YOUR TRUSTED LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1966

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\$1

DANGEROUS CONDITIONS

Dry, windy conditions spark fires, keep area firefighters busy

BY CARLA NOAH STUTSMAN

It's a recipe for disaster: start with drought conditions, stir in a La Nina weather pattern, sprinkle in some high winds and unseasonable temperatures, and throw all that into the month of February, when green foliage is at its scarcest.

You don't even have to bake it – the tiniest spark is all it takes to create hellfire.

It's what Mother Nature has served North Texas this year.

Every fire station in the area has been busy over the last week battling both structure and grass fires, but Monday was a challenge for them all.

Following routine calls early in the day, four large fires caused a lot of damage, tied up traffic and used up local fire resources, including manpower, apparatus and water. In at





A construction worker helped out with Monday's Tanglewood fire using hand tools

Photos by Carla Noah Stutsman

Four AHS students help save a family's home from fire



Hunter Banes (left), Kevin Nguyen, Robby Ash and Dillinger Kovach were ready to jump in and help when they saw a fire threatening a home late one night while on a duck hunting trip.

BY JESSICA McKINNEY azlereporter@azlenews.net

A weekend hunting trip turned into a potentially dangerous situation for four Azle High School boys on

Dillinger Kovach, Hunter Banes, Kevin Nguyen and Robby Ash were heading to Sonic late one night in Jack County near Jermyn when

SEE **JERMYN**, PAGE 9A.



A fire outside of a Jermyn family's home reached the house and nearly set it ablaze on Jan. 29.

Photos courtesy

Chamber celebrates local businesses at annual banquet



David Shaffer, outgoing board president of the Azle Area Chamber of Commerce, passes the gavel to Kim Ware, the new board president, at the chamber's annual banquet.

Photo by Jim Stevens

BY JESSICA McKINNEY azlereporter@azlenews.net

The Azle Area Chamber of Commerce held its annual awards banquet on Feb. 10. Hundreds of attendees came together to celebrate and award several businesses that have made an impact in the community.

Hogye Hogle once again served as the master of ceremonies, entertaining the crowd with quips and jokes throughout the evening.

David Shaffer, the outgoing president of the chamber's board of directors, officially passed the gavel to Kim Ware, the incoming board president.

Ware presented Shaffer with a plaque recognizing his service with the chamber, along with a special surprise gift from the chamber's former executive director, Shelia Pippins. That gift was his very own set

of walkie-talkies so that he can practice his "mad radio skills," Pippins said in a letter read aloud to Shaffer.

Outgoing board members
Marsha Hardin, Eric Ogea,
and Shaffer were thanked
for their time serving on
the board, and Hardin and
Ogea were presented with
plaques as a token of appreciation from the chamber.

The 2022 board of direc-

SEE **CHAMBER**, PAGE 12A.



Clothing the community

BY JESSICA McKINNEY azlereporter@azlenews.net

Kids just don't stop growing, which means the need for new clothes is almost constant. But for many famifinancially possible.

The Azle community is Boutique. blessed to have multiple organizations and resale shops that make buying clothes more affordable — and sometimes totally free (which is the best kind of affordable).

Fig Leaf Boutique is a branch of Servolution Network based in Azle, and it is the boutique's mission to "be a blessing to the community by removing some of the there are some rules.

burden of having to purchase clothing" for families who a short form each time they cannot easily afford to go shopping, and to provide "a boutique shopping experience" at the same time.

lies, being able to afford new of God throughout the comclothes on a regular basis isn't munity," said April Castaneda, manager of the Fig Leaf

Castaneda is responsible for the overall running of the shop, including organizing the setup, managing volunteers and handling Fig Leaf's Facebook page.

The clothing boutique provides free clothing to anyone who wants to come shop with them. There are no qualifications to be able to shop but

"We have everyone fill out Castaneda said. shop," Castaneda said. "We have a limit on items per person. There are a few rules to follow, like you can only shop "We want to spread the love for your household and can come back every 30 days, but jewelry," said Castaneda. yeah, they just get to shop.

give (Fig Leaf) a boutique feel to make the shopping experience a fun one. When they have picked out their items, we bag them up for them."

Fig Leaf began as a clothing closet and has transitioned into the boutique that it is today at Community Bible Fellowship Church at 1405 Reynolds Road in Azle.

us with the use of a building," help out.

Fig Leaf has clothing for all ages and their inventory is dependent on the donations they receive from the community.

"We almost always need gently used clothes, shoes and

"I have done my best to be used to purchase socks and underwear to keep in stock.

Fig Leaf Boutique relies on for volunteers.

wanting to volunteer consistently," Castaneda said. "It's just like having a job and there is training.'

Right now, Castaneda has a handful of volunteers she "They kindly have blessed knows she can count on to

"Stephanie Davis is my main volunteer," she said. "She is there every day with me. I couldn't do it without her. I have four other regular volunteers: Crystal Evans (who has been a part of the closet from the very beginso grateful for them all."

Right now, the boutique support from the community is running a fundraiser with Schaefer coats and vests be-"I need volunteers who are ing sold. Coats are \$50 and vests \$25. The money raised by the sale of the coats and vests will help keep the clothing boutique going.

Fig Leaf is also seeking donations of dresses, suits and dress shoes to prepare for their upcoming prom event, groups/938697619978491.

which lets area teens come in and shop for free prom gear the Saturday before the dance.

Castaneda's hope is that the whole community will "just utilize the closet."

"If everyone uses the closet - no matter the income lev-They also accept money to ning), Crystal Sanchez, Mi- el — it will help remove any randa Davis and Sun Ha. I'm stigma of people who have to use the closet," she said. "Also, people who use the closet are more likely to donate their clothes back, helping us restock."

> Fig Leaf Boutique is open Mondays from 4 to 7 p.m., Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Thursdays from noon to 4 p.m. Follow the boutique on Facebook for updates at www.facebook.com/

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Azle 4-H member wins at Stock Show

BY JESSICA McKINNEY azlereporter@azlenews.net

Azle High School senior Grant Bradberry has worked hard to become one of the champions of the Fort Worth Stock Show this year, and it paid off when it was announced that he had the Grand Champion Bantam.

This is Bradberry's fourth year to show.

Bradberry is the treasurer of the recently revitalized Azle 4-H Club, which was almost disbanded last summer when its only member graduated from high school. The leader of the club at the

time reached out to the Azle community to ask for someone to step up and help keep the group alive.

Danielle Barber took on the challenge of bringing the club back to life and has been able to encourage more kids to join and get involved with the programs it offers, including livestock, equine and shooting sports. They currently have 21 active members with Azle 4-H.

Barber said that she is "so proud" of Bradberry for his achievement.

"He works hard, is very respectful and always has a positive attitude."



Grant Bradberry with his Grand Champion Bantam.

Courtesy photo







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Council discusses future of comprehensive master plan

BY DON MUNSCH editor@azlenews.net

Members of the Azle City Council and Azle Planning and Zoning Commission in a joint meeting on Feb. 8 discussed an update to a document that was put into effect a decade and a half ago — the 2005 Comprehensive Master Plan.

"Every few years, P&Z will take a look at the comp plan and make some recommendations on changes or not make any at all and then forward that on to the city council," said David Hawkins, director of planning and development for the city, at the beginning of the meeting.

At the first council meeting in December, after a staff presentation about the comp plan, some council members asked to have a joint meeting with P&Z to discuss the matter.

The comp plan in use now was approved in September 2005. The city has had two prior master plans, one in 1968 and one in 1988. This is just the third comp plan that the city has ever had.

Hawkins said the purpose of the plan is to serve as a visionary document that establishes overall policy and looks at future land use, utilities, roads and open space. The plan helps city council and P&Z make informed decisions on what kind of developments they want here. Plus, the plan helps city leaders

formulate their goals and vision for the city.

The comp plan is a guide for growth, zoning ordinances and subdivision regulations. The plan has been amended over the years, with most of the amendments in certain areas and initiated by the city or a developer related to some sort of specific case, whether it's related to zoning or something that happened on a highway construction project, Hawkins

Since its adoption in 2005, the comp plan has goals that have been accomplished, such as adoption of a parks master plan, Hawkins said. There also was evaluation of city buildings, and since the adoption of the plan, the city has constructed a new city hall, police station, fire station and library. In October, P&Z direct-

ed city staff to present to council to seek its support on ways of updating and modifying certain elements of the plan. The comp plan plays a role in development of the city's impact fee ordinance, which was last updated in January 2018, and state law requires impact fees to be updated in five-year increments, with the next coming in January 2023. The city currently collects impact fees for sewer and water for new developments, but the city does not collect roadway impact fees.

Impact fees are those

costs paid by both new commercial and residential developments and are intended to assist with costs of increasing infrastructure capacity because of the increased demand, not maintenance of these infrastructures, Hawkins said in an email.

Hawkins said he wanted direction from council and P&Z for the next step on the comp plan, which could have included a fullblown update or just minor amendments.

At the meeting, council and P&Z members had lengthy discussions about impact fees and lot sizes. Council member Randa Goode wondered why the city did not have a document that listed the goals of the city, and Mayor Alan Brundrett thought leaders could devise a capital improvement plan that would list goals and objectives, such as street projects.

After the meeting, Hawkins summarized council and P&Z member requests by explaining there will be no major overhaul of the comp plan and that no consultant will be hired.

"We've just got to do minor amendments and updates focused on updating demographics to reflect 2020 census, and updates to the master thoroughfare plan to incorporate hike and bike trails," he said, adding that the city will look at usable open space requirements for newer subdivisions.



Azle High School students KaytLynn Lemley, Jakson LaHue, Gavin Masure and Angel Brown were honored as the seniors of the month for February by the Azle Rotary Club. Standing with the students is Justin Berg, president of the club.

Rotary honors seniors of the month for February

BY DON MUNSCH editor@azlenews.net

The Azle Rotary Club honored four Azle High School students as the seniors of the month for February at its meeting Feb. 10.

Angel Brown, Jakson La-Hue, KaytLynn Lemley and Gavin Masure were February honorees. The Rotary club honors four seniors each month.

Brown, who holds a grade point average of 102.56 and is ranked 21st of 376 students in the senior class, said she intends to attend the University of Texas, where she will major in English. She eventually wants to eventually become an author. At AHS, she participated in track and was an athletic trainer. She also took part in PALs and the

campus newspaper. "My main hobby is reading and writing — I really enjoy that in my free time," she told Rotarians, adding that she enjoys dance and said that if she minors in something in college, it would be the fine arts. She describes herself as determined, responsible and open-minded, but she also said she can be picky and hard on herself.

"I'm very picky about what I wear, so I change my outfit about three times a morning before I go to school," she said.

Lemley is ranked 32nd in the class and has a GPA of 101.58. She is considering attending West Texas A&M or the University of Nebraska. She wants to study animal science and eventually earn a doctorate. She has been heavily involved in the school's chapter of FFA. She is the campus FFA president this year.

Working in a group with a few other people is what she considers her greatest academic strength. She said FFA adviser Elizabeth Slough has had the biggest influence on her at AHS. Lemley decided early what activity she wanted to pursue the most.

"My freshman year, going in, I was really focused on fine arts and as I progressed through my freshman year, I found that ag was where I really wanted to be throughout my high school career," she said.

Lemley has operated her own business — Farm Fierce, whose product is sheep leg wraps - since August 2020 and said in her senior information form that through this venture she has learned about hard work as well as managing money and profits and losses and working with customers.

Masure is ranked 57th in the class and has a GPA of 98.44. He plans to attend the University of North Texas or the University of Texas at Arlington. He intends to major in engineering, likely mechanical engineering. He said his academic strengths lie in math (except calculus) and science classes, such as biology and chemistry.

He participates in wrestling at AHS and, outside of school, he said he likes physical activities such as skateboarding, bicycling, motorcycling and skiing. He said he would describe himself as hard-working, determined and attentive, and his senior information form also included stubborn as a word he uses to describe himself.

"I would say if I really want to do something, I usually try to find a way to do it," he said, noting he would watch a YouTube video if it would help.

Two favorite accomplishments of his were making the varsity wrestling team and having a 4.0 GPA.

LaHue is ranked 43rd in the senior class and has a GPA of 100.42. He plans to attend Mississippi State University and will play on the football team. He intends to major in mechanical engineering.

On the football field, every year he has played, he has received First Term All-District, and then this past season, he earned Academic All-State. On the academic side, he enjoys working in teams and describes himself as "very determined."

"Once you put away the phone and all that, and you actually get into it, I'm a really hard worker," he said.

He describes himself as calm and doesn't get stressed easily.

"When I do get stressed, it kinda comes back to that hard-working (ethic of) get it done — if there's a deadline, get it done type deal," he said.

