YOUR TRUSTED LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1966

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\$1

The 'most amazing career'



Tom Pennington

Photographer appreciates educators' inspiration

BY DON MUNSCH editor@azlenews.net

Tom Pennington's job has taken him to nearly 50 countries around the world, and he will be in China for the Winter Olympics, which begin this week.

In Beijing, he will shoot photographs for Getty Images.

ing him in his career.

newspaper and Azle News.

"I actually got into photogra- Roselle and district fine arts diphy when I was in high school rector Fred Stockdale.

Pennington's start as a pho- and that initial interest was retographer began in Azle, and he ally nurtured by two teachers," credits two educators for inspir- he said, quickly specifying it tially," said Pennington, who was a teacher and the fine arts An Azle High School gradu- director for the school district. ate from the class of 1993, Pen- They were English teacher/ nington shot for both the AHS journalism teacher/yearbook and newspaper adviser Lynnda

"Every bit of my career, all of the credit goes to them ininow lives in Fort Worth and whose parents, Carl and Mary, live in Azle. "We were in class one day and Lynnda stopped me and she said, 'You know, Tom,

SEE **PENNINGTON**, PAGE 4A.

Local winery keeps wine tasting 'casual'



BY JESSICA McKINNEY azlereporter@azlenews.net

For many people, the thought of going to a wine tasting can be intimidating.

Robbie Hyde, founder of Casual Friday Winery, located outside of Azle, wants to change that.

"A lot of times, wine tasting has sort of a snobbish air to it," Hyde said. "We didn't want that. We wanted to appeal to the everyday person. Just, like, hey, come as you are. Doesn't matter. Come casual, come try our wines. So that was kind of our neaning behind the name

SEE CASUAL, PAGE 12A.

Local 7-year-old survives dog attack



Reno continues to discuss animal ordinance

BY MADELYN EDWARDS madelyn@azlenews.net

The dog attack of 7-yearold Conner Landers has brought in support for the child and his family and from school on Jan. 21 near

Reno works on an animal ordinance.

Timbers Elementary School in Azle, was walking home

is part of the discussion as Knob Hill Road and Lynock Lane when he was attacked by a dog. Conner survived Conner, a student at Cross with the help of a neighbor who was able to get the boy

SEE ATTACK, PAGE 3A.



Azle Education Foundation raises \$96,000

BY JESSICA McKINNEY azlereporter@azlenews.net

Educators, leaders and school supporters gathered at The Orchard event venue on Jan. 29 for the Azle Education Foundation's 10th annual Red Solo Cup fundraiser, with the programs in Azle. event raising over \$96,000 to be used for college schol- the AEF funded nearly arships, new teacher gift \$770,000 for its programs. cards and grants.

were able to get together this in college scholarships. year," said Meg Arnold, the AEF event chair.

that they support our teach- throughout the year. ers, schools and students Foundation."

A barbecue dinner was provided for attendees by Railhead Smokehouse, courcommunity tesy of state Rep. Charlie Geren. All food, drinks, decorations and the venue were donated for the event, ensuring that all money raised goes straight to education

From 2010 to 2021, That includes \$395,180 in "It was a fun evening, teacher grants, \$51,455 in and I am so grateful that we campus grants and \$183,500

The Red Solo Cup event is the only fundraiser held "I'm thankful for this by AEF each year, but docommunity and the way nations are always welcome

For more information about through the Azle Education AEF or to donate, visit www. azleeducationfoundation.org.



Supporters of the Azle Education Foundation gathered on Jan. 29 to raise money for the organization, which will be used for grants and scholarships for Azle ISD students and teachers. Photo by Jessica McKinney

Stacey's Mobile Notary



day, Jan. 26. Their services consist of general notarization, loan signing, I-9 Authorization and wedding officiant. Call 817-550-1624 for any needs.

Tactical Taxes Etc., LLC



The Azle Area Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting for Tactical Taxes Etc., LLC on Monday, Jan. 24. They are located at 510 West Main Street, Suite A. Year round tax assistance by appointments, walk-ins, remote and now offering mobile assistance. Call today at 817-744-0519 to schedule an appointment.

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- * 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!

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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

Area fires damage homes

BY CARLA NOAH STUTSMAN

A burned-out shell is all that one was home. remains of a home in the 300 block of Turpin Drive after it ficers evacuated adjacent was ravaged by fire Jan. 26.

The first 911 call came in at 7:22 p.m. Azle's Quint 52 was first to arrive at the scene at 7:30 p.m., and its crew re- as the fire was brought unported seeing a large "header" or column of smoke while they were en route. Firefighters observed a one-and-a-half-story wood-frame structure already 75 percent involved with fire. clared "out" at 11:07 p.m. Azle FD set up Turpin Command immediately, even though the location is about a tigation, but the home is a block outside the city in Parker total loss. In addition to the

said because the structure patched Azle's first-alarm was almost fully involved with fire, crews had to fight Briar-Reno Fire Depart- home is located in the Counto keep it from spreading to nearby homes. Firefighters and Springtown stations, and entered the home to search Lake Worth Fire Department. for the homeowner, who was Those departments respondnot found inside. Still, it was ed to provide manpower,

an hour into the fire before confirmation came that no

Scott said Azle police ofhomes because of the fire's proximity. Evacuated residents were eventually allowed to return their homes der control.

The American Red Cross was called to the scene for firefighter rehab, and arrived at 9:20 p.m. The fire was de-

fire remains under inves-Azle Fire Department, Tar-Azle Fire Chief Will Scott rant County Fire Alarm dis-1's Silver Creek, La Junta



A burned-out shell is all that remains of a home in the 300 block of Turpin Drive after it was ravaged by fire Jan. 26.

Photo by Carla Noah Stutsman

equipment and apparatus to Silver Creek, and La Junta were not hurt. assist in fighting the blaze.

Scott said the cause of the **TWO DISPLACED IN NINE MILE BRIDGE FIRE**

Two people were displaced Sunday evening because of a fire at their home in the 6400 block of Nine

After a 911 call at 6:55

Fire departments. Engine 110 from Lake Worth FD arrived at 7:03 p.m. and DAMAGED IN MINOR reported heavy fire on the ACCIDENT front porch of the residence with extension to the house. A vehicle was also on fire.

Firefighters quickly assignment consisting of Mile Bridge Road. The knocked down the flames, and the fire was under conit defensively, and were able ment, Parker County ESD try Oaks Mobile Home Park. trol by 7:12 p.m. Damage was significant, and the p.m., Tarrant County Fire American Red Cross was the driver of Azle Medic Alarm dispatched the first called to the scene to assist 352 was not at fault in the alarm assignment of Lake residents with a place to stay accident, which occurred on

AZLE AMBULANCE

The Azle Fire Department's newest ambulance - only about one year old – was damaged in a minor accident in Lake Worth on Jan. 18, Fire Chief Will Scott said.

No one was injured, and Worth, Azle, Briar-Reno, and essential services. They the cloverleaf at Jacksboro

Highway and I-820. The ambulance's passenger door compartment was damaged, and it will be taken to EMS vehicle specialists Frazer Ltd. in Houston for repairs, Scott said.

Fortunately, when the city of Azle purchased Medic 352, the city council agreed to retain its oldest ambulance in reserve in case of situations such as this, Scott explained. With a fleet of three ambulances, the city is able to keep two in service at all times.

AAMA hosts first blood drive of the year, Feb. 7

STAFF REPORTS

Heart disease never stops taking lives, regardless of time of day, month or year.

It remains the No. 1 killer of women and men, and patients undergoing heart surgeries can require multiple blood transfusions.

This February, during American Heart Month, Carter BloodCare reminds

the community that heart do it at least twice in 2022. formation or to schedule an unvaccinated donors are re-applicable. surgery patients need blood If all eligible donors gave at appointment, contact Col- quired to wear facial coverof that blood is from gener- dom be a shortage. ous blood donors.

needed now. Those eligible ing lot on board the Carter nate blood. to donate are asked to try to BloodCare bus. For more in-

Azle Area Ministerial medical history question- temperature is taken during olds can give independently The local blood supply for Alliance will hold a blood naire online on the day of screening, or when eating hospital patients has never drive from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. donation, before arriving to and drinking after the donareturned to pre-pandemic on Feb. 7 at First United give blood. People with and tion. Vaccinated donors are on donor eligibility and to levels, and because of that, Methodist Church of Azle, without COVID-19 vaccina- strongly encouraged to con- make an appointment, call blood donors are urgently 200 Church St., in the park-tions are both eligible to do-tinue wearing masks. Carter or text 800-366-2834 or visit

Carter BloodCare staff and required mask mandates, as

to survive. The only source least twice, there would sel- leen Horan at 817-343-1410. ings at blood drives or dona- may volunteer at age 16 with Donors can complete the tion centers, except when a parental consent; 17-year-

Potential blood donors and there is no upper age limit. For more information BloodCare will comply with www.CarterBloodCare.org.

ATTACK, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

side the fence.

where he had a major sur- Huffman said. gery to stop the bleeding and Ware said she was repair his wounds, his mother Cassandra Ware said. Conner was released from the hospital after 24 hours.

Ware said Conner has more than 2,000 stitches in his face alone, as well as stitches on the back of his head, on his neck, down both of his arms and his shoulders. The mother expects her son will need more surgeries in the future to remedy the nerve damage in his cheek and a rip on his eyelid.

The Parker County Sheriff's Office is investigating ter." the incident. Public Information Officer Deputy Danie Huffman said the neighbor had to hit the dog with a

neighbor, identified in an muscles in his forearms NBC DFW article as Lorena were ripped through," she from the dog.

that if she would have been very good thing." one to two minutes later, he would have been gone," Ware said. "It was a very close call."

Conner's mother also said, "I'm so happy that he's alive, and I can still see him try to smile. He's working on it. He's getting a lot bet-

will need physical therapy Conner to raise money "to for his arms as well.

Parker, who rescued Conner said. "As far as we know, there's no nerve damage in "The surgeon told her his arms at all, which is a

> For now, Conner is "terrified" of dogs that aren't his, Ware said.

"He went to go play with the kid next door, and the (neighbor's) dog met him at the door," she said. "Connor freaked out. His heart started racing, and he was crying."

