

THE TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

THE NEWS OF AZLE, SPRINGTOWN, AND SURROUNDING AREAS

THURSDAY, October 19, 2023 • \$1.00



Marching Green Pride area bound

COURTESY PHOTO
The Marching Green Pride
excelled at regionals. SEE STORY
PAGE B1

Overdose awareness group founder hopes to change lives by sharing story with drug offenders

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SPRINGTOWN — Jessica Castro knows what it's like to lose a loved one to drug overdose, and she wants people

who struggle with addiction to know their drug use doesn't just affect them but their families as well.

Now, Castro can meet with people who are on probation for drug-related offenses and

tell them her story, thanks to a partnership with Parker County officials.

After losing their son Joseph to overdose, Springtown couple Jessica and Joe Castro founded the

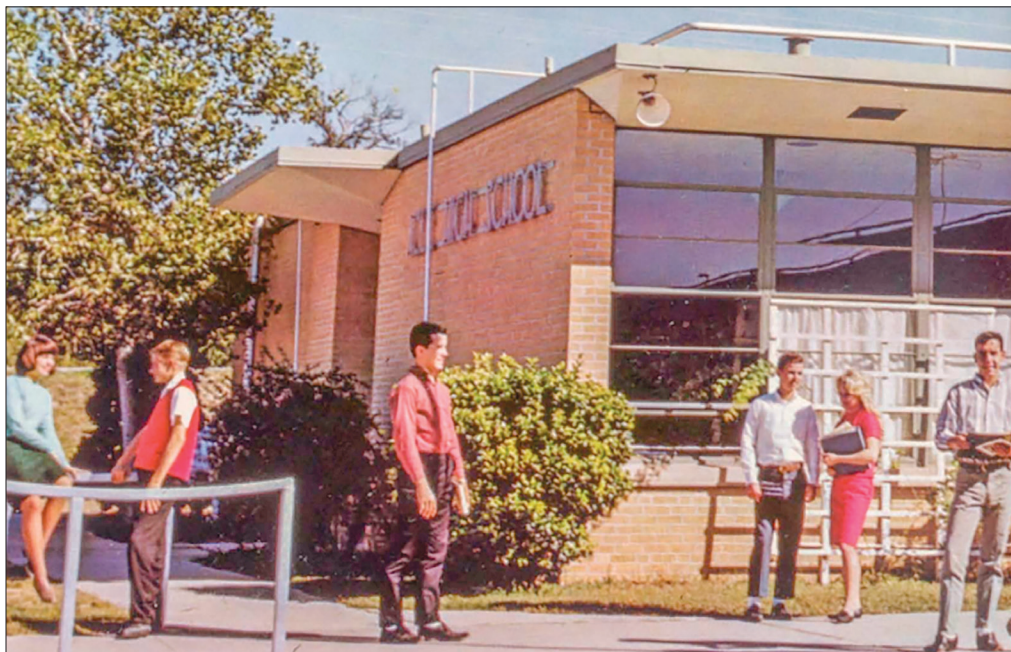
overdose awareness group We ARE our Brother's Keeper. They are involved in community outreach to support families who have lost loved ones to overdose, provide resources to those struggling

with addiction and generally help people in need.

Last year, Castro spoke at a Springtown Area Chamber of Commerce luncheon about We ARE Our Brother's Keeper and met District Attorney Jeff

Swain afterward. Castro said Swain approached her about this idea to talk with drug offenders, and the program started developing from

PLEASE SEE LIVES | A3



The original front of the building facing School Street was located where the current library now is.

COURTESY LINDSAY SMITH

Azle Junior High: a snapshot from the '50s

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AZLE — It's always 2:45 p.m. at Azle Junior High School — at least that's what its stuck clocks would have you believe.

The building on School Street was constructed in 1953, just seven years after the founding of Azle Independent School District and served as its high school until 1970, when the current high school on Boyd Road was completed. While the building contains over half a

Staff discusses the history of Azle Junior High, current needs, bond election

century of Azle history, today the original structure struggles to meet the needs of the nearly 700 students and staff that walk its halls.

"We've just outgrown it," school secretary Lindsay Smith said "It hasn't changed a whole lot. All the (cafeteria) windows are original with a handle crank. The air condi-

tioners are always failing; we have power issues sometimes. The modern Wi-Fi technology, we've had to adapt, it doesn't work as cohesively here as it does in the newer campuses."

The cafeteria, originally built when the city of Azle

PLEASE SEE JUNIOR | A7

Forever grateful

Springtown-area residents benefit from Servolution Network's Good Neighbors Blitz

MADELYN EDWARDS
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SPRINGTOWN — Springtown-area native Kaylie Carson hopes to name her soon-to-arrive baby boy Wisher, which is a name she has been thinking about since seventh grade.

"A baby is a wish for some people," Carson said about

the name. "I also had a miscarriage on Christmas, so this is definitely like my little rainbow baby."

Before she could welcome her son to the world, Carson wanted to make sure they would have a good place to live. She has been living in a camper in the Springtown area. She had plans to move into a tiny home adjacent to

the camper, but the process of getting it ready in time for Wisher's arrival became too much for the young couple.

"We had just bought the tiny house," Carson said. "We thought we could do it ourselves, and then it got too close to baby being here, so I definitely needed some help.

SEE GRATEFUL | A14



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

David Wilson, who works at Dynamic Decks, installs a ramp at John and Vicki Harvey's home in the Springtown area during Servolution Network's Good Neighbors Blitz on Oct. 13.



TRICK-OR-TREATING at Eagle Crest Villa



Our residents are excited to welcome your trick-or-treaters of all ages again this year!

Tuesday, Oct. 31 • 6 – 7 PM

113 Denver Trail, Azle • EagleCrestVilla.com

Eagle Crest VILLA SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY 817-444-3249



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Local, zone(s) 2 sections, 28 pages

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Coffee with First Responders

Representatives of Let's Talk Azle and Azle's first responders met with community at Azle ISD Administration building

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AZLE — On the morning of Oct. 13, police, EMTs and firefighters from Azle, Briar and Reno were present at the Azle ISD Administration building, enjoying coffee, donuts and other goodies while socializing with community members. Coffee with First Responders has been an initiative regularly carried out by Azle's Chamber of Commerce and the City of Azle to let ordinary citizens

get to know those who protect and serve them. In addition to Coffee with First Responders, members of the Let's Talk Azle steering committee were also present to inform the community on its recent push to unite and strengthen the bonds between local denizens. By working with the city, businesses and schools, members of the organization hope to prevent division, hatred and extremism from taking hold within the community.



Members of Let's Talk Azle's steering committee, first responders and people of Azle enjoyed the morning chatting and eating together.

ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER



New Azle mural completed

Sheri Lopez completes Azle mural on side of Edward Jones Investments in front of Main Street Tacos

Sheri Johnson-Lopez finished work on the mural designed and commissioned by Azle City Council on Oct. 11. The mural incorporates words and images meaningful to the community. Lopez, who started working on the mural on Oct. 2, is responsible for window art and murals on Main Street, Azle High School, the Azle Fire Department and throughout the community.

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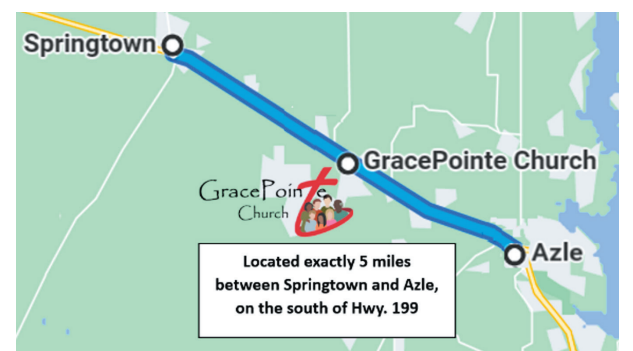
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REDEDICATION SUNDAY
October 29, 2023 • 11 AM
4110 E. Hwy. 199

Featuring Former Pastor Dr. John Mann
Dr. D.L. and Alice Lowrie
(former pastor of First Baptist Church, Lubbock)
&
Rev. Ray & Mickey Rodgers
(former pastor of First Baptist Church, Possum Kingdom)

Come meet our new pastor and wife
Rev. Timothy and Melissa McKeown



Spending money on thin air

There was a time, not that long ago, when people seemed to be more concerned about how they spent their money. As a youngster I can remember dad bringing home his paycheck and handing it to my mother. She would take the income and divide it up by the things which had to be paid. The biggest items were rent, utilities, food, and transportation expenses (car payment, oil changes, new tires, and repairs). She would set out enough money to cover those expenses, and then take what was left over to make allocations for clothing, savings, and entertainment. By the time she got through with the list, there was little left over for frills or casual expenses. The Houston household did not go out to dinner while there was perfectly good food



FROM MY FRONT PORCH

By Sam Houston

Sam Houston is a syndicated columnist and newspaper executive. He is also an author, actor, playwright and entertainment producer/promoter. sam@hcnews.com

at home to eat. We did not go to the movies, unless it was the drive-in where the carload could enter for \$5, and we always brought our own drinks and popcorn from home. Clothes were bought for their practicality and utility, not for their fashion statement or the name of the designer. We were not poor, we were middle class, and my folks wanted to be able to send their kids to college and have funds for retirement when they finally quit work. They were conservative, and practical, and used their heads in

distinguishing what was truly needed as opposed to what was desired or convenient. This past week, the dashboard on my car started flashing a warning that three of my tires were low on air. With the sudden seasonal weather change occurring, I knew I had not run over a handful of nails, but rather it was the temperature change which had caused the pressure to drop in the tires. There are long ago recollections of pulling into a full-service gas station and while the gas was being pumped,

an attendant would check the oil and water, wash the windshield, and check the tire pressure in all the tires. As a young boy, sitting in the backseat, I would observe the gas station employee running around the car to accomplish all his tasks before the pump turned off. It was a fascinating process to observe and very impressive. Nowadays, if there are any full-service stations, I do not know where they are. We all pump our own gas and if we are lucky, there is a squeegee located on the service island to wash our dirty windshield. Few places have an air compressor to add air to your tires. If they do, it is located at a distant edge of the business and there is a fee. Not sure the last time I needed to add air to my tires, but if my memory serves me right the

coin machine attached to the air compressor charged 50 cents. When I pulled up to the station this week, I learned the price had been raised to two dollars! Yes, \$2 for air! When I saw the price, I stopped in my tracks. Then I thought, wait a minute. The people who own the station had to buy a compressor, keep it maintained and operational, and have it available for when I pulled up. That would cost a lot of money and as a businessman, I could understand the need to recapture that expense. Maybe \$2 is not an unreasonable fee? On the other hand, I knew I had a small compressor in my garage which could air up my tires. It would require me to dig it out from behind the assortment of junk which fills that building, and then

drag it out to my car. In doing so I would save two dollars. A part of me said, “heck you are already at a pump, go ahead and spend the \$2, you tightwad. After all, my time is worth something. Get this over with and move on to something else.” On the other hand, I could feel my dad’s hand on my shoulder saying, “can’t you do this at home?” I left the station, drove home, dug the air compressor out of the garage and aired up my tires. No, I did not go to Starbucks and spend \$6 on a cup of coffee to celebrate! A penny saved is a penny earned. Thought for the day: Don’t buy things you can’t afford with money you don’t have, to impress people you do not like. Until next time...I will keep ridin’ the storm out.

Local crisis pregnancy center awarded \$6,000+ from Edge Church, Lutheran synod

ZACH FREEMAN

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AZLE — The Eagle Mountain Pregnancy Help Center, located just outside Azle, has experienced a summer to remember. The pro-life nonprofit continues to come into additional funding even after collecting about \$60,000 during its Aug. 3 gala. In June, The Edge Church in Azle applied for a grant from the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod to match any funds collected for the benefit of EMPCH up to \$5,000. “According to the LCMS website, ‘The people of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod (LCMS) love children and families,’” Cynthia Chapa, executive director of The Edge Church, said. “As an expression of this

Eagle Mountain Pregnancy Help Center president grateful for matched funds

love, beginning in 2022, the Synod offered its congregations across the U.S. matching grants in support of local pro-life efforts, both big and small.” On Sept. 28, grant writer Katherine Ewing received news that The Edge had been awarded the matched funds. The church ultimately raised \$3,096.75 in donations and in early November a check will be delivered from The Edge to the pregnancy center in the doubled amount of \$6,193.50. The funds will be used for software, baby supplies, equipment, and a highly anticipated Christmas party for clients and their families at The Edge. The

Edge Church celebrates the generosity of its members and other individuals who contributed. Staff and board members at EMPHC are also thrilled to hear the news. “On behalf of the staff and board [of directors], we are so pleased The Edge Church has so generously poured themselves into an effort to partner with the EMPHC to help preserve life and serve families,” Karen Ogea, president of EMPHC said. “With their efforts and the generosity of the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, the awarded grant is just over \$6,000, which specifically meets the large and upcoming need for our Brightcourse

educational software, and the client platform used by our families. The award will also be used to host a large and lovely holiday Christmas party at The Edge Church for our clients and their children, with opportunities for a meal, games, and encouragement. The center is also in need of printed materials in English and Spanish, and the award will cover a large portion of this expense as well.” The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, which provided the matching funds, is the second-largest Lutheran organization in the United States, spanning 50 states with over 1.8 million members.

“The LCMS is purposeful in its mission to help organizations like the EMPHC restore rightful value to human life, those of innocent preborn children and those of the families,” Ogea said. “To transform lives and help them grow is a like-mindedness that is shared between the LCMS, The Edge Church, and the EMPHC. The partnership between these three organizations has proven to be a blessing beyond what any of us imagined and this grant is timely and needed. It’s no small thing to complete a grant application and paperwork, then to follow up in the months afterward to ensure accountability. The congregation at The Edge Church has demonstrated steadfast determination in ensuring their support, and the grant team

there has enthusiastically labored toward this blessing.” “The team of staff and board at the center are continually humbled by the community’s recognition of the center’s growing services and the contributions needed to transform the lives that come to us for help. In 2023, we have seen continued monthly client growth and an increase in those families choosing life for their babies,” Ogea said. “Thank you community, The Edge Church, and the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod for your purposeful giving and volunteering!” The Eagle Mountain Pregnancy Help Center is located at 10328 Jacksboro Highway in Fort Worth and The Edge Lutheran Church is at 1313 Southeast Parkway, Azle.

Springtown police deputy chief reports uptick in animal control calls

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SPRINGTOWN — Springtown Police Deputy Chief Jamie Oliver’s quarterly report to the city council featured updates about the city’s animal control services. During the June through August 2023 quarter, Springtown Police Department responded to 4,572 calls for service, which included 253 animal complaints. During his report on Sept. 27, Oliver noted animal complaints increased during the summer quarter compared to the previous quarter when there were 138 calls. Oliver previously reported the department had received 317 animal complaints for the year so far in his report

City animal shelter also undergoing renovations

covering March through May. After the most recent quarterly report, that yearly total would be about 570. The city of Springtown established its own animal control service about a year ago to avoid costly increases in its contract with Parker County’s animal control services and the animal shelter in Weatherford that the county utilizes. Also, city leaders felt they would be able to provide a higher level of service to residents by offering city animal control. The city now has two animal control officers instead of one, which Oliver said is

because of the increase in animal calls. “They’re doing really great jobs,” Oliver said about the two new animal control officers, both of whom started working for the city over a month ago. “They’ve done super well.” City Secretary Christina Derr specifically complimented the new animal control officers on their use of social media and connecting with the community. Having two animal control officers allows one of them to focus on taking calls and caring for animals while the other can take care of administrative tasks.

“That was a hard job for just one person to do,” Derr said. Oliver also reported renovations are underway at the animal shelter, which is located across from the police station on Martin Avenue. The deputy chief said the quarantine pen was updated and a wash station will be added. Derr said the shelter used to have some covered outdoor kennels, but the building is now completely enclosed and insulated, which is better for climate control in the shelter and allows for more kennel space for dogs. “Before, we had seven kennels we couldn’t use during the summer, not full time,” Derr said. “We could use them to clean other ones, but nobody could stay in there,

or in winter because it was too cold. So basically, (this) doubles the number of kennels we have for dogs.” Responding to a question, Oliver told the city council more space is needed for cats in the shelter. “It’s pretty tight in there,” he said. “We’re having a very high influx of cats.” Space is limited for dogs as well, Derr said, and unlike cats, multiple dogs can’t share a kennel. “Most of the time, they’re full,” she said. “Unless it’s a vicious dog or we’re worried about rabies or something, a lot of times they don’t have enough space to take a surrender.” The current renovations are not the end of the shelter’s capacity needs, Derr said.

The council previously authorized a facility study the city will use to plan next steps, which for the animal shelter may include renovating and repurposing an existing city building or constructing a new space for the animals. “Based on the numbers I saw for what they did over the last year, they’re still going to need quite a bit more space, and that’s not counting how we’re growing,” Derr said. “The animal shelter, as far as facilities, is probably the biggest need right now.” More information about Springtown’s animal control services can be found online at cityofspringtown.com/city-services/animal-control or on Facebook by searching for “City of Springtown Animal Control.”

LIVES

FROM PAGE A1

there. “The district attorney has a heart for our community and understands families everywhere out here are affected by drugs, and he’s trying to help in any way he can,” Castro said. Swain confirmed he quickly followed Castro out to the parking lot after that chamber luncheon to introduce himself to her. “She was a really good speaker, and importantly, she was speaking from the heart,” Swain said. “When you have somebody who’s been through what she’s been through and is willing to

do that, I really thought she could impact some lives.” The goal with people on probation is to connect them with resources to address issues that lead them to getting in trouble, Swain said. He hopes the initiative with We ARE Our Brother’s Keeper will target younger adult offenders and help them realize what a devastating effect their overdose would have on their families, even if they are not currently connected with their relatives. “Sometimes people who are really badly addicted to drugs don’t care about what happens to them, in that moment at least, but they do care about what happens to their family,” Swain said. “We don’t necessarily care what tools we use. If we can help

people get through drug addiction and get out (on) the other side, that’s exactly what we want to do.” Prosecutors will keep an eye out for candidates who may benefit from the program and then add that requirement as a condition of probation, Swain said. The defense attorney and defendant would have to agree to that condition on the plea offer, and then the judge will make a ruling. “It really is different than most of our conditions of probation because really, all it requires of them is to sit with her and listen and talk,” the district attorney said. “Usually, you have community service, or you have a class or whatever, and there’s all these different things re-

quired. We just want to try to open hearts and have them hear her message. And some of them may not be willing to listen to that, but they’ll sit there and maybe some of it will soak in, and (for) others that may be the thing that changes their mind and changes what they’re going to do. We’re kind of playing the odds. It may not work for everybody, but if it works for the one person or some people, then that’s amazing.” Castro imagines this program as having relaxed conversations with people on probation where she tells them her story and how others’ addiction has impacted her life. She wants offenders to know their stories are not necessarily unique, and there are others who understand

what they’re going through as well as that their drug use affects their loved ones also. “If I can tug on someone’s heart and make them realize, ‘Hey, you’re hurting your mom. Your mom loves you. Even if she’s not able to show you that love right now, she still loves you, and she needs you because this would happen if you don’t clean up,’ then I want them to have that heart tug and hopefully not want to continue to use,” Castro said. She added, “Families don’t need to go through those things, so even if we can tell our story and help just one, then that’s what we’re supposed to be doing.” Castro hopes to recruit other people to tell their stories to offenders as well, includ-

ing those who are in recovery from addiction. She is only required to speak with offenders once, but depending on the person she’s speaking to, Castro said she wants to build relationships with them and help them on their journeys. Eventually, she wants to find ways to help formerly incarcerated drug offenders to find jobs, manage their emotions and better their lives. The ultimate purpose of this new initiative is not just to keep people from participating in the criminal justice system but to save lives, Swain said. “If we can do that, hopefully they’ll also not stay in the criminal justice system or come back into it,” he said. “We’re really on that larger goal.”



