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Azle begins search for new police chief

BY DON MUNSCH editor@azlenews.net

The city of Azle hopes to have a new police chief by the spring.

Former Chief Rick Pip- im chief, Sid Fuller. pins left the department in nation didn't take effect until plications will be Feb. 25, Jan. 1. Since then, the police according to a flier released pects, City Manager Tom sumé. department has had an inter- to websites advertising the Muir said. To be considered

The job has been posted

position.

After a few weeks of re- apply online at tx-azle.civic- April. the fall, although his resig- and the first review of ap- ceiving applications, the city plushrms.com/careers/ and will interview some pros- submit a cover letter and ré- plicants, we'll have them

Muir said it's likely that

for this position, people can the chief will be aboard in

"When we get the ap-

SEE NEW CHIEF, PAGE 3A.

To serve and protect



Fort Worth Police recruits build fence for Azle boy attacked by dog

BY MADELYN EDWARDS madelyn@azlenews.net

Saturday. The sound of elec- the snow had melted away, strange dogs. tric drills and a circular saw a crew of Fort Worth Police Conner, a student at On Monday, the dog owner, rang in the back yard of the recruits worked to install Azle's Cross Timbers El- identified as Patti Jean Bella fence at Conner's home ementary School, endured

from the school bus stop. Neveling, 49, was arrested

A crew of Fort Worth Police recruits worked on Saturday to install a fence at an Azle boy's home to keep him from encountering strange dogs. Photo by Madelyn Edwards

Vehicles lined the street by home, and snowball fights 7-year-old Conner Landers' ensued in the front yard. home on Hidden Circle on

Starting at 10 a.m. before side without encountering month while walking home

so that he could play out- a traumatic dog attack last

SEE FENCE, PAGE 5A.

Winter fun



Sapphire Brouillette slides down the hill on a makeshift sled on a snowy, cold Feb. 3 at the hill outside Walmart in Azle. The day's wintry weather forced closures of schools and businesses, but some people still found a way to have some fun.

Photo by Don Munsch

City of Azle open for business

BY DON MUNSCH editor@azlenews.net

Rest easy, coffee drinkers. Starbucks is still coming to Azle. But it's still a few months away before the brewing starts.

At a Rotary Club meeting in late January, David Hawkins, director of planning and development for the city of Azle, provided information about new commercial development coming to town – such as Starbucks as well as those businesses that opened in 2021. He also discussed residential development.

Hawkins, who has been with the city for nearly a year, ex-



A new Allsup's store is under construction on Highway 199 in Azle. The new store rests adjacent to a current Allsup's and should be completed soon. Photo by Don Munsch

plained he works with the plan- nomic development. ning and zoning department, code enforcement, building permits and inspections and eco-

"So, I'm involved in a lot of

SEE **BUSINESS**, PAGE 7A.



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Not your parents' shop classes

BY JESSICA McKINNEY azlereporter@azlenews.net

helped introduce students to Level 1 ShopBot CNC Cerbasic skills, and by the end tification. of the course they might have a handmade wooden of Construction students shelf - of varying degrees of are currently working on a sturdiness - to hang on the scaled model house project wall.

students are offered shop a house," Cotton said. classes that can earn them certifications and set them learned about surveying, on a career path right after concrete, and safe tool opgraduation.

cal Education program currently has 13 career clusters, 25 programs of study, more struction." than 35 industry certifications and eight student leadership organizations that tie chest project as well as workinto the different programs offered

The program website says that "Azle ISD faculty and staff recognize the unique needs of a diverse student population and work together to improve rigorous and relevant academic and technical educational opportunities to prepare students for college and career success."

ARCHITECTURE AND CONSTRUCTION CAREER CLUSTER

The Architecture and Construction Career Cluster gives students hands-on experience in construction and woodworking projects. They learn to construct, install and repair wooden structures and fixtures like frameworks, partitions, joists rafters and stairways.

Teacher Jarret Cotton said that he currently has 103

students enrolled in the construction classes. They have the opportunity to earn the Shop classes for high OSHA 30 General Safety school students 20 years ago Certification as well as the

"The entry level Principals that teaches them how to Today, Azle High School frame the walls and roof of

"This year they have also eration. The students will AHS's Career and Techni- also learn basic residential electrical, door and window installation, and stair con-

> Mill and cabinetry students are working on a cedar ing towards their OSHA and CNC certifications.

MANUFACTURING AND WELDING

The Manufacturing Career Cluster at AHS "focuses on planning, managing and performing the processing of materials into intermediate or final products and related professional and technical support activities such as production planning and control, maintenance and manufacturing/process engineering."

Welding is the main program of study under this career cluster and currently has more than 200 students enrolled in the program.

or five years now and it's really starting to take off," said Josh Weston, the welding thing like working as a fabriteacher at the high school.

tunity to become certified in school after graduation." several categories, including OSHA 30 and American so far has been the tailgate up the torch. Welding Society certifications.

"This year, I have 26 stuso far," Weston said.

Senior Noah Coleman is in his third year of the welding program and said, "This class has changed my perspective holder and have been makon what I want to do.

"I was just thinking about es," he said. going to community col-"It's been offered for four lege," Coleman said. "I had er, "I honestly couldn't pick no idea what I wanted to do. Now, I'm thinking somecator or in pipeline or ware-Students have the oppor- house. I might go to trade drawn in a variety of stu- me feel very welcome."

grills, one of the main projects for welding students.

He's been able to take dents who've been certified some of the knowledge he's gained through the welding ects at home, too.

ing some horseshoe cross-

Coleman said of his teacha greater teacher. This is comfortable taking classes what I look forward to coming to school every day."

The welding program has

dents, both boys and girls, Coleman's favorite project who are interested in taking also been the tailgate grill,

Junior Skyler Arellano is in her third year as a welding student and is considering a make s'mores," she said. welding job after college.

program and complete proj- to study yet, but I would like to go for training and coach-"I made an air compressor ing," said Arellano. She is a member of the high school volleyball team and hopes that will help her earn a scholarship.

> that have historically been male-centric, Arellano said, "Oh, yeah, the guys make

Her favorite project has which she gave to her stepdad.

"We use it all the time and

Arellano has completed "I'm not sure what I want several projects at home as well, including a coat rack made of horseshoes for her stepdad's work and has even helped in welding rigs together.

"Mr. Weston does an amazing job," said Arella-When asked if she felt no. "He really helps us get certified and he helped me on stick (welding). I was really worried about stick. Weston helped boost my confidence."



Jorge Ledezma (left) and Jovanny Espinoza have put a lot of work into their welding projects, custom fire pits, at Azle High School. Photo courtesy



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CAROLYN GILMORE Tarrant County's Conservative Cop





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.

CAROLYN'S CONSERVATIVE PRIORITIES

- Keep Families Safe
- Save Our Tax Dollars
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 - Strengthen Neighborhoods

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Early Voting 2/14-2/25 • Primary March 1

Azle police grappling with staff shortage

BY DON MUNSCH editor@azlenews.net

the country are looking for a job as it used to be." officers to join their ranks.

as it is in other places.

Sid Fuller provided a yearly review of the police department at the Feb. 1 Azle City Council meeting.

openings but no applications at this point. In the "good old days," he said, if a police department had an opening and posted it, 200 applicathat job was not unusual.

want to go into police work these days," he said. "It'll come back around, I'm sure, but right now recruitment is a challenge, to say the least. So, we're going to have to get creative."

In an emailed response to a News question about recruiting hardships, Fuller animals last year. said agencies all over the country are having a tough of animals that were brought crimes, the department had time recruiting new officers and "there are many theories as to why," explaining the the shelter either gets those 176 in 2021. Fuller said the negative public sentiment toward police in many parts of the country and negative media coverage are playing a part. He was quick to add that is not the case here in Azle, as the community still supports the police department, and the newspaper has do a lot of good work." been very supportive.

money in the Metroplex, but police departments in the DFW Metroplex are having 329 motorist and road haztrouble recruiting as well, so ards and responded to 601 it's not all about pay, he said.

more difficult over the past and answered 616 alarms. several years," he said.

weekends and holidays, on all calls," Fuller said. stress, danger, family stress,

no exception, but the short- part-time sworn police offiage here is not as pronounced cer, one reserve officer and 14 full-time and two part- school resource officers, Interim Azle Police Chief time civilian employees. Fuller said, and he com-Plus, the department has mended the SROs because four volunteers.

He said APD has two noting the volunteers performed such tasks as jockeyshop, taking equipment to different locations and so on.

In 2021, APD employtions being submitted for ees received 7,309 train- 49,000 calls in 2021, and out ing hours, Fuller said. That of those calls, 7,283 were "A lot of people don't kind of training can include mandatory state training for personnel to maintain their discussed community activilicenses and other specialized training, depending on participated in during the what position they hold.

falls under police department oversight, Fuller said the shelter adopted out 228

"Most impressive is 98% to the shelter were released live," he said. That means saults, from 127 in 2020 to animals adopted, returns them to their owners or they attributed to people spendare sent to rescues or other ing more time at home. The shelters.

90% live release is considered a no-kill shelter," Fuller said. "They're at 98%. They

Patrol officers answered Officers can make more 18,381 calls for service in tem with the Tarrant County 2021. They made 5,203 traffic stops and assisted with vehicle crashes. In addition, "Policing is a difficult they conducted 1,758 foot Fuller said the department career that has gotten a lot patrols and business checks hopes the system can go live "Their average response

"The hours, working nights, time is right at 3-1/2 minutes

Also, Fuller said investi-Police departments across etc. It's just not as attractive gators filed 301 felony and misdemeanor cases, either APD has 32 full-time with Parker County or the Azle Police Department is sworn police officers, one Tarrant County District Attorney's offices.

> The department has five of their ability to build re-"Last year, they donated lationships and intervene 1,611 hours," Fuller said, when students "are starting to stray." The SROs keep the schools safe and are an ing cars back and forth to the effective tool in the schools, he added.

The 911 call center answered a little more than 911 calls.

In his presentation, Fuller ties the police department year, such as Shop With a On animal control, which Cop, in which officers work with at-risk students and take them shopping at Christmas time to buy gifts for family members.

