

YOUR TRUSTED LOCAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1966

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Rick White, Director

Experience, knowledge key for director's job

BY DON MUNSCH editor@azlenews.net

Rick White possesses a wealth of knowledge in his job with the city of Azle. The knowledge base helps

in myriad ways. White serves as the direc-

29 years, beginning with during his time in the Air the wastewater department Force. He left the Air Force and working his way up in in 1992 and started with the public services. He began city in 1993. as director of his department around a decade ago.

Originally from Eliza- In the Air Force, he was bethtown, Kentucky, White a heavy equipment operaserved in the Air Force and tor, and he has done heavy

"I've done about every job

in the city," he said.

WORKING IN AZLE:

Rick White. Director of Public Services

EDITOR'S NOTE: First in an ongoing series of stories about the jobs of people in the community, from those who work in the public sector - city and schools, for example - to those employed in the private sector. The stories seek to explore various careers and what education and experience they require, as well as reveal what a typical day is like in the job, and what people love most about their jobs.

of Public Services

Photo by Jim Stevens

tor of public services. He worked at Carswell. He met has been with the city for his wife, who is from Azle,

SEE WORKING, PAGE 2A

Azle Animal Shelter 'will always need help' from community

BY JESSICA MCKINNEY azlereporter@azlenews.net

over 30 days. "We were fortunate to

It's been seven months since the Azle Animal Shel-(AASHA) disbanded, but that hasn't slowed things down for the shelter staff.

"Most shelters are unusually full this time of year and ours was no exception," said Jessie Williams, for the city.

"Strays and owner surmajor holidays, while adoptions tend to slow down."

had several cats and dogs that had been there for well

partner up with the Humane Society of North Texas and the Fort Worth shelter and

ter Humane Association transferred all of our longest residents to the 'Mega Adoption Event' that occurred right before the holidays," Williams said.

"We sent over a total of 24 pets to the event, and every single one of them animal control supervisor found a new home," Williams said.

With those animals findrenders run high after most ing new homes, the Azle shelter was able to open up kennel space to help a Williams said that in neighboring shelter that early December, the shelter was at their maximum ca-

SEE **SHELTER**, PAGE 11A.



mammary mass checked for cancer. The estimated cost is between \$540-\$675, so the shelter is asking the community to help raise the money needed for Coco's biopsy. Any additional money raised will be put into the shelter's fund. Courtesy photo

Providing a 'future of hope and healing' for abuse survivors

BY JESSICA McKINNEY azlereporter@azlenews.net

One of the first questions people ask about domestic violence victims is, "Why did they stay?" The list is long pertaining to why vic-

tims don't leave, and one of the top reasons is that oftentimes the victim is financially dependent on their abuser. Future Hope and Healing Center in Azle has made its

SEE FHHC, PAGE 4A.

Blood centers facing critical need

BY DON MUNSCH editor@azlenews.net

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected life in many ways, from schools to busientities people may not immediately think about.

Blood centers, for example, have struggled. The

pandemic has triggered a shortage of blood donations since COVID's presence became a part of everyone's lives about two years ago.

The American Red Cross nesses to hospitals to other sounded the alarm last week, with officials saying the Red Cross is facing a national

SEE **BLOOD**, PAGE 3A.



WORKING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

equipment work with the city, installing sewer taps and working in the sewer plant.

"I progressed from there," he said.

In addition to working as an operator, White has been maintenance foreman, wastewater superintendent, utility manager and now public services director. In 2011, he received his Certified Public Manager's certification from Texas State University. Larger cities require college education for his kind of job, but they also look at experience, he said.

As public services director, White oversees the wa- the public services director applicants. ter plant, sewer plant, utility maintenance department, street department, parks de- Azle, we've got maps and partment and vehicle maintenance. The job requires White to be mindful of rules and regulations from Environmental Protection Agency, the federal government and Texas Commission on streets, drainage, water, sew-Environmental Quality and er. The drainage not so much to keep track of water plant, wastewater plant and stormwater permits.

"I review a lot of plans," he said, noting the new sub- to it." divisions being built here and any infrastructure for each department to ensure said. "I'm always working new businesses. He also everything runs smoothly. works with the public, such as homeowners, and other group of people I work state and feds right now. The cities.

good calendar," he said think." about his managing his job's demands. "You've got to be ment has 34 employees, and able to keep track of what's going on. Plus, you've got in the utility maintenance something new popping up. first and third Tuesday council meetings every month."

knowledge one has in the people, he said, and it's not ways a new issue or a new public services, the better because the city is picky, it's development to review."



Rick White at his desk.

position.

different things like that, but I've been doing this for so long here, it's all in my head," he said. "I've got a reviewed, and we have to do vast knowledge of the system here in Azle – the roads, - that's a new thing for me. I started dealing with streets when I became public services director. There's a lot

there are current openings to get out. There's always department, street depart- Somebody's always got a ment and water department. question that somebody's The more experience and It's been a struggle to hire never heard of. There's aloff one would be to handle because the city isn't getting

Photo by Don Munsch

White said the most sig-'My experience here in nificant challenge the city faces now is the number of developments coming to town.

> "We're trying to get them the inspections on those," he said. "There's a lot to do with those things and it ties up a lot of our time."

> There's no typical day in his work, and White likes that aspect of his job.

"There's always something new coming up, there's He works with heads of always a new challenge," he on certain things. I've got a "I've got a really good wastewater permit out to the with," he said. "I couldn't first of the year is when a lot "You've got to have a ask for any better, I don't of our reports are due to the state and the feds. The wa-The public services depart- ter plant superintendent has got several reports he has

Azle Area Chamber of Commerce going-away reception



Top: Shelia Pippins, center, chats with Marsha Hardin, left, and Sally Brace at an Azle Area Chamber of Commerce going-away reception Jan. 13 for Shelia and Rick Pippins. Shelia is the former executive director of the chamber, while Rick is the former Azle Police Department chief. The reception was co-sponsored by the Azle Area Ministerial Alliance and Azle Area Chamber of Commerce.

Bottom: Rick Pippins, center, talks with Donna, left, and Mitch Bakouris at the Azle Area Chamber of Commerce going-away reception Jan. 13 for Shelia and Rick Pippins. Photos by Don Munsch

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protecting innocent life, and making the largest investment in border security in the history of Texas. But let's not stop here. I would be honored to receive your vote in the upcoming Republican Primary. Thank you and God bless Texas!"



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Congressman Roger Williams



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Parker County Commissioner Larry Walden











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BLOOD CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

blood crisis – its worst blood focused on making an ap- that appears to be sufficient ID-19 cannot be transmitted email at bookablooddrive@ shortage in over a decade, which officials said poses said. a concerning risk to patient care. The Red Cross has experienced a 10% decline in the number of people donating blood since the beginning of the pandemic and continues to confront "relentless issues due to the pandemic, including ongoing blood drive cancellations and staffing limitations," a Red Cross news release stated.

"Adding to the concern is the surge of COVID-19 cases," the release stated. "The Red Cross has experienced low donor turnout ever since the delta variant began spreading in August, and that us. We know our hospitals Carter BloodCare before." trend continues as the Omi- are challenged right now." cron variant takes over."

And the problem is not just happening at the Red Cross.

"It's interesting because the crisis has really persisted since the pandemic began," said Linda Goelzer, public relations director for Carter BloodCare, who is based in Bedford, regarding how her business has dealt with the drop in donations. "Critical condition in the blood supply means that the blood center, like Carter BloodCare, is unable to keep pace with the activity of hospitals ordering blood for their patients."

Reasons for the drop in donations have evolved since the pandemic started, Goelzer said. Initially, some people were afraid to get out because of the lack of knowledge about the virus, but now that there's more knowledge, people are getting out more. Still, she emphasized, even if people are not ill, there are many reasons why people's schedules are being disrupted. It can be ed, she said. a challenge for people to get

pointment to give blood, she at this time - mainly, it's by blood, she said, adding carterbloodcare.org.

say that for those who are both positive and negative," eligible and available to give she said, adding they are at blood, they should take time a healthy level of being in to give blood. Giving blood stock but "those things can is an extraordinary gesture change quickly," dependthat an ordinary person can ing on what kind of patients do to save lives, she said.

"We want people to know need. that this is something we as a community can tackle together," she said. "Blood doesn't belong to Carter BloodCare. The blood we collect does not belong to us; it belongs to the community

looks at data internally to blood supply for each individual blood type.

blood supply that has not they have symptoms. reached pre-pandemic levels, one has to consider the surge in COVID, the winter flu and cold-matters that are affecting everyone else we can't manufacture it or in the community, she said.

"So, when you put that on top of everything, that makes it critical in every single and do it - we have to donate blood type," she said. "We are now at the point where we can get blood." we're really only meeting a need of what we would call a nate blood after having had half-day supply. We're lim- COVID if they wait 14 days iting orders from our hospitals. Hospitals are calling Goelzer said. with urgent needs and we're what they need. It's a very lives are in jeopardy."

All blood types are need-

because it's the type that that there's no evidence of But Goelzer is quick to fewer people have – is AB, come in and how much they

"We're just urging people (to give), especially those who know they're eligible but they've never done it before," he said. "This is the time when we can really use the help from new blood donors and the health care facilities – people who've never tried that are taking care of all of it before, never donated with

She said new donors can She said when Carter help add to the people al-BloodCare goes on criti- ready donating because cal appeal, the blood center Carter BloodCare doesn't know whether some of its see what the level is for the regular donors might be sick, taking care of someone who is sick or are in quaran-Plus, for the unstable tine, regardless of whether those interested can send an

> "It's just a real challenging time for everyone and this is one of those circumstances where blood is essential, yet get it from a lab," she said. "The only way to resolve the situation is for us to step up because that's the only place

People are eligible to dopast their last symptoms,

"And it doesn't matter having to link them up with if someone is vaccinated other hospitals to try to find or not - we don't test for that," she said, adding that challenging situation and "it doesn't matter to the patient and there is no way for us to be able to tell" whether a donation is vaccinated or "The only blood type unvaccinated blood. COV- save up to three lives.

nation is that a person feels well and healthy on the day

of donation. Thus, if a person has sniffles or some posdonate.

are using various communication channels – such as emails or social media – to spread the word about the Carter BloodCare, call or need for donations. Info can text 1-800-366-2834. Carter be found on the blood cen- BloodCare covers nearly 60 ter's website, including a digital tool kit outlining the about 200 medical facilities. critical and non-critical need ties to host blood drives, and CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Eligibility requirements that circumstance and that can be found online, and these kind of viruses are not prospective donors may anspread through blood. One swer the medical questionrequirement for blood do- naire online or by phone with an app. That questionnaire must be completed on the day of the donation.

