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COUNTY REPORTER

AZLE, SPRINGTOWN, AND SURROUNDING AREAS

THURSDAY, April 4, 2024 • \$1.00

The FeedLot opens without a hitch

Azle City Council holds inaugural ribbon cutting for new food truck park

ZACH FREEMAN

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AZLE — After a last-minute push Wednesday, Azle's new food truck park, The FeedLot, is open for business.

During its debut Friday, the site ran out of parking before its 5 p.m. opening time, with cars lining up down Church Street and in the nearby First Methodist Church Azle parking lot.

"We're real thrilled with the community response to it," Community and Marketing Specialist Kristen Pegues said. "It feels great to have this project completed. The



Azle's brand new food truck park, The FeedLot, opened on Good Friday, March 29 to large crowds of hungry Azleites.

ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

PLEASE SEE **HITCH** | A12

Walnut Creek SUD to get geographic information system upgrade

MADelyn EDWARDS

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SPRINGTOWN — Walnut Creek Special Utility District board of directors approved moving forward with a digital system that is expected to help the district's workers

GIS manager: 'This is like a digital transformation'

locate water lines with more ease.

The board passed a proposal from the engineering, surveying and planning company Quiddity for Geographic

Information System Asset Management. Quiddity GIS Manager Duncan Flintoff said this will create a digital system of the SUD's underground infrastructure.

"That allows you to do many other things," Flintoff said during the board's March 18 meeting. "It puts accurate maps in the hands of the guys in the field so that

they have accurate situational awareness of what's actually in the ground, and also it creates a platform on which you can then superimpose all of your planning, capital improvement planning, water pressure analysis."

The system will be created

using the SUD's paper records as well as "real world data" that workers will collect along with reference photos of the location. Flintoff noted the digital system can be updated as workers make discoveries

PLEASE SEE **WATER** | A4

Texas schools in turmoil, Azle ISD to stand steady

Azle ISD expects to cover \$3.3 million loss in revenue for 2024-2025

ZACH FREEMAN

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AZLE — Texas schools are facing a perfect storm of financial problems, but Azle ISD expects to weather through.

"In theory, at least in the past, the whole budget concept was supposed to be a balancing act," Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Matt Adams said at the March Azle ISD board of trustees meeting. "As local share increases with our local property values going up, state share decreases or vice versa when

they forced the compression on us. When local share went down because of tax compression, state share goes up."

"Well, not really," Adams said.

As a result of recently passed property tax relief for Texas homeowners, tax revenue that Azle ISD would have collected has compressed by \$1.6 million. In all, Azle ISD has decreased its tax rate by about 30 cents per \$100 valuation in the last five years.

While state revenue to schools should have, ideally, increased to cover the difference, it has instead decreased by almost \$1.2 million. Additionally, the federal government also slashed funding for School Health and Related Services or SHARS reimbursements after a commission discovered discrepancies in how Texas officials had been coding the services under

Medicaid. Azle ISD had been receiving over \$1 million per year in reimbursements, but now only expects to receive \$566,000. Adams said based on current knowledge, revenues could decrease by as much as \$3.3 million in total next fiscal year.

These funding decreases come at a time when expenses for Texas schools are higher than ever. Inflation has caused technology, software, curriculum, supplies and other educational necessities to rise in price. Property insurance costs have also gone through the roof, increasing by \$250,000 or 40% for the district this year alone.

While many school districts across Texas are adopting deficit budgets and fearing rocky financial prospects ahead, Azle ISD administrators said they feel lucky. With continuously in-

PLEASE SEE **SCHOOL** | A3



Clowning around at the circus in Springtown

Culpepper & Merriweather Circus performers took the stage

MADelyn EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Payzlie Metcalf, 9, smiles for the camera as she rides a pony at the C&M Circus in Springtown March 25.

MORE PHOTOS
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VOLUME 1, NUMBER 44
Local, zone(s) 2 sections, 20 pages

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AHS yearbook judged by its cover

Publisher recognizes AHS yearbook cover among best in the nation

ZACH FREEMAN

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AZLE — At Azle High School, 2023's yearbook class is "one for the books."

Each year, the yearbook publisher, Josten's, showcases some of its clients' best designs, themes, photos and layouts with its national "Look Book." Azle's 2023 yearbook, titled "One for the Books" was featured by Josten's as one of the nation's top yearbook covers. Editors-in-chief Cadence Jordan and Jessie Heath were responsible for the development of the book's cover and theme. Staff members built around their ideas for the year. The lithograph cover, with matte lamination and ShineFX — a raised ink, clear polymer finish that creates a glossy effect — helped wow Josten's staff and guaranteed Azle's yearbook students a place among other excellent and innovative designs in The Look Book.

"I believe it was our use of design as well as our choice of fonts that mixed so well together," advisor Tenille Roberts said. "As for what (the yearbook staff) is most proud of, I believe it is the cohesiveness of the book, and the manner in which they work together as a team to pull together such a beautiful and comprehensive book that maintains coverage of all of the events, teams and happenings within AHS. Our staffers

are extremely hard working. Teaching a class where you and your students are responsible for designing the theme and each page from a completely blank slate, is extremely exciting and rewarding."

Azle High School's yearbook class is one of many Career and Technical Education or CTE programs offered by the district. CTEs often center around real-world occupations and trades and help these students build valuable job skills and experiences for possible future careers. While last year's editors-in-chief have since graduated, much of this year's staff worked on the 2023 yearbook. This year, they hope to continue their tradition of excellence with a yearbook on par with their previous success.

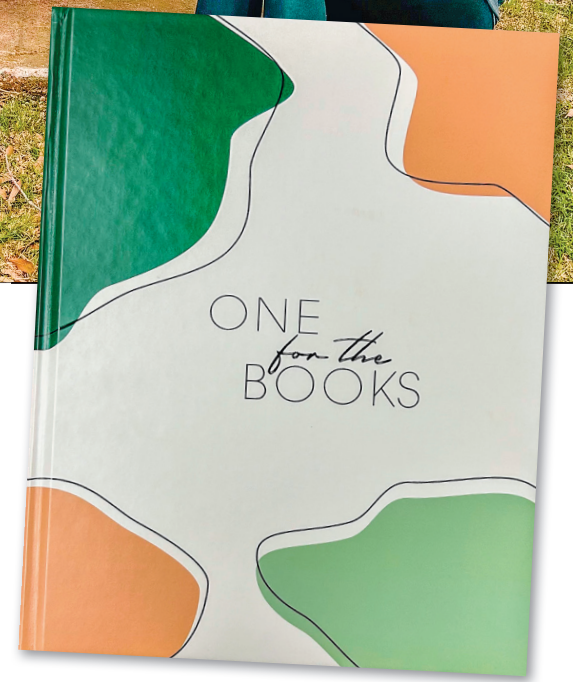
"Yearbook provides staffers with real world scenarios, opportunities, and experiences that will help grow their knowledge and expertise for college, as well as their careers later in life," Roberts said. "Some of these scenarios include running the class as a business, where they are responsible for meeting deadlines, marketing the book, making sales and working together as a team. As for what it means to us, it is the culmination of a year's hard work, and knowing that our idea and effort was a noticeable standout to professionals within the field of publishing."



COURTESY PHOTO

Above: Azle High School's current yearbook class.

Right: The 2023 Azle High School yearbook cover recognized by Josten's.



Can we talk about being good neighbors?



Common Practice

I tend to trust and spend time with those who have the most in common with me and keep my distance from those who are different from me.

Best Practice

I intentionally reach out to engage with those who are different from me for the benefit of everyone in the community.

Helpful Habits

- Intentionally reach across differences to build relationships.
- Look for ways that differences can build strength in the community.
- Find ways to include those who may not normally find a place or a voice in the community.
- Look for common ground, shared goals, and shared values.

The End Game

I pledge to respect and care for my neighbors throughout the community and to reject the tendency to distance myself from those who are different.



Let's Talk Azle is a community resilience initiative endorsed by the City of Azle, the Azle Independent School District, the Azle Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Azle Area Ministerial Alliance. We hope you will use each month's topic to have conversations with your family, friends, co-workers, etc.

For more information:
facebook.com/LetsTalkAzle
LetsTalkAzle@gmail.com



LET'S TALK

Practices

Carrying the pledge forward...

- In my daily context I will recognize and engage with those who are different, speaking and treating them with kindness.
- In my personal initiative I will proactively build relationships with people who have differences.
- In my community involvement I will seek to include people who have a different way of seeing things.

Try this...

- Identify someone who disagrees with you and make a list of his or her strengths. What could you learn?
- If differences have become a source of conflict in your relationships, listen more and consider what you might need to hear from the other person.

Living life in a small town in Texas

Living in a small town is simply different than living in the big city. If you desire to be close to a vibrant night-life, dine in a multitude and variety of restaurants, or go to professional ball games and musical entertainment, it would be much wiser to live in the D-FW area rather than some small town in rural Texas. The hustle and bustle of the "big city" provides an energy and rhythm which excites and motivates. Lots of young people are driven to live there and experience all it has to offer.

After all, there are also more job opportunities in the metroplex than in rural areas, and usually at a higher wage. If you are single, there is a larger pool from which to seek a companion. Urban areas offer a greater chance to

Where kindness is not lost



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.

experience the arts, emerge in a wide range of cultures and ethnicities, and greater shopping opportunities.

Despite all these positives, there are arguably negatives to life in the metroplex. Traffic is the first one that springs to mind. I see people scramble on U.S. Highway 75, Interstate Highway 635 or the President George Bush Turnpike and I wonder how they bear the constant rush, the stress of getting to their job on time, and the iso-

lation of spending hours of their week simply getting to and from work. It's not something which I envy.

All the hustle and bustle make me wonder how often the urban dwellers get to engage with their neighbors and share this journey we call life — or are they so busy running from one event to the other they miss the blessing of community?

The small town I live in is growing. Occasionally, old timers will complain about

the changes. They are frustrated with having to wait in line, or road construction, or building new schools to accommodate the growth in students. They yearn for the slower pace of yesteryear, and I understand why. There is something peaceful and pleasurable about a small town's slower pace and taking the time to interact with your neighbors.

Just this past week, I was leaving the office about 5:15. The building where I work sits on a very busy thoroughfare. There are plans being made by TxDOT to widen the road to remedy the traffic ills, but it will not happen for some four or five years to come. Currently, during busy times of the day, the street can seem like it is in the heart of Dallas with traffic backed

up. There is simply too much congestion.

What I have come to realize is that I have never had to wait more than a few moments before having access to turn on the road. I simply drive to the exit of my parking lot and some nice member of my community will "wave me in" and allow me to get in line. This happens every night. Without fail, before one or two cars pass, someone waves me on to the roadway, even though it slows their trip. I can't help but believe if I was trying to get out on a busy street in Fort Worth or Dallas, other drivers would ignore me or look away.

Letting someone get on the highway is not tantamount to curing cancer or solving world hunger but it does denote a sense of community

and kindness which permeates nearly all the drivers in my town. Thank goodness they happily show kindness and give a quick wave to acknowledge their community members in need of a very small favor. Such a random act of kindness is indicative of a mindset which is in all Texas small towns: Help your neighbor when you can.

I hope our communities grow. I wish for prosperity and a better life for us all as our world changes, but I sure hope we never lose that little bit of kindness that makes us special.

Thought for the day: Kindness is a gift everyone can afford to give.

Until next time...I will keep ridin' the storm out.
sam@hcnews.com

Tri-County Electric Co-op announces new CEO

ZACH FREEMAN

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ALEDO, Texas — After a nationwide search, the Tri-County Electric Cooperative board of directors has announced Scott Spence as president and chief executive officer, according to a March 28 press release.

Spence formerly served as president and CEO for Duck River Electric Membership Corporation in Tennessee.