Regarding particular a huge jump in simple asincrease in assaults might be other large jump came in "Maintaining more than a thefts, with the rate going from 129 in 2020 to 1,664 in 2021.

> Among other projects that the department is working on is a video arraignment sys-District Attorney's office in which crews can build a site in the jail where judges can arraign prisoners from the Tarrant County Courthouse. by early April.

POLICE CHIEF, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

- all the applicants - and job as an executive with the nity problems. from that standpoint, from Azle Police Department. their resumes, applications we can narrow that down must approve his selection. to a manageable number to interview," Muir said.

He thinks it will probably seven people, depending on quickly added that "we'll kind of play that by ear." The prospects will be interviewed by different panels of interviewers. Those panels will be a police department panel, a chief's panel and department head panel.

panels and find out what ment and the community." they thought of the candi-

salary range for this posi- post stated. "Candidates be between three and six or tion is between \$101,108 who will receive favorable - \$139,486, depending on consideration from the city how many there are, but he qualifications and experi- will display strong leaderence. The job posting stated ship characteristics, be exthe city is looking for some-perienced in community one with a broad range of policing and have a thorskills and experience, includ- ough knowledge of current ing experience in "all aspects industry trends, practices of modern police practices" and resources. Ideal candiand must "exhibit superior dates will be familiar with interpersonal skills and be effective technological ap-"And after those panels, expected to proactively en- plications and possess a I'll sit down with those gage members of the Depart- strong history of organiza-

Additionally, city leaders countability." dates and I'll go the next said the new chief will need step from there," he said, to possess the ability to work traits desired in a candidate, adding the process would collaboratively within the city including, but not limited to, determine how the prospec- organization and community communication skills and tive chief would handle the agencies in resolving commu-high ethics and integrity.

"Developing and main-Muir will make a recom- taining positive relationand how they respond to mendation about the new ships with county, state and these questions, hopefully chief to the city council, who federal law enforcement agencies as well as sur-The advertisement for rounding municipal police the position said the annual departments is a must," the tional and individual ac-

The post also listed other

LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

The City Council of the City of Azle will conduct a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 505 West Main Street to consider a request to rezone 5.24 acres of land in the J. Wilcox Survey, Abstract No. 1727, City of Azle, Tarrant County, Texas, addressed as 1296 and 1300 Park Street and being described as Lots 1R1A and 1R2A, Deer Trail Addition, a plat recorded in Cabinet B, Slide 2588, Plat Records, Tarrant County, Texas. from the Institutional (INS) District to the Estate Three (E-3) District. The property is generally located on the south side of Park Street approximately 700 feet east of South Ash Avenue.

"The City of Reno will be having public hearings for a special use permit applied for property 1595 Arvel Circle, Azle, TX 76020, to build a home on a less than half acre lot. P&Z meeting will be March 7,2022 at 7PM and City Council Meeting will be on March 21, 2022 at 7PM. Both meetings will be open to the public for commits."

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

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS CITY OF PELICAN BAY

The City of Pelican Bay is receiving funds from the American Rescue Plan (ARP Act) program from the U.S. Department of Treasury. Accordingly, the City is seeking to contract with a qualified Engineering/Architectural/Surveying Firm (individual/firm) to prepare all preliminary and final design plans and specifications, and to conduct all necessary interim and final inspections. These services are being solicited to assist the City in its preparation and project implementation of ARP Act contract(s), to support eligible activities in the City of Pelican Bay. Please electronically submit your proposal in .pdf format via email at secretary@cityofpelicanbay.com OR submit 3 copies of your proposal of services and a statement of qualifications for the proposed services to the following address: Attn: Teri Anthony, City Secretary, City of Pelican Bay, 1300 Pelican Circle, Azle, TX 76020. Proposals must be received by the City no later than 5:00PM on February 21, 2022, to be considered. The City reserves the right to negotiate with any and all proposers, as per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards. Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises, Women Business Enterprises, and labor

surplus area firms are encouraged to submit proposals. The City of Pelican Bay is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Servicios de traducción están disponibles por peticion.



RESOLUTION NO. 2022-03

A RESOLUTION REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2019-14; ESTABLISHING THE RATES FOR AMBULANCE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE CITY OF AZLE, TEXAS TO BOTH RESIDENTS AND NON-RESIDENTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City Council has deemed it in the best interest of the citizens of Azle to adopt emergency ambulance services billing rates and recommendations from Intermedix, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, from and after the effective date hereof, the rates for compensation for services performed and needed supplies used by the City of Azle, Texas in connection with its operation of emergency ambulance services shall be the same as approved by Medicare and shall allow for itemized billing for such services to all residents and non-residents; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall repeal any and all other resolutions or portions thereof in conflict herewith, but only to such extent that the same shall be in conflict herewith.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AZLE, TEXAS THAT:

Alan Brundrett, Mayor

SECTION 1 The City Council of the City of Azle, Texas hereby approves the Azle Fire Department's rate schedule establishing billing procedures and rates in EXHIBIT "A" (The Chargemaster)

SECTION 2 This resolution shall become effective on February 1, 2022.

PASSED AND APPROVED on this the 1st day of February 2022, by a vote of ayes, nays, and abstentions at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Azle,

ATTEST:

Yael Forgey

APPROVE TO FORM Cara Leahy White, City Attorney



Azle Fire Department EMS Billing Procedures & Rates

Azle Fire Department has established the following rates for various ambulance service charges. At any time, in accordance with the Service Agreement, Azle Fire Department may modify these rates and/or bill-ing procedures, with proper notice.

Additional instructions regarding billing procedures and rates are located near the end of this document. Azle Fire Department's current rate schedule (the "Chargemaster") begins on the next page.

Chargemaster Item	Rate
ALS Emergency Mileage	\$18.00
ALS Non-Emergency Mileage	\$18.00
ALS Supplies - Routine Disposable	\$150.00
ALS1 Emergency Base Rate	\$1,950.00
ALS1 Non-Emergency Base Rate	\$1,950.00
ALS2 Base Rate	\$2,850.00
BLS Emergency Base Rate	\$1,250.00
BLS Emergency Mileage	\$18.00
BLS Non-Emergency Base Rate	\$1,050.00
BLS Non-Emergency Mileage	\$18.00
BLS Supplies - Routine Disposable	\$75.00
Dispatch Fee	94.00
Oxygen, Administration, & Supplies / hr	\$150.00
Pulse Oximeter	*
SCT Emergency Base Rate	\$3,400.00
Treatment / No-Transport	\$400.00

* indicates that charges are waived.

Medicaid patients are only billed the indicated charges.

Only one base rate charge shall be applied to each account.

Base rate and mileage charges shall be applied in accordance with guidelines established by the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

Azle Fire Department instructs its billing agent(s) to assign/adjust off all amounts as permitted or required by Federal and State law and applicable payment policy.

Dispatch Fee should be charged for all patient encounters, unless otherwise prohibited or excluded by the Chargemaster.

Routine Disposable Supplies should be charged for all patient encounters, unless otherwise prohibited or excluded by the Chargemaster.

The BLS Emergency Base Rate shall be applied to all accounts where the patient has been legally pro-nounced Dead on Scene after the dispatch but before the patient has been loaded onboard the ambulance. No mileage will be charged in that case. If the patient is legally pronounced dead after pickup but prior to arrival at the receiving facility, the medically necessary level of service will be billed. In that case, it would be at least ALS-1 Emergency if a paramedic assessment was performed, or other ALS interventions where provided. Loaded mileage may also be billed in accordance with Federal and State law and applicable payment policy.

Unless determined Dead on Scene, patients that are not transported are only billed the Treatment / No Transport fee if an Advanced Life Support level intervention is performed, unless otherwise prohibited or excluded by the Chargemaster.

Supply and procedure charges should be billed for attempted procedures (IV, intubation, bone needles), even if the attempt is not successful, unless otherwise prohibited or excluded by the Chargemaster.

The Emergency Rate should be applied to all accounts, when transport to the destination facility is deemed an emergency by the reporting medic, unless otherwise prohibited or excluded by the Chargemaster.

FENCE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

on a third-degree felony low recruits said coming out charge of attack by dog re- to build Conner's fence was sulting in serious bodily in- a good exercise in communijury warrant, according to ty service and a complement the Parker County Sheriff's to the work they hope to Office. Her bond has not do as police officers. Some been set.

around with excitement and identified with wanting energy, appearing to be feeling better after the attack.

"Conner has never met a stranger," Conner's mom own, so I would hate for Cassandra Ware said, quoting what her grandfather pen to my kids and someone used to say about her son, not be as supportive as I can who talked with the police be," police recruit Porscha recruits and other volun- Almonte said. "If you can teers. "He makes friends give back in any type of with everybody. Everybody way, I think you should." is his best friend."

his eye.

One of the police recruits, to hear about. Krosby De Lapp, said the goal behind the service proj- and his mom is a hardworkect was to create a safe space ing mother," he said. "Con-

yard and having that area to along the way, and it's been know that he can enjoy his a real blessing to be able to time out here with his broth- do that." er and with his mom – that's definitely important," De munity come together to emy. They give us a task Lapp said. "I grew up having a backyard like that, and the world should work. I would want any other kid to be able to have that same to be," he said. experience. That's part of exactly Fort Worth or if it's of the recruits had previous an adjoining community."

Several of De Lapp's fel- tion work.

of the recruits had children On Saturday, he ran themselves and especially to keep Conner safe from strange dogs.

> "I have three girls of my something like that to hap-

Harry Harris, Conner's Ware said Conner is feel- school bus driver, was also ing much better, despite on-site on Saturday to lend a some lingering pain under hand. Harris said finding out about the attack was hurtful

"Conner is a sweet boy, for Conner to play outdoors. ner, to me, is a special kid. "A kid being able to feel I've been able to help him a safe and playing in his back- little bit and help his mom

sure that our community recruits through the fence it, give proper instructions feels safe, no matter if it's building process, and some and we'll figure it out." experience with construc- nated toys and candy to



Fort Worth Police recruit Courtney Walker shows Conner Landers, 7, a bag of toys and candy, courtesy of the recruits.

