



Azle News

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Every day a new challenge for realtor



BY DON MUNSCH
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FIFTH IN an ongoing series of stories about the jobs people perform in Azle.

Finding a home in Dallas-Fort Worth may be a huge challenge these days, what with the skyrocketing demand and lack of inventory because of the enormous population growth.

Marsha Hardin at Marsha Hardin Real Estate in Azle said no matter the availability of homes, aspects of the job never change.

The job is fun and rewarding, she said, and Hardin enjoys seeing the excitement from buyers when they find a property they fall in love with.

“Our business here is built on previous clients and referrals that come into us,” she said.

CHANGING CAREERS

She explained she held down two jobs at once at one point.

“I got my license in 1994 and I was still teaching at Azle High School at the time, so I did both jobs for 10 years and then I retired from teaching in 2004,” she said, noting she taught government at the school. “The day I retired, I became manager of the office that was here at the time. In 2008, my broker got out of the business, and I got my brokerage license.”

Hardin grew up in Fort Worth and attended TCU

and then came to Azle right after college. When she retired from teaching in 2004, she had 30 years of service, so she had full retirement.

“In 1994, my oldest child was going to be starting college with a sister and brother to follow after that,” she said, explaining later in an email how she got involved in real estate. “I felt that I needed a profession that would provide me with the additional income to help them with college expenses. Real estate also offered me more flexibility to do some things that I had always wanted to do such as traveling. I also enjoy the ever-changing landscape of real estate. Every day is a new challenge, so no time to be bored.”

Her company sells residential and commercial properties and land.

“We actually do quite a bit of farm and ranch,” she said in an interview at her office.

Inventory is still low, with 14 existing homes as of April 20 on the Multiple Listing Service within the Azle city limits that are not under contract.

Her company also sells

SEE HARDIN, PAGE 5A.

Marsha Hardin of Marsha Hardin Real Estate in Azle stands in front of home. Hardin was a high school teacher before retiring in 2004. She did both teaching and real estate jobs for a while before working solely in real estate. Photo by Jim Stevens

Property owners brace for higher tax appraisals

BY JESSICA MCKINNEY
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Homeowners across Azle and Springtown — along with the rest of Tarrant and Parker counties — have been anxiously waiting for tax appraisals to start arriving in their mailboxes.

With the housing market still seeing high demand because of low inventory that is driving home prices higher, it is no surprise that tax values on homes in the area are at some of the highest they’ve ever been.

According to a report on the Texas housing market on Redfin.com, more than 50% of homes were sold above listing price in March.

Fewer property owners are receiving letters from Parker County Appraisal District this year because

“PCAD only reappraises in odd numbered years,” according to a recent press release. Any changes in value this year are “likely due to new improvements made to the property or due to a homestead cap increase.”

Notices were sent to about 40,000 property owners, more than half of what was sent last year (76,000).

The Tarrant Appraisal District conducts an annual review of property values. To come up with a property value, TAD uses a mass appraisal system to determine the value of over 750,000 properties in Tarrant County, both residential and commercial.

The variables that can affect a home’s value include new additions or a pool. But TAD must also take into

SEE TAX APPRAISALS, PAGE 4A.



Azle Police Department dispatcher Angelque Scott sits at her desk at the dispatch center at APD. Scott has worked for APD since 2015. Photo by Don Munsch

On call: Dispatcher carries out important duties

BY DON MUNSCH
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Calm down.

Those two words are among the words and phrases a dispatcher answering a 9-1-1 call must be mindful

of. They help illustrate what kind of attributes are needed when acquiring critical information and passing it along as quickly as possible to police during emergency situations.

Angelque Scott, a dis-

patcher for the Azle Police Department, avoids using those particular words. She talked about the challenges of her job last week in the dispatch center at Azle PD. She has worked as a dispatcher for Azle PD since

2015. She and other dispatchers were recognized for their work in mid-April during National Public Safety Telecommunications Week.

SEE DISPATCHER, PAGE 7A.



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Council gives nod to study on impact fees

BY DON MUNSCH
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Azle City Council on April 19 approved giving the city the go-ahead to investigate implementing street impact fees for the city.

Derek Turner, engineer with Jacob Martin, the city's consulting engineer, discussed the use of road impact fees and proportionality fees (currently used) in assessing the traffic effects on new developments within Azle.

The city adopted an ordinance in February 2019 that requires rough proportionality determination for all new developments that would include residential developments, said David Hawkins, director of planning and development for the city.

City Manager Tom Muir said at the outset of the discussion that he expected more than one discussion of the matter.

Turner discussed the differences between rough proportionality and impact fees.

"Rough proportionality is not a fee," Turner said. "A rough proportionality test is a comparison or determina-

tion, and it's not mutually exclusive of an impact fee or any other exactions that a city might impose."

Turner said rough proportionality is a test to determine the equity of exactions and not an exaction in and of itself. A traffic impact analysis is an essential element to complete the transportation rough proportionality test, Turner said. Rough proportionality is the law and should be applied to any exaction charged to a developer.

An impact fee is a charge or assessment imposed against new development in order to generate revenue for funding or recouping the costs of the impact of existing public infrastructure. It is a one-time fee paid at time of platting, plat issuance or issuance of a building permit to assist in the impact caused by new development on infrastructure.

Cities must adhere to a certain state code process for implementing impact fees, and the city performed the process a few years ago when it implemented water and sewer impact fees.

Requirements for impact

fees include preparing a capital improvement plan and determining what capital projects are needed or expected, appointing a CIP advisory committee, holding a public hearing to consider land use assumptions for the CIP, approval of the land use assumptions and CIP (within 30 days of the public hearing), preparation of an impact fee assessment, holding a public hearing to discuss the imposition of the impact fee, addressing of the CIP advisory committee comments, approval on imposition of impact fees (withing 30 days of the hearing) and updating every five years at minimum or as needed.

Turner's presentation noted that impact fees can be used to pay for capital improvements, such as surveying and engineering and land and easement acquisition, and interest charges and other finance costs for items identified in the CIP. Impact fees can't be used for a number of items, such as upgrading or replacing existing capital improvements to serve the existing development.

The city does not have street impact fees, but with-

in the city code are requirements that the developer improve streets adjacent to the project area, Turner said. Hawkins said in an email later that "there is a rough proportionality determination that would factor in the costs of those street improvements. If the costs of the street improvements are not proportional to the impact of the development, then the developer would make a payment to the city in lieu of constructing it."

Councilmembers discussed various issues surrounding proportionality and impact fees with Turner. Moving ahead with securing impact fees means conducting a CIP study and impact fee study phase. The process would take nine months, Turner said, and costs would be in the neighborhood of \$40,000-\$45,000. Impact fees per home vary, but Turner said \$1,500-\$2,000 would be the range.

The city will work with Turner on the process, Muir said.

In other developments, councilmembers approved Judge Douglas Hudman to a two-year term to continue

as the city's Municipal Court Judge for the Municipal Court of Record. The term ends April 30, 2024.

Council also approved Associate Judge Lynne Frank to continue as the city's Associate Municipal Court Judge for the Municipal Court of Record. Her term also will end on April 30, 2024. Both terms are effective May 1.

Also, council approved authorizing Muir to execute an equipment lease for five years with Truist Financial Corporation for a tractor and mower for Cross Timbers Golf Course. The lease is based on the staff-recommended purchases.

Council approved a request to vacate and abandon certain portions of the street right-of-way of Rocky Creek Drive. The move allows the vacation of a portion of Rocky Creek Drive R.O.W. for the development of the Lakeview Heights residential subdivision. City agenda information said the street right-of-way for Rocky Creek Drive was dedicated to the city as part of the Bristol Farms, Phase I Final Plat, on July 29, 2005. This stub street was intended

to be extended for a future Phase 2 of Bristol Farms, but it was never constructed because Bristol Farms Phase 2 was never completed, said Hawkins. This street R.O.W. would revert to being part of the residential lots fronting on Bristol Lane.

During public forum, council heard from resident David Summa, who complained about the flooding occurring at his home on Rhoades Street. He said he has lived here 33 years and that it has flooded every year he has lived here.

"Azle has to do something about this - I am tired of becoming flooded out," he said, noting snakes slithered into his home after the last big rain and that his grandchildren were there when it happened.

Mayor Alan Brundrett told Summa the city manager or someone from the city would get in touch with him about the problem.

After an executive session, the council approved extending Muir's employment as city manager and gave him a 3 1/2% raise. His yearly salary is now \$190,280. The previous salary was \$183,842.

Reno City Council OKs used police vehicle purchase

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
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Reno City Council approved the purchase of a used vehicle for the police department at the council meeting last week.

The vehicle, which is a 2018 Ford Police Interceptor Utility, is replacing a worn-out vehicle in the Reno Police Department's fleet. Mayor Sam White said the previous vehicle had reached its lifespan.

The used vehicle cost the city about \$22,000, White

said, and there will be an extra cost to install the needed technology in the vehicle.

Reno Police Deputy Chief Nathan Stringer said the old vehicle had more than 100,000 miles on it. The vehicle that it is replacing has about 80,000 miles.

"The other car went down, and we only have cars in our fleet to maintain the personnel we have," Stringer said. "So, if one goes down, we have to replace it."

The previous police vehicle had been taken to the mechanic before, and it's

unclear what exactly was wrong with the vehicle, though Stringer mentioned issues with the compression in the engine.

"It made more sense to replace it than it did to keep putting money into it," he said.

Because of a new vehicle shortage, the city of Reno opted to purchase a used vehicle, Stringer said.

"We've been told if we tried to buy a brand-new police car or a new interceptor, we'd be probably six to eight months out," he said.

The older vehicle, along with one of the old Chargers, will be auctioned off to repay the city's purchase on the used police vehicle, Stringer said.

CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION DISTRICT

The city of Reno is in the process of creating a Crime Control and Prevention District, which would allow for crime prevention programs that are not currently funded with taxpayer revenue, Stringer said.

To create the district, voters would have to approve a half cent sales tax on goods sold in Reno to generate revenue for the district.

"Revenue from the half cent sales tax serves a role in providing the necessary resources to effectively implement crime reduction strategies pertaining to enhanced enforcement, neighborhood crime prevention, partner

programs, recruitment, training, department equipment, technology and infrastructure," Stringer said. "These strategies may include deploying officers on an enhanced basis to respond to emerging problems, supporting citizen participation and crime prevention programs. These funds can also be used to fund equipment critical to crime control, to increase security at schools, support community outreach and much more."

This is not a tax increase, Stringer said. The district would pull revenue from existing sales tax funds.

"It lets us put money directly back into the community with programs, and it doesn't come out of taxpay-

ers' pockets. It comes out of sales tax," he said. "So, people passing through Reno getting gas, getting groceries or whatever, or purchasing things from our industrial-type businesses, they fund programs that allow us to put money directly back into the community, even though it's not coming out of the community's coffers."

The city council decided to cancel the election for the district because "a special election calling for Proposition A had not been included in the original ordinance calling the general election," Stringer said. The proposition calling for the district could appear on ballots at a later election.

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Collins, Ixchu named Optimist Club Young Texans

BY JESSICA MCKINNEY
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Optimist Club of Azle recognized Azle High School seniors Lauren Collins and Chris Ixchu for their academic excellence and extra-curricular activities, naming them Young Texanne and Young Texan of the month.

Collins holds a GPA of 101.0 and is ranked No. 39 in her class.

After graduation, Collins plans to attend Texas A&M University to earn a degree in nursing. She plans to be

a traveling nurse after she completes her studies.

"I want to be able to move around before I settle," she said.

Collins describes herself as "very determined" when it comes to her schoolwork and always puts her "best efforts forward."

She has been active with Azle Cheer throughout high school and earned Academic All-State her senior year.

Ixchu will be attending Weatherford College after graduation and plans to transfer to TCU, where he

has a scholarship, once he completes his core classes. He wants to study business and entrepreneurship.

Ixchu is most proud of maintaining straight A's in school and feels that his greatest personal strength is his persistence.

"I love rising up to challenges and seeing things through," he said.

Ixchu was a member of the Azle Soccer Team and has his own business reselling shoes, which he loves. He has a GPA of 98.636 and is ranked No. 73 in his class.



AHS Principal Randy Cobb (left) joined the Optimist Club of Azle President Leon Williams in recognizing seniors Lauren Collins and Chris Ixchu for their academic achievements during their final year. Photo by Jessica McKinney

AISD names new Azle High principal

BY DON MUNSCH
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An assistant high school principal in a nearby school district has been named the new principal at Azle High School.

Nate Driver is the new principal for Azle High School. Current AHS Principal Randy Cobb is retiring at the end of this school year. Driver comes to Azle ISD from Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD, where he has served as an academic assistant principal at Saginaw High School, according to a news release from AISD.

He has served in public education for 14 years, with six of those years in campus administration. Driver has been as an assistant principal at both the middle and high school levels. Before entering administration, he taught math and coached middle school sports. He received a Bachelor of Science in kinesiology from the University of North Texas and a master's degree in educational leadership from West Texas A&M University.

Azle Superintendent Todd Smith said Driver's enthusiasm, passion and commitment to the role and responsibility of the high school principal position stood out as the district selected a new principal.

"We feel confident Mr. Driver is one who will build strong relationships with all AHS stakeholders: students, staff, parents and our community," Smith told the News in an email. "He is a strong instructional leader. Mr. Driver has served many roles and responsibilities in his six years as a secondary campus administrator. We received outstanding recommendations from his colleagues in Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD."

Smith said the district had 50 applicants from which a resume committee, made up of central office administrators and AHS faculty members, narrowed down their top picks. Eventually, five candidates interviewed for the opening, and each was deemed qualified for the position.

Driver serves as a board member for the Texas As-



sociation of Secondary School Principals. Driver and his wife, Shelby, have three children - Brady, Madelyn and Grace. They enjoy spending time outdoors either camping or watching their kids play sports on the weekends.

"I am both humbled and honored to be appointed as the next Azle High School Principal," Driver said in the release.

"I look forward to serving the Azle community and building relationships with the staff, students and parents of Azle High School," he said. "This is an exciting opportunity and I'm ready to continue the Hornet tradition of striving for excellence."

TAX APPRAISALS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

account market data that compares homes to similar properties that have been sold recently. If market data aren't available, they use cost data from the Moore Precision Cost Tables, which can give them a price based on the features of a home.