He brings nearly 30 years of experience working in the energy industry and has held numerous positions with utility companies in his career, including Arab Electric Cooperative in Alabama, Cooperative Energy in Mississippi and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

"With extensive experience in the technical aspects of our industry, deep knowledge and understanding of the co-op model and his pas-

sion for supporting members and employees, Scott Spence is well-positioned to lead this cooperative into the future," Board Chair Max Waddell said.

Spence holds a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Tennessee and a master's degree in finance and risk management from the University of Georgia. He is also a certified Associate of Risk Management Professional.

"I am honored to be selected to join the talented Tri-County Electric Cooperative team," Spence said. "I look forward to the co-op's bright future and to being a part of this growing, thriving community."

The co-op began its search for a new chief executive in July 2023 after revealing that former TCEC CEO Darryl Schriver had been placed on leave. Schriver was terminated after the company alleged

he had engaged in inappropriate conduct with regard to company finances. TCEC's board of directors claimed Schriver had fabricated a board member's signature for a pay raise and had misused a company credit card to purchase Star Wars collectibles and other personal items. Schriver then filed a \$1 million lawsuit against the TCEC board members and executives for defamation and wrongful termination. Judge

Craig Towson dismissed part of Schriver's lawsuit in a Feb. 14 ruling, clearing CFO Melissa Watts of conspiracy and defamation charges.

TCEC is one of Texas' largest electric co-ops, serving more than 105,000 member-owners across 16 counties. The company was founded in Azle in 1939 and moved its headquarters to Aledo in May 2020.

TCEC's new CEO will take on his role April 1.

SCHOOL

FROM PAGE A1

creasing enrollment, climbing property values, and smart spending, the district considers itself in a good position to make up for the decreases in revenue.

Azle ISD typically budgets \$2 million per year for potential HVAC and roofing needs; by budgeting less, Adams says the district can make up a large portion of lost revenues. In the last five years, Azle ISD has already made strides in catching up all the current HVAC and roofing needs of its facilities. The most major anticipated future needs in this category

are also expected to be covered by the recently passed bond proposal. The 2023 bond money for upcoming major projects was deposited into school accounts, March 7.

Adams said the district can still enter 2024-2025 with a balanced budget by decreasing the budget for other potential expenses. Budgets for transportation expenses, and salaries for unexpected new hires were two other areas mentioned.

"We typically actually budget about \$1.5-\$2 million in additional funding on the salary side for positions that we may need throughout the year," Adams said. "If we just decreased that by a million,

we'd still have money in there for additional positions but that would get us to the \$3.3 million we would need to cut in expenses so we could match our revenues."

Adams suspects the district could decrease expenses by another \$640,000 on certain nonpayroll items. The board of trustees has also reported success so far in asking Azle ISD schools to cut budgets by 10%. Azle ISD's Superintendent Todd Smith stressed that the district's top priority is to balance the budget while retaining Azle ISD staff. Even with the unexpected losses in revenue, Smith still hopes to increase staff pay by 2% in order to align Azle ISD with state

averages.

Another sign of the district's positive financial health, the assistant superintendent claimed, is its ability to fund programs established under the COVID-era Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds with the school's general fund instead, something many neighboring districts have failed to do, he said.

While grateful to have a path forward, board members still worry that budget decreases could spell trouble in the event of an emergency or major unforeseen expenses.

"I'm just worried about next year," Board President Bill Lane said. "We're not in

trouble, but there's a lot of districts that are."

In one extreme case, Adams mentioned that a district in South Texas even intends to self-fund its own property insurance. In doing so, the district guarantees that it saves money if the insurance goes unused, but if a natural disaster or other unexpected damage were to occur its schools would suddenly be on the hook for the full cost of losses and repairs.

"The reality is, they're one building, one flood away from (disaster)," Adams said.

One subject the board frequently revisited is the \$32 billion surplus the Texas 88th Legislature left unspent at the end of the session, even

after promises of increased school funding from representatives. At the start of the next legislative session, the governing body is expected to have an additional \$24 billion surplus which the board hopes Gov. Greg Abbott and the Texas Legislature put toward increased school funding.

After recently switching to a July fiscal year, the board of trustees must approve the next fiscal year's budget in June instead of August. With the date approaching and preliminary tax data expected in April, the board plans to convene a budget workshop sometime in the near future.

4 injured in cable car incident at lake property

ZACH FREEMAN

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Tarrant County — At approximately 12:05 p.m. Saturday, March 30, multiple fire and EMS agencies responded to a request for emergency services near a private residence on Eagle Mountain Lake. Azle Fire Department and EMS, Briar-Reno Fire Department, Eagle Mountain EMS, MedStar EMS and CareFlite Air Ambulance responded to the scene along with Tarrant County Sheriff's deputies.

Four victims were left in-

1 airlifted, 3 transported by ground ambulance

jured at the bottom of a cliff after the trolley they were in experienced a malfunction. The suspended cable car was taking occupants from a cliff-top home to a private dock on the lake. The incident occurred near Park Road and Samora Court in unincorporated Fort Worth.

After a cable snapped, the trolley ejected all four occu-

pants into a rocky, cactus-filled area 25 feet below. One individual was reported to be in critical condition and was airlifted to Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital in Fort Worth. Three others with serious injuries were treated by paramedics and driven by ambulance to the same hospital.

Letter to the Editor

Thanks from the Rotary Club of Azle for making Steak Cookoff a success

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Azle, I would like to thank everyone who helped make our first-ever Steak Cookoff a success. We could not have done it without hard-working members and generous sponsors, and the expert guidance of Ken and Leslie Phillips and Brett Galloway of the Steak Cookoff Association.

Special thanks to our Event Sponsor, WHECO Controls; Grill Grandmasters NBT Financial and Azle Dental Care/Dr. Brooke Porter; Pit Bosses CWD and Ace Hardware of Azle; and Smokin' Hot sponsors Eagle

Mountain Realty, the Tri-County Reporter and Jay and Michelle Ewing.

Thanks also to our anonymous steak donor, to the many community members who donated raffle items and bought tickets, and to the musicians who helped set the festive mood.

Rotarians Debra Jenkins, Kent Meyerhoeffer and Jay Ewing went above and beyond, as did Lora Paschal and Kim Ware. The event would not have been a success without you. Thanks also to Hogye Hogle, Bob Ellzey, Marsha Hardin and Debbie Bunero for your efforts.

We're so grateful to our participants, including the Azle Optimist Club and teams from all over Texas, Wisconsin, Ohio, Australia, Hungary, Austria and New Zealand. The international participation truly emphasized that Rotary, like the Steak Cookoff Association, is a worldwide organization that unites people.

The funds raised will make it possible for the Rotary Club to continue to help Azle's young people and work in this community. We thank you all.

- Bob Buckel, President
The Rotary Club of Azle

Want to vote in Walnut Creek SUD's elections? Get annexed

MADelyn EDWARDS

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SPRINGTOWN — The May 4 election to select two new Walnut Creek Special Utility District board members is coming up, and district customers are being reminded that not all of them can vote.

Some residents realized this during the 2022 election as well. Though they all may be SUD customers, not all of them reside in the district, and therefore, not everyone can vote in the board of directors election.

"By election laws set forth by the state of Texas, only those customers living within the original Walnut Creek SUD district boundaries may vote for board members running for positions on the board of directors,"

SUD reaffirms that customers' only way into the voting boundaries is by petition

according to SUD General Manager James Blackwood's statement at the March 18 meeting. "The district is well aware that the boundaries of the district's CCN (certificate of convenience and necessity) are much larger than the original district boundaries. Voting boundaries are not controlled by Walnut Creek SUD. Legal precedence for the question of water district customers voting in the election was set by Gov. Greg Abbott when he was still the attorney general of Texas."

The board discussed what could be done to address this discrepancy at the July

2022 meeting and was told residents could request to be annexed into the district's boundaries, according to a previous article in The Springtown Epigraph. At that time, the district's attorney Ron Freeman said residents who own the majority of the land value — either of a single lot or an entire subdivision — can request to be annexed by the district. He added that the SUD could deny petitions "if you don't want to annex one person at a time or one person in a subdivision," and the district can charge a fee to petitioners. Blackwood reaffirmed at

the March 18 meeting that single landowners or a group of landowners who live in the SUD's CCN (the area where the district has a right to supply utility service) and receive water from the SUD can petition for annexation. He said the instructions for petitioning can be found in the Texas Water Code, Chapter 49, Subchapter J, Sections 301-302.

"The district cannot initiate the aforementioned petitions and cannot annex land into the district without the desire of the landowners shown through aforementioned petitions," according

to Blackwood's statement.

Board member Jim Cox said an annexation fee would need to be considered because it will cost money to redraw the district's maps to include the newly added properties. Ideally, developers building homes in the CCN could get their subdivisions annexed all at once and perhaps pass the fee onto the homeowners.

"Getting into it just tiny bit by tiny bit, it gets very costly," Cox said. "We would, I think, have to consider that because we have to consider the cost of redrawing the line."

During the March meeting, Walnut Creek SUD customer Jane Galvin lamented that people are buying homes serviced by the district while being unaware that they will not be able to vote in the SUD's

elections. Then, those people have to figure out the annexation process themselves.

"Disenfranchised voters in the United States is wrong," Galvin said. "It's a constitutional right to be able to vote. We have to find a way to mitigate this."

If many customers in the CCN petitioned to be annexed, that would trigger an election among the people in the district's boundaries, SUD office manager Denise Taylor said.

"An election has to be held by the those in the district voting boundary to allow everybody else in," Taylor said. "If it was a large number that wanted to come in, or even everybody else that wanted to come in, it would still cause an election."

Ribbon cutting for Black Ranch Event Center



The Black Ranch Event Center celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony hosted by the Azle Area Chamber of Commerce March 20. Located at 3220 Mineral Wells Highway in Weatherford, Black Ranch Event Center specializes in weddings, reunions, birthdays, corporate meetings and much more. Choose from two venues: an indoor/outdoor rustic garden setting or an urban country barn adjacent to Willow Lake. The idyllic scenery is sure to be the perfect backdrop for your next event. Email blackranchevents@gmail.com to schedule an appointment or tour and reserve your event date.

WATER

FROM PAGE A1

while doing excavation work.

"All they're working from is paper plans," Flintoff said to The Tri-County Reporter. "This is like a digital transformation."

Walnut Creek SUD General Manager James Blackwood said the new system will be a helpful tool.

"In the long run, it would save time, which would save money," Blackwood said during the meeting before the board voted. "Right now, there's some of these you go out there and it's like looking for a needle in a haystack for that line."

Blackwood added the caveat that the system can't be set up overnight and therefore, won't be immediately effective.

"Until we find all the lines and get them mapped, yes, it's still going to take time," he said. "But then with this, rather than it being wrote on a piece of paper somewhere and put back with the maps, or you go in to make a note on the map (saying), 'Well, this line is actually 20 feet over here,' this way, you put a GPS on it; it's accurate. The next person that has to go find that line has an idea where they're going. It's not going to help us so much right here immediately, but 10 years down the line, it's

going to be invaluable."

Because of the district's size, the project is being split up into phases that will take about four to five years to complete, Flintoff said. The board approved the first phase, which costs \$197,000 and will focus on the largest and most populated pressure zone. Phase 1 is expected to be completed during the remainder of this year.

Before voting to approve, SUD board member Jim Cox said he felt creating this action is necessary.

"It really would advance our infrastructure tremendously if we had this in place so we can keep up with our assets," Cox said during the March meeting.

JIM STEVENS PHOTOGRAPHY

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<p>AZLE AREA MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE UNITED IN CHRIST</p> <p>Christian Leaders partnering together with one voice to impact our culture for Christ. We celebrate unity amidst diversity as we pastor our community.</p> <p>Luncheon meetings 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. 2nd Tues of each month; location varies.</p> <p>See www.azlema.com or email director@azlema.com for additional information. 817-200-4611</p>	<p>Let's build community together.</p> <p>SERVOLUTION NETWORK</p> <p>LET'S START A COMMUNITY WIDE REVOLUTION THROUGH SERVING.</p> <p>Love God. Love People. Love Your City. Dream Center open 9-3 M-F 11698 FM730 S. Azle FOR QUESTIONS CALL: 833-4WE-SERV servolutionnetwork.com</p>				

Azle Elementary Career Day

Students meet with professionals from all walks of life

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@tricityreporter.com

AZLE — What do you want to be when you grow up? Azle Elementary fifth and sixth grade students may have a better idea after learning about the many professions held by members of this community during a March 21 career day.