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BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Graham Crackers, Toast, Mon No school Tues Mini Cinnamon Rolls Weds Mini Blueberry Waffles Thurs Turkey Sausage Breakfast Pizza Fri Vanilla Yogurt Cup w/ Graham Crackers

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

Mon No school Tues Fish Nugget Sea Shapes w/Roll, Spaghetti Marinara w /Meatballs & Roll, Fresh Lettuce & Spinach Mix, Peppered Broccoli Florets Weds BBQ Fajita Chicken Sandwich, Diced Chicken Teriyaki Wrap, Crispy Tater Tots Thurs Grande Cheesy Chicken Nachos, Grande Beefy Nachos, Seasoned Mexican Black Beans Fri Classic Pepperoni Pizza, Grilled Cheeseburger, Fresh Lettuce & Spinach Mix, Seasoned Curly Fries **GRADES 5TH - 8TH**

BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Graham Crackers,

Mon No school Tues Blueberry Muffin Weds Cheesy Egg & Potato Breakfast Tacos Thurs Fluffy Jumbo Waffles w/ Turkey Sausage Fri Egg & Cheese Biscuit Sandwich

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

Mon No school Tues Spicy Chicken Patty Sandwich, Grilled Cheeseburger, Breaded Chicken Patty Sandwich, Chicken Nugget Potato Bowl w/Roll, Chicken Tender Potato Bowl w/Roll, Hamburger, Pepperoni & Jalapeno Pizza, Classic Pepperoni Pizza, Straight Cut Fries, Peppered Broccoli Florets, Shredded Lettuce, mato Slices & Pickles **Weds** Spicy Chicken Patty Sandwich, Grilled Cheeseburger, Breaded Chicken Patty Sandwich, Juicy Hamburger, Meatloaf Mashec Potato Bowl w/Biscuit, Beef Finger Potato Bowl w/Biscuit, Classic Pepperoni Pizza, Turkey Ham Hawaiian Pizza, Steamed Crinkle Carrots, Crispy Tater Tots Roasted Garbanzo Beans Thurs Spicy Chicken Patty Sandwich, Grilled Cheeseburger, Breaded Chicken Patty Sandwich, Juicy Hamburger, Country ied Steak Potato Bowl w/Roll, Popcorn Chicken Potato Bowl w/Roll, Classic Pepperoni Pizza, Pork Sausagé Crumble Pizza, Spiced Green Beans Green Chill Fried Beans **Fri** Spicy Chicken Patty Sandwich, Grilled Cheeseburger, Breaded Chicken Patty Sandwich, Juicy Hamburger, Chicken Nugget Potato Bowl w/Roll, Beef Finger Potato Bowl w/Roll, Shredded Lettuce, Tomato Slices & Pickles, Fresh Baby Carrots, Oven-Roasted Potato Wedges

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LUNCH: Everyday: Milk . Pizza . Salad. Your choice of 1 entree & 1 fruit or juice BALLPARK CLASSICS: Ham/Cheeseburger

Breaded Chicken Patty Sandwich • Spicy Chicken Patty Sandwich • Golden Chicken Corn Dog Mon No school Tues Breaded Baja Fish Tacos, Cheesy Chicken Flour Tacos, Ground Beef Soft Flour Tacos, Crispy Popcorn Chicken Wrap, Delicious Cheese zza. Classic Pepperoni Pizza. Homemade Meatloaf w/ Rice and WG Roll. Sunbutter & Jellv Sandwich w/ String Cheese. Sweet & Sour Chicken w/Brown

Rice, Crispy Kung Pao Chicken w/Brown Rice, Chicken Nugget Potato Bowl w/Roll, Cilantro Lime Rice, Classic Retried Beans, Peppered Broccoli Florets, Fresh Salsa Weds Grande Beefy Nachos, Grande Homemade Cheesy Nachos, Grande Chicken Nachos, Diced Chicken Teriyaki Wrap, Veggie Pizza, Classic Peperoni Pizza, Ultimate Grilled Cheese w/Tomato Soup. Baked Potato Soup w/Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Orange Chicken w/ Brown Rice, Chili Garlic Chicken Sti ry w/ Rice, Country Fried Steak Potato Bowl w/Roll, Classic Refried Beans, Spiced Green Beans, Fresh Salsa **Thurs** Homemade Beef Burrito, Homemade Chicken Burrito, Homemade Bean & Cheese Burrito, Cheesy Turkey Melt, Delicious Cheese Pizza, Pork Sausage Crumble Pizza, Savory Chili Dog, BLT Dog, Sweet & Sour Chicken w/Lomein Noodles, Sweet & Sour Beef w/Lomein Noodles, Chicken Tender Potato Bowl w/Roll, Cilantro Lime Rice, Classic Refriec Beans, Steamed Crinkle Carrots Fri Scratch-Made Beef Enchiladas, Verde Chicken Enchiladas, Scratch-Made Cheese Enchiladas, Crispy Popcorn Chicken Wrap, Delicious Cheese Pizza, Classic Pepperoni Pizza, Fiesta Chicken Stacker, Fiesta Beef Stacker, Teriyaki Meatballs & Broccoli w/ Brown Rice & Egg Roll, Chicken Teriyaki w/Rice & Egg Roll, Chicken Nugget Potato Bowl w/Roll, Classic Refried Beans, Peppered Broccoli Florets, Fresh Lettuce & Spinach Mix, Fresh alsa, Fresh Sliced Tomatoes, Fresh-Cut Cucumber Slices, Green Bell Pepper, Black Olives



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12 MONTH

Azle News 817-270-3340

Happy Chocolate Martyr's Day!

"Roses are red, violets are blue, I was beaten with clubs, beheaded, buried under cover of darkness, disinterred by my followers, and you commemorate my martyrdom by sending each other chocolates."

A couple of my friends shared that in a meme today (February 14).

Saint Valentine of Terni was martyred in Rome on February 14, AD 269. According to one legend, Valentinus fell out of favor with the emperor Claudius because of his commitment to the truth of Christian teaching concerning Jesus. It was illegal to aid Christians in any way and Valentine was conducting marriage ceremonies for Christian couples. Claudius commanded Valentinus to renounce his



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.discovervouramazing.com.

faith or be executed.

Pope Gelasius I first established the feast of St. Valentine of February 14 in AD 496. He included Valentine among those "... whose names are justly reverenced among men, but whose acts are known only to God."

Another legend says that Valentinus, shortly before his execution, wrote a note to the daughter of Judge Asterius and signed it "from your Valentine."

These stories may explain thing the focus on Saint Valentine as the patron saint

of lovers and on the tradition of sending "Valentine cards" as expressions of

The gift of chocolate is because of ... well ... choc-

What holiday doesn't include chocolate?

And the greeting card industry is really in favor of this particular saint.

The Hallmark company sold the first Valentines Day cards in 1913 (long before creating hundreds of made for tv movies with identical plot lines—I might have made that part up).

Approximately 145 million valentine cards are sold each year (not including the packages that kids exchange at school), making Valentines Day the second largest holiday for sending cards.

And don't forget about the chocolate.

A few of thoughts occur to me in reflecting on Valentines Day.

One is that we often are clueless when it comes to the history behind our traditions. We do things because we've always done them and it just seems normal. Personally, I like the idea of knowing the story behind the things that have become part of my own story. It connects my blip in time to something larger.

Certainly there is an inherent risk involved in learning the history behind what we do. We may discover some things we'd rather not broadcast publicly. But even those things give us an opportunity to adjust our own lives and write new histories for fu-

ture generations.

Another thought that occurs to me is that almost anything can be commercialized. Some of the commercialization is harmless and fun. Chocolate, for example. Or a Valentine card to someone special that says, "I'm so glad I get to love you."

Some commercialization is not so good. I've seen Valentines Day referred to as the day that reminds single persons of their singleness. The focus on romantic love can also minimize the value of compassion or deep friendships.

A final thought is that real love in all its forms (including romantic love) finds its source and definition in this truth: "God is love." (1 John

That means that if we really want to know what love is like, look at God. And if we really want to know what God is like, look at

In the words of the great hymn writer Charles Wesley, "Amazing love! How can it be, that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?"

Be amazed and be amazing today, my friend.

(And it's ok to share some chocolate).

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Who's on the March 1 Primary Ballot?

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Area voters will go the polls to vote in primaries on Louis Gohmert and Eva March 1. Listed are the races and candidates that Parker County voters will decide. Names are listed just as they appear on the ballot. Propositions are put in quotes to indicate the exact wording on ballot.

In Tarrant County, a sample ballot is not released. Voters may go to a website from the county that provides specific ballot info once voters provide information on where they live: https://gisit.tarrantcounty. com/TCVL/?linklocation=Iwantto&linkname=Voter%20Lookup

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY, **PARKER COUNTY:**

- U.S Representative, District 12: Kay Granger, Ryan J. Catala and Alysia
- Governor: Rick Perry, Paul Belew, Allen B. West, Kandy Kaye Horn, Greg Abbott, Chad Prather, Don Huffines and Danny Harrison.
- Lieutenant Governor: Daniel Miller, Dan Patrick, Trayce Bradford, Zach Vance, Todd M. Bullis and Aaron Sorrells.

- Attorney General: Ken Paxton, George P. Bush, Guzman.
- Comptroller of Public Accounts: Mark V. Goloby and Glenn Hegar.
- Commissioner of the General Land Office: Tim Westley, Dawn Buckingham, Jon Spiers, Victor Avila, Ben Armenta, Don W. Minton, Rufus Lopez and Weston Martinez.
- Commissioner of Agriculture: Carey A. Counsil, James White and Sid Miller.
- Railroad Commissioner: Dawayne Tipton, Tom Slocum Jr., Marvin "Sarge' Summers, Wayne Christian and Sarah Stogner.
- Justice, Supreme Court Place 3: Debra Lehrmann
- Justice, Supreme Court Place 5: Rebeca Huddle
- Justice, Supreme Court Place 9: David J. Schenck and Evan Young
- Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 2: Mary Lou
- Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 5: Clint Morgan and Scott Walker
- Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 6: Jesse F. McClure III

- Member, State Board of Education, District No. 11: Patricia "Pat" Hardy, Joshua Tarbay, "DC" Caldwell and Rebecca Garcia.
- State Senator, District 30: Drew Springer.
- State Representative, District 60: Lucas Turner, Glenn Rogers, Kit Marshall and Mike Olcott
- Justice, Second Court of Appeals District, Place 3: Elizabeth Kerr
- County Judge: Thomas Moorman and Pat Deen
- Judge, County Court at Law, No. 1: Zachary Pettigrew, Kirk D. Martin and Kitty Wise
- District Clerk: Sharena Gilliland
- · County Clerk: Lila Jean
- Sheriff, unexpired term: Russ Authier and Marc Povero
- County Treasurer: Rebecca McCullough
- Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1: Kelvin Miles
- County Chairman: Rachael McWatson and J. Scott Utley

PROPOSITIONS:

1."In light of the federal government's refusal to defend the southern border. Texas should immediately deploy the National Guard, Texas Military Forces, and

necessary state law enforceforce immigration laws, and ty blockers, cross-sex hordeport illegal aliens."

- (10) years without implementing a state income tax."
- declining a COVID-19 vaccine."
- 4. "Texas schools should teach students basic knowledge and American excep-Race Theory and other curdoctrine and encourage division based on creed, race, or economic status."
- State Constitutional Amendof innocent human life, created in the image of God, ral death."
- 6. "The Republican-controlled Texas Legislature should end the practice of awarding committee chair- ALL BALLOTS: manships to Democrats."
- 7. "Texas should protect the integrity of our elections by verifying that registered voters are American citizens, restoring felony penalties and enacting civil penalties for vote fraud, and fighting any federal takeover of state elections."

- 8. "Texas should ban ment to seal the border, en- chemical castration, pubermones, and genital muti-2. "Texas should eliminate lation surgery on all minor all property taxes within ten children for sex transition purposes."
- "Texas parents and 3. "Texans should not guardians should have the lose their jobs, nor should right to select schools, students be penalized, for whether public or private, for their children, and the funding should follow the student."

10. "Texans affirm that our freedoms come from God tionalism and reject Critical and that the government should have no control over ricula that promote Marxist the conscience of individuals."

In the Democratic primary for Parker County, voters in 5. "Texas should enact a some districts will be able to vote for a U.S. Representament to defend the sanctity tive – Trey J. Hunt, District 12 – and a state senator, representing District 10, Beverfrom fertilization until natu- ly Powell. The offices below are unform across Parker County.

