

School Board Candidate Springtown ISD

PLACE 7 **First on Your Ballot** First For Our Teachers, Admin, and KIDS!

AZLE, SPRINGTOWN, AND SURROUNDING AREAS

E

THURSDAY, April 11, 2024 • ***1.00**

A well-deserved honor

MADELYN EDWARDS

springtownreporter@tricountyreporter.com SPRINGTOWN — When 97-year-old Margaret Mottram attended the Springtown City Council meeting last month, she brought with her a sandwichsized zip-lock bag filled to the brim with metal pop tabs.

Mottram collects them in the hope they will help sick children, specifically those on dialysis. The Ronald McDonald House of Fort Worth, which aims to offer a respite for families of ill or injured kids, collects these pop tabs and recycles them in exchange for cash toward general operating expenses, according to its website. "People say they don't

have nothing to do because they're old. They could save these and give them to me,' Mottram said with a laugh.

"I guess it's kind of silly, but I'm proud of the fact that we do it."

At the meeting, Mayor Greg Hood proclaimed April 15 as Margaret Mottram Day "in honor of her years of committed service and volunteerism to the Springtown community." Hood said Mottram has resided in Springtown for almost 24 years and is dedicated to serving her community by volunteering at Neighbor to Neighbors, ringing the bell for Salvation Army outside the grocery store during the holidays and playing Mrs. Claus at Christmas events.

Mottram said she has served at Springtown's Neighbor to Neighbors for at least 18 years and likes help-

Springtown celebrates longtime resident for her volunteer work

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ing people. "I love doing it," she said. "I ride around with her and another girl to pick up the food that's volunteered to Neighbor to Neighbors. It's fun. And I don't like to not do anything. That irritates me."

Hood ended his proclamation by encouraging others in town to be like Mottram and look for service opportunities.

"Margaret, at the age of 97, continues to practice volunteerism in her community in a manner that should be held as a shining example of how neighbors can be of service to one another for the betterment of the community,"

PLEASE SEE MOTTRAM | A2



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

At the March 26 council meeting, Mayor Greg Hood proclaimed April 15 Margaret Mottram Day in Springtown to honor one of the city's most dedicated volunteers.

Azle man sentenced to 60 years

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@tricountyreporter.com

AZLE — Azle resident Donald Read (known alias Donald Reed) was sentenced to 60 years in prison after a felony conviction hearing in March. Read has been

Donald Read arrested for sixth DWI by Azle police

arrested for driving while under the influence six separate times since 1988. He was previously sentenced to 15

years and 25 years after his fourth and fifth DWI arrests in 2006 and 2013, respectively. The Tarrant County

District Clerk's website shows Read was on parole by 2011 and 2021 after his two convictions.

Read, age 64, has previously been booked by local police for marijuana possession, public intoxication, disorderly conduct, unlaw-

fully carrying a weapon and driving with a suspended license. The 60-year sentence was issued after Read's most recent DWI, which occurred August 25, 2023. Read is currently in custody at Tarrant

PLEASE SEE READ | A9 Donald Read



Little room for growth



SISD hears space utilization report from architect firm

MADELYN EDWARDS

springtownreporter@tricountyreporter.com

SPRINGTOWN — Goshen Creek Elementary School and Springtown Elementary School have surpassed functional capacity, and Springtown Intermediate School is nearing capacity, according to a report from the architectural and engineering firm Huckabee.

Huckabee principal Aubrey Moses presented a space utilization report to the Springtown Independent School District board of trustees during the board's March 25 meeting. The goal of the study was to determine which of the district's six campuses are at capacity, nearing capacity or have room for growth. This was determined using enrollment numbers at each school, the maximum capacity set by the Texas Education Agency and functional capacity, which is about 75-90% of the maximum. Portable buildings are not included as part of the maximum capacity since they

aren't permanent. "We're going to be talking about maximum capacity, and that's the total number of seats in the facility. If every seat were filled at the same time, that's the number of students that could fit in each campus," Moses said. "But we know that's not reality, so that's why we're also looking at functional capacity. When you're taking into account the flexibility of schedules, we know that not every classroom is full every minute of the day. And so, at an elementary level, ideally, you want to be around 90% of your max capacity, and then for secondary education, it's standard to be around 75% of your maximum capacity."

In summary, Moses revealed that Goshen Creek Elementary School with an enrollment count of 693 students has surpassed its functional capacity of 630 students and is nearing the maximum of 700.

"There's a lot of makeshift

PLEASE SEE GROWTH | A3

Blue moon of Reno

Elementary school kids view solar eclipse

MADELYN EDWARDS AND ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER Students at Reno Elementary School use their special glasses to view the eclipse April 8. The school celebrated the occasion in style by handing out themed snacks like Sun Chips, Capri Sun and Lone Stars crackers.

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MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER Springtown resident Margaret Mottram encourages people to donate metal soda tabs to help sick children.

MOTTRAM FROM PAGE A1

the mayor said at the council meeting.

When Hood presented Mottram with the proclamation, the council and the audience stood and applauded her.

For her part, Mottram said she felt honored but wasn't quite sure why the council recognized her.

"It doesn't seem like I've ever done anything," she said. "I know I have, but it doesn't

seem like a lot."

On the contrary, Mottram's daughter Lisa Morris-Pitts, who witnessed Hood's proclamation, said her mother had done enough to earn the honor.

"I think it's pretty special," Morris-Pitts said. "I think she deserves it."

Despite her age, Mottram doesn't plan to slow down anytime soon.

"I don't want to quit," she said. "I can't do what I used to do because I had COVID in January, but I still keep going."

SISD recognizes two students who qualified for state art contest



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER Springtown High School student Tatum Franklin earned a place in the state High School Visual Arts Scholastic Event and was recognized by the school board March 25.



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Springtown High School student Katelyn Duncan talked about her artwork at the Springtown Independent School District board of trustees meeting March 25. Duncan qualified for the state High School Visual Arts Scholastic Event.

Ribbon cutting for Stafford Place Apartments



Stafford Place Apartments celebrated its opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony hosted by the Azle Area Chamber of Commerce March 12. The new luxury apartment complex joined the Azle community to offer a sleek and simple way of life. From its wide selection of amenities to the finishes within the units, Stafford Place is the place to be. The staff is currently showing completed units and are happy to discuss your future with Stafford Place at 1200 Southeast Parkway in Azle. Give them a call today at 682-250-2737.



Ribbon cutting for Wright Way Family Practice



Wright Way Family Practice, a new primary care clinic located at 1250 E. State Highway SH 199 in Springtown, conducted a ribbon cutting ceremony hosted by the Springtown Area Chamber of Commerce. Crystal Wright, MSN SPRN FNP-C, along with Christy Swan, offer patients many health and wellness services, including physical exams, treatment for chronic illness and mental health, nutrition counseling and more. The practice is open Monday through Thursday 9 a.m.to 6 p.m. (closed noon to 2 p.m. for lunch) and Friday 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 817-409-4699 for more information.



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TO

2 PM

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The first amendment assures the right to speak; it does not mean people have to agree with you.

Some towns are currently in the middle of a political campaign. It is the constitutional right of each voter to be able to discuss and discern the pros and cons of candidates or propositions like bond issues, and from this discernment people determine how they wish to vote.

With any election, there is a great deal of commentary which is spewed out by the public. Some of it is factual. some of it is created in such a way to slant facts to a certain side of a proposition, and other political diatribes are nothing more than downright misrepresentation or intentional lies. Because of our first amendment, all these forms of free speech may be uttered. It is unlawful and unwise to attempt to silence speech, even speech which is an outright lie. The founding fathers believed an educated populace should be able to listen to all viewpoints, cipher through the words and



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

revelations and conclude what is best because they had looked at all sides of an issue.

Unfortunately, with the advent of artificial intelligence and mass information delivery systems like social media and the web, false information is injected into political discussion and can be done in ways which can confuse and muddle the actual issues. It seems Americans are having a tougher time ascertaining what is true and what is a misrepresentation. They also seem to be unwilling to practice discernment.

Recently I read a post on social media where a man asserted there must be a lot of "kickbacks" in the local school

bond issue because, in his experience, when so many people are working so hard to get something passed, there had to be kickbacks involved. Upon reading the man's declaration, many immediately responded and asked what specific evidence the man had which supported such an assertion. People wanted to know who was receiving kickbacks and how the man knew such kickhacks existed The man responded that such a situation had been his experience, and he had seen such "graft" happen before. When asked what specific examples he had of past elections where graft had taken place, the man did not, or could not, answer.

He continued saying he wasn't underlying persuasive facts going to answer more questions because he felt like others were trampling his first amendment rights to speak what he believed. Herein lies the problem.

No one was trampling on the man's right to express his opinion. He spoke his peace and did so just as anyone else who was on the social media platform. He was upset because when he was questioned to explain his position, he had little or no evidence or facts to support his beliefs. He stated, "Well that is my view, and I am voting no because of it." He sought shelter behind the first amendment, saying people were trying to muffle him, but the truth is he was upset because people did not adapt their positions and join him in thinking exactly the way he did. It made no difference to the man that he could not support his assertions, and when challenged, he failed to cite

which supported his views. He was upset because people did not think exactly like him. This was further evidenced when he proclaimed he was a "true" member of his party and those who did not agree with him were "fake" party members; and worse, members of the other party who were infiltrating the "good people" like him. It made no difference if someone viewed the world differently, if the assumptions which he based his opinion were false or inaccurate or were fabricated lies designed to unite people under a false pretense. He is certainly entitled to hold his beliefs, no matter how misguided others may think they are, but that doesn't mean the rest of the community need blindly follow.

The first amendment is an important part of our way of life. Speaking out, standing up is part of the American spirit. Another important

part of that American spirit is standing up and challenging someone who makes unsubstantiated allegations or false arguments and exposing those statements for the falsehoods they are. Everyone has a right to speak but it doesn't mean everyone has to agree with you, and it certainly doesn't mean if you don't agree with the speaker, you are the enemy. Such are the thoughts of little minds. Such thoughts are not based on actual civil discussion, but rather on control and power and those who blindly seek it.

Thought for the day: *"Everyone is in favor of free* speech. Hardly a day passes without its being extolled, but some people's idea of it is that they are free to sav what they like but if anyone says anything back, that is an outrage."

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

Springtown ISD — District Capacity and Utilization Report update

On Monday, March 25, we celebrated a significant milestone as we hosted the graduation ceremony for the first-ever cohort of Porcupine Academy students. Porcupine Academy, which opened its doors for the 2023-2024 school year, serves as an opportunity for nontraditional students seeking to earn their high school diploma. Porcupine Academy offers flexibility and accessibility, accommodating students with various life circumstances, including work commitments, family responsibilities and the need for personalized educational pathways.

I am thrilled to report that Porcupine Academy has been a huge success, thanks to the dedicated leadership of Principal Mr. Horis and his



SPRINGTOWN ISD By Shane Strickland

I am a blessed husband to Leighann and father of 4 girls and grandfather of one granddaughter. 26 years in public education. 1 year Belton ISD/Belton HS teacher-coach. 5 years @ Hooks ISD/Hooks HS teacher-Head Volleyball Coach, 21 years at Springtown ISD/Springtown HS teacher-coach 3yrs., 6 years as Asst. Principal (3 @ SMS, 3 @ SHS), 5 years as Director of Operations, 6 years as Deputy Superintendent, 1 year as Superintendent

supportive staff. Their comin the District Capacity and mitment to creating a nur-Utilization Report providturing environment where ed by Aubrey Moses from Huckabee. While we have efstudents can thrive at their own pace has truly made fectively utilized available a difference in the lives of space to accommodate our our graduating students. growing student population, Congratulations to all the we must acknowledge areas graduates of Porcupine where improvements are needed. Academv! The report shows over-

However, as we celebrate this achievement, it is also crucial to address the pressing challenges highlighted

with a projection of exceeding capacity by 2025). Moses commended the district for its creativity in utilizing "available" space, acknowledging efforts to convert areas including hallways into instructional spaces. However, because they are in regular classrooms, all science labs at Springtown Intermediate and Springtown Middle School fail to meet TEA compliance, while classrooms across campuses except Reno Elementary fall short of TEA standards due to large class sizes. Moreover, the report highlights challenges faced by CTE programs due to inadequate campuses, including Goshen facilities, limiting students'

capacity), and Springtown

Intermediate (97% capacity

Springtown Elementary (102% access to certifications due to constraints on practicum and hands-on learning opportunities.

To address these challenges, our district is committed to conducting thorough analysis and planning to determine the requirements for additional space and upgraded classrooms. We are also in the process of establishing a long-range facility planning committee to ensure that our infrastructure aligns with our educational goals. I invite members of our community who are interested in contributing to this initiative to reach out to us at communications@springtownisd.net. Furthermore, I am proud

to acknowledge the creativity and resourcefulness demonstrated by our teachers and

staff in maximizing available space and transforming unconventional areas into instructional environments. From converting closets and hallways into instructional spaces to our maintenance department constructing additional walls for classrooms, our educators have gone above and beyond to provide our students with exceptional learning opportunities, even in challenging circumstances.

As we continue to navigate the challenges of overcrowding, I am confident that with the support of our community and the dedication of our staff, Springtown ISD will continue to strive for excellence in providing quality education for all students.