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Springtown Pack 303 cubmaster entertains while earning high honor

MADELYN EDWARDS

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SPRINGTOWN — In a scene reminiscent of a cartoon, Springtown Cub Scouts Pack 303 Cubmaster Holly Lowe whipped out a long, narrow sheet of paper as she prepared to give a speech.

But at first, Lowe couldn't find her speech, so she asked other Cub Scouts leaders if they had it. None of them did, though they did find her lost marbles, the remainder of her sanity and the one hour a week she had already spent. Then, she finally found the speech, which was on a piece of paper so long that it extended from Lowe's hands to the ground.

Lowe jokingly began her speech with saying, "It all began with kindergarten," as those in the audience laughed.

Lowe, who has been the pack's cubmaster for a few years, is known for her animated presence at Cub Scouts meetings, most notably in the themed costumes she wears. This time, she showed off her playful antics as she was being honored for earning the Wood Badge, which is an advanced leadership course available to Scouting volunteers and professionals.

"I knew it was kind of a serious moment, and I knew that a lot of families wouldn't understand what was go-

ing on," Lowe said about her speech gag after the Cub Scouts meeting on Sept. 26. "They see me up there each week, but they don't see what happens behind the scenes. So, I had to put a little twist on it and make it fun for everybody so they're not sitting through another presentation."

To earn the Wood Badge, Lowe completed training a year ago, and then finished five additional tasks — cleaning and organizing the pack's new storage shed, staffing a Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation training as well as National Youth Leadership Training, attended a University of Scouting training and invited scouts who had left the pack amid the COVID-19 pandemic to rejoin.

"I wanted to further my training and be able to provide more to the pack," Lowe said about pursuing the Wood Badge. "It teaches you how to deal with crucial conversations, major conflicts and things like that. I wanted to better myself and bring back stuff to this pack that I could pass on."

Lowe feels she has been able to pass on her knowledge, and she has encouraged other leaders in the pack to also pursue the Wood Badge.

"Now I get to be on staff and watch them go through something I did completely alone and was terrified," she said.

"I'm thankful they have a support system going into it."

About a month before her Wood Badge ceremony, Lowe described experiencing a mix of excitement and nervousness for the event.

"Being the center of attention is surprisingly scary," she said. "You wouldn't believe that with me dressed up in all these costumes and everything. It's hard to think about, but I'm excited at the same time."

On Sept. 26 at the pack's annual Raingutter Regatta, Sea Scouts Ship 1910 Skipper Christopher Mahanna hosted the Wood Badge ceremony, which included Lowe getting outfitted with a new neckerchief and a set of beads. During her speech, Lowe thanked several people, including her family, her children who are in Scouting, the previous Cubmaster James Gerow, the pack's leaders and those in her Wood Badge cohort who attended the ceremony.

"Last but not least, I'd like to thank everybody in this room, all the scouts and all these parents who are in here because I would not be here if it was not for everyone in here," Lowe said during her speech. "Thank you all for trusting me each week to stand up here and give you a good laugh — I mean, at least I hope I do — and provide a great program with the help of these leaders here."



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Springtown Cub Scouts Pack 303 Cubmaster Holly Lowe reads her speech off a comically long piece of paper during the ceremony honoring her for achieving the Wood Badge on Sept. 26.

HELP FEED OUR HUNGRY NEIGHBORS

Are you feeling the strain of rising costs of the most basic expenses – fuel, utilities, and food? As our operating costs continue to increase, so are the number of families needing our assistance. CCC is now serving over 1,300 families each month and the numbers are continuing to grow. This is a 30% increase in the number of families served in 2022.

Our annual budget is being stretched to keep food on our shelves! Here's a look at how your donation will help:

Keeping our pantry shelves fully stocked is challenging. Our partnership with Tarrant Area Food Bank, gives CCC the ability to purchase large quantities of food for as little as \$0.15 per pound, so your dollar goes a long way. \$25 feeds a family of two for one week!

At the beginning of 2022, CCC added a Hygiene Corner to our Free Shop. Our Hygiene Corner budget and donated items are still not enough to keep up with the needs from our clients. Help us to supply our families with shampoo, body wash, tooth paste, feminine hygiene products, and laundry detergent. \$25 will supply a month's worth of hygiene products for one household!

In 2022, we provided 863 holiday meals to families in need through our Annual Christmas Boxes. As CCC has grown, so has this program. Based on the higher demand for food this year, we anticipate needing 1,000 boxes. \$25 will provide one Christmas Box, including meat, for one household!

CCC supports Azle ISD students by funding the Weekend Backpack Program, giving students who are chronically hungry, ready-to-eat meals and snacks each Friday. During the 2022-23 school year, we provided over 4,500 backpacks. \$25 will purchase six backpacks to ease the food insecurity of 6 students!

\$100 will help secure our inventory in all four categories!

For your convenience, there are multiple ways to donate online at www.communitycaringcenter.com or mail a check to the Community Caring Center 317 Commerce Street, Azle TX 76020.

If you have additional questions about the services we provide or would like to tour our facilities, please feel free to contact our Executive Director, Kristie Cooper at (817) 270-2962. With your help we can continue to make a difference for so many in our community. Please donate today!



Community Caring Center Uniting to Serve

317 Commerce Street, Azle TX 76020

www.communitycaringcenter.com

Kristie Cooper (817) 270-2962

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THE NEWS OF AZLE, SPRINGTOWN, AND SURROUNDING AREAS

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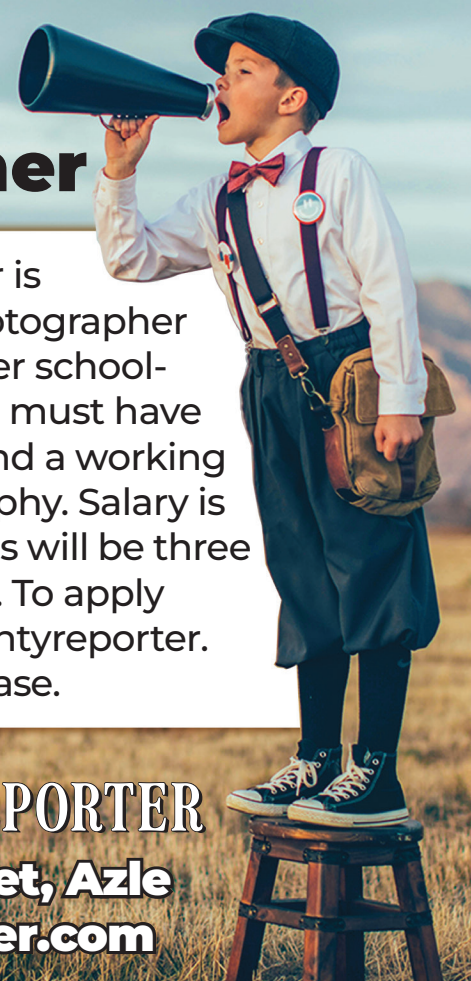
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Cool Mornings, Warm Afternoons

It's that time of the year when you need to be prepared for both cool weather and sunny hot weather. Launching in the a.m. and running down the lake can be quite cool, but as the sun rises, you'll be shedding those jackets/clothes quickly.



ON FISHING

By Michael Acosta

As a licensed professional fishing guide, Michael Acosta shows you how to find them. The Granbury resident of 30 years has been fishing all of his life, and has been a licensed guide since 1998. michael.acosta@att.net

I don't know how many times I have folks with me who are not prepared for the weather even if I warn them beforehand. It is a good idea to have a jacket this time of year that will keep you warm enough for that morning run down the lake. It is also a good idea this jacket be waterproof/water resistant for obvious reasons. Even if there is no rain in the forecast, you might need some protection from water spray from potential wave action, especially on those windy days. I do keep a couple of extra rain jackets in the boat just in case. They are not insulated at all, but the vinyl will break the wind for the run down the lake and they will keep your upper torso dry.

Most boats are relatively dry inside, but on occasion you will get water in the boat. Some boats have self-bailing decks that on occasion will allow a small amount of water

in the boat. Other days on the water, the wave action can cause water to splash into the boat. People climbing in and out of boats will also bring in water. For this reason, tennis shoes that can get wet are not always the best choice on the boat. In the summer a shoe that is designed to get wet is a good idea. For cooler times of the year, a good water proof boat shoe/boot with good traction is a good idea. Having wet socks and shoes can make the day less favorable especially if it is cold. Currently it remains warm enough most days that I still wear my "water shoes" which are made to wade out in the water, but the time is near where I will use rubber boots when launching the boat to keep dry. Being wet when it's cold is not fun.

With these warm after-

noons, don't forget the sun block. When on the water in the boat, you can still get burned. I believe the reflection from the water can actually be more intense than on land. The afternoons can still get pretty warm, especially if there is not any wind, and we have had a bunch of days with no wind.

Bring plenty of water and fluids. Though the sun is not as intense in the fall, you still need to hydrate. I know I am more likely to have a headache if I don't hydrate. I also know after the day on the water is done, I am in a lot better shape if I drink plenty of fluids. It does make a difference. Fall weather has arrived. Enjoy the water and the weather and I will see you out there!



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured L to R is Johnny Howard, Dave Spiva, Rett Sears, Colten Byrd and Ronnie Byrd. These fellows enjoyed a family outing with Granbury's Dave Spiva. They caught some big Granbury Striped bass to 10lbs this past weekend.

FISHING REPORT

Granbury water levels continue to be about 2 feet low and falling slowly. Lake turnover is ongoing with water temperatures in the low to middle 70s. Granbury catfish continue to be good with an occasional big fish 20 pounds plus on cut bait fished on the upper ends. Striped bass to 12 pounds are possible on the lower ends on live shad and down rigged jigs or Alabama rigs. Sandbass are fair with some good catches reported near DeCordova subdivision and in town by the Shores. Largemouth bass to 7 pounds are possible on crankbaits and soft plastics fished near main lake points and on 10-foot humps on many areas of the lake. Crappie limits continue to be taken on minnows and small jigs fished midlake on submerged structure (bridge pilings and trees).

Comanche Creek (formerly Squaw Creek) reservoir black bass are being caught in numbers on soft plastics with an occasional bigger fish to 8 pounds. Channel catfish limits are common on prepared and cut bait fished on many areas of the lake. Tilapia (invasive species) are abundant and are being taken with cast nets or others are catching them on worms fished under a bobber in the backs of coves and creeks.

On other reservoirs, Whitney and Possum Kingdom continue to brag on limits of striped bass on live bait and down rigged jigs. Some good topwater action near feeding flats are reported on both reservoirs.

Spotlight on BUSINESS

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OBITUARIES

Claude "Eddie" Hicks 1962-2023

We are heartbroken to announce the death of Claude Everette Hicks, better known as Eddie. He passed away peacefully on Monday, October 9, 2023, at the age of 61.

Celebration of Life was held at 11 a.m. Sunday, October 15, 2023, at Biggers Funeral Home, 6100 Azle Avenue, Lake Worth, Texas, 76135.

In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests, donations to the Azle Community Caring Center at <https://communitycaring-center.com/donate-online/>. Please note the donation is in memory of Eddie in the comment box.

Eddie was a loving husband, a dedicated father, a supportive friend, a competitive pool player, a skilled mechanical engineer, and an elite equestrian professional. He was a member of the American Pool Players Association and the North American Pool Shooters Association. While playing with the Good Ole Boys League from Azle, he often placed first and won matches at Tri-Cup and Tri-Cities tournaments.

Eddie was active in the American Quarter Horse Association and was a certified World Conformation Horse Association judge who officiated competitions throughout the United States and South America. He was the former head trainer at Fossil Gate Farms and Charlie Dobbs Quarter Horses where he trained and showed World and Congress Champion quarter, halter, and thor-



oughbred horses.

When Eddie was not pursuing his competitive and professional goals, he enjoyed spending time with family and friends. He found joy in traveling through the country with his wife and friends as part of the self-titled motorcycle group Wild Hogs and Pigtales. He cheered for his grandchildren at their sporting events every chance he could. He loved watching them grow and learn and was so proud of their accomplishments.

Eddie was preceded in death by his parents, Everette Gaye Hicks and Claudia Marie Hicks.

He is survived by his wife, Heidi Hicks; his children, Sara Grant, Chance Brooks, and Malorie Brooks and her husband, Jay Fussell; his grandchildren, Cheyanne and Dakota Grant; his brother, Scott Hicks; and his niece, Brittany Newell and her husband, Jacob and their children, Olivia and Ethan.

The Tri-County Reporter, Thursday October 19, 2023

James Haney 1933-2023

James Robert Haney, age 90, passed away Monday, October 9, 2023.

Services were held at 11 a.m. Friday, October 13, 2023, in Biggers Funeral Chapel and Committal was at 2:30 p.m. at Pope Cemetery.

Jim was born in Fort Worth, Texas to James Arvel and Lexie Mildred Haney. He married Joan Hamilton of Vernon, Texas in 1952 and they had two sons, James Ray and Kerry Lane Haney.

He attended Fort Worth Technical High focusing on Auto Mechanics. Jim went to work for General Motors in 1954 in the Chassis Department then as a General Supervisor in Production, retiring on January 1, 1988 after 34 years.

Retiring brought them to Azle to their home on Eagle Mountain Lake and a small farm where he raised Beefmaster cattle, worked his hay fields and bought and sold farm equipment.

Always interested in cars, they were members of Vintage Classic T-Bird and Big D Classic T-Bird clubs of Dallas.

They were members of Randol Mills Church of Christ in Arlington and after mov-



ing to the Azle area, became members of Azle Church of Christ.

Jim was preceded in death by his father, mother, grandson, Jody and two brothers, Wayne and Lynn Ray Haney.

He is survived by his wife, Joan of 71 years; two sons, James Ray and his wife, Latisha, Kerry Lane and his wife, Laurie; sister, Alice Waggoner; sisters-in-law, Brigget and June Haney; grandson, Kenny and his wife, Rubee; granddaughter, Ashley and her husband, Marlin; great-granddaughters, Elisabeth and Emily; nieces and nephews.

The Tri-County Reporter, Thursday October 19, 2023

Carolyn Stevens 1935-2023

Carolyn June Bell Stevens flew away to be with Jesus on October 8, 2023.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 21 at Ash Creek Baptist Church, 300 South Stewart St., Azle, Texas.

Carolyn was born in Jack County, Texas, on May 14, 1935, to Aaron D. and Pauline Spangler Bell. Carolyn attended school in Azle, graduating in 1943 in the Old Rock School building.

After high school, Carolyn completed her education at Decatur Baptist College.

Carolyn had a successful business career with Advanced Petroleum in Fort Worth and during her tenure she served in a leadership role with the Business and Professional Business Women's Association of Fort Worth.

After retirement, she served many years as Financial Secretary for Ash Creek Baptist Church.

Carolyn lived a long, full life and faithfully served her Savior while demonstrating her love for others. Her immediate family, as well as her church family, meant the world to her.

She is preceded in death by her parents Aaron D. and Pauline Bell; son Aaron Lee Stevens; and sister Willie Fern



Pettit.

She is survived by her granddaughter, Ashlee N. Stevens of Azle; sister Gloria "Bell" Wheeler of Weatherford; brother Dwayne Bell and wife Cindy of Naples, Texas; brother Dwyatt Bell and wife Ginger of Miami, New Mexico; and numerous nephews, nieces.

The family would like to extend our thanks to the doctors and nurses at College Park Rehabilitation and Care Center - Weatherford and Valor Hospice for taking such good care of Carolyn. Thank you to all those who prayed for us during the last months. In lieu of flowers, gifts may be made to the Ash Creek Baptist Church in Carolyn's memory.

The Tri-County Reporter, Thursday October 19, 2023

Debbie Greenwood 1954-2023

Debbie Greenwood passed at home Oct. 9, 2023, surrounded by her loving family.

She is survived by her husband of 40 years, Ricky Greenwood; son Rusty and daughter-in-law Heather and granddaughters Kaylee and Shayne; and her sister Demetra Smith.