The blood center has more sible indication of a cold, for than 20 donation centers instance, he or she cannot throughout the greater Dallas-Fort Worth area. Those Carter BloodCare officials centers also can be found online.

> For more information on making an appointment with counties and supplies blood to

To make an appointment that exists. Even if people to give blood or platelets as are not eligible to donate soon as possible by using blood, there are ways to get the Red Cross Blood Donor involved. The blood center App, visit RedCrossBlood. also actively looks for enti- org or call 1-800-RED

UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVES

Azle Elementary School Thursday, Jan. 27, 2022 8:30 am – 4 p.m. 1200 Lakeview Drive

Azle Ministerial Alliance

Monday, Feb. 7, 2022 3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. **First United Methodist** Church of Azle 200 Church St.

City of Springtown

Friday, Feb. 11, 2022 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. City Hall Annex 200 North Main Street, Springtown

Holy Trinity Catholic Church - Azle Sunday, Feb. 20, 2022 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. St. Francis Hall 800 High Crest Drive



Tiffany Shaw donated blood on Monday, April 6 2020, at the Azle Ministerial Alliance Blood drive hosted by Future, Hope and Healing Center at First United Methodist Church. Each pint of blood donated can File photo





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	Favorite Tax Consultant/CPA/ Financial Advisor
🗌 El Paso	Edward Jones - Leon Williams
🗌 El Gran Torito's	Reliable Year-Round Tax Services
Favorite Non-Profit Organization	🗌 Azle Bookkeeping - Amanda Clay
🗌 Azle Area Ministerial Alliance	Favorite City Employee
🗌 Azle Optimist Club	Jason Castro - Police Department
Community Caring Center	Clinton Kierych - Fire Department
Favorite Azle ISD Employee Kelly Whitehead - Silver Creek Elementary Nurse	 Stephanie Koch-Bartley Utility Billing
and Azle ISD Lead Nurse	Favorite Builder Home/Commercial
Amy Estes - Azle HS Teacher and Coach	Probuild Construction
Ernest Johnson - Director of Maintenance	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

FHHC, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

mission to change that. "Our goal is that nobody returns to an abusive home because they cannot meet their family's basic needs, and to educate our community about the impact domestic abuse has in the community," said Sally Daniels,

executive director of FHHC. "We provided 182 nights in a safe place last year, either by paying rent or motel nights," Daniels said.

The organization has helped pay rent and deposits for new safe homes, provided utility assistance and waivers to electric and gas companies, and given Walmart cards to help with food, medicines and household items.

Hope's Bazaar, the resale shop that helps fund FHHC, also provides clothing, furniture, personal hygiene ior," Daniels said. products and cleaning products to clients.

"We provided gas for a victim to move to Arizona to her mom's," Daniels said. "We provided an inspection of an RV to see what needed done for the victim and her family to move into the RV."

FHHC has also set up families in motels if they have a plan in place to leave but need time to complete it.

As a nonprofit organization, FHHC relies on donations to keep going with its mission.

"Most of our funds come from private donations and corporations that match employee donations," Daniels said.

"We also receive funds from Facebook fundraisers

four to five years."

Many people in the community also hold small funteen who did a lemonade stand at her mom's garage sale last summer and donated the profits to FHHC. Customers who shop at Hope's Bazaar can also opt to round up their total to the next dolgoing to FHHC.

Daniels, a licensed professional counselor supervisor, also provides counseling to clients and has plans to add an adult support group and teen educational groups this year.

"Teen educational groups are important because abuse is normally a learned behav-

"One in three teens are affected by teen dating violence. Thirty percent of girls aged 15-19 who are murdered every year are killed by an abusive partner; young women ages 16-24 have the highest rate of violent relationships. ... If we can teach healthy relationships to teens, we can begin to lower those numbers and begin to end the generational cycle of spreading the word that we abuse."

HOW TO HELP

In addition to starting a support group and teen education program, Daniels has a goal to open an emergency shelter "so there is a place where families can flee abuse and be safe."

"One of our biggest needs

Domestic Violence Shelters/Agencies Resou	irces
National Domestic Violence Hotline	800-799-7233
Future, Hope & Healing Center, Azle	817-929-1866
Mission Granbury	844-579-6848
Safe Haven of Tarrant County	877-701-7233
Wise Hope, Bridgeport	940-626-4855
Johnson County Family Crisis Center, Cleburne	800-848-3206
Denton Friends of the Family	800-572-4031
Hope's Door, Dallas	972-422-2911
Freedom House of Parker County	817-596-8922
Hope, Inc, Mineral Wells	940-325-1306
Brighter Tomorrows, Grand Prairie	972-262-8383
The Family Place, Dallas	214-941-1991
I Can Still Shine, Hurst	817-427-1111
All Church Home, Ft Worth	817-335-4673
Battered Women's Foundation, North Richland Hills	817-284-8464

and Cristina Calk (a local is a capital campaign comloan officer) has done a fun- mittee to raise funds specifidraiser for us every year for cally for an emergency shelter," she said.

Daniels hopes to be able to raise at least half of the mondraisers, including a young ey needed to get the shelter open and running for at least one vear.

> Board members and volunteers are also needed for FHHC.

"I try to sit down with potential volunteers and find lar amount, with that money out what their vision is when they want to volunteer," Daniels said.

"I want to put potential volunteers where they feel satisfied and make a good use of their talents. We always need help sorting the donations that come into Hope's Bazaar. We need volunteers that will take on responsibility for making sure thank you notes are sent out and helping with newsletters, Facebook posts, etc.

"We will need help with the teen educational groups."

Daniels has set a personal goal to meet personally with at least three businesses in Azle weekly to "introduce FHHC to them" and find ways that they can partner together.

"Azle has been great about are here, but we need more people to understand that if you are in or know of a domestic abuse situation. We are the agency to call."

FHHC can be contacted at 817-929-1866. Hope's Bazaar Resale Shop is located at 141 W. Main St., and all sales benefit the organization.

FeLV/FIV Test \$20 Dogs

\$5 Rabies DAPPv \$10 Bordetella \$10 \$10 Lepto Lyme \$15 Canine Influenza \$20 (H3N8/H3N2) Heartworm Test \$20

Vaccines & Testing

\$5

\$10

\$10

TriHeart Plus (6 month supply) \$25-\$35 Trifexis (6 month supply) \$110 Flea/Tick Preventative (1 month) \$12 Flea/Tick Preventative (3 month) \$30 Bravecto 12 week Flea/Tick Control \$45 Home Again Microchip \$30 \$10 *Nail Trim *Pets must have a current rabies vaccination given at least 7 days before receiving a nail trim. Proof is required.

\$5

\$10-\$15

We accept Cash or Credit Card only

W Dogs must be on a leash or in a carrier

- Cats must be in a hard-sided carrier
- Heartworm prevention can only be prescribed after the pet receives a negative heartworm test administered by TCAP.

TCAP exists to end animal overpopulation and to improve community animal welfare by providing low-cost preventative services throughout North Texas. For additional information, please visit www.texasforthem.org or call 940-566-5551

Azle Memorial Library Updates

333 W Main St, Azle, TX 76020 | 817-752-2682 | www.azlelibrary.org Facebook: facebook.com/azlelibrary

Instagram: *instagram.com/azle memorial library*

Monthly Newsletter:

Did you know the library publishes a monthly newsletter with book suggetions, program announcements, fun activities and more? Pick one up in person the

News from Azle City Hall

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

Filing Period Open for Place on Azle City Council

The City of Azle will hold a General Election on May 7, 2022 for the purpose of electing three (3) council members to Places 1, 2, and 5 for a two-year term. Those interested in running for a place on the Azle City Council have from January 19 - February 18, 2022 to file for candidacy. Azle City Council members are elected at-large for two-year terms.

Also, a Special Election will be called for May 7, 2022 to submit a proposition to the Azle voters on the question of the re-authorization of the local sales and use tax under the provisions of the Texas tax code at the rate of one-quarter of one percent (1/4%) to continue providing revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal streets.

For additional information, contact Yael Forgey, City Secretary, at (817) 444-7101 or visit the city website (www.cityofazle.org).



<u>Cats</u>

Rabies

FeLV

FHCPCh

Texas Coalition for Animal Protection Low Cost Vaccine Clinics

LOCATION: Old Azle Library, 609 SE Parkway, Azle TX (Not at the Azle Animal Shelter)

No appointment necessary for vaccinations which will be given from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on these dates for 2022. First come, first serve basis.

> October 1 March 5 June 11 August 13

Wellness Services

General Dewormer (Strongid-T)

Tapeworm Dewormer (Droncit)



Mon Mozzarella Chicken Quesadilla, Turkey Ham, Turkey & Cheese Sub, Classic Pepperoni Pizza, Veggie Pizza, Chicken Fajita Baked Potato w/Biscuit, Vegtable Garden Salad w/Roll, Orange Chicken w/ Brown Rice, Country Fried Steak Potato Bowl w/Roll. Tues Grande Beefy Nachos, Breaded Chicken Patt Sandwich, Spicy Chicken Patty Sandwich, Golden Chicken Corn Dog, Turkey Ham & Cheese Jalapeno Cheddar Wrap, Delicious Cheese Pizza, Pepperoni & Jalapeno Pizza, Chicken Caesar Salad w/Crackers, Oven Baked Beef Lasagna w/ Breadstick, Teriyaki Beef & Broccoli w/Brown Rice & Egg Roll, Popcorr Chicken Potato Bowl w/Roll. Weds Seasoned Beef Quesadilla, Breaded Chicken Patty Sandwich, Spicy Chicken Patty Sandwich, Golden Chicken Corn Dog, Turkey & Cheese Jalapeno Cheddar Wrap. Pork Sausage Crumble Pizza. Classic Pepperoni Pizza. Fish Shape Nugget & Chips w/Roll. Cobb Salad w/Roll. Chi Garlic Chicken Stir Fry w/ Rice, Chicken Nugget Potato Bowl w/Roll **Thurs** Verde Chicken Enchiladas w/ Spanish Rice, Breaded Chicken Patty Sandwich, Spicy Chicken Patty Sandwich, Golden Chicken Corn Dog, Delicious Cheese Pizza, Pork Sausage Crumble Pizza, Chef Salad w/Crackers, Pulled Pork BBQ Sandwich, Beef LoMein w/Vegetables, Chicken Tender Potato Bowl w/Roll. F ri Chicken Nachos w/Spanish Rice, Veggie Ranch Wrap, Turkey Ham Hawaiian Pizza, Veggie zza, Chicken Alfredo w/Breadstick, Chicken Taco Salad, Red Thai Veggie Stir Fry w/Brown Rice, Beef Finger Potato Bowl w/Roll SPONSORED BY



next time you visit the library or read the digital version on our website.