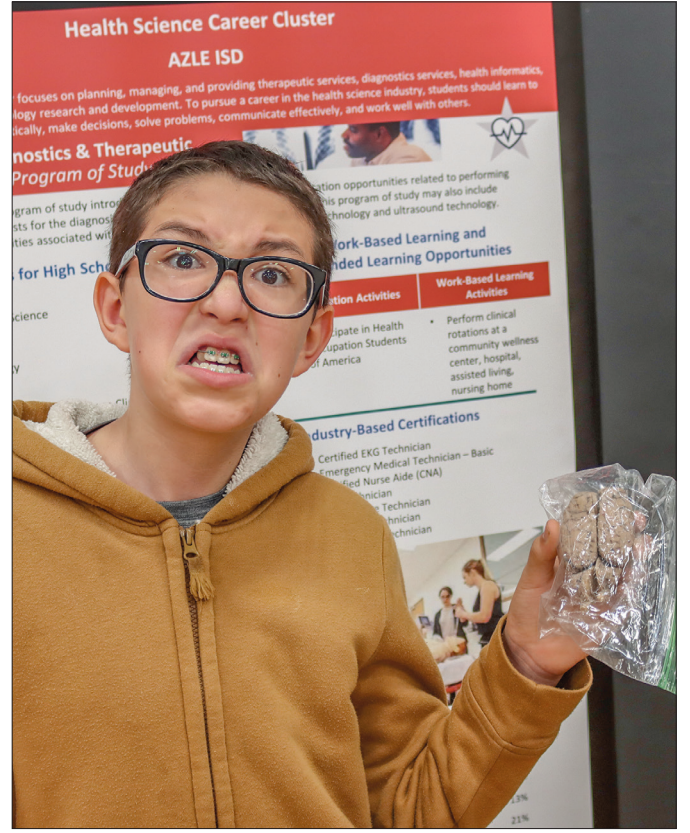
Azle ISD assembled educators and presenters from numerous career clusters represented in the Azle High School CTE department. Parents, locals and even students spoke to classes about the ins and outs of the jobs or activities they do every day. Individuals spoke, presented videos, and utilized props and activities to inform, inspire and give students a look into potential future careers and interests.

From engineers, salespeople, doctors and even a rodeo clown, a wide range of professions were represented.



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Fifth grader Kevin Midkiff has been a rodeo clown since age 3. He dedicates his weekends to working at local rodeos and other events. He has entertained crowds in the Fort Worth Stockyards and kept junior cowboys safe while mutton busting.



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Fifth grader Kayden O'Donald poses with a model brain used by representatives from Azle ISD's health science career cluster.



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Kevin Midkiff gave other students the opportunity to try out some of the athletic feats he does every weekend.



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Students check out gas masks and other tools presented by Azle ISD's construction career cluster.

Azle Rotary Club

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OBITUARIES

Charles Richardson 1945-2024

Charles Boyce Richardson passed away Sunday, March 31, 2024, in Azle.

A memorial service will be Saturday, April 6, at 2 p.m. at the First Methodist Church of Azle, with reception following. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to First Methodist Azle Building Fund or Agape Fund.

Charles was born Dec. 16, 1945, the fifth of nine children, to Charles Henry and Effie Hattie Richardson. A 1964 graduate of Haltom High School, Charles attended Cisco Junior College for two years before joining the United States Marine Corps in 1966. He attended boot camp at MCRD in San Diego and infantry training at Camp Pendleton. Afterward, he was a member of the USMC reserve until 1972. He received an undergraduate degree in education from Texas Wesleyan University and a master's degree in administration from University of North Texas.

In 1971, he was introduced by friends to Sharon Hamilton. They married in June 1975. Their union was blessed with a daughter, Sarah, her husband Lee and a granddaughter, Katherine.

Charles started his education career teaching in Arlington. While in Arlington, he began his career as a principal and continued in Itasca, Palo Pinto, Graham and finished his career in Azle, where he served as the principal for Azle Elementary, Hoover Elementary and Santo Forte Junior High schools. His career spanned 31 years and ended with his retirement in 2002.



Charles was very active in his church, First Methodist Church of Azle. He served on many boards, provided mentorship to confirmands, and helped maintain the church and the grounds. Charles also enjoyed sports but was particularly a lifelong, die-hard fan of the Baylor Bears and the Chicago Cubs. He also took pride in his father's 1970 Ford Ranger truck, lovingly rebuilding and restoring it several times.

Charles was preceded in death by his mother and father, sister Betty Counts and brothers Donald Ray and Jimmy Richardson.

A loving father, grandfather, brother, and friend, Charles leaves behind his wife of 48 years, Sharon, their daughter, Sarah Hamm of Hewitt, along with son in law, Lee Hamm, and his "favorite" granddaughter, Katherine Hattie; sisters Zelma Hudson, Nancy Bellah and Margie Roberts; brothers Charles Edward Richardson and Donald Richardson; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

The Tri-County Reporter, Thursday April 4, 2024



Chase Loftin and Hailey Fox were recognized as Young Texans of the Month by Azle Optimist Club members.

COURTESY PHOTO

Loftin, Fox named March Young Texans

ZACH FREEMAN
azlereporter@tricountyreporter.com

AZLE — The Optimist Club of Azle recognized two Azle High School seniors as its Young Texans of the Month of March. Chase Loftin and Hailey Fox were selected by the organization for their academic achievements and met with Azle Optimist during a March morning meeting.

Chase Loftin is the son of Kirk and Marne Loftin. He has a GPA of 99.91 and is ranked 46th in his class. Loftin has been accepted to Texas A&M University where he will study poultry science. He hopes to possibly switch to biology or animal science and eventually got to A&M's vet school to become a veterinarian. Loftin considers being on the A-B honor roll and working through his dyslexia to be his biggest academic accomplishments. He considers himself creative, organized and a good listener. Ms. Reasoner and Mr.

Optimists recognize accomplished seniors

Maines are some of Loftin's favorite teachers. Some of his interests and hobbies include baseball, Dungeons and Dragons, writing, horror, video games and music. Loftin has worked on his father's ranch since he was 11 and has six years of experience working with horses, dogs and birds.

Hailey Fox is the daughter of Erica and Adam Fox. She has a 100.29 GPA and is ranked 41st in her class. Fox hopes to complete her core classes at Weatherford College and then transfer to Texas Women's University or the University of North Texas. She hopes to receive a bachelor's degree in kinesiology and a doctorate in physical therapy to eventually become a neuropsychiatric physical therapist. Fox considers her greatest accomplishment passing

all four of her clinical exams, including those for certified nurse aide, patient care technician, electrocardiography and phlebotomy. She is also proud of making captain on the AHS swim team and being named chapter morale officer for the AHS' National Honor Society chapter.

"As a junior, it was my main goal to pass all of them," Fox said. "I studied and practiced relentlessly all year to be able to get all four certifications. I am proud of these accomplishments because I had to be voted for by my peers for these positions and knowing that my peers thought I would be good to fill these roles makes me proud of how far I've come."

She considers herself a diligent, hard worker and independent-minded, ambitious, honest and determined. Fox considers persistence one

of her greatest personal strengths.

"In swim, we have very early mornings every day and even on days I feel like quitting I find a way to push through the tiredness and give it my all," Fox said.

She considers her perfectionism to be one of her greatest personal weaknesses. Some of Fox's favorite teachers are Tenille Roberts and Amy Estes. She is involved in Health Occupations Students of America, NHS and the swim team. Over the last three summers she has worked as a lifeguard and pool manager. Some of her hobbies include horseback riding and coloring. Fox has also been a part of PALS and has volunteered her time to garden at Azle Memorial Library, at Azle trash pickups, Azle elementary school dances, Angel Tree and sorting clothes at Azle Lions Club.

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Stu Lankford with New York Life and Hilltop Elementary staff.

COURTESY PHOTO

(Near) total eclipse of the park

Azle Memorial Library hosts April 8 solar eclipse viewing party, activities

ZACH FREEMAN
azlereporter@tricityreporter.com

AZLE — Azle Memorial Library wants to make sure residents don't get blindsided by a once-in-a-lifetime event.

As day turns into night, the library will host a solar eclipse viewing party and other activities from 12:30-2 p.m., April 8.

Library staff will prepare sun- and moon-themed snacks, including Sun Chips and MoonPies, along with crafts for the special day. Tables have been booked at the Central Park amphitheater featuring a wide variety of activities for all ages and an indoor craft activity will be available for children inside the community room. Most importantly, the library will be handing out free eclipse glasses to visitors so they can safely view the astronomical phenomenon. Even though the sun may look dark, looking at its harmful rays during the eclipse can cause retinal burns resulting in blindness, permanent distortion or a loss of color vision.

At the time of Tri-County Reporter's publication, Azle is expected to have cool comfortable temperatures and a small chance for rain and cloudy conditions around



COURTESY ECLIPSE2024.ORG

A simulation of what the sun might look like from Azle during its near total solar eclipse.

the time of the eclipse. During the eclipse, outdoor viewers may see a dip in temperatures so a light jacket may come in handy.

The event will be a great opportunity for children not yet in school to safely experience the eclipse, have fun and learn about some of the science surrounding the phenomenon. While some districts within the path of totality have canceled classes, Azle ISD will remain open. Azle students from second through 12th grade will have the opportunity to view the eclipse outside using school-provided safety eclipse glasses. To participate, parents or guardians of elementary school children must sign an opt-in form and return it to their child's campus by

Thursday, April 4.

The moon is expected to block approximately 99.79% of the visible sunlight reaching Azle, with the city being barely outside the path of totality. A partial eclipse is expected to begin at approximately 12:23 p.m. and will reach maximum totality for about two minutes starting at 1:41 p.m. This will be the last total solar eclipse visible from the United States until Aug. 23, 2044, when a total solar eclipse is expected to pass over the West Coast and northwestern regions of the country.

For more information and a simulated view of what the April 8 eclipse will look like, go to <https://eclipse2024.org/eclipse-cities/city/37916.html>

Hilltop Elem. receives donation from New York Life

ZACH FREEMAN
azlereporter@tricityreporter.com

AZLE — Azle insurance agent Stu Lankford presented a \$500 check to Hilltop Elementary School staff Feb. 29 on behalf of the New York Life Foundation. The New York Life Foundation, created by the New York Life Insurance Company, is donating funds to schools

Insurance company advocates for grief awareness nationwide

throughout the country through its Grief-Sensitive Schools Initiative or GSSI. This initiative is intended to assist schools in providing counseling resources and support to children

experiencing grief or going through loss.

"One of the coolest parts of working with New York Life is its foundation and the support available to our local schools," Lankford said.

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People can now check on tax pros at the website and click the side option to see which agents in the area are educated, and others, by zip code.

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Donna and Debi have been doing tax work together in Springtown for 18 years. Together, the Hopwood family can help individuals, business owners, farm operations, and others maximize their profits and make the most of their tax situation. They offer preparation of quarterly tax, W2's, and 1099 preparation – they even offer a public fax and notary service.



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Easter at Azle Manor



ZACH FREEMAN
TRI-COUNTY REPORTER
Local kids were in a scramble after Azle Manor staff kicked off a Good Friday egg hunt event.



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER
Residents chatted and visited with members of the newest generation during the event.



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER
Baby Kohen Estes with the Easter Bunny at Azle Manor.

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E-cops: Springtown PD tries out virtual reality training

MADELYN EDWARDS
springtownreporter@tricityreporter.com

SPRINGTOWN — On a Friday morning in mid-February, Springtown police officer Leia Beavers strapped on a virtual reality headset that looked a little too big on her small frame.