The Tri-County Reporter, Thursday October 19, 2023



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AZLE FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD Rev. Joshua Lowrance 1020 S.E. Parkway, Azle 817-237-4903 Sunday School..... 9:30 AM Morning Worship..... 10:30 AM Wednesday Evening..... 7:00 PM
COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH Pastor - Alton Davis 817-521-4510 1405 Reynolds Rd., Azle 817-444-7117 Directions: 730 N. to 1542 .5 mi. right on Cardinal, left on Reynolds Sunday School..... 9:45 AM Morning Worship..... 11:00 AM Sunday Evening..... 6:00 PM Wednesday Evening..... 7:00 PM

AZLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH DISCIPLES OF CHRIST Interim Minister Rev. Russell Clark, Family Life Minister Emerson Braun 117 Church St. • 817-444-3527 Sunday School..... 10:00 AM Morning Worship..... 11:00 AM
CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH 2233 Hwy 199 E., Springtown 817-221-LIFE (5433) Sunday Worship Service..... 10:00 AM Wednesday..... 7:00 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 Worship..... 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship..... 11:00 AM
FIRST METHODIST CHURCH OF AZLE Pastor: Rev. Raymond Gilman 200 Church St., Azle 817-444-3323 Morn. Worship..... 8:30, 9:45 & 11 AM Sunday School..... 9:45 & 11 AM Youth (UMYF)..... 5:00 PM Sun & 6:30 PM Wed

GRACEPOINTE CHURCH 4110 E. Hwy 199, Springtown Pastor: Timothy McKeown 817-221-5683 gracepointesbc.org Sunday School..... 9:45 am Sunday Service..... 11:00 am Wednesday Bible Study..... 6:00 PM
HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH 800 Highcrest Dr. - Azle 817-444-3063 Saturday..... 5:00 PM Sunday..... 9:00 AM Sunday..... 11 AM (Spanish) Daily Mass (M, T, Th, F)..... 8:00 AM Wednesday Mass Religious ED..... 6:30 PM Confessions..... Sat 4 PM
HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA 4795 E. Hwy 199 - Reno 817-221-HOPE Follow us on Facebook for streaming services Sunday School..... 9:00 AM Traditional Service..... 10:00 AM
SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH 591 S. Reno Rd., Springtown, Texas 76082 Pastor - Bill Gay - 817-304-7443 Coffee and Donuts..... 9:00 AM Sunday School..... 9:30 AM Morning Worship..... 10:30 AM Children's Church After Music Service Wed. Prayer Meeting..... 6:30 PM Wed. Bible Study..... 7:00 PM

LEGACY CHURCH Assembly of God Church Pastor: Gary D. Veazey Hwy. 199 & Jaybird Lane 817-221-2983 Morning Worship..... 9:15 & 11:00 AM Kidz Zone..... 9:15 & 11:00 AM Weds Evening Legacy Group Legacy Youth, Kids All Services..... 7:00 PM
THE RANCH CHRISTIAN COWBOY CHURCH Pastor: Greg Slankard 7955 Reed Rd., Azle 682-327-7082 www.TheRanchCCC.org Sunday School 9:30 am • Worship 10:00 AM Weds 7:00 pm • Thurs Potluck 6:30 pm
SILVER CREEK METHODIST CHURCH Pastor: Bill Killough 2200 Church Rd., Azle 817-444-1382 www.silvercreekmc.org Sunday School 9:30 AM • Worship 10:30 AM
SILVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Jay Ditty Minister of Music: David Musick Corner FM 730 S. & Veal Station Rd. Church 817-444-2325 www.silvercreekbc.org Sunday School..... 9:45 AM Morning Worship..... 10:50 AM Evening Worship..... 6:00 PM Wed. Prayer Service..... 7:00 PM

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: Kristen 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 WORD..... 9:30 AM Empower Worship at the WORD..... 10:45 AM Kids at the WORD..... 10:45 AM PreK at the WORD..... 10:45 AM Emanate at the WORD (Special Needs Ministry)..... 10:45 AM Nursery at the WORD..... 10:45 AM Young Adults at the WORD..... 6:00 PM 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

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JUNIOR

FROM PAGE A1

was home to fewer than 3,000 people, is maxed out by the 200 students who eat at each of the school's three lunch periods. Without a stage or tennis courts, junior high students involved in a number of different extracurriculars find themselves having to utilize the space and resources at Azle High School, competing for what little unused time remains. Classrooms originally built for 10 to 15 students are now regularly forced to hold 25 or more. Hallway lockers remain unused partially because of an already overcrowded passing period with limited space. Brick bathrooms from the 1950s don't have capacity for students or staff, so long lines often form down the hallway. The cheerleaders' locker room, a good location for anyone looking to recreate a scene from Shawshank Redemption, suffers from collapsing mirrors and a water bug infestation due to high humidity. The list of problems described by school staff goes on.

New is a relative term at this campus, with some of the last major renovations and expansions having occurred while secretary Smith was a student in the 80s and 90s. Among these newer additions are science labs and outdoor portable-type buildings which now serve as a computer lab, Mr. Arriaga's Spanish class, and soon an esports team.

"It's hard with 30 kids in a lab," science teacher Amanda Russ said. "I have nine tables and for my biggest class we have to do three per table. The science labs are our largest classrooms and they're about the same size as the elementary normal classrooms in the newer buildings."

The long trek for students coming from athletics to some of these disconnected buildings causes some students to leave their backpacks on the other side of campus to save time and can present challenges for some. Smith described the facilities as, "ADA acceptable but really not user-friendly."

"It could be so much better," Smith said.

Band director Kevin Chapman's domain is located on the periphery of the main building; it's where he leads a band period packed with 86 students.

"Every chair is full," Chapman said. "There's not room to get instruments out. We have to have some kids leave their backpacks in the choir room, some keep theirs with them, some use cubbies and some line the wall. We need a bigger facility."

Chapman said a larger modern band hall, like the ones found in other campuses throughout the district would make his classes easier to manage, would be better for teaching and the students' learning process.

While circumstances have not been ideal for years, hard-working and resourceful staff have managed to work with what they've got.

"Our custodial group is awesome," Smith said. "They've helped preserve this building. If we had somebody that didn't take care of it, it'd be so much worse."

A POSSIBLE ANSWER

There is a potential solution on the horizon for the problems presented by Azle Junior High's ever-aging facilities and a rapidly growing population. On Nov. 7, voters will be presented with the opportunity to vote on a bond proposal that addresses Azle Junior High staffs' concerns — and much more — while dropping the property tax rate 8 cents from last year's tax rate.

Proposition A allocates \$151,500,000 to construction of a replacement Azle Junior High on the location of the existing campus, along with other district-wide needs. The proposed three-story facility will be built with an additional 200 sixth-grade students in mind and will include classrooms that meet TEA size requirements. The proposed structure will allow for more opportunities for advanced academics and extracurriculars, and will include a stage, storm shelter, larger science labs and much more all contained under one roof.

With no concurrent major elections taking place

and worries about low voter turnout abounding, district staff encourage those who live within the boundaries of the Azle ISD to exercise their right to weigh in on this major decision.

To see complete details about the Azle ISD bond proposal, go to: <https://www.azleisd.net/page/2023-bond>.

TARRANT COUNTY VOTING

Early voting begins Monday, Oct. 23 and runs through Friday, Nov. 3. In Tarrant County, early voting hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday, Oct. 23-27; 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 28; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 29; 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 30-31; and 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, Nov. 1-3.

Tarrant County residents voting in the Azle ISD bond election can vote early at the Azle ISD Instructional Support Center at 483 Sandy Beach Road, Suite C in Azle, or at the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office North Patrol Division located at 6651 Lake Worth Blvd. in Lake Worth, among other locations.

Election day is Nov. 7 with voting from from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Tarrant County residents voting in the Azle ISD bond election will vote at the Azle ISD Instructional Support Center, The Edge Church at 1313 Southeast Parkway, or at Pelican Bay City Hall, 1300 Pelican Circle in Pelican Bay.

For complete election information for Tarrant County, please go to: <https://www.tarrantcountytx.gov/en/elections/current-election-information.html>

PARKER COUNTY VOTING

Early voting begins Monday, Oct. 23 and runs through Friday, Nov. 3. Early voting hours in Parker County are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday, Oct. 23-27; 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 28; 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, Oct. 30-Nov. 1; and 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Nov. 2-3.

Residents of Parker County can vote in the Community Room at Azle City Hall, 505 W. Main, Azle, among other locations.

Parker County residents can vote at Azle City Hall or at Silver Creek United Methodist Church at 2200 Church Rd., Azle, among other locations.

To see complete election information for Parker County, point your browser to: <https://www.parkercountytexas.com/118/Elections>

WISE COUNTY VOTING

Early voting begins

Monday, Oct. 23 and runs through Friday, Nov. 3. In Wise County, early voting hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday, Oct. 23-27; 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, Oct. 30-Nov. 1; and 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Nov. 2-3.

Wise County resident voting in the Azle ISD bond election can vote at the Boyd

Community Center, 420 E. Morton St. in Boyd, among other locations.

Election Day voting is from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 7. Wise County residents voting in the Azle ISD bond election may vote at the Boyd Community Center.

Complete election information for Wise County can be found at: <https://www.co.wise.tx.us/315/Elections>.



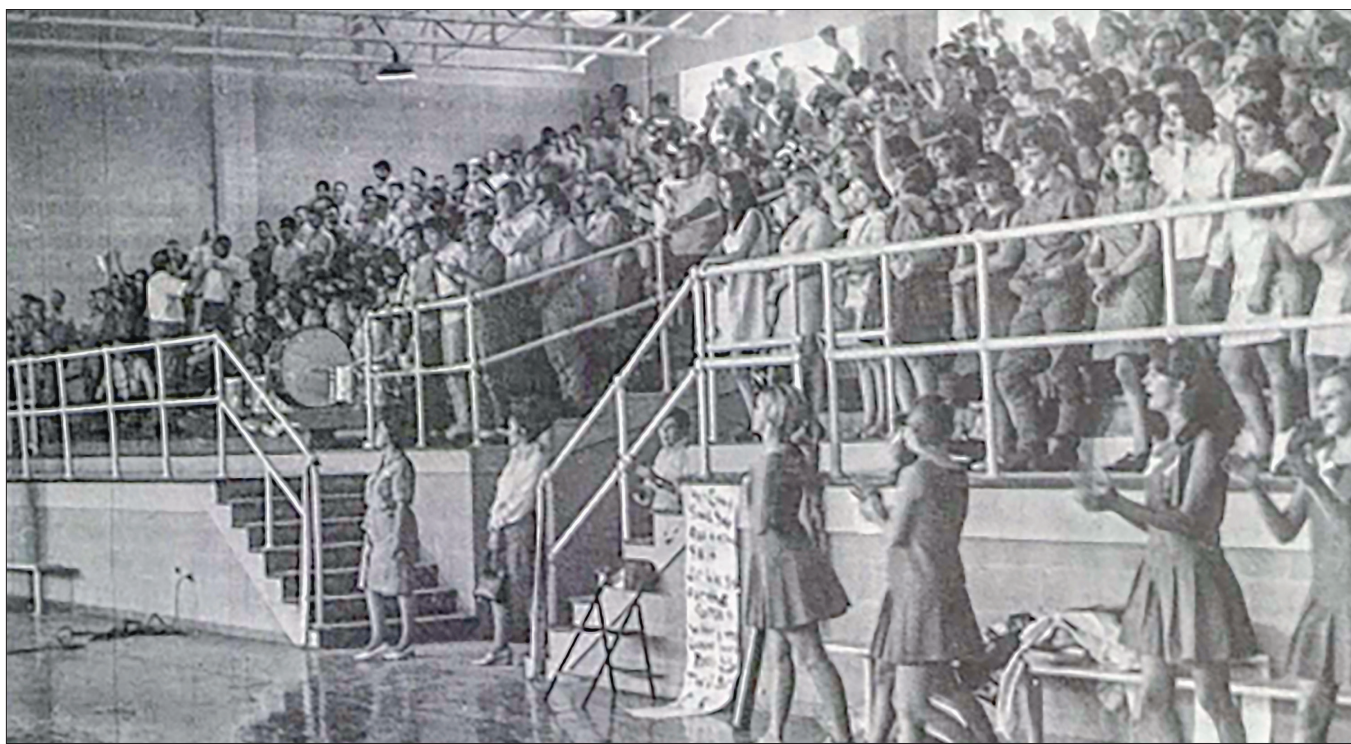
ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Azle Junior High's computer science lab, formerly used as a woodshop classroom and maintenance building, makes do with mismatched furniture and peeling tape-covered tables. "You wouldn't know that was the core of creative computer genius working there," Smith said.



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

The cheerleader's locker room at AJH lies partially underground through a maze of tight corridors past the original gym.



COURTESY LINDSAY SMITH

The junior high's main gym in 1968.

Celebrating 70 years

Fall Festival on Saturday, Nov. 4

It's been 70 years since the former Azle High School — now Azle Junior High — was built on School Street. To celebrate, the school will host a Fall Festival on Saturday, Nov. 4 from 12-4 p.m., showcasing student organizations and fundraising for its groups.

The Fall Festival will consist of live music, games, a dunk tank, eight food trucks, over 50 vendors in the main gym, and 10 different organization

booths including the Azle Junior High math and science team, National Junior Honor Society, student council and cheerleaders. Participating food trucks and vendors will each donate a portion of sales back to Azle Junior High. Red's BBQ, Texas Drip Coffee, and Angie's Louisiana Kitchen will be just a few of the menu options available at the festival.



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A walk in her flip-flops

MADELYN EDWARDS
springtownreporter@tricountyreporter.com

SPRINGTOWN — Springtown City Council recently had a lively discussion on flip-flop sandals and what kind of image that shoe projects for the person wearing them.

During the Sept. 27 meeting, the council was tasked with deciding on amendments, which City Administrator David Miller said were brought up by various council members, to the city's Elected and Appointed Officials Procedures and Protocol Policy. Of the four amendments proposed, the one regarding council members' dress code at certain events sparked a debate about whether flip-flops could be considered professional if worn by council members.

"I'd rather see a flip-flop than a 7-inch stiletto heel as business casual," council member Michele Chandler Kelley said during the meeting.

Specifically, the changes

Springtown Council debates elected officials' dress code, conference participation

address council members' attire at outdoor events they attend while representing the city, including but not limited to city-sponsored events. The amendment included a ban on flip-flops, though Miller noted it might be helpful for flip-flops to be better defined in the policy as some sandals are classier than others.

The dress code debate fell along gendered lines. Council members Chandler Kelley and Richelle Pruitt argued to take the ban on flip-flops out of the policy, describing it as nitpicky. Pruitt, who claimed to own a variety of flip-flops, said the footwear is comfortable for her and a welcome change from the closed-toe shoes she wears for work.

"I'm a grown woman who has a wardrobe," Pruitt said during the meeting. "I have shoes that are comfortable, and I have shoes that are extremely uncomfortable, and I have chosen as a grown

woman not to wear those extremely uncomfortable shoes anymore because I don't have to. I don't have to wear those high heels anymore. I don't have to wear any of that if I don't want to."

Meanwhile, Mayor Pro Tem Walter Roberson and council member Scott Richardson said flip-flops shouldn't be allowed and considered the footwear to be unprofessional.

"I have nothing against flip-flops, but I think in a professional setting, I think image becomes very important, how we are perceived, and if it's somebody's perception to them, that perception is real," Roberson said.

Pruitt claimed it was easier for the men on the council to be against flip-flops since footwear like sandals and shoes with high heels are more commonly worn by women.

"Men don't wear heels

ever, so they have no idea," she said. "If you get something that's comfortable that will go with your outfit, and it looks nice and decent or whatever and you can do it, then you're going to do it. At some point, we quit wearing that stuff because it's uncomfortable."

After a motion failed to approve the amendments as presented, Miller said the dress code amendment would be taken off the table to be rewritten.

Pruitt also took issue with another amendment that would require a certain level of participation at training conferences that council members attend. Miller proposed council members go to at least half the training sessions available at conferences they attend to be accountable to the public and show they are not simply taking taxpayer-funded vacations.

Pruitt said not all the ses-

sions at conferences are helpful to council members considering that state law requires the council to make certain decisions anyways. In contrast, she said she gets more out of networking at the conferences than attending lectures.

"I'm pretty sure I do my job every day that I was elected to do, and I'm accountable to the people every single day, and unless there's a class that can explain to me how to answer some of the questions I get asked every day, then I should be networking and learning from other people," Pruitt said. "I don't need a class that's going to have some yawner up there trying to tell me how to do what we do every day."

Pruitt and Chandler Kelley voted to oppose the amendment about conference participation. For her part, Chandler Kelley explained she wanted to avoid a slew of complaints being filed simply because one council member did not see another in a training session. Violations of the Elected and Appointed

Officials Procedures and Protocol Policy are policed among council members. They can file complaints against each other that will be investigated by the city attorney's office, and then they can choose to act from there.

"We are all grown," Chandler Kelley said. "For accountability for our citizens, I agree with it, but I don't want it to be an issue to say, 'Well, we didn't see you in the afternoon session, so we're going to file a complaint,' and cause thousands of thousands of dollars to rack up that the citizens have to pay for because somebody got their feathers hurt because they didn't see somebody."

Pruitt and Chandler Kelley's votes caused there to be a tie with Roberson and Richardson who voted to approve the amendment. Mayor Greg Hood stepped in to break the tie by moving to pass the conference participation amendment as written.

Cyclists to unite in Springtown for annual All-American Bicycle Boo Ride

Bike rally to take place on Oct. 28

MADELYN EDWARDS
springtownreporter@tricountyreporter.com

SPRINGTOWN — Cyclists, rejoice! Motorists, beware! Bicycle riders will be taking over Parker County roads during the Springtown Area Chamber of Commerce's annual All-American Bicycle Boo Ride on Saturday, Oct. 28.

The rally will start at 8:30 a.m. at Springtown High School. Cyclists can register early for the event for \$35 by Oct. 26 or sign-up at 7 a.m. the day of the rally for \$45. Groups of five or more riders are eligible for discounts and can access that by calling the chamber at 817-220-7828 with names of riders in the group.

The fee covers a full meal, drinks and desserts after the bike ride has concluded. Hamburgers will likely be served for lunch, Springtown Chamber Executive Director Terri Toone said.

Bikers can choose between four different routes, including the 6-mile family ride, a

24-mile route, a 52-mile route and a 72-mile route.

The 24-mile route takes Goshen Road to Agnes Circle, then turns south down Old Agnes Road to Chilcutt Road to Carter Road, then north using Hutcheson Hill Road to J.E. Woody Road, and ends with Prather Road to Goshen Road.

The 52-mile route starts off similarly to the 24-mile route but branches off with a trip to Poolville using Erwin Road, Seaberry Road and Pine Road. Riders on this route will then make their way through Adell using Red Top Road, Russell Bend Road, Advance Road and Sandy Lane before taking New Authon Road, Precinct Road and Lee Street to Peaster. The southern part of this route consists of Harwell Lake Road and Sweet Springs Road. Then, Old Agnes Road is utilized to join the last leg of the 24-mile route at Chilcutt Road.

In the 72-mile route, riders go past Poolville and use Lone Star Road to go to Whitt.



All-American Bicycle Boo Ride participants Tammy Dolbee, Fio Parks, Mary Sierck and Tina Larsen get ready to embark during last year's rally. This year's bike ride will take place at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 28 starting at Springtown High School.

JIM STEVENS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Then, they take Farm-to-Market Road 52 to FM 1885 and FM 113, and then Old Garner Road to Cold Springs Road and Old Authon Road. From there, riders join in with the 52-mile route using Sandy Lane and New Authon Road.

More details on all three longer routes can be found on the fitness website Strava. For the 24-mile route, visit www.strava.com/segments/25963409, visit www.strava.com/routes/8219169 for the 52-mile route and www.strava.com/routes/8219238 for the 72-mile route.

Using Strava, riders in the three longer routes can compete for prizes. The top three male and female finishers will get awards, and the King and Queen of the Mountain will be named.

Since the bike ride takes place just days ahead of Halloween, riders are welcome to dress up in costume if they want, Toone said. The volunteers at the rest stops do dress up as well, and riders can vote for the best decorated rest stop.

For more information or to register, visit www.bikereg.com/62343 online.



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Good Neighbors and great friends

Servolution helps families and builds connections throughout the tri-county area during last week's Fall Blitz

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@tricityreporter.com

AZLE — Friday the 13th, a date marred by its association with bad luck, couldn't have been a bigger blessing for many North Texas families this year.

On Oct. 13 and 14, Servolution Network's army of volunteers descended on some area homes in need of revitalization and repair in its Fall Blitz. The faith-based organization provides resources and volunteers for local community service projects, and Servolution's Spring and Fall Blitzes are a major effort to help others who don't have the means to fix up their property. Since 2014, this effort has reached 270 houses in Tarrant, Wise and Parker Counties.

This year's Fall Blitz affected 17 families across seven communities, five of which are located in Azle.

The house at the top of Servolution's list: the home of Stephanie and John Moose.

"When we moved in, it was not the greatest house, and we had all the intentions to fix it," Stephanie Moose said. The couple, who moved into their Castle Hills home with their three children in 2017, found their household quickly growing. After Stephanie's pregnant sister moved in to escape a dangerous living situation, their family of five became a family of seven. When John's younger sister became homeless, the family grew to nine. After six months of inadequate care from his mother, John's severely disabled younger brother, Mathew, also became a permanent part of the household, bringing the tiny two-bedroom home's population to 10.