Winter Reading:

The annual "Winter Reading Program" at the Azle Memorial Library is taking place now through 1/31/22. Everyone in the community (ages 0-100+) can participate for FREE by visiting the library and picking up a *Winter Reading* Activity Booklet that consists of reading activities that can be completed at home. Participants who complete the activities and return the booklet to the library on or before 1/31 will earn a prize, plus be entered into a drawing for additional grand prizes!

FREE In-Person Programs

All events take place in the Library Community Room, unless otherwise noted. For full details, see our monthly newsletter or visit the library website. For Kids

- LEGO Club: Third Wednesday of each month at 4:30 PM. For kids & families of all ages. LEGOS provided by the library.
- Storytime: Storytime is on hiatus in January as we await the arrival of our NEW Children's librarian. Visit the library's website in February for Storytime updates.

For Adults:

- Main Street Book Club: Third Tuesday of every month at 6 PM. Join us for a lively discussion of the month's book choice. Upcoming titles listed at azlelibrary.org or in the monthly newsletter.
- Spa Night: February 3 at 6:30 PM. Join us for an evening of relaxation as we make an assortment of spa goodies! Program is FREE to attend. No registration required. Open to adults and older teens.
- Upcycled Valentine's Card Craft: February 12 at 1:30 PM. Make one-of-akind cards using upcycled supplies for those special individuals in your life. All materials provided. Open to adults and older teens.

For All Ages:

• Star Party: February 8 at 6:30 PM. All ages are invited to explore the night sky with the Ft. Worth Astronomical Society. This event will allow participants to look at the night sky through telescopes and ask any questions! Takes place behind the library in Central Park. **Please note:** children & teens must be accompanied by an adult. Participants encouraged to bring a flashlight.

Save the Date:

- Mark your calendar for FREE Spring Break programs and activities taking place March 14-19! Look for details mid-February on the Library's website, Facebook and monthly newsletter.
- Ready, set, spell! The Adult Spelling Bee buzzes back to the Library in March! Details and team sign-up will "bee" revealed in February.

Upcoming Closures: The Library will be closed on these dates. Outside return drops and access to your account online remain available 24/7.

1/28/22- Staff Training 2/21/22- President's Day

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





Gay Lee (Casler) Dekin 1948 - 2022

Gay Lee Dekin, 73, passed away on Jan. 8, 2022, at a Fort Worth hospital.

Services were held Saturday, Jan. 15, 2022 at Azle Christian Church.

Mrs. Dekin was born in Palmer, Alaska on April 2, 1948 to the late William Arthur and Elsie May (Wilson) Casler.

She was a retired Dietary Cook at Harris Methodist Northwest in Azle. She resided in Azle, Texas

She was preceded in death by Mary Ann Casler (sister), Elsie Casler (mother), William Casler (father), Brenda Hill (niece), Brenda Dekin (daughter), Marilyn Hill (sister), Lacey Baslee (granddaughter), and Adam Morelock (grandson).

G. Dekin; sisters Glee Miller of Dade City, Florida and nieces and nephews. Joyce Fitzgibbon of Wasilla, Alaska; daughters: Mechelle



Baslee, Robin Pedigo; son Funeral Home. Burton Dekin; stepchildren Michael Dekin and Michelle der the direction of West David Michael Foster of Morelock; Brittany Snelson, Daniel Morelock, William Dekin, Sierra Baslee, Ashlyn Gon-Allison Williams, Payton on August 27, 1936, in Picksix great-grandchildren, and gomery Foster.

Don Everett Foster 1936 - 2022

Graveside services for Don Everett Foster, age 85, of Azle, Texas will be conducted at 2:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 20, 2022, at Restlawn Memorial Park with Bro. Bill Gay officiating.

Pallbearers will be Kevin Rowell, Chad Rowell, Cody Stafford, Joe Wellborn, James Randolph, and Craig Towery. Visitation will be held from 1-2 p.m., prior to service time, at West Oaks by his parents and sister,

Arrangements are ungrandchildren Oaks Funeral Home. www. westoaksfuneralhome.com

Don passed away on Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2022, at zales, Ty Pierson, Bynum Azle Manor Nursing Home Morelock, Preston Dekin, in Azle, Texas. He was born Survivors include her Dekin, Colton Dekin, Chev- ton, Texas, the son of Duron husband of 50 years, Harry enne Pedigo, Jaxton Dekin, Foster and Iva Lee Mont-

Don worked for General The Azle News, Dynamics for over 30 years Jan. 19, 2022 Edition and was also a contractor. He was preceded in death

Bobbie Sicles.

He is survived by sons, Texas, Benbrook, Dale Everett Foster and wife Beverly of Azle, Texas, sister, Jera Lewis of Dallas; grandchildren, Luke Hodges and Nathan Hodges; great-grandchildren, Corbyn, Destiny, Ciria, Lauren, Bradley, Lance, Cameron, Adriana, Blaine, Alexis and her frequent customers. Alana Hodges; and step-son, Wayne Morgan of Cleburne.

> The Azle News. Jan. 19, 2022 Edition

Mavis Voncille Pennington 1934 - 2022

Mavis Voncille Pennington went to be with her Lord and Savior on Monday Jan. 17.

Service will be held 1 pm, Friday, Jan. 21, 2022 in Biggers Funeral Chapel

A private burial will be held for the family. Visitation is from 6-8 pm, Thursday, Jan. 20, 2022 at Biggers Funeral Home

Voncille was born on Nov. 12, 1934 in Paducah, Texas to JB and Lenora Davidson. She married Johnny Raymond Pennington on March 25, 1950. They had three children: Shellie Elaine, Johnny Vonn and Pamela Sue. Voncille worked for Mitchell Department Store for 25 years. She also worked at Tiny Toms convenient store in Azle for 20 years and was loved by all of husband, Tyler, Laney and

She is preceded in death by her parents, JB and Lenora Davidson; husband, Johnny Raymond; son, Johnny Vonn; and sister, Karen Parker.



She is survived by her daughter, Shellie Pennington, daughter, Pam Dickey and husband, Bubba, grandson, Chad Geeslin and wife, April, granddaughter, Sloan Crow and husband, Justin, granddaughter Amber Oates and husband, David, grandson Bryan Pennington and wife, Maria; great-grandchildren, Bailey Cardiff and Addison Geeslin, Ellie and Gatlin Crow; and greatgreat-granddaughter, Rebel Cardiff.

> The Azle News, Jan. 19, 2022 Edition



- Wide Range of Business Forms



119 Industrial Ave, Azle 817-301-8880 JenniferStephensTaxService@gmail.com WALK-INS WELCOME!

in Fort Worth, and although she's not originally from here, she got here as soon as she could! Tim, Mel and Annie are all members of the National Association of REALTORS. Along with owner and broker Sam Berube, the team brings a high level of passion and service to each and every client.

For clients looking to sell their property, ICTR will provide a free market analysis of the property and walk you through the home-selling process. Did you know that home buyers don't pay commissions? Commissions are paid by the sellers. We will explain all of the costs associated with

care worker, teacher and first responder are eligible to receive a reward check at the end of their closing. Our average reward is \$2,800. We're happy to be serving such an amazing community!

Clients receive free comparative market analysis as well as professional photos and print and digital marketing.

ICTR has its main office in Grapevine but the Azle location has been open for a little over two years.

The Azle office is located at 1355 Northwest Parkway in Ash Creek Plaza.

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Wituaries

Ann Kathryn Noack Meier and Foster Lee Meier 1937 - 2022 1934 - 2022

Our loving Mother and Father, Ann Kathryn Noack Meier, 84, passed away Saturday, Jan. 8, 2022, in Azle.

Ann was born November 19, 1937, to Paul Otto Noack and Alvina Bertha Nukunz Noack. Ann was a dedicated nurse for over 40 years. She loved the outdoors, gardening, and her many animals.

Ann was a loving daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, as well as a greatgrandmother.

passed away Wednesday, in the corrugated paper in-Jan. 12, 2022, in Azle.

12, 1934, to Rudolph Carl Meier and Buelah McCor- husband, father, grandfather,



mic Meier. Foster was a Foster Lee Meier, 87, well-respected businessman Foster was born March building and farming land.

Foster was a loving son, ford.

as well as great-grandfather. Together Foster and Ann were married 68 years.

They are survived by; daughter, Kathryn Meier Mobley, and her husband Chris Mobley; sons, Nathan Meier and John David Meier; granddaughter, Bonnie Mobley Bartay, and her husband, Louis Bartay; Grandsons, Steven Austin Mobley and his wife Jamie Mobley; Michael Meier and Matthew Meier; great-grandchildren, Abigail, Lilliwen, Brantley, Brody, and Tegan. Many dustry. He loved his animals, close family friends include John Peterson of Weather-

They are preceded in



death by their daughter, Cynthia Ann Meier, their granddaughter, Julie Ann Meier, as well as both sets of parents.

> The Azle News, Jan. 19, 2022 Edition

Brenda McMurtray 1948 - 2022

Brenda McMurtray, 72, mother, Mamie, and dear friend to all passed away on Jan. 1, 2022.

A celebration of life will be held from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on January 27, 2022 at National Hall Lodge 3316 Roberts Cut Off Rd., Fort Worth, TX 76114.

Brenda was born on Jan. 27, 1949, the youngest of three daughters to JD and Mary Keeney in Santa Anna, Texas. She grew up in River important thing to her was Oaks, graduate of Castleberry High School. She was a long-time resident of Lake Worth where she raised her daughters and lived for majority of her life before retir- rodeos, or swim meets. You ing in Azle, Texas.

Brenda was very active in the Lake Worth community. ily and friends. Her home was always open and wel-She never met a stranger and always made you feel loved.

heart and boisterous personality. There wasn't much she wouldn't try at least once. bered for her infectious And if you didn't know what laugh, wonderful sense of she was thinking, give her humor, along with her dedifive minutes, you'd quickly find out. Brenda was a hard worker and very active per- ual who touched the lives of son. She enjoyed gardening, all that knew her. She will be being outdoors and traveling.

In her retirement, the most

being there for all of her grandchildren and the activities they were doing at the time. She loved going to see the kid's baseball games, could always hear her over most in the crowd.