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY,

- Governor: Michael Cooper, Joy Diaz, Inocencio (Inno) Barrientez, Rich Wakeland and Beto O'Rourke • Lieutenant Governor:
- Michelle Beckley, Carla Brailey and Mike Collier

Laura's

Pharmacy

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AUDITS

- Attorney General: S. "TBone" Raynor, Rochelle Mercedes Grza, Joe Jaworski, Mike Fields and Lee Merritt
- Comptroller of Public Accounts: Janet T. Duddling, Tim Mahoney and Angel Luis Vega
- Commissioner of the General Land Office: Sandragrace Martinez, Michael Lange, Jinny Suh and Jay Kleberg
- Commissioner of Agriculture: Ed Ireson and Susan Hays
- Railroad Commissioner: Luke Warford
- Justice, Supreme Court Place 3: Erin A. Nowell
- Justice, Supreme Court
- Place 5: Amanda Reichek • Justice, Supreme Court
- Place 9: Julia Maldonado • Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 5: Dana
- Huffman • Judge, Court of Criminal
- Appeals, Place 6: Robert Johnson • Member State Board
- of Education, District 11: "DC" Caldwell I, James Whitfield and Luis Miguel Sifuentes • Justice, Second Court
- of Appeals, Place No. 3: Delonia A. Watson
- County Chairman: Kay Pierson Parr

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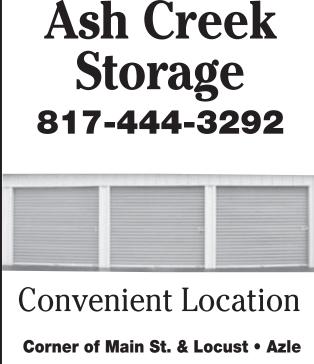
REFILLS AVAILABLE AT OUR LOCATION

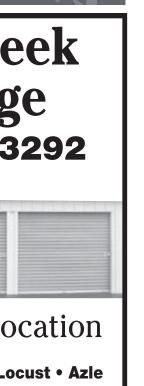
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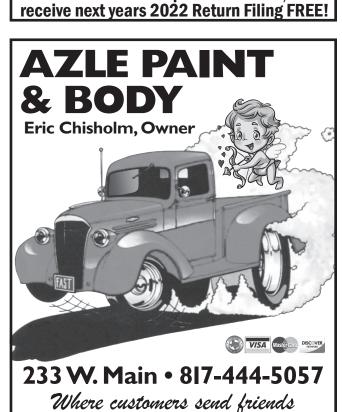
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- Criminal Law
- Business Law
- Personal Injury
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Hituaries

John Fred Weir, Jr.

1933 - 2022

John Fred Weir, Jr., 88, passed away on Jan. 2, 2022, at Azle Manor Nursing Home.

Fred, as he was best known, was born Dec. 22, 1933, in Valley Mills, Texas and has resided in Azle for the last 50 years.

A memorial will be held on Saturday, Feb. 19, at 3:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Azle. Interment will be at Dallas-Fort coaching career was leading Worth National Cemetery at a later date.

tions can be made to First a veteran of the U.S. Army United Methodist Church or and also retired at the rank the Azle Rotary Club.

Fred had a love for travel, sports, and serving his community. He enjoyed traveling all over the world with family and friends. He never met a stranger he couldn't turn into a friend. His love for football led to him receiving a scholarship at the University of Texas at Austin. He was also a huge he will be greatly missed by fan of the Dallas Cowboys all. and Texas Rangers. In addi-Azle Rotary Club where he served as president for two

39 years, he retired. He had Orr. a wide array of responsibilities including, assistant football and basketball coach at Ranger Junior College, boys' and girls' basketball coach at Morgan ISD, head football and basketball coach at coach at Granbury.

as the athletic director and pher) Ponzio, Lance (Laura) in heaven at 12:48 a.m. Feb. head football coach at An- Connot, and Tanner (Pam) drews ISD and assistant foot- Connot; Pierce and Skylar ball coach at Western Hills Burleson; great-grandchil-High School in Fort Worth. dren, Sloane and Rhett Fer-He finished his career in rell, Kynli and Kellan Confootball, was vice principal Granger Burleson, along at Azle High School, and with many nieces and nephprincipal at Walnut Creek ews and cherished friends. and Silver Creek elementary schools. The highlight in his



the Granbury Pirates to the 1966 Class AA state champi-In lieu of flowers, dona- onship game. Fred was also of Colonel from the U.S. Air Force Reserve.

Fred had a great sense of humor, a booming laugh, a of his life, Carol. They were servant's heart, and wasn't afraid to speak his mind. He was a loyal and loving son, brother, friend, husband, father, and "Papa." He leaves a lasting legacy in his family, friends, and community, and ily set an example for their 9

tion, he was a member of the death by his first wife of 43 years, Joyce Anderson Weir; his parents, John and Gladys a hard worker, never met a Weir; brother, David Weir; He began his career in sister, Lola Fay Parker; and education in 1955 and after daughter, Charlotte Weir ther, friend and most impor-

wife of 23 years, Mary Talana Weir; sister Doris Graves (Dee Horton); brother-in-law John (Cheryl) 2, 2018. They were rarely Hadsell; daughter Sharon (Ricky) Connot; son-in-Copperas Cove ISD, athletic law Rick Orr; Tasha (Mardirector, and head football tin) Burleson-Estrada and years, one day and 48 min-Chance Burleson; grand-From there he moved on children, Kayla (Christo- he was called to be with her Azle ISD where he coached not, Lexi Walker, Luna and

> The Azle News, Feb. 16, 2022 Edition



Olan Gerald LeFan

1935 - 2022

Olan Gerald LeFan, 86, passed away Feb. 4, 2022.

Olan was born March 23, 1935, in Fort Worth, Texas. He started working at the age of 9 to help his family. He grew up fast but stayed young until the end, never losing his playful spirit. He attended school in North Side and graduated from Lake Worth High School in 1953 where he was well loved by fellow classmates. After high school he joined the Marines until starting his family. He then went to trade school and became a pipe fitter where he was a lifetime member with 65 years of service for UA Local 146.

In 1965, he met the love married Aug. 28, 1965 and became a family of 9. Later they added two more children and raised a granddaughter. Their love for each other and love for their famchildren, 22 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and Fred was preceded in two great-great-grandchildren (and counting).

Throughout his life he was stranger, was kind to all, was He is survived by his helped him through many apart, and he was by her side numerous until her last breath. His famutes more loving on him until 4, 2022.

Whether you knew him as



Olan, Gerald, Jerry, Daddy, Bullet or Grampy, he will be remembered for the love he had for others. Usually, it was conveyed by making people Springtown. Interment at the their mission programs. laugh, even when he was D/FW National Cemetery at sick, even if he was sad, he a later date. liked to make people smile and laugh. We are blessed to Seabee for nine years. Boyd have a lifetime of smiles and was employed by Mitchell laughs to remember him by.

Olan was preceded in death by his wife, Carol; his parents, Kenneth and Lolita LeFan; his sisters, Carmelita Grammer and Joyce Hobson; his children, Carol Ann and Mark; and his grandson, Joshua.

He is survived by daughter, Mary and her husband, Bruce Slider of Hurst; son, Drue and his wife, Susan of Round Rock; daughter, a wonderful son, brother, fa- Anne of Euless; son, Gerald of Arlington; son, Allen and tantly a Christian. His faith his wife, Connie of Florida; son, Greg and his wife Kelhard times and losses, but ley of Weatherford; daughthe hardest was the loss of ter, Becky of Fort Worth; his wife of 53 years on Feb. granddaughter, Tiffany and her husband, Zac of Azle; greatly by all that knew him. grandchildren, great- and great-great grandily and friends enjoyed four children, and more on the way; and numerous extended family members and friends.

> The Azle News, Feb. 16, 2022 Edition

Bob White,

Anita White

and Zack Bellenger

Full Service

Cremation

Services)

Pre-Need

Plans

Funeral Home

James Boyd Philips 1942 - 2022

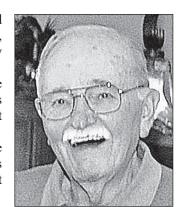
James Boyd Philips passed away Thursday, Feb. 10, 2022, at home surrounded by his family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the First Baptist Church of Springtown.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the First Baptist Church of Springtown.

Boyd was born in White-Celebration of Life was at

11 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2022 at First Baptist Church,



face, Texas on April 16, 1942. Energy for 20 years and retired in 1999. He was member of the First Baptist Church in Springtown and was active

He was deeply loved by his wife, Elizabeth, of 36 years, He served in the Navy as a and all his family and friends.

> The Azle News, Feb. 16, 2022 Edition

Cecil "James" Boyer

1969 - 2022

Cecil "James" Boyer, 53, of Springtown, passed away on Thursday Feb. 10, 2022 at UTSW Hospital in Dallas.

Visitation is from 7 to p.m. Thursday, Feb. 17, 2022 at White's Azle Funeral

James was born Jan. 14, 1969 in Fort Worth, the son of Robert and Mary Boyer. He was a uniquely talented craftsman, who loved the outdoors. James will be missed

James was preceded in death by his father; and half-brother, Bob. Survivors include his lov-

ing wife, Pamela; son, Nicholas; step-son. Ron; mother,



Mary; sister, Donna and husband, Barry; sister, Sherry and husband, Bill; brother, Rob and wife, Melissa; and several nieces and nephews.

> The Azle News, Feb. 16, 2022 Edition

June Trevisan

1925 - 2022

Trevisan June Springtown, Texas passed away Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2022, at the age of 96.

Memorials in June's name may be made to the Azle Animal Shelter Medical Fund.

June was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

June was very proud of her nursing career and was an Industrial Nurse at Oster Corporation until her retirement. She loved crafting intricate, Lester Diefenbach (Cathy); petite needlepoint keepsakes for her family, was an avid reader, and enjoyed watching mysteries and CSI on TV.

June was preceded in death by her husband, Primo, children. and her granddaughter, Allison Stark.

Survivors include her son,



daughter, Ellen Stark (Bill); loving niece, Nancy Penasa (Rudy); grandchildren Jessie, Amy, Jennifer, and AJ, along with six great-grand-

Feb. 16, 2022 Edition

The Azle News,

... ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY

THE ABBEY CHURCH Pastor: Paul Brownback 10400 Jacksboro Highway 817-238-1404

www.TheAbbeyChurch.com Morning Worship......10:30 AM Community Groups Various Times **ASH CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH**

Pastor: Dr. G. Wesley Shot	well	
300 South Stewart St. 817-44	14-3219	
www.ashcreekbc.org		
Sunday School	9:30 /	
Contemporary Worship-TMP	10:45 /	
Traditional Worshin	10.45	

Sunday School	9:30 AI
Contemporary Worship-TMP	10:45 AI
Traditional Worship	10:45 AI
Evening Worship	6:00 рі
Wednesday Youth Refuge	6:00 рі
Wednesday Evening	6:15 рі
AZLE CHRISTIAN CHU	JRCH
(Disciples of Christ) Senior Mi	nister, Ashley
Dargai Katie Medlin Worch	in Minietar

Sunday School......10:00 AM Morning Worship......11:00 AM AZI F FIRST ASSEMBLY of GOD

117 Church St. • 817-444-3527

AZLE FIROT ASSEMBLY OF	เนบบ
Pastor: Tim Stevens	
1020 S.E. Parkway, Azle 817-2	37-4903
Sunday School	9:30 AF
Morning Worship	10:30 AF
Wednesday Evening	7:00 рг

COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

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

Sunday School	9:45
Morning Worship	11:00
Sunday Evening	
Wednesday Evening	
•	

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH 2233 Hwy 199 E. • Springtown 817-221-LIFE (5433)

Sunday Worship Service10:00 AM Wednesday7:00 PM

CROSSROADS BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor - Jon Baker

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Worship Service......10:30 AM Wed. Prayer Service......7:00 PM THE EDGE CHURCH - AZLE

1313 S.E. Pkwy, Azle 817-2 3	37-4822
Missouri Synod	
"Love God - Serve Others - Sh	are Jesus'
Traditional Worship	9:30 A
Contemporary Worship	11:00 A

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Pastor: Dr. Richard Reed

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Vhite's Funeral Homes

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

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH 800 Highcrest Dr. - Azle 817-444-3063 Saturday......5:00 PM Sunday11 AM (Spanish) Daily Mass (M, T, Th, F)8:00 AM Wednesday Mass Religious ED 6:30 PM Confessions Sat 4 PM

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA 4795 E. Hwy 199 - Reno 817-221-H0PE Follow us on Facebook for streaming

services Traditional Service10:00 AM

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

/I		,
	Pastor - Bill Gay - 817-	-304-7443
	Coffee and Donuts	9:00 ам
	Sunday School	9:30 ам
	Morning Worship	10:30 ам
	Children's Church After N	lusic Service
Λ	Wed. Prayer Meeting	6:30 рм
Л	Wed. Bible Study	7:00 рм

LEGACY CHURCH Assembly of God Church

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

Morning Worship	9:15 & 11:00 ам
Kidz Zone	9:15 & 11:00 ам
Weds Evening Legacy Gr	oup Legacy Youth, Kids
All Services	7:00 рм

SILVER CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

SILVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor: Jay Ditty Minister of Music: David Musick Corner FM 730 S. & Veal Station Rd. Church 817-444-2325

www.silvercreekbc.org

1	Sunday School9:45 AM	The WORD Students (6th-12th grades) 6:30
	Morning Worship10:50 AM	PΜ
1	Evening Worship6:00 PM	Awana Kids at the WORD6:30 PM
1	Wed. Prayer Service7:00 PM	Life at the WORD Life Groups Various Times

THE WORD@LAKESIDE CHURCH OF GOD 9396 FM 1886 Fort Worth, TX 76135 817-237-5500 thewordatlakeside.com

Pastors: Brandon and Kelly Bohannon **Worship Pastor**: Christen Moody Family Life and Young Adult Pastors: Jodie and Mark James, Kids Pastor: Katie Pearson, **Student Pastors**: Taylor and Sheridan

Tomlin, Creative Directors: Logan and Carrie

Edwards, **Connections Coordinators**: Preston and Ashley Larrew Equip Sunday School at the WORD9:30 AM Empower Worship at the WORD . 10:45 AM Kids at the WORD...... 10:45 AM PreK at the WORD...... 10:45 AM Emanate at the WORD

(Special Needs Ministry) 10:45 AM Nursery at the WORD 10:45 AM Young Adults at the WORD 6:00 PM

Wednesdays	
Adult Bible Class7:00 PM	
The WORD Students (6th-12th grades) 6:30	
PM	
Awana Kids at the WORD6:30 PM	

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

Hituaries

Viola Cassie Kennedy

1942 - 2022

Viola Cassie (Fowler) Kennedy, of Azle, 79, went home to be with the Lord, Sunday, Jan. 16, 2022 in Azle.