"That's kind of how his mother. Ware said see- spread about Conner's at- teers, and Caitlyn's Cater-Harris said having a com- things work in the acadhelp those in need is the way and (we) execute it," police recruit Jarrett Williams "This is the way it ought said. "I was prior military as well so that's kind of the Trinity River Fence and same thing. Just throw as why we all joined is to make Construction guided the many bodies as you can at much support," she said.

warming."

in Azle, led by Executive recruits volunteered to build The recruits also do- Director Jason Malewiski, the fence, Malewiski said. Conner, as well as a gift to build the fence. As word brought lunch for the volun- anything."

ing other people step up to tack and the need for a ing brought hot drinks and help her family is "fantas- fence, support for the project peach cobbler. tic," "amazing" and "heart- was readily available. Home "I love all the support worth of supplies for the Scott Tanner said. "That's that we're getting. I never 246 feet of fencing, Trinity thought we would get this River Fence and Construction oversaw the project and Azle. That's just what we The Servolution Network about 19 Fort Worth police do." spearheaded the effort to Alvin Ord's Sandwich Shop

Photo by Madelyn Edwards

"We love giving back," Depot provided \$4,000 Caitlyn's Catering owner part of the community. That's what you do here in

> Tanner added, "You've got to give back. If you don't give back, you don't have



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The Jennifer Stephens Tax Service, Inc. office is located at 119 Industrial Ave in Azle (inside the Sutton Printing office) and is available by phone and email. Information can be received thru contactless secure drop mailbox at the office.

Jennifer Stephens is an accountant with more than 30 years of experience in the accounting and tax industry and ERO.

"I don't have customers, I have friends," says Stephens. She offers free consultations and will work up the return for free; nothing is owed until the return is signed and transmitted to the IRS.

"I diligently aspire to provide services within an environment of a "mom and pop" business. I am 'old school' and can customize to a customer's needs," added Stephens.

Let Jennifer Stephens Tax Service, Inc. take care of all your tax and accounting needs.

Tax service rates start at \$50 for franchise or sales tax returns, \$300 for personal tax returns, \$350 for business tax returns, and additional \$50 for state tax returns.

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Hituaries

Leonard Robert Sorrels Jr 1949 - 2022

On Feb. 1, 2022, Leonard Robert Sorrels Jr. passed from this life into the Loving Arms of Our Lord and Saviour at the age of 72. He passed away at home with his wife and children at his side.

The celebration of Robert's life was held at Biggers Funeral Home in Lake Worth, Texas on Monday February 7th with Burial folin Springtown.

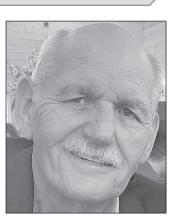
Robert's request to those who wish to express sympathy to consider making a donation to an Animal Shelter of your choice.

Robert had bravely bat-12 months with strong will, courage and love for his many challenges of his illlife was awaiting him.

Robert was born in Fort ried his High School Sweetheart Kathy Haugen in 1967

over the road truck driver Carmen Rogers and her husat Buddies in Fort Worth, his next-door granddaughery Wards and finally ending legged baby girl. with retirement from Colt Midstream in Springtown.

More than anything Rob-



lowing at Jaybird Cemetery ert loved being with his Thursday, February 10, 2022 family and friends. He en- from 6-8 p.m. at Galbreaith joyed boating and skiing Pickard Hilltop Chapel, on the lake, riding his mo- 4941 Interstate 20 Fronttorcycle with his wife and age Rd, Willow Park, Texas family gatherings. If asked, 76087. Memorial service he would say that his finest will be held Friday, Feb. achievements were his chil- 11, 2022 at 11a.m. at First tled lung cancer for the last dren, grandchildren and his Baptist Church Lakeside, first great-grand daughter.

endure and withstand the Robert Sorrels Sr., mother Ethel Lorene Sorrelsness is a testament to his Springfield; step-dad, Hen- death by her parents, husfaith and belief that a better drix Springfield; brother bands; Carlton J. Ware & Terry James Springfield.

Worth, Texas on May 17, of 54 years Kathy Sorrels; 1949 to Leonard Robert Sor- son Robby Sorrels and wife rels Sr. and Ethel Lorene Cyndy; daughter Tammy Sorrels-Springfield. He mar- Murphy and husband Keith; grandchildren: Jake Sorrels, Nikki Sorrels, Gunnar Murand together they had two phy and Wife Halyn, Reese children, Robby and Tammy. Murphy; great granddaugh-They made a life with their ter Havyn Murphy; two family in Springtown Texas. sisters, Kathleen Christian Robert worked as an and her husband, Gary and for many years with vari- band, Kelly. Robert is also ous companies. Beginning survived by Rylee Sisson, then driving for Montgom- ter and Kalleigh, his four-

> The Azle News, Feb. 9, 2022 Edition

Wilma Jane Ware 1934 - 2022

Wilma Jane Ware passed from this life on Feb. 7, 2022. Wilma was born on Nov. 26, 1934 to Milton Woodruff and Joe Henderson in Anson, Texas. Wilma was a homemaker who loved her family and enjoyed spending time with her numerous grandchildren. She also had a great love for her dog Missy.

A visitation will be held 8801 Jacksboro Hwy #4339, Robert was preceded in (corner of Hwy. 199 and family. His willingness to death by his father Leonard Confederate Park Rd.) Fort Worth, TX 76135.

> Wilma is preceded in Freddie Reel, sisters; Hazel, His survivors are his wife Amo & Ava, brothers; Cur-



tis, Jack & Verl, daughters; Cynthia J. & Vicki J. and granddaughter Jamie.

Wilma is survived by her daughter, Melody J. Ware, of Azle, sons; Logan J. Ware (Cindy), of Weatherford and Mark J. Ware (Kim), of Fort Worth and Timmy J. Ware of Azle; 9 grandchildren, 26 great grandchildren and one great great grandchild, numerous nieces and nephews along with many extended family and friends.

> The Azle News, Feb. 9, 2022 Edition



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Former JP found guilty of tampering

quelyn Wright on Wednes- ran for re-election as Jusday, February 2, was con- tice of the Peace between victed of tampering with a 2012 and 2018. Testimony government record, a news also showed the day after County Criminal District in 2018, using the address Attorney's Office stated.

found Wright, who was changed a water bill into justice of the peace for Pre- her name to make it appear cinct 4 from 1991-2018, she lived in that home. guilty on three counts of falsifying homestead ex- investigating the case afemptions.

tion, 10 days in jail and a the investigation, investirequired her to write a 50- lent homestead exempbehavior, the release stated, knows what she is doing, with the essay being writ- she wanted the tax benenext 90 days.

felony crimes by falsely ecuted this case.

Investigators Rink and Kyle Pisula what the lie was, and hold worked on the case as well. her and all of us public of-During the trial, tes- ficials accountable."

FROM STAFF REPORTS timony revealed Wright Former Tarrant County was not living in Precinct Justice of the Peace Jac- 4, as required, when she release from the Tarrant Wright filed for re-election of a home she leased to a A Tarrant County jury renter in Precinct 4, she

The DA's office began ter receiving a complaint Visiting Judge Daryl that Wright didn't live in Coffey sentenced Wright, the district in which she 74, to four years' proba- sought re-election. During \$2,500 fine. The judge also gators discovered fraudupage essay apologizing to tions. Jacquelyn Wright the court and public for her "knows what the law is, she ten and published in the fits," Whelchel, chief of the White Collar and Public In-Wright committed the tegrity team, told the jury.

"She is guilty of this applying for and receiving crime," Whelchel said. "It a homestead exemption was (Wright's) job to serve for a home where she did the public, not be a deceivnot live between 2015 and er. That is what she did for 2018, the release stated. a long time. That is what Assistant Criminal District the public integrity unit is Attorneys Lloyd Whelchel about, to hold us accountand Tommy Brown pros- able. We ask you to hold her accountable for what Marcus she has done, no matter





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worning wc	JISHIP		JAM
Community	Groups	Various Tir	nes

ASH CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Dr. G. Wesley Shotwell

300 South Stewart St. 817-444-3219 www.ashcreekbc.org

Sunday School 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship-TMP 10:45 AM Traditional Worship10:45 AM Evening Worship6:00 PM Wednesday Youth Refuge 6:00 PM Wednesday Evening......6:15 PM

AZLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ) Senior Minister, Ashle	y
Dargai, Katie Medlin, Worship Minister	
117 Church St. • 817-444-3527	
Sunday School 10:00 A	M
Morning Worship11:00 A	M

AZLE FIRST ASSEMBLY of GOD

Pastor: Tim Stev	ens		
1020 S.E. Parkway, Azle 817-237-4903			
Sunday School	9:30 ам		
Morning Worship	10:30 ам		
Wednesday Evening			

COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

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

Morning Worship......11:00 AM Sunday Evening6:00 PM Wednesday Evening......7:00 PM

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH

2233 Hwy 199 E. • Springtown 817-221-LIFE (5433) Sunday Worship Service10:00 AM Wednesdav7:00 рм

CROSSROADS BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor - Jon Baker Corner FM 730S & FM 1886 817-755-0279 Transportation Available Worship Service......10:30 AM Wed. Prayer Service......7:00 PM

THE EDGE CHURCH - AZLE

1313 S.E. Pkwy, Azle 817-237-4822 Missouri Synod "Love God - Serve Others - Share Jesus" Traditional Worship9:30 AM W Contemporary Worship..... 11:00 ам

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Pastor: Dr. Richard Reed 200 Church St., Azle 817-444-3323 Morn. Worship8:30, 9:45 & 11 AM Sunday School9:45 & 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 pr
Sunday	9:00 AN
Sunday11	ам (Spanish
Daily Mass (M, T, Th, F)	8:00 AM
Wednesday Mass Religious ED	6:30 рм
Confessions	Sat 4 PM

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

4795 E. Hwy 199 - Reno 817-221-HOPE				
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services				
Sunday School9:00 AM				
Traditional Service 10:00 AM				

SOLID ROCK BIRLE CHURCH

W

591 S. Reno Rd, , Springtown, Texas 76082			
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 Musi	c Service		
Wed. Prayer Meeting	6:30 рм		
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 Grou	ıp Legacy Youth, Kids
All Services	7.00 pm

SILVER CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

SILVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Church 817-444-2325

www.silvercreekbc.org

		•	Aut
N N	Sunday School	9:45 AI	M The
VI	Morning Worship	10:50 A	М
N	Evening Worship	6:00 pi	M Awa
N	Wed. Prayer Service	7:00 pi	м Life

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

Wednesdavs

Adult Bible Class	7:00 PM		
The WORD Students (6th-	12th grades)6:30		
PM			
Awana Kids at the WORD	6:30 PM		
Life at the WORD Life Gro	ups Various Times		

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

Reno plans to hire three part-time police officers, purchases new police software

BY MADELYN EDWARDS madelyn@azlenews.net

officers.