If dealing with their expanded household was not enough, the couple struggled

as they discovered the level of disrepair their home was in. From having the gas shut off, to plumbing issues, rotting wood, no insulation, a bad foundation, and a car accident totaling their vehicle, the Mooses found themselves in a rapidly deteriorating situation with seemingly no way out.

When Carol Cage, Good Neighbors liaison, first showed up to their residence on a bad day, the Mooses, dealing with insurance problems getting Mathew his medication, turned them away. Good Neighbors did not give up and again returned while the Mooses were in the midst of having their gas shut off. The Mooses again did not realize what they were there for and tried to shoot them away, but Cage had other plans.

"Stop. Listen! God is trying to talk to you," Cage said. "Here is what we want to do.



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Good Neighbors volunteers working on revitalizing the Moose house.

We want to help you."

The Mooses finally understood and over the past weekend saw their dilapidated house completely gutted, remodeled and expanded to better fit their needs.

"That was a hard thing. I didn't understand, because I feel there are more deserving people sometimes," Stephanie Moose said. "We didn't feel we were doing extra, just doing what we could for family like we're supposed to. We appreciate everybody, there's no way this could have happened without everybody. They've pulled through for us in every way. Emotionally, every way."

Her husband, John, described feeling overwhelmed watching the dozens of volunteers zooming in and out, completely transforming their home in almost no time at all.

"We do appreciate everybody and everything that's coming around," John said. "Somebody has got to be there to pick up the pieces and take care of it.

Just around the corner, 76-year-old Darrel Melear watched as volunteers quickly worked to dismantle and replace his roof.

"(Servolution) is just doing a wonderful job and don't know how much I appreciate it," Melear said. "They've got a great crew out here and it

can't get any better than that. It needed a roof real bad and the siding on it was real bad. They've been a tremendous help. They're doing a wonderful job and they're wonderful people."

Melear looks forward to making his own improvements after the roof is fixed.

Gene and Teri Smesrud were on the scene, training and volunteering in their first time to be homeowner liaisons.

"It takes a lot of volunteers," Teri Smesrud said. "You know they love it. They enjoy doing it."

Just a few houses down from Melear, another life-changing revitalization was happening for Victor Moore. Moore appeared in the final edition of the Azle News as a recipient for Texas Health Resources' Reduce SILOS program, which seeks to provide seniors with much-needed socialization and connection with their communities.

"I've been very blessed," Moore said. "I've got lots of help, meeting a lot of people and loving every moment of it to tell you the truth. (The Dickenses) adopted me, basically. They've treated me like a king. It's a true blessing."

Moore met the volunteer liaison team of Jen Dickens, her husband Bryan and their 89-year-old father, Jack in the weeks leading up to the

Fall Blitz. Moore, who is on an oxygen machine, also needed repairs to his roof and home and is converting his house from gas to electric for his safety. After meeting the family, Moore quickly felt at home and became quick friends with Jack. While renovations are underway, Moore has been living in their house.

"Everybody I've met, they're almost like family already," Moore said. "I didn't even know what Servolution Network was until this all came about. It's a wonderful organization. (The renovations are) going to make life a whole easier for me. I had a cousin who my mother and dad helped raise, but he'd be the same age as Jack, and I always looked up to him. He was like a big brother to me and all of a sudden here I've got another one. I'm not letting (Jack) go."

Jack, whose wife passed away in 2017 had also become very close to Moore and has enjoyed his company in the time he has lived with them.

"He's been a blessing for me," Dickens said.

Moore expressed his sincere appreciation for Servolution, his new-found friends and the community health worker who got the ball rolling and started it all.

"It all goes back to Sherry Kincade," Moore said.



COURTESY SERVOLUTION NETWORK

Good Neighbors volunteers and the Mooses at their completed and repaired house.



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Darrel Melear and his dog Coral.



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John and Stephanie Moose.



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Victor Moore and Jack Dickens.

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New games coming out in 2024

It's new game season on Steam, plus more Unity news, and hackers insert malware into games on Steam platform

HACKERS UPDATE SEVERAL GAMES WITH MALWARE ON STEAM PLATFORM

Valve has had to add extra security for developers on Steam after hackers updated several games with malware that allowed them to take control of their browser access tokens.

Valve quickly stopped the attack and notified affected users (less than 100.) The company is introducing new two-factor authentication methods for developer accounts on Steam to help prevent future attacks.

There's been increased hacker malware activity on all platforms recently, so this is a necessary security upgrade.

UNITY CEO STEPS DOWN FOLLOWING RUNTIME FEE FIASCO

John Riccitiello, CEO of Unity, has stepped down from his position effective immediately. James M. Whitehurst has been appointed interim chief executive officer and will serve until a replacement is found, according to a news release from the company.



GAME ON

By Jennifer Harrison

My opinions on computer gaming and some of my favorite games. I've been playing games on the home computer since the days of the Trash 80. I love indie, open-world, unique, puzzle, and resource games. The cake is a lie.

Unity has backed down from its previous Runtime Fee policy. According to a letter sent out by Marc Whitten, leader of Unity Create, the cap on total sales is raised to \$200,000. For games that are subject to the Runtime Fee, Unity will give you a choice of 2.5% revenue share, or an amount based on sales per month.

Most importantly, the new Runtime Fee will only apply to games made with the next LTS version of Unity, shipping in 2024 and beyond. The games currently being sent out or currently being worked on will not be affected, unless the developer chooses to upgrade them to the new version of Unity. Whitten says "No game with less than \$1 million in trailing 12-month revenue will be subject to the fee."

There will be no Runtime Fee for games built on Unity Personal. The terms that apply to the version of Unity the game was built on will remain applicable.

This is good news, but developers still fear Unity may change its mind in the future, and they're not sure about the viability of the platform.

Read Whitten's entire letter here: <https://blog.unity.com/news/open-letter-on-runtime-fee>

KILLER KLOWNS FROM OUTER SPACE – THE GAME!
BIG TOP. BIG SHOES. BIG TROUBLE.

Fans of the notorious B-movie "Killer Klowns from Outer Space" (1988) will be delighted to hear there's a new game coming out based on the movie.

All the characters you know and love from the movie are in the game. Play as your choice of human citizen of Crescent Cove or Killer Klown. Gameplay is asymmetric, meaning there are three humans to seven Klowns. There are five character classes for either side. They all have unique abilities, so of course the key to winning the game is picking the right team for the job.

The Klowns are based upon the ones from the movie — including Shorty, my favorite. You'll harvest humans with your cotton candy ray gun, your popcorn bazooka, and your scent-tracking balloon dog.

The five human character classes are inspired by the campy horror movie tropes — teens, punks, cops, red-necks, and bikers. You'll fight the alien invasion with combinations of speed, strength, stealth, and if all else fails, a trusty shotgun or police department-issued firearm.

According to the game trailer website, "Each class comes with its own strengths and weaknesses; and players will need to use teamwork, stealth, and good old-fashioned resourcefulness to beat back the merry menace."

The in-game maps are faithful recreations of the locations in the movie, but each match has randomly-generated objectives, which should provide a new experience for repeated playthroughs.

"Klowns win by capturing most — or all — of the human citizens of Crescent Cove, while humans win by either de-activating the Klowns' Big Top spaceship, escaping the map before time runs out, or keeping the majority of the townsfolk alive for the entire round," the game trailer website explains.

Klowns from Outer Space: The Game is an asymmetrical multiplayer horror game based on the iconic 80s film developed by Teravision Games and published by Good Shepherd Entertainment. The game is for adults only with violent content, blood and graphical violence. Projected release date is some time in 2024. They're currently accepting applications from beta testers, so if you're interested,



SCREENSHOT COURTESY TERAVISION GAMES

Shorty, my favorite Klown from the movie "Killer Klowns from Outer Space."

follow this link to the game page for more information: <https://www.killerklownsthegame.com/>

ANOTHER CRAB'S TREASURE

The latest release from Aggro Crab, Another Crab's Treasure follows the adventure of a little hermit crab named Kril who has lost his shell. You pick up trash along the way to protect your soft hermit body, upgrading to new and better shells. It's important to hide in your shell as much as possible. You can attack with a fork against enemies like crabs, and grapple to new locations with a fish-hook. Limited swimming ability means you can swim to locations below, but not above.

I've played the free demo, and so far it's very cute. It's very easy to fall to your doom by backing up a little too far or not jumping far enough, so that's annoying. Expected release date is 2024 on the Steam platform.

THE CRUST

From the developer VEOM Studio: "In The Crust, you build a colony on the Moon — and lay the groundwork for the exploration of deep space! Mine valuable resources, automate production, manage scientific expeditions, and explore the lunar surface. From 400,000 kilometers away from Earth, you will see just how vast the cosmos really is, and how little we yet know about its mysteries. Get ready to face some tough choices — after all, the future of mankind may depend on your decisions..."

There's resource gathering, trading and influencing the world market, keeping your

inhabitants happy, exploration of the moon to find new resources as well as unlock mysteries, and a research tree to guide your colony's development.

The demo starts out with a lot of talking/storybuilding. Gameplay is introduced through the building of solar panels, batteries and wires. Then there's an abrupt U-turn into a disaster, as an unidentified explosion on the far side of the moon causes the space elevator and the base's electrical systems to be deactivated. Now your task becomes to restore electricity to the elevator and get the systems running again.

This game feels very much like Starcraft. Instead of a team of humans or aliens harvesting resources, you have construction and mining drones.

At this point in the demo, it's hard to say whether I like this game or not. I'm still in tutorial mode. I think, like with all resource games, part of the challenge will be not to overbuild and use up all your available resources.

It also feels like this game doesn't know what it's going to be about. It starts out as a pretty typical corporate mining colony story, quickly devolves into a disaster recovery, all with resource gaming challenges. The storybuilding at the beginning of the story bogs it down.

It looks fantastic. It's visually very detailed. I can't tell whether the entirety of the moon terrain is available in the game, or just a limited section.

Available on SteamOS in the first quarter of 2024.



SCREENSHOT COURTESY AGGRO CRAB

Another Crab's Treasure is the adventure of a little hermit crab named Kril, who has lost his shell.



SCREENSHOT COURTESY VEOM STUDIO

The Crust is a resource gathering and social engineering sim that features beautiful gameplay and balances building with finding resources.

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Hilltop Family Christian Academy

The Springtown Area Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for Hilltop Family Christian Academy, located at 1227 Old Cottondale Rd. in Springtown, during the Chamber's September luncheon. For details about the academy's curriculum and enrollment, call 817-631-4322.



Talus Pay

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for Talus Pay, 101 Salt Grass Cir. in Poolville, was conducted during the September luncheon of the Springtown Area Chamber of Commerce. Talus Pay works directly with businesses of all sizes to help alleviate some common pain points of owning a business. For more information, call 817-757-6183.

SHS Class of 1963 celebrates 60th reunion



COURTESY PHOTO

On Oct. 14, Springtown High School's Class of 1963 had its 60th reunion at Fireside Grill in Springtown. On the front row from left are Marie Spivey Thomas, Nelda Taliaferro Mitchell, Connie Strickland Ellis, Sidney Bobbitt and Brenda Newby Purser. On the second row are Sandra Gilley Pugh, Pat Johnson Green, Earlene Slate Clouse and Linda Burkhalter Horton. On the back row are Carl Douglas Blue, Johnny Morrow, Jackie Sullivan, Dan Layne, Mary Woody Harms and Karen King Pippen. There were 26 graduating students in 1963, and there were 15 classmates able to attend the 60th reunion. In their freshman year there were 50 students enrolled. Hugs and memories were not in short supply as they shared a meal and stories of the past and where their lives have taken them. Seven classmates went to school from the first grade to graduation together. They shared a moment of silence for the 11 classmates who have passed away. The student who traveled the farthest is from Florida. The couple that has been married the longest is Welton and Linda Horton who have been married for 61 years.

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CALENDAR

Oct. 19 - Oct 31

TO SUBMIT CALENDAR ITEMS

The community calendar is a free listing in the Tri-County Reporter to inform readers of programs, special meetings, and nonprofit events. The event should be open to the public and free to attend. Information should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event for consideration. Email the who, what, when, where and why to jessica@tricityreporter.com, with "calendar item" in the subject line. Calendar information runs in chronological order as space is available.

THURSDAY, OCT. 19

KINDERMUSIK LEVEL 3 for ages 3-5. Offers sensory-rich, gentle environments where children can explore and react to new sounds, sensations, and objects. Starts at 2 p.m. at Family Resource Center, 314 E. 5th Terrace, Springtown.

FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER GAME NIGHT from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at 314 E. 5th Terrace, Springtown. Bring family and friends to play board games, cards, and more fun activities.

GARDENING AND NATURE Thursdays at 10 a.m. at Family Resource Center, 314 E. 5th Terrace, Springtown. Explore the garden as we plant, grow, and learn. Explore nature through walks, crafts and hands-on learning.

FRIDAY, OCT. 20

SPRINGTOWN HIGH SCHOOL WALL OF HONOR introductions during the SHS Varsity Football game celebrating outstanding athletes. Nominations are open until Oct. 6.

FOLLOW ME GYM every Friday in October from 9-11 a.m. at Family Resource Center, 314 E. 5th Terrace in Springtown. This group for infants and toddlers gets everyone moving up, over, through and under at a play gym set up just for them.

SATURDAY, OCT. 21

FCCLA CRAFT FAIR from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Azle High School. Kids dress up in costume for an indoor trunk or treat. Vendors and food trucks.

TUESDAY, OCT. 24

KINDERMUSIK LEVEL 1 for ages 10-24 months. Offers sensory-rich, gentle environments where children can explore and react to new sounds, sensations, and objects. Starts at 10 a.m. at Family Resource Center, 314 E. 5th Terrace, Springtown.

FREE OCTOBER ACTIVITIES from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at 314 E. 5th Terrace, Springtown. Come in for games, crafts, stories and tons of fun every Tuesday in October.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 25

KINDERMUSIK LEVEL 2 for ages 18-36 months. Offers sensory-rich, gentle environments where children can explore and react to new sounds, sensations, and objects. Starts at 10 a.m. at Family Resource Center, 314 E. 5th Terrace, Springtown.

SPECTACULAR SPOOKY SCIENCE from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at 314 E. 5th Terrace, Springtown. Learn, explore and share with a different science experiment each week.

THURSDAY, OCT. 26

KINDERMUSIK LEVEL 3 for ages 3-5. Offers sensory-rich, gentle environments where children can explore and react to new sounds, sensations, and objects. Starts at 2 p.m. at Family Resource Center, 314 E. 5th Terrace, Springtown.

GARDENING AND NATURE Thursdays at 10 a.m. at Family Resource Center, 314 E. 5th Terrace, Springtown. Explore the garden as we plant, grow, and learn. Explore nature through walks, crafts and hands-on learning.

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE DETACHMENT 1297 meets the last Thursday of every month at the American Legion Hall, 3409 Davis Rd. in Granbury. Chow is at 6 p.m. and the meeting starts at 7 p.m. Support our annual fundraiser benefiting Marines and Navy personnel and families. Win a \$600 Cabela's Pellet Smoker/Grill plus four (4) grocery gift cards from HEB, Albertsons, Kroger and Walmart. Total value \$1,000. Raffle tickets are \$5 each, 3 for \$10 and 5 for \$20. Drawing is Dec. 14. FMF Navy Corpsman/Navy Chaplains memberships and associate memberships available. Call 682-498-3250 for information.

FRIDAY, OCT. 27

MAIN STREET MINGLE from 6-9 p.m. on Main Street in Azle. Dress in costume and come out for some food and drinks, shopping and fun with local businesses and vendors along Main Street.

FOLLOW ME GYM every Friday in October from 9-11 a.m. at Family Resource Center, 314 E. 5th Terrace in Springtown. This group for infants and toddlers gets everyone moving up, over, through and under at a play gym set up just for them.

SATURDAY, OCT. 28

TRUNK OR TREAT hosted by Azle Police Department in the Azle Memorial Library parking lot. Kids and families can join the fun from 4-6 p.m.

FALL FESTIVAL from 4-9 p.m. at Castle Hills Baptist Church, 401 Beverly Rd., Azle. Put on your costume and come out for bounce houses, face painting, bobbing for apples, a cornhole contest, cake walk, candy and much, much more.

FALL FESTIVAL AND CHILI COOKOFF fundraiser from 3-6 p.m. at Crossing Fellowship Church, 120 E. Main St., Azle. Come for free games, candy, petting zoo, music and more. Proceeds help support Project Hope's 2024 School Backpack Drive.

SUNDAY, OCT. 29

CITY OF PELICAN BAY COMMUNITY HALLOWEEN EVENT 4-6 p.m. at Pelican Bay City Hall, 1300 Pelican Cir. Grab your costumes and join the community at this family-friendly event with a fun Trunk-or-Treat, candy, games, popcorn, prizes and more.

TUESDAY, OCT. 31

KINDERMUSIK LEVEL 1 for ages 10-24 months. Offers sensory-rich, gentle environments where children can explore and react to new sounds, sensations, and objects. Starts at 10 a.m. at Family Resource Center, 314 E. 5th Terrace, Springtown.

FREE OCTOBER ACTIVITIES from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at 314 E. 5th Terrace, Springtown. Come in for games, crafts, stories and tons of fun every Tuesday in October.

RENO TRUNK OR TREAT Come to your One Spot Trick-or-Treat night from 6-8 p.m. at Reno City Hall, 195 W Reno Rd. Trunk-or-Treat set-up will begin at 5 p.m.

SPRINGTOWN TRUNK OR TREAT benefiting the Springtown Animal Shelter starts at 6 p.m. at Springtown Park, 300 S Avenue A, Springtown. In addition to trick-or-treating opportunities, the event will feature a costume contest for both humans and their pets. Shelter animals will be at the event for a chance to find their forever homes.



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GRATEFUL

FROM PAGE A1

And it was a lot more financially than I thought that we could afford."

That's when they turned to Servolution Network and its Good Neighbors program that helps people in need with household work. On Oct. 13-14, volunteers visited multiple homes in Azle, Springtown and beyond to make repairs.

In Carson's case, her tiny home renovation almost didn't make the cut. The Servolution volunteers were originally set to visit another house near Springtown, but the homeowner was moved into a nursing home. So, that home was moved off the list and Carson's home moved on it.

"It was really a last-minute thing, but it's all come together great," Servolution Network Executive Assistant Cassie Long said. "I'm really excited to be able to help her and for her and her baby to come home to an actual home."

Carson's tiny home needed sheetrock, a cooling and heating source, appliances and household items. Without Servolution's help, Carson either would have had to live in the camper with her baby or move in with her dad and siblings in Haslet. Servolution also gave her some household supplies for her new

home as well, and Carson was grateful for the help.

"I think it's amazing that people have an option to even have help," she said. "A lot of people out there are definitely in need."

Carson's due date was on Oct. 13, the day Servolution was working on her home, but she didn't expect to go into labor until the week after.

"He's waiting on my house to be done is what I'm thinking," she said.