She was born Oct. 9, 1942 in Montgomery, Alabama to James Floyd Fowler and Gladys Byrd. They both preceded her in death along with her step-father, Earl Smith, and siblings, Floyd, Ernest, Mae and Buck.

Graveside services were held, Wednesday, Jan. 26, 2022 at Bluebonnet Hills Memorial Park in Colleyville.

Viola grew up in Alabama and in 1959 she met Leroy Kennedy. They were married Dec. 31, 1959 in Granbury. She owned and operated Vi's Trash Service in Springtown for many years. Viola loved to visit the river Melinda and Troy. All of where she enjoyed fishing, camping and spending time with her family.



She is survived by her daughter, Cassie Hiliker and her boyfriend, Rick Judge; son, Jeffery Kennedy and wife, Debbie; sisters, Virginia, Naomi, Dorothy Gale and Juanita; grandchildren, Cylinda, Jeffery Michael and Jeffery Charles; great grandchildren, Harley, Paulix, Hailey, Paislee, Gracie, whom will miss her dearly.

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John Shumate

1942 - 2022

John Kendall Shumate, of Azle, 79, passed away in a Fort Worth hospital on Feb. 2, 2022.

John is forever in the presence of his Savior Jesus

Services: Memorial service will be held at a later

John was born Feb. 23, 1942, in Cooper, Texas to Opal Bryant Shumate and Edith L. Higgins Shumate. John married Glennus Marie Hawley in 1985 and they spent 36 lovely years togeth-

heed Martin after 35 years of service as a flight line specialist. John loved airplanes and enjoyed flying his own private plane in his spare time. John was an avid fisherman, loving husband, and

John retired from Lock-



special friend to all who knew him. John was a longtime member of Community Bible Fellowship in Azle and loved serving the Lord and playing the trombone.

John will be dearly missed by his lovely wife, Glennus and fondly remembered as a special friend to many.

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Jimmie Joe Smith Jr

1968 - 2022

Jimmie Joe Smith Jr., 53, passed away Sunday, Feb. 6, 2022 in Fort Worth.

Memorial service was held Saturday Feb. 10, 2022. Jimmie was born July 16,1968 in Fort Worth to Jimmie Joe, Sr. and Peggy (Wester) Smith. He was a Maintenance Supervisor for the City of Fort Worth (Will Rogers Auditorium) for 26 years. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and golf.

Jimmie loved being involved with his girls' softball team.

death by his father Jimmie Joe Smith, Sr.

He is survived by his wife of 26 years, Sheri Smith; daughters, Shayna Phinney and her husband Jacob, Madison Smith and Dustyn Potter, Brookelyn Smith and



Avery Smith; mother, Peggy Smith; sisters, Leisa Samsill and her husband Tim, Jimmie was preceded in Jolynda York; grandchildren, Kynleigh, Makenzi, Ezekiel, Haylie and Brixlyn, due in April; numerous nieces, nephews and extended family.

> The Azle News, Feb. 16, 2022 Edition

> > **FO**

Spotlight on BUSINESS





SERVING PARKER & TARRANT COUNTIES

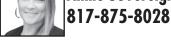
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Southweste

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Tuneups



The tagueria is family owned and operated by Carina Ortiz Melendez, her daughter Luz Ruiz. her son Emmanuel Ruiz, mother Alicia Melendez, and cousin Viky Marcus.

Taqueria Melendez

Fresh, authentic Mexican street tacos

street tacos, then you need to stop right in the heart of Azle at Taqueria Melendez.

Previously located at 527 Boyd Ct. for two years, Taqueria Melendez recently moved to its new location at 1105 Boyd Rd., across from Azle High School and next to Azle Café, making it the go-to spot for students looking for a pre-dinner snack after school lets out.

The taqueria is family owned and operated by Carina Ortiz Melendez, her daughter Luz Ruiz, her son Emmanuel Ruiz, mother Alicia Melendez, and cousin Viky Marcus.

Taqueria Melendez cooks up a variety of meats to go inside fresh tortillas that are made daily at the restaurant. You can choose from pastor (pork) in red sauce,

If you are looking for authentic Mexican asada (grilled beef), chicharron (pork rinds) in green sauce, or barbacoa (beef) plus charro beans.

Tacos are \$2 each, or you can have a burrito with your choice of meat, cheese, tomato, onions and cilantro for \$8.

Also on the menu are tortas and quesadillas with your choice of meat.

Right now, Taqueria Melendez is running a special of two tacos and a can Coke for just \$4.

For the best Mexican street tacos made with fresh, homemade ingredients and quality meats, and fast and friendly service, stop in and visit Carina and her family anytime between 11 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. You can also call in your order ahead of time at 682-251-6491.



Meiennez

1105 Boyd Road, Azle

682-251-6491

DINE IN • TAKE OUT • CATERING

Pastor Pork marinated in red sauce

Chicharron Pork Rinds in Green Sauce

Asada Grilled Beef

Tacos Choice of Meat, charro beans. Order of 4 \$8.00 Single \$2.00

Burritoes Tomato, onion, cilantro, cheese.

Drinks Canned Coke, Bottled Water, Mexican

2 Tacos w/canned

Coke for **\$4.00**

Tortas Tomato, onion, cilantro, cheese. Choice of Meat \$9.00 Jamon (Ham) \$7.50 Sincroniadas Quesadilla w/meat

Coke, Jarritos Punch/Orange, Rice Water

Barbacoa Beef

Choice of Meat \$8.00

and charro beans \$8.00

- Tax Preparation
- Free 2nd Looks for Tax Returns
- Free Consultations
- Business Entity formation: LLC, Inc., Corp., LP, LLP, Trust, Non-For-Profit

• Wide Range of Business Forms

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119 Industrial Ave, Azle





Thinking about being called home

In the recent past, I spent a considerable amount of time in Covid-19 lockdown. Our government officials told everyone to stay home and since I have several risk factors which make me more susceptible to the illness, I did exactly that.

The people who know me understand sitting still and doing nothing is not something which I would be accustomed to. The first few days I did manage to clean up my long-neglected office and went through some boxes in the garage, of old pictures my folks had left to me. I dedicated a portion of the day to working on my



MY FRONT PORCH

By Sam Houston

Sam Houston is a newspaper executive, a columnist, author, actor and entertainment promoter.

next book and made significant progress towards getting it completed.

As the days rolled by, it became harder and harder to find something productive to do. With a degree of disdain, I forced myself to clean up some long-neglected bookkeeping work.

Then one day I reflected, perhaps it was time for me to put some thought into

what I wanted to take place when I passed. Probably like a lot of folks, death is not something which I particularly dwell on, especially my own. I will turn 66 this next summer and as much as I would like to argue with the sands of time, I understand I am a whole lot closer to the end than the beginning.

there comes a time in your for me. I learned I did not life, no matter your health, your state of mind, or how you feel, you must accept that in the grand scheme of things: "I'm old." Do not misunderstand. There is nothing wrong with being old. It means a person has survived the trials and tribulations of life. It means your brain carries hundreds of thousands of memories (some good and some bad) which can be opened and revisited. Hopefully, it means a person has acquired some degree of wisdom and judgment.

As I sat down and invested the time to truly reflect on made on others. I was re-For young folks, they my last wishes, it became a morseful for mistakes I had

care about a big funeral. I did not really care what music was going to be played during the service. I really was not that concerned about where I would be put to rest. What I came to understand was the only thoughts that came to my heart were the relationships and people I would leave behind. I never once thought about a possession, or a piece of property. My mind and heart were focused on the human interaction I had with the world, and what mark I might have

might not understand, but serious learning experience made and joyful over blessings I had received along the way.

> Someday, and without question sooner than I would wish, I will be called home, as will everyone who is reading this column. In the time between now and then, I hope all of us can appreciate the goodness around us, value the friends we have, forgive those who have wronged us, and savor these precious moments we call life. In the end, those are the things that matter.

Thought for the day: Most good judgment comes from the exercise of bad judgment

Until next time.



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Caitlyn's Catering

Reception to be held for photographer's bird exhibit

BY DON MUNSCH editor@azlenews.net

Mike Jones likes birding and photographing birds.

He put the passions together for his Birds of Texas photos, an exhibit on display at Herring Bank in Azle, 108 Industrial Ave., where a reception will be held from 6-7:30 p.m. Feb. 24.

Twelve of Jones' photos are on display as prints at the bank, and images include everything from an eastern bluebird to an acorn woodpecker to a greater roadrunner. Jones lives in Azle.

"He's a customer of the bank and he retired from Lockheed (Martin)," said Elizabeth Salvatore, market president, adding that bank personnel raved about his photos, and he offered to allow the bank to display prints of photos on canvas.

"We love having it be somebody local and love having it be birds of Texas," she said.

Jones said it was fantastic and uplifting to have his work adorn the walls at the bank. His birding hobby's presence can be found on Facebook and Nextdoor.

Salvatore thought displaying the photos was a great opportunity to bring some excitement into the bank. At the reception, visitors can meet Jones and enjoy light refreshments.

"He's really passionate species of birds. about this," she said.

Jones worked as a technical fellow in optics and electro-optics at Lockheed. He worked at Lockheed for 36 years, retiring in 2015. He took a couple of years off and then started consulting species. The largest bird bird," he said. He photo- sions."



Mike Jones with his photography, currently on display at Herring Bank.

Photo by Don Munsch

on optics for Raytheon in he has photographed was a graphed it in Arizona. McKinney.

ing birds since 1977, when hummingbird followed by and Canada, Costa Rica and he was at Texas Tech. Lub- American pygmy kingfisher, Australia. bock rests in the central fly- which is just a few inches way and attracts hundreds of long.

way to start that hobby," he he said.

said he has seen about 550

golden eagle or a bald ea-

"That's one of the more "Lubbock was a very rich amazing birds I've gotten,"

His favorite to photo-He has photographed graph was a Verdin, a spar-

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Jones has photographed He has been photograph- gle. The smallest was the birds all over the country

> Salvatore said the bank enjoyed being able to share Jones' hobby.

"We get very close to our customers," she said. "This just feels like such a winwin - a win for the bank to around 350-400 species of row-sized bird with a bright have this beautiful artwork birds over the years, but he yellow face and red armpits. and a win for him to be able "It's a beautiful, beautiful to display one of his pas-

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JERMYN, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

he popped a U-turn," said partment could arrive. Kovach.

driveway of the home and ran to the front door and a ways." started knocking to alert anyone inside but said he firefighters were able to didn't hear anything.

for a hose to start spraying a fallen powerline nearby, the fire. He was able to find according to the friends. a hose but it wasn't hooked The only damage to the up so he could not use it.