A GoFundMe page has Ware also said Conner been set up for Ware and replace Conner's coat and "We're working on him backpack AND for grocer-

away from the dog and in- stick to rescue Conner. The now with trying to hold ies, gas, and bills, including Reno Planning and Zoning dinance covers and possibly dog, a brown and black utensils again, but it's like he cosmetic surgery bills," ac- Commission is working on an make additions for certain Conner was taken to Cook brindle, boxer-pit bull mix went back to being a toddler cording to the fundraising animal ordinance to address needs. The commission Children's Medical Center breed, has been euthanized, to the way he holds it now website. As of Tuesday af-dangerous dogs specifically. because it's like his muscles ternoon, more than \$13,300 "What's been brought make adjustments and sub-"ex- need to get used to it again has been raised. A fence to our attention is there mit it for city council's aptremely grateful" for the because of the fact that the is also scheduled to be in- are packs of dogs running proval. stalled this week so Conner around because we've not can play outside without en- had any way to address it and countering the dogs.

> and grateful and blessed that everybody is stepping up and helping out," Ware said.

To donate, visit www. gofundme.com/f/CassieandConor. An account called the Conner Lander's Benefit Account at PlainsCapital Bank in Weatherford has been set up by Parker County animal control officers to offset medical bills.

MUNICIPAL ACTION

In light of Conner's attack and other similar issues, the

deal with it," P&Z Chairper-"I'm extremely thankful son Christopher Reeves said following a workshop meeting last week. "So, we are going to start moving forward on that."

Reno Police Deputy Chief Nathan Stringer said he would assist in writing an animal ordinance. Stringer said the issue in Reno isn't usually dogs owned by people but wild dogs.

"There are packs of dogs, which is an issue for any city," Stringer said.

Stringer's plan is to see what the current animal or-

will review Stringer's draft,

Mayor Sam White said one of the employees in the streets and water department is training to be the city's animal control officer, who will be certified in March. An animal control department will be established thereafter.

"Reno had nothing, and that's kind of where we're at," White said. "So, we've got to look at what the best option for Reno is."

The goal of the ordinance is to maintain public safety, Stringer said. There have been incidents of dogs biting people, chasing people and attacking other animals, he said.







817-929-1816

WORKING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

this.' I was keenly aware that there were photographs in newspapers and magazines. I just didn't know how you news and entertainment. went about pursuing that. She put me in touch with the right people that led into my collegiate career at the University of Texas at Arlington and working my entire time student newspaper at UTA.

and putting me in touch with erage and some pandemicthe people there is really the only reason I'm doing what I'm doing today," he said.

Pennington worked as a Worth Star-Telegram before latching on to Getty Images. He was hired by the Star-Telegram in his fifth year in college. He freelanced for the paper while he was in college. He was hired full time in 1998 and left the paper in 2008 and then went to work for Getty Images. He is **FAVORITE WORK** based in Dallas-Fort Worth.

His work has taken him to war zones in Afghanistan and Iraq and other places in the world. Stateside, he travels extensively and has shot, among other assignments, sporting events, including covering the four major sports in Dallas-Fort Worth. He recently shot the Dallas Cowboys' playoff game.

THE INITIAL SPARK

In explaining how he became interested in photography, Pennington said when he was 16 that he had a group of friends who were involved in rock climbing and he wanted to document their adventures.

"We didn't really have photos of our climbing trips we were going on," he said. "I was the guy out of the group that said, 'Hey, I'll go buy a camera' and start shooting photos of this. And then it kind of blossomed from them. It was a really fascinating medium for me. I was mesmerized with it."

His favorite subjects to shoot have evolved over time, he said.

"The first 10 years of my career was very heavy with news coverage, natural disasters, and then post- 9/11, I spent kind of an extensive amount of time throughout the Middle East covering U.S. involvement in Afghanistan and Iraq," he said. "In total, I've spent a little over 18 months in those regions since 9/11. I don't do that kind of work anymore. When I left the Star-Tele- Many people don't realize that photographers have to ski a downward course to get in position for their gram in 2008, I went with photographs.

people make a living doing much more of a sport focus to my career."

> Getty Images has three major divisions: sports, Pennington is on staff with the sports division, and it's rare that there is cross-over because staffers stay so busy in their own editorial set.

"But I still do a bit of news while I was in school at the work with Getty," he said. "Recently it's really cen-"Her planting that seed tered around political covrelated coverage. But all in all, 90% of what I do now is strictly sport work."

Pennington is involved staff photographer at the Fort with the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee cov-

> "At Getty, we just travel for a lot of work," he said. "All told, I've been to 46 countries. Adding China for this trip will be 47."

MOST ENJOYABLE.

He especially enjoys shooting alpine ski races. "It's just fascinating to me what the athletes are capable of doing on an icy ski City Chiefs quarterback Patslopes," he said. "And so rick Mahomes and his abiliright now, that's my favorite ties on the field "never gets thing to cover."

He said photographing the ering Mikaela Shiffrin's ca- top events he has covered. reer has been fascinating.

"She's the best slalom racer ever," he said.

some memorable football sheer, sheer terror and chaos, games. Pennington shot the said. Rose Bowl when Texas beat

pionship.

"That game is still burned in my memory," he said. "It's one of the best ever."

Photographing old," Pennington said.

Pennington discussed end of Lindsey Vonn's ski shooting events in Iraq racing career was especially and Afghanistan, and they memorable, and he said cov- helped formed some of the covered, this one, we really

war zone?

Pennington has also shot mixed with moments of just

does not foresee going back really experience a culture. CAREER ADVICE to any war zones.

SHOOTING THE GAMES

previous Olympics I've downhill, giant slalom and don't know what to expect," What's it like to shoot in a he said. "We feel like (we race course with equipment will be) working in a true to get into position on the "It's a lot of boredom bubble scenario where we course, Pennington said. are closed off from the Chinese society as a whole. It to hear that photogs end up games, including some of folded in with just kind of will present some challenges Tom Brady's Super Bowl mundane everyday life," he where, pre-pandemic, we were always free to move nington said. Pennington is married and about the counties we were USC for the national cham- has a 10-year-old son, and working in and we could

And I don't anticipate that "It's just not the type of we're going to have that work I can do anymore," he ability this time. Because we are going to be working in a closed bubble."

He heads up the Olym-Pennington left on Jan. 26 pics' alpine program, and and will fly home on Feb. he will strictly cover alpine ski racing, which will in-"Honestly, out of the four clude men's and women's slalom, among other events.

Photographers ski the

People are always shocked skiing a downhill course with all of their gear, Pen-

"It's extremely physically demanding to do that," he

Pennington was required to meet some COVID-19 protocols before leaving the country, and then has to pass more testing in China.

"Once we're in country, we are tested every single day," he said.

Pennington said photographers should always do some homework and research for events they're covering, and they should have a sense of curiosity before shooting a subject and "listen and absorb what people tell you." He would advise young, aspiring photographers to pursue their craft if they are passionate about it.

"I had naysayers early in my career tell me that the news business is dying, don't go do this," he said. "But I'm 20-plus years into the most amazing career where I got to travel the world multiple times over and meet the most interesting people, broaden my horizons and have had a front row seat to some of the most historical events of my lifetime. And I've been able to record those and capture images that other people can see and help understand and learn about and be interested in what's going on in the world. It's a real honor to be able to do that. It's not something I take lightly."



Photo by Tom Pennington

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Hituaries

Eleno Cantu Leal 1957 - 2022

Eleno Cantu Leal, age 64, passed away Friday, Jan. 28, 2022 in Dallas, Texas.

Come and Go: 9 a.m. - 5p.m., Friday, Feb. 4, 2022 at Biggers Funeral Home. Visitation is from Noon – 2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022 at Biggers Funeral Home Service is at 2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022 in Biggers Funeral Chapel. Interment: Ash Creek Cemetery, Azle, Texas.

Eleno was a man that was loved by many and had a huge personality that no one would ever forget. He loved fishing at the beach, playing softball and spending time with his family. His family was his number one priority. The love for his kids and his grandkids was priceless. He was a man of his word and took great care of his loved ones. Watching westerns was a favorite past time of his when he was not outdoors.

He had a passion for working in the oil field business which he did for 40+ years. Thirty-three years of the 40+ were worked with Upham Oil and Gas in Mineral Wells.



He was preceded in death by his parents and his four brothers, Humberto, Pancho, Sergio and Mario.

Eleno is survived by his loving wife, Lisa Leal; his children, Taylor Kemp and Jillian, Brooklin Griffin and Kade, Austin Leal and Christian Leal and Jeni; four grandchildren, Jackson Kemp, Elliana Kemp, Kanyon Griffin and one on the way, baby Masen Leal; his sisters, Leticia Leal and Blanca Leal; a brother, Hector Leal; plus numerous nieces, nephews and cousins; and one special friend that he worked with for a number of years, Johnny Benavides.

> The Azle News, Feb. 2, 2022 Edition

AJH band members help get program 'back on (its) feet'

BY JESSICA McKINNEY azlereporter@azlenews.net

Four members of the Azle Junior High School wind ensemble competed in the all-region band competition in Weatherford in November, competing against students from 25 other middle schools in the area.

Jay Ishak (trumpet), Brady Danford (clarinet), Jack Graeber (trombone) and Jay Glaze (bass clarinet) were selected to be part of the all-region competi-

"Not everyone is selected, (so) making this a great honor," said Kevin Chapman, head director of the AJHS bands.

"I would also like to note that our program, along with every other band program in this nation, is in what I call a 'rebuilding process' because of COVID," Chapman said. "Our band programs have taken a major hit in numbers participating and these four students have made a difference in helping our band program here at Azle Junior High get back on our feet."

Chapman praised his students, saying that they "worked hard on their audition music for about three months, learning, polishing and perfecting it to the best stage. of their ability."



Jake Ishak (left), Brady Danford, Jack Graeber and Jay Glaze were selected to represent the Azle Junior High band to compete at the all-region band competition last fall.

"To do this, it took dedication and discipline to get into the practice room on their own without someone telling them to," he said.

Graeber said that he had to "prepare mentally" for the all-region competition.

"I was about to compete against the best of the best," he said. "I had to be ready. Failure was not an option."

Danford called the experience "amazing" because it gave him the opportunity to meet other great musicians and play with them on

Glaze described the all- like pop and rock stars for

region experience as "inter- the performance. esting."

said. "It was my first time that and I really enjoyed it."