ARE THERE EXEMPTIONS?

Both Tarrant and Parker County homeowners can apply for exemptions through their county appraisal district. These exemptions are not automatic and must be applied for

with the district.

The main exemption is the homestead exemption, which applies to the homeowner's primary residence only.

There is also the over-65 exemption for those over 65 years of age, and disability and veteran exemptions. (One cannot claim both a disability exemption and an over-65 exemption.)

If the two Texas constitutional amendments are passed in the upcoming election, then changes will be made regarding property taxes; however, this will not impact this year's appraisals.

CAN I PROTEST?

Homeowners are able to protest their tax appraisal with the district. This can be done informally by mail, over the phone, in person or online. The deadline to protest is May 16.

If a homeowner is not satisfied with the outcome of the informal protest, a formal hearing can be scheduled with the Appraisal Review Board.

For more information or to file an appeal, visit www.ParkerCAD.org for Parker County, or www.TAD.org for Tarrant County.

CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY



The Azle Police Department recognized 15 graduates of the Citizens Police Academy on April 19. All who participated got to have a hands-on experience with the department over the last several weeks, learning about the work they do and how citizens can help serve their community and law enforcement officers. Photo courtesy

LEGAL NOTICE

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine And Malt Beverage Retailer's Off-Premise Permit (BQ) by Cuban Market LLC dba Cuban Market, located at 6404 Rufe Snow Drive, North Richland Hills, Texas, 76148. Officers of said entity are Yoelbis Beliz (Owner) and Yoanka Munoz (Owner).

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HARDIN, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

properties outside of Azle. “Anything we get in Azle proper is going to be gone in a matter of a few days,” she said.

She added that eventually with the new construction going on, inventory will catch up with the demand.

“But I think it’ll probably be at least another year down the road,” she said.

She said some cities, like Azle, are seeing new home builders are now just constructing rental properties.

JOB SPECS

A person wanting to be a real estate sales agent in Texas will need 180 hours of classroom course work, Hardin said. As defined by the Texas Real Estate Commission, a sales agent is a person who is licensed by the Real Estate Commission to act as an agent on behalf of a real estate broker and their clients. Additionally, a sales agent must be sponsored by a licensed broker in order to perform any act of real estate services.

Hardin said one does not need a college degree for the job, but if an individual has a degree, some of the courses can count as credit for the broker level of licensing. The 180 hours of class work are still required if one has a degree.

People wanting to be a real estate sales agent must be an American citizen or lawfully admitted alien. A DACA (Deferred Action

for Childhood Arrivals) recipient does not qualify as a lawfully admitted alien, according to TREC.

The prospective agent must also be 18 years old or older, pass a background check and must meet TREC’s qualifications for honesty, trustworthiness and integrity. A prospect then will file an application with TREC, and then the individual must take a number of courses – 180 hours – to fulfill requirements. These courses cover everything from, but not limited to, principles of real estate to law of contracts to real estate finance. Hardin said there are schools in Fort Worth people may attend, and local junior colleges offer courses.

“A lot of the young people coming into the business right now are doing them online,” Hardin said.

After completion of the course work, a prospective agent must take an exam, and then before the agent can sell anything, he or she must be sponsored by a broker. If a prospective agent fails the exam three times, additional education will be necessary.

Every sales agent must work under a broker, and a broker is responsible for everything that the agent does, Hardin said.

“And the biggest problem we’re seeing right now with new agents is that they’ve taken their courses online and then they go to work for



Marsha Hardin of Marsha Hardin Real Estate in Azle stands in a kitchen in a home.

Photo by Jim Stevens

a virtual office where they don’t see the broker and we’re seeing a lot of contract issues,” Hardin said. “Real estate can be a very complicated business, and just putting a house under contract is only the first step. Then you’ve got a process to get it to closing, and I think that’s where a lot of agents that are not working under the direct supervision of a broker are having difficulty.”

Financing is more difficult now than it was a couple of years ago, with Hardin explaining the lingering effects of the years when there was a lot of mortgage fraud. She said the federal requirements “keep getting tighter and

tighter and the hoops that a buyer has to jump through and the documentation he has to provide” continue to rise.

Hardin explained the process of selling a property to a buyer. She said it can be difficult for some buyers to understand that they have to enter the process with the mindset that they are likely going to have to pay above list prices. Average price of a home in Azle is \$280,000.

FLEXIBILITY, KNOWLEDGE OF CHANGES IN INDUSTRY ARE MUSTS

Marsha Hardin Real Estate has six agents. Except

for one agent, the company has agents who have 25-plus years of experience in real estate.

Hardin laughs when asked what a typical day is like, as she said people think they know what the day is going to be like until they get to the office and then it can totally change.

“We have to be very flexible,” she said. “You have walk-ins, you have contract issues to deal with. There are things that have to be taken care of immediately.”

The toughest part of the job is the pressure of ensuring that one does everything he or she can to make the buying or selling experience

positive for the client.

“It’s one of the biggest investments they have in their lifetime, so they depend on their realtor to see them through that process,” she said.

Every transaction is different, Hardin said, and “a lot of things are learned on the job and with experience.” Laws change, and real estate agents have to stay abreast of those changes.

Attributes Hardin looks for in an agent are someone who is detail-oriented and people-centered, and she said the most successful agents are adept at networking and are active in the community.

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Obituaries

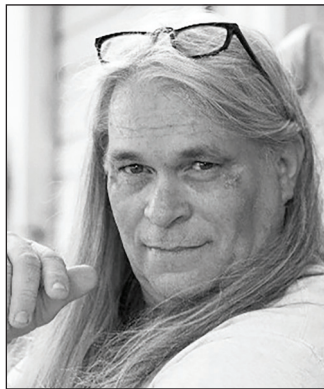
Bobby Jack Pack Jr. 1957 - 2022

Bobby Jack Pack Jr. was born in Fort Worth Texas, to Bobby Pack Sr. and Barbara Weaver Pack. Raised in Azle, Texas He was a gifted artist with amazing mechanical skills, which he always credited to his Dad. He followed his curiosities and passion and lived with determination and love.

Not to mention his love for vintage automobiles.

He was preceded in death by his father, Bobby Jack Pack, Sr.

Bobby is survived by his wife of 29 years, Robin of Dallas; mother, Barbara Pack; sisters and brothers-in-law, Cindy and Gary Stone of Fort Worth and Debra and James Spisak of Colleyville; his nieces and



nephews, Andrew Spisak of Colleyville, Chisholm Allen, Julie Spragens of Austin, Jacob and Courtney Allen and great nieces and nephews Kailyn Curry, Jaxon Allen, Jace Allen and Peyton Allen all from Azle.

The Azle News, April 27, 2022 Edition

Frankie Robbins, Sr. 1943 - 2022

Frankie Richard Robbins, Sr., 78, of Azle, Texas, passed away at home on Friday, April 22, 2022 from natural causes. His loving wife, Nancy, was by his side.

Service will be held at First Baptist Lakeside Church, 8801 Jacksboro Hwy., Lakeside, Texas 76135 on Wednesday, April 27 at 10 a.m. Interment will follow the service at Perrin Memorial Garden Cemetery, Back Cemetery Rd., Perrin, Texas 76486.

Visitation was held at First Baptist Lakeside Church, 8801 Jacksboro Hwy., Lakeside, Texas 76135 on Tuesday, April 26, from 6-8 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Texas Baptist Men Association or the Red Cross.

Frankie was born on Aug. 15, 1943 to Dolphus "Doc" Ray and Hazel Inez Tate Robbins in Jacksboro, Texas. He was a 1961 graduate of Perrin High School in Perrin, Texas.

After high school, he served in the Army National Guard from June 1961 to June 1967.

He also worked at Texboro in Mineral Wells and General Dynamics in Fort Worth until he found his passion during a thirty-year career of fire-fighting.

Frankie proudly served the City of Fort Worth as a fire-fighter from June 1968 to June 1998. Since his retirement, he has remained active with the Fort Worth Retired Firefighters Association.

During his retirement years, he has enjoyed a life full of activity with family, friends, and his church. He could always be found volunteering to help others, playing dominos, listening to bluegrass music, or attending family events, including the many activi-



ties of the grandchildren he adored. His love for his family was apparent in all he did.

Regardless of the activity, he was always on the go and living life to the fullest while keeping God the focus of his life.

He was an active volunteer for the Texas Baptist Men Association and the Top of the Hill Gang at First Baptist Lakeside Church, which performed various volunteer acts of home repairs for needy families in the First Baptist Lakeside Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Dolphus "Doc" Ray and Hazel Inez Tate Robbins; brother, Charles Ray Robbins; son, Ricky Robbins; and grandson, Brent Johnson.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy Daniels Robbins; daughters, Cathy, and husband Ronnie Johnson, and Connie, and husband David Bitters, Lori Pace, and Mindy, and husband Chad Ober; grand-children, Jamie, and husband Clint DoByns, Brittany Johnson, Taylor Bitters, Garrett Bitters, Sawyer Ober, and Sela Ober; and great grandchildren, Macee, Karter, and Kinzee DoByns.

Condolences may be left at www.bcbfuneralhome.com.

Baum-Carlock-Bumgardner Funeral Home

The Azle News, April 27, 2022 Edition

Juanita "Kaye" Tallant 1942 - 2022

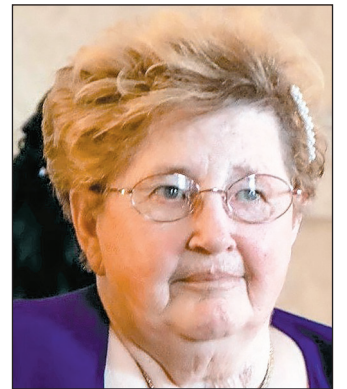
On Monday, April 18, 2022, Juanita "Kaye" Tallant, 80, loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother passed away in her home.

Funeral: was held at 2:30 p.m. Monday, April 25, 2022, in Greenwood Chapel. Visitation was from 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Greenwood, 3100 White Settlement Road, Fort Worth.

Memorials: In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the American Cancer Society in Kaye's memory.

Kaye was born April 18, 1942, in Jefferson Township, Ohio to Parnell and Ernestine (Crabtree) Brady. After high school, Kaye served in the United States Marine Corps for three years. While serving in the Marines she met her future husband, Glenn Tallant, whom she married on Jan. 24, 1962. She then joined Azle State Bank where she worked as a vice president and cashier for the next 30 years. They raised two sons, Greg and Richard.

Kaye loved to watch her children and grandchildren play sports, and she was an avid fan of both baseball and basketball. Sewing and



needlework were favorite pastimes, and she loved to listen to her granddaughter Caileen sing and play piano. She was known and loved by all for her quick smile and kind compassionate spirit.

Kaye was preceded in death by her husband of 57 years Glenn; father, Parnell; mother, Ernestine; eldest brother, Don-ald Brady; and younger sib-lings, Jack Brady, Sue Crab-tree and Butch Brady.

She is survived by her two children, Greg and Richard Tallant; two grandchildren, Aaron Tallant and Caileen Tallant-Adams; great-grandson, Carter Tallant; brothers, Dwayne, Lowell and Rick Brady; and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

The Azle News, April 27, 2022 Edition

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DISPATCHER, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

Scott said dispatchers appreciate the recognition because they often don't receive it. Dispatchers are first responders.

"So being able to have that recognition is nice; it means a lot," she said.

Scott explained her views on using the words "calm down" during a 9-1-1 call in which an excited caller loses control of emotions.

"I particularly do not use calm down because it's just going to create more excitement because you're demanding something from them," Scott said. "But if you're more empathetic to what their situation is and you ask them to take a deep breath, count to 10 with me ... if you take the time to do that, it also takes their mind off with what they're going through so that they can think more clearly about giving you the answers that you need and helps build the rapport."

A NEW JOB

Scott grew up in the Azle-Springtown area and graduated from Springtown High School in 2008. After finishing high school, she attended Le Cordon Bleu Dallas, a culinary arts school in Dallas, and earned an associate degree in applied science of culinary arts. She said she became a mom after that, explaining she has two children and stayed at home with them for a while.

"I worked in a number of restaurants, and that's actually how I got my start in dispatch," she said.

Scott said APD's current dispatch records manager and her direct dispatch supervisor had visited the restaurant she worked at

in Lake Worth one day and liked the customer service they received and asked if Scott was interested in a job with the police department.

Scott, who was the front of house manager and was in charge of coordinating the wait staff and their duties at the restaurant, said she was shocked by the offer, but she talked to her fiancé and then she started doing some research. A week later, she put in her application. Scott will have been at Azle PD seven years this September.

She works a four-hour shift on Wednesday and then 12-hour shifts on Thursday, Friday and Saturday (6 a.m. to 6 p.m.).

JOB TRAINING

Dispatchers receive a lot of hands-on training, Scott said.

"We have a 14-week training program that we have put together for new hires," she said about Azle PD. "I actually got to be a part of that process now, which is exciting. And there are a lot of training opportunities through Tarrant County 9-1-1. They did a lot of trainings for us, as well."

There are training opportunities online through Texas Commission on Law Enforcement. Dispatchers have to have 20 hours of training through TCOLE every two years, and that kind training can range from how to deal with disgruntled callers and active shooters to tactical dispatching to hostage negotiations.

"It was really overwhelming at first," Scott said, describing her first impressions with the job years ago and what she thinks now. "There was a lot going on, a

lot to learn and a lot to memorize. We're responsible for memorizing a lot of different things - numbers, addresses, phone numbers. So that in itself was really overwhelming and exciting. It's still very exciting now. Not as overwhelming - you kind of go with the flow and take things as they come and you move right along with it."

Scott and other APD dispatchers take all 9-1-1 calls, but they dispatch for police. If the calls are medical or fire, they are transferred to Tarrant County Fire Alarm Center, which handles those calls.

"Given the situation, we would either stay on the line with the caller if it is a medical call, just to see if there is any necessity for police to go on scene as well," she said.

Dispatchers receive calls on a variety of matters, from thefts to accidents to domestic situations.

"I would say the majority of our 9-1-1 are more than likely going to be accidents," Scott said.