Beavers, who joined Springtown Police Department in December after graduating from the police academy, was inspired by her family to pursue a law enforcement career. She hopes to someday follow in her father's footsteps to become an investigator and has enjoyed meeting people in Springtown.

Beavers didn't train using virtual reality in the academy, and she thinks it is helpful. Even though she was having technical issues with the system — things the department heads will have to work on — she described the experience as a positive one.

"I feel like it will be a good training experience for everybody," Beavers said.

Springtown Police Department received funding for the new training system in last year's city budget, which didn't include the equipment at first; it was added after city leaders realized Springtown would have more revenue than was previously projected.

The system, from the company Apex Officer, allows Springtown police to train for a variety of potential calls — including traffic stops, domestic violence, fights at school and active shooter situations — from a safe distance. The people they interact with in the virtual reality world can be drunk or otherwise intoxicated, experiencing a mental health crisis or armed and dangerous. Given these scenarios in several different scenes, officers are tasked with exploring how best to handle these situations so they can be more prepared outside the virtual world.

"Pretty much anything you can do in real life, you can do in this," Deputy Chief Jamie Oliver said.

The system also comes with a virtual firing range which allows the department to save money on ammunition and sharpen officers' shooting skills, Oliver said.

The virtual program is expected to be part of regular training for Springtown officers, according to the deputy chief. After officers run through the scenarios, they will debrief and get feedback on how they handled the situation.

"This is just to give them more hands-on training so that when they do witness scenarios that we train in, hopefully they have a little bit more knowledge, more understanding, can handle it better, quicker, be more proficient doing any kind of incident," Oliver said.

The scenarios included in the virtual training may be ones the officers have never handled before and will allow them to test their skills in new areas while also receiving feedback, school resource officer Bobby Martinez said. For officers fresh out of the

academy, Martinez said this program lets them tackle scenarios in a controlled environment so "they're not going to be on the street dealing with it for the first time."

"You have to be confident in everything you do and be aware of everything you do as well within the guidelines of the law," Martinez said about police work.

As a newer officer, training is very important to Beavers. She wants to better understand how to do her job and work to de-escalate interactions with the public.

"That's what we want to do more than actually being physical — until we have to," Beavers said.

In fact, Oliver said using the training system to reduce tensions when officers respond to calls is exactly what is intended.

"That's the whole point of this is really to help with the de-escalation, especially into the mental (health) calls, stuff like that, or . . . domestics, trying to learn how to calm people down, get them relaxed and not have to use any type of force," he said.

For example, one of the training scenarios involves a person who threatens to take their own life with a knife, and the goal is for officers to get the person to drop the knife and then get them help, Oliver said.

"Because you can't really go hands-on, it makes you have to use your words," school resource officer Shane Brown said about the virtual reality training.

Being able to communicate is especially important for school resource officers like Brown and Martinez, whose jobs sometimes involve talking with children. The virtual reality training includes a school setting for officers to practice handling situations that may arise at cam-



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER
Springtown police officer Leia Beavers struggles to see clearly the first time she uses the new virtual reality training system from Apex Officer.



Springtown school resource officers Bobby Martinez, left, and Shane Brown, right, stand by Deputy Chief Jamie Oliver as he controls the police department's new virtual reality training system.

pus, even as extreme as a shooting.

School resource officers receive regular active shooter training, but having this virtual system will allow for even more practice and instruction, Martinez said.

"We can do it anytime we want," he said. "If you look at statistics, we have to be able to respond to those situations."

Using the virtual reality system only requires two officers — one to wear the headset and interact with the scenario and the other to control the proceedings, Brown said. Conversely, training for situations using live actors requires multiple people and finding a physical location.

"It just makes it easier," Brown said. "And every scenario is readily available. You can go anywhere from a school to a nightclub to the traffic stop, so it just gives you a variety of choices without having to go to that location to simulate those

scenarios." Brown has been on the police force in Springtown for a handful of years. While he said the virtual simulator can help newer officers get the hang of their jobs, it can also be useful to people like him who have some experience.

"You can always get better," Brown said. "This is one of those jobs that every day is something different. Every time you go out there, you're going to get something, have to deal with a different situation, so the (more) you can train, the better officer you'll be."

Officer Caegan Long, who joined the department in September, volunteered to test out the virtual training program on one of his days off in February. Like other officers, Long was looking forward to trying out various scenarios and getting feedback on how he could improve.

"An officer can never train enough," Long said.

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Porcupine Academy graduates 8 students in inaugural class



Eight students are in the first graduating class of Springtown's Porcupine Academy, including Breckin Norris who is pictured at the March 25 graduation ceremony.



Nico Bonfiglio smiles as he takes his diploma and shakes Porcupine Academy Principal Andrew Horris' hand at the commencement ceremony last week at the Springtown ISD administration building.



Porcupine Academy graduate Gracie Roberts walks up to shake Principal Andrew Horris' hand and take her diploma at the March 25 ceremony.



Skylar Hewitt is one of eight who recently graduated from Porcupine Academy, Springtown's alternative campus designed to help students who are at risk of not graduating earn diplomas.



Porcupine Academy graduate Savanna Bandy takes her diploma and shakes Principal Andrew Horris' hand at last week's ceremony.

Commencement ceremony took place March 25

MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER
springtownreporter@tricountyreporter.com

SPRINGTOWN — Eight students recently graduated from the newly created Porcupine Academy. Springtown Independent School District created Porcupine Academy last year to help students who are at risk of not graduating earn diplomas. The academy offers a flexible and self-paced program to accommodate students' individual needs while they work on achieving a high school education. The first graduating class of Porcupine Academy includes Nico Bonfiglio, Landen Earle, Breckin Norris, Gracie Roberts, Skylar Hewitt, Savanna Bandy, Angelina Ray and Katrina Ray. Six of these students attended the March 25 graduation ceremony. "Thank you from the bottom of my heart for trusting us with the opportunity

to show what you can do," Porcupine Academy Principal Andrew Horris said to graduates during the ceremony. "I will remember the fact that you six are here tonight probably for as long as I live because, again, to be the first graduating class of a new campus is a very unique thing." Horris commended the graduates who "really put the work in to try and better themselves for their current self and their future self." He noted that because the academy is new, adjustments to the program may be needed in the future, and the experiences that the first class of graduating students had may not be the same as the ones to come. "Things have a habit of changing. If we find out something doesn't work or there's something that we can do better, I don't hesitate. I make that change if it's what's best for kids,"

Horris said. "You (graduates) got through not necessarily because you had someone holding your hand the whole time but because you had the gumption to try it. And I really admire that." Horris thanked several groups of people that aided the academy — the school board, SISD administrators, Porcupine Academy staff as well as parents and families. "We were pumped to offer this innovative opportunity to students in our community and even more excited that it has been such a success under the lead of Porcupine Academy Principal Mr. Horris," SISD Superintendent Shane Strickland said in a statement. "Principal Horris and his staff provide a supportive environment where students can earn their high school diploma at their own pace. Congratulations to the graduating Porcupine Academy students!"

LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE - VARIANCE REQUEST

The City of Pelican Bay Board of Adjustment will conduct a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at City Hall, 1300 Pelican Circle to consider the following variance request: The property owner, Factory Showcase Homes, LLC, has requested a variance to the side yard setback for an existing lot 46 in block twenty-four (24), of Pelican Bay Addition, generally located at 1800 Long Avenue. The property is zoned SF-3 (Single-Family 3), which requires a minimum side yard setback of 25 feet. A porch must be built so an occupant can access the front door which would be to a side yard. Without a variance, the porch would set over the build line. A variance is needed for entry to the home. Written comments on the variance request are welcomed and must be returned to the following address before the meeting. Members of the public are invited to attend and speak at the hearing. City of Pelican Bay 1300 Pelican Circle Pelican Bay, Texas 76020 Attn: Cynthia Daniels, City Secretary

CITY OF AZLE, TEXAS REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS DEPOSITORY SERVICES

The City of Azle, Texas, is soliciting sealed applications from qualified financial institutions, with a physical location within the City's municipal boundaries, to provide primary Depository Services (RFA 2024-006). Applications will be accepted until 2:00 P.M. on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, delivered to the City of Azle, Attention: Jennifer Walls, Purchasing Agent, 505 W. Main Street, Azle, Texas 76020. The award of the depository services contract is scheduled for consideration during the City of Azle City Council meeting on July 16, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. at 505 W. Main Street, Azle, Texas 76020.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuit to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, TSD Storage, 1350 Liberty School Rd., Pelican Bay, TX, 76020 is holding a Public Property Sale to satisfy a Landlord's Lien LEGALLY BELONGING TO: Lindsay Renee Merry. General Description of Property: Washer, Dryer, Dresser, TV, Misc. Boxes. The Sale will be held online beginning on April 12, 2024 at storageauctions.com. Terms are Cash at time of sale.

Notice of Public Sale

Pursuit to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, TSD Storage, 1350 Liberty School Rd., Pelican Bay, TX, 76020 is holding a Public Property Sale to satisfy a Landlord's Lien LEGALLY BELONGING TO: Pamela Martinez. General Description of Property: Luggage, Bike, Training Bike, Misc Boxes. The Sale will be held online beginning on April 12, 2024 at storageauctions.com. Terms are Cash at time of sale.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Thomas Melvin Walker, Jr. Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Thomas Melvin Walker, Jr., also known as Thomas Melvin Walker, also known as Tom Melvin Walker, Deceased, were issued on March 27, 2024, in Cause No. 24P076, pending in the County Court of Parker County, Texas, to: Austin Walker, Independent Executor. Claims may be mailed in care of the Estate as follows: Austin Walker, Independent Executor c/o Wendi E. Andino, Attorney Ruelas Andino Law, PLLC 1020 Fort Worth Hwy., Ste. 500 Weatherford, Texas 76086 All persons having claims against said Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this 27th day of March 2024. Respectfully submitted, Ruelas Andino Law, PLLC 1020 Fort Worth Highway, Suite 500 Weatherford, Texas 76086 Telephone: 817-609-8935 Fax: 817-550-6020 Wendi E. Andino Co-Counsel for Austin Walker State Bar No. 24086674 wendi@ruelasandinolaw.com

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE VARIANCE REQUEST

The City of Pelican Bay Board of Adjustment will conduct a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at City Hall, 1300 Pelican Circle to consider the following variance request: The property owner, Ryan Dohrn and Richard Jones has requested a variance to the side yard setback for an existing lot 42 in block 25, of Pelican Bay Addition, generally located at 1504 Reef Drive. The property is zoned SF-3 (Single-Family 3), which requires a minimum side yard setback of 5 feet from the property line. Years ago, the home was placed on the property at 2.6 feet from the property line. Without a variance, the current owners are unable to sell their home. Written comments on the variance request are welcomed and must be returned to the following address before the meeting. Members of the public are invited to attend and speak at the hearing. City of Pelican Bay 1300 Pelican Circle Pelican Bay, Texas 76020 Attn: Cynthia Daniels, City Secretary

INVITATION TO BID NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the City of Azle, Texas (OWNER) will receive sealed Bids at Azle City Hall until 2:00 p.m. local time on Thursday, April 18, 2024 Chemical - Polymer Blend Solution for Wastewater Treatment for the Azle Wastewater Treatment Plant, #2024-005R. Bids will be opened and read aloud publicly following the close of the Bid Period. Bidders may receive a copy of Invitation to Bid from the City's website at <http://www.cityofazle.org>. For additional information, please contact: Jennifer Walls/Purchasing Agent at 817-444-7003 or by email at jwalls@cityofazle.org

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Dependent Administration for the Estate of KENNETH RAY HARRISON, DECEASED, were issued on February 27, 2024, in Cause No. 21P136, pending in the County Court of Parker County, Texas, to: STEPHANIE BONDURANT. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o: W. Faye Murphee Attorney at Law 337 W. Main Street Azle, TX 76020 DATED the 5th day of March, 2024. W. FAYE MURPHEE Attorney for Stephanie Bondurant State Bar No.: 00792710 337 W. Main Street, Azle, TX 76020 Telephone: (817) 270-0030; Facsimile: (817) 270-0085 fmlaw@earthlink.net

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

To satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale to be held at Azle Southeast Storage, 1004 Southeast Parkway, Azle, TX at 10:30am 4-19-2024 Property to be sold to the highest bidder for CASH. Property includes contents of the following tenants Cameron Swink :Household Items Mark Putnam :Household items Rebecca Williams: Household Items

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Clowning around at the circus in Springtown

Culpepper & Merriweather Circus performers took the stage last week

MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Far left: C&M Circus clown Leo Acton performs a hat trick during his act in Springtown last week.