Superintendent Shane Strickland

GROWTH

spaces where your resource and intervention classrooms, they're meeting in the hallways; they're meeting in storage closets because y'all are just out of space at this campus," Moses said about Goshen Creek. "There are also four portable buildings that have eight classrooms on this one, and six out of the eight classrooms are being used for instruction right now, so you're already overflowing into temporary facilities."

Moses said the campus' administrators reported needing space for small group instruction, storage since the current storage space is being used for small classes, and more restrooms for staff and students.

"The other challenge is there is just not room to sup-

SES

687

750

675

102%

2024

Zonda Demographics Report Projections Feb 2024

SIS

624

856

642

97%

2025

Chart shows the takeaways from Huckabee's utilization report.

SMS

637

992

744

86%

2029

GCES

693

700

630

110%

2024

RES

383

584

526

73%

port additional growth at this those spaces," she said. campus," she said.

Similarly, Springtown Elementary School has an enrollment of 687 kids but a functional capacity of 675 and a maximum of 750. Moses said multiple classrooms are undersized by TEA's standards. Some areas are used for storage but would need renovations to become classrooms, and there are full-sized classrooms being used for small groups. The elementary school's administration also requested more restrooms.

Moses noted that parts of Springtown Elementary School are used for daycare and central administration, but those spaces were not included in the report on the campus' capacity.

"Just know if you were to ever repurpose any of that space, move those out, there is room for Springtown Elementary itself to grow into

SHS

1162

1805

1354

86%

2030

capacity issues at several

Creek (110% capacity),

The intermediate school is expected to be over capacity by next year with a current enrollment of 624 students, a functional capacity of 642 and a maximum of 856. Moses said there is no room for growth at this school.

"All classrooms are being used eight out of nine periods a day," she said. "They are running incredibly efficient at this campus.'

Again, classrooms are undersized at the intermediate school, and administrators requested more restrooms, Moses said. Some unique challenges include fine arts spaces and administrative offices being spread over the campus, which isn't as efficient as it could be. Also, some classrooms used for special education and intervention are oversized and could be renovated to get the right size and create more space. Moses also said the

locker rooms could be recon-	-
structed for more space.	

Reno Elementary School is the campus with the most room to grow and isn't expected to be over capacity within the next 10 years, while the middle and high schools aren't projected to go over capacity until the end of the decade, according to Moses' report. For Springtown Middle School, Moses said there is a need for more restrooms, classrooms are undersized and administrative offices are spread out throughout the building.

For the high school, Moses said space and furniture specific to career and technical education programs is lacking.

"A lot of the space that the CTE programs are using are more for general ed classrooms, and they're not really designed for the programs that are being taught in those spaces," she said.

More science labs, storage and restrooms are needed at the high school, Moses said. Resource and intervention groups are also using fullsized classrooms.

For some of the campuses, Moses mentioned that libraries are undersized according to TEA's standards, but that wouldn't need to be corrected unless the campus undergoes a major renovation. The board asked for more information on what counts as a major renovation. SISD Executive Director

of Operations and Student Services Micheal Chavez pointed out that the study looked at the current buildings that include previous renovations to create more space.

In discussion after the report, board members and administrators noticed that the report didn't cover the capacity on athletic and band facilities as well as the capacity of Reno Elementary's septic system.

After the board meeting, SISD posted on Facebook that leaders will conduct further research "to accurately determine requirements for additional space and upgraded classrooms, aiming to better prepare students for their chosen fields. Additionally, the district will soon establish a long-range facility planning committee."

To contribute to the committee, email communications@springtownisd.net.

RI*COUNTY REP

Publisher **KIM WARE** publisher@tricountyreporter.com

UTILIZATION SUMMARY (TEA)

Functional Capacity (75% of Max)

Year at/over Functional Capacity*

Utilization Rate (Func./Enroll.)

Current Enrollment

Max Capacity (Per TEA)

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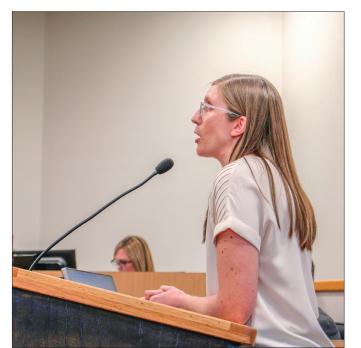
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MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER Architectural and engineering firm Huckabee principal Aubrey Moses talks to the Springtown school board about available space in individual campuses.

Library staff recognized by City of Azle

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@tricountyreporter.com

AZLE — "Ready, Set, Library!"

During the April 2 Azle Citv Council meeting, city officials recognized Azle Memorial Library staff for National Library Week April 7-13. The 2024 theme for this week is Ready, Set, Library. The week was first celebrated nationwide in 1958, sponsored by the American Library Association.

Staff representing the local library stood at the city council meeting to hear praises from Mayor Alan Brundrett and receive a written proclamation from the City of Azle. Reading from the proclamation, Mayor Brundrett stopped to iterate his own view on the library's importance.

Azle mayor proclaims National Library Week April 7-13 "I have to kind of echo on that one there, the cornerstones of democracy, because it's really true," Brundrett

said. "There's some laws that have been presented in the past, I think it was part of the Patriot Act, where the government wanted the library to turn over records of who checked out certain books and things like that and send it to the government. All our librarians stepped up and said, 'nope not going to happen, we're not doing it.' So, they do a lot more for us than what people think.'

The mayor encouraged Azle residents to visit the library during this week and express appreciation for its

staff. Brundrett also spoke about the library's ability to change with the times.

"Our library has done a great job with evolving," Brundrett said. "They do so much more now with multimedia and teaching people how to use computers. That's what's super impressive to me. You're staying relevant in today's age, and you always will be relevant with the services that you offer."

Along with being a source for quality book, video and audio resources, Azle Memorial Library offers weekly clubs, story times for children and endless activities, crafts and classes for its patrons to enjoy. The library



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

L-R: Azle Mayor Alan Brundrett, Library Director Curren McLane, Library Assistant II Lauren Shrader, Adult Services Librarian Rebecca Buchanan, Children's Services Librarian Ava Bryant and Library Assistant II Ginger Holland.

recently celebrated its 15th anniversary in its current building.

"We appreciate the recognition the City of Azle and mayor provide each year for

National Library Week," AML Director Curren McLane said. "Our staff works hard every day to provide the best possible service for area citizens and we are so grateful

to work in a supportive and wonderful community. There are six other staff members who could not join us at the city council meeting."

Police dispatchers recognized by City of Azle

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@tricountyreporter.com

AZLE — The City of Azle recognizes its heroes behind the headsets in April.

After addressing library staff at an April 2 Azle City Council meeting, Mayor Alan Brundrett continued by recognizing Azle's police and emergency dispatchers and their importance to the community. National Public Safety and Telecommunicators Week is held April 14-20. Public Safety and Telecommunicators Week was first celebrated in 1981 by Patricia Anderson of the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office in California. The week was made official nationwide in 1994, after President Bill **Clinton signed Presidential** Proclamation 6667. Three Azle telecommunicaNational Public Safety and Telecommunicators Week is April 14-20

tors stood at the city council meeting to be recognized for their professionalism and hard work. Mayor Alan Brundrett read a proclamation from the City of Azle, adding his own thoughts afterward.

"Our dispatchers, they do so much more than just calling in, keeping track of the police, saying where to go and things like that," Brundrett said. "They monitor the prisoners in our jail, they deal with when cars get impounded dealing with the forms. There's so much stuff and a lot of stress that they go through, too, because they are that first phone call with people screaming and crying and they're trying to calm

them down and get that information to get them what they need to do. You guys do a lot more than people realize and I just want to thank you for putting up with it all. They don't always deal with our best class of citizens, and they do a good job with it."

Valerie Keith joined the Azle Police Department as its new dispatch manager at the end of January. She previously worked as a fire dispatcher at Tarrant County **Regional Communications**, was Communications Supervisor at Mansfield Police Department and a telecommunications specialist at several other police departments. "Summer and I are new to

L-R: Mayor Alan Brundrett, Dispatch Manager Valerie Keith, with dispatchers Heidi White and Summer Barkley.

the dispatch team here at the Azle Police Department, but it has been amazing for both of us," Keith said. "It was so wonderful Tuesday night

to be recognized by the city council for the hard work and dedication these ladies have shown our city. We appreciate everyone taking time out

of their very busy schedules to recognize us, it means a lot to us to have that support from our mayor and city council."

Springtown Council makes change to right-of-way upkeep rules

MADELYN EDWARDS

springtownreporter@tricountyreporter.com

SPRINGTOWN -Springtown City Council adjusted an ordinance related to right-of-way maintenance property owners responsible for mowing up to 10 feet of right-of-way adjacent to their land, and city workers would take care of the rest.

"That puts us in a situation where if somebody's got a 20council meeting.

Miller added that homeowners with houses that back up to a major road would have to mow behind their house and property to meet the requirements of the

sible for maintaining the right-of-way if it is 10 feet or less, but if it exceeds 10 feet, the owner of the public right-of-way will take care of it. Instead of sharing the work, this puts the task of right-of-way upkeep on one party — the property owner or the city. The point of the amendment was to make the ordinance clearer without overburdening property owners or city workers, Miller said.

"It just brings clarity, gives a little bit of relief to the citizen without adding a great

ful for the 90% that maintain their own right-of-way because that would require a great deal more personnel to do."

The council approved the amendment unanimously without discussion

ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

to make the rule more understandable for locals.

Before it was amended, the city's ordinance made private Miller said at the March 26

foot right-of-way, they mow 10 (feet); we mow 10 (feet)," City Administrator David

ordinance.

With the change made at the March council meeting, property owners are respon-

deal of extra work to public works," Miller said during the council meeting. "I can tell you public works is thank-

AIR DUCT CLEANING Ms. Fairy Dogmother **LEGAL NOTICE** • Clean All Application has been made with the Texas Alco-It's never too late to have the dog of your dreams! **Supply Vents** holic Beverage Commission for a BQ Wine and • Private Dog Training Malt Beverage Retailer's Off-Premise Permit Sanitize Custom Pet Sitting by NOURSAM PETROLEUM INC., d/b/a TIGER Return Vents www.msfairydogmother.net MART 55, to be located at: 101 HWY 199 WEST, Heating and Air SPRINGTOWN, PARKER COUNTY, TX 76082. Ofann@msfairydogmother.net **Call Today For Your Appointment** ficer of said corporation is SAMER KONEIBER, 817-444-8025 Ann Coffey @ 817-668-6229 PRESIDENT/SECRETARY. **Concerned about** REEDOM someone with an addiction? iA Leading People to Jesus Christ through the 12 Step Program alongside the Biblical Principals ossing Ellowship AL-ANON COMMUNITY CHURCH Meetings Mon & Fri 6:30 PM 120 E. Main St., Azle, TX 229 S. Stewart St. (left door) Azle Tuesdays 7-8:15 pm www.al-anon.org For info contact Greg S. azlesanctuaryafg@gmail.com 817-851-8648 Rotary Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Good N.E.W.S. The Finish Line Faced with a **Azle Lion's Club** Living at Home Block Nurse Program **DRINKING Problem?** Addiction wants to destroy Club Stock **Volunteers Needed** you & everyone around you. Perhaps Alcoholics Anonymous can HELP. Volunteer Caregiver Our Training Classes of Azle With Jesus there TexasHealth.org/ Volunteers Classes open to is Victory over Volunteer/Our-Process Make a public at no charge addiction. Difference! RAINBOW INN GIFT SHOP **GET BACK IN MEETS AT NOON Caregiver Volunteer Meeting** Inside Hospital 108 Denver Trail THE RACE! Meets 2nd TUESDAY 6:30 PM Ist Monday of Azle 817-444-8651 THURSDAY Meetings held every Friday from 412 Commerce, Azle Daily meetings at Noon & 6:30 pm Each Month at 6pm ATTIC RERUNS e-clubhouse.org/sites/azle_tk/ 7:30PM-9:30PM at The Church at Azle Sunday at 3 pm 412 Commerce St. 817-444-2300 NOW OPEN! FRI 9-4 SAT 9-1 Jamie Westbrook - president 1801 S. Stewart • Azle • 817-401-8513 229 S. Stewart St. • Azle (across from Azle Post Office) 714 SE Pkwy Azle 817-270-3690 412 Commerce St. 817-550-7625 www.ourfinishline.com 817-332-3533 AZLE AREA MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE UNITED IN CHRIST Azle Lodge **CLUB** or Optimist SERVOLUTION ORGANIZATION **Club of Azle** NFTWOR No. 601 meeting? PREGNANCY HELP CENTER LET'S START A COMMUNITY WIDE Christian Leaders partnering together with one voice to impact our culture for **REVOLUTION THROUGH SERVING. Only \$125** Christ. We celebrate unity amidst diversity Love God. Love People. Love Your City. as we pastor our community. **Floor School or Work** 10328 Jacksboro Hwy Dream Center open 9-3 M-F Luncheon meetings Fort Worth TX 76135 7:30 PM for 52 weeks 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. 2nd Tues of each 11698 FM730 S. Azle 817-237-1819 month; location varies. of advertising THURSDAY NIGHT Meets everv FOR QUESTIONS CALL: See www.azlema.com or email www.emphc.org FRIDAY at 6:45 AM Kenny Patrick- Worshipful Master director@azlema.com for additional **Call for details: 833-4WE-SERV** Tues 9 - 3 рм • Thurs 12-6 рм Moe's Country Kitchen information Chris Akers - Secretary servolutionnetwork.com 817-270-3340 316 W. Main, Azle SE HABLA ESPAÑOL 817-200-4611 Clint Hall - Treasurer

From DQ to DB

Longtime Dairy Queen site cleared to begin construction on Dutch Bros Coffee

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@tricountyreporter.com

AZLE — Construction on a Dutch Bros Coffee recently began at the site where the old Azle Dairy Queen served up DQ Dudes and Peanut Parfaits for more than half a century — 164 Industrial Avenue.