STAFFING

APD currently has seven dispatchers. The department has two on per shift when scheduling is available, Scott said. APD is working toward having two on shift at all times. There are two senior dispatchers (supervisors) and five dispatchers plus the dispatch records supervisor who oversees the entire dispatch department and works Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dispatchers shifts are 12 hours, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. or 6 p.m. to 6 a.m., three days a week, with a four-hour shift on Wednesdays.

If needed, Scott said, the dispatcher records manager will cover and work behind a console as well.

MEMORABLE CALLS

Scott recalls two especially memorable calls, with both happening early in her career and both transpiring in 2016: a homicide on Dunaway Lane in January and an officer-involved shooting in March. The man in the homicide, Mark Andrews, was tried and convicted for the murder of his wife, Doris.

She said taking a call on a homicide is emotional and stressful, and as a dispatcher she wants to be calm and helpful for the person on the other side of the line. Domestic calls can also be stressful, and a dispatcher tries his or her best to keep the adults calm and get the children, if they are home, away from the situation. If it's a child who has called, a dispatcher tries to talk to him or her as well as get help to the scene.

WHEN TO CALL 9-1-1

Scott said everyone's definition of an emergency is different, so everybody must make a judgment when deciding to call 9-1-1. Generally, 9-1-1 calls are for life or death or volatile situations, but in domestic matters when there is a dispute, the situation can turn on a dime and a person should call 9-1-1 if he or she thinks the situation calls for it, Scott said.

But a motorist discovering a car burglary is not a situation for a 9-1-1 call.

"Anything that isn't happening right now is not



Angelque Scott relaxes during a recent shift in Azle Police Department's dispatch center. Photo by Don Munsch

something you'd call 9-1-1 for," she said.

But if people arrive home and discover a home burglary, they may leave the dwelling and call 9-1-1, as an intruder might still be in the home. (People should call the police's non-emergency number for a matter that is not suitable for 9-1-1 emergencies.)

Mental health crises are becoming more common, and so people definitely may call 9-1-1 to seek help, Scott said. She said she has taken "more than a few" calls from people contemplating suicide and she has had to talk to them to a point in which an officer may drop by to meet with them.

Call volume on a 12-hour shift varies, but Scott usually handles 150-250 calls a day.

"Some days, it's busier than others," she said. Response time on calls is typi-

cally around 3 1/2 minutes, give or take. She also said 99.9% of calls are from cell phones. Also, people at any time, if they don't feel safe calling 9-1-1, may text 9-1-1 and will receive the same response as calling 9-1-1, Scott said.

APD typically has four officers on shift at any given time. Scott said it's important for dispatchers and officers to develop a rapport with one another, explaining it's a brother-sister bond.

Most challenging aspect of the job? The hours, Scott said. Dispatchers work each day and sometimes have to miss holidays with family. Dispatchers are allowed about an hour dinner break on a 12-hour shift.

The most satisfying aspect of the job is being able to help people and make a difference, Scott said.

Azle FFA Alumni & Supporters say...

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Kaytlynn Lemley	Patience Parsons	Peyton Williams
Madeline Lemley	Cassidy Ralph	Avery Bradberry
Christi Pitts	Caylin Halyard	Trystin Ellis
Madison York	Kiera Halyard	Cooper Yates

Thank You

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JO Ranch	Bouchard Beefmasters
Marsha Hardin Real Estate, LLC	JDs Realty
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VLK Architects	Hawk Plumbing Heating & Air Conditioning
Pinnacle Bank	Carolyn Shearman
Megan & Scott Arnold	Giles Orchard & Texas Corgis
T&K Corgis	Bonnie Grigsby
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Red's Burger House	Gehrig & Mayna Haggard
Ray & Ruth Ivey	Peyton Williams
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LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale to be held at Azle Southeast Storage, 1004 Southeast Parkway; Azle, TX at 10:30am 4-29-2022 Property to be sold to the highest bidder for CASH. Property includes contents of the following tenant: Natalie Stephens : household Items

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
A-Z STORAGE 817-237-7972
A-Z STORAGE wishing to avail themselves of the provisions of Texas Revised Civil Statutes Article 523b and Texas Property Code, Ch. 59, Self-Service Storage Facility Liens Article 44, hereby gives Notice of Sale under said act to wit: On Sat., May 14, 2022, at A-Z Storage, 5824 Azle Ave., Lake Worth, TX, between the hours of 10AM - 12NOON of that day, A-Z Storage will conduct a sale to the highest bidder for the contents of units:
125 rented by Addiel Estrada consisting of household, sports
131 rented by Jorge Perez & Denis Morales consisting of household,
At A-Z Storage, 5824 Azle Ave. at NW Loop 820, Lake Worth, TX. 817-237-7972 This sale is being held to satisfy a landlord's lien. The Public is invited to attend. Dated this 19th day of April, 2022. Void if lien satisfied in full before date of sale. Mailing address only: A-Z STORAGE, PO BOX 136369, FORT WORTH TX 76136.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF DAVID LYNN FARRIS, DECEASED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of DAVID LYNN FARRIS, Deceased, were issued on April 11, 2022, under Cause No. 2021- PROI 407-I, pending in the County Court of Tarrant County, Texas, to DEBRA LOUISE FARRIS, as Independent Administrator of the estate. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows:
DEBRA LOUISE FARRIS Estate of DAVID LYNN FARRIS, Deceased c/o Carrissa A. Cleavinger Field, Manning, Stone, Hawthorne & Aycock, P.C. 2112 Indiana Avenue Lubbock, Texas 79410 All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Dated: April 25, 2022
FIELD, MANNING, STONE, HAWTHORNE & AYCOCK, P.C.
By: Isl Carrissa A. Cleavinger Carrissa A. Cleavinger Attorney for Independent Administrator

It's All About Relationships

The last two years have been extremely difficult. The losses felt by some seem unbearable.

I talked to a person this past week who said she feels detached from the world. She described it this way, "I sit in ruins watching people walk by my wrecked life without even noticing." What intense sorrow she is feeling!

Many mourn people they have lost. Others struggle with feelings brought on by the sharp divisions in our culture.

As the pandemic seems to be easing, horrific news from Ukraine fills our screens. A war with tactics unimaginable in the 21st century is



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

taking place right now.

We all know people who have faced severe hardships. Perhaps you have. If so, I am truly sorry for the trials you have endured and the pain you have experienced. Our community does not want to walk by without noticing you. We want you to have the support that is available through our local churches, counseling centers and non-profits.

We have learned a lot over

the last two years, and many have matured tremendously. It seems that what we value most in life is much more recognizable.

In his recent column "How to Build a Life" for The Atlantic, Arthur C. Brooks discussed "10 Practical Ways to Improve Happiness" (April 21, 2022). In 2020, an international team of scholars identified 68 ways that people are most commonly told to increase their happiness.

They then asked 18 distinguished academic experts on the science of happiness to rate them in terms of effectiveness and feasibility.

The number one way to improve happiness, according to the experts, was to invest in family and friends.

When one feels the need for a "happiness infusion," a natural impulse may be to buy something or to seek comfort in things that provide fleeting fulfillment. It is interesting, though, that the highest rated happiness measure is achieved through something that requires significant effort – the building and maintaining of authentic, healthy relationships.

The last two years have

highlighted the importance of community and have left us with a challenge: Are we investing time and energy in our family relationships and in our friendships?

In 1954, acclaimed American poet Robert Frost was asked what he had learned about life. The octogenarian succinctly replied, "In three words, I can sum up everything I've learned about life. It goes on."

The passage of time provides hope, as we know certain difficulties will eventually be behind us. As a Christian, I also can think through the bigger picture and find both hope and peace as I look to the joys set before us.

John 13-17 in the Bible, known as the Upper Room Discourse, marked the end of Jesus' three-year ministry on the earth. It is, in a sense, a temporary farewell address to his followers. As Jesus shared about the future, he explained that the disciples' grief will be replaced by joy. In John 16:33 (niv), Jesus said, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

We all know that life is often difficult, but genuine happiness and hope can be found in close relationships with our family, friends and Jesus.

National Day of Prayer is May 5

This year's National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 5. The Azle Area Ministerial Alliance is hosting the event from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 404 Main Place.

The keynote address will be presented by Dr. Wesley Shotwell, pastor at Ash Creek Baptist Church.

National Day of Prayer was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of the U.S. Congress and was signed into law by President Harry S. Truman. In 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed an amendment that set the date of the event as the first Thursday in May.

All are invited to join community members and leaders to pray for the nation, the state, and the city and its citizens.

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- "Dallas" character John _____ Ewing
- TXism: "_____ late and a dollar short"
- TX Blue _____ ice cream
- Rice won 1966 _____ College Bowl
- lineage based nat'l. patriotic grp. (abbr.)
- cattle feed
- USAF was started in Texas with First _____ Squadron
- TX Gipson's sequel to "Old Yeller" (2 wds.)
- city on Galveston Bay
- TXism: "quit spittin' _____ handle" (get to work)
- TXism: "as _____ outhouse on a cold morning"
- Oklahoma city
- Plano hosts a _____ balloon festival
- TXism: "independent as _____ ice"
- Belle Starr's first TX husband (2 wds.)
- TX singer Kris (init.)
- TXism: "_____ like a sore thumb"
- TXism: "fast as _____ up a rafter"
- ornery insect from Mexico: killer _____
- Dallas' "_____ Marcus"
- TXism for add it up (2 wds.)
- this Heard was 1993 Mavericks coach
- TXism for "sail lines"
- TXism: "nip _____ the bud"
- this Levi invented blue jeans (init.)
- Washington bills
- TXism: "two-bit _____"
- TX Roy Orbison tune: "_____ Scared"
- type of saddle leather
- TXism: "shootin' _____"
- "not" prefix

DOWN

- poke with a stick
- TX Benson 1976 film: "_____ to Billy Joe"
- Canadian city
- his father was SMU All-American & N.Y. Giants star in 1950s (3 wds.)
- Martin of 1963 film "4 for Texas"
- San Antonio author of "The House on Mango Street"
- TX Willie's 1990 "Farm Aid _____" was in Indianapolis, Ind.
- "hasta _____ vista"
- TX Freddy Fender's "You'll Lose _____" (1976)
- this Pete wrote "North Dallas Forty" (how are you?)
- TXism: "popular as _____ daughter"
- "dog paddle," e.g. _____ in March we had _____
- _____ gas prices
- Christmas tree place in Beckville: _____ Tree Farm
- TXism: "never laid eyes _____"
- TX Ginger Rogers' dance partner (init.)
- money makers for Texas newspapers
- this Andrews worked with Aikman on Fox MacLaine of Texas filmed "Terms of Endearment" (init.)
- TXism: "he's only got one _____ in the water" (slow witted)
- ship's jail
- Love arriv. guess
- African antelopes
- TXism: "the real McCoy"
- TX Kenny Rogers' "_____ Need You"
- Flanger pitcher in 1993, Robb

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Annual Randy's Benefit Ride to benefit 7-year-old who survived dog attack

BY MADELYN EDWARDS
madelyn@azlenews.net

Conner Landers, the 7-year-old boy who was attacked by a dog earlier this year, likes dinosaurs, pirates and motorcycles.

He will get to see the last of those personal favorites next week.

The 13th annual Randy's Benefit Ride will take place May 7, and the proceeds will go to Conner and his family. Motorcycle riders in the event will meet at Springtown High School and travel to Rockin' S Bar & Grill in Granbury. David Vaughan, organizer of the event, said the ride would go through the countryside, using FM 4 through Lipan, on the way to Granbury.

Registration for the event starts at 11 a.m., and the riders will leave at noon. There will also be a raffle at 11:30 a.m. Participation in the ride costs \$20 per bike, and T-shirts will be sold for \$10 each. In case of rain, the ride will be May 14.

Vaughan said bikers are typically looking for an excuse to ride, and the benefit ride can give the bikers a sense of camaraderie.

"Bikers have big hearts. They enjoy riding around with groups, safe groups," he said.

The benefit ride, which started in 2009, was named after Randy Horton, a Springtown man who died

in 2007 of leukemia at age 38. Vaughan described his cousin Horton as "mentally challenged" with a condition similar to Down syndrome.

"He was a big baby, but he'd kind of walk around and just grin and talk silly stuff to people and the family that knew him," Vaughan said.

For the first nine benefit rides, the money raised would go to the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life fundraiser, Vaughan said, but in recent years, a local person was chosen to receive the benefits instead.

"This will be the fourth year that I've picked somebody local and that way everybody that's donating gets to see right where the money is going," he said.

Vaughan prefers to pick a kid who has cancer to benefit from the ride, but he found out about Conner's situation and contacted Conner's mother to offer to host the ride in his honor.

Conner, a student at Cross Timbers Elementary School in Azle, was walking home from the school bus stop on Jan. 21 near Knob Hill Road and Lyncock Lane when he was attacked by a dog. Conner survived with the help of a neighbor who was able to get the boy away from the dog and inside the fence.

Following the attack, Conner had to have major



Conner Landers, left, and his mom Cassandra Ware.

Photo courtesy

surgery, which included stitches on his face, head, neck and down both of his arms and his shoulders, according to a previous Epigraph article.

Conner's mother, Cassandra Ware, said Conner is feeling better, though he still has nightmares about the attack. Fortunately, Conner won't suffer from permanent nerve damage, though he still has some nerve pain and sensitivity

in his arms, Ware said.

Conner is expected to have dental surgery next month to remedy issues with broken teeth that occurred during the attack, Ware said. She also wants to get his eyes checked out by a specialist.

Ware praised Randy's Benefit Ride for the assistance it provides to families. She said the money raised will help her continue taking him to his

doctor's appointments in downtown Fort Worth.

"I think it's amazing what they do for local people every year. It helps out families. It really does," she said. "It's going to help us out because I'm still missing work from taking him to and from doctor's appointments."

Donated money could also be used for scar-reducing laser treatments that Conner might need. This procedure would not

be covered by insurance, Ware said.

"Adults in the public are staring at him, and it is making him feel very uncomfortable to where he either hides in his hoodie, hides in my hoodie or doesn't want to leave the house," Ware said. "So, anything to, I guess, reduce the appearance of the scars to keep people from staring at him will benefit him greatly."

