Wednesday, June 8, 2022

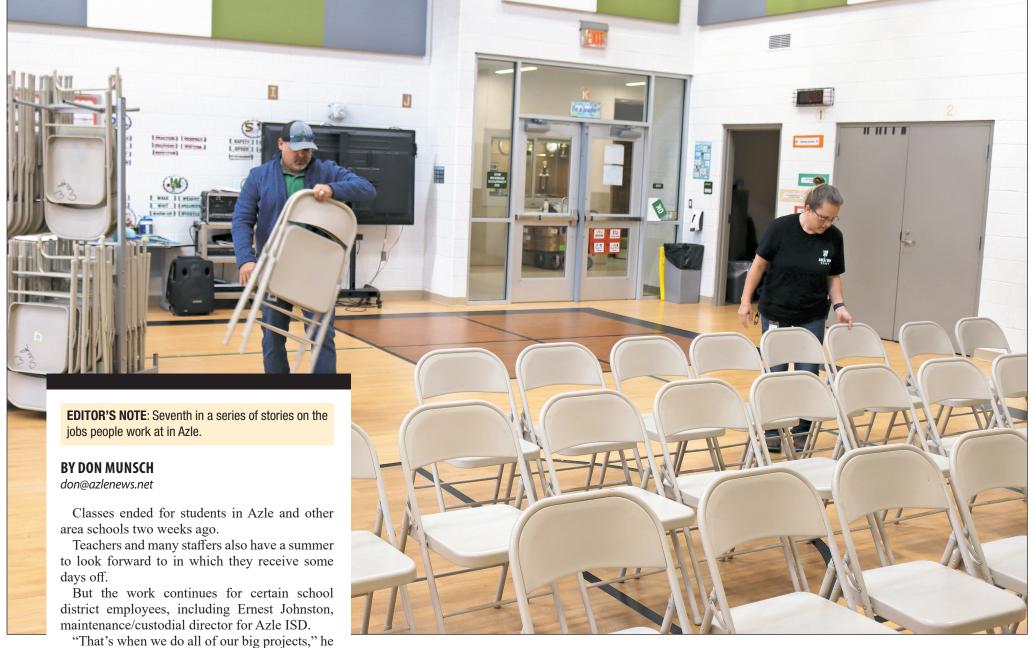
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\$1

JOBS IN AZLE

District employee always happy to lend a hand



Ernest Johnston helps Katrina Flores, head custodian at Walnut Creek Elementary School, set up chairs for a program at the school one day this spring semester. Photo by Don Munsch

Summerfest raises over \$4,000 for Alzheimer's, scholarships

SEE JOHNSTON, PAGE 7A.



Azle ISD Superintendent Todd Smith was the first to enter the dunk tank. Ticket sales from the dunk tank were part of the fundraising for Summerfest. Photo by Jessica McKinney

BY JESSICA MCKINNEY

azlereporter@azlenews.net

More than 300 attendees helped to make the first Summerfest event at Legacy Oaks of Azle a success on June 4. The event raised over \$4,000 to go toward Alzheimer's research and scholarships for Azle High School students.

Scott Kimble at Legacy Oaks and Kip Kruger and Laci Gray from Azle Manor

fun family event that fea- while it is a calling and tured games and bounce great people do work in the the biggest draws at the houses for kids, vendor health care field, we wanted event, with Azle ISD Subooths and food trucks and to show that health care can perintendent Todd Smith a silent auction.

me regarding the idea for our wonderful community tor Jennifer Herrington takthis event was allowing lo- of Azle." cal health care businesses to Kimble.

organized and planned the essarily scream fun, and future events. be fun while also connect- and Azle Area Chamber of "The biggest thing for ing with and giving back to Commerce executive direc-

The event had three main money. give back to our community sponsors — Legacy Oaks, and continue to support Azle Azle Manor and Be Well idea of raising money for as much as we can," said Primary Care. They plan to have more local health care "Health care doesn't nec- businesses get involved with

A dunk tank was one of ing the hot seat to help raise

"This all started with my scholarships to give to kids

SEE **SUMMERFEST**, PAGE 4A.

Principal Randy Cobb retires

Plans to stay involved in education

BY DON MUNSCH

don@azlenews.net

Randy Cobb grew up on a dairy farm, but he never envisioned staying there.

"I decided when I was in high school, I don't think I want to do this dairy farm (work) the rest of my life," he said. "I don't think I want to milk cows for the rest of my life, if you know what I mean."

He decided to attend college and made education his vocation, and it's paid enormous rewards for him.

High School principal at with the last third of his the end of the 2021-2022 life. He said it was a blessschool year, and now looks ing to work at the AHS. forward to spending time on his current farm after love Azle High School," he a 40-year career in educa- said. "It's an honor for this tion, with 31 of those years to be my last principalship. as a high school principal. I wish I would have gotten He wants to partake in here earlier - that's my only some relaxing activities, regret, that I didn't get to including playing golf and come to Azle High School spending time with his two sooner. I think the timing is grandchildren.

time," he emphasized.

As he reflected on his re-



Former AHS principal Randy Cobb Courtesy photo

tirement, he said he wants Cobb retired as Azle to pursue something else

"I love education and I right for me and my family. "I want some family It was a difficult decision

SEE **COBB**, PAGE 5A.



Azle PD to drivers: 'Please drive safely!'

BY JESSICA MCKINNEY

azlereporter@azlenews.net

Azle was closed briefly on three different days in May because of serious accidents, one resulting in the hit-andrun death of 40-year-old Amber Marie Linehan-Lemke on May 19.

on the hit-and-run accident," said Lt. Kevin Rogers of the nett Road. Azle Police Department.

A second accident occurred on May 26, blocking er side of a guardrail along the roadway near Beverly Road and Normandy Avenue. A third took place just five days later on May 31 in that sent the vehicle over the 500 block of Wells Burnett.

The spate of major accidents on the winding stretch of road prompted APD to signs in both directions on Anders said. Wells Burnett "to remind ev-

Do you think $I_{\hat{\mathcal{D}}_{\mathcal{D}}}$

You call that noise music?...I'll tell you why, because I said so!... What

MPH," police said in a Facebook post on May 27.

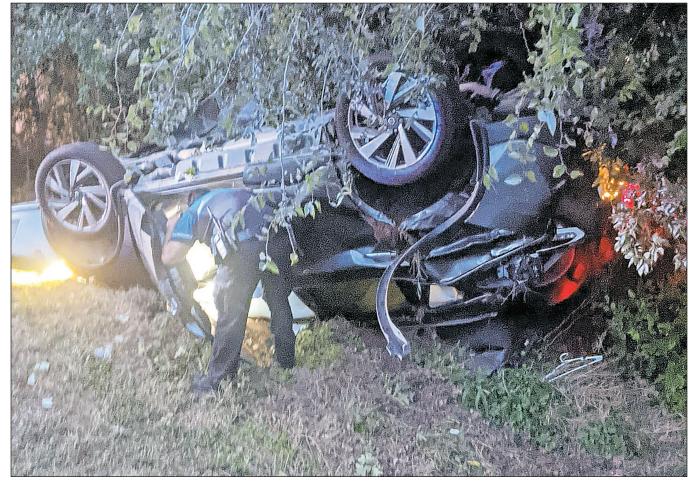
The department also stat-Wells Burnett Road in ed in the post that police will be increasing traffic enforcement measures to improve the safety of the roadway and wrote "Please Drive Safely!"

Rogers said in an email to the News that in the past "We do not have anything year there have been eight new yet that we can release major accidents and five minor accidents on Wells Bur-

Azle resident Bubba Anders' backyard is on the oth-Wells Burnett that has seen multiple accidents over the years, including one last July the guardrail before flipping over and landing within yards of his back fence.

"[Wells Burnett] is dangerous in a car, and it's ultradeploy digital speed limit dangerous on a motorcycle,"

Anders also said that these eryone the speed limit is 30 accidents are an "ongoing



An accident last July sent the vehicle over the guardrail and almost into the backyard of several residences along this stretch of Wells Burnett Road. This is just one of eight major accidents that happened along the roadway the past year.



The city of Azle has spent more than \$25,000 to repair guardrails damaged in accidents since last November. Courtesy photo

be the last.

and more (accidents)."

Burnett have a financial impact to the city of Azle. not an appropriate option. Jimmy Duvall, storm water guardrails damaged in acci- the trailer has clocked many will most likely do it on one

計

smile.

.If 'ifs'

and

l 'buts'

were candy and nuts then we'd all have

ordeal" and that this won't dents since last November.

As for what can be done "There's going to be more to help reduce or eliminate the number of accidents on Muir said in an email. The accidents along Wells Wells Burnett, city officials think reducing the speed is on that stretch is 30 mph, so ation.

manager and streets super- trailer on a section of Wells tle," said Muir. intendent for the city, said in Burnett to remind drivers more than \$25,000 to repair is just 30 miles per hour, but more on a 30-mph road, they at 817-444-3221.

drivers "exceeding 50 and that is 20-25 mph." 60 mph and one exceeding

lowering to 20 or 25 mph

Azle PD has increased 70 mph," City Manager Tom enforcement on that section of road, Muir said, and will "Currently, the speed limit continue to monitor the situ-

Anyone with information The city set out a speed will most likely do very lit- about the hit-and-run accident that occurred the morn-"If they are going to be ing of May 19 on Wells Buran email that the city spent that the posted speed limit traveling at 50-60 mph and nett is asked to call Azle PD

made of money?...You're always a win



Smile and Share it!