While Dairy Queen came to Azle sometime in the early 1960s, the lot previously housed the original Hornet's Nest, back when students in grades one through 12 attended the historic Rock School located at nearby 300 Roe Street.

A former DQ manager alleged the DO building itself may have been as much as 90 years old. In more recent memory, the location was subject to extensive plumbing failures and numerous purported building and health code violations. After the business closed to repair a leaky roof in the summer of 2021, Azle's DQ never again opened its doors. The building was demolished July 27, 2022. The closest Dairy Queen is now on Azle Avenue at Paul Meador Road in Lake Worth, but for many it's just not the same.

It's long been said that every small town in Texas has a Dairy Queen. For many, the loss of the local Dairy Queen is just one among many signs that Azle just isn't the small town it used to be. For several generations of Azle residents, DQ was a place full of memories.

"My husband and I had our first date at Dairy Queen in Azle when we were 17 and 18," Becca Howell said. "We've been together for 18 years now."

"(It was) my very first job," now-grandmother Tami Eason Murphy said.

"I remember riding bikes to get ice cream back in the '70s," Patty Thompson said.

"My mother (JoAnn Harris) this was her go-to place to talk to her friends, buy a steak finger basket and finish off the meal with a DQ cone," Jimmy Kinder said.

For many in Azle, the Dairy Queen remains in their thoughts, a lasting symbol of nostalgia for old Azle.

"In the 1960s, there was a rocket ride located near the Dairy Queen sign," Connie Lynch Ball recalled. "Everyone was excited about the possibility of a rocket landing on the moon and astronauts exploring it, so the rocket ride was perfect for the times. I remember climbing in it, just me, and my mother closing the door. It was dark. The rocket 'lifted,' probably a couple of feet, and then slowly went back down. It was so exciting to me! When the door opened, the sunlight hit my eyes and I squinted. There seemed to



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER Above: A&J Bobcat Service LLC began excavating last week and Arlington-based Stoval Construction is scheduled to begin building shortly.

Right: An AHS yearbook advertisement for Dairy Queen shows the building in 1970.

always be a line. Also, every time my grandparents arrived to visit us from College Station, my grandpa would soon announce that he had to go get gas. It only took one time for me to learn that that was code for he was going to Dairy Queen, and I would eagerly climb into the car! He never disappointed and I always got my Dilly Bar."

While some Azle residents still lament what was lost, many are excited to see the lot utilized for a new project. With menu item names like "Annihilator," "Double Torture," and "9-1-1," Dutch Bros Coffee is as far from old school as most chains get. The Oregon-based coffee chain was founded in the 1990s and serves both hot and cold drinks, including its line of Rebel energy drinks, juices, boba teas and sparkling sodas.

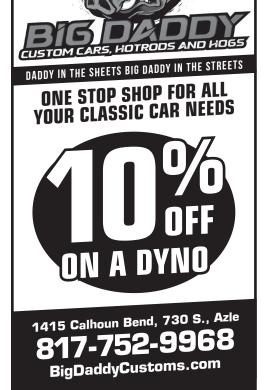
COURTESY AZI E ISD

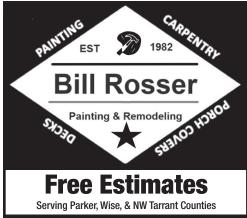
Dutch Bros Coffee shops are often drive-thru and walkup only establishments, with little to no indoor seating. In unconventionality, Dutch Bros has undeniably found success, and many Azleites eagerly anticipate no longer having to drive to Lake Worth to get their fix from the store's resident "broistas." With proven business practices and rapid growth, Dutch Bros will likely be here to stay in Azle, hopefully giving new generations of future customers the opportunity to make their own experiences and memories. Many residents, young and old, are

excited for the wide range of menu items and endless customization options. For others though, the once beloved Dairy Queen can never truly be replaced.

According to Azle City Manager Tom Muir, construction is expected to take approximately four months. Michael Sawyers of Stovall Construction Inc reported an estimated completion date of July 17, 2024.







10[%] Discount^{*}

*Up to \$200.00 Off

"Service and Quality, He Doesn't Make You Choose! Bill Rosser Painting and Remodeling provides outstanding workmanship at an exceptional value! Old fashioned quality, service and fair pricing! I have recommended Bill to friends and family and he always comes through! LOVE the handy refrigerator magnet with his contact info. Makes it easy to schedule future jobs!"

- Henry McClendon





Las Delicias de Michoacan #3 is open Monday through Sunday from noon to 9 p.m. and they offer discounts for first responders and teachers.

Las Delicias de Michoacan #3

Family recipes perfected over two decades

A new spot for your favorite Mexican snacks and ice cream treats has moved into the heart of Azle!

Las Delicias de Michoacan, located at 913 Boyd Rd., next to Wing Stop, opened its doors in September. The familyowned business serves up homemade ice creams and popsicles, freshly cut corn in a cup and

cut corn in a cup and posa, Camila corn on the cob, different catero flavors of water, churros, and many different Mexican snacks.

The Montes family, including Roberto, Eva, Mariposa, Camila and Rebeka, along with Marcos Lucatero, work hard to make sure that Las Delicias de Michoacan becomes one of your favorite places to stop



The Montes family, including Roberto, Eva, Mariposa, Camila and Rebeka, along with Marcos Lucatero

North Richland Hills. They are open Monday through Sunday from noon to 9 p.m. and they offer discounts for first responders and teachers.

tion for the family,

with two other loca-

tions in Hurst and

Stop in and discover your favorite treat at Las Delicias de Michoacan today!

Mon-Sun 12 PM - 9 PM 913 Boyd Rd., Azle

817-406-4212 Ice Cream Popsicles • Fruit

Snacks • Street Food

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And Much More!



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Springtown animal shelter's 5K, silent auction coming April 20

MADELYN EDWARDS

springtownreporter@tricountyreporter.com

SPRINGTOWN — The city of Springtown's Super Steps for Super Pets 5K and silent auction will return next week for its second year.

The city started hosting the annual event last year to benefit its animal shelter. In 2022, Springtown leaders decided to provide local animal control and opened its renovated shelter after the city's partnership with Parker County for those services became too expensive. City officials also wanted to offer a higher level of service to residents.

This year's Super Steps for Super Pets will take place from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 20 at the Newby Pavilion (behind Wells Fargo) in Springtown Park. The 5K route will start at Newby Pavilion and proceed up Avenue A, east on Seventh Street to go down Avenue B and east on Second Street to Avenue C. Then, runners and walkers will turn to the east on Fifth Street, south on Avenue E, east on Third Street and south on Overhill Drive. From there, the route proceeds through the park and back to the pavilion.

People of all ages are wel-

come to walk or run in the 5K and can be accompanied by their canine companions if they can provide proof of pet vaccination, according to the city's website. Participants can register online for the 5K at *https://www.raceentry*. com/races/super-steps-forsuper-pets/2024/register and pay the fee - \$20 per person without a dog and \$30 per person with a dog.

City Secretary Christina Derr said anyone registering for the 5K online should do that by April 19.

The silent auction fundraiser for the shelter will follow the 5K and is expected to include items donated from local businesses and gift cards. At the event, people will also be able to eat at food trucks, visit vendor booths, get their pets microchipped, check out adoptable animals, get information about low-cost spay/ neuter and vaccine programs as well as ask questions and get answers from the city's animal control staff.

If nothing else, attendees can go to the event to spend time "admiring all of the doggy and human costumes," Derr said. Event proceeds will help the animal shelter cover various costs like animal food and bedding.



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Friends Meredith Chastain and Katherine Gemme return to Springtown Park after finishing the 5K route with their dogs Zara, a chocolate lab, and Rex, a lab mix, at last year's Super Steps for Super Pets event.

albreath-Pic

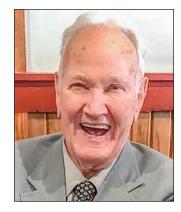
OBITUARIES

Donald Walker 1934-2024

Donald Gene "Don" Walker, 89, passed away Friday, April 5, 2024 in Fort Worth. Visitation was 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 9, at White's Funeral Home, 130 Houston Ave., Weatherford. Funeral was 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 10, 2024 in White's Chapel of Memories, with interment at Clark Cemetery in Weatherford.

Don was born June 19, 1934, in Stephenville, son of Charles A. and Willie Emmer (Stone) Walker. He grew up in Stephenville and attended Stephenville High School, Tarleton College, Abilene Christian College (BS in education/physical education, 1956), and North Texas State University (M.Ed., 1963). Don was also a member of the Rhythmaires quartet.

Upon graduation from college, Don began his teaching and coaching career at Comanche High School (1956-1958), followed by head coaching roles at Castleberry High School (1958-1962) and Brewer High School (1962-1972), where he coached his football team to a district championship in 1967. Don transitioned to administration in high school principal roles at Pampa



Stephenville Yellowjacket football team and attended every game he could along with his brother Stormy.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Emma Walker, of Stephenville; brothers, Charles Walker of Houston, Harold D. Walker of Hico, Thurman "Stormy" Walker of Stephenville; sisters, Fenella Walker Jarratt of Los Lunas, New Mexico, and Marjorie Walker Nunn of Fort Worth; step-son, Don L. Corley Jr. of Azle; step-daughter, Julie Corley Allen of Fort Worth; and granddaughter, Taylor Bryanne Bradshaw-Bell of Weatherford.

Don is survived by wife of 43 years, Margaret Ann (Harris) Walker of

Arthur "Curly" Talmage 1922-2024

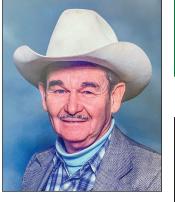
Arthur "Curly" Talmage, son of George and Florence Talmage, passed away March 22, 2024, at the age of 101.

Growing up in Michigan, he attended Henry Ford Trade School, studying tool and die making. During World War II, he served in the Marines, served on Tinian, Saipan and Iwo Jima, and received the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. The remainder of his life was spent with his passion, horses.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Pauline (56 years); parents; and sisters Mary and Joyce.

He is survived by sons Doug (LuVerle), Tim, and daughter, Nancy (Robert);





five grandchildren; six great- and three great-great grandchildren.

Services

The Tri-County Reporter, Thursday April 11, 2024



Christ. To him be glory **Pastor: Brandon Hall** both now and for ever. **Ashley Hall** Amen.

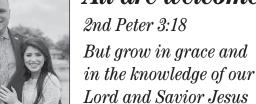
> Sunday School 9:45 AM Sunday Worship 10:45 AM





Bethel Missionary BAPTIST CHURCH 408 South Ash St. Springtown, TX 76082

All are welcome



High School (1972-1974) and at Azle High School (1974-1986). He later served as a deputy for the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department.

Don exhibited a servant heart, loved his family and attended every extracurricular school and sporting event his grandchildren were involved in. He never met a stranger and loved seeing and hearing from the numerous former players, students and colleagues he had the privilege to work with over his career.

Don loved to sing and play the harmonica. He was a member of Granbury Church of Christ. He was an avid sportsman, golfer and enjoyed fellowship with The Good Ole Boys Club in his later years. He was passionate about his beloved

Weatherford; sister, Rita Walker Bridges of Fort Worth; mother of his children, Melva Jo Walker of Stephenville; children, Michael Walker and wife, Barbara, of Gainesville, Monty Walker and wife, Patsy, of Stephenville, Robin Walker Bell and husband, Chuck, of Indialantic, Florida, Rebel Walker Voss of Lake Dallas, Rock Corley of Fort Worth, Gina Corley Emerton and husband, Dave of Denton, and Sandra Christian Corley of Fort Worth; as well as 13 grandchildren; nine greatgrandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews, former students, and friends.