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The Most Conservative Session in Texas History

The 2021 legislative session is hailed as the most conservative session in Texas history. Dr. Glenn Rogers co-authored and voted for numerous conservative priorities, including:

- ✓ Co-authoring a bill to ban gender modification or gender transitioning. Dr. Rogers is strongly opposed to gender modification. (HB 1399, 2021)
- ✓ Banning the teaching of Critical Race Theory in Texas classrooms. (HB 3979, 2021)
- ✓ Increasing border security funding by \$2.8 billion and is committed to finishing President Trump's border wall. (SB 1, HB 9, 2021)



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Just say 'thank you'

"You need to learn how to take a compliment."

That's what a friend told me almost 40 years ago and I'm still learning.

Even as someone who has spent my adult life in public and "up front," it's still a little unsettling for the compliments to be too effusive.

Now, don't get me wrong - I like to be complimented. And it feels pretty awesome for someone to tell me how special, talented, good-looking and humble I am. (I hope you caught the intended humor there.)

The problem is that I have lived in a context that promotes certain abilities and characteristics while reminding us how unworthy we are.

Those of us who do public things within a faith community context have been taught to say things like, "Well, it really wasn't me; it was Jesus" or "I really can't take any credit for that; God gave it to me."

Truth be told, we are not nearly as impressed with ourselves as other people seem to be sometimes and we really do believe that whatever abilities we have are gifts from God.

And we certainly don't want to be guilty of robbing Him of glory that only He deserves.

That all came back to me



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.

again this morning as I read Psalm 115.

Psalm 115:1 in the New International Version (the one I began with this morning) says, "Not to us, Lord, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness."

I decided to search a few other translations to see the various ways this verse is expressed.

New Living Translation: "Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name goes all the glory for your unfailing love and faithfulness."

The Message: "Not for our sake, God, no, not for our sake, but for your name's sake, show your glory. Do it on account of your merciful love, do it on account of your faithful ways."

The Voice: "Not for us, O Eternal One; this glory is not for us—but for Your name because of Your loyal love and truth."

King James Version: "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake."

So, what do you do when

someone pays you a compliment and you don't want to steal God's glory?

Here's a suggestion: Just say, "Thank you."

There is nothing wrong with graciously receiving a compliment.

I have concluded that it is not possible for me to "rob" God of His glory because His glory originates within Himself and not from me. I am unable to diminish Him in any way.

It is, however, possible for me to diminish myself and my purpose if I decide I need to go fishing for compliments and glory for myself.

It is not my job to "give" Him glory. It is my job to display how glorious He is by demonstrating His character in all my endeavors and sharing with joy, grace, gratitude and generosity the best of what He has placed within me.

As long as I remain amazed by God, I will continue to discover my amazing in Him.

Be amazing today, my friend.

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Dylan Moser and Mollie McInnis of Houston are excited to announce their engagement. McInnis is the granddaughter of Valerie McInnis Fox of Azle. The bride is a 2016 graduate of Baylor University and works as an elementary music teacher. Moser graduated from Texas A&M in 2016 and is an electrical engineer. The couple will be wed on September 24, 2022 at The Brookwood Community in Brookshire, Texas.



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You may pick up your photo at the Azle office after May 25, 2022



Azle News/Springtown Epigraph Special Section • Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Ace is the place for spring needs



Chase Robbins, area manager for Ace Hardware, looks over plants at the Azle Ace Hardware location. The store has a number of products and supplies to help people meet their home and garden needs this spring. PHOTO BY DON MUNSCH

BY DON MUNSCH
don@azlenews.net

Spring is one of the busiest, if not the busiest, times of the year for Ace Hardware in Azle.

The business offers an ar-

ray of home and gardening goods, from lawnmowers to grills to tools to flowers. If you're looking for help on your home projects, Ace strives to meet your need. The store is located at 505 N. Stewart St.

Ace Hardware sells brand names such as Ego, which makes a number of products, such as mowers, weed-eaters, blowers and generators, said Chase Robbins, area manager who works at the Azle store. Ace carries Big

Green Egg and Weber grills and accessories.

Among other national products, Ace also sells Traeger grills.

The store has sales occurring all of April. If Ace doesn't have something in

stock, it can order the product, Robbins said.

"As long as the warehouse has it – with the supply chain shortage and everything – we can get it in," he said.

People may buy items online and pick them up at the

store.

Sales people can help customers with a number of needs, such as finding the right pesticide or fertilizer.

"We try to greet them as

SEE ACE HARDWARE, PAGE 7B.

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Meriem Sorrells, Chris Reeves, Caty Reeves

Photo by Camie Bolin | XO Yours Truly Photography

Sorrells turns dreams into realities for custom home buyers



The company is very involved in the entire process of building homes and seeks to satisfy every customer.

BY DON MUNSCH
don@azlenews.net

Sorrells Custom Homes makes people's dreams of living in a beautiful home a reality.

The home builder, with its office at 344 NW Parkway in Azle, has 30 homes now un-

der construction. Previously a home office, this is the first office space Sorrells Custom Homes has had with aspirations to grow into a larger office space in the next year.

Sorrells Custom Homes began in 2004 by Rick Sorrells. The company's president is Meriem Sorrells,

Rick's daughter in law. Rick ran the business by himself for several years, Meriem said.

Meriem worked as a commercial and investment banker before she started at her family company in 2013. She learned the home-building business from the ground

up.

"I didn't know anything about construction, but I learned very fast – I asked a lot of questions, I was curious and I didn't mind getting my hands dirty" she said.

Sorrells Custom Homes has grown tremendously by word of mouth. Rick retired

a few years ago and Meriem took the reins afterward. After running the company by herself for several years, Meriem last year hired an executive assistant, project manager and partnered up with Trinity Homes - Real Estate Company to help streamline the sales process

of this rapidly growing company.

The 30 homes on the ground now are in area counties: Tarrant, Parker and Wise. Most homes are built in the county, outside city limits.

SEE SORRELLS, PAGE 6B.

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BY DON MUNSCH
don@azlenews.net

Azle residents seeking a loan can stay in town to find a lender.

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and renovations. The bank also offers equipment financing and revolving lines of credit.

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The bank also offers other types of loans, such as residential and automobile.

"Our ownership empow-

ers us to make decisions at the local level. This allows us to accommodate our customers in a timely manner," said Jason Gibson, regional president of Pinnacle Bank.

Pinnacle traces its roots to Nebraska, where the company started in Palmer in 1938. The bank, over the next 80-plus years, grew under the leadership of the Dinsdale family to serve communities across eight states. The

company opened branches in Texas in 2002.

In 2008, Pinnacle Bank acquired First Bank and added six new locations throughout Johnson, Tarrant and Parker counties, for a total of 12 branches in Texas.

In 2020, Pinnacle Bank opened new branches in Granbury and Rio Vista. The bank network now spans eight states with 161 branches, including 22 in Texas.

"We continue to look for opportunities to grow, including opening and remodeling locations throughout our service area," according to the bank's history on the company website.

"Today our bank network is still proudly owned and managed by the Dinsdale family. As we grow, one community at a time, we recognize that each has a unique culture and set of needs for

us to adapt to. That's why our decisions are made locally. Banking decisions, as well as how we support our communities beyond our branch walls, are decided by people who are a part of and have a vested interest in the community."

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HOW TO:

Corral a crabgrass infestation

A well-manicured lawn adds undeniable curb appeal to a property. Homeowners who take pride in their lawns should know that they can take that pride all the way to the bank, as investing in a pristine lawn can provide a significant return at resale.

A 2019 report from the real estate experts at HomeLight found that a \$268 investment in lawn care service can add \$1,211 at resale. That's a 352 percent return on investment.

Homeowners can capitalize on a pristine lawn even further by tending to their own lawns. Crabgrass is one lawn problem that can compromise the look of an otherwise lush lawn. Thankfully, crabgrass can be controlled without much effort.

Identifying crabgrass

Crabgrass is a weed that grows in areas of a lawn that are bare or where the grass is thin. Crabgrass gets its name from its appearance, as it grows from the center outward and mimics the look of crab legs emerging from the center shell.

The growth of crabgrass

The University of Minnesota Extension notes that crabgrass is an annual plant. That means a crabgrass infestation that's problematic once the mercury rises in the summer will die out in late fall or early winter. But crabgrass germinates in the spring, so homeowners will

want to take steps to prevent it long before it becomes an eyesore in summer.

How to corral crabgrass

The UME notes that application of a pre-emergent herbicide before crabgrass seeds can germinate is an effective way to eliminate it. The timing of that application can be tricky, as jumping the gun and applying the herbicide too early can prove fruitless. The same goes for applying herbicides too late. Crabgrass will likely still grow if the herbicide is applied too early or too late. UME recommends applying a pre-emergent herbicide when soil temperatures approach 55 F.



Crabgrass
Digitaria sanguinalis

Home Depot notes that a chemical treatment may be applied after crabgrass has already grown in, but this option requires careful application to avoid killing surrounding healthy grass.

Crabgrass can be pulled out by hand, but such an approach can be physically daunting. That's especially

so because crabgrass thrives when the weather is hot and dry. So homeowners who intend to pull crabgrass by hand can decrease their risk of dehydration or heat-related illness by drinking plenty of water and pulling the grass during early morning or evening hours when the sun is lower and temperatures are

more mild. Crabgrass can compromise the look of an otherwise healthy lawn. But various strategies can eliminate crabgrass and restore a lawn without much effort on the part of homeowners.

Pick the right trees for your property



Trees benefit a landscape by serving both aesthetic and utilitarian functions. A home surrounded by healthy green trees can be a sight to behold, and those same trees can benefit surrounding plants and wildlife at the same time.

As appealing as trees are, not all trees and landscapes make for the perfect match. The Arbor Day Foundation notes the importance of planning when designing a landscape. Planning ensures the trees homeowners

ultimately choose for their properties will grow well in the soil and moisture present in their yards.

Careful consideration of a handful of variables can help homeowners determine which trees will make the best fit for their properties.

- Height: Homeowners must consider the projected height of a tree before planting it. Avoid trees that will bump into anything when fully grown, as that can adversely affect surrounding greenery and pose a safety hazard. The ADF's tree sizing guide can be accessed at <https://www.arborday.org/>

trees/rightTreeAndPlace/size.cfm and serves as an invaluable resource for homeowners who want to plant new trees around their properties.

- Canopy spread: Trees grow out as well as up, so it's important to consider their potential width at maturity as well. The ADF sizing guide can help homeowners get an idea of how wide a tree is likely to be at maturity. Trees that spread out quite a bit don't necessarily need to be avoided, but it's important that they're planted far enough apart so they don't adversely affect surround-

ing plants. In addition, wide trees that are planted too close together can make the landscape appear crowded, taking something away from its aesthetic appeal.

- Growth rate: Growth rate is an important variable because it can affect how quickly homeowners will see changes in their landscapes. Homeowners who want to plant for privacy can consider trees with quick growth rates or purchase more mature trees that are already near full growth. Those who are not in need of instant transformation can try trees with slower growth rates,

which the ADF notes typically live longer than fast-growing species.

- Requirements: Different trees require different amounts of sun and moisture and different soil components to thrive. Homeowners can have their soil tested to determine which trees will thrive in it. Local garden centers can be a great resource for homeowners who want insight as to which trees will thrive in their local climates.

Choosing the right trees for a landscape requires careful consideration of a host of variables.

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If tomato-loving shoppers were tasked with sorting through each variety of tomato whenever they visited their local grocery store or farmers markets, then such trips could take a considerable amount of time. That's because there are thousands of varieties of tomato. The home gardening enthusiasts at Home Garden Vegeta-

bles (homegardenveg.com) note that there are at least 10,000 unique tomato varieties across the globe. Flavor could have a lot to do with that, as tomatoes are popular ingredients in dishes spanning the globe. Individuals who want their tomatoes to pack the most healthy punch possible may want to cook them in olive oil. Cooking

tomatoes breaks down cell walls and releases the antioxidant lycopene, which has been linked to reduced risk for stroke, lower cholesterol and eye health. Consumer Reports also notes that lycopene is fat-soluble, which means it's more effectively absorbed when eaten with some fat.

Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District



Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District has made it its mission to ensure that residents that rely on the Upper Trinity Aquifer have clean water for many generations to come, protecting the rights of landowners, as well as the environment and ecosystem. To learn more about how UTGCD serves you, or for information about what you can do to be a responsible landowner, visit uppertrinitygcd.com/ or call 817-523-5200. Their office is located at 1859 W. Highway 199 in Springtown.



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SORRELLS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2B.

Getting started

Potential buyers can pick from multiple floorplans that Sorrells has built previously, plans can be modified, or Sorrells can contact architects for plans, or create new ones from the ground up.

“Most of the time – I would say 99.9% – we have plans that we show clients, and we end up building the plan, or we modify,” Meriem said.

Buyers can ask to modify floor plans, such as making a bedroom larger or changing the size of the back porch or kitchen. The suggestions are modified and given to the architects. When a plan is finalized, the buyer signs off on the plan, and then the building process begins.

Sorrells builds its homes on at least 1-acre lots and follows a multi-step building process. Soil tests must be performed so that engineers know how to design the beams, piers and foundation of the home. Before the slab is poured, the engineers will perform an inspection on site on the piers, beams and other essential elements to ensure quality foundations.

People can choose between one- and two-story homes and other additional structures like pools or shops. At Sorrells, people can select spec homes that are already being constructed to meet their needs or start with a “blank canvas” and build a custom home from the ground up.

“Before, 80% of my construction was custom and 20% is spec homes,” Meriem said. “Now with the way the market is, today’s world,

we’re putting more specs on the ground but we’re selling them before we’re even finished or before we even start. So, no matter, they end up being customs.”

Hot market

Meriem said the housing market has been explosive and this has been the busiest year in the history of Sorrells Custom Homes.

“Because we were doing 10, 11 homes a year, and now I’m probably going to close 30 homes this year,” Meriem said.

Potential buyers can get a tour of a Sorrells home or can visit the gallery of completed homes on the company website at www.sorrellscustomhomes.com. A new custom home can take around 10 months to build, with soil testing and foundation design taking the longest time to accomplish.

Homes generally begin at 2,200 to 2,700 square feet, on average, but Sorrells has completed custom homes of 4,000+ square feet.

What makes Sorrells special, Meriem said, is that the company has had the same skilled subcontractors for many years – a point of pride for her. By having the same skilled trades subcontractors over a number of years, loyalty and relationships are built and sustained.