Azle's own "DAD" isms

What's your Dad's favorite invaluable piece of wisdom? Jot it down and you both could win:

2 Rangers Tickets (parking included)

• \$50 Lowes gift card

Write down Dad's dadism on the entry form below. Drop entry off at the **Azle News** office at 321 West Main St. or **Azle Dental Care** at 912 Boyd Rd. (across from Subway). You may also email your entry to **Dadisms@smilegreat.com** or drop us a note on our Azle Dental Care Facebook page. Be sure to "like" us on Facebook - the Azle News too!

All entries must be received by 5 PM on Monday, June 13 Winner of the drawing will be announced June 15 in the Azle News.

Azle Dental Care Dr. Brooke Porter 912 Boyd Rd. 817-444-1763

Azle News 321 West Main Street 817-270-3340

Dadaism:	
Your Name	Age:
Dad's Name:	Age:
Contact Number:	

Your presence at drawing is not required to win.

,Hey' is for horseς,

"kerry Christmas!..







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Sing it again!

The best music ever is late 1970s rock. It's a scientific fact.

Fight me.

Actually, I don't want to fight anybody over music or much of anything else, to be honest.

I just wanted to get your attention.

People of a certain age absolutely agree with my assessment of music. People who are older than me would lean toward the music of an earlier decade. People who are younger would lean

doesn't mean we can't ap- to discover our identity.



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

preciate, enjoy, or connect with music of other eras. It just means that there is a on life this morning, most between our physical, psychological, and emotional development.

There are certain words — "refrains" — which, when There are 26 verses in the repeated, give us a sense of In general, the music of rightness, balance, and equiour late teens and early librium because they return twenties is OUR music. That us to a time when we began

What are some of yours? These are my ponderings "coming of age" connection likely inspired by reading Psalm 136.

> This psalm is unique among the collection of 150 psalms we find in our Bibles. psalm and in each of them a common refrain is repeated: "His love endures forever."

ment is made by one person tions that have shaken and His love endures forever.

and the congregation an- discouraged me more times

this psalm — has the effect those I trusted. on me that I described ear-

In my 60 years of life, I His love endures forever. have experienced the truth of that refrain more times than I can enumerate.

uncertain times and unstable

feelings.

In my 60 years of life, It's almost as if a state- I have experienced situa- ment may cloud your mind.

swers each statement with than I can enumerate. I've this truth: "His love endures had big questions for which I've not received answers. That statement — and the I've had deep pain. I've been way it is delivered through betrayed and wounded by

But the solid rock on which lier. It gives me a sense of I've been able to crumple rightness, balance, and equi- even when I could not stand librium because it reminds is this: His love endures forme of a truth that is constant ever. And He proved it by and eternal in the midst of sending His Son.

> My friend, I'm holding out this hope to you today.

No matter what may come your way. His love endures forever.

Confusion and disappoint-

You may search for things you never find. His love endures forever.

You've been abused, abandoned, betraved. His love endures forever.

In your heart, hold onto this refrain. His love endures

That's not much of a poem, but I hope you can receive it in the way it is intended.

Life is amazing, but not because I say so. It's amazing because — even in the most unamazing of timesour amazing God's amazing love is unending.

Sing it over and over again.

Be amazing today, my

Opposing opinions: Perception is personal; problems are universal

Now that we have gotten through the political primaries, perhaps we will get back to some degree of reasonableness and civility. Emotions were running so high before the election. I found myself not wanting to look at social media posts or even begin a conversation with people. Whatever happened to talking about an issue and agreeing to dis-

It seems to be a tradition that politics in Texas are unorthodox. During this last election cycle, I saw social media posts and television ads that were so lacking in truth and substance as to make me shake my head. I saw several TV ads that went on and on about why not to vote for someone, but failed to provide me a single reason why to vote for the candidate who paid for the

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

By Sam Houston

Sam Houston is the publisher of the Hood County News. He is also an actor, author, playwright, performer and entertainment producer/promoter

the right choice. Does that for such behavior. frustrate you like it does

be left with the impression ballot box because voters the opposition was so bad, felt like the candidate could so corrupt, so whatever, the not be trusted. Now candiremaining choice had to be dates seem to be rewarded

When I hear and see canme? Seems like a lot of fin- didates spout off gibberish gers pointing, many times like "I am for lower taxes" based on dubious facts or without spelling out how half-truths, and few thoughts a reduction will be accomabout solving the problems plished and the effect it will we face. Please allow me to have on the budget and the needs of the community, it My observations were not rings rather hollow. Who limited to one party, one can-doesn't want lower taxes? didate or one election. When The question is how do we do we start holding people pay for the things we truly accountable for making out- need? I imagine a lot of folks landish comments? There believe there needs to be imwas a time when a politician provements made to High-

improvements such as road tics. But somewhere along conviction. If you disagree improvement?

they have no understanding emy. or vision on fulfilling the responsibility and control for which they seek my vote. resolve problems.

made a false statement or way 377 to lessen the traffic damage their opponents and perception. If you agree with side of a story, you are only tried to mislead the voters, issues. How do you lower strengthen their case. Such a man and he takes a strong half smart.

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the line we stopped having When local candidates differences of opinion, and seem to focus on national those who think different issues, it makes me believe than we do became the en-

The rhetoric has never obligations of the office they been stronger or more heatare seeking. National issues ed. There is no room for are important, but why can't discussion, or heaven forbid local candidates focus on the there be reasonable comproissues for which they have mise in search of a middle ground that works to make instead of some national po- the situation better. Seems litical agenda? I assume it is like for voters it is "my way" because they have little to no or you are the evil enemy. plan on how to fulfill the job The heck with compromise.

I remember my dad tell-They want power and coning me that having the courtrol. They seem not to want age of your convictions is to find solutions. It is much a wonderful thing. On the easier to find blame than to other hand, being stubborn is a bad thing. He then asked Politicians of both parties me if I knew the difference stretch the truth, twist facts between the two. When I to support their positions, shook my head "no," he and "spin" information to said, "It is all a matter of

with the position someone takes, then they are a stubborn son of a gun. It is all based on your own perception. The problem is that each person's perception is limited. To understand and truly appreciate a problem, you have had to experience the consequences."

It took me a few years and some life experiences to understand what Dad was talking about. It is why we need to listen more, try and understand, and seek knowledge before we have contempt. It is the difference between having an opinion and making a judgment based on facts.

There will be another election this fall. Perhaps we will all do better. We need to.

Thought for the day: When you only know one

Until next time.

EAGLE MOUNTAIN LAKE

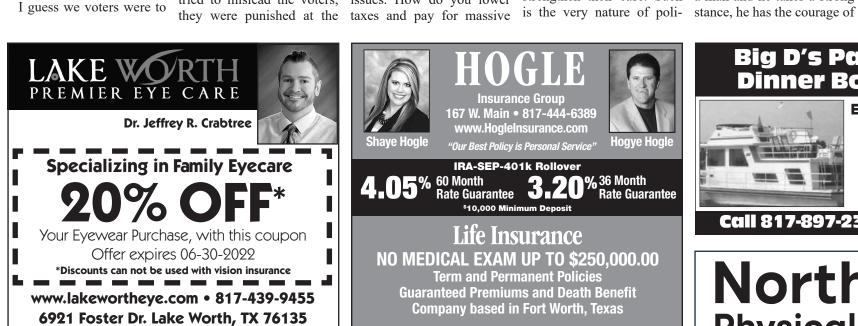
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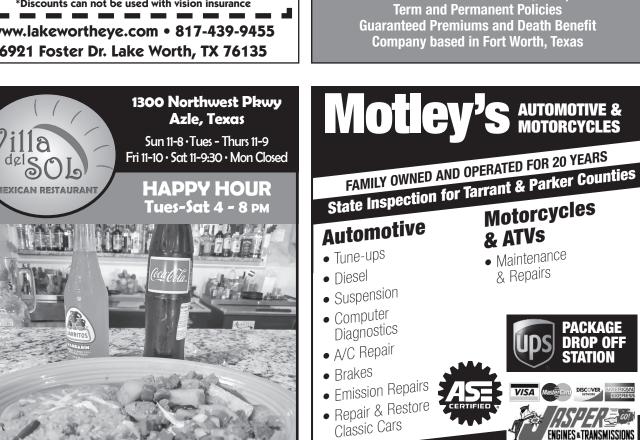
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azlenwpt.com

Three AHS students named cyber scholars

BY JESSICA MCKINNEY

azlereporter@azlenews.net

Azle High School students Amanda Thorpe, Jacob Estrada and Addison Taylor were named National Cy-

part in a cybersecurity competition last school year and were among 32 AHS students who were qualified to apply for the national scholarships.

They were each awarded scholarships worth over \$3,000, to use toward the SANS Foundations course and one attempt at the GIAC

Foundational Cybersecurity Technologies (GFACT) cer- these three students," said tification.

course, according to www. ber Scholars by CyberStart core knowledge and develop practical skills in comput-The three students took ers, technology, and secuin cybersecurity."

Amanda, Jacob and Addi- of them." son earned the some of the highest scores out of more than 45,000 participants. The top 1,000 highest-scoring participants were named National Cyber Scholars.

"I am so very proud of Sherri Prather, computer sci-The SANS Foundations ence teacher at AHS.

"They worked so hard sans.org, is "the best single and so diligently to earn course available to learn the this distinction. Amanda scored more than 50,000 points. That was incredible. All three students showed rity fundamentals that are a great deal of growth from needed to kickstart a career last year's competition, and I just could not be more proud

> Jacob and Addison graduated from AHS this year and Prather says that she knows they both have bright futures. Amanda is entering her senior year.

SUMMERFEST, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

care field," said Kruger.

"Scott wanted to make Azle."