Left: Before the circus officially started, clown Holly Kapler helps warm up the audience in Springtown.



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Ringleader Simone Key welcomes the audience to the C&M Circus, which made a stop in Springtown last week.



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Ethan Crooks, 2, plays with a light toy while attending the circus in Springtown with his grandmother Joy Rickman.



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Maverick Lesko, who is 2½ years old, focuses on his riding skills in the midway prior to the circus last week near Springtown Intermediate School.



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Hannah Burns enjoys a ride down the inflatable slide at the C&M Circus midway March 25 near Springtown Intermediate School.

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HITCH

FROM PAGE A1

city council has been anticipating this getting done and so have we. It's been great to bring their vision to reality and we're really happy with the way it turned out."

Mayor Pro Tem Randa Goode said she was beyond excited to see the park come to fruition. The idea for a food truck park began when Goode brought the proposal up in an Azle City Council meeting last spring.

"I grew up in Azle and we

never had a place to just hang out," Goode said. "I feel like this will be it. The whole vibe of it is a place where people can come and hang out. Just think of the variety of food and the atmosphere. I love that this is here in Azle. I'm happy to have been a part of it. Just seeing this, you can tell it's something the community has needed for a long time."

The FeedLot is located on 225 Church Street and will be open Friday evenings from 5-9 p.m. and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and again 5-9 p.m.



The Easter Bunny made a special appearance at Sally's Sweets Ice Cream Truck Friday and Saturday. One-year-old River Clements was the first to sit on the big bunny's lap that evening.



Azle's City Council cut the ribbon on the venue's stage just before its first ever musical performance.



Local music act Jesus and Jimmy Hill performed for the packed park audience. DJ Kip Kruger and Medicine Song performed the next day. Organizers expect to open the stage for open mic nights in the future.

TGR Junior

National Pajama Day

Get ready to snuggle up in your coziest PJs because National Pajama Day is here on Saturday, April 6th! It's the perfect excuse to turn your usual routine into a comfy adventure.

On this special day, kids everywhere can swap their regular clothes for their favorite pajamas. Whether

covered in funny prints, superheroes, or cuddly animals, pajamas become the star of the fashion show. National Pajama Day is not just about feeling cozy; it's a chance to express your unique style and have fun with your sleepwear.

Even better, National Pajama Day falls on a Saturday, so you can enjoy the comfort of your PJs all

day long! Whether you're playing games, reading a book, or having a movie marathon, it's a day to relax and be yourself in the comfiest fashion possible.

So, mark your calendar for April 6th, grab your snuggliest PJs, and get ready for a day filled with comfort, laughter, and the joy of National Pajama Day!

COLOR Time



Did You Know?

FOOTED PYJAMAS AREN'T ALWAYS FOR KIDS:

They actually started out as something designed for adults. The first versions were made when people began sewing socks to the bottom of their pyjamas. It wasn't to just keep their feet warm; it was to prevent bugs like termites from nibbling on their toes.

FUN ACTIVITIES FOR THE FAMILY

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5. Baking Party
6. Crafting Corner
7. Storytime
8. Virtual Hangout
9. Karaoke Session
10. Family Photoshoot
11. Pajama Fashion Show
12. Scavenger Hunt
13. DIY Spa Day
14. Video Game Tournament
15. Plant a Mini Indoor Garden
16. Family Yoga
17. Picnic Indoors
18. Kitchen Science Experiments
19. Photobook Creation
20. Write and Perform a Play



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SPORTS
Roundup



PHOTO COURTESY CHAPA PHOTOGRAPHY

The Lady Hornets advanced to the playoffs for the first time since 2019. They defeated Fort Worth South Hills 1-0 in bidistrict.

Lady Pines wrap up best soccer season

RICK MAUCH
Special to the Tri-County Reporter

One year after making history, the Springtown Lady Porcupines made even more history.

While they fell 2-0 to Stephenville in the second round of the Class 4A playoffs, the loss ended the best season in Springtown girls

Springtown's Fox no-hits Krum

soccer history.

The Lady Pines closed the season with a 16-5-1 record and finished second in District 8-4A with an 8-1-1 record. Along with posting the most victories in team history, they won a bidistrict contest, defeating Fort Worth

Carter-Riverside 2-0, something they'd only done once before — last season.

Stephenville (17-2-2), ranked fifth in the state, advanced in its quest for a state championship that eluded them last season as they were state runner-up.

"We had a fantastic season. This was the most successful season in the program's history, so I am extremely proud of that," Lady Pines coach Ryan Byerly said. "There is no shame going out to a top team like Stephenville. They were in the state finals last season for a reason.

"The girls gave absolutely everything. We can hold

out heads up high knowing the future is bright for Springtown soccer.

"A massive thank you to our seniors for their leadership within the team and the coaching staff. They have all been amazing."

The Lady Pines' roster featured just four seniors this season: Allison Kimball, Reagan Kelley, Dallana Arias

and Leslie Conejo.

SPRINGTOWN BASEBALL

Working overtime, the Porcupines won 3-0 at Krum March 28 as pitcher Brayden Fox hurled a no-hitter.

Fox went the distance as the game lasted eight innings, ending regulation tied 0-0

PLEASE SEE **ROUNDUP** | B2



AYSBS hosts opening day at Shady Grove Park

EMMA VANBECELAERE
sports@tricityreporter.com

The Azle Youth Sports Baseball Softball hosted its opening day ceremony March 30, with multiple Azle teams playing both softball and baseball.

"Our 12-hour opening day

is one of our favorite days of the season; it brings so much excitement for all who are involved," AYSBS President Justin Baisden said, "Everything ran so smoothly at Shady Grove, because our phenomenal board goes above and beyond to create a wonderful experience for

our family and friends."

"This year we were privileged to have Azle ISD's new athletic director, Michael Sain, throw out the first pitch during our 12-under baseball team's game," Baisden said, "It was exciting to see him

PLEASE SEE **AYSBS** | B2

Alyssa Flores has second year of big wins at TCJLS

Sixth grader wins Junior Fancy Poultry Showmanship and Breed Reserve Champion

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@tricityreporter.com

AZLE — Hoover Elementary sixth grader Alyssa Flores made strides at the Tarrant County Junior Livestock Show for the second year in a row. This is Flores' second year competing and representing Azle 4H at TCJLS. Last year she won Reserve Champion Fancy Poultry and Breed Grand Champion. This year she won a first-place belt buckle for Junior Fancy Poultry Showmanship and second place Breed Reserve Champion with her Black Wyandotte Rooster, Venus.

Flores said her success comes from her dedication and patience caring for and raising her chickens.

"Alyssa is very proud of all her hard work and her achievements," her mother Amelia Flores said. "Her favorite part of the competition is meeting other



COURTESY PHOTO

Alyssa Flores with her prize-winning chicken, Venus.

competitors and their fancy poultry. And she's looking

forward to competing in next year's TCJLS.

AHS summer camps for kids of all ages

EMMA VANBECELAERE
sports@tricityreporter.com

The Azle ISD athletics department will host several camps over the summer for children of all ages. Pricing and age groups will vary for each camp.

AZLE WRESTLING SUMMER CAMP

Azle High School will host a wrestling camp for kindergarten through ninth grade. The camp will be held at the AHS gymnasium June 10-13 from 9:15 a.m. to noon.

The cost will be \$100 for

all participants. AHS coaching staff, alumni and high school wrestlers will give instructions about the sport to campers, who will receive a camp T-shirt and snacks.

Following arrival and check-in, campers will be assigned to a group. Warm-up will begin at 9:30 a.m. with techniques

and games at 9:45 a.m. and a snack break at 10:30 a.m. After more technique and games, team duals will start at 11:15 a.m. and group competition at 11:45 a.m.

HORNET HOOPS BOYS BASKETBALL CAMP

AHS is hosting the 2024

Hornet Hoops basketball camp. The camp will be at the AHS gymnasium main entrance May 29-31. There will be two sessions, each costing \$60.

The first session, Hornets in Training, will cost \$60. This session is for athletes entering first through fifth

grades; it will start at 8:30 a.m. and end at 11:30 a.m.

Junior Hornets is the second session from 12:30-3:30 p.m. This session is for athletes entering sixth through ninth grades.

Each participant will receive

PLEASE SEE **CAMP** | B3

AHS wrestling, powerlifting teams recognized at AISD board meeting

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@tricountyreporter.com

AZLE — Azle High School students were recognized during a March board of trustees meeting for incredible feats of athleticism and high placements in regional and state contests. The boys wrestling, girls wrestling and boys and girls powerlifting

teams were each recognized by board members, coaches, teachers, parents and administrators for major achievements made throughout their respective seasons.

“They never cease to amaze us, and these young ladies and young men have done it again for us,” Athletic Director Becky Spurlock said.



Azle's state qualifying boys powerlifting team was recognized by the Azle ISD board of trustees at a March 18 meeting.



Azle's state runner-up girls' wrestling team was recognized by the Azle ISD board of trustees at a March 18 meeting.



Azle's girls' powerlifting team was recognized by the Azle ISD board of trustees at a March 18 meeting. In the middle, Raegan Williams broke her own regional record by deadlifting 360 pounds and was awarded most outstanding lifter of the entire regional meet.



Azle's men's state qualifying wrestling team was recognized by the Azle ISD board of trustees at a March 18 meeting.



Springtown strong

SISD school board honors girls powerlifting team

MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Springtown High School's girls powerlifting team received recognition from the Springtown Independent School District board of trustees at the March 25 meeting for qualifying for the state competition. In addition, six team members — A'shiana Elam, Hayley Knight, Abigail Stoner, Melissa Chavez, Grace Lewis and Zoey Adams (not pictured) — were honored for earning state medals.

AYSBS

FROM PAGE B1

fully engaged with our players as he was warming up with them prior to the start of the game. I am thankful that my wife, Tiffany Baisden, set up this memorable moment for our organization. The boys loved that they were giving coach Sain some tips and ticks to use on the mound.”

AYSBS has a total of 15 teams that will play this season. Each team will play around 10 games, plus any mid and postseason tournaments.

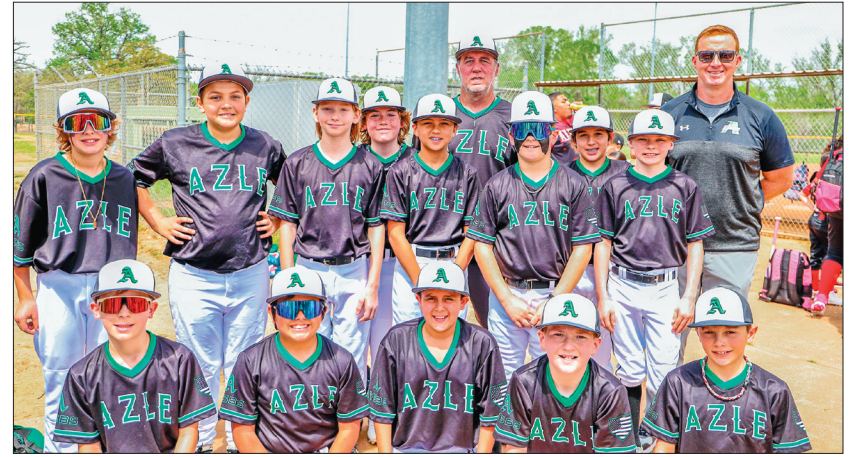
This year the AYSBS partnered with Azle ISD to utilize its indoor training facility along with Bring Your Own Bat indoor batting cages.