People discover Sorrells Custom Homes through word of mouth or by driving by their many high-quality homes under construction and calling or visiting their website. The company is very involved in the entire process of building homes and seeks to satisfy every

customer.

“We are family-oriented and provide friendly and prompt established two-way

communication with our clients.” Meriem said.

Meriem said she is proud to be a part of the Azle

community and said her two daughters attend Azle schools.

People interested in a cus-

tom home may call the company at 817-941-6454. The company’s website is www.sorrellscustomhomes.com.



Potential buyers can pick from multiple floorplans, modify an existing one, or create a new one. Rooms can be resized and new ones added, depending on the buyers’ needs.



An aerial view of some of Sorrells’ custom homes.

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ACE HARDWARE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B.

soon as they walk in the door,” Robbins said about customers. Staffers are trained to be knowledgeable about products.

The items ranking highest in sales this time of year – insofar as home and garden

– are fertilizers, mulch and soils, Robbins said. Year-round, concrete is the highest-selling item.

Ace delivers its products to Azle within a 5-mile range, Robbins said. Free delivery is provided for anything over

\$200.

The Robbins family has owned the Azle location for six years. Windol Robbins, Chase’s father, bought the location. The Ace location in Bowie burned down a year ago, but it has been rebuilt

and was to have its grand opening April 23.

The store is open 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Curbside pickup is available. The store can be reached at 817-270-5600.



Chase Robbins, area manager for Ace Hardware, looks over grills at the Azle Ace Hardware location. The store has a number of products and supplies to help people meet their home and garden needs this spring.

PHOTO BY DON MUNSCH



Ace has annuals and perennials for your spring planting needs.

PHOTO BY DON MUNSCH



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Mike's Westside Rental

BY JESSICA MCKINNEY
azlereporter@azlenews.net

Spring is finally here, and that means it's time for the Weekend Warriors to get outside and get those proj-

ects done.

Mike's Westside Rental has the equipment you need to help with all of your projects, big and small.

Whether you're looking to create a backyard oasis

or just ready to start a spring garden, Mike's has the equipment you need to get it done. From tillers to stump grinders, sod cutters and aerators, rent the tools that make the job easier.

Want to take a zero-turn mower for a spin? Mike's Westside Rental has those too.

If you've got a long list of indoor projects coming up, Mike's can set you up with

all that you need to get the job done — like tile saws and floor scrapers, flooring nailers and paint guns. Whatever the project, Mike's can help you get that honey-do list done.

Once you get your projects complete and you're ready to celebrate, Mike's has all the things you need to throw a party for your friends, family and neighbors too. They carry everything from lighting and dance floors to tables, chairs and linens, and even a setup for an outdoor cinema.

Mike's Westside Rental is also a full line dealer for SCAG mowers, Echo Power Equipment and Toro mowers.

"We sell and service all three brands along with having parts and warranty capabilities," said Bert Thompson, president of MWR.

"Homeowners can purchase a new push mower, chainsaw, or zero-turn mower at our location."

Mike's Westside Rental has locations in Azle, Weatherford, Stephenville and Graham and they deliver to many of the surrounding communities.

The Azle location is at 1363 Northwest Parkway next to The Orchard Event Venue. They are open Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 7:30 a.m. to noon.

For a look at all that Mike's Westside Rental has to offer, you can visit them online at www.MikesRental.com. For questions and quotes, call 817-444-2311.



Graham John (left), store director, Greg Hulce and Jeff Sparks can be found working at the Azle and Weatherford locations, ready to help you get the tools needed to complete your projects this spring.

PHOTO BY JESSICA MCKINNEY



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Poisonous plants to avoid around the house

Homeowners must consider various factors when choosing plants to display in and around their homes. That's because, despite their beauty, various plants are toxic to humans and animals.

Avoiding potentially poisonous plants can prevent injuries and even deaths. Here's a list of some plants homeowners may want to avoid.

- **Rhododendron:** Rhododendrons produce flower clusters that bloom in the spring. They also produce thick, glossy leaves that thrive in the fall and winter in many areas. If any part of the plant is swallowed it can cause vomiting and potentially slow the pulse.

- **Lily-of-the-valley:** This popular plant grows close to the ground, blooming bell-shaped, sweet-smelling flowers. If large doses of the toxin in this plant are ingested, it can gradually slow the heart down and potentially prove fatal.

- **Dumb cane:** The houseplant dieffenbachia, commonly known as Dumb cane, adds tropical appeal indoors. The sap of the plant causes

the tongue to burn and swell, enough to block off air to the throat. It can be fatal if ingested by both pets and humans.

- **English ivy:** This go-to draping vine looks lovely cascading down from planters or shelving. While its toxins need to be ingested in large amounts to cause problems, English ivy can cause skin irritation, rash and fever, particularly after eating the berries.

- **Bittersweet nightshade:** Bittersweet nightshade grows as a weed on some properties. It's particularly problematic for those who have pets or young kids because of the brightly colored berries it produces. The highest level of toxicity comes from these berries.

- **Foxglove:** According to The Spruce: Decor, foxgloves are among the most toxic specimens commonly grown on landscapes. They are widely coveted for their pink, purple and white bell-shaped flowers that grow in tall spires. They're also deer- and rabbit-resistant, making them especially popular. However, foxgloves contain

potent cardiac glycosides that can be lethal in high doses.

- **Philodendron:** Philodendrons are easy to care for and hearty. While not fatal, a bite of philodendron can irritate the skin and cause nausea and swelling of the mouth, throat and tongue. Similar effects occur with Pothos, another common and hearty houseplant.

- **Yew shrubs:** The needle-like leaves of this shrub are toxic to humans and animals, as are the fleshy, bright red berries that grow toxic seeds. Kids may be tempted to pick and consume these bright berries.

- **Palms:** Several different palm trees are poisonous to people and pets. Palms are an overlooked source of poisoning tragedies in warmer climates. Formosa palm, Sago palm, Queen Sago, and Cardboard palm are some of the varieties that can cause issues if ingested or allergic skin reactions if touched.

When planning a landscape, work with a skilled garden expert to choose plants that will not be hazardous to family and pets.



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Telling signs three common insects are infesting a lawn

Well-maintained laws are a byproduct of hard work. That hard work is a point of pride for homeowners who spend countless hours throughout spring, summer and fall tending to their lawns.

All that hard work can be compromised when uninvited guests, namely insects, show up in a lawn. Insect infestations can turn a normally pristine and lush green lawn into a brown and sickly eyesore. Identifying which type of insect is damaging a lawn is the first step toward returning that lawn to its green glory. These are three common lawn insects and signs that they're infesting a lawn.

1. Grubs

Grubs like to feast on the roots of grass right below the surface. Michigan State University Extension Turf & Landscape reports that grub damage can appear from March to early May or from mid-September to early November. The lawn and garden experts at GardenTech note that wilted grass blades are often the first indicator of a grub infestation, which is followed by patches of brown turf and eventually death. Crows, skunks and moles eat grubs, so the sight of them in a lawn could indicate an infestation.



2. Chinch bugs

The experts at BobVila.com report that chinch bugs are not necessarily problematic when their populations are limited to around 10 to 15 bugs per square foot of lawn. In such instances, chinch bug populations are generally controlled by ants and ladybugs. However, extreme heat and drought, problems that have plagued various regions in North America in recent years, reduce the populations of bugs that feed on chinch bugs, thus increasing the population of these unwanted guests that feed on grass. GardenTech indicates that damage from chinch bugs is most visible between June and September. That damage begins with grass taking on a purple tinge before it turns yellow and then brown after wilting.

3. Cutworms

The lawn care experts at Scotts note that cutworms are moth larvae that hide in the thatch layer of a lawn during the day before emerging at night to feed on grass blades. Patches of brown grass between one and two inches in width is a sign of cutworm infestation. Homeowners who notice a growing number of birds pecking away in their lawns may have a cutworm infestation, which can be confirmed by peeling up a section of damaged grass and looking for cutworms, which are brown, gray or black and tend to be around two inches long.

Local turf specialists can recommend strategies to curtail such populations and help homeowners restore their lawns to full health.



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Community service projects for kids

The importance of giving back to one's community is a value that parents can instill in their children at an early age. Learning about worthy causes in local communities can help develop empathy in children and give them insight into those who live outside of their social and economic spheres. In addition, encouraging children to take part in community service can teach them skills they would not necessarily learn in the classroom.

Getting involved in community service as a child may lead to a lifelong commitment to giving back. The following are some ways children can get involved in community service projects.

Spend time with seniors

Children can visit seniors

in nursing homes or assisted living facilities, provided that the visits are cleared with the home's staff. Kids can work alongside seniors on craft projects or participate in games like bingo.

Collect food for the needy

Volunteering with a local soup kitchen can teach children about the plight of the less fortunate. Kids also can collect canned or boxed food and deliver it to food pantries so that no needy family has to go hungry.

Improve school grounds

Working with the principal of a local school, children can make plans to improve the grounds. Ideas include repairing play equipment, planting trees, adding a veg-

etable or flower garden, or installing buddy benches where friends can find each other and hang out.

Donate eyeglasses

Kids can gather used eyeglasses and donate to an organization that recycles them for the needy.

Send care packages

Kids can reward first responders and military personnel who live in their communities by putting together care packages for them and their families.

Pick up litter

Children can gather like-minded friends and participate in a beach or park cleanup.

Service projects are great ways for kids to get involved and give back to their communities.



There are many opportunities to volunteer in the Tarrant/Parker county area, including the TRWD Trash Bash. PHOTO COURTESY TRWD

6 ways to make your garden more successful

Homeowners enjoy gardening for many different reasons. In addition to adding beauty to a property, gardens can offset grocery costs by yielding tasty produce. They also offer important habitats and food sources for both insects and animals.

The following guidance can make home gardens that much more successful.

1. Start small

It is smart to start small and build on what you find successful, which includes plants that thrive in your lawn and garden.

This also is beneficial if you are unsure of vegetable yields. Several blooming plants producing bushels of crops can be overwhelming, especially if you can't get to harvesting or cooking them in a timely fashion.

2. Assess the soil

Plants need nutrient-rich soil to encourage extensive root systems and produce strong, hardy plants, according to the gardening resource GrowVeg. Nourish soil with organic matter, such as manure, compost, shredded leaves and natural mulch. Add this organic matter in the off-season to give it enough time to be incorporated into the ground before spring. You can have your soil tested for pH and other

characteristics that make it friendly or averse to plants at a local garden center.

3. Arm yourself with knowledge

Read the packaging and do your research so your plants have the best chance of not only sprouting, but also surviving. Many people prefer to start seedlings indoors in late winter and then transfer those plants outdoors when they are stronger and more established.

4. Sit in your yard and observe

Watch the way the sunlight dances over areas of your landscape. Take note of which areas get the most sun and shade. This will help you plan what to plant and where to plant it. Vegetable gardens tend to need ample sunlight to bear pick-worthy produce. You can give plants a leg up by growing them in optimal conditions.

5. Choose hardy varieties

Certain plants have been bred to thrive in your climate, including heat-tolerant plants for climates with sweltering summer sun. Consult with a local gardening center to figure out which plant zone you are in and which plants will do best within that zone.



Rainwater barrels help conserve water, which can be used to water your garden and flowerbeds. Learn more about rainwater harvesting, gardening tips and more at savetarrantwater.com/events/ PHOTO COURTESY TRWD

6. Use rainwater

Rainwater contains fewer contaminants and additives than tap water, which can

benefit garden plants. Collect rainwater in rain barrels and use irrigation systems to deliver it to the garden.




Ornamental trees like the Bradford pear have small, inedible fruit, which is eaten by birds and propagates through bird droppings.

Invasive species

Homeowners should give due consideration to whether or not plants are considered invasive species before introducing new plants on their properties. According to the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration, invasive species of plants can lead to the extinction of native plants and animals. Invasive plant species also can reduce biodiversity and cause significant

fundamental disruptions to local ecosystems. Though non-native plants are often cherished for their unique looks, homeowners planting new gardens or supplementing existing gardens with new plants are urged to plant only native species. Such an approach benefits plants and also local wildlife that depends on native plant species for food and cover.

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The basics of container gardening

Gardening can be less labor-intensive and even more successful when people consider the many benefits of container gardening.



What is container gardening?

As its name implies, container gardening is growing plants inside of containers. These containers can be flower pots, rectangular deck boxes or even large raised garden beds.

Pros to container gardening

One of the advantages of container gardening is that plants can be moved in and out of sunlight to ensure the right growing conditions. This isn't as easily achieved when gardens are stationary. Also, beginner gardeners may be more able to control soil conditions inside of a small container rather than a vast ground-based garden, which will require a good deal of manual labor. Pots and boxes also can be grouped together to create eye-popping displays, usually at lower costs than the sheer volume of plants that would be needed to fill out an expansive landscape.

Cons to container gardening

Container garden plants will not have direct access to the ground, so they need gardeners to create the ideal growing conditions. Developing the right care formula can be challenging. The home and garden resource The Spruce says that drainage is an important factor in container gardening, and most containers do not offer enough drainage holes. If water cannot escape the soil, the roots of the plants can rot and die. It's not enough to add stones or gravel to the bottom of containers. Drill additional holes in the bottom (1/2-inch in diameter for small or medium-sized pots; one inch in diameter for larger pots). Also, be sure

to check on soil moisture so that watering can be adjusted. During hot stretches, plants may need to be watered more frequently.

Plan for plants that play well

Grouping plants together can create visually stunning combinations. However, it is important to choose plants that require the same amount of light and moisture. Look at plant tags when visiting the garden center and select complementary plants, or ask a store employee. Mixing different plant shapes, colors and leaf textures, as well as plants of various heights, can help containers look filled out.

Feed plants accordingly

Plants need nutrition to thrive in containers. Quality potting mixes will contain fertilizers, but nutrition will wane over time. Every couple of weeks, container plants will need either fresh potting mix or granular fertilizer added to feed them. Oregon State University Extension Services suggests using a slow-release fertilizer or worm castings several times throughout the season.