The Reno City Council approved adding the po- was discussion, led by Depusitions in a 4-1 vote last ty Mayor Pro Tem Hernando week. At the meeting, Dep- Herrera, about what limiting uty Chief Nathan Stringer overtime could mean for the pointed out that current of- police officers and their work ficers are logging a signifi- in the community. Mayor cant amount of overtime, Pro Tem Granville "Randy" and the department is trying Martin said the police leaderto cut down on that over- ship could be trusted to keep time for budgetary reasons overtime down and that some and to avoid burnout.

"Last weekend between bitual. Lt. Nalley and I, we took six call-ins where nobody ment averages 40 hours of was here, so we had to re- overtime as a department in. One of those was a death promise that officers will where we had personnel never log any overtime bewaiting on scene for us to cause their time is depenget there," Stringer said dur- dent on the workload. ing the meeting.

Elsner were sworn in in No- dedicated to this city. They vember, and in December, took the leap of faith as we three more officers were all did," Stringer said. "We sworn in. Two reserve po- want to make sure that they lice officers were sworn in have the support and the last month. The Reno Po- backup they need, as well as lice Department has been the coverage the citizens exrebuilding after losing all its pect. Just because we're not employees last fall.

One of the openings is citizens aren't calling 24/7." expected to be an administrative position in the police Swift suggested approachtions to provide relief and coverage as an alternative

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Reno "has quite a bit of The Reno Police Depart- crime, so adding personnel ment is in the process of will help relieve that and hiring three part-time police prevent some of that crime," he said.

> During the meeting there overtime is fine if it isn't ha-

Stringer said the departspond from home and come per week. He said he can't

"They're working re-Stringer and Chief Scott ally hard. These guys are

Council member Shelli two would be patrol posi- Office for help with Reno yet." back-up, Stringer said. The option. Stringer said Parker ed be posted on the Texas Sheriff's Office. officers will be limited to County Sheriff's Office is Municipal League website

partments currently, and site. might not be able to respond to calls in a timely manner.

day has one deputy this side the company EFORCE for of the county. When you the police department's recall the police and there's cords management system, somebody kicking in your which includes police refront door, you've got a 30- cords, persons database and to 40-minute response time, vehicles database. The new if they're available," String- cloud-based software cost er said. "So that's why I'm about \$30,486 and is split saying we want more cov- over two years, plus \$4,573 erage from your police de- annually for licensing and partment and not relying on support fees. Parker County."

other agencies, including cords management system Parker County, are short- is "not up to date," and the staffed currently, in part be- city's server is "reaching cause of a lack of desire to end of life." The new cloudjoin the profession and the based software will allow political discussions sur- officers to write reports in rounding policing.

er agency to respond to your the use of a VPN tunnel to calls if they've got call logs the server, a method which stacked up," he said.

Swift voted against the motion to add the part-time offi- being on this antiquated syscers. Before the council voted tem, not to mention when she said to Stringer, "Quality that server goes, we'll lose is better than quantity."

After the meeting, Mayor said. Sam White said the parttime positions are necessary.

"We have to give 24/7 enough time for our officers to have some time off," White said. "We're getting

30 hours per week and paid short-staffed, like other de- and linked to the city's web-

Also during the meeting, the council voted unani-"Parker County on a good mously to buy software with

Stringer said during the Stringer explained how meeting that the current rethe field, he said, and that's "You can't rely on anoth- not available now without is unstable and not timely.

> "It creates a lot of issues our RMS system," Stringer

Stringer also said the cloud software is safer because of the level of encryphere 24/7 doesn't mean the coverage and still give tion it uses. He called the current server a "vulnerability point."

Stringer also said the department, while the other ing Parker County Sheriff's there, but we're not there cloud system helps the police department be compat-The positions are expect- ible with the Parker County

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vhen called to the attention of the publishe

Dr. Jeffrey R. Crabtree

of the publisher

BUSINESS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

different aspects of what happens to development of expected to open in Februthe city," he said. "I work ary on the northwest side with a lot of contractors, builders, developers. So, I'm taken just a few months. kind of like the first point of contact, getting some ideas of their flagship stores," of what's happening and Hawkins said. "It's much what direction we're going larger than all of the typical to go in."

In the fiscal year 2020-2021, the city issued 29 permits for new construction and renovations for commercial developments, which totaled \$7.7 million. Also last year, 42 certificates of occupancy were issued, businesses.

"What that means is we are getting some turnover – businesses closing – but we're maintaining a very low vacancy rate," Hawkins said. "It's nice to see that we have new businesses come in to fill in those vacancies rather rapidly."

In 2020-2021, 163 new single-family permits were happening in our town," issued for residential developments.

of these new residential dein, but after that, you're going to see a big drop-off. I don't really foresee a lot more resito this town as we approach buildout."

approximately \$19.98 million for the last fiscal year.

One business that opened last year, in July, was Quisales tax revenue for Azle. Despite being open for a the complex. short time, QT is conductary, Hawkins said.

in the last month when com-The entire content of each issue of The Azle News is protected under the Federal Copyright Act. Reproduction of any portion of any issue is expressly forbidden without the prior written consent the Walmart parking lot. that process of engineering prospects. to extend that sewer line," Hawkins said, mentioning tion, he fielded questions he hoped pre-construction from Rotarians, including be constructed. Starbucks center where Burkes and officials hope to open in the Brookshire's are located. summer. Discount Tire also intends ground in January. It will open next to Pinnacle Bank and its anticipated opening is summer.

An Allsup's location is of town, as construction has

"This is going to be one stores they have."

Hawkins also pointed out renovation projects at Walmart, Burkes Outlet and Brookshire's in the past year, to the tune of \$1.5 million, and discussed some other commercial projects.

Rotarians also heard about with 35 of them being new new residential developments, including Graystone Ridge, which will have 98 lots for single-family housing. It will be a rental community, owned and maintained by D.R. Horton. The developer will maintain such components as yards and irrigation, Hawkins said.

"This is the only one that we're aware of that's Hawkins said.

Other developments com-"We have about 900 plat- ing to Azle: Rosewood Ested residential lots, with all tates, 134 lots; Auburn Terrace, 143 lots; Stone Eagle, 94 velopments coming in," he lots; Azle Grove, 254 lots; and said. "So, over the next two Lakeview Heights, 79 lots. to three years, you're going to Graystone Ridge, Rosewood see a lot more permits come Estates and Auburn Terrace in, a lot more houses coming are located along Stewart Street, with Auburn Terrace in the beginning stages. Stone Eagle, Azle Grove and Lakevdential subdivisions coming iew Heights are being constructed on the east side of Azle. An apartment complex, The estimated value of Stafford Place, would be built new single-family residen- next to Legacy Oaks retiretial construction in Azle was ment center on Southeast Parkway. Developers want to expand the number of units from 200 to 252 but will have to go through the city apkTrip, which has become proval process. Hawkins said one the top producers in ground could be broken in the next two to three months on

Hawkins also discussed ing an interior renovation Northwest Parkway water of its space. The renovation and sewer extension, Speer should be finished in Febru- Street flex space building and Boyd Road retail (across Starbucks is moving for- from Walmart). The Spear ward with opening a location Street building is located in Azle, but the company en- across from City Hall and is countered a "minor hiccup" close to opening, Hawkins said, and a "very high-profile pany officials discovered tenant" wants to occupy half there was no sewer line to the facility. Hawkins would serve its projected facility in not divulge the name of the tenant. The Boyd Road proj-"Apparently it was taken ect intends to attract retail out many years ago when establishments and fast-food Walmart was constructed so restaurants, with Wendy's they're having to go through and Panda Express being





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After Hawkins' presentawork would be wrapped up an update on the old Kmart soon and the sewer line can building in the shopping The company that owns the space has no aspirations to to open in Azle and broke develop the building. The developer who owns the property where Dairy Queen used to operate plans to tear down the building.



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NOTICE OF PRIMARY ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., March 1, 2022, for the voting purpose of:

Joint Republican and Democratic Primaries

Early Voting by personal appearance

Main Voting Site: Parker County Courthouse Annex 1112 Santa Fe Dr Weatherford, Texas 76086 Annex Kitchen

Branch Voting Sites:

Applications for ballot by mail may be obtained by calling 817-598-6185 Applications for ballots by mail must be received by the Early Voting Clerks no later than the close of business on Friday February 18, 2022 Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to Jenise "Crickett" Miller Early Voting Clerk PO Box 639 Weatherford TX 76086 Website: www.parkercountytx.com Fax: (817) 598-6183 Email: gina.osborn@parkercountytx.com

Springtown Senior Center 1070 N Main St Springtown <i>,</i> Texas 76082 Community Room	Peaster ISD Old Rock Gym 8512 FM 920 Peaster, Texas 76088 Back Room of Gym	Hudson Oaks City Hall 210 Hudson Oaks Dr. Hudson Oaks, TX Council Chambers		
Aledo ISD Admin Building 1008 Bailey Ranch Rd Aledo, Texas 76008 Louden Room	PCT 3 County Barn Break Room 1111 FM RD 1189 Brock, 76087	Azle City Hall 505 W Main St Azle, Texas 76020 Community Room		
Regular Early Voting Ho	urs and Days:			
Monday February 14, 2022 Tuesday February 15, 2022	8:00 a.m 5:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m 5:00 p.m.	Sunday February 20, 2022 Monday February 21, 2022	10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. CLOSED	

Monualy replically 14, 2022	8.00 a.m 5.00 p.m.	Sunday repruary 20, 2022	10.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.
Tuesday February 15, 2022	8:00 a.m 5:00 p.m.	Monday February 21, 2022	CLOSED
Wednesday February 16, 2022	8:00 a.m 5:00 p.m.	Tuesday February 22, 2022	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Thursday February 17, 2022	8:00 a.m 5:00 p.m.	Wednesday February 23 2022	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Friday February 18, 2022	8:00 a.m 5:00 p.m.	Thursday February 24, 2022	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Saturday February 19, 2022	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Friday February 25, 2022	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m