A large portion of the force," Kruger said. money raised at the event will go toward a scholarship next generation see the wonfund for AHS seniors who derful calling of serving oth-

who are going into the health are pursuing a degree or caers and making a difference reer in health care.

this a health care-wide event kids to get into the health care is a true labor of love where we can show support care field and no matter if and calling from above and and give back to the kids in they are going to college or we want to encourage, uplift immediately into the work- and promote the importance

"Our mission is to help the others."

in the families' lives of those "We want to encourage who need it most. Health of caregiving and serving

Elle Gray concert Saturday

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Elle Gray will be performing a concert in celebration of the release of her CD at 3 p.m. June 11 at Victory Christian Auditorium in Azle.

The musical album fea-

liest memories to the pretty collection of gospel music. music of my life, both bitter and sweet and good."

Gray is joined by The 8214.

tures 22 original songs de- Webster Brothers scribed as an autobiography Joy Lavallee at the Victhat shares "my testimony tory Christian Center at 737 and faith journey from ear- Boyd Road. to perform a

> For information about the performance, call 817-629-

Ribbon cutting for City of Reno



Azle Area Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting for City of Reno on May 10 at Reno City Hall. City of Reno has been incorporated for 55 years. Over the last year, many changes have been made with many more to come.

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City of Azle – Public Notice 2021 Annual Water Quality Report Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

The Annual Water Quality Report, otherwise known as the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), is a regulation passed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as part of the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments. The amendment requires all community water systems to provide their customers with an annual water quality report by July 1st of every year. With the CCR, communities benefit by acquiring a much better understanding of their water suppliers and the processes involved. This allows them an opportunity to make an informed decision regarding the use of their drinking water. The report is a summary of the quality of water the City of Azle provided its customers from January 1st to December 31st, 2021 and it gives the City an opportunity to explain how the community's drinking water supplies are protected.

> The report can be viewed on the City of Azle's website at:

https://www.cityofazle.org/DocumentCenter/ View/8081/2021-Water-Quality-Report

You can obtain a paper copy by visiting the Azle City Hall located at 505 West Main Street Building 1 or you can request a paper copy be mailed to you at no cost by calling the Azle Water Treatment Plant at 817-752-2686

Public Hearing

Date: 06/21/2022 Time: 6:00 p.m. Azle City Hall, 505 West Main Street Bldg.1 Attention Men and Women Who Want To Remain Independent...

MUST-READ Advice For Seniors Who Want to Stay Out of the Nursing Home

By Balance Expert Dr. Robert Moss

Do you feel guilty that your spouse is forced to be with you all the time because of your dizziness/loss of balance? Do you feel that your dizziness/loss of balance is always there no matter what you do? Do you feel that you are handicapped by your dizziness/loss of balance? Does your spouse stay with you in the shower so that you do not fall?

If you answer yes to any of these questions, this may just be the piece of advice you've been looking for!

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

If you have ever seen the Life Alert commercials then you have a picture in your mind of an elderly lady laying on the floor desperately trying to get up only to discover she is not able to.

Whether she is just weak, has broken a hip or caused some other serious injury this is a major concern for our elderly patients.



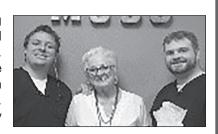
Working with seniors over many years it has become apparent that the greatest common fear is the fear of falling and not being able to get back up. This is not unreasonable as 1/3 of all adults over 65 will fall this year and each fall is potentially life changing.

Don't Let A Fall Ruin The Life You've Worked So Hard For...

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

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

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



If you are embarrassed or reluctant to use a cane or walker because it makes you "look old" or if you feel like a burden to those around you because you need to hold on to someone when you walk or ask them to run your errands... MOSS Rehabilitation Center has prepared a FREE Report for you "The Top 8 Secrets To Improve Your Balance And Prevent Falls".

To get the guide Simply call this special number 817-220-MOSS (6677) to request the FREE Report OR if you want the report right now, please visit www.springtownphysicaltherapy.com/balance-report

COBB, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

because of my relationships not only with the community but with the students and the he wants to bring to the to help every day. That was faculty there."

A 'WISE' GUY

Cobb grew up in Wise County and graduated from Alvord High School. He attended University of North ing." Texas and received his undegrees from the Denton school. He also completed the superintendent certification and started doctoral work and completed about 21 hours of the doctoral program and "just never took the time to finish it."

Cobb said he sees himself working in some capacity of education, whether it be with the alternative certification program or something

"I'm just considering my options," he said. "As far as retiring from the principalship, yes, I am retiring from

Azle High School was his fifth high school, and he spent six years here as principal. He spent 12 years at Richland High School as a principal – which was a good part of his career - and his children grew up there. The new AHS principal, Nate Driver, was a student at Richland High, and Cobb and Driver have stayed in contact over the years.

"I think it's great to get an opportunity to watch him step in and take over the leadership role and put his

leadership and bring what but that was my focus, to try school," Cobb said, noting my whole idea." that Driver is a "tremendous person and educator and I'm wishing him the best, and OUT AT AHS: certainly I have a lot of confidence in what he'll be do-

At 27 years old, Cobb bedergraduate and graduate came principal at Everman High School. At one point in his career, he worked in Chico, where he was a principal and superintendent.

"It's almost half of my life, actually," he said, describing being a principal. "For the time I've been on this planet – half of my life, almost – it has been a high school principal. It gives you an opportunity to work with students and teachers as well as the community and parents. So, it's really a broad spectrum. The principalship I would say, as a high school principal, it's really all about relationships and about leadership, and I would sum it up with those words. I wouldn't trade it for anything. It's been great to me."

Cobb described some highlights from his career.

WHAT HE ENJOYED MOST **ABOUT BEING PRINCIPAL:**

"It's about the opportunity ence. I'm pretty sure I didn't the time out. At Azle High

(stamp on) the school and make a difference every day,

MEMORY THAT STANDS

"I would say the best memories I have would be directly working with the students, being involved with them and activities," he

Back in 2020, the school had continued to improve state assessment scores and had B-plus rating and was on the verge of an A rating. But then the pandemic hit. He said AHS teachers "had done a tremendous job of preparation and our students had really focused. We had had a good buildup to that time, and then the pandemic hit and things changed." Schools have not received a rating since before COVID forced closures in the spring of 2020, but ratings should resume this year after all testing has concluded, said Amanda Moore, director of communications for AISD.

Then there was a football game a few years ago when Azle played at Northwest and the Eaton Eagles were threatening to score late in the game.

"It was fourth down, they for something different ev- called time out and there ery single day. And then also was very little time in the it's about working with the game left," Cobb said, notstudents and getting to make ing the PA system played a difference every day, or at the song "Don't Stop Beleast trying to make a differ- lievin" by Journey during

School, that's one of the songs played in the passing periods. "I think that kind of charged up the team out there. I think they heard it and (thought) there's gotta to be something to this.... Anyway, we held them, we won that football game and our student section and crowd went nuts. It's probably the happiest as far as a school event I've ever been (at). It was tremendous. Those are some good times you'll never, ever forget, seeing how the kids responded and tying that song back together and then their efforts of coming together, and you know how at Azle High School how the students come together there."

WHAT HE ENJOYED MOST ABOUT WORKING **WITH STUDENTS** THROUGH THE YEARS:

"I like kids. I like people. I like young adults, I like working with them, I like challenging them. I like supporting them, helping them. And if you don't like kids, this is probably not for you." He said he always been close to his students as a principal, and in his six years at AHS, he has become close to the student body. "I've enjoyed every bit of it."

Cobb is married and has two children, three stepchildren and two grandchildren, ages 7 and 12. He and his wife live outside Justin.

ANNIVERSARY



Mike & Jay Angeloff **50th Wedding Anniversary**

A come-and-go reception they were separated for three Mike and Jay Angeloff will beyond their control. They merce St. in Azle, across and left for training in Febhosted by the couple's chil- Phoenix on June 17, 1972, dren, Michael and Glenda and the couple got married Angeloff Jr. and Mark and June 22, 1972. Teresa Sparks, and grandsons Matthew and Jacob what little they owned in

bushes, trying to hide from swell Air Force Base in the campus police, while Texas, where they have playing hooky from a high continued their honeymoon school pep rally. After dat- ever since. ing for a couple of months,

for the 50th anniversary of years due to circumstances at 2 p.m. June 25 at Victory reunited in 1971 and became Christian Center's Educa- engaged three months later. tion building, 520 Com- Mike joined the Air Force from Sonic. The event is ruary 1972. He returned to

Mike and Jay packed a 4x6-foot U-Haul and Mike and Jay met at the left Phoenix for their honage of 15 and 14, in the eymoon, heading for Car-

Spotlight on BUSINESS





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Genesis Jiu Jitsu Azle trains all levels of fighters to achieve new levels and earn their belts. Karen Banes, black belt (left), Kari Summers-Hoffman, brown belt, Katherine Bucy, purple belt, Mike Wilson, blue belt, and Mendi Carlson, white belt, are all on different steps in their journey.

Genesis Jiu Jitsu Azle

Genesis Jiu Jitsu Azle stands apart from other academies because they have such a strong female leadership, creating a welcoming and humble environment to learn

Karen Banes, the owner of Genesis Jiu Jitsu Azle, is a six-time master world champion black belt. She opened the gym in 2014. She offers quality hands-on instruction.

Instructors at Genesis Jiu Jitsu include Kari Summers-Hoffman, currently a brown belt and soon-to-be Azle's first homegrown black belt; John Hoffman, a brown belt; Joe Bryant, a purple belt; Eli Guardiola, a former Azle High School wrestler; Jennifer Schrage and Katherine Bucy.