Goodin awoke and opened bedroom of the family's the back door to her home eight-month-old twin girls. to see flames in her backyard and four strangers ask- would tell others who ing her where they could might see an emergency hook up a water hose.

up the hose and started to (if we hadn't stopped)." feed the hose to the house, and Kevin started spraying."

too close to the hose, so ily" with support. Nguyen sprayed the hose

they noticed what looked around it to prevent it from like a bonfire blazing in the melting. The water hose vard of a nearby home. But was the only thing helping no one was out there with to keep the flames away from the home until the "Robby was driving, and Jermyn Volunteer Fire De-

"We were stomping, put-They pulled into the ting out the fire as much as possible," said Banes. "It Banes was the first to jump took, like, 20 minutes for out of the car even before the fire department to get it had stopped moving. He there because it's out there

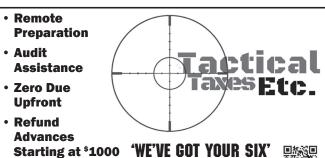
Finally, the volunteer put out the blaze, which Ash ran out back to look appeared to be started by home was some melted After a few minutes, Ky siding just outside of the

When asked what they situation like this, Banes "People started coming said, "Do more than drive out of the house, including by and call 911. Make sure the husband," said Kovach. no one is home or help get "He threw off the cover of them out. ... The family the wellhouse and hooked might not have gotten out

Kovach said that he "wants our community to The fire had begun to get surround the (Goodin) fam-







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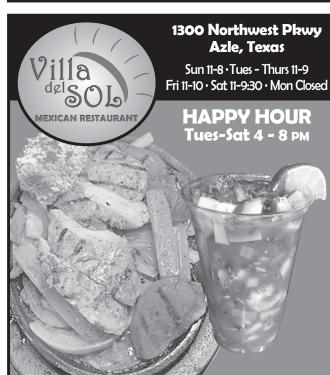
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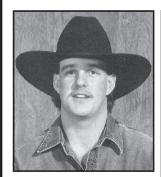




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Happy Birthday & Happy Valentine's Day



I didn't have as much time with you as I wanted. But I have wonderful memories. I was so happy when we got you and since you were born on Valentine's day you came with lots of love and hugs. Love and miss you as always. Love you, Mom, Dad, Gina and Family.

A Prayer for my Son Dear Lord,

your gifts are many I am thankful for every one. One of the greatest

gifts you've given is the gift of my dear son. Thank you for his life, dear Lord, watch over him each day.

May he be safe and free from pain.



Crafting at the Creek

BY JESSICA McKINNEY azlereporter@azlenews.net

The Walnut Creek Bap-Ministry will hold "Crafting at the Creek" on Feb. invited.

Crafters are invited to bring their current projcommunity-centered environment," organizers said.

vided by the church.

"We have never done the event.

"As a women's group, together to craft and fel- 817-597-5930.

Snacks and water and ta- lowship," she said. "Our bles and chairs will be pro- hope/prayer is to offer this a couple times a year."

Friday evening crafting tist Church's Women's anything like this before," will be from 5 to 9 p.m. and said Lisa Squires, admin- Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 istrative assistant at the p.m. Crafters are encour-25 and 26. The public is church and organizer for aged to bring a sack lunch for Saturday.

Crafting at the Creek will we thought it would be a be held at Walnut Creek ects and work alongside great way to reach out to Baptist Church 220 W. others in a "supportive and the community, offer a safe Reno Road in Azle. To replace for women to come serve a spot, contact Lisa at

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

night, received phone calls yesterday all about some negative advertising for the half-truths and attacks. I with Texas Scorecard. want to hear what they are going to do if elected!

negative communications, most are affiliated with Em-Liberty PAC, Texas Right Responsibility, Young Conservatives of Texas, Equality Texas, and Environment Texas. They obviously have other side. a right to say whatever they want, but you need to know where you vote, there are the source.

levels. Don't be turned off, Convention, er than act like folks on the involved, give me a call.

links at keepparkercoun-To gauge your agreement tygreat.com. Then, after

with their positions, check the polls close on March 1, I received a mailer last out the Scorecard for your attend your precinct confavorite conservative, for vention which is located at the elected official that you your neighborhood polling know best as a fighter for our place which is identified upcoming primary. As for cause. Many of our conser- by the three-digit precinct me, I really don't like the vative activists score poorly number on your voter registration card. There, you can Attack ads just run folks vote to be a delegate to the off and give "politics" a bad Senatorial District Conven-For the current round of name, but the reality is that tion, submit resolutions to "politics," elections deter- be considered by the Senmine who represents us at atorial District Convention power Texas: Defend Texas the local, state and federal to be forwarded to the State to Life, Texans for Fiscal don't go away. Let's stand for the Republican Party of up for truth and respect in Texas Platform. If you have campaign advertising rath- questions about how to get

> You can participate. You To determine when and matter. Your vote matters!

Zan S. Prince, Willow Park

LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

ADVERTISEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGER-AT-RISK. TWO-STEP PROCESS: Pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Government Code Chapter 2269, Subchapter F, it is the intention of the Azle Independent School District to select, via a Two-Step Request for Construction Management-at-Risk qualifications process, a Construction Manager (CM) for projects resulting from the November 2021 Bond Referendum: additions and renovations at the existing Azle High School, including science lab additions, kitchen addition, welding shop

addition, science lab renovations, and cafeteria renovations.

The Request for Qualifications is available by visiting the Azle ISD website or contacting VLK Architects. Questions regarding the RFQ should be directed in writing via e-mail to Clinton Schiver, VLK Architects at cschiver@vlkarchitects.com Step One Statement of Qualifications will be received at: Attn: Matt Adams, Azle Independent School District, 300 Roe Street, Azle, Texas 76020 until 2:00 p.m., Tuesday February 22, 2022

INVITATION TO BID NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the City of Azle, Texas (OWNER) will receive sealed Bids at Azle City Hall until 11:00 a.m. local time on Thursday, March 3, 2022 for Bulk Process Chemicals for the Azle Water Treatment Plant and Azle Wastewater Treatment Plant. Bids will be opened and read aloud publicly following the close of the Bid Period.

Bidders may receive a copy of Invitation to Bid from the City's website at http://www.cityofazle.org For additional information, please contact: Michelle Stevens/Purchasing Agent at 817-444-7003 or by email at mstevens@cityofazle.org

Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that The City of Azle, Texas will conduct a public hearing in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 505 W. Main, Azle, Texas during the regular City Council meeting beginning at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, March 1, 2022. The purpose of the public hearing will be to receive citizen input on community needs and project selection relative to funds to be received in the 48th year of the Tarrant County's Community Development Block Grant Program

On March 4, 2022 we will be holding a public auction on the following homes. 1) 1999 CMH 28X64 HUD #HWC0275158/59 CURRENT OWNER OF RECORD PEARLY M HAYSLIP, PEOPLE OF INTEREST PHYLLIS BRADSHAW, KIMBERLY TERWILLINGER. CURRENT LIENHOLDERS ENSPIRE FINANCIAL LOCATED IN TARRANT COUNTY TAXING AREA. 2) TITAN HOME 28X40 HUD#COL0034783/84 CURRENT OWNER OF RECORD OSCAR BARRERRA, PEOPLE OF INTEREST LAURA EWING. LOCATED IN TARRANT COUNTY TAXING AREA. 3) GUERDON INDUSTRIES INCORPORATED 14X72 HUD#ARK0024305 CURRENT OWNER OF RECORD GWEN D GOODNIGHT. PEOPLE OF INTEREST ARTURO PEREZ. LIENHOLDER CONSECO FINANCE SERVICING CORP. LOCATED IN TARRANT COUNTY TAXING AREA. ANY PERSONS WITH ANY INTERST CONTACT OUR OFFICE 817-237-1370. THE PUBLIC AUCTION WILL BE HELD AT 12125 JACKSBORO HWY. FORT WORTH, TX 76135 ON MARCH 4, 2022, AT 8AM.

> **ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS CITY OF AZLE, TEXAS EMERGENCY RAW WATER INTAKE and WATER TREATMENT PLANT GENERATOR - REBID**

Separate sealed bids for the construction of **EMERGENCY RAW WATER INTAKE and**

WATER TREATMENT PLANT GENERATOR - REBID (Azle bid number 22-001R) will be received by the City of Azle, Texas until 3:00 PM on Thursday, March 17, 2022, at City Hall, 505 W. Main Street, Azle, Texas, 76020, and then at said location publicly opened and read aloud. This project consists of the installation of a 350 KW emergency power generator at the City's water treatment plant and any related appurtenances. This project also consists of the installation of a 250 KW emergency generator at the City's raw water intake facility. The Contract Documents consisting of Advertisement of Bids, Information for Bidders, Bid Proposal, Bid Bond, Contract, Performance and Payment Bonds, Maintenance Bond, General Conditions, Notice of Award, Notice to Proceed, Plans, Specifications and Addenda (if any) may

be examined at the following location: JACOB & MARTIN, LLC

1508 Santa Fe Drive, Suite 203, Weatherford, Texas 76086

A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at the City Hall in Azle, 505 W. Main Street, Azle, Texas 76020.

The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities and to reject any or all bids. Bids may be held by the Owner for a period not to exceed 60 days from the date of bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the qualifications of Bidders prior to awarding of the contract.

Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS must be ordered online at www.jacobmartin.com. Orders for CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may include hard copies for pick up, mail out or digital download via www.jacobmartin.com. Upon verification of online payment, hard copies may be picked up at Jacob & Martin, LLC, located at 1508 Santa Fe Drive, Suite 203, Weatherford, TX 76086. Cost for hard copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS will be \$100.00. Cost for digital download of CONTRACT DOCUMENTS will be \$0.00. Contractors must purchase a set of CONTRACT DOCUMENTS to be considered a registered plan holder eligible to bid the project. A certified check or bank draft, payable to the order of CITY OF AZLE, TEXAS, negotiable U.S. Governmental bonds (at par value) or a satisfactory Bid Bond executed by the Bidder and an acceptable surety in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total bid shall be submitted with

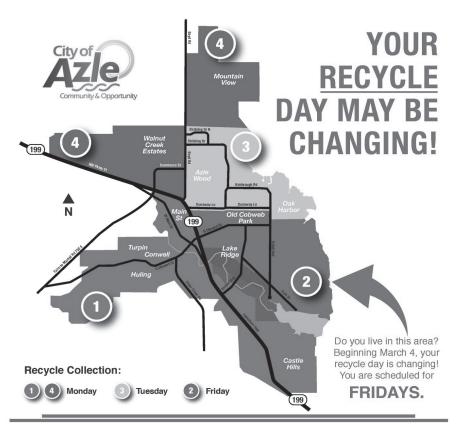
City of Azle, Texas Alan Brundrett, Mayor February 16, 2022

News from Azle City Hall

We welcome your comments or suggestions on information you would like to see reported on this page, please call Azle City Hall, 817-444-2541, or email Administrative Assistant Debbie Clayton at dclayton@cityofazle.org. Until next

Community Waste Disposal, the city's trash provider, is adding a recycle day to Azle's route. This will result in some of our residents having their recycle day shift from Tuesday to Friday.

EFFECTIVE MARCH 4





Questions?

972.392.9300/Option 2

www.CommunityWasteDisposal.com/find-my-city/azle/

New Garbage Rates in effect February 1, 2022

Beginning February 1, 2022, Azle residents/business owners will see an increase in their garbage/recycle rates. (Current residential rate \$18.45 - new rate \$21.20/month) The City's contract with CWD allows for an annual market adjustment each February 1st based on the percent of increase in the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) for all DFW Urban Consumers as published by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Additionally, landfill costs have increased. The new garbage service rates are available on the City's website at www.cityofazle.org or a hard copy is available at City Hall.

Azle residents benefit from a variety of waste disposal options - twice a week solid waste, once a week recycle (option to choose either 65 gal cart or 18 gal bin), once a week bulk item collection, once a month bulk brush, and a twice a year "X-treme Green Event" that is held as part of the city-wide clean up.

The X-treme Green Event gives Azle residents a convenient way to dispose of their household hazardous waste, e-waste, metal appliances, tires, and on-site document shredding. The 2022 X-treme Green Events are scheduled for May 7 and September 17.

Free recycled paint for Azle residents

In an effort to continue our recycling efforts, the City and CWD created a remix paint program by blending the usable paint collected at Azle's X-treme Green Events and offering the recycled paint (latex & oil-based) FREE to Azle residents. Paint is in one (1) gallon containers and available at Azle City Hall, 505 W. Main Street. The City of Azle does not guarantee the purity, quality, consistency, etc of the paint distributed.

The City of Azle and CWD are committed to helping our residents keep the community clean and preserving the environment for future generations. For questions or concerns regarding your solid waste collection, please contact Community Waste Disposal at 972-392-9300, Option 2.

** For guidelines regarding garbage collection, visit the City's website.

March 1, 2022 Primary Election

Early Voting by Personal Appearance February 14 - 25, 2022

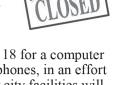
Election information for:

Tarrant County, visit www.tarrantcounty.com/elections or call 817-831-8683. Parker County, visit www.parkercountytx.com or call 817-598-6183.

