



Azle News

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New features at Central Park in Azle

BY DON MUNSCH
editor@azlenews.net

New features at Central Park in Azle will make children and parents – as well as other patrons – happy come this spring.

A new restroom building and splash pad are being built at the park. Crews began work on the restroom last week. Completion is contingent on weather, said

Kyle Culwell, Azle parks and recreation superintendent.

“Our goal is to have them both completed by the end of April,” he said.

The splash pad will be seasonal, which means it will be open certain months of the year, but those months have not been set yet.

The addition of the restrooms – at 1,100 square

feet with three toilets and two sinks in both the men’s and women’s portions of the building – means people will no longer have to walk to restrooms underneath the library. The restrooms are located on the ground floor and are accessible to the outside.

AUI Partners is the contractor on the restroom project while Vortex Aquatic Play Solutions is

the contractor on the splash pad, which will encompass 2,200 square feet and include various sprayers, spilling buckets, fountain sprays and water cannons. The splash pad will be re-activated and will be located next to the restrooms.

The city conducted a survey in 2016 and found residents wanted a splash pad, Culwell said. The splash pad – the first for Azle –

was ranked as one of the top three park priorities.

Other projects are being conducted at Azle parks. The basketball court and tennis court are being resurfaced at Shady Grove Park. The city just covered the Shady Grove playground.

“We’re going to be lighting the playground and the basketball court at Central Park,” Culwell said, add-

ing the city will be lighting the restroom near the playground at Ash Creek Park. “We’ve got a lot going on this year.”

The general fund paid for all the renovations and additions, he said, but an anonymous donation of \$100,000 was given for the restroom.

“Our goal is to have all these projects completed by the first of May,” Culwell said.



Crews, including Larry James on Tuesday, started work in January on the site of the new restroom building and splash pad at Central Park in Azle.

Photo by Jim Stevens

Council approves collection rates



The CWD X-treme Green Event helps residents safely dispose of hazardous materials.

File photo

BY DON MUNSCH
editor@azlenews.net

Azle residents will see their trash and recycle collection rates go up slightly after the Azle City Council approved an increase at its Jan. 18 meeting.

Rates, effective Feb. 1, will now be \$21.20 a month – a \$2.75 increase – for services contracted with Community Waste Disposal. The curbside with recycle rate is \$20.12 monthly, with the

X-treme Green Event being \$1.08 a month. The residential rate, which forms part of the entire rate, rises from \$13.69 to \$15.73.

The collection calls for twice a week pickup of garbage, once a week recycling, once a month loose brush and twice a year X-treme Green Event, which is hazardous waste collection.

Twice a week service for commercial – 95-gallon cart service – is now \$31.74 a month, up from \$27.62.

CWD asked for a market adjustment. The company did not ask for an adjustment in 2021. The largest portion of the increase is related to fuel costs, councilmembers learned. Susie Hiles, assistant to the city manager, said CWD is allowed to request a rate adjustment each year in accordance to its contract. The contract ends in 2024.

In a PowerPoint presentation, CWD President Greg

SEE RATES, PAGE 3A.

District managing substitute pool during virus variant surge

BY DON MUNSCH
editor@azlenews.net

Azle ISD has struggled to regain the number of substitute teachers it needs for its campuses.

The district used to have close to 300 subs – prior to COVID-19. Now it has 175.

But the lower number has not hurt the district in filling classrooms with subs during recent times of illness – including COVID-19 – that have forced staffers to be absent, said Shelley Unger, substitute coordinator/payroll assistant for the district. District officials have

learned to adapt since the pandemic began, and Unger said she has had to do a lot of adapting with substitutes – and they’ve done a lot of adapting, too.

“We’ve been dealing with this since 2020,” Unger said

SEE SUBS, PAGE 4A.

School Board Recognition Month



Liberty Elementary School principal Lisa Koehler (right) and her students led the pledges during the Jan. 24 Azle ISD school board meeting. Each student was representing their class house with different shirt colors. After the pledges, the students presented handmade cards and letters to the school board members. The meeting room and dais were decorated with colorful posters from students honoring school board members for January’s School Board Recognition Month.

Photo by Jessica McKinney



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Good N.E.W.S. won't let seniors go without necessities

BY JESSICA MCKINNEY
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There are some basic needs that many people take for granted, such as having shampoo and soap, laundry detergent or dish soap, light bulbs and trash bags. They are the necessities that get added to a weekly grocery list for most area residents.

But for seniors, many of those items have to be left off the list because they simply can't afford them when added to the cost of food, bills and medications.

Good N.E.W.S. in Azle has made it their mission to ensure that senior residents have all the items they need.

Terri Bartlett, executive director at Good N.E.W.S., has dedicated more than 20 years to serving seniors living within a 200-square-mile area within Tarrant, Parker and Wise counties. Last year, she and her volunteers helped 170 clients with such needs as personal care items, household goods, rides to appointments and running errands.

All of those clients also received Christmas gifts from the community in December.

"I got phone calls from some who were just overwhelmed by their gifts," said Bartlett as she played a voicemail left by one of her clients who was "so surprised" by her gifts.

Every quarter, Good N.E.W.S. delivers bags of items to clients that contain trash bags, soaps and shampoos, light bulbs, toothpaste and other items that help someone maintain their hygiene and a clean home.

Two of the Good N.E.W.S. volunteers come every Wednesday to help put together the client bags, spending a few hours to build an average of 15-20 bags a week.

Naomi Smith and Donna Jacobs refer to themselves as "The Bag Ladies."

"That's what we are," said Smith.

Jacobs' women's group at Silver Creek United Methodist Church invited Bartlett out to speak and what Jacobs heard inspired her to get involved with Good N.E.W.S. She started volunteering in June.

"We make a difference in senior lives, I think," said Jacobs. "They don't have the funds for these things."

While helping, Jacobs formed a fast friendship with Smith – a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Azle – who had been volunteering for Bartlett for more than two years.

"It's amazing to me that these two women, who have different religious backgrounds, have come together in service and formed this great friendship so quickly,"



BAG LADIES: Donna Jacobs (left) and Naomi Smith have become good friends while volunteering at Good N.E.W.S., helping put together bags of needed items for delivery to clients. Photo by Jessica McKinney

ITEMS NEEDED

- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Facial tissues
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Deodorant (for men and women)
- Lotion
- Mouthwash and toothpaste
- Liquid bodywash
- Dish soap
- Dishwasher detergent
- Laundry detergent pods
- Fabric softener sheets
- Trash bags
- Ziploc bags
- Foil
- Light bulbs (standard size)
- Incontinence products (for men and women, various sizes)
- Volunteers

Bartlett said. "It's inspiring to me."

Smith and her husband began making bags for seniors on their own to bring to Good N.E.W.S. as part of their own service project. From there, Smith began volunteering her time to pack bags, and has enjoyed spending time with her friend as they work hard to meet their goal to fill at least 15 bags each week to get them ready for delivery.

Smith said that the bags of goods that get delivered mean they are "extending

their funds and resources for seniors."

"When we see something is low (in the storeroom), we help bring in more of those items so that we can make the donations go as far as they can," said Smith.

In addition to putting together bags of needed personal care and household items, Good N.E.W.S. helps by making sure that seniors have rides for needs like doctors' appointments, buying groceries or checking their mail at the post office.

Last year, volunteers helped with almost 340 rides for seniors.

"I have an urgent need for volunteer drivers," Bartlett said. "Anyone that can spare an hour or so a week would be so appreciated."

Volunteers will need to complete an application and undergo a background check.

Toby Palitti, owner of PC Cell Fixx, volunteers his time to deliver pet food to the seniors who have animals, an expense that few

of them can afford for their furry companions.

Volunteers are always in need and are what make Good N.E.W.S. and other nonprofits in Azle so successful.

"My volunteers are just wonderful," Bartlett said. "I'm so lucky to have their help."

For more information and to fill out a volunteer application, visit www.good-news4seniors.org.

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Wall to be erected at dam

FROM STAFF REPORTS
Tarrant Regional Water District will build a 265-foot-long wall into the Eagle Mountain Lake Spillway Dam this spring in what district officials said is a proactive effort to upgrade and extend the life of the 1930s era dam. The spillway dam is not under any structural strain and by and large “is working great,” said Louie Verreault, TRWD’s dam and levee safety manager, in a news release. “We are very proactive in

these situations and want to stay ahead of any potential issues that could happen down the road,” Verreault added. But district officials think now is the time to do some forward-looking maintenance to protect the dam’s sandstone foundation, he said. TRWD will hold a project open house from 6-7:30 p.m. Feb. 1 at the Azle Public Library, 333 W. Main St. Work is expected to begin in February. Traffic along Wells Burnett and Ten Mile

Bridge roads is not expected to be greatly impacted during construction, the release stated. TRWD’s board approved this construction project at its Dec. 14 meeting at a cost of \$2.1 million. “This method has only been around for about 12 years, so it’s relatively new and innovative,” Verreault said. “This is being done as part of our checkup for these structures. We want the public to know that we are taking care of our spillway dam infrastructure.”

RATES, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

Roemer discussed the company’s annual review and the 2022 rate adjustment. The X-treme Green was held last May and September and accumulated 22,100 pounds of hazardous materials (combined total), Roemer said. Roemer discussed the many partnerships that his company has with the city, including a paint reuse program. CWD has a partnership with Sting Fling and the Azle Area Chamber of Commerce, and CWD has sponsored the chamber’s golf tournament for the last seven years. CWD has sponsored Music in the Park for the past nine years, although the event was suspended in 2020 and revived in 2021. CWD also has worked with Servolution on several community projects. Also in his presentation, Roemer discussed the many challenges his company has

faced the past two years, which were the pandemic, residential trash volumes, February 2021 freeze, labor shortage and increased costs. The freeze had a “tremendous impact” on his company, Roemer said, as trash volume increased substantially all over the Metroplex; curbside went up 34% after the freeze. “The busted pipes, the carpet and the sheetrock that people (left) on the curb was substantial,” he said. “Consequently, our phones started ringing as we were not as timely as we would like to be. We went from 11,600 (calls) in a month (pre-pandemic) to 20,000 (post-freeze disaster period).” Through Jan. 6, 2022, the company has had 127 cases of COVID-19, Roemer’s presentation showed. On the labor front, Roemer said his company received 105 applications a

month (2019) and the company now gets 70 month (2021). As far as Azle, the city’s trash tonnage before the pandemic was 589 tons a month, and then after the beginning of the pandemic, it rose to 670 tons a month, which is a 14% increase. The post-February disaster triggered a 10% increase in tonnage. To respond to its challenges, in June, the company increased wages 18% for drivers and helpers. Also in June, the company enacted a 25% wage increase in customer services. CWD also purchased five new residential trucks, and the company increased customer service staffing by 100%, by going from nine to 18 people. In the second quarter of this year, the company will add a new refuse truck to handle the additional residential growth in Azle.

Siri for the Soul

Me: Siri, I need directions. Siri: Before I go to the trouble of giving you directions, are you actually going to follow them? That conversation has never happened—only because Siri tends to be polite. I know there have been times that Siri has wanted to say, “In 500 feet, pull over and let me out!”

(I have to give credit to Mrs. Sweetie for that joke). I’ll admit it. I often need some help figuring out which way to go to get to the destination I’m looking for. That’s not simply true with a physical destination; it’s true with life in general—the existential questions of why I’m here at this time and place and how I should live while I’m here so that I can get where I’m supposed to go.

How confusing is that? I heard a phrase in a sermon that started me down a trail of pondering (occupational hazard). As a result I missed the next few sentences of the sermon and—to be completely transparent—I have already forgotten the phrase that sent me down the trail.

But my pondering led me to six phrases that include “direction” words that—on further pondering—may provide a “Siri for the soul” of sorts.

The words: down, up, in, out, around, through.

The phrases: SLOW DOWN. Deliberately, intentionally, ruthlessly eliminate “hurry” from your life. Hurry causes us to miss important information. Hurry causes distraction.



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.

Hurry puts us and others at risk.

SHOW UP. Wherever you are, be all there. Sometimes the best thing we bring to a situation is not our wisdom or expertise, it is our undivided and supportive attention. We must never forget that we are human beings who sometimes do things. We are not simply human doings. When I don’t know what I should do, it is time to be.

SEE IN: What you see first is rarely the whole story. There is usually a backstory—something below the surface and behind the scenes—that has brought us to this moment. Taking the time to look and listen more deeply helps us to discern our best response for this situation. I don’t know about you (actually, I do), but my snap judgments and knee-jerk responses have often done more harm than good.

SHINE OUT: When you’ve discerned your best response, it’s time to bring the best of you to this moment. The best of YOU. Not the best there is, the best there could possibly be, or the best ever. We may never know the reason, but we are here. And IN this moment, we have the opportunity to bring all that is within us—including what God has given us and taught us—TO

this moment, trusting that our best response is all that is required of us.


STICK AROUND: The most effective contributions you will make are those you make over time. It is certainly possible for us to make a contribution to a brief, one-time opportunity, but the deep contributions require a longer investment. A longer investment helps us prove ourselves trustworthy and build helpful and healthy relationships. It allows the possibility of growing a mutually beneficial community.

STAY THROUGH: There will always be challenges, frustrations, disappointments, and disagreements. Don’t bail too soon. Sometimes we learn things about ourselves and develop new skills precisely because we didn’t give up.

Final pondering for today: Is it possible that these are actually sequential?

That we won’t stay through if we haven’t stuck around? That we won’t stick around if we haven’t found ways to shine out? That we won’t know how to shine out if we haven’t seen in? That we won’t be able to see in if we don’t show up? And that we won’t show up if we don’t slow down and notice?

Hmmm ... Be amazing today, my friend.