The band will be holding bands will begin at 7 p.m. by Feb. 11. This year's theme is Pop/ Rock music, and students or to sponsor an ad, email will be encouraged to dress kchapman@azleisd.net.

The Pops Concert is the "Everyone sat in chairs band's only fundraiser for being called one at a time the year and raffle items will to play for the judges," he be on display at the concert. Tickets will be \$5 each or going to a competition like \$20 for five. They are also accepting sponsorship ads for the program, which can its "Pops Concert" at Azle be anything from a "shout-Junior High on Feb. 15. out" to a student to a busi-Beginner band sixth grade ness advertisement. Sponstudents will be performing sorships are \$30, \$50 and at 6 p.m. and the junior high \$100 and must be received

For more information

Spotlight on BUSINESS

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and charro beans \$8.00 Drinks Canned Coke, Bottled Water, Mexican

Coke, Jarritos Punch/Orange, Rice Water

2 Tacos w/canned Coke for **\$4.00**



From left to right: Kenny Bates, Gloria Brewster, and Richard Herrera.

Southwestern Comfort Air & Heat

Kenny Bates, owner and operator at Southwestern Comfort Air and Heat, has been working as a Texas HVAC professional for 29 years and has served the Azle area for 20 of those years.

Southwestern Comfort Air and Heat has a team of technicians that bring almost 70 years of experience to help their customers.

CJ Golliday (3 years), Deven Bates (3 years) Richard Herrera (4 years), and Mark Deveboise (29 years) are all Texas registered and certified HVAC technicians who work to ensure that your heating and cooling needs are taken care of no matter

Southwestern Comfort Air and Heat is a veteran-owned business that provides quality workmanship in all repairs, maintenance and installation.

They were awarded Best in Business by Azle in 2020 and 2021 and are part of the Better Business Bureau award program. All of Southwestern Comfort Air and Heat's technicians are background checked for the protection of customers and the community.

Southwestern Comfort Air and Heat offers discounts for veterans and first responders. You can get a free quote and discuss financing options over the phone.

"When you call our business, you will speak to an actual person each and every time," said Bates.

Southwestern Comfort Air and Heat offers same day service in most cases and emergency services are available 24/7. You can also sign up for one of their maintenance plans to help extend the life of your system.

The local heating and air company offers products from Goodman, Lennox, Trane, Rheem and American Standard. Whether you need installation, HVAC repairs or maintenance or retrofitting, Southwestern Comfort Air and Heat offers competitive prices and quality is guaranteed. Manufacturer warranties are available.

Southwestern Comfort Air and Heat is located at 11345 FM 730 N in Azle, and they are open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and they also take special appointments and emergency calls 24/7.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 817-696-6421.





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Hituaries

Sharon Trammell Chilkewitz 1943 - 2022

Andra Sharon Trammell Chilkewitz went to be with her Lord and Savior on Jan. 24, 2022. She was 78.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, Feb. 12, at 1 p.m. at Shannon Rose Hill Funeral Home in Fort Worth, with a graveside service to follow. Visitation will be Friday, Feb. 11 from

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Meals on chasing down autographs, Wheels of Tarrant County.

Sharon was born Aug. 6, 1943, in Panama City, Panama to Cleo Travis Trammell and Laura Idell Caldwell Trammell. She was the oldest of three children, including her brother Gary and sister Linda.

Sharon grew up in Azle with many friends and family, spending time at the Trammell Grocery Store and attending Azle Christian Church. She graduated from Azle High School in 1961, having participated in Future Business Leaders of America and National Honor Society. She loved to reminisce about acting in a high school play about Dobie Gillis and Worth.

Sharon went on to TCU in 1961 and made many friends there. Making friends was one of Sharon's special gifts - she made friends everywhere she went, from cashiers their lives. in the grocery store to nurses and caregivers in the hospital. her son Mark, daughter-in- 11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 2, Strangers would stop her in the store to ask how she did her hair or how she kept her Grapevine, her brother Gary skin looking so pretty.

In 1967, Sharon married and moved to Bedford. She and brother-in-law Jim of worked at Bell Helicopter Fort Worth, nieces and neph-school from Haslet and a few Parker (Kenda), Desiree until she took on her favorite ews, friends, and family. years later the family moved Kyrisch, John Cashion (Jenrole in life - being Mark's Sharon was a strong believer to Azle. She met Les at Ash ny), Marc Cashion (Meain 1972, and Sharon was a membered all of you in her they dated a couple of years great-grandchildren, Braden devoted mother, dedicat- prayers each day. Thank you before they married July 5, Parker, Kaylin Parker, Lilen ing herself to making sure for helping us honor Sharon 1952 and spent 55 years to- Kyrisch, Jack Cashion and Mark knew how much she by sharing your memories of gether until he passed in No- Maddie Slocum; and a host loved him. She traveled all her with us. over with Mark, taking trips to Mexico and California,



and going to baseball card shows and concerts. Sharon worked hard to make sure Mark had everything he needed, including a college education. She loved being proud when Mark graduated.

A few more years would Tiffany McBroom (Sherry bring a daughter-in-law, Lisa, when Mark married in 1998. Sharon became Grammy to Ryan in 2002 and to Katie in 2004. She was so proud of them and loved to tell friends about their accomplishments in sports, music, and school. Some of her favorite memories were attending Ryan's baptism and taking Katie to a concert.

No recounting of Sharon's taking shopping trips to Fort life would be complete without mentioning her friend and faithful caregiver for the last five years, Luz Canales. Sharon loved Luz dearly,

Sharon is survived by law Lisa, grandson Ryan, and granddaughter Katie of and sister-in-law Leanne of Arlington, her sister Linda mother. Mark was born in prayer, and faithfully re- Creek Baptist Church and gan), Macie Slocum (Bryan);

> The Azle News, Feb. 2, 2022 Edition

Charles "Buster" McBroom 1956 - 2022

Charles "Buster" McBroom, 65. Born Feb. 22, 1956, a resident of Azle passed away Wednesday, Jan. 26, 2022.

Visitation from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022 at White's Azle Funeral Home.

In Lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Charles McBroom Final Expense Account at Wells Fargo.

and Elmina Hawkins, brother, Gary McBroom; sister, Ruth Burch; and granddaughter, Abby Ingram.

an Aggie mom and was so of 38 years, Melodie McBroom; beloved children,



Charles was preceded in Mitchell), Brandi Miller, death by his parents; Marlyn Amanda Hale (Jeff Hale), Jay Siegel (Jennifer Medford), Jennifer Siegel (Jason na retired after working for Finchum); 17 grandkids; 15 great-grandkids; many niec-Survivors include his wife es, nephews, great-nieces and nephews.

> The Azle News, Feb. 2, 2022 Edition

Donna Margaret Trammell

1949 - 2021

Donna Margaret Trammell, 72, passed away peacefully on Sept. 28, 2021 surrounded by her loving family after battling COVID for a month.

A "come and go" celebration of life will be held at 200 Gipson Road, Azle 76020 on Saturday, Feb. 12 from 1 to 3 p.m.

Donna was born on April 17,1949, in Hillsboro, TX, by her parents, Carl "Buck" and Jo Evelyn Beard. Don-Omni Bank for 16 years. She enjoyed many travels with her three sons, grandchildren, and sisters.

rick Trammell, Burleson, her friends. grandchildren: Josephine and James Homerstad, Gar-

1-800-593-2747



but was raised in Azle, TX rett Bennett, Christopher and Regan Trammell, Stephanie Trammell, Blake and Amber Trammell, Nikolet Trammell, and Katie Trammell; great-grandchildren: throughout her lifetime but Kinsley Homerstad, Jaywas happiest spending time lynn Trammell and Grayson Trammell; her sisters: Frankie Hans, Seminole, Donna is survived by her Florida; Jo Williams, Puythree sons and their wives: allup, Washington; Delores Richard and April Tram- and Bill Champion, Sebring, mell, Burleson, Chris and Florida; and her many niec-Beth Trammell, Azle, Pat- es, nephews, cousins, and

> The Azle News, Feb. 2, 2022 Edition

Johnie Evelyn Parker 1929 - 2022

Johnie Evelyn Parker, a longtime resident of Azle, born Nov. 4, 1929, left this life Sunday, Jan. 30, 2022, and went to be with our and the family is so grateful heavenly Father and the love to God for bringing Luz into of her life, Phillip Leslie Parker.

> Graveside service is at 2022 at Hoggard-Reynolds Cemetery, Azle. Visitation is from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2022 at White's Azle Funeral Home. Johnie graduated high

> vember of 2007. Les and Johnie traveled a was a member of the Bethel lived the last few years at the Wren Place Assisted Living

> including the staff. Survivors include brothers, Robert Beauchamp and Jerry Beauchamp (Opal); son, John Phillip Parker



(Barbara); daughter, Merry Evelyn Cashion (Russell): grandchildren, of loving family and friends.

The family would like to lot prior to his passing. Joh- thank Dawn Taylor, Direcnie worked at Trammell's tor, and staff at the Wren Village Resturant for 20 Place Assisted Living in Cleyears before she retired. She burne for loving Johnie like family. We would also like to Missionary Baptist Church thank One Point Hospice for of Springtown. Johnie has being with us the last couple of months.

Johnie was a loving and has been very active and mother, grandmother, greatmade many loving friends, grandmother, sister and friend and will be missed by everyone that knew her.