Those left to cherish her Her passions were her fam- memory include her daughters, DeAndra Wyatt and Shanna Peninger: son-in-law come to old and new friends. Wesley Wyatt; grandchildren, Katelyn Peninger, Seth Peninger, Gavin Peninger Brenda had an amazing and Westin Wyatt; sister, Linda Butler.

Brenda will be rememcation to her family. She was a unique and caring individdearly missed.

> The Azle News, Jan. 19, 2022Edition

Jerry L. Reynolds 1955 - 2022

Jerry went to Heaven on Jan. 7, 2022.

Services will be held Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. at Mount Olivet Cemetery.



June B. Eberle 1933 - 2022

June B. Eberle, 88, of Azle, Texas passed away on Monday, Jan. 10, 2022.

Funeral services are Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2022 at 4 p.m. at Shannon Rufe Snow Funeral Chapel.

Burial is at DFW National Cemetery at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 20, 2022.

June was born in St. Louis, Missouri on March 27, 1933. She married Bobby L. Eberle on Oct. 15, 1951.

by her husband, parents and Eberle, five grandchildren, 2 sisters.

June is survived by her children, Brenda Bishop,



June is preceded in death Phyllis Sticher, and Robert and nine great-grandchildren The Azle News,

Jan. 19, 2022 Edition

In Remembrance of Russell Stone

David Earl Cinnamon 1951 - 2022

David Earl Cinnamon, 70, of Azle, passed away on Jan. 11, 2022.

Service and Interment will be held at Azleland Memorial Park on Saturday, Jan. 22, 2022, at 2 p.m.

David was born on August 5, 1951, in Fayetteville, North Carolina, the oldest child of David and Melva Cinnamon. He graduated from Azle High School, served in the Air Force Reserves, and worked for Union Pacific Railroad for the length of his career.

David was preceded in death by his wife of 39 years, Elizabeth Cinnamon, as well as by his parents.

He is survived by his brother, Dean Cinnamon and wife, Trisha; sisters, Sue

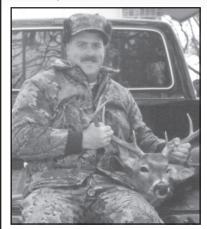


Ramey, Karen Sampson and husband, Edwin; children, Cindy Sutton and husband, Chip, and Bill Cinnamon; grandchildren, Austin and Mikayla Sutton; and many nieces and nephews.

> The Azle News, Jan. 19. 2022 Edition

March 7th 1968 - January 15th 2021

It has been a year since we lost you so tragically. So God sent the angels to come down and lift you up to Heaven. So you wouldn't have to suffer, and God opened up his arms to receive you into Heaven. You were a great man, brother, dad, uncle, and friend to everyone. You loved our country. Mom and I love you very much. We miss you every minute of the day. You are forever in our hearts.







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Jerry was born in Germany on Dec. 28, 1955.

He is survived by his cousins, Harvey and Joyce Williams; Rod and Mary Barnett; Pete and Bonnie Rodriquez and many more cousins and friends.

The Azle News, Jan. 19, 2022 Edition



... ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY

THE ABBEY CHURCH Pastor: Paul Brownback 10400 Jacksboro Highway 817-238-1404 www.TheAbbeyChurch.com

Morning Worship	10:30 ам
Community Groups	. Various Times

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

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

Sunday School	9:30 ам
Contemporary Worship-TMP.	10:45 ам
Traditional Worship	10:45 ам
Evening Worship	6:00 рм
Wednesday Youth Refuge	
Wednesday Evening	6:15 рм

AZLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ) Senior Minister, A	shley
Dargai, Katie Medlin, Worship Minis	ster
117 Church St. • 817-444-3527	'
Sunday School10:	00 AM
Morning Worship11:	.00 AM

AZLE FIRST ASSEMBLY of GOD

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

COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

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

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

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH

2233 Hwy 199 E. • Springtown 817-221-LIFE (5433) Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM Wednesday7:00 PM

CROSSROADS BAPTIST CHURCH

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

THE EDGE CHURCH - AZLE

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

800 Highcrest Dr Azle 817	-444-3063
Saturday	5:00 pn
Sunday	9:00 an
Sunday11	ам (Spanish
Daily Mass (M, T, Th, F)	
Wednesday Mass Religious ED	6:30 рм
Confessions	Sat 4 PM

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

4795 E. Hwy 199 - Reno 817-221-HOPE		
Follow us on Facebook for streaming		
services		
Sunday School		
Traditional Service 10:00 AM		

SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH

591 S. Reno Rd, , Springtown, Texas 76082	
Pastor - Bill Gay - 817-304-7443	
Coffee and Donuts	9:00 ам
Sunday School	9:30 ам
Morning Worship10:30 AM	
Children's Church After Music Service	
Wed. Prayer Meeting	6:30 рм
Wed. Bible Study	7:00 рм

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

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

SILVER CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

SILVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Church 817-444-2325

www.silvercreekbc.org

		Aut
n n	Sunday School9:45 AM	The
1	Morning Worship10:50 AM	
1	Evening Worship6:00 PM	Awa
1	Wed. Prayer Service7:00 PM	Life

THE WORD@LAKESIDE CHURCH OF GOD 9396 FM 1886 Fort Worth, TX 76135 817-237-5500 thewordatlakeside.com Pastors: Brandon and Kelly Bohannon Worship Pastor: Christen Moody Family Life and Young Adult Pastors: Jodie and Mark James, Kids Pastor: Katie Pearson, Student Pastors: Taylor and Sheridan Tomlin, Creative Directors: Logan and Carrie Edwards, Connections Coordinators: Preston and Ashley Larrew

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

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		

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



Dorothy "DeeDot" Lawler 1921 - 2022

Dorothy "DeeDot" Lawler went to her Heavenly Home Saturday, Jan., 15, 2022 after 100 blessed years. The Bible says that "a gracious woman gets honor".

Graveside services were held Tuesday, at 2 p.m. Jan. 18, 2022, Ash Creek Cemetery.

Memorials: One of her passions was sponsoring her missionary families. Please consider donations in her memory to Agenda Jesus. Mail checks to Agenda Jesus % 2925 Harlanwood Ft. Worth, Texas 76109 or Pay-Pal Agenda.Jesus3@gmail. com

Dorothy was born Dec. 10, 1921 to James Henry & Willie Clara King. She attended all twelve years at DeeDot... "She was clothed Geraldine/Holliday schools and graduated with the Class of 1939. Dot enjoyed playing tennis, volleyball, softball and water skiing. She and a group of friends continued participating in those activities well into mid-life.

Dot and her family moved to Azle in 1959 and they quickly became active in Ash Creek Baptist Church. In 1966 she bought Azle Florist and she worked to serve the schools and community for over 55 years. At age 99, she was still working in the flower shop daily.

Her first grandchild (Shannon) gave her the nickname "DeeDot" in 1972 and it became her official title for almost 50 years. As a friend, mother, grandmother and aunt, she was always there to listen and support.

One of her florist associates described her as always supportive, loving, honest, and kind. She loved with



"unconditional love". She loved God with all of her heart and strove to serve Him daily. DeeDot was a woman of few words but when she spoke "she meant what she said and expected you to listen".

Proverbs 31 best describes in strength and dignity, she laughed without fear of the future, her words were wise and she gave instructions with kindness. Her children rise up and call her blessed".

She was preceded in death by her parents, brothers, and granddaughter Jaylee.

Survivors: She leaves a legacy of love to her family. She is survived by one niece, two children, three grandchildren, eight great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren. Survivors include Suzanne and Roddy Murr and family (Azle), Lynna Jo Willis (California), Shannon and Todd Smith and family (Weatherford), and Eddie Lawler and family (Elkhart). She is also survived by her "family by choice flower shop girls": Sandy, Becky, Tammy, Donna. Boots and LaDonna.

> The Azle News, Jan. 19, 2022 Edition

Hituaries APD ready for new year of **Citizens Police Academy**

BY JESSICA McKINNEY azlereporter@azlenews.net

The Azle Police Department is holding a Citizens Police Academy starting on Jan. 25. The 13-week class will meet on Tuesdays from 6 to 9 p.m.

"The program allows the community to see how the Azle Police Department operates so there is a better understanding between our partnership with the community," said Sgt. Chance Kidd, who will be one of the instructors for the class.

The program was developed to help the community "gain an understanding of the operations of the Azle Police Department; develop an awareness of the various challenges and decisions faced daily by police offi-

cers; and participate in practical exercises designed to illustrate various situations on duty."

Students will learn vari-

ous police topics in a classroom setting, including:

- Building searches
- Traffic stops
- Crime scene processing • Emergency
- communications • Narcotics and vice investigations
- Tactical operations
- Accident reconstruction · Patrol procedures
- Bicycle programs
- Neighborhood Watch/ Citizens on Patrol
- Volunteers in Police Services (VIPS)
- Firearms training Electronic ticket writ
 - ers/ speed measurement

• School resource officers tory and warrant check. • Narcotic identification

an officer experiences while structors from within the though academy students police department as well receive information regardas an academy coordinator ing numerous police-related leading the program, and members of other city departments also will partici- authorized to conduct any popate.

The Citizens Police Academy is open to applicants 18 or older who are residents, PD. business owners, or employees of schools or businesses CPA, each person will have in the city of Azle with no the opportunity to join the assault, weapons or narcotics convictions, or Class B (VIPS) as well as one of our or higher misdemeanor offenses in the last 10 years.

Because of the sensilicense status, criminal his- scheduled in the fall.

The information packet There will be 20-plus in- from APD says that "alsubjects, graduates are not prepared for, expected to or lice services," but it is hoped that they will become "goodwill ambassadors" for Azle

"Upon completion of the Volunteers in Police Service Citizens on Patrol (COP)," Kidd said.

The deadline to apply for tive nature of police work, a spot in the Citizens Police the department runs back- Academy closed Jan. 18. ground checks on all ap- It is not yet known whethplicants, including driver's er another session will be



Azle Police Department's 2021 class.

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AZLE INSURANCE DIRECTORY



What's in a name?



DEAR FRANKIE By Geneva Woodruff

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

Dear Frankie,

a Labrador Retriever from a you by your first name. I do long line of show dogs. My dad was a breeder. He told me he waited all his life to give that name to a pup that was also a title and an honor. he believed had all the qualities required to win a cham- by any other name would pion prize at the Westmin- smell as sweet." ster Dog Show.

Westminster, but I did win many state and regional prizes. Unfortunately, when you will always be a champ. my dad got very sick, he moved to a hospice. Before he left, he asked a friend to find me a good home. I was adopted in a few days by a terrific family. I couldn't ask for a better second home.