People's Choice

AWARDS BALLOT

The Azle Area Chamber of Commerce would like your vote for the following Nominees...
ONLY CHECK ONE IN EACH CATEGORY

Favorite Mexican Food

Villa Del Sol

El Paso

El Gran Torito's

Favorite Non-Profit Organization

Azle Area Ministerial Alliance

Azle Optimist Club

Community Caring Center

Favorite Azle ISD Employee

Kelly Whitehead - Silver Creek Elementary Nurse and Azle ISD Lead Nurse

Amy Estes - Azle HS Teacher and Coach

Ernest Johnson - Director of Maintenance

Favorite Tax Consultant/CPA/Financial Advisor

Edward Jones - Leon Williams

Reliable Year-Round Tax Services

Azle Bookkeeping - Amanda Clay

Favorite City Employee

Jason Castro - Police Department

Clinton Kierych - Fire Department

Stephanie Koch-Bartley - Utility Billing

Favorite Builder Home/Commercial

Probuild Construction

Sorrell's Custom Homes

Veralux Homes

Entries must be on original newspaper ballots, no machine copies will be counted.

Return ballot to the Azle Area Chamber by January 31, 2022

Winners will be announced at the 60th Annual Awards Banquet on February 10, 2022

404 West Main St., Azle • 817-444-1112

Alliance For Children announced last week that it has been awarded a Healthy Kids, Healthy Families grant by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The HKHF funding will support BCBSTX's commitment to community-based organizations supporting children and families who have been impacted by the health, economic and social implications of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a news release from Alliance for Children.

The HKHF grant will support Alliance For Children's mission to protect Tarrant County children from child abuse through teamed investigations, healing services and community education. Specific funding needs may include special client-facing projects such as Makeover Project, Camp B.L.U.E., Christmas Connection, community child abuse prevention education classes, Family Advocate needs, including emergency supplies for clients, and other operating expenses that benefit the child abuse victims Alliance For Children serves, the release stated.

"As we continue to navigate the challenges resulting from the COVID-19

pandemic, a child's health is priority, and a key element in their health is a childhood free from violence," said Julie Evans, Alliance For Children Chief Executive Officer, in the release. "We are grateful to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas for their support in our work to meet that charge."

Launched in 2011, HKHF started as a three-year project designed to improve the health and wellness of at least one million children through community investments. The program was extended as BCBSTX's ongoing commitment to the health and well-being of the children and families across Texas.

"This year's grant process was especially important given the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic," said Sheena Payne, BCBSTX's Director of Community Investments, in the release. "So, we are happy to award these grants that will support and nurture meaningful and transformational projects across Texas. Strategically, it is also important that we

continue to aid community-based organizations that are directly supporting children and families who have been impacted by the health, economic and social implications of this pandemic."

The HKHF program – which centers on nutrition, physical activity, disease prevention and management, and supporting safe environments – has awarded \$14 million in funding and impacted the lives of close to three-million children and their families in Texas.

Alliance For Children is the children's advocacy center serving all of Tarrant County. Since 1992, over 63,000 children have benefited from Alliance For Children's teamed investigations and coordinated approach, the release stated. Alliance For Children is a nonprofit organization that operates child-friendly centers located in Arlington, Fort Worth and Hurst, with a mission to protect Tarrant County children from child abuse through teamed investigations, healing services and community education.

SUBS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

last week. "I think we can all agree that COVID has created some shortages in all districts since 2020. This new variant that came out – I know you've seen the school closures, but Azle's doing pretty good. We had a bit of rough week (with absences, illness and positive cases) last week, but this week, we've bounced back pretty good."

Azle has not had to close campuses in the wake of the omicron variant, which has caused COVID-19 cases to spike and has forced temporary shutdowns of school districts. Unger said Azle did a lot of training with social distancing and staffers are aware of COVID-19 protocols.

She said it has been a "work in progress" to rebuild the number of subs, around 300, that it used to have. She said COVID-19 is not deterring a lot of people from wanting to be subs. The number of subs has dropped because, Unger thinks, people are able to find other jobs – full-time jobs with regular hours. A lot of people find jobs in the summer and then don't come back.

"It's a rebuilding process," she said. "I think all districts are facing that."

In Azle ISD, substitutes can select which kind of campuses – elementary or secondary – and can request

a certain campus, such as an elementary. Subs can also ask for certain days they wish to work.

Unger appreciates the office staff at schools for helping her with placing subs.

"You have to kind of know as a sub coordinator who goes where," she said. "You have to know your substitutes, you have to build relationships with them and know what they like and know what grade level they like."

She said the district is able to fill sub positions every day, even though there have been some shortages with the new omicron variant that has emerged, Unger said.

"I don't think we've had the shortages that our surrounding districts have had," she said.

ASD has its own subs, but there are a few multi-district subs, she said. And those individuals have to go to training at those particular districts. Unger conducts the Azle ISD training, which includes safety, drill and lockdown trainings, and prospects must undergo backup checks. Training lasts half a day. Requirement to be in the classroom is 30 college hours, and if an individual does not possess that background, substitutes can be allocated for paraprofessionals, who are the teacher aides.

Compensation rate for subs for teachers is \$100 for Monday and Friday and \$90 for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

"Mondays and Fridays are when we have the higher outages," Unger said. "We have more call-ins on Mondays. Fridays, we have some UIL activities obviously going on at the high school that pulls more subs."

Other departments, such as transportation and custodial services, have subs. Unger's department does not supervise those subs.

Unger said she stresses teamwork, and said she especially appreciates Sandy Sheriff, the receptionist at Azle High School, who coordinates the subs' processing at the school.

The district always needs more substitutes, she said.

"I don't think we could ever have enough substitutes," Unger said. "Because, you know, everybody has a different purpose in life, and they're subbing because they may be going to school or they are a mom or they are a retiree."

She would like to see the district attain the level of 400 available substitutes.

People may apply online at the district website on the substitute teachers link under the Departments directory tab.

NOTICE OF DEADLINE TO FILE APPLICATIONS FOR PLACE ON THE BALLOT (AVISO DE FECHA LIMITE PARA PRESENTAR SOLICITUDES PARA UN LUGAR EN LA BOLETA)

Notice is hereby given that applications for a place on the City of Sanctuary Regular Election ballot may be filed during the following time (Se da aviso por la presente que las solicitudes para un lugar en la boleta de la Eleccion Regular de City of Sanctuary se pueden presentar durante el siguiente horario):

**Mayor – Megg Galloway
Alderman Place 2 – Open Seat
Alderman Place 4 Mike Wilbur**

**Filing Dates
(Fechas y Horario para Entregar Solicitudes):**

Start Date: January 19, 2022

End Date: February 18, 2020, 5 p.m.

Those wishing to place their names on the ballot must contact the City Secretary at 817-221-6016 for a Candidates Application. The first day to file for a place on the ballot is January 19, 2022 and the last day to file for a place on the ballot is February 18, 2022, 5 p.m.

Address to mail applications for a place on the ballot (Direccion a domed enviar las solicitudes para un lugar an la bolenta en caso de presentar por corer):

**City of Sanctuary,
P. O. Box 125, Azle, Texas
76098-0125**

Azle News

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Azle School Menu Jan 31-Feb 4, 2022

BREAKFAST: GRADES PK-4th \$1.55 GRADES 5-12th \$1.50 Employees \$1.85 Guests \$1.85	LUNCH: GRADES PK-12th \$2.65 Employees \$3.20 Guests \$3.55 Gold Card Guests \$3.15	A La Carte Items • Milk/Juice 75¢ • Bottled water \$1.00 • Ice Cream \$1.00
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PreK - 4th

BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Graham Crackers, Toast,
Mon Mini Cinnamon Rolls **Tues** Mini Blueberry Waffles **Weds** Turkey Sausage Breakfast Pizza
Thurs Vanilla Yogurt Cup w/ Graham Crackers **Fri** Golden Banana Bread Slice

LUNCH: Everyday - Variety of milk. Your choice of 1 entree & 1 fruit or juice
Mon Popcorn Chicken Rice Bowl, Sweet & Sour Popcorn Chicken w/ Brown Rice, Peppered Broccoli Florets, Fresh Sliced Tomatoes **Tues** Grilled Cheeseburger, Breaded Chicken Patty Sandwich, Crinkle Cut Fries **Weds** Homemade Chicken Burrito, Homemade Beef Burrito, Cilantro Lime Rice, Cheesy Mexican Mix Refried Beans, Fresh Salsa **Thurs** Chicken Nugget Potato Bowl w/Biscuit, Beef Finger Potato Bowl w/Roll, Steamed Crinkle Carrots **Fri** Delicious Cheese Pizza, Cheesy Meatball Sub, Peppered Broccoli Florets, Fresh Sliced Tomatoes, Fresh-Cut Cucumber Slices

GRADES 5TH - 8TH

BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Graham Crackers,
Mon Blueberry Muffin **Tues** Cheesy Egg & Potato Breakfast Tacos **Weds** Fluffy Jumbo Waffles w/ Turkey Sausage
Thurs Egg & Cheese Biscuit Sandwich **Fri** Chocolate Donut Holes

LUNCH: Everyday - Variety of milk. Your choice of 1 entree & 1 fruit or juice, rolls, crackers. Variety of burgers.
Mon Spicy Chicken Patty Sandwich, Turkey Sausage Pizza, Teriyaki Beef & Broccoli w/Brown Rice, Country Turkey Ham Sandwich, Crinkle Cut Fries, Peppered Broccoli Florets **Tues** Breaded Chicken Patty Sandwich, Delicious Cheese Pizza, Chili Cheese Fries w/ Pretzel Rods, Spicy Chicken Nuggets w/Roll, Turkey Ham & Cheese Wrap, Spiced Green Beans, Crinkle Cut Fries **Weds** Spicy Chicken Patty Sandwich, Classic Pepperoni Pizza, Beef Finger Potato Bowl w/Roll, Spaghetti Carbonara, Cobb Salad w/ Crackers, Crispy Tater Tots **Thurs** Spicy Chicken Patty Sandwich, Pepperoni & Jalapeno Pizza, Cheesy Chicken Flour Tacos, Grande Beefy Nachos, Chicken Caesar Salad w/Roll, Traditional Spanish Brown Rice, Shredded Lettuce, Tomato Slices & Pickles **Fri** Crinkle Cut Fries, Seasoned Refried Beans, Fresh Salsa **Fri** No school

HIGH SCHOOL

BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Graham Crackers, Egg Scramble w/ Turkey Sausage & Biscuit, Scrambled Eggs w/ Biscuit, Turkey Sausage Patty w/ Biscuit, Hash Brown
Mon Blueberry Muffin **Tues** Cheesy Egg & Potato Breakfast Tacos **Weds** Fluffy Jumbo Waffles w/ Turkey Sausage
Thurs Egg & Cheese Biscuit Sandwich **Fri** Chocolate Donut Holes

LUNCH: Everyday - Variety of milk, assorted pizza & salads. Your choice of 1 entree & 1 fruit or juice
BALLPARK CLASSICS: Hamburger, Cheeseburger, Turkey Bacon Cheeseburger, Breaded Chicken Patty Sandwich, Spicy Chicken Patty Sandwich, Golden Chicken Corn Dog
Mon Ground Beef Soft Flour Tacos, Crispy Popcorn Chicken Wrap, Delicious Cheese Pizza, Classic Pepperoni Pizza, Large Spaghetti Meat-sauce, Chicken Caesar Salad w/Crackers, Crispy Kung Pao Chicken w/Brown Rice, Chicken Nugget Potato Bowl w/Roll, Classic Refried Beans, Peppered Broccoli Florets, Fresh Salsa **Tues** Grande Beefy Nachos, BBQ Diced Chicken Wrap, Veggie Pizzam, Classic Pepperoni Pizza, Vegetable Garden Salad w/Roll, Cheesy Broccoli Baked Potato w/ Biscuit, Orange Chicken w/ Brown Rice, Country Fried Steak Potato Bowl w/Roll, Classic Refried Beans, Spiced Green Beans, Fresh Salsa **Weds** Homemade Beef Burrito, Grilled Turkey Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Delicious Cheese Pizza, Pork Sausage Crumble Pizza, BBQ Ranch Chicken Salad w/ Roll, Salisbury Steak w/ Sauteed Onions, Rice & Roll, Beef LoMein w/Egg Roll, Chicken Tender Potato Bowl w/Roll, Classic Refried Beans, Steamed Crinkle Carrots, Fresh Salsa **Thurs** Verde Chicken Enchiladas w/ Spanish Rice, Tuna Salad Wrap, Delicious Cheese Pizza, Diced Chicken Alfredo Pizza, Chicken Parmesan w/ Spaghetti, Beef Taco Salad, Chicken Chow Mein w/Egg Roll, Country Fried Steak Potato Bowl w/Roll, Classic Refried Beans, Steamed Corn, Fresh Salsa **Fri** No school.

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ON FISHING

Bringing home groceries: Clean, fillet, prepare your fish — then enjoy

A common question asked of me is “How do you prepare your fish?” I know a few ways to prepare the fish I catch, but a chef I am not. I do know, however, that preparing your fish starts from when you catch it. Fish will spoil quickly as we all know, so it is to your advantage to take care of your catch. Once you have caught fish that you are going to keep, you should either keep them alive in a livewell or put them on ice. Some folks will put them on a stringer.

If they stay alive this is OK, but I prefer putting them in the cooler. Obviously in the summer you have to be even more conscious of where you put the fish. An ice chest is generally the best place unless you can keep them alive until later. The bigger fish like stripers should probably go on ice immediately. My livewell may hold a couple of stripers in the winter but not many more. Many folks like to bleed the fish before you put them on ice (cut their gills). This allows the blood to drain, which can improve the taste of your catch. Blood is generally known to give a bitter taste to the fish. Whether you bleed the fish early or if you rinse your fillets later, it is a good idea to clean out the blood in the meat. There are many different ways to fillet fish. Differ-



ON FISHING

By Michael Acosta

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

ent species are cleaned differently, and depending on how you want to cook it you may alter the way you prepare the catch.

Many folks still clean catfish by skinning them and cooking them whole. Salmon and king mackerel are cleaned in many instances with the skin left on one side to hold the meat together when grilled or baked. You can do this with most any species when grilling. Filleting your catch is fairly common, as it is one of the quickest ways to handle the task. Filleting your catch is a relatively quick way to get a boneless piece of meat that can be broiled, baked or fried. I learned this cleaning method from folks down at the coast a long, long time ago. Once proficient at the task, you can clean your catch fairly quickly and efficiently.