Starla Karlis

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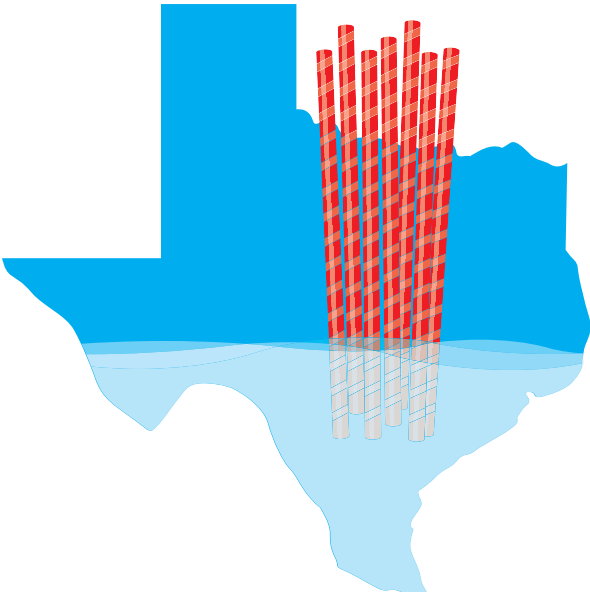
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SPORTS

Azle softball to face Northwest in opening playoff round



Avery Jones slides safely into third base to help Azle win its final regular-season game.

Photo by Jeff Prince

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

The final game of the regular season against Granbury was a crucial one for Azle's softball team.

If they beat Granbury on April 19, the Lady Hornets would enter the playoffs as the third seed and play the

second-place team in the opposing district. If the Hornets lost to Granbury, Azle would finish as the fourth seed and face the district champion.

Azle and Granbury were tied 1-1 after two innings, but the Lady Hornet bats erupted in the third inning with two outs. A runner

scored from first base after a long hit to the outfield, and coach Macy Pruitt liked her team's hustle.

"All right!" she hollered while clapping. "Way to be aggressive on those bases."

During the next inning, Granbury tried to be aggressive, but the ploy backfired. A Granbury runner attempt-

ed to score from first base on a ball hit to the left field wall, but she hadn't counted on the strong arm of Azle centerfielder Raegan Williams.

Williams scooped up the ball after it careened off the wall, turned, aimed in an instant and let loose with a cannon throw into a strong

wind. The ball flew past the cutoff person and landed perfectly in the mitt of catcher Torrie Johnson, who tagged out the runner and prevented a score.

Azle would go on to win the game 5-4, end its regular season at 11-9-1 and earn the No. 3 playoff seed out of District 7-4A.

"This was a big day," Pruitt said after the game. "This clinched us a third spot in the playoffs. That put us in a good spot going into playoffs. The girls knew how much this game was worth today, and they went out there and they played really

SEE **SOFTBALL**, PAGE 3C.

Azle performs doubly well at rodeo, retakes second place



Kasen Scarlato earned ninth place in chute dogging, above, and fourth place in team roping.

Photo by Jo H Photography

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

Last weekend's rodeo earned double points, and

Azle's athletes took advantage of the deal, grabbing the second place position.

Airian Moore won first place in bareback at the

North Texas High School Rodeo Association Arena in Saginaw, earning 140 points

SEE **RODEO**, PAGE 4C.



From left, Savana Panter, Jessie Heath, Maddy Westbrook and Ashlyn Norton qualified for regionals in the girls 4x100-meter event.

Courtesy photo

Azle girls earn right to compete at regional track meet in Lubbock

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

Jessie Heath won the 400-meter run at the area track meet, making her the only Azle athlete to win first place in an event.

Her time of 58.93 seconds qualified her to compete at regionals. Accompanying her will be Rebecca Marx, who finished in third place in the same event with a personal-record time of 1:00.31.

"Jessie Heath should make it to the (regional) finals and has a great chance to move on to Austin with a great run in the 400 finals," said girls track coach Keith Boenisch. "Rebecca Marx also has a chance to make it to the finals in the 400, as well. She is just a sophomore, so every race she gets just gives her more experience."

The area meet was held April 21 in Justin, with the top four finishers in each

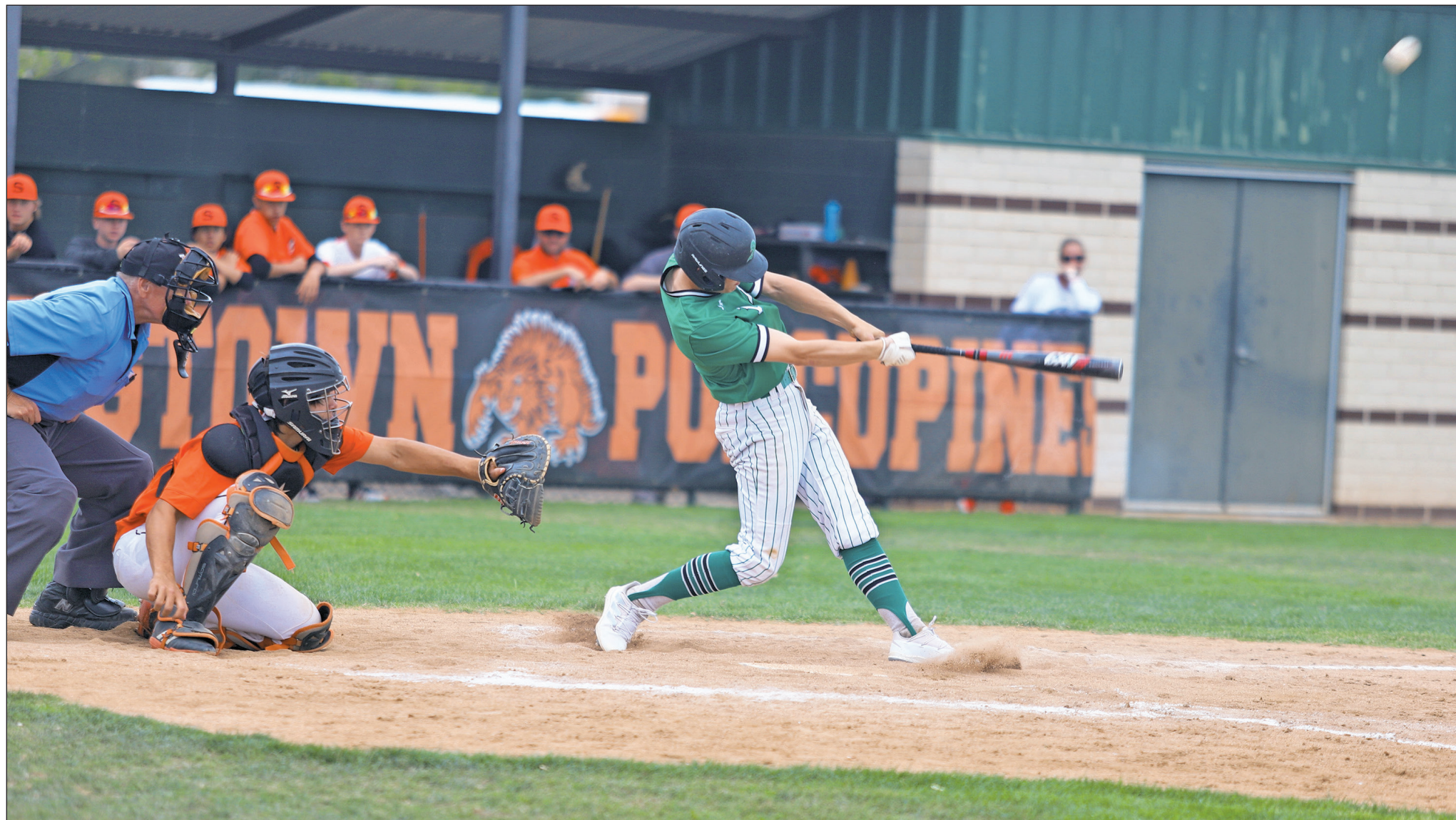
event earning the right to compete at the regional meet, April 29-30 at Lubbock.

In the girls 4x400-meter relay, Azle took third place with a time of 4:09.91. Running for the Lady Hornets were Jessie Heath, Rebecca Marx, Leah North and Amanda Rodriguez.

"The 4x400 has been one of the top-ranked groups in the region all season long,"

SEE **TRACK**, PAGE 4C.

Azle baseball eyeing final game of regular season before playoffs



Azle batter Ryan Stults got a piece of the ball against Springtown.

Photos by Jeff Prince

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

One game remains before Azle High School's baseball team begins its playoff run.

Azle closes its regular season on Friday with a home game against Granbury after splitting a series with Brewer the week before.

On April 20, Azle bested Brewer 2-1 on the strength of Declan Dahl's strong pitching. He allowed just one run and struck out eight batters in seven innings.

Jackson Davis, Tyler Akers, Cole Webb and Cooper Magee delivered clutch hits to seal the victory.

Two days later, Azle fell to Brewer 8-2.

Brenden Kamnick pitched a solid 6 2/3 innings, giving up one run while striking out eight batters.

Akers, Kamnick, Webb, Brandon Sheets, Billy Spratt and Gavin Green logged hits, and Davis and Webb delivered one RBI apiece.

On April 23, Azle and Springtown played a non-district game at Pojo Field, with the Hornets dominating 11-1. Webb picked up the win on the mound, and Cooper Sexton and Isaac Riley threw a scoreless inning each.

Akers enjoyed a big game, notching a hit, stealing two bases and scoring two runs. Kamnick drove in three runs and Davis had two. Spratt, Cayden Fowler and Ivan Perez drove in one run apiece.

After the game against Springtown ended, the Hornets and Porcupines shook hands on the field. Westin Wyatt, senior third baseman for Azle, described the series as a "friendly rivalry" with familiar faces.

"We are side-by-side towns, so there is a little bit of competitiveness," he said. "A lot of people know each other and grew up with each other."

The Hornets began the season by winning a dozen games in a row before losing to Aledo. Now, those two teams are battling to win first place and top seeding in District 5-5A.

"We started off really hot," Wyatt said. "We have gone through our struggles recently, but we are turning it around when it matters and getting ready for the playoffs."

Azle (16-4) plays at 7 p.m. Friday at home against Granbury (11-4) in the final regular season game.



From left, Westin Wyatt of Azle and Cristian Hernandez of Springtown shook hands after the nondistrict game between the Hornets and Porcupines ended on Saturday.

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SOFTBALL, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1C.

good defense and scored some runs and were aggressive on the bases and just had a really good win today.”

WILLIAMS' CANNON

Williams, like most Lady Hornets this season, is young and eager to prove her worth on a varsity softball diamond.

Williams said she was able to create that big hit and throw out the runner at home because she has trained for years, listened to her coaches and trusts her teammates. In a situation like that, she knew to throw the ball toward the catcher in a straight enough line that the cutoff person could catch the ball and try to make a play at one of the other bases or let the ball continue all the way to the catcher.

“You’ve got to trust your teammates,” Williams said. “I saw (the runner) was going home.”

Williams threw the ball “through the cutoff,” meaning the ball was low enough to be caught by shortstop Kaylee Parrish but high enough to make it to home plate if needed. Parrish let the ball go. Johnson made the play.

“I couldn’t do that without my team backing me up,” Williams said.

Williams ended the game with a hit and a walk and caught numerous fly balls for outs in center field. After the contest, several young girls approached Williams and asked for her autograph.

The softball season has been a blast and a learning experience, she said.

“We have developed certain skills that we were lacking,” Williams said. “We’ve all encouraged each other. We’ve practiced with each other. We look like a different ball team now.”

Pruit credited her team’s three seniors — Tara Gonzales, Skylar Holland and Kalle Vasquez — for their guidance.

“All three of them are huge contributors to our team,” the coach said. “They are all great kids. They do well in the classroom. They do well off the field. Those three are really big leaders.”

The seniors took charge early in the season after Azle lost its first game, 9-1.

“This year started off a little rocky,” Pruit said. “We had a lot of young girls on this team, and those three seniors really stepped up and showed those young girls as sophomores what it takes to play on this varsity level.”

She feels good about her team’s playoff chances.

“This is an aggressive team,” Pruit said. “We’re hitting the ball well. We are really starting to peak, and we’re peaking at the right time. The girls are confident in each other. They love being around here. They have a lot of faith in each other and that goes a long way.”

SCARY SENIORITIS

After the Granbury game ended, the Lady Hornets gathered on the field with bouquets of flowers for the seniors, who stood with their parents. Tears flowed. The diamond days are coming to a close sooner than later for those seniors.

“I’m very sad that it has all come to an end now,” Gonzales said. “I’m going to miss it a lot. There are a lot of memories left on that field. But at the same time, I’m happy to be growing up, moving on with life and seeing where everything else will take me.”

She plans to attend Weatherford College and Baylor University and become an anesthesiologist. First, though, she has more soft-



Kalle Vasquez makes a play at second base as her senior softball season winds down.

Photos by Jeff Prince

ball to play.

“I’m very excited to go into the playoffs,” she said. “I’m very happy that I still get to have another game and make more memories with this team. Hopefully we make it past the first round and just keep going and going and make more and more memories.”

She grew up in Azle and will continue to live here while attending Weatherford College, but she knows she will leave eventually. She anticipates years of medical school before starting her career.

“You’re excited to get to move on and have your own life and do all that you want to do,” she said. “At the same time, you’re leaving the comfort of home. I’ve grown up with everyone at this high school. You’re just leaving all that behind, finding new people, and you are kind of on your own. It’s a little scary. I’m definitely very nervous. At the same time, it’s also exciting.”

PLAYOFF INFO

Northwest finished as the second playoff seed out of



From left, senior Alyssa Holland hugs teammate Sierra Ramirez on Senior Night.

District 6-5A, and the Lady Texans will be tough to beat. Northwest tied for first place with Colleyville Heritage, as both teams were 7-1 in district. Colleyville beat North-

west 8-2 in their district clash on April 13 to win the tiebreaker.

Last season, Azle and Northwest met in the first round of the playoffs, with

the Texans victorious in a best-of-three series.

Azle (11-11-1) plays at 6:30 p.m. April 27 at Chisholm Trail High School. (12-4). The second game is

set for 6:30 p.m. April 28 at Chisholm Trail High School. The third game, if needed, will be played at 6:30 p.m. Friday at Chisholm Trail High School.

TRACK, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1C.

Boenisch said. "They could be second on their best day. They could also be eighth or not even make finals on a bad day - it is just that close between about six to eight teams."