My second dad named me Max. He said Max was his childhood pet and the love of his life. I, of course, was flattered but missed my first name. Champ was not only a pen, whether right or wrong. name but it was an honor to be the one that my first dad chose to name Champ. It's also the only thing I have left from my dad.

I only wish my new family could understand how important the name Champ was to me. Do other second adoptees care about much as I do?

Dear Champ, I thought it My name is Champ. I'm would please you to address understand the importance your birth name has for you. It was not only a name. It

There is a saying, "A rose

It means a name doesn't I never did get to go to change who you are. Once you are a Champ, regardless of what anyone calls you,

Some women change their last name when they get married. The difference, of course, is that this was their choice. When children are adopted from foreign countries, many are given new American names. I'm not trying to minimize your feelings by the previous examples. I'm just trying to point out that name changes hap-

I suspect your first dad didn't ask his friend to tell the people who adopted you why he named you Champ. Perhaps If your new family had known the reason for your name, they might have kept it. However, the name your second dad gave you was also an honor. Max was their name being changed as the name of his cherished childhood dog. Not many Sad, Max dogs get two distinctive titles in a lifetime.

Only special dogs like yourself can say they were one of them.

Best, Frankie

Consumer Alert: COVID-19 testing frauds

STAFF REPORTS

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues with the Omicron variant causing cases to spike, people should be aware of fake testing sites popping up.

That's the warning from the Tarrant District Attorney's Office, as fake testing sites have popped up across the country and some scammers are asking for credit card and Social Security numbers – and then they never provide test results.

"Be careful," County Criminal District Attorney Sharen Wilson said in a news release. "Reyou go and make sure it's a

valid testing site."

The Better Business Bureau and Federal Bureau of Investigation are among the agencies that have put out warnings, urging people to be careful when getting tested at pop-up sites and when buying at-home test kits, the release stated.

"Scarcity often leads to potential scams for a product that doesn't exist, the compromise of personal identifiable information, or the increase of decep-Tarrant tive advertising," the BBB warning states.

> Anyone caught fraudulently gathering personal

numbers faces a variety of mation at www.fda.gov. charges, the DA's office stated.

items of personal informa- in doubt, go to sites affilition gathered, the offender ated with local hospitals or faces a state jail felony that city or county government. carries a jail term of up to of five to 99 years and a fine number. of up to \$10,000.

these ways to protect yourself: tests.

· Research the facility or testing site before you go. ness Bureau to report a search the facilities before information such as credit The U.S. Food and Drug fraud or scam at www.bbb. card or Social Security Administration has infor- org/ scamtracker.

• Talk to your doctor. He or she can help you find a le-If there are fewer than five gitimate testing site. When

• Keep your personal intwo years and a fine of up to formation - Social Secu-\$10,000. If there are more rity numbers, credit card than 50 items of personal numbers - to yourself. Leinformation gathered, they gitimate testing sites won't face a first-degree felony ask for your Social Secuwhich carries a prison term rity number or a credit card

· Avoid unverified web-The DA's office suggests sites offering COVID-19

• Contact the Better Busi-

Hyde Media Group names two vice presidents

BY KATHY CRUZ Senior Staff Writer Hood County News

The Hyde Media Group, created in August 2020 for the purpose of purchasing the Hood County News, has announced more changes to its now four-newspaper operation.

been named.

David Montesino will be vice president of editorial and Kim Ware will be vice president of sales.

"I have complete and total confidence in the skills and talents which these two outstanding individuals bring to our organization, and we are fortunate to have them as part of the Hyde Media Group team," HCN publisher and Hyde Media Group Chief Operating Of-

itorial departments of HCN and the other three newspapers: the Gatesville Mes-Springtown Epigraph.

Those three newspapers were acquired less than Group was formed.

town Epigraph and Azle crease our customers' busi- Firm in Granbury.

already been leading the ed- News, will retain her pub- ness." lisher title.

her skill at advertising sales mediate levels of authority" senger, Azle News and The and the esteem with which and indicated that it will she is held in the Azle- help with overall manage-Springtown communities.

a year after Hyde Media standardize a lot of things in continue to grow. our sales program to offer the Ware, who has been the broadest range of services was founded by Paul Hyde, Two vice presidents have publisher of The Spring- and products, which will in- owner of the Hyde Law

Houston said that the Houston praised Ware for move creates "more interment of the media organiza-He stated that she "will tion, which is expected to

The Hyde Media Group



PHASE2 GRAND OPENING LAND SA



ficer Sam Houston stated in an announcement emailed to company employees.

Houston said that Montesino's title "codifies" his role within the operation.

As managing editor, he had Kim Ware, left, and David Montesino, right, have been named as vice presidents of Hyde Media Group.



37th Annual DeWitt County ALL BREEDS BULL & FEMALE SALE



SAT., JAN. 29 Cueró Livestock Commission Co. Bulls sell at 11 am Females sell immediately following

APPROX. 30 BULLS AND 250 FEMALES Offering the following **BULLS** Angus • Charolais • Brahman Polled Hereford • Beefmaster



FEMALES Featuring Bred, Pairs, and Opens F1 Braford (many Tiger Stripes) • Brangus • Brangus Baldy Brahman • Angus • Other Crossbreds

Sponsored by the DeWitt County Purebred Breeders Assoc. and the DeWitt County Beef and Forage Committee. For more information: Anthony Netardus 115 N. Gonzales, Suite E, Cuero, TX 77954 • 361-275-0816 If unable to attend the sale in person, cattle sale viewing and bidding can be done on "Cattle In Motion" (cattleinmotion.com)



44th An CATTLEMAN BULL January 22, 202 El Campo Livestock Au EXPECTING	& FEMALE SALE 2 • 12:00 Noon action, El Campo, TX 100 BULLS
Also selling a group	
FOR INFORM	MATION:
cattlemansale	@gmail.com
Adrian Knight Tx Lic #11102	Kelly Conley Tx Lic #9558
903-452-7591	903-850-3449

LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Public Sale

Public boat sale to satisfy storage lien. Up for bids LEGALLY BELONGING TO: DAVID LANDON & ALAN J HAMMOND

TX #5362HN, VIN# B201903224258 1973 30" MORGAN The Sale Will Be Held on JAN 22ND 2022. 1:00 PM, West Bay Marina, 6925 Liberty School Tap Rd. Azle, Tx 76020 (817)444-1622. Terms are cash/cashier's check at time of sale

Notice of Public Hearing

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

I have a dream.

"If you don't vote, you don't get to complain." Ever heard that one?

I've heard it as long as I have been old enough to vote (42 years and counting). I imagine the statement originated as effort to encourage eligible voters to ory when I saw a meme nificant shift has not yet not acknowledge either the participate in the political process.

try in the world has a democratic process where comthe opportunity to make morning of MLK Day. their opinions heard in an effort to influence the direcand fair elections.

While the intent may have Memphis, Tennessee. been to encourage participation, the actual statement of my second birthday when is antithetical to the stated he delivered the famous "I intent of our founding docu- Have a Dream" speech in ments.

In actuality, the only places where you don't get to that much of what I know is complain are places where you don't get to vote.

And most of the voting ries. rights in the U.S. that exist today only exist precisely because of people who complained. (See en.wikipedia. ing_rights_in_the_United States for an interesting rection in the U.S. and his article.)

complaining if you don't worth celebrating. vote popped into my mem-

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

yesterday: "If you can't say resulted in the goals he racist history of the country 'Black Lives Matter' today After all, not every coun- you don't get to celebrate MLK Day tomorrow."

mon people actually have quote as I write this on the

Martin Luther King, Jr. was cal figures-including Jetion of said country in free assassinated on the balcony of the Lorraine Hotel in those who will use them for ing words that this post's

> I was four months short Washington, DC.

from the history I have studied, not from actual memo-

MLK Day is an acknowledgement of a significant leader within a significant we can also use those ity, and that we would listen org/wiki/Timeline_of_vot- movement that has resulted in a significant shift of dilegacy is one that has affect-That phrase about not ed us all-and is therefore

I'm still pondering that content of their character.

I also know that his sus-have been co-opted by their own purposes.

quote to make a point.

use a quote as PROOF of a for a snapshot of how we I say that to acknowledge point rather than as an EX- responded in our worst mo-AMPLE of how someone ment. has expressed their own understanding of a subject.

What I do know is that a world of memes, tweets, other that we treat each pergifs, video clips, and sound son the way they need to be bites (to name just a few), treated in their current realquotes and phrases to prove before we speak or postthat someone is messed up, understanding that we have has a flawed character, and this moment to bring clarity cannot be trusted.

that saying the phrase I also know that the sig- "Black Lives Matter" is to friend.

both agree with a radical organization that goes by the same name and to proclaim that some lives matter more than others.

Another person asserts that failing to use "the phrase" means that one does worked for. We've still got a or the ongoing issues that long way to go before every still exist within the systems person is truly judged by the and structures of the country.

Either way, a single words, much like the words phrase spoken or posted in a I was 6 years old when of other significant histori- moment becomes a measure of a person's heart.

In the few short remaincontext allows, I want to I'm just as guilty as any- say that I believe that "charone of looking for a good acter" is both developed and revealed over time. None of The problem is when we us wants to be remembered

I have a dream that we would give each other grace, And because we live in be sensitive enough to each or confusion, blessing or So, one person asserts cursing, healing or pain.

Be amazing today, my

Property **Tax Payment Deadline** Approaching

praisal District has issued cessing company. the following guidelines for the end of January.

Property Tax Statements were mailed to property owners in Parker County in October 2021. To avoid paving additional property tax penalty and interest. payments must be received or postmarked by Jan. 31, 2022.

Taxpayers can pay online at www.parkercad.org using an eCheck for a \$0.50 processing fee or using a credit/ debit card for a 2.25% processing fee. The processing fees are not charged or collected by the Parker County Appraisal District. These

The Parker County Ap- fees are charged by the pro-

Taxpayers can pay by mail the tax deadline coming at or in-person at the Parker County Appraisal District office located at 1108 Santa Fe Drive, Weatherford, TX 76086. For convenience, there is also a drive-thru window and an afterhours drop box located at the front of the building.

As a reminder, if your property has a mortgage with an escrow account, the requesting mortgage company will be mailed a duplicate tax statement with the amount due on your account. You can obtain additional tax statements and receipts online at www. parkercad.org.









increase for first

time in eight years

Azle sees crime rate

BOOK REVIEW

An experience that may make your child sing

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

Sometimes, when you're feeling just a little bit sad, humming a song can help.