> The Tri-County Reporter, Thursday April 11, 2024



info@tricountyreporter.com

Evening Worship 6:30 PM Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 PM



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THE WORD@LAKESIDE CHURCH OF GOD

9396 FM 1886 Fort Worth, TX 76135

817-237-5500

thewordatlakeside.com

Pastors: Brandon and Kelly Bohannon

Worship Pastor: Christen Moody

Family Life and Young Adult Pastors: Jodie

and Mark James, Kids Pastor: Katie Pearson,

Student Pastors: Taylor and Sheridan

Tomlin, Creative Directors: Logan and Carrie

Edwards, Connections Coordinators:

Preston and Ashley Larrew

at the WORD 9:30 AM

at the WORD 10:45 AM

Kids at the WORD..... 10:45 AM

PreK at the WORD 10:45 AM

(Special Needs Ministry) 10:45 AM

Nursery at the WORD 10:45 AM

Young Adults at the WORD 6:00 PM

Equip Sunday School

Empower Worship

Emanate at the WORD

Wednesdays

3[%] Savings Account with All Life Policies

... ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY

AZLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH

817-221-LIFE (5433)

Wednesday.....7:00 PM

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

Wed. Prayer Service......7:00 PM THE EDGE CHURCH - AZLE

1313 S.E. Pkwy, Azle 817-237-4822 Missouri Synod "Love God - Serve Others - Share Jesus" Traditional Worship9:30 AM 59 Contemporary Worship......11:00 AM

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH OF AZLE

Pastor: Rev. Raymond Gilman 200 Church St., Azle 817-444-3323 Morn. Worship8:30 & 10:45 AM

GRACEPOINTE CHURCH

4110 E. Hwy 199, Springtown Pastor: Timothy McKeown 817-221-5683 gracepointesbc.org Sunday School.....9:45 am Sunday Service......11:00 AM Wednesday Bible Study6:00 PM HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

800 Highcrest Dr. - Azle 817-444-3063

Saturday	
Sunday	9:00 ам
Sunday11	I ам (Spanish)
Daily Mass (M, T, Th, F)	8:00 ам
Wednesday Mass Religious EL	0 6:30 рм
Confessions	Sat 4 рм

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

4795 E. Hwy 199 - Reno 817-221-HOPE Follow us on Facebook for streaming services Sunday School 9:00 AM

SOLID ROCK BIBLE CHURCH

591 S. Reno Rd, , Springtown, Texas 76082				
Pastor - Bill Gay - 817-30	04-7443			
Coffee and Donuts	9:00 ам			
Sunday School	9:30 ам			
Morning Worship	10:30 ам			
Children's Church After Mus	sic Service			
Wed. Prayer Meeting	6:30 рм			
Wed Bible Study	7.00 pm			

LEGACY CHURCH Assembly of God Church Pastor: Gary D. Veazey Hwy. 199 & Jaybird Lane 817-221-2983 Morning Worship......9:15 & 11:00 AM Kidz Zone......9:15 & 11:00 AM Weds Evening Legacy Group Legacy Youth, Kids THE RANCH CHRISTIAN COWBOY CHURCH

Pastor: Greg Slankard 7955 Reed Rd., Azle 682-327-7082 www.TheRanchCCC.org

Sunday School 9:30 AM • Worship 10:00 AM Weds 7:00 pm • Thurs Potluck 6:30 pm **SILVER CREEK METHODIST CHURCH** Pastor: Bill Killough 2200 Church Rd., Azle 817-444-1382 www.silvercreekmc.org Sunday School 9:30 AM • Worship 10:30 AM

SILVER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor: Jay Ditty Minister of Music: David Musick Corner FM 730 S. & Veal Station Rd. Church 817-444-2325 www.silvercreekbc.org

Sunday School	1 The WORD Students
Morning Worship10:50 Ar	1 (6th-12th grades) 6:30 PM
	Awana Kids at the WORD 6:30 PM
Wed. Prayer Service7:00 Pr	Life at the WORD Life Groups Various Times

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

www.TheAbbeyChurch.com Morning Worship...... 10:30 AM **ASH CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH** Pastor: Dr. G. Wesley Shotwell 300 South Stewart St. 817-444-3219 www.ashcreekbc.org Contemporary Worship-TMP 10:45 AM Traditional Worship10:45 AM Evening Worship/Youth Refuge 6:00 PM Wednesday Evening......6:15 PM

AZLE FIRST ASSEMBLY of GOD

THE ABBEY CHURCH

Pastor: Paul Brownback

10400 Jacksboro Hwy 817-238-1404

	uub
Rev. Joshua Lowrance	
1020 S.E. Parkway, Azle 817-23	7-4903
Sunday School	
Morning Worship	.10:30 ам
Wednesday Evening	7:00 рм
COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP	CHURCH
Pastor - Alton Davis 817-521-	4510
1405 Reynolds Rd., Azle 817-44	4-7117
Directions: 730 N. to 1542 .5 m	ni. right
on Cardinal, left on Reynol	ds
Sunday School	9:45 ам
Morning Worship	.11:00 ам
Sunday Evening	
Wednesday Evening	7:00 рм

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST Interim Minister Rev. Russell Clark, Family Life Minister Emerson Braun 117 Church St. • 817-444-3527 Community Groups Various Times Sunday School 10:00 AM Morning Worship......11:00 AM

2233 Hwy 199 E., Springtown

Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

Springtown mayor honors service of dispatchers



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

At the March 26 Springtown City Council meeting, Mayor Greg Hood proclaimed April 14-20 Public Safety Telecommunicators Week "in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keep our city and citizens safe." Telecommunicators have the task of taking emergency calls from the public as well as providing information to first responders. Springtown dispatch supervisor Angela Sessums attended the council meeting to accept Hood's proclamation.

National Library Week recognized in Springtown



NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION CITY OF AZLE, TEXAS, AND THE COUNTIES OF PARKER AND TARRANT

(Aviso de Elección General/Especial Conjunta (Ciudad de Azle, Tejas, y Condados de Parker and Tarrant)

Saturday, May 4, 2024 7:00 am – 7:00 pm

Sábado, 4 de mayo de 2024 Thứ bảy, 4 tháng 5 năm 2024

TO THE REGISTERED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF AZLE, TEXAS:

(A los votantes registrados del Ciudad de Azle, Tejas:)

Notice is hereby given that a Joint General Election will be held to elect three (3) Council Members to Places 1, 2 and 5, for a two (2) year term (Por la presente se da aviso de que se realizará una Elección General Conjunta para elegir tres (3) Miembros del Consejo a los Lugares 1, 2 y 5 por un período de dos (2) años.

Thông báo được đưa ra rằng Cuộc bầu cử chung sẽ được tổ chức để bầu và ba (3) Thành viên Hội đồng đến các Địa điểm 1, 2 và 5, trong nhiệm kỳ hai (2) năm

ALL QUALIFIED RESIDENTS IN THE PRECINCTS NOTED OR PORTIONS THEREOF, MAY VOTE IN THIS ELECTION (Todo

residente que cualifica en uno de los distritos electorales, o parte de los mismos, tendrá derecho de votar en esta elección. tất cả nh resng cư trú như được chuyển như trong các được cung cấp ho orc các điều khoản nào của người được có thẩm quyền

POLLING SITES FOR EARLY VOTING AND ELECTION DAY:

(Sitios de votación para votar adelantada y el día de las elecciones)

PARKER COUNTY

Azle City Hall - Community Room 505 W. Main St Azle, Texas 76020

TARRANT COUNTY

Azle ISD Instructional Support Center 483 Sandy Beach Road Suite C Azle, Texas 76020

EARLY VOTING BY PERSONAL APPEARANCE DAYS AND HOURS

Fechas y hora para votación por anticipado Bỏ phiếu sớm theo ngày và giờ xuất hiện cá nhân

PARKER COUNTY PRECINCTS: 110 & 111

 April (abril) 22 & 26
 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

 April (abril) 27 - 28
 Closed

MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

April 7-13 is National Library Week, and Springtown Mayor Greg Hood encouraged locals to "visit our library and explore all it offers" in his proclamation at the March 26 council meeting. "Today's libraries are more about what they can do with and for their communities, and not just about what they have on the shelves," according to Hood's proclamation, which he presented to Springtown Public Library Director Andie D'Avignon.



April (abril) 29 & 30 7:0

7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

TARRANT COUNTY PRECINCTS: 4046, 4047, 4284, 4340, 4395

April (abril) (tháng 4) 22-26	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
April (abril) (tháng 4) 27	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
April (abril) (tháng 4) 28	10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
April (abril) (tháng 4) 29-30	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

FOR ALL EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS VISIT OUR WEBSITE

(Para todos los sitios de votación anticipada y horarios visite nuestro sitio web) (cho tất cả vị trí đi đến với văn phòng và thời điểm xin vui lòng chúng tôi tham gia) <u>https://tx-azle3.civicplus.com/559/MAY-4-2024-GENERAL-ELECTION</u>

APPLICATIONS FOR BALLOT BY MAIL SHALL BE MAILED TO:

(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán adelantada por correo deberán enviarse ha:) (áp dụng cho bầu định theo bưu điện được được g mai):

PARKER COUNTY

Election Administration Crickett Miller - Election Administrator 1112 Santa Fe Drive Weatherford, TX 76086

TARRANT COUNTY

Election Administration Clint Ludwig - Election Administrator P O Box 961011 Fort Worth, TX 76161-0011

APPLICATIONS FOR BALLOTS BY MAIL MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2024

(Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán adelantada por correo deberán recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el viernes, 20 de abril 2021) (áp dụng cho bầu định theo bưu điện phải được khởi giải quyết khi có kết quả kinh doanh kết thúc ngày 20 tháng 4 năm 2021)

For more information please check our website at: (Para obtener más información, visite nuestro sitio web en) (Để biết thêm thông tin xin vui lòng kiểm tra trang web của chúng tôi tại); https://tx-azle3.civicplus.com/559/ MAY-4-2024-GENERAL-ELECTION

Date; April 3, 2024 - Alan Brundrett, Mayor

AHS students top blood donors in North Texas

ZACH FREEMAN azlereporter@tricountyreporter.com

AZLE — Azle High School has been recognized by Carter BloodCare as the number one 5A High School in North Texas for 2023 blood donations. This award is for the total number of units collected from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31.

During that time, AHS hosted four blood drives and collected 411 units of blood, including 299 units of whole blood, 101 units of red blood cells, and 11 plasma units. In total, the blood collected from AHS students and staff has the potential to save up to 1,009 lives. In 2023, AHS had a total of 244 first-time donors.

The city of Azle has long been recognized by Carter BloodCare as one of its most giving communities and a reliable partner for life saving donations. Other local organiAzle High School recognized at *Carter BloodCare awards ceremony*

zations, like the Azle Area Ministerial Alliance, have won ful. We are also grateful our similar awards in the past.

AHS teacher and student council advisor Chad Cooke appeared along with student council members to accept an award at a recent Carter BloodCare 2024 North Texas annual donor recognition event hosted at Billy Bob's Texas in Fort Worth.

"The student council is fortunate enough to work in a school community that is supportive in endeavors to save lives," Cooke said. "From the custodians who assist in setting up and cleaning up to our maintenance team that ensures optimal temperature conditions, and, most importantly, to the students and staff who generously donate life-saving blood and plasma,

we are immensely grateadministration allows us to host four blood drives rather than the average two to three drives other schools host. Thanks to all of these factors the Azle Student Council was able to organize and donate 411 units to Carter Blood Care for the 2023 year."

While blood is needed throughout the year, there's no better time to recognize donors than April. April is National Donate Life Month. This month was established to raise awareness about donating and honor those who have saved lives through the gift of blood donation.

Carter BloodCare is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit that operates in approximately 50 Texas counties. It is one of the largest blood centers in operation in the United States. High schools contribute about 25% of the blood donated to the organization and are an invaluable part of the blood supply for patients in Texas.

High school student donors must be at least 17 years old (or 16 years old with parental consent) to donate, must weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good general health. A photo ID is required to donate. Students with a tattoo or body piercing can donate blood if the procedure was performed in a licensed Texas facility. No wait time is required. Carter BloodCare urges that donors eat a good meal and drink plenty of fluids prior to and after their donation. Fluids and snacks will also be available on-site before and after the donation. Lastly, health professionals recommend donors avoid strenuous activity for at least 24 hours after donating.



COURTESY PHOTO

L-R: 2023 – 2024 Student Body Recording Secretary Luke Petersen (Junior), Student Body Vice President Chloe Hennessy (Junior), Student Body President Melani Rushing(Senior) and Student Council Advisor Mr. Cooke.

While high schools are a critical resource, adults can also help by donating at blood centers or mobile blood drives happening throughout the community. The Azle Lions Club will host a blood drive for the Red Cross at 412 Commerce St. Friday, April

12 from 1-6 p.m. The City of Springtown will host a blood drive at 200 North Main St. in Springtown April 12 for Carter BloodCare. To find future Carter BloodCare mobile blood donation sites near you visit https://ww2.greatpartners.org/donor/schedules/zip

Health Fair arrives April 20

Hispanic Wellness Coalition to offer free testing and health services in Azle area

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@tricountyreporter.com

AZLE — Health and wellness are vital cornerstones for residents in any community. The Hispanic Wellness Coalition will bring the "Primaveral" Spring Health Fair to Azle, April 20 for its third year. Last year's turnout was about 200 people, up from 50 its debut year. Event organizers hope to reach an even larger group this year with a goal of 600 to 800. The event will be held at 404 Main Place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The event is made possible through the collaboration of HWC and numerous healthcare providers from throughout North Texas. The health fair will offer free services and exams including testing for HIV, blood sugar levels, blood pressure, hearing, BMI, anxiety and depression. Vision, dental and deep tissue massage are three new health screens offered this year. Texas Health Resources

staff will offer mammograms at Primaveral and can sign fairgoers up for a future mammogram and well-women exams in July. Additional services, such as COVID-19 vaccines and admission to free future clinics may also be available. These kinds of tests and regular check-ups are vital for catching diseases early and ensuring they do not progress further, event organizers stress.