Genesis Jiu Jitsu offers classes in Brazilian jiu jitsu for all ages and skill levels throughout the day — mornings, evenings, and at lunchtime. They can also schedule private lessons.

in Judo and wrestling.

While many people get into the sport with

the goal of earning a black belt, Tom De-

Brazilian jiu jitsu teaches ground fighting skill with various takedown techniques used blass, a high-profile BJJ athlete, says it best: "Jiu jitsu is where the savage will learn control. The timid will learn to be strong. The outcasts become part of something great. The cocky become humbled. The

commonality is we all become better." "We strive to teach our students to embrace the things that are hard in life, embrace the grind of our art," said Banes.

"Once you have embraced wrestling or jiu jitsu, it is life changing. The situations and challenges in life that cripple most become bearable and handled with ease by many jiu jitsu fighters who deal with physical pressure weekly."

Genesis Jiu Jitsu Azle is located at 13551 S. FM 730, on the southwest corner of 730 S and Main Street, as if you are going to Weatherford from Azle.

This summer, Genesis Jiu Jitsu Azle is hosting several camps for beginners and experienced fighters. They offer first responder and military discounts as well as family plans. There are no contracts or belt testing fees.

For more information about classes and schedules, call 817-487-8388.



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Richard Leroy Bailey 1933 - 2022

Richard Leroy Bailey, age 89, passed away May 30, 2022 in Decatur, Texas

Graveside Service is at 1 p.m., Wednesday, June 8, 2022 at Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery.

Visitation was held 6 to 8 p.m., Friday, June 3, 2022 at Biggers Funeral Home.

Richard was born Jan. 13, 1933 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma to Clarence "Jack" and Martha Minerva and all those who knew him. Priscilla (Towe) Bailey. He served time in Korea. Richard was married to Modine Lavern Jones and together they had four boys, Richard, Rod, Randy and Ryan.

and was a marshal at the golf Bailey and his wife, Shancourse in Azle, Texas. He non; nine grandchildren; six was in the newspaper busi- great-grandchildren; and sisness for forty plus years and ters, Alta James and Shirley was a devoted husband, dad Speir. and grandfather. He will be dearly missed by his family



Richard was preceded in joined the Air Force and death by his parents, Jack and Mattie Bailey; his wife, Modine Bailey and his son, Randy Bailey.

He is survived by his three sons, Richard Bai-Richard loved playing golf ley, Rod Bailey and Ryan

> The Azle News, June 8, 2022 Edition

John Dunn 1952 - 2022

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John Dunn, age 70, passed away on May 31, 2022, in Azle, Texas.

Celebration of life will be announced at a later date.

John worked for Tarrant County until 2014 when he retired, after 26 years of service. He was a kind and loving man who enjoyed photographing wildlife, woodworking and morning coffee with his wife.

He is survived by his lov- grandchildren. He will foring wife LaHonda Dunn, children, John Dunn Lisa Caperton, six grandchildren, and two great



ever be in our hearts.

The Azle News, June 8, 2022 Edition

Vituaries School district committed to safety

Summer break has officially started.

Congratulations to the Azle High School class of 2022. The graduating class of 378 seniors earned \$3.6 million in scholarship money. While the 2021-2022 academic year has ended, we still have a lot going on in Azle ISD, as required HB 4545 summer tutorials, credit recovery opportunities, free summer meals, band activities, strength and conditioning opportunities, and various school-sponsored camps are going strong. Please visit our website for addi-

tional information. A special thank you to our Azle ISD retirees. This year's group of 19 dedicated individuals wrapped up the school year with a total of 506 years in education and 414 years of service to Azle ISD. They truly touched the lives of many.

Our hearts continue to mourn the tragedy that occurred in the Uvalde ISD community. There is no way to prevent random acts of violence, nor should any community or school



AZLE ISD

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

Mr. Smith just completed his 28th school year in Azle ISD, with 13 years in campus administration and six years as a district administrator. Ir

June 22, 2020 he was named Superintendent of Schools by the Azle ISD

Board of Trustees. He is thankful for the passion and dedication exhibited by Azle ISD faculty and staff and is extremely proud of the work Azle ISD has accomplished and the impact they will continue to make in the lives

Department and surroundwith our local partners, we continuously train, review and reinforce safety procedures on all Azle ISD campuses.

Darren Brockway, AISD Chief of Police, oversees Azle ISD safety and security measures. A complete summary of safety and security

district have to encounter district website. Highlights health awareness, and our such an event. I would like include seven licensed poto emphasize our ongoing lice officers serving our 12 health/intervention counselcommitment to making Azle ISD campuses; two ors devoted to helping the our schools as safe as pos- AISD police officers and various needs of students sible for our children and five Azle Police school re- and parents at all grade levthe adults who serve them. source officers. We comply els. We have a strong work- with all recommended TEA ing relationship with the and Texas School Safety responsibility amongst stu-City of Azle, Azle Police Center mandates, including dents, staff, parents and Department, Azle Fire De- routine emergency response our community. We enpartment, Azle ISD Police drills, required safety au- courage "See Something, dits, updated emergency Say Something" anytime ing local law enforcement operation plans (EOPS), anyone has a concern. We agencies. In collaboration threat assessment teams at have an anonymous tip line each campus, and Safety available on our website Committee meetings. Stan- and through the Azle ISD dard Response Protocol is app. I assure you, our Azle our emergency response ISD community, the Board procedure for all schools of Trustees and myself reand facilities, and we use main committed to being a the Raptor Management strong and safe school comsystem for visitor and emermunity. gency management.

The 2016 voter-approved protocols is available on our bond election allowed ALL

Azle ISD buildings to be secured with vestibules and controlled access. All exterior doors remain locked during the school day and visitors are buzzed-in. Surveillance cameras are at all campuses, inside and outside. All employees receive training in bullying, suicide prevention and mental staff includes two mental

School safety is a shared

We Are Azle -Todd Smith

Superintendent of Schools



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www.ashcreekbc.org				
Sunday School	9:30 A	۱N		
Contemporary Worship-TMP 1	0:45 A	٩N		
Traditional Worship1	0:45 A	٩N		
Evening Worship	6:00 P	P		
Wednesday Youth Refuge	6:00 P	P		
Wednesday Evening	6:15 P	1		
AZLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH				
(Disciples of Christ) Senior Minister	Δchla	١		

(Disciples of Christ) Senior Minister, Ashley Dargai, Katie Medlin, Worship Minister 117 Church St. • 817-444-3527 Sunday School......10:00 AM

Morning Worship......11:00 AM **AZLE FIRST ASSEMBLY of GOD**

Pastor: Tim Stevens 1020 S.E. Parkway, Azle **817-237-4903** Sunday School......9:30 AM

COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

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

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

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

> **CROSSROADS BAPTIST CHURCH** Pastor - Jon Baker Corner FM 730S & FM 1886 817-755-0279

Transportation Available Worship Service......10:30 AM Wed. Prayer Service......7:00 PM

THE EDGE CHURCH - AZLE 1313 S.E. Pkwy, Azle **817-237-4822** Missouri Synod "Love God - Serve Others - Share Jesus" FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Pastor: Dr. Richard Reed

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

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

Confessions Sat 4 PM **HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA** 4795 E. Hwy 199 - Reno 817-221-HOPE

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SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH 591 S. Reno Rd, , Springtown, Texas 76082

Pastor - Bill Gay - **817-304-7443** Coffee and Donuts9:00 AM Sunday School......9:30 AM Morning Worship......10:30 AM Children's Church After Music Service Wed. Prayer Meeting......6:30 PM Wed. Bible Study......7:00 PM

LEGACY CHURCH Assembly of God Church

Pastor: Gary D. Veazey Hwy. 199 & Jaybird Lane 817-221-2983

Morning Worship......9:15 & 11:00 AM Kidz Zone......9:15 & 11:00 AM Weds Evening Legacy Group Legacy Youth, Kids All Services......7:00 PM

SILVER CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

SILVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Church 817-444-2325 www.silvercreekbc.org Morning Worship......10:50 AM THE WORD@LAKESIDE CHURCH OF GOD 9396 FM 1886 Fort Worth, TX 76135

817-237-5500 thewordatlakeside.com **Pastors**: Brandon and Kelly Bohannon

Worship Pastor: Christen Moody

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

Equip Sunday School at the WORD9:30 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 Sunday School9:45 AM The WORD Students (6th-12th grades) 6:30 PM

Wed. Prayer Service......7:00 PM Life at the WORD Life Groups Various Times Wednesday Evening7:00 PM Contemporary Worship11:00 AM A church alive is worth the drive! For more information or rates on listing your church, call Johnna at 817-270-3340

JOHNSTON, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

said about summer.

During the year, his staff ensures that schools are ready for classes, even if it means working late into the night to fix a problem.

He said when something breaks down, his department employees have to get it running again, and he lauds his staff for working long hours to ensure the job gets done.

"We might be here until 3 o'clock in the morning, but they're always willing to do it," he said.

LOOKING AFTER CAMPUSES

Johnston said maintenance employees take care of such areas as flooring and painting during summer.

"The high school is like the biggest challenge," he said. "Because the high school, it's like it never shuts down. There's always something going on out there. So that poses the biggest challenge just trying to figure out and work around all these things with the time we're allotted during in the summer, which goes by really quick because that's when we do all of our major projects, during the summertime."

Custodial staff conduct detail cleaning in the summer, such as stripping and waxing floors and cleaning windows, lights and vents. They also try to hit some of those areas during the holidays.

Johnston appreciates how the maintenance department employees pull together and get the projects finished in for Johnston. the summer before students fall.