Springtown-area residents John and Vicki Harvey were also benefited by Servolution last week. The Harveys are in their 60s and have had various health issues. Vicki Harvey in particular can't walk well, and when she does have to leave the house, she has to walk down a flight of stairs on the porch.

"The only time she gets out is when she goes to the doctor, and it takes her about 20 minutes to get down the stairs, so it's one little, teeny tiny step at a time," John Harvey said. "We can't go anywhere."

To help the Harveys, Servolution crews installed a ramp for them to use, made repairs to their 20-year-old roof and tidied up their porch. John Harvey said he reached out to Servolution after feeling like he was in a "dead-end" situation. Neither of the Harveys can work anymore and live off their Social Security funds. When describ-

ing what Servolution's help means to him, John Harvey warned that he might start crying.

"I'm forever grateful, and I think it's fantastic," he said. "I think they're a wonderful group, and they've been nothing but nice to me the whole time they've come out to see me and stuff. I'm thrilled. They're great people."

John Harvey added, "When you get to bottoms end and you don't have the finances to do anything, then it helps. It helps big time."

THE VOLUNTEERS

There was plenty of work Becky and John Leal could have been doing instead of serving at Servolution's Good Neighbors Blitz on Oct. 13. Becky could have been working as a substitute teacher, and John could have been looking for a job. But they decided to prioritize their volunteer work.

"Whatever struggles we're having, we've got to put those struggles aside and know we have a mighty God that we serve," Becky Leal said. "He will take care of his people. And so, we're here; we got to take care of his people, too. We just got to help each other."

Servolution Network's Good Neighbors Blitzes wouldn't be possible without volunteers, some of whom came from Texas Health Resources and had the opportunity to take the day off work to help at the Blitz.



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Expecting mother Kaylie Carson receives some household goods from Servolution Network's Pay It Forward warehouse on Oct. 13. Servolution volunteers renovated Carson's tiny home as well ahead of her due date.



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

John Harvey stands outside his home in the Springtown area while Servolution Network volunteers work on cleaning up his porch, fixing his roof and building a ramp to help Harvey's wife Vicki get in and out of the house more easily.

"I like to help people," said Jason Jordan, who is an emergency department nurse at Texas Health in Azle. "That's why I got into nursing, and this is another way I can do that in a more relaxed environment."

Local companies like Dynamic Decks and S5 Construction also donated their time and resources to help with the more specialized tasks at Springtown homes, like building ramps and fixing roofs.

"It's a blessing for us to have the opportunity and be

in a position that we can do that, especially with us being local and being able to give back to our community," S5 Construction owner Bryce Snider said. "It's an awesome experience, and I feel very fortunate to be able to do so."

Some of the people who volunteered at the Blitz came with their spouses, such as Brady and Arlin Michalak who have given their time to three Blitzes. Brady was leading the renovation work on Carson's tiny home while Arlin worked on cleaning up the yard outside the tiny

home.

"Usually, I stay at one house since I don't have the handyman abilities that he does," Arlin Michalak said. "I mostly do the cleanup or pulling weeds and stuff like that, but every little bit helps."

Being able to serve during the Blitz is rewarding for Arlin Michalak.

"It makes me feel good," she said. "This is the kind of work that you see your contribution pretty immediately."



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

S5 Construction worker Guadalupe Fraire repairs the roof at John and Vicki Harvey's home in the Springtown area as part of Servolution Network's Good Neighbors Blitz last week.



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Paul Brada helps to renovate a tiny home for a pregnant woman as part of Servolution Network's Good Neighbors Blitz last week.

LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Sandy Beach Self Storage will be holding an auction on 10/28/23 at 10:00am. Items include tools, furniture, household items. Units numbers include: 38 Mary Camarillo, 25 Chasady Goretzka, C106 Troy Olofson, 87 Kirstie Hedges, 27 Chase Mendiola, 40 Christina Cloye, C158/ C157 Paula McDaniel

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF BILLY EUGENE LIVINGSTON, SR. DECEASED: Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of BILLY EUGENE LIVINGSTON, SR., Deceased, were issued to GAIL LIVINGSTON on the 11th day of October, 2023, in Cause No. 23P375, County Court of Parker County, Texas, which is still pending, and that GAIL LIVINGSTON now holds such Letters. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same within the time prescribed by law. Claims should be sent to GAIL LIVINGSTON, Independent Executor, at the offices of Catherine H. Goodman, PLLC, 306 W. 7th Street, Suite 306, Fort Worth, Texas 76102, care of Catherine H. Goodman.



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Justin Alexander and Shane Tomlinson work together to cut wood to renovate a tiny home during Servolution's Good Neighbors Blitz on Oct. 13.

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Azle 4-H spreads knowledge on cooking

The year's first 4-H projects went off without a hitch as Shana Dildine leads cooking class

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@tricityreporter.com

AZLE — With students, parents and teachers settling into the groove of another school year, Azle 4-H is ready to start involving more kids in its rapidly growing projects.

4-H is a nation-wide youth development program that, until 2021, did not have much of a presence in Azle. After Azle resident Danielle Barber took over the program, Azle 4-H exploded in participation and hasn't stopped since.

While most people associate 4-H with livestock shows, the organization wants parents to know it's got much more to offer. On Oct. 10, 4-H held the first of this year's cooking/food nutrition projects at Azle's First Methodist Church. Shana Dildine, a parent volunteer who took over the cooking project from Barber this year, taught kids aged 8 and up on the importance of hygiene, kitchen safety and proper food preparation along with beginning

to plan the meals the group will be preparing this year. At the end of Dildine's introduction, she led the students in making butter from scratch.

Dildine says her interest in the topic really grew after discovering that one of her 40-year-old colleagues did not know how to peel an apple.

"I've seen so many adults these days who don't know how to prepare food that it's kind of becoming a lost art," Dildine said. "That's sad because if we ever get in another predicament like COVID where the restaurants close down, people won't know how to prepare their own food. I want to give them an idea of how to cook and prepare fresh food, instead of takeout, and get them ready to be young adults. My grandmother is the one who taught me how to cook and that's carried on with me teaching my kids. I hope they get the self-confidence to start cooking on their own and helping their families prepare their food."

Dildine is a teacher at



Dildine spoke and prepared the jars of heavy whipping cream.

ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Castleberry ISD and was involved in her local 4-H as a child. Her daughter has been involved in 4-H since last year, not only participat-

ing in the cooking program, but also showing rabbits, pigs and poultry. Along with leading the cooking project, Dildine is also in charge of Clover Kids, an introduction into 4-H activities for children younger than 8, and the show rabbit project.

The cooking project will take place at 6:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month and is open to any 4-H students interested in learning about and preparing fresh homemade meals. In the class' first lesson, students were separated into groups and took turns vigorously shaking jars of heavy whipping cream until the fluids separated from the solid but-

ter, while Dildine spoke about the history of the practice and the prevalent problem of vitamin D deficiency. After a great arm workout, the kids got to taste, and bring home, their butter spread on saltine crackers. Some said they found a new favorite snack.

Not only was the event a ton of fun, but it also provided the young people an opportunity to learn, work together and socialize with their peers. Many parents say their children have grown and transformed because of the responsibility and opportunities provided by Azle 4-H.

Nichole Proctor, mother of one of the children in the cooking project, said she sees

the class as a perfect way for her son to better work with others and remembers the program fondly from when she was involved as a child.

"When I found out there was a local 4-H group and that he was eligible, I just wanted to get him involved and have some of the experiences I did," Proctor said. "As an only child, I thought it would be useful for him to work with people who might communicate differently. It's more about teamwork. It's a great program. I encourage people to get involved."

Proctor's son, Xander, has participated in 4-H's

PLEASE SEE 4-H | A16



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Above: Since his dad is a chef, Xander already knows his way around the kitchen. His parents feel the group environment of 4-H can help better build his teamwork and social skills.

Right: The end result of all the kids' hard work.



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4-H
FROM PAGE A15

archery program since last year. Proctor said the archery program gives students an opportunity to learn safely in a controlled environment and the group's equipment loan program lets kids try out

archery without parents investing hundreds of dollars. At the end of the year, Xander was even awarded a scholarship for archery which he hopes to spend on equipment to make sure other 4-H students don't go without. "I'm so proud of him," Proctor said. Along with cooking and archery, 4-H offers projects on

horse wrangling, bee keeping, poultry, public speaking, rabbits and livestock. Parents interested in getting their kids signed up for 4-H projects can learn more on the Tarrant County 4-H page at agriflife.org or by emailing azle4h@gmail.com. Azle 4-H also regularly posts information on its Facebook page.



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER
Kids put their all into making their own homemade butter in a show of persistence.



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER
4-H students had a blast, shaking things up and making new friends.

TCR

Junior

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YUMMY TASTE
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COLOR Time

ENERGY BOOST
When you eat apples, they give you lots of energy to play, run, and have fun all day.

GOOD FOR TEETH
Apples can help keep your teeth clean. They're like nature's toothbrush!
So, grab an apple and take a big, juicy bite. They're not only tasty but also really good for you. Enjoy your apples!

Apples!

Words can be found in any direction (including diagonals) and can overlap each other. Use the word bank below.

E	O	B	B	F	G	S	C	T	S
L	J	N	N	T	I	C	R	S	F
P	R	M	Q	E	Q	E	U	A	I
P	Q	E	E	V	E	O	X	X	M
A	N	R	L	T	I	F	P	O	S
X	S	O	J	C	S	N	S	W	R
G	S	C	I	I	U	S	E	T	U
E	Q	L	I	R	O	E	A	J	O
C	E	X	K	L	T	R	I	H	S
D	O	K	B	D	T	J	E	I	P

Word Bank

1. tree	2. apple	3. stem	4. core
5. sour	6. pie	7. delicious	8. tart
9. sweet	10. blossom		

Did You Know?

Apples are 25% air which is why they float in water. Fruits and vegetables are an important part of a healthy, well balanced diet.

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Apple

SPANISH: Manzana

ITALIAN: Mela

FRENCH: Pomme

GERMAN: Apfel

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THE TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

DIVERSIONS

B

THURSDAY, October 19, 2023



JEFF PRINCE | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Hagen Hughes crashes to the ground at the 1-foot line, setting up a TD for Cale Cohen on the next play.

Knock 'em down

Lady Porcupines defeat three district foes in row

JEFF PRINCE

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SPRINGTOWN — Lady Porcupines know how to sweep without a broom. All they need is a court, a net, and an opponent. On Oct. 13, Springtown volleyballers beat Bridgeport in three sets: 25-14, 25-15 and 25-11. Aubree Adams led in kill shots with 14, and Stoli Cox and Libby Tedder were right behind with 11 and 9 kills. Sterlyn Smith, Brooklynn Quintanilla and Ryleigh Strickland led the way in digs, and Strickland provided most of the assists. The victory was the follow-up to the Oct. 10 clash with Krum, whom the Porcupines are battling for second place in District 8-4A. What a game that was. The last time the two teams had met was at the district opener on Sept. 22. Springtown dominated Krum 25-7 in the first set before losing the next three sets in front of a stunned hometown crowd. This time around, the Porcupines prevailed 25-23, 25-17, 18-25, and 25-15, forcing Krum to endure its



JEFF PRINCE | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

From left, Brianna Shreves and Harlee Jackson guard the net.

Hanging tough

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AZLE — The 34-33 victory against Saginaw on Friday the 13th couldn't have come at a better time. The Hornets began their season believing they would need to win five district games to nail down a post-season berth. After winning just one of their first six games, the Hornets put themselves in a position of needing four consecutive vic-

Azle gridiron heroes come from behind to beat Saginaw

ories to close out the regular season. Losing to Saginaw might have doomed Azle's post-season dreams. Before game time, the Azle players walked to the field with several, including quarterback Austin May, wearing street clothes due to injuries.

Still, the team appeared confident and ready to play. They remained confident after Saginaw returned the opening kickoff for a touchdown to take a 7-0 lead with barely 10 seconds gone from the clock.

PLEASE SEE TOUGH | B3

PLEASE SEE KNOCK | B2



COURTESY PHOTO

Hallie Collins runs at a recent cross-country meet.

Lone runner

Azle Christian's only varsity cross-country runner wants state title

JEFF PRINCE

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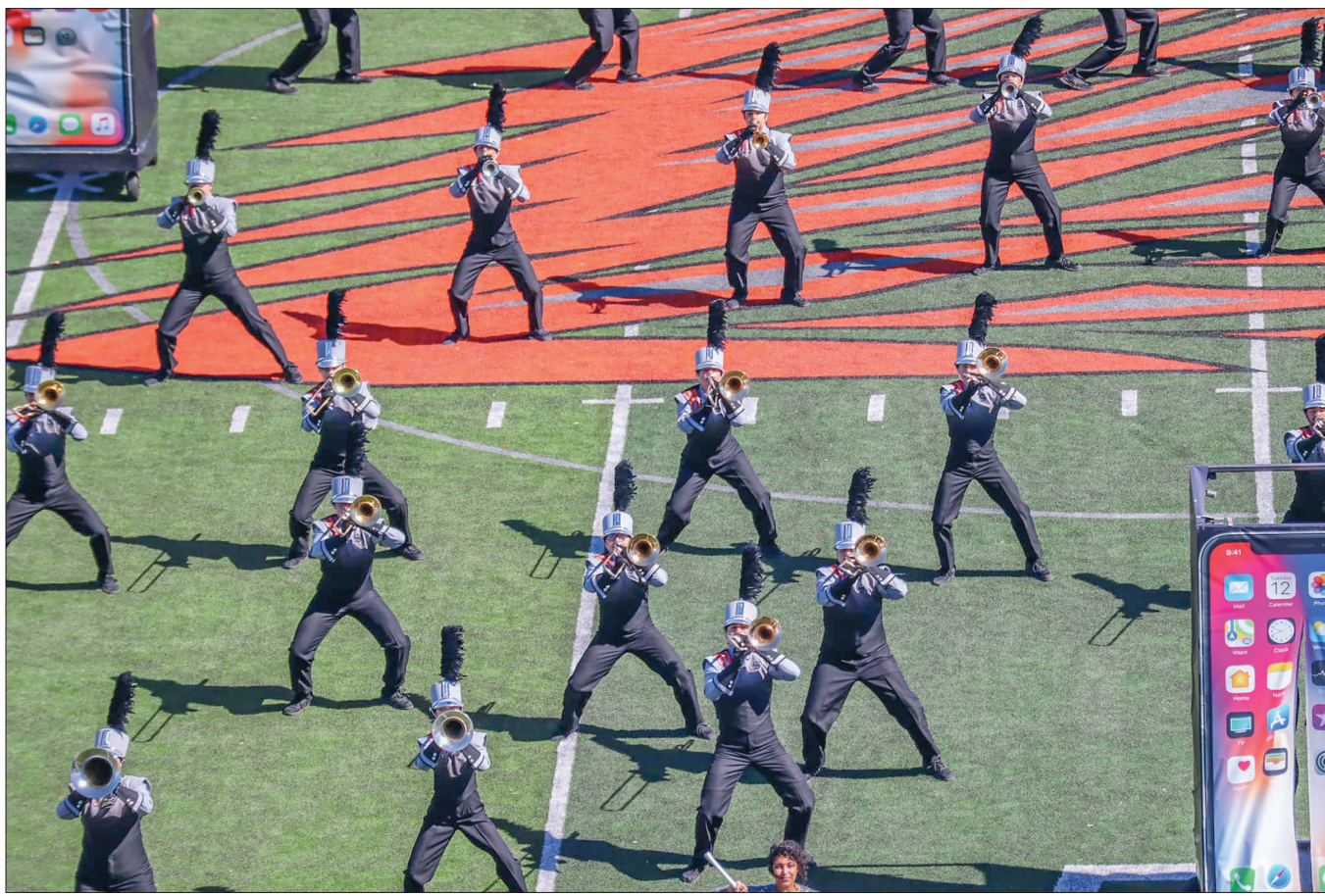
AZLE — Running, or sports in general, is not something Hallie Collins had done much until her mom entered her in a marathon about seven years ago. Back then, Collins was just

7 with no experience. "My mom (Kristine Collins) put me in the Sting Fling race, and I ran and won" in her age group, she said. "I'd never done long distance before. Once I saw how much fun it was, I was,

PLEASE SEE LONE | B3

Big note

Sound of Springtown earns first division rating, trip to area contest



COURTESY PHOTO

The Sound of Springtown performed well at the UIL regional marching band contest on Saturday, Oct. 12, earning a first division rating and qualifying to compete on Saturday, Oct. 21, at the Area D marching contest influgerville. "We are extremely proud of the hard work these band students have put in over the past several weeks, and we are prepared to continue to work hard this week," said band director Scot McPhetridge. The top bands at the regional event will earn a trip to the state contest on Oct. 31-Nov. 2 in San Antonio.

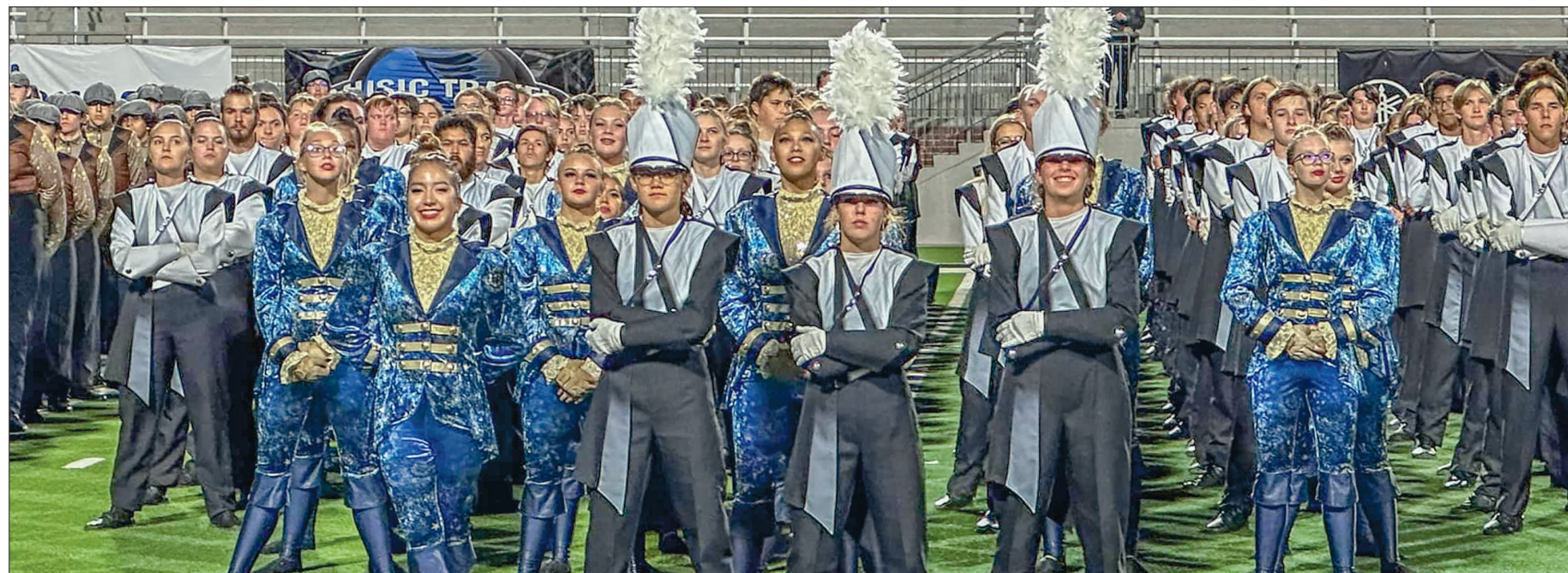
Area bound

JEFF PRINCE

sports@tricityreporter.com

AZLE — Consider the first test passed. On Oct. 10, the Marching Green Pride excelled at the Region 30 UIL marching contest at Ranger Stadium at Chisholm Trail High School. The event serves as the first step to select bands for the state marching band contest in early November. The Marching Green Pride earned a first division rating from all three judges at the regional event.