On Election Day, voters may vote at any of the locations listed below:

POLL-SITE NAME	ADDRESS:	ROOM AT POLLING SITE:	VOTING PCT #
Silver Creek United Methodist Church	2200 Church Rd, Azle 76020	Fellowship Hall	100/105
Azle City Hall	505 W Main St, Azle 76020	Community Room	110/111
Reno City Hall	195 W Reno Rd, Azle 76020	Community Center	115
Springtown Senior Center	1070 N Main St, Springtown 76082	Community Room	120
Legacy Church	3591 E Highway 199, Springtown 76082	Lobby	125
Parker County North East Annex	1020 E Hwy 199, Springtown 76082	Court Room	130
Friendship Baptist Church	801 Friendship Rd, Weatherford 76085	Gym	135
Agnes Baptist Church	350 Agnes North, Springtown 76082	Foyer	140
Harburger Hill Community	701 Narrow St, Weatherford 76086	Large Room	200/250
Trinity Lutheran Church	1500 Ball St, Weatherford 76086	Fellowship Hall	205
Poolville Methodist Church	230 North Church, Poolville 76487	Fellowship Hall	210
Peaster ISD Rock Gym	8512 FM RD 920, Peaster 76088	Back Room of Gym	215
Whitt Fire Department	4312 N FM RD 52, Whitt 76490	Meeting Room	220
Bethesda United Methodist Church	6657 FM RD 113 N, Weatherford 76088	Johnson Hall	225
Calvary Baptist Church	1900 N Main St, Weatherford 76085	Fellowship Hall	230/245
Shady Grove Baptist Church	2470 W Lambert Rd, Weatherford 76088	Fellowship Hall	235
Union Baptist Church	3451 Sarra Ln, Springtown 76082	Fellowship Hall	240
Victory Baptist Church	1304 Fort Worth Hwy, Weatherford 76086	Youth Warehouse	255
Hudson Oaks City Hall	210 Hudson Oaks Dr, Hudson Oaks 76087	Council Chambers	260/265
Cherry Park Community Center	300 S Alamo St, Weatherford 76086	Main Room	300
Grace First Presbyterian Church	606 Mockingbird Ln, Weatherford 76086	Great Hall	305
Santa Fe Drive Baptist Church	1502 Santa Fe Dr, Weatherford 76086	Family Life Center	310/315
Weatherford College	225 College Park Dr, Weatherford 76086	3 rd Floor Workforce Building	WC
Millsap Community Center	102 Fannin St, Millsap 76066	Community Room	320
Harmony Baptist Church	242 Harmony Rd, Weatherford 76087	Gym	325
Tin Top Community Center	101 Old Tin Top Rd, Weatherford 76087	Community Room	330
Parker County PCT Barn # 3	1111 FM RD 1189, Brock 76087	Barn Break Room	335
First Baptist Church Dennis	7600 FM RD 1189, Dennis 76087	Old Fellowship Hall	340
Spring Creek Baptist Church	100 Spring Creek Rd, Weatherford 76087	Gym	345
Greenwood Fire Department	1418 Greenwood Cut-Off Rd, Weatherford 76087	Training Room	350
Morningstar Amenity Center	128 Heather Wind Ln, Aledo 76008	Main Room	400
First Baptist Willow Park	601 Ranch House Rd, Willow Park 76087	Welcome Center	410/415
Bear Creek Community Church	18600 Hwy 377, Cresson 76035	Lobby	420
City of Aledo Community Center	104 Robinson Ct, Aledo 76008	Main Room	430
Aledo ISD Admin Building	1008 Bailey Ranch Rd, Aledo 76008	Louden Room	435
New Faith Baptist	3303 West FM RD 5, Annetta 76008	Fellowship Hall	440
Parker County PCT Barn # 4	1320 Airport Rd, Aledo 76008	Conference Room	445
Lakeshore Drive Baptist Church	200 S Lakeshore Dr, Hudson Oaks 76087	Sanctuary	450

Aviso de Eleccion PRIMARIA

Se da aviso que los lugares de votacion que figuran a continuacion se abrian de 7:00 a.m. a 7:00 p. m., el 1 de Marzo, 2022, para el proposito de votacion para:

las primarias Republicanas	y Democraticas conjuntas	Las aplica	ciones para votar por correo pueden obtenerse llamando al 817-598-618:
Votacion anticipada por	<u>apariencia personal</u>	Las solicitu	ides de boletos por correo deberán ser recibidas por las secretarias de primarias a más tardar al cierre de operaciones el viernes 18 febrero, el
Main Voting Site: Parker County Courthouse Annex 1112 Santa Fe Dr Weatherford, Texas 76086 Annex Kitchen		año 2022 Jenise "Cri PO Box 63 Sitio Web:	<i>Las aplicaciones para votar por correo deberán enviarse a</i> ckett" Miller Early Voting Clerk 9 Weatherford TX 76086 www.parkercountytx.com 598-6183 Email: gina.osborn@parkercountytx.com
Branch Voting Sites:			
Springtown Senior Center 1070 N Main St Springtown, Texas 76082 Community Room	Peaster ISD Old Rock Gym 8512 FM 920 Peaster, Texas 76088 Back Room of Gym	Hudson Oaks City Hall 210 Hudson Oaks Dr. Hudson Oaks, TX Council Chambers	
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Regular Early Voting Ho	urs and Days:		
Lunes February 14, 2022 Martes February 15, 2022 Miercoles February 16, 2022 Jueves February 17, 2022	8:00 a.m 5:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m 5:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m 5:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m 5:00 p.m.	Domingo February 20, 2022 Lunes February 21, 2022 Martes February 22, 2022 Miercoles February 23 2022	10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. CLOSED 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Viernes February 18, 2022	8:00 a.m 5:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m 5:00 p.m. 7:00 a.m 7:00 p.m.	Jueves February 24, 2022 Viernes February 25, 2022	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m

En el dia de votacion, votantes podran votar en cualquier lugar mencionado abajo:

POLL-SITE NAME	ADDRESS:	ROOM AT POLLING SITE:	VOTING PCT #	
Silver Creek United Methodist Church	2200 Church Rd, Azle 76020	Fellowship Hall	100/105	
Azle City Hall	505 W Main St, Azle 76020	Community Room	110/111	
Reno City Hall	195 W Reno Rd, Azle 76020	Community Center	115	
Springtown Senior Center	1070 N Main St, Springtown 76082	Community Room	120	
Legacy Church	3591 E Highway 199, Springtown 76082	Lobby	125	
Parker County North East Annex	1020 E Hwy 199, Springtown 76082	Court Room	130	
Friendship Baptist Church	801 Friendship Rd, Weatherford 76085	Gym	135	
Agnes Baptist Church	350 Agnes North, Springtown 76082	Foyer	140	
Harburger Hill Community	701 Narrow St, Weatherford 76086	Large Room	200/250	
Trinity Lutheran Church	1500 Ball St, Weatherford 76086	Fellowship Hall	205	
Poolville Methodist Church	230 North Church, Poolville 76487	Fellowship Hall	210	
Peaster ISD Rock Gym	8512 FM RD 920, Peaster 76088	Back Room of Gym	215	
Whitt Fire Department	4312 N FM RD 52, Whitt 76490	Meeting Room	220	
Bethesda United Methodist Church	6657 FM RD 113 N, Weatherford 76088	Johnson Hall	225	
Calvary Baptist Church	1900 N Main St, Weatherford 76085	Fellowship Hall	230/245	
Shady Grove Baptist Church	2470 W Lambert Rd, Weatherford 76088	Fellowship Hall	235	
Union Baptist Church	3451 Sarra Ln, Springtown 76082	Fellowship Hall	240	
Victory Baptist Church	1304 Fort Worth Hwy, Weatherford 76086	Youth Warehouse	255	
Hudson Oaks City Hall	210 Hudson Oaks Dr, Hudson Oaks 76087	Council Chambers	260/265	
Cherry Park Community Center	300 S Alamo St, Weatherford 76086	Main Room	300	
Grace First Presbyterian Church	606 Mockingbird Ln, Weatherford 76086	Great Hall	305	
Santa Fe Drive Baptist Church	1502 Santa Fe Dr, Weatherford 76086	Family Life Center	310/315	
Weatherford College	225 College Park Dr, Weatherford 76086	3 rd Floor Workforce Building	WC	
Millsap Community Center	102 Fannin St, Millsap 76066	Community Room	320	
Harmony Baptist Church	242 Harmony Rd, Weatherford 76087	Gym	325	
Tin Top Community Center	101 Old Tin Top Rd, Weatherford 76087	Community Room	330	
Parker County PCT Barn # 3	1111 FM RD 1189, Brock 76087	Barn Break Room	335	
First Baptist Church Dennis	7600 FM RD 1189, Dennis 76087	Old Fellowship Hall	340	
Spring Creek Baptist Church	100 Spring Creek Rd, Weatherford 76087	Gym	345	
Greenwood Fire Department	1418 Greenwood Cut-Off Rd, Weatherford 76087	Training Room	350	
Morningstar Amenity Center	128 Heather Wind Ln, Aledo 76008	Main Room	400	
First Baptist Willow Park	601 Ranch House Rd, Willow Park 76087	Welcome Center	410/415	
Bear Creek Community Church	18600 Hwy 377, Cresson 76035	Lobby	420	
City of Aledo Community Center	104 Robinson Ct, Aledo 76008	Main Room	430	
Aledo ISD Admin Building	1008 Bailey Ranch Rd, Aledo 76008	Louden Room	435	
New Faith Baptist	3303 West FM RD 5, Annetta 76008	Fellowship Hall	440	
Parker County PCT Barn # 4	1320 Airport Rd, Aledo 76008	Conference Room	445	
Lakeshore Drive Baptist Church	200 S Lakeshore Dr, Hudson Oaks 76087	Sanctuary	450	

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

AN OPEN LETTER OF GRATITUDE TO THE CITIZENS **OF CINCINNATI. OHIO**

A short time prior to Nov. 17, 1835, Texas agent Francis Smith appealed to the citizens of Cincinnati, Ohio, for assistance to aid the Texas Revolutionary Army in their struggle for freedom. It was only one day subsequent that the Ohioans began raising money to find the manufactory of two sixpound cannons to be sent to General Sam Houston's Army.