This year the home for AYSBS is Shady Grove Park with newly renovated fields. The AYSBS board wants to help create a culture and community that helps athletes grow and develop skills in the sports of baseball and softball.



EMMA VANBECLAERE | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Azle softball girls smiling together as they take the field for the first time against smoke fastpitch softball team.



The 12-youth baseball team with Michael Saine and head coach Shane Buchanan. Players include Tripp Vasquez, Jet Hubbert, Braylon Scott, Kelton Buchanan, Wyatt Blackmer, Colten Feldman, Wyatt Jones, Cole Nelson, Damon Cook, Grayson Hamm, Levi Gentry, Halas Hazelwood and Jaxon Sharkey



Coach Skipper and Coach Branon getting their softball girls ready to bat as they came off the field with three up and three down.



The 12-youth baseball team is all smiles for their first game of the season.

ROUNDUP

FROM PAGE B1

before the Pines (12-5, 3-1 in District 8-4A) scored three runs, Fox struck out 17 batters, issued two walks and hit a batter.

Fox was helped by Ryan Kirk's two hits that included a double. Also, Carson Cox had a hit and drove in a run.

Two days earlier, the Pines lost 5-2 to Krum in Springtown. Fox had a hit and drove in a run.

Springtown was playing at Castleberry at press time. They host Castleberry April 5 at 7:30 p.m. and host Decatur April 9 at the same time.

AZLE GIRLS SOCCER

The Lady Hornets finished one of their most successful seasons ever with a 6-0 loss at Colleyville Heritage March 28 in the second round of the Class 5A playoffs. Azle finished with a 14-9-1 overall record and was third in District 5-5A with a 6-4-2 record.

The Lady Hornets advanced to the playoffs for the first time since 2019. They defeated Fort Worth South Hills 1-0 in bidistrict.

Azle's defense was its forte. They posted nine shutouts and held eight others to a single goal.

The Lady Hornets' roster featured five seniors, Daisy Aguirre, Ariaah Odum, Eliana Tejada, Rebecca Marx and

Alondra Gonzalez.

SPRINGTOWN BASKETBALL/ ALL-REGION

The Porcupines' Dayne Thompson was named to the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches Class 4A All-Region Team. Thompson helped the Pines to a 19-13 record and a runner-up finish in District 8-4A.

Springtown advanced to the playoffs where it narrowly lost to Burkburnett, 71-69, in bidistrict.

THSCA HONORS

Several Azle senior athletes were honored by the Texas High School Coaches Association as academic all-state:

Boys wrestling: Jose Nehi, 2nd team.

Boys basketball: Gunner Crow, honorable mention.

Girls basketball: Velka Gonzalez, 1st team; Cheryl Grubbs, 2nd team; Brandie Phillips, 2nd team; Landri Seward, 2nd team; Faith Summers, honorable mention.

AZLE BASEBALL

The Hornets (12-7, 2-4 in District 5-5A) dropped a pair of 2-0 contests to Northwest, at home March 26 and on the road March 28. Over a five-game stretch from March 13-28, the Hornets were involved in a handful of pitchers' duels in which a total of 11 runs were scored by all teams (4 by Azle, 7 by opponents).

In the home contest against Northwest, Christian Shepherd got the hard-luck loss, going three innings, giving up one run on one hit. Carter Landon went four strong innings, surrendering one run on two hits.

Ryland Liptow and Garrin Graves each had a hit for the Hornets.

In the road setback, Cole Webb picked up the loss in a yeoman effort, going 4.2 innings, giving up three hits, one run and striking out eight. Sam Lindahl had a solid relief performance of 1.1 innings with three strikeouts.

Graves had two hits, while Ty Bonnett, Tyler Vaughn, Jesse Hemmerling and Ethan Hadaway each had one hit. “Even though we did not win this week I am very proud of how our guys are playing,” coach Stephen Smith said. “In baseball it sometimes comes down to a couple big hits and we just did not get those this week with runners in scoring position.”

The Hornets will step outside of league play for a game at Stephenville April 5 at 6:30 and one at Glen Rose April 6 at 1:30 p.m. They return to district competition April 9 at Wichita Falls Rider at 6:30 p.m.

SPRINGTOWN SOFTBALL

The Lady Pines (10-10-1, 2-2 in District 8-4A) split a pair of games last week, winning 14-1 over Lake Worth at

home March 26 and falling 10-0 at Krum March 28.

Haylee Sanborn led the offensive onslaught against the Lady Bullfrogs with three hits, including a triple, home run, stolen base and eight runs batted in.

Kelsey Brandt had two hits with a double and two RBIs, along with a walk; Ryleigh Morris had a double among her two hits with an RBI; Cheyenne Atchley collected two hits and was hit by a pitch twice; and Madison Terrell doubled.

Pitcher Kylee Spray went all five innings, giving up two hits, an earned run with eight strikeouts and three walks.

Sanborn had the lone hit against Krum. Springtown was hosting Bridgeport at press time. They host Decatur April 5 and Castleberry April 8, both starting at 7 p.m.

AZLE SOFTBALL

The Lady Hornets (15-9-1, 2-1 in District 5-5A) won a wild 12-11 home contest against Brewer March 26 as Torrie Johnson and Ema Lehr each had three hits. Johnson hit a pair of doubles and a triple, was hit by a pitch and drove in two runs, while Lehr also had two RBIs.

Allison Smith posted two hits with a walk, stolen base, two RBIs and was hit by a pitch twice. Coryanne Barone drove in four runs with two hits and a walk, and Shaylea

Cassell had a hit, walk, RBI and was hit by a pitch.

Azle was hosting Granbury at press time. They travel to Wichita Falls Rider April 5 and host Northwest April 9, both games getting underway at 6:30 p.m.

AZLE TRACK

Decatur Eagle Relays
Azle results
Running events in meters, field events in feet and inches
Varsity boys
Team score: 76.5, sixth place

Top individual finishes
· 400: 2. Josh Montelongo, 50.77
· 4x100 relay: 3. Adrian Mitchell, Oryan Croaker, Herbert Nsha, Tavarian Ray, 44.47
· 4x400 relay: 1. Christian Tomlinson, Cayden Lawson, Kaine Hill, Josh Montelongo, 3:37.02
· Triple jump: 2. Cale Cohen, 41-07.5
Varsity girls
Team score: 65, fifth place
· 100: 3. Raegan Williams, 12.45
· 200: 1. Savana Panter, 26.44
· 400: 1. Rebecca Marx, 1:00.59
· 800: 3. Reese Jeter, 2:25.39
· 1600: 2. Jeter, 5:38.54

The Hornets and Lady Hornets were competing in the District 5-5A Meet in Aledo at press time. The top four finishers in each event will advance to the Area 5/6-

5A Meet in Fort Worth April 11-12.

SPRINGTOWN TRACK

Stephenville Optimist Relays
Running distances in meters, field events in feet and inches
Springtown results
Varsity boys
Team score: 34, seventh place

Top individual finishes
· 110 hurdles: 1. Kamryn Cleveland, 14.98
· 100: 2. Riley Jackson, 10.99
· 400: 1. Jackson, 49.82
· 300 hurdles: 3. Cleveland, 41.66

The Porcupines and Lady Pines were hosting the District 8-4A Meet at press time. The top four finishers in each event qualify for the Area 7/8-4A Meet, also in Springtown, April 10.

AZLE GIRLS GOLF

The Lady Hornets competed in the District 5-5A Preview tournament March 27 at Sugar Tree Golf Course in Dennis. They placed seventh with a score of 487.

Leading Azle were Mady Flowers with a score of 109 and Olivia Meyers with a 120. The district tournament is also being played at Sugar Tree and was going on at press time.

CAMP

FROM PAGE B1

a Hornets Hoops basketball camp T-shirt. Walk-ins are welcome but are not guaranteed a T-shirt.

AHS TENNIS CAMP

AHS tennis camp will be hosted at the AHS tennis court Monday, June 3, through Thursday, June 6. Camp shirts will be included, and the camp fee is \$60.

Each day will be split into two sessions. The first session will be for first through fifth grade athletes. The second will be for incoming sixth through ninth graders.

The first session will be from 8:30-10:30 a.m. The second session is from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

AZLE BASEBALL BOOSTER BASEBALL CAMP

For any incoming second through ninth grade athletes, Azle baseball camp will be at the AHS baseball fields Monday, June 3 through Wednesday, June 5.

The cost of the camp will be \$60 per camper and \$45 for each additional family member. All seventh through ninth graders attending camp must reside in Azle ISD attendance zones.

Sessions for incoming second through sixth graders will be from 8-10 a.m., and sessions for incoming seventh through ninth graders

will be from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If it rains, camp will be held in the indoor facility at the high school.

Players will be divided into groups based on their age and will rotate throughout the field and the indoor facility. All campers should bring gloves, a bat, athletic shoes or cleats, shorts or baseball pants and a water bottle.

Campers will learn about all aspects of the game through drills and competition.

Checks for this camp should be made payable to Azle Baseball Booster Club. For questions or additional information, contact Stephen Smith at 817-907-3061 or email sjsmith@aszleisd.net or contact Duston Shepherd at dsheperd@aszleisd.net.

AZLE VOLLEYBALL FUTURE HORNETS SUMMER CAMP

This summer camp runs May 13-16 from 4:30-7:30 p.m. at the AHS main gym for incoming kindergarten to sixth graders. Both boys and girls are welcome.

Campers will learn volleyball techniques, movement development, live game play, character building, high energy and fun.

Pre-register by May 1, and register early for a guaranteed 2024 camp t-shirt. Walk-ups are welcome but are not guaranteed a shirt.

The fee for the camp is \$100. You can pay with cash, a check payable to Kenley Buckholt or Venmo Buckholt

at @Kenley-Buckholt. Payment is due upon day one check-in.

AZLE VOLLEYBALL INTERMEDIATE SUMMER CAMP

This camp, for seventh through ninth grade girls only, runs July 22-25 at 1-4 p.m. The camp will be at the AHS main gym.

The cost of \$100 is due day one of the camp by cash, check payable to Kenley Buckholt or Venmo (@Kenley-Buckholt).

Campers will focus on volleyball skills, positional focus, game dynamics and teamwork in this fast-paced and high energy setting.

Early registration guarantees a 2024 camp T-shirt. Walk-ups are welcome but are not guaranteed a camp T-shirt.

CHAMPION TEAM CAMP

This camp for incoming ninth through twelfth graders runs July 31-Aug. 2 from 4-7 p.m. in the AHS main gym.

Girls interested in tryout for the 2024 season are highly encouraged to attend. The team camp will be run by elite coaches outside of Azle ISD. Campers will focus on skill development, position work, game knowledge, speed, and team bonding in this fast-paced clinic.

The cost is \$85 payable with cash, check payable to Cody Hanson or Venmo.

Checks can be made payable to Cody Hanson, or by Venmo to @Cody-Hanson-33. Payment is due on the first day of camp.

HORNET ELITE CAMP

Hornet Elite Camp takes place June 3 through July 27, every Monday through Thursday. Ninth through twelfth grade sessions will be from 7:20-9 a.m., while seventh through eighth grade sessions will be from 7:40-9 a.m. The camp will be held at the weight room and indoor facility at Azle High School.

The cost is \$180 and includes a camp shirt, insurance and athletes' trainers. The camp will be hosted by AHS strength and conditioning coach Matt Holt. It is highly recommended that all athletes looking to tryout for a volleyball team for the upcoming season participate in this program.

AZLE HORNETS FOOTBALL CAMP

The Elite camp for incoming seventh and ninth graders will be July 29 through Aug. 1, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the AHS football stadium. Camp cost will be \$60 payable by Venmo to @Devon-Dorris.