> The Azle News, Feb. 2, 2022 Edition







321 West Main Street

Azle, Texas

Azle

News

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THE ABBEY CHURCH Pastor: Paul Brownback 10400 Jacksboro Highway 817-238-1404 www.TheAbbeyChurch.com Morning Worship......10:30 AM Community Groups Various Times **ASH CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH** Pastor: Dr. G. Wesley 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, Ashley Dargai, Katie Medlin, Worship Minister 117 Church St. • 817-444-3527 Sunday School......10:00 AM Morning Worship......11:00 AM

AZLE FIRST ASSEMBLY of GOD

Pastor: Tim Stevens

1020 S.E. Parkway, Azle **817-237-4903**

Sunday School......9:30 AM

... ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY **COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH** Pastor - Alton Davis 817-521-4510

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

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

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

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

THE EDGE CHURCH - AZLE 1313 S.E. Pkwy, Azle 817-237-4822 Missouri Synod "Love God - Serve Others - Share Jesus" Wednesday Evening7:00 PM Contemporary Worship11:00 AM

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Pastor: Dr. Richard Reed

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

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH 800 Highcrest Dr. - Azle **817-444-3063** Saturday......5:00 PM Sunday9:00 AM Sunday11 AM (Spanish) Daily Mass (M, T, Th, F)8:00 AM Wednesday Mass Religious ED 6:30 PM Confessions Sat 4 PM

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

services Sunday School......9:00 AM Traditional Service10:00 AM

SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH 591 S. Reno Rd, , Springtown, Texas 76082 Pastor - Bill Gay - **817-304-7443** Coffee and Donuts9:00 AM Sunday School......9:30 AM Morning Worship......10:30 AM Children's Church After Music Service Wed. Prayer Meeting......6:30 PM Wed. Bible Study......7:00 PM

LEGACY CHURCH

Assembly of God Church Pastor: Gary D. Veazey Hwy. 199 & Jaybird Lane 817-221-2983

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

SILVER CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

SILVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

www.silvercreekbc.org

Sunday School9:45 AM The WORD Students (6th-12th grades) 6:30 Morning Worship......10:50 AM

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

thewordatlakeside.com **Pastors**: Brandon and Kelly Bohannon **Worship Pastor**: Christen Moody Family Life and Young Adult Pastors: Jodie and Mark James, Kids Pastor: Katie Pearson, Student Pastors: Taylor and Sheridan Tomlin, Creative Directors: Logan and Carrie Edwards, **Connections Coordinators**: Preston and Ashley Larrew

Equip Sunday School at the WORD9:30 AM Empower Worship at the WORD . 10:45 AM Kids at the WORD...... 10:45 AM PreK at the WORD...... 10:45 AM Emanate at the WORD (Special Needs Ministry) 10:45 AM Nursery at the WORD 10:45 AM Young Adults at the WORD 6:00 PM

Wednesdays Adult Bible Class......7:00 PM

PM Wed. Prayer Service......7:00 PM Life at the WORD Life Groups Various Times

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

The Longest Year Ever

"January was a long year but we made it y'all.'

So posted one of my friends on Facebook.

I hadn't thought about it that way until I realized that the trip I canceled several months ago because of the covid surge was actually only 3 weeks ago and I the Caribbean. canceled it the day before! Good grief!

I also realized that we are coming up on the oneyear anniversary of Snowmore days.

That was only one year ago?

And even crazier than that is the realization that two years ago, Mrs. Sweetie and I were about to board a cruise ship. Yep, we celebrated Valentines Day in scathed or unchanged.



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.

all those decades.

And one month later the world shut down.

Just over a month ago I moving. completed my sixth decade of life. The 2020s already mageddon in just a few seems like the longest of ment?

> But, we made it, y'all. With every challenge, every loss, every surprise, every disappointment, ev-

ery delay ... We made it, y'all. We didn't make it un-

But we made it, y'all. We're still here, still

breathing, still living, still

Can we just pause and celebrate that for a mo-

Take a deep breath. Slow your roll. Quiet your mind.

We made it, y'all.

Now, it's important to remember that where we are is not our final destination. We've still got more ahead.

a layover on the trip. (Poslayover nonetheless).

made it here?

Psalm of Complaint and LORD, I say, 'You are my wasted away ... I am for-Praise."

ing emotions.

Raw, brutiful (brutal + beautiful) prayers.

by knowing that it's ok to to shame ... rescue me ... Where we are right now is talk this way to God.

ally appreciate about the goodness ... Blessed be the broken vessel ..." Psalms is their honesty. No LORD, For He has shown punches pulled. No tiptoe- His marvelous faithfulness ing around God fearing to me in a besieged city ..." it y'all. what might happen with If you were to just read those

But interspersed with-I'm strangely comforted says: "Let me never be put who wait for the LORD." I hate those who devote friend.

In Psalm 31, we have themselves to worthless sibly an unscheduled one wonderful affirmations of idols ... You have seen my from our perspective, but a faith: "In You, LORD, I misery, You have known have taken refuge \dots For the troubles of my soul \dots Can we take a moment You are my rock and my I am in distress; My eye is and be grateful that we fortress ... For You are my wasted away from grief, strength ...But I trust in the my should and body too. This morning, I read LORD. I will rejoice and be For my life is spent with Psalm 31. The heading in glad in Your faithfulness ... sorrow and my years with one of my bibles says, "A But as for me, I trust in You, sighing ... my body has God.' My times are in Your gotten like a dead person, One of the things I re- hand ... How great is Your out of mind; I am like a

Not so pretty.

But — so far — we made

I could say so much too much honesty. No hid- phrases it would make a more, but let me finish with great song to sing in church. the final verse of the Psalm: "Be strong and let your in those phrases, he also heart take courage, All you

Be amazing today, my

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Times of 'friendly' haven't changed

Dear Editor:

'How times have changed' we old folks hear all the was "Butch" Patterson who It was closed. I looked intime. For instance. A child owned a garage and auto side and did not see anyone. gets in trouble at home and parts store and other busi- "I'll come back later" I said this happens all the time we nesses. He helped so many to myself and started back hear, "no spanking, no extra people. chores, no standing in the corner, no reading a book," just "go to your room and lar basis. One being speaker wanted to change my mailplay on your cell phone."

Us old folks don't get to know business owners like Jim real well. We had some address change. Then we we use to long time ago. really good times. Businesses have managers, supervisors. Gosh, I remember Vancel Trammell who not afraid to be "friendly." I "I'm Don Munsch, editor of owned Trammell Grocery still see his stone work up and down Main St.

Then there was Jim Dalton

you could hear it. Then there changed. I got there at 3:00.

who came to Azle on a regu- you?" I said "Yes, I just of the house Jim Wright. My ing address." He said "Come wife Patti and I got to know in." He helped me with my

But, this list could go on introduced ourselves. I said and on of people who were I'm Bobby Sloan. He said think about this all the time. the Azle News." and Mkt and Restaurant. We Being friendly. People seem to be so busy, the "friendly" ly" hasn't changed. This act doesn't come out.

Why am I writing this? ally impressed me. who owned the gas company Today, I went down to Azle

on Main St. When he smiled, News to have my address to my pickup. Suddenly, I There so many others, heard a voice "Can I help started a conversation. We

> Maybe times of "Friendnew editor, Don Munsch re-

> > Bobby R. Sloan, Azle

Making friends

Dear Frankie,

I'm a newcomer to the dog park and don't know any dogs there. I'm shy and don't have much experience making new friends.

At our last house, it wasn't an issue. Bruce, the dog next door, and I met when we were puppies. From the start, we got along great and became best friends.

Do you know of any strategies shy dogs use to make friends? When I asked my mom, she said, "Just go over to a dog that looks friendly play."

Just thinking about doing that makes me want to throw up.

Thanks for reading my letter.

Dear Sue,

You need to take a slower



DEAR FRANKIE

By Geneva Woodruff

Frankie is a rescue dog and an emotional support animal for Geneva Woodruff. Woodruff is a retired educator.

suggested. She's probably nothing of talking to strangers. Extroverts have difficulty understanding the terfor a shy dog like yourself.

Before you do anything, you played together? Then look around the park and the same way he did. Cau- dog and its owner. tiously, you could approach tice you and you to play.

Another strategy you approach than your mom might try is to find a dog

you like and sit by its owner. an extrovert. They think Knowing dog owners, the person will probably talk to you and give you a pet.

When they call their dog ror new people can render to leave, be sure to smile and wag your tail when the dog sees you sitting by why don't you think about its owners. There's a good the qualities you liked in chance the owner will enand gesture that you want to Bruce and how the two of courage their dog to play with you.

If you do this for a few see if any of the dogs re- days, you might make a mind you of Bruce and play friend. If not, try another

Eventually, you will find Sue this dog and see if they no- a dog who will be thrilled to be your friend.

Best, Frankie

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Two people sent to hospital after separate wrecks



The driver of the Honda was transported by LifeCare ambulance to Texas Health Hospital Azle.

Photo by Carla Noah Stutsman

BY CARLA NOAH STUTSMAN

Two separate accidents in State Highway 199 between was not injured. Azle and Springtown sent two people to area hospitals.

intersection of the highway and FM 2257 (Jay Bird lic Safety Public Information Officer Sgt. Richard Hunter said the preliminary investigation shows a 2019 Kenworth tanker truck was stopped in the westbound lanes at the traffic light. A traveling west when the of it. driver, Ted M. Winkle, 55, Kenworth.

disclosed injuries and was not injured.

transported to a Fort Worth area hospital by a LifeCare ambulance. The driver of the Kenworth, 47-year-old Ariel the span of an hour Friday on D. Wordlaw of Arlington,

The second crash happened at about 10:12 a.m. The first crash occurred in the 5300 block of SH 199 around 9:20 a.m. near the near FM 1542 (South Reno Road).

Hunter said a 2009 Hon-Lane). Department of Pub- da Civic exited a business parking lot and attempted a right turn onto SH 199. A 2005 Toyota 4Runner driven by Erich D. Potts, 32, of Springtown, was eastbound on SH 199 in the outside lane and struck the Honda 2012 Toyota Tacoma was as the Honda turned in front

The driver of the Honda. of Brenham, was distracted 29-year-old Jasmine Johnby a mobile device. Winkle son of Boyd, was transportfailed to control his speed ed by LifeCare ambulance to and struck the rear of the Texas Health Hospital Azle. A 33-year-old passenger in Winkle sustained un- the Honda and Potts were

Dealing with colder water requires making adjustments to your fishing patterns

Winter has arrived and we are seeing some of the lowest water temperatures to date. In other words we are in the dead of winter and fishing patterns need to be adjusted for this cold water. catching big fish.