The cannons were cast at the foundry of Hawkins and Taum in Cincinnati. Upon completion, the cannons were shipped down the Mississippi River to New Orleans and from there loaded aboard the schooner Pennsylvania and taken to Brazoria. By coincidence, Dr. Charles Rice and his twin daughters, Elizabeth and Eleanor, were on board the Pennsylvania. A seaman participating in the unloading commented that the presence of the doctor's twin daughters was an omen of fortuitous destiny for the guns and dubbed them the "Twin Sisters." That moniker stuck and hence forward was the unofficial name of the Ohioans' largess.

By perilous circuitous route and determined courage, the cannons were finally delivered to General Houston. Houston immediately initiated a 31-man Artillery Corps to service the cannons.

During the pivotal Battle of San Jacinto on June 21, 1836, the Twin Sisters were a critical fire-power augmentation in defeating Santa Anna and securing Texas' freedom in 18 minutes on that hot afternoon.

As a native Texan (nine generations deep), I take pride in extending great retro-gratitude to the Ohioans of Cincinnati. Thank you from all grateful Texans.

> Respectfully conveyed, Jim D. Mitchell, USA Ret. Airborne

> > **BRAND NEW**

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Azle students have their hearts in the right place



DIGGING IN: Azle High School Anatomy & Physiology students dissected cow hearts during class. Teacher Stephanie Sweeden said that students can use this class as a "stepping stone for the Dual Credit Anatomy & Physiology class" that she facilitates and teaches.

Photo courtesy Stephanie Sweeden



AZLE INSURANCE DIRECTORY



Candidates begin filing for local elections

BY JESSICA McKINNEY

The May 7 election is coming up and candidates positions that are up for election in their local jurisdictions.

the May ballot. Bill Jones, a tion for Mayor. former council member, has Corey Wynns. David Mc- ly held by Don Pitts. Wesley Place 2, has filed for reelec- Place 3, and Place 5 is cur-

azlereporter@azlenews.net Rouel Rothenberger has Gouyton. also filed his application for his council spot.

have begun filing for the is accepting candidate ap- for election in May, and plications for Mayor and all of the current members Places 1 and 2. As of Feb. have filed to retain their 7, only Tamra Olague, cur- places. This year, for the city of rently Place 5, has submit-Azle, Places 1, 2 and 5 are on ted her candidate applica- ing as president of the

In the town of Lakeside, emy May and Ray Lea have filed for Place 1, currently Places 1, 3 and 5 are up for all submitted their applicaheld by Councilmember election. Place 1 is current- tions for May. Clure, who currently holds Hearn is the incumbent for close at 5 p.m. on Feb. 18.

tion. In Place 5, incumbent rently held by Rona Stratton

The Azle Independent School District's Board of The city of Pelican Bay Trustees has four spots up

> Bill Lane, currently servboard, Jeff Edwards, Jer-

Candidate filing will



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How To Stay Out Of A Nursing Home-FOREVER

CDC: Falls Are The Leading Cause of Injuries In Seniors Attention Men and Women over 65 years old

If you have ever seen the Life Alert commercials then you have a picture in your mind of an elderly lady laying on the floor desperately trying to get



When it's hard to say NO

"You need to learn to say NO."

That's what my friend told me in a text exchange as I was describing everything I have going right now.

I can't argue with that. I've never been very good

at using that N word (to be clear, I don't use the other feeling a little overwhelmed one at all). Τ know-cognitively-

NO. I know I can't do every-

thing.

things that I'm really not power to say NO. I just fail good at and saying NO ac- to exercise that power far saying NO because it feels tually is a gift to the person too often. making the request. It allows than I.

and then doing it poorly is for crying out loud! much worse than saying NO.

I know that saying YES and then doing it grudgingly there? Does anyone else is much worse than saying have this experience? Are. Loved. You. Are. Seen. NO.

I kNOw all of that!

ple that I really like keep now? asking me to do stuff. It's so much easier to say

NO to people I don't like. Maybe if I just didn't like late our current trajectory. people so much ...

the best solution.

I confess that I've been and value by busyness?



BE AMAZING By Gerry Lewis

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

whelm is because I seem to trying to earn respect and why it's important to say have misplaced my NO but- admiration through producton.

I won't bore you with all I know that my time and That's not relevant for to- want people to like you? energy are finite commodi- day's discussion. The point I know that there are some as I choose to be. I have the ing?

And I'm one of those guys pastors and leaders on devel- hero? I know that saying YES oping those healthy rhythms,

I kNOw better!

Can I get an amen out you? whelmed or-at the very Amazing. Here's my problem: peo- least-out of balance right

> (and me) a few clarifying questions to help us recalcu-

I guess that's probably not saying NO because you're trying to prove your worth friend.

Do you have a hard time lately and much of that over- saying NO because you're tivity?

Do you have a hard time the things I've said YES to. saying NO because you

Do you have a hard time ties and that every YES re- is that I am at a place in life saying NO because you're quires NO to something else. where I am precisely as busy afraid people will stop ask-

Do you have a hard time so good to be needed?

Do you have a hard time them to find someone who who talks and writes about saying NO because saying will do a much better job healthy rhythms. I coach YES makes you feel like a

Dadgum! I've stepped all over my own toes!

May I share a secret with

Read this slowly: You. Anyone else feeling over- You. Are. Valued. You. Are.

Our YES should flow out of our sense of value, iden-If so, I'm going to ask you tity, purpose, and calling; it should not be an attempt to gain or earn any of those.

I don't know if you needed Do you have a hard time to hear that today, but I did. Be amazing today, my



up only to discover she is not able to.

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

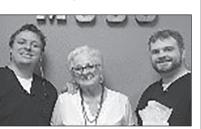
Working with seniors over many years it has become apparent that the greatest common fear is the fear of falling. This is not unreasonable as 1/3 of all adults over 65 will fall this year and each fall is potentially life changing.

Falls often lead to hospitalizations, serious injury or the need for assisted living of some sort. In the most severe cases a fall can lead to death.

If the fall, injury and hospitalization isn't bad enough, frequent falls lead to loss of independence, limits in your daily activities, and increase your reliance on friends and family members to complete basic everyday tasks. How humiliating is it to ask someone to get your groceries or drive you to the doctors office?

With the right information and the right guidance many falls can be prevented, keeping you out of the hospital and Nursing Homes.

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



Ask yourself the following questions:

- Do you want to avoid spending the rest of your life in a nursing home?
- Do you feel unsteady when you walk or get up from a chair or bed?
- Do you feel like a burden to those around you because you need to hold on to someone when you walk or ask them to run your errands?

If you answered YES to any of the above questions (or have a stubborn spouse or parent who is in denial) you need to take action NOW. You don't have to live in fear of falling. You can take steps to improve your balance.

To help our fellow area residents stay out of nursing homes and prevent falls, MOSS Rehabilitation Center will host a FREE Balance Workshop.

FREE Workshop Saturday February 12th, 2022 10 AM

• Where? MOSS Rehabilitation Center 407 Old Springtown Rd Ste 114, Springtown, TX 76082

During the event, here are a few things you will learn:

- 1. You'll learn a quick do-it-yourself test to determine your risk for falling.
- 2. The most common locations for falls and where they occur in your home.
- 3. And, things you can do today to make your home safer.

Call this special number 817-220-6677 to reserve your seat. Due to COVID precautions we only have **10 FREE** Workshop seats available so call to reserve yours now. If you are not worried that you or someone you love will fall then you have no reason to call for this FREE workshop. If, however, you think it is possible that you or a loved one could be at risk of falling... you do not want to ignore this **FREE** information!

Register at http://www.springtownphysicaltherapy.com/balance-ws OR CALL This Special Number 817-220-6677 to reserve your seat.

Let's have a heart-to-heart.



Join us online for the 2022 Women's Heart Health Event. Thursday, February 24, 2022, 6:00 PM

Whether you are a current heart patient, family member, caregiver or want to know your risks for heart disease, don't miss this opportunity to hear from a variety of women physicians and specialists to discuss the importance of cardiovascular health. See how this free virtual event could help you change your life for the Better. For more information, register by scanning the QR code below or visit BSWHealth.com/DFWWomensHeartEvent.



Scan QR code to register



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Winter storm brings snow to Azle





Terri Taylor shared these photos of their backyard, transformed into a winter wonderland for a day. Photos by Terri Taylor

DR. GLENN ROGERS: OUR EXPERIENCED CONSERVATIVE VOICE IN AUSTIN



Billy Elliott of Azle pushes niece Sapphire Brouillette down the hill on a makeshift sled on a snowy, cold Feb. 3 at the hill outside Walmart in Azle. The day's wintry weather forced closures of schools and businesses, but some people still found a way to have some fun.

Photos by Don Munsch



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

SPORTS

Azle News Wednesday, February 9, 2022

www.AzleNews.net 1B

Azle to face new, old foes in realigned districts



The Azle High School football team enters the field during a game this past season. The Hornets will play in a nine-team district the next two years. Two of their opponents are state powers Aledo and Denton Ryan. Photo by Jeff Prince

BY DON MUNSCH editor@azlenews.net

For Azle High School's football team, the University Interscholastic League's new realignment amounted to sort of a good news/bad news day.

Bad news first: Aledo and Denton Ryan — perennial state powerhouses — will be in Azle's football district the next two seasons.

Now the good news: As Azle head football coach Devon Dorris said, Azle won't have to face either of those two teams straight off the bat in first round of the playoffs.

On Feb. 3, while much of the state coped with freezing temperatures and wintry precipitation, UIL released its realignment for football and other sports for 2022-23 and 2023-24. The Azle Hornets football team will be in a district with some new and old opponents, who will be scattered across several counties in North Texas.

Azle will be in Division I in District 3 with Aledo,

SEE **SIGNING**, PAGE 4B.

