.)

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK

# TexSCAN

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