If you are going to fillet fish, be safe. It is a good idea to use a fillet glove to protect your hand while cutting. Don't go too fast and hurt yourself. I like to use heavy duty electric fillet knives

for most everything. I also have a large, serrated blade as an option for larger fish. A standard fillet knife is also an available option for trimming the filets. I typically cut behind the head and cut along the backbone through the rib cage to the tail. Before you cut all the way through the tail, you can flip the fillet over and run your knife under the skin from the tail forward, which will give you a fillet with the ribcage still in place. You then can cut out the ribcage area and you have a fillet.

On stripers and hybrids, I prefer to go one step farther and remove the blood line that is in the center of the fillet. The easiest way to remove the blood line is to cut the fillet at the tail end on either side of the blood line, then grab the center part that you just cut with the blood line and pull. The bloodline is denser and will pull right out (you almost have to see this done). You can also just cut out the bloodline by notching on both sides of the blood line. Once you clean all your fish, rinse and them



An ice chest is the best place to keep your fish, unless you can keep them alive. Bigger fish like stripers should go on ice immediately. Photo courtesy Michael Acosta

in fresh water. If you are going to freeze them, it is a good idea to freeze them in water to minimize freezer burn. I understand that the best way to store fish in the freezer is to vacuum seal the fillets (if you have one of those devices). I have been freezing them in water for a long time and this works pretty good for me.

PREPARING THE FISH

I usually prepare my fish three different ways. Deep-fried is popular in my house, but so is blackened. The other way is to broil the fillets in tin foil with butter and lemon, with lemon and pepper seasoning on the grill. My

wife has used fajita season in place of the lemon and pepper seasoning at times (it is good). The blackened version I prepare with 5th Season brand Cajun Seasoning (my preference) and butter-flavored PAM spray. In a hot iron skillet, spray the fillet with the PAM and apply the Cajun seasoning on both sides (to your liking) and cook on both sides until done. This is a good low-calorie option and is very tasty. Keep plenty of beverages on hand as you will get thirsty eating this spicy dish. One more item that is good with fish is preparing your own hush puppies. The mix is available at most any gro-

cery store. You can add onions, jalapenos or whatever you desire. These are real good right out of the cooker. Cook this first in the oil before cooking the fish for obvious reasons (or use a different cooker).

FISHING REPORT

Lake Whitney striped bass are good on jigs fished from White Bluff upstream with some good action on the main lake as well near the state park. Possum Kingdom Lake striped bass and sand bass are excellent near Costello Island. Look for the birds.

Spotlight on **BUSINESS** **JANUARY**

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Texas Designer Flooring

Growing up, Jessie Boyd knew he wanted to own his own business someday. In 2013, his determination paid off and he was presented with the opportunity to purchase the store he was working for at the time, and Texas Designer Flooring was born.

Eight years later, Texas Designer Flooring has two established locations — the original store, located in the beautiful Fort Worth historical district off of Camp Bowie, and their newest location located right in the heart of Azle.

Project and store manager Haley Miller brings 10 years of experience in all aspects of construction to the team. She has worked in economic development, design and architecture, and project management. Haley has worked in retail for the past five years, helping homeowners bring their visions to life.

“Seeing the light in my homeowner’s eyes when they see their new space is what really drives me,” Haley says. “I love my job!”

Texas Designer Flooring specializes in new construction and remodels. Whether you want tile, hardwood, vinyl, carpet, or natural stone, the team will work to help you create the look you want.

Over the years, Texas Designer Flooring has evolved from servicing only retail

customers to incorporating custom home build projects and larger commercial opportunities. The team’s dedication and attention to detail has led them to be part of popular Fort Worth, Texas magazines, HGTV’s Dream Home, and multiple other collaborations with HGTV shows. They have received multiple awards for Best Flooring in Fort Worth.

Jessie Boyd and his team of sales associates and skilled installers are what make Texas Designer Flooring your top choice flooring store. You can browse their inventory at www.texasdesignerflooring.com.

Take advantage of their new customer special with \$1,000 off your project. Restrictions apply: Must be on material and installation projects with a \$2,000 minimum purchase. They also pass on any vendor discounts to their customers.

Stop by and see what they have to offer at 500 B N. Stewart Street in Azle, across from Brookshire’s. They are open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Need a special appointment? Call 817-752-2065 to schedule a time that works for you.



Haley Miller, project and store manager for Texas Designer Flooring.

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Obituaries

Jessie Estella Rogers 1938 - 2022

Jessie was hospitalized Jan. 21, 2022. Our Heavenly Father called her home Jan. 22, 2022.

Services will be held at Azleland Cemetery 850 North Cardinal Road in Azle. Visitation will be Thursday, Jan. 27 from 5 to 8 p.m. Funeral services will be Friday Jan. 28 at 10 a.m.

If you wish to send flowers, please have them sent to Azleland Cemetery and have them reference Jessie Rogers.

Jessie was born to John and Snora Brownfield May 21, 1938. She was the baby of five children. Jessie grew up in Chickasaw Oklahoma where she met her husband, Jimmy Rogers, whom she married in 1960 in Decatur Texas. They moved from Oklahoma to Texas in 1970 and that is where they started building their family to include seven children: Ronnie Moore, Billy Moore, Donnie Rogers, Jimmy Don Rogers, Dora Godwin, Rusty Roger and Ricky Dale Rogers. They also had numerous grandkids, great grandkids and great-great grandkids along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Jessie was a fun "always in the go" person. She couldn't sit for too long before she had to find something to do. She liked to pick jokes and make goofy faces just to get someone laughing and she wasn't afraid to do that in public either. Of all the things Sister Jessie was, the number one thing that everyone knew her by was her faith.

Jessie was a God-fearing woman who shined the light of our Lord everywhere she went. She was described as having a "direct line to Jesus" but if you told her that, she would simply say, "so do



you if you just reach for it". There was never a church door open that she didn't go through if that's where the Lord led her to be, but the Christ Gospel Pentecostal Church was where she was led the most. Jessie guided so many people to the Lord through His word and her prayers, but she was never to be mistaken or called a preacher as she would tell you, "No, I'm no preacher, I'm just a child of God, a servant of Him."

And was she ever. She lived her life to serve our Lord and spread his love everywhere she went. Knowing one day, she would be before him, being welcomed into her forever home. Jessie is preceded in death by parents as well as her husband, Jimmy Roger; two sisters, Lucille and Eldora; son-in-law, Paul Godwin Sr.; daughter-in-law, Vanessa Rogers; great grandson, Jace Moore, and her youngest son, Ricky Dale Rogers also known as Little Ricky.

She will forever be missed but always remembered with every prayer her family and friends pray. Jessie, we thank you for leading our family to our Savior and always reminding us that no matter what path we are on, there is only one that leads us to our forever home.

The Azle News, Jan. 26, 2022 Edition

Clifford Lee Alexander 1942 - 2022

Clifford Lee Alexander, age 80, of Azle, Texas passed away on Jan. 20, 2022.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2022, between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Mt. Olivet Cemetery located at 2401 Sylvania Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas.

Funeral and graveside services will be held at Mt. Olivet Cemetery on Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2022, beginning at 12 p.m.

Clifford was born to Ivan Lee Alexander and Loree Eunice Burdett Alexander on Jan. 7, 1942 at Good Samaritan Hospital in Dallas, Texas. He was baptized in 1951 at Fernwood Baptist Church.

Clifford graduated from Alvarado High School in 1961 and went on to earn an Associate Degree in Transportation. Between October 1961 and October 1965, Clifford served in the United States Air Force. His service allowed him to travel to places near and far; including New Jersey, Turkey, the Philippines, and Abilene Texas.

Clifford married Peggy Jane Wood on Aug. 7, 1981. They enjoyed 40 wonderful years together.

Clifford and Peggy worked in the transporta-



tion industry and following retirement they enjoyed traveling with family and friends. Some of their favorite travels included Yellowstone National Park, Italy, and Banff National Park in Canada. Clifford also enjoyed spending time watching sporting events.

Clifford is survived by his wife Peggy and sons Jeffrey (Keille) Alexander, James (Alma) Alexander, Jayson (Lori) Wood, and Jody (Jenny) Wood; grandchildren Tadd, Anthony, Paloma, Jamie, Sarah, Justin, Hunter, Nolan, Mitchell, Morgan, and Rylie; great-grandchildren Lily, Katie, and Henry; his sister Sharon Waldron and many other family and friends.

The Azle News, Jan. 26, 2022 Edition

Kristine Marie Flournoy 1966 - 2022

Kristine Marie Flournoy, 55, of Azle passed away after a long illness on Jan. 16, 2022.

Kristine was born July 7, 1966.

She will be lovingly remembered by her husband, Lee Flournoy; daughters, Amber Lovett, Chelsey Simpson; mother Lynda Stille; sister Koko (Jeff) Swindell; grandchildren: Gabriel Broussard, Talia Washington; nieces Natalie (Kyle) Slaymaker, Natasha (B.J.) Marler and extended



family and many friends.

The Azle News, Jan. 26, 2022 Edition

Gordon Wayne Richey 1951 - 2022

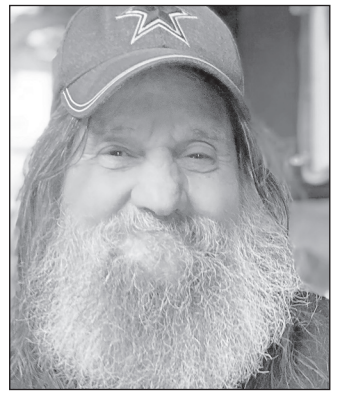
Gordon Wayne Richey, 71, of Azle, passed away Jan. 20, 2022 at home after a short battle with cancer.

A celebration of Gordon's life will announced at a later date.

In honor of Gordon, please see how many strangers you can make into friends.

Gordon was born Nov. 14, 1951 and was a lifelong resident of Azle, Texas. His friendliness and love of life left an impression on all who met him. Gordon was a skilled carpenter and was known for cooking ribs. He would often cook all day and night for parties or get together.

He loved the Cowboys, Budweiser, golf, billiards, Eagle Mountain Lake and camping. On camping trips, he would tell you exactly how far away the moon is from the earth and other interesting facts. As many people could attest, Google was not necessary, because



Gordon knew everything.

Gordon was never too busy to help people in need. He would give the shirt off his back and the money from his pocket if someone needed it. He didn't have any of his own kids, but he loved kids and they loved him.

Gordon is survived by his wife, Robbie Richey of Azle; brother Jerry Richey; and sister Debby Richey Larsen; several nieces and nephews, and many friends who will miss him greatly.

The Azle News, Jan. 26, 2022 Edition

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... ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY

<p>THE ABBEY CHURCH Pastor: Paul Brownback 10400 Jacksboro Highway 817-238-1404 www.TheAbbeyChurch.com Morning Worship.....10:30 AM Community Groups.....Various Times</p> <p>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 Worship.....10:45 AM Evening Worship.....6:00 PM Wednesday Youth Refuge.....6:00 PM Wednesday Evening.....6:15 PM</p> <p>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</p> <p>AZLE FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD Pastor: Tim Stevens 1020 S.E. Parkway, Azle 817-237-4903 Sunday School.....9:30 AM Morning Worship.....10:30 AM Wednesday Evening.....7:00 PM</p>	<p>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 Evening.....6:00 PM Wednesday Evening.....7:00 PM</p> <p>CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH 2233 Hwy 199 E. • Springtown 817-221-LIFE (5433) Sunday Worship Service10:00 AM Wednesday7:00 PM</p> <p>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</p> <p>THE EDGE CHURCH - AZLE 1313 S.E. Pkwy, Azle 817-237-4822 Missouri Synod "Love God - Serve Others - Share Jesus" Traditional Worship.....9:30 AM Contemporary Worship.....11:00 AM</p>	<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Pastor: Dr. Richard Reed 200 Church St., Azle 817-444-3323 Morn. Worship.....8:30, 9:45 & 11 AM Sunday School.....9:45 & 11 AM Youth (UMYF).....5:00 PM Sun & 6:30 PM Wed</p> <p>HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH 800 Highcrest Dr. - Azle 817-444-3063 Saturday.....5:00 PM Sunday.....9:00 AM Sunday.....11 AM (Spanish) Daily Mass (M, T, Th, F).....8:00 AM Wednesday Mass Religious ED.....6:30 PM Confessions.....Sat 4 PM</p> <p>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 Service.....10:00 AM</p> <p>SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH 591 S. Reno Rd., Springtown, Texas 76082 Pastor - Bill Gay - 817-304-7443 Coffee and Donuts.....9:00 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</p>	<p>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</p> <p>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</p> <p>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 School.....9:45 AM Morning Worship.....10:50 AM Evening Worship.....6:00 PM Wed. Prayer Service.....7:00 PM</p>	<p>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</p> <p>Equip Sunday School at the WORD 9:30 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</p> <p>Wednesdays 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 Groups Various Times</p>
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A church alive is worth the drive! For more information or rates on listing your church, call Johnna at 817-270-3340

Voting registration deadline approaches

REGISTRATION FORM SHORTAGE AS DEADLINE NEARS

Less than a week remains before the Jan. 31 deadline to register to vote in the March 1 primary. While Secretary of State John Scott publicly assured Texas voters that “every single eligible Texas voter will be able to register to vote if they have not done so already,” the League of Women Voters on Friday threatened to sue his office if the nonpartisan group isn’t provided with additional voter registration forms.

The Austin American-Statesman reported the league contends the state has decided to “sharply limit” the number of voter registration forms distributed to the league and other groups, claiming that is a violation of the National Voter Registration Act.

“It is crucial that the Secretary of State’s office act swiftly to provide the necessary voter registration forms for the people of Texas. The deadline to register to vote for the upcoming primary election is quickly approaching, and Texas is one of 11 states without online voter registration,” said Grace Chimene, president of the League of Women Voters of Texas.