In the girls 4x100-meter event, Azle's relay team of Heath, Panter, Ashlyn Norton and Maddy Westbrook finished in fourth place with a time of 50.04.

In the girls 200-meter race, Westbrook missed the cut for regionals but ran a 26.26 to set a PR and nab fifth place.

"They have all worked incredibly hard, so we are excited for the opportunity to race and see what happens," the coach said. "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."

For the boys, Jakson LaHue set a personal record in the 12-pound shot put event, tossing the ball 46 feet, 9.75 inches to finish in sixth place.

Barak Geary ran a 4:47.03 in the boys 1,600-meter run for seventh place. Geary also won seventh place in the 3,200-meter race with a PR time of 10:16.68.



Jakson LaHue set a personal record by heaving the shot put almost 47 feet, but missed out on regionals.

Courtesy photos

RODEO, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1C.

for his team. In team roping, Jesus Leyva and Kasen Scarlato took fourth place for a combined 196 points. Leyva tied for rookie cowboy, which earned his team another 98 points.

River Cassel won second place in chute dogging to pick up 126 points.

Sean Bunero snagged fifth place in calf roping for 84 points.

In goat tying, Laurel Allred won fifth place and 56 points.

Hevenli Scribner earned sixth place and 70 points in barrels.

Azle had been holding down second place in team points for most of the season, but fell to third place a couple of weeks ago. Azle's big day with double points moved the team back into second place with 7,626 points. Elite Christian is right behind them in third place with 7,490. Azle is about 500 points behind first-place Decatur.

The final rodeo of the regular season is April 29-30 at North Texas High School Rodeo Association Arena in Saginaw. The finals will be held May 13-15 at the same arena.

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DIA DEL NIÑO

A Day for Children in Mexico!
 In Mexico, Children's Day (Día Del Niño) is celebrated on April 30th. On this day, there are no classes in schools. Instead, schools organize games and music.

Children bring in their favorite foods to share. Some families take a day out with their children. Often there are special activities for children around the community. Children wear bright colors to celebrate their youth and the coming of Spring.

Color the last balloon in each row the color it should be to continue the pattern in that row.

A Day for Games
 One popular Día del Niño game is Pin the Tail on the Donkey. Help Hector pin the tail on the donkey picture.

Hot Chocolate Song
 On Children's Day, many families start the day with a yummy cup of hot chocolate and they sing of a song at breakfast. A **molinillo** is used to stir the chocolate drink by rolling it between the palms of your hands while it is dipped in the hot chocolate. The kids sing the following song while stirring the drink. The game is to sing each verse a little faster every time it is sung.

Chocolate, chocolate!
 (Stir, stir, chocolate.)
Tu nariz de cacahuete.
 (Your nose is a peanut.)
Uno, dos, tres, CHO!
 (One, two, three, CHO!)
Uno, dos, tres, CO!
 (One, two, three, CO!)
Uno, dos, tres, LA!
 (One, two, three, LA!)
Uno, dos, tres, TE!
 (One, two, three, TE!)
Chocolate, chocolate!
 (Chocolate, chocolate!)
Bate, bate, chocolate!
 (Stir, stir, chocolate!)
Bate, bate, bate, bate,
 (Stir, stir, stir, stir.)
Bate, bate, CHOCOLATE!
 (Stir, stir, CHOCOLATE!)

Piñata Pairs
 On Día del Niño, children take turns to swing a bat or stick at a piñata, trying to break it apart to release the candy and goodies inside! **ACTIVITY:** All but one of these piñatas have an exact twin. Circle the one that's unique.

Extra! Extra!
Children's Rights Collage
 Look through the newspaper for pictures and words showing things you think all children should have a right to. Cut these out and use them to make a Children's Rights collage.

Standards Link: Visual Art: Use art to express a message.

Children's Day in Mexico started in 1925. This celebration has its origins during Alvaro Obregón's presidential term after the country joined the Geneva Convention. The Geneva Convention emphasized the importance of taking care of children, originally the vulnerable children affected by World War I. The United Nations suggested in 1959 countries adopt a National Children's Day in honor of the Children's Rights Declaration of 1959.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Silly Book Puns

A **pun** is a play on words. Read the book titles below and then draw a line from the book title to the author's name that makes a funny pun. For example: *The Arctic Ocean* by I.C. Waters.

- WORLD'S BEST MAGIC TRICKS by Lotta Money
- HOW TO MAKE A BILLION DOLLARS by A. Stronaut
- SCUBA DIVING FOR BEGINNERS by Abby Cadabera
- BACK DOWN THE ROAD by Duncan Under
- MY JOURNEY TO THE MOON by U. Turner

Double Double Word Search

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

CHOCOLATE	D Y A D E Y L F N C
CHILDRENS	I T U N A E P R H H
CELEBRATE	M D R I N K N O O I
MEXICO	S E F O L N C T M L
DONKEY	Y M X L R O C H U D
PEANUT	D A L I L D O E S R
SCHOOL	N G L A C A E H I E
PALMS	A B T T P O R A C N
FROTH	C E L E B R A T E S
DRINK	
CANDY	
MUSIC	
TAIL	
GAME	
DAY	

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Describe Día del Niño

Look through the newspaper for five or more words that describe Children's Day in Mexico. Use these words to write a letter to your local newspaper editor about why you think there should be a Children's Day in your town.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Compose formal letters.

Write On!

My Book

Imagine you could write a book for kids. What would be your topic? Who would be your main character? What would make other kids want to read your book?

Kid Scoop Together

Make a Piñata

You will need:

- a large balloon
- lots of newspaper
- 5 cups of flour
- water
- masking tape
- colored tissue
- glue
- scissors
- string
- pencil
- paint (optional)

- Inflate the balloon and tie tightly.
- Tear the newspaper into long, thin strips (about 1 inch wide and at least 12 inches long). You'll need lots of strips!
- In a large bowl, mix 5 cups of flour with water, adding water slowly until it looks like pancake batter.
- Dip a newspaper strip in the flour mixture, wetting it completely. Then drape it over the balloon.
- Continue overlapping strips until the balloon is completely covered.
- Add more and more layers until you have applied 5 to 10 layers. Allow to dry completely.
- When your piñata is completely dry, you can paint it and glue colored tissue paper all over it.
- To fill piñata, cut a small flap in the top, bend it back carefully, and drop in small, wrapped candies.



DEVOTIONAL PAGE



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The Springtown Epigraph
Azle News 817-270-3340
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810 Goshen Rd, Springtown
817-523-4462

LEGACY CHURCH
Hwy. 199 W. at FM 2257, Azle
817-221-2983 / 817-221-5760

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737 Boyd Rd., Azle
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BAPTIST
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300 South Stewart, Azle
817-444-3219

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350 Agnes N., Springtown
817-523-7271

BETHEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST
408 S. Ash St., Springtown
817-220-4238

AZLE AVENUE BAPTIST
2901 Azle Ave., Fort Worth
817-626-5556

BRIAR FIRST BAPTIST
West of FM 730 N. at sign, Briar
940-444-3484

CALVARY HEIGHTS BAPTIST
1 block off Hwy. 199, east of David's Patio, Springtown, 817-221-2241

CENTRAL BAPTIST
4290 Old Agnes Road
817-594-5918

CHURCH ON THE HILL
836 NW Parkway, Azle
817-444-3752

CHRISTWAY BAPTIST
7673 West Hwy. 199, Agnes
817-220-9133 or 817-220-3581

CLEAR FORK BAPTIST
Corner of FM 730 & Ragle Rd., Weatherford, 817-594-1154

EAGLE MOUNTAIN BAPTIST
8780 Eagle Mtn. Circle, Azle
817-237-4135

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF AZLE
1017 Boyd Road
817-444-4828

FIRST BAPTIST CASTLE HILLS
401 Beverly Rd., Azle
817-797-4706

FIRST BAPTIST LAKE WORTH
700 Charbonneau Tr., west side of Effie Morris Elementary
817-237-2624

FIRST BAPTIST LAKESIDE
8801 Jacksboro Hwy., Lakeside
817-237-8113

FIRST BAPTIST BRIAR
6 miles N. of Azle on FM 730
817-444-3484

FIRST BAPTIST COTTONDALE
1 block N. of FM 2123, Cottondale
940-433-5539

FIRST BAPTIST PEASTER
FM 920 in Peaster
817-596-8805

FIRST BAPTIST POOLVILLE
1 block W. of FM 920, Poolville
817-594-3916

FIRST BAPTIST SPRINGTOWN
5th & Main Street, Springtown
817-523-7011

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST
801 Friendship Rd., 9½ miles S. of Springtown off Hwy. 51 S.
817-594-5940 or 817-599-4917

FUNDAMENTAL BAPTIST
5th & Main in Springtown
817-523-5477

GRACE BAPTIST
3 miles N. of Springtown on Hwy. 51 across from Radio Tower

GRACE POINTE CHURCH
4110 E. Hwy. 199, Springtown
817-221-5683

HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH
3577 FM 51 N., Weatherford
817-564-3946

IGLESIA BAUTISTA
Nueva Jerusalem
6640 Midway Rd., Springtown
817-694-0444

INDIAN OAKS PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
3229 Shawnee Trail, Lake Worth
817-237-8441

LAKE WORTH BAPTIST
4445 Hodgkins, Lake Worth
817-237-4163

METROPOLITAN BAPTIST
6051 Azle Ave., Fort Worth
817-237-2201

NEW HOPE BAPTIST
782 New Hope Rd., Reno area
817-221-2184

NORTHWEST BAPTIST
5500 Boat Club Rd., Lake Worth
817-237-6063 or 817-270-8476

SILVER CREEK BAPTIST
730 S. & Veal Station Rd., Azle
817-444-2325

NEW BEGINNINGS BAPTIST CHURCH
3605 Jacksboro Hwy., Azle
817-707-2741

PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST
FM 2048 and CR 4677, Boyd
940-433-5477

PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA
300 S. Stewart, Azle
817-500-3641

SPRINGTOWN BAPTIST TEMPLE
201 J. E. Woody Rd., Springtown
817-523-0376

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH
3451 Sarra Lane, Springtown
682-333-1645

WALNUT CREEK BAPTIST
220 W. Reno Rd. in Reno
817-221-2110

BIBLE
COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
1405 Reynolds Rd., Reno
817-444-7117

NORTHWEST BIBLE CHURCH
5025 Jacksboro Hwy., Fort Worth
817-624-2111

SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH
591 S. Reno Rd., Springtown
817-221-3444

CATHOLIC
HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC
800 High Crest Dr., Azle
817-444-3063

CHRISTIAN
THE CHURCH AT AZLE
1801 S. Stewart, Azle
817-444-9973

AZLE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
35 West Forty Estates., Azle
817-688-3339

GREATER VISION FELLOWSHIP
1801 S. Stewart St., Azle
817-825-0485

THE ABBEY CHURCH
10400 Jacksboro Hwy., Azle
817-238-1404

CROSSING FELLOWSHIP
120 E. Main St., Azle
817-406-4577

CHURCH OF CHRIST
AZLE CHURCH OF CHRIST
336 NW Parkway
817-444-3268

BRIAR CHURCH OF CHRIST
109 W.N. Woody Rd.
(½ block west of FM 730 N. in Briar)
817-444-7102

MIDWAY CHURCH OF CHRIST
6400 Midway Rd.
817-221-2107

NEWSOME MOUND ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST
1460 Newsome Mound Rd.
817-677-3290

NORTHWEST CHURCH OF CHRIST
6059 Azle Ave., Fort Worth
817-237-1205

POOLVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST
West of FM 920 in Poolville
817-594-4182

SOUTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST
130 W. Bradshaw Lane, Springtown
817-221-2799

SPRINGTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST
Just west of Hwy. 51 North
817-523-4419

TRI-COUNTY CHURCH OF CHRIST
525 Hwy. 199 W., Springtown
817-980-8156

CHURCH OF GOD
ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH OF GOD
4800 East Hwy. 199, Suite 7 Springtown, 817-677-3208

LAKESIDE CHURCH OF GOD THE WORD@LAKESIDE
9396 Confederate Park Rd. (FM 1886)
817-237-5500

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST
AZLE CHRISTIAN
117 Church St., Azle
817-444-3527

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN
1602 S. Main St., Weatherford
817-594-3043

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
4th & Main, Paradise

EPISCOPAL
ST. ANNE'S ANGLICAN EPISCOPAL
6055 Azle Ave., Fort Worth
817-237-1888

PROVIDENCE REFORMED EPISCOPAL
405 Bowie Dr., Weatherford
817-596-7476

ST. ELISABETH EPISCOPAL
5910 Black Oak Lane, River Oaks
817-739-0504

GOSPEL
CENTRAL FULL GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP
3009 Delaware Tr., Lake Worth
817-237-7919

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
212 Pearson Lane, Azle
817-221-2242

LUTHERAN
THE EDGE CHURCH - AZLE
1313 SE Parkway, Azle
817-237-4822

HOPE LUTHERAN (ELCA)
4795 Hwy. 199, Reno
817-221-HOPE

METHODIST
BOYD UNITED METHODIST
FM 730 North in Boyd
940-433-3334

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
200 Church St., Azle
817-444-3323

LIGHTHOUSE FELLOWSHIP
7200 Robertson Rd., Fort Worth
817-237-2758

SILVER CREEK UNITED METHODIST
2200 Church Rd., Azle
817-444-1382

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
Hwy. 51 N & 3rd Street, Springtown
817-523-7874

GARVIN UNITED METHODIST
3 miles West of Boyd on C.R. 4699

POOLVILLE UNITED METHODIST
1 block W. of FM 920 (behind Poolville Post Office)
817-599-3601

HILLTOP FAMILY CHURCH
1227 Old Cottondale • 817-220-7177

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1010 Timberrooks, Azle
817-237-5075

PENTECOSTAL
GRACE CHAPEL UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
3508 Shawnee Trail, Lake Worth
817-237-4844

PRESBYTERIAN
GRACE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
606 Mockingbird Lane, Weatherford
817-594-2744

ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FORT WORTH
Meeting at Northwest YMCA
5315 Boat Club Road, Fort Worth
817-989-9800

ORTHODOX
ARCHANGEL GABRIEL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH
1157 S. E. Parkway (Jacksboro Highway), Azle
817-752-8255