"Several years back, a son took his dad for a prostate exam," Anelia Banda, director of the Hispanic Wellness Coalition said. "Unfortunately, the dad's results were elevated. While there, the son decided to test for prostate also. The result? The son's results were higher than the dad's. Bottom line, both were caught in time and treatment ensued successfully."

This story exemplifies the fact that even if you do not feel sick, some issues may still lay unnoticed. It's cases

like these that highlight the importance of monitoring and managing one's own wellness. The HWC hopes to make this possible for those who might be uninsured or discouraged by copays.

"An important point to keep in mind is the difference in the cost of a doctor's visit with regular exam when you are healthy versus the cost of that same doctor's visit when you are ill," Banda said. "The visit may be equal, however, when ill, the added costs of prescriptions, loss of work time and getting family sick adds its own toll. By encouraging people to take advantage of the free resources available and to catch issues early, the HWC hopes to cut costs that usually end up coming out of the patient's pocket."

The HWC is still looking for additional volunteers for its health fair. In the past, volunteers at these events have included medical and nursing students, though all interested in volunteering are

welcome to apply through Hispanicwellnesscoalition. org. Health professionals from a variety of organizations as well as businesses across the Dallas-Fort Worth area will sponsor and participate in the event.

Banda said the organization's mission is "To serve and promote health and wellness in diverse communities through education, advocacy and access," and added "We (wish to) foster collaboration, trust and sustainability to be

the leading health coalition in North Texas."

The organization is currently registering exhibitors for about \$1,540 and is looking for more volunteers. As always, all health services to visitors will be free of charge. The HWC does not ask for confirmation of income, insurance or residency and does not limit who can attend. This year, the group hopes to also see a greater turnout from areas surrounding Azle, such as Springtown.

Along with Azle's Primaveral, the HWC hosts similar fairs throughout the metroplex from February to October. HWC recently presented its February Health Fair in Grand Prairie at Asia Times Square. Around 400 people participated.

COURTESY ANELIA BANDA

To learn more and keep up with the HWC and its health fairs around the D-FW area, you can follow the coalition on Facebook or visit its website at https://hispanicwellnesscoalition.org/.

Health professionals consult with visitors at 404 Main Place during 2023's Primaveral Health Fair.



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VOTE

Springtown business owners to fundraise for Army veteran

MADELYN EDWARDS

springtownreporter@tricountyreporter.com

SPRINGTOWN — A Navy veteran and his wife who own a local business are planning an event to benefit a Purple Heart recipient.

Brian and Meghan Johnson, operators of the motorcycle repair shop B&M Cycles in Springtown, have partnered with the nonprofit Combat Hero Bike Build to modify a side-by-side for Army veteran Travis Strong, who lost both his legs in combat. The Johnsons will host a fundraiser for this project called Freedom Fest 2-6 p.m. Saturday, April 20 at the Chill Zone on West State Highway 199 in Springtown.

Strong grew up in California, but he currently lives on the outskirts of Fort Worth. He has always enjoyed sporting activities as he played football in high school and raced dirt bikes, according to his profile on Combat Hero Bike Build's website. Strong also always intended to join the military and did just that in 1997. He had been honorably discharged in 2000 but re-enlisted after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. While stationed in Iraq in 2006, Strong's mobile combat vehicle encountered a bomb.

"I don't remember any blood or not seeing my leg or feeling any pain," Strong said, according to the nonprofit. "I just knew I was hurt very badly. It was the worst experience anyone could feel: that dread of dying, and there was nothing I could do to stop it."

A soldier rushed Strong to a field hospital, the first of

B&M Cycles owners hope to modify side-by-side for Strong

untangle medical complications from the attack.

"I went through every emotion: anger, sadness, depression and despair," Strong said. "But I never gave up. I knew everything had changed, but this was also the start of a new life."

Recovery for Strong has meant getting active. He plays sled hockey and competes in obstacle course races and bike marathons. He even jumps out of airplanes.

"Despite his new challenge of living life without his lower legs, Travis lives life to the fullest and enjoys the great adventures of speed and outdoors," according to the de-

many that he would stay at to scription of the Freedom Fest fundraiser on Facebook. "Our goal is to give Travis the freedom to get outdoors and race his newly outfitted Can Am Commander 1000 side-byside over the hills and trails of local Texas."

The family-friendly Freedom Fest is expected to include refreshments served by food trucks, live music, bounce houses, ax throwing, door prizes, a bike wash and a 50/50 raffle. The entry fee is \$10, and \$25 will cover entry plus three beers. Young children don't need to pay for entry.

For more information, find B&M Cycles on Facebook or email info@bandmcycles.com.



COURTESY PHOTO

The owners of B&M Cycles in Springtown are raising money to modify a side-by-side for Army veteran Travis Strong, pictured, who lost both his legs in combat.

READ FROM PAGE A1

County Jail.

In Texas, DWIs are classified as misdemeanors until the third repeated instance. Even then, the state has a checkered history of releas-

safety, Officer Gallardo of the Azle Police Department demonstrated exceptional diligence," the post read. "During the early hours of Friday, August 25, 2023, Sgt. Gilbert stopped a vehicle for a traffic infraction. Shortly after, Officer Gallardo arrived on scene and conducted a thorough investigation into a suspect, Donald Read, for driving while intoxicated. The investigation's thoroughness led to (Read's) arrest for Driving While Intoxicated, highlighting the department's unwavering stance against such dangerous behavior ... This outcome not only serves as a testament to the solid evidence gathered during the initial investigation but also sends a clear message about the severe consequences of drunk driving. It's commendable how Officer Gallardo handled the investigation, showcasing his dedication to the safety and well-being of the citizens we

ment's commitment to public serve. This case exemplifies the importance of the Azle Police Department in maintaining public safety and the serious stance taken against those who jeopardize it through reckless actions."

> A recent analysis by Laborde Earles Injury Lawyers leveraged data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration spanning the years 2017 to 2021 and found Texas roadways are some of the most impacted by drunk driving. The study found Texas had the highest percentages of drivers exceeding the legal blood alcohol concentration or BAC limits based on reported fatal drunk driving incidents. More than four of every 10 Texas drivers involved in a fatal crash had a BAC of more than 0.08 g/dL. Over the five-year period that was measured, 11,185 of 27,392 drivers (40.83%) involved in fatal accidents were over the limit, while 7,682 (28.04%) surpassed 0.15 g/dL.

News From Azle City Hall

We welcome your comments or suggestions on information you would like to see reported on this page. Please call Azle City Hall, 817-444-2541, or email Assistant to the City Manager Susie Hiles at shiles@cityofazle.org Until next month.....



May 4, 2024 General Election

Council Members Places 1, 2, and 5



Visit the city website for a full listing of all Early Voting locations in Tarrant & Parker Counties

Tarrant County

Parker County

April 22-26	Mon - Fri	8 am - 5 pm	April 22-26	Mon-Fri	8 am - 5 pm
April 27	Saturday	7 am - 7 pm	April 27	Saturday	CLOSED
April 28	Sunday	10 am - 4 pm	April 28	Sunday	CLOSED
April 29-30	Mon-Tue	7 am - 7 pm	April 29-30	Mon-Tues	7 am - 7 pm

For Mail Ballots, call TC Elections Admin 817-831-8683 **TARRANT COUNTY ELECTION DAY VOTING** 7 am - 7 pm

Azle ISD Instructional Center 483 Sandy Beach Rd, Azle

call PC Elections Admin 817-598-6185 **PARKER COUNTY ELECTION DAY VOTING** 7 am - 7 pm **Azle City Hall**

For Mail Ballots,

505 W Main St, Azle



Clean It Up – Green It Up Azle City-Wide clean up and recycling event Saturday, May 11 8:00 am - 1:00 pm **City Garage 470 Denver Trail**



The City of Azle, in partnership with Community Waste Disposal (CWD), will conduct a FREE city-wide clean-up. Residents can drop off brush, furniture, bulky items, appliances, metal for recycling and small amounts of construction materials from do-it-yourself projects.

CWD will be on site to collect Household Hazardous Waste (paints, chemicals, cleaners, used motor oil and batteries), E*waste (computers, printers, electronic devices, old television sets), used tires, and a document shredder will be on site.

We ask that you pre-sort as much as possible; this will help keep traffic moving and allow staff to work as efficiently as possible. This is a FREE event for Azle residents and proof of Azle residency will be required by presenting your utility bill and driver's license.

Items Not Accepted: Ammunition, asbestos, boats, building materials, butane cylinders, explosives, medical waste, PCBs, propane cylinders, radioactive material, and smoke detectors.

Questions? Contact Storm Water Manager Jimmy Duvall at 817-444-4511.



THURSDAY NIGHT SCRAMBLE Begins April 18, 2024

9-Hole Super Scramble every Thursday through October.

5:00 pm Start / Sign-up by 12:00 pm

Late entries will be put on a waiting list.

Groups and scramble format will be chosen by a blind draw (A, B, C) according to the number of players present and their current GHIN handicap. Players must have a GHIN handicap to play.

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ing inmates on early parole for felony DWIs. In 2022, a Galveston case made headlines after *a man* killed a 14-year-old in an alcoholfueled car accident just eight hours after being paroled for a felony DWI.

While no one was reported to be harmed as a result of Read's drunk driving, local law enforcement saw his arrest as a success in removing dangerous offenders from Azle roadways. After Read's conviction, the Azle Police Department took to Facebook to congratulate the officers responsible for Read's capture.

[•]In a notable incident that underscores the depart-



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Azle Memorial Library News and Free Events 333 W Main St, Azle, TX 76020

817-752-2682 - www.azlelibrary.org - facebook.com/azlelibrary See the monthly newsletter at *azlelibrary.org* for all the fun things going on at the Library!

Upcoming closure

Azle Library will close April 20 for maintenance and cleaning. The outside return drops are accessible 24/7.



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

Everyone loves a classic

Car show benefits Vietnam veterans

ZACH FREEMAN

azlereporter@tricountyreporter.com

AZLE — The Silver Dollar Classics Car Club hosted its second annual Vietnam Veterans Day Car Show March 23. The club was created by customers and staff at Silver Dollar Customs, an auto body shop at 408 Commerce St. in Azle.

Proceeds raised at the car show will go toward the Tarrant County Vietnam Memorial Foundation. Last year, the SDCCC raised \$7,500 for the veteran's organization after its debut event. Organizers suspect they will be able to present an even larger donation this year.

Car lovers could register and display their own vehicle for only \$20. Oddities, classics and passion projects ranging from the 1920s to the 2020s all arrived to show off for visitors' viewing pleasure.

This year's event was held at Eagle Mountain Marina, 6500 Wells Burnett Road and brought out hundreds of guests from across the Azle area, pushing available parking to its limits. The idea originated last year after Leah Owens, an SDCCC member, suggested TCVMF as a beneficiary when discussions over the possibility of holding a car show began. Leah has a personal connection to Vietnam Veterans through her husband, Roger Owens. Roger served in the Army, 25th Infantry, in Vietnam from 1967 to 1968.

For no cost, guests could see Vietnam-era Cobra and Kiowa helicopters, provided by the Fort Worth Aviation

Museum, and the countless classic cars, trucks and motorcycles that were on display. In addition, attendees were treated to a live show from Texas Clearwater Revival, a Creedence Clearwater Revival tribute band. A number of food truck favorites, vendors and sponsor tables were also present at the packed venue. At least 220 Tarrant County residents died in the

Vietnam War and there are currently no local monuments or memorials for these fallen soldiers. TCVMF hopes to change that and build something to honor the sacrifices of service members and their families. SDCCC plans to present another check to the veterans organization at CJ's Café near the near the end of April. The money presented to

TCVMF will go toward build-

ing a permanent memorial in Fort Worth's Veterans Memorial Park on Camp Bowie Blvd. Brewer High School student and artist Ryan Scieneaux conceived the original design in a winning $2\overline{0}20$ submission for a memorial competition. Fort Worth-based artist and sculptor Michael Pavlovsky and Nick Nelson of Pacheco Koch are working with the Fort Worth Parks Department and

Fort Worth Art Commission to make this concept into a reality.

More information can be found on the memorial foundation's website tcvm us and on its Facebook page. The Silver Dollar Classics Car Club can be found on the Silver Dollar Classics Car Club Shows on Facebook or through its private Facebook group.



Judges ranked each registered car and presented a plethora of awards to attendees in a variety of categories.



Vietnam-era Cobra and Kiowa helicopters were on display at the Vietnam veterans event.



LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICES

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 P rty 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.