Sam Taylor, assistant secretary of state for communications, told KUT.org that supply chain issues have made it harder and more expensive to get paper, which means the Secretary of State’s office will be giving out fewer voter registration forms to groups ahead of elections this year.

“We are limited in what we can supply this year because of the paper shortage and the cost constraints due to the price of paper and the supply of paper,” he said.



CAPITOL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. gborders@texaspress.com.

Texas is one of the few states that does not have online voter registration.

LEANDER MAN CHARGED FOR THREATENING ELECTION OFFICIALS

A Leander man is the first person to be charged by federal officials in a case brought by a task force formed to combat threats against election officials. Numerous media outlets reported that Chad Christopher Stark posted a message last January on Craigslist, saying it was time to kill a Georgia elections official.

“Georgia Patriots it’s time for us to take back our state from these Lawless treasonous traitors. It’s time to invoke our Second Amendment right it’s time to put a bullet in the treasonous Chinese [Official A]. Then we work our way down to [Official B] the local and federal corrupt judges,” Stark wrote, according to the indictment.

The three officials allegedly threatened were not named.

The Texas Tribune reported Georgia officials were especially targeted by a flood of hostile messages after they refused to back then-President Donald Trump’s claims of election fraud. Election officials across the country have faced criticism and personal attacks by Trump supporters claiming the election was stolen. No widespread instances of election fraud have come to

light despite dozens of investigations.

STATE AGAIN REACHES RECORD JOB LEVEL

The Texas Workforce Commission reported last week that the seasonally adjusted state unemployment rate dropped to 5.0% in December, down 0.2 percentage points from the previous month. The state added 50,000 nonagricultural jobs last month — marking job gains in 19 of the last 20 months. The state set another record level of employment with more than 13 million jobs.

“Seeing a second consecutive month of record-setting employment, with more than 13 million jobs, highlights the underlying strength of the Texas economy,” said TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel. “This economic strength creates an environment for Texas employers to continue to create jobs and provide opportunities for the workforce in the Lone Star State.”

The state has added 694,000 jobs since December 2020.

COVID-19 CASES SET RECORD HIGH

Spurred by the omicron variant, the number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas in the past week climbed to a record 433,584, with 971 new deaths reported as well by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University. Since the pandemic began in March 2020, the state has recorded

5.9 million cases and 78,055 deaths — equivalent to the entire population of Cedar Park.

Hospitalizations in Texas of lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients also continued to rise, up 36% from the previous week at 13,324, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services. That figure is approaching the record high of 14,106 set in January 2021.

PAXTON DENIES OPEN RECORDS LAW VIOLATION

Attorney General Ken Paxton denied that he violated the state’s open records law, rejecting an allegation by the Travis County district attorney that his office should release communications from the week of the Jan. 6, 2021, Capitol attack, The Dallas Morning News reported.

Five of the state’s largest newspapers filed a joint complaint after Paxton denied their open records requests. The district attorney’s office warned it would file suit if Paxton did not release the information. In a letter to the Travis County district attorney’s public integrity unit, Paxton’s office called the claims “meritless” and said there was “no violation to cure.”

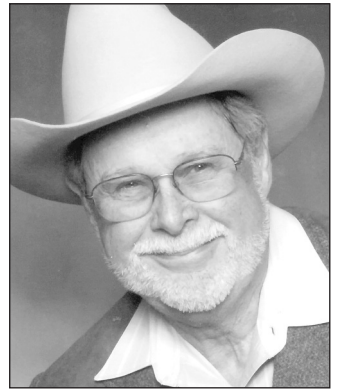
Editors for the newspapers released a joint statement saying: “We believe these records are public and should be released. We hope the Travis County district attorney continues to hold the attorney general accountable for following our state’s open records laws and continues to advocate for the public’s right to know in this case.”

Obituaries

John Henry Whatley 1935 - 2022

John Henry Whatley, 86 passed away Monday, Jan. 17, 2022

Visitation is from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 21, 2022, at White’s Funeral Home in Azle, Texas. Funeral is at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan 22, 2022, at White’s Funeral Home in Azle, Texas. Graveside at 2 p.m. at Eastland Cemetery in Eastland, Texas.



John Henry Whatley was born May 17, 1935, in Eastland, Texas, the first child born to J. C. and Evelyn (Skinner) Whatley. He had a normal childhood for small town Texas, and he always said they “all” had equal opportunity somewhere between hard times and poor. His first schooling was “South” Ward elementary school, followed by Eastland Junior High and graduated from Eastland High School in 1952. During that time, he had been active in the Boy Scouts of America and attained the rank of Eagle Scout with a Bronze Palm and Order of the Arrow. He graduated from Cisco Junior College, then attended Mc Murray College in Abilene where he completed his junior year studying business administration and finance under the direction of Dr. Rockover.

During College, John worked in construction, and in the summers, for the YMCA at camp Grady Spruce on the Brazos River, Johnson Bend.

John’s maternal grandfather homesteaded in New Mexico when the territory became a state. His grandfather “Granddad” along with his brother, John Benjamin “Bud” Skinner, spent from 1916 to 1923 in New Mexico. When his grandfather returned from New Mexico, he gave the homesteaded land and mineral rights to J. C. and Evelyn Whatley. It was sold, and John knew this story, so he was determined to acquire land for himself, and his heirs. He was able to achieve this goal by acquiring 160 acres in Stephens County, Texas.

Before acquiring the 160 acres John met, and later married on Dec. 27, 1967, Joyce “Gayle” Hussey/Hall who had a daughter, Kelli Leigh, born April 23, 1963. They were blessed with a blended family. John had two children from a previous marriage, Jan Colleen,

born June 17, 1957, and Joel Wayne, born July 6, 1956.

They were truly blessed with arrival of grandchildren Erin (and Bobby) Majors, Lindsey (and Nickole) Day, Jason (and Karla) Whatley, Kevin Rash, Justin Rash, Shelly (and Nicholas) Smithson, Julia Dougher, Philip Dougher and 13 great-grandchildren.

A believer in community service and demonstrated it by serving with the Longhorn Council as Leadership Training Director in 1962. John was a certified SCUBA diver with Reddy Divers. In 1963, he won three statewide Archery Championships in Waco, Arlington, and then Fort Worth in 1967. Later, he and wife Gayle, won two first place ribbons and “Best of Show” in the chicken division at the Fort Worth Stock show in 1968. John was a Division I Referee with the Southwest Football Association, serving as President in 1969. He worked the first integrated football game in the Fort Worth area and it was played between Castleberry High School and Dunbar High School.

He and Gayle were members of the Lake Worth Sailing Club, where he was also elected Commodore from 1981-85. He was a member of the Experimental Aircraft Association, serving as Flight Director from 1984-85, and later served the Mid-America Air Group Big Red One, and as President from 1986-88. He worked and flew with the Confederate Air Force, held an ATF high explosive license, and was Explosive Ordnance Detachment Group Leader from 1997-2001. After a Group Leader passes away, an engraved plaque with their name will be placed in the Memorial Garden located at the Headquarters of the Confederate Air Force.

The Azle News, Jan. 26, 2022 Edition

LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

The City Council of the City of Azle will conduct a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 505 West Main Street to consider a proposed Comprehensive Master Plan Amendment from the Neighborhood Mixed Used Activity Center to Low Density Residential and a proposed zoning change request from the Estate One (E-1) and Institutional (Ins) Districts to a Planned Development District by approving a concept plan for a proposed 16-lot residential subdivision on approximately 28.25 acres of land situated in the J. Wilcox Survey, Abstract No. 1727, City of Azle, Tarrant County, Texas, and being described as a portion of certain parcel described in deed to Charles F. Roeser by deed recorded in Volume 1095, Page 72, Deed Records, Tarrant County, Texas. The property is generally located on the north and south sides of Park Street approximately 2,100 feet east of South Ash Avenue.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of **CLAUDE REYNOLDS CONWELL, DECEASED**, were issued on January 11, 2022, in Cause No. 21P482, pending in the County Court, Parker County, Texas, to: **SUSAN KAY CONWELL**. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o **W. Faye Murphree Attorney at Law**
337 W. Main Street Azle, TX 76020

Dated the 22 day of January, 2022.

W. Faye Murphree Attorney for Susan Kay Conwell

State Bar No.: 00792710

337 W. Main Street Azle, TX 76020

Telephone: (817) 270-0030; Facsimile (817) 270-0085

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Superman had it right and still does

In a previous column a little over a year ago, I spoke about how as a child I was a big fan of Superman. He was so cool! He could fly, he was incredibly strong, and he always stood up for "truth, justice and the American way."

I thought everyone in my generation was a fan of Superman and believed in the character traits Superman promoted. Sadly, it appears truth in our society may have flown out the window.

I understand that sometimes truth is not easy to ascertain. Two intelligent, reasonable people can look at the same circumstances and draw different conclusions. As humans, our perceptions of incoming data are shaped by our previous life experiences and our knowledge.

For example, I once went on a "road trip" to Ruidoso with a couple of other fellas. At the time I was heavily involved in the quarterhorse industry, as was one of my traveling partners. The third man was a businessman from Dallas who as far as I know, never even saw a horse other than when he watched a Clint Eastwood



MY FRONT PORCH

By Sam Houston

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

western on TV.

As we drove through West Texas, the gentleman who was also a horseman and I would comment on the huge fields of alfalfa we would see growing as we rode along. We would comment how rich and green a field looked, if it was ready to cut, and how much protein it might contain. We made those comments because each of us were accustomed to buying a semi-load of alfalfa every five to six days and spending into the six-figure range on alfalfa for the year. Alfalfa was pretty darn important to the two of us.

As the two of us carried on this conversation about alfalfa, the businessman finally interrupted and said, "I have never seen two guys be so interested in a bunch of plants growing in a field. It all looks like a bunch of grass to me."

My point is the horseman

on that trip had a completely different perception of a field of alfalfa than did the businessman. He had no knowledge about alfalfa and couldn't care less about it. We had different truths because of our life experience and our knowledge about the alfalfa, and the different role alfalfa played in our lives. No matter what our perceptions, we would have all agreed there were some fields of green plants.

Unfortunately, it seems differences nowadays are more than perceptions, or reasonable people having a difference of opinion. On social media, TV, and in print, people extoll the wildest accusations and conspiracy theories without any — and I mean ANY — facts that an objective, rational person should find conclusive. When these people get called on their wild assertions and are

asked for FACTS to substantiate their claims, they simply attack the person who questions their theory. You would think our world would simply disregard such wild-eyed claims, but for some reason there is a large segment of our society that wants to accept wild allegations, rather than seek the truth.

Superman had it pretty much summed up: truth, justice and the American way. I wish all of us would watch a few of those old reruns and let that thought soak in and start to question the conspiracy theorists, and those who continue to market it as fact. Show me facts, show me evidence of wrongdoing, and I will wholeheartedly support justice being done, irrespective of personality, party, or politics. It is just that simple. That is the American way.

Superman had it right and still does.

Thought for the day: "I believe if we stay together, as a team, we would be a force that could truly work for the ideals of peace and justice." Superman

Until next time.

When is a family a family?



DEAR FRANKIE

By Geneva Woodruff

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

Dear Frankie,

My family and I were in the Texas flood. The water had risen to the second story of our house by the time the rescue boat arrived. My parents and siblings had to climb out the window to get into the boat. When I jumped onto the windowsill to follow them, the man said his boat was only for families; another rescue boat would come for the dogs.

I stood on my hind legs at the window for two hours, watching to make sure the man in the dog boat saw me. The whole time I stood there, the same question kept repeating in my head, "Why didn't my mom or dad tell the boatman I was a member of the family?"

The next day my mom came to the dog shelter and told me the house was gone, and the family had to move in with Grandma.

That's when she told me, "We can't take you with us, but I promise I will help the shelter find you a good family."

She did keep her promise. I now live with a lovely family.

When I arrived that first day, they told me they knew how upset I was about losing my family. They promised me that they would be my

forever family. I want to believe them, but I'm not sure I can ever trust another family, no matter what they say.

Fearful,
Boomer

Dear Boomer,

I can only imagine the terror you experienced facing a devastating, life-threatening event and losing your family on the same day. It will take time, and many caring experiences for you to trust your new family will be yours forever.

From what you say about them, it seems they understand what you have been through and your need to trust that they will be your family forever.

Families who adopt dogs who have been in a disaster are different from other adoptive families. These families chose to adopt traumatized dogs because they want to help them recover from past hurts and live happy lives. Your family understands that you will need time, patience and understanding to trust them. I hope knowing that you live with a family that wants you to believe in them as much as you do might offer you some comfort.

Best,
Frankie

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BOOK REVIEW

A love story to that perfect teacher

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

You had three minutes to get to class.

A hundred-eighty seconds to rush from room to room, always on the opposite sides of campus – do-able, as long as you didn't have to fetch something from a locker or another spot. Do-able, if you could run fast, leap over crouching freshmen, and dodge slow-moving teachers. Do-able, as in the new book "Admissions" by Kendra James, if you didn't have other frustrations to deal with.

For three years after college, Kendra James' Saturday mornings were set: she spent them speaking to low-income parents and prospective students at a private high school on the upper east side of Manhattan, talking about the benefits of private school and the "golden tickets" that would pay for this opportunity. She spoke from experience: James had graduated from Taft, a private high school in Connecticut.

That had been a natural conclusion: after the school began accepting African Americans, James' father was of the first Black graduates. This made James

a legacy student, as she was used to being at Taft, and she even knew some of the teachers.

Even so, private school was an adjustment. Making friends was difficult for James then, partly because she was a Black goth nerd who loved Harry Potter and Xena: Warrior Princess, and partly because she'd been raised with incorrect perceptions about other Black people. She didn't know that rap music and intelligence could exist together, or how to "code switch." It even took awhile for her to understand that not all insults were really insults.

By the beginning of her second year, her "mid" or sophomore year, James had a string of friends and plenty of confidence. Her nerdiness had a place at Taft, she'd learned to fit in, and she was mostly happy there with a new best friend and dreams of romance.