It doesn't have to be anything fancy; it doesn't even have to have words. Just a little bit of song, quietly to yourself, can make things seem better. Maybe one certain tune always makes you smile or, as in the new book "Song for Jimi" by Charles R. Smith Jr., illustrated by Edel Rodriguez, it can be an entire riff on a "git-tar."

It was the fall of 1942, and Johnny Allen Hendrix had just made his debut.

Johnny was his name at first, anyway, until his daddy changed it to "James" when the boy was three years old. By then, "Jimmy" was used to the way things were at home: his parents drank too much and fought even more. Jimmy kept to himself and rarely spoke.

When his mother finally had enough of it, she left and that was even worse.

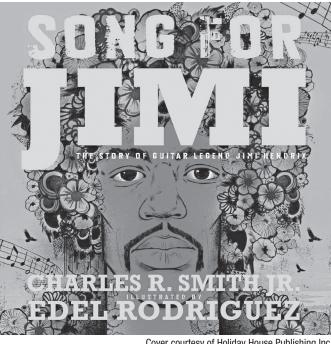
"Jimmy lived the blues," so he taught himself to strum an old broom like it was a real "git-tar." Eventually, he found a "worn-out, beatup" ukulele and though he was "born lefty," he learned to play it, left-handed and right-handed.

Finally, at age 16, Jimmy got his first real guitar, and it made him very happy! Still, it wasn't enough: Jimmy wasn't very good in school, and a teacher told him to 'give up on his dream" and buckle down. He didn't listen; instead, he worked and practiced and worked harder, until local bands began to hire him, and everybody knew his name.

They knew his sound, too. Jimmy's guitar was loud and it screamed with a sound like none other. He kept that sound when he went into the Army. He kept it while in the military. He made his guitar kind of jerky beat that feels tweet."

changed his name and not quite; a song, but not changed it again. Jimi Hen- entirely; a biography, but drix reached his dream: he more. And it's longer than was invited to play in a place your usual picture book, called Monterey, where he word-wise. These are all "showed the world how to things that adults will enjoy kiss the sky."

Jimi" aloud, look at it first. The story jangles with a



Cover courtesy of Holiday House Publishing Inc

speak "like a bird learning to like a loose-limbed dude walking down a summer And one day, after he'd sidewalk. It's a poem, but because author Charles R. Here's a bit of advice: Smith Jr. tells a good story before you read "Song for and artist Edel Rodriguez adds literal color to the tale. But will kids like it?

Meh. The length is one issue; the relevance is another since most picture-book audiences (in this case, 7-to-12-year-olds) are likely too young for Jimi Hendrix. In the end, any enjoyment may depend not on the tale itself, but how it's read aloud.

Give it a try once before you give it to your child. Jangle with the story properly, and "Song for Jimi" may make your child sing.

BY JESSICA MCKINNEY tirely family violence re-

The city of Azle saw the tact or threat)." crime rate drop nearly 50%

from 2013 to 2020.

centage has gone up. increased 35% from 2020 home and/or are isolating to 2021, with the biggest themselves due to the panincreases in the assault and theft categories of Part 1 UCR offenses.

assault, burglary, theft and auto theft. A total of 428 incidents fell under this cat- of thefts, Fuller said that the egory in 2021. In 2020, that increase is due to Walmart number was 317.

Theft was the top offense thefts from their store. in 2020 with 129 incidents, auto theft (26), burglary (24), Walmart last year," he said. rape (8), and robbery (3). There were no homicides.

sault was the top reported their efforts to protect their offense with 176 incidents, property." followed by theft (164), burglary (41), auto theft ment responded to 18,381 (35), rape (8) and robbery calls for service last year, (4). There were no homi- an increase of almost 900 cides in Azle last year.

Fuller said that the assault minutes and 59 seconds. incidents were "almost en-

azlereporter@azlenews.net lated, and the majority are very minor (assault by con-

"I attribute many of those to 'cabin fever;'" Fuller This past year, the per- said in an email to Azle News. "More and more The crime rate in Azle people are working from demic.

"The upside is they are being reported so we can The FBI defines Part 1 intervene and break the UCR offenses as crimes of cycle. Going unreported, homicide, rape, robbery, these cases can escalate and become more violent."

In relation to the increase being aggressive against

"In fact, 61 of the 164 followed by assault (127), theft reports came from "That is a huge increase from 2020 and 2019. We At the close of 2021, as- fully support Walmart in

The Azle Police Departcalls. The average response Interim police chief Sid time for officers was three

It's time to think about spawning white bass for upcoming months

It will soon be time for the spawning run that draws anglers out in numbers typically between February and April. In Texas many of these sand bass may start their trek in January depending on the weather.

caught in most every reservoir in the state, so you don't have to travel far to find them. in numbers, making it rela- sand bass is "white bass," Lake Granbury, despite the tively easy to sack up a limit. but here in Texas "sand bass" floods in the last couple of years, continues to produce temperatures around the low These fish are relatively easy River below Kimball Bend). way to identify these fish is



These fish like to congregate

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

ally, however, the spawning tend to move up first and then These tasty fish can be ritual takes place in these the larger females usually folsame areas year after year. low with rising temperatures.

The official name for the Typically with the water is generally used by most. to middle 50s and if there is to catch and are excellent ta- Other tributaries may con- to look at their tooth patch.

main reservoir.

above Kimball Bend and 12-inch limit. the Paluxy, the Brazos and Wildlife Department hand-

grate up the Brazos River These fish will reach 9-10 to around the Tin Top area. inches their first year and get on a variety of artificials and Some sand bass don't make to 12-13 inches their second live bait. Small minnows/ it that far and spawn in other year. These fish rarely live shad placed below a bobber creeks, and some may spawn beyond five years. The legal or the use of a small 1/16th on windblown banks in the size for sand bass has been to 1/4-ounce jig head with standardized to 10 inches on rubber tails in chartreuse, On Lake Whitney, the best all Texas lakes to make en- white and yellow can be known areas in my opin- forcement easier. Previous- used. Small roadrunner jigs ion are on the Brazos River ly, some water bodies had a are one of my favorites.

Nolan runs into the Brazos or striped bass. The easiest your jig heads. book where fishing licenses Sand bass grow very fast are sold and read the details. Large majorities of sand in Texas waters and have a You don't want to be caught

Sand bass can be caught Slabs and spoons can be efon the Nolan River near the Don't confuse the sand fective as well. Try some Highway 174 bridge (the bass with hybrid striped bass Berkley power bait grubs on

FISHING REPORT

numbers of sand bass.

Many of these fish will sufficient water flow, the sand ble fare. You can catch them tain spawning fish as well. The sand bass will have only move up to or close to their bass will make their trek. As I anytime of the year, but in the Tres Rios in Glen Rose one, where the striped and spawning areas at the first mentioned earlier, this spawn- early spring/late winter, they is known as a spawning hybrid striped bass will have cold snap in November, oth- ing evolution usually starts concentrate for the spawn on ground. Tres Rios is where two. Pick up a Texas Parks & ers will stay in the main lake. around the first part of Feb- the upper portions of reser-These fish may travel back ruary and may run through voirs or rivers, making them Squaw Creek merge. to the main lake and back to March and April. Sand bass easier to locate. the river several times before and stripers require moving actually spawning. Eventu- water to spawn. The males bass on Lake Granbury mi- relatively short life span. with an illegal fish.

On other reservoirs, the striped bass and crappie fishing on Lake Whitney has been excellent from white bluff to upriver near Kimball Bend. Possum Kingdom Lake striped bass are good to excellent to 12 pounds on jigs near Costello Island and upstream.



SHELTER, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A.

of their dogs.

Last year, the shelter cared for a total of 491 animals and helped fund shelter expens- donations, we were able to adopted out 228 of them. The remaining ones were sent to rescues, transferred to other allocated. shelters, or were returned to their owners.

"A very small portion of those were euthanized," Williams said. "We have had such a successful turnaround rate that euthanasia ue even in the absence of our vention and do not have the is only used on animals that are suffering from a medical emergency or are simply too caring for a dog named Enzo nonprofit group, that would aggressive and would be a danger to the community to adopt out. Our current live tated. His vet bill was nearly release rate is 98.63%."

Today, the shelter has 38

pacity by accepting several cats and dogs in their care, were able to fund the entireplus others in foster care.

> es, the shelter is having to help Enzo get the medical reassess where funds can be attention that he so desper-

> "Being a 'no kill' shelter is expensive, and as every city department does, we have every individual instance. to prioritize our spending," Williams said.

previous nonprofit partner."

who had a severely broken allow us to seek veterinary leg, which had to be ampu-\$1,000.



Trevor has been at the shelter since Dec. 27. He was an injured stray when he came in. He's described as a great dog but needs some basic training like leash walking. ... He seems to love everyone he meets.



ty of his medical expenses," Without AASHA, which Williams said. "Because of ately needed.

"We cannot impose on the goodwill of our donors in Some animals that come through the door require "Medical expenses contin- immediate medical interluxury of waiting for fund-Recently, the shelter was raising as Enzo did. With a care instantly."

Without a partnership with a nonprofit organization like "Azle's generous citizens AASHA, the animal shelter can no longer take part in yearly fundraisers like North Texas Giving Day. In 2020, the AASHA received nearly \$20,000 from the NTX Giving Day fundraiser that was put toward the shelter.

> "We would love the opportunity to partner up again with a nonprofit whose sole purpose was to support the needs of our shelter, raise funds to help towards the medical necessities and to enhance our daily operations," Williams said.

> The end of AASHA hasn't stopped the community from donating to the shelter.

> "We have a constant revolving door of animals so there will always be a need for help from our local community," she said.

"Azle's citizens have continued and can continue to help in many ways with donations, whether it's in a monetary form, blankets, can also elect to add a dona- munity outreach programs, leashes, collars, toys, news-



Jules arrived from the Weatherford shelter on Dec. 4. She has a lot of energy and so far seems to be good with cats and dogs. All photos courtesy

papers and even soda cans." Donations can be made directly to the Azle Animal volunteers who can help coming a shelter volunteer, Shelter for their medical with animal care and daily fund in person or over the operations, adoption events, the shelter can call the shelphone. Residents of Azle animal socializing, comtion to the shelter with their social media networking,

monthly water bill. There is also a need for

fostering, and walking dogs. Anyone interested in beor in adopting an animal at ter at 817-752-2681.



Popcorn Players 'Dearly Beloved' opening night Jan. 28

BY JESSICA McKINNEY azlereporter@azlenews.net

The Azle Arts Association Popcorn Players kicks off its theatrical season Jan. 28 with the premiere of "Dearly Beloved." The play will run Jan. 28-30 and Feb. 4-6.