Different species prefer different water temperatures and of course, you will have to use this type information to help locate and catch fish. Black bass anglers may be more prone to fish on those warmer days or pick afternoons when the water has had a chance to warm some. the peak feeding time is co- for that late afternoon bite.

day to feed. Their metabo- event, the moon may not with the moon. lism slows in the winter, but even play a role on when they still have to eat. There the fish will feed. If you are than once, locate the bait



ON FISHING

By Michael Acosta

As a licensed professional fishing guide, Michael Acosta shows you how to find them. He has been a licensed quide since 1998. michael.acosta@att.net

is that this is prime time for the bite. Weather is a major the daylight has less impact, one this time of the year. the moon phase may have Water clarity and water less impact as well. flows can also influence fish feeding or moving. Don't ably have a morning bite and forget about the moon phase. an evening bite. If I am to water coincident with a peak I do not want to miss the feeding time can make a difearly morning. Conversely,

The good news for anglers are many factors to influence fishing a narrow river where

As always, you will prob-Picking a time to get on the fish the early part of the day, if I am to fish the latter half If it just so happens that of the day, I will be looking This is good advice for most incident with the warmest I will also be aware of the species this time of the year. part of the day this may be potential peak or secondary Not all species will wait your flag to get out there. peak feeding times for the for the warmest part of the If there is a major weather day, which vary of course

As I have mentioned more

fish. With these colder water may be less prone to move ing, and it is extremely effecthat the fish will be looking tation. Putting the bait on out what movement will draw for slightly warmer waters. their nose may be the trick. Typically on colder days this will be in deeper holes in a mentioned on many occasions more action on the bait. river or deeper places in the concerning winter fishing is lake. Water temperatures that you need to slow down ter if you can get out. Just will be slightly warmer toward the bottom in the dead of winter. Fish will "huddle" in these deeper places on the is typically called dead-stick- you happen to fall in.

colder days. As the sun comes up in the morning, (if it does), the shallows will warm faster than the deeper pools and fish will move up. A warm spell for several days will have more and more bait and fish moving up.

Another interesting point that I have noticed is that on many occasions on the real cold mornings, the fish may be huddled in deep water close to a steep bank. They

presentation to where you al-

temperatures, you will find out and find your presentive. You will have to figure a strike. As the water warms, Another point that I have you may have to impart a little

Fishing is great in the winyour presentation. Slow the make sure you dress for the occasion and play it safe. most don't move it at all. This The cold water can kill if

FISHING REPORT

Brazos River striped bass action using 5-inch soft plastics are excellent near Kimball Bend. Limits of striped bass are common. Possum Kingdom striped bass and sand bass action near Costello Island continues to be good to excellent with an occasional fish to 14 pounds. Look for the birds. Lake Whitney crappie limits continue to be good to excellent in the river near the 174 bridge.



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e-clubhouse.org/sites/azle_tk/

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When many people think of a domestic vacation—one that doesn't venture beyond the United States—they often think in terms of the continental forty-eight states, and sometimes Alaska. Because it is about 2,400 miles ately come to mind, even unique features, but all exthough it is our 50th state.

Hawai'i is a chain of about one hundred islands stretch- Hawai'i offers the natural ing approximately 1,500 miles from Hawai'i Island to ests, broad dry plains, tow-Midway. Only eight of these ering mountains and volare considered populated; canoes, multi-colored sand and, only six of these are beaches, deep blue seas, and generally open to visitors: a pleasant climate with little

BY LEW WOODARD

lew@newvistatravel.com

Lew Woodard is a travel advisor with New Vista Travel. www.newvistatravel.com 817-270-8357

press the Aloha spirit.

As a vacation destination, beauty of lush tropical formatter the time of year.

to take care of Hawai'ianyone staying an extra day new places to explore. to volunteer with Hawaiian serve Hawaiian culture.

outdoor This year, the islands ing, fishing, hiking, ATV and Blue Hawai'i. Visitors with inter-island travel, but have expanded a one aspect trips, zip lines, golf, visit- can explore the islands with the rules can change at any of Hawaiian culture called ing historical sites, cultural tours that feature the sites time, as has been the case Malama Hawai'i. This festivals, helicopter tours, used in these and other films with the Omicron variant. Almeans to live in a manner and just lying on the beach. and television productions. ways check the public health There are eight national One waterfall on Kaua'i requirements well before paycare for the land, the sea, parks among the islands, (Manawaiopuna Falls) is so ing for any plans to travel. southwest of California, Lana'i, O'ahu, and Kaua'i. each other, and ourselves. including the USS Arizona recognized from the Jurassic Hawai'i does not immedi- Each island has its own Hawaiian culture is tightly Memorial in Pearl Harbor Park film that it has become the Caribbean islands, but integrated into the natural and Hawaiian Volcanoes known as Jurassic Falls. The it is a much different tropienvironment. Many hotels National Park. Regardless of public can only reach this cal experience. Flights from have special offers that can your fitness level, there is no site by helicopter. include a free night's stay to shortage of things to do or

organizations to help the en- Hawaiian Islands are used with its COVID-19 proto- ian vacation may also cost a vironment or otherwise pre- by Hollywood studios for cols. The islands were virtu- bit more, but it is worth ev-Vacation excursions cov- those seen in Jurassic Park, the first year of the pandemic. of your future vacation des-Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, change in temperatures, no er a broad range of mostly Raiders of the Lost Ark, The Those restrictions have eased tinations. Aloha!

For example, all of the Hawai'i has been very strict about eight hours. A Hawaifilming locations such as ally closed to visitors most of ery penny and should be one

activities—surf- Descendants, King Kong, in recent months, particularly

Hawai'i is not as close as the west coast are about five From the beginning of hours; there are non-stop the pandemic, the State of flights from Texas that take

There's Always Room for You

As our temperatures begin to drop again this winter, I am reminded of a story that took place in the heat of summer. Years ago, I was driving home on a day when my car's AC battled to offset the 100+ degree heat. I had earlier officiated a funeral and found myself a bit melancholy as sweat percolated recliner, exhausted.

home, an entirely different scene was taking place at that time and—unbe- and popsicle-sticky son. My in our front yard. The hot knownst to me—had heard mood quickly switched from



HOPE MATTERS

By David Shaffer

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

many of their friends. I later cles before running to greet found out they had just re- me on the inside. My older through my suit. When I ar- ceived popsicles from my son, Nathaniel, outpaced rived home, I entered our wife, Daniele, most of which his sibling to the front door, back door, plopping into a melted onto their hands and and when he was about six arms. It was a day of great feet away from me went On the other side of our fun on the outside.

airborne. I had no choice My boys were quite young but to catch my flying, wet,

however, I heard the sound flying, wet, and popsicle- His enduring message is, of crying, and I looked over sticky son. It was one of to see my younger son stand- those times I will never for- you!" ing in the doorway. Having get as a father. no idea why he was upset, I asked, "What's wrong, ry, I am reminded of people you!"

my parental instinct declared an inside track to God, leavaloud, "Jonathan, there is ing others at the doorway in he loves us. No wonder we always room for you!" My by a large smile, and he took than I have experienced with off toward me at full speed, my own family, I know that also going airborne at an impressive distance. I quickly boundless, and he sees and temperature prompted pool the car door and quickly sadness to happiness by this moved Nathaniel to one side loves everyone, including such a picture of love—that time for our boys along with finished their melting popsi- unfiltered love. Soon after, in order to catch my second people who feel distanced. you are truly welcome here.

Reflecting on this memo-My heart melted in that have done and learned more sadness. Although I cannot God's love is perfect and in our families and in this

"There is always room for

The Bible invites us to "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that Jonathan?" He quickly said, who may feel distant from we should be called children "Daddy, I wanted to sit with God. It is easy to look at oth- of God! And that is what we ers and feel like they may are!" (1 John 3:1, NIV). God has done what was necesmoment. Without thinking, or responded faster to gain sary for us to have a relationship with him because often refer to this as "amazson's tears were overtaken comprehend love greater ing love." He longs for us to come to him as we are.

> May the relationships growing community paint

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February is a busy month

February, although the shortest month of the year, is a busy month. The Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo, Valentine's Day, the Super Bowl, and of course, one cannot forget Groundhog Day—all making February a month to remember. No one will forget last February, and no matter your winter weather preference, we can all agree no one wants to repeat that event. In the school environment, this is one of our busiest times, for both academic and extra-curricular activities. All campuses are preparing for competi- our teachers and staff remain are preparing for upcoming tion. It is stock show season committed to our Azle ISD state assessments, and at the for FFA students, and our mission of Making a Differsecondary level, counsel- fine arts programs, Winter ence to Every Child, Every ors and students are already Guard, Winds Ensemble, Chance, Every Day. working on course requests Indoor Drumline, and UIL



AZLE ISD

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

Mr. Smith just completed his 27th school year in Azle ISD, with 13 years in campus administration and six years as a district administrator. In June 22, 2020 he was named Superintendent of Schools by the Azle ISD Board of Trustees. He is thankful for the passion and dedication exhibited by Azle ISD faculty and staff and is extremely proud of the work Azle ISD has accomplished and the impact they will

continue to make in the lives of our students.

for next school year. Fall One-Act Play are in full sports including, basketball, swing. The list goes on with soccer, wrestling, swimming many other activities and and powerlifting are going competitions. It is rewarding strong. Spring sports, tennis, to know, even with the rebaseball, softball and track cent surge in COVID cases,

Azle ISD COVID num-

8-14, we reached our highest and staff. Everyone continstudent and staff count since ues to work together, exemthe onset of COVID track-plifying We Are Azle. ing. Several neighboring districts had to close because Hoover and Eagle Heights, of a lack of staff, not neces- and plans for Liberty and sarily because of student at- Elementary #6 are in the fily had some challenges with AHS projects from the Nostaffing at various campuses, vember 2021 election are 6,891 students. our efforts to keep students moving quickly. We consafe and in school continue tinue to be diligent in navi- district, we have something to pay off for our students gating through this volatile special in Azle ISD. Folks and community. A shout construction market. The want to be a part of what we out to Shelley Unger, AISD completion of all the voter- offer. I am proud to serve Sub Coordinator, and all of approved projects will help alongside our committed our campus staff who helped provide some much-needensure classes remain cov- ed relief to our district's ered at the peak of the recent growth. The district demogour campus nurses who have our January Board of Trust-

surge. A special thank you to rapher provided an update at

bers continue to improve remained committed to the ees meeting. Highlights indaily. The week of January well-being of our students clude record-breaking new home activity in Azle ISD for 2021. The district has almost 2,000 lots in planning Construction has started at stages and an estimated increase of almost 1,000 new students by the 2024-2025 school year. Our student tendance. While we definite- nal stages. Planning of the enrollment continues to rise with a current enrollment of

> As a fast-growing school Board of Trustees, our 1,000 dedicated employees, and a supportive community.