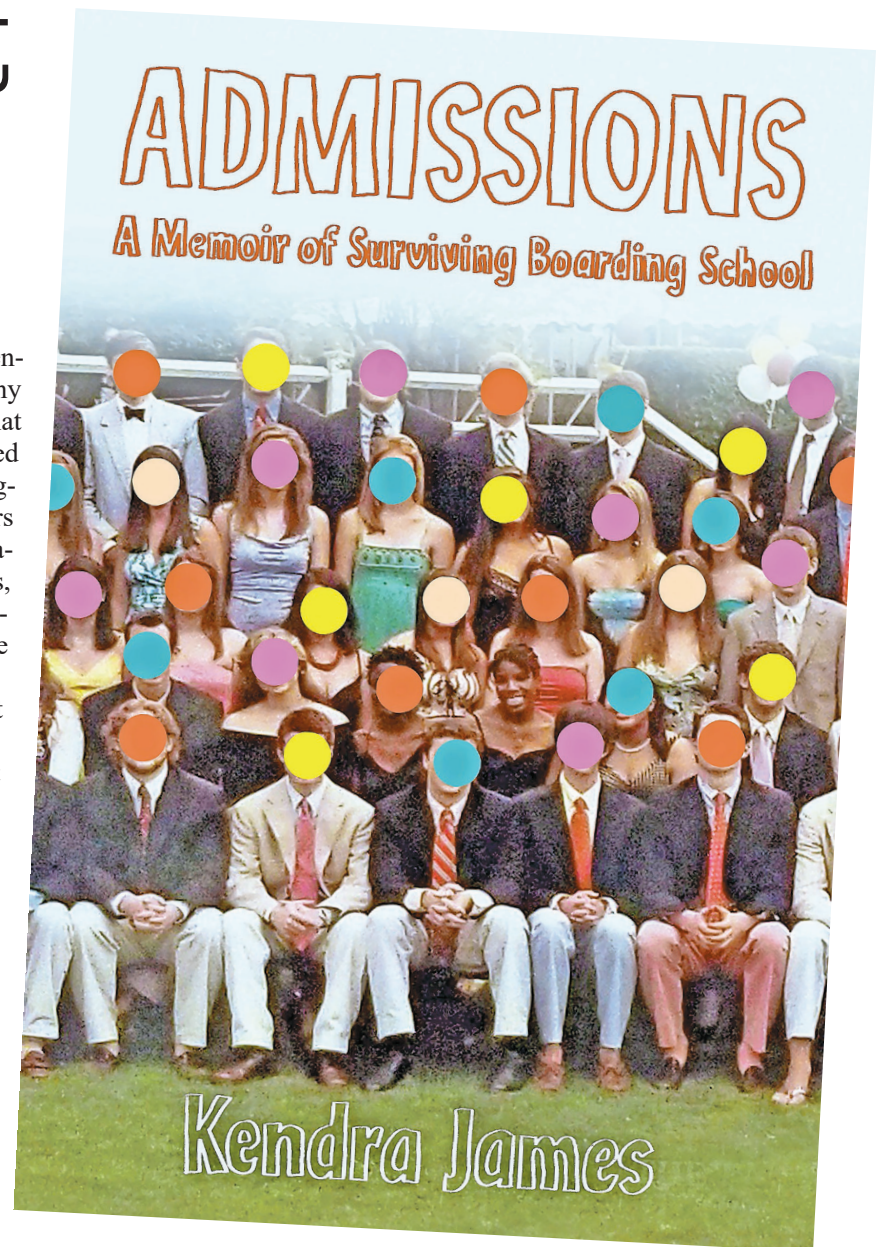
But there were things that bothered her, that she didn't quite have the words for yet. There was quiet racism sometimes, and "micro-aggressions" that James absolutely noticed – just as she saw the racism in a huge, life-changing accusation for a crime she didn't do...

Please don't give "Admis-

sions" an eye-roll. Author Kendra James concedes, many times and in many ways, that she knew then how privileged she was – an acknowledgment that sometimes appears as guilt. Still, she admits to familial wealth, social blindness, a life of ease, and that sometimes she didn't know what she didn't know.

The acceptance of that aside, this book is really quite fun: though she graduated not so long ago, reading James' book is like stepping back in time to fumble with the combination on your locker between classes. It's like wishing for an invite to the Cool Kids table in the lunchroom. It's a love story to that perfect teacher, the ill-conceived "it'll go on your permanent record" caper, and a BFF you never see again after graduation.

There's an urgent message inside this book that's essential reading for educators, but it's also just plain enjoyable to have. Find "Admissions." It's a class act.



"Admissions: A Memoir of Surviving Boarding School" by Kendra James
c.2022, Grand Central Publishing \$29.00 304 pages

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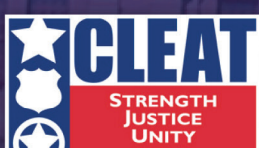
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Conwell, Bernsen named Azle Optimist Young Texan/Texanne



From left to right, Azle principal Randy Cobb with Katy Conwell, Derek Bernsen, and Azle Optimist Club president Brian Rogers.

Photo by Jessica McKinney

BY JESSICA MCKINNEY
azlereporter@azlenews.net

The Optimist Club of Azle announced that its January Young Texan and Texanne are Derek Bernsen and Katy Conwell.

Bernsen is ranked No. 23 in his class and holds a GPA of 102.44. He

said he is proud of the grades he has earned in school and for being in the top 10% of the senior class.

He hopes to attend the University of North Texas, where he plans to study art and one day make a career in that field. Bernsen enjoys all areas of art, from fine art to graphic arts, writing, animation

and cinema.

Among his greatest personal strengths are his imagination and intuitiveness.

Conwell has a GPA of 101.8 and is ranked No. 28 in her class. She has been active with cheer and was named Varsity Cheerleader of the Year in 2021. She is a member of

the National Honor Society and the PALs program at Azle High School.

"I am a goal-oriented student," Conwell said in her student information form. "I have big dreams and work hard to achieve those goals. I set myself apart by doing my own thing rather than follow-

ing a crowd."

After graduation, Conwell plans to attend Ole Miss (University of Mississippi) where she will cheer and study to become a teacher.

Both students are active members of their churches and take great pride in their extracurricular activities.

Kid Scoop

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Woodpecker's Winter Food Budget Plan

TAP! TAP! TAPPITY! TAP! Woodpeckers use their strong beaks to tap holes into tree trunks. Then they fill each hole with acorns, pine nuts, seeds and more to save for later.

A woodpecker's storage tree is also called a **granary tree**. The same granary tree is used for generations. Some granary trees have over 10,000 holes!

THINK ABOUT IT: How is a granary tree like a piggy bank?

Wow, mom! It looks like we've stored way more food than we need! Let's throw a big party for all our feathered friends!

Whoa! Whoa! Not so fast there, little one! I was just about to explain to you that we need to make a **food budget** to make sure that this food lasts all winter. It looks like a lot of food now, but we need food for the next three months!

And we have to store extra food because squirrels like to help themselves to the food in our granary tree! **How rude!**

Plus, some of our stored food gets eaten by bugs. And some of it will get wet and rot before we can eat it. So we need a budget!

Hold this page up to a mirror to learn a surprising woodpecker fact!

My mom asked me to help with our family budget, but I'm having trouble. Can you help me?

Answer: They eat three acorns per day.

How many acorns can you find on this page in two minutes? Have a friend try. Who found the most acorns?

Let's Draw a Woodpecker!

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

Kid Scoop Puzzler

An acorn fell out of the hole a woodpecker drilled. Can you put it back?

Double Double Word Search

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

WOODPECKER
RESOURCES
HARVEST
GRANARY
STORAGE
TONGUES
BUDGET
WINTER
ACORN
HOLES
NOSES
PLAN
TREE
TOES
DUST

R	R	E	S	O	U	R	C	E	S
E	S	Y	R	A	N	A	R	G	H
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Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Make a Family Budget

Imagine you have \$100 to spend on family meals for one week. Look through the ads in the newspaper and make a list of foods to buy. Add up what the foods cost. Adjust your grocery list to make it cost \$100 or less.

Standards Link: Math: Calculate money sums to total \$100 or less.

Write On!

Make a Difference

Describe how you make a difference in someone's life within your family, your school or your community.

Kid Scoop Together: Proof It

Are you an eagle-eyed reader? Circle the eight errors. Then, rewrite the article correctly. Have a family member check your work.

Woodpecker Facts

Woodpeckers are made to cling to trees. They have strong tail feathers that support the bird as it holds itself on a tree trunk, and they also have too back toes to lean back on.

Did you know that woodpeckers have furry noses? It's true! Their nostrils are covered in tiny feathers to keep splinters and dust out while they peck aweigh at tree trunks.

Even with their super fast pecking, it's amazing that woodpeckers do not get headaches. That's because woodpecker bills help distribute shock throughout the thick skull when pecking. Humanz wood have headaches if they did sew much pounding!

SPORTS

Football banquet celebrates brains, brawn, brotherhood

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

Devon Dorris explained why football is the “greatest team sport” during his opening remarks Saturday at Azle High School’s annual awards banquet.

The Hornets football team was 8-3 and made the playoffs this season, but Dorris didn’t dwell on that.

“In the coaching profession, I’ve learned that it’s not always about the wins and losses but more about the journey along the way,” he said.

Each year, that journey is

made by an evolving group of young men who play a game but learn so much more about life.

“You’ve got short, tall, slow, slim,” Dorris said. “You have Hindu, Muslim, Christian. You have black, white, red. You have everything in the world. And these guys have to truly relate and love each other and rely on each other. That is why I love the game of football so much and why the evenings on Friday are so special — because of the kids and the relationships that they get to form.”

Early in the presentation,

Dorris paid respect to Jack Schwantz, a senior offensive lineman who died in a plane crash less than a week before the season opener. Losing a player in such a tragic way made the game seem trivial at first.

“Jack Schwantz was a teammate that everyone loved, and we all thought so much about,” Dorris said. “It was not easy to get back up to the day-to-day life. But as Jack would have wanted, we were able to keep moving one day at a time, one step at a time.”

SEE BANQUET, PAGE 6B.



Quarterback Chris Lee, left, was handed the Offensive Player of the Year Award by offensive coordinator Chad Jones, right.

Photo by Jeff Prince

Azle swimmers qualify for regionals

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

Azle High School’s swim team performed well at the District 5-5A meet on Jan. 20 at Mansfield ISD Natatorium, qualifying 11 athletes for the upcoming regional meet.

The girls 200-meter freestyle relay team broke a school record that had previously been set in October.

The swimmers who qualified for regionals include Phoebe Mosley, Brooke Nowakowski, Peighton Berry, Gianna Schroeder, Laci Clark, Emory Hann, Hailey Fox, Steven Manley, Carter Pack, Trevor Deel and Kalen McCullough.

At district, the top six swimmers in each event earn a trip to regionals, where the top two in each event advance to state.

The Region 2-5A meet is scheduled to be held at 9 a.m. Feb. 4-5 at Mansfield ISD Natatorium.

The UIL Class 5A state meet is set for Feb. 18-19 at the University of Texas in Austin.

Azle’s swim team qualified 11 members for the upcoming regional event.

Courtesy photo



Azle Hornets hoop Granbury for second district win

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

Azle High School’s basketball boys ricocheted back from last week’s district loss to Fort Worth Brewer by knocking off Granbury 56-41 Friday in front of an appreciative home crowd.

Gavin Dean led the Hornets in scoring with 14 points, followed closely by Jackson Davis, 13 points, and Jayden Coffey, 12 points.

Players with single-digit scoring totals included Jayden Rollins, Cooper Morgan, Mason Ford and Campbell Dotson.

The win boosted Azle’s district record to 2-1.

Azle (19-7) plays at 8 p.m. Jan. 28 at home against Wichita Falls Rider (6-19).

Azle’s Jackson Davis, shown here making a layup against Aledo, scored 13 points against Granbury on Friday.

Photo by Jeff Prince



Lady Hornets win two basketball games in overtime

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

The Lady Hornets won two crucial girls basketball games in overtime last week to push their district record to 2-3.

On Jan. 21, the girls welcomed Granbury to the Hornet gym and won 68-66 in double overtime.

“What an exciting game,” head coach Mitzie Marquart said afterward. “We struggled early but really got going in the fourth quarter. I was so proud of how our team refused to lose, especially in the two overtimes. This win was from a great team effort.”

Three days earlier, the girls had traveled to Fort Worth Brewer to play a district game and prevailed in overtime, 41-37.

Azle’s girls are scheduled to play at 6:15 p.m. Jan. 28 at home against district rival Wichita Falls Rider (14-9).

Landri Seward was the high scorer for the Lady Hornets in their double-overtime girls basketball victory over Granbury.

Photo by Jeff Prince





Jacy Williams is in a familiar position – atop her opponent. A junior, Jacy should return next season as one of Azle's top wrestlers.

Azle wrestlers include small packages of dynamite

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

"I grew up with brothers and dogs, so I kind of like fighting," Jacy Williams said.

She and other Azle High School wrestlers have been dominating tournaments this season.

Williams, Pella LeFever and Annabelle Davis won all five of their matches at the recent Girls 5A State Duals Championship in Prosper.

At the state duals for boys, Azle's Kenneth Riley, Oliver Lorenz, Dominick Evans and Hunter Legan went undefeated.

SMALL BUT POWERFUL

Legan, competing in the 138-pound category, has won two dozen matches this season. The senior pinned all five of his opponents at the Nest Invitational in early January.

"We're hoping for him to have a strong showing in the postseason," said Tyler Harrison, who coaches Azle's boys team.

Legan's success in wrestling followed a less buoyant attempt at football in middle school. At the time, he weighed 60 pounds.

"I used to be a lot smaller than everybody else," Legan said. "Football and sports like that, where you had to be bigger, was harder for my size. But my friend's dad was a wrestling coach, and he got me into wrestling."