COMING BACK TO TEXAS

grew up for the most part in Stephenville but moved to Huntsville, Arkansas, in the northwest part of the state, and finished high school there. After graduation, he nel had to deal with a skunk worked in the sawmill and logging industry for six had to be trapped and re-

worked a number of jobs, such as in the roofing and construction, and then started performing mostly subcontractor work and also performed some contracting work. He had that employment until he started at the district 16 years ago.

When he started in the eral maintenance employee. Those employees busy from drywall repair to painting to tending to floors.

"In a general, broad sense, a little bit of everything," he

Johnston performed general maintenance work and then he helped with electrical duties. He subsequently got certified in HVAC and received the foreman's position, around 2014.

Then he took on a supervimaintenance. By last fall, he accepted the role of director of custodial and maintenance department.

The maintenance department has 20 employees overall, and the custodial department has 46 custodians and 12 lead custodians and two assistant supervisors. The maintenance department has an HVAC supervisor and a

WEARING DIFFERENT

An average day can vary

"Here in the maintenance come back for classes in the department, we all have to wear a bunch of different partment." hats," he said.

An average day can be Born in Austin, Johnston anywhere from steady to chaotic, he said. Hectic days can include broken pipes and water lines or lost electrical power. One day this spring, maintenance personat a junior high school that

years and then moved to guired animal control to be the Weatherford area. He called Around the same day. power went out at the Cross Timbers Elementary School. Maintenance workers can be called on to perform many duties, such as moving furniture.

> Johnston, who's essentially on call for 24-7, helps at schools when he's needed.

"That's the good thing district, he worked as a gen- about our team here," he said. "If something big comes up - say Showcase, themselves with everything for instance - that's something we will all (help with). We kind of have to drop what we're doing except emergencies. We'll deal with emergencies that come up, and we'll all go up there and it's all a collective effort to get ready for the Showcase. I'll go up there and help as well. If we've got something worked in that area for seven major at the schools, I'm to eight years. And then he there with them. We've got a good group of guys that always willing to jump in and do something else that's sory role, last summer, over outside of their realm if need

> When the maintenance department hires somebody for general maintenance, the department tries to find someone who has experience with construction or something similar, although it is not required, but that is the first preference.

> "We've been very fortunate," Johnston said. "We've made some really good hires over the last few years, and we've got some really good skilled general maintenance guys that were out in the field for a long time and brought a lot of knowledge here in the maintenance de-

> The department has a work order system for each campus, Johnston said. People who work in the department know they that if something comes up that they didn't plan for, they must be flexible and take care of that issue when it arises.

> Department employees will try to tackle items dur-

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Ernest Johnston, director of the maintenance and custodial department, relaxes at his office at the Azle ISD complex. Photo by Don Munsch

ing breaks in classes, such as to get much cleaning done, Christmas and spring break, so the bulk of things like that Johnston typically doesn't said some tasks can be tendif an issue needs to be dealt replenishing paper towels

In the custodial department, one does not need experience, as he or she can be trained. "But typically we try to get people who have do some custodial background," he said. "It's very helpful."

Two shifts of custodial employees work at the schools except the high school: one group arrives in the morning while the other group comes around early afternoon and works until mid- to late evening, so they can get the bulk of cleaning complete when the students are off campus.

"Then at the high school, the bulk of our custodians are in the evening from 3 p.m. to 11 p.m.," Johnston said. "Because that's such a busy, packed place, it's hard

when students aren't around. are done in the evening." He and toilet paper.

KEEPING BUILDINGS CLEAN

Each classroom on each campus gets E-Misted every day, Johnston said. E-Misting is a disinfection treatment. Restrooms are cleaned daily on campuses, which are cleaned daily. "That's our goal," he said.

Johnston said he has helped with custodial duties when he's needed, performing whatever duties are needed to get the job done. "I don't mind at all," he said.

His favorite aspects of his job are problem-solving, meeting people and trying to build relationships.

"There's always something around the district somewhere that you got to find a solution to," he said.

"Just the challenge of (the job). Very challenging. Keeps it interesting."

As far as his qualifications, work weekends, but he can ed to during the day, such as he is certified through Texas Association of School Business Officials (specialty in Maintenance & Operations). Every three years, one has to acquire so many hours of continuing education.

Johnston works with campus officials, such as principals, who will contact him when there's an issue on campus. "And we've got good people over at admin that take care of us," he said. "And it's been a challenge, as you well know with the last couple of years with COVID. It's been very challenging, and with all the growth in Azle ISD and the schools at capacity, it's really a challenge, but luckily, we have good leadership at admin. We have a great board that gives us the tools for what we need to help us do our jobs and be successful."

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LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

AZLE CRIME CONTROL & PREVENTION DISTRICT will be conducting a Public Hearing on the proposed District 2022-2023 Budget, on Thursday, June 23, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. The hearing will be conducted in the City Hall Community Room, 505 W. Main St. Azle.

> Cause No. 2022-PR01739-1 CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: THE KNOWN AND UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW AND ANY PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF IAN ALEXANDER SKYWISE BROOKS, DECEASED

All persons interested in this case are cited to appear before this Honorable Court by filing a written answer or contest with the Clerk of the Court for Probate Court No. 1 of Tarrant County, Texas at the Courthouse located at 100 W. Weatherford, 2nd floor, Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas, on June 13, 2022, which is the first Monday after the expiration of Ten (10) days from the date of publication, then and there to answer said Application for Indepenent Administration, Letters of Administration, and Determination of Heirship of DION ANTHONY BROOKS filed on May 12, 2022 and show cause why this Court should not render a determination of heirs and only heirs in the estate of IAN ALEXANDER SKYWISE BROOKS, DECEASED.

Petitioner alleges that the decedent died in Dallas Texas, on May 19, 2018 and prays the Court hear evidence sufficient to determine who are the heirs and only heirs of IAN ALEXANDER SKYWISE BROOKS, DECEASED. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL of said Court at the office in the city of Fort Worth,

Texas, Tarrant County, Texas 1st day of june, 2022 A.D. Jesse L. Gaines 6015 Meadowbrook DR Fort Worth, TX 76112 817-654-1161

Joni Oliphant, Deputy Clerk Mary Louise Nicholson, County Clerk Tarrant County, Texas 100 W. Weatherford Street Fort Worth, Texas 76196-0401

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, SANDY BEACH SELF STORAGE, which is located at 11109 Liberty School Road, Azle, Texas 76020 will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be at 10:00am on June 18th 2022 at 11109 Liberty School Road, Azle, Texas 76020. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Deposit for removal and cleanup may be temporarily required. Seller reserves right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale.

TENANT'S COMPLETE NAME as shown on rental agreement:

Auction for units #76 Jana Crosby, #171 Jimmie Beam, #180 Jimmy Adkisson, #134 Michael Hopp, #87 Kirstie Hedges, #78 Malisa Drulinger, #34 Patricia Hoskins. All household misc.

To be something bigger than himself: APD detective talks about job

BY DON MUNSCH don@azlenews.net

Chris Javarone rose from patrol officer to detective in his career in law enforce-

ment. Police departments feature a number of departments, including a detective division. Moving up the ladder or into another department, especially the detective division, isn't something one normally sees in television crime dramas, as there's scant attention given to detectives paying their dues earlier in their careers. But televi- officers perform. sion's Lt. Columbo had to start somewhere, right?

Javarone works as a detective for the Azle Police Department. He explained the process to become a detective, that if an officer has an interest in being a detective, a chief and a lieutenant will

who is the best fit for the job. Experience and good interviewing and analytical skills help a candidate's chances.

for five years, and there are times when he misses those days, he said. National Police Week was May 15-21, and the week honored everyone who works in law enforcement, no matter the department or title. Javarone said it's humbling and an honor to get recognition and appreciation for the job

He has worked for APD since August 2018. He has been a police officer since April 2016. He worked in

Javarone, 32, grew up in Haltom City and attended Haltom High School. In

tion and then interviews will He got out in 2017, and bebe conducted to determine came a police officer while in the Marines Reserves.

> He said he always wanted to be a police officer.

"I always wanted to be Javarone was a patrol cop a part of something bigger than myself, help others and stand up for the ones for that can't or are unable to stand up for themselves," he said.

Javarone works in the criminal investigations division, and because APD is such a small agency, detectives investigate property crimes and offenses against people, such as family vio-

"It all kind of gets split between all of us," he said. He has no particular specialty at APD, as a detective might Godley before coming to have in a larger police department.

APD has four detectives, with two at the officer level like Javarone and then look over his or her applica- 2011, he joined the Marines. a corporal and a sergeant. Caseload can vary from 30-90 cases. Summertime can produce a higheer caseload than in the winter, when it's colder.



Azle Police Department Detective Chris Javarone stands next to a vehicle at the police station. Javarone has been at APD since 2018. Photo by Don Munsch

A COMPLICATED, **DETAILED CASE**

The most difficult cases are sexual assaults because of the amount of evidence that has to be gathered and interviews to be conducted. he said.

With witnesses and victims in any of his cases, he tries to keep the atmosphere as relaxed and comfortable as possible, and if that

means going to people's everything," he said. houses, where they might be more comfortable, then he also appears at the scene and will do that.

Javarone worked on a recent hit-and-run case here in Azle. He described the case as one that features many moving parts, that it requires nesses and to look around the area to see whether there are any cameras that point to the street. Plus, in that case, one has to build a time frame and talk to neighbors. The accident investigation unit reports to the accident area support the community." and photographs the scene.

ground for any type of evidence left behind and col-

The medical examiner does his or her investigation.

A CALLING TO BE A COP

Javarone said there's a lot about his job that he loves.

"The people I work with a detective to talk to wit- are great," he said. "They are more of a family than they are a friend or coworker. The community itself, being such a supportive community that they have for law enforcement, makes you want to do a better job and

And, he added, he just "You're looking at the loves being a cop, which he said is a calling.