The camp will focus on specific position drills for the upcoming season. Campers will work all three phases of the game: offense, defense and special teams, along with having fun competitions. Cleats are preferred but are not

mandatory.

AHS YOUTH FOOTBALL CAMP

AHS will host the 2024 Youth Football camp, May 13-16, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The camp is for incoming first through sixth graders.

The camp will be hosted by the AHS football staff and will be held in the AHS indoor practice facility. The camp fee is \$60 and includes a camp T-shirt.

The four-day camp is to help polish the football techniques and skills for the upcoming football season.

The payment options are cash on the first day of camp, checks payable to Devon Dorris for Azle Football camp, or by Venmo to @Devon-Dorris.

AHS GIRLS SOCCER SUMMER CAMP

AHS soccer camp will be June 24-27, with three sessions. The first session for kindergarten through second graders is from 5-6 p.m.; third through sixth grades meet 5-6:30 p.m.; and seventh through ninth grades meet 6:30-8 p.m.

The camp will be at AHS Hornet stadium. The campers will work on dribbling, passing, shooting, defending and fitness.

Registration information will be coming out soon; for more information email coach Smith at hsmith@azleisd.net.



Use your smart device to scan the QR code for an easy link.

AZLE BOYS SOCCER SUMMER CAMP

The boys' soccer camp will be June 24-27, with three sessions. The first session for kindergarten through second grade is from 5-6 p.m.

Grades three through six will meet from 5-6:30 p.m. Seventh grade through ninth grade will meet from 6:30-8 p.m.

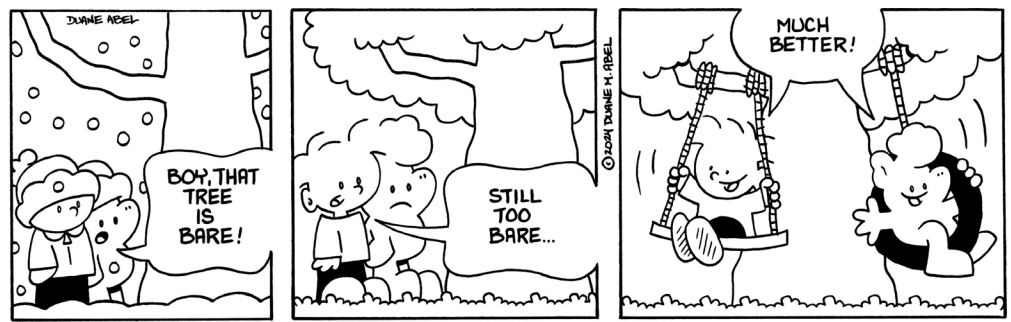
The camp will be held at AHS, where campers will learn dribbling, passing, shooting, defending and fitness.

Registration information will be coming soon. For any questions email the boys soccer coach at diego.oliveros@azleisd.net

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Go to <https://azlesports.rankone.com/Website/Main> for forms and registration information. Use the dropdown menu under "2024 Summer Camps" to find the camp you are interested in.

ZED by Duane Abel



HOMETOWN

Happenings

APRIL

- **GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP:** Lighthouse Harbor Church, 1960 Long Circle, Azle, will host a Grief Support Group from 4:30-5:30 p.m. Mondays from April 1 through May 6. There is no cost to attend but registration is required. Contact Kaitlin Tollison for more information at kaitlin.tollison@psalm46counseling.com.
- **TEEN MOVIE AFTERNOONS:** 2 p.m. Saturday, April 6, at Springtown Public Library, 626 N. Main St. The library hosts Teen Movie Afternoons the first Friday of the month. Movies will be rated up to PG-13. Call 817-523-5862 to find out the monthly movie. Snacks will be provided, so bring a drink!
- **MAIN STREET BOOK CLUB:** 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month at Azle Memorial Library. The book club will meet April 23 to discuss "Where the Forest Meets the Stars" by Glendy Vanderah. Refreshments will be provided.
- **MINI ROOMS CRAFT:** 6 p.m. Thursday, April 25 at Azle Memorial Library, 333 W. Main St. Teens 12-18 are invited to build miniature rooms, complete with furniture, at this fun craft event. All supplies and instructions will be provided. Reservations are required. Call 817-752-2682 to save a spot!
- **GARDENING FOR BUTTERFLIES:** 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 30 at Azle Memorial Library. Learn how to create your own butterfly garden with tips from a Tarrant County Master Gardener at this free event. Brought to you by Tarrant Regional Water District and the City of Azle.
- **AZLE CHAMBER EVENTS:** The Azle Area Chamber of Commerce's April luncheon will begin at 11:30 a.m. April 2 at 404 Main Place in Azle. Business After Hours is slated for 4:30-6:30 p.m. April 25 at NBT Financial, 405 Commerce St., Azle.
- **SPRINGTOWN CHAMBER EVENTS:** Springtown Area Chamber of Commerce Events: SACoC will host its annual Clay Shoot at 11 a.m. Friday, April 12 at Fossil Pointe Sporting Grounds. The April chamber luncheon will be 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 25 at the Springtown Senior Center, 1070 N. Main St., Springtown.

MAY

- **SPRING BOOK SALE:** 10 a.m. Saturday, May 4 at the Springtown Courthouse Annex, 101 E. Second St. The Springtown Public Library will host its Spring Book Sale, including a \$5 fill-a-bag sale. All proceeds benefit children's programs at the library.
- **SHINE LIKE STARS BANQUET:** 6 p.m. Thursday, May 16 at The Church at Azle. The banquet benefits the Adult & Teen Challenge of Texas Azle Men's Campus. The evening includes dinner, a silent auction and program. Tickets and sponsorship opportunities are available. Call 817-406-4441 for more information.
- **MAIN STREET BOOK CLUB:** 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month at Azle Memorial Library. The book club will meet May 21 to discuss "Hello Beautiful" by Ann Napolitano. Refreshments will be provided.
- **NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER:** Azle Area Ministerial Alliance will host a free event from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 2 at The Orchard Event Venue and Retreat, 1421 Northeast Parkway, Azle. Hilltop Family Church, 1227 Old Cottondale Road, Springtown, will host a breakfast for National Day of Prayer at 7 a.m.

Sudoku

APRIL 4, 2024

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

Level: Advanced

Solution to last week's puzzle

MARCH 28, 2024

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

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to crochet.

LRSCOO

--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Colors

CRYPTO FUN
Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to employees. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 25 = C)

A. 16 19 13 7 14 13
Clue: Employee

B. 19 4 4 26 25 14
Clue: Place to do business

C. 25 3 6 26 25 20 14
Clue: Office desk configuration

D. 6 19 15 15
Clue: Supervisor

Azle Lady Hornets Soccer

Congratulations, Lady Hornets, on becoming Bi-District Champions for the 2023-2024 season! We all look forward to another great season!

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E. Parkway (Jacksboro Highway), Azle 817-752-8255 OTHER ALIENTO DE DIOS 2233 E. Hwy 199, Springtown 817-521-4694 THE CHURCH IN PEASTER www.thechurchinpeaster.org 817-596-8805 CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH 2233 Hwy 199 East, Springtown 817-221-LIFE (5433) FAMILY CHURCH 9 miles S. of Springtown on Hwy. 51 817-599-7655 GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH 2964 W. Hwy 114, Paradise 940-969-2427 HILLTOP FAMILY CHURCH 1227 Old Cottondale Road, Springtown, 817-220-7177 THE FELLOWSHIP AT PLEASANT GROVE 1064 CR4679, Boyd 940-999-8210 THE HOUSE OF PRAYER 1356 Reno Rd., Springtown 817-221-2551 POWERHOUSE OF PRAISE CHURCH 1649 S.E. Parkway, Azle 817-319-7364 BRANDED CROSS COWBOY CHURCH 3282 FM 2048, Boyd 76023 817-755-7021 SECRET PLACE MINISTRIES 112 Optimist Rd., Springtown 682-229-1433 GOSPEL GATHERING FELLOWSHIP 7315 Silver Creek Rd at Flatrock Rd, Azle 832-289-8720 LIGHTHOUSE CHURCH 6409 FM 730 S., Azle 817-444-4311 LIGHTHOUSE HARBOR CHURCH 1960 Long Circle, Pelican Bay 817-444-3547 THE LIVING WORD COUNTRY CHURCH OF TEXAS 1240 E. HWY 199, SPRINGTOWN 817-913-2717 NEW LIGHTED WAY 624 Harbor Dr. Circle, Azle 817-444-1577 NORTHWEST TEMPLE OF PRAISE 6781 Jacksboro Hwy., Lake Worth PRECIOUS FAITH TEMPLE CHURCH 8601 Hwy. 199 @ Vance Godbey's THE HOUSE OF PRAYER 1356 Reno Rd., Springtown 817-221-2551 THE RANCH CHRISTIAN COWBOY CHURCH 7955 Reed Rd., Azle 682-327-7082 REAL FAMILY FELLOWSHIP 202 Pearson Lane, Azle 817-677-5963 GRACE & FAITH CENTER 11701 Jacksboro Hwy., Azle 817-210-6295 WESTERN HARVEST FELLOWSHIP CENTER 6577 Old Springtown Rd., Weatherford 817-523-2855 or 817-995-9087 SHEPHERD'S HEART CHURCH 14435 FM 730 N • Azle 817-444-7777 WESTERN STAR COWBOY CHURCH 790 CR 3696 • Paradise 76073 817-688-6887

HILLTOP FAMILY CHURCH 1227 Old Cottondale • 817-220-7177 "Caring about what Jesus cares about... You!"

Compliments of Rural Gas Supply PROPANE 140 W. MAIN ST. 817-444-4613 "In business since 1946"

Joe Rider Propane, Inc. PROPANE TANKS 817-237-3325

White's Funeral Homes Our family serving your family since 1908 Bob White, Anita White and Zack Bellenger Full Service Funeral Home Cremation Services Pre-Need Plans Azle • Springtown Mineral Wells • Weatherford 817-444-3211 • www.whitesfuneral.com

What's happening in your home town? Subscribe today to keep up-to-date. 817-270-3340 tricountyreporter.com

AZLE CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC 817-444-HELP (4357) Rodney Gatlin, D.C. 400 Boyd Court www.azlechiropractic.com

Get eyes on your business! 817-270-3340 Call Jessica to reserve this space

Want readers to FIND YOU? Place your ad here! Call 817-270-3340

Place your ad here today! 817-270-3340 tricountyreporter.com

TRI-COUNTY Electric Cooperative, Inc. "A Commitment to Service and Savings" Actively Supporting our Communities! 817-444-3001 | www.tecetexas.com | Facebook @TECETexas

Double your IMPACT with Print & Online ADVERTISING! Call Jessica for details 817-270-3340

Advertise Here Contact us for details. 817-270-3340 tricountyreporter.com

Your Ad Here Newspaper Advertising Works! Call Jessica for details TODAY 817-270-3340

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS WITH US and maximize your visibility! Contact us about advertising solutions. 817-270-3340

classified@tricountyreporter.com
817-270-3340 or 817-220-7217

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

16 Words or Less:
Only \$10.00 per week!

Over 16 words, add 20 cents per word

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

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

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

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE: 1:00 PM FRIDAY

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

Nobody does it better!