Azle marching band overcomes technical glitch, nails regional contest



COURTESY PHOTO

For the first time, Azle High School's Marching Green Pride made it into the finals in the Bands of America North Texas Regionals contest. "We have made the finals at the Midland BOA show for the last two years, but this is a much more difficult contest," said Aaron Martin, MGP director and coordinator of performing arts for the Azle Independent School District.

PLEASE SEE PRIDE | B2

He's champ!

Wesley Payne takes first place at cross-country district race

JEFF PRINCE
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SPRINGTOWN — Numerous Springtown cross-country runners set personal records at the district championship, and Wesley Payne crossed the finish line in first place for the title.

On Oct. 12, the cross-country team competed at the district championship in Decatur, racing against the best runners from Krum, Decatur, Bridgeport, Castleberry, and Lake Worth. The top teams and runners advance to the regional meet in Lubbock, while the rest see their season come to an end. Payne finished the



COURTESY PHOTO
Wesley Payne wins the district title in cross-country after finishing in sixth place last year.

5,000-meter race in 16:51.52, beating the second-fastest runner by almost 10 seconds. His first-place finish guaranteed him a trip to Lubbock. It was his third consecutive meet to run a sub-17-minute race.

The season has been magical for Payne, who finished in sixth place at the district meet in 2022. This year, he raced up against bigger schools to make himself work harder, yet still managed to win medals. Pitting himself against faster competitors from bigger schools made him faster.

Last year, Payne made it all the way to the state finals but battled illness in the days leading up to the race. He managed to complete the race but finished in 134th place and vowed to return this year to try again.

At the district meet, the varsity boys finished in fourth place as a team, and varsity girls finished in fifth place.

Running for the boys were Payne, Brayden Levorio, Brody Phifer, Jace Rutledge, Alexander Tice, Jessy Rigstad, and Hugo Martinez.

Racing for the girls were Isabel Parker, Alyson Barco, Kylie Wiens, London Smith, Kylie Russell, Shayne Greenwood, and Icis Lopez.



Delaney Harris ties goats and earns points for Springtown.

COURTESY PHOTO

Adding up

Springtown girls earn points for rodeo team

STAFF REPORT

The Springtown rodeo team remained in fourth place overall after the fourth rodeo of the season. Earning

points for Springtown at the rodeo on Oct. 6-7 were Shaye Winford, Delaney Harris, and Kaylee Buchanan. Winford earned third place

and 56 points in rideup goat-tying, and she added 7 more points by finishing in 10th place in walkup goats. Harris took fourth place and

49 points in walkup goats. Buchanan won sixth place and 35 points in poles and finished in eighth place with 21 points in barrel racing.

Arena's best

Azle rodeo stays atop North Texas association

STAFF REPORT

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Azle cowboys and cowgirls continue to shine, increasing the team's point total to 2,534 after four rodeos in the North Texas High School Rodeo Association.

The closest team in points to Azle is Burkburnett, in second place with 1,379.

Last year, Azle's team finished the season in second place and was determined to take the top spot this year. So far, the athletes have done everything required to dominate the competition.

Four of the top 10 girls in the association are from Azle, including Laurel Allred (second), Andrea Allred (seventh), Hevenli Scribner (eighth), and Caitlyn Colley (10th).

Two of Azle's cowboys are in the top 10, including Xavier Reyes and Kasen Scarlato.

River Cassell and Wyatt Allison are in the top 20.

Azle's team will compete next on Oct. 20-21 at the NTHSRA Arena in Saginaw.



Laurel Allred is currently second overall among North Texas rodeo girls.

COURTESY PHOTO



JEFF PRINCE | TRI COUNTY REPORTER
Kylie Wiens and the girls cross-country team earn fifth place at the district meet.

Lady Hornets sink Saginaw, remain in volleyball playoff hunt



In front, team captain Brynn Lee and the Azle Hornets celebrate after beating Saginaw on Oct. 13.

COURTESY PHOTO

JEFF PRINCE
sports@tricityreporter.com

AZLE — When battling for fourth place in a volleyball district where the top four teams earn a playoff spot, every victory is crucial.

Azle notched a crucial victory against district ri-

val Saginaw on Oct. 13 to remain in the fight for the postseason.

Two teams ahead of the Hornets in the standings include Granbury and Northwest, and Azle will have a chance to play both before the regular season ends.

The Lady Hornets will play

at 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20, at home against Granbury. The girls will celebrate Senior Night at the game.

The Hornets end the regular season playing Northwest at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 24, on the road.

KNOCK

FROM PAGE B1

own hometown drubbing.

Leading the way in kill shots against Krum were Cox (18) and Tedder (11). Kallie Conway provided 23 assists. Aerial Jackson served 3 aces. Adams made 2 blocks. Smith (24) and Quintanilla (22) led the way in digs, and Jackson added 16 more.

On Oct. 6, the Pines swept Castleberry in three sets, meaning they toppled three district rivals in a span of seven days.

The Porcupines will end the regular season by taking on the first-place, district-leading, dang-near-invincible Decatur Lady Eagles at 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20, at home.



JEFF PRINCE | TRI COUNTY REPORTER
Aubree Adams and the Springtown Lady Porcupines are aiming for a playoff spot.

PRIDE

FROM PAGE B1

"We thought we had a pretty good performance, but the students almost always come away feeling like they could have done better," said band director Aaron Martin.

The band overcame a technology issue that caused their wireless microphones to malfunction, and the

problem isn't expected to happen again.

Earning first division qualifies the band for the Area F contest on Oct. 28 at the Birdville ISD stadium.

Martin described the band members as "energized, and hungry" while preparing for the area contest.

"This season is shaping up to be a special one," Martin said. "The kids are engaged and working to get better every day. It is a lot of fun

right now. This process of making things perfect, one moment at a time, is really rewarding, and the kids can see a difference at every rehearsal."

About 25 marching bands will compete at the area contest on Saturday, Oct. 28, at Birdville ISD Stadium. The top teams will advance to the state marching contest in November at the Alamodome in San Antonio.

Young talent

Azle Christian volleyball grows stronger while eyeing future

JEFF PRINCE

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AZLE — The Azle Christian School's volleyball coach has seen her team evolve from a young and inexperienced group of girls to a battle-tested bunch of warriors fighting for a playoff spot this season.

The Lady Crusaders might not prevail in the playoffs, but they are poised to become a hardened, synchronized squad ready to take on all comers in 2024.

"We're very close to turning the corner and seeing some wins," said head coach Danelle Skartvedt. "I'm really excited."

This year's roster includes just one senior and a handful of juniors. Most of the starters are sophomores.

"We rely heavily on our underclassmen," Skartvedt said.

The team's lack of experience has seen them lose more than win games this season,



JEFF PRINCE | TRI COUNTY REPORTER
Makayla Garcia is among the team's super sophomore class.



JEFF PRINCE | TRI COUNTY REPORTER
Harper Wright is one of the team's junior leaders.



JEFF PRINCE | TRI COUNTY REPORTER
Madisen Gibson and the Lady Crusaders will play their final regular season game this week.

but the losses haven't been by much. Often, just a few points make the difference.

"Some of these sets where we're getting so close to within three balls of winning... it's that youth," she said. "Some of them haven't played enough yet to really feel comfortable at the varsity level, but we're getting so much closer. I'm so proud of them. They've made huge strides. Some of our girls that are starting didn't play at all last year. That's a unique challenge."

Azle Christian is a small private school without large numbers of athletes to choose from. Coaches must merge ninth, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders to form one cohesive unit. Some years, even eighth graders have been relied upon.

Amid the inexperienced girls are also a few club players with vast experience.

"It's a variety of skill levels

and experience levels, but overall, they've come a long way," Skartvedt said. "We definitely have chemistry on the court. We've got some juniors that do an excellent job of leading. We've got some sophomores that are leaders, as well as Hallie (Collins), a freshman, who definitely leads us as one of our starting setters."

Skartvedt coached younger girls in volleyball for eight years, and this is her first year at the high school level. She is excited for the future.

"We are really starting to see some chemistry between the hitters and the setters, and I love that," she said.

Once the team improves its defensive play, the Crusaders will be a team to watch, she predicted.

Azle Christian's final regular season volleyball game is at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 19, at StoneGate Christian Academy in Irving.

TOUGH

FROM PAGE B1

An Azle coach told his players to shake off the setback, stay calm, and keep playing hard. That's what they did.

Azle's offense found immediate success in the running attack. Hagen Hughes took a handoff, saw the intended hole close down, broke left, and reeled off a 33-yard run on the first play. He followed with a couple more powerful rushes to push the ball to the 1-yard line, where quarterback Canaan Kaznowski sneaked it in to tie the score 7-7.

The Azle defense shut down Saginaw on its next possession, returning the ball to the Hornets. Kaznowski relied again on his running backs and offensive line but surprised the defense with a short pass to Cash Moore, who blazed for 37 yards. On the next play, Hughes broke free, tried to jump a tackler, sailed through the air, and

landed hard at the 1-foot line.

The following play saw Cale Cohen run the ball in for a TD to give Azle a 14-7 lead.

Kicker Braden Forsythe, who nailed all four of his extra-points during the game, hit a 27-yard field goal in the second quarter to increase the Hornet lead to 17-7.

Then, momentum swung the other way.

Saginaw's offense scored on its next possession, and the Rough Riders defense added a score with a pick 6.

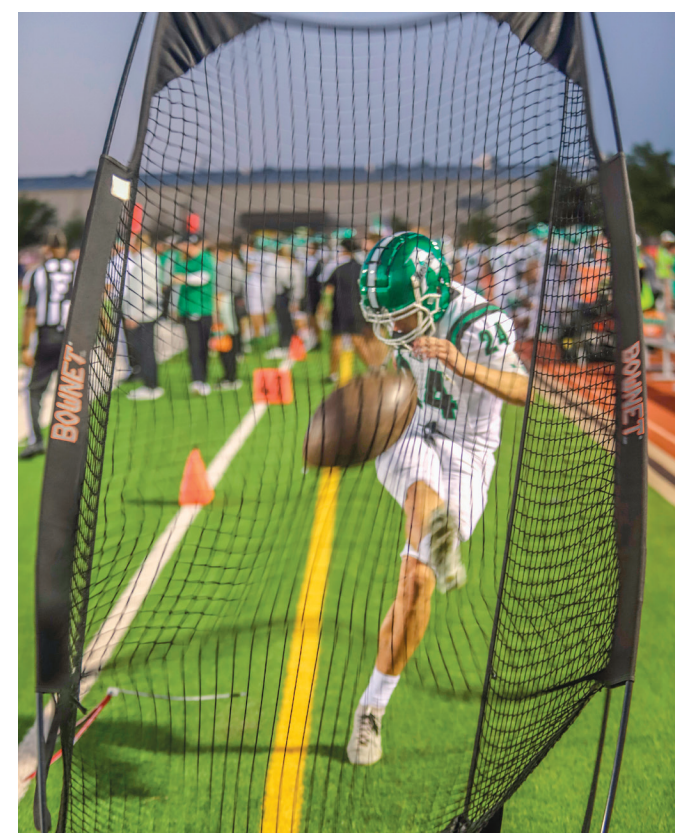
Azle's offense struggled, and Saginaw took possession and scored on a 29-yard pass to push the lead 26-17 before halftime (a 2-point conversion attempt failed).

In the third quarter, Azle's defense returned the favor by picking off a pass and running it back for a TD to close the gap to 26-24. Saginaw responded with a TD pass to make it 33-24.

The fourth quarter began with Azle down by 9 points and needing a comeback. Forsythe added 3 points by



JEFF PRINCE | TRI COUNTY REPORTER
Dylan Maines delivers a block to free up Hagen Hughes



JEFF PRINCE | TRI COUNTY REPORTER
Braden Forsythe, warming up to kick a field goal, scores 10 points against Saginaw.



From right, Cash Moore reels off a 37-yard gain with Saginaw in hot pursuit.

kicking a 24-yard field goal to make it a 6-point game.

Azle's defense stiffened and gave the Hornet offense a chance to win. The big offensive line paved the way, Hughes popped in a 1-yard TD to tie the score, and Forsythe's extra point clinched the victory.

Head coach Devon Dorris praised the team for outplaying Saginaw and staying focused despite self-inflicted wounds.

"I was proud of our perseverance," he said. "We

remained positive that we could right the ship and continued to believe through the adversity."

Hughes ended the night with 162 rushing yards and a TD. Kaznowski ran for 91 yards and a TD. Forsythe scored 10 points on two field goals and four extra-point kicks.

The players plan to bring the same intensity this week.

"The kids have remained positive and are coming to practice every day with a good attitude," he said. "We

are still on our journey to be the best version of ourselves. We have not achieved that yet."

Making mistakes against this week's opponent — The Colony — will be problematic, he said.

"The Colony is a good football team, and we can't do anything to help them," he said.

Azle is set to play at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20, at home against The Colony.

Running wild

Azle cross-country sees mixed results at exciting district meet

JEFF PRINCE

sports@tricityreporter.com

AZLE — The cross-country boys and girls ran like their season depended upon it, and it did.

The District 5-5A championship meet was Oct. 13 in White Settlement. The top three boys and girls teams along with the top 10 individual finishers would advance to the regional meet in Lubbock.

As for the rest, their season would end.

The Lady Hornets performed wonderfully, finishing in second place and punching a ticket to regionals.

Berkley Huffaker ran 21:34.06 to earn seventh place, and Audrina Montoya was close behind in eighth place with a run of 21:40.53.

Five Azle girls finished in the top 20, earning them medals.

All will enjoy a bus ride to Lubbock later this month.

The boys didn't fare as well, finishing in fourth place behind Aledo, Granbury, and Justin Northwest. The

Hornets beat Saginaw, Wichita Falls Rider, and Brewer.

Parker Huffaker ran fastest for Azle, finishing in 17th place with a time of 18:22.71.

DISAPPOINTMENT FOR BOYS

Holding back tears while trying to catch his breath was proving difficult for Jose Neri after the district race was finished.

"I'm very distraught," he said.

Neri is a senior, so his season was done. The final cross-country race of his high school career saw him finish in 21st place, just a sliver away from a medal. There would be no trip to Lubbock for him or his teammates.

Neri competed on the cross-country team for four years and had never failed to qualify for regionals until this year. He struggled to accept what had just occurred.

"All the work we put in from the summer," he said. "It's difficult. I could tell from the coach's facial expressions, he wasn't happy."

Neri ran the course in 18:36.11, about 10 seconds



Eviana Quillin crosses the finish line after passing one more competitor.

JEFF PRINCE | TRI COUNTY REPORTER

slower than last year.

"I feel good about my performance but obviously it wasn't enough," he said. "I went out too quick, but I also conserved a lot of energy which I used at the end. It wasn't enough."

Neri began running cross-country in seventh grade, and he hated to see it end. Still, he and his teammates trained hard and competed with pas-

sion, which was their intent.

"We tried our best," he said. "We all put it out there."

Braden Shildmyer, another senior, felt disappointed by his performance but knew he couldn't have given more. He injured his meniscus a few weeks ago and has been putting off surgery until after the season. He was hoping to persevere through the district competition.

He completed the race but finished in 37th place at 20:16.57.

"It was maybe my worst race in a long time," he said. "On that first downhill, I got a little tripped up."

After he stumbled, he felt his meniscus hurting.

"It started clicking every time while I was running," he said. "I let it get to my head a little bit, and it just threw me off."

Also suffering was Pablo Neri, who began the race feeling fine until a side stitch, or lung pain, made it difficult to perform.

"I could have done better," he said. "This race wasn't it for me."

Pablo Neri, a junior, is grateful to have another opportunity next year to do better at district.

"I enjoy cross-country," he said. "It's a really fun sport. It's all in the head. It's a mental sport. Not a lot of people do it, but it's a really fun sport. When you win, everybody has fun. If you lose, it's not as fun."

GIRLS HAVE FUN

Trying to pass the person ahead of her is what Noah Kovach focuses on when she runs, and she was determined to pass one more competitor before reaching the finish line at the district meet.

Kovach's coach had hollered at her on the second lap, informing her she was in 21st place.

"Coming down the back stretch, when I was at 21st, I knew I just needed to pass the girl in front of me, and I was able to dive across the finish line at the very end and get top 20," she said.

She wasn't just aiming for a medal. She wanted a better score to help her team qualify for regionals.

Eviana Quillin ran a 23:57.71 for 30th place and was gasping for air afterward while making her way to a water station. Running hard on hilly terrain with dirt and rocks for almost 24 minutes can exhaust even a young athlete in good condition.

She, too, had passed a competitor just prior to the finish line. Otherwise, she would have finished in 31st place.

"It was rough, but I felt very strong toward the end," Quillin said. "I'm happy I passed that one girl. You definitely had to push yourself through those hills. Those will get you."

The course began with an uphill stretch, requiring runners to expend energy immediately into their 5,000-meter run.

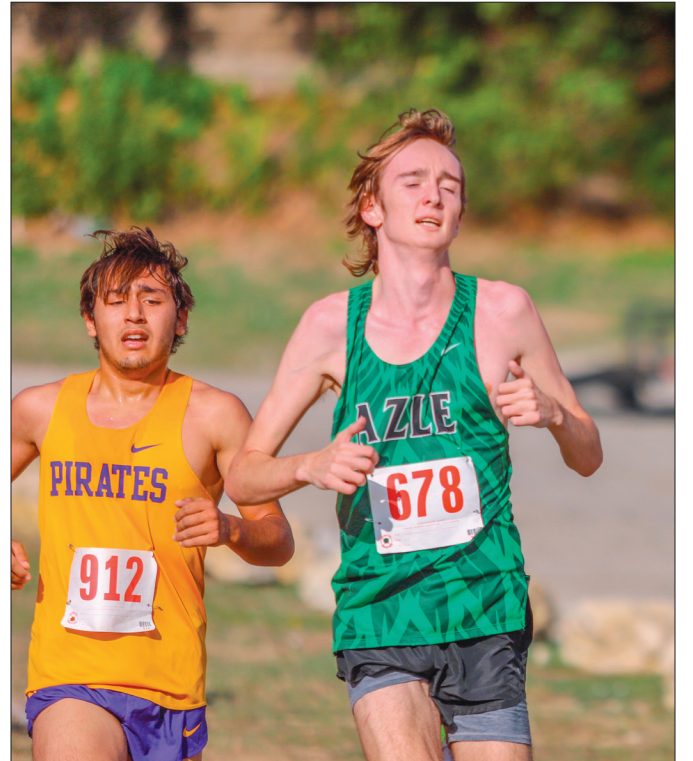
"You have to have a pretty fast start but not too fast because you don't want to waste all your energy," she said.