Wrestlers compete against athletes who are in their own weight class.

"However good you are depends on how much work you put into it," Legan he said.

Once he focused on wrestling, he soared. Before leaving middle school, Legan placed second at the state competition and fourth at nationals. COVID-19 restrictions impacted the past couple of years, but Legan made it to regionals as a junior and is determined to compete at state this year.

The UIL wrestling state

Hunter Legan and Jacy Williams are on the small side, but neither lets their lack of brawn keep them from making explosive moves on a wrestling mat.



Azle wrestler Hunter Legan pins his Argyle opponent at a recent meet. He hopes to advance to state in his final year of wrestling.

Photos by Jeff Prince

championship tournament is set for Feb. 18-19 at Berry Center in Cypress.

After high school, Legan plans to study aviation at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and become a pilot.

PRACTICING ON BROTHERS

Williams attempted formal wrestling in seventh grade after spending much of the previous 10 years scrapping with her older brothers. She attended a wrestling camp but changed her mind quickly.

"There was this little camp that was a week long at the school, and I went for two days, but I didn't really like it," she said. "I had to wrestle against a girl that was double my weight, so I didn't really get the best ex-

perience out of it."

In 2020, she tried wrestling again at Azle High. This time, she stuck with it.

As a freshman, she won half of her matches. Last year, she won 75 percent of her fights as a sophomore and received the team's Most Improved Wrestler Award after placing third in district.

Williams, now a junior, keeps pushing the bar higher.

"This year, I'm going to do my best to get to state," she said.

She has about 30 wins so far against a half-dozen losses.

Head coach Megan House characterized Williams as a team leader.

"She is always go-go-go in practice," the coach said. "She basically does whatever I hand to her. She has

shown incredible improvement over the last couple years. From her freshman to junior year, incredible improvement. Every single year, I keep getting surprised by her. She is doing really awesome."

On Jan. 6, Azle girls met with Boswell and Benbrook for a three-team meet. Williams lost her first match against a Benbrook wrestler.

"I lost because I did the wrong arm movement," she said afterward.

She fared better against the Boswell opponent, although the referee halted the match temporarily after Williams began bleeding from a finger. Once Williams was patched up, she went back to the mat to finish her match.

Her opponent appeared to have the advantage over Williams for a moment until the Azle wrestler spun around in

an instant and dropped and pinned her opponent.

The move impressed her coach.

"She did a reversal on that girl, and that girl was pretty decent, too," House said. "Jacy went in there and took care of business like she always does."

Taking care of business involves showing up to practice, putting in the hours and effort, and learning from mistakes, Williams said.

"I've been here for a while, and I'm really devoted to this team," she said. "I work really hard at the practices. I do a lot to help out the team and in the weight room or on the mat or just in general at school or whatever."

Her weight category (102 pounds) is one of the lightest.

"I like contact sports," she said. "This is more of a one-on-one sport, and I prefer

that over a team sport like basketball or volleyball."

She likes the individual nature of wrestling but enjoys bonding with teammates, too.

"We've done super good this year so far," Williams said. "I think we can honestly make it to regional champions as a team if we all work our hardest. I'm really proud of how far we've come this year."

House made no predictions about the postseason but made it clear she likes her team's chances.

"There is still a lot we need to improve on, but overall, these girls are starting to really kick it into gear," she said.

A warmup dual match versus Byron Nelson High School is set for Thursday, Jan. 27, and then the postseason begins with the district round Feb. 4-5 in Azle's main gym.

Azle Christian Lady Crusaders will play rival Stonegate Christian on Thursday



Maybree McClure and the Azle Christian Lady Crusaders won a district game by forfeit last week at StoneGate Christian Academy. The Crusaders (1-4) are set to play at 5 p.m. Thursday at home in a rematch against 0-1 StoneGate.

Photo by Jeff Prince

Azle Christian Crusaders will play rival Stonegate Christian on Friday



Andy Wisnieski and the Azle Christian Crusaders hope to bounce back after losing last week's district opener to Faustina by taking on another district rival — Stonegate Christian Academy — at 7 p.m. Friday at home.

Photo by Jeff Prince

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Azle soccer boys eager for district to begin



A.J. Carlson, left, battles for the ball.

Photos by Jeff Prince

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

Azle High School has a new boys head soccer coach, Austin Fugate, who is setting the bar high for his team.

How high?

A district title.

“We have a solid squad that has the potential to win big games and fight for a district championship,” Fugate said.

The Hornets’ opponents in District 5-5A include Wichita Falls High School, Wichita Falls Rider, Fort Worth Brewer, Aledo and Granbury.

So far, the Hornets have had trouble finding the win column while playing assorted non-district games to prepare for district competition. Azle has a winless 0-4-2 record, although all four losses came by small



Goalkeeper Josh Leonard makes a stop.



Caleb Balderas, the football team’s placekicker, is now a captain and midfielder for the soccer team.



Cody McIntire is a captain who plays with intensity.

margins.

Fugate isn’t concerned about the early record. He envisions productive days ahead.

“Our team is full of unique players, and we are getting better every game,” he said.

The Hornets aren’t short on experience or enthusiasm, the coach said. Many of the players have been varsity members for two or three years.

“This team is hardworking, technical and dangerous all over the field,” Fugate said. “I have very high hopes for the season. This team is definitely going to be something to watch in district.”

Players who have stood out for their performances so far include four seniors, all of them captains: midfielder Caleb Balderas, forward A.J. Carlson, goalkeeper Josh Leonard and defender Cody McIntyre.

Balderas is coming off an award-winning season as kicker for Azle’s football team.

Fugate is a 2017 graduate of Azle High and a 2020 graduate of the University of North Texas.

Seven years ago, he began coaching indoor soccer to area youths and started his own business teaching private lessons.

“Throughout college, I ran soccer camps and skills trainings for Azle youth soccer players,” he said.

Fugate played semi-professional soccer for FC Denton during that time.

After graduating from UNT, Fugate began coaching Westplex United FC, a soccer club in Azle, and worked with Azle Youth Soccer to “help gain a developmental system locally,” he said.

Last summer, he coached the Lady Hornets soccer team before being offered the head coaching position for the boys.

“It has been an amazing experience being able to coach a lot of players I have trained with over the past five years,” he said.

Azle (0-4-2) is scheduled to play a home game at 7 p.m. Jan. 28 against Hirschi (7-1-1). District competition begins at 7 p.m. Feb. 4 at home against Wichita Falls High (6-3-1).



From left to right, Samara Boccia, Melanie Harder and Kenzee Roberts protect their net.

Courtesy Photo

Azle soccer girls hope work ethic overrides inexperience

BY JEFF PRINCE
jeff@azlenews.net

High school soccer teams don't come much greener than this season's Azle Lady Hornets, with more than half the varsity roster composed of freshmen and sophomores.

Opponents would be well advised to not overlook those fresh faces.

"Our returning sophomore and junior groups are definitely getting stronger and have grown tremendously since the end of last season," Azle girls head coach Madeline Wood said. "We have a handful of freshmen that will also

contribute and make an impact on varsity this year."

Azle's girls soccer program, including the junior varsity, is made up of more than 70% freshmen and sophomores.

"Both squads are extremely coachable, and effort is never lacking," Wood said. "Those two qualities that are within the program will continue to push us forward and allow us to continue to develop. This group of ladies has a lot of potential."

The varsity team members are eager to show off skills they have developed during the past two seasons despite the impact of COVID-19 restrictions and precau-

tions. Varsity players who have excelled so far on defense include sophomores Rebecca Marx, Melanie Harder and Sarae Perez. Offensive contributors include freshmen Arely Licerio and Kenzee Roberts, along with junior Madi Yunger.

"Our student-athletes have come a very long way over the course of the last two years, and we are excited to test that in our district season," the coach said. "Last year, we focused on some basic principles. This year, we've been able to take those concepts from an individual-focus to a team-focus, which has really evolved both squads."

Coach John Epps has been leading offensive sessions, and coach

Hannah Smith has led defensive sessions to focus on areas of development.

"Our coaching staff is incredibly excited to go test what all our players have learned this year thus far," Wood said.

Wood is in her second year as head coach of soccer girls and her fifth year as a teacher. Before coming to Azle, she was assistant coach for the varsity girls at Northwest High School from 2018 to 2020.

Prior to that, she served as assistant coach at Braswell High School and coached outside of high school within the North Texas Soccer Olympic Development Program.

Wood played Division I college soccer for four years at Oklahoma State University (2012-2015). She was academic first-team All-Big XII, made the NCAA Big XII Honor Roll and was a four-time recipient of the Oklahoma State University Scholar-Athlete Award.

Azle (1-9-1) plays a non-district game at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 28 at Benbrook (7-1-1). The girls are scheduled to begin district play at 5 p.m. Feb. 4 against Wichita Falls High School at Memorial Stadium in Wichita Falls.

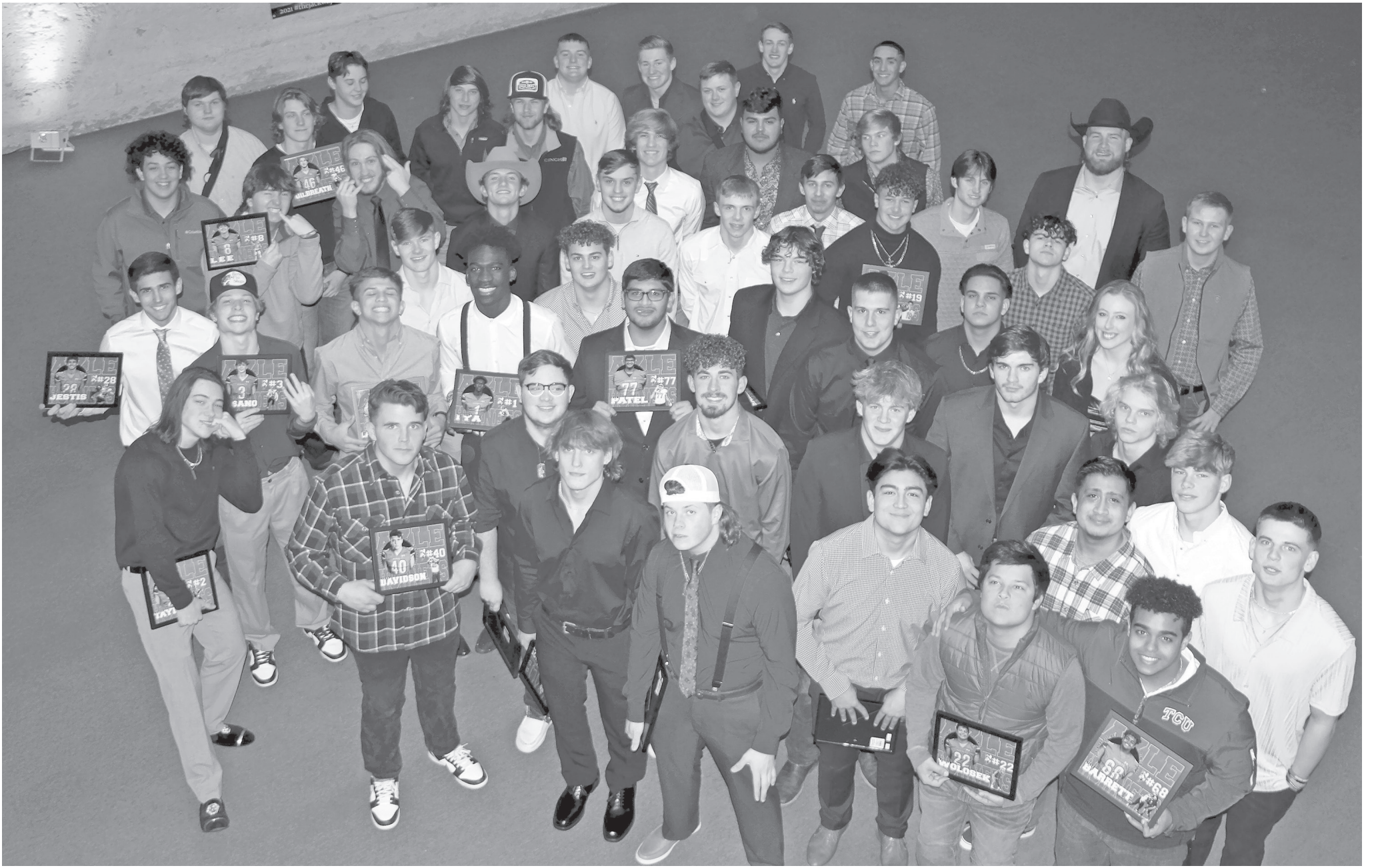
Azle High School rodeo team slips to second place



Dylan Reagan and the Azle High School rodeo team slipped from the top spot in the North Texas High School Rodeo Association to second place in total points after last weekend's rodeo. Currently, Decatur has 5,232 points, followed by Azle with 5,064. Eight rodeos remain in the season before the finals begin in May.

Photo by Jo H Photography

BANQUET, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B.



This large group of seniors will graduate and make way for younger players.

A decorative display featuring Schwantz's football jersey will be hung in the field house soon, Dorris said.

Before the Special Awards were handed out to the team's best seniors, the coach introduced more than 30 players who earned academic All-District or All-State awards during the season.

"We are really proud of these kids being able to handle their academic classroom work as well as their work schedule on the football team," the coach said.

The final portion of the banquet involved coaches presenting a select few seniors with highly anticipated special awards.

The long-established Servant Leadership Award — now to be called the Jack Schwantz Servant Leadership Award — was presented in a three-way tie to Zack Barrett, Anthony Garces and Conner Bennett.

Barrett described Schwantz as "an amazing person that did everything right and somebody who you strive to be every day."

Coach Bradley Overton expressed pride in being able to present the Academic Leadership Award.

"You saw how many kids we have that received academic All-District, academic All-State," he told the gathering of about 250 people at the banquet. "I can't tell you how proud I am. This is a truly elite group. Many of them are in the top 10% of their class."