NATIONAL SIGNING DAY **Azle scholar athletes** put pens to paper

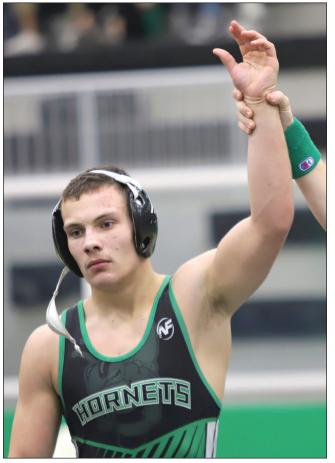


Azle boys and girls win district titles in wrestling

BY JEFF PRINCE ieff@azlenews.net

The Azle High School boys and girls wrestling teams captured District 4-5A titles at the championship meet held in Lubbock over the weekend.

Azle hasn't won boys and girls titles in the same year



Eleven seniors signed their names to letters of intent during a simultaneous signing ceremony. Photo by Jeff Prince

BY JEFF PRINCE ieff@azlenews.net

Eleven Hornets — all semain gymnasium.

Simultaneously, scribbled their names on

nounced their intention to for the way you have repstudy along with playing resented our school and sports at the college level the way you are continuing niors — held pens while after leaving high school. to represent our school," sitting at tables in front of For many of the kids, writ- said Principal Randy Cobb. a large crowd one day last ing their names on Na- "Thank you so much for week at Azle High School's tional Signing Day, Feb. 2, what you've done. We are meant leaving the only town very proud of you." they they've ever called home. "I want to thank you on

letters. The signatures an- behalf of Azle High School

SEE **SIGNING**, PAGE 4B.

Azle soccer boys drop district opener against wily Coyotes

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

Azle athletic trainer Tiffany Shaw was treating Cody McIntyre for a bloodied nose on the sideline after Monday night's district opener ended in a 3-0 loss for the Hornet soccer team.

Head coach Austin Fugate asked his player what happened.

"I got hit in the face," he said.

"Did you hit the guy back?" the coach joked.

"It was Josh!" McIntyre said, referring to his own goalkeeper, Josh Leonard.

Accidents can occur in the fast-paced game of soccer, a sport played outdoors in winter by athletes wearing little clothing or protective padding.

The recent ice storm de-

SEE SOCCER, PAGE 2B. opener on Monday.



since 2015.

"It was a very exciting weekend," said boys coach Tyler Harrison.

Ten teams competed at the meet, including Aledo, Saginaw, Springtown, Vernon and five Lubbock-based high schools. The meet was delayed temporarily by the ice storm that blanketed North Texas on Feb. 3.

"We faced a lot of adversity with the weather conditions and the tournament schedule changing once we were already to Lubbock," Harrison said. "Our kids did a great job of focusing on what they could control and going out and competing hard."



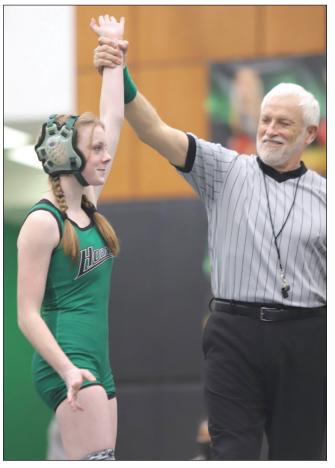
Azle boys who won individual championships included Kenneth Riley, 106 pounds; Masen Martinez, 120 pounds; Oliver Lorenz, 132 pounds; Braxon Cates, 152 pounds; and Dominick Evans, 170 pounds.

District runners-up for the boys included Landin Evans, 113 pounds; Hunter Legan, 138 pounds; Elias Ramirez, 182 pounds; and Billy Spratt, 195 pounds.

Third-place finishes went to T.J. Bailey, 95 pounds, for the girls; and Jackson Berg, 145 pounds, for the boys.

Photo by Jeff Prince

Dominick Evans won a District 4-5A championship title in the 170-pound category.



Jacy Williams is one of six wrestlers who won individual district SEE **WRESTLING**, PAGE 4B. titles while competing for Azle. Photos by Jeff Prince

2B 🛛

layed the district opener, originally scheduled on Feb. 4, against the Wichita Falls Coyotes. By Feb. 7, at 4:30 p.m. – game time – the sky was blue. The sun shone brightly. All that remained as reminders of the storm were random spots of ice holding firm in shaded areas.

Fugate put the loss in perspective.

"This is one of the best teams in the state and definitely in the region," he said. "It's always going to be competitive, but we held them down pretty good."

The Coyotes scored two goals in the first half and one in the second.

"They just finished their chances, and we didn't," he said. "We had more opportunities in the end, but it is what it is."

The Hornets (1-7-2) play at 7 p.m. Feb. 9 at home against Rider (8-4) and play



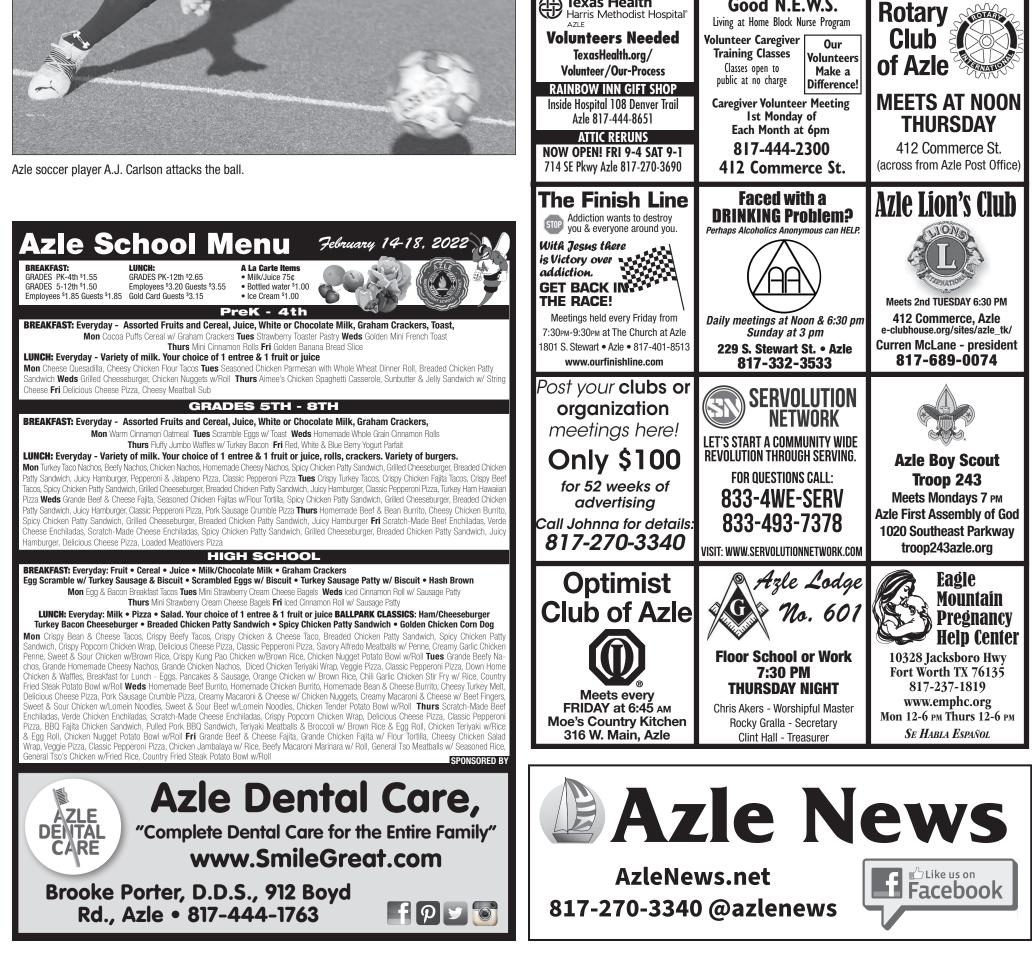
Student trainers Katelynn Russell, Calyn Baird and Colby Booker watch as an adult trainer wraps a soccer player's ankle.

Photos by Jeff Prince



nience, she said, and serving

"I get to watch sports and



Azle Christian basketball boys to finish district play against Victory Baptist



Camden Logan, shown here practicing a dunk during pre-game warmups, made two dunks against Ryan English looks to pass his way out of trouble StoneGate.

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

saders would like to end sick. district play by notching its tory Baptist.

met for the first time, and Camden Logan scored 18 since Faustina has clinched Azle Christian came out on points, followed by Ryan first place. top 44-36.

forth game," said head coach notched multiple assists and 7 p.m. Feb. 14 on the road Ryan Rollins. "We played a steals. Noah Rollins grabbed against Victory Baptist (4-9) great game defensively."

The two teams square off had seven. Andy Wisniewski son.

again on Feb. 14. Several players found steals. themselves in foul trouble, The Azle Christian Cru- and another starter was out StoneGate 71-26 during

"We were plugging guys second victory against Vic- into spots they aren't used week 63-14. to playing, but everybody English with nine. Ty South

had five rebounds and four

The Crusaders whipped Monday night's game after toppling the same team last

The Crusaders are fight-On Feb. 1, the two teams stepped up," the coach said. ing for second-place seeding

Azle Christian (11-11) "It was a great back and scored eight points and plays at 7 p.m. Feb. 11 and eight rebounds, and Logan to close out the regular sea-



Photos by Jeff Prince

Azle Christian roundball girls learn patience, persistence

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

The Azle Christian Lady Crusaders are not bragging about their three district wins this season. All came via forfeit after StoneGate Christian, one of four teams in District 2-1A TAPPS, canceled its season.

The Crusaders have lost every game that involved dribbling and shooting, although few games have been played.

"I've been really shocked by how the schedule kind of fanned out," said Joe Shehan, the first-year head coach at the private school on FM 730 South.

A coaching change just before the season began led to scheduling problems early in the season. A few games had to be canceled. Teams bowed out of games at the last minute because of COVID-19 issues. Then, StoneGate Christian Academy canceled its season.

The girls played just three games before district competition began.

"It's been really crazy, but the girls have been a lot of fun," said Gayle Shehan, a freshman defensive standout. "After games, it can get kind of frustrating with all the losses that we've had, but I've noticed how the girls have started getting better attitudes as the season has progressed. They've learned that winning isn't the only important thing. The important thing is progressing, getting better and son of rebuilding with green working together as a team."