TAF	RRANT COUNTY	PARKER COUNTY
Feb 14-18	Mon - Fri 8 am - 5 pm	Feb 14-18 Mon-Fri 8 am - 5 pm
Feb 19	Saturday 7 am -7 pm	Feb 19 Saturday 7 am - 7 pm
Feb 20	Sunday 10 am - 4 pm	Feb 20 Sunday 10 am - 4 pm
Feb 21	Monday Closed	Feb 21 Monday Closed
Feb 22-25	Tues-Fri 7 am - 7 pm	Feb 22-25 Tues-Fri 7 am - 7 pm

Azle City Hall closed for in-person business February 18

Parker County Voters may still access City Hall for early voting.



Azle City Hall will close for in-person business on February 18 for a computer system upgrade, however, staff will be working, answering phones, in an effort to meet the needs of Azle residents and businesses. All other city facilities will be open. City Hall will resume normal business operations on February 22. All city business may be conducted either online, via email, by mail or by phone. For questions or assistance, please call (817) 444-2541.



Azle Municipal Facilities Closed PRESIDENTS' DAY February 21

Police/Fire services will be available by calling (817) 444-3221, or 9-1-1 in case of emergency. For water/sewer emergencies, please call (817) 444-3221. Community Waste Disposal will run their regular trash/recycle route on this holiday.

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



FIRES, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

stepped up to do what they could.

FM 730 N FIRE

12:20 About of multiple mobile homes, departments, was visible for miles.

Moses Druxman assumed command and soon got Firefighters were still on struction workers presumhelp from the Azle, Lake scene working that fire after ably working on the new Worth and Newark fire departments, as well as Parker County ESD 1's La Junta and Silver Creek fire stations and a senior chief. A second alarm was sounded, summoning additional resources from the Rhome, Boyd and Sansom Park fire departments. A third alarm brought additional brush trucks.

Chief Druxman said about 10 acres burned, and fire destroyed 12 unoccupied structures and dealt minor damage to three additional ones. The cause of the fire remained under investigation late Monday.

scene until 5:01 p.m.

In conditions like these, Druxman has recommendations for all residents.

"First of all, no outdoor burning of any kind. Keep fences clean and clutter away from homes. If there is a fire, you can do what you can to protect your own home until firefighters arrive, but then it's best to get out of the area unless the fire department asks for your help," Drux-

least two cases witnessed man said. "Leave it to the and a southerly wind drove by the Azle News, residents professionals and evacuate it north – directly toward the the area."

COUNTY ROAD 3698 FIRE

p.m. larger fire was sparked north Monday, a large brush fire of Springtown on County utes, the fire generated a 1 were dispatched along column of black smoke that with air support, heavy equipment and a truck and as Birchwood Street. Briar-Reno Fire Chief crew from Strike Team with the Texas Forestry Service. 8 p.m. Monday.

CHOCTAW RIDGE FIRE

As firefighters worked to contain the first two fires, another one occurred in the 100 block of Choctaw Ridge south of Springtown. In addition to Central Fire Department units, several apparatus from the Weatherford Fire Department were dispatched. The fire burned less than an acre of land, but it did get underneath a manufactured home where it caused minor damage, according to Parker County ESD 1 Chief Stephen Wat-Firefighters were on the son. A mobile intensive care unit was requested for a patient at Choctaw Ridge.

TANGLEWOOD FIRE

With resources working the first three fires, a Silver Creek FD brush truck drove up on a fire just behind the new Allsup's store under construction on Northwest Parkway at Ashwood Street about 3:30 p.m. Dense, dry brush and trees provided plenty of fuel for the fire,

Tanglewood neighborhood.

Fire companies rushed to the fire, and some appara-In the meantime, an even tus and crews were pulled off the FM 730 North fire to fight this one, as well. Shortwas reported at the northwest Road 3698 in rural Wise ly after Chief Watson arcorner of the intersection of County. Details of that fire rived at the scene, he found FM 730 North and Knob were difficult to obtain; some residents on Tangle-Hill Road (FM 2257). The however, in addition to wood Drive literally fightproperty is used for storage several Wise County fire ing fires in their own front companies yards. Watson immediately among other items. In min- from Parker County ESD requested Parker County deputies to evacuate residents on that street as well

> Individual help to fight this fire came from con-Allsup's store. They used heavy equipment to plow fire breaks, and one was even seen using hand tools help put the fire out.

ESD 1's La Junta and Silver Creek stations, Briar-Reno FD and Central Community VFD (ESD8) responded to the scene with multiple apparatus. Watson said the fire burned 7 or 8 acres of land, and although fire threatened homes along Tanglewood Drive and Birchwood Street, in the end, no structures were damaged.

The all clear was sounded for the Tanglewood fire at 6:41 p.m.

A cold front is expected to move through the area late Wednesday, bringing rain chances. But high winds are expected through Thursday. Watson said on Monday evening he hoped the coming days don't bring more of the same large brush

"Some rain and some greenup would be just fine," Watson said.



Firefighters discuss their plan of action at the FM 730 North fire Monday.



A construction worker mans a front-end loader to help battle the Tanglewood fire Monday.

Photos by Carla Noah Stutsman

Dr. Glenn **Re-Elect** STATE REPRESENT

Dr. Rogers puts his experience and conservative values to work for you and all Texans.

In 2021, Dr. Rogers made a stand for the following:

- ★ Border Security: helped increase funding by \$2.8 billion
- * Retired Teachers: authored the "13th check" and increased the state's contribution to the retired teacher insurance program
- ★ Education: voted to invest over \$11 billion directly in our public schools
- ★ **Transportation:** appointed to serve on House Transportation Committee, which oversees TxDOT and transportation issues

Experience and relationships matter. As Parker County continues to experience unprecedented growth, it is critical that we have a strong voice in Austin. Let's re-elect Dr. Glenn Rogers!

www.RogersforTexas.com

Republican Primary Tuesday, March 1 Vote Early February 14 - 25

Paid political advertisement by Glenn Rogers Campaign



THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE PARKER COUNTY RESIDENTS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS

ENDORSING DR. GLENN ROGERS:

Dr. Noel Bryan, Distinguished Veterinarian and Community Leader, Parker County

Red Steagall, Renowned Country Music Artist, Parker County

Bob Tallman, Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame & Rodeo Announcer, Parker County

Commissioner Larry Walden, *Parker County* Mayor Pro-Tem Kent Stasey, Town of Annetta Former Mayor Bruce Pinckard, Town of Annetta **Council Member Jim Causey**, Town of Annetta Council Member Shane Mudge, Town of Annetta Mayor Doyle Moss, Willow Park

Mayor Pro-Tem Lea Young, Willow Park Council Member Tyler VanSant, Willow Park Cody Lane, Brock ISD School Board

Brian Catlin, Weatherford ISD School Board Mike Guest, President, Weatherford ISD School Board

CHAMBER, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

tors, consisting of Ware, Debbie Bunero, Dena Hal. Jack Stevens, Marcy Pinkston, Elizabeth Salvatore, Regina Stokes, Michael Wright and Jim Stevens, were then sworn in by Hogle for their upcoming term.

PEOPLE'S CHOICE **AWARDS**

Mayor Alan Brundrett announced the 2021 People's Choice Awards winners:

- Favorite Mexican Food Villa del Sol
- Favorite Tax Consultant/CPA/ **Financial Advisor** Reliable Year-Round Tax Services
- Favorite Homebuilder **Probuild Construction**
- Favorite Nonprofit **Organization Community Caring** Center
- Favorite Azle ISD **Employee** Amy Estes
- Favorite City Employee Stephanie Koch-Bartley

MEMBER AWARDS

Membership awards were announced after the People's Choice Award winners. These awards are chosen by chamber members who nominated members that they thought "made a difference in the chamber, in the community, or both throughout the year," Hogle said.

The first award was for Ambassador of the Year, David Shaffer. The award was presented by Ogea, the previous year's recipient.

Jennifer Herrington, the chamber's new executive director, presented the Director's Award and the Friends of the Chamber

The Director's Award was presented to Toby Palitti, who Herrington said "found himself serving as the president, executive director, and the office assistant all in one" when the pandemic brought hardship to the chamber and many local businesses.

"Toby has an incredible love for this chamber and this community," Herrington said. "Today, two years after his service as president, he still serves as an ambassador and is willing to help in the chamber office whenever needed. That is why he has been selected for the 2021 Director's Award."

Community Waste Disposal was presented with the Friends of the Chamber award. Herrington said that Robert Medigovich, municipal accounts manager for CWD, "is an incredible friend to this chamber ... always reaching out and ready to help whenever possible."

"He is personally responsible for our chamber going green," said Herrington.

The mayor then announced the winner of the Shining Star Award — a business that has made improvements or beautification to their property that benefits and enhances the appearance of the entire community. This year, the winner was SporTherapy, whose new facility on Main Street "has added to Azle's beauty."

Michael Wright presented the award for the Rising Star — a business that has been established in Azle within the past year and shows great potential.

Mike's Westside Rental, which helps customers with equipment, tool, party and event rentals, was presented with the Rising Star award, which was accepted by store manager Graham John.

Karen Banes of Genesis Jiu Jitsu was awarded Businesswoman of the Year. Her award was presented by Marsha Hardin.

Banes began Genesis Jiu Jitsu in 2014 and has maintained a "strong female presence" at her gym with five female coaches that help "empower more girls and women to enter the sport."

Shaffer then presented Mike Davidson of Probuild Construction with the Businessman of the Year award.

Davidson was described as "smart, hardworking, determined, and a workaholic."

Shaffer said that the contributions Davidson has made to the business community in and around Azle "will be felt for years to come."

The Orchard Event Venue and Retreat was named Business of the Year. Their award was presented by Scott Kimble of Legacy Oaks, the previous year's winner of the award.

The final award of the evening was for Citizen of



Heather Holman bids on an item in the silent auction at the chamber banquet.

the Year. 2020's recipient, Jack Stevens, presented this year's award to Mark Laudenheimer.

Laudenheimer served as the director of the Azle Brookshire's before being promoted to another nearby location.

Stevens said that Laudenheimer is "what a servant leader is supposed to be, and a man who loves to serve his community, with a passion to help others with humility and good humor."

The Azle Area Chamber of Commerce currently has 359 members and continues to grow each month. For information about becoming a chamber member, visit www.AzleChamber.com.

The banquet, incidentally, was not held in 2021 because of the pandemic.



Mark Laudenheimer, right, accepts the Citizen of the Year award from previous Citizen of the Year Jack Stevens, who was honored in 2020. Photos by Jim Stevens



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arolyn Gilmore is a Tarrant County native, veteran police officer, and lifelong conservative who has devoted her life to making our community a better place to live, work, and raise a family. As Chief of the Samsom Park Police Department, and a 23-year veteran of the Fort Worth Police, Carolyn has earned a reputation as a tough-but-fair officer focused on protecting families from violent criminals.

Carolyn served as the Chair of Fort Worth Cops for Kids and started the Student Advisor Committee at Joy James Elementary, where she encouraged children, and their families, to work with police and find ways to positively impact their community.

Carolyn lives in Fort Worth with her husband, Raymond, a retired Fort Worth Police officer. The Gilmores are members of Grace Baptist Church.

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Azle News | Wednesday, February 16, 2022

www.AzleNews.net 1B

Azle soccer girls bond through hard work



Eliana Tejeda uses her head against Aledo.

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

The Feb. 3 ice storm that closed schools and caused across North Texas forced Azle High School's Lady Hornets soccer team to play three games in five days last week.

The three games were bench depth. played against the top-tier teams in District 5-5A – Aledo, Wichita Falls High and Wichita Falls Rider.

The last of those games, Feb. 11 against Aledo, was played on an unusually warm day, and the girls were while losing 4-0.

"You've played 200 minutes of soccer this week," AHS girls head coach Madeline Wood told them as the second half was about to bevou have."

The Lady Hornets responded, limiting Aledo to Azle's young team hope to two goals in the second half will their team to the playwhile scoring one of their offs. The captains include own. Aledo won 6-1 – it was the third of three losses for Azle during the week – but the Lady Hornets had given their all, and the coach was quieter and some of us loudproud.

"Three games in a week is definitely tough, and we played our three toughest teams in the district," Wood said after the game. "We have some low (roster) numbers right now. We've had some personnel changes in Photo by Jeff Prince the last couple weeks."

The Lady Hornets lost all three games against those district rivals, but played with heart and will be more prepared when they meet coaches to juggle schedules again in the second round. First, though, Azle will play two more district teams -Brewer and Granbury – that might prove to be more winnable despite Azle's lack of

> Against Aledo, Arely Licerio made an athletic play to score the Hornets' goal, and goalkeeper Samara Boccia did a "phenomenal job" despite allowing six goals, the coach said.

"She stopped plenty of sweaty and tired at halftime other ones to give us a chance in this game," Wood said. "She made several incredible saves."

YOUTH MOVEMENT

The next month of games gin. "You've got 40 minutes will determine which teams left. Give it everything that go to the playoffs and which ones go home.

The three captains on two sophomores and a junior, and each girl leads in her own way.