The award went to offensive lineman Jonathan Robles, who "set himself apart a little bit in the amount of focus that he puts into it and in the effort that he does in the classroom," Overton said.

Coach Phillip Anderson presented the Blue Collar Award to Jack Jestis, whom he characterized as a positive leader with a great attitude and willingness to do whatever work was needed.

The Outstanding Defensive Lineman of the Year went to Rowdy Dawson.

"I feel very proud about it," Dawson said. "All the work that I put in amounted to me receiving this and the respect from my coaches and teammates. It will always be a part of me."

His name and other winners were etched on plaques that will remain on display at the high school rather than being taken home by the winners.

"I feel like the main purpose of this is so that those younger kids get to see that name and hopefully remember me and work to be a better person and player like I did," Dawson said.

Three-year varsity starter Jak-

son LaHue earned the Outstanding Offensive Lineman of the Year Award.

"He was our leader on and off the field, and we just wish him the best at Mississippi State," said coach Tanner Street.

Three players shared the Special Teams Player of the Year Award — Caleb Balderas, Jordan Laxamana and Isaiah Fuller.

Prolific passer Chris Lee earned the Offensive Player of the Year Award. Offensive coordinator Chad Jones rattled off a long list of school records set by Lee, who played quarterback with an injured ankle for much of the season. Some of those records included most touchdown passes in a game, season and career.

One of the longest and loudest applause responses went to Barrett Gilbreath after he was announced as the Defensive Player of the Year. He was handed the award by defensive coordinator Cody Gilbert, who described Gilbreath as a tireless worker.

"You always want your best players to be your hardest workers because those guys are always the leaders that the other guys will look to," Gilbert said.

Coach Jason Vines presented the Fighting Heart Award to Kaden Taylor.

"He is going to attack his future just like he does football, and that is going to equal 100% success," Vines said of Taylor. "I hope my kids have the same work ethic."

The final award — Most Valuable Player — went to Bernock Iya, a raw player lacking field experience when he joined the high school team.

"If you would have told me this kid would have been our most valuable player three or four years ago, I would have told you that you were crazy," Dorris said. "But he was — 100%. He played offense. He played defense. He played on special teams. He played more than any player on the football field for us this year. That's because he was a playmaker. I'm extremely proud of the growth that he has had over the last four years from someone who didn't even play football in seventh and eighth grade to be the MVP of our team this year."

Iya was "really, really happy" to receive the award, even though it was unexpected, he said. He thought he might win a defensive honor but hadn't anticipated the big one that is presented as the final award of the event.

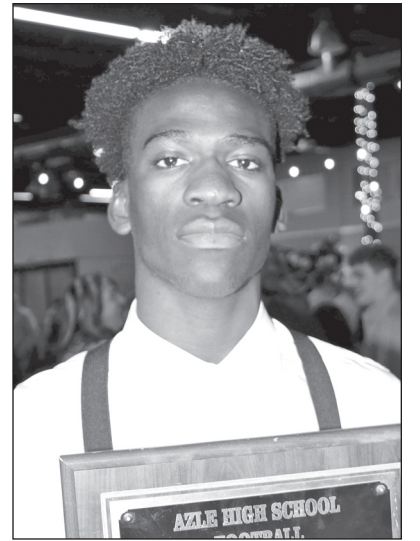
"It really feels good right now," he said. "Thank you to the coaches that nominated me. I'm very honored and blessed to receive this award."



Barrett Gilbreath was named Defensive Player of the Year.



Rowdy Dawson's name will forevermore be etched onto the Outstanding Defensive Lineman of the Year plaque.



Bernock Iya earned the team MVP honor.

Photos by Jeff Prince



Head coach Devon Dorris, left, poses with Zack Barrett, Anthony Garces and Conner Bennett, from left, who shared the inaugural Jack Schwantz Servant Leadership Award.



A memorial display to honor fallen teammate Jack Schwantz will hang in the Hornet fieldhouse.



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or 817-220-7217

TRI-COUNTY Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Electric Cooperative, Inc.
"A Commitment to Service and Savings"

Actively Supporting our Communities!

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PROPANE 140 W. MAIN ST.
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"In business since 1946"

White's Funeral Homes
Our family serving your family since 1908

Bob White, Anita White and Zack Bellenger

Full Service Funeral Home
Cremation Services
Pre-Need Plans

Azle • Springtown
Mineral Wells • Weatherford
817-444-3211 • www.whitesfuneral.com

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45 Years of Quality

ISO 9001:2001 Compliant Phone 817-444-2533
Check us out on our web site B.J. Clark
www.clarksmachine.com bjc@clarksmachine.com

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Call Johnna to reserve this space.

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TRI-COUNTY Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Electric Cooperative, Inc.
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Call Johnna for details TODAY
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Advertise Your Business With Us
and maximise your visibility!

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



CLASSIFIED

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

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

Ad Classifications

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

RATES

16 Words or Less:

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

Nobody does it better!

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

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

037 Hay -Large bales Coastal hay. Poolville- Springtown, \$50. Mike 817-925-3673.

039 Help Wanted Springtown ISD Child Nutrition is now accepting applications for full-time and substitute positions. Please apply online at www.springtownisd.net and contact the Child Nutrition Department at 817-220-2460. Thank you, Kim Nash Child Nutrition Director Springtown ISD 817-220-2460

039 Help Wanted

KARL KLEMENT

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

Body Shop Technician Commission. Must have experience.

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

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

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

KLEMENT Jeep

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

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

Klement Distribution, Inc. (Hershey Ice Cream Distributor)

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

Karl Klement Properties, Inc.

Motorcycle Restoration Tech Restoring Bultacos. Full or Part time hours available. Maintenance Helpers Show us you have what it takes! On the spot job offers. No experience required.

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

New Correctional Officer Pay is \$15.00 per hour.

Please check the website for Job Qualifications. Must have HS Diploma or equivalent, be able to pass a drug screen, have a clean background and valid driver's license to be considered for a Correctional Officer. Equal Opportunity Employer Apply online at www.mtctrains.com or call 940-567-2272 and ask for the HR Department. LINDSEY STATE JAIL

Help Wanted Continued on next page

008 Autos, Trucks 1994 Jaguar XJS convertible, 2 plus 2, 6.0 Liter, fully refurbished, \$20,000. Has wire & honeycomb rims with spare parts. 817-677-3149.

030 Firewood LEON'S TREE SERVICE. Split Oak and Pecan wood. Pickup or delivery. 817-371-8597.

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

032 For Sale John Deere D-110 ridding lawn mower. -- Good Engine and Mower Deck. -- Transmission is out. As is - \$250.00. Call 817-444-3537 or 817-296-9286

039 Help Wanted Local Builder/Developer looking for experienced Help. Must have a valid driver's license. Knowing how to operate machinery, being mechanically inclined and have carpentry skills are a plus. Send resumes to: tommymileshomes@yahoo.com.

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

034 Garage & Estate Sales Ninja's Estate Sales. 20 of years experience, have pictures of sale's before and after setting it up, call 817-255-0309 Have different options, call for prices.

Local Pool Company is hiring a Pool Technician/Helper. Pay is depending on experience and skills. Call 817-613-8253.

Concrete Services, Patios, Driveways, Sidewalks, Retaining Walls, Foundations, Stone Walls. Free Estimates. 817-371-8597.

House/Workshop Tottal Liquidation. 171 Meadowbrook Ct. Springtown. Friday 9am-5pm, Saturday 9am-4pm.

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

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

Inside Yard Sale 161 Private Rd. 3797 All funds to cancer patient Curtis Cook. Prices donation except for some new items. Thursday January 27th through Thursday February 3rd. 817-353-1503.

MOTEL 6. Help wanted for full-time Housekeeping. 817-270-4207.

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

When you support small business, you're supporting a dream WE THANK YOU AW SPECIALTIES AZLE RESALE SHOP 612 PROFIT ST. AZLE TX Hrs Tues-Fri 10 am - 5 pm Sat 10 am - 3 pm

Full-time Office Help needed M-F at local house and building moving company. Must be computer literate and have good customer service background. Highway over-sized load permitting experience is a plus. No felonies and must have transportation. Apply at Just Right House Movers, LLC, 14400 FM 730 N., Azle. 817-444-6516.

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

035 Garden/Mowing Service WISE OUTDOOR SOLUTIONS. Fall Clean ups, Underbrush Removal, Tree Trimming, Stump Removal, Animal Burials, Tractor Work. 940-399-9616.

MAINSTREAM (group home for adults with developmental disabilities) is hiring part-time Direct Contact Staff for 17-hour weekday shifts (2nd & 3rd shifts) or 24-hour weekend shifts. Paid training, starting pay is \$7.75 hourly. Good potential for full-time employment. Call 817-270-2747, Monday-Friday, 9A-3P.

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

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

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

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

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

Make Advertising Work for You! Springtown 817.220.7217 Azle 817.270.3340

Advertising Works!

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

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

NOW HIRING FOR ALL POSITIONS Dishwasher Line Cooks Servers Competitive Pay • Apply in Person 301 Martin Ave, Springtown

Need residenantial electritian, 817-939-0102.

Now hiring operator for Water Well Rig, \$200 a day cash. No CDL required 940-229-1045 940-229-1046.

New Job Opening at Capernaum Studios - "Rentals Coordinator" -Full-time on-site at the studios -Must be able to: give tours, scheduling, contract writing, payment collection, attention to detail and more -High level communication required and team player a must! -Capernaum Studios is a non-profit ministry, see website If interested please send your resume, cover letter of why you are interested and references to careers@tammylaneproductions.com

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

Deadline:
 4:30 PM Monday

Classifieds

039 Help Wanted

Come Be a Part of TTI

***** Now Hiring For Full-Time Warehouse *****

- Pay Rates \$15.25+ per hour
- Openings on 1st & 2nd Shift
- Pay rates & hours listed on job posting
- Distribution center is located at Beach St & Meacham Blvd in Fort Worth

- Salary Reviews @ 90 and 360 days
- Great Benefit Package
- Shift Premium for 2nd shift
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Air-Conditioned Warehouse!
- On-Site Gym

Apply Today @ www.tti.com/careers

Application must be made for each position that interests you!

• Background/Drug Screen Required • HS Diploma or GED Required

052 Movers

U.S. Army Retired-but not tired!
 Careful moving-Cheap.
 Call Big Jim @ 817-237-5151.

057 Pets/Livestock

Will pay top dollar for grazing and hay leases. Call 940-389-1936.

Beefmaster Bulls, vergin and experienced 817-988-7557

066 Roofing

DIAMOND ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION

Commercial & Residential

- Roofing
- Metal Roofing
- Carports
- Metal Buildings
- All General Contracting

417 N. MAIN ST • SPRINGTOWN
817-523-4137
 Here Before The Storm. Here Long After.

084 Mobile Homes For Rent

RV for rent \$600mo \$200 dep
 817-996-0530

1801 CORAL RD
 2-1 \$765 MO. \$400 DEP.
 1525 PARTRIDGE
 2-1 \$625 MO. \$400 DEP.
 Gene Thompson & Associates
 817-246-4646 gtax.com

People and Parts

The Foundation Upon Which Our Company is Built

Facilities Assistant II
 Monday - Friday

7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. pays \$15.25 per hour
 3:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. pays \$15.90 per hour (with shift prem)

The Facilities Assistant II is accountable for maintaining a clean warehouse environment, ensuring warehouse materials are appropriately recycled, and for maintaining clean grounds. Position may assist with routine maintenance functions and provide assistance/support to more senior facilities staff.

Apply Today! Check out www.tti.com/careers for specifics.

Background/Drug Screen Required • HS Diploma or GED Required • Valid Texas Driver's License w/ Safe Driving Record Required

HORSE SALE
 February 4, 2022

Tack Sale Begins at 6:00PM
 Horses Follow
 Stephenville Cattle Co.
 Highway 281 North • Stephenville, TX
 Troy 254-967-1950; Barn 254-968-4844

068 Storage

INNERSPACE STORAGE. Hwy 199, Springtown. Now renting all unit sizes, 24-hour access. 817-677-4050.

STORAGE UNITS

1350 Liberty School Rd
 5x10 Units \$40/Mo.
 10x10 Units \$75/mo.
817-246-4646

Advertising Works!

086 Mobile Home/RV Lots

Beautiful RV Spots available in nice, quiet area near Eagle Mountain Lake. \$350/mo. Call for more information 817-228-2414.

POJO RV PARK

302 Allison Road
 Springtown, TX 76082
817-925-3673
30x60 RV Spaces \$380/mo.
 Includes electricity, water, sewer, & trash
 Near Pojo Stadium

088 Rent Unfurnished

2021 Home in Azle. 3BR, 2BA, 2-Car Carport with attached 10x20 Storage. \$1,600/mo. \$1,600 deposit, Credit/Background Check, No Pets. Available March 1st. 817-980-3066.

Come Be a Part of TTI

Now Hiring Janitorial Assistants

7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Monday - Friday
 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Monday - Friday

Starting wage is \$14.00 per hour with a pay increase at 90 and 360 Days!

Located at our corporate facility, these positions are accountable for providing janitorial type services such as cleaning and restocking supplies in bathrooms, breakrooms, conference rooms, and kitchen areas.

Benefits include Medical, Dental, Vision, Life Insurance, 401k, Vacation, PTO, and Education Assistance!

Apply Today! Check out www.tti.com/careers for specifics.

Background/Drug Screen Required • HS Diploma or GED Required • Valid Texas Driver's License w/ Safe Driving Record Required

062 Plumbing

GRAHAM PLUMBING CO.

Commercial-Residential
 Serving Springtown,
 Azle, Boyd,
 Weatherford Area
 M#15899
817-220-2469
grahamplumbingco.com

Ash Creek Storage

Convenient Location
 Corner of Main St. & Locust • Azle
817-444-3292

3-2 Duplex for Rent in Springtown. \$1,200/mo. \$600 deposit, no pets. Available Feb 1st 817-980-3066.

3-2 brick house in Azle. \$1,400/mo. \$1,400 deposit, no pets. 817-980-3066.