Sat April 20, 2024 10 AM to 3 PM Sábado 20 de abril de 2024 10 AM a 3 PM

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- Hearing, Vision Pruebas de Audición, visión
- Rapid HIV Testing Pruebas rápidas de VIH
- Anxiety, Depression Assessment

Evaluación de depresión y ansiedad

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that the following will be sold to the highest bidder with bidding to take place at lockerfox.com on Friday the 26th day of April, 2024 at 9:00 AM to satisfy a landlords lien, pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code. Payment to seller via credit/debit card and pickup at the facility. Self-Storage unit contents of the following customers containing household and other goods will be sold. 10 Federal Self Storage, 2920 Avenue F, Arlington, TX, 76011 Aya Wiley. sarah spaninato. Steven Moreno. Wanda Walter. bryan deane. Sade Wesley. Barbara Rowell. Shunnie Green

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 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

CITY OF AZLE, TEXAS NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ISSUE **CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION**

TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Azle, Texas, shall convene at 6:00 p.m. on June 4, 2024, in City Hall located at 505 W. Main Street, Azle, Texas, and, during such meeting, the City Council will consider the passage of one or more ordinances authorizing the issuance of certificates of obligation in one or more series, in a principal amount not to exceed SIX MILLION DOLLARS (\$6,000,000) for the purpose of paying contractual obligations to be incurred for: (i) constructing and improving streets, including drainage, landscaping, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, entryways, pedestrian pathways, signage and traffic signalization and the acquisition of land and rights-of-way therefor, (ii) improving and extending the City's combined waterworks and sewer system, including the acquisition of land and rights-of-way therefor, (iii) constructing, improving and equipping animal shelter facilities, (iv) constructing, improving and equipping an administrative office building housing the City's fleet maintenance facilities and (v) professional services rendered in connection therewith; and; such certificates to be payable from ad valorem taxes and a limited pledge of the net revenues of the City's combined waterworks and sewer system. In accordance with Texas Local Government Code Section 271.049, (i) the current principal amount of all of the City's outstanding public securities secured by and payable from ad valorem taxes is \$16,475,000; (ii) the current combined principal and interest required to pay all of the City's outstanding public securities secured by and payable from ad valorem taxes on time and in full is \$19,230,880; (iii) the estimated combined principal and interest required to pay the certificates of obligation to be authorized on time and in full is \$9,126,885; (iv) the maximum interest rate for the certificates may not exceed the maximum legal interest rate; and (v) the maximum maturity date of the certificates to be authorized is February 15, 2044. The certificates are to be issued, and this notice is given, pursuant to the provisions of Texas Local Government Code, Subchapter C of Chapter 271, as amended. City Secretary

City of Azle, Texas



Jenny Nance with Onward Arms won the fire pit raffle, sponsored by the Azle FFA and Azle ISD superintendent Todd Smith.



AACoC executive director Jennifer Herrington presented the prize for highest overall (male) to Terry Matthews (left) and Bob Lankford.

Azle Area **Chamber Clay Shoot**

JIM STEVENS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER



Meagan Gilmore was presented with the award for highest overall (female).



Z-Bar took home the first-place trophy at the Azle Area Chamber of Commerce Clay Shoot March 29.



Chamber volunteers at the March 29 clay shoot included (back, from left) Elizabeth Krysl, Hartley McCauley, Jennifer Herrington, Jennifer Goodwin, JoAnna Johnson, Kelli Limbaugh and Kaitlyn Fleming; (front, from left) Lacey Davis, Shaina Davis, Kim Ware, Ashley Sands, Lora Paschal and Crystal O'Neill.



Burton Trophy won second place at the annual clay shoot fundraiser for the Azle Area Chamber of Commerce.

Northern Lights?

Operation Texas Strong owners see glimpse of colorful lights amidst eclipse and recent coronal mass ejection





Powerful geomagnetic storms combined with the April 8 solar eclipse made the northern lights briefly visible in parts of Texas, witnesses allege.

COURTESY BOBBY CRUTSINGER The Operation Texas Strong crew watched as the eclipse passed by Weatherford's periphery.

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SOLAR ECLIPSE 2024

Area residents view eclipse from Azle Central Park



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER Azle families enjoyed watching the spectacular solar phenomenon at a viewing party hosted by Azle Memorial Library.



7ACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER Waylon, a local 5-year-old, also enjoyed viewing the eclipse with a Titanium brand welding mask.

Reno Elementary school kids view solar eclipse



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER Reno Elementary pre-kindergarteners Karliah Fentress and Laiken Edwards check out the eclipse using the protective masks they made. During the viewing, the students listened to themed music, such as OneRepublic's "Counting Stars," The Beatles' "Here Comes the Sun" and Sheryl Crow's "Soak Up the Sun."



Reno Elementary School students counted down the eclipse April 8. Some kids even made protective masks for the occasion.



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TRI*COUNTY **Reporter** DIVERSIONS THURSDAY, April 11, 2024

Serving up education

SHS culinary students learn what it takes to work in school cafeterias

MADELYN EDWARDS

springtownreporter@tricountyreporter.com

SPRINGTOWN — Someday, Springtown High School senior Shelby Davis hopes to open her own restaurant and give people a taste of her take on comfort foods, like pasta and "stuff that your mom would cook."

But for now, she's serving up nutritious meals to the kids in Springtown Independent School District.

SHS' culinary arts program

welcomed a new initiative this school year — an internship for seniors where they work in the cafeterias at the district's other campuses. This allows students to practice using kitchen equipment they need to be familiar with for future food service careers in restaurants and in hotels all while being cohesive with their class schedules, SHS culinary arts instructor Elise Jacoby said. "Additionally, the staff

at the Child Nutrition

Department offered a unique ability for the students to be able to travel to various campuses and learn different management styles, which I don't feel like they would have necessarily gotten only at working at one location," Jacoby said, though she is also open to student internship opportunities elsewhere in the community.

When Jacoby spoke with The Tri-County Reporter

PLEASE SEE **CULINARY** | B3



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Before serving the children at Springtown Intermediate School, senior and culinary student Jaycie Yost washed her hands and slipped on a pair of gloves.



EMMA VANBECELAERE | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER The AHS varsity baseball team gets ready to start the game as the players pledge allegiance to the American flag.

AHS baseball players recruited to play college baseball



no-nos, Springtown, Azle qualify several for area track

RICK MAUCH

Special to the Tri-County Reporter

It's hard to defeat a team when you can't get a base hit — and those have been hard to come by lately for opponents of the Springtown Porcupines baseball team.

Just a few days after Brayden Fox pitched a nohitter against Krum to win 3-0 March 28, Pines pitchers Keegan Martinez and Caleb Elmore combined to throw another in a 9-0 victory at Castleberry April 2.

Then April 5, Fox returned to the mound and tossed

SPRINGTOWN TRACK AND FIELD

District 8-4A Meet at Springtown, April 3-4 SPRINGTOWN RESULTS

Top four finishers in each event qualified for the Area 7/8-4A Meet in Springtown April 10 at press time. Running distances in meters, field events in feet and inches. Varsity Girls

Team score: 111.5 points, third place

Area qualifiers · Pole vault: 4. Abby Kennedy, 8-0 \cdot 200: 1. Marleigh Perales, 26.13 • 400: 4. Emily Salas, 1:03.78 • 4x100 relay: 4th, 50.93 • 4x200 relay: 2nd, 1:44.99 • 4x400 relay: 3rd, 4:18.71 · Long jump: 4. Skyler Tyree, 15-11.5 • Triple jump: 1. Mackenzie Flaugher, 38-1.5; 3. Tyree, 35-1 · Discus: 2. Kylee McNeely, 88-5 · Shot put: 1. Dezrae Robinson, 32-5; 2. Natalia De Valle Gonzalez; 31-6 Varsity Boys Team score: 198 points, first place Area qualifiers • 100: 1. Riley Jackson, 10.88; 4. Daishune Elam, 11.34 · 200: 1. Brayden Fox, 22.67; 2. Elam, 22.75 · 400: 3. Dillion Kates, 52.51 • 1600: 1. Wesley Payne, 4:42.78 · 3200: 1. Payne, 10:25.27 · 110 hurdles: 1. Kamryn Cleveland, 15.60; 2. Omar Hernandez, 15.78; 4. Darren Sweely, 15.97 · 300 hurdles: 3. Cleveland, 41.32 · 4x100 relay: 1st, 42.18 · 4x200 relay: 2nd, 1:29.03 · High jump: 3. Cleveland,

EMMA VANBECELAERE

sports@tricountyreporter.com

The goal of many high school baseball players is to play at a higher level. Azle High School baseball coach Stephen Smith has helped many athletes with the recruitment process during his time as a baseball coach.

Smith has been coaching for 26 years and has taken

opportunities to help many athletes reach their goal of playing for a college team.

"I send out videos and stats of the players to every college team that the players might be interested in," Smith said. "I reach out to the coaches by email or Twitter (now 'X'). If the athletes play select ball (outside of regular season) coaches from those colleges can come and watch them

play."

This year, Smith helped five AHS seniors be successfully recruited. In Smith's years of coaching, he has helped more than 100 athletes be recruited — more than 50 in the last nine years alone.

"It's not about me. It's about the kids and the community and letting the future Hornets see this and help motivate them to be better,"

Smith said.

Two athletes who will continue their baseball careers after high school are seniors Austin May and Lane Springfield. Both players have played baseball for Smith since they were freshman.

"It's a little nerve-wracking but also exciting to get to meet a lot of new people and

PLEASE SEE RECRUITED | B4

Azle bands blast through UIL competition

Azle Junior High bands receive superior and excellent ratings

SUBMITTED ITEM

AZLE, KELLER— The North Zone Region 30 University Interscholastic League (UIL) Concert and Sight-Reading Contest was March 26-27 in Keller ISD.

The Azle Junior High Symphonic Band competed March 26. The symphonic band is the school's "non-varsity" band and is under the direction of Courtnie Smith. The band received 2s from all three judges on stage, which

is the concert portion of the competition. Twos are considered an "Excellent" rating according to UIL standards.

From the stage the band went to the sight-reading room where members were handed a piece of music they had never seen. They were given seven minutes to be taught by Smith, who is a first-year teacher. In the sight-reading room, they



PLEASE SEE BLAST | B2 Kevin Chapman with the Azle Junior High Wind Ensemble.

a complete-game 3-hitter as Springtown (14-5, 4-1 in District 8-4A) won 11-1 at home against Castleberry.

"Back-to-back no-hitters doesn't happen very often at any level of baseball. Brayden Fox had a special night against a good baseball team and helped us win a game we really needed to win. It was one of the most dominant performances I've seen," Springtown coach Colin Crawford said. "The pitchers have done a really solid job all year long.'

Martinez pitched six innings in the April 2 win with Elmore coming in to close out the final inning. They combined to strike out seven batters (Martinez five, Elmore two).

At the plate, Fox, Yair Hernandez and Brayden Adams led with two hits each. Fox also doubled, had two walks and an RBI; Adams doubled, was hit by a pitch twice and drove in three runs; and Hernandez also walked with an RBI.

In defeating Castleberry, Fox went all five innings before the game was called by mercy rule. The single run he surrendered was unearned and he struck out eight with a walk.

The Pines were hosting Decatur at press time, travel to Decatur April 12 and go to Bridgeport April 16. All games start at 7:30 p.m.

5 - 10

· Pole vault: 3. Devan Hair, 12-6

PLEASE SEE ROUNDUP | B2





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Keeping it clean

Azle students, residents help clean community roadways and parks April 6



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER ches think we should give back to the

"The community does a lot for our (football) program, and our coaches think we should give back to the community to help pick up trash and help Azle be a better place," Johnson said.



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER Azle High School's swim team worked together to clean up trash at Shady Grove Park.



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Azle High School's football team worked together to clean up trash on Commerce St. (L-r): junior Dylan Maines, junior Conner Merrill, sophomore Cole Johnson and junior Ethan Alcala.



ZACH FREEMAN | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

(L-R): Azle High School's swim team helped to clean up trash at Shady Grove Park. Peighton Berry, Mavis Caldente (eighth grade volunteer), Emma Flavin, Kayley Brekel, Laci Clark, Emory Hann, Hailey Fox and Karla Rodriguez. In the back: Brooke Nowakowski and coach Amy Estes. "We're all Hornets and this is the Azle community, it's good to pick up after everybody that lives here," Clark said.

BLAST FROM PAGE B1

received straight 1s from a set of three different judges. Ones are considered "Superior" and the very best rating a band can receive from judges.

This was the first year in school history the AJH Symphonic Band attended this contest as well as Smith's first time taking a band to UIL. "Superior" rating across the board. Receiving 1s from all six judges in the concert and sightreading portions of the contest means that the students earned a Sweepstakes.

"Mr. Chapman and Ms. Smith both work with both bands together as a team to help our students accomplish their goals and to continue a tradition of excellence that has been set for years now. We are both so very proud of the work our students put in, proud of our school, and proud of our community. Chapman said in a statement. "Band is a family, we go through so much together, we see each other day in and out. The kids feel a part of something together. We don't all have to be best friends, but we do need to work together and hold each other accountable to achieve our very highest level of success." After looking at the final results, directors saw that AJH Wind Ensemble was one of very few that received this rating outside of Keller schools. This is the fourth UIL contest in a row in which the AJH Wind Ensemble has received the superior rating and sweepstakes.

Chapman reports that one of the monitors in Keller praised Azle's parental support, stating it had the most support from families that day compared to other schools. The school even had to bring extra chairs into the sight-reading room so Azle families to watch.