"Every day is a different lecting it after taking pic- day - that's probably what I tures and documenting love most about it," he said.



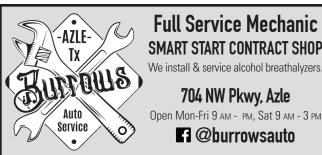
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Beef Sticks

Spring provides lasting memories of Azle sports

BY JEFF PRINCE

jeff@azlenews.net

Summer has sprung at Azle High School, and football and volleyball seasons are poised to begin once the school year resumes.

As for the first half of 2022 January to June – wow.

What a ride.

Hornet sports programs offered six months of fun and excitement, from the first splash in the swimming pool to the last crack of the baseball bat.

SWIMMING

Azle's swim team had barely digested their blackeyed peas from New Year's Day when they began training with extra diligence in preparation for the District 5-5A meet on Jan. 20.

The practice paid off. Azle sent 11 swimmers to the regional meet: Phoebe Mosley, Brooke Nowakowski, Peighton Berry, Gianna Schroeder, Laci Clark, Emory Hann, Hailey Fox, Steven Manley, Carter Pack, Trevor Deel and Kalen Mc-Cullough.

In early February, an ice storm that closed schools and businesses also forced the regional swim meet to be postponed until Feb. 7. The delay didn't hinder the Hornets. The girls 200m freestyle relay team set a school record, and every Azle swimmer set personal bests.

The swim team "represented Azle proudly," head coach Amy Estes said.

In May, Estes began representing Azle, too. Voters elected her to the Place 2 Azle City Council seat.





The February ice storm that delayed the regional swim meet also interrupted won district titles.

WRESTLING

titles in the same year since Girls Coach of the Year.

Eleven wrestlers quali-The Hornets carried that fied to compete at state on state runners up as a team, the district wrestling meet in momentum into the regional Feb. 18-19 in Cypress. None Lubbock. The meet resumed tournament, where they won fared better than Pella LeFequickly, however, and by the a team championship and ver, who won the 165-pound end of that weekend, Azle's three individual titles. Ali- class and the state title. Earnboys and girls teams had cen Dillard was named Most ing that trophy required win-

wrestlers.

on the girls golf team.

second place.

The Lady Hornets were and Annabelle Davis, Alicen Dillard and Mariah Dillard tion and United States Mawere state runners up in their weight classes.

In May, another piece of Outstanding Wrestler, and ning four matches in two good news hit the wrestling

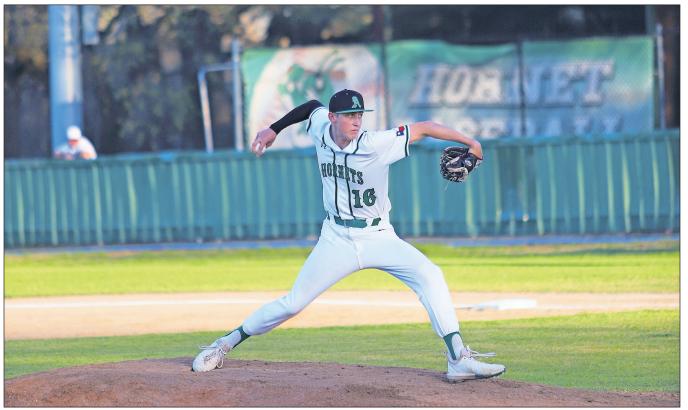
Azle hadn't nabbed both Megan House was named days against the state's best team like a reverse chinlock: Jackson Berg became the first Hornet wrestler to be

Photos by Jeff Prince

recognized by the National Wrestling Coaches Associarine Corps as a Leadership and Character All American.

SEE **AZLE SPORTS**, PAGE 11A.

Azle baseball players earn academic, athletic recognition



Declan Dahl was named the District 5-5A pitcher of the year.

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The awards are rolling in for the Azle Hornet baseball team that tied for first place in District 5-5A.

Above: Gavin Dean helped the basketball team fight their way to the

Bottom left: Riley Free has graduated and made room for new blood

Top left: Lindsey-Kaye Reichert helped Azle's rodeo team finish in

The players weren't just hitting baseballs during the season. They were hitting the books and earning good enough grades to stand out.

ACADEMIC RECOGNITION

The Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association nominated six players for Academic All-State awards:

Kyler Braswell Isaac Riley **Brandon Sheets** Rylan Stults Triton Towner

Westin Wyatt

ACADEMIC ALL-DISTRICT AWARDS WENT TO:

Kyler Braswell Luke Briseno Korbyn Coleman Jackson Davis Cayden Fowler

SEE BASEBALL AWARDS, PAGE 12A.

Former Granbury coach to guide Azle quarterbacks this season

BY RUSSELL HUFFMAN

Hood County News Sports Editor

The Azle football team has hired former offensive coordinator Matt Holly from Granbury to coach Hornet quarterbacks in 2023.

It's a double loss for Granbury athletics with Holly's wife, Andi, also leaving her position as a track and field coach. She will add powerlifting to her duties with the Hornets.



It's a move sparked by the ordinator Chad Jones. The Holly for "many years going longtime friendship between pair's friendship goes back back to college," he said.

to Holly's days as a graducoach Jones for a year.

"We've just been friends that can coach." for a long time. I've known athletic director (Becky Spurlock) was assistant athletic director when I was in

Azle football head coach Holly and Azle offensive co- Devon Dorris has known

ate assistant at Tarleton State dous job everywhere he has Granbury in 2016. University, where he got to been, and we are excited to

Photo by Jeff Prince

who is Holly's godson.

ing his senior season," Holly cords in Holly's offense.

ing a better situation than after they coached together

"He has done a tremen- when he first found it in at Arlington Heights, where

add a great man of character several offensive records, including the most points football programs. Friendship is undoubtedly scored in a 10-game seamany of their coaches over one of the benefits, much son (47.3 points per game), for an opportunity to work there for a long time. Their like being the quarterback most TD passes in a season coach for Jones' son Jay, (Austin Jinkerson, 25), and kind of presented itself this the single-season reception year," Holly said. "Yes, Jay is my godson, record (Zane "Crash" Davis, Keller nine years," Holly and I'm really looking for- 59). Jinkerson (41) and Da- to reflect on his work in ward to coaching him dur- vis (113) also set career re- Granbury, but he's quick to

The move puts Holly and some great coaches and ath-Holly is undoubtedly leav- Jones back together again

they began developing the Last year, the Pirates broke pro-style spread offenses used by Granbury and Azle's

"We've just been looking together again, and this just

Holly has had some time point out he has worked with

SEE **NEW COACH**, PAGE 12A.

Summer camp instills love of wrestling

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

Tyler Harrison, who coaches boys wrestling at Azle High School, watched as one of his teenaged wrestlers gave instructions to a couple of younger kids.

Josh Botion, a junior on the varsity team, was showing two 6-year-old boys how to put each other in arm holds.

"It's fun," Botion said. "I'm teaching them just really basic things."

The two youngsters appeared to be enjoying themselves, although neither could be characterized as chatty.

When asked how long he had been wrestling, Finn Wasser said, "I forgot."

His wrestling partner, Joseph Garza, was less verbose. When asked what he was learning at the camp,

against a matted wall and group of older kids - fourth said nothing.

Garza's dad, Rudy Garza, rived for their sessions. spoke for him.

home," he said. "His mom told him that there was a wrestling camp, and he's all third graders in this session. for it. He was like, 'Yeah! A lot of these kids are brand Let's go!""

see his son participating.

"It's good to get him out and moving around and exercising," the proud dad said. "It helps him interact a lot better than him being at light and try and have fun home watching TV."

PLANTING SEEDS

The wrestling summer camp was held at Azle High for four days last week. Harrison was pleased with the large turnout at the morning sessions, which were designed for kids in kindergarten through third grade. Af-

through ninth graders - ar-

"We open it up to really "He loves to wrestle at any age," Harrison said. "We've got some 3-yearolds all the way up through new to wrestling and just Rudy Garza was happy to trying it out in the summertime, which is great."

> Coaches emphasize fun over hardcore training and technique.

"We just like to expose with other kids, too. This is them to the sport, keep it real and make some memories that they will look back on and maybe want to continue in the future," Harrison said. "Hopefully, as they come up in middle school, they start participating in our middle school program."

NEW COACH HITS TOWN

The number of kids gravi-Garza pressed his face ter the little kids finished, a tating to the wrestling pro-



From left, Joseph Garza and Finn Wasser grapple during last week's wrestling summer camp at Azle High School. Hornet wrestler Josh Botion, center, gives them basic instructions.

gram has increased in recent years, and Azle ISD responded by hiring a new

Seth Bell, a 2017 alumnus, was hired to help coach wrestling and football and teach social studies.

"He is an awesome guy, so we are really excited to add him to our staff both as a coach and a teacher," Harrison said.

Bell is no stranger to wres-

"He is up on the wall over there," said Harrison, pointing to plaques hanging on the wall in the wrestling room that commemorate former wrestlers who qualified to compete at the state finals.

Bell's name is engraved twice. He qualified to compete at state in 2016 and 2017.

"We are very grateful that we're getting people who know wrestling and are passionate about wrestling," Harrison said. "We are excited about the future."

coaches handled the approx-school. He wrestled on the imately 30 girls and 50 boys varsity team for three years who wrestled at high school and was a district champ and and 70 more at the middle regional champ. In his seschools. Having a fourth nior year, Azle's team won



Seth Bell, pictured with wife Rachel, will help coach wrestling and football and teach social studies.

coach will allow more specialized training.