"While some of us may be er, we all work well together and respect each other," Melanie Harder said. "That shows on the field and how we play. So even though we may be younger, our respect, skill and knowledge of the game put us over the edge."

SEE **SOCCER**, PAGE 3B.

Azle wrestlers shine at regionals; 11 headed to state



Azle wrestlers won a team championship, three individual titles and the Most Outstanding Wrestler and Coach of the Year awards at the regional tournament on Feb. 11-12. Eleven Azle athletes qualified to compete at the state tournament, Feb. 18-19 in Cypress. Courtesy photo

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

time, and the boys team tournament this weekend." took third place at the UIL competition on Feb. 11-12.

In all, 11 AHS wrestlers Feb. 18-19 in Cypress.

cal weekend" for the Hor- ans and Masen Martinez. net teams.

year's state championship Spratt.

team," Harrison said. "This weekend was a testament to the hard work that our kids The Azle High School have put in. Our coaching girls won a team regional staff is excited to see our championship for the first wrestlers shine at the state

Region 1-5A wrestling qualifying to compete at the state level for the boys were Dominick Evans, the - six boys and five girls 170-pound champion, and - qualified to participate Jackson Berg, who won in the state tournament on third place in the 145-pound division. Kenneth Riley fin-Wrestling coach Tyler ished fourth at 106 pounds. Harrison characterized the State alternates include regional meet as a "histori- Braxon Cates, Landin Ev-

"Our girls were Region 1 boys team score at regionchampions for the first time als were Lane Williams, Olin school history, and the iver Lorenz, Hunter Legan, boys finished third to last Elias Ramirez and Billy

The girls team nabbed the big team trophy, two individual titles, the Most Outstanding Wrestler Award and Coach of the Year hon-

Alicen Dillard was named Earning medals and Most Outstanding Wrestler after finishing in first place at 138 pounds. Pella LeFever captured the title in the 165-pound division.

Annabelle Davis won a third-place medal at 148 pounds. Fourth-place finishes went to Jacy Williams, 102 pounds, and Mariah Dillard, 110 pounds.

Also contributing to the Also contributing to the girls team score were Jazrine Nieto, T.J. Bailey and Kaitlynn Kirkland Lane.

Azle's Megan House was named Girls Coach of the



PLAYOFFS AHEAD On Friday, Cooper Morgan, left, and Azle's basketball boys toppled Wichita Falls High School 70-68 to solidify their playoff hopes and put them in third place with one game remaining in district play. Photo by Jeff Prince

News

Azle wrestler sees badge in future

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

Megan House, Azle High School's girls wrestling coach, choked up on Senior Night at a recent meet when talking about senior Makenzie Kearns.

The two met four years earlier, when Kearns was attempting to wrestle for the first time, and House was a first-year head coach trying to establish herself.

"She was a freshman when I first came into the wrestling program, so we have kind of been learning together as we go," House said.

The learning experience doubles as a wrestling coach. was rocky at times.

got beat up a lot as a fresh- Kearns said. man."

She improved during her sophomore season, but the beatings and lost matches continued. She considered House.

and I had to go through together," the coach said. "I wasn't sure how to be the and I just felt like I fit in." best motivator, and we butted heads a couple times, but overall, we ended up ..."

She stopped talking as her eyes welled with tears.

"It has been a ride with House continued. her," "She has helped me grow as a coach, because I have learned a lot from her on how to be a better coach toward everybody, how to deal with certain issues that happen on the team."

Kearns blossomed during her junior year.

had wrestling-wise," she said. "I'm sad that it's my last year, but there is a sense of happiness to it. Overall, I've had a pretty amazing year. I'm just happy that I got to be with all these people that I know are going to be lifelong friends."

FINDING THE RIGHT FIT

Kearns had tried playing basketball as a freshman but didn't feel like she fit in with the group.

"I didn't really feel like I fit in anywhere," she said. "So, I quit. For a little bit, I wasn't playing any sports."

In a math class, she met teacher Tyler Harrison, who

"He introduced me to "It was a pretty tough wrestling, I checked it out, year," Kearns recalled. "I and I've liked it ever since,"

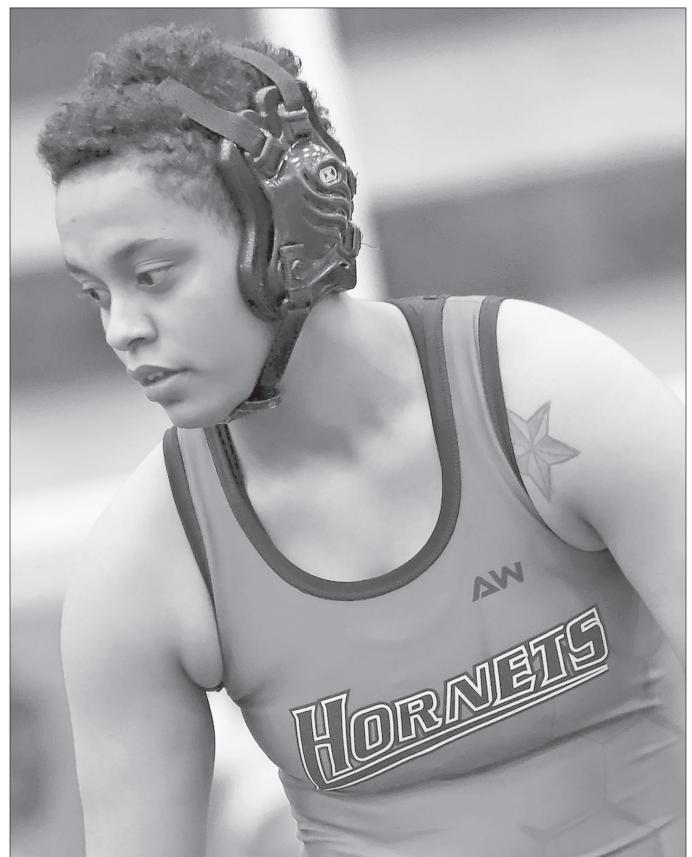
Something about the culture spoke to her in a way that basketball or other activities hadn't.

"When I walked in, everyquitting, which concerned one was very welcoming to me," she said. "I felt like I "That was a battle that she fit in the first time in my life. I never felt like I ever fit in anywhere. I walked in there,

> She noticed several girls who cropped their hair short like hers.

"I felt like that's where I belonged," she said. "It was just the vibe, like everyone was just so outgoing and positive. In wrestling, we're all one big clique. We're all one big family. That is what I found here – kind of like a second family. I can talk to these people about anything, and they'll talk back."

House relished seeing Kearns come alive in the mat "Senior and junior years room over time. As a senior,



were the two best years I've Kearns has maintained her The past two years of wrestling have been happy ones for Kenzie Kearns.



Kenzie Kearns hopes to wrestle in college and then become a law enforcement officer. Photos by Jeff Prince

positivity and won matches egory despite weighing only about 155.

"She is one of those girls and I'm going to be sad to uation and adulthood. see her go. She has made an grown together."

House and teammates, particularly during those early last four years." years.

a mental thing," Kearns said. have been times where (quitting) crossed my mind, but there have also been times where my coaches and teammates have boosted me back up."

mind now, she said.

"I wouldn't want to be doin the 185-pound weight cating anything else," she said.

BOLD NEW WORLD

in the mat room who is al- for Senior Night. The event officer. ways hyping up the other allows family, friends and girls, going, 'Let's go!" teammates to celebrate the of Azle and branch out and House said. "That is one of athletes in their final year. see new things and discover her catchphrases. She is just Being a senior means being new things for myself," she a joy to have on the team, a short step away from grad-

"It's been a long four be bold. impact in my life in more years of me putting in hard ways than she can probably work every day, and it's possibly know. We have coming to an end," she said. "It's a sad thing, but it's also Kearns appreciated the a very great awakening, too, support she received from because it just goes to show

Kearns hopes to continue "In wrestling, a lot of it is wrestling in college. She has succeed in college and at applied to attend the Univer-"It gets pretty tough. There sity of Saint Mary in Leavenworth, Kansas.

"I've been talking to the sweet. wrestling coach there at Quitting never crosses her sions I've got to make. I've ing about her leaving. She

tions, as well, but that's the main one that I'm planning on going to."

After college, she wants to Kearns had been waiting become a law enforcement

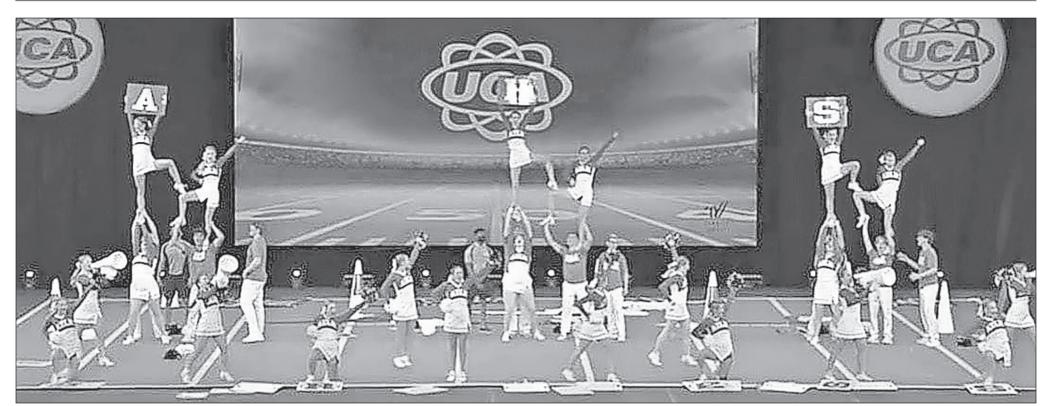
> "I'm just excited to get out said.

Her advice to others is to

"Don't be afraid to try something that's out of your comfort zone, because you may end up really liking it a lot," she said. "Whether you may think it's too hard or how hard I've tried for the too tough — nothing is too tough."

House expects Kearns to life, just like she did at AHS. That makes the coach happy, but her emotions are bitter-

"It is going to be really Saint Mary's since the be- sad when she leaves," House ginning of the year," she said of Kearns. "I'm going to said. "There are a lot of deci-tear up a little bit just thinkgot to look into more op- has just been incredible."



ORLANDO CHEER Azle cheerleaders won fourth place at the co-ed national championship on Feb. 12 in Orlando, Florida. In January, the cheer squad had placed fifth at the state championship.

Kendall Locke and the hard-charging Azle basketball girls will be back next season.

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

A season that began with high hopes of playoff success ended early for an Azle squad beset by injuries.

On Feb. 8, Azle lost to Granbury 55-40 in the final game of district competition ry tournament, a consolation to finish in fifth place, one game behind Granbury and Aledo, causing Azle to miss out on the postseason fun.

harder to come by after team final weeks of the season. and teammates continued to ery night." push hard, but a chemistry that had been refined over with a 21-12 season record time was jarred at the most and a 4-6 district mark. crucial point of the season.

Before then, the Lady Hornets had been angling toward a second-place finish behind Rider. Instead, Brewer finished in second place - a team the Lady Hornets High School Lady Hornet bested two of three times. Other early successes for Azle included a championship trophy at the Castlebertrophy in the Eaton tourney and third place at the Midlothian Heritage tournament.

"We competed well in a Hornet victories became tough district but just fell short for the playoffs," said leader Karlee Locke went head coach Mitzi Mardown with an injury in the quart. "I am really proud of these young ladies because Twin sister Kendall Locke they continued to battle ev-

The AHS girls finished

SOCCER, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

The team has struggled to find the net and the victories this season. The team played a dozen consecutive games without scoring a goal in January and early February.

The girls play strong defense, however, and have kept scores close.

"When it comes to scoring, we're not the best, but we definitely do try," said Trinity Thornton, the junior captain. "We are very strong on defense, and we are getting better on offense. We have played a good number of games, and we're getting better every time."

The girls expect the goals to start adding up soon. They have worked too hard and seen too much improvement to remain mired in losses for long, they said.

A new coaching staff, led by Wood, has been molding the team into a hard-working

"Our team is way better and more bonded than last year," said Thornton. "Last year, it was kind of just two separate groups of people on the same team. This year, we're a lot more focused."

Several players left the team last season, and several more have followed this seafeel tight-knitted, Harder said.

"It's been nice with new people coming in and having a relatively young team because we're continuing to bond and get closer to one another, which ends up helping our playing as we learn more about each other," she said.

Sophomore captain Rebecca Marx likes the new mix.

"The good thing is, those people who want to be here are here — people who want to put in effort and are here to stay," she said. "That's important at practices or on road trips in the bus."

The roster includes a senior, a handful of juniors and mostly freshmen and sophomores.

"We are putting in a lot of work and hoping that it will pay off in the end," Marx said. "We're not expecting to be first in district, but we are going to put in the effort and try to do our best."