Quillin pushed herself on the hills, paced herself on the flat areas, and relaxed and let gravity work on the downhill



Jose Neri runs his last high school race.

JEFF PRINCE | TRI COUNTY REPORTER



Braden Shildmyer runs on a gimpy knee.

JEFF PRINCE | TRI COUNTY REPORTER



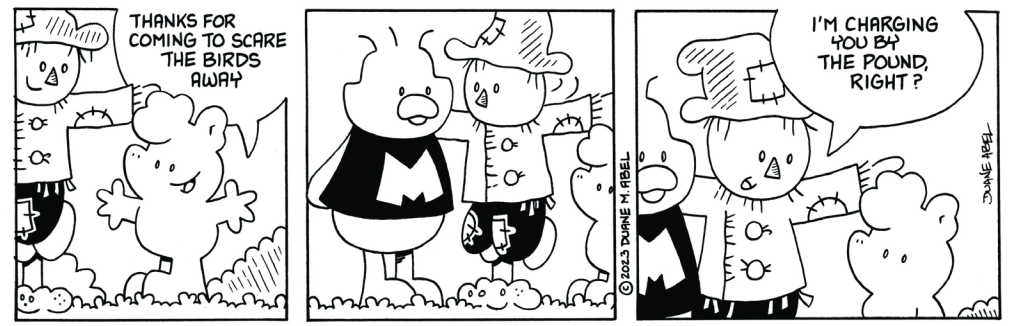
Noah Kovach earns 20th place, a medal, and a trip to regionals.

JEFF PRINCE | TRI COUNTY REPORTER

portions. The finish line came at the bottom of a long hill, giving runners a chance to pour on the speed in the final moments, which made for exciting finishes.

"You want to really start pushing yourself and then give it everything you have and do not stop before the finish line," she said. "That's where everyone gets passed."

ZED BY DUANE ABEL



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Sudoku

OCTOBER 19, 2023

	9			4			2	6	
			3	8					5
			1						7
	3		7					9	4
	4							5	
8	2					6		3	
4						5			
9				7	4				
	6	7		1				8	

Solution to last week's puzzle

OCTOBER 12, 2023

5	6	1	2	9	8	3	4	7
9	4	3	6	7	5	8	1	2
8	7	2	3	4	1	5	9	6
6	5	4	9	8	2	7	3	1
1	3	8	4	6	7	9	2	5
7	2	9	5	1	3	4	6	8
4	1	5	7	2	9	6	8	3
3	8	6	1	5	4	2	7	9
2	9	7	8	3	6	1	5	4

Puzzle by websudoku.com

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to puzzles.

DIDNEH

□ □ □ □ □ □

Answer: Hidden

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to skin safety. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 4 = t)

- A. 7 13 1 7 6 17 16 16 1
Clue: UV lotion
- B. 13 20 4 17 12 14 9 21 20 16 4
Clue: Rays of the sun
- C. 18 12 4
Clue: Covers head
- D. 19 17 21 4 16 6 4
Clue: Keep safe

Answers: A. sunscreen B. tanning C. hat D. protect

Alpha Porcupines

Springtown football to battle Decatur for district dominance

JEFF PRINCE

sports@tricityreporter.com

SPRINGTOWN — The Porcupines of Springtown and the Eagles of Decatur are the best in District 4-4A, and they'll smack helmets this week to see who's the alpha dog.

The Eagles come to town riding a three-game winning streak, including a 58-0 shellacking of Wichita Falls on Oct. 13. During that streak, Decatur outscored opponents 157-42. The Eagles' overall record is a middling 4-4, but they lost two of those games by one point, including an overtime loss to Stephenville. Decatur is big, mean, fast, and primed for action.

That doesn't mean the Porcupines are shaking in their boots.

Springtown has played tough all season, outshining expectations and pleasing fans with hard-fought victories. After losing two games to start the season, the athletes bounced back and won the next five. The schedule hasn't contained patsies, either. Those five victories came against Hirschi,



JEFF PRINCE | TRI COUNTY REPORTER

Riley Jackson and the Springtown football team will play Decatur at home.

Creekview, Glen Rose, Connally, and Mineral Wells.

On Oct. 13, the boys traveled to Mineral Wells to take on the Rams and came back with a 48-14 win while sitting in first place. Now, the job is

to stay there. Beating Decatur on Oct. 20 is a good way to accomplish that goal.

Springtown (5-2) will play Decatur (4-4) at 7 p.m. Friday at Porcupine Stadium.



JEFF PRINCE | TRI COUNTY REPORTER

From left, Chase Thompson and Darren Sweely add pop to the Porcupine defense.

Safety sound

Springtown defensive backs lead from rear

JEFF PRINCE

sports@tricityreporter.com

SPRINGTOWN — The Springtown High School football team relies heavily on its defense to hold down scoring by opponents.

The defense depends on two guys in the back.

Strong safety Darren Sweely and free safety Chase Thompson don't mind the responsibility and pressure. They relish it.

Defensive coach Tye Adams is glad to have these two warriors with their strong work ethic and a penchant for knocking the stuffing out of opposing players.

"How well we play is usually how well our safeties play," he said. "We put a lot on them. They have to make a lot of checks and a lot of adjustments on our defense — more than anybody else."

Sweely, a junior, has seen plenty of varsity action. He played regularly as a freshman and started as a sophomore.

"He really understands the defense and knows what to do," Adams said. "He's done a good job as a junior communicating those things."

Sweely dominates at plugging holes and tackling running backs and played one

of his best games during the come-from-behind win against Connally on Sept. 29.

Sweely said his main job is to "hit people hard, make sure they don't want to run the football anymore," he said. "Make sure that when they see the hole, they want to fall down and not run through it."

He has played football for eight years.

"I like how fast it is," he said. "Everything happens fast."

He has seen highs and lows as a Porcupine. In 2021, his freshman season, the team went three games deep into the playoffs. In his sophomore year, the team barely made the playoffs and was bounced out in the first game.

This year, he hopes to push deeper than ever into the postseason.

His partner at safety, Thompson, is new to the team, although he grew up for a while in Springtown and attended elementary school here. Both of his parents graduated from SHS. The family moved away for several years before returning to Springtown.

Thompson made his presence known quickly on the football field.

"Chase is a ballplayer and probably the best tackler we have on our team," Adams said. "He definitely leads our team in tackles."

He only weighs about 140 pounds but "throws every single ounce of it into every tackle," Adams said.

Despite his penchant for collisions, Thompson is tasked with covering speedy receivers, and he excels at that, too.

He has played football since he was in elementary school.

"I like to cover people and get tackles when they come," Thompson said. "It's what I've always done since I was little."

Last year, he was at Perrin playing six-man football. Before that, he was at Paradise for six years and at Jacksboro before that.

Now, he is loving his time with the Porcupines.

"I was ready to come back to 11-man football," he said. "I didn't really like six-man."

He considers 11-man football "more physical," he said. The two safeties plan to keep on covering and hitting — and winning.

"We can go pretty far," Sweely said.



JEFF PRINCE | TRI COUNTY REPORTER

In addition to cross-country, Hallie Collins excels on the volleyball team.

LONE

FROM PAGE B1

like, OK, I want to keep doing this."

She joined the track team in junior high school and ran the 400-meter event. As an eighth grader, she finished among the top 40 in the state and top 130 in the nation among 1A athletes.

"I just wanted to keep going," she said. "I liked the competitiveness. I kept going and got faster. I was just thrown into it for fun, and I just fell in love with the sport."

She ran a six-minute mile in eighth grade. Now a ninth grader, she runs 2-mile races at cross-country competitions and is ranked among the top athletes in the state in the TAPPS 1A category.

"She has a chance as a freshman to win the state championship," said track coach Matt McClure. "I've run cross-country and coached for a long time, and I've never seen a girl her age with the determination and the drive she has. She's got dreams and aspirations to run for colleges like Notre Dame. That's where she wants to be, and every day, that's what she's trying to achieve. With her drive and her determination, she is going to get it."

UP AND AT 'EM

At most schools, cross-country runners meet early in the mornings and go on long runs as a group. Sharing pain and misery with friends makes it easier to rise at the crack of dawn and return each morning to do it all over again.

At Azle Christian, Collins

has no teammates to run with. She is the only member of the cross-country team. She rises at 5:30 each morning, and by 6, she is placing one foot in front of the other on long runs around her Azle neighborhood. Her dad, Clay Collins, keeps her company. If he can't accompany her, McClure will.

Collins appreciates the support.

"It could be sprints or miles, or it could be just a slow jog," she said. "I'm not going to go out in the dark in the morning and run by myself, so my dad is always there with me. He'll run beside me or ride a bike beside me, and he'll just always be there for me. And coach McClure will do the same thing."

Her coach praised her work ethic.

"Every single morning, she is up early," he said. "She is running. She's getting better every single day."

Several younger girls at the school have taken note and expressed interest in pursuing cross-country next year. Maybe Collins will have a few teammates to run with before long.

For now, she carries the mantle alone.

"This girl — watch her," McClure said. "She is special."

MULTI-SPORT ATHLETE

In addition to competing in cross-country, Collins is starting on the varsity volleyball team simultaneously. Collins has made herself invaluable as a playmaker and leader while still a freshman. She does it all with a smile on her face while emitting a sense of energy and fun.

Volleyball coach Danelle

Skartvedt is glad to have her on the team.

"Hallie is a hard worker," she said. "She puts her mind to something and gets it done. She brings a positivity and hype to the team that is invaluable. We are so proud of her work on the volleyball team and her work on the cross-country course."

Collins juggles the pressure from sports and schoolwork amid the general drama of life in high school. She considers herself a supportive friend, and when her friends are hurting, she suffers, too.

"I love caring for my friends and always being there for them," she said.

Sometimes, she feels anxiety, and her teammates show support, as well.

"I get to have a close bond with them," she said. "I have all my volleyball teammates that I have a close bond with and know that they're going to support me. My friends always have my back, and I know they'll be there for me."

Training for cross-country allows her to be alone with her thoughts and enjoy quiet time with the morning sun peeking over the horizon.

"Cross-country is a sport that I can just get away from reality and be who I am and just escape all my stress in my life," she said.

Volleyball is a whole different animal.

"It's hard to compare the sports," she said. "One is with the team, and the other is just individual. In volleyball, you're always working together, and you'll always be with each other. In cross-country, you have to fight your own battles."



COURTESY PHOTO

The Azle tennis team sees its season end at the area meet.

Season ends

JEFF PRINCE

sports@tricityreporter.com

AZLE — On Oct. 13, Azle lost to Argyle in the area championship at Saginaw High School, bringing an end to a sterling season for the Hornet racket wielders.

"We are so proud of this team and all the hard work these athletes put in this fall season," said head coach Connor Mason. "This team is special. Now to focus on the

Record-setting Azle tennis falls to Argyle at area meet

offseason and gear up for the spring."

In the sport of tennis, the fall season is a team sport, with everyone winning or losing as a team.

In the spring, tennis becomes an individual sport, with players competing one-on-one.

Azle made school history this fall by finishing in third place in district for its highest finish ever. Third place qualified Azle for the bi-district championship.

On Oct. 9, the Hornets won the bi-district championship after defeating South Hills 15-4.

SPORTS Roundup

AZLE HIGH SCHOOL

On Oct. 12, the Azle Hornet JV football team took on Saginaw at home, came out strong, fought hard, and won 39-13. "Everyone played hard and contributed to this big win," said coach Tanner Street.

AZLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

The Crusaders football team toppled Bethesda 52-34 at home on Oct. 13. Azle Christian will play next at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20, at home against Texoma of Sherman.

FORTE JUNIOR HIGH

On Oct. 12, the seventh grade volleyball A Team came up short against Chisholm Trail but not for lack of trying. Allison Amyett and Braylee Searcy played a smart game, strategically tipping, setting, and attacking the ball. Jordyn Johnston once again handled hard serves and hits with amazing digs

until the end, with the final score 25-11 and 25-13.

The seventh grade B Team played an outstanding game against Chisholm Trail to win 25-19 and 25-19. Karlee Burns, Logan Shelton, and Jade Gutierrez stepped up big on the back row. Leilanni Bravo was a force from the serving line. The team gave its best overall performance of the season. Every Hornet needed to play their best game to win against Chisholm Trail, and that's what happened.

The eighth grade volleyball A Team lost to Chisholm Trail 16-25, 25-15 and 10-15 in a fierce battle. Haylee Collins and Kelsey Eminger led the team with 5 aces each. Zaela Goodman, Sheyla Soto, and Mckynlee Walden provided multiple blocks and kills. The entire team played well together and have improved tremendously this season.



The Azle High School JV cheer squad roots for the hometown Hornets against Saginaw.

The eighth grade B Team won 25-23, 18-25 and 15-11 over Chisholm Trail, with Joslyn Garcia's superb serving in the first set providing the tone for the evening. On Oct. 10, the seventh

grade football White Team beat the Decatur Eagles 14-6 after scoring two running touchdowns.

The seventh grade Green Team fell behind against the Eagles, and both teams

fought hard for four quarters. Forte prevailed in the end, winning 22-14.

The eighth grade Hornets also took on Decatur, couldn't control the Eagle defense, and fell 56-0.

Football Contest

WEEK 7

Amy Collins and David Shaffer correctly guessed the winners of 22 of 24 high school football games played on Oct. 13. The tiebreaker game generated 52 points. Collins predicted 48 points, which means she won the big prize — first place and \$20. Shaffer, who predicted 70 tiebreaker points, earned second place and \$10. Three other players correctly guessed 21 of 24 games, but Kyle Gathright was closest to the tiebreaker score. He predicted 44 tiebreaker points, which earned him third place and \$5. Eddy and Margaret Swanzy were farther off on their tiebreaker predictions and earned no prize moolah this time around but will surely be back next week ready for action. Congratulations to the winners!

THE COLONY vs AZLE



AZLE HORNET FOOTBALL SCHEDULE 2023			
Date	Opponent	Location	
08/25	Frisco Reedy	Frisco Reedy	L 37-14
09/01	Grapevine	HOME	W 14-13
09/08	Denton Ryan	at DENTON RYAN	L 49-7
09/15	Aledo	Home	L 50-7
09/22	Brewer	Brewer	L 30-13
09/29	Northwest	HOME	L 63-7
10/06	open	open	
10/14	Saginaw	at SAGINAW	W 34-33
10/20	The Colony	HOME	
10/26	South Hills	HOME	
11/03	Burl Centennial	at BURL CENTENNIAL	

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Way to swing, Hornets!

The Azle tennis team saw its season end at the area meet on Oct. 12, but the Hornets are feeling pretty stoked about the year. The team finished higher in district seeding than ever before in school history and won a bi-district championship. Congratulations to the Hornet tennis players for a stellar season!

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1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
\$20⁰⁰	\$10⁰⁰	\$5⁰⁰

Winners can pick up their checks at the Tri-County Reporter office after Thursday.

• OFFICIAL RULES •

There are 24 games listed in advertisements on this page. To enter, pick the winner and write the name of that team in the appropriate blank on the official entry form. Mail or deliver the form to the Tri-County Reporter at 321 W. Main St., Azle, Texas 76020, by 1:00 PM FRIDAY. (Limit one entry per person). Entries can also be dropped off at Highland Furniture on the Square in Springtown, 133 E. 1st St.

Entries will be tabulated weekly and the results published in that week's issue of the Tri-County Reporter. The first place winner each week will receive \$20, the second place winner \$10 and the third place winner \$5. The tie breaker will be used to determine placings. In case of a tie, the money will be divided equally. To pick the tie breaker, predict the total number of points in the selected game and enter in the appropriate space on the official entry form. All entries become the property of the Tri-County Reporter. Please write clearly and be sure to enter your pick in the correct blank. Second tiebreaker decided by whoever picks Azle and Springtown games correctly.

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Deadline for entries 1 p.m. Friday! No photocopies please!

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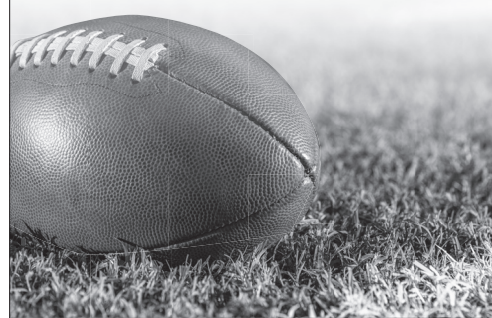
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www.springtownfloors.com
SpringtownFloors@yahoo.com

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RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

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 email: springtownseptic@gmail.com

You only live once. That's worth protecting.



A conversation about life insurance now can make a big impact on your family (and even your retirement) later. **LET'S TALK TODAY.**

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 CoveredByLindsay.com

3. Texoma Christian at Azle Christian

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State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
 State Farm Fire and Casualty Company
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250 Digital Business Cards ONLY \$29⁹⁹

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Delicious Cinnamon Rolls

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TRI-COUNTY REPORTER
 THE NEWS OF AZLE, SPRINGTOWN, AND SURROUNDING AREAS

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 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____
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15. Joshua at Burleson

<input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00 IN-COUNTY Tarrant, Parker & Wise only	<input type="checkbox"/> \$70.00 OUT-OF-COUNTY Texas and elsewhere
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Ad Classifications

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

RATES

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Only \$10.00 per week!

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Extras such as Bold, Center & Border are available for a small fee

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

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



Reach more than 8,000 households with advertising in THE TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

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BYRUM CONSTRUCTION
Asphalt and Concrete Paving
Driveways • Parking Lots
Asphalt Repairs & Sealcoating
Asphalt Millings • Gravel
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030 Firewood

\$150 Half cord, delivered and stacked. Call 817-689-2424.

032 For Sale

Delta drum sander 31-255x 18"X36" good condition \$450 or best offer. 817-454-7651.

032 For Sale



2018 Outback Travel Trailer Model 332
FK. 3 slide outs,
37 Ft. \$38,000
817-688-6029
or 817-221-2403.

035 Garden/Mowing Service

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Trimming • Removals • Stump Grinding
Systemic Feeding • Brush Chipping • Cable Bracing
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817-800-6059 CELL
Insured for your protection

039 Help Wanted

Help Wanted in Aurora/Alvord Area
• Mechanic - Diesel/
Heavy Equipment
• Loader Operator
Competitive pay, some benefits. M-F day shift only, Overtime weekly.
For information call 214-802-5157

019 Cement Work

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

2000 Ford Focus ZX3, 5 speed transmission, 122,000 miles, like new tires, new inspection and registration. \$3250 obo 817-229-9227.



2017 Polaris RZR XP4 Turbo. Custom cage, doors, bumper, lights, spare tire & holder, big stereo w/sub. \$24,000.
817-789-2519.