"The students had very focused rehearsals for weeks, a rarity in today's world for students this age," Chapman's statement continued. "The day of the contest, the students were told that when they get on those buses, it is a business trip and that they must remain focused and quiet on the ride there. Once they got off the buses, there was no yelling or confusion, only focus. These students had to remain this way for about three hours. Once we were done, then the fun began. Anytime we get ready to announce to the students how they did, there is a moment of nervousness, and it is dead silence. The moment we announce, there is an eruption of sound and elation! On both days after contest, the bands went to Cici's Pizza for lunch and stuffed ourselves!



Director Kevin Chapman said it is rare that any "nonvarsity band" ever receives superior ratings. The following day, March 27, the varsity band, called the Wind Ensemble, competed at UIL under the direction of Chapman.

The Wind Ensemble received scores of 1 from all three judges in the concert portion of the contest. From there, just like the Symphonic Band, they went to the sightreading room where they were given seven minutes to learn a new piece of music. The Wind Ensemble received straight 1s from the next set of three judges leading to a

Azle Junior High Wind Ensemble members.



Courtnie Smith conducts the Azle Junior High Symphonic Band.

ROUNDUP FROM PAGE B1

FROMFAGEDT

- Long jump: 1. Cleveland,
- 21-2; 3. Chase Thompson,
- 20-3.5; 4. Jackson, 20-2.25
- Triple jump: 1. Elam, 42-3.25
- Discus: 3. Kelby Castro, 134-1

 \cdot Shot put: 4. Hayden Nichols, 41-10.75

AZLE TRACK AND FIELD

District 5-5A Meet At Aledo, April 3-4

Top four finishers in each event qualified for area 5/6-5A Meet in Fort Worth Friday, April 12

Azle results - Running distances in meters, field events in feet and inches

GIRLS VARSITY Team score: 45 points, 4th

place Area qualifiers

4x200 relay: 4th, 1:51.44
400: 2. Rebecca Marx,
59.08; 3. Raegan Williams,
1:00.55

• 4x400 relay: 4th, 4:22.38
• Long jump: 4. Paisley Jeter, 16-8.75

BOYS VARSITY

 \cdot Team score: 44 points, 6th place

Area qualifiers
400: 3. Josh Montelongo,

- 49.06
- 100: 4. Tyler Ulrich, 11.33
 4x400 relay: 4th, 3:26.54
- High jump: 4. Garrett
- Bailey, 6-0
- Pole vault: 4. Tyson Sch-
- reier, 11-6
- \cdot Shot put: Adam May, 45-2.5

AZLE SOFTBALL

The Lady Hornets (16-10-1, 6-2 in District 5-5A) dropped a 4-3 home contest to Granbury April 2 and bounced back to win 5-2 at Wichita Falls Rider April 5.

Azle is in second place in district behind Aledo as they are a game into the second half of league play.

Against Granbury, Azle rallied to force extra innings with two runs in the bottom of the seventh inning thanks to a hit by Torrie Johnson before the Lady Pirates came right back with the winning run in the top of the eighth. Bella Tipton hit a pair of doubles and drove in a run for the Lady Hornets, while Brandie Phillips had two hits and a walk. Johnson had two hits, including a double against Rider. Tipton doubled with an RBI and Coryanne Barone tripled with three RBIs and a walk.

In pitching a complete game, Morgan Terrell struck out five in seven innings. Azle was hosting Northwest at press time, travels to Saginaw April 12 and hosts Aledo April 16, all at 6:30 p.m.

AZLE BASEBALL

The Hornets (13-8, 2-4 in District 5-5A) stepped outside of league play for a pair of road games at Stephenville April 5 and at Glen Rose April 6. After falling to the Yellowjackets 3-1, they won 8-3 over the Tigers.

Against Stephenville, Christian Shepherd went four Innings, giving up one unearned run on two hits and striking out two. Carter Landon took the hard-luck loss, going two Innings and giving up two runs on three hits.

Hitting against Glen Rose: Cole Webb two hits, double, stolen base; Ty Bonnet three hits; Ivan Perez two hits; Jesse Hemmerling three hits, double; Jacob McGee double; Jaxon Liddicote two hits, double, three RBIs.

Azle was back in district competition at press time at Wichita Falls Rider. They host Rider April 12 before visiting Aledo April 16, both games at 6:30 p.m.

SPRINGTOWN SOFTBALL

The Lady Pines (11-12-1, 3-4 in District 8-4A) fell 3-2 at home to Bridgeport in eight innings April 2 and came from behind to defeat Decatur 7-5 at home April 5, scoring three runs in the bottom of the sixth inning. On April 8 they lost 11-7 to Castleberry at home.

Ryleigh Morris and Haylee Sanborn each had two hits against Bridgeport, while Morris also had a walk and stolen base with Sanborn driving in a run. Sanborn pitched seven innings, giving up five hits, three runs (one earned), striking out five and a walk, and Kylee Spray pitched an inning with a strikeout and walk.

Sanborn led the offense against Decatur with three hits and three RBIs and Madison Terrell collected three hits with a double and stolen base. Spray had two hits, a double and two RBIs; Morris had two hits; Cheyenne Atchley two hits, double, RBI.

Spray also struck out eight pitching.

Against Castleberry, Atchley had three hits with a walk and three RBIs, while Blaize Flood, Spray and Morris each doubled.

With three games remaining in the regular season, Springtown is in fourth place in district. The Lady Pines play at Lake Worth April 12 and host Krum April 16, both at 7 p.m.

AZLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL BASEBALL

The Crusaders (9-6) rallied to win 6-5 at home against Muenster Sacred Heart recently, scoring five runs in the bottom of the seventh inning. Andy Wisniewski delivered a 2-out single for the win.

The rally featured a couple of walks, a pair of errors and key hits by Justin Barber and Jaxson Durham.

Wisniewski also came in to pitch in the fifth inning and

the Crusaders down 5-1. He held Sacred Heart scoreless the rest of the game.

The Crusaders were hosting Granbury Cornerstone at press time and travel to Cornerstone April 13 for a doubleheader starting at noon.

AZLE GOLF

The Hornets and Lady Hornets competed in the District 5-5A Tournament at Sugar Tree Golf Course in Lipan recently. The boys played April 1-2 and the girls played April 4-5.

The Hornets Green team finished seventh with a twoday score of 743 (364-379) and the White team was 10th with an 844 (412-432).

The Lady Hornets finished sixth with an 899 (461-438).

Lucas Maschmeier led all Azle players, shooting a 178 (86-92), followed closely by Ethan Bartlett with a 180 (90-90) and Jacob Williams posted a 186 (93-93). The Hornets White squad was led by Leavy Owens with a 201 (101-100).

Leading the Lady Hornets were Mady Flowers with a 217 (114-103) and Katelyn Thomas with a 219 (110-109).

CULINARY **FROM PAGE B1**

earlier this year, she said the internship program was going well, and the high school seniors were enjoying learning how to prepare and serve food. Depending on the schedule and the school they're serving at, they get to be involved in various stages of the process, from serving food to planning for the next day's meal.

"I feel like (that) is also just a really cool thing for them to see kind of what happens behind the scenes and how they're putting into practice things that they've been learning the three previous years," Jacoby said. "They're able to put it into practice in an industry-based setting."

Starting in her freshman year, Davis joined the culinary program at her former school in Keller to sharpen her skills and work toward opening her own restaurant. She has always enjoyed cooking, being able to feed people and seeing their reactions to her dishes.

"I want to be able to work for myself and be able to make the cuisine that I want to make, not what other people are telling me to make," Davis said about her dream job.

When Davis moved to Springtown, she was fortunate enough to continue learning in SHS' culinary classes. She appreciates that her food education in Springtown seemed to be more varied and includes learning about the science of nutrition as well.

"That's what I was worried about was Springtown not having practicum because I knew it was a smaller campus, so I didn't know how it was going to work here, but I like the way that they did it," Davis said. "It's different, but I feel like I'm learning some different stuff.'

For example, Davis said she worked mainly with her high school-aged peers while in

Keller, but through the SHS internship, she has been able to learn from people who are older than her.

"I feel like I'm getting more experience from the people that have more experience," she said.

While the cafeteria internship is new, SHS' culinary arts program is not. Jacoby said it started in the 2009-10 school year, about 10 years before she joined. Since then, Jacoby said the program has grown "exponentially." Through these classes, students can earn a food manager certification, which can allow them to get managerial jobs at restaurants, take on more workplace responsibilities and generally gives them an advantage if they go on to attend culinary school.

The internship, and the culinary arts program as a whole, isn't just for students who want to pursue higher education but also for those who plan to go to work after graduation and follow an apprenticeship route, Jacoby said.

"If they want to leave high school and they want to go directly into a kitchen and work underneath a chef and learn via that route, they have the knowledge of how the equipment works," she said. "They have the knowledge of the brigade system in a kitchen already set up, and so they kind of go in with a practical knowledge to apply to the fields."

Another intern, senior Jaycie Yost, is interested in following a career path that doesn't have much to do with culinary arts - child psychology. Despite this, Yost has found value in the internship because working in the school cafeterias has put her in a position where she can interact with the kids and observe their behavior.

"If I do 100% pursue child psychology, it also gives me a good experience being around the kids because different kids come through my lunch line every day, and some of them tend to be more shy, and a few of these kids I actually know personally," Yost said. "You can see if a kid is having a bad day just by the way they act."

In addition to enjoying working with the children, Davis and Yost also described having positive experiences with the child nutrition staff members.

When she was younger, Davis remembers seeing the depiction of the mean cafeteria worker on screen. After working with real lunchroom staffers, she came away with a different perception.

"They're actually very nice people," Davis said. "They really do care a lot.'

Likewise, Yost said more people should be emphatic to those working in food service.

"I've had my fair share of mean students, and I realized that maybe I shouldn't have been disrespectful that much when I was their age,' Yost said. "They (cafeteria workers) deserve a lot more respect for what they do. People really do underestimate them. There's so much that they do for us that we didn't even know."

Jacoby called the internship "eye-opening" for students and said they learned to have more appreciation for the lunchroom workers. The culinary arts instructor also felt thankful.

"I really do appreciate the nutritional staff and them working with our kids and helping them in the learning process," she said. "I think that it was really neat of them to be open to it as well, and everyone seems to be really enjoying it. It's just been a joy to be a part of it and to see the joy that it brings everybody else in the program that's involved in it is really cool."

SISD Child Nutrition Director Kimberly Nash said she was excited to be a part of this internship and is already looking forward to next year.

"We're here to serve the students, but this is another opportunity for us to be able to help out the students and

give them that experience that they need for going into the real world and getting jobs and that sort of thing," Nash said. "Not only do we get to feed the students, but now we get to help them out in their classwork as well."

Working in a kitchen isn't exactly a tranquil experi-

ence and can be difficult for people like Yost who deal with anxiety. Fortunately, the internship has allowed her to practice how to manage her emotions in a hectic situation. "The kids tend to yell a lot,

and sometimes it gets a little overwhelming," Yost said.

"But every once in a while, I'll be like, 'Hey, I just need to take a breath. Can I step back?' and I'll take a breath, step back in and everything's fine. It's a stress-inducing environment, but sometimes you need to learn to thrive in the most unusual places."



Springtown High School senior Shelby Davis communicates to kids at Springtown Elementary School to serve them lunch.



MADELYN EDWARDS | TRI-COUNTY REPORTER

Springtown High School senior Julie Delaneo is one of the culinary students who has interned in the cafeteria at Goshen Creek Elementary School.

Comedy waiting to pop: Corney Kernels

ALEXA GUADIAN Special to the Tri-County Reporter

Much like the time it takes

for a kernel to pop, humor is unpredictable. Fortunately

is actually one of the guys that we improv with today," says Corney Kernels member James Kelly. "When I first got into high school, he was

ages since 2018. Throughout the years Kelly and the group have learned how to adjust their humor based on the crowd.

We get a whole different.

structured hangout with a wonderful group dynamic consisting of 12 members.

Regardless of the number of rehearsals the group has, like. So, a lot of the time, it's just kind of reading the room and figuring out what kind of a group you've got in front of you," Kelly said.

out a little bit more," Kelly said. "It's good to have an outlet where everyone just gets along and has a good time."

for Azle Arts Association's improv group, the Corney Kernels, they're not prepared.

What began as a group of high schoolers bonding over improv outside of their theatre class, brought them to the Azle Arts Association as members of the Popcorn Players.

"Funny enough for me, the one who really inspired me

a senior who had an improv troupe and they allowed me in, so it was full circle for me to start off with the people that I had started off with originally."

Days away from their upcoming show on April 13, Kelly reflects on his most memorable performances and practices.

The group has been performing to audiences of all

diverse group to come see us. So, it's a challenge with jokes hitting a certain group and some jokes hitting a different group because not everyone's going to get the same references," Kelly said.

After six years of performing, the group's rehearsals still feel as playful as their high school days. Kelly describes every practice as a

they never know the responses they will receive during the shows, especially in today's political climate, which is within improv's nature.

"Something that happens in the spur of the moment is someone will bring up a topic or start off a scene in a way that it might be a little bit too politically charged or it might be some joke that a lot of people aren't going to get or

However, the Corney Kernels continue to hone their craft and move past each show with confidence, incorporating today's memes and trends to keep their performances fresh.