1-1 No pets, non-smoker, 817-296-6169

HVAC TECHNICIANS & INSTALLERS

Come Join the Quality Team at

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

PLUMBING by RICHARD
 RESIDENTIAL REPAIRS

Water Heaters • Faucets • Slab Leaks
 Drains Cleaned • 46 Years Experience

Credit Cards Accepted
 Serving Azle
817-907-0472

069 Sand/Gravel

HALL'S SAND, DIRT & GRAVEL

Quality Family Business Since 1938

CALL Cliff Hall
(817) 221-2681

We go the extra mile to ensure you get more for your \$.
 On House Pads, Driveways, Lot Clearing & Tractor Work, Etc.

079 Welding

owner Rodney Vick
 817-220-3044
 fax 817-523-7639
 cell 817-253-1614

R & E Construction

Metal Building Specialist

- Weld Ups/ Bolt Ups
- Pipe Fencing
- Concrete
- Horse Barns
- All Types Fencing
- Metal Roofs

Compare Pricing
NO JOB TOO SMALL

Small Studio Apartment \$600/mo \$600/deposit. Deposite negotiable, no pets. 817-545-7145

Small Studio Apartment \$600/mo \$600/dep, no pets, dep negotiable 817-545-7145

Two large rooms for rent with private bathroom, private entrance, kitchen accessible, w/d accessible. \$900 mo all bills payed, gated with electronic openers. 5001 Boat Club Rd. Fort Worth 336-981-4143 move in on the 1st.

1912 CORAL RD 2-1 \$1125 MO. \$400 DEP. Gene Thomppson & Associates 817-246-4646

2-1 house, just refurbished, shaded yard, close to shopping, restaurants and Hwy 199. \$1,300/mo. 817-444-3636.

3-2 Duplex, just refurbished, quiet area, no pets, close to shopping \$1300/mo. 817-444-3636

GENE THOMPSON & ASSOCIATES
 HOMES and MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT
 gtax.com
817-246-4646

AZLE OAKS APARTMENT
 700 JARVIS • AZLE
817-444-1712

1 & 2 Bedroom Unfurnished
 Accepting Applications
 Rent based on income
 TDD: 800-735-2989
 This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD tollfree at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

Wise Ready Mix

Now Hiring Class B-CDL Mixer Drivers

- Production & Safety
- Bonuses Paid Monthly
- Employer Matching Retirement Plan Available

Apply in person at
 1349 NW Parkway • Azle

040 Home Improvement

Kevin's Handyman Services

40 Years Experience

- Carpentry
- Drywall & Painting
- Tile & Laminate Floors
- Doors & Windows
- Decks & Stairs
- Cabinets & Countertops
- No Job Too Small

Springtown and Surrounding Areas
231-445-1221

LANDERS Plumbing Co.

Plumbing Repairs
 Drains Cleaned

817-444-3054
940-233-2862
 Don Landers • M-10078

078 Well Drilling

Need a quality water well at a fair price? Also, pump sales and installation. KELVIN'S PUMP & WELL SERVICE. 817-221-4300.

066 Roofing

AT HOME ROOFING & METAL BUILDINGS

817-304-4224

Tired of always replacing your roof?
 Call us for a metal roof quote.
We'll be here after the storm.

079 Welding

Our Business is Metal Buildings - And We're Good!

DESIGN FABRICATION ERECTION

Cozart METAL BUILDING SYSTEMS

Fabrication and erection of quality metal buildings at reasonable prices, any size - any design

Office **817-237-2282**
 Fax 817-237-0904
 Mark Cozart Jeremy Cozart
 817-233-6668 817-237-2028

081 Business/Commercial

NOW AVAILABLE: Commercial Storefront/Office Space For Lease. \$1,100/mo. Call Donna Bransom 817-925-8281.

40x50 building For Rent, 3 miles west of Springtown. 817-713-7495.

FOR LEASE: 3 acres, gravel lot with water and electric, 1 mile east of Springtown, easy access to Hwy 199 (outside city limits). 817-657-5682.

FOR LEASE: 291 Morrow Road, Springtown. 2,200 sf building, east of Springtown with easy access to Hwy 199. 817-657-5682.

PARKWAY CENTER
 Hwy 199 Frontage
 Near Hospital
 1161 SE Pkwy Azle 1700 SF \$1000/mo,
 1169 SE Pkwy Azle 930SF \$750/mo
817-220-2021

040 Home Improvement

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

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

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

Sanders Painting, Interior/Exterior Painting, Drywall Repairs, Powerwashing, Odd jobs. Free Estimates 817-565-8864

Handyman Services, All types of handyman work, Azle, Springtown Area. Call Mike 817-983-8781

Mr. Sweeps

Chimney Cleaning Service

Keep your home safe.
 Call Parker/Wise County's oldest chimney sweeping company, Mr. Sweeps.

817-692-5624
 ask for Doug
www.mrsweepschimneycleaning.com

Special: \$170
 Chimney & Dryer Vent Cleaning

TKO Services

Soft Wash House Wash

Eve's Roofs and Shingles
 Bricks Decks Concrete Cleaning
 Swimming Pool Area Rock Sidewalk Driveway

817-550-3745

046 Looking to Buy

Local Man Buying Used or Damaged Campers, Motorhomes, Farm Equipment, Trucks and Trailers, Boats, Golf Carts and ATVs. 817-629-7531.

066 Roofing

Miles Roofing

- Insurance Claim Specialists;
- Free Estimates

817-797-3420

Silva Masonry, L.L.C.
 AZLE, TX

CONCRETE
 COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL

Landscape Designs, Outdoor Kitchens
 Patios, Retaining Walls, Mailboxes

All Types Stone & Brick Work Free
 New Construction • Remodels Estimates

817-308-6512
 email alvarogsilva@verizon.net

PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE:
azlenews.net
springtown-epigraph.net

OVER THE PHONE:
 817-270-3340
 817-220-7217
 or EMAIL:
classified@azlenews.net

WDC
 WELD-DONE CONSTRUCTION LTD.

Metal Building Erectors

- Pre-engineered Weld-up
- Barns/Shops
- Arenas/Hangars
- Fencing

1220 E. Hwy. 199 • Springtown
817-220-2150
www.weld-done.net

SOLID STEEL SOLUTIONS

- Metal Buildings
- Steel Components
- Welding Supplies
- Concrete Supplies
- Fabrication Supplies
- Pipe Fencing
- Deer Blinds
- Deer Feeders

8894 W Hwy 199 • Springtown
817-220-0008
www.SolidSS.com **Open to the Public**

082 RV's for Rent

Nice 1BR RV in adult RV park. Great for older person on limited income. Starts at \$550/mo. All Bills Paid. Heritage RV Park 817-444-3760.

084 Mobile Homes for Rent

Large 3-2 DW, very nice, fenced yard, CH/A, \$1,700/mo. with approved application. 817-228-2414.

1BR 1BA mobile home in Briar, 1 year lease, \$650/mo. \$500 deposit, no pets. 940-390-1164.

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

Deadline:
 4:30 PM Monday

Classifieds

088 Rent Unfurnished

Cross Companies Residential Properties

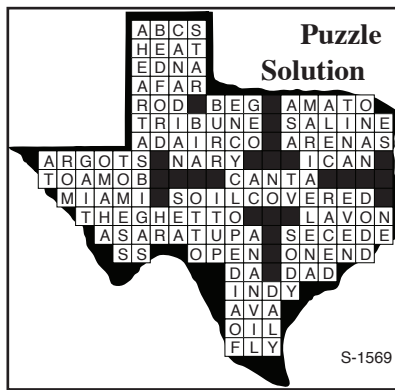
Family-owned, family-run

STEWART BEND | **SILVER CREEK** | **RV PARK**
 DUPLEX HOMES

Stewart Bend Duplex Homes: 2 & 3 bedroom units available at \$1,075 & \$1,175. Quiet, clean, non-smoking. CALL or TEXT 817-404-7143.

Silver Creek RV Park: Designed for local long-term stays. Best common building in Azle, secluded and quiet, city water/sewer. \$450 with \$75 electricity allotment; ABP in winter. CALL or TEXT 682-499-8616 or email scrvooffice@gmail.com.

Barton Cottages Tiny Home Community: COMING FALL 2021! Email sales.stewartbend@gmail.com for information.



Check out our Home Improvement Section in the Classifieds for a Painter or Handyman.



SUBSCRIPTION SPECIAL

Check one:
 \$40.00 IN-COUNTY Tarrant, Parker & Wise only
 \$36.50 SENIOR CITIZEN 60 years and older Tarrant, Parker & Wise only
 \$25.00 ONLINE ONLY View an online replica of the paper without receiving a printed copy

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 County _____ Daytime ph. _____

Circle one and Clip and mail with check:

The **Azle News** or **Springtown Epigraph**
 321 W. Main Street Azle, Texas 76020 P.O. Box 557 Springtown, Texas 76082

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK

TexSCAN

LOG HOMES
TexSCAN Week of Jan. 23-29, 2022

ACREAGE

Hunting/investment/recreational property. Starting at \$650/acre. Trans Pecos region. Also the Hill Country (Edwards, Menard, Coke, Val Verde Counties - free ranging exotics), South Texas (Duval County - whitetail, hogs). Large or small acreage. 30-year fixed rate owner financing, only 5% down. Call toll-free or email for individual prices and terms. www.ranchenterprisesltd.com, 800-876-9720.

ADOPTION

Sunlit California nursery awaits newborn. Loving family promises secure future, devoted grandparents, education, gentle pet. Generous living expenses. Contact Amanda 650-785-9819 or attorney 310-663-3467.

AUCTION

37th Annual DeWitt County All Breeds Bull & Female Sale - Sat., Jan. 29, Cuero Livestock Commission Co. Bulls sell at 11 a.m., Females sell immediately following. Sponsored by the DeWitt County Purebred Breeders Assoc. and the DeWitt County Beef and Forage Committee. For more information: Anthony Netardus, 361-275-0816. Online cattle sale viewing and bidding: cattleinmotion.com.

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ACROSS

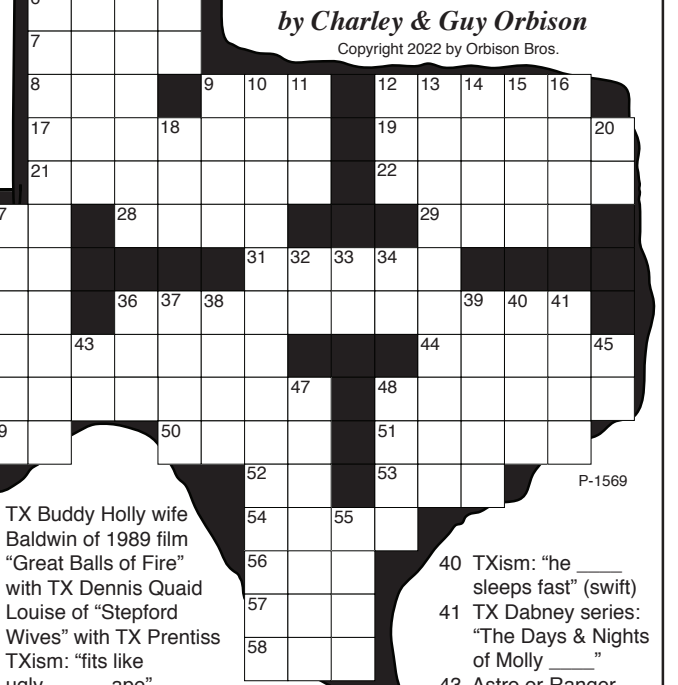
- 1 kindergarten lesson
- 5 TX summer reality
- 6 Jackson County seat
- 7 TXism: "panhandle"
- 8 and reel
- 9 TXism: "panhandle"
- 12 NY Senator Alfonse D' had to pay off on 1993 Super bet with TX Gramm
- 17 Morton newspaper
- 19 Grand, TX
- 21 former TX oilwell firefighting business: "Red"
- 22 American Airlines Center, AT&T Center, and Toyota Center
- 23 jargons
- 28 TXism: "a soul" (no one)
- 29 TXism: "enjoyed all this stand"
- 30 TXism: "begging like a cattle rustler with a rope"
- 31 delicious Pecos loupe
- 35 Roberts County seat buried? (2 wds.)
- 42 TX Mac Davis wrote Elvis' hit "In"
- 44 noted TX pianist Harvey "Van" Cliburn
- 46 TXism: "fast rafter"
- 48 TX voted to from the Union on February 1, 1861

DOWN

- 1 TXism: "got Texas" (kind)
- 2 Fort Worth suburb
- 3 seat of Hemphill County
- 4 Lone State
- 9 TXism: "got a under his saddle"
- 10 TX Al Carrell book: "The Super Handyman's Home Repair"
- 11 pint-sized Chevy (1989-97)
- 12 TXism: "hot Cadillac bumper"
- 13 TX Buddy Holly wife
- 14 Baldwin of 1989 film "Great Balls of Fire" with TX Dennis Quaid
- 15 Louise of "Stepford Wives" with TX Prentiss
- 16 TXism: "fits like ugly ape"
- 18 fed. Indian agcy.
- 20 Mexican "is"
- 23 TXism: "chompin' the bit" (eager)
- 24 type of computer memory (abbr.)
- 25 horse movement
- 26 TX town or NE city
- 27 TXism: "a good man not with" (mean)
- 32 car cooler (abbr.)
- 33 TXism: "dice"
- 34 TXism: "boob tube"
- 36 Rim State Park
- 37 this Premiering directed TX Prentiss in "In Harm's Way"
- 38 TXism: "lapped (believed)"
- 39 TX A.J. Foyt did it
- 40 TXism: "he sleeps fast" (swift)
- 41 TX Dabney series: "The Days & Nights of Molly"
- 43 Astro or Ranger four-bagger (abbr.)
- 45 dir. to Elgin from Hays
- 47 TXism: "strong enough to float (coffee)"
- 48 TXism: "water" (soft drink)
- 55 this Tim starred with TX Crystal Bernard on "Wings"

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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