The Azle Arts website describes the play as "Hilarity, Texas style!"

"Dearly Beloved" is a Jones Hope and Wooten comedy about "an over-the-top wedding, three feuding sisters and a church full of small-town eccentrics. What could possibly go wrong?"

The production is a "fast-paced, laugh-a-minute comedy ... about love, marriage, sisterhood and 300 pounds of good old Texas barbecue."

The cast includes many familiar faces and a few new ones for the season opener:

Miss Geneva Musgrave



Azle Popcorn Players at their dress rehearsal. The play will run Jan. 28-30 and Feb. 4-6.

Courtesy photo



played by Cynthia Hall

• Raynerd Chisum played by Scott Nurmela

• Tina Jo and Gina Jo Dubberly (identical twins) are played by Emily Ball

by Gwen Gibbons

• Frankie Futrelle played by

Carol Braden

Counts

• Twink Futrelle played by Amy Worthy (new to Popcorn for the production. Players)

Popcorn Players)

Bryson Ingle

• John Curtis Bunter played by Jerry Hall

• Wiley Hicks played by Robert Koury (new to Popcorn Players) • Patsy Price played by Juanita

• Honey Raye Futrelle played Gunnells (new to Popcorn Players)

The play is directed by Monica Goth and produced by Janice • Dub Dubberly played by Ron Kushner. Jacob Heath is new to the Azle Arts Association and will be providing sound and light

Goth invites the whole commu-• Nelda Lou Lightfoot played nity out to enjoy a performance by Charmagne Tucker (new to at their local theater, where patrons have said "it's a great way Pkwy. in Azle. • Justin Waverly played by to spend a couple of hours enjoy-

P1177| AY

ing talented friends and neighbors turn into crazy characters."

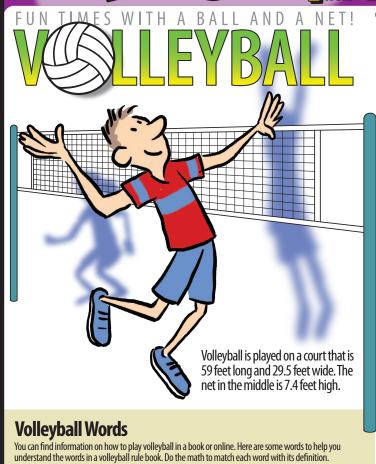
"You don't have to wait until later to see the bloopers," said Goth. "You see them in real time. That's why we call it live!"

The show starts at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday nights and 2:30 p.m. on Sundays.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for students and seniors. Sunday matinees are \$10. Visit <u>www.azlearts.org</u> to buy tickets online or call 817-238-PLAY (7529) to pay by phone.

The Azle Arts Association theater is located at 1012 Southeast

Kid Scoop Together:



Volley (2+7)	10 = contact of the ball twice typically while setting the setting of the ball twice typically while setting the setting of the ball twice typical setting the setting of the ball twice typical setting the setting of the ball twice typical setting the setting the ball twice typical setting the setting the ball twice typical setting typical setting the ball typical setting the ball typical setting typical setting the ball typical setting typica			
	11 = a hard-driven ball aimed into the opponents' court			
Set (8 - 4)	9 = to return a ball before it hits the ground			
Bump (5 + 8)	7 = a defensive play to prevent the ball from crossing the net			
Spike (16 - 5)	12 = to put the ball into play from the end line			
Block (3 + 4)	4 = overhead pass that allows a player to spike			
Double (12 - 2)	13 = an underhand pass performed when a ball is below the shoulders			

Invent a Game

Look at the objects below. Use two of them to invent a new game. Write the rules for your game and give it a try with your friends or family.	Number of Players:	
balloon	Equipment needed:	
	Objective of Game (How to Win):	
wooden spoon		
paper towel tube		

Name of My Game

Rules.

hrowing, catching, and thousands of years, pe using a ball. When peo something new to a gam Volleyball was one of tho	ople have invente ple discovered a e, more games w	ed games to play net could add
The History of Replace the missing words.	of Volley	
IDEAS COLLISIONS	EXERCISE	CHANGED
LANDBOOK	SIDE	ACROSS

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

Find Kid Scoop on

Facebook © 2022 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Graphics Vol. 38, No. 7

In the late 1800s, a man named William Morgan lived in Springfield, Mass. He and his friend James Naismith liked to play games.

DO

COURT

BUMP

In the winter of 1891, Naismith was the director of the YMCA in Springfield. It was too cold to _ outdoors. He invented the game of basketball, using a ball and a couple of peach baskets, to keep young people in good over the winter.

Morgan started working at the YMCA in the nearby town of Holyoke in 1895. His friend's game of basketball had too much running and too many for some of the members of his club.

Using creativity, Morgan studied the rules of baseball, basketball, handball and badminton. from each, he invented a new Taking game he called Mintonette, where teams of players on each of a net volleyed or hit a ball back and forth. Points were scored when one team could not get the ball back _ the net.

The rules over the years. Even the name changed! As a friend and former teacher of Morgan's watched the game, he saw that much of the game was spent "volleying" the ball over the net. He called it Volleyball and the name stuck and that's what it was called when the game was added to the YMCA's official sports in 1896.

TILE]

Volleyball

Facts and

Opinion

Underline words on this page that tell you

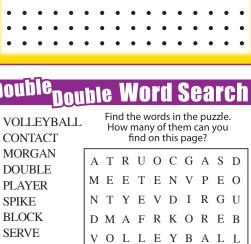
facts about volleyball. Circle words that tell

you opinions about

vollevball.

Standards Link: Differentiate between fact and opinion.

dots with a line. Each initial inside and the lines can be added	h tim en co	e yo nneo	our li et tw	ine c 'o m	omp ore (olete dots	s a b . Wł	box, hen r	put j 10 m	you nore
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DOUBLE PLAYER	M	Е	E	Т		N	v	Р	Е	0
SDIKE	N	Т	Y	E	v	D	I	R	G	U





XRPSSLNUEE

RGSCOEGAME

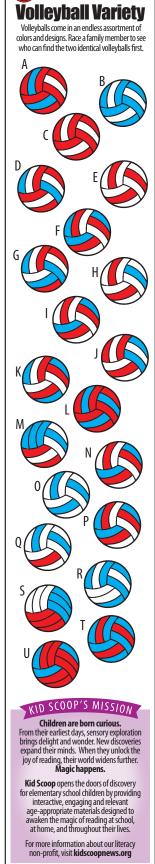
Alphabet Verbs

Look through the newspaper to find verbs. Can you find a verb that starts with each letter of the alphabet? Words like Add for the letter A and Volley for the letter V. Try to find one for all 26 letters.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Understand parts of speech.

I Just Did It!

Tell about a time you worked hard to overcome a challenge. How did you do it? How did it feel? What did this experience teach you?



SPORTS

Azle News Wednesday, January 19, 2022

www.AzleNews.net 1B



Jayden Coffey drives to the basket against Aledo.

Photo by Jeff Prince

Azle basketball boys nail down district opener

BY JEFF PRINCE

"We played great de- We're lucky shots fell, and we fense to start off," senior came out with the win."

Azle swims toward district meet

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

January means Azle High School's swim team is eager to slice through water with grace and speed.

The beginning of each year marks the culmination of a long, grueling swim season. Azle's swimmers have practiced more than 100 times since the season started in August.

"It takes a tremendous amount of commitment," head coach Amy Estes said.

Championship meets come on the heels of Christmas break, meaning competitive swimmers must refrain from gorging on holiday treats. They know district, regional and state competitions loom in January and February.

Estes believes her team is ready to bring home the hardware.

"Leading up to this (district meet), we have shown vast improvements," Estes I'm out there swimming ev- rium. The Region 2-5A meet said. "Every swimmer has improved at every meet."

Last year's championship

bountiful for Azle. CO- struggling along with them. VID-19 restrictions limited And we just persevere." the number of swimmers who could participate. Only

the top four swimmers from regional champs advanced to state.

Phoebe Mosley was Azle's only swimmer to make it to state.

swimmers at district events make the trip to regionals, where the top two in each seconds off her time in the event advance to state.

"It's a stronger team than the summer. it was last year," Estes said. "I'm optimistically excited."

Estes was a founding member of Azle High School's swim team as a freshman student three decades ago. In 2020, she re- right time," the coach said. turned to Azle as the head "The season has been really coach and is teaching a new phenomenal." generation of swimmers to love the sport.

ery race with you," she said. will be held at 9 a.m. Feb. "I'm very much invested. 4-5, at Mansfield ISD Nata-Their success is my success. torium.

season wasn't especially And when they struggle, I'm

She expects several swimmers to make it to regionals.

Gianna Schroeder, Brooke each district event qualified Nowakowski, Peighton Berfor regionals, and just the ry and Mosley swim an impressive 200m medley relay, the coach said.

Mosley will be competitive in 200m and 100m backstroke, while Berry has This year, the top six a good shot in the 200m and 100m freestyle, Estes said.

> Berry has knocked 10 200m freestyle race since

> For the boys, Steven Manley could finish among the qualifiers in the 50m and 100m freestyle.

> "We're all coming to a good culmination at the

The District 5-5A meet will be held at 10 a.m. Jan. "What I tell my kids is, 20 at Mansfield ISD Natato-



jeff@azlenews.net

The Azle Hornets began district boys basketball competition by putting the hurt on Aledo, 51-35, Friday in front of a noisy hometown and kept playing." crowd.

but Azle kept clawing its way back and keeping the quarters.

Gavin Dean said. "Our shots weren't going down. It's built a solid season so far, all right. We learn from it. winning three games for ev-Next-play mentality. We just ery loss. Beating Aledo was stayed together as a team a good way to begin district

Azle tied the game 26-26 Aledo took an early lead, at halftime and came out en- that's really what has got ergized in the third quarter.

score tight in the first two a brand-new game," Dean a little bit safer, but overall, said. "So, we came out hot. we played pretty well."

The Hornets (18-6) have play.

"We had intensity, and us to this point," Dean said. "At the half, we believe it's "We have got to keep the ball

From left to right, Gianna Schroeder, Brooke Nowakowski, Peighton Berry, Phoebe Mosley and Steven Manley hope to claim medals at this week's district meet. Photo courtesy of Amy Estes

Azle powers way to uplifting victory



Zach Barrett helps the Azle Hornets win their first powerlifting meet of the season.

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

Azle High School's powerlifting boys opened their season by winning first place at a three-team meet at Springtown on Thursday. Brewer and Springtown competed, as well.