"A lot of the time, the funnier things are going to be those inside jokes. And the beauty of having a crowd that is consistent with you, you can bring those inside jokes

The Corney Kernels up coming show begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Azle Arts Association theater located at 1012 Southeast Parkway. Tickets cost \$10 and can be purchased online or over the phone.

For more information about ticket sales and the troop, visit www.azlearts.org.

Azle School lenu April 15-19, 2024 BREAKFAST: LUNCH: PreK-4th Grade, 7-12th Grade \$1.55 5-6th Grade FREE 2nd Meal \$2.00 PreK-4th Grade \$2.55 5-6th Grade \$2.75 7-12th Grade \$2.55 2nd Meal \$3.20 Visitors/Employees \$2.75 Visitors & Employees \$3.75 PreK

BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Graham Crackers, Toast

Mon Mini French Toast & Apples Tues Danimals & Orange Craisins Weds Pancakes Sausage Sandwich & Apples Thurs Cheerios & Bananas Fri Breakfast Pizza & Strawberry Craisins

LUNCH: Everyday - Variety of milk. Your choice of 1 entree & 1 fruit or juice

Mon Chicken & Waffles, Hot Dog, Tues Breaded Chicken Sandwich, Orange Chicken & Rice, Weds Chicken Crispito, Popcorn Chicken Salad Thurs Beef Quesadilla Triangles, Sunbutter & Jelly Sandwich Fri Pizza, Loaded Baked Potato

GRADES 5TH - 8TH

BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Yogurt w/Granola

Mon Waffles Tues Sausage Biscuit Weds Cinnamon Roll Thurs Cinnamon Toast w/ Oatmeal Fri Breakfast Pizza

LUNCH: Everyday: Variety of milk. Your choice of 1 entree & 1 fruit or juice, rolls, crackers • Salad bar offered daily

Mon Chicken and Waffles, Breaded Chicken Sandwich, Popcorn Chicken Salad Tues Beef Quesadilla Triangles Buffalo Chicken Sandwich, Cheesy Nachos Weds Chicken Crispito, Frito Chili Pie, Soft Chicken Tacos Thurs BBQ Chicken Sandwich, Chicken Quesadilla, Chicken Nuggets Fri Pizza, Garden Salad, Breaded Chicken Sandwich

HIGH SCHOOL

BREAKFAST: Everyday - Assorted Fruits and Cereal, Juice, White or Chocolate Milk, Yogurt w/Granola

Mon Waffles Tues Sausage Egg & Cheese Biscuit Weds Cinnamon Roll Thurs Yogurt Parfaits Fri Breakfast Bagel

LUNCH: • Everyday: 1% unflavored or non fat chocolate milk & juice • Salad Bar

Mon Breaded Chicken Sandwich, Corn Dog, Grilled Cheese, Pizza: Cheese, Meatlovers, or Pepperoni, Chicken Crispito Tues Cheese burger, Hamburger, Popcorn Chicken Bowl w/ Gravy, Pizza: Cheese, Hamburger, or Pepperoni, Soft Chicken Tacos Weds Breaded Chicken Sandwich, Spicy Chicken Sandwich, Spaghetti & Meat Sauce w/ Garlic Breadstick, Pizza: Cheese, Pepperoni, Veggie, Taco Salad w/ Chips Thurs BBQ Chicken Sandwich, Cheeseburger, Steak Finger Bowl w/ Gravy, Pizza: Cheese, Pepperoni, Sausage, Meaty Nachos Fri Breaded Chicken or Spicy Chicken Sandwich, Fish Sticks, Pizza: Cheese, Pepperoni, or Supreme, Beef Quesadilla Triangles

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Springtown School Menu

BREAKFAST PRICES	
EC-12th Grade	^{\$} 1.75
EC-12th Reduced	^{\$} 0.30
Adult	\$2.25
LUNCH PRICES	
PK-4th Grade	\$3.00
5th-8th Grade	\$3.25
High School	\$3.00
Reduced	^{\$} 0.40
Adult	\$4.25
Students may prepay for their meals.	

*Menus are subject to change.

BREAKFAST: Everyday - Various Juices & Cereals, Toast, Milk Variety, Fruit, Jelly, Assortment, Buttermilk Biscuit, Variety of milk is offered every day for breakfast and lunch. **PK - 12th Breakfast**

Mon Dutch Waffle, Sliced Pears Tues Breakfast Stick, Blueberries Weds Bacon Scramble Pizza, Apple Thurs Cinnamon Roll, Strawberry Applesauce Fri Strawberry or Vanilla Yogurt, Banana

K - 4th Lunch

Lunch: Everyday - Choice of one meat, two vegetables, and one grain/bread with milk., Variety of milk is offered every day for breakfast and lunch

Mon Cheese Bites or Salisbury Steak, Roll, Mashed Potatoes, Fresh Veggies, Blueberries Tues Chicken Fried Rice or Chicken Nuggets, Roll, Green Beans Fresh Veggies, Applesauce or Orange Weds Cheeseburger or Hamburger, French Fries Fresh Veggies, Apple or Sliced Peaches Thurs Beef or Chicken Tacos Refried Beans Corn Apple Slices or Watermelon Craisins Fri Cheese Pizza, Corn Dog, or Baked Potato W/ Pulled Pork Roll, Glazed Carrots, Fresh Veggies, Strawberry Applesauce

5th - 12th Lunch

Lunch: Everyday - Choice of one meat, two vegetables, and one grain/bread with milk., Variety of milk is offered every day for breakfast and lunch.

Mon Hot Dog or Pulled Pork Sandwich, French Fries Coleslaw, Fresh Veggies, Apple Slices, Pineapple Tues Chicken Parm. or Spaghetti Mixed Vegetables, Fresh Veggies Applesauce, Strawberries Weds Chicken & Waffles (Reg. or Spicy), Tator Tots, Fresh Veggies Blueberries, Orange Thurs Beef or Chicken Tacos or Nachos Refried Beans Corn Apple Slices, Sliced Peaches Fri Cheese Pizza or Baked Potato Basket w/ Pulled Pork, Green Beans, Fresh Veggies Banana, Sliced Pears

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PK through 12th Grade

AHS announces new band director

EMMA VANBECELAERE sports@tricountyreporter.com

Azle ISD announced the promotion of Greg Davis to the position of band director at Azle High School. Davis joined the Azle High School faculty five years ago as an assistant band director and has been instrumental in leading the Marching Green Pride and concert assemblies to become the successful bands they are today.

As assistant band director, University of North Carolina Davis directed the non-varsity symphonic band and codirected the Marching Green Pride.

Davis is in his eighth year in public education; he taught at Fort Bend ISD for three years before coming to Azle. He earned a master's degree in music education from Southern Methodist University and a bachelor's degree in music performance from the

at Greensboro.

Davis and his wife, Kacie, live in Azle and are excited to welcome their first child this June.

"I am incredibly honored to be given the privilege of leading the Azle band into the future, and cannot wait to foster wonderful relationship with students, parents, administration and the Azle community," Davis said in a statement.

was pretty cool. During the

fall season the select team

got to do some showcase

tournaments at some of the

junior colleges," Springfield

RECRUITED **FROM PAGE B1**

get better at baseball. It is more exciting than nervewracking," May said.

May is a senior pitcher for the AHS varsity baseball team. He will continue his career at Seminole State College in Oklahoma. With Smith's help, May was recruited by the same college to chase his dream of playing college baseball.

"My recruitment process was really simple — Coach Smith went to Seminole State," May said, "We decided to go there for a workout. I went there twice, once as a sophomore. I did good and when I went back my junior vear, I did a lot better. The coaches really liked me and

is the only school that I have talked to.' Springfield also pitches for Azle High School's varsity baseball team. He will play baseball for Murray State Community College in Oklahoma after graduating

quires a lot of commitment

play year-round. This helps

build the players' skills and

"The recruitment process

and hard work. Athletes

who play select baseball

teaches them the proper

techniques of baseball.

offered me a spot. Seminole

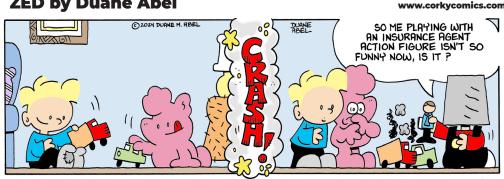
said. "Some college scouts would come out and watch us play. We went to Seminole where May is going, and high school in May. With the the coach from Murray was help of his family and Smith there, and he liked what he he will be able to continue saw. A couple of days later, his baseball career. the Murray coach followed "The select team that I am me on Twitter and DMed (di-

on, most of their players go rect messaged) me and asked to Oklahoma to play baseme to come out for a visit." ball," Springfield said. May and Springfield will be Playing select baseball re-

on opposing teams and will play each other in a regular season game after they head off to college.

"It will be fun playing against each other. We are brothers but on the field we will compete. It's going to be fun," Springfield said.

ZED by Duane Abel



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4	5			3	1		

HOMETOWN

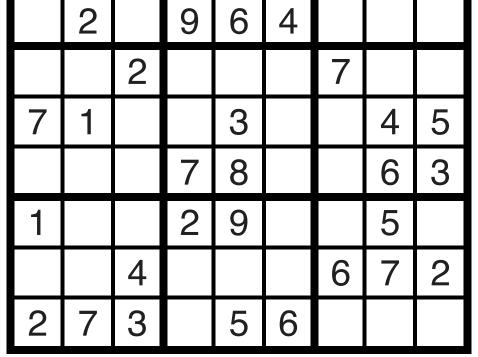
<u>Happenings</u>

APRIL

- HANGING OUT WITH HOT RODS: Come see classic cars, hot rods, and muscle cars on display at the southwest corner of the Springtown Tabernacle from 6 – 9 p.m. on Friday, April 12.
- BLOCK PARTY: Azle Christian Church is hosting a block party 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 13, 117 Church St. in Azle. There will be live music, food trucks, kids' activities and more.
- **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.
- GAMERS UNPLUGGED: Every Tuesday from 6:30-7:30 p.m., Springtown Public Library invites kids to play board games, card games, any "unplugged" game you like!
- 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.
- LEGO CLUB: Azle Memorial Library hosts Lego Club at 4:30 p.m. every third Wednesday of the month in the library community room. All ages welcome. Legos provided by the library.
- HOPE'S BAZAAR FASHION Show: Hope's Bazaar and Azle High School FCCLA will host a fashion show from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, April 20 at Azle High School. Tickets are \$5 and all proceeds benefit Future, Hope, and Healing Center.
- SWIFTIE CUSTOMER APPRECIATION Day: Southern Honey Giftique will host a Swiftie Day, noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 20. Enjoy treats and prizes, take a photo with a Taylor Swift lookalike, and shop Swiftie-themed merchandise from local vendors at the shop.
- 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: Business After Hours is slated for 4:30-6:30 p.m. April 25 at NBT Financial, 405 Commerce St., Azle.
- SPRINGTOWN CHAMBER 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

- AZLE CHAMBER EVENTS: AACoC 19th Annual Golf Tournament is Friday, May 3 at Cross Timbers Golf Course. Lunch and team check-in begin at 11:30 a.m. and tee off is at 1 p.m. Registration deadline is April 24.
- 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.



Level: Beginner

Solution to last week's puzzle

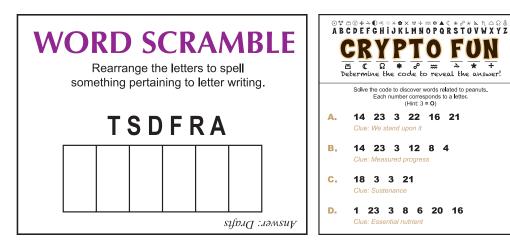
APRIL 4, 2024

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	2	7	3	4	5	6	8	9	1
•									

Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 3 = 0)

- GAMERS UNPLUGGED: Every Tuesday from 6:30-7:30 p.m., Springtown Public Library invites kids to play board games, card games, any "unplugged" game you like!
- **TEDDY BEAR PICNIC:** Bring your favorite stuffy pal and have a picnic at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 8, at the Azle Central Park pavilion. Enjoy stories, snacks and songs with friends! Hosted by Azle Memorial Library. Open to children ages 2 to 6 and their caregivers. Bring a blanket and chair. Registration is required; call 817-752-2682 to save a spot.
- TEEN MOVIE AFTERNOONS: 2 p.m. Saturday, May 11, at Springtown Public Library, 626 N. Main St. The library hosts Teen Movie Afternoons once a 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!
- LEGO CLUB: Azle Memorial Library hosts Lego Club at 4:30 p.m. every third Wednesday of the month in the library community room. All ages welcome. Legos provided by 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.





Tri-County Reporter A17



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7Auctions	29Fencing	52Movers	75Uphol	
8Autos, Trucks	30 Firewood	53Musical Instruments	76 Vacuum Clea	
9 Auto Repair Service	31Free	54Music Lessons	77Wa	
10Backhoe Service	32 For Sale	55 Miscellaneous	78Well Dr	
		56 Party Planning/Events		
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		59Pool Service		
		60Professional		
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Friday-Saturday 8am-4pm 9050 Old Springtown Rd, Springtown. Recliner, Stationary Bike, T.V., Clothes, & Misc.

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517 Robin Ln, Azle. Hwy 730 to Pecan to Rose Bud. 817-228-5790. Friday & Saturday April 12-13, 8am-3pm. Everything must go.

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