Laney Geeslin is one of two juniors on a team without any seniors.

the Crusaders' on-court woes. The team moved up competitive TAPPS league, and this season's roster is young, with mostly freshmen and sophomores.

"I knew it's going to be an uphill battle," the coach said. "I've been really impressed with the poise that the girls have been handling it with. Each week we get better."

TURNING IT AROUND

Everyone expected a sea-

Other factors prompted to sting early in the season. Laney Geeslin, a junior, said the team's attitude "hit from TCAF to the more the drain" after a string of defeats.

> "We knew from the start that it would be a difficult season, knowing we didn't have any seniors," she said. "We knew that our main goal was to just show Christ-like character no matter how bad we were losing. We failed that a few times, but we are going to keep pushing and hope that we can overcome it again."

players, but the losses began quired coming together as a the maturity that you would really put your body on the

team, she said.

"We've been really focusing on encouraging others," Geeslin said. "We all just kind of started working as a family and picking each other up instead of tearing each other down."

The tough times have helped build character and court skills in the girls, and the coach appreciates watching the growth.

"What I'd like to see out losing. of them is just continued improvement," he said.

expect from seasoned play- line," she said. "There have ers," Shehan said.

TAKING THE HIT

The coach's daughter, Gayle, is the team's tallest player at 5 feet, 10 inches. She leads in most of the defensive categories, including rebounding, and has earned physical bumps and bruises along the way to match the mental trauma of constant

just hustling back and mak-His young players are ing sure that you're able to Changing direction re- showing "poise, grace and be aggressive and able to

Photos by Jeff Prince

been a lot of times where I've gotten busted lips, sprained ankles, that sort of thing. I've had to push

through it." When not studying or playing basketball, Shehan likes to read. Her book list sounds like primer material for learning to survive this year's battle for survival on

the basketball court. "I just started 'Twilight," "Defense really is about she said. "That's been pretty good. And the 'Hunger Games' was pretty good."

SIGNING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B.



Isaac Riley, Brandon Sheets and Kyler Braswell will play baseball together at Ottawa University.



Bernock lya, this year's Most Valuable Player on the Hornet football team, will take his athletic skills to Texas State University. Photos by Jeff Prince

Three of the seniors will attend Ottawa University on baseball scholarships.

"I'm going to play baseball, hopefully, all four years," said Isaac Riley, who will pitch his final season for the Hornets this spring before departing for Ottawa, Kansas. "I like the university. It will be a good fit for me, and I'm excited to go there."

Going with him are two of his Azle teammates — shortstop Kyler Braswell and first baseman Brandon Sheets.

"We all went out together, and then, we all got offers," Riley said. "It all kind of just happened."

He will miss Azle, where he has lived since fifth grade.

"It's a great town to grow up in with a lot of opportuni-



Kalle Vasquez, flanked by her mother and grandmother, will play softball at Arlington Baptist University.

people, and it opened a lot of minds us a lot of Azle - or doors," he said.

OFF TO COLLEGE... BUT NOT FAR

Returning home to visit won't be difficult for Kalle Vasquez. She intends to play softball at Arlington Bap-"It's a big enough school. tist University, less than an hour's drive from Azle. Still, moving will be "Azle is my home," she said. "I've grown up here my whole life. All my friends and family are here. Coaches are here. I'm going to be sad when I leave, but I'm excited to start a new chapter of my life." She intends to study business at college. "Then, once I'm finished with business, I'm going to study physical therapy," she said.

Azle with a college stuck on the side of it."

He hopes to excel on the gridiron at college and keep playing afterward.

"If your dream isn't to go to the NFL, then college football isn't for you," he said. "But I'm also in it for the education. I want to major in mechanical engineering."

WRESTLING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B.



The Azle boys and girls wrestling teams won district titles together for the first time since 2015.

Courtesy photos

128 pounds; Tacoma Redding, fifth place, 285 pounds; Kenzie Kearns, place, 215 pounds.

Elijah Correa,

included Lane Williams, rett, 220 pounds, didn't push through to the state fourth place, 126 pounds; place but earned points that tournament," Harrison said. Jazrine Nieto, fourth place, helped the boys team win. girls qualified to compete hard work." at the regional championsixth place, 185 pounds; ships on Feb. 11-12 at Bel uled for Feb. 18-19 at Berry and Savanna Crafton, sixth Air High School in El Paso. Center in Cypress. "Our region is the tough-

Other Azle competitors pounds, and Zack Bar- pect our kids to do well and "Our coaches are extremely A dozen boys and eight proud of our kids and their

The state meet is sched-

160 est in the state, and we ex-

REALIGNMENT, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B.

Burleson Centennial, Den- ready for the 2022 season." play teams west of here. She

ties everywhere," Riley said. There is always competition. Your job is never there for you all the time. You've tough. always got to fight. I really love this town."

CHEERS TO CHEER

Garrett Gouyton performed well on the defensive line for the Hornets football team, but his cheer team skills will help offset his tuition at the University of Oklahoma.

Gouyton began cheering as a sophomore at Azle High.

"I never expected much of it," he said.

He enjoyed helping with stunts and began competitive cheering at Cheer Athletics in Plano, a gym that provides classes and training.

"That sparked my career and got me offers at multiple schools," he said.

Gouyton is a crack scholar, too, which helped him land at an NCAA Division I school.

way more and will definitely take me farther in the fu- he has called home for 18 ture," he said. "I'll cheer at years. football games. We have the ers Association) national competition that we go to every year."

Cheering at OU will be like Azle but on a "way bigger level," he said.

Through cheering, Gouy-

Vasquez began playing softball at 6.

"It takes a lot to stay committed to a sport for so long," she said. "I worked really hard to be where I'm at right now."

NFL DREAMS

The Azle football team's big offensive tackle, Jakson LaHue, is another top scholar and athlete with big plans.

He will attend Mississippi State University and live "My offer at OU stood out in Starkville, Miss., but he won't forget the little place

"I'm so thankful I was able UCA (Universal Cheerlead- to grow up in Azle," he said. "It's a really good community to grow up in. Everybody is charitable. I can't imagine growing up anywhere else."

LaHue's future home will have similar traits.

"We love it down there" ton "met a lot of different in Starkville, he said. "It re-

His freshman year of college courses are completed almost, since LaHue has been taking extra classes at high school. He finished just shy of the top 10% of his class academically.

"At the start of a quarantine last year, I just kind of let it go, and I am definitely regretting it right now, because it just put me shy of the top 10%," he said. "But, in the real world, it really doesn't matter in terms of college. I've already accepted Mississippi State and already made it into the College of Engineering, so I'm definitely happy with that."

If he looked 10 years into future, what would he hope to see?

"I would definitely be playing in the NFL for at least a good minute, and then just come back, have my own shop and just stay busy working on cars" in Azle, he said.

Other seniors inking deals include Alyssa Holland, softball, University of Arkansas Rich Mountain; Camryn Hinkle, volleyball, Kansas Wesleyan University; Brenden Kaminick, baseball, Northern Oklahoma College; Kaden Taylor, football, Northwestern Oklahoma State University; Bernock Iya, football, Texas State University; and Isaiah Fuller, football, Bethel College.

ton Ryan, Fort Worth South

chance to play a while."

He said in a nine-team was previously in an eightteam district. The teams will play just two nondistrict games the next two Frisco Reedy and Grapevine in non-district.

noticed. Secondly, obviously, (there are) seven teams that have been in the playoffs or have been a playofftype team for the last howgoing to be in a competitive game every single week."

Dorris said he could see multiple teams in the new district playing each other again in the playoffs, because the teams that come out of the new district will be some of the top-rated teams in the region.

"It's going to be a very competitive district and our goals and aspirations and the things we try to work on daily doesn't change, (no matter) whoever's in our district," he said. "So, it's

Hills, The Colony, North- volleyball teams will be in explaining that Azle has had west, Saginaw and Brewer. District 5, which features a good experience with the "We're in one of the most opponents Aledo, Gran- Wichita Falls schools the competitive 5A districts in bury, Northwest, Saginaw, last couple of years. the state of Texas," Dorris Brewer and Wichita Falls said. "You make it to the Rider. Northwest and Sagi- as baseball, softball and playoffs, you're going to naw are the new faces in the soccer, those districts will be battle tested and you're district, while Wichita Falls be announced around the definitely going to have a High School departs for a first week of March. Wresnew district.

district, there will be an ex- tor Becky Spurlock said the tra team playing for one of football district was defi- probably four different disthe four playoff spots. Azle nitely different from what tricts in your one school," was expected.

"We knew we'd have some changes," she said. the alignment for Azle, ath-"A nine-team district cre- letes will go compete, and seasons. Azle will be play ates some challenges some- "that's just the way our kids times. So that's one thing. and our coaches work. So, "You better be ready at from one side of the Me- new district and some new the start of the year," Dorris troplex to the other side. championships in those dissaid. "That's the first thing I But we certainly have some tricts." good teams in the district, with the addition of Aledo, the new district in emails to which we knew we would the News. get Aledo. And then you've got Denton Ryan and The ite," said James Crafton, ever many years, so you're Colony and Centennial. AHS head boys basketball There's some additions. It's coach, adding there were certainly going to make our "several familiar faces, football district a very com- teams that are well coached petitive football district. and it will be a battle every But we're used to that and night." Any four of the new our kids will stand up to that group could be in the playand we'll fare well."

Spurlock was pleased with the non-football dis- to see how our district will trict.

people to play," she said. "I ketball coach. "I am sure think that our kids can be that adding Northwest and excited about who we're Saginaw along with losplaying. I think we'll be ing WF High will change competitive in that district." things, but we are looking She said there were some forward to the challenge." time to keep working, get predictions that Azle would

Azle's basketball and is excited to still play Rider,

As for other sports, such tling and swimming dis-Azle ISD Athletic Direc- tricts will be different, too.

> "So, you'll end up having Spurlock said.

She said no matter what The second thing is we go we'll move and create our

Other coaches reacted to

"I don't see a clear favoroffs next year, he added.

"We are always excited change," said Mitzi Mar-"I think it gives us good quart, AHS head girls bas-





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Help Wanted

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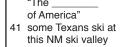
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