Azle's team could be winning medals for a while. Of the two-dozen Hornets who competed at the Springtown tournament, 20 were freshmen.

"We are really, really young," head coach Bo Maines said of his team. "We are just super proud to bring a bunch of young kids over here and compete with these two schools bringing their varsity – that's their best lifters. It's really good for the future of our program."

Azle is one of the few schools around that carries varsity and junior varsity powerlifting teams. In recent years, up to 60 or 70 kids are signing up to compete at the beginning of the season.

"It is awesome," Maines said.

Photo by Jeff Prince

This year's freshmen earned their varsity positions through hard work. Some edged out sophomores and juniors.

"This freshman class is just phenomenal as far as wanting to compete," the coach said. "They just always want to go out and do whatever they can do. They just want to compete nonstop. They are always pushing themselves. It's been a really big blessing for us."

Lady Hornet roundballers ready for Granbury



Mia Carrizales plays a crucial role with the Lady Hornets this season.

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

The Azle Hornet basketball girls began district month with a dominant 41. 57-8 victory over Wichita Falls High School.

tough to come by since tempts. then.

sion and built a lead in the third quarter.

the scoreboard by the time the buzzer sounded, howcompetition earlier this ever, and fell to Aledo 47-

The Lady Hornets strug- game," Marquart said. "She gled at the free throw line, did a lot of really good things District wins have been missing seven of 11 at- for us. She is dynamite in a they've always had really

"We knew these games

Karlee and Kendall varsity. Locke paced the Lady Hor-

13 points, respectively. Mia Carrizales led the team in rebounds with six.

"Mia had a really nice small package."

Carrizales is a 5-foot,

"You have to look at all They came up short on nets in scoring, with 15 and your kids and see where you are going to best benefit them and the program, how it's going to fit each team as to where they go," Marquart said. "We have had some of our juniors do that, and

nice senior years." "She just battles," Mar-Aledo with a 1-1 mark dis- said. "Our district is pretty year, she ran point for the quart said. "She is scrappy. She really works hard."

forward to making a push positivity for herself. Phrastoward the playoffs.

"I want to help the team as much as I possibly can to win games and keep going," she said. "Even if we lose, I want to get back up and keep pushing forward and work hard."

Carrizales, one of only Carrizales has emerged as takes her role as a leader se-

es that run through her head while she is rushing up and down the court include, "You got this. Get it next time. Don't think about it too much. You got the next rebound. You got the next pass," she said.

Carrizales likes fishing two seniors on the team, and reading when she isn't playing basketball or attending classes, but "most of my time is on the court," she said.

into Friday's game against head coach Mitzi Marquart first varsity season. Last trict play. The girls, hoping tough. We've got to try to junior varsity team and reto push their record to 2-1, be consistent every night fined her skills rather than played with grit and pas- because it will be a battle." playing a backup role on senior season and looking

The Lady Hornets went were going to be tough," 2-inch senior playing her a fiery team leader.

Carrizales is enjoying her

riously. "I try to be positive by lifting up my teammates as much as I can on the court,"

she said. She saves some of the Granbury (17-10).

Azle (18-7) plays at 6:15 p.m. Jan. 21 at home against

Azle cheerleaders tweaking routine for national contest

BY JEFF PRINCE ieff@azlenews.net

place at the state contest held Thursday in Fort Worth.

"We have never competed against this many teams before, and our division has grown a lot," said AHS head coach Haley Hopkins.

Azle beat out 23 other teams at the contest.

band chant portion of the contest.

Judges scrutinize three sections of a team's routine - band chant, crowd leading and fight song. During band props such as flags and megaphones to fire up the crowd.

"Our team shined so bright in band chant," Hopkins said. "This is their favorite part of the routine. The song very fast. Their ripples were clean, the boys were awesome with the flags, and in Florida, the coach said. they were very loud with the megaphones."

"perfect opening" to the team's three-minute routine.

"What set us apart from The Azle High School other teams is the amount Cheer and Hornet Muscle of choreography in this co-ed squad nabbed fifth section and the fast-paced dance with callbacks for the crowd, like A-Z-L-E and A-H-S," she said.

> In the previous five state competitions, Azle Cheer and Hornet Muscle earned two gold and three silver medals.

"Azle Cheer did the best they could, and that's all The Hornets won the best anyone can ask," Hopkins said, reflecting on the season. "We are ready to show everyone at nationals how much hard work we are putting in."

Azle's co-ed team is headchant, teams dance and use ed to the national contest on Feb. 12-13 at Orlando, Florida. State UIL contests don't impact nationals. Regional contests determine which teams advance to nationals.

Judges' remarks at the is upbeat, and the dance is state contest are prompting Azle's team to tweak its routine for the upcoming event

"We will be cleaning our stunts and motions as well," Hopkins considers it the she said. "We are still proud



Azle Cheer and Hornet Muscle won the best band chant category and took fifth place out of 28 teams competing at the state contest. Photo by Jeff Prince

on, but we know that we have she said. improvements to make before our next competition."

The team has grown and and how much every spot on earned with the hard work da at nationals."

of the performance we put learned so much already, the mat matters," Hopkins put in during the practices said. "Our team understands that lead up to it. We are "Everyone knows how that our placement is not ready to put in the work and much we need each other earned at competition, it's perform it all again in Flori-

Azle rodeo team lassos top spot

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

Azle High School's rodeo team, back from a six-week schedule break, wasted little time letting local cowboys and cowgirls know who rules the rodeo.

On Friday, the Hornets excelled at the North Texas High School Rodeo Association event, with numerous team members winning medals.

The good showing earned enough points to move Azle into the top spot in the rankings among the more than 80 teams participating in the rodeo season.

Airian Moore won first place in bareback.

In tie-down, Sean Bunero earned fifth place.

Laurel Allred and Hevenli Scribner placed eighth and ninth respectively in walkup goats.

Four girls placed in barrels, including Allred, second; Rylee Sisson, third; Lindsey-Kay Reichert, fifth; and Scribner, 10th.

Sisson placed sixth in poles.

In chute dogging, Sean Bunero won seventh, and Wyatt Allison earned 10th.

The Azle rodeo team holds a slim lead over second-place Elite Christian and third-place Decatur.

The rest of the teams, led by Abeka, Weatherford and Springtown, are falling farther behind in the standings. The season concludes in May.



Azle's Rylee Sisson earned third place in barrel racing and sixth in pole bending at the North Texas High School Rodeo Association event over the weekend. Courtesy of Jo H Photography

Azle Christian boys drop district opener

BY JEFF PRINCE jeff@azlenews.net

were on a two-game losing streak heaped responsibility for the loss heading into last week's district on himself. opener against a tough Irving Faustina Academy squad.

— for a while, at least.

"We started off great," head Camden Logan led the Crusadcoach Ryan Rollins said. "We were ers in scoring with 15, and Ryan only down by one point at the end English tallied 10. of the first quarter."

big, and we had problems with their size."

The Crusaders lost 77-54. Rol-The Azle Christian Crusaders lins praised his team's effort and

"I just didn't coach well and make the right adjustments," he Azle Christian played tough said. "I feel like we will be fine from the opening tip-off and kept in district. We knew Faustina was up basket for basket with Faustina very good. We will be ready next time, for sure."



kind.

after that," he said. "They were Jan. 25 in Irving.

Azle Christian (7-10) will have The second quarter wasn't as its chance for redemption soon, playing its second district game Faustina "pretty much took over against Faustina (1-1) at 7 p.m.

Ryan English scored 10 points in the district opener against Faustina.

Photo by Jeff Prince

Azle Christian girls battle Faustina



Vanessa Malewiski, above, and her Azle Christian teammates played with strength and skill in their district opener against a tough Irving Faustina on Thursday. The Crusaders lost 26-14 but proved they are Photo by Jeff Prince ready to compete in the TAPPS 1A league after years of playing smaller schools in the TCAF.

AZLE

Game Faces



Kylin Crofford on the baritone sax



Madison Hamilton



From left to right, Kylin Crofford, Alaina Amato, Alyssa Anderson, and Alex Perez.





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Azle News Wednesday, January 19, 2022

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Child Nutrition Director Springtown ISD 817-220-2460

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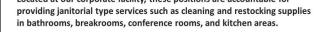
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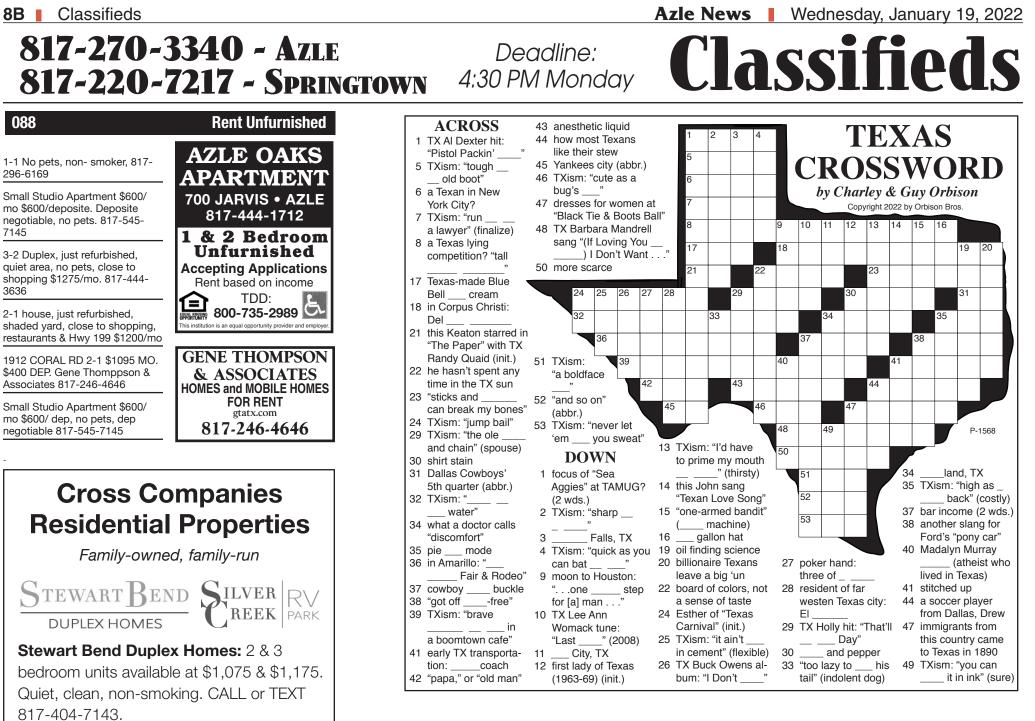
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