"We can break up our practice into different groups and work with kids that are at different levels," Harrison

Bell grew up in Aledo Last year, three wrestling but moved to Azle in high

the state invitational dual tournament.

Afterward, he wrestled for four years at Emmanuel College in Franklin Springs, Georgia, and graduated in 2021. He coached and taught school in Georgia for a short time before moving back to Azle with his wife, Rachel.

"It was a good job opportunity for me," he said. "It's something to look for-



Tyler Harrison talks to a group of kids from kindergarten through third grade at the end of a summer camp session.

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AZLE SPORTS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9A

BASKETBALL

Prior to this season, boys basketball had struggled for a decade. The team's most recent district title was in 2010 - a dozen years ear-

This year, the Hornets won nine **SOCCER** out of their first 10 nonconference games and were feeling emboldened by the time district competition began on Jan. 14 at home against Aledo.

Azle whipped the Bearcats 51-35, and would end the regular season with 22 wins, the most victories in a single season in a decade. Azle lost to Birdville in the bi-district playoff game on Feb. 22 but made it clear that the Hornets are back among the contenders.

Girls basketball entered the season with high hopes of finishing near the top of District 5-5A and performing well in the playoffs. Injuries to key players, including team leader Karlee Locke, slowed their momentum.

The team started strong and won an impressive 21 games overall but tapered off near the end of the season, finished in fifth place and missed the playoffs. The girls finished 21-12 overall and 4-6 in district. The Lady Hornets hadn't won more than 20 games since 2014.

The team is young, so most of the varsity starters will return next year, and Locke should be healed and ready to go, so expect the Lady Hornets to be fighting for a playoff spot next season.

Azle's soccer boys were inexperienced when the season began in January but thought they were talented enough to win numerous games. New coach Austin Fugate set the bar high and wanted the team to be competing for a district championship by March.

What Fugate saw instead was a team that played hard every game but kept losing by small margins or ending in ties.

Finally, on Feb. 15, the Hornets came back from an 2-0 deficit to beat Brewer 3-2 and win their first district victory.

It would be their only victory of the season. Still, the team was competitive, even against the district's toughest teams. Fugate anticipates more wins in 2023. The Lady Hornets struggled on

the soccer field, as well. The team was young – two of the three captains were sophomores, and the other was a junior.

The girls' inexperience showed in the win-loss column. The Lady



D'Lathian Young will lead a competitive bunch of powerlifters into a new season in 2023.

Photos by Jeff Prince

Hornets played a dozen games without scoring a goal in January and early February. It would be Feb. 18 before they earned a piece of a district victory, battling Granbury to a 1-1 tie.

The Lady Hornets, playing under new coach Madeline Wood, did not qualify for the playoffs. Like the boys, however, they play with passion and are poised for better things in 2023.

TENNIS

Also playing under a new coach this year was the tennis team. Hayden Huff, in her first year as Azle's tennis coach, took over a young and inexperienced team with a strong work ethic. The Hornets lost their first tournament to Brewer by a slim margin – 10-9. Other hard-luck losses would follow during the season, but the Hornets never gave up.

The team included 10 boys and eight girls, most of them sophomores and juniors. Samantha Thurston was named Newcomer prove. of the Year in District 5-5A. Peytie Chambers, a sophomore, earned second-team all-district recognition, and Brent Burgess, a junior, was awarded honorable mention.

Huff is excited to see what her team can accomplish next season courts. Huff brings her own experience – she played tennis at Oral Roberts University on a full tennis ers are expected to return in 2023. scholarship.

GOLF

Azle competes against a tough stable of golf teams in District 5-5A, led by Aledo and Granbury. The Hornets knew they were in for a fight this season. They had an ace in the hole, though. This year's district tournament would be played at Cross Timbers Golf Course.

Azle's players not only practice regularly at their hometown course, but many of them have been playing there since they were young. Jason Merrill won second place at district and qualified for regionals, and the Azle Green team finished in third place, which was an improvement of two places from the previous year.

More good days could lie ahead. Six of the 10 golfers from Azle who participated in the district tournament will return next season, including Merrill.

The girls golf team, led by junior Mary Shaw, made big swings, as well. Sharpshooter Shaw is the granddaughter of former Senior PGA Tour player Robert Landers. She shot an impressive 83 at the district tournament and earned a trip to the regional tourney in April. Shaw and another strong years. player, Kenzie Hobbs, will return next year along with a dozen other underclassmen, putting the girls golf team in a good position to im-

POWERLIFTING

The girls showed their gumption, with seven athletes qualifying to compete at the state meet in March.

with a year of experience on the Arellano and Emily Lewis - placed net Nation that they will be team to at the biggest meet of the year.

Five of those seven state qualifi-

The boys pushed their way to impressive hardware, as well, including Kevin Nguyen, who was named district champ in the 165-pound class.

RODEO

No seasons are longer or more difficult than rodeo, and Azle's team persevered and prospered. Almost 90 teams across this part

of the state compete in the North Texas High School Rodeo Association, and the Hornets out-cowboyed all but one, taking second place overall.

In May, 11 team members qualified to compete at the finals, the most from Azle in many years.

Senior Airian Moore was this season's top bareback rider by far - no other competitor came close to matching his points. He won a saddle and belt buckle, and will be missed for his athleticism. However, nine of those 11 finalists will return next season, putting Azle in a good position to overtake Decatur as the top team.

One of the returners, Hevenli Scribner, won a saddle after being named year-end Rookie Cowgirl. Just a freshman, she will be stirring up arena dust for three more

SOFTBALL

The Lady Hornets hadn't won a district championship since 2016, and few expected them to win it this year. The varsity team was loaded with youth, with just three seniors on a roster loaded with sophomores and freshmen.

By early May, the girls had made their way to the playoffs. They fell Two of those lifters - Skyler in the first round but showed Horbe reckoned with next year.

BASEBALL

The boys' roster and starting lineup was packed with seniors, and they savored having one last chance to win the District 5-5A championship. They took a share of it after finishing in a tie with Aledo.

Others in the district took notice. Billy Spratt earned district MVP. and Declan Dahl was the pitcher of the year. Three other players – Tvler Akers, Brenden Kamnick and Grant Tune - were first team alldistrict.

TRACK AND FIELD

Succeeding at a bi-district track meet and qualifying for the area championship are difficult tasks. Many athletes from many different schools in two different districts are all vying for the same thing, but only the Top 4 in each event get to compete at the area meet in April.

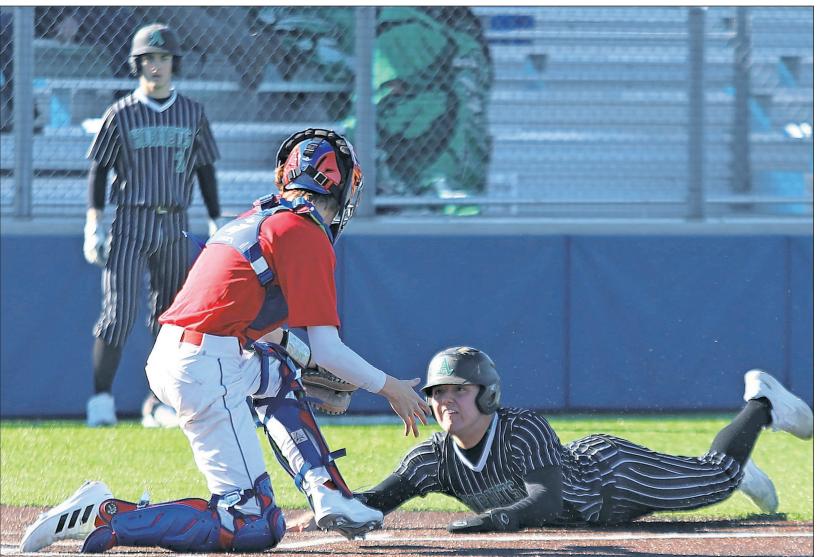
This year, 20 of Azle's track athletes qualified, and two tracksters earned individual titles at district. Jack Jestis won first place in the boys 400m, and Jessie Heath won first place in the girls 400m.

Heath dominated her event at the area meet, as well, winning first place.

In April, girls track coach Keith Boenisch summed up the track season - and all the sports seasons – after the area meet ended: "For those that didn't qualify, we know they will continue to work hard and come back next year and try again. It's what athletes do. For seniors who won't get that chance, we appreciate their dedication and work ethic to a sport that is very tough to do and hope they leave with great lifelong memories of teammates and coaches they have spent the last four years with."



Vielka Gonzalez is a weapon of the future for the Azle Lady Hornets.



Brenden Kamnick and the Hornet baseball boys played hard-nosed, face-first ball this spring.

NEW COACH, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9A.

letes.

great quarterbacks. I had Kyler the next year. Things progressed as Young as a senior my first year we grew the offense around playhere when I came in, and he just ers like running back Zach Watfell right into it," Holly said.

Holly's offense.

"I've been blessed with some Moore, become the quarterback son and now having Jadon Rog-Granbury showed it wasn't ers," Holly said. "I mean, those

"We had a receiver, Kevin Those guys just hand them a ball, and they kind of do the rest. Then you have Kyler Gibson, and then moving on to Austin Jinkerson for three years. I've had both of those kids for three years. They are great young men, and they're great playafraid to tinker with its lineup in two guys make you better. You ers. They trusted me, and we had don't have to do much coaching. a great relationship, and it made it and it made a huge difference for

easy to call plays."

Holly is taking plenty of great memories of his time in Granbury with him, but his favorite was being in tune with his players.

"Just the ability to be able to be on the same page with my quarter- Prince contributed to this story. backs. Those guys just bought in,

our program," Holly said.