034 Garage & Estate Sales

Silver Creek Methodist Church Inside Sale!
2200 Church Rd, Azle. October 20th & 21st, 8am-4pm.

COMMUNITY-WIDE SALE BOLING RANCH ESTATES. OVER 15 HOMES PARTICIPATING. SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE. FRI. 20 and SAT. 21. 8am to 3pm, 100 Rustling Elm Way for GPS.

Ashwood Park Community Garage Sale
Multiple family sale, household items, baby & kid items, furniture. October 20-22, 8am-3pm.

Garage Sale
Friday and Saturday, October 20-21, 8am-4pm. 1112 Lee Ln, Azle.

Garage Sale
804 Maggard Ct, Azle. Saturday, October 21, 8am-4pm. Lots of clothes with tags still on.

Garage Sale
1232 Edgewater Dr, Azle. October 20-21 8am-?. Several Christmas items. With something for everyone.

Moving Yard Sale
Lots of different items to chose from including seasonal & holiday decorations. We have cheap prices. Everything must go. 187 PR 4861, Azle. October 19-22, 7am-7pm.

Garage Sale
120 Champions Way, Azle. October 19-21, 8am-5pm. Toys, hunting & Fishing items, welding tools, household items.

Garage Sale
650 J E Woody Rd, Springtown. Friday-Sunday 9am-6pm. 4 horse stock trailer, 2 kids, 2 adult saddles & tack, log splitter, barely used. Nice woman's clothes, bunch of good things. All Hippies welcome.

Garage Sale
121 Springwood Ranch Loop, Springtown. Saturday the 21st only 8am-2pm. Furniture, clothing, & misc. items.

Porch Sale
143 Sadie Ln, Springtown. Friday & Saturday 20-21. Antiques & everything in between.

Yard Sale
2051 Church Road, Azle. 10/20-10/21 8-5.
Household items, clothes, furniture & lots more.

035 Garden/Mowing Service

COWBOY LAWN CARE.
Residential, farm, gardens, landscaping, tree trimming. Free Estimates. 817-271-0450. Spring Specials.

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Removal, trimming & stump grinding. Senior & Veteran discounts. Fully insured. Call or text for free estimate 817-266-4603.

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

LEON'S TREE SERVICE
Expert take downs
Stump Grinding
Residential/Commercial
Licensed & Insured • Free Estimates
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IRRIGATION REPAIR
Residential/Commercial
License# LI007825
\$95 Service Call

OUTDOOR SCENE
682-553-1560

039 Help Wanted

Alpha Health Care Services is looking for Care Givers in Azle, Haslet, Burleson, Joshua, Alvaredo, Fort Worth, and Arlington. Please call 817-467-7955 or email; ouralphahealthcare@yahoo.com.

SILVER DOLLAR CUSTOMS HELP WANTED

2 Mechanics needed and 2 Body Technicians Experience a must and tools a plus! Mechanics We work on all types of vehicles; we specialize in classics. From full restorations, modifications, rebuilds and upgrades, maintenance, and repairs but not limited to. Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm Occasional Saturday Body shop Technicians Metal work, fabrications, welding, body working, sanding, grinding, and sand blasting. Hours: Monday - Friday 6:00am to 2:30pm Occasional Saturday Pay Negotiable Contact: Elizabeth @ 817-752-2165 or Come by: 408 Commerce St Azle, Tx 76020

Azle ISD is currently accepting applications for a plumber in the Maintenance Department. Prefer a licensed plumber with a minimum of 3+ yrs. experience. Apply online at www.azleisd.net

Advertising Works!

020 Demolition

MCNEELY'S DEMOLITION & CLEAN UP SERVICE
We Create Vacancy

- Tear Down •Barns
- Removal •Houses
- Haul Off •Bobcat
- Mobile Service
- Homes •Dirt/Gravel
- Garages Spreading

FREE ESTIMATES
817-996-7887
253 Eagles Way, Springtown



4x4 blynd on 10 Ft tower. 2 sets of windows, carpet, chair and heater available. \$900 call Rich 817-584-8567.



5th Wheel 2008 Forest River 2-slide outs, new AC, clean, 29 Ft. \$11,000 (C) 817-734-5235 (H) 817-237-3803 Ric

024 Electrician

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

026 Excavating

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



Summer sale, 1970 18 Ft Ski Boat 135
Mercury engine, new interior. \$5,000
682-717-6181.

029 Fencing

BOBBY'S FENCE. All types, Free Estimates, Over 26 years experience. 817-444-3213.

KILEY CHESNEY CONSTRUCTION
All Types Fences - Tractor Work
817-846-6645



Piano with bench & music. \$600
817-454-3798

LEON'S FENCING
Cedar • Iron • Pipe
Barbed Wire
817-371-8597

Eagle Crest VILLA SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY
Now Hiring FT COOK
11am-7:30 pm. Meals included. Health, Dental, Life, 401k and PTO
Apply in person: 113 Denver Trail, Azle. or send resume to: info@eaglecrestvilla.com

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.
This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD tollfree at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



WE SOLD IT
IN THE CLASSIFIEDS
The Tri-County Reporter
817-270-3340

Advertising Works!

817-270-3340

Deadline:
1:00 PM FRIDAY

Classifieds

<p>039</p>  <p>KARL KLEMENT</p> <p>Service Porter</p> <p>Come join our Growing Team as a Service Porter! Duties included, but are not limited to cleaning vehicles, running errands, and test-driving vehicles. Monday to Friday work week</p>	<p>Help Wanted</p> <p>KLEMENT DISTRIBUTION, INC. (Hershey Ice Cream Distributor)</p> <p>Vending Route Driver</p> <p>No CDL needed but must have valid TXDL with acceptable driving record. Must be dependable to meet requirements of early starting hours.</p>	<p>079 Welding</p>  <p>SOLID STEEL SOLUTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metal Buildings • Steel Components • Welding Supplies • Concrete Supplies • Fabrication Supplies • Pipe Fencing • Deer Blinds • Deer Feeders <p>8894 W Hwy 199 • Springtown 817-220-0008 www.SolidSS.com Open to the Public</p>
<p>KLEMENT Jeep RAM CHRYSLER DODGE</p> <p>No Positions Available at This Time</p> <p>Karl Klement Properties, Inc. No Positions Available at This Time</p>		
<p>Apply in person at: 605 N. Business 287, Ste 102, Decatur, Texas or call Human Resources 940-627-6362 hr.info@klementford.com Jodi Pettis, Executive Director</p> <p>All full-time positions offer growth opportunities & a full benefits package including Medical, Dental, Vision, Life, 401(k) & more. EEOC</p>		

039

LINDSEY STATE JAIL CURRENT OPENINGS
Correctional Officers
Assistant Foodservice Manager
Asst. Maintenance Supervisor - Electrician

PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR JOB QUALIFICATIONS.

A New Correctional Officer Pay Increase will be as follows - Starting pay will be \$18.00 dollars per hour. After Six months there will be a pay increase to \$19.00 per hour and at one year there will be another pay increase to \$20.00 per hour. Must have HS Diploma or equivalent, be able to pass a drug screen, have a clean background, and valid driver's license to be considered for a Correctional Officer.

Apply online at www.mtctrains.com or call 940-567-2272 and ask for the HR Department.

Management & Training Corporation is an Equal Opportunity Employer: Minority/Female/Veteran/Disabled

062 **Plumbing**

LANDERS Plumbing Co.
940-233-2862
M-10078

069 **Sand/Gravel**

HALL'S SAND, DIRT & GRAVEL
Quality Family Business Since 1938

CALL Cliff Hall
(817) 221-2681

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

GRAHAM PLUMBING CO.



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

079 **Welding**

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

R & E Construction
Metal Building Specialist

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

Compare Pricing
NO JOB TOO SMALL

040 Home Improvement

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

BOBBY MCWILLIAMS PAINTING 817-821-6377.
Interior/Exterior Painting Residential & New Homes. 50 years experience.

040 Home Improvement

BILL BLANKSHIP CONTRACTING INC.



HOME IMPROVEMENT
Residential/Commercial
Kitchens • Baths • Add-Ons
Showers • Custom Cabinets

TILE WORK
Tubs • Showers • Floors
Backsplashes • Etc.

DRAIN CLEANING
Sewers • Sinks • Grease Traps
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A+ BBB Rated
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ContractingBlankship@outlook.com

Mr. Sweeps
CHIMNEY CLEANING SERVICE

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

817-692-5624
ASK FOR DOUG
mrsweepschimneycleaning.com

066 **Roofing**

AT HOME ROOFING & METAL BUILDINGS

817-304-4224

Tired of always replacing your roof?
Call us for a metal roof quote.

We'll be here after the storm.

WDC
WELD-DONE CONSTRUCTION LTD.

Metal Building Erectors

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

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

SPECIAL \$250
Chimney & Dryer Vent Cleaning

Kevin's Handyman Services

40 Years Experience

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

Springtown and Surrounding Areas
231-445-1221

049 Masonry/Stonework

Silva Masonry, L.L.C.
AZLE, TX
CONCRETE
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL
Landscape Designs, Outdoor Kitchens
Patios, Retaining Walls, Mailboxes

All Types Stone & Brick Work Free
New Construction • Remodels Estimates
817-308-6512
email alvarosilva@verizon.net

Miles Roofing

- Insurance Claim Specialists;
- Free Estimates

817-797-3420

PLACE AN AD IN THE CLASSIFIEDS TODAY!
817-270-3340

052 Movers

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

057 Pets/Livestock

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

PLACE AN AD IN THE CLASSIFIEDS TODAY!
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DIAMOND ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION



Commercial & Residential

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

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

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

DESIGN FABRICATION ERECTION

Cozart METAL BUILDING SYSTEMS

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

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

088 Rent Unfurnished

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

081 Business/Commercial

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

For Lease: Hwy 199 frontage, near hospital, 800 Sq Ft \$850/mo. 2000 Sq Ft \$1500/mo. 817-220-2021 Bryant Real Estate.

082 RV's for Rent

Nice 1BR RV in adult RV park. Great for older person on limited income. Starts at \$650/mo. All Bills Paid. Heritage RV Park 817-444-3760.

084 Mobile Homes for Rent

3-2 mobile home for Rent \$1150/mo \$1150/dep. 111 E. Bradshaw Road, Springtown. Proof of employment is a must. Call for more information 817-220-4095.

086

Beautiful RV Spots available in nice, quiet area near Eagle Mountain Lake. \$450/mo. plus electric. Call for more information 817-228-2414.

085 Mobile Homes For Sale

REPOS

K&P HOMES
Financing Available
817-677-3446

087 Rent Furnished

1819 PELICAN OVAL
2-1-1 \$1,295.MO. \$800 DEP.
1513 CORAL CUT OFF
3-1-1 \$1,345.MO. \$1,000 DEP.
1572 REEF
3-2-1 \$1,395.MO. \$1,000 DEP.
Gene Thompson & Associates
817-246-4646 gtatx.com

088 Rent Unfurnished

2-1 House w/carport, close to Hwy/restaurants/shipping. Just renovated, no dogs. \$1400/mo 817-444-3636.

2-2 4-PLEX, Newly Remodeled. \$1,200/mo \$800/security deposit, WBFP, walk-in closets, box windows, large kitchen w/pantry, 1,100 sf. 817-360-3039.

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

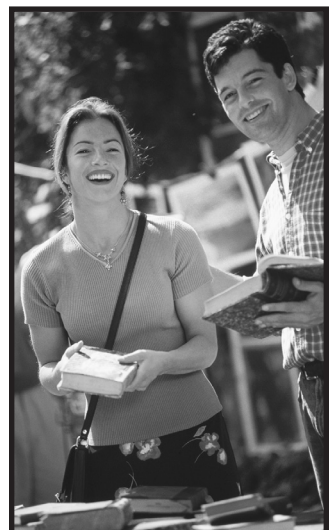
1 & 2 Bedroom Unfurnished
Accepting Applications
Rent based on income

TDD: 800-735-2989
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

HOME IMPROVEMENT



Check out the Home Improvement Specialists in the Classifieds for help with your next project!



Raise some extra money through the Classifieds. Have a Yard Sale. 16 words for only \$10

The Tri-County Reporter
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Your hometown Paper!

Devin's Handyman Service

- Carpentry
- Cement
- Granite
- Tile
- Painting
- Siding
- Insulation
- Kitchen/Bath
- Seamless Gutters
- Powerwashing
- Decks

FALL SPECIAL 20% OFF with this ad!



Call Devin at 817-629-9608

068 **Storage**

INNERSPACE STORAGE. Hwy 199, Springtown. Now renting all unit sizes, 24-hour access. 682-842-1414.

STORAGE SPECIAL
10X10 \$60/MONTH-NO DEPOSIT
1350 LIBERTY SCHOOL RD, AZLE
5X10 \$45/MONTH \$20/DEPOSIT
817-246-4646



Need to sell your ATV?
Call today and ask about our (\$29.95) 3-MONTH SPECIAL!
The Tri-County Reporter
817-270-3340

Advertising Works!

817-270-3340

Deadline:
1:00 PM FRIDAY

Classifieds

088 Rent Unfurnished

Gateway Apartments

313 Gateway · Azle · 817-444-0882
TDD 800-760-1997

**Energy Efficient · Central Heat/Air
Off Street Parking · Water Paid
Fully Equipped Laundry**

ONE & TWO BEDROOMS

**Rent Based On Income
For Qualified Applicants**

62 years of age or older, handicap/disabled, regardless of age

 This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer 

Need To Fill The Piggy Bank?



Put Your Ad in Our Classified Section Today!

TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Your local paper!

817-270-3340

321 W. Main St. Azle

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK

TexSCAN

TexSCAN Week of Oct. 15-21, 2023

ACREAGE **LOG HOMES**

LAND FOR SALE. Hunting, recreational, retirement. Hill Country, Trans Pecos regions in North Texas. 30-year fixed rate, owner financing, 5% down. www.ranchenterprisesllc.com. 800-876-9720.

ENERGY **MEDICAL**

Prepare for power outages today with a GENERAC home standby generator. \$0 Money Down + Low Monthly Payment Options. Request a FREE Quote. Call now before the next power outage: 1-855-704-8579.

OIL & GAS RIGHTS **DENTAL INSURANCE** from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-901-0467 www.dental50plus.com/txpress #6258

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE **WANTED**

Applying for Social Security Disability or Appealing a Denied Claim? Call Bill Gordon & Assoc. Our case managers simplify the process & work hard to help with your case. Call 1-844-494-0689 FREE Consultation. Local Attorneys Nationwide Mail: 2420 N St NW, Washington DC. Office: Broward Co. FL (TX/NM Bar.)

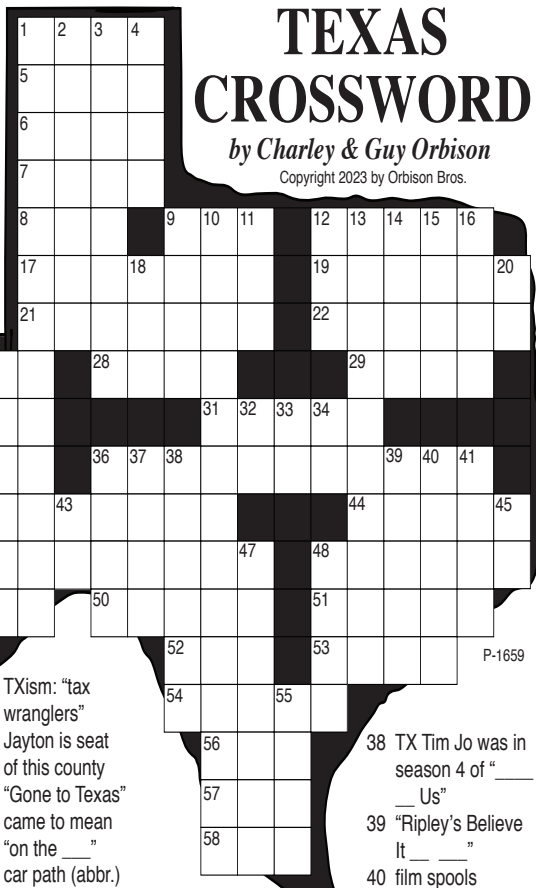
Need Extra Cash - I Buy RV's & Mobile Homes - Travel Trailers, 5th Wheels, Goosenecks, Bumper Pulls. In Any Area, Any Condition - Old/New, Dirty or Clean! I PAY CASH. No Title - No Problem, we can apply for one. We go anywhere in Texas. ANR Enterprises, 956-466-7001.

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TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

1 Troy Aikman net.
5 TXism: "I double dog ___ ya"
6 small biting fly
7 sprint car org. at Abilene Speedway
8 TXism: "smart as a bunkhouse ___"
9 TXism: "happy as a ___ in mud"
12 TXism: "sharp as ___"
17 Taylor County seat
19 TXism: "hair trigger ___" (quick to anger)
21 old road in Nacogdoches: "___ del Norte"
22 increase the size
23 TXism: "___ driller" (dentist)
28 TV award given to TX Carol Burnett
29 Dan Quinn to Mike McCarthy (abbr.)
30 Texas Tech grad Lakas was president of this Central American country
31 ___ of beef
35 unarmed (2 wds.)
36 city dump: "___ eyes?"
42 song written in 1941: "___ heart of Texas"
44 on I-20, 23 miles west of 17-across
46 TXism: "a legend in his own mind"
48 1980 song "Raisin' ___ Texas"

DOWN

1 UT has the desk of this 3-name poet
2 a Texas city, county, and river (2 wds.)
3 Cowboy & Texan preparation
4 shrimp catchers
9 ship steering wheel
10 TX Pride's "My Eyes Can ___ You"
11 tell a horse to "giddy" up
12 TXism: "table grazed"
13 fall event in Dallas: "___ Fair"
14 music boosters

49 American multinational conglomerate
50 sheriff's huntin' party
51 Texas "Chicks" 3rd album: "Shouldn't ___ You That"
52 TXism: "___ hog had wings he'd be an eagle"
53 TXism: "a squeaky wheel ___ the grease"
54 TXism for "disrespectful"
56 George W. party (abbr.)

15 TXism: "tax wranglers"
16 Jayton is seat of this county
18 "Gone to Texas" came to mean "on the ___"
20 car path (abbr.)
23 "The Pelvis" (init.)
24 noted female south Texas rancher: Mary ___ West
25 cattle auction indication (2 wds.)
26 PGA golfer Andrew who grew up in Dallas
27 shell of a flightless bird (2 wds.)

32 TX George Strait 1991 hit: "I Know Me"
33 TXism: "it'll ___ nicely"
34 TXism: "let ' ___ rip"
36 TXism: "___ beans" (in the pod)
37 TXism: "pay ___ never mind"

38 TX Tim Jo was in season 4 of " ___ Us"
39 "Ripley's Believe It ___"
40 film spools
41 Oklahoma town
43 TX Ernest Tubbs' " ___ Walking the Floor Over You"
45 TX Sam Rayburn's birth state (abbr.)
47 "you never ___ amaze me"
48 crafty
55 language south of the border (abbr.)

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