OTHER
ALIENTO DE DIOS
2233 E. Hwy 199, Springtown
817-521-4694

BETTER LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH
3131 E. Hwy 199, Spt
817-677-2300

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH
2233 Hwy 199 East, Springtown
817-221-LIFE (5433)

FAMILY CHURCH
9 miles S. of Springtown on Hwy. 51
817-599-7655

GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
2964 W. Hwy 114, Paradise
940-969-2427

HILLTOP FAMILY CHURCH
1227 Old Cottondale Road, Springtown, 817-220-7177

THE HOUSE OF PRAYER
1356 Reno Rd., Springtown
817-221-2551

POWERHOUSE OF PRAISE CHURCH
1649 S.E. Parkway, Azle
817-319-7364

BRANDED CROSS COWBOY CHURCH
3282 FM 2048, Boyd 76023
817-755-7021

SECRET PLACE MINISTRIES
112 Optimist Rd., Springtown
682-229-1433

GOSPEL GATHERING FELLOWSHIP
7315 Silver Creek Rd at Flatrock Rd, Azle
817-313-1793

LIGHTHOUSE CHURCH
6409 FM 730 S., Azle
817-444-4311

LIGHTHOUSE HARBOR CHURCH
1960 Long Circle, Pelican Bay
817-444-3547

NEW LIGHTED WAY
624 Harbor Dr. Circle, Azle
817-444-1577

NORTHWEST TEMPLE OF PRAISE
6781 Jacksboro Hwy., Lake Worth
817-909-5627

PRECIOUS FAITH TEMPLE CHURCH
8601 Hwy. 199 @ Vance Godbey's

THE HOUSE OF PRAYER
1356 Reno Rd., Springtown
817-221-2551

THE RANCH COWBOY COUNTRY CHURCH
14600 FM 730 North, Azle (Briar)
817-909-5627

REAL FAMILY FELLOWSHIP
202 Pearson Lane, Azle
817-677-5963

SOULS HARBOR
11701 Jacksboro Hwy., Azle
817-726-2065

WESTERN HARVEST FELLOWSHIP CENTER
6577 Old Springtown Rd., Weatherford
817-523-2855 or 817-995-9087

SHEPHERD'S HEART CHURCH
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817-444-7777

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www.azlechiropractic.com

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817-270-3340
Call Johnna to reserve this space.

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Place your ad here!
Call **817-270-3340**

Place your ad here today!
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Electric Cooperative, Inc.
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Actively Supporting our Communities!

Call Johnna for details
817-270-3340

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Call Johnna for details
817-270-3340

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Rural Gas Supply

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817-444-4613

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Pre-Need Plans

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Mineral Wells • Weatherford
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Advertise Your Business With Us
and maximise your visibility!

Contact us about advertising solutions.
817-270-3340
817-220-7217



CLASSIFIED

817-270-3340 - Azle - classified@azlenews.net

817-220-7217 - Springtown - shirley@springtown-epigraph.net

Ad Classifications

- 1... Air Condition/Heating 24..... Electrician 46..... Looking to Buy 69..... Sand/Gravel
2..... Antiques 25..... Equipment & 47..... Lost & Found 70..... Septic Tanks
3..... Appliances 26..... Excavating 48..... Maintenance/Repairs 71..... Sewing/Alterations
4..... Appliance Repair 27..... Exterminating 49..... Masonry/Stonework 72..... Sewer Service
5..... Arts/Crafts 28..... Farm Equipment 50..... Mobile Home Service 73..... TV/Radio
6..... Asphalt Paving 29..... Fencing 51..... Motorcycles 74..... Tractor Service
7..... Auctions 30..... Firewood 52..... Movers 75..... Upholstery
8..... Autos, Trucks 31..... Free 53..... Musical Instruments 76..... Vacuum Cleaners
9..... Auto Repair Service 32..... For Sale 54..... Music Lessons 77..... Wanted
10..... Backhoe Service 33..... Furniture 55..... Miscellaneous 78..... Well Drilling
11..... Boats, Motors 34..... Garage & 56 Party Planning/Events 79..... Welding
12..... Bookkeeping 35..... Estate Sales 57..... Pets/Livestock 80..... Lots/Acreage
13..... Business 36..... Garden/Mowing Svc 58..... Piano Service 81..... Business &
Opportunity 37..... Hauling 59..... Pool Service 82..... Commercial Property
14..... Campers/Trailers 38..... Hay 60..... Professional 83..... RV's for Rent
15..... Carports/Patios 39..... Health/Fitness 61..... Personal 84..... Houses for Sale
16..... Equipment Repair 40..... Home Improvement 62..... Plumbing 85..... Mobile Homes
17..... Carpet Service 41..... House Leveling 63..... Public Notice for Rent
18..... Catering 42..... House Cleaning 64..... Photography for Sale
19..... Cement Work 43..... House Cleaning 65..... Printing 86..... Mobile Home/RV Lots
20..... Demolition 44..... Hunting 66..... Roofing 87..... Rent Furnished
21..... Child Care 45..... Janitorial Service 67..... Recycling 88..... Rent Unfurnished
22..... Cosmetics 46..... Job Wanted 68..... Recycling 89..... Wanted to Rent
23..... Computers/Services

RATES

16 Words or Less:

Combo (Azle & Springtown) Only \$10.00 per week!

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

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

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

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE: MONDAY BY 4:30 P.M.

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



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

Nobody does it better!

003 Appliances We Pick Up Old Appliances 682-283-5905 Dan 682-230-3993 Mike

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

035 Garden/Mowing Service LAWN MOWING & WEEDING HOMES & LOTS - 10 YEARS EXP. 817-243-5032 LIFE LONG RESIDENT

039 Help Wanted The City of Reno is hiring Water/ Street Personal. Applicants must have valid DL, drug testing is mandatory. No calls, applicants must apply in person only at the City of Reno, 195 W. Reno Rd.

039 Help Wanted Eagle is currently hiring Environmental Technicians / Driller Helpers in our Springtown and Fort Worth, Texas locations.

039 Help Wanted WANTED Property Maintenance Labor/Person Gene Thompson & Associates 817-246-4646

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

029 Fencing BOBBY'S FENCE. All types, Free Estimates, Over 26 years experience. 817-444-3213. KILEY CHESNEY CONSTRUCTION All Types Fences - Tractor Work 817-846-6645

Ruben's YARD SERVICE Tree Service Stump Grinding Yard Clean-Up 940-730-0916

Eagle Remediation is currently hiring Class A&B CDL Drivers. 5-6 day work week with rotating Saturday schedule. Eagle performs activities such as underground tank removals, demolition, soil excavation, site restoration and waste management.

Full time maintenance man needed. Must be organized, have basic maintenance skills, a valid drivers license and transportation. Salary and living quarters included. 817-444-3760.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination."

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

031 Free Free, nice Blue fabric couch and older recliner chair 817-522-2445.

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

The City of Reno is hiring a part time City Secretary. No Calls-Applicants must apply in person only @ The City of Reno at 195 W. Reno Rd. Azle 76020

The Hood County News in Granbury is looking for a full-time pressman for its expanding print operation. Experience with a Goss Community Press is a plus, but not required.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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

032 For Sale FOR SALE Sheet Metal \$50-\$75/Sheet. Aluminum, Titanium, Stainless Steel, SOME Rigidize. 817-270-0647.

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

MAINSTREAM group homes are hiring for FT/PT direct care staff. Weekday 3:30pm-8:30am shifts as well as 24-hour weekend shifts. Work 2 days a week, get paid to sleep, and have a full-time job!

REI Electric Inc - Shop Help Needed Duties Include: Loading/ Unloading Material, Mowing, Weed-eating & clean up. Full Time Position Driver's License Required and must have reliable transportation. Pay: \$15 min to \$20 max Please call 817-220-8658.

www.azlenews.net www.springtown-epigraph.net

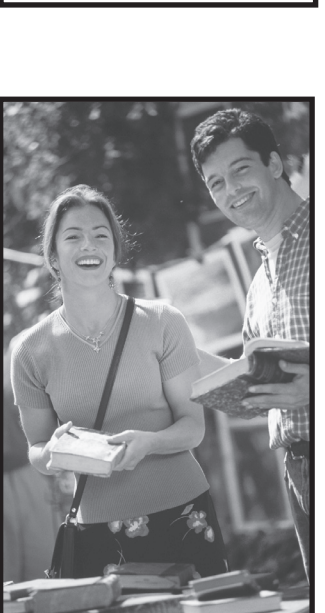
020 Demolition MCNEELY'S DEMOLITION & CLEAN UP SERVICE We Create Vacancy Tear Down Barns Removal Houses Haul Off Bobcat Mobile Service Homes Dirt/Gravel Garages Spreading FREE ESTIMATES 817-996-7887 253 Eagles Way, Springtown

034 Garage & Estate Sales Two Family Sale, Friday-Saturday 7am-4pm. 127 Creekview Dr, Azle. Lots of stuff, too much to list.

YARD SERVICES BOBCAT WORK SAND INSTALLATION FENCING STUMP GRINDING 817-371-8597

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

Help Wanted in Aurora/Alvord Area Dredge Operator Excavator Operator Articulated Truck Driver Competitive pay, some benefits. M-F day shift only, Overtime weekly. For information call 214-802-5157



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

035 Garden/Mowing Service Need your lawn mowed, trimmed or cleaned up? Need your trees trimmed or cut? Any job big or small give Scooter a call. Free Estimates. 817-766-3834.

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

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

026 Excavating ALL TYPES OF EXCAVATING Tanks House Pads Clearing HASTY EXCAVATING Also Sand Top Soil Gravel 817-523-7248 817-239-6215

Multi Family Sale, Saturday-Sunday 8am-5pm Inside and Outside, 5050 E Hwy 199, Springtown. Lots of stuff.

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

MOVING? Raise some extra money through the Classifieds with a Moving Sale. 16 words for only \$10. Azle News 817-270-3340 Springtown Epigraph 817-220-7217 Your Hometown Papers!

Wise Ready Mix Now Hiring Class B-CDL Mixer Drivers Production & Safety Bonuses Paid Monthly Employer Matching Retirement Plan Available Apply in person at 1349 NW Parkway Azle

Raise some extra money through the Classifieds. Have a Yard Sale. 16 words for only \$10 Azle News 817-270-3340 Springtown Epigraph 817-220-7217 Hometown Papers!

Advertising Works!

PROPERTY CARE. Mowing, Hedges, Trees Trimmed. Monthly billings for weekly & bi-weekly mows. Text, call or leave message. Teater 817-495-6157.

039 Help Wanted Looking for mature people to work with small animals. Must have reliable transportation. Call for more information 817-926-3300.

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

Help wanted continued on next page...

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

Deadline:
 4:30 PM Monday

Classifieds

039 Help Wanted



KARL KLEMENT


Body Shop Painter Helper
 Assists Body Shop painters and performs other duties as needed throughout the Body Shop. Must be responsible and dependable with a valid driver's license. Monday-Friday work week.

Body Shop Technician
 Commission. Must have experience.

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

Parts Drivers
 Must have valid TXDL with acceptable driving record. Overtime available and room for advancement. Monday-Friday work week.

Service Advisor
 Seeking to hire an *Experienced Service Advisor*. Must be committed to customer satisfaction and be honest and dependable. Monday through Friday. No weekends!



Service Porter/Make-Ready Associate
 Performs duties throughout the service department. Must be responsible, dependable and have a valid TXDL. Monday through Friday.

Service Advisor
\$2,500 Hiring Bonus
 Must be committed to customer satisfaction and be honest and dependable. Previous experience preferred, but willing to train the right candidate.

Klement Distribution, Inc.
 (Hershey Ice Cream Distributor)

Route Driver
\$2,500 Hiring Bonus
 No CDL required, but must have valid TXDL with acceptable driving record. Monday through Friday. Fun work environment! Promote from within advancement opportunities. Flexible time-off schedules, often 3-day weekends during summer months.

Karl Klement Properties, Inc.

Motorcycle Restoration Tech
 Restoring Bultacos. Full or Part time hours available.

Maintenance Helpers
 Show us you have what it takes!
 On the spot job offers. No experience required.

For consideration of all positions apply to:
Alyssa Jacobs, Assistant H/R Manager
 605 N. Business 287, Suite 102, Decatur, Texas
 hr@klementford.com
 940-627-6362

We offer Benefits, Paid Holidays, Vacation & Training

HVAC TECHNICIANS & INSTALLERS

Come Join the Quality Team at



A/C & HEAT BY RUSSELL
817-270-8811

Correctional Officers • Assistant Foodservice Manager
Academic Instructors • Assistant Maintenance Supervisor •
Plumber • Lieutenant • Classification Officer - Intake • Vocational Instructor • Recruiting Sergeant • Commissary Worker

New Correctional Officer Pay is \$15.00 per hour.

PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR JOB QUALIFICATIONS.
 Must have HS Diploma or equivalent, be able to pass a drug screen, have a clean background and valid driver's license to be considered for a Correctional Officer. EOE

Apply online at www.mtctrains.com or call 940-567-2272 and ask for the HR Department.
Minority/Female/Veteran/Disabled
LINDSEY STATE JAIL

040 Home Improvement

BILL ROSSER PAINTING & REMODELING. Big Savings: \$100 off any job of \$1,000 or more. Painting, Carpentry, Porch Covers, Decks. FREE ESTIMATES. Call 817-304-9974; 866-374-3559.

WORKHORSE HANDYMAN SERVICES. Bathrooms, kitchens, remodels, water & sewer repair, mobile home repair, roof repair and well repair.
Quality at a reasonable rate. Call 817-874-6109.

PYRAMID REMODELING. PAINTING: Interior, Exterior, Tape & Bed, Texture, Popcorn Ceilings. FREE ESTIMATES. 817-944-7658.

BOBBY MCWILLIAMS PAINTING 817-821-6377.
 Interior/Exterior Painting Residential & New Homes. 48 years experience.

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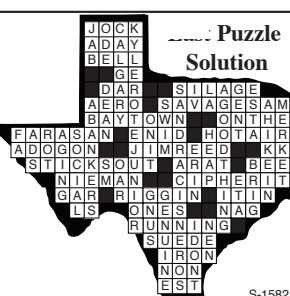
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