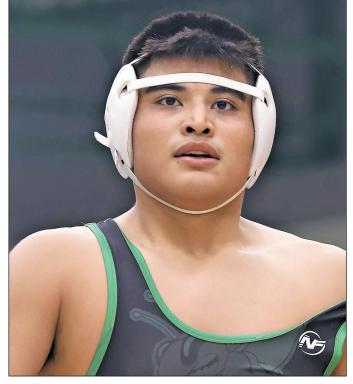
Holly is replacing former QB coach Phil Anderson, who was hired as the offensive coordinator at Sabine High School.

Azle News Sports Editor Jeff

AZLE

Dominick Evans

Game Faces



Elias Ramirez



Jackson Berg



BASEBALL AWARDS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

Gavin Green Easton House Luke Olmsted Ivan Perez Jayden Rollins **Brandon Sheets** Billy Spratt Rylan Stults Triton Towner **Grant Tune** Cole Webb Westin Wyatt

ATHLETIC RECOGNITION

5-5A District MVP – Billy Spratt 5-5A Pitcher of The Year – Declan Dahl First team All-district Pitcher – Brenden Kamnick Shortstop – Grant Tune Outfield – Tyler Akers Second team All-district Pitcher – Cooper Sexton 2nd Base - Cooper Magee Outfield – Cole Webb Honorable Mention All-district 1st Base – Brandon Sheets 3rd Base – Westin Wyatt Outfield – Gavin Green DH - Jackson Davis Utility – Cayden Fowler

AZLE TEAM AWARDS

MVP – Billy Spratt Big Stick - Tyler Akers Gold Glove – Westin Wyatt Pitcher of The Year – Declan Dahl

Kid Scoop Together

Can you find the answer to each

of these questions? They can all be found on this *Kid Scoop* page!

1. Phytoplankton is a plant animal

computer part

3. What does *planktos* mean

2. Zooplankton is an

plant

□ island

in Greek?

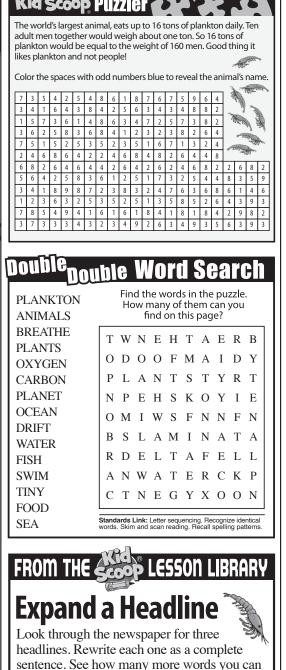
drifter

🖵 boat

□ swimmer

🖵 animal





add to make the longest sentence you can.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Write complete sentences

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spy a strange bottle with a note

inside. What does the note say?

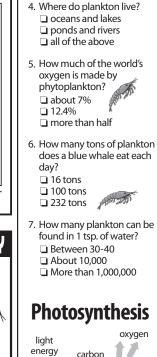
What will you do next?

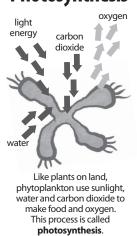
piece of paper, spelling

out each word. Then

read each one aloud.

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Ad Classifications

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2 Antiques	25 Equipment
3 Appliances	Tool Ren
4 Appliance Repair	26 Excavatii
5Arts/Crafts	27 Extermination
6 Asphalt Paving	28 Farm Equipme
7 Auctions	29Fencii
8Autos, Trucks	30 Firewoo
9 Auto Repair Service	31Fr
10Backhoe Service	32 For Sa
11 Boats, Motors	33Furnitu
12Bookkeeping	34 Garage
13 Business	Estate Sal
Opportunity	35 Garden/Mowing St
14 Campers/Trailers	36 Haulii
15Carports/Patios	37H
16Equipment Repair	38Health/Fitne
17 Carpet Service	39Help Want
18 Catering	40 Home Improveme
19 Cement Work	41House Levelin
20Demolition	42 House Cleaning
21 Child Care	43Huntii
22 Cosmetics	44Janitorial Servi
23Computers/Services	45 Job Want

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cian	46 Looking to Buy
nt &	47 Lost & Found
ental	48 Maintenance/Repairs
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Sale	55Miscellaneous
ture	56 Party Planning/Events
ge &	57 Pets/Livestock
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Svc	59Pool Service
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vice	67 Recycling
nted	68Storage

69 Sand/Gravel	
70Septic Tanks	
71 Sewing/Alterations	
72Sewer Service	
73TV/Radio	
74 Tractor Service	
75Upholstery	
76 Vacuum Cleaners	
77Wanted	
78Well Drilling	
79Welding	
80Lots/Acreage	
81Business &	
Commercial Property	
82RV's for Rent	
83 Houses for Sale	
84Mobile Homes	
for Rent	
85Mobile Homes	
for Sala	

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039



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034 Garage & Estate Sales

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Moving Sale, everything must go. 123 Clay Ct, Springtown. Saturday June 11th 8am start. Furniture, beautiful home decor and Christmas decor, shop tools, dishes. Everything priced low to

Barn Sale, Saturday 8am-3pm, from 199/51 intersection (Spt) 4 miles North on FM51, next to Dollar General. Tools, Farm Equipment, Men's Clothing,

Large Yard Sale Inside and Outside. 291 Morrow Rd, Spt. Thurs-Fri June 9-10, 10am-4pm. Dressers, chest of drawers, collectables, pocket knives. swords, hunting knives, beds. Much, much more. Please No Early Birds.

Community Garage Sale Mill Crossing Lane, Spt. Friday-

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Azle, Saturday June 11, 8am-

1048 Idlewood, little bit of everything. 321 Glenhaven, Lots of goodies

and some furniture 437 Glenhaven Drive. Dealers dream, many vintage items, household, yard, jewelry, clothing, furniture, and tackle.

See "Leah's downsizing garage and Plant Sale" on Marketplace and other Azle groups for Saturday 8 to 2, and Sunday 9 to 2. 7528 Portwood Rd, Azle.

Fri-Sat 7:30-2

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Body Shop Porter

Performs duties throughout the Body Shop. Must be responsible, dependable and have a valid TXDL. Monday to Friday work week.

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Help wanted continued on next page...

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TDD:

Rent unfurnished continued on next page...

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Deadline: 4:30 PM Monday

Classifieds

088

Rent Unfurnished

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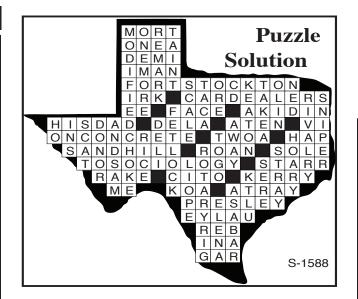
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ACROSS

- this "Beetle Bailey" artist Walker lived in Texas as a child 5 Baird High class
- (2 wds.) 6 this Moore was co-
- star of TX Swavze in "Ghost" (1990)
- _ old Cowhand . . .'
- 8 seat of Pecos County (2 wds.)
- 17 irritate, annoy 18 auto sellers (2 wds.)
- 21 a boot width 22 TXism: "plain as the
- nose on your _ 23 TXism: "restless as
- _ church" 24 TX George W. lost , George
- H.W., in 2018 29 longtime U.S. rep. from the Valley:
- Kika __ Garza _-gallon hat
- 31 Super Bowl (Cowboys' first win)
- 32 TXism: "raised_ (city boy)
- 34 Coleman High class (2 wds.)
- 35 "What's the _ (slang for what's happening)
- 36 these cranes migrate to Texas in the winter
- 37 horse coloring

"Intro

- 38 boot bottom
- 39 beginning course in social behavior:

- 41 Rio Grande City is the seat of this county 42 leaf collecting tool
- 43 this Blue Jay manager Gaston grew up in Texas 44 wrestler Von Erich:
- "The Texas Tornado" 45 TX Kris Kristofferson
- gospel song: "Why _ 46 RV hotel?
- 47 Sonic food tote (2 wds.) 48 "Elvis the Pelvis"
- 36 50 in Bowie
- County on U.S. 59 "Johnny
- and "Billy Yank" 52 TXism: "get your
- ducks ___ _ row" 53 this Heard had a
 - losing record as Mavs head coach

DOWN

- 1 this gives the best shotgun pattern for a medium range (2 wds.)
- 2 TXism: "run that by me ____ time"
- make a comment 4 TXism: "
- (not true) _ up" (increase)
- 10 org. that nurtures the arts in Dallas
- City, Texas

- 12 fixed term/interest savings tool (abbr.)
- TXism: "it'll faith healer to fix it" "Tiger" Teague, veteran and Texas

Quaid in "The Paper"

13 this Michael starred

with TX Randy

- congressman 16 actor Beatty in film
- "Big Bad John" 19 Odessa Permian
- has one with MIdland Lee
- 20 military marksman 22 horse's foot joint
- 24 Santa's word 25 agcy. now a part of

Homeland Security

- 26 shoo!

52

- Bass" 29 H-E-B cold cuts and

- film: "Calamity Jane
- 27 benefactor
- 28 Texas-based 1949
- cheeses section 30 TX Dobie Gray hit: "Drift " (1973)
- bird is the smallest bird in Texas
 - 41 dry, arid 44 Rusk AM/FM

Maria

47 TXism: "busy _ at happy hour" 49 TX Buddy's wife:

SEMIS

RVS

EQUIPMENT

PICKUPS

CARS

ATVS

33 Houston university

34 TX Jim Reeves hit:

35 old man's gray hair

Spindletop (2 wds.)

"He'll Have

38 cow away from

37 used to drill

the herd

40 cal

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