Just Thinking

Please allow me to share a couple of thoughts with you, both concerning some of the shortages of products that we are facing today.

The first one is not my original idea, as I heard it on the radio earlier this week, so I stole it, but here it is: It is highly unlikely that there are any American-made products stuck on ships that are waiting in line for port are stored in, etc., etc. unloading.

Think about it.

day is because of delivery and production issues many items are not available to us, and we feel helpless because we can't do anything about neighbor with a pecan tree in it. Personally we can't make their backyard who is letting the computer chips that are the pecans go to waste on missing from new cars, we the ground, plant some patio dent on others for so many can't make our own gasoline tomatoes, buy locally grown things, but we are not near-

the Olympic athletes!

lantern that represents

Shuey Rhon Rhon

the Winter Paralympic

event where athletes with

Winter Olympic Games.

Pictograms

It is said that a picture is

worth a thousand words. At

the Olympic Games, a picture

is worth a thousand words in

pictogram, a picture symbol, will be used at the Games to

hundreds of languages. A

help people all over the

physical disabilities compete

These Games are held every four

directly following the

Games in Bejing, an

is the mascot of

warmth and

international

Shuey Rhon Rhon is a Chinese



AG 101 By Jack DeShazo

Jack DeShazo has decades of experience

(unless it is ethanol based), vegetables and/or fruit from we can't produce metal a farmer's market and prepans/skillets for cooking, we serve them by freezing, cancan't make the plastic stor- ning or dehydrating. age bags that our "leftovers"

about the thinning or empty My second thought for the shelves at the grocery store: Plant a garden, find someone in the community who feeds out livestock for processing and consumption, find a

If you don't know how to do the preservation process, But we can do something then learn. If you don't have a tiller to till up a garden spot, check your neighborhood for someone who does and do a little trading to get the job done or you can plant in raised beds. You get the idea. This thing could get worse before it gets better.

We have become depen-

are survivors, when we have trying to play catch-up.

uation to try to find a better firsthand stories of survival. prepared just in case. one here. For most it wasn't Because of the stories during challenge, but we are here their survival experiences, it

how to do that" - get with it was tough. the program and do something about it. At least learn that this could not happen

12 = Beijing

10 = Yanging

15 = Shanghai

16 = Nanjing

14 = Shenyang

13 = Guangzhou

PICTOGRAM

SKATING

HOCKEY

MASCOT

SPORT

EVENT

MATH

CHINA

PANDA

GAMES

HOURS

SYMBOL

SEARCH

Look for five

symbols in today's

newspaper. Show

them to a friend to

see if they can tell

what the symbol

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate

newspaper information

9 = Zhangjiakou

Basically, we Americans Great Depression" is an-

There is no guarantee promise.

Do the math to locate Beijing and other Chine

11 = Wuhan

20 = Chengdu

 \Box

17 = Hong Kong

Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle

How many of them can you

find on this page?

HTRPGMATHD

GOSRASRUOH

ACNSLNTUMY

M S T T F S D V S E

EAENCSQAPK

SMCVWLKNOC

BTIVERYIRO

ly as helpless as we might and practice how to produce again. Don't let yourself think. Go back to the stories some of your own food, if it be surprised. Use the Boy and teachings of our ances- does get more serious than Scout motto "Be Prepared." tors who lived through "The just thinning shelves at the At least be able to provide Great Depression." They grocery store you will be some portion of food for you were survivors and we also better prepared, instead of and your family. And, if God sees fit for our nation/world To many of you "The to not have to go through something such as this, then are a pretty independent lot; cient history, but not to me, you will have learned someif your ancestors came to I'm older than a lot of you, thing new, which should America 20 years ago, 50 my parents were older when make you feel good (learnyears ago, 125 years ago or I was born and they were ing something new should even 400 years ago, most of survivors of "The Great De- always make you feel good) them were leaving a bad sit- pression," so I heard their and you will also be better

OK, I'll step off of my easy, it was most likely a my growing up years about soap box. DeShazo's "go get 'em pep talk no. 36" is comwhich means they survived. seemed like it happened just plete. The next time we meet We can't just stand around yesterday, and they weren't we'll get back on the subject saying "well, I don't know just stories - it was real and of native plants, their advantages and disadvantages. I

Kid Scoop Together:

'til next time.



Pacific Time Zone. His pen pal Kierra

TOMAS

Standards Link: Math/Measurement: Tell time to the nearest hour

Can you read these Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics pictograms?

Do the math to match each pictogram to the name of the sport it represents.

zone when it is 6 a.m. in Beijing.

TODD

lives in New York, in the Eastern Time Zone. Their friend Zylah lives in Oklahoma,

in the Central Time Zone and her cousin, Tomas lives in Colorado, in the Mountain

Time Zone. Complete the clocks below so that they show what time it is in each time

ZYLAH

Look at the Time Zone map to see if you are in the same time zone as California.

If not, what is the time difference between where you live and California?

TIME SKATINGHTH **FLAG** LMARGOTCIP SKI **ICE** Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns. Lesson Library **Symbols** Sports teams use names and mascots to communicate strength, their location, etc. Look through today's sports section to select

one team and make a list of things you think that team wants to communicate with their name or logo.

Standards Link: Use a variety of media to locate information.



Make up a Valentine's Day story about a Valentine's Day surprise. Who was surprised? What was the surprise?



Companies and organizations select logos to

represent them. For example, the Red Cross has a large red cross in its logo. Look through today's newspaper and see if you can find a logo that goes with each of the following:

- Uses words and images A company aimed at kids Gives a positive feeling
- One you don't recognize
- Uses only an image Uses an animal image Standards Link: Use a variety of media to

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33-5 = SPEED SKATINGworld understand what is 32-8 = FIGURE SKATINGOlympic mascot and pictogram artwork ©2022 IOC | www.olympics.com/ioc/beijing-2022

31-9 = BOBSLEIGH

Azle FFA students at the Fort Worth **Stock Show**



Six Azle FFA members exhibited at the Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo in Fort Worth the second this past weekend. From left are Madison York, Sydney Smith, Brysen Mckown, and James Addison. The front row is Lauryn Rasco and Mackenzie Dobyns. Photo courtesy



Brysen McKown placed third in her light medium weight class of commercial gilts.

Photo courtesy

In other developments from Azle ISD students' showing in Fort Worth:

MARKET GOATS

Kaileigh Slough - 6th place, Class 7, Medium Weight (4th grade at WCE) KaytLynn Lemley - 10th place, Class 10, Medium Weight (Sr.) Madison York -14th place, Class 15th, Heavy Weight (Jr.) Madeline Lemley- 14th place, Class 2, Llight Weight (5th grade at AE) Talon Slough - 15th place, Class 9, Medium Weight

MARKET LAMBS

Kaileigh Slough -14th, Light Weight fine wool Trystin Ellis -14th, Light Weight Dorper (eighth grade at AJH) Talon Slough-20th, Heavy Weight Dorper The News will publish more information from the show in upcoming editions. DANCING FOOD & DRINKS LIVE ENTERTAINMENT **VALENTINE'S DAY FUN**



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ALL TOURS MUST BE SCHEDULED FOR THIS EVENT | BE SURE TO RSVP All staff, vendors, and participants of the event are required to wear proper PPE and practice social distancing.



www.LegacyOaksAzle.com

CASUAL, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.



Robbie Hyde and his wife Patience

a friend's vineyard in Hico.

"I just thought it was kind I moved out to Parker Counvineyard on my home property."

It takes about three years for grapes to reach the maturity to make a quality wine that is good enough to drink. Once his grapes hit that maturity, Hyde made his very first homemade wine.

"It was a viognier, which is a French varietal," Hyde said. "And I had a sommelier tell me, 'This is the best Texas viognier I've had; you need to enter this in the Lone Star Wine competition."

They missed the entry for the competition that year, but Hyde decided to go ahead and develop a brand.

"We developed the Casual Friday brand, which is great because it says a lot about our philosophy."

From there, Casual Friday wines began popping up in mom-and-pop convenience Friday, is set up inside the stores and local liquor stores. Now, they can be found in Spec's stores, Brookshires, es, creating a relaxed atmo-Central Markets and HEBs sphere for trying new wines. across the state.

of how we got started."

Casual Friday Winery is Chianina (Italian breed) cat-Parker County. They opened cheese grits and mimosas. their doors in the middle

Hyde's interest in wine- California and one from making began after visiting East Texas, at the front of the property — growing among existing fencing and pens of neat," he said. "So, when from its cattle-ranching days — and Hyde expects them to ty back in 2014, I put a small be mature enough for wine this fall.

> For now, they blend their wines from grapes brought in from High Plains and Central Texas, and the wines are bottled and labeled at the winery.

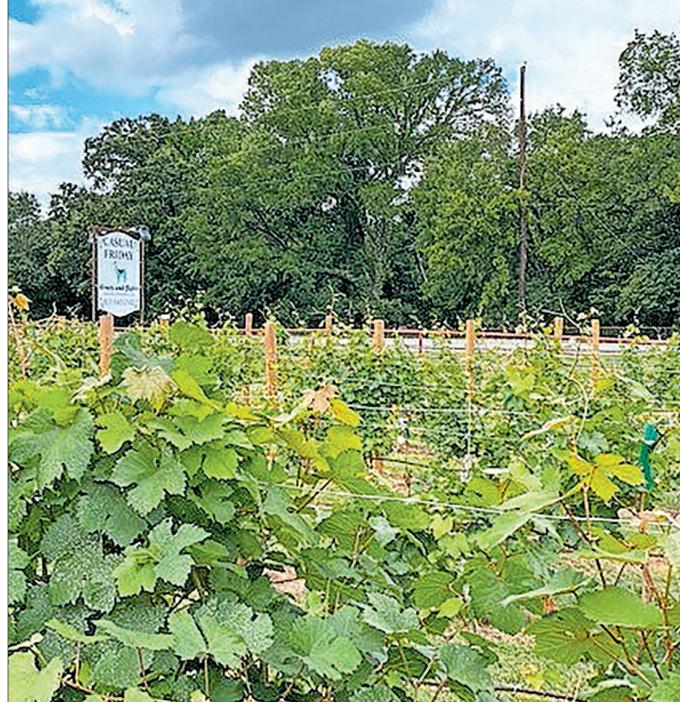
> Three of the Casual Friday blends won awards at the Cross Timbers Wine Association competition. They received gold in each of the four categories they entered. The chianti won best midbody red wine; the white blend, which is 50/50 pinot grigio and viognier; and the Bortex, a Bordeaux blend, which also won the silver for best overall wine out of 76 entries from North Texas wineries.