Their effort is exemplified by a Lego tower the girls have been building since last year. Whenever the team excels, the coaches allow the girls to add a few more pieces to the project.

"We get to put Legos on our tower, and it just reminds us of the message that we are always building," Marx said. "We are always growing. We are always getting better."



son. The players who remain Azle High School's girls soccer captains, from left, Melanie Harder, Rebecca Marx and Trinity Thornton see bright days ahead.

Photo by Jeff Prince



Azle's team is young but battle-tested and becoming better.

4B News

Azle woman inducted into Pittsburg State Hall of Fame



BY JEFF PRINCE ieff@azlenews.net

Lisa Voelkel didn't pay attention to personal records when she played softball at Pittsburg State University in letic Hall of Fame. Kansas.

the stats, awards and honors," the Azle resident said. "I never looked at my stats someone told me. I played because I truly loved to play softball, and I had fun doing

Even today, after a marriage, three kids and a long watching her children play absence from softball, it doesn't take much to make Voelkel's competitive juices all attend Azle schools, and flow again.

- at least a few pitches," she said. "It is truly my passion."

game can lead to impressive stats, regardless of whether a own children and others. player tracks them. Voelkel broke numerous school re- you love the game," she cords during her tenure at said. "Work hard and give Pitt State from 1990 to 1993. everything you have either She threw six no-hitters in on the field or off, and you her career and compiled a will succeed." 51-26 record as a pitcher.

In 1993, she was 13-1 and helped her team to a 36-8 re-

In late January, Voelkel was inducted into the Pittsburg State University Ath-

Voelkel moved with her "I didn't play the game for husband and three children to Azle in the early 2000s, and she has spent time serving on the board of the Azle when I was playing unless Little League baseball program and giving pitching lessons to local softball players. In recent years, Voelkel has backed away from those duties to spend more time

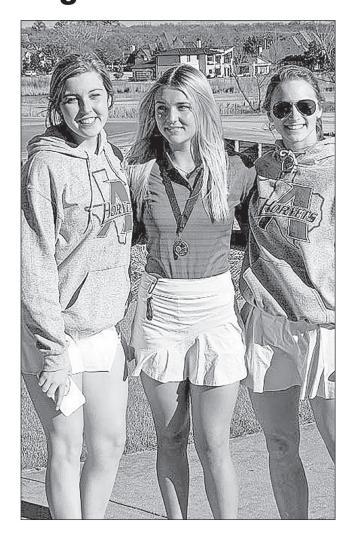
"I have three boys that now, I get to watch baseball "If I pick up a softball, I and my former students play have to throw it underhand softball," she said. "I love every minute of it."

Her many years spent hurling a ball toward home Playing for the love of the plate taught her lessons that she shares today with her

"Play the game because

Azle resident Lisa Voelkel was inducted into the Pittsburg State University Hall of Fame for her softball accomplishments. With Voelkel are husband Jaime and sons Christopher, 15, Michael, 13, and Ja-Courtesy photo

Azle golfer wins first place in 2022 **Jaguar Classic**



FIRST PLACE Azle High School golfer Mary Shaw, center, won first place on Feb. 9 in the 2022 Jaguar Classic hosted by Flower Mound High School at Tour 18 Dallas Golf Course. Azle girls golf coach Eddy Prather described the course is "very challenging" and said "no one puts in more work than Mary." Azle's team competed against players from Southlake Carroll, L.D. Bell, Denton and Celina. Illness reduced Azle's team to just three players. Erin Owens, left, and Erin McMullen, right, placed in the top 10. Courtesy photo

Azle swimmers set personal bests at regionals



Azle swimmers made a splash at the regional meet.

Courtesy photo

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

Azle swimmers set personal bests in all their events at the regional swim meet, which was delayed by the Feb. 3 ice storm and moved to Feb. 7-8 in Mansfield.

"We had a great meet with good results," said Azle coach Amy Estes.

Phoebe Mosley placed state," Estes said.

third in 100m backstroke and 200m events. The top two finishers in each event at regionals qualify automatically for the state meet. Mosley did not qualify for state.

"Third-place finishers do not automatically qualify for the state meet but may be fastest times around the

Gianna Schroeder placed 14th in the 100m breaststroke.

Kalen McCullough placed 16th in the 100m backstroke. McCullough, Carter Pack, Steven Manley and Trevor Deel finished in 12th place

in the 200m medley relay. The girls team finished picked up as the next eight 11th in the 200m relay, thanks to strong swimming by Brooke Nowa-

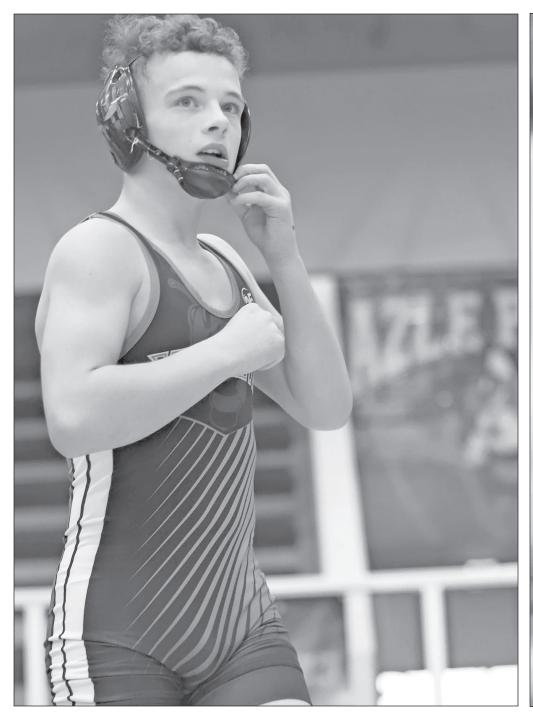
kowski, Gianna Schroeder, Peighton Berry and Laci Clark.

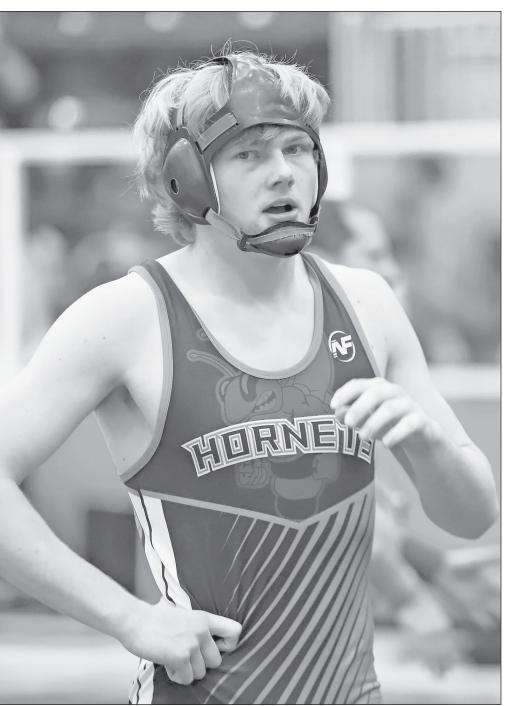
The same four girls placed 12th in the 200m freestyle

The 400m freestyle relay team of Clark, Schroeder, Emory Hann and Hailey Fox finished 16th.

The swim team "represented Azle proudly," Estes

Azle wins District 4-5A wrestling titles







Top left, Landin Evans. Top right, Braxon Cates. Bottom, Billy Spratt. Azle High School's boys and girls captured the District 4-5A wrestling titles at the championship meet in Lubbock earlier in February. Azle had not won the boys and girls district wrestling titles in the same year since 2015. This year, Azle boys and girls beat out nine other teams to capture their trophies. The state meet is scheduled for Feb. 18-19 at the Berry Center in Cypress.

Azle boys who won individual championships include Kenneth Riley, 106 pounds; Masen Martinez, 120 pounds; Oliver Lorenz, 132 pounds; Braxon Cates, 152 pounds; and Dominick Evans, 170 pounds

Photos by Jeff Prince

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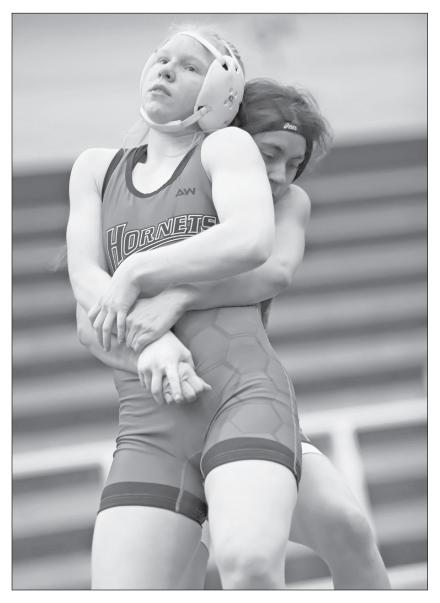
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AZLE HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING TEAMS

Azle wins District 4-5A wrestling titles







Top, Amelia Peters. Bottom left, Pella LeFever. Bottom right, Hayli Ross.

The girls team followed their district success by winning the regional championship for the first time in school history on Feb. 12.

First-place finishers at the district meet for the Lady Hornets include Jacy Williams, 102 pounds; Mariah Dillard, 110 pounds; Kaitlynn Kirkland Lane, 119 pounds; Alicen Dillard, 138 pounds; Annabelle Davis, 148 pounds; and Pella LeFever, 165 pounds.

Photos by Jeff Prince

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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., 91/2 miles S. of Springtown off Hwy. 51 S. 817-594-5940 or 817-599-4917 **FUNDAMENTAL BAPTIST** 5th & Main in Springtown

817-523-5477

3 miles N. of Springtown on Hwy. 51 across from Radio Tower **GRACE POINTE CHURCH**

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4110 E. Hwy. 199, Springtown 817-221-5683

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

4445 Hodgkins, Lake Worth 817-237-4163 **METROPOLITAN BAPTIST** 6051 Azle Ave., Fort Worth

LAKE WORTH BAPTIST

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

817-237-2201

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

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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. (1/2 block west of FM 730 N. in Briar) **NORTHWEST CHURCH of CHRIST** 6059 Azle Ave., Fort Worth 817-237-1205

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817-221-2799 **SPRINGTOWN CHURCH of CHRIST** Just west of Hwy. 51 North 817-523-4419

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Opportunity	35 Garden/Mowing Svc
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17 Carpet Service	39Help Wanted
18Catering	40 Home Improvement
19 Cement Work	41House Leveling
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22 Cosmetics	44Janitorial Service
23Computers/Services	45 Job Wanted

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6 Looking to Buy	69 Sand/Gravel
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9 Masonry/Stonework	72Sewer Service
0 Mobile Home Service	73TV/Radio
1 Motorcycles	74 Tractor Service
2Movers	75Upholstery
3Musical Instruments	76 Vacuum Cleaners
4Music Lessons	77Wanted
5Miscellaneous	78Well Drilling
6 Party Planning/Events	79Welding
7 Pets/Livestock	80Lots/Acreage
8Piano Service	81Business &
9Pool Service	Commercial Property
0Professional	82RV's for Rent
Services	83 Houses for Sale
1 Personal	84Mobile Homes
2Plumbing	for Rent
3Public Notice	85Mobile Homes
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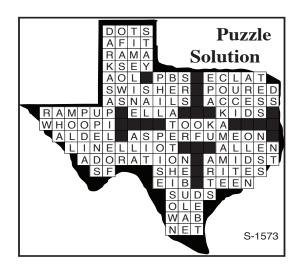
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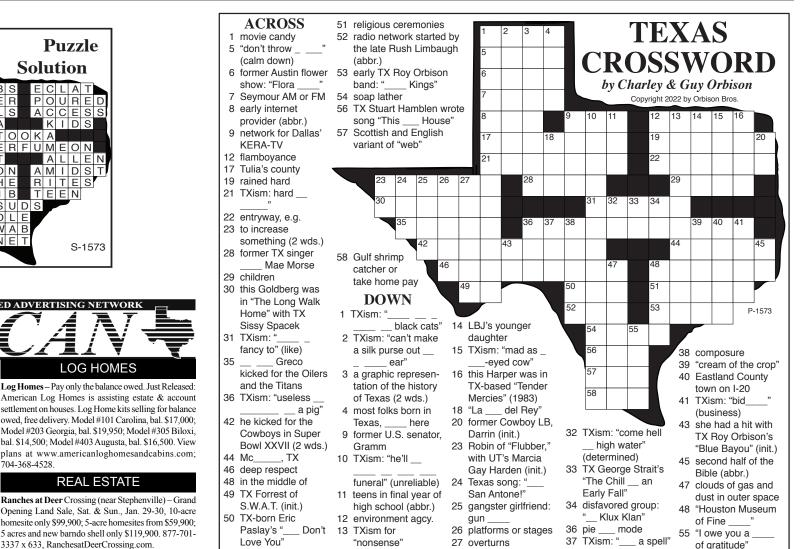
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