006 Asphalt Paving

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

Bruce Byrum, Azle, TX **817-690-2429**

032 For Sale

FOR SALE: CRAFTSMAN LAWN TRACTOR 19.5 HP Needs work, make offer. 817-444-2002



2022 Honda ATV Rancher 4x4 420cc paid \$9,000, asking \$6,000. 42.4 hours, 545 miles. 810-735-1680

035 Garden/Mowing Service

Lawn Care by Rubio
Tree Trimming
Other Lawn Care
Call for FREE ESTIMATE
682-262-4905

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

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

039 Help Wanted

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

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

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

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



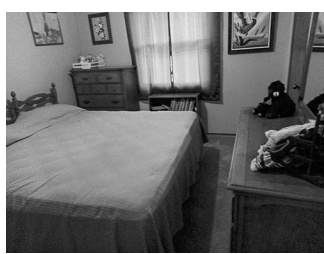
2010 Club Car Electric Golf Cart Asking \$1500. Call Donna 817-688-9316

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



King size bed, mattress, nightstand, chest of drawers, dresser & mirror. \$600 817-454-3798

036 Hauling

DORADO TRANSPORT LLC
 AZLE, TEXAS

We Haul: Auto, Power Sports, Equipment and Freight

817-789-2519
DoradoTransportLLC@Yahoo.com

039 Help Wanted

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

039 Help Wanted

The City of Reno is hiring a part time Water Clerk, up to 30 hours per week.
 No Calls-Applicants must apply in person only, at The City of Reno at 195 W. Reno Rd. Azle 76020

024 Electrician

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

034 Garage & Estate

Reata Estates Community Yard Sale Located off of Reese Lane, Azle, TX April 5th & 6th
 9am - 2pm Minimum of 7 homes participating in subdivision.

GARAGE SALE 121 Pecan St. Azle 4/5/24 - 4/6/24 8am - 3pm

026 Excavating

REED EXCAVATING

- SITE PREPARATION
- LOT CLEARING
- LEVELING
- FINAL GRADE
- LAND EROSION
- GRAVEL ROADS
- PARKING LOTS
- DEMOLITION
- STOCK TANKS

Dump Truck Hauling **817-919-3696**

HUGE ESTATE SALE 3 car garage, large appliances, furniture, men & women's clothing, shoes, handbags, tools, lawn equipment, large kitchen, wall art, sporting equipment. THIS SALE IS PACKED!
 1817 N. Fork Rd. Ft. Worth 76179 Thursday 4/4/24 - Sunday 4/7/24 9am - 5pm

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

035 Garden/Mowing

COWBOY LAWN CARE.
 Handyman services, residential, farm, , landscaping, tree trimming. Free Estimates. 817-271-0450. Spring Specials.

GARAGE SALE

16 words for only \$10.
 A great way to raise extra money!
 Call today for more info.
 The Tri-County Reporter
 817-270-3340

Eagle Crest VILLA SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY NOW HIRING

FULL TIME COOK

Split shift: Wed-Sun. Benefits include: \$500 sign on bonus, Health, Dental, Life and Vision Insurance, PTO and 401k.
Apply in person 113 Denver Trail, Azle.

Find that Perfect Camper or RV in the Classifieds **OR** You can Sell yours in the same section. Call 817-270-3340 for more info on our **3-Month Special Only \$29.95**

Need to sell your ATV?
 Call today and ask about our (\$29.95) 3-MONTH SPECIAL!
 The Tri-County Reporter
 817-220-7217

Chad's Tree Service

Trimming • Removals • Stump Grinding
 Systemic Feeding • Brush Chipping • Cable Bracing

817-221-2201 • 817-246-5943
817-800-6059 CELL
 Insured for your protection

FREE ESTIMATES

WE SOLD IT

IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

The Tri-County Reporter
817-270-3340

Last Puzzle Solution




JOCK
ALOE
WELL
EL
AMY
BATOUT
USAA
IRSOFFICE
PANINTO
HOMES
SHAGMAN
REBA
BISECT
OUTLAW
FEEDBAG
EE
ROUGHSHOD
WASH
ALE
MINIBAR
ANEWTRIM
NET
MCCOYS
AREA
GTE
EARP
YOD
WARMEST
SCION
LES
ESE
STY

S-1682

817-270-3340

Deadline:
1:00 PM FRIDAY

Classifieds

<p>039</p>  <p>KARL KLEMENT</p> <p><u>Service Technician</u></p> <p>Seeking to hire ALL levels of Automotive Service Technicians to join our team! Compensation based on experience and certifications. Must have a valid TXDL, be dependable and responsible with a good work ethic. To apply, please send resume via Indeed ad or come by our office located at 605 N. Business 287, Suite 102 in Decatur. Full-Time, Monday-Friday</p> <hr/> <p>KLEMENT DISTRIBUTION, INC. (Hershey Ice Cream Distributor)</p> <hr/> <p>Karl Klement Properties, Inc.</p> <p>No Positions Available at This Time</p>	<p>Help Wanted</p>  <p><u>Sales Associate</u></p> <p>If you are looking for an exciting and rewarding career; join our team as an Automotive Sales Associate. Previous auto sales experience preferred; however, exceptional, and in-depth training, of vehicles and technology are offered to candidates that demonstrate a commitment to providing exceptional customer service. In addition to paid training and opportunities for growth, we offer a competitive compensation & benefits package.</p> <hr/> <p><u>Lube Technician</u></p> <p>Experience is preferred but will train the right candidate. Must have a valid TXDL, good driving record and a positive attitude! Candidate must be dependable with a great work ethic! Potential for advancement with promote from within opportunities!</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>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>		

040 Home Improvement

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

Advertising Works!

057 Pets/Livestock

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

HORSE SALE April 5th, 2024
Tack Sale Begins at 6:00 PM
Horses Follow
Stephenville Cattle Co.
Highway 281 North • Stephenville, TX
Troy 254-967-1950 • Barn 254-968-4844

068 Storage

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

Devin's Handyman Service

- Carpentry
- Cement
- Rock
- Granite
- Tile
- Painting
- Siding
- Insulation
- Kitchen/Bath
- Roof & Gutters
- Powerwashing
- Decks

SPRING SPECIAL 20% OFF with this ad!

Call Devin at 817-629-9608

062 Plumbing

LANDERS Plumbing Co.
940-233-2862

HANDYMAN NEAR ME

We Get That Honey-Do List Done For You

\$65 PER HOUR (labor only on most jobs)

Call For Details **817-612-3464**

066 Roofing

AT HOME ROOFING & METAL BUILDINGS
817-304-4224

069 Sand/Gravel

HALL'S SAND, DIRT & GRAVEL
Quality Family Business Since 1938
CALL Cliff Hall
(817) 221-2681

081 Business/Commercial

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

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

MOVING SALE

Raise some extra money through the Classifieds to help with that move.
16 words for only \$10
TRI-COUNTY REPORTER
817-270-3340
Hometown Paper!

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

046 Looking to Buy

Looking to buy a home, 1200-2000 square ft., 3-2, pre-owned, garage, .75+ acre lot, Springtown area. Will consider houses needing repair, remodel, or vacant building site.
Text 817-996-6351

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

Miles Roofing
• Insurance Claim Specialists;
• Free Estimates
817-797-3420

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.

079 Welding

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

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

1536 SWAN CT.
2-2 \$995.MO. \$800 DEP.
Gene Thompson & Associates
817-246-4646 gtax.com

088 Rent Unfurnished

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

1 & 2 Bedroom Unfurnished
Accepting Applications
Rent based on income
TDD: 800-735-2989

085 Mobile Homes for Sale

Pelican Bay:
1513 Sheri Lane S.
Mobile Home with lot
Needs Work
3-2 1986, 16X76 Sunrizon 65K
Gene Thompson & Associates
817-246-4646

Azle Creek Apartments
W. Main St. • Azle
1-2 Bedrooms \$750/mo. & up
817-598-0663
aaapropertiesonline.com
FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

046 Looking to Buy

Looking to buy 10-100 acres of land with hay field near Azle, Springtown, Cottondale, Briar or Boyd. Paying cash. Email gpfw@outlook.com, Text 817-691-0073

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 alvarogsilva@verizon.net

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.

086 Mobile Home/RV Lots

3 RV Lots for rent \$475/mo \$200/dep. All bills paid. Briar area 817-996-0530.

088 Rent Unfurnished

3/2/2 on 5 acres in Aurora area approx. 1882 SF \$2,000/mo plus deposit. Call for application/appointment to 817-430-0339.

3-2 Duplex, quiet location, nice & clean, newly refurbished, no pets. \$1500.00/mo. 817-444-3636.

1516 CORAL CUT OFF
2-1-1 \$1,145.MO. \$800 DEP.
1831 PELICAN OVAL
2-2-1 \$1295.MO. \$1,000 DEP.
Gene Thompson & Associates
817-246-4646 gtax.com

HOME IMPROVEMENT



I'm looking for a new or used RV to buy or rent for myself in the area. Sandy 936-524-0830

052 Movers

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

068 Storage

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

079 Welding

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

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

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

055 Miscellaneous

Fair buyer (running or not), cars, trucks, boats, campers, trailers, & farm equipment. 817-629-7531 Weatherford.

Advertising Works!

Visit us online!
tricountyreporter.com

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

817-270-3340

Deadline:
1:00 PM FRIDAY

Classifieds

088 Rent Unfurnished

Spring Garden and Spring Garden V Apartments of Springtown

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR Disabled, Low Income and Senior Tenants, 62 years of age or older, handicapped/disabled regardless of age

1,2,3 Bedroom Duplex Amenities Include

Ceramic Tile, Ceiling Fans, Washer/Dryer Connections, Stove, Refrigerator and Dishwasher
Must Meet Housing Qualifications

Spring Garden.....817-523-7555
Spring Garden V...817-220-5585
 This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Shopping Local Supports Your Community

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

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

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



ACROSS

- 1 Texas amateur radio operator (2 wds.)
- 44 TXism: "no flies ___" (pretty)
- 5 TXism: "a sheep in wolves clothes"
- 6 this Texas Speaker was a great center fielder
- 7 rich layer cake
- 49 George W. to George H.W.
- 50 close a person's eyes
- 51 TXism: "she's ___ best when her lips ain't moving"
- 9 who TX Jeannie C. Riley "socked it to"
- 12 TX Tommy Lee Jones won one for "The Fugitive"
- 17 in Andrews County on U.S. 385
- 19 TXism: "couldn't fight his way out of ___ bag"
- 21 Zagreb is this country's capital
- 22 the ___ Bend Reservoir is near Hemphill
- 23 TX Vernon Dalhart tune: "Can't ___ Me Callin' Caroline?"
- 28 TX Orbison's "___ Woman Blues"
- 29 car washing aids
- 30 ___ soil is hard to farm
- 31 how a Texan says "can't"?
- 35 historical "Texas Gazette" was published by this Cotten (init.)
- 36 eastern Houston suburb
- 42 TXism: "bellered ___ bull"
- 46 TXism: "he's a frisky fiddler"
- 48 rich layer cake
- 49 George W. to George H.W.
- 50 close a person's eyes
- 51 TXism: "she's ___ best when her lips ain't moving"
- 52 TXism: "scarce ___ wildcatter with a bank balance"
- 53 TXism: "___ it or lose it"
- 54 coldly ignores
- 56 actress Adams in "Racquet" with TX Lynda Day George
- 57 TXism: "head rug"
- 58 dejected

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

Copyright 2024 by Orbison Bros.

10 former newspaper in Munday (3 wds.)
11 TXism: "limp ___ dish rag"
12 horse morsel
13 Texas-based Haggar products, e.g. (2 wds.)
14 TXism: "___boose" (jail)
15 TXism: "got knocked down ___ or two"
16 Cincinnati MLB team
18 "Petticoat" actor, TX Meredith Mac ___
20 singer in 28-across (init.)
23 TXism: "dance with who brung ___"
24 "good ___ boy"25 big Brahman ranch in Texas
26 TX Don Henley's rock group
27 Snyder has ___ buffalo statue
32 TXism: "he's ___ ornery old cuss"
33 TXism: "dab ___ on"
34 TXism: "___ dice"36 TX Tracey Needham military TV series
37 king toppers in poker
38 TXism: "___ a bug's ear"
39 TX Autry's "Back ___ Saddle Again"
40 TXism: "suits me to a fare-___-well"
41 2024, e.g.
43 TXism: "let '___ rip!"
45 actor Ulrich (init.)
47 ___ Alta Taylor Johnson (Lady Bird) in Milam County on U.S. 79/190
55 Dallas (2 wds.)

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

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