> The tasting room, where wine enthusiasts and newbies alike can sample the different blends at Casual original 1950s ranch house with a few tables and couch-

Along with the winery, "We just started to grow," visitors can order from a Hyde said. "We have a very small bistro menu set by good product, we're very Chef Key with offerings inproud of our product. And cluding brisket tacos, woodwe just grew and that's kind fired pizza and a variety of gourmet cheese boards.

On Saturdays and Sunlocated on what used to be a days, Casual Friday offers a brunch menu, complete tle ranch outside of Azle in with eggs Benedict, jalapeño

They offer indoor and of the pandemic on Feb. 5, outdoor seating, including a new firepit with seating They planted 300 grape for friends and family to vines, two varietals from enjoy live music when the



It takes about three years for grapes to reach the maturity to make a quality wine that is good enough to drink.

weather is just right. Small event spaces — the Llama Barn and Penguin Room are available to rent for quaint gatherings or Wine Yoga, which will be offered monthly.

Casual Friday will be celebrating its first anniversary on Feb. 5 and hopes to draw more wine lovers — and would-be lovers — out to taste some of their awardwinning wines paired with their meals.

The winery is located at 10238 FM 1886 in Azle, and it is open 4 to 9 p.m. Thursday, 2 to 10 p.m. (kitchen opens at 4 p.m.) Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Sunday.

For more information about Casual Friday Winery, visit www.casualfridaywines.com, or call 817-560-

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Beast of bareback

Azle's Airian Moore enjoys winning streak at rodeos

BY JEFF PRINCE ieff@azlenews.net

Two years ago, as an Azle High sophomore, Airian Moore broke his kneecap and had to miss several rodeos.

Still, he finished in the top 10 among bareback bronc riders competing in the North Texas High School Rodeo Association. More than 80 high schools spread out across a handful of counties in North Texas compete at the weekly rodeos held in Saginaw.

third place.

"Bareback is pretty rough on your body," he said.

This year, he is relatively healthy and leads all other bareback riders. So far this season, Moore has dominated his event with 11 successful rides out of a dozen tries closest competitor, Chase Robertson of Marcus, pretty easy." has 126 points.

and dangerous. Most weeks, Moore is among just a handful of bareback contestants. use all your muscles and use Team sponsor Kristy Scribner noted that bareback is a "difficult event, and it's not are trying to spur, too," he if you get hurt, but when you said. "It kind of messes you get hurt."

Climbing atop a horse without a saddle and trying



Airian Moore is North Texas' top bareback rider in high schools.

Last year, as a junior, he to hang on can be a scary broke his arm but finished in mission. Those who fail have a long way to fall.

> "Some people just don't have the interest because it's probably one of the hardest sports there is," Moore said. "It's tough on your body."

> The saddle bronc event is easier, he said.

"You just hold a rein with and compiled 840 points. your hand and sit in the saddle," he said. "I see it as

Riding bareback requires Bareback riding is difficult more strength and coordination, he said.

"You have got to actually your legs and your thighs and squeeze with it as you up sometimes. As long as

SEE MOORE, PAGE 2B.



Laurel Allred won barrels and a \$2,000 scholarship at the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo on Saturday.

Photo courtesy JoH Photography

Azle riders shine at scholarship rodeo

BY JEFF PRINCE ieff@azlenews.net

Barrel racer Laurel Allred and bareback rider Airian Moore won first place and a \$2,000 scholarship each Saturday at the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo.

Six members of Azle's rodeo team qualified to compete at the annual scholarship rodeo. Athletes with at the midway point of the season can compete at the rodeo for a chance to win a \$2,000 scholarship per

"The team did amazing," said sponsor Kristi Scribner. "I am so proud of each one of them."

Lindsey-Kay Reichert earned second place in barrels, and Kasen Scarlato and Jesus Leyva placed second in team roping.

Hevenli Scribner finished fourth in poles.

"The contestants that top 10 status in their events qualified for the scholarship rodeo have been some of our main team members that have placed all year," Kristy Scribner said. "They celled in their events." Competition at the schol-

qualify.

In the week prior to the ciation Arena in Saginaw, tor has 427 points. where freshman Hevenli

work hard and have ex- Scribner won the Rookie Cowgirl Award.

Rookie Cowgirl and arship rodeo is tough, be- Rookie Cowboy awards cause only the best athletes are presented to first-year freshmen who compete in "Like I have said all year, at least two events and wins we have some of the best on the most points for placing. our team," the sponsor said. Freshmen who compile the Rookie Cowgirl frontrun- most points by the end of the year earn saddles.

Scribner leads the pack so Stock Show, Azle's team far, winning Rookie Cowparticipated in the Burleson girl seven times in 12 ro-Rodeo at the North Texas deos and compiling 1,169 High School Rodeo Asso- points. Her closest competi-

Azle Hornets anticipate district turnaround



Brayden Hutton, right, attacks the ball.

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

Azle's varsity boys soccer players sense a new mindset to go along with the new head coach.

"There is more energy in the team," said Brayden Hutton, a junior. "People want to show up to practice. People want to be (at) games on time."

Hutton made varsity his freshman year and has observed this season's renaissance up close.

"It's a lot better third year than the past two," he said. "Hopefully, we make the playoffs and win district."

The soccer team hasn't posted a winning record since 2015. Hutton thinks the Hornets can win a district title this year despite presenting little proof in the win-loss column. Last week, the Hornets wrapped up their nonconference part of the schedule with a 1-6-2 record after losing to Hirschi 2-0 on Friday.

Providing hope to the Hornets is the fact that most of those losses have been by a single goal.

Photo by Jeff Prince

SEE **SOCCER**, PAGE 4B.

Hornet Muscle member savoring first trip to nationals



Braden Murray tosses and catches cheerleaders for stunts at games and at contests. Photo by Jeff Prince

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

Braden Murray's muscu- one big caveat. lar build comes in handy on the powerlifting and foot- that they don't hit the ball teams - and especially ground too hard, so they on the cheer squad.

As a member of Hornet Muscle, Murray relies Hornet Muscle as a freshon his strength and power man after hearing about to help cheerleaders defy former members earning

gravity during stunts. "I toss them up and make

them look good," he said.

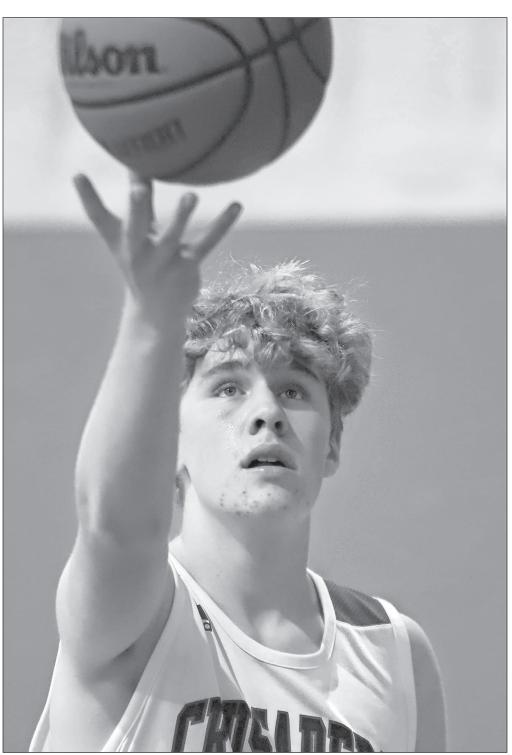
Few stunts impress more than catapulting someone 20 feet into the air – with

"I've got to make sure can stay healthy," he said.

Murray, a junior, joined scholarships to cheer at col-

SEE **MUSCLE**, PAGE 4B.

Azle Christian boys remain in playoff race



Things are looking up for Zach Miles and the Azle Christian Crusaders.

Photo by Jeff Prince

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

On Friday, the Azle Christian Crusaders toppled Irvingbased StoneGate Christian against Stonegate. Academy 56-22 to remain in playoff contention.

regular season.

needed after the Crusaders running our offense."

opened district competition with two losses - both to team in scoring with 14 Faustina Academy.

The Crusaders played 10. with ferocity to bounce back

Five games remain in the head coach Ryan Rollins. grabbed nine rebounds.

Camden Logan led the points. Ryan English added

On defense, Andy Wisniewski and Noah Rollins "This was one of our bet- led the way. Wisniewski ter games of the year," said stole six balls, and Rollins

"We played great defen- Azle Christian (8-11) The victory was much sively and were more patient plays at 7 p.m. Feb. 4 at StoneGate (0-9).

MOORE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B.

pretty good."

its best to toss him off.

"I talk to a lot of kids out reality TV show. there," Moore said. "They say that bareback scares star and traveled the whole they want to do." them. I tried getting them world and won all the big into it, but they say it scares rodeos," Moore said. them too much."

upon by bull riders. A rigaround an animal that provides a handhold for the rider. Riggings are tightened just before the chute is opened, and they can be difis thrown. Sometimes a rider's hand becomes caught, and the rider is dragged around the arena by an angry animal for a few moments. This has happened to Moore several times.

The cowboy grew up with horses, but his family doesn't own any currently in Azle. Moore trains with a Cleburne resident and

you know what you're do- former professional rodeo end" at rodeos, he said. ing and stick to it, you'll do rider. In 2003, Eubank was Before each ride, he tapes rider while attending Hill horse that bucks high and up his arm for extra sup- College and has been en- kicks hard and allows him port. Still, he is just flesh shrined in the college's Hall to compile plenty of points. and bone trying to hang on of Fame. After college, he to a huge beast that is doing turned pro and performed own mindset," Moore said. on the Toughest Cowboy

with a rodeo friend who and hard. ging is a long rope wrapped rides for the team at Weathlate broncos.

> arship there too. I go over ride the broncs." there and practice with them."

with real – and rank – horses to ride is difficult. Buck- met a stranger," Scribtougher rides than actual a crowd of kids following horses, so they are excellent him. As a bareback rider, he for practicing, he said.

his uncle, Chad Eubank, bucking machine, and then it shows through his deterwe'll do better on the week- mination.'

Then, come rodeo time, a national champion bull Moore hopes to draw a rank

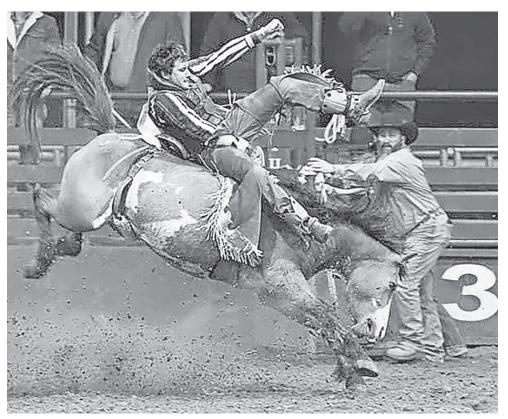
"Horses have got their "We can't tell them what to do. They'll run. They'll "He was a pro rodeo buck. They'll do whatever

Riders hang, rake their heels and wave their free When Moore isn't prac- arm to earn points for style Bareback riders use rig-ticing with Eubank, the while hoping their horse is gings like the ones relied high school kid works out a rank one that kicks high

Moore "puts in the work erford College. They use to be the best," Scribner bucking machines to simu- said. "He stays in good physical shape, too. He "My buddy has a schol- works out in the family's arship there," Moore said. home, and this helps with ficult to release after a rider "I'm trying to get a schol- the strength that's needed to

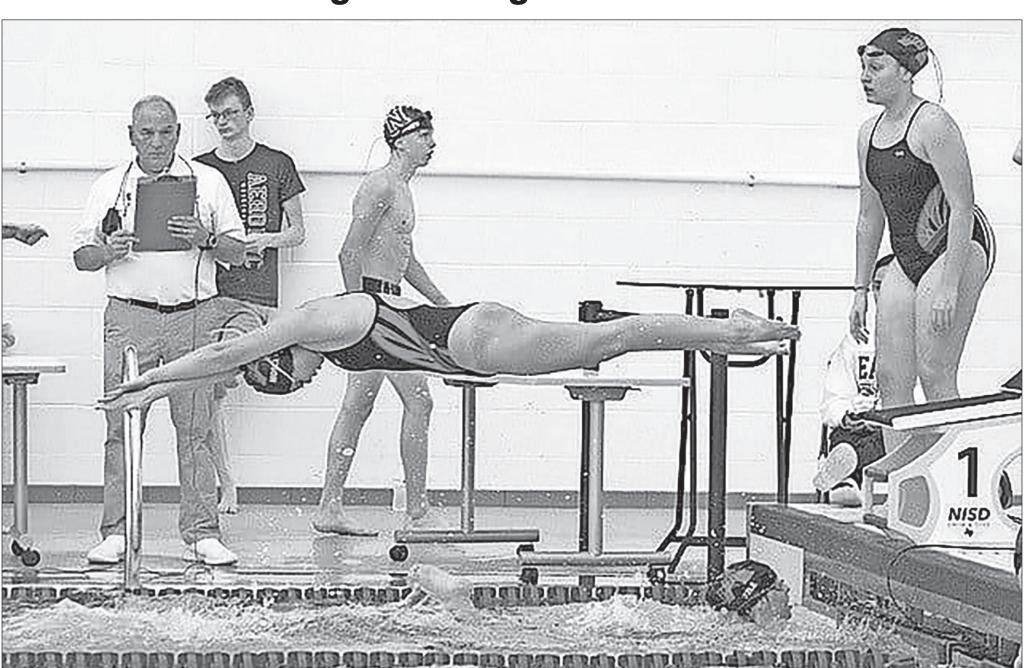
> Strength of character supplements his physical Finding practice pens power, she said.

"He has probably never ing machines can provide ner said. "He always has strives to be the best in the "We'll learn from that arena. He wants to win, and



Rodeo on Saturday. Photo by Jo H Photography

Azle's swim team goes to regionals



Azle's swim team is sending 11 members to compete at regionals this weekend: Phoebe Mosley, Brooke Nowakowski, Peighton Berry, Gianna Schroeder, Laci Clark, Emory Hann, Hailey Fox, Steven Manley, Carter Pack, Trevor Deel and Kalen McCullough. The Region 2-5A meet is Friday and Saturday at the Mansfield ISD Natatorium. The top two in each event will advance to the UIL State 5A meet on Feb. 18-19 at the University of Texas at Austin.

Lady Hornets eye **Brewer for final** district dustup



Kendall Locke takes aim.

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

would like nothing more to fourth spots," said head recent weeks despite an injuthan to knock off Brewer coach Mitzi Marquart. "We ry that sidelined her talented and Granbury in the final are excited for the challenge, twin sister, Karlee Locke. two district games of the and we know the rest of our Azle and Brewer are nipregular season.

playoff seeding.

and (Wichita Falls) High is 43-38 on Friday. Kendall finishing last, but the rest of Locke led the Hornets in Azle's basketball girls us are battling for the second scoring, powering onward in

A postseason berth is The girls were enjoying a the District 5-5A race. against Brewer and Gran- Brewer (20-11).

"Rider is going to be first bury before losing to Rider

Photo by Jeff Prince

games are important." ping at Rider's sneakers in

within Azle's grasp, and the three-game win streak that Azle (21-9) plays at 6:15 final games will determine included overtime victories p.m. Feb. 4 at home against



Azle basketball boys slam dunk another W

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

The Azle Hornets won their third straight district game by beating Rider 53-48 in overtime on Friday in front of a hometown crowd cheering for what

56-41 on Jan. 21 and fol-victory. lowed that victory three days later by toppling ing for Azle with 21 points. p.m. Feb. 4 at home against Wichita Falls 83-66.

fought back and tied the Jackson Davis. game at halftime. The two regulation ended.

scoring nine points against the pre-district season. Azle bested Granbury Rider's four to take the

> Gavin Dean led the scor-Other Hornets with baskets Brewer (16-11).

Against Rider, the Hor- included Campbell Dotnets took a 17-8 lead into son, Jayden Coffey, Cooper the second quarter. Rider Morgan, Jayden Rollins and

The victory kept Azle teams battled back and forth in a tie with Brewer for and remained tied when first place in District 5-5A with 4-1 district records, The Hornets swarmed although Azle won more is fast becoming a stellar Rider during overtime, games than Brewer during

Those two teams are

about to duke it out. Azle (21-7) plays at 8



Lizbeth Covarrubias, right, and the Lady Hornets soccer team fell to Benbrook 3-0 on Friday after shutting out Castleberry 3-0 earlier in the week. The varsity team is young but has been displaying teamwork and the ability to connect passes under the leadership of new head coach Madeline Wood and assistant John Epps. Courtesy photo

SOCCER, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B.



Sophomore Braden Forsythe is enjoying his first year on the varsity soccer team.

Photo by Jeff Prince

"Last year, we were get- you get down on yourself." ting smacked around," Hutton said.

to keep plugging and to stay motivated. He has seen the into a funk after losses.

"I'm just trying to be a been in close games evleader," he said. "A lot of ery single game. One-goal

agrees the Hornets are just the main thing. That's where

formidable. "We're getting there," team in previous years fall he said. "We're right there. We're one step away. We've we will be very good. We

He encourages teammates a whisper away from being we're struggling. We are winning everywhere on the field, but in the final third. Once we get that figured out, will be hard to stop."

Sophomore Braden For-

Clean up some mistakes. year. He understands what but younger players such to make playoffs and win Head coach Austin Fugate Score some goals - that's Hutton and his coach are as Forsythe receive plenty playoffs, if not for myself preaching.

> "They lost quite a few games, and so did the JV," he said. "I just want to change that."

He has been developing his chops since he first began kicking a ball as a toddler. people lose one game, two games. We need to clean sythe is in his first year on Much of this year's starting games, you get negative, it up in the back a little bit. varsity after playing JV last lineup consists of seniors,

cess, he said.

"We need to stay positive and get momentum and trict opener at 7 p.m. Feb. just carry that momentum 4 at home against Wichita through the season," he said. Falls (7-3-1). "The journey is always fun. The journey is one of the best parts, but I really want

of field time. Everyone can but for the seniors. This their contribute to the team's suc- last year to play. I want to make it special for them."

Azle (1-6-2) plays its dis-

MUSCLE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B.



Hornet Muscle member Tommy Evans holds up cheerleader Maddie Thompson during a routine. Photos by Jeff Prince

somewhere in college," he said.

Football and powerlifting Murray practices at least six

are times when you won't trip was cancelled. enjoy it."

having surgery. He is healed has COVID," he said.

now and looking forward to "My plan is to go cheer returning to the gridiron.

"I plan to be starting next year," he said.

For now, Murray is main-

Last year, Murray had hours a week with the cheer planned to make the trip to nationals for the first time "I normally enjoy it," he as a sophomore, but COsaid. "It is a sport, so there VID-19 intervened, and the

At first, Murray was up-In 2021, he was expected set, but "I realized it might said. to start at nose guard for not be the safest thing to get the Hornets football team on a plane and get stuck in but missed the season after Florida because someone

A year later, he is pumped for success.

"I expect us to be really good," he said.

The Azle cheer team won require long, tough practice taining laser focus on cheer- fifth place at the state consessions to become success- leading as the team prepares test held in January in Fort ful. So does cheerleading. for the season's final contest. Worth. Since then, the team, under the supervision of cheer coach Haley Hopkins, has updated and improved its routine for nationals.

"We've changed things around, so I believe that we'll do better," Murray

Azle's co-ed team participates at the national co-ed cheerleading contest on Feb. 12 at Orlando, Fla.

Won by forfeit



Marie Knight and the Azle Christian basketball girls won another game by forfeit against StoneGate Christian, which was unable to field a team this season. The Lady Crusaders (1-4) play at 5 p.m. Feb. 8 at home against Faustina (2-1). Photo by Jeff Prince



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034 Garage & Estate Sales

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Huge Barn Sale! 14355 Liberty School Rd. Feb 5&6 9am-5pm. 30 years of treasures! Furniture, tools, farm implements, clothes, antiques, farmhouse decor!

035 Garden/Mowing Service

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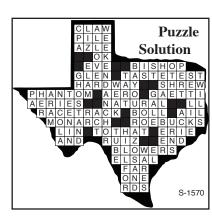
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